

The *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* is published four times a year (January, April, July and October) by the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. It is available only by subscription through membership in the BCPSG. Membership is based on the calendar year. Current dues are: \$22 per annum in U.S. funds for members in the United States and Canada, and \$28 (£14) for those in other areas. Life membership is available, with the following rates being applicable:

- Aged 50 or less, \$450, U.S. and Canada; \$550, other countries;
- Aged 51 to 60 years, \$400, U.S. and Canada; \$500, other countries;
- Aged 61 and over, \$300, U.S. and Canada; \$400, other countries.

Membership application forms and additional information (including £ Sterling rates) may be obtained from the Secretary or the International Director. Membership renewals and donations may be made through PayPal (www.PayPal.com, and follow the easy instructions).

BCPSG Website: <http://www.bcpsg.com>

(Opinions expressed in articles in this journal are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group or its officers.)

The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

Officers and Trustees

PRESIDENT	Mr. Jack Harwood, 3241 Ringwood Meadows, Sarasota, FL 34235-7005 USA. Tele: (941) 379-4608; email: jharwood2@comcast.net
VICE PRESIDENT	Mr. Edward W. Waterous, P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430 USA. Tele: (219) 769-2840; email: ewwaterous@hotmail.com
SECRETARY	Mr. Duane Larson, 2 Forest Blvd., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA. Tele: (708) 503-9552; email: dlarson283@aol.com
TREASURER	Mr. John Seidl, 4324 Granby Way, Marietta, GA 30062 USA. Tele: (404) 229-6863; email: jseidl@mindspring.com
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR	Mr. David N. Druett, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. Yorkshire, HG5 8AZ, U.K. Tele & fax (01423) 865962; email: pennymead@aol.com
EDITOR	Dr. Everett L. Parker, 719 Moosehead Lake Rd., Greenville, ME 04441-9727. Tele: (207) 695-3163; fax (207) 695-3163; email: eparker@hughes.net
BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Mr. Peter C. Elias (2012), P.O. Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094-0427 USA; email: peter@pcelias.com
	Mary Gleadall (2012), Beacon House, Beacon Hill, Lower Estate, St. Georges, BARBADOS; email: gleadallm@caribsurf.com
	Mr. Steve Jarvis (2009), 5 Redbridge Dr., Rooksbury Farm, Andover, Hants SP10 2LF UNITED KINGDOM; email: steve.p.jarvis@ntlworld.com
	Mr. Paul A. Larsen (2013), 14 Wilson Ct., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA. Tele: (708) 747-1444; email: PALStamp@aol.com
	Dr. Peter P. McCann (2013), 6660 St. James Crossing, University Park, FL 34201-2238 USA; email: P103226706@cs.com
	Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca (2009), Rushit Box 11156, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, VI 00801-1156 USA; email: issun@candwbvi.net
	Mr. Mike Nethersole (2013), 1111 Old Buchingham Sta., DR 3A, Midlothian, VA 23113-4657 USA; email: mike.nethersole@verizon.net
	Mr. David A. Wilson (2012), P.O. Box 1135, Great Falls, VA 22066; email: wilsondajx@cox.net
	Mr. Stephen D. Schumann (2009), 2417 Cabrillo Dr., Hayward, CA 94545-4535 USA; email: sdsch@earthlink.net

Past Presidents of the Group are honorary members of the Board. They include: Mr. George W. Bowman,

Mr. Charles E. Cwiakala, Mr. Paul A. Larsen, Dr. Peter P. McCann, Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon,

Mr. Mark W. Swetland, Mr. Robert Topaz, Mr. W. Danforth Walker, Mr. Robert J. Wynstra.

Study Group Leaders and Other Appointees

APS REPRESENTATIVE	Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon, 3011 White Oak Ln., Oak Brook, IL 60523-2513 USA. Tele: and fax: (630) 963-1439; email: rramkissoon@juno.com
ATTORNEY	Mr. Thomas F. Olson, P.O. Box 937, Berkeley, CA 94701-0937 USA. Tele: (510) 558-6939; fax (510) 527-7152; email: kriegsmar@aol.com
AUCTION MANAGER	Mr. Howard Austin, 6040 N. Alberta Ln., Glendale, WI 53217 USA. Tele: (414) 963-1903; email: haustin@wi.rr.com
AWARDS CHAIRMAN	Mr. Paul A. Larsen (<i>address above</i>)
HISTORIAN AND ARCHIVIST	Mr. Robert Topaz, 11381 Prosperity Farms Rd., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410 USA. Tele: (407) 627-7731
LIBRARIAN	Mr. David A. Wilson, P.O. Box 1135, Great Falls, VA 22066 USA; email: wilsondajx@cox.net
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR	Mr. Bob Stewart, 7 West Dune Lane, Beach Haven, NJ 08008 USA; email: stewart99@comcast.net
PUBLICATIONS CHAIRMAN	Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon (<i>address above</i>)
PUBLICATION ORDERS	Mr. David A. Wilson (<i>address above</i>)
PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN	Mr. Robert J. Wynstra, 1104S. Garfield Ave., Urbana, IL 61801-4936 USA. Tele: (217) 367-9802; fax (217) 333-2614; email: wynstra@uiuc.edu
U.K. REPRESENTATIVE	Mr. Ray Stanton, The Old Rectory, Salmonby, Lincs. LN9 6PX United Kingdom; email: rjstanton@tiscali.co.uk
WEBMASTER	Mr. Edward Barrow, 13001 Crookston Lane #31, Rockville, MD 20851 USA; email: ebarrow1@verizon.net
ANGUILLA	Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon (<i>address above</i>)
ANTIGUA	Mr. Mark W. Swetland, 13 Raymond Rd., Bluffton, SC 29910-4526 USA; email: markws@hargray.com
BAHAMAS	Mr. Edward W. Waterous, P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430 USA
BARBADOS	Mr. Edmund A. Bayley, P.O. Box 61, Bridgetown, BARBADOS; email: gustav@caribsurf.com ; Mr. Keith H. Bayley: stamps@sunbeach.net
BARBUDA	Mr. Robert J. Wynstra (<i>address above</i>)
BERMUDA	Bill Charles Gompel, P.O. Box 547183, Orlando, FL 32854-7183 USA; email: BGOMPEL@cfl.rr.com
BR. GUYANA/GUYANA	Bernie Beston, P.O. Box 1663, Bundaberg 4670 AUSTRALIA; email: bk_beston@ecn.net.au
BR. HONDURAS/BELIZE	Dr. Ian Matheson, P.O. Box 533, Kelvin 2054, SOUTH AFRICA; email: ian@cdi.biz
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	Mr. Roger Downing, Rushit Inc., Box 11156, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, USVI 00803; email: downing@surfbvi.com
CAYMAN ISLANDS	Mr. T.E. Giraldi, 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355 USA. Tele: (209) 571-1345; email: teg43@aol.com
CENSORED MAIL	<i>Vacant</i>
DOMINICA	Mr. W.B. Ashley, P.O. Box 2956, San Rafael, CA 94912 USA
GRENADE	Mr. W.D. Walker, P.O. Box 99, Lisbon, MD 21765 USA. Tele: (410) 442-1043; email: danforthwalker@comcast.net
JAMAICA	Mr. Duane Larson (<i>address above</i>)
LEEWARD ISLANDS	Mr. Michael N. Oliver, 7, Ancliffe Lane, Bolton-le-Sands, Lancashire LA5 8DS, UNITED KINGDOM
MARITIME MAIL	Mr. M.R. Rego, 24 Wentworth Dr., Crofton, Wakefield, West Yorkshire W4F 1LH, UNITED KINGDOM
MONTserrat	Mr. C.A. Freeland, Ob Batterieweg 45, CH-4059, Basle, SWITZERLAND; email: charles.freeland@hotmail.com
NEVIS	Mr. Federico Borromeo, Via Torquato Taramelli 32, I-00197 Rome, ITALY; email: commeno@tiscali.it
ST. CHRISTOPHER/ST. KITTS	Mr. Robert J. Wynstra (<i>address above</i>)
ST. LUCIA	Mr. Robert Devaux, P.O. Box 525, Castries, St. Lucia; email: robjdev@yahoo.com
ST. VINCENT	Mr. Peter C. Elias (<i>address above</i>)
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon (<i>address above</i>)
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	Dr. Peter P. McCann (<i>address above</i>)

British Caribbean Philatelic Journal

Vol. 48, No. 3 October - December 2008 Whole No. 229

© British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

Editor: Dr. Everett L. Parker, 719 Moosehead Lake Rd., Greenville, ME 04441-9727 USA
Telephone: (207) 695-3163; FAX: (207) 695-3163; email: eparker@hughes.net
Please address correspondence regarding articles in this publication to the Editor.

Membership Director: Mr. Bob Stewart, 7 West Dune Lane, Beach Haven, NJ 08008 USA
Telephone: (609) 492-4379; email: stewart99@comcast.net
Please address membership questions to the Membership Director (this includes address changes).

Advertising Manager:
Vacant

Awards Editor: Paul A. Larsen, 14 Wilson Ct., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA; email: PALStamp@aol.com
Please address information about show awards to the Awards Editor.

CONTENTS

FEATURES

British West Indian Airways: The end of an era, <i>by Dr. Reuben Ramkissoon</i>	4-6
Philatelic and non-philatelic covers of the 1935 Silver Jubilee	
Stamps of the British West Indies, <i>by Dr. Eric M. Bateson</i>	7-10
Indian Postal Stationery (envelope) used in Trinidad, <i>by Dr. Reuben Ramkissoon</i>	10-11
Nevis, The First Issue: 1861 or 1862, <i>by Federico Borromeo</i>	12-17
St. Vincent's 1907-11 Coat of Arms issues, <i>by Roy Bond</i>	18-23
Mormon Church is another excellent source for Oliver's Antigua history, <i>by Tim Anderson</i>	23

COLUMNS AND REPORTS

Officers and Trustees, Study Group Leaders & Others	2
BG Bits and Pieces, <i>by Dr. Raj Ramphal</i>	24-25
A message from ye editor	26
BCPSG Exhibits and Awards, <i>by Paul Larsen</i>	27
President's Message, <i>by Jack Harwood</i>	28
Membership Director's Report, <i>by Bob Stewart</i>	29
Our faithful advertisers	28-32

DEADLINES FOR THIS PUBLICATION

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

British West Indian Airways: The end of an era

By **Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon, FRPSL**
Trinidad Study Group Leader

Introduction

In a comprehensive article by this writer titled, "Linking the Caribbean: The Story of British West Indian Airways (BWIA) 1940-2000,"¹ we showed the important role this premier carrier played in the post-World War II period in the development of passenger, cargo and mail service in the Caribbean basin.

Little did we realize that within the first decade of the millennium, we would be writing a sequel to this story, with the most unwelcome account constituting the closing chapter in the 67-year story of BWIA.

Determining the BWIA "Last Day"/CA "First Day" Flights

The Government of Trinidad & Tobago decided that because of operating losses, it would close the flight operations of its national carrier, British West Indian Airways, International (BWIA) at midnight on December 31, 2006. The media had reported the closure schedule, as well as the startup flight of BWIA's successor, Caribbean Airlines (CA) to immediately follow.

Salient details of the two carriers' final and startup schedules appeared in the daily newspaper *Newsday* in an article on January 2, 2007. A *Newsday* reporter had booked himself on what appeared to be BWIA's last flight, #BW883 Port of Spain, Trinidad to Paramaribo, Suriname, which was scheduled to depart Piarco (Port of Spain) at 10:40 p.m. on December 31, 2006. The return flight, #BW884, was scheduled to leave Suriname for Port of Spain at 4:00 a.m. on January 1, 2007, apparently making this the first flight of CA.

When the reporter checked in at Piarco International Airport on the evening of December 31, 2006, he was informed that the flight schedule was incorrect, and that #BW883 had departed "on time" from Piarco at 12:15 a.m. on January 1, 2007 for Suriname. The reporter thus concluded that his intended trip on BWIA's last flight was missed, and that the flight turned out to be CA's first

flight. The confusion between BWIA's last flight and CA's first flight can be best explained by recalling the business closure time of BWIA. This occurred at midnight (2400 hours) Greenwich Mean Time, which is 8 p.m. in Trinidad and Tobago, and would have made flight #BW900 Port of Spain/St. Lucia/London (Heathrow) departing at 6:20 p.m. the last BWIA flight. As it turned out, this flight was delayed, departing Piarco at 9:30 p.m. on December 31, 2006, making it the first CA flight.

Based on its regular operational schedule, a departure delay of flight #BW900 from Piarco meant that if BWIA maintained its normal route -- Port of Spain/St. Lucia/London (Heathrow), it would miss its landing slot at Heathrow. To save time, BWIA changed the routing to St. Lucia/Port of Spain/London. An unscheduled flight was made on a BWIA 737 aircraft from St. Lucia for London-bound passengers. The actual arrival (landing) time was 7:30 p.m., and became the first leg of flight #BW900. Delays in the flight operations of BWIA are not unusual, as is this pattern for all other airlines.

Flight designation numbers refer to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the International Air Transport Association (IATA). The IATA designation comprises the number entered on airline flight tickets. In the usages listed for the BWIA and CA carriers, CA uses the same prefix "BW" in front of their flight numbers as BWIA. Both carriers insert the numeral "3" in front of the flight number to indicate that no passengers were carried on the flight, such as "BW3900."

At the top of the following page is a summary of the data regarding the last BWIA and the first CA flights.

Preparing and Servicing BWIA's Last Flight/ Caribbean Airlines First Flight Covers

Through the efforts of the Hon. Secretary of the Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago (PSTT), Mr. Robert Franco, a retired BWIA pilot and Fleet Manager, who took over the controls of the events of this operation, covers became available for these milestone flight operations of BWIA. According to the account in the *Bulletin* of the PSTT, Mr. Franco "navigated through some very low vis-

BWIA's LAST FLIGHT*

Flight No.	Airline Routing	Date/Time/Departure	Airline Routing/ Arrival
BWA900 (ICAO)			
BW900 (IATA)	Hewanorra (St. Lucia)	Dec. 31, 6:35 p.m. (2235 hrs. GMT)	Piarco, Trinidad & Tobago Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m. (2330 hrs. GMT)

* Aircraft registration: Boeing 737-800-NG (New Generation)

Personnel: Pilot: S. Shagreer; Co-Pilot: A. Wood; Flight Attendants: P. Fong, M. Ramsmair, K. Sharpe, T. Hernandez

CARIBBEAN AIRLINES FIRST FLIGHT**

Flight No.	Airline Routing	Date/Time/Departure	Airline Routing/ Arrival
BWA900 (ICAO)			
BW900 (IATA)	Piarco, Trinidad & Tobago	Jan. 1, 9:30 a.m. (0130 hrs. GMT)	Heathrow, London 9:21 a.m. (0921) (0921 hrs. GMT)

** Aircraft registration: Airbus 340-313

Personnel: Pilot: Kevan Torrey; Co-Pilot: Jeffrey Gibson; Flight Attendants: C. Defreitas, D. Zephryne, K. Sorzano, D. Mollino, S. Callista, D. Santiago, S. Benjamin, A. Staker, L. Ross, J. Gaines.

ibility conditions” to ensure the airline’s participation.

As a result, 30 sets of two covers per set were produced. For those who were able to obtain a set of covers, it is advisable that the story of the account of BWIA’s last and CA’s first flights be kept with the covers, as without such rendition, the significance of these carried covers with apparently “wrong dates” would be lost. At upper right are the important summary points to be remembered in the account of these BWIA’s last flight (*Figure 1, next page*) and CA’s first flight (*Figure 2, next page*).

	BWIA Last Flight	CA First Flight
Flight Date:	December 31, 2006	January 1, 2007
Route:	Hewanorra, St. Lucia/ Piarco, Trinidad	Piarco, Trinidad/ Heathrow, London
Postmark:	Tragarete Road, Port of Spain TT Post	Tragarete Road, Port of Spain TT Post
Postmark date:	December 30, 2006	December 30, 2006
Date discrepancy:	All TT Post outlets closed	All TT Post outlets closed
Flight day:	Sunday	Monday (Jan. 1)
Arrival postmark:	None TT Post closed	None
Covers flown:	As baggage	As baggage
Route:	Port of Spain/St. Lucia/ Port of Spain	Port of Spain/Heathrow
Signed:	Captain S. Shageer	Captain Kevan Torrey

The author is grateful to Mr. John Chay, PSTT President and *Bulletin* editor, for supplying a set of covers and information, as well as permission to use information appearing in the cited *Bulletin* reference.

Journal 42(2): 3-12, April 2002. Part II: “Into the Jet Age (1951-59),” BCPJ 42 (3): 7-23, July 2002; Part III: End Notes.

ENDNOTES

¹ Reuben A. Ramkissoon, “Linking the Caribbean: The Story of British West Indian Airways (BWIA) 1920-2000, Part I: The Beginnings, Impact of World War II on Air Services Development,” *British Caribbean Philatelic*

“BWIA’s Last Flight/ Caribbean Airlines First Flight,” Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago *Bulletin* 236:4-6, January-March 2007.

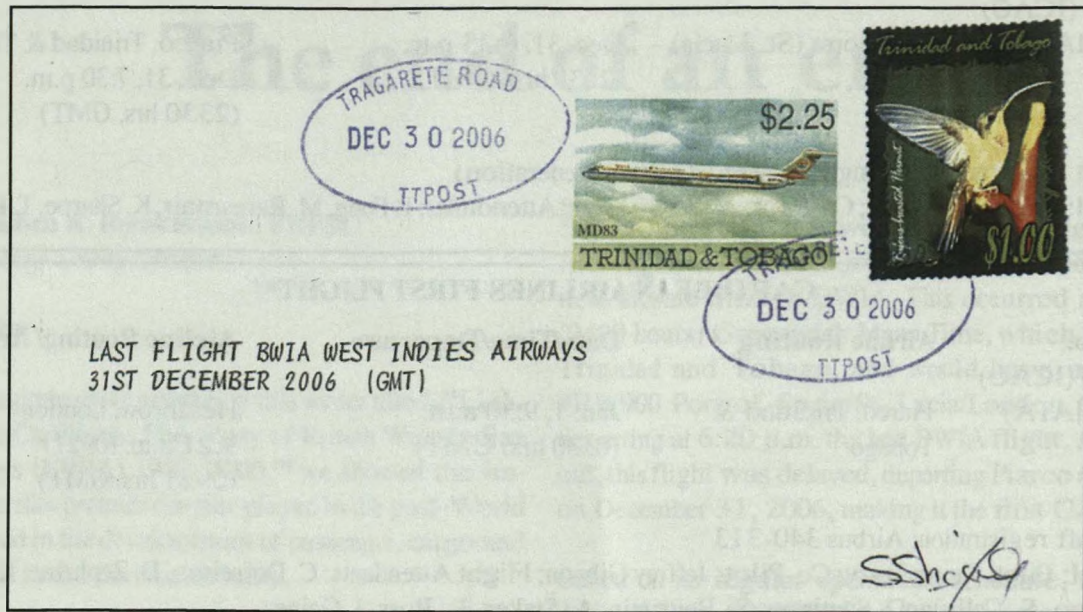


Figure 1:
Flown as baggage mail on the last flight of BWIA, December 31, 2006 between Hewanorra, St. Lucia and Piarco (Port of Spain), Trinidad.

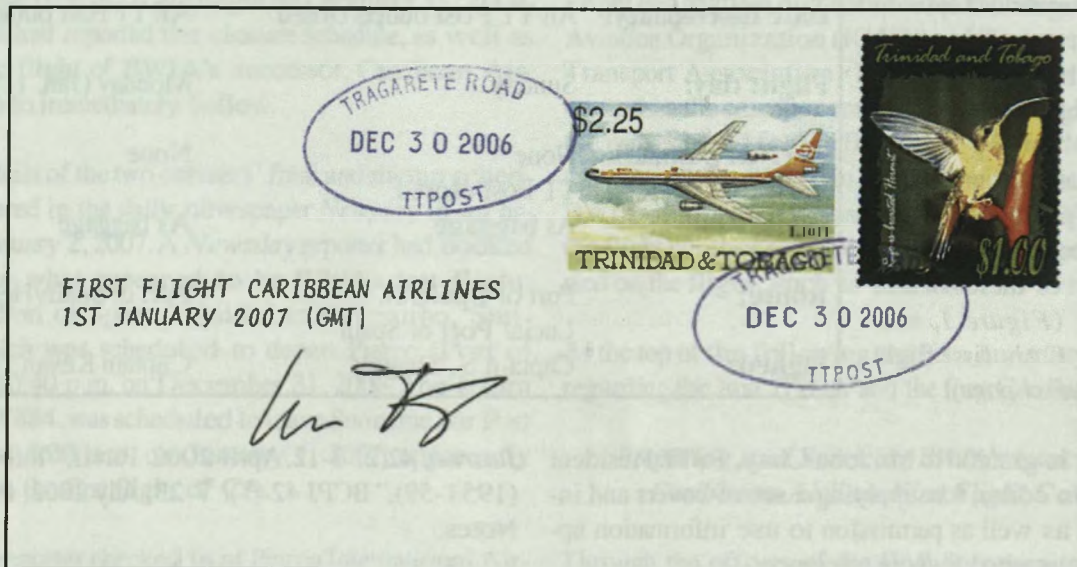


Figure 2:
Carried as baggage mail between Port of Spain, Trinidad, and London (Heathrow) on January 1, 2007 first flight of Caribbean Airlines (CA).

Philatelic and non-philatelic covers of the 1935 Silver Jubilee stamps of the British West Indies

By Dr. Eric M. Bateson
Of Australia

Although many articles, including a very comprehensive handbook¹ have been written on the 1935 King George V Silver Jubilee stamp, and reports have been made of this issue on first flight covers, rocket, catapult and zeppelin mail, their presence on basic philatelic covers including the British West Indies and Bermuda appear to be largely ignored.

A number of sources were used for this investigation: 1) Several years of auction catalogues produced by three firms^{2,3,4} containing material relevant to this study were scanned and 292 philatelic covers with complete sets of the 1935 Silver Jubilee issue were found. 2) A recent sale

of the covers of the magnificent Saghal collection⁵ was reviewed and revealed 105 covers of interest. 3) A personal collection of 26 Silver Jubilee covers was included in this analysis.



Figure 1
Jamaica FDC cancelled May 6, 1935 by Hampstead circular datestamp, to H.T. Littlejohn in Hampstead, possibly a local philatelist.



Figure 2
British Honduras registered and illustrated first day cover cancelled May 6, 1935, addressed to Ontario, Canada, obviously philatelic.

The typical philatelic cover of the Silver Jubilee issue has a complete set of the different values and may be cancelled on the first day of issue (Figure 1), and sometimes on an illustrated envelope (Figure 2). Interesting examples may have one, or rarely, two of the stamps with one of the printing flaws listed by Stanley Gibbons. Analysis of the material from the auction catalogues showed that of the covers, 73 were first day, an incidence of 25 percent. Further examination of the covers in the auction catalogues and Saghal's
Continued on page 8

collection revealed four other points of interest: • The providers of the covers; • The general issue of the Leeward Islands; • The illustrated first day covers; • Covers with a stamp showing a printing flaw.

The providers of the covers

It is interesting to note that with the Silver Jubilee issue of 1935 stamps, the names of the well-known providers up to that date,⁶ including Wilson and the Rev. Iremonger,⁷ who were two of the most productive of philatelic covers, were replaced by an entirely new group. Of these, Robert Millar of Scotland was the most prolific and his covers had a uniform format (*Figure 3*). Others frequently noted were J. Stephen of Liverpool, C.J. Davis of Surrey, R. Roberts of London, R. Wells of Grimsby, United Kingdom, and the Broadway Stamp Company of New Jersey.

The general issue of the Leeward Islands

One aim of the personal collection was to obtain a series of seven covers with complete sets of the general issue cancelled separately on each of the seven islands: Antigua, Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, and St. Kitts. Over many years it has been possible to acquire one first day cover from Antigua, the other three -- from Barbuda, Dominica, and St. Kitts -- not being first days. Nine were found in the catalogue survey, none of which were first days ... eight with Antigua and one with Dominica cancels. In the Saghal collection three were identified, one a first and two last day covers, all from Antigua. Therefore, covers with complete sets of stamps of the Silver Jubilee issue, particularly first day covers, appear to be scarce apart from those cancelled in Antigua.

The illustrated first day covers

Those provided by the Westminster Stamp Company of London are the most colorful (*Figure 4*) and can be found cancelled throughout the British Commonwealth including the West Indies. My personal collection has five bearing Silver Jubilee sets from Antigua, Barbados, Jamaica, Leeward Islands also cancelled in Antigua, and the Virgin Islands. The Saghal Collection also had one each from the same five colonies, and again, the Leeward Islands

cover was from Antigua. This appears to be a coincidence but raises the possibility that not all of the post offices of the British West Indies received envelopes from the Westminster Stamp Company for processing. Their covers are highly prized.

Covers with a stamp showing a printing flaw

In the Saghal Collection there were 41 covers bearing Silver Jubilee covers of the BWI, one stamp of which demonstrated a printing flaw. Approximately 50 percent of the covers had complete sets, a few first or last day, usually addressed to well-known providers (*Figure 5*), making them typically philatelic. The remainder did not have a regular set of four stamps (*Figure 6*) and were not

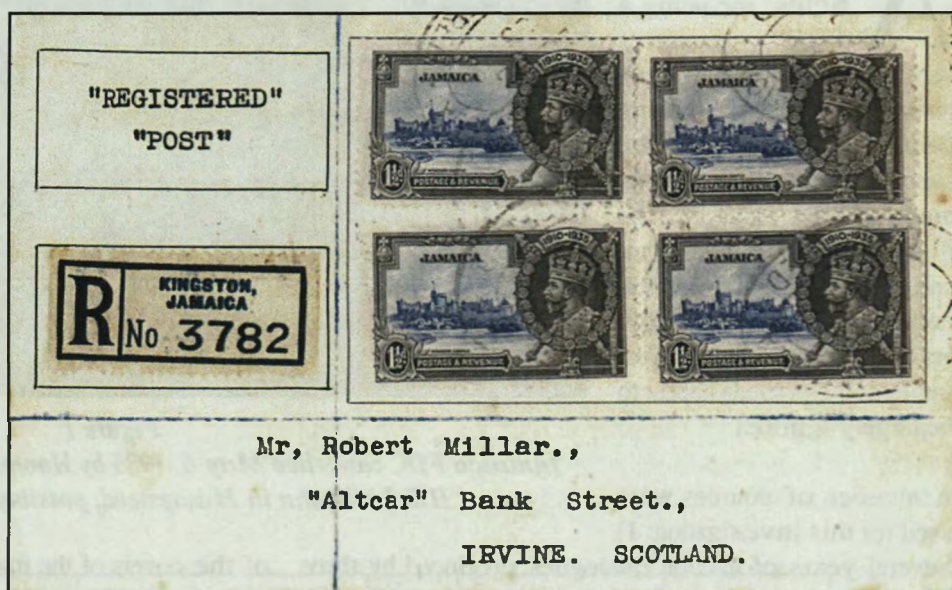


Figure 3

Jamaica registered cover to Robert Millar of Scotland with unclear cancel, but the year (1935) can just be made out. He was a well-known philatelic dealer and the format is typical of his covers. It bears a block of four of the 1/2d value (SG 115), one with an extra flagstaff (SG 115a) [bottom left].

generally produced as covers for the philatelic market, but usually resulted from commercial correspondence. The presence with one of the stamps showing a printing flaw made them collectible and therefore accidentally philatelic.⁸

The low incidence of a stamp with one of the printing flaws on first day covers, particularly those of the Westminster Stamp Company, contrasts with the far greater frequency of covers bearing stamps with printing flaws not cancelled on the first day with a set of irregular stamp arrangements. A possible explanation may be due to the fact that many more Silver Jubilee stamps were used after the first day, May 6, 1935. It is noted that until the remainders were withdrawn on December 31, 1935, the definitive issues of Dominica and the Leeward Islands in

the corresponding values were not sold at the post office counters.⁹ United Kingdom.

It is a general impression from many years of experience of a wide range of auction catalogues that mint Silver Jubilee stamps with printing flaws are far more frequently offered than their used counterparts and particularly covers bearing these stamps.

³ Pennymead Auctions, Knaresborough, Yorkshire, United Kingdom.

Acknowledgments

Once again I wish to thank Ian Jakes, Librarian of the BWI Study Circle, for his help. Thanks are also due to C. Lawrence, Office Manager of the Grosvenor Philatelic Auction firm of London for his kind permission to allow me to quote details from the second part of the recent sale of the Saghal Collection.



Figure 4
Virgin Islands, a Westminister first day cover.

ENDNOTES

¹ A.J. Ainscough, *Silver Jubilee of King George V - Stamps Handbook*. (Parbold, Lancashire, England: Ainwhel Developments [Phil]), 1985.

⁴ Postal History Auctions, Leeds, United Kingdom

² Caribbean Philatelic Auctions, Thirsk, North Yorkshire,

⁵ Grosvenor Auctions, *Postage Stamps and Postage History of the World. 'The Saghal Collection of the 1935 Silver Jubilee Issue. Part Two.'* (November 2007), 9-43.



Figure 5

Dominica, a set of Silver Jubilee stamps, but not a first day cover, cancelled June 15, 1935. The 1/- value shows the dot by flagstaff, printing flaw SG 95h. This is one of the last appearances of W.T. Wilson's name on covers addressed to his final place of philatelic activity, Royal House, Sutton, Coldfield, England.

⁶ E.M. Bateson, "Philatelic Covers of the BWI. Providers in the Empire Period (Victoria, Edward VII and George V)," *British West Indies Study Circle Bulletin No. 210* (September 2006), 14-20.

⁷ E.M. Bateson, "The Four Great Providers. An Analysis of their Philatelic Covers of the Empire Period of the BWI," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 37, No. 2 (July 2005), 17-23.

⁸ *Op. cit.*, Bateson, *British West Indies Study Circle Bulletin No. 210*.

⁹ E.V. Toeg, "Dominica, Postal History Stamps and Postal His-
Continued on page 10

Indian Postal Stationery (envelope) used in Trinidad

By Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon, FRPSL

Trinidad Study Group Leader

Provision for the return of correspondence between East Indian indentured immigrants of Trinidad and their families and friends in India was made by the Trinidad Post. The scheme was a simple one, which is referenced in the *Report of Postmaster-General for 1885*.

A notice appeared in the *Trinidad Royal Gazette* of April 7, 1886, encompassing the provisions of the policy, as outlined below:

a. The provision of India (one anna) postal stationery envelopes, representing the single rate of postage between Trinidad and India;

b. The envelopes were obtained from the Indian Government, and sold at the actual cost of delivery in Trinidad and 5 1/2d each;

c. Envelopes were addressed in English by/for the sender, baring his full name and address in Trinidad, and enclosed in a letter going to India, so that the postage was prepaid for the return letter; and,

d. On a letter's arrival back in Trinidad, it was delivered, or forwarded to its destination without being referred to an interpreter for translation of an address.¹

It has been reported by Marriott that very large numbers of letters insufficiently prepaid, or wholly unpaid were reaching the colony from India.² More than two-thirds were refunded by the addressees after they had carefully examined the envelopes. Ron Wike reported a 1908 German naval cover addressed to a member of the SMS *Freya*

Continued on page 11

Covers of the BWI 1935 Silver Jubilee stamps

Continued from page 9

tory Station to 1935, Vol. 1," BWI Study Circle, Chapter 24 (1944), 16: 163-184.

¹⁰ *Op. cit.*, Bateson, *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 37, No. 2 (July 2005).

Figure 6

Bermuda non-philatelic cover to Connecticut, registered at St. Georges and cancelled October 2, 1935 with a strip of three of the 1d value (SG 94) and the 2 1/2d (SG 96m) bird by turret printing flaw.





Figure 1

An 1885 Indian postal stationery envelope postmarked Port of Spain MR 24, 1901 and addressed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin where it was received on April 9, 1901. It is the third cover recorded from personnel of three different German naval ships: SMS Freya, SMS Mineta and SMS Vineta, operating in Trinidad waters.

at Port of Spain using an India one anna postal stationery envelope.³ Wike surmised that the envelope was purchased by a crew member, and sent to himself as a souvenir of his visit to Trinidad. A similar earlier report appears to be confirmed by a cover addressed to a crew member aboard the SMS *Mineta*, c/o the German Counsel, Port of Spain, utilizing an Indian postal stationery envelope.

An additional Indian postal stationery cover being reported (Figure 1) continues an unfurling story of German naval activity in the waters which surround Trinidad. The cover is postmarked at Port of Spain, Trinidad on March 24, 1901, and is addressed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, showing on the reverse a machine receiving mark of April 9, 1901.⁴ The sender's instructional address is: "If undeliverable return to W Raden (?), SMS Vineta, Rio de Janeiro."

The SMS *Vineta* was the flagship of the cruiser division of the German West Indian fleet from September 1899 to February 1909. There was no opportunity to obtain Indian postal stationery prior to calling at Trinidad. Whether the *Vineta* undertook a training cruise in the South Atlantic during this period had not been recorded in a number of Internet sources. It is intriguing that no Indian postal stationery envelopes addressed for delivery in Trinidad during this period have so far been recorded.

ENDNOTES

¹ *Trinidad Royal Gazette*, April 7, 1886.

² *Bulletin of the British West Indies Study Unit*, Trinidad, 1962, p 16.

³ Ron Wike. "Indian Postal Stationery Used in Trinidad and Tobago." *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Whole Number 185, December 1997.

⁴ Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon, "From East Indians in the West Indies," APS Americover (Experimental Picture Post Card Exhibit), Riverside, California, February 2007.

NEVIS

The First Issue: 1861 or 1862?

By **Federico Borromeo**
Nevis Study Group Leader

Previous students have assumed that the date of issue of the first Nevis stamps at the local post office was in June 1861. Why, then, was the envelope to St. Kitts illustrated in Figure 1 and dated 27 January 1862 handstamped with the Nevis Crowned Circle used to denote prepayment if stamps were already available on the island?

Recent research in the National Archives in England has shed light on that problem. At the Public Record Office at Kew, I went through a number of files,¹ and although it is surprising how little attention was given to the carriage of mail, they revealed new information concerning the first Nevis stamps which I believe definitively establishes the date of their issue at the post office.

A statement² concerning the conveyance of mail to St. Kitts on Sundays contains important information, although not related with the conveyance, confirming that stamps were foreseen in 1861:

Nevis - A meeting of the Legislative Council held on Wednesday the 9th of October 1861. Presents: George Webbe, Walter Maynard, George Webbe

Daniell, S. H. Pemberton, George Sam Wattley. The Honourable Thomas Huggins came in and took his seat.

The Honourable Walter Maynard lays before the Board the following Despatch from President Sir Arthur Rumbolt Bart:

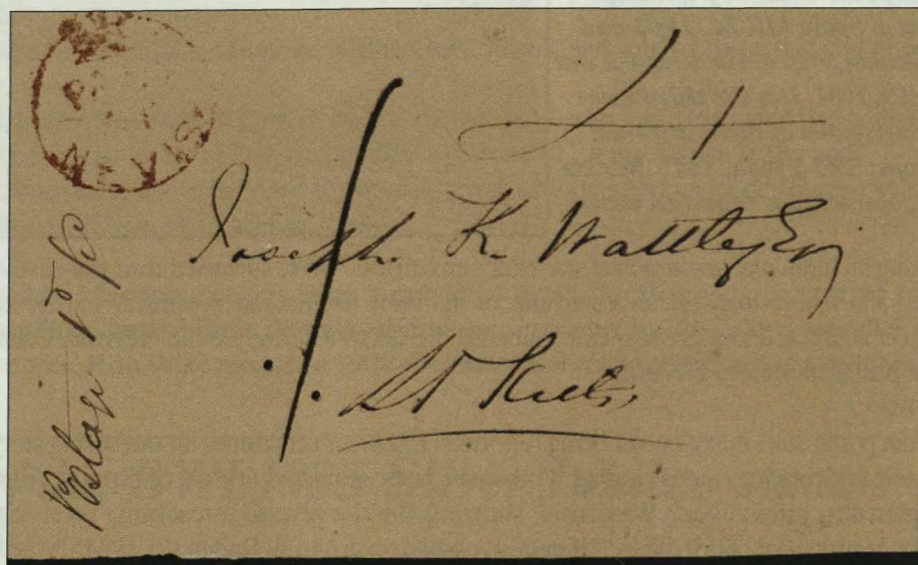
(omissis) ... The President is most desiderous to meet the wishes of the other Branches of the Legislature he considers it therefore to be his duty to submit the accompanying statement showing the

approximate state of finances for the current year. He feels assured that both Houses will by this perceive that the liquidation of the account must be deferred for a while then being at present no funds actually available for such a purpose. (omissis).

With a bal-

ance in hand for £636.13.1/2 and estimates incomes for £1000, for a total of £1636.13.1/2 are shown unavoidable expense for £1912.3.1 1/2. Besides this there were 'Debts accrued under Mr. Musgrave administration unprovided for: Postage Stamps for £122, Registration Books £78 and the sum for Prince Alfred entertainment £250, totaling £450.

This document confirms that postage stamps were ordered



Letter dated January 27, 1862, to St. Kitts and delivered the same day. A prepaid envelope which has been endorsed, "Postage 1d," a sum collected on arrival, and rated 4d, collected in cash at Nevis. To denote prepayment, the envelope has been handstamped with the Crowned Circle "Paid at Nevis" in red ink. Postage stamps were sent to the island in June 1861, so why was this obsolete procedure used? This cover could confirm that postage stamps were available at the post office only from July 19, 1862.

during the tenure of Mr. Musgrave,³ who was temporary Administrator of Nevis from October 1860 until April 1861. However, at the end of 1861, there was no money to pay for the stamps ordered from Nissen and Parker. In another statement, unfortunately undated but written in 1863, headed "Public Debt" we can read: (omissis)

... 6 – At the commencement of 1862 the Colony had provided for large demand which had been incurred during my absence on leave, under the temporary administration of W. Musgrave. A debt of £286 in excess of the original grant of £250 made for the reception of His Royal Highness Prince Alfred had to be liquidated. Costly Books for Registrations, and unnecessary expensive Postage Stamps had been ordered and had to be paid for, making in all the sum of nearly £500. (CO 1841/11) (1863).

In actual fact the island government suffered financial problems because funds were diverted from more important tasks, such as roads, to "... obligations to English Tradesmen, the payment of which could not be delayed a single day..." One of the tradesmen were Nissen and Parker who were finally to receive payment for their stamps in the period January to March 1863.

In August 1863 a long letter was sent to Antigua reporting on the financial state of the Colony:

24 August 1863

Sir,

In my despatch N° 63 of July 6th. I had the honor to inform your Excellency that I should furnish a Report in explanation of the causes in detail, by which I felt myself constrained to expend a part of the 'Road Fund' of this island, in liquidation of the heavy demands on our Treasury: to satisfy which the General Revenue at the time referred to was insufficient. ... (omissis)

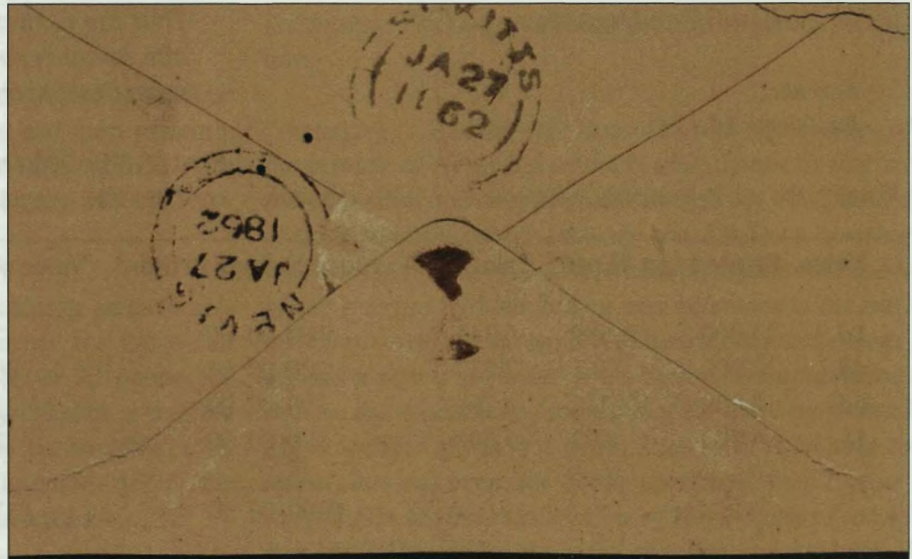
1 – (omissis)

2 – The object that I chiefly have in view is respectfully to solicit your Excellency's attention to the supernumerary items of expenditure paid during the first half of the present year, in excess of the ordinary and regular disbursements which form the normal outlay of the Colony

3 – In the account for the March Quarter I find the following extraordinary payments were made.

Residue of expenses incidental to the entertainment given in honor of Prince Albert £59.2.6, grant to H. E. Huggin's (in part) for his Edition of the Laws of Nevis £70.0.0, pier expenditure £193.6.0 and finally for Postage Stamps £122.12.0.

(omissis) ... so that by the end of the December Quarter we shall be, I trust, in a more prosperous condition in regard of our finances than this island enjoyed for many years.⁵



Reverse side of the same cover.

This letter, more or less in the same terms and with the same words, was also sent, dated September 10, and signed by the Governor Stephen Hill, to the Duke of Newcastle.⁶ Statements can be found in other files⁷ from which is possible to sort out a lot of information, but unfortunately not an organic whole.

With regard to postal history I have extrapolated certain data which speak for themselves:

Acting Treasurer, from 1st January to 31st March 1863

Received: Postage stamps £18.12.2

The Public of NEVIS in Account with William Macphail

Paid: Expenditure Post Office Department £18.9.6
Expenditure for Postage Stamps, Dies to (Department?) £122.12.0.

In the same files there is a "Treasurer's Account for the

Quarter ended March 31 last," dated June 30, 1863.

6d.	10,238	"	255	19	0
1s.	492	"	24	12	0

Expenses

for the Post Office £18.9.6

for stamps £122.12.0

£516 19 5

Revenue:

for stamps £18.12.2

That from the 19th July 1862 to 11th September 1863 there have been issued to the Post Master stamps to the amount of £116.15.0.

That there have been sold to private individuals for stamp Collectors abroad stamps to the amount of £39.7.9.

That our late President took away with him stamps of the value of £2.19.0 [in all] £676.1.2.

That the Committee could not arrive at the definite quantity sent from England when the stamps were first imported.

and also an "Account with William Macphail acting Treasurer, from 31st March to 30 June 1863" --

Expenses

for the Post Office Department £5.12.6

Revenue:

for stamps £4.13.0

First of all it is interesting to point out that these figures confirm the quantities of stamps printed by Nissen and

Finally, the most important document, which can defi-

Value	Printed	In Hand ¹¹	Balance	Value of Stamps Printed	Value of Stamps In Hand	Balance
1d	24,000	17,689	6,311	100 00 00	73 14 01	26 05 11
4d	12,000	9763	2,237	200 00 00	162 14 04	37 05 08
6d	12,000	10,238	1,762	300 00 00	255 19 00	44 01 00
1/-	6,000	492	5,508	300 00 00	24 12 00	275 08 00
				£900 00 00	£516 19 05	£383 00 07

nately throw light on the date on which the first Nevis stamps were issued is a "Duplicate" of a long document reporting the subjects touched during a series of meetings held by the members of the Assembly, in different parts of the Island, and at different dates.⁸

In the meeting held at Gingerland on September 15, 1863, we find:

(omissis)

Mr. Durpar called the attention of the Speaker to know whether the Administrative Committee had come to any definite conclusion, respecting his Resolution with regard to the Postage Stamps.

Mr. P. J. Huggins in his place as a Member of the Administrative Commission laid before the House the following statement.

That the Committee have carefully examined the quantity of Postage Stamps in the possession of the Treasurer and the amount of the expenditure of the same, beg to Report that on hand are of

1d.	17,689	value	73	14	1
4d.	9,763	"	162	14	4

Parker and that the most used stamp was the 1/- denomination. The figures concerning the stamps sold to collectors are also instructive.

But a few problems arise when we consider the figures. Since the total value of stamps sent from London was £900 and the value of the stamps on hand £516.19, the difference of £383.07 should represent the value of the stamps in some way used. But the stamps sent to the post office, sold to collectors or taken by the late President were worth only £59.19 so if the figures given are correct, stamps to the value of £224 are missing. This sum represents nearly one fourth of the original stock, i.e. exactly 1,735 complete sets.⁹

It is difficult to imagine what happened to such a large quantity: were they kept in a forgotten safe and used many years later, as the two covers with the 4d dull rose of the first printing used in May and August 1869 appear to suggest?¹⁰ Or were they spoiled, stolen, or otherwise disposed of? This is hard to ascertain at the present time.

The figures can be tabulated as follows:

The stamps were ordered when Mr. Musgrave was in

charge, from October 1860 until April. Most probably a London representative had been entrusted to find a printer to prepare the issue. However, the choice of the design, approving it, engraving, waiting for proofs, printing and so on takes time. Also we must consider that a letter, in those days, took more than two weeks to deliver and the same length of time for an answer to be received. In any case, stamps were ready for shipment at the end of June 1861 but were never despatched because there was no money available to pay for them. Actually the sum of £122 was already in the budget on October 9, 1861. The invoice was settled during the first quarter of 1863, one and a half years later, and the sum paid was a little higher, exactly £122.12.0.

It is interesting to compare the sum for preparing the four printing plates containing 12 stamps, and then printing, gumming, and perforating a total of 54,000 stamps, with the Perkins Bacon estimate dated February 28, 1861, for the Antigua stamps.¹²

Noteworthy also are the figures concerning sales to collectors, notwithstanding their importance for the postal historian. With a face value for the set of 23 pence, the total sales of £39.7.9 represent nearly 420 sets, a credible figure. This is confirmed by the fact that in 1868, after the issue of stamps in new colors (December 1867), the increase in the sales of stamps was exactly £40.13.¹³

Among other information in the files, the quantities of stamps sold on the island are particularly interesting:

1863

First four-month period, £18.12.2; second, £4.13.0; third, £9.15.1 (total sales £33.0.3).

1864

Postage stamps sold, £22.9.0.

1866

Post Office. Stamps sold, £10.2.4.
Colony's share of Postage £8.1.3.¹⁴

1867

Post Office. Stamps sold, £12.3.9.

1868

Post Office. Stamps sold, £53.17.0.

The increase in value sold between 1867 and 1868 (£40), most probably derives from the stamps printed with new colors in December 1866, and sold to collectors.

But when and how was the traditional issue date estab-

lished? The year 1861, without indication of the month, has been always considered the date of the first issue, as Bacon also stated in his book.¹⁵ Later information concerning the month, the year (confirmed as 1861) and the number of stamps printed, was given by Tilleard in 1911: "(omissis) ... the notes to the first issue contained particulars of the first consignment of stamps to the colony on 28th of June 1861, with the number of sheets sent out. This information is new, and completes the history of the stamps, as it is understood that there were no further supplies until 1866 ..."¹⁶

Many years later, in 1932, Bacon wrote an article on Nevis stamps. The most important parts of the article as follows:

"(omissis) ... I believe the last occasion of a display of the stamps of Nevis before the Society, prior to that by Mr. Bernhard, was one made by the late M. J. A. Tilleard of the collection of His Majesty the King at a meeting held on April 20th 1911. I have searched future numbers of our journal without finding any reference to the new information on the stamps Mr. Tilleard gave at the meeting and it seems no further notes thereon were published. But the information he furnished of the numbers printed of the stamps of the first issue, I am glad to be able to report, has not been lost. Some years ago when I re-arranged His Majesty's collection of Nevis stamps I found that Mr. Tilleard had appended the date and numbers of the first issued stamps on the first page of specimens of the One Penny value. I made a copy of his note, which I put away with the intention of publishing it at some future time, and then forgot all about it, until the recent find of stamps and plates brought it back to my memory. I have found the note among my papers and give a copy of it here:

1861

June 28. 1d.	2,000 sheets	24,000 stamps		
" 4d.	1,000	" 12,000	"	
" 6d.	1,000	" 12,000	"	
" 1s.	500	" 6,000	"	

My recollection is that Mr. Tilleard told me he had obtained these numbers and the other new particulars he gave about the stamps from Messrs. Nissen & Parker, who had been successful after another search, made at his request, in finding a record of the consignment of stamps they sent to Nevis in 1861. It will be seen from the extracts of the minute of the meeting I have reproduced, Mr. Tilleard also announced that no further supply of stamps was sent to the island until 1866: so with the numbers forwarded in 1861 and those first given in the

Continued on page 17

presented one shilling, and
 Public Revenue for the services of the Year One thousand
 eight hundred and sixty three. — His Honor the
 Speaker then put the Bill to the passing, and it
 passed accordingly in the affirmative.

Mr. John Higgins moved the following Resolution.
 I move that the sum of £50. be granted to the
 Commissioners of Roads for Fyffice, to place the Public
 Road running from the Main Road to the Long Point
 Gate in good order, as this Road has not been looked
 for many Years, and is now almost impassable.
 (Signed) John Higgins.

Mr. Sturges called the attention of the Speaker to
 know whether the Administrative Committee had come
 to any definite conclusion, respecting his Resolution
 with regard to the Postage Stamps.

Mr. D. S. Higgins in his place as a Member of the
 Administrative Committee laid before the House
 the following Statement.

That the Committee have carefully examined the
 quantity of Postage Stamps in the possession of the
 Treasurer and the amount of the expenditure of the
 office since he began to Report that on hand there are of

1 st class	17689	Value	£ 73. 14. 1
4 th class	9763	"	162. 14. 4.
6 th class	10238	"	255. 19. 0.
7 th class	492	"	24. 12. 0

That from the 19th July 1862 to 11th Sept^r 1863 there have been issued to the Post
 Master Stamps to the amount of ———— 116. 15. 0.
 That there has been sold to private individuals
 for Stamp collectors abroad Stamps to the
 amount of ———— 39. 7. 9.

Society's work on the stamps of the British West Indies published in 1891, collectors now have a complete list of all the consignments of Nevis stamps of the First design."¹⁷

To conclude, Nevis stamps were conceived, ordered and printed in 1861. They were invoiced and sent on June 28, 1861, but set aside on the island for almost one year, for reasons that at the moment are not known. Mint stamps were, however, sold to collectors and dealers in London, so that they were also described in the very early catalogues.¹⁸

The envelope dated January 27, 1862 sent to St. Kitts and franked using the "Crowned Circle," finds now its *raison d'être* and confirms, in my opinion, the fact that July 19, 1862 is the correct date of issue for the first Nevis stamps.

A very special vote of thanks is due to Charles Freeland who kindly amended my text.

FOOTNOTES

¹ In particular, the Blue Books of the years from 1858 until 1869, and the files concerning "Correspondence" of the Colony.

² (CO 186/22) (1860/82). Message from Assembly (*omissis*), Council Chamber, October 1, 1861, message from Sir Arthur Rumbolt Bart.

³ Sir Anthony Musgrave (1828-1888), colonial Administrator, son of Antonio Musgrave, MD, of the island of Antigua. He acted as private secretary to Mr. Mackenzie when governor-in-chief of the Leeward Islands in 1850-51. In the latter year, he entered as a student at the inner Temple, but was never called to the bar. He was appointed treasury accountant at Antigua in 1852, and colonial secretary there in 1854, temporary Administrator at Nevis and later at St. Vincent from April 1861.

⁴ (CO 184/11) (1863).

⁵ (CO 184/11) (1863), No. 74, Government Office - Nevis, August 24, 1863. Letter signed by George Webbe to His Excellency Colonel Hill, C.B., Governor-in-Chief in Antigua.

⁶ (CO 184/11) (1863), 9520 Nevis, Nevis No. 105, Leeward Islands, Antigua, September 10, 1863. Handstamped "Received 29 SEP 1863" in oval.

⁷ *Ibid.*, Correspondence, Original - Secretary of State.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ The four denominations of the first Nevis stamps were 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-, giving a value for the set of 23d.

¹⁰ A 4d. with a new orange color in a printing of 20,000 was invoiced on December 11, 1866.

¹¹ At the date of September 15, 1863.

¹² P. DeWorms, *Perkins Bacon Records*, 2 Vols., Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1953, Vol. 1, p. 503. "... the cost of Postage plates of 240 or 120 each for the island of Antigua, together with that of paper, printing, gumming and perforating per 1,000 labels, we beg to say that our charge for preparing drawing & engraving a flat die, then hardening & transferring to a steel roller, hardening that, & engraving a steel plate, containing 240 1d Postage stamps would be £80 or if the plate were for 120 (,) £65 (*omissis*). For paper, printing, gumming & perforating sheets of 240 stamps each for thousand label ls."

¹³ Compare Post Office Receipts of 1867 being £12.3.9, and of 1868 being £53.17.0.

¹⁴ (CO 187 40) Blue Book for 1866, p. 20 -- Under (title) "New Revenue and Expenditure: Post Office."

¹⁵ E.D. Bacon, *The Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Wrappers, Post Cards, and telegraph Stamps, of the British Colonies in the West Indies together with British Honduras and the Colonies in South America*. (London: The Philatelic Society, London, 1891), 181 pp + 32 Autotype illustrations. Nevis pp. 110-114: "(*omissis*) ... Mr. Maycock is unable to give me any particulars concerning the stamps printed previous to 1866."

¹⁶ *The London Philatelist*, Vol. 20, 1911, Philatelic Societies meetings, p. 140.

¹⁷ E.D. Bacon, "Notes on the Stamps of Nevis of 1861-78," *The London Philatelist*, Vol. 41, February 1932, pp. 27-30.

¹⁸ Nevis stamps were described in the Mount Brown catalogue (1862) or in the Booty catalogue dated August 1862, the first illustrated catalogue in the world. However, no description is included in the Potiquet catalogue, dated 1862 but published on December 21, 1861.

An earlier version of this article was originally published in the BWI Study Circle Bulletin, No. 210, September 2006. It was updated by the author for the Journal.

St. Vincent's 1907-1911 Coat of Arms issues

By Roy Bond
Of the United Kingdom

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fourth installment of a series on St. Vincent philately from Mr. Bond.)

On September 15, 1896, Mr. Harry Thompson, the Postal Administrator in St. Vincent, wrote to Sir Charles Bruce, Governor of the Windward Islands, who resided on Grenada. In his letter, Mr. Thompson said that the traditional design (the queens) was desired for a new set of stamps, or that at any rate, the use of the coat of arms as per the 5/- rose-red of 1880 should be used. However, Sir Charles Bruce has already brought Grenada into line with the rest of the Empire by using the De La Rue designed Universal Keyplate, and saw this as an opportunity to do the same for St. Vincent. This notwithstanding he did forward a request to the Crown Agents to request the costs for producing such a set of stamps, based upon the coat of arms for the Colony.

On September 28, 1896, the Crown Agents wrote to De La Rue requesting cost estimates for an alternative design for the 2 1/2d and 5d values (SG61 and SG62, issued in July 1897) based upon the design of the 5/- rose-red of 1880, but without the Crown, and to be made the same size as the normal stamp. De La Rue responded with the following quotation:

Coat of Arms die plate:	£70
Working key die:	£45
60 set key plate:	£21-5-0d
Each duty overprint plate:	£12

But for the Universal Keyplate, the cost would be £12 each duty overprint plate. So the St. Vincent Government ordered stamps of the traditional design for the 2 1/2d and 5d values of July 1897.

No further action was taken with regards to the coat of arms designs until on May 9, 1901 the Crown Agents held a meeting with De La Rue to decide on the stamp policy for the new King Edward VII. It was decided that there would be three options open to each colony:

1907-1911 Coat of Arms Issues

1/2d: Green

1d: Red

2d: Orange

2 1/2d: Blue

3d: Dark Purple

6d: Lilac

1/-: Black on Green Paper

- The Universal Keyplate in two colors.
- Special keyplate belonging to the colony in two colors.
- Special plate belonging to the colony in one color.

This was summarized in a letter from the Crown Agents to De La Rue dated May 16, 1901.

This opened the door for a number of colonies to go for a coat of arms type design, but St. Vincent opted for the Universal Keyplate design, presumably to save the costs.

On August 17, 1901 the Crown Agents wrote to De La Rue, enclosing a letter from the Government of St. Vincent referring to new stamps (in design). De La Rue responded on August 23, stating that it would be quite practicable to prepare an issue for St. Vincent along the same lines as the present issue of Turks and Caicos Islands, but based upon the 1880 5/- rose-red St. Vincent coat of arms issue. It was further suggested that to fit the design into the standard postage stamp size, the Crown should be omitted.

Costs quoted were:

1. Original postage size plate: £20
2. Eight working duty plates 60 set for 1/2d, 1d, 2 1/2d, 3d, 4d 5d, 6d, 1/- at £14 each: £112
3. Taking two transfers from original Perkins Bacon roller and making two rollers for 2/- and 3/- at £5 each: £10
4. Two working duty plates for 2/- and 3/- duties, 30 set at £14 each: £28

If the Universal Keyplate was used, the cost would be limited to two new duty plates for 2/- and 3/- values at

£12 each = £24. This refers to stamps produced by the copper plate process, as per Turks and Caicos Islands.

The Crown Agents replied four days later requesting costs for surface printed stamps. De La Rue responded the following day quoting their letter of October 16, 1896, (see paragraph above).

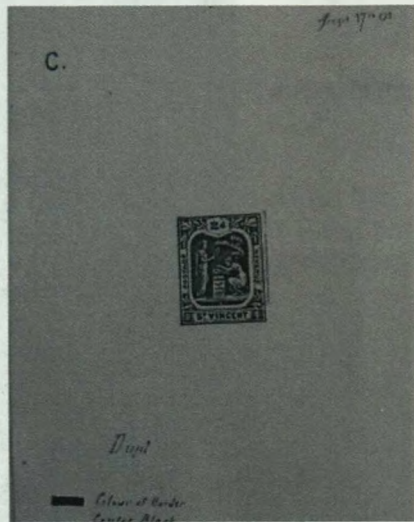


Figure 1

The Crown Agents wrote to De La Rue on September 5, 1901, enclosing the original proofs of the 1896 designs (A and B), asking if they could be resubmitted to the Colony along with two other designs of the coat of arms in one color. De La Rue replied on September 17, stating that all four designs (see essays C and D), and costs of each, would be as per their letter of August 29. (See Figures 1 and 2).

The Crown Agents wrote to De La Rue on April 2, 1902 enclosing a letter from the Government of St. Vincent

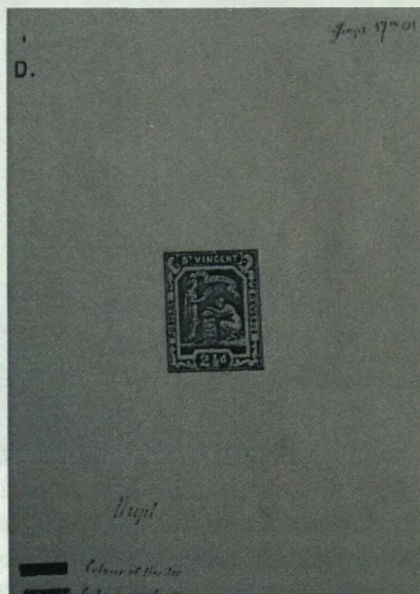


Figure 2

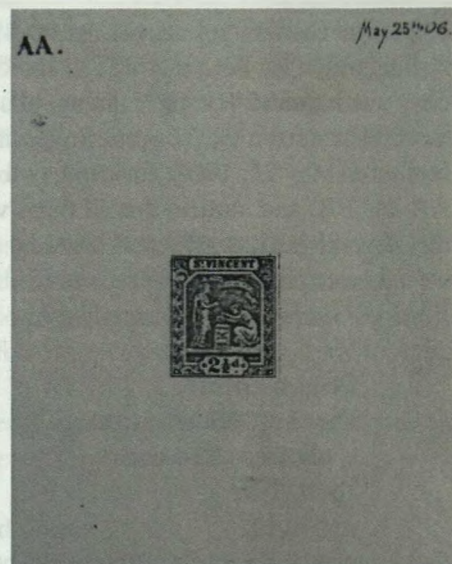


Figure 3

asking that a 5/- value should be drawn up using the 1880 rose-red design. De La Rue replied the following day saying that this was impossible because the King used a different Crown. The St. Vincent Government suggested that the Tudor Crown should be superimposed in place of the Victoria Crown. They also suggested that the color should be rich Green or Purple. De La Rue reiterated that it was impossible to do the re-engraving. So the 5/- value was ordered using the Universal Keyplate design.

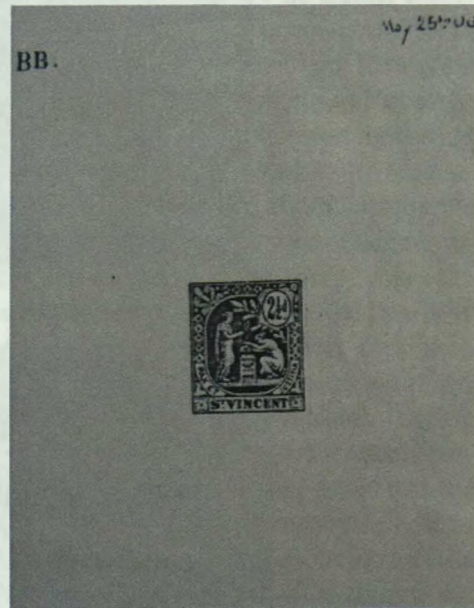


Figure 4

Nothing was mentioned about coat of arms stamps for over four years.

The St. Vincent Government wrote to the Crown Agents on April 25, 1906 asking for costs for a coat of arms issue in 1/2d, 1d, and 2 1/2d values based upon design "A" supplied by De La Rue in early 1897, each in one

Continued on page 20

color. The Crown Agents reacted on May 15, 1906, by writing to De La Rue stating that the copper plate process was required for the printing of stamps as per attached letter from St. Vincent Government. De La Rue replied on May 25, 1906, enclosing two more essays (see AA and BB) and stating that all three values would use the same plate, but different printing (working) plates would be required, and costs would therefore be: (See Figures 3 and 4 on previous page.)

Original plate:	£20
Three off 60 set printing plates at £14 each:	£42
Total cost:	£62

Government House, St. Vincent, wrote to the Crown Agents on August 7, 1906, stating that detail changes in

the design were required, and a larger stamp was to be used (providing that there was no extra cost involved, otherwise the existing size would be acceptable). Also a

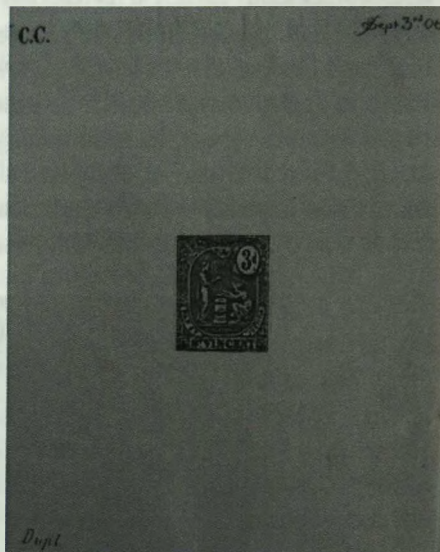


Figure 5

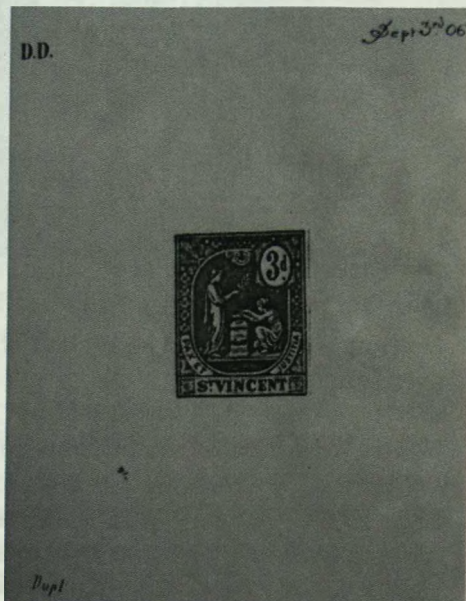


Figure 6

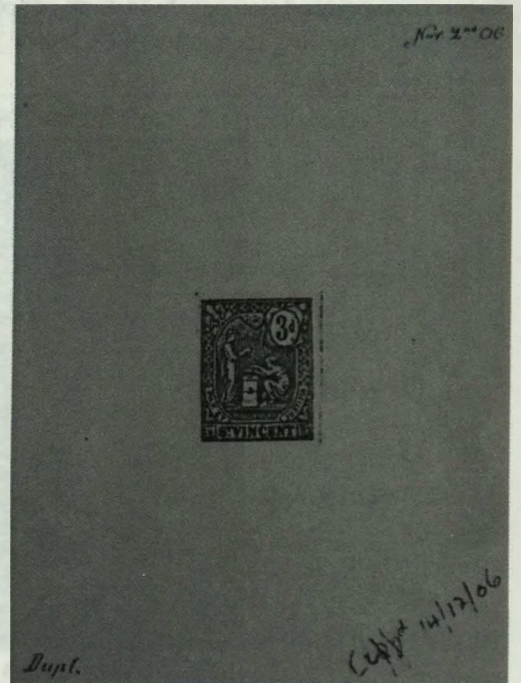


Figure 7

3d value was required for inspection. The Crown Agents forwarded this letter on to De La Rue on August 28, 1906. De La Rue replied on September 3, 1906, enclosing the

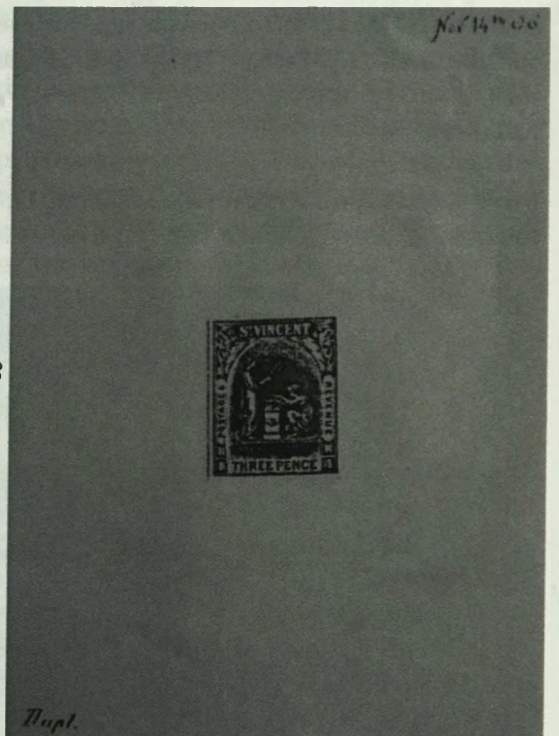


Figure 8

amended designs (See Figures 5 and 6), one at normal size and one at receipt stamp size. They also stated that the larger size plates would cost £20 each instead of £14.

Government House responded on October 13, 1906, stating that the larger design was not liked, and that further modifications to the small design were required. The modifications were as follows:

1. The standing figure appeared tonsured.
2. The clasping hands on the altar should be right and not left hands.
3. The addition of "postage and revenue" either at the side or just below the altar.
4. The altar to be plain, not shaded with vertical lines.



Figure 9

The Crown Agents forwarded this letter to De La Rue on October 30, 1906. De La Rue replied on November 2, 1906, with the modified design and the original for comparison. (See Figure 7, previous page.) On November 5, 1906, the Crown Agents wrote to De La Rue stating that "postage and revenue" was too small and that the clasped



Figure 10

hands were not natural. They also suggested an entirely different design. De La Rue responded on November 14, 1906 enclosing modified designs and a new essay. (See Figure 8, previous page.) On December 14, 1906, the Crown Agents wrote to De La Rue saying that the design

of November 2, 1906 had been selected (See Figure 7). It also requested De La Rue to proceed with the plates for 1/2d, 1d, 2d, 2 1/2d and 3d values. Also, the only value required immediately was the 1d, of which 60,000 copies were ordered.

The Crown Agents asked De La Rue on February 5, 1907 if it was too late to embody the suggested change (*i.e.*, to transpose the motto and "postage and revenue"). De La Rue replied the following day saying "yes, it was too late."

The Crown Agents, on March 5, 1907, requisitioned the following stamps:

1/2d green:	102,000
2 1/2d blue:	25,080
3d dark olive/purple:	25,080

The Crown Agents received the color proofs for the 3d value on March 6, 1907 and duly chose the purple color (See Figure 9).

On May 28, 1907 an order was placed which included, among other things, 120,000 of the 1d value.

On January 28, 1908, Government House, St. Vincent, wrote to the Crown Agents asking for 6d and 1/- specimens of the coat of arms issues in chocolate with blue center for the 6d value and dark green with terra-cotta center for the 1/- value, but could the motto and "postage and revenue" be transposed? This letter was forwarded to De La Rue on February 24, 1908 along with a requisition for 25,000 copies of the 2d coat of arms stamp. De La Rue replied on February 17, 1908, acknowledging receipt of the order and quoting £70 for cost of plates for the two new stamps. The specimens of the two new stamps were sent to the Crown Agents four days later. Government House told the Crown Agents on March 29, 1908 that the price of £70 was too high and that action was to be postponed. But when the Crown Agents forwarded this letter to De La Rue, they suggested that the existing plates be used, which would reduce the cost to £42 for the plates (*i.e.*, three off at £14 each). De La Rue acknowledged that the Crown Agents were correct, but that the Colony clearly stated that steel plates were required for greater security. The Crown Agents wrote to De La Rue on August 8, 1908, instructing them to put the manufacture of the necessary plates for the 6d and 1/- in hand, in the appropriate universal color scheme colors, 10,000 of the 6d value and 10,000 of the 1/- value. The order was acknowledged by De La Rue two days later. Government House, St. Vincent, wrote to the Crown Agents on August 23, 1908, giving the go-ahead for 6d

Continued on page 22

stamps in lilac and for the 1/- in black on green paper. The Crown Agents forwarded this letter to De La Rue on September 8, 1908. De La Rue replied two days later, asking if the colors of the 2d and 3d values should be changed, as the color of the 6d lilac was too close.

On December 1, 1908, the Crown Agents ordered, among other things, 120,000 of the 1d value. When De La Rue replied two days later, they asked if the design should be



Figure 12

changed as per the new 6d and 1/- values; if so, the cost of the plate would be £14. The Crown Agents gave the go-ahead for the new plate on December 14, 1908. (See Figures 10 and 12.)

Government House, St. Vincent, requested the Crown Agents on March 8, 1909 to have new plates made for the 1/2d and 3d values with the motto and "postage and revenue" transposed, (the 3d value to follow the universal color scheme). This letter was forwarded to De La Rue on March 23.

The Crown Agents wrote to De La Rue on April 20, 1909, enclosing a letter from Government House, St. Vincent, requesting a wider border and the insertion of a full stop under the values of 1/2d and 3d on the new plates. De La Rue replied that it was not possible to widen the border, but that the full stop would be added; they also asked if the full stop was to be added to all values? The Crown



Figure 11

Agents replied on April 25, 1909 stating that the full stop was to be inscribed on all values. (See Figure 11.)

The Crown Agents requisitioned the following stamps on July 13, 1909:

1d:	120,000
3d:	10,000
6d:	10,000
1/-:	10,000

On May 3, 1910 the Crown Agents requisitioned:

1/2d:	120,000
1d:	120,000
2 1/2d:	25,000
3d:	25,000

De La Rue inquired if the new 2 1/2d plate was to have the wider border (cost £20) or as per the other values (cost £14). The Crown Agents requested the new plate at a cost of £14 on May 17, 1910.

On May 30, 1911, the Crown Agents requisitioned:

2d:	10,000
2 1/2d:	25,000
6d:	10,000
1/-:	10,000

The last requisition from the Crown Agents was dated December 12, 1911 and was for:

1d:	120,000
2d:	40,000
1/-:	12,000

The coat of arms issues died with King Edward VII, for they were replaced by the new King George V definitives in December 1912.

Total quantities invoiced were:

First issue:

1/2d value:	102,000 (SG94).
1d value:	180,000 (SG95).
2d value:	25,000 (SG96).

Mormon Church is another excellent source for Oliver's Antigua history

By Tim Anderson
Of the USA

Mark Swetland gave some valuable information on *The History of Antigua* by Vere Langford Oliver (*British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, July-September 2008, p. 18). I consider this work very important because I have been studying the letter-writers as well as their letters and postal markings. Some of my main sources are genealogical works, and of these, Oliver's is the most thorough.

I have used a major genealogical source to be able to use Oliver's *History* -- namely, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Mormons have amassed the largest set of books and records in Salt Lake City. These are in turn available at Family History Centers throughout the world. I have one three miles from my home, and there I have on permanent loan a microfilm copy of all three volumes of Oliver's work. To find this film, go to www.familysearch.com and then go to the Library Tab. You can either do a Place Search for Antigua (West Indies on the second line), or Author Search for Oliver (Vere L. Oliver will be on the second page of the list). You will also want to find your nearest Family History Center. You

can rent the film and are able to renew it. Rental plus three renewals makes it permanent at your site. Costs have changed, but my guess is that \$40 would make the film permanent at your nearest Family History Center.

Help still needed on Jamaican wax tax stamps

After a short article was printed in the last *Journal* about John Davis needing help on Jamaican war tax stamps, his email address changed, so some members may not have been able to reach him.

Mr. Davis would like to update the table on varieties of war tax stamps found on pages 01-09-6 and 01-09-7 of *Encyclopedia of Jamaica Philately* by Steve Jarvis and Derek Sutcliffe. "I would be pleased to hear from any members who have varieties that I can add with, if known, sheet positions, and whether such varieties are constant or otherwise," he said.

The correct email is: j552davis@binternet.com.

St. Vincent's 1907-1911 Coat of Arms issues Concluded

2 1/2d value: 25,000 (SG97).

3d value: 25,000 (SG98).

Second issue:

Motto and "postage and revenue" transposed.
No full stop under "d."

1d value: 120,000 (SG99).

6d value: 10,000 (SG100).

1/- value: 42,000 (SG101).

Third issue:

Full stop under "d" added.

1/2d value: 120,000 (SG102).

1d value: 360,000 (SG103).

2d value: 50,000 (SG104).

2 1/2d value: 50,000 (SG105).

3d value: 35,000 (SG106).

6d value: 20,000 (SG107).

The stamps were designed and recess printed by Thomas De La Rue. The date of first issue was February 1907. The watermark is Multiple Crown CA, and the perforation is 14.



BG Bits and Pieces

*With Dr. P.J. Ramphal
Of Canada*



The Guyana Independence Overprints Revisited

Not surprisingly, my philatelic interest in British Guiana carries over into Guyana, and in no area more so than in the Guyana Independence overprint issue. Indeed, these stamps represent the last definitive issue of British Guiana, transformed by overprints into the first definitive issue of Guyana, a brand new philatelic entity. A recent acquisition from a Canadian auction house, Vance Auctions, of an unlisted error, caused me to revisit my Guyana Independence overprint collection and as a result spawned this article.

in the Local than the London versions. I attribute this to the lesser experience of the local printers and not to engineered errors as has sometimes been suggested. The purpose of this article is to illustrate five errors occurring in the London Overprints, from my collection.



Figure 1

Used one cent, watermarked St. Edward's Crown CA upright, with "target" flaw on third "N" of "INDEPENDENCE." This image is enlarged to show detail. The stamp itself is black and white.

These overprints are of two kinds, both bearing the three-line message: "Guyana/Independence/1966." The first overprints were done in London, referred to as the London Overprints and later in Georgetown, the Local Overprints. The two types are easily distinguishable because of clearly different fonts. They occur on stamps variously watermarked "Multiple Script CA" and "St. Edwards Crown CA," both upright and sideways. Harder to detect are paper color differences. Initially the overprinting was done on stocks of British Guiana stamps which were still in London at the Crown Agents. Errors occurred in both the London and the Local Overprints, but much more so



Figure 2

Used 24 cent watermarked with St. Edward's Crown CA upright, with section of "9" missing. This image is enlarged to show detail.

Figures 1 and 2 are, I believe, minor ink flaws in the printing process, and because I have not seen them elsewhere, I regard them as unique. If I am wrong in that conclusion, please correct me. Figure 1 (enlarged) shows a circular white spot where the oblique stroke of the third "N" in Independence joins the second vertical stroke of that letter. It is one millimeter in diameter and has a central black spot. This bull's-eye configuration suggests to me a burst ink bubble as the origin of the flaw, a flaw very easily overlooked in the best of quality-control inspections.

Figure 2 is likely a larger ink flaw error but less conspicuous because of its occurrence on the black background of the stamp, occurs on the downstroke of the "9" of 1966, where the middle one-third of the downstroke is absent. Most likely, a foreign body interposed between

the stamp and the descending overprint, explains this flaw and this, too, might be a one of a kind error.

Figure 3 shows an imperforate pair of British Guiana 12 cent stamps with the London Overprint on off-white paper watermarked "St. Edward's Crown CA" upright. I cannot explain why this specimen exists. My understanding is that the London Overprints were applied to sheets



Figure 3

Mint imperforate pair of 12 cent stamps, watermarked with St. Edward's Crown CA upright.

of previously printed and perforated British Guiana stamps, held by the Crown Agents. Why then would there be an imperforate sheet of stamps among that lot? Perhaps lax quality control oversight, but quite unlikely in London. If so, where are the others from that sheet? Probably it is my ignorance of the printing process that confuses me and I look forward to clarification.

Figure 4 shows two London Overprinted 48 cent stamps, watermarked "St. Edward's Crown CA" sideways, one normal for comparison, the other displaying a dramatic downward two millimeter shift of the blue ink printing, as well as a one millimeter shift to the left occurring at the same time. This is, of course, not a flaw in the overprinting process but the overprint occurring on a flawed stamp and as such there should be many others from the



Figure 4

Used 48 cent stamp on left, watermarked St. Edward's Crown CA sideways, with a shift of the blue color 2mm downwards and 1mm to the left. A normal stamp is shown at right for comparison.

same sheet, but where are they? I have never seen or heard of any.

Figure 5 is my prized pair of London Overprinted one cent stamps watermarked "St. Edward's Crown CA" upright, showing the righthand stamp devoid of overprint, and the left with "1966" and the last four letters of "INDEPENDENCE" missing. This error must certainly be explained as a paper-fold flaw (something interposed between stamp and overprint), the same intervening foreign body, completely depriving the adjacent stamp of its intended overprint. This stamp was first published by David Atkinson in the March 1996 issue of the *BWISC Bulletin* and by myself in the *BCPSG Journal* in December 1996. It is unquestionably unique and has been helpful in resolving the controversy as to whether used examples of this one cent British Guiana stamp, watermarked "St. Edward's Crown CA" upright, are errors arising from London or Local overprinting processes. However, this paired specimen is without question, a London Overprint error.

I look forward to dialogue with the readership.



Figure 5

Unsevered pair of used one cent stamps, watermarked St. Edward's Crown upright, the right stamp with no overprint; the left one missing "1966" and the latter four letters of "INDEPENDENCE."

Help needed on book update

Peter Robin is seeking help with updates for the third edition of his book, *Illustrated Guide to Imperial and Commonwealth Reply Coupons*. He is soliciting any and all data on Imperial and Commonwealth reply coupons that our members might have. "I will provide existing information to interested assistants as a checklist and will acknowledge all help in the final product," he said.

Additionally, he is interested in appropriate correspondence between London and the respective colonies having bearing on the subject. Mr. Robin may be contacted at P.O. Box 353, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004-0353. His email is Peterrobin@verizon.net, and his telephone and fax is (610) 664-8807.

A message from ye editor ...

After 30 plus years of editing various philatelic (and other) journals, I'm convinced one of the greatest fears editors have is not getting enough material to fill the pages of each issue! That fear has been a constant companion of mine for many years.

So I'm appealing to you once again for help. The cupboard of available articles for the *Journal* is once again empty. Each time President Harwood has asked for help, you have responded. And once again, that flag needs to be raised!

Please put pen to ink, or fingertips to computer keyboard, and send me something ... anything ... that relates to "our" islands. At this moment, for the January 2009 issue, I have a couple articles from Dr. Eric M. Bateson, another installment of Roy Bond's series on early St. Vincent philately, and a St. Vincent article from Peter Elias. Unfortunately, that's all I have. We desperately need additional articles similar to those authored in recent issues by David Horry, Federico Borromeo, Charles Freeland, Mary Gleadall, Edward Barrow, Richard Maisel, Dr. Ben Ramkissoon, John Davis, and Regis Hoffman, among others.

Surely, someone has research that is ready for publication. Having been a member of the study group for many years, my collection of the *Journal* goes back to the 1970s, and as I look back at them, I see much more in the way of heavily researched articles, and a much wider variety of subjects and topics, as well as a greater range of Caribbean islands. What has happened to all of those great authors of past years -- most of them are still with us!

A judge's critique when the *Journal* was last entered in a philatelic literature competition (and captured Vermeil) noted that while our journal serves the interest of its members well, there is a lack of more modern philatelic research and current events from a philatelic angle. What could we do to remedy that perceived inadequacy? How about an article with photographs on the current status of postal facilities and activities on Montserrat as the island recovers from the volcano eruption? Has anyone visited philatelic bureaus or post offices in the various islands? How about a report from those visits? If you read *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, you know Basil Herwald has written a lengthy series of outstanding articles as he wandered the Caribbean, visiting with postal officials and philatelic bureaus. The articles are lavishly illustrated and make good reading. In July's issue, he visited Barbados.

How about more of the postal markings articles such as David Horry and others have done over the years? There are many islands yet to be covered! And for that matter, how about updating some of the earlier articles?

Another feature from those older issues that has gone by the wayside is a column about the people of the BCPSG. "Out and about with members" or something like that would be a well-read article. It would not be difficult for someone who regularly attends stamp shows and group meetings and knows other members to put together a column of personal anecdotes to augment Paul Larsen's "BCPSG Exhibits and Awards" column, which received a favorable comment in the judge's review and critique.

On another matter, but related, I need to share a word or two about scanning material for publication. We can accept high-resolution images, both in color and black and white. Images should be sent at 300dpi, but can be greatly reduced to "thumbnail" size for more rapid electronic transmission, particularly if you have a dial-up Internet service. Check the size of the image you are getting ready to transmit; sometimes I received 8 x 12 inch low resolution images that could be sent at a much higher resolution if reduced proportionately to a column width.

And when you are scanning an image, please, please -- take it out of the protective sleeve and place it straight on your scanner. Time after time we have to manipulate an image and straighten it, and that is very time-consuming after it is sent. It would be nice if you could place the stamp or cover on a black sheet of paper and graphically crop the paper to a small border around the image. If you have any question about how to do any of this, give me a call or email and we'll help.

So, please give these ideas some thought. I stand ready to help in any way necessary. You don't need to be a professional writer, and you don't need to be a computer whiz to prepare articles for publication. I promise that I am very easy to work with. If you will take a small amount of time to help the study unit, we will all benefit through a stronger and better *Journal*.

Oh, and by the way, if you're eager to help, Jack Harwood would love to have you offer to take the position of Advertising Manager. Doing so will provide more income from ad sales and thus reduce the cost of producing each issue ... and that means a cost savings to you!

BCPSG Exhibits and Awards

By Paul Larsen
Awards Chairman

Following is a listing of recent British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) member exhibit participants and awards.

INDYPEX 2008, June 27-29
Indianapolis, Indiana

Jerome Kasper
Illustrated World War II British Military Airletters
Gold, APS 1940-1980 Medal,
Marcus White Showcase Reserve Grand
Aerogrammes of Ethiopia
Vermeil

Reuben Ramkissoon
Air Letter Sheets (Aerogrammes) of
Trinidad and Tobago (1943-1995)
Vermeil

EFIRO 2008, June 20-27
Bucharest, Romania

George Bowman
Victoria Barred Oval Cancels (SF)
Vermeil

Danforth Walker
Barwani - A Princely Indian State
Gold

Reuben Ramkissoon
Development of the U.S. Lunar Exploration
Gold
The Trinidad WWI Red Cross Label that Became a
Postage Stamp for a Day (SF)
Gold

Paul Larsen
Caroline Islands to 1914
Large Vermeil

Steamship Lines to the Caribbean Vol. 2 recommended

By Graham Booth
Of the United Kingdom

I had slight reservations about Volume 1 of this series produced by Mike Rego on RMSP and HAPAG, and published by our sister society, the British West Indies Study Circle (BWISC) in the United Kingdom, not because of its quality which was excellent, but because it contained little new that was not already in print.

That reservation cannot apply to Volume 2, which is a monumental work in every respect: 512 pages versus 228 in Volume 1. It covers five shipping lines that traded in the West Indies, in all of which I have a passing interest, and four of which I seriously collect, namely United Fruit, Imperial Direct, Canadian National Steamships, Elders & Fyffes, and the Royal Netherlands Steamship Co.

In every case, there is either substantial new information that has never appeared in print, or existing material is conveniently gathered together in one place. Take, for instance, the Lady Boats. There is a history in existence, but it is long out of print and not easy to find second-hand. The main reference book is Michael Oliver's *Notes For Philatelists on the Leeward Isles*, but it restricts itself to that geographical area and therefore contains little

information on the *Lady Somers* and *Lady Rodney* that traded with Jamaica in the pre-war era. The Lady Boat section in this book contains both that and much information on the Canadian Government Merchant Marine ships that traded with the West Indies, though not those that were East Coast vessels. Similarly there is a long out-of-print history of the Fyffes Line that contains a comprehensive fleet list; but I have never seen a list of marks for this line that has any pretensions to being comprehensive, and my own list of marks for the Great White Fleet is a far-from-comprehensive set of photocopied pages.

The line histories are succinct, the illustrations are numerous, and their quality excellent, particularly the colored copies of ephemera. The indices are comprehensive and the reference number given to each mark invaluable. Provided the dealers buy this book, which they should, no longer will it be necessary to ask questions on eBay or in postal auctions to try and establish exactly which mark is for sale. I look forward to the next volume in this series and strongly recommend this book. To order, contact Pennymead Auctions, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. Yorkshire HG5 8AZ, United Kingdom, or by email at pennymead@aol.com.

President's Message

By Jack Harwood

As you have no doubt noticed, most of our journal illustrations are now in color. The editor and I have each received a number of favorable comments, and as a result, we plan to produce all future issues in color. The cost of this change has dropped to the point where it is minimal, and color photos unquestionably add to the appeal of many articles. You now have no excuse to delay writing about your favorite philatelic topic. Our editor needs your input, and the membership would like to have your thoughts in print. Please consider writing an article for this journal. It may be long or short, and cover any topic in the wide realm of BWI philately. If you need assistance in writing or editing, please contact your study group leader, or any group officer. We'd like to hear from you.

Our schedule of future meetings has undergone some changes. As previously announced, the 2009 annual meeting will be held May 22-24, in conjunction with NOJEX, at the Crowne Plaza Meadowlands Hotel in Secaucus, New Jersey. Consult the show website (www.nojex.org) for full details and hotel reservation information. The 2010 annual meeting will convene in May 2010, in conjunction with London 2010, jointly with our U.K. sister society, the British West Indies Study Circle. Our 2011, 2012 and 2013 meeting dates and venues are yet to be determined. The 2012 event likely will be planned for one of the Caribbean countries. If you have a preference for a particular island or country, please convey your thoughts to me or any of the other officers. And finally, we have agreed to join with five other British "island" philatelic specialty societies for our annual meeting in St. Louis in 2014. We do not normally plan our meetings so far in advance, but the 2014 show sounds like an excellent opportunity to join with several other groups with similar interests. More on all these events will appear in future issues.

After an excellent 2008 society auction, our auction manager is anxious to receive your material for next year's event. This is a fine time to clean out your unwanted material, and help support your group. Please don't put it off, as lots need to be submitted soon.

As you may have noticed in the membership column, we continue to experience a slow decline in membership. This is a problem common to many specialized philatelic societies, and is one we need to seriously address. Only you, the members, can help reverse this trend. A short presentation at your local stamp club may produce a new member or two. Perhaps your favorite dealer is a candidate for membership. And don't forget to solicit the sellers of BWI material on eBay or other internet auction sites. All are potential sources of new members. If our group is to survive and prosper, it needs an ongoing infusion of new members. Each of us can have an impact. No great effort is required. But your contribution to the effort is important. Please step up to the task.

It is a pleasure to introduce Bernie Beston of Adelaide, South Australia, as the new Study Group Leader for British Guiana/Guyana. Bernie is a long-time collector of this material. If your interests include British Guiana or Guyana, please take a moment to introduce yourself to him. Some of you met Bernie at our meeting in Washington 2006, and I suspect



he will be present in London 2010. You can find his contact information (and that of all other study group leaders) inside the front cover of this issue.

Finally, after five years as your president, I will step down at the end of this year. The experience has been enjoyable, interesting, exciting, challenging at times, and very rewarding. I have made many new friends and had the pleasure of meeting many members. I extend my sincere thanks to the officers, trustees, study group leaders and committee members who are the lifeblood of the group. Without their considerable contributions, the group could not function. They were a continual source of information and assistance to me, and I will be forever grateful to each of them. I plan to continue to be active in the group, and look forward to seeing many of you at future meetings.

CAYMAN ISLANDS By Richard Maisel

The third of our occasional series devoted to Classic Collections, this describes Richard Maisel's superb Large Gold Medal collection. Lavishly illustrated in colour, this booklet relates the progression of Cayman Islands philately from the earliest use of the Jamaican stamps, through the development of first Queen Victoria keyplate designs up to the pictorial issues of the King George V period. **Price: £12.00 (Approx. \$22.80).** BWISC Members' discount £2.00 (Approx. \$3.80).

This book is available now and can be ordered from David Druett of Pennymead Auctions at 1, Brewerton Street, Knaresborough, N. YORKS, HG5 8AZ UK or via e-mail at Pennmead@aol.com, or via Telephone at 0044 (0)1423 865962 or Fax at 0044(0)1423547057.

Please advise if airmail or surface mail is required for overseas orders.

NOTE: Post & packing are extra.

Membership Director's Report — By Bob Stewart

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

Ken Deaver, 1918 Parkhill Dr., Billings, MT 59102 USA.
Email: ksdeaver1@bresnan.net. Philatelic interests: Trinidad and Tobago and South America. Sponsored by John Seidl.

Thomas O. Surkie, 2950 Mt. Wilkindon Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30339 USA. Email: tsturkie@aol.com. Philatelic interests: Cayman Islands. Sponsored by Bob Stewart and John Seidl.

Address Changes

David Horry, 201-45 Splendid City, 588 Jin Hui Lu, Hong Qiao, Shanghai 201 103 CHINA.

Ellsworth B. Mink, P.O. Box 12861, Columbia, SC 29211 USA

Graham Williams, 30 St. James Park, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2LH, UNITED KINGDOM

D.T. Swart, P.O. Box 818, Constantia, 7848 SOUTH AFRICA

New email addresses

Alan Rigby: alan_rigby@ntlworld.com

Jerry Weirich: jgpmj@aol.com

Resignation

Tim Lipworth of the United Kingdom

Deceased

John Hilsdon of the United Kingdom
Dr. Rene Manes of the USA

NOTE:

Still looking for the current address of Life Member Eugene F. Deems!

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 email, at stewart99@comcast.net

STEAMSHIP LINES TO THE CARIBBEAN VOLUME 1

By Michael R. Rego

This book, the first of 4 volumes, covers two of the most important lines, the Royal Mail Line and Hamburg-American Line. The format details the history of each line, advertisements of the time, route structure, listings of offices and agents, any local stamps used, agents markings and ship markings, together with illustrations of some of the ships themselves and a Fleet List. This softbacked book of approximately 230 pages will be a welcome addition to every British West Indies collector's library.

PRICE: £36.00 (BWISC member's discount £4.00)

This book is available now and can be ordered from **David Druett of Pennymead Auctions at 1, Brewerton Street, Knaresborough, N. YORKS, HG5 8AZ, U.K.**

or via email at

Pennymead@aol.com

or via Telephone at 0044 (0)1423 865962 or Fax at 0044(0)1423547057.

Please advise if airmail or surface mail is required for overseas orders. Post & packing are extra.

COMMERCIAL M A I L

We have recent commercial mail, many with local usages, including meters, inter-island, registered governmental stampless, etc. from many of the Caribbean countries (including Bermuda). Rare St. Vincent Provisionals 1999-2003 available.

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

We also carry earlier material.
Cheques accepted in any currency.

STEVEN ZIRINSKY

Box 49, Ansonia Station, NY, NY 10023 USA
Tel: 718-706-0616 Fax: 718-706-0619
szirinsky@cs.com

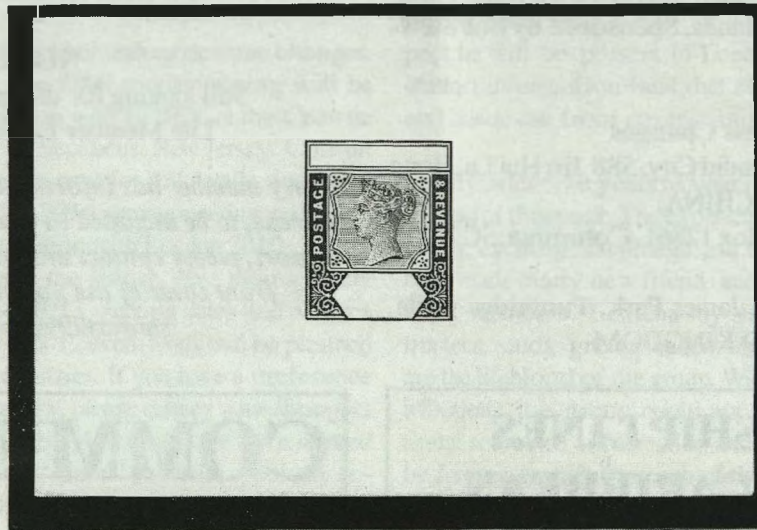
Member: APS PTS

Victoria Stamp Company

PUBLIC AUCTION #25 ~ NOVEMBER, 2008



Our November Public Auction features the Paul A. Larsen Gold Medal exhibit of Leeward Islands, 1890-1911 and the Duane A. Larson award winning collection of Jamaica. In addition we offer a specialized collection of Antigua, a comprehensive General British Commonwealth collection and much, much more!



*Request your complimentary copy of the catalogue today or
In October view the sale on our website: www.VictoriaStampCo.com*

PHOEBE A. MACGILLIVARY

P. O. Box 745

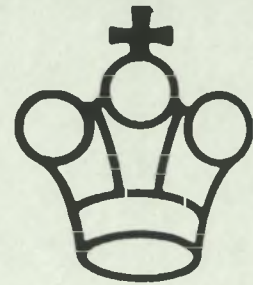
Ridgewood, NJ 07451 USA

Phone: 201 653 7283 Fax: 201 612 0024 Email: VictoriaStampCo@aol.com



THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

O • F N • A • T • I • O • N • S



"VISIT OUR BOOTH AT
MOST MAJOR SHOWS"

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

Want lists from all reigns are accepted with references.

L. W. Martin, Jr.

CROWN COLONY STAMPS

P.O. BOX 1198

BELLAIRE, TEXAS 77401

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



Do you Collect

the WEST INDIES and the CARIBBEAN AREA?

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

Write or telephone for **FREE CATALOGUE**.



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

Telephone: Thirsk (0845) 523942

Member: BCPSG, BWISC

Caribbean

Always the Unusual,
Esoteric & Inimitable...

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

We are always interested in buying specialized items or collections.

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

George Alevizos

P.O. Box 1408

Topanga, CA 90290-1408 USA

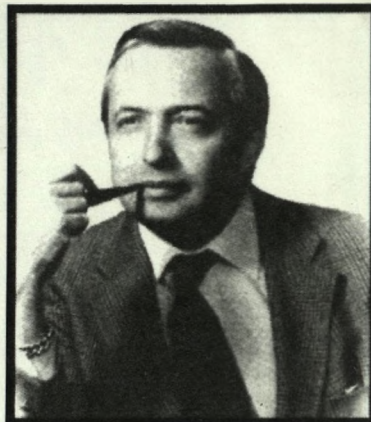
Telephone: (310) 455-2300; FAX: (310) 455-2303

Cal. Auc. Lic. No. A1229

The British Empire

A-Z 1840-1935 Mint and Used

The Largest and Most Valuable Stock in America



WANT LISTS

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

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



George W. Holschauer

COLONIAL STAMP CO.

5757 WILSHIRE BLVD., PH#8

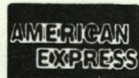
LOS ANGELES, CA 90036

Ph: (323) 933-9435

Fax (323) 939-9930

eMail: gwh225@aol.com

Visit our Web Site: www.colonialstamps.com



CCNY, CSDA, IFSDA,
INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY APPRAISERS