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**STUDY CIRCLE**

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JANUARY 27th, 1954

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**BULLETIN No. 157 JUNE 1993**

# BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

Affiliated to the British Philatelic Federation

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Representative:* MARK W. SWETLAND

## 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 , 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 publicise '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 £6 for members residing in the UK or Europe and £8 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 \$14.50 made payable to "MARK W. SWETLAND". 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

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1993

Fri.	8 October 6-30pm	Wine and Cheese Party
Sat.	9 October	Convention

The Regent Hotel, Leamington Spa.

1994

Sat.	26 February	Bonnington Hotel, London.
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**Material is required for future bulletins.**

## **OBITUARY - William Augustus Townsend**

It is with profound regret that I have to inform members that our Vice-President Bill Townsend passed away peacefully in his sleep on 10th February last. Bill was known to very many people in philately in which he was involved for most of his life, and his contribution to the hobby was immense.

He joined the Study Circle in 1957 and shortly after that I met him at a Study Circle meeting held at the Congress in Torquay: from this first meeting there developed a lifelong friendship between us despite the fact that we did not collect the same countries. In April 1964 Bill became a Vice-President of the Study Circle, an office which he held until he passed away. At this period he was also a very considerable force in the local philatelic societies in the Derby area, and in addition he had for some years been a Fellow of The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

In about 1968 Bill and his wife Eve moved from Derby and went to live in Sussex, and while living down South he made a point of attending the Committee meetings of the Study Circle in London.

When I first met him he collected Montenegro and British Guiana but he sold Montenegro soon after the 1960 International Exhibition at the Festival Hall and concentrated full time on British Guiana. In the 1960's Bill's collection of British Guiana expanded rapidly and it achieved Gold Medal status being awarded ultimately the top prize at the International Exhibition held in Mexico before being sold by auction in 1969. In the years thereafter he formed collections of postal history including postal markings covering the whole of the British West Indies and also in particular a specialised collection of St. Lucia.

By the time of Philympia 1970 Bill had become a signatory of The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and the President of The Royal Philatelic Society, London, and it is interesting to note that he once told me that he was the only individual so far from the Provinces to hold the office of President in that Society. 1970 was a wonderful year for Bill as, in conjunction with Fred Howe, "The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana" was published after several years of hard work. Although this handbook is now out of print it is still universally regarded as the definitive work on British Guiana.

As a person Bill was delightful and had a very equable temperament. He also had the priceless ability of being able to discuss numerous subjects

other than philately which made him an exceptionally interesting person to converse with and to know.

Bill could not have achieved what he did without the support of Eve who gave him strength and assistance in his philatelic activities. Eve at one time collected the Pitcairn Islands and also became the first lady Council member of The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Our condolences and sympathy must be extended to Eve, her daughter Susan, and also to Bill's son and daughter and grandchildren in their very sad loss.

Your President attended the funeral at Loughborough as a personal friend and also on behalf of the Study Circle.

Victor Toeg.

## **OBITUARY - Alexander Thomson**

We shall all miss Alex very much indeed. He took an active part in Philately in the area of his home town of Stafford and he was a keen supporter of the Study Circle having become a member in 1970.

Alex's interests were fairly wide in scope but his main collections in the British West Indies consisted of Antigua and also the "Lady Boats".

Apart from the occasional article or note in the Bulletin Alex was a great supporter of the bi-ennial Conventions of the Study Circle. This support of the Conventions was epitomized by a very happy and relaxed photograph with his wife Betty in the Bulletin taken at the 1989 Convention. Our last Convention saw him, in conjunction with Stella Pearse, give a fine display of his Antigua together with an accompanying commentary.

It is very sad indeed that he will not be attending the next Convention and our sympathy goes out to Betty, his daughters and grandchildren in their great sorrow.

Denis Charlesworth attended the funeral on behalf of the Study circle.

Victor Toeg

# MINUTES OF AGM

MINUTES of THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE HELD AT THE BONNINGTON HOTEL, LONDON, ON SATURDAY 24 APRIL 1993 at 2.15 pm.

The meeting was opened by Mr.E Toeg, the President, who extended a warm welcome to the 29 members and three guests present. Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. N Allen, D Charlesworth and J Marriott.

The minutes of the previous meeting on 2 May 1992, as published in the June 1992 Bulletin, were taken as read and with the approval of the meeting were signed by the President.

1. Report by the Hon. Secretary. Mr. Wilson reported that the Study Circle had held two well attended meetings during the previous 12 months, both at STAMPEX in London. Details of the displays had been or would be published in the Bulletin. Proposals for the following year's programme, which would be the 40th anniversary year, would be made later in the meeting.

He also reported on the use of the "Opinion Service", which had been disappointingly low, and on the total numbers of the membership which remained at about 330.

2. Report by the Hon.Editor. (Read in his absence by the Secretary.) Mr. Charlesworth reported that there had been no major problems during the year apart from the difficulty of obtaining sufficient material to fill the Bulletin. He thanked the regular suppliers of material and said that any bits of news would be most welcome.
3. Report by the Hon.Treasurer. Mr. May, making his first report as Treasurer, began by thanking Steve Papworth for handing over the books in good order. During the current year the impact of the free year offered to original "term subscribers" will begin to be felt and there would be less income from investments due to falling interest rates. He saw no need to consider raising the annual subscription at present though it had to be acknowledged that the auction is making a considerable contribution to the Circle's annual income. For that he thanked Simon Goldblatt and his helpers on behalf of all the membership. However, he added that consideration may have to be made to raise the dollar subscription rate to take account of the falling rate of exchange of the pound.

The accounts were published in the March 1993 Bulletin.

4. Report by the Hon. Librarian. Mr. Nathan reported that in the year ending December 1992 the library had been used for 13 borrowings of a total of 94 items, considerably less than in 1991.

A number of books and maps have been added to the Circle's stock and these have been listed in the Bulletin. Thanks to Mr. Nottingham the catalogue has been brought up to date and put on computer disc. A master copy of the new Library List has now been made and all home members will receive a copy within the next few months - current insurance limitations restrict the loan of books to those with a UK address. Overseas members will be supplied a copy on request. This should result in greater appreciation in what the Library can offer and lead to more use of the facility to the greater benefits of the membership.

The meeting showed their thanks to Mr. Nottingham for all his work.

5. Report by the Hon. PRO. The Hon PRO reported that advertising in the Bulletin remained at a satisfactory level despite an increase in charges last December.

He stated that he had been asked to form a sub-Committee to explore ways and means by which the Study Circle could take a more active role in commissioning and publishing works of philatelic literature. In 1994, our anniversary year, a number of members have been asked to write articles which will be included in a predominantly BWI issue of Gibbons Stamp Monthly.

6. Report by the Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Toeg reported on a busy year during which there had been three Committee meetings. A number of matters were discussed.

The Committee had agreed to increase the rate paid by advertisers in the Bulletin, as well as agreeing to a modest increase in the price of some literature published by the Study Circle to cover higher postal charges while the cost of binders for the Bulletin were also increased. A change was agreed whereby the number of Trustees of the Building Society Deposit account had been increased from three to five, though the number of signatories required at any one time remained at three.

Mr. Jarvis had undertaken a most comprehensive computerisation study on behalf of the Study Circle. None of the Officers covered by this report at present required his present private equipment replaced and it had been decided to leave the purchase of any computer equipment for the Study Circle until this was necessary. He wished to thank Mr. Jarvis for his hard work on this project.

He mentioned progress on the Dominica Handbook, Volume 1 of which would cover the subject generally to the end of King George V's reign, was nearly ready. The British Philatelic Trust had been approached with a view to granting a loan of 49% of the cost of publication with repayment from sales, but subject to the Trust's approval of the manuscript in the first place.

He referred with regret to the recent death of Bill Townsend, a Vice-President of the Study Circle. He had approached Peter Jaffé, who only last year had been invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, to agree to stand for election as a new Vice-President. Peter had stated that he wished it to be realised that as he lived in Australia it would be only rarely that he could attend our meetings, but if it was agreed by the Committee he would be very honoured to stand.

7. Election of the Officers and Committee.

- a. In proposing the election of Mr. P Jaffé as a Vice-President the President referred to his earlier remarks about Peter's residence in Australia. This was seconded by Mr. Wilson and the proposal was carried without dissent.
- b. The President said that there were no other candidates and that the other Vice-President, Hon Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Librarian and PRO with Messrs. Chard, Goldblatt, Hamilton, Mitton and Sharp were all considered to be re-elected en bloc.

8. Election of the Hon. Auditor. Mr. J A C Farmer was willing to continue to serve and was unanimously re-elected.

9. Programme of Events for 1993/4.

- a. Saturday 9 October 1993 "Anniversary Convention" in Leamington Spa.
- b. Saturday 26 February 1994, a one day Meeting immediately before STAMPEX to be held in the Derby Room at the Bonnington Hotel with static displays, a bourse, Members sale table, Opinion Service table, a table for the sale of BWISC publications and a dealer's auction. There would be no charge to members attending. Those attending can make own arrangements in the hotel (or elsewhere if preferred) for lunch, but the Study Circle will organise coffee on arrival.
- c. Sunday 27th/Monday 28th - available for informal "At Home" meetings that members may wish to organise.

- d. Spring STAMPEX 1-6 March. The Study Circle to provide an invited display of approximately 80 frames to cover as far as possible all aspects of BWI philately.
- e. Saturday 23 April. The AGM and annual Auction. To be followed in the evening by a Wine and Cheese Party, also at the Bonnington Hotel. This to be a non-philatelic evening to which wives, girl friends etc. are specifically invited. There would be a nominal charge to those attending.
- f. Saturday 16 October at Autumn STAMPEX. To have a normal meeting during the exhibition at which there will be two invited displays.

The anniversary programme was agreed. Full details will be given in the Bulletin in due course. It was pointed out that car parking was becoming more difficult (and expensive) on a Saturday in the area of the Bonnington Hotel. Discussion took place concerning the desirability of having the AGM on a Sunday instead of Saturday when car parking was easier. About two thirds of those present were in favour. No decision was taken for the future but anyone with strong views on this - one way or another - is asked to let the Secretary know.

- 10. Biennial BWI Convention. The President reported that another weekend Convention would be held in Leamington Spa over the weekend of 9 October 1993 in connection with our 40th anniversary. Details would be in the Bulletin.
- 11. Objects of the Study Circle. It was proposed by Mr. Wilson that the full stop at the end of the first paragraph of the Objects of the Study Circle be deleted with the addition of the following wording: "and the stamps, postal history and markings of all other Caribbean territories during any period they were under British administration or control, and also those British Post Offices which operated in the Caribbean, Central America and South America." This was seconded by Mr. Nathan and passed without dissent.
- 12. British Philatelic Federation. Mr. Farmer, who had been a member of the Steering Group discussing the future of the BPF, gave a short statement concerning the problems facing whatever national body was formed to take over from the BPF, and the reluctance of members of Societies to pay extra for the privilege. A further meeting is to be held on 5 June.
- 13. There being no other business the President thanked the members present for their support and declared the meeting closed.

## STAMPEX - MARCH 1993 DISPLAY

About 25 members and friends gathered in the Orchid room at the Royal Horticultural Halls in London on Saturday the 6th of March. Victor Toeg reported the sad losses of three of our members - Bill Townsend, Ed Addiss and Alex Thomson.

The first of the displays was given by Tim Pearce who gave everyone present an excellent showing of aspects of the stamps and postal history of Grenada. Mr. Pearce began by stating that the origin of this collection was a remark by Peter Jaffé in BWISC Bulletin No. 31, where he described one of the 'tough postmark gathering assignments' as 'the hunt for the parish letter marks (of Grenada) used in the 1861-62 Inland Post on SG.1, 2 and 3'. The display attempted to chart these postmarks from 1861 to their latest use in 1907 on the Badge of the Colony issue. The display was diversified with some of the standard and not-so-standard varieties on the Chalon head and De La Rue first keyplate issues.

The first half of the display was of the Chalon head issues. The first Inland Post opened in October 1861, but there were only 275 British European residents on the island, likely to take advantage of it, so it is hardly surprising that it ran at a loss and closed at the end of 1862. All the parish letter marks, excluding G which was only used as a back-stamp at this stage, were shown on the first 1d and 6d issues, but not on SG 2, the second consignment of unwatermarked 1d stamps, which were perhaps not sent out to all the parishes during the operation of the Inland Post. Only B and F were shown on SG 2.

On the second issue, on small star watermarked paper, the parish marks were shown mainly on the last consignment sent out, the so-called 6d vermilion, though all the shades of this issue were shown, including a rare vertical pair of the difficult SG 8, the 6d dull rose red. The sideways watermark was shown in the other shades, indicating that this is no automatic guide to the rare shade.

When the Inland Post was re-opened in 1872, the letter marks become a little easier to find and were shown fully, including G, on the 1d and 6d issues of 1873-4, and then on the remaining Chalon head issues, though E and G remain difficult and the marks become increasingly poor and smudged with use. A missing perf-pin block of SG 14, the perf 14 1d green of 1875 on large star watermarked paper, was shown, and a used copy of the exceedingly difficult SG 15, the Perkins Bacon perf 15 of that issue to

replace spoilages. The so-called curl-on-forehead variety was shown on the 1879 and 1881 1d greens and a full range of the varieties on the 1881 ½d mauve, including the more unusual Bacon and Napier varieties, and an unused copy of the OSTAGE error with watermark upright. A mint copy of the seldom-seen 2½d deep claret was also shown. A selection of the provisional POSTAGE overprints, with a very limited range of the letter marks suggested that these provisionals may not have been sent out to all the parishes.

The second half of the display concentrated on the De La Rue issues of 1883 with the complete set in tête-bêche pairs, both mint and used, the 1d and the 1/- being the most difficult in both states. There then followed multiples of all the values except the shilling to show some of the standard plating varieties identified by Russell Jones in his helpful articles in the Bulletin in 1981-2. An unrecorded frame-break was shown on the 6d value, which is normally free of this type of flaw. The split P in POSTAGE was shown on all values except the 6d on which it does not exist, and also a block of the ½d value showing this flaw on a watermark upright stamp, when its normal position is 33 on the sheet in a watermark inverted row. The first parish letters were shown on the lower values of this issue, and also the rare 20mm GPO circular date stamp which was only used from March 1885 to March 1886. The index letter C, lying on its back, was lost in November, as shown by a copy with the C dated NO 14, and a copy without it dated NO 28.

The focus of the display then changed to the second type of Parish letter cancellation, the single-ring mark, which was introduced in 1886. This was shown on all values, in black mainly, but also in blue for C, D and F in the period from 1889-91. Of special interest was the use of these second cancellers on the 1883 1d value, which ran out in 1886, and is therefore uncommon with these letter marks. Except for G, several copies of each letter were shown dated between 16 MR 86 and 2 SP 86. The E at this stage was sometimes inverted.

The 1886 provisionals on the revenue issues were shown, with the standard varieties. They seem only to have been sent to St Mark's (B), St Patrick's (C), and St Andrew's (D). Inverted A, B and D cancels were also shown at various stages. A and D were inverted in the autumn of 1888, and B rather extensively in 1892, including a confusing period when the year date appears as 29.

An extensive range of the 1888-91 provisionals was shown including the no-stop variety on SG 46 with both upright and inverted watermark. Each

parish, except G, was then represented on cover, mostly of the Myerscough type, including two from the rarer St David's, E, Post Office, both of which had, on the ½d value, the well-known diagonal cut flaw between the ninth and tenth diamonds from the top in the right decorative margin. This is position 31, or Row 6/1, on the sheet, and would have been right at the left hand edge of the forme when the stamps were printed. It only appears on the late printings, after January 1894. It was also shown on the 1883 2½d, and with A and G cancellations on the ½d, as well as several mint copies on the 1887 1d, including a complete sheet. Three sheets of the ½d value were shown two of which had some of the plate flaws but not this one, which only appeared on the third sheet. All the sheets were lower right panes. The survival of this flaw on stamps cancelled E and G does suggest that it may well have been recognised already in its own day. Many of the surviving covers of Grenada do appear to be philatelic.

The display ended by showing how the letter marks gradually ran down and were replaced by village named date-stamps. All the letters were shown on the 1895-9 issues, but C was replaced by St Patrick's by the time of the Columbus anniversary issue in 1898, and that issue does not seem to have been sent to Victoria (B). By the turn of the century, E has gone, and D followed in 1903. All the parish letters had been replaced by 1907. The final sheets showed the new place-name cancels on the Edwardian issues including some of the early sub-post-offices such as Concord, Crochu, Petit Martinique, Snug Corner, Union, Birchgrove, Dunfermline and Hope, and also the rare Parcel Post cancel, and the display concluded with the varieties on the first WAR TAX overprint of 1916, and the shades of the GVI 1938-50 2½d blue, including the scarce perf 12½ x 13½ of 1950.

The display was very well received and a vote of thanks was proposed by Tony Farmer and seconded by Ron Cronin.

The second display was by Mike Rego and will be in a future issue of the Bulletin.

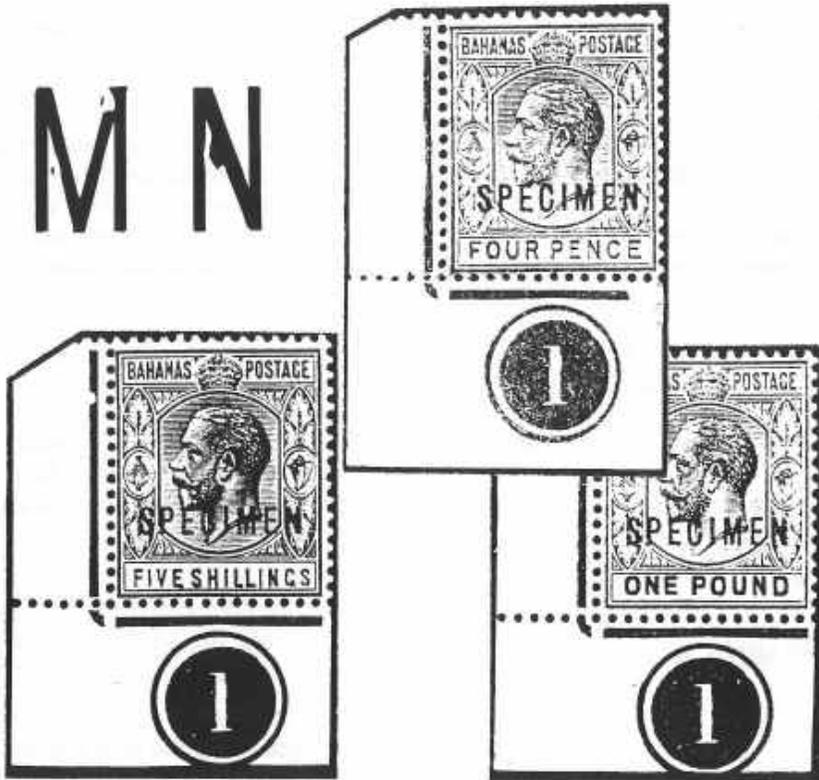
### *ERRATUM – LEEWARDS*

*December 1992 'Bulletin 155 Page 80. In the table after 1926? ½d should read 1½d.*

# BAHAMAS

## Specimen Variety

I have the ½d, 2½d, 4d, 6d, 1/-, 5/- and £1 values of the Bahamas KG.V specimen set of May 1912 that show identical damage to the 'M' and 'N' of 'Specimen', illustrated below. The top RH apex of 'M' is broken whilst the diagonal leg of 'N' has a large 'blob' attached to it. The two black specks on the 'M' are present on all values. Being corner plate number copies these examples can be readily positioned to stamp 55 of the 60 set specimen overprint plate. The only other constant variety I am aware of on the specimen overprint plate is the damaged M' on stamp 41, which is entirely different.



If this is a constant variety then it should feature on the majority of the new KG.V colonial issue of this period. Equally the damage may have occurred much earlier, affecting the Ed.VII issues. Can anyone confirm this variety on other stamps, particularly earlier and later issues?

Peter Fernbank

## **BAHAMAS**

3d War Tax - Sheets of 59!

The first printing of the 3d War Tax purple on yellow in the Queens Staircase design, overprinted in London by De La Rue and despatched on July 8th 1918, consisted of:

2191 sheets 60 set + (378 specimens)  
146 sheets 30 set  
74 sheets 59 set

A note in the Colonial Stamp book (p.178), relating to the sheets of 59, states "One stamp removed from the sheets where the number overlapped the perforations and re-numberer".

The sheets were normally numbered above the last stamp in the top row (R.1/1 2), at the top right hand of the sheet. On 74 sheets the sheet number impression had obviously overlapped on to the stamp itself and been rejected by the inspector. The corner stamp was removed and the sheet renumbered in a different position, probably above the adjacent stamp (above R.1/11).

The stamp removed, 1/12, featured the well known "half extra tree trunk/rifleman" variety. Sheet number copies without these varieties must therefore emanate from the 74 sheets affected. A corner block of three showing the re-numbered sheet and with the missing corner copy would be an interesting piece, but I suspect it would have been rejected by most collectors as having been despoiled! Does anyone possess such a block, or even a single sheet number example without the varieties?

Peter Fernbank

## **DOMINICA**

The Dominica cds Type 'A' illustrated on p.71 of the December 1992 Bulletin. I have never seen it and have no records. If the date reported is Dec.4 1837, it looks very unlikely, as the normal cds (Type 'B') started in the early '30s (my earliest record date is 30 Sept 33 and I have seen several others earlier than the range in the RL Encyclopaedia 1836-57). If however it has a date between 1829 and 1833, it would be more plausible. I have an undated fleuron (LKD, so far as I am aware) despatched on 28 Aug 1829 so there is a gap of four years there to fill before Victor's Type 'B' comes in.

Charles Freeland

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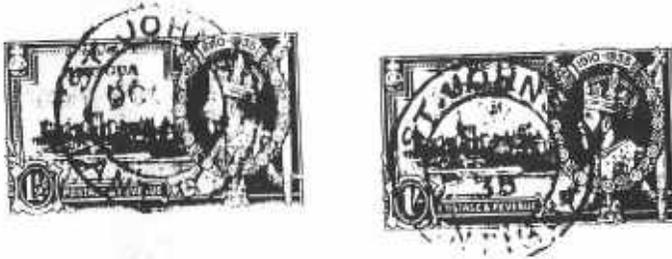
PETER SINGER

# DOMINICA

I have recently acquired a commercial air mail cover from Dominica to Canada. It is franked on its front with Dominica stamps to a face value of 1/9d (presumably the airmail rate to Canada) postmarked by a dumb cancel of 16mm diameter but no date stamp. On the reverse of the cover it is also franked with stamps to the face value of 1/9d. These stamps are a mixture of Antigua and Leeward stamps and are tied to the cover by a ST JOHNS ANTIGUA double ring cds dated 15 Oct 1935.



Front Cancel



Reverse Cancel

My questions are:

- 1) Why the dumb cancel on the front of the cover?
- 2) Why were the extra stamps added to the reverse of the cover?

I find it significant that both sides of the cover carry stamps of exactly the same face value i.e. 1/9d.

Chris May

## **DOMINICA**

With regard to the Type 'A' strike mentioned by me on pages 71 and 72 of Bulletin No.155 December 1992, I have had a response from Charles Freeland who says that he has never seen it and has no record of such a strike.

John Forrest wrote an article on Dominica postal markings on pages 434 to 439 in Postal History International, November 1974 and the Type 'A' strike was illustrated next to the Type 'B' strike - but without giving any information about it. I have been in touch with John Forrest who states that after this length of time he is unable to assist although he did say that he spent much time visiting the Post Office archives when writing the article on Dominica. Immediately after John Forrest's article was published M.V.D. Champness wrote on 24th November 1974 (see page 20 of Postal History International, January 1975) with reference to Type 'A' and Type 'B' that he thought the dates in the two types were transposed as the sans serif types were not issued by G.P.O., London until 1844 or later to supercede the earlier serif datestamps. Whether M.V.D. Champness is correct or not I cannot say, but perhaps someone can assist me on this.

I am presuming for the time being that the Type 'A' strike does exist as illustrated by me and I am hoping that research at Post Office archives will solve the problem.

Victor Toeg

## **GRENADA: Second Inland Post**

Second type Parish Letter CDS (Charlton Type 13)

Michael Hamilton and I have been gradually listing the use of the Parish cancellations of Grenada and it may be some help to publish now the lists of inverted (or reversed) letters of the second cancellations, following the notes in Bulletins 155-6. The copies are mine unless initials are given, as DB (David Ball), MB (Cmdt M. Bilhaud), MH (Michael Hamilton), BEJ (Bryan Johnson) and DW (Dan Walker).

Narrow A

SG No.		SG No.	
42	1? AU 88 (DB)	42	-- AU 88
42	--SP--	42	15 SP 88
32	15 SP 88	40	29 SP 88
40	18 OC 88	40	21 -- 88
32	27 OC 88		

B

Dan Walker notes that this inversion started in 1891, but I know of no dated copies before Jan 1892.

SG No.		SG No.	
32	28 JA 92	40	29 JA 92 (MB)
40	3 FE -- (MB)	40	10? MR 92 (BEJ)
40	16 MR 92	40	-- MR 92
36	21 AP 92 (MB)	32	27? AP 92
34	4 MY 92 (BEJ)	30	13 MY 92 (BEJ)
40	13 MY 92 (DW)	34	1 JU 92 (MH)

At this point the clerk put the year date in the wrong way round so for the next two months it appears as 29.

SG No.		SG No.	
40	17 JU 29	32	21 JU 29
34	26 JU 29 (DB)	32	30 JU 29
30	-- JU 29	31	-- JY 29
40	01 JY 29	30	22 JY 29
32	23 JY 29	40	30 JY 29

The year date seems to have been corrected in August.

SG No.		SG No.	
34	10 AU 92	40	12 AU 92
40	-- AU 92		

The clerks at Victoria do not seem to have mastered the art of loading the date stamp, because the inversion occurs several times again in the life of the canceller.

SG No.		SG No.	
40	23 AU 93	40	21 SP 93 (MH)
40	27 SP 93		
40	-- -- 95	40	-- N0 95
40	09 DE 95		

Dan Walker notes that it occurs again in 1897 and 1898, and I have finally:

	SG No.	SG No.
	58 -- JU 03	
<u>D</u>	SG No.	SG No.
	40 30 AU 88	40 6 SP 88
	31 9 SP 88	40 13 SP 88
	40 29 SP 88	
<u>E</u>	SG No.	SG No.
	31 18 MY 86	30 16 JU 86
	31 2 - AU 86	

The copy illustrated in Bulletin 156 (p.14) appears to be year dated 88, but the rest of the date is off the stamp. Dan Walker notes that this slug was reversed in 1894.

It would be very helpful if anyone who has any examples of these inverted letters with legible dates, could let me know what dates they have.

Tim Pearce

## JAMAICA

On page 16 of the March '93 issue of the Bulletin, Bruce Walker asks for information on the diamond patterned perforations on Jamaican stamps. I believe this was a security measure introduced by the Bank of Nova Scotia. They perforated values of 6d and above. The earliest examples I have are on the 6d Port Royal and the 6d George V "Priestman's River" both sadly undated. The most common value would seem to be the George VI 1/- value. I also have examples of the perforation sideways. Examples exist with fiscal cancellations, so perhaps this was the main reason for the bank's efforts to prevent theft.

Bob Swarbrick

## LEEWARD ISLANDS

In response to John Challis's question in the December 1992 Bulletin No.155, I can only say that I think he will find that Duty Plate flaws occur on the printings of other colonies in broadly similar frequencies as for Leeward Islands.

I base this assumption upon the fact that the printing methods and procedures employed by De La Rue were the same for all Colonies using the Universal Key Plates.

The majority of flaws tend to occur on the Duty Plates mostly at the corners and edges due to the small raised areas making the Plates more susceptible to minor damage during handling.

Of the three examples shown, the defective 'S' on Stamp 8/5 and the bent 'DIS' on Stamp 1/1 are both constant. The small final 'S' is present generally throughout the Edwardian period. A new 1d Duty Plate was made c.1902 when the original engraving of the final 'S' was smaller than the other letters and was not corrected before the leads were produced.

Michael Oliver

## MONTSERRAT

With regard to Chris Barwicks notes in the December 1992 bulletin concerning the Montserrat 1d lilac Revenue stamp.



Some years ago I acquired a copy from an 'old' Commonwealth collection and was interested to find this Revenue stamp amongst it and more interestingly the scarcity of information concerning this issue.

My copy does however have a penned fiscal cancellation of 1/1/91.

Mike Smith

## MONTSERRAT

I have noted in the bulletin how good things come in threes. Third time lucky is a similar hoary chestnut which one encounters in philately.

When I first had the chance to acquire the "Missent to Montserrat" cover illustrated, it was in a sale by the Swiss Auction House Rapp. Even though I attended the sale, I never noticed the cover until later because it was

listed under Trinidad, which I don't collect. The cover was bought by Ritchie Bodily and when next seen had a price tag beyond my reach.



A few years later it came back in a Cavendish auction, this time listed (sensibly) under Montserrat. My solid bid proved insufficient. Then, glory be, it came up in Switzerland again, at a Feldman sale last November. This time, listed under Trinidad, it escaped the eagle eyes of the postal historians and I was able to secure it at considerably less than its original price in the Rapp sale. I pride myself on my patience being rewarded, not I admit without a good measure of luck.

For the record, the cover was mailed to Martinique on 27 November 1875 from Agostini Brothers & Co., Commission Merchants, Port of Spain Trinidad. It bears a 1d scarlet and 4d grey tied with the black cds, with a nice red "Trinidad Paid" cds (Marriott Type P2b, later than the listed LKD). The manuscript markings are a red crayon '4', a black 20s(?). and "Missent to / Montserrat / 4 Decr" in mauve. Altogether very pretty.

Charles Freeland

## **ST. LUCIA - KG.V 3d Plate 5?**

Amongst the various values supplied under requisition 57/17 in July 1917 were 121 sheets of the 3d, recorded in De La Rue's Day book, and further confirmed in their Colonial Stamp book.

At this time Universal keyplates 3, 4 and 5 were current and indeed were in use together over the period September 1915 to October 1918. Plate 5 was used for all 120 set printings during this period, whilst plates 3 and 4 combined were employed solely for 240 set printings for certain colonies, which did not include St. Lucia.

It seems virtually certain that plate 5 must have been employed for this printing, but neither the catalogue of the Royal Collection or Ritchie's 'St. Lucia - A Philatelic History' mention this plate used for this particular value. The Colonial Office Journal of October 1917 lists the 1/- of this requisition, but similarly does not mention the 3d. Can anyone confirm that the 3d does exist printed from plate 5?

Peter Fernbank

## **TURKS ISLANDS - ESSAYS**

Recently Stanley Gibbons in London offered for sale six essays made by De La Rue for three values for the 1894 Universal Keyplate design, additional to the issued 4d and 5d values. Since these essays are not mentioned in Challis' handbook of the Turks and Caicos Islands I feel that for the sake of completeness they should be recorded here.

The three new values proposed were; 1d, 6d and 1/-. Each essay is produced in both monochrome and bicolour, imperforate on unwatermarked gummed paper, as illustrated. The 1d is in carmine and also with the duty plate in violet, the 6d is in yellow brown and also with the duty plate in blue-green. The third value, the 1/-, is in sepia and again the bicolour version has the duty plate in violet.

The duty tablets are handpainted except in the 6d where only Turks Islands is handpainted, the value being printed.

Going back to an earlier auction catalogue I see that a similar lot was then offered. This comprised a sheet with three general keyplate designs and these six universal keyplate essays the whole being dated and initialled on

29th Dec. 1893 and dated again, in red ink, 1.1.94. There was a 1d value of both types, the 6d as described above and a 1/- in both types, the colour being described as chocolate rather than sepia.

As the 5d value was also produced in this essay form and in its issued colours I would think it probable that the 4d value also exists, though I have not seen it. In conclusion I add that, much as I regret it, these items are not in my collection and so I do not write with first hand knowledge.



Michael Wilson

## WHAT VALUE FORGERIES?

On several occasions during the past year my attention has been drawn to lots offered by provincial auctions of the rare varieties of the Leeward Islands 1897 Sexagenary overprint. On further examination these have all been identified as forgeries of the overprint, usually the most common 'Type E' as mentioned in my monograph on this issue.

In particular Lot 1721 from the 17 April sale at Imperial Auctions of Headingley was described as "1897 Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee h/s ½d., 1d.(plate no.2) and 2½d. strips of 3 all with ovpt. double error, u.m. Cat.£10,200 (S.G.) as genuine. Offered 'as is'. Rare even if forgeries (9) EST. £100". Obviously at that estimate value the Auction House considered them forgeries. Therefore I ask **'What value forgeries?'**

I wrote to the Auction House on two counts, and to give them their due they replied! Firstly, because they were the common type of forgery, I thought their estimate of £100 was unreasonably high since technically forgeries are illegal and not worth anything but one has to be realistic and as curiosities they have a value if merely to illustrate the forgery. Secondly, this Type E of the forgery, although common, seems to be increasingly coming on to the market so was the hand stamp of this forged overprint still around?! I asked if this was a single lot from one vendor, or was it part of a larger Leeward Islands collection or was it mixed in with lots from other countries? Their reply stated that this lot came from the general public with other foreign and Commonwealth material.

The catalogues are misleading in that their illustrations of the handstamp used for this issue are not good; and, in fact, Scott is still currently illustrating the overprint with a Type A Forgery!, which we do know was made by Fournier - the only recognised forger to whom we are able to attribute any of the forgeries: two of the nineteen different types known to-date. Of course, I am aware that a new forgery can be produced anytime, but I sincerely hope that none of the other seventeen forgery handstamps are still around. All forgeries of this overprint are solely against philatelists as the basic stamps are genuine.

Tony Farmer

## **HELP WANTED**

We have received a letter from a non member asking for help in gathering information on adhesives of the period 1840-1871. A copy of his letter is printed below.

For the past several years, I have been gathering information on adhesives of the period 1840-1871 with the goal of achieving complete and consistent cataloguing of major varieties worldwide. The American Philatelic Society Research Library have been helpful, but have left many information gaps.

In most cases, the most difficult information to obtain has been dates of issue / earliest known uses, quantities printed / sold of each variety, and number of extant copies / (covers for rarer issues. In some cases, technical data such as perforation / roulette gauge, plate / stone makeup, and printer / engraver are also lacking.

I am also seeking colour photos of all issues of the period and their colour varieties, and of key specimens and covers of the rarer issues. If you have a source of colour photos that could be sent on loan, I would be able to make colour copies. These would be used strictly for my personal library, NOT for publication.

Specifically I am seeking (1) EKUs and quantities printed for all varieties of the Britannias of Trinidad and Barbados; (2) EKUs for all varieties of the issues of Antigua and the Bahamas; (3) quantities printed of all varieties of the issues of Jamaica; (4) EKU5 of all varieties of the Nissen and Parker issues of Nevis (including varieties issued after 1871); (5) background and postal rates for St. Lucia issues; (6) confirmation of EKUs/dates of issue, quantities printed, etc. of all other BWI issues of the period.

Any member that wishes to help with this task please contact direct with Layton Davis (APS Member 161040), 193 Porter's Point Road, Colchester, VT 05446. USA.

## **WATERLOW STUDY CIRCLE**

We have received a letter from the Chairman of the above society publicising their existence. The Circle was formed in 1981 with the aim of investigating aspects of the stamps of all countries printed either by Waterlow & Sons or Waterlow Brothers & Layton. Anyone interested in the printers Waterlow should contact Noel Lyons,

## **MEMBERSHIP LISTING**

### **New Members**

Cox, O.W.N.

Goodwin, L.J.

Horry, D.S.

### **Special Interests**

BER, KGVI (All)  
Malta and Gibraltar  
BAR and BWI

Recess issues KGVI,  
early QEII, late KGV,  
TRO (CA)

Lalievee, T.	Auction Dealer
Maisel, R.	CAY
Pearson, A.	ANT& MON (both AD & PH) & BWI (gen)
Todd, Mrs.J.M.	MON

### **Address Changes**

Belcher, S.J.

Druett, D.

Grist, J.

Neil, N.R.J.

## **THE OPINION SERVICE**

Members are advised that the charge for the use of the Opinion Service is £4-50 per item. It is hoped that members will continue to make use of this Service which provides a valuable "Opinion" from those who may well be an expert in the particular field.

Members who wish to take advantage of this service should first ask the Secretary for a copy of the Study Circle's official Opinion Request Form. This should be returned with the item(s) concerned to the Hon. Secretary enclosing a remittance for the appropriate fee together with a return addressed envelope, stamped additionally for Registered Delivery. Every endeavour will be made to return the item as soon as possible, ideally within 14 days.

All stamps and covers are submitted entirely at the Owner's risk and neither the Study Circle nor any of its Members, either collectively or individually, can be held responsible for the loss or damage of any item.

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