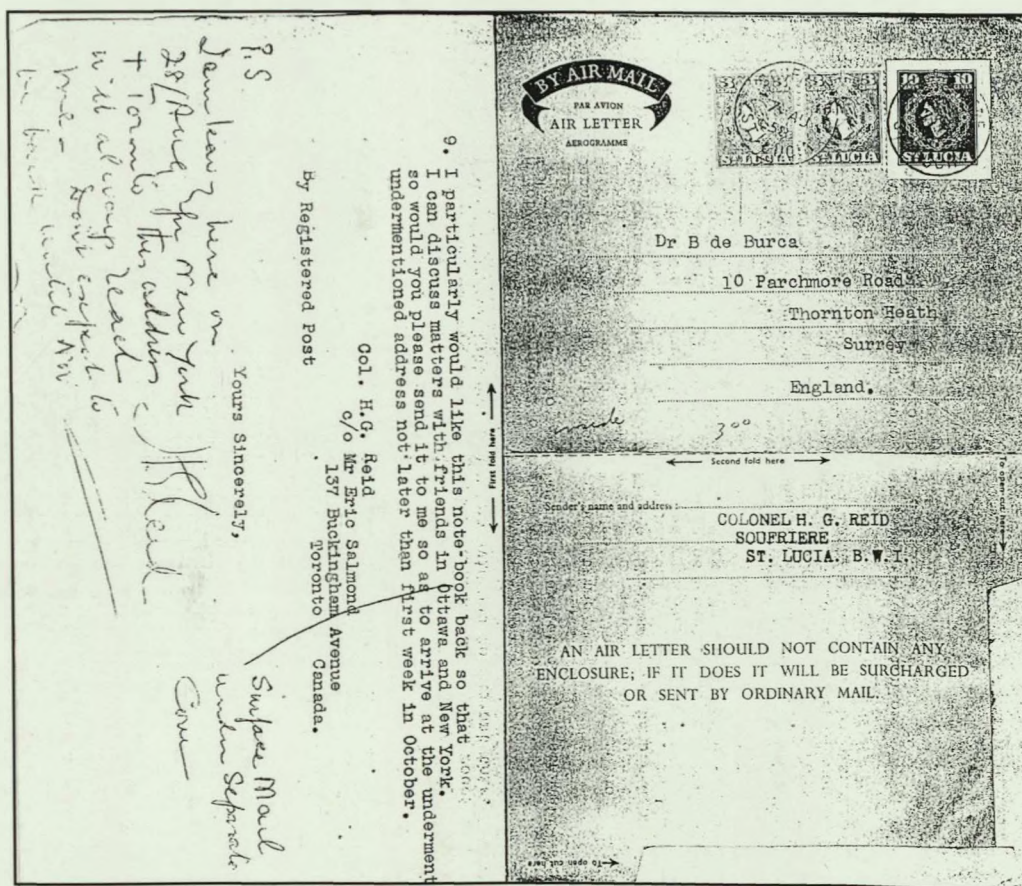


BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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Air Letters of St. Lucia are an interesting area of study.
See research by Henry "Hap" Pattiz beginning on page 16.



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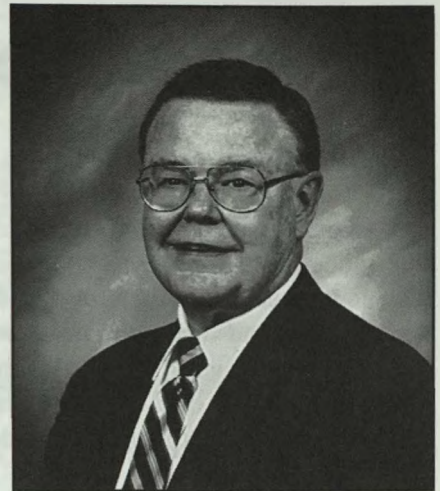
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Greetings from your new editor

Welcome to "my" first issue of your favorite journal. Actually, a lot of people worked together to make this issue possible, and I appreciate their help. The first article to arrive after the President issued a call for papers came from Ed Barrow, and you'll find his excellent article on Trinidad & Tobago flower definitives beginning on the next page. I was most pleased to be considered qualified to take over the reins from former Editor David L. Herendeen. Few members of any society or study group know the work that goes into producing a journal, regardless of its size or format. And David has done a great job of publishing your articles and research in a timely manner. I can only hope that I will be able to maintain the same level of scholarship and research that has produced awards for this journal in national and international competition.



The obvious plea is for articles. A goodly number of people came forth for this issue, but in discussing the editor's job with David, he lamented that having enough articles to fill an issue was always a problem during his tenure. One of the concerns I had in taking the position was the fact that I already edit four other philatelic journals, and this is the fifth. That means I don't have a lot of time to contact potential writers and spend time begging for articles. I will gladly work with any budding author to help produce an article, but I can't be "beating the bushes" seeking material. So please, please keep that in mind and help keep the pot of articles full.

You will note some changes in the journal over time. I've been a philatelic editor for about two decades now, and will make some relatively minor improvements as time goes on. Likely the most obvious changes are in the page numbering and the issue dates. The American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) and other libraries prefer a volume within a calendar year. So I have changed our issue dates to January, April, July and October within a calendar year to make tracking of issues within a volume easier. The last issue was September 2000, Vol. 40, No. 3, and this issue is for January 2001 and begins Volume 41. Thus it actually combines Vol. 40, No. 4 and Vol. 41, No. 1. ☒

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Trinidad & Tobago series offers challenge

By Edward Barrow
Of the USA

It would appear that over the years serious interest in modern issues has somewhat died. Today collectors do not seem willing to expend the energy on cataloging shades and varieties that was evident in years gone by. There may be good reasons for this; the profusion of new issues may be one. The sense that issuing agencies play the stamp collecting market by deliberately generat-

& Tobago did not follow this pattern, in fact some years they didn't even issue any commemorative sets.

The Trinidad & Tobago Flowers Definitive series was released on December 14, 1983. Reprints continued up to 1989 and some values are still in use today. The first printing did not contain a date, subsequent printings contained a small year date at the bottom margin. This is known as the Imprint Date and Table 1 gives a list of the

known imprint dates and the stamps associated with them.

Given the six year period in which these stamps were printed, it would be reasonable to expect a fair amount of varieties and a few flaws. Some values were reprinted more frequently, these

tended to be lower values such as the 10¢ which was used on local mail and as a fiscal stamp on receipts. These were also the values that I had the largest number of to work with so the information for them is more thorough.

Continued on page 5

Table 1: The Basic Issues

Year	WMK. CA	WMK. SCA
No Date	5,10,15,20,25,30,50,65, 80,95,\$1,\$1.50,\$2,\$2.50,\$5,\$10	
1984	5,10,15,25	
1985	10	5,95,\$1,\$5,\$10
1986	10	10
1987	10	10,30,65,80,95,\$1,\$1.50,\$2,\$5,\$10
1988		10,20,25,30,65,80,95,\$1,\$5,\$10
1989	10	10,20,25,30,65,\$1,\$1.50,\$2,\$2.50,\$5,\$10

ing varieties may be another. Whatever the reasons modern issues have often been neglected.

Caribbean islands have a bad reputation for issuing too many stamps and abusing collectors. However, Trinidad

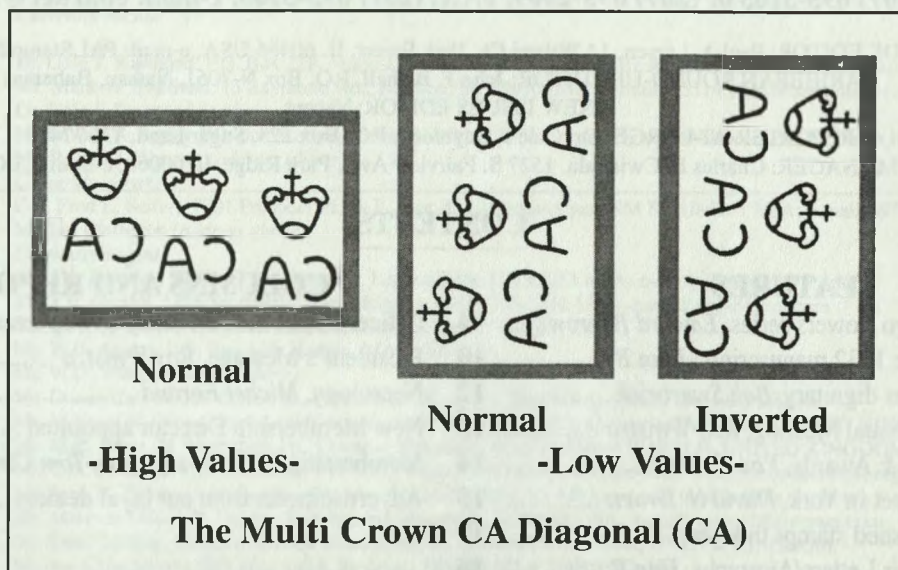


Figure 1a: Multi Crown CA Diagonal (CA)

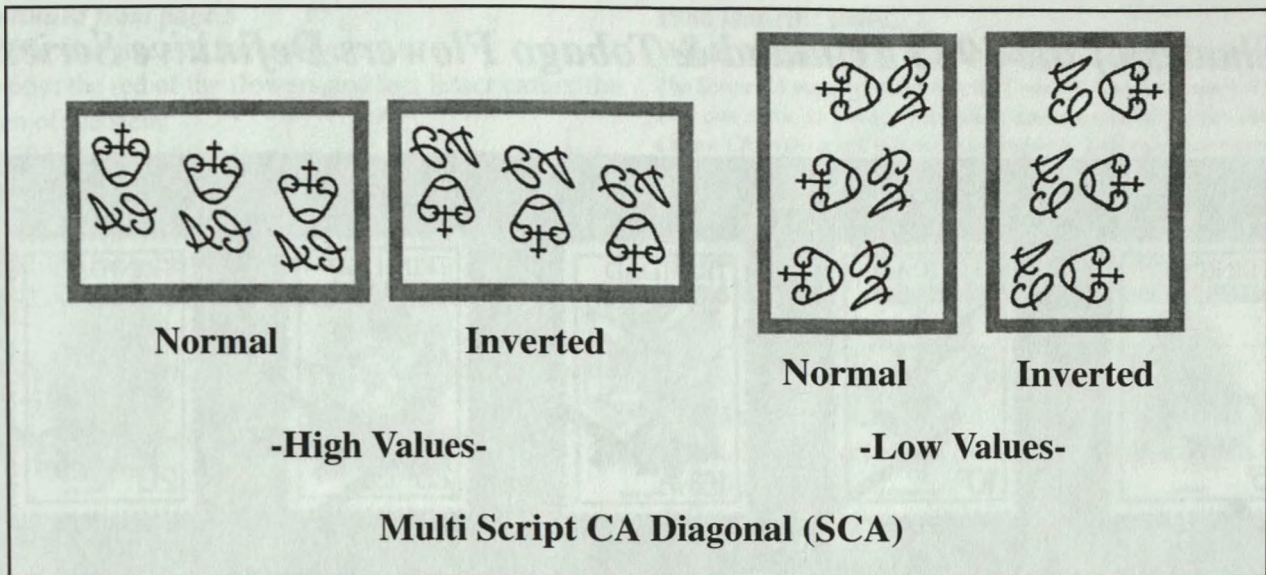


Figure 1b: Multi Script CA Diagonal (SCA)

Watermarks

Two different watermark papers were used for this issue: the Multi Crown CA Diagonal (CA) and the Multi Script CA Diagonal (SCA) papers (see Figure 1, previous page). Unless otherwise stated on the low values the normal watermark is defined as Crown to the left, as viewed from the back (5¢ to \$1.50). For the high values this is defined as being upright (\$2 to \$10).

Hence inverted watermarks are defined as those that deviate from this as shown in Figure 1. Note however that some inverted watermarks may be even more common than the “normal” ones, e.g., in the 1988 imprints.

Paper Types

Where I refer to paper thickness, it is a relative judgment. In some cases small deviations occur across a particular imprint date; these have been noted as minor varieties. Where there appears to be major differences, especially if it indicates a different printing, it has been noted as a major variety.

Shades

As with paper, small color differences occur across a particular printing, again these have been noted as minor varieties. Striking differences, especially if consistent, have been noted as major varieties. When looking for shades I have tended to focus on particular parts of the design that best show the change. A brief summary for each relevant value is given below (see also Figure 2 on next page).

All issues -- the scroll border around the design can vary widely in intensity.

- 10¢: the green of the leaves;
- 15¢: the green tips of the leaves;
- 20¢: the green of the leaves;
- 25¢: the green of the leaves and the brown of the nut;
- 30¢: the green of the leaves;

Text continues on page 7

No Imprint Date.

Wmk. Multi Crown CA Scroll

This issue was printed on thick paper.

Value	Minor Varieties
5 cents	
10 cents	Shades from deep yellow green to deep blue green leaves. Over-inked border.
15 cents	Shades from yellow-green to blue-green leaf tips.
20 cents	Slight shades from yellow-green to blue-green leaves. Over-inked border.
25 cents	
30 cents	Slight shades from bluish-green to yellow-green leaves. Over-inked border.
wmk. inv.	
50 cents	Slight shades from bluish-green to yellow-green leaves.
65 cents	Shades scarlet-vermilion to orange-vermilion flowers.
80 cents	Shades orange-red to scarlet-vermilion flowers.
95 cents	Shades from yellow-green to blue-green leaves.
\$1.00	
\$1.50	
\$2.00	Shades from yellowish-green to yellow-green leaves. Also vermilion to scarlet-vermilion flowers.
\$2.50	
\$5.00	
\$10.00	Shades from dull vermilion to orange-vermilion in the center of the flower.

Shades of the 1983 Trinidad & Tobago Flowers Definitive Series



Figure 2

Continued from page 5

- 50¢: the green of the leaves;
- 65¢: the red of the flowers and to a lesser extent the green of the stem;
- 80¢: the red of the flowers and to a lesser extent the green of the leaves;
- 95¢: the green of the leaves;
- \$1.00: the green of the leaves;
- \$2.00: the green of the leaves and the red of the flowers;
- \$5.00: the purple of the flowers and the green of the leaves;
- \$10.00: the orange-red center of the flower.

1984 Imprint Date.

Wmk. Multi Crown CA Scroll

This issue was printed on thick paper on which the watermark is easy to see.

Value	Minor Varieties
5 cents	Wide variation in shades from dull yellow-green to blue-green leaves. Some variations in paper thickness.
10 cents wmk. inv.	
15 cents	Slight variation in shades from yellowish-green to bluish-green leaf tips.
25 cents wmk. inv.	

1985 Imprint Date.

Wmk. Multi Script CA Scroll (except 10¢)

This issue was printed on medium-thick paper and the watermark is relatively easy to see. The 10¢ shows two major shade groups which are starkly different, yellow-green and deep blue-green leaves. They do not fade gradually into one another which suggests that they came from separate printings.

Value	Minor Varieties
5 cents	Slight shades from bluish-green to yellowish-green leaves.
10 cents (wmk. CA) (yellow-green leaves) wmk. inv. (yellow-green leaves) bluish-green leaves	
95 cents	
\$1.00	Slight shades from blue-green to green leaves.
\$5.00	
\$10.00	

1986 Imprint Date.

Wmk. Multi Script CA Scroll and Script CA Scroll

The Script CA paper is thin while the Crown CA paper is much thicker. This can serve as a way to tell them apart, especially given that the Crown CA watermark is hard to distinguish. This may have been why it went undetected.

Value	Minor Varieties
10 cents (wmk. CA) wmk. SCA wmk. inv. SCA	Very small shade differences. Dark border. Very small shade differences.

1987 Imprint Date.

Wmk. Multi Script CA Scroll (except 10¢ which has two types)

Thin-medium paper

Value	Minor Varieties
5 cents	Distinct shades from yellow-green to blue-green leaves. Very dark border. Ratio of 1:4 with above. Little color variation, generally yellowish-green leaves. Shades from yellow-green to bluish-green leaves.
10 cents (wmk. CA) thick cream paper (looks cream colored when held up to light) (wmk. CA) thin white paper (looks white colored when held up to light). (wmk. SCA)	
30 cents wmk. inv.	
65 cents	Shades orange-red to scarlet-vermilion flowers. Slight shades from bluish-green to yellowish-green leaves.
80 cents	
95 cents	
\$1.00	
\$1.50	
\$2.00	
\$5.00	
\$10.00	

1988 Imprint Date.

Wmk. Multi Crown CA Scroll

Thin-medium paper with watermark easily visible. This issue seems to present an anomaly, with some values having their watermark crown to the right, some crown to the left, and some both. However, the Crown Agents records show that there was a reprint ordered in 1988 containing 20¢, 25¢, 80¢, 95¢, \$5.00 and \$10.00 values. As this corresponds exactly with the values found with crown to the right, it seems reasonable to conclude that this order was printed with this watermark. A second reprint order was also recorded this time, with the values 10¢, 30¢, 65¢, 80¢, 95¢, \$5.00 and \$10.00. It is reasonable to assume that this was on paper with the crown to the left. Again, this fits perfectly with what is recorded on top of the following page.

Value	Minor Varieties
10 cents (medium paper) (1:30) yellow-green leaves, thin paper blue-green leaves, thin paper	
20 cents (wmk. crown to right)	
25 cents (wmk. crown to right), apple-green leaves. yellow-olive leaves (1:50)	
30 cents	
65 cents	
80 cents	
wmk. inv.	
95 cents	
wmk. inv.	
\$1.00	Slight shades from deep blue-green to green leaves.
\$5.00	
wmk. inv.	Yellowish-green leaves, bright purple flowers, bluish-green leaves, bright mauve flowers.
\$10.00	
wmk. inv.	

1989 Imprint Date.

Wmk. Multi Script CA Scroll (except 10¢ which has two types)

Thick paper with watermark easily visible.

Value	Minor Varieties
10 cents (wmk. Script CA) (thin paper) thick paper (wmk. Script CA) (1:20)	
10 cents (wmk. CA)	
20 cents medium paper	
25 cents thick paper medium paper	
30 cents thick paper medium paper (1:20)	
65 cents	
\$1.00 blue-green leaves yellowish-green leaves	
\$1.50	
\$2.00 rose-red flowers; yellow-green leaves. vermillion flowers/ yellowish-green leaves	
\$2.50	
\$5.00	
\$10.00	

Inverted Watermarks, Varieties and Plate Flaws
Rarity Table.

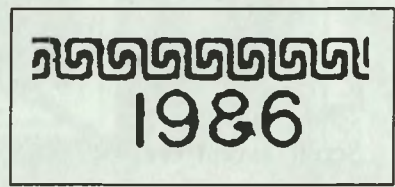
Table 2 (following page) lists the inverted watermarks, varieties and flaws recorded so far, and attempts to give an idea of rarity. I have given a ratio of the number of the variety found to normal examples to give an idea of rarity. However, since this number may not give a true representation of rarity, I have given a scale of rarity, one to four stars. This takes into account factors such as:

- Did all examples come from one post office on one day (judging by the cds);
- The rarity of that particular stamp;
- Size of the sample I had to work with.

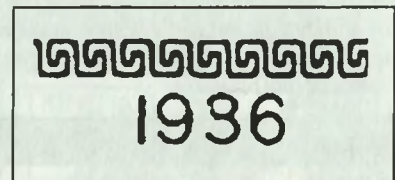
This is a subjective rating but may serve as a guide of rarity. Also note this table refers to used stamps only.

The "1936" and "19&6" flaws

I haven't been able to find a full sheet of the 1986 imprint to find out if the two plate flaws occurred together on a sheet and where they are located on a pane. However, it is possible to make inferences using basic statistics. Given the fact there are 50 stamps in a sheet, if the flaw occurred once in every sheet the flaws should be in a ratio of 1:49. From my sample, the ratios are 1:73, and 1:61 (1936 and 19&6 respectively). This is not badly off the expected norm as it may seem, given the large ratio. Out of my sample, the "1936" flaw was off a -30% (5 instead of 7), and the 19&6 by -15% (6 instead of 7). This would suggest that these flaws were constant throughout the printing and occurred only once per sheet.



The "1936" and "19&6" flaws



Other flaws

The Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago *Bulletin* mentions a flaw on the dot on "G" of Tobago, inverted watermark on the \$10.00 (1988), flaw Row 2/4 in plate 2c 2c 2c 3c.¹

¹ Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago *Bulletin*, No. 165 (April-June 1989).

Table 2: Inverted Watermarks, Varieties and Plate Flaws.

Value	Year	Watermark	Ratio	Rarity
30 cents	no date	CA right	1:100	***
10 cents	1984	CA right	1:100	***
25 cents	1984	CA right	1:8	**
10 cents	1985	CA right	1:250	****
10 cents	1986	Script right	1:200	****
30 cents	1987	SCA right	1:35	**
20 cents	1988	SCA right	all	N/A
25 cents	1988	SCA right	all	N/A
80 cents	1988	SCA right	2.5:1	*
80 cents	1988	normal (SCA left)	1:2.5	*
95 cents	1988	SCA right	3:1	*
95 cents	1988	normal (SCA left)	1:3	**
\$5.00	1988	SCA right	1:1	*
\$5.00	1988	normal (SCA left)	1:1	*
\$10.00	1988	SCA right	1.5:1	*
\$10.00	1988	normal (SCA left)	1:1.5	**
10 cents	1936 error		1:73	***
10 cents	19&6 error		1:61	***



The Trinidad & Tobago Flowers Definitives Series of 1983 provides many varieties and shades for a specialist to enjoy.

Table 3: Shades and Varieties

Year	Value	Watermark	Ratio	Rarity
1985	10 cent yellow-green leaves	CA	1.5:1	*
	bluish-green leaves	CA	1:1.5	*
1986	10 cent	CA	1:40	***
		SCA	40:1	*
1987	10 cent (including all types listed below)	CA	1.25:1	*
		CA	4:1	*
		CA	1:4	**
1988	10 cents (medium paper)	SCA	1:1.25	*
		SCA	1:30	***
		SCA	2:1	*
		SCA	1:2	**
1988	25 cents apple-green leaves	SCA (crown to right)	1:3.6	**
	yellow-olive leaves	SCA (crown to right)	3.6:1	*
1989	10 cents (including all types listed below)	CA	1:1.8	*
		SCA	1.8:1	*
		SCA	1.4:1	*
		SCA	1:1.4	**
		SCA	1:2.25	**
		SCA	2.25:1	*
		SCA	1:2.5	*
		SCA	2.5:1	*
		SCA	N/K	
		SCA	N/K	

* = fairly common
 ** = difficult to find
 *** = very difficult to find
 **** = rare

Cayman Brac: the 1932 Manuscript Provisionals

By John Byl

Of the United Kingdom

On November 9-10, 1932, Cayman Brac was struck by a hurricane which destroyed many of the buildings on the island. Included was the island's sole post office, situated at Stake Bay. The stock of stamps was lost and the date stamp buried in the ruins. Although there were two Sub Offices (stamp vendors) on the island, it appears that they also had lost their stamps, and it was therefore necessary for the postmaster, Mr. A.S. Ruty, to resort to manuscript franking.

After receiving payment, he would initial the cover "A.S.R." in blue or blue-black ink in the top right corner. The destination of the cover then determined what further markings it received. There are two main types of such markings, which, much later, defined their listing in the Gibbons catalogue as either MP6 or MP7. This procedure continued until the date stamp was recovered and a new supply of stamps received. The evidence as to when the date stamp was retrieved is contradictory, but the most reliable indication is to be found in a letter from Cayman Brac to the Postmaster for Jamaica. The letter is dated "4th December 1932" and states that the date stamp had been found. There is no such doubt for the date of arrival of the fresh supply of stamps; it was the 20th of December.

MP6: These were local letters, including those for Grand Cayman. Unfortunately, only one seems to have survived. As well as Mr. Ruty's initials on the front, it is backstamped by Georgetown Type 5 dated 27 Nov. 1932 as a receiving mark.

There is a certain mystery attached to this cover to which some reader of this article may have the answer. The first reference to it was in the Watkin sale by Robson Lowe in 1946 in which it was Lot 175, with Lot 176 being an example of MP7. Both lots were bought by Meredith and when his collection was sold in 1955, again by Robson Lowe, the same two items appeared as consecutive lots. The following year the MP7 was once more auctioned by Robson Lowe in his sale of April 25, but this time it was without its companion MP6. Since 1955, as far as I can tell, no reference to this sole recorded example of the provisional has appeared. Items can lie dormant in collections for a very long time and hopefully this is the case for the MP6. Should any reader have knowledge of its present whereabouts, I would be glad if he or she would let me know.

MP7 covers destined for abroad went via Kingston, Jamaica, where they received the machine cancellation consisting of a boxed "Postage Paid" over Mr. Ruty's

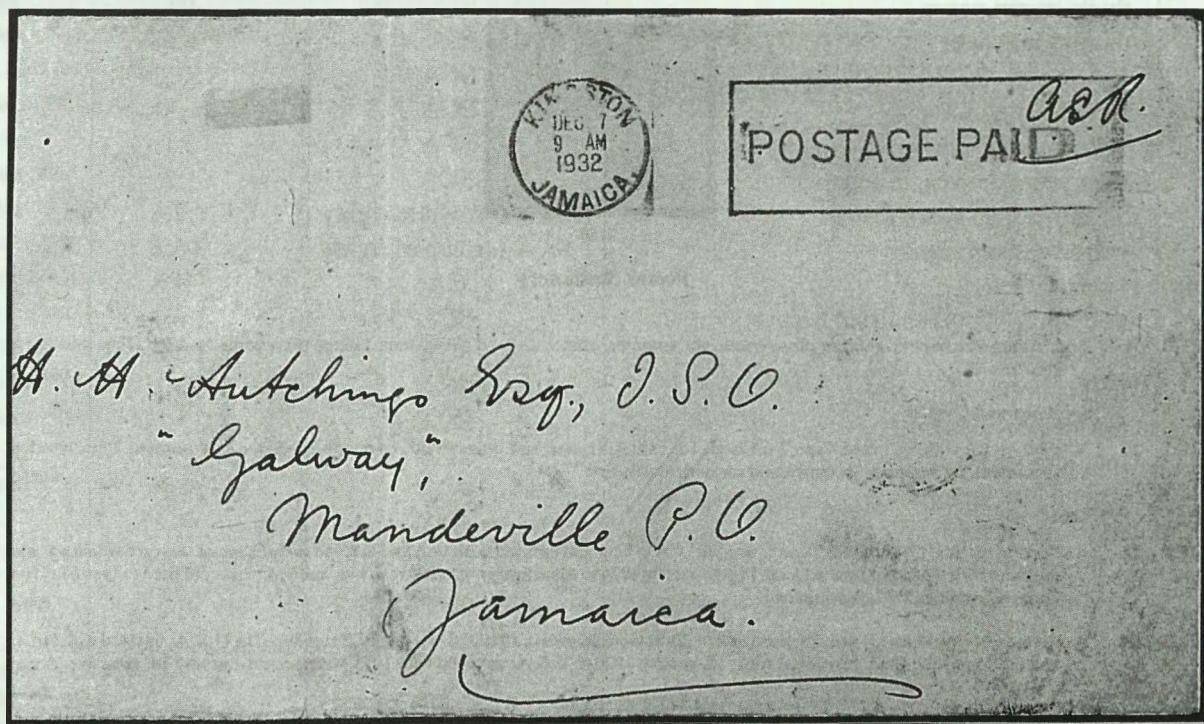


Figure 1

initials and the Kingston CDS. This was done in either red or black ink. Two covers, plus a piece with the full cancellation, are known. All are in red and dated "DEC 7 1932." The first example (*Figure 1*) was, as described above, in the Watkin and Meredith collections. Later it was acquired by Edmondson and sold in his sale by Harmers in 1988 where I bought it. In turn, I sold it with much of my collection in a Christie's/Robson Lowe auction in 1992. The addressee, Mr. H.H. Hutchings, had long-standing connections with the Caymans, having been Acting Commissioner for a short time in 1912 and Commissioner from 1919 to 1931. He kept contact with friends in the Caymans after retiring to Jamaica.

The second example (*Figure 2*) came to light in 1997 when

a dealer bought a large lot and found in it an old-fashioned cellophane envelope containing the provisional. After it had obtained a certificate, it was sold by Pennymead in 1998. The cover is blue and the red cancellation shows clearly, making an attractive combination. The piece referred to above was in the Cameron collection which was sold by Robson Lowe in 1974.

MP7 variety

A cover is known which was sent from Cayman Brac after the recovery of the date stamp but before the arrival of the fresh supply of stamps. Unfortunately, I have not had the chance to see this cover and have only a rather poor photocopy, which is the reason why it is not illustrated here. The date on the Cayman Brac cancellation is "DE 11" (the year cannot be seen) and the "Postage Paid" part of the Kingston cancellation appears curved. The date part shows so poorly that it is even doubtful that it was applied. The cover is unfortunately damaged; it seems to have been opened very roughly on the left side, and is also somewhat ragged on two other sides. Nevertheless, it is an important and significant item of Caymans postal history. There is reason to believe that this example is in black. The cover is to Philadelphia, U.S.A. and has a "RETOUR/REBUT" mark on the front. Little is known of

the cover's provenance except that it was in the collection of Lloyd-Lowles, the used section of which was dispersed by a dealer in 1976.

It is interesting to note that in a letter dated 17 May 1934, from Mr. Ruty to Percy Mercer, a well-known col-

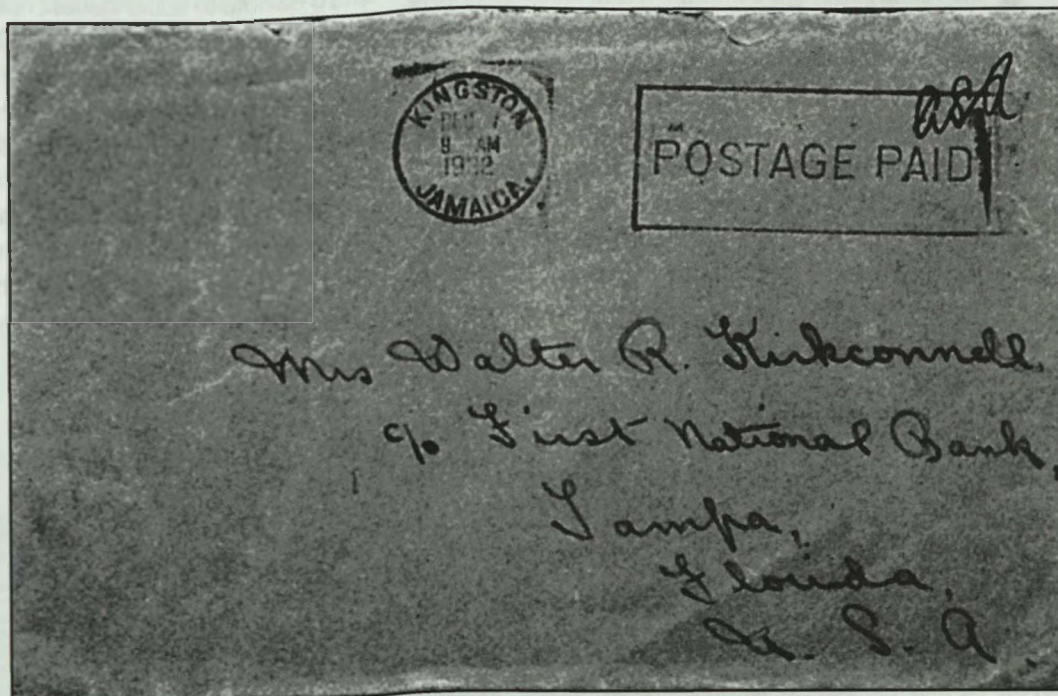


Figure 2

lector of Caymans postal history, Mr. Ruty states that "only 300 hundred letters were thus sent off, and these to practically all parts of the earth." There was insufficient time for the philatelic trade to organize a supply of covers before normal postal arrangements resumed. For this reason, most, if not all, of the covers were commercial and were eventually discarded, even by general stamp collectors, as being of little interest as they bore no stamps. This accounts for the very small number of surviving covers. Finally, I must mention the three letters which have been of great help in compiling this article. All are to Mr. Mercer, who, after acquiring the first MP7 above, conducted a considerable investigation into these provisionals.

1) From Mr. Ruty dated 13 January 1934 in which he fills in a questionnaire on the provisional.

2) From the Postmaster of Jamaica dated 2 May 1934 giving a general account of the situation.

3) Extract from a letter by Mr. Ruty dated 17 May 1934 in which he describes the chaos at Cayman Brac after the hurricane. ☒

BCPSG member visited by Jamaican dignitary

By Bob Swarbrick
Of the United Kingdom

Some weeks ago, I received a telephone call from the Jamaican High Commission in London asking if I would meet the High Commissioner, his wife and various dignitaries, and show them my collection of Jamaican Railway material. Having made certain that the request was genuine, I set about finding how I could present my material to make it interesting to a party of non-philatelists. As things worked out, I had no need to have worried, as they were most enthusiastic. Basically, my exhibit was initially put together by Fred Siefert, and

of the tunnels when compared with similar ones taken in the system's heyday.

To be able to make visual comparisons was most amusing, and now I possess over 160 photographs, representing virtually every station, and much abandoned rolling stock. These proved to be of great interest to my visitors, particularly since they had used the railway themselves.

To revert to the High Commissioner's party, it consisted of the HC himself, Mr. David Muirhead, QC, OD; his wife; Mrs. Cooper, the Community Relations Officer;



Jamaican High Commissioner Mr. David Muirhead, QC, OD, left, and other dignitaries examine a collection of Jamaica Railway material at the home of BCPSG member Bob Swarbrick (right).

was basis for the BCPSG monograph jointly edited by Fred, Bob Topaz and Chuck Cwiakala some 20 years ago. I was most fortunate to have been able to purchase Fred's collection some years ago, and to add my own quite substantial holding. When I sold my main collection in 1995, I decided to retain some parts which I felt I would like to either expand, or to do further research, and this fell into a special category.

I have been able to add many postcards and photographs to enhance the visual effect, and was particularly pleased to be given a set of modern photographs taken by fellow member Michael Rego on his two visits to the island last year. Michael is a great researcher, and he was able to capture the now somewhat dilapidated state of many of the stations before nature takes over completely. This is particularly evident in some of the photographs

Ms. Pat Cumper of the Jamaica Information Service, and their driver. They were in Leicester on a two-day official visit, and as their next appointment after leaving me was with the Lord Mayor of Leicester at the Town Hall, I felt suitably humble!

I like to think the party enjoyed their all too brief visit to my home. For myself, I found them to be most charming, and genuinely interested in our hobby, but just why I was singled out to receive this honor, I cannot tell. My lasting impression must always be the sight of the High Commissioner's stretch limousine, with the registration number "JAM 1" leaving my home, but how I wish I could have had a photograph of it actually arriving; it would have been the perfect introduction to a display of the Jamaica Railway System! ☒

Final plans set for Annual Meeting in Dallas

By Rob Wynstra
President

Details are set for the next annual meeting, which will be held in conjunction with the Texas Philatelic Exhibition (TEXPEX) in Dallas, Texas on April 6-8, 2001. The exhibition will take place at the Renaissance Dallas North Hotel, 4099 Valley View Lane, Dallas, TX 75244. This upscale venue is located northwest of Interstate 635 and Midway. Room reservations are available at a special TEXPEX rate of about \$80 for a single or double room by calling the hotel directly at (972) 385-9000 or through national reservations at (800) 228-9290.

The TEXPEX show is sponsored by the Texas Philatelic Association and is fully qualified as an APS World Series of Philately show. Group member Roger Schnell will serve as a member of the jury panel, which includes several other top judges from around the country. Other major groups holding their meetings at the same time in Dallas are the Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania, the Tonga and Tin Can Mail Study Circle, and the Éire Philatelic Association. Members are also encouraged to attend the TEXPEX Awards Banquet which will be held in the Palm Court at the main hotel at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 7.

The hotel will also serve as the site for the bourse, the exhibitions, and other show-related activities. The show hours are:

Friday, April 6	11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 7	10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 8	10:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Full details of the show are available on the TEXPEX website at:

<http://www.flash.net/~jstamp/stamp1.html>

This site also can be accessed by the following links on the American Philatelic Society homepage at:

http://www.stamps.org/directories/dir_WorldSeriesShows.htm.

Additional information on show activities is also available by contacting Jeffrey Erichson by e-mail at: jeffrey.r.erichson@lmco.com

To facilitate planning, group member Peter Elias of Plano, Texas has agreed to serve as the local organizer for this event. Peter can be contacted by e-mail at:

peter_elias@compuserve.com

Questions also can be directed to Rob Wynstra by e-mail at:

wynstra@uiuc.edu

The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group will have an information table at the show where members can check in and get up-dated details on room locations for group activities.

Hospitality Suite

As usual, our group will have a hospitality suite open during the show. The room will be stocked with an assortment of drinks and snacks, making it an ideal place to meet and socialize with other members. The auction lots also will be on hand for viewing. The room will be registered under the name of our auction manager, Ed Waterous, and the room number and open times will be available at our information table at the show site.

Group Dinner

Our traditional group dinner is scheduled to be held in a private banquet room at the hotel on Friday, April 6. The evening will feature a cocktail reception from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the banquet room. Dinner will be served starting about 7:30 p.m. The dinner will feature a South-western-style menu served buffet style. The menu includes:

- tortilla soup
- roasted corn and black bean salad
- baby field greens with cilantro caper vinaigrette
- pasta salad with tequila lime dressing
- mesquite grilled chicken with cilantro cream and smoked corn relish
- ancho chili glazed sirloin medallions
- smoked chicken and sour cream enchiladas
- cumin rice
- cilantro grilled vegetables
- rancho beans
- rolls & butter, coffee & iced tea
- tequila-lime cheesecake

The price will be \$35 per person with tip and all taxes included. The price does not include alcoholic drinks, which must be paid for on an individual basis. Because we most notify the hotel of the number attending the dinner prior to the beginning of the show, reservations are absolutely essential. A form for reservations is included as an insert in this issue of the journal. Although payment is not due until the time of the dinner, reservations must be made no later than March 31, 2001. The form

Continued on page 14

BCPSG Exhibits & Awards

By Paul Larsen

Past President, Awards Chairman

Following is a listing of BCPSG members who have received philatelic awards of various levels at the stamp shows listed:

Stampshow 2000, August 24-27
Providence, Rhode Island

Peter Flynn,
Imperial Censorship in Bermuda, A Study

Prix d'Honneur

Colin & Pamela Fraser,
British Central Africe 1891-1907

Prix d'Honneur

Raymond Ireson,
The Panama Canal Story

Prix d'Honneur

MILCOPEX 2000, September 15-17

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Rueben Ramkissoon,
Tobago 1772-1905

Grand Award; Gold

CHICAGOPEX 2000, November 17-19

Rosemont, Illinois

George Fabian,
*Pitcairn Islands - New Zealand Postal Agency and
Issues of King George VI*

Silver

Duane Larson,
The Postage Stamps of Jamaica

Silver

Everett L. Parker,
*The Pitcairn Anthology: A Quarter Century of the
Pitcairn Log (Literature)*

Silver-Bronze

Everett L. Parker,
The Pitcairn Log Vol. 27 (2000) (Literature)

Silver-Bronze

Rob Wynstra,
Leeward Islands Village Mail 1734-1932

Gold, BCPSG Medal.

Now's the time to make plans for April Annual Meeting in Dallas

Continued from page 13

should be mailed to Rob Wynstra, 1104 Garfield Ave., Urbana, IL 61801 or the same information can sent by e-mail to Wynstra@uiuc.edu.

Annual General Meeting

The 2001 Annual General Meeting will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 7 in Room A at the hotel site. We will try to keep as closely as possible to the following schedule:

11:00 a.m. - Noon: Annual Business Meeting and presentation of the Stanley Durnin Award and the Robert J. Cooley Service Award.

Noon -1:00 p.m.: Philatelic Displays.

1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.: Viewing of Lots and Group Auction.

The times have been set to avoid conflict with the meetings of the American Society of Philatelic Exhibitors at

3:00 p.m. and the judges' critic at 4:00 p.m. Auction lot viewing prior to show will be available in our hospitality suite at the hotel.

Exhibits

The show will feature a number of British Caribbean exhibits, which will be eligible for the APS Champion of Champion competition. The awards banquet will also feature the presentation of the Bryon Cameron Trophy for the best British Caribbean exhibit at the show and the full range of special BCPSG medals. Applications for exhibits received after December 8, 2000 will be accepted only if the show is not fully subscribed. The full prospectus and exhibit information is available directly on the TEXPEX website or by mail from:

Larry D. Sall

TEXPEX Exhibits Chairman
Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library
University of Texas at Dallas
P.O. Box 830643
Richardson, TX 75083-0643

President's Message

By Rob Wynstra

I look forward to seeing as many of our members as possible at our next annual general meeting set in Dallas, Texas during April 6-8, 2001. The meeting will be held in conjunction with TEXPEX 2001 under sponsorship of the Southwest Philatelic Foundation. Show chairman Jeffrey Erichson promises an outstanding time for all the groups in attendance for this APS World Series of Philately event. Joining us there will be a large group of fellow small island collectors from the Society of Australasian Specialist/Oceania and the Tonga and Tin Can Mail Study Circle.

Exhibits chairman Larry Sall has arranged for a large range of competitive exhibits, featuring several entries from our group. Besides group member Roger Schnell, the jury will include Timothy Bartshe, Robert Odenweller, Jeffrey Shapiro, and Jay Stotts. As always we will be awarding the Bryon Cameron Trophy for the outstanding British Caribbean exhibit at the show. In addition, we will be presenting the full range of BCPSG medals.

This event provides an excellent opportunity to meet many of your fellow collectors in person and to exchange information in your area of interest. As usual, we will have a hospitality suite at the show hotel where members can get together in a relaxed atmosphere of philatelic friendship. Other events include our annual business meeting, philatelic displays, and our group auction. During the meeting, we will announce the winners of the Stanley Durmin Award for outstanding writing in the journal and second annual Robert J. Cooley Service Award.

We also will feature our traditional Friday night reception and group dinner at the show hotel. The dinner will be served buffet style in a private dining room and will include a wide variety of food with a Southwestern theme. The cost is \$35 per person, including all tips and taxes. Alcoholic beverages, however, are not included and must be paid for separately. Payment for the dinner is not due until the night of the event.

Because of the requirement to confirm the number attending the banquet prior to our arrival in Dallas, I would ask all those who are planning to join us for dinner to please fill out the dinner reservation form included as an insert in this issue of the journal. The form can be mailed directly to me or the information can be sent by e-mail to

wynstra@uiuc.edu. Again, it is absolutely essential for those attending to let me know about their plans with a completed form or by e-mail no later than March 31, 2001. Any requests after that date are subject to very limited availability.

On another note, I would like to personally welcome Tom Girdaldi of Modesto, California as our new membership director. Tom is a longtime member with an active interest in the group. Even those who have not met Tom in person are probably aware of him through his major research interests in Cayman Islands philately and the picture postcards of the British West Indies. This appointment is part of our ongoing effort to streamline our membership services. As a result, all new membership applications and change of address information should now be directed to him at the address listed on the inside front cover of the journal. ☒

January meeting set in York

There will be a United Kingdom regional meeting of BCPSG in conjunction with the York (England) stamp fair. The meeting will begin at 5 p.m. on January 19, 2001 on the first or second floor above the stamp show. The event will be held at the York Racecourse. The meeting has been set for Friday to make it easier for more members to attend.

There will be two competitions: traditional stamp class and postal history, each consisting of 16 sheets. There also will be a display by Tony Shepherd of West Indies censored mail. The stamp show is well worth attending as there will be about 100 dealers on hand. The show opens at 11 a.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. on Saturday and will close at 5 p.m. each day. Our meeting room is generously provided free of charge by show organizers and fellow members Chris Rainey and Trevor Davis.

-- David N. Druett

Bermuda HAS issued stamps this year!

Ms. Yvonne Smith, coordinator of Philatelic Services at the Bermuda Post Office, said recently that new stamps *were* issued in 2000. "Over the past eight months, our invoices have carried December 31, 1999 dates, which has given the impression we have not released any stamps this year," she said.

A new invoicing program is now in place to eliminate the problem, she said. ☒

Early St. Lucia Air Letters/Airgraphs

By Henry "Hap" Pattiz
Of the USA

The postal history of the colonies of the British Caribbean has always provided an opportunity to observe the changing history and people of these islands. The postal history of St. Lucia has proved an interesting -- but difficult -- field of study for these purposes. And this has been especially so when the postal history entailed usages of postal stationery.

Here in this article I have the opportunity for showing some remarkable postal stationery postal history from a private collection¹ which shows some very important persons, especially to philatelists, during a period of recent history. If you would like to know more, come with me as together we discover the knowledge to be imparted from these treasures.

The use of airgraphs for civilian use was very limited until very near the end of World War II. But their use for military personnel had proved so popular that airgraphs were soon allowed to be used for non-military senders and were soon adapted to include imprinted stamps on the airgraphs themselves.

Here are seven such airgraphs, beginning with two blank format examples used in 1946 (one with 6d. postage, the other [later in the year] with 8d. postage); one with an imprinted King George VI 12¢ used in 1953; one with the blank format but showing the imprint of the seal of St. Lucia surmounted by Queen Elizabeth II used in 1957 and with postage of 16¢ paid with QEII stamps; and the final three showing the air letter imprinted with a 10¢ QEII, but each requiring additional six cents postage, provided by QEII stamps, these used in 1958. We will examine each of these items in turn and with special attention to the written content.

The first item (Figures 1 and 2), sent 25 February 1946, from Colonel H.G. Reid to his friend and philatelic correspondent Captain F.W. Staff, who had been assigned

duties in the occupation of Germany. Colonel Reid is particularly important to philatelists for his personal efforts in compiling information on the postal markings and stamps of St. Lucia, and for his founding of the St. Lucia Philatelic Society which, through his personal efforts and through the services of Robson Lowe, was able to publish the four issues of the *St. Lucia Philatelist*. This publication had a promising start in 1948 (see Figures 3 and 4), but managed only four issues (the last being published in 1952). Colonel Reid tried mightily to encourage oth-

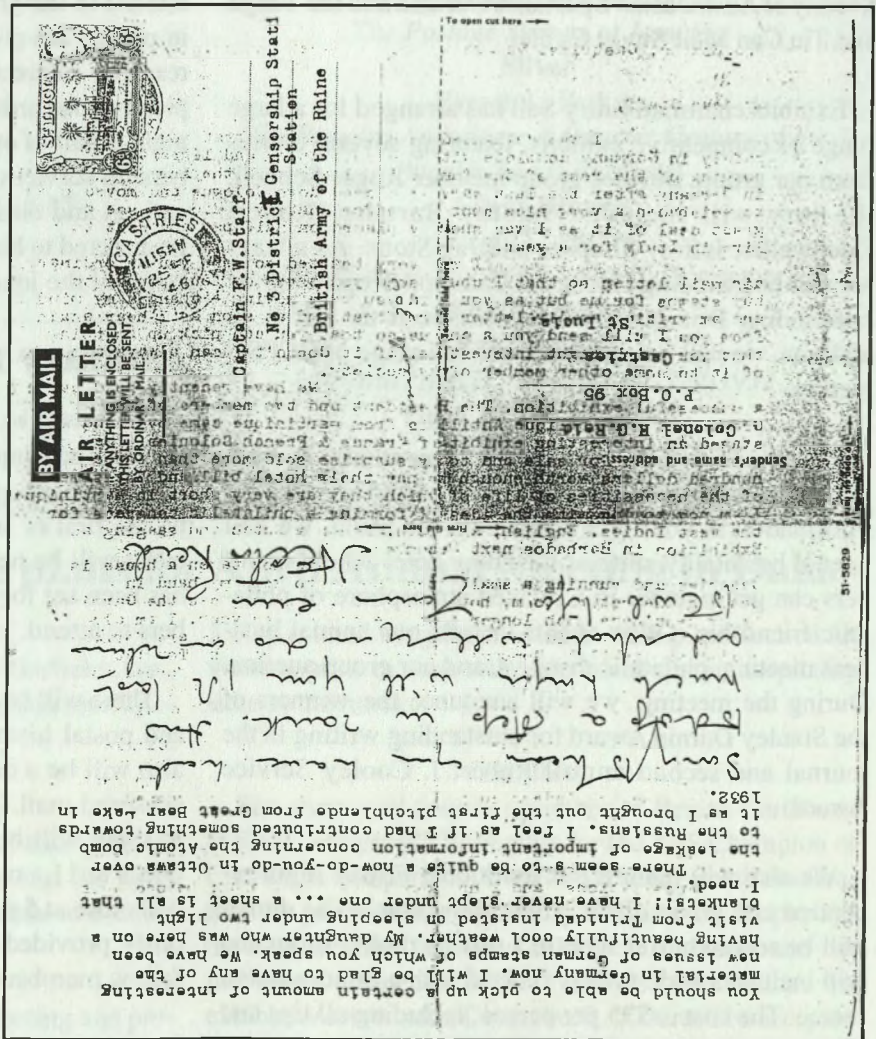


Figure 1

ers to continue his efforts. See air letters four, six and seven below.

It is interesting to note Colonel Reid's comments to Captain Staff that his effort to catalogue cancellations and other postal history information about St. Lucia had been "carried out in the dark" because no prior literature had been compiled. Thanks to the Colonel, we are fortunate

that his efforts and those who followed now allow knowledgeable collecting of St. Lucia.

It is worth noting that this first letter required only 6d. postage, the rate for military airgraphs, even though it was sent to Europe (to the British Army of the Rhine). The second item was charged 8d. postage even though mailed on April 6, or just two months after the first, and only sent to Jamaica, a destination considerably closer than Europe.

This second item (*Figures 5 and 6*) came to Mr. L. Myers, who had acted as an agent for the noted philatelist, Mr. E.F. Aguilar (the author of important books on the philately of Jamaica). From the content it is apparent that Mr. Aguilar was seeking to acquire the "new air letter forms," but Mr. Myers was forced to advise him that they were printed in blank form only, with the 8d. stamps to be attached.

The third item (*Figures 7 and 8*) used 2 October 1953 from Viex Fort, shows the newly issued (on November 11, 1952) air letter showing the imprint of the KGVI 12¢ stamp. It came from A.C. Skeete, who had a long involvement with the post office and

P.O.Box 95. Castries, St Lucia, British West Indies. 24/2/46

My dear Staff,

I was delighted to hear from you that you had arrived safely in Germany complete with the collection and library to say nothing of the rest of the family. I was with the Army of Occupation in Germany after the last war. We closed down Cologne and moved over to Weisbaden a very nice spot but unfortunately I did not see a great deal of it as I was shortly placed on half pay and went to live in Italy for a year.

I was very tempted to send you an ordinary air mail letter so that I could send you three or four pounds to buy stamps for me but as you said you were moving I changed my mind and am writing an Air letter form first and as soon as I hear again from you I will send you a cheque so that you can pick up anything that you think might interest me. If it doesn't I can always dispose of it to some other member of my society.

We have recently held quite a successful exhibition. The President and two members of the Groupement Philatelique Antillais from Martinique came over and staged an interesting exhibit of France & French Colonies. He brought a lot for sale and to my surprise sold more than three hundred dollars worth enough to pay their hotel bill and buy some of the necessities of life of which they are very short in Martinique. I am now toying with the idea of forming a philatelic congress for the West Indies. English, American, French & Dutch and staging an Exhibition in Barbados next December.

I have now taken a house in Castries and running a small guest house to keep my hand in pending the return to my hotel at Vigie. I cannot see the Garrison being kept here much longer than the end of the year. I am also getting a small paid job as Tourist Commissioner. We are forming a limited liability Company to promote & control the Tourist Trade. Our first objective is to get another company formed to build a decent hotel of about 88 rooms. I am also Chairman of the rehabilitation Committee but I devote much of my time to stamps!

I was very intrigued with the article on Crowned Circle stamps which appeared recently in the Philatelist. By the way Robson Lowe wrote me a very encouraging letter re my stamp design. Which was praise indeed coming from an author who condemned all modern stamp design.

Hope by now you have caught up with your stampless covers as I am looking forward to getting some more from you. I have just mapped out my "postmarks" "Cachets" and "Cancellations" and I now know what I am doing; before this I was working in the dark.

Figure 2

with stamp collecting on St. Lucia, and was sent to Mr. Cyril Fraser in British Guiana. The contents are most interesting, referring to the rare perforation varieties of the four-cent and 12 cent stamps. Mr. Skeete was prepared to offer copies of the 12¢ at £20, a huge sum in 1953, but could not supply any of the four-cent. Today, the 12¢ catalogues at £475 mint, £350 used (Stanley Gibbons 153a), and is a difficult stamp to find. The 4d. is only known used, and catalogues at £5500 (Stanley Gibbons 149a), but frequently brings a substantial premium to this amount whenever it is available (which is very seldom!).

Mr. Kilburn has shared with me some of his memories of conversations he had with Mr. Skeete when Mr. Kilburn lived in St. Lucia. Mr. Skeete had managed to help a number of collectors over the years to acquire important material from St. Lucia, but had himself lost his collection, first in the fire at Castries in 1927, and second (and lastly) in the catastrophic fire of 1948 (*see Figure 4*). Apparently after this second loss, Mr. Skeete never again managed to initiate his own collecting.

THE ST LUCIA PHILATELIST

NUMBER ONE : 1948



Published for the St Lucia Philatelic Society

ROBSON LOWE LTD, 50 PALL MALL, LONDON
ROBSON LOWE INC, PHILADELPHIA

PRICE TWO SHILLINGS
Postage extra

Figure 3

The fourth item (*Figure 9 and 10*), used from Castries 27 December 1957, is on the blank form (no imprinted stamp), which was apparently prepared by a private dealer

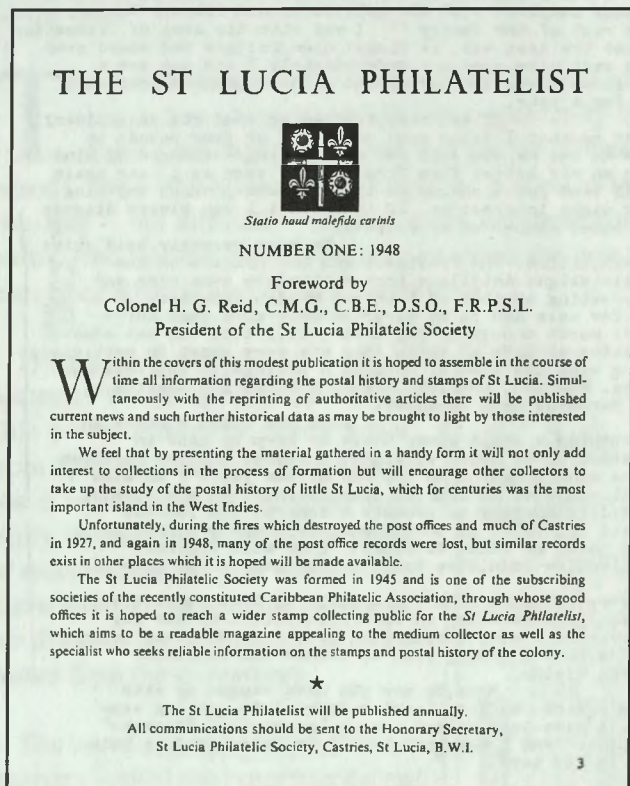


Figure 4

with the Seal of QEII when she ascended the throne in early 1952. This item is from Colonel Reid, addressed to Brian de Burca, who was also a very prominent St. Lucia collector. The contents include important information about Mr. de Burca's agreement to contribute to and foster a fifth issue of the *St. Lucia Philatelist* and includes interesting information about the earlier four issues, how and where they were printed and distributed, and how they were financed.

The fifth item (*Figures 11 and 12*) is a purely commercial use of the air letter from J.O. Charles Ltd., a Castries merchant, inquiring about delivery of goods ordered but not yet received. This air letter was mailed from Castries on July 4, 1958. This item shows the imprinted QEII 10¢ stamp, plus an additional six cents postage paid by QEII stamps. The air letter with imprinted stamp was first issued late in 1955.

The sixth item (*Figures 13 and 14*), is from Colonel Reid (now resident in Soufriere) to Brian de Burca, and was mailed 16 July 1958. It also is on the imprinted 10¢ air letter form. Here Colonel Reid was continuing to encourage Mr. de Burca's efforts to bring out the fifth issue

of the *St. Lucia Philatelist* by providing him with pertinent content, including his own personal research.

The seventh (*Figures 15 and 16*) is the last we have from Colonel Reid to Mr. de Burca and came from Soufriere on 7 August 1958. In it, Colonel Reid makes reference to earlier comments which he must have received from Mr. de Burca based on Colonel Reid's notebook on the early postal history and cancellations of St. Lucia. It is worthwhile to note that Colonel Reid's research was subsequently incorporated in the *Roses Caribbean Philatelic Handbook No. 3, St. Lucia, A Philatelic History* by G.G. Ritchie, which was published in 1978 (and is now in need of an update).

It is unfortunate that Mr. de Burca did not complete his efforts to continue the *St. Lucia Philatelist*. I understand that his important collection was disposed of soon after his correspondence with Colonel Reid.

For further information about the research efforts of Colonel Reid, see the article on the compilation from his notebooks ("Colonel Reid's St. Lucia Notebook") which appeared in the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, August 1972, page 104.

When one has the opportunity of reading contemporary information from the places whose stamps we collect, the range of information about that place and what people were doing enlivens our interest. These air letters allow for just such an extra benefit. ☒

ENDNOTES

¹ The items which are presented in this article are the property of Guy Kilburn, a renowned and knowledgeable collector of St. Lucia, and a member of our Study Group.

EDITOR'S NOTE

The illustrations accompanying this article were reproduced from photocopies and thus the quality is not as good as one might like. We apologize for the problem.

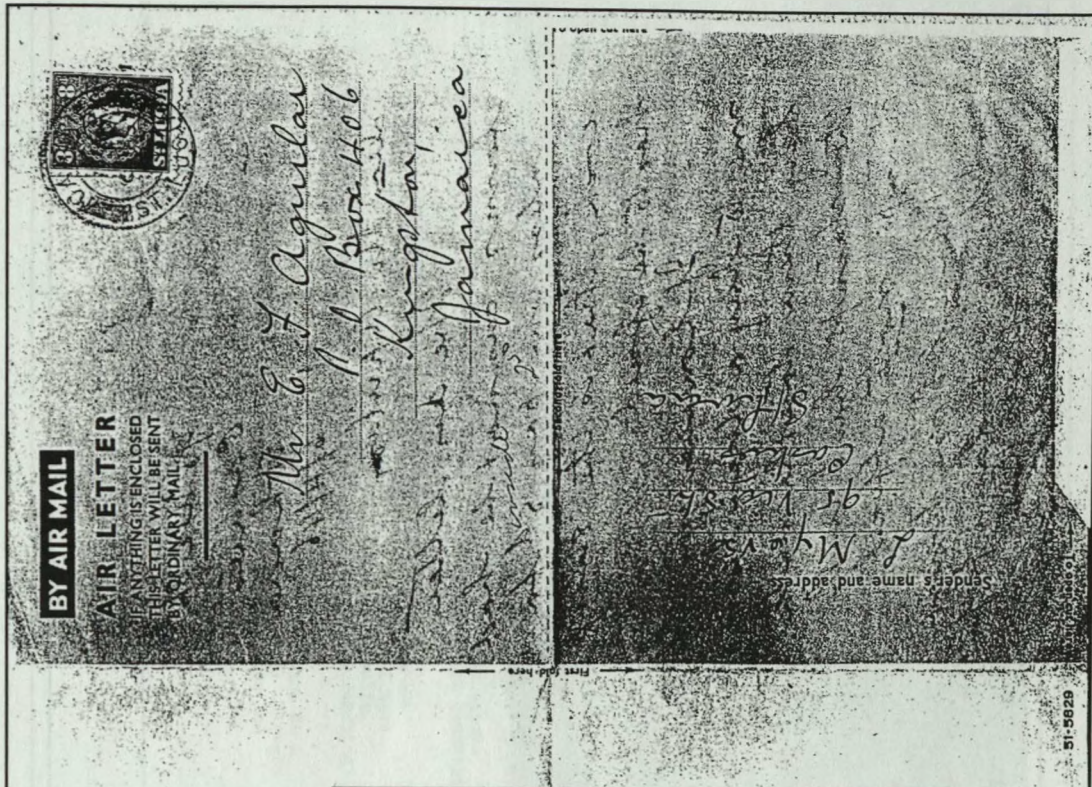


Figure 5

Figure 6

95 vic 84.
Cashier
51-River
6/11/46.

Dear Mr. Aguilar,

The air letter forms cannot be had unless you pay 5d for each, that is the stamp has to be fixed.

If however you wish me to buy a dozen I can buy them together with the stamps but with stamps not affixed.

Please let me know as I have a balance for you.

Yours truly
L. Myers.

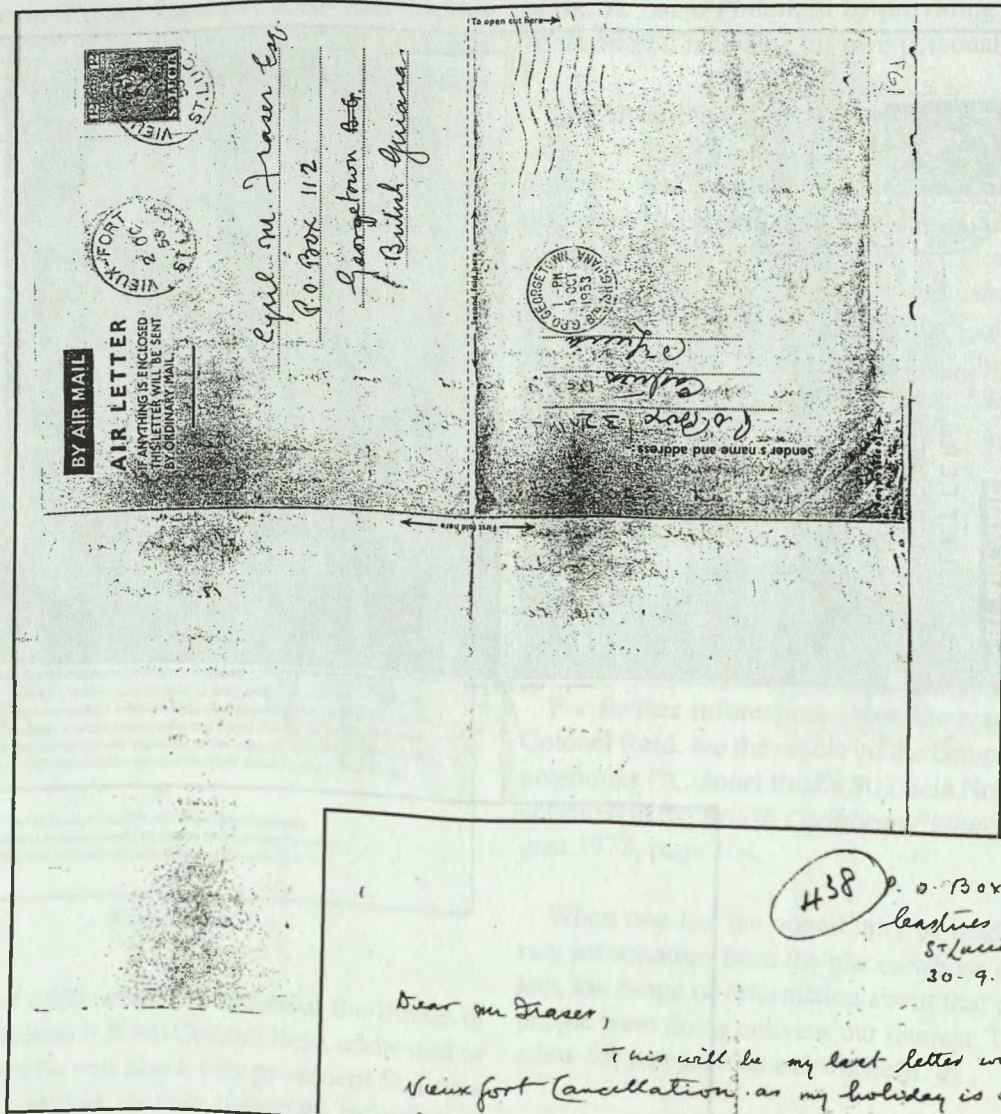


Figure 7

438 P. O. Box 32
Georgetown
St. Lucia
30-9-53.

Dear Mr Fraser,

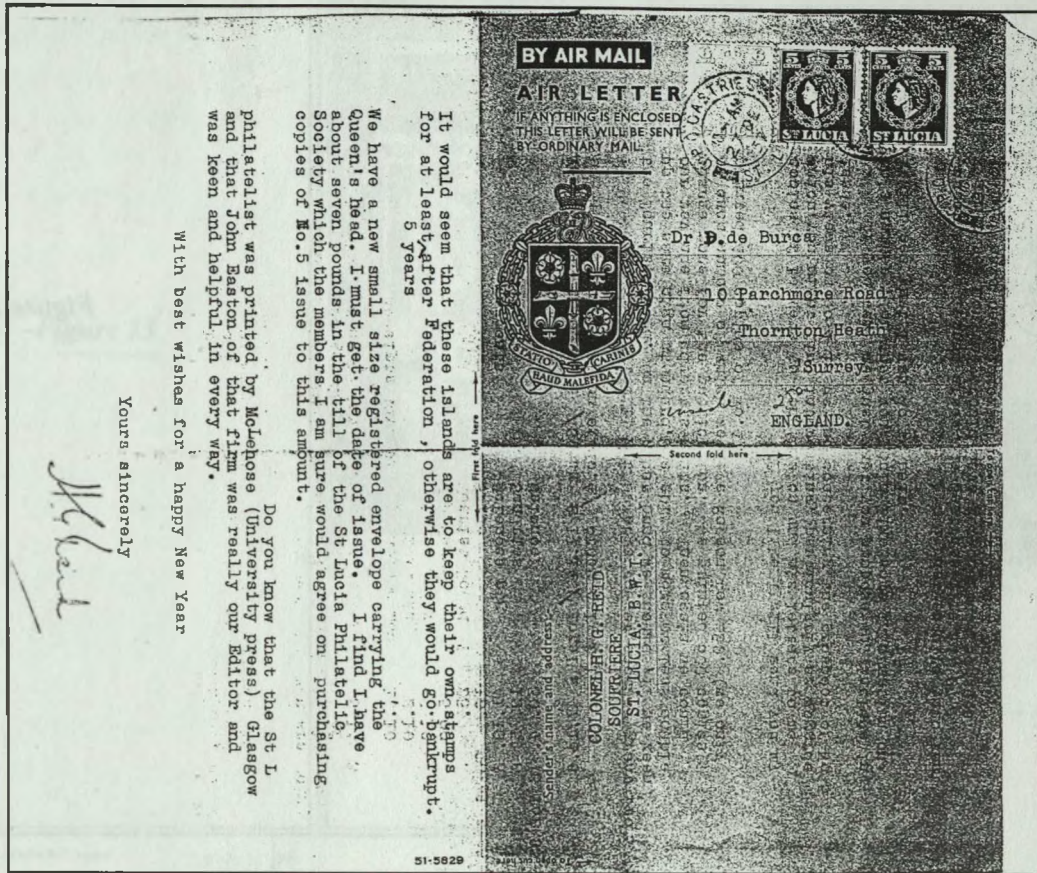
This will be my last letter with a Vieux fort Cancellation as my holiday is over. I leave in the morning for Caribes.

Re 4c + 12c Perf 14½, have never seen the former. The 12c is rarer than gold. I have traced a couple MINT. a stock of 4 with plate no. U.K. price is £32 each. Could receive them for you at £20 each. You can have one or all. Will prove a sound investment. I've not seen any in used condition. but a friend of mine in T'had has one copy of both the 4c + 12c used. You can have any you buy F.U. Party is negotiating sales in Canada + U.S.A. (for your information at £25 each). Please let me have a reply by return mail. Guaranteed in good Mint Condition, well centred etc.

Your order will follow as imprints not available at the moment.

Yours truly
A.C. Shook.

Figure 8



It would seem that these islands are to keep their own stamps for at least after Federation, otherwise they would go bankrupt. 5 years

We have a new small size registered envelope carrying the Queen's head. I must get the date of issue. I find I have about seven pounds in the till of the St Lucia Philatelic Society which the members I am sure would agree on purchasing copies of No. 5 issue to this amount.

Do you know that the St L Philatelist was printed by McLehose (Universally Press) Glasgow and that John Easton of that firm was really our Editor and was keen and helpful in every way.

With best wishes for a happy New Year

Yours sincerely

McLehose

Figure 9

26/December/57
 SOUFRIERE
 ST. LUCIA. B. W. I.

Dear de Burca, *Rec 3 Jan*

I am ashamed that I have not replied to your letters of the 18/July and of 28/July, though I see I did acknowledge them on the 4/Aug. I did not get back here until towards the end of October. Prior to that I was visiting and of course did not get much chance of thinking about stamps.

As soon as I got back I wrote Aguilar about the article on postage stationery which he never published. He of course said he would see about it, but I have not heard from him. I have my own copy which I will let you have as soon as you want it.

I am delighted to hear that you are going to bring out No. 5 St Lucia Philatelist and would be glad to hear how you are getting on with it. As regards cost of publication, of No 3 / ~~Edwards~~ brought forward £ 25.14. 3

Balance brought	
Receipts Advertising	Robson Low 12.10
	Whitfield King 2.10
	Bridger & Kay 2.10
	H.R. Harmer 5.00
	Tourist Board ? 25.
	Sales 10. Total £ 83
Payments	McLehose ptg 41.18. 3
	Sundries 12. 5 6
	balance 30. 4. 6 To £ 83

Assets/Cash £ 30. 4. 6 / Stock £ 17.14 / Total £ 47.14.6
 " after publication of No. 4 / Stock only £ 12.

Of course I will not be able to get another grant from the Tourist Board. On the other hand we should, if we keep up the same high standard, be able to more or less double our revenue from advertisements. Then again we could charge more for the publication. We printed 500 copies of each number of which we gave Robson Low 250. (we only printed 400 copies of No. 4)

If you like I will send you my copies of letters to John Easton and his letters to me which you might find interesting, particularly as regards his views on No 4 issue and concerning the prospect of No 5 issue.

If you tell me just what you propose to include in this number, or what you would like some information on I will see what I can do to help.

I must enquire into that rubber stamp issued after the Castries fire in '27. I don't see how they could have got one made so soon. It must have been in existence. I will ask the late PMG

Figure 10

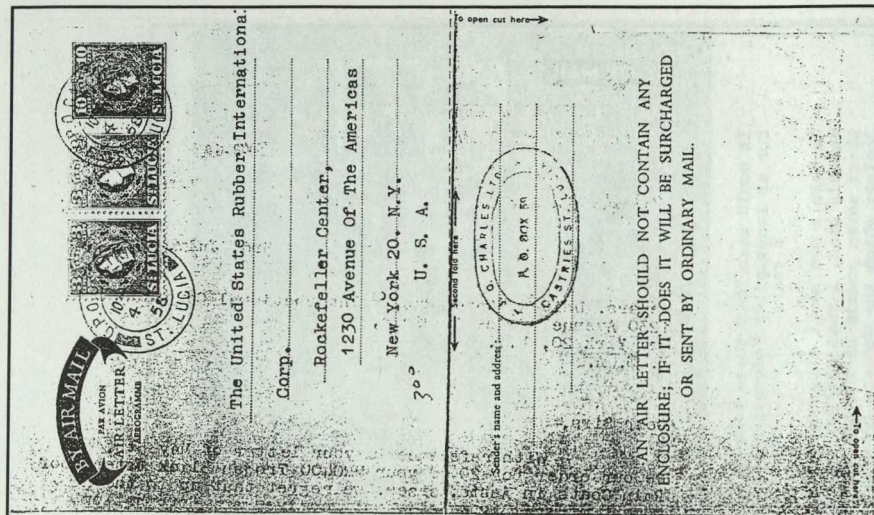


Figure 11

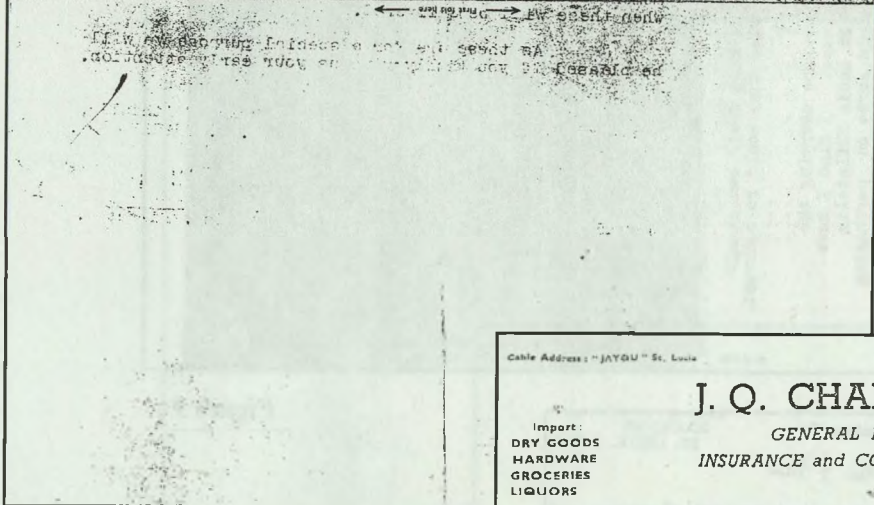


Figure 12

Cable Address: "JAYOU" St. Lucia

Cables: BENTLEYS, A. B. 2nd EDITION, (Private)

J. Q. CHARLES LTD.

GENERAL MERCHANTS
INSURANCE and COMMISSION AGENTS

P.O. Box 59, Castries, St. Lucia, B.W.I.

3rd. July, 1958.

Messrs. United States Rubber International Corp.
1230 Avenue of The Americas,
New York 20, N.Y.
U. S. A.

Dear Sirs,

With reference to your letter of May 5th. re our order for 20 of your MRC400 Trojan Black Waterproof Rain Coats in Asstd. sizes, we regret that up to the moment of writing we have not received any information when these will be delivered.

As these are for a special purpose we will be pleased if you kindly give us your early attention.

Yours faithfully,
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M/ging. Director.

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JUL - 8 1958
ETWR-G.P.

JQC/dd

Figure 13

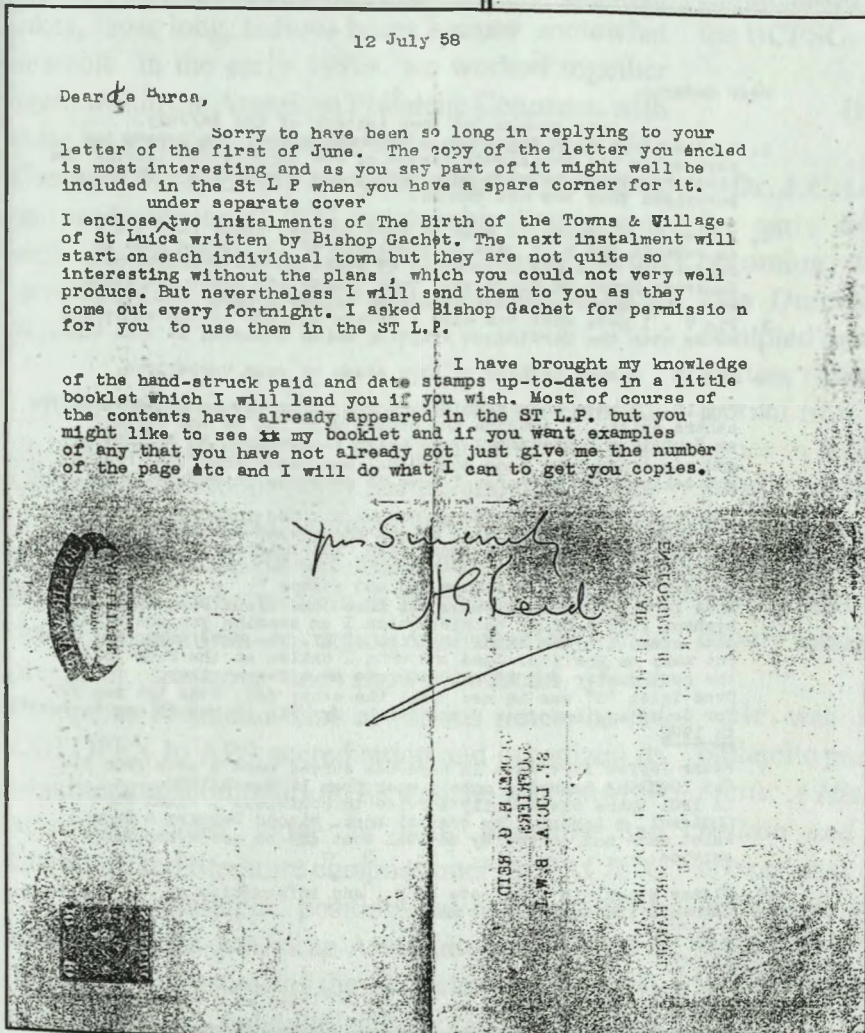
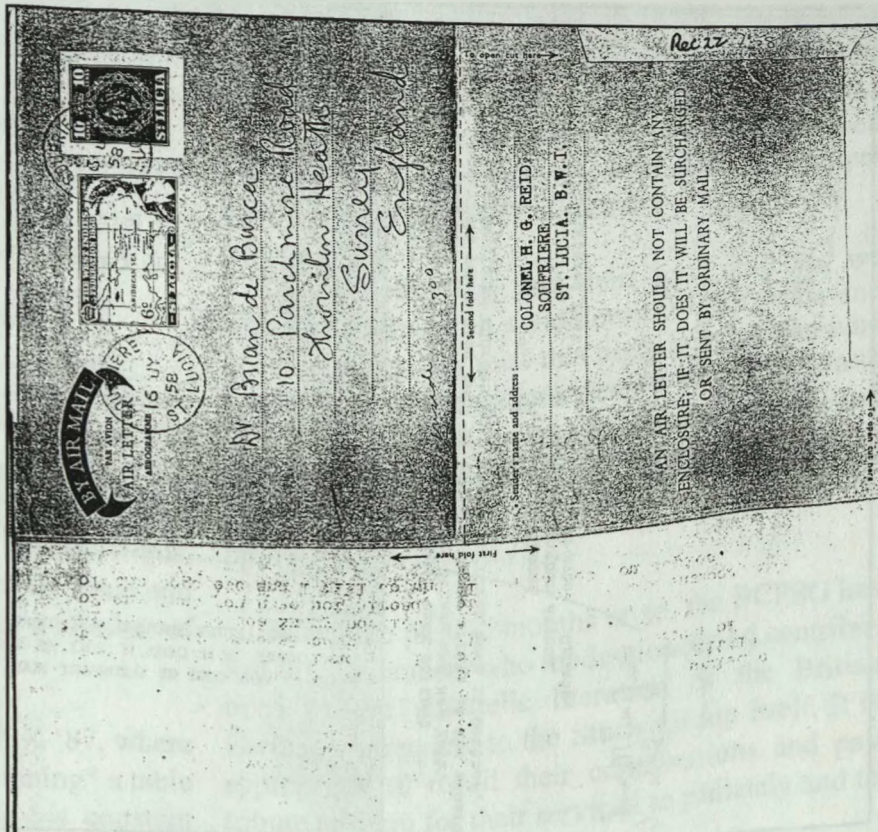


Figure 14

P.S
 I have been here on
 28 Aug for New York
 + I am in the address
 with delivery record to
 me - from contact to
 the bank credit for
 Yours Sincerely,
 H. Reid
 Subject Mail
 under separate
 cover

9. I particularly would like this note-book back so that I can discuss matters with friends in Ottawa and New York. so would you please send it to me so as to arrive at the underment
 undermentioned address not later than first week in October.

By Registered Post

Col. H. G. Reid
 c/o Mr Eric Selmond
 137 Buckingham Avenue
 Toronto
 Canada.

Figure 16

Editor's Note:
 All illustrations have been reduced to
 60% of original size.

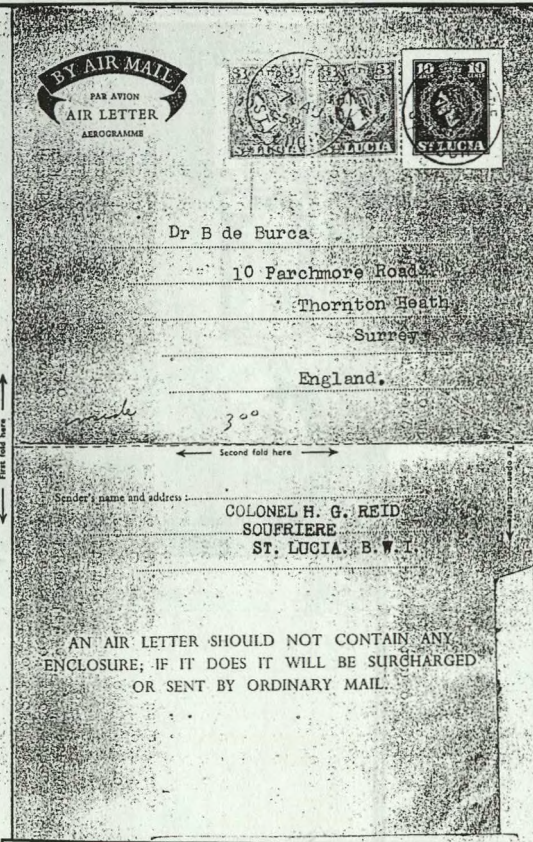


Figure 15

5/8/58

Dear deBurca,

Many thanks for your letters of the 26/July.

1. I have never seen Fig 25 on a St Lucia stamp, but Robson Low says so in his Handstruck stamps of the Empire. Considering the close relations between this Island and Martinique I am surprised they are not common.
2. I have no comments to make on what you say about Figs 4 & 6 As regards Fig 5 I have no knowledge of this being used in Soufriere. This was discovered by Jaffe in the archives of Somerset House or where ever such things are kept. And stamp with the Fig 8 left London on 16 March 1850
3. Fig 7 . I note what you say. I always thought it had something to do with the Martinique eruption which occurred at this time.
4. Fig 12 . I know nothing of this stamp or your variations.
5. Fig 13. I have only seen G.S. & vf. I am not convinced that the others exist. I imagine the others were run by the police as Soufriere & VieuxFort were prior to opening on 16/7/84 and might not have done any postal business other than receipt and delivery of letters. I have no evidence to support this.
6. From now on P.O. date stamps may be divided into those with "A" a dot/dash ~~xxx~~ under T of Pt and those with dot after the T "B" "A" may be divided into those with "index letter", "Asterisk" and nothing.
 Dennery Micoud and Patience had odd stamps
 Anse la Raye was at first spelt AUse and Vieux Fort had no hyphen. Page 8 of my booklet which I am sending you shows the date stamp in use after the fire of 27. The date stamp had been put away on the 7th. June and when I called at the P.O. in '46 the post master dug it out and gave me a few strikes.
 Gros Islet "G" was in use until the other day. Note the two CDS for Soufriere on pages 8 and 12. ~~xxx~~ Fig 15 was in use in Castru in 1902
7. Peter Jaffee says Anse la Raye was served once a week from 31st Oct 1905 and Genaries once a week from 12/March/1906. In 1901 there was a daily service to Soufriere, Vieux Fort Choiseul, & Laborie. by coastal boat. Micoud Dennery & Gros Islet were not served by coastal boat and so got a haphazard service.
8. Please pencil in, my note book, any information or comments you may have to make.

NECROLOGY

Several key members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group have recently died. Former Editor Michel Forand graciously agreed to prepare tributes to these men.

DR. RUSSELL V. SKAVARIL

Dr. Russell V. Skavaril, our vice president since 1994, died suddenly during the night of 28 November 2000 at age 63. Russ, a Columbus, Ohio resident, was also our webmaster and the manager of our membership directory project in the late 1990s. He was a collector of Bermuda's Caravel issue and presented an exhibit on this subject at a number of APS shows.

Russell and I first met at AMERIPEX '87, where we spent about 10 hilarious days "manning" a table for small island societies; thanks to his constant jokes, those long, tedious hours became somewhat bearable. In the early 1990s, we worked together again within the American Philatelic Congress, with Russ as secretary-treasurer and I as editor of *The Congress Book*. Later, we collaborated in preparing and producing the BCPSG membership directory, as well as the website. Russ spent many hours developing and improving the site over the past three years.

Russ retired some years ago as professor emeritus in molecular biology at Ohio State University in Columbus. But to his many friends and acquaintances in the philatelic community, he was better known, of course, for the numerous activities and responsibilities he undertook in various organizations. In addition to acting as president, vice president, treasurer and show chairman of the Columbus Philatelic Club at various times, he led COLOPEX to APS accreditation and organized its first literature competition. As well, he was an APS-accredited chief judge in both philately and literature, and literature commissioner for PACIFIC '97. Other philatelic positions he held included: treasurer of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors; treasurer of the St. Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society; and editor

of *The St. Helena and Dependencies Philatelic Society Newsletter*. At the time of his death, Russell was managing three websites with philatelic content in addition to the BCPSG's site.

To his wife Mary and their four children, we extend my heart-felt condolences. His friends and acquaintances will miss this big, cheerful man who retained a positive outlook despite recurring health problems, and who devoted so much of his time and energy to organized philately. (*With thanks to Dr. Jason Manchester of Columbus, Ohio, for information provided.*)

During the past 15 months or so, the BCPSG has lost three members who made pioneering contributions to the philatelic literature of the British Caribbean area and to the Study Group itself. It is appropriate to recall their contributions and pay tribute to them for their services to philately and to the BCPSG.

DR. J.C. (JACK) ARNELL

Dr. J.C. (Jack) Arnell joined the Study Group in the early days and soon played an active role, becoming vice president in 1969, then succeeding Stan Durnin as president in 1971, a position he occupied until the end of 1972. Not content to leave matters there, Jack took over the editorship of the journal from Fred Seifert in 1974 and produced 17 issues in three years. (As more recent editors know only too well, it would be nearly impossible to repeat that feat today.) Jack had retired to Bermuda by then, after a successful career as a chemist in the Canadian government, where he had also served as assistant deputy minister of defence.

He was a frequent writer of articles in the philatelic press, and beginning in 1980 with *Atlantic Mails: A History of the Mail Service between Great Britain and Canada to 1889*, published several books that immediately became authoritative references on 19th century maritime mails between Britain and North America. In 1989, Jack and the late Morris Ludington collaborated on a book that

Continued on page 26

New society Membership Director appointed

As part of the on-going efforts to streamline group membership services, Tom Giraldi of Modesto, California has agreed to fill the vacant position of BCPSG Membership Director. In this newly reconstituted position, he will be responsible for responding to requests for membership information, and for sending and receiving new member applications. He also will be the point of contact for changes of address and other information relating to membership status.

Tom has been a dedicated member of the group for many years and formerly served as an officer. His main philatelic interests are the Cayman Islands and picture postcards of the British Caribbean. He is co-author of the standard handbook on the Cayman Islands. Many old and new friends had a chance to see Tom at our recent London meeting, where he had a sales table and showed one of the informal displays.

Effective immediately new membership applications and change of address forms should be directed to:

Tom Giraldi
Membership Director
 1305 Scottsdale Way
 Modesto, CA 95355

Phone: 209-571-1345
e-mail: teg43@aol.com

Overseas members, however, can continue to send their applications and change of address forms directly to our international director:

David Druett
International Director
 1 Brewerton Street
 Knaresborough, N. Yorks HG5 8AZ
 United Kingdom

Phone: 01423-865962
e-mail: pennymead@aol.com

Tributes to several key members of BCPSG who recently died

Continued from page 25

has become an indispensable tool for Bermuda postal historians – *The Bermuda Packet Mails and the Halifax-Bermuda Mail Service, 1806 to 1886*. Jack died suddenly on 15 April 2000 at the age of 82.

RONALD G. WIKE

Ronald G. Wike, a resident of northwest England, was a specialist of Trinidad and Tobago philately and wrote a number of “firsts” on various aspects of that former colony’s 20th century postal history -- monographs on postal meter stamps (1979), World War II censorship (1993), machine cancellations (1997, co-authored with Jazad N. Ali) and airmails (published posthumously in 2000). In 1990-91, Ron had also written for the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* a series of articles on the postal history of U.S. Armed Forces in Trinidad, which he was planning to expand and turn into another monograph.

Ron held the position of BCPSG Study Group leader for Trinidad and Tobago for several years and was an enthusiastic member of the Study Group. He

was one of two United Kingdom members who in 1996 travelled to Barbados to attend our meeting there. Ron died in October 1999, and I want to pay tribute here to an intelligent, selfless man in whose company (and that of his wife Edna) I spent many pleasant hours both in Barbados and, later, in the San Francisco area during PACIFIC ‘97.

ERIC W. KING

Eric W. King lived in Belize and authored the first book devoted to the philately of British Honduras: *A Postal History of Belize*, published in 1981. Eric had planned to write articles on British Honduras/ Belize for the journal, but ill health and other circumstances prevented him from pursuing that project. Until his death in late 1999, Eric was our Study Group leader for that country for a number of years.

Not only did these members make outstanding contributions to our knowledge of the philately of the British Caribbean (and other areas), they are owed a debt of gratitude for their dedication to the Study Group and the many services they rendered.

Membership Director's Report

By Tom Giraldi

New Members

All new applicants listed in the last issue have been accepted as members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Congratulations and welcome.

New Applicants

Tadashi MATSUMOTO, 915-2-206 Kitahasuike-cho, Fushimi-ku, Kyoto, JAPAN 612-0035. Collecting interests: Japanese definitives and Tristan da Cunha. Sponsor: Bradley Brunsell.

Dr. Arthur W. SNOKE, 2527 Overland Rd., Laramie, WY 82070-4855 USA. Collecting interests: Trinidad and Tobago. Sponsor: Peter Kaulback.

Stan ST. GEORGE, Le Vieux Verger, 30330 Connaux, FRANCE. Collecting interests: Barbados seals and badges (low values), 1892-1947, Jamaica, SG 27, 31-32. Sponsor: David Druett.

J.E. CLOUTMAN, Suite 1602 Double Building, 22 Stanley Street Central, HONG KONG. Collecting interests: General BWI, Philippines (Spanish and American Colonial periods). Sponsor: David Druett.

James ROSS, P.O. Box 87, Spit Junction, New South Wales 2088, AUSTRALIA. Collecting interests: Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Turks, and British Virgin Islands. Sponsor: Peter Kaulback.

Change of Address

M.B. Braithwaite, Onslow, Elms Green, Brierley, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 ONS UNITED KINGDOM.

Rob Follett, 1209 Knox Valley Dr., Brentwood, TN 37027 USA

Roger Kirby, 27 Hill St., Emu Park, Queensland, AUSTRALIA 4702

Michael Mead, P.O. Box 2114, Orleans, MA 02653-2114 USA

M.J. Nethersole, 1111 Old Buckingham Station Drive, #3A, Midlothian, VA 23113 USA

Timothy O'Shea, 58 Porter St., Granby, MA 0133-9516 USA

Ian A. Potter, Littlebeck, Pocknedge Lane, Holymoorside, Chesterfield S42 7HL UNITED KINGDOM

Philippe Seguin, 11145 Meighen Apt. 508, Pierrefonds, QC H8Y 3H6 CANADA

A. Shephard, 202 Willow Gardens, Rochdale Rd., Pye Nest, Halifax HX2 7JT UNITED KINGDOM

Eugene F. Styer, 6629 113th. Place S.E., Bellevue WA 98006 USA

Derek Sutcliffe, Flat 43, Robert Morden House, Alexandria Palace, London NW8 0DX UNITED KINGDOM

Resignation

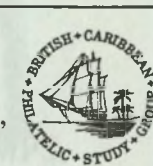
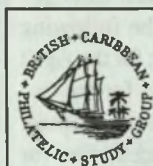
J.R. Hartley

If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Membership Director's Report, please contact me, either by mail (see inside front cover of the *Journal*) or by e-mail, at TEG43@aol.com

-- Tom Giraldi

Publishing Schedule for BCPSG Journal

Following is a listing of important yearly dates for publishing of the *Journal*. The dates should remain the same year to year. While the deadline date is firm, date to printer and actual mailing date may fluctuate.



ISSUE COVER DATE	DEADLINE TO RECEIVE MATERIAL	JOURNAL TO PRINTER	ANTICIPATED MAILING DATE
January	November 15	November 30	December 30
April	February 15	February 28	March 30
July	May 15	May 30	June 30
October	August 15	August 30	September 30



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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 January issue, 15 November; for the April issue, 15 February; for the July issue, 15 May; for the October issue, 15 August. Computer file preferred (contact Editor), actual-size, camera-ready copy is acceptable, for which 7" by 9 1/2" is the optimal size.

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

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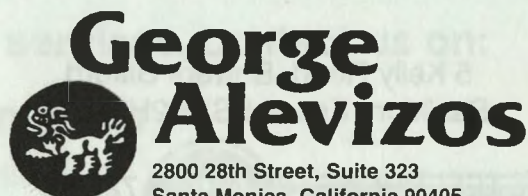
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Books about the West Indies: I have a large stock of out of print histories and guide books to the islands; also a selection of antiquarian maps and prints.

List available on request -- please state interests.

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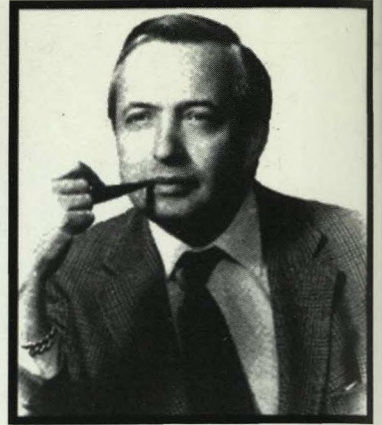
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