

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

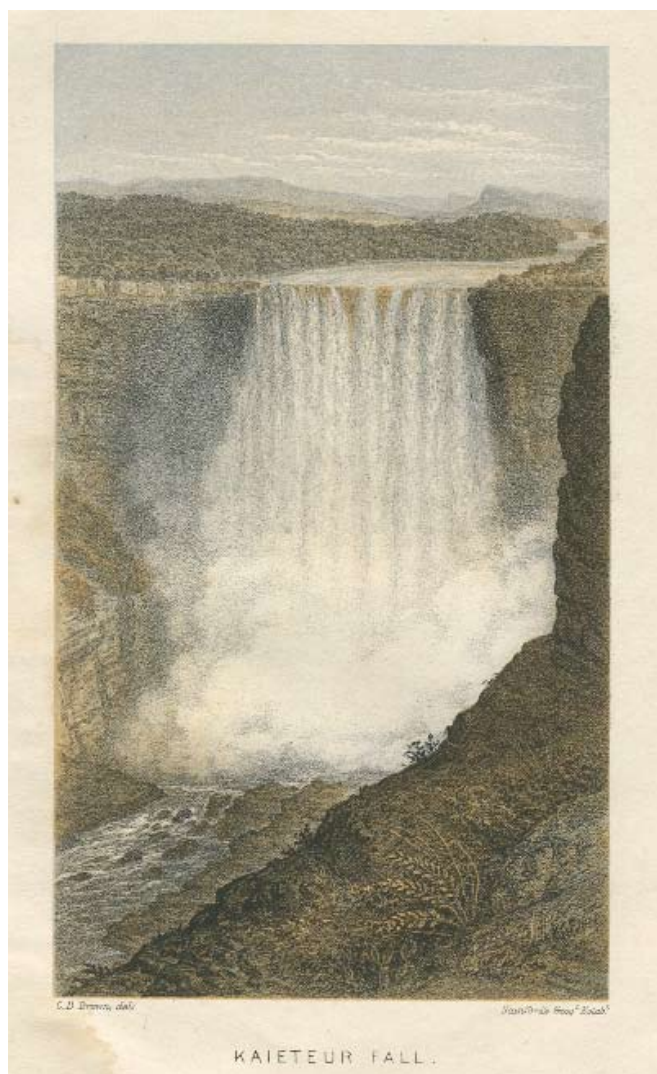
PUBLISHED BY THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP
Unit No. 27 of the American Philatelic Society

Vol. 51, No. 4

October - December 2011

Whole No. 241

British Guiana: Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Issue of 1898



Painting of Kaieteur Falls, circa 1876 (above left). Painting of Queen Victoria during her Diamond Jubilee Year of 1897. See article by John Wynns beginning on page 7.



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 (£17) 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. Edward W. Waterous, P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430 USA. Tele: (219) 769-2840; email: ewwaterous@hotmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Mr. Duane Larson, 2 Forest Blvd., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA. Tele: (708) 503-9552; email: dl Larson283@aol.com
SECRETARY	Mary Gleadall (2012), P.O. Box 5449, Warrens, St. Michael BB11000, BARBADOS; email: gleadallm@caribsurf.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, 249 NW Live Oak Place, Lake City, FL 32055-8906 USA. Telephone & fax: (386) 754-8524; 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
	Mr. Tom Giraldi (2015), 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355-3255 USA; email: teg43@aol.com
	Mary Gleadall (2012), P.O. Box 5449, Warrens, St. Michael BB11000, BARBADOS; email: gleadallm@caribsurf.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
	Mr. Mike Nethersole (2013), 1111 Old Buchingham Sta., DR 3A, Midlothian, VA 23113-4657 USA; email: mike.nethersole@verizon.net
	Mr. Bob Stewart (2015), 7 West Dune Lane, Beach Haven, NJ 08008 USA; email: stewartlbi9@comcast.net
	Mr. David A. Wilson (2012), P.O. Box 1135, Great Falls, VA 22066; email: wilsondajx@cox.net
	Mr. Stephen D. Schumann (2015), 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, Mr. Jack Harwood.

Study Group Leaders and Other Appointees

APS REPRESENTATIVE	Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon, Linda Valley Villa #236, 11075 Benton St., Loma Linda, CA 92354-3182; 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. Dale Wade, P.O. Box 491, Hayesville, NC 28904 USA; email: rxfire@frontier.com
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR	Mr. Bob Stewart, 7 West Dune Lane, Beach Haven, NJ 08008 USA; email: stewartlbi9@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, 1104 S. 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, 16704 Briardale Rd., Derwood, MD 20855 USA; email: e.barrow1@gmail.com
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, (<i>address above</i>)
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	Mr. Bill Charles Gompel, P.O. Box 547183, Orlando, FL 32854-7183 USA; email: BGOMPEL@cfl.rr.com.
BR. GUIANA/GUYANA	Mr. Bernie Beston, P.O. Box 6315, Halifax Street, Adelaide, S.A. 5000 AUSTRALIA; email: bernieb@alrm.org.au
BR. HONDURAS/BELIZE	Dr. Ian Matheson, P.O. Box 10066, Fourways Crossing 2055 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
GRENADA	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	<i>Vacant</i>
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: comneno@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. 51, No. 4 October - December 2011 Whole No. 241

© British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

Editor: Dr. Everett L. Parker, 249 Live Oak Place, Lake City, FL 32055-8906 USA

Telephone: (386) 754-8524; FAX: (386) 754-8524; 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: stewartlbi9@comcast.net

Please address membership questions to the Membership Director (this includes address changes).

Advertising Manager: Mr. Tom Giraldi, 1305 Scottsdale Way, Modesto, CA 95355-3255 USA

Email: teg43@aol.com

Please address advertising questions to the Advertising Manager.

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

Bermuda One Hundred Years Ago, <i>by Ernest E. Roberts</i>	4-5
Rare Virgin Islands stamp sells for \$225,000 in London auction, <i>by Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca</i>	6
British Guiana: Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Issue of 1898, <i>by John Wynns</i> ...	7-10
The Rev. Meister Mystery, <i>by Dr. Eric M. Bateson</i>	11-14
Jamaica World War II Censor Notes, <i>by Hap Pattiz</i>	14
Cayman Islands postal rates, 1936-69, <i>by Graham Booth</i>	15-22
Postcard from an old friend, <i>by Hap Pattiz</i>	26

COLUMNS AND REPORTS

Officers and Trustees, Study Group Leaders & Others	2
Nuggets from the past, <i>BCPSG Journal</i> , October 1982	6
Letter to the Editor, <i>by Alister Kinnon</i>	22
BG Bits and Pieces, <i>by Dr. Raj Ramphal</i>	23-25
BCPSG Exhibits and Awards, <i>by Paul Larsen</i>	26
Membership Director's Report, <i>by Bob Stewart</i>	27
Dr. Ben Ramkissoon elected to AAMS Hall of Fame	27
President's Message, <i>by Ed Waterous</i>	28
Our faithful advertisers	27-32

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

Bermuda

One Hundred Years Ago

By Ernest E. Roberts
Of the USA

Following the death of King Edward VII on May 6, 1910, King George V acceded the throne and was subsequently crowned in Westminster Abbey on June 22, 1911. It was fortuitous then, in the absence of any postal issues to commemorate the coronation, that the Phoenix Drug Store in Bermuda published a picture postcard (*Figure 1*), depicting the Coronation Day Parade on Front Street, Hamilton. This carries the caption "Reviewing the Troops, King George V Coronation Hamilton Bermuda." *The Royal Gazette*, a Hamilton



FIGURE 1

Picture postcard showing Coronation Day parade on Front Street in Hamilton, Bermuda.

newspaper, described the parade that the postcard illustrates in this manner:

"The march past was indeed something to be remembered and a thing of which Bermudians may be more than a little proud. Contingents of the Royal Garrison Artillery and the 2nd Bedfordshire Regiment roused the hearty admiration of their fellow subjects by their smart soldierly bearing. The Bermuda Volunteers and the Bermuda Militia Artillery are as excellent specimens of Colonial regiments as can be found anywhere in His Majesty's Overseas Dominions. They marched past to an accompaniment of an enthusiastic clapping of hands from the hundreds of spectators."

A more personal account of that event is found in a letter from Bandsman John Payne to his cousin in Holloway,

London. John Payne served in the 2nd Bedfordshire Regiment that was mentioned in *The Royal Gazette*. The letter was written on a remarkable piece of postal stationery, a self-styled "Letter Card" published by J.H. Bradley & Co. This reads as follows:

"I must say Coronation Day was one of our busiest days we ever had. We paraded at 9:30 am and marched down to the Cathedral for a Guard of Honour for the Governor, General Kitchener, our Commander here. He inspected us and afterwards we went inside and played the Grand Military March. We took part in the service and then played for the King. After that we marched into town and joined the Volunteers and Militia Bands. We played troop marches while the General gave all the school children medals and he inspected all the troops who were lined up on the main road in town. They all marched past in regiments and we played them all past the General. After that lot we had to march back to dinner and then go back for the water sports from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm while all the other soldiers and people were enjoying themselves. Then we had to wash and play at the Governor's house at 6:50 pm hardly time to have



FIGURE 2

"Letter Card" made of heavy paper stock. Unfolded, it takes the form of a diamond with each side measuring 12 inches.

tea. He gave a State Dinner for the staff officers of the Army and Navy. We played till 10:30 pm. He gave a speech on the King's behalf which we heard quite plain. I have found since the reason for having the dinner was because the General had been knighted that day, so now he is Sir Walter Kitchener, K.C.B."

Bandsman Payne went on to list additional commitments of the band over the next few days. The festivities appear to have finished four days later when the band played at the Hamilton Hotel. J.H. Bradley's "Letter Card" is made of heavy paper stock and when unfolded takes the form of a diamond with each side measuring 12 inches. **Figure 2** shows the fully opened letter card rotated clockwise through 45 degrees. Along the top it

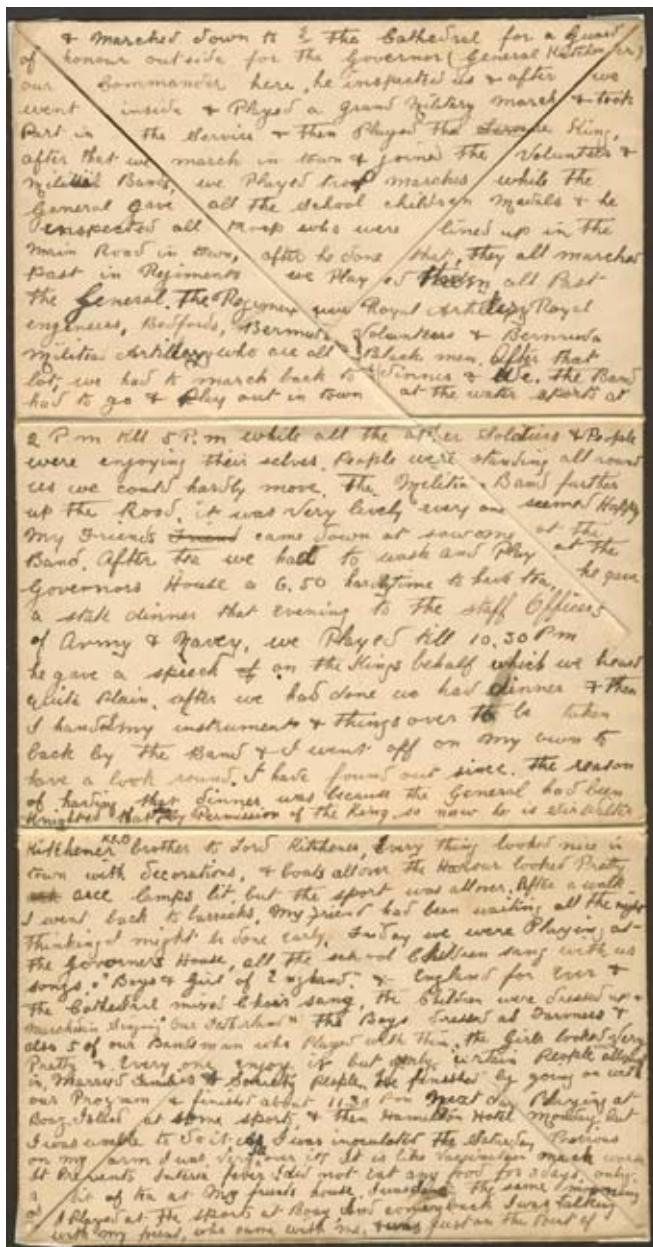


FIGURE 3

The initial four folds of the letter card result in an area of six by 12 inches.

is inscribed "John H. Bradley & Co., Hamilton, Bermuda. No. V." It is illustrated in color with nine different views of Bermuda. These images of Bermuda may also be found on the picture post cards published by J.H. Bradley.

The start of John Payne's letter is in the center of the diamond and is surrounded by popular views of the time of Bermuda. The initial four folds of the letter card result in an area of six by 12 inches. Bandsman Payne used every available blank space for his missive and this is shown in **Figure 3**. It folds to six inches by four and when sealed along one flap it is ready for mailing (**Figure 4**). The required one-penny postage is provided by a 1910 Caravel that was cancelled with a Hamilton H7 datestamp of



FIGURE 4

The card folds to six inches by four and when sealed along one flap it is ready for mailing.

July 15, 1911. The letter was backstamped with a Holloway receiving mark dated July 24, 1911.

The reign of King George V provided a period rich in philatelic interest for collectors of Bermuda's stamps. Stanley Gibbons' listing of George V stamps of Bermuda has grown steadily to more than 200 distinct varieties. The attention of the most earnest philatelists has provided identification of many additional varieties that are beyond the scope of Stanley Gibbons. George V was largely responsible for the Royal Philatelic Collection of stamps of the British Empire. There were no stamps issued to commemorate his coronation and the collecting world had to wait until May 6, 1935 for the first omnibus releases for British areas. These acknowledged the Silver Jubilee of George V. May 6, 1935 was also the 95th anniversary of the official release of the Penny Black, the world's first postage stamp.

Endnote

This is an amplified version of an article originally printed in the January 1988 issue of Bermuda Post titled "Long Live the King!"

Rare Virgin Islands stamp sells for \$225,000 in London auction

By Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca
Of the British Virgin Islands

On June 28, 2011, one of the four existing “Missing Virgins,” the rarest Virgin Islands stamp, sold for £140,490 (\$225,000) at Spink of London during a fiercely fought auction. A spokesperson at Spink said that this is “a new world record price” for this great rarity. The stamp belonged to the Chartwell Collection of British Empire stamps formed by Sir Cyril Humphrey Cripps, a well known investor, philanthropist, and avid philatelist who regularly visited the BVI since the early 1970s.

Of the three examples of the Missing Virgin that were auctioned during the last decade, this is believed to be the finest. Described as “one of the world’s greatest and most sought after rarities,” this variety occurred on the 1867 1/-, one of the earliest two-color stamps, when the letterpress black silhouette of the “Virgin” was omitted, leaving the incomplete stamp with only its rose carmine lithographed background. The Cripps example had not been on the market for almost half a century.

Other Virgin Islands highlights of the Cripps collection did well: a stampless 1864 cover with the extremely rare Crowned Circle postmark, “PAID/AT/TORTOLA” (estimated at £6,000-£8,000) fetched about £20,500 (\$32,500); and the double “4D” overprint on 1/- found a new home for £7,800 (\$12,300), this being an underestimated stamp that is just about as rare as the Missing Virgin when the overprint is clearly double and not skidded.

According to reports, none of the great rarities made it back to the Virgin Islands and only one interesting lot was secured by a BVI-based collector.

The Missing Virgin actually did better than the very popular Bermuda rarities which included the Perots on cover -- with the highest price paid being £128,790 (\$206,000) for a cover with an 1853 one penny.

The legendary 2 pence Mauritius “POST OFFICE” sold for £1,053,090 (\$1,684,000) -- a new record price for a stamp sold in the United Kingdom. However, most impressively, this segment of the Cripps Collection of



The “Missing Virgin,” recognized as the rarest stamp of the Virgin Islands.

British Empire stamps brought a sale total of £1,750,000 (\$2,800,000). The following day Spink sold the first segment of the Chartwell Collection of Great Britain stamps with a deluge of great rarities. This sale also attracted record prices.

Over the next 18 months Spink will be offering more items from the Cripps Collection with a schedule that includes no less than nine sales. The prices listed above include the 20% commission charged on the hammer price.

Nuggets from the past ...

King Parker Jr., Peter P. McCann, and Thomas E. Giraldi authored a lengthy and informative article titled “The Real Cayman Islands First Flight.” They countered a generally accepted belief that the Caymans had its first air mail service in late 1947. Capt. King Parker Jr. inaugurated weekly service between Jamaica and the Caymans on November 23, 1946.

-- BCPSG Journal
October 1982

British Guiana: Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Issue of 1898

By John Wynns
Of the USA

Next year, 2012, is the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, which will be celebrated by most postal administrations by the issue of stamps. I thought it was time for an article on the last release of stamps for the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria from British Guiana, after Barbados (1 farthing to 2/6, nine stamps printed on white & bluish paper); Canada (1/2¢ to \$5.00, 11 stamps); and Leeward Islands (1/2p to 5/-, eight stamps), to name a few in 1897. British Guiana issued only five stamps (1¢, 2¢, 5¢, 10¢, 15¢), a very modest release on July 18, 1898 -- one year after the event was celebrated.

The Postmaster General of British Guiana recommended to the colony's Governor that British Guiana should commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. This request was made in August of 1897, allowing not much time to have designs made and printing of stamps completed. On June 22, 1897, a public holiday was held for the Diamond Jubilee, marking the date when QV came to the throne on June 20, 1837. The set of five stamps was not issued until July 18, 1898 in British Guiana.



FIGURE 1
De La Rue submitted a cancelled 5/- Tonga stamp as an example of a new printing process.

On September 13, 1897 a letter was sent to the Crown Agents (CA) seeking their advice. The Government Secretary enclosed "photo prints" of four views; these scenes were Mount Roraima, Kaieteur Falls, Massaruni

Falls and Timehri Rocks. In order to save cost, only the first two scenes were used in the design of the stamps.

De La Rue (DLR) received the order and on October 20, 1897 sent essays to the CA. DLR estimated it would take about three months from the date of order to make delivery to the CA's Inspector. DLR sent their design proposals along with an 1897 cancelled 5/- Tonga stamp (**Figure 1**) as an example of their new printing process. DLR had learned a lot producing the 1897 Tonga issue.

The designs were approved on November 29 by the BG

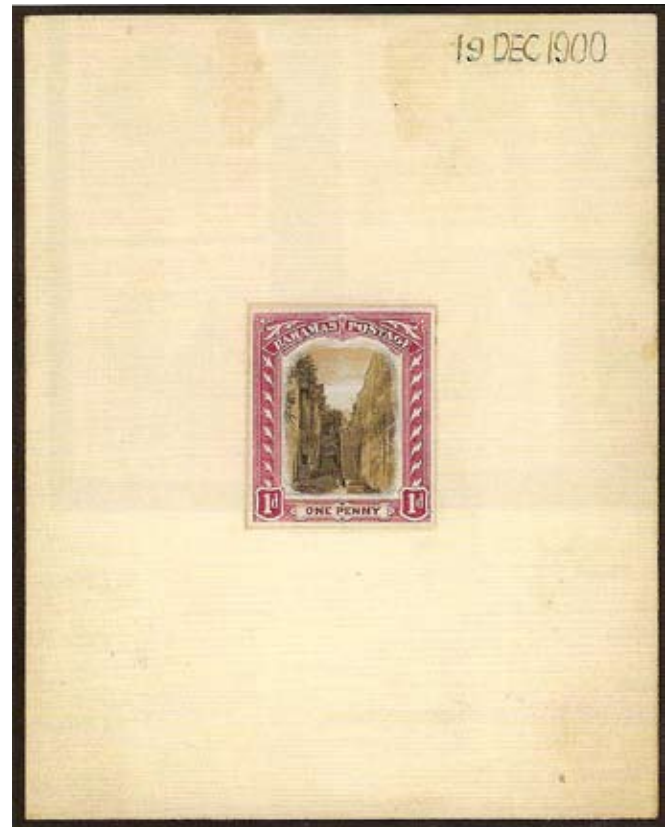


FIGURE 2
Essay of Bahamas Staircase issue of 1901.

Executive Council and returned to London. DLR received word on December 31, 1897. The new copper or recess process was recommended and each stamp would be printed in two colors. Since there were two separate printings, the paper would have to be dampened twice and therefore the paper would be 25 per cent thicker.

Continued on page 8

DLR was so pleased with their efforts in printing the Diamond Jubilee issue that they used the frame of the vertical design when submitting an essay for the Bahamas Staircase issue of 1901 (*Figure 2*).

scape and blank duty plates (*Figures 3-6*). All of the trail color proofs are scans from the Spink Auction Sale 7033, held April 12, 2007.



FIGURE 3
Suggested color schemes.

It was not until March 15, 1898 that DLR sent two suggested color schemes of the five stamps each to CA and a further 26 color combinations using the original land-



FIGURE 4
Another suggested color scheme.



FIGURE 5
Yet another color scheme.

In October 1898 the horizontal view (Mount Roraima) plate was damaged by some grit and a new plate had to be made. The second vignette is confined to the one cent stamp, therefore the printing of the 5¢ and 15¢ stamps must have been completed. The left 1¢ stamp shows the first vignette plate print (*Figure 7*) and the right 1¢ stamp shows the mountain and foreground much darker



FIGURE 6
Same design as Figure 5.

with less shading in the sky. Delivery of all values to the CA was by installments: the 5¢, 10¢ and 15¢ by October; the 2¢ by the end of November; and the 1¢ by December.

All five stamps were printed in sheets of 60, the vertical design (2¢ and 10¢ Kaieteur Falls stamps) were in five horizontal rows of 12 and the horizontal design (1¢, 5¢ and 15¢ Mount Roraima stamps) were printed in 10 horizontal rows of six.

All the stamps are perforated 14 and are watermarked Large Crown CC (upright on the 2¢ and 10¢ and sideways on the 1¢,

Continued on page 10

Numbers for each stamp printed:

	1¢	2¢	5¢	10¢	15¢
ORDERED	750,000	900,000	300,000	150,000	150,000
DELIVERED	787,560	884,040	306,900	153,600	153,680
DESTROYED	30,000				
OVERPRINTED "TWO CENTS"			207,900	126,600	130,680
USAGE OF EACH ORIGINAL STAMP	757,560	884,040	99,000	27,000	24,000



FIGURE 7
One-cent stamp showing first vignette plate print (left) with same scene at right, but mountain and foreground much darker and less shading in the sky.

FIGURE 8 (below)
Specimen stamps from De La Rue.



British Guiana: Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Issue of 1898

Continued from page 9

5¢ and 15¢). DLR had 750 stamps overprinted 'SPECIMEN' (*Figure 8*) and all examples of the horizontal design (1¢, 5¢ and 15¢) have been reported with a slanting 'N' as have some of the vertical design. The specimen stamps shown here have only the horizontal stamps with the slanting 'N.' The 1¢ stamp is from the second vignette plate. The "SPECIMEN" overprints were received



FIGURE 9
Five-cent stamp with underinked "S."

by the GPO London on December 29 for shipment to the UPU, according to a letter sent by the GPO to the CA. It was not unusual for specimen stamps to be overprinted long after printing. In my collection there is one 5¢ specimen stamp with an underinked "S" (*Figure 9*).

ENDNOTES

"Kaieteur Fall" (*sic*) color litho print on front cover from the book by C.B. Brown, *Canoe and Camp Life in British Guiana* (Edward Stanford, 1876). With kind permission from David Druett, owner of Pennymead. Website at: <http://www.pennymead.com>.

Queen Victoria picture postcard painting, *circa* 1897 (front cover) used with permission of Don & Louise Kaye of D & L KAYE ENTERPRISES, Dealer in Collectibles, Postcards & Postal History, email: dlk@silk.net.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

British West Indies Study Circle Bulletin No. 164, March 1995.

Easton, John. *The De La Rue History of British and Foreign Postage Stamps 1855-1901*. London: Faber & Faber, 1958.

Townsend, W.A. and F.G. Howe. *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana*. London: Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1970.

We need articles!

Yes, the cupboard is beginning to get bare. With the completion of the late Jerone Hart's series on the airmails of Barbados, we now have several additional pages to fill in each issue.

Thanks to a cadre of writers, we have a supply of articles for forthcoming issues, but there is a need for much more material! Please consider this a call for action. Remember that you can submit articles and illustrations electronically (preferred), but if you do not have internet access, regular mail service is fine.

Particularly needed are articles of any type from islands that are not regularly covered. Contact the editor today to let him know what you might be able to provide for forthcoming issues.

The Rev. Meister Mystery

Who was he and what was his BWI connection?

Our intrepid reporter Dr. Eric M. Bateson of Australia examines the case.

The mystery

Covers addressed to “L. Meister,” prefixed by either “Reverend” or “Mister” were noted in a review of philatelic covers of North America.¹ Initially his covers were sent to Montserrat, and subsequently to different cities in the USA. The covers did not give his full name, only the initial “L” along with “Montserrat” or the name of the city and state. Those addressed to “Reverend” give no hint of his religious denomination. Philatelically, most of his covers are not very remarkable, with brief descriptions in sale catalogues which rarely gave his name and as a result, cannot be identified as his.

Philatelic material

Several covers and postal stationery were available for review, including those in my collection, in auction sale catalogues, and illustrated in articles in philatelic journals kindly sent to me by a philatelic dealer. The covers are listed in chronological order as follows:

Montserrat, 1907-1911. Two covers, one from my collection (*Figure 1*), one from the Charles Freeland collection², and two postal stationery postcards.³ All were addressed to “Reverend.”

St. Kitts 1910. A postcard (see *Figure 2*).

Aberdeen, Mississippi, 1915. A post office box number.



FIGURE 1

Reverend Meister cover to Montserrat, bearing British Honduras surcharges (1¢, 2¢, 3¢ of 1888-89; 5¢ and 15¢ of 1891). Cover is dated February 27, 1911.

Amarillo, Texas, 1920-22. Three covers, all addressed to “Mister.” Two from my collection (e.g., *Figure 3*) and one included in an article in this *Journal* in October 2003.⁴



FIGURE 2

Reverend Meister 1d postcard of Antigua, used in St. Kitts and dated April 26, 1910.

Leavenworth, Kansas, 1922. Two covers to “Reverend,” one from my collection redirected from Amarillo (*Figure 4*), and one from a recent auction sale.⁵

Central Wichita, Kansas, 1923. One cover addressed to “Mister” (*Figure 5*).

Dorrance, Kansas, 1923-24. Two covers from my collection, both addressed to “Reverend” (e.g., *Figure 6*).

Continued on page 12



FIGURE 3

Meister cover to Amarillo, Texas, bearing British Honduras 1913-21 25¢ back-green and emerald. The cover is postmarked July 7, 1922.

Delia, Kansas, 1925. One cover from my collection addressed to "Reverend."

Kansas City, Kansas, 1925. A cover addressed to "Mister" which was redirected from Delia (note: this cover was illustrated in the *Journal* in 2006).⁶

Holyoke, Colorado, 1927-32. Thirteen covers addressed to "Mister" -- six from my collection (e.g., *Figures 7, 8, 9*); five from the stock of a dealer⁷, and two from recent auction sales.⁸



FIGURE 4

Reverend Meister cover to Amarillo, Texas, redirected to Leavenworth, Kansas. The cover bears Barbados stamps from the 1921-24 series and is postmarked January 11, 1922.

Analysis of Meister's philatelic material is considered in four sections: status, personal, religion, philatelic.

Status:

Evidence of his two professions can be found in the handwriting of his name and address on the self-addressed envelopes sent to him from four different post offices. The style of writing is very flamboyant and can be seen especially in *Figures 5 and 7* (sent to "Mister"), in *Figure 8*, and the cover illustrated in the *Journal* in October



FIGURE 5

Meister cover to Wichita, Kansas, bearing Dominica 1921-1922 stamps, and postmarked in May 1923.

2006⁹ sent to "Mister." All the covers sent to Montserrat were addressed to "Reverend" and those to Holyoke (his last known address) were sent to "Mister."

Personal:

The Special Collections librarian of the Amarillo (Texas) Public Library¹⁰ and the librarian of the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library in Kansas¹¹ kindly found the following personal details about Meister. They confirmed he was a Catholic priest and that the initial "L" stood for "Leonard." He was born in Egenhofen, Germany in 1873. His date of arrival in the West Indies is not known, but it was probably before 1905 and the date of departure via Trinidad and Cristobal with arrival in New Orleans is 1914.



FIGURE 6

Reverend Meister cover to Dorrance, Kansas, bearing Dominica stamps of the 1921-22 series. The cover was postmarked on January 4, 1924.

Religion:

Montserrat: Father George Agar of the Catholic Church in Montserrat¹² confirmed that Meister was the local priest from 1905 to 1910, which corresponds with the period of his philatelic activities on the island.

Basseterre, St. Kitts: A postcard cancelled "26 04 10" (see *Figure 2*) places him for a brief stay and at the end of his stipend in Montserrat.

United States: There is evidence to show Meister was a priest in the following locations: Aberdeen, Mississippi (a post office box address in 1915); Missouri (World War I draft, 1917-1918); Amarillo, Texas (federal census of 1920); Leavenworth, Kansas (two covers addressed to "Reverend"); Delia, Kansas (state census, 1925); Kansas City, Kansas (a street address in 1925); Holyoke, Colorado (he conducted a funeral service in St. Patrick's Catholic Church in 1926). He was one of several short term pastors. St. Patrick's Catholic Church was destroyed by fire in 1935).



FIGURE 7

Meister cover to Holyoke, Colorado with British Guiana 96¢ stamp of 1913-21 series. The cover was postmarked on November 12, 1931.

Philatelic:

Steve Dewett of Empire Stamp Auctions¹³ kindly sent copies of covers from his stock which included two post cards sent to Meister (“Reverend”) from the post office in Antigua. One was undated and the message said, “I am sorry your order was too late re 3d Leeward Island stamps, old colours all sold out.” The second card, cancelled “JA 4 11” said, “The stamps he required had arrived and would be forwarded to him at the first opportunity.”



FIGURE 8

Meister cover to Holyoke, Colorado bearing Antigua 1923-29 2/- stamp. The cover was postmarked on July 27, 1932.

Dr. Everett Parker, editor of the *Journal*,¹⁴ found information which was of great help in starting the investigation of Meister. In addition to details of the funeral held in Holyoke, Colorado, he found a reference to an advertisement in *Mekeel's Stamp Weekly* in December 1915 titled “Current Issues of the West Indies Colonies.” Here there was a listing of individual stamps for sale. The ad also sought people to send a wants list for Edwardian issues. The address was: Rev. L. Meister, Box 255, Aberdeen, Mississippi.

Meister’s covers are of two types. The majority are probably commercial, used to carry stamps purchased from post offices. Some are more philatelic and may have been created in order for sale in the philatelic trade (examples are Figures 7-9). The stamps seen so far on his covers are mainly from the BWI, but I have notes from auction catalogues of covers addressed to him from Ascension, Papua, Trengganu and Zanzibar. I have not seen any of his covers dated after 1935.



FIGURE 9a & b

Two of a set of four matching Mister Meister covers to Holyoke, Colorado, each bearing low values of the 1922 issue of Barbuda with consecutive registration numbers (641-644), indicating a particularly philatelic item.

It is hoped that this article may have thrown some light on the philatelic activities of the Rev. Leonard Meister, and I would be delighted to hear from others who have covers or additional information about the man. The author can be reached through his daughter’s electronic mail: lackhelen@yahoo.com.au.

FOOTNOTES

¹ Bateson, E.M. “American and Canadian Providers of Philatelic covers of the Empire Period (1890-1935) of the BWI,” *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 46, No. 4 (October 2006), 4.

- ² Victoria Stamp Company, Auction 13 (December 2001), Lot 92.
- ³ Drewett, Steve. Empire Stamp Auctions, personal communication (February 16, 2010).
- ⁴ Matheson, Ian. "Registration Labels, Handstamps and Manuscript Endorsements of British Honduras," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 43, No. 4 (October 2003), 5.
- ⁵ Victoria Stamp Company, Auction 21 (June 2006), Lot 53.
- ⁶ Hart, Jerone. "Straight Line Registered Handstamps of the Barbados GPO: 1925 to 1950," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 46, No. 4 (October 2006), 22.
- ⁷ Drewett, Steve. Empire Stamp Auctions, personal communication (February 26, 2010).
- ⁸ Postal History Auctions, Auction 70 (March 2004), Lot 98; Auction 80 (September 2006), Lot 95.
- ⁹ *Op. cit.*, Hart.
- ¹⁰ Brown, Gayle. Library Assistant, Special Collections Department, Amarillo (Texas) Public Library. Personal communications (October and November 2009).
- ¹¹ Mithen, Jeanette C. Special Collections Librarian, Topeka and Shawnee County (Kansas) Public Library. Personal communication (November 2009).
- ¹² Agar, George. Catholic parish priest, Montserrat. Personal communication (February 2010).
- ¹³ *Op. cit.*, Drewett (personal communication, February 2010).
- ¹⁴ Parker, Everett L., Editor, *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*. Personal communication (September 2009).
- ¹⁵ Bateson, Eric. "Registration Number Sequences on BWI Philatelic Covers." *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 47, No. 3 (July 2007), 14.

Acknowledgments

I wish to thank the following people for their valuable help in preparation of this paper: Dr. Everett L. Parker, editor of the Journal; Gayle Brown and Jeanette C. Mithen, librarians of Texas and Kansas public libraries; Father George Agar of Montserrat, and Steve Drewett of the United Kingdom. I also wish to thank my daughter, Helen Lack for internet research and my sight-disabled wife, Winifred, for her constructive criticism.

Jamaica World War II Censor Notes

By Hap Pattiz

Previously unrecorded censor chop #35 found



In 1939 and 1940 when Jamaica covers were censored with Miller Type L5, the local censor also often stamped the cover with his or her assigned number. Previously these censor chops have been known numbered between 6 and 27. The above cover is from Linstead, Jamaica to New York on October 29, 1940, with newly discovered chop #35, applied on the tape twice each on front and back.

Cayman Islands postal rates, 1936-69

By **Graham Booth**
Of the United Kingdom

At various times since July 2006 I have attempted to write a follow up to Giraldi and Schnell's article on Cayman airmail rates to the U.S. during World War II. This kept on being sidelined or postponed because I got new information, but I have now built on Tom's article to cover rates, both surface and air, to the U.S. and the U.K. until decimalization in 1969. This is based on the very limited amount of material available in the Cayman archives, the rates published in Proud's and Giraldi's books, and covers in my own collection, supplemented with covers from Tom, and James Podger whose assistance I gratefully acknowledge. In addition, Steve Ellis provided me with the Jamaican rates. No attempt is made to authenticate anything other than a letter rate, nor destinations outside these two countries, which between them cover 90 percent of the correspondence. There are large gaps in the known examples of Post Office notices. In addition, interpretation of covers is very difficult.

1. The clarity of Cayman cancels had never been consistently good, but during the war and immediately afterwards quality deteriorated. For much of the period, handstamps were worn and under-inked and dates are illegible.

2. Backstamps for non-registered mail had already disappeared, and for registered mail tended to be very variable during the period.

3. During the 1940s, single adhesives did not exist for many of the rates, e.g., the registered one-ounce surface mail rates to both the U.K. and the U.S., and most of the airmail rates. There was no possibility of new denominations being printed, and it is not unusual to find modest over-frankings. In addition, it is probable that supplies of particular denominations became exhausted and could not be replenished in time, in particular the ½d which was required for many of the airmail rates and would appear to have been conserved for internal use, but there is no documentary evidence of this.

4. Equally it is not unusual for letters to be modestly under-franked either through sloppiness in the post office, or because one of the adhesives which made up the correct rate was not in stock, or because of close social relationships that permeated the Caymans: "Oh, Mrs. Bodden,

you don't have another ½d? That's all right then!"

5. Misunderstanding between the post offices on Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac over the rate. At one stage in 1942, Stake Bay seems to have been charging 10d to the U.S. when Georgetown was charging 1/1d.

6. The perennial problem of philatelically inspired over-franked mail.

As a consequence, Giraldi and Schnell were forced to suggest an average rate for airmail to the U.S. in the early part of the war which they concluded was one shilling, one pence (1/1d). Excluding changes based on the analysis of covers, the sequence of recorded rate changes is as follows:

1) In 1936, the U.K. surface rate was 1d per ounce (newly reduced that year in January) while that to the U.S. was 2½d per ounce and 1½d per additional ounce. Airmail supplements, which were for surface mail to Jamaica and air from there, were 6½d per half ounce.

2) Proud's book on the Caymans reports that the airmail rates to the U.S. were changed to be inclusive on January 7, 1937. The new rates were 9d per half ounce and 8d per additional half ounce. In addition, he reports that the airmail supplement to the U.K. increased to 7d, so that the all in rate was 8d per half ounce. (NOTE: There is a typo in the most recent edition of Giraldi's handbook where the Airmail Supplements are quoted as per ounce instead of per half ounce.)

3) Proud's book reports a reduction in the airmail rate to the U.S. of 2d in 1938 to a new rate of 7d and an increase on January 5, 1939 to 1/1½d per half ounce.

4) The next recorded increase was to external surface rates in 1940 when there was a ½d increase to both Empire and U.P.U. destinations. This act was passed by the Assembly on November 28, but could not be implemented until after the Governor in Jamaica approved it, which normally took about a month. Proud records it as being on January 1, 1941. (NOTE: Again the gremlins seem to have got into Giraldi's schedule in his recent Supplement to the Postal History. He records a 2½d airmail rate to

Continued on page 16

Jamaica in 1940, but the 1940 act makes no mention of it. It would be extraordinary if it had done so as no such service existed or had ever existed. In addition, the ship letter rate of 2½d was for letters “without” the Dependency not “within,” and per ounce, not half ounce.)

5) The next recorded change occurred on March 9, 1943 when the airmail rate from the U.S. to Asia and Africa was suspended. It is worth quoting in full: “Air Mail for Asia and Africa will therefore be airborne from Jamaica only as far as the United States, the rate for such airmail from the Cayman Islands being 1s1½d per ½ oz to British destinations and 1s3d per ½ oz to foreign destinations (in Asia & Africa) [*author's addition*]. Further, no guarantee can be given regarding the trans Atlantic air mail service to Great Britain. All that can be said is that airmail letters marked ‘Trans Atlantic’ (the rate for which from the Cayman Isles is 2s3½d per half ounce) will be airborne across the Atlantic wherever possible. The ordinary airmail service to G.B. (the rate for which from the Cayman Isles is 1s1½d per half ounce) will continue to operate, letters so directed being airborne only as far as the U.S. (from Jamaica) [*author's addition*]”. The real significance of this notice is that the two rates of 2/3½d all the way and 1/1½d as far as the U.S. and surface thereafter must have been introduced some time earlier, but we don’t know when.

6) An October 6, 1943 post office notice from Georgetown reported new airmail rates to the U.K. of 9½d, and to the U.S. of 11d, both per half ounce.

7) A June 16, 1947 post office notice from Cayman Brac announced a 2½d airmail rate per half ounce to Jamaica, effective May 12. Jamaica announced a 2½d rate in the reverse direction, though as a generalization there is little commonality between Jamaican rates and Cayman rates and the effective dates of change throughout the entire period.

8) On September 22, 1952 internal rates increased for the first time in 42 years to 2d per ounce. At the same time the registration fee increased to 2d for inland mail. (NOTE: Giraldi’s rate schedule does not make this distinction.)

9) Aerograms were placed on sale on June 2, 1958: 2½d to Jamaica, 6d to the U.K., and 9d to the United States. The notice announcing this confirmed that 2½d was the surface rate to other parts of the British Empire.

10) On July 10, 1958 Giraldi reports new airmail rates of 3d per ounce to Jamaica and 9d for the first half ounce and 8d per subsequent ounce to the U.S. He also records

a number of other rate increases, but nothing to the U.K. and Europe which is likely to have occurred about the same time.

11) On June 1, 1960 surface rates changed to 3d for the first ounce and 1½d for each subsequent ounce to the U.K. and Jamaica, and 6d for the first ounce and 4d each subsequent ounce to the U.S.

12) Finally at decimalization on September 8, 1969, airmail to the U.S. became 12 cents per half ounce and to the U.K., 20 cents per half ounce. In addition, there was a Special Delivery rate of 20 cents per half ounce and half of any of these rates for Second Class Airmail.

This leaves us with a number of problem areas:

1) The period between January 1939 and March 1943 for both U.S. and U.K. airmail rates when extant covers are franked with a wide variety of rates.

2) We do not have an official notice of any change in surface rates between January 1, 1941 when the rate to the U.K. was 1½d and June 1958 when it was 2½d. In the case of the U.S., the rate was 3d in 1941 while the next confirmed rate is 6d in June 1960.

3) We do not have an official notice of any change or reported change in the airmail rates to the U.K. between October 6, 1943 and September 8, 1969, and to the U.S. between October 6, 1943 and July 10, 1958.

REGISTRATION

There is no certainty about the registration fee which makes the calculation of the carriage rate for registered covers complicated. Registration has always been a controversial topic in the Caymans because the original Post Office Act did not include any statement of the fee. As a result, subsequent changes were put into effect by administrative dictate rather than a change to the legislation. Although all the early official post office documents show a charge of 2d, some versions of the Blue Book show a differential rate within the islands of 1½d.

Then in 1911 there is a Post Office notice that the inland rate was reduced to 1d which was confirmed by a post office notice in 1921. Giraldi reports in the second edition of his book that the international fee was increased to 3d in 1940, but the change was not included in the Act. In any event this could only have applied to UPU mail because I have a copy of a very simple post office notice from Cayman Brac on June 16, 1947 that was primarily concerned with introducing the 2½d airmail rate to Jamaica which also said “and the Registration fee for all

articles raised to 3d” (*author’s emphasis*). This statement may have applied only to registered items to Jamaica and therefore probably to the Empire, but it may have applied to the UPU as well.

The Blue Books do not exist for the wartime period but I have five covers to different addresses in Scotland, all in late 1942. There is one at 1½d and two at 2½d, the one and two ounce surface rates, and two one ounce



FIGURE 1

Registered cover to Kansas City, Missouri, July 1944.

registered covers at 3½d which were not taxed. Finally, I have three transatlantic airmail covers flown all the way in the mid 1940 which paid 2½d (the 2/3½d half ounce rate plus 2d for registration). This evidence suggests that the 1940 increase to 3d reported by Giraldi did not happen for Empire destinations.

Whether it was implemented for UPU destinations is more debatable because I have fewer examples. Caymanians seem to have assumed that if they paid the high airmail rate that was sufficient guarantee of security. However, I do have a registered cover to Topeka on November 26, 1942 which paid 1/3d when the airmail rate was 1/1d or an approximation to that, and more convincingly a letter to National Bellas Hess, and therefore likely to be properly franked, which is rated 1/1d (*Figure 1*). It was cancelled when the airmail rate was clearly 11d and so paid a 2d registration fee. On this basis I would suggest that the 1940 increase to 3d to UPU destinations did not



FIGURE 2

Cover to Washington State dated January 1953.

happen either. Indeed in the first edition of his book, Tom shows it occurring in 1947. By the end of the decade it was clearly 3d to all destinations, but there is no authoritative evidence as to when the change occurred. On the balance of probability I would settle for June 16, 1947 as the date on which the registration fee for both UPU and Commonwealth destinations increased to 3d.

There are a number of registered airmail covers to the U.S. between 1948 and the early 1960s which suggest that the registration rate during this period was 3d. The 1/3d denomination that was produced for the first time in 1962 would have provided the registered airmail rate to the U.S. when the ordinary airmail rate was clearly 1/-. The fee increased to 1/- in 1968, so it is probable that there was an increase of some sort between then and the 3d fee applicable in earlier years. Registered surface mail in the 1960s is uncommon and what evidence there is on cover is confused by philatelic confections such as a registered printed paper rate. However, it would appear as though there was an increase to 4d or 6d at some time during the decade.

SURFACE RATES

Surface rates at the end of the war were confirmed by the Victory issue, the denominations of which (1½d and 3d) represented one-ounce rates to the U.K. and U.S. respectively. Giraldi’s schedule of surface rates to the U.S. shows a change to 4d for the first ounce and 2½d per subsequent ounce by 1953. The 4d denomination of the new definitive issue was the first to be printed in the new Queen’s reign for anywhere in the Commonwealth in order to satisfy this rate, and was issued on March 2, 1953. However, I have seen covers franked 4d before this date, the earliest of which was dated May 14, 1951, so the increase to 4d probably happened early in 1951 (*Figure 2*). There is a post office notice increasing this again to 6d and 4d from June 1, 1960 (*Figure 3*).

I have a number of covers that suggest a change in the surface rate to the British Commonwealth of 3d for the

Continued on page 18



FIGURE 3

Cover to Connecticut dated May 1967.

first ounce and 1½d per subsequent ounce beginning in 1960 and going through to decimalization. A post office notice confirms this as beginning on June 1 (*Figure 4*). However, there is a gap in the records between 1940, when the rate was increased to 1½d, and this increase in

single cover does not offer a compelling argument and it is possible that these reported changes never took place. Between the three of us we have seven covers from the Army Airforce flight in February 1940 which gives an idea of the problems.



FIGURE 4

Cover to United Kingdom in March 1964.

1960. The best bet is that some time between 1947 and 1948, possibly in June 1947 when the registration fee was increased to 3d, the Commonwealth rate for the first ounce increased to 2½d and possibly 2d per subsequent ounce. Two-pence halfpenny was a common rate in other West Indian colonies, and I have five covers that confirm this



FIGURE 5

November 24, 1950 cover to Australia.

rate (*Figure 5*). The commemorative issue produced by the islands to celebrate its new Constitution in July 1959 only had two denominations (2½d and 1/-), which again would suggest that 2½d was the rate at this time.

AIRMAIL RATES TO THE U.S.

Analysis of the rates on airmail covers addressed to the U.S. is complex. Conclusions have to be tentative because so many rates don't fit into the main pattern for all the reasons stated earlier. Proud's reported rate changes in 1938 and 1939 are difficult to substantiate. I have not been able to find a single cover at 7d and only one, a registered cover in June 1939, of 1/3½d, which assuming a registration fee of 2d is built on a half ounce rate of 1/1½d. This

1940 ARMY AIRFORCE FLIGHT

Destination	Registered	Franking
New York	Yes	1/ 2 1/2d
New York	No	1/ 1/2d
New York	No	1/1d
U.K.	No	1/ 1/2d
U.K.	No	11d
Jamaica	No	1/4d
Jamaica	No	1/4d

None of these supports Proud's reported rate to the U.S. in January 1939 of 1/1½d. The three covers to New York were addressed to the same person, Lester Hoffman (*Figure 6*). The 1/2½d and 11d covers appear to have been



FIGURE 6

First Direct Flight cover addressed to Lester Hoffman.

prepared outside the islands, perhaps by members of the crew, which might explain the under-franking of the 11d cover. The 1½d cover was sent by Ernest Panton in the Post Office and is endorsed "Letter in this one," which suggests that he had sent more than one and that the Post Office considered the half ounce rate to be 1½d. If so, then the 1/2½d registered rate would appear to be correct.

Finally, the 1½d rate to the U.K. is unlikely to be correct at this early stage in the war as it is the same rate as that to the U.S. and would mean that Empire preference had already been abandoned. Finally, if we accept this logic, then the rate to Jamaica is an even more extreme example. In summary, there is no consistency.

Besides the covers on this flight, Giraldi has two other unregistered covers to the U.S. at 1½d during 1940. I have three between December 1939 and October 1940 all at 1½d, which in total makes eight. So it would appear that the rate went down by 1d later in the year after Proud's reported increase to 1/1½d in January 1939, or as indicated above, that this increase never took place.



FIGURE 7
December 1939 cover to Tampa, Florida.

However covers at 7d registered, 7½d, 11d, 1/3½d and 1/4d all unregistered are also in existence. Some are addressed to known philatelists, which is the probable explanation of over-franking, but what can one make of the under-frankings? In reality were they not flown, or was the Cayman Post Office's ability to misinterpret/enforce rates and do simple arithmetic monumental?

The rates in 1941 and 1942 continue to be confusing. Between us we have four at 10d, one at 11d, one at 1/-, seven at 1/1 (all unregistered), one at 1/3½d (registered), one at 2/3d and one at 2/6d, (both unregistered and presumably one-ounce rates). Most of these covers are ap-



FIGURE 8
May 1942 cover to New York City.

proximations to the proper rate, possibly because supplies of half-pennies which were the main adhesives for local mail were being conserved. It is difficult to draw a firm conclusion, but the eight covers at 1½d in the 12 months to October 1940 (Figure 7) and the seven covers at 1/1d in 1941 and 1942 (Figure 8) make a compelling argument



FIGURE 9
February 1945 cover to Tampa, Florida.

for these being the effective rates.

The next reported move came with a post office notice of October 6, 1943, when the rate dropped to 11d and stayed there until the end of the war. A mass of covers were sent at this rate (Figure 9). However, in 1943 we have eight covers at 1/3d, all unregistered, all posted on March 9 (Figure 10), so it is probable that in early 1943 the rate went up to 1/3d per half ounce, and then came down to 11d in October.



FIGURE 10
June 10, 1943 cover to Miami, Florida.

After the war, as the popularity of the Cayman Islands spread, there is no longer a dominance of particular names among collectors and it becomes more difficult to identify philatelic covers. On the other hand, the percentage of the total represented by commercial covers sent by Cayman merchants increased.

At the end of 1948 to beginning of 1949, the U.S. air-mail rate per half ounce seems to have been reduced to 9d. I have nine covers at this rate between then and 1952 (Figure 11). The latest 9d rate we have is dated March 2, 1953. Then over the next two years we have nine covers franked at 11d which is fairly conclusive evidence of an increase in 1953 (Figure 12). However, between then and

Continued on page 20

1958 we have a couple covers at the 9d rate, not enough to provide conclusive evidence but enough to suggest that the rate might have reverted to 9d at the end of 1954 or the beginning of 1955 (*Figure 13*). Giraldi's rate sched-



FIGURE 11

Cover from Stake Bay, Cayman Brac dated May 1951.

ule shows a change for airmail rates to the U.S. to 1/- for the first ounce and 9d per additional ounce on July 10,



FIGURE 12

Cover to Pennsylvania dated December 22, 1953.

1958. We have a raft of covers which confirm this rate, which probably lasted until decimalization in September 1969. My latest cover with the 1/- franking is dated January 20, 1967 (*Figure 14*).

AIRMAIL RATES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM

There is no evidence in the Cayman archives of the change in rate to the U.K. of 8d in January 1937, and very little evidence on cover, but I do have two examples (*Figure*

15). There are very few airmail covers to the U.K. from the war period. The ordering of philatelic items from abroad was constrained by foreign exchange controls, and there was little point in paying the airmail premium when letters went from Cayman to Kingston and from New York



FIGURE 13

Cover to U.S. in December 1957.

to Britain by surface mail. Most of the mail to the U.K. paid surface rates. However, we do have examples of a small private correspondence to Northern Ireland that spans the period from August 1938 to August 1946 with both airmail and surface mail, and in both cases there are examples of registered mail. It is very carefully and



FIGURE 14

January 20, 1967 cover to Miami, Florida.

apparently correctly franked with the recipient recording the date of arrival on the cover. These are as follows:

RATES TO THE U.K.

Origin	Date	Type	Franked	Transit Time
East End	Aug. 18, 1938	Surface Mail, Registered	3d	26 days
Georgetown	Aug. 22, 1938	Surface Mail, Registered	3d	22 days
Georgetown	Dec. 30, 1941	Airmail	1/-	46 days
Georgetown	March 25, 1942	Surface Mail	1 1/2d	46 days
Georgetown	Nov. 11, 1942	Airmail	2/3 1/2d	Not known
Georgetown	July 3, 1944	Airmail	2/3 1/2d	43 days
Georgetown	April 20, 1945	Airmail	9 1/2d	33 days
Georgetown	Oct. 29, 1945	Airmail	2/3 1/2d	8 days
Georgetown	Dec. 31, 1945	Airmail	9 1/2d	36 days
Georgetown	July 24, 1946	Airmail	2/ 51/2d	9 days

I have two more covers paying the 2/3½d rate, one registered in 1942 with a transit time of 30 days, and one which was not registered with a very faint cancel and not marked "Airmail," but which would appear to be from as late as 1947. The rate of 9½d per half ounce was intro-



FIGURE 15

Cover to England dated March 4, 1938.

duced on October 6, 1943 (a substantial reduction of 4d per half ounce) at the same time as the U.S. rate dropped to 11d. However, I have a number of covers at a 1/- rate to the U.K. which went via Tampa, two of which appear to have



FIGURE 16

July 3, 1944 redirected cover. See graph titled "Airmail Rates to the U.K." on page 20.

been flown from there to New York, unless a rail transit of 24 hours was available in March 1941. This shilling rate in 1941 is from the same period that is so confusing for U.S. rates. It does not conform to the Post Office Notice of March 1943 which stated that the rate for mail flown only from Kingston to New York was 1/1½d.



FIGURE 17

December 31, 1945 cover to Northern Ireland. See graph titled "Rates to the U.K." on page 20.

So we have to speculate. Was there an increase from the 9d rate that applied in 1939 to 1/- in 1941 and then again to the 1/1½d rate referred to in the 1943 Post Office Notice? Since I have concluded that U.S. rates changed frequently in the same period, it is possible that it did, particularly because the difference of 4½d which existed between the U.S. rate and the lower U.K. rate in 1939 was unsustainable viewed against the backdrop of what was happening in the war. By 1948, it was clear that a preferential Empire rate that was cheaper to the U.K. than to the U.S., particularly when it was flown across the Atlantic, could not be justified economically and it is probable that this conclusion was reached much earlier.

Evidence on cover suggests that the 9½d rate continued until about 1950. The July 10, 1958 rate change mentioned in Giraldi's schedule for the U.S. contains no corresponding increase for the U.K. and Europe, and is not mentioned at all by Proud except for aerograms. So it is not known whether the harmonization of U.K. and Western Europe rates took place then or in 1969. What limited evidence there is suggests the former date. I have a number of carefully franked covers which suggest that the rate to Europe and the U.K. in the late 1950s and early



FIGURE 18

November 1962 cover to Manchester, England.

1960s was 1/9d per half ounce, half that to the rest of the world (Figure 18). It is most likely that it was introduced at the same time as the increase to the U.S. More evidence to support this is that for the first time an adhesive with a 1/9d denomination was issued in the second definitive set in 1962. This denomination was not repeated in the third definitive set in 1969, so there may have been a rate change just before decimalization.

To support this idea, a 2/- value was included in the set to commemorate the Olympic games in 1968, the first time such a value had been issued since 1953. However, the number of covers I have is insufficient to be authoritative. The record in other colonies suggests that there might have been a number of changes, and it would appear

Continued on page 22

unlikely that the rate went from 9½d to 1/9d per half ounce in one jump in 1958. Aerograms were placed on sale for the first time in 1951 at the rate of 2½d to Jamaica and 6d to the U.K. Subsequently in 1958, a 9d rate was added which included the U.S.

CONCLUSION

More information is needed about the period for both Empire and U.P.U. destinations. Unfortunately, the prevalence of mistakes and philatelic frankings is such that single covers will not resolve the problem. There has to be a sufficient number with common rates to be significant. A summary of THE MOST LIKELY rates is listed below.

In most cases there is not enough evidence on cover to argue whether the rate for the second half ounce was the same as that for the first, or whether it was lower. The 2/3½d rate to the U.K. in 1943 was a trans Atlantic rate

to be flown all the way.

There are only two pieces of archival evidence of airmail rates during the war so there has to be a great deal of speculation. Obviously, it can be argued that the frequent rate changes were unlikely. But I hope that the rather complicated story above will persuade readers that the unusual circumstances of the war made these changes necessary. If this analysis is correct, then airmail rates in the Caymans in World War II and its immediate aftermath changed frequently and not always in an upward direction. Post-war there were reasonable periods of stability, but it is argued that the absence of authoritative data makes it appear that these were more stable than perhaps in reality was the case and there is a great deal of speculation involved.

The author would welcome rate information from readers about the speculative areas included in this article at cgbooth@aol.com.

SUMMARY OF MOST LIKELY RATES					
DATE	U.S.		U.K.		REGISTRATION
	SURFACE	AIRMAIL	SURFACE	AIRMAIL	
Jan. 5, 1939	2 1/2d & 1 1/2d	1/1 1/2d?	1d	9d?	2d
Late 1939	--	1/ 1/2d	--	1/-	--
Jan. 1, 1941	3d & 2d	--	1 1/2d & 1d	--	--
1941	--	1/1d	--	--	--
1942/early 1943	--	1/3d	--	1 1/2d & 2/3 1/2d	--
Oct. 6, 1943	--	11d	--	9 1/2d & 8 1/2d	--
June 1947	--	9d	2 1/2d & 2d?	--	3d
1953	4d & 2 1/2d	11d	--	1/- ?	--
1955	--	9d?	--	--	--
July 10, 1958	--	1/- & 9d	--	1/9d ?	--
June 1, 1960	6d & 4d	--	3d & 1 1/2d	--	4d or 6d ?
1968	--	1/3d	--	2/- ?	1/-

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I read with interest the article by Dr. Eric Bateson in Vol. 51, No. 3 (July-September 2011) *Journal* on the philatelic covers of Government House, St. Lucia.

I am showing (at right) a front from my own collection, addressed to Margaret Doorly, which might just have been “manufactured,” but is of interest as it shows “MISSENT TO GRENADA” and also the postage due handstamp in use before the introduction of the first type of postage due stamps.

Alister Kinnon
Pavenham, Bedford,
Great Britain



Cover from New York to St. Lucia, addressed to Miss Margaret Doorly, marked “MISSENT TO GRENADA.”



BG Bits and Pieces

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



An ABCDarian arrangement of 26 different BG postmarks, each a different Type and each on a different stamp

A few years ago, one of my Toronto clubs encouraged members to create one page exhibits for display and discussion on meeting nights. This proved to be a popular and successful program, resulting in several innovative creations and best of all, stimulating members who had not previously exhibited to take their first plunge. This presentation, updated, expanded and rearranged, was originally put together for one such evening and I assure you it is a lot more difficult to find 26 different high quality postmarks of different Types, occurring on different stamps, at least in the British Guiana context. Try it on your own postmark collection.

For the benefit of readers who are not postmark collectors, Types refer to the design style of the cancellation, whereas Sub-Types are of the same basic design with differences such as the size of the postmark. EKD and LKD stand for earliest and latest known date of use of a postmark Type. For clarity, I have placed above each stamp with its featured postmark, an illustration, (as per Townsend & Howe) of that postmark Type, and whenever I could, I displayed the actual cancellation on the stamp. Readers will no doubt notice that the illustrations don't

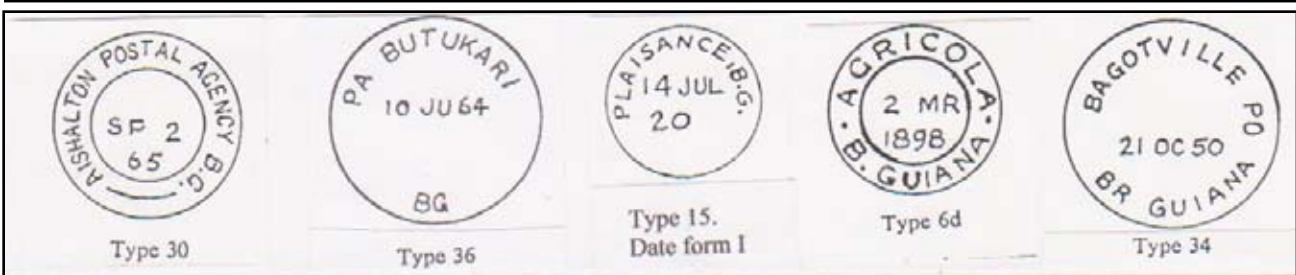
always match the postmark on the stamps in every detail, such as the placement of date slugs relative to each other, or the presence or absence of an asterisk. These kinds of variations often arose from errors or carelessness by postal employees who made the necessary daily changes to the handstamps.

I have also availed myself of Peter Ford's recent updates of Townsend & Howe's EKDs and LKDs to point out which of the postmarks displayed qualify for such accolades. The Jacoba Constantia shown is dated "Au 4 65," but was only used there from 17.10.45 to 19. 9.60. However, it did enjoy a short second life at the nearby village of Anna Catherina from 21.4.64 to 1.11.65.

Because British Guiana has no post office which begins with the letter "X," I have had to improvise by using the convenient Roman capitalized XV MILE P.O POTARO to fill that void. Also, not having any single stamp beginning with a "Y" cancel, that problem was solved by using the only YARIKITA cover I have ever seen, but happen to possess.

Illustrations continued on page 24







Cover mailed from Yarikita to Florida, bearing a pair of KGV two-cent definitives, cancelled by Yarikita Type 21e, seen only once by Townsend and Howe, but Proud states the mark was used between February 15, 1919 and June 30, 1919 at Yarikita. Then either reopened there, or possibly used elsewhere (perhaps at Buck Canister) between October 30, 1922 and May 26, 1923, thus making this the LKD of use of this hammer in its second life. The cover was redirected to a New York address. On the reverse there is a single-ring Georgetown transit strike dated "16 AU 23," as well as Florida receiving EMC dated "SEP 5 1923." There is also a blob of sealing wax impressed with what seems to be a crown design, but no other features are discernible.

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.

TEXPEX 2011, April 15-17
Dallas, Texas

George W. Bowman
The New Zealand Half-Penny Mt. Cook Issues
of 1898-1908

Vermeil

Arthur Banta's Bicycle Post of 1894 and the
Memorial Rerun of 1935 (SF)

Vermeil

PHILATELIC SHOW 2011, April 29-30, May 1
Boxborough, Massachusetts

John Cress
Development of Australian Air Mail 1914-1939
Gold, American Air Mail Society Gold,
APS 1900-1940 Medal

ROCKY MOUNTAIN STAMP SHOW 2011,
May 13-15,
Denver, Colorado

Paul Larsen
German Togo 1885-1900
Gold, GPS Gold, German Colonies Collectors
Group Col. W.E. Davis Award

John Wynns
Canada - Confederation Issue of 1927
Gold, BNAPS Award

Peru: 1897 Lima Post Office Issue (SF)
Vermeil

NAPEX 2011, June 3-5,
McLean, Virginia

George W. Bowman
The New Zealand Half-Penny Mt. Cook Issues
of 1898-1908
Silver
Women Exhibitors (WE) Sterling Achievement
Award

MINNESOTA STAMP EXPO 2011, July 15-17,
Crystal, Minnesota

George W. Bowman
The New Zealand Half-Penny Mt. Cook Issues
of 1898-1908

Vermeil

Victoria: The English Mail TPOs 1887-1917 (SF)

Vermeil

Arthur Banta's Bicycle Post of 1894 and His
Memorial Rerun of 1935 (SF)

Vermeil

Postcard from an old friend



By Hap Pattiz
Of the USA

I recently acquired a group of Antigua covers and cards, mostly from World War II. Yes, there were some nice censored items. However, this note is about a postcard sent to Antigua by a soldier in Mississippi, a Private Gale Raymond. Yes, the famous philatelist who was apparently seeking to buy something (stamps?) from Miss Harper in Antigua.

It is always a pleasure to find mail to or from someone one knows. Gale was a wonderful friend who brought so much in his career to all of us who collect the stamps and postal history of the British Caribbean (he supervised and engineered the Anguilla Independence overprints).

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

Andrew Fowles, P.O. Box 46, Liguanea PO, Kingston 6, JAMAICA. Email: amj@cwjamaica.com. Collects Jamaica postal history and postmarks. Member of BWISC. Sponsored by Bob Stewart.

Daniel J. McAdam, 216 Sidewinder Rd. NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144 USA. Email: djmccadam@gmail.com. Collects British Caribbean, QV to KGVI. Member of APS. Sponsored by Bob Stewart.

Reinstatement

Andrew Mitchell
Samuel Partain
Doug Coakwell
Russell D. Stichler II

Address Change

Wade Lewis, 7610 Charolais Ct., Gladstone, OR 97027 USA

DONATIONS

Andrew Mitchell

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 stewartlbi9@comcast.net.

Our web site, www.bcpsg.com, now contains a members' area that includes past copies of the *Journal*. To access the site, you will need a login and password which can be obtained by contacting **Bob Stewart, Membership Chairman**, at stewartlbi9@comcast.net.

Dr. Ben Ramkissoon elected to AAMS Hall of Fame

Dr. Reuben (Ben) Ramkissoon, our former president and current APS representative, has been elected to the American Air Mail Society's prestigious Aerophilatelic Hall of Fame. The AAMS board of directors announced the election during its meeting at the Boxborough, Massachusetts stamp show earlier this year.

In announcing the award, Dick Malott, chairman of the AAMS Awards Committee, said Dr. Ramkissoon richly deserved the honor, noting his "years of dedicated research and hard work to Astrophilately, Aerophilately and the AAMS."

In his response to Beatrice Bachmann, Dr. Ramkissoon noted it had been "one of my greatest joys to have worked with you over the years of your pioneering efforts to create the FIP Class of Astrophilately, and to nurture and grow its stature."

Dr. Ramkissoon received a plaque noting his achievement.

Visit my new website today!

On my website for sale at the moment you will find possibly the best stock of Caribbean philatelic books, including many scarce out-of-print titles. Do not be put off by shipping costs as I have an excellent contract with Royal Mail!

Much new philatelic stock added to the website including further selections from Mary Kerr's **Barbados** collection, **Bahamas** first flights, pre-stamp **Grenada** and censored mail from around the Caribbean.

Special list of rare antiquarian West Indies books, maps and prints just added!

www.pennymead.com



1 Brewerton St. Knaresborough, HG5 8AZ
E Mail: Pennymead@aol.com
Tel: 01423 865962 Fax: 01423 547057



President's Message

By Ed Waterous

While attending the APS STAMPSHOW in Columbus, Ohio, I saw a number of BCPSG members in attendance. The Bermuda Collectors Society held its annual meeting and although I'm not a member I attended the meeting. I met face to face with David Cordon, who will speak about his 19th Century Bermuda following our Annual General Meeting in Sarasota this coming February. If I attempted to name the other BCPSG members with whom I had contact, I'd surely forget someone. The show itself had a good number of dealers with stocks of Caribbean material and included some of our dealer members. There were many meetings and seminars. The exhibition was quite good in part due to the World Series of Philately, also referred to as our national championship. Another sight was the constant line of people bringing all manner of philatelic items to the APS "What's in Your Attic?" booth. Another encouraging sign was that there appeared to be more people in attendance on Friday, the second day of the show, than on Thursday. If you have not attended STAMPSHOW, do so in the future.

The time for our 2012 annual meeting is now very near. Please get your exhibit entries in posthaste. It is also time to make your travel and hotel reservations. The show hotel is the Hyatt Regency, a short walk from the show site. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, February 3-5, 2012, at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, located on U.S. Hwy. 41, known locally as 801 N. Tamiami Trail in Sarasota, Florida. Hotels fill up quickly as this is a popular show in high season. The last time I attended the SNSE I booked into what is now the LaQuinta a few blocks north of the show venue and a 10 to 15 minute walk. Plan now to attend and be part of this wonderful event. For details and alternate hotels please see the website: www.sarasotastampclub.com/sarasotastampexhibition.htm

ATTENTION! The BCPSG auction held in conjunction with the show is for your (our members!) benefit. John Seidl needs your help to make a successful sale. Please send any items you would like to sell that would interest another member of our Group. His contact information is inside the

front cover. Our society runs smoothly when our members participate actively in the Group. We are currently seeking members to serve as Secretary, Webmaster and to serve as Trustee to fill the vacancy left by the death of Mike Nethersole. If you have not served your Group before, I would like YOU to give this serious consideration. Feel free to discuss these or any other interests you may have in service to the Group with any of our officers.



As always we are seeking contributions of articles to the BCPJ. If you have some ideas for articles or would just like to show off a new find or interesting item, contact your Study Group Leader or our Editor, Everett Parker. Know someone who might have an interest in joining our Group? Send their name and mailing address to our Membership Director, Bob Stewart. Also contact Bob if you have ideas about recruiting new members. We would like to stem the tide which has been ebbing for some years. You can help!

THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP and
THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE



TRINIDAD
A Philatelic History to 1913



by Sir John Marriott, KCVO, RDP, FRPSL, Michael Medicott
and Reuben A. Ramkissoon, FRPSL

This book was conceived by John Marriott to follow on from his original 1962 Study Paper; unfortunately he did not live to complete the work. With the help, not only of the two co-authors, but many other Trinidad collectors, our two societies have collaborated to publish this book. As the title suggests, the book covers the Trinidad-only period before the advent of Trinidad & Tobago issues. It details all Postage Stamp issues within the period, as well as the Postal Markings; the coverage includes Postal Stationery, Postage Dues, and Revenue and Official Stamps. The final chapter examines the 'D22' markings of Ciudad Bolivar, the 'TOO LATE' marks, Ship Letters, Military Mail and many other more esoteric aspects of Trinidad philately. There are five Appendices which include a listing of Trinidad Governors and Postmasters-General, details of the printings of all the Postage Stamps as well as a census of the Lady McLeod stamp with many of these illustrated in colour. And lastly, there is a long list describing many of the early Trinidad covers, pre-1860. Price: \$70.00. BCPSG Members' Price: \$63.00

This fine book is limited to 400 copies and your individually numbered copy can be ordered from:- Edward Barrow, 16704 Briardale Road, Derwood, MD 20855, Tel:- 301-816-1157 or E-mail:- e.barrow1@gmail.com. For members in Britain or Europe, orders should be sent to David Druett, Pennymead Auctions, 1, Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ. Tel:- 01423 865962 or Fax:- 01423 547057 or E-mail:- Pennymead@aol.com. Or log on to www.pennymead.com, where the book can be ordered with secure credit card check out facilities.



STANLEY GIBBONS

Commonwealth Department



Cayman 1932 Die Proofs

CENTENARY SERIES: DIE PROOFS, MASTERS AND 1s TO 10s VALUES

The Centenary Series was recess printed by Waterlow and Company. The die for the Series were made in the period September through December 1932. A more exact date for the completion of each specific die will be found in the endorsement placed in the upper right corner of its die proof. The red cancellation marks on the die proof were made on 3 September 1934, the day the die were destroyed.



Die Proofs : 1s to 10s Values



SG 84/95

1932 Centenary issue, the unique and remarkable series of working die proofs from the Waterlow archive, sixteen proofs in all, each in black on thick wove, with mostly 2mm margins except 6mm at top where the die and roller numbers, and production dates, are written in black M/S. Each proof with diagonal 'Cancelled/3/9/34' in red M/S, indicating the destruction date of the dies. The series comprises; 1) composite of the two heads: 2) master of the double vignette (for the 1s to 10s values): 3) undenominated master die for the ¼d to 6d: 4) undenominated frame for the 1s to 10s: and then 5-12) individual die proofs for the ¼d to 6d values : 13-16) individes of soiling, to be expected with such production proofs, and some faults, with the undenominated frame and 3d die proof both cut in at right, nevertheless a splendid and very desirable frontispiece for this popular set, and an essential component of a serious collection of this country.

Neatly presented on two exhibition pages. Ex Marston, Cooley and Maisel.

£7,500

If you would like to receive our bi-monthly illustrated list, contact Pauline MacBroom on +44 (0)20 7557 4450 or by email at pmacbroom@stanleygibbons.com

Stanley Gibbons Limited, 399 Strand, London WC2R 0LX

Tel: +44 (0)20 7836 8444 Fax: +44 (0)20 7836 7342

www.stanleygibbons.com

Local Mail

Recent commercial mail, with local usages, including meters, governmental stampless, inter-island, and instructional markings from many of the Caribbean countries.



St. Vincent Provisional overprints 1999-2004 and 2008

STEVEN ZIRINSKY

APS, PTS, NZSDA, APTA
 P.O. Box 230049, Ansonia Station, NY, NY 10023 USA
 Tel: 718-706-0616 Fax: 718-706-0619
www.zirinskystamps.com

EXPERTIZATION WORLD CLASSICS



*You can expect:
 Detailed and Accurate
 High Quality Certificates*

*Fast Service * Reliable * Affordable*

Liane & Sergio Sismondo

10035 CAROUSEL CENTER DRIVE
 SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13290-0001
 U.S.A.
 TEL. (315) 422-2331 * FAX (315) 422-2956
 SISMONDO@DREAMSCAPE.COM

BRITISH EMPIRE EXCLUSIVELY



REQUEST A CATALOGUE FOR OUR NEXT PUBLIC AUCTION.
 PLEASE SPECIFY YOUR INTERESTS.

WANT LISTS INVITED FOR PRE-1935 MATERIAL.
 REFERENCES PLEASE.

WE ARE BUYERS OF BETTER BRITISH COMMONWEALTH STAMPS,
 POSTAL HISTORY AND SPECIALIST ITEMS.

Victoria Stamp Company



PHOEBE A. MACGILLIVARY
 P.O. BOX 745, RIDGEWOOD, NJ 07451, USA
 PHONE (201) 652-7283 FAX (201) 612-0024
 Email: VictoriaStampCo@aol.com Website: VictoriaStampCo.com



The British Commonwealth of Nations



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

We are active buyers ...



L.W. Martin Jr.

CROWN COLONY STAMPS

P.O. Box 1198 • Bellaire, Texas 77402
Phone: 713-781-6563 • Fax: 713-789-9998
E-mail: lwm@crowncolony.com



BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS

BRITISH GUIANA CODED POSTMARKS

by Michael Rego

This is the third in our series of Study Papers and it looks at the early coded postmarks of British Guiana. It is a detailed study of these marks, sometimes extending the earliest and latest known dates of use. Almost all marks are illustrated in colour on stamps or covers. It also contains an analysis of the movements of the marks between the various postal agencies.

Price:- £15.00 (approx US\$23.00).
BWISC Members' Discount:- £2.00 (\$3.00).

This book and others published by the BWISC can be ordered from:- David Druett, Pennymead Books, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ .Tel:- 01423 865962 or Fax:- 01423 547057 or E-mail: Pennymead@aol.com. N.B. Postage and packing is extra. Orders will be dispatched with invoice and prompt payment is requested. Payment may be made by Sterling or US or Canadian dollar cheque or by PayPal. Payment may also be made in Euros in cash only. All books published by the BWISC are displayed on www.bwisc.org and on www.pennymead.com.

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 (01845) 523942
Member: BCPSG, BWISC

The British Empire

A-Z 1840-1935 Mint and Used

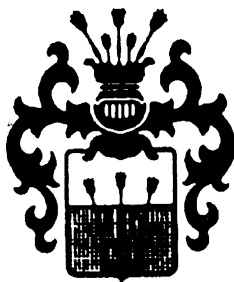
The Largest and Most Valuable Stock in America



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

