



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

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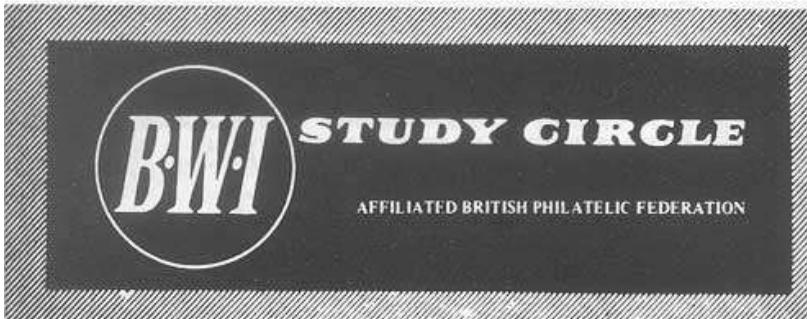
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OBJECT

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 the Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear postage both ways. List supplied upon 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, payable on **1st January** each year, is **£4** for members residing in the UK or Europe, and **£6** for members residing elsewhere in the world. The latter rate includes an element to cover Air Mail postage of the Bulletin and charges where the subscription is paid in non-sterling currency or by cheques drawn on foreign banks. Overseas members are requested to make payment by International Money Order in sterling, or by sterling draft on a UK Bank if possible. Cheques, IMO's and PO's are to be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle".

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PROGRAMME

Sat., Mar. 30th 2.30 p.m.*

Displays by:

John Marriott - Trinidad.

Tony Farmer - Leeward Is. Sexagenary Issue

Chris Barwick - Montserrat.

Venue: FLEETEX meeting. Assembly Rooms,
Fleet Rd., Fleet, Hampshire.

Ample parking and refreshments available.

Sat., Apr. 27th 2.15 p.m. A.G.M. and Auction Sale.

Venue: Margaret Room, The Bonnington Hotel,
Southampton Row, London.

* For those who would like a day out the FLEETEX show opens in the morning. See Bulletin No. 123 p.77 for travel Information.

VIEWING OF AUCTION LOTS

Members wishing to view auction lots may do so at the stand of Michael Hamilton, 27 King St., London, WC2E 8JW, on Wednesday and Friday 24th and 26th April. To avoid disappointment would you please ring Michael Hamilton on 01 836-0249 before calling. Lots may also be viewed for about 15 minutes immediately before the sale. N.B. There will be no viewing on Thursday April 25th.

DISPLAY

Thirteen members and two visitors attended from 10.30 a.m. until 1.30 p.m. in Room Floral B at the Horticultural Halls on Saturday 20th October, 1984 during the British Philatelic Exhibition to see and hear Ian Chard who was showing some ninety pages from his collection of Bermuda and also Basil B. Benwell who was exhibiting items from his well known collection of Barbados.

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 NOY 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. Where appropriate gum differences were shown. The issues of the reign of Queen Victoria were concluded with examples of the ½d. 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. A plate reconstruction of the 1d value was shown. This study showed the constant Master Plate Fresh Entries on stamp No. 10 (printed in sheets of 120) as well as stamp No. 77. The Master Plate Retouches on stamps No. 11, 96 and 112 were shown. 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 datestamps types H1, H4, H5, H6, 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 KGVI 2/- stamps.

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 prepaid 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.

Basil B. Benwell then followed this with his display showing a general mixture including some most unusual items seldom seen.

Commencing with a 1794 map of the island; a reproduction of the earliest known painting of Bridgetown; and a pre-adhesive letter to London dated 29th August 1657 without markings, Correspondence followed addressed to the Jamaica Coffee House including as well a most unusual item being a photocopy of a large scale map of St. Michaels Alley showing the Jamaica Coffee House and a photocopy of an illustration of the Jamaica Coffee House. Comparatively few letters from Britain to the West Indies seem to have survived for one reason or another but an example of a letter to Barbados was shown stamped with 1/- green embossed and a Barbados c.d.s. in red dated 21.8.1854 denoting pre-payment of postage; also an envelope dated 23.2.1846

with the only recorded example of a "6" or "9" parish mark incorporated in the centre with date lines; and an entire with the first dated handstamp of Barbados being the two line "BARBADOES/SEP.1.99".

Another item was the picture of the "Amazon" which carried the first adhesive stamps of the island, and sank in the Channel after catching fire.

A die proof on thin paper of the Britannia first issue was followed by colour trials on thin card with the name tablet void and also further colour trials of the 6d value on thin card and on paper watermarked small star, imperforate.

The 1852-55 ½d green was well represented by two blocks of four, a pair on cover and two used singles. The 2d greyish slate from the same set was shown in a mint block of six and the 4d brownish red also came in a mint block of six and a used example on entire dated 26.5.1861. The 1852-55 no value slate blue, prepared for use but not issued, was exhibited in blocks of nine and four, the latter block with the "gash in throat" variety (No. 109 on the sheet).

The 1855-57 issue was represented by the 1d pale blue in mint block of four and a single on cover.

The 1858 set was shown with the 6d deep rose-red in mint block of four and two used singles and the 1/- black in block of four mint.

The next groups on display consisted of examples of various types of the "barred" obliterator and also examples of the eleven parish numbers and in both these groups there was support with several covers. Examples of the different Bootheel oblitters followed and then came examples of all the Parish Numbers 1 to 11 used on the 1882 Queen's Head issue - use on these stamps is rare.

The next group on display was a study of the first c.d.s. issued in 1863 to show the name of BARBADOS and the Parish Number, and examples from 1 to 11 were shown.

Two examples of the 1d blue of 1872 on a cover to New York carried by "Mandingo" were also shown. This unusual 2d rate (normally 2½d) to the U.S.A. was applicable to mail carried by the S.S. Mandingo and S.S. Trinidad during 1872-73.

Two examples were shown of the "Too Late" handstamp dated 1.2.1861 and 15.11.1887 respectively and in addition two examples showing the "Too Late" boxed handstamp, one dated 25.2.1893 and the other dated 18.2.1896. These were followed by a cover showing the "Late FEE" boxed handstamp dated 29.11.1886 and also a photocopy of a Post Office return showing details of the late fee and when it was first demanded and collected.

The 1873 5/- dull rose was represented by plate proofs in black in a block of four and a single in rose as well as examples overprinted specimen.

In the 1882-86 set the 1d rose was bisected and used as a ½d stamp on cover dated 29.2.1892 with two normal stamps making up the 2½d rate, the bisect being sanctioned because of a shortage of ½d stamps. The 4d deep brown surcharged HALF-PENNY was on a registered cover with the variety "no hyphen" and a similar stamp was shown on a cover dated 19. 5.1894 with the variety surcharge double one being in red and the other in black. The remaining stamps on the cover totalled 4d making up the rate to London of 4½d (2½d postage and 2d registration fee).

Mr. Benwell then showed 1892-99 colour trials on unwatermarked paper, imperforate; also imperforate plate proofs of the ½d, 1d and 2½d in issued colours on gummed paper without watermark.

Mr. Benwell has always been particularly keen on the 1906 Nelson Centenary issue which he displayed in great depth. First, die proofs of the frame and vignette plates in black on wove paper dated 13 SEP 1905 in blue ink; the whole set overprinted "SPECIMEN"; then a study showing details of the difference between the two vignette plates; an illustration showing the varieties to be found on the 1d; four stamps with the "epaulette flaw"; photographic postcards both used 11.11. 1905 showing Nelson's statue; finally a coloured postcard of the statue and a mint block of four of the ¼d stamp.

Another issue which Mr. Benwell favoured was the 1907 Kingston Relief Fund in respect of which he has made a study of the varieties in the surcharge with examples of the surcharge inverted, surcharge double, surcharge double and both inverted and surcharge tete-beche.

Coming to the 1912 set, die proofs of the frame and value tablets for the 1/-, 2/- and 3/- were shown, dated "13 JUN 12" and marked "BEFORE HARDENING" as regards the frame, and dated 25 JUN 12 as regards the value tablets.

In the 1916 issue there was a die proof in green on thin paper with blank value tablet; colour trials of the ¼d followed; then the 3/- overprinted "SPECIMEN" and an example of the ¼d handstamped "SPECIMEN".

A very unexpected modern item was the 1965 4c deep blue and olive green imperforate on 3 registered cover.

The remainder of the display, which was considerable and too numerous to mention individually, covered Ship Letter marks; covers of ships such as the S.S. Voltaire, R.M.S. Lady Drake and M.S. Columbia; two Soldier's letters dated respectively 8.8.1857 and 27.7.1894 sent at the concessionary rate of 1d, the former letter with the Crowned Circle Paid handstamp in red and the latter with the 1d red Arms issue stamp; also a Seaman's letter dated 28.2.1861 in London with a Great Britain 1d red adhesive; an Officer's letter dated 9.11.1868 sent at the concessionary rate of 6d; G.P.O. Notice No. 28 1850 authorising the 1d concessionary rate for Seaman on board H.M. Ships in foreign ports; further covers with Crowned Circle Paid handstamps struck in red; three examples of Forwarding Agents cachets; examples of Official Paid handstamps; examples of Censor Marks; examples of three bogus revenue stamps and also of genuine revenue stamps issued between 1916-25 being embossed by Bradbury

Wilkinson & Co. and comprising the 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6d, 3/-, 5/-, 10/-, £1 and £5 values, all used; several examples of postal stationery, particularly Registered Envelopes of different sizes; examples of two differing marks of the "A.R." handstamp applicable to registered mail where the sender required an acknowledgement of receipt; finally Air Letter sheets for use by H.M. Forces and for civilian use.

Mr. Tony Shepherd rose with pleasure at the conclusion of the display by Mr. Benwell to thank him for a very versatile and exciting exhibit. Mr. Shepherd, who also numbers Barbados as one of his interests, found many of the items to be after his own heart and proposed a very sincere vote of thanks which was heartily endorsed by everyone.

BRING, BUY, SWAP AND DISPLAY MEETING

Regrettably only eight members and no visitors attended this meeting which was held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday 28th November, 1984 in Committee Room A, Law Society Building, 113, Chancery Lane, WC1 4BH. No one brought any material to swap or display. Only Simon Goldblatt brought stamps and covers etc. belonging to members for sale. Some of the material offered for sale was very interesting and those present took full advantage of the wide scope available and between them they paid a total of £220 for what they purchased resulting in the Study Circle being entitled to a commission of £22. Those who took the trouble to attend the meeting were rewarded by some good purchases and it is to be hoped that if this type of meeting is repeated, more members will attend. You never know these days what might turn up for sale!!

"THE ROSES' CARIBBEAN CONVENTION"

The Roses' Caribbean held their bi-annual Caribbean Collectors' Convention in the Metropole Hotel in Leeds on Saturday 27 October. Those of us in the BWISC who are not also members of the Roses were invited to attend and as usual made more than welcome at what was a most interesting and convivial meeting.

The first of a band of about fifty enthusiasts from as far afield as Aberdeen and Majorca arrived on the Friday afternoon and informal discussion groups formed immediately as old friends got together to share news and views. The more formal programme for Saturday included displays of Jamaica Postal History (Malcolm Watts), the Military Mail of Jamaica (Derek Sutcliffe), Guadeloupe (Tony Shepherd) and the Early Proofs and Essays of Barbados (Frank Deakin). These varied displays showed us many interesting examples of scarce material and was a feast for those of us present. There was a final chance to visit the several dealers' tables and for those last friendly differences of opinion before the Convention was closed by Mick Rego the Roses' Chairman.

"Thank you and Well Done" Roses; I am reminded of that fine old Dance Band signature tune (and that dates me!) "Here's to the Next Time".

Michael Wilson.

THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

for the year ending 31st December 1984

<u>1983 £</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>1984 £</u>
1,199.83	Subscriptions (Note 1)	1,757.60
468.16	Advertising	550.50
	400.28 Donations - Auction	412.53
415.58	<u>15.30</u> - Misc.	<u>7.00</u>
1.50	Opinion Fees	3.00
	Sundries :	
	4.20 Room Collections	8.45
7.15	<u>2.95</u> Postages refunded	<u>8.12</u>
17.05	Convention	16.57
	Interest : (Note 2)	
	7.83 Bank Deposit A/c	16.54
2,116.62	<u>116.26</u> 103.93 Building Society A/c	227.01
	Publications :	<u>243.55</u>
1.00	Stock brought to account	2,990.75
	378.21 Sales	356.97
<u>150.11</u>	<u>228.10</u> Less costs (Note 3)	<u>168.25</u>
		<u>188.72</u>
<u>2,267.73</u>	Total for year	<u>3,179.47</u>
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
	1,061.00 Printing - Bulletins	1,090.10
1,041.95	<u>19.05</u> Less transfer to stock	<u>23.35</u>
20.00	Affiliation Fee	1,064.75
28.99	Tel. & Stationery	20.00
	393.22 Postages	35.05
393.22	- Less Library refunds	463.48
50.00	Insurance	<u>37.38</u>
44.90	Sundries & Travel	426.10
106.00	Room Hire	51.00
	Library :-	45.79
	- Rebinding costs	136.00
	- Acquisitions	50.00
1,685.06	- <u>91.78</u> Packaging Materials	<u>196.78</u>
	Publications :	<u>1,975.47</u>
	Purchases (BWI Postal Rates)	28.00
-	<u> </u> Less transfer to stock	28.00
	Forward Payments :	
	1985 Convention	4.10
-	Future Publications	16.64
<u>1,685.06</u>	Total for year	<u>20.74</u>
		<u>1,996.21</u>
	Balance being excess of Income over Expenditure	
<u>582.67</u>	carried down to Accumulated Fund	<u>1,183.26</u>
<u>2,267.73</u>		<u>3,179.47</u>

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31st December 1984

ACCUMULATED FUND

	As at 1st January 1984	£	3,959.90
ADD	excess of Income over Expenditure for the year		<u>1,183.26</u>
		£	5,143.16

REPRESENTED BY :

	<u>1983 £</u>			
	420.40	Cash in Hand.	-	
	358.21	Cash at Bank - Current Account	105.73	
	119.26	- Deposit Account	316.54	
	1,308.93	Building Society Deposit	3,027.01	
2,206.80	<u>-</u>	Cash Floats	<u>105.00</u>	3,554.28
195.51		Sundry Debtors		123.85
		Stocks of :		
	60.90	Binders	27.30	
	240.45	Bulletins	257.90	
	10.00	B.W.I. Postal Rates	20.00	
	480.00	History of Sailing Packets	461.25	
	817.50	Barbados Post Office Markings (Bound)	727.50	
<u>2,068.85</u>	<u>460.00</u>	- do - (unbound)	<u>460.00</u>	<u>1,953.95</u>
<u>4,471.16</u>				5,632.08
		LESS Sundry Creditors :		
	170.05	Subscriptions received in advance	247.32	
	273.00	B.B.Benwell & Co (December Bulletin)	241.60	
	12.00	Law Society (meeting room Hire)	-	
<u>511.26</u>	<u>56.21</u>	Circle Officers (expenses)	-	<u>488.92</u>
<u>3,959.90</u>				<u>5,143.16</u>

Notes to the Accounts

1. Includes arrears for previous years now paid. At the year end 23 members were in arrears to a total of £72.83p.
2. Building Society Interest is now paid to 31st December and receipts during the year are thus for a period of 15 months.
3. One Binder was taken into use for Library copies of the Bulletin.

20th January 1985

S.E.Papworth,
Hon. Treasurer.

SUB-ACCOUNTS

1. PUBLICATIONS

A breakdown of Sales and Costs (i.e. reduction of stock values) of Publications during the year, with 1983 figures for comparison, is as follows :

<u>Qty</u>	<u>1983</u>			<u>ITEM</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>1984</u>		
	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Costs</u>	<u>Net</u>			<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Costs</u>	<u>Net</u>
26	19.50	1.30	18.20	Bulletins	158	87.99	7.90	80.09
13	37.08	27.30	9.78	Binders	16	41.85	33.60	8.25
21	57.13	42.00	15.13	B.W.I. Postal Rates	9	35.50	18.00	17.50
2	22.00	7.50	14.50	Sailing Packets	5	64.00	18.75	45.25
<u>20</u>	<u>242.50</u>	<u>150.00</u>	<u>92.50</u>	Barbados P.O. Markings	12	<u>127.63</u>	<u>90.00</u>	<u>37.63</u>
	<u>378.21</u>	<u>228.10</u>	<u>150.11</u>			<u>356.97</u>	<u>168.25</u>	<u>188.72</u>

2. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Balance held on 1st January 1984 being payments in advance £ 170.05
Receipts during the year :

by arrears paid	175.29		
for current year	1,442.43		
for 1985 and onwards	<u>247.66</u>		<u>1,865.57</u>
		Total Receipt	2,035.42

LESS :

Refunds paid for over and double payments		30.50	
Balances carried forward for :	1985	191.71	
	1986	21.61	
	1987	8.00	
	1989/94	<u>26.00</u>	<u>247.32</u>
			<u>277.82</u>

Attributable Subscription Income for 1984 - £ 1,757.60

I have examined the books and accounts of the BWISC and find them in excellent order. They represent the true and correct position of the Circle as at 31.12.84.

Signed Alfred J. Branston
Hon. Auditor
Jan. 31st 1985

NOTES and QUERIES

ANTIGUA

I have this part postmark on the KG VI ½d and 1d stamps. Can anyone enlighten me about it.



Peter Brooks.

BARBADOS

THE FIRST 'OFFICIAL PAID' HANDSTAMP

Most of the earlier 'Official Paid' marks of the BWI are rather scarce; covers have not always been prized intact as they are now, least of all stampless ones, so that the survival rate of even the more frequently struck instruments has been poor.

Even so, it is hard to account for the scarcity of the first Barbados mark, a dateless circle of 25mm, enclosing 'PAID' in 6mm sans serif capitals between a curved 'BARBADOS' at the top and 'OFFICIAL' at the bottom in 3mm capitals (Clarke, Radford & Cave type B2). It was despatched to the island in 1896 by the G.P.O. in London, and was replaced in 1905. So short a life (its successors of first and second generation both lasted over 30 years) can partly be explained by the inconvenience of

having to use it in conjunction with a datestamp, and it was superseded by a CDS of the same format as the GPO's standard type E10, both of them being despatched from London on 26 July 1905,

In their immortal paper of 1961, Benwell and Britnor could record only two strikes surviving from its nine years of life, on covers dated 29 September 1896 and 2 February 1903. Clarke, Radford & Cave reaffirmed those dates without addition in their book (1982) as did Chin Aleong in WISPHR (April 1984). I have seen no other strike recorded, but now a third cover has surfaced.

It is a foolscap OHMS envelope - 'HER' (late) Majesty meticulously amended in manuscript to 'HIS' - from the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies to the Curator, Botanic Station, St. Kitts, reminder enough that a wide range of civil servants was entitled to the free frank. The accompanying datestamp is for JA 20 02.

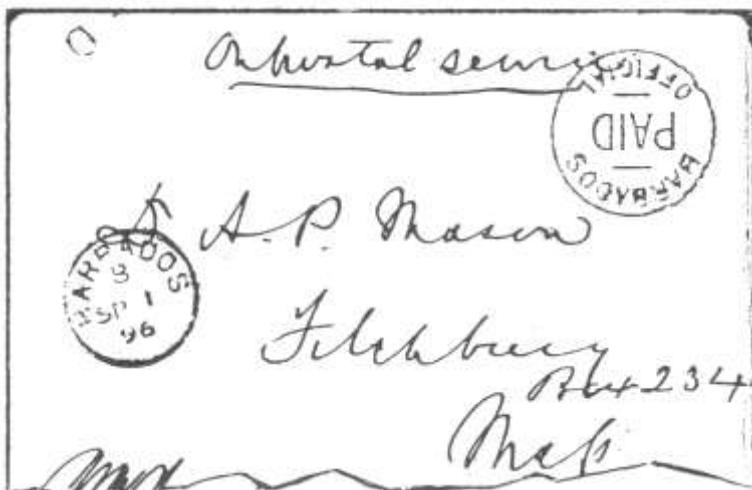
Rarity apart, the interesting feature of the strike is that it is corrugated down the left side like a pastry-cutter, although it is otherwise crisp and clean. The serious student will not pause to speculate on the cause of damage - post-office puppy or simply careless custodian? - but he may care to consider when the damage occurred and whether it hastened replacement.

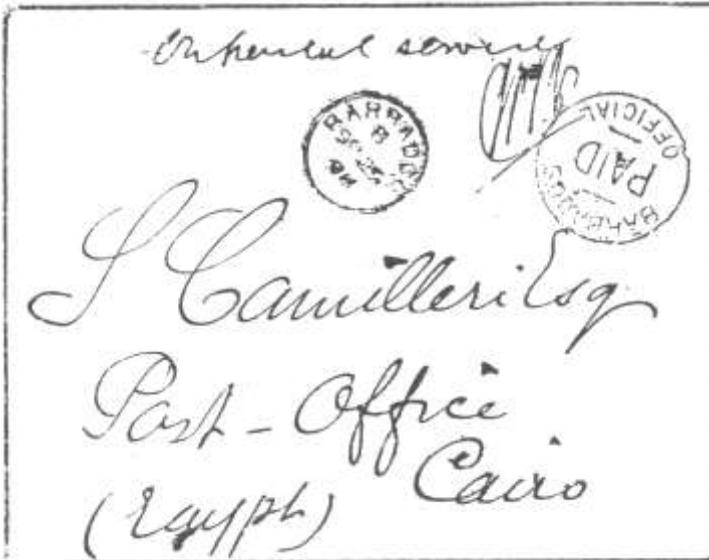
I cannot believe there are not further strikes lurking among us, and I would welcome reports of them, their date of use and their condition.

Michael Medicott.

I would agree with Michael Medicott in his reference to the scarcity of the first 'OFFICIAL PAID' mark used in Barbados although at the same time I would think that all Barbados collections of any consequence would have an example.

The mark rarely appears on specialist dealers' lists and it is seldom offered at auction. This, however, does not make the mark a rarity. I have, over the years, seen





five other covers and one piece and until recently I had two such covers in my own collection. The first, as can be seen from the top illustration, pre-dates the E.K.D. of 29 September 1896 by 28 days.

It will be noted that both illustrations show apparent damage to the left hand side of the ring and as far as I can recollect the other five covers and piece were in a similar condition. If damage it is it certainly occurred at a very early stage in its life and I would be very surprised if the instrument was ever replaced for it appears in this apparently damaged condition for well over five of its approximately nine year life.

Michael Sheppard.

BRITISH HONDURAS

POSTAL MARKINGS USED AT BELIZE

Continued from P.65 Bulletin No. 123, December, 1984

BELIZE TOWN AND DATE STAMPS (Continued)

Type 14

26mm dia., code letter E. According to F. Lamb (PJGB 19/216) this device was used at Belize temporarily after the 1909 fire until receipt of Types 15(a) and 15(b).

EKD 11.6.09 LKD 9.1910

Type 15(a)

25mm dia., code letter A. 12 July 1909. Sent from G.P.O.

EDK _____ LKD _____



Type 15(b)

25mm dia., code letter A. Sent from G.P.O. 12 July 1909. The difference between 15(a) and 15(b) will be described separately.

EDK _____ LKD _____.



Type 16

24mm dia., code letter B. This device was destroyed in the fire 17-18 August 1918.

EKD 1911 LKD 16.8.1918



Type 17

Typeset straight line, 18mm., emergency fire cancellation with date added separately below with an ordinary commercial dating stamp.

BELIZE

AUG 26 1918

Type 18

34mm dia., double circle "Belize British Honduras", rubber.

EKD 8.1918 LKD 7.1919

No example

Type 19

33mm dia., double circle, "P. Belize O. British Honduras".

EDK _____ LKD _____.



Type 20

26-27mm dia., no code letter, rubber (?)

EDK _____ LKD _____.



Type 21

27-28mm dia., hour.

EKD 7.1919 LKD 1930



Type 22

37mm dia., double circle "Post Office Belize B.H"

EDK _____ LKD _____.

No example

Type 23

25mm dia., hour.

EKD 1935 LKD 1958



Type 24

28mm dia., hour.

EKD 1948 LKD 1958



Type 25(a)

28mm dia., double circle, hour.

EKD 1951 LKD _____.



Type 25(b)

28mm dia., double circle, hour. Sent from G.P.O. 8 April 1958.

EDK _____ LKD _____.



Type 25(c)

28mm dia., double circle, hour. Sent from G.P.O. 5 June 1962.

The differences between 25(a), (b) and (c) will be described separately.

EDK _____ LKD _____.



Type 26

22mm dia., machine

EDK _____ LKD _____.



Type 27(a)

28mm dia., double circle, reading "Belize City".

EDK _____ LKD _____.



Type 27(b)

28mm dia., double circle, reading "Belize City".

EDK _____ LKD _____.



Type 27(c)

28mm dia., double circle, reading "Belize City". The differences between 27(a), (b) and (c) will be described separately.

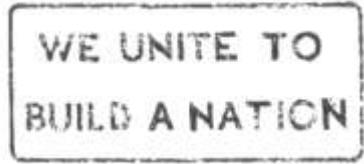
EDK _____ LKD _____.

No example

Type 28

21mm dia., machine.

EDK _____ LKD _____



to be continued.

BRITISH WEST INDIES

The advent of the photocopier has greatly facilitated the compiling of philatelic records. Over the past couple of years, I have been gathering together in scrapbooks photocopies of rare B.W.I. material from auction catalogues, dealers' lists and the specialised literature (such as handbooks and society journals). Against each identifiable item I have noted the origin (i.e. the owner, auction house etc.) and, where it has been offered for sale, the price. Many items thus have a simple annotation, others a whole series where they have been repeatedly offered for sale or have passed through a number of collections which have come onto the market.

I believe that the record can be instructive in a number of ways:

1. Where the sources are believed to be relatively comprehensive, it provides an indication of the numbers of each item recorded,
2. Even where the sources are known not to be comprehensive, it provides an indication of relative scarcity for material of the same colony.
3. It acts as a price record, which is particularly interesting when the same item is offered for sale repeatedly.
4. It can establish pedigrees.
5. It indicates the quality of items available in a particular field,
6. It gives information on the frequency of multiples, and, where the sources are comprehensive, establishes the largest multiples known.

Each of these factors can be useful for those trying to build up a fine collection at a fair price. In addition, the scrapbooks offer numerous research possibilities, such as in plating or in dating stamps or postal markings. I will be pleased to send members copies of the pages covering items in which they have a particular interest, in exchange for photocopies of equivalent items in their collections or of illustrations they have which can add to the record. Alternatively, if members are prepared to send me xeroxes of rare items in their own collections, I am very happy to see whether I can establish a pedigree for them.

On the assumption that members may be interested in some of the conclusions that can be drawn, I also propose to prepare a number of articles for the bulletin dealing with various territories in turn. These articles will be angled mainly to questions of scarcity, i.e. the numbers of different examples recorded, largest multiples etc.,

although I may comment on pricing where it appears to be significant. I do not intend to repeat published information about world rarities, but will cover the major specialist items which members of the Circle are likely to be seeking to add to their collections.

The first article will deal with St. Vincent, which is probably the most comprehensive of all B.W.I. countries in the scrapbook, since numerous major collections have gone through the sale-rooms since the mid-fifties. I will then look at the territories which are relatively well recorded, such as Barbados, British Guiana and Grenada. However, I shall not be reviewing Jamaica or Trinidad, neither of which I collect, and at this stage I have not assembled enough material on certain countries such as Antigua, where relatively little specialist material has been on the market recently. It goes without saying that I should welcome comments on the observations I make and, preferably in advance, offers of photocopies of the illustrations in rare catalogues and handbooks which can extend the scope of my records.

Charles Freeland

B.W.I. PACKET-LETTER RATES

In 1978, when doing an analysis of packet-letter rates between Falmouth (G.B.) and the British West Indies, I discovered a discrepancy with other published sources, and an inconsistency, in the late Leonard E. Britnor's then new book, "British West Indies Postal Rates Up to 1900", published by the British West Indies Study Circle in 1977.

Subsequently when visiting the London 1980 show, I discussed this matter fully with him and feel that I should state for the record both my findings and his explanations.

In an attempt on my part to accurately summarize BWI packet-letter rates for the period 1786 to 1813, I reviewed Robson Lowe's "The Codrington Correspondence", "Handstruck Postage Stamps of the Empire" (1940-41 Edition), and "The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps" (Second Edition); Alan W. Robertson's "The Maritime Postal History of the British Isles"; and Britnor's book on BWI postal rates.

The result of this analysis was a consistent set of single-letter packet rates from Falmouth to the BWI, as follows, with but one exception:

1786 to 11 March 1805	1/-
12 March 1805 to 8 July 1812	1/1
9 July 1812 to 1813	1/3

The one exception was that the 1812 packet-rate change did not appear in the listings on pages 6 and 19 of Britnor's book.

Further study of the book showed that the 1817 entry on page 19 had been obtained from a copy of P.O. Notice No. 1, dated January, 1817, found by Britnor in the G.P.O. Record Office, London. (This notice is reproduced in Robertson's book following page C.14/B.) Unfortunately, this was a meaningless revision to an earlier 1815 notice that also had no bearing on the BWI packet rates. And the 1815 version was in turn, probably a revision to an even earlier P.O. Notice No. 1.

While I was puzzling over this problem, I chanced to turn to Britnor's frontispiece. Imagine my surprise when I saw it was the original P.O. Notice No. 1 dated July, 1812, and contained the specific 1812 rate change cited from the other sources in my rate tabulation. At that point, my question was, of course, if the notice was illustrated in the book, why wasn't the data therein contained in the book's tabulations?

My conversation with Britnor in 1980 supplied an answer to this inconsistency. When he was gathering data in the G.P.O. Record Office, prior to the publication of the rate book, the 1817 document came to light, but not the 1812 or 1815 ones. Consequently, the 1812 data were omitted from the book's text. However, during the book's publication process, the 1812 notice was brought to his attention. (How, I do not know.) Unfortunately, according to Britnor, it was too late to change the text of the book, but he was able to include it as a frontispiece,

Now as far as correcting Britnor's book, one merely has to change the date of the 1817 entry on page 19 to July 1812 and move it up to its proper chronological position. And, on page 6, the corresponding 1812 data from the frontispiece have to be inserted date-wise.

The most puzzling and frustrating aspect of this whole matter was yet to come! The fact was that Britnor had published an article on BWI packet-letter rates in the February 1966 issue of "The Philatelist" (pages 141-143) in which he cites and illustrates the original 1812 notice and quotes from it in the article. (This I discovered only after his demise.)

Epilogue: It was the very thought -- that we can now never know all of the answers to our questions in this matter -- that prompted me to try to fill in some of the "blanks" before it was too late again. I can only hope that I have succeeded. At least, I'm in time!

J. L. Fredrick.

CORRECTION

In Bulletin No, 123 p.72 the very last sentence in the article "More Facts and Figures" is NOT in respect of the Turks Island ½d on 4d surcharge. The Specimens which John Challis refers to are, of course, for the 2½d normal stamp issued in April 1983.

Stephen Papworth.

LEEWARD ISLANDS

THE SEXAGENARY OVERPRINT OF 1897.

Like so many, I thought that when Victor Toeg supplied us through the Bulletin, some 20 years ago, with enlarged photographs of forgeries, and a careful accompanying commentary, the last word on the difficult subject of Sexagenary overprints had been said. We no longer had to cling to the rule of thumb; a bold impression means a forgery (it doesn't). Instead, we had the golden rule: where 'R' crosses 'T' on the genuine handstamp, the upper horizontal goes entirely behind the 'T' and the lower one goes behind at the top, in front at the bottom. Although strength and clarity of impressions varies greatly from stamp to stamp, none of the forgeries shows letter 'T' plunging through the central bar of the 'R', whereas none of the genuine impressions shows anything else. Authentication at a glance.

Glance, please if you would at the reproductions of 2½d and 1/- stamps, each with overprint. Nobody would question the authenticity of the former - a strikingly clear over-print with almost every detail to be discerned. The 1/- stamp aspires to greater clarity still, a tribute to its doubly fugitive green background, which has long since fled.



The golden rule proves that the overprint on the 1/- stamp is a forgery. Yes, but is it? Careful appraisal of other details of the impression reveals no variation from the genuine overprint, unless it be a fine diagonal line across (or beneath) the horizontal lines in the shield-shaped section at the foot of the garter. When you bear in mind that the rest of the garter corresponds, dot by dot and line by line, with the authentic version, you are left with only one conclusion: that the golden rule itself is not made of 18-carat gold.

So there we are. Iconoclast that I am, I should never have chosen these Sexagenary overprints as my target; but the 1/- stamp fell into my hands and could neither be dismissed nor ignored. We have to say - do we not? - that the handstamp was designed in a logical way for the letter 'T' to pass through the enclosed void of the 'R', but that early in its life, the upper part of the lower horizontal broke or wore away, to produce the phenomenon that proves the golden rule. Nice to know, really, that the vast

proportion of genuine overprints could be classified as 'errors'. Nice, too, to be able to isolate just for once a really abnormal, normal stamp.

Simon Goldblatt.

Further to Arthur Pearts' notes on Portsmouth Bulletin No. 122 p.26.

Portsmouth on Prince Rupert's Bay, Dominica is possibly the descendant of 'Picard' a French Settlement of the early 18th Century.

I understand Prince Rupert's Bay was always a safe anchorage in the days of sail.

The following essentials are based on an article of Peter Jaffe in the 'Strand Stamp Journal' 1951 Vol. 111 No. 2.

In 1876 an attempt was made to offer a postal service to some of the larger villages. 'Postal Stations' were set up at St. Joseph, Colihaut, Portsmouth, Wesley and Vielle Case. These were all serviced by sea, not overland, most if not all were established at a Police Office.

The earliest m/s cancels known to me are '1.3.76' only - no village, and 'Ports. 3.3.76', but there may be earlier.

Portsmouth was growing rapidly during this period, I think mainly due to the timber industry, and the Postal Station was upgraded to Branch Office in 1893, dealing with registered mail, money and postal orders - and so it required its own canceller.

I suspect that the form of the first c.d.s. was pure accident, Roseau G.P.O. asking the Crown Agents for a c.d.s. for Portsmouth - and receiving just that!

The c.d.s. was despatched from London 9.9.93 (G.P.O. Proof Book) - so I reckon it could not have been put into service before 1.10.93. As in Arthur Peart's fig. 1 the date appears to be day / month up to March '94, later it consistently became month / day as in fig. 2, but I have not identified the actual change date. This practice was again policy in the mid-twentieth century. 'C' code letter was inconstant in its position throughout its life. The general issue of date stamps for all the villages - single c.d.s., variable diameter (24-27mm), code 'star', 'village'/ Dominica were despatched from London 13th July 1900 for Colihaut, Coulibistrie, Delices, Dublanc, Grand Bay, La Plaine, Mahaut, Pointe Michel, Rosalie, St. Joseph (ST), Soufriere, Yieille Case, Wesley.

Wesley was closed 1.8.03, business and c.d.s. transferred and used at Marigot. Coulibistrie and Mahaut were closed 30.6.05. C.d.s. same style as above, but code 'C', dia. 25mm were despatched from London 18.1.06 for Portsmouth and Marigot. Wesley c.d.s. therefore went out of use but was re-introduced on the subsequent re-opening of a

station in that village, the same occurred for Coulibistrie and Mahaut - the re-opening dates after 1.8.03 and 30.6.05 respectively have yet to be determined.

In the same style c.d.s. Portsmouth code 'B*' appeared in 1917
 " " code 'star' (fig. 3)
 E/D to my knowledge 30.10.24?
 Marigot code 'A' appeared 1933/34

A sub-type c.d.s. in this style, but with larger lettering and spacing were issued

1. St. Joseph - dia. 27mm code 'star' differs from original by (ST.) E/D 20.12.37
2. Wesley - dia. 24mm E/D ?
3. Rosalie - dia. 24mm code void E/D ?
4. Castle Bruce - as original type, code 'C' appeared 1927/28 and was replaced - 1938/39 - a short life!

Until 1950 Portsmouth was the only Branch Office to Roseau though some of the villages did receive registered mail facilities. I am not familiar with the current position.

H. Vivian-Brown.

I have Leewards SG. 3 with a full strike of the Portsmouth c.d.s. The postmark is as fig. 2 but with the 'C' sideways facing downwards and the date OC 15 / 94. The 2½zd thus would add confirmation that the Portsmouth P.O. received and cancelled mail for overseas.

Peter Brooks.

LEEWARD ISLANDS KG VI STAMP

The Leeward Islands KG VI stamp is a stamp which repays research. The duty plate provides various varieties including a short I, a mis-shaped R and the 'DI' flaw which I understand is now catalogued. Does this flaw exist on all printings? The example I have is on the early (olive back) printing.

Collectors need to take care as this first issue with the olive back is often offered by dealers as the third printing grey and black shade. I believe I am right in saying this scarce shade always has an emerald green back as does the fourth printing, the black and grey shade.

Peter Brooks.

ST. VINCENT

In November of last year St. Vincent issued a set of four stamps illustrating military uniforms and the following is reprinted with acknowledgement to the St. Vincent Philatelic Services:



"The uniforms depicted on the stamps of this issue were used by a few of the regiments who were involved in the fierce battles that ensued in the subduing of the native Carib Indians.

In the effort to create peace many treaties were signed between firstly the French and Caribs, and later in the latter 18th century also between the English and Caribs, where land territories were demarcated for each of the parties concerned.

The Caribs had been successful in breaking treaties made with the French and completely massacring and expelling them from St. Vincent. Later when the English occupied St. Vincent the Caribs again attempted many such attacks in an attempt to expel them also.

Such a break in truce took place on the 21st July 1796 two days after the Carib nation was established according to treaty. A group of Carib warriors fired on Lt. Col. Graham and fatally wounded him as he approached them waving a white handkerchief, the agreed symbol of truce. Thus attacked the soldiers had no choice but to return hostilities. Many Caribs were killed, the survivors were pursued and their huts and provision grounds destroyed and taken in the hope of starving them.

Similar incidents continued as both the British and Caribs fought for possession of the island."

Peter Brooks.

TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

SOME ODD MARKINGS

Accompanying this note is a xerox of five Turks and Caicos stamps bearing distinctly different postal markings.

The 2½d has 5 light violet horizontal lines.

The 1d has in bright blue the letters EMiNOI. I assume this is part of the word "Seminole" which may be the name of one of the ships serving the islands.



The one penny Edward has no other markings



The one penny George bears the circular date stamp of Portlree (?) Essex - 14 Sp 15.



The War Tax bears a most odd cancellation. There is nothing in the oval except in the lower portion feint curlicues of almost arabic script.



My thought is that these cancellations may be of interest to other members and that they may be able to provide appropriate comments.

Louis E. Zeil.

NEW MEMBERS

KAY, J. Douglas, 75, Roundmead Avenue, Lough-ton, Essex, IG10 1P2.
Interest: Not known.

MARSHALL, P.M., 'Mariners', Courtlands Avenue, Esher, Surrey
Interest: Turks and Caicos Islands

DECEASED MEMBER

Mr. H.B. MacMILLAN.

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