

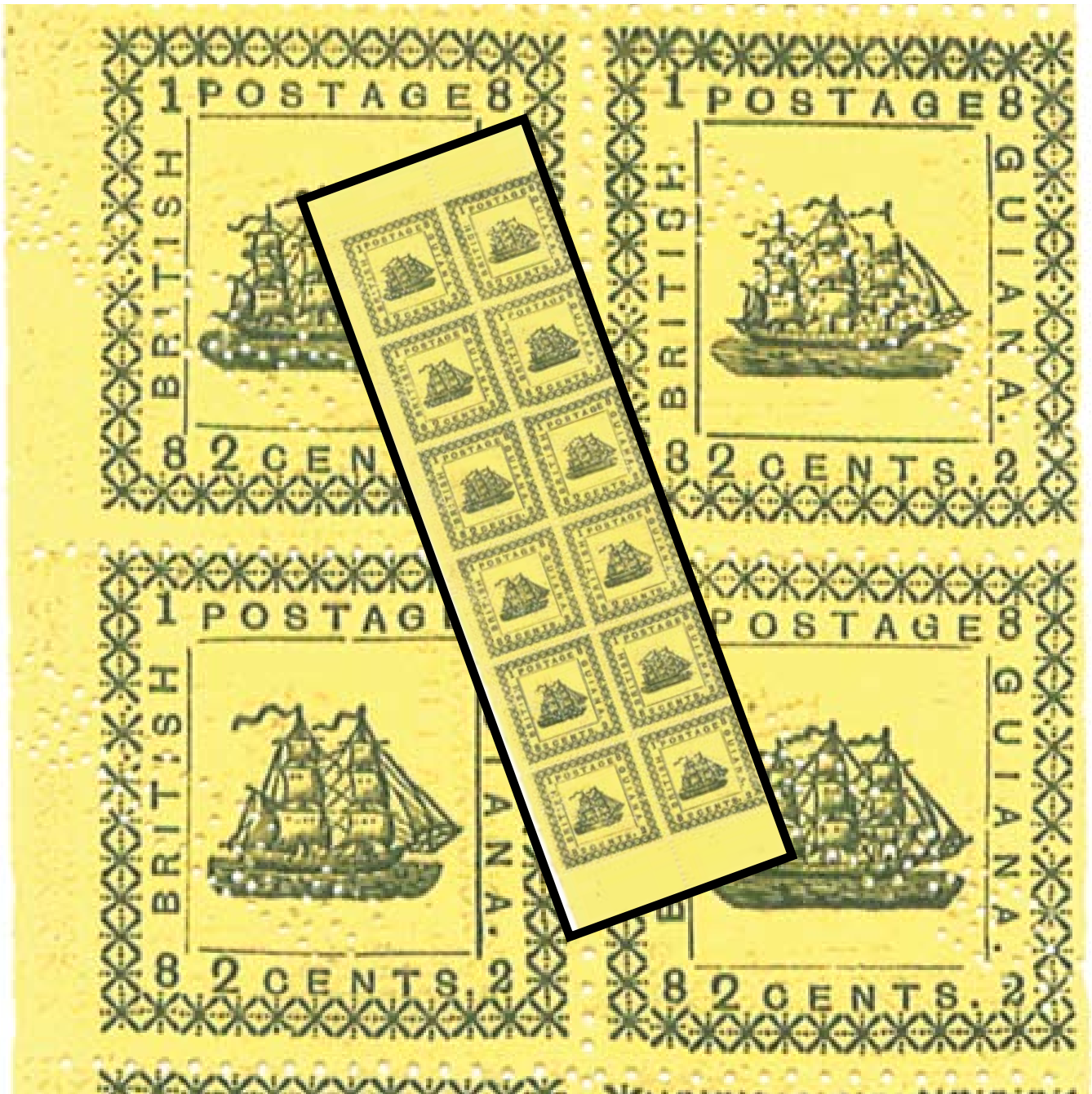
# BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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Unit No. 27 of the American Philatelic Society

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*The full sheet of the double impression, one albino, of the  
British Guiana 2d 1882 ship provisional. See page 4.*



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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

# British Guiana 1882 ship definitive full sheet double impression, albino

By Hap Pattiz

British Guiana had many provisional issues from 1878 through 1882, and most were created by overprinting existing stocks of less-used stamps with bars and/or new values. This period of provisional stamps culminated with the special issues of typeset, wood blocks of ship designs on colored paper (magenta for the 1d; yellow for the 2d), which were printed locally by Baldwin and Co. in Georgetown.<sup>1</sup>

Shown in *Figure 1* is the complete sheet of this variety. The albino printing can best be seen towards the upper left. See detail in *Figure 2a* and *b* (shown at 130% of original). There are other varieties from these “ship provisionals” which can be found. In *Figure 3* and *Figure 4* is a block of six of the one-cent with full offset of the printing on the back.<sup>3</sup> This block is from the fifth printing and is the bottom half of the sheet of 12 (stamps 7-12).

*Figure 1*  
The full sheet (2x6) of the 1882 British Guiana two-cent provisional (the “ship provisional”) showing double print, one albino. This sheet is from the sixth printing and shows the small “2” in “2 cents” on stamps 9, 10, 11, and 12. (SG #163b and 165c). [Shown at 100%]



The issued stamps were punched with the word “SPECIMEN” for security purposes. The stamps were issued on January 9, 1882. The regular issue stamps for the one-cent and two-cent values (printed by De La Rue) arrived in Georgetown on January 27 and were put on sale. Thereafter, remainders of the provisionals, totaling 12,000 of each value, were held in stock in case of a future emergency.

Townsend had a single of the two-cent with double printing, one albino, and this example of the variety is now in the Royal Collection. Another single example was offered for sale by Nutmeg Auctions in 2002.<sup>2</sup>



*Figure 2a (left) & 2b (right)*  
Shown at 130% of original, the albino print can best be seen in image at left in the upper left margin as the albino print is slightly slanted to the left on the sheet. Figure 2b shows the back of the sheet at 130% of original, as shown in Figure 2a. Here, the double print is most obvious at the upper right.

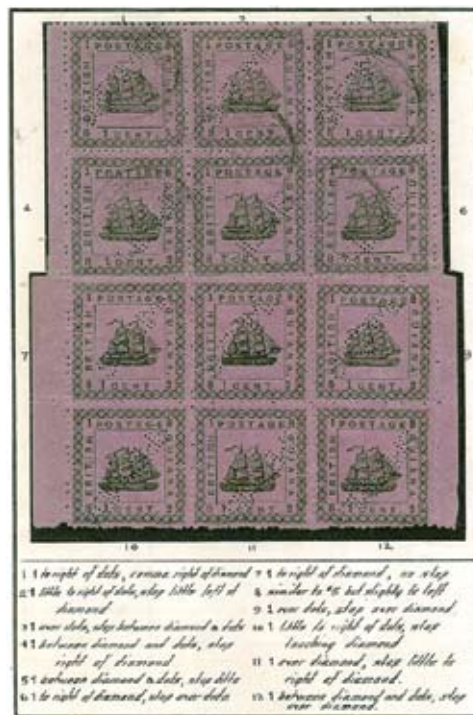
Not yet listed in the Gibbons' catalogue is the variety with a small "H" in "British" which occurs on stamps 5 and 6 on the first printings of both values. These are shown in **Figure 5** and **Figure 6**, with enlarged illustrations of the varieties illustrated in **Figure 7** and **Figure 8**.

**Figure 3**  
The bottom half of the sheet of the one-cent ship provisional (fifth printing) showing full offset on the back, and showing the foot to "1" in "1 cent" on stamp 7 (SG #162c); the variety of footed "1" showing on front and back (in the offset). [Shown at 200%]



Another unusual item is a complete sheet of the one-cent used on part of a cover to an attorney in Georgetown, dated February 20, 1882. This usage of a sheet from the fifth printing was after the regular issue of the values was available at the end of January 1882 (see **Figure 9**).

**Figure 4**  
Same as shown in Figure 3, but the offset on the back. [Shown at 200%]



**Figure 5**  
The full sheet of the one-cent from the second printing (in 3x4 format), the top half of the sheet used (February 12, 1882), the bottom half unused. Stamps 5 and 6 each show the "small H" in "BRITISH." Stamp 9 shows footed "1" in "1 cent" (SG #164b).

**Figure 6**  
The full sheet of the two-cent value from the first printing (in the 3x4 format), all used (March 1, 1882). Stamps 5 and 6 each show the "small H" in "BRITISH." Stamps 6,7,8, and 12 show the "small 2" in "2 cents" (SG #163b). Both of these



sheets, like all stamps from the first three printings, were separated in half (top and bottom) to accommodate the punching of "SPECIMEN" on each stamp for security purposes.

**FOOTNOTES**

<sup>1</sup> Townsend, W.A. and F.G. Howe. *Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana*. London: The Royal Philatelic Society, 1970. See pages 101 and 102. This excellent and definitive work on the stamps of British Guiana dedicates Chapter 11 (pages 100-107) to the ship provisionals.

Continued on page 6

<sup>2</sup> Nutmeg Stamp Sales (Danbury, Connecticut), Public Auction #56, October 30, 2002, Lot 2095 showing stamp 10 (Stanley Gibbons #165c, variety with three masts), with the “small 2” from the fourth printing. This variety (double printing, one albino) is also noted from the Townsend Collection and now in the Royal Collection. This double printing is now noted in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue in a note following the main listing for SG #162-165.

<sup>3</sup> A single example of the offset variety was in the Townsend Collection and is shown from Simon Goldblatt’s Collection illustrated in an article cited in Footnote 4.

<sup>4</sup> Simon Goldblatt, “British Guiana - The 1882 Local Issue, *B.W.I. Study Circle Bulletin* #221 (June 2009), p. 23. This article adds considerable information to the Townsend and Howe book about the “ship provisionals.”



**Figure 7**

*An enlarged view of the one-cent (shown at 200% of original) to better show the “small H” variety on stamps 5 and 6.*



**Figure 8**

*An enlarged view of the two-cent (shown at 200% of original) to better show the “small H” variety on stamps 5 and 6.*



**Figure 9**

*Full sheet (2x6) of the one-cent from the fifth printing used on part of a cover dated February 20, 1882 to an address in Georgetown. Stamp 7 shows the “footed 1” (SG #162c) and stamp 6 shows the missing cross at right, which identifies this sheet as being from the fifth printing. Image is reduced.*

# BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA

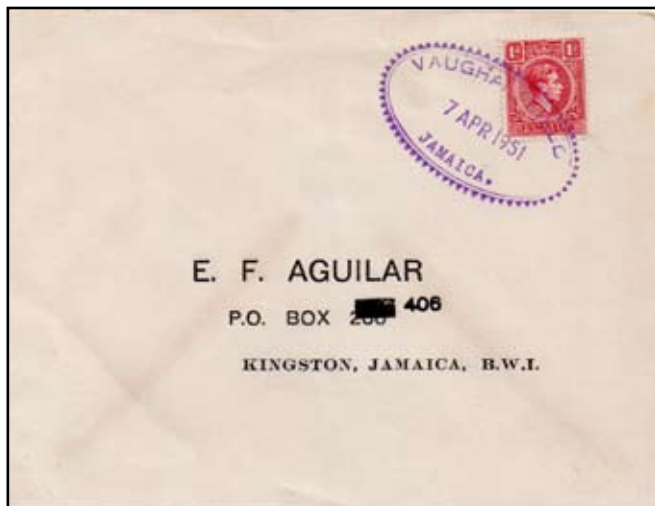
By David Horry, *An Englishman resident in Shanghai, China*

In the summer of 1969, I joined advertising agency Doyle Dane Bernbach in Baker Street, London. At that time they were well-known for their campaigns for the Volkswagen Beetle, Polaroid cameras and the Jamaica Tourist Board. The chairman of DDB was John Pringle, CBE, Jamaican roving ambassador in London and who had been head of the Jamaica Tourist Board (*Figure 1*). During World War II, he was an equerry to



*Figure 1*  
John Pringle, CBE  
OJ, circa 1960.

the Duke of Windsor, the Governor of the Bahamas, and had held a similar position with Sir John Adams Hunter, who was the Governor of British Honduras. His home in Jamaica was at Gray's Inn just a mile west of Annotto Bay. He was a striking and erudite man always immacu-



*Figure 2*  
Vaughansfield tTRD on E. F. Aguilar cover,  
April 7, 1951.

lately turned out in his Doug Hayward suits. In 1948 he married Liz Benn, one of the world's leading fashion models, and they launched the famous Round Hill Hotel at Montego Bay.

His office was on the top floor of DDB at 62-64 Baker Street (the war-time home of the Special Operations Executive) and I occasionally used to help him frame ads and photographs in my capacity as a junior art director in the DDB "bull pen." One afternoon, his secretary, Valerie, rang me up and asked me to pop up. I'd just got back from lunch, having had a wander round the stamp dealers in the Strand, where I had bought a KGVI Jamaica philatelic cover.



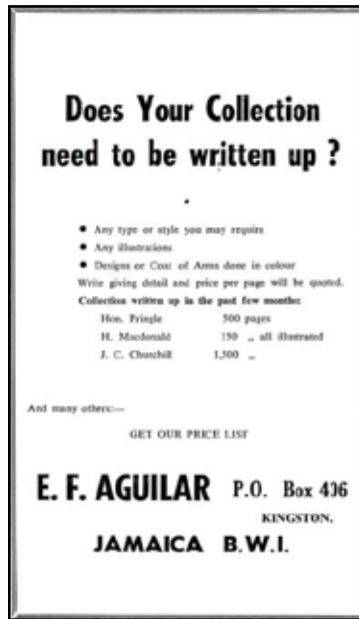
*Figure 3*  
Everard F. Aguilar  
circa 1960.

I put it down on his secretary's desk with my newspaper and got busy on John's latest request. About half an hour later when the job was done, he was looking at the cover. I explained it was mine and that I had just bought it; he smiled and said he was glad I was taking an interest in things Jamaican. The name on the envelope seemed to have caught his attention -- "E. F. Aguilar P.O. Box 406, Kingston" (*Figure 2*). "Everard Aguilar" -- he repeated the name -- his smile disappeared -- and all he said was, "Tragedy -- terrible tragedy." Then he was gone.

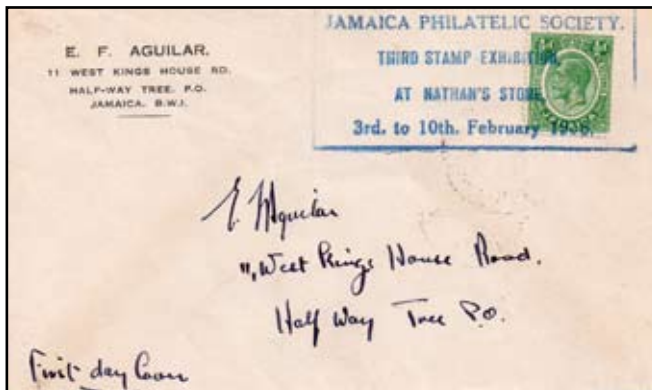
I thought nothing of it until many years later when I bought an enormous collection of K. J. Robertson's Ja-

*Continued on page 8*

**Figure 4**  
**Everard Aguilar ad**  
**from**  
**The British West**  
**Indian Philatelist**  
**June 1957.**



maica TRD covers, most of which were the work of Everard Aguilar. I then started looking into the background of Jamaica's leading philatelist (**Figure 3**). I apologize for the quality of the picture but it is the only known one of him. I subsequently discovered that back in June 1957 Aguilar ran an ad in *The British West Indian Philatelist* stating that he had written up The Hon. C. (Charlie) M. Pringle's 500 page stamp collection (**Figure 4**). Charlie was John Pringle's uncle; they both lived at Gray's Inn.



**Figure 5**  
**Early self-addressed Aguilar cover.**  
**Nathan's – Jamaica Philatelic Society**  
**Third Stamp Exhibition, February 3, 1938.**

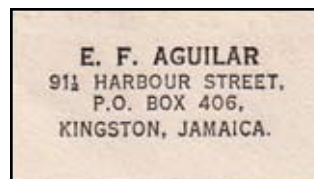
Everard Francis Aguilar was born in Kingston on March 14, 1913. He was educated at Calabar High School. He was the third and youngest son of Thomas Newton Aguilar, a well-known financier and auctioneer who owned the Knutsford Park racecourse, Aguilar's Furnishing Warehouse at 104 Harbour Street and an island-wide undertaking service which included embalming. Thomas Aguilar was probably of Portuguese origin and claimed to be the only Jamaican to have visited the U.K. more

than 40 times before the war. Young Everard took a keen interest in shooting and was also at one time a leading yachtsman. Fishing and badminton were other sports in which he indulged. In the summer of 1935, he toured Europe, Canada and the U.S.A. From 1935 to 1938, he was engaged in real estate and investment-mortgage business activities but, in more recent years, he devoted himself almost entirely to philately and horticulture, which were for him both business and hobby.



**Figure 6**  
**Andrew H.B. Aguilar cover to Ithaca Gun Co. Inc.,**  
**in New York, 1938.**

The first cover I have of his is a self-addressed FDC from the Jamaica Philatelic Society Third Exhibition at Nathan's Store, February 3, 1938 (**Figure 5**). At that time he was living at the family home, 11 West Kings



**Figure 7**  
**E. F. Aguilar**  
**91½ Harbour Street,**  
**Kingston.**

House Road, Half-Way Tree, Kingston. His brother, Andrew Horatio Bastion Aguilar, ran a sports outfitters at 93 and later moved into 95 Harbour Street (**Figure 6**). *The Jamaica Observer* recently noted, "... there was

**Figure 8**  
**E. F. Aguilar**  
**93 Harbour Street**  
**Kingston.**  
**From The Daily Gleaner,**  
**September 19, 1954.**





Andrew H. B. Aguilar, a hardware merchant located on Harbour Street. His glass show window contained exhibits of Winchester rifles, double and single barrel shot guns, air rifles and revolvers." He was much involved with horseracing and was also a Justice of the Peace.

In 1953 his premises were at 73 Harbour Street. From the mid-1950s, he had his philatelic business next door to his brother at number 91½ Harbour Street (*Figure 7*) but he was known to use 93 Harbour Street as his address (*Figure 8*). His eldest brother, Vincent Newton Aguilar, was President of the Jockey Club, chairman of several businesses, including The Gleaner Company, Ltd. and a Justice of the Peace. Vin and Andrew were both directors of Knutsford Park, Ltd., which closed in 1958 when the racetrack moved to Caymanas Park. Many Knutsford Park envelopes still exist, doubtless saved for Everard (*Figure 9*).



**Figure 9**  
Cover to Knutsford Park Ltd., with Dias TRD,  
April 12, 1946.

What he did during World War II is something of a mystery. In March 1940, he won a race at the Montego Bay Regatta, and according to *The Daily Gleaner* in March 1942, Everard Aguilar had three silver cups stolen from West Kings House Road -- no military title given, just



**Figure 10**  
The British West  
Indian Philatelist,  
at the time edited by  
Everard Aguilar.

plain "Mr." I know of no Aguilar covers during the wartime period. From 1945 to 1946, he was Honorary Secretary and Vice President of The Jamaican Philatelic Society with a specialized collection of KGV stamps from all over the Commonwealth.

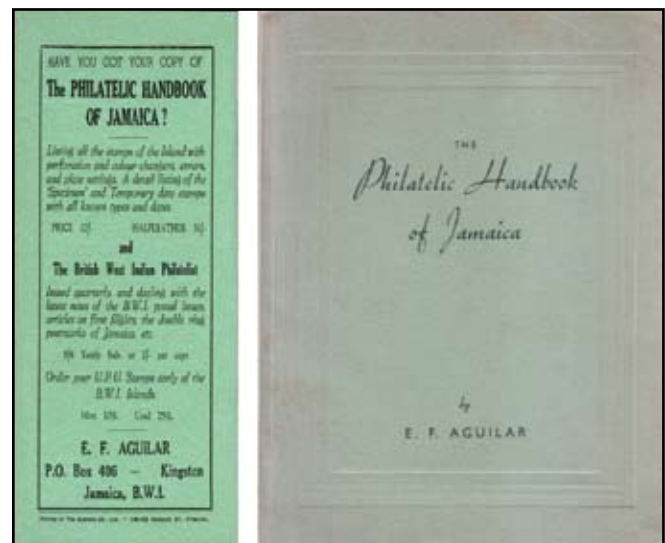
**Figure 11**  
Aguilar  
Advertisement,  
1950.



Everard Aguilar was also editor and publisher of the *British West Indian Philatelist*, (*Figure 10*) a quarterly whose 36 issues ran from September 1949 but stopped abruptly in June 1958 without explanation; he announced that the September issue would have the results of the important "Judge" Nethersole TRD sale. One can only surmise that yearly subscribers had to be reimbursed. It is interesting to note that this publication is littered with ads for sweepstakes and lotteries of the Jamaica Turf Club (*Figure 11*) and was printed by The Gleaner Company Ltd., 148-152 Harbour Street.

In 1949 he published *The Philatelic Handbook of Jamaica*, which was the definitive work on the subject and importantly included L.C.C. Nicholson and J.M. Nethersole's listings of Jamaican Temporary Rubber Datestamps (*Figure 12*). It was printed in England by King Bros. & Potts, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex. Aguilar was in the U.K. in May 1948 as he attended the 30th

*Continued on page 10*



**Figure 12**  
The Philatelic Handbook of Jamaica,  
by E. F. Aguilar, 1949.

Philatelic Congress of Great Britain which was held at Bournemouth. No expense was spared as a half leather bound edition was available. It was reprinted by King Bros. & Potts in a second edition in late 1959 and now included a full listing and pricing of the Jamaica TRDs, correct to January 1958.



**Figure 13**  
*Preliminary sketch for FFH stamp, circa 1962.*

In 1958, he was appointed to be the West Indies Commissioner for the London International Philatelic Exhibition 1960, as per *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*. Aguilar took his wife and family to the U.K. for the 43rd Philatelic Congress of Great Britain at Blackpool in June 1961. This was noted in his obituary by Rose Titford in the BWISC quarterly bulletin. From around 1960 Everard Aguilar owned and ran a florist's shop at 15a Old Hope Road, Kingston known as The Green Thumb, a business started by his brother Andrew some 10 years earlier. Aguilar was the first of Jamaica's modern rosarians.



**Figure 14**  
*Plowden  
tTRD,  
July 5, 1950.*

In 1962 he co-authored *The Cayman Islands: Postal History, Postage Stamps and Postmarks* with Philip T. Saunders. It was published by F. J. Parsons of Folkestone. That same year Aguilar organized The International Philatelic Exhibition for Jamaica. Set for May 14-21 at The Institute of Jamaica, it was abruptly and acrimoniously cancelled. According to *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, this was "due to a change of Government and forthcoming General Election."

In April 1963, Aguilar revived the Jamaica Philatelic Society through the Institute of Jamaica and launched *West Indies Stamps*, its official publication, which he wrote, edited and published. It was mainly a venomous

tirade against the postmaster general, the stamp printers De La Rue, Bradbury Wilkinson, even Harrisons who he had more time for, the Crown Agents and the Jamaican government. He also took aim at Stanley Gibbons as he claimed they had infringed copyright and made unnecessary comments on the Freedom From Hunger issue of June 1963. Gibbons had stated in "An Issue is Born" article in September 1963 that the original drawing was poor, "and looked like it had been executed by a budding artist at the Jamaican Ministry of Works!" (**Figure 13**).



**Figure 15**  
*T. Geddes Grant window cover with applied "Happy Christmas Pantomime," tTRD, December 12, 1948.*

He also accused Gibbons of "throwing their weight around" by not cataloguing the miniature sheet for the 9th Central American and Caribbean Games of August 1962. One hundred thousand were printed. It is believed that Aguilar and National Sports Ltd. lost a considerable amount of money on this venture, which the post office refused to back. His "rant" ended in the autumn of 1964 just as suddenly as his BWIP before. It was mainly used as an organ for selling off parts of his collection, including his beloved TRDs.

One of Aguilar's biggest contributions to philately was issuing covers for new Temporary Rubber Datestamps as new offices were opening; his first TRDs were recorded at Leeds and Tranquility on November 17, 1949. This business had previously been attended to solely by J. M. Nethersole with the blessing of Postmaster General Esric Morris, who retired and handed over to George White in March 1949. In 1963, Aguilar claimed to have made up

60 covers for each new TRD and he offered them for sale worldwide. In his book *The Postal Markings of Jamaica*, Ian A. Potter queries some irregularities, duplications and spelling mistakes of the TRDs. He lays the blame at the door of “a local philatelic trader.” Under Broadleaf he states that a second TRD in 1949 is “probably an Aguillar (*sic*) copy.” In the September 1950 edition of the BWIP, Aguillar himself notes, “A new temporary postmark came into operation at Plowden on the 30th

ly *Gleaner* offering Green Thumb gardening products! Everard Aguillar was, according to London stamp dealer and BWISC Librarian Rose Tifford, “A man of great charm and geniality ... many will recall his participating in the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain at Blackpool in 1961. He surprised me by his profound horticultural knowledge -- he being a well known rose grower in Jamaica.”

Aguillar also contributed a chapter on Jamaican stamps to *Ian Fleming Introduces Jamaica*, published in October 1965 by Andre Deutsch and edited by writer Morris

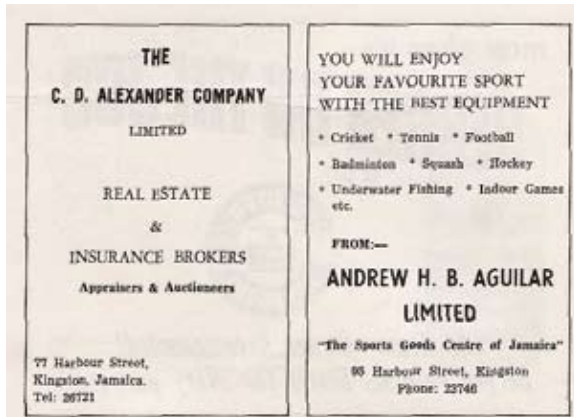


Figure 16

Adjacent ads for C.D. Alexander and Andrew Aguillar in *Priory School Magazine*, 1967.

of June (1950) in the Parish of Manchester. This type is quite different from the others, reason being that the rubber stamps are now being made by one of the new firms in Kingston and not by the Government Printing Office or (Arthur) Jacobs as has been done in the past.” (Figure 14) Was this company “T. Geddes Grant” who were to be found at 139-43 Harbour Street? (Figure 15)

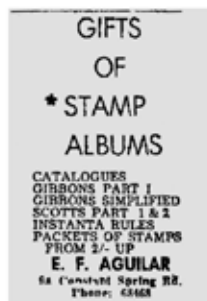


Figure 17  
Classified ads for Green Thumb and Aguillar’s stamp business, December 17, 1965.

The denticulated TRD shown on this T. Geddes Grant window cover is almost identical to the new style denticulated TRDs issued in the late 1940s and early 1950s to many post offices as per Figure 2. Strangely, on December 18, 1959, T. Geddes Grant ran an ad in *The Dai-*

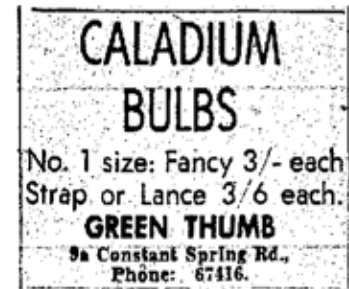


Figure 18  
Classified for Caladium Bulbs, Green Thumb, March 7, 1966.

Cargill, who was John Pringle’s step-brother. They first met in January 1947 when Carmen Pringle, their mother, opened the Sunset Lodge at Montego Bay. As Cargill wrote, it quickly became a place where “certain very rich and certain rather poor upper-class English people drank, idled and committed adultery in the sunshine, creating an atmosphere reminiscent of that of Happy Valley in Kenya.” There is little doubt that Aguillar and Flem-



Figure 19  
Final classified ad for Green Thumb, June 17, 1966.

ing knew each other. In *The Man with the Golden Gun*, Bond was led to the 77 Harbour Street, Kingston offices of auctioneers C. D. Alexander and Co. by an ad in *The Daily Gleaner* (Figure 16). This is but a few doors away from Everard Aguillar’s premises and his brother’s sports and gun shop. Incidentally, Morris Cargill appears as a judge in *The Man with the Golden Gun*. After Fleming’s death on August 12, 1964, Aguillar proposed a set of Ian Fleming commemorative postage stamps for Jamaica, but the Crown Agents failed to respond.

Aguillar wrote occasional articles for *The Daily Gleaner*; his “Value of Stamps,” published December 4, 1965, is

Continued on page 12

his last known philatelic writing. Between December 6-17, 1965, classified ads for Green Thumb were placed in *The Daily Gleaner* but with a change of address to 9a Constant Spring Road at Half-Way Tree. These can be confirmed as Aguilar's as classified ads ran on December 10 and 17, 1965 offering stamp albums and

## DEATHS

**AGUILAR**—Everard Francis Late of Wilmington Drive, Jacks Hill, died August 16 leaving wife Fay, daughters Frances (Mrs Michael Campbell) and Anne. Funeral at sea Thursday morning August 18. No flowers by request. Donations in memory to Salvation Army School for The Blind.

philatelic goods from the same address. He had sold his premises at 91 Harbour Street to Sangster's Bookshop and combined his philatelic and horticultural interests (Figure 17). He ran another ad on March 7, 1966 offering caladium bulbs for sale (Figure 18). According to *The Daily Gleaner*, Everard Aguilar was suddenly taken seriously ill early in 1966 and was taken abroad by his family for treatment, then invalidated back to Jamaica.

## Mr. E. Aguilar buried at sea

Mr. Everard Aguilar, Jamaica's leading philatelist who died early Tuesday morning at his residence at Jack's Hill, St. Andrew, was buried at sea yesterday morning. He was 53.

Mr. Aguilar, who was recognized as an authority on Jamaican stamps, became ill early this year and went abroad for treatment. His condition did not improve and he died early Tuesday at his Jack's Hill residence at Wilmington Drive.

Mr. Aguilar is survived by his wife Fay, two daughters, Mrs. Michael Campbell and Miss Anne Aguilar; two brothers, Mr. Vincent Aguilar, J.P., Mr. Andrew H. B. Aguilar, J.P.; two sisters, Mrs. Bernard Cridland and Mrs. Enid Halliday, who is resident in England, and other relatives.

A short funeral service was held on the Ordnance Pier, Princess Street, at 3 o'clock yesterday morning after which the body was taken aboard the Harbour Master's motor vessel *Jamaica* for burial at sea.

The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Fr. Charles Judah, S.J., who also committed the body to the sea.

Among the mourners at the service yesterday morning were: Mr. Vincent Aguilar, Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Mr. Nicholas Aguilar, Miss Vivienne Aguilar, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Cridland, Mrs. Joyce McNair, Mr. George Desrozes, Mr. Tony Kelly, Mr. Frank Hall, president of the Lions Club, of which Mr. Aguilar was a member, Mr. Cecil Campbell, Mr. Tony Thwaites, Mr. Jackie Thwaites, Mr. Len. Byes, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Smith and Mr. John Carrington.

## Figure 21

From page 21  
The Daily Gleaner,  
August 19, 1966.

## Figure 20 Everard Aguilar's death notice, The Daily Gleaner, August 17, 1966.

One last, small classified for Green Thumb appeared on June 17 and 18, 1966 (Figure 19). His health may have been seemingly on the mend.

Everard Aguilar died on August 16, 1966 at his home at Wilmington Drive, Jacks Hill, St. Andrew, just three days after the closure of the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Kingston. He was only 53 years old. There was a request for no flowers but donations to the Salvation Army School for The Blind (Figure 20). His funeral was but two days later without an inquest. However, his burial was not at the family tomb at St. Andrew's Parish Church, Half-Way Tree, where his father Thomas was buried in 1937 and his brothers Vincent and Andrew were in 1971 and 1975 respectively.

His "In Memorium" in the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* was penned by editor Alfred Johnson. He said: "Over the past year we have

lost several good friends to the grim reaper, but nothing came as a greater shock, than to learn of the passing of our good friend and fellow philatelist, Everard F. Aguilar. Everard was known throughout the world as a fine, upright Christian gentleman and a real student of the stamps of the British West Indies, especially those of Jamaica, his home. He and others of our Group and the Jamaica Philatelic Society were planning an exhibi-

## Mr. Everard Aguilar dies— sea-burial today

Mr. Everard Aguilar, Jamaica's leading philatelist, died early yesterday morning, at his home at Wilmington Drive, Jacks Hill, St. Andrew. He was 53.

Mr. Aguilar took ill earlier this year and went abroad for treatment. His condition did not improve and he had been invalid at home for some time. The end came at a few minutes after midnight.

A keen philatelist, Mr. Aguilar was recognized as an authority on Jamaican stamps. He published in 1948 a brochure, "The Philatelic Handbook of Jamaica," which was the definitive work on the subject and he was also the editor and publisher of "The British West Indies Philatelist," another authoritative work.

His knowledge of philately was recognized by the Government, and his advice was sought whenever new stamp issues were being put out by Jamaica.

### Horticulturist

Mr. Aguilar was also an enthusiastic horticulturist, and was one of the foremost importers of flowering plants into the island. He was treasurer of the Botanical Society, and was the owner of "The Green Thumb," a leading florist shop in Kingston.

Surviving him are his immediate family — wife Fay, the late Mr. T. N. Aguilar, and two daughters, Frances (Mrs. Michael Campbell) and Anne.

Other relatives who survive him are his two brothers, Mr. Vincent Aguilar, J.P., and Mr. Andrew H. B. Aguilar, J.P., both engaged in real-estate and investment-mortgage business.

During 1955 to 1958, he was active in more recent horticulture, which were devoted himself almost entirely to philately and horticulture, which were his both business and hobby at 448, Tottenham, London.



Mr. Aguilar was a frequent contributor to the *GLEANER* on the subject of philately. An article by him, "The Stamp Way to Knowledge," was published in this paper in September of last year, and he wrote on "The Value of Stamps" in December last.

In his younger years, Mr. Aguilar was also prominent as a sportsman. He took a keen interest in shooting, and was also at one time a leading yachtsman and race-horse owner. Fishing and badminton were other sports in which he indulged.

Mr. Aguilar will be missed by his many friends and acquaintances.

## Figure 22 Aguilar's obituary in The Daily Gleaner, August 17, 1966

tion of BWI stamps in Kingston around November 1967, with he and Ronnie Wong doing the groundwork in Jamaica."

*The Daily Gleaner* reported: "A short funeral service was held on the Ordnance Pier, Princess Road, Kingston and his body was placed upon the Harbour Master's motor vessel *Jamaica* and committed to the sea by Reverend Father Charles Judah, S. J." Among the family mourners was his wife Fay, two daughters, and his brothers Vincent and Andrew (Figure 21). A few friends were present, including Mr. Frank Hall, president of the Lions Club of which Aguilar was a member. It was 5 o'clock in the morning -- sunrise in Kingston is generally about 5:45 a.m. year-round.

Everard Aguilar's obituary appeared in *The Daily Gleaner* on August 17, 1966 (Figure 22). One person who apparently did not attend the funeral was former Postmaster General George White (Figure 23). Just six weeks earlier, he had been released from prison and was now awaiting trial, while on bail. He was an old friend of Everard Aguilar who had turned a blind eye to some of his "modern"

philatelic practices. Very few of Aguilar's covers gained the obligatory backstamp required by the Post Office and he would often arrange to have blank, or lightly penciled, covers processed which would later have customer's addresses added (*Figure 24*). George White as PMG had



*Figure 23*  
*The only known image*  
*of Postmaster General*  
*George Fitzgerald White.*

invited Aguilar to sit on the committee which would choose the new KGVI definitive designs in early 1952. The King's premature death, however, meant that these designs would become the basis for the new QEII definitives in 1953 -- at least that was the plan. Aguilar worked assiduously on this project initially.



*Figure 24*  
*Aguilar Philatelic Royal Visit FDC,*  
*November 25, 1953.*

In his quarterlies, Aguilar was forever berating the postal authorities and Crown Agents for not allowing him to conduct his philatelic business in the manner to which he was accustomed under White, usually claiming that the Kingston Post Office was missing out on much-needed revenues by failing to set up a philatelic bureau geared to philatelists all over the world. He ran a long campaign to persuade the GPO to issue a set of Jamaican high value airmail stamps throughout the 1950s. He also campaigned for a set of commemorative stamps to celebrate the Melbourne Olympic Games in 1956, but all to no avail.

George Fitzgerald White, a black native of Kingston, was

born on Christmas Eve in 1894. He was educated at the St. Aloysius School and St. George's College. He joined the Postal Service in July 1913. After a short period in the Money Order Branch, he was posted to the Circulation Branch as a junior clerk and by 1935 he was heading this department. In September 1939 he was made an assistant Postal Censor. In October 1942 he rose to become Superintendent of Mails. White was then called upstairs to the King Street head office in 1945, receiving the appointment of Deputy Postmaster General on a salary of £900 per annum.

Regarded as a popular head of department, Mr. White's efficiency and courtesy won the admiration of the pub-

## TODAY

By G. St. C. Scotter

THE RETIREMENT of Colonel Joseph Green as Postmaster General will not cause much weeping or gnashing of teeth in Jamaica when he was brought out from England for the job we all had hopes that it would mean a reform of our antiquated and inefficient Postal and Parcel service; but those hopes have not been realized, perhaps his successor may do a bit better

*Figure 25*  
*Scotter's valet to*  
*Green.*

lic. Aguilar certainly prospered under White's reign as postmaster general. White officially retired as postmaster general on October 30, 1953, taking the traditional six months' leave of absence on April 30, 1953 which would help financially towards his well-earned pension.

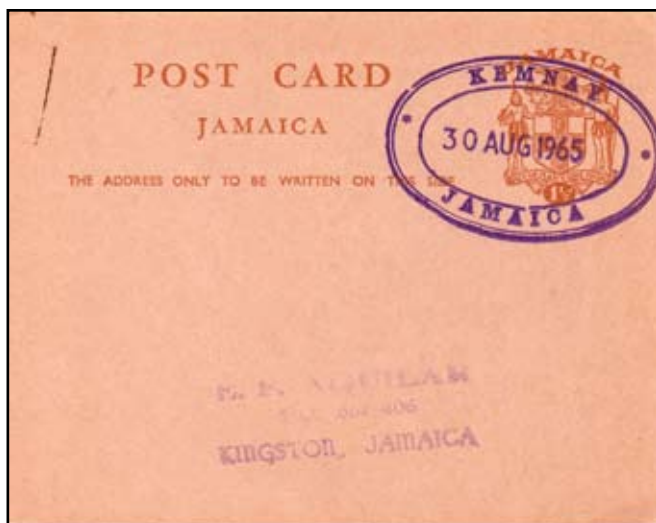
However, White had departed as early as February 23, 1953 when E. M. Morales became acting postmaster general until the appointment of Allison Alfred Vernon Nash who was a much more progressive and assertive character. In 1951, Nash won a Government Scholarship under the West Indies Training Scheme. He was sent to the GPO in London and underwent training in modern postal practices and administration. Nash, who officially took over on February 22, 1954, was in the post by September 1953. Nash was a new broom -- the postal unions took every opportunity to strike over wages and overtime rates -- Nash appears to have been the target of much union anger.

He attempted to clean up some dodgy practices and criminal proceedings were started at the Vineyard Town Office. Some of these practices were in part due to the trade in postmarks and FDCs on the island. Everard Agu-

*Continued on page 14*

ilar began to complain bitterly about this in his *British West Indian Philatelist*; life under Nash was far different to that of George White. After much trouble with the unions and the press, Nash suddenly resigned. According to *The Daily Gleaner* (September 24, 1955), "Mr. Allison V. Nash, Postmaster General of Jamaica, goes on nine months leave of absence as from today, prior to retiring from the Government Service. Mr. Nash and members of his family will leave the island on or about October 4 for the United Kingdom on vacation."

His deputy, Frederick Oscar Rousseau, was then in charge until the arrival of new Postmaster General Lt. Col. Joseph Green on December 12, 1955. Green had



**Figure 26**  
*Aguilar pre-paid postcard with Kemnay TRD,*  
*August 30, 1965.*

retired from the British Civil Service when he was Postmaster General of the Federation of Malaya. The Secretary of State appointed him to the Jamaican post. He was the first non-Jamaican to be appointed since before World War II -- he was there to sort out a sorry mess.

Aguilar angrily noted in his BWIP in June 1956, "One of our latest importations into Jamaica has been the new Post Master General (Joseph Green) and he has plainly stated that he has little use for Philatelists, and collectors, to the effect that he has issued to Post Offices throughout Jamaica strict instructions that no supplies of plate blocks or imprint blocks are to be torn for anyone." Neither any postmarking, CTO or FDCs with penciled addresses to be accepted or done. Issuing material from the window is in order if stamps are damaged or torn. Yet the Philatelic Department at the GPO certainly would not dare to sell philatelic material that was damaged, so why should the public receive this material? Green lasted until October 22, 1959 when he retired as postmaster general. To mark his departure, sports columnist Gordon St. Clair

Scotter wrote a valette in *The Daily Gleaner*, "The retirement of Colonel Joseph Green as Post Master General will not cause much weeping or gnashing of teeth in Jamaica. When he was brought out from England for the job we all had hopes that it would mean a reform of our antiquated and inefficient Postal and Parcel service; but those hopes have not been realized, perhaps his successor may do a bit better." (**Figure 25**) Englishman Scotter was the first Tennis Men's Singles champion of Jamaica in 1924, a boxing referee and a good friend of the Aguilars.

Aguilar noted, "With regards F.D.C.'s these have always been done in heavy quantities. In the past it was customary for the GPO to accommodate the different firms who were preparing these covers. For the Tercentenary set there were nearly 50,000 covers prepared between BOAC, Tercentenary office, Tourist Bureau, and our-



**Figure 27**  
*Aguilar pre-paid postcard with Ellicress, TRD*  
*in violet, September 22, 1965.*

elves. Work was carried out in a special room at the GPO four days before the issue was released, so as to get through this work by the given date. We are now informed that no stamps will be given to us before 8.00 a.m. on the day of issue. This definitely does not permit many F.D.C.'s with the result that there will be no underwriting or any overseas orders. Only bookings already received can be undertaken."

According to Ted Proud, in early 1957 Green put in a new structure that decentralized GPO Kingston, splitting the island into three separate administrative areas: Western at Montego Bay, Central at Mandeville, and Eastern at Kingston. Aguilar continued to rail against the post office, which, he claimed, had severely restricted his livelihood. The Customs Office within the GPO charged tax on imported stamps and required invoices, etc. Aguilar

really loathed these practices as he suggested only Jamaica was so scrupulous. "One often wonders whether our Customs Department is not using a few of the old methods adopted some years ago in Germany!"

When Rousseau took over after Green retired, Aguilar wrote that he would close his philatelic business, as life under PMG Rousseau was impossible. He did, however, maintain some sort of service latterly using pre-paid manila post cards. The penultimate of these is noted from the remote post office of Kemnay (the village of Sherwood Forest, a couple miles south of Fairy Hill, beyond the John Crow Mountains) on Monday, August 30, 1965



Figure 28

Front Page of The Daily Gleaner, August 24, 1965.

(Figure 26). It was probably posted by Aguilar on the previous weekend; he had been complaining in his *West Indies Stamps* how mails from the north coast were taking at least five days to deliver, "if one is lucky." The last one was posted from Ellicress, off Jacques Crescent, Mountain View Road, Kingston on September 22, 1965 (Figure 27) -- or was it? Potter notes, "The Ellicress ink pad started violet but more and more black was added over time, until it was completely black." Topaz gives the last reported date (LRD) as May 29, 1964, but Potter has a August 12, 1965 in violet. However, Ellicress received a new TRO in April 1965! Thus this TRD should have been out of circulation! Why was it being used by Aguilar? Potter also reports that Derek Sutcliffe notes a third TRD without asterisks in 1965, which has never come to light! Ellicress is the nearest post office to where Aguilar resided.

On August 24, 1965 Jamaica was awakened by a shocking newspaper report that ran on the front page of *The Daily Gleaner*, "Petticoat Murder of Little Girl" (Figure 28). Six-year old Rose Marie Angela Cooper had been strangled in her bed. "Surbiton Road Horror Mystery," ran the intro to the headline: "In the early hours of 23 August her adoptive mother and White's niece by

marriage, Winnifred Cooper was found beside her on a twin bed, blood oozing from a head wound." This all happened at two in the morning whilst the owner of the house at 9 Surbiton Road was asleep in his bedroom upstairs. He was 70-year-old George Fitzgerald White, ex-Postmaster General of Jamaica! According to police reports, he was hysterical but claimed that someone else had entered the house and committed this dreadful act. However, there were no signs of a break-in and the yard-boy had heard nothing, nor the dog.

"On June 9, 1966 a Coroner's Jury unanimously found that 71 year old White was criminally responsible for the death of Cooper, who was found strangled at their home, 9 Surbiton Road, St. Andrew, on August 23, last year. He was charged with murder and remanded in custody," reported *The Daily Gleaner*. At the end of the inquest White vehemently denied anything to do with the murder.

Three weeks later on June 30, he appears to be vindicated. An application by Mr. Vivian Blake, Q.C. who appeared with Mr. Emil George as Counsel, George White was granted bail in the sum of £500 by the Chief Justice, the Hon. Sir Rowland Phillips, in Chambers. On November 28, 1966, the murder trial of ex-Postmaster General George White opened. He was charged with the murder



Figure 29

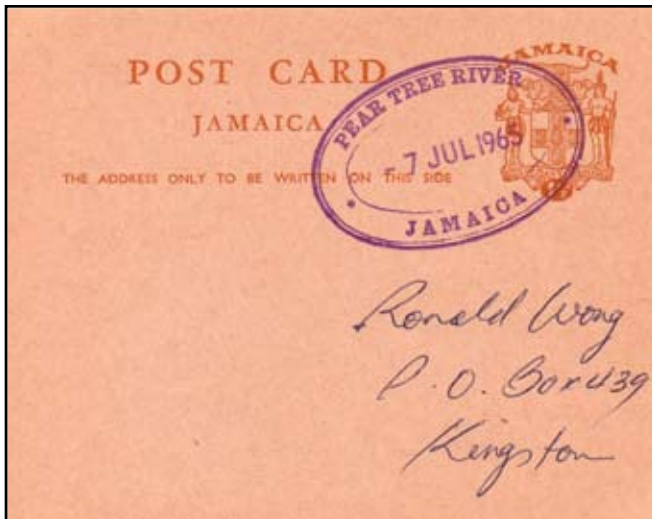
The Daily Gleaner, page 4, November 29, 1966.

of six-year-old Rose Marie Cooper, at the No. 1 Rome Circuit Court before Mr. Justice Fox. Counsel for the defense was instructed by Mr. Douglas Brandon of Messrs. A. E. Brandon and Co. Mr. Huntley Munroe, Q.C., Director of Public Prosecutions, conducted the prosecution's case. A jam-packed courtroom was sensationally informed that The Crown would offer no evidence against the defendant but the jury was given an 80 minute outline of the prosecution's allegations (Figure 29).

Winnifred Cooper, who had been living at the house for 15 years, was in fact Rose Marie's natural mother. Back at the time of the murder, White had claimed that she had been adopted. It transpired that in October 1958, Winnifred Cooper found out that she was pregnant with Rose Marie. She then journeyed to England in February 1959

Continued on page 16

to see her niece, returning in May of that year. White stated he lent her the money for the plane fare. On July 20, 1959, Cooper gave birth to Rose Marie at 9 Surbiton Road. Whether this was known to his wife, Daisy White, who was by now residing in Toronto, is not known, but perhaps he managed to keep it a secret as White himself



**Figure 30**  
**Ronald Wong pre-paid postcard with Pear Tree River TRD, July 7, 1965.**

appears to have informally “adopted” the child. In August 1965 White had for some reason lied about the adoption, but Winnifred was too badly injured from her head injuries to remember anything of the events and was therefore declared to the jury as an unreliable witness. Jurors were directed to forget about rumors on the street that a letter was tendered at the Coroner’s Inquest relating to the paternity of Rose Marie -- this was ruled as inadmissible evidence in court. White stated that he was not the child’s father but admitted that Winnifred was applying for a passport for Rose Marie just before her death. Although he certainly had the opportunity, it was agreed that White had neither the motive nor was there any real evidence against him and it was definitely out of character. The jury was directed to find a verdict of not guilty in which they obliged and he was acquitted. But the contents of the mysterious letter had obviously pointed the finger elsewhere.

It is probable that whoever decided to put an end to Rose Marie Cooper was her natural father and he was most likely upset that she and her mother were planning to leave Jamaica. That person must also have been familiar with George White’s house in order to gain entry so easily. No other person has ever been charged with Rose Marie Cooper’s murder and the police closed the file. Perhaps that person had fled Jamaica or perhaps taken his or her own life?

What subsequently happened to George F. White is unrecorded. In 1965, Ronald Wong, P.O. Box 439, Kingston took over the Aguilar manila pre-paid postcard TRD business (**Figure 30**). What happened to him is unknown. In 1995 John Pringle was awarded The Order of Jamaica for outstanding services to his country. In 2004 he and The Round Hill Hotel appeared on a set of the nation’s



**Figure 31**  
**Ambassador John Pringle and the Round Hill Hotel on \$40 Jamaica stamp, 2004.**

stamps (**Figure 31**). He died on December 12, 2006.

August 23, 1965 -- the day Rose Marie Cooper died -- was the same day the Salvation Army Centenary stamps were issued in Jamaica.

*My thanks to those who provided invaluable information: Dr. Rebecca Tortello, Steve Jarvis, Simon Goldblatt and Andrew Fowles.*

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# Is this a new Jamaican flight cover?

By Darryl Fuller of Australia

This article looks at whether a Jamaican cover is a first flight cover and is interesting in that it uses original source material on the web, but in the end this raises questions that cannot easily be answered.

The cover illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 is an early airmail from Jamaica to Columbia. I originally purchased this cover as an example of a correctly franked airmail

1, 1931 and received a Barranquilla, Columbia postmark on May 2, 1931, according to the backstamp. In addition to the backstamp there is a pencil notation “- very few carried.” This notation together with the facts that the cover is unopened and addressed to Pan American Airways made me wonder whether it was an unlisted flight cover.



Figure 1

May 1, 1931 Jamaican first flight cover to Columbia.

in the early period of Caribbean airmail development. I am interested in commercial covers, or at least correctly franked covers, and this one is correct according to Steve Jarvis’s postal rates<sup>1</sup> – at 2½d plus 1/6d airmail surcharge per half ounce. The cover was posted on May



Figure 2

Reverse of the cover showing arrival date of May 2, 1931.



Figure 3

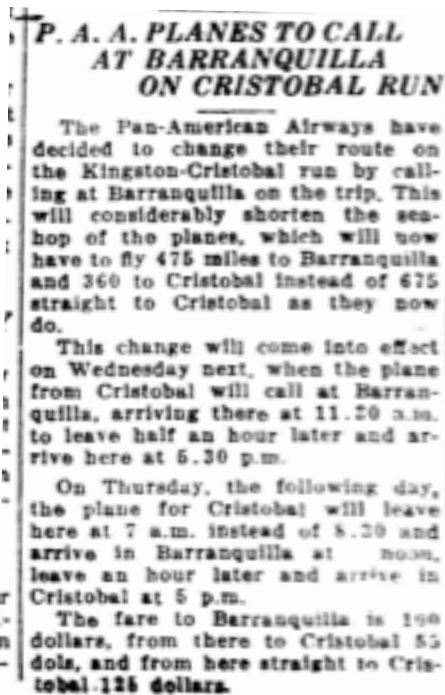
December 1, 1930 P.A.A. route map.

I checked a listing<sup>2</sup> of known Jamaican flight covers by Aguilar. Aguilar noted that in early June 1931 Pan American Airways opened up an important link between New York and Bogota, Columbia. He noted that there must have been a number of covers flown, but that he only had the Bogota – Jamaica flight of June 18, 1931. He then states, “On 19th November 1931, Pan American opened their new route to Barranquilla. The envelope in my possession had the cachet from Cienfuegos, Cuba to Cristobal via Kingston and Barranquilla. There may exist direct covers from Kingston to Barranquilla or Cristobal but I have not seen any to know if a special cachet was used. From information received it does not appear

*Continued on page 18*

so.” The November 1931 flight was flown by Charles Lindbergh in a Clipper and in an article in *The Daily Gleaner* (for which I do not have a reference) there is a radio record of the flight. This states “... on the maiden flight of the big ship to South America.”

If Aguilar is correct and the first direct flights from Jamaica to Columbia were in June and November 1931, then what is the status of my May 1, 1931 cover? In early 1931, a cover flown from Jamaica to Barranquilla would have flown to Cristobal and then down through Central America to Barranquilla (this is shown in Figure 3 which illustrates a December 1, 1930 PAA route map which has the flight from Jamaica to Cristobal then to Columbia).



**Figure 4**  
**Article in The Daily Gleaner,**  
**Saturday, April 25, 1931.**

In order to solve this quandary, I decided to go to an original source, *The Daily Gleaner* newspaper that has its archives online.<sup>3</sup> In the archive I first searched the Air Services news and the air mails listings for around May 1, 1931 but could not find any information about direct flights to Barranquilla. Both are listed in every issue but there was no specific information about flight routes. I then took another approach and did a more general search in the week preceding the May 2, 1931 flight. This actually produced a result for Saturday, April 25, 1931.<sup>4</sup> A copy of the article is shown in Figure 4. This article states that the P.A.A. plane will now travel from Jamaica to Barranquilla, a distance of 475 miles and an easier flight than the Jamaica to Cristobal flight of 675 miles. It will then make a flight of 360 miles from Barranquilla to Cristobal, much of it over land.

This article proves that a flight planned from Jamaica was a revision of an existing route and that first flight covers could exist. However, according to this article,

the first flight from Jamaica to Barranquilla should have been on Thursday, April 30, arriving the same day. However, the cover I have is postmarked on Friday, May 1, 1931 and is backstamped Saturday, May 2, 1931. Therefore, according to this cover the first flight was on Saturday, May 2, 1931.

So this raises the question -- is my cover a first flight cover or a second flight cover? A further search of *The Daily Gleaner* did not produce any results on this question. I then took another approach and did a further search on the existing published literature. I thought that the original flight listing by Aguilar was fairly old and there might be an update. I did find an update published two years later by J. M. Lockie which listed all the then known flight covers of the West Indies. It was published in January 1964 as a separate brochure to the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*. There was also a supplement to this brochure. This brochure has a listing for May 2, 1931 for a first flight from Jamaica to Barranquilla (Columbia) as a P.A.A. flight by FAM 5 (the U.S. notation for Foreign Air Mail Route 5). There was no special cachet for this flight.

### Summary

The Dr. Lockie listing then suggests that my cover is a first flight cover. However, the original newspaper listing would suggest that this is, in fact, a second flight cover, so who is correct? Did everyone miss the first flight on April 30, 1931 (if there was one) and only get flight covers, which appear to be rather scarce or even rare, on the second flight? The only way to tell for sure would be to get hold of P.A.A.'s flight schedules for the time. This is beyond my ability to research and I doubt they exist in any case. Given the importance of flight covers and the ability of philatelists (who were a strong band in Jamaica in the 1930s) to get covers on flights, I think that this is indeed a first flight cover and that the originally scheduled April 30 flight did not occur for operational reasons. We may never know but it makes a good story for a simple cover.

### Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> Internet: [http://www.jamaicaphilately.info/30\\_Post-Office/Jamaica\\_PO-Rates/PO\\_Rates.html](http://www.jamaicaphilately.info/30_Post-Office/Jamaica_PO-Rates/PO_Rates.html).

<sup>2</sup> E.F. Aguilar, "First Flight to and From Jamaica 1931 to 1938," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Vol. 2, pages 39-40.

<sup>3</sup> Internet: <http://jamaica-gleaner.com/search3.htm>. *The Daily Gleaner*, Saturday, April 25, 1931.

<sup>4</sup> Lockie, J.M. "Air Mails of the West Indies," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* supplement, January 1964 plus Supplement 1 (date unknown).

## Board of Trustees Election

By Mary Gleadall

*Secretary*

The following members have been elected to the Board of Trustees for a six year term of office ending December 31, 2019. Thank you to all members who voted in the recent ballot.

**Ivan Burges** – born in Somerset, England, Ivan has lived the past 34 years on Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands. He is employed as the credit controller for a local newspaper/publishing group. He also owns and operates The Penny Black Stamp Shop, George Town. His philatelic interests are Cayman Islands, Newfoundland and British free franks and has published a book titled *History of the Cayman Islands Post Offices*. He is a member of the BCPSG, BWISC, The Royal Philatelic Society and British North American Philatelic Society.

**Peter McCann** – resides in University Park, Florida. Peter has served the BCPSG in many ways over a number of years. He has also served two terms as president of the APS and has been on the Board of FIP since 2004 as Vice President and Director and has been recognized with many awards and honors, including Fellow of the RPSL and the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition National Merit Award, Trustee of the Philatelic Foundation, co-chairman of the Council of Philatelists of the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum, President of the American Philatelic Congress, the AAPE, and was the recipient of the 2008 Luff Award. In 2007 he signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists (RDP).

**Steve Zirinsky** - resides in New York City. Steve is married with a nine year old son, an architect with staff of five as well as very active in philately. Steve is also a part time dealer (modern postal history specialist) and is a regular advertiser in our *Journal*. He has an interest in commercial mail and has been identifying for the various catalogues modern local overprints for St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, Belize and Guyana. He personally collects modern St. Vincent revenues and specialized New Zealand revenues called fine paid and passport fees. He is presently the president of the Society of Australasian Specialists, secretary of the Fellowship of Samoan Specialists, and serves other philatelic and civic organizations.

Sincere thanks to retiring board members Paul Larsen and Nigel Mohammed for their service to the Study Group and to Peter McCann for standing for a further term.

## Bradbury Wilkinson essays in Spink sale

By Charles Freeland

*Of Switzerland*

The Spink sale in London on July 9-11, 2013 started off with a fascinating offering of photographs from the De La Rue archives. The photographs showed an extensive series of essays by the artists of Bradbury Wilkinson, the firm acquired by De La Rue in 1986. There were 30 lots of photographs from BWI countries, comprising some 300+ essays in all. There was a great deal of interest from specialists and the most elegant sold for a multiple of Spink's estimates.

Virtually all the BWI essays were new to me, which implies that the originals must have been "liberated" by a very patient thief, or more probably, tragically binned. Several of the earlier ones (in the KGV period) were handsome images with fine heads alongside scenes that may or may not have been used for subsequent issues. Inevitably, the stamps issued by Bradbury Wilkinson, such as the KGVI British Honduras definitives (Lot 19), bore a close resemblance to the essays, though the head on the essays was that of Edward VIII. Other designs that looked familiar were the Barbados 1950 set, the Bermuda KGVI low values and the Trinidad KGVI set, which was not so surprising as Bradbury won the contract to print those stamps. But in most cases, even where there

were thematic designs, there was little to connect them with stamps that were subsequently printed by De La Rue or Waterlow.

However, there were a couple of exceptions. The final proof for the 1927 Barbados Tercentenary 1d stamp, that was the subject of two articles by John Wynns (in the *Journal* of January 2010 and July 2012) and referred to in a subsequent article by Edmund Bayley and myself in the October 2012 *Journal*, was illustrated as part of Lot 9. Alongside was a photograph of the essay illustrated as Figure 3 in my joint article with Edmund. These were mounted together on a single piece, each annotated 4/8/26 in manuscript above. This date (4th August in the British date format) corresponds with the dates of the design competition that Edmund and I wrote about and confirms that the Figure 3 essay was one of those rejected in the design competition. The Spink photograph of the accepted design appears identical to the photograph illustrated in our Figure 5 in the same article. It is comforting to see documentary evidence that confirms the assumptions expressed in our article.

Spink has generously offered to provide scans of all the photographs in this archive and the BWI lots will likely have been uploaded to the BWISC website ([bwisc.org](http://bwisc.org)) by the time you read this.

## Interesting items from the Bahamas

By David Horry

Here's a nice follow up to the Wallace Simpson saga covered earlier in the *Journal* (Vol. 53, No. 2 [April-June 2013]). A cover from the Sandafayre July auction described thus: "BAHAMAS - 1940 DUKE OF WINDSOR AS GOVERNOR (November 11th) envelope with embossed Crown on flap, addressed to New York, bearing KGVI 1d red and 2d grey tied by Nassau Tourist slogan cancel, initialed in upper right corner 'HRH,' scarce!"

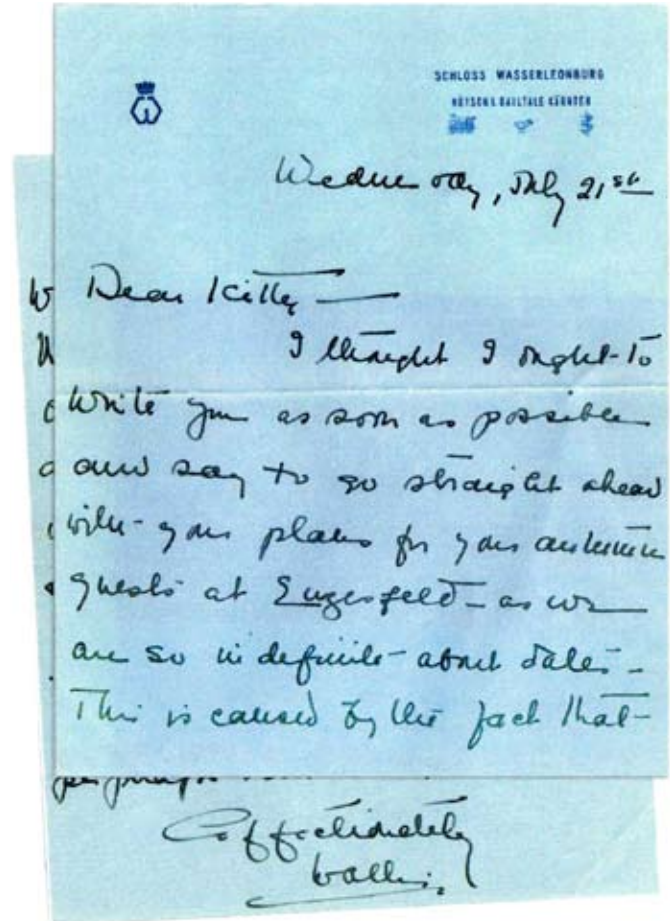


Cover addressed to New York, marked "HRH" in manuscript at upper right.

The letter is not from The Duke of Windsor but from Wallace Simpson -- distinctly her handwriting and ubiquitous blue stationery. It is sent to Mrs. Lewis Syuyvesant Chanler (Julie Olin), who was the head of the Bahá'í religious sect in New York -- her husband was an ex-lieutenant governor of New York. She was an American author who co-founded the New History Society in New York City and was later expelled from the Bahá'í religion by Shoghi Effendi around 1939. The New History Society was based at their home 132 East 65th Street and was known in later years as Caravan House.

The odd thing is the "HRH" in the top right hand corner is that this was the title she was denied specifically by Royal Decree in 1937, but continued to be flaunted in the Windsor household!

And whilst on the subject of Bahamas, I recently found this first day use of the Sea Floor Bathosphere Post Office cancel, dated August 16, 1939. It is a lovely item on piece and with a £1 stamp! A most unusual combination that should be of interest.



Handwritten letter by Wallace Simpson to "Dear Kitty." This would be her Aunt Kitty in Salzburg.



Sea Floor Bathosphere Post Office cancel dated August 16, 1939 with £1 Bahamas stamp.

### WANTED

Wanted: KGVI and early QEII Bahamas/Jamaica postmarks. I pay good prices! Contact David Horry by email at: [horry@talk21.com](mailto:horry@talk21.com)

# The 1907 Jamaica earthquake on postcards

By John Wynns  
Of the USA

On January 14, 1907 (Monday) around 3:30 p.m. local time, a very strong earthquake hit Jamaica. Kingston received the most damage and loss of life. The earthquake was estimated at 6.5 magnitude. It left about 10,000 homeless and was considered one



Figure 1

*Earthquake damage on Port Royal Street, Kingston.*

of the deadliest quakes in the West Indies at that time. It was estimated that 800 to 1,000 people were killed and most of Kingston's buildings were damaged or destroyed by the quake and fire.



Figure 2

*Earthquake damage to the Coke Wesleyan Chapel.*

Figure 1 shows some of the damage (all are unused picture postcards). More damage is shown in other postcards produced after the quake. Figure 2 pictures damage to the Coke Wesleyan Chapel and Figure 3 shows Duke Street after the quake.

The GPO of Kingston was mostly destroyed and the stamp supply, including the Llandovery Falls stamp, were destroyed. Later a safe was opened and in it were



Figure 3

*Damage along Duke Street in Kingston.*

found some Llandovery Falls stamps; these have a grayish-glazed surface caused by the intense heat. Figure 4 shows the latest known commercial usage of the Llando-

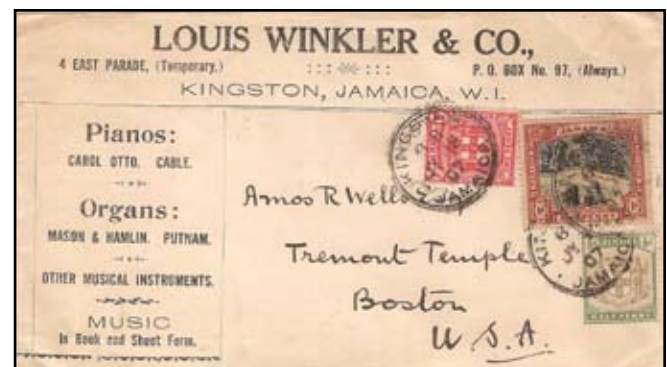


Figure 4

*Latest known use of Llandovery Falls stamp.*

very Falls stamp, along with a half penny and one penny arms stamps to make up the 2½d UPU rate to foreign destinations. The cover has a double ring cds dated "JY 8, 07" Kingston to Boston.

## References

Sutcliffe, Derek and Steve Jarvis. *Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately*. United Kingdom: British West Indies Study Circle, 1997.

## Forthcoming auction in U.K.

British Commonwealth World War II civil and military censorship postal history will be among items in a spring auction by Empire Stamp Auctions, Thornton Lodge, St. Anshalls Lane, Felton, North Somerset BS40 9UG, United Kingdom.

Steve Drewett said the auction will cover Aden to Zanzibar and will include a superb selection of civil and military censor uses with rare imperial and local censor tapes, maritime and RAF mails as well as POW covers and patriotic labels. Date has not been set.



# BG Bits and Pieces

With Dr. P.J. Ramphal  
Of Canada



## British Guiana's cork cancels, 1878-1890s

As a British Guiana collector, I use both Townsend and Howe<sup>1</sup> and Edward Proud<sup>2</sup> as my references on British Guiana postal history matters. Regrettably, on the subject of cork cancellations, they are both equally short and lacking in detail about the origins or need for the introduction of the cork cancellations.

See Figure 1, which displays Figures 4 to 8 taken from Townsend & Howe on page 340.<sup>3</sup>

Quoting from Townsend & Howe, "Figs. 4 to 8 show A03 obliterations variously in use during 1860-80. These are locally made copies, some crude, some neat, of those



Figure 1

*These cork cancels are from Townsend and Howe, and are figures 4-8 from their book.*

For instance, in both reference volumes, the entire subject of the corks is covered in a single page and that includes space taken up to display pictorially the several examples they offer on the wide variety of corks readily available to avid collectors. None of the authors has offered a full explanation or theory as to why, in the period 1878-1880, corks suddenly came into such widespread use, presumably only at the GPO. It has been suggested that one possibility was that the five A03 single obliterations, in use in an on-and-off fashion since their first introduction in 1860 and later, were themselves wearing out from their long usage.

sent out in 1858 which were withdrawn in 1860."<sup>4</sup> The book also attests that covers exist for each of the five A03 types: Figure 4 in 1860; Figure 5 in 1862, Figure 6 in 1868, Figure 7 in 1876; and Figure 8 in 1877. The A03 obliterations canceled the stamps (*i.e.*, obliterated them), while various Georgetown dated hand-stamps canceled the cover elsewhere.

The obliterations' function was to ensure that the stamp was not used a second time, while the dated cancel recorded transit postal information. It would appear that the corks were only used at the Georgetown



Figure 2

*Fifteen British Guiana cork cancellations, only one of which (top, middle) bears a slight accidental partial circular datestamp, but all displaying various common cork cancel designs.*



**Figure 3**

**Georgetown to Georgetown cork cover with cork cancel obliterating the stamp. Also double ring Georgetown cancel.**

GPO, but reference has been made elsewhere that New Amsterdam may also have generated some. I have seen no proving covers as such.

But it should be remembered that until 1833, when the three colonies of Essequibo, Demerara and Berbice were united to form the colony of British Guiana, New Amsterdam had been the GPO of the county of Berbice and possibly some of the “GPO culture” may have carried over and asserted itself variously from time to time. Certainly I have not seen a New Amsterdam proving cork cover and I invite the readership to alert us to any others besides Georgetown. You may possess some and not realize their scarcity.



**Figure 4**

**Triple perforated “SPECIMEN” error from the Dr. John Chabrol collection.**

I suspect we are missing a large piece of the cork jigsaw puzzle which may one day fall into place. Until then, here is what I have to offer -- 15 corks (see Figure 2) and a Georgetown to Georgetown cover (Figure 3), adhesive cork canceled, the front of the envelope bearing a double ring Georgetown cancel dated “AU 2, 90.” The back is

bare. But what of the unanswered questions? Why are there no other corks elsewhere in the BWI? And were they really champagne bottle corks to better fit the palms of the postal clerks? Did clerks design their own? Many questions, but few answers, but then again, how important?

#### **ADDENDUM #1**

Shortly after publication of the October 2013 *Journal* which carried my article “British Guiana’s perfin and other stamps with holes in them,” my good friend and Barbados specialist Dr. John Chabrol showed me a triple perforated SG#163 “SPECIMEN” error from his own collection (Figure 4). He encouraged me to display it as an addendum to my article. I do so gladly and gratefully as I have not seen or owned it.

#### **ADDENDUM #2**

I would also like to draw your attention to the July-September 2013 issue of the *Journal* with Charles Freeland’s spectacular article on precious British Guiana covers, written in response to Michael Medlicott’s challenge of a few issues ago. A treat awaits even non-B.G. collectors, so take a few minutes to view those two priceless pages. I anticipate that the gauntlet having been thrown down, other worthy collectors such as Simon Goldblatt and Michael Rego might join the fray. Be that as it may, I trust that I would be granted a degree of judgmental leniency for believing that Mr. Freeland’s Figure 1 and Figure 3 showing British Guiana cork cancels would be more appropriately housed in MY collection, nestled ‘twixt my B.G. corks!

#### **FOOTNOTES**

<sup>1</sup> W.A. Townsend and F.G. Howe, *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana*. (London: The Royal Philatelic Society London, 1970), 340.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Proud, *The Postal History of British Guiana*. (East Sussex, England: Proud Bailey Co., Ltd., 2000), n.p.

<sup>3</sup> *Op. cit.*, Townsend and Howe, 340.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*, 340.

# A PERPLEXING TOBAGO CARD

By Edward Barrow  
Webmaster

There is something perplexing about a postcard showing German Christian missionaries in Tobago, sent in 1944 when Germany was at war with Britain and her Empire. And if that wasn't bad enough, a Hitler stamp used to pay the postage and Tobago is spelt "Tabago"!

To explain these anomalies we must turn to the Monrovia Church. The original Protestant movement from which the church descended began in 15th Century Bohemia, but was suppressed over the proceeding centuries. However, in 1722 a small band of underground survivors from Moravia, which today lies in the east of the Czech Republic, settled in the southeastern corner of Germany and founded a village called Herrnhut. From humble beginnings Herrnhut grew rapidly and the church experienced a remarkable revival, sending lay missionaries to Asia, North and South America, Greenland, Africa, and, of course, the Caribbean. Today, Herrnhut is still the center of the Monrovia Church and is where the postcard was sent from.

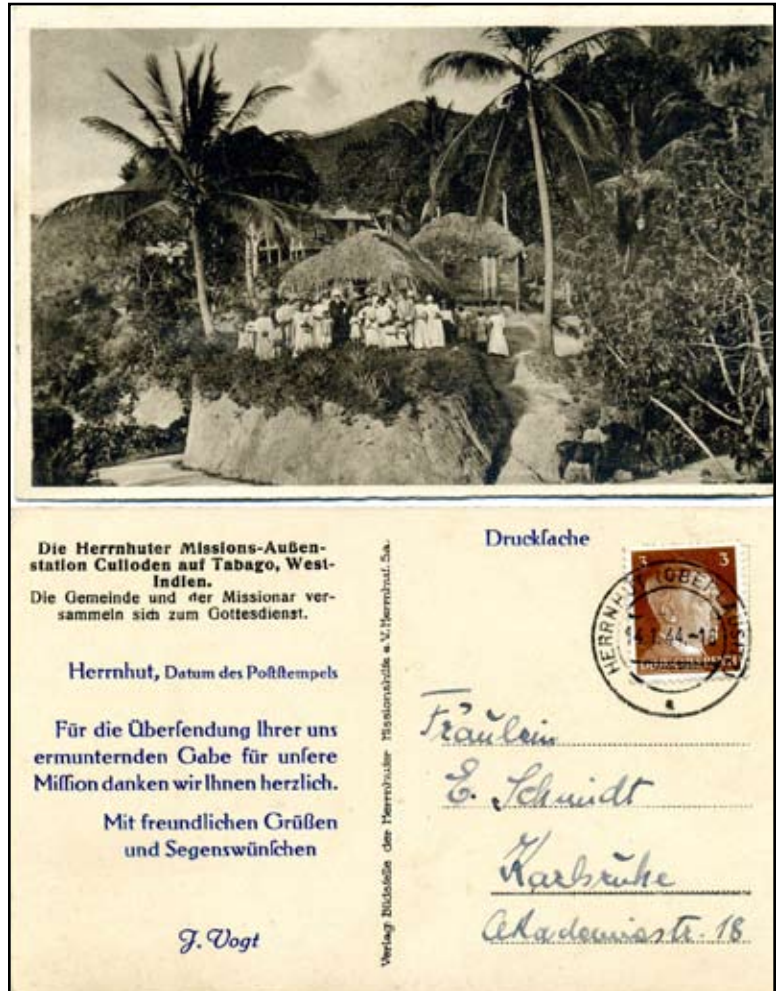


Figure 1  
Monrovia Missionary Card

In the case of Tobago, Monrovia missionaries were invited by the owner of Riseland Estate, James Hamilton, to convert his slaves to Christianity. Missionaries arrived in 1787 and set to work building a

congregation. This first mission was later called Montgomery in honor of one of its founders, Rev. John Montgomery, and lies near the village of Bethel. In 1848 another mission was founded at Moriah in the hilly central part of Tobago and by 1880 over 20 percent of Tobago's population would call themselves Monrovia.



Figure 2  
1905 Suriname Card addressed to Montgomery.

The image on the postcard is from the Moriah mission; on the card the place is named Culloden, after an estate in Moriah area. The postcard was used to promote missionary activity and fundraising and the image probably dates from the 1920s. In terms of postal history, mail to Montgomery is often seen, (see Figure 2), as is the occasional piece of mail addressed to Rev. Clemens, the head of the church in Moriah circa 1890.



*A book review*

## King George VI Key Plates book a must

The British West Indies Study Circle, based in the United Kingdom, has an active book publishing schedule. One of the recent best is actually the second edition of a specialized book titled *King George V Key Plates of the Imperium Postage and Revenue Design* by Peter Fernbank. And while it is the first update of the book since 1997, it is something you do not want to be without if you are a serious or even casual student of King George V Commonwealth stamps and postal history.

The first edition of the book was awarded the Crawford Medal by The Royal Philatelic Society London for being the most valuable and original contribution to the study and knowledge of philately published in book form during the relevant period. This second edition sets the benchmark for the future with its depth of research and its beautifully executed design and layout. The original edition is long out of print and a wealth of new information has come to light in the ensuing decade plus.

With advances in technology, this second edition offers dramatic color throughout, and there are many additional illustrations not in the first edition. There is great attention to detail, and the text is well-written and not difficult to read and follow, as can be the case with some deeply researched tomes.

During the King George V period, 17 colonies employed the key plate design. From a comprehensive examination of the De La Rue and Crown Agents archives, it was possible to produce a listing of every printing made of the key plate style. As is noted on the dust jacket, a wealth of additional information has been added to this basic framework that adds flesh to the bare bones of printing statistics.

Among the subjects discussed in the 512 page book (492 text pages plus 20 page Preface and Introduction) are surface printing techniques, including manufacture of dies, the striking of leads, plate making (key plates and duty plates) and make-ready and the various Colonial colored papers which were used.

As an example of the thoroughness with which the author treats the subject, it is mentioned there are many shades of yellow paper, and with stamps, it is often most difficult to tell the difference. Showing the intricate detail which one would expect from the author, he identifies and fully describes no less than 10 different yellow papers.

There are three parts to the main section of the book. There are four chapters in the first part, mainly covering subjects relating to stamp production. The author covers printing and security arrangements, control of paper

used in production, staffing difficulties during World War II, and financial matters.

Part 2, chapters five through 11, deal with the actual plates used for imperium key plate issues. Part 3, chapters 12 to 29, detail the printings for each of the 17 aforementioned individual colonies. There are nine Appendices which cover a wealth of additional information, often in extensive database style. These would include, as example, a complete listing of all printings of every colony with invoice dates; a complete listing (illustrated) of key plate die proofs; and printings on various colored paper. And finally, there is a comprehensive Bibliography and Index.

The book was beautifully designed and carefully printed. It is in the 11.75 x 8.0 inch format and hard-bound with gold stamping. The dust jacket is attractively designed and printed in black and yellow on glossy paper. It is obvious the book was carefully edited and full credit is due the proofreader!

The book is available for £49 (about \$80 U.S.) plus shipping. To order, contact Pennymead Auctions, 1 Brewerton Street, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG5 8AZ, United Kingdom. Owner David Druett can be reached by electronic mail at pennymead@aol.com, and there is a website at www.pennymead.com. Also see an advertisement for this book on page 27.

-- Everett Parker

### Looking for Fishing Pond!

Last year, an old correspondent of mine and long-standing BCPSG member, James H. Gordon of Bristol, Tennessee, sadly passed away. Amongst other things, I know that he had a collection of Trinidad skeletons. This contained one of the rarest strikes of this kind (*Figure 1*). The Fishing Pond Sk dated "16 6 1952" (LRD) appears to only have been used for about a week, the ERD being "10 6 52."



*Figure 1*  
*Fishing Pond, Trinidad*

He bought it from Michael Hamilton back in about 1993, outbidding me! Does any member know what happened to his collection? It would be most interesting to know.

-- David Horry, Shanghai.

# 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.

----

**PHILADELPHIA NATIONAL  
STAMP EXHIBITION**

**April 5-7, 2013**

**Oaks, Pennsylvania**

David Pitts

*Bermuda -- Crossroads of the Atlantic 1806-1877*

**Reserve Grand Award, Gold, APS Pre-1900 Medal,  
Postal History Society Medal,  
AAPE Best Title Page Award**

**NAPEX 2013**

**May 31 - June 2**

**McLean, Virginia**

David Pitts

*Bermuda -- Crossroads of the Atlantic 1806-1877*

**Gold, APS Pre-1900 Medal**

**STAMPSHOW 2013**

**August 8-11**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

David Pitts

*Bermuda -- Crossroads of the Atlantic 1806-1877*

**Gold**

**BALPEX 2013**

**August 30-September 1**

**Hunt Valley, Maryland**

Raymond Murphy

*Jamaican Censorship in WWII -- Keeping the Lid On!*

**Vermeil**

*Irish Official Mail Logos: Predecessors and First  
Series (SF)*

**Vermeil**

**OMAHA STAMP SHOW 2013**

**September 7-8**

**Omaha, Nebraska**

John Pare

*The Wisconsin Statehood Stamp, Its First Day Covers  
and Later Uses*

**Vermeil**

Paul Larsen

*French Sudan and Niger*

**Vermeil**

*Leeward Islands Federal Postal Stationery of the  
King George V Reign: Registered Envelopes (SF)*

**Court of Honor**

**SESCAL 2013**

**October 4-6**

**Los Angeles, California**

John Wynns

*Peru's 12 Centavos Issue of 1905 (SF)*

**Vermeil**

*Jamaica: The 1901 Llandoverly Falls Issue:  
A Study of Rates and Usage (SF)*

**Silver**

New stock is being added almost every day to my website. Recent additions have included a specialised collection of Bermuda postal stationery, Martinique covers, Trinidad Officials and postage dues in complete sheets and Cayman Islands postal stationery. Also regular additions of Caribbean postcards, old maps and prints and books.

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# 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

**Jonathan Guy**, 17 The Crescent, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 8AD UNITED KINGDOM. Email: jonathanmguy@hotmail.com. Collects Barbados. Sponsored by Ran Stanton.

**John Garlick**, P.O. Box 1803, Geelong, Victoria 3220, AUSTRALIA. Email: idgaf64@bigpond.com. John collects postage dues. Sponsored by Bob Stewart.

**Colin D. Fort**, P.O. Box 231550, Encinitas, CA 92023-1550 USA. Email: colinfort@cox.net. Collects British, Portuguese and Italian colonies. Colin is an APS member. Sponsored by Bob Stewart.

## Address changes

Dr. Peter P. McCann, 8335 Abingdon Ct., University Park, FL 34201-2024 USA.

## Deceased

**Mr. Robert Devaux of St. Lucia**  
**Mr. Robert Topaz of the U.S.A.**



*Please help...  
us find new members!*



We need YOUR help in this important mission today!

## DID YOU KNOW?

Our web site, [www.bcpsg.com](http://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](mailto:stewartlbi9@comcast.net).**

## BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS

### KING GEORGE V KEY PLATES OF THE IMPERIUM POSTAGE AND REVENUE DESIGN

by Peter Fernbank, FRPSL

This is a second edition; since its publication in 1997 this work has become the standard reference work for collectors of the issues of this King George V Universal key plate style. It was awarded the prestigious Crawford Medal by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, for the most valuable and original contribution to the study and knowledge of philately published in book form during the relevant period. This study encompasses the issues of all of the 17 colonies that employed this design with many illustrations in full colour. From a comprehensive examination of the De La Rue and Crown Agents archives it has been possible to produce a listing of every printing made of this key plate style. A wealth of additional information has been added to this basic framework that adds flesh to the bare bones of printing statistics. A4 size, hardbacked with dust jacket, (xx) + 488 pages.

**PRICE: £49.00 (approx. \$80). BWISC Members' Discount – £5.00 (approx. \$8.00).**

These books 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 E-mail: [Pennymead@aol.com](mailto:Pennymead@aol.com). Orders will be dispatched with invoice and prompt payment is requested. Payment may be made by Credit Card. Orders from outside UK will be dispatched per airmail M Bag. This service requires a street address and is not available to PO Boxes. All books published by the British West Indies Study Circle are displayed on [www.bwisc.org](http://www.bwisc.org) and on [www.pennymead.com](http://www.pennymead.com).

# President's Message

By Duane Larson

As I am writing this column for the *Journal*, I can't help but reflect on the rich history of our society and the many individuals who helped create and nurture it from its inception to where we are today. Recently we have lost a few members who played important roles in the formation and continuation of the BCPSG, notably Robert Topaz and Robert Devaux.

Bob Topaz was a founder of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group and a very active member, officer and recruiter for many years. Bob, along with another Jamaica collector, Paul Rohloff, first spawned my interest in the British Caribbean area. Robert Devaux was the St. Lucia study group leader of our society for many years and the author of many books and articles on St. Lucia. We will truly miss these two important icons of the BCPSG. We will have obituaries on these two men in the next issue of the *Journal*.

Our Annual General Meeting for 2014 will be held March 21 to 23 in conjunction with the St. Louis Stamp Expo, a national APS show. The location is the St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, Missouri. Plans are being made for a Friday night informal dinner for members and their guests, a hospitality room, a society table at the show and an AGM meeting room on Saturday.

Since this is an APS World Series of Philately show, we would like to have a good showing of exhibits from the BCPSG, so if you haven't already made your hotel and exhibit reservations, you will find details on the show website:

[www.stlstampexpo.org](http://www.stlstampexpo.org).

Welcome to the newly elected members of the BCPSG Board of Trustees: Ivan Burges, Peter McCann and Steve Zirinsky. They replace Paul Larsen and Mike Nethersole. (Peter McCann was reelected to serve a second term). Thank you, gentlemen, for volunteering to fill these important positions with our organization.



I would like to wish you all a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year, and may it be a successful new year for the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group!

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## Deadlines **Deadlines**

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

THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP and  
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**TRINIDAD**  
**A Philatelic History to 1913**



by Sir John Marriott, KCVO, RDP, FRPSL, Michael Medlicott  
 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](http://www.pennymead.com), where the book can be ordered with secure credit card check out facilities.

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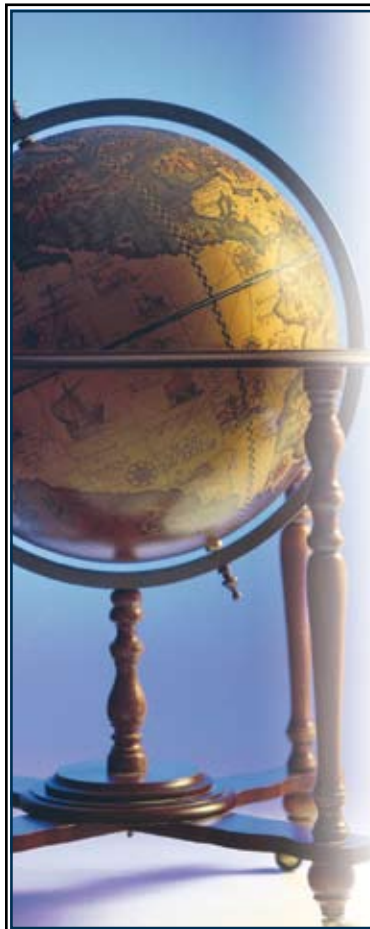
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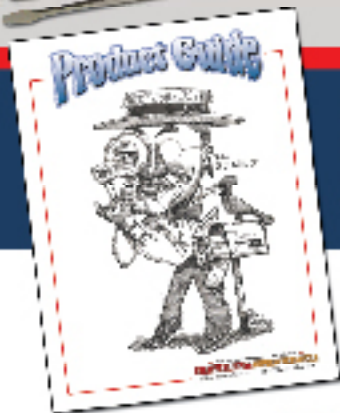
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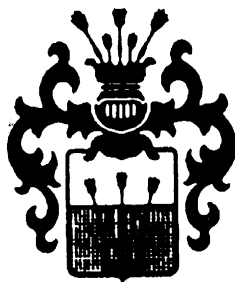
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