

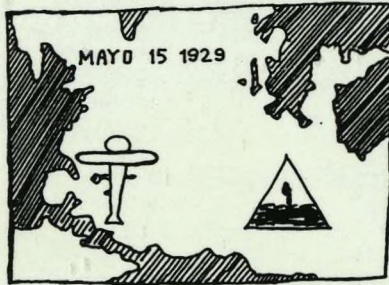
# BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP  
Unit No. 27 of the American Philatelic Society

June 1999  
Whole No. 191  
Vol. 39, No. 2  
ISSN 0045-2890



Primer Correo Aereo  
De Managua, Nic. al extranjero



*Aug J. Caldera*

Director General de Comunicaciones



FIRST FLIGHT  
NASSAU-BRITISH HONDURAS  
RESUMED SERVICE

*La Habana y Merida a Dayo Obispo*  
Primer Vuelo diciembre 4 de 1931

AIR FEE  
prepaid to  
New York, only.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
BRITISH HONDURAS AIRMAIL SERVICE





The *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* is published four times a year (March, June, September, and December) by the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. It is available only by subscription through membership in the BCPSPG. Membership is based on the calendar year; Current dues are: \$18 per annum in U.S. funds for members in the United States and Canada, and \$21 (£15) for those in other areas. Life membership is available, with the following rates being applicable:

- Aged 50 or less, \$400, U.S. and Canada; \$475, other countries;
- Aged between 51 and 60 years, \$300, U.S. and Canada; \$350, other countries;
- 61 years and over, \$200, U.S. and Canada; \$225, other countries.

Membership application forms and additional information (including sterling rates) may be obtained from the Secretary or the International Director.

BCPSG Website: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/BCPSG/>

### The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

#### Officers and Trustees

President	Mr Robert J. Wynstra, 1104 S. Garfield Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801-4936, tel. (217) 367-9802; fax (217) 333-2614
Vice President	Dr Russell V. Skavaril, 222 East Torrence Rd., Columbus, OH 43214-3834; tel. (614) 262-3046; fax (614) 261-6628
Secretary	Mr Peter J. Kaulback, 108 Byron Avenue, Ottawa, Canada K1Y 3J2; tel. (613) 728-7863
Treasurer	Mr Edward T. Tweddell, 358 Silver Road, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411-9321; tel. (304) 258-3958
International Director	Mr David N. Druett, 1 Brewerton Street, Knaresborough, N. Yorks., HG5 8AZ, U.K.; tel. & fax (01423) 865962
Editor	Mr David L. Herendeen, PMB 984, P.O. Box 2806, Torrance, CA 90509-2806; tel. (310) 214-2922; fax (310) 214-3420
Board Of Trustees	Mr William B. Ashley [1999], P.O. Box 416, Hadley, MA 01035 Mrs Marge Doran [2001], 114 Aucoot Road, Mattapoisett, MA 02739 Mr David Druett [2001] (see address above) Ms Mary Green [2003], 103 Sea Breeze, Atlantic Shores, Christ Church, Barbados Mr Jack Harwood [1999], P.O. Box 32015, Midtown Station, Sarasota, FL 34239 Mr James F. Stern [2003], 3040 Grand Bay Blvd., #252B, Longboat Key, FL 34228 Mr Edward W. Waterous [2003], P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430 Mr Ron Wike [2001], 20 Isherwood Close, Cinnamon Brow, Fearnhead, Warrington, WA20DJ, U.K. Mr Robert J. Wynstra [1999] (see address above)

Past presidents of the Group are honorary members of the Board. They include: Dr John C. Arnell, Mr George W. Bowman, Mr Charles E. Cwiakala, Mr J. L. Fredrick, Mr Paul A. Larsen, Dr Peter P. McCann, Dr Reuben A. Ramkissoon, Dr Gale J. Raymond, Col. Fred F. Seifert, Mr Mark W. Swetland, Mr Robert Topaz, and Mr W. Danforth Walker.

#### Study Group Leaders and Other Appointees

Attorney	Mr Thomas F. Olson, 2320 Shattuck Ave., Suite B, Berkeley, CA 94704; tel. (510) 644-1352; fax (510) 644-1354
Auction Manager	Mr Edward W. Waterous, P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430; tel. (708) 799-9339
Awards Chairman	Mr Paul A. Larsen, 14 Wilson Court, Park Forest, IL 60466; tel. (708) 747-0145
Historian and Archivist	Mr Robert Topaz, 13960 Crosspointe Court, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418; tel. (407) 627-7731
Librarian	Mr W. Danforth Walker, P.O. Box 99, Lisbon, MD 21765; tel. (410) 442-1034; fax (410) 489-5318
Publications Chairman	Dr Reuben A. Ramkissoon, 3011 White Oak Lane, Oak Brook, IL 60521; tel. (630) 963-1439; fax (630) 856-7819
Publication Orders	Mr Cyril Bell, 4445 Riverside drive, Lilburn, GA 30247; tel. (770) 978-8948; fax (770) 978-7547
Publicity Chairman	Mr R. J. Wynstra (see address above)
WebMaster	Dr. R. V. Skavaril (see address above)
Anguilla	Dr Gale J. Raymond, P.O. Box 228, Sugar Land, TX 77478; Dr R. A. Ramkissoon (see address above)
Antigua	Mr Mark W. Swetland, 13 Raymond Road, Bluffton, SC 29910
Bahamas	Dr G. J. Raymond (see address above)
Barbados	Mr Edmund A. Bayley, P.O. Box 61, Bridgetown, Barbados, W.I.; Mr Keith H. Bayley (same address)
Barbuda	Mr R. J. Wynstra (see address above)
Bermuda	Dr R. V. Skavaril (see address above)
British Guiana / Guyana	Col. Fred F. Seifert, 7201 Prospect Place N.E., Apt. 412, Albuquerque, NM 87110-4231
British Honduras / Belize	Mr Eric W. King, C.B.E., P.O. Box 3, Belmopan, Belize, Central America
Br. P.O.s in Puerto Rico	Vacant
British Virgin Islands	Mr J. L. Fredrick, 3241-1G San Amadeo, Laguna Hills, CA 92653
Cayman Islands	Mr T. E. Giraldi, 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355-3255
Censored Mail	Mr E. T. Tweddell, 358 Silver Road, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
Dominica	Mr W. B. Ashley (see address above)
Grenada	Mr W. D. Walker (see address above)
Jamaica	Mr Duane Larson, 208 Centre St., Park Forest, IL 60466-2063
Leeward Islands	Mr Michael N. Oliver, Back Lane Cottage, Great Salkeld, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 9NA, U.K.
Maritime Mail	Mr M. R. Rego, 24 Wentworth Drive, Crofton, Wakefield, W. Yorks., W4F 1LH, U.K.
Montserrat	Mr C. A. Freeland, P.O. Box 2258, CH-4002 Basle, Switzerland
Nevis	Mr John N. Tyacke, 1 Ottawa Street, Toronto, Ont., Canada M4T 2B5
St Christopher / St Kitts	Mr Mariano (Mike) B. DeLise, P.O. 64, Riverside, IL 60546
St Lucia	Mr John Gardner, Staddles, Station Road, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3AH, U.K.
St Vincent	Mr Joe Chin Aleong, P.O. Box 4434, St. Anns, Trinidad & Tobago, West Indies
Trinidad and Tobago	Dr R. A. Ramkissoon (see address above)
Turks and Caicos Islands	Dr P. P. McCann, 1669 Chinford Trail, Annapolis, MD 21401-6607



## British Caribbean Philatelic Journal

June 1999 Whole Number 191 (Vol. 39, No. 2)

© British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

**Editor: David L. Herendeen, PMB 094, P.O. Box 2806, Torrance, CA 90509-2806**  
**Tel.: (310) 214-2922; Fax: (310) 214-3420; e-mail: EditorBCPJ@aol.com**

AWARDS EDITOR: Paul A. Larsen, 14 Wilson Court, Park Forest, IL 60466

CARIBBEAN ROUND-UP EDITOR: John F. Bethell, P.O. Box N-7061, Nassau, Bahamas

NEW ISSUES EDITOR: Vacant

REPORTER-AT-LARGE: Gale J. Raymond, P.O. Box 228, Sugar Land, TX 77478

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Charles E. Cwiakala, 1527 S. Fairview Avenue, Park Ridge, IL 60068

*Requests for permission to reproduce articles should be addressed to the Editor.*

## Don't Forget — It's Postal *HISTORY*

by *David L. Herendeen*

The study of postal history has grown dramatically over the last several decades. A great number of exhibits, both in the U.S. and abroad, now focus on this fertile area. While the judging criteria for such exhibits indicate that they are primarily a study of rates, routes, and markings, these characteristics are really only the tip of the iceberg. In fact, postal history cannot be studied in a vacuum. Rather, it must be understood within the rich fabric and context of the socio-historic characteristics of the era being studied.

We are fortunate to have no fewer than three articles illustrating the importance of history to philately. *Morris Ludington*, in a posthumous contribution provided by *Michel Forand*, describes a cover whose analysis requires a thorough knowledge of shipping schedules from North America in the waning years of the Civil War. New contributor *Tim Anderson*, gives us a glimpse of the culture of Tobago in the mid-19th century as told by writers from different socioeconomic classes on the island. Finally, *Bob Swarbrick* discusses an early internal Dominica cover that required detailed knowledge of the Royal Marines to interpret.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### FEATURES

Correspondence from Tobago in the 1840s, <i>Tim Anderson</i> . . . . .	45
An Early Dominica Cover, <i>Bob Swarbrick</i> . . . . .	
An Unusual 1864 Cover from Bahamas to Bermuda, <i>Morris H. Ludington</i> . . . . .	55
The Development of the British Honduras Airmail Service, <i>Ian Matheson</i> . . . . .	56

#### COLUMNS AND REPORTS

Don't Forget — It's Postal <i>HISTORY</i> . . . . .	43
President's Message . . . . .	44
Secretary's Report . . . . .	48
Exhibits and Awards, <i>Paul A. Larsen</i> . . . . .	48
BCPSG at Australia 99, <i>Dingle Smith</i> . . . . .	49
New Cooley Award for Service, <i>Rob Wynstra</i> . . . . .	50
Update on London 2000 Joint Meeting . . . . .	51
Secretary's Report, <i>Peter Kaulback</i> . . . . .	51
BVI Show Terrific Success, <i>Giorgio Migliavacca</i> . . . . .	53
Auction Report, <i>Ed Waterous</i> . . . . .	53
RPSL Fellows, <i>Gale J. Raymond</i> . . . . .	54

#### *Gremlins*

Many readers noted that the last issue contained two page 39's and no page 43. This was strictly an error on the part of the editor trying to make a (not unusual) last minute "improvement."

#### *London Approaches*

As many of us know, time has a nasty habit of slipping away while we are not watching. At this writing, it is only 12 short months until we gather in the magnificent city of London. Worse, there are only four months to help accumulate the auction lots needed for our joint meeting with the British West Indies Study Circle. Please help auction manager Ed Waterous (see article on page 53) and the Group by providing these lots.

Also, *Rob Wynstra* provides an update on our joint meeting along with a tentative schedule (page 51). This should help all members in planning their visits to London.



## President's Message

by Rob Wynstra

Everyone should be sure to mark their calendar for our joint meeting with the British West Indies Study Circle at the Bonnington Hotel in London on May 20-21, 2000. This event will take place in conjunction with Stamp Show 2000, the international exhibition to be held at Earl's Court. Planning is well underway, and details on a whole range of group activities will be available in this and future issues of the Journal.

One highlight of our annual meeting in London will be the presentation of the first *Robert J. Cooley Award* for service to the BCPSG. This honor was made possible by a generous gift from long-time member Bob Cooley. The new award superbly compliments our other two major awards — the *Bryon Cameron Trophy* for philatelic exhibiting and the *Stanley Durnin Award* for philatelic writing. Those honors likewise were made possible by generous gifts from our membership.

Equally important to the group for the last several years has been the major donation from the estate of our for-

mer president *Edward W. Addiss*. The Edward W. Addiss Fund almost single-handedly has provided us with the means to put our publications program on a firm financial base and has resulted in numerous award-winning philatelic publications. The fund also has played a key role in many of our membership recruitment activities and has allowed us to maintain our membership dues at current levels for a number of years. Those achievements stand as a lasting tribute to Ed Addiss and the many group members who have contributed so generously to the fund.

Such donations provide us with the means to maintain the high quality of our journal and publications and other service activities. In fact, many members are probably unaware that the costs of journal production and mailing alone are higher than the revenue from our annual membership dues. It is only through sound financial management and the generosity of our membership that can maintain our dues at current levels, while maintaining the high standards for our programs.

Things as simple as bidding in our annual auction and purchasing our publications are vital to the financial future of the group. I would urge everyone to please take time to send in quality consignments to the auction and to actively bid on any lots of interest. Both the group and individual collectors come out winners by helping to maintain the quality of our auctions. Of course, donation lots for the auction are always welcome and provided a valuable source of additional funds for the group.

For anyone interested in providing more direct assistance, I should mention that the BCPSG is qualified as a tax-exempt organization under IRS regulations. For most U.S. members that means that donations to the BCPSG are tax deductible, although any member contemplating a contribution is urged to consult with a tax advisor for specific details. In many cases, a contribution of appreciated stock or other assets can both assist the group and provide substantial tax savings to the donor.

Either our treasurer *Tim Tweddell* or myself would be more than happy to discuss ways in which members of the BCPSG can contribute to the success of the group in the future. And, again special thanks are due to all those members who have contributed so generously over the years. Without your help, we could not have accomplished so much in promoting the advancement of British Caribbean philately. To each of you, we owe a debt of gratitude.

### PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR GROUP

We need to provide 300  
auction lots for the joint  
meeting in London 2000.  
Search through your  
excess items and contact:

Ed Waterous  
P.O. Box 1105

Homewood, IL 60430-0105

Phone: (708)799-9339; (219)769-2840 (after July 1999)

eMail: ewwaterous@hotmail.com



## Correspondence from Tobago in the 1840s

by *Thomas A. Anderson*

**T**he study of the postal affairs and the postal history of any geopolitical area must always be made in the context of the social, political and economic environment of the times. This paper looks at these aspects of Tobago through a study of two stampless covers of the 1840s, and the contents of the letters enclosed in them.

The 1840s were a turbulent time for the British Caribbean. Slavery had recently ended, and England introduced free trade which terminated the favorable position which the sugar colonies held in the British economy. This was an unfortunate decade for Tobago. It included a devastating 1847 hurricane — an event which recurs at roughly 50 year intervals — and a dramatic fall in the price of sugar from 58/- in 1840 to 29/- by 1847. These were factors which contributed to the bankruptcy of the agriculturally rich island.

### *Brief Chronology of Tobago*

A brief summary of the history of Tobago is presented below. Its purpose is to provide a setting for understanding the evolution of the island both politically and philatelically.

- **1580:** The English flag flew over Tobago, three years earlier than any other colony in the Western Hemisphere (Newfoundland 1583).
- **1632:** First European settlement by Dutch who called it New Walcheren.
- **1642:** Second European settlement made by Courlanders (Lithuanians.)
- **1763:** A long struggle for possession of the island was settled by the Treaty of Paris by which all French claims to the island were ceded to England. The first General Council appointed in Tobago included one John Leith — perhaps an ancestor of our letter writer.
- **1764:** Established by government proclamation what is now the world's oldest government owned wildlife preserve.
- **1789:** Mr. Robley of Tobago grows what is later referred to (Encyclopedia Britannica, 1854) as the finest quality sea island cotton ever brought to the English market. Mr. Robley switched to sugar.

- **1841:** A branch of the British G.P.O. was opened in Tobago.
- **1856-58:** Contemporary British stamps were used on the Island.
- **1860:** Control of the posts passed into the hands of local administration.
- **1879:** First adhesive stamps of Tobago were issued.
- **1896:** The Island was politically united with Trinidad and ceased to have its own individual stamps, those being replaced by stamps of Trinidad.

### *Overview of Letters*

The content of letters which remain from the period reflect the concerns of the literate population of the colonies. For the purposes of this article, two entire letters have been reviewed. While these letters were both handstruck in Tobago and sent to Britain, the concerns of the writers were quite different.

The first letter writer is the owner of several sugar estates. He writes a succinct business letter to his representatives in London. It addresses the settlement of an estate in Scotland, and the commercial and political problems facing West Indies sugar growers immediately after the end of slavery.

The second writer, Mary, addresses a lengthy letter to her brother in Scotland. Her letter contains reports of weather, epidemics, and the difficulty of life in the tropics. It also provides insight into the lives and times of her relatives in Tobago and Scotland.

### *Observations of an Estate Owner*

The first letter was written by John Leith the owner of Grafton Estate,<sup>1</sup> a sugar plantation on the north side of the island. His letter is addressed to Messrs. Forbes, Hale, Bogs & Austin, 6 Ely Place, Holborn, London.

The cover, both sides of which are shown in Fig 1, is handstruck with a small fleuron, type PG according to Lowe.<sup>2</sup> As shown in the inset in Fig. 1, it is dated **TOBAGO/SE 8/1840**. The letter has a London receiving mark dated **29 OCT 1840**. Beach<sup>3</sup> reports the use of the small fleuron between November 1818 and 20 July 1845. The letter was charged 2/-, a rather high rate that





Figure 1. Tobago to London, 1840.

may be due to the fact that a newspaper — mentioned later and, sadly, no longer with the correspondence — was attached to it.

He discusses three separate subjects. Firstly, is the matter of an estate for which he is co-executor. He writes,

*...they have advertized the Scotch Estates, and Mrs. Gordon writes me that they are asking for them the sum of £83,800 Sterling which I trust they obtain. Both Mr. Duncan Davidson, and Mr. R. Innes must be so well acquainted with the real value of Property in the District where are situate these Estates so much so that I am ready to place implicit confidence in the manner they may adopt to dispose of these Properties....*

Slave trade ceased in the British Empire in 1807. After that time the British Navy patrolled the African coast for slave ships, and sent “recaptives” to either Sierra Leone or St. Helena. Planters from the sugar colonies of the British Caribbean petitioned to be able to offer the recaptives the opportunity for a job in the Caribbean.<sup>1</sup> This meant creating the legal ways and means for the immigration of free Africans. The purpose of the Immigration Bills was to provide a legal framework for bringing freed Africans to Tobago. One shipment of recaptured Africans arrived in 1851 from St. Helena. Then, however, Tobago was dropped as a future poten-

tial destination for recaptured Africans because the wage levels were much lower than, for example, Trinidad.<sup>4</sup> Leith then continues,

*By the News Paper I forward with this you learn that our Immigration Bill has been returned not having rec'd the sanction of the Governor in Chief Sir Even McGregor — I refer you to Sir Bowcher Clark's opinion on the Immigration Bill — I wrote you on the 23rd August which letter I hope has been duly rec'd.*

On islands that had a very high density slave population, provisions were furnished the slaves for their meals. On low density islands, ground was set aside for slaves to grow their own provisions. In the low density islands freedmen were more likely to weigh the return on their labor as an entrepreneur growing food for market or working for estate wages. Barbados was an example of a high density island. With virtually no place to go, Barbadian freedmen tended to remain as wage laborers on the estates. Tobago was a low density island, and so there were alternatives to wage labor. For Tobago, and many other sugar colonies at this time, there was need to secure a source of new labor.<sup>4</sup> Leith notes,

*The season is at present very favorable for the ensuing Crops, and should it continue there will be generally better Crops, but am sorry to say that owing to*



*the deficiency of Labour, work is very much behind, and will continue to get worse until such time as we can procure a supply of Labour from America, or some of the Neighboring, and populous Islands.*

He was writing about securing labor from Barbados. This effort failed. Some labor did come from both Barbados and Grenada, but not enough to meet the need for keeping the sugar economy vibrant, and to develop technology. In fact, Tobago was known to be a fertile island, but inefficient in the processing of sugar. In the Muscovado method of processing sugar the juice from the cane is boiled in a series of copper cauldrons.<sup>5</sup> The sugar boilers had to be highly skilled to: prevent inversion where sugar crystals turn to glucose; and to prevent burning the sugar on the insides of the cauldrons. With the dropping of protective tariffs and the competition from European beet sugar, the West Indian sugar industry became concentrated in Trinidad, British Guiana, Cuba, and among the small islands Antigua and Barbados. Tobago went bankrupt and emerged from bankruptcy as the junior partner in the colony of Trinidad & Tobago.

#### *Observations of a Wife*

The second letter is addressed to Mr. Vand Agnew, Esq. of Wigtown, Scotland, January 5, 1848. The letter itself

is signed, "Your very affectionate sister, Mary." It is fair to speculate that Mary is the wife of Edmund, and that Edmund is in Tobago in the service of the Crown, either as an officer in the military or at some colonial government post.

The postage on the letter is marked 1/-. The circular date stamp reads **TOBAGO/JA 6/1848**. It is Lowe<sup>2</sup> type PL which was in use for over forty years beginning in 1841.<sup>3</sup> There is a red arrival stamp and a CDS for **WIGTOWN/FE 5/1848**. One more quaint feature of this letter is that it is cross-written, a technique used to reduce the cost of mailing.

Mary gives her report on tropical weather:

*We again have uncertain showery weather and very dirty roads which is tiresome and it confines us to the top of our hill & I never wish to live on the top of a hill after this trial, one gets tired at the sight of the steep road, but it is very healthy, much more than the town.*

and goes on to describe how an epidemic in Barbados is affecting the Regiment:

*...I am sorry to say it is as we heard by the last Barbados Mail that they had 20 cases of it two of the married men & three women have died. If it continues the Regt. Will be encamped on a Hill where they*



Figure 2. Tobago to Wigtown, Scotland, 1848.



sooner get rid of it. None of the officers have been attacked but you may suppose I am very thankful we are here and content to remain as we are at present.

Finally, parts of Mary's letter read like a Jane Austin novel as she delves into the romances of her brother and other relatives.

*Do you admire her as much as others do? I did not in spring as I thought her grown more like Lila, but it is her elegance more than her face I suppose which attracts admiration. You had two nice young ladies I hear in Miss Cunliffe & Miss Lucas. When is your dear heart to be melted. I do wish you could meet with a nice wife with some money as it is beginning to be time now you see you are 30.*

### Notes on Reference Material

My research began when I read about performing philatelic research at the Library of Congress.<sup>6</sup> I used the Library's Experimental Search System (Web Site: <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/resdev/ess/>) to perform a variety of searches of most of the Library of Congress collection. This search system was helpful in identifying a number of works including those of Woodcock,<sup>1</sup> Green,<sup>4</sup> and Beachey.<sup>5</sup> I have also been a regular user of the American Philatelic Research Library where I got, for example, the Beach notes.<sup>3</sup>

### References

1. Wookcock, H.I., *A History of Tobago*, Frank Cass & Co., Ltd., London, 1971. (Originally published in 1867.)
2. Lowe, R., *Handstruck Postage Stamps of the British Empire 1680-1900*, Third Ed., Robson Lowe, Ltd., London, 1940.
3. Beach, A.E., "The Island of Tobago," Notes on display given at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 1961.
4. Green, W.A., *British Slave Emancipation: The Sugar Colonies and the Great Experiment 1830-1865*, Calrendon Press, Oxford, 1976.
5. Beachey, R. W., *The British West Indies Sugar Industry in the Late 19th Century*, Greenwood Press, Westport, CT, 1978.
6. Glennon, A. N., "Philatelic Research at the Library of Congress, *Philatelic Literature Review*, Second quarter, 1998.

## Exhibits and Awards

by Paul A. Larsen

Members of the BCPSG participated in a number of shows with considerable success. Show results are summarized below. [Please note that the results for Australia 99 are found in a separate article on Page. 32 — Ed.]

### APS AMERICAS 99

February 25-28, 1999, Orlando, FL

- R. Ireson:** *The Panama Canal Story*, Large Vermeil  
**G. Migliavacca:** *Italian POW's in the USA During WWII* (Display Class), Gold, Grand.  
**R. Ramkissoon:** *Trinidad 1802-1906*, Large Gold, BCPSG Medal.  
**R. Ramkissoon:** *Development of the United States' Lunar Exploration*, Large Vermeil.  
**J. Stern:** *Cayman Islands Farthing Stamps on Overseas Registered Mail* (One Frame), Gold.

### St. Louis Stamp Expo March 5-7, St. Louis, MO

- Q. Fernando:** *The 1868 Issue of Mexico*, Gold, Grand Award.  
**D. Larson:** *Jamaican-British Transatlantic Mail*, Vermeil.

### Garfield-Perry March Party March 12-14, 1999, Cleveland, OH

- P. Larsen:** *Federal Issues of the Leeward Islands 1890-1911*, Reserve Grand, Gold, Goertz Best Foreign Exhibit.

### TEXPEX 99 April 9-11, Dallas, TX

- P. Elias:** *St. Vincent — A Philatelic Sampler* (One Frame), Silver-Bronze.

### WESTPEX 99 April 16-18, 1999, San Francisco, CA

- P. Larsen:** *Ubangi-Shari-Chad 1900-1939*, Gold, California Collectors Club Best 20th Century Exhibit.  
**S. Schumann:** *Labuan Postal Cards* (One Frame), Vermeil.



## BCPSG at Australia 99

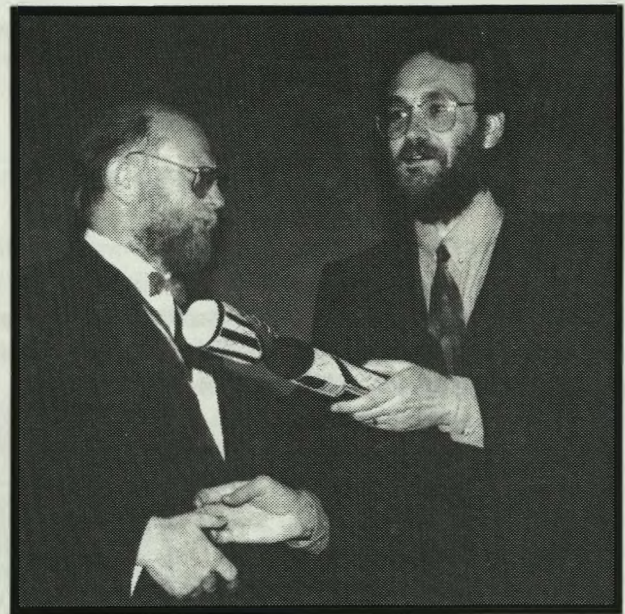
by *Dingle Smith*

Australia 99, the Melbourne World Stamp Expo, took place at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre from 19-26 March 1999. The range of eligible classes was limited to Traditional Philately, Postal Stationery, Revenues and Youth. Additionally, Social Philately was displayed for the first time as an experimental class. The venue, special philatelic items (the world's first personalised stamps!) and attendance of dedicated philatelists, the public and schoolchildren were all excellent.

Australia 99 is only the second international exhibition ever staged in Australia, the first was Ausipex 84. Some twenty specialist societies and groups staged meetings during the show. For BCPSG members, it was notable as the first occasion that our Society has held a meeting in the southern hemisphere — although it was somewhat disappointing in that only six attended. The meeting included displays of Jamaican postal stationery and BWI air mail postal markings contributed by *Darryl Fuller* and *Dingle Smith*. The BCPSG also contributed a prize for the best BWI entry in any class at Australia 99. This consisted of a handsome Aboriginal traditional wood carving of a brolga (a stork-like bird found in northern Australia). The prize was one of the few illustrated in the exhibition catalogue.

The prize, adjudicated by the Exhibition Jury, was awarded to Darryl Fuller for his exhibit, *Leeward Islands Postal Stationery: Queen Victoria to King George VI*. (Gold, 91 marks). This is also notable as it thought to be the first time an Australian exhibiting BWI postal stationery exhibit has attained an international gold medal, also likely the first ever for Leeward Islands. Congratulations to Darryl who also helped organise the BCPSG meeting.

There were three other BWI entries, all of which were of a commendable high standard. They were *R.A. Ramkissoon, Postal Stationery of Trinidad and Tobago, 1897-1918* (Gold) and the following two Australian exhibitors. P. Jaffe with one his many outstanding displays, on this occasion *Barbados - the Bacon Plates* (Large Vermeil) and R. Boylan with *St. Vincent - the De La Rue Plates* (Vermeil). Additionally, BCPSJ member *Steve Schumann* was awarded a Large Vermeil for his exhibit *New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876-1936*, and member *Paul Larsen* a Vermeil for his *German Caroline Islands, 1899-1914*.



*Darryl Fuller, right, receiving his BCPSG award from Dr. Ed Druce*

It is a pleasure to report that BWI collecting is active "down under." The Australian exhibits on view at Australia 99 are only a small fraction of those that have been exhibited at other international venues. It is a matter of pride to report that at Finlandia 95, all of the three BWI postal stationery exhibits (including Darryl's) were from members of the Philatelic Society of Canberra. We will have to see how many Australian entries are accepted for London 2000.

### IMPORTANT NOTICES

Due to changes in USPS regulations, the Editor's mailing address has been changed to:

**Editor, BCPJ  
PMB 984**

**P.O. Box 2806**

**Torrance, CA 90509-2806**

Also, to better serve the membership, all eMail correspondence should be addressed to:

**EditorBCPJ@aol.com**

*Please note these changes, they are effective immediately*



## New Robert J. Cooley Award To Honor Service to BCPSG

by Rob Wynstra

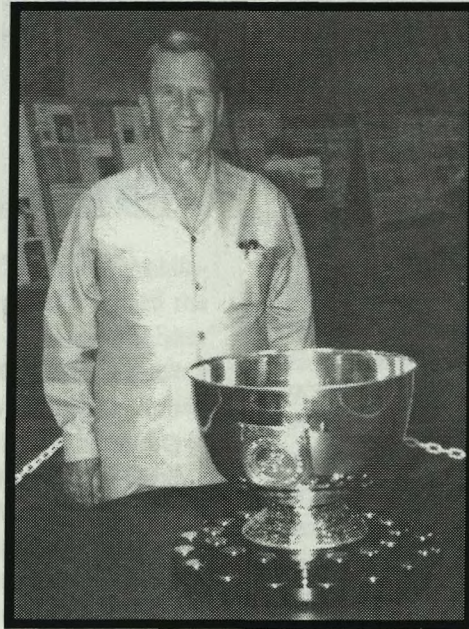
Thanks to a generous donation from long-time member, **Robert J. Cooley**, the BCPSG has established a major new award recognizing outstanding service to the group. This prestigious award superbly compliments the group's two existing major annual awards, the **Byron Cameron Trophy** for the best British Caribbean exhibit at the group meeting and the **Stanley Durmin Award** for the best article published in the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*. The new **Robert J. Cooley Service Award** will be presented each year at the group's annual general meeting and will serve to fully recognize those members whose dedication to the BCPSG have contributed so much to its success.

Bob Cooley is well known in the group and throughout organized philately for his outstanding contributions in the area of exhibiting. His efforts culminated in 1994 when his exhibit, **Great Britain Line Engraved Issues: One-Penny and Two-Pence Values, 1840-1879**, was chosen Champion of Champions in the World Series of Philately competition at StampShow in Pittsburgh (see inset photo.) That same year his traditional Cayman Islands exhibit, **The Philately of Three Reigns**, was awarded the Byron Cameron Trophy at the group's annual general meeting at the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition.

Both his exhibits have won numerous national and international gold medals. His Cayman Islands traditional exhibit earned an international gold medal at the FIP exhibition in Poland in 1993. That honor marked the first exhibit of the Cayman Islands to reach the gold medal level in international competition. It received another international gold medal the following year at the FIP exhibition in Korea.

As an active member of the BCPSG, Bob has formed many friendships over the years and has worked diligently to promote exhibiting of the British Caribbean

area. Just as he has contributed to the success of the group, Bob has long acknowledged the importance of the BCPSG in his record of achievement in exhibiting. Bob has generously established this new award as way of showing his thanks to the group and as a lasting legacy that will help insure success of the BCPSG in future years.



The award will be presented each year at the annual general meeting in recognition of outstanding service to the group. All members of the group are eligible to win the award only once. The winner will be selected based on written nominations submitted to a three-member award committee. **Peter Kaulback**, secretary of BCPSG, has agreed to serve as chairperson for the committee. The other members are former president **Jay L. Fredrick** and former treasurer **Barry Friedman**.

The first Robert J. Cooley Service Award will be presented at the annual general meeting scheduled for May 21 in conjunction with the Stamp Show 2000 international exhibition in London. The joint meeting with the British West Indies Study Circle held at the center of British Caribbean philately provides the ideal location for launching this prestigious new award.

All members are urged to submit names for consideration. Nominations are limited to no more than two pages and should provide detailed information on the qualifications of the nominee. Nominations are due by 1 April 2000 and should be submitted directly to:

*Peter Kaulback*  
108 Byron Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1Y 3J2  
eMail: ekaulbac@netcom.ca.

*Mr. Cooley suggested that the Editor remind readers that two other BCPSG members have been honored by winning the Champion of Champions title: Dr. Roger Schnell (1989) and Dan Walker (1996).*



## Update on London 2000 Joint Meeting

**P**reliminary arrangements have been completed for the joint meeting with the British West Indies Study Circle in London on the weekend before the Stamp Show 2000 international exhibition at Earl's Court. We are looking forward to a large turnout from both groups. Meeting rooms have been booked at the Bonnington Hotel in central London near Russell Square and the British Museum. Several dealers also have arranged to take tables during the event. A tentative schedule has been worked out as follows:

Saturday, May 20, 2000	
11:00AM	BWISC committee meeting
11:00AM-12:30PM	Informal get-together over coffee and danish and viewing of auction lots
12:30-5:30PM	Joint 800-lot auction
Sunday, May 21, 2000	
10:00AM	Dealers' bourse opens
10:00AM	Informal displays begin
10:00-10:45AM	British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group annual general meeting
10:45-11:30AM	British West Indies Study Circle annual general meeting
11:30AM-12:30 PM	First formal display
12:30-2:30PM	Lunch and informal displays
2:30-3:30PM	Second formal display
3:30-6:00PM	Informal displays
4:00PM	Opinion table opens
5:55PM	Closing remarks

The two formal displays have not been finalized, but should consist of outstanding material with wide interest for both sides of the Atlantic. The informal displays likewise should prove interesting to a wide spectrum of the membership. Planning is underway for evening social events on both Saturday and Sunday. Details on the social events and the scheduled program events will be featured in future issues of the journal.

## Secretary's Report

by Peter Kaulback

**A**ll applicants listed in the March 1999 issue of the Journal have been accepted as members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Congratulations and welcome to the group.

### New Applicants

**Robert W. Follett**, 16721 57th. Place West, Lynnwood, WA 98037 USA. Philatelic interests: BWI and US. Sponsored by: Peter Kaulback

**Roger W. Maconi**, 14 Ward Road, Southborough, MA 01772-1015 USA. Philatelic interests: Bermuda, British Caribbean, BWI. Sponsored by: Peter Kaulback

**Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca**, Rush It Box 11156, St. Thomas, VI 00801-4156 USA. Philatelic interests: Leeward Islands, Virgin Islands. Sponsored by: Peter Kaulback

**D.E. Napier**, Unit 5, 18 Lansell Road, Toorak, Victoria 3142 Australia. Sponsored by: David Druett

**Harry Patsalos**, P O Box 220977, Hollywood, FL 33022 USA. Philatelic interests: Cyprus, Postal History in general. Sponsored by: Tim Tweddell

### Change of Address

**Dr. Ernesto Arosemana**, Panama Express A100, P.O. Box 527948, Miami, FL 33152-7948 USA.

**David King**, 46 Stainforth Close, Nuneaton, Warwicks., CV11 6WF United Kingdom.

**Col. Fred Seifert**, 7201 Prospect Place NE, Apt. 412, Albuquerque, NM 87110-4231 USA.

### Resigned

**J. Robert Bolton**

**Anne A. Hughes**

**Donald E. Stephens**



### *Dropped, Nonpayment of Dues*

The following members did not pay their dues for 1999 and have been dropped from the membership roles:

<i>Alfred B. Adams III</i>	<i>Richard Hills</i>
<i>James Allen</i>	<i>Herbert Higley</i>
<i>J. Robert Botta</i>	<i>Anne A. Hughes</i>
<i>Gerald Brobst</i>	<i>J. Lester Lampitt</i>
<i>Raymond L. Buse, Jr.</i>	<i>Larry Loveland</i>
<i>Rosalie Chan</i>	<i>Loren Owings</i>
<i>Ian Collens</i>	<i>Bruce Petersen</i>
<i>Roger Edgehill</i>	<i>Dan Sorkowitz</i>
<i>Martin Eichele</i>	<i>Wesley N. Tabor</i>
<i>Ian Faber</i>	<i>Mike Walker</i>
<i>Brian Franklin</i>	<i>John S. Walters</i>
<i>John G. Gray</i>	<i>H. Leroy Wanamaker</i>
<i>John Hart</i>	<i>Howard E. Wegener</i>
<i>Barbara Heffell</i>	<i>John Wynns</i>

If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Secretary's Report, please contact me, either by mail (see inside front cover of the Journal) or by eMail at:

ekaulbac@netcom.ca

### *Murray Payne Launch Web Site*

**M**urray Payne Ltd. are delighted to announce their Web site is up and running. The site covers a range of subjects and services, from publications and reviews, to items for sale, and other relevant information to the reign of King George VI.

This project has been under construction for some time. However, we feel that our production team has done a fine job. We look forward to hearing what your reaction is!

Murray Payne can be contacted either through the Web site at [murraypayne.com](http://murraypayne.com) or by eMail at:

[murraypayne@dial.pipex.com](mailto:murraypayne@dial.pipex.com).

For those not online, contacted us at:

*Murray Payne Ltd.*  
*P.O. Box 1135*  
*Axbridge*  
*Somerset BS26 2EW, England*  
*Telephone: 01934 732511*  
*FAX: 01934 733498*

## *Auction Report: 1999 Results and Plans for 2000*

*by Ed Waterous*

**T**he 1999 Auction Sale is history. There was active bidding and more than 75% of the lots sold. Lot 226, Jamaica postmarks, estimated at \$10.00-15.00 had six mail bidders but was sold on the floor for \$27.00. Lot 221, Grenada keyplate revenues, est. at \$120.00 realized \$180.00 to a mail bidder with competition from the floor. The sale was small, 325 lots, and while there were some very nice items the gross sales amounted to less than \$6,000.00.

I want to take this moment to thank all who participated, both bidders and consignors, for their participation in this sale. Keep in mind that without your participation we could no longer offer this benefit to our membership.

Now we must set our sights squarely on our next effort, the joint BCPSG-BWISC sale in London. The sale will be held on the weekend prior to the London Stamp Show 2000 in May. The British West Indies Study Circle (BWISC) will host the joint meeting. The plan is to have a total of 800 lots in the sale. 500 lots are to be provided by the BWISC and 300 lots by the BCPSG. Translated, this means 100 people must provide three lots each to meet this commitment. No matter how large or small your consignment may be, please consider this opportunity to help the Group as well as the fact that you will reach a large audience to sell your material.

Consigning the very best material that you wish to part with will help make this joint venture a success. This sale will reach a large percentage of the active collectors in our areas of specialization. For this sale the commission rate will be ten percent of the hammer price. I am expecting a minimum value of \$40.00 or £25 per lot. We hope to make this a sale to remember. Please send me your consignments for this sale as soon as possible. I would appreciate having all consignments in hand well before November 1, 1999. The more time you give me to prepare the lots, the better job I am able to do. Please contact me if you have any questions:

*Ed Waterous*  
*P.O. Box 1105*  
*Homewood, IL 60430-0105*  
*Phone: (708)799-9339; (219)769-2840 (after July 1999)*  
*eMail: ewwaterous@hotmail.com*



## BVI Show Terrific Success

by Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca

The 8th Annual BVI Stamp Show was very successful and has been described as a truly memorable event. Collectors, exhibitors and flea market participants all went home, or to their hotels, smiling. The transactions at the flea market were boosted by scores of enthusiastic collectors who bought and swapped phone cards, stamps and covers. Making the event an even more special occasion was the presence of a delegation of almost thirty members of the Italy & Colonies Study Circle from the USA, Switzerland and the United Kingdom with their spouses. They came to Tortola to celebrate the Circle's Silver Jubilee and to hold their International Meeting while enjoying a week-long holiday in these "treasured islands." The exhibition itself was wonderful with frame after frame of breathtaking material of great historic and philatelic importance. The inaugural ribbon was cut by His Excellency Ag. Governor, Mr. Elton Georges who also enjoyed a guided tour of the exhibition and showed a keen interest in the technical aspects of the hobby.

The annual stamp show is non-competitive, but this year the public was asked to vote for the most popular display. And the winner was our own *Ione Cox* with her "Fauna & Flora on Stamps." This was not on technical ground or intrinsic merit, but it gave a clear indication of what type of exhibit is deemed most attractive by the general public. Hundreds visited the show both on Saturday and on Sunday and despite the catalyst effect of the flea market most visitors took time out to look at the exhibits. Indeed the Italy & Colonies Study Circles had displayed ten magnificent collections, some of them having won gold medals at major stamp events in Europe and USA. Nevertheless the BVI exhibitors defended themselves very honourably presenting some equally interesting and captivating exhibits.

A Philatelic Banquet with over seventy guests went off extremely well on Saturday night at Treasure Isle Hotel. A number of government dignitaries, including the Governor, were present. There was general consensus that the show was bigger than ever and that it was a huge success. Overseas visitors, including a sizable group from Martinique, St. Martin, Puerto Rico and St. Thomas, agreed that a stamp show of this calibre has all the potential for becoming a major attraction in the stamp world.

## An Early Dominica Cover

by Bob Swarbrick

In the December issue of the *BCPJ*, mention was made of early internal mail in Dominica.<sup>1</sup> A recent acquisition to my ever increasing collection of the postal history of the Royal Marines, from 1664 to date, must surely be the earliest recorded internal letter from Dominica.

Shown in Fig. 1, the letter is addressed to Captain Brough on *H.M.S. Panther*, and dated 8 April 1759. The letter, written in French by the merchant George Mayne, sets out the problems in fulfilling an order for provisions for *Panther*, especially the price of sea-fish, but goes on to say he is able to supply cheese.

*Panther* was part of a fleet under the command of Commodore Moore which captured Guadeloupe on 24 January 1759, but she was detached, together with five other vessels, to Prince Rupert's Bay in Dominica. Her purpose was to intercept and shadow the French fleet, which had arrived in the vicinity in an attempt to provide relief to the French Islands in the West Indies.

Loubiere is in the south of the island, near Roseau, and Prince Rupert's Bay is in the north near Portsmouth. Reader's interested in more information about this deployment may contact me, through the Editor of the *BCPJ*, for additional details.

### Reference

1. Wynstra, R., "Wesley Dominica Manuscript Cancellations," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, 38(4), December 1998, pp.115-118.

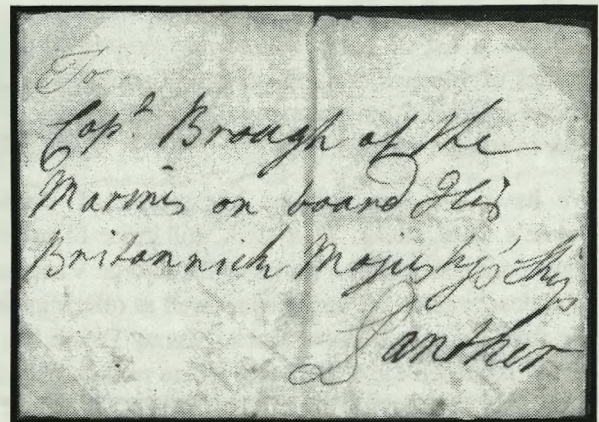


Figure 1. Dominican — 1759 internal letter.



## ***BCPSG Members Elevated to Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society London***

*by Dr. Gale J. Raymond*

**A**s a longtime USA Representative of the Royal Philatelic Society London, I can well attest to the long path involved in qualifying for consideration and, hopefully in time, being elected to fellowship in that distinguished and select international philatelic organization. Beyond the initial qualification of ten years membership alone, a member must have major accomplishments. Integrity is mandatory as are philatelic contributions including original research, published papers, exhibits, and handbooks.

At a meeting of the RPSL Council held on 14 January 1999, the following BCPSG members were elected Fellows of the Society:

- *Dr. Quintus Fernando*, Arizona
- *Dr. Ian A. Matheson*, South Africa
- *Dr. Roger Schnell*, Florida

Welcome, and congratulations on this recognition of your attainment in this difficult but most enjoyable avocation.

---

## ***George VI Newsletters***

**T**he Group has received several new publications. The spring, 1999 Issue of *George VI*, published by GVI Publishers, LLC of Buffalo Grove, IL, includes a list of back issues, many of which feature studies of varieties of issues for the Caribbean Islands. Those interested may see page 75 for information on how to contact the publisher.

We have also received the latest issue of Murray Payne's *Sixth Sense*. This slick, full color bi-monthly newsletter also features issues of the George VI reign. It includes research on varieties as well as offerings from the firm's comprehensive stock. Murray Payne has recently launched their Web site, where readers may find additional information about *Sixth Sense*.

## ***Letters to the Editor***

---

My March issue of the BCPJ fell open to the center page and Maynard Guss' member appeal immediately caught my eye. I'd like to add my 2c worth.

Our community's Kid's Stamp Club has sent boxes of stamps to Mr. Guss on two occasions, so far, on behalf of one of our members who was diagnosed with Syringomyelia at the age of seven. Stephanie is now 15, and she is hanging in there quite well. She and I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Guss last July at the ASAP conference, and I wish I had known that he was also a member of the BPCSG.

Thanks for printing the appeal as this topic affects at least two members. You see, Stephanie is my daughter.

*Jewel Yoder  
Delaware*

*It seems that many of the sick, infirm, and elderly have been able to enrich their lives in one way or another through stamp collecting. I hope this note inspires members to contribute to Mr. Guss' fine effort.*

---

My sympathy for the way your computer let you down and double paged 34. As a former Editor of the *BCPJ*, I had my share of goofs, but managed to catch most of them in the proofreading stage.

Unfortunately, my health prevents me from travel by air, so I can no longer attend BCPSG functions. However, I enjoy keeping up with group activities via the Journal and a letter now and then from a fellow member. I'm glad to have played a part in making our Journal a high quality, award winning publication, and hope that you and others carry on.

*Col. Fred Siefert  
New Mexico*

*Col. Seifert, a long-time member of the BCPSG, is not only a past editor of the BCPJ, but also a past president. I'm sure that Fred would welcome any and all correspondence from members, especially relating to British Guiana.*



## An Unusual 1864 Cover from Bahamas to Bermuda

M. H. Ludington

**F**ew early letters between the Bahamas and Bermuda are known, and though this one, shown in Fig. 1, appears to be quite straightforward, on further investigation it shows some unusual features.

It is a prepaid double rate cover with a pair of 4d Bahamas, watermark Crown & CC, perf. 12½, cancelled A05, (Type K1ii). A Nassau, New Providence, datestamp (Type N2) appears on the back. As shown in the inset, it is dated "OC 18 1864." Additionally, it is endorsed "Care of Messrs. Middleton & Co., New York" across the top of the front.



Middleton & Co. represented many Bermuda businesses in New York and often acted as Forwarding Agents. However, an oval Halifax datestamp "H OC 27 1864 NS," shown in the adjacent illustration, also appears on the back.

Though marked to go via New York, the shipping columns of the *New York Times* show that no vessel arrived at New York from Nassau between 18 and 27 October 1864, so the letter was carried directly from Nassau to Halifax.

This is confirmed by an item published in the *Bermuda Royal Gazette* of 15 November 1864, which quotes the *Halifax Reporter* of Saturday 29 October. This states that the blockade-runner "ELLEN, Capt. Waddell," (error for "HELEN (II), Capt. J. A. Wardell"), had arrived at Halifax from Nassau on 26 October for repairs. She had brought 750 bales of cotton to Nassau from Wilmington.

The letter was forwarded from Halifax to Bermuda by another vessel. As usual, there is no Bermuda arrival datestamp, nor did the addressee note the date of receipt. Having arrived at Halifax as a Ship Letter, it did not have to be forwarded by the Cunard Packet DELTA, (not ALPHA as listed in Ref. 1), which sailed on 10 November and

arrived on the 15th. This, in any case, seems rather late, since three sailing vessels, all known to have carried Ship Mails, arrived earlier from Halifax. These were the bark ELIZA BARSS, which arrived at Hamilton on 1 November, almost certainly too early, the brigantine PENGUIN, which arrived at Hamilton on the 5th, and the brigantine CHEBUCTO, which arrived at St. Georges on the 10th. The PENGUIN seems the most likely.

The HELEN (II) was a steamer of 342 registered tons, which arrived from London at St. Georges on 6 April and sailed on the 27th for Wilmington. She made three more round trips through the blockade from Bermuda, but left St. Georges on 10 August because of the yellow fever epidemic and went to Halifax, from where she ran the blockade at least once, returning to Nassau. After completing her repairs, she cleared Halifax for Bermuda on 18 January 1865, but there is no record of her arrival at this late date, and she undoubtedly returned to England, for she is known to have survived the war.

### Reference

1. Arnell, J.C. and Ludington, M.H., *The Bermuda Packet Mails and the Halifax-Bermuda Mail Service, 1806 to 1886*, Postal History Society (U.K.), 1965.

*This article was kindly provided by Michel Forand. Please see the extended memorandum to Mr. Ludington on page 65. — Ed.*

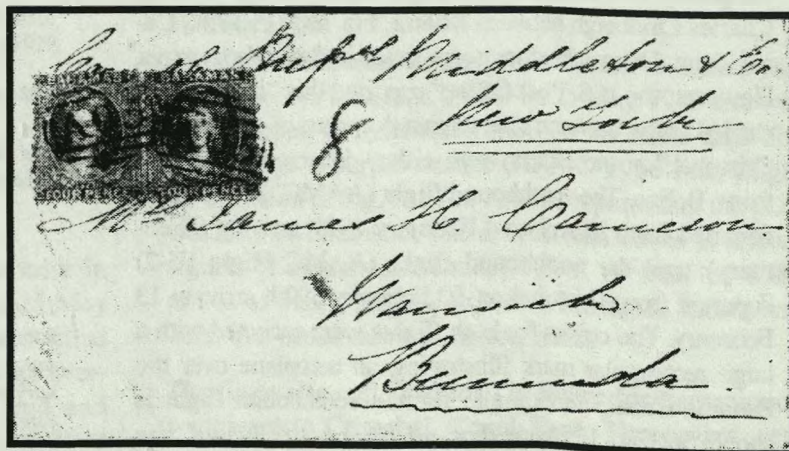


Figure 1. Cover from Nassau, Bahamas to Warwick, Bermuda via Halifax.



## The Development of the British Honduras Airmail Service

by Ian Matheson

This article presents a comprehensive chronological history of the evolution and development of the airmail service in the British Honduras, from its earliest beginnings until the 1960s.

### Background

The earliest aeroplane visited British Honduras in 1927. Lowe<sup>1</sup> states that:

*Colonel Charles Lindbergh, in a Ryan monoplane "The Spirit of St. Louis" took off from Boiling Field, Washington D.C. on 13 December 1927 on a non-stop flight to Mexico City, to be followed by a goodwill tour of Central America. British Honduras was the only British Colony he visited on this tour and this was the first land plane to visit Belize. He arrived on 30 December 1927 from Guatemala City. No mail was carried.*

The late Owen Phillips, eminent British Honduras philatelist, recounted<sup>2</sup> how, as a young constable on duty at the time, he had joined a party to clear a landing strip for Lindbergh to land. While in Belize, the Belizean crest was painted on the nose of the plane, and can apparently still be seen. The "Spirit of St. Louis" is now preserved in Washington DC. Belize issued a 35c stamp in 1976 which showed Lindbergh in Belize with his aeroplane — the first to land in British Honduras.

The first airmails to arrive in Belize were carried on the temporary Pan American Airways service inaugurated by Charles Lindbergh between Miami, Fla. and Cristobal, Canal Zone. Overnight stops were made in Belize both ways. However, the U.S. Post Office<sup>3</sup> reported that "mail will be carried only between the terminal points of Miami and Cristobal," so no letters were either delivered to, or sent from, Belize. The southbound flight (AAMC<sup>4</sup> Flight F5-1) departed from Miami on 4 February 1929, arriving 6 February; and the northbound flight (AAMC Flight F5-2) departed from Cristobal on 10 February 1929, arriving 13 February. The covers for both flights were cacheted with a large rectangular mark illustrating an aeroplane over the Panama Canal, an example for the southbound flight is shown in Fig. 1. [Note that all figures are actual size unless otherwise indicated.]



Figure 1. Miami-Canal Zone, 327 pieces carried  
Black cachet (AAMC Type 5a, Flight F5-1)

### 10th May 1929

Lowe<sup>1</sup> reports that on 10th May 1929 the U.S. Post Office announced that "deliveries of airmail despatches will be made at Belize, British Honduras; Tela, Republic of Honduras and Managua, Nicaragua as well as at Cristobal, C.Z."

Notice No. 266 in the *British Honduras Government Gazette*<sup>5</sup> of 18 May 1929 stated:

#### AIR MAIL SERVICE

*Air Mail services between Belize and certain countries will be inaugurated on or about the 20th May 1929.*

*Air Mails will at present be made up for the under-mentioned places:-*

MIAMI, Florida	Wednesdays	3:00 p.m.
	Fridays	3:00 p.m.
HAVANA, Cuba	Saturdays	11:30 a.m.

*The particulars of other Air Routes when available will be announced from time to time.*

#### GENERAL CONDITIONS

##### Letter Air Mails

1. Any kind of letter packet may be sent by Air Mail, that is, letters, postcards, printed papers and commercial papers, and samples. An Air Mail packet may be posted in any of the ordinary ways of posting. It can be accepted for registration, but it cannot at present be insured. Express delivery is given if the express fee is paid.



2. A special blue Air Mail label should be affixed to the top left hand corner of every Air Mail packet. These labels may be obtained free of charge at the Post Office. If an Air Mail label is not available, the packet should be clearly marked "By Air Mail", but the use of a label will expedite the treatment of the packet.

3. The special air fee payable in addition to the ordinary postage is at the rate of 25 cents for each half ounce or fraction.

4. Air Mail correspondence must be prepaid in stamps with ordinary postage and, in addition, the appropriate Air Mail fee. If the Air Mail fee is not properly prepaid, the packet will not go by Air Mail.

5. Correspondence for transmission by Air Mail posted outside of Belize will be transmitted to the Belize Post Office by ordinary mail, where it will be included in the Air Mail from that office.

6. Air Mail correspondence from Belize for the United States or via the United States will obtain Air Mail transmission in that country as far as available.

H.W.BEAUMONT  
Colonial Postmaster

10th May 1929

A second notice, No. 267, appearing in the same Gazette, noted:

BRITISH HONDURAS

AIR MAIL FEE

REGULATION made by the Governor in Council under Section 6 of the Post Office Ordinance - Chapter 45 of the Consolidated Laws, 1924

The Air Mail fee on a letter or other article addressed to places abroad for conveyance by air mail shall be at the rate of twenty-five cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof, in addition to the ordinary postage payable on such letter or other article.

This Regulation shall come into effect as from the 20th day of May, 1929.

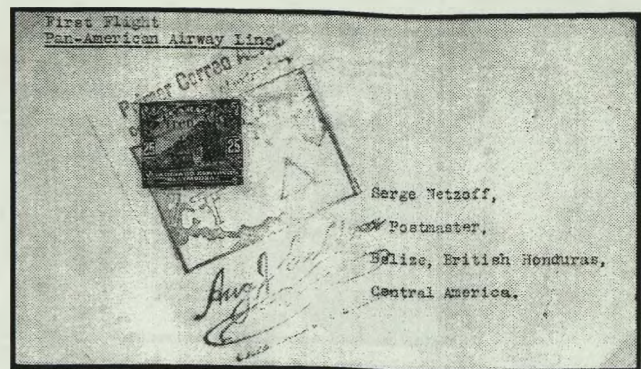
Made by the Governor in Council this 15th day of May, 1929.

R.GABOUREL

Acting Clerk of the Executive Council

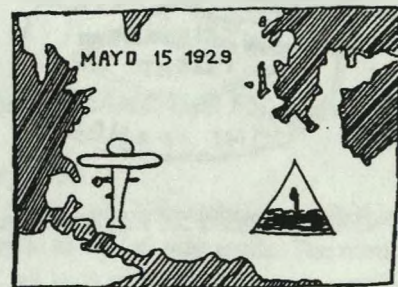
15 May 1929

The first northbound airmail on the service to arrive in Belize was sent from Managua, Nicaragua on 15 May 1929. Covers are rare, and the actual number dispatched to Belize is not known. Special Nicaraguan stamps over-printed "Correo Aereo/1929/P.A.A." were used and cancelled with a large rectangular cachet (AAMC Type F5f, flight F5-7b, shown in Fig. 2 both on and off cover.)



Reduced 50%

Primer Correo Aereo  
De Managua, Nic. al extranjero



Aug J. Caldera

Director General de Comunicaciones

Figure 2. AAMC Type 5f, Flight F-7b, first flight cover from Managua, Nicaragua to Belize.

The reverse of the covers bears an additional strike of the cachet, but no Belize receipt datestamp, which is rather surprising. Covers from the same flight were sent to Tela, Havana and Miami.

21 May 1929

The first southbound airmail from Miami to Belize was postmarked in Miami at 05h30 on 21 May 1929 and was backstamped in Belize at 18h00 on the same day. The covers bore a purple cachet (AAMC Type F5c, Flight F5-3, shown in Fig. 3). The AAMC reports that the pilot was S. J. Williamson, but at least one cover is known signed "Edward G. Schultz, Pilot." A total of 3781 pieces of mail were dispatched to Managua, Belize and Tela. The postal rate was fifteen cents.

The flight also collected mail in Belize for transmission southward to Cristobal, Canal Zone. The covers were postmarked in Belize at 10-AM/23 MY/29 and were struck with AAMC cachet Type F5e, shown in Fig. 4, in





Figure 3. AAMC Type F5c, Flight F5-3a.



Figure 4. AAMC Type F5e, Flights F5-4 and F5-5

violet. A total of 33 covers were delivered to Tela (Flight F5-4a), 25 to Managua (Flight F5-4b), and 60 to Cristobal (Flight F5-4). The receipt markings on the Tela covers have not been seen by the author. The Managua covers were backstamped on arrival on 24 May, and the Cristobal covers were backstamped 4PM, 25 May 1929.

At the same time as the flight was heading southwards to Cristobal, another flight was headed north from Cristobal to Miami. There were 363 items cancelled in Cristobal at 06h00 on 21 May 1929 for transmission to Belize (AAMC Flight F5-7b). They bore an AAMC Type F5d cachet in black (see Fig. 5) and were backstamped on arrival in Belize the following day. Letters were collected in Belize for carriage north. Twenty-six letters were carried to Havana. (Flight F5-5a) and 697 to Miami (Flight F5-5). Both were postmarked in Belize at 2-PM/22 MY/29 and bore a purple Type F5e cachet. Some northbound covers are known with a private cachet, Type AM1 shown in Fig. 6, in addition to Type F5e.

As advised in the *Gazette*, the postage rate from Belize for these services was 25 cents plus the surface rate. This was not always understood and several covers are known franked with only 25 cents and taxed accordingly.

A further flight (AAMC Flight F5-9c) carried 80 letters from Panama City to Belize en route to Miami. These covers were cancelled in Panama on 22 May 1929 and



Figure 5. AAMC Type F5d, Flight F5-8c.

## Primer Correo Aereo Cristobal--Miami Via: Belize-Miami-New York

Figure 6. Type AM1 cachet.

were backstamped on receipt in Belize at 2-PM/24 MY/1929. The covers were struck with a Type F5g cachet in purple. Mail for this flight is also known from Colon, Panama (AAMC Flight F5-10c). Both cachets are shown in Fig. 7. Each of the 165 letters carried was endorsed with a cachet similar to Type F5g but inscribed "COLON" for "PANAMA." Obviously the covers have the same Belize receipt marking as Flight F5-9c.

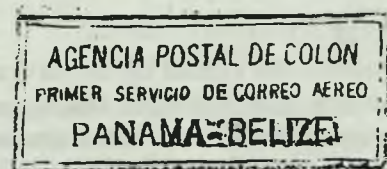
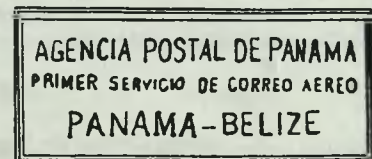


Figure 7. AAMC Type F5g, Flight F5-9c (Panama) and Flight F5-10c (Colon).



**3 August 1929**

The *Gazette* contained Notice No.415:

**BRITISH HONDURAS****AIR MAIL FEE**

*REGULATIONS made by the Governor in Council under section 6 of the Post Office Ordinance - Chapter 45 of the Consolidated Laws, 1924*

*The Air Mail Fee on a letter or other article, addressed to a place in North America (namely Canada, the United States or Mexico) Central America and Panama for conveyance by air mail shall be at the rate of twenty-five cents for each half-ounce or fraction thereof, in addition to the ordinary postage payable on such letter or other article.*

*Letters or other articles addressed to other places for conveyance by air mail shall be chargeable with additional Fees equivalent to the charges levied by other countries for transmission by such air routes as may be used.*

*The Regulation made by the Governor in Council on the 15th day of May, 1929, is hereby rescinded.*

*This Regulation shall come into effect as from the 31st day of July, 1929.*

*Made by the Governor in Council this thirty-first day of July, 1929.*

*E.O.B. BARROW*

*Clerk of the Executive Council*

**21 September 1929**

The AAMC reports that the first flights from the Republic of Honduras departed from Tela on 21 September 1929 (Flight AAMC F5-25a) for Belize, arriving the following day. The pilot was S.J. Williamson. There was no special cachet, but the stamps were cancelled with a circle and bar marking showing a plane and the words "USE EL CORREO AEREO" in red.

**10 October 1929**

On 10 October 1929 the first airmails were accepted in UK for transmission to Belize. The letters were to be carried across the Atlantic by the *Aquitania* and would be flown by air mail from New York to Belize via FAM 5. 38 letters were reportedly carried. The airmail surcharge was 1/- per half ounce. Proud<sup>6</sup> reports that the airmail surcharge via New York and US FAM 5 was 1/- from 9 October 1929 to October 1934.

**21 October 1929**

Twelve covers were carried on a first flight from Argentina to Belize. There was no cachet.

**29 October 1929**

Six covers were reportedly carried from Belize to Cozumel, Mexico. Again, there was no cachet.

PRIMER CORREO AEREO  
INTERNACIONAL  
ENERO N. 1930



*S.J. Williamson*  
PRIMER CORREO AEREO

Figure 8. AAMC Type F5j, Flights F5-30a.

**1 January 1930**

The first flight from San Salvador to Belize (Flight F5-30a) en route to Miami was made. The number of letters carried is not known. The letters were struck with cachet Type F5j, shown in Fig. 8, and were received in Belize on the same day.

On the following day a stamp dealer Dr. Walter Hess introduced a series of unofficial philatelic first flight covers. He had prepared a special cachet for a flight one year earlier (on 2 January 1929) inscribed "BY FIRST AIR MAIL/TO MIAMI, FLA" in pinkish-red, and applied it to covers flown from Nassau to Miami on that date. Now, on 2 January 1930, he addressed covers from Nassau to various points in the Caribbean area. A few covers to Belize were included. These covers, one of which is shown in Fig. 9, are franked with Bahamas and US postage stamps and bear two cachets. The first indicating the first daily flight from Nassau to Miami (in pink), and the second indicating the first flight from Nassau to British Honduras, noting resumed service, in pinkish-red (Types AM2a and AM2b, respectively, as shown in Fig. 10.) The Bahamas stamps were cancelled in Nassau on 2 JAN, the US stamps were cancelled in Miami on the same day and the Belize receipt datestamp is dated 4 JAN.

**23 January 1930**

One cover was reportedly carried on a special flight to San Salvador. There was no cachet.

**11 March 1930**

The first flight from San Jose in Costa Rica (AAMC Flight F5-40d) departed. Twenty-two letters were carried to Belize; each was struck with cachet Type F5k,



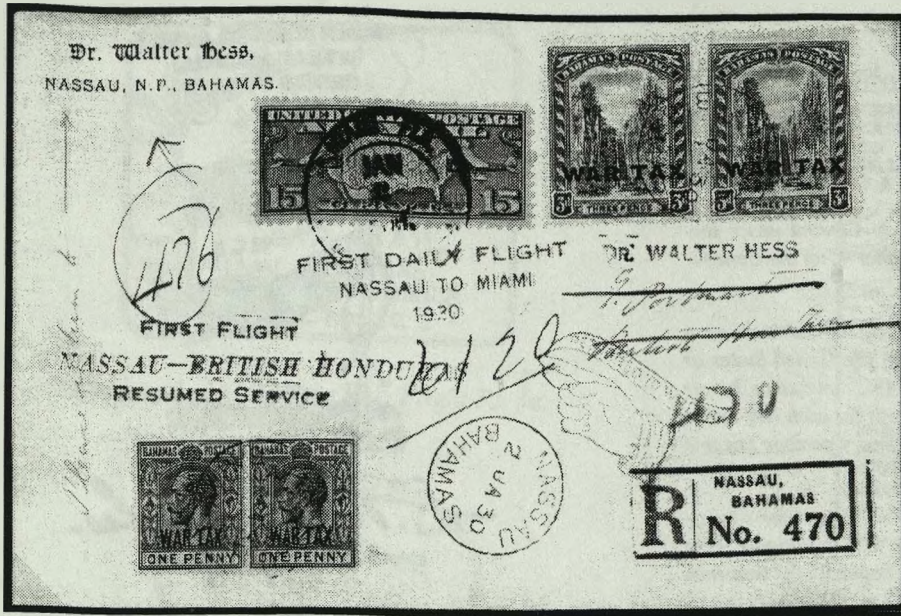


Figure 9. Hess cover from Nassau to Belize, 2 January 1930 showing private cachets AM2a and AM2b.

FIRST DAILY FLIGHT  
NASSAU TO MIAMI  
1930

FIRST FLIGHT  
NASSAU-BRITISH HONDURAS  
RESUMED SERVICE

Figure 10. Type AM2a (above) and Type AM2b (below).

shown in Fig. 11. The covers were received in Belize at 3-PM/12 MR/30.

**17 March 1930**

Lockie<sup>7</sup> reports that three covers were carried from Belize to Guatemala City. No cachet was employed.



Figure 11. AAMC Type F5k, Flight F5-40d.

Huber<sup>8</sup> notes that “Three denominations of air stamps, 15c., 20c. and 30c., were ordered in February 1930, and were expected to be on issue by the 1st of July.”

However, in a circular of 15 September 1930, the Colonial Postmaster at Belize, H.W. Beaumont, advised that:

*The issue of these (15c, 20c and 30c air) stamps has been deferred for the present. I shall be glad to be informed of your desire for the disposal of the remittance now held on deposit for you*

*It is understood that the Colonial Office in London opposes the issue of Colonial air*

*stamps, as the Postal Administration of Great Britain does not consider special stamps necessary for the prepayment of air charges. The objection is responsible for the non-appearance of the airmail stamp requisitioned by the postal authorities at Nassau, Bahamas, about the same time.*

*My information is that an aeroplane approaching the coast of the Colony was to be pictured on the British Honduras airmail stamps.*

**30 April 1930**

The Gazette stated that the PAA airmail and passenger service would have the plane arriving on Saturday withdrawn from service with effect from 26 April (retrospectively).

**1 May 1930**

The first flight from Belize to Maracaibo, Venezuela departed. Four covers were sent. No cachet was employed. One such cover is known to the author; it is franked 40 cents and is postmarked on receipt in Maracaibo on 5 May, prior to being returned to New York (18 May) and Syracuse (19/20 May).

**11 June 1930**

Mail was carried by air from Mexico City to Belize. The letters were backstamped on arrival in Belize (11-AM/ 14 JU/30) and were struck with cachet Type AM3 illustrated in Fig. 12. The transit time indicates that the flight could not have been a direct one but further details are sought.





Figure 12. AAMC Type AM3.

### 26 June 1930

The *Gazette* announced that as from 4 July 1930 a new PAA schedule would be introduced. No overnight stop would be made at Belize. Hence, southbound mails would be made up on Friday and Saturday at 10h15 and northbound mails would be made up on Saturdays and Mondays at 08h00.

### 31 July 1930

The *Gazette* advised a further change to the schedule:

No. 383. GENERAL POST OFFICE  
Belize, 31 July 1930

#### AIR MAIL SERVICE

With reference to Gazette Notice No. 323 of the 26th ultimo, it is hereby notified for general information that the closing time for Air Mails has now been fixed as follows:-

To places	Fridays	
SOUTH of Belize	Saturdays	10:30 A.M

To places	Saturdays	
NORTH of Belize	Mondays	8:30 A.M.

Late letters may be posted at the Wireless Station -

To places	Fridays	
SOUTH	Sundays	11:30 A.M

To places	Saturdays	
NORTH	Mondays	9:00 A.M.

### 25 August 1930

A further change was gazetted in that the closing time for southbound mails was changed to 09h30 on Fridays, but the Saturday closure was unchanged.

The first air mails from Jamaica to Belize departed from Kingston on 10 December 1930. The mail was first carried on the first flight from Kingston to Miami (3186 letters carried, AAMC Flight F5-67) and then a small portion of this mail, reportedly five ounces, was forwarded to Belize. It bore the Type F5s cachet, shown in



Reduced 30%

Figure 13. AAMC Type F5s, Flight F5-67.

Fig. 13, from the US leg. The letters were backstamped on receipt in Belize at 5pm on 14 December 1930.

### 7 February 1931

The *Gazette* carried further information concerning the closing time for the mails:

No. 55

GENERAL POST OFFICE  
Belize, 29 January 1931

#### AIR MAIL SERVICE

WITH reference to Gazette Notice No. 383 of the 11th July 1930, it is hereby notified for general information that the closing time for Air Mails will in future be as follows:-

To places	Mondays	
NORTH of Belize	Thursdays	8:30 A.M

To places	Tuesdays	
SOUTH of Belize	Fridays	9:30 A.M.

Late letters may be posted at the office of the Pan-American Airways, Newtown Barracks, up to fifteen minutes before the departure of the planes.

By Order.  
H.W.BEAUMONT  
Colonial Postmaster.

### 10 February 1931

This was an important day in Caribbean aerophilately. This was the occasion of the "completion of the Lindbergh Circle" whereby the FAM 5 and FAM 6 routes were integrated by the service from Canal Zone through Maturin and Venezuela to Trinidad, with Port-of Spain being the link with FAM 6. Twelve covers were carried from Port-of-Spain, Trinidad to Belize (AAMC Flight F5-97g).

### 2 March 1931

AAMC Flight F5-100b carried 82 letters from Havana to Belize. These were all marked with cachet type F5z, shown in Fig. 14.



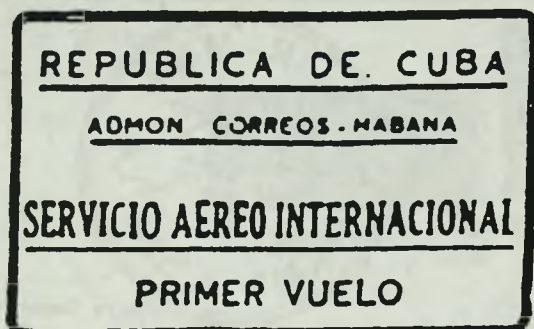


Figure 14. AAMC Type F5z, Flight F5-100b.

## 2 December 1931

Another schedule change was reported in the *Gazette*. The new closing time for the southbound airmail was described as "Saturdays 09h30 for Puerto Barrios, San Salvador, Managua and Panama," and the northbound service closing time was described as "Saturdays 11h30 for Payo Obispiovia, Merida, Havana and Miami." Late letters could be posted at the office of Pan-American Airways, Newtown Barracks up to the arrival of the plane.

Special first flight cachets were used for this new service. Eighty-six covers were carried from Belize to Puerto Barrios (AAMC Flight F5-125) on 5 December 1931. Forty-eight covers were carried to Merida (Flight F5-125a) and five covers were carried to Payo Obispio (Flight F5-125b) also on 5 December 1931. Covers from each of these three flights were struck with a purple Type AM4 cachet, shown in Fig. 15, in Belize. The covers to Puerto Barrios were backstamped with a "Reciada en Puerto Barrios" duplex of 5 Dec 1931, and were also struck with a Type F5ff (Fig. 16) cachet on arrival. The covers to Merida were backstamped "6 DIC 31. 17-10" on arrival, and, although postmarked in Be-

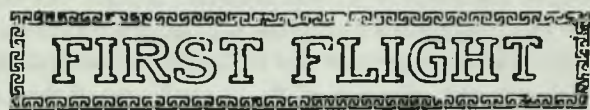


Figure 15. Type AM4.

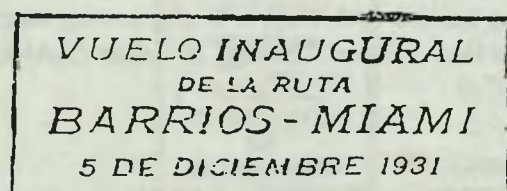


Figure 16. AAMC Type F5ff, Flight F5-125.

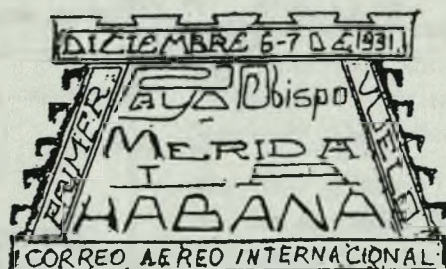
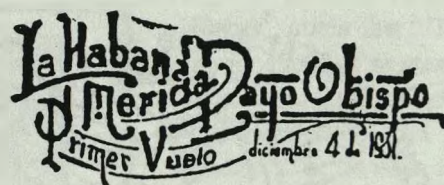


Figure 17. AAMC Type F5dd (above) and F5ee (below.)

elize on 5 December, must have left Belize on 6 December 1931. The postal rate was 20c.

First flight covers are also known from Puerto Barrios to Belize (unlisted in AAMC) with Guatemalan stamps overprinted "Primer Vuelo / Postal / BARRIOS- / MIAMI / 1931," postmarked with a "Correos de Puerto Barrios" duplex dated "5 DIC 1931," struck with a Type F5ff cachet, and backstamped on receipt in Belize at 2pm on 6 December 1931. Southbound covers from Merida to Belize (Flight F5-117b) were postmarked "4 DIC 31" in Merida, bore a purple Type F5dd cachet, and were backstamped on receipt in Belize at 2pm on 5 December 1931. The AAMC reports incorrectly that Type F5ee was used on this southbound mail from Merida. Both types are shown in Fig. 17. However Type F5ee was struck as a receipt mark (in addition to the Merida datestamp of 6 Dec 1931) on northbound letters from Belize to Merida. Twenty covers were sent from Payo Obispio to Belize (Flight F5-119a), and were postmarked "Payo Obispio 5 DIC 31." They also reached Belize at 2pm on 5 December; they travelled on the same flight as the Merida covers (Flight F5-117b).

There does not appear to be any record of the number on the other first flights coming into Belize from the north or south, but they appear to be very scarce.

Further service changes were detailed in the *Gazette* in 1932-33 as described in the following sections.

## 4 February 1932

It was announced that the southbound mail service closed at 15h00 on Thursdays (formerly Tuesday), and a new northbound service took different routes on alternate weeks. The two routes were Belize-Puerto Barrios-



New Orleans (closing at 10h00 on Monday), and Belize -New Orleans direct (closing at 15h00 on Monday). No special covers were used on this New Orleans service.

**3 March 1932**

The *Gazette* advised that the closing time for airmails to Puerto Barrios, San Salvador, Managua and Panama was 08h30 on Saturday, and confirmed that late letters could be posted at the Pan-American Airways Office at Newtown Barracks.

**19 July 1932**

It was advised that the southern service would close at 10h00 on Monday instead of Tuesday. The New Orleans service would run on alternative weeks as Belize - Puerto Barrios-New Orleans (closing 10h00 Monday) and Belize-New Orleans direct (closing 15h00 Thursday).

**26 April 1933**

The closure of the southern service was changed from 10h00 Monday to 10h00 Friday. The alternating north-bound service remained unchanged.

**19 October 1933**

A registered cover is recorded from Belize to Stelton, New Jersey postmarked in Belize on 19 October 1933 and endorsed in manuscript "via airmail Belize, British Honduras to Chicago - flt FAM 5 / via Graf Zeppelin Chicago Akron to Friedrichshafen." The cover is further manually endorsed "Graf Zeppelin does not carry registered mail." The cover is franked with 30c in British Honduras stamps and 63c in US stamps (including 5c face value on postal stationery.) The cover arrived in Akron on 28 October.

**4 April 1936**

Field<sup>9</sup> reports that on 4 April 1935 a letter sent from Belize to Demarara (British Guiana) was involved in an

air crash off Trinidad. The cover received a violet one-line cachet "RECEIVED DAMAGED." There is no record of this crash in Eisendrath,<sup>10</sup> but the AAMC reports that on 11 April 1936 (N.B. 1936!), Capt. C.D.Culbertson, on the Miami-Rio de Janeiro route, crashed at Port-of-Spain. He "ground-looped" on the water to avoid hitting a boat on take-off. Sixty-nine pounds of wet mail were recovered, of which some were cacheted.

**24 April 1936**

Details were announced in the *Gazette* of an agreement between USA and Germany, whereby a Zeppelin flight would be operated between Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany and Lakehurst, New Jersey. Ten return trips would be made in Spring and Summer (2 May, 1 June, 2 July, 2 August, 1 September, 2 October). The first flight of 6th May 1935 (sic) arrives in New Jersey on 9 May and returns on the 9th or 10th May. The cost of letters from British Honduras via Zeppelin was to be 46c per half ounce in addition to the ordinary price. The *Gazette* of 29 May 1936 published the following schedule for the Hindenberg:

Depart Frankfurt-am-Main	Arrive Lakehurst	Depart Lakehurst	Arrive Frankfurt-am-Main
6 May	9 May	11 May	14 May
16 May	19 May	20 May	23 May
19 June	22 June	23 June	26 June
29 June	2 July	3 July	6 July
10 July	13 July	14 July	17 July
5 August	8 August	9 August	12 August
15 August	18 August	19 August	22 August
17 September	20 September	21 September	24 September
26 September	29 September	30 September	3 October
5 October	8 October	9 October	12 October

There is no indication of the volume of mail which entered this service from Belize.



Reduced 25%

Figure 18. Type AM5a, Type AM5b, and Type AM6.



**22 February 1937**

The *Gazette* announced, "Air Mails for carriage by plane will be closed on Fridays at 12h45. Supplementary mail will be closed at the PAA Office at the airport at 13h45 the same day."

**17 August 1937**

An internal airmail service between Belize and Cayo was inaugurated by TACA (Transportes Aereos Centro-Americanos). Special cacheted covers (Types AM5a and AM5b shown in Fig. 18) were prepared by E.O. Bunting Barrow. 129 letters were carried to Cayo and 91 on the return trip to Belize.

**15 March 1939**

A similar service was started between Punta Gorda and Belize. No special covers were carried on the first flight to Punta Gorda, but 60 letters were carried on the return leg. Again special cacheted covers (Type AM6, also shown in Fig. 18) were prepared for the event.

**3 June 1939**

The *Gazette* announced the introduction of a USA - Europe airmail service. The route would be New York - Marseilles via Azores and Portugal. The rate would be 20c per quarter ounce in addition to the airmail rate to USA. In fact the first flight on this service (FAM 18) had departed from New York on 20 May 1939.

**1 June 1940**

A long publication in the *Gazette* provided extensive information on the rates and routes for war time air mails. The text is presented below, and the rate details are found in Appendix E (see pages 68-70).

No. 352

M.P. 02533

General Post Office,  
Belize, 1st June, 1940.

**AIR MAIL SERVICES  
GENERAL INFORMATION**

*LETTERS and POSTCARDS for the countries indicated below are sent (subject to War restrictions) by Air Mail on payment of the air postage rates shown, in addition to the ordinary surface rates. PRINTED PAPERS, COMMERCIAL PAPERS, SAMPLES and SMALL PACKETS (to those countries which participate in the small packet service) must be prepaid at the letter rate, if sent by Air Mail.*

*Air mail correspondence can be registered, but not insured, and the ordinary arrangements for express delivery and the use of the green label system (for articles liable to Customs duty) apply.*

*A special blue Air Mail label must be affixed to the top left-hand corner of each item. These labels may be obtained free of charge at the Post Office. Alternatively, the indication "By Air Mail" may be written prominently in the same position, but absence of the Air Mail label may lead to delay.*

*In the following table the approximate times of transmission quoted in column 4 cover transmission from Belize to the capital cities; they do not include the time occupied in collection and delivery.*

**20 November 1940**

Several covers are known posted from Belize at 2pm on 20 November 1940 with the typed inscription "**First flight Cover - Belize, British Honduras to New Orleans, La. American Export Airlines - Gulf of Mexico Short Cut Route.**" The covers are rated 20c (15c airmail plus 5c surface rate) and were backstamped in New Orleans on 21 November 1940. No special cachet was used.

A cover has been seen from Belize to Massachusetts franked with 20c in British Honduras KG VI adhesives and bearing a 21mm x 4½ mm cachet in violet "**VIA MIAMI**" (Type AM7). This is illustrated in Fig. 19. The date of use is unclear. This mark was probably used to distinguish the Miami route from the Brownsville-San Antonio route or the New Orleans route, both popular at the time.

VIA-MIAMI

Figure 19. Type AM7.

**28 November 1942**

The *Gazette* announced the introduction of Air Mail Restrictions:

*Due to present conditions, only letters weighing not more than two ounces can be accepted for transmission by air to points beyond the limits of USA. This does not apply to Mexico, Central America, South America, West Indies, Caribbean Islands, Alaska, Canada, Newfoundland. The public are requested to use the lightest possible stationery for overseas correspondence.*

**18 November 1944**

A notice in the *Gazette* introduced aerogrammes to British Honduras:

*On 1 December a lightweight air service is to be introduced to UK. Each letter must be written on a special form (obtainable at all principal post offices in the Colony at one cent each) and the postage will be at the flat rate of 15c a letter. These letters will*



*normally be forwarded with ordinary air mail correspondence by the Transatlantic air mail service.*

#### 4 June 1945

The *Gazette* announced an extension of airmail service and a reconfirmation of the letter rate:

No.383.

M.P. 1031/44

General Post Office,  
Belize, 4th June, 1945.

#### LIGHTWEIGHT AIR-LETTER SERVICE

*With reference to Notice No. 671 published in the Gazette of the 18th November, 1944, it is hereby notified that the light-weight air-letter service will, as from the 11th June, extend to the West Indies and other Empire Countries, and that the postage will be the existing flat rate of 15c a letter.*

F.C.P.BOWEN,  
Colonial Postmaster.

#### 10 April 1946

The *Gazette* introduced a reduced air mail rate on mails to certain Caribbean destinations, noting that "Mails for Nevis, British Virgin Islands, Montserrat and Dominica will be sent by air to the nearest points for onward transmission by surface, when prepaid at the rate of five cents for each half ounce."

#### 18 June 1946

An air mail service was introduced between Jamaica and Belize by British West Indian Airways Limited. A cover seen by the author was sent from Bridgetown, Barbados to Belize. It was signed by J. Percy Taylor, the Branch Manager of BWIA in Bridgetown and is endorsed "B.W.I.A. Ltd Airmail via Jamaica" in manuscript and has the typed inscription "FIRST FLIGHT JAMAICA / BELIZE (British Honduras) 18th June 1946." And is also endorsed "Capt. W.Cash (Pilot)/Capt. R.Williams (Co-pilot)/Miss Y Edghill (Hostess)." It was sent from Bridgetown at 08h30 on 15th June 1946 and was postmarked on arrival in Belize at noon on 18 July 1946. A complementary cover is known sent from Belize to J. Percy Taylor, BWIA Branch Manager in Barbados and is endorsed "VIA BWIA First Flight BELIZE/JAMAICA 18th June '46." The cover was postmarked in Belize on 21 June and does not bear a receipt mark. It is not known how many covers were carried on this first flight.

An Eastern Airlines Lockheed 649a Constellation from Miami crashed on landing at Logan Airport Boston at

04h17 on 21 January 1948. At least one cover from British Honduras was on board. It was forwarded to its destination with a typewritten explanatory note from Patrick J. Connelly, postmaster at Boston.

#### 4 October 1950

A short-lived service by Caribbean International Airways Ltd. from Tampa to Belize via the Cayman Islands was introduced.

#### February-March 1953

Following the introduction of formula aerogrammes in 1944, British Honduras issued its own aerogrammes. Although this was after the accession of Queen Elizabeth II, they were imprinted with the King George VI definitive design (mahogany logs in river). Of the known proofs, one is endorsed "Approved 4/12" (1952). The aerogramme prepaid the rate to USA and Commonwealth countries, but additional adhesives were required to other destinations.

This aerogramme was superseded in 1955 by a QE II letter with the imprinted design of the current 10c definitive (Stanley Field Airport), issued on 1 October 1955. Subsequent designs followed the new definitive issues and featured the 10c Scarlet Macaw (1964) and the 10c Gibnut (1968/9).

The air mail rate was increased from 10c to 15c in 1968 and aerogrammes are found with the 1964 type uprated by the addition of a 5c adhesive in 1968 and early 1969. It would appear that the 15c rate was introduced before the 10c Gibnut forms were generally available, rendering the Gibnut aerogramme immediately underfranked. The author has seen the ten cents rate used without an additional 5c adhesive as late as February 1970, but this may be either a Post Office oversight, or else a philatelic strike which never passed through the mail.

The 10c Gibnut aerogramme was eventually replaced by the 15c Dolphin type in 1970 or 1971, years after the increase in the postal rates.

#### 31 December 1966

A cover is known franked with 40c in British Honduras adhesives postmarked in Belize on 31 December 1966. However the cover has a typed endorsement indicating that it was carried by TACA Airlines BAC-111 from New Orleans to Belize on 28 December 1966, and is signed by the pilot of that flight. It is reported that only one cover was carried.



## Conclusion

This article has presented an overview of the airmail service in British Honduras. Naturally, there will always be new information that is unearthed. In particular, the author solicits assistance from readers in providing details on the Zeppelin service via the Belize PO, including details of covers, anecdotes, and other data. Also required is more detail on actual dates and facts concerning routes and rates, information on the Forces airmail service, extensions to dates of usage of postal markings, general background information about the air-mail service, copies of photos, press cuttings, and any other relevant collateral material. Finally, the author requests that readers report any corrections to the information presented. Comments may be addressed to either the Editor of the *BCPJ*, or directly to:

Ian Matheson

P.O.Box 533

2054 Kelvin, South Africa.

eMail: ian.matheson@sabreweries.com

## End Notes

1. Lowe, R., *The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Vol. V (North America)*, Robson Lowe, London, 1973.
2. Phillips, O. N. D., Private communication.
3. *U.S.P.O. Bulletin*, United States Post Office, May, 1929.

4. AAMC is used throughout the article to denote the American Air Mail Catalogue and its flight nomenclature:

*American Air Mail Catalogue*, American Air Mail Society, Vol. 1, November, 1998.

5. To avoid redundancy, all subsequent references to the *British Honduras Government Gazette* will simply be *Gazette*.
6. Proud, E., *Postal History of British Airmails*, Postal History Publishing Co., England, 1991.
7. Lockie, J. M., "Air Mails of the West Indies," Brochure and supplement published by BCPSG, Jan., 1964.
8. Huber, H. E., *The Stamp Lover*, Vol. 22, 1932, p. 151.
9. Field, F. J., *Aero Magazine*, 16(7), year unknown.
10. Eisendrath, J.L. *Crash Covers - An Aerophilatelic Challenge*, American Airmail Society, Cinnaminson, NJ, 1979.
11. McQueen, I., *Jusqu'a Airmail Markings (A Study)*, Kent, 1993.
12. Smythe, D.D., "Unravelling a Philatelic Mystery - Meaning and Purpose of AV2 and OAT Markings" *American Philatelist*, 75(12), September 1962, pp. 903

*Additional information on miscellaneous related topics is presented in Appendices A-E starting on the following page.*

## BVI New Issues

by Giorgio Migliavacca

On April 30th, 1999, the BVI Postal Authorities have added more reptiles to gallery of philatelic issues with a set of four stamps and one souvenir sheet. The new series features lizards such as the Rock Iguana (5c.), Pygmy Gecko (35c.), Slippery Back Skink (60c.) and Wood Slave Gecko (\$1.50). The Souvenir Sheet consists of four 75c. denominations featuring more lizards such as the Doctor Lizard, Yellow Bellied Lizard, Man Lizard and the Ground Lizard.

Reptiles have been featured on BVI stamps issued in 1978, 1979, 1988 and 1993. The stamp programme for 1999 is most likely to include a new set of stamps fea-



turing Shells. The Millennium series will begin this year and it will focus on internationally renowned women and may feature two BVI ladies. The Christmas set is expected to feature BVI Churches.

*Continued to page 68*

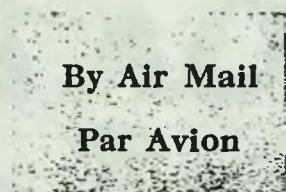


## APPENDIX A AIR MAIL LABELS

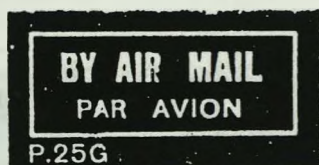
Many different "By Air Mail" handstamps and labels have been seen on covers emanating from British Honduras. Some are obviously foreign labels and some are private handstamps. It would appear that at least three basic types of air mail labels were officially distributed by the Post Office in the colony. Type 1, used in 1929, was printed in a vertical strip, three labels wide. The margins were imperforate. Type 2 (1929-36), similar to the labels used in many countries, was printed in panes and rouletted. (Note that "P.25G" only appears at the sheet corner.) Type 3 was introduced in 1936 and used until 1973. There were many printings, and these were rouletted and perforated in a number of gauges including 11.2, 12.5 and 14.0. Different fonts are also known. The general format of the labels is illustrated in Fig. 20.

## APPENDIX B SUPPLEMENTARY MAILS

At a designated time prior to departure of the air mails, the mail bag at GPO Belize was closed and taken to the airport. If one wished to post a letter by airmail after this designated time, it was permissible to take it to the airport to hand in up to fifteen minutes prior to the departure of the plane. Such mail was known as



Type 1 (1929)



Type 2 (1929-36)



Type 3 (1936-73)

Figure 20. The Air Mail labels.

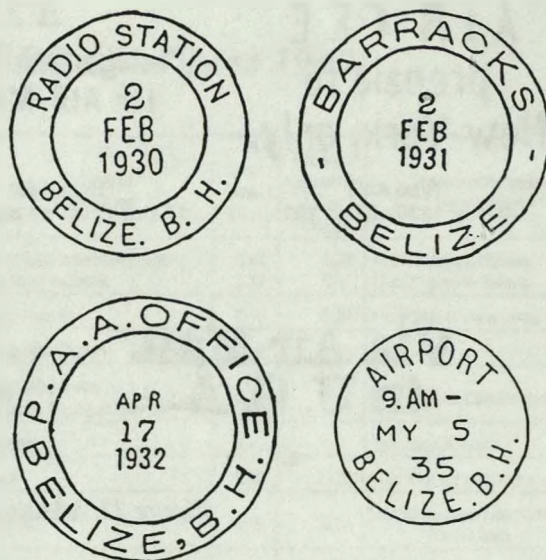


Figure 21. Supplementary Mail cancellations.

**Supplementary Mail.** Such mail can be recognized by having one of the postmarks: Radio Station (1929-30); Barracks (1930-31); Pan American Airways Office (1932-34); or Airport (1935-38). Each of these is illustrated in Fig. 21.

## APPENDIX C Jusqu'a Markings, Deficient Postage and Transatlantic Air Mail Markings

Transatlantic air mail sent from British Honduras can be divided into two rather obvious categories — letters which travelled all the way, and letters which did not. The sender had an option up to at least 1946, and letters are found with instructions, handstamped or in manuscript, which advise whether the letter should be carried by air only as far as USA, or whether it should be included in the Transatlantic Airmail service. Endorsements or handstamps in the former category are described as "Jusqu'a airmail markings" (*Jusqu'a* is French and means "as far as") and are usually used in conjunction with Air Cancel Markings.<sup>11</sup> These are dumb obliterations, usually parallel bars, used to cancel the airmail etiquette for the surface mail section of the route. *Jusqu'a* markings used in British Honduras prior to the introduction of the Transatlantic air mail service in 1939 simply indicated that the letter should be carried as far as possible by air, in this case as far as New York. Where insufficient postage was prepaid for air mail, the letter could be suitably endorsed and sent by surface post.

The markings recorded on British Honduras mail are illustrated in Fig. 22. Of special interest is the marking



**AIR FEE**  
prepaid to  
New York, only.

Type AM8  
30 May 1930 - 5 Dec 1931

Postage insufficient  
for AIR MAIL.

Type AM9  
17 Oct 1931 - 27 May 1934

**TRANSATLANTIC**  
**AIRMAIL**

Type AM10  
16 Sep 1943 - 11 Dec 1946

**Trans-Atlantic Route**

Type AM11  
5 Sep 1944 - ???

**Via Air Mail**  
**in U. S. A.**

a.

**PLEASE INFORM SENDER**  
**IF MAIL SERVICE NOT AVAILABLE**

b.

Figure 22. Additional Air Mail instructional markings.

shown in Fig. 22a. Ref. 11 indicates that this marking was struck in New Orleans, and its dates of use are known to range from 5 Sep 1944 to 3 Sep 1945. An additional marking, shown in Fig. 22b, is found on an "OAT" cover (see next section) from Belize (12 Nov 1943) to South Africa. It is believed to have been struck either in Belize or London.

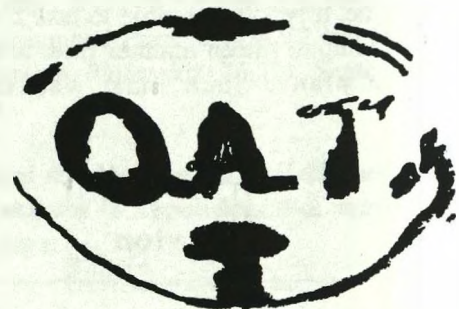
#### Appendix D Onward Air Transmission (OAT)

Although "OAT" markings are recorded from the 1930's to the 1960's and maybe even later, the period of usage on letters from British Honduras seems to be restricted to the mid-1940's. The significance of these markings was described by Smythe.<sup>12</sup> He reveals that bundles of letters in transit through London, and prepaid for onward air transmission, were usually bound with a label indicating the country of destination. This label was handstruck "OAT" to clearly indicate that the mail was to be forwarded by air. When supplies of labels were unavailable, the top cover received the handstamp instead. This was naturally more frequent towards to end of the Second World War as a result of supply constraints.

Two examples of the "OAT" markings are shown in Fig. 23. They were struck on covers sent to South Africa from Belize.

#### Appendix E 1940 Air Mail Service Table

The list of Air Mail rates and destinations was published on 1 June 1940. The text of the announcement appeared earlier in this article, and the table, invaluable to postal historians, is presented in this Appendix.



12 Nov 1943



6 Jul 1945

Figure 23. OAT markings.



## APPENDIX E

### British Honduras — Airmail Rates — 1 June 1940

Country of Destination	For first 1/4 oz	For each succeeding 1/4 oz or fraction	Approximate time of transmission
Aden	0.42	0.28	17 to 19 days via London
Albania	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Algeria	0.20	0.13	13 days to Algiers via London
Argentine Republic	0.50	0.33	10 to 11 days to Buenos Aires
Australia (via London)	0.42	0.28	21 to 30 days to Brisbane & other principal cities
(via San Francisco)	0.75	0.50	18 to 22 days to Darwin & other principal cities 1-2 days later
Austria	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Bahamas	0.25	0.17	5 days to Nassau
Bahrein	0.42	0.28	13 to 14 days via London
Banks Islands	0.42	0.28	Via London
Barbados	0.30	0.20	6 to 8 days to Bridgetown
Basutoland	0.42	0.28	Via London
Bechuanaland	0.42	0.28	Via London
Belgian Congo	0.42	0.28	21 days via London
Belgium	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Bermuda	0.25	0.17	5 to 6 days to Hamilton
Bolivia	0.50	0.33	9 to 10 days to La Paz
Brazil	0.50	0.33	8 to 10 days to Para, Rio de Janeiro and other places
British Guiana	0.40	0.27	8 to 10 days to Georgetown
Brunai (via London)	0.42	0.28	23 to 25 days to Singapore
(via San Francisco)	0.70	0.47	15 to 20 days to Singapore: thence by ordinary means
Bulgaria	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Burma (via London)	0.42	0.28	16 to 18 days to Rangoon
(via San Francisco)	0.70	0.47	15 to 18 days to Rangoon
Canada	0.15	0.10	4 to 5 days to Montreal and other cities
Canal Zone	0.30	0.20	4 to 5 days to Ancon & Cristobal
Canary Islands	0.30	0.20	11 to 13 days to Las Palmas via London
Ceylon	0.42	0.28	16 to 17 days to Colombo
Chile	0.50	0.33	8 to 9 days to Arica and Santiago
China - excluding Hong Kong (via London)	0.47	0.31	18 to 19 days to Canton
(via San Francisco)	0.75	0.50	12 to 15 days to Hong Kong
Colombia	0.40	0.27	6 to 8 days to Baranquilla
Cook Islands	0.42	0.28	Via London
Costa Rica	0.30	0.20	5 to 6 days to San Jose
Cuba	0.25	0.17	4 days to Havana
Czechoslovakia	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Dahomey	0.42	0.28	Via London
Danzig	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Denmark	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Dominican Republic	0.25	0.17	5 days to San Pedro
Dubai	0.42	0.28	Via London

Country of Destination	For first 1/4 oz	For each succeeding 1/4 oz or fraction	Approximate time of transmission
Dutch East Indies (via London)	0.42	0.28	18 to 20 days to Batavia
(via San Francisco)	0.70	0.47	17 to 20 days to Batavia
Dutch Guiana	0.40	0.27	7 to 8 days to Paramaribo
Dutch New Guinea	0.42	0.28	Via London
Dutch West Indies (Curacao, Aruba and Bonaire)	0.40	0.27	6 to 8 days to Curacao and Aruba
Ecuador	0.40	0.27	7 to 9 days to Quito
Egypt	0.42	0.28	12 to 14 days via London
England	0.15	0.10	Air Mail as far as New York: 9 to 11 days
Eritrea	0.42	0.28	16 to 17 days via London
Estonia	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Ethiopia	0.42	0.28	16 to 17 days via London
Fanning Island	0.42	0.28	Via London
Fiji Islands	0.42	0.28	Via London
Finland	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
France	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
French Cameroons	0.42	0.28	Via London
French Equatorial Africa	0.42	0.28	15 to 17 days via London
French Guiana	0.40	0.27	8 to 10 days to Cayenne
French Guinea	0.42	0.28	Via London
French Indo-China (via London)	0.42	0.28	16 to 18 days
(via San Francisco)	0.70	0.47	15 to 18 days to Hanoi and Saigon
French Somali Coast	0.42	0.28	16 to 18 days
Gambia	0.42	0.28	Via London
Germany	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Gibraltar	0.42	0.28	14 to 15 days via London
Gilbert & Ellice Islands	0.42	0.28	Via London
Gold Coast Colony	0.42	0.28	16 to 17 days via London
Great Britain	0.15	0.10	Air Mail as far as New York: 9 to 11 days
Greece	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Guadeloupe	0.30	0.20	6 to 9 days to Pointe-a-Pitre
Guatemala	0.15	0.10	Up to 1 day from Belize
Hawaii	0.30	0.20	6 to 9 days to Honolulu
Hayti	0.25	0.17	5 to 6 days to Port-au-Prince
Holland	0.20	0.13	11 to 12 days
Honduras (Republic of)	0.15	0.10	Same day from Belize
Hong Kong (via London)	0.42	0.28	17 to 18 days via London
(via San Francisco)	0.65	0.43	12 to 15 days
Hungary	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
India	0.42	0.28	15 to 16 days via London
Iran	0.42	0.28	14 to 16 days via London
Iraq	0.42	0.28	14 to 16 days via London
Ireland	0.15	0.10	10 to 12 days via London



## APPENDIX E

### British Honduras — Airmail Rates — 1 June 1940

Country of Destination	For first 1/4 oz	For each succeeding 1/4 oz or fraction	Approximate time of transmission
Italian Somaliland	0.42	0.28	17 to 19 days via London
Italy	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Ivory Coast	0.42	0.28	Via London
Jamaica	0.25	0.17	4 to 5 days to Kingston
Japan (via London)	0.47	0.31	12 to 15 days to Hong Kong; thence by ordinary means
(via San Francisco)	0.75	0.50	
Kenya	0.42	0.28	16 to 17 days via London
Labuan	0.42	0.28	Via London
Latvia	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Leeward Islands	0.30	0.20	6 to 9 days to St. John's Antigua
Liberia	0.42	0.28	Via London
Libya	0.20	0.13	Via London
Lithuania	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days
Macao	0.42	0.28	18 to 20 days via London
Madagascar	0.42	0.28	Via London
Malay States (via London)	0.42	0.28	17 to 20 days to Panang and Singapore
(Fed. and Unfed.)			
(via San Francisco)	0.70	0.47	17 to 20 days to Panang and Singapore
Malta	0.42	0.28	13 to 15 days via London
Mauritius	0.42	0.28	Via London, irregular intervals
Mexico	0.15	0.10	4 to 5 days
Morocco	0.20	0.13	Via London
Muscat	0.42	0.28	Via London
Nauru	0.42	0.28	Via London
New Caledonia	0.42	0.28	Via London
New Guinea	0.42	0.28	23 to 26 days via London
New Hebrides	0.42	0.28	Via London
New Zealand (via London)	0.42	0.28	26 to 30 days
(via San Francisco)	0.70	0.47	16 to 20 days to Sydney; thence by ordinary means
Nicaragua	0.15	0.10	Up to 1 day from Belize
Nigeria	0.42	0.28	16 to 19 days via London
Norfolk Island	0.42	0.28	Via London
North Borneo (via London)	0.42	0.28	24 to 28 days
(via San Francisco)	0.70	0.47	16 to 20 days to Singapore; thence by ordinary means
Northern Rhodesia	0.42	0.28	17 to 19 days via London
Norway	0.20	0.13	11 to 13 days via London
Nyasaland	0.42	0.28	17 to 19 days via London
Palestine	0.42	0.28	14 to 16 days via London
Panama	0.30	0.20	4 to 5 days
Papua (via London)	0.42	0.28	23 to 28 days
(via San Francisco)	0.70	0.47	26 to 29 days
Paraguay	0.50	0.33	10 days to Asuncion
Peru	0.40	0.27	6 to 9 days to Lima and other cities

Country of Destination	For first 1/4 oz	For each succeeding 1/4 oz or fraction	Approximate time of transmission
Phillipine Islands	0.55	0.37	11 to 14 days to Manila
Poland	0.20	0.13	11 to 14 days via London
Porto Rico	0.25	0.17	5 to 6 days to San Juan
Portugal	0.20	0.13	11 to 14 days via London
Portuguese East Africa	0.42	0.28	17 to 20 days via London
Portuguese West Africa	0.47	0.31	20 to 23 days via London
Roumania	0.20	0.13	11 to 14 days via London
Salvador	0.15	0.10	Up to 1 day from Belize
Samoa (Territory under British Admin.)	0.42	0.28	Via London
Sandwich Islands	0.30	0.20	6 to 9 days via San Francisco
Sarawak	0.42	0.28	21 to 26 days via London
Senegal	0.42	0.28	Via London
Seychelles	0.42	0.28	Via London
Siam (via London)	0.42	0.28	17 to 20 days
(via San Francisco)	0.67	0.45	15 to 19 days via London
Solomon Islands	0.42	0.28	Via London
South West Africa	0.42	0.28	19 to 22 days via London
Southern Rhodesia	0.42	0.28	17 to 19 days via London
Straits Settlements (via London)	0.42	0.28	17 to 21 days to Penang and Singapore
(via San Francisco)	0.70	0.47	16 to 21 days to Penang and Singapore
Sudan (Anglo-Egyptian)	0.42	0.28	14 to 17 days via London
Swaziland	0.42	0.28	Via London
Sweden	0.20	0.13	11 to 14 days via London
Switzerland	0.20	0.13	11 to 14 days via London
Syria	0.42	0.28	15 to 17 days via London
Tanganyika Territory	0.42	0.28	17 to 19 days via London
Tibet	0.42	0.28	Via London
Tonga (Friendly Islands)	0.42	0.28	Via London
Transjordan	0.42	0.28	16 to 18 days via London
Trinidad	0.30	0.20	6 to 7 days to Port-of-Spain
Tunis	0.20	0.13	Via London
Turkey	0.20	0.13	12 to 15 days via London
Uganda	0.42	0.28	16 to 17 days via London
Union of South Africa	0.42	0.28	17 to 20 days via London
United States of America	0.15	0.10	2 to 3 days to Brownsville
Uruguay	0.50	0.33	10 to 11 days to Buenos Aires; thence by ordinary means
Venezuela	0.45	0.30	6 to 7 days to Maracaibo
Vigin Islands	0.25	0.17	6 to 7 days
Windward Islands	0.30	0.20	6 to 7 days to Port-of-Spain; thence by boat
Yugoslavia	0.20	0.13	12 to 15 days via London
Zanzibar	0.42	0.28	18 to 20 days via London



## In Memory of Morris H. Ludington (1915-98)

by Michel Forand

It was with great sadness that I learned some months ago that *Morris Ludington* had died October 1st, 1998, two weeks short of his 83rd birthday. He had reportedly been ill for a few months and had moved into a nursing home to receive care on a regular basis.



Morris was one of the early members of the BCPSG: he joined the Group in about 1962, shortly after it was founded, and remained devoted to it for the rest of his life. To those of us (and those who will come after us) who have an interest in the philately of Bermuda,

Bahamas, Turks Islands/Turks & Caicos Islands, and Caribbean postal history in general, he has left a precious legacy.

Morris was a pioneer in Bermuda philatelic research. When he started collecting, he had access to two short books about the stamps (by B.W.H. Poole and H.R. Holmes), but until he began publishing articles on the postal markings of Bermuda in 1937 (at the young age of 22), virtually no information existed in print about the colony's postal history. Following an interruption of some years during the Second World War (when he worked with the U.S. Office of Special Services, which later became the Central Intelligence Agency), Morris resumed his philatelic writing. His research of four decades culminated in the 1978 publication of *The Postal History and Stamps of Bermuda*, which to this day remains the only comprehensive work on Bermudian philately. He seldom exhibited, but those who attended the BERMUPEX events in the late 1970s reported that his display of King George V high-value keyplates was "mind-boggling."

Although Morris Ludington's name is primarily associated with his writings on Bermuda, he also wrote or co-wrote two books on Bahamas postal history and published several articles about the stamps and proofs of Turks Islands and the early Turks and Caicos Islands period. His books and articles were painstakingly researched, and while some aspects of his writings have now been superseded in part, following the release of

formerly unavailable information and the advent of new research tools, the body of his work remains an invaluable resource for today's collectors and researchers.

One incident is revealing of the thoroughness of his research. During a visit to Bermuda in March 1948, Morris found a stamp made with the *crowned circle* handstamp of Hamilton. The first example of this stamp — which became known as the *Second Perot Issue* — had been discovered on a local cover only three years earlier. Morris later acquired a stampless letter from the same correspondence and was able to demonstrate conclusively that the stamp he had found belonged on that envelope. The stamp and the cover were reunited and sold as a unit in the only auction to bear the name "M.H. Ludington" during his lifetime — Robson Lowe's *Bermuda* sale of January 16, 1974.

When, in about 1992, Charles Freeland and I began working on what was to become *Bermuda Mails to 1865* (published by the BCPSG in 1995), we contacted Morris in the hope that he might provide some information. His response was immediate and far exceeded our expectations: he sent us a full list of all the relevant material in his collection and offered to forward photocopies of any items that we might want to see. This was a generous gesture on the part of someone who hardly knew us (I had met him briefly in 1989). This initial contact was followed by an extensive correspondence in which Morris contributed much critical information and offered very useful advice. Our book would unquestionably have been much poorer without his help. Every once in a while he would phone me to chat and practice his French (which he had learned during a stay in the south of France in the 1930s).

Morris was a frequent contributor of full-length articles to this journal, including during my tenure as editor. He was truly an editor's dream author: he wrote clearly and concisely, and required little editing. While he did not attend any of our meetings in recent years, through his articles and publications he remained an authoritative presence in the Group. That presence and that voice will now be missed, for he was undoubtedly the BCPSG's most prolific author. I offer the following bibliography here both in tribute to this remarkable man, and to provide a basis for research for those who follow.



## Morris H. Ludington: A Selective Bibliography

Letters to the editors, book reviews, and a few other minor pieces have been omitted. My thanks to Charles Freeland for adding some article entries I had missed.

### Monographs and Handbooks

**1955**

*Bermuda: The 1910-36 "Ship" Type Stamps*, Junior Philatelic Society, London, 35 pp., illus.

**1956**

*Bermuda: The Handstruck Stamps and Cancellations*, Robson Lowe, London, 44 pp., illus.

**1962**

*Bermuda: The Post Office, Postal Markings and Adhesive Stamps*, London, Robson Lowe, 283 pp., illus. (four pages of addenda and corrigenda were published in 1966).

**1968**

Supplement to *Bermuda: The Post Office, Postal Markings and Adhesive Stamps*, London, Robson Lowe, 50 pp., illus.

[With Gale J. Raymond:] *The Bahamas Islands: A History and Catalogue of the Handstamps and Cancellations, 1802-1967*. London, Robson Lowe, viii + 66 pp., illus.

**1971**

[With Geoffrey R. Osborn:] *The Royal Mail Steam Packets to Bermuda and the Bahamas, 1842-1859*, Robson Lowe, London, 25 pp., illus.

**1978**

*The Postal History and Stamps of Bermuda*, Quarterman, Lawrence (Mass.), xiii + 432 pp., illus., index.

**1982**

*Bahamas Early Mail services and Postal Markings* (self-published), ix + 210 pp., illus., index.

**1989**

[With J.C. Arnell:] *The Bermuda Packet Mails and the Halifax-Bermuda Mail Service, 1806 to 1886*, Postal History Society (U.K.), xxi + 161 pp.

**1991**

[With Michael R. Rego:] *The Furness Line to Bermuda*, BCPSG Monograph No. 11, 58 pp., illus.

**1996**

*Postal History of Blockade Running Through Bermuda, 1861-1865*, BCPSG Monograph No. 14, 51 pp., illus., index.

In addition to these published books, Morris worked for many years on a history of blockade running through Bermuda during the American Civil War. Indeed, the manuscript even reached a printer sometime in the 1980s. Unfortunately, some unspecified difficulty arose with the publisher, and the book was never printed. The philatelic portion of that book became Monograph No. 14, published in 1996 by the BCPSG (see above).

### Articles, etc.

**1937**

"The Postmarks of Bermuda, 1849-1910," *Stamp Lover*, Vol. 29 (February), pp. 235-7.

**1939**

"The Postmarks of Bermuda," *Stamp Lover*, Vol. 32 (August), pp. 66-7; (October), pp. 102-3; (November), pp. 128-32; (December), p. 153.

**1945**

Suggestions for a revised price catalogue of Bermuda. *Stamp Lover* (May 1945), pp. 169-73.

**1950**

"1940 Halfpenny provisional of Bermuda," *West End Philatelist*, Vol. 50 (May), p. 38.

"Bermuda: The 1910-36 Ship Type Stamps," *Stamp Lover*, Vol. 42 (May), p. 201, pp. 208-12; (June), pp. 7-9; (August), pp. 47-9, p. 58; (October), p. 74.

"Some Notes on Bermuda Mail Packet Communications in the 1840's and 1850's," *Postscript to the Postal Historian*, Vol. 1 (December), pp. 83-5.

**1952**

"Modern Postmarks of Bermuda," *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, Vol. 25 (January), p. 55.

**1954**

"Bermuda Ship Type: Further Notes on the Variations in the Frame of the Value Tablet," *Stamp Lover*, Vol. 44 (March), pp. 168-9.

"A Bermuda Ship Letter Mystery [unusual rate]," *Philatelist*, Vol. 20 (August), p. 291.

**1955**

"The George V 2s. 6d. Wmk Script CA," *BWISC Bulletin*, No. 4 (January), pp. 16-17.

**1957**

"A Convict's Letter from Ireland Island," *BWISC Bulletin*, No. 13 (April), pp. 19-21.



**1960**

"Notes on the Postal History of Bermuda," [survey of the period 1784-1909], *Postscript to the Postal Historian*, Vol. 10 (February), pp. 22-7.

**1961**

"Some Watermark Varieties on the Stamps of Turks Island and Turks and Caicos Islands," *London Philatelist*, Vol. 70 (November), pp. 184-6.

**1963**

"Collection Letters And Times on Bermuda Datestamps," *BCPJ*, No. 11 (January), pp. 5-7.

"Nine Confederate Blockade Covers," *London Philatelist*, Vol. 72 (March), pp. 42-7; (April), pp. 68-71; (May), pp. 92-6.

**1964**

"Perforations on the Ship Type Issues," *BWISC Bulletin*, No. 41 (June), pp. 27-9.

**1966**

"Bahamas: The Locally Overprinted Special Delivery Stamps of 1916-1917," *Philatelist*, Vol. 32 (February), p. 131. Reprinted as an offprint, 1976?

**1967**

"Bermuda: Plate Numbers of the King George VI High Values of 1938-1944," *Stamp Lover*, Vol. 59 (January), pp. 18-19.

**1969**

"Bahamas Addenda," *The Philatelist* (July 1969).

**1970**

"Current Bermuda CDS Markings," *BCPJ*, No. 54 (April), pp. 35-7.

**1972**

"Bahamas' Earliest Official Out-island Postmarks?," *BCPJ*, No. 66 (April 1972), pp. 42-6.

"Additional Notes on Nine Confederate Blockade Covers," *London Philatelist*, Vol. 81 (December), pp. 229-31.

**1975**

"The King George VI High Value Stamps of Bermuda," *London Philatelist*, Vol. 84 (January), pp. 18-25; (February), pp. 40-7; (March), pp. 54-60; (April), pp. 81-4.

"William Bennet [sic] Perot and the Post Office," *BERMUPEX 1975 Catalogue* (Bermuda, November), 3 pages.

**1976**

"Steam to New York: The Early Steamship Services Between Bermuda and New York, 1848-1880," *Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 55 (July), pp. 234-46.

"James Henry Thies, postmaster general of Bermuda, 1860-87," *BERMUPEX 1976 Catalogue* (Bermuda, December), pp. 9-13.

**1978**

"Regular Sea Communications with Bermuda to 1914," *Bermuda Historical Quarterly*, No. 35 (Spring 1978), pp. 6-13. Reprinted as an offprint, 1979.

"The interest and importance of research [1862 blockade-related cover]," *BERMUPEX 1978 Catalogue* (Bermuda, January), pp. 12-15.

**1979**

"Two Letters from James Taylor, Deputy Postmaster General of Bermuda," *BERMUPEX 1979 Catalogue* (Bermuda, February), pp. 15-18.

"The Earliest Known Prepaid Packet Letter from the Bahamas," *The Philatelist* (May).

"The R.M.S.P. 'Avon'," *BCPJ*, No. 108 (June), p. 72.

"Bermuda King George VI 12/6d. Gray and Yellow," In R.H. White, *Color in Philately* (New York: Philatelic Foundation), pp. 153-7.

**1980**

"Bermuda Ship Letter Handstamps," *BERMUPEX 1980 Catalogue* (Bermuda, November), pp. 12-16.

**1981**

"Bahamas 1863 1s. Progress Proofs," *Philatelist* and *PJGB*, Vol. 1 (December), pp. 247-50.

**1982**

"The Bermuda - Annapolis Packet," *Philatelist* and *PJGB*, Vol. 2 (November), pp. 250-2.

**1983**

"R.M.S.P. Steamers Calling at Bermuda, 1842-1850," *BCPJ*, No. 128 (December), pp. 154-8; No. 129 (February 1984), pp. 15-19.

**1984**

"A Censor Letter of the War of 1812," *BCPJ*, No. 132 (October), pp. 116-7.

**1985**

"Flaws on the Bermuda 1d. Queen Victoria," *Philatelist* and *PJGB*, Vol. 5 (March), pp. 66-71.

"The Royal Mail Steam Packet Service Between Havana and Halifax, 1842: The North America Route," *Philatelist* and *PJGB*, Vol. 5 (September), pp. 216-21.

**1986**

"The Bermuda Aquarium Slogan at St. Georges," *BCPJ*, No. 138 (March), pp. 9-10.

"Another 'Office Datestamp' from Bermuda," *BCPJ*, No. 139 (June), p. 48.



"More Misplaced Crown and CC Watermarks," *BWISC Bulletin*, No. 129 (June), pp. 32-3.

"'Paramatta' wreck cover," *BCPJ*, No. 140 (September), pp. 111-2.

"A Censored Letter of the War of 1812," *Postal History Journal*, No. 73 (June), pp. 51-4.

"The R.M.S.P. services from Havana to the Gulf of Mexico in 1842," *Philatelist and PJGB*, Vol. 6 (November), pp. 247-51.

"The 'Lady Rodney'," *BCPJ*, No. 141 (December), p. 128.

## 1987

"First Recorded Letter from Bermuda into the North American Colonial Post," *BCPJ*, No. 142 (March), p. 8

"Three 1842 Letters from Cap Haitien," *BCPJ*, No. 142 (March), pp. 23-5.

"The Crowned Circle and Other Early Postal Markings of Turks Islands," *BCPJ*, No. 144 (September), pp. 77-80.

## 1988

"More About Bermuda's Judicial System," *BCPJ*, No. 149 (December), pp. 115-6.

## 1989

"A Private Ship Type Mark," *BCPJ*, No. 151 (June), pp. 59-62. Also in No. 153 (December), pp. 127-31.

## 1990

"Transatlantic Closed Mails to Bermuda via New York, 1861-1868," *BCPJ*, No. 154 (March), pp. 5-8.

"A Royal Letter from Bermuda," *BCPJ*, No. 155 (June), pp. 51-2.

"The Bureaucratic Mail Clerk," [underpaid postcard from Bermuda], *BCPJ*, No. 156 (September), p. 90.

"Cunard to Nassau and Havana, 1859-1867," *BCPJ*, No. 157 (December), pp. 119-27.

## 1991

"Proofs of the 1928 Issue of Turks & Caicos Islands," *BCPJ*, No. 159 (June), pp. 48-52.

"Comments on the Turks Islands Surcharges and Bisects, 1881-1895," *BCPJ*, No. 160 (September), pp. 115-21.

## 1992

"A Turks and Caicos Islands query" [war tax overprints], *BCPJ*, No. 162 (March), p. 25.

"The 'Retaliatory Rate' Cover of 1848 from the Caribbean to the United States," *BCPJ*, No. 163 (June), pp. 60-1.

"The Wreck of the 'Curlew' 18 March 1856," *BCPJ*, No. 164 (September), pp. 96-8.

"The Bermuda Type K3a Duplex Datestamps," *BCPJ*, No. 165 (December), pp. 130-1.

## 1993

"New York to Bermuda: Mail Service by U.S. steamers, 1870-74," *BCPJ*, No. 166 (March), pp. 17-24.

"The West Indies in 1845 [RMSP routes]," *BCPJ*, No. 167 (June), pp. 49-52.

"Bahamas: Notes on The Perforation Varieties of the Unwatermarked Issues of 1860-63," *BCPJ*, No. 168 (September), pp. 88-91.

"Turks Islands and Turks & Caicos Islands: Some Essays, Proofs, Color Trials, etc," *BCPJ*, No. 169 (December), pp. 125-30.

## 1994

"The 'Levantine' Failure," 1851-53. *BCPJ*, No. 171 (June), pp. 46-52.

"A Few Pictorial Hotel Envelopes of Bermuda," *BCPJ*, No. 173 (December), pp. 103-8.

## 1995

"The Return of the R.M.S.P. to Bermuda, 1909-14 and 1922-30," *BCPJ*, No. 176 (September), pp. 64-70.

## 1996

"Notes on Some Picture Postcards of Bermuda," *BCPJ*, No. 181 (December), pp. 110-6.

## 1999

"An Unusual 1864 Cover from Bahamas to Bermuda," *BCPJ*, No. 191, p.55.

---

## Recent BVI Issues

*Continued from page 52*

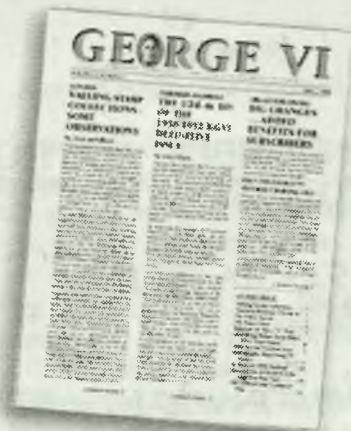
On the tentative programme for the year 2000, the second part of the Millennium Series featuring the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College on its tenth anniversary and two BVI historical figures — Samuel Hodge and Christopher Flemming. The 50th Anniversary of the Restoration of the Legislative Council will be celebrated with a set of stamps featuring former legislators. It must be pointed out that except for members of the royal family no living person can be featured on local stamps. It is hoped that the Design a Stamp competition will be scheduled in time for a year 2000 new issue. The theme will be "Island Music" and students of local schools will be asked to submit entries featuring the various musical aspects such as Fungi Music, Scratch, High School Band, Jazz Ensembles and Classics at the Atrium. If all goes well the children art series will be presented at the Ninth BVI Stamp Show; in fact the theme for next year's philatelic event is also "Island Music".



[www.murraypayne.com](http://www.murraypayne.com)

go on!

## MUST READING FOR THE KGVI SPECIALIST



Judge for yourself.  
Write us for a FREE sample issue.

GVI Publishers • P.O. Box 7170  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089-7170 USA  
Email: [editor@kg6.com](mailto:editor@kg6.com)

### ADVERTISING RATES

	Width	Height	Number of Insertions			
			1	2	3	4
Full Page	7"	9½"	\$80	\$160	\$240	\$300
Half Page	7"	4¾"	\$40	\$80	\$120	\$150
Quarter Page	3½"	4¾"	\$20	\$40	\$60	\$75

The cost of back-page space, when available, is 10% above the regular rate. One-time ads are accepted at 40% of the yearly rate. The initial advertising copy should be sent to the Advertising Manager along with remittance. Changed copy should be forwarded to the Editor by the following deadlines: for the March issue, 15 January; for the June issue, 15 April; for the September issue, 15 July; for the December issue, 15 October. Computer file preferred (contact Editor), actual-size, camera-ready copy is acceptable, for which 8½" by 11" is the optimal size.

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

*Mr. Charles Cwiakala*  
1527 South Fairview Avenue  
Park Ridge, IL 60008, USA



## Do you collect British West Indies Postal History?

Our stocks consist of British Commonwealth Postal History (with post cards from some colonies). If you would care to inform us of your collecting interests, we would be delighted to send you photocopies of any relevant items we obtain.

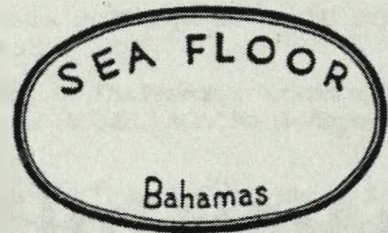
Besides being members of the BCPSG, we are members of the P.T.S. (London). Prices in sterling or US dollars.

### CHRIS RAINEY

5 Kelly Road, Bowers Gifford  
Basildon, Essex SS13 2HL, U.K.

TELEPHONE: 01144 268 726687  
FAX: 01144 268 590781

## WANTED SEA FLOOR - BAHAMAS



Buying covers, cards, cancels, and collateral material relating to the P.O. and expedition that operated there from 1939 to 1942. Pay minimum of \$75 each for items I can use.

Also buying artists' drawings, essays, proofs, errors, freaks, etc. of Bahamas Scott nos. 106, 122, 168, 168a, 216, 242 and 264.

All offers acknowledged.

**Fred Schmitt**

P.O. Box 67

Woodbury, NY 11797

(516) 367-4030 (24 Hours)

Member: ASDA, APS, PTS, CSDA, etc.

## BRITISH EMPIRE EXCLUSIVELY



REQUEST A CATALOGUE FOR OUR NEXT PUBLIC AUCTION.  
PLEASE SPECIFY YOUR INTERESTS.

WANT LISTS INVITED FOR PRE-1935 MATERIAL.  
REFERENCES PLEASE.

WE ARE BUYERS OF BETTER BRITISH COMMONWEALTH STAMPS,  
POSTAL HISTORY AND SPECIALIST ITEMS.

## Victoria Stamp Company



PHOEBE A. MACGILLIVARY  
P.O. BOX 745, RIDGEWOOD, NJ 07451, USA  
PHONE (201) 652-7283 FAX (201) 612-0024





## Do you Collect

### the WEST INDIES and the CARIBBEAN AREA?

As the leading **SPECIALISED POSTAL AUCTION** for the **CARIBBEAN** and the **WEST INDIES**, founded in 1976, we hold 6 to 8 sales per year and cater for the Specialist, the General Collector and the Beginner. We offer quality in **POSTAL HISTORY, STAMPS, PROOFS, SPECIMENS, BOOKS, POSTAL STATIONERY, & EARLY MAPS** from the 16th century onwards.

Write or telephone for **FREE CATALOGUE**.



Dept. BCPJ  
P.O. Box 17  
Thirsk, N. Yorks  
YO7 1TT  
ENGLAND

Telephone: Thirsk (0845) 523942  
Member: BCPSG, BWISC

# Caribbean

**Always the Unusual,  
Esoteric & Inimitable...**

We offer Mail Sales with extremely interesting material in the \$25 - \$150 range. In addition, our Public Auctions offer appropriately rare and specialized material.

We are always interested in buying specialized items or collections.

Our Mail Sale and Public Auction catalogs are sent free to members of The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group on request. Please specify which catalog you wish.

## George Alevizos



2800 28th Street, Suite 323  
Santa Monica, California 90405  
Telephone: 213/450-2543  
Cal. Auc. Lic. No. A1229

## NEW! NEW! NEW! MONTSERRAT

by  
**L. E. BRITNOR**

Revised by Charles Freeland

A new Version of the 1965 classic.  
A softbacked, spirally bound book contained  
in 100+ pages, many colour illustrations  
and much new information.

Price: UK — £18.00 (US — \$36.00)  
Europe and Overseas — £20.00  
Prices include postage.  
(Surface Mail Outside of Europe)

Contact: W. Clary Holt, Post Office Drawer 59,  
Burlington, North Carolina 27216 (if paying in US\$)

or  
Peter C. Ford, 22, Tudor Way, Congleton,  
CHESHIRE, CW12 4AS, UK  
(if paying in UK£)

E-mail enquiries to:  
pcf@bwisc.demon.co.uk

## COMMERCIAL M A I L

We have recent commercial mail, many with local usages, including meters, inter-island, registered governmental stamps, etc from many of the Caribbean countries (including Bermuda).

Prices start from \$US 2. Limited supply.  
Please write/fax for details.

We also carry earlier material.  
US\$ or GB£ checks accepted.

### STEVEN G. ZIRINSKY

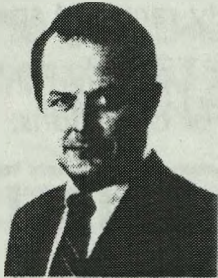
Box 49, Ansonia Station, NY, NY 10023 USA  
Tel: 212-665-0765 FAX: 718-706-0619  
eMail: sizerinsky@compuserve.com

Member: ASDA APS PTS



# THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

O • F N • A • T • I • O • N • S



"VISIT OUR BOOTH AT  
MOST MAJOR SHOWS"

We are active buyers and sellers of stamps and postal history of all areas of pre-1960 British Commonwealth, including individual items, collections or estates.

Want lists from all reigns are accepted with references.

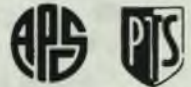
L. W. Martin, Jr.

**CROWN COLONY STAMPS**

P.O. Box 1198

BELLAIRE, TEXAS 77401

PH. (713) 781-6563 • FAX (713) 789-9998



## AUCTION NEWS

The next auction of West Indies stamps will be on September 25 at the Bonnington hotel in London.

Please note this coincides with Stampex. Consignments for this sale are still needed.

The following are some of the most notable collections and single items so far received:

- ☒ *Mark Swetland's Jamaica postal stationery with valuable proofs*
- ☒ *Jamaica postmark collection formed by Hugh James*
- ☒ *Barbados classics including 1858 1/- used block*
- ☒ *Bermuda covers including censored mail; Cayman Is. crash cover of 9 April 1953*
- ☒ *St Christopher classics with blocks and covers; Turks Is. classics and rare proof material*
- ☒ *St Vincent village postmarks including a fine strike of the rare 'G'*

Books about the West Indies: I have a large stock of out of print histories and guide books to the islands also a selection of antiquarian maps and prints. List available on request - please state interests. Also, West Indies philatelic literature list available with over 150 titles including many out of print works and old auction catalogues. I also have copies of the BCPSG journal for sale.

**A complimentary copy of the illustrated catalogue will be available from August 23.**

## PENNYMEAD AUCTIONS

1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, England HG5 8AZ

Tel/Fax (0044) 1423 865962

eMail: [Pennymead@aol.com](mailto:Pennymead@aol.com)

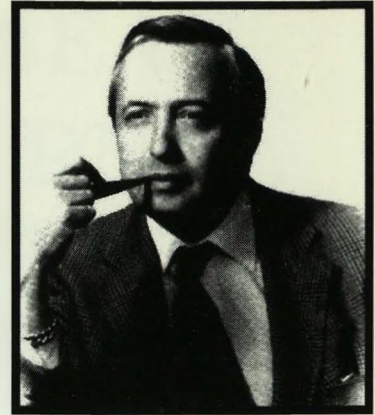




# The British Empire

A-Z 1840-1935 Mint and Used

The Largest and Most Valuable  
Stock in America



## W A N T L I S T S

For decades we have had the great pleasure of working closely with our clients in the formation of many fine private and international exhibition standard collections. I will be pleased to place our expertise at your disposal.

- 30 Volumes in all price ranges, individually stocked!
- You may acquire exactly those items that you need!
- Receive on approval (references please) or per quotation!
  - Scott or Stanley Gibbons numbers!
  - Prompt, expert service!



*George W. Holschauer*

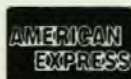
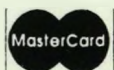
**COLONIAL STAMP CO.**

5757 WILSHIRE BLVD., PH #8

LOS ANGELES, CA 90036

Ph: (213) 933-9435

Fax (213) 939-9930



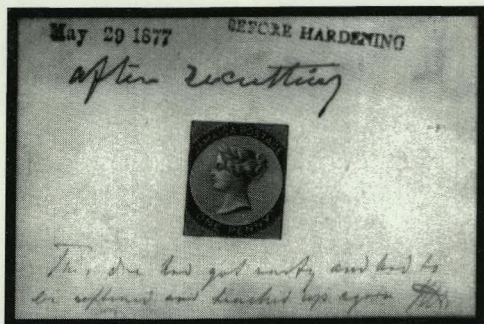
CCNY, CSDA, IFSDA,  
INTERNATIONAL  
SOCIETY OF APPRAISERS



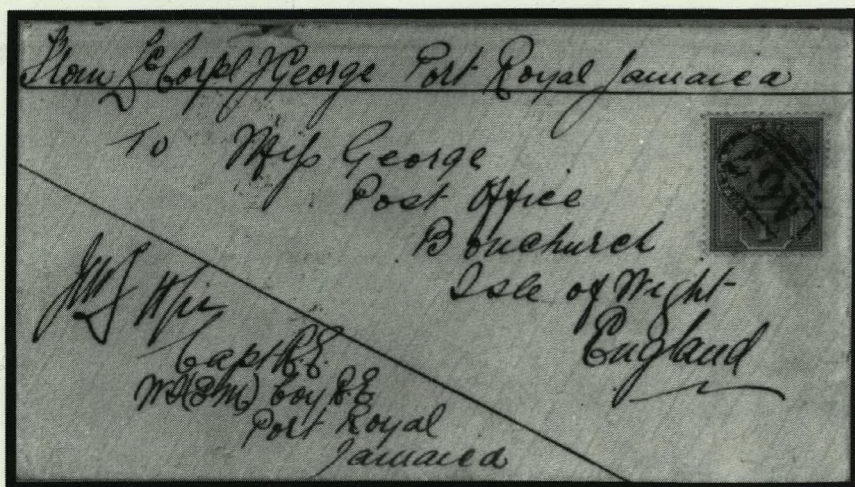
NL Q. 256  
For Specialist Collectors .....

## THE SPECIALIST AUCTION HOUSE

SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> / 11<sup>TH</sup>



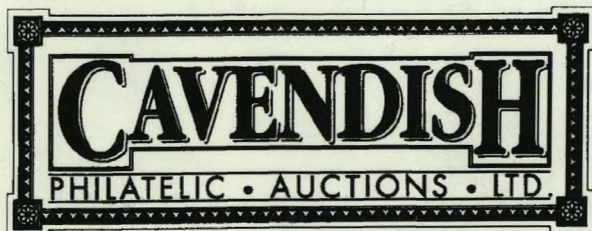
The Mike Vokins  
Collection of  
JAMAICA



A superb collection of the stamps and postal history of Jamaica -  
and a "must-see" catalogue for all Caribbean enthusiasts!

Be sure of receiving your catalogue by contacting us without delay - write,  
fax, phone or email to: [stamps@cavendishphilauc.demon.co.uk](mailto:stamps@cavendishphilauc.demon.co.uk)

Sponsors of "Midpex '99"



Internet: <http://www.thesaurus.co.uk/cavendish/>