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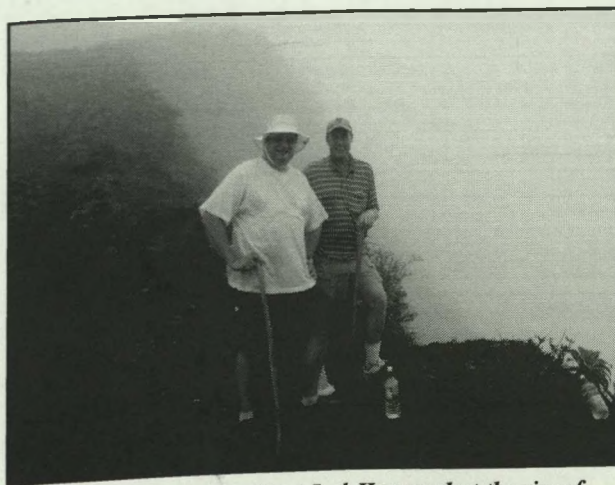


Margaret Ollivierre of SVG Post, Fareeda Kajim (President of SVG club), President Jack Harwood, and Ed Beache (General Manager of SVG Philatelic Bureau) cut the ribbon opening the two-day exhibition.

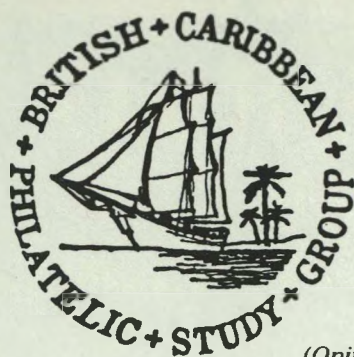
Scenes from St. Vincent



Steven Zirinsky in front of the Questelles (pronounced "ca-TELLS") Post Office.



John Seidl and President Jack Harwood at the rim of La Soufriere volcano.



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More P.C. 23 "Returned to Sender" and other censorship labels and enclosures

By Horst Augustinovic
Of Bermuda

In reading Jerone R. Hart's description of the censored cover with the P.C. 23 label in the last issue of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* (April-June

2007), I was surprised that the major reference works on World War II censorship have not recorded the P.C. 23 label. In collecting Bermuda censored material for the past 35 years or so, I have found two different versions of this label, as well as a smaller version coded P.C. 23a, all printed in green ink on white paper.

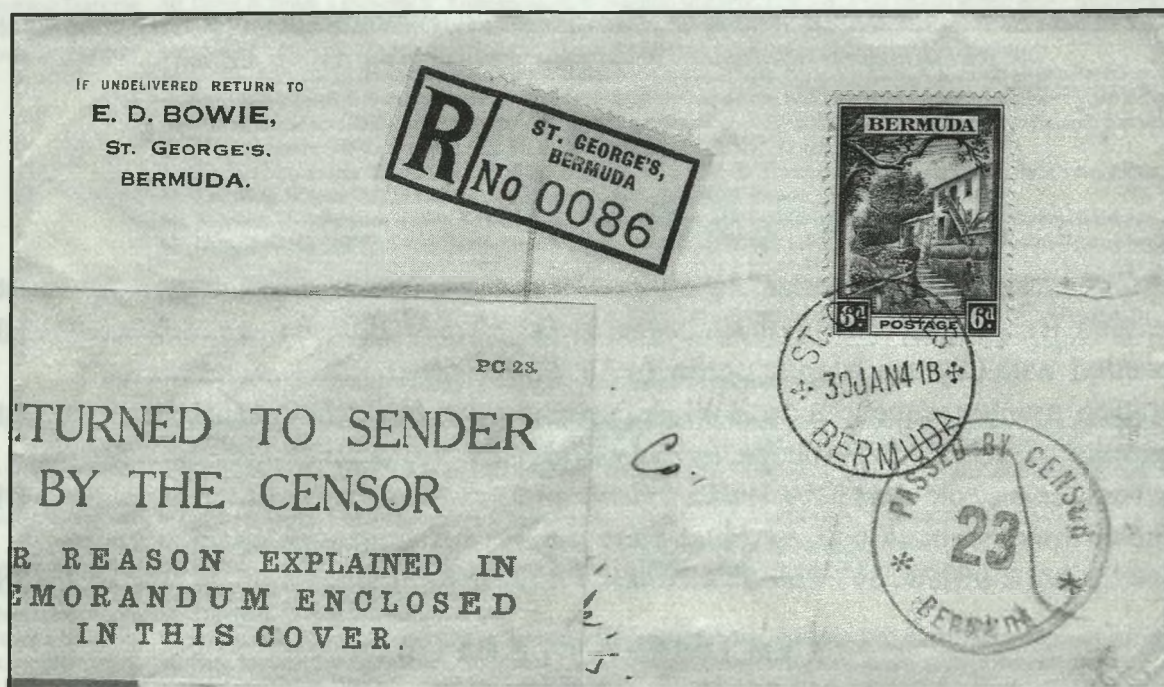


Figure 1

Sent on January 30, 1941 by E.D. Bowie, a stamp dealer in St. George's, this cover probably contained stamps which were sent without obtaining a permit. Unfortunately, the memorandum was not included in the cover.

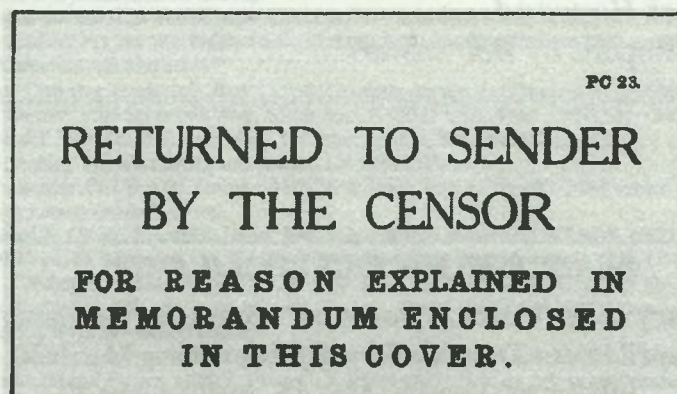


Figure 1a
The full P.C. 23 label

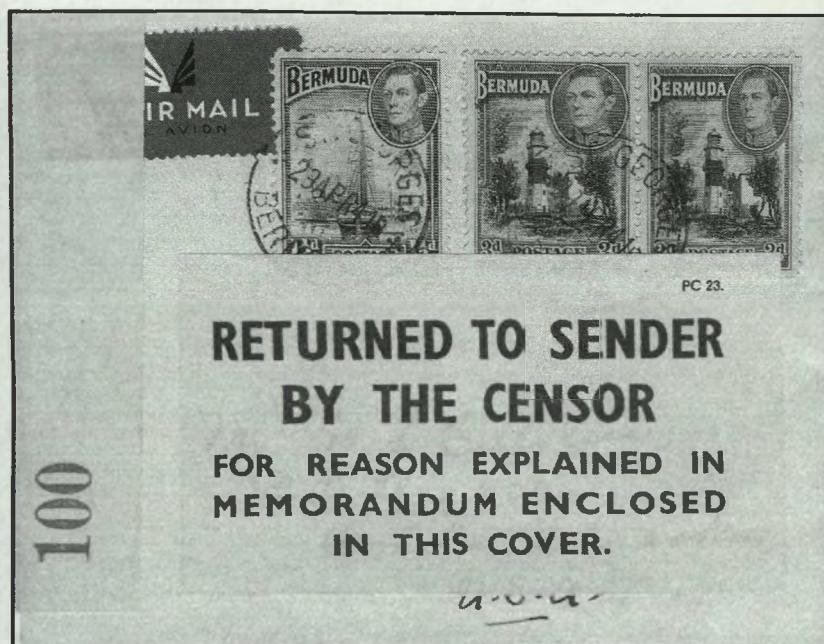


Figure 2

Sent on April 23, 1941 by the well-known stamp collector and dealer, Mrs. Booker, this cover was probably returned for the same reason; however, the PC 23 label is in a different typestyle. The cover was resealed with B.C. 1 tape #100, classified by Morris Ludington as Type CL 4.

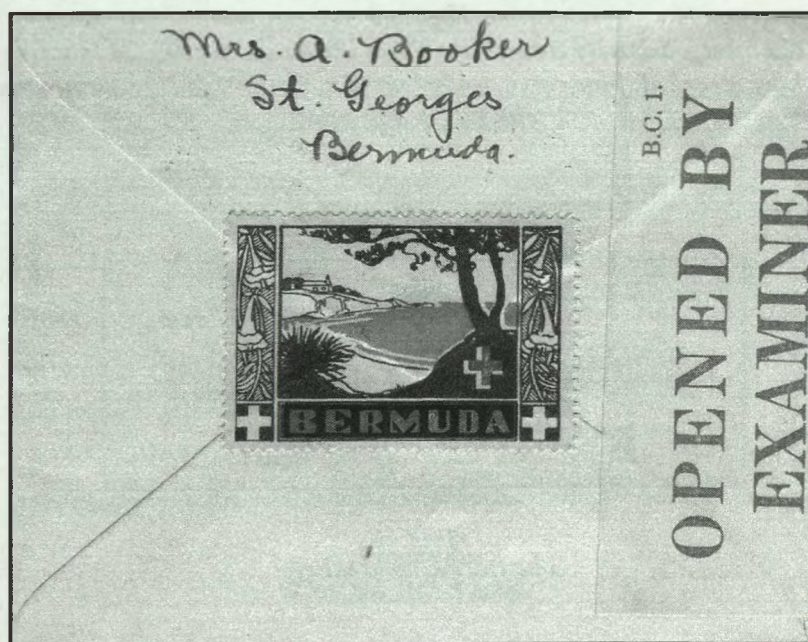


Figure 2a

Reverse side of Figure 2 showing censor's tape and Mrs. Booker's return address and label.

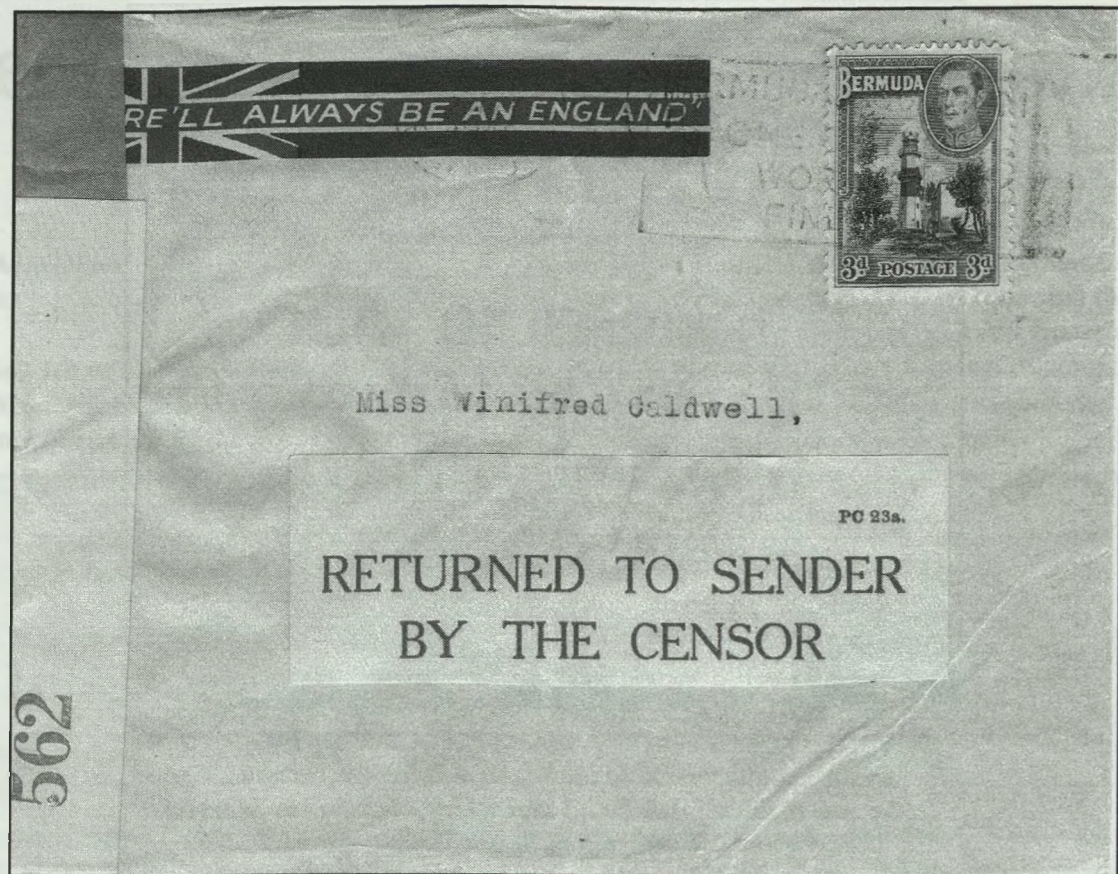


Figure 3

This P.C. 23a label, obviously a smaller version of the earlier P.C. 23 label, is the only example I have recorded. The cover, mailed on May 2, 1941 in Hamilton, was resealed with B.C. 1 tape #562.

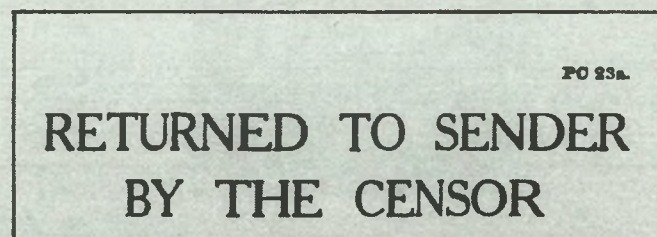


Figure 3a
The full P.C. 23a label.

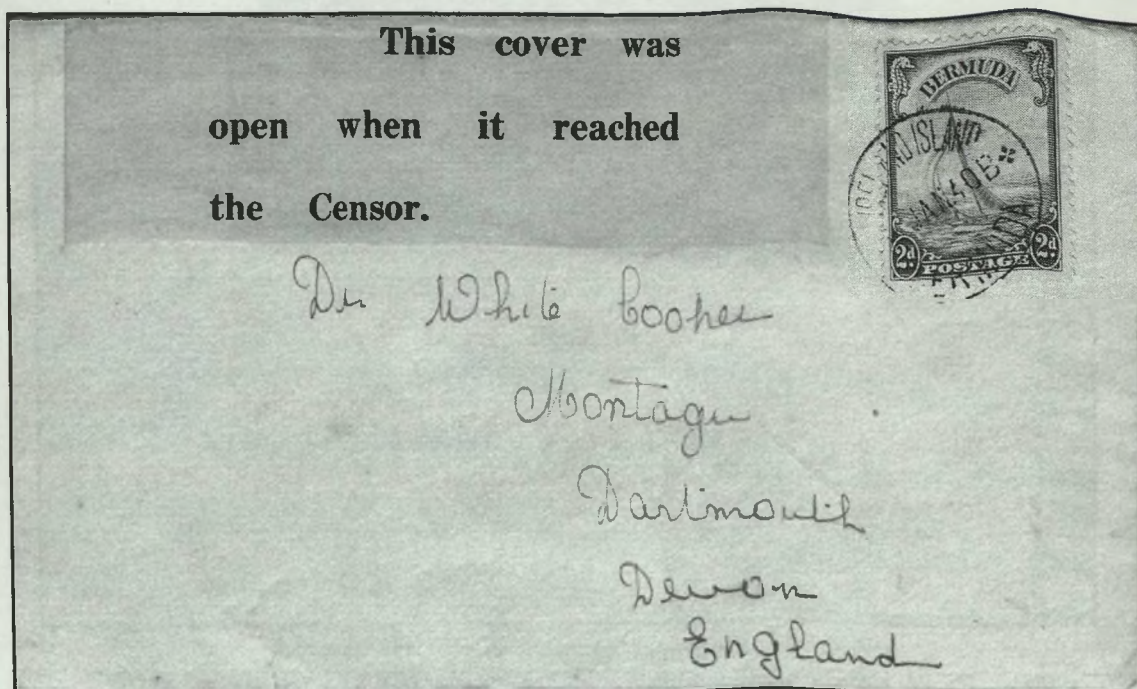


Figure 4

This P.C. 5 label was printed in black ink on yellow paper and applied to this cover mailed in January 1940 at Ireland Island. It was sent by surface mail to England. It is the only example of the P.C. 5 label that I have recorded.

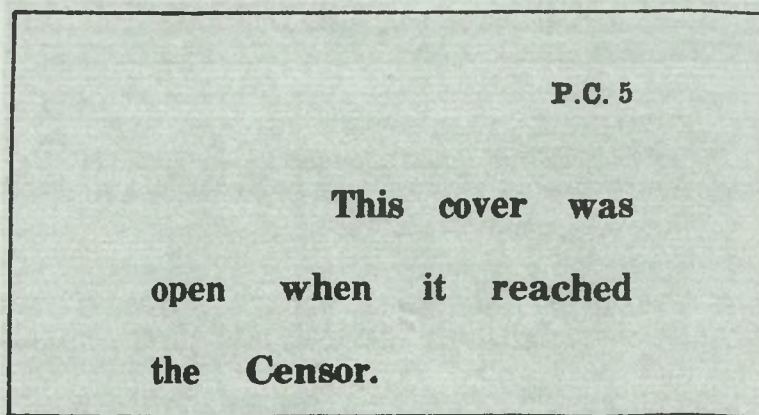


Figure 4a

The full P.C. 5 label.



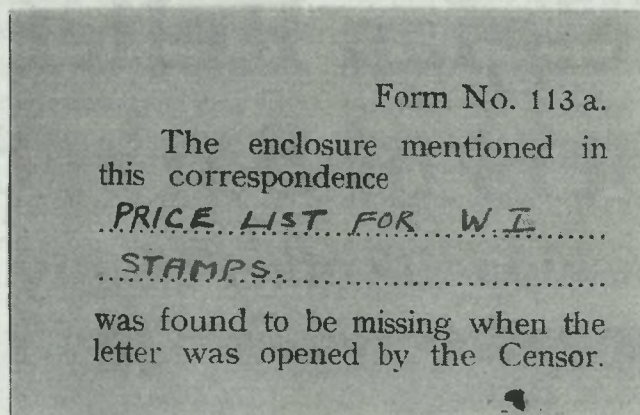
Figure 5

Sent on September 30, 1943 by registered mail from Barbados to Bermuda, this cover contained the Form No. 113a (enclosure shown on next page). It is printed in black ink on green paper. As the cover was censored both in Barbados and Bermuda, it is uncertain where Form No. 113a was enclosed; however, my feeling is that it is of Barbadian origin. Roy Grant, the addressee, was a stamp collector and it is quite likely that the sender was a stamp dealer in Barbados.

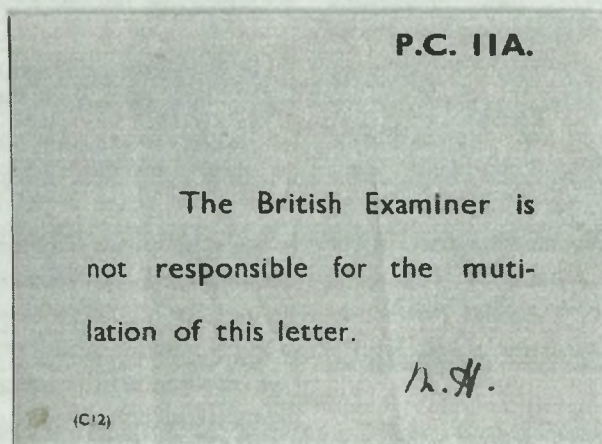


Figure 5a

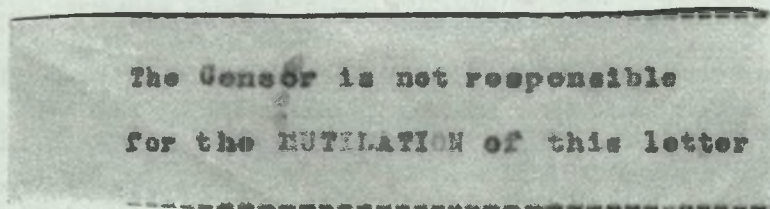
Reverse side of cover shown in Figure 5.

**Figure 5b**

Form 113a was printed in black ink on green paper.

**Figure 6**

On two occasions I have found censorship enclosures relating to mutilated letters in incoming Bermuda mail. P.C. 11A was printed in black ink on white paper, and is self-explanatory. A much cruder and perhaps earlier version is shown below (Figure 6a). It is a carbon copy of an enclosure that was obviously typewritten and cut with scissors.

**Figure 6a**

Likely earlier version of Figure 6

The Belgian Relief Fund Labels of Barbados

Their relationship with other charity labels of the British West Indies and their rarity on covers

By Dr. Eric M. Bateson
Of Australia

I recently came across one of David Druett's Pennymead Catalogues of 1995¹ which contained a Barbados cover with a seal of the colony stamp together with a Belgian Relief Fund label. In the description of the lot, he made the comment that these labels are very rare on covers. I remembered that I had a similar cover in my album containing "back of the book" material. Written on the front of the cover in pencil was the word "scarce," presumably by a previous owner (*Figure 1*). The label was not tied by the cancellation, so I sent it to The Royal Philatelic Society London. Their certificate stated that, "the cover was a genuine use of the charity label despite the lack of tie."

This was one of several labels which followed the outbreak of World War I and the invasion of Belgium by the

German army in 1914. The charity organizations of Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, and Trinidad commissioned the printing of labels in order to raise funds to be forwarded to Britain.^{2,3,4,5} These were for the Red Cross societies and Belgian Relief funds.

As little is known about the Barbados Belgian Relief Fund labels, it is necessary to show their relationship with the Red Cross labels of Trinidad and Grenada, and also the Belgian Relief Fund labels of Grenada.

It has been established that the Red Cross labels of Grenada and Trinidad were printed by Yuilles, Printerie, Chacon Street, Port of Spain.^{6,7} The number of Red Cross labels per sheet of those of Grenada was 10, in rows of five tete-beche in a vertical arrangement (*Figure 2*). The labels were perforated except for the margins so that in each sheet there would be six with one margin and four

Continued on page 11

More P.C. 23 censorship labels and enclosures

Continued from page 9

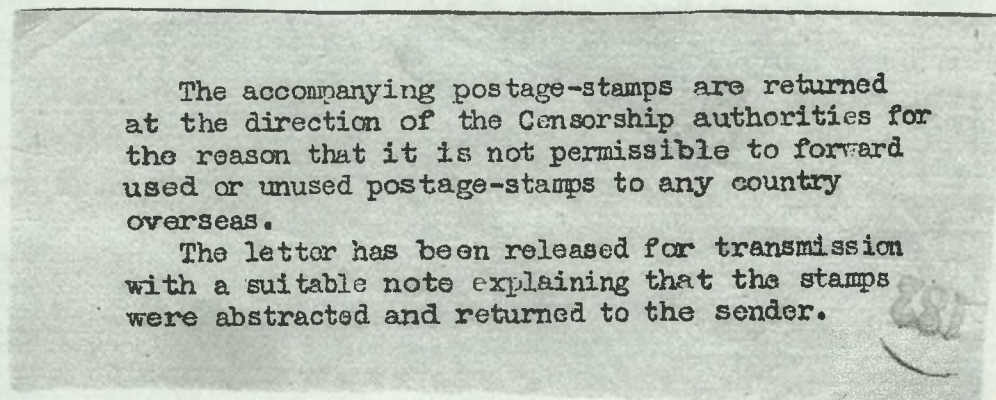


Figure 7

This last enclosure is again connected with postage stamps. It is also typewritten and stamped in purple "182." I discovered this enclosure amongst a group of censored covers and can't be certain if it is of Bermuda origin or not. Any information as to the origin of any of the enclosures shown here would be much appreciated.

with two corner margins imperforate. Sheets of the Belgian Relief Fund labels of Barbados and Grenada do not appear to have survived, but as they are found with one or two imperforate sides, it can be inferred that they were also printed in sheets of 10 in a similar arrangement (*Figure 3*). The perforation of all these labels is 12. The design of these labels also incorporates an external printed frame simulating internal perforations, and they are all un gummed.

The Red Cross labels of Trinidad do not appear to have survived in complete sheets and are only seen on covers (*Figure 4*) with all four sides perforated. Therefore, there must have been more than 10 labels per sheet. Apart from this, those of Grenada and Trinidad show a similarity of design with those of Barbados (*Figure 2* and *Figure 5*). The periphery of all the labels has the name of the island, a value (one fraction or one farthing) and the name of the charity. The later issue of the Red Cross labels of Grenada

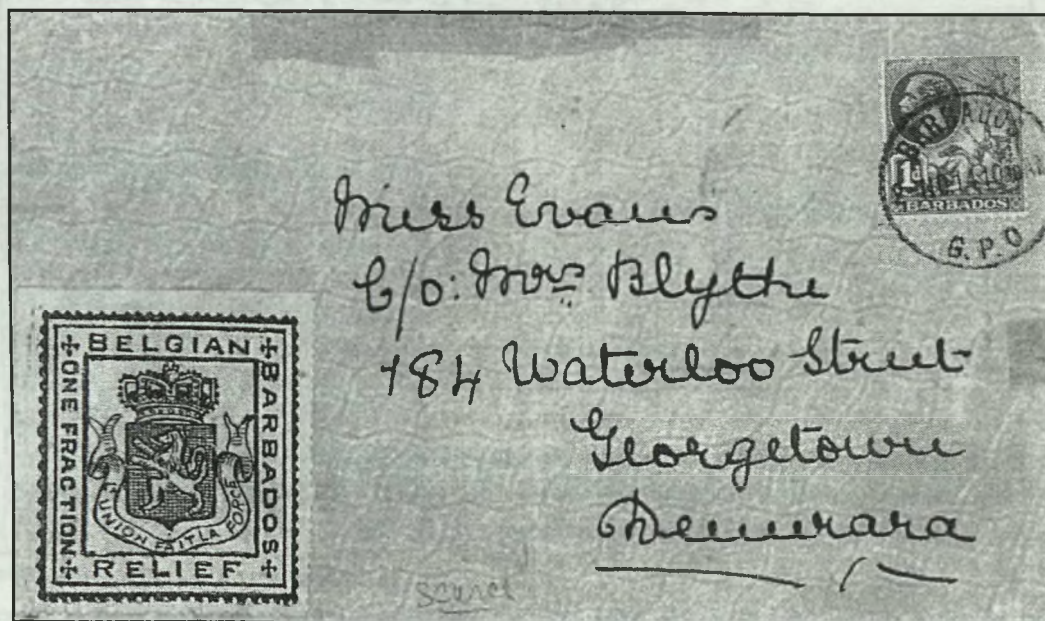


Figure 1

A 1914 Barbados cover bearing a Belgian Relief Fund label.

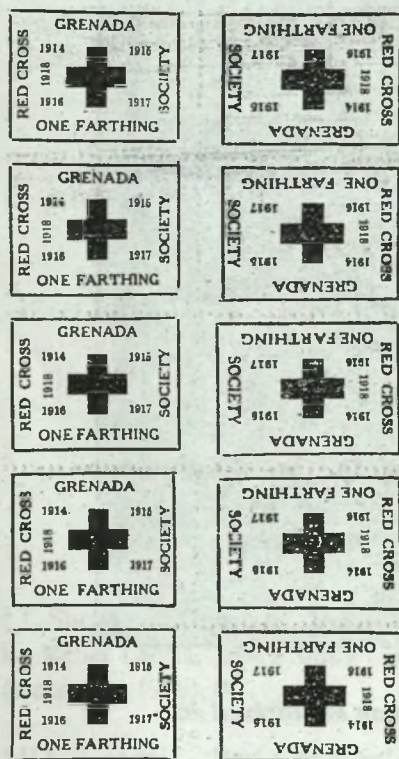


Figure 2
Complete
Grenada Red
Cross sheet of 10
(Fifth series),
showing the
tete-beche
arrangement.

included the dates of the war years. The central motif is either a red cross (Trinidad or Grenada) or an emblem. In the Belgian Relief Fund labels of Barbados, this was the arms of Belgium and beneath this, "Union Fait La Force" ("Union makes for strength"). The motif in the Grenadian labels is the emblem of the Legion d'Honneur with the names of the city "Leige" (scene of the battle) and "Leman" (the commanding general).

The Barbados Belgium Relief Fund labels (like the others) were of little philatelic interest during their years of issue and remain the same now as the same label recently appeared in three consecutive philatelic sales.⁸ They have always been uncommon; a search of hundreds of auction sale catalogues during the past 25 years revealed less than 30 examples. The majority showed one side or two corner sides imperforate, occasionally in pairs, but never in sheets, and were unused. They are less common used, and are particularly rare on covers. Apart from mine, I have only been able to find three more, one in the Pennymead sale,⁹ one illustrated by Bayley,¹⁰ which was the last to be recorded on a cover (December 1917) and

Continued on page 12

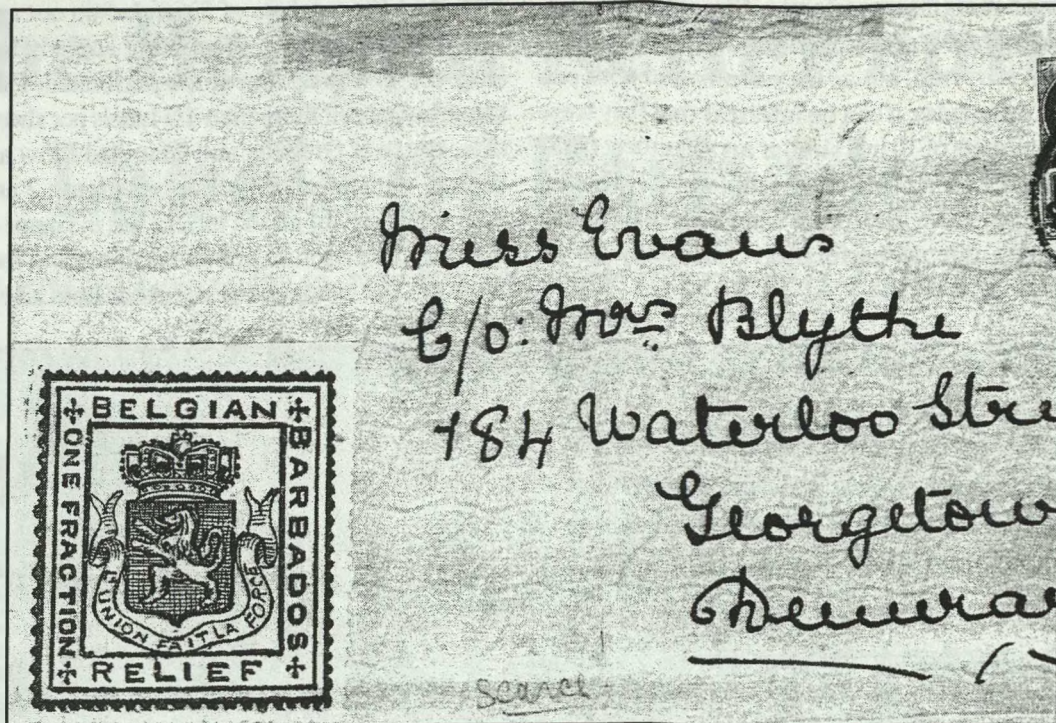


Figure 3

Enlargement of the label in Figure 1, showing two sides imperforate. This establishes it as being from the left-hand top corner of the sheet. Also note the internal printed frame simulating perforations.

one in the B.B.I. Collection.¹¹ Others probably exist, but to my knowledge, have not appeared in the philatelic market. The Belgian Relief Fund labels of Grenada are

uncommon in any state. Four have been observed, one in the Ian Jakes Collection,¹² one in the R.P. Tower Collection,¹³ and two in Shepherd's article.¹⁴ None has been re-

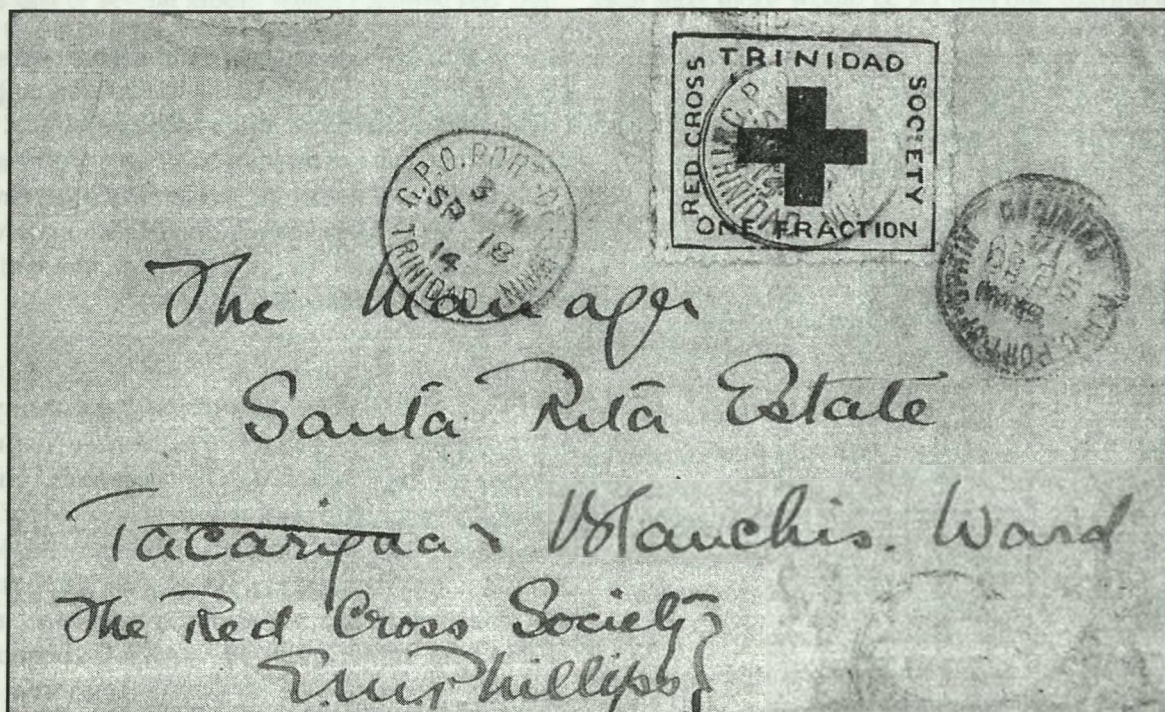


Figure 4

A cover bearing the Trinidad Red Cross label used as postage on an authorized day, April 18, 1914.

corded on covers.

REFERENCES

¹ Pennymead Auction Sale No. 58, United Kingdom (February 1955).

² T. Shepherd, "The Red Cross Letter Seals of Grenada, 1914-1918," *BWI Study Circle Bulletin*, No. 170 (September 1966), 62.



Figure 5

Examples of the Belgian Relief Fund labels of Grenada (above) and Barbados (below). These were provided by kind permission of Ian Jakes from his collection. The Barbados label is black and the Grenadian label is orange and slightly larger.



³ T. Shepherd, "Grenada - Red Cross and Belgian Charity Relief Labels," *BWI Study Circle Bulletin*, No. 171 (December 1966), 84.

⁴ H.L. Goodwin, "Red Cross and Charity Labels of the

British West Indies in World War I," *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, No. 164 (September 1991), 83.

⁵ M.E. Burslem and J. Blackwood Wright, Red Cross Society of Trinidad, letter dated September 11, 1914.

⁶ *Ibid*, Shepherd.

⁷ *Ibid*, Goodwin.

⁸ Sandafayre Quik Bid Sales, United Kingdom (February, May, and November 2005).

⁹ *Ibid*, Pennymead.

¹⁰ E.A. Bayley. *The Stamps of Barbados*. (Willey, St. Michael, Barbados: Coles Printery, Ltd., 1989).

¹¹ I. Jakes, "BBI" Collection. Personal communication (May 2006).

¹² I. Jakes. Personal communication (September 2006).

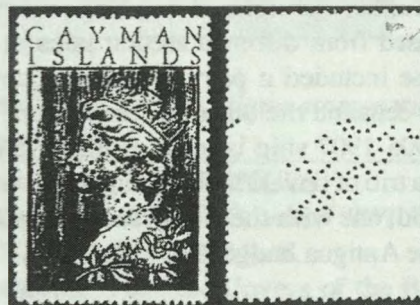
¹³ Phillips Auction Sale (April 1995). R.P. Towers Collection of Grenada Postage Stamps.

ENDNOTE

I am particularly grateful for the information and references sent to me by Ian Jakes, Hon. Librarian, British West Indies Study Circle.

Help needed with Cayman Islands perfin

Dr. Rene Manes is seeking information about what he believes to be a Cayman Islands perfin. He said it might be a fiscal use, but doesn't know for sure.



Anyone with information about the stamp and its use should contact the editor and he will forward it on to Dr. Manes.

Registration number sequences on BWI philatelic covers

By Dr. Eric M. Bateson
Of Australia

I collect pre-George VI stamps of the British West Indies on covers, preferably philatelic, but also non-philatelic. My aim, like most philatelists, is to obtain complete or near complete sets of stamps on covers in one of three ways:

1) A single, often large, cover with all the set or part of the set of stamps.

2) Several covers bearing the set or part set of the stamps.

a) Non-matching envelopes addressed to different providers and cancelled with different dates and usually acquired one by one over a period of time.

b) Matching envelopes addressed to the same provider on identical envelopes with the same date of cancellation and usually acquired as a single entity (*Figure 1*). However, incomplete sets of stamps may also be found on series of matching covers, raising the possibility of "missing" covers with the rest of the sets of the stamps. This phenomenon of missing covers prompted further investigation, and hence the reason for this article.

For some time in my collection, I had a cover addressed to Captain von Francois, a well-known provider with the five cent and 72 cent stamps of the 1889 and 1890 ship issues of British Guiana. I regarded this as a "one off" item. To my surprise in a recent Cavendish sale, there was a perfectly matching cover with the one-cent, two-cent and 96 cent stamps of the same issue (*Figure 2*). This prompted a review of all the matching covers in my collection of which I usually note the date of purchase and found further examples of matching covers which I had purchased from different auction sales at different times. These included a pair of Kinderlen covers, one with the 24 cent and the other with the 96 cent values of the later 1905-1907 ship issues of British Guiana (*Figure 3*) and a trio of covers to Emil Voigt, one with the 2d, 2½d, and 3d, one with the 1/- and the third with the 2/6 stamp of the Antigua badge issue (*Figure 4*).

This raises the possibility that the matching covers shown in Figures 2, 3, and 4 may have originally been part of a larger series bearing other stamps of the same set. If this is correct and as philatelic covers of this era were usually registered, then these numbers become important. Presumably these series of matching covers would have been

registered at the time of cancellation and the registration numbers would be in true order. This is the case with the pair of von Francois which had registration numbers 717 and 718, but not with the Voigt trio which had registration numbers 766, 768 and 770, or the Kinderlen pair, 70919 and 70929.

A similar observation can be made with matching covers with more complete sets of stamps, for example, two trios of covers, the first to Kinderlen with some of the stamps of the 1912 set of George V of British Honduras, registration numbers 14738, 14740, and 14741 (*Figure 5*), and the other to Wilson with most of the 1913 stamps of George V of the Turks & Caicos Islands, registration numbers 1278, 1287, and 1289 (*Figure 6*). Matching covers with complete sets of stamps also show this irregular pattern of registration numbers, as demonstrated in a series of six covers to Kinze with the 1908 stamps of Montserrat, registration numbers 715, 722, 724, 726, 736, and 737 (*Figure 7*).

To explain this irregularity of the registration numbers of matching philatelic covers with complete or partial sets of stamps, then the origin of philatelic covers in general has to be considered. We have to thank the providers of covers who, in the early part of the 20th century, were mainly of German nationality.² These providers ordered stamps from post offices around the world and bought up stocks of withdrawn stamps from The Crown Agents in London.³ They then sent the self-addressed envelopes bearing stamps in sets or part sets from their own stocks or had stamps affixed by the postal administrations, who subsequently cancelled the stamps on the envelopes. The covers so produced would then be returned to the providers and consequently sold on the philatelic market.

The providers would have sent their self-addressed envelopes in various quantities together with sets of stamps from their stocks (or requested from the post offices) to be applied to their envelopes to form several series of identical matching covers. The envelopes forming the sets of matched covers may not have been cancelled in order but just as they came to hand and received the registration numbers in use at that time. If the provider only required a single series of matching covers, then their registration numbers could have been in correct sequence as in Figure 1.

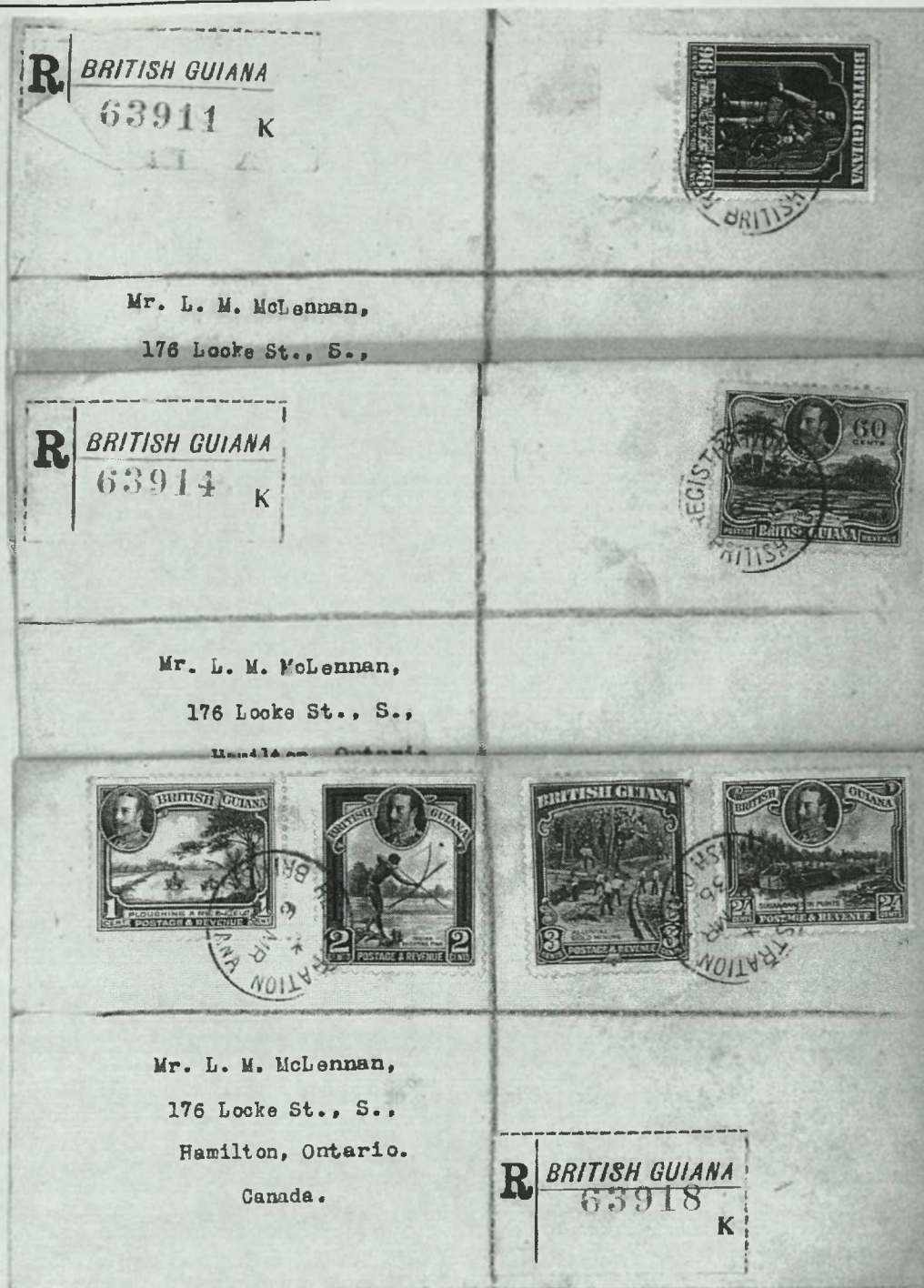


Figure 1

Three of a set of eight matching covers of the 1934 pictorial set of British Guiana stamps with registration numbers in correct order.

Continued from page 14

Matching covers with incomplete sets of stamps can be explained by the passage of time. Some may have been plundered for their cancelled stamps or others locked away in collections. In relation to this, I would be pleased to hear from any collector or dealer who may have covers with the stamps missing from the incomplete series illustrated with this article.

REFERENCES

- ¹ E.M. Bateson, "Stamps on Covers," *BWI Study Circle Bulletin*, No. 200 (March 2004), 8.
- ² E.M. Bateson, "Philatelic Covers of the British West Indies. Providers of the Empire Period (Victoria, Ed VII and George V)," *BWI Study Circle Bulletin*, No. 210 (September 2006), 14.
- ³ R. Brunner, Munich Philatelic Library. Personal Communication (March 2004).

Illustrations continue on pages 16-21

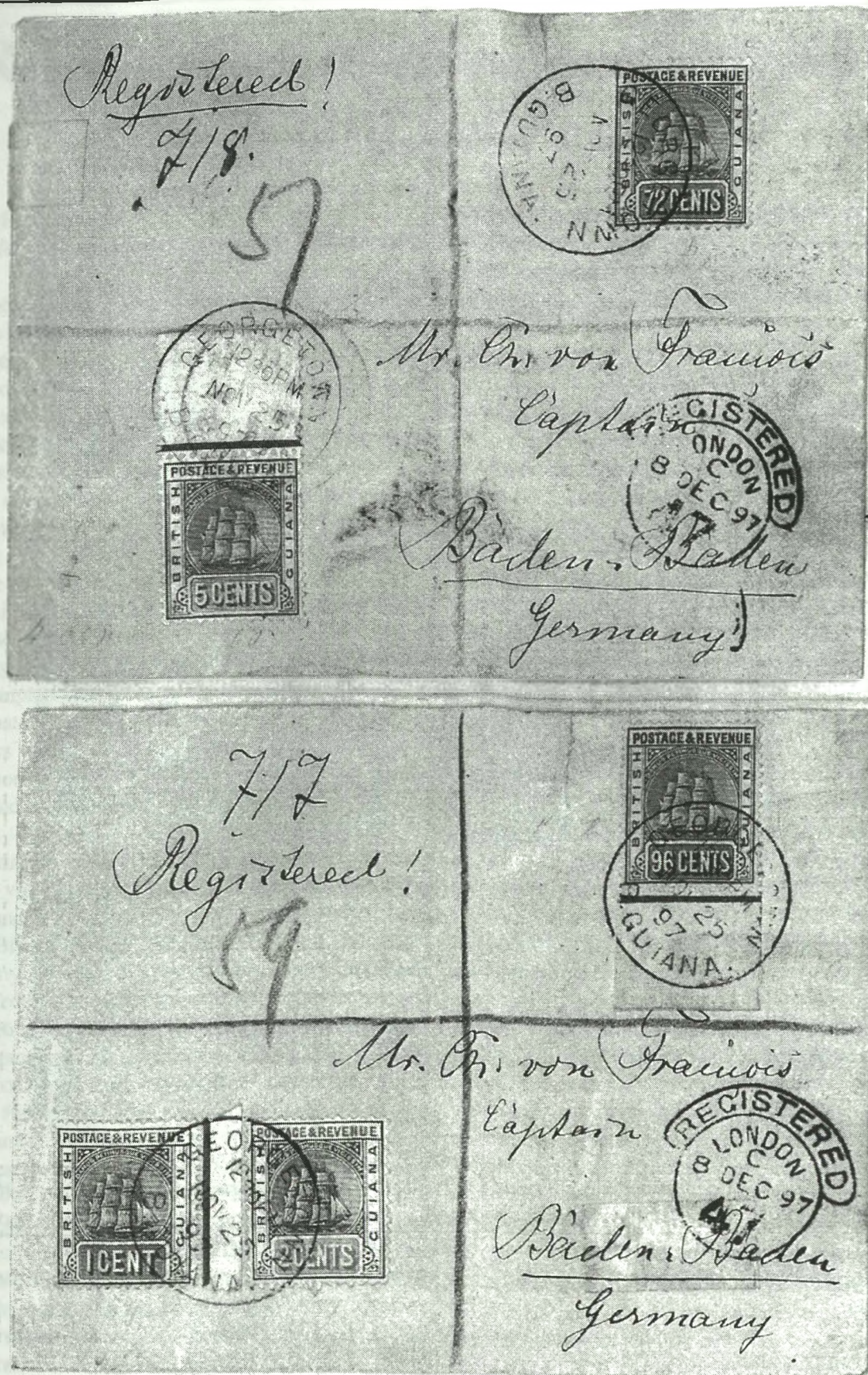


Figure 2

British Guiana 1889 and 1890 ship issue. A pair of matching covers addressed in hand by the provider, cancelled December 8, 1897 with registration numbers 717 and 718.

Covers with other values of the ship issue are missing.

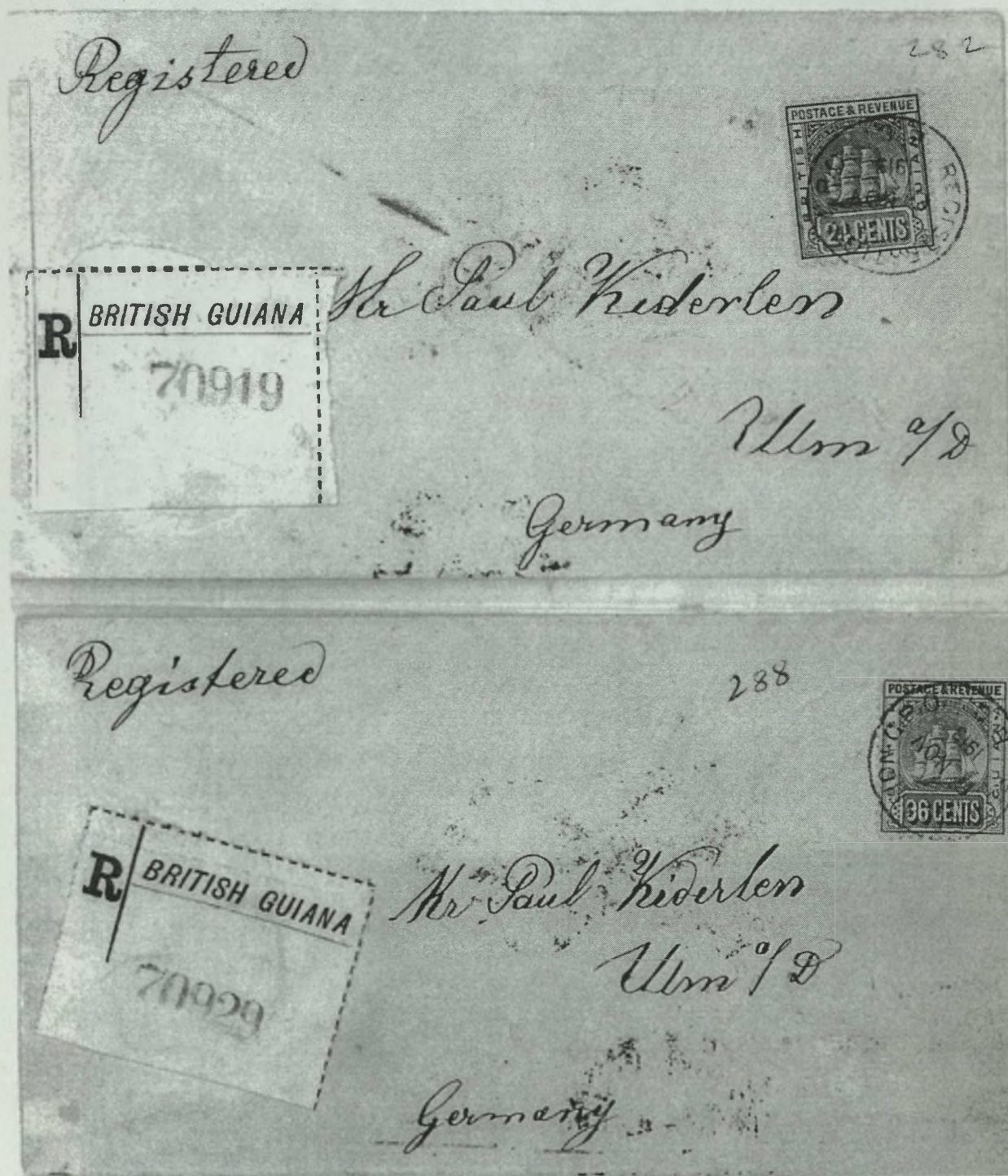


Figure 3

British Guiana 1905 ship issue with a pair of matching philatelic covers cancelled November 17, 1913 with registration numbers 70719 and 70729. Covers with the other values are missing.

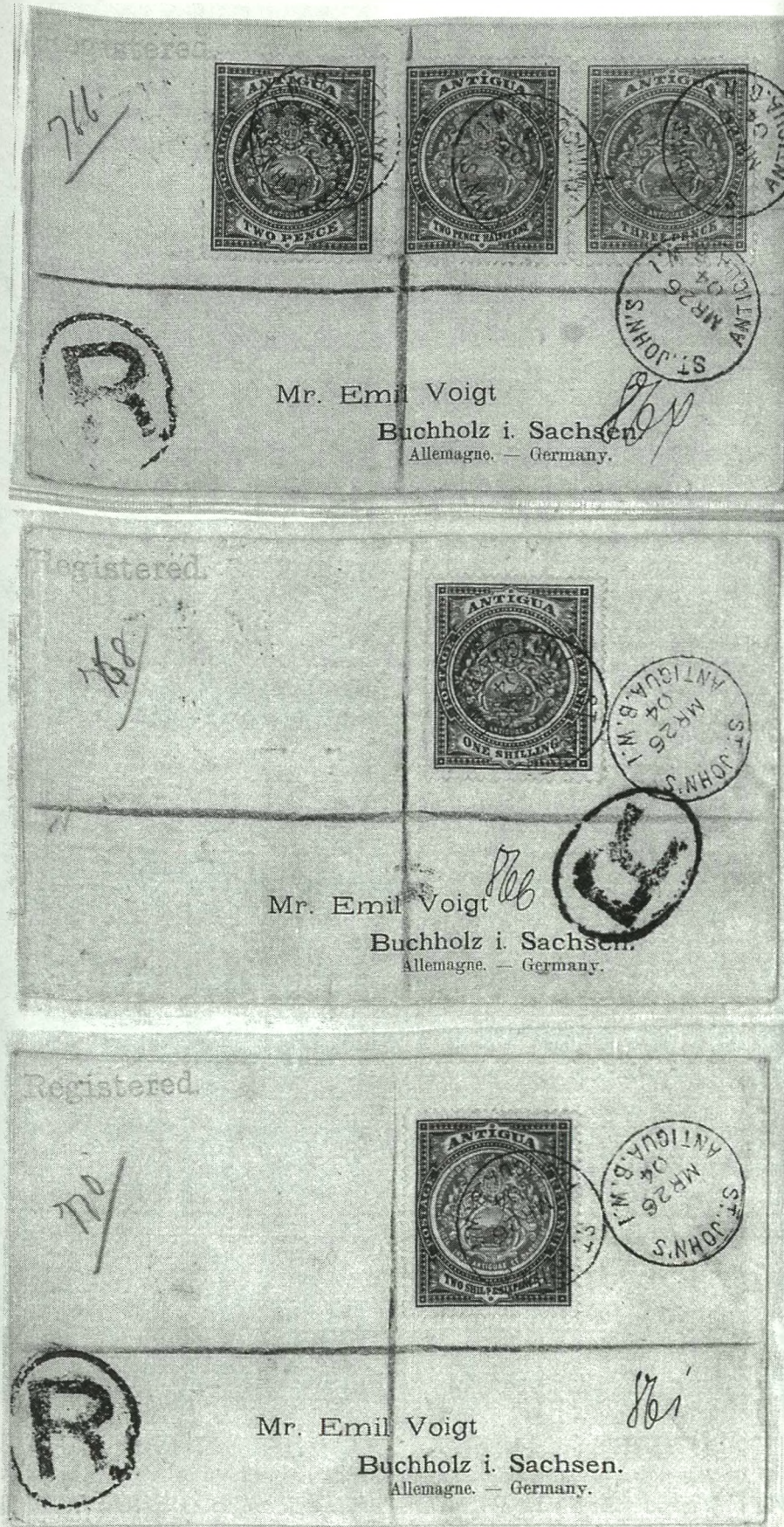


Figure 4

Antigua 1901 badge issue. Three matching covers cancelled August 20, 1904 with registration numbers 766, 768, and 770. Covers with the other values are missing.

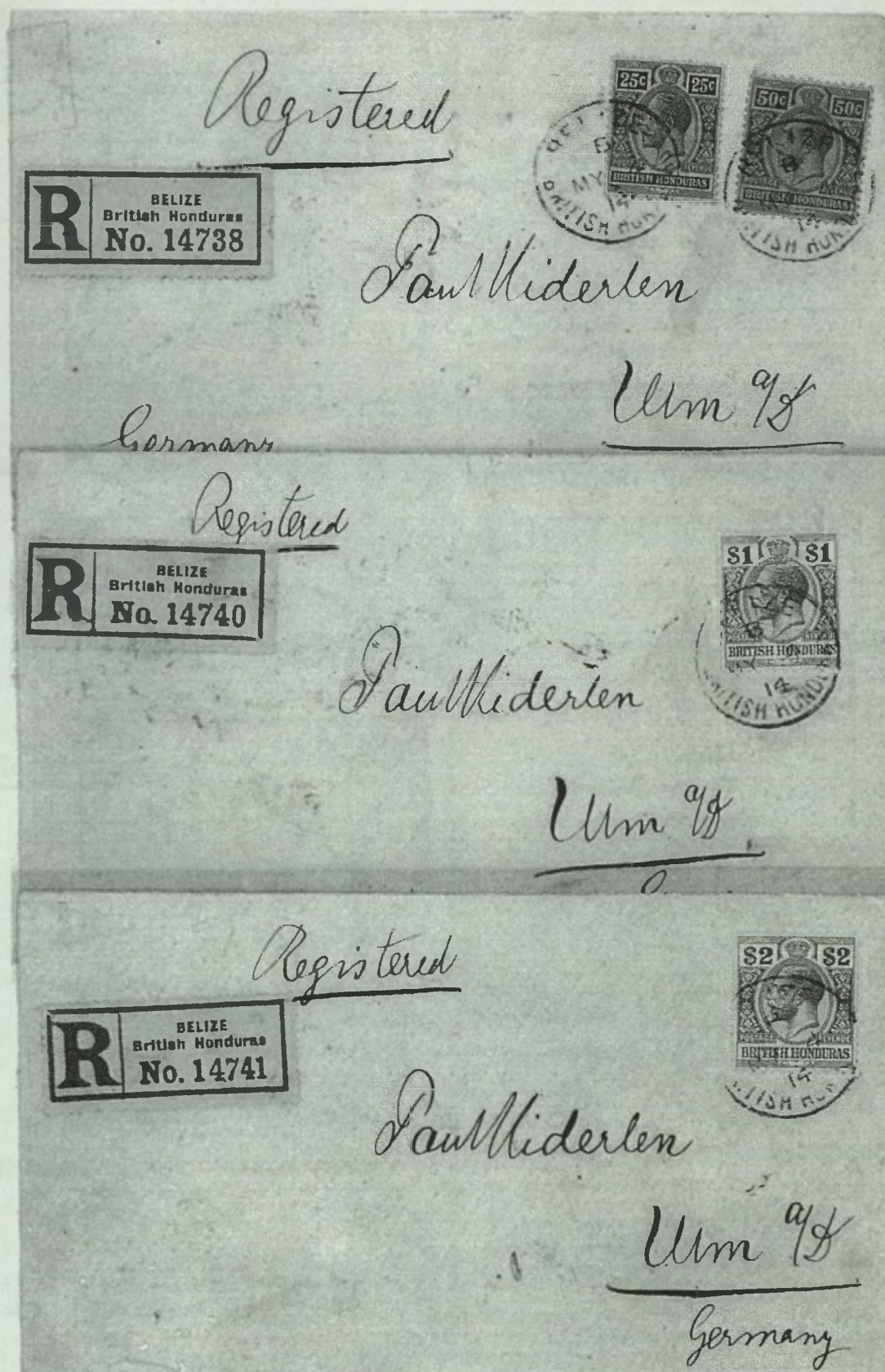


Figure 5

British Honduras 1913 George V issue. Set of three matching covers cancelled May 23, 1914 with registration numbers 14738, 14740, and 14741. Covers with the low values are missing.

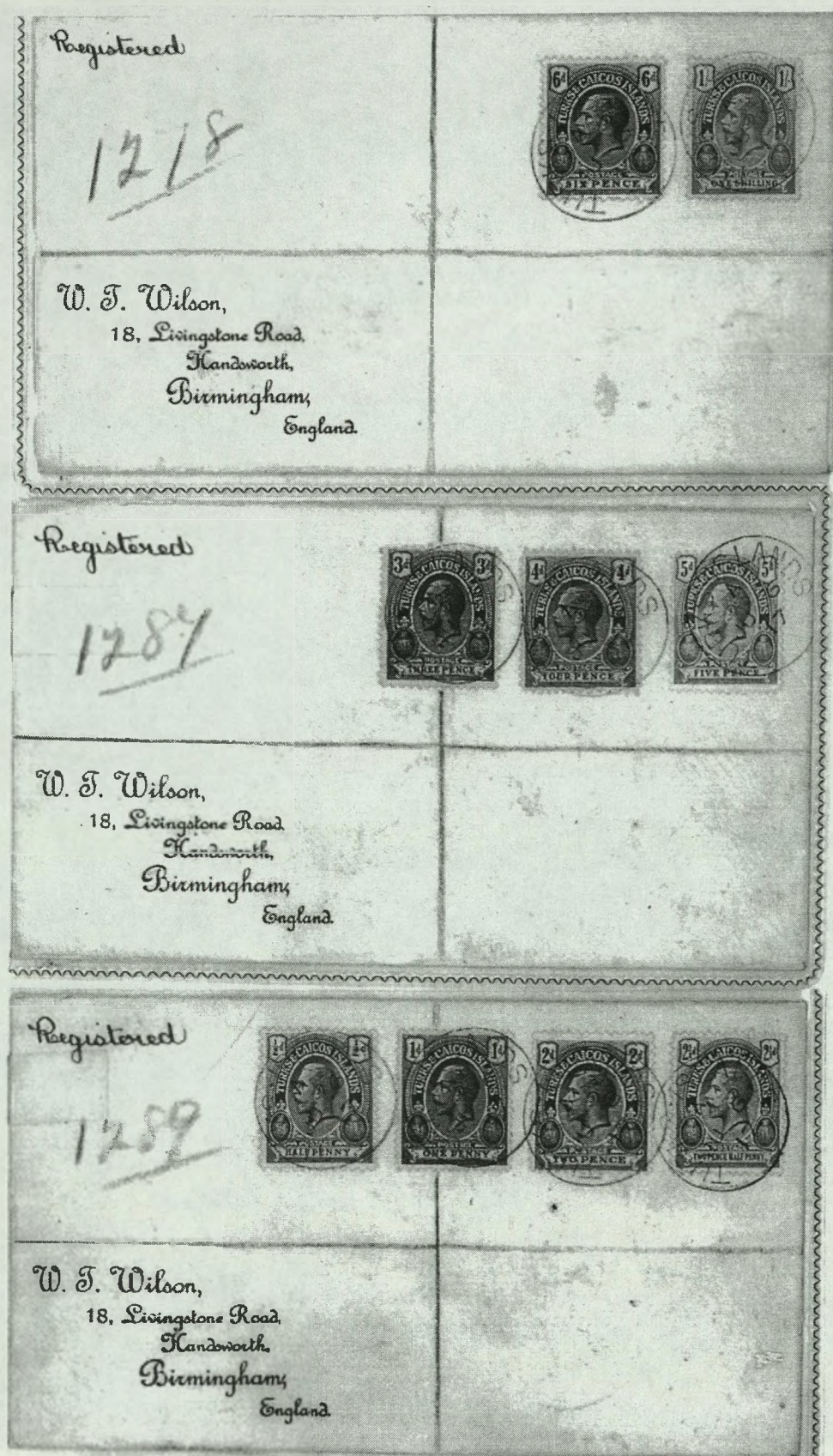


Figure 6

Turks & Caicos Islands 1913 George V issue cancelled June 6, 1917 with registration numbers 1278, 1287, and 1289. Covers with the high values are missing.

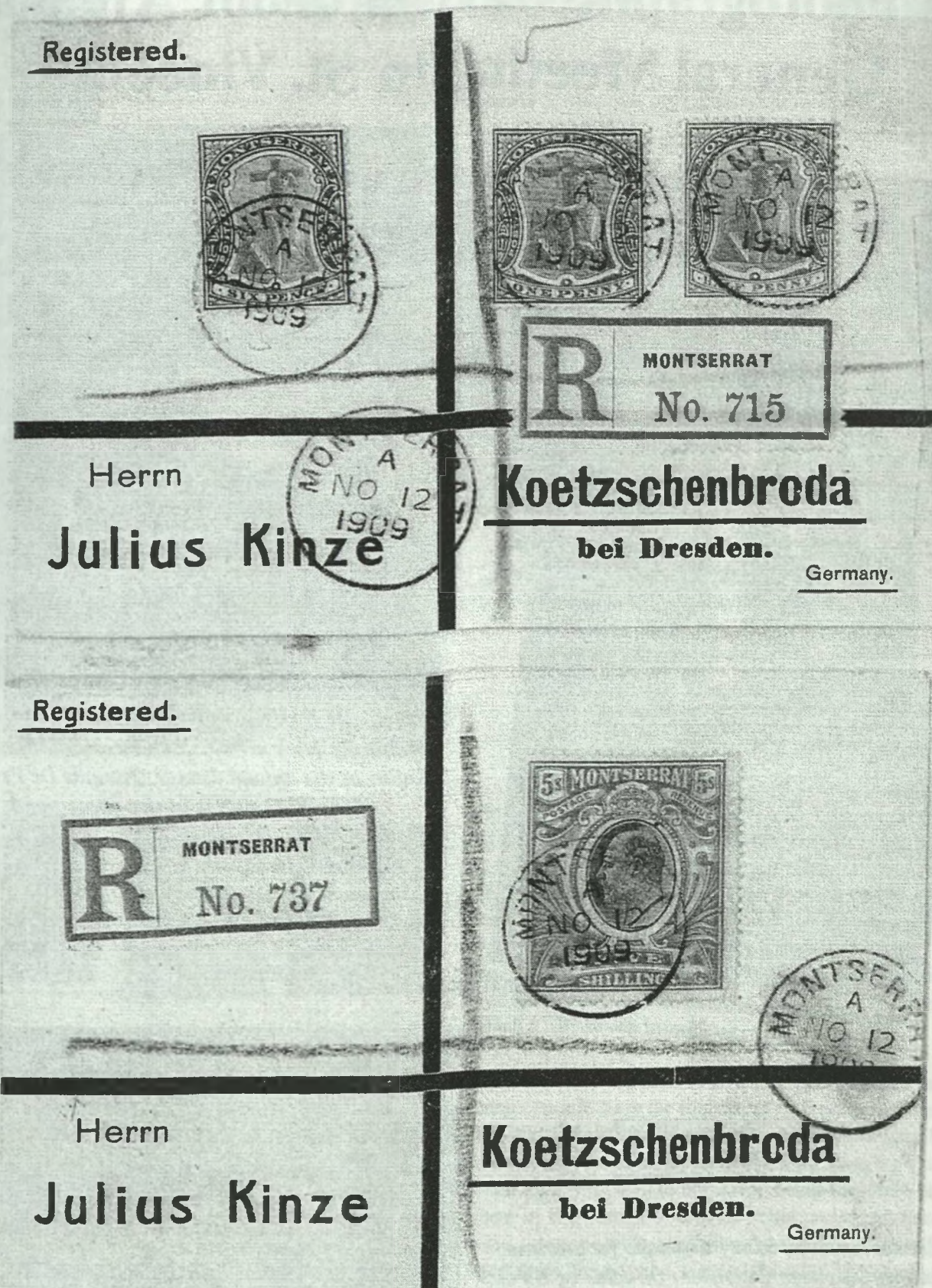


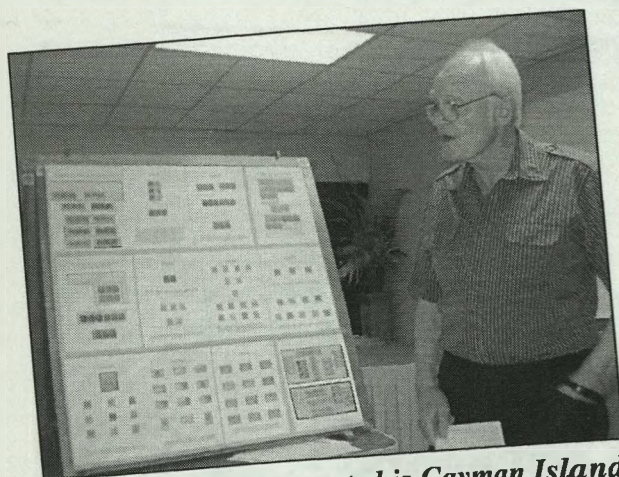
Figure 7

Montserrat 1908 issue. Two of a series of six matching covers cancelled November 12, 1905 with registration numbers 715 and 737.

A photographic review of our Annual General Meeting in St. Vincent!



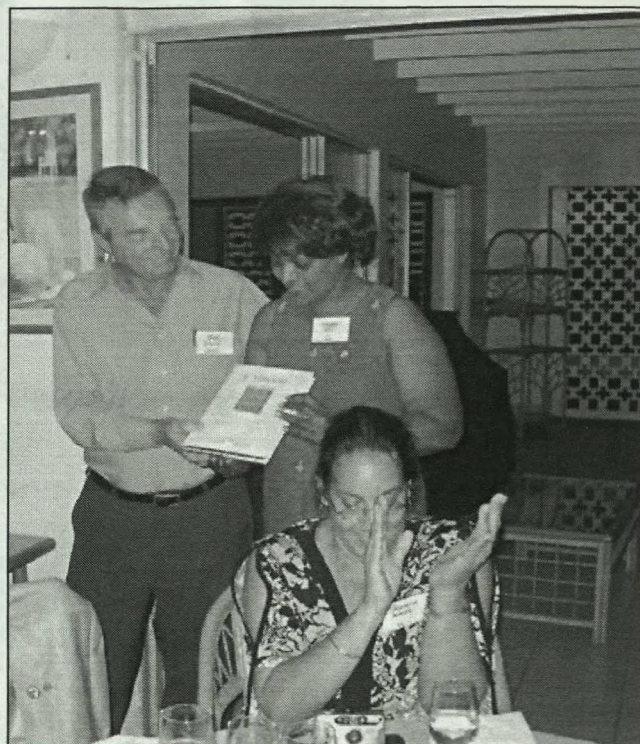
Dawn and Ed Waterous, Jacquie De Freitas (of SVG club), Jack Harwood, Peter and Annie Elias at the annual dinner.



Graham Booth presents his Cayman Islands display at the annual meeting.

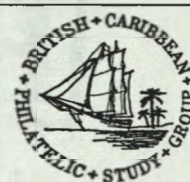
More photographs in the October issue!

Steven Zirinsky, Mary Gleadall, Jacqueline Adams-Ollivierre (Assistant Director of SVG Post) and Ed Waterous at the main post office in Kingston. Adams-Ollivierre is cutting samples of "officially sealed" tape for members of our group.



President Jack Harwood presents a St. Vincent philatelic book to SVG club President Fareeda Kajim at the annual dinner. Jacquie De Freitas of the SVG club is in the foreground.

Thanks to Peter Elias, our St. Vincent Study Group Leader, for these photographs, and to President Jack Harwood for the identifications.





BG Bits and Pieces

*With Dr. Raj Ramphal
Of Canada*



The British Guiana Taxed Letter Bill Clerk & His Hammer

The Taxed Letter Bill Clerk was a shadowy figure who lurked in the Georgetown GPO in the early 1930s, and of whom, no precise job description remains. Townsend and Howe¹ devote four lines to him on page 362: "This date-stamp has been found on adhesives 1931-35, but not yet on cover. The P.M.G. in 1951 said, 'It was used by the Taxed Letter Bill Clerk on insufficiently prepaid postage on letters passing through his section.' Presumably, it was rendered unnecessary by the issue of BG's first Postage Due stamps in 1940." Proud² says nothing about him except to incorrectly state that

I gloated over the combination, the more I convinced myself that this might indeed be a one of a kind specimen and had just about accepted that premise when at a small out of town Sunday stamp fair, I discovered an almost identical specimen. It took me a few minutes to recover from my shock and disappointment. Fortuitously,



*Figure 2
The two \$1 stamps*



*Figure 1
Six low values, all bearing the
T.L.B. Clerk cancellation*

sitting beside me at the time was a friend whose collecting interests and mine meet only tangentially at Suriname, as he pursues the Netherlands and Dutch colonies, but we do look out for each other. I turned to him and nonchalantly asked if he would care to acquire a stamp of which there probably were only two in the world. My presentation must have been persuasive because he bought it at once, leaving me regretful at not having done so myself.

But I continued to ponder afterwards why these high value stamps should have the equivalent of postage due markings, and I concluded that the TLB Clerk must have had a function other than simply cancelling stamps on mail which had been sent to him after being identified elsewhere in the sorting system as being underpaid. Surely in 1933, letter writers would not have willy-nilly franked letters they knew to be overweight with \$1 stamps and assumed that they had estimated correctly. I now believe that the Taxed Letter Bill Clerk must have had a window at the GPO to which customers with overweight mail went, or were sent from other windows, in order to have

1931-33 was his period of activity. Figure 1 illustrates six low value stamps all bearing the distinctive T.L.B. Clerk cancellation, all used between August 7, 1931 (7 AU 31) and May 23, 1934 (23 MY 34).

About three years ago I acquired the remnant of a British Guiana collection which contained a few gems, the most sparkling of which was a 1931 Union of Counties \$1 stamp with a near perfect T.L.B. Clerk cancel dated 4 JA 1933. I was ecstatic at finding an uncommon stamp with such an infrequently encountered cancellation. The more

Continued on page 25

A look back to the "old days"

William Cochrane of Australia has been conducting research into 19th century philately, and came across this article on the Leeward Islands, printed in *The Stamp News Annual*, originally published in 1893. Mr. Cochrane is editor of *Philately* from Australia. The "jump" is on page 25.

A Chat about the Stamps of the Leeward Islands.

BY O. FIRTH.

* * *

ANTIGUA.



BELIEVE that the first-issued 6d. is scarcer in a used than unused condition, as, a few years ago only, the stamp was unknown to the ordinary collector. Specimens must have turned up "promiscuous-like," as singles and pairs are by no means uncommon now. I have a used specimen, perf. 15 x 16 instead of 15 all round. This is not noted in the society's list. The 6d. of issue III., 1873, perf. 12½, is not easy to obtain in an unused condition, though it can hardly be called a scarce stamp, used. There is somewhat of a "craze" for the 1s. of 1886 (lilac, Crown and CA), which is, perhaps, excusable, though it has caused the price to be higher than it really should be.

DOMINICA.

The 1s. violet-rose of issue I., 1874 (perf. 12½, Crown and CC), is rather bad to obtain unused, and, indeed, all the stamps of the first two issues, or rather *double* issue (that is, the perf. 12½ and 14), are worth "holding," especially unused. The 2½d. and 4d. (Crown and CC) are also fairly good; but the great feature of Dominica is the provisional 1d. on 6d. of issue I. (perf. 14, Crown and CC). This stamp was issued in March, 1886, and only a very limited number were printed—60, I believe. I presume that this means one sheet only. The island also rejoices in a post card of which 100 copies only were printed. I have had the provisional *stamp* offered to me for £25! Accepting this as a fair price, I calculate by process of proportion that the card is worth just £16 13s. 4d., or, deducting 10 per cent. if your card is unused, £15 nett. Now then, post card collectors!

MONTserrat.

This is an island of mystery! The 1d. and 6d. of the first issue exist on both early and recent printings of the Antigua stamps on which they were surcharged. The difference is undefinable, but distinguishable easily by the eye, the early stamps having

an *old* look. The 2½d. (Crown and CC) and 4d. (CA), De La Rue type, are getting scarce, the 4d. being very bad to meet with in an unused condition. The 1d. on Antigua (Crown and CA, perf. 12) is also not easily met with. The 6d. has been heard of on Crown and CA (perf. 14), but is entirely unknown to me.

NEVIS.

If a collector likes "plating," and has got all his Sydney views and New South Wales laureated stamps into such a state of completion that he feels life to be a burden, as possessing no further scope for conquest, let him not despair, but turn to Nevis for a tonic. Do not plunge *in media res* by purchasing whole sheets, but set yourself to build up your plates by carefully annexing each copy of the required stamps that comes in your way, and devote your leisure hours, as I have done, to fixing the plate number of each specimen. This is not a difficult task, perhaps, in the case of the 1d., but with the 4d. it is somewhat puzzling, and the 6d. and 1s. are by no means easily placed. The first issue should properly be arranged on the two papers, bluish and grayish. I can strongly recommend the 4d. orange-yellow of 1867 to those who wish to lay up treasure for themselves, as, in my opinion, it is a stamp which will pay for keeping. The 4d. orange-yellow, lithographed, is also worthy of attention, especially in the form of entire, unsevered sheets! But the 6d. brownish-grey, lithographed, is the scarcest of the Nevis stamps, and is difficult to obtain, either used or unused, unless, like a well-known London dealer, you should be fortunate enough to come across a fellow who thinks it is a forgery, and is glad to let you have it for sixpence! Though, perhaps, I must not envy him, as I was able to purchase one from your publishers for 3s. 6d. in January of 1892. It is a fine used copy of No. 10.

The 1d. litho. perf. 11½ seems to exist *only* in entire sheets, and is possibly of the nature of a "find." (?) Imperfs. I never thought much of, but this is largely a matter of taste. A genuine rarity, however, is the 1s., steel, perf. 15, on *laid* paper. A copy is known in the late Mr. Tapling's collection, and I see that one is advertised as existing in America, in Mr. F. de Coppet's collection.

The 6d. green (Crown and CA De La Rue type) is a stamp that is improving, and the 1s. seems to

British Guiana, with Dr. Raj Ramphal

Continued from page 23

their mail weighed and the correct rate calculated by this special teller, who then cancelled the cover with his distinctive handstamp. This would better explain the existence of high value stamps with this cancellation. Proof

share the craze that has seized upon the corresponding Antigua stamp, only it is "more so," if possible.

ST. CHRISTOPHER.

The stamps of this country do not call for much remark, so far as I know; the provisional 1d. on 6d., large surcharge, issued in 1888, being the rarity; but I should be thankful to any kind friend who would "put me on to" the 1d. lilac-rose, and the 4d. blue, of issue III. 1882, (Crown and CA, perf. 14), *unused*.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Of these stamps I could write for a long time, but I will not inflict such a punishment on your readers. I beg leave, however, to say, that the 6d. exists only on yellowish paper, in its perf. 15 condition. This is not made immediately evident in the London Philatelic Society's list; but as the date of it is given as 1868, and in the valuable list of shipments, which prefaces the list of issues, only 1000 6d.'s are mentioned, it is fair to assume that only one sort of paper was used. May I further be allowed to express my dissent from the view taken by many more advanced and notable collectors than myself, that the gum and climate the stamp is kept in are sufficient, either singly or together, to account for the many and distinct shades of the colour of the paper upon which the 4d. and 1s. stamps appear?

The 1d., old type, on Crown and CC, is another "resuscitation." Until quite recently it was hardly ever to be had; now you may get a sufficiency for a few shillings each. I have a strip of 3 with the watermark Crown and CC sideways. This may or may not be worthy of note.

In conclusion, I should like to draw the attention of specialists to the stamps of the Leeward Islands, as there we have a series of very interesting stamps, of which any man of even modest means may hope to obtain a representative collection, especially if he be content with used specimens. Furthermore, and I speak of my own experience, it gives one a glow of satisfaction to be able to look calmly on, and observe the old, old "provisional" swindle being perpetually played on the receptive philatelist, and to feel a proud consciousness that "I at least cannot be had that way any more!"

of this dual function of the T.L.B. Clerk requires the finding of covers bearing his cancellation, which were either underpaid at the regular rate or were overweight and franked appropriately.

But my story does not end here. A few months later, I met my friend at another local weekend show, and while rummaging through his briefcase for something he had recently acquired for me, he pulled out the TLBC specimen and explained that it had resided there ever since he had bought it. I seized my unexpected chance and offered to buy it from him, promising to give it a better home with a publicized future. Sportingly, he let me have it, allowing me the privilege of owning two of a kind.

Or do I? I invite replies from the membership, either to the editor or directly to me by electronic mail at cmramphal@rogers.com. Is there anyone with another of these? Has anyone yet seen a cover since T & H's publication in 1970? Can anyone add further information on our elusive T.L.B. Clerk?

REFERENCES

¹Townsend, W.A., and F.G. Howe. *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of British Guiana*. London, England: The Royal Philatelic Society London, 1970.

²Proud, Edward, B. *The Postal History of British Guiana*. East Sussex, England: Proud Bailey Co. Ltd., 2000.

**Please note Editor's
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eparker@hughes.net

**This is a high-speed Internet
connection.**

**Please delete "midmaine.com"
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effective immediately!**

Why the Grenadines marking?

By Peter Elias

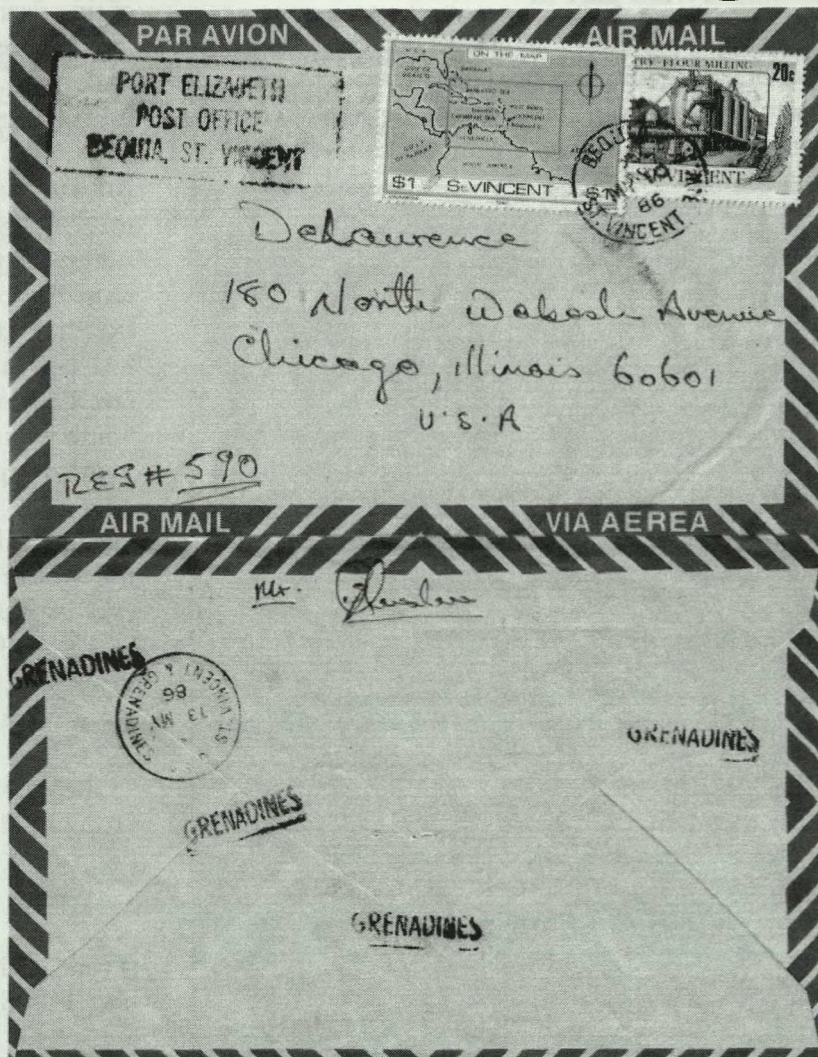
St. Vincent Study Group Leader

A seemingly mundane cover mailed from Bequia Island on May 10, 1986 to the DeLaurence firm in Chicago is shown at right. But here are a couple of interesting facts:

1) They must have run out of registration labels and hand-wrote "REG #590." But there are no receiving markings from the U.S. Postal Service as would be the case for most registered mail.

2) The cover passed through the General Post Office in Kingstown as evidenced by the May 13, 1986 postmark on the back. This was an airmail cover, but why should it take three days to get from Bequia to St. Vincent (only about eight miles)? The answer is most likely because the mail is probably transported via mailboat from Bequia to Kingstown. There is air service from Bequia to Kingstown, but it appears that mail goes via mailboat between the Grenadines.

3) What is the purpose of the "GRENA-DINES" marking on the back of the envelope? I do not think that they are necessary as such, since the postmark clearly indicates that this item was mailed on Bequia.



A philatelic book review

Cayman Islands by Richard Maisel, FRPSL

Reviewed by Peter P. McCann, PhD, FRPSL
Of the USA

This booklet of 42 pages is one of a series published by the British West Indies Study Circle, and is based on the collection and exhibit of Richard Maisel which was recently sold in a major sale from Shreves Auctions in early 2007. I, myself, have followed the development of the Maisel Caymans material since it was first shown as an exhibit in 1998 in a U.S. national exhibition and where it received the Grand Award (best in show). I have since seen it in a number of other national and international exhibitions as well where I have served on juries, most recently at Washington 2006 where it garnered its third Large Gold Medal and Special Prize.

This is a stunning accomplishment for exhibiting a small island British Colony which only started issuing its own stamps in 1901. This is all a prelude to say that this collection is certainly the finest of the Cayman Islands that has ever been put together and likely ever will be.

Thus, when I approached the booklet that Richard Maisel wrote on his material, I expected to be dazzled by a catalogue of item after item of his extraordinary collection. Instead, Mr. Maisel has produced an incredibly good and interesting synopsis of Cayman Islands philately using his material as superb examples for his text. He starts off with background about the Cayman Islands relevant to the British Caribbean postal systems. This is particularly interesting as the Post Office of the Caymans opened

Continued on page 28

BCPSG Exhibits and Awards

By Paul Larsen
Awards Chairman

Following is a listing of recent British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) member exhibit participants and awards.

Sandical 2007, January 26-28
San Diego, California

George Bowman
Microprinting and Hidden Images on Modern U.S. Stamps
Silver bronze

Jerome Kasper
U.S. Aerogrammes
Gold, Jewels of the Pacific Jury Felicitations Award
SCADTA Postal Stationery (SF)
Gold, United Postal Stationery One Frame Award

AmeriStamp Expo 2007, February 9-11,
Riverside, California

Single Frame Champion of Champions:
Reuben Ramkissoon
The Trinidad WWI Red Cross Label That Became a Postage Stamp

Single Frame C of C Prix d'Honneur:
George Bowman
Victoria Barred Oval Cancels
Jerome Kasper
SCADTA Postal Stationery

Jerone Hart
Victorian Postal Stationery of India Used in Aden
Single Frame Reserve Grand, Gold, UPSS Award

Jerome Kasper
Illustrated WW II British Military Letters (SF)
Best Illustrated Mail, Gold, APS 1940-1980 Medal
Australia's Official Aerogrammes (SF)
Vermeil

Reuben Ramkissoon
East Indians in the West Indies (SF)
Silver

Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition 2007,
February 2-4
Sarasota, Florida

John Cress
Australia Enters the Air Age 1914-1932
Vermeil, AAPE Award

Raymond Murphy
Jamaica Tourism: Foundation, Growth and Impact
Vermeil

COLOPEX 2007, March 9-11
Columbus, Ohio

Reuben Ramkissoon
The World War I Trinidad One Fraction Red Cross Label that became a Postage Stamp (SF)
Court of Honor
Air Letter Sheets (Aerogrammes) of Trinidad & Tobago 1943-1988
Gold, UPSS Marcus White Award

Jerome Kasper
Illustrated World War II British Military Airletters
Gold
Aerogrammes of Iceland
Vermeil

Everett L. Parker
British Caribbean Philatelic Journal (Lit.)
Vermeil

Garfield-Perry March Party 2007, March 23-25
Cleveland, Ohio

Paul Larsen
French Sudan & Niger
Vermeil

President's Message

By Jack Harwood

This is being written as I return from our very interesting meeting in St. Vincent. Our week there, with nearly 40 members and guests in attendance, appeared to be enjoyed by everyone. We were treated to one or two island tours each day, ably conducted by Sailors Tours. From post office tours to waterfalls, botanical gardens, forts, the Grenadine island of Bequia and a hike to the rim of La Soufriere volcano, there was something for everyone. Our counterparts in St. Vincent, the SVG Stamp & Coin Collectors Club, provided a great deal of help. Our thanks go to that club's members, Fareeda Kajim, Jacquie De Freitas and Ernst De Freitas for their extensive work. Special thanks, too, to our member Mary Kerr of Barbados, for her invaluable behind-the-scenes efforts, and to Anita Povich for preparing special shirts for group members.

Graham Booth of the United Kingdom provided a powerful display of Cayman Islands, which highlighted our membership meeting. A two-day exhibition and our annual dinner concluded the organized activities. If you've never had the experience of attending one of our annual events, you should try to do so in the near future. In St. Vincent, attendees included members from Switzerland, France, Scotland, England, Barbados and a number of U.S. states. We have a number of photos from the event in this issue of the *Journal* and there will be additional photos in the October issue.

As can be expected, a few things did not fall into place. The promised commemorative stamps were not issued due to "technical difficulties," but the Philatelic Bureau assures us they should be produced shortly. Even so, several members discovered previously unrecorded stamps, and the post office tour provided some interesting souvenirs, including forms, handstamps and various other postal artifacts.

The highlight of our business meeting was the presen-

tation of group awards.

The Cooley Award for lifetime service to the group was won by Dr. Peter P. McCann. Peter Flynn was given the Addiss Award for lifetime achievement in philatelic writing. The Durnin Award for the best article appearing in *BCPJ Journal* during the previous year was presented to Ed Barrow and Thomas Anderson, joint authors of "The Tobago A14 Handstamps and Their Forgeries," which appeared in the July 2006 issue.

London 2010 was chosen as the site of our 2010 meeting, and Ed Waterous will coordinate our activities with sister-society BWISC. If you are planning in advance, put the exhibition dates May 8-15, 2010, on your calendar.

Rather than attempting a postal auction, it has been decided to defer the next BCPSG auction to our meeting at WESTPEX in San Francisco, April 26-28, 2008. Our Auction Manager needs your material now so that the sale can be prepared. WESTPEX always attracts a number of members, so the auction should be more than usually active.

And finally, your Editor still needs articles. Study Group Leaders should take particular note. One of the responsibilities of Study Group Leaders is to make sure each study group provides a journal article at least once per year. Long or short, on any BWI philatelic topic, your contribution will be appreciated.



Cayman Islands book review by Dr. Peter P. McCann

Continued from
page 26

much later than the other British Caribbean islands, 1901 vs. the mid to late 1700s for most. He then reviews the relationship of the Caymans to Jamaica and the use of Jamaican stamps in the Caymans from 1889 until the inauguration of the Caymans Post Office in 1901. The booklet then follows an interesting progressive description of all the Caymans issues from 1901 until the last issues of King George V in 1935.

There is an emphasis on the Edward VII provisionals of 1907-08 which include the great rarities of Caymans phi-

lately and also on the unusual rural posts which were initiated in 1908. Mr. Maisel is able to integrate the issuance of the stamps with their use, matching the postal history of the islands with the stamp production which makes for a seamless and interesting story. A relevant fact is that the author is very restrained from overuse of illustrations of his own wonderful material. The examples he does illustrate are thus entirely to the point of his text and allow the reader to understand how they facilitate the progress of the narrative. Thus, Mr. Maisel discretely

Continued on page 29

Membership Director's Report

By Bob Stewart

New Members

All new applicants listed in the last issue of the Journal have been accepted as members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Congratulations and welcome to the Group.

New Applicants

Doug Coakwell, 25 Claremont Crescent, RR#1, Orillia, ON L3V 6H1 CANADA. Philatelic interests: Leeward Islands. Sponsored by John Seidl.

Ian Sellick, 3 Sunset Dr., Huntington, NY 11743-3771 USA. Philatelic interests: Bermuda. Sponsored by Bradley W. Brunsell.

Reinstated

Bob Bolling, 44116 Pine Cone Terrace, Northport, FL 34286 USA

Change of Address

Frank Nelson, 352 Will Dean Road, Springfield, VT 05156 USA

Tim Anderson, P.O. Box 3103, Gaithersburg, MD 20885-3103 USA

Dale Wade, P.O. Box 491, Hayesville, NC 28904-0491 USA

If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Membership Director's Report, please contact me, either by mail (see inside front cover of the Journal) or by email, at stewart99@comcast.net

Jeffrey Weiss, P.O. Box 298, Machias, ME 04654-0298 USA

Resignations

Richard Lamb of Canada

Tony Farmer of the United Kingdom

George Ball of the USA

Chris Hee of the USA

Starting with the April *Journal*, there was a change in the mailing label. In the upper right corner above your last name you will see your dues status. The year(s) you have paid through will now be listed. As example, if it shows 2007, that means you are paid through 2007. If you are a Life Member, it will show LM. If it shows Expired, then your dues for 2007 have not been paid, and I would appreciate you sending in payment immediately. Unless payment is made, this issue of the *Journal* will be the last one you receive. Please contact me if there is an error in your dues status. If you have friends who you believe might be interested in joining, please send me their names and addresses!

Cayman Islands book review by Dr. Peter P. McCann

Continued from page 28

uses his stamps and covers to make a point and does not simply show what he owns.

Anyone who wants to understand Cayman Islands philately in a focused and synoptic manner should buy this booklet. Anyone who wants to see some major rarities of the country should also obtain a copy. And finally, anyone who is at all interested in the Cayman Islands and development of the British Caribbean postal system should have a copy of this publication as it contains information that is not readily available elsewhere.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

By Richard Maisel

The third of our occasional series devoted to Classic Collections, this describes Richard Maisel's superb Large Gold Medal collection. Lavishly illustrated in colour, this booklet relates the progression of Cayman Islands philately from the earliest use of the Jamaican stamps, through the development of first Queen Victoria keyplate designs up to the pictorial issues of the King George V period. **Price: £12.00 (Approx. \$22.80).** BWISC Members' discount £2.00 (Approx. \$3.80).

This book is available now and can be ordered from David Druett of Pennymead Auctions at 1, Brewerton Street, Knaresborough, N. YORKS, HG5 8AZ UK or via e-mail at Pennmead@aol.com, or via Telephone at 0044 (0)1423 865962 or Fax at 0044(0)1423547057. Please advise if airmail or surface mail is required

for overseas orders.

NOTE: Post & packing are extra.

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By Michael R. Rego

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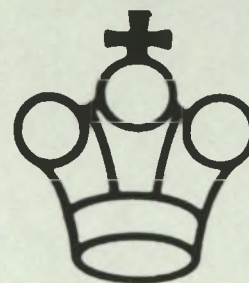
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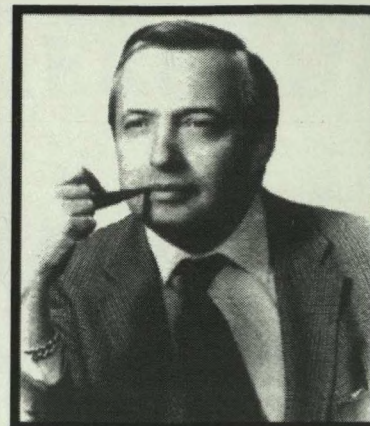


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