



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

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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.**
2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
3. To loan books from Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear post both ways. List supplied on application.
4. To publicise 'wants'.
5. To furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.

MEMBERSHIP

is WORLD-WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be **advanced** or **new** collectors. The ANNUAL subscription, payable on 1st January each year is **£4** for members residing in the UK or Europe, or **£6** for members residing elsewhere in the world. The latter rate includes an element to cover airmail postage of the Bulletin and charges where the subscription is paid in non-sterling currency or by cheques drawn on foreign banks. Overseas members are requested to make payment by International Money Order in sterling or by sterling draft on a UK bank if possible. Cheques, IMO's and PO's are to be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle".

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PROGRAMME

1983

Tues., Nov. 22nd 7.00 p.m. Mr. Ruthven Ward - St. Lucia.

1984

Thurs. Jan. 19th 6.00 p.m. Bring. Buy, Swap, Display.

Thurs., Mar. 22nd 6.00 p.m. Messrs. P.W.C. Burke and D.W. Atkinson

Sat., Apr. 28th 2.15 p.m. A.G.M. and Auction Sale.

The evening meetings will be held in Committee Room A, The Law Society Building, 113, Chancery Lane, London, WC1 IPL.

The A.G.M. and Auction Sale will be held at the Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London, WC1 IPL.

VISITS TO OTHER SOCIETIES

On 23rd Jan. 1984 at 7.30 p.m. Tony Farmer will be giving a display of Leeward Islands to the Solent Stamp Club at the Scout hut behind St. Mark's Church, Derby Rd., North End, Portsmouth. Tony Farmer will also be giving a further display on Leeward Islands on 1st Feb. 1984 at 7.30 p.m. to the Bristol Philatelic Society at the Constitutional Club, Marsh Street., Bristol. Interested members will be made most welcome.

THE B.W.I.S.C. CONVENTION

The second B.W.I.S.C. Convention to be held at the Regent Hotel, Leamington Spa, officially started on Friday evening the 21st October when some 35 members and guests attended a sherry party together with the officers of the Study Circle. It was a happy occasion which lasted for some little while until members then dispersed in small groups to enjoy their evening meal. It should be said, at this point, that proceedings had already commenced earlier in the day when arriving members soon gathered in the hotel lounge to renew acquaintances and to start their own informal meetings. After a break of two years there was much to discuss and time was short.

At 10.15 the following morning when Victor Toeg went into the Chandos Room to open the Convention Meeting, he found that there were already informal displays mounted on frames around the room and that a number of dealers tables were open and doing business. However, in a short speech of welcome, in which he noted with pleasure this departure from procedure, he wished everyone a successful Convention and declared the meeting open.

During the early part of the morning a number of most interesting and varied displays were put up for inspection, but one display which particularly attracted the attention of Basil Benwell and myself and drew admiring comments was entitled The Barbados Railway by Tony Shepherd. It certainly shows what can be done with a little hard work and a lot of enthusiasm on what, at first thought, seems a most unlikely subject (Jamaica Railway excepted, of course!).

After a short break for coffee we came to the main event of the first session and this was a display of Jamaica by Robert Swarbrick. Before commencing Bob confessed to a slight feeling of butterflies in the stomach as this was his first major display in nearly a lifetime of collecting. There was no need for this feeling, for Bob's display which took his audience through much of the postal history of Jamaica was much appreciated. His display commenced with the first straight line marks and continued with various other types of marks and then cancellations etc. through to the postal history of more recent times. Bob's display was interspersed with many an interesting story attached to some of the covers or stamps. After members had had an opportunity to view the display Ken Watson was asked to propose a vote of thanks which in turn was seconded by John Marriott.

Members then adjourned for liquid refreshment before going in for a lunch of roast chicken followed by a most excellent apple pie and cream. Although no official speech was on the agenda Victor Toeg felt that a few words would not be amiss. He then paid tribute to both the late Len Britnor and Bobbie Messenger whose deaths had been such a sad loss to the Study Circle and whose philatelic activities would be sorely missed. Victor went on to echo the sentiments expressed by Basil Benwell in his appreciation of Leonard which appeared in the Bulletin earlier in the year. Three other names mentioned in happier circumstances were those of Peter Jaffe who had journeyed from Victoria, Australia to attend the Convention and likewise Mark and Jean Swetland from New Jersey, U.S.A. Mark, who has recently retired, included the Convention in a European holiday. It is our pleasure to note that Mark and Jean were also present at our first Convention at Leamington in October, 1981.

The main event of the afternoon programme was a display of "West Indies Assorted" by Simon Goldblatt, who showed us just about everything in the way of stamps from most countries in the British West Indies. There were watermarks, errors, varieties, scarce cancellations, in fact - you name it and it was most probably there. At the conclusion of Simon's display a vote of thanks was proposed by Peter Jaffe and seconded by Tony Shepherd at his own request. In his short speech Tony made reference to stamps of the Virgin Islands and certain young ladies from Halifax which

caused some amusement. There were still members who, later in the evening, were not quite sure whether Tony's words were intended or whether he had slipped up!

After tea and biscuits and further informal displays, Simon Goldblatt auctioned a number of items from the members' approval table, and if the cheques handed over are anything to go by both Simon and Derek Nathan had a more than successful day. We hope our dealer members who also had tables were likewise successful. For the record they are as follows:-

J.M.A. Gregson, Michael Hamilton, Commander Bill Collins, Chris Rainey, David Druett, Malcolm Watts and David Mushlin & Frank Deakin. It should also be recorded that 70+ members and guests attended - an increase of some 15% on the total attending on the last occasion at Leamington.

Victor Toeg brought the Convention to a close with a vote of thanks to all those who had helped to make the day such a memorable one - David Atkinson and his band of stewards, Tony Shepherd and Mike Rego in charge of and arranging the informal displays, Ian and Rosemary Chard on the entrance table, Simon Goldblatt and Derek Nathan on the members' approval table, all those who had been responsible for much of the preparatory work and to Mike Sheppard who probably had the least onerous task of all. It was generally agreed, at this juncture, that another Convention would be welcome in the not too distant future.

Although by now a number of members were departing the proceedings were by no means over. When your scribe was about to retire for the night a large group were still hard at it in the hotel lounge and as Bruce Walker remarked next morning at breakfast ... "in spite of the time we were glad of the extra hour due to setting the clocks back for British Winter Time" ...

The Convention now really was over and the remaining members regretfully departed the hotel on a glorious sunny October morning.

Michael Sheppard.

We regret that because of a mishap the photography department was unable to do the convention full justice. However, they were successful with a few photographs and these are shown on the following pages.

L to R
 Geoffrey Vance
 Derek Sutcliffe
 David Wolfson



Rear table: Michael Rego Michael Hamilton
 Extreme right: Peter Jaffe



Dennis Mitton

Standing right: Chris Rainey

Rear of room:
 Simon Goldblatt
 Derek Nathan
 by lamp:
 John Grogson
 Mavis Sidmead
 Seated front left:
 Cmdr. Biff Collins





Head of table:
John and Mary
Marriott

Left of table: Mavis and Stanley Bidmead

Michael Rego

David Druett



Michael Hamilton (the "slash flaw" is
not constant!)

L to R: Malcolm Watts John Gregson Michael and



Feggy
Sheppard

THE HON. EDITOR OF THE BULLETIN

Some two months ago I heard from Mike Sheppard the Hon. Editor of the Bulletin that he will be retiring from his work in August 1984 and that he proposes to relinquish the task of editing the Bulletin as from the date of the Annual General Meeting in April, 1985. This means that he will be editing a further five Bulletins after the present one. Mike says that in April, 1985 when he retires from office he will have been the Hon. Editor for twelve years. I would like to thank Mike for being so considerate in giving the Study Circle about eighteen months to find a successor who he is prepared in the meantime to train if necessary, so that no previous editorial experience is required.

Will anyone who would like to apply for the post of Hon. Editor please get in touch with me by letter at 41 Boundary Road, St. John's Wood, London NWS OJE, or telephone me at 01-624 8687.

E.V. Toeg.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

..... To more serious matters, the question of meetings in London. Unfortunately I was not able to be present at the A.G.M. when the matter was raised. Firstly a definite programme should be announced, not in the format three members will present xyz sheets, which it was last year. I notice there is some improvement in this respect for the coming year, but what is the display at the end (or beginning) of the 19th Jan. meeting? And it means studying the members' list to ascertain what Mr. Burke and Mr. Atkinson are likely to show at the next meeting.

For members working in the City, Chancery Lane may be O.K. for meetings, but it is not so easy for people coming in specially to attend the meeting. Some of us have commitments with Local Societies which can cause problems, but if access is easy and the Speaker/Subject is known, then it is pretty obvious where one attends.

The question of meeting on a Saturday is worthy of consideration. It is known that a number of Specialist Societies do so meet. I think some of the Home Counties members would be interested, many of the dealers do trade on a Saturday, and one never knows what may be found at the Arches!! I would suggest every two months, bearing in mind how B.P.E. and Stampex fall. (I notice there is not a meeting this year tying up with B.P.E. which I think is a mistake, not everyone will be at Leamington). I would attend on a Saturday, particularly if the venue be more central.

Mr. Duggleby suggests various side attractions to the main meeting. Auctions, NO. Not if you wish your Annual Auction to continue successfully. By swap shop does he literally mean that, or a small bourse? Something informal for a short period where members can become acquainted, the average collector with the sages and vice versa is to be recommended.

It will be interesting to see in the future what transpires from this.

Mavis O. Bidmead.

BARBADOS

Stimulated by our Editors notes in the last issue offering additions to “Barbados Post Office Markings to 1981”, I list below a few extensions to the date range in the appendix listing the various M2 and M3 date-stamps.

Christchurch	M2 E.K.D. 25.1.73
St. George	M3 without numeral E.K.D. 2(?) .2.89 - L.K.D. 27.2.91
St. John	MS with numeral E.K.D. 19.7.08
St. Joseph	MS Without numeral E.K.D. 9.6.87
St. Andrew	M2 E.K.D. 3.8.83

Charles Freeland

GUYANASOME ASPECTS OF THE GUYANA PROVISIONALS

When the new Gibbons' catalogue came out I eagerly studied the listings of the Guyana provisionals to confirm that I had not missed any issues. I was surprised to find that the catalogue only listed issues up to September, 1982, this for a catalogue appearing nearly a year later, and that many of the stamps I had obtained during the period covered by the catalogue were not listed at all! Since I have many of these missing stamps on commercial covers as well as First Day Covers I am at a loss to explain their absence from the listings.

The catalogue is also rather misleading in parts. For example S.G. 844, 848 and 847 occur in se-tenant strips as do S.G. 845, 846 and 844, According to Gibbons the situation is

S.G. 844 12c on 12c on 6c Patus (5.G. 452)
 5.G. 845 15c on 10c on 6c Patus
 S.G. 846 15c on 30c on 6c Patus
 S.G. 847 15c on 50c on 6c Patus
 S.G. 848 15c on 60c on 6c Patus

with only 845/6 and 847/8 occurring in se-tenant pairs. Gibbons' footnote is therefore only partly true. Similarly the map definitives. S.G. Type 181, were not issued on 17th May but on at least twelve different dates between May 1982 and June 1983.

I could continue at length about other errors and omissions but will confine myself to inviting any interested members to contact me, via the editor, for a four-page listing covering this topic.

These stamps represent my first contact with modern as opposed to pre-WWII material. I am struck by how much easier philatelic research is when done at the time of issue rather than 40-plus years later. Covers and stamps are easier to find and source material such as Post Office Guides are readily obtainable. Why then is research into Guyana virtually, or actually(?) non-existent.

M. P. Nicholson.

BRITISH GUIANA

EAST COAST BERBICE CODE DATESTAMPS 1864-1880

The early code datestamps of British Guiana have been of great interest to postal historians over the years and the Townsend and Howe book has gone into some detail to explain their location, although the East Coast Berbice has still to be understood as to the post office allocation using coded date stamps.

Recently an ECB 3 code postmark has come to light, which now proves that six ECB code marks were issued. After some considerable thought on this matter the following table gives an assumption of what took place in the 1860's and 1870's along the East Coast Berbice and Corentyne Coast.

The 1850 map in the T & H book page 26 is a good place to start as this illustrates that the Berbice PO's were numbered in the opposite direction to those of Demerara. It is reasonable to assume therefore that the same reverse post office numbering scheme operated for the East Coast Berbice in the 1860's and 1870's.

ECB 1/Crown is very likely to have been issued to Skeldon in 1864 as this has the Customs building for this coastline which faces Surinam. The ECB 1/Crown mark may also have been used on customs documents at this time and probably served as a dual purpose mark:

- i) ECB 1 for P.O. cancelling.
- ii) Crown for customs cancelling.

If ECB 2, ECB 3 and ECB 5 were issued in 1871 and ECB 4 and ECB 6 were issued in 1872 to the post offices shown in the table then everything tallies in the statements given for this period. Further, we have to assume that both Fyrish CCB and Wellington Park CCB 1 stayed open until 1877, as the Official Notice only mentions Fyrish being transferred to Nigg in 1877. No doubt an earlier P.O. Notice stated the transfer of Wellington Park to Tarlogy. Note the statement "transferred" in the Official Notice, which implies that Nigg Post Office was already open and not, as the T & H book suggests, that Nigg did not open until 1877.

Michael Rego.

T A B L E

'code' cds recorded	Post Office opening date	CCB Number	Post Office	Earliest 'code' cds	Latest 'code' cds closing date	Post Office closing date	
4	1864	CCB	Fyrish	23.05.1867	10.10.1875	1877	
2	1864	CCB 1	Wellington Park	23.11.186x	24.07.(1876)	1877	
'code' cds recorded	'named' cds rarity	Post Office opening date	ECB Number	Post Office	Earliest 'code' cds	Latest 'code' cds	Earliest 'code' cds
11	C	1872	ECB 6	Nigg	29.09.1873	28.10.1878	19.04.1880
3	HC	1871	ECB 5	Whim	Stamp 1876	06.04.1878	22.09.1880
4	S	1872	ECB 4	Tarlogy	21.03.1874	20.07.1876	12.10.1885
1	S	1871	ECB 3	No. 50 Village	24.08.(1876)	- - -	07.10.1881
12	S	1871	ECB 2	Banab	06.05.1872	Stamp 1878	XX.XX.1881
13	VS	1864	ECB 1 Crown (PO & Customs)	Skeldon	Stamp 1866	Stamp 1878	18.12.1878
New	Fyrish Nigg	Whim	Wellington Park	Tarlogy	No.50 Village	Banab	Skeldon
Amsterdam	CCB	ECB 6	ECB 5	ECB 4	ECB 3	ECB 2	ECB 1/Crown

BRITISH WEST INDIES

WATERMARK VARIETIES

An excellent series - some of the members may like to extend their reading to recent work on D.L.R. printings of Western Australia, some of which have similar patterns to those noted by S.E. Papworth.

Peter Jaffe.

NUMERAL OBLITERATORS AND THE A 91 (further notes*)

While the main theme seems to be correct, I regret some failures. Surely the upright "A 07" (Type 2) is not correctly drawn. As far as I know the only changes that took place in the B.W.I. in 1858 was the supply of U.K. adhesive stamps to the old established packet stations (Trinidad, Barbados and Jamaica carried on "inland" services as before). Two series of "A 02" to "A 15" obliterators were supplied on April 14th and 28th respectively (see Jaffe in G.S.M. in the 50's, and others).

Since it is important to distinguish between combined obliterators and date stamps and single hammers, it would have helped to supply Proof Book dates, and to avoid such statements as "most of the colonies had their Type 1 obliterators replaced" - for example St. Vincent had a fire in 1860 and St. Christopher lost its "A 12" between 1860 and 1870, and the Virgin Islands used "A 13" in the George V. period.

I find it hard to accept that "A 91" jumped ship in Tortola, a recent work on Newfoundland marks made a similar "fancy" on "235", used at St. John's. The only transfer I know of is from a town lost to France in 1871 to Guaquil in Ecuador.

The CAYON series seems to me to be one in which dimensions are essential - a dot or a line under T of St seems a tromp d'oeil, but I await correction.

My only comment on the excellent work of T.V. Roberts is that he has understated the importance of the Naval Agents who were not crew and who may have moved numeral obliterators from ship to ship in person or by proxy (I fear that the discomfort of sorting in limited space - in tropic heat or North Atlantic storms - may have discouraged enthusiasm and perhaps lends colour to the view that "A 92" was shore based at Halifax for much of its life). So far, I know of no mail boat cover sorted in the Indian Ocean, although many have origins east of Suez and the necessity of dividing the U.K. mail from Australia and the East into via Southampton and via Marseille was early recognised.

Peter Jaffe

* See FitzGerald (Bulletin No. 108), Hewlett (Bulletin No. 110), Peart (Bulletin No. 112), Papworth (Bulletin No. 116), Oliver, Roberts and Papworth (Bulletin No. 118).

SHEET MARGIN WATERMARKS

In “Western Australia” published in 1979 by the Western Australia Study Group there is a report that De La Rue used a hand made Crown CC paper without panes from 1864 until replaced by the Turner four pane CC paper used from 1871. The latter is machine made and widely described by philatelic authors. Has any collector of Trinidad, Bahamas (or Natal) - all of which used similar sized stamps and plates to W.A. seen this paper, and in particular the margins. As a collector of St. Lucia, I have understood that De La Rue bought the Crown CC paper up to 1873 (?) after which it was supplied, with a price adjustment.

Peter Jaffe.

SOME THOUGHTS ON MARKET VALUES

Browsing through my scrap-books of articles extracted from philatelic magazines, which I started in 1960, the dealers’ advertisements caught my eye. Struck by the enormous variances in the pricing of their offers over the years, I began to jot down some figures for sets and high-value singles of British West Indian territories from late Queen Victoria to end King George V, plus a few “high-fliers” of King George VI.

As a general collector of British Colonials since the age of eleven (that was back in 1931!), I was well aware of market trends up to the mid-60’s, when my growing interest in postmarks and postal history obliged me (purely for financial reasons) to dispose of my collection of stamps as such. Up to this time prices had remained remarkably stable since the end of the War. This applied to all reigns, especially King George VI, where items over-bought by dealers were still available at or slightly over face-value, collectors’ cash being largely diverted to stamps of the new reign from 1953.

I well remember in about 1960 a mint set of the 1952 Tristan da Cunha overprints on display in a dealer’s window at a fraction over face-value. I saw it on the way to work for many months. Although at that time I was more interested in used material, I did finally buy it! Even the acknowledged King George VI rarities, which rose rapidly on discovery, tended to reduce in value up to the mid-1960’s and subsequently their recovery was relatively slow for a number of years. In fact the 1938 10/- values of Bermuda and Leewards, for example, lost further ground.

Older collectors will recall that the depression in King George VI material following the end of the reign was a repeat of what happened after the death of King George V. I have never forgotten a talk given at a philatelic society meeting by Mr. Gulbenkian, the well-known dealer, then retired. He mentioned that long after issue he sold several hundred surplus mint sets of the Falkland Islands, 1933 Centenary at 35/- (£1.75), and they took a long time to go! Going back even further, the long period of price stagnation in King Edward VII material, at a ridiculously low level in relation to the quantities issued, is well known to longstanding followers of the hobby.

It is hoped that members will find that the economic history of some of their cherished material is of interest. The tabulation prices all items MINT as offered by well-known dealers, except for the June 1979 quotations which are prices realised at an auction by Harmers. The period of 1960-65 is taken as a base to demonstrate relative stability. Subsequent quotations include a percentage increase over the latest available price in the base period. Members holding old copies of philatelic magazines may be able to fill in some gaps - and add more items - but I think that I have unearthed enough figures to establish a trend.

What caused the sudden upsurge in values in 1965/66? While inflation and economic prosperity in the Western world played a part, I think that the major cause was the spread of the "investment" idea, resulting in an ever-increasing acquisition of stamps by relatively wealthy non-collectors purely as means to capital gain. Since the early days of stamps, local "cornering" of issues, notably provisionals, has occurred. But the speculators went in for a quick profit and the market settled down. The market was for collectors who adjusted the scope of their collecting to their financial means. On this basis there was enough material, to go round. Now the better singles and sets began to disappear into the vaults of investors, only returning for a profitable sale - probably to another investor. "Number issued" became the prime consideration for purchase rather than the interest in philatelic study or the mere pleasure derived from a stamp as a miniature work of art.

However much true collectors may regret it, the development was inevitable. Other "antiques", such as coins, paintings and furniture, have followed a similar pattern. Twenty years ago a collector of modest means could aspire to a complete collection of a single B.W.I. territory up to the end of the King George VI era (excluding a few early "primatives" such as British Guiana and Bermuda) with reasonable prospect of success. But his counterpart wishing to start today would probably be inhibited by the cost involved. Put in basic terms, the Barbuda 1922 set at £5 in 1964 represented the quarter of a weekly pay packet of £20 whereas at £215 in 1981 it represented more than two such packets of £100. On the other side of the coin, collectors still holding this type of material purchased up to the late 1960's or even in the early 1970's can be sure that they will not be losers in terms of depreciated currency on eventual sale.

Of the items selected in my tabulation, there are large variations in the rate of price increase. King George V £1 definitives have done well, but the Bermuda 1918 10/- has done even better. The Barbuda 1922 set comes out the winner. It seems that the rate of increase in the type of material listed has slowed since 1979 and in some cases has levelled off. Is this just a temporary lull?

Anthony W. Lewarn.

ANTIGUA

1903-9 ½d/5s. My '63 £10.50 '66 De £12.50 67%.
1921-2 3d/£1 MCA My '60 £8.25, '70 De £34 289%.
Ju '61 £7.50, My '63 £8.75 '66 De £22.50 173%; '70 £23 179%;
1932 Tercentenary Ju '61 £8.25 (1) '78 Se £120 1355%; '79 Ju £170 1961%.

BAHAMAS

1902 £1 July '60 £8 '70 No £47 487%; Ma £65 712%
1920 Peace. My '60 £1.50; My '63
£1.52; De '65 £1.60 1982 £24 1400%
1926 £1 My '60 £5; Apl '61 £4.50 '66 De £14 10%; '70 £27.50 307%;
corner plate no.; My '63 £6.75 '73 £26 285%.
1930 Tercent. My '60 £4; Ju '61 '70 De £685%; '76 No £22 577%;
£3; De '65 £3.25 '78 Se £37.50 1054%; '81 Mr £100 2977%.
1942 Landfall De '60 £1.92; My '61 '70 No £4 33%; '81 Ma £32.50 983%,
£2; No '63 £1.87; Se '64 £3
1948 Eleuthera My '60 £4.50; De '70 No £6 118%; '81 Ma £35 1173%.
'60 £3.25; My '61 £2.75

BARBADOS

1886 5/- My '63 £8; Se '63 £6.50 '70 De £27 315%; '81 Se £75 1054%.
1912 ¼d/5s. My '63 £8.25 '70 No £17 106%; '73 Ma £15.50 88%;
'79 Ju £55 567%; '81 £40 384%;
'82 £85 930%.

BARBUDA

1922 ½d/5s. Apl '61 £4.50; My '61 69 Se £28 460%; '70 No £32 540%;
£5.75; My '63 £7.50; Fe '64 £5 '71 Se £25 400%; '73 Ma £29 480%;
'81 Ma £215 4200%.

BERMUDA

1918 10s. My '61 £2.50; My '63 '80 Fe £65 1900%; '82 £135 4054%.
£3.25, Oc '64 £3.25
1918 £1 My '61 £4 '69 Au £24 500%; '70 No £24 500%.
1920 1st Terc. My '61 £4.25; '70 No £671%; '73 Ma £15.25 154%;
Oc '64 £3.50; De '65 £6 '78 £30 767%; '79 Ju £31 417%;
'80 De £50 1328%,
1921 2nd Terc. My '61 £4.25; '70 No £671%; '73 Ma £15.25 154%;
Oc '64 £3.50; De '65 £6 '79 Ju £31 417%.
1932 12/6 My '63 £5.25; Oc '64 '66 De £17 209%; '69 Au £25 355%;
£5.50 '70 No £16.50 200%.
1938 10s. Ju '60 £12; My '63 £11 '69 Au £10; '70 No £11 0%.
1938 £1 Ju '60 £6; Oct '64 £4.50 '70 No £12 167%; '73 Ma £14 211%.
1949 12/6 (lemon) Fe '64 £9 '68 My £48 433%; '69 Au £50 456%;
'70 No £58 544%; '73 Ma £62 589%.

B. GUIANA

1905 \$2.40 Fe '64 £7 '68 My £32 357%; '73 Ma £42.50 507%;
'79 Ju £100 1329%.
1931 Centenary Ap '61 £1.60 '70 No £5 206%.

B. HONDURAS

1913 \$5 Fe '64 £6 '69 No £25 317%.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

1901-3 ½d/1s. Oc '60 £3.62; Se '64
£3.75 '70 My £7 87%.
1907 ½d on 5s. Ap '61 £12 '67 Oc £25 108%; '79 Ju £150 1150%.
1907 1d on 5s. Ap '61 £8.50 '76 No £50 488%.
1908 2½d on 4d Ap '61 £47.50 '62 '67 My £175 265%; '79 Ju £1100 2192%.
£48
1908 10s. Ap '61 £5; Se '64 £7 '69 Fe £30 329%; '76 No £60 757%.
1932 Centenary Oc '60 £18 '66 De £46 156%; '67 De £48 167%;
'69 No £55 206%; '71 Ja £45 150%;
'76 No £90 409%; '79 Ju £400 2122%;
'82 My £250 1289%.
1935 ½d/10s. Oc '60 £5.50; Ju '61 '66 Do £12 167%; '70 No £14 211%;
£4.50 '79 Ju £135 2900%; '81 De £100 2122%.
1907 5s. Se '64 £5 '68 My £28 460%; '79 Ju £140 2700%.

DOMINICA

1923 £1 Ja '63 £4.50 (2) '70 De £35 678%; '79 Ju £185 4011%;
'82 £155 3344%.

GRENADA

1906 10s. Ja '64 £11.50 '66 De £21 83%; '69 Se £36 213%;
'70 Se £37.50 226%.
1908 10s. Ja '64 £5 '79 £100 1900%.
1943 10s. perf. 12 No '62 £21; '69 Au £20 25% '70 De £30 88%.
'63 £16
1950 2½d perf 12½ x 13½ Se '68 '80 No £1800 1285%.
taken as base £130

JAMAICA

1920 10s. MCA Oc '60 £2.25; '70 No £5 54%.
Oc '65 £3.25

LEEWARD ISLANDS

1897 Sexagenary Ju '60 £30 '66 De £36 29%; '71 Ja £55 83%.
1902 ½d/5s. Au '61 £3.37 '78 Se £32.50 864%.
1928 £1 Ma '61 £4.25; Au '61 £6 '70 No £17 183%; '80 Ma £215 3483%.
1938 10s. Se '63 £7.75 '70 No £6 minus.
1938 £1 Fe '64 £8 '69 Au £15 87%; '70 No £15 87%.

MONTSERRAT

1903-8 ½d/5s. De '60 £11; Ju '61
£11 '79 Ju £48 336%.
1908-13 ½d/5s. Au '61 £5.87 '79 Ju £67.50 1050%.
1916-23 ½d/5a. MCA Ju '61 £4.25 '78 Se £32 1015%.
1914 5s. Do '60 £5.50; Ju '61 '70 No £14 154%; '79 Ju £50 809%.
£5.25; No '62 £5.50
1932 Terc. De '60 £11.50; Ju '61 '70 No £30 161%; '74 Ma £32 178%.
£10; Ja '63 £11.50

ST. KITIS-NEVIS

1903 ½d/5s. De '62 £4.50 '76 No £38 744%.
1905-18 ½d/5s. Ju '61 £2 '80 Ju £25 1150%.
1922 £1 De '62 £10 '68 Au £32 220%; '69 De £37.50 275%.
1923 Terc. '62 £52.50 (3) '70 Se £245 367%; '76 Ap £345 557%;
'81 Ju £1400 2567%.

ST. LUCIA

1936 ½d/10s. Ju '61 £2.87 '69 De £6.50 126%; '70 De £5.50 92%;
'78 Se £52.50 1135%.

ST. VINCENT

1928 £1 Ja '63 £4 '82 £120 2900%.

TOBAGO

1879 £1 '63 £250 (4) '68 My £625 150%; '79 Ju £1550 520%.

VIRGIN ISLANDS

1904 ½d/5s. No '61 £4.50 '79 Ju £42 822%.

In Bulletin No. 109 I quoted the following offers by dealers made in July 1939 or current auction realisations:
(1) £3.70. (2) £1.50. (3) £16. (4) £25.

I have a copy of the 1860 adhesive - watermark pineapple - SG.1 unused with manuscript SPECIMEN diagonally and a straight edge on the right. Can any reader tell me it all values of this set were so treated. I also have the Four Pence SG.4 overprinted SPECIMEN horizontally in black, letters 2½mm. high by 15mm. long. The stamp is imperf with large margins top and bottom. Any information would be appreciated.

Bryan E. Johnson.

ST. CHRISTOPHER

CIRCULAR KILLER AWJY 7

I am sure the letters are AMJY not AWJY. The circular date stamp - with three lines of type (code letter month and day - year in two figures) was converted into a killer (to replace two lost A 12's supplied by G.P.O. London in April 1858). Either this

instrument - or a similar one later came with the middle line only. I have never been able to read the three bar stage.

Peter Jaffe.

ST. LUCIA

ST AIRMAILS OF ST. LUCIA

In connection with these first St. Lucia Airmail flights, i.e. the Lindbergh flights of September 1929, San Juan - Paramaribo and return, I have a query which I would be grateful if any member could answer. The question is with regard to some covers of the return flight, 25-26 September, St. Lucia to The Dominican Republic and Haiti.

On this flight Paramaribo to San Juan, covers addressed to places beyond San Juan should have been unloaded at San Juan and then taken via the existing Air Service to Miami, calling at The Dominican Republic, Haiti and Cuba on the way. The American Air Mail Catalogue gives the arrival dates of letters to these countries, carried on this flight, as 29th September. My own cover from St. Lucia to Cuba confirms this, as it is back stamped San Juan 7 p.m. September 26th and Havana, Cuba 6 p.m. September 29th. However, my other covers, two to The Dominican Republic and one to Haiti, are all back stamped Saint Thomas V.I., 4 p.m. September 26th and with the former back stamped Santo Dominica, October 1st and the latter Port au Prince, Haiti, October 1st. This would seem to indicate that they were unloaded by mistake at Saint Thomas instead of San Juan and in which case they would not have caught the connecting flight San Juan to Miami.

Do any members know if there are any covers from St. Lucia to the Dominican Republic or Haiti which did catch the connecting flight from San Juan, resulting in the covers being back stamped on arrival at these places with the September 29th date? Conversely, would members possessing covers from St. Lucia to the Dominican Republic or Haiti confirm that they are back stamped Saint Thomas V.I., September 26th, and either Santo Dominica or Haiti October 1st.

T. A. Hutson.

TRINIDAD

A COLONY OF DISTINCTION

And why ought the date 24th April, 1847 to be engraved in many philatelist's mind: Simply because on this day David Bryce, the owner of the steamer 'Lady McCloud', put into use his special labels at five cents each to prepay his charges for carrying letters between Port of Spain and San Fernando. Maybe David Bryce did not realise at the time that he would go down in philatelic history books as being responsible for the first adhesive stamp to be issued in a British Colony. The famous 'Post Office' Mauritius followed on the 21st September of that year, and the equally famous Postmasters' Stamps of Bermuda appeared in 1848.

Now to a large number of collectors the above will be the only claim that Trinidad can make for notoriety. But let me hasten to add that that would be wide of the mark. Some words of explanation are necessary.

After protracted negotiations over a period of four years between Lord Harris, the Governor of Trinidad, and the Colonial Office, the stamps that had been printed by Perkins Bacon were used to inaugurate the inland posts of the Island on the 14th August, 1851. Trinidad thus became the first British Colony to use stamps prepared by the above Printers. There followed Nova Scotia (1.9.1851) New Brunswick (5.9.1851) and Barbados (15.4.1852). Readers please chalk up the second “first”!

Charles Petit. Know him? Well you should; for not only was he a skilled lithographer in Trinidad, but was given the job of producing its provisional lithographic issue commencing in September, 1852. The stamps were needed because of a temporary shortage of the Perkins Bacon ones. I can find no reference in the literature of any colony producing provisional stamps (other than by overprinting), and so once again Trinidad scores another “first”.

Although Natal can lay claim to be the first British Colony to have perforated stamps (as distinct from roulette), these were done at Somerset House by the Board of Inland Revenue on behalf of Perkins Bacon. However, the first colony to have stamps perforated by Perkins Bacon themselves was (yes, you have guessed it!) - Trinidad. The perforated stamps were put on sale in September, 1859, and Trinidad gained its fourth “first”.

Without going in to details of the loss of the printing contract by Perkins Bacon, suffice it to say that De La Rue were instructed to commence their printing using the same Perkins Bacon plates. The first stamps to be printed by De La Rue by this method were for Trinidad in 1862, and probably towards the end of June of that year, at least they were invoiced on 15th May, 1862. “How about that” coining the phrase of a well known T.V. personality. Anyway, that was the fifth “first”.

In 1863, Trinidad stamps printed on crown “CC” were issued along with those for Bahamas, Hong Kong, Malta, Mauritius, St. Helena and St. Lucia. I have been unable to establish the exact dates of issue for each colony, so I’ll be content to register a joint first place - Trinidad’s sixth.

The need for a 5/- stamp became apparent, and in 1869, one was issued to Trinidad, and thus the colony became the first one to have such a stamp; and so gained another first, its seventh.

1882 appears to be the year in which several colonies were issued stamps printed on brown “CA” paper. Trinidad was one of them. However, I don’t know how, but Labuan must come into the reckoning here for that country had an issue in 1879 on this watermarked paper. Nevertheless, there was a difference in that the Labuan stamps were on paper mainly used for long fiscal stamps and therefore not quite on all fours

with the colonies 1882 issues. I would like to say this is another joint “first”, but I am quite prepared to be corrected.

The honour of providing the first occasion on which a British Colony marked, by a special stamp issue, the commemoration of an event in its own history, falls to Trinidad. An initial supply of the commemorative was despatched from England in time for the stamps to be on sale on the 31st July, 1898, the 400th anniversary of Columbus sighting the Trinity Peaks on the south coast of Trinidad. Grenada was hot on the heels with a similar issue on the 13th August of that year, but Trinidad must be awarded another “first”.

Way out ahead by many years (indeed GB not until 1914), Trinidad was the first British Colony to issue Postage Due or “surcharge” stamps as they were originally called. This occurred on the 1st January 1885, and thus the tenth “first” is recorded.

There may be other Trinidad “firsts” of which I am unaware, but even so, there is little wonder why the collecting of Trinidad has been so popular in the past and, indeed, continues to be so today.

Jim Laurence.

BOOK REVIEW

Malcolm Watts recently presented me with a soft back (proof) copy of John J. Challis’ recent work “Turks Islands and Caicos Islands to 1950. This copy will shortly be passed to the Study Circle library.

The book, which is now on sale, is a much grander production than the proof copy, being hardbacked in a maroon leatherette type material with titles in gold block and in a limited edition of 250 numbered copies. Printed on A4 size paper it runs to 118 pages and it is one of the best handbooks that I have seen in a long time.

The author takes us through the postage stamps, postal stationery and postal history of these islands with unerring skill and nothing has been left out. It would take several pages to describe in detail all the subject matter covered and I feel that it needs a more knowledgeable collector of this area to do it full justice.

The book is a most handsome edition that will add lustre to the library of any West Indies collector both in appearance and for the knowledge and information it contains.

Copies are available from Malcolm Watts (See Bulletin advertisement for address) at a cost to non Roses members of £17.65 postpaid to U.K. or the same rate for surface mail to the rest of the world.

Michael Sheppard.

MEMBERS SMALL ADVERTISEMENT

Advertisement rates 5p per word; minimum charge 50p. Copy to the Editor six weeks before publication.

WANTED, CAYMAN ISLANDS SG.38, 38a IN BLOCKS MULTIPLES OR SINGLES, MULTIPLES ON COVER. OFFERS to KEVIN DARCY, 5, Linden Gardens, Bath Avon.

NEWS ROUNDUP

Michael Rego is presently recording the various steamship markings of vessels going to the West Indies with particular reference to

HAPAG LINE (Hamburg - Amerike Co.).
ROYAL MAIL LINE (a Royal Mail Steam Packet Co.).
FRENCH LINE (Compagnie Generale Transatlantique).
P.S.N. Co. (Pacific Line).
BERMUDA LINE (Furness, Withy Co.).
K.N.I.W. & K.N.S.M. (Royal Netherlands Co.).
JAMAICA DIRECT FRUIT LINE United Fruit Co. (U.F. Co.).
Etc. Etc.

The initial intention is to circulate a list of markings from both steamship companies and paquebot p.o. markings of the West Indian towns.

Having established a base to work from results will be published as a series of articles and finally put together as a handbook of "Steamship Marks to the West Indies and Associated P.O. Paquebot Markings".

Would interested members please get in touch with Michael Rego direct.

Once again it is time to remind members that it is now time to start sorting material that they wish to offer for sale in our 1984 Auction. Would intending vendors please send their material to Michael Sheppard as soon as possible and no later than 9th January, 1984. No material will be accepted after the closing date. We strictly enforced this rule last year and we are happy to say that no one was disappointed.

Articles are still urgently needed for the Bulletin and with Summer now over it is to be hoped that members may now find time to sit down and contribute a few pages to the Bulletin. Over the years we have relied very heavily on a few stalwarts to provide copy, but it would be refreshing to see a few more members making a contribution. Queries and theories often stimulate replies - look at "A 91" 1 There is still some mileage in this one yet!

Michael Sheppard.

B.W.I. AUCTION - No. 12.

Material accepted for inclusion in the Auction will be offered for sale on the following terms:

1. All lots may be sold with or without reserve and the seller may participate in the bidding either himself or by an agent.

2. The buyer to be the highest bidder.

3. Wherever possible the description of a lot will include an estimate by the Circle of the price which it is expected to realise, and the lot will not be sold without the consent of the seller at substantially below 75% of estimate.

4. The Auctioneer will be appointed by the Auctions Sub-Committee designated by the Circle to organise the Auction Sale. The bidding shall be under the control and at the sole discretion of the Auctioneer, who shall have power to settle all disputes and to re-open the bidding in the event of dispute. He may withdraw lots or group two or more lots together without assigning a reason.

5. The auctioneer reserves the right to bid on behalf of sellers and prospective buyers but shall not be liable for any errors or omissions in executing instructions to bid.

6. Lots will be sold with all faults, imperfections and errors of description and the Circle cannot be held responsible for the genuineness of any lot or of an individual items therein. Where however the buyer within 14 days after receipt of a lot (or such further time as the Auctions Sub-Committee may allow) satisfies the Auctions Sub-Committee that there is a substantial inaccuracy in the description and returns the lot in unaltered condition, the sale of that lot will be rescinded and the purchase price refunded to the buyer less any costs and expenses incurred by the Circle in connection with the sale.

7. The Circle will have a lien for all charges on all lots sold or unsold. Payment for lots purchased (including collection charges where payment is made in local currency) shall be made by the buyer before delivery, which shall be at the risk of the buyer and shall include cost of postage and registration where sent by post. If the buyer does not pay for any lot within such period as the Auctions Sub-Committee (in their sole discretion) may consider reasonable the lot may be re-sold by the Circle in any manner the Circle see fit and the buyer shall pay the difference between his bid price and the net realisation on re-sale (after deduction of commission and other attendant expenses) but the buyer shall not be entitled to any surplus arising on re-sale. A buyer resident in the dollar area must pay for lots bought either in dollars at the controlled rate of exchange with the addition of 50 cents to cover collection charges or by draft drawn on London.

8. Sale commission charged to the seller will be:

On each lot sold: 10p on the first £1 or lower realisation, thereafter 10%.

On each lot unsold, 10p.

On each lot withdrawn by the seller, sale commission on 75% of estimated value.

On each lot unsold through failing to reach the seller's reserve sale commission on the reserve price.

These conditions apply as between buyer and/or seller and every officer member and agent of the Circle concerned on behalf of the Circle with any aspect of the Auction Sale.

FURTHER INFORMATION

1. All correspondence please to Michael Sheppard at 6 Copsleigh Close, Salfords, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5BH, England, Telephone 91 63936.

2. Do not send any material for sale UNLESS it can be sent as an ordinary letter. For all bulkier items write or telephone Michael Sheppard first to find out whether these can be accepted.

3. Stamps and postal history items are equally welcome but, in the interests of both buyers and sellers, the Sub-Committee will not be accepting material for sale unless it has in their opinion some potential interest to members of the Circle.

4. MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CATALOGUE FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MARCH, 1984 BULLETIN MUST REACH MICHAEL SHEPPARD BY 9th JANUARY, 1984 AT LATEST.

5. The Auctions 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.

6. The Auctions 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.

7. Please *do not* write asking for lots to be sent for viewing by post, as the Auctions Sub-Committee are not equipped to offer this service! However, a "xerox" copy could be sent to you provided that with your request you enclose an S.A.E. together with an additional 28p stamp to cover cost.

NEW MEMBERS

ROBINSON,

Keith Ronald, 71, Beaul Court, Grangemouth,
Stirlingshire, FK3 OJQ.
Interest: Jamaica.

STRAUS, Dr. B,

Interest: B.W.I. Cancellations.

WHITEHOUSE 'Tex' E.M., 1012, Palmer Road, 3, Oxon Hill, MD. 20744, U.S.A.
Interest: Barbados.

RESIGNED

BLAKELY, Robin.

LOACH, J.C.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

CLEMENTS, Dr. R., 11, Llwyn y Grant Terrace, Penylan, Cardiff, CF3 7EW.
FLETCHER, John, 77, Christchurch Close, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3NE.
JOHNSTON, J.R.V., 15, Drummond Road, Headingley, Leeds, LS16 5LB.
RICHARDS, David, Rectory Cottage, Conington Lane, Conington,
Nr. Peterborough, Cambs.

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