

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

Published by the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

VOL. 24, NO. 1
W/N 129

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FEBRUARY 1984



"A View of Tortola from Ruthy Hill", drawn by J. Johnson and engraved by T. Fielding, courtesy of The National Maritime Museum, London. Appears on dust jacket of Vernon W. Pickering's book "Early History of the British Virgin Islands". (See page 21)

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Unit No. 27 of the APS

ISSN 0045-2890

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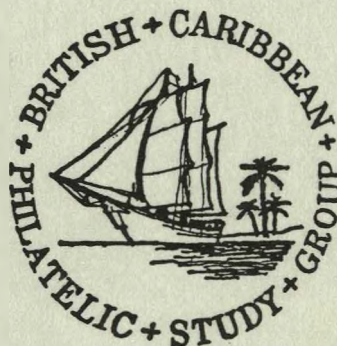
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Published five times each year, in February, April, July, October, and December. Available only to members of the BCPSG with subscription included in the membership fee of \$15 per annum in U.S. funds, due January 1st. Membership application forms and additional information may be obtained from the Membership Chairman or the International Director.

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**President's Message**

Due to the pressure of outside business activities, Dr. Peter McCann has asked to be relieved of his duties as head of the BCPSG Public Relations Office. By a stroke of luck I have just heard from Mark Swetland, who has offered to take on this post. I have accepted Mark's offer. Peter, thank you for your past services. Mark, best wishes on your new appointment. If any member has suggestions or comments for Mark I am sure he would be pleased to hear from you.

Our next Annual General Meeting will be in Boston in October, 1984. Bob Topaz has offered to be the coordinating host. Further details will appear in our next Journal. While it seems that October is a long way off, please think about making plans to attend, if you can.

There are as yet no firm plans for the 1985 meeting. Several requests have been received and are being evaluated. If any member has a suggestion, please let

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THE 1935 SILVER JUBILEE ISSUE OF BRITISH HONDURAS

by Owen N. D. Phillips, M. B. E.

(Ed: Owen had prepared this article for Journal publication shortly before his death last May. It was submitted to me through the courtesy of his niece, Diane Sylvestre.)

The year 1935 was that of the Silver Jubilee of the ascent to the throne of His Majesty George V, King of Great Britain and Ireland and the Dominions Beyond the Seas, and Emperor of India. It was the first occasion for universal rejoicing throughout the British Empire since the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1897. As early as June of 1934 suggestions had appeared in the British press urging a special issue of commemorative stamps to mark the occasion. However, Postmasters General of former days had set their faces against anything in the nature of commemorative stamps for Great Britain, and this ultra-conservative policy had not been relaxed on either the Golden or Silver Jubilees of Queen Victoria (although special issues had been released for the British Empire Exhibition in 1924-1925 and the Postal Union Congress in 1929).

In spite of these two exceptions, there were great doubts as to whether the authorities would sanction the issue of special stamps to mark the 25th year of the reign of George V---himself a very keen and noted stamp collector. However, on 12 December 1934 the Postmaster-General, Sir Kingsley-Wood, announced in the House of Commons that he was authorising such an issue. It was subsequently stated that the issue would consist of four denominations ($\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.), and that they would be put on sale in all post offices in the United Kingdom on 7 May 1935 and withdrawn on 7 July 1935.

The self-governing Dominions were quick to announce that they also would have their own distinctive sets of stamps commemorating the Silver Jubilee of George V's ascent to the throne. Subsequently, it was decided that the Colonies, Dependencies, and Protectorates would participate in honouring the King with their own special issues of stamps.

As far as the Colonies were concerned, the first official announcement on the subject was contained in a communication from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 29 January 1935, which published a list of 44 Crown Colonies and Dependencies that were to participate in a general issue of commemorative stamps. It was to be the first occasion where a concerted issue of stamps was to be released simultaneously throughout the Empire. It was stated that the stamps for the Colonies would be restricted to the four denominations in most common use in the area concerned. They would be placed on sale throughout the Empire on 6 May and would remain in circulation until 31 December 1935, when any stocks remaining would be withdrawn and destroyed. During this period sales of the corresponding denominations of the regular issue would be suspended.

The three principal stamp printers in the United Kingdom were asked to submit designs that they considered suitable for a commemorative stamp for the Colonies. Eighteen such designs were received.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, whose responsibility was to provide stamps for the Colonial Governments, were faced with a problem. If each Colony were given a free hand to select its own design, the task of producing the stamps in the time available would be beyond the capacity of the three stamp printing firms. It was therefore decided for the sake of expediency, and as a sign of unity of the British Empire, that the same design would be used for all stamps of the series, the only differences being in the denominations, the colour combinations of the different sets, and, of course, the name of the country.

It was the design of H. Fleury, of the Waterlow & Sons firm, that was finally approved by His Majesty the King for reproduction as the Silver Jubilee stamp for the Colonies. It shows a distant view of Windsor Castle from the river, with a profile portrait of His Majesty wearing the Imperial Crown and State robes, set in an oval medallion, the frame of which reveals the pattern of the Order of the Garter. The dates 1910-1935 are placed in thin block figures on a ribbon set into the oval at the top. It is inserted on the right hand side of the stamp above a small pendant badge of St. George and the Dragon. The medallion is placed against a background of crossed sceptres with the Sword of State on the right. The Orb of State is on the frame at the upper left hand corner. The value is in the lower left hand corner with the words POSTAGE & REVENUE to the right, above which are the words WINDSOR CASTLE.

The Colonial Issue was so large, and the time to complete the production and the dispatch of the stamps to the most distant territory so short, that it was decided to share the contract for the printing between the three printing firms. Two master dies of the approved design, one for the frame and the other for the vignette, were engraved by Waterlow & Sons, and duplicates forwarded to Bradbury Wilkinson & Company and De La Rue & Company. With the aid of these dies separate plates were laid down. The plates made from these dies contained 120 subjects (12 x 10) in the case of the vignette and 60 (6 x 10) for the head and frame, which also contained the denomination and the name of the Colony.

The stamps printed by De La Rue are readily recognised by the perforation, which measures $13\frac{1}{2}$ by 14 instead of 11 by 12 that was used by the other two firms. The stamps by Waterlow appear smoother than those produced by the other firms, while those produced by Bradbury Wilkinson are more deeply engraved than are those by De La Rue. All the stamps of the Colonial issue were printed on ordinary paper with Multiple Crown and Script CA watermark. They were printed in two colours with the exception of Newfoundland, which were produced in monocolour, thus recognising Newfoundland's unique status at that time. Fifteen colour trials, imperforate, were submitted to the King for approval. These are now in the Royal Collection.

The contract for printing the British Honduras set of stamps was awarded to Bradbury Wilkinson, as were those of fourteen other Colonies. The British Honduras stamps were printed from recess engraved plates and six such plates were used for the vignette, though some researchers think that seven plates may have been used, perhaps due to damage to one of the earlier ones.

For the British Honduras stamps, there was one printing of the 3¢ and the 5¢ denominations, and two printings of the 4¢ and 25¢ values. Totals printed were:

3¢ -	192,000	5¢ -	110,000
4¢ -	84,000	25¢ -	62,400

Certain plate varieties, mostly of a minor nature, are to be found on the stamps printed by all three firms. In the case of British Honduras there is one major variety. This is known among collectors as the "Extra Flagstaff". It is a short vertical line, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm long, rising from the turret to the right of the Round Tower. It is found on the British Honduras 3¢, 4¢, and 25¢ denominations, as well as on certain stamps of thirteen other Colonies that were printed by Bradbury Wilkinson. One writer has estimated the Extra Flagstaff variety of British Honduras to be third in order of scarcity of this flaw. The Extra Flagstaff is not listed by either Stanley Gibbons or Bridger & Kay in their catalogues as being found on the British Honduras 5¢ stamp. (As a matter of fact, I have not found any minor varieties or faults on any of the 5¢ stamps that I have examined.)

The Extra Flagstaff was first reported in Belize by a Donald H. Harwood, an American who was a keen stamp collector and who was at the time acting Government printer. He is supposed to have presented a set of the British Honduras Silver Jubilee stamps (including those with the Extra Flagstaff) to His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alan Burns.

Although the Extra Flagstaff is the only variety listed in the principal catalogues, there are nevertheless a number of minor varieties to be found on these Silver Jubilee stamps. Some of them are seen on the stamps of the other territories that were printed by Bradbury Wilkinson. I have listed below all the varieties that I have found on the British Honduras stamps in my collection. However, since my collection is limited, I am sure that other varieties must exist.

VARIETIES FOUND ON THE BRITISH HONDURAS 1935 SILVER JUBILEE STAMPS

Plate	Row	Stamp	Denomination(s)	Description
1	9	1	3¢	A 3mm vertical hairline to the right of the circular turret at the extreme right.
1	9	1	3¢, 4¢, 25¢	Extra Flagstaff - A 3½mm vertical line rising from the rear of the turret to the right of the Round Tower.
1	9	2	3¢, 4¢, 25¢	A 3mm vertical hairline rising from the centre of the gable of St. George's Chapel.
2	1	1	3¢	A ½mm vertical hairline on the left of the left turret.
2	2	1	3¢	"Short Flagstaff" - A ½mm vertical hairline to the left of the main flagstaff.
3	1	4	25¢	"Lightning Conductor" - A ½mm vertical hairline on the left of the gable of St. George's Chapel.
3	2	5	4¢, 25¢	"Lightning Conductor" - A ½mm vertical hairline on the right of St. George's Chapel.
5	7	1	4¢	A 3mm vertical hairline rising from the left of the circular turret at the extreme right.
?	?	?	3¢	"Spot in the Sky" - A small spot 2mm above the left turret.
?	?	?	25¢	Faint vertical hairlines to the left and to the right of the circular turret at the extreme right.
?	?	?	25¢	An angled hairline on the left of and adjoining a vertical hairline to the right of the left turret and extending upwards through the letter 'B' of BRITISH.
?	?	?	25¢	A vertical hairline to the right of the left turret and extending upwards to the left of the letter 'R' of BRITISH.

I have been informed that a variety showing two dots above and to the left of the name of the Colony has been seen on the British Honduras 25¢ stamp (Plate 1, Row 6, Stamp 1).

An Unrecorded Barbados Perfin

by Edmund A. Bayley

I recently came across a used copy of the Barbados 1925-1935 Issue, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green, perforated 14, cancelled with a Type E 10 (Clarke, Radford, and Cave) mark, and bearing a date that appears to be 4 JU 34. It is perforated "G. P. O.", with the type shown at the left.

G. P. O.

I had never seen nor heard of this before, so I made some investigation and discovered the whole story. As it makes interesting reading, I will unfold it for the benefit of readers. The story commences with a Circular from the Secretary of State for the Colonies which reads as follows:

M.p. H.S. 266/34.

Circular from Secy of State,

Downing Street,

19th May, 1934.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that representations have recently been made to me in regard to the use of postage and revenue stamps for the prepayment of telegraphic, cable and other charges, as cases have come to light in which such stamps have been detached from the forms prior to their destruction and disposed of for private gain.

2. It has been suggested that in order to render any recurrence of this practice the use of stamps on telegram and other forms should be abolished, or, alternatively, that stamps so used should, in addition to being obliterated by a date stamp in the ordinary way, be further cancelled in the office of issue by the use of a punching machine in such manner as to destroy completely any philatelic value the stamps might otherwise possess.

3. An enquiry into the existing practice in the several parts of the Colonial Empire reveals that in at least nine territories postage stamps are not employed for these purposes, and that the use of a punching machine for defacing such stamps has already been adopted by ten Colonial Governments.

4. The practice in the remaining territories of cancelling stamps, used for other than purely postal purposes, solely by means of a date stamp offers temptations to dishonest employees to detach them for sale to dealers or collectors and should be discontinued.

5. I shall be glad if you will accordingly arrange either for the use of stamps to be abolished altogether for other than purely postal purposes, in which case you will no doubt consider it desirable, for accounting purposes, to substitute some form of counterfoil system; or for all stamps which have been used for the prepayment of fees, other than in respect of postal packages to be cancelled by perforation or, if the nature of the document to which they have been affixed renders this course undesirable, by such other means as will render it impossible for them to be re-used or to be of any value even for philatelic purposes.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,
P. CUNLIFFE-LISTER

The Officer Administering
the Government of BARBADOS.

This Circular was forwarded by The Honourable Colonial Secretary to the Colonial Postmaster, who replied as follows:

0556/11a

26th June 1934.

Hon: Colonial Secretary,

With reference to the Secretary of State's Circular dated 19th May 1934, I have the honour to report as follows:-

1. There are no Government Telegraphs under Post Office control, and I am not aware that Postage and Revenue Stamps are used by the Companies operating in this Island for the prepayment of charges.
2. In the General Post Office, Barbados, low value Postage & Revenue Stamps, not exceeding the value of 6d., are affixed to forms in connection with charges collected on Cash on Delivery Parcels and parcels mailed for overseas delivery free of Customs Duties.
3. I would point out that as the Postage and Revenue Stamps used for the purposes as stated in par. 2 are comparatively small, I ask approval to heavily obliterate these stamps, with the view of their being useless for philatelic or other purposes.

G. B. King.

Ag. Colonial Postmaster

The Honourable Colonial Secretary, Mr. G. D. Owen, was not convinced with the reply of the Acting Colonial Postmaster, Mr. G. B. King, and referred the matter to His Excellency Sir Mark Young, who authorised the purchase of the punching machine on July 5th, 1934.

On July 12th, 1934, Mr. G. B. King ordered from E. M. Richford, Ltd., of 8 & 9 Snow Hill, London, EC1, one "Stop Thief" Postage Stamp Perforator to perforate three letters---"G. P. O."---at a cost of 31/11d. This perforator arrived in Barbados on September 2nd, 1934, and on the following day was handed over to the Officer in Charge of Parcel Post. It can therefore be reasonably assumed that it came into use on September 3rd, 1934. It is not known how long it was used, but I know that it was in use as late as June 1939, because a new spring was ordered for it at that time.

Mr. G. F. Sharp, who became Colonial Postmaster of Barbados for the second time in the late 1930's, states by way of a note that this perforation was used by the Parcel Post to cancel stamps used for Parcel Delivery Fees (1d.) and Cash on Delivery Fees (4d.). Since the perforation machine was in use at least between 1934 and 1939, it is possible to find that many different stamps, four pence and under, were so perforated. Any stamps found must be considered to be very rare indeed.

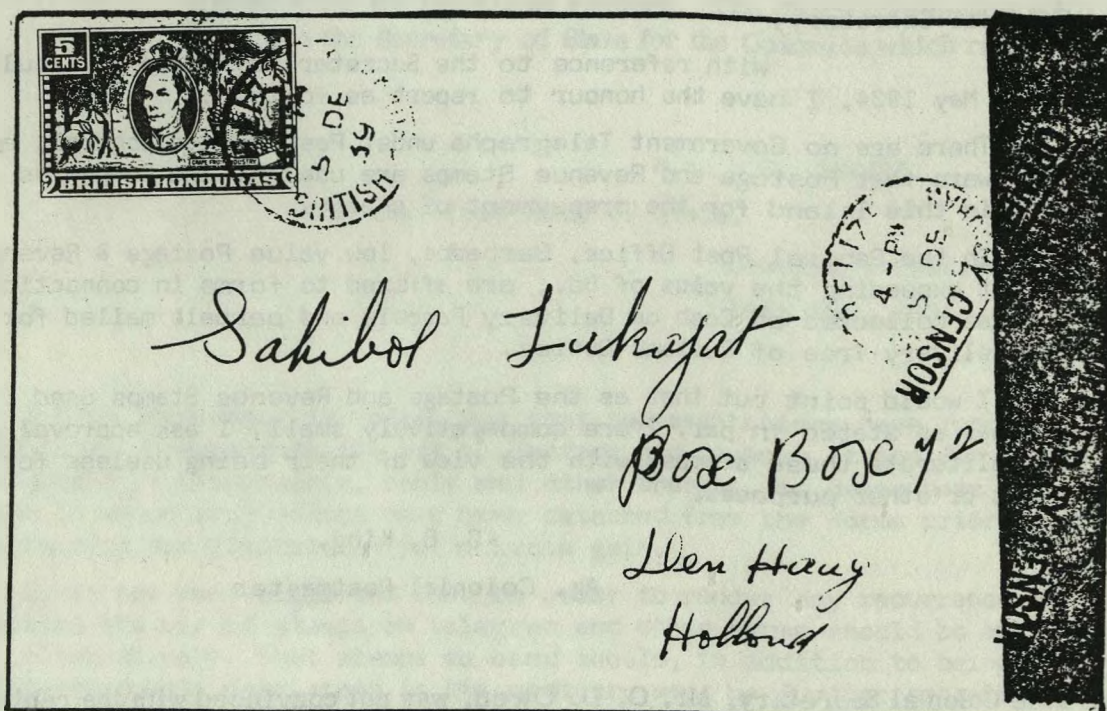


REMEMBER THAT BCPSG MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM IN THE PREVIOUS JOURNAL? HAVE YOU USED IT YET?

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POSTAL CENSORSHIP IN BRITISH HONDURAS (1939)

BY DR. IAN A. MATHESON

In BCPJ Volume 20, Number 2 (April 1980), I discussed a December 1939 British Honduras censored cover bearing a straight-line OPENED BY CENSOR handstamp applied over a brown resealing strip. Because this cover, shown below, predated by two years the earliest censored cover from that colony recorded by Trevor Bates (Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society Handbook No. 2, "West Indian Censorship Devices"), I was rather dubious regarding its authenticity, and requested further information from readers.



Subsequent to the appearance of the April 1980 Journal, Trevor updated his listing; in "Caribbeana" (Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society Journal) No. 9 he described a censored cover from British Honduras backstamped in New York on "JY 3 40". Censorship was introduced in 1939 in many other British Colonies in the Caribbean, so it seemed reasonable to assume that British Honduras was no exception.

The premise that censorship in British Honduras existed in 1939 was proved correct when, in 1982, our Group President Ed Addiss showed me a copy of Belize Post Office Government Notice No. 682, dated 28 November 1942. This brief paragraph reads:

RELINQUISHMENT

Censor

"With reference to Notice No. 503, dated 2nd September 1939, it is hereby notified that Mr. F. C. P. Bowen, Colonial Postmaster, will relinquish his appointment as Censor with effect from 30th November 1942."

A few days after meeting with Ed I happened to be in London, where, upon perusal of the Public Records, I found the confirmation I was seeking. Government Notice No. 519 of 1939 is reproduced beginning on the next page.

General Post Office,
Belize, 2 September 1939.

1. In view of the present crisis communications will be subject to censorship.
2. Except messages on the service of any British Government, and certain privileged messages on the service of foreign governments, all telegrams originating in and/or addressed to British territory will be subject to the following restrictions:
 - (a) The use of cipher is prohibited except in the case of approved Banks.
 - (b) The use of all codes is prohibited except for service messages and telegrams of approved Banks.
 - (c) Terminal and transit British telegrams must bear the surname of the sender at the end of the text included among the words which are charged to the sender and signalled forward.
 - (d) For the time being abbreviated addresses will not be accepted either as the address or as the name of the sender of a telegram originating in and/or addressed to British territory (except certain British Governments and official abbreviated addresses registered throughout the Empire).
 - (e) All telegrams must be in English or French. In the case of purely local services other languages, if permitted, may be used.
3. Until further notice no telegrams will be accepted at the Wireless Station for transmission but must be handed in at the Post Offices.
4. In order to avoid delay, the public is advised to conform to the following directions in regard to correspondence with places abroad:
 - (a) The name and address of the sender should be stated on the envelope.
 - (b) Correspondence should be conducted in English if possible; the language should be plain and the letters as clearly written and as brief as possible.
 - (c) If English is not employed, the name of the language should be endorsed on the envelope.
 - (d) Envelopes should contain no lining paper or empty sheets.
 - (e) Firms and individuals should refuse to act as intermediaries or agents for the receipt and transmission of postal correspondence on behalf of persons in places abroad.Failure to comply with these directions may lead to delay or return of correspondence.
5. Every carrier, master of a vessel, or other person is warned that the Colonial Postmaster has the exclusive privilege of conveying from one place to another, and of collecting, sending and delivering, all letters and postal matter, and that if any person carries any letter, whether stamped or not (except such as is permitted by law), other than at the request of a proper postal authority, he will be liable to the penalties prescribed.

F. C. P. BOWEN, Colonial Postmaster

In conclusion, I now believe, despite having received no confirmation of the use of the OPENED BY CENSOR handstamp on other covers, that the illustrated 1939 cover was officially examined by the British Honduras censor. I have in my collection several covers to the United States and United Kingdom, dated early in 1940, which were not opened by any censorship authorities, so I can only presume that the pictured cover was opened because of its Holland destination.

"Let's Look in the Archives" Department

by George Bowman

You will recall that the previous BCPJ's Editor's Message stated that certain extracts from early Journals would be reprinted from time to time in future issues. Reproduced below are paragraphs from various Journals issued from 1961 through 1966. These extracts describe the slow but steady increase in Group membership, the rising costs of Journal production, and an account of the decision, made late in 1961, to change the organization's name from the West Indies Federation Study Group to the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group.

As was pointed out in the December 1983 BCPJ, this information was made available through the courtesy of JACK ARNELL.

(From Volume 1, Number 3, September 1961)...

On April 10th, 1961, Robert Topaz, together with the other six founding members of the West Indies Federation Study Group (WIFSG), mailed a letter to a number of collectors whom we knew were interested in B.W.I. philately. After a little over three months, and with the publication of two Journals and four brochures on special phases of this philately, our Group has increased to around 70 members with 10 inquiries about the Group pending.

Among the members of the Group are a number of philatelists, important in the field of British West Indies. In our Group are authors, doctors, chemists, engineers, bankers, and several retired persons. We have philatelists from beginners to experts in their field.

All of this indicates to us the need for an organization of this sort, based on the democratic concept, where a collector may make new friends and find new interests, an alert and well-informed group, dedicated to the study, research, and publication of the latest information on a frequent and regular basis, yet not excluding the person who desires to just collect stamps for stamps' sake. Your Editor is extremely pleased at the response to the call for interested collectors and feels that every member will gain much from the association...

(From Volume 5, Number 2, March 1965)...

It gives us great satisfaction and pleasure to realize that our Group has consistently grown during the past four years. The statement of operations sent us by Reg Lant indicates that we continue to grow---our membership now amounting to 154. We have 4 new members for this issue and 8 new applicants. During this time increases in cost of paper, postage, mailing envelopes, etc., have prevented us from considering a printed rather than a mimeographed Journal, as proposed by Byron Cameron last year. It will take an expansion of our membership and/or an increase in the annual dues to accomplish this purpose. Reg has sent us a compilation of the operations for the past four years:

YEAR	NO. MEMBERS END OF YEAR	RECEIPTS	EXPENSES	BALANCE END OF YEAR	INCREASE FOR YEAR
1961	92	\$ 96.05	\$ 86.06	\$ 9.99	--
1962	109	388.01	198.35	199.65	\$ 189.66
1963	128	405.36	333.76	271.25	71.60
1964	147	486.37	388.89	368.73	97.48

Each of you please let us know whether, in your opinion, an increase to \$5.00 per year is reasonable, under the above circumstances...

(From Volume 6, Number 2, March 1966...)

Excerpt from the Annual Report of the Secretary-Treasurer for 1965:

I make mention of the high calibre of the Journals as it mainly through this medium that we are able to attract new members, and in this connection I am pleased to say we accepted a total of 32 applications during the past year, the highest number admitted since 1961, the year the Group was organized. This speaks well of our Group in general and brings our membership total as of December 31, 1965, to a respectable 176. Nevertheless, we still have goals to conquer, and I feel we should strive for a minimum of 200 members this year, so, do not be hesitant in contacting your BWI acquaintances, as we will need assistance of one and all to attain this figure.

Turning now to the monetary section of my report, you will observe that our total receipts, including the balance of \$368.73 from 1964, amounted to \$934.29, while our disbursements totalled \$428.39, leaving a net balance of \$505.90, as of December 31, 1965.

This latter figure, on the face of it, would appear to be highly successful, but is it so? We have now been in operation for five years, and have thus realized \$100.00 a year, and even though our membership has increased considerably, our expenses, notwithstanding material assistance from your Presidents, the Editor, and others, have likewise increased. Our current balance is also tempered by the fact that it includes a total of 14 prepaid dues...

There was a similar pattern of growth in the Journal, the first issue of which had consisted of four mimeographed pages. It was planned to be bimonthly, and as the first issue was in May 1961, the first volume only had four issues, which totalled 40 pages. The second volume represented the first year of full operation and its six issues contained a total of 85 pages. The next three years saw some increase in size with 103, 142, and 125 pages respectively. There were few illustrations, and such as there were consisted of copies of datestamps, etc., which were drawn on the mimeograph stencils. The first formal illustrations were three plates which accompanied two articles by Morris Ludington on the datestamps and postal markings of Nassau, in the January and July 1964 issues.

The first information item came from Peter Scott, regarding an exceedingly rare numeral obliterator of Antigua, the A-18 issued at English Harbour. This strike on British stamps was very rare and even hard to find on the regular stamps of Antigua. The Editor counselled the members to be on the lookout for this, as he had found two in his own collection.

CHANGE OF NAME

In his President's Letter in the last issue of 1961, Robert Topaz wrote in part:

As our Group approached the ripe old age of six months, we must face a series of small yet unavoidable problems...Our first problem is our name. It is quite apparent that our name is not adequate or pertinent any more, especially since Jamaica has abandoned, alas, the West Indies Federation. In addition, our members' tastes are a bit more widespread, and so it is the opinion of most of us that our coverage should spread. Elsewhere in this issue you will find a poll for preferences as to the coverage of the Group...

Three names were suggested on the ballot:

British West Indies Study Group
 British West Indies Philatelic Study Group
 Association for British West Indies Philatelic Study

and two lines were provided for write-in suggestions. The members showed their ability to make up their own minds, when the result of the poll was reported three months later in the following manner:

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL
 (Formerly the West Indies Federation Journal.)

Club News of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

Volume 2, Number 2.

March 1962.

Whole Number 6.

Robert Topaz, President

R. H. Lant, Secretary-Treasurer

A. N. Johnson, Editor, 2610 Virginia St., Baytown, Texas.

With this issue of the Journal, the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group has been selected by a majority of the membership as the new name for our Group. The canvass that was made indicated that this name was by far the most popular one presented, and was much more descriptive of our philatelic interests than the old one.

The principal stamp magazines have been notified and should carry the announcements of the change at an early date. We hope that this will be a forward step in our efforts to make the organization the best and most well informed in the history of Caribbean philately. With the help of our many knowledgeable members, this can be done.

And so, with just under a hundred members, the Group as we know it today began.

B.W.I. PHILATELIC BUREAU UPDATE

In early 1983 TOM KOPRIVA stated that he had recently completed the task of writing to all British West Indies Philatelic Bureaus in order to obtain stamp availability data from each agency. Tom's list of addresses for all bureaus replying to his inquiries is reproduced below.

At the time he compiled the list, Tom had not yet heard from two bureaus: Grenada/Grenadines and Redonda. He states that all but one bureau---Trinidad---offer standing accounts and that, although a few of the bureaus will accept personal checks, most of them prefer remittances in the form of bank drafts. (Belize will offer a standing account service after January 1984, according to a letter Tom received from that bureau on 22 September.)

Most of the listed agencies have current stamps for sale at face value. Some bureaus ship material at no charge; others charge postage and registration.

We thank Tom for his effort in bringing this list to the attention of Group members.

Bermuda Philatelic Bureau, General Post Office, Hamilton 5-24, Bermuda.

Montserrat Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Plymouth, Montserrat, W.I.

St. Vincent Philatelic Services, G.P.O., St. Vincent, W.I.

Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., St. John's, Antigua, W.I.
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For April '84 issue: 15 February 1984
 For July '84 issue: 15 May 1984

For October '84 issue: 15 August 1984
 For December '84 issue: 15 October 1984

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Secretary's Report

NEW MEMBERS

All applicants listed in the December 1983 BCPJ have been admitted to membership.

NEW APPLICANTS

GRIFFITHS, John O., P. O. Box 1077, Vista, CA 92083.

Retired. Philatelic interests not given on application. By George W. Bowman.

ROE, Stanley, Route 1, Box 172, Cordova, MD 21625.

Farmer. Collects BWI, Canada, and United States. By C. Kilbourne Bump.

MITTON, Dennis, 52 The Ridings, Worth, near Crawley, West Sussex, England.

Legal executive. Interested in Bermuda and general BWI material. By Bruce Walker.

ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS:

LEMMON, James R., RFD #1, South Main Street, Wolfeboro, NH 03894.

HELMS, William L., 4609 Gruman Street, Anchorage, AK 99507.

RE-INSTATED (Effective 1 January 1983):

GROUP, Ralph E., Box 23153, Seattle, WA 98102.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE: Gale Raymond describes postal operations during Operation "Urgent Fury" on Grenada; Mike Rego summarizes all known Lady Boat markings; and Horst Augustinovic notes recent "Missent" marks.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 2)

me know. Remember that in 1986 we will most likely meet at the Chicago AMERIPEX International Show.

ED

MORE ON CLYDE CARRIKER'S ATLANTIS COVER...

In the November 28th, 1983, issue of Linn's Stamp News, "Cinderella" columnist Jim Czul discusses in detail the various series of Atlantis fantasy labels which appeared on the philatelic market in the 1930's. One such label was pictured in Clyde's article in the previous Journal. Space does not permit reprinting the Czul story here, but it will be published in the April BCPJ.

SPECIALIST MATERIAL

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NEW ENGLAND STAMP COMPANY

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R. M. S. P. STEAMERS CALLING AT BERMUDA, 1842-1850

From The BERMUDA ROYAL GAZETTE

by M. H. LUDINGTON

(CONTINUED FROM DECEMBER 1983 BCPJ)

<u>From</u>	<u>Arrived</u>	<u>Sailed</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Steamer</u>	<u>Notes</u>
3. ROUTES OF JULY 1843 - OCTOBER 1947 (Continued)					
1847					
N	19 Jan	24 Jan	UK	DEE	
ST	23 Jan	24 Jan	N	TEVIOT	
N	18 Feb	21 Feb	UK	MEDWAY	
ST	21 Feb	22 Feb	N	THAMES	
N	-	-	UK	TWEED	TWEED lost 12 Feb bound from Havana to Vera Cruz.
ST	22 Mar	24 Mar	UK	AVON	
N	22 Apr	24 Apr	UK	TAY	No steamer from St. Thomas in April.
ST	23 May	24 May	UK	DEE	From Vera Cruz, Havana, Nassau, and St. Thomas. No separate steamer from St. Thomas.
N	23 Jun	24 Jun	UK	MEDWAY	No steamer from St. Thomas in June.
N	17 Jul	21 Jul	UK	AVON	Normal service resumed.
ST	20 Jul	22 Jul	N	THAMES	Normal service resumed.
N	17 Aug	20 Aug	UK	GREAT WESTERN	GREAT WESTERN purchased as replacement for TWEED.
ST	19 Aug	21 Aug	N	CLYDE	Left Kingston 8 Aug, left Jacmel 10 Aug, left San Juan, P.R. 12 Aug, left ST 15 Aug.
N	18 Sep	20 Sep	UK	TEVIOT	
ST	20 Sep	21 Sep	N	DEE	
N	19 Oct	23 Oct	UK	MEDWAY	
ST	22 Oct	23 Oct	N	TRENT	

ROUTES REORGANIZED (AS OF 1 NOVEMBER 1847)

4. ROUTES OF NOVEMBER 1847 - SEPTEMBER 1850

Three monthly services met at Bermuda:

- a. The outward Mexico steamer (UK - N).
- b. The return Mexico steamer (N - UK).
- c. A revised branch line: Bermuda - St. Thomas - San Juan, P. R. - St. Thomas - Bermuda, extended in May 1848 to New York instead of staying in Bermuda.

Abbreviations: CI Cat Island (for New Orleans); H Havana; M Mobile, Alabama; N Nassau; NY New York; PR San Juan, P. R.; ST St. Thomas; TA Tampico; VC Vera Cruz; UK United Kingdom (Southampton)

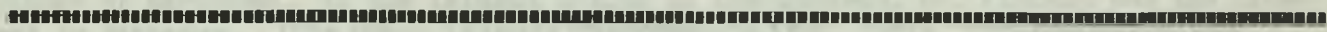
<u>From</u>	<u>Arrived</u>	<u>Sailed</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Steamer</u>	<u>Notes</u>
1847					
N	18 Nov	21 Nov	UK	FORTH	
ST	20 Nov	22 Nov	ST	AVON	
UK	21 Nov	23 Nov	N	TEVIOT	"Just under 19 days from Southampton."
N	17 Dec	20 Dec	UK	SEVERN	
ST	17 Dec	23 Dec	ST	THAMES	Waited for TAY full allotted time, and went to ST and back.
1848					
ST	2 Jan	2 Jan	N	THAMES	Replaced TAY, destroyed by storms, which went to ST direct.
N	3 Jan	10 Jan	UK	TEVIOT	Waited for CONWAY from ST.
ST	10 Jan	21 Jan	ST	CONWAY	4½ days from ST. Replaced THAMES.
UK	21 Jan	21 Jan	N	DEE	18 days from Southampton.
N	5 Feb	23 Feb	ST	THAMES	Left CI 14 Jan, left VC 21 Jan. At H 26 - 30 Jan, N 1 Feb. Waited for GREAT WESTERN from UK.
ST	6 Feb	8 Feb	UK	TAY	Storm damage repaired at ST.
UK	22 Feb	24 Feb	N	GREAT WESTERN	20 days from Southampton.
N	5 Mar	8 Mar	UK	DEE	
ST	8 Mar	19 Mar	ST	THAMES	
UK	19 Mar	20 Mar	N	AVON	17 days from Southampton.
N	4 Apr	21 Apr	ST	GREAT WESTERN	
ST	7 Apr	8 Apr	UK	THAMES	
UK	21 Apr	22 Apr	N	TAY	
N	4 May	7 May	UK	AVON	
ST	7 May	7 May	NY	GREAT WESTERN	FIRST TRIP TO NEW YORK, arrived 10 May.
NY	16 May	19 May	ST	GREAT WESTERN	FIRST TRIP FROM NEW YORK, left 12 May.
UK	19 May	20 May	N	TRENT	17 days from Southampton.
N	3 Jun	5 Jun	UK	TAY	Left TA 14 May, left VC 16 May, left CI 20 May, left H 28 May, left N 30 May.
ST	5 Jun	6 Jun	NY	GREAT WESTERN	Arrived NY 9 June.
NY	15 Jun	22 Jun	N	GREAT WESTERN	Left NY 12 June.
UK	21 Jun	22 Jun	ST	FORTH	
N	4 Jul	8 Jul	NY	TRENT	Arrived NY 12 July.
ST	6 Jul	7 Jul	UK	FORTH	
NY	17 Jul	19 Jul	ST	TRENT	Left NY 13 July.
UK	18 Jul	20 Jul	N	SEVERN	
N	2 Aug	5 Aug	UK	GREAT WESTERN	
ST	4 Aug	5 Aug	NY	TRENT	Arrived NY 10 August.
NY	16 Aug	21 Aug	ST	TRENT	Left NY 12 Aug. Owing to damage to TEVIOT, went to ST and on to H and Gulf of Mexico.
UK	20 Aug	6 Sep	UK	TEVIOT	Machinery damaged. Temporary repairs at Bermuda, and returned to UK.
N	2 Sep	6 Sep	NY	SEVERN	Arrived NY 9 September.
ST	6 Sep	6 Sep	ST	MEDWAY	
NY	15 Sep	20 Sep	ST	SEVERN	Left NY 4:15 P.M. 12 Sep, arrived Bermuda 1:15 P.M. 15 Sep. Passage of 67 hours, a record to date.

<u>From</u>	<u>Arrived</u>	<u>Sailed</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Steamer</u>	<u>Notes</u>
UK	19 Sep	21 Sep	N	FORTH	
ST	6 Oct	8 Oct	NY	SEVERN	Arrived NY 12 October.
N	8 Oct	10 Oct	UK	TRENT	
NY	17 Oct	21 Oct	ST	SEVERN	Left NY 13 October.
UK	20 Oct	22 Oct	N	GREAT WESTERN	
N	3 Nov	8 Nov	NY	FORTH	Arrived NY 12 November.
ST	7 Nov	8 Nov	UK	SEVERN	
NY	17 Nov	20 Nov	ST	FORTH	Left NY 13 November.
UK	19 Nov	21 Nov	N	TEVIOT	
N	3 Dec	6 Dec	UK	GREAT WESTERN	Left TA 13 Nov, left VC 15 Nov, left H 26 Nov, left N 29 Nov.
ST	6 Dec	6 Dec	NY	FORTH	Called TRENT in error in Bermuda Royal Gazette.
NY	17 Dec	23 Dec	ST	FORTH	Waited in vain for AVON from UK, damaged in storm, which had gone to ST. FORTH left ST on 2 Jan for K, H, and Gulf of Mexico, and was wrecked on 14 Jan north of Yucatan.
1849					
ST	6 Jan	7 Jan	NY	DEE	Arrived NY 11 January.
N	7 Jan	9 Jan	UK	TEVIOT	
NY	18 Jan	20 Jan	ST	DEE	Left NY 14 January. First steamer to M, arrived 1 February.
UK	20 Jan	21 Jan	N	SEVERN	18 days from Southampton.
ST	27 Jan	-		Brig CHEBUCTO	Left ST 7 Jan with Mail for Bermuda. Mail to NY per Cunard OSPREY 16 Feb via Hal- ifax.
ST	6 Feb	13 Feb	UK	SEVERN	Only one paddle working. To UK for re- pairs.
UK	19 Feb	19 Feb	ST	MEDWAY	17 days from Southampton.
N	9 Mar	12 Mar	UK	DEE	Left M 22 Feb, left H 1 Mar, left N 3 Mar.
ST	11 Mar	12 Mar	NY	TRENT	5 days from ST. Arrived NY 16 March.
NY	20 Mar	22 Mar	ST	TRENT	Left NY 16 March.
UK	21 Mar	24 Mar	N	TEVIOT	
N	5 Apr	9 Apr	UK	GREAT WESTERN	Left TA 16 Mar, left VC 19 Mar, left M 24 Mar, left H 30 Mar, left N 1 April.
ST	9 Apr	9 Apr	NY	TRENT	Arrived NY 15 April.
NY	20 Apr	22 Apr	ST	TRENT	Left NY 16 April.
UK	22 Apr	23 Apr	N	SEVERN	
N	4 May	8 May	NY	THAMES	Left VC 17 Apr. Arrived NY 12 May.
ST	7 May	8 May	UK	CONWAY	From ST 2 May. Returning to UK for re- pairs.
NY	16 May	23 May	ST	THAMES	Left NY 12 May.
UK	22 May	24 May	N	CLYDE	
N	3 Jun	7 Jun	UK	SEVERN	
ST	6 Jun	7 Jun	NY	AVON	Arrived NY 10 June.
NY	16 Jun	18 Jun	ST	AVON	Left NY 12 June.
UK	17 Jun	18 Jun	N	GREAT WESTERN	
N	3 Jul	7 Jul	NY	CLYDE	Arrived NY 11 July.
ST	6 Jul	7 Jul	UK	THAMES	
NY	17 Jul	19 Jul	ST	CLYDE	Left NY 13 July.
UK	18 Jul	20 Jul	N	TRENT	
N	3 Aug	7 Aug	NY	GREAT WESTERN	Left TA 12 Jul, left VC 16 Jul, left M 22 Jul, left H 28 July, left N 30 July.

<u>From</u>	<u>Arrived</u>	<u>Sailed</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Steamer</u>	<u>Notes</u>
ST	5 Aug	7 Aug	UK	AVON	
NY	16 Aug	19 Aug	ST	GREAT WESTERN	Arrived and left NY 11 August.
UK	18 Aug	21 Aug	N	SEVERN	
ST	20 Aug	22 Aug	UK	REINDEER	Branch steamer. To UK for new boilers, but sold.
N	1 Sep	5 Sep	UK	TRENT	
ST	4 Sep	5 Sep	NY	GREAT WESTERN	Arrived NY 9 September.
NY	17 Sep	19 Sep	ST	GREAT WESTERN	Left NY 13 September.
UK	18 Sep	21 Sep	N	TEVIOT	
N	3 Oct	5 Oct	UK	SEVERN	
ST	4 Oct	5 Oct	NY	GREAT WESTERN	Arrived NY 9 October.
NY	16 Oct	21 Oct	ST	GREAT WESTERN	Left NY 13 October.
UK	21 Oct	23 Oct	N	DEE	
ST	6 Nov	10 Nov	NY	GREAT WESTERN	Arrived NY 14 November.
N	9 Nov	12 Nov	UK	TEVIOT	5 days late. Left TA 23 Oct, left M 27 Oct, left H 2 Nov, left N 4 Nov.
NY	19 Nov	20 Nov	ST	GREAT WESTERN	Left NY 15 November.
UK	19 Nov	22 Nov	N	THAMES	
N	4 Dec	7 Dec	UK	DEE	Left TA 14 Nov, left VC 17 Nov, left M 23 Nov, left H 28 Nov, left N 30 Nov.
ST	5 Dec	7 Dec	NY	GREAT WESTERN	Left ST 30 Nov. Arrived NY 11 December.
NY	17 Dec	23 Dec	ST	GREAT WESTERN	Left NY 13 December.
UK	-	-	N		CLYDE from UK 2 Dec, ran out of coal, but reached Antigua under sail. Arrived ST 28 Dec and left for K and H 29 December.
1850					
N	3 Jan	7 Jan	NY	THAMES	LAST TRIP TO NY. Arrived 11 January.
ST	5 Jan	7 Jan	UK	GREAT WESTERN	With mail for Bermuda from UK, ex-CLYDE.
NY	17 Jan	23 Jan	ST	THAMES	LAST TRIP FROM NY. Supposed to go to N, but delay of TRENT made her go to ST. Left NY 13 January.
UK	24 Jan	25 Jan	ST	TRENT	Delayed by gales.
N	3 Feb	23 Feb	*	CLYDE	* Sailed for "the West Indies". (ST?)
ST	7 Feb	8 Feb	UK	TRENT	Engines damaged. To UK for repairs, ar- riving 22 February.
UK	22 Feb	25 Feb	N	AVON	
N	8 Mar	10 Mar	UK	THAMES	
ST	8 Mar	19 Mar	ST	CLYDE	
UK	18 Mar	19 Mar	N	MEDWAY	
N	5 Apr	7 Apr	UK	AVON	Left TA 16 Mar, left VC 19 Mar, left M 24 Mar, left H 28 Mar, left N 31 Mar.
ST	5 Apr	-	ST	CLYDE	Waited for SEVERN until at least 23 Apr, then left for ST. Date of sailing not found.
UK	-	-	N		SEVERN from UK 2 Apr, ran out of coal and went to ST.

<u>From</u>	<u>Arrived</u>	<u>Sailed</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Steamer</u>	<u>Notes</u>
N	2 May	18 May	ST	MEDWAY	Left TA 13 Apr, left VC 15 Apr, left M 20 Apr, left H 26 Apr, left N 29 Apr.
ST	6 May	6 May	UK	CLYDE	With mail for Bermuda, ex-SEVERN.
UK	17 May	19 May	N	THAMES	
N	2 Jun	6 Jun	UK	SEVERN	
ST	4 Jun	18 Jun	ST	MEDWAY	Left ST 31 May.
UK	18 Jun	19 Jun	N	TAY	
N	2 Jul	6 Jul	UK	THAMES	
ST	5 Jul	18 Jul	ST	CONWAY	
UK	17 Jul	19 Jul	N	GREAT WESTERN	Just under 15 days from Southampton.
N	2 Aug	6 Aug	ST	TAY	
ST	4 Aug	5 Aug	UK	MEDWAY	From ST in 96 hours.
N	2 Sep	3 Sep	UK	GREAT WESTERN	LAST R.M.S.P. STEAMER TO CALL AT BERMUDA.

(CONCLUSION)



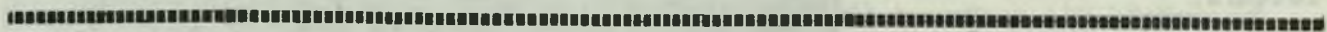
NEW PHILATELIC MAGAZINE ON THE HORIZON...

by George W. Bowman

The BCPSG has received a letter from Mr. Michael Mills, P. O. Box 73, Sloatsburg, NY 10974, announcing that a new philatelic journal, entitled "Stampworks Digest" will appear on a bi-monthly basis commencing in February 1984. Mr. Mills, who is the SD publisher, has contacted editors of various philatelic society journals in order to reach writers willing to supply material to SD on either a regular or one-time basis. It is assumed that SD will be an "all-encompassing" magazine, of interest to both beginning and advanced general collectors, and which will include original technical and non-technical articles, new issue news, a column for queries and replies, and auction information.

Mr. Mills has specifically stated that he is looking primarily for four- to ten-page manuscripts, for which he will pay up to \$15 for a four-page article, and from \$20 up for longer works---how much "up" depending on quality and research. He is also interested in finding a BCPSG'er who would like to serve SD as a columnist, regularly covering philatelic and postally historical news of the BWI area.

I have received from Mr. Mills additional information concerning SD---including writers' guidelines and author's query guidelines---too detailed to publish in the BCPJ. However, I will be happy to xerox a copy of this material for any BCPSG'er sending a No. 10 SASE. Or, if you wish, you may write directly to Mr. Mills.



CORRECTION:

At the bottom of page 114 of the October 1983 Journal, I state that BRUCE WALKER, vacationing in Gibraltar, was "enjoying the friendly Alps". That word "Alps", of course, should have been "Apes"---the great monkeys that are one of the area's tourist attractions. According to RICHARD HEAP, the story goes that if the apes die out the British will lose Gibraltar (a theory similar, perhaps, to that of the ravens at the Tower of London?). During World War II, when The Rock's stock of apes ran low, Churchill ordered further imports of the animals.

Sorry for the typing error---and also for the slipshod job of proofreading!

GEORGE

A COVER TO BARBADOS MARKED "REFUSED"

BY COLIN H. BAYLEY, M.B.E.

It is not very often that one comes across a cover to the British West Indies carrying the International Postal Union's "Refusé/Refused" label. I was fortunate in obtaining the one pictured here.

Dr. Herbert Bree, the addressee, was consecrated Bishop of Barbados on 1 May 1882. He held this office until 1898, when he returned to England for reasons of ill health and died there the following year.¹

It is interesting that the letter is addressed to the Bishop, not at his residence at Bishop's Court in Barbados, but instead at Codrington College, which apparently at the time was the operational centre of the Barbados Episcopate. The cover is from Canada and carries the name and insignia of the Canada Life Assurance Company of Hamilton, Ontario. It is marked "St. Vincent and Barbados", and bears on the reverse no less than six postmarks, chronologically listed below:

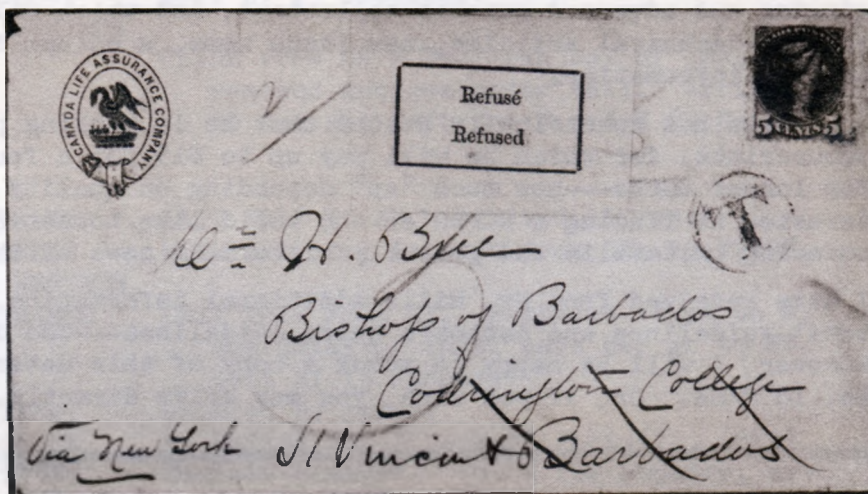
- | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| (1) | HAMILTON
10
MAR 5
92 | (2) | NEW YORK
MAR 8
92 | (3) | BARBADOS
2 AP 92
SHIP LETTER |
| (4) | BARBADOS
A
AP 2
92 | (5) | KINGSTOWN
AP 4
92
ST VINCENT | (6) | RECD. AT DEAD LETTER OFFICE
92 |

Item (3) is the well-known "Barbados Ship Letter in Oval" postmark which suggests the letter travelled from New York by a non-packet vessel. Item (6) shows traces of markings of the day and month, but these are not clear and I have not attempted to identify them.

The front of the letter carries the familiar tax mark comprising a serifed "T" in a 20 mm diameter circle. There are also two numerical notations, a "2" and a "5", inscribed in blue pencil. Finally, there is the label itself, which measures 38 mm by 52 mm, with the words "Refusé" and "Refused" in 1½ mm letters.

Regarding the reason for refusing to accept the letter, the figures 2 and 5 suggest that the

letter was overweight for the five cents Canadian postage which it carried, and that it should have borne an additional five cents for a total of ten cents. In this connection I consulted Mr. Cimon Morin, Librarian of the National Postal Museum of Canada, who kindly referred me to the details of the treatment received by underpaid letters given in the Canada Official Postal Guide for 1892. The relevant paragraph from this document reads:



1. Barbados Diocesan History, The West India Committee, London, 1925, page 49.

"Prepayment of letters addressed to Postal Union countries generally is not compulsory, but, in case of non-prepayment, or insufficient prepayment, the letters go forward subject to a charge of double the amount of deficient 'postage'."

The route the letter followed seems to have been thusly: From Hamilton, Ontario, to New York and thence to Barbados by a non-packet vessel, since it carries a Barbados Ship Letter cancel in an oval. (This mark is almost always used by non-packet vessels in conjunction with a Barbados receiving cancel.) From Barbados it went to St. Vincent and seems to have been returned from there to Canada.

Since the two Barbados cancels (3) and (4) were time-wise the first BWI postmarks applied to the cover, it would seem that the letter was "refused" at Barbados and then sent to St. Vincent, where it was cancelled on 4 April. Presumably, at some later time it was returned to Canada, where it was sent to the Dead Letter Office.

To summarize, it is likely that the letter was refused in Barbados, presumably by the Bishop or his office in Barbados, probably because it carried postage to cover one postal rate only, and would be taxed an additional five cents if accepted.

One may wonder why the letter was sent on to St. Vincent after having been turned away at Barbados. The answer probably is because both Barbados and St. Vincent were a part of the Windward Islands Anglican Diocese², which was administered by the Bishop of Barbados. Of the islands making up the Diocese, St. Vincent was the closest to Barbados. (The other islands were Grenada, St. Lucia, and the Grenadines.)

In any case the letter was sent on to St. Vincent, where it apparently fared no better with respect to acceptability than it had in Barbados, and was returned to Canada.

2. Ibid., page 64.

BOOK REVIEW

by **GEORGE BOWMAN**

"Early History of the British Virgin Islands", by Vernon W. Pickering; published by Falcon Publications International, 1983; 248 pages. Available from the author at Road Town, Tortola, B.V.I., price \$23 U.S. (postage and packing included).

In a previous BCPJ---unfortunately, I forget which particular issue---there was included an insert announcing the availability of advance copies of the noted publication. At that time I had not seen the book, but now, through the courtesy of member Giorgio Migliavacca, I have had the opportunity to examine it.

The major portion of the publication (approximately 60%) describes the history of the British Virgin Islands from the time of their discovery by Columbus in 1493 through the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1834. This part includes seven chapters, covering such subjects as the islands' early history after Columbus, the founding of the Society of Quakers, the establishment of civil government in 1774, and the abolition of slavery. The next three chapters are biographical sketches of three noteworthy islanders---John Lettsom, a distinguished physician who founded the Royal Humane Society of England and the London Medical Society; William Thornton, a doctor, abolitionist, and architect who became an American citizen in 1786; and Thomas Humphreys, a leader in Quaker activities on Tortola.

For the BCPSG'er, however, the focal point of the book is Chapter XI, entitled "Communications and Postal History". Beginning with Edmund Dummer's short-lived packet

This and That...

From BEN RAMKISSOON comes news of the noted items:

(1) An "O.S.G.B. Government Publication" piece (Ben didn't say whether it was a cover or a wrapper) bearing a 13 SE 83 Belmopan CDS and an imprinted boxed "OFFICIAL/INFORMATION/DEPARTMENT/BELMOPAN/BELIZE" mark (Figure 1). The boxed "Amount Collected 80¢" and "Government Information Service/AIR MAIL" markings are both handstamps applied in purple ink.

(2) A two-line "RECEIVED IN A/DAMAGED CONDITION" rubber stamp (Figure 2), struck in purple on an air mail cover sent to BCPSG'er JOHN CHAY in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. (The actual cover carried a total of 35¢ in U.S. stamps; the illustration shows only 25¢.)

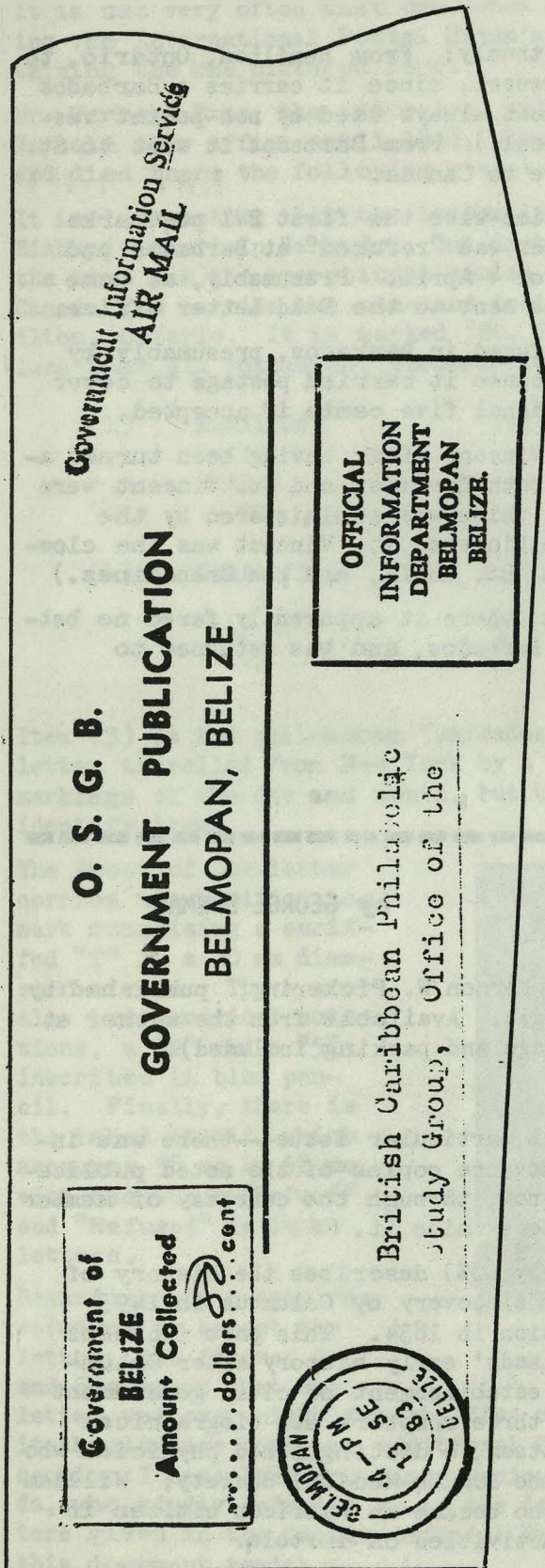


FIGURE 1

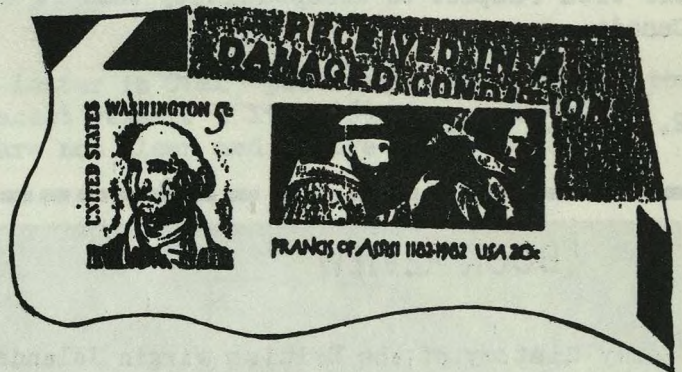


FIGURE 2

On 25 July 1983 a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet were issued by the British Virgin Islands to publicize the boat building industry. The stamps were designed by Mr. Roger Burnett, a local BVI artist.

Last fall MARJORIE DORAN submitted a clipping from the 13 August issue of The Island Sun newspaper, announcing that Mr. Burnett was making available to the public personally prepared and autographed first day covers of the issue. The proceeds from the sale of the covers were placed in a fund to promote the preservation of the Tortola Sloop, a type of vessel unique to the BVI.

Burnett stated that, although traditional boat building is a valuable part of the is-

land's cultural heritage, the industry has been in a steady decline for many years. His goal is to increase interest in the Tortola Sloop by commissioning the construction of a traditional vessel of this type.

It is hoped that interest generated by the project will lead to the revival of traditional small boat building in the Virgin Islands. The Tortola Sloop would be of considerable interest, serving as a focal point for sailing events both locally and on nearby islands.



Normally, air letter sheets made obsolete by a change in postal rates are revalued simply by printing the new value somewhere on the aerogramme, either directly on the imprinted stamp or somewhere near it. ERIC KING submitted an interesting aerogramme

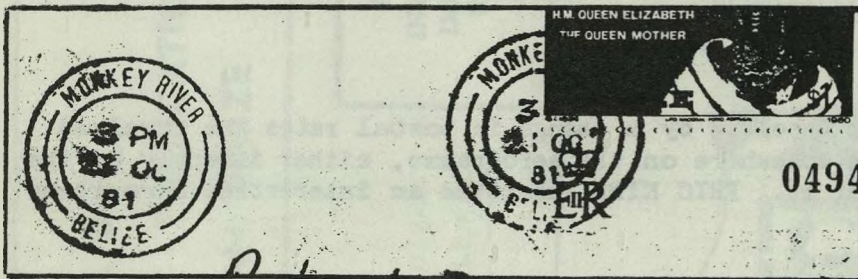
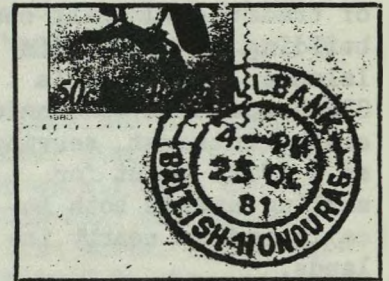
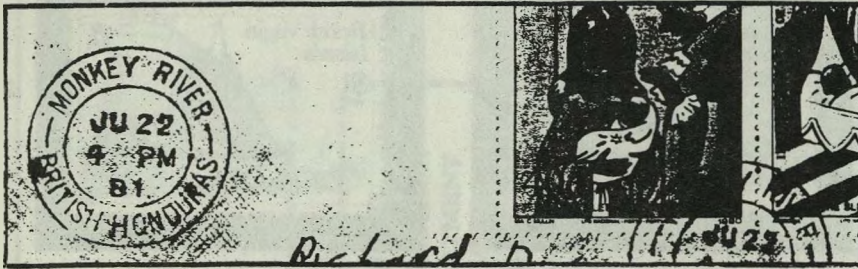
MAIL AIR LETTER
IN AEROGRAMME



from Belize, on which the new rate of 35¢ was created by locally imprinting, beneath the existing 25¢ value, a 10¢ stamp in a similar design. The added stamp, printed in a much deeper shade of brown than the 25¢, is a crudely produced affair, defin-

itely not a work of art (note the tapering left frame line and "fuzzy" shell). Eric states that this is the first time he has seen two imprinted stamps on one air letter. Has anyone seen others?

Illustrated here are portions of four Belize covers submitted by DICK DAY. Two items are postmarked MONKEY RIVER; the other two are from HILLBANK. What is surprising is, even though the name of the country was officially changed from British Honduras to Belize in 1973, these two post offices apparently "didn't get the word"! Monkey River still used a British Honduras CDS as late as 22 June 1981, and Hillbank's mark is dated 25 October of that same year.



Dick stated that, after accumulating a number of covers bearing these outdated postmarks, he called this fact to the attention of the Belize Assistant Postmaster General. It wasn't long before Monkey River and Hillbank received new Belize CDS's---even though they arrived eight years late!

Late in October Frank Huxley, Editor of The GEOSIX Newsletter, advised that copies were available of the King George VI Collectors Society's latest publication "Study Paper No. 13 - The Key Type High Values of Bermuda, Leeward Islands, and Nyasaland", by Eric Yendall. This is an extensively updated version of the study of these complicated printings---with emphasis on those of Bermuda---which appeared in The GEOSIX Newsletter over a two-year period beginning in January 1981.

Frank emphasized that, although the normal price of the publication is £3, members of the BCPSG may purchase it for £2.25, the same price as charged to KGVICS members. (Postage and packing is 35p. extra for surface mail and £1.40 extra for air mail.) Order your copy from him at "Eastleigh", 114 High Street, Leiston, Suffolk, IP16 4BZ, England.

It would be appreciated if payment were made in sterling. However, if this is not possible, Frank suggests that an extra £1 would be most welcome to cover (as he puts it) the "outrageous cheque handling charge levied by British banks".

The RICHARD HEAP-TONY SHEPHERD article entitled "Bermuda or Barbados? (A Censor Mark Mystery)", which appeared in the July 1983 BCPJ, has been reprinted in the Oc-

tober 1983 issue of the Civil Censorship Study Group (CCSG) Bulletin. (Data concerning the CCSG may be obtained from Dann Mayo, 840 West 71st Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri 64114, or A. R. Torrance, Rozel Cottage, Back Road, Dollar, Scotland FK14 7EA.)

EDMUND BAYLEY submitted a copy of a slogan postmark introduced at the Bridgetown, Barbados G. P. O. on 12 October 1983. He also provided a helpful paragraph of background data for the mark:



POLIO CRIPPLES
IMMUNISE
YOUR CHILD

"Barbados is a healthy country which is seldom ever plagued with any of the epidemics which from time to time occur. This is due in large measure to a healthy climate, the facilities available, and the care taken of the people by the Health Authorities. From time to time, the Health Authorities undertake massive immunisation programmes, and they are now currently urging the young children to be

vaccinated against polio. In order to bring this home more forcibly to the public, a new slogan cancellation was ordered by the G. P. O. which was received on 11th October 1983, and used for the first time to cancel mail on the 12th October."

MICHAEL WATMAN has been regularly providing the Journal with data concerning official goings-on in the area of Belize postal policies. Last September he reported that Belize had awarded a four-year stamp-producing contract to the Numismatica International Corporation, Ltd., of England. This replaced the stamp-printing contract previously held with Belize by the Panamanian firm Compañía Filatélica Mundial, and which expired on May 1st, 1983 (see page 93 of the July 1983 BCPJ). Subsequently, Michael supplied a copy of a "press release", dated October 20th, 1983, from the G.P.O., Belize City, advising of the establishment of a philatelic bureau in that city. The entire release is too long to be published here, but its most meaningful paragraphs are reprinted:

"...We shall use the best international designers and security printers to produce high quality stamps. The denominations will reflect values of relevant postal use and we shall only issue five to six issues per annum.

"...All stamps will be placed on postal and philatelic sales for a maximum of six months, and after stamps are withdrawn from sales, the remaining quantities and the printing plates will be destroyed...

"...We intend to pursue a moderate policy of continuing our old heritage of issuing good and valuable stamps; a tradition which goes as far back as 1864 when our first stamp was issued."

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BOOK REVIEW (Continued from page 21)

service in 1702, Pickering traces the development of postal communications to and from the B.V.I. through 1879, the year of the colony's admission to the Universal Postal Union. Government packet routes and rates are adequately explained, supplemented in many cases by verbatim extracts of official proclamations and circulars authorizing their establishment.

The various printings of the adhesive stamps are thoroughly discussed, as are both pre-adhesive and post-adhesive era postmarks. Pickering includes a "Rarity Guide" for postal markings, covering (on a scale of 1 to 10) scarcity determinations for "Straight-Line Tortola" marks, Crown Circle "Paid at Tortola" marks, obliterators, CDS's, and registration handstamps.

It is indicative of the book's value to report that the B.V.I. Department of Education has purchased a considerable quantity of the publication for use as a school textbook. It is written in an interesting, easy-to-read style, and contains a liberal quantity of photographs and illustrations. However, most of the photos are "fuzzy" and of rather poor quality; this may be assumed to be due to less-than-perfect condition of the original prints.

The real worth of the book, at least to the philatelist, would have to be determined after comparing it with Fred J. Melville's "Virgin Islands", which, even now, is still considered the B.V.I. "standard". I have not read Melville, and thus can make no such technical comparison of the two. I can only state that, in my opinion, the student seeking a creditable collection of historical and philatelic data on the British Virgin Islands will find Pickering's effort a most worthwhile source. In accordance with Giorgio's request, I have forwarded the review copy to the Group Library.

Pickering, a native of the B.V.I., has distinguished himself with the Joffrey Ballet in New York, and later as an actor in television productions and films, primarily in Europe. He has appeared on Monte Carlo television, the Swiss network, and ITV's "London Weekend Television". An avid collector of B.V.I. postage stamps and student of B.V.I. postal history, he wrote the preface to the 1980 reprint of the Melville book (reviewed in the April 1980 BCPJ). He now lives in Road Town.

Personal Mention

The 7 November 1983 edition of Linn's Stamp News announced that JEFFREY DOW had been appointed Auction Manager for the Stamp Tree Auction House. This firm, formerly located in Auburn, California, was recently acquired by the Barrett and Worthen stamp organization of Lexington, Massachusetts.

In past years Jeff has been quite active in the field of BWI philately. BCPSG'ers may recall that, in conjunction with Dr. Myles Glazer, Jeff co-authored a study concerning a scientific classification technique they developed to identify the high value stamps of Bermuda through the use of ultraviolet light. This article was published in the September 1981 issue of The American Philatelist.

We wish Jeff the best of luck in his new position.

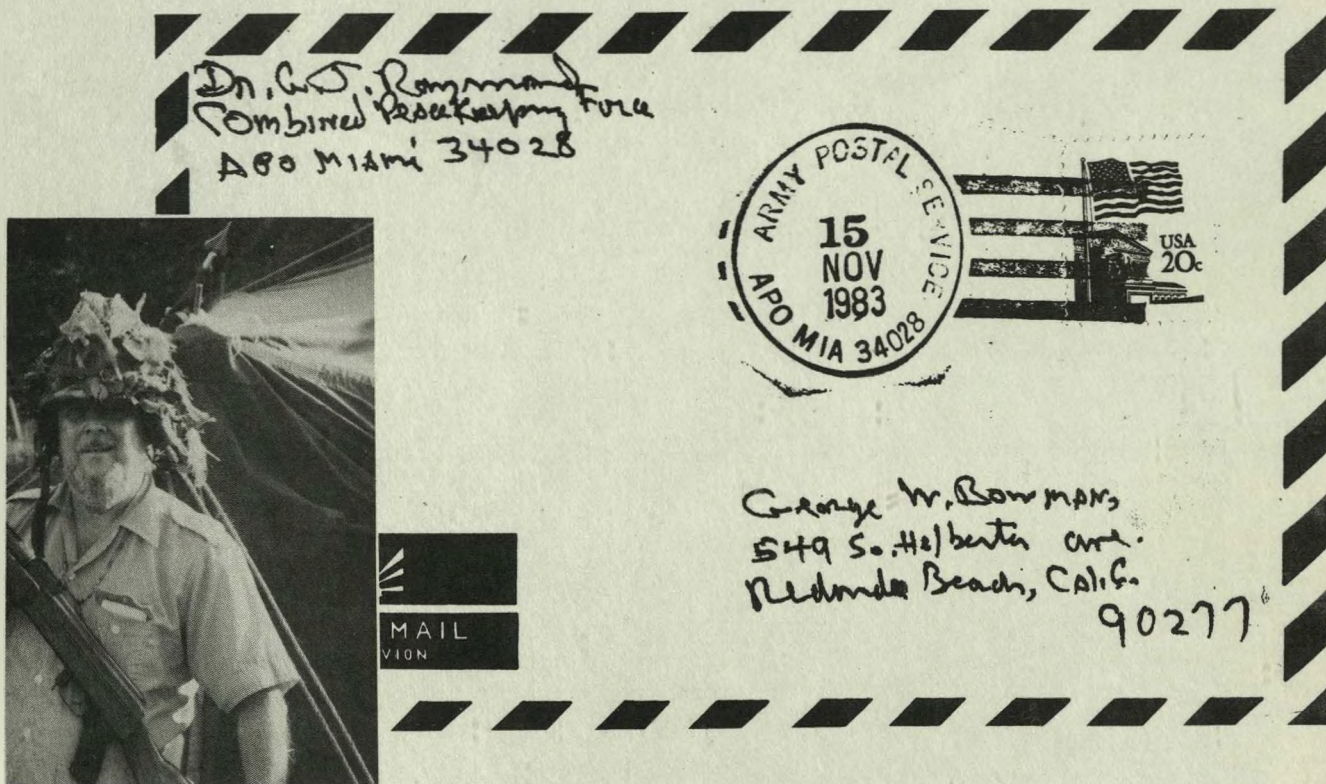
KIL BUMP reports seeing a few BCPSG'ers at the Northeast Federation of Stamp Clubs Show held in Boston on 21-23 October 1983. JACK ARNELL won two Vermeil awards, one each for his 5-frame exhibit entitled "Jamaica Transatlantic Stampless Mail" and his 6-frame display "Handstruck Rate Markings of BNA Transatlantic Mail". Kil surprised

himself, he says, by taking a Silver-Bronze award for his entry "The Postmasters of South Wilbraham, Massachusetts, and the Mail They Handled". (In 1878 South Wilbraham Parish became the city of Hampden, where Kil now lives.)

BILL BOGG, BOB TOPAZ, and MICHAEL MEAD were bourse booth holders. JEFF DOW and DAN and PAT WALKER were also present. Pat, who is President of the Eire Philatelic Association, one of the show's participating groups, presented a talk on her gold award winning collection of Irish covers.

GALE RAYMOND, shown here on assignment with "Operation Urgent Fury" on Grenada, sent the pictured cover postmarked on 15 November 1983 at APO MIA (for Miami) 34028. This post office, established soon after American forces landed on the island on 25 October, was located in the Cuban terminal building at the Point Salines airstrip. He states that an APO 34028 Branch Post Office was concurrently set up at the Grantly Adams Airport on Barbados.

Gale's article, describing the early days of postal operations on Grenada after the invasion, was received too late to be worked into this Journal, but (hopefully) it will be published in the April issue.



DR. IAN MATHESON reports that at the RSA National Stamp Exhibit DURSA '83, held in Durban, South Africa, in early August, three members of the BCPSG were involved with the show in various capacities. HOWARD GREEN won a Gold Medal and the "Rand 77" floating award for his exhibit "Cayman Islands, 1803-1937", and Ian was awarded a Silver Medal for his display "The Development of the British Honduras Air Mail Service". Exhibition Judge MIKE NETHERSOLE showed several frames of early British Caribbean material in the Court of Honor.

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