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## British Caribbean Philatelic Journal

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## *Thank you, Bob Swarbrick!*

by PETER P. McCANN, Ph.D.

Some readers may have noticed that the September 1995 issue of the journal listed a new International Director for the BCPSG. David N. Druett has replaced our long-time member Robert Swarbrick in that position. While we are very grateful to David for taking on this responsibility, I want to devote my remarks here to thanking Bob for his long and devoted service to the Group. Bob had signified his intention to resign some time ago, but confirmation of this came too late for a formal announcement to be made in the last journal.

Bob has long been an enthusiastic supporter of the BCPSG, having joined it in 1982. He became International Director (Finance) in 1986 and two years later succeeded Al Branston for all International Director duties in the U.K. One of Bob's most notable achievements for the Group was the gathering he organized in 1990 at the Lansdowne Club during "Stamp World London 90." This all-day event, attended by about 80 people who were

favored with several major displays of British Caribbean philately, was one of the most successful meetings ever held by the BCPSG. Bob has also organized other display meetings of the Group in the U.K. and was the force behind the institution of the Ed Addiss Memorial Trophies.

Bob had an abiding interest in Jamaica philately for 50 years, and his superb collection, awarded several international Golds and Large Golds, was considered the best ever formed of that country. He also wrote extensively on Jamaica, both in this journal and elsewhere. Bob sold the major portion of his Jamaica collection at auction a few months ago and is now focusing his attention on his collection of Royal Marines postal history – and that, too, has already started impressing exhibition juries!

I know that all BCPSG members will remember Bob's service to the Group with great gratitude and appreciation for his efforts.

From all of us, Bob, thank you very much!



## *From the Editor's Computer*

by MICHEL FORAND

### *Apologies*

The last two issues of the Journal were late in reaching members, and I offer my sincere apologies for the delays. I know how frustrating this is for those who expect their journal to be more or less on time. In the past year, my responsibilities as *BCPJ* editor have tended to come into conflict with my professional obligations to my clients as a freelance editor/writer/translator – a problem that did not exist when I took on the editorship nearly five years ago, as I had a 9-to-5 job at that time.

Despite the heavy demands on my time, I had succeeded in improving the production schedule for the September issue, only to be thwarted by an unexpected delay at the printing stage. Attempts to make improvements at both the pre-press and printing stages are now being made. I hope that the quality and appeal of the articles will compensate for any delays that may have occurred.

### *Extension of Voting Period for the Trustee Election*

In view of the considerable delay that occurred in the delivery of the September issue, the deadline for the return of ballots for the election of Trustees is extended to **31 January 1996**. Please ensure that your name and address appear on the envelope in which you send your ballot, as this is necessary for the ballot to be recognized as valid. Ballots should be returned to BCPSG Secretary Peter Kaulback, 108 Byron Avenue, Ottawa, Canada K1Y 3J2.

### *Articles Are Needed!*

New articles are needed for the journal. There has been a substantial decline in the number of new articles in recent months, even though I know many of you have writing projects of one kind or another. Now is the time to complete that article you were planning! If you need assistance of any kind, please don't hesitate to contact me.

### *CAPEX 96*

The BCPSG's next annual meeting will be held in conjunction with CAPEX 96, an international exhibi-

tion that will take place in Toronto from 8 to 16 June. The meeting has tentatively been scheduled for Tuesday, 11 June, at 2 p.m. Anyone interested in giving a display is invited to contact John Tyacke, our Toronto coordinator, or me before the end of January (our addresses appear on page 86), letting us know what you require in terms of equipment (e.g., overhead or slide projector, stand-alone "flip chart," etc.). We hope to have a hospitality suite for BCPSG members, their spouses, and their guests, and we also plan to organize a Group dinner. Details will appear in the March journal.

Those who attended CAPEX 87 and the Group's 1987 meeting in Toronto will recall what a pleasant time everyone had. Several people have informed me they are looking forward to a repeat experience in 1996.

No plans are being made at this time for organized activities for non-philatelic spouses, but if enough interest is shown in that direction to either John or myself before the end of January, we may be able to make arrangements. The CAPEX organization will also have various activities to suggest.

The exhibition itself will take place at the Metropolitan Toronto Convention Centre, in the downtown area. The "show hotel" will be the Crowne Plaza, which is connected to the Centre. For reservations, call 1-800-422-7969 (toll-free, North America) or (416) 597-1400, requesting the CAPEX rate (Can\$135/night, single or double occupancy). At press time, I am informed by the hotel that bookings are very heavy for that period, so you should act now if you are planning to come.

There are several new hotels in the vicinity of the MTCC, in addition to old "standbys" like the Royal York. For information about these accommodations or about the exhibition itself, write to CAPEX 96, P.O. Box 204, Station Q, Toronto, Canada M4T 2M1; tel. (416) 482-1996; fax (416) 482-8182.

The Metro Toronto Convention & Visitors Association can also supply information on accommodations, sightseeing, entertainment, etc. Contact the MTCVA at P.O. Box 126, Toronto, Canada M5J 1A7; tel. 1-800-363-1990 (toll-free, North America) or (416) 203-2500; fax (867-3995).

We hope to see many of you there next June!



**Wanted: Auction Manager!**

We need a new auction manager  
immediately.

Anyone interested in this position should contact BCPSG President Peter McCann at British Bio-tech, 201 Defense Highway, Suite 260, Annapolis, MD 21401-8961  
Tel. (410) 266-7909  
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**Book Reviews and Announcements**

***Bermuda in Print: A Guide to the Printed Literature on Bermuda***, by A. C. Hollis Hallett; second edition, 1995; viii + 326 pages, hardbound (9 1/4" x 6 1/4"); published by Juniperhill Press, 4 Juniperhill Drive, Pembroke HM 13, Bermuda; price: \$45 (U.S. or Bda., postpaid); ISBN 0-921992-12-2.

The first edition of this work, published in softcover form in 1985, covered the period to the end of 1984 and had 210 pages. Not unexpectedly in a project of this nature, new titles were reported to the author/compiler in the years following its publication (including some by this reviewer). Dr Hallett initially considered publishing a supplement, but in the end he opted for an entirely new edition, since the first was now out of print. The scope of the updating (to the end of 1994) and revision carried out for this second edition is suggested by the addition of more than 100 pages. Its release as a hardcover book is welcome, as the binding of the first edition was unfortunately rather fragile.

*Bermuda in Print* is a comprehensive bibliography of the island(s), with over 2,000 entries ranging all the way back to 1526, when the earliest known full description was published in Spain. (Bermuda derives its name from that of Juan de Bermudez, a Spanish navigator who first sighted it in 1515.) While Dr Hallett has excluded works of fiction using Bermuda as a setting, as well as most government documents and specialized scientific papers, the bibliography does list all of the articles that have appeared in the *Bermuda Historical Quarterly*, the

*Bermuda Journal of Archaeology and Maritime History* and the special issues of *Heritage Magazine*, in addition to books about a wide range of subjects. Even ephemera are well represented (e.g., tourist brochures issued by the Bermuda Trade Development Board, hotels, steamships, etc.).

The brief introduction is followed by an author index of all significant works dealing with Bermuda, with descriptions of individual entries and, where appropriate, data about different editions over the years (over 215 pages). New to this edition is a welcome subject index that contains 97 classifications in about 60 pages. To the author's credit, rather than attempt to squeeze books and major articles about Bermuda into a general classification system, he has devised his own, user-friendly system specifically for the purposes of this bibliography.

Chapters IV, V, and VI (about 40 pages) trace the history of newspapers, almanacs and periodicals printed in Bermuda over more than two centuries. (*The Bermuda Gazette*, the colony's first newspaper, made its appearance in 1784.)

The names of several BCPSG members appear in *Bermuda in Print*; those of Jack Arnell, Morris Ludington, Geoff Osborn, and Don Stephens have been noted.

For those interested in printed sources on Bermuda, this book is indispensable. — M. Forand

***The Jamaica Philatelic Society: 86th Anniversary Issue***; 1995; 44 pages, softbound (8 1/2" x 11"); published by the Jamaica Philatelic Society, Constant Springs P.O., Box 201, Kingston 8, Jamaica; price: \$3 (U.S.), \$4 (Can.), £2 (U.K.); add \$1 or 50p for postage.

Apart from an occasional JPS newsletter, the last publication of this society known to me is a special issue of the *Jamaica Philatelist* released in 1971 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the Jamaica Post Office. Thus it was with great interest that I learned recently that a new commemorative magazine was in preparation, to be published in conjunction with a philatelic exhibition scheduled for 11 and 12 November at the Mona campus of the University of the West Indies, near Kingston.

The magazine is a *BCPJ*-size publication (as was the 1971 version), well-produced, and with most illustrations in colour. Three of the five authors are BCPSG members (Joseph Mahfood, Ewan Cameron and Dave Uhlman). In the first article, Mr Mahfood reminisces about Douglas Tucker — an "old-time Jamaica Gentleman," lawyer, and stamp col-



lector whom he had an opportunity to meet in the mid-1970s – and narrates the discovery of Jamaica's most valuable stamp (the 1s Queen Victoria's Statue issue with inverted frame, SG85a).

In a most interesting article (illustrated with modern Jamaican stamps), Ewan Cameron (president of the JPS) examines the delivery of the mails during the 17th and 18th centuries – “when Captain Morgan and Admiral Nelson sailed the Caribbean Sea.” An article by John Ingledew (secretary of the JPS) on “The Aesthetics of Philately” discusses the design, size, shape, and colour of stamps, using issues of Jamaica and other countries to illustrate his point.

In “The Place Names of Jamaican Post Offices,” Dave Uhlman shows photographs of a number of rural offices and reproduces a list of 318 post offices provided to him by the Philatelic Bureau (and this does not include the 509 postal agencies that also exist in Jamaica!). Finally, an article by Rupert McGuigan traces a brief history of Anguilla as reflected in its stamps.

Congratulations to the JPS for this excellent magazine. Let's hope we won't have to wait another 25 years for a sequel! – *M. Forand*

***Glimpses of Our Past: A Social History of the Caribbean in Postcards, 1900–1930***, by John Gilmore; 1995; 144 pages, hardbound (14" x 8½"); published by Ian Randle Publishers, 206 Old Hope Road, Box 686, Kingston 6, Jamaica; price: US\$22.95 + \$3 postage (payment by VISA or MasterCard advised); ISBN 976-8100-40-0.

In *Glimpses of Our Past*, historian and journalist John Gilmore (currently the managing editor of *Caribbean Week*) presents a great variety of postcards from the “classic” period, giving readers a visual portrait of life in the Caribbean not usually available through official reports or other conventional historical documents. The cards depict a wide variety of scenes – views of the sugar industry in Barbados, of agricultural activities in Jamaica and Curaçao, of the streets of San Fernando, Castries, and St. Johns, etc.

An introductory chapter traces the history of the postcard, its arrival in the Caribbean in the 1880s, and its evolution worldwide and regionally.

John Gilmore has a good eye for an interesting postcard scene and has penned some interesting comments on Caribbean history, the written or printed messages on the postcards, and even the improvement of photos by postcard publishers. The

quality of the black-and-white illustrations is reasonably good, with the cards appearing in full size. The book's 12 chapters seem to cover most subject categories for this era of the picture postcard, with a special emphasis on the sugar industry. The last page of the text lends some advice and encouragement to anyone who might be tempted to take up Caribbean deltiology.

The book's claim to pan-Caribbeanism (“scenes from the entire region”) seems somewhat overblown. While there are postcards representing all major Caribbean regions (the islands, the Guianas, and Belize), only 31 of the 240 cards illustrated can be tied to non-British locations. In addition, Barbados is overrepresented, with 95 images. – *W.B. Ashley*

***Bermuda by Air: A Handbook and Catalog of Bermuda Aerophilately***, by Charles E. Cwiakala; 1995; 160 pages, hardbound (8½" x 11"), illus.; published by the Bermuda Collectors Society, c/o R. W. Dickgiesser, P.O. 475, Derby, CT 06418-0475; pre-publication price (in U.S. dollars, including postage and handling, available until 1 March 1996): USA, \$45; Canada, \$48; overseas, \$51 or £33; no ISBN.

According to the publisher's announcement (no review copy had been received at press time), *Bermuda by Air* is a comprehensive reference that not only lists the complete data encompassing all of Bermuda's air postal history from 1919 to the present day, but also includes substantial amounts of aerophilatelic support.

“All aerophilatelia associated with Bermuda is listed, numbered, and priced, many of the entries being documented in the philatelic literature for the first time. The listings begin with the 1919 U.S. Navy's exhibition flights over the island, and continue through the 1995 first flights of Kiwi Airlines, US Air, and Germany's Condor Airlines.”

“Data is presented for ... lesser-known but notable flight events, including the American, Canadian, British, and French pioneer flights of the 1920s and 1930s; the various Pan Am and Imperial Airways commercial survey flights of the 1930s and 1940s; and the World War II military flights of the famous Royal Air Force transatlantic bomber ferry carriages. A chronological index ... allows the reader to easily reference items in question.”

“Cwiakala has specialized in the stamps and postal history of Bermuda and the former British West Indies for over 30 years. He has written nu-



merous articles on the area for the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* and *Bermuda Post*."

*The PECO Picture Postcards of the West Indies*, edited by Joe Chin Aleong; 1995; 70 pages, softbound (approx 6½" x 8½"); published by the author, P.O. Box 128, San Fernando, Trinidad, W.I.; price: US\$8 plus \$2 postage and handling; ISBN 976-8136-56-1.

A stroll through the business district of any of the larger British Caribbean towns brings quick evidence of Canada's strong ties with the region. Royal Bank of Canada and Scotiabank branches are everywhere. A less obvious manifestation of this connection is the multitude of picture postcards and other paper memorabilia/ephemera printed by the Photogelatine Engraving Company Limited of Canada (the PECO of the title above) from the 1930s to the 1950s, showing a wide range of Caribbean subjects.

Joe Chin Aleong (a BCPSG member) begins his work with basic notes on the Ottawa-based company's history and on depictions of the various formats used on the postcards' address side. He next provides a long, well organized listing by country and/or serial number of all known British-

area cards and souvenir photo folders produced by PECO. Space has been left within the various numbered series to list cards not yet reported. The author has spiced up this checklist by including 21 black-and-white illustrations. Not surprisingly, the six halftones (on the inside and back covers) look much better than the photocopied cards.

There is strong to moderate representation from Barbados, Jamaica, Bahamas, Trinidad, Grenada, Dominica, Antigua, British Guiana, Montserrat, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent, while there are only a few entries for Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Nevis, and the Virgin Islands. No PECO cards are listed for British Honduras, Turks & Caicos Islands, Tobago, or any of the Hispanic, American, Dutch, or French locations in the Caribbean area. Diligent searching by the compiler and his fellow PECO enthusiasts has yielded no cards from those places.

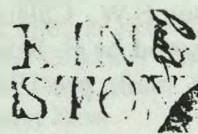
Although several hundred cards are listed, there remain many spaces to fill up, offering an opportunity for new discoveries to anyone who decides to embark upon this pan-Caribbean collecting interest. This catalogue is a good starting point for such an undertaking, and it is also a useful adjunct for those who collect the postcards of one or more British Caribbean countries. — *W.B. Ashley*

## Jamaica Jottings

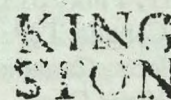
by IAN A. POTTER

The most interesting thing to happen recently in Jamaica philately has been the Swarbrick sale at Cavendish Philatelic Auctions in Derby, England. The total of the prices realised (without buyer's premium), according to my calculator, was just over £150,000, or more than US\$250,000. The best single item was the 1920 1s with inverted frame, which raised £10,500 plus a buyer's premium of £1,234. The very early postal history fetched sums well in excess of the estimates — the Dummer packet letter, estimated at £1,500, sold for well over £4,000 — but otherwise the estimates appeared to have been a good guide. The straightline 'JAMAICA' (with a small 'j') on entires went for over three times the estimate, leaving me, for one, with nothing to show. Did I spoil my own cause by writing about them in "Jamaica Jottings" of September 1994?

The other items that fascinated me were lots 31 to 38, all of which contained letters with the two-line 'KING / STON' markings, dating from 1778 to 1791. Although I was only able to buy one of these lots myself, I read Bob Swarbrick's write-up on these items and compared it with Tom Foster's book.



Type T1a



Type T1c

Tom wrote that there are two different styles of this mark — one being 22 x 11.5 mm (T1a), and the other 15 x 8 mm (T1b) — but, while he claimed to know of four examples of the latter, he gave no

dates. Bob had two different types, which he measured as 22 x 12 mm (T1a) and 21 x 10.5 mm (designated T1c). The T1a marking has the 'I' of 'KING' directly above the 'T' of 'STON', whereas in T1c the 'I' is offset.

However, neither Bob nor I have examples of type T1b nor have I ever seen an illustration of it. Can anyone give me details of this T1b mark and of how and when it was used? And even better, can anyone provide an illustration?

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## *Secretary's Report*

by PETER KAULBACK

### *New Members*

The eight applicants listed in the September 1995 issue of the journal have been admitted to membership in the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group.

### *New Applicants*

CONRICH, Bob: Box 666, Anguilla, W.I.; sponsored by J.L. Fredrick; collects West Indies postcards and recent Anguilla postal history.

KRUMBEIN, Ernest A.: 224 Sunnyside Avenue, Munster, IN 46321-1025; sponsored by P. Kaulback; collects Barbados stamps and postal history.

MINK, Ellsworth: P.O. Box 39601, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339; sponsored by P. Kaulback; collects British, French and Dutch West Indies postal history, U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

SCHAU, Kurt H.: P.O. Box 659, Petaluma, CA 94953; sponsored by M. Forand; collects Bermuda and Bahamas.

SIEGEL, Abraham: P.O. Box 6603, Long Island City, NY 11106-9998; sponsored by P. Kaulback; collecting interests not identified.

WOLF, Phil: 513, 8th Avenue S.W., Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 1G3; sponsored by F. Roett; collects Canadian military mail, pre-1945, and Niger Coast.

### *Rejoined*

WYNNS, John: P.O. Box 1057, Inyokern, CA 93527-1057

### *Resignations*

Arch, Brad  
Gilberg, Frank  
Piquet, Lawrence

### *Address Changes*

Adams, Alfred: 2281 Whitfield Dr., Atlanta, GA 30338-4545

Brooks, Rev. Peter: 5 Granville Close, Newport, Shropshire, TF10 7TR, U.K.

Hall, James: P.O. Box 187, Urbana, OH 43078-0187

Marston, Ed: South Tower, Pennzoil Place, 711 Louisiana, Suite 2900, Houston, TX 77002-2781

Sheppard, Stuart: 52 Snake Point Road, P.O. Box 493, Bobcaygeon, Ont. K0M 1A0, Canada

Shrimplin, LeJuan: new ZIP code, 66503

Tweddell, Edward T.: 358 Silver Road, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Weiss, Jeffrey: P.O. Box 2646, Friday Harbor, WA 98250-2646

Whitehouse, Earl (Tex): 9115 Marlboro Pike, Trailer 39, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3648

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**If you haven't done so already,  
please send in your 1996 dues and your Trustee voting ballot NOW!**

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## Exhibits and Awards

by PAUL A. LARSEN

In the last report, it should have been mentioned that, in addition to H.L. Arnould, who won the APS Champion of Champions award in the 1995 World Series of Philately for his exhibit of Danish West Indies postal history, five other BCPSG members had exhibits in the WSP competition and won a Prix d'Honneur at STAMPSHOW 95, each of them having won the Grand Award at one of the 31 WSP qualifying exhibitions. These winners were: Robert Cooley (Cayman Islands: The Philately of Three Reigns), Quintus Fernando (Classic Issues of Nicaragua, 1862-1899), Paul Larsen (German Togo, 1885-1914), Peter McCann (Turks & Caicos Postal History, non-competitive exhibit), and Dan Walker (Grenada, 1752-1911). Winners at some exhibitions held last spring, who had inadvertently been missed in the September report, are listed below along with those who have received awards in more recent competitions.

AAPE American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors  
 APS American Philatelic Society  
 CPS Chicago Philatelic Society  
 FIP Fédération Internationale de Philatélie

GA = Grand Award  
 P = platinum  
 G = gold  
 LV = large vermeil  
 LS = large silver  
 RGA = Reserve Grand Award  
 LG = large gold  
 SP = special prize  
 V = vermeil  
 S = silver

AIRPEX 95, Oct. 14-15, Dayton, Ohio  
 AMERISTAMP EXPO (AMSX) & NOJEX 95, May 27-29,  
 Secaucus, N.J.  
 CHICAGOPEX 95, Nov. 17-19, Chicago, Ill.  
 FINLANDIA 95, May 10-15, Helsinki, Finland  
 FLOREX 95, Nov. 10-12, Orlando, Fla.

INDYPEX 95, Sept. 8-10, Indianapolis, Ind.  
 OMAHA STAMP SHOW 95, Sept. 1-3, Omaha, Nebr.  
 PARFOREX 95, April 1-2, Park Forest, Ill.  
 SINGAPORE 95, Sept. 1-10, Singapore  
 STAMPSHOW 95, August 24-27, St Louis, Mo.  
 VAPEX 95, Oct. 20-22, Virginia Beach, Va.

### *Arnould, H.L.*

\* Danish West Indies Postal History: Foreign Mails Before 1880 — FINLANDIA: LG

### *Bowman, George*

\* The Rowe Aero-Achievements, from WIAE to Pan Am, 1927-1931 — VAPEX: V, AAPE award, Adm. J.G. Johnson memorial award

### *Cooley, Robert*

\* Great Britain Line Engraved, 1840-1879 — SINGAPORE: G + SP

### *Gallagher, Scott*

\* Postal History of Puerto Rico, 1815 to 1905 — FINLANDIA: LV

\* The 10-cent Knoxville Postmaster's Provisional: A Research Paper (one frame) — AIRPEX: G

### *Larsen, Paul*

\* Federal Postal Stationery of the Leeward Islands — CHICAGOPEX: G, Marcus White Showcase award

\* Ubangi-Shari, 1900-1939 — AIRPEX: G, APS 1900-40 medal

### *Larson, Duane*

\* Jamaica: British Transatlantic Mail — PARFOREX: GA, G

\* Ireland Postal Markings, 1660 to 1840 — CHICAGOPEX: G, CPS award

### *McCann, Peter*

\* Postal History of the British Virgin Islands — OMAHA: GA, G, APS research award; INDYPEX: G, Court of Honor

\* Turks & Caicos Postal History — FINLANDIA: LV

### *Maisel, Richard*

\* The Cayman Islands Provisionals of 1907-1908 — AMSX: RGA, P

### *Ramkissoon, Ben*

\* Air Mails of Trinidad — INDYPEX, V

\* Postal Stationery of Trinidad & Tobago — FINLANDIA: LV

\* Trinidad, 1820-1906 — SINGAPORE: FIP Class of Honor, LG

### *Schnell, Roger*

\* Nevis, 1662 to 1890 — SINGAPORE: LV

\* German Offices in Turkey, 1870-1914 — FLOREX: GA, G, Col. Davis award, Ingeborg Herst award

### *Schumann, Steve*

\* North Borneo Postal Cards — FINLANDIA: LS

### *Wynstra, Robert*

\* Leeward Islands Village Mail, 1734-1932 — CHICAGOPEX: G, Best Foreign Postal History award, APS 1900-1940 award



## *Dominica: A Historical Peek into the GPO*

by BILL ASHLEY

Imagine, if you will, setting out on a British Caribbean philatelic expedition back at the turn of the century. You've stopped by the small building that houses the General Post Office. The postmaster and his clerk are nowhere to be seen. You step inside and begin to "go over" the office, noting the furnishings and searching through the desk drawers. You are unconcerned that the absent officials might return and discover your intrusion.

How could such a scenario come true? Well, in fact, it pretty well has come true: in late 1896 or early 1897, the top official in Dominica ordered

each government department, including the GPO, to take a complete inventory of its effects. Below are the details from a three-page list headed "Inventory of Articles in the Post Office, Dominica".

At the top of the first page is an oval double-ringed temporary datestamp reading 'ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE / 6 FEB. 97 / DOMINICA', and the bottom of the third page is signed 'G.B. Seignoret / Acting Postmaster / Dominica / 5th February 1897'.

A couple of non-philatelic questions spring to mind. What is the "utensil" referred to here? A toilet brush? Perhaps tongs or a shovel to accom-

- |   |   |     |                                   |
|---|---|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 3 | Chairs  | 1   | "Insufficient Address" do.        |
| 1 | Iron safe                                       | 1   | Old Dating Stamps                 |
| 1 | Iron chest                                      | 2   | Rules                             |
| 5 | Tables  | 4   | Paper weights                     |
| 2 | Desks   | 2   | Pen racks                         |
| 2 | Cupboards                                       | 1   | Bellows                           |
| 2 | Lamps   | 2   | Rubber pads                       |
| 2 | Lamp frames                                     | 1   | Screw driver                      |
| 2 | Candlesticks                                    | 1   | Hammer                            |
| 2 | Pairs of scales                                 | 1   | Wooden rack for bags              |
| 1 | Set of weights                                  | 1   | Letter box                        |
| 3 | Weights 1oz, 2oz, 3oz                           | 25  | Boxes with apartmnts. for sorting |
| 2 | Brooms  | 1   | Box do. " parcel bills            |
| 3 | Paper baskets                                   | 1   | Do. do. " regd. letter bills      |
| 1 | Iron pot  | 130 | Mail Bags                         |
| 1 | Coal pot  | 180 | Brass Labels                      |
| 3 | Tin kettles                                     | 20  | Leather Labels                    |
| 1 | Bucket  | 6   | Shelves                           |
| 2 | Basins  | 1   | Box with apartment                |
| 1 | Utensil   | 4   | Empty boxes                       |
| 5 | Type boxes with sets of steel types             | 2   | Electric pushes                   |
| 1 | Box rubber stamp & types                        | 1   | Letter rack                       |
| 3 | Dating stamps                                   | 3   | Stamp Inking pads                 |
| 1 | Obliterating stamp                              | 1   | Clock                             |
| 1 | "Late fee" stamp                                | 5   | Paper Clips                       |
| 1 | "T" stamp [penned with serifs and a bottom box] | 2   | Rules                             |
| 1 | "R" do. [penned with serifs]                    | 1   | Pen wiper                         |
| 1 | "Missent to Dominica" stamp                     | 3   | Inkstands                         |
| 1 | "Refused" do.                                   | 2   | Knives                            |
| 1 | "Late Fee" stamp                                | 3   | Towels                            |
| 1 | "Official Paid" stamp                           | 1   | Goblet                            |
| 1 | "Non Reclame" do.                               | 1   | Glass                             |
| 1 | "Unclaimed" do.                                 | 1   | Platform                          |
| 1 | "Too Late" do.                                  | 1   | Gum pots                          |



pany the bellows and the coal pot? And what are "electric pushes"? "Rushes" would make more sense, but the author's lower-case 'r' occurs on the next line, and it looks nothing like the suspect letter above it.

It is a pity that the postmaster was not motivated to account for every postage stamp in his stock – but we cannot change history! In terms of postmarks, though, this is an interesting list indeed. Below are some ruminations on just what marks were in residence on that day in 1897, and I hasten to thank Charles Freeland and Michael Oliver for some of the information that follows. I have attempted to match recorded examples that come as close as possible to the inventory date. A plea to those whose curiosity is piqued: please send relevant photocopies towards a future additional article on the Dominica GPO in 1897.

**3 Dating stamps.** Right away, a mystery! Two of these are obvious – namely, the single-ring-with-asterisk pair (one 19+ mm in diameter, the other 20+ mm) that were sent out from Britain on 9 April 1894. These were both in regular use until at least early 1905. But what of the third? There was a duplex mark, last recorded in July 1896, but wouldn't it have been listed as "1 Dating and obliterator stamp" or the like? There was also a single-circle-with-C mark, but I have not heard of this mark past April 1894. Could it have been the postmaster's personal postmark? Unfortunately, this practice seems to have begun only around 1910 or so in Dominica.

**1 Obliterating stamp.** Only four obliterations are known for Dominica: two short ones; a tall one comprising part of the duplex; and an additional tall one. It is not known when the fourth was sent out to Dominica, but it is clear that this handstamp was in heavy use between 1882 and 1903; in particular, there is a cover dated 27 July 1897 that bears this mark. If this fourth handstamp is the obliterator in the postmaster's list, what of the other three? The duplex was probably broken or lost, but one or both of the two short obliteration stamps are known struck in conjunction with the Portsmouth c.d.s. from 31 July 1897 to 1901. The listing of only one obliterator at Roseau lends support to the theory that at least one short obliterator had been transferred to Portsmouth by then.

**1 "Late Fee" stamp.** There are two identical entries for this. Was an error made, or was there a late-fee stamp at each desk? Seignoret had one

clerk at the time. If you envisage a queue of stamp buyers at each desk just after the mails had been closed, it would make sense that each official had a handstamp. There is no information at the Postal Archives in London about Dominica's late-fee handstamps, but I have examined two full and two partial strikes, with dates ranging from 1886 to 1939. Results were inconclusive, so more examples are hereby solicited.

**1 "T" stamp.** No information is available from London, but this case is clear. There is a 28 July 1897 cover to Barbados that received this mark, and additional strikes are known to 1951. The spaces between the vertical serifs and the trunk of the "T" are different: just short of 4 mm on the left, and just over 3 mm on the right.

**1 "R" stamp.** No record of this is found in London, but there is a 25 November 1897 cover showing a standard non-serifed "R" within a vertical oval. Still, there is some uncertainty here: if Seignoret took the trouble to carefully depict the "T" stamp, why would he forsake accuracy in the very next item by adding extraneous serifs and omitting reference to the oval?

**1 "Missent to Dominica" stamp.** There is no sign of this mark in London's GPO records, but two examples of this handstamp bracket our date nicely – one just after 25 February 1894 (there is no c.d.s.), the other accompanying a Dominica c.d.s. of 1 December 1899. The mark actually reads 'MISSENT-TO-DOMINICA' (with hyphens).

**1 "Refused" stamp.** In this case, the GPO records help us greatly: this handstamp was sent out on 25 April 1894. However, no use has been reported. Is it possible the postal staff did not know the purpose of the handstamp?

**1 "Official Paid" stamp.** There is no information on this stamp in London, but examples of its use abound, ranging from 1894 to 1969, including on a cover dated 1 April 1896. The handstamp was found to be in excellent condition at the GPO in Roseau in 1980.

**1 "Non Reclame" stamp.** Neither London information nor Dominica usage of this "unclaimed" stamp is known at this point.

**1 "Unclaimed" stamp.** Again, there is no record of this in London, and no genuine usage known. In 1980, I was granted the dream of taking impres-



sions of whatever postmarks I could find at the Roseau and Portsmouth post offices. There was no such stamp at the GPO, but there was an 'UNCLAIMED' device at the Portsmouth office. Its general appearance is very similar to that of the unboxed 'TOO LATE'. Is it possible this handstamp was transferred from the GPO to Portsmouth along with one or both of the short obliterators?

**1 "Too Late" stamp.** This boxed handstamp was sent out from London on 23 February 1882. Usages are known from 1883 to 1903. The unboxed version has not been seen on Dominica mail before 1925.

**1 "Insufficient Address" stamp.** No usage of this stamp has been recorded, but it was sent out on 25 April 1894, and I found the handstamp at the Roseau post office in 1980.

**2 Old Dating stamps.** I will not speculate on this entry, as there are too many candidates.

Finally, a few words about the postmaster. This is the same man who starred in Fred Seifert's "Tale of Dubious Dealings in Dominica" (*BCPJ*, whole no. 41, February 1968, pp. 3-6). Griffith Berry Seignoret seems to have been the first GPO clerk ever appointed to that position, and his appointment date is recorded in the Blue Books as 1 January 1889. If he was not on the payroll between 1884 and 1889 (the period of his "shenanigans" reported by Fred), then perhaps he was acting either as a private investor or as cat's paw for Postmaster Robert Frederick Garraway.

Whatever the case may be, Seignoret's official appointment seems to have helped him to settle down. He was called in from the Registrar's Office in July 1896 to spell Garraway's successor, Francis Stearns Fadelle, who was facing the first of two investigations mounted against his practices. Fadelle was admonished for laxity but reinstated, and Seignoret presumably returned to his permanent position. But in October 1925, he was appointed postmaster in his own right, remaining in that position until his death on 26 July 1933.

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## *People, Places, and Events*

Congratulations to our president, Peter McCann, Ph.D., who has just been elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London. Peter joins several other BCPSG members who have received this distinction in the past.

### *Christie's: A New Rep in the D.C. Area*

The New York office of Christie's announced in November that John M. Hotchner had been named the firm's stamp and postal history representative in the Washington, D.C. area, succeeding the late Gordon Torrey. Hotchner's appointment is part of Christie's expansion of services to stamp collectors both in the United States and abroad.

A director-at-large of the American Philatelic Society, John Hotchner is well known among U.S. collectors. He was recently appointed chairman of the APS Accreditation of Judges Committee and is editor of *The Philatelic Exhibitor*, the journal of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors.

### *In Memoriam C. Angus Parker*

Just before going to press, we learn of the death, on 15 November 1995 at the age of 68, of C. Angus Parker, joint Managing Director of Argyll Etkin Ltd.

and a member of the BCPSG. Many collectors are familiar with the firm of Argyll Etkin - which resulted from the merger in 1976 of Argyll Stamp Co. (founded by Angus Parker in the 1950s) and Eric Etkin's company - and with the remarkable quality of the material offered by the company.

In addition to being a well respected dealer, Angus Parker was an outstanding philatelist, having formed collections of early Yemen, the Norwegian Missionary stamps of Madagascar, and the postal history and maritime mail of Iceland. He gave many displays at stamp clubs and societies on both sides of the Atlantic and supported a great many philatelic groups.

Angus Parker was always very active in organised philately, having been, at various periods of his life, a founding member of the Pacific Islands Study Circle of Great Britain, president of the Scandinavian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, vice chairman of the British Philatelic Federation, chairman of the Philatelic Traders' Society, PTS representative on the board of the American Stamp Dealers Association, and member of the organising committee of the 1970 and 1980 London international exhibitions.

In the words of the statement released by Argyll Etkin Ltd. in November, "a great character of the philatelic world has departed."



## Grenada Changes Printers in 1882

by W. DANFORTH WALKER

Perkins, Bacon & Co. – the firm that printed Britain's famous 1d Black and 2d Blue in 1840 – were also responsible for producing all of Grenada's postage stamps from the first two denominations released in June 1861 (1d and 6d) to the four surcharges issued in April 1881 (½d, 2½d, 4d, and 1s), using the Chalon head of Queen Victoria throughout. Although only six postal denominations appeared during that period, they are represented by a large number of varieties (SG 1–26), such as changes in shades and watermarks, perforation and overprinting errors, etc., with similar variations occurring in the 12 revenue stamps also printed by the same firm. These flaws were symptomatic of the production problems that plagued Perkins Bacon throughout those two decades.

This period also witnessed persistent efforts by the Crown Agents to gain direct control over stamp production, as well as a determined campaign by Thomas De La Rue & Co., the other major printer of colonial stamps in Britain at the time, to remove Perkins Bacon as a competitor. These efforts were largely successful, with Grenada remaining one of Perkins Bacon's last colonial customers by the early 1880s. Beginning with the tête-bêche set issued in early February 1883, De La Rue took over the printing contracts for Grenada's postage stamps and remained the colony's exclusive supplier for over 50 years.

A well-documented account of how Perkins Bacon lost its virtual monopoly over the printing of British colonial stamps can be found in Percy de Worms's *Perkins Bacon Records*.<sup>1</sup> The following version retells this story with an emphasis on the change of printers as it concerned Grenada – a story that, to the best of my knowledge, has not been narrated in the philatelic literature about the Spice Island.

### *The Perkins Bacon Contract*

The events leading up to the change in printers for Grenada stamps actually had their beginnings in the late 1850s. At that time, the British government exercised strict control over the printing of Great Britain postage stamps, but the situation was somewhat different with respect to the printing of colonial stamps, which fell under the responsibility of the Agents General of the Colonial

Office (later the Crown Agents for the Colonies or "Crown Agents"). The Agents General did not exercise strict control over stamp-printing contracts – either those which they controlled themselves or those which fell under the direct control of the colonial governments.

That situation began to change, however, when Penrose G. Julyan was appointed Agent General for the Crown Colonies in 1858 and sought to gain control over the colonial contracts. In February 1859, Julyan wrote to Perkins Bacon: "I have to request that you will send to this Office all Dies, Plates, &c for the manufacture of Postage Stamps & Envelopes ordered by The Agents General and paid for by them."<sup>2</sup> Perkins Bacon replied that it was more convenient for them to keep the dies and plates so that stamps could be printed for the various colonial governments when needed and without undue delay. They also pointed out that De La Rue, who also printed G.B. stamps, kept the dies and plates used to print Great Britain stamps at their own premises.<sup>3</sup> Why, then, could Perkins Bacon not do the same? This reasoning fell on deaf ears, however, and Julyan pursued his efforts to have the dies and plates forwarded to the Crown Agents.

### *Problems at Perkins Bacon*

In the late 1850s, Perkins Bacon faced two related problems in printing stamps for the colonies: the poor quality of its product, and lack of punctuality in delivering it. One of the quality problems had to do with public complaints about poorly perforated stamps, resulting from the fact that Perkins Bacon's line-engraved stamps required the paper to be damp before printing. Upon drying, the hand-made paper would shrink differently with each printing, and this non-standard shrinkage caused the spaces between stamps to vary, which in turn caused continuous perforating problems.

At that time, Perkins Bacon had a contract to print the 1d and 2d Great Britain stamps, and demand for these stamps was soaring. The resulting printing requirements were beyond the firm's ability to produce the stamps punctually and to the high standards that were required. The difficulties encountered with G.B. stamps in turn caused delays and quality problems in printing



colonial stamps.

Faced with these delays and the declining quality of the stamps, Julyan began inserting penalty clauses into colonial stamp contracts. On 20 June 1859, he imposed a fine of £80 on Perkins Bacon for the late delivery of stamps for Trinidad, Natal, and the Bahamas. Perkins Bacon responded to this with a list of excuses. First, Mr. Bacon Sr., who had lost the use of his hands and had to rely on a private secretary for all his written communications, had not seen the penalty clause in the contracts for Trinidad and the Bahamas. Next, the tenders were made at different times, but the contracts were awarded all at once, so that Perkins Bacon did not have a chance to complete one printing job before undertaking the next two. In the case of the Natal printing, the government perforation plant (Somerset House) could not perforate the first printing produced by Perkins Bacon due to uneven paper shrinkage, and a new paper supply had to be acquired before replacement stamps were available for perforation. The new printing had been done at considerable expense to Perkins Bacon and had resulted in a delay in delivery. Finally, the engraver of the dies was seriously ill for a time while the work was in progress.

Julyan's reply stated, in part: "The delay of 22 days that occurred between the date of your tendering for the Natal Die and the date of our giving the order for it and also the unfortunate illness of one of your experienced workman, who could not at the moment be replaced, are the only extenuating features in your case, and under these circumstances the Agents General consider they will be acting with much forbearance if they remit 24 days penalty in respect of Natal, and one half of the 50 days penalty to which you are subject on the Bahamas Contract, thus reducing the total amount from £80 to £43.10.0."<sup>4</sup>

Further trouble lay ahead for Perkins Bacon, however.

#### *The 'CANCELLED' Incident*

According to Percy de Worms, "there can be no doubt that Julyan was out for [Perkins Bacon's] blood, and the incident of the 'CANCELLED' stamps, although trivial in its essence, provided him after two strained years with an opportunity to bring matters to a head."<sup>5</sup>

On 18 April 1861, Ormond Hill (who worked for the Inland Revenue department at Somerset House) sent a special request to Joshua Butters Bacon, the head of Perkins Bacon: "Two or three of my friends who are collectors of Postage

Stamps have asked me to procure for them specimens of new or uncommon stamps whenever I have it in my power."<sup>6</sup> Bacon volunteered to supply blocks of six stamps of each value from each of the colonies whose stamps were printed by his firm. The stamps were sent as a gift on 15 August 1861 to Ormond's cousin Pearson Hill, the son of Rowland Hill. By that time, Rowland Hill had been retired from the Post Office for a number of years, but his son Pearson still held a high position there. One example of each value was kept by Rowland Hill and his son individually, while the rest were forwarded to Ormond Hill for distribution to his friends. Neither Joshua Bacon nor the Hills appeared to have any inkling that this request might be viewed as highly irregular.



*Figure 1. One of the six Grenada 6d stamps presented as gifts by Perkins Bacon to Rowland Hill and a few friends and relatives in August 1861.*

Each block of six stamps was struck several times with a barred oval handstamp inscribed 'CANCELLED' in sans-serif capital letters (Figure 1), cancelling every stamp. When Julyan learned about these "giveaways," he flew into a rage, as explained in a 25 October 1861 letter from Joshua Bacon to Pearson Hill: "Mr. Julyan ... learned that we had furnished you with specimens and has taken very great offence at our having done so; he considered it a culpable act on our part and has sent us an official letter requiring that we should never let a single impression go out of our hands in any state whatever, from any plate which has been ordered of us through that department of the Government but to themselves."<sup>7</sup>

Indeed, Julyan used this incident as an excuse to transfer the colonial stamp printing contracts from Perkins Bacon to De La Rue. In a letter to Perkins Bacon dated 22 October 1861, Julyan wrote: "I have now to request that you will forward to this Office with as little delay as possible all Dies, Rollers and Plates of every denomination, and for whatever purpose prepared, now in your



custody, and belonging to the Agents General for the Crown Colonies ... Whenever occasion may call for the future use of any of these Plates on your premises, they will be forwarded in charge of a Gentleman belonging to this Office whose duty it will be to take charge of the produce of the Press."<sup>8</sup>

It took a few more reminders from Julian before Perkins Bacon finally acceded to his demands on 28 January 1862 and returned the printing materials for most of the colonies whose stamp contracts were handled by the Crown Agents – namely, Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, Trinidad, Western Australia, Ceylon, Saint Helena, Bahamas, Natal, and St. Lucia.<sup>9</sup> The Antigua dies, plates, etc. were forwarded to the Crown Agents only a decade later, in December 1871. Despite the implied suggestion, in Julian's 22 October 1881 letter, that Perkins Bacon might be asked again to print colonial stamps handled by the Crown Agents, once the dies and printing plates were in the latter's hands, they were never returned to Perkins Bacon for later printings. Instead, they were handed over to De La Rue when needed to produce additional stamps for those colonies.<sup>10</sup>

In the case of the colonies that had separate contracts with Perkins Bacon, the plates were transferred much later – Barbados in November 1874, Turks Islands in March 1881, and St. Vincent in February 1882.<sup>11</sup> The Grenada plates, however, were sent to the Crown Agents only in April 1889.<sup>12</sup> Although De La Rue used the Perkins Bacon plates to print stamps for Barbados, St. Vincent, and Turks Islands, they never used them to print Grenada stamps: as will be seen below, they had manufactured their own plates for Grenada in 1882 and thus had no need for the Perkins Bacon plates received by the Crown Agents seven years later.

### *The January 1881 Requisitions*

On 5 January 1881, the Crown Agents sent to both Perkins Bacon and De La Rue two requisitions from Grenada – one for three new duties required under UPU regulations ( $\frac{1}{2}$ d,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d, and 4d) and one for a further supply of 1d stamps.

De La Rue's quote on the two requisitions was an offer to print the required stamps at 2s4d per 1,000 plus £24 for an overprint forme of the word 'GRENADA': "Overprint Forms exist for all the duties so that by preparing a plate from the Leeward Island Key-plate with the word Grenada inserted in the top tablet the expense of special overprint plates would be saved. The cost of such

a Key-plate would be £24.0.0. Stamps per 1,000 2s.4d."<sup>13</sup>

Perkins Bacon, on the other hand, responded with a quote of 1s per 1,000 for the 1d stamp and 1s10d per 1,000 for the three new values. They were very precise in explaining the two different rates quoted: "You will notice that the charge for Penny Stamps is less than that for the [other] denominations there being a plate for Penny Postage Stamps complete; in the case of the other three denominations the Stamps will have to be printed in different colours from one general plate & the denominations indicated by a separate printing."<sup>14</sup>

In other words, the three new denominations had to be printed in a two-step process. First, the undenominated plate was to be used to print the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d (mauve),  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d (rose-lake; note that the request from Grenada was for pink), and 4d (blue) sheets. Then, the colored sheets had to go through the press again in order to be surcharged. The 1s10d quote consisted of 1s to print the colors and 10d to overprint the sheets.

De La Rue's quote of 2s4d per 1,000 stamps was clearly not competitive, and the order was awarded to Perkins Bacon on 13 January. This would be the last time, however, that Perkins Bacon printed postage stamps for Grenada, as De La Rue were now determined to wrench this last major colonial stamp contract away from their rival. Oddly enough, De La Rue thought that Perkins Bacon had quoted 1s per 1,000 stamps for all four values, and this mistaken belief was to play an important part in the success of their strategy.

### *De La Rue's New Strategy*

Rather than wait for another stamp requisition from Grenada, on 23 December 1881 De La Rue sent the Crown Agents a long report criticizing the stamps produced by Perkins Bacon and enclosing specimens of stamps they claimed they could supply to Grenada at 1s per 1,000.

In the report, De La Rue used a scare tactic that had been successful in wresting stamp contracts away from Perkins Bacon in the past. The report stated that Perkins Bacon stamps could be cleaned and reused, thus causing the Grenada government to be cheated out of revenue. It also pointed out that Perkins Bacon printed by the line-engraving method, generally referred to as "copper-plate" printing at the time. This process required the stamp paper to be wet before printing, thus allowing the ink to be sucked out of the printing plate's engraved lines when pressure was applied to the paper.



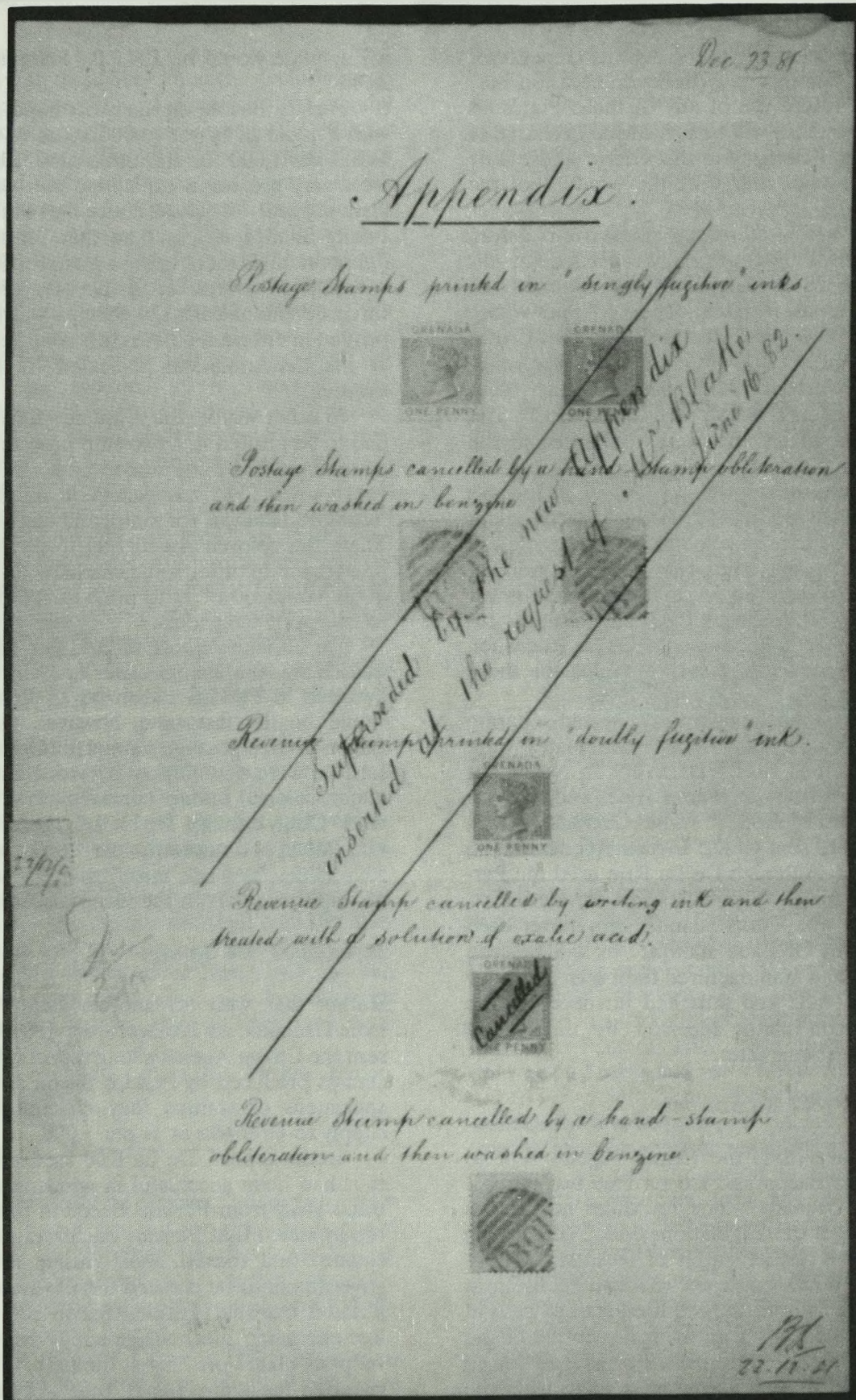


Figure 2. One of two Appendix sheets prepared by De La Rue for the Crown Agents and Grenada.



stamps with its own "fugitive" inks, which dissolved and faded when in contact with a liquid such as water, thus revealing any attempt to remove a cancel in this fashion. Fugitive inks could not be used with the line-engraved printing method.

To buttress its argument that fugitive inks could prevent the loss of revenue, De La Rue attached an "Appendix" sheet (Figure 2) to its report. The top row of the Appendix contained two "sample" stamps (one red and one blue), printed in "singly fugitive" inks. In the second row were identical stamps, cancelled with a bold 'B01' barred oval obliterator and washed in benzine, a chemical used by forgers to remove cancels from stamps. The result showed that with a singly fugitive ink, much more of the stamp ink was removed than of the cancel. The next three rows set out to demonstrate the properties of doubly fugitive inks, which were promoted for printing revenue stamps as they provided better protection against the reuse of stamps from which cancels had been removed. The moral was that De La Rue's fugitive inks prevented the reuse of stamps that had been washed, thus protecting the colony's revenue.

In their December 1881 report, De La Rue also proposed a new stamp design for Grenada: "By the adoption of a peculiar method of printing, we could undertake to supply such stamps as those given on our Appendix, without having to make any charge for dies or plates, at the uniform price of 1/- per thousand, and we hope that it might be found that such stamps would be more serviceable than those at present in use."<sup>15</sup> This price was considerably lower than the one quoted earlier that year (2s4d) and in fact was equal to Perkins Bacon's price for reprinting the 1d stamp. The sample block enclosed with the report (Figure 3, shown on the front cover of the journal) makes clear what the "peculiar method of printing" was: the stamps were to be printed in a tête-bêche configuration, with De La Rue claiming that this method of production enabled them to lower their price to 1s per 1,000 stamps. In fact, the tête-bêche approach probably cost more than De La Rue's normal printing process simply because it was only used for Grenada stamps. But this was just a marketing ploy used by De La Rue to acquire a new client without having to offer the same low price to their other customers.

#### *De La Rue's February 1882 Quote*

That Perkins Bacon continued to experience pro-

duction problems and delays in printing stamps is evident from de Worms' *Perkins Bacon Records*. Although Penrose Julyan was no longer with the Crown Agents, his successors were also annoyed with the security firm's non-professional business practices, and the last supply of Grenada stamps to be ordered from Perkins Bacon was no exception. On 19 February 1881, the Crown Agents informed Perkins Bacon that they would pick up, on the 23rd, the stamps printed in accordance with the order awarded on 13 January (see above). On the 21st, however, Perkins Bacon had to advise the Crown Agents that the stamps would not be ready until the 24th. Another letter, written later on the same day, stated that a further delay was expected: "We find that some of the sheets of Grenada 2½d. Postage Stamps are badly printed and it is necessary to print from 30 to 50 sheets over again ... We are sorry to give so much trouble, but you will agree with us in thinking that this will be better than to send out bad work."<sup>16</sup> The stamps were finally ready on the 26th (a Saturday) and shipped to Grenada two days later.

Apparently in February 1882 (the requisition has not survived), Grenada asked the Crown Agents for a quote on an unknown number of values to be printed in unknown quantities. The Crown Agents forwarded the request to De La Rue, but there is no evidence in *Perkins Bacon Records*<sup>17</sup> that a duplicate was sent to their competitor. Thus Perkins Bacon were being dropped as a supplier of Grenada postage stamps, just as they had been for a number of other British colonies. With an offer from De La Rue to print the stamps at a lower price than Perkins Bacon actually charged, the Crown Agents were finally in a position to completely rid themselves of the problem-prone firm.

Were De La Rue informed by the Crown Agents that Perkins Bacon would not be asked to quote on Grenada's new requisition? This seems likely: on 27 February 1882, De La Rue sent a second quote to the Crown Agents, along with a new design (Figure 4). The quote included prices "for a special die, a keyplate, and overprint plates at the standard rates of £50, £21, and £12 respectively."<sup>18</sup> De La Rue also quoted its usual 2s4d (for singly fugitive inks) and 3s4d (for doubly fugitive inks) per 1,000 stamps – in other words, the same price that had been quoted in January 1881, but with the charge for dies and plates being raised from £24 to £83! The Crown Agents asked the Grenada government to choose between the two designs, but nothing was heard for seven months.

Finally, on 26 September 1882 the colonial ad-



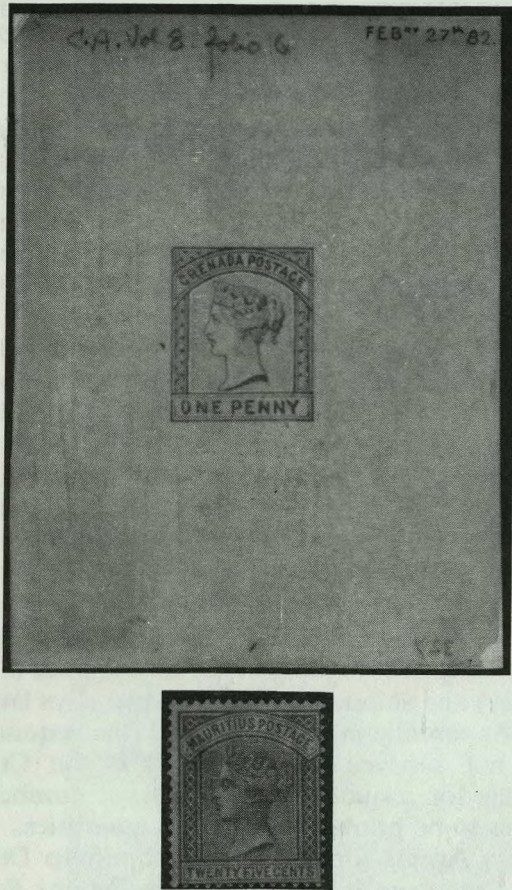


Figure 4. Top: Essay produced by De La Rue, dated 'FEB 27th 82', at a time when they were attempting to win the Grenada contract. The example shown here was sent to Grenada (which rejected this design); a similar essay was sent to the Crown Agents. The essay was modeled after the Mauritius 25c olive-yellow stamp of 1879 (bottom).

ministrator wrote the Crown Agents as follows:

"I have the honour to inform you that this Government has decided on accepting the offer of Messrs. De La Rue & Co., put forward in their communication of 23rd December 1881, to supply stamps, similar to those shown in the appendix to that document, at a uniform rate of one shilling per thousand."<sup>19</sup>

Thus ended De La Rue's struggle to oust Perkins Bacon from the colonial stamp-printing market. Perkins Bacon may have hoped that Grenada would return to the fold, as they kept the Chalon head printing plates for seven years before turning them over to the Crown Agents. In fact, however,

De La Rue's stranglehold over Grenada's postage stamp business was to last until the 1930s.

#### *The Tête-bêche Issue of February 1883*

De La Rue received the order from the Crown Agents on 12 October 1882. Seven values of the tête-bêche stamps were ordered for the initial shipment in quantities of 60,000 stamps each, except for the 8d (54,000) and the 1s (6,000).<sup>20</sup> Most values were reprinted in subsequent years, but the 1s value only had one printing and is a scarce stamp, particularly as a tête-bêche pair: in my 25 years of collecting Grenada, I have seen only two used tête-bêche pairs of that stamp and only one unused tête-bêche block of four; very few unused tête-bêche pairs appear to exist. Figure 5 shows the top two rows of an 8d sheet, with the six pairs of tête-bêche stamps and the plate number '1' above stamps number 2 and 5.

The correspondence between De La Rue and the Crown Agents shows that the printing firm was not pleased with the result of its own work. On 24 November, even before the stamps were issued, De La Rue wrote that "the Grenada stamps are somewhat crude in appearance on account of the inscription not being enclosed within tablet lines; but they possess the same chemical properties as the more perfect stamps."<sup>21</sup> This poor quality was attributed to the pressure brought on by the struggle to defeat Perkins Bacon. These "makeshift" stamps troubled De La Rue for many years, but as they were inexpensive, Grenada continued to order them until 1896.<sup>22</sup>

One final point about the tête-bêche issue. John Easton's book on *The De La Rue History of British & Foreign Postage Stamps* is an important and very accurate source of information about Grenada stamps, and it has been quoted extensively here. However, there is an ambiguity in the book that confused me until I figured out that this usually impeccable author had made an error. The error concerns the size of the Grenada tête-bêche sheet, and it arises because of the following extract, referring to the 26 September 1882 letter in which the Grenada government ordered the tête-bêche issue: "[The Grenada Administrator] ordered 500 sheets of all values except the Eightpence (450) and the One Shilling (50), which he estimated to cost £18. These calculations proved to be based on sheets of 120 multiples, and the quantities were consequently doubled with the consent of the Crown Agents, because the sheets contained 120 multiples only."<sup>23</sup> The suggestion that the sheet size was 120 stamps is erroneous: it was, in fact, 60 stamps.



### Conclusion

After successfully eliminating their rival Perkins Bacon, De La Rue were able to secure exclusive printing contracts with Grenada until 1934, when Waterlow were given the order to print the King

George V Pictorial issue. From that moment on, De La Rue had to share Grenada's printing contracts with other firms, including Harrison, Bradbury Wilkinson, and Waterlow.



Figure 5. Top rows of the 8d tête-bêche sheet, showing six tête-bêche pairs and the plate number '1' above stamps nos. 2 and 5 of the sheet of 60 stamps. The same plate number also appears below stamps nos. 56 and 59 in the bottom row.

### Notes

- 1 Percy de Worms, *Perkins Bacon Records* (London: Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1953), pp. 509-526. See also the chapter on Grenada, pp. 218-39.
- 2 *Ibid.*, p. 509.
- 3 *Ibid.*, p. 510.
- 4 *Ibid.*, p. 512.
- 5 *Ibid.*, p. 513.
- 6 *Ibid.*, p. 513.
- 7 *Ibid.*, p. 515.
- 8 *Ibid.*, pp. 520-521.
- 9 John Easton, *The De La Rue History of British & Foreign Postage Stamps, 1855 to 1901* (London: Faber & Faber, 1958), p. 243.
- 10 *Ibid.*, p. 243.
- 11 *Ibid.*, p. 243.
- 12 de Worms, *Perkins Bacon Records*, p. 239.
- 13 Easton, *De La Rue History*, p. 341.
- 14 de Worms, *Perkins Bacon Records*, p. 229.
- 15 Easton, *De La Rue History*, p. 342.
- 16 de Worms, *Perkins Bacon Records*, p. 233.
- 17 *Ibid.*, pp. 234-239.
- 18 Easton, *De La Rue History*, p. 342.
- 19 *Ibid.*, p. 342.
- 20 John Easton, "The De La Rue Printings," *The London Philatelist*, vol. 70 (January 1961), pp. 15-16.
- 21 Easton, *De La Rue History*, p. 343.
- 22 Easton, "De La Rue Printings," p. 15.
- 23 Easton, *De La Rue History*, pp. 342-343.

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**HAVE A HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS 1996, EVERYONE!**

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## *Bahamas Express and Special Delivery Handstamps and Labels*

by EDWARD W. WATEROUS

In the June 1991 journal, Gale Raymond challenged readers to study certain areas of Bahamas philately that had been overlooked until then. One of these areas is express delivery mail, also known as special delivery mail. I have long been interested in the 1916-17 Special Delivery issues, so the move toward express mail was natural.

The hunt began in my own stamp room with an accumulation of modern covers. I also contacted Gale and informed him that I had accepted his challenge. I began to correspond with several members of the BCPSG regarding express mail. Largely, there seemed to be little interest in this area. Bob Bolling was graceful enough to send copies of the express delivery covers in his collection. Gale also sent me a few odd covers that were in his "tradin' pile." The late Ed Addiss gave me encouragement to stick with it, even though there was no information coming in for long periods. I also searched diligently through many dealers' stocks and "junk boxes," seeking Bahamas covers with "express" in any form.

From four years of hunting and analyzing, I have prepared photocopies of the different express markings and labels that have come to light. My research has been largely limited to collectors and dealers in the United States, so I have not attempted to give any scarcity ratings. For simplicity's sake, I have presented the markings chronologically by post office. (In order to present the illustrations and descriptions of the express handstamps on facing pages, they appear on pages 106 and 107.)

The postal handstamps came into use around 1950, my earliest example being on a 1951 cover from Nassau. The first 11 types are used from the GPO in Nassau. Type 8 is used on an advertising flyer for Bhutan new issues. Type 10 is on a local cover to a Nassau radio station. For same-day delivery, local use required posting between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., to a destination within two miles of the post office. Types 12 through 18 are

from other post offices on New Providence Island or from Freeport, Grand Bahama. I have a sample strike from Marsh Harbour on paper but have not yet run across a cover with this marking, which is not included in the table.

The familiar red-brown or brown 'EXPRESS DELIVERY' label (see page 108) appeared during the 1920s and are still in use today. The earliest example I have seen is on a 1927 cover. While there are many shades and slight variations in size, I restrict the types to three, based on the size and font style of the label text. Labels originating from England, Canada, and the United States also adorn Bahamas covers in my collection.

In addition to the express delivery markings, I have listed the 'AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY' markings and a single 'SPECIAL DELIVERY' mark. These are additional to the 'EXPRESS' labels and markings, and appear to be of postal origin. I would welcome comments and additions to this list.

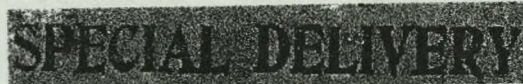
The lone 'SPECIAL DELIVERY' handstamp is on a cover posted at the Shirley Street Post Office in Nassau, but I have no corroborating evidence to confirm that this was a post office marking. One of the rewards of this type of research is demonstrating that a particular marking is of postal origin and not a strike from a handstamp used by a private mailer.

Please look at the tables and corresponding illustrations of the markings and labels. Do you have any that are not listed? I need your input in order to continue this search for information about Bahamas express mail. If possible, please send me a photocopy of additional markings on cover. I am also interested in updating the periods of use of the markings and labels. If you have covers with dates outside the ranges shown, please let me know. I will gladly correspond with anyone on this or any other subject related to Bahamas philately. Please write to me as P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430, USA.



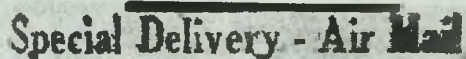
**Bahamas Special Delivery Handstamp**

Type 1

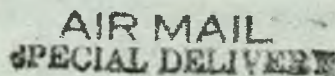


Type	DESCRIPTION	Full Marking Size		Place of origin	Earliest Recorded Date	Latest Recorded Date
1	Fancy capitals w/serifs	66.5 x 6 mm		Shirley Street	5/8/44	

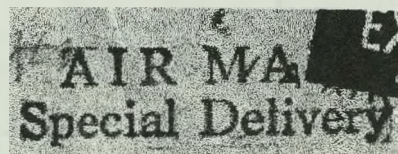
**Bahamas Air Mail Special Delivery Handstamps**



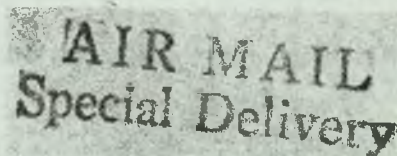
Type 1



Type 2



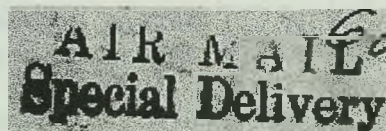
Type 3



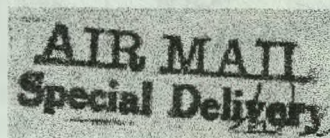
Type 4



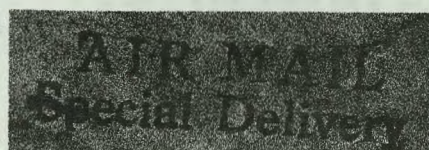
Type 5



Type 6



Type 7



Type 8

Type	DESCRIPTION	Full Marking Size		Place of origin	Earliest Recorded Date	Latest Recorded Date
1	Straight line, words begin with capital letters	62 x 4.75 mm		Nassau	6/22/41	
2	2 line small capital letters	43 x 8 mm		Nassau	9/6/57	4/17/58
3	2 line air mail in capital letters, Special Delivery mixed upper and lower case letters	49 x 13.5 mm		Nassau	11/24/59	
4	Similar to type 2	52 x 15 mm		Nassau	9/27/65	
5	2 line capital letters w/o serifs	43 x 15 mm		Nassau	9/26/66	
6	Similar to type 3	48 x 13.5 mm		Freeport	7/13/65	
7	2 lines, AIR MAIL all caps, Special Delivery, stylized letters	41 x 12 mm		Mackey Street	11/5/60	
8	Similar to type 3	49 x 13.5 mm		Mackey Street	11/22/60	



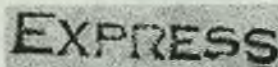
### Bahamas Express Delivery Handstamps



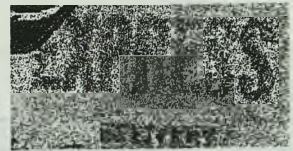
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Type 2



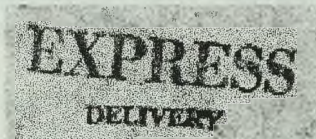
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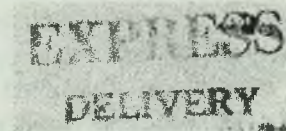
Type 4



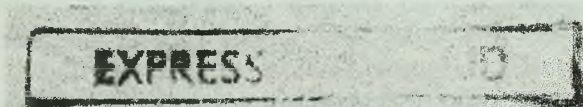
Type 5



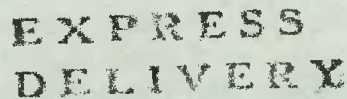
Type 6



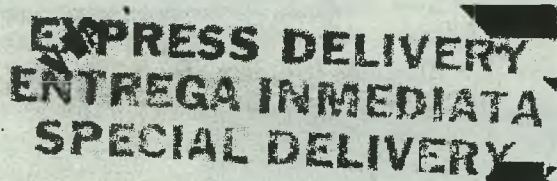
Type 7



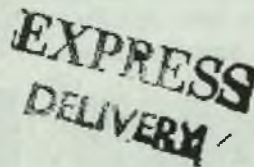
Type 8



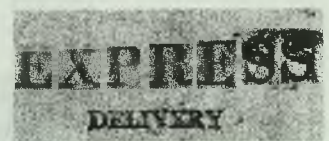
Type 9



Type 10



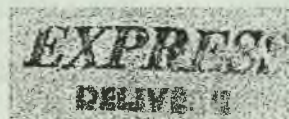
Type 11



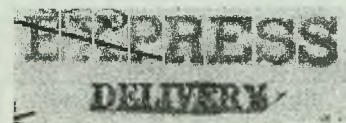
Type 12a



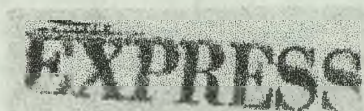
Type 13



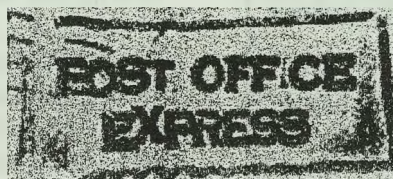
Type 14



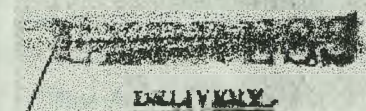
Type 15



Type 16



Type 17



Type 18



## Bahamas Express Delivery Handstamps

Type	DESCRIPTION	Full Marking Size	Express Width X Height		Delivery Width X Hgt		Place of origin	Earliest Recorded Date	Latest Recorded Date	Colors Reported
1	Block letter two line EXPRESS/ Delivery, latter with serifs	29 x 22 mm	29	9	8	2	Nassau	4/23/51	11/26/53	Purple, red
1a	Similar to type 1, but larger	32-33 x 23 mm	32-33	10	10	2	Nassau	3/3/55	10/10/59	Purple
2	Large EXPRESS sans serif	31.5 x 11 mm	31.5	11	none	none	Nassau	10/31/53	1/15/57	
2a	ditto	28.5 x 9 mm					Nassau	9/26/62		Purple
3	Express in caps, larger first "E"	34.5 x 5.5 mm	34.5	5.5 & 4.5	none	none	Nassau	7/6/57		Purple
4	Similar to type 1 but larger	35 x 23	35	9	15	2	Nassau	4/17/58		Purple
5	Stylized EXPRESS w/serifs	34 x 5.5 mm	34	5.5	none	none	Nassau	7/11/59	11/15/63	Violet, Black and Purple
6	Type 5 express, type 1 delivery	34 x 9.5 mm	35	6	14	2.5	Nassau	9/1/59		Black,
6a	ditto	35 x 12.5 mm	35	6	14	2.5	Nassau	5/26/61	6/16/66	Red, Purple
7	Similar to type 6 larger delivery	35 x 12.5 mm	35	6	27	3.5	Nassau	9/27/65	6/20/68	Violet
7a	ditto	35 x 13.5 mm	35	7	20	3	Nassau	5/16/63		Black
8	Boxed Express(Post??) Paid	74.5 x 9.5mm			none	none	Nassau	6/11/66		Black
9	2 line Express/Delivery block letters w/serifs	35.5 x 15.5mm		3.5		3.5	Nassau	9/26/66	2/11/71	Purple
10	3 line EXPRESS DELIVERY ENTREGA IMMEDIATA SPECIAL DELIVERY	97.5 x 15.5 mm					Nassau	9/12/67		Blue
11	Express like type 5, Delivery in block caps sans serifs	32.5 x 15.5	32.5	6	24	4.5	Nassau	2/2/77	6/19/80	Red
11A	Express like type 2	35 x 9 mm	35	9	none	none	Mackey Street	11/5/60	11/22/60	Blue, purple
12	Similar to type 6	35 x 12 mm	35	6	18	2	Mackey Street	5/4/61	8/27/62	Purple, black
12a	Ditto, wider spacing of letters in the word EXPRESS	39 x 11.5 mm	39	6	21	3	Mackey Street	6/2/69	10/4/69	Purple
13	2 line EXPRESS DELIVERY in block letters, sans serif	42 x 18 mm	42	9	32	7.5	Mackey Street	8/5/70		Black
14	Express w/serifs in italics, Delivery in block letters	35 x 11 mm	35	6	19.5	3	Mackey Street	5/29/85		Purple
15	Thick block letters w/serifs 2 line EXPRESS DELIVERY	41 x 13.5 mm	41	6	24	4	Shirley Street	5/25/78		Violet
16	Thick letters w/serifs Express	44.5 x 8.5 mm			none	none	Freeport	7/13/65		Black
17	Boxed Post Office Express	47.5 x 20.5 mm					Freeport	2/9/70		Black
18	Like Type 2	40 x 12 mm	40	5.5	17.5	2	Grants Town	1/6/70		Purple



**Bahamas Express Delivery Labels**

Type 1



Type 2



Type 3

Type	DESCRIPTION	Full Marking Size		Place of origin	Earliest Recorded Date	Latest Recorded Date
1	Delivery in caps with serifs	31.75 x 12.5 mm		Nassau	1927	1932
2	Delivery sans serif	29.25 x 12.5 mm		Nassau, etc.	1934	1982
3	Reduced spacing between letters	29.25 x 12.5 mm		Freeport	11/8/88	

## *The British Honduras Savings Bank Stamps*

by IAN MATHESON

I have never seen any information concerning the Savings Bank stamps of British Honduras. The only two copies in my collection are:

- 1 Five cents orange-red, watermark multiple script CA (sideways), perf. 11.3 x 11.7
- 2 Ten cents blue, watermark multiple script CA (upright), perf. 11.3 x 11.7.

Can any of our readers furnish any further information about these stamps, such as other values in the set, watermark varieties, issue date, printers, mode of use? I can be contacted via the *BCPJ* Editor or directly at P.O. Box 533, Kelvin, 2054, South Africa.





## British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group Publications

**Back Issues** — Back issues of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* may be ordered from Thomas E. Giraldi, 2021 Wylie Dr., Modesto, CA 95355. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a list of issues available; most issues since Whole Number 106 are currently on hand, as well as very small quantities of some earlier issues. The price per issue is \$2.50; for a full year's issues, \$10.00; postage extra. Payment may be made in U.S. dollars or sterling. Make all checks payable to the "British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group."

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No. Title(s), Author(s), Year, No. of Pages	USA and Canada	Overseas	
1 <i>Postal Markings of the Turks and Caicos Islands</i> , by Michael Wilson; with <i>Caicos Islands Adventures</i> , by Gale J. Raymond, 1982; 19 pp.	\$6.00	\$6.50	£4.05
2 <i>Bahamas Postal Stationery</i> , by Graham Hoey; with <i>Jamaica Postal Stationery</i> , by Thomas Foster, 1982; 24 pp.	\$6.50	\$7.00	£4.40
3 <i>First Flights of Bermuda and British Caribbean FAM Routes</i> , by Charles E. Cwiakala, 1982; 35 pp.	\$7.50	\$8.00	£5.00
4 <i>Jamaica Railway Town Cancels</i> , by Robert Topaz, Fred Seifert and Charles E. Cwiakala; with <i>Registration Markings and Labels</i> , by Reg Lant, Robert Topaz and Clint von Pohle, 1982; 41pp.	\$8.00	\$8.50	£5.30
5 <i>The Unpaid and Tax Markings of Jamaica</i> , by Reg Lant, 1983; 45 pp.	\$6.50	\$7.00	£4.40
6 <i>The Town Cancels of Trinidad and Tobago</i> , by Edward Addiss, Reuben Ramkissoon and Walton Van Winkle, 1983; 55 pp.	\$9.00	\$9.50	£5.95
7 <i>The Posts of St. Lucia</i> , by Geoff Ritchie; with <i>Postal History of Soufriere</i> , by Robert Devaux, 1982; 72 pp.	\$10.50	\$11.00	£6.90
8 <i>Grenada Postal History, 1764-1913</i> , by Dan Walker, ca. 1981; 164 leaves.	\$20.00	\$21.00	£12.50
9 <i>Exploring Jamaica through Obliterators</i> , by Ian Woodward, 1982; 160 pp.	\$20.00	\$21.00	£12.50
10 <i>The "Town" Cancels of British Honduras, 1880-1973</i> , by Edward F. Addiss, 1990; 68 pp.	\$15.50	\$16.00	£10.00
11 <i>The Furness Line to Bermuda</i> , by M.H. Ludington and Michael R. Rego, 1991; 58 pp.	\$15.00	\$15.50	£9.70
12 <i>Early Air Mails of Saint Lucia, 1929-35</i> , by Robert J. Devaux, 1993; 26 pp.	\$6.50	\$7.00	£4.40
13 <i>Bermuda Mails to 1865</i> , by Michel Forand and Charles Freeland, 1995; 124 pp.	\$15.00	\$15.00	£9.00
In preparation:			
<i>The Postal History of Blockade Running Through Bermuda, 1861-1865</i> , by M.H. Ludington			
<i>The Swarbrick Collection of Jamaica</i>			
<i>The Postal Markings of Jamaica</i> , by Ian Potter			
Offered on behalf of the Guyana Philatelic Society:			
Veronica V. Khemraj, <i>British Guiana Postal History and Catalog of British Guiana Stamps</i>	\$25.00	—	£17.50



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Eighth of a page	3½"	2¾"	\$30

The cost of back-page space, when available, is 10% above the regular rate. One-time ads are accepted at 40% of the yearly rate. The initial advertising copy should be sent to the Advertising Manager along with remittance, but changed copy should be forwarded to the Editor by the following deadlines: for the March issue, 15 January; for the June issue, 15 April; for the September issue, 15 July; for the December issue, 15 October.

Actual-size, camera-ready copy is preferred.

Checks to be made payable to the "British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group." Please forward payment to the Advertising Manager:

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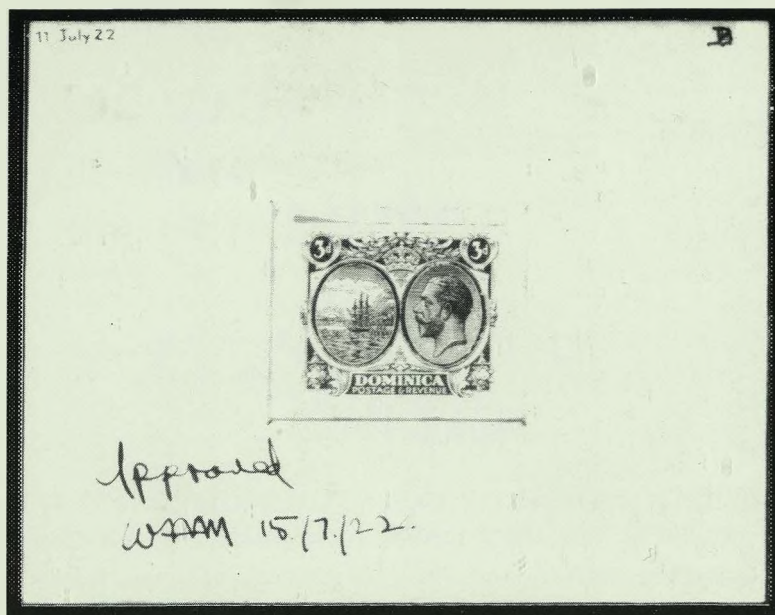


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