

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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*The Red Cross in Trinidad & Tobago
(see the article by Ron Wike beginning on p. 123)*

Also featured:

Antigua "Stamp Duty" Perforations

Cayman Islands Farthing Stamp

Guyana Postmarks

PACIFIC 97 Reports



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From the Editor's Computer

by Michel FORAND

Inserts

This issue contains several inserts. Please be sure to read them all and take action where necessary or appropriate:

- 1998 Membership Renewal Form
- Ballot for the Election of Three Trustees
- One-year Free Membership Application Form (see below)
- 1997 Auction Results.

Success in San Francisco

The BCPSG held a number of successful events in conjunction with PACIFIC 97, the international exhibition held in San Francisco earlier this year. They included our annual meeting and auction, the release of a special issue of the journal along with a new monograph, our presence at a society table in one of the exhibition halls, etc. Re-

ports by Peter Kaulback and Bill Gompel will be found in this issue.

One of the more remarkable outcomes of our having a society table was the fact that about 15 visitors to the exhibition applied for membership. In fact, the Secretary's Report in this issue lists a total of 21 new applicants – a rather splendid accomplishment. We thank all of those who signed up in San Francisco and also those who applied before or after the exhibition, and we hope they will soon become members (a process that is subject to a three-month "approval" period) and that they will be pleased with their decision.

A New Approach to Recruiting

At the officers' meeting in San Francisco, it was decided to add a new approach to our recruiting efforts (new for the BCPSG, that is): the offer of a free year's membership to friends of current members. This approach has

been tried in the past, apparently with great success, by the Cinderella Stamp Club, among others.

It consists essentially in asking members to submit the name of a friend or acquaintance who has an interest in British Caribbean philately and who would enjoy a free year's membership and might be likely to remain a paid-up member in subsequent years.

Once accepted as members, the nominees will receive the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* for one year. They will also be entitled to take part in the Group's auction and attend its meetings.

To keep the process within manageable bounds, we would prefer that you limit your nominations to one person, but if you know two people who you believe would be interested and would benefit the Group, then we will consider two such applications.

This Journal

The preparation of the June issue of the journal and the Leeward Islands monograph came at a fortuitous time for me, in the sense that I was able to schedule work on these two publications around my professional obligations and ensure a timely release. Both publications were available

for distribution or purchase at PACIFIC 97.

Unfortunately, I was unable to achieve the same result for the September issue, which explains the delay in its publication. I offer my apologies and hope members will understand my position.

The preparation of the June journal was also a happy event in the sense that I received so many excellent articles that, for practical and financial reasons, it became necessary to split them into two groups, one of which became the Leeward Islands postal history anthology.

Any editor would be both proud and happy to receive enough articles to fill two substantial publications. Unfortunately, this does happen as often as I might wish! *Good articles are always needed for the journal!* Please do your share. It is never a good idea to leave the task to others, because they may have exactly the same idea. The only reservoir of writers accessible to this journal are BCPSG members, and that includes each and every one of you.

The Study Group Leaders are also requested to do their share either by writing articles themselves or by asking other collectors in their area to do so. I thank those who have contributed to the journal in the past, and I urge the others to follow suit.

Annual General Meeting, 1997

by Peter KAULBACK

The 1997 AGM was held in conjunction with PACIFIC 97, which took place in San Francisco from May 29 to June 8 1997. Apart from the considerable array of activities associated with the exhibition, there were three specific events for BCPSG members.

On the evening of Friday May 30 we held a meeting of officers and trustees at the Marriott Hotel; our Annual General Meeting was held on June 3 at the Moscone Convention Center; and there was a BCPSG dinner after the AGM, at a restaurant in the Union Square area.

Officers' Meeting

The officers' and trustees' meeting was chaired by the president, Dr. Peter McCann, and was attended by Peter Kaulback (secretary), Barry Friedman (treasurer), David Druett (international director), Michel Forand (journal editor), along with trustees Rob Wynstra and Charles Freeland, auction manager Bill Charles Gompel, and members Stewart Jessop and Lynn Cohen. (This may

serve as a reminder that the meetings of BCPSG officers are open to all members.) The following topics were discussed:

- *Locations of Future Meetings.* Discussions were held on this subject, and the current status of the 1998 and 1999 meetings is described elsewhere in the journal. As for the meeting in 2000, we held discussions with Simon Goldblatt about the possibility of staging a number of joint activities with the British West Indies Study Circle during Stamp Show 2000, which will take place in London on May 22-28, 2000. It was tentatively agreed that the BCPSG and the BWISC would pursue a proposal to hold a joint meeting and auction, preferably on the Saturday and Sunday prior to the show, possibly at the Bonnington Hotel (where the BWISC usually hold their London meetings) or at a similar venue. It is proposed that the first day would include viewing of the auction lots and an informal joint get-together, followed by the joint auction in the

afternoon. On the second day, it is proposed that there be a select dealer bourse, displays, and possibly an expertizing table. The possibility of having special meetings for collectors of selected countries has also been suggested. It is anticipated that the auction should realize sufficient funds to pay for the full event. Simon Goldblatt was to discuss the proposals further with his colleagues in the BWISC upon his return to the UK.

- *Finances.* There was extensive discussion of the overall financial position of the Group, and of the specific areas where we made or lost money in the past year. There were deliberations on the point in time when it may become necessary to review our annual membership dues. It was determined that a dues increase is currently not necessary, but one may be required if we lose money on normal operations for more than a year or two. A proposal that we consider increasing membership through complimentary memberships was discussed.
- *Possible Membership of the BCPSG in the Association of British Philatelic Societies.* The ABPS is the U.K. equivalent of the American Philatelic Society in the United States. It was explained that membership in the ABPS requires contributions to their journal and a membership fee based on each participating society's number of UK members. ABPS membership would provide very useful publicity to the benefit of the Group. This question will be examined in greater depth.
- *Publicity Responsibilities.* There is a requirement to coordinate publicity and the distribution of press releases, and similar activities. Dr. McCann will approach one of our members with respect to taking on some of these responsibilities.
- *Publications.* Michel Forand spoke extensively on all aspects of our publications program, and there was discussion on many topics. Regarding the proposed publication of Bob Swarbrick's Jamaica collection in book form, Michel reported that the status of this project had changed, in that the book will not be published by the Group and that discussions had been held with an interested publisher about the possibility of funding the publication through the Addiss Fund. The forthcoming Bermuda censorship book was also discussed, including its anticipated cost and publication run. The requirement for a renewed Publications Committee was also discussed.
- *Auction.* Bill Charles Gompel advised the officers that he was unable to continue in his role as Auction Manager. He has instituted a number of initiatives during his tenure in this position over the last six years, and we are grateful to Bill Charles for his significant contribution in this area. It was proposed, and approved, that

the position of auction manager be filled by Ed Waterous.

- *Election of Officers and Trustees.* The president presented the recommendations of the Nominating Committee with respect to the proposed slate of officers for 1998 and 1999, and for the election of trustees to fill the three positions that will become vacant at the end of this year.

General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday June 3, in Room 256 of the Moscone Center, followed by a display and the auction. In the absence of the president, who was still executing his judging duties for PACIFIC 97, the meeting was chaired by the secretary. All of the items that were discussed at the officers' and trustees' meeting were presented to those present at the AGM. Paul Larsen, chairman of the Awards Committee, presented the Byron Cameron Award to Simon Greenwood for his excellent exhibit of British Guiana. Following the business aspects of the AGM, Dr. Ben Ramkissoon gave a presentation based on his collection of Tobago. This was then followed by the auction, conducted by Bill Gompel.

There has been recent extensive review of the structure of the AGMs in recent years. It is acknowledged that too much time has been taken up by discussion of business aspects of the meeting, and that a lot of this information could be better, and more widely, distributed by means of written reports from the officers. This will permit better use of our time at the meetings for displays and the auction, and will reduce the time commitments of our members at what is always a busy convention with numerous demands on everyone's time.

Between 30 and 40 people joined for drinks and dinner at the Iron Horse Restaurant after the AGM. Typical BCPSG fellowship continued in our hospitality suite later in the evening, as it had on all previous evenings.

PACIFIC 97 provided the first opportunity in many years for all the officers of the Group to be present in the same place and at the same time. Had it not been for the extensive demands on the judges, thereby tying up Peter McCann at the time of our AGM, all of our officers would have been present at the meeting.

The following is a list of those members who attended the AGM or were otherwise present at the exhibition. Many members, especially dealers and jury members, obviously find it difficult to attend our AGM in view of their other responsibilities. The list is nevertheless very impressive.

Willard Allman, Christopher Anstead, Howard Arnould, Cyril Bell, Paul Bondor, John Buckner, Carl Cammarata, Patricia Capill, Lynn Cohen, Denis Dant, Trevor Davis, Bob Dickgiesser, David Druett, Jay Fredrick, Peter Elias, Melvin Feiner, Quintus Fernando, Michel Forand, Charles Freeland, Barry Friedman, Scott Gallagher, John Gardner, Tom Giraldi, Bill Charles Gompel, Simon Greenwood, James Grimwood-Taylor, Michael Hamilton, Del Harris, David Herendeen, George Holschauer, Stewart Jessop, Peter Kaulback, Paul Larsen, Michael Luttio, Phoebe MacGillivray, Larry Martin, Peter McCann, Brian McCloy, Hugh McMackin, Mike Mead, Dick Mounsey, J.W. Palmer, Henry Pattiz, Ted Proud, Chris Rainey, Ben

Ramkissoon, Gale Raymond, Kurt Schau, Rob Schneider, Fred Schmitt, Roger Schnell, Gerald Schroedl, Stephen Schumann, John Shay, Sergio Sismondo, Russell Skavaril, D.I. Smith, David Sussman, Gene Styer, Ann Triggler, Tim Tweddell, Dan Walker, Ed Waterous, Jeff Weiss, Ron Wike, Frederick Woxen, Rob Wynstra.

If I have missed anyone in this list, please accept my apologies. As the list shows, we had members from at least eight different countries (Australia, Canada, Great Britain, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Trinidad & Tobago, and the United States), which may be a record of sorts.

And now, on to Boxborough!

**The
1998 BCPSG AUCTION**
will take place on
May 2, 1998

Deadline for the receipt of
consignments:
January 26, 1998

Please send your consignments early!
For more information,
contact the Auction Manager:

Edward W. Waterous
P.O. Box 1105
Homewood, IL 60430, U.S.A.
Tel.: 708-799-9339

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The Red Cross in Trinidad and Tobago

by Ron WIKE

The Red Cross began when a Swiss philanthropist, Henri Dunant, witnessed the suffering following the Battle of Solferino in 1859 and proposed the formation of National Aid Societies that would, in time of war, give voluntary service to the sick and wounded. This led to the founding of the Red Cross in 1863. Dunant's dream was finally realised in 1864 when the Geneva Convention was drafted at an international diplomatic conference. This Convention agreed to certain standards in the treatment of sick and wounded soldiers, including the use of the distinctive red-cross-on-white-background emblem to denote military medical facilities and staff. In Britain in 1870, Sir John Furley helped to found the National Society for the Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War, the forerunner of the British Red Cross.

In 1914, there was no established branch of the Red Cross in Trinidad and Tobago; the fundraisers were supporting the British Red Cross. An overseas branch of the British Red Cross was not founded until 12 July 1939. The branch achieved national status as the Red Cross Society of Trinidad and Tobago when the twin islands gained their independence on 31 August 1962.

The Red Cross has featured significantly in the postal history of Trinidad and Tobago. Probably the best known example is the charity label used for the mailing of a fund-raising appeal (see Figure 2) during World War I.

The printing and use of the fund raising labels is well documented. Its use, to denote that the mailing was free of postage charges, was authorised by the then Postmaster General for one day only, 18 September 1914. Unfortunately, a mistake by the Post Office in their instructions led to the label being cancelled, and as a result it was accorded catalogue status. The demand for this "stamp" in used condition led to a number of attempts at forgery (Figure 1), but only those labels dated on the afternoon of 18 September 1914 at Port of Spain, are genuine.



Figure 2.
Forged Cancel

Some were subsequently returned and re-addressed and were signed by Mrs. E Phillips, Acting Hon. Treasurer. On this occasion they were cancelled a second time, clear of the label (Figure 3, shown on the front cover of the journal). The label was freely available as a charity label and can be seen on covers and cards on or after this date but not usually postmarked, the cover or card bearing the correct postage rate.

On 21 October 1915, the anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar, the contemporary 1d red was overprinted locally with a red cross and the date '21.10.15'. The total printing of 100,000 was sold out on that day, mainly to dealers. There is some dispute about the share of the proceeds from the sale of this stamp. One source claims it went to the Red Cross, the postal deficit being borne by the colonial budget; another source states that half the proceeds went to the Red Cross. A patriotic card was produced for use on the day of issue of the stamp (Figure 4). A second issue of a Red Cross overprinted stamp was produced on the 19 October 1916.

By World War II, Trinidad and Tobago had its own branch, which was involved in fund-raising, and perhaps more significantly from a philatelic viewpoint, the "Red Cross message scheme." The most visible philatelic signs of its fund-raising were the Christmas cards. These included a locally produced card (Figure 5), issued in two formats; the 1941 card measured 115 x 88.5 mm, while the 1942 card measured 112 x 90 mm.

Following Pearl Harbor and the entry of the United States into the war, an international version was on sale in Trinidad and Tobago in 1942, showing the names of the countries then at war with the Axis (Figure 6). It is known printed in blue and red on both white and yellow card.

"Economy labels" were also a method of fund-raising as well as helping to conserve raw materials (Figure 7). This wartime economy label has featured on the 7 June 1996 stamp issue, "Trinidad and Tobago Remembers World War II."

The interruption of communications due to the war resulted in many queries regarding relatives and friends being routed through the Red Cross (Figure 8).

A method of communicating with relatives and friends (but not prisoners of war) in enemy countries via Thomas Cook's London and Lisbon offices was announced in the

Trinidad Royal Gazette on 31 October 1940. At 2/6, this was expensive, but it did represent a step forward. A considerable improvement was the "Red Cross postal message scheme," which was publicised in the *Trinidad Gazette* of 15 March 1941 (reproduced on pp. 128-130).

This cost 24c (1/-) and dealt with communications to Germany and German-occupied countries. This service was extended as the war progressed, notably to the Balkans and eastern European countries. There is no record of such an arrangement with countries in the Far East.



Port-of-Spain,
11th September, 1914.

Sir,

At a Public meeting held on September 4th, a Committee was formed to raise funds for the Red Cross Association in London. The money is to be collected by the women of Trinidad and Tobago and their aim is to reach every man, woman and child in the islands and give them an opportunity of doing their share, however small, for the relief of the sick and wounded soldiers and sailors who have been fighting so gallantly for our protection and liberty. These will include not only the British but our French and Belgian Allies as well as our East Indian troops in whom the East Indians on the estate will have a very special interest.

The Committee will be glad if you will do your best to interest the employees on your estate to contribute a small sum—from a cent upwards—every month while the war lasts.

A list of the districts to which a member of the Committee has been appointed is given below, but in the event of there being no one in your district, the Committee will be obliged if you will help them by suggesting some responsible person, preferably a woman, who will undertake it. Lists have been printed for the purpose and can be had from the lady of the district or from Mrs. Burslem, Queen's Royal College, Port-of-Spain.

Yours faithfully,

M. E. BURSLEM (Mrs.)

J. I. BLACKWOOD WRIGHT (Mrs.)

} Joint Secretaries

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Arima	Mrs. A. H. Grey,	Toco	Mrs. O'Halloran.

Figure 1. The appeal document sent out using the Red Cross "label"

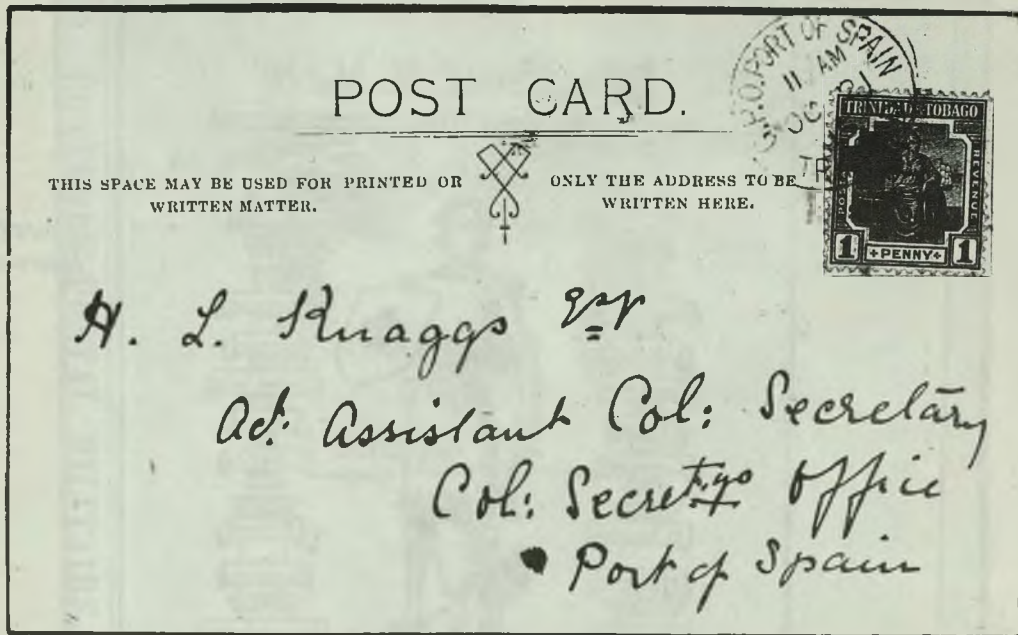


Figure 4. First "Red Cross" overprint, on a patriotic card posted 21 October 1915.

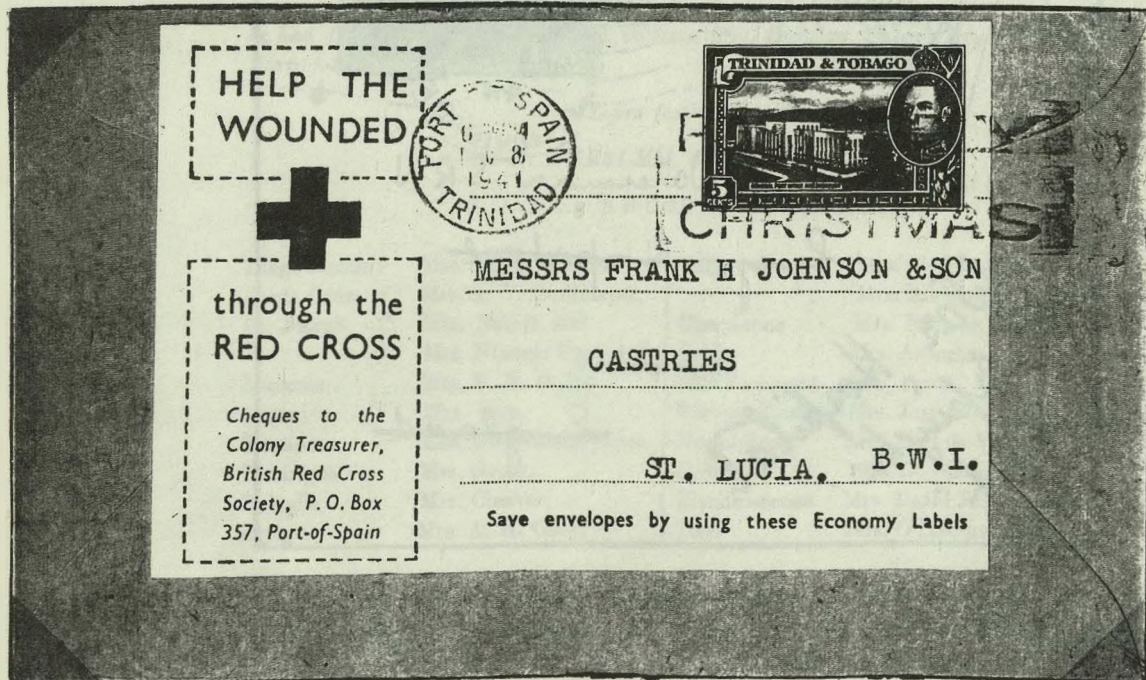


Figure 5. 1942 card, sent by surface mail to Britain on 10 November 1942, intercepted by a U.K. censor (P.205), re-addressed, and cancelled with London machine cancel dated 28 December 1942



Figure 6. "International" card

Figure 7. Economy label sold to raise funds, surface mail to St. Lucia, 8 December 1941



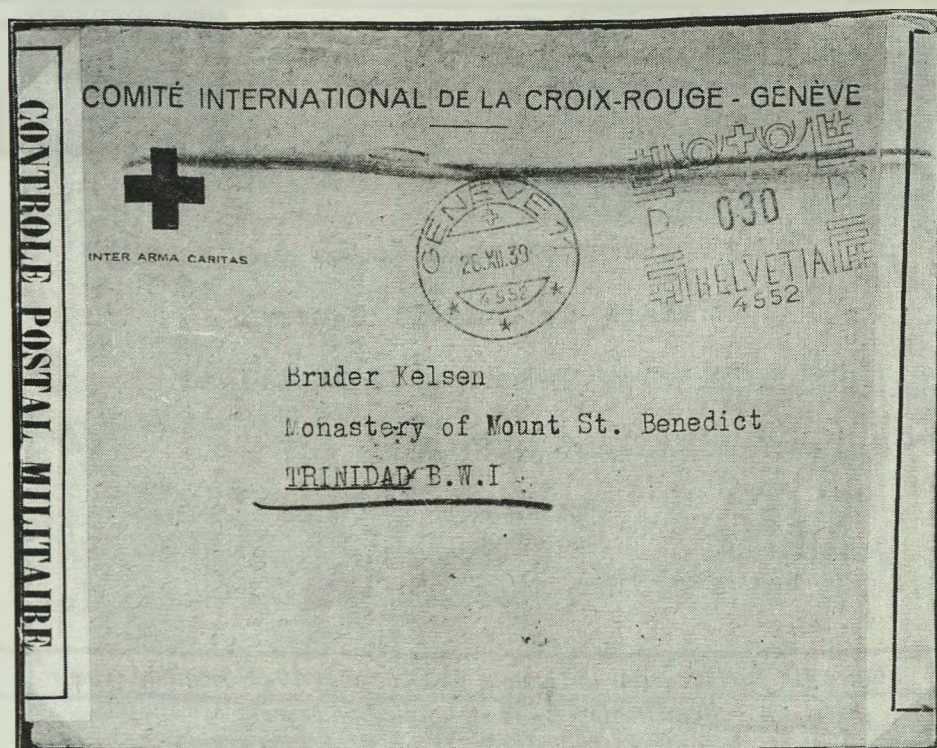


Figure 8. Incoming mail from the Red Cross in Geneva, 26 December 1939, censored in transit by the French and resealed. Tunapuna arrival c.d.s. of 19 February 1940 on the reverse. The Mount St. Benedict Monastery had many monks of German Swiss extraction amongst its residents prior to the war.

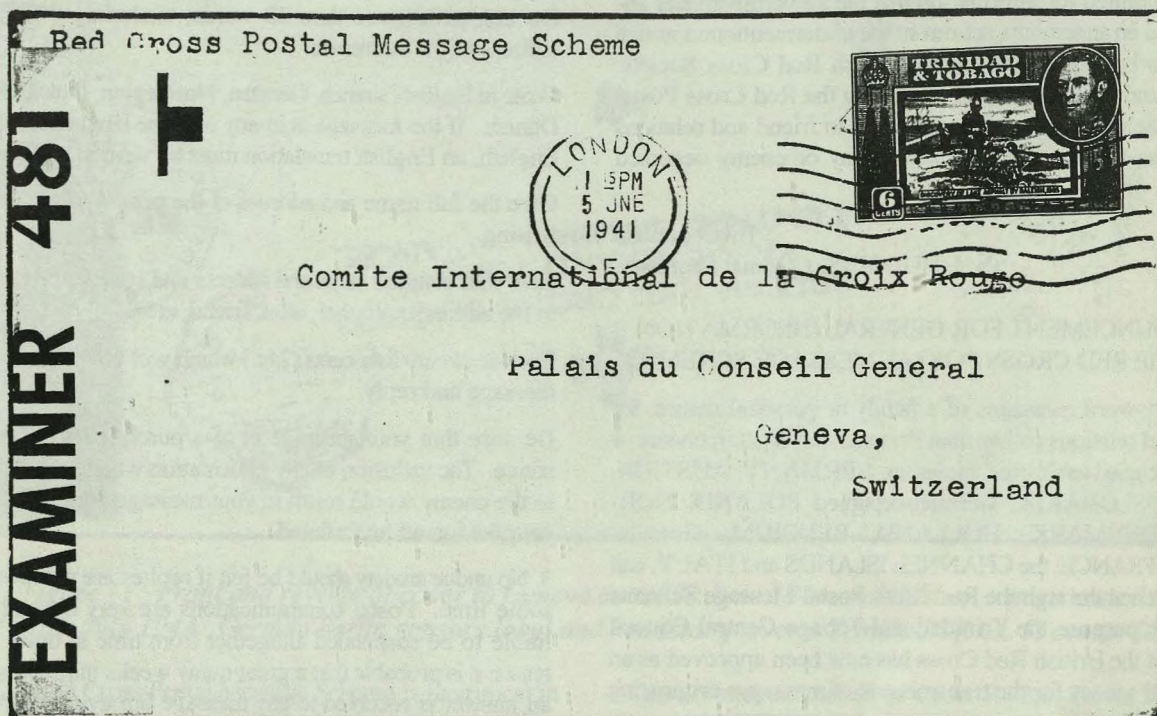


Figure 9. A very early Red Cross message scheme envelope, presumably sent under separate cover to the U.K. It has the correct surface mail postage rate and was censored in Trinidad with a TR CH 4A handstamp across the sealing flap on the reverse. Re-examined by the censors in the U.K. and resealed with a P.C.90 label, it was posted on to Switzerland, receiving a London machine cancel of 5 June 1941.

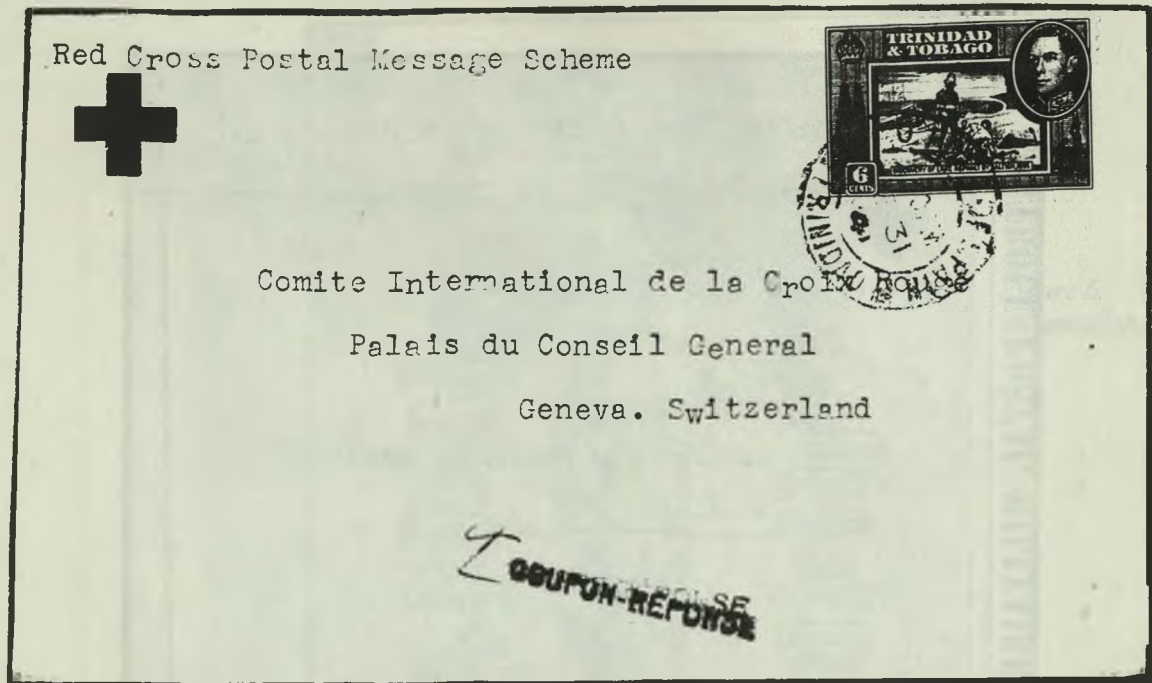


Figure 10. Surface letter to Geneva, 31 December 1941. Trinidad censor handstamp TR CH 4B applied on reverse.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, PORT-OF-SPAIN,
15th March 1941.

COMMUNIQUE

It is notified for information that the Government has approved the arrangements set out in the undermentioned notice which has been prepared by the British Red Cross Society, Trinidad and Tobago Branch, regarding the Red Cross Postal Message Scheme for sending messages to friend and relations (other than Prisoners of War) in enemy or enemy occupied territory.

By Command
J. HUGGINS, Colonial Secretary.

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR GENERAL INFORMATION RE THE RED CROSS POSTAL MESSAGE SCHEME

1. Twenty-word messages of a family or personal nature, for friends and relations (other than Prisoners of War) in enemy or enemy occupied territories, including GERMANY, AUSTRIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, German-occupied POLAND, NORWAY, DENMARK, HOLLAND, BELGIUM, German-occupied FRANCE, the CHANNEL ISLANDS and ITALY, can be despatched through the Red Cross Postal Message Scheme, for which purpose the Trinidad and Tobago Central Council Branch of the British Red Cross has now been approved as an authorised agency for the transmission of messages originating in this Colony.

2. Persons desiring to send such messages, and prepay a reply, should carefully observe the following directions, bearing in mind that any deviation will entail delay and expense, and possibly the non-delivery of the message: -

Bring or send a copy of your message, clearly written in BLOCK CAPITALS, to the Red Cross Office, 20 St. Vincent Street, Port of Spain, where workers will transcribe it on to official forms and arrange for its despatch.

Do not write more than 20 words, excluding the name and address of the addressee.

Write in English, French, German, Norwegian, Dutch, Italian or Danish. If the message is in any of these languages other than English, an English translation must be written underneath.

Give the full name and address of the person to whom you are writing.

Give your own full name and address and state your relationship to the addressee (father, aunt, friend, etc.).

Enclose twenty-four cents (24c.) which will cover the cost of the message and reply.

Be sure that your message is of a purely personal or family nature. The inclusion of any information which might be of use to the enemy would result in your message being returned and your fee would be forfeited.

3. No undue anxiety should be felt if replies are not received for some time. Postal communications are very delayed and are liable to be suspended altogether from time to time. For this reason it is probable that a great many weeks may elapse before an answer is received to any message but every effort will be made to minimise this delay and it is hoped that the reply will eventually bring reassuring news.

4. The scheme does not apply to letters to Prisoners of war.

(Sgd.) A. EMLYN, Colony Director.

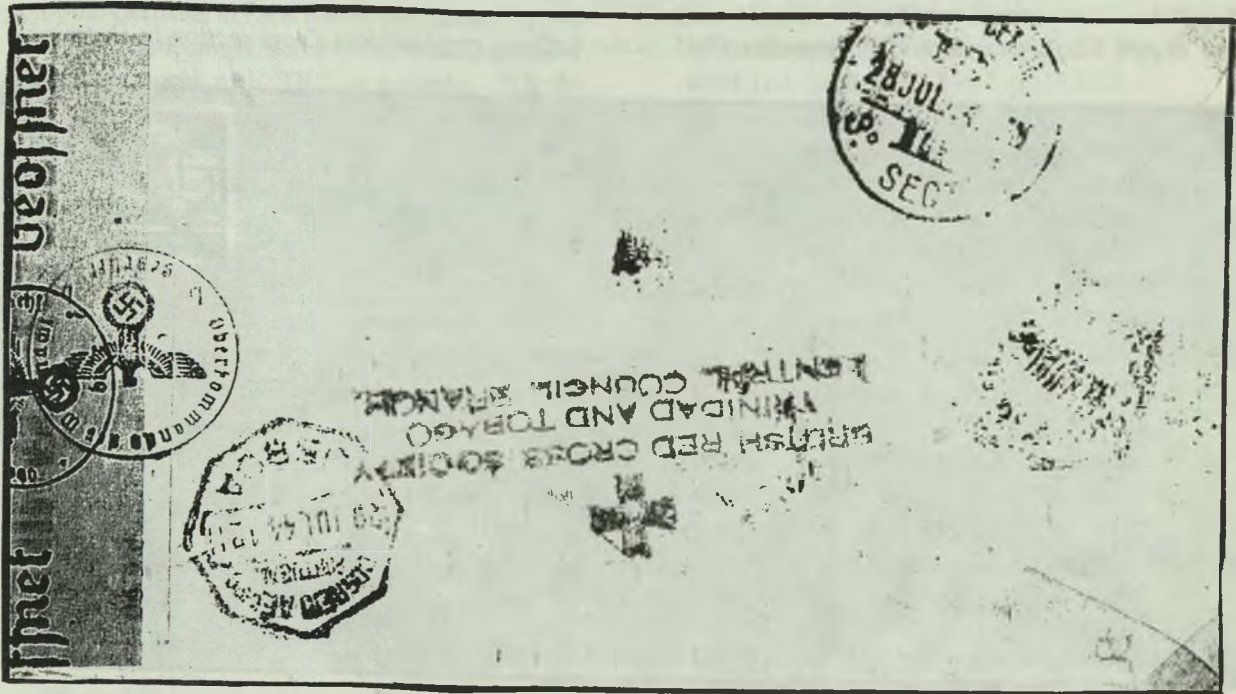
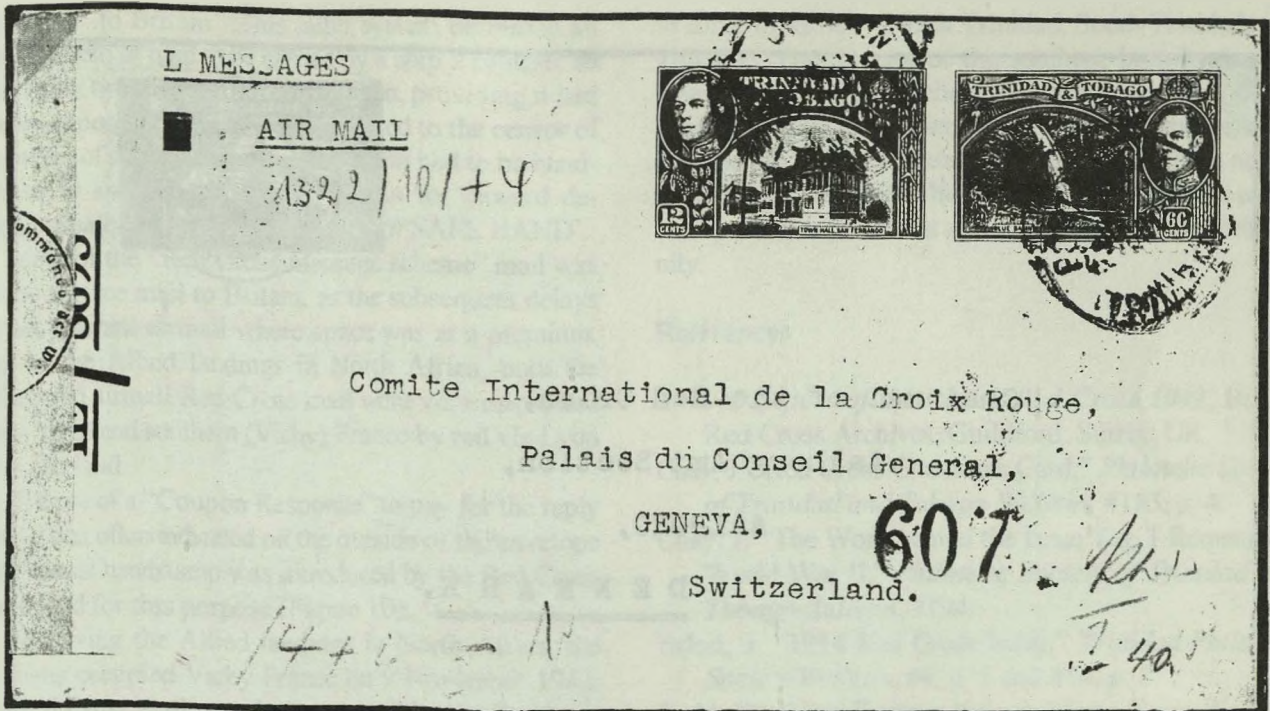


Figure 11. Front and reverse of cover to Geneva dated 28 June 1944, with Lisbon transit cancels of 28/29 July 1944. German Berlin censors label and handstamp over a Trinidad TR CL 5i censor label.

N.B. The Red Cross Postal Message Scheme is reciprocal in that a scheme which is very similar to the above operates from enemy or enemy-occupied countries.

To reply to messages originating in such countries, recipients may write on the back of the message form received, place it in an envelope addressed

“Comité International de la Croix Rouge, Palace du Conseil General, GENEVA, Switzerland.

Marking the envelope clearly “Red Cross Postal Message Scheme”, then close the envelope and, after affixing a 6c. postage stamp, post it in the usual way. Such replies should not be sent to the Port-of-Spain Office of the Red Cross.

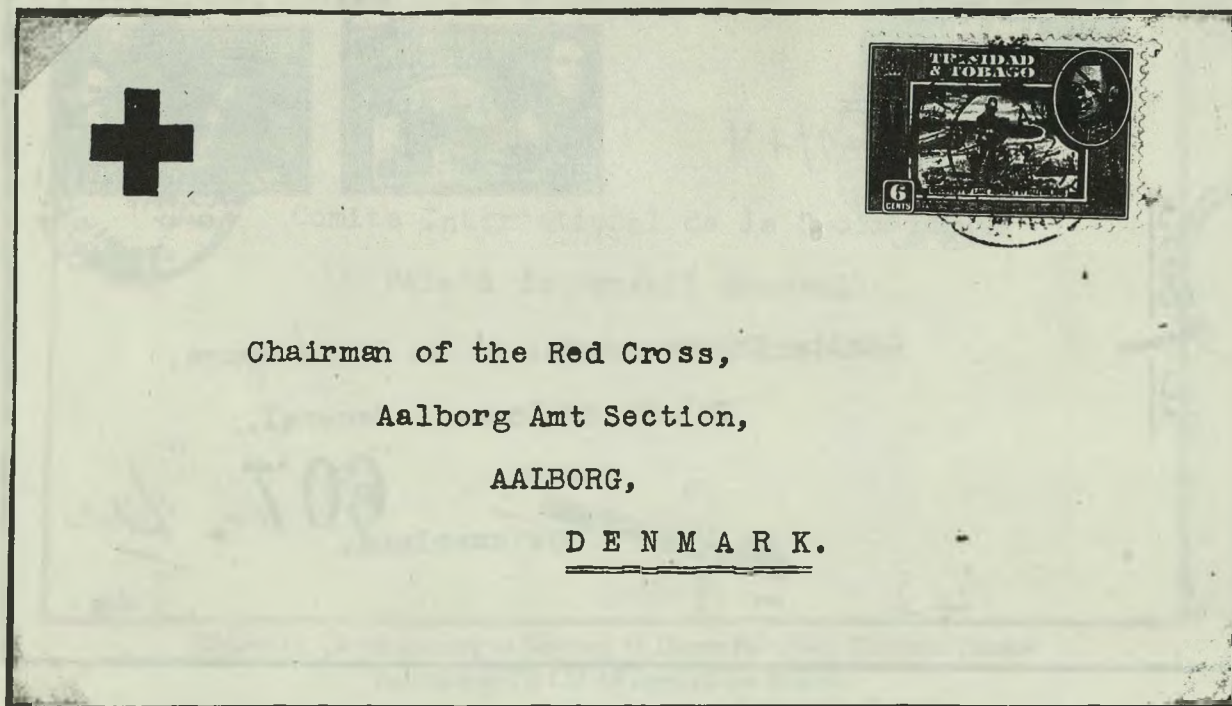


Figure 12. Letter, dated 22 September 1945, to the Aalborg regional Red Cross section in Denmark.

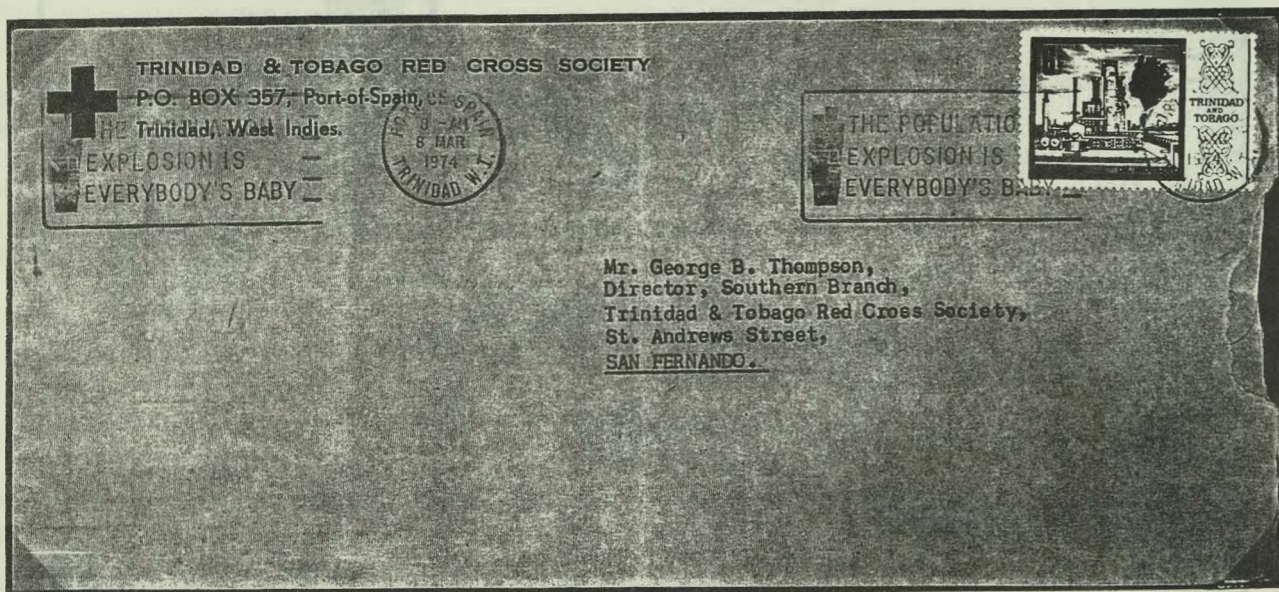


Figure 14. Local cover dated 8 March 1974, from the Central Council to George (Beebee) Thompson.

If, however, the recipient of a message wishes to keep the form bearing the message and originate a new message or enquiry, he or she should proceed as outlined in paragraph 2 above, sending in their own message, accompanied by a fee of 24 cents to cover postage and to prepay a reply, to the Red Cross Office, 20 St. Vincent Street, Port-of-Spain, for attention as a new message originating in this Colony.

The Central Council of the Trinidad and Tobago branch handled the message scheme, the early mail being sent via the United Kingdom (Figure 9). According to their report for 1941 in the Annual Report of the British Red Cross, "these facilities have been offered to neighbouring British Colonies where they do not exist." The earliest mail was sent either under separate cover or by

“safe hand” to Britain. This latter system permitted an important item of mail to be carried by a ship’s captain, an airline pilot or other responsible person, providing it had the correct postage rate and was declared to the censor of the country of origin. On arrival, the item had to be handed over to another responsible person for onward despatch; usually such covers are marked ‘SAFE HAND’.

Most of the “Red Cross message scheme” mail was sent by surface mail to Britain, as the subsequent delays did not warrant airmail where space was at a premium. Prior to the Allied landings in North Africa, both the surface and airmail Red Cross mail went via Lisbon, and across Spain and southern (Vichy) France by rail via Lyon to Switzerland.

The use of a “Coupon Response” to pay for the reply postage was often indicated on the outside of the envelope and a special handstamp was introduced by the Red Cross in Trinidad for this purpose (Figure 10).

Following the Allied landings in North Africa, the Germans occupied Vichy France on 9 November 1942. The Red Cross mail was then re-routed by the Germans, via Paris, where they had a censorship operation. Mail censored by the Germans in Paris can be recognised by the code ‘X’ in the handstamps; some of the mail also had a “flag” machine cancel with ‘DD’ in a circle. Shortly before the Allied landings in June 1944, the ‘DD’ was omitted from the circle.

After the Allied landings, airmail was sent by Luftansa from Lisbon via Stuttgart and Berlin for censorship before returning to Switzerland as the land frontiers were blocked by the front line (Figure 11).

The work of the Red Cross did not end with the war. There were still large numbers of displaced and missing persons, but with the cessation of hostilities there was direct communication with Red Cross organisations in other countries (Figure 12). A total of 834 pieces of Red Cross mail was despatched from Trinidad between 3 September 1941 and 30 June 1947.

The Red Cross in Trinidad and continues to assist the sick and needy, both at home and abroad. It is divided in-

to three branches – North Trinidad, South Trinidad, and Tobago. The director of the southern branch was, for many years, George (Beebee) Thompson, secretary of the Trinidad Philatelic Society (as it was then known). He gave his life trying to save a drowning friend off the northern coast of Trinidad. This brief article is a tribute to his work both as a philatelist and as a servant of the community.

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- Trinidad Royal Gazette*, 15 March 1941, file CO299/126, Public Record Office, Kew, London, U.K.
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- Walton, E. “The Paris Censor in 1944,” *CCSG Bulletin* W/N 100, October 1993, pp. 2-5.

Classified Ad

For Sale. 1) A complete run of the *BCPJ* since 1970, \$10 per year; 2) *Sanders' Philatelic Journal* (interesting articles), a range of issues from 1958 to 1962, \$1.50 each; 3) *Crown Agents Stamp Bulletin*, a range of issues from 1961 to 1969, including complete runs (12 issues per year) for 1962-64, 1966-69, \$1 each. Orville Cooper, P.O. Box 180081, Casselberry, FL 32718, USA.

Obituaries

The BCPSG and the Bermuda collecting community were hit hard in the late summer with the loss of two of their more prominent members within barely one month. Both were also personal friends. — *M.F.*

Reid L. Shaw (1930-1997)

Reid's career was mainly in the broadcasting industry, but he was well known in the philatelic community, both as a writer and editor, and as a business executive. From 1980 to 1991, he wrote a monthly column on British Commonwealth stamps for *Linn's Stamp News*, and he also wrote a few articles for other periodicals (including *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*) from time to time. Reid was a founding member of the Bermuda Collectors Society in 1986-87 and edited its quarterly journal, *Bermuda Post*, from its inception until 1993. He also served as president of the world-renowned stamp company, H.E. Harris & Co., from 1987 to 1990 and again in 1993. Reid, who over the past few years had been living in Alabama, died on August 16, 1997, after a year-long battle with cancer.



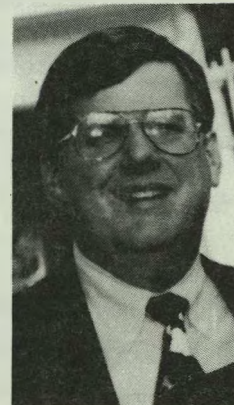
While he had formed substantial collections of Falkland Islands and Leeward Islands, Reid's main collecting interest was Bermuda. And while he had reason to be proud of many aspects of his extensive Bermuda collection, he was always particularly happy to show one major modern rarity that had come to him by chance: an example of the 15¢ value of the 1973 Tree Planting Year issue, with brown omitted (thus both the value and the Queen's head are missing), on a letter addressed to Reid himself by the Reefs hotel in Bermuda, confirming his reservation there!

Reid was an incomparable story teller with a great repertoire of funny tales and all the requisite accents. But his many friends will especially remember him as a warm human being, always ready to give counsel and advice. Our condolences go to Marilyn and to their four children.

Robert W. Dickgiesser (1947-1997)

Bob Dickgiesser, also a founding member of the Bermuda Collectors Society, died suddenly on September 19, 1997, just a few weeks after having celebrated his 50th birthday. This news stunned all of those who knew him, for Bob was a very active man who was involved in many community groups and events in his area (Woodbridge, Connecticut), in addition to his many philatelic endeavors.

Bob was well known as a philatelic author, having written two books on the King George VI high-value stamps of Bermuda (one of them, with Eric Yendall as co-author, also covered the keyplates of Leeward Islands and Nyasaland). In 1982, shortly after the publication of his first book, he launched *Bermuda High*, an informal and often irreverent newsletter devoted to the KGVI keyplates. Bob edited a total of 64 issues, with the last one being released in December 1992. He also wrote a number of articles for *Bermuda Post* and steered the Bermuda specialized catalogue for several years. His exhibit of Bermuda's 12/6 keyplates was awarded a vermeil medal at Stamp World Exhibition 1990 in London.



A keen student of stamps, Bob's interest in Bermuda philately went well beyond the KGVI keyplates. He had formed specialized collections of several earlier and later issues. In the late 1980s, he also began a major collection of pre-adhesive covers and had exhibited a number of them a few years ago.

Bob's spontaneous wit and cheerfulness, his readiness to help, his infectious enthusiasm will be missed by his friends. To Nancy and their three children, we extend our sympathies.

Robson Lowe, whose name has been synonym with philately during much of the 20th century, died on August 19, 1997, at the age of 92. I don't know whether he was ever a member of the BCPSG, but he was familiar with its work and knew personally several of our past and present members. A comprehensive list of his numerous achievements would take too many pages, but it is worth recalling briefly his vital contribution to the philately of the British West Indies.

Among the private treaty brochures published by Mr. Lowe between the late 1930s and the early 1950s are several that include major collections of Barbados, British Guiana, St. Lucia, Trinidad, etc. His public auctions from the 1940s to the 1980s included much BWI material: in my own, very incomplete library, I count well over 100 catalogues with exclusive or significant BWI contents. Many of these have become classic references – Watkin's Cayman Islands, Snowden's St. Vincent and Turks Islands, Urwick's Jamaica and other BWI areas, the various Burrus sales, Glassco's British used abroad, etc. The quantity, range, and quality of the material that Robson Lowe was able to attract bespeaks his vast network of friends and acquaintances as well as his encyclopaedic interest and knowledge.

Equally essential to any BWI philatelic library is

The Codrington Correspondence, published in 1951, in which Mr. Lowe analyzed the postal information from a find of more than 500 letters written in the 18th and early 19th centuries by members of the Codrington family, who owned plantations and estates in Antigua and Barbuda. This book (reprinted in 1968) was a major contribution to the postal history of the Leeward Islands.

Volume 5 of his *magnum opus*, the *Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps*, published in 1973, includes significant sections on the philately of Bermuda and British Honduras, while volume 6, released in 1991, is devoted entirely to the Leeward Islands. Robson Lowe announced a few years ago that the three remaining books in the series, all devoted to the British West Indies, were in preparation.

Robson Lowe also published several major books written by others, including Morris Ludington's *Bermuda* (1962), Tom Foster's *Jamaica* (1968), and the *St. Vincent* book he co-wrote with Arthur Pierce and J.L. Messenger (1971).

Robson Lowe has left an indelible mark on the philately of the British Caribbean, and on philately in general. We are all indebted to him for making the collecting of stamps, postmarks, and postal history a more exciting and more informative hobby. – *M.F.*

Secretary's Report

by Peter KAULBACK

Election of Officers

Responses have been received from the current board of trustees regarding the proposed slate of officers, as presented by the Nominating Committee, for the period 1998 and 1999. The following members have been elected to the positions identified (* = incumbent):

President	Robert J. Wynstra
Vice-president	Dr. Russell V. Skavaril*
Secretary	Peter Kaulback*
Treasurer	Barry Friedman*
International Director	David Druett*
Journal Editor	Michel Forand*

Election of Trustees

The six-year term of Charles Freeland, Michael Rego, and Robert Swarbrick as members of the Board of Trustees will expire at the end of December, and it is necessary to fill these

vacancies through election by the membership.

Mary Green, James Stern, and Ed Waterous have accepted the officers' request to stand to fill these vacancies. Members may vote for any or all of these nominees, or they may vote for any other member(s) in good standing. The ballot is included with this copy of the journal. Ballots should be returned to the secretary, Peter Kaulback, by December 15th.

A vote of thanks is due to the three retiring trustees for their contributions in this role.

Membership

The 10 applicants listed in the June 1997 issue have been admitted into membership of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Welcome to all!

New Applicants

Bob AUTREY, 331 Washington Avenue, Marietta, GA 30060. Collects Cayman Islands, Seychelles, classic USA. Sponsored by P. McCann.

Alan BECKER, 4 Reynolds Court, Eaton Socon, St. Neots, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE19 3RW, U.K. Collects St. Vincent, Dominica, Italy. Sponsored by P. Kaulback.

Gerald BROBST, 1024 Ridge Road, Hinckley, OH 44233. Collects Br. Virgin Islands. Sponsored by R. Wynstra.

Patricia E. CAPILL, Watershed Road, R.D. 11, Palmerston North, New Zealand. Collects Barbados recess "Badges," 1916-1947. Sponsored by P. Kaulback.

Paul D. CARMICHAEL, 11525 Upland Way, Cupertino, CA 95014. Collects Anguilla, Leeward Islands, St. Kitts-Nevis. Sponsored by P. Kaulback.

Bill DUNCAN, RR # 5, Box 8, 1 Cross Creek Blvd., Guelph, Ont. N1H 6J2, Canada. Collects British Commonwealth. Sponsored by P. Kaulback.

Herbert L. HAMERSLOUGH, 650 Lemon Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Collects British West Indies, Japan, France, Canal Zone. Sponsored by R. Wynstra.

Jerone R. HART, P.O.Box 611, New Haven, CT 06503. Collects G.B., British Commonwealth, Confederate States of America, postal history and maritime postal history. Sponsored by P. McCann.

Beverley HENDERSON, 767 Lockhaven Drive, Pacifica, CA 94044. Collects British Commonwealth, especially Caribbean. Sponsored by M. Forand.

David L. HERENDEEN, 3625 Del Amo Blvd., Suite 370, Torrance, CA 90503. Collects postage due stamps of the world. Sponsored by M. Forand.

John M. HOTCHNER, P.O.Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041-0125. Collects number and letter cancels of the world. Sponsored by P. McCann.

Jerome V.V. KASPER, 2019 Malcolm Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025-6303. Collects aerogrammes of the world, *all* aspects. Sponsored by M. Forand.

Roger KIRBY, P.O. Box 67, Eno Park, Queensland 4702, Australia. Collects BWI. Sponsored by D. Druett.

Michael K. KLUHERZ, 24 South Flora Way, Golden, CO 80401-5330. Collects European colonies. Sponsored by G. Raymond.

Robert LEBOW, 1322 East Brooklake, Houston, TX 77077-3204. Collects Barbados, St. Vincent, Chile. Sponsored by G. Raymond.

Christopher P.B. MILLER, 161 Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire, RG4 7JR, U.K. Collects the reign of George VI, especially what appears on the envelope other than the postage stamp. Sponsored by R. Wike.

J. Wilson PALMER, 3509 East Glass, Spokane, WA 99207. Collects British Guiana. Sponsored by M. Forand.

Levern F. POTCHIE, 2850 North Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. Sponsored by P. Kaulback.

Paul SOLOWAY, 14429 Cottonwood Drive, Mill Creek, WA 98012. Collects Barbados. Sponsored by P. Kaulback.

Eugene F. STYER, 4945 116 Place S.E., Bellevue, WA 98006-2728. Collects used British Commonwealth. Sponsored by P. Kaulback.

Frederick WOXEN, Bygdoy Alle 37, N-0265, Oslo, Norway. Collects Br. Guiana, Ceylon, Australian Commonwealth, Newfoundland, Switzerland. Sponsored by M. Forand.

Address Changes

Barbara Armstrong, Route 2 Box 51a, Satsuma FL 32189

Bill Ashley, P.O. Box 416, Hadley, MA 01035

Duane Larson, Rosemoor Stamp & Coin, 208 Centre St, Park Forest, IL 60466-2063

Thomas J. McMahon, P.O. Box 1949, Stuart, FL 34995

Michael Medicott, The Old Vicarage, Ecchinswell, Newbury, Berks., RG20 4UH

Dempsey Prappas, Texas Olefins Co., 3 Riverway, Suite 1500, Houston TX 77024-1704

Reinstated

National Archives of Canada

Resignation

Robert Craig

Deceased

Robert W. Dickgiesser
Lorrence Resnick
Reid L. Shaw

Exhibits and Awards

by Paul A. LARSEN

NORWEX 97, April 16-21, Oslo, Norway

R.A. Ramkissoon: "U.S. Lunar Exploration Pre-Mercury, Mercury, Gemini & Apollo," Vermeil
R. Schnell: "Danish West Indies Post Office, 1865-1917," Prix d'Honneur Nordique, Large Gold

PACIFIC 97, May 28-June 9, San Francisco, California

H. Arnould: "Danish West Indies Postal History: Foreign Mails Before 1880" (Postal History), Large Gold
E. Cameron et al.: *The Jamaica Philatelic Society, 86th Anniversary Issue* (Literature), Bronze

- M. Forand: *The Congress Book 1995* (Literature), Large Vermeil
- M. Forand and C.A. Freeland: *Bermuda Mails to 1865* (Literature), Large Silver
- S.D. Gallagher, "Postal History of Puerto Rico, 1802-1909" (Postal History), Large Vermeil
- S. Greenwood: "British Guiana, 1850-1900" (Traditional Philately), Large Gold, Special Prize, and BCPSG Cameron Award
- J. Griffiths: "European Settlement of North America: Aided by the Horse" (Thematic Philately), Large Vermeil
- D. Herendeen: "Postage Dues of the British Empire and Commonwealth" (Traditional Philately), Large Vermeil
- P.A. Larsen: "German Togo, 1885-1914" (Traditional Philately), Gold
- M.H. Ludington: *The Postal History of Blockade Running Through Bermuda, 1861-1865* (Literature), Silver
- I. Matheson: "British Honduras Postal History and Stamps, 1767 to 1901" (Traditional Philately), Large Vermeil
- E.L. Parker: *Pitcairn Log* (Literature), Bronze; *South Atlantic Chronicle* (Literature), Bronze
- E.B. Proud: *The Postal History of British West Africa* (Literature), Large Vermeil
- R.A. Ramkissoon: "Postal Stationery of Trinidad & Tobago" (Postal Stationery), Gold
- D. Welsh: "Fiji: King Cāboçau and Queen Victoria Issues, 1871-1902" (Traditional Philately), Vermeil
- R.J. Wynstra: "Leeward Islands Village Mail, 1734-1932" (Postal History), Large Vermeil

Minnesota Stamp Expo 97, July 18-20, Minneapolis, Minnesota

- P.A. Larsen: "Ubangi-Shari-Chad, 1900-1939," Grand Award, Gold, APS 1900-40 Medal

STAMPSHOW 97, August 21-24, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

- S.D. Gallagher: "Kentucky in the Civil War," Prix d'Honneur
- P.A. Larsen: "German Caroline Islands, 1899-1914," Gold
- P.P. McCann: "British Virgin Islands Postal History," Honorary Gold
- S. Schumann: "North Borneo Postal Cards," Gold

INDYPEX 97, September 5-7, Indianapolis, Indiana

- G. Fabian: "Classic Lundy," Silver; and "Ireland, 1922-1937," Silver
- P.A. Larsen: "Ubangi-Shari-Chad, 1900-1939," Gold, APS 1900-40 Medal, Indiana Stamp Club 20th Century Award
- D. Larson: "Pre-Elizabethan Lundy," Vermeil; "Ireland: Postal Markings, 1660 to 1840," Gold, AAPE Award
- A. Triggler: "Wales (Cymru): A Postal History," Reserve Grand Award, Gold

Oyez, Oyez!

Exhibitors will be needed to "show the colors" at the next AGM, to be held during Philatelic Show 98, in Boxborough, Massachusetts, on May 1-3. Those who attend will be counting on seeing a lot of BeeWee material. Quite a number of members' previously active exhibits have matured and faded away or have been disposed of. Replacements are needed; any British Caribbean subject will do. Don't wait for "completion": start now, overcome inertia, try three or four frames instead of waiting to complete eight or ten, and get a wealth of feedback at the show from jury members and other members. Plan now to help make it happen! We have the Cameron Award and lots of classy BCPSG medals for presentation to our exhibitors.

Future AGMs

1998 Saturday, May 2 (1-4 p.m.), Holiday Inn, Boxborough, Massachusetts (near the junction of I-495 and Route 111), in conjunction with Philatelic Show 98, an APS World Series of Philately exhibition organized by the Northeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs. Reservations can be made by phoning the hotel at 508-263-8701; mention the Northeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs to obtain the special show rate of \$78/night (single or double). The Group dinner will be on Friday, May 1st, to avoid

a conflict with the awards banquet the next evening.

For information about the show, contact Jim Warner, 25 Riverside Rd., Wellesley, MA 02181; for details about exhibiting, contact Guy Dillaway, P.O. Box 181, Weston, MA 02193. The general coordinator for the BCPSG is Rob Wynstra (tel.: 217-367-9802; e-mail: wynstra@uiuc.edu), and our local coordinator is John Puzine (tel.: 781-944-6526). Those who plan to fly to Boston should note that Boxborough is situated about 30 miles

from Logan Airport. We will find out if there are special arrangements for ground transportation between the two.

- 1999 February (?), Sarasota, Florida, in conjunction with the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, exact date to be determined (usually in early February). Details about the exhibition from Jack Harwood, Box 32015, Midtown Station, Sarasota, FL 34239.
- 1999 A few members have already indicated that they are planning to attend *Australia 99*, an FIP-sponsored international exhibition that will be take place in Melbourne on March 19-24, 1999. An **informal get-together of BCPSG members** is being considered during the exhibition. This could provide a rare opportunity to meet our Australian members and others from the Far East or New Zealand who

may attend.

For information about the exhibition itself, contact Australia 99, GPO Box 1999, Melbourne, Vic. 3001, Australia; tel.: +61-3-9204-7707; fax: +61-3-9204-7743. The U.S. Commissioner is Stephen Schumann, 2417 Cabrillo Drive, Hayward, CA 94545.

If you are planning to attend Australia 99 and think an informal gathering of BCPSG members is a good idea, please contact Darryl Fuller at 10 Arabana Street, Aranda, ACT 2614, Australia (e-mail: djfuller@dist.gov.au).

- 2000 London, in conjunction with London Stamp Expo 2000 (Earl's Court, May 22-28); the date of the meeting remains to be determined.

1997 Annual Auction Report

by Bill Charles GOMPEL

The Group's 1997 annual auction took place in conjunction with its Annual General Meeting, on June 3, in San Francisco, and the results are being distributed as an insert with this issue of the journal.

The scope and abundance of material, catering to all levels of collectors within the BCPSG, caused several records to be broken and set new standards to follow. The auction statistics speak for themselves:

- We had 32 floor bidders and 74 book bidders, for a total of 106 (about 25% of the membership).
- We sold 425 of the 505 lots offered, which means that 84% of all lots were sold, whereas the usual proportion in the recent past has been around 65%.
- The sale totalled \$26,714 (average: \$62.85 per lot).

All sections did very well, with most lots selling above estimate; there was an average of four bids per lot. The St. Lucia postage due lots unquestionably caused the most active bidding, the total realization in their case being \$6,560 - exactly twice the estimate. Caymans also saw spirited bidding: lot 403 sold for \$250 against an \$80 estimate, and several bidders had obviously recognized the

rare village cancel in lot 488, which was knowcked down for \$230 against an estimate of \$30!

A lot of hard work goes into your Group auction, especially a "live" sale, and I would like to thank David Druett, our international director, as well as Chandi, his charming companion, and Barry Friedman, BCPSG treasurer, for their assistance with all floor sales paper work and lot distribution.

The following members generously contributed donation lots/revenue to the BCPSG: Mr. D'Anneo, Charles Freeland, Gale Raymond, and Fitz Roett.

I have been the Group's auction manager for six years now, and while I have enjoyed meeting many members and developed new friendships, the time has come to move on to other activities. I hope I have been successful in my efforts to raise the quality level of the auction and to provide an auction that appeals to all members of the BCPSG. I thank all of those who gave me their support and suggestions. Only an active membership can make the auction - and the Group - a continual success.

A membership renewal form is enclosed with this issue of the journal.

PLEASE FILL IT OUT AND RENEW NOW!

Antigua "Stamp Duty" Perforations

by John TYACKE

I noticed some time ago that some of the Crown CC water-marked Stamp Duty stamps were narrower than others. The acquisition of some blocks has suggested a possible explanation for this.

I believe that De La Rue, or whoever perforated these stamps for them, had trouble with the comb perforating machine and, in fact, perforated the sheets in such a way that the right-hand vertical strip of stamps (column 10) was left imperforate along the right side and also at top and bottom. To correct this, they appear to have manually set the machine, lining up the perforating pins on the last vertical line of perforation holes – that is, the perforations between the two right-hand columns of stamps (columns

9 and 10). This meant that even when they lined up perfectly, the right-hand column of stamps would be narrower by the width of one perforation gap. This is because the comb machine was designed not to overlap but to produce fresh perforation holes with every strike.

I cannot understand why the problem came about, as all they had to do was trim the left-hand vertical selvedge. As can be seen in the illustrated Plate 1 block of the Two Pence value, an unnecessary partial comb along the left edge could have been eliminated, which would have resulted in the correct 11 operations to perforate 10 columns of stamps.

I have numeral '38' upper-right blocks of the 2d, 4d,



6d, 2s, and 4s – all of which show a narrow column of stamps on the right, although some of them have had the perforating machine well lined up. The most out-of-true is the numeral '38' block of Six Pence illustrated here. In this case, the 10th column is almost one and a half perforations too narrow.

I have also noticed that the stamps were designed to be 60 mm in height, whilst the perforations are approximately 60.5 mm apart. This resulted in badly centred

stamps, particularly visible at the top of the first horizontal row and at the bottom of the fourth horizontal row.

I also have a Six Pence with inverted Crown CC watermark.

I have not seen blocks of the Crown CA Stamp Duty stamps, but the seven singles in my collection seem to be well centred. Can anyone with blocks confirm that De La Rue had solved the problem by the time the Crown CA stamps were produced in 1876?

Leeward Islands: The King George VI ½d Duty Plate Flaw

by Peter BROOKS

In reply to Dickon Pollard's article in issue 174 (March 1985), I offer an explanation which I think is more than a theory.

The original duty plate had this flaw (damaged final 'S' with sliver of displaced metal pointing upward – Halward #6) at Row 4/1, right pane. This duty plate, first used for King George V printings, continued in use throughout the King George VI period. However, at some point after plate the Plate 1 printing of 1938, the duty plate was altered and a section from the right pane was

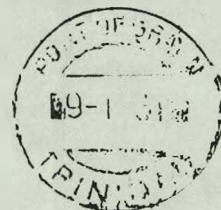
exchanged with a parallel section from the left pane. As a result, some flaws previously found on the right pane in the Plate 1 issue now appear on the left pane in the later Plate 2 and Plate 3 printings. The split upright on the right 'L' at R6/2 and the club foot of the first 'L' at R7/1 are on the right pane of the Plate 1 printing but on the left pane of later printings.

The question is, How large was the relevant section? My hypothesis would suggest at least a block of eight (R4/1-2 to R7/1-2).

Trinidad and Tobago: Unrecorded Type V Town Datestamp

by Ron WIKE

I have recently acquired three 1930-31 Trinidad and Tobago "Notification of Parcel" forms, the full details of which will be published in the *Bulletin of the Philatelic Society of Trinidad and Tobago*. On one of these forms is a previously unrecorded Addiss/Ramkissoon/Van Winkle type Va 'PORT OF SPAIN / TRINIDAD' datestamp, illustrated here, dated 9 January 1931.



Reference

E.F. Addiss, R.A. Ramkissoon, and W. Van Winkle, *The Town Cancels of Trinidad and Tobago*, BCPSG Monograph No. 6, 1985.

The Cayman Islands Farthing Stamp of 1908: The Eight Design Variations

by Richard MAISEL

The One Farthing ($\frac{1}{4}$ d) stamp issued by the Cayman Islands on June 30, 1908 is subject to variation in both shade and design. The philatelic literature lists eight design variations but only six of these can be identified from the descriptions given in the literature.¹ This article describes a procedure for identifying the two remaining design variations and estimates the number of each variety printed. The last section of the paper explains why four of the design varieties should be accorded catalogue status.

Four Die Types

The One Farthing stamp was made from a report block that contained four dies of the stamp. The four dies and the variations in the stamp produced by them have been designated Types 1, 2, 3, and 4. The four types were arranged, on the report block, in a 2-by-2 array:

Type 1	Type 2
Type 3	Type 4

Type 1 stamps can be identified from the string of small white dots, called pearls, located on a narrow brown ring near the inside of the oval frame. On Type 1, the pearls on the upper-right side of the oval (at about 2 o'clock) are abbreviated and may appear as indistinct points (Figure 1). On types 2, 3, and 4, almost all the pearls are complete and distinct.

Type 2 stamps are easily identified by a short space between the letters 'M' and 'A' in 'CAYMAN'. On Types 1, 3, and 4, the foot of the 'M' touches the foot of the 'A'.

I could not find in the philatelic literature a description that distinguishes Type 3 and Type 4, but I believe they can be identified in the following way.

Type 4 can be identified by a nick or slight thinning in the right leg of the second 'A' in 'CAYMAN'. The nick or thinning is located above the middle of the outside of the leg. This flaw is not found in the three other types.

Any One Farthing stamp that cannot be identified as a Type 1, 2, or 4 stamp as described above is a Type 3 variety.

Plating the Die Types

The One Farthing stamps were produced by lithography from a stone that created sheets of 120 stamps. The sheet was divided into a left and right pane of 60 stamps each (10 rows of six stamps in each pane).

The 120 images were produced by 30 transfers of the report block onto the stone. Each of the four types was implanted on the stone at each transfer, so that there were 30 stamps of each type on each sheet of stamps. The One Farthing stamp is therefore divided into four equal-sized varieties, based on the four types. A total of 311,400 One Farthing stamps were printed,² so that 77,850 stamps of each type were printed.

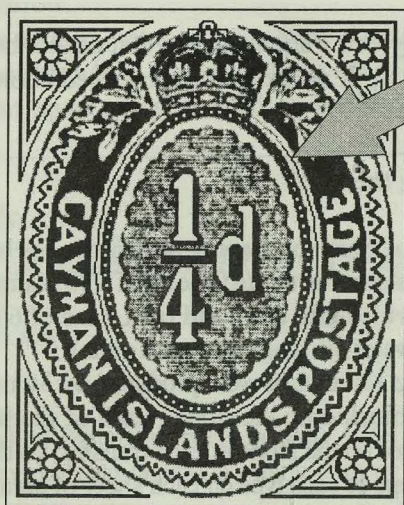
The successive application of the dies in the transfer process created a pattern on each sheet of stamps whereby:

- Type 1 is on odd-numbered rows, odd-numbered columns (e.g., R1/1);
- Type 2 is on odd-numbered rows, even-numbered columns (e.g., R1/2);
- Type 3 is on even-numbered rows, odd-numbered columns (e.g., R2/1);
- Type 4 is on even-numbered rows, even-numbered columns (e.g., R2/2).

This pattern yields the following arrangements:

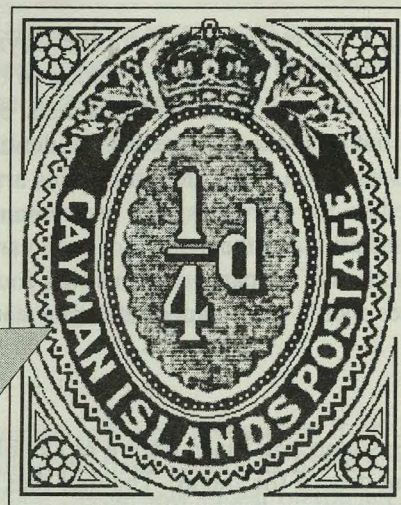
- horizontal strips with alternating Type 1 and 2 varieties (odd-numbered rows) or alternating Type 3 and 4 varieties (even-numbered rows);
- vertical strips with alternating Type 1 and 3 varieties (odd-numbered columns) or alternating Type 2 and 4 varieties (even-numbered columns);³
- blocks of four with each of the four types.

TYPE 1



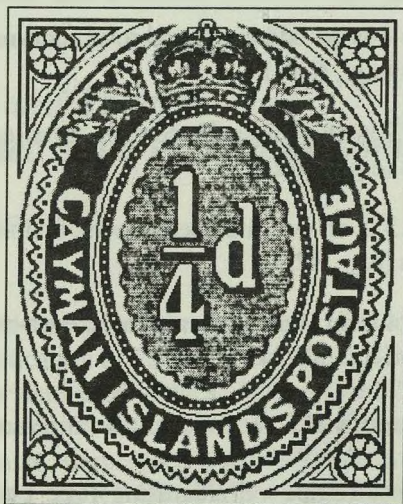
**SMALL PEARLS AROUND
2:00 O'CLOCK**

TYPE 2

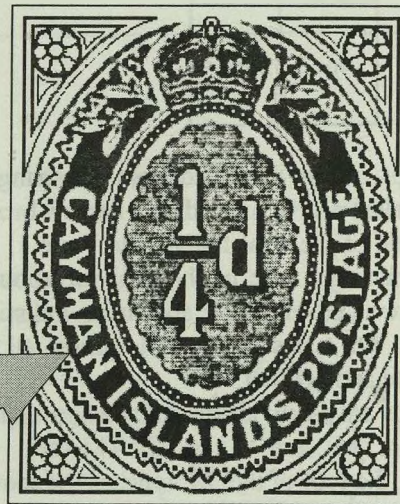


**SPACE BETWEEN "M" AND
"A" IN "CAYMAN"**

TYPE 3



TYPE 4



**NICK IN THE RIGHT LEG
2ND "A" IN "CAYMAN"**

Table 1. Transfer Varieties

		Pane	Row	Column
A	white flaw to the right of the crown	left	4	1
B	white dot under 'N' of 'CAYMAN'	left	10	3
C	thin line through 'A' of 'POSTAGE'	right	3	4
D	white dot under 'S' of 'POSTAGE'	right	8	6

Table 2. Die and Transfer Varieties

Die type	Transfer variety	Quantity printed	Number of specimens
1*		77,850	113
2	without C	75,255	109 or 110
2	with C	2,595	3 or 4
3**	without A or B	74,262	105 or 107
3**	with A	593	3 or 4
3	with B	2,595	3 or 4
4	without D	75,255	109 or 110
4	with D	2,595	3 or 4

* The One Farthing specimens were overprinted with the Marcus Type D12 forme, which was frequently used on the stamps of British colonies during this period. The broken 'M' variety of this overprint occurs at R7/5 on both panes of the 120-stamp sheet. Therefore, it would be found on Type 1 specimens, and seven or eight of them were printed.

** The quantities of Type 3 with A and without A or B are based on a note in Aguilar and Saunders, who report that transfer variety A was corrected after the second printing and so is not found on the third and fourth printings of the One Farthing stamp.

Four Transfer Varieties

The four remaining sources of design variation in the One Farthing stamp occurred at the stage when the dies were transferred to the stone. Each of these transfer varieties was produced by a flaw in a specific transfer of a single die to the stone. Therefore, each of the four transfer-based varieties occurs at a single location on the stone and only one of each transfer variety was printed in every complete sheet of 120 stamps.

The four transfer varieties will be referred to as A, B, C, and D. Armstrong's description of the four transfer varieties and their location is given in Table 1.

Eight Design Varieties

The die and transfer varieties together produce the eight design varieties of the Farthing stamp listed in Table 2. The die type for each variety is determined by its row and column.

Catalogue Status

While all the major catalogues list the One Farthing stamp, none of them list its design variations. I would argue that the four die types merit catalogue status on the basis of a general principle – namely, that stamps derived from different dies are different stamps. Therefore, cata-

logues should give separate listings to stamps that are derived from different dies, no matter how slight the differences in the stamps they produce.

Many precedents exist for the application of this principle. For the Seychelles issue of 1890, for example, catalogue status has been accorded to the 2c through 16c stamps derived from Die I and Die II of the Victoria key plate. In the Leeward Islands, the seven Die I denominations printed in 1931-32 are listed separately from the corresponding values printed with Die II in 1922-29. Other examples include separate listings of different dies in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue for the Australian series of 1926-30, the British series of 1881, the Cyprus series of 1882 and 1892-94, and the New Zealand series of 1882-1900.

I wish to thank John Byl for reviewing this article.

Notes

1. The eight design variations are mentioned – and six of them are described in detail – by Armstrong (p. 16) and by Melville (p. 13). Only four of the eight design varieties are listed in the standard work on Cayman Islands stamps, Aguilar and Saunders (p. 76).
2. The numbers of stamps and specimens printed in each of the four printings are provided by James Podger in his recent article.
3. One of the few rare varieties of the One Farthing stamp was caused by a flaw in which the right margin of the left pane was not perforated on one sheet of stamps. Since these 10 stamps are in a vertical strip from an even-numbered column, half of them are Type 2 (odd-numbered rows) and half are Type 4 (even-numbered rows).

References

- Aguilar, Everard F., and Philip T. Saunders, *The Cayman Islands: Their Postal History, Stamps and Postmarks* (Folkestone, U.K.: F.J. Parsons, 1962).
- Armstrong, Douglas B. *The Cayman Islands: Their Stamps and Post Office*, Stamp Lover Booklet no. 3 (London: H.F. Johnson, 1910).
- Melville, Frederick J. *The Postage Stamps of the Cayman Islands* (Beverly, Mass./Portland, Maine: Severn-Wylie-Jewett Co., 1920).
- Podger, James. "Cayman Islands: The De La Rue Records," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, vol. 37, no. 2 (June 1997).
- Samuel, Marcus. *Specimen Stamps of the Crown Colonies, 1857-1948* (London: Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1976).

Leeward Islands Postal Stationery: Help Needed

I am working on an article for which I need help. I am putting together a list of Leeward Islands postal stationery essays and proofs that would make a useful article with illustrations. I have extracted some data from auction catalogues, and I have a reasonable amount of material in my own collection. I have also contacted a number of other Leeward Islands collectors known to me, but there will undoubtedly be other material out there, and I hope

this appeal for help will elicit responses from other collectors.

Ideally, I would like photocopies of the essays and proofs, and I will gladly pay the cost of the copies and postage.

Please contact me at 10 Arabana Street, Aranda, ACT 2614 Australia; e-mail: djfuller@dist.gov.au

Darryl Fuller

St. Lucia Revenue Stamps

A recent issue of *The American Revenuer* contains an article by Norman Seidelman on a set of 10 revenue stamps issued by St. Lucia in October 1992. According to information provided to Mr. Seidelman by the St. Lucia Post Office, these stamps are intended "for payment of stamp duties and to provide accurate data on stamp usage."

Mr. Seidelman points out that the stamps are not listed in the 1996 edition of the Barefoot catalogue of *British Commonwealth Revenues*. Manufactured by De La Rue, they are printed on a bluish paper with a security under-

print as well as a De La Rue exclusive watermark. The frame is printed in a variety of colors while the denomination and control number are in black:

10¢	dark red	\$1.00	dark yellow-green
15¢	black	\$1.50	dark turquoise
25¢	red	\$2.50	green
50¢	blue	\$25	red-orange
75¢	violet	\$50	orange

B. Friedman

Antigua Revenue Stamps

I was interested to read Mark Swetland's excellent article on the Antigua revenue stamps in the December 1996 journal. In it he mentions the numerals '38' in rectangles with the corners "bitten off" appearing on the sheets of the 1870 issues. This, of course, is an example of the De La Rue current numbers, which appear on many of the stamps printed by the firm at that time. These numbers were applied to the printing plate as they were completed without reference to the particular colony or the value of the stamp in question. Thus the Antigua revenue plate was the 38th plate to be completed in the series.

As Mark shows two examples of the die proofs for this 1870 issue, I am surprised that he did not realise that the number is engraved on the *head plate* and therefore that all the values printed from this plate must, inevitably, show the number.

These numbers appear on many of the West Indian plates in use at this time. I would refer anyone particularly interested in this subject to my article in *The London Philatelist* for November 1996, where I present a full list and explanation of these numbers.

S. Graham Hoey

Languishing in Anguilla

[Ed.: The following letter, dated 2 September 1997, was published in *The Light*, Anguilla's weekly newspaper. It is reprinted with the permission of George Hodge, editor and publisher.]

Dear Sir:

The newest innovation in our post office is some sort of popularity contest where we are asked for a "monetary vote" for the postal clerk we consider the most polite.

Mail from the US often takes two weeks or more to get here, and sometimes arrives wet. The Postmistress General sits in her little office and tells people why that is not her responsibility. And I am supposed to care which of her servants is the most polite.

If my package notice is put in your box by mistake (by one of these polite employees) and I never get the notice, that's it, folks; my package can sit on its shelf until the new airport finish and no one will give me another notice and the Postmistress General will sit in her little office and tell me how it's not their job to give me two notices. And

I am supposed to care which of her servants is the most polite.

Unsorted mail can sit all morning before it's distributed into the post office boxes by the polite but unsupervised employees while other employees have time to read magazines because it's not their job to put my mail in my box. And the Postmistress General sits in her little office and the polite employees read their magazines.

The Minister of Finance has gone off to a conference of postal ministers, to discuss innovations in service. Mr. Minister, the only innovation I want to see at the Anguilla post office is somebody who cares whether I get my mail.

I'm nobody, so I won't expect you to care about these problems on my account. But this offshore industry you're always talking about – do you really think outside professional people are going to come here and be subjected to an antiquated and uncaring postal service, and then be asked to contribute money because they're given politeness instead of decent service?

Name Withheld – Island Harbor, Anguilla

Guyana Update

by Paul RAYNOR

New Aerogrammes

Postage rates in Guyana were raised dramatically in 1994. The basic local rate increased from 80 cents to \$6 and the registration fee from \$5 to \$20. The basic 15 gram air-mail rate to North America rose from \$6.40 to \$30. Since

these increases, two "new" aerogrammes have been introduced. The internal air letter is an old "BWIA" air letter, now sold with a circular postage paid handstamp in red (Figure 1). The overseas version has an undenominated coat of arms with a similar handstamp in blue, but with 'OVER- / SEAS' rather than 'LOCAL' in the centre.

The internal air letter sells for \$10 and the overseas for \$26.

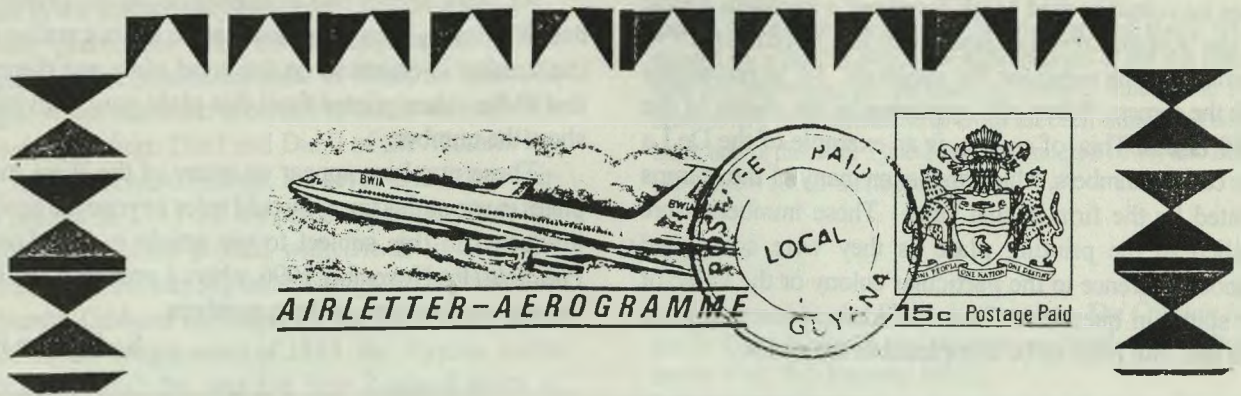


Figure 1

Mobile Post Office Unit Number 3

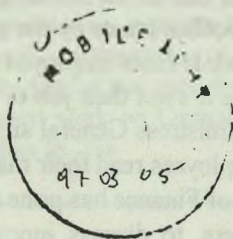


Figure 2

In a previous article, I had reported that this unit had closed sometime before mid-1987. The Guyana Post Office now reports that it is still in operation, once a fortnight, on the Soedyke to Linden (MacKenzie) highway. The postmark in use is a skeleton type that appears to read 'MOBILE THR' with an inverted 'T' preceding the 'T' of 'THR'. I have seen one copy with a '95' year plug but no day or month, and a March 1997 strike with the date in manuscript (Figure 2).

New Datestamps

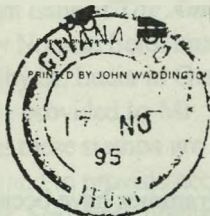


Figure 3



Figure 4

A new series of postmarks was introduced in 1995. The new type has 'GUYANA P.O.' at the top and the office or agency name at the base. I have seen two variations, the more common one having side bars (Figure 3 – Ituni) and one (Figure 4 – Mathews Ridge) without them

Papaya

In May 1975, a youth training centre opened at Papaya, a short distance from Mathews Ridge in the North West District. The Mathews Ridge postmaster reports that the centre was called Papaya National Service, and had 300 training officers and a capacity of 2,200 students. The centre offered training for students 18 years and over in trades such as carpentry, agriculture, and nursing, but closed in the mid or late 1980s.



Figure 4

A postal agency was opened to service the centre, with a skeleton postmark reading 'PA PAPAYA / GUYANA NS' Figure 4). The only examples I have are from 1976 and 1977. Although the agency probably closed with the training centre, it does not appear in a March 1982 GPO list of agencies, so its life may have been shorter. Does anyone else have any Papayas?

New Advertising Rates

Advertising rates for 1997 are as follows:

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			1	2	3	4
Full page	7"	9½"	\$80	\$160	\$240	\$300
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Barbados	1,173	1	391
Bermuda	651	1	366
British Honduras	412	1	267
British Guiana	440	19	377
Guyana	597	379	596
Cayman Islands	1,287	1	510
Grenada	519	1	329
Leeward Islands	521	1	140
Saint Christopher Nevis	39 34	1 5	28 34
St. Kitts & Nevis	330	1	194
St. Lucia	501	1	289
St. Lucis (stk bk)	247	51	289+
St. Vincent	647	2	491+
Tobago	39	1	33a
Trinidad & Tobago	925	2	450
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