



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

Founder:

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

President:

E. V. TOEG, F.R.P.S.L.

Vice-Presidents:

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

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

BULLETIN No. 87

DECEMBER 1975

Advert

NEW ENGLAND STAMP COMPANY

Advert

JAMES BENDON

Advert

LAKE & BROOKS LTD.

Advert

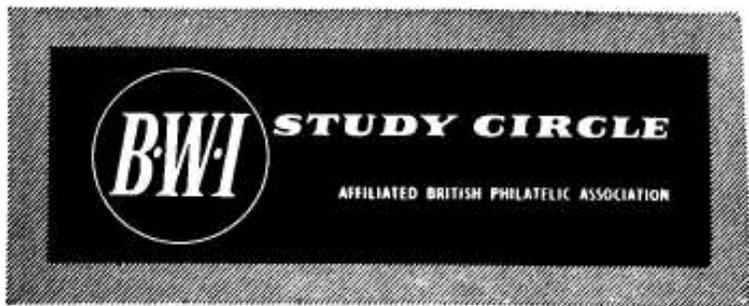
RICHARD BODILY

Advert

ROBSON LOWE LTD.

Advert

B. P. E. LTD.



<i>Acting Hon. Secretary :</i>	I. P. CHARD <i>48 Shrublands, Potters Par, Herts. EN6 2BW Tel. Potters Par 54491</i>
<i>Hon. Treasurer :</i>	C.G. BARTLETT <i>The Pitons, 27 Quarrington Road, Horsfield, Bristol 7</i>
<i>Hon. Editor :</i>	M. SHEPPARD <i>6 Copsleigh Close, Salfords, Surrey RH1 5BH Tel. Redhill 63936</i>
<i>Hon. Librarian:</i>	S. E. PAPWORTH <i>16 Green Lane, Windsor, Berks. SL4 3SA Tel. Windsor 64258</i>
<i>Committee :</i>	B. B. BENWELL, F. D. FITZGERALD, O.B.E., S. GOLDBLATT, A. H. LATHAM, J. C. LOACH, F.R.P.S.L.
<i>Hon. Auditor :</i>	A. J. BRANSTON, F.R.P.S.L.

OBJECTS

1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the **British West Indies** and in addition **BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS.**
2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
3. To loan books from Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear post both ways. List supplied on application.
4. To publicise 'wants'.
5. To furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.

MEMBERSHIP

is WORLD-WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be advanced or new collectors. The ANNUAL subscription is **£2.50** or the equivalent in local currency, due **1st January**. If remitting in currency **please add 40c to cover collection charges**. An International Money Order or Draft drawn on London is acceptable. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle".

PROGRAMME 1975-76

1975

Thurs., Dec. 4th, 6 p.m.

Nine pages from members

1976

Wed., Jan. 28th, 6 p.m.

Mr. Simon Goldblatt, Virgin Islands

Thurs., March 4th, 6 p.m.

Nine pages from members

Sat., April 17th, 3 p.m.

Annual General Meeting and Auction Sale

Meetings to be held at the "Large Oak Room," National Liberal Club, 1 Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HE.

VISITS TO OTHER SOCIETIES

1975

Thurs., Dec. 4th. Luton and District P.S. Messrs. E. V. Toeg and S. Goldblatt, Montserrat and B.W.I. postmarks.

SUBSCRIPTIONS (DUES)

These are payable on 1st January and full details appear under MEMBERSHIP at the foot of our 'shop window' page in every issue of the Bulletin. Will members who are accustomed to pay direct kindly note that reminder letters will no longer be sent out and in all instances where payment has not been received by mid-February the mailing of the March Bulletin will be delayed until a remittance comes to hand.

GRAHAM C. BARTLETT,
Hon. Treasurer.

DISPLAY

Mr. J. C. Loach displayed some ninety pages from his collection of Bermuda at 6 p.m. on Thursday, 6th March, 1975, before six members who had to contend with a railway strike and very bad weather conditions.

It was obvious quite early on in the display that Mr. Loach picked his stamps for good centring and clear postmarks and it was therefore a pleasure to look at his pages.

Mr. Loach commenced with examples of the 1d and 6d mint from the 1865 watermark Crown CC set and a cover with the 1865 1d cancelled by the St. George's duplex. He also showed the 3d mint surcharged in 1875 One Penny, the odd issues of 1880

supported by an 1886 cover to England (4d rate) and all values of the 1883-98 set with watermark Crown CA showing several shades of most values. Two covers to New York and Boston respectively in 1887/88, each franked with 2½d postage, were followed by an 1893 cover to England which also paid 2½d postage. The 1901 surcharge of ONE on 1/- was shown in blocks of different shades; the ¼d stamp FARTHING

was required for the newspaper rate. A useful range of all values of the 1902-4 and 1906-9 Dock type was shown followed by the 1908-10 three low values in Universal colours with shades and all values of the 1910-25 set, many showing shades. Mr. Loach also exhibited a small study of the Ship type stamps showing fresh entries from the master plate and a retouch on the ¼d value. The War tax stamps were also shown with the two different types of overprint on the 1d value.

Both the 1st and 2nd issues of the Tercentenary set were shown, each design being rather handsome in its own way, including a registered cover to the United States with a 2d grey from the 1st issue and a 2½d ultramarine from the 2nd issue.

The first section of the display ended with a showing of all values with shades of the 1922-34 set, a post-card with the 1½d rate and 2 covers with the 2½d rate to the United States.

The second section consisted entirely of covers from 1937 to 1974 and these items were intended to show the rates applicable, chiefly by Air Mail. A summary of the rates on covers shown now follows:-

1937 Air Mail covers to England and New York City rate 9d per ½oz.

1937 Registered Air Mail cover to the United States - rate 1/3d plus 3d registration fee.

1942 Air Mail cover to England - rate 1/9d per ½oz.

1944 Registered local cover rate 1½d plus 3d registration fee.

1949 (late) and 1951. Air Mail covers to England rate 1/- (two issues).

1953 Air Mail covers to England - rate 1/3d.

1958 Postcard to England rate 2d.

1960. Cover to the United States rate 8d. per ½oz.

1963-66 Air Mail covers to England rate 1/3d per ½oz.

1968-69 Air Mail covers to England rate 1/6d per ½oz.

1969 Air Mail cover to Antigua rate 1/- per ½oz.

1969 Local covers - rate 4d for first ounce.
1969 Air Mail cover to England rate 4/6d (1/6d per ½oz.).
1970 Air Mail cover to Antigua with 1/3d stamp surcharged “15c” in black (15c per ½oz.).
1970 Air Mail cover to England with 1/6d stamp surcharged “18c” in black (18c per ½oz.).
1970 Local covers rate 4c.
1970 Local cover - rate 8c (4c for first ounce and 2c for each extra ounce).
1970 Registered local cover - local rate 4c plus 24c registration fee.
1970 Registered local cover - local rate 6c (4c for first ounce and 2c for each extra ounce) plus 24c registration fee.
1970 Air Mail letters to Canada rate 30c (15c per ½oz.).
1970 Air Mail cover to Montserrat - rate 15c.
1971 Ungummed local cover rate 3c (3c for the first 2 ounces).
1972 Air Mail letter to France - rate 36c (18c per ½oz.).
1972 Air Mail letter to Canada - rate 15c (15c per ½oz.).
1972-73 Air Mail letters to England - rate 36c (18c per ½oz.).
1973 Air Mail cover to the United States - rate 15c.
1973 Local covers rate 4c.
1974 Local letter - rate 5c (5c for first ounce).
1974 Air Mail letter to Canada - rate 17c (17c per ½oz.).
1974 Air Mail letter to England - rate 20c (20c per ½oz.).

Our apologies to Charles Loach for the unavoidable delay in publishing a summary of his display.

GILBERT W. COLLETT MEMORIAL TROPHY

In May, 1974, our Hon. Secretary Ian Chard wrote to me to say that he felt that certain changes were necessary in the conditions governing the award of this Trophy and that he would like the matter discussed in good time so that any changes made would not be made at the last minute.

Ian has had considerable difficulty in obtaining three suitable judges; some persons being eminently suitable when approached have flatly refused to act, and Ian has tried to avoid asking persons to be judges who have been judges in previous years. His criteria for a judge are (1) comprehensive knowledge of British West Indies adhesive stamps, postal history and postal stationery and (2) the ability to evaluate contributions to the Bulletin both in terms of scholastic research and relevance to the hobby as a whole and (3) a reasonably high standing in the philatelic community.

Ian went on to suggest that he thought it would be much more satisfactory if in future the judging for the Trophy was carried out by members of the Committee of the Study Circle.

The conditions governing the award of this Trophy have been considered with great care by the members of the Committee of the Study Circle who have adopted Ian's suggestion in the main. The new set of conditions governing the award of the Trophy on the next occasion judging takes place are set out below. Members will note that the new conditions not only make the members of the Committee the judges but in addition the Trophy can now be awarded for Publications, i.e. books or monographs published

by or under the auspices of the Study Circle; also Articles and Publications by non-members can now be considered.

I think that the new conditions will prove to be satisfactory; they are certainly wider in scope, much more flexible and suitable in the light of previous experience.

E. V. Toeg

GILBERT W. COLLETT MEMORIAL TROPHY

At a meeting of the Committee of the Study Circle held on Saturday the 12th April, 1975, new Conditions were adopted in place of the former Conditions governing the award of the Trophy. The new Conditions are as follows:

- (a) The Trophy may be awarded for Articles and Publications of every kind by members or non-members based on research extending the knowledge of British West Indies philately and or postal history.
- (b) Such articles to be published in the first instance in the Study Circle's Bulletin in one or more parts as determined by the Hon. Editor;
- (c) Such publications to be published in the first instance by the Study Circle or under the Study Circle's auspices;
- (d) A limited number of illustrations will be permitted in connection with Articles published in the Study Circle's Bulletin(s);
- (e) Acceptance of an article for the Study Circle's Bulletin(s) to be at the discretion of the Hon. Editor, who if in doubt, shall refer the Article to the Committee of the Study Circle whose decision shall be final;
- (f) The Trophy may be awarded for what is judged to be the best Article(s) in the Bulletin(s) during every period of two years commencing with the March, 1974 issue or the best Publication during the same period;
- (g) The Article(s) and Publication(s) to be judged by the Committee of the Study Circle, who may at their absolute discretion, withhold the making of the award if no Article or Publication is deemed worthy of winning the Trophy;
- (h) No member of the Committee of the Study Circle may give a vote to himself in judging the eligible material.

THE 21st ANNIVERSARY of the B.W.I.S.C.

On the 4th October, 1975, the 21st Anniversary of the Study Circle was celebrated by a luncheon at which 47 members and guests were present, including Mr. John Webb, Managing Director of Stanley Gibbons Ltd., Mr. F. A. Pester, President of the National Philatelic Society, and Mr. A. R. Butler, a Vice-President and the Hon. Librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society London, accompanied by their ladies.

After the Loyal Toast, Mr. A. R. Butler proposed the toast of the Study Circle. He stated that he and his wife were happy to be able to take part in celebrating the 21st Anniversary of the Study Circle which had made so important a contribution to B.W.I. philately. His knowledge of postal history was slender, but he had examined the display in the Gibbons Gallery with great interest. As Hon. Librarian of the "Royal" he

particularly welcomed the literary contributions of the Circle. He always read the Circle's Bulletin with great care and thought the G. W. Collett Memorial Trophy an excellent idea.

Members of the Study Circle had made valuable contributions to the literature of the British West Indies. He particularly referred to the "two Bs" - Len Britnor and Basil Benwell - John Marriott, Keeper of the Royal Collection, and Bill Townsend of British Guiana fame, who had established the Circle as an erudite body.

Study Circles were the "life blood" of philately today, the source of "everything new," especially in this day and age when our hobby was being overwhelmed by "souvenir collectors," making the need for Study Circles the greater.

The Study Circle over 21 years, had made a very valuable and real contribution to our hobby, especially covering as it does a reasonable wide area rather than concentrating on a smaller one. He congratulated the Circle on its attainments and wished it every success for many more years.

The President of the Circle, Mr. E. Victor Toeg, said he felt he should first refer to the recent death of the founder of the Circle, Philip Saunders, and the gathering stood in silence in his memory.

Members would know, the President continued, that a special issue of "Stamp Collecting Weekly" featuring the British West Indies had marked the Circle's 21st Anniversary. Ken Chapman and Mrs. Chapman had, however, been prevented from being present and had sent their greetings.

He had had a letter from Rose Saunders regretting her inability to be present owing to ill health, and conveying her warm and sincere wishes for the wellbeing of the Circle which she was sure would go on from strength to strength and at the appropriate moment she would raise her glass. In response the gathering drank a very sincere toast to Rose.

In welcoming the guests the President thanked Mr. John Webb for his great help in ensuring so successful a celebration of the Circle's 21st anniversary, and referred to the exhibition at Romano House contributed by members. He appreciated the very kind references of Mr. Butler to the Study Circle and thanked "Stamp Collecting Weekly" and the members who had contributed to the special issue and to the diverse and impressive display at Romano House.

Thanks were also due to Basil Benwell for printing the menu and the booklet covering the Romano House displays; to the Hon. Secretary and his wife for their help in arranging the luncheon; and finally to those displaying at Romano House and at Drury House. It was not always easy to secure displays.

The Study Circle was being hit, as everyone was, by inflation, and the Committee had recently decided to change the method of production of the Bulletin without loss of quality, commencing in the New Year, with a resulting economy which would avoid, for the present anyway, any need to increase the subscription.

The Committee had also decided to confer Honorary Life Membership on Rose Saunders in recognition of her invaluable services to the Circle over so many years.

In conclusion the President said that on Wednesday, 15th October, Stanley Gibbons were holding an "At Home," from 6-8 p.m., at Romano House when members of the Study Circle would be welcomed. He hoped that as many members as possible would be there.

After the luncheon those present proceeded to Drury House where a display of 387 sheets contributed by 21 members awaited their inspection. As an experiment a "Brains Trust" was constituted comprising John Marriott, Len Britnor and Simon Goldblatt who proved themselves well able to cope with a series of questions which while doubtless solving the problems of the questioners at the same time contributed to the knowledge of the audience of 38 members and friends. This innovation may well be followed by "encores" on future suitable occasions. *F. D. FitzGerald.*

THE B.W.I.S.C. "AT HOME"

The Study Circle's 21st Anniversary Celebrations came to a successful conclusion on Wednesday the 15th October, when Stanley Gibbons were hosts to members and their guests at the Circle's 'At Home' held at Romano House.

Victor Toeg expressed the Circle's thanks for the help and co-operation of Stanley Gibbons that made this 'At Home' possible and also our display at Drury House, after the luncheon on the 4th October.

May we echo Victor's sentiments and say here's to the next anniversary.

I'm sure we all met many old friends and made new ones and if everyone enjoyed the evening as much as I did this was due, in no small measure, to the hospitality and friendliness of the many Gibbons' Staff present. *Editor.*

HONORARY LIBRARIAN

As you will see from our "Shop Window" page in this issue the post of Hon. Librarian has now been filled. At a committee meeting held on the 27th September, Mr. Stephen Papworth was proposed and unanimously elected to this office. May we take this opportunity to wish him a long and happy term as Librarian. Stephen may already be known to some of you as Secretary of the British Philatelic Exhibition.

Due to holiday commitments and the relocation of the library it will not be possible to open for business before January 15th, 1976. So please, no requests for books before that date.



ANTIGUA

In referring to Victor Toeg's notes on the Trial Perforations of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., Bulletin No. 84, page 6, Vincent Duggleby writes, "Informed opinion has it that SG10 was part of Perkins Bacon consignment of 14th March, 1866, and SG11 of 28th July, 1866 (compare PML and Napier and Bacon)."

BERMUDA

MORE NOTES ON THE "AO" MARK

The first mention of this handstamp of which I know is that the B.W.I. Philatelist in its March, 1954 issue (Vol. 5, No. 3, page 35) reported - and I quote - "Very interesting postmark 'AO' can be found on all second class mail coming from the G.P.O. Kingston. These letters are handstamped either in purple, violet or black and indicates second class air mail ordinary."

I do not recall any other mention of this stamp in that periodical in any of the issues which I have, but then my copies cease at the end of 1958.

But Jamaica was not the only colony to use this stamp. I have a cover, sent from Bermuda to England, which bears a strike of the same handstamp. This cover was posted in Warwick, Bermuda on 16th November, 1965, and probably contained a Christmas card as the cover had not been sealed. This would indicate printed matter of some kind and the franking of 1/- in adhesives would be insufficient for a first class air mail service.

I do recall having read some years ago that a cover from Bermuda addressed to another West Indies island had been cancelled at the posting office, backstamped in New York three days later - which would indicate that it went by sea mail, probably the Ocean Monarch or Queen of Bermuda on the regular runs, and further stamped one day later at destination. Regrettably I just cannot think of exactly where I read this.

The really interesting point about this handstamp is that if the B.W.I. Philatelist is correct then the use in another colony in the area would probably be for a similar purpose. If this is so why then is there the need to use "OAT." for this purpose as recorded by Commander Bridgemore Brown (see Bulletin No. 28, page 5 and Bulletin No. 30, page 45)? It is a pity that the dates of Commander Brown's item was not quoted for it might give a lead as to the actual date of commencement of use of this type of hand- stamp and perhaps the first colony to use it.

Well the above is a bit nebulous, but I think of interest. The stamp on the Bermuda cover is in red and is the only example that I have seen from Bermuda. There is no indication as to the route this cover followed. Could it have gone to Jamaica before being sent on to the U.K.? What a strange way it would have been in 1965!

Stephen Papworth

A WORLD WAR II CENSOR MARK

Ludington records in his book the numbers used in CM21 as seen or found on letters to or from Bermuda. No. 11 is one of those which is not so recorded. Even his supplement does not add any further information to that given on page 82 of his major work.

A cover to Sussex, England, is franked with a GB. K.G.V1 stamp the standard rate for service mail and has been cancelled with a LONDON c.d.s. for 16 Nov., 1939 and "RECEIVED FROM/H.M. SHIPS." On the reverse is a strike of the above mark. The addressee is Gieves Ltd., the well-known firm of naval tailors and is almost certainly from a naval officer as the initials on the reverse are in the same ink and by the same pen as that used for the address. This was standard practice, only the non-commissioned ranks or ratings had their letters read before clearance.

It would seem that this censor number was issued to the Royal Navy, possibly from Ireland Island Post Office. I have not ascertained the actual fleet strength of the West Indies Squadron at that date, but it would probably be at least three frigates or destroyers of which, no doubt, two would be at sea at any one time. This might mean that censor no. 10 (which is also missing from Ludington's list) could be a second stamp issued to the Royal Navy and was most likely only used whilst ships were at sea. If this is so, to find this censor number (i.e. 11) on a cover bearing a BERMUDA adhesive might be unique - I'd like to have it!

Incidentally the censor mark is in the bright green which is quite common on all other marks used in the colony. Could ink pads also have been issued as part of the kit?

Stephen Papworth



BRITISH GUIANA (Guyana)

". . . Y P.O." These letters, contained in about one sixth of the circumference of a postmark on a British Guiana 1 cent slate 'Official' of the late 1870s, reveal (or perhaps conceal) a long awaited postmark discovery.

The lettering and the size of the circle are those of the type 2 (American) canceller; and the only office ending in Y quoted by the handbook under this type is Mahaicony - spelling 'Mahoicony' in this instance. The half-dozen or so collectors who already own

an example of this strike will observe that there are no letters 'P.O.' following the office name: even if their strikes are incomplete, as these almost certainly are, they will find the centre '1' central over the date, with no room for P.O.' if symmetry is to be preserved.

It needs little delving to find the solution. It has been an open question for many years when an office first opened at TARLOGY. Evidently, as Townsend & How suspected, this was before the end of the '70s,' and the first name canceller issued to it read TARLOGY P.O. in type 2.

The Mahoicony strike mentioned above is itself not well documented, as the handbook authors were uncertain whether the diameter of the date stamp is the same size as the other date stamps of this type. So far as I am able to judge, however, the size is identical, and there is no need whatever to postulate a type 2A.

Simon Goldblatt

BRITISH HONDURAS

Mr. Owen Phillips asks whether any member or reader of the Bulletin can offer any information on the illustrated cancellation which is struck on a 6 cent value of the 1891-98 issue.



Re George Bowman's note On the Universal Postal Congress Booklets in Bulletin No. 85. A couple of years ago I saw one of these booklets with a mint set of British Honduras stamps (SG150- 60).

Owen Phillips

GRENADA

THE LOCALLY OVERPRINTED 'WAR TAX' VARIETY

Have others wondered as I have, why one of the local WAR TAX overprints should show a triangle instead of an A? And have they wondered how to distinguish the catalogue variety from a fake? One knows how the faker is tempted by minor typographical deviations of this kind.

For the seeker after truth, the first point to make is that the variety is by no means a perfect triangle, it would appear that the base of the triangle, which is open at one end, was once the central bar of the letter A,' and that it broke away at some stage of the printing run and became embedded beside the foot of the A,' so as to form the new shape. If one looks closely at the centre of the letter, one sees a small spur where part of the central bar used to be. So the genuine variety will be easily recognised, once found, by its rather complicated and irregular shape.

One infers from the catalogued information that there were two local overprintings, in one of which the variety appears, and in the other not. I doubt if the reality is quite as neat. It seems to me much more likely that the breaking of the type occurred in the middle of a printing run, so that the earlier panes to be overprinted show the type undamaged, whilst the latter ones all bear the variety. It by no means follows that all printings on one shade contain an example of the variety, whereas all on another shade do not: assuming that one can comfortably separate two shades (which I for one seldom can) the incidence of the variety will depend entirely upon when the damage to the type occurred.

I have read no articles on this overprint, and have done no research. Shall I make a guess? When the overprint was first carried out and the first supply of sheets reached the London market for study, the variation in the fount of letters used for the overprint aroused interest and study amongst the new-issue specialists, but of course the triangle variety was not there. Later a new batch of sheets arrived in London, and this time the triangle was found; ergo the catalogue description.

If so, the analysis would have been incomplete: it would only mean that the damage happened after the printing had begun, and before printing had finally ended. In any case, local overprinting need not have been carried out on a homogeneous bunch of 1d sheets from a single consignment. Thus nobody should be unduly surprised to come across a genuine example of the variety in what seems to be a carmine shade, or a positional block in a 'red' shade where TAX is normal on stamp 56.

How strong is the proof - can somebody tell me? - that the variety occurs only in the left-hand pane? Was the conclusion drawn from separate inspection of left-hand and right-hand panes (which would prove little, for reasons suggested above) or was it from an examination of complete sheets with the two panes intact? I do not know the quantities overprinted, but it obviously makes a great difference to scarcity whether the incidence is one in 60, or one in 120, from the time when the damage occurred.

Simon Goldblatt

I have recently come across a stamp which I find totally enigmatic and on which I would greatly value the opinion of members well versed in the early issues of Grenada.

The stamp is consistent with SG3 in all but one feature. The colour is a good dull pale rose, the paper of a texture, weight and appearance exactly matching that of the first unwatermarked issue and the obliterator an obviously genuine "A15" horizontal barred oval. The design is well centred with four full margins. Thus far, nothing is

exceptional save the quality. The perforations, however, are clean cut and measure $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 14. Can any member confirm having seen a similar stamp, or offer any explanation for its existence?
Michael Medlicott

JAMAICA

While reading back issues I discovered in Bulletin No. 77 that Mr. B. E. Thompson had a question regarding the setting of the Second Overprint on Jamaica War Stamps.

Mr. H. Cooke in the 1928 Jamaica Handbook stated that the setting throughout all printings was 16mm, between the first and second rows, 19 to the fifth, 16 between the fifth and sixth, 19 the rest of the way, and is uniform on all panes. Mr. Thompson questioned this statement as he found the setting between the ninth and tenth rows was 17mm, in the second and fourth panes of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d value and wondered whether other members had found the 17mm. setting.

Not having seen an answer to Mr. Thompson's question in subsequent Bulletins, I can assure him that Mr. Cooke's statement is incorrect. From examination of two complete panes, the first and third, of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d value with the Second Overprint there is no doubt the setting between the ninth and tenth rows is 17mm. Examination of other positionable multiples further confirms this. We can only assume Mr. Cooke was somewhat careless in measuring this setting.
Crawford D. Paton

LEEWARD ISLANDS

At least as intriguing as the question of when the pre-1890 issues went out of general use in the islands, is the puzzle of when the Leeward I. definitives came in.

I have kept my eyes open for long enough for such stamps used in 1890 - with an almost uniformly negative result. The only ones to turn up at all bear Antigua postmarks, dated NO. 5, NO. 19 (2), and DE. 3.

Can anyone quote examples of usage in 1890 from any of the other islands? And if not, what is the earliest date one can expect to find in each particular case? Though the killer is much more common than the c.d.s. at this period, there should be material somewhere to provide the information sought.

In case anyone has forgotten the theoretical date of issue, it was Oct. 31st, 1890. There must have been some uncertainty over the intended status of these issues for the first few months, because large quantities of the stamps of the individual colonies were still being printed by De La Rue in early 1891, which accounted in many cases for the large numbers of remainders for disposal.

It seems a fair inference from the Antigua examples mentioned, that overseas mail from St. John's was leaving the island every other Wednesday at this time, and one

would expect to find that strikes from the other colonies fit into the same pattern, if and when they come to light.

Simon Goldblatt

ST. LUCIA

ST. LUCIA RE-ENTRIES

The answers to most of Mr. Goldblatt's queries could be found in the Homan Collection, described in Godden's Gazette for January, 1938, of which extracts were published in No. 2 of the St. Lucia Philatelist in 1949 (see below).

Mr. Homan plated the whole plate and identified nearly 200 different stamps. Each of these was illustrated in his collection by an enlarged drawing of the stamp and examples of the issued stamps from the same position were mounted on the album page. One page was illustrated in Godden's Gazette and reproduced in the St. Lucia Philatelist. It showed Mr. Goldblatt's re-entry No. 1, as being from position 205 (1st stamp of 18th row) and was accompanied by the 1d p12½, "Half Penny" p12½, "2½ PENCE" p14 and "ONE SHILLING" p14, all with CC watermark.

Does anyone know what happened to the Homan Collection? Perhaps the Godden Gazette, which I have not seen, may give more information.

THE ST. LUCIA PHILATELIST

The St. Lucia Philatelic Society was founded in 1945 and in 1948 the first issue of the St. Lucia Philatelist was published for the Society by Robson Lowe Ltd. of London and Philadelphia. It was to be an annual publication but only four numbers appeared, as follows:

No. 1 - 1948	No. 2 - 1949
No. 3 - 1950	No. 4 - 1952

If the laws of copyright allow, the Study Circle might consider re-issuing these most interesting journals as a single volume photocopied publication, for which purpose I will gladly lend my bound volume of the four issues.

Bill Collins

On page 42 of Bulletin 85, Mr. Goldblatt asks if full information has been published on the re-entries appearing on the early issues of this colony.

May I refer him to the four consecutive issues of 'Gibbons Stamp Monthly' July-October, 1965, in which Russell Bennett gave a very detailed and fully illustrated description of these re-entries as well as the plate-flaws based on the research and collection of B. H. Homan.

There is also reference to Homans success in plating nearly 200 of the stamps on the sheet in 'The St. Lucia Philatelist' No. 2.

R. G. Carr

ST. VINCENT

Some further notes on St. Vincent Airmails

Following a recent visit to the island I have unearthed a few relevant dates with regard to air services to St. Vincent.

It transpires that the first airport was constructed during 1942/43 at Diamond (not the Diamond Village with the Post Office), seven miles from Kingstown at a cost of £17,632. The airstrip was 3,200 feet long and British West Indies Airways inaugurated a commercial air service on 11th May, 1943. This continued on a regular basis for about 16 months, but then tapered off and was discontinued in May 1945 when the company decided that the airfield was unsafe.

From February, 1946, a fortnightly charter service was operated by British Guiana Airways - British Guiana, Trinidad, St. Vincent and back - on a fortnightly basis. Flying boat services continued for the next 13 years.

The present airport at Amos Vale, two miles outside Kingstown, has been in use since 1959. A 3,200 feet temporary runway was opened on 9th June, 1959, officially. Earlier, however, landings had been permitted - the first of these by Captain William Sorren, of British Guiana Airways who took the Administrator and other leading personalities on an inaugural flight in his 'Beechcraft' plane on 22nd April, 1959.

A regular scheduled air service was started on 1st December, 1959, and the following year, on 10th May, 1960, the full runway of 4,650ft. was made available allowing facilities for aircraft up to 30,000 pounds in weight.

While the above does not give any indication if or when any First Day Flight Covers might have been carried, at least there are some useful dates to file away.

Vincent Duggleby

TOBAGO

THE TOBAGO SURCHARGES

I revert to the subject of Tobago surcharges. Some information - not a great deal - has come to hand since I last wrote.

Leaving aside the manuscript surcharges, where any suggestions would be quite speculative, there were eight surcharges altogether, on six basic stamps. Numbers of the latter are known and published, so there is a firm starting-point. In the absence of other specific data, one can attempt to estimate the quantities surcharged either by assessing comparative scarcity - both as between one surcharged stamp and the next, and as between these collectively and the ordinary definitive issues - or else by relating one's estimate, where appropriate, to the preceding consignment of the basic stamp. A combination of the two approaches should produce a sensible result.

It is convenient to begin with the two surcharges on **6d. stone. S.G.13 – 2½d. on 64. CC.** The basic stamp (like all the others with which we are concerned) was printed in sheets of 60, ten horizontal rows of six, and the total printing was a single consignment of 124 sheets - 7,440 stamps. The surcharge in this case supplied a genuine need for a 2½d. value, and can be found used from time to time, though much more common mint. Few blocks survive. The setting was probably in two rows of six, of which the long tailed '2' (beware of imitations) was last in the second row. The surcharge seems to be somewhat more common than the un-surcharged stamp, but not abundantly so; the quantity surcharged should therefore range between 70 and 90 sheets.

S.G.27 - 1d. on 6d CA. Basic total printing (a single consignment) was 300 sheets 18,000 stamps, and the basic stamp is so scarce that probably no more than 20 sheets (1,200 stamps) were left unsurcharged. Most collectors are not aware that there were two printings of the surcharge in two different settings. The first (in January 1886) was a much smaller printing, used for this surcharge alone, while the second printing used a setting common to S.G.26, 28 and 29; more of this below. My own first indication of the two settings was when I realised that I had two copies of the broken 'O' (Row 5 no. 3) one of which showed normal, and the other wide, spacing of the surcharge. In fact, each setting is of two rows of six; in the first, wide spacing is found on stamps 3 and 7: and in the second, on stamp 10 only. It seems a reasonable guess that the first surcharge was applied to about 40 to 60 sheets, and the second to about 200 to 240.

S.G.26 and 29 - ½d. and 1d on 2½d dull blue. Though three years separate the two surcharges, only one basic consignment is relevant: it was of 24,000 stamps sent on 24th October, 1883. The next printing was of 6,000 stamps only, sent on 23rd November, 1891 - yet the five years following saw a dramatic increase in the use of this value, a further 76,080 being sent out altogether. The ½d. stamp appeared in April, 1886, and when the 1d was surcharged in the spring of 1889 the figure ½ was simply replaced in the setting by a figure 1. If the 6d orange brown was the last to be surcharged (the actual stamp did not appear till the end of the summer) the transposition was carried out a second time, with the figure being put back in its original place. The number of surviving unused blocks of S.G. 27, 26 and even 28, shows that there was little more than philatelic demand for the ½d. surcharges, whereas the 1d must have filled a more pressing need, since it is quite often found used: as often, probably, as all the ½d surcharges put together. My guess is that between 150 and 180 sheets of the ½d blue were surcharged, and between 100 and 120 of the 1d.

S.G.28 - ½d on 6d orange brown. Out of 39,045 basic stamps only 6,000 had gone to the colony (sent on 17th May, 1886) by 1889; the next consignment was 5,040 on 30th December, 1893. This surcharge is probably as easy to obtain used as is S.G.26, and certainly easier than S.G.27. Ratio of used to unused is less unrealistic, though one meets unused blocks fairly regularly, and the wide spacing variety is not a great rarity. It seems likely that between 50 and 60 sheets were surcharged.

S.G.30 and 31 - ½d and 2½d on 4d grey. By the relevant dates (August 1891 for the 2½d and about March. 1892, for the ½d) 36,360 of the 88,680 basic stamps had

been delivered; the consignment bracket is 18,360 on 7th May, 1890, and 3,000 on 12th July, 1894. Taking the ½d stamp first, it seems to be even scarcer used than S.G.27, and rather more difficult unused than S.G.28. I am not aware of what the setting was - it is different from the second setting but assume that it was also in two rows of six. Contemporary reports said that 3,000 stamps were surcharged, and I accept this figure, as it is about the same as I should have reached empirically. Once again the 2½d probably served a genuine postal purpose, as it is not unduly difficult to obtain used; unused blocks and singles are also noticeably easier than the ½d value. According to contemporary reports 'a limited quantity' only were surcharged. A reasonable estimate might be 75 panes in all.

S.G.33 - ½d POSTAGE on 4d fiscal. No published figures exist for the printing of the basic stamp. As with S.G.27, there were two overprintings in two different settings. The first setting (of which the printing was much larger) consisted of the usual two rows of six, of which five stamps showed the wide spacing of the value. In the second setting there are no wide spacing varieties. It was said at the time of the first printing that 114 sheets were surcharged; and one might guess that 36 sheets were surcharged second time round. Quite large numbers were used philatelically on the day of issue, and the stamp is not elusive either used or unused except without toning, when it becomes virtually unobtainable. I should accept a total quantity of 9,000 overprinted, 150 sheets.

As a rough further guide (to quantities, procedures and, indeed, post office practice!) when S.G.30 was issued, a stock of 1½d postcards was also surcharged: apparently 1,000 cards were treated, half being surcharged 'HALF PENNY' and half 'ONE PENNY.' Not one such card was sold to the public, we are told, nor was a single one used, except philatelically. No further comment!

The following table summarises my conclusions, with all the reservations as to their accuracy which are implicit in what has already been written -

<i>S.G. no</i>	<i>Panes surcharged</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Variety No.</i>	<i>Estimated Quantity</i>
13	75	4,500	13a	375
26	180	10,800	26a	900
27	280	16,800	27a	1,600
28	60	3,600	28a	300
29	120	7,200	29a	600
30	50	3,000	30a	50
31	75	4,500	31a	75
33	150	9,000	33a	2,850

NEWS ROUNDUP

After missing an issue it is inevitable that some of the news is somewhat old, but nevertheless it is still worthy of mention, for it keeps you in touch with the activities of fellow members.

At the A.G.M. of the Leicester P.S., earlier this year, Norman W. Hoggarth was elected President of that Society for its 70th anniversary year.

This year Leicester welcomed the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain to the City and during the closing address of Congress, Mr. E. Gerrish paid tribute to Norman Hoggarth, who was its 1975 Chairman, and his team for their first class exhibition and organisation.

Other members who have been elected to office in their respective philatelic societies are: Tony Baker, Vice-chairman of Ilford P.S. and Mr. L. R. Coasby, Treasurer of Portsmouth P.S.

It is nice to know that in these days we can still give pleasure to others. The Chairman of our Publications Committee has recently received an anonymous donation of £10 accompanied by the following note: "I have so enjoyed the various papers published by the Study Circle that I should be pleased if you would accept the enclosed small donation towards the Publication Fund."

The Circle would like to thank the Donor and assure him that his wish has been carried out.

Circle member Ronald Ward and W. A. Sedgwick, both members of the Yorkshire Postal History Society, have compiled for that Society, and in conjunction with the South Yorkshire County Council, a town study entitled "The Postal History of Doncaster." From reading the review it is at once apparent that this is an interesting and worthwhile publication.

Members displaying at the British Philatelic Exhibition this year were somewhat thin on the ground. One name, however, that we can record is that of James Bendon who was awarded a silver medal and to whom we offer our congratulations.

After eighty-three years in Boston the New England Stamp Company has moved south and are now established in their custom-designed store at Naples, Florida, where the weather is kinder.

With enough stock to fill an entire chartered airliner and the promise of better service than ever before, the future already seems well assured.

On a more personal note Bill Bogg writes: "When you visit Florida come to the West Coast and please drop in; we'll offer some southern hospitality, New England style."

Members giving displays to other societies in recent months include Mr. R. D. Ledger, Antigua to Walton and Weybridge P.S.; Tony Shepherd with Dominica to Huddersfield P.S. and Graham Hoey with Bahamas to the Roses C.P.S. With mention of the Roses we understand that Geoffrey Ritchie is Chairman of that Society for the 1976 season.

May we remind members that material is now being received for the 3rd Auction Sale next April and for the sale to be a success we do rely on you sending along items; so please, see what you can do.

Two very hectic weeks have just come to a happy conclusion. It started with a visit to Weybridge, in the company of Bert Latham, to collect frames for the Drury House Display, continued with the Anniversary Luncheon and Display, a visit to Gravesend to give a display, again in the company of Bert Latham, and finally back to London for the Study Circle's 'At Home,' at Romano House. With so much nonstop talk on philately and the resultant sore throat, it is perhaps just as well that your correspondent is typing these notes and not dictating them!

Michael Sheppard

MEMBERS' SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisement Rates:

5p per word; minimum charge 50p. Ads. in **bold type** 10p per word; minimum charge £1. Copy to the Editor six weeks before publication.

WANTED TO BUY OR EXCHANGE

Odd **SPECIMEN** stamps of B.W.I. and British Commonwealth.

Some sets also required. Please send lists of stamps available and your own want list - Basil Cawston, 560a Bahia Circle, Silver Springs Shores, Ocala, Fl. 32670, U.S.A.

B.W.I. AUCTION No. 3

1. Terms and conditions will be the same as those for our previous auctions (i.e. standard).
2. Sale commission charged to the seller will be: -
On each lot sold 10p on the first £1 or lower realisation, thereafter 10%.

On each lot unsold, 10p.

On each lot withdrawn by the seller, sale commission on 75% of estimated value.

On each lot unsold through failing to reach the seller's reserve, sale commission on the reserve price.

3. The catalogue will be sent to home members with the March, 1975, Bulletin and under separate cover to overseas members.

4. Postal viewing will not be possible, but it is hoped that the same viewing facilities as last time will be available. In exceptional circumstances it may be possible to send a 'Xerox,' and this providing sufficient funds are sent to cover 'Xerox' and postage both ways.

5. The Sub-Committee will not be accepting material for sale unless it has in their opinion some potential interest to members of the Circle.

6. All correspondence please, to Michael Sheppard, 6 Copsleigh Close, Salfords, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5BH. Telephone: 91 63936.

7. Material to be included in the provisional catalogue for publication in March, 1976, Bulletin must reach Michael Sheppard by January 31st, 1976 at latest.

BULLETINS AND STUDY PAPERS

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

Bulletins nos. 1-7 (Reprint in one cover) £1.50 (\$3.75)

Bulletins per copy 50p (\$1.25)

'Cordex' Instantaneous Self-binders each holding

20 issues £1.20 (\$3.00)

Issues containing notes on specific colonies gladly supplied where available.

Montserrat. L. E. Britnor £2.00 (\$5.00)

The History of the Sailing Packets (U.K. & Europe) £7.00

to the West Indies. L. E. Britnor (America & etc.) £7.50

Note: Prices include postage, packing and V.A.T. where applicable

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

NEW MEMBERS

- ALDEN, John Henry, 14 Foldingshott, Datchworth, Knebworth, Herts.
Interests: Bahamas. No specialist collection.
- AMBLER, John D., 41 Norbury Court Road, London, SW16 4HU.
Interests: Used pre K.G.VI, particularly postmarks of Barbados. No specialist collection.
- BARKER, Ian Lowry, 37 Buxton Crescent, Sale, Cheshire M33 3IG.
Interests: Collects all pre QEII material. No specialised collection.
- BENN, Alexander George, 744 Hanworth Rd., Hounslow, Middlesex.
Interests: Bermuda Geo. VI high values.
- BOX, Michael H., 21 Kempson Avenue, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B72 1HL.
Interests: Specialises in Barbados and flown covers.
- BROOKS, D., 56 Castle Road, Epsom, Surrey.
Interests: The Trinidad group. No specialist collection.
- CRANE, Miss Kathleen M., 17 Comely Bank Grove, Edinburgh EH4 1BS.
Interests: Mainly Jamaica. Forming a specialised collection.
- FIDDLER, Thomas D., 5811 Camerford Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90038, U.S.A.
Interests Barbados & Trinidad. Specialist collection (both).
- GILLEGHAN, Dr. James Donald, 5 Corstorphine High Street, Edinburgh EH12 7SU.
Interests: Jamaica pre 1952 and postal history.
- HANCOCK, Paul David, 70 Elmsleigh Drive, Midway, Burton on Trent.
Interests: All periods of Jamaica. No specialist collection.
- LAWSON, Michael Howard, 35 Hyde Park Gate, London, S.W.7.
Interests: St. Vincent. No specialist collection.
- PAPWORTH, Stephen Ernest, 16 Green Lane, Windsor, Berks. SL4 3SA.
Interests: Mainly Bermuda.
- PERSSON, Bengt-ove, Rydsvagen 34c, S-582Y8, Linköping, Sweden.
Interests: Cayman and Br. Virgin Islands.
- RENSHAW, Edward Brian, 317 Eakring Rd., Mansfield, Notts. NG18 3EH.
Interests: Trinidad and Tobago. Specialist collection: all aspects.
- RUSSON, Richard M., P.O. Box 944, Titusville, Fl. 32780, U.S.A.
Interests: Tobago, Trinidad and Trinidad & Tobago.
- SHIPP, Peter James, 6 Spencer Rd., Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 5TH.
Interests: Not known.
- SUTCLIFFE, Arthur Peter Derek, 1 Oastler Ave., Huddersfield, Yorks.
Interests: Jamaica.
- TWEDELL, Edward Timothy.
Interests: Turks & Caicos Is,
- WALLIS, C. D., 93 Stonehill, Castle Donington, Derby, DE7 2LZ.
Interests: All aspects of Trinidad.
- WIKE, Ronald G., c/o Dunlop Trinidad Ltd., Point Fortin, Trinidad, WI.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- BOGG, William G., 643 5th Avenue South, Naples, Fl. 33940, U.S.A.
- CAWSTON, B. G. W., 560a Bahia Circle, Silver Springs Shores, Ocala, Fl. 32670, U.S.A.
- CRAIG, Dr. R. M., 656 Shirley Rd., Hall Green, Birmingham B28 9LD.
- DEAKIN, H. Frank, House number now 5a.
- JONES, G. E., Delete Warwickshire and substitute W. Midlands B74 3SY.
- LONGMUIR, P. G., 98 Banstead Road South, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5LH.
- MARRIOTT, John B., Street Farm, Puttenham, Nr. Guildford, Surrey GU3 1AU.
- PALMER, C., 25 Maypole Rd., Taplow, Maidenhead, Berks.
- RAMKISSOON, Dr. R. A., 120 North Oak Street, Hinsdale, Ill. 60521, U.S.A.
- WALKER, Danforth W., 4401 Lee Highway, Apt. 71, Arlington, Virginia 22207, U.S.A.

CHANGE OF INTERESTS

- STRACHAN, T. J., Leeward Is. 1880-1956; St. Vincent 1861-1961; Codrington Correspondence and postal markings of B.W.I.
- PULLAR, Graeme L., Cayman Is.; Dominica; Leeward Is. and St. Kitts.

RESIGNED

- BEARDWOOD, Dr. K. M.; BLACKMUN, A. W.; JOHNSON, F. M.; PRATT, R. G.; PROFITT, B.

Advert

ARGYLL STAMP COMPANY

Advert

F. W. COLLINS

Advert

BRIDGER & KAY LTD

Advert

H. R. HARMER LTD