



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

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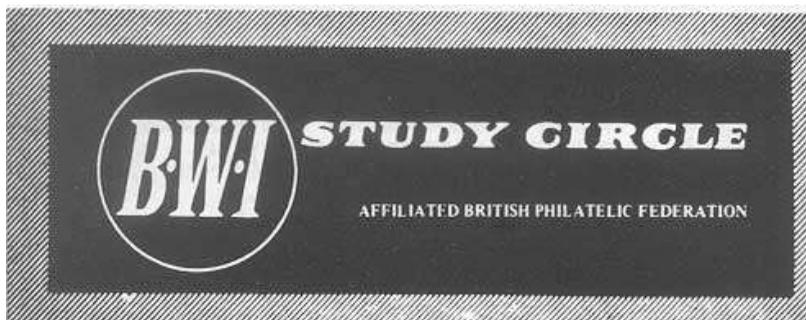
CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

Advert

NEW ENGLAND STAMP CO.

Advert

CHRISTIE'S ROBSON LOWE



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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

1986

Thu., Feb. 13th 6.00 p.m. Bring/Buy/Swap
 Wed., Mar. 19th 6.00 p.m. Display Jamaica by D.G.Charlesworth
 Sat., Apr. 26th 2.15 a.m. AGM and AUCTION SALE

The evening meetings will be held in Committee Room J at the Law Society Building, 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC1 1PL.

 PLEASE NOTE THE MARCH MEETING DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO WEDNESDAY MARCH 19TH FROM WEDNESDAY MARCH 12TH AS ORIGINALLY ARRANGED.

The AGM and Auction Sale will be held at the Bonnington Hotel Southampton Row, London, WC14BH.

May 22nd to June 1st. Ameripex '86 International Philatelic Exhibition including a joint meeting of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, the British West Indies Study Circle and the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society.

AMERIPEX '86
22nd May to 1st June 1986

Ameripex, the long awaited International Philatelic Exhibition opens on 22nd May 1986 in Chicago and Stamp Tours are very pleased to present inclusive tour packages for Exhibitors, Collectors and the Trade.

The exhibition site is at Rosemont Center located some three miles from Chicago O'Hare International Airport and some eighteen miles from downtown Chicago, hence the offer of accommodation for the Philatelic Traders Society is for the Rosemont area and for the Philatelic Travel Club for Chicago City area.

The Organising Committee offer a most varied programme for the eleven day show, with a major auction held daily, a two day wholesale dealers bourse, receptions, seminars, excursions and gala parties. Stamp collecting is America's greatest hobby and with the heartland of Canada nearby there will be thousands of visitors and the greatest gathering of philatelists for years. Do not miss it and while you are there why not take the opportunity to visit friends and relatives or just have your annual vacation?

While set arrangements are offered that are likely to be suitable to the great majority, it is possible to adapt or modify the tours to suit individual needs. Fly-drive, fly out-sail home by QE2, Florida, California or the Grand Canyon as well as Vancouver or Montreal are possible.

As bulk purchases have already been made by Stamp Tours, any Philatelic Society, Study Circle or Federation is welcome to organise its own group or party and Stamp Tours are pleased to pass such benefits to any organised body.

Plans are underway for a joint meeting of the BCPSG, BWISC and the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society at Ameripex. A meeting room has been reserved by the BCPSG on May 23rd 1986 from 1.00pm to 5-00pm and it is hoped to hold a meeting, presentations and auction there. The meeting room will be located in the lower level of the Hyatt Regency Hotel, which is next door to the Exhibition Hall.

A social gathering is tentatively planned by the BCPSG at the Holiday Inn nearby from 5.00pm to 7.00pm after the above mentioned meeting.

Our Study Circle has made enquiries to find out the best arrangements for those of our members, whether collectors or dealers, who wish to consider visiting the Exhibition. The Study Circle recommends that the programme of tours arranged in conjunction with British Airways and presented by Stamp Tours through the travel agents D.F. Long & Co. (Travel) Ltd. of 66, Brunswick Centre, London, WC1N 1AE. Telephone No. 01-837 4632/3 is very competitive as regards prices and most suitable for members' requirements.

Some important details from the brochure of Stamp Tours are set out below for the consideration of members. If you are definitely interested, whatever your special requirements, you should write or telephone to D.F. Long & Co. (Travel) Ltd. for a printed brochure which will not only set out the costs of the package tour but will also notify you of the Travel Arrangements and contains a description of the advertised hotels: a booking form will also be sent to you with the brochure. All featured hotels offer special rates Incorporated in the package prices. On request, however, D.F. Long & Co. (Travel) Ltd. can arrange accommodation at any of Chicago's town or airport hotels, but at normal individual rack rates.

Package tour prices from the printed brochure are as follows: -

TOUR PTS AM01

DEPARTURE TUESDAY 20 MAY 1986 BY BA297 AT 2.15pm

RETURN LANDING TUESDAY 3 JUNE AT 10.15am

PHILATELIC TRADERS SOCIETY –

15 days (13 nights in Chicago)

HOTEL CARAVELLE at. Rosemont

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|-------------|
| | | extra night |
| per person in twin | £ 759.00 | £23.80 |
| per person in single | £958.00 | £38.00 |

HOLIDAY INN O'HARE/KENNEDY

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|--------|
| per person in twin | £ 889.00 | £33.00 |
| per person in single | £1198.00 | £56.50 |

REGENCY HYATT HOTEL at Rosemont

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|--------|
| per person in twin | £ 927.00 | £35.50 |
| per person in single | £1277.00 | £62.50 |

EXECUTIVE SUITES at Schillers Park

| | | |
|---|----------|--------|
| One bedroom apartment – double occupancy per person | £ 976.00 | £39.00 |
| Two bedroom apartment per person each of two persons | £1150.00 | £53.00 |
| per person each of four persons | £808.00 | £26.50 |
| Penthouse 3 bedroom suite per person each of six persons | £1015.00 | £42.50 |
| Single occupancy each of three persons | £1543.00 | £83.00 |

TOUR PTS AM02

DEPARTURE SUNDAY 25 MAY 1986 BY BA297 AT 2.15pm

RETURN LANDING MONDAY 2 JUNE AT 10.15am

PHILATELIC TRAVEL CLUB

9 days (7 nights in Chicago)

EXECUTIVE HOUSE (Chicago downtown)

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|--------|
| per person in twin | £ 696.00 | £27.00 |
| per person in single | £828.00 | £46.00 |

CHICAGO HILTON & TOWERS (Chicago downtown)

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|--------|
| per person in twin | £ 738.00 | £33.00 |
| per person in single | £898.00 | £56.00 |

CARAVELLE MOTOR INN at Rosemont

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|--------|
| per person in twin | £ 666.00 | £23.00 |
| per person in single | £773.00 | £38.00 |

PRICE INCLUDES

Return travel from London to Chicago In economy class on specified flights, US departure tax, comprehensive insurance for the duration of the tour, accommodation in rooms with private bathroom at hotel chosen. State and Federal taxes, chartered coach transfer between airport and hotel and vice versa.

Services of STAMP TOURS representative. Meals and expenditure of a personal nature are not included.

Any further information relating to the joint meeting with the BCPSG and the Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society will be published in the March 1986 Bulletin provided it is available in time before printing takes place.

When you have made the necessary arrangements to go, please notify our Hon. Secretary Ian Chard so that your presence at Ameripex will be notified to the BCPSG who will undoubtedly make all our members very welcome.

THE CONVENTION

The Regent Palace Hotel at Leamington Spa once again was the venue for the BWISC Convention - the third - held on 12 October. Once again the proceedings had opened the previous evening when, even before the President welcomed some 30 members and their guests at a sherry party, enthusiastic members began meeting their friends as soon as they swung through the door of the hotel. It was particularly pleasing to see so many from 'The Roses' attending the Convention.

When our President officially opened the Convention the following morning it was perhaps ironic that events already in full swing had to be interrupted for the ceremony, for by then the bourse was already doing brisk business. However, in his short speech of welcome he wished everyone a successful Convention and a pleasant and rewarding day.

It is perhaps invidious of me to mention names but with more than 90 people attending it was gratifying to see four overseas members; Mark Swetland and John Buckner and their wives from the USA, Edmund Bailey from Barbados and Michael Nethersole from South Africa. We were also delighted to see that Peggy Sheppard was able to join us for the third Convention running. Finally, one absentee was Steve Papworth who though recovering in hospital from a serious operation was with us 'in spirit'. We all wish you a speedy and safe recovery, Steve.

Among the many informal displays that were available during the day I noticed Barbados, Bahamas, St. Vincent, Jamaica, the Military Mails of the West Indies and Airmails. (Forgiveness please from those I failed to mention.)

The first of the two formal displays was given by Mike Wilson who had to stand in for David Woolfson, the latter being rather painfully incapacitated. (Get fit soon, David.) Mike's display was the stamps and postal history of the Turks & Caicos Islands. He began with a cover of 1842 to London carried on the Steamer MEDWAY, and marked only with a manuscript "Turks Is". There followed a whole series of pages with representative issues of the stamps of the Colony, from large multiples to singles, the various postal markings and including postal stationery. There followed a short selection of Paquebot markings and the cachets of a number of the KNSM and Elders

& Fyffe mail boats which used to carry the mail from the Islands. In conclusion he offered some early air mails, including a newly discovered flight of 1936 to Haiti and Jamaica. (Described in detail elsewhere in this Bulletin.) A vote of thanks was proposed by Malcolm Watts,

After a lunch attended by 66 of the 'Conventioneers' the second of the days formal displays was given by Michael Oliver, taking as his theme the various Keyplate issues of the Leeward Islands. Starting off with an illustrated explanation of the printing processes by De La Rue in producing the Keyplate design stamps for the Leewards Islands and 23 other Colonies Michael then showed us examples of the Leewards stamps from the five reigns from all the plates and dies, including proofs. Examples of the same, and similar, designs on postal stationery followed. He concluded with some fine and unusual covers showing the use of the stamps alone and in combination with the individual islands' own issues. In proposing a vote of thanks Mr Farmer praised the enormous amount of work in research that had gone into this memorable display which covered the whole spectrum of philately with the stamps of one country and one printer. We were all privileged to be able to view such a display.

After tea there was a chance for further informal displays, discussions and last minute activity at the dealers' tables before our President brought a most pleasant and successful Convention to an end. Thanks go to all those that helped so much; to David Atkinson and his band of stewards, to Tony Shepherd for arranging the informal displays, to Rosemary and Ian Chard for the entrance table - amongst many other administrative chores, to Tony Farmer who stepped in as Co-ordinator at short notice, to Simon Goldblatt and Derek Nathan for running our members' approval table, and also to Mrs Townsend who so gently persuaded so many of us to buy so many raffle tickets.

Michael Wilson

NOTES and QUERIES

BARBADOS

The earliest pre-stamp letter in my Barbados collection was written at Barbados on Jan. 17th, 1687. Basil Benwell has an earlier one which I believe is dated 1657 and the earliest known resides in the island archives and is dated I think 1647. Needless to say any 17th Century Letter is rare now in good condition. It has quite a fine pedigree, having been in Wheeler & Nathanson's collections and was probably originally in Hurlock as well. It is really a fascinating double sheet E.L. and, counting the address sheet, there are 3-1/4 sides of that curious, flowing 17th Century writing. In fact it is the longest letter I possess from Barbados, and was written by the manager of the Newton plantations, Captain Thomas Homer, to the owner, Mrs Barbara Newton in London and in it he says 'I doe intend to sue every body that owes you mony, rich & poore, none shall be sparrd:Madam:Mr.Cryer was very bussey to give you that false account that I did his business in Towne, when the whole island knows to the contrary!'

The address is rather strange to our eyes; the 'To' is embellished so that it looks like the figure 6, then follows the lady's name and the instructions follow that it is 'To be left with Mr Samuel Clay Merchant in London', obviously he was a well-known man. It bears a small, round Bishopmark of March 9th, applied in London and was carried by Captain James Manby Q.D.C. in his ship. Q.D.C. is the talismanic inscription for 'Quen Deus Conservet', Whom God may Protect against pirates and tempests etc. The cost was probably 9d of which the Captain would receive 1d.

Frank Deakin

BERMUDA

CENSOR MARKINGS

As the years go by from the end of World War II, so more philatelic material comes to light from family stores, where the original recipient has died, and the heirs have no personal interest in the correspondence. This process will undoubtedly continue for at least the next twenty years after all, it took nearly 60 years for the first World War I internee letter from Bermuda to be reported philatelically. Already a Bermuda World War II item has fetched over £100 in auction, but this note is to sound a note of caution. The Bermuda CM21 number 50 prior to this year was known to exist on three or four covers of a philatelic nature, posted on the high seas on S.S. Excalibur in July 1941, with stamps cancelled on arrival in New York, and on one intercepted cover from Lisbon-Athens (yes, Athens, Greece!) in August 1941. The new items are a) Another "Excalibur" cover, this time with additional PC90 censor label; b) September 1941, a 7½d airmail letter from a merchant seaman from Hamilton to New York, also with PC90 label; c) A postcard sent in September 1944 to a member of the Imperial Censorship in Jamaica. The message suggests that the writer had been in the Imperial Censorship in Bermuda, and was transferred to the Bermudian service on the closure of the Imperial operation in March 1944. All these marks are in red, except the last, which is in violet. So the numbers known to exist of a scarce mark have almost doubled in a year.

I have been keeping a record for some time of examples of the CM21 numbers, and will be happy to share information with any interested member.

Richard Heap

BRITISH GUIANA

AO1 CANCEL

I have an apparent forgery of S.G. 121 but with edging motif resembling S.G. 123 but lacking the tiny central dots. It is unsigned but carries a horizontal barred obliterator A.01. It seems odd to me that a British Guiana stamp forgery or otherwise should bear a Jamaican cancellation (if, in fact, it is Jamaican - there is a stop between A and 01).

Any information on the forgery aspect (or otherwise) relative to the stamp or the cancellation would be welcome.

D.H. Madden

BRITISH HONDURAS

POSTAL MARKINGS USED AT BELIZE

Continued from p.32 Bulletin No. 125, June, 1985.

OFFICIAL FRANK HANDSTAMPS

Type F1 OFFICIAL PAID BELIZE

Straight line, letters 5½mm high, length 58mm.

Sent from GPO on 12th July 1909

EKD LKD

Type F1(a) OFFICIAL PAID

Straight line, letters 3mm high, length 25mm, rubber.

EKD LKD

Type F2 G.P.O.

32mm, diam.

EKD 1923 LKD

Type F3 COLONIAL SECRETARY

32mm. diam.

EKD 1940 LKD 1945

Type F4 CHIEF SECRETARY

34mm. diam. double circle.

EKD 1961 LKD 1962

OFFICIAL PAID. BELIZE

Type F1

OFFICIAL PAID

Type F1(a)



Type F2



Type F3



Type F4

Type F4(a) MIN. E.H.H.L. & B.
 34mm. diam. double circle.
 EKD 1962 LKD



Type F4(a)

Type F4(b) PRIVATE SECRETARY
 34mm. diam. double circle
 EKD LKD



Type F4(b)

Type F5 SECRETARIAT BELIZE
 55 x 37mm. rectangular frame.
 Double lines at top and bottom.
 Usually in complement with Type F4.
 EKD 1961 LKD



Type F5

Type F5(a) MIN. E.H.H.L. & B.
 55 x 37mm. rectangular frame.
 Used In complement with Type F4(a).
 EKD 1962 LKD

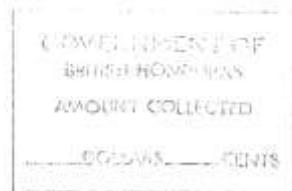
Type F5(a)

Type F5(b) MINISTRY OF INTERNAL
 AFFAIRS AND HEALTH
 60 x 38mm. rectangular frame.
 Used in complement with Type F8.
 EKD 1965 LKD



Type F5(b)

Type F5(c) GOVERNMENT OF
 BRITISH HONDURAS
 55 x 36mm. rectangular frame.
 Double lines at top and bottom.
 EKD LKD



Type F5(c)

Type F5(d) GOVERNMENT HOUSE
 57 x 37mm. rectangular frame.
 Double lines at top and bottom.
 EKD LKD



Type F5(d)

Type F6 COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE
 50 x 32mm. diam. horizontal double oval frame.
 "... Lettered between the ovals (at the top)
 'COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE' (all
 caps.) separated from 'BRITISH HONDURAS'
 at the bottom by a six-pointed star at either
 side." (SL 18/138).
 EKD LKD

Type F6

Type F6(a) LANDS AND SURVEYS
 DEPARTMENT
 50 x 30mm. diam. horizontal double oval frame.
 Used in complement with Types F4 and F5
 EKD 1961 LKD



Type F6(a)

Type F6(b) MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS
 50 x 30mm. diam. horizontal double oval frame.
 EKD LKD



Type F6(a)

Type F7 GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
 32mm. diam.
 EKD 1962 LKD



Type F7

Type F8 MINISTRY OF INTERNAL
 AFFAIRS AND HEALTH
 39 x 26mm. rectangular frame. Used in
 complement with Type F5(b)
 EKD LKD



Type F8

Type F9 INFORMATION OFFICE
Straight line. Capital and small letters 4,
2½mm high, length 33mm.
Used in complement with Type F3.
EKD 1945 LKD

Information Office

Type F9

Type F10 GOVERNMENT INFORMATION
OFFICE

Straight line, capital and small letters 5,
3mm high, length 44mm.
EKD 1962 LKD

Government Information Office

Type F10

Type F11 ON POSTAL SERVICE
Straight line, capital and small letters 5,
3mm high, length 44mm.
EKD 1959 LKD

On Postal Service

Type F11

Type F11(a) ON POSTAL SERVICE
Straight line. Capital and small letters 4,
2½mm high, length 48mm.
EKD 1962 LKD 1965

On Postal Service

Type F11(a)

NOTE: I am including at this point the Post Office return address handstamps as they frequently seem to be used in connection with the preceding types.

Type F12 POST OFFICE
Double line, letters 4mm high.
EKD 1950 LKD 1959

POST OFFICE
BELIZE, BR. HONDURAS

Type F12

Type F12(a) GENERAL POST OFFICE
Double line, letters 5mm(1st) 3mm(2nd) high.
EKD LKD

GENERAL POST OFFICE
BELIZE BRITISH HONDURAS

Type F12(a)

Type F13 GOVERNOR
". . . mm. diam., "Frank with arms in centre,
surrounded by the words 'Governor British Honduras'
written on single-lined circle". (LP6/223).

Type F13

To be continued.

Ralph Group

DOMINICA

SINGLE RING C.D.S

Thanks are due to Steve Papworth and Simon Goldblatt for their stimulating contributions on Dominica P.Os. in Bulletin No. 126 (pages 54 -57), September, 1985.

I was quite independently trying to sort out the "Village P.O. and Handstamps" and find myself equally short of hard fact although I had the advantage of: John Forrest's excellent descriptive article In Postal History International Vol. 3, No. 11, Nov. 1974.

However, while recording many c.d.s. he attempts no classification. If we exclude GPO Dominica and Roseau, and confine the classification to single ring c.d.s. of the "Villages" pre 1939 (Papworth A) we have:

| | | CODE | DIAM. | EARLY DATE KNOWN OR DATE ISSUED |
|-----|---|--|---|--|
| I | Portsmouth I | etc. | 19½ | 1893 |
| II | Colihaut Coulibistrie Delices I Dublanc Grand Bay La Plaine Mahaut Pointe Michel St. Joseph Soufriere Vieille Case Wesley Rosalie I | * * | 22½ - 23 21½ | 1900 1900 |
| III | Portsmouth II Marigot | C | 24 | 1906 |
| IV | Portsmouth III Castle Bruce Rosalie II | Nil Nil | 24 24 23½ | 1929 1924 1938 |
| V | Portsmouth IV Delices II | * * | 24 23 | 1928 ? |

Points of note are:

- I The code is variably C,  and even O ?
- II There is a slight variation in all the c.d.s., probably due to pressure and/or wear between 22½ - 23mm. Rosalie I is a definite exception at 21½mm.
- III The two handstamps are similar - Marigot was despatched to London 18.1.1906 but Portsmouth II may well be earlier and used concurrently @ I.
- IV These appear to be a mixed bunch of variable dates of introduction. Castle Bruce was reputedly introduced in 1924, (my copy is 1930, and is without asterisk). Portsmouth III may well be earlier than my date and Rosalie II is certainly used concurrently with I.
- V These differ from II in that they are definitely slightly larger and the lettering is slightly smaller, and more spaced.

A second set of c.d.s. for the villages, i.e. probably: Colihaut, Delices, Pointe Michel, St. Joseph and Wesley were introduced but I have not dated copies, and Delices is the only one I can allocate to be pre 1939 with any certainty.

David Ball

GRENADA

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS

Single copies of 1892 S.G. D4-7 can be found on cover philatelically used. Has any member seen a mint tete-bêche pair? Used tete-bêche pairs are probably scarcer although I have a block of 4 (two pairs) of the 1d on 6d S.G. D4. S.G. say it is doubtful if they were required for postage due purposes. How many were issued?

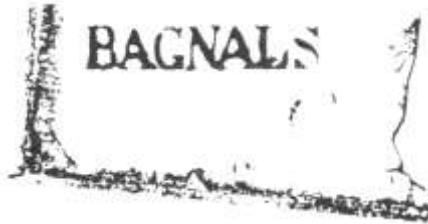
Bryan E Johnson

JAMAICA

BAGNALS STRAIGHT LINE HANDSTAMP

The late Thomas Foster in his book "The Postal History of Jamaica 1662-1860" wrote that the Bagnals Post Office opened in 1810 and closed by 1839. No examples were known of the handstamp which was presumably Type T3.

I have an early letter from Bagnals to Scotland dated 14th December, 1794 with the Type T2 handstamp.



According to Foster Bagnals was a plantation village in St. Mary which assumed the name of its proprietor. I have been unable to pin point its exact location and would be grateful for any information as to this.

Bob Swarbrick

ST. LUCIA

COMPOUND PERFORATION

I have a copy of S.G. 5 or 5b mint. Three sides are perf. 12, the right hand side is perf. 14. Has anyone come across this? It is not listed as a compound perforation by Gibbons. Incidentally the watermark is reversed, although I doubt if this is significant for that era.

D.H. Madden

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

A FRAUDULENT VARIETY?

The Indictment.



You are charged that you, being an ordinary Trinidad & Tobago ½d or ½d War Tax stamp, did fraudulently and with intent to deceive masquerade as a rare variety, that is to say, a ½d War Tax stamp with double overprint.

The Defendant having pleaded not guilty upon his arraignment, the trial began.

The Defendant

The Prosecution Case.

The Defendant claims to have a double overprint, and to be a variety of SG 187. No such variety is listed in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue. Moreover the catalogue warns in terms that varieties other than those listed have been faked and are not genuine. The variety the Defendant claims to be does not exist. He is a liar and a cheat and is guilty as charged.

The Case for the Defence.

(First Witness) I am the Defendant. I am real. Please observe that the issue to which I belong dates from 13th February 1918, and that it is the last War Tax overprint on a ½d stamp of my Colony. I was used in Port of Spain on 5 MR 18, when I was just under 3 weeks old, at a time when every item that was posted had to bear a War Stamp. My shade is the correct shade for my issue. My postmark lies above my overprint.

(Cross-examined) I am aware that I am not listed in the catalogue. I agree that one is warned against spurious varieties. I do not agree that the catalogue warning refers to me. I have never seen one of these faked varieties and I cannot say to what stamps the warning refers. I agree that my appearance is not to be explained by the phenomenon of a "kiss-print". I accept that if I were not a genuine variety I would be a wicked and deliberate fraud.

(Re-examined) I have come into the open because I want to attain catalogue listing. I am tired of being considered illegitimate. I want to be recognised alongside the other distinguished members of my War Tax family.

(Second Witness) We are a block of twelve ½d War Tax, SG 187. We were used lightly and philatelically on 20 MR 18. We are willing to be compared in any appropriate manner with the Defendant. We cannot observe any difference between our overprints and those of the Defendant. We consider that his shade is the same as ours.



The Second Witness

(Cross-examined) We express no view as to the authenticity of the Defendant. We agree that ours is a carefully registered overprint. We are unable to point to any difference between the overprint of any one of us and that of any other of us. We agree that if any characteristic of either overprint of the Defendant is found to differ from our overprints, the Defendant's claim must be false.

(Re-examined) Our overprint was a local overprint. We do not know its entire history. We are simply here to be compared with the Defendant. We have no axe to grind.

(Third Witness) I am the twin brother of the Defendant. My evidence is the same as his. I was used at the same time and in the same place as the Defendant. I am a genuine variety.



(Cross-examined) I agree that there is nothing accidental about my overprints. I agree that if I am not genuine I should be sitting in the dock alongside my brother.

The Third Witness

I cannot explain the catalogue note. I cannot explain why I have not been listed in the 67 years since I was issued.

(Re-examined) Although I am a twin, I can be distinguished from my brother. One of my two overprints is slightly more out of register with the other than in his case. I believe that each of our pairs of overprints corresponds in every detail with those of the second witness but that the position of our sheet was very, very slightly out of its original alignment at the time when our overprints were duplicated.

(Questioned by the Court) I do not know whether I was used on the same cover as my brother, or attached to him at that time. It is too long ago and I cannot remember.

(Further examined) If you compare our two postmarks it seems probable to me that my brother and I were never a pair. I imagine that we must have other brothers who have disappeared, and I appeal to them to come forward.

The Summing Up.

Members of the Jury. The Stanley Gibbons catalogue represents the accumulated wisdom of generations of philatelists. If the catalogue does not list a variety more than 50 years after the original issue of a stamp this is very cogent evidence - well-nigh conclusive evidence - that the variety does not exist.

The prosecution rely upon the catalogue. They have not attempted to prove whether both the Defendant's overprints are forged, or only one, and I direct you that it is unnecessary for them to do so. If either of the Defendant's two overprints differs from a genuine overprint, the Defendant has committed the offence with which he is charged.

The Defendant claims that his overprints lie under the postmark. This will not help you. If the postmark could be shown to lie under either overprint, it would be the clearest proof of fraud. If the position is reversed this might only be because the faking was done a long time ago, and the Defendant is an old fraud. Put the point out of your minds.

You are invited to compare the Defendant with the second witness, and I suggest that you do so with the utmost care. You will probably have no difficulty in accepting that the third witness is the twin brother of the Defendant and you must take his evidence into account. It is a matter for you how much weight you give to that evidence. You are not here to try the third witness or to speculate why he is not sitting along with his brother in the dock. You are entitled to consider whether they were used together at one time.

If, upon a consideration of the whole of the evidence, you are convinced of the Defendant's innocence, you must acquit him. Otherwise you will find him guilty of the fraud with which he is charged.

Will you please consider your verdict.

Question from the Jury.

(Later; the Jury return with a question) We have noted that these ½d stamps exist with and without overprint. How do we interpret that fact?

(Judge, after hearing further argument) It is evidence that on some occasion the overprint was placed in a wrong position. It is no evidence that any part of the misplaced overprint went on a stamp which already bore an overprint; but you are entitled to consider whether that may have happened. Will you please return now to the Jury room.

Simon Goldblatt

TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

I have a copy of SG.1 mint with slight traces of a surcharge, and what looks like a manuscript 1 superimposed. It was described in the auction at which I purchased it as "used, MS cancel"; however it seems to me much more like a poor strike on the 1 to the extent that it was unfit for issue as a ½d stamp, and so it was manually (looks like a quill or similar) resurcharged back to its original value. Does anyone know of others similar?

D.H. Madden

AN EARLY AIR MAIL

Air Mail from the Turks and Caicos Islands began to be used in the war years through Haiti and Jamaica on a rather unofficial basis, though some mails were probably carried by planes which landed on the USAAF runway - so Jack Challis opens his chapter on Airmail in the recently published excellent Handbook on the Colony 's philatelic history. I have just obtained a cover purporting to have been carried on the first air mail from Turks Island to Haiti in April 1936, and while I do not believe that this refutes Jack's statement I do believe that it adds a little to the postal history.



The illustration shows a 1/- stamp of Turks & Caicos with pen "cancelled" and signed by A J Chase. There is also a 50c Haiti stamp added and cancelled in Port-au-Prince to cover the onward transmission to Jamaica. On the back there is the statement that the cover was carried on the first-air mail from Turks Island to Haiti which is signed by the pilot (A J Chase) and the co-pilot (J M Walker).

Perhaps no one had thought of a postage rate so believed that 1/- ought to suffice, but it is of interest that 8d would have been sufficient in 1949. In any case the cover does not seem to have been official since there is no proper Turks Island cds. The Haitian post office was obviously not satisfied as they demanded their proper 50c for onward routing! Was this just philatelically inspired (the sender was C W Frith) by the chance landing of a plane, or was there a real hope that this flight would lead to an air mail service? How many such covers were carried? Do we know anything about the plane and what it was doing at the time, or indeed of the air crew?

This appears to be no startling new discovery, but merely "of interest", nevertheless I would be pleased to hear from any air mail expert if they have any further information about this.

Michael Wilson

POSTAL RATES AND SERVICES

Having recently read the book by John Challis on the Islands I was pleased to unearth the following during my regular trips to the Public Record Office. I spent an interesting morning reading the Turks Islands Government Gazettes which it seems Mr Challis did not see.

In 1907 mails from Jamaica, and transit countries, were carried by RMS Port Henderson and RMS Port Royal. Mails were also sent to USA, San Domingo and Nova Scotia.

In 1907 (October 1st) the rates of postage to all countries, except GB and such British possessions as were in the Imperial Penny Postage scheme, were:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| LETTERS | 2.5d per oz then 1.5d per oz |
| POSTCARDS | 1d |
| NEWSPAPERS AND PRINTED PAPERS | 0.5d per 4oz |
| REGISTRATION | 2d |
| ADVICE OF RECEIPT | 2.5d |

From 1st April 1922 the postage rates, for letters, were:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| British Empire | 2d per oz then 1.5d |
| USA | 2.5d per oz then 1.5d |
| Others | 3d per oz then 1.5d |

(Postcards were 1.5d to all destinations)

Starting in 1923 flags were flown at Public Buildings to notify the people of the closure of a mail for abroad.

Blue flag, white cross. Mail for New York would be closing at 1500 hrs

White flag, red cross. Mail for the Dominican Republic would be closing at 1500 hours.

Red flag, yellow cross. Mail for Jamaica would be closing at 1500 hours.

If a red pennant with a white cross was also flying the mails were just closing.

From January 1st 1926 people wishing to mail letters after the closing of the mails at the Post Office could give them to the Harbour Master up to within five minutes of his departure from the wharf.

Such letters would be delivered to the Purser of the steamer only if a fee of 2d, in addition to the regular rate of postage was paid as a 'Late Letter' fee.

The direct Caicos Mail Service was discontinued from 31st March 1947. Mail was then routed through Cockburn harbour as it had before.

for very many years a keen collector of Jamaica pre-adhesives and he displayed frequently at the Study Circle meetings which he greatly enjoyed attending until he sold his fine collection some three years ago.

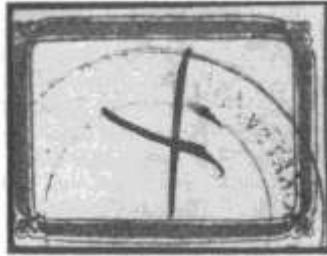
WATERLOW DIE PROOFS

Christies, Robson Lowe have recently (Sept 85) published a book on the die proofs of Waterlow and Sons - Great Britain and the Empire to 1960 by Colin Eraser and Robson Lowe, Price £12.00.

Every collector of a Commonwealth Country will find information previously unknown. All the Caribbean territories are included, of particular interest is the history of the British Guiana Classic Proofs.

RARE ST. LUCIA 'LOCAL'

Features in HARMERS - November 28 BWI/BNA Sale.



Among the world's rarest local postage stamps are the first used by the St. Lucia Steam Conveyance Co. Ltd. - no more than a gummed label with a printed blue frame, bearing part of the company's handstamp and a pen cancellation. The company carried mail around the coast of the island and was formed in 1869. It is believed the labels were first used in 1870. Apparently six examples are known, of which one is on a label without a blue frame. The sixth recorded copy - with blue frame, features among an important collection of St. Lucia appearing in a specialised BWI/BNA auction arranged by Harmers of London for November 28. Conservatively estimated at £500 an eventual four-figure realisation may well be achieved.

Many thanks to those members who submitted material for the Bulletin after my 'cri de coeur' in the last issue. Articles not published in this issue will appear in the March Bulletin. Please keep up the supply!

David Atkinson

Congratulations to Mark Swetland on being appointed the new Hon. Editor of the BCPSG Journal. Mark took many photographs at the recent Leamington Convention and a selection will appear in the next issue of the Bulletin.

B.W.I. AUCTION - No. 14.

Material accepted for inclusion in the Auction will be offered for sale on the following terms:-

1. All lots may be sold with or without reserve and the seller may participate in the bidding either himself or by an agent.
2. The buyer to be the highest bidder.
3. Wherever possible the description of a lot will include an estimate by the Circle of the price which it is expected to realise, and the lot will not be sold without the consent of the seller at substantially below 75% of estimate.
4. The Auctioneer will be appointed by the Auctions Subcommittee designated by the Circle to organise the Auction Sale. The bidding shall be under the control and at the sole discretion of the Auctioneer, who shall have power to settle all disputes and to re-open the bidding in the event of dispute. He may withdraw lots or group two or more lots together without assigning a reason.
5. The auctioneer reserves the right to bid on behalf of sellers and prospective buyers but shall not be liable for any errors or omissions in executing instructions to bid.
6. Lots will be sold with all faults, imperfections and errors of description and the Circle cannot be held responsible for the genuineness of any lot or of an individual items therein. Where however the buyer within 14 days after receipt of a lot (or such further time as the Auctions Sub-Committee may allow) satisfies the Auctions Subcommittee that there is a substantial inaccuracy in the description and returns the lot in unaltered condition, the sale of that lot will be rescinded and the purchase price refunded to the buyer less any costs and expenses incurred by the Circle in connection with the sale.
7. The Circle will have a lien for all charges on all lots sold or unsold. Payment for lots purchased (including collection charges where payment is made in local currency) shall be made by the buyer before delivery, which shall be at the risk of the buyer and shall include cost of postage and registration where sent by post. If the buyer does not pay for any lot within such period as the Auctions Sub-Committee (in their sole discretion) may consider reasonable the lot may be re-sold by the Circle in any manner the Circle see fit and the buyer shall pay the difference between his bid price and the net realisation on re-sale (after deduction of commission and other attendant expenses) but the buyer shall not be entitled to any surplus arising on re-sale. A buyer resident in the dollar area must pay for lots bought either in dollars at the controlled rate of exchange with the addition of 50 cents to cover collection charges or by draft drawn on London.
8. Sale commission charged to the seller will be:-
 - On each lot sold: 10p on the first £1 or lower realisation, thereafter 10%.
 - On each lot unsold, 10p.
 - On each lot withdrawn by the seller, sale commission on 75% of estimated value.
 - On each lot unsold through failing to reach the seller's reserve sale commission on the reserve price.

These conditions apply as between buyer and/or seller and every officer member and agent of the Circle concerned on behalf of the Circle with any aspect of the Auction Sale.

FURTHER INFOMATION

1. All correspondence please to **I. P. CHARD**, 48 *The Shrubtands Potters Bar, Herts. EN6 2BW Tel: Potters Bar 54491.*
2. Do not send any material for sale UNLESS it can be sent as an ordinary letter. For all bulkier items write or telephone Ian Chard first to find out whether these can be accepted.
3. Stamps and postal history items are equally welcome but, in the interests of both buyers and sellers, the Sub-Committee will not be accepting material for sale unless it has in their opinion some potential interest to members of the Circle.
4. **MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CATALOGUE FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MARCH, 1986 BULLETIN MUST REACH IAN CHARD BY 11th JANUARY, 1986 AT LATEST.**
5. The Auctions Sub-Committee will be grateful for any specialised information which you include with your material for sale and for any personal assessment of its value, although no undertaking can be given that the Auction estimate will coincide with your own assessment. Remember that the more care you your-self take with the selection of items for sale, the better the realisation to be expected.
6. The Auctions Sub-Committee will not be responsible for the loss of or damage to items in their custody but unless you instruct to the contrary your material for sale will, if practicable, be held insured while in the hands of the Sub-Committee and the small cost will be divided rateably between the sellers.
7. Please *do not* write asking for lots to be sent for viewing by post, as the Auctions Sub-Committee are not equipped to offer this service! However, a "xerox" copy could be sent to you provided that with your request you enclose an S.A.E. together with an additional 28p stamp to cover cost.

NEW MEMBERS

REEVES R.J., 2, Harptree Close, Nailsea, Bristol, BS19 2YT.
KING David, 21, Barne Close, Whitestone, Nuneaton Warwickshire, CV11 4TP.

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