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**BULLETIN No. 31 OCTOBER 1961**

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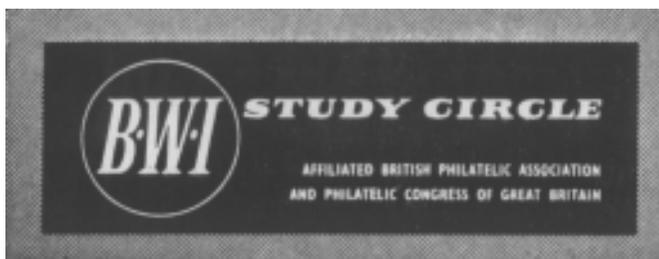
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## **OBJECTS**

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

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

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

## **MEMBERSHIP**

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

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

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Total Membership 220

## AUTUMN MEETING

This will be held in the meeting room of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, at 41 Devonshire Place, W.1. on **Saturday, 23rd October at 2.30 p.m.** Please do your best to attend and do not forget to bring along a few pages for display and a note of any points it is desired to be discussed. Members are reminded that visitors are very welcome.

## CIRCLE MEETING AT BLACKPOOL.

There was a smaller attendance than usual at the B.W.I. Study Circle meeting held at the Norbreck Hydro (Congress headquarters) on Thursday evening, July 8th, 1961, but the wealth and interest of the material shown fully compensated for the lack of numbers, and the Circle's thanks are recorded to those who contributed. Mr. Geoffrey W. Groves occupied the chair and his first happy task was to welcome from Jamaica, Mr. Everard F. Aguilar, the well known authority on the stamps of that colony, who was on a visit to England.

The following comprised some of the material shown:-

**Everard F. Aguilar:** JAMAICA: a fine study of the numeral obliterations including many remarkably fine covers. Among an equally fine group of T.R.D.'s were Alligator Pond, the earliest known date 27.8.90 on an "Unclaimed" ½d. printed post card; Bog Walk - a very early and complete strike, on post card: the exceedingly rare strike of Mount Moriah; Pratville, one of the very early types, including examples used on Jamaica Railway Company post card; Constant Spring Hotel; Myrtle Bank - the mark of the Myrtle Bank Hotel - types used before and after the earthquake of 1907; the Hotel was rebuilt in 1910. Other T.R.D.'s included Grantham; Inverness; Sawyers; Fairy Hill (a very scarce strike); Direct Cable - full cancel on cover dated 9.2.1922 and earlier examples on pieces; Beestow Spring; Petersfield; Banana Ground - the first type recorded (P.O. opened Aug. 5th 1923) and the only copy known; Laughlands; Woodford - a cover which went through the mail and was marked "PAID" in red pencil without stamps, showing that the post office accepted mail without stamps; Bonny Gate in italic caps (this type had a very short life); Blackston Edge; White Sands Beach (a very scarce mark), and Windsor Castle. Among "Returned Letter Branch" covers were earliest dates known and a new type discovered in April 1955; this is only known used on May 28th, 1924.

**Geoffrey W. Groves:** MARITIME MARKS CONCERNING B.W.I., included "Posted on Board" markings on the stamps of Barbados, Dominica and St. Vincent, with many covers. "Paquebot" markings of

Bermuda, British Guiana, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. Canadian National Steamers markings included many unusual and interesting items, e.g. the SS "Lady Hawkins" "Posted on the High Seas" used on St. Vincent stamps on a cover dated in 1939: this boat was torpedoed and sunk on 19th Jan., 1942. Covers of the SS "Lady Nelson" and SS "Lady Drake".

**E. Victor Toeg:** POSTMARKS OF THE LEEWARD GROUP, continued from the exhibitor's last showing to the Circle, detailed those of DOMINICA. i.e. Leeward Islands stamps cancelled in the Dominica villages sub-post offices. Items shown included Dublanc; Grand Bay with different types on the 2/6 K.G.V. on covers; Laplaine a very scarce type showing c.d.s. with star and date measuring 23mm in diameter, on cover showing year date in manuscript, also a series of other covers followed by examples of the double c.d.s. LA PLAINE DOMINICA with star and date measuring 27 mm and 16½ mm in diameter. Mahaut on pair of Q.V. 1d. and Marigot.

**W. A. Townsend :** ANTIGLIA : examples of the "A18" (English Harbour) including a pair of 6d. on cover. BARBADOS : two covers one hundred years old - the First bearing a strip of 4 (½d.) green used to Trinidad, the other a 4d. and (1d.) used to British Guiana. GRENADA: first issues on covers. The abbreviated village postmarks of ST. VINCENT included "BEQ" (Bequia); "K" (Kingstown); "ST" (Stubbs); "CA" (Calliaqua); and "CH" (Chateau Belair). ST. LUCIA 1864 and 1882 issues on covers, and a fine series of the village postmarks including "L" (Laborie); "M" (Micoud); "S" (Soufriere) and "VF" (Vieux Fort).

Mr. D. P. Adams circulated several items for verification. Members of the Circle were also happy to meet Mr. G. R. Butler of Buxton, Derbyshire, since this was the first occasion he had the opportunity to attend one of our meetings.

*Rose Titford.*

## NOTES AND QUERIES

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

*Editor.*

# BAHAMAS

Bahamas postal history students have long listed a p.o. at WILSON CITY, Abaco Island. However, "someone else" has always had an example of its postmark. Gisburn mentions a p.o. there, but does not describe its postmark. This lumber camp existed 1906-1916, at the same period as SPENCER'S POINT, where most of the lumber workers at Wilson City had their homes, just a few miles away. Spencer's Point definitely had a p.o. during this period, and considerable Wilson City mail passed through it, judging by cover addresses. A 1913 P.O. List includes Spencer's Point, but not Wilson City. The sole Bahamas postmark seen by me as reportedly WILSON CITY was too faint for valid evidence. Did, in fact, a p.o. exist named WILSON CITY? If so, can any reader report a legible example of its datestamp? Does the GPO RECORDS ROOM in London record any such datestamp issued (c. 1906-07)? Any information is urgently needed, to assure accuracy in the new Directory of Bahamas Post Offices, ready for publication.

*G. J. Raymond.*

Reference Mr. Ludington's problem on pages 53 to 55 of Bulletin No. 30, I have the following observations to make.

Script accounting marks are common on West Indian covers at this period and I have never before seen a suggestion that these were connected with French shipping. Further, the rates quoted do not correspond with the French packet rates, which were cheaper than those on British ships.

The one definite charge that all are agreed on is that 1/- represented the packet rate to England from B.W.I. The 5d. and 7d. charges indicated two separate stages, (1) the inland rate in the States, and (2) the ship charge to Nassau. As a general rule, rates over standard routes were grouped together, as, for instance, on a letter from St. Lucia to Corsica in 1854 the Captain's fee (2d.), the packet charge (1/-) and the charge to France (6d.) are grouped together and the charge to Corsica is given separately, viz.:

1/8

5 2/1

Now, the standard route in this case was the ship route to Nassau and the packet route to England, and it is suggested that this is represented by the 1/7 and the 5d., the inland States charge. I am willing to admit that the two charges in question may have been reversed but might I suggest that there was a special blockade charge of 7d. to Nassau, as it seems improbable that a blockade runner would have been satisfied with the normal charge.

*B. de Burca.*

I am grateful to Dr. de Burca for his reply, which appears to me not only very logical, but also very probably the correct solution. Nevertheless, it would be nice to have some confirmation of his suggestion that the 7d. was a special blockade runner ship-letter charge, for 14 cents seems a rather unusual amount for this period, the apparently normal rate to, rather than from, the Confederate States being 10 cents, the same as the inland rate. If any other member possesses similar letters it would be interesting to know the charges.

*M.H.Ludington*

**Gisburn's Type 6.** Miss Rose Titford's enquiry on behalf of Dr. Norman Garrard. (Bulletin No. 29, p.23)

Nine early examples in my collection with dates between MR. 8 76 and DE 10 84 all have the letter "A". All my later examples (six) are dated between June and November 1897 and have the letter "B". I have not seen the letter "C".

I am fairly sure that the letters were provided as collection letters, but were not used as such. In the case of Bermuda, Type H1 of Hamilton appears only with the letter "A" between early 1869 and late 1872, is without a letter from early in 1873 to about mid-1876, and is with "A" "B" or "C" from at least 1878 on. These were definitely collection letters, and it is obvious that in the early days the postmaster of Hamilton paid no attention to them. I strongly suspect that the postmaster of Nassau did likewise.

All my examples of Type 6 appear to be from the same handstamp.

**The "27" cancellation.**

All the examples I have seen appear to be from the same canceller. In addition to the cover mentioned in Bulletin 21, page 24, I now have six pre-1884 adhesives with both the "27" cancellation and pen cancels. All the pen marks or initials are different, which leads one to suspect that they are from different out-island p.os, and were cancelled, again in Nassau.

**Nassau Datestamps.** Further notes to Mr. Coasby's contribution. (Bulletin No. 29, pp. 23-26)

1. Nassau, New Providence. I have an example on the back of a cover used as an arrival datestamp, and dated DE 20 1884.

2. Nassau Paid. Gisburn's Type 2. Used on prepaid letters before the 4d., 6d. and 1/- Bahamas adhesives were issued. I have two examples on pre-adhesive covers, one to London, dated JU 26 63, rate 1/-, the other to France, dated JY 2 64, rate 1/4d., both in red. Similar "PAID" datestamps were issued to Bermuda (Types P4 and P5) and to many other colonies.

7. There are again, two datestamps, differing in the spacing between the names. The first, with fractionally larger letters in "NASSAU" and the wider

## BAHAMAS (Contd.)

spacing was in use from c. 26.12.24 to c. 15.8.35. The second was in use from c. 30.7.28 to 7.6.37:

8. Late use 8.2.36.

9. This is completely new to me.

14. (a) In use from c. 1929 to c. 18.10.43.

(b) In use from c. 1944 to c. 22.10.51, and has been seen used with wavy lines in September 1956.

19. "Registered," Gisburn Type 31. In use since at least August 1947.

20. "Official Paid." Still in use 10.12.58. Probably current.

26. Ship Mail, Nassau. Studd B196. Machine datestamp was also used with slogan.

26a. "Nassau Paquebot" machine cancellation. Not listed by Studd. My example is dated 25.9.37 and is with straight lines. May also exist with slogan.

26b. "SHIP MAIL/NASSAU" machine cancellation, with "NASSAU" around the bottom of the circle and the words spread out. My example, used with 7 wavy lines, has only the time and part of the date in the centre: "JAN4/9-AM." The year should have been 1954 and should have been in the third line.

27. It would be impossible, I am sure, for any TR.D, especially of this size, to be used in a machine. Gisburn had no example in his collection, and I am certain that he was mistaken on this point.

*M. H. Ludington*

## Bahamas Cancellations

Mr. Garrard speaks of Gisburn's Type 6a single circle containing the word "BAHAMAS *across the centre*, a letter "A, B or C" above and date in two lines below.

In my copies of this cancellation, BAHAMAS is well above the centre of the stamp. But I do have a copy of the £1 (S.G.57) with the word BAHAMAS *exactly* across the centre, the letter c above, and no date below! Can any advise if this is a postal cancellation or is it a fiscal?

## Bahamas "27" postmark:

I have two *distinct types* of this cancellation. The second type has thicker, shorter numerals, which are closer together than in the commoner first type.

I have TI on the following: -

S.G.\*25 1d. vermilion.

S.G.\*33 1d. scarlet vermilion.

S.G.\*48 1d. carmine rose.

S.G.\*52 2½d. ultramarine (2 copies).

S.G.\*65 1/- grey black and carmine (KEVII).

TII :

S.G. 43 4d. rose.

S.G. 54 6d. mauve.

Incidentally, what P.O. used this cancellation?

*A.S. Griswold*

## BARBADOS

### Field Post Office H.22

Ref. A. Lathams' F.P.O.H.22 under Barbados in Bulletin No.30, F.P.O.H.22 was attached to 22 Corps HQ. Three double ringed handstamps were issued with Codes T, A and B. In addition, I have seen a skeleton p.o. 22 July '18. How 22 Corps could have moved to Barbados I don't know. A prank?

*Brian de Burca.*

## BRITISH GUIANA

### Pre-adhesive Marks

I am grateful to Mr. Britnor and Mr. Townsend for their remarks and information on the points I raised. I should have realised that Mr. Britnor, covering the whole field of B.W. Indies, would quote from known work. Unfortunately, the B.G. section of Lowe's "Handstruck Stamps" is not very complete, and I think not always accurate. Corrections and additions will, no doubt, be made when the long-awaited volume of the Encyclopaedia appears.

The early straight-line and fleuron types are not to be found in G.P.O. Records, which do not go back beyond 1826. I have heard it suggested that these early types are of Dutch origin, but the Dutch Postal Museum authorities know nothing of this.

Mr. Britnor's Type 5 Demerara was "Sent to the Secretary" on 27.10.1838. Allowing time for sending to B.G., it appears unlikely that it would be used that year. I have seen it for early 1839, and my latest is for 4.2.1845. The sans-serif Type 6 is in G.P.O. Records for 14.4.1845, and I have it for 4.6.45. This, and others I have up to 27.4.47, are all *in red*. Later (mine running from 10.4.48 to 28.1.56) are *in black*. This Demerara in red is not recorded by Robson Lowe, and is sometimes said to be rare. But do other members find that the early ones (say, 1845 - early '47) were red?

I could not find T.5 Berbice in Records, but suppose it likely that it was sent out at about the same time as the Demerara (1838). My own span, 27.2.1842 -

## **BRITISH GUIANA (contd.)**

20.3.1850. The sans-serif T.6 Berbice is in Records for 1.1.53. (I have 20.8.53). This stamp appears to have lingered on in use far longer than the corresponding Demerara (perhaps because New Amsterdam was later not so well provided with other types as was Georgetown). Thus I find the Berbice cancelling an adhesive of 1878, and backstamping a cover as late as 1879.

**Correction.** - In my note in the April Bulletin, after "1. A "horse-shoe," please read, "or two-thirds circle.").

*F.G. Howe.*

## **BRITISH HONDURAS**

Through the past 60 years or so, a number of small B.H. sub-p.o.'s and postal agencies have been opened briefly and closed quietly, their existence marked only by their postmark which may only, incidentally, crop up in collections of used B.H. stamps. For lack of official data, students of B.H. postal history have had to piece together P.O. lists by such datestamps. In particular, the sub-p.o.'s and postal agencies utilized coloured-ink TRD's of odd sizes and shapes, B.H. stamps so cancelled all too frequently have been scorned and destroyed erroneously as "fiscally used." However, some do turn up, fortunately. An unreported postal agency should now be added to lists. BARRRACKS, BELIZE, utilized a large 34mm double-circle TRD so inscribed, my example dated 13 MAR 1931. Belize Town is divided by a river, the GPO being on the South Side. At the extreme North Side of the city, was the BARRACKS, originally housing detachments of the West India Regt., but converted in the early 1900's to use as residences, clubs, infirmaries, fairground, and a horserace track. Apparently the BARRACKS postal agency served the area until its total destruction in the terrible hurricane of Sept. 1931, when over 1,000 lives were lost. Oddly enough, another postal agency or sub-p.o. existed in another section of North Side during the same period (c. 1930), at the transmission station of the local broadcasting service. Its 30mm double-circle TRD ("RADIO STATION, B.H."), while possibly fiscal, nevertheless is

known postally cancelling stamps on business covers, ordinary and registered, Belize label.

A fine cover recently acquired, bears a small c.d.s. of WELLSPORT (27 MR 1913). Does any reader know the exact location of this B.H. town? Another cover is postmarked "ORANGE WALK, N.R." (1916). Was this a "New River" TPO, or just an ordinary Orange Walk c.d.s.? A Belize c.d.s. of 1910 is inscribed fully NEW RIVER SERVICE.

*G. J. Raymond*

## DOMINICA

### Dominica Crowned Circle Cancels

I have recorded this cancel on the following Dominican stamps. Stanley Gibbons Catalogue numbers: -

S.G. 1, 4, 5, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21.

It will be observed that all these are halfpenny and one penny values.

However, I do not think that the explanation given for the temporary use of this cancel in Nevis applies in Dominica. The period of use would rule out such an explanation, besides which I have contemporary evidence that there was a surplus stock of sixpence and one shilling values at the time of the production of S.G. 17 and 19.

I put forward the hypothesis that this cancel was used on mail originating "up-country" and destined for overseas, the postal charges being paid, local by an adhesive stamp, and the balance (overseas) in cash.

The existence of a cover would prove the point. But to my knowledge none exists. Can anyone prove the existence of an inland postal charge extra to the normal rates charged as from the G. P.O. Roseau? A similar situation occurred in St. Vincent.

*H. Vivian Brown.*

I have read Mr. Britnor's reply regarding "Crowned Circle Marks" in the July Bulletin. He says "Under Dominica certain adhesives are known struck with the Crowned Circle." Next paragraph he says, "I have a copy of the ½d. Olive Yellow S.G.15 *Similarly surcharged.*"

"Struck" would appear to a "Hand-stamp," which is vastly different from a "Surcharge," which alters the value of the stamp. I am, therefore, not quite clear as to what Mr. Britnor asks for in his request that it would be interesting to have a complete list of all stamps bearing this mark, so I am under-noting

## DOMINICA (contd.)

the only two examples of a "Crowned Circle" on adhesives which I have in my Dominica collection, they are:-

Postmarked:

1d. lilac C.C. S.G. 5.

Bisect of 1d. lilac, wmk. C.A. (used on small piece) but showing complete postmark. S.G. 21 a.

*James D. Todd*

## GRENADA

### Parish code letters

Mr. L. R. Coasby may be interested to study "Stamp Collecting" for February 20/27, 1953, for some Notes on the Inland Post of Grenada. This indicated that the 1861/62 post was based on police divisions (and the order, roughly clock-wise, of the divisions is given in a number of official papers) and showed that St. Davids (like 2 or CH. CH in Barbados) might be abnormally scarce because it is near St. George's. It also attempted to use the withdrawal of the parish letters 1898-1907 as evidence for or against) Mr. Alfred Charlton's list - originally in P.J. of G.B. of July 1937, according to his letter to me dated October 16, 1951, on Official Post Office authority. Only A, B, F and G occur on the Arms type - St. Patricks and St. Davids were sent normal c.d.s. with Grenada at foot on June 27, 1898 from London (? exit of C and E). Grenville got a c.d.s. a little later (? exit D *during* CA Edwards), Victoria, Gouave, Carriacou and Sauteurs got c.d.s. in 1907.

G was seemingly not used in the first inland post, at least as a cancellation, but exists as a cancellation in the 1872-1885 period of the second inland post.

Some figures of 1893 "inland letters" may be of interest:-

St. George's	44,146	
Snug Corner	40	(year of opening)
Gouyave	7,224	
Concord	984	
St. Mark's	4,092	
St. Patrick's	9,240	
St. Andrew's	11,264	
St. David's	1,236	
Perdmontemp	480	
Carriacou	3,480	

If Mr. Coasby would like to attempt one of the tough postmark gathering assignments in B.W.I., I suggest a hunt for the parish letter marks used in the 1861/62 post on S.G. 1, 2 and 3. If he still finds "F" easy, then the task can be extended to find each mark on each of the three stamps. Later, "F" is reasonably easy to find. Incidentally, the top stroke of "E" and of "F" differ in length, so fragments can be identified.

*Peter Jaffe.*

## **JAMAICA**

### **Jamaica Registered Mark**

I have just bought a cover franked by three 6d. Pine with "Jamaica Registered" in red, dated Kingston Jy. 24. 63.

I have a record that G. W. Collett has two covers with this mark in red dated 8 Oct. 70 and 9 My. 68 from Vere and Browns Town respectively. This mark is not recorded in Nicholson etc. handbook and I wonder if anyone has any more covers and the dates of their use? According to the Handbook, the first Reg. mark was sent out 22.1 78 Type R.1, so I am calling this red mark type R.0.

*V. N. F. Surtees*

### **Jamaica Street Letter Box Postmarks:**

The special postmarks of Jamaica which were used on mail deposited in Street Letter Boxes were discussed in some detail by the late L. C. C. Nicholson in the Jamaica Handbook, of 1928. Acquisition during the past several years of some hundreds of these markings enables me to provide additional information and in several instances corrections to the Handbook. Except where indicated, all dates are from items in my collection.

#### **KINGSTON**

**TYPE 1.** Latest date known, 1 March, 1892.

**TYPE 2.** This is actually two types. The Handbook illustration, M16, is technically incorrect in that it is a composite of the two types. The first type has no stops before and after "Street Letter Box" and the index code consists of a numeral (1 through 5 on my copies) followed by a single upper case letter.

EDK 2 July, 1892    LDK 14 October, 1837

The second type which I have designated **TYPE 2a** is as illustration M16 in the Handbook except for the index code which is a single upper case letter.

LDK 28 October, 1897    LDK: 13 August, 1902

## JAMAICA (Contd.)

**TYPE 3.** The index code on all copies I have seen consists of the numeral 3 plus an upper case letter.

EDK. 18 August, 1902 LDK 1 August, 1907

**TYPE 4.** This, again, is actually two types, and illustration MI8 combines features of both. The first type is as M18 without the stop between "Box" and "Kingston." Index code is numeral 3 plus an upper case letter.

EDK. 15 August, 1907 LDK 10 September, 1910

The second of this type I call **TYPE 4a.** This differs from the previous type in the following respects: There are no stops before "Street" and after "Kingston"; there is a comma between "Box" and "Kingston"; and the index code is a single upper case letter.

EDK. 19 September, 1910 LDK 5 December, 1919

The Handbook states "Still in use (1928)," but its use after 1919 appears doubtful.

## MONTEGO BAY

Montego Bay employed two Street Letter Box temporary rubber date-stamps, but only the second of these was listed in the Handbook of 1928 (Illustration M19). The first type differed from the second in that the words "Street Letter Box" and "Montego Bay" were interchanged in position and the year was given as "14." My only copy is on a cover addressed to the late Astley Clerk and is dated 14 December, 1914.

The permanent type datestamp which Nicholson listed as Type 2 was still in use in 1954, but the stop before "Street Letter Box" is missing on two clear strikes dated 4 September, 1954, and 20 September, 1954. This could be a new stamp or may be the result of damage to the original stamp. Since early and late strikes appear to be similar in all other respects, any conclusion requires further evidence.

## PORT ANTONIO

Port Antonio also used a Street Letter Box TRD prior to introduction of a steel CDS. This was not listed in the 1928 Handbook. It consisted of a single-lined oblong measuring 32 by 22 mm. with "Street Letter Box" across the top and "Port Antonio, Ja." across the bottom. A line of dots about two thirds down, terminates in "1911." Aguilar lists this as TD.26 in his 1949 Jamaica Handbook, but his illustration omits the year. Since he lists SDK 23 January, 1912, and LDK 18 May, 1912, it would appear that the year was cut off of the TRD for use in 1912. The only copy I have been able to obtain is a fragmentary mark on stamp with date – October, 1911, the day numerals

having disappeared when a previous owner neatly trimmed the stamp from the cover.

The 1928 Handbook indicated only one type of Street Letter Box date stamp was used at Port Antonio. Overlooking the TRD, this was possibly true in 1928. However, some time between May of 1926 and March of 1930, a new stamp appeared having larger letters in the same general arrangement. My earliest example of this mark is dated 19 March, 1930, and my latest, 29 July, 1957. Having had little access to current material for the past several years, I cannot verify continuing use of this or the Montego Bay stamp beyond the dates I have given. I would appreciate further information on earlier or later useage of any of these marks.

*Fred F. Seifert.*

I believe I am correct in stating that the Inland Postage Rates for Jamaica were fixed, as stated below, in 1765, and remained unchanged until 1861.

For a letter not exceeding ½ oz. in weight:

Under 60 miles	4d.
From 60 to 100 miles	6d.
Over 100 miles	8d.

If this is so, can any member please explain the following?

I have several letters posted about 1830, in the region of Montego Bay (approximately 100 miles from Kingston), destination Scotland, with "Inland Postage Paid 1/3" in manuscript.

The details of one of them, for example, are:-

Endorsed "Little River P.O." in m/s, in red: small fleuron dated 16th Feb. 1829 (presumably applied at Kingston); inscribed on front, "Inland Postage Paid 1/3") in m/s, in red. The normal charge has been added for payment due by addressee.

*L. E. Britnor.*

## **LEEWARD ISLANDS**

I have two airmail covers franked with 9d. postage which were sent from Antigua to San Juan, Puerto Rico. Both are postmarked 26 Sept. 1929, and have backstamped arrival postmarks reading SAN JUAN, P.R. - 7 PM - SEPT 26 1929. One of the covers was addressed to a firm in the U.S.A. and, in

## LEEWARD ISLANDS (contd.)

addition has a further notation reading BY AIRMAIL TO SAN JUAN, P.R. Presumably, this cover finished its journey by surface mail. This particular cover also bears a three line handstamp reading FIRST AIRMAIL - ANTIGUA TO U.S.A. - SEPTEMBER 1929.

Based on several covers in my possession, I believe that the surface mail rate to the U.S.A. (including P.R.) was still 1½d. per oz. during 1929. It would appear then, that the airmail rate, at least to U.S. territory, was 7½d. of the total air charges of 9d.

As a matter of interest, the Leeward Islands Post Office Guide for 1939, lists the combined airmail letter (via Antigua) rate to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as 9d. per ½ oz., the surface rate to the U.S.A. (and territories) having by this time been raised to 2½d. Does any member have any firm information on when the surface rate to the U.S. was raised to 2½d.?

The 1939 Guide lists the combined airmail letter rate to the U.K. as 1/- per ½ oz. This Guide is dated "M 3/19." If I am correct in assuming that the date means May 3, 1939, then it seems safe to say that air rate to the U.K. did not remain at 1/0½d. until the outbreak of WW II. Mr. Toeg may be interested to know that the combined airmail rate from Antigua to Trinidad was listed as 7d. If there is enough interest in the 1939 air rates, I would be happy to reproduce the entire list for publication in the Bulletin.

*Paul A. Larson.*

## ST. VINCENT

### St. Vincent

Many thanks to Mr. Messenger for his note of another "G" cover and many congratulations to him for obtaining it. This makes No. 15 of known covers. It is a year later than I have recorded.

*V. N. Surtees*

### Abbreviated Cancellations on cover and otherwise

In No. 29, Mr. V. N. F. Surtees asks for information. I think the cover score is 15, of covers from villages, plus the K to RAB he mentions.

There are six "Ody" Georgetown covers known to me, the earliest of which I hold. The list may be worth recording, since it convinces me that

at Georgetown there was an upright A10 canceller (Number 2 of the three proofed in London on December 14, 1866) and the earlier of the two GB/40c (large C) rate mark (proofed in London on October 2, 1864) as well as red and black pads. There may also have been a small St. Vincent c.d.s.

	<i>G</i>	<i>adhesive</i>	<i>cancellation</i>
1.	De 28 78	1s.	red tall A10
2.	Ja 9 79*	1s.	red tall A10
3.	Fe 8 79†	Pair of 6d.	black GB 40c
4.	Ap 9 79†	1s.	black GB 40c
5.	Ap 28 80†	1s.	black GB 40c
6.	Jy 28 80	1s.	horizontal A10 (black?)

\* also K c.d.s. † also St. Vincent c.d.s.

Number 2 was ex Glossop and is, I believe, in a European cover collection. The new owner thought the A10 and the G could have been struck at the same time: mine likewise, for both under natural light and under the ultra violet lamp the "colour" seems the same.

Generally (save for Georgetown) I agree with Mr. Surtees and appreciate his generous acknowledgments.

I am reasonably sure "BI" exists only in red. I fancy a misprint existed in Major Adrian Hopkins' pioneer appreciation in "The Philatelist."

Has any member any explanation for the large red R (with a tail curving up) noted on the 1d. black (alone, and with ST)?

I possess 1d. black with ST and RAB (both on the Windward route to Kingstown) for June 1879, and 1d. sage green CO with CA (black) for July 1880 (again both Windward). Mr. Surtees has L and BAR. (both coastwise steamer on leeward route stations). As an example of mixed routes, I have a 1d. red Barrouallie, August 29, 1894 and Georgetown August 30.

Has any member explanations of pen *cancellations* with CO on both the 1d. and 6d. and l/-, ink alone on 1d. and 4d. blue (not remainder lines) and the red and blue crayon marks on 6d. and l/- and of the black thimble? I can only suggest that some villages "made" their own obliterations, instead of using date stamps,

A point is that whatever the rules said, men and women operated the abbreviated marks and the Kingstown cancellers. Observation indicates that in the early days, village marks on overseas mail were over stamped. From about 1876, escapes from over stamping were almost the rule. Why?

## ST VINCENT (contd.)

### Georgetown

Since Georgetown ranked second only to Kingstown in volume of mail handled, it seems that a special analysis of the position is justified. I hope comments can be assembled.

Early in 1873, on the evidence of the W. S. Davy collection two 6d. cover, the G was struck on the stamps (Ja. 26. 73) and this is confirmed by my single 6d. used on the same day. All three stamps were over stamped by the black "squat top A" horizontal A10, almost certainly at Kingstown.

Later, possibly from 1876, when the French rate marks went out of use for the original purpose, other marks than G c.d.s. were supplied to Georgetown.

I suggest these included the one of the three vertical A10 sent in December 1866 from London. This mark is found on pairs of the pale green 6d., struck in red, and occurs solo on the 1d. black compound perforation (I suggest these come from consignments 7 and 8) and on the 6d. deep blue green.

Less commonly it comes over stamped in black with the squat A10, on 1d. black clean cut and 1d. black compound and very rarely on the 6d. dark green.

I think this over stamping period lies between the 1872-1875 (?) "G" period and the 1876-1882 period when over stamping on Georgetown's red A10 killer became unusual. The last stamp I have and it is rare, is the De La Rue 1d. drab of November 1882. Curiously, my three copies (one ex E. T. Granger, one ex O. G. Bowlby) have interpane letter watermarks.

I feel the E. B. Lye June 1880 1d. on half 6d. dark green cancelled with a red GB/40c could have a Georgetown origin. Are 4d. 1881 with this mark in black from Georgetown ?

I wonder why it was necessary to use both a red "St. Vincent" code A c.d.s. and a "K" mark on a 4d. on 1/- provisional of 1881. Georgetown again? I have a 2½d. on 1d. lake SP 3 83 similarly double cancelled.

The tall A10 killer in black in the narrow A form appears to run to the 1d. on 2½d. on 1d. March 1885 provisional, and to have been followed by the wide A form of the 1866 upright A10, on the 4d. red brown to the 1891 2½d. on 4d. local provisional. Perhaps Kingstown found the c.d.s. suitable? I think Georgetown c.d.s. on adhesives before 1891 are so rare as to be accidental, though I think the mark may date from 1884.

*Peter Jaffe.*

## TOBAGO

I note in the January Bulletin of the B.W.I. Study Circle, your comments regarding the ½d. on 6d. orange brown Tobago (S.G.23) and asking if any member has a copy dated prior to October 1889.

I have just checked my lone copy and find it is cancelled Aug. 5, 8 . . . (presumably 89). This is earlier than October 1889, and thought you might be interested. Incidentally, where do you learn the date of issue of these provisionals ?

*Arthur S. Griswold.*

I was interested to receive Mr. Griswold's letter and to hear that he has a copy of the ½d. on 6d. orange brown dated Aug. 5 8(9), which helps me to prove that they were printed and issued before the cliché was altered for the 1 PENNY on 2½d. blue. As, however, the 1 PENNY surcharge is recorded as being issued in July 1889 it is more than probable that Mr. Griswold's copy should be of Aug. 5 1887, which is the same date as my copy. I am still waiting for a horizontal pair, or block, from the left-hand side of the sheet, to confirm that they were printed before the cliché was altered.

Information about the dates of these issues I have obtained from *The POSTAGE STAMPS &c OF THE BRITISH COLONIES IN THE WEST INDIES* compiled and published by The Philatelic Society, London (now the Royal) in 1891. Whether all these dates were based on Official Records I do not know.

*A. E. Beach.*

## HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

Although "summer time" is in force for most of this month, the dark evenings are not far away, when opportunity is taken to devote more of our leisure to our hobby. No doubt you will come across an interesting item or some point on which you would like some information. It does not take up much time to drop a few lines to our Editor, who always welcomes contributions for possible inclusion in our pages. I am always at a loss to understand why so few members avail themselves of our Opinions Service. To be able to obtain an authoritative report on a stamp one is not sure of is surely most worthwhile. For the benefit of new members, full details of this service are given on page 80. Elsewhere, you will see the notice of our autumn meeting, which provides the opportunity to exhibit a few of your treasures, not to mention the probability of obtaining an explanation of some problem. If it is possible, I do hope you will attend and remember, if you wish to bring a friend (he or she) is very welcome. Once again, it is my pleasure to record the names of the following new members: E. M. Adelson (U.S.A.), L. T. Dickason (U.S.A.), J. A. Gavelek (U.S.A.), L. J. Gilbert-Lodge, H. M. Oxley, F. Jordan, P. T. Sturridge and N. Winter (Thailand). Those of our members who are on the roll of the "Royal" (and they are many) I know will be delighted to know that Mr. Gilbert-Lodge has joined us on relinquishing his appointment of Hon. Secretary, which he held with distinction for no less than 35 years.

*P. T. S.*

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