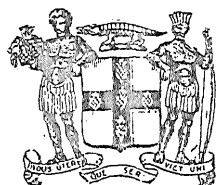


The Jamaica Philatelist



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE Jamaica Philatelic Society

[FOUNDED APRIL 14TH, 1920]
CIRCULATED FREE OF CHARGE

EDITOR: MR. H. COOKE

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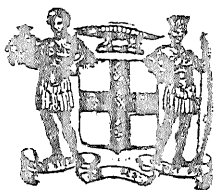
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The Jamaica Philatelist

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Editor: Mr. H. Cooke, Kingston, Jamaica
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Volume III June, 1942 Number 16

Editorial Perfs

Roulettes. A recent article on the methods of separation, dealt with this type, and shortly after a news item was seen, that informed us the German Occupation Authorities in the Channel Islands, had issued postage stamps there, that were rouletted instead of being perforated.

Cayman's Centenary set of 1932 has been frequently in the news for some time. Catalogued by Gibbons in their 1941 edition for the sum £10 7 0, dealers were offering to buy at £9 0 0. Gibbons advanced the price of the 10/- denomination from £6 0 0 to £12 0 0 lifting the price of the set to more than £16 0 0. The 10/- quite evidently promises to be a very desirable item, and one need not be too optimistic, to believe that the high but lower denominations of the set, will also improve in value. Recently, we saw an offer to buy at £13 10 0 the mint set.

New Catalogue. "G. S. M." for May states that the publishers are still unable to announce when publication will

be made. Their staff progressively is being depleted, by the continuing and repeated calls of both men and women for war service of one kind or another. The latest we have heard over the radio, was during week ended 27th. June, when the age limit for men was extended to fifty years of age, and for women to forty-five years.

Somaliland. A new set has been issued for this territory, somewhat similar to the last, which in turn has been declared invalid. In a recent edition, we gave notice to the fact that stamps of Aden for sometime had been used in the recovered colony, and advised that those who had any of the pre-war set, would do well to hold unto them. That issue has increased, and still is increasing in price.

Hong Kong. All the recent stamps, especially the dollar values, have increased. Holders of the Centenary set are sure to obtain a high premium on the value of their investment. Originally sold for about 2/6, it is now worth 10/- at least, we have seen it offered at 12/6.

"P. J. of G. B." For several months past we have missed this well displayed and informative journal, which the publishers very kindly and consistently, month by month, had sent to us for several years. We had assumed that the "subs" had got the copies meant for us or that war economy "had got the journal." We have been glad to learn from an edition designated January—March, 1942, that recently reached us, and for which we thank the publishers; that it is still very much alive, though war economy has had some influence, to cause publication quarterly instead of monthly. The proprietors, Messrs. Sefi, Pemberton & Co., Ltd. are congratulated on the usual very interesting and high standard that is maintained, even though like so many other firms, they have had to obtain a temporary address, now Corn Exchange Buildings, Leominster. The subscription to the "Journal," is the small one of 5/- per annum, p. pd.

Bermuda. Has anyone seen the new 7½d. stamp? We have not although it is recorded as having been issued 18th. December 1941. From what we have read, it is rather an unusual item, in tri-chrome printing, i. e., black, green, blue by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd. in sheets of 60 stamps, viz., 10 vertical by 6 horizontal, the last or bottom row making a very interesting piece. Nos. 3 and 4 show the printer's imprint on the margin below them; under No. 4 at right of the imprint is plate No. 1 in green; under No. 5 is plate number 1 in blue; under No. 6 is plate number 1 in black. The frame printed in green shows in white on a coloured panel "BERMUDA," at the right corner is full face portrait of His Majesty the King. At the left corner the "Sea Venture," Sir George Somers's ship is shown. At the left bottom corner is the denomination "7½d."

in figures, between that and the right is a narrow coloured panel on which the words "seven pence half penny" appear in white, and at the right bottom corner appears the "Bermudiana" a native blue flour that grows profusely throughout the islands. The central design is a seascape with land promontory, printed in blue; in the foreground, typifying the speed of airmail, for which purpose the stamp is primarily intended, is the Tropic Bird, known in the Bermudas as the Long Tail, printed in black. The stamp must have been an expensive one to produce, as each sheet apparently would need to be fed three times to the press, and if printed by recess, or from recess plates, the cost would be greater still. For that reason, we suggest that those who desire a copy, should obtain it as soon as possible, the expense to produce indicates modification in the near future.

Annual Subscriptions. The Secretary takes this opportunity to remind those members who have not yet paid their annual subscription that the same fell due on the 14th. April last. The Secretary would be glad if members who have oversighted this important matter will remit their dues to him as soon as possible.

Wanted. Mr. Paul Dorn, of 1247 South La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles, California wishes to obtain early numbers of the Jamaica Philatelist to complete his files. Copies of the Jamaica Post Office Guide are also wanted. Mr. Dorn is willing to pay a reasonable price for copies of both these items. Offers are also invited for quantities of the 1d. red Llandoverly and the 1/- orange pictorial stamp of Jamaica.

Members are asked to communicate with Mr. Dorn with as little delay as possible.

Jamaicana

"Inverted 'd' for 'P' " One of our members in England, Mr. J. Benson, is the author of an article on this subject that appeared in "Stamp Collecting," 7th, February, 1942. Mr. Benson wrote relative to a statement by Mr. Fyndem in "S. C.," 8th, November, 1941, that he had seen the variety on the 3d. denomination, thereby explicitly confirmed existence, and on a denomination not hitherto accused of it. Mr. Benson revived and emphasized the question mark, that has been associated with the item. The Editor of "S. C." in a note to Mr. Benson's article, defends Mr. Fyndem by asserting that his claim was, "the *so called* inverted letter as catalogued on the 1½d. may also be found on the 3d. and possibly on the ½d. value." Our understanding of the controversy is, Mr. Fyndem did not use the term "so called," nor did he state "*may be found.*" He mentioned the variety as "inverted 'd' for 'p'," and stated that he had seen it on the 3d. There is nothing equivocal about that statement, it is positive, definite that a genuine, authentic variety described as quoted, exists on the 3d.; he had seen it, and by publication of that personal experience, implicitly afforded his assurance that the thing does in fact exist.

If the alleged variety has existence as he assures us it does, its correct description cannot be that used by Mr. Fyndem, and as caption to Mr. Benson's article, viz. "inverted 'd' for 'p'"; there is no "p" in the overprint, there is "P," said to be a seven point Roman capital letter. The obsession which apparently held Mr. Fyndem, probably caused him to ignore the fact that as Gibbons records it, the correct description is "inverted 'd' for 'P,'" and he fits his description to the obsession, by asserting in effect that a lower case "d" had been made to do duty inverted for a lower case "p." Had he ad-

hered to the Gibbons description, it is possible he would have found some difficulty to reconcile satisfactorily, obvious differences between the lower case "d" and upper case "P," with "the so called inverted letter" that appears on the alleged variety. His description is so much more readily acceptable, than the other, to account for the alleged variety.

Existence of the variety on the 1½d. had been catalogued by Gibbons, and has been recorded for several years in annual editions of their catalogue. Twice during that time this writer has requested them to supply a copy; on each occasion they have admitted inability to do so. It is probable that at the time of each request, the item was not in stock, but as they did not state that it was not, it is possible and reasonable understanding, that they preferred not to sell something, the validity of which at its best is questionable.

Several copies of the alleged variety, from different parts of the world at different times, have been sent to the writer for his opinion. Each and every one was condemned as a "wrong 'un," spurious. Extensive search by him at the time discovery was reported and since, involving some hundreds of mint sheets and many thousands of used copies, failed to discover a single specimen, but some dozens of "the *so called* inverted letter" were found, and discarded for what they really are.

In a previous edition of this journal we condemned the alleged variety as a fiction, stated why. Our reasoned opinion, based on experience and search is, it does not exist, never has existed. Until factual existence is proved beyond any doubt, whether on the ½d., 1½d., or 3d. any statement such as that made by Mr. Fyndem, indicating existence and belief in it, necessarily is misleading, based as

that is on error, which, like other record of the item, is developed from lax, casual superficial observation.

We believe that every reputable philatelic journal, such as "Stamp Collecting" means and seeks to serve the interests of its readers. That being so, surely when and where; as in this instance of "inverted 'd' for 'p';" doubt is known to exist, effort should be made to resolve that doubt, and until it is resolved, the matter should be treated in the pages of the paper with the greatest circumspection. It is conceivable, is it not, that published statements; demonstrably inaccurate with corrupted thesis, can and will create harm for the credulous and uninformed.

The Junior Stamp Club was inaugurated on 18th. May, at and in connection with the Half-way Tree Junior Centre, which last is in the charge and under the direction of Mrs. Hofman Bang.

Mr. Astley Clerk, member No. 1 of this Society and for many years Editor of this journal, gave us the information and we believe him to be the guilty individual who, behind the scenes has fathered the new club. He tells us that the Juniors with their Director, are very interested and enthusiastic. Miss Evelyn Bucknor has been elected President, and Master Kenneth Hamilton is the Secretary.

We welcome this addition to the ranks of Jamaica collectors, hope for them long, interesting and interested, successful operation. Should there be any way in which we can help, they will find us very willing to aid.

There is, we know, latent interest and desire among the scholars of the Corporate Area, that needs to be similarly organized, but unfortunately through lack of time, there are none willing and having that time available, to take it in hand. Even after organization, effort

must be made to keep interest alive, and that again takes time. Without frequent stimulation of interest, interest wanes and dies.

The "Bulletin." We regret necessity to announce suspension of publication "for the duration." Local readers will be aware of the "Paper Restriction Order," by which all local publications have been cut to one third of their usual dimensions. Under that rule publication of the "Bulletin" would mean a leaflet of four pages instead of twelve, and of the annual "J. P." seventeen pages instead of fifty-two or more. We believe that while the "Bulletin" has been a welcomed addition to the effort of this Society, most readers will prefer to lose it than have the Annual so drastically cut. Acting with that belief, we have abandoned the prospective publication of a four page "Bulletin;" necessarily of little value or interest; and by giving it up, have been allowed to add the pages so saved to the annual "J. P.," making that magazine two-thirds of its normal size. We regret demise of the "Bulletin" in its infancy; it was only twelve months old; it is our hope, intention and expectation to be able to revive it, just so soon as circumstances will permit.

5/- Pictorial. The "Philatelic Magazine," 10th. April, 1942, carries a curious story, taken from the "Folkstone Herald," with Mr. L. G. R. Jones as the author; here it is:—

"Sir Leslie (Governor Probyn) designed the 5/- and 10/- values of the 1919 issue of Jamaica stamps, the 5/- value being a very beautiful representation of a place in Jamaica called the "Isle of Wood and Water." "I had a lovely stream of water right down the centre of the stamp," Sir Leslie told me, "and trees on either side but I could not get quite enough timber for the wood part of the Isle of Wood and Water. I thought the matter over, and at last hit upon the idea of putting

a representation of Pan in the foreground on the banks of the stream. And so, you see, that is how Pan, the god of pastures and forests, appears on a postage stamp."

Extraordinary, isn't it? A little knowledge can make a sad hash of things. There is no place in Jamaica called the "Isle of Wood and Water," the whole Island itself is known by that name, and the scene on the stamp no doubt is that of a glade existing in the Island. How in the world any more timber could have been crowded on the stamp, than what is shown there, is not conceivable, and just how the god Pan has been made to do duty for timber said to be lacking, is a mystery known only to the author of the paragraph. We are unable to believe that Sir Leslie Probyn, was guilty of the faux pas attributed to him. Here is the memorandum penned by the ex-governor himself, at the time the stamp was issued, that intelligently explains the symbolism used in the design:—

"The Jamaica 5/- postal stamp is one of a series designed to commemorate the more important facts of the Island's history, the stamp itself symbolizing the fact that Jamaica has long held a pleasingly rhythmic and sonorous title, viz., "The Land of Wood and Water."

To some extent, the antiquity of this title depends on whether the word "Jamaica" signifies a country abounding in woods and water and (as may be expected) historians differ on this point, doing so for different reasons. Thus John Atkins (1737) explains that Jamaica is so called owing to the interference of King James, the word being a compound of his name and "ca" an island; secondly, Long (1774) declares that the name is derived from "Jamacara," a word of Indian extraction used by the Brazilians meaning the "prickly pear," i.e., a species of cactus which is plentiful in the coastal regions; thirdly, James Knight (1743)

maintains that the word is derived from "Jamajaco" because in the Indian language "Jamo" means a country and "jaco" means water; fourthly, Bryan Edwards (1793) asserts that the conquering Spaniards wrote "Xaymaca," doing so in the belief that this native name signified a country abounding in rivers and springs.

The first two of these theories ignore both "wood" and "water," consequently the 5/- stamp has been compelled to ignore both King James and the prickly pear. The third theory proves that, from time immemorial Jamaica has been pre-eminent on account of its water, either fresh or salt. The fourth theory shows that this "water" is sparkling and fresh, thus the theory goes far in support of Bridges (A. D. 1828) a historian who used imagination to vivify history and whose own theory has been accepted by nearly all of the later writers. He (Bridges) pointed out that in the speech of Florida, the word "Chaubaan" signified "water" and "Makia" "wood," the word being also similar in sound to "Chab-makia." This last word if harmonized to the Spanish ear, becomes "Chamakia;" hence, the two ideas would be united more or less so as to mean a wooded country watered, therefore, by shaded springs.

In this way, Jamaica's attractive title can be traced back to the far off times when people thought more of the god Pan than present folk think of commerce. Moreover the title has been conferred on the Island by Nature herself. The trees cover the whole surface even of the vertical precipices which overlook the swift flowing "Mouth of the Waters," and in the plains also you find the valuable *lignumvitae* and pimento trees; lastly, both rivers and lakes demand attention because many of them disappear in order to re-appear in an elfin-like way.

It is, of course difficult to symbolize all

of these things within the narrow limits of a postage stamp, but the 5/- stamp has done its best in the hope that it may please. At the right of the foreground, one sees a little stream falling over rocks and beyond one sees the god Pan playing his pipes whilst he sits on a boulder; thus, if one is imaginative (like a good historian) one can hear the god's alluring music mingling with that of the water. The stream turns to the right, being flanked by tall trees; thus a glade is formed through which distant mountains are visible. The time is at night, and one is looking eastwards; these things are clear because the constellation of Aquarius is rising over the mountains, the great Square of Pegasus being hidden by the trees at the left of the picture. The design of the stamp, therefore, is almost lavish in its use of wood and water. The god Pan, coming from the distant past, is also appropriate; he is in keeping with the ancient title; he symbolizes the spirit of the woods; besides all this, he is merry, as indeed are all the kind-hearted people of Jamaica. L.P."

Sandy Gully is once more in the news locally, with the opening there of a local Government Post office on the 7th July, and so provides an addition to the list of temporary date stamps. A horizontal oval 51 mm long and 34 mm broad, bounded by thick, outer, and thin inner lines set close to each other, enclose a smaller oval 35 mm long by 19 mm broad. The

space between both ovals is 6 mm wide. In the upper part of that space are the words "Sandy Gully" in slanting serif type; in the lower in similar type is the word "Jamaica." In the inner oval, in thin upright type "sans serif," is set in figures the date, the month in letters, and complete figures "1942" of the year.

No 10. not Downing St., but the 3d. CC. The Revd. H. U. Powell writes of a copy on piece of original cover, that has been in his possession for some time and which because of the date stamp, he had believed to be a copy of No 3, the Pine. Recently he applied the benzine test, and found it to be a copy of No 10. Unfortunately, the detail that he gives is not as precise nor as comprehensive as it might be, and there has not been time enough to ask for amplification. He states "The date was (is?) early in February, 1870" and the "killer is of the right type for that year."

It would have been of rather more interest, to have learnt the precise date, if the postmark shows it, and which is the "killer" that was used, in order to learn the post office at which the stamp was used.

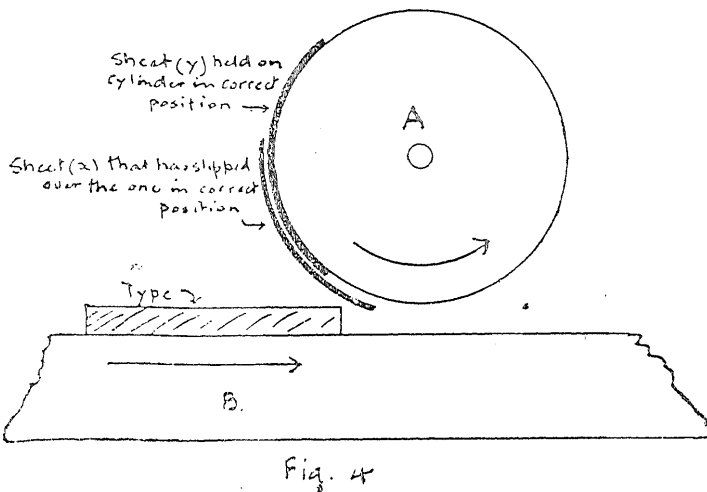
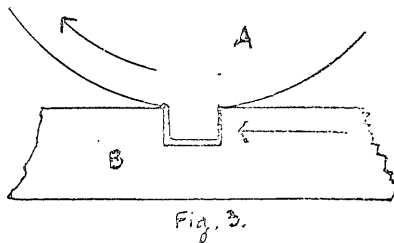
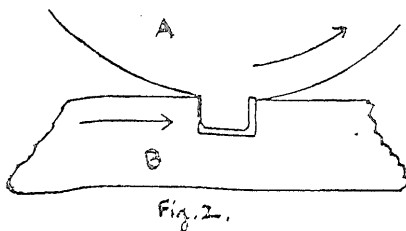
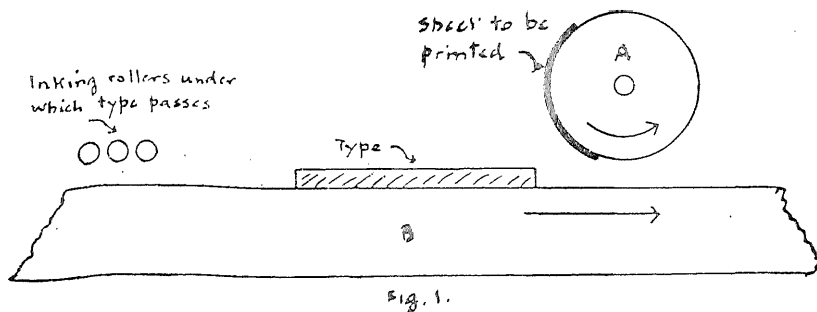
The earliest date recorded in "Jamaica" is 24th March, 1870, and Gibbons in their Jamaica list, show it as 1st March, of the same year. Mr. Powell's copy evidently is, as he claims it to be, the earliest dated copy, February of that year, which has come to light.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Jamaica War Stamp of 1916 With Double Overprint

By A. J. WATKIN

On page 15 of the last number of the JAMAICA PHILATELIST, a question was asked as to how it was possible for part of a

sheet of war stamps to bear a double overprint, whilst the remaining part was normal. The peculiarity of the "double"



was that it gradually grew out of the normal overprint.

Without studying the stamps minutely knowing the type of machine on which the overprinting was done, as well as being in possession of certain technical details, it is not possible to say anything definite; but, if one or two by no means ridiculous surmises happen to be correct, an explanation can be given.

The first surmise is that the overprinting was done on a machine of the kind known in England as a "Wharfedale." Portrayed by the simplest possible diagram, this kind of machine is shown in figure 1. The printing type (shaded) lies on a table (B) which, when making an impression, moves from left to right under a revolving cylinder (A) which, in turn, holds by means of "grippers" and

carries round with it the sheet of paper (solid) that is to be printed.

It is probably quite evident that the revolutions of the cylinder (A) must be accurately synchronised with the movements of the table (B) and that both will be driven by power transmitted through a chain of gears from one source.

Again in its simplest possible form, this chain of gears is shown diagrammatically in figure 2—by a single tooth. The table (B) is passing from left to right and is driving the cylinder (A) in an anticlockwise direction. It will be observed that there is a minute space to the right of the tooth. This represents wear that has occurred in the chain of gears.

Consideration must now be given to more surmises. One is that the sheet was fed into the machine bottom edge first. (Possibly the top margins were perforated whilst the bottom were not. The latter would, therefore, be less liable to tear.) A second is that, for some reason (no matter what—it often happens) the machine had to be stopped just as the seventh and eighth rows of overprints (from the bottom of the sheet, of course) were being printed. These two rows would respectively, to quote the article, “the fourth row” (where the overprint began to get thick) and the lowest of “the first three rows of the lower panes” (which were “normal.”) A third surmise is that after the machine had been stopped, it had to be moved backwards for a little way (probably by operating the flywheel by hand) possibly to remove some foreign body or make a small adjustment.

Now when the “backing-up” of the machine begins, the table (B) of course reverses its direction of movement and, theoretically, will move the distance of the minute space (representing the wear in the gears) before any movement at

all is transmitted to cylinder (A). This is shown in figure 3.

The word “theoretically” has been deliberately used because quite evidently, that is not exactly what happened in this case. Had it been, the over prints of the “fourth row” would have been smeared by the movement of the type under the *stationary* paper on the stationary cylinder. The tooth would have then started to move the cylinder and the portion of the sheet already printed would have received another overprint—the second subjects all being at the *same distance from the originals*. When the machine began its normal run the bottom row of overprints, on which it had stopped after being backed, would have been similarly smeared as the tooth resumed its original position.

What may have happened in the case under review is that on the packing (or makeready) sheets round the cylinder a slight “embossing” had been formed through the constant impressions of the type, and this embossing, by affording a slight grip to the type, was sufficient to begin carrying the cylinder round when the table started moving backwards. The comparatively soft makeready sheets were, however, not sufficiently strong to overcome entirely the natural disinclination of the cylinder to be turned, and so there was, all the while, a very small slip between the cylinder and the table. (The slip might equally well have occurred through some other cause.) This slipping continued until the “backlash” (i.e. the minute space) in the gears had been taken up and the table actually began to drive the cylinder positively by means of the tooth. Owing to this slipping, the distance between the original impressions of the overprint and those made as the type printed on its backward journey gradually increased. Thus the double overprints gradually “grew” out of the originals un-

til they became quite separated.

When the adjustment which necessitated the "backing" of the machine had been completed, the machine would resume its normal run and the "slipping" process would be repeated but in the reverse direction. This time a third (!) impression would be made by the type, but it would coincide almost exactly with the (second) one made when the machine was being backed—i. e. it would start at the greatest distance from the original (first) impression and gradually creep nearer until both finally merged after the "fourth row" (from the top of the lower panes)

It will be noted that, if these surmises have been correct, the so called "double" overprint is really "triple." That it cannot readily be so recognised may be explained either by the fact that the third impression coincided almost exactly with the second and so was indistinguishable from it or, if (as may be) it is visible with a glass, it is albino, the type having given up all its ink whilst making the two previous impression (With such a small backward movement of the table (B), the type would not have reached the inking rollers to be reinked.)

There is a possible alternative explanation. This time the sheets would be printed head first and two sheets may have gone into the machine together, the one (x) ahead of the other (y) as indicated in figure 4. (Sheets of paper when being handled will sometimes do the most extraordinary things!) The sheet marked (y) is the one held properly on the cylinder (A), the other (x) has overshot the "grippers" that hold sheet (y).

Now the type is only going to make one impression as it passes under the cylinder (A) and so the beginning of that impression will be taken by sheet

(x), whilst the remainder will be on its correct place on the lower rows of sheet (y).

The (part) impression on sheet (x) may, of course be in any comical position and provide one of those rarities (sic!) for which some philatelists are charged (and pay) a fancy price! The sheet should, of course, have been destroyed for it's nothing more than printer's spoilage and its philatelic (as contrasted with speculative) value exactly nil.

Now if the machinist, in an attempt to reduce his spoilage, tries to make sheet (y) into a good one by putting it through the machine again, a double overprint is almost bound to show on the lower rows, because it would be little short of a miracle if the sheet were put into the machine again so exactly that the two impressions coincided absolutely.

That only leaves the question of the "growing" of one overprint out of the other to be explained. When the machinist sees that two or more sheets are going into the machine together, he stops the machine as quickly as he can in order to avoid, if possible, the damage that is likely to occur. The checking of the speed of the machine would result in the taking up of the "backlash" in the gears and would mean that the table (A) and the cylinder (B) would, in fact, for a moment travel at different speeds. This in turn, would cause a lengthening (or shortening as the case may be) of the *total* North-South measurement of the overprints on the sheet. Each row of overprints would be a slightly greater amount out of its true position until the maximum was reached. When the sheet was put through the second time, the North-South measurement would be the normal one and the resulting double impression would appear exactly as described in the article.

Printing

At a recent meeting of this Society, it was suggested to a member, who had declared inability to write anything about stamps, that; possessed as he is of a reasonably good collection of stamps-comprehensive of the issues of Central and South America, he had subjects and material for rather more than one very interesting story; that of Bolivar, the Liberator, for instance. That historical personage is closely and intimately connected with the history of some of those republics, and in private life had lived for some time here, at Kingston, Jamaica.

The suggestion appeared to cause some surprise, astonishment that a worth while story about stamps, could be written around such a subject. Convinced that it could be, the member undertook to make the effort, to produce something based on one or other episode of that history.

This writer also was surprised, that the suggestion should have astonished. Almost any story one may read about stamps and their designs, has a factual basis, and because the design has been used for a postage stamp, its history of necessity has philatelic interest, and that is in addition to the fact that historical narrative, usually has general interest. That point may be developed with the statement, it is that very interest, caught by the narrative written in the philatelic sense, which has brought many an otherwise uninterested individual, into the ranks of stamp collectors and philatelists.

The incident has caused this writer to wonder whether, quite unwittingly, he has been guilty of discouragement of would-be contributors to the literary phase of the Society's effort, by the fact that for some time past his contributions, more or less, have been based on tech-

nical matters. Those efforts were caused by expressed desire of some for information, and as the respective matters appeared to be of general interest; the attempt was made to have them available to all. Technicalities are not the beginning and end or whole objective of stamp collecting, nor of philatelic knowledge. Some measure of that knowledge is necessary, in order that individual effort may be intelligently directed; that acquisition of material may be inspired with knowledge; that error made liable by lack of it, may be kept at the minimum; and that the slogan applicable to most of us, "collecting for pleasure and profit," may in fact be realized. That is not all by any means, as were the hobby reduced to those terms, technicalities and material values, it would not be a hobby, but a business instead, from which the factor of pleasure would largely be eliminated, its charm lost, both of which exist in and are enhanced by the very wide human interest, there is to be found in the stories stamps have to tell; that may be deduced from their designs portraying the historical, romantic, biographical, industrial, scientific, agricultural, zoological, botanical, in fact so wide a range of subjects that any attempt to detail them probably would be incomplete.

The object of previous articles such as this, was to aid development of ability to identify your specimens, where there may have been issues in the same design, apparently identical one with the other, yet capable of being differentiated by some not very obvious detail. In many instances such difference is substantial, when expressed in shillings and pence, and for that reason, if for no other ability to differentiate and identify, should be of decided interest and concern to each collector of stamps. You are no

doubt aware that such differences do exist in different types of watermarks, for instance, the Jamaica 4d. brown Queen's Head, C A of 1883, is listed by Gibbons at 8d. per copy in used state. The same design, colour, paper, perforation but with the MCA watermark is listed similarly at 32/6. Without knowledge and ability to distinguish the watermark, and so identify the stamp, it is possible to mistake one for the other with all that that may mean.

This effort is designed to aid identification of methods, that have been used to print postage stamps, for the reason that in many instances, difference of method also means difference in value, and it is by the method of printing that identification is possible, when and where the same design was employed, printed in the same colour on the same paper with the same watermark, with the same perforation.

To follow and understand the detail, it is perhaps necessary to provide as shortly as that may be possible, a general¹ idea which may be set out thus:—

- (a) Artist's design
- (b) Flat die
- (c) Transfer roller
- (d) Printing plate
- (e) Printed sheet

those are the factors that must be brought into existence, to provide the public with postage stamps, and considering them in the order set out:—

(a) The selected design is reduced in size to the dimensions of the desired stamp.

(b) The die maker works from that, cutting the design in reverse in or on a small plate of soft steel, which is then hardened and polished.

(c) The transfer roller, also of soft steel, under pressure is passed over the dye, from which it takes up the impression of the design, it is then hardened.

(d) The printing plate, again of soft

steel, is placed under the transfer roller, which with pressure exerted by machinery, transfers the design to the plate in reverse. The process is repeated as many times, as there are subjects required on the plate; thus, a plate may have any number of subjects up to say 400, each of which should be a precise replica of all the others. The plate is hardened and polished, placed in the printing press it is ready to produce—

(e) The printed sheet of stamps which, after perforation is distributed to the public.

In very general terms, that is the process and procedure. There are many modifications of the process, no attempt to cover them all can be made here, as to do so a large volume would be necessary, and for our purpose general conception of each process, is all that is required.

Until recent years, methods used to print postage stamps, were classified into four main groups, and it is to consider the distinguishing features of each group that this effort is directed. They are:—

[1] Engraved, the English equivalent of the Italian "intaglio," which is often used as a recognized philatelic term, as are "line engraved," "recess," "recess printed," all meaning the same thing. In preparing the "flat die" the engraver cuts the lines of the design to be printed *into* [b] and when the design is transferred from the "roller," the lines of the design are sunk *into* the plate. When used for printing the ink fills the indentations of the sunken lines, and any surplus is removed from the face of the plate. The paper usually is damped with water to ensure close adherence when applied to the plate, and takes up from the lines the ink that is in them, where it remains *on and above* the surface of the paper.

Examine any one of our current stamps, all of which are recess printed, and find by sight or touch or both, that the

printed lines of the design stand up above the surface of the paper. It may be observed in the lower denominations, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., for instance that the figures of value *are not printed*, they are in white, which means that their shapes *were not cut into the plate*, the surrounding metal was cut away; except for the lines of shading which are printed; while metal conforming to the desired shapes was left untouched, a change of method that brings us to

[2] Typography, a term that should explain itself, meaning like type or produced from type. Sometimes in philately the French term "*en epargne*" is used its English equivalent "*in relief*" helps understanding i. e., a design in relief that is used to print, a type for printing. Most readers if not familiar with printers' type, will have seen and perhaps observed the face of the type on a rubber stamp, that the shape of each letter stands up in relief from the body of the material used to make the stamp; printers' type and designs for typographic printing, are identical in that respect.

The procedure to make a typographic plate is as has been set out in (a) to (e.) but with the difference that the die is not made by cutting the lines of the design *into* the steel, as is done for recess printing, the material or steel in the interstices between and around the lines of the design *is cut away*, leaving the lines standing in relief, and so has the face of type. Transfer of the design to the roller, means that the lines of the design are sunk into it, and when retransferred to the printing plate, those lines again are in relief. The plate with the desired number of subjects, is placed in the printing press, inked by a roller as for ordinary printing, gives impression on the paper that is flat, as are the printed words on this page, printed from type. Any design printed by typography is not as clear cut, the detail is not as sharp

and clear, definition is not as positive, as are the lines of a design printed from recess plates, but it is cheaper to produce. All of our Jamaica stamps from the "pines" to the 1d. Arawak, except both Llandoverys, were produced from typographic plates.

[3] Lithography describes a process that has been used in the past to produce postage stamps, but though it has been modified and modernized, to a high state of excellence, it is little used for that purpose now. For the reason stated, it is necessary to recognize and lightly examine the process in any general survey, such as we are trying to make, of printing processes used in philately.

The term in English is a combination derived from two Greek words that respectively mean "stone" and "writing," the English equivalent being "writing on stone." The process was developed in Germany, at Munich of Nazi notorety near where the special kind of stone required is found. The peculiar properties of the stone, after it has been prepared for use by levelling, smoothing, and polishing, are:—

[a] a drawing in fatty ink on the stone or transferred to it from paper, adheres firmly and is fixed permanently; to remove it the inked surface must be ground off.

[b] the parts between the lines of the design, free of ink, readily receive, absorb and retain water.

[c] The inking roller passed over the surface, transfers the fat ink to the lines of the design only, the wet spaces between those lines, reject it.

A general objection to the process, for production of postage stamps is, the practical impossibility for the human hand to make a large number of precise, exact replicas. That difficulty was ameliorated by what is termed "building" i. e., five drawings by hand in the necessary ink, were made on paper and under pres-

sure were transferred to the stone; re-inked the procedure was repeated until the desired number of subjects had been set on the stone, and so what then became the printing plate had been made. Great care was necessary to obtain proper alignment of the many subjects, both vertically and horizontally, especially so if the finished sheet of stamps had to be perforated, and that absorbed a deal of time, with resulting error that spoiled transfers, the plate itself, etc.,

Lithographed prints may be recognized by softness of tones, lack of clear cut definition, the lines of the design tend to merge, tiny spots of colour in spaces that should be unprinted; but no written description can help understanding so well, as study of the prints themselves; that can be undertaken at little expense by acquisition of some stamps of Para-

guay. There are issues in the same design, printed respectively by lithography and typography, that can be obtained very cheaply, and similarly others produced by the recess process. There are other South American issues, that can be used for the same purpose, and can be as cheaply obtained.

Embossed printings refer to yet another process, but as they are readily recognized; those of Great Britain 1847-54, Gambia 1869-87, for instance; there is not necessity to describe them here. Description may be of interest to those who may wish to know how they were produced, but this effort at description of printing processes, is meant to aid recognition of specimens produced by the respective processes, not to describe the processes themselves; that would be far too large for the pages of this journal.

The Jamaica Parcels Post

By G. C. GUNTER

The compilers of the book "Jamaica, its Postal History, Postage Stamps, and Postmarks," published in 1928 by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London, inform us in that useful and interesting philatelic publication that Jamaica has the honour of being the first British Colony to establish a Post Office. Much interesting information is given concerning the development of this great public institution, which has been traced in much detail from its inception in 1671, right down to the year 1926, when the compilers' work was finished.

But most of the information deals with the development of the mails as affecting the carriage and delivery of letters. Very little is told us about the development of the Parcels Post system first introduced between England and Jamaica on the 1st. of October 1885, which date was then the beginning of Jamaica's fiscal year.

The success of the Parcels Post exchange with England soon led to a demand for a similar service with America, and on the 1st. of October 1887 a Parcels Post agreement was concluded with the United States, Jamaica being the first foreign country to enter into a convention with that country.

Immediately following the example set by Jamaica, Parcels Post conventions were concluded with Barbados (1st. Dec. 1887,) the Bahamas (1st. Feb. 1888) and British Honduras (1st. March 1888.)

An interesting fact connected with the inauguration of the Parcels Post system between Jamaica and the United States is referred to by the Postmaster General for Jamaica in a short paragraph of his Annual Report for the fiscal year ended 31st. March 1939, but as the circumstance is so little known, I think, it is worth recounting it at length in this

short article. To celebrate the Parcels Post agreement, the Jamaica Government of the day arranged that the first parcel of this first Parcels Post exchange between the United States and any foreign country, should be addressed to the first Lady of America, Mrs. Cleveland, the wife of the then President of America.

The parcel, mailed in Jamaica on the 1st. day of October 1887, was delivered to Mrs. Cleveland on behalf of the senders, the Women's Self Help Society of Kingston, Jamaica, by the kind offices of the Hon. N. M. Bell, the superintendent of foreign mails, Washington, to whom full credit for the realization of the Parcels Post exchange with the United States is due.

Mrs. Cleveland in accepting the parcel, acknowledged its contents in the following terms, "I wish to express to the Women's Self Help of Jamaica my gratification at the beautiful fan I have just received by the new Parcels Post. The fan gives me great pleasure as an example of what the women of Jamaica can do, and also because it has been the means of paying me a compliment I so appreciate, of being the first American to receive a parcel by this method of transportation so recently adopted by our two countries."

Philatelists of those early days did not specialize in the collection of first day covers, but in the light of present day Philately what a useful item the entire wrapper of Mrs. Cleveland's parcel would have proved to a collector of Postal History items.

How useful the Parcels Post has been to the two countries can be vouched for by the thousands of people of Jamaica who have relations and friends living in America, or who do business with that great country.

As mentioned earlier, two years before the start of this new postal exchange with America the Parcels Post was in

operation with Great Britain. In the first year of service 779 parcels were carried by this means to England and 3020 were received in Jamaica. In the first year of the service with America only 244 parcels were dispatched from the Island and 369 received.

Today the Parcels Post system extends to the four corners of the globe. The regulations and facilities of the system have expanded with the passing of years, and to such an extent has this been the case that Jamaica is now privileged to share with other and larger countries conveniences of this method of postal transportation that never could have been dreamt of by those who were instrumental in originating the system in 1885.

In those early days of the Parcels Post it is on record that on account of limited space at the disposal of the Post Office authorities, as well as on the grounds of economy, parcels were dispatched from, and delivered at places within the island, served either by the Railway, the Coastal Steamers, or Mail Coaches. Only when the Parcels Post became self supporting was the system greatly extended. By that time the Railway had been extended and new roads opened up, and to such an extent has the system justified its existence, that in the last available published Annual Report of the Jamaica Post Office, the records show that the number of parcels which came to Jamaica from England in that year was 70190, and from America 43747. It is a matter of great regret that on account of Government economy, the annual report of the Jamaica Post Office is not now published, and therefore, its statistics, so useful to students of Jamaica Postal History, are not readily available to them.

As a matter of interest may I refer here to the report of the Postmaster General for the United States of America for the fiscal year ended 30th. June 1887,

wherein he referred to the Parcels Post exchange with Jamaica in the following terms. "Parcels Post conventions have never been hitherto negotiated with other countries nor have any domestic arrangements of the kind been set on foot. It has been our policy to leave to express companies and other carriers the transportation of all parcels above the mailable weight of four pounds, and no general demand for any change of policy has ever arisen, such service by private hands having apparently been hitherto accepted as satisfactory. This however, has little or no relation to the interchange of small parcels of merchandise with foreign countries. The restrictions of the Tariff Laws, not only in the duties imposed, but still more in the troublesome, expensive requirements attending the passage through the Custom-house and the forwarding of articles, have to a great degree prevented the purchase here by persons residing abroad, or these sending hither the smaller goods in retail which within our borders are freely purchased although long distances intervened between the buyer and seller. It has seemed probable that this obstruction might be removed with great advantage to our people, especially to our merchants and the ocean carriers, by concluding with the countries of our continent and its contiguous islands, arrangements for the use of the mails for such purposes which would afford entire freedom of transmission of single parcels of moderate weight and size, subject only to the payment on receipt by the addressee of the proper duty without further charge."

Undoubtedly this Parcels Post system

has benefitted both countries, and there is not one of us here this evening who cannot truthfully say that the service now rendered by the Jamaica Post Office is conducted with the least possible inconvenience. Parcels are delivered with almost unbelievable promptitude to all parts of the island, and although a small customs clearance fee is charged on foreign parcels, their owners pay the charge willingly when they consider the service they are getting and how much greater is the customs clearance charge for parcels that are brought to Jamaica by express companies, or as freight by ocean carriers.

The Jamaica Post Office is a department of the Government that has not remained inactive. On the contrary it has made "a series of intrepid advances, utilized opportunities, and spirited reforms." The "Colonial Standard" of the 2nd. October 1889 and 29th. December 1890 so described the progress of this useful department. The Royal Commission of 1883 also described the Post Office Department as "one of the best managed in the Island." In those days the country Post Offices were ninety-one in number, and although this number has increased to about 300, the same remarks can be applied to its present-day administration. The Post Office Guide also amply illustrates this, and the public of Jamaica, as well as philatelists in the Island, are fortunate in having in the present Postmaster General an official who is always ready to consider the postal needs of the community, and to introduce improvements into the postal system of the country.

Our Officials

With expectation of the 2d. with the London overprint, there is little that can be

written about the stamps of that issue. A line or two to acknowledge existence,

to record some variations of shade, and they are dismissed. For that reason, any article of length, bearing the caption employed here, or one similar, almost certainly refers, as this does to the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. denomination, locally over printed issue.

It is common knowledge in the philatelic world, that that issue presented a number of problems; that study of them and publication of the result, was initiated by Dr Stanley Taylor; later his effort was supported and supplemented by Messrs W. B. Edwards, Dorning Beckton, Geo. Pearson, Capt. Gilber Lodge. In some instances they broke newground, clarified some obscure points discovered and elucidated new problems all of which has created voluminous literature on the subject. It is not our purpose to join issue with any of those distinguished philatelists, but rather like them to add to the knowledge already possessed, perhaps clear up one or two points, that may be still obscure, by publication of some relevant matter that has come our way. It does not seem to have been available to any of the students we have named, will no doubt be of interest to any of them yet alive, as well as to any others who may have used or are using the data compiled by them. Our present effort is really by way of a foreword, to the information here published.

Readily to understand the detail, it is necessary to refer to Gibbons "Stamp Weekly," Nos 198 and 201 dated respectively 17th Oct., and 7th Nov., 1908, to find Dr Taylor's articles, and the plates that accompanied them. Dr. Taylor's articles indicate that, through friends resident at Jamaica, he had corresponded with Camille Vendryes, the local printer who had applied the overprint to the stamps; he quotes information received, and that he had tried through the same means, without success, to pursue the matter farther.

Our Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. C. Gunter, has been fortunate to discover and acquire, from one of Mr. Vendryes' descendants, original papers signed by him, which explain why Dr. Taylor did not obtain all the information he desired, and which at the same time confute as well as confirm some of his conclusions.

We question our competence to make the best use of this hitherto unpublished matter, and appeal to any who can, to make the very desirable analysis, in its application to the already published articles to which we have referred, using this Journal as the means to publish the result developed.

The papers disclose that one of the local friends through whom Dr. Taylor sought information, was his brother, Capt. G. G. Taylor, of Moy Hall, Cedar Valley P. O.. There is no letter from Dr. Taylor, nor list of the questions he asked, but Vendryes' letter to Capt Taylor, seems to suggest that there were such papers which he returned, and Dr. Taylor's questions need to be inferred from the replies made by Vendryes.

Following are the papers we have:—

"Moy Hall, Cedar Valley P. O.
29th April, 1909

Dear Mr. Vendryes

I should be very much obliged if you would send me your remarks on my brother's stamp letter, as early as possible so as to enable me to get it off by next mail. I enclose stamps I think they will be enough to get the things through the post to

Yours very truly
G. G. Taylor

C. P. Vendryes
56 Johns Lane.

56 Johns Lane, Kingston
4th May, 1909.

Dear Captain Taylor,

After considering the subject over and over and trusting on the hope some day of possibly obtaining your pardon for the diappointment I now offer your goodself. I am returning your brothers papers and photographs:—unanswered; and most respectfully explain my reason. I have totally failed to persuade myself why I should not be rewarded for such service.

I am, dear Captn.
Yours faithfully
P. C. Vendryes.

A note on a slip of paper in Vendryes' handwriting explains that:—

Nos 16. 19 and 20 Vol. VIII, Gibbons stamp Weekly," Published by Stanley Gibbons, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W. C These newspapers contain the article about the stamps."

Comments by P. C. Vendryes of 56 Johns Lane, Kingston, Jamaica on the series of articles by Dr. Stanley Taylor, on the subject of the Jamaican Local Officials and 2½d. on 4d.; June 1890 that appeared in Gibbons "Stamp Weekly," Nos 16, 19 and 20 of Vol. VIII.

Plate "A." I agree with you in your account of the happenings to this plate during its printing. Many of what you suppose are "I"s are really lower case "l" in some instances inverted (i. e. inserted upside down) and if I had the actual stamps I could easily spot them—photo is but a copy, not so useful for this purpose. As an instance see No 13; the first capital "I" is beyond question a lower case "l" while the second is truly a capital "I". On No 18, the thinning you suggest it is not so; the first capital "I" is truly capital "I" but is worn while the second "I" is a lower case "l" (not much the worse for wear). I had better state here that this font was already much worn even when it was dedicated to surcharge work on two pence half-penny.

P. C. Vendryes, May 3, 1909

Plate "B". Your description of this setting is also correct. I composed this myself and I personally machined the edition. A broken "E" however is not the proper way to put it! A cut "E" would be more explanatory; I cut those that you call "broken". This truly was the first "Official" setting. The reason you give, "because errors are not in it," is no reason not to call it setting No. 1; it is nevertheless No. 1 setting. The first editions of Officials were for small amounts, £25 to £50, so the form was made to comprehend 1/5th of the pane only so as to save time in unnecessary compo. as the impressions in printing could be nothing to take as much extra time as would the extra compo. have taken apart from the scant resources of the old worn font used.

P. C. Vendryes, May 3, 1909

Plate "C". Your description of the manner of setting and machining is true; as this was a big lot of stamps to get through I had to make a most comprehensive form, in fact the most of all the settings (twenty types). No. 17. The "O" is the same font; you are wrong in supposing it to be "of a different font." I make this statement after examination! It is simply a trifle of [above] the line and is battered and possibly the underneath was purposely expanded with a jab or stick of a bodkin so as to lengthen it so as it would print, and this was overdone. Please examine the actual stamp and see if a heavy impression shows at the back of this letter, heavier than on the other letters of this same

stamp. If not, then I pronounce it possibly a figure "0" for the font was accompanied with figs. but anyway you are wrong for if it is a fig. "0", still it is the same font. Stamp No. 13, most important to you stamp collectors, this is not broken; it is a lower case "l" thus "1".

P. C. Vendryes, 3 May 1909.

Note. The classification "that this setting in blocks" is not clear to me what you mean, and finding you number it, I beg to say that it should be as the types were set this way and locked in the chase at the bottom or top.

Vendryes	Taylor
1-11	1-2
2-12	3-4
3-13	5-6
4-14	7-8
5-15	9-10
6-16	11-12
7-17	13-14
8-18	15-16
9-19	17-18
10-20	19-20

Plate "D". If you know as I know that there were several other than those of your collection you would understand why you may have now difficulty in reconciling these as you say "cannot place these in the three settings."

Thin Official Circulating in '94, '95

I state that although your second friend tells you "He (Vendryes) is sure he did not print in 1894" (see page 248) that your second friend misunderstood me; what I told him was I am not sure I did again print Officials at a later date, but now I well remember printing more of the Official, 2 or 3 times—this after the imported lot had been exhausted—and these were (as I was voluntarily explained by the authorities) "to stop the gap" as you put it, so this is a fact, but I can't give dates, unfortunately.

P. C. Vendryes, 3 May 1909

Therefore what appeared in '94, '95 were printed after the imported were done, and more required.

P. C. V.

Plate "E" you have not made mention of but on page 296 under Errors. I truly believe they were all genuine, and from my press, but please look up and study well my declaration as given, reporting on Plate "A" where I declare about the use of lower case "l"s for Cap "I"s" and there are many on that plate, and by carefully comparing the specimens of this plate "E" you may identify them by the "l" or possibly you may not, yet I feel certain now I see the photo (plate "E") that they are all real and were the results of accidents. This applies to all even what you call the "blind official," where letters seem to have dropped out of the form. Remember I did not do the machining, it was my work people, I only machined as far as I remember what I call setting No. 1, Plate "B".

P. C. Vendryes, 3 May 1909

2½d. on 4d.

Plate F No. 1 and No. 2, Plate G, Plate H all numbers. I have read most carefully

all you have written pages 312-15 and am to remark that to me there seems enough reason for presuming many things concerning genuineness or falseness of these 2½d. on 4d. stamps, Firstly: What you denominate (page 314 foot of second column) "put aside for future use;" to a stamp collector should have no interest, consequently to the dealer, no value?

The truth about such freaks is that they were printers' waste pure and simple, but returned by me to make my account clear of responsibility for such value as would have been created by their absence from my returns. Now you on your part (I won't suggest reasons to your goodself, it is not proper) think fit to treasure these absurdities on the one hand and almost in one breath, seem to deplore their existence, yes Sir, you in common with the whole of Philately act thus, why?

Secondly. The font of type is 8 line gothic elongated upper and lower case and figures by the New England Type Foundry, Boston, Mass., U.S.A. This type could have been bought; could have been set up and printed, couldn't it?, why not?, can you be sure it wasn't? You, who so much more than I know how a penny could be turned accordingly. I am naturally addressing myself in an impersonal sense to you, not accusing you but just denoting the trenchant possibilities of fraud, in order the better to convey my opinion of the case.

Thirdly. These errors; overprint crosses, upside down, sideways, etc., etc., were of a certainty made at my press legitimately at the time of the authorized issues, and truly were not a few nor a very simple classifiable variety either, and all well known to exist, nay to have been possibly authoritatively put into use and were all so very easily (at the time) to have been forged; were they not so forged? I think, nay I fully believe so, that they were forgeries. Your own words declare it: page 315 you write, "The rarest stamp is undoubtedly the one containing the genuine 'K' and its rarity is enhanced if it appears in a block of stamps." Have you got it in a pane of stamps? for until then it could not be proved other than a forgery, and I think it is accordingly, or, let me further remark even if some may think one way, others are more justified to conclude as I have done, the otherwise unfavourably to its genuineness and please bear in mind that I have no prejudices nor have had nor am ever likely to have for from childhood I have always regarded philately with a wistful eye, seems to me more like un wisdom to put it politely just much like old boots or cast off dress button collecting hobby.

Anyway to come to the plates. Your speculations are justified, they were set up and machined much after the methods you have set out in the writing, the working loose of the e e on the end line of the form, the clod of ink, the want of pressure at the impression, in fact when I read your account I think you must have been alongside the pressman.

There was three Settings

or three issues from my press, the last one for a very great number of impressions, which I then understood embraced all the stock of that kind of fourpence stamps in stock with the Stamp Commissioner, and remember attending at the vault at his office when even some of the sheets of stamps which were mildewed, torn or slightly worm eaten were included in the quantity, so that none should remain on hand unaltered to 2½d.

The thick "O," plate "H" No. 7, is a fig. 0 of the font of figures which accompany the font as is explained already. Finally.. You are to read a letter from a would-be forger and tell yourself what you think about my opinion afterwards. I found it in a book where I must have placed it, this book luckily escaped the almost universal destruction (in my case not by fire) by looting which took place after the Calamity. The stamp that was on the envelope must have gone the way of the collector, I suppose. The man who sent it I can't think who he was. The Simpson man I recollect but I don't know where he is today. Anyhow let me say that I just read it when I got it and was only reminded of it on its turning up about a year or so ago and I think I told your second friend about it when he first called on me. Note. It is not singular! there were others too and from Europe.

I owe you an apology for my treatment of your letter to me (I think from Switzerland it was) but pray excuse me for as I tell in this communication stamps are not in my line, never was, and never will be, and furthermore at the time it was yet unknown to me the great deep careful interest you have in the concern which although I can't duly appreciate I now well comprehend gives you pleasure at least, and therefore I now beg to say that in atonement for my past misconduct I have devoted as you see some few hours to your service.

I am dear Dr. Taylor, Yours faithfully,
P. C. Vendryes, 3 May 09."

Our readers will have recognized that the last of the quoted statements by Vendryes, i. e. relative to plates F., G., and H, long and rambling though it is, refers to Dr. Taylor's article on the local provisional 2½d. on 4d., June, 1890. That article with accompanying plates, may be found in the editions of Gibbon's "Stamp Weekly," to which we have referred for his articles on the local "Officials." As the overprinting of that issue was done by Vendryes, with the same type on the same press, that he used for the "Officials," it has some relative interest, in addition to that which it possesses as a

distinct issue. The Vendryes statement is very prolix on the subject of forgeries, a matter apparently raised by Dr Taylor's questions; and refers to letters he had received from "would-be forgers." Attached to the papers received by us, is a letter from one Eriksen to Vendryes, asking to be supplied with six sets each of type for the "official" and "two pence half penny" overprints, for which he offers to pay or return the type. Included with the letter is an I. O. U. signed by one Simpson; which apparently Eriksen offers as payment; for the sum of £1 3 0. The calamity he refers to clearly seems to be the earthquake of 1907.

Forgeries. There are more than one type of the local "Officials," especially so of the expensive varieties, but the most blatant that has come to our knowledge; we have not seen it; is in type quite different from that used by Vendryes, and *on the 1d. key plate purple*, the normal stamp in its normal colour. It does not appear to have been known to any of the writer-students, who have given so much attention to the issue, and came to our knowledge quite recently.

It may be of interest here to remark, that Miss Violet Taylor, whose photographic studies of native children, were used as the subjects of design of our Child Welfare stamps, is a lineal descendant of Capt. G. G. Taylor, and therefore also of Dr. Taylor.

The 2d. London Overprint. In our book "Jamaica," the chapter on the "Officials" by Mr. Buckland Edwards, carries this statement:—

"A proof of the 2d is known in its original colour, and the same value has been seen in its special colour (grey) without the overprint."

Mr. Edwards' assurance that the printing in grey, exists without the overprint must be accepted without reservation but we think that the printing in green

with the overprint, reasonably may be regarded as having status, rather higher than that of "a proof," and is in fact an authentic issue, even though it may be argued that if issued, the act was an error, not intentional; but that argument defeats itself, as in the best circles errors never are intentionally issued.

We first heard of the item several years ago, as in the collection of Dr. Stanley Taylor, and a local collector of that era Dr. H. F. Malabre who still is active, confirms the information with first hand knowledge obtained from Dr. Taylor himself. It will develop how and why he happened to be interested in the subject A few years ago; he thinks it was in 1934 he was in England and wrote Dr. Taylor. His letter was forwarded to Madeira where the Doctor had gone on vacation. His reply confirmed that he possessed a specimen of the stamp, stated that he found it in one of the stock books of a large firm of London dealers, from whom he obtained it, believing it to be a "trial printing," and because of his interest in the stamps of Jamaica. Although he had tried several other dealers, in England presumably, and on the Continent, he had not seen another copy.

The same collector refers us to "Godden's Gazette," Feb. 1935, No.5 Vol. 2, page 117, where with reference to the Jamaica lot in the A. H. Hopkinson collection, purchased by Frank Godden, Ltd., it is stated:—

"Among the Official stamps are some blocks showing the various settings, but the piece de resistance is a copy of the 2d green, key plate type, overprinted 'OFFICIAL.' This stamp was prepared for use, but was never issued, and I have only seen two other copies of this rarity."

The writer of that paragraph makes clear that he had positive knowledge of three copies of the stamp, and as he asserts that it was prepared for use, but not issued, it is reasonable to assume that all three were mint, unused speci-

mens, one of them probably that possessed by Dr. Taylor.

The collector we have mentioned, is the owner of a *used specimen of the stamp*, and there is no question of its having been cancelled by favour. He obtained it in a lot of stamps, other officials, etc., from a woman who at the time was office maid to the then Attorney General, the Hon. T. B. Oughton. Unfortunately the whole cover was not preserved, the stamp reached him "on piece." It bears the Kingston "Registered" post mark cancellation, but the date is not legible. He fixes it at some time in one of the years 1893-96, when he occupied an office in the same building which housed that of the Attorney General. The novelty appealed to him as a stamp collector, and he tried to learn its history by appeal to the Postmaster, Mr. George Pearce. Those of us who may remember that gentleman, will not be surprised to learn that he failed to arouse any interest, the matter was treated as of no importance, the enquirer regarded as a nuisance. Like Dr. Taylor, the collector has not seen another copy, but the normally used specimen that came his way, is extant in his collection.

The foregoing references make clear, beyond any doubt, that the 2d. green key plate of 1891, exists with the London

"OFFICIAL" overprint. Existence of mint copies in England, is not enough to lift the status of the stamp from that of a "proof" or "trial" printing, to that of an authentic, legal issue; but existence here of a used copy, legalized and authenticated by act of the Government itself, to frank the passage of official correspondence from one Government Department to another, through the agency of still another Government Department, i. e., that of the Post Office, places the stamp in the category of all other issues of stamps so classified and recognized. In support of that claim, it is well to remember that "Official" stamps were not sold to the general public, they were reserved for use by Government Departments to frank official correspondence.

There is no evidence available to account positively for existence of the stamp, but from what there is as adduced here, reasonably it may be inferred that there was a "trial" printing; decision was taken that the colour should be changed to grey; when the first printing in that colour was dispatched to the Island, the residue of the "trial" printing was included; and that that residue passed without local official notice into issue and use, from which the used copy recorded here, happens to be, in so far as we now know, the sole survivor.

From Amoeba to Exquisite

By J. M. NETHERSOLE

The subjects philatelic on which one may discourse, are really, comparatively few in number—they have all been treated exhaustively in the main and subdivisions by students, specialists and experts, all of erudition much superior to this mere beginner, who has no intention of defying any lightning. Still even to such as I there occur half-baked ideas, and I venture to present, particularly to fellow-

neophytes, this farrago of observations under the foregoing title.

Most of us burst into the hobby as general collectors, or as aspirants to the titanic task of accumulating all the issues of the Empire. Some of us are still aspiring, others have realized that that section of collecting is too wide and have devoted their energies to some smaller group.

To many, restricted to these small groups, there still persists a genuine interest in *all* stamps, irrespective of country, design, period, or value—to such true stamp-lovers I can recommend what I call a “jumble-box;” this is an album, home-made if you like, into which go all the oddments which accrue to all collectors—those unexpected sources, as from the friend who said “Oh, you collect stamps, don’t you?” “these any use to you?”—or from the (usually unsolicited) correspondent who sends you fifty or so common Europeans or U.S. expecting to receive, in return, an equal quantity of 1/- Jubilees (preferably with extra flag-staff) or Mint Pines—or from the collection which you bought for the sake of a score or so of wanted stamps; in short from any of our numerous sources of supply.

These extras multiply rapidly; because the true collector never refuses the offer of a stamp or stamps; who knows but that among the 500 or so mixed Jamaicas on piece there may not be lurking a Queen Victoria 1/- with inverted frame? Or that the dear old lady who bestows on you the envelopes of that bundle of letters she has cherished from girlhood days, relics of an early, (perhaps only) romance, may not include an entire with a 6d. Great Britain “used in Jamaica?”

This jumble-box, then, represents the Amoeba, which, my medical friends tell me, is one of the lowest forms of life—it certainly is one of the lowest forms of collecting, for the first, and strictest rule is that the contributions must cost you nothing, at any rate you must not buy nor exchange especially for the jumble; next, there must be no serious attempt at order, the additions must go in almost just as they come, disregarding chronology. It is remarkable how, after two or three years the pages show a striking accumulation; it is then that one gets a sneaking feeling that the general collector is the better off in respect of horizon.

I can hear the snorts of the determined specialists, but may I remind them that I also, as far as a thin purse and limited opportunities permit, seek to specialise in my own small group. I can appreciate as keenly as they a superb used block-of-four of the 4d. Brown Queen Victoria M. C. A. issue of 1905 or of the 2/- Venetian Red of the same issue, or a complete sheet of the 5d M. C. A. Arms with the “Ser . . et” error. There are some who can appreciate rum and ginger equally with vintage port, and there is rum and RUM.

I have taken from the jumble-box as illustrations of these oddments stamps from Abyssinia with the Lion of Judah and an even tougher fellow, a perfect production from Andorra, (a part-French part-Spanish border town in the Pyrenees) four of the mourning issue of Belgium after the tragic death of Queen Astrid, a 2000 reis of Brazil, a Bolivian of odd design, some Columbia modern provisionals, A “Condor” First-Flight There are the tobacco advertisements of Cuba, the beautiful Guayra Morada of Costa Rica, Czechoslovakias MAZARYK, a philatelic horror from Dominica Republic, and mourning stamps for Jose Valdez. See too, out-sizes of Ecuador and Honduras, handsome modern pictorials of France.

No Stamp Collection is complete without a copy of the “Mother” of all adhesives, the 1d. Black of Great Britain—Pallas Athene from Greece and proof of their regard for Byron. So far, there is no Pearl Harbour issue, but I include a bearded King of Hawaii; from Guatemala a “Paquebot” strip, their Quetzals, and their national flower the lovely Monja Blanca. Look at this hideous litho from Haiti and a block of ten of their 50c Black Air-mail.

Included are some of Mexico’s modern designs, a darling from the CoteD’Ivoire, Italy’s Romulus and Remus at lunch Nyassa’s giraffes, a sight once familiar to us in Jamaica, Poland’s Motor-ship the

Pilsudski, a weeny little quarter-peseta from Spain, and three of the 1907 Madrid Exhibition issue, a trio of "Pro Juventute" of Switzerland, a not-so-common Thurn and Taxis (S/G 43) "roulette en couleur," a League of Nations 15c., a Ukraine "Trident."

Kipling's ballad, "Rolling down to Rio" sounds a note of poignant yearning which I echo in one respect, I have no got a stamp from TANNOU TOUVA!!

These are some of the stamps which provide material wherewith to pass many an odd half hour, food for contemplation on the historical reason for each, amusement which has cost the minimum—all undeniably, intrinsically of interest. Such is my AMOEBA.

At the other end of the philatelic scale we find the EXQUISITES—the plums, the pearls, accessible mainly to the Hinds, the Ferraris, the Lagerloefs—the Imperforates, the Overprints, the Surcharges, the host of multifareous "Varieties" on which the speculators grow fat. I do not, designedly, mention the true Classic rarities. But all of these "Sports" or provisionals, the highest birds and the most fascinating are those which I designate

STOP-GAP \$TAMPS

meaning thereby the scarce BISECTS.

If you will consult your copy of the best-known to us of the philatelic Bibles, Gibbons, you will readily appreciate why I use the \$ sign instead of an "S;" with but all too few exceptions they are for the plutocrat.

Charity, it is said, begins at home, so let us consider our own local product (the 1d. Pine.) In 1861, to meet a demand for a stamp for prepaying postage on newspapers this 1d. stamp was allowed to be bisected and used as a ½d. stamp; the correct bisection is diagonal in direction, but vertical division is not uncommon. I do not propose to delve deeper into the details of this item, for are they not written in the book "Jam-

aica" of which our President is a co-editor.

Bisects are, generally, of little authentic value unless on piece or entire, and "tied" with genuine post-mark; many ingenious forgeries exist, and I display one such of our Jamaica 1861 bisect.

The B. W. I. group on which most of us here concentrate, if we include Br. Guiana and Br. Honduras, comprises nineteen localities, of these it seems that Antigua, Br. Guiana, the Bahamas, Leewards, Caymans, St. Kitts & Nevis and (naturally) the Virgin Islands were the only wise ones who had no need to resort to this temporary mutilation. The earliest date in this group seems to be 1861, when both Barbados and Jamaica used the shears; the latest date recorded is 1894, when Turks Island bisected a Key Plate 5d.

As a \$top-gap \$tamp this last is an excellent example, in that even Gibbons shrinks from a valuation! The five bisects of Trinidad seem to be the least expensive at any rate, only two of them are unpriced! A small matter of £80 should see you with the Dominica halves after dickering with Mr. Stanley Phillips for S/G 13a at £60. Our own Pine bisect has fetched £6 at auction on entire tied to normal.

I pass by the others, all provocative of the deadly sins of envy, hatred and malice, to speak of the best last. Look at the Barbados items, a certified cheque for £250 might get you the rarest of these, an unsevered mint pair of the 1d. on half 5/- (S/G 86.) The most convincing proof of the aptness of the Dollar-Sign lies in the accompanying superb reproduction of the "Snowdon" collection of Barbados, wherein is shown a garnering of Barbados Bisects such as to shiver to fragments the Tenth Commandment. Note the very "Reasonable" price asked for the gems a mere bagatelle of £5050 0 0!!!

Fortunately, not all of these Darlings

of Midas are beyond the purses of the poor, for Dominica S/G 11 is listed at 10/- only, and even I possess British Honduras S/G 37.

Who then will join with me in chartering the "Time Machine" of H. G. Wells and flipping back to 1861 to 1894? WHAT a prospect!! this in spite of the difficulties we should experience on our return, in the marketing of our haul; I wager long odds that some "Expert" would pronounce pontifically against the genuine character of our pearls!

Many of the other 9999 stamp-issuing countries at one time or other had re-

course to this type of provisional and even the jumble box can provide for your inspection (1) S/G D3 of BELGIUM, a 10c Postage Due bisected for use as a 5c, and (2) what is, probably, the latest example of the genus Bisect, the GUATEMALA 2c of 1929 (S/G 229) bisected for use as a 1c stamp, on entire tied to normals.

Who knows but that in the far-off days to come some yet unborn collector may be grateful to me for having preserved this cover for him?

ALL ABOARD FOR THE TIME-MACHINE!

Stamp Collecting in War Time

In another article published in this edition, Mr. J. M. Nethersole, one of our members; exhibits the enthusiasm of the real stamp collector, and shows that he has been able to make the time to indulge, in rather more than one side line to his chief or principal effort.

His article inspires this, which is by way of extended suggestion how evenings may be spent, while existing local conditions last.

Because of the very restricted means of transportation, many of us are likely to find long evenings on our hands, with little, perhaps nothing to do, with resulting boredom and sense of frustration. One may be able to get to the movies, but getting home after the show, presents a problem, unless one is content to walk; with all that that means in the prevailing hot weather; or lives on or near to one of the few tram routes there are. Private cars are out, and so are the busses after 6 o'clock or thereabouts. When we get home in the afternoon, tea and dinner over, what is there to do? The radio news is through in 15 minutes, probably is heard in the interval between tea and dinner, and at the moment

is not cheering enough to stand repetition. We may go fishing for a programme, perhaps are lucky enough to pick up something of interest, one of good music, but again that lasts for fifteen minutes, then what? Perhaps friendly neighbours drop in for a chat, perhaps they do not. Well let's read something; that does not last, we yawn, slump and drowse in our chairs, go to sleep or bed, and for us 9 or 9.30 sees the close of a very imperfect day.

As alternative that will provide occupation, that has interest to support it, why not turn to our stamps? Mull over all that lot of assorted stuff, something that we meant to do when we could find the time, check the duplicates we find for varieties of shade, perforation, watermark, die. A lot of very common GB, of which there is plenty on hand, may yield a copy of Gibbons 328a, 350, 382a, 421a, or something similar, and your collection is enriched by an addition quite out of the ordinary, a find that it has cost you nothing in cash, only a little time that may well have been far less profitably employed. Suppose you do not find any of the out of the common

items, unconsciously you will have improved your sense of colour, ability to recognise differences of shade when you see them, ability at one time or another that will be very useful to you. There should be also at hand, a lot of cheap and apparently common U.S.A. Similar industry may very well be rewarded, with discovery of varieties worth dollars instead of cents; but for that purpose you will need a copy of Scott's, catalogue to guide you. Gibbons USA list is not by any means as comprehensive as Scott's, just as Scott's of GB is not nearly as comprehensive as that of Gibbons.

So much for the Jumble box; what of that accumulation of specimens, acquired over the past months, which we have not sorted, cleaned, identified and mounted? There is time now to give them attention, and incidentally learn that this or that item still is required to complete this or that set knowledge that will enable us to be on the lookout for it.

Does each stamp on each page satisfy you relative to its condition? Look over the collection page by page, stamp by stamp, is each a perfectly sound and really good copy. By "perfectly sound condition," we mean a copy that is not damaged in any way; all the teeth of the perforation are there, it is not torn or thinned at the back, it is a whole and complete stamp, not part of one, is fairly well centered, i.e., has good margins on each side, does not have them extra, very wide on two sides, none on the others; the postmark cancellation is not so heavy as to obliterate the design, disfigure it making a large part illegible, is not smudged; there are no ink or other stains; in other words the stamp is a good clean specimen in good condition. Should you find any not in reasonably good condition, as suggested here, weed them out, set them aside for cheap sale or exchange, and set yourself to ac-

quire copies that will satisfy you to replace them. There is the "condition crank," whom nothing but the immaculate will satisfy. We do not preach his cult, we do not believe in reaching for the moon, we know it is unobtainable, but we do know that a high standard of reasonably good condition is attainable. We also know that that standard pays, it makes your stamps attractive even to the uninitiate, and ensures a ready market at a good figure, if and when you may ever need to sell.

Assuming that all those things have been done, there are interesting side lines that can be developed. Mr. Nethersole has given a lead in his article, but as we once wrote in comment on other literary matter by him, "chacun a son gout," and the particular side line mentioned by him, may not appeal to each and all, nor is it likely that any particular side line will. Some desire that the line selected, shall have prospect of monetary return, just as they they will expect their chief activity to do; without that incentive, they have no interest, but that objection does not stand, each line has promise of monetary return, but the market for one possibly is more restricted than for another. Other collectors find interest in collecting postmarks, to learn more of the places represented, than they know at the moment. The question "Why 'wait-a-bit'" for instance, takes some answering, one has to delve to find the answer, and there are sundry like that in Jamaica; indeed place names afford ample room for inquiry and study, and many have very interesting stories attached to them; thus through and by stamps, a very wide and interesting field is opened to you. Yet others desire slogan postmarks, and their meanings when they happen to be obscure. The Kingston post mark of some few years ago "Jamaica welcomes the Duke of Gloucester" is one worth having because of its rarity; used for only nine days and at

Kingston only, get one if you can and hold unto it. Yet another sideline is postal stationery, there are some very desirable items issued in the distant past by the local P. O., the Penitentiary post cards for instance.

To many, stamp collecting has been and still is, just a matter of acquiring as large a number as possible of different specimens of stamps, sticking them in an album of sorts, there the action ends. The whole idea is a vague one that by so doing, the collector will reap a rich reward in days to come. To carry on, on that basis, is the surest way to ensure disappointment. Experience should inform us, that to make a success of anything, no matter what, we must have knowledge of what we are doing. Without knowledge in and of, stamp collecting is much the same thing as trying to keep accounts, without a knowledge of bookkeeping or accountancy, viz, you are very apt to do the wrong thing, or to do right thing in the wrong way. The leisure that is being forced on us, provides opportunity to gain the knowledge necessary, to extend such as we may have, and to develop it on right lines, lines of our choosing, they are not being forced on us. Let your stamps tempt you into spending a little more time on them, they will reward you for it.

The really interested stamp collector, need never to be at a loose end, his hobby provides him with almost endless sources, from which activity of one kind or another may be developed. We have suggested some of those sources, from which spare time may and can create interesting and profitable occupation, but in each of those ways material on which to work is necessary.

If one does not possess the required material, the effort cannot be made, there is nothing on which to work, but having assumed the stamp collector, we must also assume possession of a collec-

tion of stamps. That of itself does not provide the material for the sidelines such as have been suggested, but they do provide the basis for at least one other, on which pent energy may be spent. Select some of the stamps that interest you most, and attempt to write what you may know of the design, the significance historical or otherwise, the method of printing, the paper, watermark, perforation, date of issue, under what regime, all that you can put on paper about it. Just try, and discover for yourself how little you do know, but don't be discouraged, endeavour to develop your knowledge by seeking information; it is all there somewhere to be had in books, magazines or from similarly interested friends. In course of that search, again you will be surprised at the wealth of knowledge you will acquire, not directly concerned with the stamp or stamps you are enquiring about, but which will have no little interest, possibly be of value and use to you in other matters.

Suppose for instance you select the stamps, or some of them, of St. Vincent and wish to learn why most of the modern issues show an allegory of two female figures, what is the significance what does it mean, why is it used? There is the West India Library at the Institute of Jamaica, from where you may obtain free of charge, practically any historical information desired, some of it illustrated, "Aspinall's Pocket Guide to the West Indies" for instance, and your information is there for you, on which you may base thought, imagination and reason all relative to your stamps. Having done that having spent an hour or two in pleasant reading, continue your literary effort to set out what you now know about the stamps in question. That effort may never appear in print, you may be hesitant that it should, but whether that be so or not, realize that you will have extended your knowledge, have developed original thought on the subjects covered, and

quite probably be able to state an opinion that has not before occurred to others, at least something of which your hearers have not before been aware. It is in that way knowledge is broadened, made more efficient, and it is no small thing that you may be able to claim contribution to that extension.

Some of us are blessed with a measure of skill with pen and ink, for ornamental writing and drawing. It is possible to turn that to account, to embellish the pages of your stamp album, and afford agreeable occupation for enforced leisure hours. There is a booklet published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., entitled, "How to write up a stamp collection," that gives useful hints and ideas for the purpose. Assuming that you have the inclination perhaps the skill as well, and the will, take a blank page for your album, and select another on which you have a goodly number of stamps mounted, a com-

plete set preferably. At the top of the blank page write in the title, below that the particulars that have general application to the set in question. In thought, arrange the stamps as you think they should be arranged, to show them to the best advantage. Pin point the spaces to take the stamps as you have decided to arrange them, and around the points or spaces so marked, write in the particulars of each stamp to be placed there, i. e., of the design, the story it has to tell, etc., etc. If you are able to draw, a Greek border around the page, one of foliate design, or something similar, all help to make the page attractive. When that has been done, pen and ink put away, with clean hands remove the stamps from their original mounting, re-mount on the new page specially prepared for them, and see how much more attractive they appear.

The 22nd. Annual Meeting of the Jamaica Philatelic Society

The 22nd. Annual General Meeting of the Jamaica Philatelic Society was held at the Woman's Club at 51 Half Way Tree Road, St. Andrew, on the 7th. June 1942. The election of Officers and Committee for the new year resulted as follows:

President: Mr. H. Cooke.
 Vice President Mr. A. W. Perkins.
 Hon. Secy. & Treas.: Mr. G. C. Gunter.
 Hon. Asst. Secy.: Mr. F. L. Williamson.
 Committee: Mr. C. M. MacGregor, Mr. D. M. Samuel, Mr. P. J. Fernandez, Mr. Claude de S. Pinto, Mrs. J. Brandon.
 Hon. Ex. Sup. Mr. P. J. Fernandez.

The Annual Report and Financial Statement were presented and are as follows:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our last annual report recorded the pleasing fact that new life had been infused into the Society, and to so great an extent had interest been revived, that the Committee was justified in expressing the opinion that the 21st. year of the Society's life would go down on record as one of wholesome philatelic activity. Following on such a record the 22nd. year of the Society shows that the work done last year has been followed up with equally good results and the Committee feels confident that the continued prosperity of the Society is assured.

The increase in members has been satisfactory, twelve new members having been added during the year, which closed with 185 members, of whom ninety-two are life

members, ten honorary life members, and eighty-three ordinary members. A large proportion of these are overseas members viz. fifteen ordinary members, fifty-five life members, and eight honorary life members. This large proportion of overseas members appears to justify the Committee's opinion that the Society enjoys a great measure of confidence of philatelists outside the island. Its publications also still continue to be popular as evidenced by the demand for the Quarterly Bulletins, and Annual Magazine, by correspondents outside the Island.

The regular production of this literature has not been easy, and the Committee again appeals to members to make an effort to help the Editor who finds it increasingly difficult to produce material especially for the Annual Magazine, "The Jamaica Philatelist." In this connection thanks are hereby tendered to Messrs. Brinkley Turner, J.M. Nethersole, Arthur Pierce, A. J. Watkin, and G. C. Gunter for their contributions during the year.

The Committee desires to place on record its deep appreciation of Mr. Cooke's continued interest in the Society's publications, and extends its warmest congratulations to him on the high standard of quality which the Magazine and Bulletin have reached.

At the first meeting of the Committee for the new season, Mrs. Spooner's resignation as President of the Society was read, and at the annual meeting of members held on the 5th. June 1941, her resignation was accepted with much regret. Mrs. Spooner had been President of the Society for thirteen years having held the office since the 6th. June 1928. She represented the Society at the Brighton Philatelic Congress in 1932, and also at the Johannesburg Exhibition in 1937.

As a result of negotiations with the Woman's Club a meeting room has been made available for use by the Society at the Club's headquarters No. 51 Half Way Tree Road. The Society held its first

meeting of the year in very comfortable conditions on the 8th. January 1942.

The opening of two Service Post Offices were reported during the year viz. Up Park Camp and Portland Bight. The former is operated by the Military Authorities, the latter is an American Base P/O and is not available for local mails.

During the year the Post Office Department and the public of Jamaica, experienced a great deal of inconvenience because of the shortage of certain denominations of stamps above the 1½d. value. It is understood that consignments of stamps forwarded by the Crown Agents were lost at sea. We extend our sympathy to our Postmaster General. In this connection, and in order to prevent such further losses while the present conditions exist, we would suggest to him that the dies of our stamps be sent by the Crown Agents to the Government Agents in New York for the latter to get our stamps printed in America and sent to us by Air Express. We anticipate with much concern the chaos that would exist if Jamaica were to run out of stamps altogether. We hope our suggestion will not be too late and will be taken in the spirit in which it has been offered.

At our Annual Meeting held on the 5th June 1941 the following rules were amended.

Rule 3 (b) by striking out the words "with the exception of voting." This amendment now permits Honorary Members to vote at our meetings.

Rule 7 (a) and (f) by substituting "Thursday" for "Wednesday" so that our regular meetings may be held on the first Thursday of each month, and the Annual Meeting on the first Thursday in June of each year.

During the year we were informed that the "Jamaica College" and "Wolmer's Boys School," had started stamp clubs. An invitation from the latter school resulted in the President and Secretary ad-

dressing the boys of the Club, leaving with them good advice, samples of mounted club sheets, and a generous selection of stamps for use in connection with the Clubs's Exchange Branch. The Secretary also interviewed a representative of the Jamaica College and placed the services of the Society at the disposal of the boys. The opportunity is now taken to again assure all parties in Jamaica who are interested in stamp collecting that this Society is ready at any time to give advice, or practical help, in the formation of Stamp Clubs, or the study and practice of Philately.

Several appeals were issued by the Society to philatelists and others in Jamaica for gifts of stamps for the Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross and St. John Fund. The response was not as satisfactory as one expected it to be, but gifts of stamps sent through the Society realized well over £150. The donors have been already thanked for their support, but the Committee wishes through this medium to publicly express the Society's thanks to those who so generously answered the appeal.

The New Issue Distribution Service continued to function and so did the Exchange Branch. The New Issue service which includes only the stamps of the British West Indies distributed stamps of over £60 in value while the stamps purchased by members through the Exchange Sales Packets amounted to considerable sum.

At the February meeting a member reported that he had been shown by a non-collector the current King George VI, half-penny stamp of Jamaica with the head of the King printed on the back of the stamp. The stamp was not available for display as the owner would not lend it for the purpose and thus other members have not seen the stamp. At a later meeting another member reported the current 1d. King George VI stamp in a light orange shade. This stamp was

displayed in used condition but comment is withheld until the stamp is shown in mint condition. It is well known that the colours of the current 1d. and 1½d stamps of Jamaica are subject to change, an outstanding example of the latter in bright scarlet shade having been displayed at an early meeting of the season.

During the year it was noticed that the Governor had issued a proclamation under law 28 of 1940 cancelling the issue of stamps that was issued during the reign of Queen Victoria and King Edward VII. The Society brought to attention of Government, that the proclamation was so worded that it did not succeed in carrying out its original intention. The matter is still under correspondence with Government.

The Committee uses this medium to thank Miss Cassidy for presenting to the library a bound volume of Gibbon's Monthly Magazine, Gibbon's Catalogue Supplements and Stanley Phillip's book "Stamp Collecting." Thanks are also conveyed to Mr. F. L. Williamson for undertaking the duties of Librarian. On behalf of Mr. Williamson the Committee appeals to members for their support, not only by presenting the library with Philatelic literature, but by making use of the services of the Librarian.

Thanks are also due, and are hereby conveyed, to those members who read papers and gave displays during the year, to the Scott Stamp Company of New York for their monthly stamp journal sent to us so regularly; to Mr. Cooke for his continued interest in the Society's publications; to Mr. Fernandez for carrying on the Exchange Branch; to Mr. Benson for his cash donation, and to Mr. Gunter, who in addition to his Secretarial duties, which he has carried on for twenty-two years, is our Treasurer, while also undertaking the distribution of new issues to members.

H. COOKE *President*

JAMAICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Cash Account for Period 14th April, 1941, to 13th April, 1942

1941	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	1942	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
April 14							April 13						
To Balance of Cash in Bank	52	14	7				By Expenditure during the						
“ “ “ “ “ hand		9½		52	15	4½	year as follows:—						
“ Cash received during the							“ Printing Magazine & Bulletins						
year as follows:—							including mail distribution to						
For Entrance Fees		1	6	0			members				11	11	7½
“ Subscriptions		8	6	2			“ Printed Stationery				1	15	1
“ Life Members Subs.		2	2	0	11	14	2	“ New Issues			60	2	7
“ New Issues					57	2	6	“ Albums & Accessories			9	13	11
“ Albums, Accessories Etc.					10	11	11	“ Postage				1	6
“ Stamps sold for Dealers					4	2	8½	“ Foreign Subscriptions			4	13	6
“ Commission on Packet Sales					5	11	1	“ Stamps sold for Dealers			4	5	1
“ Profit on remittances from U. S. A.							10	“ St. Luke's Church for use of Hall			2	2	0
“ Advertisements					1	1	0	“ Rental of New Hall, in Advance			2	10	0
“ Donation from Mr. J. Benson							10	“ Commission & Stamps on foreign					
“ Bank Interest					1	1	11	cheques				4	7
								“ Miscellaneous				4	11
								“ Balance in Bank			47	7	3½
Total					£144	12	0	Total			£144	12	0
April 14, 1942													
To Balance brought down					£47	7	3½						

G. C. GUNTER *Hon. Secretary*
31st. May 1942

List of Members

SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Allsopp, Rev. E. G., St. Peters Coll., Cross Rds.
 Armstrong, Rev. C. T., The Rectory, Penrith Road, Cross Roads, Ja.
 Bicknell, Mrs. R., 6 Ivy Green Road, Cross Rds.
 Bourke, W. Jr., 19 Duke St., Kingston, Ja.
 Brandon, G. D., 44 Orange St., Kingston, Ja.
 Briscoe, A. S., Bank of Nova Scotia, Kingston
 Brissett, Vincent L., Cornwall College, Montego Bay, Ja.
 Browning, Peter, Spanish Town, Ja.
 Clarke, Egbert C., 5 East Ave., Swield., Cross Roads, Ja.
 Clark, Eric, 99 Harbour St., Kingston, Ja.
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