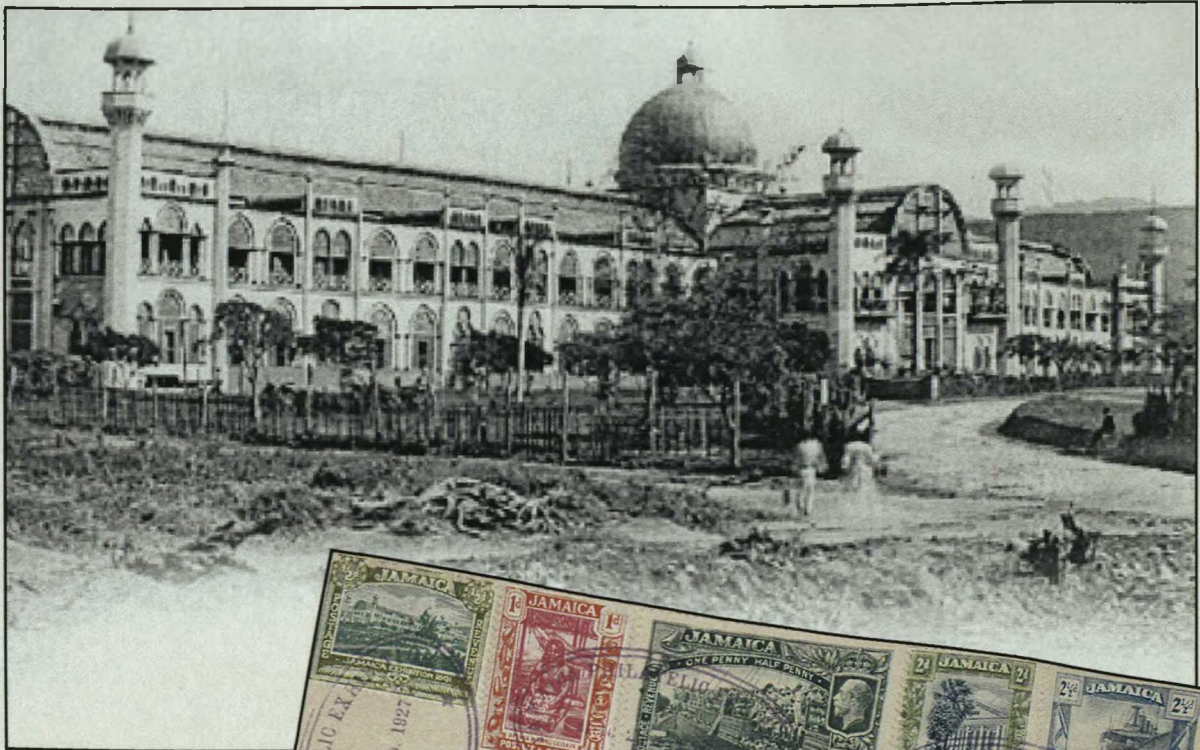


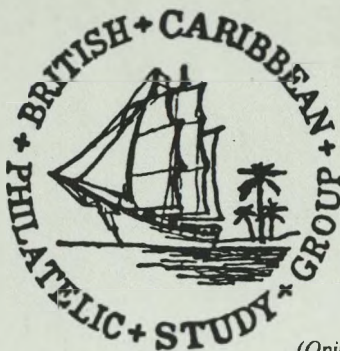
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The Great Exhibition Hall was a glass and wooden structure of Moorish architecture. See Dr. Raj Ramphal's column beginning on page 23.



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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

Barbados franked cover with postal censorship

By Edmund A. Bayley FRPSL &
Charles Freeland FRPSL

My good friend and colleague, Charles Freeland of Basel, Switzerland, sent me a copy of the illustrated cover (Figure 1) which he recently acquired on eBay. The cover was mailed on July 10, 1943 to Buenos Aires, where it was backstamped on July 17. It bears the common censor label L10 and is franked 3/2 with an unusual use of five meter stamps (three of the 1/- denomination, one 1/2d and one 1 1/2d). The cover sent me digging into the Postal Records of the Barbados Gen-

approved during the year permitting their use here. These machines impress a letter, etc., simultaneously with an impression of the postage payable (1/2d., 1d., 1 1/2d., etc.) with the Barbados postmark and date, and also with a private advertising slogan individual to the licensee... [Supplement to Official Gazette, May 22, 1933].

The firm that had been marketing the Roneo Neopost machines was T. Geddes Grant Limited, which, incidentally, is the same firm who sent the illustrated cover. One would have thought that this firm would have applied for and have been granted the first license for using these

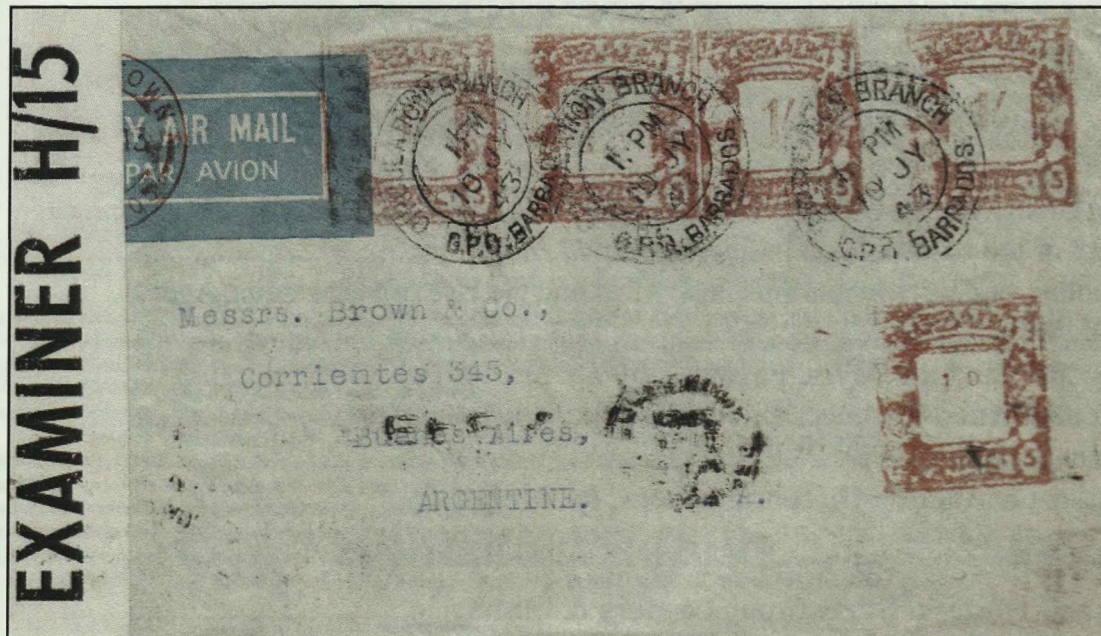


FIGURE 1a

Cover mailed July 10, 1943 from Barbados to Argentina with five meter stamps, and also bearing a censor label.

eral Post Office and I have discovered the following information, which with the help of Charles, I would like to share with readers.

It seems that the use of Postal Franking Machines was authorized for use in Barbados in 1932, as we read from paragraph 18 of the Barbados Post Office Annual Report for the year 1932, which states:

18. At the request of a local firm, who are marketing the "Neopost" machine in the West Indies, regulations were

franking machines. However, we find that the first license was actually issued to the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation, (now The Barbados Light & Power Company Limited) and this license was not granted until June 5, 1937, some five years later. T. Geddes Grant Limited was issued License No. 4 on May 5, 1939. The franking machine was obviously a Roneo Neopost and its meter number was "N5" with a further number of "RNE1342." The machine could only frank envelopes with the denominations of 1/2d, 1 1/2d, 2 1/2d, 3d, 6d and 1/-. Note that this meant that even quite low rates needed multiple impres-

sions of the franks and Charles' cover bears the minimum number needed to make up its rate.

With the outbreak of World War II, regulations to authorize postal censorship were introduced under the powers contained in the (Imperial) Emergency Powers (Defence) Act 1939. Paragraph 4 of the Barbados Post Office Annual Report for the year 1939 makes interesting reading:

4. Censorship of all incoming and outgoing mail had been imposed on 31st August, just as the German army marched into Poland, but before this the Department had earlier in that month, and as far back as the month of May, di-

then onwards by PAA (Pan American Airways). I guess that "direct" was meant to convey to the general public that the letter would travel the whole journey by "air" as opposed to partly by "steamer" and partly by "air."

It is not clear how the rate of 3/2 on this particular cover was arrived at, but it is obvious that Geddes Grant made up the postal rate to the Argentine by affixing multiple strikes of the different denominations of the machine to make up the rate.

It appears that Geddes Grant never looked after the maintenance of their machine properly, *i.e.*, keeping it clean

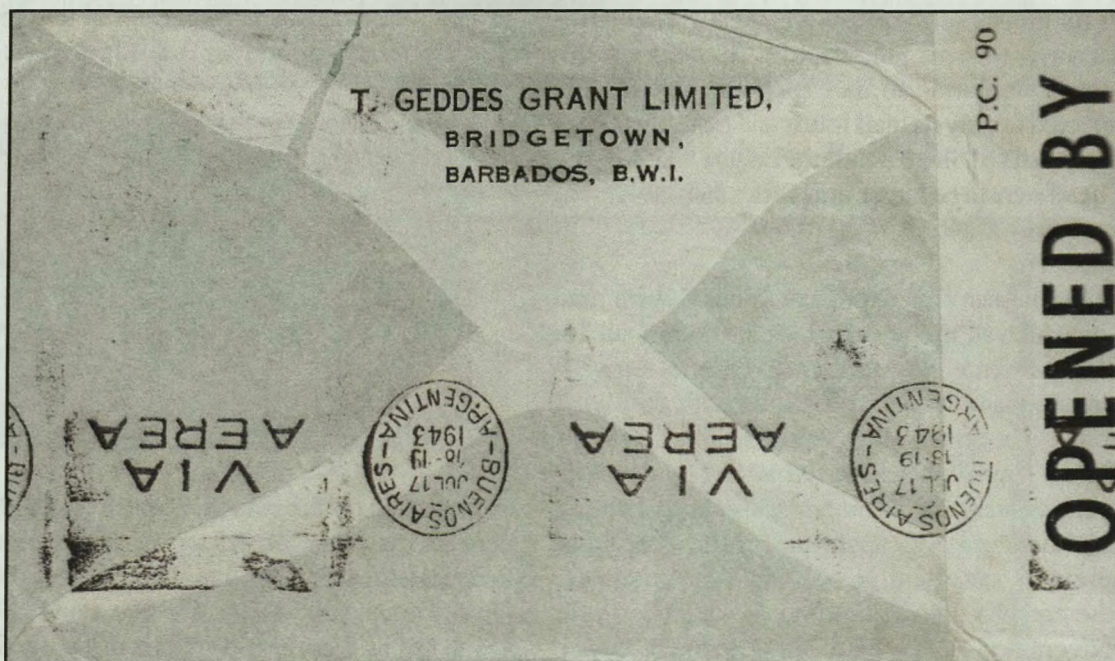


FIGURE 1b

Rear of cover mailed July 10, 1943 from Barbados to Argentina, showing return address of T. Geddes Grant Limited, and Buenos Aires receiving mark of July 17, 1943.

rected the attention of the Government to the fact that correspondence of German origin, and of an apparently suspicious nature, was finding its way through the post.

As from February 9, 1939, airmail letters to the Argentine were sent to Trinidad and then onward by KLM Dutch Air Lines. The airmail rates (including postage) were: for one-half ounce, 2/4; for one ounce, 4/5 1/2d.; and for 1 1/2 ounces, 6/8 1/2d. If, however, the letter was sent from Barbados to Trinidad by steamer rather than by air (KLM), then the rate of postage would be reduced by 3 1/2d., 7d., or 10 1/2d, depending on its weight. As from January 16, 1940 an amendment was made to the airmail rate to Argentina and a new direct rate of 2/10 per half ounce, or part thereof, was introduced. Although the Post Office Notice advising of this new rate states that the mail was "direct," in fact the mail went to Trinidad by KLM and

and properly inked. That is probably why the strikes on this cover are so smudged and illegible. Not a very good advertisement for a machine that they were trying to promote and sell in the West Indies.

Nuggets from the past ...

New BCPSG officers have been elected for the term 1990-1991. The president is Jay Fredrick, Dr. Peter P. McCann is vice president; Dr. M. Fitz Roett is secretary; and Tom Cusick is treasurer. Mark W. Swetland was elected editor, and R.V. Swarbrick was elected international director.

-- BCPSG Journal
March 1990



Bermuda's early flying boat service

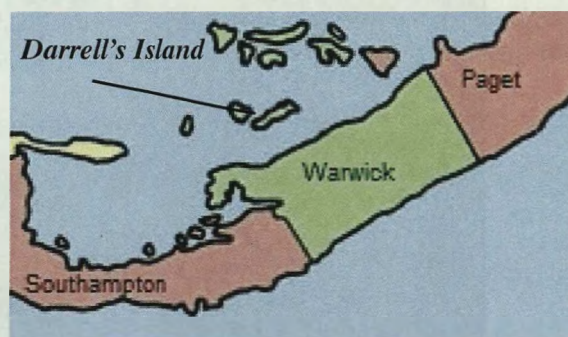
By Peter Colwell
Of the USA

In the late 1930s, both the United States, with Juan Trippe's Pan American Airways, and Great Britain, with its Empire Air Mail Scheme (EAMS) and Imperial Airways, were marking rapid expansions and development of worldwide airmail services. Imperial Airways expected to carry its mail loads and passengers with the newly produced Short Brothers Empire Class flying boats. These were to be larger and faster than any flying boats previously available.

The EAMS program aimed to create Empire-wide mail service in which all Empire mail would be airmail for one rate of 1.5-pence per half ounce. Imperial Airways quickly made plans for proving flights with the flying boats from Great Britain all over the Empire. With the onset of new aircraft, there needed to be new developments in many areas: radio transmissions for communications, air-to-air refueling capabilities to extend the range of the new craft, and extensive training of more crews to handle the complications of landing on water. Bermuda and its government were keen to have Bermuda participate fully in this airmail era. On Darrell's Island in the Hamilton Harbour of Bermuda, there was construction of a flying boat airport which was to make Bermuda the seaplane flying boat center of the mid-Atlantic. (A sea-

plane is an aircraft which lands on pontoon with its fuselage above the water, while a flying boat is one which lands in the water on its fuselage.)

On May 25, 1937, the Short S.23 Empire "C" class flying boat *Cavalier* took off from this air terminal, not yet officially opened, bound for Port Washington, New York



in preparation for the establishment of regular New York-Bermuda passenger/airmail service. On October 13, 1983, Bermuda issued a set of postage stamps titled the "Manned Flight Bicentenary" issue. The 40¢ stamp, Scott #443, and shown in *Figure 1*, displayed the Short S.23 *Cavalier* on the water in front of the Imperial Airways facility on Darrell's Island to commemorate the first scheduled passenger flight from Bermuda to New York. The plane's fuselage in the stamp clearly shows the registration letters "G-ADUU" which identifies the *Cavalier*.



Figure 1

This 1983 Bermuda stamp showed the Short S.23 Cavalier at Darrell's Island.

The S.23, the earliest of the Empire boats, had a range of about 750 miles at a maximum speed of 200 m.p.h. Capacity for mail and cargo was about 3,500 pounds when carrying 16 to 24 passengers. Later versions of these flying boats had more powerful engines and larger capacities and speed.

At the time Imperial Airways was building its ocean-crossing capabilities, Juan Trippe had similar ambitions for his Pan American Airways routes. The Bermuda-New York airmail/passenger service was to be shared by having the Short S.23 *Cavalier* do the Bermuda to New York route, while Pan American's Sikorsky S.42, the NC16735 *Bermuda Clipper* did the New York to Bermuda route. The first official flight of the service from Bermuda to



Figure 2
 First flight cover mailed from St. Georges, Bermuda to Exeter, England, carried by the flying boat, Cavalier.



Figure 3
 Bermuda-bound first flight cover marked "FAM 17" in the cachet.

New York occurred on June 15, 1937. In Figure 2, we display a piece mailed from St. Georges, Bermuda, to Exeter, England, carried by the *Cavalier* on this first flight, mailed at St. Georges on June 15. The cover is franked with Bermuda postage paid by Scott #106, 108, 112 in the denominations one-penny, two-pence, and six-pence respectively. (After the establishment of EAMS, the rate would have been 1.5 pence.)

The letter went to England by way of Port Washington, New York on the *Cavalier*, and the piece is backstamped at the Alphington Post Office on June 26, 1937. In the matter of flying cross-Atlantic routes, Imperial Airway was ahead of Pan American Airways. Pan American did

its first proving flights across the Atlantic on August 16, 1937, but didn't start its New York to London services until 1939.

The Short S.23s were designed to serve for 10 years, but the potential hazards for flying boats were many and the learning curves for their operations were steep. The *Cavalier* was lost on the way down the East Coast to Bermuda on January 21, 1939 with three fatalities and 10 survivors rescued by the tanker *ESSO Baytown*. Among the difficulties for the flying boats in this service were the rough and cold waters in the New York area during the winter. In mid-November of 1937, Imperial and Pan

Continued on page 8

Postmarks of the British West Indies: British Honduras

KGVI 1937-1951

By David Horry
Of China

It was the Spaniards under Columbus who first tipped-up in Belize back in 1502 -- but they weren't terribly interested -- it was shipwrecked buccaneers who first settled Belize in 1638. British colonists from Jamaica visited the area in 1662 and African slaves were brought in to work in the logging industry that had quickly sprung

"The (Philatelic) History of British Honduras" first appeared in *The British West Indian Philatelist* in March 1954, followed 20 years later by Simon Goldbalt's "Classification of British Honduran Village Postmarks" in the *British West Indies Study Circle Bulletin*. It was Edward F. Addiss of Naples, Florida, whose monograph, *The Town Cancels of British Honduras, 1880-1973*, who first brought the postmarks of this Central American British colony to book. It was published by the BCPSG in 1990.



Figure 1
Early Spanish influences -- San Pedro LTRC; Placencia bTRO with manuscript date; Barranco bTRO dateless and fuzzy.

up. The Spanish commanders in Mexico resented the British presence and made several attempts to boot the British out until 1786, when the king of Spain formally recognized British sovereignty over the territory in exchange for withdrawal from Honduras and Nicaragua.

Addiss specifically avoided a rarity scale. He later added "The Cancellations of Belize, 1841-1973" in the June 1992 issue of the BCPSG *Journal*. An update by Dr. Ian Matheson can be found in the December 1993 *Journal*. Ted Proud published *The Postal History of British Hondu-*

Bermuda's early flying boat service

Continued from page 7

American decided to switch their U.S. terminal from Port Washington, New York to Baltimore, Maryland. These services began from Baltimore on March 16, 1938, and in Figure 3 we have a Bermuda-bound first flight cover with a cachet designating the airmail service as FAM 17. The 10-cents U.S. postage is covered by a five-cent airmail bordered envelope, Scott #UC2, with an additional five-cent Virginia Dare stamp, Scott #796. The piece is backstamped in Hamilton, Bermuda on March 16, 1938.

The Short flying boats served the EAMS very well and

very widely. Civilian airmail and passenger services were severely tested and interrupted by World War II. It was well into 1950 when BOAC, the successor air enterprise to Imperial and other airlines, ended its routine use of Shorts in favor of land-based aircraft with their more powerful engines, larger capacities and extended ranges. At this time, the few remaining viable flying boats were purchased and kept flying by smaller air service companies whose routes could be more effectively served by the Shorts. It is my understanding that a last Short S.45 flying boat lives out a well-deserved retirement in the Oakland (California) Aviation Museum.



Figure 2
*The Amerindian influences are few;
 Sittee River TRO with manuscript date.*



Figure 4
*Nothing to do with the French:
 Seine Bight LTRC 1939.*



Figure 3
The English influences -- Monkey River bTRO; Rockstone Pond bTRO; Roaring Creek bTRO.

ras in 1999 which extended information considerably and there are 10 pages within my recently published *Encyclopaedia of West Indies Postmarks, King George VI* (published by Murray Payne) which includes several previously unrecorded postmarks and new earliest and latest recorded dates.

This vast area of green jungle was full of good purple and violet strikes; outside of the main townships these were usually in the form of temporary rubber (what else!), datestamps, or "TRDs," Spanish names abound: Barranco, Benque Viejo, Placencia, Progreso, Punta Gorda, San

Continued on page 10

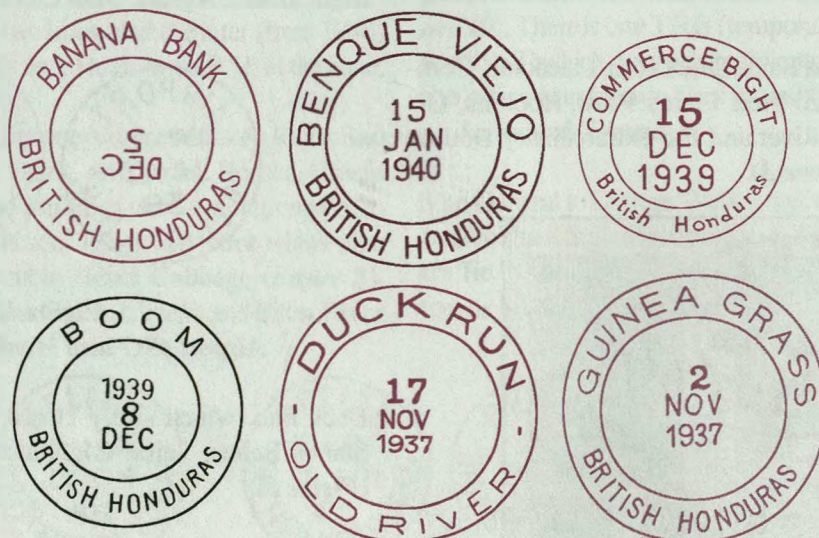


Figure 5
Six of the best pre-World War II LTRCs -- Banana Bank, Benque Viejo, Commerce Bight, Boom, Duck Run and Guinea Grass.



Figure 6
Crooked Tree LTRC



Figure 9
Hopkins S.C. (Stann Creek) TRO stamp undated.

Estevan, San Pedro and Sarteneja (Figure 1). Sittie River (Figure 2) may be the only Amerindian name, but everything else appears to be of English origin: All Pines,

The remote coastal village of Seine Bight, just north of Placencia, does not have a French origin but is named after the fishing nets used by the locals, most of who hailed from St. Vincent, arriving in 1869 (Figure 4).

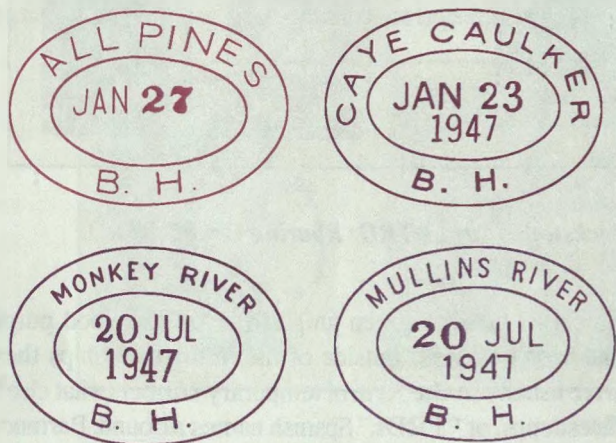


Figure 7
bTROs from 1947 -- All Pines, Caye Caulker, Monkey River, and Mullins River.

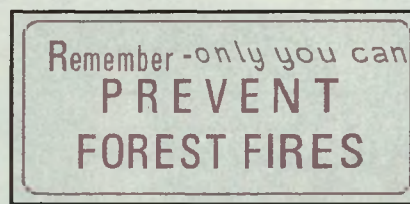


Figure 11
Prevent Forest Fires TRB

Burrell Boom, Banana Bank, Duck Run, Caledonia, Commerce Bight, Crooked Tree, Gales Point, Hopkins, Orange Walk, Mullins River and the extraordinary Double Head Cabbage! (Figure 3).

Most of the early period (pre-World War II) TRCs (temporary rubber circles) are extremely rare. At the recent London Philatex, an American dealer had five different 1938 registered covers for sale, all at over £350; the top item, bearing a Banana Bank TRC for which the asking price was £750! The other very rare TRCs are Commerce Bight, Boom, Agstat, Stan Creek (Agricultural Station),



Figure 8
Double Head Cabbage bTRO(2) one of the world's most exotically named post offices.



Figure 12
Airport sSC and Monkey River sSC.

Duck Run (which sadly closed before the war), Radio Station Belize, Seine Bight and 20 Miles Stann Creek (Figure 5).

Only Crooked Tree, which opened later in 1947, is a little easier to find (Figure 6). The last recorded date for Mullins River is November 21, 1936 but it may have existed until 1940 when the new temporary rubber oval was released.



Figure 10

Victor I LTRC and Radio Station Belize LTRC-(2), the only recorded strike with a partial reconstruction.

The British Honduran ovals (bTROs), which began life in 1940, are generally small and more readily available although mainly scarce. Roger Wells, the ubiquitous collector of Grimsby, is responsible for many of the examples on both piece and cover. There are two types, the earlier

were released in 1947 and 1948 respectively and both are found with manuscript dates (Figure 9). I recently discovered a partial, large temporary rubber circle inscribed "Victor I" from early 1951; it may be a commercial mark but until another shows up one can only specu-



Figure 13

Benque Viejo sSC(2) 1951, and San Estevan sSC in purple.

bTRO with the date in two lines and the later (from 1948) with the date in a single line. Both have B.H. at the base.

Worth looking for are Benque Viejo, Monkey River, San Estevan, Agstat Stann Creek, All Pines, Bomba, Gracie Rock, Guinea Grass and San from the former group Pedro (Figure 7) and San Estevan, from the latter which also contains the scarce Double Head Cabbage (Figure 8). Larger TROs for Hopkins (Stann Creek) and Sittee River

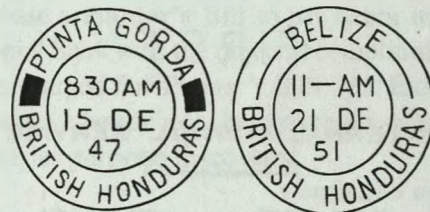


Figure 15

Punta Gorda "Birmingham" 1947 and Belize "New Birmingham" 1951.

late as to its origin. I have also turned up a Radio Station postmark different to the one from the KGV period (Figure 10). There is one TRB (temporary rubber box) [Matheson 1953] which reminds recipients to prevent forest fires: the office is unknown (but probably Belize); this is a rare strike indeed (Figure 11).

The Corozal to Orange Walk Road was completed a month before the King's Coronation in 1937 and this opened up traffic in the north of the colony considerably. The main towns and Belize used standard small single circle post-

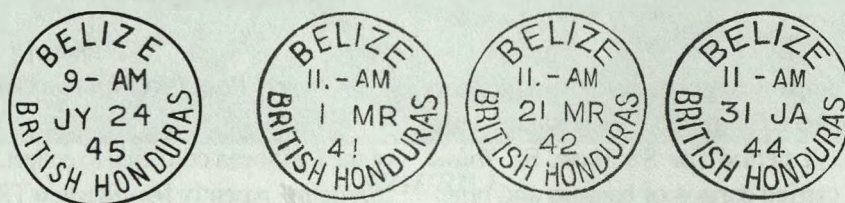


Figure 14

The original Belize sSC(10) and the three Madame Joseph sSCF(1), sSCF(2) and sSCF(3).



Figure 16

United Fruit Company: SS Ulua, mUFC (6); SS Toloa, LUFC(4); SS Musa, mUFC mUFC(3).

marks derived in the United Kingdom. Most are common with the exception of the Airport Belize strike which is very rare and the short-lived strike from Monkey River sSC(2) found in the middle six months of 1948 (Figure 12); both have time indication which is unusual for smaller single circles. The Benque Viejo sSC(2) 1947-1950 is found in purple ink and is the only sSC with a four number year (Figure 13).

1939 -- Belize to Punta Gorda and return (Figure 18). These are very hard to find. Finding postmark material, other than Belize and the main towns, is exceedingly difficult. Occasional sales from the larger auction houses



Figure 17

Belize – Cayo first flight cachet, 1937.



Figure 18

Punta Gorda – Belize first flight cachet 1939.

Three Belize Madame Josephs from 1941, 1942 and 1944 are to be found and are somewhat surprisingly worth considerably more than the original and genuine items! (Figure 14). Punta Gorda boasts the only Birmingham strike found within the period (1940-1947) and Belize has a New Birmingham (1951-1957) which is not easy to find on KGVI (Figure 15).

lead to fearsome bidding. Nothing much ever crops up on eBay and with TRC covers hitting the roof, I would rate British Honduras postmarks to be the most difficult

The United Fruit Company’s gorgeous postmarks are mainly to be found in the KGV period, but postmarks are noted within the KGVI period for SS Musa, SS Toloa and SS Ulua, which carried cargoes of bananas and pineapples (Figure 16). There are four first flight cachets celebrating inaugural internal air services: August 17, 1937 -- Belize to Cayo and return (Figure 17); and March 15,



Figure 19

Parcel Post TRC and partial reconstruction.

of the Caribbean colonies to collect, but *nils carborundum illigitimi!* I recently found a new TRC Parcel Post (March 1944) different than Ted Proud’s PP3 of 1918 vintage (Figure 19) – which shows that something can turn up, eventually!

The Handling of Confidential Business Mail and the Use of Forwarding Agents

By **Tim Anderson**
Of the USA

This article is meant to discuss briefly two areas of West Indies philately that are rarely mentioned in this journal, namely the history of St. Thomas in the British mail system, and the role of forwarding agents. I am not an expert in these areas. I have acquired a stampless folded letter which has led me to raise these questions. The letter is a confidential business letter written in Antigua in 1850. To preserve the confidentiality, it was carried to St. Thomas where it entered the mail to England under the care of a forwarding agent.

First, I think it worth reviewing the contents of the letter and its reply, in order to understand why it was mailed with such extraordinary caution. The writer of the confidential letter was Richard Burroughs Eldridge, a merchant of St. John's, Antigua. In his public life, he was also,

"...one of the Puisne Barons of the Court of Exchequer, Master in Chancery, and senior member of the House of Assembly." Eldridge, in his capacity as merchant, writes to a firm in Whitehaven, England, requesting that they send out 30 square yards of Whitehaven paving stones. He addressed his purchase order, personally, to the head of the firm, Henry Jefferson.

The real nature of the letter had to do with the problems that colonial planters and businessmen had in paying for goods received from England. Payment was most often required in British Pounds; Antigua currency would not be accepted. The normal practice was to go to the bank and purchase a Planter's Bill to pay debts in Sterling. The Colonial Bank was the object of complaints over the high rates charged for Planter's Bills. Mr. Eldridge was anxious to get a better rate, but apparently was not willing to have his purpose discovered.

Continued on page 14

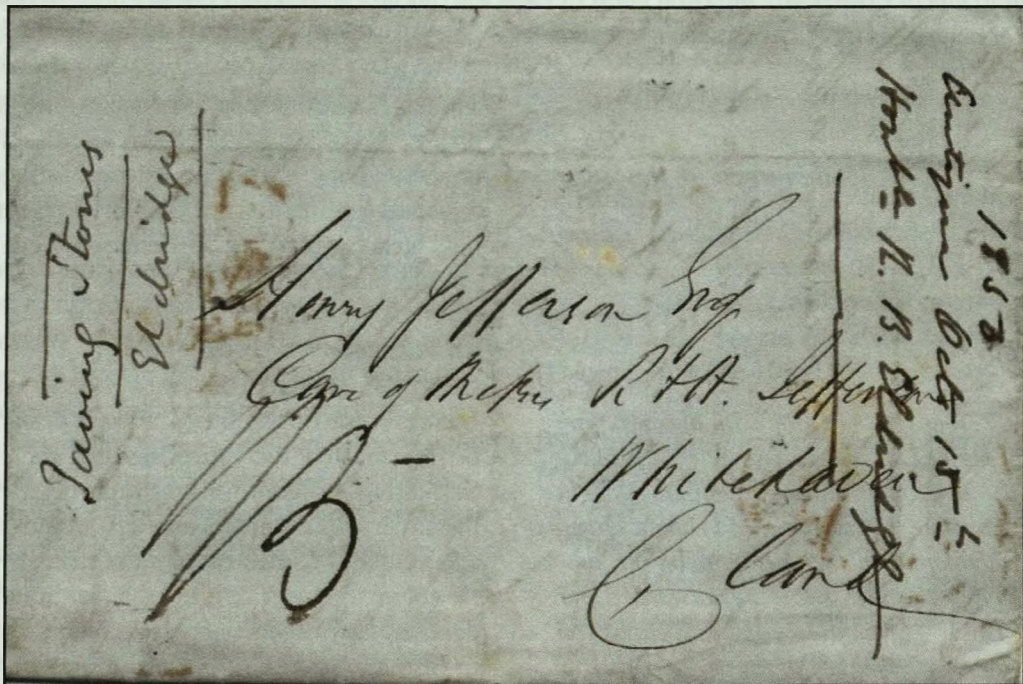


FIGURE 1

Front of a stampless letter sent to England via St. Thomas. The letter is a confidential business letter written in Antigua in 1850. To preserve confidentiality, it was carried to St. Thomas where it entered the mail to England under care of a forwarding agent.



FIGURE 2
Reverse side of the stampless letter sent from Antigua via St. Thomas in 1850.

Eldridge writes Henry Jefferson that his reason for sending an order for paving stones directly to Jefferson was to lay out the problems he faces with the Colonial Bank. To back up his claim, he sent along a copy of the *Barbados Globe* with an editorial on the subject. Henry Jefferson was traveling when the Eldridge letter arrived and so it was sent on to him in Liverpool. Jefferson put it in his letterbox and continued his travels to Southampton, where he wrote his response:

Copy
Southampton 18 Nov 1850

R B Eldridge Esq.
Antigua

My dear Sir

Your letter of the 15th ulto was forwarded to me at Liverpool. The offer you make our House might under other circumstances be a very desirable one, but at present I cannot entertain it & therefore shall say no more on the subject. The Paving Stones shall be forwarded per Derwent. This will be handed you by my eldest son Mr. R. Jefferson who leaves in the Trent tomorrow on a visit to Antigua. It will afford him much pleasure to make your acquaintance.

You may rely upon your communication being treated with the strictest confidence, and

with best thanks for the same, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

Henry Jefferson
Sigd

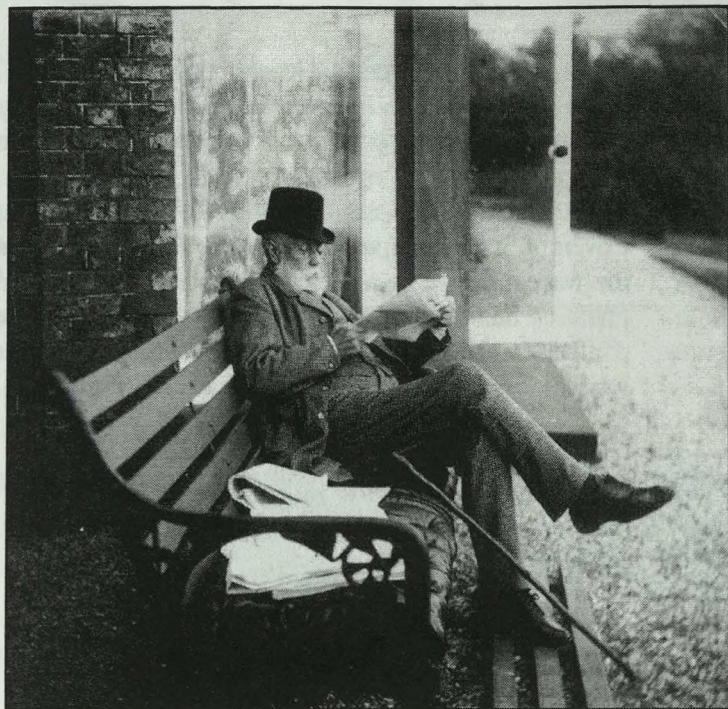
The Jefferson response was copied onto the blank third page of Eldridge’s folded letter. The above transcription is from the copy. Eldridge’s letter and Jefferson’s response remained confidential for nearly 150 years until the business archives of R. & H. Jefferson were auctioned by Phillips March 17, 1994.

St. Thomas

Clearly, St. Thomas was part of Danish West Indies and was never a British colony. From a postal history point of view, much of the Caribbean mail has been handled at St. Thomas. Without looking at the contents of the letter that is the subject of this article, it would have to be considered a St. Thomas letter rather than an Antigua letter. Of course, this is a single example. Some of the members may have other examples of letters that were written in British Colonies and posted at St. Thomas. There are also the British stamps used overseas at St. Thomas with a “C51” cancel. Again I have accumulated some of these, following a collecting theme of things both British and Caribbean.

Forwarding Agents

In preparing this article, I learned more about forwarding agents and yet am still not clear about their function or why they abound at St. Thomas. Charles E. Cwiakala wrote three articles on forwarding agents which appeared in this journal in the 1970s. The first article was published in December 1971.¹ In this one, a description of



This photograph of Robert Jefferson, who carried the response from his father Henry to Richard Eldridge, was taken about 1900. At this point Robert was a retired West India merchant at his home Rothersyke overlooking the River Ehen, near the Lake Country of Northwest England.

the need for Forwarding Agents is given:

“Previous to the formation of the Universal Postal Union in 1874, forwarding of mail to other countries by national postal systems was a most uncertain affair.... A person wanting to send a letter to another country had to make his own arrangements for having the letter carried there.... Usually, the forwarding agents lived in seaports which were the scene of commercial ocean-going activity.... They would make all the arrangements for its carriage to the country of its destination. There it would be placed in the inland mails....”

The 19th century forwarding agents generally had their own cachet handstamps. Cwiakala continues his article with a discussion of the standard references on this subject as well as a list of those companies and individuals known to have operated as forwarding agents in the British Caribbean.

For Antigua, there is one listing: R. B. Eldridge & Co. The date for the example is four years after the death of Richard Burroughs Eldridge. The company name must have carried on after his death. Based on responses to the first article, Cwiakala published a second article.² This article gives the detailed response of collectors who had examples of cachets that had been mentioned. There are 18 updates to the original list. These include illustrations of:

- J. N. Harriman & Co., Trinidad, W.I.
- Saunders & Son, Nassau
- George I. Gibbs, Commission & Salt Merchant, Turks Island
- Prada & Co., Trinidad, W.I.

There is also a description of the “R. B. Eldridge & Co.” cachet. It should be noted that forwarding agents would not make a living from mail forwarding alone. Like Mr. Gibbs of Turks Island, most were merchants who had regular contact with international commerce.

The final in this series was written by Cwiakala and published in the *Journal* in 1977.³ This article contained 19 additions and corrections to the previous list. Someone interested in this subject would need all three articles in order to get the most complete listing information. Notably, the 1977 article contained listings for three Barbados forwarding agents that used manuscript endorsements (examples of each of these are contained in the article). No further additions or corrections were made to the list for Antigua.

Footnotes

¹ Charles E. Cwiakala, “British Caribbean Forwarding Agents,” (Part I), *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 11, No. 6 (December 1971), 163-168.

² _____, “British Caribbean Forwarding Agents,” (Part II), *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 12, No. 6 (December 1972), 170-173.

³ _____, “British Caribbean Forwarding Agents,” (Part III), *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 17, No. 5 (October 1977), 142-145.

Endnote

Aside from the Cwiakala articles mentioned, the seminal work on forwarding agents by Kenneth Rowe was also consulted (*The Postal History and Markings of The Forwarding Agents*). The names of the forwarding agents are on the Internet, courtesy of Leonard H. Hartmann at <http://pbbooks.com/webfa.htm>.

St. Christopher and the Mystery Cancel

ARMY, APMY, AMJY, AWJY

By Dr. Eric M. Bateson
Of Australia

I have a partial cover (*Figure 1*) bearing stamps of the 1870-79 issue of St. Christopher with three 1/2d dull green (SG #11), a 6d green (SG #9), and a bisected 1d magenta (SG #6a). The cover was addressed to A. Clark, Leighton, Essex, England, and has a Royal Philatelic Society London certificate which stated "it is genuine but philatelic."

four central indistinct capital letters thought to be ARMY. It had been applied four times. The difficulty in reading the letters in the center of the latter cancel has led it to being described as a "mystery cancel."¹

Covers of St. Christopher are few and far between² and this was confirmed by a search of auction catalogues and philatelic bulletins. Those with a mystery cancel were particularly uncommon and the few that I found together with the few pieces bearing this cancel are listed here.



FIGURE 1

Large part of a St. Christopher cover addressed to A. Clark, bearing three 1/2d dull green, a 6d green and bisected 1d magenta, with a St. Kitts circular date cancel of FE 25 83, two B16 duplexes and four "mystery" cancels said to be ARMY.

Little is known about Clark. He was probably one of a "nest" of collectors in the South Suffolk and Essex regions of the United Kingdom. His philatelic interests extended beyond St. Christopher because at least one cover exists with his partially erased name and address with stamps and bisects of Trinidad (*see Figure 9*).

The St. Christopher cover has three different cancels. There is a St. Kitts circular dispatch cancel dated FE 25 83 (February 25, 1883), a killer with the code B16 (paquet cancel used on mail to Plymouth), which has been applied twice with overlapping, and a circular cancel with

I. Three illustrated covers:

a. One which was similar to my partial cover with the same dispatch CDS date and also addressed to Mr. Clark (*Figure 2*).

b. Two which had only one stamp: a 4d blue which was SG #7 (*Figure 3*) and SG #17 (*Figure 4*). The first was said to be tied by a "dumb" cancel and the second was interpreted as "APMY."

II. Three covers not illustrated but adequately described:

a. One, which from the description, appears to be iden-

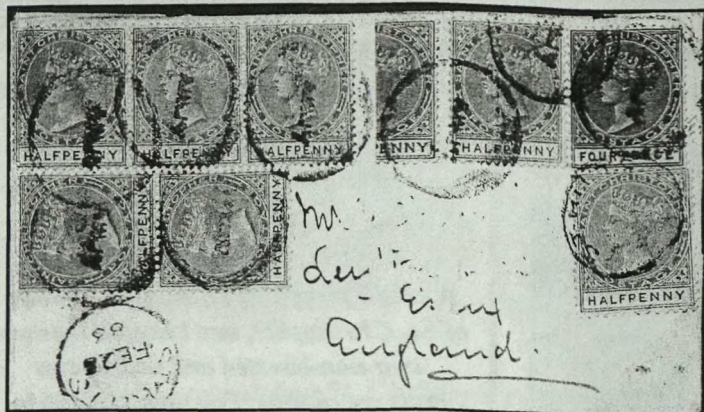


FIGURE 2

St. Christopher cover with partially erased address, but obviously to A. Clark, with seven 1/2d dull green, a 4d blue and a bisected 1d magenta, with a cds cancel of St. Kitts, also FE 25 83, and another not dated and eight mystery ARMY cancels. This was Lot 200 in the Michael Hamilton BWI Postal Auction No. 45 (November 1996). Reproduced from black and white image.

tical with that of Figure 2, and may have been the same as in an earlier sale.³

b. One with a 4d blue (SG #17) and another, which from the description, was identical with my partial cover. In both of these, the letters in the center of the cancel were

FIGURE 3

St. Christopher cover with a single 4d blue (SG #8), tied by a "dumb" (mystery cancel) and separate datestamps of FE 11 81. This was Lot 34 in the BWI Study Circle Golden Jubilee Sale, October 2004.

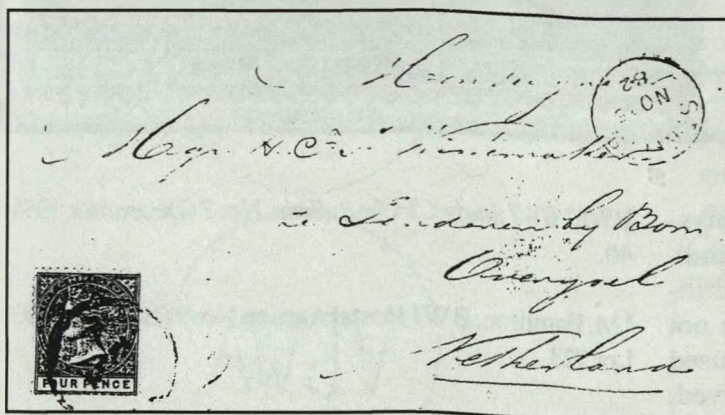
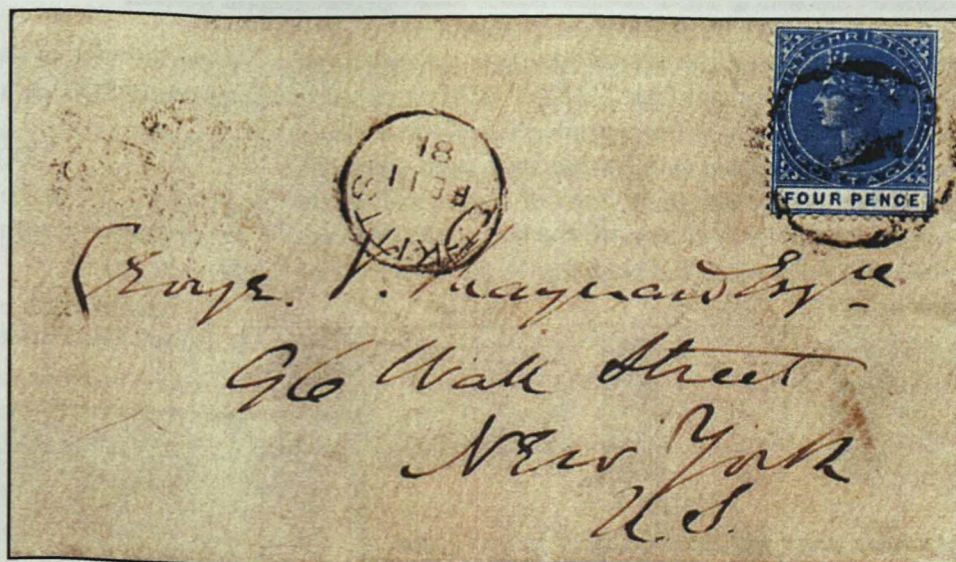


FIGURE 4

St. Christopher cover with a single 4d blue (SG #17), tied by a mystery cancel, also said to be APMY, with a St. Kitts cds dated NO 25 82. This was Lot 199 in the Michael Hamilton BWI Postal Auction No. 45 (November 1996). Reproduced from black and white image.

thought to be **AWJY**.⁴ There were other covers which were said to have the mystery cancel, but they were not adequately described.⁵

c. Three pieces, all of which had varying combinations and arrangements of the 1d magenta (SG #6) and the bisected stamp (SG #6a) tied by the mystery cancel. These were described as circular datestamps in two (Figures 5 and 6) and in one as a "blank" cancel (Figure 7).

A comprehensive article was printed in the *British West Indies Study Circle Bulletin* a few years ago which discussed the appearance of this mystery or "dumb" cancel and concluded that the central indistinct letters could be **AWJY**, possibly the initials of an official. The article also pointed out that toward the end of the life of the implement, the letters could resemble a smudged bar.⁶ Another study in the same journal also concluded that the

Continued on page 18

central letters were **AWJY**, and because of their indistinct appearance and when inverted, the letters could be mistaken for "**ARMY**"⁷ (Figure 8). The latter interpreta-

and therefore dismissed) or **APMY**. The former could be a place on St. Kitts, but does not exist with this name,¹⁰ or again the initials of a postmaster or official. This name



FIGURE 5

A small piece with 1d magenta stamps of St. Christopher, one bisected between two non-bisected and tied by two mystery cancels. This was Lot 416 in Pennymead Auction No. 40 (June 1993). Reproduced from black and white image.

tion can be dismissed because there was no defence force on St. Christopher until June 2, 1889.⁸ **APMY** was a different interpretation of the central letters of the mystery cancel (Figures 2 and 4). A further suggestion was a circular date cancel with three lines of figures and letters was converted into a killer with the letters **AMJY** to replace two A12s which had been lost by the GPO in London in 1858.⁹

has been recorded in the Caribbean.¹¹ It could also represent a date, **AP(RIL)** or **M(A)Y**.¹²

FOOTNOTES

¹ Pennymead Auctions No. 71, England (September 1999), Lot 581.

² R. Titford, "St. Christopher. The Mother Colony of the

FIGURE 6

Another piece with two St. Christopher 1d and one bisected 1d magenta stamps tied by three mystery cancels. This was Lot 7576 in the Sandafayre auction No. 5128 (November 2006). Reproduced from black and white image.



This would be unlikely because the diameter of the mystery cancel was 23mm, but that of the CDS is only 20mm. It is possible that some other well-worn non-postal instrument may have been converted. Still, this does not exclude the possibility that the mystery cancel was used in absence of the lost A12s until the replacements arrived. My own observations would confirm this. I only found the mystery cancel tying stamps to covers in the late 1870s and early 1880s.

In conclusion, there are only two acceptable interpretations of the four capital letters forming a line in the center of the mystery cancel: either **AWJY** ("Army" inverted

BWI," *BWI Study Circle Bulletin*, No. 7 (December 1955), 40.

³ M. Hamilton, *BWI Postal Auction No. 9* (January 1993), Lot 723.

⁴ A. Peart, "Circular Killer **AWJY**," *BWI Study Circle Bulletin*, Vol. 118 (September 1983), 62.

⁵ W.H.D. Hall, "St. Christopher," *BWI Study Circle Bulletin*, Vol. 56 (March 1968), 13.

⁶ R. Titford, "St. Christopher. The Mother Colony of the



FIGURE 7

A third piece with four St. Christopher 1/2d dull green and a bisected 1d magenta tied by four mystery cancels referred to as "blank" cancels. This was Lot 7492 in the Sandafayre-Hunters auction No. 7131 (February 2007).

BWI (continued)," *BWI Study Circle Bulletin*, Vol. 10 (September 1956), 38.

⁷ *Ibid*, 4.

⁸ D.E. Phillips, "In the Matter of the St. Kitts Defence Force." Personal communications with the author, 2007.

⁹ P. Jaffe, "Circular Killer AWJY," *BWI Study Circle Bulletin*, Vol. 119 (December 1983), 81.

¹⁰ Wikipedia, "List of Cities in St. Kitts Nevis," 1.

¹¹ H. Lack, personal communications with the author, 2007.

¹² M. Hamilton, personal communications with the author, 2007.

ENDNOTE

I wish to thank Ian Jakes, Librarian of the BWI Study Circle, for obtaining early references from the Bulletin, and my daughter, Helen, for searching the Internet for me. You may reach me by email through my daughter at lackhelen@yahoo.com.au. Any replies I make will have to be by phone or letter.

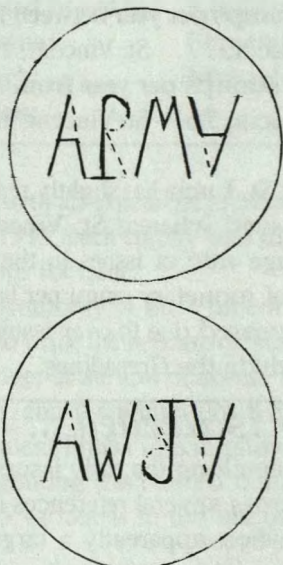


FIGURE 8

A drawing illustrating the reversibility of ARMY and AWJY. This was copied from A. Peart in the *BWI Study Circle Bulletin*, Vol. 118.

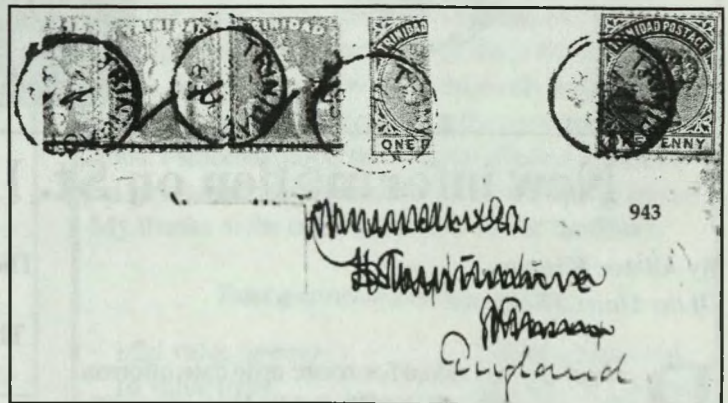


FIGURE 9

A cover partly overlapping another illustration with various stamps of Trinidad, including bisects. The address is underscored, but obviously to A. Clark. (Compare the word "England" with that in Figures 1 and 2.) This was Lot 943 in Harmer's auction No. 21 (July 1993).

Reproduced from black and white image.

Nethersole and Waterous receive honors



Awards were presented at the annual meeting to President Ed Waterous and Mike Nethersole, both long-time members of the BCPSG. Nethersole was presented with the Cameron Trophy by Ed Waterous (below), while President Waterous (left) was presented the Cooley Award by Vice President Duane Larson. We'll have more information about the annual meeting in the October issue.



New information on St. Lucia and St. Vincent

By Alister Kinnon
Of the United Kingdom

Robert Devaux asked for more up to date information comparing St. Lucia and St. Vincent stamps. My local public library in Bedford has the 2009 Stanley Gibbons *Stamps of the World* catalogue and the following table has been constructed from that source.

The average of stamps per year between 1997 and 2007:

St. Lucia, 17 St. Vincent, 193

The average of stamps per year from 1963 to 2007:

St. Lucia, 26 St. Vincent, 124

It can be seen that St. Lucia has slightly reduced the number of stamps issued whereas St. Vincent has almost doubled its average rate of issues in the last 10 years. Perhaps the rate of monetary return per issue in St. Vincent has also decreased due to over-issuing. The above figures do not include the Grenadines.

St. Lucia Issues	Stamps	St. Vincent Issues	Stamps
1997	4	19	29
1998	5	18	24
1999	3	10	23
2000	5	19	33
2001	4	14	33
2002	5	21	18
2003	6	21	26
2004	5	22	25
2005	5	25	23
2006	4	11	18
2007	3	9	18

Your help is needed ...

Tom Sileo is researching the early issues of Barbados and has come across several references to "The Great Find of 1887" when apparently a large quantity of Perkins Bacon unused stamps were found and released to the stamp market. Do any members know which stamps and in what quantities made up "The Great Find?" Contact Tom at tomyak1@verizon.net if you can help.

Continuing our series on early St. Vincent

September 1915 War Stamp issue

The "One Penny" in Red on 1/- Black on Green

By Roy Bond

Of the United Kingdom

In the summer of 1915, the British Government decided that, as a means of helping the war effort, there would be a surcharge of one penny on all letters, cards, and parcels throughout the whole of the British Empire. The method by which this was to be implemented was to have special stamps to be prepaid and affixed to all mail. It was



September 1915 War Stamp Issue

Designed by: Thomas De La Rue
Recess Printed by: Thomas De La Rue
Overprinted in red by: Kingstown Printery
Date of Issue: September 1915
Watermark: Multiple Crown CA
Perforation: 14

to be actioned with all expediency, thus by about the end of September 1915, each colony had to have a supply of these war stamps for issue.

The Postal Authority of St. Vincent decided that the simplest way to print the necessary stamps would be to take the remainder of the now obsolete 1/- black on green (issued in 1913) and overprint them. This was carried out by the Government Printer in Kingstown. It appears that the complete printing was carried out in one operation, as there are no variations in the set of the forme. (See Figure 1).

The printing method was such that the overprint was applied rather heavily, and in certain instances was applied twice, that is, the overprint is doubled, this being a known error on this issue.

Quantities overprinted are not known at present; how-

ever, there were only 40,000 of the 1/- black on green actually printed, so the likely numbers are not more than 20,000.

Corrected list of Stanley Gibbons numbers

By Roy Bond

Of the United Kingdom

My apologies to all. As was pointed out to me after the publication of the last *Journal*, I had failed to revise the color labels in the SG catalogues. The color descriptions were correct as of the 2000 catalogue, which was the time at which I originally wrote up this particular issue. What follows is the corrected descriptions. I sincerely hope this has not affected your interest or research work on these most interesting issues. My thanks to the correspondents for the feedback.

--- Total quantities invoiced were:

1/2d value (green)	260,040 (SG #108)
1d value (red)	440,000 (SG #109)
1d value (rose-red)	245,000 (SG #109a)
1d value (scarlet)	300,000 (SG #109b)
2d value (grey)	30,000 (SG #110)
2d value (slate)	10,000 (SG #110a)
2 1/2d value (ultramarine)	120,000 (SG #111)
3d value (purple/yellow)	20,000 (SG #112)
3d value (purple/lemon)	20,000 (SG #112a)
3d value (purple/pale yellow)	40,080 (SG #112b)
4d value (red/yellow)	40,000 (SG #113)
5d value (olive green)	17,040 (SG #114)
6d value (claret)	90,000 (SG #115)
1/- value (black/green)	40,000 (SG #116)
1/- value (bistre)	60,000 (SG #117)
2/- value (blue & purple)	14,000 (SG #118)
5/- value (carmine & myrtle)	8,040 (SG #119)
£1 value (mauve & black)	6,000 (SG #120)

Roy Bond articles on St. Vincent captures the Durnin Award for 2008

By Charles Freeland
Of Switzerland

The three man jury (David Herendeen, Michael Nethersole and yours truly) decided to award the prize for best article that appeared in the *Journal* in 2008 to the extended series being written by Roy Bond on the postage stamps of St. Vincent. This is the first time the jury has decided to reward a series, but they believe the relatively short pieces would have merited the award if printed as one long article and do not see that a series should be disqualified by being printed in sequence.

Mr. Bond is one of only two authors in the 2008 series of journals that we consider to have demonstrated the degree of original research that Stan Durnin was seeking to encourage when he funded the award. The other was Federico Borromeo, whose two scholarly articles on Nevis would each have been extremely strong contenders for the award if they had not been ineligible because they had already been published in our sister British West Indies Study Circle *Bulletin*. Each of these pieces of work represent the sort of serious in-depth study which intending authors need to replicate if they are to become contenders for the award in the future. We also commend Ed Barrow on his article in the January-March issue on the Great White Fleet visits Trinidad. However, the jury

does have a clear bias towards pure philatelic subjects and it is likely to be a poor year if the award goes to what is essentially a non-philatelic article.

We would remind the membership that the purpose of the award is to encourage the submission of articles that demonstrate original research into the stamps or postal history of the areas we cover. In the past few years there have been few such articles, and on occasion the jury has even considered whether it should not make an award as so few of the published articles have complied with Stan Durnin's intentions.

The growing ease of scanning has encouraged members to submit a series of illustrations that may be of interest to readers, but all too often these are written up in a perfunctory manner that does not greatly add to our sum of knowledge. Where are the authors who have really studied their material and can demonstrate new insights? We know that quite a large number have that knowledge because they continue to garner high awards in competition, and we do encourage them to enlighten their fellow members.

Nuggets from the past ...

There is a great interest in cricket in the British West Indies, so it's no mystery that C.T. Hinneburg-Murphy would take a look at the philatelic perspective of the hobby. In his series, he discussed the various stamps which have been issued by the islands depicting cricket.

Also, Charles Freeland proposed to circulate some notes and questions on various aspects of Montserrat philately, somewhat similar to the British Virgin Islands copybook circulated by Dr. Gale Raymond in the 1960s.

-- BCPSG Journal
March 1990

ADVERTISING RATES FOR 2009

Dealers should consider advertising in the Journal.

It's an inexpensive way to reach collectors!

Contact the Editor for additional information.

Here are the rates for 2009:

Description	Single Issue B/W or Color	Annual B/W or Color
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Half Page	\$75	\$250
Full Page	\$100	\$350
Back Cover	\$125	\$400
Inserts		
Single-side sheet	\$80	\$300
Double-side sheet	\$125	\$400

Inserts are stand-alone 8.5 x 11 inch pages inserted into the *Journal*, and cost includes printing. Inserts must be camera-ready and mailed to Dr. Everett L. Parker at address on page 3. His email is: eparker@hughes.net. Payment should be sent to John Seidl at address on page 2.



Jamaican Odds & Ends

*With Dr. Raj Ramphal
Of Canada*



A short history of Jamaican special event postmarks

Featuring four which failed to identify the event

The Jamaican Post Office has long celebrated historical, cultural and philatelic events with special postmarks and slogan cancellations to mark such occasions. To my best knowledge, the first of these was a small steel squared circle date-stamp with Jamaica Exhibition at the top and Post Office at the bottom. It was used at a temporary post office set up at the Exhibition site in 1891. I have no good single example of this postmark but I hope Figure 1, enlarged, showing three partials, provides a satisfactory picture.

There is some doubt about the site and duration of the Exhibition but Ian Potter in *The Postal Markings of Jamaica* (1966) states that Up Park Camp was the likely site and the earliest and latest recorded dates are 09/02/91 and 16/05/91. However if one looks at the 1/2d value of the first pictorial issue, Scott #75, (Figure 2), it is captioned, "JAMAICA EXHIBITION 1891," and depicts a building quite similar in size and shape to the old Constant Spring Hotel, more so than any of the structures at Up Park Camp. Based on this evidence alone, I suggest that the Constant Spring Hotel was the venue

of the 1891 Jamaica Exhibition.

The next event to be accorded a special postmark was the second Jamaica Philatelic Exhibition. Figure 3 shows



Figure 1

Three partials of the Jamaica Exhibition squared circle cancellation.



Figure 2

Scott #75, showing the building at which the exhibition was held.

an over-rate cover to New York franked with the five lowest values of the King George V definitive issue, tied by three strikes of the double oval with an inner oval TRD having "Jamaica Philatelic Exhibition" around the top and a central fixed straight line date, 21 to 26 Feb 1927. The next special event TRD was rectangular, Figure 4, celebrating the Jamaica Philatelic Society's third exhibition in 1933. Thereafter, slogan electrical machine cancels and special events TRDs, including First Day Cover cancels, became increasingly common, continuing until the present time.

The year 1952 produced the first of four TRDs which failed to identify the special event on the postmark designed in its honor. Figure 5 shows a local cover mailed to Brown's Town, franked with a King George VI 2d definitive and tied by a double oval with an inner oval, with "FAIRFIELD" at the top, "Jamaica" at the bottom and dated centrally "26 NOV 1952." This postmark was used at a temporary post office set up at Fairfield Hotel and Country Club and used there for the duration of a convention of the British Medical Association from 24/11/

Continued on page 24

52 to 04/12/52. Much of the surviving mail bearing this cancellation is philatelic in origin, but this cover is most likely commercial as attested by an arrival backstamp. At this point I feel impelled to share a personal memory of Fairfield with you and I hope you will forgive the digression. In my second undergraduate year at Mona, during the Easter break, I visited Montego Bay for the first time, spending a week there together with three other students. We had a rollicking good time staying in a rundown rooming house which was all that we could afford. On my first short walk into downtown Montego Bay, I found it to be plastered with fliers advertising a regional Davis Cup tennis tournament being played at the Fairfield Hotel and Country Club. As I was the only tennis



Figure 3
Philatelic cover to U.S., franked with the five low values of the King George V definitive issue, tied by three strikes of the first special event oval TRD.

found it to be plastered with fliers advertising a regional Davis Cup tennis tournament being played at the Fairfield Hotel and Country Club. As I was the only tennis

“That would be £2 for the bleachers, sir,” she said. I parted weakly with my two £ notes and trudged into the grounds facing a bleak prospect for the rest of the day. But I was

an undergrad at the time and miraculous things happen to members of that charmed group. I had not walked a long way into the grounds before almost colliding with two tennis players who were leaving a practice court. As I was apologizing for my clumsiness, I realized that I was speaking to someone with whom I had played tennis at high school. He had been my school’s tennis prodigy, who at 12 years of age regularly beat us seniors when we could not avoid playing against him. True to his early promise, he had become a junior member of the Eastern Caribbean Davis Cup squad and our chance meeting could not have been more for-

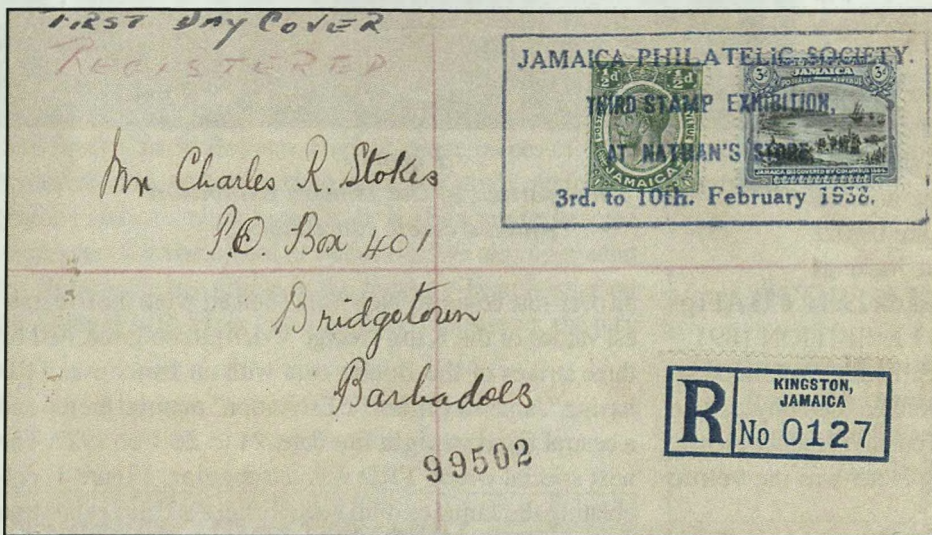


Figure 4
Registered FDC to Barbados, franked with 1/2d and 3d stamps tied by rectangular TRD. This was the first special event rectangular TRD.

enthusiast in my group, I set out alone a few days later, armed with £2 to cover all contingencies, (that was my usual biweekly spending budget,) to follow the arrows which led to Fairfield. It proved to be a bad decision. The midday sun was unforgiving and the hotel turned out to be three or four miles away. I eventually arrived there hot, dusty, tired and thirsty, and was greeted at the make-shift reception table by a gorgeous young woman who I assumed was the reigning Miss Jamaica. She flashed me a dazzling smile and instantly assessed my net worth.

tuitous. He immediately invited me to join him in the players section where I soon settled into a comfortable chair overlooking center court, with helpful waiters satisfying my thirst and hunger needs on request. This pleasant state of affairs continued until about four o’clock when I became aware that something was causing the organizers considerable upset. Brazilian Maria Beuno, the reigning Wimbledon champion, was due to play in the big game of the day and had apparently insisted on having another South American linesman included in the previously se-

lected crew. This rare commodity was proving difficult for the organizers to find, until my friend, without consulting me, vouched for my heritage and tennis experience. This solved the issue to everyone's satisfaction, though I doubt that anyone made it quite clear to Maria that I hailed from British Guiana, the only English speak-

row street of my rooming house, I had the driver let me off at a nearby fancy hotel and walked the remaining short distance home. Predictably, none of my mates believed a word of what I recounted and the senior medical student present, diagnosed me as suffering from delusions of grandeur, secondary to sunstroke.

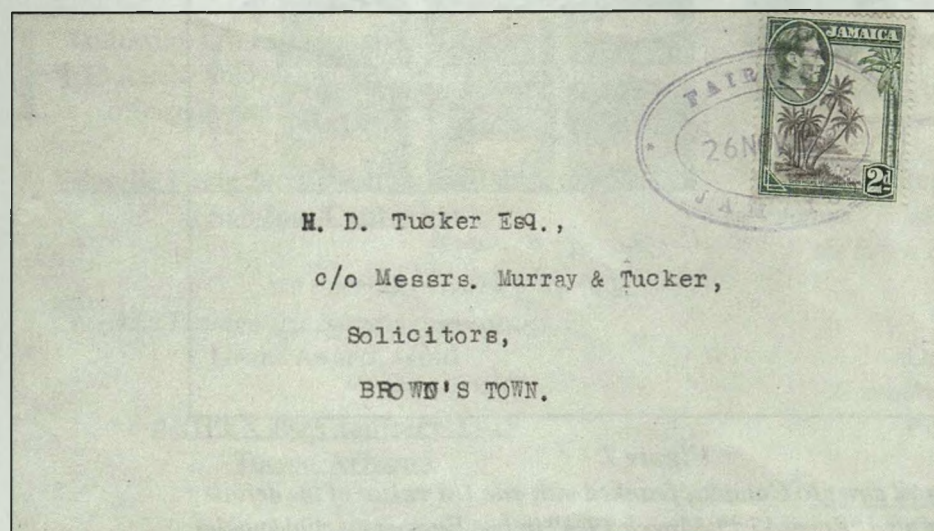


Figure 5

Local letter to Brown's Town, franked with King George VI 2d, tied by Fairfield special event oval TRD.

ing country on her continent. That was the only time in my life that I called lines in a tournament and as a reward I was given a limousine ride back into Montego Bay that evening. Fearing that the limo would not fit into the nar-

row street of my rooming house, I had the driver let me off at a nearby fancy hotel and walked the remaining short distance home. Predictably, none of my mates believed a word of what I recounted and the senior medical student present, diagnosed me as suffering from delusions of grandeur, secondary to sunstroke.

Figure 6 is a brown 1 1/2d postcard, addressed to philatelist Ron Wong and favor cancelled by a "TREASURE BEACH" circular TRD dated "6 AUG 1965." This cancelling device was used only on this date and only on a mailing to shareholders of a local bauxite company. It is unclear if there was prior post office sanction for it, but it did happen and covers from that special mailing are difficult to find. Perhaps it owes its existence to a CEO with a sense of humor who wished to have yet another annual report, rubber-stamped.

For the Royal Visit of 1966, the Jamaica Post Office over-

printed four values of the definitive issue, "Royal Visit, March 1966," in two lines. During the three day visit to Jamaica, members of the international press who had accompanied the Royal tour were accommodated at the Courtleigh Manor Hotel in Kingston, where a temporary post office had been set up for their convenience. A special "COURTLEIGH MANOR" TRD was created and used there only during the three day visit. Figure 7 displays a philatelic cover to Canada bearing this postmark.

Finally, in 1971 at the Jamaica Philatelic Exhibition in Kingston held from October 30 to November 6, the "BARNEYSIDE" TRD cancelled special mail bearing only the 10¢ value of the Post Office Tercentenary issue. Figure 8 displays one of these covers mailed to philatelist Reg Lant in Toronto. Probably neither the Treasure Beach nor the Barneyside postmark had prior post office sanction, making them even more appealing and collectable. I do not know of any other postmarks which commemorate an event, without the event being identified on the postmark. If there are others please let me know.

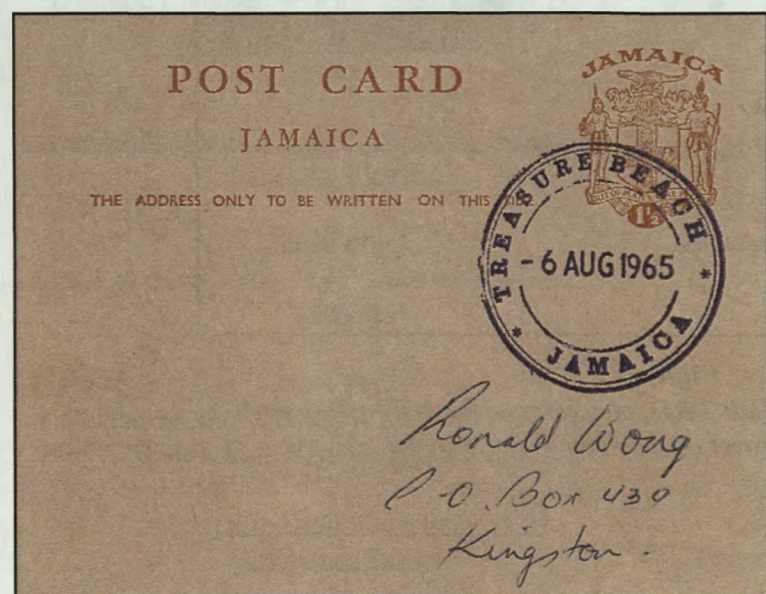


Figure 6

1 1/2d post card, favor cancelled by TREASURE BEACH double circle with broken inner circle TRD, used only on one date to mining company shareholders.

Illustrations conclude on page 26



Figure 7

Triple rate airmail cover to Canada, franked with one 1/6 value of the definitive issue overprinted "Royal Visit/ March 1966" in two lines, and a 3d booklet page, all franked with three strikes of COURTLEIGH MANOR oval special event TRD.

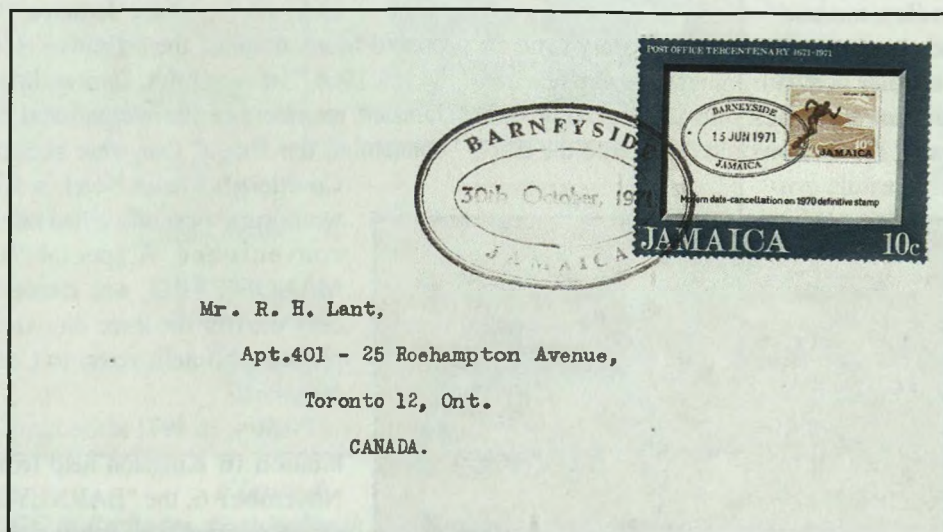


Figure 8

An example of the BARNEYSIDE TRD, on a cover addressed to Toronto, but which did not travel through the postal system.

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.

Filatelic Fiesta 2009, January 30-February 1
San Jose, California

Paul Fletcher
The Postage Due Stamps of Australia
Grand Award, Gold

ARIPEX 2009, January 23-25
Tucson, Arizona

Reuben Ramkissoon
Development of the United States Lunar Exploration
Court of Honor

The World War I Trinidad Red Cross Label that became a Postage Stamp for a Day

Court of Honor

Air Letter Sheets (Aerogrammes) of Trinidad & Tobago 1943-1988

Vermeil, AAMS Award, APS 1940-1980 Medal, BCPSG Medal, UPSS Marcus White Award

Trinidad Connections of the 1931 Dornier DO-X Return to South America Flight (SF)

Vermeil

Sarasota National Stamp Show 2009, February 6-8
Sarasota, Florida

Millard Mack
Usage of the 1888 (U.S.) 4¢ Carmine Banknote (SF)
Vermeil

John Cress
Development of Australian Air Mail 1914-1934
Gold, AAMS Best Air Mail Exhibit

Ameristamp Expo, February 20-22
Arlington, Texas

Peter Elias
4-Rings - The History of Audi
Vermeil

Reuben Ramkissoon
Trinidad Connections of the 1931 Dornier DO-X Return to South America Flight (SF)

Prix d'Honneur

Aerogrammes of Independent Anguilla 1967-2005 (SF)
Silver

Stephen Schumann
New Zealand Private Envelopes Queen Victoria thru the Reign of King George VI (SF)

Gold

Danforth Walker
Grenada's War Tax Issue (SF)
Prix d'Honneur

March Party 2009, March 27-29
Cleveland, Ohio

Millard Mack
St. Clairsville, Ohio - Postal Markings of the Stampless Period (SF)

Vermeil, W.E. Sterling Award

Plymouth Show 2009, April 25-26
Plymouth, Michigan

Regis Hoffman
Allied Forces in East Africa, World War I
Gold, Military Postal History Award
Polish Refugees in Africa, World War II (SF)
Silver

Paul Larsen
French Sudan and Niger
Gold

WESTPEX 2009, April 24-26
San Francisco, California

John Cress
Development of Australian Air Mail 1914-1934
Gold, AAMS Gold, Jack R. Hughes Award for Outstanding Philatelic Research Australia/Oceania

President's Message

By Ed Waterous

Our 2009 Annual Meeting at NOJEX is now history. One of the best things about our annual meetings is the opportunity to get together with other members who have similar interests. These meetings can provide a place where lasting friendships are started or renewed. This meeting was no exception. Distant travelers included BCPSG Secretary Mary Gleadall and her husband George from Barbados, Ray and Jean Paley from France and Charles Freeland from Switzerland. Others came from around the U.S. The entire NOJEX management team, with special thanks to Show Chairman Bob Rose, treated us very well.

Our members entered five multi-frame exhibits and three one-frame exhibits. Rob Wynstra won the NOJEX Best British Caribbean Exhibit with the final showing of his Leeward Islands Village Mail. Mike Nethersole won the BCPSG Cameron Trophy for his Saint Vincent exhibit. The first-time exhibit of One Hundred Years of Bermuda Definitives by David Cordon received a Vermeil but showed some wonderful rarities. Congratulations to all of the exhibitors who contributed to making our meeting a success. We had a group dinner Friday night that was not to be missed. The North Jersey Italian cuisine was outstanding. The Saturday meetings were long but fruitful.

Announced at the Saturday meeting were the BCPSG annual awards. Charles Freeland announced that Roy Bond won the Durnin Award for excellence in writing and research for his St. Vincent series. Tom Giraldi was announced as winner of the Addiss Award for lifetime philatelic writing. Your President was presented with the Cooley Award for lifetime service to the BCPSG. David Cordon won the first Stern Award for his Bermuda Boer War exhibit shown at the Fall 2008 New York Megashow where it won a Gold. Congratulations to all of the winners.

Following the AGM business meeting short presentations were given by John Seidl (Panton covers), Bob Stewart (Cayman pictorial issue on cover), and Mary Gleadall gave us the lowdown on her Caribbean burial grounds research. A special thanks to this trio. Finally, our annual group auction was conducted by Howie Austin. Thank you for a job well done and my gratitude goes to all who participated at NOJEX.

The major issues remain new member recruitment and an Advertising Manager to sell ads in our *Journal*. Fol-

lowing a discussion, it was estimated that this job will require 80 hours or so per year to do properly. Is there anyone in our membership who is willing to take on the Advertising Manager assignment? If you are interested please contact me.

Once again I ask you to prepare and submit some better items for sale in the Joint BWISC-BCPSG auction next year in London. We have a commitment to provide 200 lots for the sale. Auction Manager Howie Austin will accept your consignments for the 2010 BCPSG-BWISC Joint Auction in London next May. Lots should be sent to Howie starting July 1, 2009 and should arrive no later than October 1, 2009. We aim to provide 200 lots with an average net value of £50 (\$80.00 US).

Items selected for sale should be interesting to British Caribbean specialists. United Kingdom members should send consignments directly to the BWISC auction team. We expect to transport the auction material to London in late October for lotting and description. Commission rate for the joint sale will be 10 percent of the hammer price. The BWISC auction team led by Simon Goldblatt will control the actual sale in London. Please help in this effort to have a good sale.

The subject of getting articles for the *Journal* was also discussed at the meetings. Two ideas that could help in this effort were proposed. The first is to maintain a scorecard by Study Group annotating which groups published articles during the year. A request went out last year addressed to each Study Group Leader asking that the SGL get at least one article per year about their area and that is the basis for this proposal. The second is to get an article from each of the BCPSG award winners. Do you have any other ideas?

I am issuing an urgent call to get articles to the editor for the October BCPI. The editor has only two articles in hand for the fall issue. Please help!



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

No new applications were received during this quarter.

Address Changes

Ed Barrow, 16704 Briardale Rd., Derwood, MD 20855
USA
Ian Matheson, P.O. Box 10066, Fourways Crossing 2055,
SOUTH AFRICA

New email addresses

Colin Frazer: frazersstamps@cs.com

Resignations

Frederick Lutt, USA
Michael Rego, United Kingdom
Thomas Barrow, USA
Tim Bastshe, USA
Chris Rainey, United Kingdom

Reinstatement

Steven Zirinsky

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

BCPSG and BWISC to host joint auction

The BCPSG and BWISC will be hosting a joint auction in 2010 at London. The auction committee wants to get the word out to get lots coming in.

The goal is 200 lots from the BCPSG, material to be in the price range of £50 upwards (about \$75US).

Please use Stanley Gibbons' numbering, though Scott numbers can be accommodated. Material can

be sent to either:

Nigel Chandler

76 Spencers Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 2JG

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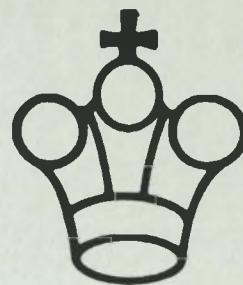
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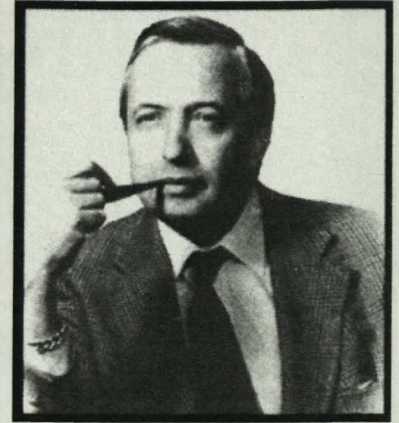
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