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BULLETIN No.16

JANUARY, 1958

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

(Affiliated British Philatelic Association & Philatelic Congress
of Great Britain)

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:

P. T. SAUNDERS.

Hon. Secretary, Sales Circuit:

W. H. H. CROW.

58, Forest View Road, Manor Park, London, E.12.

Committee:

L. E. BRITNOR, G. W. GROVES, Miss ROSE TITFORD

J. J. TURNER.

Hon. Auditor: A. J. BRANSTON.

OBJECTS: TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the British West Indies.

TO establish contact with correspondents throughout the British West Indies comprising the following colonies and dependencies:

ANTIGUA	CAYMAN ISLANDS	ST. LUCIA
BAHAMAS	DOMINICA	ST. VINCENT
BARBADOS	GRENADA	TRINIDAD &
BERMUDA	JAMAICA	TOBAGO
BRITISH GUIANA	LEEWARD ISLANDS	TURKS & CAICOS
BRITISH	MONTSERRAT	ISLANDS
HONDURAS	ST. KITTS-NEVIS	VIRGIN ISLANDS

TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features (including 'Opinions' Service, and a 'Wants' Section) which it is hoped will widen the knowledge of members.

TO operate a SALES CIRCUIT to enable members to dispose of their surplus material.

MEMBERSHIP: TO be WORLD-WIDE in scope and open to all interested in the stamps or postal history of the above-mentioned colonies and dependencies whether they be *advanced* or *new* collectors. The ANNUAL subscription to be 10/6d (\$1.50 non-sterling countries) payable 1st FEBRUARY. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to "B.W.I. STUDY CIRCLE".

Dear Member,

A year ago we expressed the hope that our 200th member would be enrolled by the end of 1957 and whilst that happy event did in fact take place our total membership remains at 196 due to the inevitable loss through death and resignations. This represents an increase of 24 over the year which is very satisfactory and it is noteworthy that the number resident overseas has now reached the half century. A warm welcome is extended to the following who have enrolled since our last Bulletin was issued: Mr. H. J. Gaston of Granby, Connecticut, Mr. G. N. Johnstone and Mr. F. P. Schmitt both of New York, USA.

Geographical distribution of membership.

LONDON (35)

PROVINCIAL (111)

Buckinghamshire	1	Hertfordshire	4	Shropshire	2
Cheshire	2	Kent	5	Somerset	1
Cornwall	1	Lancashire	6	Staffordshire	1
Derbyshire	4	Middlesex	4	Suffolk	2
Devonshire	5	Norfolk	2	Surrey	16
Dorset	1	Northants	1	Sussex	6
Essex	5	Northumberland	2	Warwickshire	4
Gloucestershire	5	Nottinghamshire	1	Wiltshire	3
Hampshire	5	Oxfordshire	1	Yorkshire	8

Isle of Man	1	Northern Ireland	1	Scotland	8
		Wales	3		

OVERSEAS (50)

Australia	5	B.W.I.	4	Canada	7
France	1	Lebanon	1	New Guinea	1
South Africa	2	Tasmania	1	U.S.A.	28

OBITUARY

It is with regret that we record the death of one of our overseas member - Mr. P. T. Masters of Melbourne, Australia - which took place suddenly on 7th July, 1957. Mr. Masters became President of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria in the year of their entry into permanent headquarters. One of his principal interests was the postal history of Jamaica, for which he was awarded a bronze medal at ANPEX in 1955. Our sincere sympathies are extended to his widow and daughter in their sad bereavement.

SALES CIRCUIT

For some time now I have realised that circumstances were such that some curtailment of my honorary philatelic activities would have to be made, and it is not without some regret that I have tendered my resignation as Hon. Secretary of the Sales circuit. As most members will recall, I inaugurated the Circuit in the autumn of 1956, and although there have naturally been a number of teething troubles I feel that the venture has proved a success and is now firmly established. As you will observe in our 'shop window' Mr. W. H. H. Crow has volunteered to take over my duties, and it is my earnest hope that all members will continue to observe the simple rules and so render his task as light as possible.

Rose Titford.

STAMPEX 1958

at Central Hall, Westminster, S.W.1, 15th-22nd March

Our Circle has been invited to provide an exhibit which on this occasion will comprise two frames and the pages selected will cover **Bahamas, Barbados, British Guiana, Grenada, Jamaica and St. Vincent**. The popularity of this exhibition grows year by year, and we hope that many members will find time to pay it a visit. In accordance with our custom, full details of our Circle's contribution and of any individual displays by members will appear in our April issue.

DISPLAY
To the KING'S LYNN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
on 24th September, 1957

The day following my acceptance of an invitation to visit the above Society our Hon. Secretary received a request for the Circle to provide a display. It was decided to 'amalgamate' and I took with me selected pages of the following colonies kindly lent by the members whose names are given in brackets. **Antigua** (Mr. G. W. Groves), **Cayman Islands** (Mr. P. T. Saunders) and **Jamaica** (Mr. A. A. Hershman). My personal contribution covered early **Bahamas** and **St. Christopher**. Many interesting pre-adhesives some of which were from the 'Codrington' correspondence were chosen by Mr. Groves and the pages selected by Mr. Hershman were devoted to 'temporary date stamps' of which, in some instances, only one or two copies are recorded. The display was much appreciated and the sincere thanks of the Society were expressed to our circle. I was very delighted to make the acquaintance of Mr. E. Broad, President of the Kings Lynn Philatelic Society, and was privileged to see a part of his very fine collection of St. Vincent.

Rose Titford.

AUTUMN MEETING

This was held at 41, Devonshire Place, W 1, (by kind permission of the Royal Philatelic Society, London) on Saturday, October 26th, 1957. In the absence of our President owing to illness the chair was taken by Mr. J. B. Marriott one of our Vice-Presidents, who extended a warm welcome to the 22 members and 4 visitors present. Our Hon. Secretary and Treasurer announced that he was moving into the country in the new year but would continue to conduct the affairs of the Circle and edit the Bulletin. Cdr. G Bridgmore Brown then presented the report of the Sub-Committee appointed to our Third Anniversary Meeting last April to examine the proposal of publishing handbooks. It was recommended that a member be appointed as leader for each colony to collect all the available information, digest it and prepare it in a form suitable for publication. Following further discussion the chairman moved that the sub-committee's report be adopted and proposed a vote of thanks for their work which was seconded by Mr. Shields Forshaw and carried unanimously. The Hon. Secretary reported that in anticipation of approval certain members had been approached to act as leaders and the following had accepted: Mr. (G. W. Groves (**Antigua & St. Vincent**), Mr. A. J. Branston (**Bahamas**), Messrs. L. E. Britnor & B. B. Benwell (**Barbados**), Cdr. G Bridgmore Brown (**Bermuda**), Mr. P. W. Hosking (**British Guiana**), Mr. B. E. Johnson (**Grenada**), Dr. B. de Burca (**St. Lucia**), Mr. A. E. Beach (**Tobago**) and Mr. J. B. Marriott (**Trinidad**).

Mr. F. Myers of Leeds reported that following a suggestion that the Circle's members in the North should meet, he had convened a Meeting in Leeds in July at which eight members and visitors were present. A further meeting was held in September and, as a result, several new members had been recruited to the Circle.

He asked if they could be allowed to form a branch of the Circle and whether some money could be allocated to them to help meet the expenses of their meetings. Cdr. Bridgmore Brown moved that this meeting congratulates Mr. Myers on his initiative and recommends to the consideration of the Circle Committee his suggestion that they be allowed to form a Northern Section of the Circle with the assistance of the parent body. This was seconded by Mr. L. E. Britnor and carried unanimously. The meeting then turned to displays by members and the following are some of the items shown and queries raised:

Mr. B. B. Benwell: **Barbados** - (Consignees Letter 'per R.M.S. ESK' without adhesive and bearing Tax Mark and the Barbados c.d.s. (Querv - Where was the Tax Mark applied. Answer – at Barbados). Mr. H. F. Blease: Selection of the 1863-80 issues of **Bahamas**. One penny value bore the numeral cancellation '29' in an oval of lines similar to the Queensland cancellations. No one could say where this cancellation was applied. (Can any other member help?) Mr. L. E. Britnor: **Jamaica** Ship Letters and other covers including one Ship Letter carried by R.M.S. 'Tweed' in December 1841 before she began operating as a Packet Boat. Cdr. (Bridgmore Brown: Blocks of the 1d. and 2d. 1896 issue of **Bermuda** and later values including a plate block of 12 of 1d. of 1902-3 aniline, also modern cachets. Mr. G. W. Groves: **Trinidad** paquebot marks and stamps with other ports' marks and ship cancellations. Included were examples of the Coastal Steamer No. 2 (Trinidad). (Query – Has anyone a clear example of No.1.) Mr. P. W. Hosking: Selection of British Guiana cancellations including one of MASSARUNI. This post office was only open for about 18 months between 1879 and 1881 and this is the first example to come to light. (Query – Does any other member possess a copy?). Mr. J. B. Marriott: Photostat copy of the **Trinidad** Royal Gazette for 1861 listing the numbers assigned to Post Offices and a page of examples of the cancellations from 1 - 21. Die proof in black of the first Trinidad issue prepared by Perkins Bacon and the De La Rue plate proofs of 1862. Mrs. M. W. Taylor: Flaws in the 2d. Postage Dues of **Grenada** and **Trinidad**. Georgetown Ship Letter mark with date NO-29-99). (The query as to which Georgetown remained unsolved). Mr. W. K. Watson (per Mr. F. Myers): Jamaica Government Railway cancellation 'Ipswich' with the number 324 between the month and the year. (Query – Can any member offer an explanation of this cancellation?)

G. W. Groves.

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING

As was announced in our October 1957 Bulletin, this will take place at 41, Devonshire Place, London, W.1. on **Saturday, March 29th., at 2.30 p.m.** It will be followed by a Dinner (dress informal) at l.ords Tavern, St. John's Wood Road, N.W.8 (7 for 7.30 p.m.) The principal guests will be Mr. W. F. Deakin (Managing Director – Stanley Gibbons Ltd.) and Mr. L. W. Stokes (President - Association of Essex Philatelic Societies). Tickets will be 17/6 each (excluding wine but including gratuities) and applications accompanied by the appropriate remittance should reach the Hon. Secretary **not later than March 15th.**

NOTES AND QUERIES

It will be appreciated that our Bulletin constitutes the vital link between us and is **mainly** dependent upon a steady flow of contributions from members. These may either afford information or raise points upon which enlightenment is sought, and it will be helpful if S.G. numbers are quoted wherever possible. ALL contributions should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary.

BAHAMAS

(Concluded from Bulletin No. 15. p. 52.)

Type 13. Add. Ornament at foot is missing in illustration.

ACKLINS ISLAND	(c.1905)
GRAND BAHAMA	(c.1918 – c.1929)
PORT HOWE	(c.1930 – c.1932)
WEMYSS BIGHT	(c.1907 – c.1929)

Type 14. The earliest of this type appeared about 1906 and the latest in the 1930's. All have a diameter of 25mm. except SPANISH WELLS - 26mm. The lettering of the names is 3mm. high and usually narrow. A sub-type appeared in 1930's with broader lettering also 3mm. high and with the circle 25mm. in diameter, except NASSAU – 24mm. Where the length the P.O. name permitted the dale line occasionally extended nearly to the circle on both sides. This sub-type is listed as Type 14a. It should be pointed out that the difference between Type 14 and Type 22 is in the height and general appearance of the lettering. In Type 22 the lettering is 3.5 – 4mm. high.

Single circle, diameter 25mm. lettering 3mm. high

ARTHUR'S TOWN	(c.1913)
BEHRING POINT	(c.1934)
FRESH CREEK	(c.1936)
GEORGE TOWN	(c.1912 - c.1929)
GOVERNOR'S HARBOUR	(c.1906 - c.1917)
GREAT GUANO CAY	(c.1944)
GREEN TURTLE CAY	(c.1912)
GREGORY TOWN	(c.1915)
HARBOUR ISLAND	(c.1909 - c.1924)
INAGUA	(c.1907 - c.1914)
NASSAU	(c.1907 - c.1930)

Note: Several almost identical h/s, one of which has a break in the circle below 'AH' of 'BAHAMAS' after c.1911.

PALMETTO POINT	(c.1916)
"THE BIGHT"	(c.1912 - c.1939)
Note – inverted commas.	(c.1936)
THE CURRENT	(c.1918)
THE FERRY, EXUMA	(c.1909 - c.1924)
Note – name of island	

Type 14a. Single circle, diameter 25mm. Lettering 3mm. high but broader than in Type 14.

GEORGE TOWN	(c.1932 - c.1933)
HATCHET BAY	(c.1936)
MASTIC POINT	(c.1911 - c.1913)
PALMETTO POINT	(c.1932)
SPANISH WELLS	(c.1921 - c.1930)
(dia. 26mm.)	
THE FERRY	(c.1932)
('Exuma' omitted)	

Type 14b. As Type 14 but name of island instead of 'BAHAMAS' at foot.

CLARENCE TOWN/ LONG ISLAND	(c.1927)
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Type 17. Extend dates.
NASSAU (c.1940 - c.1943)

Type 18. Add:
LANDRAIL POINT (c. 1938)
PINE RIDGE G.B. (c.1945 - c.1947)

Type 19. Add:
GOVERNOR'S HARBOUR (c.1930 - c.1934)
NASSAU (c.1927 - c.1934)
NICOLL'S TOWN (c.1935 - c.1937)
PARCEL POST NASSAU (c. 1929)
RAGGED ISLAND (c.1927 - c.1936)
RUM CAY (c. 1934)
SAN SALVADOR (c.1931 - c.1936)

Type 20. Extend date.
LANDRAIL POINT (c.1943 - c.1947)

Type 22. Single circle, diameter 25-26mm. Lettering 3.5 - 4mm. high. Many are probably still in use.

BIMINI (c.1918 - c.1937)
DEADMAN'S CAY (c. 1920)
GREEN TURTLE CAY (c.1938 - c.1941)
HARBOUR ISLAND (c. 1942)
HATCHET BAY (c. 1911)
INAGUA (c. 1936)
Do 'Inagua' longer (c. 1939)
JAMES' CISTERN (c. 1930)
LIGNUM VITAE CAY (c. 1932)
LOWER BOGUE (c.1912 - c.1917)
MANGROVE CAY (c.1912 - c.1917)
NASSAU (c.1938 - c.1946)
NICOLL'S TOWN (c. 1912)
(dia. 26 mm., lettering 3.5mm)
NICOLL'S TOWN (c. 1942)
(dia. 26 mm., lettering 4mm)
ROCK SOUND (damaged circle) (c.1927 - c.1930)
RUM CAY (c. 1950)
SAVANNAH SOUND (c. 1926)
SHIRLEY STREET (c. 1942)
SPRING POINT (c. 1934)
STANYARD CREEK (c. 1941)
TARPUM BAY (c.1914 - c.1929)
WATLING'S (c.1912 - c.1917)
WEST END (c. 1933)

Type 23. Extend date.
SIMMS (c.1943 - c.1947)

Type 23. Extend date.

Type 24. of ROCK SOUND is simply Type 22 with the circle completely worn away and can therefore be omitted. Mail boat cancellations. I have the 6d. rough perf. S.G.6 cancelled 'A93' of the Allan Line.

Paquebot marks recorded: (Type numbers from Brigadier M. A. Studd's book):

MIAMI Types	A 386	(c.1903 - c.1915)
	A 382	(c.1923 - c.1936)
	A 383	(c.1928 - c.1939)
	A 384	(c.1934 - c.1939)
NEW YORK	Types B174, B177 and B182	

The PA.A. 'AIR MAIL PAQUEBOT' was in use until at least October 1940.

'SHIP MAIL NASSAU' machine cancellation is known dated in the early 1930s.

The 'NASSAU PAQUEBOT' machine cancellation has been seen dated 1937 and 1938.

There were two h/s for the S.S. 'Munargo', the first inscribed U.S.M.S./ MUNARGO and the second, in larger lettering 'SS MUNARGO'.

(Contributed by Mr. M. H. Luddington)

BAHAMAS

"In the pre-adhesive period the hand-stamp generally found (though it is not common) is the straight-line seriffed 'BAHAMAS' which measures 35 mm. long and each letter measuring 3½ mm. Recently I had the pleasure of seeing our Vice-President Dr. R. H. Urwick's collection of Bahamas and he has what I consider the rarer type with the small 'BAHAMAS', the length of which is only 22½ mm. It is on a cover dated from Nassau 9th March 1836, arriving in London on 6th June 1836. I shall be very interested to hear if any other member possesses any earlier date for this small hand-stamp."

(Contributed by Rose Titford)

BAHAMAS

"I wonder if Mr. Coasby would like to know that in connection with his note on Bahamas (bulletin No.14, p.40) about the Berry Islands and Lignum Vitae strike I have two good examples dated 27th August, 1951 and 20th October, 1955 respectively. It is of particular interest that both of these cancellations show a characteristic flattening of the circle over the 'NUM ' and I would be glad to know if his, or any other members, copies exhibit this deformity."

(Contributed by Mr. A. J. Branston.)

BERMUDA

Combination covers of Bermuda and the U.S.A. are known for a short period prior to mid 1937, and this is the story behind them. At that time there was no airmail serving Bermuda but from New York, where most of Bermuda's outbound mail was routed, there existed a very good air service to most parts of the Western Hemisphere. Both British and American currency was freely used in the colony and a shop known as the Phoenix Drug Store in Hamilton obliged the public by selling not only Bermuda stamps but also airmail and special delivery stamps of the U.S.A.

A cover in my collection which I will describe illustrates how the public took advantage of this situation. It is a printed Airmail Par Avion envelope addressed to a couple living at 'Inverrov', Malvern P.O., Jamaica, B.W.I. It bears two stamps, one being the ½d. ship type and a U.S.A. 15 cent airmail olive-brown. The Bermuda stamp is cancelled by a Hamilton datestamp (Lud. type Hill on March 7th, 1936, and the U.S.A. stamp is cancelled by a New York G.P.O. duplex dated March 9th. This is the correct interval for sea mail as the 'Monarch of Bermuda' sailed at 3 p.m. on the Monday of each week and docked in New York on the Wednesday morning. The

cover is backstamped at Malvern, Jamaica, on March 11th, 1936, proving that it was conveyed by air in two days from New York. It should be noted that each stamp is cancelled by its own country and that both were needed to achieve the desired result. Twenty years ago saw the end of this practice when the first regular flight of the Bermuda-New York service was inaugurated."

(Contributed by Mr. G. A. Osborn)

BRITISH GUIANA T.P.O's

"As many members are aware the number of Post Offices open in 1891 is known and included the following seven T.P.O.s: Bartica Steamer, Berbice River Steamer, Demerara River Steamer, Essequibo Steamer, Mail Boat Demerara River and Massaruni Steamer. Since then others have, of course, been opened and a number no longer exists. I always like to record the earliest known postmarks for each T.P.O. which I have obtained in many instances from articles published in philatelic journals and, in other cases, from the cancellations on some of my friends' or my own stamps. Ignoring the enigmatic code mark E.R., my listing is as follows:

Bartica Steamer	1891? (10.4.01)	Essequibo Steamer	1881? (29.10.83)
Berbice Railway	10.9.08	Mail Boat Demerara River	24.2.99
Berbice Steamer	1884? (3.11.86)	Massaruni River	24.8.96
Demerara Railway	1.12.87	Pomeroon	7.9.00
Demerara River Steamer	27.9.83	Saddle Steamer	7.?.00
East Coast Railway	4.11.99	West Coast Railway	12.12.12

Note: The dates in parenthesis are those in my own collection.

I am anxious to ascertain how long each one of these services existed - at any rate with a postmark of its own - and shall be glad if any members can amend the listing. Incidentally I have yet to find a specimen of 'North West Str' (mentioned by Mr. Hosking in Bulletin No. 10. p. 31.) and Purini River."

(Contributed by Mr. F. G. Howe)

BRITISH GUIANA

"I shall be very grateful if any members who are interested in the 1862 and 1882 type-set issues can inform me of any source of information concerning these stamps. Furthermore, are there any instances known of these stamps on entire?"

(Contributed by Mr. N. P. Biddle.)

[A serial article by the late Mr. A. D. Ferguson appeared in 'The London Philatelist' Vols. 50-53. Examples on entire are very rare - only one or two are known. Ed.]

JAMAICA

Gibraltar Camp P.O.

"Further to my notes in Bulletin No. 12. p. 8. I would like to clarify the point that the occupants were evacuated from the Rock of Gibraltar at the beginning of the War, not from the camp in Jamaica. This evacuation probably led to the naming of the camp. Additional information has now come to light to the effect that the internees of the camp, together with the guards and their families, sailed for Hamburg in February or March 1947. The internees disembarked at Hamburg and the guards with their families returned to their homes in Gibraltar, the evacuation period having ended. This emptied the camp in Jamaica and the Post Office was probably closed at that time.

Since writing my original notes I have obtained a cover from an inmate of the camp addressed to a person in Scotland. This bears a circular mark 35 mm. in diameter with the words ' Gibraltar ' at the top and 'Camp' at the bottom on the front in black. It seems to be another type of Unit mark as it is cancelled in Kingston 15 MAY 1942. Whilst the majority of Service mail was handed in at Cross Roads P.O.' some was taken direct to the P.O. at Kingston."

(Contributed by Mr. W. H. H. Crow.)

JAMAICA

"I have recently obtained two varieties of T.R.D.s which are not known by Mr. Aguilar and shall be glad to hear whether any other member possesses examples. One is of DUMPHRIES (instead of the usual spelling - DUMFRIES). The letters of the name are closer together, making the length of the name about 10mm. shorter. Otherwise the mark is the same as regards the frame. It is on a cover dated Oct. 4 1946. The other is for BROADLEAF. The original one in my possession has broad lettering, BROADLEAF being 26mm. long and JAMAICA 21 mm, long. This new acquisition has BROADLEAF 18 mm. long and Jamaica 16 mm. long."

(Contributed by Dr. R. H. Blackburn.)

ST. KITTS

"With reference to Mr. Cloves' notes (Bulletin No. 8) on the abbreviated postmarks of St. Kitts, it is interesting to learn of the issue of duplex marks to the villages. My own copies are limited to the c.d.s., the earliest being SP dated 31.12.01. As regards the non-duplex type I have a dated copy of

SP on Leeward Islands S.G.76 dated 17.5.24 and two on S.G.52, the year not being very clear. This mark is 26 mm. in diameter against the 20 mm. of the duplex type.

Can any member throw light on the abbreviated CA mark which I have on Leeward Islands S.G.1 dated 24.4.04. Is this a mark for Cayon? There is a suspicion of the other half of a duplex mark showing on my copy. '

(Contributed by Mr. P. W. Hosking.)

Please note that all communications (except those in connection with the Sales Circuit) should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary at Caymans Cottage, Ridgemont, Bletchley, Bucks. In order that a full report of the Fourth Anniversary Meeting can be included in our next issue publication will be delayed until mid-April.

AUCTION GLEANINGS

H.R.HARMER, LTD. Sale. Oct. 1st 1957. **St.Vincent:** 1880 5/-, S.G.28. part o.g. centred slightly to right, fine **£34.** Sale Oct.14th. **Barbados:** 1858, 6d. deep rose-red, S.G. 11a. unused, brilliant deep colour, large margins & superb. **£37.** 1873, 5/- dull rose, S.G.64. very fine fresh unused copy but, as usual, a little off centre. **£31.** Oct. 15th **Grenada:** 1938-50 2½d. bright blue. Perf 12½ x 13½, S.G.157a, part o.g. very fine, **£105.** Oct. 21st. **Turks Islands:** 2½d. on 1/-, S.G.41. part o.g.centered to bottom, very fine. **£160.** Nov. 4th. **Cayman Islands:** 1908. 2½ on 4d., S.G. 24. o.g. very fine, **£33.**

Advert

C.G.ALTERSKYE

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F.W.COLLINS

THE HON. SECRETARY'S PARAGRAPH

Every member will I am sure have noted, with regret, the absence of the usual paragraph contributed by our President, and I reproduce below copies of letters that passed between us in November 1957:

13th November. 1957

Dear Philip,

I thank you for your two letters and am sorry to tell you that I am not so well again. I was very sick and poorly last week-end and I must ask you to please excuse my not sending the usual paragraph. I have no idea at the moment what to write about except my apologies for same. I think I must please ask you to replace me as President. It would be better for both of us if you had someone younger and more reliable and within easier distance of London. The circle is now in a very strong position and I feel quite happy to leave the Chair to another member.

My very kind regards,
Sincerely yours,
Gilbert.

13th November. 1957

Dear Gilbert,

I thank you for your letter of the 13th instant and am very sorry indeed to learn that you have been in such poor health and do hope that your complete recovery will not be long delayed.

With regard to your writing your usual paragraph for our bulletin I would never wish it to become a burden and fully appreciate that in the circumstances you are not able to let me have a few lines on this occasion. If at any time in the future you feel able to make a contribution to our pages you know it will always be most welcome.

The suggestion you make of being replaced as President is, however, a very different matter. You will, I am sure, recall at our Third Anniversary Meeting last April it was made abundantly clear that it was the desire of all present that you continued in that office. I have to-day been in touch with members of the Committee and we all agree that the fact that you live so far away and cannot be sure of being able to preside at our meetings in no way diminishes the high esteem and warm affection with which you are regarded by all our members. Whilst it is realised that it may be necessary to invite someone else to take the chair at future meetings it is our earnest wish that you continue to lead us in the capacity as President.

With very kind regards,
Sincerely yours,
Philip.

From the time of our foundation when Mr. Collett consented to accept the invitation to become our President he has given us his wholehearted support and made the long journey from his home in Wiltshire to London to preside at our meetings. Everyone will, I know, echo the sentiments expressed in my letter and hope that his health and the weather will permit him to attend our Fourth Anniversary Meeting next March. I am glad to say that a number of members acceded to my request to pay their subscription by Bankers' Order. If you find a further form accompanying this issue of the bulletin I do hope you will complete it and return it to me as soon as possible.

This will lighten my task as Hon. Treasurer and also save you unnecessary expense and trouble. The response to my plea for a few lines on any aspect of B.W.I. philately was not so successful, and I sincerely trust that many more will find some time during the winter evenings to write about something they have found of particular interest. In this connection I would emphasise that no subject should necessarily be regarded as elementary as it is such items that might be most helpful to those of our members who are new collectors.

P.T.S

MISCELLANEA

ADVERTISERS: When communicating with any of our advertisers are requested to make a point of mentioning our Bulletin.

BULLETINS: Copies of back issues are available as follows:- Nos. 8-11 (1/9d each) and 12-15 (1/6d each). Orders should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, accompanied by the appropriate remittance.

OPINIONS SERVICE: Facilities are available for opinions to be given on most stamps of the B.W.I. group. A fee of 1/- per stamp is charged. Members wishing to avail themselves of this service should send the stamp(s) to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing the requisite fee and stamped addressed plain (or registered) envelope. Every endeavour will be made to return the stamp(s) within fourteen days.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Members are reminded that these are due on 1st February and prompt payment will be much appreciated. Should it be desired to pay by Bankers' Order the necessary form can be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary.

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