



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

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BULLETIN No. 68

MARCH 1971

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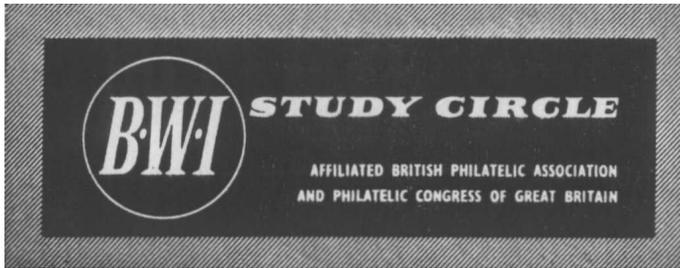
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OBJECTS

1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of:

**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.

3. To loan books from Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear post both ways.

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 £1.50 or the equivalent in local currency, due 15th February. If remitting in currency please add 60c to cover collection charges. Alternatively a draft for £1.50 DRAWN on London is acceptable. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle".

FOR YOUR DIARY

April 17th	Annual General Meeting	3 p.m.
May 12th	Evening Meeting	6 p.m.
May 25th	Display to Society of Postal Historians. St. Ermin's Hotel. S.W.1	7 p.m.
Sept. 18th	Autumn Meeting	3 p.m.
Nov. 17th	Evening Meeting	6 p.m.

Meetings are held in the B.P.A. Board Room at 446 Strand,
London. WC2R 0RA unless otherwise stated.

DISPLAY

A Midweek meeting of the B.W.I. Study Circle was held on Wednesday, 25th November, 1970, at 6 p.m. in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association.

The meeting was attended by fifteen members. After a short speech of welcome Mr. E. V. Toeg invited members to display their "nine sheets" in turn. The following short notes give some indication of the material shown to the Meeting.

Mr. S. Goldblatt. 'Village Postmarks' and other items which were colourful and interesting. Among the Colonies represented in his display were: Bahamas, Guyana, British Honduras, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.

Mr. A. H. Latham. A collection of Forwarding Agents Marks.

Dr. D. Wolfson. A collection of B.W.I. covers and also Fiscal stamps.

Mr. Raymond Ely then spoke for a few minutes on the techniques of X-ray microscopy that might be applied to the study of Postage Stamps and other Philatelic items. Mr. Ely answered a number of questions and stated that he would welcome suggestions about the application of X-ray microscopy to Philately.

Mr. J. L. Messenger. The 1877 and 1878 printings of the 6d. St. Vincent stamp showing colour and perforation varieties.

Mr. A. Farmer. King George VI high value stamps from the Leeward Islands, including examples of the £1 Albino print and the sideways and inverted watermarks.

Mr. J. C. Loach. A collection of the Grenada Village Postmarks.

Mr. W. A. Townsend. A 'Pot Pourri' which showed the evolution of design - items from St. Lucia, British Guiana, British Honduras and Jamaica were included in support.

Miss B. J. Collinson. A Barbados letter of especial interest and a map and also various stamps of this Colony printed by De La Rue & Co.

Mr. L. E. Britnor. Examples of Great Britain Stamps on cover used in Jamaica, an Entire from Jamaica of considerable interest to all present and a copy of an early Statute of Grenada.

Mr. B. B. Benwell. A collection of Village Postmarks and barred obliterations of Barbados.

DISPLAY (Cont.)

Mr. J. J. Challis. A thematic collection showing the design of B.W.I. stamps in early years.

The next Midweek Meeting will take place at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 12th May, 1971, in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association at 446 Strand, London, W.C.2. Will all members attending please bring not more than nine pages from their collections for display on 12th May, 1971.

NOTES AND QUERIES

ANTIGUA

The Queen Victoria 6d. green is known for its re-entries which are well documented. I have not however noticed any reference to a phenomenon that does not seem particularly scarce. Members may have noticed that sometimes there are quite large white marks on either side of the first 'A' of Antigua. When clear, these look very much like apostrophes. On the same values there is another large white mark between the 'X' and 'P' of the value. Can any member explain these marks?
C. A. Freeland

BAHAMAS

I have a copy of the 1942 4d. Columbus overprint (S.G.168) with the 1 of 1942 missing. This variety is not mentioned in the Gisburn Handbook. Can any other member confirm the existence of this variety or is it bogus? It is not very easy to see the omission against the background.
C. A. Freeland

BARBADOS

SOLDIER'S LETTER

In reply to Michael Sheppard's request for information on his Soldier's Letter, (Bulletin 67, page 79) I can offer the following:

The 52nd Regt. were the 52nd (Oxfordshire) Light Infantry (now the 1st Bn. The Royal Green Jackets) and they were stationed in Barbados from 6th November, 1838 until 1840 when they left in two parts for St. Vincent.

The 81st Regt. were the 81st Loyal Lincoln Volunteers (now the Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire) and they arrived in Barbados in January, 1840 about two months before the 52nd left. The 81st were initially under the command of Major R. H. Wilcocks but later under Lt. Col. Sir Charles Chichester, Bart. They left Barbados in 1842 initially being dispersed to Trinidad, Tobago and Grenada before moving on to Canada in September, 1842.

The general was Lt.-General John Maister who presented a new set of colours to the 81st on 8th December, 1840.

It is therefore reasonable to assume that Private William Smith was selected by General Maister as his Batman whilst the 52nd were in Barbados and when they left he was placed on the strength of the 81st and remained in the post.

Stephen Cave

BRITISH GUIANA

I have specimens of the 1938 set overprinted "MARINE DETACHMENT." I think that some years ago Mr. Townsend asked about their origin in this Bulletin, but no information was forthcoming. Has Mr. Townsend or any other member been able to discover the history behind these overprints? The Commonwealth Catalogue regards them as "bogus." *C. A. Freeland*

The following is the continuation of Mr. Carr's article from Bulletin No. 67, page 84.

1862: Type-set local provisionals

The order for 30,000 1c., 20,000 2c. and 35,000 4c. stamps placed on 21st December, 1861 duly arrived but by the following August the remaining stocks had 'become matted together like a piece of thick millboard by adhesion of the gum.' Provisional stamps of the three denominations were ordered from Messrs. Richardson and Colbeck of Georgetown, printed at the "Royal Gazette" offices and issued in October, 1862. Fresh supplies arrived within a few weeks from London.

1878: Overprinted provisionals

An order placed with De La Rue on 6th December, 1877 had not arrived by April, 1878 when stocks of 1c. and 2c. stamps were nearly exhausted. The Receiver-General proposed bisecting the little used 6c. (S.G. 129) vertically to give two provisional 1c. stamps and in the same way the 4c. (S.G. 128) to give 2c. provisionals. But the Governor, no doubt sensitive on the matter of bisects and their abuse, ordered that 4,500 6c. should be defaced by the now familiar broad black ink lines and used as a provisional 1c. These were issued on 17th April, 1878 while the arrival of the consignment from London on 4th May dispensed with the need for a temporary 2c.

On 14th June, 1878 reduced inland postage rates came into force creating a greatly increased demand for 1c. and 2c. stamps. It was clear that the stocks of these in the colony would not last and the P.M.G. ordered that the 1c. and 2c.

BRITISH GUIANA (Cont.)

Official stamps (S.G. 01, 06 and 07) the use of which had been discontinued, should be defaced with ink bars and put into postal service. These were issued in August.

An expected shipment did not arrive in October, 1878 and the provisional 1c. and 2c. again ran out. Accordingly stocks of the 6c. (S.G. 93 and 129) were defaced in the same manner as before to provide 1c. provisionals and issued on 6th November, 1878. The shipment still had not materialised in November and with the shortages continuing the disused Official stamps were again defaced to provide 1c. (S.G. 08 and 09) and 2c. (S.G. 03 and 010) provisionals and issued on November 23rd. Supplies from London finally reached the colony on 5th December, 1878.

1881: Overprinted and Surcharged provisionals

A supply of stamps requisitioned on 25th March, 1881 had not arrived by July and another shortage of the two lowest denominations was feared. This time it was suggested that a perforating stamper might be used to imprint the figure 1 on the 48c. stamp (S.G. 133) and the figure 2 on the 12c. stamp (S.G. 131); an inked surcharge and even a combination of both methods to ensure security were also discussed. However on August 9th the shipment arrived in Georgetown.

Shortages of the 1c. and 2c. were again threatening by the end of the year as the postal authorities had not been able to predict the great increase in the use of inland postal facilities. Supplies ordered on 20th August, 1881 had not come by December and on the 21st of the month the 96c. (S.G. 134) was issued surcharged with the figure 1 or 2 and defaced with a ruled ink bar. Now for the first time in the experience of British Guiana local stamp dealers and speculators descended on the post offices like the proverbial cloud of locusts and the entire provisional issue was sold out in a few days. On 28th December a further provisional issue was rushed out - this time in the form of Official stamps of the 12c., 24c. and 48c. denominations and the postal 48c. (S.G. 105) all surcharged either 1 or 2. These were as swiftly exhausted and there was a further issue of the same provisionals in January, 1882.

1882: Type-set local provisionals

The January issue referred to above was again the target for dealers and speculators and no further stocks of Official or higher denomination postage stamps which might be surcharged remained in the colony. Accordingly Baldwin & Co. of Georgetown were required to print provisional 1c. and 2c. stamps. The initial order for 10,000 of each was quickly increased to 100,000 of each though the actual issue on January 7th was of 60,000 1c. and 40,000 2c.

The letter⁷ written by the Acting P.M.G. to the Acting (Asst.) Colonial Receiver-General on 6th January is well worth reproducing:-

"The quantity of 1c. and 2c. provisional stamps namely 10,000 about to be issued will fall short to meet the requirements of this Department. I am afraid they will share the fate of the previous ones and will be bought up by the several Stamp Collectors. I would suggest that authority be obtained to have 100,000 printed in such quantities as may from time to time be required."

as is a note on the reverse penned by the Lieutenant Governor:-

"But surely the Acting Postmaster General can exercise some discretion in the matter and stop these Ad. Lib. sales. The purchases are not made for legitimate purposes. When I read the statement in the paper that some 19,000 had been sold to one individual I never for one moment thought that such a transaction could be possible."

(Plus ça change)

The consignment from London reached the colony for issue on the 28th January, 1882. The remaining stocks of these provisionals were held against further need but following official concern at the many reports of the forgery and fraudulent usage of British Guiana provisionals both in the colony and in England all provisionals and definitive issues other than those current were declared invalid or demonetised on 20th August, 1885.

1888: "Inland Revenue" surcharged provisionals

New stamp duties on cheques, bills of exchange, receipts, etc. were announced on 23rd May, 1888 for introduction on 1st October that year. De la Rue would not promise delivery of the new Postage and Revenue series (S.G. Type ?0) then in preparation by that date so it was decided that the old postal issue (S.G. Type 16) should be overprinted "Inland Revenue" and also surcharged. These provisionals were available for postage as well as revenue use and were issued at various dates in 1888/9 according to the denominations which ranged from 1c. to 5 dollars. The postal values were not finally withdrawn until 1st July, 1901.

1889: 2c. surcharged 2c. provisional

The colouring of the 2c. (S.G. 176) and 72c. (S.G. 184) provisionals of the previous issue was identical and the Postmaster General feared that a fraudulent conversion of one into the other by the addition of a '7' was all too probable. In those days of candlelit rooms such considerations were very real. Accordingly the figure '2' was surcharged on S.G. 176 in addition to the surcharge and overprint it already bore. This work was carried out at the "Daily Chronicle" offices in Georgetown and the issue made on 5th June, 1889.

BRITISH GUIANA (Cont.)

1890: 1888 provisionals surcharged 1c.

Stamps ordered had not arrived by July, 1890 when there was a shortage of the 1c. denomination. The first four dollar values of the 1888 provisional series were little used so it was decided to surcharge these 'One Cent' in the colony. The issue took place on 15th July, 1890. Because of large scale buying by local speculators the government attempted to restrict bulk sales with some success though they were adversely criticised in the local press for their efforts. Fresh supplies of 1c. stamps reached Georgetown from London on 21st August, 1890.

1899: Surcharged Jubilee stamp provisionals

The introduction of Imperial Penny Postage on 1st January, 1899 led to a substantial increase in the sale of 2c. stamps and to a reduction in the demand for the 10c. and 15c. denominations. However it happened that there were still large stocks of the Jubilee issue high value stamps in the colony - 96,600 of the 10c. and 124,680 of the 15c. - and these had been expensive stamps to produce. It was therefore suggested that both these denominations should be surcharged 'TWO CENTS' and in this way sold. This was agreed and the first surcharged issue was made on 22nd February, 1899. The 5c. Jubilee stamp was similarly surcharged and issued on 15th June.

References

1. A. D. Ferguson in "The British Guiana Philatelic Journal." December, 1920.
2. A. D. Ferguson in "The London Philatelist," 1945, pp. 1-2.
3. (a) L. E. Britnor in •• Sidelines in British West Indies Surcharges" in "Philately." November/December, 1952.
(b) L. E. Britnor in "Surcharges and other Devices used in the British West Indies" in "Philately," March/April, 1956.
4. G. Brunel in "Les Premieres Emissions de la Guyane Anglaise," Paris, 1931.
5. A. D. Ferguson in "The Postage Stamps of British Guiana," in "The London Philatelist," September, 1941 - January, 1947.
6. A. D. Ferguson in "The British Guiana Philatelic Journal," June, 1907.
7. W.A.Townsend in "The London Philatelist," 1958, p. 181.

Note:

Since submitting these remarks to the Editor in April, 1970 the R.P.S.L. has published W. A. Townsend and F. G. Howe's long-awaited and very welcome "The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana". In this book there is reference to an article by J.A.Y. (surname not known) which appeared in "The Stamp Lover" of October-November, 1949. This dealt with the Jubilee surcharges and put forward the interesting theory that the type was completely reset for the second printing of the surcharge on the 10c. and 15c. denominations. The tabulated evidence in support of the theory is reprinted in full in the R.P.S.L. publication.

R. G. Carr

JAMAICA.

I have on loan from the Study Circle the Handbook by Collett published in 1928, and this has raised several questions, especially in connection with postmarks.

The earliest date known given for the registration mark, type five, is 10th November, 1906. However, I have a very clear copy of this cancellation (on the 3d. CA. stamp) dated 22nd November, 1905. This partly fills the gap between the last known date for type four (7th June, 1905) and November, 1906. (Of course, this is probably not an important new discovery, as anything may have turned up in the forty-two years since the book was published).

I would also like to know whether Devon was still using a "squared circle" as late as 1916, or whether it was brought into use in an emergency, or what. (I have a copy on the 1d. King George V).

By examination of various stamps, I have established that the new perforation machine brought into use in 1876 gauged 13.8 x 14.1 or thereabouts while the original machine gauged about 13.8 x 13.9. The latest stamp I have apparently perforated by the old machine is the Key Plate Issue; is it known whether it was used any later? And is it possible to link the use of the two machines to various printings (CC, CA and Key Plate issues)?

In connection with more recent issues, I have several stamps from 1964 onwards cancelled "CANCELLED" in large black capitals with a surrounding oval (two sizes). I would like to know what this was used for, and whether similar cancellations have been used on earlier issues.

Timothy D. Ward

BRITISH WEST INDIES

General Instructions to a Postmaster in the British West Indies.

Continued from page 66, Bulletin No. 66

Both Amounts to be accounted for in Letter Bill.

Both the postage and the Registration Fee, so paid, must be marked by you upon the Letter in red ink, and both sums must be accounted for in the Letter Bill of the Mail by which it is despatched in the amount for "paid Letters."

Address to be entered on Letter Bill.

In despatching a Registered Letter, you must enter the full address of it distinctly and legibly at the foot of the Letter Bill, and you must enclose the Letter itself in one of the Green printed Covers, if addressed to a West India Colony, and carefully tie it up *with the Letter Bill*.

Letter to be enclosed in Green Cover

BRITISH WEST INDIES (Cont.)

Letters for United Kingdom excepted.	The Green Cover, however, must <i>not</i> be sealed, in order that each Postmaster, through whose hands it may pass, may satisfy himself that it contains the Registered Letter. If the Registered Letter be addressed to the United Kingdom it is not to be enclosed in a Green Cover, but the address is to be entered at the foot of the Letter Bill as before stated, and the Letter itself carefully tied up in the Bill. By a strict observance only of these directions, you will discharge yourself of the responsibility attached to the registration of Letters at your Office.
Registered Letters received.	When the address of a Registered Letter is entered on the Letter Bill of a Mail reaching your Office from any of the British West India Colonies, you will act upon precisely the same regulations which you now observe with respect to Registered Letters arriving from England, and which are set forth in Instructions No. 97 of the printed Book of Instructions already alluded to. If the Letter should be for delivery in the Colony in which you reside, you will obtain the signature of the person to whom the Letter is addressed to the form of receipt printed on the Cover, and you will retain that receipt as your discharge; but if the Letter is only sent to your Office as a " <i>Forward Letter</i> " you will of course send it on to its destination by the first despatch, entering the full address at the foot of the Letter Bill of the Mail by which you transmit it, in the same manner as if it had been posted and registered at your own Office. You will pursue the same course with regard to any Registered Letter which may be redirected at your Office.
Receipt to be taken.	Registered Letters which may reach your Office from any of the British West India Colonies, and which, from any cause, may be undelivered, must be disposed of in precisely the same manner as that in which you now dispose of undelivered Registered Letters from the United Kingdom, the regulations connected with which are laid down in Instructions No. 82 of the printed Book of Instructions.
"Forward" Registered Letters.	In the event of the address of a Registered Letter being entered on a Letter Bill arriving from a West India Colony, and the Letter not being found contained in the Mail after the most careful search has been made for it, you will, by the first post, communicate the circumstance to the Surveyor, furnishing him at the same time with any explanatory observations that may suggest themselves. You will also report the non-arrival of the Letter to this Office.
Redirected Registered Letters.	As the object of these regulations is to afford to the public in the West Indies the greatest possible security for those Letters sent through the Post which are either of more than ordinary
Undelivered Registered Letters	
Missing Registered Letters	
Postmaster personally responsible	

importance, or of actual value on account of their contents, and as you will be held strictly responsible for all Registered Letters passing through your hands, the Postmaster General relies upon a close observance on your part of the several directions laid down in this Letter, the receipt of which I have to desire you will acknowledge by return of post.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
W. L. MABERLY.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
15th January 1851

Sir,

IN accordance with the provisions of a Treasury Warrant, dated the 19th December, 1850, a copy of which I inclose, Printed Books, Magazines, Reviews, and Pamphlets, (whether British, Colonial, or Foreign,) may be transmitted by the Post, on and from the 1st March next, between the United Kingdom and Kingdom, at the following rates of postage, viz:-

**Book Post
established to and
from United**

For each Packet not exceeding half a pound in weight 6d.
Do. exceeding half a pound and not
exceeding) one pound 1s. 6d.
Do. exceeding one and not exceeding
two pounds 2s. 0d.
Do. exceeding two and not exceeding
three pounds 3s. 0d.

and so on, increasing one shilling for every additional pound or fraction of a pound.

Provided, however, that the following conditions be carefully observed :-

**Regulations for
sending Books
through the Post.**

1st.- Every such Packet must be sent without a cover, or in a cover open at the ends or sides.

2nd.- It must contain a single volume only, (whether Printed Book, Magazine, Review, or Pamphlet,) the several sheets or parts thereof, when there are more than one, being sewed or bound together.

**One Volume only in
each Packet.**

3rd.- It must not exceed two feet in length, breadth, width, or depth.

Dimensions.

4th.- It must have no writing or marks upon the cover, or its contents, except the name and address of the person to whom it may be sent.

**No writing or
marks of reference
allowed.**

Contd. page 12

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 1970

1969			INCOME	1970		
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
215	9	3	Advertisers	186	0	6
4	8	9	Donations and Opinion Fees	6	8	10
35	19	0	Sale of back issues of Bulletin	77	8	6
8	15	0	Sale of 'Cordex' Binders	26	15	0
-	-	-	Philympia 1970 Luncheon	208	3	11
254	0	0	Subscriptions	249	6	6
23	0	0	Subscriptions paid in advance	67	0	0
-	-	-	Transfer from Publications Account	175	0	0
-	-	-	Sundries	5	5	0
253	16	9	Cash at Bank.	368	4	10

£795 8 9

£1,369 13 1

PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT

£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
	7	0	Donations		7	0
3	0	0	Sales: Paper No. 4	13	9	0
326	10	1	Cash at Bank	329	17	1

£329 17 1

£343 13 1

I have examined the above Statement of Accounts and certify it to be correct and in accordance with the Books and Vouchers produced to me.

Signed

January 10th, 1971

A J. BRANSTON,
Hon. Auditor.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 1970

1969			EXPENDITURE	1970		
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
4	1	0	Advertising	6	11	0
	10	0	Bank Charges and Cheque stamps	3	9	6
27	7	3	Books and Periodicals	24	18	2
-	-	-	'CORDEX' Binders	23	15	0
			Entertainment, travelling Hire of Meeting			
6	3	0	Room.	19	4	4
2	0	0	Exhibition Fees	-	-	-
-	-	-	Philympia, 1970 – Fees and Expenses	47	0	0
-	-	-	Philympia, 1970 - Luncheon	288	17	1
62	2	9	Postage	81	14	11
-	-	-	Presentation to Mr. B. B. Benwell	6	0	0
245	9	8	Printing, photography and blocks	414	3	0
31	0	5	Stationery	94	7	11
12	3	0	Subscriptions:	8	11	0
4	12	5	Sundries	8	19	0
26	12	5	Telephone	18	11	8
5	2	0	Typing	-	-	-
368	4	10	Cash at Bank	323	10	6
£795 8 9				£1,369 13 1		

PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT

£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
-	-	-	Transfer to Main Account	175	0	0
-	-	-	Cheque Stamps		4	2
329	17	1	Cash at Bank	168	8	11
£329 17 1				£343 13 1		

PHILIP T. SAUNDERS,
Hon. Treasurer.

BRITISH WEST- INDIES (Cont.)

Postage must be pre-paid.

5th.- The Postage must be pre-paid in full. On books, &c. sent from the United Kingdom this postage must be paid by affixing outside the Packet or its cover, the proper Stamps, but in the amount must be paid in money, and the rates of postage mentioned above will be chargeable, whether the Books, &c. be posted at the Port of arrival and departure of the Packet, or whether they be posted or delivered at any place in the interior of the Colony.

Not liable to further Inland Postage.

Not to be sent through a Foreign Country.

6th.- No Book is to be sent by any route, which would entail an expense of transit postage on the Department.

Penalty if Conditions are not observed.

If any of the above conditions be violated, the Packet must be charged as a Letter and treated as such in all respects.

Certain detention permitted.

To prevent any obstacles to the regular transmission of Letters, you are authorised to delay forwarding any such Packet for a time not exceeding seven days from the time at which the same would otherwise have been sent by you, or, at your option, until the despatch of the following Mail : but you will of course exercise this discretionary power only in cases of great necessity.

But only in cases of great necessity.

Not to interfere with Parliamentary Proceedings.

These Instructions are not to extend to, or interfere with the transmission of printed Votes and Proceedings of Parliament, or of printed papers allowed to pass by the Post, under the Newspaper privilege, all of which will continue subject to the existing Regulations.

Or Newspapers.

I have to desire that you will take measures for giving publicity to these Regulations, and that you will bring them into operation at your Office on the 1st March next.

I am,

SIR.

Your obedient Servant,

W. T. MABERLY

This concludes the reprint from the book belonging to Mr. M. H. Ludington. The thanks of the Circle are extended to Mr. Ludington for making the book available.

GRENADA

I enclose a note on the three Grenada entire letters which I have with the first Grenada handstruck stamp (H.S.P1). The strike consists of the word Grenada in a straight line, in letters with serifs and a capital "G."

For some years I believed I had the earlier of the then two known copies but in the last few years a number of further copies have come to light, of which I have acquired two. The strikes on all three are very clear and in each case appears on the reverse side, on which side also is the Bishop mark.

- (a) Entire letter dated 13th July, 1784, from St. George's, Grenada addressed to Messrs. Dimsdale Sons & Barnard Bankers, London, and marked PR Lovely Ann Captain Harris. This letter also carries a Dover/Ship Lre strike and a bishop mark. This letter was received on the 31st August according to the endorsement.
- (b) Entire letter dated 31st July, 1784, from Grenada addressed to George Dunlop, Esq., Comptroller of the Customs Air N. Britain pr The Alfred Captain Mann. On the front also appears twice in manuscript 2/3 and Dover/Ship Lre, which latter mark has been partly obliterated in manuscript. On the reverse appears the straight line Grenada (H.S.P1) and a smudged Bishop mark.
- (c) Entire letter dated 17th January, 1785, addressed to George Dunlop, Esq., as before but only endorsed pr packet, manuscript 1/- has been erased in manuscript and 2/10 added. As in all the entire letters I have seen the Grenada straight line strike H.S.P1 appears on the reverse, as does the Bishop mark.

These covers are still very rare and it would be interesting to know how many exist. Charlton, in his book, says the strike which superseded H.S.P1 has been found on covers dated in 1785 and it seems, therefore, that the first strike was only in existence for a short period, i.e., less than two years. My own mark strike of the Grenada and Crown (H.S.P2) (Charlton A2) is dated July, 1786.

I also wonder how many strikes of the straight line Grenada with the full date (Charlton A4), the date which includes the year, exist. I have known very few. My earliest noted date is October 9th, 1814 and Charlton again refers to copies being known dated between 1814 and 1820, but it has certainly been a long time since one came up for auction. If this note raises any enthusiasm for early Grenada marks, perhaps someone could make a full list for circulation. I am prepared to help if the information is forthcoming. *C. M. Payne, O.B.E.*

LEEWARD ISLANDS

Regarding Brigadier Pearl's enquiry on page 87, Bulletin 67, concerning a Leeward Islands stamp cancelled 'A 11' (St. Lucia) I offer the following explanation.

LEEWARD ISLANDS (Cont.)

Any letters posted in an unusual manner e.g. on board ship are usually cancelled at the next landfall, hence the numerous Paquebot marks to be found on stamps or envelopes and such marks as 'A 11' are not uncommon.

At our recent meeting held at Philymphia I displayed a page of such cancellations on other Islands' stamps including 'A 11.' I feel that this is an aspect of our hobby that adds greatly to its fascination. *W.ff. D. Hall*

Owing to a misprint in Bulletin No. 67 a complete line was omitted from Mr. Toeg's article on page 87. The complete sentences are shown below and members are requested to amend their copy accordingly.

" This cover, addressed to Messrs. A. Myerscough & Co., Merchants and Importers, 61 & 62 Gracechurch Street, London. E.C., is backstamped with the St. Lucia c.d.s. on 12th November, 1897 and with the London arrival mark on 25th November, 1897. There is no information on the cover indicating from which island it emanated although Dominica is probably the most likely starting point."

BY AIR MAIL FROM THE LEEWARD ISLANDS

For a considerable period of time (specifically since the BWISC Bulletin exchange of queries on the subject beginning with Issue No. 23) I have been piecing together data concerning the air mail rates from the Leeward Islands in the 1930's. Not until recently however, when I was able to examine a considerable quantity of official documents from that Colony, did I reach the conclusion that I had gathered significant and sufficient information to warrant publication, thus in this article I will attempt to pinpoint the numerous changes in the air mail rates for that period, and I hope that by doing so readers of the Bulletin will offer comments and criticisms to any statements that I make. As we all know, the subject of BWI airmail rates and changes during the thirties is a complicated one, and much more analysis and comparison of opinions need to be done in this field.

Let us begin with the announcement from the Colonial Secretary's Office, Antigua, dated 24 September, 1929, which stated that letters, postcards, printed papers, and commercial papers and samples could be posted at any Leeward Islands Post Office for transmission by air mail. In that article detailed conditions were set out for the sending of air mail, conditions which are summarized as follows:

1. Air mail packets could be registered but were not to be accepted for insurance.
2. A special blue "Air Mail" label was to be affixed to the top left hand corner of every air mail packet. If an Air Mail label was not available (normally they could be obtained at any Money Order Office) the packet was to be clearly marked "By Air Mail."

3. All air mail correspondence was to be prepaid in stamps with ordinary postage, and in addition, the appropriate air mail Fee. If the air mail Fee was not fully prepaid, the packet was not to be sent by air mail.
4. Air packets addressed to any destination were despatched from Antigua by air to certain airports for delivery or for onward transmission to other countries by ordinary land and sea routes as the case required.
5. All letters, etc., to be despatched by ordinary sea routes to Great Britain, intended for onward transmission from London by air, were to be distinctly marked "By Air Mail from London."

The "certain airports" referred to in Item 4 were tabulated as follows in this 1929 announcement, together with the air fee per half-ounce (this fee being in addition to the regular postage rate):

NOTE: In all cases which follow, unless otherwise specified all air rates listed are in addition to ordinary postage. Small letters in parentheses, viz.: (a), refer to COMMENTS at the end of the article.

<i>Air Fee Per Half-Ounce</i>	<i>Country to which Despatched</i>	<i>Airport(s)</i>
s. d.		
0 7½ (a)	Puerto Rico	San Juan
	St. Lucia	Castries
	Trinidad	Port of Spain
	Virgin Islands (U.S.)	St. Thomas
1 3 (b)	British Guiana	Georgetown
	Cuba	Havana
		Camaguey
		Santiago
	Dominican Republic	Santo Domingo
	Haiti	Port-au-Prince
	United States	Miami
1 7	Dutch Guiana	Paramaribo
2 6	Bahamas	Nassau
	British Honduras	Belize
	Guatemala	Guatemala
	Honduras, Republic of	Tela
3 1½	Canal Zone	Cristobal
	Nicaragua	Managua

Effective 10 January 1930 letters could be sent by air from Antigua, to Montreal, Canada, via New York, Miami, etc. This information appeared in the Leeward Islands Gazette for 23 January 1930, and although the air route to Canada was not given therein, the Gazette advised that "full particulars of other new air services, and of the revised airmail fees are contained in the leaflet published in the Gazette of 9 January 1930." I do not possess the noted leaflet.

On 9 July 1930 the Colonial Secretary (CS) announced that direct air mail service to the Bahamas had been suspended. Air letters to that Colony were to be

LEEWARD ISLANDS (Cont.)

sent by sea from the United States at the air rates charged for mail to the U.S., i.e., 10½d. per half-ounce from Antigua (c), and 6½d. per half-ounce from Tortola, British Virgin Islands, via St. Thomas.

The 9 July 1930 notice was cancelled on 5 August 1930, when the CS announced that until 31 December 1930, a weekly service (on Wednesdays) from Miami to Nassau would be operated, and that from 1 January 1931 to 30 April 1931 this service would be daily except Sundays.

An announcement in the Gazette of 18 December 1930 stated that Pan American Airways (PAA) had inaugurated a mail and passenger service from the Leeward Islands to Jamaica (via Cienfuegos, Cuba) on 13 December, 1930. The air rate was 1/10 per half-ounce (d). This flight was evidently the initial return (westbound) leg for the 10 December 1930 Jamaica-to-Cienfuegos route illustrated by cover No. 9 in the Lockie-Cwiakala "First-Flight" tabulation appearing in Whole Number (W/N) 48 of the BCPSC Journal (assuming that the flight represented by the Lockie-Cwiakala cover continued on from Cienfuegos to Antigua). Approximately three weeks later, on 1 January 1931, the air rate to Jamaica was reduced to 1/1 per half-ounce.

On 13 January 1931 it was announced that PAA had opened air mail service to French Guiana, at a rate of 1/4 per half-ounce.

A CS notice dated 29 June 1931 advised that, from and after 30 June 1931, PAA service to Curacao would be discontinued, and that all air mail to that port would be despatched to La Guaira, Venezuela, for onward transmission by ordinary means. The same notice further advised that PAA air mail service to Nassau had again been discontinued, and that all airmail to the Bahamas would be sent to Miami for onward transmission to Nassau by ordinary means.

On 2 October 1931 the following air rates per half-ounce were announced:

Rate	Destinations
s. d.	
0 7½ (e)	Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, Trinidad, Virgin Islands (British), and Virgin Islands (U.S.).*
1 3	British Guiana, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Dutch Guiana, Great Britain (via Miami, and from Miami by ordinary routes)*, Haiti, Jamaica, and United States*
1 7½	Bahamas, Canada, Colombia, Curacao, Ecuador, French Guiana, Panama, and Venezuela.
2 3½	Bolivia, British Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, and Salvador
2 6	Brazil and Canal Zone
2 9½	Chile
3 1½	Argentine Republic, Paraguay, and Uruguay

*A special rate of 7½d. was charged on letters forwarded by air via St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, to the U.S. or to other countries via the U.S.

COMMENTS

- (a) Together with the regular postage rule of 1½d per ounce, this verifies the correct rate on (1) Mr. Paul Larsen's covers, Antigua to San Juan, postmarked 26 September 1929 and each carrying 9d (Page 74, BWISC Bulletin 31), (2) Mr. C. D. Paton's similar covers (Page 63, BWISC Bulletin 23), (3) Mr. E. V. Toeg's cover, carrying 9d postage, from St John's to Trinidad, mentioned on page 10 of BWISC Bulletin 24, and (4) Dr. J. M. Lockie's St. Kitt's-to-Trinidad cover, 21 September 1929 (Page 33, BWISC Bulletin 29).
- (b) I do not know the ordinary letter postage rate from Antigua to British Guiana in 1929,1930. If it was 2½d per ounce, the validity of Dr. Lockie's cover to British Guiana, noted on Page 33 of BWISC Bulletin 29, is verified. If, however, the ordinary postage was 1½d per ounce (and I tend to believe that it was, since I have in my collection a 22 September 1929 Lindberg St. John's-to-Georgetown, British Guiana First Flight cover, carrying only 1/4½ postage) then Dr. Lockie's cover appears to have weighed between one-half and one ounce, but was only charged the half-ounce air fee.
- The ordinary postage rate (1½d) to the U.S., when added to this 1/3 air rate, verifies Mr. Paton's first flight cover to Chicago described on page 63 of BWISC Bulletin 23 (the charge of 1/3 for the U.S. included service by U.S. domestic air routes), and probably explains the 1/4½ rate on Mr. Toeg's cover to Surrey, England, described on Page 32 of BWISC Bulletin 21- the cover having gone from Miami to England by sea.
- (c) Added to the ordinary rate of 1½d per ounce, this air mail fee validates the total charge of 1/- on Dr. Lockie's cover from Antigua to Miami allegedly via DO-X and dated 20 August 1930 (Page 33, BWISC Bulletin 29). I do not know when the air rate to the U.S. was reduced from 1/3 to 10½d; however, the 10½d figure is called out in the 1930-1931 Leeward Islands Blue Book.

With regard to the DO-X flight, I can offer no explanation for the 11d rate on Dr. Lockie's Antigua-to-Puerto Rico cover (likewise mentioned in BWISC Bulletin 29) allegedly sent via that aircraft on 20 August 1930. Based on all information I have, that cover should have carried only 9d. Could the extra 2d have been charged specifically for DO-X service? I doubt it. Dr. Lockie's cover to Miami, posted on the same day, evidently was charged no such extra fee.

At this point I must explain my use of the word "allegedly" above, and raise a question relative to the accuracy of the year slug in Dr. Lockie's DO-X covers' postmarks. He specifies the posting date on the covers as 20 August 1930. I have no knowledge of DO-X service in the Caribbean in that year. A Gazelle announcement dated 6 August 1931 informed the public that the DO-X proposed to "arrive at St. John's, Antigua, on or about August 9th, 1931." Furthermore Mr. Toeg (on page 11 of BWISC Bulletin 28) refers to the "special flight on 20 August 1931 of the DO-X." Even assuming a postmark, date of 20 August, 1931, however, the 11d rate on Dr. Lockie's Antigua-to-Puerto Rico cover still remains inexplicable.

LEEWARD ISLANDS (Cont.)

A cover in my possession, which in 1960 I reported on Page 9 of BWISC Bulletin 24, is still as mysterious to me today as it was ten years ago. It is dated 23 January 1930, franked with 1/0½ postage, posted at St. John's, Antigua, and addressed to Bedford Park, London. It is noted "By Air Mail via Miami." The extra ½d throws me completely, and I can only imagine that the cover was overcharged by that much. It should, I would think, bear only 1/-, as does Dr. Lockie's previously discussed cover to Miami. The only other explanation is that, between 24 September 1929 and 3 January 1930, the air rate to the U.S. may have dropped from 1/3 to 11d, and then dropped again to 10½d between 23 January 1930 and 9 July 1930. This appears logical, due to the inference previously mentioned that the air fees underwent a general revision per the "leaflet" included in the Gazette of 9 January 1930. But as will be brought out later, on 2 October 1931 the air rate to Great Britain via Miami was back up to 1/3.

- (d) With the 1½d ordinary rate, this verifies the charge of 1/11½ on Dr. Lockie's Antigua-to-Jamaica cover noted on Page 23, BWISC Bulletin 29.
- (e) Note that this rate is unchanged from that announced on 24 September 1929. In the absence of information proving that the rate was not temporarily raised in the interim, and then was returned to the original rate of 7½d, it appears that Dr. Lockie's 23 February 1931 cover from Montserrat to St. Lucia, bearing 1/0½ postage (Page 33, BWISC Bulletin 29) was grossly overcharged.

Let us return for a moment to Dr. Lockie's 11d Antigua-to-Puerto Rico cover, assuming it to carry a postmark date of 20 August 1931. The 1930-1931 *Leeward Islands Blue Book* makes the following statement:

"Air mail rate to Great Britain via Puerto Rico and from thence by sea: 6½d in addition to ordinary postage."

It may have been that the Blue Book was finalized for publication prior to the rate changes specified as effective on 2 October 1931, when the rate to Puerto Rico was given as 7½d.

I now ask Dr. Lockie: Was your cover registered? A 3d registration fee, when added to a 6½d air charge and a 1½d ordinary postage fee, would check out your 11d rate.

Mr. Toeg's DO-X cover, Antigua-to-St. Thomas (Page 11, BWISC Bulletin 28), bearing 8d and evidently postmarked on 20 August 1931, perhaps falls into the same category as Dr. Lockie's DO-X cover to Puerto Rico. I cannot verify the air rate from Antigua to St. Thomas that was in effect at the same time as the 6½d rate was applicable, per the 1930-1931 *Blue Book*, from

Antigua to Puerto Rico, but it seems that a 6½ charge would be likely to both destinations. That rate, plus 1½d ordinary postage, would validate the 8d charge.

George W. Bowman (to be contd.).

MISCELLANEA

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1880, "1d " in red on half 6d., unsevered mint pair. R.P.S. cert. . .	£230
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Antigua, Bahamas and Bermuda Specimen overprints.

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OPINIONS SERVICE

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

HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

Dear Member,

In my paragraph in Bulletin No. 59 (December, 1968) I referred to the fact that a number of colonies had not renewed their contracts with the Crown Agents and had placed their orders with Agencies elsewhere. Unhappily it would appear that the Crown Agents have found it necessary to follow suit judging by the many issues publicised in their current bulletin. Some of these embrace many more values than would seem to be necessary and as if that is not enough a number of colonies are including miniature sheets!! No doubt many collectors have decided to give these issues a miss and it may well be that the time will come when dealers will only supply to order. I take this opportunity to request you to notify me immediately if there has been any change in your main and ancillary interests over the past year. It gives me great pleasure to welcome on your behalf the following new members: J. H. Bailey (Warwickshire), N. Baldwin (Bahrain), A. W. Blackmun (London), Lt.-Col. M. M. Cassidy (U.S.A.), B. Crowther (London), R. V. Ely (Berkshire), C. A. Freeland (London), J. Gittins (Lancashire), B. E. Grainger (Gloucestershire), P. H. Hawkins (Scotland), G. H. Hirst (Kent), S. A. Hopwood (Jamaica, W.I.), N. Lane (Buckinghamshire), R. Macdonald (Co. Durham), P. R. M. Oliver (Guyana), G. F. Pulley (Berkshire), P. D. Sandford (Gloucestershire), Dr. B. H. Schaffner (U.S.A.), J. M. L. Spaven (Lancashire), A. P. Van Ooijen (Netherlands), S. Walter (Middlesex), T. D. Ward (Gloucestershire), S. Wilkins (London), M. R. Wilson (Hampshire) and R. Worner (Somerset). This constitutes a record increase in membership and your committee feel this is due very largely to the steps taken to publicise our Circle during Philypmia, 1970.

P.T..

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