



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED 1954

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BULLETIN No. 40 MARCH 1964

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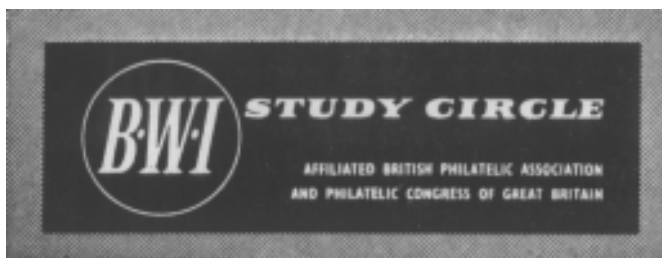
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OBJECTS

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

is 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".

TO EVERY MEMBER OF THE B.W.I. STUDY CIRCLE

(except the Hon. Sec./Treasurer)

In the last Bulletin I suggested that the Members might like to mark the Circle's TENTH ANNIVERSARY in April, 1964, by making some kind of presentation to our Founder (and still Hon. Sec./ Treasurer), Philip Saunders, and, judging by letters received and conversations with Members I have met, this idea appears to have general approval.

I now, therefore, invite every Member to contribute to a fund for this purpose - as much or as little as you feel inclined, I think a large number of contributors is more important than a large sum of money. The exact form of our presentation can best be settled by the other Officers when they know how much has been contributed. It will probably be made at the Annual Dinner after the Anniversary Meeting, and will be accompanied by a list of the contributors (without stating any amounts).

It is hardly necessary to emphasise the immense enthusiasm our Founder has bestowed on his work during the last ten years, or the extent of his labours keeping in touch with our world-wide Membership, which now numbers well over 200. I hope, therefore, that every Member will send something.

Our Hon. Editor, B. B. Benwell, has kindly agreed to receive your contribution at the address opposite.

Yours sincerely,
G. BRIDGMORE BROWN,
Chairman.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING

TENTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING

This will be held at the usual venue, 41 Devonshire Place, London, W.1, on **Saturday, April 18, at 3 p.m.** Please make every endeavour to attend and bring along a few of your pages for display and a note of any problems you wish to be discussed. This will be followed by the customary Dinner (dress informal) at the Phoenix Restaurant, 37 Cavendish Square, London, W.1 (7.15 for 7.30 p.m.). All being well it is hoped that Sir Alan Burns, K.C.M.G. (Governor of British Honduras 1934-40) and Lady Burns will attend. The charge will be 25s. per head (excluding wine but inclusive of gratuities). In order that arrangements can be completed in good time a note of the number of seats to be reserved, together with the appropriate remittance, should be sent to the Hon. Secretary to reach him **not later than April 4** next.

AUTUMN MEETING

The Autumn Meeting of the Circle was held at 41 Devonshire Place, London, W.1, on Saturday, November 2, 1963, at 3 p.m.. Commander G. Bridgmore Brown in the Chair. 18 members attended.

Apologies for absence were received from Dr. Brian de Burca and Mr. John B. Marriott. The Chairman extended a warm welcome to the Circle's youngest member - Andrew Gibson, who had received many prizes in the Melville Memorial Competition organised annually by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain.

There was little formal business so the meeting proceeded at once to enjoy the two main displays provided by Mr. Geoffrey W. Groves, who had brought along a selection from his collection of ANTIGUA, and by Mr. Raymond H. Austin, who showed a selection from his collection of BAHAMAS. These displays were placed on the tables for leisurely inspection, each exhibitor in turn giving a running commentary on the material shown.

Mr. Groves dealt first with the postal history background of Antigua and showed six different types of the straight-line "ANTIGUA" handstamp dated before 1790 including examples from the Codrington correspondence. Then followed "ANTIGUA" with year date 1799 below, Antigua being one of the earliest colonies to use this type. Then came the large fleuron type with year included, which is quite scarce, and an example was shown dated JUL 15 1809, also the small fleuron type with various differences. A cover dated in 1845 sent by the Royal Mail Steam Service Packet was another interesting item included in this part of the display. In 1850 the G.P.O. in London took over the administration of postal affairs in Antigua and established an office at St. John and it was during this period that the "PAID AT ANTIGUA" crowned circle type in red appeared - this was in use for approximately 10 years and a cover dated in 1856 was shown. In 1858 the 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. stamps of Great Britain were used until 1860 when the local authorities took over the postal administration entirely: examples of the "A18" (English Harbour) obliteration on the G.B. 6d. were shown. Coming to the issues proper for Antigua the display commenced with plate proofs of the 6d. in pale green and in dark green and in black of this value. The Aug. 1862, no wmk., rough perf. 14 to 16: 6d. was followed by various printings of the 1863/67, wmk. Small Star, rough perf. 1d. and 6d. values with a wide variety of shades, unused and used with examples of the "so-called" imperfs. The De la Rue printings of

1872, printed from Perkins, Bacon plates and subsequent issues of the first two types were shown in great detail and many examples of the "A18" obliteration were included. In the 1879, 2½d. the variety large "2" in "2½" with slanting foot (of which there are three on the plate) was shown, used. Of the 1884 issue, mint and used, many multiple pieces were included and the 2½d., ultramarine with the slanting foot to "2" in "2½" variety. Re-entries were shown on the 1d. and all six re-entries on the 6d. - a most interesting study. The Seal design and subsequent issues including the WAR STAMP overprints were all well represented, the material ending with a complete and interesting display of Antigua Village postmarks; Leeward Islands stamps with Antigua cancellations; Paquebot marks applied to Antigua stamps, and the Barbuda set used.

Mr. Austin commenced his display of Bahamas with pre-adhesives, the earliest in his collection being 1814 with the straight-line "BAHAMAS" and another with "MISSENT TO BRISTOL" on a cover sent to Brighton. The scarce late use of the straight line "BAHAMAS" in red used in 1845. Examples of the first dated handstamp "NASSAU NEW PROVIDENCE" with "BAHAMAS" in a half circle dated in 1846, and a fine "BAHAMAS SHIP LETTER" (two lines) dated 17 Dec. 1851 - a very clear strike. These were followed by other interesting pre-adhesives dated 1851 to 1857. The use of G.B. stamps in the Bahamas with the "A05" obliterator was shown by the 6d.

The Chalon head types from 1859 to 1882 comprising the Perkins, Bacon issues and those printed by De la Rue from Perkins, Bacon plates were fully represented and included plate proofs of the first issue in black; the 1d. on thick paper, S.G.1 and 1a, unused and used; a mint block of four of the 1d, on thin paper, S.G.2 and two used. Oct. 1860, 1d. clean-cut perf. 14 to 16 and the rough perfs. of June-Dec. 1861, including a mint strip of three of the 1d. The 1862 issue included many fine shades among these being the 6d. lilac S.G.19a, used. In the 1863/80 wmk. CC, perf. 12½ issue a wide range of shades, particularly of the 1d, and included in the 1d.'s was a fine advertised cover bearing four stamps with the cachet "ADVt. NOT CALLED FOR;" also some fine blocks of four of the 6d. mint, and the 1s. on cover. In the perf. 14 stamps the 1d. aniline, S.G.34, mint and used, many fine multiples of the other values, and covers. Of the 1884/98 issue mint multiples including a marginal block of four of the scarce 2½d. dull blue; the £1 was shown mint and used. The K.E. VII stamps were equally fully represented with three colour trials of the 1d., imperforate on CA paper and the Queen's Staircase types showed mint multiples. A most interesting study included at the end of this display comprised all the known postmarks of the Crooked Island group and also many other scarce postmarks and T.R.D.'s.

AUTUMN MEETING (contd.)

Although the foregoing notes concern the two main displays the following reviews material shown by Mr. C. Roland Jones: ST. LUCIA. A very interesting and well illustrated study of the Registered marks showing the "R" violet handstamp. The "R" with ST. LUCIA in oblong format divided by vertical bar - five types; "R" enclosed by circle, and the first type of adhesive label. (Full justice in describing these types cannot be really made by this scribe and she has suggested to Mr. Roland Jones that an article for the Bulletin, illustrated, would be most welcomed by the Editor).

Commander F. W. Collins showed a block of 30 of the TURKS ISLANDS 1889, CA, perf. 14 1d. as a tribute to the production of this stamp which with its complete centring of stamps and perforation was without fault.

The Resolution of thanks to the exhibitors with special emphasis to the very fine displays by Mr. Groves and Mr. Austin was warmly proposed by Mr. Arthur E. Beach who dealt specifically with Mr. Groves' contribution. He was sure all had appreciated the very able and instructive commentary he had given. For himself he had been particularly interested in the pre-adhesive material.

Miss Titford seconded and spoke about Mr. Austin's display which she understood was the first time Mr. Austin had shown to any society. His collection had only been started about five years ago and this fact made her appreciation of the material he had gathered together in so short a time all the more sincere, as to-day it was becoming increasingly difficult to acquire fine Bahamas. In the case of both exhibitors it was abundantly clear that much research had gone into their respective collections and that each was a master of his subject.

In putting the Resolution to the meeting the Chairman added his own appreciation and referred to the great interest which the displays had provided. This was carried unanimously.

Rose Titford.

DISPLAY

NORTHERN MEETING - 21st September, 1963

A small gathering of Yorkshire and Lancashire members of the Study Circle met in Rochdale on Saturday, September 21, to see a display given by Mr. Alan W. Morley.

We were privileged to see part of Mr. Morley's Leeward Islands collection which started with one of his own favourite Islands, that of Antigua. Plate proofs, colour trials and re-entries to be found on the Queen Victoria 6d. stamp were shown and described by Mr. Morley, and his sheets bore evidence of a tremendous amount of research. He then switched to his own design which was accepted for the 1962 Antigua "Centenary" Issue, showing his original drawings, mock-ups and essays. Finally he showed us his collection of examples of the use of the obliterator A.18 at English Harbour which included an example of this cancellation on a G.B. 6d.

For the second part of his display Mr. Morley presented a variety of sheets covering the cancellations of Dominica and some irregularly withheld covers dated 1939, and finished with some fine examples of the use of the Crowned Circle Paid mark of Nevis. Altogether one of the finest displays which the Northern members of our Circle have had the pleasure of seeing,

Northern members of the Study Circle hope to hold further meetings during the next six months and any member who would like to attend can obtain full details regarding times and places from Mr. W. K. Watson, 56 St. Annes Road, Headingley, Leeds 6.

W. K. Watson.

NOTES AND QUERIES

ANTIGUA

I have been shown recently a cover from Antigua to London. This item is endorsed "Mail 11/4/66" and has a Crowned Circle PAID AT ANTIGUA



ANTIGUA (contd.)

cancellation in red, also a circular LONDON PAID mark in red dated 30 AP 66 and "11" in red crayon written across the face of the cover denoting that 11d. postage had been paid at Antigua and was due to the G.P.O. London. A further 1d. would have been paid also to the Antigua Authorities thus making up the total postage of 1s. All of the above mentioned marks are on the front of the cover.

On the reverse is a London c.d.s. dated AP 30 66 and a light blue double c.d.s. "POST OFFICE. ANTIGUA" and "APR 11 1866" in its centre: a drawing of the double c.d.s. is illustrated.

The cancellation does not appear to conform to the type which would be sent out from the United Kingdom to a Colony at that time. I have never before seen this type of double c.d.s. and would like to hear whether anyone can throw any light on it or offer any ideas about it.

E. V. Toeg.

BAHAMAS

Some additions and corrections to Mr. S. Graham Hoey's Check List of Essays and Proofs in Bulletin No. 39, October, 1963.

1862 Chalon Head Issue by De La Rue

Plate Proofs

(2) As issued but imperforate, I have the 6d. value with normal and with reversed watermark. I also have the 6d. overprinted "CANCELLED" in Type CD2.

1863 One Shilling Value by De La Rue

Die Proofs

(1) I have one progress proof in black on glazed card, cut close, with the triangles in the upper corners and the value panel in solid colour. The die of the head, though very similar, is not exactly the same as on the issued stamp. There are more shading lines on the nose, lower lip and chin. Above the eye and temple the lines forming the hair on the issued stamp suggest a long lock. On the progress proof no such lock of hair is apparent.

Plate Proofs

(1) As issued but imperforate. I also have this value overprinted "CANCELLED" in Type CD2.

The Queen's Staircase Issue

Essay

See the description of my example in Bulletin No. 37 (Pages 26 and 27).

Die Proofs

(4) On my copy the inscription on the back reads: "New original/with blank duty/for producing the/ 5d. 2s. and 3s./Dec. 1902" in five lines in pencil.

Colour Trials

(1) 1d. value. My examples with the vignette in ultramarine and in purple have the frames in a deep olive-black rather than in black.

(2) 5d. value. I have three on watermarked Multiple Crown and CA paper, imperforate, in the following colours:

Vignette	Frame	Paper
Purple	Purple	Deep yellow Colours of 3d.
Grey-black	Purple	Lemon
Black	Mauve	White Colours of 5d., 1917

(3) As issued but imperforate.

I also have the following: S.G.112, S.G.116 and S.G.S3.

1912-1929 King George V Issues

Plate Proofs

(1) ½d. value on plain unwatermarked paper, imperforate. I have this in purple and blue, but with a handstamped "SPECIMEN" overprint c. 15 x 1.5 mm., similar to Type SD3, applied diagonally upwards in the lower right corner.

(3) As issued but imperforate. I have S.G.113, S.G.114 and S.G.115

M. H. Ludington.

King George VI Key-Plate

The centring of the duty in the King George VI key-plate type is usually so good that at one time doubt was expressed whether these stamps were, in fact, printed at two operations. Occasionally differences in shade (as in one outstanding printing of the 2d. green) show that this was so, and poorly centred copies are sometimes found in which the duty impinges upon the frame.



BAHAMAS (contd.)

Damaged letters in the duty are not common, and I was amazed to find the variety on the 3d. blue which is illustrated herewith. It looks as if something had been dropped on the duty plate to damage the last "E" of Three and the "P" of Pence so severely. Can any one fix the position of this variety ?

Late in its life the 3d. value was printed from Plate 2, in red. As I have seen only one Plate Block, this printing seems to be scarce. It may have been sent to the Colony and never released in London.

H. Morelon Black.

BRITISH HONDURAS

I have a copy of S.G.95 with what might be a rubber oval seal type mark, consisting of a rim, lettering with more lettering in a squashed ellipse. The 1 cent. looks as if it could have come off a newspaper wrapper. I wonder how early rubber marks came into use in B.H.? I have S.G.39 used in 1890 and my concentric circles on S.G.38 may be rubber. Some of the upright oval of bars marks, which I feel sure was metal, look like rubber because of poor inking in the tropics, and this applies to K.65 which we know came from London. I have the str. line undated framed Orange Walk on S.G.96. Until I read Mr. G. J. Raymond's description of "20 miles Stann Creek" on page 73 of Bulletin No. 39, I had not thought of rubber quasi seals, though the large circular date stamps looked like rubber, available in the First World War. Would it be possible to publish types to aid in listing up to say 1918? Since Monkey River may date from December 1, 1889, what mark or marks were used there up to 1908? Monkey River may have had an earlier life under T. Perdomo from December, 1884, when Corosal and Punta Gorda were already open. Did these put the c.d.s. on the cover, leaving Belize to cancel overseas mail ? Have no local covers survived ?

Peter Jaffe.

GRENADA

Can any member give me the positions of:

- (a) inverted S in postage on 1875 1s.
- (b) Shlling error on 1875 1s.

(c) missing (p)ostage on 1881 ½d.

(d) missing fraction bar on 1881 ½d. I believe (a) is 89 on sheet of 120.

Do any of these varieties occur more than once on the sheet. The PENC F variety of the 2½d. occurs in two positions at least (with and without final stop).

Peter Jaffe.

JAMAICA

Railway Town cancellations of Jamaica

I have a postmark of Ipswich which is similar to Type 1 - i.e. Jamaica Railway at top, Ipswich at foot, but including a star at each side. The date is JAN 8 1902, on a red Llandoverly. This is about 5 (nearly 6) years earlier than the first date quoted for this station, and is in blue ink. This type is not mentioned in the Jamaica Handbook, and may be of interest.

R. W. Metcalfe.

LEEWARD ISLANDS

I have S.G.3, used in Antigua, showing damage to pane watermark line at foot. Is this known on other B.W.I. and what is the date and the position?

Peter Jaffe.

The old Leeward Islands definitive remainders mentioned by Dr. H. V. Brown in Bulletin No. 39 were, according to two pieces of literature in my possession, purchased by Mr. T. H. Thompson of Bishop Auckland in 1891.

The last page of a catalogue (circa. 1895) covering the pre-1890 issues carries an advertisement by Thompson stating that he had purchased the entire remainders of postage stamps and post cards. This catalogue has the rather "long-winded" title of *Priced Catalogue of the Adhesive Postage Stamps of the Obsolete Leeward Isles*, by R. Hollick, revised by T. H. Thompson, et al.

A letter by Thompson, dated December 17, 1895, was published in the London Philatelist (Vol. 4, p.338). This letter also states that he purchased all of the remainders. This letter was written in an attempt to correct some erroneous information on the quantities of certain remainders. The descriptions of the items in question are not, by today's standards, very specific but I have tried to show the probable S.G. catalogue numbers.

LEEWARD ISLANDS (contd.)

Description	Quantity
Dominica - 1s., C.C. watermark	754 (S.G.3 and/or 9?)
Dominica - 1s., C.A. watermark	774 (S.G.26)
St. Christopher, 1890 issue – 6d. olive-grey C.A. watermark	1,217 (S.G.19?)

The letter is somewhat unclear in that the total remainders of the St. Christopher 6d. are indicated as 2,505. Thompson states that the CA watermark accounts for 1,217 and the rest are CC watermarked. The Leewards catalogue referred to above lists the 1890 6d. colour as greyish-green. This suggests that the CC watermark remainders are either S.G.4, 5, or 8 (S.G. refers to these as green or yellow-green in colour).

A rather peculiar entry in the Leewards catalogue may also be of interest. It is generally known that the A.18 "killer" was used at English Harbour (Antigua). This catalogue lists its use for the Island of BARHIDA (no mention of English Harbour). Could this be an erroneous reference to Barbuda or was some small area or island adjacent to English Harbour known by this name ?



I have an unusual Montsenat c.d.s, struck on a Leeward Islands Q.V. 1d. stamp. The strike, about 21 mm. in diameter, shows a distinct substitution of an "S" for an "8" in the date designator. The S is about the same height as the 2 (approximately 2½ mm.) but is noticeably wider. The substituted S is also wider than the S in MONTSERAT which is about 3 mm. in height.

Paul A. Larsen.

ST. CHRISTOPHER

I wish to report the acquisition of S.G.R.2 with what appears to be a genuine A09 (Nevis) mark. I realise this may be an accident since the fiscal without the violet h.s. was used in the sister island for postage.

Although I have no claim to be an expert on St. Christopher, I feel the pundits have not done enough to educate us on a number of points. Do they accept the following:

1. St. Christopher village offices were open in 1875.

2. Unlike all other Leeward Islands (Dr. H. Vivian Brown's query B.39 p.75 refers), St. Christopher issues were neither withdrawn nor demonetised in October 1890. This seems to explain the De La Rue dispatch dated January 20, 1891 (L.P., March, 1960) (but not the note on page 93 of our No. 7!), and the date of June 5, 1894, given in our No. 10 on page 35.

3. St. Christopher utilised two old c.d.s. to manufacture killers. One of these has three lines of unequal length, made up of the backs of type metal, perhaps code letter/day and month/year. The other is found more frequently and seems to utilise the worn month type the correct way up. "Army" I think never exists, the reported W is M inverted and I think A.M.J.Y. is correct, representing April, March and July or May.

4. It might be possible to date the printing(? s) of S.G.14/15 by a study of cancels. When in 1879 did the new "A.12" come into use at Basseterre? I have the C.A. 2½d. brown with A.M.J.Y. and with A.12; the shades differ.

5. The Crown Agents sale to T. H. Thompson in 1892 included Nevis 6d. of both printings to a total of 2,944 and 1,457 of the Nevis Is. Surely St. Christopher were not included.

6. The Antigua 1d. provisional? 1889-early 1890 cannot exist as genuine with A.12 vertical with widely spaced bars before and after number,

Peter Jaffe.

Some months ago I acquired an unusual registered cover from the T. Charlton Henry reference collection which may be of interest to some readers of this Bulletin. The cover was franked with one of each of the three Leeward Islands 1902 provisionals and in addition with a block of three of the St. Christopher 1885 ½d. on half of 1d. carmine-rose SG.22. The cover was sent from St. Kitts on the 4th September, 1905, and arrived at its destination at Roseau, Dominica, ten days later. Both the Leeward Islands stamps and the St. Christopher stamps were cancelled with a St. Kitts duplex A.12 canceller.

A former owner of this cover (possibly the late Major T. Charlton Henry) had written on the cover in pencil as follows:

"These forgeries paid no postage.

Single letter rate to Dominica (1905) 1d.

Registration fee 2d.

3d.

(All St. Christopher stamps were demonetised on June 5, 1894)."

ST. CHRISTOPHER (contd.)

In 1905 only 3d. postage was required for this registered letter and the St. Christopher stamps would appear therefore to be surplus to requirement, but the writer of the pencilled note called them "forgeries," which is obviously incorrect; presumably he did so because he states that all St. Christopher stamps had been demonetised on June 5, 1894.

Assuming that the word "demonetised" was intended to mean "invalidated for further postal use," can Dr. R. H. Urwick or anyone else confirm that invalidation of St. Christopher stamps for further postal use was effective from June 5, 1894?

E. V. Toeg.

ST. VINCENT

I have a query about an 1881 concession rate Sailor's Cover, endorsed by the sender (a stoker) from St. Vincent and countersigned (initialled) by his Commanding Officer. It bears a G.B. 1d. Venetian red (S.G.I 66) cancelled on arrival at Southampton by the 723 killer, with an impression of the SOUTHAMPTON SHIP LETTER c.d.s. of MR 16 '81 on the cover below the stamp.

The puzzling feature is that the Cover also bears a ½d. tax handstamp - the only reason for a charge to be raised could have been because the cover was over the permitted ½oz. and, if this had been so, why only a "½d."?

St. Vincent and Maritime Mail Specialists may like to record an actual use of the SHIP-LETTERS/ST. VINCENT c.d.s. with code letter C and dated OC 10 '05 struck in black on both the reverse and obverse of a G.B. Edward VII 1d. Postal Card addressed to St. Vincent. Studd lists this as S.37 with the comment "G.P.O. records state issued 1.6.1894: not seen."

C. Angus Parker.

When and for what purpose were the large SPECIMEN Queen Victoria De La Rue made (these include S.G.53 and 54, as advertised by Ritchie Bodily at the front of B. No. 31). How many sheets were overprinted. In the island I found (in 1950) official reference to "free issue of 90 U.P.U. specimens" but this must refer to Perkins Bacon prints, perhaps of 5s. (June 29, 1882). Has any member a copy of the £50 on 5s. Perkins Bacon fiscal issued on September 15, 1882?

Peter Jaffe

With reference to Mr. A. E. Spreckley's inquiry on the perforation variety of S.G.24. I have noted that Miss Stewart had much difficulty with the "B" machine at this time. Some large copies are found and the horizontal lines are so misplaced that stamps have been cut apart, the perforation running through the value of the St. Vincent. There is/was a 1d. sage green 1880, S.G.25, in the Agabeg collection with a similar vertical extra line of perforation; the cancellation was I think B.U.

Extra perforations on issued stamps occur horizontally, at top or bottom on S.G.10, the Is. slate grey "A" machine. Such are "common" on the reject sheets of S.G.3a and S.G.4 - common being related to numbers of normals found. I fancy the S.G.10 variety arises from attempts to perforate through several sheets, since the holes are blind.

Can any member report on perforation varieties of S.G.29, the 1880 1d. on half 6d. ? I have seen a copy with an extra line of perforation 12 (local machine) running up at 45 degrees from the normal full line. This or another copy was mentioned by Sir John Wilson. Bart., in London Philatelist article in 1943.

Peter Jaffe.

TOBAGO

The accompanying illustration of the TOBAGO SHIP LETTER strike used on a postcard is dated 1905. I have yet to see an example of its early use. Has any member one?

TOBAGO

I also have a front of a letter sent from Tobago in January, 1797, addressed to Edinburgh bearing a handstruck TOBAGO in serif letters, as R.L. Type PD, measuring approx. 30mm. x 4¼mm. (illustrated). I do not think that this mark has been recorded before.

A. E. Beach.



POST CARD
TOBAGO
SHEPHERD

This side for the Address

*Mr. M. Taylor
Anglican Rectory
Glanton
Northumberland
England*

TRINIDAD

1885 the First Postage Due Issue

In his "Report for 1885" the Postmaster General of Trinidad, J. A. Bulmer, gave details of the work which had occupied his attention since his arrival in the island in September, 1883. This included, among many other things, the introduction of "surcharge stamps" as they were called.

On the subject of unpaid and insufficiently paid correspondence, the Postmaster General reported that the previous system of submitting a monthly balance sheet by sub-postmasters was unsatisfactory, owing mainly to the constant change of officers at police and railway stations where postal business was transacted. It is worth mentioning that it was only in August, 1885, that the first two sub-offices, namely those at St. Joseph and Cedros, were transferred from police stations to premises specially fitted up for postal business, and staffed by private individuals. Not infrequently at railway stations two or more changes in personnel would occur during the month, and as no proper written transfer of undelivered letters was made by the outgoing sub-postmaster, the last comer declined any responsibility if the statement submitted by him did not agree with the chief office records. Also the system did not provide for the contingency of the addressee moving.

As soon as it was possible to have a plate prepared and stamps printed, a new system was adopted. On January 1, 1885, surcharge stamps of denominations, ½d., 1d., 2d. 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., and 1s. were issued to every post office and formed, from that time onwards, a part of the credit stock of stamps, etc., advanced to each sub-postmaster.

John B. Marriott.

(To be continued in Bulletin No. 41)

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Some additions and corrections to my notes on the postal markings in Bulletin No, 38, July, 1963.

As so often seems to happen, no sooner had my notes appeared in print than new material was received obliging me to correct some of my previous notes.

Type 2 datestamp. New late use, 10 MY 17, cancelling the stamps on a registered letter to Chicago.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS (contd.)

On the back of the cover is a Type 3 datestamp, dated MY 12 17, which suggests that the Type 2 datestamp had been transferred to one of the branch post offices, though I do not know which.

Type 3 datestamp used at Cockburn Harbour has now been seen in blue-black dated AP 16 29.

Type 4 datestamp is known in purple-black. My example is dated JA 25 30.

Type 6 datestamp appeared in 1951 with the year date in very small type, 1.5 mm. high instead of the usual 2.5 mm.

A double circle T.R.D. was used at Grand Turk in 1954. The diameters are 23 mm, and 14.5 mm, and "GRAND TURK" is around the top and "TURKS ISLANDS" is around the bottom in lettering 2 mm. high. The date in the centre is in two lines below a collection letter in lettering 1.75 mm. high. My examples are in blue-black. This datestamp should be numbered Type 7.

The current datestamp should be re-numbered Type 8, and the earliest date of use should be advanced to early 1955, my earliest being 21 FE 55.

Prior to the appearance of the Official Paid datestamp, a rectangular mark, inscribed "POSTAGE PAID" in two lines of serified capitals within a frame 42.75 mm. x 18 mm., was used on official mail. I have it in violet on a cover dated AP 4 24.

The Official Paid datestamp has now been seen in red dated DE 22 27, and in violet dated MY 28 29.

M. H. Ludington.

The following notes amplify Mr. Ludington's Postal History of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The 1856 datestamp was used as late as December 10, 1874, as a receiving mark.

The T.I. killer was used during 1917-19 as an obliterator for War Tax stamps which were supposed to be affixed to inwards mail. 1d. on a letter and 3d. on a parcel. I have this killer on two different 3d. War Tax stamps and on the then current 3d, which was presumably used in lieu of a War Tax stamp.

Cockburn Harbour. I have a number of the C Type with short bars used in December and January but without year of date. There is also a further type with thin bars similar to the current Salt Cay.

Grand Turk, Type 5. This appeared in red June 15, '51 and also with A inverted December 24, '38.

There is an unrecorded type between 5 and 6 with 9mm. thick bars separating the words. A * takes the place of the code letter.

Type 7. My earliest date is February 12, '57.

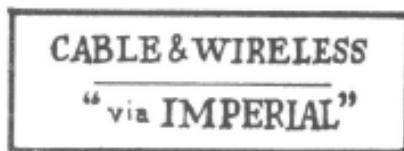


There is also a Registered postmark similar to Type 7 - it is not clear whether this has a * or A over the date.



The Official Paid mark in addition to the 31½mm. described appears in a 24mm, type dated August 3, '25, cancelling a 1938 1s. yellow-bistre. Possibly the year should have been shown as '45. The top part of this cancellation is not clear.

Slogan cancellations. The Cable and Wireless duplex was used as a date stamp in the Cable Office and I have this on cover to East Harbour also Salt Cay cancelling the 1938 ½d. It appears that the P.O. accepted this as cancelling internal mail. There is also a boxed two line Cable and Wireless - via Imperial without date. I have this in violet on a local cover to Grand Turk cancelling a 1938 ¼d. Also a two line Buy British Goods between two lines. This is sometimes used to cancel stamp and sometimes alongside stamp in conjunction with a Type 4 date-stamp for December 24, '31.



TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS (contd.)

NOTE.- I should be interested to have further information relating to this group of post marks, particularly the Rural postmarks which I understand were made by or for a collector.

John F. Challis.

I have been looking again at Mr. Ludington's article on the Turks and Caicos Islands in Bulletin 38, and can offer a few comments:

The Cockburn Harbour datestamp with heavy curved bars has been replaced by one with curved lines separating the names (similar to the Type 7 illustrated). My earliest is dated 11 FE 55, latest 11 SP59.

I have a copy of the Salt Cay datestamp in violet; the date is indecipherable but it appears on the 1d. Q.E., SG.237 and is I think 1958.

In 1956 Grand Turk was using a double circle "Registered" datestamp. It has "Registered" at the top, Turks Islands at the bottom, separated by curved lines. My earliest copy is dated MR 26 56, with star above the date.

I have the Official Paid datestamp in red dated JU 23 61.

Incidentally, I gather from the late Medical Officer at Cockburn Harbour that local mail for him was often sent without postage being paid. I have a cover from Grand Turk dated 10 JA 61 on which no postage was collected.

R. W. Metcalfe.

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Having read Mr. Toeg's articles on the Virgin Islands, I would like to offer the following comments:

The A.91 obliterator is also known in violet.

- | | | |
|--------------|----|---|
| Illustration | 4 | is known as early as July 15 08. |
| " | 6 | I have four copies in the 1930-31 period with an "A" above the date. In all cases the "A" is centred either above the month or above the date - in no case in the centre. |
| " | 10 | Have stamp dated MR 18 41. |
| " | 16 | I have two clear strikes of this mark showing the entire double circles - dated AP 17 18 and JU 27 19. |
| " | 17 | Must have been used until at least NO 21 30. |
| " | 18 | Have a clear copy in black dated 26 MR 10 - also a violet copy on a K.E. ½d. dated SP 19?? |

Robert Topaz.

MISCELLANEA

OBITUARY

It is with great regret that we have to record the passing of Mr. Herbert Bayley at Bridgetown, Barbados, on December 6, 1963, at the age of 71. He was a founder member of our Circle and it must have been a sad event in his life when, through failing health, he decided to dispose of his collection. To his wife, Jessie, and his two sons, Keith and Edmund, we extend our very sincere sympathies. P.T.S.

EXHIBITIONS

The Circle's warmest congratulations are extended to the following members who gained successes at Istanbul and Melbourne.

Istanbul 1963

Silver Gilt Medal - R. A. G. Lee, E. K. Thompson, W. A. Townshend.
Bronze - B. B. Benwell, R. Ward.

MIPEX 1963

Gold Medal - J. L. Messenger (St. Vincent).
Bronze Medal - B. Benwell (Barbados), E. G. Creed (Br. Honduras),
R. Ward (Sweden).

We should also like to mention that at Canberra's first Philatelic Exhibition the following members were invited to display their collections.

E. Creed, Br. Honduras.
Peter Jaffe, Barbados, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenada.

CUMULATIVE INDEX TO NOTES AND QUERIES: 1963

Bahamas: pp. 8/11, 25/31, 49/51, 64/70. **Barbados:** p.ll. **British Guiana:** pp. 12/13, 25. **British Honduras:** pp. 31, 70/73. **B.W.I.** (First dated postmarks) p.13. (Handstruck Stamps and Cancellations) pp. 31/32. **Dominica:** p.74. **Grenada:** pp. 32, 51. **Jamaica:** pp. 14/15, 32/33, 51/52, 74. **Leeward Islands:** pp. 74/75. **Montserrat:** pp. 75/77. **St. Vincent:** pp. 33/35, 78. **Tobago:** p.15. **Trinidad:** pp. 16/17, 35. **Turks and Caicos Islands:** pp. 35/36, 52/59. **Virgin Islands:** pp. 18/19, 37/40, 59/60. **CORRIGENDA:** p.60.

HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

DEAR MEMBER,

In view of the change in the publishing dates of our Bulletin it is a little late to extend my best wishes for 1964, nevertheless, I do so now with all sincerity. Moreover, I trust there will be many occasions when you will not only add material to your collection but also extend the knowledge of the colony of your choice. In the event of your being a member of or a delegate to the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain you may have been surprised by the statement on page 98 of the 1963 Year Book that our Circle was affiliated to the Yorkshire Philatelic Association. I hasten to advise you that such is not the case and the entry was made in error. Whilst on this subject I would inform you that there will not be an official meeting of our Circle at future Congresses. It is the prerogative of the Inviting Society to arrange meetings for those interested in various countries. In the event of one being convened for those who collect British West Indies anyone attending Congress will be most welcome whether or not he (or she) is a member of our Circle. As you are no doubt aware STAMPEX is now well established in the philatelic Calendar. It is being held this year from March 13-21 at the usual venue - Central Hall, Westminster, S.W.1 - and I need hardly add that a visit is well worthwhile. Elsewhere you will find a note in regard to our Tenth Anniversary Meeting to be followed by the customary Dinner. This latter function has always proved a most enjoyable gathering and it is hoped that the attendance will be even better than on previous occasions. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that it is essential that I receive a note of any change in your main or other interests not later than March 31 in order that the information given in the List of Members which will be included in the June Bulletin is up-to-date. It is most encouraging to start the New Year with a few words of praise that I received during the first week in January, again from a member overseas. He wrote: "I should like to take this opportunity to commend the Editor of the journal published by the Circle for a most excellent piece of work that consistently is of the utmost interest and my thanks to all who contribute their painstaking research and knowledge that is so graciously shared with us who do not have the time or knowledge to do likewise." The following have been enrolled as members to whom a warm welcome is extended on your behalf: Major C. B. A. Hire (Warwickshire) and A. L. Jones (Westmorland).

P.T.S.

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