



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

Founder:

P. T. SAUNDERS, F.R.P.S.L.

President:

E. V. TOEG

Vice-Presidents:

J. B. MARRIOTT, F.R.P.S.L., R.D.P.

W. A. TOWNSEND, F.R.P.S.L., R.D.F.

BULLETIN No. 109 JUNE 1981

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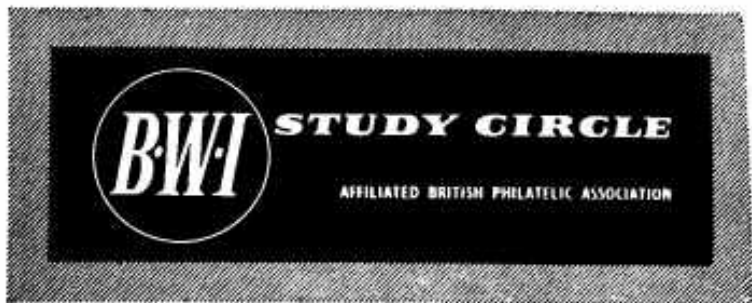
CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

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NEW ENGLAND STAMP COMPANY



- Acting Hon. Secretary :* **I. P. CHARD**
48 Shrublands, Potters Par, Herts. EN6 2BW
Tel. Potters Par 54491
- Hon. Treasurer :* **S.A. BAKER,**
15, Emmott Avenue,
Barkingside, Ilford, Essex, IG6 1AL
Tel: 01-554 8127
- Hon. Editor :* **M. SHEPPARD**
6 Copsleigh Close, Salfords, Surrey RH1 5BH
Tel. Redhill 63936
- Hon. Librarian:* **STEPHEN PAPWORTH**
Tir Nan Og, Pembroke Road, Manorbier,
Dyfed, SA 70 7SX.
- Committee :* **B. B. BENWELL,**
S. GOLDBLATT, M. R. WILSON
- Hon. Auditor :* **A. J. BRANSTON, F.R.P.S.L.**

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 **£3.00** or **\$8.00** USA due **1st January**. The latter rate includes airmail postage of bulletins and collection charges and is subject to changes from time to time as determined by the Hon. Treasurer. 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".

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PROGRAMME

1982

Wed., Feb. 3rd, 6.00 p.m.	Vincent Duggleby. St. Vincent.
Thurs., March 4th, 6.00 p.m.	To be arranged.
Sat., April 24th, 2.30 p.m.	A.G.M. and Auction.

SPECIAL EVENT

1981

Sat., Oct. 17th, Caribbean Convention to be held at the Regent Hotel, Leamington, Warwick.

The two evening meetings will be held in Committee Room A, The Law Society Building, 113, Chancery Lane, London, WC1 4BH.

The A.G.M. and Auction will be held at the Bonnington Hotel.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE 27th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the British West Indies Study Circle held at 3.00 p.m. on Saturday 19th April, 1981, at the Margaret Room of the Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London, WC1B 4BH.

The chair was taken by Mr. E. V. Toeg, the President, who extended a warm welcome to all.

Apologies for absence were received from: Mr. S.E. Papworth, Mr. S.A. Baker, Mr. L.E. Britnor, Mr. W.A. Townsend, Mr. J. Marriott.

The minutes of the 26th Annual General Meeting were published in the June 1980 issue of the Circle’s Quarterly Bulletin, pp 23 et seq. These were taken as read and, with the approval of the meeting, were signed as correct by the Chairman.

Report of the Hon. Secretary.

This is my 10th report as Hon. Secretary of this Study Circle. Membership has risen slowly but steadily over the past few years and now stands at about 370 members.

Some very limited use of the “Opinions Service” was made this year.

The task of preparing a new "List of Members" could not be undertaken in time for publication with the June 1980 bulletin. However, this huge task has now been completed and should be in the hands of the printer very soon.

The circle met as follows during the 1980-81 season.

20th Sept. 1980. Mr. M. Swetland displayed stamps from Antigua.

15th Oct. 1980 Nine page displays from members.

20th Nov. 1980 Nine page displays from members.

5th Feb. 1981 Mr. Sugarman displayed stamps and proofs from Dominica.

11th Mar. 1981 Mr. Chard displayed stamps from Bermuda.

Report of the Hon. Treasurer. Read in his absence by Ian Chard.

Over the past 12 months we have again had a problem with members not forwarding their subscriptions and it is becoming increasingly more costly to send out reminders. I would also say that many members are still using the old standing orders which applied a rate of £2.50 and it seems hardly worth sending a reminder for 50 pence. Would these people please rectify the situation by using their new forms as provided or notifying their banks to alter the old ones. Other than that both accounts are in good order as per statement of accounts published in the March Bulletin. I intend to pass the reins of Treasurership to another incumbent soon and I hope that he will have the support of members in the difficult and time consuming task of Hon. Treasurer.

Report of Hon. Auditor. Read in his absence by Ian Chard.

Mr. Branston reports that he has examined the accounts and the balance sheet in detail and is satisfied that they reflect the correct position of the Circle.

Report of the Hon. Editor.

No comments to make.

Report of the Hon. Librarian. Read in his absence by Ian Chard.

I have to report that over the past twelve months ten members made eleven requests for the loan of twenty-five items from the Library - a decline in the usage rate when compared with each of the past three years. This may be somewhat surprising in inflationary times as an upsurge in basic reading and research might have been expected when acquisitions of material for one's collection may be adversely affected (as mine has) and thus more use made of the Library.

Postal costs have again shown an increase of about 15% for an average loan, but the cost is still cheaper than acquiring the reference works by purchase - if, that is, they can be found.

During the year the Library Listing, last produced in 1975, finally went "out of print" and a new up-dated listing has now been produced. It includes the reference index to our Bulletins which I referred to last year, a more detailed section on the Auction Catalogues held, and, of course, the new acquisitions to the Library of which there have been a reasonable number.

I hope the decline in the usage of the Library will be reversed in the coming year.

Report of the Chairman of the Committee

The Committee has met twice since the Annual General Meeting on 19th April 1980.

The first meeting was held on 20th September 1980 when the Committee discussed at length the question of whether or not it was desirable still to hold a Saturday afternoon Meeting of the Study Circle towards the end of September in each year. The Committee deferred for the time being making any decision about such a Meeting.

The next matter was a report by Mr. E.V. Toeg on the projected Convention of the Study Circle at either Bristol or Bath during 1981. After a lengthy and full Report by Mr. Toeg, the matter received detailed examination in general discussion and ultimately it was unanimously decided by those present to adopt Mr. Toeg's recommendation not to hold the Convention at Bristol or Bath and the Committee then decided that the most favourable area in which to hold a Convention would be somewhere in the Midlands. Mr. Toeg and Mr. Ian Chard were authorised to make the necessary arrangements for a Convention to be held somewhere in the Midlands during 1981.

Finally, the Hon. Secretary Ian Chard reported that he was hoping that the new List of Members with their addresses and interests would be printed and ready for distribution with the June, 1981 Bulletin.

The second meeting of the Committee took place earlier today, that is, 25th April, 1981, when Mr. Toeg delivered a Report stating that a Convention had been arranged to be held on Saturday, 17th October, 1981 at The Regent Hotel, The Parade, Royal Leamington Spa and that the Convention Booklet would probably be sent out with the June, 1981 Bulletin. Mr. Toeg also mentioned that there were a number of jobs to be undertaken at the Convention and that several "volunteers" had already come forward to fill them, but that there were some vacancies still, particularly with regard to stewards.

Mr. Toeg then had to report that he had some weeks ago received a letter of resignation from the Hon. Treasurer Stirling A. Baker who stated that he was now undertaking extensive travelling to and from the Far East on behalf of his employer, and that he felt that in the circumstances he no longer had the time to carry out his duties as Hon. Treasurer in the manner he would like. Mr. Baker stated, however, that he will continue in office until a successor has been found.

Finally, the Hon. Secretary reported on the projected Programme of Meetings for 1981/2, details of which will appear in future Bulletins.

Announcement respecting the forthcoming Convention

Mr. Toeg announced that the Circle would be holding a Convention at the Regent Hotel, Leamington on Saturday 17th October, 1981. The event would include Formal displays, Informal displays, a Bourse, an Approval Table and a Luncheon. The full details would be published as a booklet for distribution with the June 1981 Bulletin.

The Convention was open to all interested in Philately. Members of the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society and the Warwick Philatelic Society.

Circle Meetings

Arrangements have been made for meetings to be held as follows:

Convention: 17th October 1981.
Mr. V. Duggleby: Wed. 3rd February, 1982.
To be arranged: Thurs. 4th March, 1982.
A.G.M. & Auction: Sat. 24th April, 1982.

Members are asked to indicate if they are willing to show stamps at Circle Meetings. Members who feel that they cannot occupy a full evening of display may show in conjunction with others.

Election of Officers and Committee of the Circle.

Mr. Chard reported that the officers and Committee of the Circle were, at present, as follows:

President: Mr. E. V. Toeg
Vice Presidents: Messrs. J. B. Marriott & W. A. Townsend.
Hon. Secretary: Mr. I. P. Chard.
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. S. A. Baker.
Hon. Editor: Mr. M. Sheppard.
Hon. Librarian: Mr. S. E. Papworth.
Committee: Messrs. B. B. Benwell, S. Goldblatt and M. R. Wilson.

Mr. Toeg stated that all were willing to be re-elected and that no nominations had been received. The officers and Committee were re-elected "en block".

Election of the Hon. Auditor

Mr. Branston has stated that he is willing to stand as Hon. Auditor for the forthcoming year.

Proposed by: E. V. Toeg.
Seconded by: Mr. Deakin

Any other business.

Mr. Deakin, living in the West Country, asked that anyone in the Circle who wished to meet informally should contact him.

Mr. Toeg asked that, if Mr. Deakin was able to arrange an informal meeting in the West Country, he be informed in case any of the London based members could attend.

No other business.

Vote of thanks to the Chairman

Mr. Chard proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Toeg, the President, for conducting the meeting and for his tireless efforts on behalf of the Circle throughout the year.

Meeting ended at 2.50 p.m.

The Hon. Treasurer

Stirling A. Baker after giving a good deal of his time and attention over the last few years to the financial affairs of the Study Circle has decided with considerable regret that he cannot continue as Hon. Treasurer.

In his letter signifying his intention to resign, Stirling has said that the main reason for his decision is that he spends about three months of the year in the Far East and now finds that the job of Hon. Treasurer is not getting his full attention; however, he will continue until a replacement is found.

On behalf of the Study Circle I would like to say how sorry we are that he is to cease being our Hon. Treasurer. The steady expansion of our membership during the last few years must undoubtedly be partly due to the zeal which he has employed in collecting membership subscriptions and dealing with the finances generally of the Study Circle. I would like to thank Stirling for his considerable efforts on behalf of the Study Circle in an important job which is often frustrating and which requires the devotion of time and attention on a regular basis.

Now I come to the point of asking whether any member would like to apply to be the Hon. Treasurer? Anyone who considers that he is suitable and has the time to take on this office should please get in touch with me.

E. V. Toeg

DISPLAY

Eleven members attended the meeting held on Tuesday 5th February, 1981 at the Law Society Building, 113 Chancery Lane, London, EC1 1PL at which Mr. S. Sugarman displayed and commented on his collection of Dominica. A summary of the display now follows.

Mr. Sugarman commenced with items of pre-adhesive covers, the first one being an early letter dated November 10th 1763 with instructions to be left at Lloyds Coffee House. The British Government Packet Service operated in the West Indies from 1755 and shortly afterwards the Packet Agencies there were issued with handstamps showing the names of the colonies. Next, an entire letter dated 1778 to London bearing on the reverse one of the two known examples of the first handstamp for Dominica. It is interesting to note that the spelling of Dominica ends with an "O". Mr. Sugarman then displayed 1792 and 1795 covers to London and to Edinburgh both showing the rare DOMI/NICA in two lines - the year 1795 incidentally when a French force from Guadeloupe attempted a landing at two separate points on the Island, but this French force was beaten off. About twenty years after the first appearance of a straight line handstamp came the second one, but now reading DOMINICA although it is interesting to note that the writer still used the old form "DOMINICO". Next, an entire letter to London dated 23rd September 1804 bearing an example of the straight line datestamp but of different size letters and figures than that of its predecessor. The Fleuron type datestamp followed the straight line datestamps into use in 1805 and remained in use until about 1834. An entire letter was also shown to London bearing the earliest known date of March 8th 1806. A range of "PAID AT DOMINICA" Crowned Circles followed and among them were two Entire Letters to Scotland re-addressed and forwarded from St. Andrews to Edinburgh for which a Queen Victoria 1d red was affixed over the Dominica handstamp as the re-direction payment.

The use of Great Britain stamps in Dominica were of little importance commercially. Correspondence was not very heavy and thus these British stamps with the "A07" postmark are among the scarcest of the used abroad. An 1858 entire letter in French dated 27th December from St Joseph to Dijon, France, franked with Great Britain 1d. and 6d. stamps were both tied by "A07" cancels, also a London Paid transit mark of 19th January 1859 and oval PD both in red, in addition Calais and Paris transit marks and arrival c. d. s. on January 21st - this is an exceptional item and probably the finest existing from this period.

The first stamps of Dominica came out in 1874 and these were represented by the 1d, 6d. and 1/- ex De La Rue Collection overprinted "CANCELLED" Samuel Type D4; also the same three values but with Type D6 although unrecorded by Samuel on this issue. A cut down die proof of the key plate with blank value tablet was also displayed. The 1877-79 issue was represented in blocks, the sixpence being ex Charlton Henry and the shilling value ex Burrus. An 1879 entire letter to London was exhibited next with the 1877-79 1/- magenta, perf 14 showing the rare large DOMINICA PAID in red. An 1883 postcard to London bearing the impression of 1d. was shown, but as the correct postcard rate to London was 1½d. at that time an additional bisected 1d. was used to make up the correct rate. An 1883 cover to London bore the 1d. lilac pair and a single used with 1883 "HALF PENNY on half ONE PENNY" in unsevered block of four. An example of the 1882 provisional postcard with a 1d. lilac affixed was also shown. This provisional postcard was used with an additional ½d. as the rate had increased to 1½d. and it was handstamped with the vertical "A07" killer and the small single ring c.d.s. Dominica "C" of FE 2 89 and also a St. Thomas receiving mark of 9th February 1889. The message which is written by the Postmaster says "this card is one of the 82 provisionals of which only 100 were printed, Yours truly, N. F. Garraway". This card is the only used example so far to have come to light. The 1883-84 ½d. olive-yellow (S.G.15) was also displayed in a mint block of 12 and the 1884 2½d. red-brown (S.G.16) was shown in a mint block of 6. The 1880 provisional ½d. on 6d. green (S.G.17) was shown in a mint block of 27 as was also the 1d. on 1/- magenta (S.G.19) in a complete sheet of 60. The whole of the 1886-88 issue was displayed in mint blocks of 4.

An essay was shown of the design of S.G. type 9 and this was submitted to the Crown Agents on September 13th 1901 for all denominations except the 5/- value. The master die proof was exhibited with uncleared surrounds and blank value tablet dated 19th Feb. 03. After Hardening. There was also a working die proof which started out as a master die, but was transformed into a cleared proof by painting over the black borders with Chinese white thus giving a more realistic impression of the issued stamp. Then followed 1903 die proofs of centre vignettes with uncleared borders dated 11 March 02 before hardening and 12 March 02 after hardening. Next, the same as above but with cleared borders dated 19 March 03 before hardening and 23 March 03. There was also shown the 1903 die proofs of the frame for the FIVE SHILLINGS marked "Before Hardening" and "After Hardening" and dated 10th and 11th March respectively. The 1903 master die proof - this duty die was submitted and approved for Antigua, Dominica and Montserrat and dated 22 Jan. 03 after hardening and initialled "G.C.G." Also a proof of the head of Edward VII, used for the 5/- value mentioned above and dated 11 Feb. 03 before hardening. From the De La Rue archives also the

1903 set of cut down die proofs of the frames with vignette and 5/- value all on one sheet the proofs being crossed through with red lines and giving information of dates and leads. Appendix sheet dated 8 April 1903 showed the ½d. to 5/- imperforate colour scheme all in issued colours approved and dated 15.4.03. and initialled "W.H.M." The issued stamps of the 1903 set were shown in blocks of 4 mint. The same set was also shown overprinted "SPECIMEN" in strips of 4. A War Tax ½d. on ½d. essay was displayed comprising 1903 die proof in black on glazed card with uncleared surrounds and value tablet marked "Before Hardening 20 Jan 03" with tracing paper overlay and surcharged "WAR TAX/ONE HALFPENNY" and marked below "Approved W.H.M. 10.4". Also 1918 essays of the "WAR TAX" overprints on three pieces of plain paper, comprising six different war tax overprints in all, two marked with a cross were approved. The 1½d. on 2½d. orange (S.G.59) surcharged in red in an imperforate plate block of 4 came next followed by the same stamp but surcharged in black (S.G. 60) in an imperforate block of 4. An interesting 1921 essay produced for the frame of the 1½d. value was also shown with a manuscript note stating "Duty Die to be altered into three separate tablets with no ornamentation 1.7.21". This was followed by a 1921 1½d. die proof of the frame marked "After Hardening 25.6.21"; a cut down die proof marked with a red cross and a note "60 leads 25 July 22"; an imperforate plate proof and also the issued stamp.

A fringe philatelic item of very great interest to all present was a most beautiful embossed die proof of the official seal of Dominica set in a circle incorporating in the vignette the ship and rising sun dated Jan. 13. 1923. An essay of the 1923-33 3d value with hand painted panel in blue, cut out and inserted ovals in green was also exhibited, the whole on a card dated 11 July 22 and marked (B). Mr. Sugarman then displayed an original die proof of the frame for the 1923 issue, on thin white paper, showing working guide lines; the complete die proof on glazed card of the frame for the £1 value dated 29.2.22. before hardening; also cut down die proofs of the 15 values with vignette, each item marked with the number of leads and dates of issue, all being on one sheet. There were then shown 1923 perforated 1d. colour trials perf. 14 using the 1d. plate on watermarked paper, the colours being all approved on Dec. 14th 1922, and being one of only two sets produced. Imperforate colour trials of the colour changes came next, each one on piece approved for colour and dated. The complete set in blocks of 4 mint was followed by the specimen set. The 1935 Jubilee set was represented as well by imperforate die proofs of the frames and the set was also shown perforated in blocks of 4.

Mr. G. A. Madgwick in proposing a vote of thanks said that the display was a remarkable one, everything being in fine condition and the pre-adhesive material which was very hard to obtain was in excellent shape considering its age. The other members present agreed with these remarks and showed their approbation in the usual manner.

NOTES and QUERIES

BAHAMAS

With enthusiasm sharpened anew by purchase of Ludington and Raymond's excellent 1968 handbook on the Handstamps and cancellations of the Bahamas, I have matched my slender stock of strikes with their (then) definitive listing. The result is a few extensions of dates and a query or two; if the prompter researches of others have made mine old hat, I ask their indulgence.

1. Out-island datestamps.

OFFICE	CDS TYPE	L&R	"NEW"	SCARCITY
		EDK/LDK	EDK/LDK	
BEHRING POINT	7	13. 6.25	23. 8.18	-
CLARENCE TOWN	7a	28. 5.16	2. 7.14	A
FRESH CREEK	3a	16.12.10	1904	B
GEORGE TOWN	2	13. 7.07	8. 7.04	C
GOVERNOR'S HARBOUR	(TRD) BX	5. 2.61	14. 6.62	C
INAGUA	1	11. 2.05	8.10.05	A
INAGUA	7 II	6. 6.31	30. 3.31	A
NICOLLS TOWN	2	6. 4.12	? 6.12	C
SIMMS	3a	JUL 1910	JUL 1904	A
THE FERRY	7I	10.11.12	9. 8.12	A

2. "P.O.S.B." and "M.O.O."

The reference on page six to the Post Office Savings Bank and Money Order Department datestamps is tantalisingly uninformative. "Occasionally found on late Queen Victoria stamps", is all we are given by way of definition of period and scarcity; in my own experience they are as plentiful as hens' teeth, and I possess but one date for each - SP 2 1897 for POSB and JY 31 189? for MOD, - both struck on 1884-98 pennys. I should be grateful for reports of other dates.

Michael Medlicott

BARBADOS

BARBADOS 'REVENUE' OVERPRINT

As a comparative novice, I would much like to know the reason and origins of the 'Revenue' overprint on the 1912 issue.

I have both mint and used copies of the 1d carmine, a 1d purple, a 1d light purple, a 2½d blue, a 2½d ultramarine, a 3d, a 6d and two copies of the 3s.

How many were issued, and were any other stamps similarly overprinted?

Robert Ellis

BRITISH GUIANA

I have a copy of 1 cent provisional (S.G.154) clearly cancelled by Georgetown OC 29, 1881 and I now wonder if this stamp exists used - or only (Townsend and Howe pages 96 and 99 appendix 6) unused and C.T.O. If all 2,438 went to the acting

postmaster the story is not unlike that of the two sheets of 60 of the one penny on sixpence provisional (S.G.18) of 1886.

Townsend and Howe in the variety note (d) on page 97 appear to ignore the fact that the 96c. (S.G.134) was in panes of 60 (6 x 10) and 10,132 indicates surcharges on broken sheet. This might account for a marginal surcharge, without a missing surcharge. Or did the wicked postmaster buy the unsurcharged 96 cents for two cents and so provide his Christmas bonus?
Peter Jaffe

Townsend & Howe tell us about the successive “G.P.O. COUNTER” marks, and query their purpose.

There is probably an obvious answer, though it had not occurred to me before now. The particular instrument would be in the custody of the post office employee who received and dealt with postal items handed across the G.P.O. counter.

Most of what this employee handled would presumably not be ordinary letters, but some might be. The usual traffic would be in items which needed to be franked at the counter. A typical example is a parcel, where the sender would have it weighed and the postage assessed before the stamps were put on; and of course the employee would at once cancel those stamps with his instrument to hand. The same treatment would be given to a letter as to which the sender was uncertain at what rate to frank it. No doubt the mark will also be found on post office receipts and other similar documents, not necessarily cancelling stamps.

It took a fragment of a 1916 parcel wrapping with snippets of different labels and a 12 cent stamp duty cancelled at the counter to engender these thoughts; but it does resolve for me something that I had casually observed, without making any specific record. This is that the G.P.O. counter marks normally turn up on stamps of 4 cent value and above. Is this in line with other people’s experience?

Simon Goldblatt

After an exhaustive or exhausting hunt, I have turned up an example of “Philadelphia” in type 2. What interests me most is that, while it is impossible (because of the source from which this stamp came) for it to be the actual copy from which the Townsend a Howe information was obtained - I infer that there was only one - the date on this stamp is the same, 9 JUL 1880.

What should one deduce, bearing in mind that the later Philadelphia strike was recorded only for Feb 1-2- 1882?

It seems highly probable that there were very few days upon which the Philadelphia cancellers were ever actually in use, and it may turn out that examples are only to be found on the dates recorded above. One is aware that the rarity of postmarks is frequently the consequence of the postal agent being reluctant to cancel mail at source, or being instructed not to do so, and that this may be a more important factor than the amount of postal business transacted at a particular sub-office. It is not often that positive evidence can be found to prove the reason, but I think that Philadelphia is well on the way. As an office, it was open and in operation for several years.

Simon Goldblatt

British Guiana 1878-1881 Provisionals

Once again we owe a debt to Simon Goldblatt for opening up an interesting new field for discussion. This article in the December 1980 Bulletin answers various questions and provokes many more. My first reaction is that, typically, he gives a misleading impression of the scarcity of these provisionals. Many of them are very difficult to find and one at least is a howling rarity.

Let me start by responding to some questions he directly poses. Firstly, that of legitimate usage. To his list of “healthy” stamps, namely those seen used outside Georgetown, I can add examples of S.G.141 and 142, as well as confirming further sightings on S.G.145 and 148. I can also boast the use of two provisionals, namely S.G.153 and 155, on local covers at correct rates. Alas, however, I have no reason to criticise his use of the term “processed” for my used copies of S.G.152, 154 and 159. Secondly, I can help to some extent with the settings of the 1881 surcharges. Taking S.G. 150 and 151 first, I have long been under the impression, although my recollection of the source is unclear, that S.G. 151 appears as the last stamp in every row (i.e. a ratio of one in six). Although I have seen no large blocks of this stamp, I have come across a marginal horizontal pair which accords with this theory. Simon Goldblatt’s postulation that the less common type would probably occur at the bottom of the sheet (memories of St. Lucia postage dues and Honduras 1899 revenues) is not correct, since I have a bottom marginal copy which is indubitably S.G.150. Back to Townsend and Howe, then, which says “All horizontal rows from 1 to 5 are of the curved foot type of overprint”. While hesitating to query a lawyer’s interpretation, I believe this sentence could be consistent with the straight foot appearing on all stamps in the sixth column. Mr. Townsend can correct me if I am wrong.

Turning to the settings of S.G.157 and 158, two blocks (of nine and twenty-four) in the Burrus collection establish that S.G. 158 occurs in positions 38, 40, 41 and 42, but not on 28 other sheet positions. I can add that it does not occur on positions 49, 50, 55 and 56. That is as far as I can go on S.G. 157 and 158 alone. However, I share Simon Goldblatt’s presumption that the same setting was used for S.G.155 and 156, in which case we can turn to two blocks, one in the Burrus collection and one in my own, which establish that position 43 also has the curved foot while another five positions do not. This leaves the last four stamps in rows 1, 9 and 10 and the last three stamps in rows 2 and 3 unaccounted for, so what is needed is notification of blocks from the top-right and bottom-right sheet corners. Already, however, it is possible to give a partial answer to the question of relative scarcity, five out of forty-two positions showing the curved foot.

There are two further questions I would like to pose. Firstly, the Scott catalogue prices a stamp similar to S.G.144 used with one horizontal bar instead of two. I have recently heard of an unused example. Townsend and Howe mention this variety without commenting on its status. Was it an issued stamp, and if so why does Gibbons not list it? Or was it a variety on one stamp or one row of the sheet? Or was it of proof status? Secondly, can any member indicate what form the variety “bar in red” (listed as 149a and 150a by Gibbons and as V152a and V153a by B & K) takes? I have an example of both stamps, from different sources, each of which has two bars, one

normal and the other a thinner ruled line in red ink. One of these stamps has an expert certificate indicating that the Committee. was unable to furnish an opinion. In addition, I have another example of S.G. 149 with a single bar, but with a rather reddish tinge than normal. Information, please, from other non-aesthetes!

Charles Freeland

BRITISH WEST INDIES

AN ECHO FROM THE PAST



Readers may be interested in a glimpse of the stamp market over 40 years ago as shown by two numbers of Stamp Collecting Weekly of 1937 (then priced at 3d.). The “Eastick” advert, was in the issue of 3 July. In those days offers at about 1/3d S.G. catalogue were commonplace and these were for stamps of top grade! I had recently left school and I still remember the thrill of buying such “bargains” although my spare cash was limited to shillings rather than pounds. In the same issue Harmer Rooke’s quoted auction realisations: ANTIGUA 1932 Tercentenary mint £3.15.0. CAYMAN IS 1908 1d. on 4d (Yvert cat. 1,000 fr) £5.15.0, ST. KITTS 1923 Tercentenary £16.00. In the issue of 31 July, T.Allen offered TOBAGO 1879 £1 mint (S.G.6) at £25.00.

Edmonds & Edmonds Ltd. were having a clearance sale:

ANTIGUA 1921-29 MCA 2/6 (Cat. 5/-) at 2/8, 1932 Tercentenary 2/5 mint (Cat. 20/-) at 12/6. DOMINICA 1923-27 MCA 3/-, 5/- and £1 (Cat. 77/6) at 34/-, VIRGIN IS. 1899 mint set to 1/- (cat. 46/3) at 12/6. Happy days!

Both issues of the magazine are dominated by the then-recent Coronation omnibus, in which there was enormous interest at the time. There was no premonition of the prolonged slump which was to come. The editors were compiling a “Compendium” of reported varieties, such as:

- BAHAMAS 2½d Dot under middle A of BAHAMAS.
- BARBADOS 2½d Beauty spot above right corner of Queen’s mouth.
- GRENADA ½d Line cutting diagonally across both the inner and outer frame between E and N of GRENADA.
- MONTSERRAT 1d Diagonal line of colour extends from the tip of the sword.
1½d Dot above and between N and T of MONTSERRAT.
- ST. CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS 1d. Right-handed half-moon running into Queen’s left eye. Two black dots on Queen’s left cheek.
- TRINIDAD 8c. Dot on King’s forehead. NI of TRINIDAD joined at top.

The aim of the compilers was eventually to sort the wheat from the chaff so that a complete listing of constant varieties could be produced. I have never made a study of the 1937 Coronations and I wonder if any of the above West Indies flaws have stood the test of time.

Anthony W. Lewarn

DOMINICA

DOMINICA BIASECTS 1882/3

Many years ago discussing these stamps and the characteristics of the surcharges with the late Major Adrian Hopkins R.D.P. he informed me that all these bisects were officially severed from their natural whole before sale over the post office counter, and that they were available only at the G.P.O. Roseau. If any genuine original whole stamps exist they must have been provided unofficially by favour.

It is my experience that there must be as many forgeries as genuine surcharges amongst the small black ½ and full length halfpenny - it really is a minefield. A joined pair of the small ½ was a perfect example of this surcharge until I noticed it was on Crown CA paper. Without the watermark it would have passed as genuine. I have also seen an un-severed pair of the extended Halfpenny (S.G.14a) with deep crease up the centre from folding, which looked very good, including the loose alignment of lettering, but unfortunately the R.P.S.L. condemned its pedigree.

That is the only example I know, either good or bad, of the unsevered pair. I begin to doubt if the genuine really does exist.

H. Vivian-Brown

JAMAICA

THE DOUBLE RINGED CIRCULAR DATE STAMPS OF KINGSTON/JAMAICA THIRD SUPPLEMENT TO THE CHECK LIST

Since the publication of the second supplement in Bulletin No. 107, I have only one "new" item to report:

TYPE KDC 3

Datestamp 4 Odd: Index: O sideways

I continue the detailed information on various types commenced in Bulletin No.107.

TYPE KDC 1. Please add to the specialised study in Bulletin No.107:

- (i) On page 76, after the general comment and before the information on Datestamp 1. "The rings are widely spaced, about 1mm. apart. There are no stops or other symbols at sides. Strikes are found in blue ink".
- (ii) On page 79, as further comment on the scarcity rating of numeral indices (immediately before sub-section B "alfa-indices"):

"Although much less common than those in black, I do not think that blue ink impressions are particularly scarce. I have only two examples, both of Datestamps 4. They were selected for their fine quality, but I have seen quite a number of inferior strikes. Unfortunately I did not record the Datestamp numbers".

TYPE KDC 2 “KINGSTON/JAMAICA” is in broad sans-serif capitals throughout, separated by a “stop” at end side of the instrument. These are placed at mid-point between the words, about 2.0 to 2.5mm. below the inner edges of “KINGSTON”. Because of the nature of these marks as explained below, I cannot give precise measurements for individual instruments.

With the acquisition of better strikes of most of the set, all measurements have been carefully re-checked. Those for the general type in the original check-list AND those for Datestamps 3(1) and 3(2) in the second supplement should be deleted and replaced by the individual listings, which follow: The configuration and general lay-out of the words and figures have been well matched throughout the set, there being no marked differences which strike the eye at first glance. As in KDC1, the rings are set well apart (about 1mm) but in KDC2, my examples show no tendency for the outer ring to disappear. However, for Datestamp 2, my dates in 1900 show considerable signs of wear, the rings merging into a heavy single ring.

The nature of the side-markings, which I have provisionally described as “stops”, constitutes a problem. In many of my examples the marks are squarish, often with corners rounded to varying degrees. However, the shape is almost always irregular. Well-inked strikes show as amorphous blobs of solid colour, but I have examples with uncoloured areas which MIGHT be interpreted as forming an “X”. Could it be that these “stops” were originally small Maltese crosses which quickly degenerated with wear and with the accumulation of dirt in the etching of the pattern? I stress that this suggestion is purely tentative. The views of other collectors would be most welcome. I have a number of very good strikes, but an impression of proof quality is needed to prove or disprove my theory about the true nature of the aide-markings.

I have not seen strikes in blue ink of any of the six instruments.

Datestamp 1 Measurements: A. about 26.5 B.2.5/2.75. C.16.5 D.13.5. E.5.5. F.5.5. G.2.5. H.2.5.

Datestamp 2 Measurements: A. about 26.5. B.2.5/2.75 C.16.0 D.14.0. E.4.75. F.4.75. G.2.75. H.2.5.

The top curve of Index 2 terminates in a ball. The upward serif at the end of the bottom stroke is not very pronounced. I have examples in which it is completely absent, the figure appearing sans-serif at foot. This state is probably caused by wear and/or the degree of inking. Because of the otherwise identical appearance of the figure, I do not think that the original slug was replaced.

Datestamp 3 (1) Measurements: A about 26.5. B.2.5/2.75. C.16.5 D.12.75. E.5.0. F.4.75. G.2.75. H.2.5.

Datestamp 3 (2) Measurements: A about 26.5. B.2.5/2.75. C.16.0 D.13.0. E.4.5. F.4.0. G.2.5. H.2.5.

Close examination shows that the letters of “JAMAICA” are set noticeably more close together in both states of Datestamp 3 than in Datestamp 2, as demonstrated by comparison of measurements D. To clarify the description given in the second supplement I illustrate two examples of Datestamp 3 (1) in Figure 1 and one of Datestamp 3 (2) in figure 2.

Although I have no technical knowledge of the process of re-cutting, I think that the possibility of state 2 being produced by this means is remote; it is more likely that a second die was made.

FIGURE 1
SP 28 96 - Datestamp 3(1) - FE 6 96

FIGURE 2
Datestamp 3(2) - JY 7 99



Datestamp 4 Measurements: A. about 26.5. B.2.5/2.75. C.16.0 D.13.5. E.5.5. F.4.5. G.2.75. H.2.5.

Late strikes show Index 4 sans-serif at foot; this is probably due to wear.

Datestamp 5 Measurements: A. about 26.5. B.2.5/2.75. C.16.5 D.13.0. E.6.0. F.4.5. G.2.5. H.2.5.

Datestamp 6 Measurements: A. about 26.5. B.2.5/2.75. C.15.5 D.13.0. E.5.5. F.4.5. G.2.5. H.2.5.

In this instrument the first stroke of “K” and the last stroke of final “N” of KINGSTON are almost level with the top of the “month-day” line, whereas in the other datestamps a projection across the base of KINGSTON crosses this line at about mid-point (or almost at the foot in Datestamp 3(2)). Also, on Datestamp 6, the index combination and the two-figure year are set further above and below the central line. Spacing is about 2.5mm, compared with 1.5/2.0mm. in the other instruments.

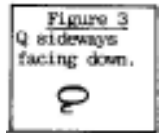
Relative Scarcity

A. Numeral indices. My examples are fairly evenly spread over the various instruments. I would rate Datestamp 1, 2, 3(2), 4 and 5 as very common. Datestamp 3(1) appears to have had a short life and Datestamp 6 is somewhat more elusive than the others. These last two marks are rated as common.

B. Alfa-indices. Taking the group as a whole, the analysis of my 57 examples is as follows:

- Very common: M(16), L(7), 6(6), F(5).
- Common: C(4), A(3), I(3), Q sideways facing down (3).
- Uncommon: K(2), S(2).
- Scarce to rare: B(1), G(1), N(1), P(1), U(1), X(1).

In view of the small size of the sample, it must be stressed that the suggested ratings are somewhat tentative. However, as for KDC1, it appears true to say that (except possibly for letter Q), all common letters are in the first half of the alphabet. It is likely that my single examples of B, G and N and my two examples of K are due to bad luck in finding acceptable strikes. It would be interesting to know if any reader has examples of Q in a normal upright position. Figure 3 shows the unusual form of the letter. One of my examples is cancelling a ½d. P.S. card used to GREEN ISLAND: the others are on 1d and 2½d. stamps. Clearly, this alpha-index was used on ordinary mail. It appears with the same typeface in KDC3.



My example of Index X (which is in Datestamp 6) is on a QV6d stamp. The high-value usage many indicate that this index combination was reserved for a special purpose, such as parcel or telegram forms. (During this period, registered mail was cancelled with an elliptical-shaped mark). My Index U (in Datestamp 5) is also on a QV6d.; the possibility of special usage again arises.

TYPE KDC 3. KINGSTON/JAMAICA is in narrow sans-serif capitals throughout the set. The letters of KINGSTON are more widely spaced than those of JAMAICA. There are “stops” at sides at mid-point between the words. These are large and are placed 3.5/4mm. below the inner edges of KINGSTON. In most of my examples they form “blobs” of colour similar to but larger than those in KDC2 and giving similar problems in identifying their true character. However, in all my examples of KDC3 the square format is maintained and many of them show a clear uncoloured “X” on close examination. I am reasonably convinced that the marks were originally large Maltese crosses; the check-list should be amended accordingly.

Generally, the rings are widely spaced, about 1mm. apart. In Datestamp 1 they appear to be set fractionally closer, appearing as a heavy single ring in a number of strikes from 1900 onwards. I have not seen strike’s in blue ink of any of the instruments in this set. Examples are found where the “year” figures are fractionally less tall than the “normal” 2.5mm. The short “0” is most distinctive, being circular as opposed to an upright oval. In datestamp 6 my examples show a small “9”. The reserve stock of replacement slugs seems to have included figures of slightly varying height. In the following lists, measurement. H is subject to this point.

Datestamp 1 Measurements: A.26.0. B.2.5/2.75. C.15.5. D.10.75 E.8.0. F.8.0. G.2.5. H.2.5.

The index 1 is seriffed at top and at foot. The close spacing of JAMAICA is most marked in this instrument.

Datestamp 4 Measurements: A.26.0. B.2.5/2.75. C.15.0. D.12.0 E.8.5. F.8.5. G.2.5. H.2.5.

The Index 4 has a serif at foot but not at the end of the cross-stroke. The letters, particularly of KINGSTON, appear to be fractionally less tall than in Datestamp 1.

Datestamp 5 Measurements: A.26.5. B.2.5/2.75. C.16.0. D.12.5 E.9.0. F.8.25. G.2.5. H.2.5.

The index 5 has no serif at the end of the top stroke but the bottom curve terminates in a ball. A state exists in which the left-hand stroke of “K” in KINGSTON disappears just below the join with the upper diagonal stroke. This “short K” is first seen in my examples dated January 1901 and must have been due to wear. Measurements C and E cannot be made accurately from strikes showing the variety.

Datestamp 6. Measurements: A.26.75. B.2.5/2.75. C.15.25 D.11.75. E.9.75. F.8.5. G.2.5. H.2.5.

Thee index 6 is sans-serif, i.e. there is no “ball” at the end of the curve at top.

Relative Scarcity

A. Numeral indices. With 17, 14 and 19 examples respectively of indices 1, 4 and 5, it is clear that these instruments were widely used. They must be classed as very common. Index 6 seems to be relatively uncommon; I have only five examples. The 1d. red “Llandoverly Falls” is a fruitful source of KDC3. The colour shows up the mark and

the stamp is large enough to receive a full impression. An album page of good strikes with different index combinations is most attractive.

In the first supplement (Bulletin No.105) I put forward the suggestion that instruments of Type KDC3 were either not produced with Indices 2 and 3 or, if produced, were used only for non-postal business. The second theory seems to be the more likely and, if correct, there may well have been some limited postal usage of one or both of the instruments. Can any reader confirm this, please? Any examples are likely to be uncommon or scarce.

B. Alfa Indices

My 55 examples are subdivided as follows:

Very common: L(9), E(6), 11(5), M(5).

Common: F(4), O upright (4), Q sideways facing down (4), K(3).

Uncommon: A(2), D(2), G(2), I(2).

Scarce to rare: N(1), O sideways (1), P(1), Q upright (1), R(1), W(1), X(1).

Use of a larger sample might well change these provisional ratings. However, the first half of the alphabet would probably still dominate the listing. From the latter part of the alphabet, Q moved into the relatively common group in KDC2 and remains there in KDC3, being joined by letter O. It is reasonable that both these indices were used for ordinary mail. The form of letter Q is illustrated in Figure 3. My single example in an upright position is in Datestamp 1; the four strikes with the letter sideways are in Datestamp 4 (one example) and 5 (three examples).

My single example of X is in Datestamp 6, struck on a QV 1/- stamp. As with the example of 6X in Type KDC2 mentioned earlier this index combination probably indicates a special usage, such as parcel or telegram. The theory that certain index letters or index combinations used at the G.P.O. were allocated to specific TYPES of mail or to telegrams provides an interesting and, as far as I am aware, hitherto almost unexplored field for study.

Anthony W Lewarn

Further to queries raised in Bulletin No.99 and 104 by Mr. M. Mattick and Mr. A. Lewarn respectively re the Kingston, Jamaica machine cancel. I have this as a back stamp on a cover from Antigua dated NO 8 18, but the back stamp is Kingston/Dec 29-18/ 7-- PM/Jamaica. N.B. 8 lines, not 6.

William ff D. Hall

ST. CHRISTOPHER

2½d brown CC, S.G.9. Any opinion of Peter Jaffe deserves great respect. I feel, though, that it needs more than the evidence of shade variations, before one can conclude that there were two printings of this elusive stamp. My own reason for doubting the suggestion is the real rarity of the stamp in used condition. I can explain that phenomenon very easily, if the printing was 1,560 as has hitherto been supposed (or even a larger number) and if the vast majority of these stamps were bought unused by the stamp trade to supply collectors. This often happened with a new issue, even in those days. But given a second consignment, I feel sure that a fair proportion would be used and would survive; and in view of the variation that sometimes occurs in De La

Rue shades even in stamps on a single sheet, I should be cautious before attributing two stamps of different shade to a separate printing (as witness what used to be S.G.60 and 60a of St. Vincent). Having said that, and in total fairness to Peter, my experience of this stamp up to now has been that the shade is fairly uniform. The only real exception I thought I had come across turned out to be misclassified for watermark, but no such simple explanation is available this time!

Simon Goldblatt

ST. KITTS

In reply to notes on Concentric Circles in Bulletins 106 and 107:- I have on a pair of St. Kitts S.G.1 ½d. stamps a 5 circle target. The measurement of the circles seems to be 21½, 18½, 15, 13½ and 10mm. respectively. The Canadian Circles (which are so fine that they cannot be cut from cork) are of 6 or 7 rings and are 16mm. I have copies as far apart as 1851 on S.G.1, 1898 on S.G.115 and even a war time “dumb” in 1942 on S.G.383.

William ff D. Hall

ST. VINCENT

When in doubt ALWAYS go back to the original source. Many years of philatelic research has taught that no-one is infallible either in the accuracy of their transcription or in the validity of their interpretation. Thus I had always been unhappy about some of the conclusions drawn by John Easton in his book on the De La Rue Records. Somehow his version of events regarding the Revenue stamps of St. Vincent just didn't add up. So it was that I found myself back in the National Postal Museum to re-examine the De La Rue Records with surprising results.

Suffice it to say my suspicions were justified; Easton, for all his care and scholarship, had simply missed various documents and skated over others without realising their significance. To give but one example he states that the letter of 15th August 1882 with a requisition for 1d and 4d stamps is missing. It isn't Far more important, however, is the discovery of an UNRECORDED requisition, which Easton (if he noticed it) confused with that of 15th August; Nor is it included in his checklist of St. Vincent in the London Philatelist of December 1960 (p 231).

The order was placed by the Crown Agents on 17th November 1882 for

120,000	1d postage stamps
12,000	4d postage stamps
3,000	3d postage stamps

It was invoiced on 21 December 1882 and would have arrived early in 1883. It will be recalled that the previous - and not dissimilar order - for 60,000 1d stamps and 14,790 4d stamps was invoiced on 3 October 1882. There is no doubt that there are two quite distinct and separate orders, and they make sense of the consumption pattern for the 1d values (S.G.39).

It was inexplicable that St. Vincent could have survived with just 60,000 1d drab between November 1882 and March 1885, nearly 28 months, taking account of both postal and revenue usage of some 1250 per week (my estimate). It also explains why the 4d blue (perf 14) is common in its used state, and it positively fixes the date of the

3d, subsequently overprinted 'revenue' in the Colony (unknown to De La Rue and the Crown Agents).

Much work needs to be done to re-evaluate the St. Vincent section of the De La Rue records, but the lesson for other West Indies philatelists is clear: if in doubt, go back to the originals.

Vincent Duggleby

I should like to record the local perforation errors on the 1880 1d on half sixpence provisional. An extra line is known diagonally - as on 1882 3d. revenue - and vertically. I know of no similar varieties on the 1881 ½d on half sixpence.

Peter Jaffe

TOBAGO

In reply to Charles Freeland's notes in the December, 1980 Bulletin Mr. D. H. Vernon reports the following findings in his own collection.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 6d. fiscal. | Damaged foot to S. |
| 4d. grey. | Lower part of arc in P is straight |
| 6d. orange. | Short I in six, squared off foot. 2nd stamp in from right of sheet. |
| 6d. orange. | Broken bottom loop of S and short I with sloping foot on same stamp. Left marginal. |
| 1/-. S.G.24 | Confirm sloping ING. |
| 1/-. or. brn. | Decidedly small G in SHILLING |

Mr. Vernon wonders if the same value tablets were used for e.g. St. Christopher. He reports a small S in SIXPENCE on the green and an even smaller S on the olive-brown. Closer inspection shows that they are not the same for the 6d. value but may be for the others, e.g. the Tobago 3d. fiscal and the St. Kitts Nevis REVENUE 3d.

I enjoyed John de Vries on Tobago in Bulletin 106 and of course the printing estimates of Simon Goldblatt. So I am moved to start another line - in the hope that one day somebody will make out the shades of the De La Rue ½d., 1d. 2½d. and 4d., some of which seem at least as interesting as the shades of Bahamas.

My "pilot" concerns the code letters.

First I have (undated) a clear P, like Montserrat's P for Plymouth. Is this a successor to "14" or "15" in the near Trinidad killer type, or is it an error?

Secondly inverted A. Is it the only form from Dec. 9. 96 to Feb. 16. 98? (this is my range and may be extended).

I have A pointing to West FE 8. 93.

Normal A SP 10.90 to JY 29.92.

Normal B J? 10.94.

B on its back AP 1.96.

C reversed OC 25.86.

C down AU 16.95.

I suggest A, B and C are the usual morning, noon and afternoon.

When was A 14 (there were two supplied in April 1858) withdrawn or when is the latest date known of use?

Peter Jaffe

AUCTION REPORT

With our biggest ever auction catalogue, and rumours of continuing recession in the world of stamps, it was inevitable that there would be one or two disappointed vendors. 543 lots were on offer, and just less than one third failed to attract a buyer, this remainder dividing fairly equally between straight forward stamps, Specimen singles and part sets, covers of modest quality, and items with a certain specialist appeal.

For the lots which did sell – which included most of the more valuable items and all the real rarities - demand was strong, and competition keen. Probably the most striking feature this year was the close correspondence between our valuations, and average realisations; for, in a sale totalling well over £6,000, the excess over valuation was hardly more than 1%. Most of this discrepancy () was accounted for by a collection of Trinidad with whose disposal we had been entrusted; although the owner thought we were being optimistic, we admired both the range and quality, and buyers clearly agreed. Leaving out this portion of goodies, the margin between estimate and realisation was, on average, hardly ¼%.

Even the few lots which soared higher were basically predictable: that splendid CONSEJO (lot 173); that elusive piece of postal stationery (lot 250); that rare 5/- block (lot 349); and those two quality items from St. Vincent (lots 416 and 436). We must not forget to mention lot 291, though. No fewer than twelve postal bidders competed. Inevitably, the top bid of £7.50 was pipped in the room. You railway collectors may have to revise your ideas.

Of the 85 postal bidders, eleven spent £100 or more; but room bidders had come to spend money too. So we had some spirited contests, especially on lots 76, 110, 212, 436 and 504. Only the successful postal bidders will know how close they came to defeat on two of these items.

Each year we stress that nothing contributes more to the quality of an auction than the confidence of postal bidders that their money will not be spent unless it has to be. Leaving aside the cases where our auction rules prevented the bidding being opened below the bidder's maximum, we counted only 32 lots which were knocked down at the maximum bid on the book. By contrast, one buyer with 5 acquisitions spent only 60% of his listed maxima, and so did a much bigger spender, who acquired 14 lots. We noted one book limit of £10 which succeeded at £2.50, and best of all, probably, a book limit of £18 on an item which cost its new owner £3 only.

Once again over a third of our members took part either as buyers or sellers or both. For the few who may have wanted to participate, but missed the auction date through other commitments (or even lapse of memory!) it is well worth getting in touch with Mike Sheppard after the sale. There is always a chance that the lots on which you had your eye are among the leftovers, and we would always rather sell than return to sender.

Indeed, the period immediately after the auction is usually a busy one. There are the post-auction sales and, inevitably, however carefully we describe the lots (and we do, believe us), there is the odd complaint from a discontented buyer or two, sometimes

fully justified and sometimes not. Last year was a record in this respect: one lot only was the subject of a protest, and that protest rather inadequately based.

This year we shall fare less well, we suspect, since the weight of material for sale almost overwhelmed us, and there is bound to have been a blemish or two to escape our eagle eyes. However, we expect post-auction transactions to show more pluses than minuses; and though it plays havoc with our notification of results to buyers and sellers, we hope to maintain (at the time of writing this report) our practice of sending accounting details to sellers together with a cheque in provisional settlement of all the smaller accounts within a fortnight of the sale.

Our series of auctions began eight years ago with the forecast from some quarters that our first effort would be our last. In the intervening years this annual event has become an important day in the Circle's calendar, and a major source of income, without which the annual subscription would probably by now have reached £5. The income is welcome, of course, and rebounds for everybody's advantage; just as significant is the opportunity that members have to dispose of their more recondite surplus items at prices that are fair, and in turn to acquire items that are difficult, and sometimes next-to-impossible, to trace in the market at large.

One discipline is strictly observed: with every lot some B.W.I. connection, however remote, is a sine qua non. We have often been tempted to relax this standard, but it wouldn't be right to do so. We leave that to the occasional Convention (roll on Leamington) when standing orders are suspended and stamps of all countries can be bought and sold. In other respects, we may not attain or maintain in future years the quantity and value of material available for sale this time; yet we hope that the Circle will long continue to enjoy and thrive upon the way the auction is run. On our side, we have consistently enjoyed running it for you.

Auction results, with adjustments up to the time of writing, are set out below. Unsold lots are omitted. The letter 'R' indicates a lot sold to a bidder in the room.

1	9.00	40	6.00	73	20.00	104	46.00R	134	34.00
2	22.00	42	8.00	74	3.00	105	13.50R	135	12.00
4	60.00	44	40.00	75	9.50	108	1.75R	137	7.00R
5	22.00	45	4.50	76	97.50R	109	1.00R	137a	5.25R
6	13.00	46	9.00	77	20.00R	110	18.00	139	2.25R
7	42.00	49	12.50R	81	4.50	112	55.00	141	8.50R
8	28.00	50	9.00	83	7.00	113	3.25R	144	4.50
9	11.00	51	9.00	85	21.00R	114	12.00	146	10.00
10	18.00R	52	4.00	86	7.50R	115	31.00R	147	15.00
11	9.50	53	3.00R	87	7.00R	116	3.00	148	8.00
12	31.00	54	20.00	88	3.00	119	31.00	149	7.50
14	14.50R	57	14.00	89	52.00	120	15.00	150	4.50
15	9.00R	59	4.50R	90	31.00	121	7.00	151	11.00
16	115.00	62	3.00R	92	3.50	123	11.50R	152	1.75
19	75.00R	63	2.25	93	3.00	124	3.00	153	3.50
21	14.00R	65	21.00	94	3.00R	125	10.50R	155	8.00
23	12.00	66	12.00	95	7.00	126	3.50	156	5.50
24	16.00	67	9.00	97	3.50R	127	6.00	157	11.00
28	5.00	68	20.00	98	7.50	128	6.50	161	16.00
30	4.50	70	7.50R	99	7.00	129	10.00	162	10.00
32	22.50R	71	11.50	103	19.00R	130	9.00	165	3.00
166	24.00R	259	48.00	340	8.50	429	36.00	524	9.00
171	11.50	261	7.00	341	13.50	430	5.50	525	2.50

173	46.00R	262	3.00	342	26.00R	434	4.50	526	15.00
174	8.00R	265	56.00R	343	14.00R	435	5.00	527	2.25R
175	11.00	266	13.00R	344	3.25R	436	35.00R	528	2.25R
179	12.00	267	6.00R	345	14.00R	437	21.00R	529	7.00R
180	12.00	268	4.00	348	6.00	438	13.00	530	21.00R
181	3.00R	269	13.50	349	16.50R	439	5.75R	531	11.00
184	9.00	270	3.75	350	12.00	440	39.00R	532	9.00
185	28.00	271	5.50	351	3.00R	441	19.00	534	11.00
186	8.00	272	7.50	352	25.00	443	5.00	535	8.00
187	5.50	273	10.50	353	8.50R	445	8.00	536	2.50
188	15.50R	274	6.00	354	8.50R	448	26.00	537	6.50R
189	2.50	276	2.50R	355	12.50R	449	65.00	538	10.00
190	14.00	277	2.75R	356	3.50R	450	24.00	542	2.50
191	3.50	278	5.25R	357	13.50R	451	52.00	543	8.50R
192	27.00R	279	4.00	358	2.25R	452	28.00	544	15.50
193	26.00	280	7.00R	360	18.00	453	6.00	545	12.00
194	30.00R	281	14.00	361	2.25	454	20.00		
195	9.00	282	5.00	362	12.50R	455	75.00		
196	16.50R	283	5.50	363	7.50R	456	48.00		
199	22.00	284	7.00	364	10.50R	457	20.00		
200	36.00	285	6.50R	365	8.50R	458	26.00		
202	6.00	286	3.00	369	10.50	459	90.00		
203	10.50R	287	4.00	370	19.00R	460	42.00		
204	8.00R	288	5.00	371	2.00	461	52.00		
205	11.50R	289	10.00	372	18.00	462	46.00		
206	8.00	290	8.00R	373	21.00	463	32.00		
207	56.00R	291	8.00R	374	33.00	464	54.00		
208	6.50R	292	6.00	375	10.00	465	42.00		
209	4.50R	293	4.75	376	15.50	466	37.00		
210	10.50R	294	18.00	378	16.50R	467	60.00		
211	8.00	295	2.25R	379	4.75	468	42.00		
212	120.00R	296	4.50	381	15.00R	470	6.00R		
214	110.00R	297	3.50	382	11.00	471	9.00R		
216	23.00R	298	21.00R	383	45.00	472	36.00		
217	2.25	299	3.00R	387	1.50R	474	11.00		
218	18.00R	305	5.00	388	17.50	475	50.00R		
221	9.00R	306	30.00R	391	4.00	479	6.00R		
222	16.50R	307	20.00	394	W/D	481	13.50R		
223	20.00R	308	13.50R	395	14.00	485	2.50		
224	11.00	309	3.50	398	10.50R	487	4.50		
225	42.00R	310	44.00	399	4.50R	489	9.00		
226	20.00	311	33.00R	400	14.00	493	5.25		
229	6.00	312	24.00R	401	6.50	495	3.00		
230	15.00	316	30.00R	403	31.00R	496	36.00		
231	14.00	317	60.00R	404	11.00	498	2.00		
233	28.00	318	8.00R	405	34.00	499	42.00R		
237	35.00	319	2.50R	407	8.00	500	4.50R		
239	13.50R	321	16.00	412	4.00	504	140.00		
240	21.00R	324	5.00	413	19.00R	505	7.00R		
242	15.00	325	50.00R	414	26.00R	506	58.00		
244	6.00	327	2.50	415	42.00R	508	28.00		
245	W/D	331	20.00R	416	65.00	511	6.00		
246	11.00	332	14.00	420	6.50R	514	8.50		
248	16.00	333	12.50R	421	2.25R	515	6.00		
249	17.50	334	8.00	422	6.00R	518	5.00		
250	22.00R	335	8.50R	423	4.50R	519	18.00		
255	2.50	336	3.75R	424	15.00R	520	60.00		
255	60.00	338	5.50R	426	13.00R	522	6.00		
258	24.00	339	21.00	427	34.00R	523	5.50		

NEWS ROUNDUP

The new improved STAMPEX, held this year in both halls of Royal Horticultural Society, was a great success for Study Circle members in terms of awards gained. May we offer our congratulations to the following members for these awards:

- Trevor Davis. The Stampex Silver Mailcoach Trophy for the best entry.
 The Argyll Postal History Salver for the best Postal History exhibit.
 Silver Gilt Medal. (Postal History of Bahamas to 1900)
- Bryan Johnson. The H. R. Harmer Classics Trophy for an out-standing exhibit of
 19th Century stamps.
 The B.C.P.S.G. Award.
 Silver Gilt Medal (Grenada 1875 - 1891).
- Basil Benwell. Silver Medal.
- M.R. Hewlett. Bronze Silver Medal (Hors Concour).
- Bryan Johnson. Bronze Silver Medal.
- Alfred Branston. Bronze Silver Medal (literature).

Mr. Bernard J. Conibear of the Bideford and North Devon Stamp Club reports a Bahamas 'error' about which no information can be found. The item has been seen on S.G.164 and on the top right hand stamp of a block of four. The error is on the overprint. For the word "LANDFALL" the specimen reads "LANDFALI". Mr. Conibear can be contacted at Corner House, Monkleigh, Nr. Bideford, Devon.

You may remember that in the last issue of the Bulletin we gave news of two major awards to Jack Arnell for his work "Atlantic Mails". We have now seen a report in Stamp Collecting Weekly that Jack Arnell has received the Nugent Clougher Award for 1980 from the Postal History Society for the same work.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Spiralling prices may well have slowed down the expansion of our collections but the latest Handbook (No.4) from the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society could well be used to point the way on how to keep any flagging spirits alive.

Entitled "Postal Registration in British Guiana" the author, M. R. Rego, has produced an excellent work of reference for those specialising in that country's philately. The Handbook illustrates the many types of markings and labels to be found, provides dates and periods of use, gives numbers recorded used for local and overseas mail as well as providing much background information and the authority governing Registration. Wax seals, handstamps, datestamps and "Officials" are all covered. Included is a five page Appendix wherein the collector can record his own material in respect of the various markings and labels used and the individual Office concerned. My severest criticism would be that being in A4 format and size it is not an easy item to keep on a normal bookshelf!

A "must" for British Guiana collectors it will also be found to be more than useful for those needing a guide to a methodic approach on compiling for many other issuing countries a detailed and specialised section of Registration markings and labels.

(The Handbook is available from the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society, 16 Stray Walk, Harrogate, North Yorks HG2 8HU. Price is £2 plus postage - 32p 1st Class inland mail).

Another publication worthy of mention has recently been produced by the King George VI Collections Society as Study Paper No. 12 - Barbados. This was the last study that their Founder, the late Frank Saunders did for the Society and is very much a posthumous publication. It did, however, appear in the Society's Newsletter at about the time that he died.

The paper, which is soft back quarto size and runs to 93 pages, deals in detail with the requisition and printing of all the stamps and postal stationery items issued during the reign of King George VI. A few pages also deal with the overprint varieties of the 1947 provisional stamp and plate varieties of the first definitive set.

The cost of this publication is £6, but the King George VI Collectors Society is offering it to our members at the same price as to their own members - £4.50 plus 60p packing and postage.

A copy has very kindly been donated to the library, but for those who prefer to have their own copy would they please send their order to Frank R. Huxley, "Eastleigh", 114 High Street, Leiston, Suffolk, IP16 4BZ.

BWISC LIBRARY

An updated Library List is now available from the Hon. Librarian. The listing of our books, pamphlets etc has been expanded and now includes a reference index by country to Bulletins Nos. 1 to 100. Auction Catalogues are also dealt with in more detail. The many new additions since the list was last produced in 1975 are individually identifiable. Copies can be obtained on application to the Hon. Librarian.

Please enclose a self-addressed envelope not less than 9" x 6½" in size (C5) and bearing stamps for 3rd stage postage (26p for 1st Class or 19p for 2nd Class inland mail).

WANTED

Elsewhere in this Bulletin you will find details of the Study Circle's convention to be held in the autumn at Leamington Spa. I hope that you will be there.

You will note that the convention will be open to those from outside the immediate membership of the Study Circle and so for security reasons we shall need a number of Stewards working two or three at a time on a rota basis throughout the day. I have been volunteered by your President to be the Chief Steward at this event. But, and there always seems to be a "but" doesn't there? - I need your help. Please contact me and volunteer just a little of your time to act as a Steward at this event, and so help to ensure the success of the meeting.

Write or phone to me at 15 Mayflower Drive, Yateley, Camberley, GU17 7RR, Yateley (STD 0252) 876570. DONT WAIT, VOLUNTEER NOW WHILE YOU REMEMBER. Thank you.

Mike Wilson

BINDERS FOR BRITISH PHILATELIC EXHIBITION PUBLICATIONS

The Hon. Librarian has a small quantity of Cordex Binders produced for BPE Prospectus/Catalogue storage. Size 8 3/8" x 5 5/8" x 1 1/2", hard covers, bound in dark blue Balacron. 10 strings. Spine is embossed in gold with BPE Emblem and Title. Price £2.50 per binder including postage. Orders to Hon. Librarian. Cheques etc should be made payable to "S.E.PAPWORTH" and NOT BWISC.

FROM THE SALE ROOM

When Bridger and Kay Ltd. conducted the sale of the R.E. Darnton collection towards the end of last year a number of West Indies items made very strong prices:

BAHAMAS. 1916 Special Delivery 5d S1a double ovpt. M/M. Cat. £550.	£500
1916 Special Delivery 5d ovpt invt. S1c M/M Cat. £550.	£900
BERMUDA. 1943 12/6 Plate Pair M/M. Scroll flaw. Cw A15a.	£600
1962 Pictorial 3d Yellow/Brown omitted in mint lower mgnl. vert. pr. with normal. Fine U/M. S.G.156a. V. rare.	£600
B. GUIANA. 1934 Pictorial K.G.V 40 vert. mgnl. pr. imperf between. S.G.291a. Unpriced mint £3,500 used.	£2,800
B. HONDURAS. 1915/22 K.G.V inc. War Tax varieties 1c O/print invtd. S.G.114a & 30. O/print dble. S.G.118a. All M/M. Cat. £225.	£240
CAYMAN ISLANDS. 1907 1/2d on 5/- the lower marginal blk. of 12 showing Row 10 stamp 4 Surcharge omitted, 2 stamps in this magnificent blk. show a part double which is not abnormal with such a handstamped provisional. The blk. is mtd. S.G.18d (Ex Charlton Henry) Cat. approx. £12,000.	£25,500
GRENADA. 1950 K.G.VI 2 1/2d S.G.157a p. 12 1/2 x 13 1/2 the v. rare printing, M/U very fresh, cat. £1000	£1800
JAMAICA. 1919 1/- Frame invtd. S.G.85a A fine M/M copy centred. B.P.A. Cert. Cat £6,500.	£9,000

MEMBERS SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

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

WANTED B.W.I. SPECIMENS

Specialised varieties (multiples, plate flaws, abnormal watermarks) required for outright purchase or exchange with similar.

FREELAND, Box 2258, 4002 Basel, Switzerland.

NEW MEMBERS

BARRETT, Courtenay Francis Raymond, 44, The Woodlands, Beulah Hill, Upper Norwood, London, SE19 3EQ.

Interest: Jamaica.

BURKE, Simon, 7, Sandfield Terrace, Guildford, Surrey.

Interest: Postal history of St. Vincent and B.W.I.

CONELIUS, David, c/o Robson Lowe Ltd., 39, Poole Hill, Bournemouth, BH2 5PX.
Interest: not known.

DRUETT, David N, Pennymead Cottage, Scotton, Knaresborough, N. Yorks,
HG5 9HN.
Interest: Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago.

KIRK, Clement Peter, Field Rise, Dumber Lane, West Bollington, Nr. Macclesfield,
Cheshire, SH10 5AD.
Interest: Cayman Islands.

Mac REA, Ronald W., 113, London Rd., Crawley, Sussex, RH10 2LA.
Interest: not known.

MATHESON, Dr. Ian A., Research Dept., A.E.C.I. Ltd. P O North Rand 1645, South
Africa.
Interest: All aspects of British Honduras and Belize.

RANGER, James Osborne, Cromer Cottage, Cromer, Stevenage, Herts., SG2 7QA.
Interest: ¼d. issues.

ROWAN, Hugh, Q.C., P.O. Box 11, Royal Bank Plaza, Toronto, Canada, M5J 2J1.
Interest: not known.

RUTHVEN-WARD, Lionel, 1, Broadwater Dale, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3HQ.
Interest: Leeward Islands, St. Lucia.

SCOTT ARCHER, M. C., Penmelin, Upper Llangynidr, Crickhowell, Powys,
NP8 1NW.
Interest: Dominica - pre 1902 postal history.

SOCIETE PHILATELIQUE FRANCO-BRITANNIQUE, c/o M. Pierre Langlois,
RDP., 98, Cours De Vincennes, Paris, 75012, France.

CORRECTION TO INTEREST

FREELAND, C.A. All B.W.I. except Jamaica and Trinidad.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

CROWTHER, B., Old Hall House, 2-4, Little Lane, Melbourn, Nr. Royston, Herts.,
SG8 6BU.

ELLERTON, Dr. N.V., Copanos, 6110 Robinwood Rd., Baltimore, Maryland 21225,
U.S.A.

FRIEDMAN, B., 4200 Inverrary Blvd., Apt.3415, Lauderhill, Fl.33319, U.S.A.

JEFFERSON, Maj. I.W., "Barns", King's Cliffe, Peterborough, PE8 6XH.

LONGMUIR, P.G., The Byway, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5LE.

NATHANSON. H.M., 55, Harbour Square, Suite 3012, Toronto, Canada, M5J 2L1.

NEIL, N., c/o North of Scotland Archaeological Services H.Q., Nist House, Hannay,
Orkney Islands.

ROETT, Dr. M.F., 1016, Cantabrian Drive, S.W. Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2W 1L7.

VINER, B., 27, Arden Rd., Finchley, N.3.

REJOINED MEMBERS

PALEY. R.J.
BRANDON, Raymond.

RESIGNED

NICKLIN, J.; ROCKETT, B.C.; SNELLING, G.R.D.

Advert

Argyll Etkin

Advert

Robson Lowe

Advert

Bridger & Kay

Advert

Urch Holdings

BULLETINS & STUDY PAPERS

Copies of a number of early back issues and consecutively from No. 68 (June 1971) are obtainable from the Hon. Editor as follows:-

Bulletins per copy	65p
'Cordex' Instantaneous Self-Binders each holding 20 issues	£1.60
Issues containing notes on specific colonies gladly supplied where available.	
THE HISTORY OF THE SAILING PACKETS TO THE W. INDIES	
by L. E. Britnor. (U.K. & Europe)	£8.25
	(U.S.A. etc.) £8.75
BWI POSTAL RATES UP TO 1900 by L. E. Britnor	
(U.K. & Europe) Softback	£3.30
	Hardback £4.35
(U.S.A. etc.) Softback	£3.45
	Hardback £4.65

NOTE: Prices include postage, packing and VAT where applicable.

OPINION SERVICE

(Non-members only)

Facilities are available for opinions to be given on most stamps of the B.W.I. Group for which a fee of 75p per stamp or cover is charged*. Members wishing to take advantage of this service should send the stamp(s) or cover(s) to the Hon. Secretary enclosing a remittance for the appropriate fee together with an addressed envelope (stamped additionally for Registration or Recorded Delivery). Every endeavour will be made to return the item(s) within fourteen days. All stamps or covers submitted are accepted entirely at the sender's risk and neither the Circle nor any of its members, collectively or individually, can be held responsible for the loss or damage of any items or for any opinion expressed.

*In instances where it is necessary to consult more than one specialist additional postage will be charged to the sender.