



## **STUDY CIRCLE**

FOUNDED  
JANUARY 27th, 1954

*Founder:*

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

*President:*

**E. V. TOEG**

*Vice-Presidents:*

**J. B. MARRIOTT, L.V.O., F.R.P.S.L., R.D.F.**

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

**BULLETIN No. 129    JUNE 1986**

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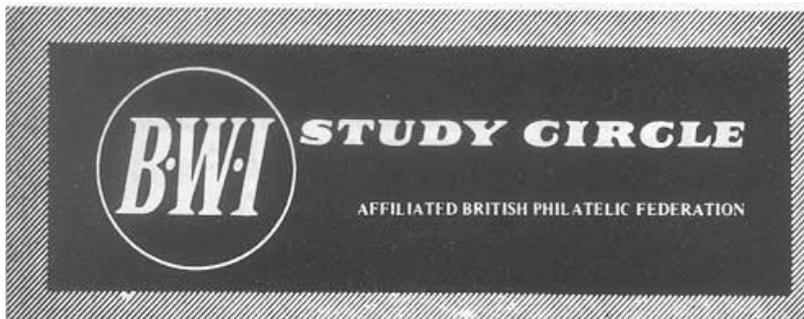
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**M. HAMILTON, D.M. NATHAN, M. R. WILSON.**

*Hon. Auditor:* **J.A.C.FARMER**

## **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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**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

MINUTES OF THE 32ND. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE HELD AT 2.30PM. ON SATURDAY 26TH. APRIL, 1986, IN THE MARGARET ROOM OF THE BONNINGTON HOTEL, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON

The chair was taken by Mr. E.V. Toeg, the President, who extended a warm welcome to all. (26 Members attended).

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. J.B. Marriott, W.A. Townsend and D.W. Atkinson.

The Minutes of the 31st. Annual General Meeting, held on Saturday 27th. April, 1985, were published in the June 1985 issue of the Circles Quarterly Bulletin (pages 22 to 28 inc.) These were taken as having been read and, with the approval of the meeting, were signed as correct by the Chairman.

1. Report by the Hon. Secretary.

Mr. Chard reported that the Circle's membership was fairly static at 324 members. In respect of meetings however, Mr. Chard reported that although the Convention had been a huge success the evening meetings had been poorly attended. The question of meetings would be raised under a separate heading of the A.G.M. but clearly the attendances of 6, 7 and 10 members at the 3 successive meetings was disappointing and clearly demonstrated a need for some changes to be made.

Mr. Chard requested members to consider the question of replacement for the post of Secretary which he had held for 18 years. The time has clearly come for an injection of new blood to this post. Members who wish to express an interest should contact Mr. Chard or the President, Mr. Toeg, either personally or by letter. Mr. Chard indicated his willingness to continue in office until a replacement could be found.

The report was accepted without dissent.

2. Report of the Hon. Treasurer.

Owing to the late arrival of Mr. Papworth whose car had broken down in the West Country this item was delayed until the end of the meeting, which was held during an adjournment of the Auction Sale.

I must first apologise for the somewhat drunken appearance of the accounts as published in the March Bulletin. Having just acquired a personal Computer/Word processor one of my first "practice" sessions was to produce the Statements of Income etc. Regrettably when compiling the layout I inadvertently put it into a proportional spacing mode which one cannot see on the display screen. I might add that it took some weeks before I discovered what I had done wrong and by then it was too late to amend the camera ready copy for printing.

The results for the year were not quite up to my expectations with a growth of just 13% when Building Society Interest for the full year is taken into account.

I would draw your attention to Note 1 to the Accounts. For the first time it was not possible to produce the Auction Catalogue free gratis and for nothing and I must warn members that in the future these costs could well be higher than the few pounds expended in 1985.

The proportion of funds held in the form of publications for sale has once again fallen, but only by a small amount, and now stands at 35%. I would still like to see this downward trend continue as much and as fast as possible for showing stocks at cost is not necessarily a reflection of the true position of their value. Once again sales of back numbers of Bulletins have been less than stock receipts.

In commencing this Report I included the word "Computer". These electronic marvels are making their appearance in many different and varied places. I can foresee in the not too distant future small groups such as ours having to either "buy in" to a computer service or to operate its own to make up any short-fall in voluntary effort. Many of you will be unaware of the fact that your president has spent a quite inordinate amount of time in compiling a subject index to Bulletins Nos. 1 to 100. Had the Bulletins been computer based from the outset the many hundreds of hours spent by Mr. Toeg might, with the right form of programming, have been reduced to a few milliseconds! I have little doubt that Mr. Toeg would have preferred it that way!!

Many of the Circle's records could be computerised to good effect. The initial cost of equipment and the problem of finding - or training - operators are probably barriers at present but I am convinced that the day will come when such equipment will be essential and not just a plaything.

I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have on the Accounts as presented.

At the conclusion of the report Mr. Farmer, the Hon. Auditor, observed that he had done the first audit for the Circle in his capacity of new Hon. Auditor, and, therefore, had been particularly meticulous in researching the background to the Circle's affairs. He felt that some improvements could be made in the presentation of the accounts to make them more understandable, i.e. putting all the Bulletin costs less income under one heading although itemised into, printing, Postage etc.

This matter was discussed briefly and Mr. Papworth said he had no objection to preparing the accounts in the manner preferred by Mr. Farmer.

It was agreed that Mr. Papworth's report be accepted and that Mr. Farmer's suggestion for balance sheet presentation be implemented.

### 3. Report of the Hon. Librarian.

Mr. Papworth's report was delivered at the end of the meeting following his unavoidable delay.

Briefly, my report could be made in five words: "Little change from past years" but you would not then be getting value for money as it were!

Twenty seven loans were made during the calendar year to eleven members. Eighty two different titles were despatched - some, of course, being duplicated to different borrowers, and a substantial minority being "runs" of either the Bulletin, BCPSG Journals and the like, postal costs were just under £100 with an average of £3.60 per sending - about the only figure which one can truly say increased over the previous period.

Sometime between presenting this report to members at the Annual General Meeting and most of you seeing it in print in the June Bulletin I hope to have moved into my new abode. Although smaller than my previous house in Manorbier I should still be able to house the main library for a while and so give Derek Nathan (who volunteered to take it over) a breathing space during which time he can "settle in" to the Circle's activities particularly the auction field where he has been of help to Simon Goldblatt. What is really needed is for someone to order a large quantity of books and/or back numbers of the Bulletin for it is these which place the most strain on storage space!

I have nothing further to add to this Report.

The report was accepted without dissent.

### 4. Report of the Hon. Editor.

Mr. Atkinson was not able to be present owing to the sudden illness of his mother. In his absence Mr. Chard observed that Mr. Atkinson would have wished to thank contributors to the bulletin and make the perennial plea of editors for "copy". Mr. Chard observed that the very high standard of the Bulletin was to be commended.

### 5. Report of the Chairman of the Committee.

This has been a busy year for the Committee which met on Friday, 11th October, 1985 at The Regent Hotel, Royal Leamington Spa on the eve of the Third Caribbean Collectors' Convention. One matter dealt with was the provision of #100 for the purchase by the Hon. Librarian of a quantity of binders to house numerous Periodicals and Auction Catalogues in the Library which would remain accessible to members on loan.

An emergency item discussed was a suggestion by the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group that there should be a joint meeting with the Study Circle and the Roses

Caribbean philatelic Society at the international exhibition to be known as Ameripex which would be held at Chicago in May 1986. The result of the Committee's discussions can be seen in Bulletin No. 127 December 1985 and in Bulletin No. 128 March 1986.

The second meeting of the Committee took place on Thursday, 13th February, 1986 when there were preliminary discussions concerning the proposed Index of Bulletins Numbered 1 to 100. What emerged from this meeting was that an Index with hard back covers would not be feasible as it was too expensive to produce. The matter was adjourned until the third meeting of the Committee which was held on Wednesday, 19th March, 1986 when estimates were produced from the printers B.B. Benwell and Company Limited for alternatives to a hard back Index. It was clear that if members were to get the maximum benefit from the Index an inexpensive and efficient copying system would have to be arranged for the supply of photocopies of back Bulletins now out of print. This matter was adjourned until the next Committee meeting to enable information to be obtained as to which Bulletins were out of print and the numbers still in existence of back Bulletins.

The fourth Committee meeting took place on Saturday, 26th April, 1986 and had a lengthy agenda including the holding of the next Caribbean Collectors' Convention in October 1987 which was agreed to; the appointment of Derek Nathan as a member of the Committee was agreed subject to ratification by the members at the Annual General Meeting held later that day; the award for the Gilbert W. Collett Memorial Trophy for the years 1984 and 1985 was considered; the Hon. Secretary's suggestions for the Programme of Meetings for 1985/86 was discussed; that the members should be asked at the Annual General Meeting later that day to confer Honorary Life Membership on our two Vice-presidents, John Marriott and Bill Townsend in appreciation of their past services to the Study Circle; and the proposed Index was also further discussed.

#### 6. Report of the Hon. Auditor.

Mr. Farmer gave his report as follows:

I hereby certify that the Statements of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 December 1985 are in accordance with the books, vouchers and explanations give to me, and that the Balance Sheet shows the financial state the British West Indies Study Circle at that date save that the Stocks of publications, whilst correctly valued at cost as consistent with previous accounts, may not have a market value of that sum on that date.

#### 7. Election of the Committee.

The following members of the Circle are members of the Committee and are willing to be re-elected:

Messrs. B.B. Benwell.	S. Goldblatt.
M. Hamilton.	M.R. Wilson.

Officers of the Circle automatically sit on the Committee.

The Committee was re-elected unanimously.

#### 8. Election of Mr. Derek Nathan to the Committee.

The Chairman observed that Mr. Nathan had been closely involved with the organisation of the Circle's Auction Sale and had filled a breach left by Mr. Sheppard who had died last year.

Mr. Nathan was proposed as a member of the Committee by Mr. Goldblatt and seconded by Mr. Chard.

He was elected unanimously.

#### 9. Election of Officers.

No nominations having been received and the present officers being willing to continue in office, the President declared that the officers were elected en-block.

President : Mr. E.V. Toeg

Vice-presidents: Mr. J.B. Marriott, Mr. W.A. Townsend

Hon. Secretary : Mr. I.P. Chard

Hon. Treasurer : Mr. S. Papworth

Hon. Librarian : Mr. S. Papworth

Hon. Editor : Mr. D.W. Atkinson

#### 10. Collett Trophy.

Mr. Toeg reported that it gave him particular pleasure to report that the Committee had decided to award the G.W. Collett Trophy for 1984-1985 to Mr. Tony Shepherd for his book "The Postal Censorship in Barbados during the First and Second World Wars".

Mr. Shepherd was not present in the room but his friend Mr. Mike Rego was and he observed that Tony would be delighted with the award and honoured to receive it.

#### 11. Life Membership for the Vice-Presidents.

Mr. Toeg reported to the meeting that the Committee had decided to recommend that the Vice-Presidents Mr. J.B. Marriott and Mr. W.A. Townsend should be awarded Hon. Life Membership. Both men had been Vice-presidents of the Circle for over 20 years and had given much support and encouragement. The matter was, therefore, put to the meeting to ratify. It was wholeheartedly agreed by the meeting that the Committee's decision be endorsed and that Mr. Marriott and Mr. Townsend be declared to be Hon. Life Members.

#### 12. Programme of Forthcoming Meetings.

Mr. Chard reported that, in view of the poor attendance of members at the usual evening meetings held at the Law Society's Building in Chancery Lane, WC1 it had been decided to hold meetings in conjunction with Fleetex, Stampex and B.P.E. with an AGM and Auction Sales in April, 1987.

There was some discussion regarding the frequency of meetings. However the policy outlined above was agreed upon as an experiment to be reviewed later when attendance levels could be observed.

The date and venue of meetings would be published in the Bulletin when they were known. It was hoped that the AGM could be arranged for Saturday 25th April, 1987 at 2.30pm at the Margaret Room of the Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London, WC2.

### 13. Any Other Business.

Mr. Farmer asked if there was any objection to forming sub-groups to study particular islands eg a Leeward Islands sub-group.

Mr. Benwell observed that this had been done in the past and that there had been no objection to it. However the groups had quickly faded out.

A member from the floor suggested that the Committee seek expertise on computer uses from among the membership.

There was no other business and the meeting was closed to be followed by the remainder of the Auction Sale.

## **DISPLAY**

A meeting was held at 6pm. on Wednesday 27th November, 1985 in Committee Room 2 at the Law Society Building, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC1 1PL and six members attended, each bringing with him nine pages to show. A short summary of each member's pages follows:

MR DAVID ATKINSON showed some 'Odds and Ends' of Jamaica. These included a 6d. pine with London inland office 50 cancellation used on a mail from abroad not previously cancelled and on a modern Great Britain 1/6d., on cover with a TPO2 TRD which came without penalty through the post to the United Kingdom. Then followed two sheets of postmarks from Enfield, Middlesex, Jamaica including 1896 and 1975 TRD's and double ring c.d.s. from 1905 and still in use in 1982. A 1905 registered cover to the U.S.A. with a type IV Too Late marking and a 1944 censored cover from Falmouth to Sierra Leone with a 'broken Chimney' variety of the George VI 1s. Two military covers were shown, a Y Force cover showing the handstamp of the company office of C Company 1st. Batt. A & SH of Canada and an Army signals handstamp on a Jamaica Official Free cover with an additional circular handstamp 'Headquarters Caribbean Area, Jamaica' (not recorded by Sutcliffe).

A cover arranged by the then American Consul General in Jamaica on the occasion of the first delivery of mail by helicopter from Kingston to Irish Town on February 24th. 1957 with Jamaican stamps cancelled by the American Consular handstamp. Finally, a Jamaican Government Official presentation Pack for the delegates to the 1964 Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference containing the commemorative stamps and also a set of the current definitives.

MR. DENNIS MITTON showed some items from his Bermuda collection. He commenced with an imperforate plate proof of the 1865 1s. green; followed by an example of the issued stamp with specimen overprint in blue in sans serif capitals 15.25 x 1.5mm which is not recorded by Ludington; and then the issued stamp in shades of green; a used strip of four; and an example of the inverted watermark.

On the next two pages shown were displayed the 1880 4d. orange-red, first in a mint block of thirty (6x5) from plate 1 in a pale orange shade; a used block of twelve

(3x4), possibly the largest known block; and a single with inverted watermark being the recorded example.

On the fourth page, Mr Mitton showed the 1893-97 2d. purple Crown CA watermark perf. 14 in a mint block of eight from the first printing in 1898 in aniline purple; and a mint block of twelve from the 1897 second printing in brown purple.

The next page comprised a mint marginal block of thirty six (6x6) of the 1894 1s. green. On page six followed a mint block of thirty two stamps from the top two rows of the sheet showing reference number 31 and position of interpanneau; a mint block of four; an interpanneau block of four and a scarce used block of four.

On page seven Mr Mitton exhibited the 1901 provisional ¼d. on 1s. grey in the form of a 'small' reconstruction of complete sheet of 240 using blocks of nine to show vertical and horizontal interpanneau margins and positions of plate and reference numbers.

On the last two pages there was a display of Queen Victoria postmarks with Ludington type K1 complete with all numbers between 1 and 15 including the rare 5 of Somerset Bridge (less than four years lifespan) and the re-use of number 6 at Ireland in 1886 on the ½d. stone of 1880 used to cancel improperly cancelled stamps.

MR. SIMON GOLDBLATT showed a selection of marks of Trinidad and as well as marks on the stamps of Trinidad and Tobago from his very extensive collection of such items.

First came a fine selection of miscellaneous maritime markings including French transit or arrival marks because the mail in question was carried by French boats. There were a number of internal Trinidad marks and as well as the rare Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela mark. A selection of TPO's was also shown and these were exclusively steamer marks.

Mr Goldblatt also displayed a fine showing of maritime marks on stamps of Trinidad and Tobago.

There was an 1898 Trinidad 2d. Landing of Columbus stamp with the interesting Plymouth to Bristol c.d.s. which was a TPO mark applied on the train between Plymouth and Bristol.

The final page contained a number of miscellaneous marks including the scarce 'SOLENT' rubber handstamp mark on a 1d. stamp from Trinidad.

DR. DAVID WOOLFSON displayed mainly pre-adhesive entries from Jamaica. The first item consisted of Consignee mail, i.e. mail carried by a private ship which might contain bills of exchange, accounts, invoices or bills of lading from merchants or master owners having goods on board that particular ship. Consignee mail was exempt from any ship letter charge and the only charges payable would be the British and/or Jamaican inland postage. The item shown was from Kingston sent on 18th. February, 1843 per the 'Scotsmen' to Edward F. Grindley Esq., 4 Barclay Street, Somers Town.

On the next page there were two pre-adhesive entires carried by 'Men of War'. The first was from Kingston dated 10 September, 1758 arriving London on 16 December, 1758 and was carried by H.M.S. Eagle.

The second item, also from Kingston dated 7th. April 1819 arriving Greenock, Glasgow on 2nd. July 1819 and was carried by H.M.S. Lee. Both entires were treated as ship letters.

The third page showed a ship letter from Westmoreland on 23rd. July, 1759 arriving in Edinburgh on 12th. October, 1759 and was carried by 'Adventure' Captain Fogarty.

Then Dr Woolfson showed six entires from Okey correspondence to France via London. In this type of material the great interest lies in the postal rates paid during the journey. The short particulars are as follows:

- (a) Entire dated 15th. June 1839 from Spanish Town to Paris postage charged 1/4d. of which 10d. was for the Calais Paris part of the route.
- (b) Entire dated 16th. February 1843 from Kingston to Nancy. Postage charged double letter rate 7/6d. of which 3s. was for the Calais to Nancy part of the route.
- (c) Entire dated 27th. September 1841 from Spanish Town to Paris. Postage charged 3/1d. of which 10d. was for the Calais to Paris part of the route.
- (d) Entire date 8th. November 1842 from Spanish Town to Paris. Postage charged 2/3d, plus 10d. paid in full to Paris struck in red.
- (e) Entire dated 21st. June 1845 from Spanish Town to Paris. Postage 5/3d, to pay. Letter rate charged on 1st. April 1844 and included both British and French rates and was charged only from Kingston. Letters from the Post Town to Kingston had to prepay the inland charge. Handstamp Colonies ART.12 ensured that both British and French post Offices received their correct share of the postage.
- (f) Entire date 22nd. April 1848 from Spanish Town to Paris via Boulogne which was reached on 4th. June 1848. The new postal rate now was 2/5d. - 2s. British and 5d. French. This Entire also had a 'TOO LATE' handstamp Type TL5 applied in Jamaica. Foster gives the EKD as 20th. June 1856 and this Entire brings it back eight years.

On the next page Dr Woolfson showed an 1862 cover with original letter enclosed to Kingston. The cover was franked with a Great Britain 6d. pale lilac (SG.70) tied by the London duplex 7/FE/62/28 with alongside both Kingston-Jamaica MR 22 62 arrival c.d.s. and red '1d. - handstamp denoting that 1d. was to be credited to the Jamaica Post Office and 5d. to the Imperial Post.

The last item was a cover from Spanish Town to Kingston with no postage stamp affixed but there was a manuscript 1d. in red denoting pre-payment. Was there a shortage of 1d. stamps in Spanish Town on that date?

MR. E.V. TOEG showed King Edward VII proofs and specimen stamps of Antigua. He commenced with a 1901 Artist's Essay in miniature of the Seal of the Colony design, the vignette being hand painted in carmine and the frame in dark green. Progressive die proofs of the complete Seal of the Colony design then followed with uncleared surrounds and value tablets marked 1 JAN 03 BEFORE HARDENING and Original Die Plate, and 2 JAN 03 AFTER HARDENING and initialled G.C.G.

Next, a progress proof of the vignette with uncleared surround marked 6 FEB 03 AFTER HARDENING and Antigua Postage Revenue original, followed by original die proofs of the vignette with cleared surrounds marked 9 FEB 03 BEFORE HARDENING and 13 FEB 03 AFTER HARDENING respectively, and the original die proofs of the frame of the ½d. marked 11 FEB 03 BEFORE HARDENING and 13 FEB 03 AFTER HARDENING respectively. Progressive die proofs of the whole design of the 5s. with uncleared surrounds and name tablets were then shown marked 22 DEC 02 BEFORE HARDENING and 22 JAN 03 AFTER HARDENING and initialled G.C.G. These were followed by die proofs of the very scarce King's Head on shaded background in an oval marked 11 FEB 03 BEFORE HARDENING and 13 FEB 03 AFTER HARDENING. Finally, die proofs ex D La Rue archives of the vignettes and frames of all values from the ½d. to the 5s. and a composite imperforate proof of the 5d. The 1903-9 set of ten values overprinted SPECIMEN Samuel Type D12a were the next items shown.

In the 1908-17 issues there was an imperforate colour trial of the ½d. in chocolate and dull green and imperforate plate proofs in issued colours or near issued colours of the eight values from the ½d. to the 2s. all being in horizontal pairs except for the 1d. and 2½d. which were singles. The ½d., 1d. and 2½d. of the 1908-17 issues were also shown as SPECIMEN stamps.

MR. D NATHAN showed some unusual postage marks from British Guiana. First, a cover of March 5th. 1884 with the R in oval registration handstamp over three years before previous EKD. The adhesives carried were 11c (registration 4c, postage to UK 8c). There are three blue crayon marks, seemingly 84, 64 and y in a circle crossed out. Discussion ensued but no conclusion was arrived at as to the meaning of these marks.

The second page contained a registered cover from the registration fee cancelled by GPO Counter, 22nd. August 1912, being the EKD by two years. On this cover is the scarce boxed BRITISH/GUIANA/REGISTERED and a backstamp of Georgetown type 44, also the EKD by two years.

The next three pages included the well documented Panton cover from Anguilla to Georgetown, Cayman Islands with the MS3 circular 'Missent to British Guiana' handstamp type MS4 and MS5 on covers from Trinidad to Grenada and Suriname to Trinidad respectively; a cover from Leguan to Montgomery Ward with the scarce oval 'Registered at Leguan' handstamp.

The sixth page displayed a 1943 2c printed stationery cover with additional 32c adhesives registered at Bartica addressed to Laborie, St. Lucia and opened by the examiner.

On page seven there was a cover from New Amsterdam to New York with two U.S. handstamps requiring collection of customs duties, both crossed out and one 'US customs passed free'. The postage was \$2.36, the cover was registered, but 'FOUND IN ORDINARY MAIL' type MS2 in black (Townsend and Howe specify violet).

The eighth page showed a 1926 cover from the Governor, British Guiana to Rev. Canon White, Essequeibo, with a violet cachet about 22 x 29mm with rounded corners



and coat of arms in the centre (not noted by Townsend or Rego and no one at the meeting had any suggestions about its use). Can anyone throw any light on this?

The last item is illustrated and shows a boxed 'ON SERVICE', seen previously by Dr. D Woolfson but not by Townsend and Howe, and the handstamp apparently W.P. Guiana cancelled by PB Georgetown type PB1 of MR 1 1899. Can anyone suggest its origin, usage or the occurrence of another example?

## NOTES and QUERIES

### BARBADOS

#### DUPLEX HANDSTAMP

I recently acquired a cover sent from London to Barbados with a clear strike of the Barbados duplex handstamp type C4 ("Barbados Post Office Markings to 1981" by Messrs. Clarke, Radford and Cave) dated 1.MY.1876. It was used as an arrival date stamp and pre dates by almost two years the E.D.K. mentioned in the above book.

*Basil Benwell*

### BERMUDA

#### MORE MISPLACED CROWN AND CC WATERMARKS

Mr. Stephen Papworth's article on misplaced watermarks in the BWISC Bulletin No. 128 of March 1986 reminded me that I had discovered a curious phenomenon on certain printings of Bermuda on watermark Crown and CC paper.

The printers of all the early Bermuda stamps were Messrs. De La Rue, and those sent to the Colony before 1877 were perforated at Somerset House, whose machine produced a single line of perforation wing margin stamps down the centre of the sheet. Though frequently the watermark was misplaced vertically or horizontally, each Crown and CC bit was in the same position on each stamp throughout the sheet.

In 1876 the printers themselves started to perforate stamps on their own new machine, which made two vertical lines of perforations down the central gutter between the panes, thus eliminating wing margin stamps. At the same time, however, the watermark on each individual stamp no longer remained properly centred horizontally, except down the middle of the sheet. As one moves outward from the middle, each watermark is progressively closer to the central gutter, so that the outside stamps in each row, no. 1 in the left panes and no. 6 in the right panes, is as much as 3 to 3.5mm. off centre inwards from the sheet margins, (see the illustration, on which the centre line on each stamp has been drawn in) . In addition, these same outside stamps show the watermark vertical frame lines, which normally should not appear on the stamps at all, but on the sheet margins close to the vertical rows of perforations.

Clearly, the paper was dampened at some time before the stamps were printed and shrank horizontally. Though this is the usual practice in intaglio or line engraved printing, dampening the paper is not normally done for typography or surface printing, and the reason for doing so is not known.

Only stamps from the following printing of Bermuda stamps show this paper shrinkage:

- 1d. Rose-red, received in Bermuda on 18 January 1877 on 23 September 1876 and on 3 March 1880.
- 3d. perf. 14 x 12½, received in Bermuda on 3 March 1880
- 6d. perf. 14 x 12½, received in Bermuda on 3 March 1880
- 1s. perf. 14 x 12½, received in Bermuda on 3 March 1880
- ½d. received in Bermuda on 25 March 1880
- 4d. received in Bermuda on 25 March 1880

There were two printings of the 2d. value, received on 18 January 1877 and on 23 September 1878, which almost certainly show this paper shrinkage, but I have no examples which can positively be assigned to them.

None of the stamps with the new Crown and CA watermark, the earliest of which, in Bermuda, was received on 28 December 1882, show any signs of paper shrinkage, all the bits being identically centered throughout each sheet.

It would be interesting to learn if the stamps of any other colonies printed on the Crown and CC paper by De La Rue after 1876 show the same paper shrinkage.

*M. H. Ludington*

## **BRITISH HONDURAS**

Postal Markings used at Belize

Continued from P.8 Bulletin No. 128 Mar, 1986

INSTRUCTIONAL HANDSTAMPS

Type H4 (a) PAQUEBOT

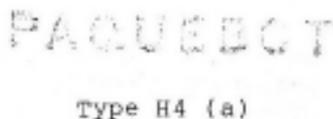
Straight line, letters 6mm high

Length 53mm

Sent from GPO 12 July 1909

EKD

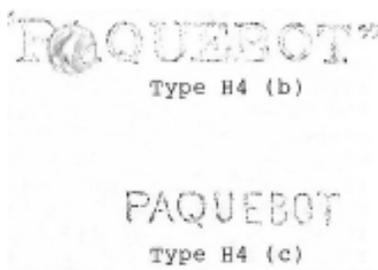
LKD



Type H4 (b)  
Straight line, letters 7 mm high  
Length 54mm  
EKD 1934 LKD 1935

Type H4 (c)  
Straight line, letters 5 mm high  
Length 35mm  
By 1947 the P and T were broken  
and measure 33 mm  
EKD 1938 LKD 1950

To be continued



*Ralph Group*

## **GRENADA**

### **LOCALLY\_SURCHARGED POSTAL DUES**

Bryan Johnson (Bulletin 127), poses some questions about the 1892 locally surcharged postage dues. As far as tete-beche multiples are concerned, my collection contains mint and used pairs of the 1d/6d, and mint strips of five of the 1d/6d and 2d/6d. Burrus had a mint strip of 3 of the 1d/6d, while used pairs of the 1d/6d and 1d/8d (this pair described as “DAMAGED USED ON ENVELOPE”) were contained in a lot offered by Robson Lowe in May 1973. The 1d/6d pair is possibly the same as the one I own, but I suspect not. The only block of which I have records (apart from that mentioned in Bulletin 127) is the block of five of the 1d/6d on the cover referred to below. To my knowledge no mint blocks of any value survive.

Bryan Johnson also refers to usage on cover and to the comments in the footnotes of Gibbons Part I Catalogue that it was doubtful if the provisionals were required or used for postage due purposes. It is true that they were patently not required, since the De La Rue values had just been delivered. It is also true that simple copies of the provisionals can be found quite commonly on cover philatelically used, as normal



adhesives paying the local rate (one wonders why the perpetrators were not more imaginative in the frankings). However I have also noted a number of usages on underpaid mail. The cover already referred to (Ex Mrs. Taylor) was sent on 8th Sept

1892 unfranked to Birmingham, but was refused by the Addressee. The British P.O., unable to collect the deficiency, applied a “5D” handstamp (representing double the rate) and returned the cover to Grenada. On arrival the block of 5d/6d was applied and the correct penalty presumably collected from the original sender. An illustration of this cover and its markings appears in the Sept 1976 Issue of Postal History International. In my own collection there is a cover (see illustration) Ex Vivian-Brown, which demonstrates a further usage on underpaid mail. Although the 1d apparently levied is correct, the cover may be “philatelic” since Dan Walker has a similar cover for the same dates to the same addressee, except that his cover is missing the two St. Lucia ½/6d values. I should add that there was another cover with exactly the same franking as mine in the Lockie Collection of St. Lucia sold by Temple Bar Auctions in 1978.

*Charles Freeland*

### 1875 GRENADA INVERTED S

A recent welcome letter from Peter Jaffe reveals the position of the 1875 1/- with inverted S in postage (SG 13c) to be No. 115 (That took some finding!)

*Simon Goldblatt*

## **JAMAICA**

### THE 1d GEORGE V PICTORIAL RE-ENTRY

This note is a statement of the little I know of this variety. I am writing it in the hope that someone can supply additional information.

This stamp was printed in sheets of 40 (5x8). There were at least 5 (probably 6) plates on multiple CA paper. Four of these were numbered 1-4 in the bottom right hand corner and one (or two) others were unnumbered. The same plates were unused on multiple script CA paper together with additional plates numbered 5 to 14.

H. Cooke in his article in the 1928 handbook states that the variety was most pronounced on stamp 39 on the sheet, but also on the two stamps immediately above i.e. stamps 29 and 34. (These are the fourth stamps, respectively, in rows 8, 6 and 7). The plate was an unnumbered one. Cooke lists 8 differences between the variety and the normal and I quote verbatim.

	<u>Normal</u>	<u>Variety</u>
(1) “Jamaica”	Letters not outlined	Outlined in white, lightly inked.
(2) Letters of value	Letters not out lined	Outlined in white, lightly inked.
(3) Shading of sky	Consists of short broken lines and dots	Lines continuous vary in width. No dots but broken lines

	<u>Normal</u>	<u>Variety</u>
(4) Stays of mast really two lines	Thin and clear	Thick and heavy, lightly inked between.
(5) Heads of men on deck	Clear, almost distinct	A blurred confused mast.
(6) Lines of hull	Clear, thin, distinct.	Thick, heavy, running into each other.
(7) "Contingent embarking"	Letters not outlined	Outlined, and as in (1) and (2)
(8) Cruciform ornaments	Clear and distinct	Blurred, and as in (1), (2) and (7)

I have recently acquired an example with some of these features but with a number of differences. Firstly, the stamp does not come from the fourth column in the sheet, but from the fifth. It is the bottom right-hand corner copy i.e. stamp 40. I have the full margin and it is plate number 3. The watermark is multiple script CA. Variations (1), (2) and (4) above are clearly visible: the others much less so, and in some cases - particularly (5) - do not appear at all. In addition the vertical strokes of the 'N's of the first PENNY are thinner than their counterparts on the normal. There is also a plate flaw - possibly the result of a crack - below the 'PENNY' between the second and third ropes.

Malsolm Mattik

## ST. LUCIA

### POSTAGE DUE

Gibbons list the first decimal issue of postage dues on chalky paper (SG 7a, 8a, 9a, 10a) as having been issued on 27 Nov 1952.

I have a commercial cover from British Guiana bearing the 2c. (SG 7a).clearly tied by Castries cds dated 26 Nov. Has any member a cover or loose stamp corroborating or indeed predating this one?

*Michael Medicott*

## ST. VINCENT

### CENSORSHIP DEVICES

Since the Roses Handbook No. 2 ("West Indies Censorship Devices") appeared in 1977 much WWII material has appeared on the market.

In the absence of any other record, it may be useful to note two St. Vincent covers, bearing the H.I handstamp "Passed by Censorship No . . . ." in upper/lower case, applied directly to envelopes without labels.

1. Cover to England “Passed by Censorship No. 2” (Number previously unrecorded) together with “Colonial Postmaster” handstamp using the same ink-pad. This bears out Bruce Walkers conclusion that the Colonial Postmaster had access to Censorship Devices, and suggests that Handstamp No. 2 may have been appropriated to his use.
2. Cover from England to St Vincent. Also bearing the H.I Handstamp (number unknown), the first recorded evidence that incoming mail was censored on the Island.

*Michael Medlicott*

### 1881 SURCHARGE

Peter Jaffe reports that the lines on the 1881 1d. or 6d. (SG34) do not (repeat, not) stop in the centre of the sheet (a heresy refuted), Peter also asks for reports of any examples of the 4d. on 1s. (SG35) with surcharge close to the bar. Does it exist or is your copy less healthy than you would wish? Comments please.

*Simon Goldblatt*

## **VIRGIN ISLANDS**

### **FORGERIES**

1866 1d green type 1

This forgery is poorly executed, litho, perf 13 where this can be seen, otherwise cut off.

Cancellation With a square of dots suggesting the work of Spiro.

Idents

- (1) The cords to the lamps are far too thick and distinct.
- (2) The right arm of the Virgin is noticeably too thick.

The 1866 deep rose. Litho, well and cleanly executed, p.13 where available.

Cancellation With a square of dots and an oval of bars.

Idents

- (1) Toe touches the frame line.
- (2) The lamps on the right hand side touch the frame.

The 4d lake and maroon of 1867. Both on pale rose paper, perf 13, litho very cleanly executed.

Cancellation Square of dots.

Idents

- (1) There are 15 dots not 14 above and below the letters Fourpence.
- (2) The 22 dots across the top are far too distinct.
- (3) There are only 82 pearls in the ring and not 136 as in the genuine.

The 1/- of 1867-8. Attributed to Fournier with and without the red border. On toned and white paper, Litho, clean but lines too thick, perf 12 where not cut away.

- Cancellations (a) square of large square dots (2) 8 x 10  
 (b) square of small round dots 8 x 6  
 (c) Heavy single circle with meaningless characters at top and bottom  
 (d) Double circles 1-3/4" approx and 3" die, also with indecipherable characters.

Idents There are two major errors in this forgery.

- (1) The 'glory' emanating from behind the Virgin should be in the form of fine clear rays but on the forgery they have been depicted by a clear white area.
- (2) The whole of the figure, on the genuine stamp shows a number of fine red lines under the black colour. These have been completely omitted on the forgery.

*Al Branston*

## AUCTION REPORT

At the start of this year's sale the auctioneer announced that the number of postal bidders was substantially less than in previous years, and that he was looking to those present to compete with vigour to make up the deficiency. The exhortation did not go unheeded. 100 lots on which no previous bids had been received were sold in the event to bidders in the room. Even so, about 45% of the 551 lots on offer went unsold, which is far above our previous experience, and a poor reflection on the amount of effort that goes into collecting and preparing material for sale, offering as wide a representation of the B.W.I. as is practicable, and doing everything possible to ensure that descriptions are full and accurate.

We seldom receive comments from members about the general quality and range of auction material, and it is left for us to guess whether the ambitions and interests of the membership are being effectively stimulated and served. It would be useful to have some views from time to time, so that auction policy can be re-considered, and modified if appropriate. Thoughts which occur to us are –

Is there too much to digest?

Is there too much modern or unspecialised material?

Are the goods on offer too like last year's?

Are you put off bidding by the level of valuations?

On the last point, bidders are generally well aware that bids below 3/4 of valuation are likely to be rejected, and most of the bids submitted were serious ones. It is worth mentioning two exceptions; one bidder proffered bids on 20 lots, of which 15 were disqualified as too low; another bidder competed on 14 lots, but half of the bids were similarly rejected, and the other half failed. There is nothing to be gained in the ordinary way by putting in too low a bid because we don't usually accept it. If you do see an item which you take to be substantially overvalued, give us a brief indication why: a relevant criticism can be taken up with the vendor, whilst a low bid, unexplained, can only be rejected.

Continuing experience, however, engenders confidence on our estimates of value. Of the lots sold - 306 lots at a total close to £4,200 - realizations were within less than 1% of total valuation. This is not just the influence of our estimates, for plenty of

bidders are willing to pay well above actual realisation. On one lot for which there was no other competition, the auctioneer told the room after it was knocked down that he had received the equivalent of a 'buy' bid on it. Another of our postal bidders, who received a bill for just over £200, had been willing to pay more than double that for the lots which he secured.

Of individual lots which did well, we note the Montpelier strike (lot 31) at more than double its £15 estimate; a demand in Bahamas for modern Cat I. strikes (lot 59, £13, est. £4); and the scarce St. Kitts Lindberg cover (lot 435) fetched £36 against est. £16, despite its condition. The pen-cancelled Cayman I. block of six (lot 213) rightly evoked interest, and realised £33 (est. £12); and the Barbuda 2d. with watermark variety sold at £42, against est. £20. The variety itself is seen quite often, but with a plate number it is rather special. The St. Christopher 2d. CC justified its estimate of £100, selling at £5 more to a book bidder (lot 426); and the YARE on St. Lucia 3d. (lot 446) attracted the interest of connoisseurs: it sold at a healthy £56, and one feels it could have gone to twice that sum in a major commercial auction.

The pattern of former sales is no sure guide to what will sell and what will not. Indeed some of the best results were in countries that on other occasions proved flat. Seven out of eight Cayman I. lots sold - as happened also in the Miscellaneous section - and all eight lots from the Turks and Caicos area. In St. Lucia, only three lots out of 21 failed to find a buyer; but Granada was in the doldrums with only six lots sold out of 23, one other being withdrawn because our estimate and the sellers were out of line. Six lots of Virgin I. attracted just one bid between them. Leeward I., usually a top performer, sold only 51 out of 105 lots on offer, but that was quite a lot of material for our members to absorb of course. Barbados also disappointed, with 28 lots unsold out of 52, a surprise in a country that has performed consistently well in the past.

We see these ups and downs in perspective. Looking at the range of our Circle's interests, and the size of our membership, there are never going to be more than about a dozen members willing to compete for any particular item, and substantially fewer showing interest in more run-of-the-mill ones. Hence the balance between demand and supply is delicate; and we shall continue to do what we can for the future to ensure that the traditional full coverage of British West Indies maintained in the material available for annual sales.

We list below realisations for Items sold

Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£
1	9	2	3.50	3	11	4	24	5	29	11	8.50
12	4.50	13	9.50	14	8	15	4.50	16	10.50	17	5.25
18	10.50	19	14	21	7	22	19	24	13.50	25	4.25
27	37	29	15.50	30	6	31	31	32	8	37	33
41	3.75	43	9	44	17.50	45	4.50	49	6	52	34
54	4	55	4.25	56	4.50	57	9	58	5	59	13
60	4.75	61	7	62	16.50	67	19	71	42	73	58
75	13.50	78	42	79	23	80	9	86	6	88	7
89	2.50	90	9	91	4	93	7	94	16	97	18
99	19	101	6	102	6	103	6.50	104	12	105	3.50

Lot	£										
111	4	113	2.25	114	44	119	26	121	15	123	18
125	23	127	16	132	7	133	11.50	134	5.50	135	7
137	21	138	12	140	11.50	141	6	142	25	143	21
145	19	149	2.50	150	9	151	7	153	95	156	20
157	9	158	7.50	159	4	160	4.50	161	35	162	9.50
163	7.50	164	4.50	166	12	170	2.25	171	14	177	23
178	11	180	85	182	7.50	183	7.50	184	39	185	7
187	10.50	188	65	190	11.50	192	3.75	195	9	196	9
197	6.50	199	21	200	1.50	202	7	204	24	207	13
208	20	209	10	210	8.50	211	13	213	33	214	12.50
215	13	216	36	217	12.50	216	46	219	10	225	3
227	4.50	228	2.25	229	2.50	230	3	231	4.50	232	9
233	2.25	239	9	240	12	241	10	243	7	245	7
247	9	259	25	261	5.25	263	9	268	8	269	6
272	7	273	7	274	8.50	275	9	276	9	277	7
278	5.50	279	15	280	16	281	9	282	20	283	22
284	4	285	16	286	7	287	22	288	12	289	4
290	9.50	291	7.50	295	14.50	297	9	298	17	299	7
301	10.50	303	17	305	8	307	9.50	316	13.50	317	9
326	30	329	30	330	6	331	20	332	48	333	34
334	29	339	4	345	9	346	7.50	347	14	348	2.25
351	27	352	18	353	11.50	354	8.50	357	4.50	358	2.50
367	34	370	3.75	371	7	373	14	374	7	375	9
376	11	377	5.50	380	12	381	5	382	5.50	385	19
386	6	389	4.50	390	4.50	391	11	392	9	393	6
394	6	395	20	396	17	397	12.50	400	5.25	401	19
403	4.50	404	3	407	1.50	411	2.50	415	4	416	4
422	14	424	3	426	105	427	35	428	25	429	15.50
430	9	431	9	432	23	435	36	436	8	437	6
440	10.50	441	15	443	14	444	5.25	446	56	447	13
448	5.25	449	3.75	450	3.75	451	3	452	23	453	20
454	4.50	455	36	457	17	459	5.25	460	3	461	4.25
462	5	463	60	464	33	465	9	466	5.25	467	20
468	6	470	12.50	474	6.50	476	7.50	477	8.50	478	7
480	31	483	12.50	484	8	487	35	489	23	490	5.50
492	14	493	8	494	13.50	499	20	500	15	503	14.50
504	4.75	506	11.50	507	11.50	508	15	509	3.75	510	12.50
511	15.50	512	20	513	3	516	6	521	7	523	4
524	3	528	7.50	532	4	534	3	537	4	539	4
540	3.75	541	15	544	21	545	20	546	18	547	40
548	6	550	3	551	10.50						

## NEWS ROUNDUP

A new list of members is being prepared. Any member who wishes to notify changes of collections interest or any other matter should do so by writing to the Hon. Secretary, Ian Chard at 48, The Shrublands, Potters Bar, Herts. EH6 2BW not later than 1st. August 1986.

The Hon Treasurer reports that almost one third of 1986 'subscriptions are still outstanding. If you are guilty please send your cheque as soon as possible.

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