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The Jamaica Earthquake of 1907 and the Barbados Relief Fund Issue



*Dingle Smith discusses the
earthquake and the Barbados
stamps issued for relief,
beginning on page 9.*



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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

St. Vincent Handbook 1899-1965

Amendments, corrections, additions & footnotes

By Roy Bond & Russell Boylan

In 2017, the British West Indies Study Circle published a substantial book, by the late Charles Freeland FRPS, Roy Bond and Russell Boylan, titled *St. Vincent Handbook 1899-1965*. The purpose of the book was to follow on the work of the outstanding handbook on St. Vincent philately by Pierce, Messenger and Lowe published in 1971. A copy of this excellent handbook for all serious St. Vincent collectors can be obtained from David Druett, Pen-nymead Books, 1 Brewerton Street, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire, HG5 8AZ, United Kingdom.

Here, we present an update, which includes a couple of minor corrections and some additional information.

Chapter 4: 1907-11 Coat of Arms Issue.

Page 48: Checklist: Perforations are shown as being 14 comb or line; however, the single printing of the 6d without the dot beneath the “d,” listed by Stanley Gibbons as SG#100, was perforated both comb and line in that single printing, one of the authors having a block of this 6d with line perforations as shown below.



Page 50: Checklist: Perforations are referred to as being 14 comb with a statement that “Line perfs have not been seen” One of the authors has now in his

possession the 3d value in an upper right marginal block of six in line perf. Since the UPU specimen is line perf, it is believed that the first consignment of 9,900 stamps were line perf with the second printing of 26,400 stamps being comb perf.



Chapter 7: King George Definitives.

Page 81: 1938-47 Table of Plate numbers: SG#150: One of the authors has now identified a further 1d plate/vignette number with a CTO block x 4 numbered 2/2.

Page 82-83: Printings: In a number of denominations the authors refer to July 1945 printings as does Potter & Shelton. However, the authors note that the



Consignment Table presented on pages 242-43 for ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2½d, 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/- & 5/- and £1 show the shipping date as September 20, 1945. This being the case, the authors believe that the references to July 1945 printing should now be read as October 1945 which would have been the earliest date that the consignment could have been issued considering shipping times.

The printing consignment prior to this was August 23, 1944, which coincided with the September 1944 issue.

Page 82: KGVI 2½d reprint 1947: It is stated in the text: "There was a reprint of this stamp 19 January 1947" But in checking the Consignment Table, it shows SG153a printing "dispatched 11 Sep 1946." If correct then why wasn't it issued until January 19, 1947? Likely because there were still copies from the previous printing in stock at the Crown Agents Bureau, much enlarged by large numbers returned from some of the dealers, who purchased stamps from the Crown Agents on a sale or return basis!

Page 87: Plate Numbers table: There appears to be a typographical error here as this table shows four rows of SG 165 2¢ listed as "black & green," which should read "blue and lake brown" as shown in the checklist table farther on in this report.

Section 10.4 Registered Envelopes

Page 129: 1902 Envelopes: The authors can report on a further used copy of the H2 size dated October 12, 1908 uprated with 2d orange (SG #96) and 1/2d green (SG #94) commercially used from KINGSTON (inverted year plug in postmark) with black/

white registration label "Saint Vincent" to Gera/Germany with London transit mark (2.11.) and arrival postmark (3.11.) on reverse.

Picture Postcard May 20, 1902

This picture postcard was written on board the SS *Assaye* when it was approaching the island of St. Vincent on May 20, 1902, by a "N. Cornel" to a personal friend on the island of Guernsey in the Channel Islands.

On arrival at Kingstown, St. Vincent it was found that the General Post Office was out of operation due to the breakdown of operation following the eruption of the Soufriere volcano on May 7-8, 1902. It was reported that the postal service was not restored to full operation until June 30, 1902. This letter was therefore retained by the Purser on the SS *Assaye* until it finally arrived at Southampton at the end of May 1902, where it was posted by the Purser via the Overseas branch of the GPO in London.

The SS *Assaye* was built in 1899 at Caird's shipyard in Greenock. It had a gross weight of just 7,376 tons, a capacity to carry between 1,000 and 1,100 passengers with rather modest comfort, at a maximum speed of 16 knots. While P&O were the owners, it spent most of its time as a troop transport ship, initially in the second Boer War then again in both World War I and II. It also had a military hospital capability with up to 40 beds on board.

It was used to transport troops of the British Army out to the second Boer War in South Africa from early 1901 until the end of the hostilities in June 1902.

This specific voyage started on May 2, 1902 when the ship left Castletown, the military harbor just to the west of Capetown, with a cargo of several Boer leaders, including de Rey and Schleepers, who were to be shipped to St. Helena as internees for the rest of the hostilities. (In fact, they were only on St. Helena for about three months as a peace treaty was signed between the Boers and the British on May 31, 1902 at Veeringing.)

The ship arrived at St. Helena on May 10, 1902, unloaded the internees and was to



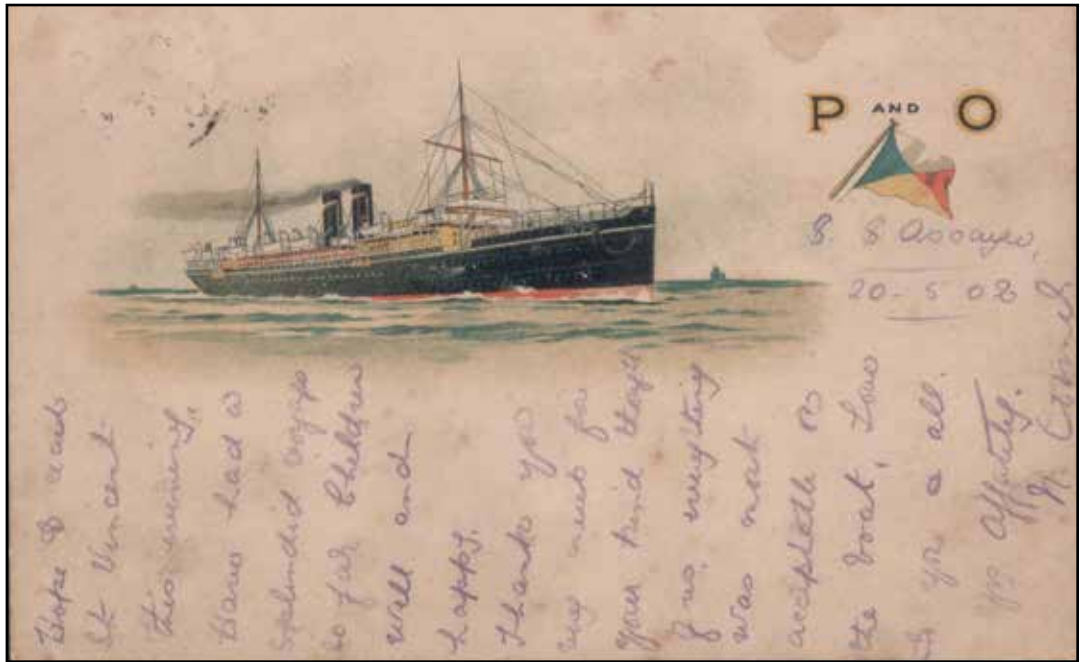
sail back to Great Britain the following day. However, a message arrived to order the captain to divert the ship (the military records for the Boer War, from whence the above information comes, does not mention where it was to be diverted to). However, if the ship was about to land at St. Vincent on the evening of May 20,

then with its speed restriction of about 12 to 14 knots, (about 300 miles every 24 hours), it can be computed that it would take about nine days to travel the approximately 2,700 miles from St. Helena to St. Vincent.

So *SS Assaye* was obviously diverted to St. Vincent to arrive about 13 days after the commencement of the eruption of Soufriere. Where some 320 survivors and refugees were taken on board to take them to Great Britain, the reports were that some 1,680 people out of a total population of some 2,700 lost their lives to the eruption, but approximately 700 people remained on the island.

This card was sent by what appears to be a Mrs. N. Cornel, as she has the children with her and indeed the whole tone of the letter is such as to display the words of a lady rather than a man. The question arises, however, whether Mrs. N. Cornel boarded the ship at Castletown or St. Helena? Further research is required on that point, but the name Cornel is known in South Africa as being a shortening or anglicizing of the Dutch name Cornelius. But there were very few instances where Boer civilians were shipped out, so she may well have come from St. Helena.

On arrival at Kingstown, St. Vincent it would have been found that the postal system had been severely disrupted by the effects of the volcanic eruption, so the card was kept on board the *Assaye* until it finally docked in London on May 31, 1902, where the Great



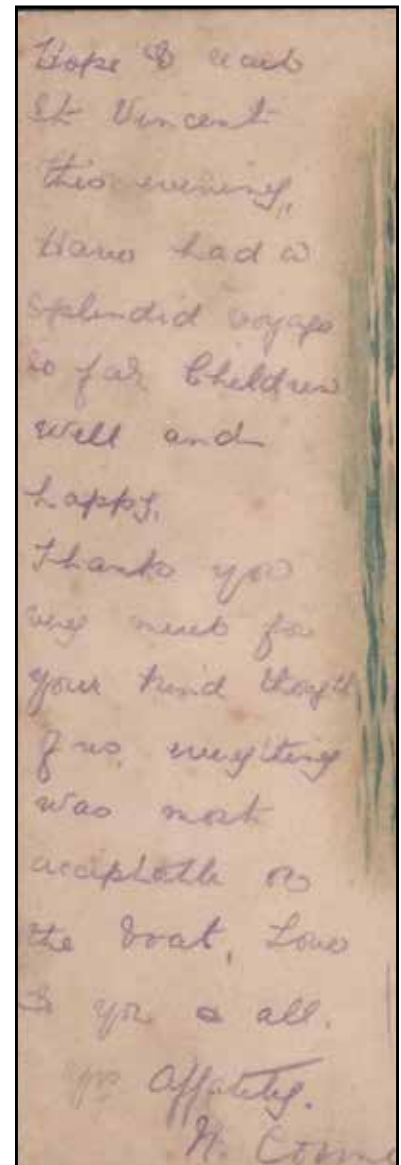
Britain stamp was added and it was cancelled by the Overseas Branch of the GPO and bagged up for the sea trip to Guernsey.

The message written on the reverse reads:

SS Assaye
20-5-02

Hope to reach St. Vincent this evening, have had a splendid voyage so far. Children well and happy. Thank you very much for your kind thoughts of us, everything was most acceptable on the boat, Love to you all. Yrs affectely.

N. Cornel



Grenada 1892 Postage Dues: The De La Rue Issues

By Hap Pattiz

Over the last little while, I have found a few things that are worthy of note with Grenada stamps. Those collectors who know me will remember my particular fascination with postage dues. So here are a few notes on the first postage dues of Grenada.

Grenada was the second British colony to issue postage dues (after Trinidad in 1885) with the first issues printed by De La Rue in early 1892. In used condition, these stamps (1d, 2d and 3d) [Scott #J1-3; SG #D1-3] are relatively common (see *Figure 1*).

On cover, these issues are rare, especially used in 1892. Illustrated are two covers used in 1892. The two of the lower values, the 1d and 2d, show local us-



Figure 1
Grenada's first set of postage due stamps, issued in 1892.



Figure 2
Grenada 1d postage due on 1892 cover.



Figure 3
Grenada 2d postage due on 1892 cover.

ages of the "drop mail" service, instituted in the summer of 1892, likely to accommodate local merchants (*Figure 2* and *Figure 3*). This led to the experimental issuance of the second postage due issues (Scott #J4-7; SG #D4-7) in August and October 1892 (see *Figure 4*). This second issue of dues was withdrawn in November 1892.

The high value of the De La Rue first issue (the 3d) is the most recent addition to my collection (*Figure 5*). What is particularly noteworthy is the 3d shows the constant De La Rue variety of the reduced upper serif of

the “3” which comes on the first stamp of Row 1 of the sheet. This variety occurs on the 3d value at the same position from 1892 (the first issue), though the second 3d issue (Scott #J10, SG #D10) to the end of the use of Sterling dues in Grenada in 1952 (3d, Scott #J14, SG #D14).

De La Rue set up sheets for dues for each colony separately. Those for Grenada remained in use for

the full 60 years from 1892 to 1952. There are a number of varieties on each of the original plate varieties (1d, 2d, 3d), which will be discussed and shown in a later article. It’s worth noting that the plate varieties for other colonies which had postage dues printed by De La Rue generally do not have the same variations as found on Grenada dues, but have different varieties than those of Grenada.



Figure 4
Grenada's second set of postage due stamps, also issued in 1892.

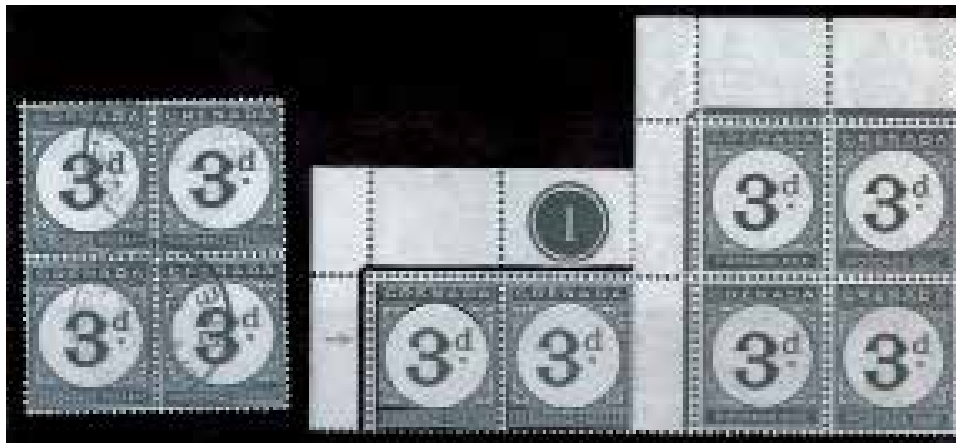


Figure 5
The three 3d dues sterling issues for Grenada showing R 1/1, reduced, clipped serif at upper left.

The Jamaica Earthquake and the Barbados Relief Fund Issue

By Dingle Smith

The Kingston Earthquake of January 14, 1907 and the fires that followed resulted in a major disaster with widespread damage to the Jamaican capital. Several hundred residents were killed, and many thousands rendered homeless and there were major interruptions to mail to and from the island. Recently I acquired a picture postcard with the manuscript date of "15 Jan/1907." It was posted on board a ship in Kingston Harbour to an address in Toledo, Ohio. The poignant message

concludes with "Greetings from Hell." The front and back of the card are illustrated in *Figure 1a* and *Figure 1b*.

The sender comments that there were "1,000 dead, 65,000 homeless, city in ashes" and "3 killed at my side." It would appear that at the time the earthquake struck, the writer was actually in the city. It is also worthy of note that his estimates of the numbers killed and homeless closely match those given in later official estimates. Although the earthquake was severe it did not appear to have caused any major damage to shipping that was already in the harbor.

The card was "posted" on board a vessel bound for Barbados and has a datestamp of the GPO in Barbados for 9 a.m. on January 22, 1907 and a boxed "Posted on Board" marking of a type used in Barbados between April 22, 1905 and February 12, 1966.

The card and its message provide an invaluable addition to my picture postcard exhibit on "The Kingston Earthquake of 1907." However, further research shows a link to the production by the Barbados government of the "Kingston Relief Fund" overprints. The prestigious *Illustrated London News* of January 19, 1907 has an account of the earthquake under the headline "Our Fairest West Indian Town Wrecked by Earthquake: Kingston, Jamaica" (see *Figure 2*, next page). The speed with which it managed to produce this article and the accompanying text complete with pre-earthquake photos of Kingston probably taken from picture postcards, is remarkable and are testimony to the use of telegraphy at that time.

The accompanying write-up mentions "a great number of distinguished English visi-

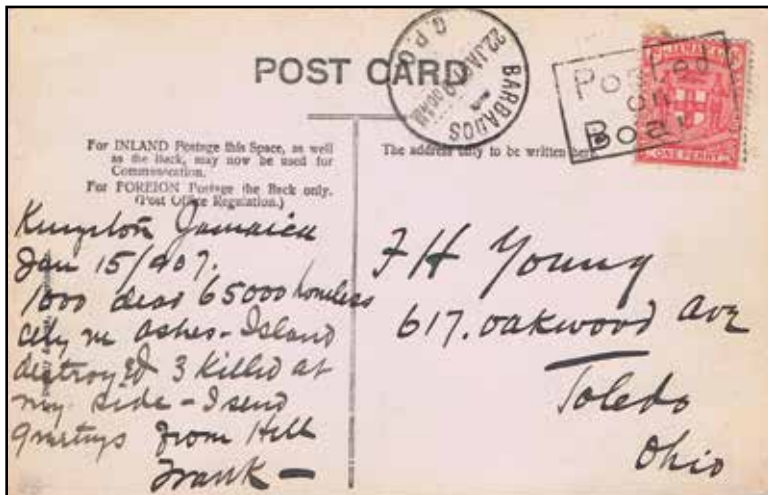


Figure 1a (above) and 1b (below).

Postcard from 1907 with poignant message, "Greetings from Hell" posted on board vessel to Barbados, January 15, 1907. Below, the view on the postcard, published by Duperly & Sons, Kingston.





Figure 2
The report in the Illustrated London News, published on January 19, 1907.

tors who had gone to the West Indies for the Agricultural Conference were believed to be in Kingston at the time, including the Earl and Countess of Dudley.” The account also reports that Sir James Morrison, a former Postmaster General (of Jamaica) was “reported killed in the earthquake.” The agricultural conference included a delegation from Barbados, which at the time was renowned for its expertise in the cultivation of sugar cane. Edward Bailey in *The Stamps of Barbados* (1989, pp. 98-100) notes that the Speaker of the Barbados House of Assembly was a member of the delegation which is thought to have boarded the vessel for their voyage home shortly before the earthquake struck. On their arrival back in Bridgetown, Barbados, the delegation met with the Governor of Barbados and a “Governor-in-Executive” Committee was immediately arranged which was open to the public. At that meeting it was announced that a Relief Fund was to be launched for the “sufferers of the severe earthquake in Kingston, Jamaica.” Further, that to allow

wider participation, the current 2d postage stamps would be overprinted “Kingston Relief Fund 1d” with each stamp sold contributing 1d to the fund.

With admirable speed the overprinted stamps were placed on sale on June 25, 1907. The first printing was quickly sold out and promptly followed by a second printing, one sheet of which was sold with the overprint inverted.

The Governor, Sir Gilbert Carter, in order to prevent speculation, immediately instructed the issue of a further 20,000 stamps with the printing inverted. Overall it is thought that 50,000 of the inverted and un-inverted relief stamps were sold. The remainders were officially destroyed on April 25, 1907. These are illustrated in *Figure 3*.

UPU Specimens

A philatelic byway of the Kingston Relief Fund stamps is that they were sent to the UPU in Berne

for circulation to member nations devoid of any form of specimen overprint. The specimen overprints for all other postage stamps of Barbados sent to the UPU from the issue of 1873 until 1947 are described in Benham (2015). The reason for this is likely that the overprinting of the Relief stamps was undertaken on the island, while for most issues De La Rue in London were the printers and it was the practice for them to send the appropriate number of overprinted stamps direct to UPU.

both uninverted and inverted overprints. These are truly unique items.

Barbados was the only postal authority to issue relief stamps for the Kingston earthquake, prompted in part by the reports of the delegation to the International Agricultural Conference in Kingston. The role of the Governor especially in ordering the reprinting of the inverted overprints to avoid speculation is also worthy of praise. I have not checked



Figure 3a

Mint examples of the Kingston Relief Fund 1d overprints, uninverted (left) and inverted.



Figure 3b

“Specimen” handstamps applied in Tunisia to stamps circulated by the UPU in Berne.

Those interested in specimen overprints will know that some of the receiving postal authorities added their own markings on receipt of the stamps from Berne. One such example was Tunisia, at that time a French colony, and from 1885 to 1937 they used a specimen overprint (Type TUN1 in Benham, p. 32) after the incoming stamps had been affixed to thin card. At the time of publication in 2015, Benham had not seen examples of the Barbados Kingston Relief Fund Tunisian specimen stamps. They have, however, subsequently appeared in the philatelic marketplace and were recently purchased from Benham. These are illustrated in *Figure 3* and include

through the philatelic history of comparable issues of other relief fund stamps but undoubtedly Barbados was one of the first.

References

- Benham, James. *UPU Specimen Stamps 1878-1961*. Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxford Book Projects, 2015.
- Bayley, Edmund A. *The Stamps of Barbados*. Bridgetown, Barbados: Cole's Printery, 1989.

A glimpse at the past ...

Watermark Varieties Revisited

By Charles A. Freeland

What is the difference between a stamp collector and a philatelist? There are many, of course, but one criterion I suggest is what he first looks at on the back of a stamp. The collector looks at the hinge marks and the philatelist looks at the watermark.

There can be rich rewards for those lucky enough to find unrecognized watermark varieties. On the other hand, some relatively common varieties command high prices (in the U.K. market, at least), so the moral, as elsewhere, is that knowledge will pay dividends.

The *BWISC Bulletin* of September 1981 contained a checklist of BWI watermark varieties known to me. George Bowman has asked me to update that list and to add some observations about the collecting of watermark varieties. The checklist at the end of this article has a wider coverage than that which appeared in the *Bulletin*.

Firstly, while still omitting Perkins-Bacon "Star" watermarks, it includes printings by De La Rue from the Perkins-Bacon plates (both CC and CA watermarks) which I omitted from the earlier listing because I did not regard them as particularly significant. I still do not, since it appears that there were technical considerations concerning the glazings of the paper, which meant that some sheets were deliberately fed upside down, leading to cases in which certain issues show frequent (and in a few instances invariable) reversed watermarks. Even where this is not the case, the operators at this period seem to have taken no great trouble to insert the paper at the correct angle so that inverted watermarks abound and even sideways watermarks are not unknown. I have taken no great pains in the past to note reports of watermark varieties on such issues, so the listing in that respect can be regarded as a first effort which is bound to be incomplete to some degree.

The second difference between the coverage of this list and its predecessor is that it now includes Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and the early De La Rue issues of St. Vincent. The first two of these were omitted from the earlier list because I do not collect

these countries, but knowing the strong Jamaican interest among our members, I have this time included the varieties I have noted in print (most of them in Bridger & Kay's *Five Reigns Catalogue*), although I realize there are likely to be many omissions. The early St. Vincent De La Rue issues are included because an earlier issue of the *BWISC Bulletin* had contained a comprehensive listing compiled by Vincent Duggleby.

Thirdly, I have this time included the few varieties known in the reign of King George VI, although I continue to omit the stamps of the present reign. These last are included in Stanley Gibbons' Elizabethan catalogue for those who are interested.

One problem in compiling a checklist of watermark varieties is that owners of stamps, particularly dealers and auctioneers, but also, on occasion, collectors, may be tempted to believe they are looking at a variety when in fact, they are not. Maybe the watermark is off-register, or there is some feature of the cancellation or gum which gives a false impression, but I have often had to return phantom varieties. A second problem is that watermark errors are often mis-classified; for instance, there is a tendency to report reversed watermarks as inverted. This can arise both from ignorance and from carelessness.

My personal practice when ordering from dealers or bidding at auctions is to ask that the variety be rechecked before being sent to me. But even that is not foolproof. Sometimes one can profit from misconceptions; for example, when a variety is described as inverted is found to be sideways. Reputable philatelic literature is also not infallible; for example, Charlton records the Grenada King George V 1/- black on green as existing with Script watermark inverted. I feel sure that he was referring to the relatively common Multiple Crown inverted. Alternatively, Aguilar and Saunders lists a 1922 1/4d with Script watermark inverted; this, I believe, may have been a mis-reading of the inverted and reversed variety. Unfortunately, it is usually impossible to establish the truth in such cases, since it can

only be proved and never disproved that a particular variety exists. I have this time followed the intellectually dubious practice of including all of the varieties which I have seen reported (omitting, of course, those I have personally verified as being incorrectly described), but with a query against those varieties whose existence has not yet been established to my own full satisfaction. I would be pleased to have confirmation of any of those so marked in my listing.

Another difficulty occurs with respect to shade differences. As in the *Bulletin* listing, I have not tried to differentiate, except in a few obvious cases, between shades, since their identification tends to be somewhat unreliable. The numbers given, therefore, may be taken to refer also to shades of the same stamp except in cases where two different shades are listed.

If it does not sound too pretentious, I believe that any varieties not on the list (with the exception of those parts of it which I have already noted as being incomplete) must be scarce. However, the fact that I am still adding to the list at the rate of about 10 items per year means that new discoveries are still there to be made. If previous experience is any guide, a new crop of varieties will come to my notice as soon as this article appears in the *Journal*. There is, moreover, no guarantee that a "new" variety will turn out to be very scarce -- it may, for example, be part of a sheet or large block in the same way as the St. Kitts 2/- (SG #32) reversed watermark recently found in an old dealer's stock.

As a possible indication of where to search, I suggest that you try specimens or sets such as Tercentenary issues where few collectors would have bothered to look at watermarks. Those who have large collections of cancellations could usefully run through them, too. You are less likely to find an unrecorded variety on a stamp which exists with two different types of watermarks (e.g., single and multiple Crown), since previous owners have probably checked the watermark type and would, in all probability, have noticed an error.

On the basis of the same reasoning, if you happen to come across an unrecorded variety on a stamp of this type, it is more likely to be a rarity. I have a feeling that there are still discoveries to be made with the first Key Type sets -- the Queen Victoria Key Types of Bahamas, Barbados, British Hondu-

ras, St. Vincent, and the Leeward Islands, for example. Otherwise, I suspect that the main opportunities will occur in the same old sets where so many varieties are already known, such as the Barbados 1920-21 Victory set or the Jamaica 1919-21 Script issues. Perhaps De La Rue's regular paper feeder was on holiday when these sets were printed!

The question everyone wants to know is: how much is a particular variety worth? Until a few years ago, it was anyone's guess, but the collector now has at least one yardstick -- the Bridger & Kay *Five Reigns Catalogue* issued in 1980. By no means are all the varieties listed at the end of the piece recorded in the B&K catalogue (not much more than half, in fact), nor are they all priced, but at least those that are priced reflect the experience of a dealer who trades in the material he quotes. I could, of course, quibble with some of the prices marked, but they bear more relation to scarcity than those of some other dealers, whose main criterion seems to be the catalogue value of the "normal" stamp. Of course, it is understandable that the Bermuda KGV £1 inverted watermark should carry a big price because of the value of the basic stamp, but is it justified to price other quite common varieties at, say, £100 just because the normal stamp catalogues £10? To take an obvious example, the Bermuda 1924 3d. with Script watermark inverted is one of the most common BWI watermark varieties, but because the basic stamp catalogues £20 in *Gibbons*, dealers ask anything from £25 upwards for it. You can find many such scarcer varieties for less than that. I would argue that if those prices are a true reflection of scarcity, the Bermuda inverted watermark 3d. should be priced at less than the same stamp with normal watermark!

An indication of what is or is not likely to be scarce is whether a variety is known in used condition. If several copies are on the market at one time, all mint, it is a fair assumption that they come from a sheet which was part of a dealer's distribution. Such sheets are likely to have suffered much less natural wastage than those issued over the post office counter. Indeed, where a dealer has recognized the variety and marketed it as such, there will be plenty of identified copies in the hands of collectors and probably stocks still in the trade.

Another factor to bear in mind is sheet size. Assuming that one sheet of a variety exists (which is,

of course, not invariably the case but is a reasonable hypothesis in the majority of instances), a variety of a stamp printed in sheets of 20 (such as the stamps of St. Christopher) is likely to be scarcer than those printed in sheets of 240. As one indication of the scarcity of individual items in the list, I have marked with a "C" those I believe from experience to be relatively common -- in most cases stamps which exist or have existed in sheets or large blocks. I am happy to correspond with members about the scarcity of the varieties in which they are particularly interested.

Therefore, I have assumed that the stamps we are dealing with normally show upright watermarks and that the paper has been wrongly fed into the press, either back to front (leading the watermark to become inverted), upside down (reversed), or both (inverted and reversed). There are, however, a number of other possible watermark varieties which do not fall into these categories.

Firstly, it is quite easy to find stamps with watermarks misplaced (either horizontally or vertically) because the paper was not inserted in the correct register. This may be manifested in a single CC or CA watermark off-center, or in the appearance of lines or letters from the margins of the watermarked paper. Secondly, a small number of stamps may be found with the watermark missing altogether. An interesting issue in this regard is the Turks and Caicos 1900 set, all the low values of which may be found showing instances of the two types of variety just mentioned. A plausible explanation of the reason for this is given by Morris Ludington in John Challis' recently issued *Roses* handbook on this territory. Thirdly, varieties of watermark can arise from an error of configuration in the watermarked paper itself. Perhaps the best known example of this is the Script watermarked paper used in the early 1950s, which can be found with one of the crowns missing or with the wrong shape of crown in the watermark.

Such varieties of this type of error as are known are listed by *Gibbons* in their Part I catalogue, but rather less attention has been paid to the equally arresting varieties caused by other defects in the dandy roll. In the early 1920s, for example, stamps were occasionally issued showing the "C" or the "A" missing from the CA in the Multiple Crown CA paper. I have noted reports of such flaws on the

Barbados 1920 Victory issue, the Bermuda 1920 2/- definitive, and the two Bermuda Tercentenary sets of 1920 and 1921. A similar occurrence apparently arose with the Multiple Script paper, since I have seen offered at auction a copy of the Dominica 5¢ definitive of 1951 with the "C" of "CA" missing.

Fourthly, and perhaps most spectacular of all, there is a possibility of the wrong watermarked paper being fed into the press. I cannot recall any instances of this in the period I am covering, but more recently there has been the notorious case of Malawi's special paper showing cockerels in the watermark being used in error for printing stamps of other countries.

A somewhat different type of variety occurs when the watermark is sideways. Sideways watermarks fall into two categories. First, there are the errors, which are mostly rare and tend to command higher prices than other varieties of equal scarcity. I have never read an explanation that satisfies me of how sideways watermark errors occurred. Whereas it would be quite easy to feed the paper back-to-front or upside-down, it would presumably not fit into the press if fed sideways. Be that as it may, sideways watermark varieties exist and they are justifiably regarded as major errors.

As an indication of their importance, the *Gibbons* Part One catalogue records sideways watermarks while declining to list inverted or reversed errors. Such cases are quite different from those where the paper has been deliberately fed into the press sideways (or, perhaps more accurately, where the stamp has been printed sideways). While this does not occur very frequently, it is surprising to learn that the majority of BWI countries had at least some stamps whose watermarks are sideways. The reason was nearly always the same -- De La Rue was being as cost-conscious as ever.

Most of the BWI stamps whose watermarks are sideways are the same size as the high value Key Plates used for Bermuda and the Leeward Islands, but of horizontal instead of vertical format (the Dominica and St. Kitts KGV definitives are good examples). De La Rue ingeniously made the sheet size the same and used the same paper, merely conducting the whole operation sideways in order to save the cost of new presses. There are, of course, one or two exceptions to this rule -- I cannot, for example, understand why three values of the 1899

British Guiana Jubilees should have sideways watermarks, nor the three high values of the Barbados "Victories" (the low values, of course, being upright) -- but it normally "holds good."

Watermark errors also occur on stamps whose watermarks are intentionally sideways. Where they appear reversed, or upright, such errors are plain to see, but where they are inverted (*i.e.*, the watermark reads to the left instead of to the right, or vice versa), the error cannot be discerned unless it is known what the normal orientation is. No catalogue, nor even the specialized handbooks (with the exception of Ludington's book on Bermuda), so far as I am aware, list the direction of sideways watermarks; however, if the collector is confronted by two stamps from the same printing with watermarks reading in opposite directions, it is obvious that one of them is inverted. There are almost certainly many new finds in this area waiting to be made. Inverted watermarks, and also reversed or inverted and reversed watermarks on sideways-watermarked paper, appear in the appropriate row of the checklist accompanied by the letter "S" to indicate that the watermark is sideways. In the very small number of cases in which upright watermarks are known on stamps normally watermarked sideways, I list them in a separate row. The rows marked "sideways" are reserved for errors only, so they do not contain the stamps intentionally printed sideways. I may add that the checklist does not include Perkins-Bacon issues on Star watermarked paper. These are quite common sideways and probably also inverted or reversed, but in such cases it is impossible to identify them unless parts of the marginal inscriptions are present.

I hope that I have been able to demonstrate that, while watermark varieties may not be visually spectacular items, they can be of considerable interest to specialists, fertile ground for new discoveries, and a chance for those who know their subject to steal a march on other collectors. What particularly puzzles me is why the middle period issues of certain countries (*e.g.*, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, and Jamaica) have so many examples of watermark errors, while those of Antigua, St. Lucia, Trinidad, and the Virgin Islands have so few. But please don't write with reports of inverted watermarks on the Grenada *tete-beche* issues, which, of course, occur on every second row.

It may be appropriate to close with a cautionary tale. In 1964, I was "conned" by a dealer who assured me that only one sheet existed, into paying £5 for an inverted watermark which now retails for about 50 pence. Not a great investment! Let that be a warning for those interested in the modern varieties, whose origins often strike me as somewhat dubious, and which for the most part exist in large numbers from dealer stocks of new issue sheets. While some varieties may turn out to be scarce, I would advise members to check that they have seen genuine postal use before paying good money.

It remains only to acknowledge contributions of countless members of the BCPSG and the BWISC to the checklist. In particular, I would like to record here my personal thanks to Steve Drewett, now a partner with the British dealer Steve Ellis, for his contributions across the whole range of BWI countries, as well as to Edmund Bayley (for Barbados), Vincent Duggleby (for St. Vincent), and Mike Wilson (for Turks and Caicos Islands).

EDITOR'S NOTE

This article was prepared by the late Charles Freeland, and originally printed as a two-part series in the October 1984 and December 1984 issues of the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal.

Some of the information may be dated, and the chart which follows has catalogue numbers from the 1984 edition of the Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue, Part I British Commonwealth.

There may be additional information extant, but a check of copies of the Journal for the following year (through 1985), had no additions, corrections or updates to Mr. Freeland's original research. If anyone has additional information, or would like to update the material provided here, please do so!

The checklist follows on the next three pages.

CHECKLIST -- BWI WATERMARK VARIETIES

(Numbers refer to Stanley Gibbons Part One, 1984 Edition)

LEGEND: (C) = relatively common; (S) = watermark normally sideways; (?) confirmation requested

ANTIGUA

Inverted: 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 (all C), 22?, 24, 36, 41, 57?, QV Stamp Duty 6d.

Reversed: 13 through 18 (all C), 25.

Inverted and Reversed: 13, 15, 17, 18, 24, 25, 27.

Sideways: 70.

BAHAMAS

Inverted: 20 through 31 (all C), 35(C), 39, 52, 58, 71(C), 74(C), 78, 98, 99, 102, 106?, 107, 108, 111(C), 112(C), 116(C), 116 Specimen, 120(S).

Reversed: 20 through 31 (all C), 33(C), 40(C), 43(C), 102, 105, 106, 112(C), 116(C), 118(S), S1 Special Delivery.

Inverted and Reversed: 24(C), 69, 71, 99(C), 107, 112, 116(C), 118(S).

Sideways: 107.

BARBADOS

Inverted: 68(C), 73(C), 74(C), 89, 91, 93, 98, 105, 106, 114, 119, 124, 145(C), 146, 147(C), 149, 181(C), 183(C), 185, 187a, 188, 190(C), 196, 197, 201, 202, 203, 206(C), 208, 209(S), 210(C,S), 211(S), 215, 220(C).

Reversed: 68(C), 72(C), 74(C), 76(C), 146, 147, 187, 189, 201, 202, 209(S), 210(S), 211(S), 217(C), 220, 228.

Inverted and Reversed: 181, 184, 185, 187, 187a, 188, 190(C), 196 (printed on gummed side), 201, 202, 203, 209(S), 210(S), 217, 221.

Sideways: 74, 171.

BARBUDA

Inverted: 4(C).

Reversed: 3.

BERMUDA

Inverted: 1, 3, 5(C), 6, 7(C), 8, 10a, 11, 19, 22, 23, 24a, 27, 27a, 36, 45, 46, 48, 53(C), 55, 59(S), 60(S), 61(S), 68(S), 75(S), 77, 81a, 82, 83(C), 89?.

Reversed: 5, 29a, 34(C), 45, 48, 51b, 59(S), 60(S), 71(S), 77, 80(C).

Inverted and Reversed: 46, 48, 53, 75 Specimen.

Sideways: 119b?.

BRITISH GUIANA

Inverted: 127, 130, 131, 199, 216, 261.

Reversed: 174, 205.

Sideways: 260, 289.

BRITISH HONDURAS

Inverted: 10a, 20, 25, 37, 51, 53, 81, 82, 102, 116, D3 Postage Due.

Reversed: 116, 132?.

Inverted and Reversed: 5, 120.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

Inverted: 60, 69?, 75?.

Reversed: 56, 63, 74.

Inverted and Reversed: 60(C), 69, 75.

DOMINICA

Inverted: 5, 16?, 27(S), 31(S), 48(S), 49(S), 50(S), 52(S).

Reversed: 28(S).

Inverted and Reversed: 47(S).

GRENADA

Inverted: 92, 98d(C), 111, 128?.

Inverted and Reversed: 78.

JAMAICA (No rarity indication given for this country).

Inverted: 1-16, 20, 22a, 27-30, 31(S), 32(S), 33, 40, 71, 74, 78, 79(S), 80(S), 81-83, 85, 86, 91, 92(S), 93(S), 95, 97, 102.

Reversed: 31(S), 32(S), 78, 80(S), 82, 85, Slavery 6d. Specimen, 93(S), 95-97, 99, 102.

Inverted and Reversed: 31(S), 32(S), 81, 82, 86, 93(S), 95.

Sideways: 59, 71, 74, 121.

Upright (Normally sideways): 80.

LEEWARD ISLANDS

Inverted: 3, 51c, 74a, 114c.

Reversed: 65.

Sideways: 114c.

MONTSERRAT

Inverted: 1(C), 5, 10(C), 15, 61a.

Reversed: 1(C), 2(C), 5, 7(C), 7b(C), 13.

Inverted and Reversed: 1(C), 60.

ST. CHRISTOPHER

Inverted: 1, 2, 4, 10(C), 17, 19, 20.

Reversed: 1a, 2, 13.

Sideways: 1(C), 8, 10, 11, 13.

ST. KITTS-NEVIS

Inverted: 26, 46(C,S), 46 Specimen (S).

Reversed: 22(C), 32(S), 34(S).

Inverted and Reversed: 26(C,S).

ST. LUCIA

Inverted: 8(C), 12(C), 16(C), F7.

Reversed: 5, 5b, 7, 8, 9, 11a, 12-18, 18a, 23 (all preceding numbers are "C"), F8.

Inverted and Reversed: 12d(C).

ST. VINCENT**Inverted:** 40, 41, 43, 46, 47, 51a, 52(C), 52 Specimen, 53, 68, 109, 122, 124, 126, 127, 158a.**Reversed:** 39(C), 40(C), 41(C), 41a(C), 42, 43(C), 43a(C), 44, 45, 46(C), 47(C), 47a, 48(C), 48b, 49, 50, 51a, 52, 55a, 112a, 114, 119, 126, 127.**Inverted and Reversed:** 41, 43, 51a, 109.**TOBAGO****Inverted:** 3(C), 10, 12, 20.**TRINIDAD****Inverted:** 85(C), 98(C), 110(C), 219(C), D12 Postage Due.**Reversed:** 70, 71, 73, 81, 85, 88, 92, 95, 96, 98, 100, 101, 102, 104 (all preceding numbers are "C").**Sideways:** 69, 99.**TURKS ISLANDS/TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS****Inverted:** 102, 103, 104a, 115, 116, 120, 124, 129, 132, 136, 137, 146a(C) 149(C), 151, 153(C), 160.**Reversed:** 49(S), 55(C), 58, 103, 117(C), 120, 120 Specimen, 130a, 133c, 136, 138b, 151, 153(C), 160(C), 169, 171.**Inverted and Reversed:** 104a, 117, 153(C), 157, 170.**Sideways:** 60.**Upright (normally sideways):** 49.**VIRGIN ISLANDS****Inverted:** 31, 78b, 79(C).**Reversed:** 35.**Inverted and Reversed:** 78.**Sideways:** 78.

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A book review

Censorship and Bermuda's Role in Winning World War II

By Horst Augustinovic

The beginning of World War II was a serious matter, and almost simultaneously with the advent of war came censorship of international mails. Many collectors know that Bermuda was to play a crucial role in censorship, situated as it was in the Atlantic Ocean at a convenient stopping point between the Americas and Europe.

A new book by Bermuda postal historian Horst Augustinovic is an encyclopedic look at wartime postal censorship in the British colony and likely the most comprehensive book ever published on the subject. Titled *Censorship and Bermuda's Role in Winning World War II*, the book is an absolute must for collectors of both wartime postal history and Bermuda postal history.

Bermuda's strategic location in the North Atlantic and the recently introduced air route between the United States and Europe presented the British government with a unique opportunity when World War II started in 1939. The British government decided that censorship of mail was necessary, and if Bermuda were selected, international airmail could be censored on British territory. Censorship began on the day World War II was declared, but both the United States and Germany were unhappy with what they saw as Britain's interference with the mail. Germany decried piracy of the mail, and the U.S. decided to stop trans-Atlantic flights stopping at the island. Eventually the U.S. government reversed course after deciding there were advantages to having mail censored in Bermuda.

It was no small operation, and for the first time, this book presents the full picture of what happened. In all, 1,500 censors, both men and women, were in Bermuda during the four years of operation. Only 24 would remain behind when the Imperial Censorship Detachment left Bermuda in 1944. Most of these were women who stayed to marry, and a few were those over 60 years of age who had decided to retire there.

Augustinovic reported that Bermuda censors could examine 200,000 letters a day and could submit 15,000 pieces of mail to clinical testing by special examiners looking for microdots and secret ink messages. From late 1940 to mid-1942, Bermuda censors handled an average of four aircraft and three ships per week. About 4,000 pounds of mail was average per airplane. In total about 24,000 pounds of mail by airplane was processed per week, with an average of 6,000 pounds of ship mail. Clearly, censoring was no small operation.

The book begins with an overview of the Trans-Atlantic air route and transit censorship. Numerous antiquarian photographs show mail bags being off-loaded from airplanes and transferred to censoring stations in Hamilton. Numerous other photographs show men and women at work censoring mail at Bermuda's first censorship headquarters. Many examples of the first transit mail censored in Bermuda are illustrated in color. From the early days through the years of censorship, Augustinovic carefully and succinctly shows how censorship evolved and developed until it finally ceased near the end of the war. One can be truly awed by the comprehensive and exhaustive number of censored covers from the author's collection. No less than 65 amazing covers are illustrated in the first chapter alone.

Augustinovic skillfully weaves his way through the daunting and complex issue of censoring for it was a far greater story than many might believe. Following the first chapter on the Trans-Atlantic air route and transit censorship, he moves on to a comprehensive and exhaustive examination of the handstamps, labels, enclosures, forms and regulations that were involved in censorship. Initially censorship of cables was considered a high priority, and there is a comprehensive review of how that was done, even including instructions for cable censors. He then looks at how censorship was handled

Continued on page 20

with passengers, especially those who might be carrying letters. From there we are treated to an examination of contraband control and the so-called "Prize Court."

Apart from building of the Naval Operating Base an Fort Bell and Kindley Field during the war years, establishing Imperial Censorship in Bermuda impacted local life the most. Augustinovic presents what must be the most comprehensive review of personnel ever published, along with original photographs, documents and covers. Moving on, he discusses in depth how censorship was important in dealing with suspected enemy personnel, and presents the interesting story of a German philosopher and writer who was among the first of a number of women interned in Bermuda. In the final chapter, we learn much about Bermuda and the military effort to win the war.

Following the 10 chapters are 10 appendices covering Bermuda General Orders, official notices, flying boat arrivals and departures, financial notes, a stamp watch list, a diary of war dates, the Butterfield Bank Correspondence, mail lost during the war, the official history of Bermuda censorship in World War II, and individuals mentioned in censorship records. The final segment is an index.

As mentioned at the outset, this book is an important tool for those interested not only in Bermuda philately, but also in the broader scope of censorship and World War II military history. Contrary to many books dealing with a compilation of rather dry facts, this book is entertaining as well as comprehensive in its subject treatment. It is one that even the casual reader would find interesting and informative, and it is an invaluable resource for the historian as well as philatelist. There is so much information in the book's 272 pages that it boggles the mind. Much of the information came from the author's exhaustive research the Bermuda Archives, where he uncovered never before published information about censors. There are over 700 illustrations, more than 500 in color, showing covers, all but three from the author's personal collection. The book was published in the 11x11 inch hardbound format, making it a coffee table size publication, although perhaps not fitting too well on some philatelic bookshelves! But that is no detriment.

Augustinovic is a well-known author in Bermuda and member of the Bermuda Collectors Society.

His three-volume series, *What you may NOT know About Bermuda* was published in 2012 and has a strong philatelic component which is being serialized in the quarterly *Bermuda Post*. He is also author of *The Golden Age of Bermuda Postcards* and *Recollections of 19th Century Bermuda*. His latest, *Censorship and Bermuda's Role in Winning World War II* was published by Print Link in Canada and is available through a number of sources. In the U.S. it is available at \$75 postpaid in the U.S. and Canada through Steve Zirinsky, P.O. Box 230049, Ansonia Station, New York, NY 10023 (email: szirinsky@cs.com). In the United Kingdom and Europe, the price is \$78US, and available from David Druett, 1 Brewerton Street, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG5 8AZ, United Kingdom (email: pennymead@aol.com). Mr. Augustinovic can be reached by email at netlink@link.bm.

This review was written by Dr. Everett L. Parker and was originally published in his philatelic literature review columns appearing in several U.S. and Canadian philatelic publications. Books for review are always solicited, and can be sent to Dr. Parker at the address shown on page 3.

Nuggets from the past ...

In the October 1978 issue of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, Charles E. Cwiakala provided a comprehensive review of early Dominica manuscript cancellations. He noted that manuscript town and village cancellations are some of the more interesting aspects of British Caribbean postal history.

Also, Michael Vokins provided an installment concerning Jamaica philately gleaned from the records of printer De La Rue. This time, he examined the difference between line and comb perforations on early stamps. Geoffrey G. Ritchie continued his series on the posts of St. Lucia. He examined "paid" markings as well as "late" marks, "undeliverable" and "damaged" markings and others.

George W. Bowman wrote about and displayed official "oval" cancellations of Antigua, and Bill Cornell provided information on the St. John's, Antigua post office markings.

There were seven new members in the quarter.

And here is the elusive Table 2!

It wasn't intended as a test to see if anyone was reading, but "somehow" Table 2 of Dr. John Courtis' article, "The Windward Islands and the role of Grenada: post office wrappers" in the January *Journal*, (pages 10-16) was left out of the text. I do believe I know what happened. Since the table was embedded in the text, I copied it and place it on the outside margin of the page with the idea of reconstructing it to the necessary format for printing. And there it remained, even though text on page 15 of the article referred to Table 2. My apology for Dr. Courtis and our dedicated readers. The table is reproduced below for your perusal.

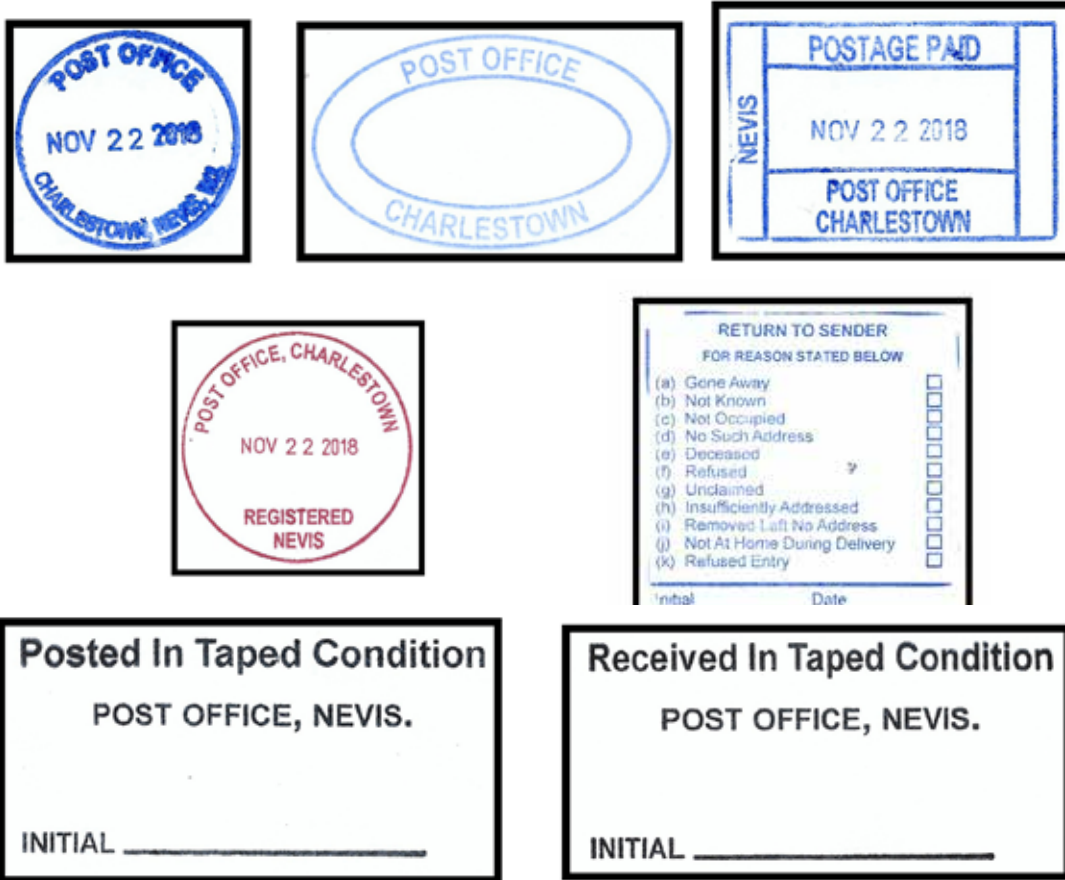
*-- Ye editor
(with egg on his face!) as we say*

Table 2: eBay Sales Transactions of Grenada Wrappers (2006-2015)

H&G	Sales Details USD (Ranked Low to High) & Number of Bidders per Sale	# of Sales	Mean Sale Price	Mean # of Bidders
	Post Office Issues			
1	0.99 (1), 0.99 (1), 9.95 (1), 10.50 (2), 32.00 (1)	5	10.88	1.20
2	1.04 (2), 2.28 (2), 2.32 (3), 2.99 (1)	4	2.15	2.00
3	No sales recorded			
4	No sales recorded			
5	0.99 (1), 3.99 (1), 4.99 (1), 5.00 (1)	4	3.74	1.00
6	0.99 (1), 6.00 (1)	2	3.50	1.00
7	No sales recorded			
8	No sales recorded			
9	11.53 (2)	1	11.53	2.00
10	No sales recorded			
11	1.25 (2), 4.99 (1), 11.59 (2), 24.99 (1)	4	10.70	1.50
12	2.25 (3)	1	2.25	3.00
13	6.50 (5)	1	6.50	5.00
14	3.25 (2)	1	3.25	2.00
15	5.50 (2)	1	5.50	2.00
	Total Sales of Post Office Issues	24		1.67
	Specimen Overprints*			
1	2.55 (3)	1	2.55	3.00
4	6.67 (1), 9.89 (1)	2	8.28	1.00
5	1.00 (1), 8.10 (3)	2	4.55	2.00
6	0.99 (1), 5.00 (1)	2	3.00	1.00
7	9.00 (1), 11.50 (2)	2	10.25	1.50
9	5.00 (1)	1	5.00	1.00
	Total Sales of Specimen Overprints	10		1.50

New postmarks of Nevis

*Steven Zirinsky is always on the look-out for new island postmarks.
Here are a few he found awhile back on the island of Nevis.*



Additional email addresses for your editor

Electronic mail is wonderful -- when it works! But one of the problems of modern technology is that it doesn't always work correctly. We have utilized Hughes as an email server for over 20 years, but since we made the move to our new house and office a year ago, we have experienced strange problems that no one seems to be able to solve.

The issue is this: when we send an email, we don't know whether it reaches its recipient or not. And we don't always get email sent to us. When email was new, in most instances, when one sent a message, the recipient would acknowledge receipt. Now that rarely happens as we are all "too busy" to acknowledge such things. And thus, the email remains "out there" in never-never land, and we have no idea if it was received. Our in-house IT guy can't seem to solve the problem and Hughes says there is no problem on their end.

Thus, we have added two new email accounts. We suggest you use either of the following, but if you do continue to use the eparker@hughes.net account, please resend on either of the following accounts if you don't get a timely acknowledgment (we try to immediately answer incoming email unless we are out of the office).

ADDITIONAL EMAIL ADDRESSES

everettparker45@icloud.com

everettparker1245@gmail.com

Postmarks of Belize (Part 5)

By Dr. Ian Matheson, RDPSA FRPSL

This is the final installment of this series, dealing with machine and slogan cancels.

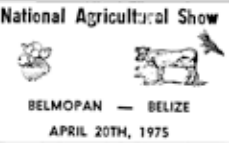


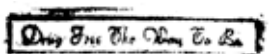

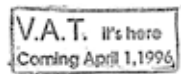
I invite input from readers, and ask that new information be forwarded to me at ian@cdi.biz.

Machine and Slogan

POST OFFICE	ILLUSTRATION	Diameter	Colour	ERD	LRD	Notes
BELIZE CITY		71mm X 13mm	Violet	10 Oct 1985	16 Nov 1990	"POSTAGE PREPAID BELIZE CITY BELIZE"
BELIZE CITY		71mm X 13mm	Violet	10 Feb 1986	12 Feb 1996	"POSTAGE PREPAID BELIZE CITY BELIZE"
BELIZE CITY		38mm X 22mm	Red	30 Apr 2013	15 Jul 2015	"POSTAGE PREPAID GPO BELIZE"
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	N/A	27 Sep 1973	"HELP TO PREVENT BLINDNESS". Inscribed "BRITISH HONDURAS"
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	30 Oct 1973	24 Sep 1987	"HELP TO PREVENT BLINDNESS"
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	15 Mar 1977	27 Oct 1992	"REMEMBER TO USE YOUR RETURN ADDRESS". (Slogan on right)
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	24 Sep 1979	5 Jul 1980	"REMEMBER TO USE YOUR RETURN ADDRESS". (Slogan on left)
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	7 Feb 1976	28 Oct 1977	"40 Years of Guiding"
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	14 Mar 1978	8 Apr 1978	"50th ANNIVERSARY / 1928 1978 / CROSS COUNTRY CYCLING"
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	14 Nov 1983	8 Mar 1985	"1980's / Decade FOR BELIZEAN SELF-SUFFICIENCY / N.A.T.S."
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	7 Sep 1976	8 Sep 1977	"BELIZE CELEBRATES NATIONAL DAY SEPTEMBER 10th". (Slogan at right)
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	24 Jun 1978	25 Aug 1979	"BELIZE CELEBRATES NATIONAL DAY SEPTEMBER 10th". (Slogan at left)
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	25 May 1985	26 Apr 1988	"1980's DECADE FOR BELIZEAN SELF-SUFFICIENCY THROUGH AGRICULTURAL DIVERSIFICATION"

BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	29 Dec 1977	23 Nov 1992	"SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM STAFF BELIZE POST OFFICE"
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	19 Apr 1978	30 May 1978	"B.T.A. CELEBRATES WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS DAY 17 MAY"
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	13 Aug 1981	25 Nov 1981	"WE UNITE TO BUILD A NATION". Used alone or with "Belize City / Belize" datestamp.
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	3 Nov 1975	12 Feb 1977	
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	13 May 1978		"APARTHEID DENIES HUMAN RIGHTS". (Slogan at left)
BELIZE CITY		21mm	Black	18 Aug 1978		"APARTHEID DENIES HUMAN RIGHTS". (Slogan at right)
BELIZE CITY		28mm	Black	18 Sep 1990	14 Jan 1993	

BELIZE CITY		28.5 / 19.5mm	Black	15 Nov 1998	27 Oct 1999	
COROZAL		28.5mm	Black	10 Mar 1992	17 Mar 1993	
ORANGE WALK		28.5mm	Black	30 Sep 1991	14 Jun 1993	
SAN IGNACIO		28.5mm	Black	4 May 1992		
PUNTA GORDA		28.5mm	Black	4 Mar 1993	28 Sep 1993	
DANGRIGA		28.5mm	Black		8 Oct 1993	

BELMOPAN		66mm X 38mm	Violet-purple	20 April 1975		National Agricultural Show
SAN PEDRO		27.5mm X 50mm	Black	17 Feb 1982		
DANGRIGA			Black, Blue	23 Sep 1981	30 Oct 1981	
ORANGE WALK			Black	18 Dec 1981		
HILL BANK			Violet	28 Nov 1981		
PUNTA GORDA				20 Nov 1981		
INDEPENDENCE						
GPO BELIZE			Black, Purple	24 Sep 1981		
DANGRIGA				56mm X 30mm		
ORANGE WALK	Black	28 Feb 1983			16 Mar 1983	
BELMOPAN	Black	4 May 1983				
PUNTA GORDA	Red	27 Mar 1983				
BELIZE CITY	Purple	18 Feb 1983				
BELIZE CITY		65mm x 9mm	Red, blue	15 Aug 1988		"Drug Free The Way To Be"
BELIZE CITY			Red, Blue	March 1989		"BE WISE IMMUNIZE PROTECT YOUR CHILD"
BELIZE CITY		50mm X 19mm	Purple	2 Jan 1996	12 Feb 1996	"V.A.T. It's here Coming April 1, 1996."

What does your "stamp den" look like?



While it's not exactly his "stamp den," this is a photograph of part of the philatelic library of Dr. John Courtis in Australia. Over the years, Dr. Courtis has collected around 3,000 philatelic books for his library. What about you? What does your stamp room or work area look like? Take a photo and send to the editor! Please!



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Membership Director's Report

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

Robert Novander, 14300 Riva del Lago #705, Fort Myers, FL 33907

Reinstated

None this quarter

Address Changes

None this quarter

Resigned

None this quarter

New Email Address

None this quarter

Deceased

Eric Todd

Donations

None this quarter

PLEASE ...
Won't someone volunteer to take over as membership director?

STEVEN ZIRINSKY

MEMBER PTS, APS, NZSDA, APTA

Stamps - Revenues - Postal History - Commercial Mail

Local Mail

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




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We desperately need articles!

The situation continues to be critical as we desperately need material to fill these pages!

PLEASE provide articles!

Several of our long-time writers are no longer sending in material, and we cannot continue a journal without input.

If you want this journal to continue, we **MUST** have articles! Please, please, prepare something in your area of interest, and do it soon!
Our future depends on YOU!

Cayman Islands starter collection for sale

This collection consists of 1953-59 issues, (1/4d - 1£ mint), 1962-64 (1/4d - 1£ mint), both used on registered legal size covers, also many mint and used commemorative issues to 1970; a range of FDCs and commercial covers from most of the post offices on Grand Cayman, Cayman

Brac and Little Cayman, approximately 40+ covers all together. Also 7 mint Aerogrammes (2 1/2d, 6d, 9d, 3¢ and 7¢), and two loose stamps (KEVII & GV) with rural post cancels, Cayman Coronation 1d mint block of 8, Turks Coronation 2d mint block of 8, also many other covers including 6 GV covers, 6 ship covers, GV cover cancelled with 6d. Also several used QV & GV used on pieces, Fine-VF.

Postage/Packaging extra. Asking \$200.00

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Email: teg43@aol.com

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President's Message

By John Seidl

I am hoping that spring will be soon upon us -- as I write this in Arkansas (business travel destination of the week) it is 18 degrees outside. I would like to start with a big thank you to the many members who chose to make donations as part of their dues payments for this year. Those donations really make a huge difference in our financial health as we continue to face challenges with a declining membership count and rising postage costs.

We all owe our appreciation to these donors for 2020: Karl E. Groeber, Thomas F. Olson, Ian C. Sellick, Bruce G. Aitken, Gerald F. Schroedl, Peter Colwell, Carl J. Faulkner, Peter P. McCann, Michael McDonald, Keith Moh, Paul L. Bondor, Steven J. Berlin, John Paré, Samuel Partain, Robert F. Hammond, Andrew W. Mitchell, David Reynolds, James E. Watson.



Other ways we could REALLY use your help is with a request for journal articles. Our journal is really our reason for being and we're running out of contributors. PLEASE dedicate a few hours to pull together a piece on your favorite British Caribbean philatelic topic. Our editor will be happy to work with you on format and how to define your content. We welcome articles of all sizes and levels of detail. An analysis of a cover, the study of an island's historical rates, postal history of any form, studies of a stamp issue and even historical figures and their influence on the philatelic history of the country are all great topics.

Scott English, Executive Director of the American Philatelic Society, made an interesting suggestion in a recent APS journal. That being to "ditch their magazine" or in other words leave the magazine in a public place for another person to find and take home. Sharing our copy of the BCPSG *Journal* at your local stamp club or putting them out on the literature table at a stamp show are both great ideas. Building awareness of the BCPSG will lead to new members. I appreciate everyone doing their part to help our society continue to be viable and valuable to our members. Please check your mailing label to make sure your dues have been paid – I'll send out email reminders also.

The little society with the long name



St. Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society

Are you interested in the stamps or postal history of Tristan da Cunha, Ascension or St. Helena? If so, you are very welcome to join our society. Membership benefits include a quarterly illustrated journal, annual auctions, special interest discussion groups, etc.

A sample journal is available on our website, www.shatps.org, or a printed copy may be requested from Secretary Klaus Hahn, P.O. Box 14, D-71145 Bondorf/Germany, Email: secretary@shatps.org

annual membership dues: North America \$27, international \$32, paperless \$15

The British Commonwealth of Nations



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

Want lists from all reigns are accepted with references

We are active buyers ...



L.W. Martin Jr.

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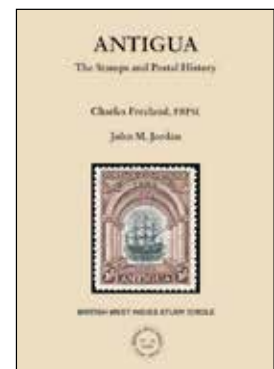
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'ANTIGUA - THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY'

by Charles Freeland, FRPSL and John Jordan

Coming so early in the alphabet Antigua has always been one of the most popular of the small Caribbean islands. It has an interesting mix of early stamps printed by Perkins Bacon and De La Rue including a number of rarities. On the postal history front Antigua is especially well endowed, with the Codrington and Tudway estate correspondences. There is also a rich variety of early postal markings, including some unique marks. The original inspiration for this book was the Antigua Monograph published in successive issues of the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal over a 15 year period between 1973 and 1988. This book collates all this information, updates it and presents it in a most readable form. **WINNER OF LARGE GOLD MEDAL AT NEW ZEALAND 15TH NATIONAL PHILATELIC LITERATURE EXHIBITION!**



A4 size, hardbacked with dust jacket, (x) + 299 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-25-3

PRICE: £37.00 (approx. \$48.00). BWISC/BCPSG Members' Price: £33.00 (approx. \$43.00).

Available from Pennymead Books (e-mail: pennymead@aol.com)

NEW BOOKS FROM BWISC PUBLICATIONS!

Early BWI Covers Perkins Bacon Adhesives - Trinidad

by Peter C. Ford FRPSL

For many years, there has been a listing of early Trinidad covers on the BWISC website; this book is an extension of that listing but now separating them into areas of destination. There have been many additions to the original listing and the book contains many high quality illustrations. This should be of great help to both dealers and collectors when researching the provenance of any particular cover.

Price: \$25.00 from the APS (see below)

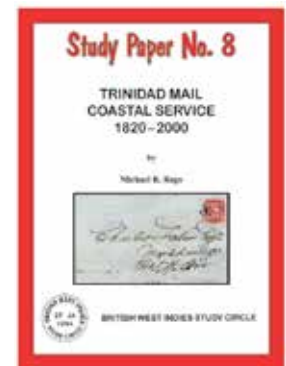


Trinidad Mail Coastal Service 1820 - 2000

by Michael Rego

Study Paper No. 8. This Study Paper traces the history of the mail service via the steamers that plied the coastal waters of Trinidad and Tobago from the early 19th century. There is much information on the vessels that sailed on these routes with tables of timings, lists of prices for various items sent by mail as well as many images of contemporaneous paintings of the ships and their ports of call. Any collector interested could not find a better reference book.

Price: £22 (BWISC Members' discount £2) from pennymead.com



For information, the following books are available from the American Philatelic Society on their website stamps.org/publications.

Airmails of Trinidad and Tobago by Ron Wike	\$23.50
Cayman Islands Postcards by Tom Giraldi.....	\$21.00
Classic Collections - St. Lucia by Charles Freeland.....	\$13.00
Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately - Airmails by Paul Farrimond and Raymond Murphy	\$38.00
Steamship Lines to the Caribbean, Volume 1 by Michael Rego.....	\$40.00
Steamship Lines to the Caribbean, Volume 2 by Michael Rego.....	\$40.00
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