

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

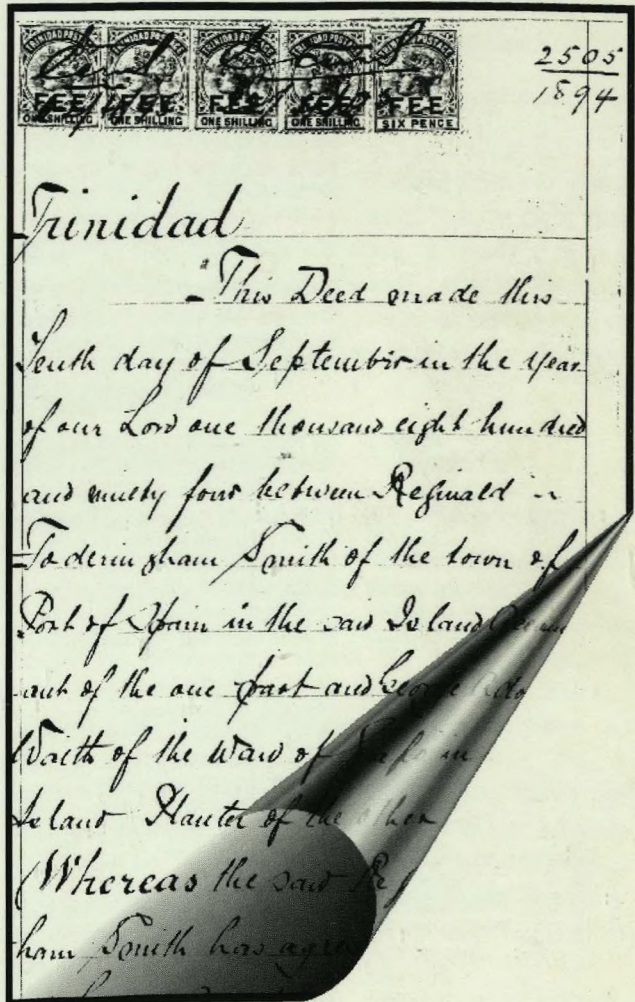
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TRINIDAD "FEE" AND "FREE FEE" REVENUE STAMPS



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Trinidad and Tobago	Dr R. A. Ramkissoon (see address above)
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Without Volunteers, We Have Nothing

by David L. Herendeen

We have just arrived home after attending the wonderful Florex show, held each November in Orlando, FL. At least it has been held for the last 30+ years. But no more. The dedicated staff of volunteers, which include my good friends Phil Stager and the widely known Clyde Jennings, asked others in their federation to step forward to take over the many show tasks that the current volunteers had performed for many years. No one stepped forward. After asking several times, still no one stepped forward. The committee, with great sadness, decided to terminate the show. After all, it is totally unfair to expect a small number of dedi-

cated people to carry the burden of organizing our hobby forever.

Each of us who expects to draw rewards from our hobby should be pleased to give something back to those who follow us. This can take the form of working with a show, serving as an officer in a club, writing about our specialties for one or more journals, or promoting our hobby with the young. What one does is not as important as simply doing it.

Two Years Have Passed

Which brings me to an interesting point. This issue marks the completion of my second year as the BCPJ editor. My predecessor, *Michel Forand*, filled this important post for more than seven years. I agreed to do this job for four years. I expect that someone else will step forward to carry on the excellence of the BCPJ. I certainly don't want to end up in the position that the Florex committee did. It would be a shame. Thus, I would like to hear from any member who thinks that they would like to fulfill this job and keep our tradition going. Just as Michel aided me during my transition, I will be pleased to work with anyone stepping forward.

Articles Needed

Please remember that the BCPJ is only as good as the member contributions. Please see the article on Page 144. We have nearly exhausted our backlog of articles. Please share your knowledge with fellow members by writing about your interests. I am available to help and work with you in any way I can.

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President's Message

By Rob Wynstra

I hope to see as many of you as possible at our joint meeting with the British West Indies Study Circle in London during 20-21 May 2000. The full details of the activities planned for that weekend can be found in this issue of the Journal. To help us in finalizing arrangements, I would ask all those who are planning to attend to please let us know by filling out the form that is included as an insert in the Journal. The completed form can be mailed to me or to our international director, **David Druett**.

The meeting to be held in London at the center of British Caribbean philately once again confirms our commitment as an international organization. In addition to our upcoming meeting in London, we have met during the last decade at the CAPEX exhibition in Toronto, Canada and in Barbados. We already have a meeting scheduled in Tortola, British Virgin Islands during 2002 and hope to meet once again at the next international exhibition in Canada.

Our group's international perspective is also well reflected by our recently elected trustees. Besides one new trustee from the United States, this group includes a trustee from the United Kingdom and another from Australia. This record of diverse representation for our worldwide membership continues a long tradition. Even during our meetings in the United States, we often have many members in attendance from the U.K., Canada, Bermuda, and several of the Caribbean islands.

In the U.K., we have sponsored yearly meetings at the York Stamp Fair and have provided group medals for exhibitors. During the recent international show in Australia, the BCPSG sponsored a regional meeting and provided a special prize for the most outstanding British Caribbean exhibit. In the past, the winners of the prestigious Byron Cameron Award have included a number of overseas members. In recent years, the *BCPJ* has featured important philatelic contributions from members in such diverse areas as South Africa, Australia, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and numerous Caribbean islands.

Again, I would urge everyone to join us in London for what promises to be the philatelic event of a lifetime. I am especially hoping to meet more of our overseas members for the first time and to renew friendships with many of you that I first met in London during 1990. I also would like to thank our international director, **David Druett**, for handling all the details for our joint meeting and the committee and other officers of the BWISC for their efforts in making this a truly outstanding event.

Nominations Due for Cooley Service Award

All members are encouraged to submit nominations for candidates for the annual **Robert J. Cooley Award** for outstanding service to the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. This major new award was made possible by a generous donation from long-time group member **Bob Cooley**. It will be presented for the first time at our 2000 meeting in London. This prestigious award superbly compliments the group's other two existing major awards, the **Byron Cameron Trophy** for the best British Caribbean exhibit at the group meeting and the **Stanley Durnin Award** for the best article published in the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal.

The award will be presented each year at the Annual General Meeting. Under the rules of this award, members are eligible to win this award only once. The winner will be selected based on the nominations submitted to a three-member award committee. **Peter Kaulback**, secretary of the BCPSG, is serving as chairperson for the committee. The other members are former president **Jay L. Fredrick** and former treasurer **Barry Friedman**.

Nominating statements must be submitted. These are limited to no more than two pages, and they must provide detailed information on the qualifications of the nominee. Special emphasis will be placed on long-term service to the group. Nominations are due no later than 1 April 2000 and should be submitted directly to:

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

Details Set For Joint BCPSG/BWISC Meeting In London

The final schedule is now in place for the Annual General Meeting and other joint activities with the British West Indies Study Circle during 20-21 May 2000 in London. The main location for the event will be the Bonnington Hotel (telephone 0171-2422828 in the U.K. and 011-44-171-242-2828 from the U.S.) on Southampton Row just south of Russell Square near the Holborn underground station. Our international director, **David Druett**, is serving as the local coordinator for the event. He can be contacted at:

1 Brewerton Street
Knaresborough, N. Yorks
United Kingdom HG5 8AZ
Tel: 01423-865962 in the U.K.
(011-44-142-386-5962 from the U.S.)
e-mail: pennymead@aol.com

The full schedule of events is:

Saturday, 20 May 2000	
At Bonnington Hotel	
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Informal get-together over coffee and danish and viewing of auction lots
12:30 AM-5:30 PM	Joint 800-lot auction
6:00 PM-7:00 PM	Wine and cheese opening reception
Sunday, May 21, 2000	
At Bonnington Hotel	
10:00 AM	Dealer's bourse opens (all day) and informal displays begin
10:00 AM-10:45 AM	British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group annual general meeting
10:45 AM-11:30 AM	British West Indies Study Circle annual general meeting
11:30 AM-12:30 PM	First formal display
12:30 PM-2:30 PM	Lunch and informal displays
2:30 PM-3:30 PM	Second formal display
3:30 PM-6:00 PM	Informal displays
4:00 PM	Opinion table opens
5:55 PM	Closing Remarks
At Poon's Restaurant on Russell Square	
7:00 PM	Cash bar reception and traditional group dinner
Monday, May 21, 2000	
International Exhibition opens at Earl's Court	

Joint Auction and Informal Get-Together

Events in London will begin at 11:00 AM on Saturday, 20 May 2000 with an informal get-together over coffee and danish at the Bonnington Hotel. All members are invited to join us there to meet both our members and members of the British West Indies Study Circle. Lots from our joint auction will be available for viewing until 12:00 PM. The auction itself will run from 12:30 PM through approximately 5:30 PM. We expect more than 800 lots of specialized material from all areas of the British Caribbean.

Opening Wine and Cheese Reception

Following the auction, members are invited to attend an opening wine and cheese reception on Saturday, 20 May from 6:00 to 7:00 PM at the Bonnington Hotel. Complimentary drinks and snacks will be provided. This event will provide an ideal place to meet old friends and to make new acquaintances in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. Although there is no formal dinner planned for that evening, those in attendance are encouraged to make individual dinner arrangements with group members at the reception.

Dealers' Bourse and Informal Displays

A bourse with several specialized BWI dealers will start at the Bonnington Hotel at 10:00 AM on Sunday, 21 May. The bourse will remain open throughout the day. Informal displays of members' material will be on-going during the day. Those planning to attend are encouraged to bring eight to sixteen pages of material for inclusion in the informal display. The displays will change frequently during the day and will provide an excellent opportunity to see material in several areas of interest.

Opinion Table

Starting at 4:00 PM, a panel of three experts on various areas of British Caribbean philately will be available to provide opinions on stamps and covers submitted by members in attendance. The day-long event is scheduled to close at 6:00 PM.

Annual General Meeting

As part of the events at the Bonnington, the BCPSG will hold its annual general meeting from 10:00 to 10:45 AM on Sunday, May 21. The meeting will include officer's reports, updates on future meetings, and announcements of general interest. During the meeting, we will also announce the winners of the *Stanley C. Durnin* Award for outstanding writing in the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal and the first *Robert J. Cooley* Award for outstanding service to group. Members are also encouraged to attend the annual meeting of the British West Indies Study Circle which will follow immediately afterwards from 10:45 to 11:30 AM.

Formal Displays

In-depth, one-hour formal displays of outstanding British Caribbean material will be presented twice during the day, from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM and from 2:30 to 3:30 PM., at the Bonnington Hotel on Sunday, May 21. One formal display will feature a presentation of British Caribbean rarities by *Federico Borromeo* of Switzerland. The other will feature half-hour slide presentations by *Peter McCann* of the U.S. on British Virgin Islands Postal History and *David Herendeen* of the U.S. on British West Indies Postage Dues. Each of these displays will feature some of the finest material from exhibits that have won international gold medals. The presentations will be followed by a brief question and answer period.

Traditional Group Dinner

Our traditional group dinner is scheduled to follow the joint meeting at 7:00 PM, Sunday, 21 May at Poon's Restaurant on Russell Square. This location is only a few blocks from the meeting site at the Bonnington Hotel. The evening will feature a cash bar reception at the restaurant and buffet-style Chinese meal. The cost of the meal will be approximately 15 British Pounds. Payment is not required ahead of time. Although reservations are not mandatory, planning for this dinner and all the events in London will be greatly facilitated by filling out the form enclosed in this issue of the Journal.

Secretary's Report

by *Peter Kaulback*

The four new applicants listed in the September 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

No new applications have been received

Change of Address

Bill Charles Gompel, PO Box 120367, West Melbourne, FL 32912USA

R. Alan Ferrington, 805 Robert Street, Ruston, LA 71270 USA

Jewel Yoder, 4996 Singers Glen Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22802 USA

Resignation

Brian McCloy (England)

Name Change

Trustee *Mary P. Green* (Barbados) has changed her name to *Mary P. Kerr*.

Necrology

Eric King (Belize)

Ron Wike (England)

Trustee Election

The Secretary hereby certifies the election of three new BCPSG Trustees for terms expiring in 2006. See page 123 for their names and biographies.

If any member has information 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

New BCPSG Trustees

by Rob Wynstra

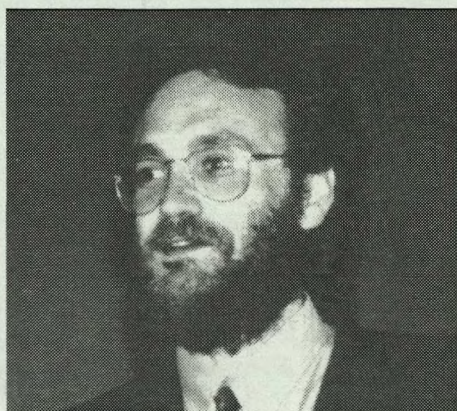
We are pleased to welcome the following members as our new trustees for a six-year term through 2006

Darryl Fuller

Darryl Fuller, who lives in Australia, has been collecting for thirty-five years. Exhibiting runs in his family — he is a third-generation exhibitor. His main interest is Leeward Island's postal stationery which recently was awarded an international gold medal at Australia 99. His other collecting interests are *jusqu'à* airmail markings of the world and formula aerogrammes of the British Commonwealth.

In addition to the BCPSG, he is a member of the BWISC, APS, the Postal Stationery Society of Australia, and the interNational Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (NAPE). He has been involved with the Philatelic Society of Canberra for a number of years and has just stepped down as President. He recently took over as the editor of that Society's journal. He also has been involved with a number of philatelic exhibitions, and is currently Chairman of the organizing committee for Canberra Stampshow 2000 to be held in March 2000. He is an accredited national judge for postal stationery and has recently qualified to judge aerophilately.

Following the Canberra Stampshow next year, he plans to concentrate more on writing articles for the BCPJ and other publications, as well as working on two philatelic



New trustee, Darryl Fuller of Australia

books. He further hopes to actively promote the BCPSG in Australia, New Zealand and the Asian region in an effort to boost the number of local members.

Derek Nathan

Derek Nathan resides in the United Kingdom. Both his father and grandfather were stamp collectors. However, he did not take much notice of the hobby between the ages of thirteen and fifty. Then, he saw the light and for the last twenty years has spent much time involved with not only his own collection, but with the administration of philately at many different levels.

Since 1980, he has collected British Guiana, specializing in postal history. He was awarded a Gold Medal at Istanbul, based on a five-frame exhibit, and is currently attempting to expand this to eight frames in time for London 2000. He received the BCPSG's Byron Cameron Award for his exhibit of British Guiana postal history at CAPEX 96.

He is a life member of the BCPSG, Honourable Librarian and Chairman of Committee of the BWISC, a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London (FRPSL), twice President of Kingston-upon-Thames Philatelic Society, Honourable Treasurer of the Federation of Surrey Philatelic Societies, delegate from Surrey to the Association of British Philatelic Societies, member of the Postal Stationery Society, and Associate of the Society of Postal Historians.

Barry Friedman

Barry Friedman resides in Fort Lauderdale, Florida where he is an executive in the financial planning and brokerage industry. He recently finished serving an eight-year term as treasurer of the BCPSG. His major collecting interests are the smaller islands of the British West Indies with special emphasis on St. Vincent and censored mail.

He is a member of numerous philatelic organizations including the American Philatelic Society, the British West Indies Study Circle, the King George VI Study Group, and the Civil Censorship Study Group.

Exhibits and Awards

by Paul A. Larsen

Members of the BCPSG exhibited in a considerable number of shows this period. Results are summarized below.

NAPEX 99

June 4-6, 1999, McLean, VA

G. Bowman: The First Type 1d. Stamp of Nevis, Vermeil, Best One frame Award.

Royal 99 Royale

May 28-30, 1999, Fredericton, NB, Canada

J. Arnell, Correspondance from the War of 1812 Period, Silver.

1999 National Topical Show

July 30-August 1, 1999, Milwaukee, WI

R. Ireson, The Panama Canal Story, Grand Award, Gold.

A. Triggles, Ichthyology: A Treatise on Fishes, Reserve Grand, Gold.

Illinois State Fair

August 13-23, 1999, Springfield, IL

R. Ramkissoon: Airmails of Trinidad and Tobago, Grand Award, 1st Place.

STAMPSHOW 99

August 26-29, 1999, Cleveland, OH

Q. Fernando: The 1868 Issue of Mexico, Prix d'Honneur.

P. Larsen: Ubangi-Shari-Chad, Gold.

R. Schnell: Classic Iceland - 1824-1904, Prix d'Honneur.

R. Schnell: Postal History of Mokelumne Hill, California 1851-1871, Single Frame, Gold.

R. Schnell: Airmail Routes from Occupied Norway 1940-1945, Single Frame, Gold.

R. Schnell: British Civil Censorship WWII - PC 90 Re-sealing Labels, Single Frame, Silver.

CHINA 99

August 21-30, Beijing, China

D. Herendeen: Postage Dues of the British Empire and Commonwealth, Gold.

P. Larsen, German Caroline Islands 1899-1914, Large Vermeil.

R. Ramkissoon: Postal Stationery of Trinidad and Tobago 1879-1937, Gold.

R. Ramkissoon: Development of U.S. Lunar Exploration, Large Vermeil.

R. Schnell: Isle of man 1728/29 to 1919, Large Vermeil.

S. Schumann: New Zealand Postal Stationery, 1876-1936, Large Vermeil.

A. Jazad and R. Wike: Machine Cancellations of Trinidad and Tobago 1923-1997, Silver-Bronze (Lit.).

Note that the Palmares for China 99 is not yet available. Only exhibitors from the U.S. are included above.

BALPEX

September 3-5, 1999, Hunt Valley, MD

J. DuBois: Danish West Indies Mail: 1759-1877, Gold, APS Pre-1900 Medal, Scandinavian Collectors Club Special Award.

INDYPEX 99

September 1-12, 1999, Indianapolis, IN

See special article on page 125.

MILCOPEX 99

September 17-19, 1999, Milwaukee, WI

R. Ramkissoon: Tobago 1772-1905, Reserve Grand, Gold.

AIRPEX 99

September 25-26, 1999, Dayton, OH

S. Schumann: New Zealand Postal Stationery, 1876-1936, Gold, Marcus White Award.

A. Triggles: Muscat, Gold, APS 1900-1940 Medal, Postal History Society Medal.

MI SCUSI, SIGNOR BORROMEO!

The editor would like to apologize for the listing of the exhibit of member *F. Borromeo* in the last issue. His Large Gold Medal at PhilexFrance was for: *The Antilles: A Postal History*. Members should look forward to seeing some of his wonderful material at the AGM in London (see page 120.)

BCPSG Members Shine at INDYPEX

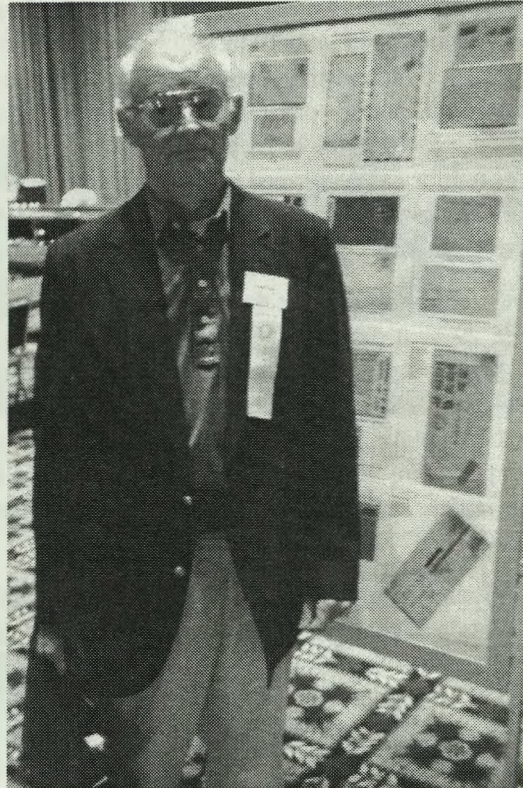
Indypex 99 was held 10-12 September 1999 in Indianapolis, IN. This show hosted the first-ever convention of the *Civil Censorship Study Group*, a topic near and dear to the hearts of quite a few BCPSG members. Three of our fellows garnered awards.

Dr. Peter Flynn showed his exhibit *Imperial Censorship in Bermuda - A Study/Examination of Transit Mails During WWII*. This exhibit is an expanded version of the one shown at our Annual General Meeting last February in Sarasota. This time out, Peter not only received a Gold medal, but also the Grand Award and the Civil Censorship Study Group Award. A hearty congratulations to Peter. It is possible that this may be the first time a censorship exhibit has ever won a Grand at a national show. Even if there are a small number of others, it is an incredible feat.

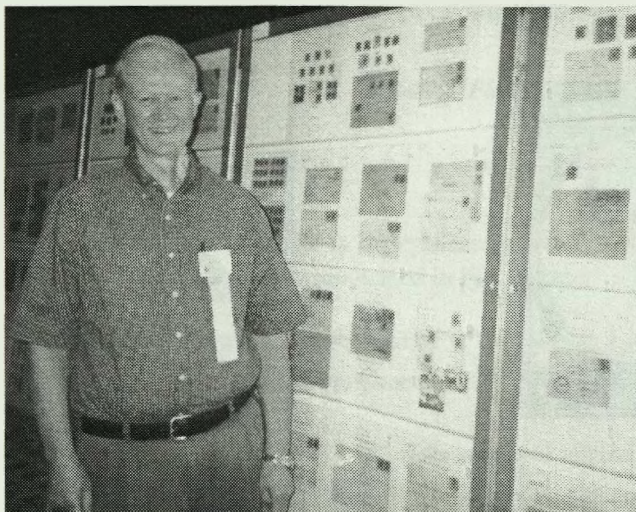
Our treasurer, **Tim Tweddell**, launched his exhibiting career with not one, but two exhibits. His first exhibit, *Civil Censorship in Antigua in World War Two*, was awarded a Vermeil and the BCPSG medal. His one frame exhibit, *Green, Pink and Buff (Censor Labels)* was awarded a Bronze.

Last, but by no means least, our awards editor, **Paul Larsen**, received a Gold medal for one of his many outstanding exhibits: *German Togo 1885-1900*.

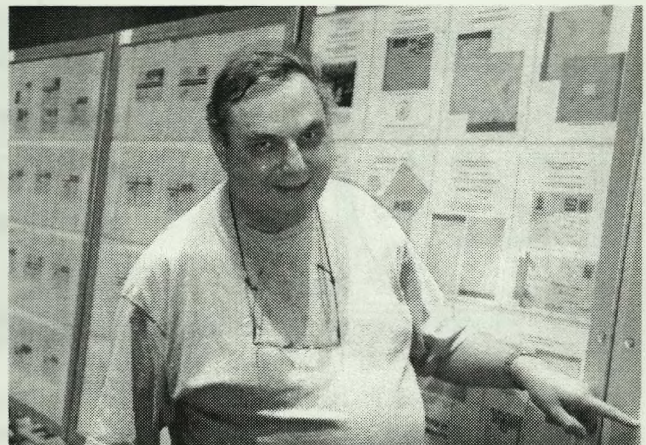
We look forward to more BCPSG members preparing exhibits both for our Annual General Meeting and for the Civil Censorship Study Group, as well. Once again, congratulations to all.



*Dr. Peter Flynn Wins Grand at Indypex for
"Imperial Censorship in Bermuda -
A Study/Examination of Transit Mails During WWII."*



*Paul Larsen with His Gold Medal Exhibit
"German Togo 1885-1900."*



*Tim Tweddell at the Frames of His First Time Exhibit
"Civil Censorship in Antigua in World War Two."*

Postage Due Varieties of Grenada

by Henry A. Pattiz

Recently an article on the postage due stamps of Trinidad appeared¹ which discussed only a few of the plate varieties of these fascinating stamps. A subsequent letter to the editor² pointed out the existence of an interesting variety of the duty plate of the postage due stamps of Grenada. This particular variety shows what appears to be a broken top serif of the "d." The author has confirmed this to be a constant flaw, and has examples, shown in Fig. 1, for each of the pence issues of Grenada.

It is interesting to note that the flaw changes somewhat over the 29 year period. The broken bit appears to be moving closer to the stem in each succeeding issue. It may be that there was an attempt to "push" the broken bit back into place. It may be surmised that the postage due stamps were considered to be less important than postage stamps, and that there was no need to perform a "neat and clean" re-entry of the duty plate.

Of additional importance is the fact that even when the frame plate was changed in 1921 to read "Postage Due," rather than "Surcharge Postage," the same duty plate was used as evidenced by the flaws to be described. This is strong evidence that the issues were printed by two separate plates, one for the frame, and one for the duty.

When De La Rue was awarded the contract to print the early British colonial postage due stamps, specifically those of Trinidad in 1884 and Grenada in 1891, an economical production method was essential. The recent information published in the BCPJ on the postage dues led the author to revisit research performed several years ago. A complete set of panes of 60 of the third (1921) issue for the 1d, 2d, and 3d values was carefully reviewed to identify the plate varieties. Each of the values does, in fact, exhibit many flaws, some of which are very distinctive and easily identified. These are described in the following sections.

It is interesting to note that the handling of such plate flaws in the standard catalogs has been very inconsistent. For example, other British colonial postage due issues include listings for broken serifs (Gold Coast, Tristan da Cunha), a "Thick d" (Basutoland, Swaziland) and an "Upright Slash" (Trinidad, Gold Coast.) Some of the flaws identified in this study are comparable, and are definitely collectible by the specialist.

The 1d Pane

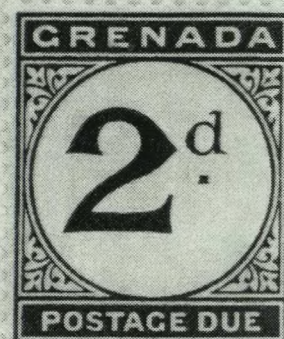
A study of the 1d pane allows the identification of seven readily identifiable varieties of the duty plate. The prin-



1892
Watermark Crown CA



1906
Watermark Multiple Crown CA



1921
Inscribed "POSTAGE DUE"

Figure 1. The "Broken 'd'" Variety on the 2d Value of the Three Different Pence Issues of Grenada.

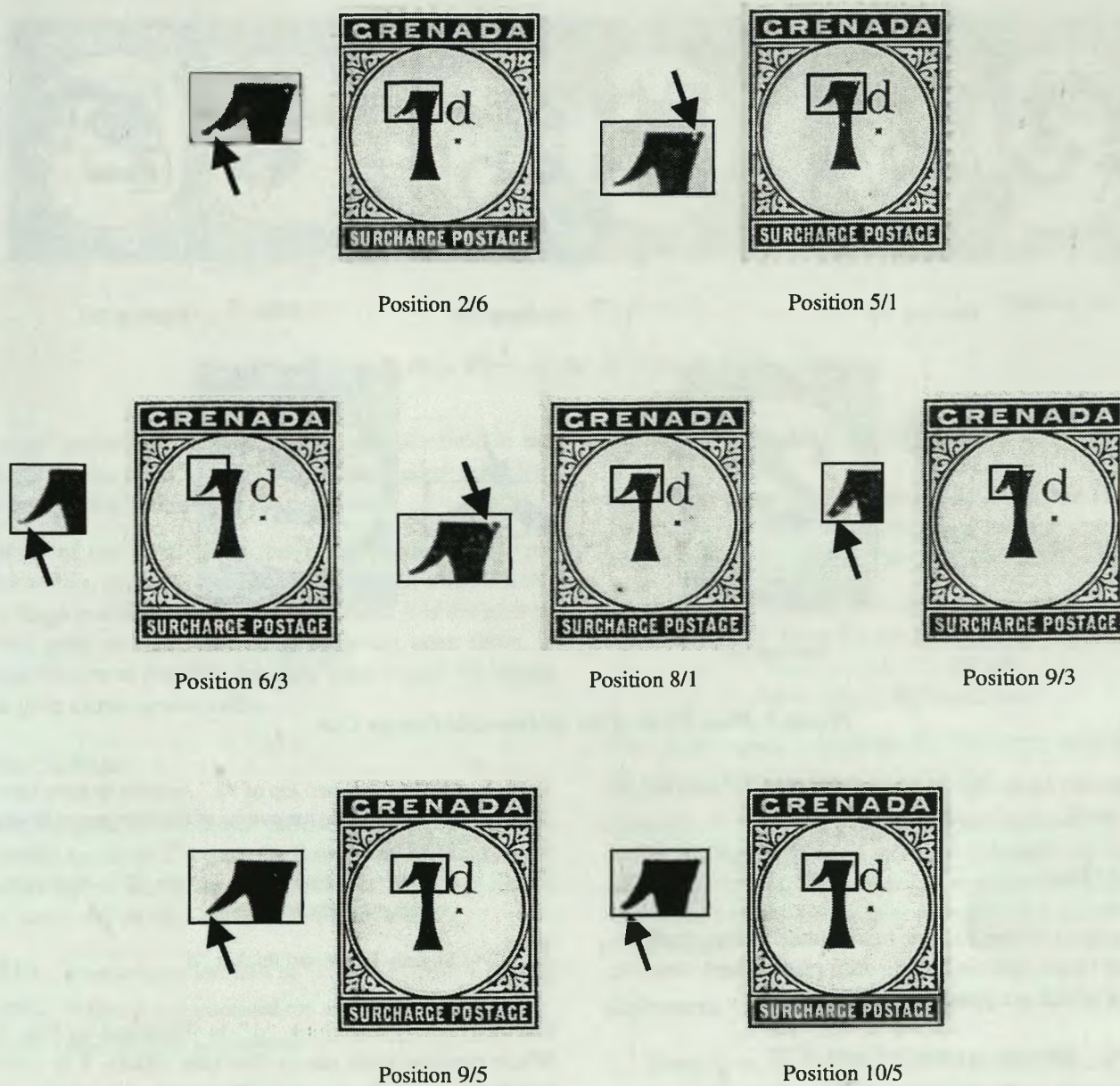


Figure 2. Plate Flaws of the 1d Grenada Postage Due.

principal characteristic of these is differences in the top of the digit "1." The varieties, illustrated in Fig. 2 are:

- | | | | |
|------|---|-------|----------------------------------|
| R2/6 | Major damage to upper serif of "1" | R9/3 | Tip of serif of "1" broken |
| R5/1 | Split on northeast upper corner of "1" (similar to R8/1) | R9/5 | Blunt, short end to serif of "1" |
| R6/3 | Broken serif at left of "1" makes numeral appear to have a long and curved end. | R10/5 | Blunt, short end to serif of "1" |
| R8/1 | Split on northeast upper corner of "1" (similar to R5/1) | | |

Additionally, there are numerous different shapes and sizes of the "stop" under the "d," and significant difference in the length of the tail of the "d" which could allow complete identification for many of the positions. The differences in the "stop" might be attributable to

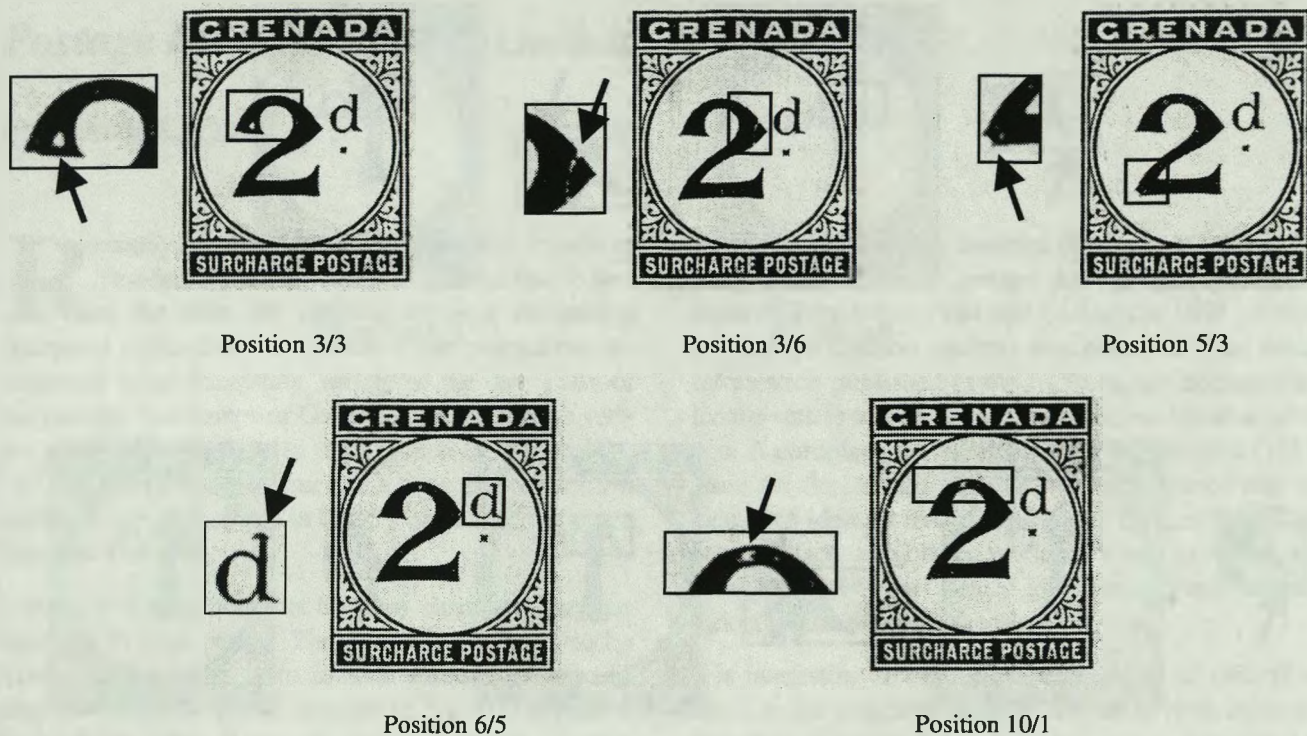


Figure 3. Plate Flaws of the 2d Grenada Postage Due.

differences in inking and plate pressure because the bit is so small.

The 2d Pane

An analysis of the 2d pane has resulted in the identification of seven varieties of the duty plate. These varieties, five of which are presented in Fig., 3 are:

- R6/5 Broken, inclined top of "d." Appears to have been repaired during the course of the three pence issues (see Fig. 1)
- R10/1 Numerous white spots in the "2", especially prominent in the top center
- R9/6 Slightly larger and thicker "d"
- R10/6

- R3/3 Damage to upper left serif of "2"
- R3/6 Major break in back of "2"
- R5/3 "Stubbed Toe" of "2"

The last variety, the thick "d," is illustrated in Fig. 4. While position R9/6 shows this also variety, it is more prevalent in R10/6, which is illustrated. As for the 1d, there are numerous different shapes and sizes of the

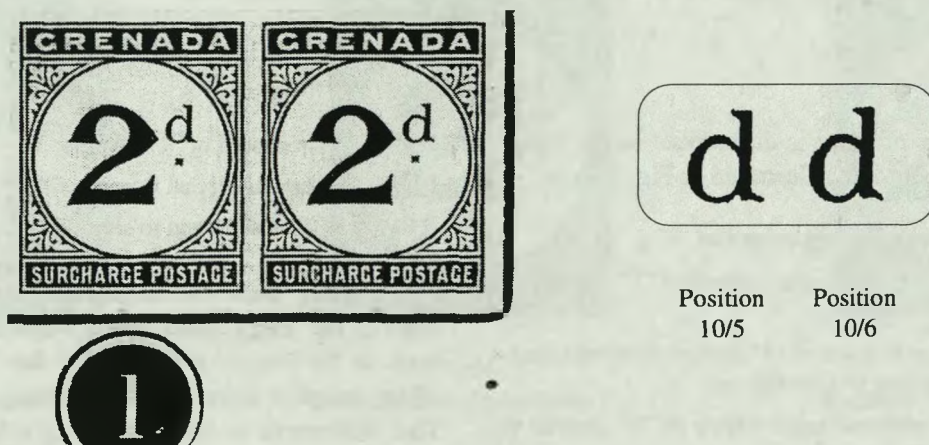


Figure 4. The "Large d" Variety.

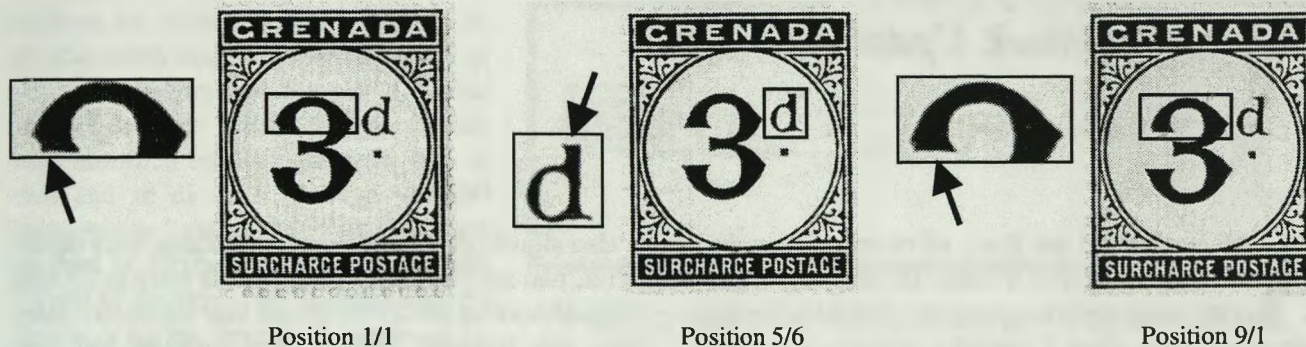


Figure 5. Plate Flaws of the 3d Grenada Postage Due.

“stop” under the “d,” and significant difference in the length of the tail of the “d” which could allow complete identification for many of the positions.

Many of the positions in this pane exhibit white dots, not unlike that illustrated for R10/1. Until more sheets, or large position pieces, can be studied, it is difficult to state with certainty that these represent plate flaws. It may be just as possible that they were caused by inking or plate cleaning anomalies.

The 3d Pane

The 3d pane shows fewer varieties, but all of these are readily apparent. They are the broken serifs found on the upper left of the “3,” and a shortened “d.” The positions of these, which are illustrated in Fig. 5, are:

- R1/1 Broken upper left serif of “1”
- R5/6 Distorted and truncated top to “d”
- R9/1 Broken upper left serif of “1”

Again, there are numerous different shapes and sizes of the “stop” under the “d,” and the differences in the length of the tail of the “d” are even more pronounced than those of the 1d and 2d values.

Information Available and Wanted

For readers interested in having a large format (11 in x 17 in) copy of each of the Grenada postage due panes used in the study, please contact the author at:

Henry A. Pattiz, Esq.
9304 Civic Center Drive, Suite 6
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
eMail: HAPLAW@aol.com

The set of copies is available for \$10.00 to help defray the cost of reproduction and shipping.

Similarly, the author would like to hear from any readers having having full panes, or large plateable blocks, of any of the Sterling De La Rue postage dues of Grenada. Of special interest are the later printings (i.e. ca.1950) of these stamps.

References

1. Herendeen, D.L., “Trinidad: The Birthplace of British Colonial Postage Due,” *BCPJ*, 38(3), September, 1998, pp. 95-102.
2. Galinski, M., Letter to the Editor, *BCPJ*, 39(1), March, 1999, p. 14.

ARE YOU COMING TO LONDON IN MAY??
PLEASE COMPLETE THE ENCLOSED
INSERT AND RETURN IT SO THE BCPSG
CAN FINALIZE PLANS FOR GROUP FESTIVITIES

Antigua Postmark Update

by Charles Freeland

Antigua has its fair share of elusive postmarks, none more so than Swetes. To date, only a single partial strike has been recorded. Imagine my enthusiasm, then, when I viewed a modestly described and estimated mixed lot in a London auction recently and came across the "sweet" little cover illustrated in Fig. 1. This was one of what is obviously a full set for the period of sixteen village covers each addressed to "Miss McDonald, The Library" (presumably in St Johns).¹ While I can be as scornful as exhibition judges of philatelically inspired covers, we must recognize that without Ceders, Iremongers, Wells and the like, our knowledge of village mail in the BWI would be much the poorer.

On closer inspection the lot yielded more, much more. The library correspondence, which seems from the script to have been written by a lady, presumably Miss McDonald herself, is dated either 20, 21 or 22 June 1933. It must have been hard (and hot) work to visit so many offices in three days, bearing in mind that motorized transport would surely not have reached Antigua by that date. Moreover, she must have stood over the postal clerk to obtain especially clean strikes — all except a blurred Montpelier and an average Cedar Grove are very neat and they include other rarities such as Green Bay, Gunthorpes, Pares, St Johnston's and Seatons.

Apart from the cover illustrated in Fig. 1, which is the first Swetes to record a complete date, the Parham cover

is also significant as the second datestamp, with the asterisk, had not previously been seen as early as 20 June 1933. Otherwise the covers do not bear significant dates. They are, however, visually very attractive and most bear the local 1d rate, though a few have higher frankings.

This discovery is itself worth recording in the Journal, but these were not the only treasures. There was also a range of nice strikes of difficult offices such as those mentioned above on single stamps or small pieces. The real finds were in a grubby cellophane packet that I expect no one else looked inside. Among a hundred or so nondescript stamps mint or used I found:

- a piece bearing two stamps cancelled English Harbor for 17Aug21
- two examples each of Barnes Hill, Bethesda and Newfield, the George VI rarities of which only single philatelic dates have previously been seen. Two of these extend the date range, a Barnes Hill and a Newfield each dated 7Apr39
- a partial strike of the rare St Stephens, dated 19Jul28
- two examples of the even rarer St James, both fine and complete on pieces, one dated 18Feb29, as are the two existing recorded examples, and the other 19Jul28, the same date as the known strikes of St Stephens

- finally, a piece (see Fig. 2) franked with a 1d stamp whose date is illegible and bearing a boxed "INSUFFICIENTLY PAID." This has every appearance of an Antigua mark that I cannot find recorded in the literature. Comments please from the *cognoscenti*.

My revelations are not quite finished, however, because several of the single stamps were mounted on priced approval book pages which must have dated from the sixties or earlier. This follows because they are priced in shillings and pence that were phased out by British decimalization in 1971. The prices would have been tempting even back in the 60's, St James and St

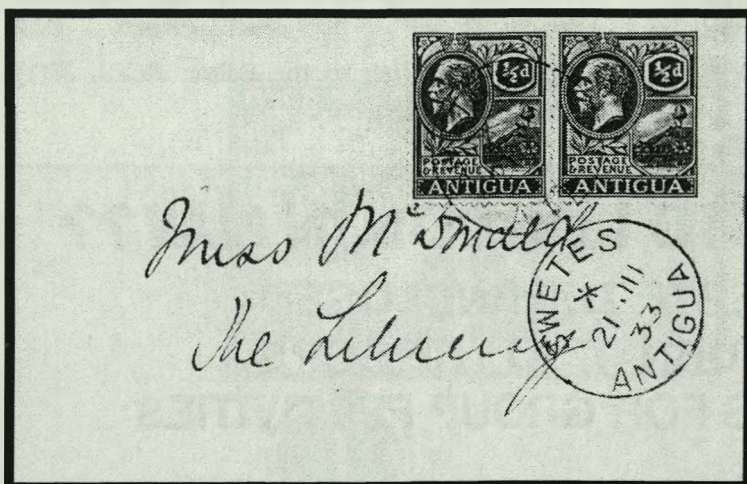


Figure 1. First Swetes Cancellation with Complete Datestamp.

Stephens for 6/- each and Newfield for 2/- 6d. The sheets originally contained four of each cancellation. Nat Surtees, a former BCPSG member whose Antigua cancels were absorbed by Wynstra, took one of each and so did H.A.Rydings. A third name, which I cannot decipher, had taken the third St Stephens but had thoughtfully left one St Stephens, two St James and two Newfields for me. Important nuggets of information for those who keep track of rare items.

What is the source of this remarkable collection? Well, there are a couple of clues. First, some of the loose stamps are on a card that has the name "Rev N.V.Narracott, St. George Vicarage, Antigua" written on the back. Second, the empty spaces in the approval book are stamped "A.W.York," who must have been the person who circulated the book, probably a dealer. It looks as if the owner of the collection had bought the approval book remainder.

In light of this acquisition, we now know rather more about the rarest Antigua postmarks of the late 1920's and early 1930's. Let me summarize reported sightings of twelve of them, though for all but the top four or five several others may well exist. In compiling this list, I have consulted the following sources:

- Cornell's listing in Ref. 2, together with his reference files that came into my possession about five years ago
- Oliver's listing (Ref. 3, p. 12)
- Photocopies of Mark Swetland's collection⁴
- Photocopies of Stan Durnin's collection
- Rob Wynstra's unpublished records
- my own reference records, drawing, of course, on my own collection as well as sundry notes in various journals, price lists and auction catalogues.

Barnes Hill, Bethesda and Newfield

These cancellations have always been regarded with suspicion. The offices themselves were reportedly closed on 31Dec31, but the only markings seen until recently bore single 1939 dates, 15Feb39 for Barnes Hill, 7Apr39 for Bethesda and 9Oct39 for Newfield. The inference was that an insider had resuscitated the

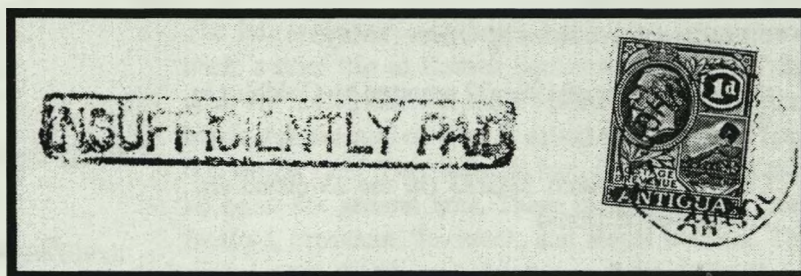


Figure 2. Unrecorded "Insufficiently Paid" Antigua(?) Marking.

obsolete instruments to create his own philatelic usages. Suspicion fell on A.W.Morley, because covers addressed to him in Rochdale for these three dates were in the Durnin collection. However, in the past two years, Oliver and Wynstra have recorded two GV stamps cancelled Barnes Hill, apparently for two different dates (13Feb29 and 16Feb29). I can now report a usage of Newfield on GV, dated 9Oct, probably 1939 though sadly the year is off the stamp. My new acquisition also contains examples of Barnes Hill and Newfield bearing the Bethesda date, 7Apr39, leading me to conclude that Morley made up covers for that date for each of the three handstamps.

Our present state of knowledge for the three offices appears to be as follows:

Barnes Hill. Earliest known date: 13Feb29 (plus another GV usage for ?16Feb29); 15Feb39 (cover bearing five 1/2d values to Morley), and at least two single stamps; Latest known date: 7Apr39.

Bethesda. 7Apr39, still the only date seen, on a Morley cover franked with two 1/2d's and 1 1/2d, plus at least four different single stamps.

Newfield. Earliest known date: 7Apr39; Latest known date: 9Oct39, on Morley cover franked with five 1/2d's, plus three different single stamps.

English Harbor

Cornell's reference file contains a photostat of a piece bearing a 1/2d green Arms and a 1 1/2 War Tax, each with a complete CDS for 17Aug21. This piece is now in the Wynstra collection, ex-Surtees. Although my newly acquired piece doubles the recorded sightings, it does not extend the date range.

Green Bay (open between 1Oct28 and 31Mar36)

I have noted only five dates (the peculiarity of this datestamp is that it contains three-letter months):

- the early date recorded by Oliver (6May31)
- the Focke cover of 19Sep32 reported by Goldblatt in Ref. 5
- Ceder covers dated 3Mar33 (in the Swetland and Freeland collections)
- the "Miss McDonald" cover dated 21Jun33
- three or four single stamps dated 6Dec33

Gunthorpes

This office was open between 1Jan32 and 1948, when it was renamed **Grays Farm**. The earliest date (26Nov32) is on a Focke cover in the Goldblatt collection. Other early dates I have seen include:

- Ceder covers for 27Feb33 (one seen)
- commercial cover to Argentina dated 8Dec33 (Freeland Collection)
- the "Miss McDonald" cover dated 20Jun33

Pares

For the early period of this office, open from 1Jan32 to 1948, I have seen:

- 16Sep32 on a Focke cover (Goldblatt, year-date 31 in error)
- 19Oct32 (Freeland)
- 20Jun33 ("Miss McDonald")
- 1Oct33 (Freeland)

St James

This office was open from 1883 to 31Dec31, when it was renamed **Cedar Grove**. Two examples have been previously recorded, both dated 18Feb29, one ex-Surtees, now Wynstra, the other ex-Lisle now Goldblatt. We can now add a third example bearing the same date and a fourth dated 19Jul28.

St Johns

Some years ago I acquired the Cornell collection which included the mystery single-ring St. Johns with an asterisk that he had written about. This is in large letters and with the "T" in "St." full size and not underlined as it normally is (Fig.3). Bill had two examples dated for 17Apr and Jul, though sadly the year dates on neither are visible. Has anyone else seen anything like them and thus be able to supply a year date? Cornell also wrote



Figure 3. Mysterious St. Johns Cancellation.

about a similar St Johns with an asterisk but smaller letters. Judging by the photograph in his records, the name is rather weakly defined and his reconstruction is a masterpiece of draughtmanship. The date is clearly 25Aug26. Again, please report additional sightings.

St Johnstons

This office was open from 1Jan32 and 31Mar36. Two covers have previously been recorded but curiously no strikes on lone stamps, though some may have been taken for St Johns. The "Miss McDonald" cover does not extend the date range, from 21Mar33 for the Ceder cover Raymond's collection to 18Sep33 for the Focke cover recorded by Cornell. The latter is now mine and the strike is doubled and unclear. I believe the date to be 16Sep not 18Sep. I also now own a single Tercentenary 1½d very clearly struck 2Jul32 and Oliver records a sighting for 1935.

St Stephens

For this office, open between 1883 and 31Dec31 when renamed **Seatons**, five examples have been noted:

- Surtees, now Wynstra, on 1½d dated 19Jul28
- my new find on a single ½d, same date
- a third example recorded by Wynstra (same date?)
- a fourth dated 5May29 (copy in Cornell's records, it may well be a proof strike)
- Goldblatt's Latest known date (16Sep32, ex-Lisle)

Seatons (early period)

Seatons was closed in 1937 and not re-opened until 1948. For the early period, 1Jan32 and 31Mar37, the listings I have consulted only report one date which Cornell's notes ascribe to Goldblatt. He reported a Focke cover of 16Sep32 in Ref. 3. Swetland had a Focke cover for the same date. To that I can add:

- another Goldblatt example for 2Dec32
- at least one Ceder cover for 7Mar33 (mine, ex-Wynstra)

- the "Miss McDonald" cover of 20Ju33
- single 1d stamp for 18Jul33
- single GV 1/2d stamp for 15Apr, year unclear (BWI auctions, January 1988)
- Leeward Isles GV 2 1/2d orange, partial strike without date (Gibbons auction June 1993)

Endnotes and Bibliography

1. The St. Johns librarians seem to have a philatelic bent, because one of Miss McDonald successor's was the familiar Bessie Harper.
2. Cornell, W.G., *Antigua Monograph*, BCPSG, December 1973.
3. Oliver, M.N., *A Postal History Anthology*, BCPSG, June 1977, pages 11-12
4. References to this and other collections are the result of numerous private communications with the collectors and exhibitors of this material.
5. Goldblatt, S., *BWISC Bulletin*, No. 78, September 1973
6. Early and somewhat outdated listings are found in:
Proud, E.B., "Antigua Post Offices and Postal Markings," *Postal History International*, No. 2, February 1972.

London Hotel Possibilities

Remembering that the BCPSG is not a travel agency, we can provide some information about London hotels in the Russell Square area. Attendees must, of course, make arrangements, verify rates, and select hotels based upon their own personal travel style.

David Druett has stayed several times at the Bedford hotel located almost opposite the Bonnington. All rooms have en-suite facilities and are clean but rather basic. Prices are relatively cheap. Monday to Thursday costs £68 single, £88 double. For weekends (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) they have a special offer "Lets go weekend" which is £159 per person for dinner bed and breakfast and free car parking. In David's opinion, the food is not good. He has brochures which can be sent to anyone interested. There will be a price increase soon, but it should be only 2-3%

The Editor was also in London this past summer and made a brief trip to Russell Square to "check out" the area. He also looked at the Bedford and several other hotels that are part of what is called the "Imperial London Hotels Ltd." They have, in fact, five hotels that may all be in the general area. These include the Imperial, Bedford, President, Tavistock, and Royal national. The quoted rates for these hotels range from £59-£70 for singles, and £76-£92 for doubles. These prices include English breakfast, except at the Royal National, which includes Continental breakfast. This chain has a single point of contact for all of these hotels. Their phone is 0171-278-7871 and their FAX 0171-837-4653. Again, travel agents can certainly find out more information for those interested.

As for the Bonnington, the rate card in effect in July 1999 showed rates of £111 single, £140 double, with "Getaway Weekends" at £80 single, £120 double. These prices include English breakfast and VAT.

On this last visit, the Editor and spouse stayed at the Strand Palace Hotel on the Strand. The rate for a double was about £115, without breakfast. There are many other hotels of all prices ranges in the Strand area, which is not appreciably far from Russell Square.

For those members who are online to the Internet, the following sites may be contacted for hotel information:

www.hotelbook.com
www.demon.co.uk/hotel-uk/

Several hotels that might be considered include Blooms and Grange White Hall which are two boutique hotels on Montague street. Also, the Forte Posthouse Bloomsbury, which is more of an American style hotel located very near the Russell Square underground station. members have stayed there, and one can expect more of a standard type room as well a possible bargain pricing.

Remember to book as early as possible, and, like it or not, London is an expensive city. But, for the importance of the show and the great time we expect to have at our joint meeting, it should be worth every penny!

Please remember that the BCPSG does not endorse any specific hotel, and this data is given only for informational purposes. Members must make their own decisions based upon their individual tastes, requirements, and budgets.

Trinidad FEE and FREE FEE Revenue Stamps

By Dr. R.A. Ramkissoon

The FEE stamps of Trinidad resulted from the passage of the Stamp (Fees) Ordinance on 1 August 1885. It was enacted by His Excellency the Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council. Appendix A of this article presents the pertinent portions of this rather long document to provide an understanding of these FEE stamps.

The First FEE Stamps

The first FEE stamps were produced by overprinting several values of the typographed De La Rue issue of 1883 in black, serified capital Roman letters (2.5 x 6 mm). Only the 1d red, shown in Fig. 1, was issued for revenue usage.



Figure 1. First FEE Stamp.

An error in the overprinted text of the 1d value reading FREE (2.5 x 9 mm) shows a manuscript correction in which the "R" is deleted in black to read FEE. This is shown in Fig. 2.



Figure 2. FREE Corrected to FEE in Manuscript.

Forgeries of the 1d value are known in which bolder, symmetrical serified capital letters (3 x 10 mm) were used. The example of this forgery illustrated in Fig. 3 is postally used on 15Oct87.



Figure 3. Postally Used Forgery.

The bisected halfpenny green with $\frac{1}{2}$ d FEE valuation, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d blue, ($\frac{1}{2}$ d deleted by manuscript), 5/- violet and 10/- on 5/- violet were not released for revenue use. The high values from the 1868 perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ issue. A summary of this issue follows. The unreleased values are noted by *italics*:

1/2d green

Bisect with "FEE $\frac{1}{2}$ " in two lines

1/2d red

Overprinted "FREE," in error, manuscript correction in black reading "FEE"

2 1/2d blue

Manuscript deletion of $\frac{1}{2}$ d

5/- violet

10/- on 5/- violet

Chin-Aleong¹ shows the listed $\frac{1}{2}$ d green overprinted "FEE $\frac{1}{2}$ d" used as a bisected, but connected, pair tied to a small piece by the 20mm Trinidad circular date stamp of 19Sep88, with code letter of B4 or E4. This issue is also listed in several references of British Colonial references, noting that most of the values were never released for revenue use. A revenue usage for the $\frac{1}{2}$ d value would be most unusual; of interest is that the cited example is postally used.

The Second FEE Stamps

A full range of the same typographed De La Rue issues of 1883 was prepared for revenue use by overprinting the stamps with large sans-serif capital letters in black, red, green or blue. Color trials of the overprint, in black,



Figure 4. Rejected Trial Color Proofs.

of the 4d, 5/- and 10/- values were prepared in 1886. These proofs, attached to a trimmed Appendix page from the De La Rue archives, and shown in Fig. 4, were rejected.

A portion of the De La Rue appendix page, shown in Fig. 5, is titled "Trinidad Revenue Stamps/Scheme of Colours," and dated 15 July 1886. The full page contains a set of six values pasted to the page. These are overprinted in black, red, green and blue. The black manuscript notations along the left side of the stamps

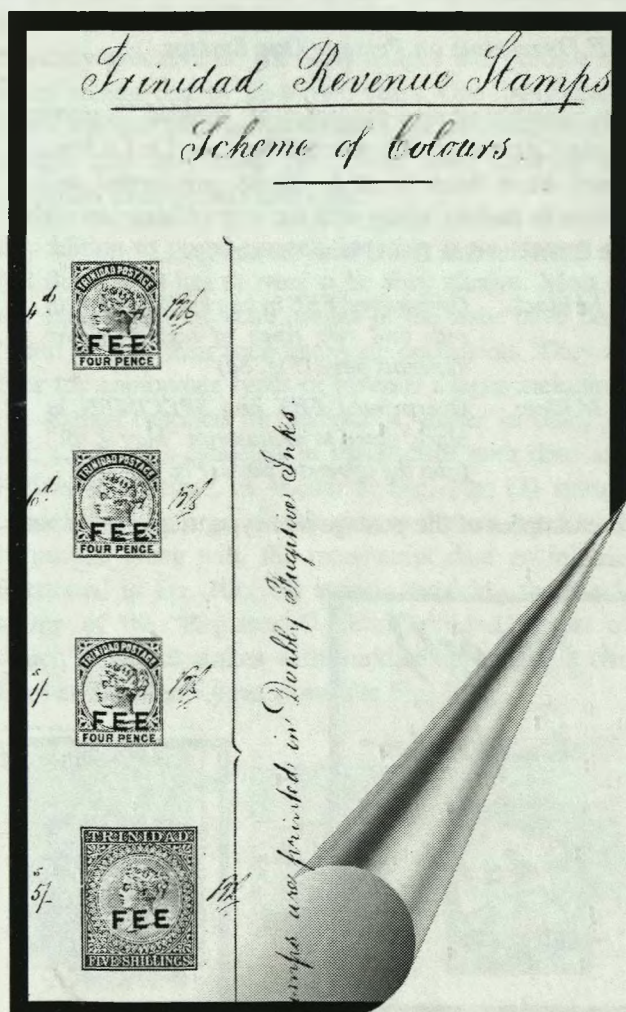


Figure 5. Appendix Sheet from the De La Rue Archives.

indicate the face value of the stamp to be used for the actual issued stamps. The three low values (4d, 6d and 1/-) color trials were created using the "FOUR PENCE" value. The designated colors, as approved, were initialed in red on the right side of the stamps. An additional manuscript notation consists of a long vertical bracket and text reading, "The bodies of the Stamps are printed in Doubly Fugitive Inks." This indicates that the inks used are soluble both in water and in certain chemical solvents. The adopted scheme, as approved, resulted in the following issued stamps (noted first by overprint color, then basic stamp value and color, and finally FEE stamp value):

- Black: 4d lilac and blue for the 4d value
5/- green revalued for the £1
- Red: 4d green and red for the 6d value
5/- violet revalued for the 10/-
- Green: 4d green and blue for the 1/-
- Blue: 5/- violet

Specimen copies, shown in Fig. 6, were released in August 1886, with the overprints appearing in the variety of colors noted in Fig. 5, but with the colors and values corrected from the color trials according to the scheme adopted, as seen in the cut-down examples from the De La Rue archival pages, as follows:

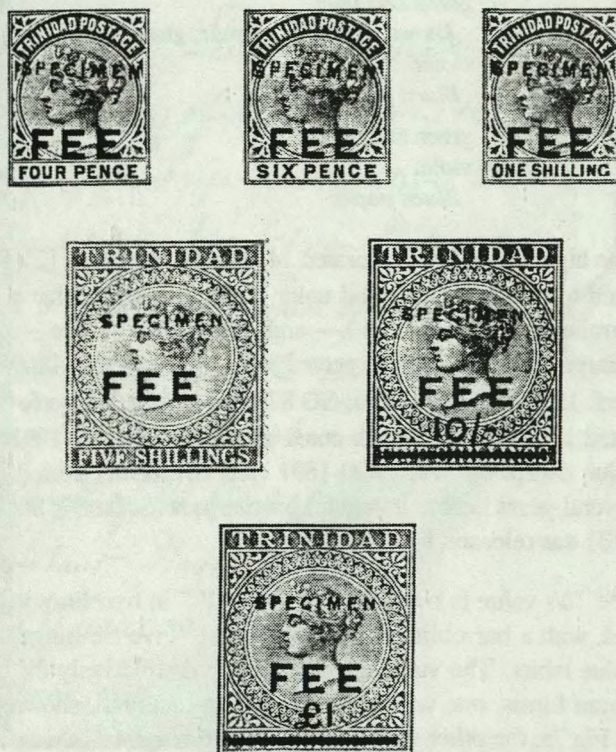


Figure 6. Complete Set of SPECIMEN Overprints.

- Black: 4d lilac and blue
£1 green
- Red: 6d green and red
10/- on 5/- violet (1869 perf. 12½)
- Green: 1/- green and blue
- Blue: 5/- violet (1869 perf. 12½)

The complete release contains a number of varieties that are not listed (shown in *italics*.) All of the issues known are summarized below, preceded by the color of the FEE overprint:

- Black: ½d green
5/- violet
10/- on 5/- violet
£1 green
- Red: 1d red
Overprint inverted
1d lilac
6d green and red
known in multiples: pair, vertical strip of 3, mint block of 4
5/- violet
Blued paper
10/- on 5/- violet
10/- overprint with more oblique bar
10/- overprint dark red and thicker
- Green: ½d green
1/- green and blue
known in multiples: pair, gutter pair
5/- violet
Blued paper
- Blue: 1/- green and blue
5/- violet
Blued paper

The high values are perforated 14, not the expected 12½ used to create the rejected color trials. It appears that a number of 5/- revenue — and other high value — stamps that would be expected to come from the 1869 perf. 12½ issue (Scott 56; SG 87) are, in fact, all perforated 14! Revenue usages noted are from the 1887-1892 (blue overprint) and 1890-1891 (red overprint) period, several years before its postal counterpart (Scott 57; SG 113) was released in 1894.

The 10/- value is overprinted "FEE/10/-" in two lines in red, with a bar obliterating the original "Five Shillings" value tablet. The value appears in two distinctively different forms, one with a rather upright diagonal, shown in Fig 7a; the other with a more sloping diagonal, shown in Fig. 7b. This variation may be reflective of separate printings, but it may well be a constant positional variation through all printings, similar to the 1/- postage due

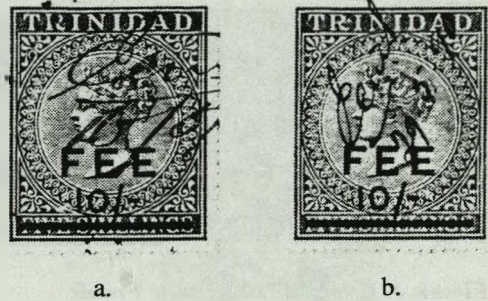


Figure 7. Two Varieties of the "1/."

of Trinidad where number 5 in all rows of the sheet shows a similar variety. Another variation for the 10/- on 5/- value is a somewhat thick surcharge which appears on the unlisted blue paper.

Mint copies of the low value stamps are quite uncommon in multiples, with only two values found in the author's collection and among items available for study. One is a red overprint on the 6d green and red, and the other a green overprint on the 1/- green and blue.

FEE Overprints on Postage Due Stamps

Two possibly unique examples of Trinidad "Surcharge Postage" (postage due) stamps from the De La Rue archives have been located. These unrecorded values (shown in *italics*), along with the date of issue are verifiable from the date found with the stamps:

- 1d lilac: Overprinted FEE in black with initials in red, and two lines of text from the appendix page (Fig. 8a)
- 3d lilac: Overprinted FEE and SPECIMEN in black, dated in manuscript "May 9, 89" from the appendix page (Fig. 8b)

No examples of the postage due type usages have been found.

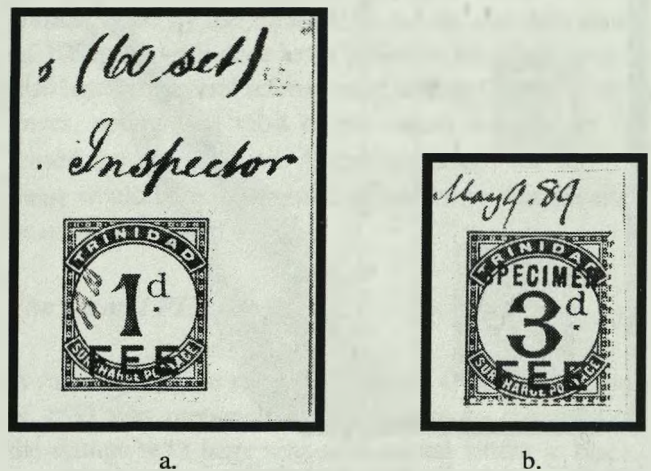


Figure 8. FEE Overprint on Postage Due Values.



Figure 9. Unusual Cancels

Uses of the Second FEE Stamps

While the stamps are listed for revenue usage in 1887, several examples of the black overprint on the 1d red value were postally used as early as 8 January 1885 and 9 January 1886. These are shown in Figs. 9a and 9b. A few examples are known of the T-9 duplex village/town cancellation with recorded usage dates between 1882 and 1891. Fig. 9c shows an example of a clear strike of the T-2 numeral from San Fernando, Trinidad's second largest town at the time. A few other examples are known in which the year numerals are not readable. One can only speculate on the early usages that predate the stated release date by up to two years. One likely possibility was that the year numerals of the cancellation date stamps may have been inserted in error, creating the examples used in 1885 and 1886.

In addition to postal usages, locating these stamps on full documents has proven to be very elusive. Most of the examples of revenue usages of the issue have been found without their accompanying documents. They all bear the appropriate types of revenue usages including: (1) stamps canceled in manuscript, either in black or red; (2) stamps canceled in manuscript with date and initials of executor, as shown in Fig. 10a; (3) stamps canceled with a large, double ring oval court handstamp in purple, along with the manuscript date and initials, illustrated in Fig. 10b; (4) stamps receiving the handstamp of the "Registrar-General/Trinidad," most of which show full strikes with the date appearing in two lines as day/month,year, as seen in Fig. 10c.

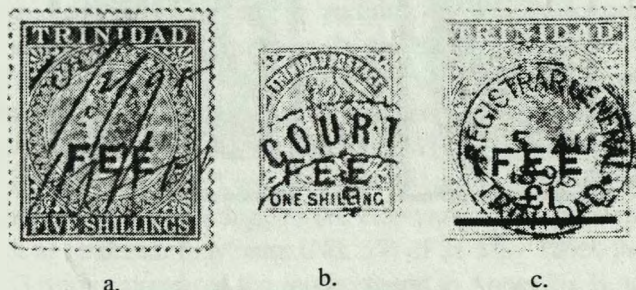


Figure 10. Revenue Cancels.

The value of FEE stamps required for documents depended on the nature of the document. A range of fees was used for various documents (e.g. licenses, certificates, trust deeds, etc.) and services. The Stipendiary Justices fees were:

Warrant of Distress	1/-
Every summons to Witness	1/-
Every defendant after the first	1/-
Every recognizance or warrant of commitment	2/-
Summons or warrant where there is only one defendant	5/-

A strip of four of the 1/- green and blue with a 6d green and red, on Trust Deed 2506 of 1894, is shown in Fig. 11. Fees for such documents were charged on the basis of the nature of the document (1/6) and of the number of additional "folios" or pages (in this case three at 1/- per folio, being a four page document, representing a total fee of 4/6.

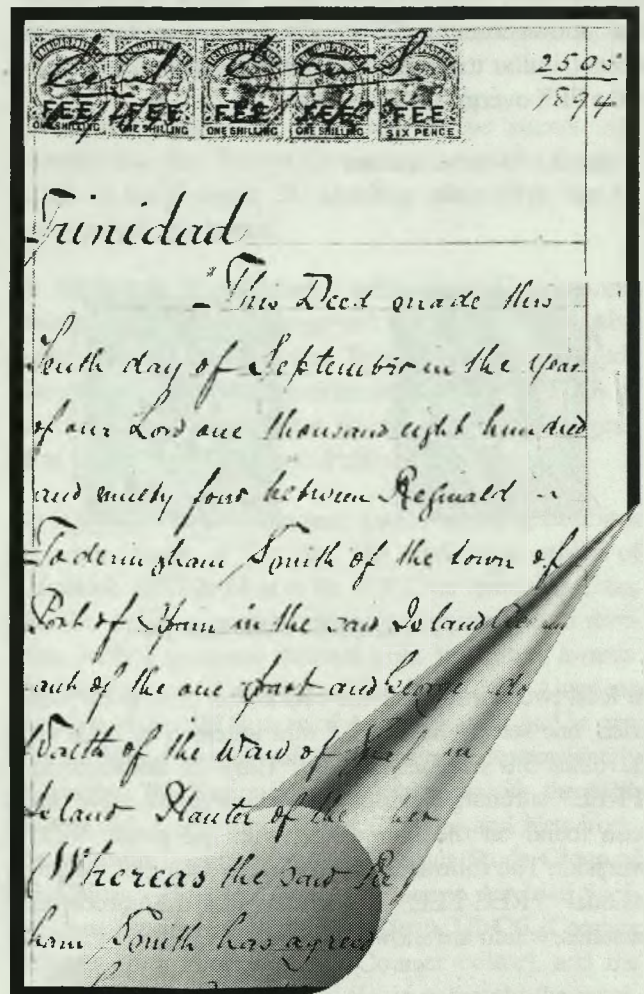


Figure 11. FEE Stamps Used on Trust Deed.

The Introduction of FREE FEE Stamps

After the passage of the Stamps (Fees) Ordinance of 1885, which required that executed documents were to be properly affixed with the appropriate amount (value) of stamps, and that such stamps must be effectively canceled with the date and the initials of the executor, two series of FREE FEE stamps were introduced during 1887.

No fees were taken in case of larceny, embezzlement, obtaining money, etc., under false pretenses or malicious injury of property, nor on any information by a Police Constable. In such cases, FREE FEE stamps of the appropriate value were applied to the document.

The first FREE FEE stamps, examples of which are shown in Fig. 12, were provisionals, to be used pending the preparation and delivery of stamps by De La Rue. This issue of two denominations, shows two separate lines of overprints for FREE added in red serified capital letters (similar to the first FEE stamps shown in Fig. 1), to the FEE overprints. These are:

Black: 1/- green and red
5/- violet, perf. 14



Figure 12. The FREE FEE Stamps.

At least two printings of the FREE text have been identified, one setting having 2.5 mm letters (Fig. 12a) and the other 3.0 mm letters (Fig. 12b). In addition, the "FREE" surcharge printing varieties noted have also been found on the two values with the green "FEE" overprint. The following is a complete listing of the provisional "FREE FEE" issued including the unrecorded varieties, which are shown in *italics*:



Figure 13. Adopted and Unadopted Overprint Proofs.

Black: 1/- green and red
"FREE" 2.5mm high
"FREE" 3.0mm high
5/- violet, perf. 14
Green: 1/- green and red
"FREE" 2.5mm high
"FREE" 3.0mm high
5/- violet, perf. 14

Proofs of the designs of the FREE FEE stamps are seen on an Appendix sheet from the De La Rue archive dated Aug. 98. These include two vertical columns of stamps from two separate printings. The first column is designated "A" over each of the two stamps, and the second column is similarly labeled "B." The two sets are of the identical issues, comprised by the 1/- green and red and the 5/- violet. All of the 5/- values are perforated. 14. The adopted stamps ("A"), both in color and style, show a single line of text in sans-serif capital letters 3.0mm high (Fig. 13a). The unadopted ("B") values are overprinted in two lines in larger 4.0mm sans-serif capital letters reading "FREE/FEE" as shown in Fig. 13b.



Figure 14. Dated Archival Specimens.

Specimen examples of the issued stamps from the De La Rue archive pages are endorsed in black manuscript. As seen in Fig. 14a, the 1/- stamp is annotated *Sep. 1888* and the 5/- stamp, shown in Fig. 14b, is annotated *Sep 1888* (without the stop.)

Unrecorded varieties have also been identified, consisting of paper and printing differences in the two stamps. These variations include:

- 1/- green and red
 - Shades, from light to deep green
 - Shades, from scarlet to carmine
- 5/- violet
 - Shades, from violet to mauve
 - Blued paper
 - Dropped "E" of "FEE" (See Fig. 15)

The dropped "E" of "FEE" appears on approximately 20% of the stamps I have observed. Medicott observed this variation in approximately 50% of the stamps he studied.



Figure 15. Dropped "E" Variety.

All of the usages found of FREE FEE stamps have been of single stamps that have been removed from their associated documents. These stamps all show proper cancellation features, with dates (blue, black and red manuscript) and initials (blue and black manuscript.)

Modification of the "FEE" Stamp System

The proper execution of documents with FEE or FREE FEE stamps was confusing at best, beside the difficulty created for accounting or auditing the inventory, sale and resulting income from the usages of these stamps. To address these matters, on 1 February 1885, the Governor appointed a special Committee to review the full range of the sale and use of FEE and FREE FEE stamps in the colony. The Committee carried out its assignment, reporting their findings to the Governor, who approved it as tendered. In Minute (No. 39) of 21 May 1895, the Governor presented the report, found in Appendix B, to the Legislative Council.

The Report of the Postmaster-General for 1896 states that the new stamps were introduced on 17 August 1896. It indicated that a large demand for the old pattern stamps caused three telegraphic orders to be sent to England for further supplies. Further, all orders received up to Saturday, 15 August 1897, were executed, and the balance remaining were afterwards destroyed.

Conclusion

This article has provided a comprehensive overview of the FEE and FREE FEE revenue stamps of Trinidad. Of most importance is that it has described, and in many cases shown, a number of items which have been neither described in the literature nor listed in catalogs.

Acknowledgement

This article first appeared in the *Complex '97 Directory*, Charles Berg, Editor, and appears herein with permission. This version has been substantially edited from the original with the help of Dr. Ramkissoon.

Dr. Ramkissoon study of these revenue stamps was awarded the *Ben Reeves Literature Award* for the best article in the *Complex '97 directory*, the fourth time he had received this honor.

Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon a well-known Chicago-area philatelist, is widely recognized for his comprehensive collections of Trinidad and Tobago. He is the Study Group leader for these territories for the BPCSG, of which he is a Life Member, former treasurer and president. He currently chairs its Publication Committee.

Dr Ramkissoon is a frequent award-winning exhibitor of many phases of Trinidad. His traditional exhibit of *Trinidad: 1802-1906* is in the FIP Championship Class. He also exhibits postal stationery, air mails, and revenues, having garnered national gold and grand awards. Dr. Ramkissoon is a fellow of the RPSL, the American member of the FIP Bureau of Astrophilately, and he was elected Vice-President of the Section of Astrophilately at Istanbul '96. National memberships include the APS, ATA (Life), Collectors Club of Chicago and New York. He is the president of the Space Topics Study Group of the Chicago Philatelic Society; Chicago Air Mail Society (past president and bulletin editor), UNCC (Complex delegate, past president and Courier editor), and the Roosevelt Philatelic Society. He is currently the president of the Chicago Philatelic Society.

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Appendix A

The Stamp (Fees) Ordinance of 1 August 1885, enacted by His Excellency the Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council is presented below.

1. *The Ordinance may be cited as "The Stamp (fees) Ordinance, 1885." It shall come into operation until such day as is appointed by the governor by Proclamation which day is in this ordinance referred to as the commencement of the Ordinance: Provided that at any time after passing this ordinance, any procla-*

mations may be issued, any regulations made and any act done which appear to the Governor necessary of proper to be issued, made or done with the view to bring this Ordinance into operation at the commencement thereof.

2. *The term "recoverable on summary conviction" means recoverable before a Stipendiary Justice of the Peace as a penalty in respect of an offense punishable on summary conviction.*

3. *The fees payable in any court or public office shall be collected either in money or by means of stamps, or partly in one and partly in the other way, according as may from time to time directed by order of the Government. Every such order shall be published in the Royal Gazette, and shall come into operation on the date of such publication or any later date mentioned in the order.*

4. *The Governor may from time to time make, revoke, alter, and add to regulations for all or any of the following purposes respecting fees in any Court or public office; that is to say, (1) Regulating the manner in which the fees, taken in money, are to be taken, accounted, and paid over; (2) Determining the use of impressed or adhesive stamps, and the mode of cancellation of adhesive stamps; (3) Regulating the use of stamps, and prescribing the application thereof to documents from time to time in use, and requiring documents to be used for the purpose of such stamps. The regulations for the time being in force under this section shall apply to the Court or office named in such regulations, and shall be binding on all Courts, officers and persons to whom those regulations refer, in the same manner as if they were enacted by this Ordinance. Any document which ought to bear a stamp in pursuance of any regulations in force under this section shall not be received, filed, used, or admitted in evidence unless or until it is properly stamped within the time prescribed by the regulation. But if any such document, through mistake or inadvertence, received, filed or used without being properly stamped, the same may be stamped under the direction of such Court or person, and under such conditions as may be prescribed by the regulations. Any regulations under this Ordinance, as so far as they relate to the Supreme Court, shall be made with the consent of the Chief Justice.*

5. *The Governor may from time to time make, alter and revoke regulations allowing fees which may legally be deemed by adhesive stamps to be denoted by*

adhesive stamps, and the stamps so allowed to be used shall be adhesive stamps within the meaning of this Ordinance.

6. (1) *A document the fee upon which is required, or permitted by law, to be denoted by an adhesive stamp, is not to be deemed duly stamped with an adhesive stamp unless the person required to cancel such adhesive stamp cancels the same by writing on or across the stamp his name or initials, or the name or initials of the firm, together with the true date of his so writing, so that the stamp may be officially cancelled, and rendered incapable of being used for any other documents, or unless it is otherwise proved that the stamp appearing on the document was affixed thereto at the proper time.* (2) *Every person who, being required by law to cancel an adhesive stamp, willfully neglects or refuses duly and effectively to do so in a manner aforesaid, shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds recoverable on summary conviction.*

7. *Any person who (1) Fraudulently removes or causes to be removed from any document any adhesive stamp, or affixes any adhesive stamp which has been so removed to any other document with intent that such stamp may be used again; (2) Sells or offers for sale, or utters, any adhesive stamp which has been so removed, or utters any documents having thereon any adhesive stamp which to his knowledge has been removed as aforesaid; (3) Practices or is concerned in any fraudulent act, contrivance, or device not specially provided for, with intent to defraud Her Majesty, her heirs, or successors, of any fee; shall forfeit, over and above any other penalty to which he may be liable, the sum of fifty pounds recoverable on summary conviction.*

8. *The Receiver-general may, at his discretion, mitigate or stay or compound proceedings for any penalty, and reward any person who may inform him of any offense against this Ordinance, or arrest in the recovery of any penalty.*

9. *When any person has inadvertently used for any document a stamp of greater value than was necessary, or has inadvertently used any stamp for a document not requiring a stamp, the Receiver-General may on application made within six months after the date of the document, or, if it is not dated, within six months after its being filed, registered, or otherwise duly received by the proper functionary or office and upon the document, if requiring a stamp, being re-*

stamped with the proper stamp, cancel and allow as spoiled the stamp so misused.

10. *In any case in which allowance is made for spoiled or misused stamps, the Receiver-General may give in lieu thereof other stamps of the same denomination and value, or if required, as he thinks proper, stamps of any other denomination to the same amount due, or, at his discretion, the same value in money, deducting the proper allowance on the purchase of stamps of like description.*

11. *When any person is possessed of a stamp which has not been spoiled or rendered unfit or useless for the purpose intended, but for which he has no immediate use, the Receiver-general may, if he in his discretions sees fit, repay the amount or value of such stamp in money, deducting discount at the rate of two pounds and ten shillings per one hundred pounds, upon such person delivering up the stamp to be cancelled, and proving to the satisfaction of the Receiver-General that it was purchased by such person with a bona fide intention to use it, and that he has paid the full value thereof without any deduction, and that the stamp so purchased, within the period of six months next preceding the application, from the Receiver-General or from some person duly appointed to see and distribute stamps or duly licensed to deal in stamps.*

12. *Any person who does, or causes or procures to be done, or knowingly aids, abets, or assists in doing any of the acts following, that is to say, (1) Forging a die stamp; (2) Making an impression upon any material with a forged die; (3) Fraudulently cutting, tearing or in any way removing from any material any stamp, with the intent that any use should be made of such stamp or any part thereof; (4) Fraudulently mutilating any stamp, with intent that any use should be made of any part of such stamp; (5) Fraudulently fixing or placing, upon any material or upon any stamp, any stamp or part of a stamp which, whether fraudulently or not, has been cut, torn, or in any way removed from any other material, or out of or from any other stamp; (6) Fraudulently erasing or otherwise either really or apparently removing from any stamped material any name, sum, date, or other matter or thing whatsoever thereon written, with the intent that any use should be made of the stamp upon such material; (7) Knowingly selling or exposing for sale or uttering or using any forged stamp; (8) Knowingly, and without lawful excuse, the proof of which lawful excuse lies on the person accused, hav-*

ing in possession any forged die or stamp, or any stamp or part of a stamp which has been fraudulently cut, torn or otherwise removed from any material out of which the name, sum, date, or other matter or thing has been fraudulently erased or otherwise either really or apparently removed; is guilty of felony, and upon being convicted shall be liable to be imprisoned with or without hard labor for any term not to exceed five years.

13. On information given before any Justice of the Peace upon oath that there is just cause to suspect any person of being guilty of any of the offenses mentioned in the last section, such Justice may, by a warrant under his hand, cause any dwelling-house, room, workshop, outhouse, or other building or place belonging to or occupied by the suspect person, or where he is suspected of being or having been in any way engaged or concerned in the commission of any such offense, or of secreting any forged die or stamp, or any machinery, implements or utensils applicable to the commission of any such offense, to be searched, and if upon such search any of the said several matters and things are found the same may be seized and carried away, in order that they may be produced in evidence against any offender, and shall afterwards, whether produced in evidence or not, by order of the Court or Judge before whom such offender is tried, or in case there is no such trial, by order of some Justice of the Peace, be delivered over to the Receiver-General, to be defaced or destroyed or otherwise disposed of as he may think fit. (1) The person who is entrusted with the execution of any such warrant as aforesaid shall, if required give to the person in whose custody or possession any stamps are found and seized an acknowledgment of the number, particulars, and amount of the stamps so seized, and shall permit such last mentioned person, or any person employed by him, to mark such stamps before the removal thereof; (2) If the persons in whose custody or possession any stamps are so found and seized is or has been a licensed dealer in stamps, he shall be entitled to claim and receive in money from the Receiver-General the amount of such stamps so seized as may be found to be genuine, deducting therefrom the proper discount, or, if the Governor thinks fit, such of the stamps so seized as may be found to be genuine may be returned to the person from whose custody or possession the same have been taken, with such reasonable amends as the Governor may think fit to award.

14. (1) Any Justice of the Peace having jurisdiction in the place where stamps are known or supposed to be concealed or deposited may, upon reasonable suspicion that the same have been stolen or fraudulently obtained, issue his warrant for the seizure thereof, and for apprehending and bringing before any Stipendiary Justice the person in whose possession or custody such stamps may be found, to be dealt with according to the law. (2) If such person omits or refuses to account for the possession of such stamps, or is unable satisfactorily to account for the possession thereof, or if it does not appear that the same were purchased by him from the Receiver-General or from some person duly appointed to sell and distribute stamps or duly licensed to deal in stamps, such stamps of which no account or satisfactory account is given, or which do not appear to have been so purchased as aforesaid, shall be forfeited to Her Majesty, her heirs or successors, and shall be accordingly condemned by such Justice and delivered over to the Receiver-General; any stamps so condemned shall be kept by the Receiver-General, and afterwards cancelled and destroyed, or disposed of as the Receiver-General thinks fit. (3) Provided that if at any time within six months after such condemnation any person makes out to the satisfaction of the Receiver-General that any stamps so condemned were stolen or otherwise fraudulently obtained from him, and the same were purchased by him from the Receiver-General, or from some person duly appointed to sell and distribute stamps, or duly licensed to deal in stamps, such stamps may be delivered up to him.

Passed in Council this First day of August, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty five.

Appendix B

The text of Minute (No. 39) of 21 May 1895, presented by the Governor to the Legislative Council is presented below:

Report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the question of the sale and use of "FEE" and other stamps in the Colony.

GOVERNMENT OFFICES

30th April 1895

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

1. In accordance with instructions contained in Your Excellency's minute of the 1st of February last, the committee then appointed have carefully enquired into the question of the sale and use of "FEE" and other Stamps, and have held several meetings on the subject.

2. The Committee was constituted as follows: The Hon. The Colonial Secretary (Chairman), The acting Collector of Customs (Mr. A.C. Ross), The Registrar of the Supreme Court, The Registrar-General, The Postmaster-General, The Stipendiary Magistrate, Port-of-Spain, Mr. H. Knaggs acted as Secretary.

3. When the system of "FEE" stamps was instituted in the year 1885 (Ordinance No. 11) the control of the sale was entrusted to the Postmaster-General, and a commission of 2 1/2 per cent was granted as remuneration for the labor thus involved. This commission was divided as follows: One-half to the Postmaster-General, and one-half to those appointed to sell stamps to the public. This commission was estimated to amount in the current year to 200 pounds.

4. The Committee recommended that the "FREE" stamps be abolished altogether, as they will no longer be required under the system to be described.

5. It is also recommended that "FEE" stamps and "POSTAGE" stamps be identical, as is the case for many purposes in England, and the neighboring colonies. This will be far more convenient for the public; and the various offices can make returns sufficiently accurate for statistical purposes.

6. A new design of stamps should be issued, including stamps of the value of 10/- and 20/-. Upon the new issue being made the remains of the present stock should be destroyed.

7. In the new issue, stamps below the value of 5/- should in size and design of scrolls, be similar to those of like value in South Australia, while those of 5/- and over, should be larger, also like those of South Australia.

8. The design on the stamps of the new issue should be changed from the present "Queens Head" to the old design of "Brittania."

9. With regard to the Magistrates' Offices, it is considered that the use of stamps should be discontinued, and a check instituted in their place by a system of Counterfoils. In this way all "Complaints," "Sum-

mons," &c. for which fees are required would be numbered and have counterfoils, and be printed on a particular color of paper which, being issued by the Receiver-General, would constitute a perfect check, as a fee would have to be produced for each document issued. The free "Complaints," &c., would be issued on another color of paper, and would require no counterfoils. In this manner when the "Complaint" &c. comes before him, the Magistrate will at once detect it, if a free document has been issued when a fee should have been paid. It is considered that the check thus given will be simpler and more efficacious than that given by the use of stamps.

10. With regard to the offices of Registrar-General and Registrar of the Courts it is considered necessary that stamps of some sort be continued to be used. (Mr. Ross dissents from this opinion.)

11. It is recommended that the adhesive stamp described in paragraph No. 5 above be used, and that the method of obliterating at present in the Post Office be adopted, proper dies being obtained for the purpose. This method of obliteration is very perfect.

12. In the Regulations to be made to effect these changes, there should be a provision that no document should bear on it more than six stamps of value less than 1 pound.

13. To do away with the inconvenience, and undoubted risk, which obtains from the sale of stamps in the same office where the documents are checked and filed, it is recommended that no Government Official (officers in the Post Office excepted) should be allowed to sell stamps, and that in the Post Office all commission for sale of stamps be abolished.

14. It must be remembered that the sale of FEE stamps will continue, though they will be identical with Postage Stamps; it is therefore recommended as compensation for the additional labour, and for the loss of commission, that the officers affected by this change receive a fixed personal allowance as follows:-

Mr. Bulmer (Postmaster-General)	per annum	100 pounds
Mr. Collins (Registry of the Courts)	"	50 pounds
Mr. Lewis (Postmaster, San Fernando)	"	10 pounds
Mr. Stone (Post Office)	"	20 pounds

These personal allowances in all cases cease on the promotion of the officers named. This (vide paragraph 3) will effect a small immediate saving, and prospectively a larger one.

15. In consequence of the increased receipts to stamp vendors by the sale of the "FEE" as well as "POST-AGE" stamps, the commission of four percent now paid to them should be reduced to two percent.

16. As a facility to the public, a licensed stamp vendor (not being an official) should be appointed, during pleasure, to attend the Court House daily from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except Saturdays, when the hours should be from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Such vendor, or an agent appointed by him, would be in constant attendance at the Court House during these hours.

17. These alterations, if approved, should come into operation on some date to be fixed by Your Excellency.

18. All of which is respectfully submitted for Your Excellency's consideration.

C.C. KNOLLYS, Chairman

His Excellency

Sir F. Napier Broome, K.C.M.G.

In this report for 1885, dated 22 May 1896, the Postmaster-General refers to the above and adds:

15. Whilst in England, I put myself in communications with Messrs. De La Rue & Co. and obtained from them several designs for the new stamps and eventually sent out these designs to this Colony for approval.

16. In order to proceed with the preparation of the necessary dies given to Messrs. De La Rue & Co. in December last, and the Stamps may be expected about the end of next month.

17. It was also one of the recommendations of the Committee that the commission on the sale of Postage Stamps should be reduced from 4 to 2 1/2 per cent (the report of the Committee states 2 per cent) on the introduction of the new Stamps as it was believed the sale of the higher value Stamps for Fee purposes would more than repay Stamps Vendors for the reduction in the rate of commission. Postage Stamp Vendors not having hitherto been permitted to sell Fee Stamps.

18. As the new Stamps could not be obtained at so early a date as was anticipated it was decided from 1st April, 1896, to reduce the rate of commission and to permit Postage Stamps to be used as FEE Stamps until the new issue arrives.

Membership Renewals

Every member should by now have received a form from our treasurer, *Tim Tweddell*. Membership renewal and contribution information is on one side, and a questionnaire for recording collecting interests is on the other. Any member who may require a form can contact Tim at:

358 Silver Road
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411-9321
Phone: (304) 258-3958
eMail: tweddell@intrepid.net

Approximately 70% of the forms and membership renewals had been received by mid-November. Members who have not responded are reminded, whether you are due to send a payment or not, that Tim needs to receive forms by February 2000 in order to produce the updated membership listing.

One noticeable element of the forms received to date is the remarkably high number of members wishing to have their eMail addresses published. This is currently running at around 80% for U.S. returns. As more members come online, collaboration and correspondence between members in the future will be easier, faster, and cheaper. This is especially true for international communication.

Call for Articles

The BCPJ backlog and pipeline are nearly empty. We must get some article manuscripts as quickly as possible if we are to continue having our high-quality publication.

Especially important is a supply of articles for the June 2000 issue. This issue must be in preparation prior to the Annual General Meeting in London. Because the Editor and other contributors will be attending the meeting, there will be only a short time between their return and the publication date for the Journal.

Once again, it is time for members to step forward. The Journal is the greatest single expense for, and service of, the BCPSG. It provides an important forum for member news and information, and the dissemination of important research findings. We hope that all members will consider working on a contribution, it is our legacy to the future of Caribbean philately in that our work can form building blocks for subsequent generations of students of this historically rich geopolitical area.

Second Barbados Invert Appears

A second copy of the 1c Barbados postage due stamp with inverted center has appeared. This variety, shown on the left in the figure, was first reported by *Murray Payne Ltd.* and documented in the *BCJP* in March 1999 (p. 12). The second copy, shown on the right in the figure, appeared during *PhilexFrance*, held in Paris in July 1999. It was purchased from the seller by one of the dealers in attendance. Most fortunately, it was offered to your Editor. It was scooped up immediately and now graces his exhibit *The Postage Due Stamps of the British Empire and Commonwealth*. The item was added to the exhibit as it was being mailed for the China 99 international held in Beijing in August. It joins the only other inverted center



in the British Commonwealth: the 8c Labuan of 1901 (SG D6a), which is also in the exhibit. This latter stamp, with six copies known, has hitherto been the rarest of the colonial postage dues.

A quick study of the perforations, the philatelists' favorite fingerprint, verifies that the two stamps are indeed different. As usual, a detailed study leads to seeing many differences.

It is still incredible that an error of this magnitude would have occurred for a De La Rue issue, and even more surprising that it escaped the inspection and quality assurance process. We are still left with the mystery as to where these stamps have been for the last 30 years, and whether a full 60 may eventually surface.

Member *Ed Barrow* writes to report the discovery of an unlisted error of the Tobago Stamp Centenary minisheet issued in 1979, SG MS550, Scott 317a. It is missing the top row of perforations, and is watermarked crown to the left of CA, inverted from the normal position.

Ed wonders if any other members have seen this error. He may be contacted at:

E.BARROW@prodigy.net



Index to Volume 39 — 1999

Compiled by David L. Herendeen

The Index for Volume 39 (Whole Numbers 190, 191, 192, and 193) includes two sections: Authors and Subjects. Several codes are used on entries, (E) indicates that the article is an Editorial, and (O) indicates that it is an Obituary.

Authors

- Anderson, T.A.**, Correspondence from Tobago in the 1840s **Jun:45**
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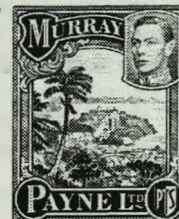
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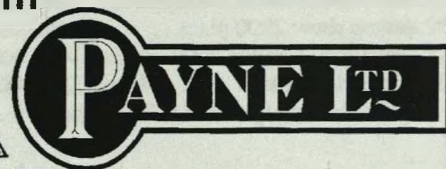
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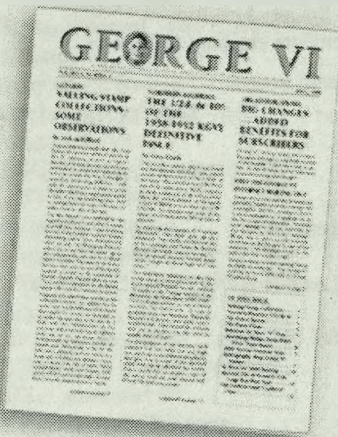
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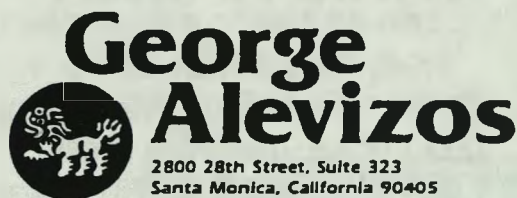
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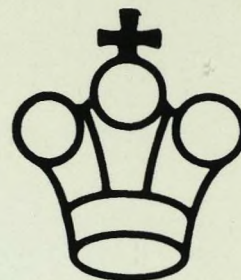
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The next sale is scheduled for late January for which consignments can still be accepted

The sale on September 25 in London produced some spectacular results:-

- Bahamas 1948 Tercentenary die proof of frame on glazed card £300
- Cayman Is. 1953 (9 Apr) crash cover. £130
- Dominica 1802 Officer's letter with two line 'DOMINICA SEP 4 1802' h/s. £750
- Jamaica 1938 die proof of 2d + 1d registration stamp. £360
- Leeward Is. 1938-51 £1 with gashed chin flaw (SG114af), l.m.m. £320
- Montserrat 1840 EL with fine Montserrat double arc cds. £550
- St Lucia 1930 Postage Due 1d vert. pair one with h/s number double (SG D1d), fine unused. £220
- St Vincent 1d black with fine 'G OC 28 77' abbreviated cds. £1000
- Trinidad 1852 cover from Ciudad Bolivar to St Thomas with Trinidad 1851-6 1d grey (SG5). Ex Charlton Henry. £380
- Turks Is. 1900-4 issue master die proof for the higher values with value tablet blank, in red on wove paper. £480
- Virgin Is. 1867-70 4d lake brown on buff paper complete sheet of 25 with full margins. £500

The next London room auction will be on September 23, 2000

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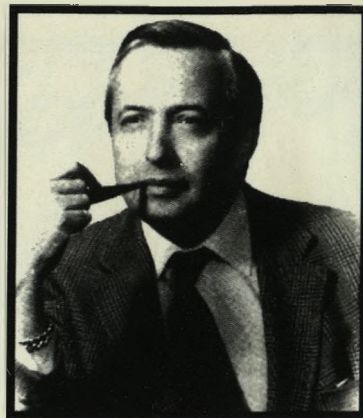


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