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STUDY CIRCLE

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JANUARY 27th, 1954

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BULLETIN No. 183 DECEMBER 1999

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

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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

2000

20-21 May 2000 Joint Meeting with B.C.P.S.G.

Venue: Bonnington Hotel, London.

See Preliminary Details on page 29 of June Bulletin

Have a HAPPY CHRISTMAS
and a Jolly Good New Year

OBITUARY - RONALD "Ron" GORDON WIKE

1933-1999

Ron Wike died on 1 October 1999 after a long illness which he endured with characteristic good humour. His family as well as his wide circle of friends will sadly miss him.

He was born in the Knotty Ash district of Liverpool in 1933 and after education at Prescott Grammar School became a laboratory technician. During his compulsory National Service he progressed to be a sergeant in munitions disposal.

On completion of his service he joined the Dunlop Rubber Company and completed a degree in Physics and Chemistry. He married Edna on 7 March 1964 and his career progressed via Fort Dunlop in Birmingham to a posting overseas where he spent six years as technical manager of the Dunlop plant in Trinidad. This led to his great love of the islands.

Following his return to Britain he had a further spell at Fort Dunlop as training manager before moving to Cinnamon Brow in 1981. His retirement early in 1992 at the age of 59 did not mean more leisure as Ron became part of the British Executive Services arm of Voluntary Services Overseas under whose auspices he advised many emerging economies on tyre production. These included China, Russia, Brazil and Portugal.

In early 1998 Ron was told that he had a terminal illness but again rather than retreat into himself and to the astonishment of his doctors he resolved to write two books on the philately of Trinidad and Tobago of which *The Airmails of Trinidad and Tobago* was completed shortly before his death.

Ron had many voluntary jobs among which members will remember his extensive contribution to the Civil Censorship Study Group, his membership of our Study Circle and of the BCPSG. As well as the specialist societies, Ron was a member of several local philatelic societies and many of these were entertained to displays of his fine collection of Trinidad and Tobago. He maintained an active correspondence with many other philatelists, all the time accumulating knowledge and material that he added to his collection.

Ron was an active worker on behalf of the Boy Scout movement (Including setting up a group in Trinidad), for the National Trust and for the Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Our condolences go to his widow Edna, Sons Ian and Barry and daughter Lynda. A mention must also be made of his dog Kelly who spent so long by his side.

Christopher Miller

THE 1999 LEAMINGTON CONVENTION

The eleventh Biennial Convention of the Circle commenced on Friday, 22nd October 1999 at the Manor House Hotel, Royal Leamington Spa. This was a new venue for the convention, since nine out of the previous ten conventions had been held at the nearby Regent Hotel. The Regent Hotel is now boarded up and forlornly awaiting redevelopment, but the Manor House Hotel proved to be a worthy successor.

Peter Ford, the Convention Chairman, opened the proceedings by welcoming members and guests to the cheese and wine party on the Friday evening. He regretted that the President, Victor Toeg and the Chairman of the Committee, Derek Nathan were unable to attend and sent their apologies. He then announced the recent, sad demise of Ron Wike who had been due to give one of the formal displays on the Saturday. Peter then thanked Michael Oliver for offering to stand in and provide a formal display at very short notice. The evening continued with members and their guests renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. This continued until late into the evening, in both the restaurant and lounge.

Peter Ford formally opened the Convention on the Saturday morning with a short speech of welcome. The Convention had to occupy two rooms, since a single, large room was not available. The Warwick room contained the dealers tables represented by David Druett, Michael Hamilton, Allan Leverton and Derek Lilley as well as the popular members table manned by Simon Goldblatt and the Publications table manned by Peter Ford. The informal displays, ably presented by Mike Rego, were also displayed throughout the day. Members showing material included Michael Spaven (Leeward Is. Stamp Flaws), Bob Swarbrick (Jamaica Railways), Ian Potter (Tobago Post Offices), Brian Brookes (Leeward Is. Proofs), Tony Wilkinson (Spanish Caribbean Islands) and Steve Jarvis (Jamaican Postal Routes). The formal displays were held in a separate, smaller room laid out in theatre style. This arrangement of two rooms seemed to work well since both rooms were well lit and cheerful; the smaller space available possibly making the atmosphere more friendly.

The formal display in the morning consisted of a very interesting talk by Michael Oliver on the postal stationery of the Leeward Islands, well supported by an extensive range of material. After a buffet lunch, Alan Pearse gave an equally interesting and stimulating talk on the stamps and postal history of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The Chairman closed the proceedings shortly after 5 p.m., but many members who were staying at the hotel continued their discussions into the evening and the following Sunday morning. Thanks are due to everybody who contributed to the success of the Convention; in particular the members who brought their informal displays and to Steve Sharp and his helpers in their stewarding duties.

Peter Boulton

CONVENTION DISPLAYS - Leamington Spa - 1999

The two formal displays were from the collections of Michael Oliver "Leeward Islands - The Federal Postage Stationery" and Alan Pearse "Turks and Caicos Islands".

Michael Oliver started his display by giving a brief background to the Colony and the history of its stationery. He stated that it comprised 33 inhabited islands spread over 400 miles and that in 1900 it had 110,000 inhabitants, of which about 10% were literate. This 10% along with the Europeans present made a prospective letter writing population of about 15,000 - and only six Post Offices. Then followed details about the stationery. Michael stated that only Federal Stationery was in use 1890 - 1903 when the 1902 Stamp Act permitted the five Presidencies to issue their own concurrently until invalidated in 1927. Although the Presidencies were again permitted to issue their own stationery, only Antigua with registered envelopes and St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla with stamped air letters did so from 1952.

Almost a quarter of a million ½d newswrappers were sold prior to 1903, but some 40% of the envelopes and reply cards were offered for sale as remainders. Numbers printed from 1903 were only about a quarter of the Queen Victoria issues and it was not until 1927 that the next envelope was printed. The use of stationery by 1938 had declined to the extent that 14,000 envelopes and newswrappers and 5000 postcards were sufficient for the next 16 years.

Michael then gave a brief description of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co's subsidised scheduled mail services and routes, when virtually all mail until 1913 was carried on its inter-colonial services with items posted on board occasionally pen cancelled by the Purser in the ship's name.

The display was separated into four sections - postcards and reply cards, envelopes, newswrappers and registered envelopes. With two exceptions (other than the large sized registered envelopes), examples of all 59 different items privately or commercially used were shown. The postcards and reply cards included the 1d and 11/2d of 1927 when only 2000 and 1000 were printed respectively and a proof of the 1d George VI postcard with, 'Appd, subject to removal of GVR in the coat of arms, H.S.'. (H. Stansfield, Colonial Inspector of Stamps). De La Rue had retained the George V die and added the new King's profile.

The envelope section commenced with the artists handpainted design for the 1890 1d envelope on tracing paper and a die proof in blue-green Photographic essays of the George V embossed design with hand painted lettering not used and essays of the Universal type altered to Postage/Postage, which were used in 1927. Other items of interest included 1890 envelopes registered with the 'St. Kitts Post Office' wax seal and one posted on board, pen cancelled 'Esk', an

RMSF inter-colonial mail ship, a 1½d size F envelope used in 1928 of which only three are known used and none unused. Although there is no record of a requisition or invoice in the De La Rue archive, the minimum order was 5000 charged - a complete mystery. 1d and 1½d airmail quality were issued from 1928 with examples used at much higher rates. Why airmail envelopes were issued at these surface rates when the minimum air fee was ½d to UK and 4/5½d to Australia in 1938 seems quite illogical.

Used examples of all seven newswrappers were then shown. The ½d of 1938 being one of only two known and also De La Rue's Appendix Sheets of a ½d in the Universal Postage design, dated 1899 for which Crown Agents were invoiced £12 for a repeat plate, but not used, and the King Edward ½d and 1d with handpainted name.

The registered envelopes included examples up to H2 size. Size K, which De La Rue called "Official Pouch" are virtually unknown used or unused with only 2600 printed between 1929-41. The smallest number of any of the 59 items was 307 of the size F 2d envelope sent to Virgin Islands in 1922 after the fee was increased to 3d. A correctly rated used example from Road Town to India was shown. The display concluded with a last day of issue air letter.

The formal display on the Saturday afternoon was from the collection of Turks and Caicos Islands formed by Alan Pearse.

Alan started by saying that rather more than half of the display consisted of stamps - mostly mint - issued between 1867 and 1946. This section started with an introduction to the line-engraved Victorian issues, which included six of the attractive sheets of thirty in which they were issued. (The sheet of 30 of the earliest setting of the ½d on 1d, provisional was the star of the show.) An introduction to the surface-printed Victorian issues followed. This was in its turn followed by the "salt-raking" issues of 1900-08 and the King Edward VII and first King George V definitives.

Then followed a rather more specialized section of the "WAR TAX" issues of 1917-19 - a field in which a great deal of study remains to be done. The other three definitive sets of King George V were then shown, followed by the Silver Jubilee set and the King George VI issues from 1938-45.

Alan continued by stating that the rest of the display consisted of aspects of Turks and Caicos Islands philately in which he has taken a particular interest, the first being postal stationery. This started with a few formula registered envelopes (mint and used) and progressed through the fairly limited range of postal stationery issued in the fifty years after 1881.

Then followed a few pre-adhesive items and a group of covers and cards of the Victorian and Edwardian periods. A short section of airmail letters and another of mail from the small offices (opened in 1923) at Cockburn Harbour and Salt Cay were followed by a small section of censored mail along with a few maritime items which brought the display to a close.

Michael Spaven and Bob Swarbrick respectively gave the votes of thanks for these two wonderful displays. The members and guests present responded favourably to the well-chosen words in the usual manner.

MILLENIUM AUCTION

1. This is a very special sale held jointly with the BCPSPG, and much material has already been received. If you wish to participate please contact STEPHEN SHARP, 34 LOVELACE DRIVE, PYRFORD, WOKING. GU22 8QY; Tel.01932 341356, describing what you would like to be included. Stamps and Postal History items are equally welcome but the Auction Sub-Committee will be concerned to ensure that all lots offered reach the high standard of interest at which this joint auction has been set.
 2. The Auction Sub-Committee will be grateful for any specialised information which you include with your material for sale and for any personal assessment of its value, although no undertaking can be given that the Auction estimate will coincide with your own assessment. Remember that the more care you yourself take with the selection of items for sale, the better the realisation to be expected.
 3. The Auction Sub-Committee will not be responsible for the loss of or damage to items in their custody but unless you instruct to the contrary your material for sale will, if practicable, be held insured while in the hands of the Sub-Committee and the small cost will be divided rateably between the sellers.
 4. **MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CATALOGUE FOR PUBLICATION IN APRIL 2000 MUST BE RECEIVED BY 14TH JANUARY 2000 AT THE LATEST.**
 5. **Terms of Sale will be published in the March 2000 Bulletin.**
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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FORM

At the time of writing, early November, approximately half of our members have returned completed information forms.

Thank you for the care you have taken in providing the requested details.

To save space, it may be necessary to simplify interests / specialities in some cases. For example where most areas within a country are collected, a * for a specialised collection would seem appropriate.

I will pass on offers of assistance to the relevant group leaders, when these are properly established.

WILL MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT YET RETURNED COMPLETED MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FORMS PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Otherwise the List of Members due to be published early next year may contain out of date, incomplete or inaccurate information. If anybody has lost the form, please let me know and I will send a replacement.

Steve Sharp

MEMBERSHIP LISTING

New Members

Anderson, T.A.
Arnold, J
Billington, S.
Booth, G.
Faith, R.
Fannon, C.
Gee, C
Hale, R.E.
Harrower, R.
Kearns, P.W.E.
Loffstadt, D.
Smith, D.I.
Tierney, A.

MEMBERS SUBSCRIPTIONS 2000

Subscriptions for the year 2000 are due on the 1st of January. A subscription renewal form is enclosed with every bulletin because it is not practical to insert one only where a subscription payment is due. Would those who pay by standing order please ignore and for those who have paid several years in advance please check your envelope to confirm when your subscriptions expire, Again we are willing to take up to five years in advance at the current rate.

There are a few members who still owe for 1999 - again please check your envelope. If you are one of these please pay for 1999 and 2000 together. If we do not hear from you by the end of January 2000 we will assume you no longer wish to be a member.

Ray Stanton

LUDINGTON'S BERMUDA SALE - A REPLY FROM THE AUCTIONEER

As the auctioneer on the rostrum, I greatly enjoyed Charles Freeland's comments on Spink's auction of Morris Ludington's celebrated collection of Bermuda. From Spink's point of view, I do have a few comments to make.

I found the roller-coaster prices a refreshing change to the auctions where every lot opens one bidding increment below the low estimate, where every lot is reserved is at the low estimate and where the auctioneer is not trusted with any degree of flexibility. I think that it would be a stunning display of arrogance for any auctioneer to claim that he could predict without fail the prices of 922 lots; by admitting that to be an impossibility, by building in true flexibility to be exercised from the rostrum as the sale proceeds, that is real auctioneering and not just a mechanical procedure.

Spink, to the best of my knowledge, has never granted postal viewing, so I feel that this aspect did not severely handicap distant bidders where this particular sale was concerned.

The question of whether to split a collection into two sales is a matter of fine judgement. For a success by not splitting, Sir Maxwell Joseph's sale of Cape of Good Hope is a prime example; for failure by splitting, Kilfoyle's sale of Australian Commonwealth is a prime example. The danger in splitting a collection into two sales is that most bidders, wondering what is to follow, hold off in the first sale and then do not bid highly in the second sale because of the low prices in the first sale (where they did not bid). Obviously, the matter can be discussed endlessly; however there are certain countries which always attract strong followings and Bermuda is one of them. I think David Parsons of Spink got it right. The "room" was powerful and in the stamps and proofs there was a great deal of unspent money.

The main blockade interest did lie in the U.S. in more ways than one; we were unable to raise the main bidder's agent on the telephone; he had left his answer machine on. I understand that the "frustrated American", who had received his catalogue in plenty of time to instruct his American agent, was not amused.

Personally, I agree that 922 specialised lots were too many for one day. I put the case forcefully that it should have been spread over three sessions. I lost my case on the Bermuda but won it on the Bahamas and Turks Islands. Personally, I feel that 300-350 lots for a specialised session is about right. However, Spink do at present use Christie's salerooms and has to reserve its space quite far in advance. Bidders at the sale may well recall the appearance of Christie's Operations Director, David Gregory, to find out when he could start to move in the Contemporary Art which his team had been waiting to do since 4pm! When Spink have their own saleroom in February 2000, I hope that shorter sale sessions will be the order of the day.

Spink thought long and hard about the sale location. With the advent of telephone bidding, London or New York were both viable; however, two of the major clients for stamps and proofs of the British Empire tend to bid almost exclusively in London sales. Thus, had Spink located the sale in New York, they did risk losing the participation of these two buyers; in the event they were major players, not just as buyers but, almost as importantly for the vendor, also as underbidders.

None of the above is meant in any way as a criticism of Charles Freeland's article; it is intended to amplify his article and to explain the auctioneers position to your readers.

John Michael - Consultant - Spink

AROUND THE CARIBBEAN

Bermuda

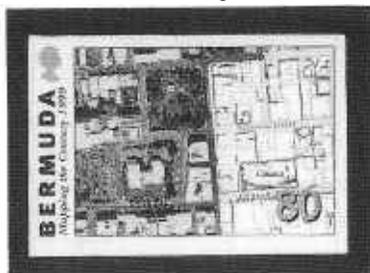
Commemorative Set - "30th Anniversary of the Moon Landing"

The issue date of the above commemorative issue has been amended to 21 July 1999.

Commemorative Set- "Mapping. Bermuda"

Values - 30c, 65c, 80c, \$1

Date of issue - 19 August 1999



Commemorative Set - "Post Office Issue"

Values - 30c, 75c, 95c, \$1

Date of issue - 5 October 1999



ANTIGUA

Nº 187

[P.M 17.]

The POSTMASTER of Antigua has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of
Colon H. Bowman letter of the *17th March 1937*
 forwarding a remittance of Pounds..... *Two* Shillings and
 Pence, and to transmit herewith the following :- £ - *10*s. - d.

ANTIGUA STAMPS, &c.				LEEWARD ISLANDS STAMPS, &c.			
£ s. d.				£ s. d.			
.....Stamps @	1d.			.....Stamps @	1d.		
..... "	1d.			..... "	1d.		
..... "	1½d.			..... "	1½d.		
..... "	2d.			..... "	2d.		
..... "	2½d.			..... "	2½d.		
..... "	3d.			..... "	3d.		
..... "	4d.			..... "	4d.		
..... "	5d.			..... "	5d.		
<i>1</i>	1s.		<i>1</i>	..... "	1s.		
..... "	1s. 2d.			..... "	1s. 2d.		
<i>1</i>	2s.		<i>2 6</i>	..... "	2s.		
..... "	2s. 6d.			..... "	2s. 6d.		
..... "	3s.			..... "	3s.		
..... "	4s.			..... "	4s.		
<i>1</i>	5s.		<i>5</i>	..... "	5s.		
..... Postage	1s. 2d.		<i>1 8</i>	..... "	1s. 2d.		
Total.....	-	<i>10</i>	.	Total.....			

Post Office,
 Antigua, Leeward Islands, B.W.I.

20th April 1937

M. W. K.
 Postmaster.

Stamps marked † will be discontinued when similar stocks are exhausted.

Stamps used for Postage and Registration..... *12 + 12 2 2 3 6*

I obtained an official acknowledgement of receipt of remittance form (P.M.17) from this years Circle auction. (See previous page) It was used on the 20th April 1932 and was an acknowledgement of receipt of remittance for monies sent for the purchase and transmission of stamps.

This item is from the Post Office, Antigua, Leeward Islands, B.W.I. and is signed by the Postmaster. It records the amount sent, probably by postal order, and the specific stamps used for the postage and registration.

The sheet, measuring 313mm x 178mm, is perforated down the left hand side and is individually numbered. It is assumed to be from an officially printed receipt book. The sheet is split into two columns for both Antigua and Leeward issues and shows values for Antigua from ½d up to 20/- and from ¼d up to 20/- for the Leeward Is. Items marked † are stated to be values that will be discontinued when existing stocks are exhausted.

This item and my other item dated 1937 show to me that SG.61 was still available at face value 15 years after issue.

I have not seen these mentioned before in the bulletin. Do members know of other countries that issued similar types or was this specific to Antigua? Are there similar items from the other Leeward Islands? Was this a locally produced item? I should like to hear from other members about this item.

Doug Nottingham

ANTIGUA - St. Johnston's

As an appendix to Charles Freeland's discovery of a cache of Antigua postmarks, (reported in the December edition of our sister publication, the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal) members might be interested in the history of St. Johnston's, whose c.d.s. on cover will figure amongst the rarities to be offered in our Millennium joint auction.

The village name has of course no connection with the other "Saints" on the island. It derives from the then governor, Sir Reginald St. Johnston, one of whose projects - when he was in charge in the early 1930's - was the creation of a small village of wooden housing for the poor, just outside the capital, St. John's. No doubt he was both flattered and pleased to have his name adopted for the village.

My informant was unable to give me the exact location of the post office or its dates of birth and expiry, but was able to tell me of a "stamp" that came into existence, bearing a reproduction of Sir Reginald's head. Shades of O'Connell! Now there is a trophy for one of our Antigua specialists to capture - and no doubt to display alongside the islands other fantasy by Robert Graves, "Antigua penny puce".

Simon Goldblatt

BARBADOS - WAR TAX OVERPRINT

Issued October 1916 to end 1917 (Gibbons catalogue)

Until recently I had taken little interest in this issue, which is not charismatic. However, I had been under the impression that it had ceased after the war ended in November 1918.

This clearly is not the case as you can see from the cover enclosed, dated 22nd September 1919. Is there a reader who can tell me the last known date of use? Also, was it used only for overseas correspondence?



There is a further reason for asking this question, and it concerns the other cover shown. It demonstrates one of only three covers, of which I am aware where the 1d lilac 'Revenue' has been used as a Postage Stamp. These are dated 6 August 1918, 22 September 1919, and 23 December 1919 (owned by Michael Medicott).

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It is Michael Hamilton's opinion that the 'Revenues' were used (unlawfully, hence the Tax stamp) when there was a temporary shortage of the 'War Tax' issue. It is better than my theory, that of early 'Postage Due', but would not stand up, perhaps, if the 'War Tax' issue ceased immediately after the war ended. In view of the 22 September cover this doesn't add up.

Can any member help please!

Robert Ellis

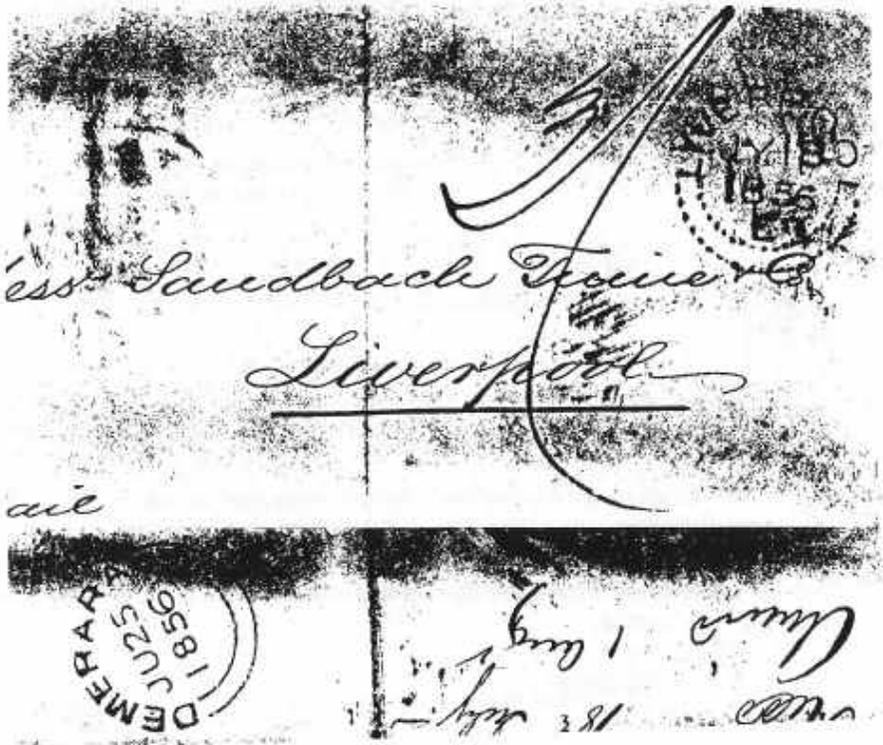
BARBADOS Censored Cover

The article by Clary Holt in the September Bulletin (No.182) stirred something in my distant memory which I will try to recall. About 20 years ago I purchased from the late Bill Bogg (New England Stamps) a Barbados cover to the U.S. which was censored in Trinidad. My notes indicate it was dated October 1942 but, sadly, I did not jot down the stamps with which it was franked. Inside the cover was a piece of paper about the same size as that illustrated in Mr. Holt's article, but with the typewritten words: "Letter found missing / when opened by Censor". The paper did not have the Postal Censor handstamp. The cover in question has long since been sold. In hindsight, I should have kept a Xerox copy of the cover and contents!

Fitz Roett

BRITISH GUIANA

The illustration below shows a Liverpool arrival mark struck in green during the 1850's which does not seem to be covered in any of the textbooks. It looks very ordinary, except that the lower double-arc consists of dots rather than the usual lines and it occurs in the Proof Books of the P.O. Archives.



So what!, you may ask. Apart from one strike from Jamaica and one from, I think, St. Kitts, all the other eight or nine recorded so far originated in British Guiana. They travelled by Packet via Southampton and London, so it is not a maritime mark, and most of them were addressed to Sandbach Tinnin.

Was this a mark reserved for West Indies mail? There is a similar mark with a triple arc and 'LIVERPOOL' also dotted, although I have not seen one. They were apparently experimental but what was the experiment and what was the result? Have I missed a reference in one of the books? If not, why not? Can anybody enlighten me?

Derek Nathan

DOMINICA - Treasure comes to light

In the second half of the 19th century local land taxes were levied in Dominica under the House Tax Act 1855. In 1880 James Garraway & Co. owned a plot of land in New Street, Roseau. In that year this well-known firm was listed as a defaulter for non-payment of one shilling and one penny.

We shall probably never know what local political squabble led to the continuing default. It resulted in the Provost Marshal putting the property up for sale by public auction on 11th April 1882. The price realised was eleven shillings and one penny, which was duly paid by James Alexander Garraway! Is it fair to surmise that other local contestants were warned off the course?

The transaction is fully recorded in a deed of Indenture signed and sealed on 9th August 1882. And here is the pay-off for us stamp collectors. The deed was presented for stamping and duty was levied in a total of 24/-!!

The duty was made up as follows:

QV Leeward Is. Long fiscal stamps - 5/- (3), 2/- (1), 6d (4). Each of these is dated in manuscript 10/8/82.

The last 5/- was recorded by Dominica's 5/- impressed die stamp.

Thus we now have direct evidence of actual usage of an impressed Revenue die stamp both at Antigua (see the Study Circle 1999 auction catalogue) and in Dominica. The chances are that similar evidence will come to light in St. Kitts, maybe even in Virgin Is. Use of the die stamps at Nevis is of course well known. (Did 1d stamps suffice for Montserrat at this period?)

The icing on the cake for at least one lucky specialist is that the Indenture has been entered for sale at the Millennium auction. Valuation? We will have to wait and see.

Simon Goldblatt

GRENADA - 1916 Local War Tax



I recently purchased a June 1916 local War Tax overprint on 1d red SG.109 with the Specimen handstamp. The A in WAR has the Delta error present.

Would the damage to the cross bar of the 'A' have developed late in the printing? So possibly the required number of sheets to receive the hand stamped SPECIMEN would have been taken towards the end of the printing run thus resulting in my lucky find?

Does anyone have any comment on this please.

Andy Soutar

JAMAICA

Updates to “The Postal Markings of Jamaica” - Part 2

The following are updates for the book “The Postal Markings of Jamaica” by Ian Potter and will be put into the bulletin in instalments in this and future issues.

Note: Changes and new items are in bold type.

Cancel No.	Name	Code	Size	Lettering	Ink	E.K.D.	L.K.D.
1000.06	BOMBAY	O3/41		Serif capitals	Black or Violet	09/07/1984	??/12/1998
		Known in Violet 8/10/1997 to 12/8/1998					
1020.07	BONNY GATE	O3PO/41j		Serif capitals	Violet	11/11/1994	??/04/1998
1020.08	BONNY GATE	O3/41		Serif capitals	Black	19/08/1996	
1020.09	BONNY GATE	M.S.R.DA			Blue	08/04/1998	
1050.04	BOSCOBEL	O3/41		Serif capitals	Violet	19/11/1998	25/05/1999
1050.05	BOSCOBEL	M.S.R.DA			Black	25/05/1999	
1070	BOULEVARD Postal Agency						Reported closed June 1998
1090	BOUNTY HALL Postal Agency						Reported “Appeared to be closed” March 1998
1110.02	BOWDEN	D. Ring	27mm dia	3mm high	Black	07/09/1896	28/06/1913
1170.05	BRAINERD	O3/41d		Sans serif caps	Violet or Black	25/10/1975	14/04/1997
		Known In Violet up to 03/07/1996 and Black 14/04/1997					
1180.06	BRANDON HILL	O3/41		Serif capitals	Violet	12/08/1998	
		Distance “B” to “L” measures 31mm					
1190.04	BREASTWORKS	O3PA/41		Serif capitals	Violet	15/03/1996	25/07/1997
		Reads “BREASTWORKS PA / JAMAICA”					

Cancel No.	Name	Code	Size	Lettering	Ink	E.K.D.	L.K.D.
1200.10	BRIDGEPORT	03/41		Serif capitals	Violet (See note)	29/03/1996	30/07/1998
				Known in Black 27/12/1996			
1280.02	BROWN'S HALL	D. Ring	28mm dia	3mm high	Black	??/01/1924	26/06/1929
1300.10	BUFF BAY	R. Oval			Black	--/04/1950	14/05/1999
1300.11	BUFF BAY	M.S.R.			Black	10/09/1956	14/05/1999
1320.09	BULL BAY	03/41	51mm x 34mm	Serif capitals	Various	01/11/1996	24/11/1998
				Known in Black 1/11/1996 to 31/7/1997 then In Violet but 24/11/1998 strike was in Blue			
1360.01	BUNKERS HILL	D. Ring	30mm dia	3mm high	Black	09/10/1939	23/03/1995
1360.03	BUNKERS HILL	03/41		Serif capitals	Black	23/10/1996	
1370.04	BURNT GROUND	03/41	53mmx36mm	Serif capitals	Black	24/03/1999	
				Reads "JAMAICA" correctly			
1390.05	BUSHY PARK	03/41		Serif capitals	Black	14/04/1997	01/02/1999
1520.02	CAMBRIDGE	D. Ring	28mm dia	2.5mm high	Black	23/12/1895	02/09/1924
1520.03	CAMBRIDGE	D. Ring	28mm dia	3.25mm high	Black	12/01/1925	30/11/1933
1600.03	CARRON HALL	D. Ring	29.5mm dia.	2.75mm high	Black	25/02/1939	21/11/1967
1650.02	CATADUPA STATION	S3			Blue	04/01/1918	--/09/1922

Note: Changes and new items are in bold type.

Ian Potter

JAMAICA

Please record a new type of TRD. I recently re-discovered the enclosed strike of ST. MARGARETS BAY dated 1889.



Although Aguilar recorded the fact that the Post Office existed, and that he was able to give the correct date, he was unable to allot the correct type. It would seem probable that he obtained this information from the Jamaican Post-Office archives, sadly this information was not picked up subsequently and as a result, this office was allocated to type 2. It is inconceivable that two types could exist for the same office so I think we must accept the fact that it has been incorrectly ascribed in the past.

Bob Swarbrick

JAMAICA - TURKS IS - "JUSQU'A" MARKING

One of the scarcer destinations for covers of the Jamaica First Flight to Miami of Dec 10th 1930 was Turks Islands. I often wondered about the route as it is backstamped with a Turks Islands double circle datestamp for A DE 18 30 (Challis

Type 4). Looking at the cover again, the penny dropped, as there was a “Jusqu’a” marking of a double line in purple of the type which was applied at New York between 1929 and 1931. Thus the cover went on to New York from Miami and thence by sea to Turks Islands by the regular mail service.



According to Huber writing in *“The Jamaica Philatelist”* in 1932, 1019 letters were destined to the UK and Europe by this flight and went by sea from New York. I have seen a large number of covers to the UK but have seen none with the “Jusqu’a” marking. The only two I have seen were on covers to Turks Islands.

Covers after this time to the UK are often seen with the marking. Have any members seen any other destinations from the First Flight with the marking and incidentally are any other covers to Turks Islands known?

David Atkinson

JAMAICA - A double-take



Please look again. It is not F81.

No reason, I suppose, why a Jamaican 4d stamp should not end up in an English town that happened to be using an F01 killer. Yet why put this on a stamp that already has a perfectly good Kingston date stamp? And what if the Kingston date stamp comes on top?

If I were a researcher (which you all know I am not) rather than a dabbler, I would by now have looked up the allocation of F01, and made enquiries to see what is known of its English life span. Preferring to leave the task to one of our real Jamaica students, I simply pose two questions, which will no doubt trigger off more:

- (1) Was F01 still in use in England in 1889?
- (2) Is there a Jamaican post office whose history would fit with the allocation of that numeral after E58 and before F80?

Over to you!

Simon Goldblatt

JAMAICA - GEORGE VI CORONATION ISSUE - 1d PLATE NUMBERING

The late Hugh James, in his recently published study paper introduces his 2nd chapter covering the commemorative issues with the comment "... this study leaves more questions unresolved than answered ..." and encourages us to take a closer look at our collections.

Spurred on by this remark, I have duly examined my Coronation issue, alas I did not find either of the two varieties listed but I did have a couple of blocks of the 1d that may be of interest.

Hugh recorded three printings of the 1d value between February and August 1937. It was printed in 2 panes of 60 (10 rows of 6 columns) with the plates one above the other. According to Hugh the panes were numbered 1A and 1B, with 1B believed to be the upper pane. The plate number appears under the second stamp of the bottom row of the pane.

However, plate 1B was first recorded in 1972 by Tom Foster, 35 years after issue!

My first block of 6 is mint and comes from the top left of the bottom pane, it has a wide (1.5 cm) gutter at the top and it shows the bottom tip of a recognisable "1B".

My second block of 4 is used (on the first day of issue) and comes from the bottom left of the top pane, it has a half size (0.75 cm) gutter but shows no trace of a plate number at all.

Has the plate number in my example been trimmed or did it never exist?

All my other blocks have half size gutters, so it is possible that this was the norm and the plate numbers were usually trimmed off when making post office sheets. On the other hand, it is possible that the initial printing of 6 million stamps only contained plate no 1A and that plate 1B was only utilised for the second printing of

180,000 stamps and / or the third printing of 936,000 stamps (which was not allocated to dealers). This would also account for the rarity of this plate number.

I would be pleased to hear from any members who have other marginal blocks who can add to our knowledge.

Steve Jarvis

JAMAICA - Queries

Can members provide any further information on the following varieties that I have come across :-

1)



1890 2½d overprint on 4d red-brown SG. 30. My copy has the overprint shifted downwards so the HALFPENNY is split in half by the perfs with the top half at the bottom of the stamp and the bottom half at the top of the stamp. Also the left horizontal bar of the T of TWO is detached from the vertical line by a small break. It is a used copy faintly cancelled dated 4 MY 91.

2)



1901 Falls 1d black and red SG.32. This mint copy has a watery red blob line from the red frame line under the P of PENNY resembling a partial underline of the P.

3)



1903-4 Arms 1d grey and carmine Wmk Crown CA SG.34. This Kingston used copy, date off stamp, shows a small dot between the knee of the Indian on the left and the coat of arms. It is between 2 horizontal background lines.

4)



1905-11 Arms ½d green SG.38. This late used copy in 1922, location unknown, has a small white o between the N and Y of PENNY showing PENNoY.

5)



1912-20 6d dull and bright purple SG.64. This mint copy has more shading of the moustache. The lines are indistinct giving a "thicker moustache" impression.

6)



1916 (1st April-Sept) WAR STAMP overprint in one line in black on 1/2d green SG.68. This used copy has a break in the white oval frame line below the P of PENNY. Cancelled (SAV) LA-MAR date off stamp.

7)



1916 (Sept-Dec) WAR STAMP small overprint in 2 lines on 1 1/2d orange SG.71. This used copy has a 'left facing flag' to the right and between the 2 lines of overprint, just over the stop after STAMP. There is a good 90 degree angle made with firm horizontal and vertical lines. The postmark is unclear (CH)AR(LE)S TOWN ?? or BROWN'S TOWN ??, date off stamp.

8)



1919-21 1 1/2d green Wmk Multi Crown CA SG.80. This mint copy has numerous specks and cuts in "Contingent embarking" and the 2 solid white lines above and below it, the largest being a break in the bottom white line below "g" of "embarking".

9)



1929-32 1d red die II Wmk Multi Script CA SG.108a. This used copy has the red outer line at top left value tablet on the right hand side extending into the margin.

Colin Taubenhaus

MONTSERRAT - Registration

Denis Charlesworth's cover illustrated in the June bulletin is indeed a different type from any of those recorded in the revised version of the Britnor handbook. It is similar to type 7, but the R is much thinner and has no stop after it. I propose to number it TA as it neatly fills the time gap between types 7 and 8. I have in fact

since obtained an example of the same label, so I doubt that it is particularly scarce, but its date range could be fairly short. I admit to having had some difficulty in revising the registration section of the handbook. Several of the labels have a very similar appearance and moveable numbers within their field, so I only gave a separate listing to labels that were clearly different. Moreover, although I was aware that the sample used by Britnor in the original handbook was meagre, I was unable to locate any member who had studied Montserrat registration in depth. As it happens, I recently acquired the eleven covers in the Montserrat section of the Martin Willcocks collection of registered covers sold by Cavendish and although his collection did not contain an example of 7A, it had several other scarce usages which enable me to extend the date ranges of the listed types:

Type 2 EKD 23 Mar 1904

Type 3 EKD 28 Jan 1909

Type 5 EKD 15 Feb 1914 LKD 16 Mar 1914

Type 6 EKD 28 Aug 1918

Type 7A EKD 20 Jan 1933 LKD 23 Oct 1933

I should add that the handbook did not attempt to tabulate the manuscript registration markings, of which I have seen quite a number. Most of these are on philatelic covers, often with a handstamped number, but Willcocks had a strange commercial cover to France bearing a spidery hand-written "1604 reg", unlike anything I have seen, with the 4 amended to 3. The date is Jan 12 1923.

I would urge any member who has additions or corrections to any aspects of the Montserrat handbook to contact the editor or myself. When I have sufficient material, plan to prepare a corrigendum but there is little to report to date. I can be reached at Box 2258, 4002 Basel, Switzerland or by e-mail at charles.freeland@bis.org

Charles Freeland

TOBAGO

I collect Tobago and because I like a challenge decided to research the area. From various sources I have gleaned bits and pieces of information and regularly exchange information and ideas with an American collector of this area. I would hope that members of the Circle will also pass on information that they may have.

Regarding the overprints, does anyone possess multiples that could be copied so that the apparent discrepancies in the available information could be clarified. SG.13 is not the problem, however, the first three settings are. To wit SG No's 26, 27, 28, 29.

Regarding the overprints on SG.30 and SG31 again does anyone possess multiples which could be copied to clarify the setting and the placing of the variations. Among

those that I have there appear a 'raised 'Y' in 'Penny' and various ups and downs with the letters of Pence of SG.31.

SG.13 Several varieties have been reported to me, these are not known and are certainly not listed anywhere that I know. I have one with a distinct bar across the 1 in the ½. Can this be confirmed by others. Does anyone know the position?

SG.22 I have a copy (fresh mint) with two dear triangular nicks in the solid colour at approximately 10 o'clock just below the T of Tobago. Has anyone else noticed this. Again what is the position?

SG state that from 1896 stamps of Trinidad were used in Tobago, the implication being that stamps of Tobago were no longer available or were no longer valid for postage. Not being a collector of Trinidad I cannot confirm such use, however I have stamps of Tobago cancelled much later than this SE 1898 being the latest that I have although I know of some used in 1899.

With regard to the fiscals, does anyone have a definitive listing? I know there are some colour differences with the 1d and 3d, the 6d, 1/-, 5/- and £1 appear to be in the same colours as those watermarked Crown CC. Are there any other Fiscals?

Forgeries; Sperati copied SG.18 and 19. Oneglia copied the 5/- Crown CA fiscal. Are there any more?

I would hope that respondents to the above will also make the information available to others via the Bulletin. It is my aim to publish a booklet at some later stage. Any help would be appreciated please.

Nigel Chandler

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP

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