

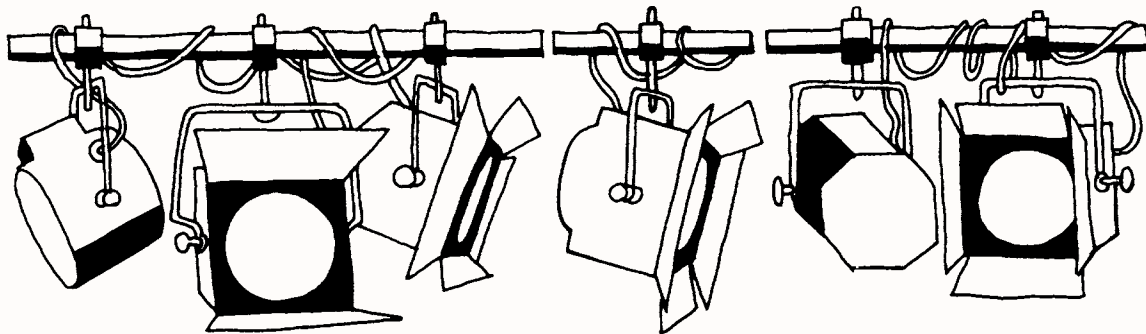
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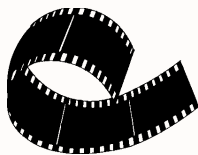
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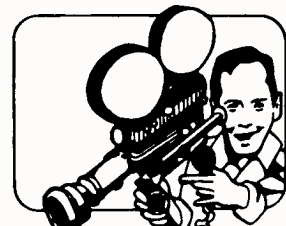
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The Influence of the Hollywood Movie Industry in the Caribbean



*See the article by
Regis Hoffman &
Thomas Richards
beginning on page
11.*





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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 Colonial post-World War II High Values (Part 1)

By David Horry

An Englishman resident in Shanghai, China

In May 1948, *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* led public outrage at the proposed release of 45 high values commemorating the Royal Silver Wedding. Costing over £44 (which is equivalent to just short of £500 in today's money), the official obsession with exports was given as the reason for this by Stanley Gibbons – they further accused the Crown Agents of being out of step with philatelists' requirements and were "nauseated by this racket." They asked the trade to boycott the issue but were not hopeful of full compliance (*Figure 1*).

A further Gibbons order sheet issued prior to issue (*Figure 2*) noted, "The Colonial sets are not true commemoratives, as they will not appear till long after the anniversary which they purport to celebrate. Their face value is fantastically high and there is no postal necessity for the inclusion of 10/- and £1 stamps in many of the sets. It can hardly be claimed that the Silver Wedding is an occasion for celebration in the Persian Gulf. Collectors have always heartily disliked countries which prostituted their postal issues for purposes of gain. Representations are being

made to the authorities that the face value of the Colonial sets should be reduced. If you agree with our views, please return this form with 'NOT WANTED' written across it."

But all to no avail and so the Royal Silver Wedding high values were not initially catalogued by Gibbons. Hugh Jefferies explains:

GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS AND C. P. RANG Vol. XX1 MAY 1, 1948 No. 9 SUBSCRIPTION 4 PER ANNUM

SILVER WEDDING ISSUES AN EMPIRE RACKET

As we go to press the Crown Agents announce that a Colonial Royal Silver Wedding issue will appear during the course of the year and will consist of two stamps for each of 47 colonies, one being a low value and the other of high denomination, usually 10s. or £1. The total face value of the set will be over £30. The authorities have taken this appalling step without consulting the philatelic organizations which could have warned them of the consequences and, presumably, in the child-like belief that, if a certain sum can be raised from a set with a face value of £3, ten times as much can be obtained from a £30 set.

Nothing could be further from the truth, as much of the money received from issues such as the Silver Jubilee and Coronations resulted from dealers buying stocks for the future, and no dealer can afford to stock a £30 set on any serious scale, apart from which nobody has the faintest idea what the demand will be for a set of such high value, except that, owing to the inability of many collectors to afford it, even if they wanted it, the demand must be relatively small.

These general issues for the Colonies are not popular

with collectors. The repetition of the same design throughout the album is monotonous and we anticipated that, even with a general Silver Wedding set of modest value, sales would be considerably less than they were for the Coronations, with which most dealers heavily overstocked.

No doubt the official obsession with exports is the reason for the fantastic face value of the new set. Forty-seven high-value Colonial stamps will certainly provide a splendid medium for *illegal* exports, such as have resulted in current British Colonials selling at under face value in some countries to-day. As far as legal exports are concerned, even if collectors in the hard-currency countries, instead of being nauseated by this racket, bought the set on a big scale, the immediate return would be far outweighed by the eventual loss, caused by world-wide realization that the stamps of the British Empire are now regarded merely as a means of raising money. The blindness of the one-track official mind has now made it clear to everyone that we are henceforth on the same footing as Liechtenstein, San Marino and some of the Central American republics.

WILL CUSTOMERS PLEASE NOTE
As the stamps are not to be issued until later in the year, readers are specially asked not to send us orders for them yet. An announcement will be made in the magazine as soon as we are able to accept orders—we should much prefer that the whole trade should boycott the stamps, but fear this is not likely—and our new issue subscribers will be asked their requirements beforehand.

LIST OF COLONIES AND VALUES (as at present announced, but the Crown Agents state that "Any additions to this list will be announced later," which may imply further issues!)

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------|
| ADEN | 1½ a. red | 10 f. violet | JAMAICA | 1½d. brown | £1 bright rose |
| ANTIGUA | 2½d. blue | 5s. olive-green | KENYA, U. AND T. | 20 c. orange | £1 bright rose |
| ASCENSION | 3d. grey | 10s. bright pur. | LEWISIA IS. | 2½d. blue | 5s. green |
| BAHAMAS | 1½d. brown | £1 blue-green | MALTA | 1d. green | £1 blue-green |
| BARBADOS | 1½d. orange | 5s. blue | MARITIMUS | 5 c. purple | 10 f. purple |
| BASUTOLAND | 1½d. blue | 10s. olive-green | MONTERRAT | 2½d. blue | 5s. red |
| BEGHUANALAND | 1½d. blue | 10s. black | NGERIA | 1d. magenta | 5s. orange |
| BERMUDA | 1½d. brown | £1 red | NORTH BORNEO | 8 c. red | \$10 violet |
| BR. GUIANA | 3 c. red | £3 brown | N. RHODESIA | 1½d. orange | 20s. rose-purple |
| BR. HONDURAS | 4 c. green | £3 chocolate | NYASALAND | 1d. green | 10s. green |
| BR. SOLOMON IS. | 2d. grey | 10s. magenta | PITCAIRN IS. | 1½d. red | 10s. violet |
| BR. SOMALILAND | 1 a. red | 5 f. black | ST. HELENA | 3d. grey | 10s. purple |
| CAVHIAN IS. | 1½d. red | 10s. purple | ST. KITTS-NEVIS | 2½d. blue | 5s. red |
| CYPRUS | 1½ p. purple | £1 blue | ST. LUCIA | 1d. red | £1 sepia |
| DOMINICA | 1d. red | 10s. brown | ST. VINCENT | 1½d. red | £1 black |
| FALKLAND IS. | 2½d. blue | £1 violet | SARAWAK | 8 c. red | £5 chocolate |
| FALKLAND IS. DEPT. | 2½d. blue | 1s. purple | SEYCHELLES | 9 c. blue | 5 f. red |
| FIJI | 2½d. green | 5s. purple | SIERRA LEONE | 1½d. magenta | £1 blue |
| GAMBIA | 1½d. grey | £1 violet | SINGAPORE | 10 c. purple | £5 chocolate |
| GIBRALTAR | 1½d. green | £1 orange | SWITZERLAND | 1½d. blue | 10s. sepia |
| GILBERT AND ELLICE IS. | 1d. purple | £1 bright rose | TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO | 3 c. brown | £4.80 red |
| GOLD COAST | 1½d. red | 10s. olive-green | TURKS AND CAICOS | 1d. brown | 10s. violet |
| GREENAD | 1½d. red | 10s. red | VIRGIN IS. | 2½d. blue | £1 black |
| HONG KONG | 10 c. purple | \$10 violet | | | |

Figure 1

Leading article from *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, May 1948.

"They did not appear in the Part 1 listings of Silver Wedding high values, since the 1949 edition only went up to 1936. They were listed without prices in the 1950 edition (as I assume they were in the George VI of the previous year). There was no 1951 edition, but for 1952 prices were added (mint and used), the preface stating that we still did not deal in them but that 'collectors wished to have them priced!'"

The scene had been set earlier in 1947 when only Australia and Canada had issued stamps to celebrate Princess Elizabeth's marriage to Prince Philip (*Figure 3*). Many felt a low value British colonial omnibus issue would have been appropriate. Thus designs were drawn up for the RSW by George Knipe and Joan Hassall, daughter of the renowned poster artist John Hassall, for printers Har-

FOR YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION PLEASE!
SILVER WEDDING ISSUES

Without previous consultation with the representative philatelic organizations the British and Colonial authorities have decided to issue stamps commemorating the Royal Silver Wedding, for Great Britain, the Maritime Agencies and Agencies in the Persian Gulf, and the Colonies, to a total face value of over £44.

The Colonial sets are not true commemoratives, as they will not appear till long after the anniversary which they purport to celebrate. Their face value is fantastically high and there is no postal necessity for the inclusion of 10/- and £1 stamps in many of the sets. It can hardly be claimed that the Silver Wedding is an occasion for celebration in the Persian Gulf. Collectors have always heartily disliked countries which prostituted their postal issues for purposes of gain. Representations are being made to the authorities that the face value of the Colonial sets should be reduced. If you agree with our views, please return this form with 'NOT WANTED' written across it."

The object of all these issues are, therefore, only to raise large sums of money from collectors, for stamps which are unnecessary either for commemorative or postal purposes.

Collectors have always heartily disliked countries which prostituted their postal issues for purposes of gain. Until now, British collectors could not do this since they had a clear conscience in this matter, owing to the conservative policy of the Colonial Office in regard to special issues and to the general sentiment of the Colonial Office that stamps issued in the Colonies, but, as a result of these Silver Wedding issues, collectors all over the world are now with reason that British sets were issued for the purpose of financial reasons, and this will react most seriously on the demand for all future issues of the Empire, and on the reputation of our currency over-seas.

If the object of the issue is an increase in exports, such an increase will not be achieved by depreciating the reputation of British issues in the near and, even if a temporary gain should accrue from the stamp effort, it would be far outweighed by the permanent harm done to our stamps.

The collector who may hope to maintain a reasonably complete collection of the stamps of the present reign, if new issues are made on the above lines, cannot possibly afford to take in a single year, one which will cost him over £44.

It is thus likely to have interest in collecting new issues and perhaps to the holder as a whole and very general loss of interest would result, not only on the future of philately but on the value of British currencies.

Figure 2

Stanley Gibbons order form, 1948.

risons (*Figure 4*). They were rejected by King George himself for being too fussy – one design showed Windsor Castle which was later taken up for the QEII high value £1 in 1955. He preferred simplicity and proffered-up three Belgian stamps as examples (*Figure 5*).



Figure 3
Australian Princess Elizabeth issue, 1947.

On April 26, 1948 two stamps were issued – a low value and a £1 high value. The General Post Office stated that this stamp would not be on general sale at all post offices and was particularly aimed at philatelists in the



Figure 4
Great Britain RSW Windsor Castle reject, 1947.

same vein as the 1929 PUC £1 (*Figure 6*). It is interesting to note that at this time even Britain did not boast a £1 stamp – not until October 1, 1948 was this rectified when the £1 brown was issued (*Figure 7*).

All this was at a rather difficult time. Austerity was incumbent upon the British populace, so no wonder the powers that be were criticized for their mercenary revenue-gaining schemes. I have heard it said that some of the £420,000 revenue from the £1 high value went towards the production costs of Sir John Wilson and Clarence Winchester’s book on The Royal Collection released by Dropmore Press in 1952 at a mere 65 guineas (*Figure 8*). But more of that anon.



Figure 5
Queen Astrid of Belgium mourning stamp, 1935.

Why did the Crown Agents refuse to back down on the issuing of the RSW Colo-

nial high values? The task of printing these stamps was far from easy as according to Philip Beale in his fine book, *The Postal Service of Sierra Leone* (The Royal Philatelic Society London, 1988). All the security printers at that time were snowed under as there was huge post-war demand for both stamps, currency and other items. Waterlow & Sons offered to print 70 million low values using the photogravure process which they did with “considerable difficulties” at their Dunstable, Bedfordshire works (*Figure 9*).

Notwithstanding, the Crown Agents pressed on in their quest for the high values and eventually Bradbury Wilkinson offered to print a minimum of 10 million stamps using the recess (intaglio) process – but on the basis that it was not to interfere with the supply of definitive postage stamps and currency notes. A total of eight colors were selected for



Figure 6
Great Britain Royal Silver Wedding £1 stamp, 1948



Figure 7
Great Britain £1 brown stamp, 1948.

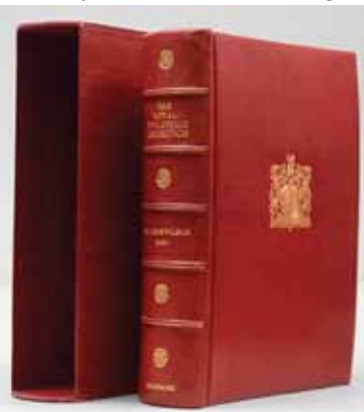


Figure 8
The Royal Philatelic Collection, Sir John Wilson, Dropmore Press, 1952.

the low values and 16 for the high values (*Figure 10*). The principal to be followed was that they should correspond to those used for the same duties in the current definitive series; however, Jamaica appears to contradict this. I further believe that originally the RSW high values
Continued on page 6

were to have been bi-colored but this came to nought (*Figure 11*).

Delivery dates were never going to be on time as the high values required three separate engravings – the portrait, the frame and denomination and the colonial title, which, in fact, was added by typography (*Figure 12*) apart from Malta, where it was recess printed as the Maltese and George Crosses were also added to the panel.

The general release was in October 1948 but some of the colonies did not release their RSWs until January 1949: Aden

and its states, Antigua, Malta, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis, Somaliland and the Virgin Islands. The British Solomon Islands released its set on March 14, 1949, Pitcairn Island on August 1, 1949 and the Gilbert & Ellice Islands on August 29, 1949! All this seems somewhat unnecessary as the number of stamps issued in many of the Malayan States was as low as 18,250 stamps (*Figure 13*).

The St. Vincent £1 RSWs were originally printed in black – the entire shipment disappeared from the boat in transit! Only a plate block of four reside in The Royal Collection (*Figure 14*). A reprint was ordered but in bright purple and went



Figure 9
Photogravure, low value RSW stamp, 1948.



Figure 11
Selangor RSW bi-colored essay 1948.



Figure 10
Final approved colors of the high value RSW Colonial stamps (© H.M. Queen).



Figure 12
Bahamas typographic cartouche, 1948.

on sale on the island on November 30, 1948, but only four days after St. Lucia. It is a surprise to me that the reprint was delivered so quickly and that none of the original printing has ever shown up on the black market. Were they really stolen?



Figure 13
Trengganu RSW \$5, 1948.

I believe that the issue of the RSW high values was a deliberate attempt to gain revenue and perhaps there were others. In *Cities and Men*, Sir Harry Luke claims the last stamp he was responsible for, whilst Governor, was the 10/- British Solomon Islands definitive, issued April 27, 1942. He states that he chose the colors, “based

on the color of the alpine wood cyclamen against its natural background of green moss.” (Figure 15).



Figure 14

Unique St. Vincent £1 RSW black plate block from the Royal Collection (© H.M. Queen), 1948.

Did the Solomons really require such a denomination? The Gilbert & Ellice Islands managed without. Luke was much involved in stamp design for the Crown Agents from the 1930s in Cyprus, Malta, Sierra Leone, the Pacific Islands and the Caribbean, especially Jamaica (Figure 16). A postscript to his obituary in *The London Times* by Sir John Wolfenden alludes to this (Figure 17). He states that Luke was nominated to be first Governor of a place where U-boats were said to have refuelled – it must have been somewhere in the West Indies or Heligoland perhaps. His first priority was to design and print a set of



Figure 15
British Solomon Islands 10/-, designer Sir Harry Luke, 1942.

postage stamps! The deal fell through and the stamps were entirely destroyed! Any further information on this would be most welcome.



Figure 16

Jamaica New Constitution 2d green maces. Designers Hugh Paget / Sir Harry Luke, 1946.

Sir Harry was officially in the Caribbean from August 1943 to August 1946 as Chief Executive of the British Council. He left Trinidad in February 1947 and went to Sam Lord's Castle, Barbados where British Colonial Secretary Stewart Perowne, another colonial stamp and bank-note designer, was in residence. At this time a rash of new, colonial, high value definitives sprang up within the Caribbean (Figure 18). These were:

- **Antigua** 10/- magenta, April 1948 (one printing, final printing of 2/6 or 5/- July 1944!).
- **Antigua** £1 slate-green, April 1948 (one printing).
- **Bahamas** 10/- grey, October 1948 (one printing CNBC).
- **British Guiana** \$2 purple, June 1945 (four printings).
- **British Guiana** \$3 red-brown, July 1945 (four printings).
- **Dominica** 10/- black and brown-orange, October 1947 (two printings).
- **Jamaica** £1 chocolate and violet, August 1949 (two printings last to January 1956!! +QEII printing! Aguilar*).
- **Montserrat** 10/- pale blue, 1948 (one printing).
- **Montserrat** £1 black, 1948 (one printing).
- **St. Kitts Nevis** 10/- black and ultramarine, September 1948 (one printing).
- **St. Kitts Nevis** £1 black and brown, September 1948 (one printing).
- **St. Vincent** 10/- violet and brown, 1947 (one printing).
- **Virgin Islands** 10/- blue, December 1947 (one printing).
- **Virgin Islands** £1 black, December 1947 (one printing).

*Otherwise as per Potter & Shelton

The timing was somewhat short-sighted, perhaps as new “dollar” definitives were in the pipeline and released as early as March 1949. Was Luke to some extent responsible? None of the above served much postal-rate requirement, except for the British Guiana examples, which

Continued on page 8

both went to four printings. The only example of this practice outside of the BWI was Fiji which released two new high values (10/- and £1) on March 13, 1950 (*Figure 19*) – another of Luke’s old stomping grounds where The Great Panjandrum was much involved in the 1938 definitive designs and their subsequent corrections (*Figure 20*). Luke returned to Barbados, with his sister Lily, on holiday in 1949 and no doubt spent time with Colonial Secretary Stewart Perowne on philatelic design matters. Perowne had worked under Luke in both Jerusalem and Malta before the war. Moreover, he designed the new dollar notes for the West Indies Federation in 1949 (*Figure 21*).

On September 19, 1949, as was widely expected but officially denied for over a year, the £ was devalued to the



Figure 18
British West Indies post-war high values Antigua 10/-, 1948; Montserrat £1, 1948 and St. Vincent 10/-, 1947.

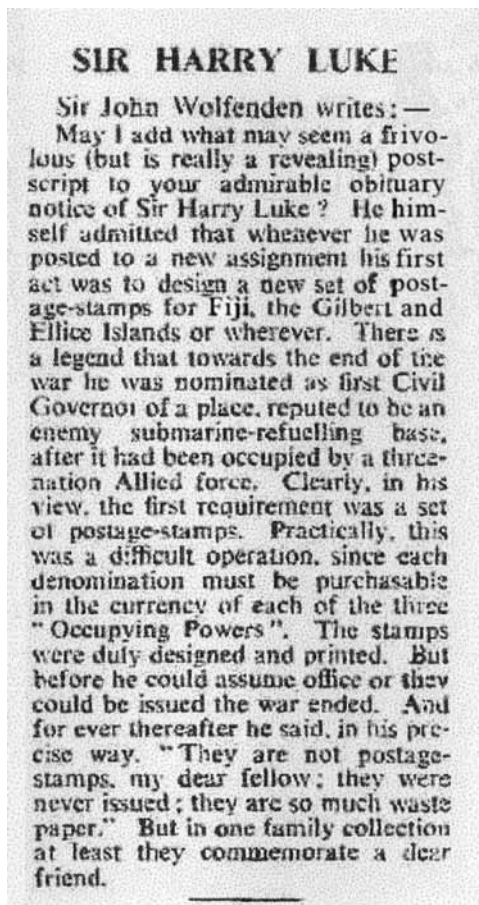


Figure 17
Sir John Wolfenden additional obituary to The Times, May 24, 1969.

tune of a whopping 30.5 percent to \$2.80. This made the price of a loaf of bread in Britain rise from 4d to 6d. Currency censorship was introduced into Jamaica for a period of three months. Only two such censored covers are known – both sent to the U.S. by stamp dealer Everard F. Aguilar (*Figure 22*).

So, what was it really all about? I don't subscribe to the theory that it was quite the racket that everyone thought it might be. It was, I believe, an attempt to use postage stamps as currency in order to pay government agents working in the field. Stamps were easier to get hold of via the Crown Agents than straight cash and there would be far less questions asked. In his Study Paper 15 on Jamaica, issued in 1999 by the King George VI Collectors Society, Hugh James makes an interesting note in his Introduction. Reference is made to the (Crown Agents) Bureau and to A2. "The Bureau was set up in 1942 to supply dealers. Before 1942 it had functioned only when stocks



Figure 19
Fiji 10/-, definitive, 1950.



Figure 20
Fiji 5d 1938 and 1940 color change as per Luke.

were kept for only six months before being sent to the Colony (Jamaica). From 1942 the Bureau operated on a permanent basis. At about the same time in 1942 it was decided to maintain a stock of stamps against emergencies – this was known as A2. By 1947 the Bureau and A2 tended to merge."

So what on earth were these "emergencies"? A2 notation is only found for 2/- 5/- and 10/- definitives plus the 3d and 4d lower values. During the war it may well have been seen as prudent to allow certain amounts of stamps to be carried by diplomats in order to "tide them over." There were after all quite a few stamp dealers operating in Kingston: Messrs. J. M. Nethersole, G. C. Gunter, L. Barrington Smith and the aforementioned E. F. Aguilar

along with Mary Parker up in Montego Bay.

In his *War Diaries* Vol. II, Guy Liddell, head of MI5, wrote, "The Germans are evidently pleased that Drag-onfly (Agent Hans George) has at last resumed work (23



Figure 21
Eastern Caribbean \$20 bill, designed by Stuart Perowne, 1950.

July 1943). They are particularly grateful for his weather reports. They are still trying to pay him through the medium of foreign postage stamps."



Figure 22
Aguilar fiscal censorship, 1949.



Hugh James notes a curious entry for January 17, 1946 regarding the 10/- New Constitution green (**Figure 23**). Despite the printing of more sheets than were ordered, estimates of local consumption of the 10/- value must have been too conservative, because the Requisition Book records a further order. This was Requisition 2350/4 and was for 150 post office sheets, a total of 9,000 stamps. However, a special printing was not made as the entry states: "From A2. Telegraphed for 17.1.46. To be dispatched by Registered Post as quickly as possible." One hundred fifty sheets of the 10/- value were dispatched on January 28, 1946.



Figure 23
Jamaica New Constitution 10/- green, 1946.

That's £4,500 worth of stamps shooting off to Jamaica. I was later told by Richard Lockyer, "It was the late Barney Kleinberg who remarked to me that the Jamaica New Constitution set was tainted with black market money as the market had been flooded."

Interestingly, G. C. Gunter chaired the design committee for this issue and invited Sir Harry Luke and Hugh Paget, his assistant at The British Council in Jamaica, to join him – which they did (**Figure 24**).

In July 1947, *The Jamaica Philatelist* reported that 10,926 of the 10/- New Constitution stamps were conflagrated, as was usual post office practice for surplus stock. It doesn't appear that there was a shortage of these particular stamps then! There were 105,000 actually printed, of which just 30,000 were originally sent to Jamaica; the remainder staying in London for the trade and "against emergencies"!

Richard Lockyer also drew my attention to a report in *Stamp Collecting* (January 1950) penned by G. C. Gunter and E. F. Aguilar: "January 7, 1950: More light is thrown on the Jamaica 5/- perf. 13 blued paper by our local correspondents, Messrs Gunter and Aguilar. It seems that 100 sheets (3,000) stamps

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were all that appeared in the island in September last. They were followed by a further 30 sheets in November, in the different white paper P.14 – (none of the 3,000 were placed on sale in Kingston), but were used up to fill smaller offices' requirements. Our local correspondents located the rest (very small amounts) by lightning tours round the whole island. Looks like the stamps used will be good." (Fyndem's readers are sitting pretty: he advised them in the strongest terms to buy this stamp at "face plus 12½%. If they want it now it cost them more."

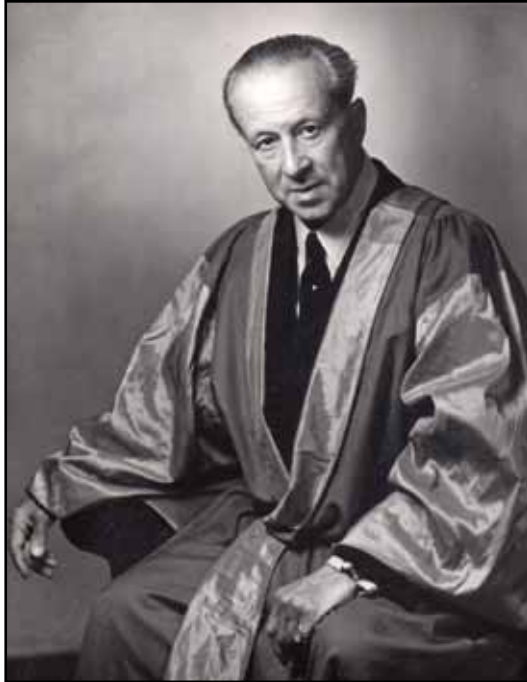


Figure 24
Sir Harry Luke K. C. M. G. as academic.

Thus, in November 1949 (some eight years after issue) just 30 sheets of 5/- perforation 14.15 (SG132a) were sent to small offices round the island (**Figure 25**). Why? Hugh James records it was 300 sheets -- it can't have been, according to Dickon Pollard, or the stamps would be far less rare. Currently they fetch about £3,500 which shows their rarity. Gibbons did not catalogue this stamp until 1974! And the Royal Philatelic Collection does not include an example.

Did the 30 new Registered Oval cancellers end up at the same 30 offices that received the 900 5/- perforation 14.15 stamps (**Figure 26**)? If so, then something is somewhat odd. G.C. Gunter, OBE JP FRPSL, and Evertard F. Aguilar were both stamp dealers of high standing on the island. Gunter was the Senior Accountant of the Jamaican Railways. He was also President of The Jamaica Philatelic Society for many years. In 1946 Gunter became Mayor of Kingston. Aguilar was wealthy and philatelically influential, especially on stamp design and

TRDs (Temporary Rubber Datestamps). So why were these stamps being issued around the island and men in cars making "lightning tours" after them and getting them cancelled?

I am convinced that someone at the Crown Agents in London was under instruction to send rarer perforations from earlier printings to these remote post offices.

The four strands of this story can now be drawn together. Sir Harry Luke appears to have connections to the high value stamps theme, the New Constitution stamps but not the 5/- perforation 14.15 story nor to the Royal Collection and Dropmore Press.



Figure 25
Jamaican 5/-, perforation 14.15. Rare: 30 sheets released in 1949!



Figure 26
Jamaican RO cancels: Aboukir, 1950; Balcarres, 1955; Tweedside, 1952, and Sandy River, 1955.

However, there is a person who has connections to all four of these. He has not been, in any way, previously connected to stamp collecting or stamp design. He helped operate intelligence services during and after the war and later became a celebrated novelist – the man who brought us 007!

To be continued

The Influence of the Hollywood Movie Industry in the Caribbean

By Regis Hoffman and Thomas Richards

From the early days of the silent film era to the modern day, the Hollywood entertainment industry has had worldwide influence. The export of motion pictures from Hollywood to every corner of the globe began in the silent film era and continues to this day.

This article is both a philatelic and social history of how the Hollywood movie industry affected the countries under the purview of the BCPSG. In this article we use the term “BWI” to include any country under the umbrella of the BCPSG. This influence is shown through various types of covers, including:

- Fan mail, where people sent letters to their favorite movie stars;
- Covers from film distribution offices of the Hollywood studios in the BWI;
- Covers from firms involved in film production.

The silent film era ran from 1894 to 1929. A silent film is film with no synchronized recorded sound, especially with no spoken dialogue. In silent films, the story line is transmitted through muted gestures, mime and title cards. Early silent films were accompanied by orchestra, piano or organ music.

During the advent of the silent film era, movie production was scattered throughout the world (e.g., France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States), but the devastation of Europe during World War I stunted the growth of the European film industry, and the U.S. film industry quickly became the world’s leader.

During the late portion of the silent film era, the U.S. movie industry adopted strategies to allow movies to be made more quickly and inexpensively, mimicking what was happening in the U.S. industrial world. For example, instead of shooting a movie in scene sequence, it was realized that shooting all the scenes at a particular locale (regardless of the scene order) resulted in reduced expense. Whole departments were created to schedule shooting sequences to reduce costs. This further solidified the position of the U.S. film industry as the dominant player in the world.

Between 1926 and 1930, the conversion from silent films to talkies was completed. Some believed that the quality of films decreased for a few years as directors, actors and other staff members adapted to the new technology. Many of the famous stars of the silent era could not make the transition to the “talkies.”

In the period between 1930 and 1950, Hollywood studios had control over filmmaking, film distribution and exhibition. The “Big Five” studios dominated Hollywood: Paramount, Loew’s (parent company of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), Fox Films (later 20th Century-Fox), Warner Bros., and R.K.O. Smaller studios included Universal, Columbia, United Artists, Monogram and Republic.

Movies in Everyday Life

The *1935-36 Motion Picture Almanac*¹ is a wonderful almanac of the motion picture industry. The 1935-36 edition briefly mentions some aspects of the movie industry in the Bahamas, Bermuda and Jamaica. Several common themes are evident in these descriptions. First, although these islands were in the British sphere, American movies were preferred. There was some effort to legislate the showing of more British films, but these laws were not enacted. The second key point is that theaters were already wired for sound – the talking picture revolution had occurred in these outposts of the British Empire.

Here are some quotations from this work discussing elements of the movie industry in the Bahamas, Bermuda and Jamaica.

Bahamas

“Bills have been presented occasionally in the local legislature to incorporate measures to secure the exhibition in the Colony of a certain proportion of British films. No such laws yet enacted. Ninety percent of releases are American, 10% British. There is no local production. Taxes are moderate. The four theaters are all wired. The Commandant of the Police has charge of the censorship of motion picture films. No gangster films are

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permitted to be shown. The Cinematograph Act of 1912 (Bahamas Laws, Chapter 112) forbids the presentation or exhibition by means of a cinematograph of other similar apparatus, of 'any picture, drawing, print, film, or representation of any kind, of a treasonable, seditious, profane, blasphemous, immoral, indecent or obscene character.'"

Bermuda

"British producers are agitating for the showing of more British films in Bermuda. Censorship is determined by the locality. Films shown are more than 90% American. The only competition is from British pictures. There was no local production. The 9 theaters, all wired, were under the management of only two companies, and these two merged in 1935. These two companies also show at various intervals in the lodge halls and other buildings in outlying parishes. There are also occasional showings at local hotels."

Jamaica

"Films are censored in Kingston for showing in the whole Island under Jamaica Law 14 of 1913, Jamaica Law 13 of 1925 and Jamaica Law 21 of 1926. Only once in a while is the entire picture rejected. While 65% of pictures shown are American, there is a growing tendency towards British productions. There is local production. Pictures have been taken, to be developed in the United States. The 14 theaters are all wired."

Fan Mail

Almost every aspect of the film industry has multiple books published about it, except for the logistics of fan mail. Therefore, most information on fan mail is from our study and observation of over 25,000 fan mail covers.

Fan mail is an indicator of the popularity of Hollywood films and more precisely, an indicator of the popularity of a particular star. Hollywood studios actively monitored and recorded the amount of fan mail received by each star. A star receiving large amounts of fan mail could receive more and better roles.

Where did fan mail originate? Anecdotally, the authors note large quantities of foreign fan mail from the United Kingdom, Canada, Philippines, and the Gold Coast/Ghana!

Significantly less fan mail is seen from Caribbean nations; however, what fan mail exists does give us a win-

dow into the influence of Hollywood on the population of the BWI.

One of the few references that mentions fan mail is found in the book *Hollywood: The Movie Colony, The Movie Makers*.² It lists the geographical distribution of fan mail received by one male movie star in January of 1939. Only 12.5 percent of the total was from foreign sources, with very little from the British West Indies (see Table 1 below).

Table 1
Origin of fan mail to a male Hollywood movie star in January 1939

| |
|------------------------|
| Australia, 1 |
| Bahamas, 1 |
| Brazil, 13 |
| British West Indies, 5 |
| Canada, 15 |
| Great Britain: 39 |
| Ireland, 4 |
| New Zealand, 2 |

A similar set of statistics was collected for a female movie star's mail for the same month. None of it originated from the BWI. In our own collections, we observe relatively few fan mail covers from the BWI.

The Silent Film Era

The earliest fan mail we have recorded is from 1919. The earliest we have recorded from the BWI is a 1927 cover from Barbados to silent film actress Zasu Pitts at Lasky Studios (*Figure 1*). She began her film career at the age of 19 and played leads and supporting roles in many silent films. Famous Players-Lasky Corporation was one



Figure 1
Fan mail cover from Barbados to silent film actress Zasu Pitts at Lasky Studios.

of the largest entities in the silent film era. **Figure 2** is a fan mail cover from Trinidad to silent film actor Charles Farrell at Lasky Studios.



Figure 2

A 1928 cover from Trinidad and Tobago to actor Charles Farrell at Lasky Studios.

how the United States Post Office got the letter to the correct Hollywood studio. Secondly, the reverse of the card preserves the message sent by the fan to the movie star. Few fan letter envelopes contain the original letter,



Figure 4

Jamaica postal stationery card to actress Agnes Ayres.

Figure 3 is a fan mail cover from Trinidad sent to silent film actress Dorothy Mackaill at First National Studios. Interestingly, it was sent to the New York City office of First National Studios. Many movie studios had their



Figure 3

Fan mail cover from Trinidad to silent film actress Dorothy Mackaill to New York City office of First National Studio with forwarding handstamp.

so this gives us a window into the thinking of the writer. The message reads:

Dear Miss Ayres,

I have seen you in several pictures in which I admired your acting very much and would be pleased if you would send me an autographed photo of yourself.

*Thanking you,
Yours sincerely
(Miss) Marion Davidson*

Fans usually made this innocuous request for an autographed photograph. In the early days, studios sent these free of charge, but soon the millions of requests for photographs became cost prohibitive, and studios began charging a nominal fee.

headquarters in New York City, and some fan mail was sent there. However, the studio fan mail departments were typically located in Southern California, so the fan mail was forwarded. In this case, the letter was forwarded to Burbank with the special handstamp applied by the First National Studio office in New York. Some of these forwarding marks are very scarce -- this particular type has only two or three recorded examples. These private auxiliary markings are cataloged in our monograph, *Private Auxiliary Markings on Hollywood Fan Mail*.³

The postal card shown in **Figure 4** is interesting on several levels. First, the address is minimal, reading only "Agnes Ayres, Hollywood, California, U.S.A." Many fan mail covers bear such incomplete addresses. Some-

Agnes Ayres was a star of the American silent screen, and is most famous as Rudolph Valentino's paramour in both *The Sheik* (1921) and *The Son of the Sheik* (1926). Her career effectively ended with the coming of talking pictures. The cover is undated, but bears a Kingston machine cancellation, which Proud records being used from December 7, 1922 to November 21, 1925 (Proud Type M1 State 2).⁴

World War II Uses

Movie-related mail often highlights interesting postal history. This is especially true of wartime periods.

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During World War II, two factors in everyday life were the attempts to deny information to the enemy (primarily by censorship), and the shortage of common commercial goods due to their diversion to wartime use and the disruptions on the import trade.

The cover in *Figure 5* and *Figure 6* illustrates both of these. It was mailed from St. Kitts, Leeward Islands



Figure 5

WWII censored Leeward Islands cover made from movie herald during wartime paper shortage.



Figure 6

Movie herald for San Quentin used to make the Leeward Islands envelope shown in Figure 5.

where it was censored. Due to the wartime paper shortage, the envelope was made from a movie herald advertisement for San Quentin with Pat O'Brien and Ann Sheridan.

The Bahamas cover in *Figure 7* has a number of inter-

esting features. First, it is a military cover (post free) to actress Rita Hayworth at Columbia Pictures. We have seen a surprising number of fan mail envelopes from military personnel, from internees and even prisoners of war. This was an attempt to maintain some semblance of normalcy during very difficult circumstances. The cover is cancelled "Nassau" and bears the manuscript inscription "RAF Overseas." The Canadian YMCA supplied the envelope.



Figure 7

Cover from Bahamas to Rita Hayworth at Columbia Pictures. Cover supplied by Canadian YMCA.

Nassau was a training site for the Royal Air Force (RAF) and the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). Many crews were trained to fly the B24 Liberator. A large number of Canadian aircrew were posted to Nassau, the majority after Operational Training were sent to the Far East.

The Golden Age

The Golden Age of Hollywood spanned the period of 1930-1950. During this time, movies became the dominant form of entertainment, and actors and actresses



Figure 8

From Bermuda to actress Shirley Temple at Selznick Studios.

achieved enviable levels of fame. Shirley Temple is one of the most recognized actresses during the Golden Age of Hollywood. A fan letter from Bermuda to her is shown in *Figure 8*.



Figure 9

Postage due cover from Jamaica to Mr. & Mrs. Errol Flynn in Hollywood.

Figure 9 shows an unusual postage due cover from Port Antonio, Jamaica to Mr. & Mrs. Errol Flynn. Initially the cover only had 3d postage and was returned to the sender for an additional 2d (with a boxed “RETURN TO SENDER/FOR POSTAGE”). This marking is unrecorded in Proud. The two 1d stamps were added, and the fan letter was on its way. Also note the rather sparse address of “Mr. & Mrs. Errol Flynn, Hollywood, California, U.S.A.” Fan letters were often addressed with only a city name, leaving the United States Post Office to determine to which studio to direct the letter. Also, the fan felt some special personal attachment to actor Errol Flynn, as the letter is also addressed to Mrs. Flynn.

Actor Roddy McDowall is the recipient of the fan mail



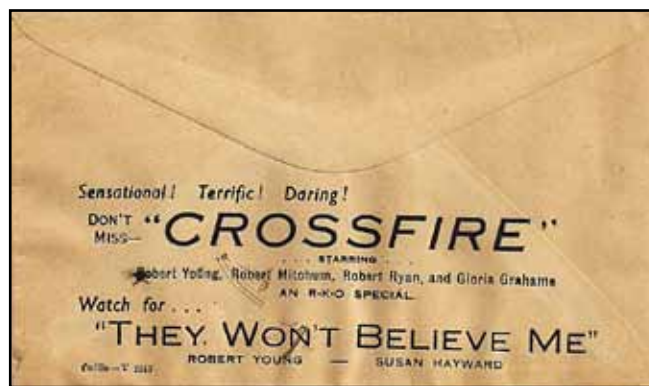
Figure 10

Jamaica cover addressed to P.O. Box 900, the fan mail department of 20th Century-Fox Studio.



Figure 11

Front (above) and reverse of unusual metered cover from the Electricity Board, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. Reverse side (below) features advertising for two movies, an unusual feature on covers.



from Montego Bay, Jamaica shown in *Figure 10*. Of note is the address of “Box 900.” This is the address of the fan mail department at 20th Century-Fox Studios.

Figure 11 is an unusual metered cover from the Electricity Board, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. The reverse (also *Figure 11*) bears advertisements for two movies, *Crossfire* and *They Won't Believe Me*. Both of these were released in 1947 by R.K.O. Radio Pictures. Movie advertising on the back of an envelope of a non-movie related

Continued on page 16

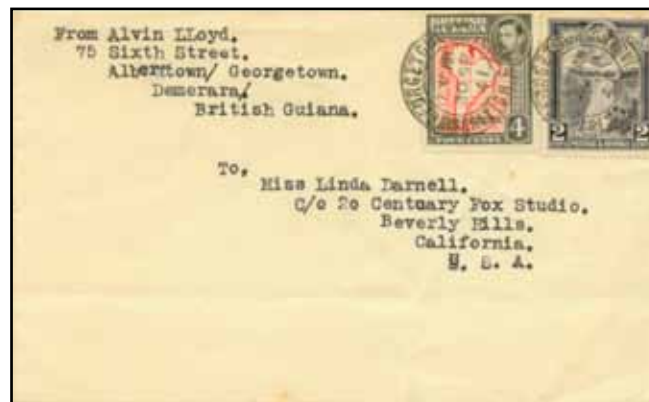


Figure 12

Fan letter from British Guiana to actress Linda Darnell at 20th Century-Fox Studios.

commercial company is unusual.

Figure 12 is a fan letter from Georgetown, British Guiana to actress Linda Darnell at 20th Century-Fox Studios. **Figure 13** shows a Queen Elizabeth II air letter from Buxton, British Guiana to actress Natalie Wood at



Figure 13

Postal stationery envelope from British Guiana to actress Natalie Wood.

Warner Bros. Studio in Hollywood. Some excerpts from the enclosed correspondence reads:

*Dear Natalie (Wood) Wagner,
Please send me two pictures, one with yourself and another with you and Bob.
I saw many pictures with you acting, till I don't know which one I like the best
You have very pretty eyes, that is why so many people in B.G. like you.*

This gives some insight into the mind of the fan. First, it is addressed to Natalie Wood, but also uses her married name of “Wagner” and mentions her husband “Bob.”



Figure 14

Cover from the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film distribution office in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.



Figure 15

Cover from Warner Bros. distribution office in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad to the Centre Theater in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

Robert Wagner was also a famous actor, and the marriage of two famous and attractive stars was very noteworthy. Serious fans of the time were sure to frequently read about the couple’s romance and marriage in numerous movie fan magazines. Her mysterious death in 1981 continues to receive press coverage. Also note that the writer mentions that other people from British Guiana are fans of Natalie Wood.

The Movie Industry

The distribution of movies in the Caribbean was centered at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. It was the home of at least four studio offices, M.G.M., Warner Bros., Paramount and Fox Films.



Figure 16

Cover from Paramount Films in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad to the New York headquarters of Paramount Pictures.

Figure 14 illustrates a corner card from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in Trinidad to St. Kitts. Note the distinctive lion symbol of M.G.M. Warner Bros. Studios also maintained a Caribbean office in Trinidad (**Figure 15**). These offices booked films showing throughout the BWI and possibly parts of Central and South America. The cover addressed to the manager of the Centre Theatre in Char-

lotte Amalie on Saint Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands may have announced an upcoming Warner Bros. film. Also note the framed “W.B.” Warner Bros. logo on the cover.

Paramount Studios also had a presence in Trinidad and used at least four different types of corner cards. **Figure 16** is a cover from the Paramount Studios Trinidad office to the corporate headquarters in New York City. It also has a special handstamp celebrating “Paramount on Parade – Around the World – Feb. – May.”

Sometimes covers from the distribution offices did double-duty as advertising covers. The cover in **Figure 17** from Paramount Pictures in Trinidad to Georgetown, British Guiana announces an upcoming film, *The Great Victor Herbert*.



Figure 17
Advertising cover from Paramount Films in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad to British Guiana.

Another type of the Paramount Pictures envelope is shown in **Figure 18**. It is addressed to the same person as the cover in Figure 17 -- perhaps this was the manager of a movie theater in British Guiana?



Figure 18
Cover from Paramount Films in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad to British Guiana.

Figure 19 illustrates the fourth known type of Paramount Pictures envelopes. This censored cover was sent to St. John’s, Antigua, again perhaps to the manager of a movie theater.



Figure 19
Front (above) and reverse (below) of censored cover from Paramount Pictures office in Trinidad to Antigua.



Fox Films (later 20th Century-Fox) also had a distribution office in Trinidad. The cover in **Figure 20** is from that office to Suriname.



Figure 20
Cover from Fox Film in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad to Suriname.

One actual Caribbean film production company has been identified via a cover and an advertisement. **Figure 21** shows a cover from the Tucker Picture Productions company in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad to the secretary of the American Philatelic Society. The firm’s advertising appeared in the trade almanac *Cinematographic Annual* of 1930⁵ (**Figure 22**).



Figure 21
Cover from Tucker Picture Productions to the American Philatelic Society.

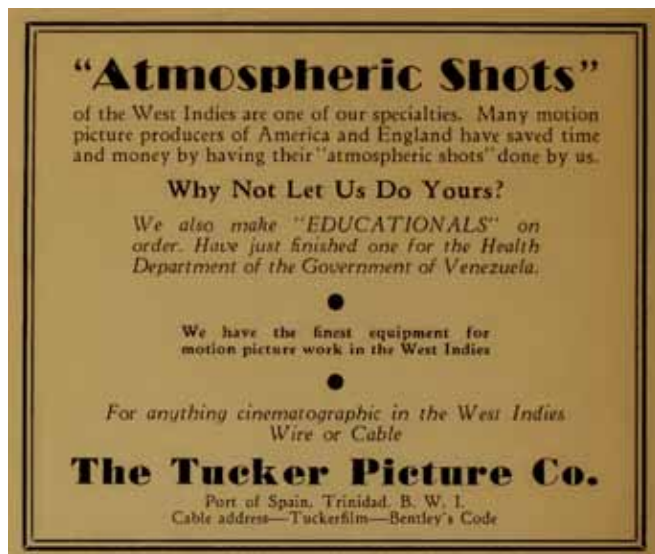


Figure 22
Advertisement for The Tucker Picture Company in Trinidad.

Modern Television (TV)

Movies were not the only Hollywood product to reach the Caribbean. Modern television shows gained worldwide popularity. One such show was *Charlie's Angels*, which featured three female detectives working in a pri-



Figure 23
From Trinidad to the television show "Charlie's Angels."

vate detective agency in Los Angeles. The show enjoyed a five-year run, from 1976 to 1981. **Figure 23** contains a generic address ("Charleys Angels" [sic]), care of the Spelling Goldberg Productions, the company that produced the series.

Figure 24 is addressed to the iconic Farrah Fawcett-Majors at the location of her agents, the William Morris Agency. Farrah Fawcett-Majors starred only in the first year of the series, but is easily the best known "Angel."



Figure 24
From Trinidad to actress Farrah Fawcett-Majors.

Of note is the Chaguanas cancel (round Type D7) that Proud records used from 1939 to 1962⁶. This use in 1981 significantly expands the range of use.

During this time period there is a movement away from mailing fan mail to the studios, and more mail is seen addressed to production companies, publicity agencies and fan mail services.

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Thoughts on the BWI auction scene

By Charles Freeland
Of Switzerland

This has been quite a remarkable year for the BWI collector who relies for his or her acquisition of major items on public auctions. After several years in which nothing particularly spectacular has come up, we have seen major offerings of Antigua, Bahamas, British Guiana (twice), British Honduras, Dominica, Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Montserrat, Nevis, Turks Islands and the Virgin Islands, plus useful titbits from Bermuda, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. If you have not been able to fill your boots there is no excuse!

The fun really started when rumors started circulating that the famous British Guiana one-cent was to be sold by Sothebys in New York. Heavily promoted, Sothebys marketing skills were rolled out big time so the result was an extraordinary price of \$9.5 million including premium for what is really a rather scruffy piece of paper, though probably below what Sothebys had been hoping. An “iconic” stamp maybe, and indubitably important for all of us in promoting our hobby, but it is a pity it does not have a more attractive appearance. The buyer remains confidential though the fact that it is now going to be displayed in the Bill Gross Gallery in the National Postal Museum in Washington may be a clue.

Prior to the sale there was the first major BWI event of the year when the sale of the “Foxley” collections of British Guiana and British Honduras took place at Spink on March 16 in London. I made no secret of the fact that these were my collections, with the name taken from the village in which I grew up. Many have asked me why I decided to sell these sections of my collection. There were three reasons: first, both countries I knew would sell well in current market conditions, indeed the British Guiana was plainly “hot” and I was having trouble adding interesting items. Second, neither is “core” BWI; although we regard them as such, they are really Central and South America. Third, I am not getting any younger and my family has brutally pointed out that I am mortal and it would be very difficult for them to sell all my collections after my death. Unfortunately between consigning and the date of the sale I learned that Lord Vestey, who had been a major bidder in Spink auctions over 20 years or more, had decided to sell his collections and this inevitably had a negative effect on the results.

With support from my many friends in all parts of the world, the sale of the British Guiana was very successful with some remarkable prices, but also a number of bargains as is inevitable in a sale of this size and variety. When one realizes that about eight percent of the value was bought by Philip Kinns for Stanley Gibbons and is even now being offered at mark-ups of 100 percent or more, the bargains

are obvious. Fortunately I had acquired much of the material in the early to mid-1970s when prices were depressed following the three massive sales of the Townsend, Dale Lichtenstein and “Great” collections of the late 1960s. Although much of this was bought at “dealers” prices, I was lucky enough to find two London dealers, W. E. Lea and Ritchie Bodily, whose stocks were of outstanding quality, and they took pity on a young collector to offer me advice as well as fair discounts, so the returns on material acquired during this period were often excellent. What was also important is that 40 years is a decent period of time to allow the market to forget what is available ... “fresh material” is what all auctioneers appreciate and what excites buyers.

While the British Guiana was a clear success, the British Honduras was more patchy with many bargains. Fortunately, Lord Ashcroft, a regular buyer of important pieces, was evidently on the phone and won pretty well every major lot, namely the classic covers, blocks and essay material. Accordingly much depended on the underbidders; where they were strong the prices were high, where there was no other interest he got bargains. The absence of Vestey counter-bidding for the proof material was most marked, but nearly all the prices for the rarities were respectable.

Although Spink’s live internet bidding system now works well after several years of teething problems, the risk of problems at the bidder’s end remains. In this case Ian Matheson bidding from Johannesburg was experiencing an electric storm and his phone line kept cutting out. It did resolve itself from time to time but he apparently missed out on a number of lots he had intended to compete on. I was particularly disappointed in the section of transit mail which was mostly ex-Henry Madden and had many rare forwarding marks. Only the lovely Carmichael and Wozilla handstamps fetched a fair price in my view. Two strong bidders is not enough for a successful auction, one needs several.

Three months later the Dupont Grand Prix collection of British Guiana was offered by Feldman in Geneva. This was the start of quite a remarkable saga, as HRH Saud Al-Thani, a member of the Qatar royal family bidding for the Doha museum, showed up in a chauffeured limo with bodyguard, sat next to another bidder and together they bought all but three lots at often ridiculous prices, in many cases 10 times and on at least one occasion 50 times an admittedly very low estimate. All that frustrated bidders received for flying in from the U.K. and elsewhere was a bottle of Demerara rum. But this is not all. The buyer paid a 15 percent deposit and negotiated terms for the rest, but before another payment was made, he died. General consternation must have ensued at Feldman when Al-Thani’s executors refused to pay the balance. Although it is rumored that four of the rarest items have since been sold to

Continued on page 20

Bill Gross, the lawyers have moved in to place claim on the estate. While Feldman will presumably obtain judgment in the Swiss courts, if the administrators still refuse to pay, the Qatar courts may support non-payment. Whatever, it is hard to forecast what will happen next other than the prices achieved at the sale are now pretty meaningless.

The next big event for us was Phoebe MacGillivray's Victoria sale on December 6. As usual there was plenty to arouse interest, particularly for the many British Guiana and British Honduras fans, which offered a wide range of specialized postal history ex-the Foxley collection. Whether this would have sold better in the March sale at Spink is a moot point, the British Guiana probably not as Spink would have offered it in larger lots whereas Phoebe mostly broke it down into well researched single lots that sold very well, especially the rarer marks and the censor labels. The British Honduras was, however, disappointing with many lots having to be returned to the consignor ... in retrospect the estimates and hence reserves on some of the censors in particular were too high.

The high point of Phoebe's sale, apart from the India, was the extensive specialized collection of Dominica, also offered on behalf of your scribe, the most comprehensive offering of this small island since the Sugarman sale in 1995. My hopes were high and again Phoebe did not disappoint, though as ever there were bargains hidden away among many strong prices. The early postal markings were the highlight with the two-line "Domi/nica" at \$3.5k, the 1799 two line mark at \$1.9k and the nicest Crowned Circle well in excess of the Gibbons suggested price at \$1.8k. The main demand for the stamps was in the large range of early printers file specimens, with some close to the \$1k mark after the 15 percent BP (thank you Phoebe for keeping faith with your buyers). A fine range of essays and proofs sold well with one buyer complaining that the prices were equivalent to those in the London market ... but why not if the material is good enough? In fact there was in many cases little to compare with as there were many unique pieces which had not been seen for a long time, a red tag to sophisticated bidders and dealers.

A few days later we had what should have been the high-point of the year, the first of three Vestey BWI sales, but which fell surprisingly flat. The sale started slowly with Antigua, was worse for Bahamas and although it picked up for the Montserrat and Saints, the Virgin Islands largely flopped. The problem was that though there was much spectacular proof and essay material, it did not give the impression of a genuine collection, but more a portfolio of items that had passed through its curator Spink's sale room in recent times. This was a little unfair as some of it had been acquired right back in the 1970s and some had been bought from Sotheby's by the previous Curator John Michael. But the main problem was that top dollar had in many cases been paid when competition was far stronger and buyers were plainly reluctant to come out in force for what they considered over-priced stamps. As a result, a

sale which the consignors and auctioneers must have been hoping might top £1 million did not reach half that, with almost £200k of estimated value unsold. It was not a total disaster as the finest material did still sell, but almost the only sections of the collection which aroused strong competitive bidding were modern plate blocks.

On January 27, we had a very different offering, the Gold Medal collection of Nevis formed by our member Federico Borromeo. This was arguably the greatest collection of Nevis ever assembled, apart perhaps from the Bernhard collection bequeathed to the RPS. Although Federico had evidently held back a few covers for his BWI postal history exhibit, nearly all the proofs and rare covers in the private domain were present, plus a comprehensive holding of the issued stamps, including four copies of the 1/- on laid paper. Coinciding with the issue of the BWISC's book on Nevis, which I was privileged to co-author with Federico, the sale was an interesting test of the current BWI market rocked by the Feldman default and the uneven results in the Vestey sale. The bidding was dominated by a phone bidder and an agent who later we learned was representing Stanley Gibbons. These two each spent about one fifth of total sales of £125k, while there were three other buyers who spent around £10k each. In all there were only about 25 successful bidders, which is rather low for a sale of this quality, but I believe all our members present obtained some rare lots at fair prices.

The sale started well with strong bidding for the rare early covers, with the fine 1662 letter more than doubling its estimate at £2.1k, although the usually popular Crowned Circle section aroused little enthusiasm (six examples were perhaps too many for the market to absorb). I was surprised that the many 4d covers nearly all sold at good prices, as did the unusual rates, but the most striking covers, the strip of four 4d and the 1884 mixed franking 4d and 6d to Berlin, both sold at their opening bids to the same buyer. The stamps and proofs also went pretty well, with the many complete panes selling reasonably, the two main bidders competing for the more important, but only the phone bidder seemed to realize the importance of the 1d plating studies, originally formed by our members George Bowman and John Tyacke. The two imperf between strips were each around £4k, far off the heady days of the Tomkins prices, while the important De La Rue color trials were well below what they have often sold for. The Thompson flaws fetched about half the Gibbons prices but the unique block of the 6d green seemed a bargain at £1.1k. At least, nearly all the lots sold, partly because Guy Croton wielding the gavel was prepared to accept bids down to 60 percent of lower estimate.

The \$64,000 question is where is the market now going after some of the biggest players have now left the stage for good, while others have withdrawn hopefully temporarily for some reason or other. The first point to note is that fashions change and many of the most popular countries of yesteryear are no longer so popular, while others



BCPSG 2014 Treasurer's Report

*By John Seidl
Treasurer*

| BCPSG Income Statement - 2014 | BCPSG Balance Sheet - 2014 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|--|------|------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------|----------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|--|----------|----------|--------------------------|------|------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Financial Statements in U.S. Dollars</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| REVENUE | | ASSETS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dues Payments & Donations | \$ 10,264.15* | Current Assets | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Advertising Revenue | 1,775.00 | <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">2014</th> <th style="text-align: center;">2013</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Money market: U.S. Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$23,711.69</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$28,801.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cash - U.K. Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">304.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,390.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cash - U.S. PayPal Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">11,668.50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7,176.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inventory: (Trinidad books, less future commission)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4,815.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5,265.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Accrued Bond/CD Interest</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.37</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.88</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Current Assets</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$40,501.56</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$42,635.81</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | 2014 | 2013 | Money market: U.S. Account | \$23,711.69 | \$28,801.10 | Cash - U.K. Account | 304.00 | 1,390.24 | Cash - U.S. PayPal Account | 11,668.50 | 7,176.59 | Inventory: (Trinidad books, less future commission) | 4,815.00 | 5,265.00 | Accrued Bond/CD Interest | 2.37 | 2.88 | Total Current Assets | \$40,501.56 | \$42,635.81 |
| | 2014 | 2013 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Money market: U.S. Account | \$23,711.69 | \$28,801.10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cash - U.K. Account | 304.00 | 1,390.24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cash - U.S. PayPal Account | 11,668.50 | 7,176.59 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Inventory: (Trinidad books, less future commission) | 4,815.00 | 5,265.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Accrued Bond/CD Interest | 2.37 | 2.88 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Current Assets | \$40,501.56 | \$42,635.81 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Book Sales (after commissions) | 99.80 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net Revenue | \$ 12,138.95 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| COST OF GOODS SOLD | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cost of Goods Sold (excluding books) | \$ 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gross Profit (Loss) | \$ 12,138.95 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EXPENSES | | TOTAL ASSETS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Editor Stipend - BCPSG <i>Journal</i> | \$2,000.00 | \$40,501.56 \$42,635.81 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BCPSG Awards (Award payment, award expenses) | 833.01 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Envelopes, <i>Journal</i> inserts, etc. | 329.25 | LIABILITIES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Postage Charges | 2,027.22 | Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Publishing Expense, BCPSG <i>Journal</i> | 5,679.55 | \$18,200.00 \$16,750.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Morgan Stanley Fee | 150.00 | Lifetime Members | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Membership Expenses | 125.00 | 1,625.00 1,113.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ABPS Dues | 56.50 | Paid Forward Members | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| APS Advertisement | 55.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Web Site Expense | 33.90 | Total Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Expenses | \$11,289.53 | \$19,825.00 \$17,863.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net Operating Income | \$ 849.42 | Equity + | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OTHER INCOME | | \$20,676.56 \$24,773.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Interest/Dividend Income | \$ 3.13 | Net Income/Loss | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Other Income | 3.13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net Income (Loss) | \$852.55 | TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | \$ 40,501.56 \$ 42,636.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

* Odd amount due to U.K. currency



such as British Guiana, Dominica and Montserrat have come to the fore. At the present moment I would say the real dogs are Bahamas, Grenada and Virgin Islands so if you are looking for a nice quiet area to build a collection, check out those three. Bermuda and Cayman Islands used to be the biggest players but are no longer so far ahead of the pack, while the Saints remain popular but not so expensive as they were about 20-30 years ago. Within general collecting fashions one current "fad" is for plate pieces, especially plate blocks, neglected for too long I would say, but the market may not have distinguished between plate numbers that identify printings and those that simply look pretty. I see ridiculous bids for single plate 1 singles on eBay when there is no plate 2. There is strong demand for the early QE definitives NH, especially in plate blocks and

varieties in all shapes and forms continue to rise in value, but the market in watermark varieties seems to have topped out for the commoner varieties. In the more specialized areas, covers, especially early pre-adhesives, seem to have a stronger following than for some years and buyers are now more knowledgeable about rates and routes so the unusual ones command a premium. The same went for proof and essay material until the Vestey sale, but I suspect there will be more bargains here before the market settles.

More generally, until a few of those 50 million Chinese collectors begin to take an interest in BWI, I wonder whether the market will be going anywhere fast. If that occurs, take cover!



Reading Other People's Mail

By Guy Kilburn



Air Letter from 1946 offers interesting philatelic history

The letter shown in *Figure 1* is an interesting look back at history. It was written by Colonel Hector G. Reid, CMG, CBE, DSO, FRPSL. There are many interesting and fascinating facets of BWI philately found in the letter. Colonel Reid was president of the Soufriere Economic and Progressive Society and vice president of The St. Lucia Legion.

Clearly, he was a very busy man who led an active and adventurous life. In this February 25, 1946 Air Letter to his stamp collector friend, Capt. Frank Staff, Reid describes his activities in St. Lucia just after World War II, mentions his service in World War I, and his contribution to building the first atomic bomb. For those who collect St. Lucia, Reid is well known as the editor of the *St. Lucia Philatelist*, which was published by Robson Lowe in 1948. The last of the four issues appeared in 1952 and the information contained in those small booklets was a revelation to collectors. Even today the information can be relied upon to point philatelists in the right direction.

For those interested in learning more about this man whose life included the first half of the 20th Century and all its agony and glory, please read the brief biography in the *British West Indian Philatelist*, Vol. 1, No. 4 (June 1950). There is a photo of Col. Reid as well as his address to the February 13, 1950 meeting of the St. Lucia Philatelic Society. Google can guide you.

Here is the information from the *British West Indian Philatelist*.

“Colonel Hector Gowans Reid, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., born in Picton, Ontario, Canada, on the 6th of June 1881, and educated at Upper Canada College, and later at the Royal Military College. Served in the South African war, 1899-1902 and commissioned to the Army Service Corps in 1900. Married Edythe Alsop Brook of Adelaide, Australia in 1905. In 1906 seconded for service in the Canadian Government, while two years later he was in Australia, and from 1913-18 in New Zealand. In the first world war 1914-18, he was six times mentioned in despatches relating to fighting in Gallipoli, Germany, and France with distinguished honours of obtaining the Star, General Service and Victory medals. He was with the British Military Mission 1919-20. In 1920-21 he received the Iraq General service medal: 1922-24 R.A.F. as Colonel in Chief of Administration in Palestine. From 1926-30 was Colonel in charge of R.A.S.C., while from 1930-38 was at the Hudson Bay Company, and with the RCAF 1940-44. From 1945 was private secretary to the Governor of Barbados. His pastime and main hobby has always been stamps, and is a Fellow



Figure 1
Air Letter from Colonel H.G. Reid in 1946.

of the Royal Philatelic Society London and President of the Caribbean Philatelic Association and the St. Lucia Philatelic Society, the island in which he resides. Col. Reid has done much to encourage the hobby among collectors, as he founded the Caribbean Philatelic Association.”

The letter follows:

My dear Staff,

I was delighted to hear from you that you had arrived safely in Germany complete with the collection and library to say nothing of the rest of the family. I was with the Army of Occupation in Germany after the last war. We closed down Cologne and moved over to Weisbaden(,) a nice spot but unfortunately I did not see a great deal of it as I was shortly placed on half pay and went to live in Italy for a year.

I was very tempted to send you an ordinary air mail letter so that I could send you three or four pounds to buy stamps for me(,) but as you were moving I changed my mind and am writing an Air letter form first and as soon as I hear again from you I will send you a cheque so that you can pick up anything that you think might interest me. If it doesn't I can always dispose of it to some other member of my society.

We have recently held quite a successful exhibition. The President and two members of the Groupement Philatelique Antillais from Martinique came over and staged an interesting exhibit

of France & French Colonies. He brought a lot for sale and to my surprise sold more than three hundred dollars worth(,) enough to pay their hotel bill and buy some of the necessities of life of which they are very short in Martinique. I am now toying with the idea of forming a philatelic congress for the West Indies. English, American, French & Dutch and staging an Exhibition in Barbados next December.

I have now taken a house in Castries and running a small guest house to keep my hand in pending the return to my hotel in Vigie. I cannot see the Garrison being kept here much longer than the end of the year. I am also getting a small paid job as Tourist Commissioner. We are forming a limited liability Company to promote & control the Tourist Trade. Our first objective is to get another company formed to build a decent hotel of about 80 (?) rooms. I am also Chairman of the rehabilitation Committee but I devote much of my time to stamps!

I was very intrigued with the article on Crowned Circle stamps which appeared recently in the Philatelist. By the way(,) Robson Lowe wrote me a very encouraging letter re my stamp design, which was praise indeed coming from an author who condemned all modern stamp design.

Hope by now you have caught up with your stampless covers as I am looking forward to getting some more from you. I have just mapped out my "postmarks," "Cachets" and "Cancellations" and I now know what I am doing: before this I was working in the dark.

Overleaf

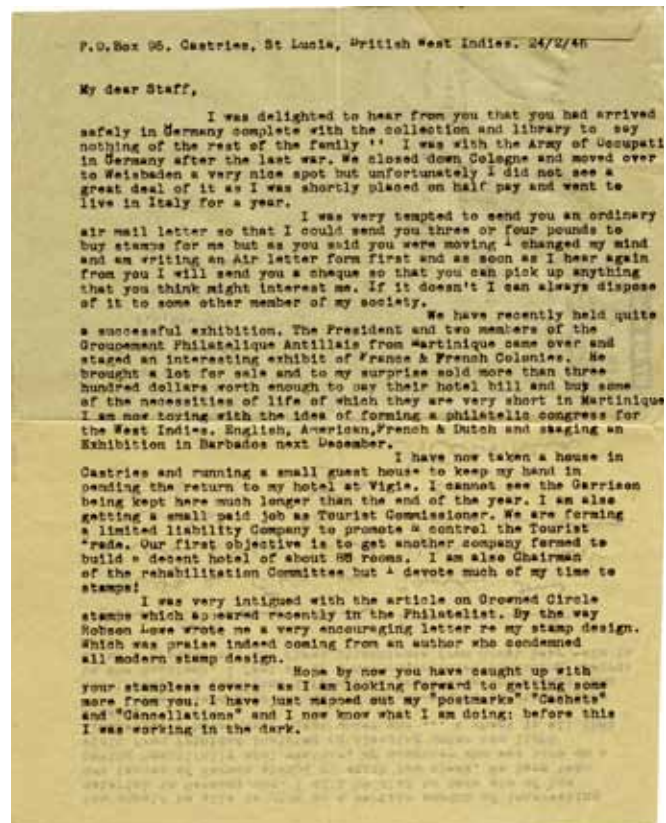
You should be able to pick up a certain amount of interesting material in Germany now. I will be glad to have any of the new issues of German stamps of which you speak. We have been having beautifully cool weather. My daughter who was here on a visit from Trinidad insisted on sleeping under two light blankets!! I have never slept under one ... a sheet is all that I need.

There seems to be quite a how-do-you-do in Ottawa over the leakage of important information concerning the Atomic bomb to the Russians. I feel as if I had contributed something to it as I brought out the first pitchblende from Great Bear Lake in 1932.

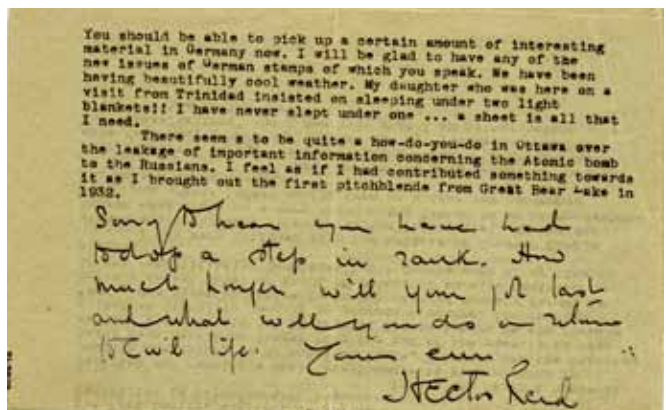
(Handwritten:.) Sorry to hear you have had to drop a step in rank. How long will your job last and what will you do on return to civil(ian) life.

Your ??
Hector Reid

On February 13, 1950, Colonel Reid addressed a meeting of The St. Lucia Philatelic Society. Here is what he had



The inside of the Air Letter in Figure 1 is shown above, with the overleaf below.



to say: "In welcoming you here today I wish to say how much Soufriere feels honoured in being chosen for your annual general meeting to which I should like to express my own deep appreciation for the pleasure you have given me in holding it in my own house. MEMBERSHIP: There are some 18 corresponding members of which 10 are in good standing. Of the 17 annual members, there are 10 also in good standing. Considering the difficult times through which we have been passing the state of the society can be regarded as satisfactory. It is to be hoped though that members in future will be able to devote more time to the hobby and will be able to increase our membership.

"ST. LUCIA PHILATELIST. The second number of this publication has appeared and has met with a good press.

Continued on page 24

Addiss and Durnin awards

By Charles Freeland

The jury for the Addiss Award for Lifetime Achievement in Philatelic Writing and Research (Ed Barrow, Keith Moh and myself) had an easier task than they have often experienced in selecting the winner for this prestigious award even though there are multiple candidates. Their choice fell on Giorgio Migliavacca, principally for his specialized Virgin Island catalogue published in 2001, although it also recognizes his enormous contribution to philatelic literature in general through his multiple publications related to Italian postal history, as well as his efforts over many years to publicize Virgin Islands philately.

The same jury selects the winner of the Durnin Award for the best research article published in the four 2014 journals. This was more difficult as no single article stood out as outstanding philatelic research. The jury concluded that the sequence of articles by David Horry on GVI postmarks, this time for British Guiana and St. Lucia, backed up by his intriguing articles on Bahamas and Jamaica WWII history, merited the award.

As usual, we would like to commend a couple of other authors who appeared on our shortlist. Raj Ramphal has for some years been contributing an interesting column on British Guiana and Hap Pattiz again provided the editor with a stream of articles on BWI censorship. While those streams are welcome, we feel sure the editor would welcome some new names among the journal's contributors. I recall with embarrassment my early efforts as an author but out of small acorns ... so do not be put off, Everett and I are here to give you guidance if necessary.

Reading Other People's Mail

Continued from page 23

We are now assembling the material for the next issue. Amongst other interesting articles there will be a comprehensive review of all the post office date and other hand-stamps which have been in use from the beginning in the post offices of the island. We are still trying to find the date of opening for the following post offices: Gros Islet, Laborie, Anse-la-Raye and Micoud. They were opened sometime after 1885. If any information can be found, we will be very glad to hear from them. I would like to take this opportunity to express the society's thanks for the grants which the Tourist Board has kindly made towards the cost of this publication. We feel that it is a worthwhile publication and should help considerably in boosting the sale of stamps to philatelists and thus increase the revenue of the Colony. It makes a welcome gift to philatelic friends in other parts of the world and we hope that members will bear this in mind placing their orders.

"DESIGN OF STAMPS. As result of representations made by the society, we have succeeded in reducing the number of designs in the decimal currency issue to two. I feel sure we are all agreed that the new designs are adequate and appropriate.

"COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE. Again as the result of representations made by the society, we have succeeded in getting approval for a stamp to commemorate the labour and fortitude of the people of Castries in the reconstruction of their city. Tentative designs have been submitted and it is to be hoped that we will not be ashamed of the finished product. But I would ask our Legislators to insist upon see-

ing proofs of the design before the stamps are issued.

"NEW ISSUES. Mr. Walton was fortunate in finding a sheet of the six cent stamp without perforation on the left hand side of the sheet. These eight stamps would appear to be unique. The new coil stamps are issued in perforation 14 (1¢) and 14½ (2¢) which are different to those issued in sheet form. As there are very few coil stamps used these will be in demand and will doubtless popularise coil stamps in general which have been somewhat neglected by collectors.

"CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION. Was formed in 1947, the subscribing societies being British Guiana, Trinidad, St. Lucia, Jamaica and the Groupement Philatelique Antillais, Barbados joined in Barbados last. The G.P.A. has not been heard of since its president left for France last year. Through this Association we are affiliated with the British Philatelic Association and receive their magazine *Philately*. The Association held its first meeting and exhibition in Trinidad in May 1948. It was hoped to hold the second meeting and exhibition in Barbados in 1949 but this was not found possible, as the Barbados Philatelic did not join the Association until November 1949."

From the 1966 *Year Book of the Royal Military College of Canada*, we learned that Colonel Reid died at Soufriere, St. Lucia, on March 7, 1966. He had a distinguished military and philatelic career and in accordance with his wishes, he was buried at sea.

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.

SANDICAL 2015,
January 23-25,
San Diego, California

Darrell Ertzberger
Postal Stationery of British Honduras
Gold, United Postal Stationery Society
Marcus White Award

TEXPEX 2015,
February 27-March 1,
Grapevine, Texas

Peter Elias
Introduction to Spanish Thermal ATM Stamps and Their Varieties
Silver, Women Exhibitors Sterling Achievement Award
The Brooklyn Postal Dodgers (SF)
Vermeil, AAPE Creativity Award

ARIPEX 2015,
February 20-22,
Mesa, Arizona

Richard Maisel
The 19th Century Sailing Ship Stamps of British Guiana
Reserve Grand Award, Gold,
AAPE Award for Plan and Headings

John Wynns
Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Issue of British Guiana
Gold
Peru: 1897 Lima Post Office Issue (SF)
Reserve Grand Award, Gold

Trinidad & Tobago Proofs and Essays needed

Do you have any Trinidad and Tobago Proofs or Essays? Ed Barrow is currently researching this area and would be grateful for any information.
Please send details to: e.barrow1@gmail.com

Canal Zone: The 1926 Sesquicentennial Issue (SF)
Vermeil

Garfield-Perry March Party 2015,
March 19-21,
Cleveland, Ohio

Paul Larsen
French Sudan and Niger
Gold

St. Louis Stamp Expo 2015,
March 27-29,
St. Louis, Missouri

John Paré
The 1948 Wisconsin Issue: Production, First Day Covers, Postal Uses
Gold
The Development of Air mail Service Between Bermuda and the U.S. 1925-1939 (SF)
Gold

GRENADA

Breaking extensive specialized collection. Over 200 items now listed on my website with pre-stamp covers from C18th, QV classic issues with mint multiples, fine array of village postmarks on cover plus postal stationery and revenues.



www.pennymead.com

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



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

Elizabeth Ward Carter, 5406 Huntington Parkway, Bethesda, MD 20814 USA. Email: ewcmmw@aol.com. Collects Barbados, especially the 1906 *Olive Blossom*. Sponsor: Bob Stewart.

Dr. John K. Courtis, 2/106 Old Burleigh Road, Broadbeach, Queensland 4218, AUSTRALIA (Fellow, Royal Philatelic Society London). Sponsored by Everett Parker.

Gregory Frantz, 11631 Dunrich Rd., Parker, CO 80138 USA. Email: gfcaptain2@gmail.com. Collects world steamship and first issues. Sponsored by Charles Cwikala. Free electronic membership, 2015.

Jeff Lough, 2610 Redbud, Apt. C, Lawrence, KS 66046 USA. Email: jeffydplaugh@gmail.com. Sponsored by Duane Larson. Free electronic membership, 2015.

Address Changes

B. Reid Hill, P.O. Box 326, Blaine, WA 98231-0326 USA

Dropped for Non-Payment of Dues

John Sutter, Daniel Hurtz

Updated Member Information

Simon Richards, Heathercombe House, Drayton, St. Leonard, Wallingford OX10 7BG UNITED KINGDOM

Deceased

Dempsey J. Prappas
David L. Herendeen

Attempt to Contact

Mail for the following Life Members is returned.

Does anyone have a current address?

Dr. John Harper, United Kingdom;
M.R. Gollop, United Kingdom; Jeffrey K. Weiss, U.S.

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 rstewart19@comcast.net.

Also, if you have friends who might be interested in joining, let me know and I will send them a complimentary issue of the Journal.

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS



NEVIS



'NEVIS – THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY (1661–1890)' by Federico Borromeo, FRPSL and Charles Freeland, FRPSL. This is the first definitive handbook on Nevis to be published since the slim booklet by Fred Melville in 1910. Despite its small size, this island has attracted collectors from the earliest days. The book traces the pre-stamp history and examines the early Nissen & Parker issues in great detail and goes on to describe the evolution of the De La Rue printings. It also includes chapters on postal stationery, revenue issues and forgeries. This book is a must for all BWI collectors.

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President's Message

By Duane Larson

For those of you who did not attend the 2015 AGM in conjunction with the Denver ROMPEX show, you missed a very good time! About 20 members, wives and guests attended our informal society dinner Friday evening at Ted's Montana Grill (with several enjoying bison from the Ted Turner Ranch). But the highlight of the show was the BCPSG member's exhibits, 13 in all, gathering many of the top show awards including Richard Maisel's "Nineteenth Century Sailing Ships of British Guiana," which won the ROMPEX Grand Award! Richard also won the Cameron Award as the best BCPSG exhibit of the show. Even the judges were impressed with the exceptional quality of the BCPSG exhibits!

The General Meeting drew a crowd of 18, with two guests and we signed up three new members at the show. Other BCPSG awards presented at the AGM were: **The Durnin Award:** David Horry for the "Best Article Published in the BCPSG Journal."

Also, **The Addiss Award:** Giorgio Migliavacca, for Lifetime Achievement in Philatelic Writing and Research; **The Cooley Award:** Bob Stewart, for Lifetime Service to the BCPSG; **The Stern Award** – Peter Ford, for New Exhibitor's First Exhibit. (See separate article by Charles Freeland on page 24.)

You might want to make plans now to attend next year's 2016 AGM, being held in New York City in conjunction with the big international eight day show. The BCPSG is planning to share a table with the BWISC and the Bermuda Collectors Society and is also planning a special seminar and luncheon at a yet to be determined site. (Speakers will be needed for the seminar. If you are interested in giving a 30 minute power-point presentation, contact me by August. Watch for more definite plans in the next issue. The 2017 AGM is planned for Chicago and 2018 is set for Eleuthera in the Bahamas. Think Ahead! One last item: Longtime member and Past President Ben Ramkissoon has resigned from his positions of Publications Officer, APS Representative and Trinidad & Tobago and Anguilla Group Leader, due to health reasons. Ben, we thank you for your many years of devoted service to the BCPSG.



Bob Stewart captures Cooley Award for Lifetime Service!

Bob Stewart has been selected as the winner of this year's Robert J. Cooley Award for Lifetime Service to the BCPSG. The award was established with a generous donation from the late Robert Cooley and is recognized as the group's highest honor. The award was announced during the group's recent annual general meeting at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Exhibition in Denver, Colorado.

Every group has a person behind the scenes who is essential to the smooth running of the organization. In the British Caribbean Philatelic Group, that person is Bob Stewart. In his position as membership director, he is responsible for keeping all the essential membership records and dealing with new membership applicants. He also plays a major role in keeping the *Journal* mailing list up to date.

Without exception, new members and officers who have dealt with Bob have found him to be incredibly responsive and efficient in responding to requests for information. Although generally operating out of public view, he consistently displays a work ethic and dedication to excellence that makes him well worthy of this honor.

-- Robert J. Wynstra



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(and QSL CARDS)

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Price: £16.00 (approx. \$24.00). BWISC Members' Price: £14.00 (approx. \$21.00).



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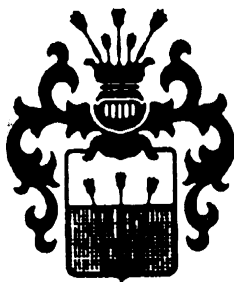
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