

ISSN 0953 - 8720



STUDY CIRCLE

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JANUARY 27th, 1954

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BULLETIN No. 174 SEPTEMBER 1997

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.

IN THIS ISSUE

Programme	45
STAMPEX - January 97 meeting displays	46
Report on AGM of Association of British Philatelic Societies	Derek Nathan 47
Information Wanted	Darryl Fuller 47
Anquillian Mail Service	Lucia Butler 48
U.S. Military Censor Marks in the Caribbean	Ron Wike 50
Antigua	Michael Hamilton 51
Antigua - WW 11 Censor Marks	Joe Chin Aleong 52
Barbados - Agricultural Reporter	Frank Deakin 54
Barbados 'Penny Half' on 4d Brown (SG.104d)	Leslie J. Goodwin 54
British Guiana - L. Vernon Vaughan	Leslie J. Goodwin 55
From the Publications Officer	Peter Ford 55
Guyana SG.424 - 6c. Script Wmk	David Atkinson 56
Turks & Caicos Is. - Summary of known Postal Rate changes - 1900-74	Michael Wilson 57
Trinidad	Michael Hamilton 63
Retirement of the Hon. Treasurer	Victor Toeg 64
Around the Caribbean	65

PROGRAMME

1997

Friday 12th and Saturday 13th September 1997 CONVENTION.

Venue: The Regent Hotel,
The Parade, Royal Leamington Spa.

FOR DETAILS - SEE JUNE BULLETIN - ALL WELCOME

Saturday 15 November

10.15 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Camberley & District Stamp Club
"STAMP FAIR"

Venue: Collingwood College, Barossa Building, Camberley,
Surrey.

MATERIAL FOR THE DECEMBER AND ALL FUTURE ISSUES
WANTED PLEASE

STAMPEX - January 97 meeting displays (Part 1)

On the Saturday of STAMPEX, 25th January, the Study Circle held a meeting in one of the rooms at the show. Over fifty Members and guests attended and were entertained by displays given by Sir John B. Marriott and Simon Goldblatt.

The display by Simon was entitled "Postmarks and Postcards". The display, as the title shows was in two parts. The first part shown was "Postmarks".

It proves difficult to do justice to the display given to the members present. In the sixty odd sheets displayed by Simon examples from nearly all of the different islands were displayed. Many of the differing types and a vast range of the various types of postmarks used were displayed. These examples shown illustrated the authoritative replies that Simon has given to members in the many articles published in the bulletin over the years.

It cannot be listed in this short review all of the items shown, but it must be appreciated that the quality and depth of each country displayed up to the reign of King George V was outstanding. Simon explained that it would be impossible to consider collecting an example of each type on all values as some of the smaller Parish/Village offices never had the higher values available for use.

In his remarks, Simon also emphasised some of the great rarities to be looked for. It could be seen by the enthusiasm that members rose to view in greater detail, their own respective interests, the importance of this display. Also included were some of the famous pen cancellations that Simon has recently written about.

The second part of the display covered "Postcards". Some members may not consider that postcards are part of the pure philatelic heritage of the West Indies islands, Simon illustrated what can be missing from not including examples in a collection. In displaying over 300 cards, Simon illustrated the various changing topography of the islands.

These varied from "Real" photo types to the general commercial types produced for tourists the vast majority shown were generally used. The messages on the cards gave so much insight into the first impressions of the writers. The scenes showed small village offices and other postal related material from post boxes and postmen. This was without considering the varying rates to the innumerable destinations. A selection of cards also gave a deeper appreciation of the importance of the different types of shipping that existed for trading between the islands. In the Leewards cards, examples from the Virgin Islands with 'A91' cancels were shown. Simon stated that he was sorry that he has so far still failed to find an Anguilla postcard.

The vote of thanks for this excellent display was given by Doug Nottingham and members present showed that they were also pleased to have seen the presentation.

Doug Nottingham

REPORT ON A.G.M. OF ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH PHILATELIC SOCIETIES, EXETER 12th JULY 1997

The third AGM of the Association was held at Exeter University on 12th July 1997. There were about 25 representatives attending and the business of the meeting was carried out speedily and efficiently. The accounts were approved, showing a surplus of £2,529 for the year, half of which was allocated to preparations for Brighton 1998 and half to the reserve fund. This latter has now reached £6,000 against the £25,000 which is thought to be prudent.

The Association has now become a Company Limited by Guarantee, which has paved the way to encourage several of the larger specialist Societies which had not joined previously to become members.

Michael J. Elliott, the Hon. Treasurer, has resigned owing to increased work in his full-time occupation, and has been replaced by C. J. Garside, a chartered accountant, who was responsible for the finances of the successful Newcastle '96 event.

A question was asked as to the possibility of obtaining charitable status, and it will be investigated, although it is thought that qualifications for this have been considerably tightened since the Royal achieved this status some years ago. Another question was asked concerning the difficulty of getting information about the ABPS through to members and past their local and specialist society secretaries. The answer concerned manpower. The Officers of the association are fully stretched, and unpaid, and while they do go to a large number of meetings of societies each year, spreading the word, there is only so much they can do. It is felt that officers of the various Federations and other member bodies must make sure that they get around their constituencies and make sure that the grass roots members are fully aware of what the ABPS is doing and trying to do. It was also pointed out that very few Federations, Societies or their officers incorporate the ABPS logo at the head of their letter headings and literature. In order to help officers and others stickers are being prepared, which can be incorporated in all future printings and usage.

Officers and Council members were elected, including the change of Hon. Treasurer, and Pat Rothnie to the post of Hon. Assistant Secretary.

The main message of the meeting was that members are satisfied with the way the ABPS is going but aware of the acute shortage of volunteers to carry any of the load so well carried by the present incumbents.

Derek Nathan

INFORMATION WANTED I am researching the proofs and essays and other De La Rue archival material relating to Leeward Islands postal stationery. If you have any of this material in your possession then I would greatly appreciate photocopies of each item. I will gladly pay the cost of the photocopies and postage. I can be contacted at 10 Arabana Street, ARANDA ACT 2614, Australia.

Darryl Fuller

ANGUILLIAN MAIL SERVICE

"Back in the 20's, when I was a boy, I met Miss Mary carrying the mail on her head", said Joe Gumbs. Mary Glasgow was a tall, stately, strong woman, whose job it was to carry the outgoing weekly mail from the old stone Court House at the top of Crocus Hill all the way to the port of entry at Forest Bay.

She placed the mail bag on her head and walked down the path at Crocus Hill, nodding to people as she passed. She took the shortest route, passing Wallblake and the Old Factory, and eventually ended up at the Forest. There she waited, watching for the distant sails of the 'Thelma', the 'Good Hope', the 'Anna', whatever boat was bringing in the weekly mail from St. Kitts. The Captain was paid by the bag. This was a time when many young Anguillians were working abroad and sending monies home to their families.

The sloop finally came in, the Captain brought the incoming mail ashore, gave it to Mary, took her mail bag, and sailed back to St. Kitts with Anguilla's weekly letters. There was more coming in than going out and it was not completely regular as the sea traffic was dependent on the wind and the weather. If the sea was turbulent, the Captain might sail into Sandy Hill or Road Bay, and at times the boats were not able to sail out of The Forest.

Then with the mail bag on her head, Mary started back - down the road from The Forest, through The Valley, past the Mahogany Tree or past Wallblake, up Crocus Hill, sometimes taking short cuts on foot paths that led up to the Court House at top Crocus Hill. 'All eyes were out for her,' recalled a lady from those days. 'The people wanted to know when to go up to the Post Office for the letters they were expecting and for the money they needed'. During the Depression, people were especially eager for the sight of Mary, hoping she was carrying that letter with funds from a father or husband who was working abroad.

If there were many bags, Mary would hire someone else to help carry. She was paid by the bag. At times, she would carry one on her head and another in her arms. At Christmas time, there might be as many as twenty-five bags; then Mary would ask for help to carry them and share the pay. But it was mostly Mary, and sometimes her daughter helping.

In those days, the St. Kitts Government appointed for Anguilla a Doctor who was also the Magistrate. And there was one civil servant in charge of all of the Government functions except the Police. John Richardson served in that capacity for many years - as Head of the Treasury, Customs Officer and Postmaster. (The Police were quartered in a building to the right as one approaches the Old Court House). In 1938 or 1939, John Richardson retired.

The Magistrate, Dr. Stephens, appointed 'Teacher' Vanier Hodge as his replacement. In the beginning, Mary still collected the mail, and Vanier rode his bicycle from his home in Island Harbour to the Court House at the top of Crocus Hill. Later, he purchased an Austin when there were not too many cars on the island. And in 1940, Joe Gumbs bought a car and subsequently replaced Mary with the mail pick-up. He drove from The Forest up to Crocus Hill, honking his horn so that people would know the mail had arrived.

Letters were sorted in the Post Office, a room shared with the Treasury - to the west of the Courtroom. There was a separate entrance for the Post Office and Treasury - a stairway on the outside of the building to the west. The main stairway led to the Central room, the Courtroom and to the left of that was the Magistrate's office. On the ground floor were the Jail and the Sergeant's quarters.

When Joe drove through town, honking to let it be known that the weekly mail had arrived, people came from the East End, the West End, The Valley, wherever, asking if they had received a letter, or if there was one for a cousin, a mother, for someone else.

In 1943 or 1944, Vanier Hodge was transferred to St. Kitts, and Valentine Richardson, 'Teacher Vally', was appointed to replace him. He served in this capacity until 1947 when he died suddenly from high blood pressure, and the Magistrate, Dr. McDonald, asked Alan Carty to be the new Post Master. He also appointed Peter Adams as Head of Treasury and Customs, the first time the positions of Post Master, Treasury and Customs had been separated. Carty worked there for a year, supervising the sorting of the mail and inspecting the packages from the States, Curacao and Aruba. He would check the value and charge a small duty. He was followed by Cecil Richardson and Kenneth Harrigan, the new Postmasters in the early 50's.

And then the hurricane of January, 1955, destroyed the stately Old Court House. The roof blew off. The interior walls were ruined. It was no longer habitable, and all Government business was moved to Uncle Willy's, the two story West Indian home across from the Secondary School. They stayed there for three years, then moved temporarily to Babrows residence in the same area. St. Kitts then built a new Administration Building for the Court, Magistrate, Police and the Post Office. It is still in use, and the Post Office operated there in two rooms from 1959 to 1974.

In 1958, at the age of 18, Eustace Brooks was sorting the mail at Uncle Willy's and delivering it on his bike to the Sub Post Offices around the island - at Gabriel Brooks Grocery Store, at Melanie Hughes' home at West End, at Caroline Fleming's at Mount Fortune. At each of these Sub Stations, there was a posting box and the person in charge sold stamps. Twice a week 'Rushie' Brooks would go to the different areas. And then when the mail was brought in by air, Brooks bought his own motorcycle, met the Liat plane from St. Kitts and on his new vehicle he picked up and delivered the mail.

But during "The Troubles" of the Revolution in 1967, mail was being held up in St. Kitts. Letters had always come through St. Kitts, but they had never been

stopped before. There were hundreds of bags of parcels and letters - letters with money for families in Anguilla, from husbands to wives, from daughters to mothers. It was a devastating time. Finally, Britain stepped in and ordered the St. Kitts Government to release the mail.

Jeremiah Gumbs, Bob Rogers, Eustace Brooks and Atkin Rogers went to St. Martin to negotiate with the French Government to handle the Anguilla mail. They procured Box 43 on the French side and Box 200 on the Dutch, and purchased French stamps which were then sold in Anguilla. Twice a week, Eustace Brooks would sail over to St. Martin with the Anguillian mail and return with the letters forwarded there.

After "The Troubles", mail came by air, not via St. Kitts, but first through St. Thomas on Jeremiah Gumbs' and Clayton Boyd's Anguillian Airways, then Clayton Boyd's Valley Air and later Restomel Franklin's Air Anguilla. It is now brought in by Winair from St. Martin, American Eagle from Puerto Rico and Liat from the UK.

In 1971 a Travelling Branch was formed. A Land Rover was secured from Public Works from vehicles left by the departing Royal Engineers. This delivered the mail to the different Sub Stations around the island until in 1977 a new Bedford Bus was purchased. This served well for many years, but in 1993 two new Datsun buses were bought. They now make twenty-two stops around the island, under trees, by shops, selling stamps, delivering and collecting mail, and waiting some fifteen or twenty minutes at each place for the people to come.

As the postal service increased and more space was needed, the Post Office was moved to the old Nurses Quarters in the Valley in 1974. There it remained until the imposing new building was finished and dedicated in early 1994. And here Eustace Brooks presided as Postmaster, a post he had held since 1974, having risen from a mail boy on a bicycle at Uncle Willy's in 1958 to the chief of the grand new building, our magnificent new Post Office until his retirement in 1995.

Lucia Butler

UNITED STATES MILITARY CENSOR MARKS IN THE CARIBBEAN

In reply to A.D. Kinnon in Bulletin No.173, June 1997. When the US Army first established their lend lease bases in the Caribbean, they were not particularly organised as to censorship and the early censor markings reflect this. Boxed oval censor handstamps with three figure numbers came into use in April 1941 and some effort was made to allocate numbers in a systematic manner. Antigua was allocated 000 series, Jamaica numbers were in the 100 series, Trinidad 200

and 800 series, Bermuda 300 series, British Guiana 400 series, Newfoundland 500 series, Iceland 600 series, St. Lucia 800 series and Greenland 900 series. This system became a problem with the entry of the USA into the war and the rapid expansion of Overseas Bases requiring a censorship operation and again gave rise to provisional censor markings. A modified boxed oval handstamp was eventually introduced with a five-digit number. However the earlier allocation continued to be used where appropriate. Puerto Rico continued the Caribbean allocation with their five digit numbers being in the 01000 series.

In giving the listing it should be noted that the postal operation in Suriname and Aruba were established as sub units of Trinidad and used numbers in the Trinidad sequence, as did the units in Venezuela between May 1942 and March 1943.

Not all the numbers in a sequence were used, but it appears from usage that they were in fact issued sequentially to the various APOs. There is evidence that the censors did transfer between different APOs within a territory. A circular censor handstamp used in Hawaii from February 1942 through to November 1942 has numbers within the sequence allocated to the US Bases mentioned above, but these are clearly distinguishable.

Richard W Helbeck in his articles lists known St. Lucia numbers between 10 November 1941 as 801 and 811 at APO 805; and 732, 803, 811 and 916 at APO 867. The numbers out of sequence probably represent either transit censorship of the covers or errors in recording (this being conjecture as 732 is a known regular Trinidad censor). Censor number 735-A queried by A.D. Kinnon is again a known regular Trinidad number, and the cover was probably censored in transit. Covers with a St. Lucia APO return address are also known with Trinidad APO cancels. St. Lucia came under the Trinidad Command.

Much of this information comes from a series of articles by Richard W Helbeck on "*Censor Markings on US Army Mail*" published in the Military Postal History Society Bulletin Volume 32 # 1-4. The Secretary of the MPHS is George Consentini, 12421 Banuelo Cove, San Diego, CA92130-2277, USA. See also "*US Forces in Trinidad and Tobago*" by the undersigned in the BCPSP Journal Vol. 30 # 2 through to Vol. 31 # 1 for illustrations of the censor markings.

Ron Wike

ANTIGUA

I was recently informed that U.P.U. collectors would attach a heavy premium for letters posted in England July 1 1875.

A "ONE PENNY THREE FARTHINGS" franking to Antigua might well still be gathering dust if I had not noticed the significance of the London 1 JY 79 despatch CDS as this was the date that Antigua attained full membership to the U.P.U. with new rates immediately effective.



Addressed to the Manager, Colonial Bank the writer had used the ONE PENNY FARTHING FOREIGN POST CARD which I soon found out was denominated at exactly half the existing U.P.U. 2½d rate to destinations such as America.

To meet the new "first day" 1½d rate it was necessary to overpay by one farthing by adding the lowest denomination available - in this instance the Bantam QV ½d. As to how long this overpayment practice continued I cannot say, but finding a second card for JY 1 79 would seem improbable.

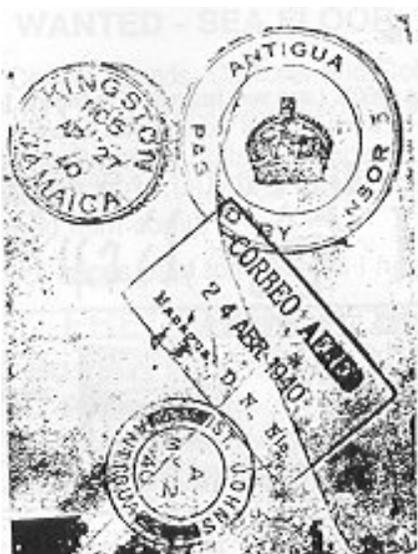
Lastly it would appear that the 1½d Post Card rate to the West Indies was a compromise - half of 4d half ounce letter rate is 2d.

Michael Hamilton

ANTIGUA - WWII Censor Marks

I have to report, what appear to me, two previously unrecorded Censor marks of Antigua.

The first is a double circle ANTIGUA 1 (CROWN) 1 PASSED BY CENSOR 3 on a 23 Apr 1940 cover from Nicaragua to Grenada, via Kingston, Jamaica and censored in Antigua on 2 May 1940.



This mark has been recorded without any Censor number but from the spacing of the "PASSED BY CENSOR 3", it seems that originally the mark included a Censor number, which, at some stage, was excised.

The second is an octagonal (CROWN) /PASSED / I.B.____ on a 5 May 1943 picture postcard from Antigua to Trinidad. The space provided for the Censor number was not filled in.



Could members please check their holdings, and let us all know, if these marks have been noted.

Joe Chin Aleong

BARBADOS

The Barbados Agricultural Reporter

Some years ago, probably in the 1960's, I was very fortunate in finding the 1d bisect SG.24a tied on to a large piece on which the word 'Reporter' was apparent.



Now it so happened that in 1972, I was invited to spend 6 weeks with an army friend, Col. Cave, who owns an old plantation house on Barbados: one day he took me along to the island's Museum where many old newspapers were stored and it was there that I discovered the word 'Reporter' referred to the Barbados Agricultural Reporter, printed quite regularly in the 19th century and in the earlier years of this century. I also saw the earliest Barbados letter of 1642, a very valuable item indeed which has to stay in its locked case, but they very kindly gave me an excellent photostat of it.

Frank Deakin

BARBADOS "PENNY HALF" on 4d Brown (SG104d)

Further to Michael Hamilton's notes (Bulletin No.173 p.36), I have seen two other singles of this variety. Both have the same c.d.s. dated JY 27 92 as on his strip of three.

Has anyone seen any other date?

Leslie J. Goodwin

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BRITISH GUIANA - L. VERNON VAUGHAN

(Discoverer of the unique British Guiana 1c. black / magenta)

I have a letter written by L. Vernon Vaughan (dated 16.9.35) in which he says:

"I have been collecting over 58 years. Once at the age of 13, I sold the famous 1c Magenta British Guiana for 6/-, now in the hands of the Est. of Arthur Hinds valued £10,000."

He also says:

"I am a very advanced collector over 10,000 in 7 albums chiefly mint specimens I do not collect anything but British stamps."

My attempts to discover more biographical information about him have so far proved negative. Can any member assist?

Leslie J. Goodwin

FROM THE PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

In my report to the AGM in April, I said that I had encountered some technical problems with the printing of our latest publication "THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY" Volume 1. I estimated a delay of approximately a month. This proved to be rather optimistic and its eventual publication date will be some time in August - certainly before the Leamington Convention. I apologise for this delay especially to those who placed early orders for the book. These members have been very patient. Because of this, I have extended the period of the special 20% members discount until 31st December next. If any members attending the Convention wish to order the book just let me know and I will be happy to bring your copy along and you can save postage costs.

Also at the Convention, I hope to have a few proof copies of Frank Deakin's "Barbados" booklet. The price of this has yet to be decided but it will be by then and orders will be taken.

One of the recurring problems of being Publications Officer is one of storage. At the last Committee meeting, consent was given to me hiring storage space in the short term. This I have done, but in order to save this expense for the Study Circle, I appeal to members who have any dry and reasonably secure space which they are willing to let me have, to let me know. I hate to put any geographical constraints on this but obviously the closer it is to me the better - however, every offer will be considered. Thank you.

Peter Ford

GUYANA SG.424 - 6c. SCRIPT WMK

Local Independence Overprint with Overprint Inverted and Doubled

Up to now this stamp has been known with three varieties - 1966 for GUYANA, overprint inverted and overprint doubled. I have eight copies of the inverted overprint. Five of these are in very clear print but three including one on cover appeared blurred as though from a different printing from worn plates. Thus at least two sheets were printed inverted.



Overprint inverted



Overprint double



Overprint inverted and double

On closer inspection with magnification of the 'worn' overprint it became apparent that this was due to shadowing from a double overprinting. This double overprinting is quite different from that on the upright overprint where the second print is displaced to the right so that GUYANA appears to be spell with two Ns and 1966 reads 19666.

Has any other member come across this new variety?

David Atkinson

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

SUMMARY OF KNOWN POSTAL RATE CHANGES 1900-74.

Len Britnor's notable work on Postal Rates in the BWI was published in 1977 and admirably details the postal rates applicable to mail to and from all the islands until 1900. Specialist handbooks for some of the individual colonies within the BWI may also contain similar information, but this is not generally true.

Knowledge of the postal rates is an important aspect of postal history, yet I feel that it has been neglected for too long. No doubt individual collectors have the rates at their finger tips, but I believe this information must be researched and readily available in the future. Postal rates used to be extant for many years; now they change all too frequently, making the task of the Postal Historian in the future all the more difficult.

To make a start I list below all the information that I have collected on the postal rates applicable to the Turks Islands. I do not necessarily say that this is complete and would welcome any additional data or corrections that others may care to add.

Imperial Penny Post. In 1898 the Imperial Penny Post was introduced and letters could be sent anywhere within the Empire for 1d. (Perhaps this should be the starting point for any new study, rather than 1900.)

3 Jan 1917. This is the date (I calculate this was a Wednesday) given for the issue of the first War Tax stamps for the Turks and Caicos Islands and I presume that it is the date of introduction of the Tax, but I wonder why not Monday 1st. It is just as important but I have never seen an official date of when this Tax ceased to be required, though the stamps themselves remained valid for years and I have seen one cancelled in 1938. Challis' handbook says that 1d required in addition to normal postage on all outgoing letters, and the 3d stamp was to be stuck on inward parcels. In other sources I have seen it stated that the 3d stamp was for use on outward parcels and registered letters.

1 February 1922. Rob Wynstra informs me that there was a postage rate change for Leewards on this date and that it would also represent the date on which the Leeward Islands 1d War Tax was absorbed into the total postal rate. The Empire letter rate went up from 1d to 2d per oz plus 1½d for every

additional ounce, with a similar rate for USA and 3d per ounce for elsewhere. There is an assumption that similar changes would have affected the rates for mail from Grand Turk.

1923. The BCPSG Journal Oct 1977 page 149 states that in 1923 revised rates of International postage were imposed by the Madrid Convention of the UPU, but no additional information is given. Were these changes merely giving effect to the earlier 1922 rises? It would seem so from a study of the next alterations in rate in 1926.

1926. The single letter rate for the Empire was reduced from 2d to 1½d, and the Foreign letter rate was reduced from 3d to 2½d. (See BCPSG Journal Oct 77 page 149.)

1929. The Empire letter rate was again reduced from 1½d to 1d.

1949. (From Challis' Handbook page 11). Various rates given:

Airmail ½ oz.	Letters	Post Cards	Air letters	Papers
America	8d	5d	6d	3d
Europe	1/6	9d	6d	6d
Africa etc	3/-	1/6	9d	1/-

Surface 1 oz

W Indies & UK 2½d

USA 6d

The Gazette, Saturday October 1954 (Vol 104 No.49)
Notice No ?

(Copy of this Gazette not held, but it lists air mail rates which were valid until 1 Sep 59, see notice of 22 Aug 59.)

The Gazette, Saturday 28 April 1956 (Vol 106 No.19)
Notice No.66.

The schedule of Air mail rates which came into effect on 1 Dec 54 and issued as a supplement to Gazette No 49 of 16 Oct 54 remains unchanged. With reference to notice no.63 published in the Gazette of 7 Apr 51, and amended by notice 137 published in Gazette No.63 of 13 Dec 52 fixing postage rates for surface mail, it has been found necessary to increase the parcel post rates to the USA and Canada from 8d to 1/2d (limit 22 lbs.) and to the UK (Great Britain)

	3 lbs.	7 lbs.	11 lbs.	22 lbs.
from	1/11	3/4	4/9	7/9
to	4/6	6/-	9/-	12/6

The following is a comprehensive schedule of current rates of postage (surface mail only) which incorporates the above mentioned charges effective 1 May 1956:

LOCAL POST

Letters:	For delivery in settlement where posted	
	Not exceeding 2 oz	1d
	For every additional 2 oz or fraction	1d
	For delivery in any other settlement in the Dependency	
	Not exceeding 2 oz	2d
	For every additional 1 oz or fraction	1d
Post Cards:	For delivery in the Dependency	
	Single	1d
	Reply Paid	2d
Printed Papers:	For delivery in the Dependency per 2 oz	1d
Parcels:	For delivery in the Dependency per lb or part thereof	3d
Registration Fee:	Per article	4d

OVERSEAS POST

Letters	British Commonwealth	
	Not exceeding 1 oz	2½d
	For every additional oz or part	1d
	Foreign	
	Not exceeding 1 oz	5d
	For every additional oz or part	3d
Post Cards	British Commonwealth Single (with correspondence)	2d
	Foreign Single (with correspondence)	3d
	All countries Single (without correspondence)	1d
Printed Papers	Per 2 oz	1d
Commercial papers	First 10 oz	5d
	Each additional 2 oz	1d
Registration Fee	Per article	4d

PARCEL POST

For UK and USA see above
 For Canada, as for USA
 Jamaica and other parts of BWI 1/3, 2/6, 3/9 and 6/3
 (weight steps as for UK above.)

The Gazette, Saturday 25 August 956 (Vol 106 No.36)
Notice No.64.

AIR PARCELS

An air parcel service to the destinations shown below will be introduced on 1 Sep 56. (Rate shown is that per ½ lb.)

Antigua	2/6	Bahamas	2/-	Barbados	2/6
Bermuda	2/6	Br. Honduras	2/-	Br. Guiana	2/6
Canada	3/6	Dominica	2/6	Grenada	2/6
Jamaica	2/-	St Lucia	2/6	St. Kitts	2/6
Trinidad	2/6	UK	8/-	USA	3/-

The weight limit to all destinations except Canada is 22 lbs., to Canada it is 20 lbs. For the time being air parcels for the USA will be routed through Jamaica pending arrangements to route direct.

Air parcels cannot be insured.

The Gazette, Saturday 25 April 1959 (Vol 109 No.20)
Notice No.96.

Amendment to Postal Rates

In order to conform With the provisions of Article 11 of the First Protocol to the UPU Convention signed at Ottawa on 3 Oct 57, which came into force on 1 April 1959 the following changes in the Postal Rates are effective:

Letters	Foreign	
	Not exceeding 1 oz.	6d
	For every additional oz or part	4d
Post Cards	Foreign Single (With correspondence)	4d
Commercial Papers	First 10 ozs	6d
	Each additional 2 oz	1d

Note: The rates to the British Commonwealth remain unchanged

The Gazette, Saturday 22 August 1959 (Vol 109 No.38)
Notice No. 160.

The revised air mail rates to be effective from 1 September 1959 are published as a supplement to this Gazette.

The rates published on the 16 October 1954, will be rescinded on 1 Sep 59.

(Author's note: The supplement lists each country in the world to which air mail could then be sent, a summary of these rates appears to be as under.)

Destination	Letters per ½ oz	Cards	2nd Class per ½ oz	Air Letters	Newspapers per ½ oz
Australia	3/-	1/6	1/6	-/9	1/-
BWI	-/8	-/4	-/3	-/6	-/2
Canada	-/8	-/5	-/4	-/6	-/3
Dutch WI	-/8	-/5	-/4	-/6	-/3
Europe (except UK)	1/6	-/9	-/9	-/6	-/6
French WI	-/8	-/5	-/4	-/6	-/3
GB (UK & Ireland)	1/6	-/9	-/9	-/6	-/6
Haiti	-/8	-/5	-/4	-/6	-/3
South America	-/8	-/5	-/4	-/6	-/3
USA	-/8	-/5	-/4	-/6	-/3

The Gazette, Saturday 11 March 1967 (Vol 117 No.10)
Notice Number 50.

Contracts for sloop mail service.
(No information held)

The Gazette, Saturday 18 October 1969 (Vol 120 No.44)
Notice Number 186.

Tenders invited for the contract to deliver mail by air within the Turks and Caicos islands.

The Gazette, Saturday 27 June 1970 (Vol 121 No.26)
Supplement.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 12 of the Post Office Ordinance the postage rates herein are hereby imposed on letters and mail leaving the Islands or within the Islands with effect from 1 July 1970.

PART 1: Rates of Postage for delivery within the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Description	Rate	
1. Letters		
a. for local delivery	Up to 2 ozs	3c
	Each additional 2 ozs or part thereof.	1c
b. non local delivery	Up to 2 ozs	4c
	Each additional 2 ozs or part thereof	2c
2. Postcards	Each, single	3c
3. Printed papers	Up to 2 ozs	2c
	Each additional 2 ozs or part thereof	1c
4. Newspapers		
a. for local delivery	For each 1 oz or part thereof	¼c
b. non local delivery	For each 2 ozs or part	1c
5. Literature for the blind		Free
6. Parcels	For each 1 lb. or part	5c (Min charge 20c)

PART II: Rates of Postage, Overseas (Surface):

1. Letters.		
a. Commonwealth	First oz	4c
	Each additional oz or part	2c
b. Foreign	First oz	7c
	Each additional oz or part	5c
2. Postcards	Each, single	4c

3.	Printed papers	First oz		3c
		Each additional oz		2c
4.	Samples	First 2 ozs		3c
		Each additional 2 oz	2c (Min charge 8c)	
5.	Literature for the blind			Free
6.	Small packets	Min charge for 8 ozs		12c
		Extra 2 ozs		3c
7.	Phonopost	Each 2 ozs		6c
8.	Registration fee			10c

AIRMAIL RATES:

Destination	Phonopost (All per ½ oz)	Letters	Air Letters	Postcards	2nd Class
Zone 1	7c	10c	8c	5c	5c
Zone 2	10c	15c	8c	8c	8c
Zone 3	12c	20c	8c	10c	10c
Zone 4	17c	30c	8c	15c	15c
Zone 5	20c	35c	8c	18c	18c

Second class items include printed papers, newspapers, greetings cards which are enclosed in unsealed envelopes, samples and small packets.

The Zones are also defined in detail but generalised to:

- Zone 1: All BWI, USA (including Hawaii and US Virgin Is.)
- Zone 2: Non British West Indies, Central and South America including Br Honduras and Guyana, and UK
- Zone 3: All European Countries except UK, Falklands, St Helena and Reunion
- Zone 4: No details held
- Zone 5: No details held - (probably includes Australia)

Note: Details under Part I and II above include limit of size and weight which I have not included.

The Gazette, Saturday 26 December 1970 (Vol 121 No.53)

Notice Number 124.

Postage rates on parcels effective 1 January 1971: (information not held)

The Gazette, Saturday 28 August 1971 (Vol 122 No.35) Notice Number 143.

Airmail rates for newspapers effective 1 September 1971:
(information not held)

The Gazette, Saturday 28 July 1973 (Vol. 1 24 No.31,)

Precise details not held but summarised as follows:

New rates effective Wednesday 1 August 1973 (corresponds to change to US currency).

Inland: Local delivery 3c, non local 4c.

Surface: Commonwealth 4c, Foreign 8c.

Airmail: For five Zones - 12c, 18c, 22c, 33c and 40c.

Registration fee: 12c.

The Gazette, Saturday 19 October 1974 (Vol 125 No.471

New rates effective 23 October 1974, summarised as follows:

Inland: Local delivery 5c, non local 6c, 2nd class 3c.

Surface: Commonwealth 8c, Foreign 13c

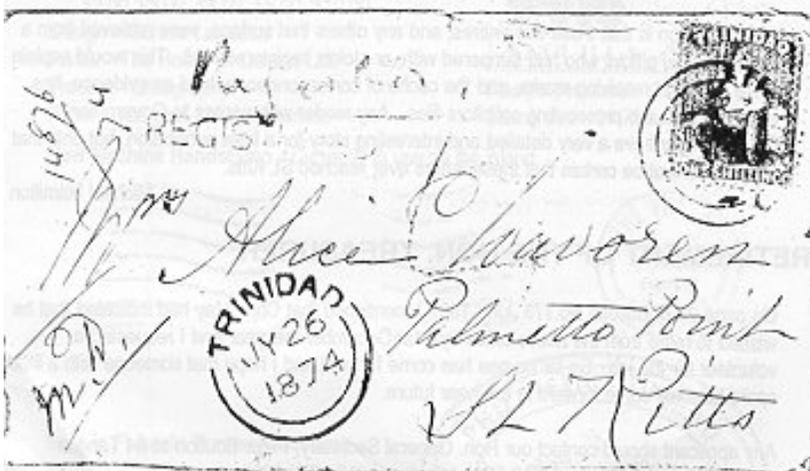
Airmail: Five Zones - 20c, 25c, 35c, 50c and 65c.

Registration fee: 20c.

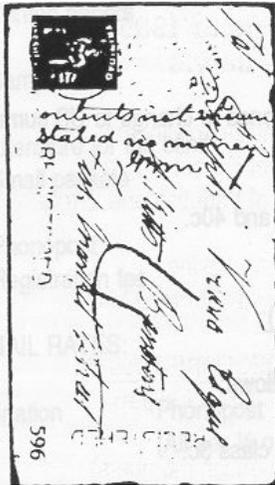
Michael Wilson

TRINIDAD

It would seem improbable that mail written perhaps from cane-cutters from St. Kitts, whilst finding seasonal employment in Trinidad, would survive. Yet two entires have surfaced during the last two years.



The first despatched TRINIDAD JY 26 1874 is a complete cover addressed to Mrs Alice Davoren, Palmetto Point, St. Kitts.



The second despatched TRINIDAD SP 8 1874 is a cover front to Joseph Veara Esq., Fish Market Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts with manuscript endorsement across face of 'contents not shown / stated no money (initials)'.

In common they bear Str. line 'REGISTERED' and TRINIDAD PAID dbl.-arc in red; are each rated "4" and are franked with single 1/- chrome-yellow Perf. 12½. The inter-island rate for this pre-U.P.U. period being 6d postage and 4d registration. The over-payment of 2d on each cover possibly accounted for by additional registration /insurance premium similar to the way our Post Office operates today. Most importantly there are no signs of Receiving datestamps. The JY 26 1874 cover has a red wax seal impressed by COLONIAL POSTMASTER TRINIDAD brass

handstamp, and because of this we can assume that the 1/- postage on each cover is correct.

Everything would seem to be in order but it still remained a puzzle as to why the full entire showed no accounting receipt marks at St. Christopher. This cover whilst wholly intact, has been badly opened on the reverse, and finally I was tempted to open it out just to ensure the cover back belonged. Inside was the solution - a pencil manuscript endorsement reading "£10 alleged to have been taken out of this letter".

My conclusion is that these two entires, and any others that surface, were retrieved from a corrupt postal official who had tampered with, or stolen, registered mail. This would explain there being no receiving marks, and the cache of correspondence, held as evidence, has emerged from the prosecuting solicitors files. Any reader with access to Government Gazettes may have a very detailed and interesting story for a later publication, but until that time we cannot be certain that these letters ever reached St. Kitts.

Michael Hamilton

RETIREMENT OF THE HON. TREASURER

On page 27 of Bulletin No. 1 73 June 1997 I mentioned that Chris May had indicated that he wished to retire from the above office by 31st December this year and I requested a volunteer for the job. So far no one has come forward and I hope that someone with a little spare time will come forward in the near future.

Any applicant should contact our Hon. General Secretary, Peter Boulton at 84 Tangier Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW10 SDN, telephone 01 81 876 6803.

Victor Toeg
President

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addresses inside front page of Bulletin.

AROUND THE CARIBBEAN

ANGUILLA - Definitive stamp issue
Fruits of Anguilla

Release date - 30th April 1997

Values 10c, 20c, 40c, 50c, 60c, 75c,
80c, \$1.00, \$1.10, \$1.25, \$1.50,
\$2.00, £3.00, \$4.00, \$5.00, \$10.00

Design - Michele Lavalette

Printer - The House of Questa Ltd.

Process - Lithography

Paper - 102 gms, Unwatermarked



Stamps per sheet - 25

Stamp size - 31.75 x 8.26mm

New Machine Handstamp - Currently in use on the island.



Error in Philatelic Bureau handstamp

Incorrect spelling 'PHILATETIC'



Advert

HARMERS of LONDON