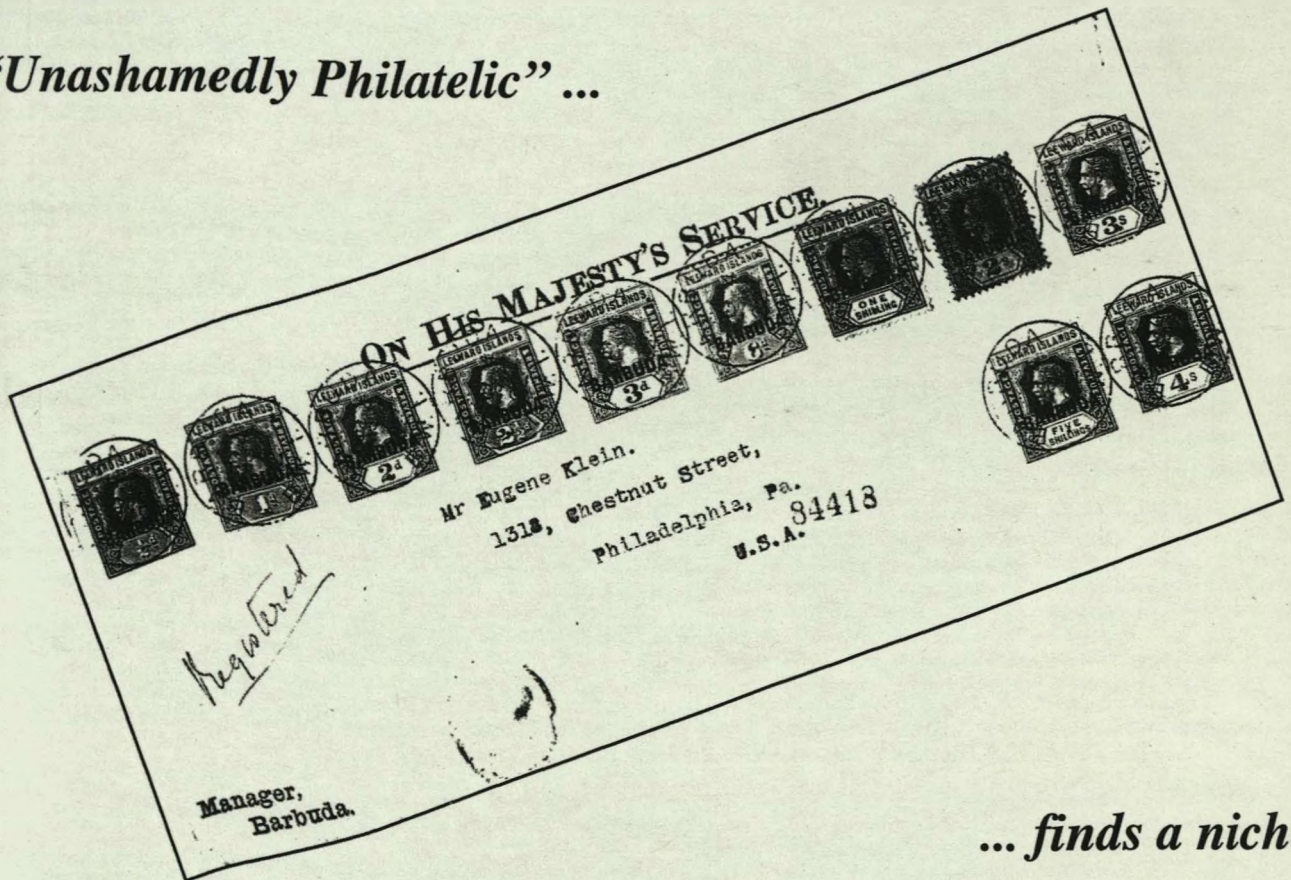


BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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“Unashamedly Philatelic” ...



... finds a niche

See Eric M. Bateson's article beginning on page 6



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It's time for our AGM in Tortola!

It's been a long time in the planning stage, and now it's about to happen -- our Annual General Meeting, which is set for the British Virgin Islands October 31 - November 2. There will be a lot to see, a lot to do, and special events designed to keep everyone busy and entertained.

President Peter Kaulback discusses the last minute activities preparing for the event in his President's Message on page 27. Your Editor has not seen a listing of events and no one prepared information for this issue of the *Journal*, but Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca graciously provided information about the 10th Annual British Virgin Islands Philatelic Exhibition, which will be held at the same time as our AGM.

The Missing Virgin, three Bermuda Perots, and other rarities from Turks Islands, Montserrat and Cayman Islands will be part of the splendid exhibit from the Royal Philatelic Collection at the 10th Annual British Virgin Islands Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Tortola on November 2 and 3 at Barclays Bank, Road Town.

The BVI Exhibition will feature in the Court of Honour a selection of Virgin Islands and Caribbean rarities from

the Royal Philatelic Collection. Exhibited by gracious permission of Her Majesty, this will be the first time such priceless gems will be on display on this side of the Atlantic, and to celebrate the event and greet the BVI Philatelic Society on their achievements, the BCPSG will hold its Annual General Meeting in the BVI concurrently with the stamp exhibition. The Group holds their AGM in the Caribbean periodically and this will be the second time Tortola has been selected for such a distinguished gathering of eminent specialists and renowned philatelists from all over the world.

The exhibition will also feature the legendary "Missing Virgin" and other West Indian gems from The Queen's private collection. The BVI section will feature a mesmerizing selection of early proofs, including two with the central figure of the Virgin omitted, three unique sheetlets of 12 of the one-penny stamps of 1867-1868 perforated 15, and a used example of the 4d 1888 Tortola Provisional with double overprints. There also will be one frame entirely devoted to the proofs and essays of the second definitive series of King George VI.

But the focus and eye-catching gems are not solely from the Virgin Islands. Other breathtaking gems from
Continued on page 4

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CHART OF DEADLINES

January issue: Deadline November 15, mailing December 30; **April issue:** Deadline February 15, mailing March 30; **July issue:** Deadline May 15, mailing June 30; **October issue:** Deadline August 15, mailing September 30.

St. Kitts heaps accolades on athlete

(He gets a free home, has a street named for him, and is even featured on stamps!)

First it was a \$122,000 three-bedroom home, then a highway bearing his name. Now, the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis has placed Kim Collins, now ranked the sixth fastest man in the world, on a set of two postage stamps. The 30 cent and 90 cent stamps were released earlier this year by the St. Kitts Post Office in honor of Collins' athletic performance.

A finalist, coming in at number seven in the 100 meters at the 2000 Olympics in Australia, the Kittitian sprinter appears as a track star on the 30 cent stamp. Collins, the bronze medalist at the 2001 International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) World Championship, appears on the 90 cent stamp, displaying the bronze medal he won in Edmonton, Canada.

The St. Kitts and Nevis Information Service (SKNIS) quotes Minister of Information, Culture, Youth and Sports, the Hon. Jacinth Henry-Martin as saying the release of the postage stamps is yet another way in which the government continues to acknowledge and reward Collins for his outstanding achievements to date. Mrs. Henry-Martin told the Communications Unit of the Prime

Minister's Office that since Collins' Olympic achievement, the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis, through the Ministry of Sports, has contributed significantly in several areas. Collins was given a three-bedroom home at CARIFESTA Village valued at EC\$122,000 and the road linking Frigate Bay and the main road near the Robert L. Bradshaw International Airport has been named the Kim Collins Highway.

"The Ministry took care of all his athletic expenses for six months and reimbursed the St. Kitts Amateur Athletics Federation (SKAA) for his expenses and that of all the other athletes who participated in the Olympics," Mrs. Henry-Martin said. She added that the Ministry of Sports also financed Collins' preparation and participation in the 17th Commonwealth Games, held in Manchester, England from July 25 to August 4, 2002.

Collins is also the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) record holder in the 60-meter dash, a two-time All American; four-time All-WAC and TCU 200 indoor record holder. ☒

It's time for our annual general meeting in Tortola

Continued from page 3

The Queen's Stamp Collection on display include three of Bermuda's rarest stamps, the Postmaster's stamps issued by William B. Perot. The priceless trio includes an 1848 example, one of only three known and it will be difficult to get visitors to leave to go and view the next frame.

More excitement will come from the Turks Islands display never exhibited before in such abundance. It features two 1866 drawings by Perkins Bacon including the one selected for the first stamp issue, plus a selection of elusive overprint settings and varieties. The Montserrat section includes much of the elusive early material: bisects (one on cover), overprint varieties, a beautiful artist's design of 1916 initialled and approved by King George V, artist sketches for the 1938 definitive series and other specialist material of the King George VI era. The issues of George VI are also the focus of The Queen's Stamp Collection display for the Cayman Islands.

Never before were so many important West Indian gems from the Royal Philatelic Collection displayed in Court of Honour at a public exhibition. Interestingly enough, the British West Indies is a most remarkable section of the Royal Collection, and this is not accidental. King George V was fond of these islands, having visited them and West Indian stamps became great favorites of his. The King was able to acquire the cream of the crop from the legendary collections of his day as they came on the market and in due course he found himself with a truly formidable collection that has no rivals.

The BVI stamp show will undoubtedly be a unique opportunity for the general public and for collectors to view some of the greatest philatelic rarities and unparalleled selections of Caribbean stamp issues. A deluxe Show Programme with many color illustrations and over 100 pages featuring scholarly articles, special messages and calendar of events will be produced for the show and will itself become a highly desirable collectible. ☒

From the Cam to the Cays

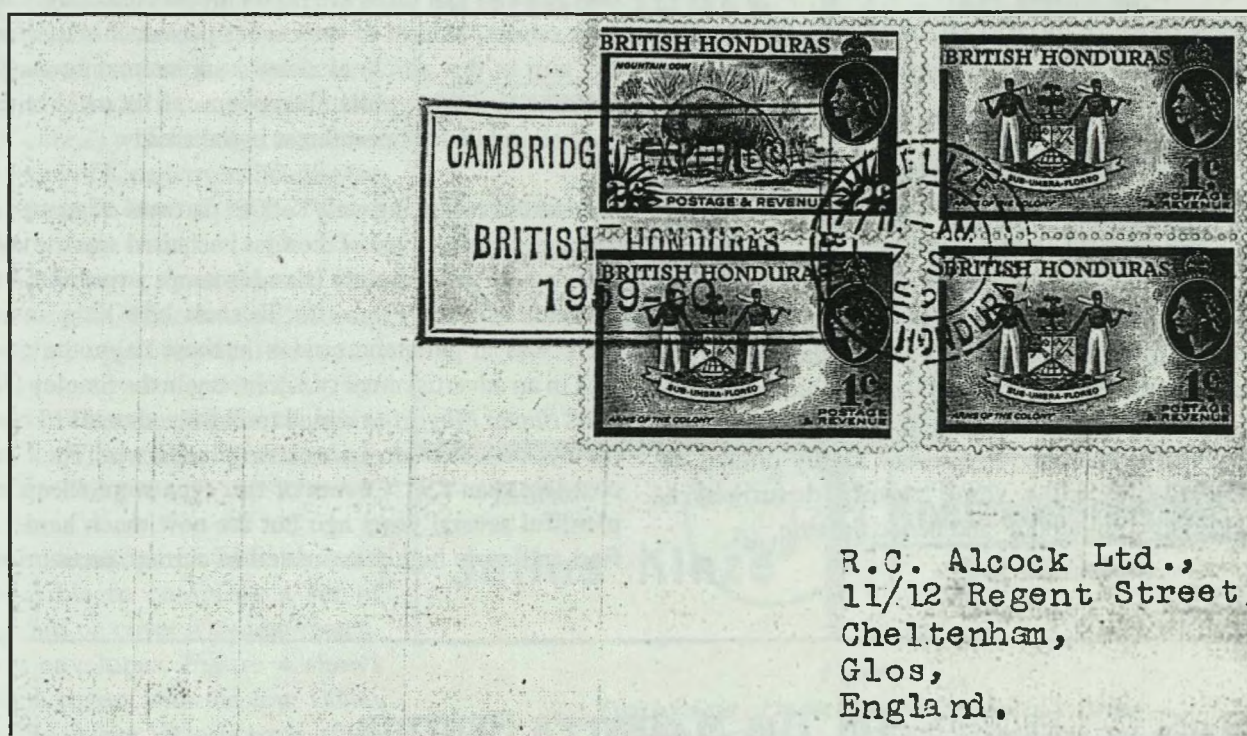
By Ian Matheson

Of South Africa

Many British Honduras enthusiasts will be aware of the book titled *From The Cam to the Cays*. This book describes the expedition to British Honduras by a team of young graduates from Cambridge University in England. This multidisciplinary team set out for an adventure after completing their studies at university, and the book provides a fascinating cameo of aspects of life in the Colony in 1959-60. The dates of the

Now, you may ask, what is the significance of all this? Well, there were special cachets made up for the expedition, and I have never seen them recorded anywhere before! I illustrate a cover sent from GPO Belize on 7 September 1959 to R.C. Alcock Ltd. in England. Alcock is acknowledged in the book for providing financial support for the expedition (one of 50 such benefactors listed).

The cover bears a purple boxed strike of dimensions 49mm x 29mm, which reads "CAMBRIDGE EXPEDI-



trip are rather fuzzy as they traveled out in three different ships to take advantage of cheap passages (and did not all return together), but are approximately September 1959 to May 1960.

The members of the expedition were John Thorpe (leader and zoologist); Malcolm Cottrall (co-organizer); Paul Bregazzi (zoologist); David Carr (archaeologist and librarian); John Downey (liaison); David Hunt (botanist); Euan Mackie (archaeologist); John Poxon (surveyor); David Stoddart (geographer); and William Warham (photographer).

TION/TO/BRITISH HONDURAS/1959-50." This may be a private mark, but I would not be surprised if the Belize Post Office had a hand in it, making it either official or semi-official.

Does anyone else have a copy? Maybe each of the sponsors received one? Maybe covers exist sent to families of the expedition members? In that case, I would have expected to see more of them about. Your comments are invited. ☒

“Unashamedly philatelic”

By Eric M. Bateson
Of Australia

Having collected first day covers of the British Commonwealth for many years, the size became beyond control, so over a period of time my collecting became limited to the Empire Period of the British West Indies, inspired by the happy years I spent working at the University of the West Indies.

My interest always has been in stamps, not postmarks, and so my natural choice was for philatelic covers, in spite of the remarks such as “it is only philatelic” and, as Stanley Gibbons states, “philatelic covers are worth little more than the catalogue values of the corresponding used stamps.” More recently, I was very kindly offered the opportunity to view some covers described as “unashamedly philatelic,” and hence the title.

Since leaving Jamaica I have lived in relatively remote parts of Australia without contact with other philatelists or dealers with experience in older West Indian issues and with the *Stanley Gibbons Empire Catalogue* as my guide, I have acquired some expertise of philatelic covers. I see from the *BWI Study Circle Members Information Booklet* that there are no members collecting philatelic covers, at least of the earlier period. It is therefore my aim in this article to show how interesting and rewarding collecting philatelic covers can be, and I hope it may stimulate further interest in the area.

I started collecting only sets or part sets of stamps on philatelic covers. One of the first I acquired was the complete set of the Leeward Islands stamps overprinted for Barbuda in 1922 (*Figure 1*). To show how little interest there was in philatelic covers in those days, the cover was in an advertisement of Kleinberg in the *Stanley Gibbons Stamp Magazine* which took three months to reach me by seamount when I was living in Darwin. The cover cost less than £50. Covers of this type were cheap and plentiful several years ago but are now much harder to find and more highly estimated in current auction sales

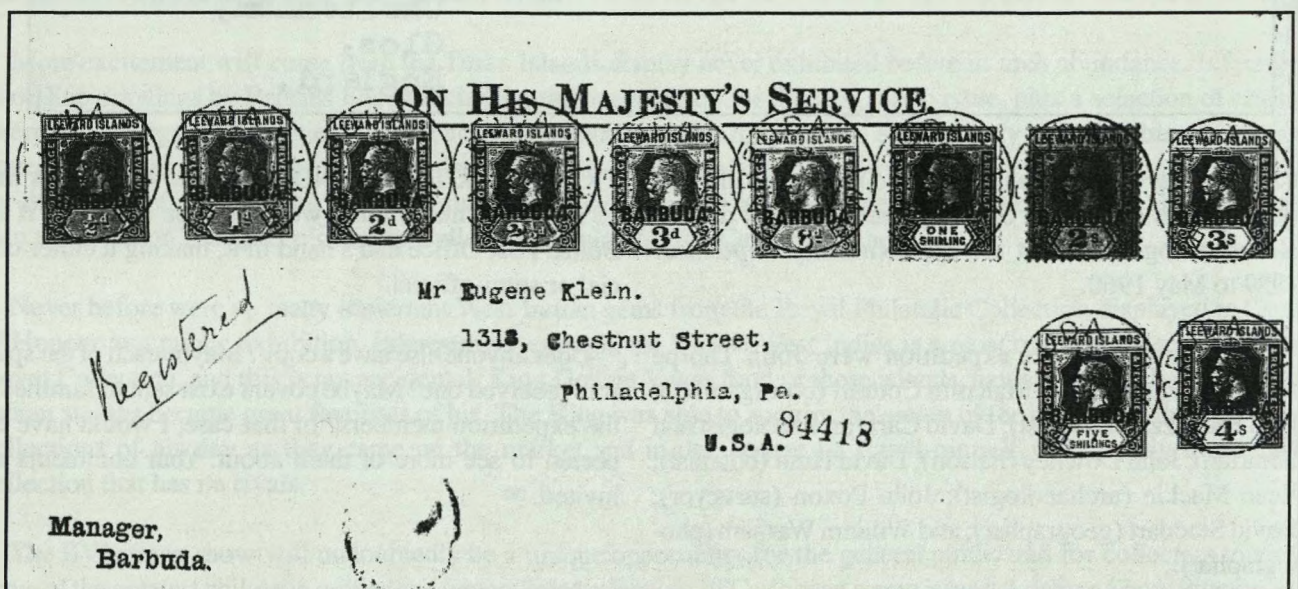


Figure 1
1922 Barbuda set on a philatelic cover.

and dealer lists.

To fill the gaps I have had to include commercial and postal history covers in my collection as it has become my aim to acquire every stamp within my financial limitations of the Empire Period of the BWI on covers. This has required searches for different color shades of stamps, colored paper, watermarks, chalk-coated and ordinary paper, and dies.

Completion of sets

The idea is to have a complete set on one cover (as example, Figure 1). Sometimes the set may be obtained on a series of matching covers all with the same postal date (Figure 2) which shows two from a series of Kinze covers bearing the Montserrat issue of 1908. Two of the stamps issued at a later date were missing from the set. One bearing SG43a, the 6d dull and bright purple I acquired later on a cover to a pastor in the USA (Figure 3). The other, SG40a, the white back variety of the 3d value, I am still seeking.

In some cases it has only been possible to complete a set of stamps on cover with non-matching envelopes. Figure 4 shows three covers with the low values of the Queen Victoria issue of the Leeward Islands. SG1, 2, 3, and 7 are on a Kinze cover, 4 and 5 on a registered letter, and 6 on a commercial cover to Canada. In some series it is often only possible to collect single stamps on separate covers of varying type.

To fill a gap I may have to purchase a cover bearing additional stamps I already have on other covers which may or may not be in the same set as the desired item.

Shades

It is not difficult to distinguish the different shades of one color (e.g., red, scarlet, rose-red, etc.) but can be with stamps on cover. Unless one of the stamps on a cover is on the edge of the envelope, there is always a portion of envelope around the stamps, making comparison more

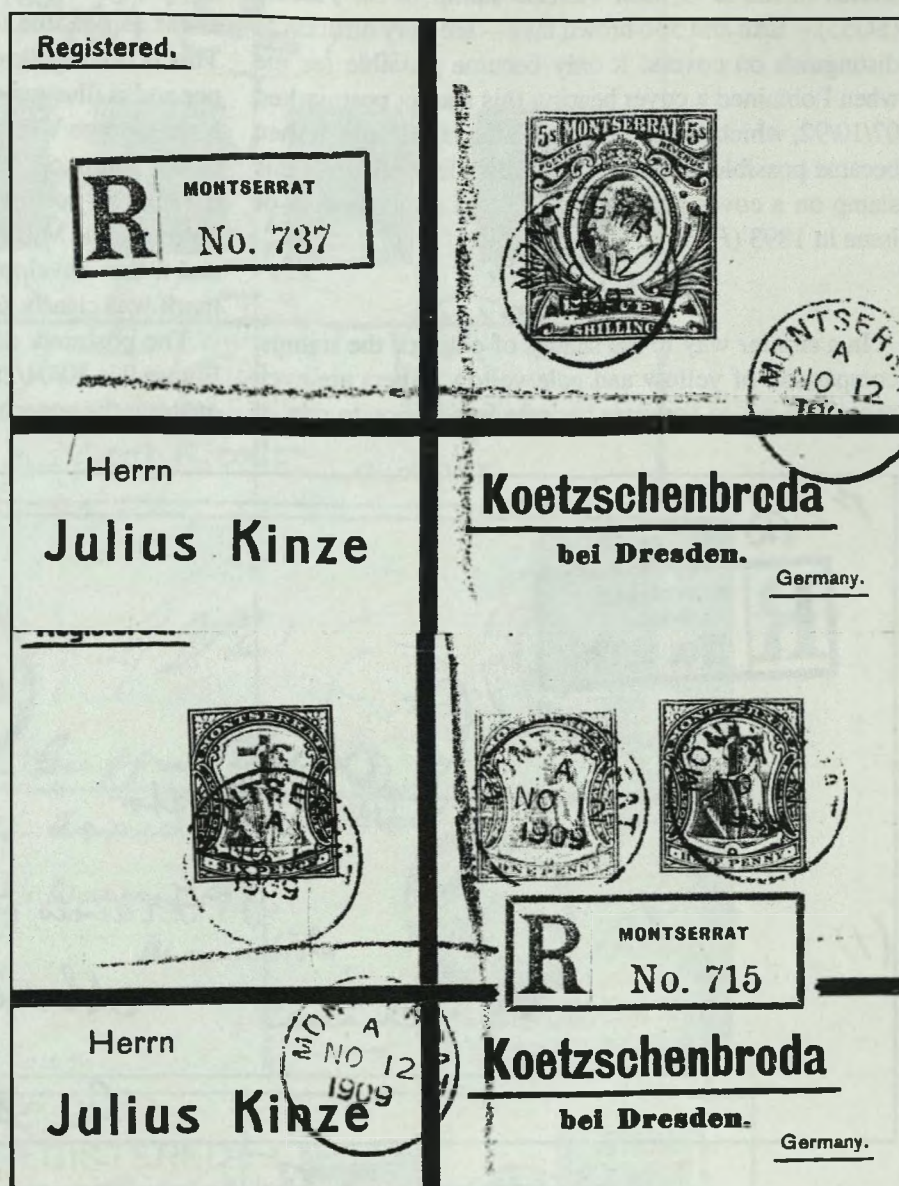


Figure 2

Two of a set of matching Kinze covers bearing the Montserrat issue of 1908.

difficult, particularly if the envelopes are of different color themselves. Sometimes there is no problem when some thoughtful collector or dealer has created a cover of the different shades of a stamp. The philatelic cover in Figure 5 bears the three different shades of the 1d War Tax stamp of the Virgin Islands -- carmine, scarlet and pale red, and a fourth shade not listed in Gibbons. Identification of the numerous War Tax issues of Trinidad and Tobago are made much easier by the cover shown in Figure 6. However, five are missing, possibly because they were not available when the cover was created. It is interesting to note that I have never seen these for sale on cover.

The postmark date on a cover may be of help. The two

Continued on page 8

shades of the 5/- Queen Victoria stamp of St. Vincent (SG53) -- lake and 53b brown lake -- are very difficult to distinguish on covers. It only became possible for me when I obtained a cover bearing this stamp, postmarked 07/10/92, which therefore must be the lake shade. It then became possible to identify the brown lake shade of this stamp on a cover postmarked in 1895 after the date of issue in 1893 (Figure 7).

Paper colors

In a similar way to the shades of color of the stamps, comparison of yellow and pale yellow papers are even more difficult to compare because in addition to part of

ing a bright light on the stamp and opening the envelope as far as possible to see the watermark from the inside. This is often quite easy with stamps on green or blue paper and is illustrated by two examples of the 10/- issue of King George V from Jamaica (Figure 9). The watermark of the stamp on the upper cover could not be seen, but the date of posting (1921), makes the stamp SG89 and therefore the Multiple Crown CA issue. The lower cover had a thin envelope and the Multiple Script CA watermark was clearly seen.

The postmark date on the lower of the two covers in Figure 9 is 30/04/28 and had it not been possible to demonstrate the watermark, there would be no way of knowing which of the watermarks the 10/- stamp would show. It may be assumed because it was posted six years later it should be the stamp with watermark Multiple Script CA, but it is not possible to depend on this. I have many examples like this in my collection, and it would

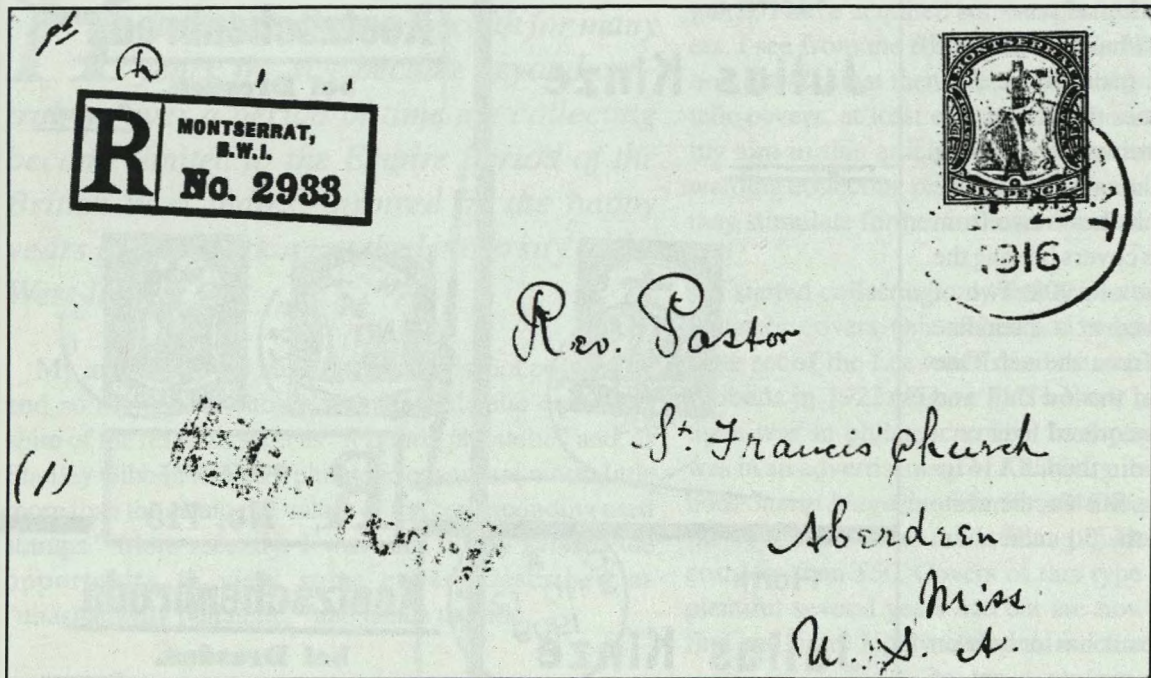


Figure 3

A cover bearing SG43a, which was missing from the Kinze cover of Figure 2.

the envelope surrounding the stamp, there is only a thin margin of paper between the design and the stamp edge. Therefore, covers bearing stamps with colored paper are always more attractive if the stamp is a copy with margin.

An example is shown in Figure 8, which is a Kinze cover bearing the 5/- red and green-yellow of the King George V reign from Montserrat. This is now my key to identifying the paper color of other stamps on cover.

Watermarks

The only certain way to demonstrate the watermark of a stamp on a cover is by soaking it off and then replacing it -- a process NOT to be recommended, particularly with older covers. With thin, non-embossed paper envelopes, it may be possible to demonstrate the watermark by shin-

be indexed as SG102 (89).

Dies

I have not encountered any problems with the Victorian, but have with the Georgian key types of the Leeward Islands. There are two series of MCCA issued in 1912 and the MSCA in 1921, but they generally can be distinguished because the 1912 issue was Die I and the 1921 issue was Die II. However, two values (the 4d [SG52] and the 2/- value [SG55]) were issued later than 1921 and therefore like their later counterparts -- SG70 and 74 -- have the same Die II (74a is a different shade and therefore presents no problem). If the envelope bearing a 2/- value is thin, there is no problem in seeing the watermark because they are printed on blue paper, but not so with the 4d which is printed on pale yellow paper.

Text continues on page 10

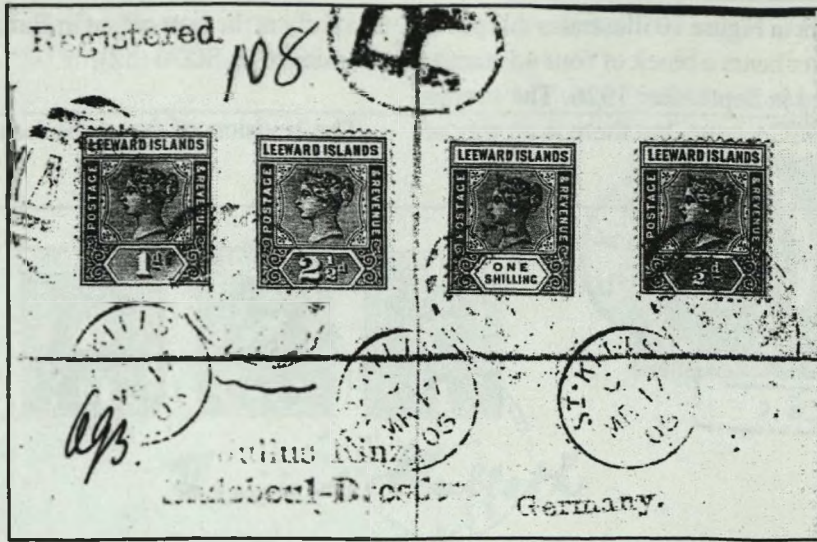


Figure 4

Three covers with the low values of the first issue of the Leeward Islands. The first (from top) is philatelic, the second probably not philatelic and the third a registered letter.

The Whitmarsh cover in Figure 10 illustrates this problem with dies. The cover bears a block of four 4d stamps (Die II) and was posted in September 1926. The stamps should be SG70, the MSCA issue, but there is no way of

currently at the post office in Barbuda. Therefore, it must be indexed as SG70 (52).

The revision of the same Leeward Islands issues to

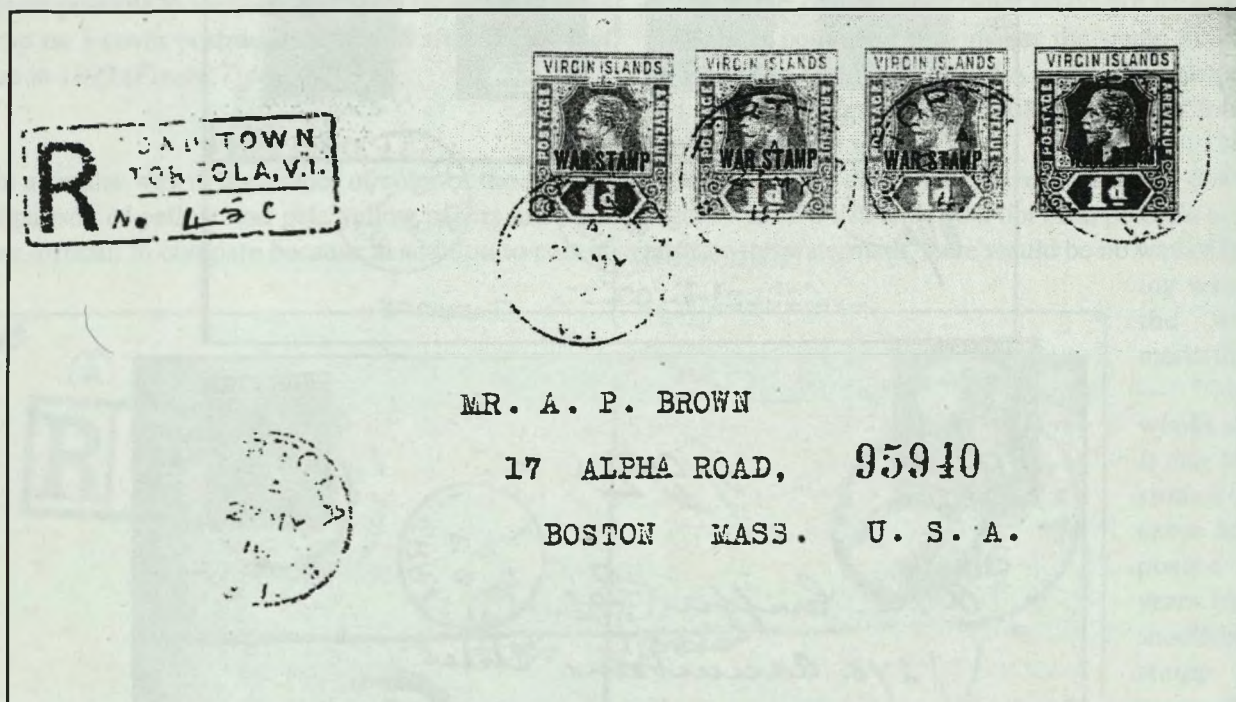


Figure 5
A philatelic cover with the three one-penny War Tax stamps listed by Stanley Gibbons and a fourth not listed in the catalogue.

knowing if the 4d stamps were from the earlier rather than later issue, particularly as it was philatelic and the stamps may have come from a dealer's stock rather than

Die I in 1931 causes further difficulties. The 1d is a different shade and as there was no original Die I, the others

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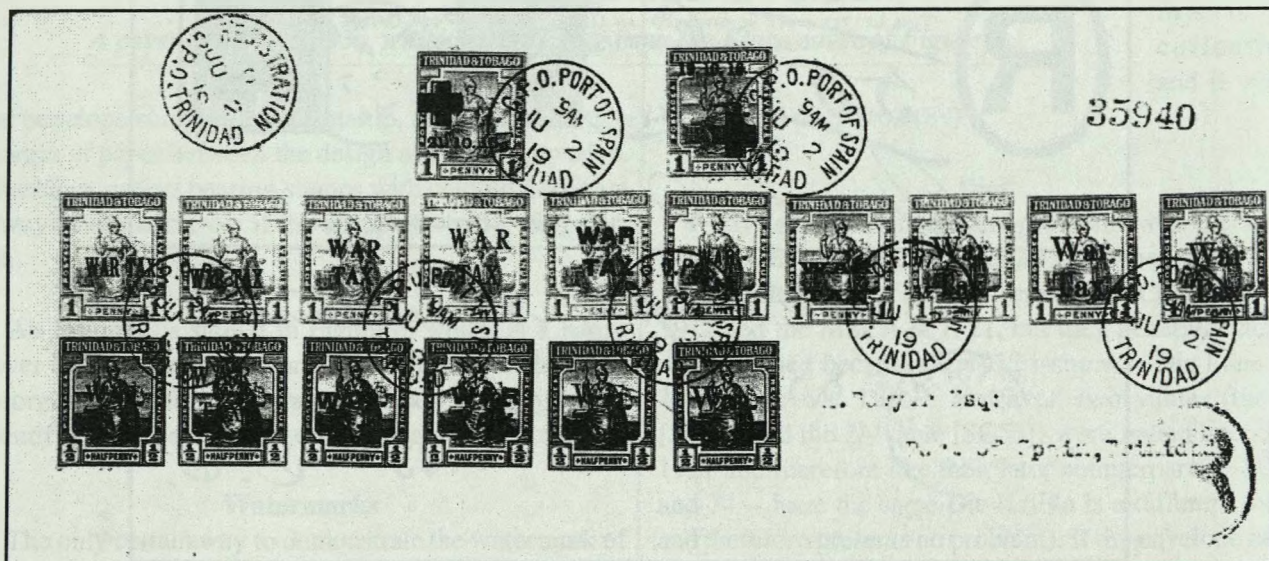


Figure 6
An "extremely philatelic" cover with Red Cross and War Tax stamps of Trinidad and Tobago. Five of the War Tax stamps are missing: SG181, 183a, 184, 179b, and 189.

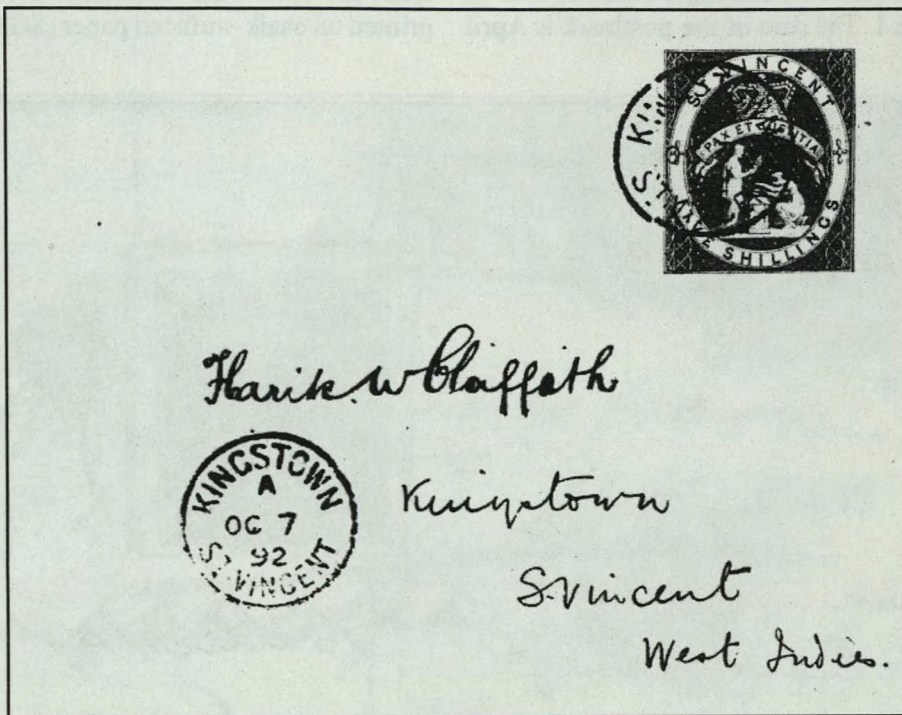
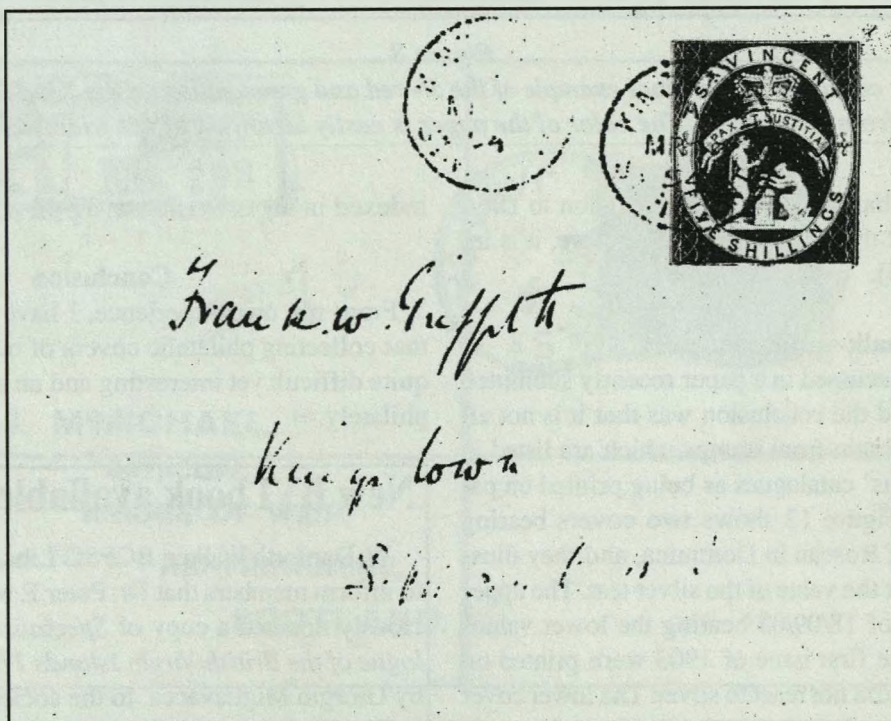


Figure 7

Two covers to the same addressee, with the 5/- stamp of St. Vincent in the Queen Victoria era. The upper stamp is identified by the date of posting in 1892 and is therefore the lake shade (SG53), making it possible to identify the lower stamp as the brown-lake shade, SG53b.



cannot be distinguished from the original Die I issue unless the watermark can be seen. This is not the case in Figure 11 with the post card bearing a block of four of the 1/4d value Die I. The date of the postmark is April

mark could not be demonstrated and apart from the 6d (SG 42), there is no way to distinguish the other values from the 1906 CCC watermark issue, which was also printed on chalk-surfaced paper (SG27a to 31a), they are

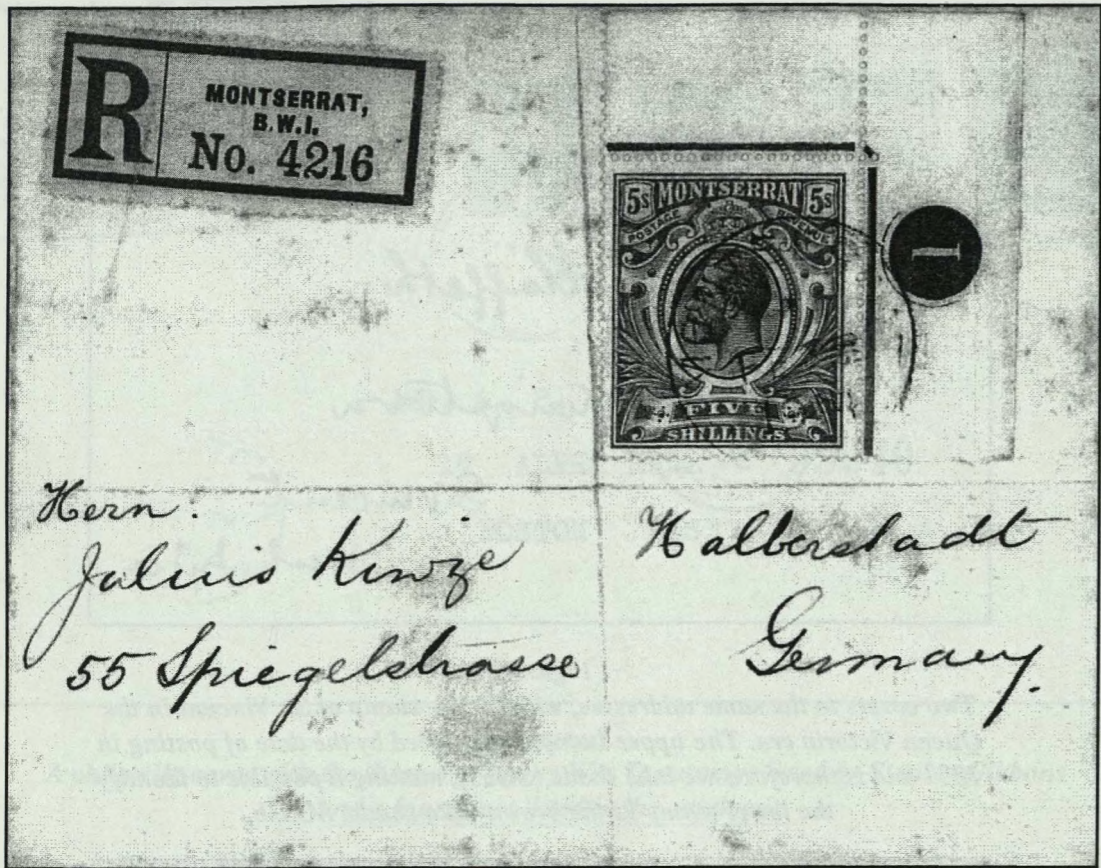


Figure 8

A Kinze cover with a marginal example of the 5/- red and green-yellow of the King George V era from Montserrat. The color of the paper is easily identified by the wide margins.

1933, suggesting that it should be the revision to Die I (SG46 brown), but there is no proof. Therefore, it is indexed as SG81 (46).

Chalk-surfaced papers

This has been discussed in a paper recently submitted for publication, and the conclusion was that it is not always possible to obtain from stamps which are listed in the Stanley Gibbons' catalogues as being printed on paper of this type. Figure 12 shows two covers bearing stamps of views of Roseau in Dominica, and they illustrate to some extent the value of the silver test. The upper Ellenberger cover of 18/09/03 bearing the lower values (SG27 to 33) of the first issue of 1903 were printed on ordinary paper and did not react to silver. The lower cover of April 1908 was purchased at auction on the understanding that the stamps were from the MCCA issue of 1907 (SG37-42) with chalk paper, and this was confirmed by a clear reaction with the silver test. However, as the water-

marked in my collection as 37-42 (27a-31a).

Conclusion

From my own experience, I have attempted to show that collecting philatelic covers of older material can be quite difficult yet interesting and an absorbing branch of philately. ☒

New BVI book available in library

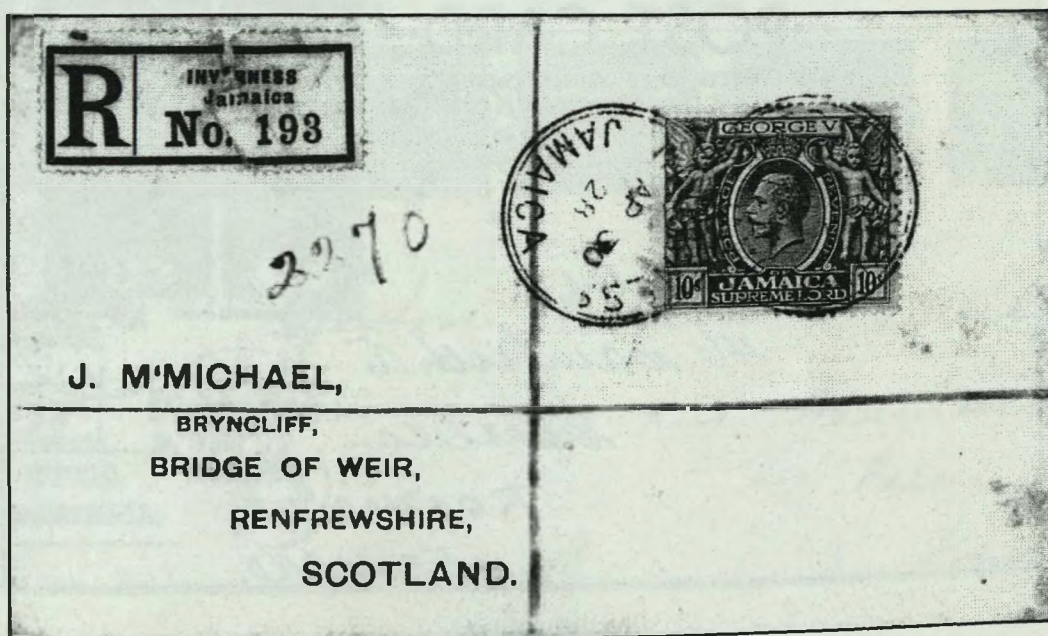
W. Danforth Walker, BCPSG Librarian, would like to inform members that Dr. Peter P. McCann has graciously donated a copy of *Specialized Stamp Catalogue of the British Virgin Islands 1787-2001*, edited by Giorgio Migliavacca, to the society.

The book, along with many others, is available through the study group's library. Contact Mr. Walker (address on page 2) for additional information. ☒



Figure 9

Two covers, probably both philatelic, with the 10/- King George V stamp of Jamaica. The upper stamp is identified by the Multiple Crown CA watermark by the postmark date of 1921, and the lower cover is identified by the Multiple Script CA watermark. The paper is light green.



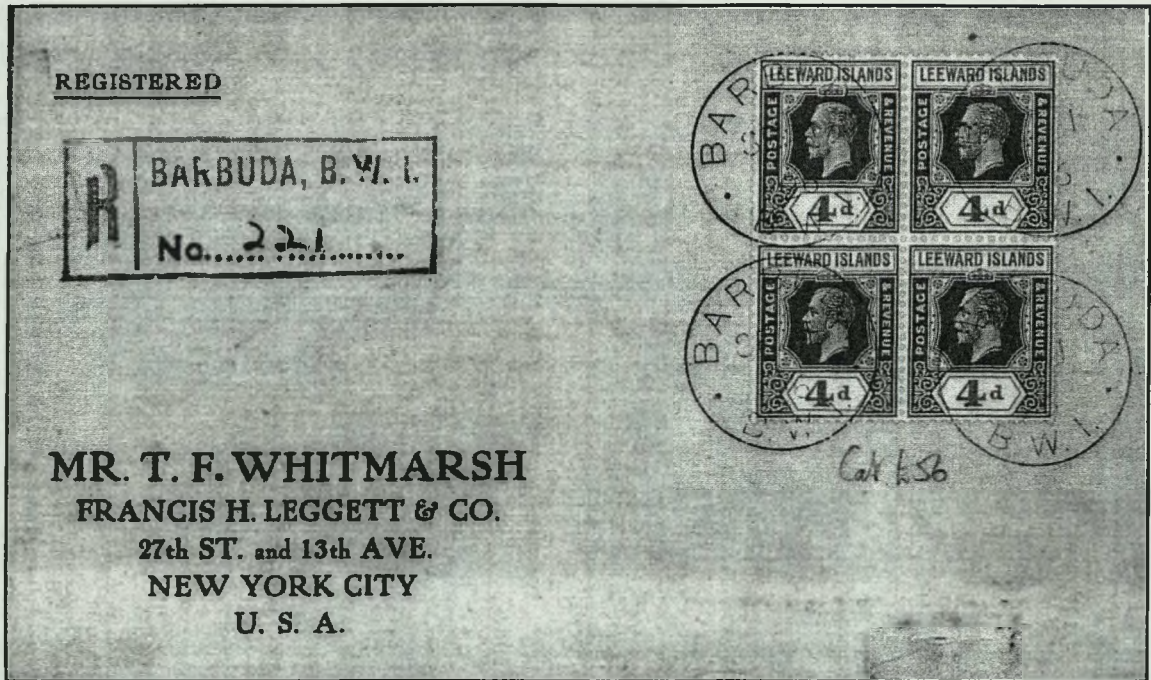


Figure 10

A Whitmarsh cover bearing four of the 4d Die II King George V issue from the Leeward Islands. The watermark could not be seen. From the post date of 1931 it is probably the Multiple Script CA watermark, but could be the Multiple Crown CA watermark.

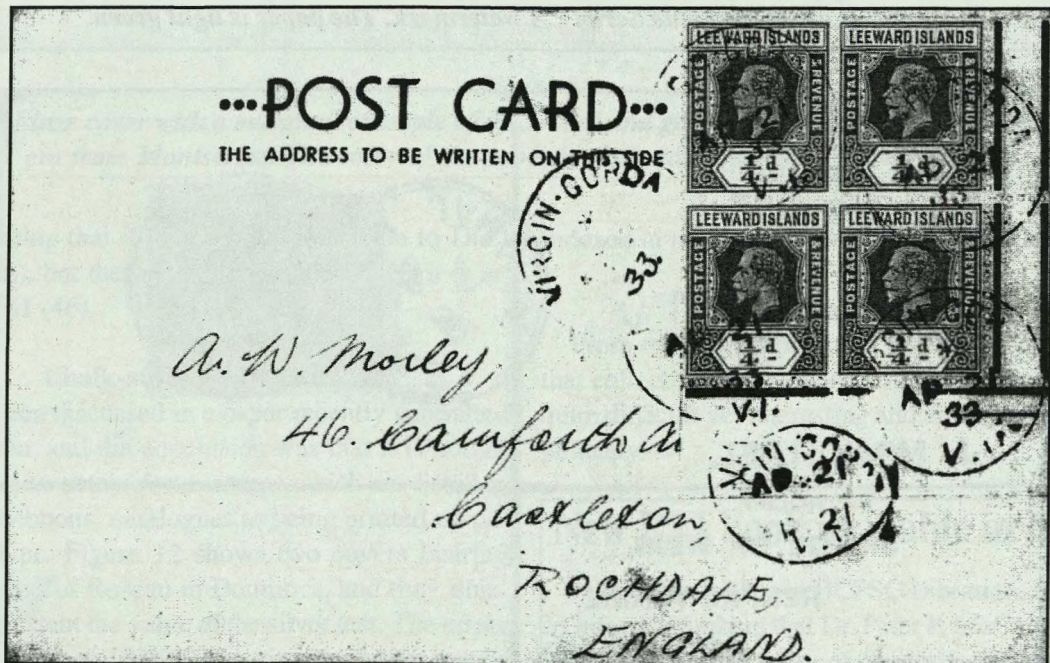


Figure 11

A post card bearing a block of four of the one-farthing Die I stamp of the King George V issue of the Leeward Islands. The watermark cannot be seen. Since the card was posted in 1931, it is probably the revision to Die I, Multiple Script CA watermark, but could be the original Die I, Multiple Crown CA watermark.

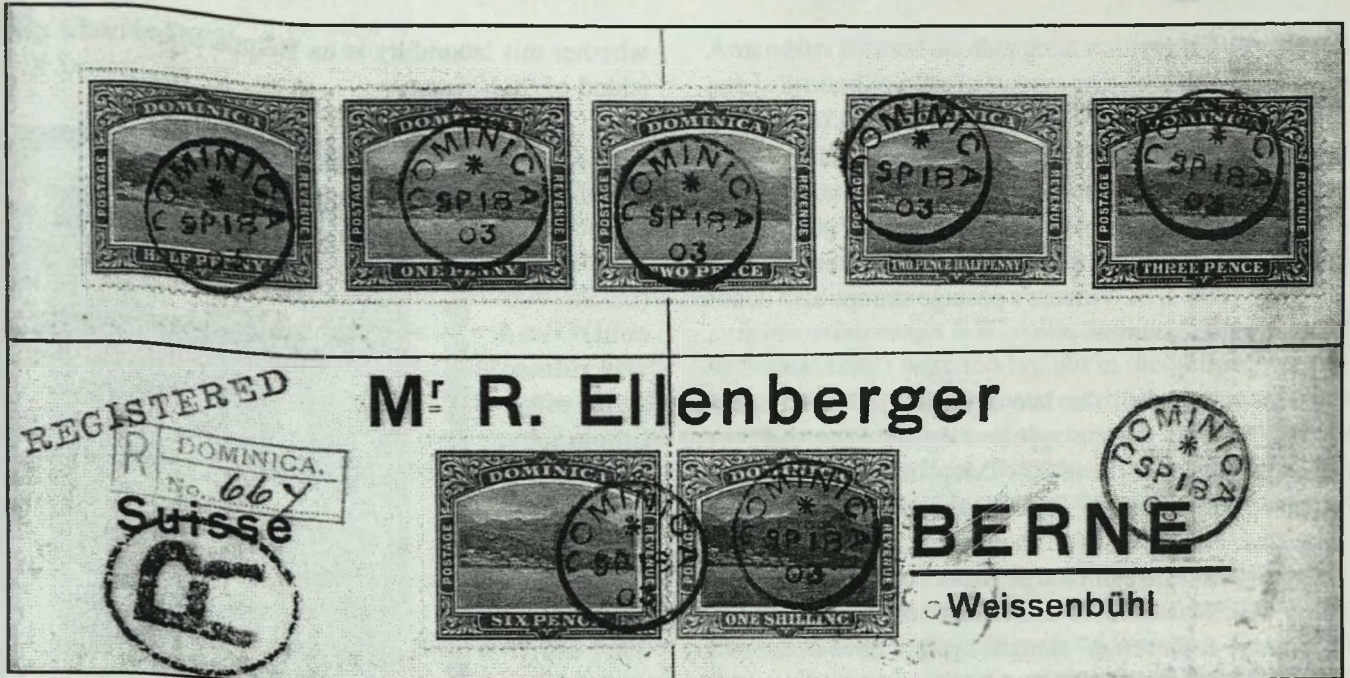
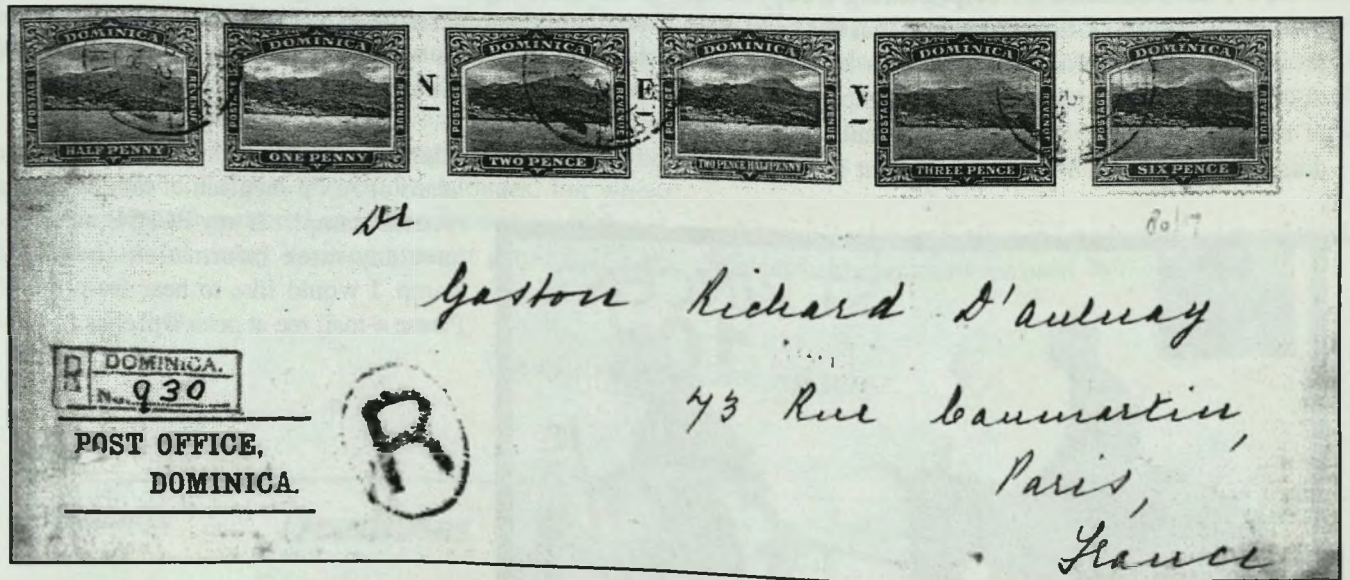


Figure 12

Two philatelic covers postmarked in Roseau, Dominica. The upper Ellenberger cover was postmarked in 1903 and is therefore the first series on ordinary paper, watermarked CCC. The stamps on the lower cover showed a chalk reduction to silver and were purchased as the Multiple Crown CA watermark issue of 1907, but as the watermark could not be identified, they could be the CCC issue on chalk-surfaced paper, and thus the issue of 1906.



Bequia Island revenue stamps

By Peter Elias
Of the USA

From a contact residing on Bequia Island (one of the Grenadine islands of St. Vincent) I received several "receipts" showing usages of stamps to pay for the revenue that is due on documents or receipts. Since the late 1890's, St. Vincent's postage stamps also doubled as "revenue" stamps.

It was not until the late 1980's/1990's that specific "REVENUE" stamps appeared again. First there were several stamps of the 1980's "Map" issue that were overprinted with "STAMP DUTY" and carried high denominations: EC \$5,10, 20). These were allegedly produced for passport usage (although I have not yet seen any properly used). Later these denominations were re-issued as "Postage & Revenue" stamps; again, I have not seen any postally or fiscally used.

I have seen, however, many regular St. Vincent postage stamps used for revenue purposes; generally they are on the back of receipts, many times with initials or just a straight pen-line drawn through them. In the mid-1990's, St. Vincent issued a green 10¢ "REVENUE" stamp. It has been difficult to acquire.

Now I have obtained a receipt bearing a copy of the 1981 St. Vincent \$2 Christmas stamp that has been overprinted "10¢" and "REVENUE" (plus a black square obliterating the original value). This stamp is on the back of a receipt from the Caribbean Reference Laboratory, dated November 16, 1999. At this point I do not know

whether this laboratory is on Bequia Island or the main island of St. Vincent.

The overprinting may have been done locally (on St. Vincent) and was printed using offset lithography, apparently on whole sheets of stamps. That particular 1981 Christmas issue comprised four stamps,

so there may be others that were overprinted. The 60¢ value of that series had the "60¢" value and "St. Vincent" in the same position as the \$2 stamp. The other two stamps have the value and "St. Vincent" reversed.

At the time of writing this, I have written back to my source, asking him if he has any more copies of this stamp on documents, and have also submitted a scan of the item to John Barefoot, who publishes the *Barefoot & Hall British Commonwealth Revenue Stamp Catalog*.

I am surprised that in all these years, I have not seen or heard of ANY mention of this particular revenue stamp! If any BCPSG members have any more information about this stamp, I would like to hear from them! Please e-mail me at peter@pcelias.com. ☐



The top BWI collections and their auction catalogues

By **Charles Freeland**
Of Switzerland

This represents an attempt to list the key BWI auction catalogues. It has proved to be a more difficult task than it might sound. Catalogues for several individual BWI territories have been the subject of listings in the *Journal* or in other specialist publications such as the BWISC bulletin, but the choice of what to include in a BWI list is more problematic. Should one, for example, only list the catalogues in which each of the territories within the BCPSG's spheres of interest are represented? If so, almost all the catalogues with the best material would be omitted.

What I have done is to make my personal choice of the 10 greatest BWI collections to have passed through the salerooms and listed each of the catalogues that present their material. The criterion for inclusion is the presence of a good range of premier items (including covers and essay material) from at least 10 of the territories in the BWI. For three of the collections this is a single catalogue, but it is more often a range of catalogues, many of which may not have qualified individually.

It will be easy to challenge what is inevitably an idiosyncratic choice, with a few surprising names. By definition, those whose collections have not passed through the saleroom are ineligible. However, the selection would not have been any different because, apart from King George V, Peter Jaffe and Federico Borromeo, whose collections are still intact, there are no alternative prime contenders. The list omits the Ferrari catalogues that belong in any collection of world catalogues, but whose BWI content is scattered and often frustrating in that illustrations of many rarities are not provided. Lars

Amundsen formed another great collection but its coverage is limited to classic stamps and does not contain any covers and proof material. Another collection that would almost certainly rate among the top 10 is that of Hugh Wood, but he has chosen to dispose of his collections either anonymously at auction or by private treaty, depriving us of a comprehensive record of what he owned.

A few other major BWI collections (*e.g.*, those formed by Victor Toeg) were too limited in their country coverage to meet the criteria I have established. For what it is worth, my own choice of the next 10 BWI collections would be Amundsen, Bessemer, Boucher, Brassler, Ferrari, Granger, Heathcote, Manus, Snowden and Urwick.

Although it is not a collection as such, I am also taking the opportunity to provide as an addendum a checklist of the key Robson Lowe sales of the late 1970s that offered BWI material from the De La Rue archives, forming a unique record of the essay and proof items available to the BWI collector.

Finally I would alert those with more specialized interests in auction catalogues to the Fall 2002 edition of the American Philatelic Research Library's *Philatelic Literature Review*. This contains a comprehensive listing of BWI auction catalogues compiled by Michel Forand and myself, comprising not only a full range of general catalogues but also of specialized one-country catalogues. I understand the same issue may contain an update of Michel's bibliography of BWI-related handbooks and monographs originally published in PLR in fall 1992.

Note: All sales took place in London unless mentioned. Standard abbreviations are used. ☒

See chart on following page.

Deadlines

Deadlines

Deadlines

Deadlines

We've all got them, and this journal is no different! Deadlines for receiving material for publication (and that means in the editor's hands, not mailed) and the anticipated mailing date for each of the quarterly issues of this publication are now found at the bottom of page 3.

Please take note of these dates!

Name	Dates	Series number	No. of lots	Content
Maurice Burrus				
Robson Lowe 2212-4	29.11.1962	Trenchard 6	246	Bar, Cay, Tur, BVI
Robson Lowe 2251-4	3. 4.1963	Trenchard 15	236	Ant, Dom, StC, StL, St V
Robson Lowe 2291-3	23-4. 7.1963	Trenchard 23	81	Bah, Ber
Robson Lowe 2335-6	26.11.1963	Trenchard 33	252	Br G, Br H, Gre
Robson Lowe 2353-5	11.12.1963		48	Tur (broken down)
Robson Lowe 2392-5	10-11. 3.1964	Trenchard 42	281	Jam, Lee, Mon, Nev, Tri
Alfred H. Caspary Harmers (NY) 1089-90	14-5. 5. 1957	Sale 9	750	Classics and covers
Major Thomas Charlton Henry				
H Rooke (NY) 1140-6	4-7. 4.1961		1910	Classic issues
H Rooke (NY) 1178-81	12-5.12.1961		1336	Classic issues
Harmers (NY) 2223-4	16.10.1974		766	Offered by Mrs. Charlton Henry
Louise Boyd-Dale/ Alfred Lichtenstein				
Robson Lowe 1020-1	27. 6.1951		264	Barbados Britannias
Harmers (NY) 1876-7	17. 2.1969	Sale 3	249	Br G, used abroad
Harmers (NY) 2861	12. 9.1990	Sale 16	500	Rarities, ex Br G
Harmers (NY) 2884	27.10.1992	Sale 22	20	Round-up
William W. Forsyth				
Harmers 4106-7	21. 3.1978		586	St Vincent
Harmers 4108-9	22. 3.1978		1660	Other BWI
Ralph A. Hart				
Maresch (Toronto) 98-9	15-6. 2.1978		1300	
Arthur Hind				
Phillips and Kennett (NY)	31.3-10. 4.1934		505	Sale cancelled
Harmers 673-5	7-9. 5.1934	Sale 2	473	
Morris H. Ludington				
Robson Lowe 3813	16. 1.1974		169	Ber Docks, Caravels
Warwick & Warwick 179	2. 7.1980		85	Ber Keyplates
Harmers 4425-8	30.10-2.11.1984		112	Nev, StK proofs
Spink 1223	22. 6.1999		922	Ber
Spink 1224	9-10.11.1999		249	Bah, Tur, Tur and C
Spink 1219	10-11.11.1999		84	Maritime Postal H
David Melat Feldman (NY) 40	19-23.11.1985		523	
J. L. (Bobbie) Messenger				
Robson Lowe 4753-4	14.12.1982		474	Ex StV, Bar, Gre
Robson Lowe 4755-6	11. 1.1983		576	StV
Robson Lowe 4763	16. 3.1983		244	Bar, Gre, All withdrawn; sold to J. Hackmey
Addendum, the De La Rue archive sales				
Robson Lowe 4056-7	13. 4.1976		625	Proofs ex day-books
Robson Lowe (Bmth) 4090	10. 9.1976		25	Revenue proofs
Robson Lowe (Ber) 4125	2-3.12.1976		1104	Ber, Gre, StV, Tob- Tri
Robson Lowe (Ber) 4246	27. 1.1978		413	Leeward Is group
Robson Lowe (Ber) 4359-61	15-6. 2.1979		1103	Bah, Br G, Br H, Cay, Jam, StL, Tur

Mr. Murphy's purple patch

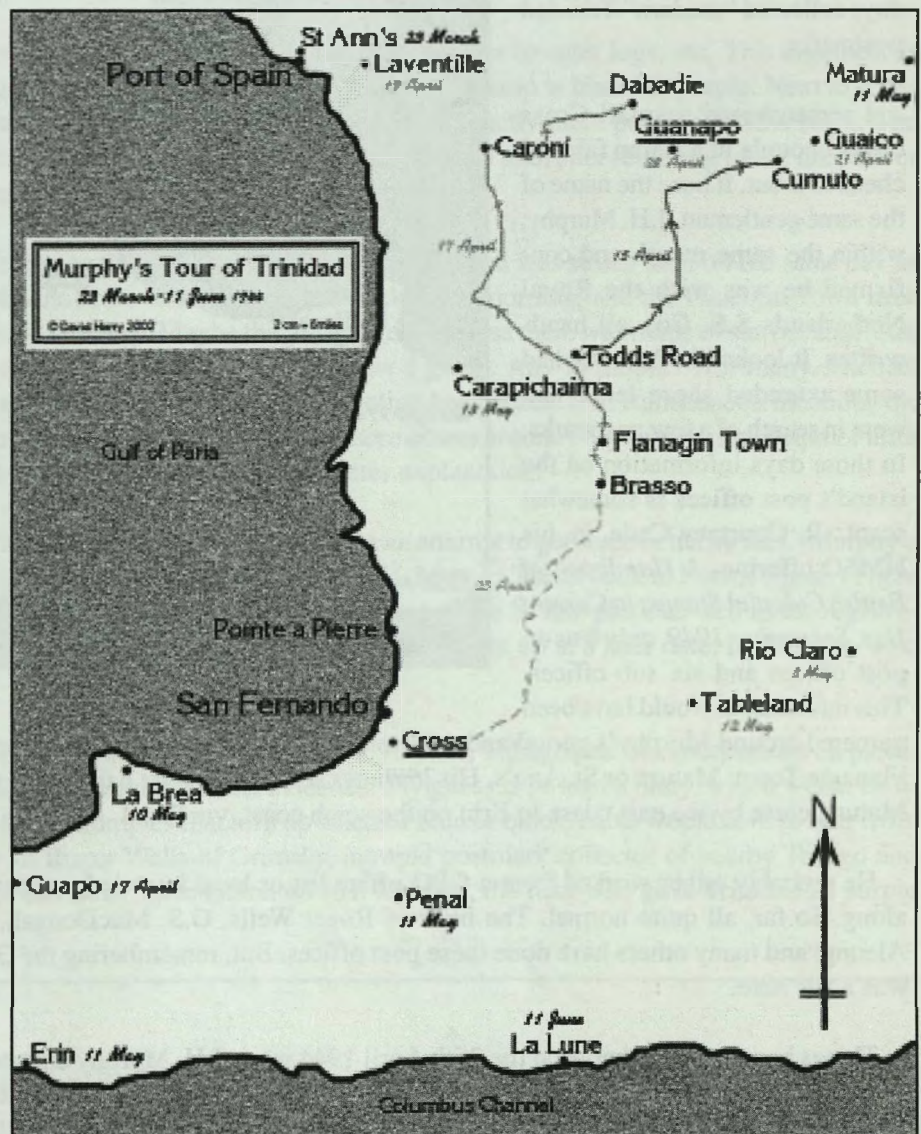
By David Horry
Of Singapore

It has never been satisfactorily explained why the villages of (The) Cross and Guanapo in Trinidad have bluish-purple type XII postmarks in April 1944. Unlike Jamaica and the Bahamas, Trinidad & Tobago didn't go in for fancy, colored postmarks.

Recently I acquired an unspectacular lot of Trinidad & Tobago postmarks. It contained mainly postmarks on stamps and around 20 on piece. It was the latter that caught my eye. They were all on the same greyish-white, war-time, cheap paper, with very clear postmarks and all dated between 15 April 1944 and 11 June 1944. Most postmarks from this period are mainly on stamp or full cover; on piece is fairly unusual.

The offices were Todds Road (B)* and Cumuto (C) 15 April; Brasso (A), Dabadie (A), Caroni (B), Cumutu (C) and Guapo (A) (the only piece on manila) 17 April; Laventille (A) 19 April; Guaico (C) 21 April; Cross (A) and Flanagin Town (C) 25 April; Guanapo (B) 28 April; Rio Claro (C) 3 May; La Brea (A) and Pointe a Pierre (B) 10 May; Erin (B), Matura (B) and Penal (C) 11 May; Tableland (A) 12 May; Carapichaima (B) 13 May; La Lune (D) 11 June. (April 15 and 13 May were both Saturdays.)

*(A B C D) refer to the time codes on the postmarks. Most offices only have A & B denoting a morning and afternoon franking. Other offices have A B and C. La Lune additionally has D which denotes three and four frankings per day, respectively. These time codes give some help in ascertaining Murphy's daily direction.



Where a visible addressee can be seen (on Cumuto) the name J.H. Murphy could just be made out. The Brasso piece reveals typewritten, Mr. J.H. M..... Radio Of.....c/o Roy.....Port-o.....

It appears that these covers were stamped under the "supervision" of Mr. Murphy as there is generally one strike on the stamp and another on the envelope. This rather points to the fact that Murphy (or his agent) actually visited the

Continued on page 20

offices, rather than sent them by mail with a covering letter. Strangely all the pieces bear signs of registration, as a blue crayon is applied in the usual cross. Brasso, Cumuto, La Brea and Matura have Registered labels and Rio Claro and Tableland have hand-stamped Rs. Mr. Murphy may have collected registration marks too, although he probably didn't trust the mail system, even though the letters were almost certainly empty of content. Few people in those days collected "modern" Trinidad postmarks.

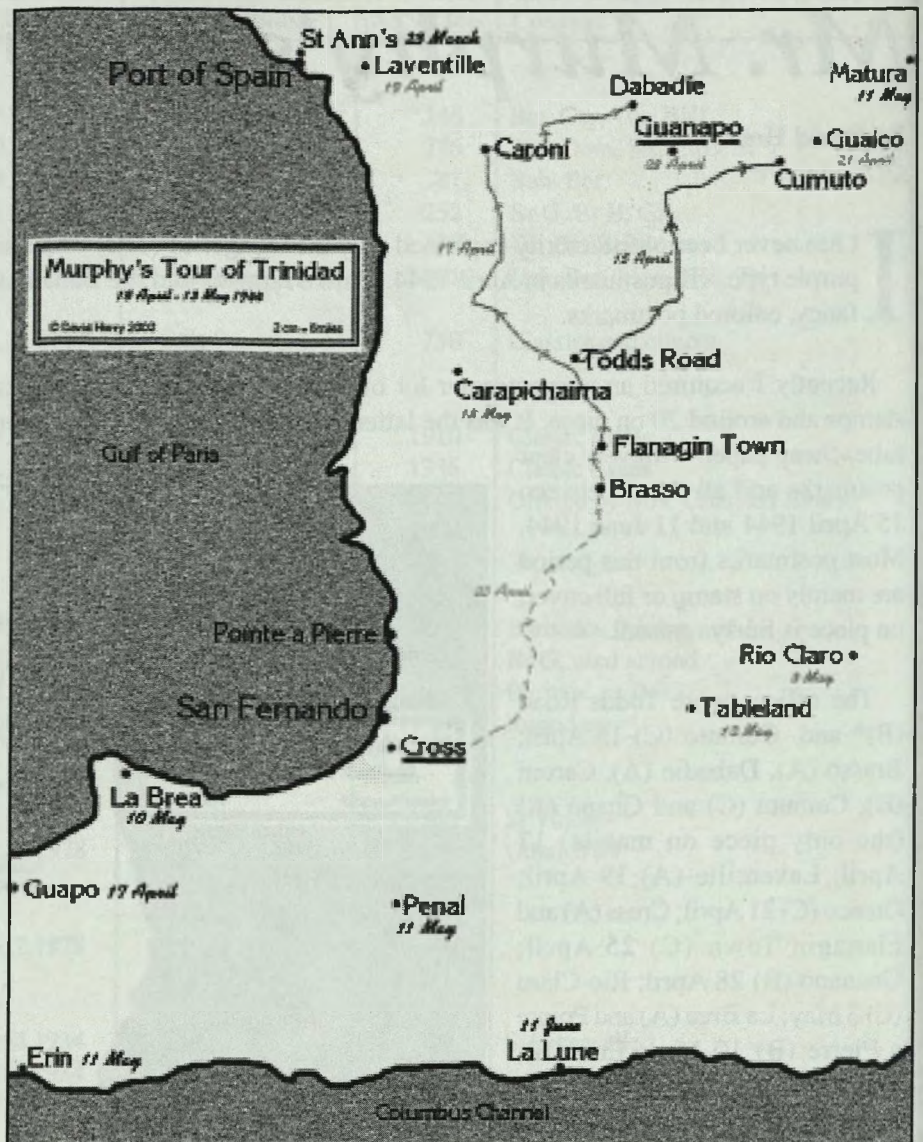
I remembered a small Cross cover I bought at a stamp fair and checked it out. It bore the name of the same gentleman, J.H. Murphy, within the same month and confirmed he was with the Royal Netherlands S.S. Co., all handwritten. It looks like Murphy had some extended shore leave and went in search of a few postmarks. In those days information on the island's post offices is somewhat scant. R. Courtney Cade, in his HMSO offering, *A Handbook of British Colonial Stamps in Current Use, September 1949*, only lists 46 post offices and six sub-offices. This information would have been

garnered around Murphy's period and fails to mention Brasso, Cross, Dabadie, Guanapo, Laventille, Todds Road, Flanagin Town, Matura or St. Ann's. His journeys seem somewhat haphazard. On May 11 he apparently went from Matura, close by the east coast, to Erin on the south coast, via Penal. A bit of a schlep!

He probably either worked from a GPO office list or local knowledge gleaned from the postal staff as he went along. So far, all quite normal. The likes of Roger Wells, G.S. MacDougall, myself (much helped by Joe Chin Aleong) and many others have done these post offices. But, remembering the Guanapo purple postmark, I felt there was a tale here.

Things became remarkable on the 25th April 1944 when J.H. Murphy entered The Cross Post Office to the south of San Fernando. I have a 25 March 1944 Cross strike in black. So did the Trinidad GPO suddenly request the use of purple blue ink? Unlikely as the same thing happened three days later at Guanapo, just south of Arima. There are no other recorded purple/blues for any other dates or offices.

I have one cover and one loose stamp for Cross and one on piece and one loose stamp for Guanapo. He may have done two covers for each office; as people do. Here we have an inveterate postmark hunter in the vicinity when two post offices suddenly go "bluish-purple." You don't have to be Miss Marple to work out that J.H. Murphy must have had a hand in this. But why? He wasn't the Postmaster General, merely a radio officer having a bit of R&R.



As stated previously this looks like the work of a man on the move. So, how did he travel between the remote villages? He must have had a car or taxi or even a motorbike in order to cover the miles. It appears that he motored round looking for postmarks from the remoter offices to send back to Port of Spain and thus enhance his collection.

Having drawn a map of Murphy's quixotic expedition it looks quite likely that he was based around San Fernando rather than POS. His journeys seem to radiate from that direction. The roads were fairly primitive back in those days and it makes POS as his starting point a little difficult in terms of distances. A St. Ann's (POS) postmark 22 March 1944 appears to be on similar paper.

So what happened when he got to (The) Cross? Perhaps the post office's ink was a bit dry and a good impression was not gained on the envelope. On April 17, the strike from Brasso is somewhat indistinct on the stamp and only slightly better on the envelope. Was Murphy earlier disappointed with his Brasso strike? He had probably been into POS on or around the 19th to pick up his letters. My guess is that he nips out to the car/bike where he has his own ink-pad which he offers up to the postmaster. "No problem, sir, but don't show no one!" The coercion was complete.

I'm surmising that a radio officer might just carry such an ink pad in order to enter logs, etc. This argument is supported by the Guanapo strike gained three days later. The strike on the stamp is blackish purple. Next to it the second strike (I assume the stamp was stamped before the envelope) is distinctly more purple and less black. The black and purple inks were mixed on the first and second strike (on the stamps) and, after returning to the ink pad for a reload, subsequently got more purple. This action was probably repeated.

He certainly made no attempt to enhance the Flanagin Town postmark which was struck later on the same day as the Cross postmark. The Cross postmark bears time code A, which denotes morning, and the Flanagin Town time code C which denotes the last afternoon delivery. Maybe the postmaster/mistress there was made of sterner stuff. Are there any other strikes from J.H. Murphy's expedition? Quite a few I guess. Any in purple? Not many. Michael Hamilton sold one of each, both to me. Ted Proud's extensive collection has neither. Ben Ramkissoon mentions the Cross version only and that came from Ed Addiss' collection. Are there others around? My theory is bulletproof until someone comes up with some other examples which leads to a better explanation.

So the purple-blue postmarks or "Murphys" may have simply been an attempt to get some better strikes. (Murphy's Law). They are not strictly the official coloration but they did carry J.H. Murphy's mail back to Port of Spain. (There is the faintest off-set Port of Spain Birmingham cancellation on the front of the Brasso piece as well as the registration label, proving it and others were mailed). I believe the envelopes were cut up at a later date; by Murphy, who knows?

Did he subsequently return to Trinidad? I know not. I have one Plymouth, Tobago pair of cancellations on piece, 16 February 1945, that is similar: this is but circumstantial evidence. My guess is he kept a diary, which would be of great interest. I look forward to any other examples that turn up whether blue or black. I also would love to hear from anyone who has a potted biography of Roger Wells of Grimsby, intrepid postmark collector of nearby Tobago and other far flung islands and of course any other information on J.H. Murphy, the man who gave Trinidad its purple patch. ☒

Letter to the Editor:

May I suggest that fellow member (Hap) Pattiz is selling himself short in his description of his cover on page 10? (Vol. 42, No. 1 [January-March 2002]). Examination will show that is, in fact, a quadruple, if not quintuple demand for postage, as it also carries the rare Jamaican 1d just above the London redirection, together with the G.B. Foreign Branch demand for postage, in

addition to the normal postage due adhesive.

I would also take a gamble that the manuscript "T2" adjacent to the London dater is of Chilean origin, and presumably none of the dues were collected! The "Feb 18 1947" mark was applied at the CSO Kingston, Jamaica.

Bob Swarbrick

Unusual Antarctic Polar Covers

With a
Bahamas twist!

By Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon
Of the USA

Dr. Bruce Dod, Professor of Earth Science and Physics, and an archeologist made a journey to Antarctica in 1995 on a Mercer University of Macon, Georgia scientific project. The mission was to study Antarctic meteorites, and lead a team of undergraduate students in courses of study in geology and oceanography.

Dr. Dod recounts how stamps of the Bahamas came to document a number of polar covers he serviced on a 1995 visit to Antarctica:

"A Mrs. Patricia Purcy from the Channel Island of Jersey, and President of the British Antarctic Philatelic Society, was on board the *Marco Polo* during our expedition. While preparing covers to mail from Tristan da Cunha, I ran out of stamps. Mrs. Purcy offered me some one-cent Bahamian stamps to use, to which I replied, 'These are not enough to cover the postage.'

"Her reply was, 'I believe that if you write 'Paquebot' on the front of the cover, the country where the ship next docks will honor those stamps of the country (Bahamas) of the ship's registry no matter what the value of the stamps are.'" To be safe, in case she was in error, I stuck a 50¢ USA stamp on the back with the notation that if any postage was due upon arrival in the USA, the adhesive stamp applied to the back (reverse side) of the cover would cover the amount of any additional postage cost.

"I then deposited them in the ship's purser's post box. As seen in Figure 1, the huge Tristan da Cunha cancel ties the Bahamian stamps to the cover and the postage due box has a manuscript 'nil' written in it. A second serviced cover (Figure 2) did not even get a postage due notice on the front. So, Mrs. Purcy was right, as the 2¢ and 4¢ Bahamas covers traveled from Tristan da Cunha to the USA very cheaply

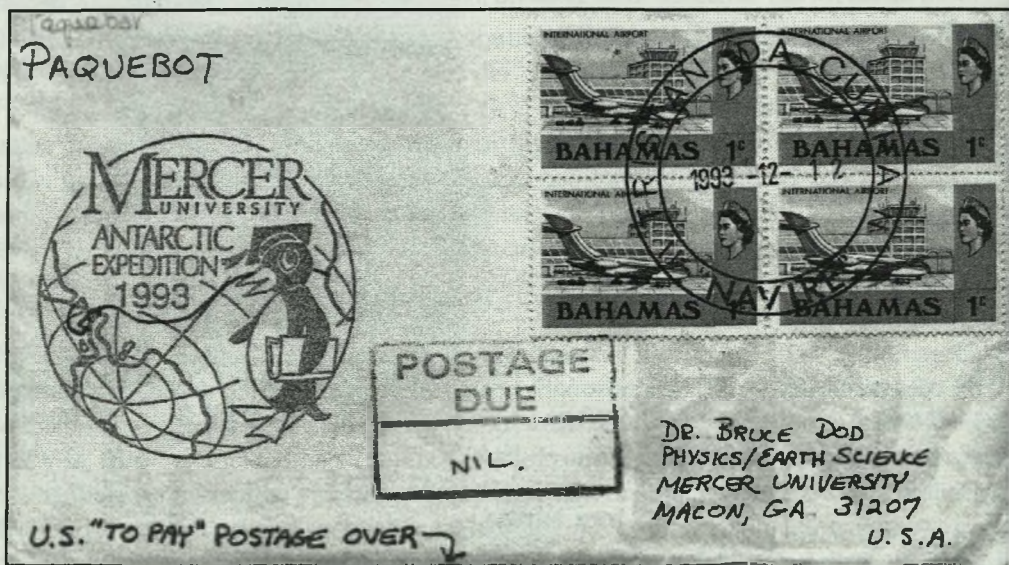


Figure 1



Figure 2

indeed, due to the international postal agreements on 'Paquebot' and 'Posted at Sea' covers." Although no new Antarctic meteorites were found, the project was successful, and Mercer University became the first institution to offer undergraduate courses of study on the Antarctic continent. ☐

Nevis post office building undergoing facelift

The post office building on Main Street in Charles town, Nevis is to undergo a major facelift, which will not only help upgrade postal services on Nevis, but will also harmonize it with adjacent buildings such as the Treasury Building, recently renovated, and the Bank of Nevis.

The renovation of the post office is a project by the Nevis Island Administration with local funding, said Farrel Smithen, Principal Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of Communications, Works, Public Utilities and Posts. EC\$200,000 has been allocated for the renovation.

The exercise entails the total removal of the top structure and reinforcement of the bottom portion of the building, with an additional two offices to the back. In anticipation of the renovation, the post office moved its operations to the Nevis Philatelic Bureau, while the Department of Culture, which occupied the top floor, moved to a temporary location on Main Street.

With the renovation and expansion of the post office building, the postal service of the island will be upgraded, Smithen said. "We would be embarking on new venture areas, in that in not too distant future we are going to have the sending of monies by wire transfer throughout

the Caribbean. This is a project which the Postal Union of the Caribbean has embarked on.

The post office building is sandwiched between the Treasury Building and the Bank of Nevis, and according to Smithen, at the end of the renovation, there will be a new face to the Charlestown business district. Acting Deputy Postmaster Teresina Huggins said when the building is renovated, postal staff would have a better working environment. The Deputy Postmaster, Lornette Bailey, would have her own office, the accounts section would also have its own office, while there would be adequate space for the postmen and the sorters.

Looking back at the situation that characterized operations in the old building, Huggins said that the sorting room space was inadequate, adding that it would not have been possible to have all the postmen and the sorters there at the same time. Parcels sent through the post office would be transferred to the Customs Department across the street. Huggins said with the building space being expanded, the number of postal boxes would also be increased, and a replacement made for the boxes in use as most of them have faulty locks. Box renters are forced to go inside the Post Office to pick up their mail. ☒

BVI catalogue captures Gold at APS Stampshow

The *Specialised Stamp Catalogue of the British Virgin Islands 1787-2001* recently won a gold medal at the American Philatelic Society's Stampshow held August 15-18, 2002 in Atlantic City.

Catalogue editor Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca noted that this was the first philatelic literature competition in which the 312-page volume had been entered. About 100 publications from all over the world competed in Literature Class.

Since its publication a year ago, the catalogue has received many impressive reviews and has been described as the first definitive study of the entire range of British Virgin Islands stamps ever to be attempted and published. "I was glad that our efforts have received this type of recognition and exposure and I am confident that this will greatly enhance the international market interest in BVI stamps, old and new," Dr. Migliavacca said. As a result of this Gold award at the top USA show, the catalogue is now slated to compete at the 2003 Bangkok International Stamp Exhibition.

The catalogue was published under the aegis of the Millennium Project Committee headed by Ms. Ermine Penn, and was the result of 30 years of research on the part of Dr. Migliavacca. Mr. Roger Downing was contributing editor, and Mrs. Joanna Warner was production assistant. Copies of this lavishly produced volume can be purchased from the British Virgin Islands Philatelic Bureau, General Post Office, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. For more information, contact Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca, P.O. Box 704, Road Town, Tortola British Virgin Islands (e-mail: issun@candwbvi.net).

The APS Stampshow attracted more than 10,000 visitors from throughout the United States, Europe and Asia. Dealers from throughout the United States and abroad had booths at the show. Auction sessions Friday, Saturday and Sunday realized more than \$1 million. Show attendees had a once in a lifetime opportunity to see the most valuable, rarest, and most famous U.S. stamps including the one-cent "Z Grill," insured for \$2.5 million, probably the most valuable U.S. stamp. ☒

Membership Director's Report — By Tom Giraldi

New Members

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

New Applicants

Joanna **KALINOSKI**, 2100 Palomino Rd., Melbourne, FL 32934-8124 USA. Philatelic Interests: Antigua, Anguilla, Barbados, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, St. Lucia & Turks & Caicos. Sponsored by Thomas Giraldi.

Richard **MATTER**, P.O. Box 1497, Alachua, FL 32616 USA. Philatelic Interests: All commemoratives primarily, then definitives as budget allows. Sponsored by Ben Ramkissoon.

Ian **ROLLITT**, P.O. Box 1118, GPO Bridgetown, Barbados BWI. Philatelic Interests: British Caribbean area and FDC's. Sponsored by Thomas Giraldi.

Jack **SCHULTZ**, P.O. Box 2715, Montgomery Village, MD 20886 USA. Philatelic Interests: Belize, British Honduras. Sponsored by Thomas Giraldi.

Thomas **SILEO**, 99 Elder Ave., Bergenfield, NJ 07621 USA. Philatelic Interests: Barbados, Grenada and Trinidad. Sponsored by Ben Ramkissoon.

Edward **WEINBERG**, 27 Bridgewater Way, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 USA. Philatelic Interests: Mint, used on cover and Revenues from the BWI. Sponsored by Gale Raymond.

Anthony **WILLARD**, 7536 CreekrIDGE Ln., Citrus Heights, CA 95610-3243. Philatelic Interests: Cayman Islands, Bahamas and throughout. Sponsored by Thomas Giraldi.

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Address Correction

Bjorn Sohrne, Torkel Knutsonsg 27, 11825 Stockholm, Sweden.

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 Thank you.

A note from your editor ...

With this issue, I complete two years as editor of this fine publication. And during those two years, I have been delighted to have input from so many members in the form of articles. It is only through your hard work and dedication to putting pen to paper that we are able to provide a quality journal.

Having said that, I must issue a call for more research papers. We still have a few good articles ready for coming issues, but the file is getting low. I know a number of you are working on projects, and have said in telephone or e-mail conversations that you might need a bit of a nudge to finish. This is that tap on the shoulder.

Also, in submitting material for publication, please keep a few points in mind. Whenever possible, I need original material for scanning when you submit illustrations. Or, if you have a computer and scanning software, images submitted in jpeg format is preferred. Good, crisp photo-

copies are also acceptable. Please relate your illustrations to the article, such as Figure 1, 2, etc., and note that number on the illustration. You'd be surprised how many times over the years with the publications I edit someone will send an article, referring to a particular illustration, but never note the number in the text or on the actual illustration.

Also, please be certain to read and re-read your material before sending it. I often spend considerable time trying to make out what's being said, only to misinterpret the sentence. Clear, concise writing will keep us both happy. And please, please, please -- don't always expect your article to be in the next issue. There are a number of factors, such as space limitations, that determine what I use in each issue. I've had authors become irritated because their article isn't in a particular issue. I do the best I can, but please remember -- this is a hobby, after all!

Everett L. Parker

BCPSG Exhibits and Awards

By Paul Larsen
Awards Chairman

Following is a summary of recent British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) member Exhibits and Awards:

Mid-Cities Stamp Expo 2001. Nov. 10-11, 2001
Grapevine, Texas

Peter Elias
Usage of British Empire War Tax Stamps
Gold

Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition 2002, Feb. 1-3
Sarasota, Florida

Roger Schnell
USA Overrun Countries Issue 1943-1944
Vermeil
U.S Stamp Society Statue of Freedom Award

ARIPEX 2002, Feb. 15-17
Mesa, Arizona

Dr. Reuben Ramkissoon
Tobago 1772-1925
Gold, BCPSG Medal

The 400th Anniversary of the Landing of Columbus at Trinidad 1498-1898 (one frame)
Vermeil

COLOPEX 2002, Feb. 15-17
Columbus, Ohio

Paul Larsen
German Togo 1885-1914
Reserve Grand, Gold

St. Louis Stamp Expo 2002, March 1-3
St. Louis, Missouri

Dr. Reuben Ramkissoon
Development of the United States Lunar Exploration
Gold, AAMS Gold, APS 1940-1980 Medal

Roger Schnell
Hong Kong Circular Air Transit Markings 1940-1941 (one frame)
Vermeil

NORTHPEX 2002, National Stamp Exhibition
April 5-7
Rangitoto Island, New Zealand

Mrs. Pat Capill
Barbados: George V Line Engraved Definitive Issues
Silver

Donald Napier
Jamaica - Early Postal History 1710-1860
Large Vermeil

WESTPEX '02, April 26-28
San Francisco, California

Steve Schumann
New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876-1936
Gold, UPSS Marcus White Award

Philatelic Show '02, May 3-5
Boxborough, Massachusetts

John DuBois
Danish West Indies Postal Stationery
Gold, American Philatelic Congress Award, Scandinavian Collectors Club Joan Taylor Award

Roger Schnell
Greenland: Wartime Mail Transit USA 1940-1945 (One Frame)
Silver

New Trinidad & Tobago book

Larry Goldberg has published another in his postal cancellation handbooks, this one dealing with Trinidad and Tobago. Titled *Identifying the Cancellations of Trinidad and Tobago*, the softcover 64 page monograph is a must for collectors who have problems identifying postmarks. As he points out in the Introduction, the process of postmark identification can be very frustrating.

"I speak with authority because I have spent hundreds of hours poring over postal history handbooks trying to make a very elusive match," Goldberg wrote. The handbook offers a database of information which will help to identify markings based on series of letters within the name. The handbook is very easy to use, the printing and design is excellent, and the book is a worthy investment. Write to LMG Communications, Inc., P.O. Box 7170, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. ☒

President's Message

By Peter J. Kaulback

AGM in Tortola -- not too late, but act NOW!

As I write this message I am reminded by Giorgio Migliavacca, in Tortola, that the 10th Annual Show of the British Virgin Islands Philatelic Society, and hence also our Annual General Meeting, is less than 100 days away. By the time you receive your copy of the *Journal* and make your way through all the interesting items to this message I venture to suggest that there will be less than 30 days to the meeting! But it is not too late to make the arrangements to come and join us -- but do it NOW!

In the last issue of the *Journal* you will have received a form to be filled out and returned to me advising of your intentions to be at the meeting, your travel plans, and the events that you will be joining in. Please make every effort to get this completed form back to me at your very earliest opportunity so that we can continue to make the necessary arrangements that will ensure that this is a special experience for all who attend.

I have recently received confirmation of the details of the items from the Royal Collection that are going to be on display at the show and these are an incredible selection of spectacular items that most people will likely never have another opportunity to see. (Please see the details elsewhere in this issue.) A great deal of work has been undertaken by the members of the Organizing Committee to make the arrangements for this aspect of the show and all the other details. The show will be opened on Saturday, November 2nd with the involvement of His Excellency The Governor, Mr. Tom Macan, along with Chief Minister The Hon. Ralph T. O. Neal, and the BVI Tourist Board Director Mr. Kedrick Malone, and others.

At the end of the first day of the show there will be our Cocktail and Banquet at the Long Bay Beach Hotel and I am confident in saying that this will be a spectacular evening that will be long remembered by all in attendance. The show will continue on Sunday until the closing ceremony at 3:30 p.m. Don't forget that apart from the show itself, our hosts have been very generous in arranging a most interesting agenda from the standpoint both of members and our spouses. The agenda includes a Welcome Cocktail Party on the Thursday evening, an Island Tour on Friday (after our General Meeting to which all members are cordially invited), and on the Monday a special trip to Virgin Gorda, and a Farewell Cocktail Party

that same evening. What a lovely sequence of days are in store for all those that attend.

As previously noted, a special room rate has been arranged for those attending the meeting at the Treasure Isle Hotel. They can be reached by telephone at (284) 494-2501 or by Fax at (284) 494-2507. Their email address is tisle@surfbvi.com and their website is www.treasureislehotel.net. I believe that you have all the information needed to ensure you are there at the Annual General Meeting in Tortola from Thursday, October 31st or Friday, November 1st through to Monday or Tuesday, November 4th or 5th. Those of you that have not already made your arrangements (and let me have your details) can still join what will be a great experience, but you have to act NOW.

I am looking forward to seeing many old friends and meeting many members that I have not previously met. Let's all combine to make the Tortola meeting a spectacular success. See you there!! ☒

Please note your editor's "new" address. We are actually in the same location, but our rural address has been changed to a street number (even though we're still 400 miles north of anywhere). The correct mailing address is:

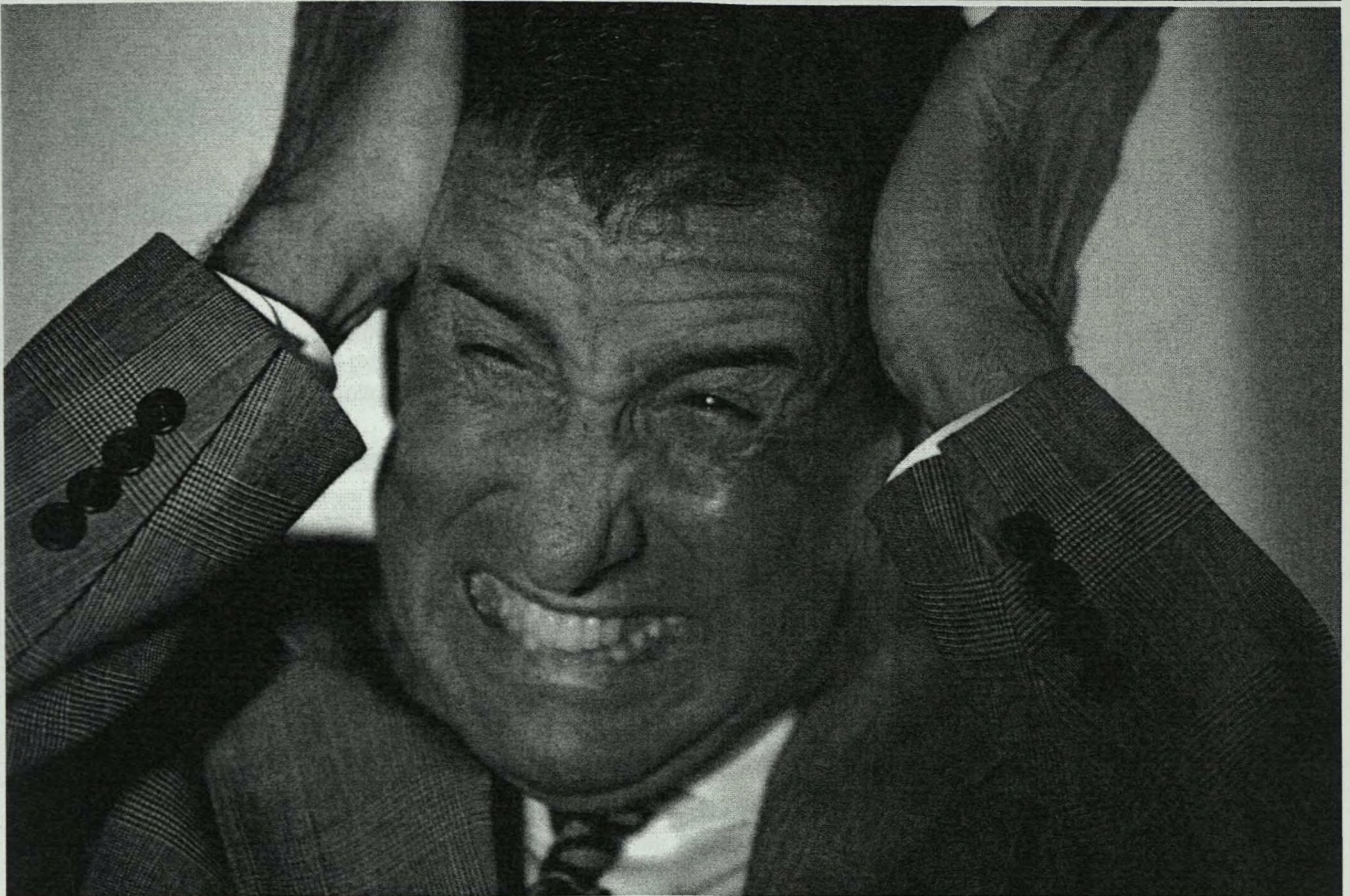
**Dr. Everett L. Parker
719 Moosehead Lake Road
Greenville, ME 04441-9727
USA**

AND

please note our e-mail address is as shown on page 2:

eparker@midmaine.com

Members are still trying to use either the moosehead.com or prexar accounts and they are no longer working!



DO YOUR STAMPS HAVE YOU LICKED?

How many times have you sat at your desk looking at a partial cancel on a stamp of Trinidad & Tobago and wondered which office was responsible for the marking?

I used to have the same problem until I came up with the idea that ultimately developed into the handbooks in the Post Office Identification (POID) series.

Each book provides comprehensive listings all the possible combinations of characters that appear in the town cancellations of a given territory. These are listed alphabetically in two-, three- and four-character groups.

To date, we have done POID handbooks for Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Basutoland, Southern Rhodesia, and Trinidad and Tobago. Other volumes, including Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Bechuanaland, Cyprus, British Guiana, Gold Coast and others are due to be

published in the near future.

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'THE UNISSUED STAMPS OF KING GEORGE VI' BY DAVID HORRY

It must have been over 10 years ago when Horry, younger and slimmer than now, first showed us some of his ideas at Stampex. Mild hysteria gripped us immediately, and spread rapidly to fascinated customers. It has yet to abate.

Philatelic books can, on occasion, be a bit on the dull side. This lavishly-illustrated casebound publication is certainly never dull and is replete with inspired absurdity, usually (apparently) justified by the text. There appears to be one 'main' creation per colony, with lots more in the surrounds. Exceptions include the Fiji 1½d: the exclusive story of the many dies is now revealed.

Horry's enjoyment of his own jokes is extremely infectious. It's backed up by his wonderful full-colour illustrations, making this a book which surely has appeal beyond the philatelic market and has a place on every coffee table. If you as a stamp collector have ever been shy about admitting to your hobby, this book justifies stamp collecting - its author's humour and creativity communicate enjoyment of the hobby in a universal fashion.

If you want to make your spouse laugh, this is about the only philatelic book we can recommend.

This book has 170+ pages and is available exclusively from Murray Payne Ltd, at £24.95, plus postage £2 Europe and £5 rest of the world.

This publication has a limited print run.

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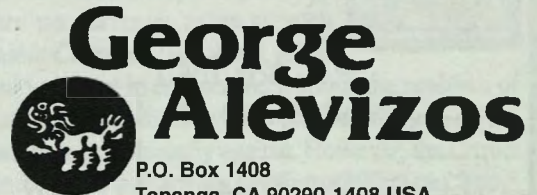
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by
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The latest in the 'Classic Collections' series, this booklet is based around Federico's display at the Bonnington Hotel, London last May. For those who were lucky enough to witness this display, the booklet should provide a lasting memento of what was a very memorable event. For those who weren't, it will enable them to taste the flavour of the occasion.

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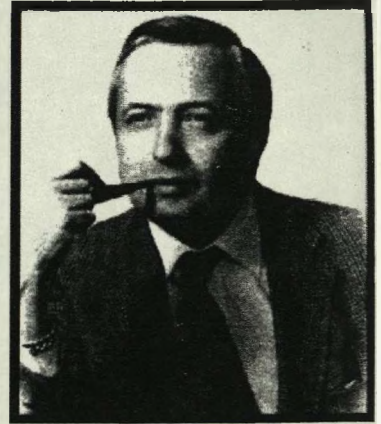
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