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BULLETIN No. 35 OCTOBER 1962

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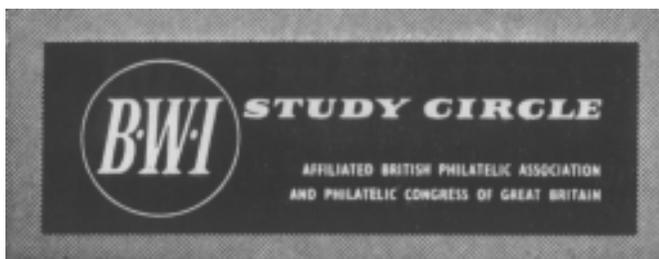
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OBJECTS

1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps of the British West Indies comprising the following colonies and dependencies:

ANTIGUA • BAHAMAS • BARBADOS
BERMUDA • BRITISH GUIANA • BRITISH
HONDURAS • CAYMAN ISLANDS • DOMINICA
GRENADA • JAMAICA • LEEWARD ISLANDS
MONTSERRAT • ST. KITTS-NEVIS • ST. LUCIA
ST. VINCENT • TRINIDAD and TOBAGO
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS • VIRGIN ISLANDS

2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features (including 'Opinions' Service and a 'Wants' Section) which it is hoped will widen the knowledge of members.

MEMBERSHIP

3. TO operate a SALES CIRCUIT to enable members to dispose of their surplus material.

TO be WORLD-WIDE in scope and open to all interested in the stamps or postal history of the above mentioned colonies and dependencies whether they be advanced or new collectors. The ANNUAL subscription to be £1 (\$3.00 non-sterling countries) due 1st FEBRUARY. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to "B.W.I. STUDY CIRCLE".

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

LONDON MEMBERS 26

PROVINCIAL MEMBERS 120

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Dorset	1	Somersetshire	1
Co. Durham	2	Staffordshire	3
Essex	6	Suffolk	2
Gloucestershire	3	Surrey	14
Hampshire	5	Sussex	6
Hertfordshire	3	Warwickshire	6
Isle of Wight	1	Wiltshire	3
Kent	3	Worcestershire	1
Lancashire	5	Yorkshire	11
Isle of Man	1	Scotland	7
Northern Ireland	2	Wales	2

OVERSEAS MEMBERS 67

Australia	6	India	1
B.W.I.	6	South Africa	2
Canada	12	Thailand	1
Eire	2	U.S.A.	37

Total Membership 213

AUTUMN MEETING

This will be held in the meeting room of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, at 41 Devonshire Place, W.1. on **Saturday, 3rd November at 2.30 p.m.**

Members are reminded that visitors are very welcome.

DISPLAY

THE 44th PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

The Circle's display to Congress in the Court Room, Worthing, between June 12th and 15th was provided by:

- (1) Cdr. G. Bridgmore Brown (Bermuda).
- (2) Mr. B. B. Benwell (Barbados).
- (3) Mr. E. V. Toeg (Leewards).
- (4) Mr. R. Shields Forshaw (British Guiana).
- (5) Mr. M. W. Swetland (Jamaica).
- (6) Mr. A. J. Branston (Bahamas).

Our Representatives at the 44th Congress at Worthing were Mr. G. W. Groves and Mr. E. V. Toeg and a number of our members also attended at various times during the proceedings.

Circle meeting at Congress on June 14th, 1962.

Eleven members and two visitors attended a lively meeting in the Town Hall, Worthing, under the leadership of G. W. Groves. Apologies for absence were received from Philip T. Saunders (Hon. Secretary) and R. H. Austin. The following items were discussed:

(1) **Bermuda** (Cdr. G. Bridgmore Brown) Cachet to overseas mail used on one day only, in red on December 22nd, 1961, to mark the International Meeting, 1961, of President Kennedy and Mr. H. B. Macmillan. Further information on this cachet was sought. (2) **Dominica** (Mr. G. W. Groves) 1806 fleurons with and without date. Early pre-adhesives, 1789 and 1801. In the adhesives 1874 De la Rue, 1877/9 Crown CC. 1887 bisect, 1882 ½d surcharge, 1883-6 Crown C.A. 1886 Provisional Halfpenny, 1879 malformed "CE" in Fourpence, and Cancellations outside Dominica. (3) **Antigua** (Mr. M. W. Swetland) 6d. yellow-green listed as imperf, A02 cancellations, A18 on 1863-67 issue. (4) **British Guiana** (Mr. W. A. Townsend) who sought information on the use for 1954-55 issues cancelled Vendor No. 1, Vendor No. 2 and Vendor No. 3 suggesting that these might be river boat sales. He also showed two Falkland Is. covers which were forgeries, pages of Barbados, Antigua, St. Lucia and St. Vincent to show a method of collecting. Also an example of the Crowned Circle Paid at Nevis. (5) **St. Kitts** (Mr. E. V. Toeg) showed the Cayon strike in eight

examples including 1890, Silver Jubilee, large letters on the University issue, two types of cancel on Geo. VI, and on Q.E.II. Also for this colony, Dieppe Bay for 1890 having the large letters DB for Dieppe Bay, with the same strike on K.G. V and the University issue. (6) **Jamaica** (Mr. A. Latham) an 1843 paid ½ (with sloping bar to this figure) supposedly used in 1861, a cover from England to Jamaica with 1/1d. adhesives having an arrival mark "1½" at Kingston, cancels thought to be Mail Bag seals. Also by this member were 1840 and 1841 Spanish Town cancellation with blue segments extra long, together with a collection of Railway cancels of Kingston Stn., Anchovy, Troja, Albany, Spanish Town, Kendal, (all described as Type 1), Appleton, Porus, Buff Bay, Montpelier, Highgate Rlwy (Type 2) and as type 3 (about 1923) Annoto Bay, Kingston, Bushey Park, Richmond, Hope Bar Sutton, Ewerton, Grange Lane Stn., and Old Harbour Stn. Also displayed with these were strikes for Kingston Goods Sheds and TPO1 and TPO3.

The thanks of the Circle to the Host Society and Mr. W. H. S. Cheavin, who very kindly attended to our comfort, were expressed by Miss Rose Titford.

NOTES AND QUERIES

BAHAMAS

Victoria Surface Printed

The 1d. Queen Victoria surface-printed issue listed as S.G. 47 is, in my opinion, much scarcer than the catalogue suggests. The pale rose shade is markedly different from all the shades of red and is really "pink."

Nassau Cancellations 5a and 5b

I have both of these Nassau postmarks listed by Mr. Coasby (page 24, Bulletin 29) used on cover in 1903. I confirm his measurements of 24 and 25 mm., but notice that they can be separated easily because the letters of NASSAU in 5a are much wider (particularly the A, S and U) than those of 5b. Both these postmarks are remarkable in that they show the month represented by two letters (e.g. MR 27) before the date, which is not usual in Bahamas hand-stamps.

Staircase Sky Retouch

Specialists in the Staircase issue will be familiar with the retouch at the left of the sky which appears on late printings of Stamp 13, Vignette Plate 2.

BAHAMAS (contd.)

This can be found on the 3d. yellow and the 5d. purple and more easily on the 5d. orange and 5d. purple overprinted "SPECIAL DELIVERY." Some years ago I discovered this retouch also on the 1d. Red Cross issue, (S.G. 100), where it falls just above and to left of the cross. As very few of the sheets examined showed the retouch, it is clear that the overprint must have been applied to a stock of the 1d. coming from various printings, and possibly from different Vignette Plates.

This retouch appears to have been an attempt to erase an obvious scratch which continued through stamp 26 and beyond. Blocks showing the scratch before and after retouch form an interesting study.

Dr. Hess

Many covers appear which owe their origin to Dr. Walter Hess of Nassau, who seems to have prepared numerous 'philatelic' covers between the wars. The earliest of these covers seen by me was dated 1919, while there is a wide variety of material of 1930 connected with the first daily flight from Nassau to Miami, with connections to CUBA, PORTO RICO, etc. It would be interesting to have some more information about this gentleman, from someone in possession of the facts.

Parcel Post, Nassau

In Bulletin 29 (Page 26) Mr. L. R. Coasby mentions the Nassau Parcel Post cds. While examining my examples, I noticed that there is also a PARCELS POST (with the S after Parcel). My examples are as follows:

Parcel Post Nassau Geo VI, 5/- 2 Oct. 1942

Parcels Post Nassau U.P.U. issue 10 Oct. 1949

Censored Covers

I have lately been making a study of censored covers of the last war in an attempt to unravel the full story. A pattern now seems to be emerging, but I should be very grateful if members with such material would kindly let me see any covers they may have which bear the green PASSED BY CENSOR handstamp or any of the various labels reading OPENED BY CENSOR or OPENED BY EXAMINER.

Express Delivery

There is an Express Delivery service at Nassau which seems to be little used, as covers are not common, I have a cover of Feb. 1959, showing purple handstamp EXPRESS (32 x 10 mm.) with a tiny DELIVERY (15 mm. long) below it. I also have EXPRESS covers from West End, dated Oct. 1961 and Mar. 1962, showing bold EXPRESS handstamp (34 x 5½ mm.) in black seriffed letters. Can anyone say which other offices offer an Express Delivery service ?

Mackay Street

It appears that the new office at MACKAY STREET is very alive to the importance of propaganda, since recent covers bear either a two-lined MACKAY STREET POST OFFICE in black or purple or a circular TRD type handstamp reading MACKAY ST. POST OFFICE, NASSAU, BAHAMAS in black.

Covers of Nov. 1961 additionally had the adhesive stamps cancelled by a single line date in bold purple type. This did not satisfy the Nassau Head Office, however, for on arrival there they received a heavy black "B" in upright oval of bars upon each postage stamp, as is usual in the case of insufficiently cancelled mail arriving from the Out-Islands. Do we sense a little friendly rivalry here between the two Nassau post offices ?

H. Moreton Black.

Evidence is now coming to light as to the use made of the "A," "B" and "C" sans serif cancellers used between Gisburns dates of 1840 to 1860. Complete details will be given in the Bahamas Papers to be published next year. Two points are urgently awaiting to be settled however. These are (a) have any members examples of these strikes made before August 1846? and (b) can an examination be made of strikes made after 12th Jan. 1847, but before April 9th, 1847, to see if the lower part of the outer ring has a serrated break about 5 o'clock. It would be most valuable if details about these strikes, catalogued by Robson Lowe as PL, could be sent to me at 144 The Avenue, Highams Park. E.4, without delay, please.

Forgeries

The recent seizure of a quantity of printers stereotypes in Australia (Stamp Collecting, March 16th and 23rd 1962) brings to light the fact that Bahamas Landfall overprints may be forged. If any member can give any information about these it would be most welcome.

It would also be worth while forging the COIUMBUS variety although this is not mentioned. Just recently this variety has appeared, after a number of years, on the third of the pictorials used for the Landfall overprint so that it might be as well to check up on all copies of the 4d., 6d., and 8d., values.

Information about the Bahamas forgeries and the "reproductions" is being assembled. In connection with this, it would be much appreciated if members possessing copies of any other forgeries or fakes (except the products of Sperati and Spiro), especially of the 4d. on 6d. of 1883, would let me know brief details at an early date.

A. J. Branston

BAHAMAS (contd.)

Bulletin 34 (July) Bahamas postal history Handstamp (H) (p. 44) Code letter A.

Mr. L. R. Coasby asks if anyone has an earlier c.d.s. than 1878. I have a copy of 1863-80 4d. dull rose (S.G. 26) dated April 15th, 1872. As is generally known their cancellations were usually on cover and not on the stamp. I have only seen them on the 4d. and 1/-. The 4d. seems to be much less common than the 1/-. I have fifteen on the 1/- and only three on the 4d. (two "A", 1 "B"). I likewise have never seen "C."

N. Garrard.

BRITISH HONDURAS

Post Offices

Please adjust the listing of British Honduras Post Offices on page 8 of Bulletin No. 32 to note that Guinea Grass, Hopkins, and Stann Creek Valley - 22 Miles, are no longer open.

In GUINEA GRASS there was a small postal unit and the headmaster of the village school was generally postmaster. But since early in 1961, owing to the frequent change or transfer of the teachers, the Postmaster General has not appointed a postmaster for the village. A native isn't appointed simply because there is scarcely one capable and responsible enough to keep the job. Also, the job isn't payable.

For the past ten years the following have been the postmasters: Mr. Oswald Reyes, Mr. John Arana, Mr. Simon Garcia, and Mr. Basilio Novelo.

Ralph E. Group.

BRITISH WEST INDIES

Handstruck Stamps and Cancellations

Writers who attempt to list handstruck stamps and cancellations start by classifying them according to their use or purpose or by reference to some distinctive characteristic of their design; they adopt a capital letter prefix for each such class and add serial numbers for the different types in that class. If required, sub-types can then be numbered by tacking on 'a,' 'b,' 'c,' etc., to the foregoing.

The Publications Sub-Committee feel it desirable that a uniform code of

prefixes should be used for this purpose in our publications, and they propose the following:

A	Air mail
C	Circular datestamps
E	Electric cancelling machine marks
N	Name marks, i.e., office of origin in straight line, sometimes "boxed."
O	Obliterators
P	Paid marks
Q	Paquebots
R	Registered
S	Ship letters
TRD	Temporary rubber datestamps
M	Miscellaneous
DX	Duplex cancellations (combined datestamp and obliterator).

Comments on this list of prefixes and suggestions for further classes of material will be welcomed by the Sub-Committee.

Cdr. D. Bridgmore Brown.

JAMAICA

Inland Postal Rates

Referring to the notes by Mr. Britnor and Mr. Latham, I have the following, all with Inld. P. Pd. or similar abbreviation.

St. Anns, 1803	1/3	
Lucea, 1808	1/3	
Kingston, 1820	1/3	
Kingston, 1829	7½	All these are to
Bath, 1826	7½	Scotland or England
Kingston, 1824	2/6	
Montego Bay, 1794	1/3	
Kingston, 1836	7	
MorantBay, 1836	7	

I also have a Kingston to May Hill with Pd. 7. Also several with a "7," and no other indication of charge.

I have a local cover of 1836 with "Money Letter," 1¼ oz. and 4/4, all in Ms. Does anyone know the early rates for registered letters ?

Dr. R. H. Blackburn

Independance Day in Jamaica was celebrated on the 6th August, 1962. Due to this no P.O's opened, having holidays for the 6th and 7th of August respectively. Therefore the earliest first day postmark is 8th August, 1962.

L. A. Courtney.

MONTSERRAT

Since I described some postal markings in Bulletins Nod. 29 and 32 I have made drawings of these markings which may be of some interest. The drawings have been traced by hand and in the circumstances cannot be as accurate as photographic reproductions.

E. V. Toeg.







TRINIDAD

The Trinidad Provisional of 1956

A dramatic rush shipment of stamps which failed to arrive in time led to the issuance of the Trinidad ONE CENT on 2 Cents Provisionals in 1956. While the plane with the regulars aboard was delayed first by fog at the London airport and then engine trouble in New York, stocks of the 1c stamps ran out at Port of Spain. At 11.30 a.m. on Friday, December 20th, postal authorities reluctantly placed the hastily overprinted provisionals on sale at the General Post Office. They were available until the 4 p.m. closing time, but since the regular stamps arrived during the night, the provisionals had a life of only 5½ hours, one of the shortest on record. None were sold at any location other than the G.P.O. at Port of Spain.

Sales of the 1c value had been very heavy through early December, since this was the postal rate on Christmas cards. With stocks dwindling, the provisionals were ordered overprinted by the Government Printers in Port of Spain as a precaution, but the emergency shipment was expected right up to the last minute.

News of the provisionals spread quickly around the Port of Spain business district, and the Stamps soon were eagerly sought after by speculators. A policy of limiting sales per customer to two sheets of 60 stamps each was immediately adopted. Although sales of the 1c value had been about 100,000 per day during the month, the provisional sales were less than 82,000 due to the clamp-down by postal authorities. This low sales figure has caused the stamp's price to rise to a phenomenal 275 times its original face value of six-tenths of a cent in U.S. currency. The actual records show that a total of 539,940 were printed, of which 81,840 were sold and 379 retained for official records. 457,721 were destroyed on February 19th, 1957. All overprinted stamps were from plate number 1 - 2.

As might be expected, the hasty overprinting by the local Government Printer resulted in errors. Considering the total printing, a creditable performance was turned in by the pressmen. Only four sheets are known to have been released with the overprint shifted, although flaws in individual letters are fairly common.

Two of the sheets with shifted overprint were sold to local citizens, and although one (Sheet No. 084) was broken up, the other (Sheet No. 003) is intact in the collection of a Port of Spain philatelist. The other two sheets were included in a shipment received from the colony by an English new issue dealer. He broke up one sheet (Sheet No. unknown), but sold the

TRINIDAD (contd.)

other (Sheet No. 073) to an American collector who holds it intact. Of the four sheets, three were fed into the press in such a manner that the overprint angles upward to the right. Sheet No. 003 has the overprint shifted to the right in a horizontal plane.

First Day covers are comparatively scarce, since the heavy load of Christmas mail forced the post office workers to cancel most of the mailing bearing the provisionals late at night or the next day. No advance notice was provided, and both dealers and collectors were taken unawares by the issuance of these stamps. The shifted overprint is a modern rarity, of course, since only 240 copies exist.

I would like to express my thanks to the Trinidad Philatelic Society and in particular Mr. J. F. Chalmers for the help given in gathering the above information.

H. T. Eckhardt.

OBITUARY

It is with sincere regret that we learn of the passing of Mr. Percy W. Hosking on June 9th last. He was one of the earliest members of the Circle and a keen and serious student of the stamps and postal history of British Guiana with emphasis on the cancellations. The Circle's sympathy is extended to his widow in her great loss.

R. T.

HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

Those of us who regularly attend our two meetings each year have, for some time now, been disappointed in not having our President in the chair. In view of the fact that our autumn meeting takes place early next month I thought it would be in accord with the wishes of members if I visited Mr. Collett and this I did on August 13th last. Not being superstitious I decided to leave home early and was most fortunate in having fine weather. I am sorry to say that Mr. Collett had a very bad attack of bronchitis last March which has left him very weak but I am happy to inform members and his many friends that he is now making a slow recovery. I found him quite cheerful and on taking my leave he requested me to express his regret at his inability to take part in our activities and his good wishes for the continued success of our Circle. Only three days before I had the pleasure of a visit from one of our overseas members - Mr. F. G. Freeman of British Columbia - and a most pleasant time was spent in discussing stamps and of life and conditions in his part of the world. I always look upon such a visit as a 'red letter' day and I hope any other member who plans to visit England will find time to pay me a call. It will be helpful to let me have a few days notice in order that I can give directions as the best way to reach me. By the time this issue reaches you the evenings will be drawing in but there is compensation in the fact that there is usually more opportunity to study our stamps. Whilst Society programmes still refer to 'Season' I feel that it is fair to say that interest in our hobby abounds throughout the year. Only our auctioneer friends decide to forget stamps in order to take a well deserved break in the month of August. A short while ago the opening paragraph in a letter from an overseas member read as follows: 'As usual I was delighted to get the last number of the Bulletin and found much of interest in it.' Such kindly comment is much appreciated particularly by our Editor who after all is the chap who does most of the work. In conclusion I would like to extend a warm welcome to the following who have recently joined us: B. B. Frishmuth (U.S.A.) and H. E. Henstock.

P.T.S.

THE LIBRARY

Current Literature

ANTIGUA. Antigua's First Issue and Postal Markings. Patrick Hamilton. P.M. 27/7/62. (No. 1226).

BAHAMAS. The Plantation Papers: I - Bahamas. Colin Maycock. P. June 1962.

BARBADOS, The Plantation Papers: II - Barbados. Colin Maycock. P. July 1962.

BERMUDA AND BRITISH GUIANA. The Plantation Papers: III - Bermuda and British Guiana. Colin Maycock. P. August 1962.

(These articles on the Plantation Papers form part of a series, still continuing in the "Philatelist" and summarise the types of Handstruck stamps from each colony found in a large collection of old documents. Libr.).

BERMUDA. Bermudan Fakes. Py. May/June 1962.

BRITISH GUIANA. Jungles and Mountains of British Guiana. Eric Glasgow. P.M. 29/6/62 (1224).

Abbreviations : P - The Philatelist : Py - Philately : P.M. - Philatelic Magazine : S.C - Stamp Collecting.

Addition to Library

BERMUDA. The Postage Stamps of Bermuda, by H. R. Holmes. 1932, 5" x 7". 93 pp. Ills. p.c.

Rose Titford, Hon. Librarian.

The Postal Markings of Barbados

Copies of the first supplement to Paper No. 2 may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary.

In Supplement No. 1 the authors have endeavoured to bring up to date the original Paper by the inclusion of new postmarks, and to amend and correct any ambiguities. The Supplement consists of seven pages, fully illustrated, and punched so that it may be inserted in the original binding. Published by the B.W.I. Study Circle price 4/- including postage (Canada and U.S.A. 75c.). Reduced price to Members of the Circle 3/- including postage (Canada and U.S.A. 50c.).

Bulletins: Copies of back issues Nos. 8-34 are available at 4/- each, post free. Orders should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary accompanied by the appropriate remittance.

LIST OF MEMBERS 1962

Please amend the List of Members published in the July Bulletin (No. 34) as follows:

NAME	MAIN INTEREST	Other Interests
†Cornell, W. G.	ANT BER	All
Griswold, Dr. Arthur S.	Br.G* BAH* GRE* C of all	
Kershaw, A.	CAY*	

A Plea

Supply of material for future issues of the Bulletin is very short and I am in urgent need of more articles. I should also like to remind members again that I would appreciate receipt of copy not later than six weeks prior to publication. Members who require urgent replies to their queries should address their letters to the Hon. Secretary, who will endeavour to answer by return of post.

OPINIONS SERVICE

Facilities are available for opinions to be given on most stamps of the B.W.I. Group. A fee of 1/- per stamp is charged. Members wishing to avail themselves of this service should send the stamp(s) to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing the appropriate fee and an addressed envelope (stamped additionally for Registration or Recorded Delivery). Every endeavour will be made to return the stamp(s) within fourteen days.

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F. W. COLLINS

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