



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

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BULLETIN No. 132 MARCH 1987

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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 the Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear postage both ways. List supplied upon application to Hon. Librarian accompanied by an s.a.e. (9" x 6½") - 2nd Class postage for 150gm rate required.

4. TO publicise 'wants' and furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.

5. TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aim in para 1 above.

MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION

MEMBERSHIP - Is WORLD WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be new or advanced collectors.

SUBSCRIPTIONS - The ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION is £4 for members residing in the UK or Europe and £6 for members who reside elsewhere.

Subscriptions (dues) are payable on 1st January each year and, subject to what is mentioned below, in sterling (by personal cheque or Standing Order drawn on a U.K. Bank, a Banker's Draft, International Money Order, Postal Order or local currency notes - no coins will be accepted - e.g. dollars, marks, francs etc.).

Members residing in North America (Canada, USA, and the Caribbean) who do not pay their Subscription (dues) in sterling should pay by sending to the North American Representative (see above for address) a cheque for USA \$10.50 made payable to "MARK W. SWETLAND". Other overseas members who pay their subscription by cheque drawn in a foreign currency or on a foreign bank MUST add the equivalent of £3 sterling partially to cover exchange and bank charges. The overseas rates quoted include an element to cover postage of the Bulletin by Air Mail.

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PROGRAMME

1987

Sat. 28th. March 2.30 pm.

FLEETEX

Displays by Dennis Mitten

Bermuda from 1865 and

Victor Toeg

Aspects of Antigua

Venue Fleetex Meeting

Assembly Rooms

Fleet Road

Fleet, Hampshire

Ample parking and refreshments available.

Mr J.A.C. Farmer's award winning Ameripex display of Leeward Islands will be exhibited in the main body of Fleetex.

Sat. 25th. April 2.15 pm.

AGM and Auction Sale

Venue The Bonnington Hotel

Southampton Row

London WC1 4PH

Fri and Sat.

Caribbean Collectors

30th. and 31st. Oct.

Convention

Venue The Regent Hotel

The Parade

Royal Leamington Spa

Auction Viewing

Lots will be available for viewing from 1.30pm. prior to the AGM at the Bonnington Hotel.

Stampex National Awards

Al Branston, International Director of the BCPSG, advises that the organisers of Stampex have now agreed to award the BCPSG Silver Medal for all suitable entries in their National Competitions. All W.I. and Caribbean entries whether for stamps or postal history will be considered. It is hoped that members will make a special effort to produce an entry and so help to bring attention to our collecting interest. The particulars and entry forms can be obtained from Stampex, 27 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6BZ.

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

STATEMENT OF INCOME
FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1986

£	1985	£	SOURCE:-	£	£
1,451.44			SUBSCRIPTIONS (SUB-A/C No. 2) :		1,332.98
			PUBLICATIONS (SUB-A/C No. 1):-		
	715.17		SALES	245.43	
	(414.94)		LESS: COSTS (NOTE 1)	155.69	
253.43	(46.80)		LESS: POSTAGES		89.74
					15.16
			DONATIONS :-		
360.78			AUCTION (NOTE 2)	249.42	
10.50			MISCELLANEOUS	21.12	270.54
2.00			OPINION FEES		4.00
5.79			CONVENTION - NET SURPLUS		-
			INTEREST RECEIVED (NOTE 3):-		
	26.19		BANK DEPOSIT A/C	14.74	
184.03	157.84		BUILDING SOCIETY A/C	333.13	347.87
			TOTAL INCOME		£ 2,029.97

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE.

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE
FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1986

£	1985	£	IN RESPECT OF:-	£	£	£
			BULLETINS:			
	1,045.00		PRINTING			1,089.00
	-		TYPESETTING CHARGES			126.50
	43.43		EDITORIAL EXPENSES			70.35
	317.77		POSTAGES			278.91
	205.85		ENVELOPES			-
	<u>1,612.05</u>					<u>1,564.76</u>
	(305.00)		Less:-			
	(52.95)		ADVERTISING REVENUE		337.43	
			TRANSFER TO STOCK		<u>30.45</u>	
1,254.70					<u>367.88</u>	1,196.88
	121.50		Room Hire - MEETINGS ETC			119.00
	(5.80)		LESS - COLLECTIONS			<u>4.25</u>
115.70						114.75

LIBRARY :			
-	SHELVING (NOTE 4)	:	68.85
-	BINDERS (NOTE 5)	:	110.40
167.15	ACQUISITIONS	:	60.80
60.42	INSURANCE (NOTE 6)	:	77.37
21.17	MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	:	<u>6.50</u>
(50.00)	LESS - BRITNOR BEQUEST	:	
198.74	BPF AFFILIATION FEE	:	323.92
20.00	(TEL. & STATIONERY (NOTE 7)	:	20.00
61.57)	(POSTAGES	:	104.00
-	PUBLICATIONS PURCHASED	:	97.63
-	LESS TRANSFER TO STOCK	:	
95.41	MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	:	55.73
-	PROVISION FOR TAX - 1985	:	
-	- 1986	:	<u>12.22</u>
1,746.12	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£ 1,925.13
521.85	SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR		<u>104.84</u>
2,267.97			£ 2,029.97
			=====

THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE
 =====
 BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1986

1985			
£ 5,143.16			AS AT 1ST JANUARY 1986 £ 5,665.01
521.85			ADD : EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR... 104.84
£ 5,665.01			£ 5,769.85
			LESS STOCKS OF:-
	94.71	BINDERS	73.92
	299.90	BULLETINS	328.45
	8.00	BVI POSTAL RATES	-
	438.75	HISTORY OF SAILING PACKETS	423.75
	637.50	BARBADOS P.O. MARKINGS (BOUND)	562.50
	460.00	- 00 - (UNBOUND)	460.00
	68.00	BARBADOS CENSORSHIP	40.00
£ 2,006.86		ST. KITTS - STUDY OF KG VI KEY TYPE	7.00
£ 3,658.15			1,895.62
			£ 3,874.23

£	1985	£	REPRESENTED BY :-	£	£
			CASH IN HAND NOT YET BANKED	10.00	
		49.30	CASH AT BANK - CURRENT ACCOUNT	64.01	
		211.82	- DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	226.56	
		3,657.84	BUILDING SOCIETY DEPOSIT	3,890.97	
		<u>115.00</u>	CASH FLOATS	<u>115.00</u>	4,306.54
4,033.96					
		<u>391.15</u>	SUNDRY DEBTORS	<u>72.00</u>	
4,425.11					4,378.54
			<u>LESS :- SUNDRY CREDITORS :-</u>		
		256.81	SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE	425.15	
		-	OVERPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS TO BE REFUNDED	11.00	
		-	THE PRESIDENT (EXPENSES FOR YEAR)	28.94	
		-	HON. TREASURER/LIBRARIAN - DO -	27.00	
		-	PROVISION FOR TAX	12.22	
		380.00	BBBENVELL Co (DEC BULLETIN)	-	
		127.15	LEONARD HARTMANN	-	
		<u>3.00</u>	F. DEAKIN (SUB OVERPAID)	<u>504.31</u>	
766.96					
3,658.15					£ 3,874.23

SUB-ACCOUNTS
=====

Sub-Account No. 1 - PUBLICATIONS

A BREAKDOWN OF SALES AND COSTS (I.E. REDUCTION OF STOCK VALUES) OF PUBLICATIONS
DURING THE YEAR, WITH 1985 FIGURES FOR COMPARISON, IS AS FOLLOWS :-

1985

1986

Qty	Receipts	Costs	Net	IJEM	Qty	Receipts	Costs	Net
207	115.45	10.35	105.10	BULLETINS	38	28.93	1.90	27.03
22	66.50	48.09	18.41	BINDERS	9	32.00	20.79	11.21
6	23.00	12.00	11.00	BVI POSTAL RATES	4	15.00	8.00	7.00
6	48.00	22.50	25.50	SAILING PACKETS	4	41.00	15.00	26.00
12	126.50	90.00	36.50	BARBADOS PO MARKINGS	10	100.50	75.00	25.50
58	335.72	232.00	103.72	BARBADOS CENSORSHIP	† 7	13.50	28.00	(14.50)
-	-	-	-	ST. KITTS KG VI KEY TYPE	5	14.50	7.00	7.50
£ 715.17					E 245.43			
414.94					155.69			
300.23					89.74			

NOTE : † INCLUDES 5 COPIES LODGED AT NATIONAL LIBRARIES PER THE COPYRIGHTS ACT.

SUB-ACCOUNT No. 2 - SUBSCRIPTIONS

	£	£	£
BALANCE ON HAND 1ST JANUARY 1986 :		256.81	
ADD : RECEIPTS IN RESPECT OF 1986 ⁽¹⁾ :	1,184.67		
RECEIPTS - PAYMENTS IN ADVANCE :	<u>427.65</u>	1,612.32	1,869.13
<u>LESS:-</u>			
OVERPAYMENTS REFUNDED :		100.00	
" TO BE REFUNDED ⁽²⁾ :		11.00	
BALANCES C/FWD FOR 1987 :	304.96		
1988/1993 :	118.19		
1994 :	<u>2.00</u>	425.15	<u>536.15</u>
			£ 1,332.98

NET ATTRIBUTABLE INCOME FOR 1986 :

NOTES :-

(1) INCLUDES A SUNDRY DEBTOR FOR £6.00

(2) SUMS DUE ARE : TO D.V.CANNING (£3); H.J.LETCH (£5); AND DR.J.HARPER (£3).

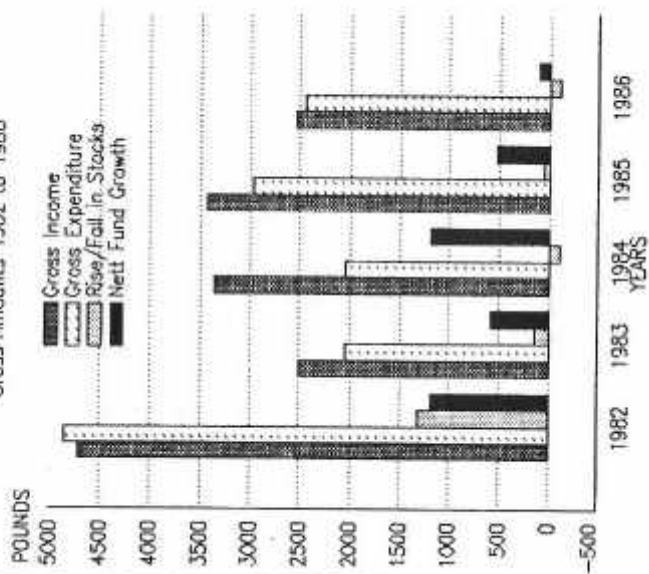
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS.

1. TO COMPLY WITH COPYRIGHT LAW, THE AGENT FOR THE NATIONAL AND CERTAIN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES REQUESTED FIVE COPIES OF MR. A. SHEPHERD'S BOOK ON "BARBADOS CENSORSHIP" AND THESE WERE SUPPLIED WITHOUT CHARGE AS REQUIRED BY THAT LAW.
2. THE AUCTION RECEIPT IS THE NETT FIGURE AFTER ALL COSTS, INCLUDING £ 192.07P FOR COMPILING, PRINTING AND DESPATCHING THE CATALOGUE, HAD BEEN DEDUCTED.
3. INTEREST FOR THE BANK DEPOSIT ACCOUNT IS SHOWN GROSS OF TAX AND IS FOR THE FULL YEAR. INTEREST FOR THE BUILDING SOCIETY ACCOUNT IS THE AMOUNT CREDITED NETT AFTER TAX FOR THE YEAR TO 30 JUNE 1986 THAT DATE BEING THE END OF THE BUILDING SOCIETY'S FINANCIAL YEAR. THE INTEREST ON THE CIRCLE'S ACCOUNT IS PAYABLE ONCE YEARLY. THE AMOUNT OF INTEREST WHICH MAY BE CREDITED FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THE STUDY CIRCLE'S 1986 FINANCIAL YEAR IS ESTIMATED AT £145.00P. THE BUILDING SOCIETY ACCOUNT IS NOW REGISTERED AS A TRUSTEE ACCOUNT THE TRUSTEES BEING MR. E.V. TOEG, MR. I.P. CHARD AND MR. S.E. PAPVORTH. ANY PERSON MAY DEPOSIT SUMS INTO THE ACCOUNT BUT A WITHDRAWAL REQUIRES THE SIGNATURES OF ALL TRUSTEES.

4. THE REQUIREMENT TO PURCHASE BOOKSHELVING TO HOUSE THE MAJOR PART OF THE LIBRARY BECAME NECESSARY WHEN THE LIBRARIAN MOVED INTO A SMALLER RESIDENCE LACKING STORAGE ACCOMMODATION IN THE FORM OF BUILT-IN CUPBOARDS AND BOOK SHELVES. ABOUT 85% OF THE LIBRARY IS NOW HOUSED IN CIRCLE OWNED SHELVING.
5. A QUANTITY OF BINDERS, (SIMILAR TO THOSE USED FOR THE BULLETIN), WERE PURCHASED TO ACCOMMODATE RUNS OF AUCTION CATALOGUES AND PERIODICALS IN THE LIBRARY. WHILST THIS WILL GREATLY ASSIST IN EASE OF STORAGE, IT WILL INCREASE THE NEED FOR FURTHER BOOKSHELVING IN DUE COURSE.
6. THE LIBRARY IS INSURED FOR £3,085 WHILST ANY ONE LOAN IS COVERED FOR £300. THE INSURANCE POLICY NOW COVERS STOCKS OF PUBLICATIONS HELD FOR SALE, (THE COVER BEING FOR £2,300) WITH £8.93 OF THE TOTAL PREMIUM PAID PROVIDING THIS COVER. THE COVER PROVIDED BY THE POLICY IS "INDEX LINKED" AND INCREASES EACH YEAR AUTOMATICALLY.
7. EXPENDITURE ON STATIONERY INCLUDES THE PURCHASE OF A STOCK OF "SELF-ADHESIVE" LABELS FOR REMINDING MEMBERS WHEN THEIR SUBSCRIPTIONS' BECOME DUE. THE STOCK IS EXPECTED TO BE SUFFICIENT FOR SOME SEVEN TO TEN YEARS.

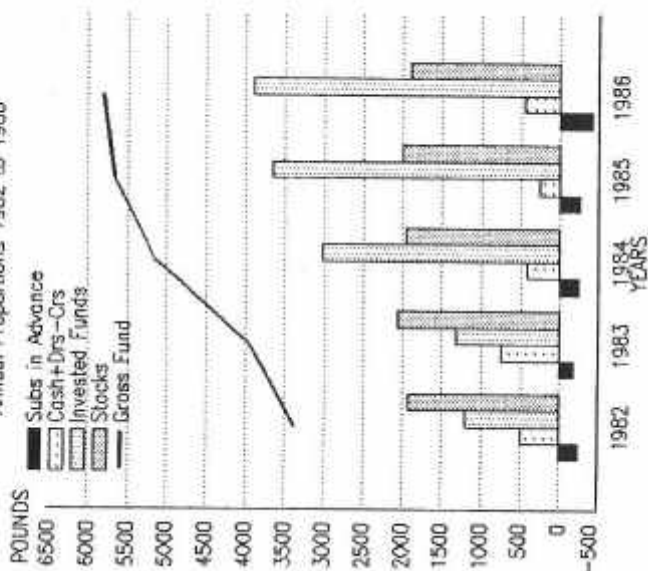
BWISC GROWTH FACTORS

Gross Amounts 1982 to 1986



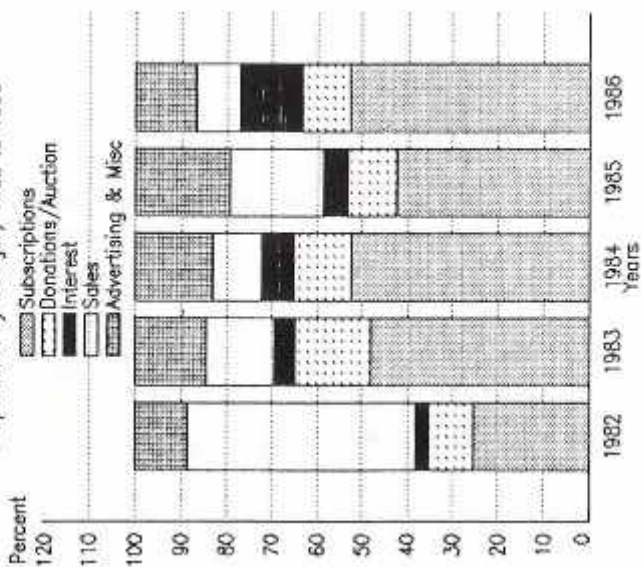
BWISC ACCUMULATED FUNDS

Annual Proportions 1982 to 1986



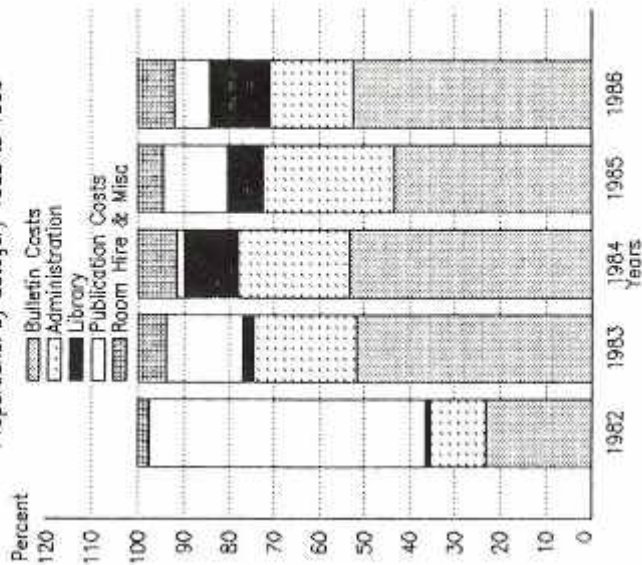
BWISC GROSS INCOME

Proportional by Category 1982 to 1986



BWISC GROSS EXPENDITURE

Proportional by Category 1982 to 1986



NOTICE

A feasibility study to ascertain whether computerisation to any degree can aid and support the Aims of the Study Circle is to be undertaken by our member Mr S.P. Jarvis.

Mr Jarvis, who is a Computer Systems Manager by profession, has been given authority to approach any member of the Study Circle during his study to enable him to prepare his report in due course.

Members are, therefore, requested to provide Mr Jarvis with any information they can when requested to do so.

It is unlikely that any final report will be available for the consideration of the Committee for approximately twelve months.

Signed: E.V. Toeg
President"

DISPLAY

Seven members attended at the Law Society on Thursday October 23rd. 1986 with Ian Chard taking the chair in the absence of the President who gave his apologies. Four members brought nine page displays.

David Atkinson showed some examples of American Forces mail in Jamaica in World War 2.

Covers illustrating the cachet of the US Navy and Marines of Little Goat Island, Portland Bight, and the constructors - Frederick Snare Corporation were shown.

Examples of different types of the American Army Air Force postmarks of APO 804 and 861 then followed, together with local Official Free covers to American Units

and a cover illustrating the TRD of Sandy Gully which was the Postal Agency used by Jamaican workers at Fort Simonds.

Mike Wilson showed Turks and Caicos covers. He started with an EL from Turks Is to Portsmouth USA with no Turks markings except that the contents make it clear that its origin was Grand Turk. New York transit mark 18 days after writing and large red 20 (20c. charged?). The rate should have been 2c. for landing plus regular inland rate of 5c. No explanation for this anomaly was forthcoming. There followed a 1/- blue of the first issue on cover to London dated 1893. This was the correct rate at the time. Then followed a 1893 ½d. surcharge on 4d. used on a newspaper wrapper to Bermuda and carried by S/S Alpha together with another example on piece with 2x1d. to make the 2½d. letter rate.

A 1897 registered cover to UK with 3x4d. of 1894 issue was then shown. It had UK arrival marks (office indistinct) of 8 July which fit with the arrival of the Medway off Plymouth from the West Indies on 7 July.

Then followed some later covers - a 1936 unsealed cover from Grand Turk to England with only ½d. postage; a 1950 Dutch 10c. with cachet of RNSS Co. (why not KNSM) and cancelled with Grand Turk cds.; a strange commemorative air mail cover with cachet emanating from the Leipzig Trade Fair in 1961 (How did it get out to Turks Is to be stamped and returned to Leipzig?) and finally a pair of Victory stamps on cover to Barbados marked By Air Mail, Cancelled in Grand Turk 12 Dec and arrived in Barbados on 23 Dec 1946. This probably went by sea to Jamaica and thence by BWIA - even so 15 days seems a long time.

Ian Chard showed KG.V values of Bermuda.

He started with the 2/6d., 5/-, 10/- and £1 values of 27.3.1918 MCA. perf 14. on chalk paper followed by additional values of 1916-20 MCA, perf 14, 2/- and 4/- on chalk paper with MSCA 2/- (9/27), 2/6d. (4/27) and 10/- (12/24). The special issue of the 12/6d. inscribed REVENUE/REVENUE of Oct.36 was compared with the POSTAGE/REVENUE stamp.

Shades of the 2/- MCA and MSCA with crown and scroll flaws and both Wmks of the 2/6d. followed with examples of crown and scroll flaws and lower volute and shading flaws. A Die proof of the MCA 4/- together with the issued stamp were shown. Three examples of shades and shading flaws of the 5/- MCA were followed by copies of the 10/- MCA and MSCA the latter showing shades and scroll flaw. Then followed the 12/6d. MSCA showing leaf and scroll flaws on No.54 and 12 and a further scroll flaw on another copy.

Derek Nathan showed some recent acquisitions of British Guiana. These included an entire of 5 Dec 1815 from Berbice with an oval Ship Letter Crown Berbice of which only one other strike is known. The letter was addressed to Edward S. Fraser of Inverness, and passed through Edinburgh on Mar 17 1816 after arriving at Greenock. The next was also an entire from Demerara on Feb 6 1816, in the same hand and reached Edinburgh only a week later on Mar 26 1816. The Demerara Fleuron foot had deteriorated to a solid bar by this date.

A straight line “Berbice” of July 4 1836 and a circular “Berbice” of Apr 3 1848 followed these but a “Demerara Ship Letter in an oval on cover of 23 Jan 1891 had a more interesting tale to tell. It was posted from a ship in Georgetown harbour and 1c. town postage was paid. However it was deemed a ship letter so cancelled and 8c. postage due demanded. No other copy of this mark is known.

These were followed by two “Registered at Leguan” in oval. The earlier one with a block of 9 3c. Inland Revenue dated Apr 8 1891, is the earliest known use by some three years. It does not carry blue chalked figures but a discreet 905 within the oval. Could this have been the original use of this mark before the introduction of registered labels a few years later? There has been some speculation as to its purpose.

An envelope postmarked with embossed 1c. and surcharged with \$2 inland revenue followed. This cover was sent from New Amsterdam on Apr 10 1895 and has boxed “British Guiana Registered”. There was an acceptance receipt attached to the reverse. These were followed by various cachets referring to the Wembley Exhibition of 1924, and an exhortation to BUY BRITISH GOODS AND BUILD UP THE EMPIRE. This was adapted from the lion used for Wembley and is a transitional stamp before the more common BUY DEMERARA RICE was introduced.

Various covers showing MISSENT and FOUND IN ORDINARY MAIL were followed by the boxed POSTED ON BOARD NW STEAMER and finished with an early use of a GOVERNOR handstamp previously thought to have been introduced some six years later.

As there was a little time to spare Derek Nathan showed some early British Guiana stamps, a yellow cotton reel, two blue cotton reels, one square cut in the indigo shade, the first Waterlow lithographed issue of 1852 and the 1853 typographed ships. These included a 1c. strip of 4 on a piece (torn before being applied to the envelope) and some examples of retouching on the 4c. blue.

NOTES and QUERIES

BAHAMAS

1941 Provisional Postcard.

In answer to Charles Freeland’s request for information (Bulletin 130. Sept.86, p47), I have recently acquired a used example of the 2d. provisional postcard as shown in the illustration. I also have a record of another example which is in fact the one Charles illustrates, so my copy seems to be the only new example recorded.

You will note it has a couple of other interesting features. It is addressed to Greece (the message being written in Greek) and has been sent by Air Mail with another adhesive added for the extra postage. It had also been censored. I presume that this censor handstamp was applied in the Bahamas (the colour incidentally in purple) but I do not



recall having seen it before on a Bahamas item. Perhaps I can leave that as another query for someone to answer?

Trevor Davies

BRITISH GUIANA

1876 48c. Specimen.

The first surface printed issue of British Guiana, the 1876 'ship' issue comprised nine duties and marked the transfer of the Colony's printing contract from Waterlow to De La Rue.

It was also, say Townsend and Howe, probably the first issue of British Colonial stamps to be defaced 'SPECIMEN' and sent to the Universal postal Union. 'SPECIMEN' takes two forms on the issued stamps; an overprint, probably undertaken in the Colony, sloping diagonally from top left to lower right (except 1c. - slope top right to lower left), and a perforation, some sloping from top left to lower right, and some from top right to lower left.

All nine duties were invoiced at the first delivery, and it therefore comes something as a surprise that not all of them are known as specimens. Townsend and Howe acknowledge the following:

DUTY	OVERPRINT	PERF.
1c. slate	Yes	Yes
2c. orange	Yes	Yes
4c. blue	Yes	Yes
6c. brown	Yes	Yes
8c. rose	No	Yes
12c. P. violet	Yes	Yes
24c. emerald green	Yes	Yes
48c. red brown	No	No
96c. olive bistre	Yes	No

Only the 48c. therefore is unrecorded in either form by Townsend and Howe, and Gibbons acknowledge the gap in their part 1 Catalogue.

It may be of interest to members, therefore, to report that a copy of the 48c. has now turned up - perforated specimen sloping from top left to bottom right. I have no means of vouching for its authenticity other than to observe that the distribution of the perforating pins conforms with the pattern of the original machine (but the first 'S' and final 'N' were partly off the stamp) and the holes correspond exactly with the only other value that I have (24c.).

On the strength of this I venture that it is genuine, and discovery of the 96c. perforated SPECIMEN may not be far behind. Can any member report examples which fill any of the three remaining gaps in the table above, or indeed a second copy of the 48c.?

Michael Medlicot

DOMINICA

FORGERIES

Spiro forged the 1d. lilac, the 6d. green and the 1/- dull magenta of the 1874 issue by the lithographic process. The genuine stamps were engraved. As usual no gum was applied and he cancelled them all himself before getting rid of them. The lines of the background to the Head show many traces of dirt and carelessness.

Perforation A few of the forgeries show a clear p.13 but most are either cut close or torn during separation.

Cancellation Spiro applied a cancellor not used by any other forger. His outline of bars 5.4.5.4. covered the whole of the interior of the oval. Also an oval frame of irregular dashes.

Idents 1. On the genuine stamp all of the bust is shaded but with a highlight towards the back. On the forgery there is a long unshaded area at the bottom of the bust.
2. There is a round knob at the end of the ear on the genuine stamp but on the forgery it is no more than a slight swelling.
3. The eyebrow is much overshadowed.

Forged Surcharges

(a) ½ of a half of the 1d. lilac of 1882

This is a forgery of the Type SG.2 surcharge. The surcharge is inverted on the right hand side of the uncanceled genuine stamp.

Ident On the genuine surcharge the figures 1 and 2 almost touch the horizontal separating bar. On the forgery they are well clear of the bar.

(b) The One Penny on the 6d. green of 1882.

This surcharge was applied to only one pair of stamps with the usual value Six Pence struck through with a bar. On the bottom row of the sheet the bar is much thicker than all of those above. A 'thick bar' variety was thus produced. Genuine surcharges of the thick bar type are rare and costly. Only five copies are known. All are cancelled with an

outline of bars 3.2.3.2. The forgery, which is very dangerous, is on an uncancelled stamp.

- Idents
1. Both letters E on the genuine stamp, the end of lower circular part almost touches the top circular part. On the forgery however, there is a distinct opening between them.
 2. On the genuine stamp the letter P has a short flat bar on the forgery this foot bar is almost absent.

Al Branston

LEEWARD ISLANDS

FEES Stamps

The strikingly handsome FEES stamps, issued for the Leeward Islands are surprisingly elusive. If Barefoot and Hall's latest catalogue (third edition, 1986) is to be believed, their issue long predated the first Leeward Islands postage stamps, having appeared in 1882, the year a number of colonies changed from CC to CA watermarks.

Barefoot lists five values in the 1882 set (6d., 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, £1) all but the sixpence being printed in the same colours - head plate lilac; duty plate carmine. The sixpence for no apparent reason has its duty in blue. The set was replaced in 1902 by an entirely new design in similar format, bearing the head of King Edward VII. Certain colonies, of course, continued to use stocks of Victorian values well in to the century and I have the 5/- used in Montserrat as late as 25 March 1926.

What Barefoot and Hall do not record, however, is the change of colours (on at least the 2/- and 5/- values) in the Edwardian set. They were originally issued, apparently, in only four values (6d., 1/-, 2/-, 5/-) in similar colours to their predecessors, but with the substitution of a fugitive purple for lilac. At some point the 2/- duty plate changed from carmine to green and the 5/- from carmine to black.



These new colours were retained for the first George V set issued in 1911, also in four denominations with Block CA watermark and for the final Script CA set (1922?). The Georgian stamps display a wide variety of shades of the head plate, partly due to the fugitive nature of the ink, no doubt, but suggesting nevertheless that several printings were undertaken.

Accepting Barefoot and Hall's listing is true as far as it goes (and it may not be), and adding the second Edwardian colours, we can tabulate as follows:

- 1882 Perf. 14 Wmk. Crown CA
1. 6d. lilac and blue
 2. 1/- lilac and carmine
 3. 2/- lilac and carmine
 4. 5/- lilac and carmine
 5. £1 lilac and carmine
- 1902 Perf. 14 Wmk. Crown CA
6. 6d. purple and blue
 7. 1/- purple and carmine
 8. 2/- purple and carmine
 9. 5/- purple and carmine
- 190? Perf. 14 Wmk. Crown CA
10. 2/- purple and green
 11. 5/- purple and black
- 1911 Perf. 14 Wmk. . (multiple ?) Crown CA
12. 6d. purple and blue
 13. 1/- purple and carmine
 14. 2/- purple and green
 15. 5/- purple end black
- 1922(?) Perf. 14 Wmk. Mult. Script CA
16. 6d. purple and blue
 17. 1/- purple and carmine
 18. 2/- purple and green
 19. 5/- purple and black



All the recognisable cancellations I have are dated double ovals inscribed REGISTRARS OFFICE (COLONY), and include examples from Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Christopher and Virgin Islands. It is possible Nevis (and the smaller non-stamp-issuing islands) had no separate Registrars Office at this period.

These notes are compiled in the hope of stimulating comment and information; little seems to have been recorded on the Leewards Fees stamps, and I should greatly appreciate the advice of any member who can augment or revise the above.

Michael Medicott

ST. VINCENT

Censorship Devices.

With reference to Michael Medicott's note in Bulletin 129, June 1986 page 37 in which his item No.2 of incoming mail does not state a date, I have a cover from Brooklyn, USA 11.10.39 via Trinidad 14.10.39 to St. Vincent 22.10.39. There is no label but the cover bears H1 handstamp No.3.

Robin Martin

ST. KITTS NEVIS

St. Kitts-Nevis KG.VI

Please can anyone help me by giving the sheet position (in 12 rows of 5 stamps) of these two flaws, which can be seen with the naked eye?



3d. Dull reddish lilac and dull scarlet (my description 1947 printing) showing breaks in the curved flame and background to numeral 3 in right hand value tablet.

5/- Dull blue green and dull scarlet (1944 printing I believe) showing a deep horizontal gash in the oval frame at the left.

Peter Baldwin

NEWS ROUNDUP

James Gordon of PO Box 1118, Bristol, Tennessee, 37621. USA writes that he is moving to a rather large house for a single person and any BWISC members are welcome to come and stay when in the States. Bristol is in the north-east corner of Tennessee next to the Blue Ridge mountains and the countryside is beautiful.

Bob Swarbrick recently spent three weeks in Jamaica during which he attended a meeting of the Jamaica Philatelic Society and gave a talk on the 1890 provisional issue. Apart from examining a large collection of Railway material he was not able to view any of the legendary collections still in the island with much rare material.

He also spent a day at the Kingston Central sorting Office where many of his queries were answered and was consequentially interviewed on TV about his impressions of the postal service.

Interesting facts noted were that all mail in the island is taken to Kingston and sorted there apart from local mail at Montego Bay which, up to 3pm., is extracted there.

He also noted that the Port Antonio pigeon holes had two extra holes marked Chinese and Indian. This was apparently a relict of the days when there was much indentured labour and letters written in Chinese or Indian script were placed there and the bundle handed to any enquirer who thus sorted their own letters.

Bob also went to the Institute of Jamaica to see their 1695 EL but was disappointed to find the file was empty with the manuscript comment "removed June 1974".

Michael Vokins is showing Jamaica to the following Societies: 19 March, Cheddar; 13 May, Bath; 5 June, Portishead; 15 July Trowbridge and 26 November, Warminster. Robin Martin is giving a display of St. Vincent at March on 10 April.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Section 4

4. 14 THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY
Giorgio Migliavacca; Laurel Publications Int'l. 1985
A poorly produced work and somewhat sparse in content with the main emphasis being on Route Tables. Some Crown Circle Paid Marks are reasonably illustrated.

Section 5

5. 6 AIR MAIL - AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY 1793-1981
Donald H. Holmes, Clarkson N. Potter Inc. 1981 This work is well produced and profusely illustrated. Many of the photographs are of "archival" quality whilst those of flown covers are generally reproduced in full colour. Although the emphasis is on USA (to be expected from an American aerophilatelist) the book is a useful but general historical record. Provides interesting background information for those setting out to explore aerophilately for the first time. A good quality hard bound book, its shape (square) is unusual.

Section 6

6. 1. 11 1983 COMMONWEALTH KG.VI CATALOGUE
Bridger & Kay Ltd.. 1983
(Donated by A.M. Leverton)
This is the first update to the 1980 Commonwealth Five Reigns Catalogue (in the reviewers opinion the best available work particularly for its general references to varieties, colour shades and the quantities printed/issued etc.) but limited to KC.VI issues. When published in 1980 the "Five Reigns" was, regrettably, incomplete and it is to be hoped that further supplements will arrive in due course and provide the "missing" data.
6. 1. 12 BRITISH COMMONWEALTH REVENUES; 3rd Edition
J. Barefoot & A. Hall: J. Barefoot Ltd.. 1986

Although the authors have attempted to produce something new, much of the information in this book is already available in standard catalogues. The usefulness lies in the pricing of stamps used for purely revenue purposes even though many of the stamps were issued for dual purpose use. It falls down in failing to show just how one can differentiate between "Revenue" and "Postal" use. Whilst the general standard of illustration is poor the more modern Revenue issues are included. A4 in format and simply bound with a flat plastic spiral its condition after 12 months use is liable to be tatty.

6. 5. 19 THE STAMP ATLAS

Stuart Rossiter and John Flower: Macdonald. 1986

The dust jacket says it all! A unique assembly of geography, social and political history and postal information. Postal routes, postmarks and frankings, currencies, pre-1840 illustrated history, all boundary changes since 1840, methods of transport, continent-by-continent and country-by-country breakdown. Eminently readable with many attractive and informative illustrations, as a youngster I would have been delighted to have received this book as a Christmas or Birthday present - or even a prize at school. As an "oldie" I find it quite fascinating just to dip into. A very fine memorial to the late Stuart Rossiter.

Section 10

10. 44 WORLD WAR TWO CENSOR MARKS

Edited by J.A. Daynes: Forces Postal History Society. 1986

A priced list of censor marks and labels used by British Empire and Allied Forces in Exile - so reads (a bit ambiguously!) the sub-title of this Forces Postal History Society publication now reprinted with additions and corrections to 1986. Although based on military mail, civilian marks which were also used by the military are included as is information on post-war censorship in Korea, Suez, etc. Bermuda and Jamaica are the only two West Indian territories listed with examples of censor markings. An Appendix includes Imperial Censorship Codes allotted to various BWI territories amongst others. A4 in format, flat plastic spiral binding, clear plastic front and thin blue card rear will not prevent this publication eventually falling to pieces.

10. 45 SILVER JUBILEE OF KING GEORGE V STAMPS HANDBOOK

A.J. Ainscough: Ainwhel Developments (Philatelic). 1985

A useful little booklet easy to carry around to remind you what you want when searching for examples of varieties and flaws. The layout of the information is quite logical and easily accessed but I have not yet fathomed out why details of flaws which can be found are

separated into groupings by vertical lines. Perhaps a student of the issue might be able to enlighten me.

Hon Librarian

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