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JANUARY 27th, 1954

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BULLETIN No 110 SEPTEMBER 1981

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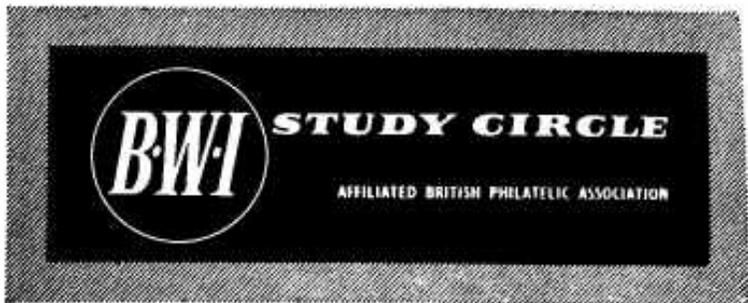
CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

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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 **£3.00** or **\$8.00** 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

1982

Wed., Feb. 3rd, 6.00 p.m.	Vincent Duggleby. St Vincent.
Thurs. March 4th, 6.00 p.m.	To be arranged.
Sat. April 24th, 2.30 p.m.	A.G.M. and Auction.

SPECIAL EVENT

Sat., Oct. 17th, 1981 Caribbean Convention to be held at the Regent Hotel, Leamington, Warwick.

The two evening meetings will be held in Committee Room A, The Law Society Building, 113, Chancery Lane, London WC1A 1PL. The A.G.M. and Auction will be held at the Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London, WC1 4BH.

THE HON. TREASURER

In Bulletin No.109 June 1981 Victor Toeg asked for a volunteer for the office of Hon. Treasurer. We are now pleased to announce that our Librarian, Steve Papworth has come forward in response to this request and will be taking up the duties of Treasurer immediately. May we suggest that during the transition period you do not burden him with too much correspondence. Steve will also retain the post of Hon. Librarian.

CARIBBEAN COLLECTORS' CONVENTION

This is the last opportunity to remind members to complete the Convention Booking Form if they wish to stay at the Regent Hotel and/or to attend the Luncheon at £5.00 per person. Please send the completed Convention Booking Form to Ian Chard as promptly as possible, if you have not already done so. The Convention Booking Form should reach Ian Chard not later than Friday 25th September, 1981 as it may not be possible to fulfill bookings made after that date.

You are also reminded that members and guests (excluding wives) attending the Convention will each have to pay the £1.50 Convention charge in addition. If the Convention charge is not enclosed when the Convention Booking Form is completed and sent to Ian Chard, then please pay it at the same time as you receive your identity disc at The Regent Hotel.

DISPLAY

Nine members were present at a meeting which took place at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 11th March, 1981 in Committee Room C at the Law Society Building, 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC1A 1PL when our Hon. Secretary, Ian P. Chard, gave a display of his fast developing collection of Bermuda.

Mr. Chard commenced his display by showing the die proofs of the 1880 issue, the ½d. and 4d. values being cut down and mounted on card and an example of the ½d. value on full card "Before Hardening" and dated 14 NOV 79. This was followed by mint examples of the issued stamps in singles, blocks of four and doubles (mounted to show gum). The ½d. value was shown with a variety "spot on cheek". This issue was followed by pages illustrating the 1883-98 Queen Victoria stamps on paper watermarked Crown and CA. The issue included a new 2½d. value stamp and an example of the die proof on cut down card was shown. Mint examples of the ½d., 1d., 2d. (blue), 2d. (purple), 2d (brown purple), 2½d., 3d., 1/- (yellow-brown) and 1/- (olive brown) from this issue were shown in singles, pairs and with some blocks of four. Where appropriate gum differences were shown. The issues of the reign of Queen Victoria were concluded with examples of the ¼d. on 1/- provisional issue of 1901. The examples included a "Specimen" stamp, shades and blocks one of which included the broken "G" in Farthing variety. Gum differences were also shown.

The 1902-1910 "Dock" Issues were then displayed, with specimen stamps on paper watermarked Crown and CA; also mint examples of all the stamps issued in the series in singles and some blocks of four.

Mr. Chard continued his display with a study of the "Ship" issues of 1910-1925 on paper watermarked Crown and CA and the issues of 1922 to 1936 on paper watermarked Multiple Crown and Script CA. The study showed the constant Master Plate Fresh Entries on stamp 4 (where printed in sheets of 60) and stamp 10 (where printed in sheets of 120) as well as stamp 77. The Master Plate Retouches on stamps 11, 96, and 112 were shown. The principal study was of the ¼d. value on plates 1 and 2 and of the ½d. value. All other values with the exception of the 1d. value were shown with the varieties. The 1d. value was omitted on the ground of its immense complexity. Positional strips and blocks of stamps were used to show the varieties. Photographic enlargements were used to illustrate the varieties more clearly. The study included, on separate pages, a consideration of the perforation differences on all the values. A table of values and perforations helped to guide the viewer through this complex issue.

The "Ship" issues had a highest value of 1/-. The higher values of the reign of King George V, were shown in a straight set of stamps with the values issued on paper watermarked Multiple Crown and CA i.e. : 2/6d, 5/-, 10/- and £1. Additional values of 2/- and 4/- issued on this paper on 19th June, 1920 were also shown. The watermark change to Multiple Crown and Script CA was shown on the issued values: 2/-, 2/6d, 10/- and 12/6d. An example of the 12/6d. stamp inscribed "Revenue" "Revenue" instead of the usual "Postage" "Revenue" was also shown. There followed a closer study of the 2/- and 2/6d. values with examples of the 'Broken Crown and Scroll flaw' on the 2/- value on paper watermarked Multiple Crown and CA.

An example of the 2/6d. value with the “Scroll flaw” on paper watermarked Multiple Crown and Script CA was shown together with a selection of different printings of this value. A page was devoted to the 4/- value showing the die proof of the frame on card marked “Before Striking” and dated 26.2.20 with an example of the issued stamp. A page devoted to the 5/- value illustrated a “Scroll” and “Shading” flaw. Examples of the 10/- stamp on papers with both watermarks was followed by a page devoted to the 12/6d. value on paper watermarked Multiple Crown and Script CA which showed two distinct shades and an example of a flaw by the right hand scroll. Mint examples of the two sets of “Tercentenary Commemoratives”, some showing the plate number 1 marking on the bottom left corner of the sheet, were shown and this was followed by mint examples of the 1935 Jubilee issue. The display of mint stamps was concluded with examples of the 1936 King George V “Pictorial” issue.

Mr. Chard then exhibited examples of the postal markings using Mr. M. H. Ludington’s system of listing. The distribution of Duplex Cancellations K3, K3a, K4 and K4a was illustrated by these marks on stamps. The sets were not complete owing to the rarity of some of the marks, especially numerals 16, 17, 18 and 19. The distribution of handstamp datestamp types H1, H4, H5, 116, H7 and H8 was shown by examples of the strikes on stamps. Examples of the markings used at Ireland Island included Bar Cancellation K1 (numeral 3) on two stamps. Duplex Cancellation K4 (numeral 3) was exemplified on six stamps and on one cover to Manchester. Handstamp H5 was shown on two covers. Handstamp H7 was shown on a postcard and Handstamp H11a was shown on a block of four KGV1 2/- stamps.

Examples of postmarks used at Mangrove Bay Post Office were included in the display: Handstamp H5 and H9a were shown on cover and Handstamp H12 was shown on three stamps on piece.

The postal markings of Bailey’s Bay Post Office were illustrated with examples of Duplex Cancellations K3a (numeral 12) on cover, Duplex cancellation K4a (numeral 12) on four stamps, Handstamp H5 on cover, and Handstamp H12a on cover.

The postal markings of Flatts Post Office were illustrated with examples of Bar Cancellation K1 (numeral 13) on two stamps, Handstamps H5, H11 and H12 on cover. An example of Somerset Bridge Post Office Handstamp H5 was shown also on cover.

A selection of miscellaneous postal markings was shown and included a selection of the “Official Paid” franks, “Postage due” markings, “Missent to Bermuda” and “Insufficiently pre-paid for transmission by Air Mail” markings and the “Received in damaged condition, officially sealed at G.P.O. Bermuda” marking. Examples of Censor Marks CM1 on three covers on out going and incoming mail in the Boer War Period were shown and these were followed by examples of Censor Marks CM13 (on piece) CM15 on two covers and concluded with an example of Censor mark CM21 on cover.

Mr. D. Mitton proposed a vote of thanks and his remarks were very well received by those members who were present who signified their approval in the usual way.

NOTES and QUERIES

ANTIGUA

Further to the articles on Antigua Air Mail by Alex Thomson in Bulletin No.100 and George Bowman in Bulletin No.103. I have a cover franked 1/4½d. and bearing a strike of the same cachet, FIRST AIRMAIL/ANTIGUA TO U.S.A. /SEPTEMBER 1929, as described in the Thomson, Bowman articles.



An unusual feature is a manuscript mark in blue crayon at the foot of the cachet which puzzles me. Can anyone help?

I have another cover carried on the same flight with no applied cachet, but the envelope is specially printed FIRST FLIGHT/FAM 6/FLORIDA - PORTO RICO. This cover is also franked 1/4½d, a rate at variance with “the standard 9d. postage rate” quoted by Alex Thomson.

William ff D. Hall

BAHAMAS

Over the past three months I have gathered together three covers all bearing strikes of the FIRST DAILY FLIGHT/NASSAU TO MIAMI/1930 cachet and addressed to Dr. Walter Hess. (I wonder if he was another “Ernest Panton”).

The covers go from Nassau, 2 JA 30 to:-

1. Antigua via Miami and San Juan - arrived St. Johns JA 5 30. Return journey via Barbuda JA 10, New York FE 13, Nassau FE 18.
2. Barbuda via Miami and St. Johns JA 5 - arrived Barbuda JA 17. No marks of return passage to Nassau.
3. Belize via Miami - arrived Belize JA 4. Return via New York JA 16, Nassau JA 20.

I wonder if Dr. Hess was something to do with the air line as each cover has another cachet, in red usually.

FIRST FLIGHT/NASSAU - ANTIGUA/ (a small aeroplane)

FIRST FLIGHT/ NASSAU - BARBUDA/ (plane)

FIRST FLIGHT/BRITISH HONDURAS /RESUMED SERVICE/ (no plane).

William ff D. Hall

I also have a copy of the Bahamas Queen Victoria 2½d with the large 2 having a “dropped” foot. It is the ultramarine shade S.G.52. Being a non-marginal single, unused, it is not possible to position it by normal methods. However, as the large 2 is identical to Stanley Gibbon’s Type A of Antigua, I am taking it to be stamp number 60 of the upper left-hand pane. With thanks and felicitations to the writer of the note in Bulletin No. 106.

J. M. Bailey

BRITISH WEST INDIES

In the March, 1981, Bulletin, on page 8, Mr. Fitz-Gerald clarified the position for members collecting the “A91” cancellation.

Amplifying the position, however, I have a Virgin Islands and Leeward Islands stamp carrying the “A91” cancellation after the year 1887 when in theory it should actually have been the sole prerogative of the town of Southsea in Hampshire. In other words, it would appear that some bureaucratic omission was made here, i.e. the same number allowed to be issued from St. Martin’s Le Grand to two separate locations, one in Britain and one in the West Indies. Except for “C63” of Tampico and “193” of Cold Spring, Jamaica, I have not heard of any other errors of this nature, i.e. where the number has been in use in Great Britain and overseas at the same time.

M. H. Hewlett

B.W.I. GENERAL-WATERMARK VARIETIES

In Bulletin No. 104 I made a first attempt to compile a check-list of B.W.I. watermark varieties and invited members to share their knowledge in this field. Let me first thank those members who wrote to me with information, in particular Steve Drewett and Mike Wilson, whose contributions were very substantial. This kind of study never becomes complete, but I believe those varieties of which I still have no record must be extremely scarce (which does not, of course, mean that some of the ones in my list are not rarities). Here, then, is the list as it now stands including, this time, those items which appear in the Bridger and Kay Five Reigns Catalogue issued in 1980. As before, I take no great trouble to distinguish shade differences and omit the early classics, mostly Perkins Bacon issues whose operators took no pains to insert the paper correctly, generally starting with the Q.V. Key-types and running to the end of George V. I apologise to Jamaica and Trinidad enthusiasts, whose colonies I do not collect, but as far as Jamaica is concerned the B. & K. listing is very thorough.

I would urge members to let the Editor or myself know if they can add items to the list or can confirm any of those items I have marked as subject to an element of doubt. If the normal experience of those who venture into print is repeated, an avalanche of “new” varieties will come my way as soon as this article goes in press. I particularly recommend collectors of specimens to have a look at the watermarks, since this field is largely unexplored.

Charles A. Freeland

LIST OF WATERMARK VARIETIES S.G. nos. 1981

Key: ø Reported by a reliable source, but confirmation requested.

* Watermark already sideways.

ANTIGUA	Inverted. 22ø, 24, 36, 41, 57, fiscal 6d., Barbuda 4. Inverted and reversed. 24, 25. Reversed. 25. Barbuda 3. Sideways. 70.
BAHAMAS.	Inverted. 52, 58, 71, 74, 99, 102, 107, 108, 111, 112, 116, 116 specimen, 120*. Inverted and reversed. 71, 99, 107, 112, 116, 118*. Reversed. 102, 105, 112, 118*, 51. Sideways. 107.
BARBADOS.	Inverted. 89, 98, 105, 114, 145, 147, 149, 181, 183, 185, 187a, 188, 190, 196, 197, 201, 203, 206, 208, 210*, 215, 220.

	Inverted and reversed. 181, 185, 187, 188, 190, 196, 201, 202, 203, 209*, 210*, 221. Reversed. 146, 147, 189, 210*, 217.
BERMUDA.	Inverted. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10a, 11, 19, 22, 24a, 27, 28a, 36, 45, 46ø, 48, 53, 55, 59*, 60*, 61*, 68*, 75*, 81a, 82ø, 83. Inverted and reversed. 46ø, 48, 75 specimen*. Reversed. 5, 29a, 34, 48, 51b, 59*, 60*, 71*, 80.
B. GUIANA	Inverted. 199, 261. Reversed. 174. Sideways. 260, 289.
B. HONDURAS	Inverted. 10a, 20, 25, 37, 53, 81, 82, 116, PD3. Inverted and reversed. 5, 120. Reversed. 116, 132ø.
CAYMAN I.	Inverted. 60, 69ø, 75ø. Inverted and reversed. 60, 69, 75. Reversed. 56, 63, 74.
DOMINICA	Inverted. 5, 16, 27*, 31*, 45*, 49*, 50*, 52*. Inverted and reversed. 47* Reversed. 28*ø.
GRENADA	Inverted. 98d, 111.
LEEWARD I.	Inverted. 3, 51c, 74a. Reversed. 65.
MONTSERRAT	Inverted. 1, 5, 10, 15, 61a. Inverted and reversed. 60. Reversed. 1, 2, 5, 7, 7b, 13.
ST.CHRISTOPHER	Inverted. 10, 17, 19, 20. Sideways. 1, 8, 10, 11.
ST.KITTS&NEVIS	Inverted. 26*, 46*, 46* specimen. Inverted and reversed. 26*. Reversed. 22.
ST. VINCENT	Inverted. 68, 109, 122, 127. Inverted and reversed. 109. Reversed. 112a, 119, 127.
TURKS&CAICOS I.	Inverted. 102ø, 103, 104a, 115, 116, 124, 129, 132, 136, 137, 146a, 149, 151, 153, 160. Inverted and reversed. 117, 153, 157, 170. Reversed. 117, 120, 120 specimen, 130a, 133c, 138b, 151, 153, 160, 169, 171.
VIRGIN I.	Inverted. 31, 78b, 79. Inverted and reversed. 78a. Reversed. 35. Sideways. 78.

DOMINICA

Postal Fiscal - The 1d Carmine overprinted Revenue. S.G.R6.

This neglected little stamp poses several problems that arouses one's curiosity, and the writer would be grateful for any help. Briefly the situation is –

1. Both shades of the 1d. postage, Carmine & Rose were overprinted
2. The date of issue of the 1d. postage has always been a little obscure, so also is that of the 1d. Revenue, as I suspect the 1d. Rose preceded the 1d. Carmine, but I may be wrong. It may just have been a fortuitous selection of sheets for overprinting.

3. This overprint comes in two distinct types of lower case lettering which can be roughly classified as “Thick” and “Thin”, as shown in the horizontal position of the ‘c’ and the second vertical limb of the ‘v’ and ‘n’. There are also minor characteristics in the shape of the capital R and the size of the serifs, or even their absence, on all letters.

The question is whether there were two printings, or more likely a mixed type face on the overprint plate?

Both the Carmine and Rose stamps are involved and to date it would appear that horizontally on the sheet the over-print is in the same type.

To prove the point, has anyone any large blocks or vertical strips of either of these stamps?

If so, their observations would be appreciated.

Dr. H. Vivian Brown

GRENADA

THE GRENADA TETE-BECHE ISSUE OF 1883

My interest in this issue was stimulated by the acquisition of three complete panes (two of the ½d., referred to in this article as A and B, and one of the second 1d. of 1887). All 3 panes are lower right.

When the second ½d. pane was acquired it appeared to be the same position as the first and I was initially disappointed, but closer examination revealed that they were not identical. In particular, some rows of the inscriptions were reversed.

The stamps printed in this tete-beche format were:-

1. 1883, Grenada Postage Stamps, ½d., 1d, 2½d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 1/-.
2. 1887, Grenada Postage and Revenue Stamp of 1d. value.
3. 1884, Grenada Revenue Stamps, 1d., 2d. , 3d. , 4d., and 9d. values.
4. 1887, Grenada Revenue Stamps, 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/- and £1 values.
5. ? Date of issue, Montserrat Revenue Stamp, 6d. value.

Previous writings on this subject include:-

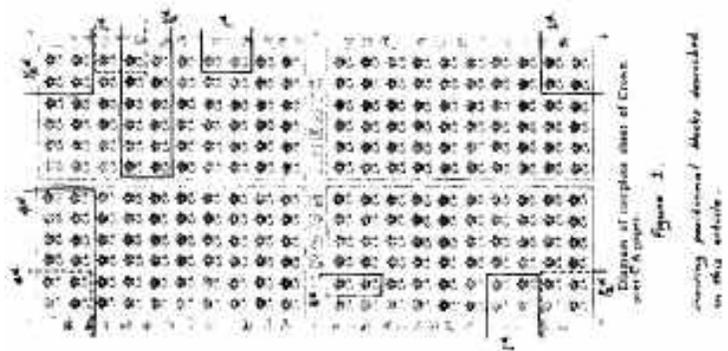
1. A series of articles by Mr. Alfred Charlton, F.R.P.S.L. in the Philatelic Journal Great Britain, 1952 - 53.
2. Many references in the De La Rue History of British and Foreign Postage Stamps by Mr. John Easton, published in 1958.
3. “Extracts of the De La Rue Printings” by the same author in the London Philatelist, Vol. LXX, 1961.

I must acknowledge the information and ideas contained in these writings. Information of a more general nature was obtained from “Postage Stamps in the Making” (1916) by Fred J. Melville.

My main purpose in writing this article is to propose some new ideas about the production of these stamps. I realize that some of the suggestions I shall make are not

proven, but I believe that the full picture can only appear after the examination of more material than is available to me. Multiples of the scarcer values, which can be positioned and allocated to a pane, are particularly required. For this reason I have described many flaws of interest only in plating, and too minute to have any other philatelic interest.

Figure 1 is taken from “Postage Stamps in the Making” and represents a complete sheet of Single Crown over CA paper used for this issue. Stamps with margin attached can be positioned on a particular pane by the marginal watermark. The Head Plate flaws to be described permit positioning of almost 50% of the stamps, although allocation to a pane is not possible in the absence of the sheet margin. Charlton asserted that the plate numbers were distinctive for each pane. The plate numbers occur twice in both top and bottom margins of each pane, above or below the second and fifth vertical rows. The pane of 60 stamps has ten horizontal rows of six.



The background to the issue is of some importance in that De La Rue & Co. were attempting to wrest the Colonial printing contracts from Perkins, Bacon & Co. and cost was paramount. In 1879 De La Rue developed the idea of using a standard Key-plate for more than one Colony, with the name of the Colony and the Duty on a separate overprint plate. This was used for the Leeward Islands Colonies of Antigua, Nevis, Montserrat and the Virgin Islands in 1879. In 1880 when tendering for Cyprus stamps they referred to the “existing Key-plate”. In 1881 Grenada had joined the U.P.U. and new values of 1/2d., 2 1/2d. and 4d. were required. On January 7th 1881 De La Rue quoted printing at 2/4 per 1000 and explained that they intended to use the existing Leeward Islands Key-plate “with the word Grenada inserted into the top tablet” and the existing overprint formes for the duty. Perkins, Bacon retained the contract using their existing “no value” die, at 1/- per 1000.

On the 23rd December 1881 De La Rue returned to the attack forwarding to the Crown Agents a long letter extolling the virtues of surface printing over the copper-plate (sic) process of their competitor. With this letter they submitted a block of 12 tete-beche stamps (illustrated in the History on Plate 24). Furthermore they explained a reduction in the printing price to 1/- per 1000 as “due to the adoption of a peculiar method of printing”. This undoubtedly refers in part at least to the tete-beche format, the Grenada stamps differ in method of printing”. This undoubtedly refers in part at

least to the *tete-beche* format, the advantage of which was to be its lower cost compared with the existing Key and Duty Plate process. It is valid to enquire why this should be so. A superficial examination shows that, apart from the *tete-beche* format, the Grenada stamps differ in the omission of the frames for the inscriptions at the top and bottom. De La Rue themselves (History page 367) called the Grenada stamps “some what crude in appearance, on account of the inscriptions not being enclosed in tablet lines”. The omission of these lines must therefore have been essential in the new process. It would appear therefore that “the peculiar method of printing” was not some simple modification of the two step Key and Duty process. We have to explain both the *tete-beche* format and the removal of the frames.

How then was the plate composed? A study of the block of 12 illustrated in Plate 24 of the De La Rue History shows the hand-written endorsement in the margin:- “make plate of 60 sets thus”. Below there is a crude drawing of a portion of the plate with a depression on the surface. The legend indicates that these depressions were “for strips”. I believe that this unconventional and possibly unique plate consisted of two elements:-

1. An electrotyped head plate of 60 set (10 rows of 6) made from leads struck from a modified working die derived from the existing Leeward Islands Die.
2. Strips stereo-typed from type-set masters and presumably steel-faced, which were slotted into the grooves on the head plate and the whole locked into the chase. Six strips bearing “GRENADA POSTAGE” and five strips for the duty would have been required.

For a one colour stamp this arrangement meant a single printing process as compared with the two steps necessarily involved in printing from Key and Duty plates. Mr. Charlton suggested that electros were prepared for each value. When one considers the small size of the order for some values (e.g. 100 panes of 60 of the 1/-) and the probable extension of the new method to other Colonies then the cost of preparing electros would appear to negate one of the advantages of the new technique.

The use of moveable strips and not an overprint plate explains the necessity for the removal of the frame-lines of the tablets. A bonus of the removal was the slightly greater room available between rows for the lettering.

As suggested by Mr. Charlton, the only possible advantage of the *tete-beche* format was that it brought together the Colony name (or duty) of adjacent rows. It was then possible to prepare strips bearing the double legend for adjacent rows. It meant that each strip bore only one type of legend, and therefore when it was desired for example to alter the value the “GRENADA POSTAGE” strips could be left undisturbed.

Evidence for these statements will be presented. Mr. Charlton pointed out that the same flaws can be found on the Head Plate, on the “GRENADA POSTAGE” strips and on the ONE PENNY duty strips of the 1883, 1887 issues and the 1d. Revenue. I will amplify these examples and above all show that their relation to each is not constant, confirming that the strips were moveable.

At this point attention should be drawn to the description of the Grenada forme on page 427 of the De La Rue History. This description is similar to the make-up of the forme that I have suggested above in respect to the use of the strips. However the Head portion is stated to consist of “ten strips of six Queen’s heads from leads, with the blank spaces above and below the head cut off the electroplate, each strip being mounted separately”. Now although I will show that the strips do vary in position and were therefore moveable, I have not found any evidence to show that the same applies to the Head portion of the forme. I will describe flaws which permit identification of over half of the 60 units, and I have not found any variation from the expected position on the pane. I therefore believe that this portion of the forme was a one piece electro.

The statement the “the blank spaces above and below the head” were “cut off the electrotype” is a little ambiguous. At this point I must draw attention to the fact that not only must frame be removed at top and bottom, but also that a short line must be added in each corner to connect the horizontal frame line to the outer vertical frame line. I have prepared enlarged positive transparent photographs of stamps printed from the Leeward Islands Key-plate and from the tete-beche plate. When superimposed these photographs show perfect congruence of engraving and there seems no reason to doubt that both plates have a common parent die. Presumably the original die was still in existence. Alterations to the frames (removal and addition) were more likely to have been made during the production of a new working die from which the leads were struck, than on an electroplate.

The question of whether one or four panes existed will be discussed later. If four, then the same primary flaws recur in the same positions and I have no evidence of “secondary” flaw from the duplication of the master.

METHOD OF PRODUCTION OF THE STRIPS

The De La Rue records as extracted in the History give two clues. On page 449 when replying to the Crown Agents re the production of stamps for British Bechuanaland on the same principle as the Grenada tete-beche issue, the firm stated:- “the system of printing the Grenada stamps consists in the wording being set in type, but seeing the long superscription which is required at the head of the British Bechuanaland stamps that course would not be practicable”. On page 427 when replying to the Crown Agents re the increased price quoted for the new 1d. of 1887 with the longer wording, De La Rue stated that “the insertion of so much wording as ‘Grenada, Postage and Revenue in the upper part of the stamp would entail a different treatment than that which we adopt for the present Postage stamp” and added the significant memo:- “a die would have to be cast and leads struck instead of simply setting up type”.

I think therefore that the strips bearing the Duty and those with the legend GRENADA POSTAGE or GRENADA REVENUE were set up in type and stereotyped the requisite number of times using the plaster process. The coloured flaws and white picks are characteristic of this process.

First let us consider the Duty strips.

I have a block of 15 of 6d. - 3 horizontal rows of 5, the vertical column missing being the first. The horizontal rows are the 3rd., 4th, and 5th, although this is not important for the present consideration. Two types of flaw occur in the duty:

1. White flaws in the letters which are not repeated. These picks are typical of stereotyping.
2. Coloured variations in the shape of the letters often with added colour. These are repeated down the pane on all units in the vertical row.

As usual in surface-printed stamps the first vertical column shows also a “deep edge” on the left side.

The repeated flaws in the vertical columns are:-

(a) horizontal row with upright watermark:

Unit 1. Pointed base of S of SIX.

2. Thick top of S of SIX.

3. Thin upright of second E of PENCE.

4. Colour in top of S of SIX: dent in top of C of PENCE.

5. Spur on end of top of second E of PENCE.

6. Spur on top of S of SIX.

(b) Horizontal row with inverted watermark:

Unit 1. Normal (except for deep edge), base of last E often points down.

2. Thick right foot of N of PENCE.

3. Normal.

4. Thin upright of first E of PENCE.

5. Spur on foot of S of SIX: short I of SIX.

6. Curved end of top of second E of PENCE.

It is therefore possible to allot a single 6d. stamp to a vertical column. I have a single vertical pair of 6d. revenue units 1 and 7 on the pane. The same flaws occur on the “SIX PENCE” as described above on the Postage stamps.

Although not quite as striking, the two panes of ½d. in my possession confirm the above opinion re production of the strips. Examination of the third and fourth vertical columns shows variation in the horizontal foot of the L of HALF. On each pane there will be five value strips each, of course, composed of an upright and an inverted line as viewed in the tete-beche setting. On the defective units the foot of the ‘L’ deviates up or down from the horizontal.

Considering each double strip as a unit, one defective ‘L’ occurs on the fourth unit and the other on the third unit but not in the same horizontal row of the single double strip.

Now, the strips are moveable in respect to the head plate and can be inserted in the forme in a reversed position, so that in respect to the other position the first duty on the strip becomes the last. It also means that the third and fourth vertical rows change places. The state of affairs found on the two ½d. panes (both lower right it must be noted) is different and best shown by a diagram. The identity of the strips in reversed positions is confirmed by the white picks characteristic of each unit of the value. The reversibility of the strips with respect to each other is proof that they were moveable in the forme.

		<u>Sheet A</u>		<u>Sheet B</u>	
		Vertical column		Vertical column	
		3rd.	4th.	3rd.	4th.
First strip,	upright	normal	up	normal	down
	Inverted	down	normal	up	normal
Second strip,	upright		down		down
	Inverted	up		up	
Third strip,	upright		down		down
	Inverted	up		up	
Fourth strip,	upright		down		down
	Inverted	up		up	
Fifth strip,	upright		up		up
	Inverted	down		down	

It will be seen that although the strips are identical, having been produced from a master, they have not been mounted in the forme in the same way. This is not unexpected because to the operator they are the same in either orientation. Furthermore on sheet B, which for other reasons I consider to be later than sheet A, the first strip has been reversed as compared with sheet A (A and B are both lower right pane).

(to be continued)

Russell Jones

JAMAICA

THE DOUBLE-RINGED CIRCULAR DATE STAMPS OF KINGSTON, JAMAICA

Fourth supplement to the check list.

I gratefully acknowledge the help of Major I.W. Jefferson, who has kindly supplied the following new information from material in his collection. Comments in parentheses are my own.

TYPE KDC1

Datestamp 1 Add Index D.

Datestamp 2 Add Index B, L. Late date now 3 Nov 94.

Strikes from this instrument show the index combination set very close together, often with the numeral and letter touching each other.

Datestamp 3 Add Index L.

The index combination is set very close together.

(I have similar examples, but others show a wider spacing).

Datestamp 4 Late date now 27 Jun 95.

TYPE KDC 2

Datestamp 1 Add Indices C, G, H. Early date now 2 Jan 96. Late date now 24 Aug 97.

Datestamp 2 Late date now 12 Jun 00.

Datestamp 4 Add Indices D, L. Early date now 1 Mar 96.

Short vertical “dashes” at sides. (In the third supplement I put forward the theory that the somewhat amorphous “blobs” in my examples of Type KDC2 in general were originally small Maltese Crosses. However, in Major Jefferson’s excellent strikes of Datestamp 4, the mark is clearly a dash. The check list should be amended accordingly and my comments in the third supplement should be read as excluding Datestamp 4).

Datestamp 5 Add Indices F, G, K.

Datestamp 6 Early date now 11 Jun 94.

Generally in Type KDC 2 it is sometimes difficult to distinguish between indices C and G. This point is mentioned later under KDC 3. In the later part of the alphabet I have one example each of O and P.

TYPE KDC 3 Early strikes confirm that the side-markings were originally Maltese Crosses.

Datestamp 1 Add Indices B, C or G, K.

Datestamp 4 Add Indices C or G, I. Early date now 25 Oct 98.

Datestamp 5 Early date now 20 Dec 98.

Datestamp 6 Add Index A.

Figure 1, which may be very open “G” or a “C” with a ball at foot illustrates the problem of identifying these two alpha-indices. In other examples the curve is more closed, giving a more definite appearance of “G”.



Strikes dated 3 Aug 01, index Q sideways and 11 Jan 01, index E, both on 1d. red “Llandovery Falls”, show no trace of an index number. It seems unlikely that this is due to failure of inking, leaving the possibility that the numeral was deliberately removed. If this is correct, it seems probable that the strikes are from an instrument not previously recorded in KDC 3, namely datestamp 2 or Datestamp 3.

TYPE KDC 4

Datestamp 1 (i) Add in BLUE 2 FEB 04. Late date now 15 SEP 05.

Datestamp 3 (i) A date in December 1902 has “DFC” for “DEC”.

Datestamp 4 Add Indices A, R. Late date now 29 Jan 05.

Datestamp 5(ii) Add Indices A, H, M. Late date now 29 NOV 05.
Add in BLUE 10 JUN 04.

Datestamp 6 State 2. Add Index L.

TYPE KDC 5

Datestamp 1 Add Index I. 16 JUL 06.

Datestamp 4 Add Index I.

Datestamp 6 Add Indices I, R. Late date now 9 APL 08.

An example dated 28 MAR 07 shows no trace of numeral index. The alpha-index is “X” and the strikes are on a pair of Q.V. 1/- stamps probably indicating a special usage. (It is possible that one of the “missing” datestamps of Type KDC5 had its numeral index removed and was allocated to the parcels office or to some section of non-postal business such as telegrams).

TYPE KDC 6

Datestamp 2 Add Index M. Late date now 15 JUN 21.

Datestamp 4 Add Index I. 2 APL 10.

Datestamp 5 This has not previously been recorded.

Measurements: A. 28.0; B.2.75/3.0; C. 16.5; D. 13.25; E. 9.0; F. 8.0; G. 2.25; H. 2.25.

Indices: B, F. Date range: 23 SEP 11 - 20 OCT 11.

Datestamp 6 Add Indices A, H. Early date now 23 AUG 08.

In the example of 23 AUG 08 the year-plugs are reversed and the “8” appears inverted.

TYPE KDC7A (See comment below.)

Add Indices E, R, W. Early date now 1 OCT 10. Late date now 17 ? 20.

TYPE KDC 7B This type has not previously been recorded. See Figure 2.

While similar to the previously recorded Type KDC 7 in having no index number and no stops at sides, this new type has “KINGSTON/JAMAICA” in sans serif capitals appearing slightly less tall. Individual letters are broader and more spaced, the “O” being almost circular and quite different from the examples of the previous classification of KDC 7.

Measurements: A.28.0/28.5; B. 2.5/2.75; C. 16.5; D. 14.25; E. 9.5; F. 7.5.; G. N/A; H. 2.25.

Index: X. Date: 17 Nov 10.



(I provisionally classify this mark under the general type KDC 7 because of the absence of an index number. All previous references to KDC 7 should be amended to KDC 7A. None of my examples of KDC 5 and KDC 6 sufficiently resemble KDC 7B - even considering the possibility of re-cutting and elimination of index number and side markings - to lead me to the supposition that the strike in question is from a die previously recorded. It seems that an entirely new instrument is involved. The strike is on a block of four Q.V. 6d. stamps. This probably indicates special usage, such as parcel or telegram. For other types I have noted that index “X” appears on high value stamps).

TYPE KDC 8

Datestamp 5 This has not previously been recorded.

Measurements: A. 27.5; B. 2.5/2.75; C. 17.0; D. 12.0; E. 10.0; F. 9.5; G. 3.5; H. 2.25/2.5.

One example. Index E. Date: 5 OCT 20.

TYPE KDC 9

Datestamp 2 Add Indices E, F. Early date now 6 FEB 23.

TYPE KDC 11

Datestamp 3 Add Index K. Early date now 20 AUG 29

TYPE KDC 12

Datestamp 1 Add Index M. Date: 11 JUL 38. This is the first reported use of an alpha-index with Datestamp 1.

Datestamp 3 Add Indices D, O. Late date now 16 OCT 53.

I have quite a number of other late dates in all of which the die shows pronounced signs of wear and tear. (It is interesting to record such a considerable usage of KDC 12 instruments in a very deteriorated condition long after the appearance of the “Birmingham” type daters).

Datestamp 4 Add Index F. Late date now NOV 49.

A strike cancelling a censored cover to Gibraltar has no index letter. The year plugs have also been omitted, but the arrival mark is dated 1 MAY 43. The cover also bears the circular GIBRALTER/CAMP handstamp. In his article of 5 June 1969 in “Stamp Collecting Weekly”, the late Thomas Foster stated:

“The letters were taken to the Kingston G.P.O. for posting and received the normal treatment.... Nearly all the letters seen have the stamps cancelled with DCK 1e-4 of that

office". DCK 1e-4 is his reference to KDC 12, Datestamp 4 and his illustration also shows no index letter. (It seems that the alpha-index was omitted when cancelling mail from the Camp).

TYPE KDC 13 Normal usage. Two examples, 14 SEP 48 and 19 MAY 49.

(I can report the following from my own collection:- KDC 7A. Add Index M).

(To be continued)

Anthony W. Lewarn

We regret the following errors, due to circumstances beyond our control, which occurred in the Jamaica article in Bulletin No.109. On page 33, line 20 "... to assume ..." should be inserted so the sentence reads: "It is reasonable to assume that both these indices were used for ordinary mail". "Alpha-indices" appeared three times as "Alfa-indices".

MONTSERRAT

THE MONTSEBRAT TRISECTED 6d ON COVER

Montserrat 1876 on Antigua watermarked CC, perforate 14, 6d green SG 2 var). Vertical trisect (centre portion) used as a 2½d stamp. Well tied by light black A08 (Plymouth) bar cancel to envelope dated, 11th/12th Dec 1883. From a negro plantation manager, Mr. Dyer at Plymouth, to his relation, another plantation manager, Mr. Nathaniel Dyer at Cayon on Cayon River, St. Kitts. Endorsed: 'To be left at Mr. Obert Store, (the Little General Shop at Cayon River).'

The cover shows weak black Montserrat DE11.83. PAID Cds and is a little aged as usual. This is the famous cover sold in one of J.W. Scott's early auction sales in New York in 1884, when it realised the astonishing sum of \$6.25!

This provisional is perfectly genuine, for there was a temporary shortage of 2½d stamps in early December 1883. The fresh supply of De La Rue Key Plate 2½d. of 1880 failed to arrive.

The supply of 4d stamps was not over-abundant, neither were the 1876 overprinted on Antigua 1d stamps. There was, however, quite a residue of 1876 overprinted on Antigua 6d which no longer represented a specific rate. Inter-island postage having been reduced to 2½d in 1880 and foreign postage to 4d the same year, it was therefore logical that the 6d could be used as 'splits' during a temporary shortage. This 6d was printed in sheets of 120 (£6 per sheet).

The Postmaster at Plymouth would have been required to make up any deficit of postage from his salary if he sold 'splits' that totalled less than the face value; thus he split each sheet of 120 as follows: 48 whole stamps were trisected to form 144 'splits' to be sold at 2½d. each, giving a surplus of 6/- to balance the books. 72 stamps were bisected to form 144 'splits' to be sold at 2½d. each, giving a deficit of 6/-; thus a sheet of 6d stamps formed 288 'splits' sold at 2½d each, £6 in all.

However, some philatelic items were produced in 1884 with the connivance of the Postmaster at Roseau, Dominica, who on receipt of mail from Montserrat bearing bisected 1d stamps would surcharge them '½' either in red or black by favour of the recipient, who was a stamp-collector agent of an American stamp dealer. But all items from Montserrat to St. Kitts of 1883 and 1884 were legitimate.

In March 1884 another shortage of the 2½d denomination occurred. The Postmaster again took to bisecting and trisecting the sheets of 6d stamps as before, but as there had been one or two queries raised by Receiving External postal administrations as to how one was to verify if the trisect was being used as a 2½d. value, as on the previous occasion in December 1883. On this occasion a bisected or trisected 6d of 1876 or a 1d. of 1884 accompanied each other to show that 2½d in postage had been paid and that no surcharge of a 1d. was due (double ½d deficiency).

Charles Whitfield King of Ipswich followed up reports in the philatelic press of 1884 about the illegitimacy of the items serviced at Roseau, Dominica. He commenced a correspondence with the Postmaster at Plymouth, Montserrat and was given to understand that on two separate occasions in December 1883 and March 1884 provisional bisects and trisects were undoubtedly authorised as there was a definite shortage of 2½d stamps. On both occasions this lasted only for a day or two until fresh supplies of Key Plate 2½d stamps arrived on the Island.

The crop of illegitimate bisects with surcharges are found addressed to Dominica, as they all emanated from Dominica and not Montserrat, these being serviced in May 1884 by an agent of an American stamp dealer, who used perf. 12 1d. overprinted bisected stamps for his philatelic enterprises. These stamps overprinted in Antigua perf. 12 were not sent to Montserrat until May 1884. Some of his items were backdated to show an 1883 postmark on Dominica.

The genuine authorised bisects are all perf. 14. The May 1884 bisects perf. 12 are believed to be philatelic only, though a few are known to have passed through the post from Montserrat.

The Dominica-Montserrat surcharged bisect affair of May 1884, due to misinterpretation of facts over many years, has led to a common belief that bisects and trisects were a total philatelic prank, but this is seen not to be the case when one unravels the facts, there having been a genuine shortage on two separate occasions, backed up by a statement by the Plymouth, Montserrat Postmaster. *David Mushlin*

The above article, written by one of our members, first appeared in the January 1980 issue of "Stamp Lover" and is reproduced here with the kind permission of the Editor.

NEVIS

In Bulletin No.106 I replied to a query by Richard Heap on the "CABLE AND/WIRELESS/VIA/IMPERIAL" cancellation and gave details of a cover with a similar cancellation. At the same time I queried why my cover should have Nevis and St. Kitts cancellations dated the day before the Cable and Wireless cancellation.

In the February, 1971 BCPI, Charles Ricksecker reported that the "Imperial" was the name of a Cable and Wireless ship which carried these letters. Letters were delivered to the Cable Co. and then postmarked. Evidently, in answer to my own question, the Post Office postmarked the letter before sending it to the Cable Co. Most covers seen were not so marked by the Post Office.

It was also reported in Bulletin No.38 that the "CABLE AND/WIRELESS/VIA/IMPERIAL" mark was used on Turks Island.

Robert W. Stein

ST. LUCIA

David Birley recently sent in the following notes which are an extract of an article which first appeared in the Philatelic Journal for May 1941 and which is reproduced here with acknowledgements.

.... "I start with a recess-printed stamp - the 1d. brown and black of the 1936 pictorial issue of St. Lucia. It is only comparatively lately that this firm (De La Rue) has produced line-engraved stamps at all regularly and while their



work in this field compares very favourably with that of other printers who have always printed in recess, they are responsible for the very curious variety which is here illustrated. It will be seen that there is a large blot on the "T" of "LUCIA", and much of the shading of horizontal lines, which should fill in the space between that letter and the "A", is missing. Oddly enough, what shading remains in this space seems peculiarly clear and sharp, and ends abruptly. The left outline of the "A" is missing entirely above the level of the cross-bar. Also, some of the horizontal lines in the background above and to the left of the "A", look as though they may have been redrawn - though this is most unlikely to have been the case. It is difficult to account for such a variety on a line-engraved stamp, but though the master-plate was produced by the ordinary mill and die process, it must be remembered that the actual printing was made from an electro taken from the master, which in turn was chromium plated. It is probable that an accident occurred to the plate in its latest stage, which produced this variety".

In a study I have made of the datestamps in Queen Victoria's reign for Castries, St. Lucia I noticed that the Code letter "C" in Type C4 (single ring 19½mm diameter 1899 to 1912) was always on its back from the start until some date between 5.1.1900 and 28.9.1900. From then until between 23.11.1900 and 21.1.1901 it was reversed and after that normal. This is not referred to in the only book I can trace, "St. Lucia - A Philatelic History" by G. G. Ritchie, published by the Roses Caribbean P.S. - 1978. Further, Ritchie gives the E.R.D. of the datestamp as 22.6.1899, but the first I have noted is 20.5.1899.

Andrew c. Muir

TOBAGO

With reference to the table of the De La Rue printings from 1880 to 1898 (Bulletin 97), there were a few errors and omissions both in John Easton's book, "The De La Rue History of British and Foreign Postage Stamps" published in 1958 and in his listing published in the April 1961 issue of The London Philatelist, and the following amendments need to be made to the table.

a) Consignment Date 4.10.80

The quantity of the 6d. value was 8,040 or 134 sheets as recorded on page 211 of De La Rue's Private Day Book I; John Easton gave the figure as 7,440 in 1958 and 7,440 in 1961, while the table in Bulletin 97 records it as 7,740. The date of this consignment should be 1.10.80; the preliminary expenses were invoiced on 4.10.80 and appear on page 212 of the same Private Day Book.

b) Consignment Date 24.10.83

The quantity of the 2½d. value was 60,000 or 100 sheets as recorded on page 289 of De La Rue's Private Day Book L; John Easton correctly gave the figure as 60,000 in 1958, altered it to 24,000 in 1961, and the table repeats the error.

c) Consignment Date 25.6.89

The quantity of the ½d. is shown in the table as none, but 30,300 of this value or 505 sheets were recorded on page 269 of De La Rue's Private Day Book N, and they accompanied the 36,000 of the 1d. value. This omission was made in the 1961 listing.

d) Consignment Date 4.2.90

This consignment is omitted both from the 1961 listing and the table; 6,000 of the 4d. value or 100 sheets are recorded on page 44 of De La Rue's Private Day Book O.

e) Consignment Date 14.3.92

All three figures are incorrect in the table, repeating the errors in the 1961 listing. The correct quantities are 9,120 of the ½d. value, 9,180 of the 1d. value and 9,000 of the 2½d. value or 455 sheets in all, as recorded on page 295 of De La Rue's Private Day Book O.

f) Consignment Date 2.10.92

The date is incorrect; 18,240 of the 2½d. value were sent with the ½d. and 1d. quantities shown as being consigned on 21.10.92; recorded on page 71 and 72 of De La Rue's Private Day Book P.

g) Consignment Date 3.10.96

This consignment is omitted from all previous listings and tables, as it does not appear in the De La Rue Private Day Book. The reason for its absence from this book is that it was never invoiced; it consisted of a free replacement for the 6,000 1/- stamp consigned on 10.8.96 in the wrong colour. Although the Crown Agents officially drew De La Rue's attention to the error on 5.10.96, and De La Rue replied regretting the error on 6.10.96, the latter's reply mentioned that they had reprinted the 1/- stamp free of charge (in the correct colour) and that they had been handed to the Crown Agents' Inspector on Saturday - i.e. 3.10.96, so the matter had been discussed before anything had been put in writing and De La Rue, realising their mistake, had been very quick to make amends. Folios 154 and 155 in De La Rue Correspondence Book C.A. 29 refer.

Two Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society have separately advised me, "never accept a printed figure - go to the source documents" and I should like to thank the National Postal Museum for making that possible. A study of De La Rue's Crown Agents Correspondence Books and De La Rue's Private Day Books is essential for an understanding of a "De La Rue country"; Simon Goldblatt's article on the Tobago

surcharges, in Bulletin 87, makes one wonder if there is not a record somewhere in Tobago of the surcharges. For accounting purposes, a record must have been kept when “face values” of stamps were altered; Post Office or Government Printing Works or Commissioner’s Department or Treasury - somewhere? While pursuing the consignments of postage stamps, I extracted the details of the Revenue Stamp consignments, from the first consignment in May 1879 to be the last consignment in 1893. Although postage stamps continued to be ordered until 1898, no revenue stamp was ordered after 1893.

(Continued overleaf)

TOBAGO REVENUE STAMPS

Consignment Date	1d.	3d	4d.	6d.	1/-	5/-	£1	
6. 5.79*	12,000	6,000	—	6,000	3,120	720	240	CC Paper
12. 9.79*	6,240	—	—	6,540	3,540	—	—	CC Paper
1.10.80*	12,360	12,480	—	—	—	2,100	—	CC Paper
14.10.81	12,480	—	—	—	—	—	—	CA Paper
14. 2.82	12,360	11,880	—	3,000	2,820	—	—	CA Paper
22. 2.84	—	—	—	—	—	12,000	6,000	CA Paper
1. 4.85	—	—	18,000	—	—	—	—	New Colours
10. 3.86	18,000	—	—	—	6,000	—	—	
28. 4.87	—	24,300	—	—	—	—	—	
4. 2.90	—	—	—	—	6,000	—	—	
7. 5.90	—	—	—	—	17,760	—	—	
23.11.91	3,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	
21.10.92	5,880	—	—	—	—	—	—	
30.12.93	—	—	—	3,120	—	—	—	

* While the first two consignments would have consisted of stamps authorised for postal use, the third consignment accompanied the first sending of postage stamps. Of course, all three consignments could contribute to the known examples of S.G. 1 to S.G. 6 unused.

(See previous page)

I also extracted the figures for Postal Stationery:-

Registered Letter Envelopes

Consignment Date	2d. "F"	2d. "G"	2d. "H"	2d. "H ₂ "
21.10.92	8,100 (+ 750 Specimen)	5,000	1,000	1,000

Post Cards

Consignment Date	½d.	½d. + ½d.	1d.	1d. + 1d.	1½d.	1½d. + 1½d.
30. 5.81	—	—	—	—	3,150	—
14. 2.82	—	—	—	—	10,320	—
5. 7.83	—	—	—	—	—	1,050
21.10.92	4,716 (+ 750 Specimen)	4,716 (+ 750 Specimen)	4,668 (+ 750 Specimen)	4,920 (+ 750 Specimen)	—	1,008
21. 2.98*	1,000	—	1,000	—	—	—

* Date requisition 17/1898 acknowledged by De La Rue - I cannot find a record of the consignment in the Private Day Book, but I may well have missed it.

Finally, for those possessing a copy of the Sotheby's auction catalogue of F.W. Doolittle's collection of Tobago, sold on 2nd October 1980, an amendment should be made to my footnote under lot 74. The defective pair, S.G.26C., offered at auction in March 1980 to London and the Urwick pair are one and the same; the sixth pair is in the Tapling Collection at the British Museum.

John Michael

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

In Bulletin No.108 John de Vries asked for information on a George V revenue issue. I have the 4d. stamp of this issue with the word Revenue in the bottom panel. This stamp was illustrated in the 1977 edition of the Trinidad Philatelic Revue. The 4d. of George VI was also illustrated.

Robert A. Mason

TURKS ISLANDS

A recent find of a letter dated July 3rd, 1835 from the Turks Islands raises the question as to the earliest known correspondence from the island. The letter is not noteworthy for its postal markings, which are notation 20, presumably the rate, and the

circular New York - Ship - July 21 in red. It was carried by the ship "Harburger" to Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Would others know of earlier correspondence?

Louis E. Zell

NEWS ROUNDUP

By the time you receive this Bulletin the 1981 British Philatelic Exhibition will only be a few days away. No doubt the earlier than usual date will be inconvenient to some members, but unfortunately the timing was due to circumstances beyond the control of the Exhibition Committee. However, this may be a blessing in disguise, for a later date may well have clashed with our own Convention in Leamington on the 17th October.

Let us hope that we meet at the Wembley Conference Centre between the 29th September and 2nd October inclusive or failing that at the Regent Hotel on October 17th for the Caribbean Convention, which really is a must for members of all societies with collecting interests in this area.

Tony Reesby is researching the slogan postmarks of Jamaica and is trying to make a complete up-to-date checklist with dimensions, dates and illustrations. Tony already has quite a good collection of slogans, but he requires dates if they are known, also photostats or copies of really good used slogans to help him compare dimensions. When this project is completed the results will be made known. Tony Reesby's address is in the membership list, so please help if you can.

I wonder how many members took the opportunity to go along and see some of the many outstanding items in Basil Benwell's collection of Barbados, which was the August display at Stanley Gibbons' Romano House Gallery.

September 10th - 11th is another important date for members, for on those days Stanley Gibbons will be auctioning an outstanding collection of Barbados and supporting properties and also Cayman Islands, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad and other territories in the Caribbean area.

Michael Sheppard

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