



STUDY CIRCLE

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JANUARY 27th, 1954

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BULLETIN No. 78 SEPTEMBER 1973

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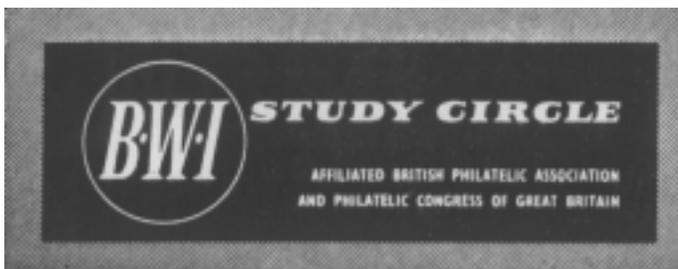
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OBJECTS

1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the **British West Indies** and in addition **BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS.**
2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
3. To loan books from Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear post both ways.
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 40c 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".

PROGRAMME 1973-74

1973

Saturday, September 29th, 3 p.m. Mr. Shields Forshaw - British Guiana
Wednesday, November 7th, 6 p.m. Dominica, St. Christopher,
St. Kitts-Nevis

1974

Thursday, February 7th, 6 p.m. British Honduras, Grenada,
Montserrat
Saturday, April 6th, 3 p.m. Annual General Meeting

Members are requested to bring up to 9 pages for the meetings on November 7th and February 7th. If members do not have items from these countries, please bring along sheets from other B.W.I. countries.

Meetings to be held at the "Large Oak Room," National Liberal Club, 1 Whitehall Place, London, S.W.1.

DISPLAY

PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

A meeting of the Study Circle was held on Wednesday, 2nd May, 1973, at 8 p.m. The President Mr. E. V. Toeg, F.R.P.S.L., was in the chair.

A vice-president Mr. W. A. Townsend, F.R.P.S.L., R.D.P., was present with one other member Mr. John Heap and two visitors, Col. C. D. Hinds, F.R.P.S.L., and Mr. N. W. Hoggarth.

Mr. N. W. Hoggarth showed Turks and Caicos Islands George V undenominated die proof, plate proof of the 3/- in colour imperf., and a pair of the 3/- specimen stamps imperf. It was suggested that the plate proofs were possibly printers samples. In this category was also a set of the ½d. to 5/- (except 6d. and 10/-) in blue. There was a die proof of the 2½d. and two covers. First to New York bearing a 2½d. stamp and dated December, 1919. Second a registered cover with a 2d. + 2½d. stamp dated January, 1937.

Mr. E. V. Toeg showed Montserrat. A marginal mint block of four of the 6d. value, S.G.2 (1876 CC). Corner blocks of four from the top left and bottom left of the sheet; a block from the top right corner (3 x 4) with constant plate varieties, scratches across the nose and the UA of ANTIGUA. The used included a reversed watermark and also a strip of three cancelled A08; a rare item! Red postmarks were also noted. An interesting cover bore the 6d. stamp bisected and used as a 2½d. value unofficially and dated 15th December, 1883. The inverted S was included in a mint strip of three and a single used copy. A marginal corner block 4 x 3 showed the inverted S on the third stamp of the second horizontal row and the Morton Evans re-entry on the second stamp

of the third row. A block of four showed number 75 on the sheet, being the second inverted S, and in the same block number 87 on the sheet, an interesting constant burin flaw.

Mr. W. A. Townsend showed St. Lucia. The code marks S for Soufriere, L for Laborie, VF for Vieux Fort, M for Micoud and D for Dennery were described. The Post Office at Anse La Raye was opened in 1905 and the date stamp had the word AUSE in error for ANSE. This was in use for 30 years before being replaced with the correct spelling. When named date stamps were issued for Soufriere, Vieux Fort and Laborie the second type had ST and can be distinguished from the earlier type which had St.

A selection of later colonial type date stamps with the * mark were shown for the following villages with the date of opening.

LaClery	16-5-56	Millet	1-7-54
Monchy	17-4-57	Saltibus	1-6-50
Roseau	2-6-56	Desruisseaux	16-5-56
Delaide	1-9-60	Grand Riviere	1-9-59
Grace	1-9-58	Babonneau	1-7-54
Leslie Land	8-4-59	Ti Rocher	16-8-58
La Croix Maingot	1-6-57	Bexon	2-5-55
Mabouya Valley	1-6-50	Victoria	1-9-58
La Pointe	8-9-60	Augier	1-7-61
Banse	1-9-59	Conway	16-8-60

ROSES CARIBBEAN CONVENTION

On Friday evening the 21st September I shall be heading north along the M1 bound for the Hotel Metropole, Leeds, where on Saturday the 22nd the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society are holding a one day convention. The Convention Chairman Dr. Geoffrey Ritchie extends a warm welcome to all members of the B.W.I. Study Circle and of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group: so if you can, why not go along to what will undoubtedly be a splendid exhibition and get-together. Even if you can only make it for an hour or two it should prove most rewarding. The B.C.P.S.G. are awarding a bronze and a pewter medal and certificates of merit for the competition. In addition the 'Roses' are also awarding certificates of merit.

You will have no doubt received a letter of invitation, but may I just remind you that the programme, with approximate times, is as follows:

- 10a.m. Exhibition of competition entries and other exhibits. Auctions lots available for viewing.
- Noon Official opening ceremony and competition results.
- 12.30 p.m. Members will lunch together.
- 2.30 p.m. Afternoon session, including two short papers by Torn Foster and Ronald Ward.
- 5 p.m. 6 p.m. Break for tea. Auction.

Should you require further information this may be had from the Roses Secretary, Malcolm Watts, 18 Linden Way, Wetherby, Yorkshire. Tel. Wetherby 3304, or Alfred Branstom, 11 Patching Hall Lane, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 4DH, but do hurry as time is short.

Michael Sheppard

LEONARD E. BRITNOR

At a meeting held on Tuesday, the 3rd July, your Committee unanimously agreed that it would be interpreting the wishes of the membership in asking Leonard Britnor if he would accept honorary life membership of the Study Circle, in recognition of the many years of hard work in promoting the cause of B.W.I. Philately within the Circle.

I am happy to say that Leonard has been pleased to accept.

M S

NOTES AND QUERIES

AIR MAIL?

I pose a query for the Air Mail enthusiast. On several occasions I have noted on air mail covers of the 1930s an Air Mail label overstruck, or perhaps obliterated, with two parallel bars in violet. Usually, but not invariably, the covers noted have originated in Antigua: traces of the same marking have been seen on stamps off covers from Antigua, Jamaica and Trinidad.

A typical cover is addressed from St. John's, Antigua to London: it is franked with stamps to the value of 1/4½, and the postmark is dated 26th September 1929, so that the letter either just caught or just missed Lindbergh's return flight - there are no back-stamps to give guidance. Some hand has written at the top, "sent by Pan American Airways via U.S.A." and there is an Air Mail label cancelled as described.

Do the parallel bars indicate that a letter intended to be sent by air is to travel by sea? This might be the case with a letter which was insufficiently franked, or which missed a particular flight, for example. Or is there quite a different explanation for this most anonymous of all postal markings? "

Simon Goldblatt

ANTIGUA

EARLY POSTAL REGULATIONS

(continued from page 35 of Bulletin No. 77)

The 1886 Antigua Inland Post Regulations were superseded not only (apparently) by the 1900 Leeward Islands Post Office Rules, but also by Antigua Inland Post Regulations of 1900. These latter rules became effective on 8th September of that year, approximately one week subsequent to the date of passage of the Leeward Islands Rules. Changes in the 1900 Inland Post Regulations from those of 1886, insofar as I am aware, are shown below. (Unfortunately, I do not have a copy of the complete 1900 version).

ANTIGUA INLAND POST REGULATIONS

1900

1. Letters and newspapers will be received for transmission by Inland Post at the General Post Office in St. John's, and at the following District Post Offices:

At Parham in the Parish of St. Peter
 At St. Stephens in the Parish of St. Phillip
 At Freetown in the Parish of St. Phillip
 At All Saints in the District of All Saints
 At English Harbour in the Parish of St. Paul
 At Newfield in the Parish of St. Phillip
 At Bolans in the Parish of St. Mary
 At Old Road in the Parish of St. Mary
 At Barnes Hill in the Parish of St. George
 At St. James in the Parish of St. John
 At Bethesda in the Parish of St. Paul

between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. - Sundays and public holidays excepted.

2. The salaries of the District Postmasters will be fixed by the Governor, and in addition to such salaries, they shall receive a commission of 5% on the sale of postage stamps.

3. Inland mails will be despatched from the several Post Offices every day - Sundays and public holidays excepted - at the hours mentioned in the following table:

ROUTE	STATION	ARRIVE	LEAVE	REMARKS
1		(Same as 1886)		
2		(Same as 1886)		
3		(Same as 1886)		
4		(Same as 1886)		
5	St. John's	-	9 a.m.	Via Gambles and Friars Hill or Marble Hill to St. James, delivering at all places. Same route on return.
	St. James	11 a.m.	1 p.m.	
	St. John's	3 p.m.	-	
6		(Same as 1886)		
7		(Same as 1886)		
8	St. John's	-	9 a.m.	Via Bath Lodge to St. Lukes, through Body Ponds and Swetes to All Saints. Same route on return.
	All Saints	11 a.m.	1 p.m.	
	St. John's	3 p.m.	-	
9	St. John's	do.	do.	Via Otto's and Belmont, delivering to all places en route. Same route on return.
	All Saints			
	St. John's			
10	Newfield	do.	do.	Delivering at all places and to Sea View Village. Same route on return.
	All Saints			
	Newfield			
11		(Same as 1886)		
12	All Saints	-	9 a.m.	Delivering at all places en route.
	Parham	11 a.m.	1 p.m.	
	All Saints	3 p.m.	-	

and in addition to the foregoing deliveries, there will deliveries in the city at 12.00 noon and at 4.00 p.m., and on the Thursday after the arrival of the mail.

4. All inland letters and newspapers must be prepaid at the following rates, namely:

For every letter not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce 1d.

And an additional rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce over and above the weight of $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce

Newspapers and printed matter - for every 2 ounces. $\frac{1}{2}$ d

Circulars, each $\frac{1}{2}$ d

No packet to exceed two pounds in weight.

5. Letter or pillar boxes may, by arrangement with master at St. John's, be established on any road near to or residence through which the letter carrier passes.

6. (Same as 1886)

7. (Same as 1886)

8. (Same as 1886)

9. (Same as 1886)

10. (Same as 1886)

11. Letters or parcels containing coin, jewellery, precious things, perishable articles, matches, gunpowder, or articles liable to injury in transit will be refused.

12. Letters and papers for transmission abroad and beyond the limits of the Presidency will be received at any District Office, provided they are duly stamped according to rates fixed by the Postal Convention. A table of such rates will be found at the General Post Office and the District Post Offices - parcels for parcel post can only be received at the General Post Office, St. John's. Registered letters can be received at the District Post Offices and the receipt for the same will be forwarded from the General Post Office, St. John's.

(Subject of Rule 13 not known to me)

14. Postmen shall receive wages not exceeding 10 shillings a week, payable weekly.

15. The qualification of postmen shall be as follows:

(i) They shall be able-bodied and of sound constitution,

(ii) They shall be above the age of 17 years and under the age of 40 years,

(iii) They shall bear a good character for sobriety, activity, fidelity and honesty,

(iv) They shall be able to read both printed and written matter and to write a fair hand.

16. Every postman shall on appointment serve for 3 months on probation and during such period shall be subject to all the rules and regulations of the Post Office applicable to him. At the expiration of such 3 months he may withdraw from the postal service, or the Governor may either cancel or confirm his appointment.

(Subjects of Rules 17 through 22 not known to me)

23. Postmen will be provided by the Government yearly with the following uniform: 2 jackets, 2 pairs of trousers, 3 pairs of boots, and a cape, helmet, or cap when necessary. The uniform will be issued half yearly, and the boots every four months. Each postman will also be supplied with a letter bag for the safe conveyance of the Post.

(Subjects of Rules 24 through ? not known to me)

The Antigua Inland Post Regulations passed on the 28th day of September 1886 and the additional Rules for the Postal Service passed on the 18th day of August, 1892 are hereby rescinded.

G. O. NUGENT,

Acting Clerk of the Executive Council.

Made in the Executive Council the 8th September, 1900.

These regulations seem to have corrected some of the shortcomings of the 1886 edition. Rule 3 adds to the delivery network another route, a direct link between Parham and All Saints; the revised words of Rule 12 now allow the sending of material beyond Antigua from any of the post offices on the island.

I do not know the subject of the "additional" rules of 18 August, 1892, rescinded by the last paragraph of these regulations.

Let us now look at the revisions made to the Leeward Islands Rules of 1900. Rule 1 was amended on 3 September 1901 to change ". . . Sundays and public holidays excepted" to ". . . except Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays". The business hours for Saturdays were described in the amended Rule 1 as follows:

"On Saturdays the Post Office shall be open from 8 o'clock a.m. to 1 o'clock p.m., except when it is necessary to receive or despatch mails, when they shall be open if necessary up to 5 o'clock p.m., as required by Rule 8."

On 5 September 1903 the following amendments were brought into effect:

1. Rule 5 was rescinded.

2. An additional proviso was incorporated into Rule 1, covering the general intent of the rescinded Rule 5. This proviso was:

"Provided always that on the days of day arrival of the English mail, the Post Office shall remain open for the delivery of mails for three hours after the mail shall have been received at the Post Office, but in no case shall the Post Office be open later than 11 o'clock p.m., and if the mails be received at the Post Office after 9 p.m., there shall be no delivery that night."

As previously stated, the Leeward Islands Rules of 1900, as applicable to Antigua, were superseded by the Antigua Post Office Rules effective 13 October 1906. These rules, appearing below, were published in the 8 November 1906 *Gazette*, and are generally similar to the 1900 Leeward Islands Rules.

RULES OF THE ANTIGUA POST OFFICE, MADE BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL UNDER LEEWARD ISLANDS ACT No. II OF 1886

1. The Post Offices of Antigua shall be open between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. of every day, except Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

On Saturdays the Post Offices shall be open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., except when it is necessary to receive or despatch mails, when the Post Office in St. John's shall remain open until 4 p.m., if necessary.

Provided always that, on the arrival after office hours of any steamer with English mails, the Post Office in St. John's shall remain open for such time as may be necessary for their sorting and delivery, but in no case shall the Post Office remain open later than 11 p.m., and, if the mails be received at the Post Office after 9 p.m., they shall not be sorted or delivered that night.

2. The hours for closing the mails shall be fixed by the Postmaster subject to the approval of the Governor, Administrator, or Colonial Secretary.

3. As far as practicable, registered letters will be received, and Postal Orders issued up to one hour, also parcels by parcels post will be received and Money Orders advised up to four hours, before the closing of any mail.

4. Should a Public Holiday fall on a day fixed for the arrival or departure of any steamer with English mails, the Post Office in St. John's shall be open during such time as the Governor, Administrator, or Colonial Secretary may consider necessary or expedient.

5. (Same as Leeward Islands 1900 Rule 6)

6. (Same as Leeward Islands 1900 Rule 7)

7. Mails other than those received from England are to be delivered during the usual office hours, but mails from the United States of America and Canada are to be treated in the same manner as mails from England, and for such service the following fees shall be paid when a general delivery of the mails takes place after 4 p.m. or upon Sundays and Public Holidays:

To the Postmaster: 2/6 per hour

To each clerk: 1/6 per hour

8. The Postmaster shall submit to the Colonial Secretary a list of Money Orders drawn on the United Kingdom, accompanied by a certificate from the Treasurer, and the Colonial Secretary, on being satisfied of its correctness, shall transmit the same to the Comptroller of the Money Order Office, London, and, by the same mail by which the list is transmitted instruct the Crown Agents to pay the amount of such list to the Postmaster General.

9. (Same as Leeward Islands 1900 Rule 10)

10. (Same as Leeward Islands 1900 Rule 11)

11. Postage stamps and other stamped postal matter shall be sold at the Post Offices of Antigua during the usual hours of business.

12. Prepaid orders for postage stamps, etc., received from stamp dealers and collectors, if approved by the Governor, Administrator, or Colonial Secretary, shall be promptly dealt with by the Postmaster, and the stamps, etc., shall be forwarded by the first opportunity after the receipt of the order.

13. The monthly account with the Imperial Post Office shall be prepared and transmitted to London, together with the necessary vouchers, as soon as possible after the close of each month.

14. The Rules passed in Executive Council on the 29th day of August, 1900, and the Amendments dated the 3rd September, 1901, and the 5th of September, 1903, are hereby rescinded so far as they apply to the Presidency of Antigua.

Made by the Governor-in-Council the 13th day of October, 1906.

HENRY HOLME,

Acting Clerk of Council.

Leeward Islands Act No. 11 of 1886, referenced in the title of the 1906 Rules, is a cumbersome document covering almost forty paragraphs, and is much too lengthy to be reprinted here. However, I have a copy in my files and would be happy to lend it to any interested reader. Its full title is "An Act to provide for the better administration of the Post Offices of the Colony and to repeal the laws heretofore in force for the regulations of Post Offices". It is short-titled merely as "The Post Office Act, 1886", and until I checked its effective date, which is 15 April 1886, I had considered the possibility that it might have been the document stated as rescinded by the Leeward Islands 1900 Rules. Evidently, however, it is not.

A rather strange provision of the 1906 regulations appears in Rule 12, where it is intimated that the Postmaster could not fulfil stamp orders, even if pre-paid, to dealers and collectors without the express approval of either the Governor, the Administrator, or the Colonial Secretary. This "required approval" clause did not appear in Rule 13 of the 1900 Rules. The sole explanatory factor apparent to me is that only Leeward Islands general stamp issues were available in Antigua in 1900, whereas in 1906

Antigua was selling those Federal stamps plus her own "Large Seal" issue of 1903. Perhaps the Post Office Department wished to keep track of how many Antigua stamps were being sold solely for philatelic purposes. This, however, is only a guess.

The initial amendments to the 1906 Rules were made on 13 March 1907. The word "English" was deleted from the proviso of Rule 1, and Rule 7 was rescinded and the following substituted therefore:

"7. The following fees shall be paid when a general delivery of mails takes place after 4 p.m. or upon Sundays and public holidays:

To the Postmaster	2/6 per hour
To each clerk	1/6 per hour
To the office messenger and each city postman	1/0 per mail

In the 17 October 1907 *Gazette* an amendment to Rule 27 of the 1900 Inland Post Regulations was published. This rule in its original version of 1900 was not available to me. However, the amendment, which appears below, at least gives us a clue as to Rule 27's original subject matter.

**AMENDMENT TO
ANTIGUA INLAND POST REGULATIONS**

Rule 27 of the Antigua Inland Post Regulations, made in the Executive Council on the 8th September 1900 is hereby rescinded and the following substituted therefor:

"27. On the production of a medical certificate sick leave, not exceeding 14 days in any year, with full wages, may be granted by the Postmaster to the Office Messenger or any Postman. Further sick leave may be granted by the Governor on half wages.

Subject to the exigencies of the service, leave of absence, not exceeding 14 days in any year, with full wages, may be granted by the Colonial Secretary to the Office Messenger or any Postman. Further leave of absence may be granted by the Governor on half wages."

Made in the Executive Council of Antigua this 8th day of October, 1907.

E. D. TIBBETTS, *Acting Clerk.*

The Antigua Post Office Rules were next published in the *Gazette* of 29 June 1922, with surprisingly few changes from the 13 October 1906 edition. Dated 19 June, these 1922 rules incorporated only two alterations from the rules of 1906.

1. The word "Saturdays", appearing twice in Rule 1, was changed to "Thursdays". (The word "English", removed from Rule 1 by the 13 March 1907 amendment, was removed from Rule 4 in the 1922 version.)

2. Rule 7 was completely revised to read:

"7. For such extra services as may be entailed by Rules 1 and 4 the following fees shall be paid:

		6 a.m. to 8 a.m. 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.	6 p.m. to 6 a.m.
Postmaster	per hour	2/6	4/0
Assistant Postmaster	per hour	2/0	3/0
First Clerk	per hour	2/0	3/0
Other Clerks	per hour	1/6	2/6
Postmen & Messengers	per hour	6d.	8d.

To the Officer locking up or giving out Mails when sorting is not done, a fee of 4/- "

The next series of significant changes in the Antigua Inland Post Regulations appeared in conjunction with the Tercentenary Year major revisions to the Post Office Department occurring in 1932 when more sub-post offices were added and smaller ones, such as Barnes Hill and Newfield, were discontinued. At some future time I hope to also publish these regulations in the Bulletin.

George W. Bowman

ANTIGUA VILLAGE POSTMARKS

Our information on village postmarks can be extended by reference to a group of letters addressed to Herman Focke, of New Jersey, and later, New York.

The correspondence, which is philatelic, covers the latter part of 1932 and is sent from each of the villages in turn. In addition to the ones mentioned below, I noted letters from: St. Peter's; Old Road; Liberia; Johnson's Point; Seatons; Falmouth; Montpelier; and, of course, All Saints.

The above strikes corroborate what has previously been firmly or tentatively recorded; the following strikes do, I believe, break new ground, as I cannot recollect previous mention of cancellations seen from these offices, as early as 1931/2:-

(1) **Bendals.** Bearing S.G. 64 and 83. Dated 17.9.32; backstamped St. John's four days later!

(2) **Cedar Grove.** S.G. 85, dated 6.10.32.

(3) **Green Bay.** S.G. 83 and 87, dated 19.9.32. There is a 'REGISTERED' strike in claret (serifed capitals, measuring 41 x 5 mm) beside the stamps, but no label or hand-written registered numeral.

(4) **Gunthorpes.** S.G. 85, dated 26.11.32.

Unfortunately, the last three examples have no back-stamps; it would have been interesting to trace their journey. Finally, there is

(5) **Pares.** S.G. 81 and 84, dated 16.9.31. As the strikes are on Tercentenary stamps the date 1931 must be in error for 1932. This mysterious strike has been regarded by some as a variant of Parham: but if one refers to Mr. Daggett's list (Bulletin 27, Sept. '60, p. 55) it is shown as a separate office.

We now have proof that cancellers were in use by 1932 for 13 out of the 14 offices which Mr. Daggett named; and I may have missed some recorded reference to Bolans, to which E. B. Proud ascribed an opening date of 1917. If so, however, there would have been at least 15 offices in operation during the lifetime of the Falmouth office, always accepting the separate existence of Pares.

Simon Goldblatt

ANTIGUA " SMALL STAR "

In response to my note in Bulletin 76 on the Antigua "Small Star" watermarked paper, Andrews Hale has shown me a full sheet having 240 stars in twenty horizontal rows of twelve, or enough for two stamp sheets of 120 each. The word "POSTAGE"

appears six times - at top and bottom centre and twice at both left and right. Referring to the upper half sheet, the stars adjacent to letters of the inscription are Numbers 5, 6, 7, 8, 49, 60, 61, 72, 73 and 84. The lower half sheet is symmetrical to the upper one, with the inscription inverted at the bottom. The inscription faces the stars with feet of letters. The overall size of the 240 star sheet is 270 x 523 mm, while the outside dimensions of the watermark lined boundary are 258 x 495 mm. Thus, a 120 star sheet of the paper measures 270 mm horizontally by 261½ mm vertically, and is nearly square. Further, based on measurements of a sheet of the 1d. Victorian stamps, the overall dimensions across outer framelines are 240 mm horizontally by 238 mm vertically. This is consistent with the discussion of Mark Swetland in the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* (Whole No. 15, page 70), noting that the small star watermark is known both upright and sideways, due of the fact that the nearly square sheets of paper were fed in both ways. Whence, the marginal watermark inscriptions will occur on various stamps in a sheet, depending on how the paper was fed, there being a total of four possible paper feeds.

William G. Cornell

BARBADOS

AN EXTRA PENNY

I have been trying to solve the problem of the extra one penny which seems to have been charged on some of the letters from Barbados to places overseas in the 1850s and 1860s. The examples I have seen so far are by no means consistent, possibly due to local errors.

Recently Mr. B. B. Benwell let me have copies of the Post Office Acts of Barbados, 1851-61. The appropriate clauses of these Acts are quoted at the end of these notes. These certainly explain several points.

At that period the normal inter island rate was 4d. per half ounce: the same rate applied on letters to the United States. Up till the end of July 1854 the Packet Letter rate between Barbados and the United Kingdom was 1s. 0d. per half ounce. Between 1 August 1854 and 31 March 1863 the rate was reduced to 6d. (with an additional charge of 2d. if posted "via the United States"). As from 1 April 1863 the rate reverted to 1s. 0d. per half ounce.

From the Acts, therefore, it would appear that for inter island letters and letters to or from the United States the correct postage was 4d. plus 1d., whilst on letters to or from the United Kingdom the postage was 1s. 0d. or 6d. according to the dates listed in the last paragraph. Examples which have been noted on letters to the United Kingdom franked with 1s. and 1d. adhesives were presumably overpaid by the sender.

One or two questions still remain to be answered, e.g. When did this extra one penny cease to be charged? Was it when Barbados joined the U.P.U.? Did a similar charge exist for other parts of the B.W.I.?

Mr. J. B. Marriot tells me that for Trinidad in the period 1851-54 letters to the United Kingdom seem always to be franked with a one penny stamp and marked 1/- in

manuscript, and in the period 1854-59 the same happened except that the manuscript marking was 6d.

Incidentally, am I correct in assuming that during the periods when the normal Packet Letter rate between the United Kingdom and the B.W.I. was one shilling, that the Imperial Post Office retained 11d. and the Colonial Post Office 1d.? I have noted on several covers, particularly ones to Dominica, which have been franked with 1s. G.B. stamps, that the covers also bear a manuscript marking "11 - 1", whilst on letters to Jamaica, also with the 1s. stamp, there is the manuscript marking 1d.

Post Office Acts of Barbados, 1851-1861:-

No. 292, 1 August, 1851

An Act for the Establishment and Management of an Inland Post Office in this Island.

Clause 11. Every letter transmitted by the Inland Post to be established in this Island shall be liable to one uniform rate of one penny on every letter of the weight of half an ounce, and every letter so transmitted shall be liable to the additional rate of one penny for every half ounce over and above the weight of half an ounce.

Clause 15. (re Newspapers, printed books, etc., patterns).

No. 360, 26 July, 1854

An Act to amend and continue in force the Inland Post Office Act, 1851.

Clause 3. No letter coming from or sent to the United Kingdom shall be liable to any other rate of postage than that charged by the Imperial Government, and the Colonial Postmaster shall by himself, or his deputies, collect and receive the same.

Clause 4. On every letter arriving in this Colony from any place beyond the limits of the Colony, except from or passing through the United Kingdom, and on every letter posted at the said General Post Office for transmission to any place beyond the limits of the Colony, except for transmission to or through the United Kingdom there shall be charged and shall be paid to her Majesty for the public uses of this Island one uniform rate of one penny on every letter of the weight of half an ounce or under; (plus one penny for every half an ounce above).

Clause 5. (Delivery of P/Ls and S/Ls).

Clause 6. (Printed books, Newspapers, etc., from Packet Agents).

Clause 7. (Double postage on unpaid letters, etc.).

Clause 8. (Soldiers' and Sailors' letters).

Clause 10. (Newspapers, etc., printed in this Island).

No. 382, 19 June, 1855

A Supplemental Act to the Post Office Acts, 1851-1854.

Clause 1. Repeats 11th Clause of Post Office Act of 1 August 1851, and so much of 4th Clause of Post Office Act of 26 July 1854 which fixes inland rates on letters coming from and transmitted to places beyond the limits of the Colony.

Clause 2. Inland postage on letters transmitted by post, except from or to the United Kingdom, shall be charged and paid to her Majesty for the use of this Island by weight according to the following scale:-

Not exceeding ½oz.	one rate of one penny.
Exceeding ½oz. but not exceeding 1oz.	two rates, or twopence.
" 1oz. " " " 2oz.	four rates, or fourpence.

" 2oz. " " " 3oz. six rates, or sixpence.

And so on in proportion, an additional two rates being charged for every additional ounce or fraction of an ounce.

Clause 3. (S/L rates).

Clause 6. (Governor in Council may fix a "Late Fee").

No. 417, 13 August 1857

An Act to increase the Salary of the Colonial Postmaster. (N.B. The Act of 26 July 1854 combined the General Post Office with the Inland Post Office; from thence the Inland Postmaster was styled as the Colonial Postmaster.)

No. 424, 3 December 1857

An Act to amend "An Act to amend and continue in force the Inland Post Office Act 1851".

Clause 1. Repeals 6th clause of said Act as relates to printed books, etc.

No. 501, 22 August 1861.

An Act to amend the Post Office Acts, 1851 and 1854.

Clause 1. Arrangements may be made with other Colonies for the mutual collection of the whole postage chargeable on letters sent either way, which shall be prepaid either way.

I would like to thank Mr. Edmund Bayley who, after searching the local archives in Barbados, was able to supply Mr. B. B. Benwell with the foregoing Post Office Acts.

Leonard Britnor

BERMUDA

Early in the life of this Circle, in Bulletin No. 5, Cdr. Bridgmore Brown asked for information about a copy of S.G.16 (1d. or 3d.) which bore, in addition to a smudgy cancellation, the greater portion of a large figure "3", plainly defined. This was obviously an accountancy mark of some kind; its origins were less than obvious, and no solution has been put forward since that time.

At a recent Circle meeting I showed a copy of S.G.5 with an apparently identical strike of most of a large figure "3", except that the stamp in question shows no sign of a Bermuda cancellation. None of us was able to associate the mark with the West Indies; indeed, it was suggested that rather similar markings were to be found on mail to India.

Since that time it has become possible to narrow the search. A similar marking has been seen on a Canadian cover of 1858: unfortunately no details are available, except that the cover was apparently an internal one, and I do not know from where or to where or by what route the letter was sent. One can merely presume that 3 cents or 3 pence postage remained to be paid.

Returning to our Bermuda stamps, it would seem possible that these simply paid the relevant postal rate to Canada, leaving the 3 cent balance for onward collection. Would this partial prepayment of postage be likely still to have been happening as late as the middle 1870s? Is the finding of this accountancy mark on both 1d. and 3d. stamps consistent with the above suggestion?

Perhaps some member with knowledge of the relevant rates can fill in the background detail, now that a positive clue has emerged.

Simon Goldblatt

BRITISH GUIANA

Here is a further snippet of evidence about departmental cachets. A cover, franked with S.G.209, was addressed to H. L. Wight, Esq., Administrator Court Offices. A normal Georgetown c.d.s. (Fig. 31 type, I believe) dated 13-8-90 appears on the face of the cover, and the stamp itself is obliterated by a cork cancel of the latest, heavy-barred, type. Impressed above the cork is the recipient's cachet in violet: a large double ring strike which reads "Commissioner of Affidavits," "British Guiana" around the circle, and "H. L. Wight" across the centre.

The cover differs in two major respects from the partial strikes on loose stamps on which I have previously commented. First, the cover is entirely local, being handled only at the G.P.O. Secondly, as noted, the cachet comes over and not under the postmark.

As far as memory serves, the cachet of Mr. Wight does not correspond with any fragment of a departmental strike which I have previously observed on stamps with village postmarks.

Simon Goldblatt

BRITISH HONDURAS

PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF VILLAGE POSTMARKS

Please add to my Type 4 list –

Caledonia	c.1920	purple-black
20 miles	c.1930	black

(an incomplete strike, presumably Stann Creek Valley, 20 miles: in the list in Bulletin 32, 22 miles is given)

Many different types and sizes of lettering exist in Type 4. Some are serified letters, others sans-serif.

Simon Goldblatt

CAYMAN ISLANDS

DAMAGED BY SEA-WATER

I have in my possession a cover sent via Jamaica to England, franked with the George VI Victory issue and back-stamped "Kingston Jamaica OC 11-46. Registered." On the front, hand-stamped in purple, is the cachet "Damaged by sea-water."

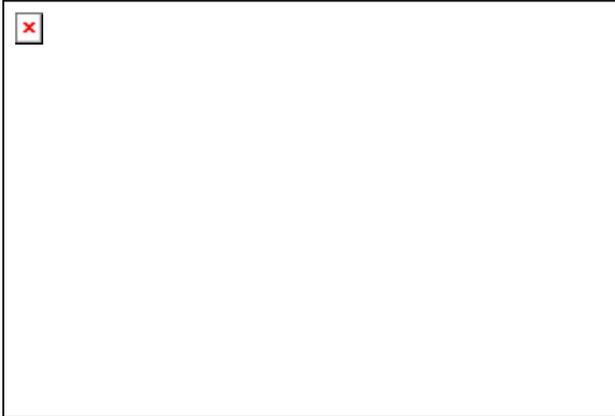
A few weeks ago I saw a similar Cover from Cayman Islands and very recently I was shown a Cover from Jamaica registered from Kingston 14 OC 46, again damaged by sea-water with the same cachet - addressed to London and re-directed to Ashtead, Surrey, c.d.s. 20th November, 1946.

I wonder if any member knows what happened to these covers? They are all registered and it seems just possible that the Mail Bag containing the First Day "Victory" Registered Mail fell in the dock when being unloaded.

C. Hardman Smith

JAMAICA

A REDIRECTED LETTER



The photograph shows a damaged but interesting cover from Kandy, Ceylon addressed to the Rev. Clare in Jamaica. The cover is date stamped Kandy OC 24 01 and passed through Tuticorin, India on 25th October and arrived in Kingston on 7th December 1901. It could not be delivered and was sent to the Returned Letter Branch on 16th December. Having determined that the addressee was now in London, the cover was re-addressed and a fresh impression of the Returned Letter Branch stamp dated 27th January 1902 was applied. At this time, the framed oblong handstamp LEFT THE ISLAND was applied. This is the only recorded example of the use of this handstamp. The cover was then returned to the G.P.O. Kingston and received a double ring date stamp the same day. The cover was then transmitted to London where it was received on 15th February and presumably delivered. There is also a part strike of a straight line framed mark reading MALD - which is causing some confusion.

Enquiry amongst West Indian postal history colleagues has not produced a satisfactory answer and a copy of the cover was passed to The India Study Circle to see if the mark was possibly of Indian origin. It was not a known Indian marking but it was suggested that the word was MALDIRIGE the international mark for misdirected mail.

The word certainly fits the available space but there is no record of such a mark ever being used in Jamaica, neither was the cover misdirected to Jamaica in the Post Office sense. The cover predates the use of the Mis-sent to Jamaica mark by many years.

Has any member any knowledge of such a mark on either Jamaican or other West Indian mail?

Robert Topaz

JAMAICA RAILWAY MARKINGS

I note in the last (June) bulletin that I. W. Jefferson writes regarding the Jamaica Railway markings, which I would answer as follows:

To the best of my knowledge and in my compilations (which include most but not all of the collectors in the U.S.A. of this type of material) I have never heard of or seen a copy of a mark from Windsor Castle Siding, Bernard Halt, nor New Works. Inverness, of course, is represented by the one strike held by the late Dr. Blackburn and now dispersed at auction. The late Everard Aguilar never possessed any knowledge that these three marks ever existed. Notwithstanding all of the above, it is not out of the realm of possibility that they did exist, and will some day show up. I do not suggest that Mr. Jefferson hold his breath waiting for these or any of the other stops that existed such as Moore Hall Station (Later known as Albany), Orange River Station (Highgate), or Natural Bridge Station (Riversdale), or Whim Station (Old Harbour). All of these are shown on the 1895 maps of Jamaica as being stations. When were the names changed if indeed these are the same stations as the stations listed in brackets?

Stonehenge Siding is listed as a Railway stop in the 1918-1919 schedules at least - is it possible that this stop had a station? The unofficial Jamaica Handbook of 1918 states that all Railway Stations had Letter Boxes which were emptied 10 minutes before departure time. Perhaps this did not include places like Stonehenge Siding and Windsor Castle Siding which are listed in the schedule, but Highgate is listed in the same schedule as Highgate Siding? Highgate certainly had postal service during this period.

May I recommend to Mr. Jefferson that he peruse the latest work on the subject that I have seen - i.e. Aguilar's reprint of Tom Foster's initial study of the subject printed in one of the last of the periodicals issued before Aguilar's untimely passing.

Robert Topaz

ST. KITTS-NEVIS

The answer to my own query on p. 96 of Bulletin 75 (Dec. '72) may be that the words 'COLLECT POSTAGE' are an American strike, placed on the cover on arrival at New York. In that case, an amount such as 5 or 10 cents would have appeared as part of the strike towards the right.

It is still puzzling that the mark should appear on a 2½d. value from St. Kitts, as this was surely the correct letter rate to New York. Has any member an alternative view?

Simon Goldblatt

TRINIDAD

Sixteen years ago (issue 15 of the Bulletin) Mr. Marriot published a challenging list of 28 date stamps, and asked for information with a view to preparing a table of relative scarcity.

So far as I am aware, no written information has been contributed in reply, and in the meantime Mr. Marriot has almost certainly found all his own answers. Even so, it is hoped that the observations which follow will not be wholly wasted - conscious though I am that they are based on far too limited an acquaintance with the postmarks of Trinidad to enable any firm conclusions to be drawn.

To give some indication of comparative scarcity, in the period covered by these observations, all the listed *numeral* cancellations regarded as less than 'Rare' have been seen by me and copies of the large majority have been acquired. In addition, about half the 'Rare' numerals have been seen at least once, if not acquired, and there have been one or two finds noted in the Bulletin, not previously listed by Mr. Marriott. Amongst numerals listed as "Very Scarce", some have been seen as much as 6-10 times: for example, no. 2 of Type 1a; no. 18 of Type 2; no. 6 of Type 6; no. 17 of Type 7; Type 8 (no. 1); and no. 3 and no. 18 of Type 9.

Comparison with numeral cancellations is not, however, a wholly reliable guide. The latter are generally to be found on earlier and more valuable stamps, and should not normally be missed: the date stamps are found on stamps such as S.G. 107, 127, 134, 135 and 147; these are met in huge quantities, are seldom carefully displayed, and are difficult to appraise with the same degree of accuracy and enthusiasm. Thus it would be presumptuous of me to suggest that a date stamp is rare because I do not possess it; less presumptuous to suppose that it is less than rare, if I have seen it on several occasions.

<i>Name</i>	<i>No. of occasions seen or found</i>	<i>Date, S.G. No. or other remarks</i>
Basseterre	once	S.G.135
Brasso Piedro	-	First seen c.1930
Caparo	2	1907. Double ring
Chacachacare	-	First seen c.1920
Five Islands	5-6	c.1905 onwards
Flanagin Town	-	not noted after 1912
Fyzabad	-	First seen c.1925
Gasparillo	-	not noted after 1912
Guapo	-	First seen c.1920
Guayaguayare	2-3	earliest 8.7.96
Indian Walk	once	date not observed
La Lune	-	First seen c.1925
Longdenville	2-3	c.1908-9
Matelot	-	First seen c.1925
Mayo	-	First seen c.1915
Manos	-	First seen c.1915
New Town	once	S.G.147. Double ring
Penal Rock Junction	-	First seen c.1915
Point Fortin	once	S.G.147 - 1913
Poole	4-5	c.1905 onwards
St. Juliens	5-6	c.1900 onwards
St.Mary's Village, Moruga	-	Not noted after 1912
San Raphael	7-8	from c.1910. Double Ring
Tableland	1-2	date not recorded
Todds Road	See below	from c.1905
Upper Santa Cruz	-	First seen c.1915
Mail Steamer Monos Route	See below	1894-95

Although, in essence, Todds Road has been "found" on one occasion only, the find was a treasure trove: an accumulation of stamps, many of which had originally been

used on correspondence to and from the Todd family, and possibly a hundred of which bear larger or smaller portions of the Todds Road date stamp. Curiously, for a village date stamp, there are three code letters used at different times, these being A', T', or 'X'! Letters low in the alphabet are familiar enough from, say, Kingston, Port of Spain, or Scarborough: they have not previously been noted by me on an obscure village instrument.

Among the profusion, clear and near-complete strikes are sparse, so that the date stamp can still be regarded as a very scarce one. It seems to have been quite freely struck on arrival as well as despatch. My earliest readable date is the latter part of 1905.

The same hoard contains several clear and complete examples of the coveted Mail Steamer Monos Route strike. These are on S.G.107, dated 1894 or 1895; they may fairly be regarded as a single find.

Mr. Marriott's original list suggests by inference that the instruments which he does not expressly mention cannot be regarded as scarce. In my own search for cancellations, there are some apparent exceptions to this general inference; and I wonder how far the experience of other members agrees with mine.

I should classify the remaining date stamps as follows (ignoring the fact that in certain instances more than one instrument was in use at a particular town or village prior to the "Trinidad and Tobago" era):-

Category 1 (commonest)

Arima, California, Cedros, Chaguanas, Claxton Bay, Couva, La Brea, Mayaro, Mucurapo, Princes Town, St. Joseph, St. Mary's, Sangre Grande, Tunapuna.

Category 2

Arouca, Belmont, Carenage, Caroni, Cumuto, Cunupia, Diego Martin, Gran Couva, Hicacos, Laventille, Moruga, St. Madelaine, St. Juan, Toco, Tumpuna, Williamsville, Woodbrook.

Category 3

Blanchisseuse, Brasso, Chatham, Dabadie, Elswick, Manzanilla, Rose Hill, St. Anns, Tabaquite, Tortuga.

Category 4

Cap de Ville, Caura, Guaico, Guanapo, Irois Forest, Maraval, Matura, Oropouche, Santa Cruz, Siparia.

Category 5

I have yet to find examples of - Calcutta Settlement, Grande Riviere, Rio Claro.

For the purpose of comparison, I should have placed San Raphael in category 3, and Five Islands in category 4.

Omitted from the above list are - Nariva, Turure. Mr. Marriott lists these in his published handbook as offices to which numerals were initially allotted; but these numerals (8 and 11) were later allocated to other offices. I have certainly not seen a date stamp for either village, and wonder whether in fact any date stamp existed, or whether the offices had simply been closed at an earlier date.

One factor which may in any case render the above lists inaccurate is that in some instances numerals remained in use more or less throughout the 'Trinidad' era. For example, I have several copies of no. 5 in Type 4, and also have no. 22 and 37 in Type 6. It may be that the numerals did not belong to the same offices as previously during

this period, since each of the strikes under contemplation is on a stamp issued after 1900.

Harking back finally to the list of 28, not too much significance should be attached to my comments on whether I have or have not noted strikes during the Trinidad and Tobago era. All too often I have closed a crowded stockbook after S.G.148 and abandoned the search; so information here is fragmentary.

One result is that I have noted to date the name of only one office on stamps of Geo. V which was not already in existence before Trinidad joined hands with Tobago. This is SANS SOUCI, c. 1920. I suspect, though, once an office of that name had opened, that MON REPOS would not have been far behind!

Simon Goldblatt

MISCELLANEA

A NEW VENTURE FROM ROBSON LOWE LTD.

The month of September will see the launching of the Trustee Auction Service, initially available only to Robson Lowe's present clientele in the U.K. The new service has been designed to accept responsibility for the security, insurance and sale by auction of fine art pictures and prints, silver, jewellery, libraries, porcelain and ceramics. A Trust Officer has been appointed who will be responsible for all property valued at £1,000 and over. The offices of the new service will be in London and Bournemouth and the Fine Art sales will be held in Bournemouth. Further information may be had from Geoffrey Butterworth, General Manager, Trustee Auction Service, Robson Lowe Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JZ.

BULLETINS

Copies of a few early back issues and consecutively from No. 53 (June 1967) are obtainable from the Hon. Librarian as follows:

Nos. 1-7 (Reprint in one cover) £1 (\$2.50)
All others 40p (\$1) each
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OPINIONS SERVICE (Home members only)

Facilities are available for opinions to be given on most stamps of the B.W.I. Group for which a fee of 50p per stamp or cover is charged.* Members wishing to take advantage of this service should send the stamp(s) or cover(s) to the Hon. Secretary enclosing a remittance for the appropriate fee together with an addressed envelope (stamped additionally for Registration or Recorded Delivery). Every endeavour will be made to return the item(s) within fourteen days. All stamps or covers submitted are accepted entirely at the senders' risk and neither the Circle nor any of its members, collectively or individually, can be held responsible for the loss or damage of any item or for any opinion expressed.

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

On page 25 of Bulletin No. 77 under MOTION at the conclusion of the second paragraph it reads: 'The views of Mr. Irvin ...' This should of course read Irving. I hope Mr. Irving will accept my apologies. - Ed.

Congratulations are offered to the following members who gained awards at the IBRA MUNCHEN 73 Stamp exhibition at Munich.

Vermeil (Silver Gilt): H. F. Deakin (Barbados), B. E. Johnson (Philippines).

Bronze: R. Ward.

HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

Dear Member,

It is with regret that we note the passing away of one of our members, Mr. Lisle.

I can report that, at a meeting of the Committee, steps were taken to have the list of members names, addresses and interests prepared. It is, therefore, essential that any member who wishes to have his address excluded from the list, and who has not already informed me of his wishes, should do so as soon as possible. The list will take the form of a booklet which is separate from the Bulletin.

I have pleasure in welcoming the following new members: Mrs. Linda Gayle Mayo of Kansas City, U.S.A., who specialises in St. Vincent, B.W.I. censored mails and Br. Guiana cancellations. Mr. G. I. L. Gunn of Surrey who specialises in Grenada. Mr. Norman William Hoggarth of Leicester who specialises in Turks and Caicos Islands 1900-1962. Mr. J. A. Szemeti of Sheffield who specialises in Trinidad and Grenada.

Ian Chard

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