



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

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BULLETIN No. 106 SEPTEMBER 1980

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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. 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 **\$6.50** USA due **1st January**. The latter rate includes airmail postage of bulletins and collection charges and is subject to changes from time to time as determined by the Hon. Treasurer. 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".

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PROGRAMME 1980-81

1980

20th, Sat.,	Sept. 3.00 p.m.	Mark W. Swetland. Antigua.
15th, Wed.,	Oct. 6.00 p.m.	9 pages from members.
20th, Thurs.,	Nov. 6.00 p.m.	9 pages from members.

1981

5th, Thurs.,	Feb. 6.00 p.m.	To be arranged.
11th, Wed.,	March 6.00 p.m.	Ian Chard. Bermuda.
25th, Sat.,	April 2.30 p.m.	A.G.M. and Auction.

WOULD MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEETINGS.

Sat., Sept. 20th	The Committee Room, Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London WC1 4BH
Sat., April	The Margaret Room, Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London WC1 4BH

All the evening meetings will be in Committee Room A, The Law Society Building, 113 Chancery Lane . London WC2A 1PL.

DISPLAY

Eleven members attended the meeting held at 6p.m. on 6th March, 1980 and some members present showed their "nine pages", details of which are summarised below:-

Mr. L. E. Britnor gave an unusual and most interesting selection from his collection of Private Posts in the West Indies. He first showed die proofs BEFORE HARDENING and AFTER HARDENING respectively of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's 10c rose-pink stamp. Examples of the stamp, which was issued in 1875, were also shown. Normally this stamp was cancelled by the Ship's Purser on board by a pen

cross. Next, he displayed the 10c stamp which was first issued by the Hamburg-Amerika Line in 1875. The Line itself was founded in 1847 with local headquarters at first at Trinidad, and then the headquarters were transferred to St. Thomas in 1873. The stamps had three printings in yellow and blue with different shades in each printing. There were official imitations and forgeries produced in 1897 and 1938 respectively. Next, Mr. Britnor exhibited postcards of the S.S. Albemania and Hamonia, both ships combining sail with steam. Examples of the stamps issued by the La Guavia Packet Service were also shown including two forgeries, and finally, a cover.

Mr. Ian Chard gave an attractive display of cancellations emanating from the Hamilton Post Office, Bermuda. The first page contained the bar cancellation Ludington type K1 numeral 2 on the 1d rose-red S.G.1. The next page showed the duplex cancellation Ludington type K3 numeral 1 on 1d and 3d stamps demonstrating the features of the first handstamp of this type. The third page displayed the duplex cancellation Ludington type K3 numeral 1 on a strip of four 1d stamps showing dent in circle between B and E of BERMUDA, also rectangular N.

The next four pages showed ordinary covers to London and registered covers to New York with their differing rates, each cover having the duplex cancellation Ludington type K3

The last four pages showed covers between the period 1898 and 1902 with differing postal rates, and in three cases the handstamp Ludington type H6, and on the fourth page, the handstamp Ludington type H7.

Mr S. Goldblatt showed a page of mint stamps of the first design and this was followed by a further page of similar stamps with A06 cancels. The next three pages provided a comprehensive display of mint and used surcharged stamps too numerous to mention in detail, but included examples of two diagonal bisepts, one vertical bisect and also fakes. Two further pages exhibited additional surcharges and also examples of the De La Rue 5c, 10c and 25c stamps overprinted REVENUE including the error BEVENUE on 5c and 25c stamps and also examples of the small R. The penultimate page showed mainly forgeries of the first design and also a genuine stamp with a forged overprint. The last page comprised early provisional or temporary markings of SAN ESTEVAN, STANN CREEK, PUNTA GORDA, BENQUE VIEJO, CALEDONIA, ORANGE WALK and CONSUJO.

Mr. J. A. C. Farmer gave a most interesting and attractive display of the high values of King George V and King George VI Leeward Islands. First King George V. A die proof of the 10/- frame, name and value with blank vignette: cut down die proofs of the 10/- and £1. ex De La Rue Archives on card with handwritten instructions: plate proofs of the 10/- and £1. also ex De La Rue Archives marked "Approved 9/10" and "Approved for colour 2/10/28" respectively: the 10/- and £1. with the word SPECIMEN punched out in an arc.

There are also various plate flaws on these two high values and both were shown with the crown flaw and right hand shoulder of the scroll flaw followed by positional vertical pairs from plate 1 of these two values with the same flaws; finally, bottom right horizontal pairs from plate 1 of the same two values each showing a scroll break on the right hand stamp. Now to King George VI. Examples were shown of the four printings of the 10/- value including a block of four from plate 1. The £1. value was then

displayed in its different printings and the colours of gum employed by the printers for this value were also indicated; mint examples of the 1942 printing were then exhibited with different scroll flaws; mint examples of the December 1943 printing were also displayed; then followed mint examples of the May 1944 printing showing the scroll flaw and the pearl flaw; the December 1951 printing included the broken leaf flaw and also the albino print i.e. the frame plate was run through the printing machine twice; finally, the £1. was also shown with inverted watermark and with sideways watermark, both being rare errors the latter being particularly rare.

Mr. Les Parks was visiting London and our meeting coincided with one of the days of his visit. Mr. Parks was welcomed by all present when he attended the meeting, particularly as he had remembered to bring some pages from his Turks and Caicos Islands collection to show at the meeting. He first exhibited some reprinted die proofs of the first head on pink and yellow papers, this head being used for St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Antigua and Turks Islands. Examples then followed of the mint stamps of 1867 and 1878-79 including a 1d dull rose-lake with sideways watermark; then used examples of the 1887 and 1878-79 issues including a lithographic forgery of the 1867 6d black.

A page displaying the 1881 provisionals with "½" surcharge in black was followed by a mint example of the 1887 1d perf 12, four examples of the 6d perf. 14, two examples of the 1/- perf. 14. and in addition the 6d stamp overprinted SPECIMEN in black. Further pages showed the 1889-93 1d crimson-lake in a mint block of 15 (5x3), the 1d lake in a mint block of 12 (4x3) and finally, the 1d pale rosy lake in a mint block of 30 (10x3) with stamp 4 in row 3 showing the gash in neck flaw and stamp 2 in row 3 showing another neck flaw.

LONDON 1980 CHEESE AND WINE PARTY

Thanks to 'London 1980' philatelists of the West Indian persuasion were in town in force, for promptly at six o'clock on Friday evening 9th May members of the BWISC with their wives and friends assembled in the Thackeray Room in the Kingsley Hotel to meet members of the BCPSG and the Roses for a social evening - wine, cheese and chat. For me the events of the evening took on a different meaning when your President - neatly coming between two 'enthusiastic Turks' - told me that I had drawn the short straw and asked me to write a few words on the occasion for the Bulletin.

Mr. Toeg (standing prominently) in a short speech of welcome, referred to the similar meeting in 1970, hoped that everyone would enjoy not only the evening but also the whole period of the present Exhibition, and concluded with the wish that we would all be able to be back in 1990, if not sooner. (Hon. Editor please note that this should be in time for Bulletin number 144!) What else can be said? Surely not a list of who was there? No. That the evening was a success is undoubted; it was pleasant for those of us who were there to meet together again and to meet perhaps for the first time many others who previously had been merely names in the Journal or Bulletin. There were those there from America in particular, but also Trinidad, the RSA and Mexico (and I am told Australia too) who we do not see except on occasions such as this and to them I will say again "Come back soon, it was nice to meet you". *Continued on page 50*



Left to right
 Bruce Walker
 Al Branstetter
 Malcolm Watts
 Bill Matthews
 George Raymond



Left to right, Edward Admiss, Michael Bego, Michael Sheppard, David
 Wollson, Robert Towers, Frederick Boellitto, Stella Pearce,
 Mrs. Boellitto, Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Ritchie.



Left to right
 Mrs. and Mr.
 Edward Bop
 Don South Walker
 Rev. J. August Luyke
 Tom Chord
 Morris Laddington
 Tony Farmoy



Left to right:
Basil Bonwell
Victor Toog
Byman Nathanson
Frank Deakin



Outside: Mr. and Mrs. Edwin K. Thomson.
Centre: George Bowman, Mark Swetland



Fred Seifert
Stirling Baker



Jay Fredrick, Reynold Rufford,
Tom Giraldi, Simon Goldblatt

To end with a note for the statistician: there were 126 people present, drinking 64 bottles of wine and eating an undisclosed quantity of cheese from five gross cocktail sticks.

Yes, it was a great party. Hic!

Michael Wilson

LONDON 1980 JOINT MEETING

On Saturday morning the wine and cheese party of the previous evening turned from a more social occasion to the more serious business of philately, when the BCPSG held their joint meeting together with the BWISC and the Roses CPS. By 10.30am Bruce Walker and Tony Shepherd had already signed in a large body of members from all three societies. We have no idea what the final number of those attending was, but it must certainly have approached, or possibly surpassed, the large gathering of the previous evening.

Proceedings ran very much according to plan under the able direction of Al Branston. After the business side of the Meeting had been speedily dealt with, all those present introduced themselves and then, following a break for coffee and biscuits, Mark Swetland and Al Branston gave slide displays of Antigua and BWI forgeries respectively. Further fraternization continued until the afternoon session when Bill Bogg, assisted by Malcolm Watts and Geoff Ritchie, conducted the auction. A very fine copy of Bacon and Napier's Barbados handbook fetched £41, which we felt at the time a very good price. However, in the light of a recent Harmers auction realisation the purchaser certainly got a bargain, for at this auction another copy, together with four minor items, realised £140!

We were unable to stay until the end of the meeting, but nevertheless we would unhesitatingly say that this meeting, together with the party of the previous evening, was an unqualified success and a high point in the history of our three societies.

Michael Sheppard

NOTES & QUERIES

BAHAMAS

I was delighted to see Mr Fitzgerald's query in Bulletin No. 103 regarding the 2½d. Queen Victoria with the variety "Large 2 with dropped foot". I also have a copy of this flaw, which is on the bottom right corner stamp (ie no. 60 on the pane) of the upper left-hand pane. I had recently been wondering, in common with Mr Fitzgerald, whether the variety was constant or not, but had been unable to locate any other sightings amongst the Bahamas collectors I had approached.

The variety is in my view a significant one, being almost identical, as Mr Fitzgerald notes, to the flaw which appears on the 2½d value of the Antigua set of the same period, and which is illustrated in the current Stanley Gibbons Part One Catalogue as Type A. The question which occurs to me is whether the Bahamas variety can be found on all four panes of the 2½d, and in all the shades of that issue (my own copy is in a dull ultramarine shade). Unfortunately I have no other examples of stamp no. 60, but would be interested to hear from other members who do.

BRITISH GUIANA

In Bulletin 102, Michael Rego recorded the rediscovery of the small Berbice single-line handstamp mentioned on page 196 of Townsend and Howe. I have just obtained another copy of this, with some interesting additional features. By the way, the entire was described by the auctioneer as having the rare small “Berbice/date”, which I rather vaguely interpreted as Townsend and Howe type 4 (25 years too early!). When it arrived, the handstamp was so small that at first I could not find it!

My entire (alas! no letter) is addressed to Amsterdam, and endorsed Per Packet via England. It bears the tiny straight-line handstamp Berbice 22 June 1814, the B being 2¼mm high, the lower case letters 1½mm, and the overall length being 34mm. This is overstruck by the double-ring Foreign office type reading FOREIGN/1814, with 134 in the centre (EL Ency. type 461a), used on outgoing mail. It also bears the usual London ‘tombstone’ C/PAID/8 AU 8/1814 (EL Ency. type 64). The date of arrival in Amsterdam is recorded in ms. as 13 August 1814.

Now, the rate-marks. There is the usual illegible brown scribble which looks like 10, which doesn’t seem to mean very much. But also in large and elegant red script is the endorsement Paid 3/8. Can anybody help to interpret this?

Michael Webster

B.W.I.

B.W.I. MISCELLANY

Further to the British Honduras notes in the December, 1979 Bulletin. The two illustrations show the genuine target cancellation on the 3 cents surcharge and the forgery on the 3d. value. I had assumed it was put on in the U.S.A., but it would be interesting if it were a local mark.

I have two copies of the Dominica 1d. value showing ‘view of Roseau from the sea’. Both bear strikes of a five ring target cancellation. Can any member say what these are? Also shown are two copies of the ½d. value overprinted with what apparently are two types of the WAR TAX surcharge. The used one does not appear to be overinked. Has this been previously noted?



John J Challis

BRITISH HONDURAS

In the March, 1980 issue of the Bulletin there is a short note by Fred Seifert regarding a double circle type of postmark of MASKALL, British Honduras. I have a copy of S.G.206 with a similar postmark, but this shows that there are thin curved lines between the words MASKALL and BRITISH HONDURAS. The date of this mark is MR 29 but the year appears to have been omitted.

Owen N. D. Philips

CAYMAN ISLANDS

Aguilla and Saunders makes reference (on page 40) to a flaw on the first type KEVII key plate, which take the form of a semicircular cleat in the frameline below the first 'A' of Cayman. The variety, attributed to L. V. S. Glover, appears on the sixth stamps of the first row of the left hand pane (i.e. the stamps to the left of the gutter margin) and is involuntarily illustrated in Stanley Gibbons' Part I Catalogue (on the illustration labelled 3). The variety can also be found on the Edward issues of other countries such as Gambia and Seychelles which used the same keyplate.

This flaw has now been further publicised by being listed and priced in the 1980 Bridger and Kay catalogue, where it is listed as appearing on the low values of the 1905 and 1907 sets on MCA paper, i.e. the ½d, 1d, and 2½d of 1905, the 1d. of 1907 and the 2½d/4d surcharge of 1908, but not on the 6d, 1/- or 5/- values. Although this listing accords with the values recorded in Aguilar and Saunders, it is in fact incorrect as the variety can be found on each of the higher values as well as on all four of the provisional overprints of 1907-8, as well of course as on the "specimens" of the 1907 set of four definitives.

The question becomes more challenging when one turns back to the 1902-3 set on single CA paper. Despite diligent searching, I have only so far come across the flaw on the 1/- value (although I understand from Mr. John Byl that the ½d. is recorded with it too). I have also scrutinised numerous specimen sets without success. Although at odds of 120 to 1 there are no grounds for optimism, sightings on this set seem intrinsically scarcer than those on MCA paper. At first I thought that this was just chance but now I have acquired a "specimen" of the 1d value (SG4) with a slight but distinct (particularly under magnification) indentation in exactly the same spot as the Glover flaw. Could this possibly be an intermediate state? The 1d value was issued some six months after the rest of the set, in which case it is conceivable that the later printings show the flaw, but the first ones do not, and this would account for the less frequent sightings on the CA watermark set.

My information on the printings of the 1902-3 set is restricted to Aguilar and Saunders, and the Melville Stamps Lover booklet No. 3 by D. B. Armstrong. Neither of these admirable publications is very confident of the printing chronology of this set, but I would postulate from observation that more than 5,000 6d values and 2,000 1/- values (Aguilar and Saunders) or 5,400 6ds and 3,240 1/-s (Armstrong) were issued. The figures for the 1/- at least, which is by no means a rare stamp, leave room for another printing in which the Glover flaw was fully developed.

Enough of theory, though, as the collections of our members will surely provide the answer. What we need is a copy of stamp no. 6 (with margin at top and gutter margin at right) which shows no sign of the flaw (or an intermediate state). I should also be interested to hear of any sightings of the flaw, fully or partially developed, on the ½d, 2½d or 6d values (SG nos.4 5 and 6). As I know nothing of Gambia or Seychelles, members with access to specialised collections of these countries might like to continue the chase there.

Charles Freeland

GRENADA

HAND-STRUCK REGISTRATION MARKS OF GRENADA

I have in my possession a series of covers confirming that the Registration cachet was applied at the G.P.O. St. Georges.

<u>Office of Origin</u>	<u>Number in m. s.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Backstamp at G.PO.</u>
Goayave	9747	22 SE 26	23 SE
Victoria	9753	22 SE 26	23 SE
Carricou	9762	23 SE 26	24 SE
St. Pauls	33401 D	23 SE 26	23 SE
Hermitage	33402 A	23 SE 26	23 SE
Birch Grove	33408 B	23 SE 26	24 SE
Union	33414 D	25 SE 26	25 SE
G.P.O.	33458	1 OC 26	

The covers are to the same address in England. The numbers form two series, the first being from D.P.O. and do not include a letter. The second series is composed of covers posted in the village offices and at the G.P.O. Only on covers from the villages is a letter included in the registration number. I can see no significance in the letter used, they do not correspond to the old Parish code letters.

All covers also bear the ‘‘large R in oval’’ mark, possibly this was applied at the office of posting. It is interesting to speculate how the sender received a receipt for his letter.

Russell Jones

JAMAICA

In Bulletin No, 104, Mr. Lewarn asks whether the Circular date stamp used to cancel the stamps on first flight covers from Jamaica to Miami with the year plug the correct way up have an index other than 3B.

I have a cover with the canceller reading ‘‘2B DE 10 30’’ with the date plug correct.

It would appear that the 3B date stamp was in constant use, as a cover in my collection addressed to La Guaira, Venezuela showing a similar cachet to that used for the first flight ‘‘Jamaica to Miami U.S.A.’’ with the words ‘‘Miami U.S.A.’’ obliterated

and "Canal Zone" inserted above, thus reading "AIR-MAIL - First Flight to CANAL ZONE", also has the stamps cancelled with the 3B date stamp with the year plug

First Flight FAM-5
Kingston, Jamaica to
Miami, Fla.



According to an article, written by the late Everard Aguilar in the B.W.I. Philatelist, the flight to the Canal Zone took off from Kingston on the morning of 10th. December 1930, whilst the north flight Jamaica-Miami took off later during the afternoon of 10th December, thus the same date stamp 3B with the inverted year plug, must have been used at the G.P.O. to cancel stamps on letters for two separate flights.

B. E. Thompson

JAMAICA MISCELLANY

Due to a renewed interest I have been going through my material and have discovered a few oddities. Would members care to comment?

1. Has any member done research on the 1½d. G.P.O. post cards? I have a copy HALF-FENNY - also two distinct lengths of the overprint and different positions of the letters. In some cases O is directly over H and in others to the right. Presumably it was overprinted locally. Are there any major varieties?
2. T.R.D. for LONG ROAD on piece of paper undated except for the year 193. . Was it, in fact, ever issued and if so was this strike only a 'favour'?
3. Aerograms - I have six distinct types - are there more?
4. Jamaica postage due in violet (dated '59). As the lettering is so uneven it would appear that it was made locally. In particular the letters in the word JAMAICA are completely disjointed. Could this be a form of TRD? (see illustration).



5. Shades of the K.G.VI 2/- value. I can't imagine these shades are changelings. When you compare like with like they are almost identical. Could they be a variety? Mine is almost olive instead of brown.
6. A cover from Kingston to Bengal with 2 x 6d. pines addressed to a Major French (22 AP '61). Also, in red, a large 1d handstamp. Presumably the handstamp was applied in Jamaica, or possibly London, but why?
7. Kingston Street Letter Box lozenge type - Jan 1892. Is this late date of interest? I also have it used in April 1892.
8. ½d. QV wrapper - Kingston to Falmouth redirected via Grenada. All postmarks and stamp obliterated with FB/M in circle (illustrated). Probably FB is Foreign Branch. Why should a cover be treated this way?



9. Sadly the seal is a little too thick to allow a clear print, but please what is the purpose of 21/MA in circle - the EL. is 1790 (see illustration).



10. A post card with a very clear strike of Port Antonio with blotch over the date - page 216 paragraph 3 of Jamaica handbook. Under the glass there is a clear figure '2' amidst the blotch. This could explain the mystery. (see illustration).

Robert Swarbrick



**The illustration is an artist's impression, the original being very blurred and overinked. Ed.*

THE "SER.ET" ERROR

The "Ser.et" error of the Arms type is a well known variety, and this note lists a few of the variations of this error.

It occurs in the second stamp of the fourth row of the left top pane and is known on all values ($\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d, and 5d) of this series with the Crown C.A. watermark, but only on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 5d values with multiple Crown C.A. watermark. (A possible - even probable - explanation of this was given by Buckland Edwards in the 1928 Handbook. The error could have been caused by a piece of grit becoming wedged between the letters, this being removed before the printing of the later stamps).

The word “SERVIET” of the motto appears in the variety with the letters “V and “I” missing and replaced with a dot. I give five variations.

- (a) Round dot. (1d CA Watermark)
- (b) Pear-shaped dot (base of “V”?) with the top of a thin letter “I” to the right of the dot. (1d CA watermark)
- (c) Pear-shaped dot smaller than in (b), and on its side with thin letter “I” to the right of the dot, ($\frac{1}{2}$ d CA watermark)
- (d) Round dot with broken frame underneath “Ser.et” i.e. “SER.ET” ($\frac{1}{2}$ d CA watermark).
- (e) Round dot with broken frame underneath “Ser.et” (smaller than (d)) and thin letter “I” i.e. SER. IET ($\frac{1}{2}$ d multiple CA watermark).

In all cases the dot appears to the right of the join of the letter “R”.

Malcolm Mattick

LEEWARD ISLANDS

Can any member give me information on dates of printing or issue of the various printings of Leeward Islands GV issues, both MCA and Script, with Plate Numbers if possible. I have various of these issues all allegedly mono coloured red which appear to be printed in two colours - possibly De La Rue had by them stocks of “head” stamps so that all they had to do when an order came from the Crown Agents was to “overprint” the key and duty - probably in a somewhat different coloured ink. This occurs throughout these issues (and the EVII Key & Duty issues, also the Grenada/Br. Solomons etc common type). If anybody can prove or disprove or just comment on this theory, I would be glad to hear from them.

D. H. Vernon

NEVIS

In Bulletin No. 103, Page 83, Richard Heap enquired about a Nevis c.d.s. that formed part of a boxed slogan “CABLE AND/WIRELESS/VIA/IMPERIAL”. I have a cover with two complete strikes of this mark. The slogan part of the cancellation is 55mm x 25mm and the Charlestown, Nevis c.d.s. is as described and dated Nov. 24 1941. The cover also bears a Nevis c.d.s. of Nov. 23 1941 and a St. Kitts c.d.s. of the same date. The franking was made up of two Leeward $\frac{1}{4}$ d., two Leeward 1/- stamps and one St. Kitts 6d. The Nevis c.d.s. is over the large postmark and was seemingly used to cancel one of the 1/- stamps



which was not obliterated, but why dated in Nevis and St. Kitts the day before the “Cable and Wireless via Imperial” cancels? The cover, which was sent to London via airmail, also bears four strikes of the word “TRANSATLANTIC” - two in black and two in bright purple.

Robert W. Stein

ST. LUCIA

ST. LUCIA. AIR MAILS

As everyone knows, the regular Air Mail service to and from St. Lucia, commenced in September 1929 with the Lindbergh flights. This service was continued until late in 1934, when the Pan American planes ceased to stop at St. Lucia. Does any member of the Study Circle know the exact date of the cessation of this service?. I myself, have an Air Mail cover from St. Lucia (date 27 Nov. 34) to Antigua (date 28 Nov. 34) and I would like to know if any member has a cover from St. Lucia, “obviously carried by Air”, after this date in 1934. I mention “obviously carried by Air” because letters were still accepted for Air Mail by the Castries General Post Office after 1934; these went first by Sea Mail to Trinidad, the Transit Centre, from where they were taken to their destination by Air.

I have also another cover, St. Lucia (date 23 Mar 43) to Trinidad (date 24 Mar 43), which is inscribed “B.W.I.A.” 1st Flight”. I have assumed that this is the date on which the Air Mail service directly to and from St. Lucia was resumed by British West Indian Airways. However, does any member have any covers proving that the date of the resumption of direct Air Mail service to and from St. Lucia was earlier than March 23rd 1943? Another query of mine concerns an Air Mail cover carried across the Atlantic by the Airship ‘Hindenberg’, on her return flight from U.S.A. to Germany in May 1936. This cover, which was accepted for Air Mail transmission at the Castries Post Office on 7th April, has all the date stamps indicating that it went first by Sea Mail in Trinidad, and then by Air to New York via San Juan, where it awaited the Hindenberg flight. It has the Lakehurst Zeppelin cachet and arrived at its destination, England, on 15th May 1936. What I would like to know is, that although I knew that there were quite a number of covers carried by the Airship on this flight, how many originated from St. Lucia? Perhaps any member who has a similar cover would be kind enough to let me know. I might add that I would be very pleased to correspond and exchange information over the Air Mails of St. Lucia with any member who has a like interest.

T. A. Hutson

TOBAGO

TOBAGO STAMP CENTENARY

In the early part of this year I wrote to the Postmaster of Trinidad and Tobago and also to readers of Stamp Collecting Weekly regarding my doubts about the accuracy of the date ascribed, 1st. August 1979.

I am indebted to Mr. R. A. Butler, Honorary Librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society, London for the loan of the Society's copy of the Catalogue of the West Indies. This Handbook was compiled and published by the Philatelic Society in 1891.

The preliminary notes given by E. D. Bacon provide the appropriate Government Notices and from these it will be seen the first stamps issued in the Island were for fiscal purposes and they came into use on the 1st July 1879.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE STAMPS

"Notice is hereby given that the 'Stamp Ordinance' will come into operation on the 1st day of July next.

"The attention of the Public is called to the provisions of this Law.

"Under it a number of documents will be invalid unless they are properly stamped.

"By His Excellency's command,

"(Signed) R.L. BYNG,

"Col. Secretary

The Tobago Gazette

June 6th, 1879.

The Postal issue took place on the 1st August 1879, in accordance with the following notice found in the Gazette of July 18th.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

"POST OFFICE,

"SCARBOROUGH, End July, 1879.

"Notice is hereby given that from and after the 1st of August next, all letters, newspapers, and other articles transmissible by Post must be prepaid by having Postage Stamps of the proper value affixed thereto.

"Postage Stamps of the various values are now on sale at the Treasury, and a supply will in future be kept at this office.

"(Signed)

ROBT. W. MCEACHINE

"Acting Postmaster."

John de Vries

A CHRONICLE OF TOBAGO STAMP ISSUES 1879-1901.

1879 Revenue issue

(I) Artists proof.

(II) Die proof of revenue issue key plate.

(III) Imperf plate proof "ONE SHILLING" value in issued colour.

1879 (1st July) First stamps issued, employed for Revenue & Fiscal purposes. Printed by Messrs. De La Rue WMK. Crown CC Perf. 14.

1. "ONE PENNY" rose (shades)
2. "THREE PENCE" blue (shades)
3. "SIX PENCE" orange (shades)
4. "ONE SHILLING" green (shades)
5. "FIVE SHILLINGS" grey (shades)
6. "ONE POUND" mauve (shades)

1879 (1st August) Postal provisional issue. On sale at the Treasury (2nd July 1879) and the Post Office, Scarborough.

Generally found hand stamped A14, TOBAGO double arc date stamp and occasionally PAID AT TOBAGO crowned circle.

7. "ONE PENNY" rose
8. "THREE PENCE" blue
9. "SIX PENCE" orange
10. "ONE SHILLING" green
11. "FIVE SHILLINGS" grey
12. "ONE POUND" mauve

1880 (EKD. 6th November) 1879 issue bisected vertically and provisionally surcharge 1d in manuscript. Used for both branches of the service, postal and revenue.

13. "1d" on half of "SIX PENCE" orange

(?) 1879 issue bisected, possibly resulting from shortage of six pence value.

14. Bisected "ONE SHILLING" green

1881 (1st January) Postal provisional issue invalidated.

1880 Postage issue

(I) Artists proof 'ONE PENNY' Revenue Leaf design painted out & "POSTAGE" there on.

(II) Proof red brown (no value) Perf. 12.

(III) Imperf plate proofs ½d, 1d, 6d & 1/- values in issued colours.

1880 (20th December) On sale at the Post Office Scarborough. De La Rue invoice dated 4th October 1880. WMK Crown CC Perf. 14.

15. "HALF PENNY" purple brown (shades)
16. "ONE PENNY" venetian red (shades)
17. "FOUR PENCE" yellow green (shades)
18. "SIX PENCE" stone
19. "ONE SHILLING" yellow ochre

Note SPERATI DIE PROOFS of "FOUR PENCE" & "SIX PENCE" values in issued colours exist. Further De La Rue invoice dated 22nd January 1881 for ½d, 1d & 4d values.

1881 (1st January) Post Card on sale at Post Office Scarborough. Size 121 x 87mm.

20. "PENNY HALFPENNY" brown (shades)

1881 (?) 1880 issue bisected resulting from introduction of International Postal Union rates (1st January 1881)

21. Bisected "ONE PENNY" venetian red
22. Bisected "FOUR PENCE" yellow green

1882 (?) De La Rue invoice dated 14th October 1881. WMK. Crown CA Perf. 14.

23. "HALF PENNY" purple brown (shades)
24. "ONE PENNY" venetian red (shades)

1882 (?) De La Rue invoice dated 14th February 1882. WMK. Crown CA Perf. 14. Further supplies of ½d & 1d values.

25. "FOUR PENCE" yellow green
- 1883 (ECD. Feb-March) "ONE PENNY" issue of 1882 bisected

26. Bisected "ONE PENNY" venetian red
1883 (April) "SIX PENCE" of 1880 issue surcharged for provisional use as "2½ PENCE" WMK. Crown CC Perf. 14.
27. "2½ PENCE" on "SIX PENCE" stone
1883 (1st August) Key plate without duty overprint supplied on Crown Agents together with proposed U. P. U. colour scheme by De la Rue.
1883 (10th August) Reply Paid Cards on sale at Post Office Scarborough. Size 139 x 88mm. Perf. 4.
28. "PENNY HALFPENNY" plus "PENNY HALFPENNY" light brown (shades)
1883 (EKD) November) De La Rue invoice dated 24th October 1883. WMK. Crown CA Perf. 14.
29. "2½ PENNY" blue (shades)
Eight further De la Rue Invoices between 23.11.91 & 20.10.98.
1883 (?) On sale at the Treasurers Office Scarborough, Revenue stamps of 1870 issue WMK. Crown CA Perf. 14.
30. "ONE PENNY" rose (shades)
31. "THREE PENCE" blue (shades)
32. "SIX PENCE" orange (shades)
33. "ONE SHILLING" green (shades)
34. "FIVE SHILLINGS" grey (shades)
35. "ONE POUND" mauve (shades)
1884 (7) De La Rue invoice dated 22nd February 1884 WMK. Crown CA Perf. 14.
36. "SIX PENCE" stone
1885 Postage issue
(I) imperf plate proof "FOUR PENCE" value.
1885 (1st May) Changed colour conforming to U.P.U. scheme. De La Rue invoice dated 1st April 1885 WMK Crown CA Perf. 14.
37. "FOUR PENCE" grey (shades)
Seven further De La Rue invoices between 7.5.90 & 21.6.97.
1886 (January) "SIX PENCE" of 1884 issue surcharged for provisional use.
38. "½ PENNY" on "SIX PENCE" stone
1886 (April) "2½ PENNY" of 1883 issue surcharged for provisional use.
39. "½ PENNY" on "2½ PENNY" blue
1886 (?) De La Rue invoice dated 17th May 1886 WMK Crown CA Perf. 14.
40. "HALF PENNY" green (shades)
41. "SIX PENCE" orange brown (shades)
400 of each value overprinted "SPECIMEN"
½d eight further invoices between 23.4.87 & 21.6.97.
6d five further invoices between 30.12.93 & 18.2.98.
1887 (EKD. 5th August) "SIX PENCE" of 1886 issue surcharged for provisional use.
42. "½ PENNY" on "SIX PENCE" orange brown

- 1889 (July) "2½ PENNY" of 1883 issue surcharged for provisional use.
43. "1 PENNY" on "2½ PENNY" blue
- 1889 (?) De La Rue invoice dated 25th June 1889 WMK. Crown CA Perf. 14.
44. "ONE PENNY" carmine (shades)
400 of each overprinted "SPECIMEN"
Nine further invoices between 23.11.91 & 20.10.98.
- 1889 (?) Revenue stamps printed in doubly fugitive ink printed by Messrs De La Rue WMK. Crown CA Perf. 14. On sale at the Treasurers office Scarborough.
45. "ONE PENNY" dull purple (shades)
46. "THREE PENCE" dull purple & black (shades)
47. "FOUR PENCE" dull purple & carmine (shades)
48. "SIX PENCE" dull purple & blue (shades)
49. "ONE SHILLING" green (shades)
50. "ONE POUND" dull purple (shades)
- 1890 (February) Postmaster complained to Crown Agents of gum deterioration on stamps. Attributed to climatic exposure to moisture. "HALF PENNY" stamps among those values complained of.
- 1890 (20th April) Provisional Postage Dues, Issue of 1885 hand stamped "TREASURY TOBAGO" double ringed circled crown.
51. "FOURPENCE" grey (TREASURY TOBAGO cancelled)
- 1891 (August) Provisional surcharge "1 PENNY" bisected.
52. Bisected "1 PENNY" on "2½ PENNY" blue.
- 1891 (August) "FOUR PENCE" of 1885 issue surcharged for provisional use.
- 1891 (August) "FOUR PENCE" of 1885 surcharged for provisional use.
53. "2½ PENCE" on "FOUR PENCE" grey
- 1892 (May) "FOUR PENCE" of 1885 issue surcharged for provisional use.
54. "½ PENNY" on "FOUR PENCE" grey
- 1892 (?) Post Card of 1881 Issue surcharged for provisional use. Size 121 x 87mm.
55. "HALF PENNY" on "PENNY HALFPENNY" light brown
56. "ONE PENNY" on "PENNY HALFPENNY" light brown
- 1892 (7) On sale at Post Office Scarborough. Post Cards size 121 x 74mm & 139 x 89mm.
57. "HALF PENNY" green (shades)
58. "ONE PENNY" carmine (shades)
- 1892 (?) Reply Paid Cards size 121 x 74mm 139 x 89mm Perf. 7.
59. "HALF PENNY" Plus "HALF PENNY" green (shades)
60. "ONE PENNY" Plus "ONE PENNY" carmine (shades)
- 1892 (?) Registered Envelopes of various sizes.
61. "TWO PENCE" grey blue (shades)
- 1894 (EKD. 10th February) De La Rue invoice dated 30th December 1893. WMK Crown CA Perf. 14.

62. "ONE SHILLING" olive yellow (shades)

Three further invoices between 1.7.95 & 28.3.97.

1896 (EKD. 14th September) De La Rue invoice dated 10th August 1896. WMK. Crown CA. Perf. 14. On sale at the Post Office Scarborough, to the public 14th September to 8th October 1896.

63. "ONE SHILLING" orange brown.

1896 (December) "FOUR PENCE" 1889 Revenue issue surcharged for provisional use.

64. "½d" on "FOUR PENCE" dull purple & carmine (shades) Overprint "Specimen" sans serif in red.

1899 (1st January) Stamps of Tobago superceded by the current Trinidad issues.

1900 (January) Crown Agents offered Tobago postage stamp remainders for sale.

"HALF PENNY" green 10,927

"ONE PENNY" carmine 2,833

"2½ PENNY" blue 6,989

"FOUR PENCE" grey 4,775

"SIX PENCE" orange brown 3,941

"ONE SHILLING" olive yellow 7,553

1901 Crown Agents letter to Messrs Bright & Son "HALF PENNY", "2½ PENNY" & "ONE SHILLING" unsold quantity (?) destroyed together with printing plates.

John de Vries

TURKS & CAICOS

TURKS & CAICOS WAR TAX OVERPRINTS

May I enter the controversy over the Turks and Caicos War Tax overprints discussed by Michael Wilson so fully in Bulletin No. 104.

Some years ago I corresponded with the late Stanley Phillips regarding an item purchased by me in 1949 from Hadfield Craven Ltd. and which I subsequently sold through Harmers Ltd. in 1975. The item was a strip of twelve 1d stamps with War Tax overprint and with one copy showing the double overprint. This strip right across the sheet, with margins either end, bore out the fact that the type was set normally six columns each ten stamps, but for some unknown reason, the sheet from which my strip was taken, the left hand type was set for seven columns and the right hand for six columns - producing one double overprint on stamp seven.

Stanley Phillips, in a letter to me says, "Frankly I am puzzled by the strip as I can't remember ever seeing anything to suggest that there was a multiple of seven overprints in use, and, with a sheet of 120, there could have been no reason for one. It may be that someone on the spot juggled with the genuine type, to produce your strip, but it is very difficult to prove anything owing to the difficulty of comparing the overlapping overprints on the 'double' and the general blurriness of the printing."

I am rather inclined to agree with Stanley Phillips' observation. After all, this was a local overprint and anything could have happened.

If any member of the Study Circle is now in possession of this strip I would be only too pleased to let him have the correspondence.

William ff D. Hall

May I add to a query raised in Bulletin No.104 - by Mr. Michael Wilson on pages 16 & 17 regarding Turks & Caicos local overprint WAR TAX stamps.

I have two items of interest. One is a complete horizontal strip of 12 of SG 140, with both margins, in which the left hand six have the overprint in heavy lettering level with the conch shells and the right hand six have the overprint in thin letters some 2mm lower. Both sets of six impressions slope down slightly left to right. This definitely in my opinion confirms the "10 x 6" forme for the overprint - at least the "6 horizontally" part.

I also have a similar strip of 12 of the same stamp which has the first of the six LH "WAR TAX" in the margin. The 6th stamp has WAR TAX some 2mm higher and centred more to the left of the stamp than nos. 1 to 5. Stamps nos. 7 - 12 have WAR TAX 1mm higher than nos. 1 to 5. Both the items have "Row 4" pencilled in the margin, presumably by a previous owner.

This confirms Mr. Wilson's supposition that the LH forme was positioned so far to the left that column 6 missed the overprint completely. However, what seems to have happened in my case is that the printer then blanked off columns 1 - 5 and overprinted again. This time of course column 6 received the correct overprint, albeit positioned differently, whilst a double overprint on columns 1 - 5 was avoided by the use of a blanking-off plate or card. Incidentally, surely on line 9 of page 17, Mr. Wilson means "those to the left of stamp A would have a double overprint".

However, the use of a forme 6 x 10 would not explain the stamp listed as SG 140c, unless the forme had been positioned one stamp higher so that an impression appeared in the top margin (see SG 143e). But I have a block of four, no margins, of SG 143 with the words positioned identically on each stamp, the upper pair being in heavy thick lettering and the lower pair in thin letters. What happened here? Did we originally have the bottom (or top) stamps missing the overprint and being subsequently overprinted with or without the others being blanked-off, or was there perhaps a forme of 30, (5x6), which was repeated four times in the sheet of 120?

Incidentally, I have a copy of SG 141 with a double overprint, a full 1mm difference between the two, with both impressions the same intensity. Hardly due to judder would you say? I have SG 142 with a "double/d" overprint only ½mm apart and with one much fainter than the other - this I would say is definitely due to judder.

D. H. Vernon

NEWS ROUNDUP

May we offer our congratulations to the following members for their awards at the 'London 1980' International Exhibition.

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Large Gold. | J.L. Messenger - Barbados 1775-1900. |
| Gold. | M. Ishihara - St. Vincent. J.L. Messenger - Grenada 1770-1910.
H.M. Nathanson - Barbados The pre-stamp and classic period.
E.V.Toeg - Antigua 1693-1935. |
| Vermeil. | H.F. Deakin - Barbados Philately 1698-1975.
P. Jaffe - St. Vincent. E.K. Thompson - Antigua. |
| Silver. | B.A. Brookes - St. Christopher. F.W. Doolittle - Tobago.
B.E. Johnson - Grenada. |

Sil. Bronze Mrs. S.M. Pearse - Antigua. R.A. Ramkissoon - Postal Stationery of Trinidad & Tobago.

Special Award The B.C.P.S.G. Gold Medal was awarded to Victor. Toeg for his display of Antigua 1693-1935.

A new publication, "W.I. Postal History Review," has just been issued and the following is an extract from its first editorial by Joe Chin Aleong.

"For various reasons, but mainly because we think that we will be filling a real need, we have decided to publish Postal History Review.

The intention is to publish at least four issues a year but this can be varied depending on the response and support of interested collectors and dealers.

The "W.I. Postal History Review" will publish articles on all aspects of the postal history of the Caribbean territories. Present publication plans include articles on the postal markings of Trinidad, St. Vincent and Tobago, the postage rates of St. Vincent and Trinidad, excerpts of items of interest from the Trinidad Royal Gazette for the period 1845 to 1900 (and hopefully to a later date when these have been researched) and excerpts from the Tobago archives.

A regular feature of each issue will be "Around the Caribbean" which will record, in brief form, postal markings old and new and pose any queries raised by readers. It is hoped especially, with the help of correspondents in each territory, to record all contemporary postal markings so that collectors will have some reference to these when they are doing their studies in the future!

Members interested in this and subsequent issues should get in touch with Joe at P.O. Box 128, San Fernando, Trinidad, W.I.

Bob Bolling has been busy on the exhibition scene. Last year he was awarded a silver and bronze medal for his Bahamas Air Mail. Now Bob is hoping, time permitting, to prepare an exhibit of Bahamas War Tax Stamps for this year's 'HOUPEX'

In the last issue of the Bulletin it was our sad duty to report the death of member, John Willem who had been a member for many years and whose research into the 'Tudway Correspondence' had become well known. We are happy to say that John's wife Lois, time permitting, not only hopes to be able to continue with this research but had decided to carry on membership of the Study Circle.

Michael Sheppard

MEMBERS SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisement rate: 5p per word; minimum charge 50p. Copy to the Editor six weeks before publication.

B.W.I. SPECIMEN OVERPRINTS available for exchange. Please contact Basil Cawston, 560a Bahia Circle, Ocala, Fl 32672, U.S.A.

WANTED oblit no. 615 on 2d rose Jamaica. Can offer same, superb on 2d key plate - plus cash in exchange. Also wanted plating copies of 2½d on 4d official - similar for exchange - or oblit now. SWARBRICK, GRIMSTON, MELTON MOWBRAY.

Continued on next page

WANTED. JAMAICA 2½ on 4d. S.G.
Horizontal setting used. No. 2, 3,8,9 and 10.
Horizontal setting mint No. 3,5,6,7 and 10.
Vertical setting mint No. 1,2,4,5,7,8 and 10.
Some duplicates for exchange - or would buy. SWARBRICK.

NEW MEMBERS

BUMP, C. Kilbourne, 78, North Rd., Hampden, Mass.01036, U.S.A.
Interest: Bermuda (specialised).
CANNING, B., Edinburgh Stamp Shop, 72, South Clerk St Edinburgh.
Interest: not known.
DE KEYSER, Mrs., Elizabeth, Flat F., 11, Queensgate Terrace, S.W.7
Interest: Leeward Island.
DOW, Jeffrey M., 26, Wilson Rd., Bedford, Mass., U.S.A.
Interest: Bermuda.
NORMAN, B., 6, Sheldon Ave., London, N.6.
Interest: not known.
PARKES, Stanley E., Midwinter, 21, Hawthorne Hill, Worle, Weston Super Mare, Avon.
Interest: Ant., Barb., Dom., Gren., Jam., Nev., St. L., St. K., St. V.,
Tob., Trin., Tur and Vir.
RAYMOND, Gale J., P.O. Box 35666, Houston, Texas 77035, U.S.A.
Interest: postmarks and postal history.
SIMPSON, Mrs. June A., 20, First St., Chatham, Ontario, Canada, N7M 2PS.
Interest: Jamaica (specialised).
SIMPSON, Wilfred Surtees, 45, Whiteliff Drive, Ripen, North Yorkshire.
Interest: St. Vincent and Grenadines.
SPEAR, Arthur H., 617, 9th Avenue, East Northport, NY 11731, U.S.A.
Interest: Jamaica and postal history.
TERRY, Mrs. Stella, 34, Brookwell Close, Chippenham, Wilts., SN15 1PJ.
Interest: Cayman Island and Jamaica.
WILLIAMS, Alan, 20, Stirling Rd., Hayes, Middlesex, UB3 3AH.
Interest: not known.
ZAHNER, Donald D., Dorset Vermont 05251, U.S.A.
Interest: not known.

DECEASED MEMBER

WILLEM, John Martin.

CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. Lois H. Willem will be continuing the membership of her late husband.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

BARWICK, C.J., Via Della Birona 9, 20052 Monza, Italy.
BRANSON, W.R., Hete, Ermington, Ivybridge, Devon, PL21 9NZ.
FREELAND, C.A., Oberer Batterieweg 45, 4059 Basel, Switzerland.

CHANGE OF INTEREST

WILSON, M.R., now specialist collection.

RESIGNED

PALEY, R.J., WARD, T.D. Both these members have gone away, leaving no forwarding address, and are therefore presumed to have resigned.

Advert

E.V. & L. TOEG

Advert

CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

Advert

F.W. COLLINS

Advert

NEW ENGLAND STAMP COMPANY

BULLETINS & STUDY PAPERS

Copies of a number of early back issues and consecutively from No. 69 (June 1971) are obtainable from the Hon. Editor as follows:-

Bulletins per copy	65p
'Cordex' Instantaneous Self-Binders each holding 20 issues	£1.60
Issues containing notes on specific colonies gladly supplied where available.	
THE HISTORY OF THE SAILING PACKETS TO THE W. INDIES by L. E. Britnor (U.K. & Europe)	£8.25
	(U.S.A. etc.) £8.75
BMI POSTAL RATES UP TO 1900 by L.E. Britnor (U.K. & Europe) Softback	£3.30
	Hardback £4.35
(U.S.A. etc.) Softback	£3.45
	Hardback £4.65

NOTE: Prices include postage, packing and VAT where applicable.

OPINION SERVICE

(Non-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 items 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.