

BULLETIN No. 9 APRIL 1956

### BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

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L.E. Britnor, G.W. Groves, J.J. Turnerr

Hon. Auditor: A. J. Branston

**OBJECTS**: TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the British West Indies.

TO establish contact with correspondents throughout the British West Indies comprising the following colonies

ANTIGUA JAMAICA

BAHAMAS LEEWARD ISLANDS
BARBADOS MONTSERRAT
BERMUDA ST. KITTS-NEVIS
BRITISH GUIANA ST. LUCIA
BRITISH HONDURUS ST. VINCENT

CAYMAN ISLANDS TRINIDAD & TOBAGO DOMINICA TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

GRENADA VIRGIN ISLANDS

TO issue a quarterly Bulletin embodying articles, items of interest and other features (including a wants' section) which it is hoped will widen the knowledge of members It is emphasized that every member will always be 'in the picture' no matter where he (or she) resides.

**MEMBERSHIP**: TO be WORLD-WIDE in scope and open to all who are interested in the stamps or postal history of the above mentioned colonies and dependencies whether they be advanced or new collectors. The ANNUAL subscription on to be 10/6d (\$1.50 non-sterling countries) payable on the 1st FEBRUARY. Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle" and it will be appreciated if remittances for non-sterling countries are made by draft drawn on LONDON or International Money Order.).

### **OUR PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH**

It was a great pleasure for me to be able at attend the second Anniversary meeting at the "Royal" on January 27th and the dinner that followed at the Lord's Tavern. The hard work put into the arrangements for these functions by our Hon. Secretary and Treasurer - Philip Saunders - resulted in a most successful gathering, and I am sure everyone thoroughly enjoyed them selves. In a letter I received from our principal guest W. Ewart Gerrish, Esq., O.B.E. - he says: "It was just wonderful meeting such a friendly crowd."I mentioned at the dinner of the discovery of a very rare Jamaican item; and on my return home I found it awaiting me to examine. It was found by our member Harvey O'Connor of the U.S.A. and is a 1d. blue postcard addressed to Justin McCarthy, Kingston. The stamp is clearly postmarked with the "C" obliterator and Kingston circle cancellation dated 26/2/1884. It also bears Type 1 T.R.D. mark in black dated Laughlands 25/2/1884: On the reverse there is the stamp of Cranbrook, Laughlands P.O., and was sent by one L. Townsend. This is the first and only copy found with the "C" obliterator, and we now have proof it was used at Laughlands. It is also the first record of the Type 1 T.R.D. for Laughlands P.O. which, incidentally, was opened 1/11/1883. To me this is the most remarkable find in Jamaican postmarks in recent years. Another item I have recently seen, and which I believe to be unique, is a Type 16 T.R.D. mark for Myrtle Bank dated 9th May 1910. This Post Office was opened 16/1/1910 and originally had T.R.D. Type 10, so one can only presume it was closed and re-opened with the new Type 16. I look forward to meeting many of our members at the Brighton Congress being held from 5th to 8th June. On this occasion an Exhibition is being held to which specialist societies and study circles have been invited to contribute, and I understand some choice material will be on view in the frames that have been allocated to our Circle

G. W. COLLETT`.

### DEAR MEMBER,

Once again we record, with pleasure, an increase, in membership, which now totals 140. Although the increase is a modest one, it is significant that it includes no less than six from overseas, which is most gratifying. A warm welcome is therefore extended to: E. G. Creed,

P. T. Masters and R. Newns-Smith (Australia), Judge L. L. Anderson, Dr. J. M. Holmes and B. J. Sturm (U.S.A.). We would like to take this opportunity of congratulating Dr N. Garrard and Mr. J. W. Halstead on their election to Fellowship of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, and it is interesting to note that our representation in the "Royal" has now reached 47.

### LONDON (25) PROVINCIAL (82)

C1 1:		YY .C 111		01 1:	_
Cheshire	1	Hertfordshire	4	Shropshire	2
Cornwall	2	Kent		Somerset	1
Derbyshire	4	Lancashire	3	Staffordshire	1
Devon	4	Lincolnshire	1	Suffolk	2
Dorset	1	Middlesex	6	Surrey	11
Essex	4	Norfolk	2	Sussex	4
Gloucestershire	1	Northants	2	Warwickshire	2
Hampshire	4	Northumberland	2	Wiltshire	3
		Yorkshire	3		
Northern Ireland	I	Scotland	6	Wales	1
		OVERSEAS (33)			
Australia	4	B.W.I.	4	Canada	4
New Guinea	1	South Africa	4	U.S.A.	16

We are glad to report that our member Mr. L. Bowman is making excellent progress following his operation and hopes to be back to normal health in the course of a few weeks.

**OBITUARY:** We record with regret the passing of our member Mr. A. L. Ashcroft, of Birkenhead - who died suddenly on 20th November 1955. Our sincere sympathies are extended to his relatives in their sad bereavement.

### SECOND ANNIVERSARY MEETING

Twenty members foregathered in the meeting room of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, at 41 Devonshire Place, W.1, on 27th January last, and once again we were fortunate that the weather was kind enough to enable our President to journey up from his Wiltshire home to take the chair. A number of topics were discussed, and the progress made during the past year was unanimously considered to be most satisfactory. For a number of personal reasons Messrs Forshaw, Roche and Smithson did not seek re-election to the Committee, and two of the vacancies were filled by the election of Mr. L. E. Britnor and Mr. G. W. Groves. It was decided that the Hon Secretary be authorised to co-opt another member to the Committee should the need arise. The meeting ended at 6.50 p.m., and was

followed by tin informal dinner at Tavern, St. John's Wood Road, N.W. l, attended by nearly forty members and their guests. At the conclusion of an excellent meal, Mr. Kenneth F. Chapman, Editor of "Stamp Collecting" paid an encouraging tribute to our CIRCLE, to which our President responded in appreciative vein. The toast to the guests was eloquently proposed by Miss Rose Titford, the response being made by W. Ewart Gerrish, Esq., O.B.E., a Vice-President of the "Royal." Mr. Gerrish, in the course of his speech, disclosed the interesting fact that many years ago he was a collector of Jamaican stamps and was glad to know that a number of the items now reposed in our President's collection. His many amusing anecdotes were a source of great delight and made an appropriate conclusion to a very happy evening.

### **SPRING MEETING**

We would remind you that this will take place on Saturday, the 21st April, at 2.30 p.m. Please bring along a few pages and a note of any interesting points for discussion. It will be most helpful if those who intend to be present will advise the Hon. Secretary *immediately* in order that the necessary arrangements can be made for providing tea.

# STAMPEX 1956-January 7th-14th-at Central Hall, Westminster. S.W.1.

We were very pleased to see a number of our members at this exhibition and could riot help feeling that many more would have been there had it taken place a little later in the year. The organisers are to be congratulated, for we know that much thought and hard work was entailed before the doors opened. Whilst we appreciate that the competition had, of necessity, to play an important part in the proceedings, we consider that if a little more space were allocated in future to invited exhibits it might well prove advantageous.

### 38th PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Members will have observed in the philatelic press this is being held at Brighton from 5th to 8th June, and Cdr. G. Bridgmore Brown, F.R.P.S.L., Mr. G. W. Groves and our Hon. Secretary will be attending as the CIRCLE'S delegates. On this occasion a number of specialist societies and study circles are being asked to

provide an exhibition to be held at the Grand Hotel, and we are glad to announce that our CIRCLE has been invited to furnish a number of frames. It has been decided that the exhibit should be as representative as possible by covering the entire B.W.I. group, and several members have kindly agreed to loan some of the more interesting items from their respective collections. At the time of going to press full details are not available, but a list of the items, shown will be included in our July issue for the benefit of all those who are unable to attend. As on former occasions, a meeting of the CIRCLE will take place on Thursday evening (June 7th), and details of the time and place can be obtained at the Congress Office. Our President will be in the chair, and all those who hope to be there are enjoined to bring a few pages to pass round.

### **NOTES AND QUERIES**

It will be appreciated that our Bulletin constitutes the vital link between us and is mainly dependent upon a steady flow of contributions from members. These may either afford information or raise points upon which enlightenment is sought, and it will be helpful, if S.G. numbers are quoted wherever possible. ALL contributions should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary.

### **ANTIGUA**

(Continued from page 6 Bulletin No. 8)

"After 1890 the stamps of the Leeward Islands replaced those of Antigua, but about 1903 a new design with the Arms of Antigua came into use. The values were from ½d to 2/6, and these were followed by a 5/- stamp of K.E. VII, all on Crown CC watermark paper. The colours were changed in 1908, and at the same time the new Crown CA watermark paper was used. In 1913 the 5/- value was changed from K.E. VII to K.G. V, and two years later the colours of the ½d and 1d were made more pronounced. During the period 1916-1918 a series of War stamps appeared, but without varieties. In 1921 a new and smaller design appeared with the head of K.G. V. The first values were 3d, 4d, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 5/- and £1. From 1922 the ½d and 1d (two colours and two shades of each), 1½d (three colour changes), 2d and 2½d (two colour changes), 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 3/- and 4/- kept collectors busy. In 1932 the Tercentenary issue appeared in all values to 5/-, and 1935 saw the four values of the K.G. V Jubilee issue. The K.G. VI

Coronation issue of 1937 was followed in 1938 by a definitive issue in values up to 5/-. It was not until ten years later that the 10/- and £1 values appeared. The Victory and Royal Silver Wedding Commemorative issues appeared in 1946 and 1948 respectively, each with two values. In October, 1949, in keeping with other colonies, there were four values to celebrate the 75th year of the Universal Postal Union. In 1951 the University College of the West Indies caused two stamps to be produced with the new decimal currency. June, 1953, brought forth a handsome large stamp to celebrate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, which was in November of that year followed by the complete definitive set from 1 cent to \$4.80.

Other than the Capital ST. JOHN'S, the other Post Offices in Antigua have always been a bit of a problem. The Island is divided into six parishes: St. John, St. George, St. Peter, St. Philip, St. Paul and St. Mary. Four of these provided the name for that parish P.O., but three were later changed to a less Saintly name. "All Saints" is interesting as it is situated at the junction of three parishes.

Parish	P.O.'s open today	Approx. date of opening	Earlier Name	Approx date closed
St. John	St. John's	or opening	(1 mile S.E. of St. John's) St. Johnston's	1936
	Cedar Grove	1924	St. James's	
	Gray's Farm Bendals		Green Bay	1945
St. George	Gunthorpes	1940		
St. Mary	Old Road Bolans	1951	St. Mary's	1932
~ ~ .	Johnson's Point	40.40		
St. Paul	Liberta	1940	St. Paul's	1916 (Pmk. dated '61')
			Falmouth	1937
			Swetos	1937
~ ~		1863 A18	English Harbour	1870
St. Peter	Parham	1938	St. Peter's	1932
				(pmk. dated Sept., 1927)
	Pares Village			
St. Philip	Montpelier Seaton's Freetown	1940	St. Philip's	1945
St. John ) St. Peter ) St. Paul )	All Saints	1900-1903		(pmks. dated 1911 & 1951)
St. I dui )	Barbuda Branch P.O.	1922?		

I was informed that St. Paul's was closed in 1909, but I have a large red 1d of 1908-12 clearly dated 1961 which, I assume, is in reverse for 1916, but it could be that the "6" is upside down for "9" and that the "1"

should be "0" thus making it "09" which would be in keeping with my information of 1909. It would also be a more correct date of use for the large red 1d which would be exceptional to be used as late as 1916."

(Contributed by Mr. C. W. MEREDITH, F.R.P.S.L.)

### **ANTIGUA**

"With reference to Mr. Meredith's article in Bulletin No. 8, I can record another recognisable re-entry on the 6d green. It is in the letters 'NIUA' of 'ANTIGUA.' I sent this to Mr. J. E. Lea, who recently purchased the righthand half proof sheet of this value, and he kindly positioned it for me. It is No-58, and so it may be had se-tenant with the Sefi No. 1, which is No. 59. Mr. Lea states: "This is undoubtedly a re-entry. The markings in the 'NIUA' are constant and the usual criteria of re-entry show up more clearly on the under-inked half proof sheet that I have than on the stamp itself." I call this the 'McGowan' re-entry as it was so labelled in the lot that I found it in, so an expert had apparently spotted it."

### (Contributed by Mr. V. N. F. SURTEES).

NOTE. - The expert to whom Mr. Surtees refers is the late Mr. Bertram McGowan, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.-Editor.

### **JAMAICA**

"As a keen collector of Jamaican postmarks I have been much interested in the articles by Mr. Harvey O'Connor in the last two issues of the Bulletin. There are certainly a variety of types in use of late fortunately supplanting the blotching Birmingham type, and in writing this letter my object is to try to arrive at a new and standard designation for these types. At present they are variously referred to as 'New Birmingham' 'single ring' or by arbitrary letters (e.g. N; Na and Nb), and I for one would like to see a type designation which is suggestive of each variety. First, there is the type with the office above and JAMAICA below enclosed within two concentric circles, date in two lines, with or without star above. I suggest that this be referred to as 'DC' (i.e. double circle), and in, the case of a star being present, 'DCs.' Secondly, there is the similar type, but with the office and JAMAICA separated by a curved line, which is also portion of a concentric circle (i.e. there are three circles). For this I suggest 'TC' (triple circle) with 's' or not as required; although to date all seem to

have the star included. Then there is the single circle only. Call this `SC' (single circle) (e.g. ROBINS BAY SC and READING SCs.). The oval 'registered' type I also label plain `R' or `Ru' (unobliterated).

In addition to those noted by Mr. O'Connor, I have in his type 'N' (my type 'TC') FLINT RIVER and PLOWDEN, whereas my FAIRY RIVER has not the line replacing the slug and is therefore my type 'DCs' My copy of REFUGE has the date correctly placed, as also have my copies of TOWER ISLE, TRANQUILLITY and WHITHORN in the R type. Incidentally, in my collection of New South Wales postmarks, I have found the misplacements and inversions so frequent and ephemeral that I have ceased to pay any attention to them, being due only to the human factor and carelessness; I have seen an 'error' appearing in the morning and corrected that same afternoon! I am informed that on 10th October, 1954, the following offices were issued with 'single ring' marks:

ABOVE ROCKS HALFWAY TREE PARCELS POST GPO **BETHSALEM** HALLS DELIGHT PARROTTEE KELLY PORT ANTONIO BEVERLEY CARRON HALL KINGSTON PORT MARIA CATADUPA KINLOSS SCOTTS PASS CRAIGHEAD LEMON HALL SHOOTERS HILL CRAIGMILL LUCKY HILL SPALDINGS MANDEVILLE DEAN PEN SPUR TREE FALMOUTH MAY PEN TOLL GATE FONT HILL MILK RIVER TROJAN FRANKFIELD MOUNT SALUS VINEYARD TOWN FROME MUNRO COLLEGE WINDWARD ROAD GEN. POST OFFICE OCHO RIOS YARMOUTH

Whether all these are all my TC or if some are DC I, myself, do not know. To date the only ones of which I possess copies are my type 'TCs' namely:- KINGSTON, OCHO RIOS and PARCELS POST."

(Contributed by Dr. H. B. BRUCE)

### **JAMAICA**

"The earliest type postmark consisted simply of the word JAMAICA in a straight line in large serif letters 35 mm. long by 6 mm. high. The earliest date of use known to me on a cover is in my collection dated 17/5/1762, which was originally in the late Mr. Nicholson's collection. The latest date known is 28/9/1781. A cover said to have this type postmark was in Harmer's sale of November 26th, 1945, and was stated to be dated 1758, and sold for £9. I cannot find out among my Jamaica friends anyone who saw or who can vouch for

this cover, which would be some four years earlier than any previously recorded. I wrote to Harmers' in 1952 and Mr. Cyril Harmer kindly informed me that the cover was purchased by a collector living at that time in Puerto Rico or the Philippines. Our Bulletin now enjoys a worldwide circulation, and I am writing this in the hope that a collector in Great Britain or abroad may be able to give me some information as to where the cover is and if it is dated 1758 as stated."

(Contributed by our PRESIDENT)

### **TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS**

"I have a cover dated 16th August, 1947, postmarked Cockburn Harbour with 'C' and date in circle. Printed on the top of the envelope is 'On His Majesty's Service' and across the centre '1st Direct Airmail Service from the Turks Islands to Jamaica.' The stamp on it is K.G. VI 6d (S.G. 201a). I shall be obliged if any member can inform me how many of these covers were flown, as I understand this service is no longer in operation."

(Contributed by Mr. G. R. BUTLER)

### **AUCTION GLEANINGS**

### H. R. Harmer, Ltd. Sale of January 30th and 31st, 1956

Antigua: 1862, no wmk., perf. 14 to 16 x 11 to 13, 6d, S.G.3, part o.g. (the genuine unissued variety), £28. Bahamas: 1859, no wmk., thick paper, 1d, S.G.1, part o.g., £44; 1861, rough perf., 14 to 16, 4d, S.G.5, unused (centred slightly to lower left), £16; perf. 11 to 12, 1d S.G.7, part o.g. (centred to lower left), £33. Barbados: 1892, ½d on 4d, surcharge double, one red, one black, S.G.106, part o.g., £23. Bermuda: 1874, "P" and "R" same type, 3d on 1s, S.G. 13b, used., Z19. British Honduras: 1888-9, 50c on 1s, S.G.30, part o.g., £14; 1891, 6c on 10c on 4d, "6" and bar inverted, S.G.43a, hor. pair from left of sheet, part o.g., £18. Cayman Islands: 1907 (Sept.), ½d on 1d; 1907 (Nov.), ½d on 5s, 1d on 5s, S.G.17, 18, 19, all o.g., £12 10s. Grenada: 1861-2, no wmk., rough perf., 6d rose, S.G.3, part o.g. (centred slightly left), £17; 1862, no wmk., perf. 11½, 6d lake-red, S.G.4, part o.g. (faint vert. crease), £20. Jamaica, 1883-97, 1s, "\$" variety, S.G.24b, part o.g. (centred slightly to right), £14; 1905-11, 5d, hor. strip of 3, centre stamp "SER.ET" S.G.41a, o.g., £34. St. Vincent: 1868, 1s brown, S.G.14, part o.g., £21.

# STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1955

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INCOME			0 0 Cash at Bank		aid in advance	in	6 Commission, Donations and Opinion Fees	0 0 Dinner Account	000	0					I	
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	1955	£ s q	29 15 3	5 7 10	15 4 8	I 14 0		1 11 6	9 01		I 16 3	3 6 8	13 4 6	9 6 81	8 0 16	
EXPENDITURE	1954	£ s. d.	28 10 7 Printing	4 6 0 Stationery	14 3 Postages	17 6 Bank Charges	Subscriptions:	1 0 Philatelic Congress, of Great Britain	0 0 Melville Memorial Fund		5 7 Telephone and Travelling Expenses	12 6 Sundry Items, Hire of Room, &c	0 0 Dinner Account	12 8 Surplus for year	57 0 I	
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I have examined the above Statement of Accounts and certify it to be correct and in accordance with the Books and Vouchers produced to

A. J. BRANSTON, Hon. Auditor. 13th January, 1955.

P. T. SAUNDERS, Hon. Treasurer. G. W. COLLETT, President.

### THE HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

As I write these few words, the "work-to-rule" continues in the printing industry, resulting in drastic curtailment of editorials and regular features in a large number of periodicals. In a recent issue of a philatelic journal there were less than two pages of reading matter, the rest being taken up with advertisements. This state of affairs has been unavoidable. and those who book and pay for space in advance have rightly to be given first consideration. In these circumstances I am sure all members will appreciate our good fortune in that no delay has occurred in the production of this issue of our Bulletin. I am most grateful for the support of some new advertisers, and would once again, enjoin members to mention our Bulletin when communicating with them. The morning after the dispatch of our January issue one member sent me a greetings telegram of congratulation, and many others have written expressing their appreciation of the new format. One or two of our older members have suggested that a slightly larger type might be advantageous, and I have been happy to introduce this and trust they will find it kinder to their eyes. A new feature is to be found on page 22, which I hope will be a welcome innovation to those who are interested in market trends. Most of us, I imagine, look forward each year to the new catalogues, but these do not always reflect current values, due to the fact that their preparation has to be commenced some months before publication. As will have been noted elsewhere, in addition to our usual meeting at Congress, we have been invited to participate in its Exhibition, and I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all those members who are so kindly loaning me items from their respective collections. I am quite sure that all those who are able to attend will enjoy the interesting material that will be displayed. In conclusion may I say how much I am looking forward to renewing old acquaintanceships and meeting some other members for the first time.

P. T. S.

### **MISCELLANEA**

**OPINIONS SERVICE:** Facilities are available for opinions to be given on most stamps of the B.W.I. group, for which a fee of 1/-- per stamp plus return postage is charged. Members wishing to take advantage of this service should send the stamp(s) to the Hon. Secretary accompanied by the appropriate fee and a stamped addressed plain (or registered) envelope. Every endeavour will be made to return the stamp(s) within 14 days.

**BULLETINS**: Nos. 1-7 (except No. 3) are available at 1/- each, post free. Orders, together with a P.O. for the requisite amount, should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary.

### **WANTS**

Members who are able to supply any of these should send them (stating price asked) to the Hon. Secretary for onward transmission. If the member requiring them decides to purchase, a remittance should be sent to the Hon. Secretary in favour of "B.W.I. STUDY CIRCLE" and the amount (less 10 per cent. and postage) will be remitted to the owner.

ALL B.W.I. Group: Postal stationery of ALL reigns. BARBADOS: S.G. 4a and S.G. 63. GRENADA: S.G. 135a used. JAMAICA: S.G. 130 mint (broken chimney variety). ST. CHRISTOPHER: First issues on cover. TURKS and CAICOS ISLANDS: S.G. 234. Block of four and single used

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Proofs, Colour Trials, Specimens, Covers. Cancellations, Rarities, Errors and Varieties.

Postal History material from many Colonies is available such as 18th Century letters from St. Lucia, an 1821 Officer's Letter from Roseau, Dominica and many similar entires.

G.B. used in Jamaica-a fine stock both on and off cover.

Bahamas-Die Proof of the 1d Interinsular and plate proofs and colour trials of the Chalon Head and subsequent issues to K.E. VIIth.

British Honduras - many rare stamps in stock in the earlier issues.

Jamaica - Several nice pieces including a mint block of 6 of the 4d Red-orange CA, Anti-Slavery essays, Proofs, etc.

I shall be pleased to hear from collectors interested in this type of material and all enquiries will receive careful attention.

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