

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

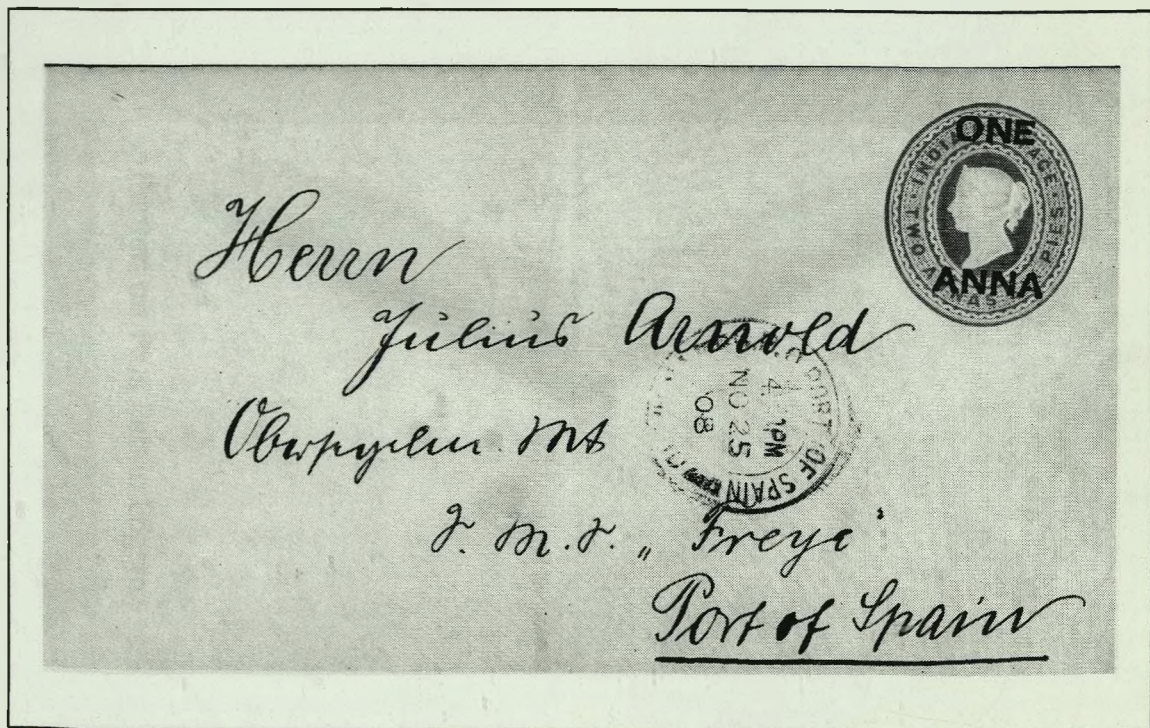
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*Indian Postal Stationery Used in Trinidad
(see the article by R. Wike on p. 162)*

Also featured:

*Jamaica Postal Markings Update
Population of the Leeward Islands
King George VI Registration Envelopes of Trinidad & Tobago*



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A Changing of the Guard

The end of 1997 marks a partial changing of the guard for the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Peter McCann, who has been our president for the past four years (thus reaching the limit of tenure set by the BCPSG Constitution), will now be succeeded by Robert Wynstra. Bill Gompel, our auction manager for the past five years, has resigned in order to devote more time to his studies and has been replaced by Edward Waterous, who will conduct the 1998 auction. The six-year terms of three of our nine trustees – Charles Freeland, Mike Rego, and Bob Swarbrick – have come to an end, and three new faces have come to the fore to replace them – Mary Green, Jim Stern, and Ed Waterous. And finally, after more than six and a half years I have resigned as editor of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, a position that will now be held by David Herendeen.

All of those who are relinquishing their posts at this time will agree, I am sure, that serving the Group has been both a privilege and a pleasure, despite the difficulties that may have occurred from time to time. For my part, acting as editor of the journal has been a very instructive and rewarding occupation, although there have been times

when I wished I had more time to devote to the task.

During the nearly seven years since I prepared my first issue as editor (June 1991), I have made contact with a large number of members, past and present. This has been an enriching experience, and I have made many new friends during those years. My philatelic and non-philatelic knowledge of the Caribbean area has been broadened considerably thanks to these people, and I hope this has been reflected to some extent in the journal.

Before I became the editor of the *BCPJ*, I had been much impressed by the high quality and diversity of its contents, and by the high standards adopted by its editors – successively, Al Johnson, Fred Seifert, Jack Arnell, Elaine Durnin, Dan Warren, George Bowman, and Mark Swetland. When I was approached (and agreed) to succeed Mark, I dearly hoped that this happy state of affairs would endure and that the information provided in the journal would continue to be of the highest level. For the most part I think this has been achieved, thanks to the enthusiasm and remarkable scope of knowledge of those who wrote articles for the journal. Following in a tradition of excellence, the *BCPJ* received Large Vermeil awards at

two international exhibitions (Philitex 92 and Hafnia 94) and at several national-level exhibitions in the United States in Canada over the period 1991-96. There is no question in my mind that this was due to the range and quality of its contents – a testimony to the dedication and philatelic scholarship of the Group's members.

It would take too long to thank all of those who helped me in my task. I am extremely grateful to those who sent in articles, often unsolicited but always interesting and informative. It is a mark of the Group's diversity and broad appeal that the authors resided in such far-flung areas of the globe as Japan, South Africa, Switzerland, Australia, France, and the Caribbean itself, as well as many parts of the United States, Great Britain, and Canada. The BCPSG officers have always been very supportive, and I wish to thank in particular Jay Fredrick and Peter McCann, the two presidents with whom I have worked. Our treasurer, Barry Friedman, went above and beyond the call of duty in providing advice and logistical assistance. Although we were more than a thousand miles apart, we worked hand in hand on an almost daily basis in many undertakings. Every editor should so fortunate as to have a colleague as selflessly dedicated as Barry.

Although he is new to the Group, the new editor, Dave Herendeen, comes to the job with impressive credentials. He has a vast experience in the editing and publishing field, and I know that he is an excellent writer who has authored several articles on his main area of interest, postage dues of the world (see his article on postage dues of the Caribbean in the June 1997 journal). In addition, he has state-of-the-art computer equipment and is far more familiar than I am (and will ever be) with the technology and software that can help to produce a better-looking journal. Thus members can expect to see changes in the appearance of future issues of the *BCPJ*. Each successive editor has brought his or her own "touch" to the journal, and this will continue, as it should. Dave will need the cooperation of all members to achieve his goals – and those of the Group – as editor. I wish him every success. His new mailing address is: David L. Herendeen, P.O. Box 2806984, Torrance, CA 90509-2806, USA
— *Michel Forand*

Introducing the Two New Officers...

Robert J. Wynstra, President

Rob holds bachelor's and master's degrees in history, and a master's degree in journalism – all from the University of Illinois. He is currently a senior writer for the News

and Public Affairs section in the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences at that university. Rib is a member of the American Philatelic Society and the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, and currently serves as a Trustee of the BCPSG. His major philatelic interest is the village postal markings of the Leeward Islands. He has contributed numerous articles on that topic to the *BCPJ* and to *Linn's Stamp News*, *Stamp Collector*, and *Scott's Stamp Monthly*. His exhibit, "Leeward Island Village Mail, 1734-1932," has been shown both nationally and internationally, and recently received a Large Vermeil at Pacific 97.

David L. Herendeen, Editor

Dave is a principal and executive for a computer software company. Among his many responsibilities is the editorship of more than 3,000 pages of technical manuals. He has been heavily involved in electronic publishing since the early 1980s and will bring all of this technology to bear as the new journal editor. Dave has been a stamp collector since childhood, taking the usual post-pubescent hiatus like most of us do. He was a general and U.S. collector until about 1976, when he decided to specialize in the postage due stamps of the world – a seemingly innocuous choice. This trivial pursuit has resulted in a collection of more than 20,000 items that still continues to grow. Dave has exhibited his postage dues of the British Commonwealth and French Community nationally, garnering many awards, and the British exhibit has been shown internationally, winning a Gold medal at Singapore 95. As a writer, Dave has contributed more than a dozen articles to a number of journals in addition to the *BCPJ*. These include *The Collectors Club Philatelist*, *The France and Colonies Philatelist*, and *The Philatelic Exhibitor*. His newest work, on the "Foundations of Colonial Postage Dues," will appear in the 1998 *Congress Book*. Dave is active in organized philately as well. He is a nationally accredited judge and is happy to travel to interesting locales. He is a member of major philatelic organizations including the Royal Philatelic Society, London, the Collectors Club (New York), the APS, and many more. He is also a member of the Council of the American Philatelic Congress.

...and the Three New Trustees

Mary Green

Mary was born in Vancouver and graduated in Russian from the University of British Columbia. She worked as a cataloguer much of her working life, with brief spells as

a teacher and as a secretary of a Yugoslav consulate-general. A lifelong interest in stamps began at the age of 5 when her father thought she should have "something to do" during seven months of winter in the north of British Columbia. She also learned every card game known to man and read extensively.

Postcard collecting (old Barbados) began 15 years ago: postcards were much cheaper than the stamps Mary needed to complete her collection. She moved to Barbados 15 years ago, and still collects stamps and postcards, and reads. Her BCPSG membership dates from the mid-1980s.

James F. Stern

Jim was born in Milwaukee, where he still lives. After graduating from Harvard College and Harvard Law School, he served in the Army Signal Corps in both the Aleutians and the European theater during World War II. A member of the Wisconsin Bar, he not only practised law but also operated a chemical specialties manufacturing company until he retired in 1992. He now spend his winters in Sarasota, Florida, with his wife Hilda, playing golf and working on his stamp collection.

Jim has been collecting stamps for some 67 years and has long concentrated on British America. His exhibit of Cayman Islands registered mail has earned several Gold and Vermeil awards at World Series of Philately exhibitions around the United States. He has written several articles on Cayman Islands philately and maintains an active interest in the BCPSG, having attended several of its meetings over the years.

Edward W. Waterous

Born and raised in the Chicago area, Ed is an employee of U.S. Steel Corp. of Gary, Indiana. He holds a master's degree in Management from Purdue University. He has collected stamps since receiving an album for his 9th birthday, although of course, "there has been time away for other interests in life." The Bahamas became his main collecting interest in the late 1980s, with the postal history, stamps, and postal stationery of the "Isles of June" being his focus. Ed has attended several BCPSG meetings since joining the Group in 1990, and opted for life membership a few years ago. In 1997, he agreed to take on the position of auction manager within the Group, beginning in 1998.

Secretary's Report

by PETER KAULBACK

New Members

The 21 applicants listed in the September 1997 issue have been admitted into membership of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Welcome to all!

New Applicants

James ALLEN, 12 Ambrose Court, Markham ON L3P 4N3, Canada. Philatelic interests: Bahamas, Jamaica, Turks Is. Sponsored by J.E. Watson.

Peter F. BECKER, 318 6th Street, Apt. 8, Brooklyn, NY 11215, USA. Philatelic interests: Caribbean souvenir sheets and some mint sheets. Sponsored by P. Kaulback

Rosalie CHAN, 517 Arguello Blvd., Apt. 2, San Francisco CA 94118, USA. Philatelic interests: Jamaica, Caymans, British Honduras, St. Kitts-Nevis, Antigua, Bermuda, Bahamas, Tobago. Sponsored by L. Cohen.

Barry D. COCOVINI, 1 Spencer Road, Canford Cliffs, Poole, Dorset BH13 7ET, UK. Philatelic interests: Dominica, Leewards. Sponsored by H.G. Parsons.

Roger EDGEHILL, 26 Pierre Hayes Circular, Beacarro Road, Freeport, Trinidad, West Indies. Philatelic interests: Trinidad and Tobago. Sponsored by J. Sawicki.

Martin EICHELE, Philaclassica AG, Gerbergasse 24, 8001 Basel, Switzerland. Philatelic interests: Covers (dealer), philatelic literature (collector). Sponsored by C.A. Free-land.

John FEARNLEY, 17 Daneby Road, Catford, London SE6 QQ, UK. Philatelic interests: Bermuda. Sponsored by A.S. Jessop.

Robin GITTENS, 38 Goodwood Park, Christchurch, Barbados. Philatelic interests: Barbados and Montserrat. Sponsored by K.H. Bayley.

James R. HARTLEY, 9 Hollow Meadow Mews, Sheffield S6 6CJ, UK. Philatelic interests: British Guiana. Sponsored by I.A. Potter.

Barbara HEFFELL, 507 Montcalm Avenue, Dollard-des-Ormeaux QC H9G 1K5, Canada. Philatelic interests: Bahamas. Sponsored by R.W. Ireson.

Herbert HIGLEY, 517 Peach Street, Venice FL 43292, USA. Philatelic interests: British Commonwealth. Sponsored by J. Harwood.

Anne A. HUGHES, 1825 Spring Street, Quincy IL 62301-2842, USA. Philatelic interests: BWI. Sponsored by B.W. Brunsell.

Roger JOHNSON, 65 Manor Park, Redland, Bristol BS6 7HW, UK. Philatelic interests: Barbados, KGVI postal history. Sponsored by A. Shepherd.

J. Lester LAMPITT, RR # 2, Lansdowne, ON K0E 1L0, Canada. Philatelic interests: Barbados. Sponsored by J.A. Fields.

Larry LOVELAND, 804 Olympia Circle, Helena AL 35080, USA. Philatelic interests: all. Sponsored by F.A. McVicker.

Loren OWINGS, 45200 Fern Drive, Mendocino CA 95460, USA. Philatelic interests: most British Caribbean Colonies. Sponsored by C.A. Jones.

Bruce PETERSEN, 5959 Postride Drive, Hilliard OH 43026, USA. Philatelic interests: not identified. Sponsored by R.V. Skavaril.

Grant RICKSECKER, P.O. Box 4833, St. Thomas, USVI 00803-4833. Philatelic interests: Leeward Islands. Sponsored by C. Ricksecker.

Sherwin PODOLSKY, 3074 Sapphire Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93063, USA. Philatelic interests: KGVI, Olympic Games 1896-1960. Sponsored by G. Raymond.

Dan SORKOWITZ, P.O. Box 303, West Long Branch, NJ 07764, USA. Philatelic interests: Leeward Islands. Sponsored by A. Cosentino.

Helmut STOCKER, 1125 Gerrard Street East, Toronto ON, M4L 1Y1 Canada. Philatelic interests: censorship. Sponsored by E.T. Twedell.

Wesley N. TABOR, 3231 Meadow Run Drive, Venice FL 34293, USA. Philatelic interests: Bahamas and Barbados. Sponsored by J. Harwood.

Guillaume VADEBONCEUR, 22 rue du Solstice, Hull QC J9A 3E2, Canada. Philatelic interests: Montserrat. Sponsored by C. Anstead.

Mike WALKER, 10 Weston Grove, Immingham, North Lincs. DN40 2DE, UK. Philatelic interests: KGV and KGVI. Sponsored by S. Froud.

John S. WALTERS, 180 Abalone Road, Venice FL 43293, USA. Philatelic interests: British Guiana 19th century. Sponsored by J. Harwood.

H. Leroy WANAMAKER, P.O. Box 1467, Johnson City, TN 37605, USA. Philatelic interests: Bermuda, all BWI. Sponsored by J.H. Gordon.

Mrs. Jo WARNER, P.O. Box 214, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. Philatelic interests: BVI. Sponsored by P. McCann and V. Pickering.

John WILSON, 128 Glen Road, Toronto ON M4W 2W3, Canada. Philatelic interests: British Guiana. Sponsored by P.J. Ramphal.

William A. WITSCHARD, 113 Ritchfield Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14220, USA. Philatelic interests: Jamaican cancels and postal history, worldwide 1840-1940. Sponsored by P. Kaulback.

Leonard P. WOLFE, 43 Folsom Road, Center Ossipee, NH 03814-6804, USA. Philatelic interests: all islands. Sponsored by M. Doran.

Changes of Address

Colin Fraser, 301 East 52nd Street, Suite LA, New York, NY 10022

Harold U. Green, 17 Flacca Court, Field Lane, Tattenhall, Chester CH3 9PW

Brian M. McCloy, 1 Farm Way, Rustington, W. Sussex BN16 2PR

John Sawicki, 399 Medford St., Somerville, MA 02145

Philippe Séguin, 1618 Eustis Apt #4, Lauderdale, MN 55108

Anthony Shepherd, 12 Bentley Mount, Willow Hall Lane, Sowerby Bridge, W. Yorks, HX6 2SQ

New Address Unknown: Can Anyone Help?

Paul Carmichael

Deceased Members

W. Crow

T. Hutson

The 1998 BCPSPG 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:

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Homewood, IL 60430, U.S.A.
Tel.: 708-799-9339

Group News

Annual General Meeting

As previously announced, the 1998 Annual Meeting of the Group will take place in Boxborough, Massachusetts, on May 2, in conjunction with the Philatelic Show, an APS-accredited exhibition and the major stamp show in New England. We expect a strong showing of British Caribbean exhibits there, and everyone is encouraged to attend. For information about the show itself, contact Philatelic Show, P.O. Box 181, Weston, MA 02193.

The exhibition, meeting and Group buffet will be at the Holiday Inn Boxborough Woods (tel.: 508-263-8701; fax: 508-263-0518), which offers special show rates of \$78 (single or double) and \$88 (triple). Please make your own room reservations (a Holiday Inn form is enclosed for this purpose). You are encouraged to book early in order to avoid disappointment. The Group buffet (\$28.25 including service and tax; alcohol extra) will be held Friday evening, May 1. We will collect this amount at the dinner itself or just before.

Because we have to book a specific number of meals at the hotel, we need to know how many people are planning to attend. A form is enclosed for you to fill out and return at your earliest convenience – by March 20th at the latest. The form should be returned to John Puzine, 431 South Road, Reading, MA 01867 (tel.: 781-944-6526). To avoid misunderstandings, please return the form only if you have decided to attend.

Boxborough is about 30 miles from downtown Boston (see directions map). Limousine service (for one to four persons per trip) is available from Logan Airport for about \$50-60 (plus tip) each way. Car rentals are also available, of course, and may be cheaper overall than the limousine. We could try to arrange private transportation to and from the airport if needed, but this would be a last-resort option. Those who would prefer this option are asked to indicate this on the form, along with their times of arrival and departure and airline flight numbers. We will let you know whether private arrangements are possible.

More details about the meeting itself will be provided in the March issue of the journal.

Houston Get-together

Gale Raymond is organizing a get-together of BCPSG members in conjunction with APS AmeriStamp Expo 98, which will take place in Houston, Texas, on February 13-15. For more information, contact Gale at P.O. Box 228,

Sugar Land, TX 77478 (tel.: 281-242-1634). Information about the exhibition itself can be obtained from Ken Martin, APS, P.O. 8000, State College, PA 16803 (tel.: 814-237-3803; fax: 814-237-6128; e-mail: kpmartin@stamps.org).

Personal Notes

It was reported in the March 1997 issue of the journal that **Fred Seifert**, who edited this journal for many years, had suffered a heart attack in the summer of 1996. In a handwritten letter sent to his friends and acquaintances in duplicated form recently, Fred said the prognosis in early 1997 appeared to be very gloomy as the doctors felt that his rehabilitation potential was poor and were treating him as a terminal case. However, Fred fooled them all when his health began to improve during the year, thanks in part to the determination of his wife Gladys, who fed him "real" food in addition to the liquid diet he was subjected to in the hospital.

Fred is now able to be without supplementary oxygen most of the time and, barring any setbacks, hopes to return home in the spring. This good news was darkened when their house was burglarized and vandalized recently. Fortunately, Fred's stamp collection was left untouched.

Fred would greatly appreciate hearing from his BCPSG friends. Letters can be sent to his home at 3106 Florida St. N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87110-2617.

Chuck Cwiakala, a former BCPSG president and its current Advertising Manager, reports that in November 1997 his book *Bermuda by Air* (produced in cooperation with the late Bob Dickgiesser) received the George D. Kingdom Literature Award for 1996, given by the American Air Mail Society. The award is presented annually in honour of the late George D. Kingdom for the best overall aerophilatelic catalogue, book, monograph or pamphlet.

James Podger writes: "I am currently doing research for an article that I hope to write on **Cayman Islands** provisional stamped covers. I would be grateful if members could supply me with details of such covers that they have in their collections and with a photocopy, or a reference to an auction catalogue where I can find an illustration, as well as any known provenance and whether the cover has a certificate. Please send to D.J. Podger, 10 Charlecote Close, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 7EG, England."

Book News

Derek Sutcliffe and Steve Jarvis, eds. *Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately*, Volume 1: "Postage Stamps to 1935"; published in 1997 by the British West Indies Study Circle; about 414 loose-leaf A4 pages (binder provided); index. (For prices and ordering information, see the BWISC advertisement in this issue.)

Jamaica is rather well documented in recent philatelic literature: after the publication of Ian Potter's massive *Postmarks of Jamaica* (about 475 pages), here comes the equally imposing first volume of the *Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately*, a series that will include 11 volumes to be released over a period of several years. This excellent tome covers issues from the 1860 Laureated Head of Queen Victoria to the 1935 Silver Jubilee of King George V. It is well organized, with clear illustrations, many historical or explanatory charts, etc. In addition to being an essential contribution to the philatelic literature of Jamaica, this book is a model to follow for any country in terms of its general presentation and layout.

James Bendon (P.O. Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus; e-mail: bendon@cylink.com.cy) announces his 1997 Listing of Philatelic Publications, a catalogue with an excellent choice of books available at reasonable prices.

For those seeking bibliographical listings on various countries, the **World Bibliographical Series** is highly recommended. This series, published by ABC-Clio, currently includes volumes on:

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 Turks and Caicos Islands (118 pp.), and
 Virgin Islands (242 pp.).

For more information contact ABC-Clio, 130 Cremona Drive, Box 1911, Santa Barbara, CA 93116-1911; Web: <http://www.abc-clio.com>.

Update – Cayman Islands: The De La Rue Records

by D.J. PODGER

The following are amendments to my article on the De La Rue Records for the Cayman Islands, which was published in the June 1997 issue of the journal:

- p. 74, col. 2: for "Postage on four parcels," instead of 0.17s.14d, read 0.18s.2d;
- p. 80, col. 1, under Requisition 115/11, the value 6d should read 3s;
- p. 80, col. 2, under Requisition 90/12, for specimens instead of "404 of each value: 1,616," read "404 of the 1d, 4d and 6d: 1,212." As a result of this change, the total should now read 305,172.

I would like to thank Richard Maisel for pointing the errors on page 80, and hope that there mistakes have not appeared on any readers's displays.

The Postal Markings of Jamaica

Members are reminded that the BCPSG is the official distributor of Ian Potter's *Postmarks of Jamaica*, a major addition to the philatelic literature on this country. The book has received a number of very favourable reviews. An insert in this issue of the journal provides details for ordering, etc.

Ian has informed us that the book has received the Tom Foster Memorial Award from the Yorkshire Philatelic Association. This literature prize was given to the YPA by the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society as a memorial to Tom Foster, who died in 1978. Tom, a BCPSG member, was an authority on Jamaican philately.

Updates

by Ian A. POTTER

The following are updates to the book that have come to my attention since it was published last year.

<i>Cancel No.</i>	<i>Post Office</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Remark</i>
40.08	Adelphi	M.S.R.	Used in January and February 1968 without a year plug
110.04	Albert Town	B3	Used in January 1968 with only '8' in year plug
150.04	Alexandria	Ob-H-A27	Used on postal stationery card, 3/6/1891
200.02	Alps	M.S.R.68	Used on 1/11/1996
240.03	Anchovy	B1	Used on 7/3/1968 with date inverted
420.01	Bakers Hill	O3*/37	Used on 6/6/1968
750.06	Bethel Town	O3/41	New mark used in blue ink from 18/10/1995 to 15/10/1996; reads 'ETHEL TOWN' with no 'B'
950.11	Bog Walk	M.S.R.DA	New mark in black, from 20/12/95 to 12/10/96
1020.08	Bonny Gate	O3/41	New mark in black, 19/8/1996
1150.04	Braes River	M.S.R.	No year plug, February 1968
1170.05	Brainerd	O3/41d	Used to 3/7/1996
1200.08	Bridgeport	O3PO/41j	Used from 10/12/1990
1200.10	Bridgeport	O3/41	New mark used in violet on registered mail only, 29/3/1996 to 27/9/1996; reads 'BRIDGEPORT' in one word; could be a re-use of 1200.01
1360.03	Bunkers Hill	O3/41	New mark used in black, 23/10/1996
1600.03	Carron Hall	D. Ring	Used on 21/11/1967
1720.14a	Central Sorting	O3/41	New mark used in violet, 50 x 35mm; reads 'C.S.O./ KINGSTON JAMAICA', 20/9/1985
1720.60	Central Sorting	O3/41	New mark used in violet, 49 x 32mm; reads 'CENTRAL SORTING OFFICE / JAMAICA'; 'CE' of 'OFFICE' just below date, 14/3/1996 to 17/10/1996
1720.61	Central Sorting	O3/41	New mark used in black, 56 x 40mm; reads 'RETURNED LETTER BRANCH / C.S.O. JAMAICA', 12/3/1996
1720.62	Central Sorting	O3/41	New mark used in blue and black, 56 x 41mm; reads 'CENTRAL SORTING OFFICE / KINGSTON JAMAICA', 25/6/96 to 30/9/96
1780.17	Chapelton	M.S.R.DA	New mark used in black, 24/10/1996; reads 'CHAPLETON' with 'L' before 'E'
1870.07	Claremont	M.S.R.	Now measured: 13.5mm diameter
1900.05	ClarkÆs Town	M.S.R.	Now measured: 23.5mm diameter and 2.25mm lettering
2140.07	Constant Spring	M.S.R.68	Recorded 12/4/96 in violet with no index, and 14/5/96 in black with no index
2350.07	Cross Roads	B3	Used 31/1/1996 with an asterisk
2350.11	Cross Roads	M.S.R.	Used 4/12/1995
2680.09	Duncans	M.S.R.68	Used to 21/8/1996
2900.20	Falmouth	M.S.R.	Used to 1/10/1996
3040.09	Four Paths	M.S.R.	Used to 30/3/1996
3230.07&08	Gayle	M.S.R.	Now measured: names are 11mm x 2.25mm & 13mm x 3mm
3380.04	Golden Grove	B1	Used 12/2/1991
3680.06	Guy's Hill	O3/41	New mark in violet; 21/6/96 to 14/10/96
3740.14	Half-Way-Tree	O3/41	New mark in violet; 50mm x 35mm; 2/2/96 to 15/3/96; has final 'A' of 'JAMAICA' inverted
4760.03	Leeds	M.S.R.	Used to 12/8/1996
4840.07	Lime Hall	M.S.R.91	New mark used in black, 30/3/1990
4870.09	Linstead	M.S.R.DA	Used to 3/10/1996
4970.08	Lodge	M.S.R.91	Used to 10/10/1996
5060.16	Lucea	M.S.R.	Now measured: lettering 11mm x 3mm & 13mm x 2.5mm
5060.17	"	"	" " " "

5620.35	Montego Bay	M.S.R.91	Used to 19/6/1996
6100.07	Negril	M.S.R.91	Used to 13/2/1995
6770.05	Point	O3/41	New mark used in violet, 11/10/1995 to 23/10/1996
7070.08	Red Hills	O3PO/41j	Used to 27/5/1996
7140.04	Retreat	O3*PO/37j	Now known used 18/3/1992 to 26/5/1992
7180.12	Richmond	M.S.R.91	Used 24/10/1996 in blue
7270.04	Riversdale	O3/41	New mark used in black, 9/6/1996 to 27/9/1996; reads 'RIVERS DALE' as two words
7350.05	Rock River	M.S.R.	Used from 14/11/1967
7550.04	Salt River (St. James)	O3PO/41j	New mark used in violet, 30/5/1996; lettering is thick and stubby
7640.02	Santoy	M.S.R.	Used to 10/1/1996
7700.03	Scotts Pass	M.S.R.DA	Used to 18/1/1996
7740.04	Seven Miles	O3PA/41j	Two strikes known dated 13/10/1992 with damage removing 'JAMAICA'; also 9/11/1992 clear again
8100.06	Spurr Tree	M.S.R.	Used to 24/10/1996
8360.05	Thornton	M.S.R.DA	New mark used in black with year plug missing, 27/8/1996
8910.06	Western District	O3O/41	Used 23/11/1988 held together with two rubber bands

"Rare Stamps of the World": Caribbean Displays

A second "Rare Stamps of the World" exhibition was held at Claridge's London on 24-26 July 1997. A number of important Caribbean displays (including two by BSPSG members Hugh Wood and Federico Borromeo) were shown at this event. The following highlights are based on the descriptions found in the luxurious catalogue published for the occasion.

Antigua, by H. Mansel (Great Britain): 32 pages from the pre-adhesive period onward, including ship letter marks, a letter from Horatio Nelson complaining about the local West Indian postal service, the issued stamps with die proofs of the 1d and 6d, examples of the first compound perforations, and the subsequent De La Rue issues with appendix and proof material.

Bahamas, by H.B. Sands (Bahamas): pre-adhesives with straight-line markings and G.B. 'used in' covers, including the unique 1d franking from Franklin Pierce; the 1859 imperforate 1d and its various printings and papers; the 1861-62 issue with large blocks of the 4d and 6d, and the 1d in three blocks with various compound perforations; local posts, Blockade runners, and the only known 1883 4d on 6d provisional on registered letter; proof material for the first 1s value issued in 1865.

Classic Barbados, by Joseph Hackmey (Israel): exhibit focusing on the Britannia stamp design, with a die proof of the basic design; the 1852-55 first issue on blued paper, with a used strip of three of the [1/2d] yellow-green

(largest known) and the only recorded strip of the [2d] greyish slate; largest known block (eight) of the prepared-for-use but never-issued deep slate stamp; the 1875-80 Crown CC 4d (unique copy); 1d bisect of 1878 (all three variants) in pairs and strips.

Jamaica, by Hugh Wood (Great Britain): exhibit including a selection of important stamps and covers from the period following the establishment of the colonial post office in 1860 – multiples of the first issue, the unissued 6d Freedom from Slavery issue (including die proof), the 1s with inverted frame, essays, imperforate-between varieties of the 1932 issue, etc.

St. Vincent Postal History, by Peter Jaffé (Australia): According to the exhibitor's introduction this is "a selection dating from 1772, the year of the first known private mail, and including material connected with Robert Barrie, overseas and parcel post, unusual cancellations, 'Late Fee' and 'Too Late' marks, and the 1872 abbreviated village marks with some items from the Grenadines."

French Mails in the West Indies, by Federico Borromeo (Switzerland): "The two frames are part of a collection that presupposes a wide-ranging approach and study, on an organically developed plan, of the postal services and all matters appertaining to them in the area of the islands of the Caribbean," writes the exhibitor, who singles out five covers from the 1852-73 period as typifying the aims of the display.

The Population of the Leeward Islands, 1871-1946

by Darryl FULLER

I have always wanted some statistics on the population of the Leeward Islands because I felt that this would give me an idea (however approximate) of how common or scarce mail may be from a given locality. In my early attempts at "surfing the web" I came across references for population statistics for the Leewards group. However, when I accessed the site it was only a list of references to documents held at the Population Research Centre Library, which is attached to the University of Texas. I e-mailed the Centre and managed to obtain photocopies of some of the pages from the referenced documents.

In this article I have summarised the data obtained because I believe that it may be of interest to fellow BCPSGers, particularly those with an interest in postal history. Note that I do not have the complete census data so I have only given examples of some figures that might affect the volume of mail such as race and the ability to read and write. Also included are breakdowns of the population of two of the islands down to the village level.

Total Population

Table 1 lists the total population of each island for the period 1871-1946 and makes interesting reading. Anyone

who has any mail headed Redonda from the 1890s would be extremely lucky, for example. One of the most interesting features is the relative stability of the population numbers, with the exception of Anguilla, which appears to have had a steady increase in population in the period 1871-1946. However, mail from this island is quite scarce to rare, so there were obviously other factors impacting upon the volume of mail.

Population by Race

A complete breakdown by race for each census is not available but the data obtained for 1881, 1891 and 1946 are summarised in Table 2. The data from 1946 will not match exactly the data in Table 1 because a small percentage of the population did not state their race and the small Asian population has been left off to simplify the table. (Note: the "coloured" population consisted of people of mixed racial background.) Again, these figures tend to speak for themselves. The fact that literacy was more widespread among whites at the time and that they were more likely to engage in correspondence with the outside world may explain in part why mail from the late 19th century is so scarce from some areas (e.g., Virgin Islands).

Table 1. Total Population Statistics, 1871-1946

	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1946
Antigua	34,344	34,321	36,119	34,178	31,394	28,864	40,778
Barbuda	813	643	580	775	871	903	979
Redonda	—	—	120	18	4	—	—
Dominica	27,178	28,211	26,841	28,894	33,863	37,059	n/a
Montserrat	8,693	10,083	11,762	12,215	12,196	12,120	14,333
St Kitts	28,169	29,137	30,876	29,782	26,283	22,415	29,818
Nevis	11,703	11,864	13,087	12,774	12,945	11,569	11,388
Anguilla	2,704	3,219	3,699	3,890	4,075	4,230	5,037
Virgin Islands	6,651	5,287	4,639	4,908	5,562	5,082	6,505
Total	120,255	122,765	127,723	127,434	127,193	122,242	108,838*

* Excludes Dominica, which was no longer a member of the Leeward Islands

Table 2. Total Population by Race, 1881, 1891, and 1946

		1881	1891	1946
Antigua	White	1,791	1,830	695
	Coloured	5,723	5,705	5,349
	Black	26,807	28,584	35,437
Barbuda	White	4	3	*
	Coloured	227	93	
	Black	412	484	
Redonda	White	—	18	*
	Coloured	—	12	
	Black	—	90	
Dominica	White	361	335	**
	Coloured	6,814	6,806	
	Black	21,036	19,700	
Montserrat	White	241	204	71
	Coloured	1,974	1,884	917
	Black	7,868	9,674	13,319
St Christopher	White	2,199	2,343	925
	Coloured	5,237	4,896	5,091
	Black	21,701	23,637	39,962
Nevis	White	209	182	***
	Coloured	2,288	1,978	
	Black	9,367	10,927	
Anguilla	White	202	123	***
	Coloured	681	757	
	Black	2,336	2,819	
Virgin Islands	White	52	32	35
	Coloured	1,546	1,189	799
	Black	3,689	3,418	5,670

* Included in Antigua total if applicable.

** No longer part of the Leeward Islands.

*** Included in St Christopher totals.

Ability to Read and Write

This is of course one of the most telling factors affecting the volume of mail, next to the availability of a postal service. I was only able to obtain data on this from one census, the 1921 census of Montserrat. Of the 12,120 people resident on the island, the number of people who could read and write was almost exactly 50 per cent, the difference being less than 0.1 per cent. However, it is interesting to note that the male/female split is very different. The number of women who could read and write compared to the number of men was in the ratio 3:2. It would be interesting to know what percentage of the population could read and write in the late 1800s.

Population of Individual Parishes and Towns

The 1946 census contained data for the population of all of the parishes, or individual islands in the case of the Virgin Islands, for each island except Dominica which was no longer part of the Leeward Islands. There is too much data to reproduce in this article. However, the census data for Dominica and Montserrat for 1911 and 1921 list the populations of individual towns, which I have reproduced in Tables 3 and 4.

Table 3. Population of Montserrat's Towns and Districts, 1911 and 1921

<i>Plymouth and Chief Districts</i>	<i>1911</i>	<i>1921</i>
Plymouth	1,534	1,730
Kinsale	433	506
Harris	1,178	1,042
Cork Hill	274	293
St George's Hill	388	305
Roches	112	79
Rendez-vous & Drummonds	267	240
Baker Hill	371	366
Farm	438	418

Table 4. Population of Dominica's Towns and Chief Villages, 1911 and 1921

<i>Towns and Chief Villages</i>	<i>1911</i>	<i>1921</i>
Town of Roseau	6,577	6,803
Villages:		
Goodwill	—	873
Soufriere	504	620
Pt Michel	—	1,373
St Joseph	925	1,045
Delices*	956	1,015
La Plaine	540	802
Rosalie	171	153
Castle Bruce	160	182
Marigot*	478	1,042
Town of Portsmouth	1,023	1,112
Villages:		
Colihaut	743	723
Berricoa*	715	1,328
Petit Soufriere	—	370
Grand Frond	—	303
Vieille Case	—	652
Penville	—	527
Wesley	—	676

* Village and vicinity.

At the time of the censuses there was only one post office in Montserrat but Dominica had a series of rural post offices. The amount of mail that has survived from these smaller post offices is quite small but looking at the population figures does not explain the relative scarcities. The populations of Portsmouth and St Joseph are very similar for example, yet mail from St Joseph is a lot less common than Portsmouth. However, Portsmouth being a port and commercial centre would be expected to have a

greater volume of mail. When you look at the very small populations of Rosalie and Castle Bruce though, it does help explain the rarity of mail from these villages.

I hope that these figures are of interest to other collectors. I would like to give a special thanks to Gera Draaijer of the Population Research Center at the University of Texas, who went out of her way to assist my request at a time when she was very under-resourced.

Indian Postal Stationery Used in Trinidad and Tobago

by RON WIKE

When I acquired a 1908 German Naval cover to a crew member of SMS *Freya* at Port of Spain using Indian Postal Stationery (Figure 1), I wondered how and where. Later, on reading the "Report of Postmaster-General for 1885" in the *Trinidad Royal Gazette* for 7 April 1886, I noticed paragraph 46:

"With a view to afford greater facilities to the Coolie Immigrants for communication with their friends in India, Envelopes, bearing an embossed Postage Stamp representing the single rate of postage between India and Trinidad, have been obtained from the Indian Government and are now being sold to the Coolie at their actual cost of delivery here, viz: 5½d. each. These envelopes are addressed in English by or for the sender, with his full name and address in Trinidad and enclosed in the letter going to India so that the postage is prepaid for the return letter and on its arrival (back) in Trinidad the letter can be forwarded to its destination without referring it to an Interpreter for translation of address."

I thought at the time that it was probably such an item purchased by the crew member and sent to himself at Port of Spain as an unusual philatelic souvenir of his visit.

This view has since been confirmed by an even earlier cover to the above addressed to Oberleutenant Fischer, SMS *Mineta*, c/o German Consul, Port of Spain. Again an Indian postal stationery envelope has been used but this time accompanied by two 1896 issue ½d stamps.

What makes the surmise even more certain is that one the German vessels was part of the German West Indian fleet, the SMS *Vineta* was the flagship of the cruiser division from September 1899 to February 1909. The SMS *Freya* was on a training cruise from Europe, calling at Funchal, Horta, Halifax, Newport, Charleston, Cuba, Jamaica, St. Thomas, Trinidad, Dominica, St. Thomas, Cuba, Pensacola and Bermuda before returning to Europe. Neither ship had the opportunity to obtain Indian Postal Stationery prior to Trinidad.

I have yet to see any Indian postal stationery addressed to Trinidad from India, which may have been the subject of the original sale of same in Trinidad. I would be interested to hear from anyone who has similar usage to the above.

Reference

Trinidad Royal Gazette, 7 April 1886; viewed at the Public Records Office, Kew, London, UK, file CO 299/36.

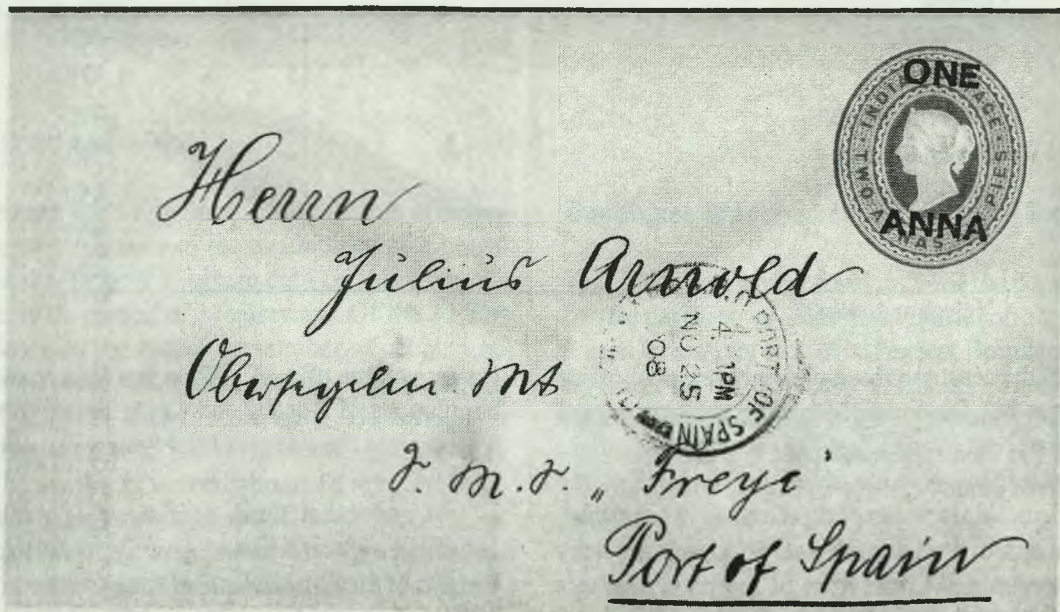


Figure 1

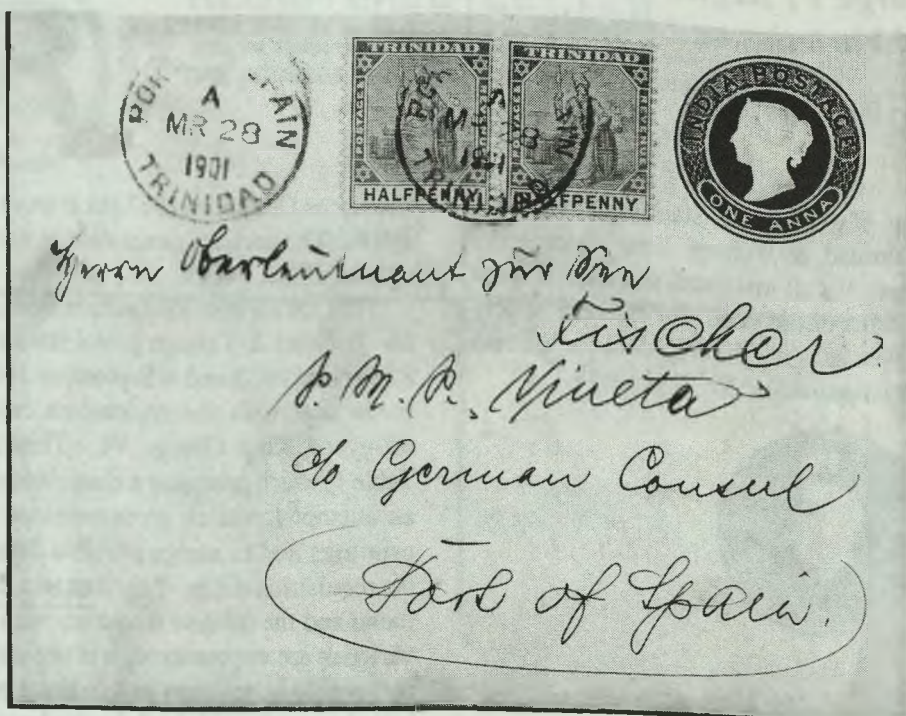


Figure 2

True Champions?

Again, large numbers of stamps and souvenir sheets were issued in 1996 by some Caribbean-area British Dependent Territories and member countries of the British Common-

wealth, according to the German monthly magazine *Michel Rundschau*, as reported by Denise Hatton in *Linn's Stamp News*.

Guyana	321	Nevis	82	British Virgin Islands	27
St. Vincent	313	Turks & Caicos Islands	67	Belize	24
Grenada	216	Montserrat	44	Cayman Islands	23
Dominica	146	Bahamas	38	St. Kitts	20
Barbuda	127	St. Lucia	34	Anguilla	13
Antigua & Barbuda	116	Barbados	33	Jamaica	9
Grenada-Grenadines	104	Bermuda	29	Trinidad & Tobago	9

It is interesting to note that the two most populous countries in the group – Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago – are also those which issued the fewest stamps. Guyana and St. Vincent were the world leaders, and Grenada was not far behind, as No. 5 in the world. Together, these three

countries, with a combined population of 925,396 in mid-1996 (0.016% of the total world population), accounted for 6.8% of all the stamps issued in the world that year. In the Caribbean area, the worst offenders in terms of face values (in U.S. dollars) were as follows:

Guyana	\$175	Dominica	\$82	Grenada-Grenadines	\$63
St. Vincent	\$152	Barbuda	\$75	Antigua & Barbuda	\$62
Grenada	\$118				

The King George VI Registration Envelopes of Trinidad and Tobago: Newly Found Varieties and Queries

by Reuben A. RAMKISSOON, FRPSL

The available catalog¹ of world postal stationery lists three varieties of the Trinidad & Tobago King George VI registration envelopes. In all instances, the date of issue is provided only in terms of the year. For the first variety the release date is given only as '1938?' And for the two remaining listed varieties, only '19?' is given.



Figure 1

AM
23/11/37

At least two examples of proofs of the Trinidad & Tobago registration envelope 6c die, in blue on yellow paper, have been recorded in the De La Rue archives. They are endorsed by manuscript initials, referenced as A764, and dated 23-11-37 (Figure 1). It is reasonable to conclude, therefore, that the initial date of release may be

as early as December 1937 but is more likely to be in early 1938. The earliest usage date in my collection is 2 December 1938.

The De La Rue Requisition Books contain 94 entries for Trinidad & Tobago postal stationery orders between 8 October 1922 and 4 September 1962. Of these, 14 records deal with the registration envelopes bearing the effigy of King George VI. They are summarized in Table 1, which proposes a classification scheme based on an attempt to match given envelope types with specific printings and to assign possible dates of issue based on the requisition dates. Together with the periods of usage found and the relative frequency with which the different varieties are encountered, it is possible to arrive at some reasonable conclusion as to when a printing variety may have been released, both for the known varieties and for the additional printing varieties of registration envelopes that have thus far been found.

All of the printings of these registration envelopes were on creamy white stock, of one size (Higgins & Gage size G, 152 x 96 mm) and one value (6c). Blue ink was used for the indicium (stamp) showing the head of King George VI facing right, as well as for the instructional texts and cross-lines. The printing style, basic blue color, and envelope stock all appear to be carry-overs

Table 1

Classification	Date	Requisition	Envelope	Date of Issue	Quantity	Notes
GRVI REG G1	26-12-37	8654/3	Size G	1938	9,720	UPU Specimen
GRVI REG G2	30-06-38	9383/7	Size G	1938	24,324	Probably issued
GRVI REG G2	02-05-39	9917/1	Size G	1939	12,360	
GRVI REG G2	06-11-39	312/1	Size G	1939	24,600	
GRVI REG G2	19-06-40	487/1	Size G	1940	12,480	
GRVI REG G3	11-10-40	667/1	Size G	1941	12,480	Probably issued
GRVI REG G4	21-08-41	794/1	Size G	1941	12,000	Probably issued
GRVI REG G3	06-07-42	1077/1	Size G	1942	25,056	
GRVI REG G2	09-09-43	1385/1	Size G	1943	71,200	
GRVI REG G2	19-07-44	1710/1	Size G	1944	15,200	
GRVI REG G2	22-04-45	1946/1	Size G	1945	24,480	
GRVI REG G2	16-03-48	3048/2	Size G	1948	39,120	
GRVI REG G2	24-09-49	3732/2	Size G	1949	39,720	
GRVI REG G2	12-05-50	4424/2	Size G	1951	38,592	

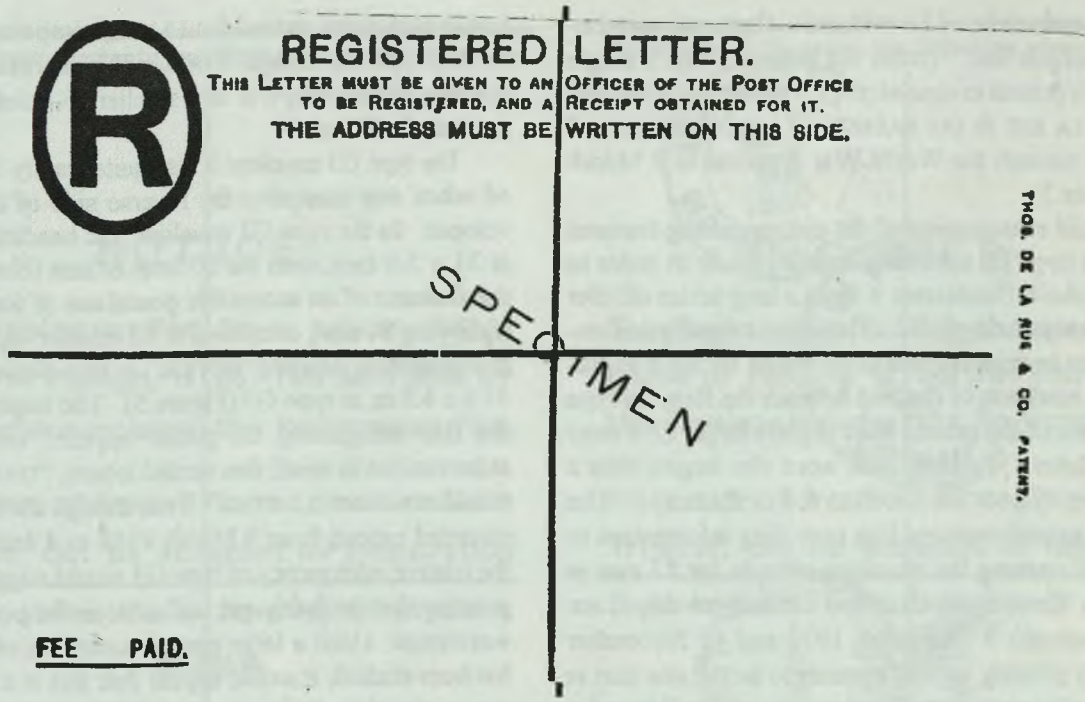


Figure 2

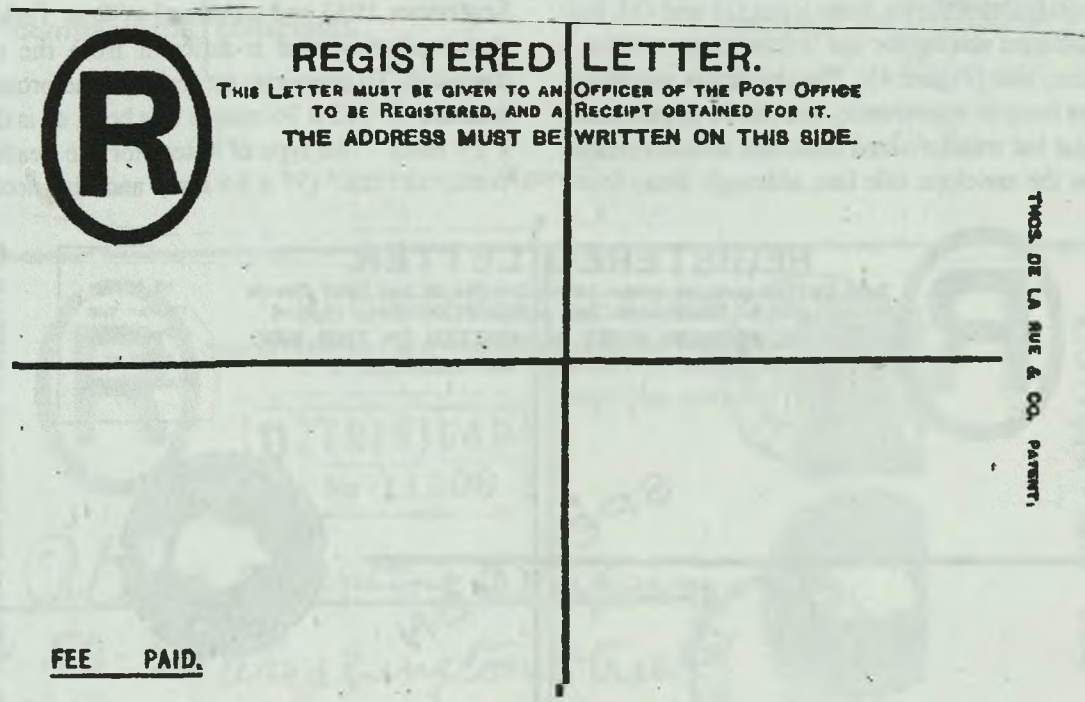


Figure 3

from the King George V issues.

SPECIMEN overprints for the Universal Postal Union appear at an angle of approximately 40° on the address side of the envelope. These can be safely classified as the initial printing and release (type G1), on which the 'R'

(14 x 16 mm) is bold and enclosed in a similarly bold oval (23 x 28 mm). The heading 'REGISTERED LETTER' is 61.5 x 3.5 mm (Figure 2). The instructional message appears as a single line placed immediately beneath a bold blue line at the top of the flap along the edge of the envelope is

(86 mm), and reads: 'To withdraw Contents, cut Envelope across this line.' Under the gummed flap, a single line of text is printed in sans-sérif (1.5 mm) capital letters, 'THOS. DE LA RUE & CO. PATENT.' Usage dates extend from 1938 through the World War II period to 8 March 1944 (Figure 3).

A careful examination of the distinguishing features of the first (type G1) printing must be made in order to appreciate what differentiates it from a long series of later printings, designated type G2. This can be readily accomplished if one examines a mint copy, which shows a slightly different rendition of the text beneath the flap. In type G2, the name of the printer is in slightly larger (2.0 mm) sans-sérif letters. Further, each word also begins with a larger letter, 'THOS. DE LA RUE & CO. PATENT.' The single instructional message line providing information to the user for opening the envelope extends for 87 mm in this version. Known periods of use of these envelopes are recorded between 3 December 1938 and 12 November 1940. This printing variety appears to be the one that is most commonly encountered, and it was used well into the Queen Elizabeth II period.

In type G3 envelopes, the bold 'R' and the surrounding oval are indistinguishable from types G1 and G2, but there is a different setting for the 'REGISTERED LETTER.' (60 x 4.5 mm) title (Figure 4). The characters are taller, slightly more fancy in appearance, and can be appreciated by the similar but smaller-sized three-line announcement given below the envelope title line, although these four-

line designations extend for 15 mm, compared to 14 mm for the type G1 design. Further, the instruction text for opening the envelope is in a smaller (6-point) type, and extends for 77 mm.

The type G3 envelope is also quite readily distinguished when one compares the reverse side of the two envelopes. In the type G1 envelope, the heading 'NOTICE.' is 31 x 5.0 mm, with the 10 lines of text (characterizing the features of an acceptable postal use of the envelope) occupying 81 mm, compared to 82 mm for type G3. The corresponding heading 'NOTICE.' is also distinctly larger, 31.5 x 4.5 mm, in type G3 (Figure 5). The imprint beneath the flap designating the printer appears without name abbreviations in small, thin serified letters, 'THOMAS DE LA RUE & COMPANY, LIMITED.' Even though the usage dates recorded extend from 9 March 1948 to 4 January 1952, the relative infrequency of type G3 would suggest a small printing that probably got laid aside in the postal service warehouse. Until a large enough sampling of envelopes has been studied, it would appear that this is a reasonable answer for the relative scarcity of this printing.

A type G4 double-rated (60c postage) censored registration envelope variety, posted at Grande Riviere on 2 September 1943 and addressed to New York (Figure 6) shows printing that is different from the other types discussed. To enumerate the features, the prominent oval-enclosed 'R' (12 x 16 mm) is less bold, as is the oval (17 x 29 mm). The type of letters for the heading 'REGISTERED LETTER.' (57 x 3.5 mm) and the accompanying

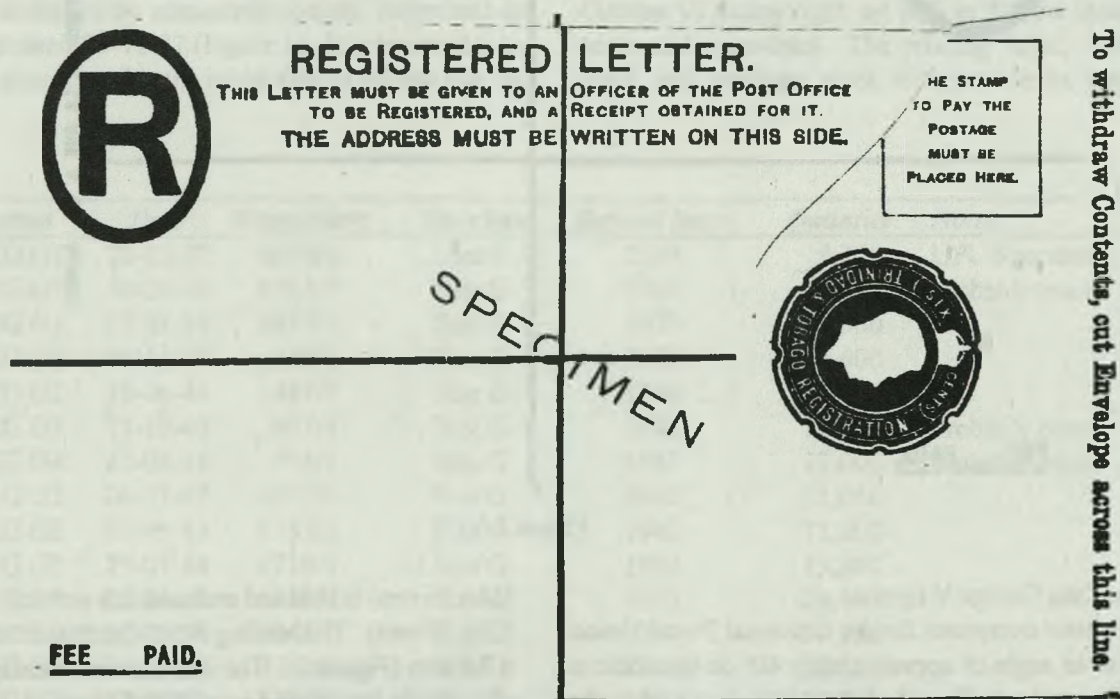


Figure 4

To withdraw Contents, cut Envelope across this line.

NOTICE.

The Registration Fee for a Letter, either Inland or Foreign, is 6c. The sum paid for this Envelope includes the Registration Fee.

No Letter, addressed to a place outside Trinidad, can be accepted for Registration

if it contains Coin, Jewelry, or precious articles.

If any investigation is required to be made about this Letter, the Envelope must accompany the complaint.

G1

To withdraw Contents, cut Envelope across this line.

The Registration Fee for a Letter, either Inland or Foreign, is 6c. The sum paid for this Envelope includes the Registration Fee.

No Letter addressed to a place outside Trinidad, can be accepted for Registration

if it contains Coin, Jewelry, or precious articles.

If any investigation is required to be made about this Letter, the Envelope must accompany the complaint.

G3

Figure 5



Figure 6

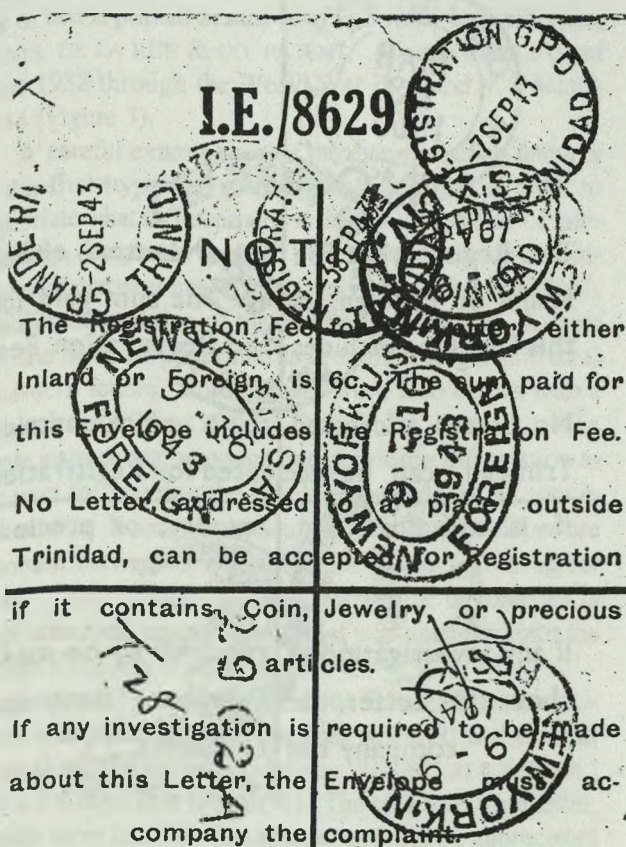


Figure 7

three explanatory lines which serve to indicate the features and usage of the envelope is in the same typeface. The title and text occupy 15 mm of space above the area used for the address. On the reverse side of the envelope, the heading 'NOTICE.' is 32 x 3.5 mm and is of the same typeface as the first printing and specimen issue. Altogether, the text occupies 82 mm of space about the cross lines, but the letters are distinctly smaller (2 mm) compared to type G1 (Figure 7).

Only a single example of the type G4 envelope has been seen so far. The apparent rarity of this printing variety, as well as the date it was issued, suggest its introduction for use in Trinidad would come from a smaller quantity, possibly from the 21 August 1941 requisition date.

A summary of the salient differences between the various printing types is given in Table 2.

Photocopies of registration envelopes, both mint and used, would be appreciated to allow for further study in the hope that enough details can be found to give a degree of certainty to some of the tentative conclusions suggested in the report. Please address your replies to the author at 3011 White Oak Lane, Oak Brook, Illinois, 60521-2513, USA.

References

1. Higgins & Gage. *World Postal Stationery Catalog*, second printing. Corrections and Addenda. Huntington Beach, Cal.: Classic Philatelics, 1980.
2. De La Rue Archives Requisition Book for Trinidad and Tobago.

Table 2. Summary of Printing Characteristics of Trinidad & Tobago King George VI Registration Envelopes

	G1	G2	G3	G4
<i>Address side</i>				
'R' bold	14 x 16	14 x 16	14 x 16	12 x 16
Oval around 'R'	23 x 28	23 x 28	23 x 28	23 x 28
'REGISTERED LETTER'	61.5 x 3.5	61.5 x 3.5	60 x 4.5	57 x 3.5
Width of 'REG.LET' and 3-line instruction	14	14	15	15
Type face	small and bold	small and bold	light and fancy	light and fancy
<i>Reverse side</i>				
'NOTICE.'	28.5 x 4	28.5 x 4	31.5 x 4.5	32 x 3.5
'NOTICE.' and instructions	81	81	82	82
Letters of instructions	2	2	3	(2
Between instruction lines	5	5	4	5
'To withdraw...' lines	86 x (3	87 x (3	77 x 2	not determined
<i>Printing beneath flap</i>				
Printer's name	1.5	(2		
Sans-serif characters	two sizes	uniform size		

Note: All measurements are in millimeters.

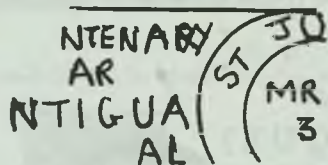
Antigua Tercentenary Issue

by Peter BROOKS

Antigua celebrated the three-hundredth anniversary of the island's settlement by British colonists with the issue in 1932 of a set of commemorative stamps. Along with the stamps there was a three-line slogan reading 'TERCENTENARY YEAR / OF ANTIGUA / (THE IDEAL HEALTH RESORT)' (see *BCPJ* w/n 96, June 1977, p. 84).

This slogan was boxed on three sides, with the right side being left open for use with the circular date stamp. However, the slogan seems to have been used separately.

Another device using the same slogan in a different format does seem to have been used in conjunction with a circular date stamp. From the evidence of two single stamps, it appears that this slogan was in *five* lines. The illustration provided here is a composite of the fragments of the slogans on the two stamps.



Mark Swetland has pointed out that a special double-ring circular date stamp was produced for the tercentenary year with the date 1932 in full, although a single-ring date stamp with the year in two digits is known used with the three-line slogan in 1932. This five-line slogan has a double-ring date stamp with the year in two digits.

I have not seen this slogan on a Tercentenary stamp, and this information is based on partial strikes on Leeward Islands definitives – the 1d of the 1921-29 issue and the ½d of 1931. Has anyone a complete strike or enough of it to complete the illustration?

Jamaica Oddities

by Bill ATMORE

For me, one of the great attractions of collecting the stamps of Jamaica is that it is still quite common to come across the "weird and wonderful", or things that simply don't seem to "fit" with the accepted order. All of the following have come my way during the last year or so,

and all have caused me to scratch my head in puzzlement as I've reached for the textbook.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Figures 1 and 2 show two examples of the scarce Foster Type P13 CDS of Walkers Wood. What is interesting is that, in the first example, dated November 23, 1891, the first 'W' of the place name is clearly on a level with the month and day line. In the second example, dated



Figure 3

August 11, 1890, the 'W' is clearly well below the level of the month and day. In addition, the second example also exhibits a blind letter 'R' and a reversed 'D' in the place name, neither of which attributes seem to have been previously recorded. Is it possible that two different P13 instruments were constructed from loose type and used at Walkers Wood?



Figure 4

The second oddity (Figure 3) is a 1870 Crown CC 2d

rose boldly marked '37' in manuscript. That this mark could have postal significance is supported by a part London Registered mark in red. Unfortunately, the date is not particularly clear, but could be 'DE 76'. It is well known that the Duncans office utilised the A37 obliterator for much of the 1860's and 1870's before switching to the 'B' obliterator sometime prior to 1880. Is it possible that the manuscript '37' was applied at the Duncans office during a transition period between the two obl iterators?

Thirdly (Figure 4) is a 1872 Crown CC halfpenny claret boldly canceled by the A35 obliterator in a lovely shade of light blue. Can anyone confirm use of blue ink with this instrument at this office?

Finally, and continuing the theme of shades of blue, is a postcard from Montego Bay to London (Figure 5). By happy coincidence, the card, which bears a late use 1885 halfpenny green, was posted in January 1904 – during a period of use of blue ink at both Montego Bay and Kingston. Consequently, all of the Jamaica marks are in blue ink, not only the Montego Bay and Kingston double ring datestamps, but also the scarce 'T'-in-triangle tax mark. Can anyone else report this mark in blue ink?

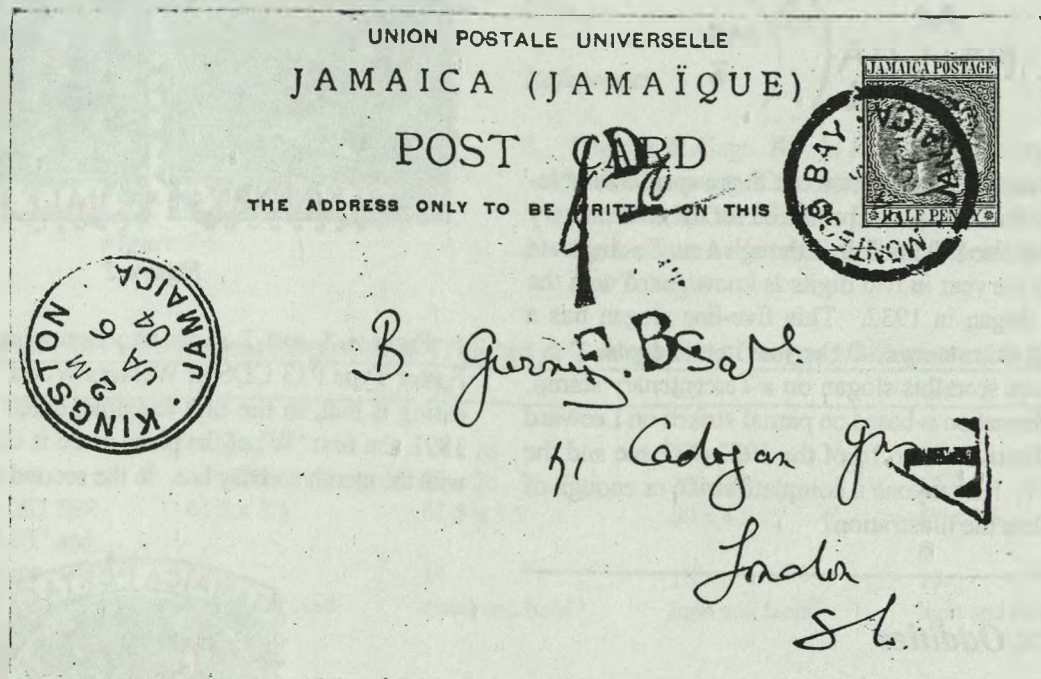


Figure 5

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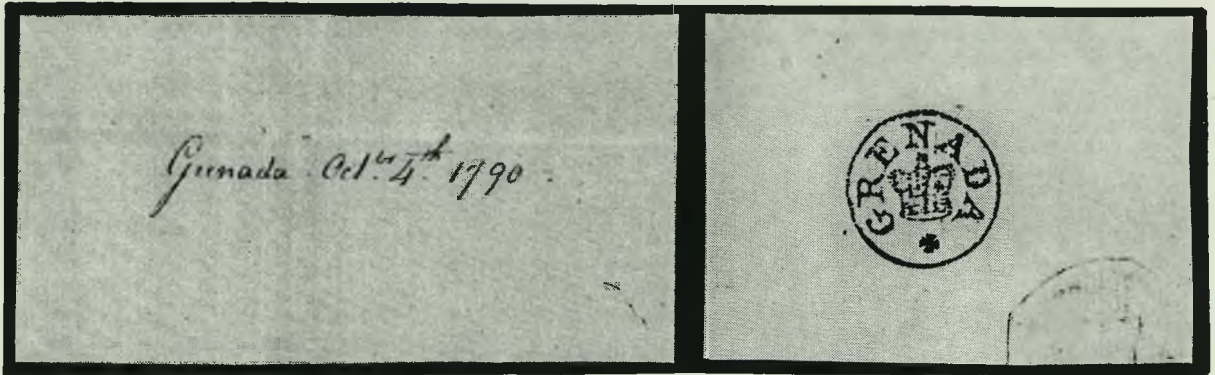
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