

THE BRITISH WEST INDIAN PHILATELIST

EDITOR E. F. AGUILAR
P.O. BOX 406 - KINGSTON.

VOL. 9.

JUNE 1958

NO. 4.

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BRITISH WEST INDIAN PHILATELIST

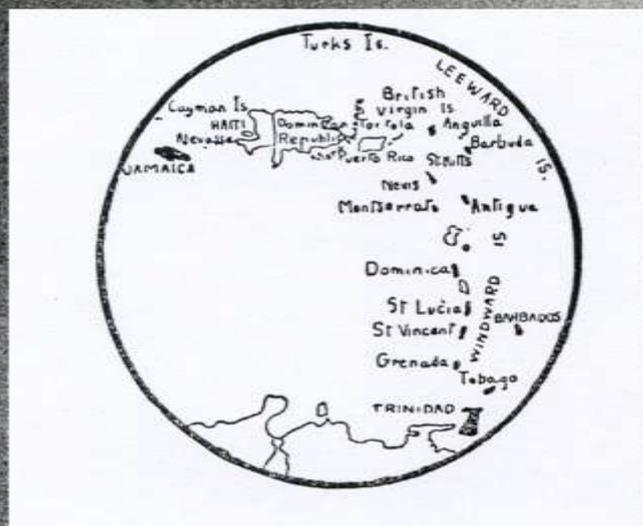
ISSUED QUARTERLY
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Islands in the W.I.
FEDERATION

2 / 6

B.W.I.S.C. LIBRARY

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FINE STAMPS AND COVERS

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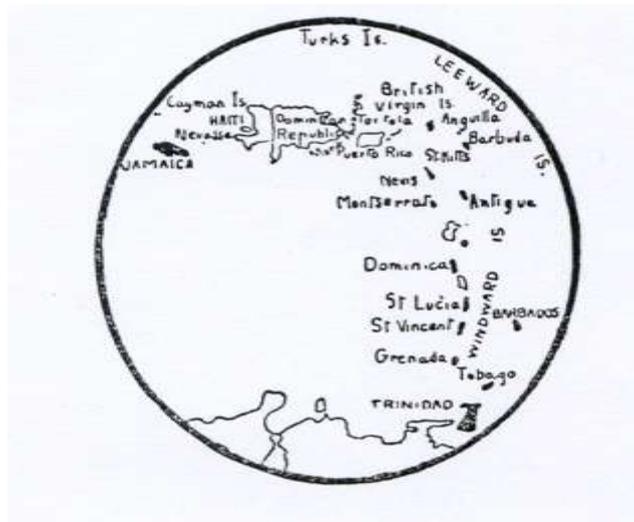
GENERAL SALES (in Bournemouth) include collections (Whole World, British Empire and Foreign), Mixed Lots, Collections by Country, Wholesale Lots, Single Items, etc. — these have a world-wide reputation as the finest provincial auctions in the country.

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Please say that you saw this advertisement in "The B.W.I. Philatelist".

The B.W.I. Federation



On April 22nd the general issue of the new Federal stamps appeared throughout the W.I. except in the Colony of Barbados. Most Post Offices worked between 3-4 hours except, Trinidad which condescendingly put in two hours of work, as they were closed by 10 a.m. One has only to go through a batch of FDC's to see the type of work done through this Post Office.

It is interesting to know that only 3 Post Offices throughout Trinidad were opened that day. In Jamaica all the main Post Offices were opened for two hours and the main GPO until mid-day. As expected these stamps have turned up with a large number of flaws, and collectors are advised to go through their stamps very carefully and quickly.

We are listing a few varieties which have been copied from the Elizabethan in the Philatelic Magazine, and besides this there will be another listing in the next publication.

All sheets of the Federal stamp except Jamaica are 10x10, while Jamaica is 12x10.

Antigua

6 CENTS

- Row 3 No. 3 Coloured flaw across top frame above E of West and associated crack in lower arm of E.
- Row 3 No. 4 Vertical plate flaw scratch above R in Caribbean.

12 CENTS

- Row 1 No. 1 Hyphen after "12c"
- Row 2 No. 1 Vertical hairline up from island at left.
- Row 9 No. 10 A clear vertical hairline up from island farthest west from Jamaica.

Barbados

6 CENTS

- Row 4 No. 8 A clear vertical hairline from "6" down to coast of Panama.

Dominica

3 CENTS

- Row 1 No. 6 An extra island 1/4 mm. long off the north coast of Colombia.
- Row 8 No. 9 A strong vertical hairline up from coast of Cuba. Row 8 No. 10 A clear vertical hairline 1½ MM. from left hand frame. Major Flaw on land mass at foot in form of recut lines (?)

6 CENT

- Row 1 No. 3 Extra island below final "A" of Anguilla.

Jamaica**2d**

Plate 1.

- Nil (In sheets of 12 rows X 10)

Plate 2

- Row 5 No. 7 Vertical hairline up from "N" in Caribbean to Haiti.
- Row 6 No. 8 Two vertical hairlines from Jamaica down to coast of South America.

5d

- Row 5 No. 4 Vertical hairline up from Trinidad.
- Row 5 No. 5 Flaw across lower part of loop of D in Indies.
- Row 6 No. 3 Vertical hairline south of Indies.
- Row 12 No. 10 Vertical line at 90 degrees to base of second letter "I" in Indies.

6d.

- Row 2 No. 7 Horizontal guide mark just above arches of the crown 1 mm. from top and also across top of THE.

Montserrat**6 CENTS**

- Row 4 No. 3 A curved flaw in 1st "R" of Montserrat at Bottom of stamp.

St. Kitts

- **3 CENTS**
- Plate 1 with flaw on all stamps on shoulder bow
- Row 2 No. 6 Coloured flaw between top of hair and full stop after INDIES.
- Row 2 No. 10 Similar flaw but stronger.
- Row 7 No. 7 (i) A weak entry at side of crown. (ii) corrected.
- Row 10 No. 8 (i) A weak entry above "IE" in Indies (ii) corrected.

(Note that on sheets from Plate 1, the last two flaws appear corrected together, leaving the first two throughout the printing of this value.)

6 CENTS

- Row 1 No. 10 The vertical lines above the crown appear almost nonexistent.

St. Lucia

- Nil.

St. Vincent**3 CENTS**

- Row 5 No. 4 Vertical hairline up from coast of S. America (not on all sheets).

Trinidad

5 CENTS

- PLATE 1 Nil. Plate 2.
- Row 8 No. 6 Diagonal flaw across left frame beside 20 degrees. (All values NOT mentioned have so far produced no varieties.)

The first day covers were the biggest surprise of all, as the official sales through the Philatelic Dept. in Jamaica were 4,892. The main Post Office at St. Johns, Antigua, recorded only \$2,000 of business, and not more than 3,500 to 4,000 FDC's but Barbados was very much brisker, as they sold \$5,000 of stamps over the counter on the 23rd and around 4,500 to 5,000 covers were done. St. Vincent sales for the 22nd averaged only \$3,000 and estimate of the FDC's were only 3,500 to 4,000 covers. While for Trinidad, there has been no detailed report from this Colony, judging from the scarcity of these envelopes, there certainly could not be a large amount of them and one could say that 3,000 for Trinidad is a pretty fair estimate. One has to consider that preparing the stamps and putting them on the envelopes to get out 3,000 covers in two hours, does require a fair amount of help. Dominica reports very good sales indeed up to \$5,000 and it certainly is most interesting to see the comparison of FDC's between previous Commemorative issues to this one. The most striking difference was the Royal Visit to Jamaica, where we underwrote just under 19,000 covers all told followed closely by the Tercentenary of which BOAC, the Tourist Bureau, and ourselves underwrote 23,000 covers.

To see the official figures for this issue from the Post Office leaves one wondering why these covers have not been popular.

By reports this set of stamps will be on sale for a year unless sold off, and judging by the printing, there seems little reason to doubt this at all.

News Here And There

Bermuda – QEII Invited for Visit

The Bermuda House of Assembly has asked their Governor Lt. General Sir John Woodall to invite H.M. Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh to the Colony during its 350th. anniversary which takes place next year. It is hoped that they will be able to make it before or after their Canadian Trip. One can be sure of a special issue of stamps. So far no announcement has been made.

British Honduras – Princess Margaret Visit Issue / Cancellation

A Secretariat announcement that the B.H. proposal to have special commemorative stamps for the Princess Margaret visit has had to be called off. Said the announcement: "It has not been possible for the Secretary of State to approve the proposal put forward by the Government of British Honduras in February that the four cent and ten cent stamps in the current range of postage stamps should be over printed to mark the forthcoming visit to British Honduras of Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret.

The Secretary of State has, however, offered no objection to the use of a special cancellation device on the mails passing through the General Post Office during the period of Her Royal Highness' stay in this country. The Postmaster General has made the necessary arrangements and mails will bear an additional cancellation device "Visit of HRH the Princess Margaret, May 1958 during the actual period of the Royal Visit."

Cayman – 1958 AirLetter Sheets

The new air letter sheets of the 2½d 6d and 9d values went on sale on the 1st of June.

Barbados / Jamaica / Trinidad – New AirLetter Sheets

Reports indicate that many of the islands now Federated, will be receiving air letter sheets and the possibility of booklets in Trinidad, Barbados and Jamaica.

Jamaica -- Auction of Mr Nethersole's Collection:

Mr. Nethersole's collection had bids from a large number of readers-Lot 1-£5 5/- Lot 3-£8, Lot 7-£4 10/-, Lot 15 - £3 10/-, Lot 17 - £5 5 0, Lot 23 - £7, Lot 29 - £4 10/-, Lot 30 - £4 10/-, Lot 31 - £4 10/-, Lot 32 - £7. Lot 40 - £5 5/-, Lot 45 - £5 0/-, Lot 52 - £3 3/-, Lot 61 - £21.

Readers will see that Lot 30 was a large block of Fiscal 3d along with Pr. imperf. and a single with double perfs. had a large number of bids. This lot went to a collector in England for £4 10/-. A second Lot which had some very keen bidding was Lot 40. Consisting of a very small part of Cayman Islands.

TRD on the 1d Key Plate along with the 1d Key Plate bisected. This lot went to a collector in Jamaica, and was the only lot to stay in the Colony - this was sold for £5 5/-

Jamaica -- Things To Come

1958 Rocket & Historical Tour of Kingston

It was a perfect tropical morning, and already a very large crowd had gathered to see the launching of the first guided rocket in between the West Indies. For weeks collectors had been eagerly awaiting this day and yet, it does not seem so long ago when we sailed into Kingston Harbour in a Three Masted Barque. Having made a record trip from England, was anchored off Victoria Pier, at the foot of King Street, and as we looked up the Street and realized we had a few hours still to spare before closing time, we decided to go ashore and visit some of the better known stores.

Alighting at Victoria Pier we went up King Street and one of the first firms we saw was Barclays Bank & Co. which was situated at 6 Little Port Royal St. While at the corner of Little Port Royal Street was W. G. Actwood and Co. along with their wharf.

Arriving at King & Harbour Sts. we went into Waterloo House, which had a very fine selection of Dry Goods. This store was run by Pinnock and Surrage.

Continuing along Harbour Street, we passed Charles Gadpailles Commercial Hotel at No. 12 at SE Corner of Harbour Street and Temple Lane. This place was formerly the Commercial Rooms. At No. 11 Harbour Street the Roxburgh House (formerly called Metcalf Place) N.E. corner of Harbour St. and Temple Lane, owned and operated by Thomas Francis Roxburgh (father of the late Sir Thom. Roxburgh). This building was destroyed in the 1907 earthquake.

At 13 Harbour St. was John MacDonald adjoining Roxburgh House on the East. MacDonald, a Scotsman, was quite a celebrity and his place was the centre of news - and has often been referred to as "The Jamaica Tattersalls" Cripps and Scott Dry Goods Merchants were at 19 Harbour St. N.W. Corner of Harbour and Church Sts. Next door Northside between Temple Lane and Church Street, was the Morning Journal office. This daily paper was started by Edward Jordan. At 37 Harbour Street, the firm of Solicitors of Hill Airey, Lord and Davis (now known as Harvey & Bourke) on the other side of the street we went into the General Post Office, where we obtained a selection of stamps, and we found that these stamps had just come on sale a few days before. Having obtained our stamps we returned along Harbour St. where we saw J. K. Fingzies at 30 Harbour St. S.W. Corner of Mark Lane. This Hardware Merchant was a Scot (no relation to the Finzi family) while at 31 Harbour St. was Mr. Mowat, well known solicitor who started the Jamaica Mutual Life Assurance Society.

At 18 Harbour St. was Joseph Francis merchant and at 14 Harbour St. was P. Goldsmith and the drug store at No. 10 Harbour St. of S. Laraque, a Haitian.

As time was going, we hurried back to King Street so as to return to our boat, and looking up King St. we saw Fishers Bakery which was on the North Side of King St. and Temple Lane. (Here started the great "Fishers Fire" of March 29, 1862 which did very extensive damage). We had just passed W. A. Nethersole & Nephew, Merchants, at 4 Harbour St. one door East from King St. As we looked up King Street, we saw a small Mail Coach coming down the street heading for the Post Office on Harbour St. We really would have liked to have seen a bit of the countryside, but we did not have the time, as our vessel was due to sail early next morning to the outports of Black River, Sav-la-mar, Falmouth, and St. Ann's Bay for the loading of rum, sugar. Early the following morning, we were under full sail once again.

As we stood waiting for the launching of the rocket, we heard a high scream of a jet aircraft above-who knows, in another few years there may be a service by Rocket between the islands, and the big cities of the world.

NOTE: All information for this article was taken from Cundall's Handbook 1902, Kidd's Plan of Kingston in 1860. Readers must remember that the old numbering was Harbour St. E. No. 1, No. 2, etc., also West of King St. No. 1, No. 2, etc. This was changed in 1862 - J. Murray Auld & Co. from information from their Handbook.

Mail Auction

Rules And Regulations For The Mail Auction.

1. Lots must be sold to the highest bidder without reserve.
2. All bidding is by mail. There are no floor bids. Bids will be kept confidential.
3. Lots may be inspected prior to the date of sale at our office. No individual lots will be sent overseas. Bids from new customers must be accompanied by a deposit or reference.
4. Postage and Insurance will be extra.
5. Material purchased by mail auction is not on approval. Lots, however, not correctly described may be returned promptly.
6. Every item is guaranteed genuine, unless otherwise stated. Claim for any lot proving otherwise must be made within 3 weeks.
7. Listing of Catalogue value has been done from Stanley Gibbons and Commonwealth Catalogues.

Closing date is Sept. 1, 1958.

POSTMARKS		
LOT 1	Collection of Post cards with the following single ring postmarks. Flint River, Alexandria, Alley, Bath, Black River, Bluefields, Brown's Town, Buff Bay, Chapelton, Chester Castle, Claremont, Clarks Town, Dry Harbour (2), Many of these cards have single marks. Many other pmks. on cards - 12 cards, and 2 envelopes.	E £2 2/-.
LOT 2	Collection of single ring marks with Duncans, Ewarton, Falmouth, Four Paths, Gordon Town, Goshen, Green Island, Half Way Tree, Hampen Gayle Hayes, Hope Bay, Linstead, Little London, All on Post Card 14 cards. A very good lot - Many cards have 2 or 3 pinks.	E £ 3.
LOT 3	Collection of cards including singles with Lucea, Mandeville, May Pen, Moneague, Montego Bay (2), Malvern, Newport, Ocho Rios, P. G. _River, Port Maria, Port Royal, Porus, Priestmans River, - Salt Gut, Santa Cruz, Savanna-la-Mar, Shooters Hill, Spanish Town, Trinity Ville, and Kings-a fine lot with many other marks - 21 postcards & 1 envelope.	E £ 4.
LOT 4	Collection of postmarks of single marks mainly on single stamp with 82 stamps including several duplicates.	E £ 3.
LOT 5	Collection of Post Cards and envelopes with Squared circle marks - Anchovy, Bath, Black River, Brown's Town, Cave Valley, Chapelton, Christiana, Crofts Hill, Falmouth, Frankfield, Glengoffe, Hagley Gap, Hampstead, Laugh!ands, 14 covers a most useful lot.	E £2 2/-.
LOT 6	Collection of Cards and envelopes with squared circle marks of Lluidas Vale, Manchioneal, Mandeville, Mile Gully, Montego Bay, Old Harbour, Oracabessa, Port Antonio, Salt River, Ulster Spring, Up Park Camp. A very useful lot.	E £2.
LOT 7	The triple ring marks of Jamaica with Fellowship -Riverside - Spanish Town on cover or card, Mavis Bank, only partial pink. Dated Ja. 22.02 on piece Kingston (2) and Spur Tree on piece very poor - General - a very scarce lot.	E £4.
LOT 8	A sheet of the different postmarks of Kingston with many of the handstamps and cancellations used at the G.P.O. Mostly all e.g. from the G.P.O. ideal to the specialist.	E £ 1 1/-.

	RAILWAYS POSTMARKS	
LOT 9	The following covers or cards with Railway pmks. with Jamaica Railway for Cambridge white with Jamaica Govt. Railway for Cambridge, Montpelier, Linstead (faint) (post card only) Troja, Richmond, Highgate (2) Annotto Bay, Hope Bay, Montpelier and Jamaica, Government Railway for Balaclava. A fine and difficult lot to find on cover.	E £3 3/-.
LOT 10	A collection of Railway Pmks. on piece on single stamps of the following in Jamaica Railway for Kingston Station - Kingston - Kingston Baggage - Spanish Town - Hartlands - Bushy Park Old Harbour Station - Porus - Williamsfield in red and blue ink (2) - Richmond Buff Bay, Jamaica Gov't Railway Kingston Spanish Town - Hartlands (very faint) - Old Harbour - Kendal - Greenvale - Appleton- Maggotty - Anchovy-Linstead-Rivers-_. dale - - - Richmond - Albany - Highgate Buff Bay Hope Bay - - Orange Bay - Only part of Pink. Grange Lane Bushy Park, Clarendon, Williamsfield - Kendal -. Balaclava (2) Catadupa, Montego Bay in red - Hope Bay'-- Very nearly ail well postmarked with mark very scarce items.	E £5 5/-.
	1919 PICTORIAL	
LOT 11.	A small lot of Specimens Ex. Brinkley Turner Collection MCA ½d 3d, 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, Script 1½d, 2d, 4d, 1/-, 2/-, 3/- and 10/-. 12 stamps	E £ 1 1/-.
LOT 12	The 1919 set unused in singles, pairs and blocks condition fair to very fine with many shades. ½ (2) poor 1d (1) 1½d (8) 2½d (8) 3d (2) 4d (8) 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, 5/- (2) and 10/- Poor a useful selection in shades 1/z d and 10/- have rust - Cat. £ 18.	E £4 4/-.
LOT 13	Used 1919/21 set in singles and blocks with shades. ½ (2) 1d (5) 1½d (4) 2d (2) 2½d (10) 3d (2), 4d (1) 1/- (2) 2/- (1) 3/- (1) Cat. £7 10/- plus	£2.
LOT 14	Mint collection of 192½9 Pictorial in singles, pr. and blocks condition fair to very good - with many shades - ½ (2), 1d (6), 1½d (10) 2d (2) 2½d (1) 3 (3) 4d (6), 6d (3) 1/- (2) 2 - 2/-, 3/ and 5/- and 10/- Cat. £13 plus	£ 3 10/-.
LOT 15	Slavery Stamp of Jamiaca overprinted SPECIMEN wmk Script CA/ well centred copy. Condition good. One perf. has a very slight spot.	E £ 35.
LOT 16	Bottom right hand corner block of the 2/- value with the bottom marginal edge Imperf. Only ten pairs can exist. A very fine and rare item.	E £ £35.
LOT 17	Used collection of 1919/29 set in singles, pairs and blocks. ½d (9) 1d (19) 1½d (3) 2d (8) 2½d (14) 3d (30) 4d (14) 6d (6) 1/- (16) 2/- (2) 3/- 5/- and 10/- mostly all well postmarked. £9 plus.	£2 5/-.
LOT 18	This lot contains in the MCA 2½d with smudged printing and wmk. inv. unused. In the used 2/- with wmk. inv. In the script 2½d in blue and pink aniline 1½d with wmk. reversed and inverted. The 3d with aniline centre all used. In the used 1½d showing extra stamp, 1d wmk. reversed 2d (stamp creased) with HOOSE for House. The 2½d forged overprinted and the aniline in pink and blue 1/- in comb perf. 2/- block or four in comb perf. an extremely good lot of varieties and oddities which takes years in finding.	£ 10.
LOT 19	Used block of the Childs Welfare pmked. Laughlands No. 8.23 Cat. £11 10/-.	£4.

LOT 20	Set of photographs from the original negative signed by the artist Miss V. Taylor. Set of these pictures not easy in finding.	E £ 5.
LOT 21	Used set of Childs Welfare with block and imprint pair of the 2½d also photo of essay of suggestion of a 2½d value Cat. £10 plus	£3 10/-.
	GEORGE V HEAD SCRIPT	
LOT 23	Mint blocks of 1d (2) 1½d (1) single 6d and 1/- all have rust poor used block 8d of 1d Block fours of 1½d and 1/- very nicely pmkd. with reg. mark single 6d - 31 stamps	E £ 1 1/-.
LOT 24	Mint and used 1929/32 issue blocks 1d both types, 1½d and 9d with both dies and two meter strikes "Jamaica Welcomes - H.R.H. Duke of Gloucester" - stamps. Cat. 100/-	42/-.
LOT 25	The 1932 Pictorial set, blocks and singles mint (Cat. 62/- one 6d has short perfs.) and used pairs and block in 2d and block 2½d and 6d Cat. 95\$	30/-
LOT 26	1937 Coronation. A fine collection mint and used with many varieties, muddy impression 1½d on thin paper 2½d Tear drop - moisture across stamp-retouched die-worn plate mint-1d (28) used (11) 1½d mint (9) used (5) 2½d mint (6) used (6) many interesting varieties. Cat. 31/-	E £1.
LOT 27	George V plate blocks ½d green 1A, 1B, 1C(2), 2B, 2C, 2D, Block with line across part stamps 1d red plate blocks 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 2 block showing shades - pair of the fake 1d salmon also a used copy - a grand lot - Face 5/-.	£ 10/6.
LOT 28	A single copy of the rare red/brown of the 1½d value - rather badly off centre.	£3.
LOT 29	A collection of plate blocks of the 1½d value, plate 1, 2a, 2b, 3c, 3d, 4a - 4b, 4c - 4d, with many blocks of shades. In the 2d value plate 2, 3, 4, 5, 5-2, 5-3, (2, 6-2, 6-3, 7-2, 7-3, 8-4, with block 2½d and 3d green also Pair a useful face 13/6.	£1 1/-.
LOT 30	Pairs and single from 4d value to 10/- face 47/5.	£2 2/-.
LOT 31	Mint block 6 of 1/- with the broken chimney variety.	£1.1/-.' '
LOT 32	A large selection with various shades from ½d to £ 1 A U used used some postmarking poor to fine. ½d (18) 1d (25) 1½d (46) 2d (5) 2½d (4) 3d green (4) 4d (4) 6d (7) 9d (13) 1/- (7) 2/- 5/- (2) 10/- £1.	£ 50/-.
LOT 33	Plate blocks of the 3d green, plate 3-2, 4-2, 5-2 3d blue 5-2, 6-4. The 4d value 2, 2-2, 3-3. The 6d value plate 2, 3 4 4-2 6-3, and block with ink smear, along with pair and block of 9d Face 26/6.	£2.
LOT 34	One TRD on piece of the University of the W.I. dated Dec. 17 one of the scarcest.	70/-.
	COLLECTION FROM MR. HUGH COXE	
LOT 35 -	ANTIGUA - 1932 Tercentenary set used the 5/- value well postmarked dated Mr. 5 35 Cat. £17 plus	£6 6 0.
LOT 36 -	BERMUDA - 1920 set Mint S. G. 59 to 67 a few slightly faded. The 2½d value badly off centre and 1921 set S. G. 68 F 76. All mint or part mint. 18 stamps. Cat. £9.	£3 3 0.
LOT 37 -	BRITISH GUIANA - Mint set of George VI from 1c to \$3 with mixed perfs. face 44/7.	£2 2 0.

LOT 38 -	BRITISH GUIANA - Mint \$1 perf. 14x13 very slightly off centre Cat. £15.	£9.
LOT 39 -	DOMINICA - Mint collection of George VI 1938 set to 10/- Victory set (2) S.W. UYU., University, (2) N/C (2) 1951 set to \$2.40 Coronation all mint face 61/- plus.	£ 3
LOT 40 -	MONTSERRAT - 1932 set Tercentenary mint to 5/- Cat. £ 17.	£6 6/-.
LOT 41 - -	MONTSERRAT - Jubilee mint and used set used 2½d has a creased corner Cat. 92/-.	£1 10/.
LOT 42	MONTSERRAT - 1937 Coronation, 1938 George VI ½d to 5/- perf. 13 and pert. 14 with Victory set 25 stamps Cat. £5 10/ plus.	£ 2 10/-.
LOT 43 -	MONTSERRAT - Silver Wedding set, UPU's University and 10/- £ 1 1948 all mint 10 stamps Cat. £4 8/-	£2 2/
LOT 44 -	MONTSERRAT - George VI 1951 set to \$4.80 Coronation Q.E. set to 243/4 all mint face 43/-.	£2.
LOT 45 -	ST KITTS - George VI ½d to 5/- mixed perfs. and the Anguilla set.	£ 1.
LOT 46 -	ST. KITTS - A plate block set of the 1952 issue from 1 c to \$4.80 along with single set to \$1.20 face £7 plus.	£8.
LOT 47 -	Virgin Islands - 1938 set to £, UPU, Leg. set and the 24c 60c, \$1.20, and \$4.80 of the 1952 set. Cat. £7 10/-.	£4 10/-

Barbados -- AirMails

by N. C. Baldwin (reproduced from the Aero Field magazine of May 1958)

The most easterly island of the West Indies group was first visited by the Portuguese who named it Barbados (bearded) because of the number of bearded fig trees they found. In 1605 it was nominally taken over by the British; was colonised by them in 1627 and has been a British possession continuously since then. The first aeroplane to visit the island was piloted by Capt. Lancaster, RAF, who arrived on May 29th, 1929. He flew to Trinidad on April 1st and it is reported that he carried a small courtesy mail which bore no stamps but was postmarked at Bridgetown, and backstamped at Port of Spain on April 1st. None of this mail has been traced so presumably it consisted of greetings from officials in Barbados to their confreres in Trinidad.

NYRBA and PAA Acceptances

When air routes were first developed on the east side of the West Indies by Pan-American Airways in 1929, the route followed the continuous line of islands between St. Kitts and Trinidad, which left Barbados a hundred miles to the east. The rival company, New York, Rio and Buenos Aires Air Line (NYRBA) were successful in securing preliminary rights in several South American countries, although the U.S. mail contract had been awarded to Pan American Airways. NYRBA commenced operations in South America in August, 1929, and in February 1930, operated the first regular service from Buenos Aires to Miami. The same route was followed in the Caribbean but in April arrangements were made for the seaplane "Cuba" to fly from Trinidad to Barbados where mail was picked up for St. Lucia, Antigua and St. Thomas. Mails for other destinations were off-loaded at St. Thomas and flown onwards by Pan American Airways. An air fee of 1/- per half ounce was charged in addition to normal postage. In August 1930, NYRBA was absorbed by Pan-American Airways and their aircraft were withdrawn from the Caribbean. Thereafter Barbados air despatches were by sea to Trinidad or St. Lucia and thence by Pan-American Airways.

It is now necessary to skip a few years in order to collect all the relevant matter in this grouping. Although Pan-American Airways had been extending their services rapidly, none had affected Barbados until the trans-Atlantic service was inaugurated in 1939. The first service left New York on May 20th. and mail was first accepted in Barbados on June 15th. for connection with this service at New York and transit to Europe via the Azores, Lisbon and Marseilles. At this time the K.L.M. were operating a service (described later in this article) between Barbados and Trinidad where mail was transferred to the P.A.A. for transit to New York, so this was an all-air service to Europe. Eighteen years then elapsed before P.A. were again concerned with a Barbados first flight. This was in May 1957 when they inaugurated a direct service between New York and Barbados and on to Trinidad. A cover has been seen destined for the first P.A.A. flight to Trinidad, but no transit marks or cachet were applied. On the return flight however, which left Barbados on May 14th. a cachet depicting a Barbados scene and the Statue of Liberty with appropriate inscription was applied in black.

K.L.M.

The Royal Dutch Air Lines (K.L.M.) first operated a trial flight from Curacao to Trinidad and Barbados on October 19th, 1938. An official mail was collected up to 10 a.m. at Bridgetown, the inclusive rate per half ounce letter being 5d to Trinidad and 1/5½d to Curacao, cachet fig. 1 being applied in blue-black or violet; the aircraft was a Lockheed Electra "Kolibríe", piloted by Capt. Andre de la Porte. The regular service was inaugurated on February 6th, 1939, the rate to Trinidad again being 5d per half ounce letter; for destinations beyond Trinidad the charge was 3½d above the previously existing rates. This was actually the air fee for the Barbados-Trinidad flight as of course the normal postage was included in the existing rates quoted. On September 4th, 1939, this line was extended to Paramaribo (Suriname), but as the postal authorities did not receive notice until the day of flight the total despatch was a mere 62 letters. Although no special cachet was applied at Bridgetown, all these letters were backstamped on arrival the next day, and also received the commemorative pictorial first flight cachet of Paramaribo in violet, fig. 2. All the K.L.M. services in the West Indies were suspended in mid-1940 owing to the war.

U.S.S. Ranger Airmail

The American aircraft carriers "Lexington" and "Ranger" had visited Barbados in 1939 and demonstration flights were made. On one of these Flight Lieut. J. S. Johnson flew a souvenir mail of 28 letters, round the island. This received U.S.S. 3¢ franking which was cancelled "U.S.S. Ranger, 6

Mar. A.M. 1939, Bridgetown, Barbados" and was backstamped the same day at Bridgetown Post Office. Additionally a special violet cachet and the pilot's autograph were applied.

B.W.I.A. Ltd.

A general agitation arose in Trinidad, Tobago and Barbados for an air service to replace the one suspended by the K.L.M. and Mr. Lowell Yerex was consulted as to the best means of forming one. Lowell Yerex a New Zealander by birth, had had an adventurous career, having been shot down three times during the first world war, had spent three months in a German Internment Camp and had commenced operation in Central America in 1932 with a second-hand aircraft and 25 dollars. This service, Transportes Aero Centro Americano (TACA) had become the major concern serving five Central American Republics and British Honduras, until in 1940 he sold out to American Export Lines for two million dollars. Yerex accepted the invitation and organised a new company entitled British West Indian Airways and on November 27th, 1940 a service was opened between Barbados and Trinidad. No cachet was applied but covers bear despatch and arrival postmarks of November 27th. and some are known with the autographs of S. Wilson, pilot and M. J. Meade, co-pilot.

Several new connections were made available within a few days in 1943. They were to Grenada on March 22nd. to St. Kitts and Antigua on March 25th and to St. Lucia on March 28th. Souvenir covers from these flights are decidedly scarce as wartime regulations were of course in force. Most of the covers bear the one-line cachet "BRITISH WEST INDIAN AIRWAYS", and all appear to have been posted on March 20th. those to Grenada being backstamped March 22nd St. Kitts and Antigua March 25th and St. Lucia March 29th. Another extension was made in May 1943-to St. Vincent with despatch postmark of May 16th. and backstamp of May 17th. There was one more wartime extension and that took place on December 16th. 1944. This service started from Trinidad and flew via Barbados and St. Kitts to Jamaica. Mail was stamped with an oval cachet reading "B.W.I. AIRWAYS LTD./BARBADOS" and postmarked December 15th. but no backstamping was employed. A civilian Air Letter service had been introduced on November 1st, 1944. The special form was printed in black on light blue and space was left for an adhesive stamp-6d to the Caribbean and North American area including Canada, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica and British Guiana, 1/- to the United Kingdom and Eire and 1/6 to Empire countries beyond the United Kingdom.

The first post-war extension was to British Guiana on November 1st 1945, and mails bore despatch postmark of Bridgetown October 31st with Georgetown backstamp of November 1st. Some of this mail was autographed by the pilot, Capt. G. Grogan, co-pilot Capt. W. A. Cash and Hostess Miss V. Yufe. In 1947 British West Indian Airways' stock was sold to British South American Airways and two years later B.S.A.A. was merged with B.O.A.C. but the identity of B.W.I.A. was preserved in spite of it becoming completely a subsidiary of B.O.A.C. In fact when in 1949, B. O. A . C. took over the stock of the privately owned British Caribbean Airways, the latter's routes were merged with those of B.W.I.A. Viscount turbo-prop aircraft were introduced on the service from Barbados to Puerto Rico on December 16th, 1955, and to New York on January 3rd, 1956.

T.C.A. And Air France

Two other international air companies were involved in air mails to and from Barbados. They are Trans-Canada Airways and Air France. The former operated a service from Toronto via Bermuda and Trinidad on December 3rd, 1949. A cover has been seen dated December 2nd destined for flight to Trinidad by this service and this was backstamped December 4th. 8 a.m. Mail was also accepted on the return flight made the same day to both Bermuda and Toronto, postmarked December 2nd but not backstamped at either place. All these mails bore the T.C.A. etiquett either on front or reverse. Air France commenced a service between Martinique and Barbados on March 14th, 1956. On the return service, mail was accepted from Barbados for Martinique, Guadeloupe Sainte Martin and Puerto Rico but no commemorative cachet was applied nor were any of the mails backstamped.

As far as can be seen at present, there is little scope for further development of air mails in Barbados because its geographical position isolates it from direct participation in either North Atlantic or South Atlantic air routes. Development is, therefore, likely to be confined to more frequent and speedier services over existing routes, these being brought about through the introduction of the latest types of aircraft.

Check List

1929

1. April 1. Bridgetown - Port of Spain, Trinidad by Lancaster.

1930

2. April 8. Bridgetown - St. Lucia (44) Antigua (29), St. Thomas (51) other destinations 708; By NYRBA.

1938

3. October 18. Bridgetown - Trinidad (1, 578) - Curacao (73) experimental flight by K.L.M.

1939

4. Feb. 6. Bridgetown - Trinidad with onward connections. Regular Service by K.L.M.
5. March 6. Souvenir mail flown round the island by Flight Lieut. J.S. Johnson (28).
6. June 15. First acceptance of mail for transit by P.A.A. transatlantic service New York - Azores - Lisbon - Marseilles.
7. Sept. 4. Bridgetown - Trinidad service extended to Paramaribo by K.L.M.

1940

8. Nov. 27. Bridgetown - Trinidad by B.W.I.A.

1943

9. Mar. 22. Bridgetown - St. Georges, Grenada by B.W.I.A.
10. March 25. Bridgetown - St. Johns (Antigua) and St. Kitts by B.W.I.A.
11. March 28. Bridgetown - Castries (St. Lucia) by B.W.I.A.
12. May 16. Bridgetown - Kingstown (St. Vincent) by B.W.I.A.

1944

13. Nov. 1. Civilian Air Letter service to U.K. 1/-. Empire countries beyond U.K. 1/6d, North American area and Caribbean 6d
14. Dec. 16. Bridgetown - Jamaica via St. Kitts by B.W.I.A.

1945

15. Nov. 1. Bridgetown - Georgetown (British Guiana) by B.W.I.A.

1948

16. May 3. Bridgetown - La Guaira (Venezuela).

1949

17. Dec. 3. Bridgetown - Trinidad - Bermuda - Toronto by T.C.A.

1950

18. May 17. Bridgetown - Pointe a Pitre (Guadeloupe) by B.W.I.A.

1951

19. Jan. 1. B.W.I.A. mails: Fees increased from 2½d to 6d B.O.A.C. mails: fees for U.K. increased from 1/3d to 1/6d: For Australasia from 3/- to 3/3d

1953

20. Oct. 10. Bridgetown - New York and London by B.O.A.C.
21. Dec. 16. Bridgetown - San Juan (Puerto Rico) first Viscount service by B.W.I.A.

1956

22. Jan. 3. Bridgetown - New York: First Viscount service by B.W.I.A
23. Mar. 14. Bridgetown - Martinique. With connection to Guadeloupe. Sainte Martin and Puerto Rico by Air France.

1957

24. May 14. Bridgetown - New York by P.A.A.

Reviews

Dinky Daymus Varieties By Aubrey Kelson (Canada)

A very interesting book on Philatelic flaws and oddities featuring Canada. This book is under the heading of "Dinky Daymus Varieties" and in as much as Canadian items are most prominent, one can find very nearly most of the stamps for the different countries of the world. Australia, British Guiana, Bahamas, B.H., Czechoslovakia, Newfoundland, U.S., etc.

This interesting little book is very valuable to the specialist and should be well sought after. This is priced at \$2.00 and is printed by A. L. McCready. (Cobden, Ontario). Containing 56 pages, and is heavily illustrated throughout.

The International Philatelic Stamp Exhibition 1960

The International Stamp Exhibition at which Her Majesty the Queen has graciously consented to grant her patronage to this show will be held in the Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London from July 9th to the 16th, 1960.

Collectors in the BWI or America, interested in having further details of this Exhibition, can contact the Editor and all information available will be forwarded together with the Prospectus which will shortly be out.

The organisers of the International Stamp Exhibition have just announced the following Commissioners:

- CANADA (WEST). H. E. M. Bradshaw, Bank of Commerce Bldg., 640 Hastings St. W., Vancouver 2, Canada.
- CANADA (EAST). J. Sissons, 59 Wellington St. W., Toronto 1, Canada.
- WEST INDIES. E. F. Aguilar, P.O. Box 406, Kingston, Jamaica, B.W.I.
- SOUTH AMERICA. J. Santiago Rachitoff, Palacio Salvo, Montevideo, Uruguay.

Any collector wishing to enter this Exhibition should contact their Commissioner, well in advance, and all assistance and help will be given. INTERPOSTA 1959. The first International Postage Stamp Exhibition to be held in Hamburg, Germany, for more than 2 decades, and this will be held from May 22nd - May 31 1959. Any collector interested in this Exhibition can write to the editor or Director of the Organisation:

Interposta 1959", Hamburg 36, Kaiser Wilhelm-Strasse 85, Germany.

Auctions – Hurlock Barbados And Trinidad

In the past few months there has been some outstanding auctions being held in London and one of the latest Catalogues to hand has been Messrs. H. R. Harmers with the collection of Barbados and Trinidad, being disposed of, which was Mr. Hurlocks. The Editor has had the pleasure of going through this collection and has also seen it at International Exhibitions.

Harmers expect to realise around £30,000 for these two collections. Any collector interested in Barbados and Trinidad should without question write to Messrs. Harmers for the Catalogue.

There are so many very select items in this collection one could illustrate, but only a few have been picked out.

Lot 543 - is illustrated on piece, one penny on half 5/- dull rose, an unsevered pair type A & B reading up. Very fine used on piece with an un-surcharged 5/- dull rose. Value £250 - £300.

Another extremely fine item is lot 296 the 1/- blue SG 38 a very fine cony with perfs. all round. Off centre and very slightly at edges but fresh colour. As usual in this rarity the break across pen cancellations has been removed. Only a few copies exist of this item. Value £300 - £350. For Trinidad there is an extremely brilliant cover with the Lady McLeod while lot 748 has the 5¢ Lady McLeod with a brilliant fresh unused copy with margins all round. Valued between £350 - £450.

Messrs. Robson Lowe and Co. will be holding on June 11th auction which will take in the late Mr. P. T. Masters' collection of Jamaica. Many of these items will include his collection of Postal History and in the next magazine some of the prices realised will be listed.

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