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An Interpanneau Frisson?
(see Dickon Pollard's article on p. 7)

Also Featured Inside:

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Leeward Islands FEES revenue stamps
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Turks Is. and Turks & Caicos Is. proofs and essays



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Marine Sorting on R.M.S. West India Packets

by G. OSBORN and H. PARSONS¹

Several publications make passing reference to marine sorting of mails on the homeward-bound vessels of the Royal Mail Steam Packet (R.M.S.P.) Company from St Thomas in the late 1860s, but few details have been provided. This article is designed to fill that gap.

The Postmaster General's *Report* for 1867 contains the following:

In consequence of a desire expressed by many mercantile bodies connected with the manufacturing district, arrangements were made for the West Indian Mail Packets to call at Plymouth and land the mails on the return voyage; officers were employed on board the packets to sort the letters, etc., so they might be ready to be forwarded at once to their destination. This step was, unfortunately, taken just at the time that the yellow fever prevailed so seriously at St Thomas. Two of the sorting officers died, others suffered from the effects of the fever, and, for a time, it became ne-

¹ This article was submitted simultaneously to this journal and to the *Postscript*, the newsletter of the Society of Postal Historians. While the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* has a policy of not reprinting articles published elsewhere, an exception was made in this case in view of the limited circulation of the *Postscript* and the possibility that BCPSG members may be able to contribute information.

cessary to suspend the sorting operations; but as soon as St Thomas was pronounced healthy the service was resumed, and the mails are now regularly landed at Plymouth.

At this time, the West Indian packets brought mails from all over the Caribbean, the north coast of South America, Mexico, Central America and the Pacific ports of the Americas, channelled through Panama to Colón, as well as mail from Australia and New Zealand sent across the Pacific to Panama.

Inbound mails, landed at Southampton, were being sorted in London. Since an efficient railway between London and Bristol, and from there to Plymouth, had long been established, it was seen that to drop the mails off at Plymouth, already sorted and bagged, meant a useful saving of time for mail bound for the Midlands and the North, which could go direct from Bristol. So the Postmaster General set the scheme in motion.

By July 1867 plans were well advanced. A mooring buoy behind the sheltering breakwater in Plymouth Sound was set down. The R.M.S.P. Co. was required to provide a steam tender to off-load the mails. They were to provide a sorting room on each of their ships operating on that run with approved fittings. These were to be provided at a cost of £100 per ship; for the sorting room itself, £160 was allowed.

The contract between the Post Office and the company was modified to allow a further eight hours on the voyage, and their subsidy was enhanced by an extra £2,000 per annum.

By mid-August outstanding administrative issues – including questions of quarantine and the termination of the services of a naval agent, replaced by officers of the Post Office (that is, a sorter and his assistant) – were resolved. In a letter to the company dated 15 August, the Postmaster General gave notice of the commencement of the new plan and the sending out of marine sorters on the R.M.S. *Tasmanian*, departing Southampton on 2 September 1867. An appreciation of this service is best obtained by setting out the mail contract schedule and the sorter manning in tabular form.

From this it can be seen that the sorters leaving Southampton on 2 September would perform their first duties on the vessel leaving St Thomas on 30 September. It also shows that a minimum of three

<i>Southampton</i>	<i>St Thomas</i>	<i>Plymouth/ Southampton</i>	
<i>dep.</i>	<i>arr.</i>	<i>dep.</i>	<i>arr.</i>
–	–	15 Sep	29 Sep
2 Sep	17 Sep	30 Sep	14 Oct
17 Sep	2 Oct	15 Oct	29 Oct
2 Oct	17 Oct	30 Oct	14 Nov
17 Oct	2 Nov	15 Nov	29 Nov

pairs were required, and even then they had a turn-around time in England of only three days. Should any St Thomas-to-U.K. packet arrive four days late, a fourth pair would be needed. Reference to this reasoning appears at the end of this article.

Fate, in the form of disease, was to thwart these plans. St Thomas had been unhealthy since late in 1866. In fact, the ship's cook in R.M.S. *Shannon*, George Maud, had died of yellow fever on 23 December during passage to Southampton, eight days before the ship arrived at her home port. Passengers must have had poor appetites if they were informed! *The Times* on Monday, 14 October 1867, carried the following:

YELLOW FEVER ON BOARD THE *TASMANIAN*

Southampton, Sunday

On arrival here this morning of the Royal Mail steamship *Tasmanian* she was visited, as usual, by Dr Wiblin, the medical superintendent of quarantine, to whom it was reported that the vessel left St Thomas on the 30th ult., and that during the voyage there had been nine cases of yellow fever on board, one of which proved fatal, with black vomit, on the 11th, (the day before yesterday). The unfortunate victim was Mr Pitt, one of the Post Office officials, who had been sent to sort the mails on the voyage home.... With the exception of one bag, which was made up for this port, the mails were sent ashore at Plymouth without fumigation.

The reference to the one bag for the Southampton area confirms sorting on board was effected on this first voyage. And so on to the second voyage. *The Times* of 29 October 1867 carries this story:

THE WEST INDIA AND PACIFIC MAILS

Plymouth Oct 28

The Royal Mail Company's steamer *Atrato*, from the West Indies arrived here today.... The *Atrato* brings in all 166 passengers.... Among her passengers she had six deaths – four from yellow fever, one from bronchitis, and one from heart disease. She had 40 convalescents on board, among

whom was the chief mail officer, R.T. Tremlett. On arrival of the *Atrato* at Plymouth the steam tug *Volunteer* went alongside with the Royal Mail Company's agent, the Custom's Officers, and the correspondents of the press. Pratique has been refused, and the vessel was ordered to proceed to Motherbank. The whole of the mails were forwarded to London, in consequence of both Post-Office officers having been attacked by yellow fever, and the mails consequently not sorted.

The Times goes on to list the cases of yellow fever still on board, amongst whom was "Mr W.R. Gayford, the second mail officer."

This was enough for the Postmaster General. On 31 October he wrote to the company, mentioning the continuance of yellow fever in the West Indies, and said:

The fact that on each of the two complete voyages which have been performed since the system of marine sorting has been introduced on board the Mail Packets running between St Thomas and Southampton the Sorting Officers have suffered from its attacks – one of them having died – His Grace has determined to discontinue for the present the sorting of mails on board these packets. [signed Hill]

(Perhaps one of the sorters died after arriving in England to account for the two fatalities mentioned earlier.)

So the naval agents were placed on board once more and the scheme was left in abeyance, awaiting an improvement in the sanitation of St Thomas.

It was on 30 April 1868 that another letter from the Post Office to the company was sent with the following:

Due to improvement in sanitary conditions in St Thomas the Post Master General has ordered the arrangements for sorting mails on board the West Indian Mail Packets between St Thomas and this country to resume forthwith. The usual number of Sorting Officers will proceed out to St Thomas on the 2nd proximo and I have to request that the Directors will cause arrangements to be made accordingly.

So mail sorting re-commenced on the R.M.S. *La Plata*, leaving St Thomas on 30 May and arriving at Plymouth on 13 June.

There was no further interruption of this arrangement until August 1869. A total of 28 consecutive voyages with marine sorting were completed, so in all 29 mails were sorted and bagged on R.M.S. packets. The last was to be on the *Tasmanian*,

which arrived at Plymouth on 13 August.

A summary of these voyages appears in the table. Arrangements were also made for the conveyance of the mails by train from Plymouth according to the time of day when they were off-loaded from the packets.

An item in the *Hampshire Advertiser* of 16 June 1869 states that the directors of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company had received notice that the Post Office authorities had resolved to discontinue sorting the mails on board the West India mail packets and "as a substitute for the sorting on board ... sorting after they are landed during conveyance of the mails from Plymouth to Bristol" was planned.

Another item in the same newspaper on 1 September reads: "Arrival of the West India Mails. The *Shannon*, Captain H. Jellicoe, arrived at Plymouth on Monday morning [i.e., August 29] and landed the mails, being the first occasion since the new arrangement that the mails have been landed unsorted." It goes on to quote the *Western Morning News*: "The mode of sorting these mails en route in the railway travelling post-offices was undertaken for the first time on this occasion." And there is more about this, but it falls in the realm of trains, not ships.

So much for what is known. Now for what is not! With at least three, and probably four, pairs of marine sorters operating on 29 voyages, carrying a vast amount of mail, why is there no record of obliterations assigned to these Post Office officials? True, the Impressions Book in the G.P.O. records is admittedly incomplete, but why has no cover turned up that sheds light on this point? Other shipping companies' marine sorters are all credited correctly with obliterations, but not the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. Did they leave these covers carrying uncanceled stamps severely alone? It seems unlikely.

Sources

Correspondence and reports from the Postmaster General and Appendix II are reproduced by permission of the Post Office Archives and Records Centre.

Shipping movements obtained from *The Times of London* and *The Hampshire Advertiser*.

*Royal Mail Steamers' Sailings*¹

	<i>St Thomas dep.</i>	<i>Ship</i>	<i>Plymouth/Southampton arr.</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1868	May (30)	<i>La Plata</i>	Jun 13 S	Marine sorting resumed
	Jun 14*	<i>Atrato</i>	Jun 29 S	
	Jun 29	<i>Danube</i>	Jul 17 S	
	Jul 14	<i>Tasmanian</i>	Jul 28	
	Jul 29*	<i>Douro</i>	Aug 11	
	Aug 13*	<i>Neva</i>	Aug 24	
	Aug 31	<i>Shannon</i>	Sep 14	
	Sep 15	<i>Tasmanian</i>	Sep 29 S	
	Sep 29	<i>Seine</i>	Oct 14 S	
	Oct 15*	<i>Douro</i>	Oct 27 S	
	Oct 29*	<i>Atrato</i>	Nov 12	
	Nov 13*	<i>Neva</i>	Nov 25 S	
	Nov 29*	<i>Shannon</i>	Dec 13	
	Dec 14*	<i>Tasmanian</i>	Dec 27	
	Dec 31	<i>Douro</i>	Jan 13	
1869	Jan 14*	<i>Atrato</i>	Jan 28	
	Jan 30*	<i>Neva</i>	Feb 11	
	Feb 15	<i>Shannon</i>	Mar 1	
	Mar 1*	<i>Tasmanian</i>	Mar 15	
	Mar 15	<i>Douro</i>	Mar 28	
	Mar (30)	<i>Atrato</i>	Apr 12	
	Apr 13	<i>Neva</i>	Apr 25	
	Apr 29*	<i>Seine</i>	May 13	
	May 14	<i>Tasmanian</i>	May 26	
	May (30)	<i>Shannon</i>	Jun 13	
	Jun 14*	<i>Atrato</i>	Jun 28	
	Jun 29	<i>Neva</i>	Jul 11	
	Jul 31*	<i>Tasmanian</i>	Aug 13	Last marine sorting
	Aug 15	<i>Shannon</i>	Aug 30	First T.P.O. sorting

1 Dates given are those reported in newspapers.

- * = mail-closing dates
 () = scheduled dates
 S = Southampton arrivals.

Haven't renewed your membership yet?

Do it soon, or this will be your last issue of the journal!

Jamaica Jottings

by IAN POTTER

My friends in the Jamaica Philatelic Society in Kingston, Jamaica, have sent me details of a meeting of the Jamaica Public Accounts Committee (PAC) held on 11 October 1994. It appears that the Jamaica Post Office owes British Airways (B.A.) J\$12 million and several other airlines large sums as well. BWIA, the airline based in Trinidad & Tobago, is owed J\$500,000 and has refused to carry the Jamaica mail until it is paid. According to Basil Reece, the Postmaster General of Jamaica, this has resulted in mail for the southern Caribbean being re-routed on Air Jamaica planes to Miami, from where it appears to have been forwarded with the USA mails.

Godfrey Perkins, the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Public Utilities, Mining and Energy, which is responsible for the Jamaica postal service, told the PAC that the ministry had requested funds to pay B.A. and that about J\$5 million had been al-

located in the last Estimates of Expenditures for overseas mail. Of this sum, about J\$1.5 million would be used for overseas mail. I must say I wonder how the other J\$3.5 million would be used for overseas mail other than for its transport.

There appears to have been a great deal of worry in the PAC about the effect the withdrawal of British Airways as a carrier would have on the transport of funds from workers in Great Britain to their relatives in Jamaica, as this is a substantial part of the economy, particularly at Christmas. There did not appear to be any way the mail could be carried to Britain other than by B.A.

When I contacted British Airways at Heathrow airport, their press department denied there had been any disruption of the mail over Christmas. They added that the Jamaica Post Office was a "valued customer" but the problem was "ongoing."

Leeward Islands: Right or Left? Right or Wrong?

by DICKON POLLARD

While attending a fair in York (Old York, England, that is) a considerable time ago, I bought a short set of the Leeward Islands King George VI series to the 1s value because the 1s, which was on top, had a nice frame break. While putting the remainder into stock, I noticed something on the ½d value that made feel, momentarily, that old age was catching up with me.

The stamp (illustrated on the front cover) is clearly from plate 1, with the white patch on the cheek, the receding lines on the forehead, and the pronounced white lines in the hair. I was pleased to see that the stamp had Halward variety #6, which he described as a "damaged 's' with a sliver of displaced metal reaching the frame of the name tablet." Then I found the margin, which was folded under-

neath, and noted, somewhat disconcertedly, that it was an interpanneau. Surely, this variety was R4/1 from the left pane? I have bought and sold quite a number of these, and I was sure that this stamp was from the left pane, but the interpanneau margin meant that it was from the right pane....

Back in the office, I checked out Halward's article, and sure enough, the variety was on R4/1 left pane (LP). Could it simply be coincidence? But this is, to the best of my knowledge, the only flaw in the whole series where the piece of metal on the site of the damage stayed in place. And this one was marginal too, pushing the level of coincidence up another notch.

In the second half of 1994, we (i.e., Murray Payne

Ltd.) were fortunate enough to purchase a fascinating selection of multiples, originally belonging to the late Stan Durnin, who was an early writer on B.W.I. postmarks in the King George VI Collectors' Society's journal, *Geosix* (and in this journal as well). There were some panes and a complete sheet of the ½d, plate 1. To my mingled horror (how could it happen?) and delight (how fascinating!), all the plate 1 multiples showed the variety to be present on R4/1 right pane (RP) and not at all on R4/1 LP. It was not a case of transposition of the panes, because the short 'N' variety on R2/2 LP was present and correct (Halward #8).

Since then, I get a little frisson of relief every time I see a positional example of this variety from the left pane, as it should be. Perhaps I'm just pleased to be staying, at least for the time being, one small step ahead of memory loss. But this does present us with a real problem. Why ever should a variety on one pane be transposed onto the other pane? How was it done?

In order to correct a variety of this nature, there were two possible courses of action. First, to repair the offending damage *in situ* – i.e., on the plate by

retouching (in this case, simple removal of the protruding piece of metal would seem to be more appropriate). Or second, to cut the cliché, or part of it, out of the plate and replace it with a spare, or part of a spare. It should still have been possible to take another impression from the transfer roller, so – although technically difficult – this second option would have been possible even had there been no extra leads. In any event, the name part of the duty plate was removed from R4/1 RP. How it got to R4/1 LP, though, is anyone's guess, and I would be delighted to hear any theories anyone may have. My only theory is stupidity or incompetence by someone at the printer. Any find of this variety on the left pane from plate 1, or the right pane from plate 2 or 3, would obviously be of considerable interest. Start looking!

With acknowledgments to Stuart Stokes (for advice) and to Gerry Bater (for the photography). The Halward numbers refer to the articles by the late Philip Halward in *The Stamp Lover* in 1975, in which he began to number the various flaws found in this series. Those who have comments, etc. can contact me c/o Murray Payne Ltd., P.O. Box 1135, Axbridge, Somerset, BS26 2EW, U.K.

British Honduras: King George V Registered Envelopes

by CHARLES FREELAND

I have for some time been puzzled by the classification of the registered envelopes of British Honduras during the King George V period. There are, to my knowledge, three published listings of these: the Higgins & Gage (H&G) catalogue, the Robson Lowe *Encyclopaedia* (vol. 5), and an article by Harry Huber in *The Stamp Lover*. None of them are consistent or make sense in the light of items I have in my collection. The most comprehensive offering of these items that I have seen was in the Pennymead Auctions catalogue for 22 May 1986, but that relied on the H&G and repeated its confusion.

Relying on the dates of used examples and on the data in Huber's article, I believe there were three printings during the King George V period, each consisting of a G size (152 x 96 mm) and an H2 size (226 x 102 mm). In each printing, the embossed

stamp is on the upper corner of the flap, which is always at the front right side of the envelope. The rate in every case is 2c postage plus 3c registration.

The first printing, in 1912, is in a darkish brown shade, and on both envelopes the inscription is in three lines. The second printing, made in 1915 but only released in July 1916, is easy to distinguish because the embossed stamp is on a moiré surround in the shape of a rectangle with rounded corners. The inscriptions are the same as on the 1912 printing, in three lines. In 1920 there was a third printing, which has two distinguishing features. First, the embossed stamp is in a distinctly softer red-brown shade compared with the 1912 printing. And second, on the H2 size envelope the third line of the inscription – "The address must not be written on this side" – is omitted. My classification is therefore as follows:

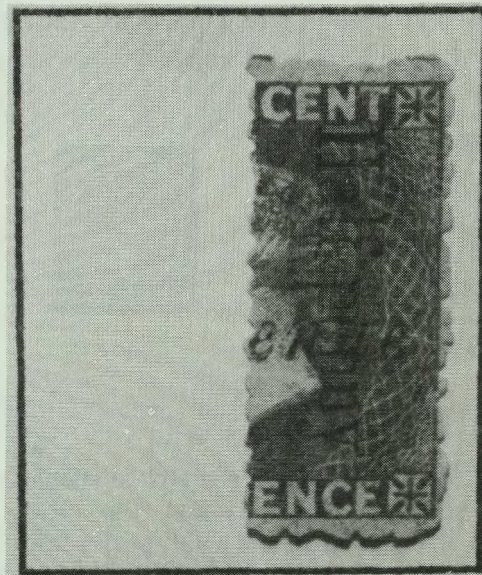
No.	Year	Size	Colour	Inscription	References
1	1912	G	darkish brown	three lines	Higgins and Gage, <i>Priced Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the World</i> . Harry Huber, "British Honduras, 1891-1925," <i>The Stamp Lover</i> , October 1926 (vol. 19, no. 4), p. 103. Robson Lowe, <i>Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps</i> , volume 5, p. 696.
1a		H2	darkish brown	three lines	
2	1916	G	brown on moire	three lines	
2a		H2	brown on moire	three lines	
3	1920	G	red-brown	three lines	
3a		H2	red-brown	two lines	

Saint Vincent: A Query

by PETER C. ELIAS

The stamp shown here, purchased from a dealer in Midland, Michigan, some 15 years ago, has puzzled me ever since! This is the Saint Vincent 1880 6d yellow-green, perf. 11 x 11.5, with the 'Revenue' overprint. As far as I can tell, the stamp and the 'Revenue' overprint are genuine, but nothing is known about the additional 'Half-penny' overprint on a bisected revenue stamp. The bisected side is perf. 13. None of the references I have consulted make any mention of such a provisional revenue.

So, either this stamp is an unrecorded provisional, possibly one of a kind (where's the other half?) or it is a fake. Can anyone shed light on this? If so, please get in touch with me at P.O. Box 540566, Grand Prairie, TX 75054-0566.



Jamaica: Another Query

by SAM CUTLER

At the Group meeting which took place last October in King of Prussia, I asked those in attendance if they knew anything about the cancels on the two stamps shown here. No one was able to tell me the source or significance of these cancels, which may have been applied upon arrival in a foreign country if the stamps were uncanceled.

Both stamps are Scott #8, SG9, the 2d Crown CC wmk, originally issued in 1870. One of them has a very faint Kingston A01 obliterator.



Anyone with information may contact me at P.O. Box 1052, Philadelphia, PA 19105-1052.

Turks Islands and Turks & Caicos Islands: Additional Proofs and Essays

by RICHARD FODEN

Further to the recent articles on this subject in the journal (December 1993 and June 1994), I can add the following information.

1867 Issue

Plate proofs also exist of the 6d in black (Fig. 1). The 1d plate proofs are known in both red and bright rose-red.



Figure 1



Figure 2

1881 and 1882-85 Issues

If one includes the imperforate 1d specimen, one should probably also include the other values known in similar format, but perforated – wmk crown CA: 4d, 6d, 1s (Fig. 2), overprinted 'SPECIMEN' (Samuel type D8); wmk crown CA: ½d, 2½d, overprinted 'CANCELLED' (type D4). These presumably all come from the printers' records and so are not forerunners of issues. In a Robson Lowe sale, there was also another, later "archive sheet" that includes examples of all stamps up to 1894

overprinted 'SPECIMEN', but that might be stretching the point even further!

1894 Issue

At Robson Lowe's BWI sale in London on 13 April 1976, lot 587 was a 5d key-plate "rubbed dated 11.6.94, red diagonal line." This came from the printers' original proof book (and, so, definitely should be included), the same source as Mr Ludington's negative impression of the 1900 Ship design; alas, it was not illustrated.

1928 Issue

A second example exists of the 2½d photographic essay, also dated "22nd July 1927" (and, incidentally, not 1929 as incorrectly printed in the June article), marked 'DUPLICATE' (sold at the Robson Lowe auction, London, 13 June 1979).

1949 UPU Issue

Photographic plate proof of the 2½d value in black on glazed card (87 x 67 mm).

Finally, I would mention that postal stationery items were hardly touched upon. Mr Ludington included the artist's design for a 1922 2d registered envelope, but several more exist, notably again in the 1979 Bermuda sale, but also elsewhere. Perhaps they should be covered separately on another occasion?

Jamaica: Further Queries

by ROBERT V. SWARBRICK

The items shown here could well be of considerable interest to the members, and I am showing them here in the hope that someone can come up with a few comments.

The first letter (Fig. 1) is dated September 8th, 1861, and originated in New York. The reverse

shows a cachet reading as follows:

Henry A. SUAU
NEW YORK.

The letter is addressed to 'Monsieur A. Ferlande, Maison [Company] P. Suau, Pointe-à-Pitre, Guade-

Figure 1

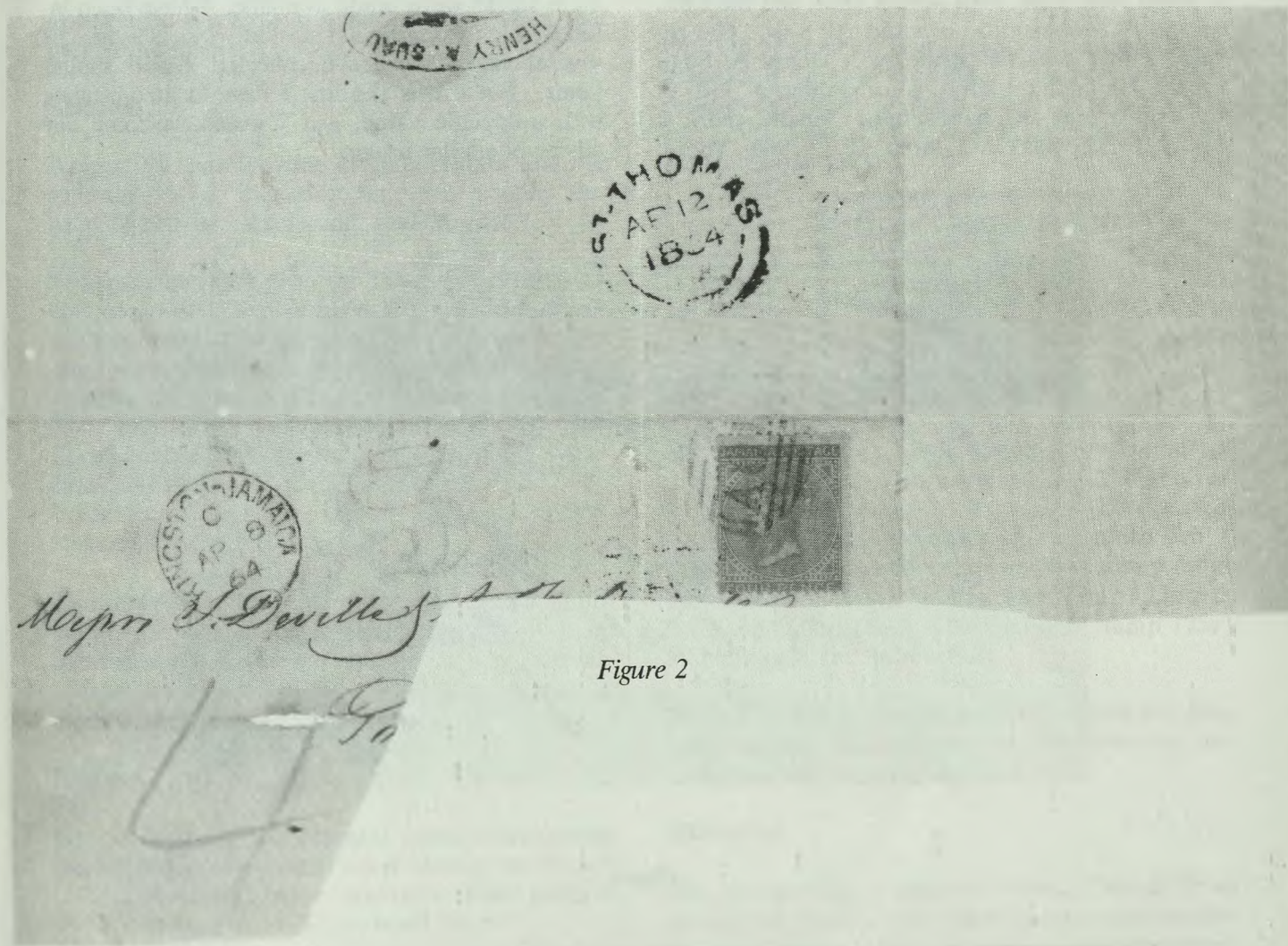
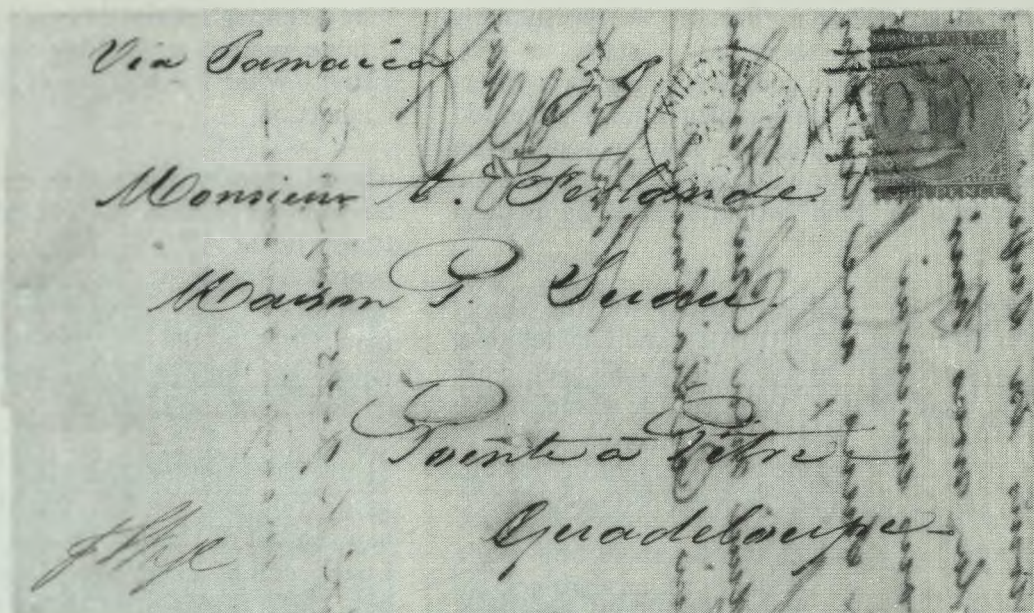


Figure 2

loupe'. It is written in French and presumably contained an extra sheet, as it starts in mid-sentence. It deals with commercial matters. Interestingly, the words 'Via Jamaica' have been added at top left. The manuscript note in red crayon below the adhesive would seem to be '4d' and the addition of a 4d "Pine" would seem to be quite in harmony.

Presumably, no facilities existed for the direct transfer of mail between the USA and Guadeloupe, and it was necessary to use a forwarding agent. My problem is simply this: Who put the stamp on the letter in Jamaica? Was it the Post Office, acting as agent, or was it a private arrangement by the forwarding agents who had a representative on the island?

To support this idea – and to complicate the whole issue – I show a rather similar piece (Fig. 2). This is dated New York, 19th March 1864, and the c.d.s. of 'KINGSTON-JAMAICA' is dated AP 8 64. The reverse shows a partial strike of a Henry A. Suau cachet. In addition, there is a manuscript '4[d]' in red and a blue '30' handstamp. Finally, there is also a St Thomas c.d.s., dated AP 12 1964. There

may be enough of the address for one of your more erudite readers to identify the addressee on the island. What I would like to know is the Jamaica connection.

The third query concerns an envelope posted from Savanna La Mar on AP 5 97 (b/s), with a Kingston transit b/s of AP 7 97 (Fig. 3). The envelope also bears on the front the small handstamp, in red, 'JAMAICA PAID / AP 7 1897' as well as, in manuscript in red, the expression 'Pd. ½'. The letter went through Boston on 14 April and arrived in New York the same day.

I know from similar covers that this handstamp was used to denote the fact that the local post office had run out of stamps, but this is the first example I have seen of a shortage of a particular value. At best, these marks must have had a very brief life, possibly little more than 48 hours, before replacement stocks were made available. I have been interested in this particular marking, and its usage, for several years, and have collected a few similar items. But this is the first I have located dealing with a specific value, and I would welcome any advice of similar usage.

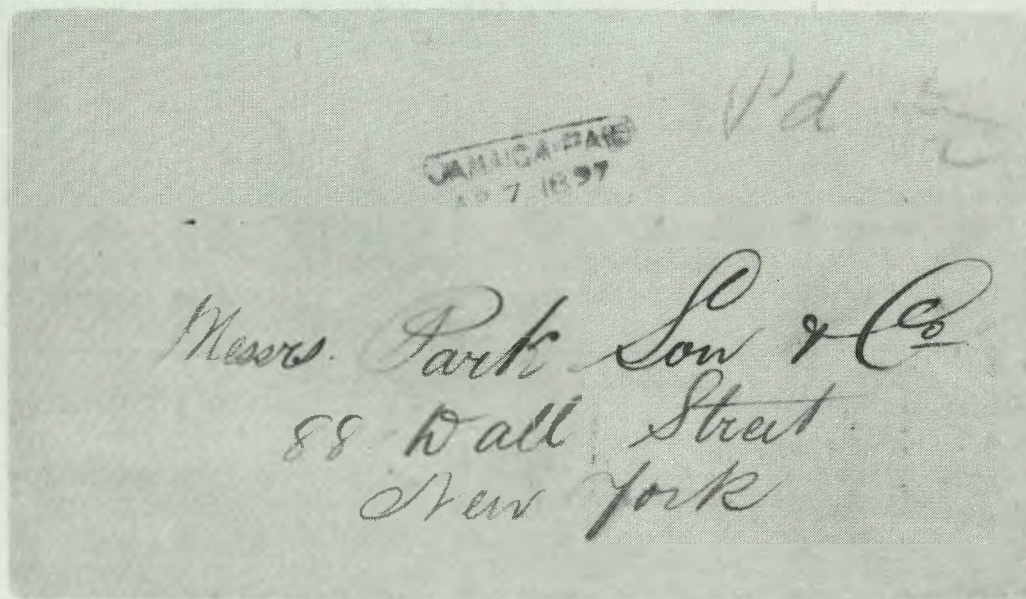


Figure 3

New Issues

by CLIFF ABRAM

Barbados

The new definitives issued recently form a very attractive collection of ships that have visited the island throughout the last 300 years. They are: 5¢, *Dutch Flyut*, 1695; 10¢, *Geestport*, 1994; 25¢, H.M.S. *Victory*, 1805; 30¢, *Royal Viking Queen*, 1994; 35¢, H.M.S. *Barbados*, 1945; 45¢, *Faraday*, 1924; 50¢, U.S.C.G. *Hamilton*, 1974; 65¢, H.M.C.S. *Saguenay*, 1939; 70¢, *Inanda*, 1928; 80¢, H.M.S. *Rodney*, 1944; 90¢, U.S.S. *John F. Kennedy*, 1982; \$1.10, *William & John*, 1627; \$5, U.S.C.G. *Champlain*, 1931; and \$10, *Artist*, 1877.

Could it be this issue is a variation of "ships that pass in the night"?

Barbuda

August 1994 saw an issue of eight stamps and two souvenir sheets depicting fine art, equally distributed between Rembrandt and Matisse.

In September, two separate issues were released. One comprised two stamps and a miniature sheet, again showing art to commemorate Polska 93. The other was a set of eight stamps depicting orchids of Antigua and Barbuda: 10¢, *Spiranthes Lanceolata*; 20¢, *Ionopsis Utricularioides*; 30¢, *Tetramica Canaliculata*; 50¢, *Oncidium Picturatum*; \$1, *Epidendrum Difforme*; \$2, *Epidendrum Ciliare*; \$4, *Epidendrum Ibaguense*; and \$5, *Epidendrum Nocturnum*.

Two sheetlets were issued in November to commemorate the centennial of the Sierra Club. Each sheetlet comprises seven stamps showing animals and one stamp with the Sierra Club logo. Note that these stamps are only sold in sheetlets.

Bahamas

Part II of the Environmental issue, dealing with marine life in and around coral reefs, was released on 13th September in the form of se-tenant strips of five 40¢ stamps and a \$2 souvenir sheet.

Belize

A new definitive set was issued on 11th January 1995. These are very attractive stamps depicting insects. Face values are as follows: 5¢, Ground Beetle; 10¢, Harlequin Beetle; 15¢, Giant Water Bug; 25¢, Peanut Head Bug; 30¢, Coconut Weevil; 50¢, Mantis; 60¢, Tarantula Wasp; 75¢, Rhinoceros Beetle; \$1, Metallic Wood Borer; \$2, Dobson Fly; \$5, Click Beetle; \$10, Long-Horned Beetle. All of these insects are shown against a background depicting their natural habitat.

Bermuda

On 10th November, four values were issued to commemorate Cultural Heritage. This very attractive set shows Gombey Dancers (25¢), Christmas Carolers (75¢), a Marching Band (\$1), and the National Dance Group (\$2).



Another interesting set of four stamps was released on 6th February to commemorate the 25th anniversary of decimalization in Bermuda. These stamps feature four of the coins introduced on 6th February 1970, as well as the corresponding stamp in the Flowers definitives: 1¢ coin and stamp (25¢); 5¢ coin and stamp (60¢); 10¢ coin and stamp (75¢), and 25¢ coin and stamp (\$2).

Part III of the Flowering Fruit set, which was originally scheduled to appear on 17th February, was postponed to 23rd March.

Montserrat

The phrase "Where were you when...?" would be an apt way to describe two recent issues commemorat-

ing the 25th anniversary of "Woodstock" (two stamps) and the 25th anniversary of Apollo IX. The latter set consists of four stamps from the set commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Apollo IX moon mission, with appropriate overprints. Two of the stamps have been revalued for the new issue.

Nevis

For those interested in architecture, a set of four

stamps and a souvenir sheet depicting local buildings was released in late August: 25¢, Dwelling House in Barnes Ghaut Village; 50¢, Dwelling House with Grocery Store in Newcastle; \$1, Treasury Building in Charlestown; \$5, Dwelling House with Supermarket, also in Charlestown. The \$6 souvenir sheet depicts a Dwelling House in Hermitage on the stamp, as well as Bath Hotel and the building that houses the Assembly Chambers and the Alexander Hamilton Museum.

Exhibits and Awards

Compiled by PAUL A. LARSEN

AAMS American Air Mail Society
AFSC Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs
APS American Philatelic Society
ATA American Topical Association
BIA Bureau Issues Association

PHS Postal History Society
GA Grand Award
RG Reserve Grand Award
G gold
V vermeil

AIRPEX 94, September 22–25, Dayton Ohio
ARIPEX 95, January 26–29, Tucson, Arizona
ASDA Postage Stamp Mega Event, November 3–6, New York, N.Y.
Autumn STAMPEX, October 22, London, U.K.
Mid-Cities Stamp Expo 94, November 5–6, Arlington, Texas
St. Louis Expo 94, October 7–9, St. Louis, Missouri
SESCAL 94, September 30–October 1, Los Angeles, California

Bowman, George

– "The Rowe Aero-Achievements, from WIAE to Pan Am, 1927–1931," ARIPEX: V, AAMS G; SESCAL: V

Cooley, Robert

– "Cayman Islands: the Philately of Three Reigns, 1829–1936," ARIPEX: GA, G, APS 1900–1940 Medal

Elias, Peter

– "British Empire War Tax Issues," Mid-Cities Stamp Expo: RG, G

Fernando, Quintus

– "The 1869 Issue of Mexico," ARIPEX: G, AFSC President's Award

McCann, Peter

– "Turks and Caicos Islands Postal History," ARIPEX: GA, G, PHS Award

Neil, Randy

– "The U.S. Two Cent Red Brown Issue, 1883–85," St. Louis Expo: G, BIA Award

– "The Mails of the U.S. 1938 Presidential Series," ARIPEX: V

Osborn, Geoff

– [title of exhibit not known], Autumn STAMPEX: Small Silver Gilt

Ramkisson, Ben

– "Postal Stationery of Trinidad & Tobago," SESCAL: G

Schnell, Roger

– "Transit St. Thomas," ARIPEX: RG, G, APS Pre-1940 Medal, PHS Award

Triggle, Ann

– "Ichthyology: A Treatise on Fishes," St. Louis Expo: G, ATA G

Verge, Charles

– "The Postal Markings of Dublin, 1818–1916," ASDA Mega Event: G

Walker, Dan

– "Barwani, A Princely Indian State," St. Louis Expo: RG, G

Congratulations to all!

Auction Manager's Report

by BILL C. GOMPEL

1994 Auction Results

The BCPSG's 1994 auction proved successful thanks to the active participation of members, a reduction in printing costs, and the move towards improving the level of quality. The King of Prussia show was a great event, but member attendance was lower than at FLOREX 93 (Orlando) and we had only eight floor bidders at the 1994 sale, compared with 19 the previous year. Mail bids were as strong as ever, so the total number of 72 bidders was down by only four over last year. Most of the lots that were sold had several bids (up to four or five each).

The move towards quality versus quantity was warmly received by the membership. In 1993 we offered 506 lots, with 270 being sold, at an average price of \$17. Last year, while enforcing a *minimum \$10 limit per lot*, we offered 298 lots, with 150 being sold at an average price of almost \$30! As a result,

the auction generated almost the same amount of total sales dollars while offering 208 fewer lots. Further improvements in quality and an increased offering of better lots should provide many interesting and profitable sales in the near future.

I would like to thank all bidders and the 17 consignors for their active participation in the sale, and I hope they will continue to support our efforts while other members are inspired to do the same.

Special thanks are extended to Michel Forand, James Gordon, and "Tex" Whitehouse for their generosity in providing donation lots for the 1994 sale, and to Barry Friedman for his help in calling the auction and simplifying the accounting.

In the results below, only the lots that were sold are listed.

2.	58	51.	10	90.	16	118.	25	175.	20	238.	56
4.	16	54.	15	91.	8	124.	48	176.	12	240.	24
6.	8	55.	10	92.	40	125.	10	179.	19	241.	23
8.	210	56.	15	93.	27	126.	18	197.	54	242.	42
9.	230	61.	26	94.	15	127.	40	200.	61	244.	15
11.	10	62.	20	95.	21	128.	165	201.	19	249.	35
13.	30	64.	21	96.	19	129.	26	202.	20	251.	8
15.	20	66.	17	98.	19	130.	40	203.	98	252.	14
19.	30	67.	53	99.	21	131.	26	205.	20	256.	16
21.	115	70.	17	100.	21	132.	21	209.	12	257.	20
25.	16	72.	24	102.	30	133.	22	211.	17	258.	52
26.	15	73.	23	103.	21	134.	35	213.	14	259.	10
29.	13	75.	35	104.	31	135.	105	214.	10	260.	12
30.	10	76.	16	105.	43	136.	25	215.	12	261.	28
33.	11	77.	19	106.	16	137.	20	216.	30	262.	43
34.	17	78.	18	107.	16	138.	118	219.	15	267.	16
36.	23	79.	12	108.	19	144.	11	220.	10	273.	37
38.	20	80.	30	109.	19	146.	11	224.	25	276.	22
39.	33	81.	23	110.	20	147.	15	225.	16	280.	48
41.	135	82.	14	111.	17	152.	36	228.	15	283.	18
42.	10	83.	23	112.	19	157.	8	229.	10	284.	16
43.	50	84.	14	114.	17	158.	7	233.	26	285.	17
46.	33	85.	72	115.	15	159.	17	235.	40	286.	21
47.	10	87.	21	116.	15	170.	19	236.	10	292.	15
49.	20	88.	16	117.	41	173.	11	237.	20	298.	16

1995 Auction Information

As the BCPSG meeting will take place in Barbados this year, in order to avoid any complications with customs duties and shipping risks, the auction will be a *mail sale only*, to be held later in the year (probably late October). Since most lots are sold to mail bidders, this change should not be too much of an inconvenience.

The success of the *\$10 per lot minimum* in 1994 warrants that we continue to support this measure in the future, so please act accordingly in sending your lots. Quality material does sell at good prices, and members are particularly fond of postal history (commercial/proper rate usages, destination mails, censored mail, flights, maritime mail, etc.), better cancels, specimens, proofs and color trials, varieties (QV to KGVI on/off cover), commercially used postal stationery, and picture post cards (*ca* 1900-1930s). Please send estimates on your material as a guide, along with your telephone number to facilitate communication.

IMPORTANT: Since I am in the process of moving to Atlanta, Georgia, please *write first* to my Florence, Alabama address to advise me of the contents of the consignment being sent, so that I can make the proper arrangements and provide my new mailing

address. The consignment deadline is May 31, 1995. My new address and other changes will appear in the June 1995 journal.

New Payment Arrangements for U.K./Overseas Bidders

David Druett of Pennymead Auctions (U.K.) has graciously accepted to receive cheques in pounds sterling, made out to the BCPSG, in order to facilitate the payment of auction purchases by overseas members, in particular those in the U.K. The exchange rate will be calculated on the basis of the rate in effect during the week of the auction and will be quoted on all invoices. Hopefully, this change will inspire some of our overseas members to submit bids without having to worry about unfavorable currency exchange or ever-increasing bank charges. David's address will appear on each bid sheet and invoice for those wishing to take advantage of this arrangement. Thank you, David, for your assistance!

New Auction Manager

This will be my fourth – and final – year as BCPSG Auction Manager. We are fortunate in that Tom Giraldi has agreed to become the new Auction Manager, beginning in 1996. Tom will contact the members through the journal later this year.



Some of the members in attendance at the BCPSG meeting at King of Prussia: in the left photo, Cyril Bell, Paul Larsen, Barry Friedman, Michel Forand, Peter McCann,



Rob Wynstra, and Ben Ramkissoon; in the right photo: Peter Kaulback, Ed Waterous, Tex Whitehouse, Vincent Wilmot, and (sideways) Bill Gompel.

From the Editor's Computer

by MICHEL FORAND

The Edward F. Addiss Memorial Fund

Some discussion of this topic took place at the King of Prussia meeting of the officers and trustees last October. More recently, there was an exchange of letters and telephone calls between Peter Kaulback, Peter McCann and myself. Dr McCann and I met Lee Addiss in New York to present our ideas to her; further suggestions were made during this friendly discussion, and the results are summarized here. The decisions described below were approved by Mrs Addiss, who is an honorary lifetime member of the BCPSG.

One of the main reasons Ed Addiss bequeathed \$15,000 to the Group was that he felt its membership was getting older and that some effort and money should be devoted to recruiting new members, in particular younger members. This, as most collectors know, is a problem found throughout the philatelic community these days, with computer games, sports cards and various other hobbies competing with stamp collecting for the attention of the young. Our Group is probably too specialized to attract many young collectors, but we must nevertheless strive to reach collectors of all ages who are interested in the British Caribbean area. There are unquestionably many other collectors out there who would benefit from membership in our Group and whose membership would benefit the Group.

Publicity

Over the next three years, about \$1,000 will be devoted to publicity about the BCPSG. Initially, this will take the form of advertisements in selected journals, but other forms of publicity could also be envisaged. After a three-year period, a careful assessment of the results of this campaign will be made, and our efforts will be reoriented as warranted. It is important to avoid simply throwing money into publicity, as this could be a bottomless pit, with few actual rewards.

Over 700 stamp clubs are affiliated with the American Philatelic Society (APS), representing several thousand collectors, many of whom may be British Caribbean collectors who have never heard of the

BCPSG. We plan to send each club a copy of our journal along with a covering letter and a few application forms, asking that this information be passed around to club members.

The letter will also suggest the possibility that BCPSG members could visit individual clubs to talk about British Caribbean philately in general, about specific countries or about the Group itself. Any member interested in taking part in this activity should contact Peter McCann or me. (Our addresses and phone/fax numbers appear on page 2.)

A similar "outreach" approach might be followed in other countries, and I would invite our overseas members to send Dr McCann or me their ideas on the subject.

It should be mentioned that *free* (or almost free) publicity activities already take place. About two years ago, our past president, Jay Fredrick, sent information about the BCPSG and an application form to all members of the APS who included British Caribbean countries among their collecting interests. About 30 new members were recruited into the BCPSG as a result of this effort. In addition, in recent months the Group has placed advertisements in two auction catalogues containing significant British Caribbean material (the Dempsey Prappas collection of Leeward Islands and other British West Indies territories, sold by Shreve Auction Galleries in March; and the Towers collection of Grenada, to be offered by Phillips in April); this activity is expected to continue in the future. The adverts are placed on an exchange basis, with the auction firms sending us advertisements for inclusion in this journal. Finally, a general information article on the BCPSG is to be published in a forthcoming edition of *Bermuda Post*, the journal of the Bermuda Collectors Society, again on an exchange basis. We plan to do this with other general and specialized periodicals.

Literature

Part of the Edward F. Addiss Memorial Fund will also be related to literature about the British Caribbean. First, there will be two literature prizes – one

to be awarded on an annual basis to the best philatelic article dealing with the BWI area; and the other, to the best book dealing at least in part with the philately of the British Caribbean area. Because books are less frequent than articles, the book award will be made when circumstances warrant rather than annually.

The second literature component of the fund concerns the BCPSG's own publications. Part of the fund will be used to finance our monographs and, in particular, to upgrade their appearance and presentation. All future monographs financed this way will be part of the Edward F. Addiss Philatelic Research Collection.

All of these expenses will not exhaust the Edward F. Addiss Memorial Fund, and other activities could be pursued. Anyone with suggestions in this regard is invited to submit them. We all have a responsibility to do something, even if only on a small scale, to help the BCPSG grow.

The Group remains a very dynamic organization – one that even includes several people who do not collect any BWI material at all but are simply at-

tracted to the BCPSG because of the friendliness of its members and the high quality of the research published in its journal. All the more reason, therefore, to do all we can to recruit people who actually collect British Caribbean stamps and postal history!

The lady who had agreed to do the layout of the journal recently sold her computer and has made no plans to replace it. Both her computer and the software she used were better suited for this purpose, thus saving much time for me. As a result of her "resignation," I am back to square one. I hope members will be patient if their journal does not always arrive as promptly as they (and I) would like it to: my contract work often interferes with my hobby activities, and this does, at times, mean I am unable to proceed with the preparation of the journal on schedule. It would help greatly if those who send articles done on a computer would also send me the text on a diskette. Please be sure to indicate what software was used. If not in WordPerfect 5.1, a copy of the file in ASCII or DOS would be appreciated. The diskette will be returned to the sender in due time.

Obituary: Charles Sawyer, 1926–94

by GALE RAYMOND

Charles E. Sawyer, of Houston, Texas, died on 19 December 1994, after a long bout with diabetes, emphysema and, presumably, radiation effects from U.S. Navy shore duty at Nagasaki, Japan, where he was part of a medical team from the hospital ship *Sanctuary*, circa V-J day during World War II. He was later recalled to active duty with the Navy during the Korean War. Records show that some 60 percent of his shipmates on U.S.S. *Sanctuary* died of post-radiation effects at an early age, but after the Korean War.

A brilliant architect, Charlie Sawyer played a major part in the booming Houston growth from the 1950s to the 1980s in residences, skyscrapers, shopping malls, and industrial complexes. The multinational military forces of Operation "Desert Storm" arriving in Saudi Arabia were amazed to see a huge, major new "secret city," partially underground, which he had designed and the construction of which he had supervised several years previously. Later, he was to plan and supervise the construction of high-rise office tow-



ers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Sawyer was world-renowned for his postal-history collections and exhibits, in particular of the Japanese "Dragons," for which he learned to read and speak the Japanese language. His other collections ranged from classics to current, from pre-stamp Mexico to contemporary Anguilla postal history – all written up in his fine calligraphy (his normal script). In addition to his research and published articles, he is particularly remembered in the BCPSG for designing the ornate logo that graces our journal and award medals.

Charles, we'll miss your keen wit, your enthusiasms, your Aggie jokes, and your caring presence among us. Vaya con Dios.

Secretary's Report

by PETER KAULBACK

New Member

The applicant listed in the December 1994 issue of the journal has been admitted to membership in the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group.

New Applicants

- Christopher Cordes, Box 62362, Marshalltown 2107, South Africa; sponsored by I. Matheson; collects Victoria Falls, waterfalls, Nevis.
- Donald F. Gardner, Jr., 5451 S.W. 85th Street, Miami, FL 33143; sponsored by B. Friedman; collects the stamps and postal stationery of Russia, New Zealand, the United States, Canada, Czechoslovakia, and the British Caribbean.
- Frank M. Haller, 430 Belvenia Road, Burlington, Ont., Canada L7L 2G6; sponsored by M. Forand; collects the stamps and postal history of Antigua, Barbados, Montserrat, and St Vincent.
- J. Kuli, P.O. Box 1454, Nelspruit 1200, South Africa; sponsored by D. Pollard; collects Leeward Islands.
- Everett L. Parker, P.O. Box 1306, Greenville, ME 04441-1306; sponsored by P. McCann; collects Bermuda and other countries.
- Jeanne B. Pogue, 111 - 05, 110 Street, Jamaica, NY 11420; sponsored by D. Walker; collects classic Antigua, 1947-49 Pakistan overprints on India.
- Fred Schmitt, P.O. Box 67, Woodbury, NY 11797; sponsored by Tom Bansak; postal history dealer; collects "Sea Floor" covers, Bahamas postal history.

Deceased

Charles Sawyer

Resignations

James Langabeer	Howard Lewis
Ralph Lyford	Earl Mitchell
Charles Rath	

Address Changes or Corrections

William Ashley, P.O. Box 4300, Tulsa, OK 74159

Russell J. Boylan, P.O. Box 7516, Cloisters Square, WA 6850, Australia

Denis Dant, P.O. Box 1178, Waldport, OR 97394

Richard L. Dufresne, 472 Lee Highlands Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452

Michael Friedel, P.O. Box 54953, Lexington, KY 40555-4953

Darryl Fuller, 10 Arabana Street, Aranda, ACT 2614, Australia

George Holschauer, 5757 Wilshire Blvd., Pent. 8, Los Angeles, CA 90036-5816

Thomas J. McMahon, P.O. Box 2805, Danbury, CT 06813

Gale J. Raymond, 13164 Memorial Drive, #185, Houston, TX 77079

Robert Roswell, P.O. Box 6076, Stuart, FL 34997

Stuart Sheppard, 52 Snake Point Road, Bobcaygeon, Ont., K0M 1A0 Canada

Life Members

Brian Brookes	Alan Ferrington
Gordon Graham	Keith Klugman
Peter McCann	Derek Nathan
Ed Waterous	

Another Jamaica Query!

Member Ernest J. Bowmer (1919 Linden Road, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6M 1E6) asks whether fellow members who specialize in early Jamaica cancellations have information about the obliterators used on Jamaica's first three stamps issues ("pineapple," CC, and CA). He is particularly in-

terested in learning how they are evaluated on cover and off. Is there a catalogue of current values? Is there any market for buying, selling, or exchanging? Ernest would welcome any help that members of the Group can give him.

Congratulations to member Ian Woodward (another Jamaica collector!) who has recently been

elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Leeward Islands Judicial FEES Revenue Stamps: Some Unrecorded Discoveries

by PAUL A. LARSEN

Victor Toeg's recent book, *The Leeward Islands Adhesive FEES Stamps*, rekindled my dormant interest in these fascinating, large-size revenue stamps. Toeg's recording of the existing De La Rue archive records in the British Museum and of the Crown Agents records in the British Library provided a much needed guide to the FEES stamps. He records when the FEES were sent to the colony and explains how and why they were used. Many old questions were answered.

For those not familiar with Toeg's text, FEES stamps were designed and produced by De La Rue. Supplies were invoiced to the Federal Colony during the period from late October 1881 through May 1930. There were five issues of keyplate designs incorporating the head of the reigning monarch: 1882 Queen Victoria, 1902 and 1907 King Edward VII, and 1916 and 1921 King George V. FEES stamps were issued upon payment of fees due to the Courts of Justice in the individual islands. The stamps were placed on documents made for or between individuals relating to property transactions or deeds. These documents were formally recorded in the Book of Records in the Registrar's Office. Fees were based on document length. A large portion of Toeg's book is devoted to illustrations and discussion of the various cancellation devices utilized during each reign.

Based on his sources, Toeg concluded that surviving unused stamps of any reign were quite scarce; I heartily agree. The usage scenario was probably as follows: upon payment of fees due to the Courts of Justice, the FEES stamps were immediately affixed to the legal documents and cancelled. In my opinion, the relatively high face denominations (6d. to a pound; contemporary letter postage was ranged from 1d to 3d) discouraged users from keeping much, if any, private stock. FEES stamps were normally affixed in the limited marginal space of documents. All of these factors may help account for the observed lack of sheet margins, plate numbers, or unused mint multiples from the issues of any reign.

Mint Multiples, Sheet Margins, and Plate Numbers

Occasionally Lady Luck smiles! Although a number of mint singles are known, I have not personally seen any mint FEES from any reign except for those in Figures 1 and 2. Both of these Victoria multiples



Figure 1



Figure 2

were found at the same time over 20 years ago. Both are in mint condition and have sheet margins. The lower-left corner sheet margin ONE SHILLING pair in Figure 1 has plate number '1' located next to the first stamp in the row. Figure 2 shows a right-margin TWO SHILLINGS block of four with perforated selvedge. It is evident from Figures 1 and 2 that a comb perforator (14 x 14) was employed for separation.

A FEES sheet size of 60 subjects is known from the archive records; however, the layout has not previously been recorded. It is known that printing of similar large-size stamps for other Empire governments was in a format of five rows of 12 stamps each. In my opinion, the Figure 1 and 2 sheet-margin multiples fit the expected contemporary stamp layout and do help to confirm a plate setting of five rows of 12 stamps each. A marginal plate number '1' may also occur in the upper-left, upper-right, or lower-right corner margins – i.e., at either end of row 1 and/or next to stamp 12 in row 5.

Punched Initials: Security Punch or Cancel?

Some examples of the 1890 Leeward "postage and revenue" keyplate stamp series have been recorded with the perforated initials 'M.C.A.' and 'M.C.B.'; none are known with gum or on document. No perfin Queen Victoria FEES stamps are presently known. It is thought that M.C.A. means "Magistrate's Court Antigua" and M.C.B. means "Magistrate's Court Barbuda." Toeg recorded six King Edward VII FEES stamps with the M.C.A. perfins (6d [three], 1s, and 2s [two]) and two with M.C.B. (6d and 1s); the paper watermark was not specified. None were found with gum, on document, or with any type of contemporary handstamp cancel – thus, a limited sample. An unstated question remained: Was perforating an experimental security control measure or a trial cancel?

I also resurrected a long-neglected (and unsorted) old auction lot containing a duplicated mixture of 67 perfin FEES, including both types of initials on

Figure 3

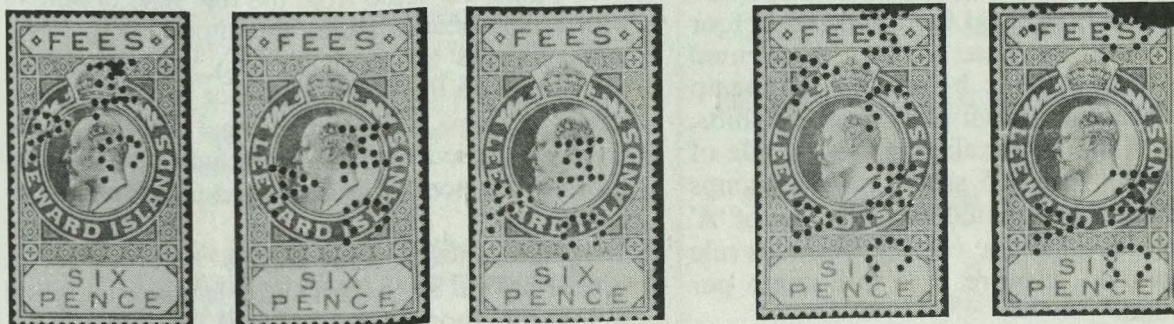
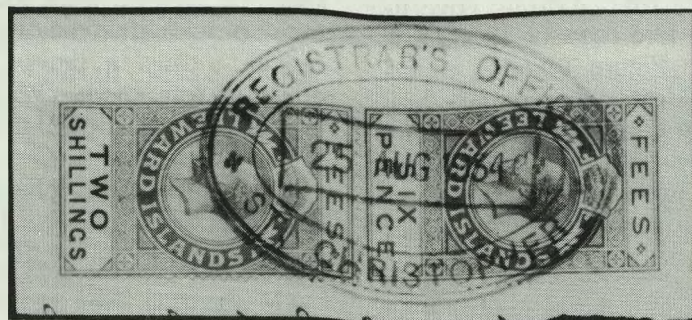


Figure 4

Figure 5

*Figure 6**Figure 7**Figure 8*

the 6d, 1s, and 2s values. None of the FEES had gum, but three stamps did have paper fragments adhering to the reverse and were also punched. As before, none of the stamps had any apparent traces of the typical contemporary oval handstamp cancels. Although none of the FEES were found on substantial piece of document, the punched paper suggests that the perfins resulted from a cancel device.

Perfins can be produced singly, in multiples, or in sheets, depending on the capacity of the equipment available. If they are punched in multiples, the punch position might be expected to be relatively uniform in location and in orientation, relative to the stamp design borders. Figure 3 illustrates some typical position shifting of M.C.A. punches in four 1s FEES that have the base of the 'A' oriented (roughly) parallel with the bottom of the stamp design. Figure 4 shows similar punch position shifts, with the base of the 'A' paralleling the left side of three 6d stamps. Figure 5 shows two 6d stamps with multiple punches oriented and with base of 'A' to the left. I believe that the variable positions rule out the perforation of more than one stamp per punch operation.

From left to right in Figure 6 the base of the 'A' parallels the bottom (6d), the left (2s), and top (1s)

of the stamps. Only these three punch orientations have been observed; none were seen with the 'A' base parallel to the right side of a stamp. Similarly, Figure 7 shows a 6d and a 1s FEES with the base of 'B' in M.C.B. paralleling the top or the bottom of the stamp. The stamp on the right in Figure 7 shows the reverse of one of the three stamps that have punched paper fragments adhering. The other two do not have enough contrast between adhering paper and the stamps to show up well in a photo.

Normal placement of FEES stamps is observed to be in the left margin of a document, as illustrated by the piece with a St Christopher oval cancel in Figure 8. In this position stamps could have readily been punch-canceled from the top, side, or bottom with a hand-held or a desk-mounted device. Document margins are normally only wide enough to accommodate the width of one or two stamps: no space to spare for sheet selvage! Based on the material studied to date, I conclude that the King Edward VII perfins result from a punch cancel.

Toeg illustrates several stamps with double- or triple-ring oval Registrar's Office handstamps, which were contemporary with the 1902 King Edward VII FEES. Why use a punch cancel if the ovals were already available? Perhaps the punches were devised as a trial replacement for inked hand-

stamps. Is it possible that a paranoid "Guardian of the Revenue" worried about possible reuse of these high-value stamps, even though they were printed with doubly fugitive inks? Perforations are permanent and easy to see!

For the record, I list in the table my M.C.A. and

M.C.B. perforations on the 1902 King Edward VII FEES stamps with punched initials. Note that all of these stamps are from the 1902 issue printed on paper watermarked wide-spaced C A over crown; none were found with the multiple crown and C A watermarked paper used for the 1907 series.

Value	M.C.A., base of 'A' parallel			M.C.B., base of 'B' parallel			Total
	Bottom	Left	Top	Bottom	Left	Top	
6d	5	14 ¹	2	1	—	7 ²	29
1s	16 ²	6	1	—	—	1	24
2s	3	11 ²	—	—	—	—	14
Total	24	31	3	1	—	8	67

- 1 Two stamps had multiple punches.
- 2 Punched paper fragment adhering to back of one stamp.

References

John Easton, *The De La Rue History of British & Foreign Postage Stamps*. London: Faber & Faber (for the Royal Philatelic Society, London), 1958.

E.V. Toeg, *The Leeward Islands Adhesive FEES Stamps*. British West Indies Study Circle, 1991.

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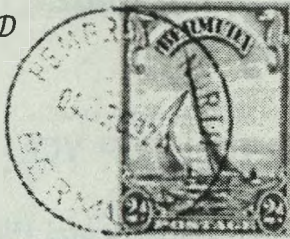
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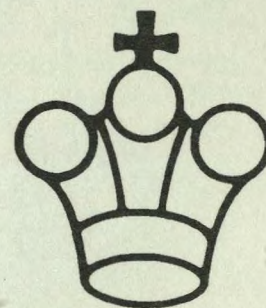


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