



**STUDY CIRCLE**

FOUNDED  
JANUARY 27th, 1954

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**BULLETIN No. 96 MARCH 1978**

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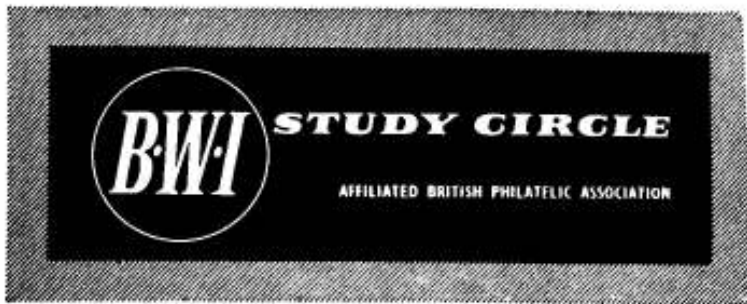
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## **OBJECTS**

1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the **British West Indies** and in addition **BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS.**
2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
3. To loan books from Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear post both ways. List supplied on application.
4. To publicise 'wants'.
5. To furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

is WORLD-WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be **advanced** or **new** collectors. The ANNUAL subscription is **£2.50** or the equivalent in local currency, due **1st January**. If remitting in currency **please add 40c to cover collection charges**. An International Money Order or Draft drawn on London is acceptable. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle".

### PROGRAMME 1978

Thurs., Mar 9th 6 p.m.      Nine pages from members  
Sat., Apr. 15th, 3 p.m.      A.G.M. and Auction  
Meetings will be held at Stanley Gibbons Auction Room, Drury House, Russell  
St., London, W.C.2

### VISITS TO OTHER SOCIETIES

Fri., Mar 17th,              Gerrards Cross & District P.S.  
   Mr. M. Sheppard, BARBADOS  
Tues June 27th 8 p.m.      Southall P.S.  
   Mr. S.A. Baker, JAMAICA  
   Lt. Cdr. M.N. Wilson. TURKS & CAICOS.

## DISPLAY

On Wednesday 7th December, 1977 fourteen members and one visitor attended a meeting at which "nine pages" from members were shown.

Mr. S. BAKER displayed a most interesting study of the bow variety which is at the lower end of the ornament above the final "A" of "JAMAICA" on the Jamaica 1927 ½d SG.107. He commenced with a die proof of the frame in black endorsed "BEFORE HARDENING" and dated 16.12.26 and a further die proof of the oval vignette with the King's head also in black containing the design used for this stamp, but pulled in 1911. Then followed an imperforate plate proof on ungummed watermarked paper, a stamp with a "SPECIMEN" overprint and examples of the mint stamp in various shades of green. The bow variety is known in five states all of which were shown with earliest known dates and latest known dates wherever possible: this variety was eventually corrected. The stamp on which this variety is to be found was printed in four panes of 60 stamps each with the first and second panes above the third and fourth panes respectively. The variety is to be found only on the last stamp in the eighth horizontal row of the third pane (No. 48 in the pane).

Mr M. WILSON exhibited some pages from his collection of Turks and Caicos Islands. First, two 1932 registered covers from Salt Cay and Cockburn Harbour showing local registration marks and additional marks applied at Grand Turk for international use; also examples of the first type of c.d.s. from these sub-Post Offices. These were followed by two different examples of 1943 censorship of mail to the U.S.A. and two different PC90 labels. Then an early example of Air Mail marking (Jan. 1949). Next, a cover and a piece with the new Bottle Creek/ Caicos Islands c.d.s. which was probably brought into use in June 1977. Another new marking from North Caicos - Kew was shown on a registered cover to Grand Turk with local manuscript registration markings only. Finally, a local Grand Turk cover with 5c rate of 1977 marked "RETURN TO SENDER/UNKNOWN" having on the reverse the 1977 "Carnival" slogan type SL8 and a new type of postal stationery envelope for official use believed to have been introduced in April 1977.

Mr. A. LATHAM showed "nine sheets" of the Commercial Rooms strikes. He stated that originally the Jamaica Coffee House was in Water Lane, London E.C. but subsequently it moved to St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, London, E.C. The Commercial Rooms was the Jamaican counterpart in Kingston, Jamaica. Both the Jamaica Coffee

House and the Commercial Rooms were convenient centres where people met and talked business and it was therefore quite natural for them to hand in mail at either place for conveyance overseas and to collect mail from overseas at the same time. Mr. Latham exhibited a selection of the types of handstamps of the Commercial Rooms on entires. They consisted of a straight line "COMMERCIAL ROOMS", boxed and unboxed "COMMERCIAL ROOMS/KINGSTON JAMAICA" and circular handstamps containing the words "COMMERCIAL BUILDING KINGSTON JAMAICA" with and without the date in the centre.

Mr. S. GOLDBLATT gave a general display of the cancellations to be found on the definitive stamps of the Leeward Islands and of the individual islands making up the group. It is impossible to describe in detail in the space available all that was shown.

First, he showed a page of the Great Britain 1856 6d lilac with cancellations "A02", "A07", "A08", "A12" and "A18" followed by pages of Antigua 'village marks' of differing reigns from ALL SAINTS, ST. PETERS, ST. PAUL'S, BENDALLS, LIBERTA, ST JAMES (becoming CEDAR GROVE in 1932) and ST. STEPHENS (becoming SEATONS); also PARHAM, ST. MARY'S (which became OLD ROAD), GUNTHORPES, JOHNSON'S POINT, MONTEPELIER and PARES. On Dominica or Leeward Islands stamps there were manuscript cancels of WESLEY, PORTSMOUTH and ST. JOSEPH; and on Dominica stamps of the Dominica Crowned Circle mark in black. Examples followed of the Dominica 'village marks' of COLIHAUT, COULIBISTRIE, GRAND BAY, LAPLAINE, ROSALIE, ST. JOSEPH, VIEILLE CASE, WESLEY, CASTLE BRUCE, DELICES, DUBLANC, MAHAUT, MARIGOT, POINTE MICHEL and SOUFRIERE. Montserrat strikes were shown from HARRIS, ST. JOHNS, SALEM and CUDJOE HEAD in black and in violet. In St. Kitts the code letters c.d.s. were prominent and comprised "AN" for Anguilla Valley, "CA" for Cayon, "DB" for Dieppe Bay, "OR" for Old Road and "SP" for Sandy Point followed by the later types of c.d.s. where the names were spelled out in full.

An interesting page consisted of Anguilla TRDs of BLOWING POINT, FOREST and ANGUILLA ROAD.

Finally Mr. Goldblatt exhibited Tortola postmarks consisting of the "A91" obliterator, the c.d.s. with Tortola A and date in centre and a number of stamps with the "A13" obliterator. These were followed by examples of the rare cancellations from EAST END, WEST END, VIRGIN GORDA and ANEGADA.

Mr. E. V. TOEG displayed some pages relating to the 1884 1d perf. 12 of Montserrat. He stated that a mint multiple larger than a pair was difficult to find and he showed examples of the well known inverted "S" in "MONTSERRAT" variety. He also exhibited a most attractive mourning cover to Aberdeen, Scotland with a strip of four of this stamp. Examples of both re-entries found on all the 1d stamps of Montserrat were also shown and the sheet positions were indicated. Some bisects on and off cover were then displayed and included first a cover to Dominica enclosing a Prices Current with one bisect surcharged "½" in black and two additional covers both to Dominica each with a bisect surcharged "½" in red. Mr. Toeg stated that the bisect on cover with a red surcharge is very rare indeed and this red surcharge is only found on the 1d perf. 12.

Finally, an unusual item consisting of the 1d perf. 12 stamp and a diagonal bisect of the stamp on small piece was shown, the bisected stamp showing the inverted "S" in "MONTSERRAT" variety.

At a meeting held on 5th January, 1978 nine members and one visitor were present when Mr. S. Sugarman gave a very fine display of DOMINICA. To his preliminary remarks, Mr. Sugarman stated that Christopher Columbus discovered the island in 1493; that it was not fertile except around its perimeter; and that it was not prosperous because it was not situated on the trade routes.

The pre-adhesive material was extremely difficult to find and some of the items about to be mentioned were either unique so far as is known at present or else only two or three examples of them have been found. The earliest letter in the collection was a 1763 Ship Letter addressed to London. The first handstamp was the straight line "DOMINICO" on a packet letter dated in 1778 being one of only two examples known. The next handstamp was the two line DOMI/NICA, and both the two known examples dated in 1792 and in 1795 respectively are in the collection. These were followed by examples of the single line "DOMINICA" on a letter dated in 1799 and the two line "DOMINICA/SEP 23 1804". The Dominica fleuron which is a very large and handsome mark was shown on an entire dated March 8 1806 (befog the earliest known date) to London endorsed with the 4/- rate; later examples of the fleuron were without dales. Next, a cover of 1869 to St. Andrews, Scotland which was re-addressed to London with the red Crowned Circle Paid at Dominica and a Great Britain 1d red representing the re-addressing fee; another similar cover but re-addressed to Edinburgh was also shown. These were followed by a mourning cover to St. Andrews, Scotland with the red Crowned Circle Paid at Dominica and a '6' in red denoting prepayment; a cover with a rare red Dominica Paid with date in centre; and a further cover with the one shilling dull magenta and again the rare Dominica Paid with date in centre.

Then came a selection of ship letters between 1800-1806 and a packet letter of 5 Jul 1827 at the single rate of 2/2 with the very rare red boxed PACKET LETTER.

In 1870 essays were prepared (i.e. the design was not adopted) in claret, green, violet and ochre. These essays therefore came into existence four years before the first issued stamps in 1874 which were of a totally different design.

The adhesive stamps were then shown. The 1877-79 ½d was displayed in a mint block of twelve (6 x 2) and the 1d, 2½d, 6d and 1/- values were exhibited in mint blocks of four. The 1882-83 provisionals were introduced to meet the shortage of ½d stamps and for this purpose the 1877-79 1d lilac was bisected and Mr. Sugarman showed a mint block of twelve bisects (2 x 6) surcharged "½" in black and a mint block of sixteen bisects (2 x 8) surcharged "½" to red. He also displayed a mint 1882 provisional postcard with a 1d lilac adhesive affixed of which only three examples are now known although one hundred were originally prepared for use - this provisional postcard was intended for carriage by British packets to places within a radius of three hundred miles from Dominica. The 1886 provisionals were brought into existence because of a temporary shortage of ½d and 1d values. Mr. Sugarman exhibited a mint block of twenty seven (3 x 9) of the 6d green surcharged with Stanley Gibbons type (5); a mint pane of sixty (6 x 10) of the 1/- magenta surcharged with Stanley Gibbons type (6); and a registered cover to London dated 11th March 1883 with twelve bisects of the 1d surcharged in red.

Sperati made a reproduction of the 1/- dull magenta of 1888: the stages of production were shown including a "die proof" in issued colour; the frame and Queen's

head in black on thick card; the value tablets in black on thick card; and examples of the "A07" cancels.

Dominica has a fairly prolific number of die proofs covering the Edwardian era. First, a master die proof of the frame and vignette of the view of Roseau from the sea on glazed card with uncleared surrounds and uncleared value tablet was exhibited dated 19 FEB 03 in blue and endorsed AFTER HARDENING; also die proofs of the vignette with uncleared surrounds and cleared surrounds dated 11 MAR 02 and 12 MAR 02 respectively in blue and endorsed BEFORE HARDENING and AFTER HARDENING; and die proofs of the vignette with cleared surrounds dated 19 MAR 03 and 24 MAR 03 respectively in blue and endorsed BEFORE HARDENING and AFTER HARDENING. Interesting cut-down die proofs were also shown of the ten Edwardian values ½d to 5/- with instructions in red ink approving the same on AUG 14 03 for preparation of the printing plates. These were followed by die proofs of the 5/- frame with blank vignette endorsed BEFORE HARDENING 10 MAR 03 and AFTER HARDENING 11 MAR 03 respectively; and die proofs of the 2/6 frame with blank vignette endorsed BEFORE HARDENING 3 JUN 03 and AFTER HARDENING 4 JUN 03 respectively.

The ten Edwardian values were also shown in strips of four overprinted "SPECIMEN" in black; the same values were again displayed in single stamps overprinted "SPECIMEN" in black and "ULTRAMAR" in violet. Finally, the 1903 set was shown in mint blocks of four.

It is believed that all of the Caribbean islands had official seals and Dominica was no exception as Mr. Sugarman produced at this stage a magnificent embossed proof in black and white of the official seal of Dominica.

With regard to the King George V material, there were die proofs shown of the King's head in an oval vignette (related to the 5/- value) dated 7 MAR 12 and 28 NOV 12 in light blue respectively and endorsed BEFORE HARDENING and AFTER HARDENING. Mr Sugarman exhibited a die proof in black of the design of the 1923-33 set consisting of the frame and name but with blank value tablets and vignettes on thin paper 38 x 31mm; also a die proof in black of the frame and name with £1 in the value tablets dated 29.12.22 and endorsed BEFORE STRIKING; also a cut down die proof of the frame and 1½d value with blank vignette dated 25 JUN 21 and endorsed AFTER STRIKING which was approved on 25th July 1922 for the purpose of the construction of the printing plate; and a cut down die proof of the design for the 1923-33 set with instructions dated 30.12.22 approving the same with a view to constructing the printing plate. The 1923-33 set was shown in fine mint blocks of four and in the case of the 1/-, 5/- and £1 values in mint marginal blocks of four.

As far as the Silver Jubilee was concerned, the very rare die proofs in black of the 1d, 1½d, 2½d and 1/- values with blank vignettes were shown, of which there is only one other similar set known in the De la Rue Records. Specimen stamps of the Silver Jubilee issue were also shown with the word "SPECIMEN" punched out in an horizontal arc across each stamp; and the issued stamps in mint blocks of four.

Finally, two hand painted artist's essays in crimson for the embossed Stamp Duty 3d and 6d in the unadopted designs which were most attractive looking items as the Crown in each case was embossed and the remainder of the design hand painted.



The display having then concluded Mr. E.V. Toeg proposed a vote of thanks and said that the condition of the material shown was very fine indeed and that Mr. Sugarwan had been able to add to the collection very considerably when the collection of the late Mr. Felix Nabarro was auctioned a year or two back. Those present were asked to record their appreciation of Mr Sugarman's knowledge of his subject and the quality of his collection which they did with sincerity as it was indeed a great pleasure to have seen the display.

## OBITUARY

The sudden death of Stanley C. Durnin at the early age of 47 came as a great shock to his many friends and acquaintances. I and a number of Study Circle members had the pleasure of meeting Stan and his wife Elaine when they came to this country for the 1970 "Philympia" International Exhibition, and it is with a great sense of loss that I now have to report his death on December 11th 1977.

Stanley Durnin's philatelic career began when as a young boy he showed an interest in British Commonwealth countries. This interest developed in later years to result in his specialised postal history collection of a number of British West Indies territories. He was an accredited judge for the American Philatelic Society and exhibited widely throughout the United States, taking part in the 1971 A.P.S. Champion of Champions competition.

Amongst the many societies of which Stanley was a past or present member were the B.W.I. Study Circle, The Royal Philatelic Society, Trinidad P.S. and the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, serving the latter as president and later as secretary.

Stanley served in the United States Air Force for over twenty years and in the course of his time as a communications technician travelled to many parts of the world. He held the United States Distinguished Flying Cross and three Air Medals for 57 combat missions during the Korean war.

After leaving the Air Force, Stanley joined the "Western Stamp Collector" of Albany, Oregon, as assistant editor and in 1974 moved to Sydney, Ohio, to become executive editor of Linn's Stamp News.

It is indeed a fitting tribute to Stan that the Special 100th edition of the B.C.P.S.G. Journal, edited by his wife Elaine and contributed to by Stan over the years, has gone ahead as planned.

On behalf of all members of the Study Circle I extend deepest sympathy to Elaine and family.

*Michael Sheppard*

## REQUEST CORNER

Mr. Giraud-Saunders asks if any member can identify a ship named "DECKAGON" and give a brief history of the vessel. The name is in manuscript on an E/L from St. Vincent to Montrose dated 21st Oct. 1826.

Mr R.Worner would greatly appreciate a copy of articles on postmarks of the Virgin Islands appearing in Bulletins No.30 to 38 (The Editor is out of stock of these issues).

Robert Stein would be interested to know if anyone has yet published a handbook on the postal markings of any of the following countries:

Antigua, Dominica, St. Kitts, British Virgin Islands.

*All communications to be addressed to the member concerned.*

**BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE**  
**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 1977**

	1976	1977	1977
1976			
£543.03	Advertisers	£306.30	Advertising
41.41	Bulletins (Sale of Back Issues)	18.84	Bank Charges
16.03	"Cordex" Binders	10.50	Books & Periodicals
2.95	Collections at Meetings	5.25	"Cordex" Binders
7.50	Donations	2.00	Fire of Rooms etc.
4.75	Opinion Fees	10.75	Insurance
662.79	Subscriptions	600.92	Postage
144.31	Subscriptions paid in advance	103.98	Printing & Blocks Bulletins
-	Sundry Receipts	15.26	Printing Convention Booklet
119.76	Auction Profit	135.58	Stationery
53.70	21st Anniversary Luncheon Profit	-	14.00 Subscriptions
14.23	Postage Adjustment per publications	-	4.00 Subscriptions (Members Refund)
86.49	Cash at Bank	737.01	Sundries
			5.50 Error 1975 (Book owing to Publication)
			Telephone
			Cash at Bank
£1698.95		£1946.39	£1698.95

**PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT**

	1976	1977	1977
1976			
20.00	Sales of Paper (4)	2.00	Printing of Paper 5 (Final costs)
32.62	Sales of Paper (5)	66.50	Printing costs of Paper 6
-	Sales of Paper (6)	398.34	Postage
-	Monies included in publication a/c.	16.45	Travelling (Petrol)
22.31	Cheques for General a/c	27.25	Cheques returned
	Cash at Bank		Monies included in Publications a/c
			Cheques for General a/c
			Cash at Bank
			£260.84
			Less cheque not cleared
			£165.00
			<u>£ 95.84</u>
£74.93		£510.54	£510.54

Audited and found correct. Signed: A.J. Branston 20.1.1978

## BERMUDA

In Bulletin No.84 page No.6 I asked if any member had information on a rubber handstamp "COUPON-REPNSE" 31mm long on a cover from Bermuda to the Red Cross Headquarters in Geneva. I have now seen an identical strike on a cover from the Gold Coast to the same address, so it would seem that the mark was not applied in Bermuda but is either of Swiss or Red Cross origin.

*Richard Heap*

## BRITISH GUIANA

The American word is 'double take', but I think it was a treble take that I performed over a recent B.G. acquisition. One way or another a considerable gap was exposed in my slender philatelic knowledge.

I shall be discussing here SG.21, the 1860 4c lithographed stamp, SG type 5, with 'figures in corners framed'. Please note the 'type 5', because I never had, and hence, used to associate SG.21 with its 1-cent and 4-cent predecessors, SG.12 to 20. There is a long and fascinating dissertation in Townsend and Howe on the way in which the 4-cent lithographic stone was built up in stages from the master die of the 1-cent stamp, and of how, when later printings of the 4-cent has to be made, three (out of the original ten) plate varieties of the first setting were used to build up the second setting, which was printed, like the first, in sheets of 100. In my innocence, I assumed a similar rescue operation to set up the stone for printing SG.21, with some touching in of frame lines at the corners en route.

Not a bit of it! Type 5 is a re-design, and everything about it is just that bit different. The truth emerged painfully, with the stated acquisition - looking for all the world like a forgery, on a rather grey, slightly cheap-looking wove paper. Except, that is to say, that the postmark looked rather convincing, and could not be faulted by measured comparison with authentic 'A03's, and except, again, that a fragment of the next stamp to the right, with a fragment of another postmark, also lent a certain cachet; and except, yet again, that the colour was persuasively similar to my examples, of SG.19/20; and there again, this copy could not readily be distinguished from my only other example of SG.21, whose authenticity I had not hitherto doubted.

Then the fun began. The numerals are thicker (than type 4). The letters in name and value tablets are thicker, and differ slightly in shape. The pineapple ornaments above and below the name are less complete. The emblems surrounding the oval are less detailed. The motto is in large lettering. The ship, and the waves, are slightly altered; and so on. Ignoring the catalogue as a source of reference, I hunted high and low for a suitable illustration, and finally ran one to earth in the beautiful block of four that formed part of the Hind collection. This put the matter beyond doubt, and satisfied me that my two copies were genuine.

So how was this fresh design produced and printed? The Hind block suggests, from its photograph, that the design was transferred on to the lithographic stone (as before) horizontal row by horizontal row, so that the transfer of a particular stamp differs from its neighbour to left and right, but corresponds with the one above and below. But what was the 'master' design from which the transfer was produced? A new engraved die of

which nothing has since been heard? It seems a slightly extravagant exercise for a stamp of which only 200 sheets were printed - a stamp, I suspect, which must have been viewed as a stop-gap at the time, so closely was it followed by the new issues in type 7.

Plainly, I am not competent to answer the questions I have posed, though there may be learned articles about this stamp that I have wholly missed. If not, it may now be too late to ascertain the truth - certainly from surviving copies of the issued stamp. It is very much scarcer than its type 4 predecessors, or than the issued quantity of 20,000 would suggest; and perhaps one should infer the destruction at some time of a substantial proportion of the issue.

*Simon Goldblatt*

## **BRITISH WEST INDIES**

This article is a partial reply to Simon Goldblatt's interesting 'tips' in the June Bulletin (No.93). It was a remarkable achievement to cover the whole of the BWI in one article and most of my remarks here might well have been made by him if he had had the time and space. I would also like to take the opportunity to pass some comment on the price increases in the new Gibbons 1978 catalogue.

First of all, I would like to add to Simon Goldblatt's comments on a number of territories. To start with GRENADA, I am surprised he passed by the claims of the used 1936 ½d, perf. 12½ x 13½. For some reason, the 1d and 1½d perf. varieties are readily available, but to find the ½d dated before the George VI ½d was issued is something of a triumph. Some may be available on unconsidered commercial covers, but if so I have yet to find them (that reminds me of a similar tip by Stamp Collecting's Watchman to look for the rare 1963 6c on cover). I would also advise you to snap up any used tete-beche pairs of the 1883 issue, even though these have been marked up sharply in the new catalogue, as my own attempts have been singularly fruitless. I agree with Simon Goldblatt that it is high time the catalogue editor took note of the shades of the MCA 2/- value of the 1913-21 set and I would add that the shades of the Script 2/- are even more pronounced. The best stamp of the George V key types is in my view the 2½d blue of 1926, which is now renamed "chalky-blue and blue". Finally, to turn to the discreet area at the end of the Grenada listings, how many of us can boast completion in the postage dues? I haven't even filled my 1892 set mint, the 3d value of which fetched well over the 1977 price in the last Study Circle auction. The local surcharges are even more desirable mint, particularly those on the 8d value, although certain active philatelists of the time saw fit to provide us with plenty of used copies. And tete-beche? Well, you could have had a damaged pair of the 1d/8d if you had been ready to top \$130 in the last Robson Lowe sale in Bermuda.

I am sorry Simon Goldblatt passed over the straightforward LEEWARD ISLES issues. I would add Anguilla to the list of cancellations to look for here but please don't bid against him for the Virgin Isles! The Sexagenary set is very scarce used, with the ratio between mint and used much too narrow. I found the 1905-8 MCA set quite scarce fine used, as the chalky issues rub easily. The key value here used to be the 2½d, but for some reason they seem to be available more readily now and I would say the 1/- is the most difficult. The 2½d orange-yellow of 1923 is also difficult to get used, but

my own bete-noire is the 1913 3d white back, which is scarce mint and the very devil used (I also wouldn't overlook the claims of the 1/- white back). A final item if you collect George VI, the 1942 1/- with grey lettering (SG.110b) is not common and is sometimes priced as SG.110a or even SG.110 if you are lucky! (also vice-versa, so be warned).

I would agree with Simon Goldblatt that the great majority of BAHAMAS is now fully priced. I would not in fact rate the 1/- local war tax quite as highly as he does. My feeling is that there are quite a lot of mint copies about, and I think his printing figure of 1,200 should perhaps read 2,400 (with 120, not 60 in a sheet). I would agree that used are rare and that the catalogue ratio between mint and used is much too small (somewhat surprising when the differentials are very considerable for the other war tax values). Of other Bahamas, I wonder whether he has found many mint copies of the pre-1963 issues. Maybe in the millionaires' class, but still undervalued I would judge, in particular the compound perfs.

I would support strongly the advice to look very carefully at the condition (particularly centring) of early ST. VINCENT, which are now very expensive. Although fine copies still sell for close to the values quoted, poor ones are easy to find and are often worth less than a tenth (a good example is the lilac-rose of 1873 used). The bargains among the Perkins Bacon issues is surely the 1d olive-green of 1880, which is very hard to find mint. Another stamp which is relatively undervalued is the 4d red-brown of 1885 and I feel the first provisional issue, the 1d of 1880, is undervalued in comparison with the others. Of used copies, I have found all the 5/- values of Queen Victoria's reign to be much more difficult than mint, whereas the catalogue gives a contrary impression. I would also draw your attention to the latest massive increase in the mint quotations of the last Perkins Bacon issues of 1881. The new price for the 4d bright blue is not unreasonable, as it is very rare well centred, but I feel the even sharper increase accorded to its companion 1d drab is quite unjustified.

I would not deny that BERMUDA (and, more recently, Caymans) has been subject to a certain amount of speculative buying, and that their stamps are in general fully valued. However, collector demand is very strong and that is what matters as far as several quite difficult stamps are concerned. It is fair to point to the CC 2d mint condition (there would be some strong competition if a block came up in auction), but I would also reckon that the mint 1/- of 1865 (which is a hundred times scarcer than the later perforation), the mint shades of the 1883 1d value with CA watermark and the used 4d of 1904 (which can be distinguished from the common 4d of 1880 by the CA watermark even if the light is bad) are by no means easy to find. I also found it difficult to complete the mint type varieties of the 1d values in the ship set with script watermark.

I would like to have been able to draw your attention to one of my favourite stamps, the 4d Crown CC of MONTSERRAT; but after its huge increase in the last two years I can no longer claim it is a bargain in mint condition, whereas it is now considerably over-valued used. In addition, the CA watermark has now sailed out of most people's range. Some of the George V values are not easy to find used, but I rather fancy that the best bargain in this colony is now the ½d dull green of 1884 fine used.

My final advice is of a general nature. Don't forget the back of each country's listing, where many difficult postal fiscals and postage dues lurk, and also the G.B. stamps used in our colonies. These last have been raised substantially in the last two years, but when they are put at the beginning of each country's listing (which is apparently just a question of Gibbons finding the time and opportunity to set up the type-face), demand will assuredly increase. Make sure your used war tax issues are complete, as some quite difficult ones are still very modestly priced. (e.g. in Br. Honduras, Turks and Caicos and Montserrat). Don't pass up plate blocks - in the United States the premiums for these items are increasing - and perhaps even take a punt on some gutter pairs. For those who collect specimens, the difficult ones are the very early issues, particularly those distributed before April 1886 of which few of the 106 circulated are in private collections, and the later colours of the long definitive sets. Finally, as a general comment on the present pricing structure of the Edward VII and George V definitive sets, the differentials between those values that are known to be scarcer and the rest of the set seem to have narrowed in recent years. As there is currently some heavy investment buying which seems to demand complete acts, the stamps such as the Caymans 4d of 1908, the Dominica MCA 6d of the same year and even the less glamorous items such as those tricky 5d values of St. Vincent and Turks and Caicos may soon be due for a re-rating.

*Charles A. Freeland*

#### BWI SPECIMENS

I was glad to see that in their 1978 Commonwealth Catalogue Gibbons have remedied some of the errors in their listings of "Specimens" distributed by the UPU. As this was apparently done under the guidance of Marcus Samuel, and presumably on the basis of his masterwork "Specimens of the Crown Colonies", one would expect the new listings to be impeccable but, perhaps because of oversight or lack of communication, a few errors persist and one or two new problems have arisen.

As far as I am aware, they consist of:-

British Guiana The 1905 5c (SG.243) should be reinstated; it may have been intended - perhaps justifiably - to separate its listing from the 96c (SG.250) which was issued later, but the present omission of the 5c is erroneous. Marcus Samuel's book does not list the 5c specifically but may have intended it to be included in the 1900-06 set (which Gibbons confines to single Crown CA watermarks).

I can't pass Br. Guiana without mentioning that the listed valuation of the 1876 set (now correctly listed, as it was distributed together with the 48c SG 104) is much too low as only 80 sets were distributed (some perforated and others hand-stamped - often at different angles) and the great majority of these are in the postal museums.

Cayman Islands The 1907-9 set only consists of 9 stamps, the 1/- value with MCA watermark not having been distributed.

Dominica The 1908-21 set only consists of 9 values (the ½d green was not distributed, presumably because it was so similar to the 1903 ½d issued earlier).

Grenada The 1913 1/- (SG.98-98d) was in fact distributed in four different types, the value with green-backed paper being over-printed in both red and black.

Leeward Islands The 3d value (SG 51) of the 1912 set comes in three varieties, the unlisted one being on pale yellow paper. The 1921-32 set consists of 23 values (not 22),

the 1d carmine-red of 1921 being overprinted and the 1d bright scarlet of 1929 perforated.

St Vincent Although the listings of the early De la Rue issues have been improved (for instance, the 1/- orange of 1891 was never distributed, presumably because it was sufficiently similar to the perforated 12 1/- which had already been circulated in the period before overprints were applied), queries remain regarding the 4d brown shades (SG.50 and 51) Marcus Samuel states that the 4d red-brown of 1885 was the first St. Vincent stamp to be distributed in overprinted form (the standard D12 type) on the 20th June 1886, but he makes no mention of the purple-brown shade in his text or (except with local handstamps) in his listing. In the St. Vincent handbook by Pierce, Messenger and Lowe, however, it is stated that 106 copies of the deep brown, second printing were distributed in 1886. This presumably refers to the purple-brown shade, which was invoiced on 11th January 1886 and not the chocolate/lake-brown shade (SG.51a) which, according to Gibbons, was not issued until 1887.

Some empirical evidence was forthcoming in the Robson Lowe auction of 10th May 1977, when a number of early De la Rue items overprinted (or hand-stamped) "specimen" and "cancelled" were offered. Among these were a 4d purple-brown (i.e. not chocolate) and a 4d red-brown. Against the latter was an incorrect notation that the St. Vincent handbook recorded 106 such stamps as having been overprinted.

The evidence seems to be on the side of the authors of the handbook that it was the purple-brown shade which was distributed to the UPU and that the red-brown shade in the recent auction was a De la Rue sample with type V overprint (Samuel D11) not type VII (Samuel D12), between which it is very hard to distinguish in a photograph. However, as Marcus Samuel has checked with the UPU records in Berne and with several postal museums, there is also the possibility that the St. Vincent authorities may have sent a mixture of the two shades. Whatever the true facts, I would willingly acquire either shade at Gibbons' price for the set.

There are also two distinct shades of the 2½d/1d of 1889, one in the original milky-blue and another somewhat deeper (stated in the St. Vincent handbook to be a special printing). Incidentally, can anyone explain why the 1890 2½d/4d (SG.54) failed to be overprinted specimen? This seems strange when St. Vincent's output was otherwise so prolific.

Trinidad & Tobago The 4d value of the 1913 set additionally exists on pale yellow and the 1/- of the same set on new green-backed paper.

Turks Islands Gibbons now list under the 1887 issue a pair of the 6d and 1/- (SG.59 and 60) instead of the 6d alone as formerly. Although Marcus Samuel states that the 1/- value was circulated by the UPU, I have never seen (or heard of) a copy, whereas the 6d value, though not common, has been available recently even in pairs and strips. From observation it seems very unlikely that 345 of the 1/- value were distributed, as was customary after April 1886, and even if that was the case the pair is very cheap at the listed price.

General Although we must admit that Gibbons have generally done a fine job with their listing of the George V sets, which are complicated by virtue of the different paper shades in the Crown watermark type and by the multifarious methods of overprinting and perforating in the Script watermark type, I would like to see a rather more consistent treatment for the listing of the later issues. In some cases they are listed with

the original set, in others added in brackets after the stamp (and thus priced separately), whereas the few that exist in two states (notably the Dominica 1908 1/-, SG.53 and St. Kitts 1921 1d, SG.38) receive star billing at the bottom of the listing, and a price to match. Perhaps the only satisfactory way is to adopt the detailed set listing now admirably exemplified in the St. Lucia 1904-10 set unless Gibbons are prepared to list all the later issues separately, which would mean an individual price for most of the stamps in many of the sets of this era.

*Charles A Freeland*

## LEEWARD ISLANDS

The SG. Part I Catalogue illustration of the Sexagenary overprint seems to be of one of the forgeries. The upper line of the crossbar of the R in the monogram crosses the I and it has other general similarities with BWISC Forgery No.10 Bulletin 55 page 73.

The same illustration has been used by SG for many years and may well have been reported before - but not in the Bulletin. The very recent addition to the catalogue below SG.16 "Beware of Forgeries", increases the importance of having a genuine illustration.

Perhaps the Study Circle might consider an approach to SG for the genuine article.

*Arthur Peart*

## MONTSERRAT

### WHY NOT COLLECT MONTSERRAT?

*(continued from Page 80, Bulletin No.95)*

I will next deal with the adhesive stamps and particularly the Queen Victoria stamps in some detail whenever I am able to do so.

I now propose to attempt to indicate to you the approximate rarity of multiples of the Queen Victoria adhesives of Montserrat as a result of collecting this country during the last fifteen years. I hope that you will find what I have to say interesting but must make it clear that the information furnished can be only an approximate yardstick in the circumstances as fresh multiples come on to the market from time to time and I cannot claim to see or even to note every such item when it appears.

First of all, there are the Great Britain stamps used from the island during the short period of approximately 1858-60. These are listed under Great Britain in the Stanley Gibbons British Commonwealth Catalogue, some stamps being unpriced and others are priced at large sums.

It all adds up to the fact that Great Britain stamps with the Montserrat 'A08' obliterator are extremely hard to come by. I have never seen the 1/- green and only one example of the 4d rose in a shocking condition. As far as the 6d lilac is concerned, I have only seen nine examples which have all either been damaged in some way or defaced by all ink endorsement written by the addressee as it was the custom at that time for the recipient to indicate the date of receipt of a letter on the entire or envelope and sometimes the adhesive stamp was written over in such circumstances.

With regard to the Great Britain 1d rose-red, I have only seen eleven examples and although some were in good condition just about half were defective in one way or another. One word of warning, if these 'used abroads' come your way it is essential that you buy them subject to an unqualified certificate from a recognised Expert Committee.



SG.1 1d red is in fact an Antigua stamp overprinted "MONTSEERRAT" with a black bar above which deletes the word "ANTIGUA" printed as part of the design. Supplies of Antigua SG.16 1d lake and SG.17 1d lake-rose were overprinted for use in Montserrat, being Antigua stamps originally printed by De la Rue & Co., from the Perkins Bacon & Co., plates using the recess method. Blocks of four or six of SG.1 with original gum or part original gum are comparatively common and occasionally much larger blocks are to be found. As regards used stamps I have only seen or heard of one block of four and this has some small faults: strips of four or five are also difficult to find especially without faults. I have only seen or heard of this stamp on two full covers of 1881 and 1883 respectively, both with horizontal strips of four - four pence being then the ordinary letter rate to England. One cover and its stamps are in very fine condition and the other has faults on the cover and the stamps. This stamp is also found bisected for use as ½d. on cover, and as a single with the flap of the cover not stuck down, it was used to send Circulars or Printed Matter to the neighbouring island of Dominica. It can also be found in multiples on cover to Dominica in 1883 presumably making up the 2½d inter-island ordinary letter rate. This stamp when bisected and used as a single (not as a multiple) can be found surcharged with a '½' in black, and as a bisected single stamp on cover it is more usually found with the '½' surcharge in black. I refer members to an article entitled 'MONTSEERRAT AND DOMINICA' "The 1d bisects and bogus '½'" on pages 63 to 66 (inclusive) in Bulletin No 86 September 1975 for some further details.

SG.1 also has the inverted 'S' variety in the word "MONTSEERRAT"; this variety is in great demand and as the supply of examples of stamps with this variety, particularly examples in good condition, is very limited, the catalogue figure has risen steeply over the last few years. There were four consignments by De la Rue of SG.1 1d red to the Colony totalling 56,520 stamps.

SG.2 6d green is in fact Antigua SG.18 6d blue-green overprinted in a similar manner as SG.1. You may well ask why Antigua SG 18 changes from blue-green to green in its Gibbons Catalogue description when it becomes a Montserrat stamp. The answer is that Montserrat has a shade of 6d which is not known on any Antigua 6d - the Montserrat 6d shade being known as blue-green (SG.3) in order to distinguish it from the 6d green which latter is the normal shade of the 6d. SG.2 6d green is not a stamp easily found in a block of four and larger. In fact I have only seen four blocks of four, one block of eight, one block of nine and two blocks of twelve.

Used multiples are very scarce but I have seen two strips of three and so far only one cover with a horizontal pair - the cover being addressed to London. This stamp is also found bisected on cover in 1883 addressed to W.P. Pearce, St. Kitts: the bisect was intended to provide a 2½d inter island rate when the 2½d supplies in Montserrat were exhausted. As with SG.1 there is in the case of SG.2 the inverted 'S' variety.

Of all the stamps with the inverted 'S' variety the 6d green is probably the most popular by far and this is reflected in the Gibbons Catalogue values for mint and used examples. There were three consignments by De la Rue of SG.2 6d green to the Colony totalling 19,320 stamps.

SG.3 6d blue-green has already been referred to earlier. It is known only in mint or part original gum state and probably only one sheet of 120 stamps in this experimental shade was printed. Comparatively few examples are now known and because it appears

never to have been issued and used postally, it must rank strictly as a proof. Multiples are very rare and I have seen or heard of only three blocks of four. One example of this stamp with the inverted 'S' variety has been found and it recently changed hands for a large sum having originally reposed for very many years in the T. Charlton Henry Collection. Owing to the fact that overprint formes of 60 and 120 subjects were used when the 6d stamps were overprinted it is possible that another example of the inverted 'S' variety may exist, that is, if the overprint forme used consisted of 60 subjects as the full sheet would consist of 120 stamps comprising 10 horizontal rows of 12 stamps per row.

With regard to SG. 4 2½d red-brown, I have seen only one horizontal strip of four with part original gum, and it has faults. As far as used examples are concerned, these are even more difficult to obtain in multiples as I have only seen one pair in used state. There were two consignments by De la Rue of SG.4 2½d red-brown to the Colony totalling 3,780 stamps.

SG.5 4d blue is not a very much easier stamp: three blocks of four have been seen by me and one block of six with full original gum or part original gum. I have seen also only one used horizontal strip of four with faults and a cover with faults to which the stamp was not tied. There were three consignments by De la Rue of SG.5 4d blue to the Colony totalling 17,340 stamps.

As regards SG.6 1d dull green, blocks of four with original gum or part original gum must be difficult to find as I can only recall seeing four blocks of four with part original gum and used multiples of this stamp are apparently most uncommon as only one horizontal strip of three used comes to mind. There were five consignments by De la Rue of SG.6 ½d dull green to the Colony totalling 49,500 stamps.

I must now refer to SG.7 1d red. The issued stamp is to be found in different shades as there were a number of different printings made. Although blocks of four and larger blocks of this stamp with original gum or part original gum are found comparatively frequently, there appears to be a dearth of used multiples of this stamp. I know of only one strip of four used and two covers both with faults. This stamp is also to be found with the rare and much sought after inverted 'S' in "MONTSERRAT" variety. There were three consignments by De la Rue of SG.7 1d red to the Colony totalling 18,480 stamps.

I now come to SG.7b 1d rose-red. The difference between the true rose-red of this stamp and the red of SG.7 is considerable. The difficulty in distinguishing between the two colours arises because there are varying shades of red tending towards rose-red and these in between shades (which represent different printings) should be classified in a collection as red and not as rose-red. The problem of colour classification is not made easy by dealers who do not recognise the true rose-red and treat the in between shades as rose-red. As regards rarity of multiples, I have only seen or heard of one block of four and three pairs of this stamp with part original gum and I know of one block of four used and one cover with a vertical strip of four. The true rose-red stamp is generally uncommon and this is not recognised by the Stanley Gibbons British Commonwealth Catalogue which has under catalogued this stamp consistently over the years. The 1d rose-red when vertically bisected and on cover as SG.7ba is stated by Gibbons to exist, but I have neither seen nor heard of such an item and would be glad to hear from anyone who has such a cover.

Although not catalogued by Stanley Gibbons the 1d rose-red exists with the inverted 'S' in 'MONTSERRAT' variety on an unused stamp (having no gum) and also on a used stamp in vertical pair with normal: these are the only two examples of this variety known to me on the 1d rose-red. There was one consignment by De la Rue of SG.7d 1d rose-red to the Colony consisting of 6,000 stamps.

*(to be continued)*

*E.V. Toeg*

## ST. LUCIA

Acknowledgements to Victor Toeg who has supplied me with a copy of the Homan plating notes. A major re-entry appears as stamp No 240, bottom right. I should have guessed - I might have known!

*Simon Goldblatt*

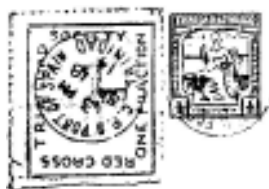
In Bulletin No 95, December 1977, Simon Goldblatt refers to the re-entries on the Perkins Bacon plate. These were studied by B.H Homan in great detail and he refers to re-entries on stamps 4,5,7,8,205 and 240 (the last two being the prominent examples).

Simon Goldblatt has seen a major re-entry on the 4d yellow. As a matter of interest I have always found that re-entries are most difficult to discern on this colour. Some years ago when studying the "plates" of British Guiana Lithographs I had a block of the 2 cents orange. I had this photographed in black and white and found that the printing flaws showed up with remarkable clarity.

*William Townsend*

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

RED CROSS LABEL AUTHORISED FOR USE AS A ½d STAMP 18 SEPT. 1914



On several occasions I have noticed recorded the discovery of some entires bearing the Red Cross Label postmark cancelled by later dates than that attributed by the catalogue.

As a guide to the authorised use of this label the following extract from the Annual Report of the Postmaster-General of Trinidad, and later correspondence will contribute to an understanding of this issue.

"I have to record the fact that almost unintentionally there was a provisional issue of the local Red Cross Society's label as a ½d postage stamp on the 18th Sept. last.

It happened as follows:- His Excellency the Governor, on the 17th Sept. 1914, was pleased to grant an application made by the local Red Cross Society, that letters in connection with their work should pass through the post free of charge within the Colony, bearing the Red Cross Stamp. On the following day about 900 envelopes containing Red Cross circulars were presented at the General Post Office by the Secretary of the Society for the distribution to country addresses, and were passed by my instructions in the ordinary way at ½d rate as the Society was anxious that these circulars should be despatched at once. Although the sub offices had not then received instructions about them, and in order to avoid their being taxed, as they certainly would

be in the usual course of business, I directed that the Society's label should be obliterated by the date stamp of the hour and date of posting, and I sent out a circular to all the offices informing them of what I had done, and instructing them that all letters franked by certain members of the Red Cross committee must be passed postage free in future and until further orders, provided that they had the Red Cross label affixed, but on no account must this label be obliterated again. Some time afterwards I was informed that the labels which had been obliterated on the 18th Sept., 1914, were considered by philatelists to constitute a provisional issue of the ½d stamp, and I have since heard that the unused Red Cross label is now being sold freely to collectors (a fact which affords me considerable satisfaction, as the funds of the Society will benefit accordingly), and that specimens of the obliterated label of the 18th Sept., 1914, are in great demand, but cannot be easily obtained."

A collector and Trinidad resident, Dr. A. Reid, recorded that an extract of a letter from the PMG Trinidad to him, dated 17th Feb. 1915, showed:- "Thus the label or sealing stamp known as the Red Cross stamp, designed by a member of the Red Cross committee and printed locally, was officially authorised for use as a ½d postage stamp on Red Cross letters for one day only, 18th Sept., 1914."

Dr. Reid said the postmark reads:- G.P.O. PORT OF SPAIN - TRINIDAD 3PM SP 18, 14, the hour and date of posting.

If we are to understand the P.M.G. instructions that on no account must this label be obliterated again, then it would indicate that those Red Cross labels cancelled other than 3PM NP 18, 14, albeit authentic, were not according to the P.M.G. authorised.

Unfortunately the P.M.G. and Dr. Reid's extracts do not clarify the item illustrated, an on piece Red Cross label (½d) and a ½d postage stamp, making a one penny letter rate, both cancelled 3PM SP 18, 14.

Are we to understand that the letter rate for the 900 Red Cross circulars was one penny as shown? It would be interesting to know if other copies of this Red Cross label have been found similarly used.

*John de Vries*

## TRINIDAD

Whilst waiting (still) for someone to volunteer a printing figure for the 'OS' overprints on the 1869 5/- stamp, it is worth mentioning other guises in which this 'work-horse' of a stamp appears.

It will be found (infrequently) with the tiny local 'specimen' overprint.

Four copies received the trial '9d' overprint.

Now an example has turned up bearing the fiscal 'FEE' overprint, in standard block capitals.

Regular issue? Trial? I know not; I can only say that the item is not listed either by Morley or by Forbin, and that it turned up in company with a similarly overprinted 4d grey (SG.110) which is also unlisted. (Both stamps are unused). Such events are unusual, because Morley at any rate was a comprehensive catalogue of fiscal stamps.

None of these comments will make much of a dent in the issue figures of SG.87; but they may encourage some of us to make new expeditions along the by-ways of Trinidad philately. I believe there is plenty left to discover and explore.

*Simon Goldblatt*

# TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

## THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

(Continued from page 87, Bulletin No.95).

### PART IV - MISCELLANEOUS POSTAL MARKINGS (concluded)

#### SPECIAL OCCASIONS

PROVIDENCIALES  
CAICOS ISLANDS

Type SP1.

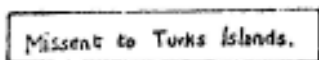
When the new Providenciales (Blue Hills) Post Office was ready to open its own dedicated cds. had not arrived. Consequently a special temporary handstamp was prepared for use to mark the mail as having originated from that Post Office. The handstamp consists of the words PROVIDENCIALES/CAICOS ISLANDS in two lines of small seriffed capitals 2½mm high and with the words 6mm apart. The approximate size is 34 x 11mm overall. The stamps were cancelled with an old cds brought over from Grand Turk. (Type 7).

The handstamp was used on mail posted on the opening day, 30th January 1975, but it is not yet known whether it was in regular later use pending the arrival of the Office's own cds (type BH1).

EKD: JA 30 75

LKD: (Not known)

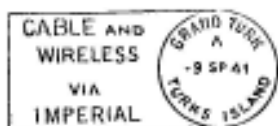
#### MISSENT



Type MS1.

I have seen only one example of a Missent mark for the Turks and Caicos Islands and this on a letter addressed to Grand Canary! It consists of the words "Missent to Turks Islands" in both upper and lower case letters, as illustrated. They are within a single frame line and have an overall size of 66 x 12mm.

#### CABLE AND WIRELESS



Type CW1.

This is a duplex cancellation in the form of a rectangular frame containing the words "CABLE AND/WIRELESS/ VIA/IMPERIAL" in four lines; the "AND" and "VIA" being in smaller size capitals. The right hand side of the rectangle consists of a single circle datestamp inscribed GRAND TURK at the top and TURKS ISLAND at the bottom. The date is in one line across the centre with an 'A' above. The mark has been recorded in both violet and greyish black, and it is believed to have been used primarily by the Cable Office though it was accepted by the Post Office for the cancellation of internal mail. Similar

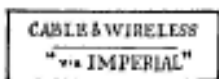
marks of this period are known from the Seychelles, Mauritius, Ceylon and the Gambia, and it has been suggested that the hand-stamp was introduced by the Cable Company to commemorate some event of importance to that Company.

EKD: 26 No 40

LKD: 9 SP 41

Type CW2.

The second Cable and Wireless marking to appear on the mail is in the nature of a slogan and consists of a boxed two line CABLE & WIRELESS/VIA IMPERIAL". Note that the "VIA" is in very much smaller size capitals. There is no date.



### TEMPORARY RUBBER DATESTAMPS

TRD Type 1.

This consists of a small double circle (23/14½mm) TRD with GRAND TURK and TURKS ISLANDS inscribed around the top and bottom in small capitals 2mm high. The date is in two lines across the centre. The status of this datestamp is uncertain and it may have been used by the Cable rather than the Post Office.

EKD: 3 OCT 54

LKD: Not known

### RURAL POSTS

The authenticity and indeed the legality of any of these Rural Posts' markings is open to doubt, and it has been stated that they were made up either for or by a "Collector". None are known on cover. They are included here only for the sake of completeness as no doubt their true status will never be determined to the satisfaction of everyone.

Type RP1.

A boxed marking in three lines "RURAL POST/BLUE HILLS/ T & C.I." has been reported on low values of the first King George V issue of Turks and Caicos Islands. A Postal Agency opened there in 1911 but, as has been recorded elsewhere in these notes no special cancellation was otherwise applied until 1975.

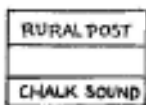


Type RP2.

A second Rural Post marking similar to type RP1 has been reported on a stamp of the same 1913 issue, but is inscribed LORIMER and is struck in violet. Lorimer is in fact a small settlement on Middle Caicos

and a Postal Agency exists there today but does not have its own canceller.

Type RP3.



A different setting was used for the third type at Chalk Sound, which like Blue Hills is on Providenciales Island. Though there is space in the centre for the date there is no record of any such date on which this handstamp was reputed to have been “used”.

*Mike Wilson*

William Hall reports that he has two “Panton” covers to Cayman Islands with Centenary stamps used as postage dues. The first cover dated 31st May, 1933 bears a strike of type SL2 and SL4 with type PD1 on the back. The second cover dated 15th August, 1933 bears a strike of SL2 and SL3 with type PD1 on the back. Bill also reports having an identical mark to type SL1 on a British Guiana cover from Buxton (17.8.25) to Georgetown.

Mike Wilson reports that the postal agencies at Kew and Bottle Creek, both in North Caicos, have been upgraded and now have their own c.d.s. The two handstamps, similar to type RB1 (see Bulletin No.93), are believed to have first been used in June 1977.



## NEWS ROUNDUP

Many members will have noticed an announcement in the philatelic press last December of a new firm of stamp dealers E.V. and L. TOEG. May we wish Victor and Letty Toeg every success in their new venture and draw members’ attention to the advertisement appearing over their name in the Bulletin.

We would also add that all the advertisers in the Bulletin are members of the Study Circle and it is up to us to support them whenever possible, for it is their support which gives so much help to our treasury.

On behalf of all members of the Study Circle may we offer our congratulations to Bunny Collinson and Gerald Scott on the occasion of their marriage. Bunny is a well known member of long standing and Gerald, although not a member, has been a good friend of the Circle for many years.

Somewhat belatedly, congratulations are also due to one of our more recent members Mr. M.R. Hewlett who was awarded a Bronze Medal at last year’s B.P.E. for his exhibit of Great Britain postal fiscals from 1881 to the early 20th Century. We also hear that Bob Stein was awarded two Bronze Medals for his display of Leeward Island Definitives at the Chicago S.P.A. show last October.

Mike Wilson has seen the following newspaper clipping under his own heading of "More Tin Can Mail". A bottle containing his name and address, thrown into the sea by hotelier Mr. Martin Robinson, 27, of Teignmouth, Devon, from a cruise liner off Portugal in October 1974, has been found by an angler near Turks Island, West Indies, 4,000 miles away. Mike adds the postscript, "or what every good collection should have".

As we write this column Mike Wilson is sailing towards the United States on Naval duty. Don't get any ideas, Mike!

Among the many realisations for "named" collections recently announced by Harmers of London was the £37,000 for the "Mrs. N.E. Thompson" Montserrat. Harmers have also given details of improvements to their Collectors Insurance scheme following negotiations with Lloyds. The transit insurance limit is now raised to £11,000 and the level at which advice is required for individually valuable items is being raised from £500 to £700.

The overall stamp insurance business now handled by Harmers of London exceeds £11 million.

Members giving displays to other societies last November include Alfred Branston, "Mainly for Beginners" to Basildon P.S., Derek Sutcliffe, "Martinique" to Leeds P.S., Roy Coasby, "Bahamas" to Bath P.S. and Richard Heap, "Bermuda" to Preston P.S.

The Barbados G.P.O. is going to publish, early this year, the first post office guide for more than forty years. The last guide to be published was in 1935. The new publication will keep the public informed on post office rules and regulations, postal rates, new services being offered and any questions that are likely to be posed by the public in relation to the running of the post office.

Once again our sincere thanks to Mrs. Joan Lewis, Assistant Secretary of the British Philatelic Federation for allowing us the use of her office for the viewing of lots in April 15th auction.

Lots may be viewed on Thursday and Friday, 13th and 14th April, 1978, between the hours of 10.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. at the B.P.F. Office, National Liberal Club, 1 Whitehall Place, London S.W.1

*Michael Sheppard*

#### MEMBERS SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisement rate: 5p per word; minimum charge 50p. Copy to the Editor six weeks before publication.

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J. J. Challis, 31, Weymouth Park, Outer Hope Cove, Nr. Kingsbridge, S. Devon.

#### FROM THE SALE ROOM

Stanley Gibbons Auctions. CLAUDE CARTIER COLLECTION, 15<sup>th</sup> Sept. 77.

##### BAHAMAS

1861 Rough Perf. 14 to 16 4d. dull rose SG.5 horizontal block of 10 extremely fresh and v.f. with almost full o.g. £5,600

##### GRENADA

1881 Surcharged, wmk large star, ½d deep mauve, variety, wmk. upright and error OSTAGE SG.21 fresh and v.f. with much o.g. must probably unique, unused. £1,500



## ST LUCIA

- 1860 Perf 14 4d blue SG.2 block of 12, very fresh and fine with much o.g. £4,250
- 1863 Perf. 12½ 4d indigo SG.7 superb block of 6 with very clear offset, light crease on lower row and faint ageing much o.g. £1,050
- 1864 Perf. 12½ 4d yellow SG.12 marginal block of 16 from left of sheet, positions 37-40, 49-52, 61-64, 73-76, extremely fresh, large part o.g. wonderful multiple in the finest possible condition. £2,600
- 1864 Perf. 12½ 4d yellow SG.12 two copies individually tied by French maritime anchor lozenge of dots on blue outer wrapper to Bordeaux with octagonal framed STE. LUCIE/PAQ. FR.C No.1/7 DEC.69 and PD, endorsed in mss Pr Guyane, on reverse another maritime c.d.s. and arrival mark of the 25th. Few small faults and an erasure of mss. £2,000
- 1864 Perf.14 1/- deep orange SG.18a superb block of 4 free, positions 47-48, 59-60, much e.g. extremely fresh £680
- St. Lucia Steam Conveyance Co. Ltd. 1871 circa (no value expressed). blue border, fine example of this rarity, good to large margins with trace of adjoining stamp at foot, some creases, central mss. cross cancel together with double ring circular company cachet in blue £2,100
- ## ST. VINCENT
- 1880 surcharged ld on 6d bright blue-green unsevered pair SG.28a good colour, light wrinkling, well centred, much o.g. £625
- 1880 Perf. 11 to 12½ 1/- bright vermilion SG.31 beautiful rich shade, well centred, much o.g. £450

## NEW MEMBERS

- ATKIN, J.A.R. 15, Gallow Tree Rd., Rotherham, South Yorkshire, S65 3EE  
Interest: Montserrat and St. Vincent
- BECKER, Stephen P., 76, Temple Fortune Lane, London, NW11 7TT  
Interest: Barbados
- BIRLEY, David Peter Francis, Flat 6, 74, Redcliffe Gardens, London S.W.10  
Interest: Montserrat, St. Lucia and Turks & Caicos Islands
- BRAITHWAITE, M.B., 149, Kilburn Lane, London W10 4AX  
Interest: Jamaica
- BROWN, Bernard H., 8, Hungerhills Drive, Bilton, Near Hull, North Humberside.  
Interest: Cayman Islands
- GREENWOOD, John R., Lecturer, Engineering Training School, B.B.C. Woodnorton, Evesham, Worcs., WE11 4TF  
Interest: Adhesives for all periods of most B.W.I. countries  
Montserrat (complete except for inverted 'S' and bisects)
- STALKER, J.B. 32, Clifton Rd., Kingston on Thames, Surrey, KT2 6PH  
Interest: Barbados and Jamaica

## CHANGE OF INTEREST

PETERKIN, F, Page 91, Bulletin No.95. Delete Barbados and Grenada and substitute St Vincent.

## CHANGE OF NAME

COLLINSON, Miss B.J. now Mrs. SCOTT

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

BOLTON, Kenneth, 55, Church St , Harle Syke, Burnley, Lancs.

DICKSON, T.A., "Greystead", Maynestone Rd , CHINLEY, via Stockport, Cheshire.

Leverton, A.M., Bridger & Kay Ltd., 24 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5LP  
Roberts, T.V., Dawes House, Bampton Grange, Penrith, Cumbria CA10 2QR  
Thompson, B.E., Villa Torrente, Ca'n Singala 65, Puerto de Pollensa, Mallorca, Spain

RESIGNED  
CARLAW, B.D.

The following members have not paid their subscriptions for 1977 and are therefore dropped from membership.

EVANS, J.F.: FULLERTON, J.S.: HUBNER, H.E.: PARKS, P.W.: SMITH, C.H.:  
WALLIS, C.D.

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