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STUDY CIRCLE

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BULLETIN No. 162 SEPTEMBER 1994

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

Affiliated to the British Philatelic Federation

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OBJECTS

1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the British West Indies and in addition BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS (BELIZE) and the Postal History and markings of all other Caribbean territories during any period that they were under British administration or control, and those British Post Offices which operated in the Caribbean, and Central or South America.
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 to Hon. Librarian accompanied by an s.a.e. (9" x 6½") - 2nd Class postage for 150gm rate required.**
4. TO publicist 'wants' and furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.
5. TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aim in para 1 above.

MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION

MEMBERSHIP - Is WORLD WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be new or advanced collectors.

SUBSCRIPTIONS - The ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION is £7.50 for members residing in the UK or Europe and £10 for members who reside elsewhere.

Subscriptions (dues) are payable on 1st January each year and, subject to what is mentioned below, in sterling (by personal cheque or Standing Order drawn on a U.K. Bank, a Banker's Draft, International Money Order, Postal Order or local currency *notes* - no coins will be accepted - e.g. dollars, marks, francs etc.).

Members residing in North America (Canada, USA, and the Caribbean) who do not pay their Subscription (dues) in sterling should pay by sending to the North American Representative (see above for address) a cheque for USA \$15 made payable to "BWISC". Other overseas members who pay their subscription by cheque drawn in a foreign currency or on a foreign bank MUST add the equivalent of £3 sterling partially to cover exchange and bank charges. The overseas rates quoted include an element to cover postage of the Bulletin by Air Mail.

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PROGRAMME

Sat 24 Sept – 2.30pm to 4.30pm At HAMPEX (Greyfriars Centre, Ringwood).
Displays by: Geoff Osborne (Forwarding Agents)
Mike Vokins(Jamaica) and Derek Nathan (Guyana Village postmarks).

Sat 15 Oct. – 10.30am STAMPEX. Royal Horticultural Hail, London. SW1.
Displays by: C.F. May - Leeward Islands / Antigua.
R.S. Martin - St Vincent

1995

March At STAMPEX. (to be confirmed, see December Bulletin)
Date and time to be confirmed. Displays to be arranged

Sat 22 April Bonnington Hotel, London. AGM followed by annual Auction.

Fri/Sat Oct Convention at the Regent Hotel in Royal Leamington Spa.

NOTE: Due to the balloting arrangements for room allocation at STAMPEX both the venue and date for the meetings in March 1995 are liable to alteration and Members MUST check their latest Bulletin for final information.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

As reported in the June bulletin, the AGM in April adopted the Hon. Treasurer's recommendation that:- Annual subscription rates shall be increased to £7.50 for UK and EC members and to £10 (US \$15.00) for overseas members as from 1 January 1995.

The purpose of including this note in the September bulletin is to emphasise that the committee were concerned to give members the opportunity to 'buy' future years membership at the present rates, up to a maximum of 5 years membership at the present rates, up to a maximum of 5 years from now i.e. not beyond 31 December 1999. Many members already pay for terms of varying lengths (up to 5 years ahead) and that term can be 'topped up' to 31.12.1999 at current rates (£6 UK and Europe, £8 overseas (\$14.50), providing that this is done before 31 December this year. If uncertain about the termination date of your current subscription contact the Hon. Treasurer.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Hon. Treasurer wishes to make it crystal clear that advance subscriptions will NOT extend at present rates beyond 31.12.1999 and that, to be credited at current rates, must be received by him by 31st December this year - no extension can be granted. Bearing In mind the problems with post over Christmas, it is suggested that those members intending to take advantage of this offer do so by the end of November.

A special plea to those members who pay by Standing Order - some of these are still at the obsolete previous rates of subscription and cause continuing problems. Will you please check with your Bank and arrange in good time for the new rate of Standing Order to apply from 1 January 1995.

Chris May - Hon. Treasurer

LIBRARY LIST

The Hon. Librarian would like to point out that overseas members are entitled to receive copies of the library List on request, as stated in Bulletin 157, page 25. The difference in postage for Home and Overseas members is 82p, which explains our reluctance to make a blanket mailing.

Derek Nathan

STAMPEX DISPLAYS

The Study Circle put on one of the static displays at the February Stampex in the Royal Horticultural Hall, London. The display covered the whole range of countries covered by the Circle and along with the members table ably manned by members of the group, a number of new members were enrolled. We welcome them and hope that they have many years of enjoyment with us.

The brief description of the displays which follows cannot do justice to the many rarities and specialised collections on show.

Antigua. The exhibit showed a representative display of pre-stamp letters beginning with the earliest known letter from Antigua along with selected items from a specialist collection of the Victorian issues and a general representation of the stamps of King Edward VII & George VI.

Bahamas. A selection from a specialised collection showing a study of the plate flaws of the 1860 1d, the development of the Queen Victoria postal stationery and aspects of the Queen's Staircase pictorial issue.

Barbados. The display began with an early letter carried by a private ship in 1687 and continued with various examples of both the stamps and postal history of the Colony.

Bermuda. A display of the stamps of Queen Victoria from 1865 to 1904 with essays, proofs, varieties and covers to display the postal rates. Also shown were unusual items of postal stationery and POW mail from the Beer War.

Barbuda. The display began with two items from the Codrington correspondence, the contents of which related to the management of the estates on the island leased by the family from the Crown from 1699 to 1870. Also shown were examples of packet letters one of which carried the undated green arrival mark applied at Falmouth. The display also included a study of the 1922 overprinted issue and examples of official cachets and postal markings.

British Guiana. The first display was devoted to a study of the 1860-75 Arms of the colony issue and showed the many printings, watermarks and usages. Then followed examples of markings used by the US military who were granted base facilities in the Colony from 1940-47 and a number of village postmarks together with postcard illustrations of the villages. The second display was devoted to the first pictorial issue for Queen Victoria's Diamond jubilee.

British Honduras. This display showed the stamps and postal history of the Colony.

Cayman Islands. This exhibit included the forerunners (Jamaica used in the Caymans), essays, proof material, specimen stamps and the issued stamps and their usage. Some rare postmarks were included, one of which was a hitherto unknown War Fund label on a cover.

Grenada. The first frame illustrated the methods of transportation of the mails to and from Grenada from 1765 to 1860, with postal rates and markings. It was followed by the introduction of the island's own stamps, inland postal services and the use of the special Red Cross labels during the Great War.

Guyana. This display of the 1966-67 Independence issue showed the various London and local overprints on the stamps of British Guiana. Watermark and Plate varieties were shown together with major and minor varieties of the overprint.

Jamaica. The first display showed items from 1670 to 1850 depicting some of the various postal markings in use. Also included was a copy of the London Gazette of 1692 mentioning the Great Earthquake and a Dummer packet letter. The second display showed various examples of military mail originating from the island commencing with concessionary 1d post covers for soldiers and sailors. Also shown were censorship markings of both wars and some examples of Canadian military mail from 1940-46.

Leeward Islands. The display was designed to show the major errors and flaws that occurred on the stamps of the Leeward Islands over the five reigns. The General Issue stamps for all the islands in the group employed De La Rue's keyplate throughout and the display depicted a miscellany of the philatelic history of the group, often with Leeward Island stamps being used in conjunction with stamps from the constituent Presidencies.

Montserrat. The display began with the first issue of Montserrat which consisted of stamps of Antigua overprinted with the island's name showing various varieties. Then followed examples of the keyplate issues including the great rarity of Montserrat the 4d blue with the well-known Sperati forgery, together with his "die proof".

Nevis. The frame showed the first stamps issued by Nevis in 1861 followed by the subsequent issue. It included plate proofs and showed how individual stamps could be plated.

St Christopher / St Kitts-Nevis. The first packet service to St Kitts from Falmouth started in 1745 and an early cover from 1746 began this display. It continued by showing the various early handstamps, the first stamps for St Christopher and finally the first stamps for St Kitts-Nevis. Die proofs for the King George V issue were also included.

Trinidad. The exhibit gave an overall coverage of the 1851-61 Perkins Bacon issues, including attribution of colour and shades to the various consignments sent out to Trinidad, The display began with a unique set of progress proofs for the "Britannia" design of the first issue.

Trinidad and Tobago. A selection of material was displayed to show some of the different facets of philately of this country, including postal stationery, censored mail, first flights and a study of the 1956 provisional issue and the postage due issue of 1944-5.

Turks Islands / Turks and Caicos Islands. The display began with one of the earliest known letters from this small colony and continued with an exhibition of the earliest stamps and overprints with some examples used on cover. Then followed a representative selection of the adhesive stamps of the Colony from 1900 to the reign of King George V.

Airmails. This display traced the history and development of the Air mail service to and from Jamaica from the first abortive attempt in 1920 to the 1970s.

Revenue Stamps. Two frames of material showing the Revenue stamps of some of the islands including covers with examples postally used.

Fakes and Forgeries. The first frame of this section showed examples of many of the fakes and forgeries from various islands. It was followed by examples of forged cancellations, forged surcharges and other surrogates.

Maritime mail In the West Indies. The display included examples of various markings applied to mail onboard ship while on the high seas or in harbour during the 40 years 1895-1935.

The Study Circle would like to thank the following for the above exhibits:- David Atkinson, Chris Barwick, Brian Brookes, John Challis, Denis Charlesworth, Frank Deakin, David Druett, Tony Farmer, Charles Freeland, Graham Hoey, Robson Lowe, John Marriott, Dennis Mitton, Derek Nathan, Michael Nicholson, Michael Oliver, Alan Pearce, Stella Pearce, Tony Shepherd, Michael Spaven, Derek Sutcliffe, Mike Rego and Ken Watson.



Members present at the WIPEX meeting

NEW BARBADOS STAMP PRINTERS - Cot Printery Limited

The following article appeared in the Barbados Advocate Newspaper of 4th July 1994 and I trust that it will be of interest to fellow members.

Cot's Printing Postage Stamps.

A Barbadian printery has created history by becoming the first company in the Caribbean Community to print postage stamps. This morning a proud Nigel Worme, Managing director of the Newton, Christ Church, Cot Printery Limited, will present a First day Cover and stamps to each of the region's Prime Ministers attending the opening of the 1994 Heads of Government Summit.

The company has produced a total of some 450,000 stamps to commemorate the Order of the Caribbean Community (OCC) - a designated high honour for Caribbean persons which was conferred on Sir Shridath Ramphal, William Demas and Derek Walcott on June 29 1992. The stamps are in 70 cents denominations and go on sale from today at Post Offices around the island. They will be available for general postage usage as well as stamp collecting purposes.

The commemorative issue is titled. The First Recipients of the Order of the Caribbean Community - Great West Indians.

Twelve printeries

As such, Cot Printery has added its name to the mere 12 commercial printeries in the entire world which are allowed to print postage stamps.

To date, both Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago have also issued postage stamps as a means of commemorating the OCC awards. However, Barbados has gone the route of producing its own stamps.

According to Worme, the intention is for Cot Printery to print all of the postage stamp requirements for Barbados, currently estimated at about \$250,000 worth of stamps, by 1995. In addition, by 1996, Cot Printery will be tackling the CARICOM postage market, estimated to be between US\$2.5 million and US\$2 million annually.

CARICOM countries currently import all their stamps from the United Kingdom through the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau, or from the United States through Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation.

Worme also reveals that plans are already in train for his company to penetrate the extra-regional market. Talks have already started between Cot Printery and some African countries in this regard.

“We are a small country and the local requirement would not be enough to sustain such project, so we are approaching this with an export thrust,” explained Worme.

The project was conceptualised about one year ago when Trade, Industry and Commerce Minister, Warwick Franklin, approached Cot to explore the possibility of producing stamps for Barbados and the CARICOM region. The second step involved company officials meeting with Post Master General Herbert Niles, as well as officials from the Barbados Investment and Development Company (BIDC) to make concrete plans. The next move to get the project off the ground saw Cot’s officials visiting the Crown Agents in the UK, who act as brokers in releasing stamps for countries worldwide.

High security

It was this particular step which was of critical importance, since the printing of stamps is considered a very technical and high-security matter, akin to the printing of money.

Worme noted that scepticism of the Crown Agents about Cot Printer/s ability to do the job was only allayed after the Barbados Government gave its official support to the project.

Work on the project was actually started and completed some four weeks after agreement was reached that Cot Printery would print the first regionally produced postage stamps.

According to Worme, both the local post office officials as well as the Crown Agents are very satisfied with the quality of the Barbados stamps.

The next challenge will be to penetrate the regional market in order for Cot Printery to add new clients to its portfolio. The plan is for the Minister of Trade, the Postmaster General and the Minister responsible for the post office to contact their regional counterparts.

Equipment

As for the equipment, Wonne explained that his company already had in place most of the equipment required to print the stamps. This includes a colour electronic pre-press system worth about \$600,000 and a Hiedeiberg speed master printing press worth about \$1.6 million. The new equipment which was required was perforating and security to the tune of \$150,000.

The company is also introducing security systems, including special video cameras and passes for persons working on the stamp project to ensure that every single stamp is accounted for.

But the project will also have spin-off benefits. For example, while the art work on the new stamps was done by UK designer Derek Miller, the opportunity will be there for local and regional artists to provide their own artwork.

As will be noted from the above, Barbados is the first country in our region to

produce its own stamps. I know that when small countries produce their own stamps or attempt an overprint it sometimes causes eyebrows to be raised, but I can assure you that Cot Printery Limited is a company of the highest integrity and I can vouch for it. I personally know Mr. Nigel Worme, the Company's Managing Director, and the other directors of the firm.

Edmund A. Bayley

The above article was followed up in the Barbados Advocate Newspaper of 6th July 1994 as follows.

Cot's Presents First Stamps.

The Barbados Government was yesterday presented with the official First Day Cover and an issue of the first postage stamps printed by Barbadian company Cot Printery Limited.

Cot's Managing director Nigel Worme made the presentation to Home Affairs Minister, Philip Greaves, at the Sir Frank Walcott Building, Culloden Road, St. Michael. The presentation was witnessed by Herbert Niles, Barbados' Post Master General.

It was the second presentation of its kind by Cot Printery Limited this week. On Monday an issue of the same stamps was presented to Caricom Prime Ministers at the opening of their 1994 Heads of Government Summit here.

Mr. Worme said that the venture would not have been possible had it not been for the Minister's consent. He explained that although the idea was conceptualised in 1989 it was not until mid last year that Cot Printery decided to explore it fully at the instigation of Minister of Trade, Industry and Commerce, Warwick Franklin.

Worme noted it was Niles' idea to explore the commemorative issue of the stamps.

According to Niles he suggested this because "some two years ago when this investiture was made CARICOM had asked if countries were considering the issuing of stamps."

Acknowledging that so far none of the gentlemen: Sir Shridath Ramphal, William Demas and Derek Walcott - in whose honour the stamps were printed - has received the stamps, he said this will soon be made a matter of priority.

Some of the covers will be passed on to the Post Master general to be sold along with the stamps which are currently available for purchase at the Bridgetown Post Office.

Niles explained that the task at hand for Cot Printery was to ensure that a consistently high quality of stamp production is maintained since the philatelic business was a very conservative one which thoroughly analyses new-comers to the market. He further stated "distortion is a rarity...rarities are seen as

imperfections...the philatelic bureau can detect these... You must be sure you don't create a rarity since you are not allowed two errors!"

He cautioned 'It will take some time before you get accepted since their are others already in the business who will not just lay down and play dead.'

According to Niles such an enterprising effort on the part of Cot should not be allowed to go unnoticed. He said if nothing is written in the philatelic magazines about the venture, Worme should orchestrate it.

Greave offered his congratulations to Worme, and said he fully endorsed the efforts of Cot Printery.

He said, "It looks like an excellent job...I hope it will be great business for Barbados and your company and most of all for trade over a long period of time to come."

The presentation was done as a promotional effort with the intention of allowing the Minister the opportunity to send some of the stamps to his overseas counterparts.

Keith H. Bayley

HELP WANTED - Windmills

We have had a request from the editor of the Windmill Study Unit of the American Topical Association for help in obtaining information about windmills in the West Indies. The information that would be of interest would include the following information:- History, machinery both past and present, present use etc. A number of windmills have appeared on stamps of the West Indies islands and include:- Barbados SG.372, BVI SG.763, Montserrat SG.508, Nevis SG.64, 67, 169, 248 and St Kitts Nevis SG.119.

If anyone can help, would they please contact Fred Atkins (Bulletin Editor) at

MATERIAL FOR BULLETIN - URGENTLY NEEDED

PLEASE send material for the bulletin. Everything welcome.

BRITISH GUIANA - POSTAGE DUE MARKS

Collection marks are used to inform the delivery Office and its postmen that full postage has not been prepaid and a further amount, usually twice the shortage, has to be collected on delivery. On Inland Mail these are often dual purpose marks, applied as soon as the shortfall becomes apparent, and often supplanted by Postage Due adhesives.

On International Mail, note is taken of the Tax mark applied by the receiving Office and, on a formula based on the system of gold centimes, an amount in local currency is established and noted on the cover for collection. This may be supplemented by Postage Due stamps, if available, or even by postage stamps.

The collection system in British Guiana has changed several times since prepayment began, and I have tried to tabulate the information I have put together, but there is a lot more work to be done and this is just an updating of the initial work done by Townsend & Howe.


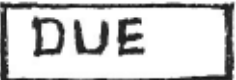


It would seem that from early days until 1930, a form of POSTAGE DUE handstamp was used, including the amount of shortfall, often in manuscript. This is not the whole story, as there does seem to have been a period between 1897 and 1913 when postage stamps were used, signed, and cancelled 'UNPAID BRANCH G.P.O.', but only one specimen of the latter c.d.s. has so far come to light and more information is required.

From 1930 to 1935 postage stamps were again used, cancelled 'T.L.B. CLERK' (Taxed Letter Branch). From 1935 to 1941 further 'DUE' handstamps were employed; Postage Due adhesives were issued in 1940.


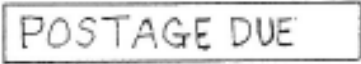
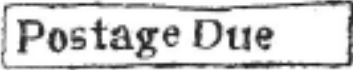

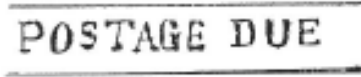
There follows a list of the fifteen marks so far identified, with the relevant Townsend & Howe PD numbers added where appropriate. Many of the impressions seen are faint, incomplete and overlaying other marks. A great deal of freehand work has gone into the illustrations and I am no artist. I hope they are sufficient to convey an idea of the mark, and maybe a more skilful hand than mine can complete the job.

It will be seen that classification is not easy, especially based on the small amount of information available at present.

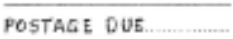



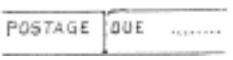

Fellow collectors have been very helpful, but I am sure there are more covers in existence the study of which would allow us to understand the system more fully.

Type No	Illustration	Height mm	Width mm	Colour	Date range	Number seen
D 1 (PD 1)					1889-95	Not seen by DMN
					As this, but boxed 19 FE 1912 outward letter ex KITTY	Photo of cover seen. C. Freeland
	(None of these a complete strike)				As this but boxed 10 NOV 1915 outward letter ex NIGG	Photo of cover seen. R. Colacino
					As this but boxed 17 AU 1926 outward letter ex A. REGINA	Seen in collection of T. Dickinson
D 2 (PD 2 variant)		10 3.5mm letters	30	Violet (Black)	1901-06 (1894-1901)	5 (? T&H)
D3 (PD 2)		10	30	Violet (Black)	1904 (1894)	1 (1 T&H)
D4		5 including stop	36	Red Violet	1893-97 1895-99	2 3

Note:- illustrations are not to scale)

Type No	Illustration	Height mm	Width mm	Colour	Date range	Number seen
D5		10 4mm letters	31	Violet	1905	1
D6		8 2.5mm letters space at left 2.5mm space at right 10mm	52	Violet	1907-08	2
D7		9 serifs, ulc, box waisted	50	Violet	1911	1
D8		23 mm dia		Black	1913	1
D9		11 4 mm letters serifs, caps	52	Violet	1912-14	2

Note:- illustrations are not to scale)

Type No	Illustration	Height mm	Width mm	Colour	Date range	Number seen
D10 (PD3)		12 3 mm letters sanserif, caps	72	Violet	1920-30	5
D11 (PD 11)		25 mm dia Philatelic cover		Black	1930-34 (1931-35) 1937	many on loose stamps many (T&H) only
D12		4.5 curved format no serif, no lines	54	Violet	1932	1
D13		10 4mm letters serif caps	over 55	Violet	1935	2
D14		11 4mm letters sanserif caps (PD4 with left end boxed)	69	Violet	1937 (1931)	1 (1 T&H)
D15 (PD 5)		5	39	Black	1937-41 (1939-43)	7 (?T&H)

Note:- illustrations are not to scale)

I hope that I have taken a small step in this direction, but there must be those who can pick up this baton and make further progress.

Derek Nathan

LEEWARD ISLANDS KING GEORGE VI £1 SG.114A

Notes on printings of February and October 1942

The Stanley Gibbons Part 1 Catalogue incorporates the two printings under SG.114A and the treatment of these by the various authorities leaves a rather confused situation.

As the catalogue had on revision recognised the February 1942 printing of the 10/- stamp separately as SG.113A in the 1992/93 part 1 (vol.2) it seemed not unreasonable to see whether similar treatment could be afforded to the £1 stamp printed about the same time. The two printings were similar to the extent that both were small (10/- 98 sheets: £1 100 sheets) and both were despatched in their entirety to the colony. But, more importantly, both are distinguishable from other printings by colour.

A series of notes were prepared and these are reproduced below:

1. Catalogue Treatment:

- (a) S.G. include both printings under SG.114A purple and black on carmine.
- (b) CW separate the printings as:
 - (i) Purple and black on carmine-red (³/₄₂) CW.13A.
 - (ii) Deep purple and black on deep carmine-red (¹¹/₄₂) CW.13AAA.

2. Handbook Treatment:

- (a) Taking 'King George VI Large Key Type Stamps of Bermuda, Leeward Islands and Nyasaland' by Dickgeisser and Yendall as the most authoritative work on this subject (relative to the Leeward Islands 10/- and £1 issues) the information provided in relation to the two £1 printings under examination is as follows:

Advert

Schiff Auctions

Advert

ARGYLL ETKIN LTD

Advert

CHRIS RAINEY

Advert

STAMP INSURANCES SERVICES

Advert

WILLARD S. ALLMAN

Advert

PETER SINGER

Advert

FREDERICK P. SCHMITT

Advert

MURRAY PAYNE LTD.

February 1942:

Deep purple and black on carmine-red - head impression is blurred and indistinct. Printing 100 sheets: all to Leeward Is.

October 1942:

Purple and black on deep carmine-red - head impression is lighter and more distinct. Printing 231 sheets: 181 to Leewards Is. and 50 to C.A.

(b) Potter & Shelton take the printings in the reverse order viz:

March 1942:

Purple and black on deep carmine - streaky brown gum.

November 1942:

Deeper purple and black on deep carmine - plain gum - which accords with the CW catalogue treatment.

(c) The Robson Lowe Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps Volume VI only distinguishes the two printings by reference to gum characteristics viz:

2nd reprint (February 1942) - brown streaky gum and prominent watermark.

3rd reprint (October 1942) - clear gum.

3. Conclusion:

Based on the foregoing, there is clearly some confusion. That there are two distinguishable printings is not in doubt. The problem seems to be the difference of opinion as to which came first.

The earliest recorded dates of usage as recorded in Dickgeisser (Feb 1942 printing: 12 Nov 1946 and October 1942 printing: 1947) offer little help but the writer has a used copy postmarked 'St. Kitts 17 Dec 42' (for which a R.P.S. certificate has been obtained - with the observation 'obliterated by favour') which is the deep purple shade and can hardly have come from the October 1942 printing. Additionally the writer has several other used examples in the deep purple shade viz:

Plymouth, Montserrat: Nov 27 43 and Mr 2 44
St. Kitts: 7 De 43 and 20 Fe 44
with nothing earlier than 5 My 1948 in the purple shade.

Note: See addendum at the end of this article.

The gum does little to resolve the problem: from examination of unused copies it seems a fair generalisation to state that the deep purple shade usually has almost clear gum while the purple shade has similar gum often with brownish streaks. The comment in Robson Lowe's Volume VI about the prominent watermark applies in the experience of the writer exclusively to the purple shade.

These observations appear to fit in with the conclusions of Dickgeisser (which were no doubt reached after very extensive research) which themselves suggest that the colour descriptions of the two printings in both the CW catalogue and the Potter and Shelton handbook need to be reversed: additionally the gum colours recorded in Potter and Shelton require similar treatment.

4. Identification

On the assumption it is accepted that the deep purple shade is the February 1942 printing and the purple shade is the October 1942 printing, it is submitted that the following guidelines should enable stamps from the two printings to be readily distinguished:



(a) Colour

The shades are easily separated: the earlier printing is darker and heavier in appearance than the later which is lighter.

(b) Impression:

Dickgeisser states that the head impression of the deep purple shade is blurred and indistinct: this is the main difference between the printings and is probably the reason for the heavier appearance of the darker shade. Basically the horizontal lines in the head plate vignette are not sharp - they appear 'woolly' particularly in front of the King's Head and between the top of his head and the frame of the oval. By contrast, the lines around the head in the purple shade are all sharp and the white lines of the hair are much more in evidence.

(c) Paper and Gum:

The difference between the papers of the two shades appears very slight and perhaps not significant. The same comment applies to the gum although the brownish streaks appear more common on the purple shade. The prominence of the watermark seen through the gum does however seem far more evident on copies from the purple shade.

(d) Used Copies:

On or off paper, these can be allocated to printings on the basis of the features described in (b) above while postmarks dated before 1947 will point to the deep purple shade.

These notes were submitted to the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue Editor together with supporting mint and used specimens from each printing. After due consideration he has concluded that the difference between the head plate colours of the two printings is insufficient to provide the necessary distinction for a separate listing in the Part 1 catalogue. (Interestingly he quotes the criteria for such a listing as being a shade difference sufficient to enable a collector possessing a single stamp to identify it without additional copies for comparison purposes).

The Editor did however comment that the notes and stamps submitted had in his opinion convincingly demonstrated that stamps in the deeper shade come from the February 1942 printing, this being contrary to previous recorded information (with the exception of Dickgeisser & Yendall).

It is hoped that these notes will be of interest to members researching into this most fascinating issue.

Harold Green

Addendum: *Since writing this article, I have been shown a copy of the deep purple shade by Michael Spaven which is clearly postmarked St. Johns' Antigua 21st Sept. 1942. This proves conclusively that the deep purple shade is from the February 1942 printing.*

Harold Green

AROUND THE CARIBBEAN

BAHAMAS

The Post Office Department in The Bahamas is administered by the Postmaster General with headquarters at the General Post Office, East Hill Street, Nassau. Mr John Victor Saunders is the Postmaster General. There are Branch Post Offices at Shirley Street, Cable Beach, Grants Town and Fox Hill with Sub-Post Offices at Gambier, Nassau International Airport and Clarence A. Bain Building. In the Family Islands, there are District and Sub-Post Offices.

List of District P.O's (DPO) and Sub P.O's (SPO) under the District P.O's

DPO Marsh Harbour.

SPO's Hope Town, Man-O-War Cay, Great Guana Cay, Dundas Town and Cherokee Sound.

DPO Coopers Town.

SPO's Green Turtle Cay, Fox Town, Cedar Harbour and Treasure Cay.

DPO Sandy Point.

SPO's Moore's Island and Crossing Rocks.

DPO Arthur's Town.

SPO's Bennett's Harbour, Industrious Hill, Orange Creek, The Bight, Knowles', Devil's Point, Old Bight and Port Howe.

DPO Freeport.

SPO's West End, Eight Mile Rock, Smith Point, McClean's Town, Sweeting's Cay, High Rock and Hunter's.

DPO Matthew Town.

SPO's –

DPO Colonel Hill.

SPO's Fairfield, Landrail Point, True Blue, Church Gove, Major's Cay, Long Cay, Chester's, Lovely Bay, Pompey Bay, Snug Corner, Spring Point, Binnacle Hill, Sauna Point and Hard Hill.

DPO George Town.

SPO's William's Town, Forbes Hill, The Ferry, Rolle Town, Moss Town, Mount Thompson, Steventon, Rolleville, Stuart Manor, Barraterre, Farmer's Cay, Black Point, Staniel Cay and Ragged Island.

DPO Clarence Town.

SPO's Deadman's Cay, Lower Deadman's Cay, Burnt Ground, Gray's, Sam McKinnon's, Mortimer's, Rose's, Salt Pond, Scrub Hill, Simm's, Seymour's and Stella Maris.

- DPO The Bluff (Andros)
- SPO's Deep Creek, Kemp's Bay, Long Bay Cays, Mangrove Cay, Pleasant Bay and Drigg's Hill.
- DPO Fresh Creek.
- SPO's Behring Point, Standiard Creek, Blanket Sound, Cargill Creek and Bowen Sound.
- DPO Nicholls Town.
- SPO's Lowe Sound, San Andros and Mastic Point.
- DPO Governors Harbour.
- SPO's Gregory Town, Alice Town (Eleuthera), Hatchet Bay, James Cistern, North Palmetto Point, South Palmetto Point and Savannah Sound.
- DPO Rock Sound.
- SPO's Tarpum Bay, Deep Creek, Green Castle, Wemyss Bight and Bannerman Town.
- DPO Harbour Island.
- SPO's Spanish Wells, The Bluff (Eleuthera), Upper Bogue, Lower Bogue, The Current and Little Bay (Current Is.).
- DPO Abraham's Bay.
- SPO's Betsy Bay and Pirate's Well.
- DPO Cobburn Town.
- SPO's United Estates and Rum Cay.
- DPO Alice Town (Bimini).
- SPO's Alice Town, Cat Cay and Bullock's Harbour.

BERMUDA New Definitive Stamp Issue - To be issued in three parts

Depicting Flowering Fruits.

- Part 1 Release date - 14th July 1994 - Values 5c, 7c, 15c, 20c, \$8.00
Designs: Peach, Fig, Natal Plum, Pomegranate, Lemon.
- Part 2 Release date - 6th October 1994 - Values 10c, 25c, 35c, 55c, \$1.00, \$5.00
Designs: Calabash, Mulberry, Grapes, Oranges, Prickley Pear, Banana.
- Part 3 Release date - 17th February 1995 - Values 18c, 60c, 75c, 90c, \$2.00, \$3.00
Designs: Locust & Wild Honey, Surinam Cherry, Loquat, Sugar Apple, Paw Paw, Bay Grape.



Designer - Christine Phillips Watlington (nee Pill) of Somerset Bermuda.

Printer - House of Questa, Process - Lithography,

Stamp size - 28.45 x 42.58mm,

Stamps per sheet - 50(2x25), Paper-C.A. Spiral

BERMUDA New Commemorative Stamp Issue - 100 Years of Hospital Care

Release date - 15th September 1994 - Values 25c, 60c, 75c, \$2.00

Designs: 25c - A nurse assists a mother with her newborn infant.

60c - A patient undergoing renal dialysis is reassured by a nurse

75c - A medical team rushes an emergency patient to the OR.

\$2.00 - A Pink Lady (member of the Women's Hospital Auxiliary)

and a Candy-striper prepare to take a patient for a walk in the nearby Botanical Gardens.



Designer - Steve Noon.

Printer - Joh Enschede Security Printers,

Process - Lithography,

Stamp size - 48.26 x 31.19mm,

Stamps per sheet - 50 (2 x 25),

Paper - CA Spiral.

AUCTION REPORT 1994 - Auction No.22

Rumour has it that, when the first of our auctions was organised, it was confidently forecast within the Circle's hierarchy that we would never be able to keep it up. Few of those helping to mark the Circle's 40 years of life, may have realised that the annual auction has run for half that time - one extra having been worked into a biennial convention. We have truly come of age, this year.

Having said this, it really does become harder by the year to satisfy the tastes and needs of members. Where once any item with a specialist flavour was avidly snapped up, our very success in finding and offering such material in the past has made it more difficult, as the years go by, to procure the things that our pioneering efforts have led to regular auctions of Caribbean philatelic material, conducted by very knowledgeable stamp

traders, and we are seen by our own members as only one amongst several sources of the material that one seldom expects to identify in ordinary dealers' stocks. We are in no way complaining: so far as we have been imitated, we are flattered; and we continue to be gratified to provide a service which is appreciated and trusted by between a quarter and a third of the Study Circle's members, and which saves us all at least one third of our current annual sub.

Let us look first, this year, at the unsold goods. Few of the 1947 booklets with which the sale began found a new home; and those who collect this period may come to regret a missed opportunity. In the open market these booklets sell for much higher prices, and surprisingly well. In Antigua and, no doubt, elsewhere some lots were valued rather fully, but why, for instance, did not the used Victorian pairs (lot 23) change hands? If you follow the trail through the islands, you will find printing varieties, elusive postmarks, watermark varieties, first flight covers, die proofs, SPECIMEN stamps, multiples, covers from unusual places or to unusual destinations, distinctly scarce single stamps, and a series of modern goodies, all of which we have had to return to their original owners. In most cases, it's not that the quality is lacking, or the valuation is too high. Our members are simply replete. Yet in ten years time some of us will be looking back to this catalogue, and kicking ourselves.

Now to the goods that sold. Up to the end of Bahamas, most of the competition was on the book, with the twenty-odd room bidders relatively docile; but postal bidders drove the propaganda forgery (lot 67) up to £20, and nothing that we had to say to the detriment of our Whale Cay offering (lot 66) could prevent it almost trebling the modest estimate. Barbados, in high favour as usual, brought things to life: no fireworks, but steady selling, with the "superb used" large seal set (lot 78) fetching £75; £52 for the Victory set FDC (lot 84); and £48 for that lovely cover from St. Lawrence (lot 92). Meanwhile some book bidders would be quietly content; for, by the end of Barbados, four lots had sold for about a quarter of the book's limit, and in two cases there was over £100 to spare! Are the rest of us so sure that we have our ideas of current value right? We note in passing the other propaganda forgeries (lot 119) reaching £50, and the Official Paid cover from Barbuda realising £65 (lot 123).

We all go for covers with 'oomph'. So lot 133 (Bermuda Officer's letter) fetched £70; the Special Delivery item (lot 142) more than doubled its £10 estimate; the French markings on British Guiana's lot 166 took this cover to £65; and much later on, the Trinidad OHMS cover with its rare censorship markings (lot 449) went for £90, against an estimate of £40. Predictably, though, it was the frontispiece of our catalogue (lot 302 from Montserrat)

which attracted the postal bidders: the winner, at £56, was one of seven entering the lists.

Top quality postmarks made this last lot look cheap. St Vincent's Orange Hill and Union Island respectively attained £27 and £28 (lots 407-8); Harris, the Montserrat TRD, ran to £85 (lot 308); the straight-line Benque Viejo of British Honduras (lot 193) went for £80. And where we were able to show the clarity of more familiar marks, by illustrating them, such as lot 423 of Tobago, lot 459 of Trinidad, lot 218 of Dominica, full estimate was attained. You may have noticed there were no Jamaica numerals on offer in 1994. We shall look for whetted appetites next year! Continuing experience bears out that postmark collecting is a field of its own - and a challenging one. It seems that when you find rarities in almost any condition; gettable strikes in exceptional condition; or relatively common marks upon stamps on which they are rarely found; in all these cases, almost no price is too high to pay.

Viewed overall, it was a moderate year for sellers, who suffered some disappointments in places, and a contented one for buyers, who were not always fully stretched. The sale total (adjusted for post-auction transactions) was £6820.75. If book bids had been used to full capacity, the total would have neared £8500.

Individual realisations follow. Sales after auction are not included.

Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£
5	19	12	20	15	19	19	23	20	11.50
21	4.50	22	56	24	46	32	7.50	39	4.25
40	80	43	21	44	15	49	27*	54	7.50
55	7.50	59	3.75	64	17	66	22	67	20
68	46	70	20	71	44	72	4.50	74	50
75	7	77	17.50	78	75	79	50	80	13
81	30	82	130	83	46	84	52	85	16.50
87	24	88	12	89	35	90	4	91	15
92	48	93	6.50	95	36	96	70	97	6
99	38	100	31	103	12	104	31	106	2.50
107	14.50	108	10.50	109	8	110	9.50	111	22
112	23	115	12	117	15.50	118	24	119	50
120	70	122	4.25	123	65	124	14	125	20
126	21	128	28	131	18	133	70	134	42
135	44	137	50	141	5	142	21	146	65
147	7	150	17.50	151	14.50	153	7.50	154	24
155	11	157	54	158	34	162	12	163	35
165	36	166	65	168	12	171	34	173	3.25
174	28	176	12.50	178	3.75	180	4.50	182	15.50
183	15	184	50	185	17	187	23	188	95

Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£
189	14	191	12	192	4.50	193	80	195	9
196	20	197	42	199	6	206	38	207	80
209	26	211	13.50	213	7.50	214	17.50	215	9
216	34	217	7	218	21	219	39	220	30
224	305	226	6	229	3	233	3	236	8
239	17	248	2.75	252	29	253	29	255	26
263	30	265	2.25	277	7	279	12	280	21
281	8	283	37	284	12	285	70	286	17
287	13	290	85	291	16.50	292	17	297	50
299	44	300	15	301	65	302	56	305	13
306	54	307	12	308	85	309	6	310	2.50
318	27	320	60	323	15	324	30	328	65
332	100	336	10	338	14	339	2.50	340	8.50
343	48	344	80	345	11.50	346	36	347	60
349	75	350	65	351	105	352	65	353	40
354	11	356	39	358	65	360	44	362	14.50
363	12.50	364	14	370	6	372	7	376	21
384	8	385	19	388	13	389	10.50	391	12
395	5	396	14	398	8	404	25	405	9
407	27	408	28	417	27	418	15.50	419	20
420	7.50	423	12	425	42	426	180	428	46
434	6	435	100	436	7.50	439	10	443	52
444	22	446	4	448	13	449	90	450	22
454	7.50	455	7.50	456	15	459	9	462	17
463	13	465	26	468	5.50	470	20	471	60
474	80	481	30	482	80	483	39	486	21
489	12	491	5.50	495	20	502	4.50		

ST VINCENT SALE

We have heard from Brian Cartwright of Phillips the Auctioneers that they are selling the Saint Vincent Collection of the late George Blakey of West Yorkshire on 10th November 1994. Should any member require a gratis copy they can write or phone Brian and he will send one when printed.

MATERIAL FOR BULLETIN - URGENTLY NEEDED

PLEASE send material for the bulletin. Everything welcome.

EDITORS NOTE: *The next article ('Los Angeles', Bermuda by John M Smith) is reprinted from Gibbons Stamp Monthly and is the first of the 40th Anniversary articles that we are reprinting for members who do not take that magazine. Further articles will appear in future Bulletins.*

'LOS ANGELES', BERMUDA - John M Smith

The United States did not receive any Zeppelins as part of the reparations following the First World War, instead they received 3 million marks and the US Navy insisted that the money be used to have a new and more modern Zeppelin constructed in Friederichsafen by the Zeppelin Company.

Germany handed over Zeppelin LZ126 to the United States and it made its first trial flight in August 1924. It was subsequently delivered to Lakehurst, New Jersey on 15 October 1924. Upon arrival it was renumbered ZR-3 and christened Los Angeles. 18,500 pieces of mail were carried on the flight from Germany to New Jersey (Fig.1).

The first of the Los Angeles to Bermuda was on 20 February 1925 and Captain Myers commanding the SS Patoka, the mooring ship, received information that the Airship would leave base in the morning and arrive in Bermuda on the afternoon of that day. Captain Myers invited a number of guests to the Patoka to witness the mooring of the Los Angeles - His Excellency the Governor and Lady Asser; Captain Tillard RN and Mrs Tillard; US Consul Robertson Honey and Mrs Robertson Honey and Mr and Mrs J.R. Roosevelt - who it was planned would meet the distinguished passengers; Assistant Secretary of Navy Robinson; Second Assistant Postmaster General Henderson; Rear Admiral Moffatt; Capt Land and Commander Bromley.

Avoiding Accidents

Local transportation people in Bermuda made arrangements for special trips to witness the arrival of the airship, and with this in mind, general instructions were given by the SS Patoka that had to be strictly followed. The mooring of the dirigible to the ship was planned to take place at Murray's anchorage and the Patoka aimed to proceed to that point 1½ hours before the arrival of the Los Angeles. Captain Myers particularly requested that all excursion steamers and small boats be kept clear of his vessel, preferably ahead of him, in order to avoid any accidents during the mooring operations. Boats were not allowed under the Airship because she might have to discharge water ballast when she came to rest on the mooring mast. When mooring was accomplished, the Patoka planned to proceed to either Grassy Bay or the Great Sound and anchorage.

Originally weather prospects were favourable for the flight planned on Friday afternoon, 20 February 1925. The Los Angeles left Lakehurst at 3.40 p.m. and was expected to reach Bermuda at daybreak on Saturday morning, but storms made it impossible for the mooring to the SS Patoka to take place, although the Los Angeles did fly over the island and drop 200 pounds of mail from the USA. No mail could be taken on board so the first airmail from Bermuda was postponed until the second visit of the Los Angeles in April 1925.

After the first flight defects were discovered in the structure of the vessel which, together with other problems, caused the second flight to be postponed.

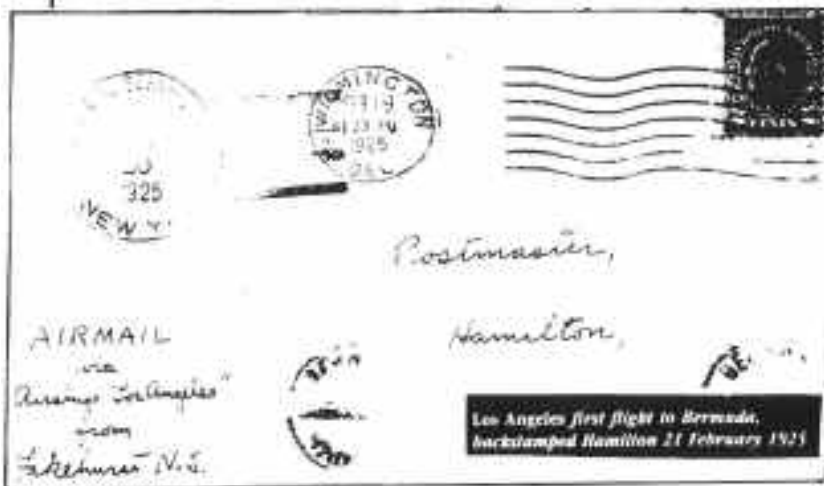
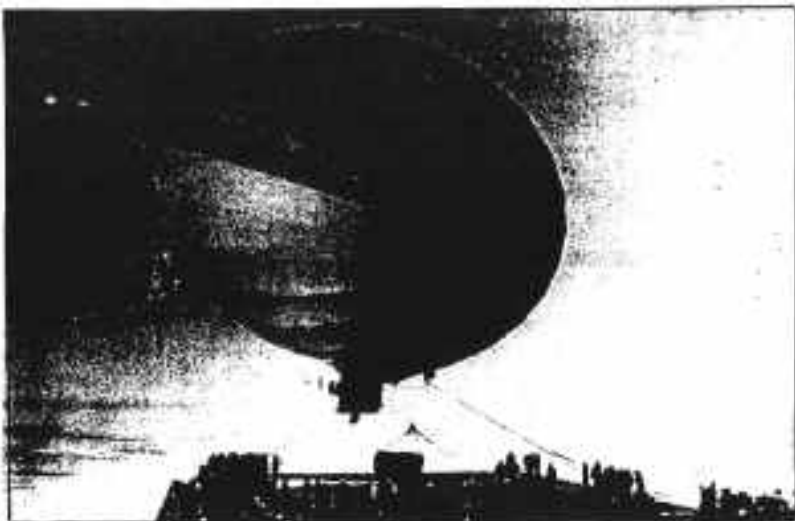
Strong Prevailing Winds

The airship finally left Lakehurst on Tuesday afternoon 21 April 1925 at 3.17 p.m. and immediately found strong winds prevailing from the north east which handicapped her journey, an average speed of 65 m.p.h. was maintained and throughout the journey communications were maintained with both the navy department at Lakehurst and with the Patoka. During the flight weather reports became less favourable and there was some doubt whether the airship would be able to come to anchor but it was decided at least to finish the trip.

Bermuda was first sighted at 2.34 a.m. when the Los Angeles was seen over Daniel's Head, heading east for the Patoka which was waiting her arrival off the north shore well in towards Shelly Bay. The reason for this position was that it was away from shipping channels & there was plenty of room for manoeuvring if necessary. Again the weather was poor with a gale force eight blowing NNW at about 40 m.p.h. with occasional gusts up to 45 m.p.h. The Los Angeles circled round the island and at 4.55 a.m. she was sighted coming from St Georges and at 6 o'clock began manoeuvres to try and anchor. Had the weather been calm it would have been difficult enough but with the gale blowing it was extremely difficult to try and pick up the mooring wire but this was finally achieved at 6.30 and the line from the airship fell into the sea enabling one of the Patoka's speedboats to pick it up and join it to the line run out from the ship. The airship was then played in like a fish. The mooring was completed at 7.16 a.m. but it was some time before the 50 passengers came down. The first one to land being the commander; Captain George W Steele, Jnr of the United States Navy who had also commanded the Los Angeles on her first journey to Bermuda in February.

The Los Angeles was 608 feet in length and was 92 feet in diameter with a gas volume of 70,000 cubic metres. The US Navy flew it officially until it was decommissioned in June 1932 and unofficially until 1938. The Airship was finally broken up at Lakehurst in December 1939.

The airship Los Angeles landing on the carrier Saratoga



NEW YORK TITLE AND MORTGAGE COMPANY
135 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

*Second flight cover from USA,
backstamped Hamilton 22 April 1925*

Mr. Wm. E. Norton,
c/o American Consul,
Hamilton,
Bermuda.

Via Airmail by
Los Angeles
from Lakehurst



From _____



AIR MAIL
SERVICE
BERMUDA



BY AIR MAIL

FRANK BRODSKY

1392 SECOND AVENUE

N. E. CORNER OF 72nd St.

New York, N. Y.

*First Zeppelin dispatch from Bermuda,
cancelled 16 April 1925, with special
cachets: 'BERMUDA FIRST OVERSEAS
MAIL', 'BY AIR MAIL' and 'AIR MAIL
SERVICE BERMUDA'*

MEMBERSHIP LISTING

Address Changes
Taverner, G.K. .

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