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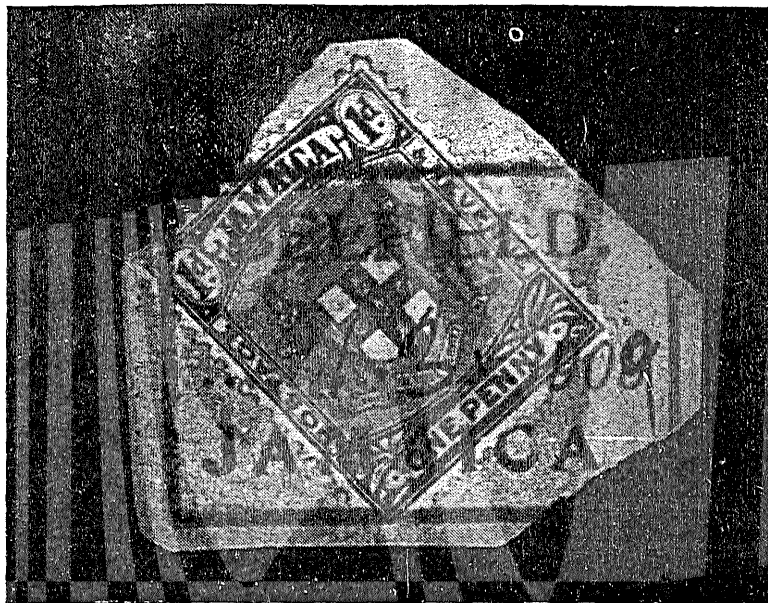
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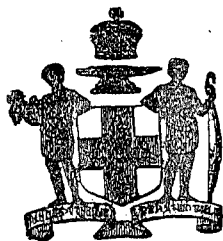
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The Jamaica Philatelist

The Annual Magazine of The Jamaica Philatelic Society

VOLUME 5 — JULY 1949 — NUMBER 22 - 23

EDITOR: J. M. NETHERSOLE

ASST. EDITOR: E. F. AGUILAR

A NEW EDITOR

It is with the utmost degree of trepidation that the New Editor makes his bow — Taking over this job as a successor to acknowledged philatelists and erudite students, seems perilously like "rushing in" and so on, on the part of a mere average collector.

First of all, the Editor tenders his heartfelt gratitude to such of "those who know" who, so readily, have responded to his requests to contribute to the problematic success of his first, tremulous, occupation of an editorial chair.

The menu provided is designedly varied, planned, basically, with the intention of presenting to some members of the society the fact that the hobby is a precious gem of many, many facets, an effort to emphasize that there are other, worthwhile, orbits of interest than the B. W. I. group of adhesives, solus, and that there is more to stamp collecting than is to be found between the covers of the Priced-Catalogue Gospel according to St. N. or St. X. or St. M. or St. Y.

Since last the Jamaica Philatelist appeared, in the 'Empire' group there has occurred much on which to

comment. India, Egypt, Burma, Siam, Eire, have no longer a place in the Gibbons 'Red' Catalogue; Newfoundland has, since April 1949 joined Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in the list of 'dead' B. N. A. issues; also we have had a wealth of Dominion and Colonial Commemorative issues, including two for the Colonies, of the Jubilee-Coronation—all-over-alike type, the 'Victories' and the 'Silver Weddings'.

As to the Silver Weddings, much ink has already been spilt in airing the views of dealers and of collectors of all degrees, even the Olympian "Royals" protesting.

'Rushing in' again, if the authorities see fit to issue any particular type of stamp, of denominations which they deem advisable for the defrayment of postage, is not that solely their affair? If protesting parties disapprove of the issued labels, they have their remedy — disregard them, or omit such issues from albums or sale-rooms! But it seems to us that few, if any, of the critics have voiced what is the deepest-felt objection of the medium-to-advanced collectors (who are the backbone of the hobby): It is the dull monotony of those wholesale issues, differing for the several colonies only in colour and name-and value-plates, that robs such issues

of interest for the great body of collectors. For that reason, and that alone, we hoped that the issue would have proved to be financially a serious failure—nothing short of that would have convinced the Civil Servant in high places and so have preserved us from yet a fifth flood of philatelic insipidity. Alas, in October next it will happen again—the U. P. U. 75th Anniversary has been decided upon!

We commend to members the monthly house journal of the Mercury Stamp Co., N.Y. It contains more, per issue, of valuable information, useful and interesting to the moderately-virulent collector than is to be found in any other stamp journal of our acquaintance.

The Society generally, and some members particularly, were delighted to meet Mr. William Irving F.R.P.S.L. during his visit to the Island, of appreciable duration.

Unfortunately there were few (if any) collections containing much of the type of material which interests Mr. Irving most, the early classic issues, but he was very helpful with sound advice based on his wealth of experience, and despite his declared preference for the classic issues, Mr. Irving's appreciation of the esoteric points in the modern items was undeniable and comprehensive.

The photographic evidence which he showed to us of the XRay methods of forgery detection, was most illuminating: after seeing them and realizing the pitfalls which beset collectors of classic items, we decided that there is much to be said, on the score of prudence, for the colonial collector (who sees a minimum of classic material, and who is separated by miles of water from these modern avenues of certification) for confining his attention to Edward VII and onwards, and to Empire Commemoratives!

This disadvantage goes far, also, to explain why it is that collectors in Jamaica specialize so closely to our own issues, as Mr. Irving mildly scolds us for doing in his article

appearing in "Stamp Collecting" of March 5th — then, too, as he observes, we have no retail dealers whose stocks afford selective opportunities.

Would Mr. Irving say that we "fly-speck" in respect of our own stamps to any greater extent than does the G/B or U/S specialist?

Come and see us again Mr. Irving, the charm and cooith of Mandeville abideth ever!

The Turks Is. Centenary set of six values clashed with, or rather, overlapped their Silver Wedding pair; this Centenary Set shows a selection handsome in design; we, personally, like the reproduction of the 'Ship' design of 1900 on the two lowest denominations and the Chalon head of Q. Victoria on the higher values. Without trying to step into the shoes of W. E. Fynden of "Stamp Collecting", spare sets, fine-used, might be well worth putting away in the 'ripening box', just in case...

Would the authorities of the Dependency, after this proof of artistic taste, offer assistance to the parent Government if and when a new set of Jamaica stamps is contemplated? We might in such case achieve a set of which we could be proud — of course it would be too much to hope that inspection of the really beautiful New Zealand 'Peace' Set of 1946, or of many South American productions would influence our local satraps who have the 'say-so'. Will Jamaica ever live down the 2/- New Constitution horror, the 'Corpse in the Cobwebs'? Or has it proved symbolic, in a manner not intended?

Bahamas too had its Eleutherian issue overlapping the Silver Weddings — Sixteen values ½d to £1; each, presumably, necessary to fill a postal or revenue need. Be comforted, Collector-Cow, after all, the set did NOT include one of say three and fourpence three farthings denomination.

Those afflicted will be glad to hear that Messrs: Frank Godden intend as

soon as paper restrictions in the U.K. permit, to tackle seriously the problem of album leaves which suffer from those pesky rust-spots, to the ruin of stamps mounted thereon. We ourselves had made enquiries and have had ample confirmation from collectors in other places where the atmosphere is of high hygroscopic rating, of our own experience, that jet pages are almost entirely unaffected by this plague. One member informs us that the spots yield to treatment with Gam-mexane: maybe, but can he guarantee that stamps on a treated page will not suffer? Messrs. Godden mean to test that angle too.

Mr. E. F. Aguilar returned home after a year's absence in the U. K. The visit seems to have been truly a stamp-fest, the saga of which leaves us drooling at the lips. We hear of Mr. G. W. Collett's magnificent Jamaica collection in 20 albums, with the Pines and C C's of all shades in mint blocks of varying sizes, of the dearth of Jamaica material in that shape, (blocks), in dealer's stocks down to the 1919 issues—that not one of a dozen big houses could supply a mint copy of the blue 1d C. A. — of the acquisition of the only known pair of imperforate 1/- 'Pines' and of a corner copy of the 'Slavery' 6d.

Thanks be, the consequences of breaking the Tenth Commandment are not as immediately catastrophic as would occur to infractions of the 6th or 8th — or even the 7th!

Also, the new Handbook is in the Press, accouchement imminent!

Members will grieve to hear of

the sad fate which has befallen a fellow member, a confirmed Jamaican addict 'down-under' in N. S. Wales, Dr. Bruce. The Doc. had moved into a new surgery which boasted a wide expanse of window space commanding a vista of quite half a mile of the main thoroughfare in Sydney. Imagine the distress to his Scots soul when his hopes of substantial profit from the letting of the said windows for the King's scheduled Antipodean visit were torpedoed, "Spurlos Versenkt" by H. M.'s regrettable indisposition! And H. M. also a collector!!!

Still, the Doc is a sportsman: no signs of salt from tears were detectable on the letter announcing his misfortune, and he has much to comfort him in his collection, as he is one of the fortunate few who possess an imperforate pair of our Llandoverly issue.

Besides, he is inured to bad luck, he relates once backing an outsider at 40 to 1 on a hot tip; fifty yards from the post the horse was six lengths ahead when he stumbled, fell, and broke his neck! The only occasion in history on which that had ever happened on the Sydney racecourse! Bang went 400 Australian simoleons!!

Looking ahead to our 1950 issue, the Editor will welcome contributions and suggestions for improvement from members resident abroad, that is, if he survives the brickbats, decayed tomatoes, senile eggs and other customary "real" evidence of disapproval resulting from this, the 1949 issue of the Jamaica Philatelist.

JAMAICIANA

Jamaica George VI 1½d An Autobiography

What an interesting little fellow I am! I first saw the official light of day on October 10th 1938: I defray the current charge for local postage, on a single letter up to 2 ounces in weight, and since my birthday mil-

lions of me have been printed, and used.

I have appeared since then in all manner of guises, unaltered as to Comb perforation, but with plenty of variety in other respects. I am

known with Plate Nos: 1, 2, 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, with some sheets perforated right through the edgings, at other times leaving the edgings untouched. Latterly on plates 3C, 3D, 4C & 4D can be seen signs of wear or retouches.

As to shades, Oh my! I am a Jezebel: I have painted my face in all shades of true brown, faint brown, light brown, medium brown, dark brown, very dark brown, chocolate brown; even on my birthday I also used the red brown cosmetics, and right through the gamut I went: light red brown, medium light red brown, dark brick, almost-maroon and so on. What amuses me is to listen to collectors arguing on shade merits, especially when I have seen, on the same sheet (of my cousin the 1d red) stamps of a deep scarlet contiguous with stamps of true carmine; like little Audrey, I laugh and laugh, and laugh, and laugh.

My amusement is even more pronounced when I realise that one of my multitudinous shades in an alleged rarity: just as another cousin our 2d George VI laughed himself off-centre when he, in his turn, for three years was classed as a comparative rarity, after his printers had abandoned adorning his edges with the 12½" "Line" perforation in favour of the compound "Comb". For those three years cousin 2d was on sale "at face" at every post office in the colony, while collectors abroad paid much more for him. Ho Hum! I wonder how they felt when the bottom dropped out?

Mind you, our local collectors did well out of that, selling sheets of sixty, which cost 10/-, for £2 per sheet, was definitely good business, some of them must have made enough to have paid for even the high values of the Silver Wedding Cavalcade!

Yes, I am a great boy, I still keep collectors (in Jamaica) guessing as to which of my red brown shades is this rarity, "you pays your money and you takes your choice". Of course the situation is complicated by the method of distribution prac-

tised by the Crown Agents, who allow dealers in the U. K. to purchase, direct, colonial stamps as they are issued, without such stamps ever reaching the colony at all, and bearing in mind the extreme likelihood of there being variations of shades of the printing ink in any large batch of thousands of sheets, it is quite possible that a particular shade may prove never to be, in truth and in fact, a stamp "issued for postal services in its particular colony". It would also happen that in a batch allotted to a particular dealer there may be one sheet which showed some minor colour vagary on the part of the printer and that dealer might consider that as he had only got one sheet it was a sheet of scarce shade, irrespective of the fact that many thousand sheets of that same shade may have gone out to the colony and be there as common as dirt; What the dealer offers for sale is entirely his own business; however, I am still laughing and I offer a prize of 25, heavily-postmarked, off-centre, damaged, and stained copies of myself to anyone who can solve this riddle:—"Why of the round half dozen or so of my red brown shades should any particular one be dubbed a rarity?"

The appropriate clichés are:—

- (1) "One collects what one wants to collect".
- (2) "A "variety" is worth exactly what a specialist is willing to pay".
- (3) "There's one born every minute".

Now that the minimum rate for local telegrams has been increased, from 9d to 1/- will there be further printings of the current 9d stamp (S/G 129)? Your guess is as good as anyone else's.

Our 'Weddings' appeared with Plate No: 1 for the low value and 1 and 1A for the £1.

A scarce and unusual oddity is the 3d of the Pictorial Issue (script) with the centre in aniline blue, si-

milar to the stain on the 2½d of the same issue; this latter is fairly common.

JUST TRY to find the 2d, 4d, 1/-, 2/- or 3/- of the Pictorials perforated 'Comb' instead of 'line'.

At a casual glance it might be thought that the 1½d George V (S/E 59) was printed from single plate, but a copy recently seen with a pronounced 'shift' of the medallion (showing) an appreciable white

lacuna proves that there were two processes.

At last we are to have a regular £1 stamp — despite adverse opinion we are certain that adequate use will be made of this value for Air Mail and Revenue purposes.

Our bright boy, the current 1½d (S/G 123) shows definite retouching of the line of H M's head and of the south west corner of the base of the neck. This noticed on sheets 3D & 4D, 3C & 4C.

POST OFFICES IN JAMAICA

Opened October 14th 1947-April 22nd 1949

Ashley	Clarendon	14. 4. 49	Postal Agency
Bigwoods	Hanover	25. xi. 47	— do —
Broadleaf	Manchester	18. 3. 49	— do —
Blairs Hill	Hanover	10. ix. 47	— do —
Carisbrooke	St. Elizabeth	22. 4. 49	— do —
Colegate	St. Ann	11. 4. 49	— do —
Copse	— do —	21. 3. 47	— do —
Dressikie	St. Mary	15. ix. 47	— do —
Essex Hall	St. Andrew	13. 4. 49	— do —
Flower Hill	Hanover	1. 3. 49	— do —
Kings Vale	— do —	11. ix. 47	— do —
Lances Bay	— do —	10. ix. 47	— do —
Mt. Moreland	St. Catherine	8. xi. 47	— do —
Mt. Industry	— do —	5. x. 48	— do —
Main Ridge	Clarendon	17. ix. 48	— do —
Porters Mt.	Westmoreland	7. vi. 47	— do —
Paul Mtn.	St. Catherine	15. xi. 48	— do —
Prickley Pole	St. Ann	11. 4. 49	— do —
Roehampton	St. James	12. ix. 47	— do —
Samuel Prospect	Trelawny	17. v. 47	— do —
Tower Isle	St. Mary	21. 2. 49	District P.O.
Tweedside	Clarendon	21. 4. 49	Postal Agency
Windsor Forest	Portland	16. 2. 49	— do —
Whithorn	Westmoreland	1. 3. 49	— do —

(NOTE: No T.R.D. for Paul Mtn. Tower Isle an 'Hotel' P.O. like Myrtle Bank)

The Br. Guiana 1c (S/G 308) originally perforated 12½" 'line' now appears in a compound perforation 'Comb' — the trusty 'Instanta' records 13.75 x 12.95.

She disturbs even stamp collecting! Her brother was telling the current swain that in soaking off a batch of the 1½d Silver Weddings along with some 3d and 4d 'currents' he noticed that the Silver Weddings when detached from the paper, floated, while the others sank to the bottom of the bowl.

'Why natch!' burred the Dumb Blonde, "Three or four pennies weigh heavier than one and a half!"

Oyez, oyez, ye avid variety-sleuths! there occurs on our 1½d

Silver Wedding a minor flaw, visible even to the naked eye.

On each stamp in the top row of each sheet, nestling in the lace of the Queen's dress there occurs a little white 'flash' at an angle of about 60, situate N.N.N.W of the upright of the 'd' in the 1½d.

As the Colony must have used some thousands of sheets of this value, there should be one for everybody!

As to fine-used cancellations — No matter though the postmark is somewhat on the heavy side, if the monarch's profile is untouched, the stamp looks a heap better than does one with even a light strike which obscures the profile or the centre of the pictorial design.

B.W.I. Postmarks with Special Reference To The Cayman Islands

by M. H. Robertshaw

More and more collectors are unable to cope with the spate of new issues plus the great increase in price of the earlier stamps. They are therefore limiting their interests in various ways. One of these ways is to concentrate on certain geographical groups of colonies, in particular the B.W.I., and especially the smaller island colonies of that group.

The Postmarks of these colonies have always had a following, but now they have come into much greater prominence, and most collectors have a section devoted to them.

Although tending to bulk — Covers are the best means of showing off postmarks to their best advantage. Forgeries can often be detected where "used" by having the wrong postmark.

A collection should commence with a few pre-stamp covers, the earlier the better. Covers are in existence which were sent before postmarks were used and by reading the contents of the letters much insight can be obtained about the early conditions on the islands. These are classed as "Early letters without stamps of origin."

Following these came the pre-stamp covers, hand stamped, with several types of postmarks, the chief varieties are the famous "Crowned Circles", being surmounted by a crown, and inside the circle the words "Paid at Antigua", "Montserrat", and so on, but no date. Ship letter stamps and dated name stamps are the other two main types.

As you are aware, between the pre-stamp period and the colonial

adhesive period was a few years in which G.B. stamps were used in the B.W.I. circa 1848/60. The postmarks used to cancel these stamps were the current G. B. type, being the letter A followed by a different number for each P.O. between an oval of bars.

This type continued to be used, and is still used even today at some of the P.Os.

When the adhesive stamp was introduced and more P.Os opened we often find new postmarks. Circular dated types were common but some colonies like St. Vincent introduced an initial postmark K (Kingston) St. (Stubbs) along with the dated circle; some of these are very rare and not everything is known about them. Grenada had one-letter initials A. (St. Johns) B (St. Marks) F (Carricou).

Later we find Barbados using a variation, first numbers only 1-11 then a dated and named one showing the number under the name.

Some of the very small P.Os did so little business that had to be closed and their postmarks are very rare, such as Blowing Point (Anguilla), Barnes Hill (Antigua).

Slogans are now used as Postmarks chiefly at the larger General P.O's, to advertise the colony or one of its chief products of maybe some festival or important local event. First Flight special cachets are self-explanatory air mails saving time to the B.W.I. where mails by the sea route are still very slow.

'Paquebots' and ship-name postmarks provide another and often colourful section. Letters posted on board a ship are postmarked at the first post of call and the international rules state that the word 'Paquebot' has to be used. Each port has its own type and these are keenly sought after. The larger Boats often use their own obliterator which displays the name and line of the boat. The C.N.S. "Lady" boats "Nelson", "Drake", "Rodney", also the United Fruit Company's Fruit Boats all have these interesting postmarks.

Thus we come to the end of a brief survey of some of the postmarks of the B.W.I. and now we turn in more detail to one particular Colony.

THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

The three Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac, and Little Cayman, comprise one of the Dependencies of Jamaica.

Due to their situation and small population their postal history has been rather a constant struggle for better facilities ever since 1741 when the first white settlers came from Jamaica.

In July 1848 a request for the Royal Mail to call was turned down because of the dangerous reefs off Grand Cayman.

In 1854 they petitioned for the R. M. S. P. Steamer (Jamaica to Honduras) to stop at the Island: again refused as being dangerous and too long a voyage.

The Caymans opened their own P.O. in the early 1850s but this was promptly closed by the P. M. G. of Jamaica.

On the 13th April 1889 temporary arrangements between the Islands and Jamaica were made for a schooner to call occasionally: before this, letters were sent care of friends in Jamaica to be handed to the Cayman agent, who sent them on to Cayman as and when a boat was sailing.

Early in 1889 a branch post office of Jamaica was opened at Georgetown, Grand Cayman and in 1898 and then at Stake Bay (Cayman Brac) Edmund Parsons was appointed "Custos" and supplied with Jamaican postage stamps. The revenue went to Jamaica. The postal rates were the same as those of Jamaica.

These Jamaica stamps were postmarked with one of three types of postmarks which are much sought after. The first (1889/94) Postmark has "Grand Cayman Post Office" in a large double oval with date in the centre. Colour:— Various shades of mauve.

Type 2 (1894/98) has "Grand Cayman P.O." in a single line circle

and date in the centre in two lines: the colour of cancellation being in various shades of mauve.

Type 3 (1896-1906) consists of a double line circle inside of which is inscribed "Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands" Late in 1906 a variety with a thin inner circle was used.

We find that only values to 4d were used, including Officials ½d, 1d, 2d. Not found, so far are any on the 3d value. 4d was the normal foreign rate.

The first supply of Q. Victoria

Cayman stamps were shipped from G. B. on August 7th 1900. They were put on sale a little prematurely, in November, 1900.

1899/1900 the first Cayman Brac (Stake Bay) cancellation was a hand stamp reading "Cayman Brac — Cayman Islands" in a rectangular frame with no date.

1900-03 saw the second Cayman Brac hand stamp consisting of a double line circle "Cayman Brac — Cayman Islands" with date in two lines in the centre.

The Maces On The 2d New Constitution Stamp Of 1944

by G. C. Gunter, F.R.P.S.L.

The 2d denomination of the New Constitution issue of 1944, together with six other stamps of the series, was put on sale by the Post Office on the 20th August 1945 and withdrawn from sale a year after.

This special series of stamps was issued to commemorate the granting of a New Constitution to Jamaica, and of the many designs submitted for approval in response to the Postmaster General's invitation, that of the 2d stamp came from Mr. Hugh Paget: at that time the representative in Jamaica of the British Council. The Committee appointed to decide on the essays submitted, readily accepted Mr. Paget's design, which however, did not find favour with at least one philatelic critic, chiefly because in his view, it is historically incorrect, as by implication the portraying of the two Kings, Charles II and George VI, suggests that the New Constitution of 1944 was the only reform of the Jamaica Constitution from that originally granted in 1664, by King Charles.

This, however, is not the case, as in 1728 a second Constitution had been granted whereby full Legislative powers were accorded by the Colony: such autonomy lasted for

137 years, until 1865, in which year, after the scandal of the aftermath of the Morant Bay Rebellion, the Assembly surrendered its powers to Her Majesty Queen Victoria. Crown Government was then declared, and on the 5th August 1865 a third Constitution was brought to the Island by the new Governor Sir John Peter Grant. This form of Government continued until 1944 when the present Constitution came into being, in commemoration of which we had the "New Constitution" issue of stamps.

On the 2d stamp appear the two Jamaica Maces the history of which is of sufficient interest to present to our members in some detail in the pages of our Journal.

It has been said that the Speaker of the House of Commons, in a speech made in England in August 1890 at Leamington, referred to a rumour then current, to the effect that a Mace which was at Kingston, Jamaica, was supposed to be the "Fool's bauble" ordered by Cromwell to be removed from the House of Commons when he dissolved the Long Parliament, but subsequent investigation has completely disproved that canard.

Search through the first volume of the Journals of the House of Assem-

bly in Jamaica revealed an entry at page 35 of the appendix to this volume, of copies of Commissions and instructions to Governors and so on (in "The present state of the Government of Jamaica under Sir Thomas Lynch, 20th May 1671") which reads as follows:—

"His Majesty has been pleased to favour this Island with a Mace, that cost near £80 which is carried before the Governor on solemn occasions, as a mark of his Authority."

Again, on page 46 of the same appendix:— "The King has been pleased to honour this Island with a large gilt Mace, as a signal mark of his favour and to make the Government appear more great and formal. It is carried before the Governor and Chancellor on Solemn occasions."

The Mace thus alluded to was brought to Jamaica by Lord Windsor and was for years thought to have perished in the destructive earthquake at Port Royal on June 7, 1692. The Assembly is known to have been sitting on that fatal day. The entry in the Journal of the House reads as follows:— June 7, 1792 "This day happened the great earthquake which destroyed Port Royal and did great injury throughout the Island". The Council had previously met in that town and it is probably was sitting when the 'quake began as no note of adjournment is entered that day in the Journal.

An entry under date of August 8, 1692 in the Council's Journal shews that £10 was paid for "Some Lyme brought by John Dalby for the Majesties house at "St. Jago de la Vega and for mending the Mace."

This entry may be taken to imply that the Mace was not destroyed in the earthquake as had been supposed.

The next recorded mention of a Mace is on the 1st Dec., 1763 when the House of Assembly resolved "That the Receiver General do send to his correspondent in England to purchase a silver Mace gilt, of the same size, for the use of the Speaker of the House, as that used by the

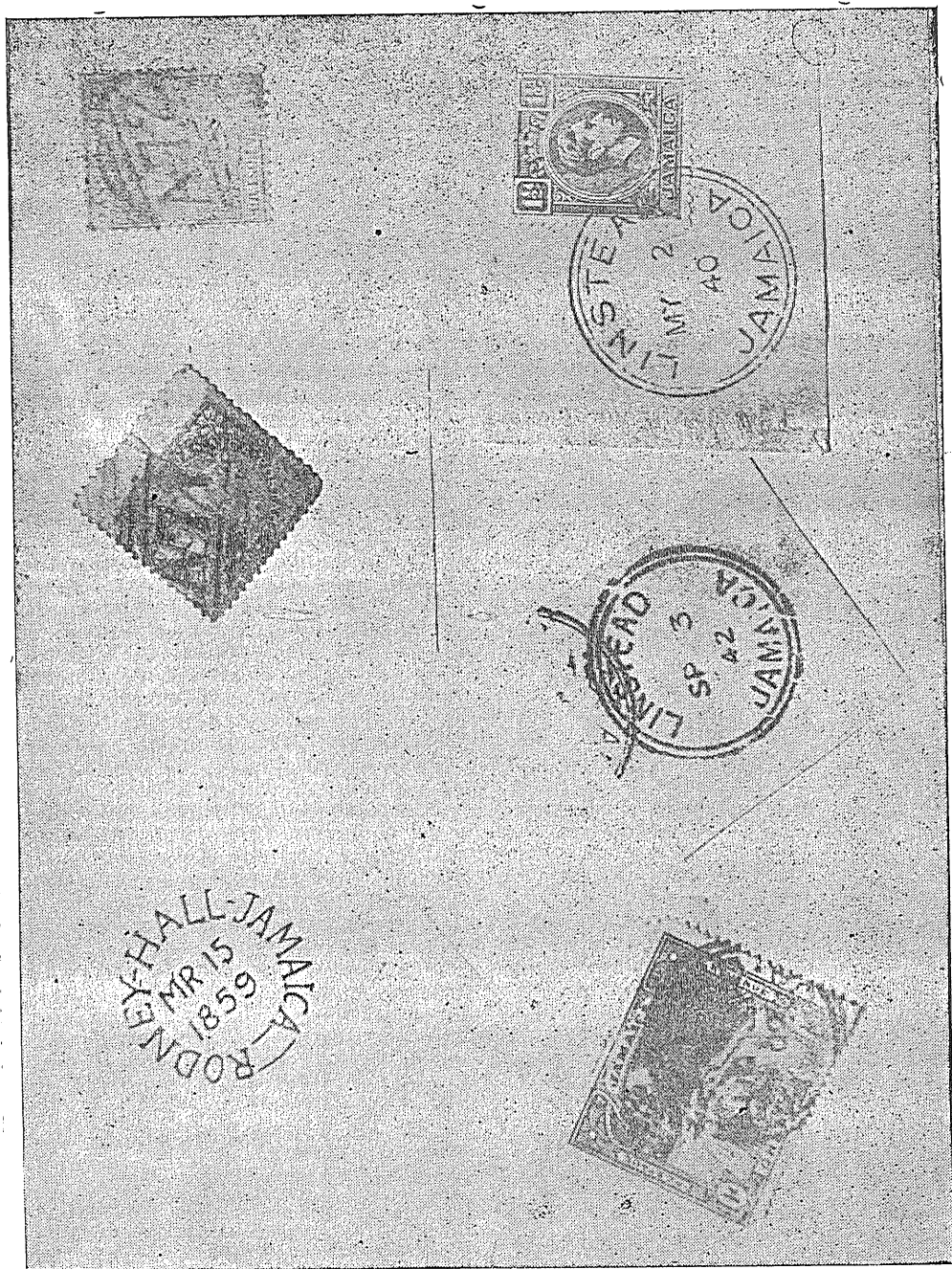
Speaker of the House of Commons."

On the 22nd of December, 1786 the Assembly resolved that "the Receiver General do immediately remit to the Agent the sum of £300 to be by him laid out in the purchase of robes for the Speaker, and a Mace". This entry seems to suggest that the Mace ordered in 1763 had never come and that the 1787 Mace arrived as the result of the later resolution.

There are now two Maces in Jamaica. One bears date 1753 the other 1787, and it is probable that the older is the original Mace refashioned. This is silver-gilt, measures 5ft 6 inches high, weighs 297 ozs. 5 dwts., and is thus both longer and heavier than the Mace of the House of Commons, which measures 4 ft 10½ inches and weighs only 251 ozs. 2 dwts. and 3 grs. It is surmounted by a Royal Crown, on the base of which are displayed the British Coat of Arms as used from 1714 to 1801, and the letters G. R. (Georgius Rex). Round the head, in panels, are the emblems of England and Scotland, Ireland and France, and the Arms of Jamaica. It bears the London hall mark and date-letter of the year 1753 and the initials 'M. F.' of the maker 'Mordecai Fox' of London.

The Mace of 1787 also measures 5 ft. 6 inches long. This Mace is also surmounted by a Royal Crown on the base of which is the same form of the British Coat of Arms and round the head as in the earlier Mace are the same emblems of England and Scotland, France and Ireland, and the Arms of Jamaica. It bears the London Hall-mark and date-letter of the year 1787 and the initials 'H. G.' of the maker 'Henry Green' of London, who also made the Mace of the Island of Grenada, which dates from 1781 and is almost as massive as the Jamaica Mace of 1753.

The two Maces were used, one at the meetings of the House of Assembly, the other at those of the Legislative Council. The older was also used at the meetings of the Privy Council until sometime during



Sir John Peter Grant's administration, when its use was discontinued. The two Maces were finally deposited in the Institute of Jamaica in 1879 and were shown at the 1891 Jamaica Exhibition.

Under the New Constitution of 1944, the Maces are again being used, during the Sessions of the House of Representatives and of the Legislative Council. That on the left of King George's picture on the 2d stamp is placed in horizontal position on a stand situated immediately in front of the President of

the Council.

The other, on the right of King Charles II, is now used in the House of Representatives and placed in front of the Speaker's chair. As both House and Council use the same Council Chamber the same stand is used to accommodate each of the Maces and it is interesting to note that the stand is double channelled. The Mace is placed on the upper "Channel" of the stand when the House or the Council is sitting. When either body is deliberating in Committee the Mace is transferred to the lower channel of the bracket.

With A Postal History Notebook In St. Catherine

by J. M. Nethersole

The parish of St. Catherine gets its name from that of Catherine of Portugal, wife of Charles II, and is one of the two largest parishes in the Island.

The boundary between Kingston and St. Catherine lies a little East of the Ferry Inn, the burnt-out shell of which is still standing, and a quarter mile west, there still grows, luxuriantly, an huge Ceiba, Tom Cringle's Tree. Both Inn and Tree are mentioned in Marryat's novel of early Jamaica days, Tom Cringle's Log.

The chief town of the Parish is Spanish Town. This was the first English Capital of the Island, the residence of the Governor, removed thence from Point Cagua (Port Royal) in 1664 by Sir Thomas Modyford, and also the Seat of Government until this was in turn, after two abortive attempts, transferred to Kingston in 1872.

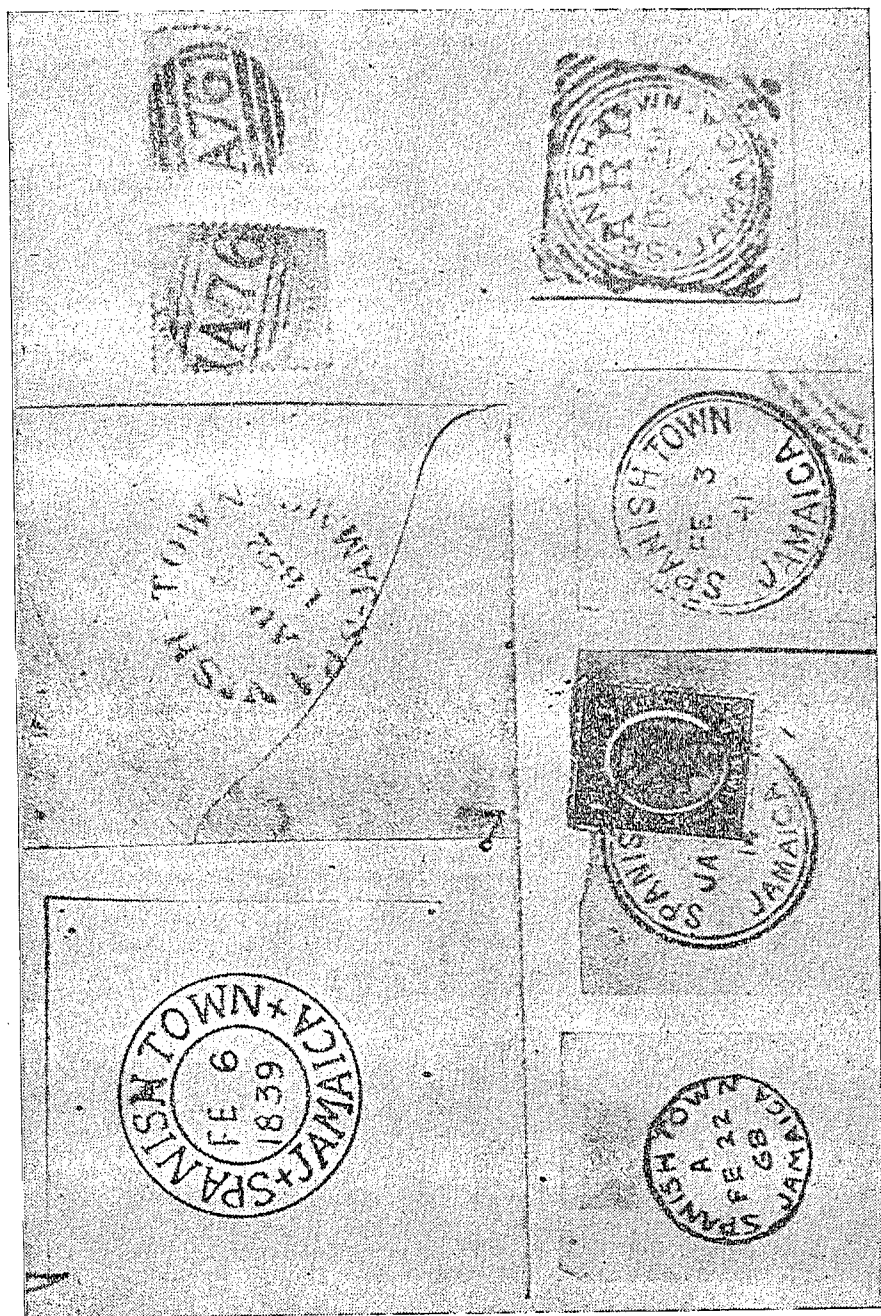
Spanish Town had been the Spanish Capital — the second such, after the abandonment of the first, Sevilla Nueva, on the North Coast, and had then been founded by Diego

Columbus and named St. Jago de la Vega.

Today, Spanish Town has fallen on evil days, ramshackle and dingy, its old mansions vanished or in utter ruin, the whole town being now, in the main, one huge, and horribly dirty, "Barracks" for the casual manual labour employed on the surrounding cane and banana plantations. Truly, one might write "Ichabod" on its gates — if it had gates.

Our first philatelic "contact" is the Anglican Cathedral at the Eastern end, dedicated to St. Katherine and was originally the (Spanish) Red Cross Church of St. Peter. The tower and the western aspect of the Cathedral are to be seen on the 4d value of the 1919-29 Pictorial Issues.

The next feature is the (Georgian) Square in Spanish Town — an undoubtedly magnificent architectural achievement and said to be the finest example in the New World. On all four sides are massive buildings so perfectly proportioned in relation with each other and with the measurements of the Square that the sightseer com-



pletely fails to appreciate the true dimensions.

The sides of the square have been reproduced on Jamaica Stamps. On the North side is Old Kings House; the former residence of the Governors, completed in 1762 at a cost of £22,000 sterling — the domestic discomforts of the building have been related for us by Lady Nugent in her "Journal"; the author was the wife of the Governor who held office in Jamaica 1801-1805. To universal regret, Old King's House was entirely destroyed by fire resulting from an electrical short-circuit in 1925, and only the facade now remains of what Monk Lewis called "A large, clumsy-looking brick building."

On the East of the Square is the old Armory — called the "Guard House" by Lady Nugent, then housing the Colonial Archives and now the Island Record Office — at the base of this we see the Rodney Memorial, the work of Bacon, erected to honour the famous Admiral whose naval victory in 1781 assured British supremacy in the Caribbean for many years. The Memorial appears on the 2/- values of the 1919-29 Pictorial Issues. The rare, unissued (Slavery) 6d value of the same series from the west side of the Square, shows the Armory, Old King's House and the Rodney Memorial.

The old "House Assembly" graces the South side of the Square — The Assembly was first constituted in 1664 and held its first meeting on the twentieth of January that same year. The upper story of the building is now used for the Beckford and Smith's School while Government offices occupy the Ground Floor. This building is reproduced on the 4½d value of the New Constitution Issue of 1944.

On the West of the Square stands the Court House in which are also the offices of the Parochial Board for the Parish.

The existence of a Post Office at Spanish Town is recorded in the pre-1780 list of those instituted by

Postmaster Edward Dismore.

Three types of pre-adhesive "Town Postmarks" were used at Spanish Town, issues of 1810, 1833, also two types of obliterators (A76) the first from 1859 to 1872, the second from this latter date to 1892, used in conjunction with the "single ring" mark — In 1892 was issued the first type of its "double ring" marks.

North of Spanish Town with its wealth of Postal History associations lies Bog Walk — The old, English, name for this spot was "Sixteen Mile Walk", and, indeed, the road which we have traversed hither from Spanish Town, along the course of the Rio Cobre, is today called "Walks Road" — Cundall, in his pamphlet "Place Names of Jamaica" rejects the derivation of the name as being from the Spanish "Boca del Agua" suggesting, in its place, that it comes from two Arawak words "Bo" meaning "House" or "Territory" and "Cagua" the Arawak name for the Rio Cobre.

Bog Walk Post Office was opened on July 1st 1890 — The temporary Date Stamp is known, of the circular type numbered 7 in Nicholson's pamphlet, its first "double Ring" date stamp was issued in 189-

Another St. Catherine Office of historic interest is Linstead — the first post office here was one of Mr. Dismore's early creations, of the pre-1780 class and was then sited at Baillies Tavern. Later, in Obliterator times, the Office was called Rodney Hall, Linstead is its last and present name.

In 1805 it was at Linstead, in the Episcopal Church that the Island Records were placed for safety when there appeared to be imminent danger of invasion by the French.

Rodney Hall, had four pre-adhesive marks, issued in 1810, 1833, 1839 and 1859, then used Obliterator A 71 down to 1868 and there¹⁸⁹⁴ after A 72. The Linstead "single-ring" appeared in 1869, and the first of its "double-rings" in 1894 — Linstead began using the prevailing "Birmingham" type in 1948. ¹⁸⁹⁴

Why I Collect Stamps Of The United States Of America

by Ethel Harper

Few people, I believe appreciate fully the great historical background to the stamps of the United States, for, for that matter, the revelant developments of postal importance prior to the Civil War period in 1861.

This subject, actually, affords scope for volumes, but I will endeavour to portray a comprehensive resume in the space so nobly allotted by the Editor.

The first colony, Virginia, was founded by the British in 1607 at Jamestown. During the early days of colonisation, an event which was anticipated with great eagerness (and perhaps anxiety), would be the arrival of a ship from England. Imagine the feelings amongst some two or three hundred men unceasingly fighting disease, cold, hunger, and native Indians; sometimes overjoyed with success — other times in the depths of depression with disappointment and temporary failure. Then the sighting of a ship. Who knows, a letter would be probably passed around the camp fire gatherings, ultimately to be returned to the fortunate addressee, to be treasured among his most prized possessions.

Many of these letters could not have possibly been preserved, but we have evidence of one however, from London dated May 6th 1639 and addressed to Leonard Calvert, Governor of Maryland. This State, as you know, was one of the original thirteen British Colonies in America and was actually founded in 1632 when the grant of a Charter was made to George Calvert the first Lord Baltimore. In November 1633 Leonard Calvert, his son, sailed in the "Ark and the Dove" from Gravesend to Maryland, with some two hundred colonists.

This rare letter which has been discovered was written approximately six years later.

This type of letter may well be beyond the extent of the pockets of most of us, but the fascination of the period exists none the less, even if we can only include a photograph of the original in our collection. We can definitely include the original of the 1932 U.S.A. issue in commemoration of the founding of Maryland, showing the "Ark and the Dove" in its design.

Between the founding of Virginia in 1607 at Jamestown, and 1733, the twelve other British Colonies were developed in America. The three hundredth anniversary of Virginia was commemorated in 1907 by the Jamestown issues of stamps which comprises three values, depicting respectively the English Captain John Smith, the Landing at Jamestown in 1607, and Pocohontas — the Indian girl who saved the life of Captain Smith on more than one occasion.

Many of the other colonisations have been suitably commemorated by appropriate issues of postage stamps, as for example in the 1930 issue:— The Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers at Cape Cod and Plymouth Massachusetts in 1620. The designs incorporate The Mayflower, The Landing of the Plymouth Fathers, and the Signing of the Compact.

Other anniversaries have been similarly marked by:—

The Tercentenary issue of Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1930.

The Foundation of Connecticut in 1635, by the 1935 issue showing the Charter Oak.

The Rhode Island foundation of 1636, by the stamp showing the Statue of Geo. Williams.

Pennsylvania, by the 1932 Wm. Penn commemorative stamp marking the two hundredth anniversary of the landing of Wm. Penn in America.

The Georgia foundation of 1733 by the General Oglethorpe issue of 1933, being the two hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the colony for England on February 12th.

And so on. (to the 1948 Great Flood? Ed.)

The first post office was formed in 1638 when the general court of Massachusetts Bay Colony made an order for a regular postal service, delivery charges being 1d. Later in the seventeenth century other post offices were established in Virginia, New York, Connecticut, Philadelphia and New Hampshire. Intercommunication was afforded by means of occasional travellers and coasting vessels. The one exception to this somewhat haphazard arrangement was the route between Boston and New York, over which was operated a monthly service in 1672.

In 1692 Thos. Neale was granted authority by the British Crown to erect post offices in the American Colonies. Andrew Hamilton was Neale's deputy in America. In New York the rates were fixed at 3d a single sheet, or 12d. for an ounce, for letters carried eighty miles; over this distance the charges were increased fifty per cent. These rates were similar, but not identical for all the American Colonies, so the Service developed until in 1750 Benjamin Franklin was Deputy Postmaster General for North America. Incidentally it is the portrait of this famous man that was the subject matter for the first regular issue of adhesive stamps for the United States in 1847 — and of course is depicted on many subsequent issues.

During the British Colonial period in America, an interesting variety of postage stamps and postmarks were used. Such markings on letters form a fascinating prelude to the volumes of adhesive postage stamps, and lend added interest to the historical background of our hobby.

Florida is often omitted from the early colonies although this was ceded to the British in 1763 by Spain, under the Treaty of Paris, and restored to Spain in 1783 by the Treaty of Utrecht. In 1924 the Huguenot—Walloon issue commemorated the three-hundredth anniversary of the settlement in 1624. The issue shows the ship New Netherland, the Landing at Fort Orange, and the Monument at Mayport, Fla.

From time to time Territories were settled and developed around the Colonies, and the former ultimately became States, of which there are now forty nine, the last formed being New Mexico in 1912.

The postmarks of the period between the establishment of the Territory and the foundation of the State, are of particular interest, "Territorial Postmarks" or "Cancellations" as they are termed. This period varies from two to thirty-two years for each State respectively, during the middle and later nineteenth Century.

The Civil War period of 1861 to 1865 forms one over which some of the most interesting material in the form of patriotic covers and Soldiers' letters can be found for the student.

A letter from a soldier on active service, or from a prisoner of war conjures up at once the terrors and thrills of these engagements, and whilst arranging a choice cover on an album page, our mind is taken back through history, and entertained by the fact, to an extent which would be almost impossible in fiction.

In addition to the actual Campaign covers that can be found for the seeking, anniversary stamps have been issued relevant to many of these famous historical events.

There is also the famous Columbus issues of 1890-93 marking the four-hundredth anniversary of the actual discovery of the continent.

These and the other commemorative stamps of the United States are frequently spurned — you know the remark "What, another commemorative?" — but a little research and

thought into the original event, is repaid a thousand-fold — likewise the modest cost of most of such items.

The Express Companies and the Mississippi Steamboat Companies' markings, prior to the regular post office service, afford great interest. Apart from their direct appeal, these markings bring to mind the romantic Pony Express, the thrills and perils of the pioneer letter carriers in search of practical routes; the old steamboat markings conjure up the fascination of the southern river steamers, and the attractive melodies with which they are invariably associated. What could give greater scope to the imagination than the cover inscribed "St. Louis and Miami Packet — Steamer Post Boy" in blue, and showing the steamer itself?

What collector of the United States Postage Stamps is not familiar with "Wells Fargo", the Eagle on the Carrier Stamps, "Blood's Despatch", "Blood's Penny Post", Boyd's City Express Post", "Gordon's City Express" etc.?

The regular issues of the adhesive postage stamps are more familiar to most stamp collectors. Very interesting side-issues can be developed amongst the amusing postmarks that are to be found, particularly on the early issues. The 1870-71 3 cents green, quite a common stamp, can provide endless hours of entertainment at very small cost. Postmarks and cancellations of varied designs abound on them. Very few, if any, stamp issuing countries provide such an inexpensive source of entertainment from the point of view of postmarks.

Another diverting side-line is the search for cancellation of New England towns with old English names. A very strong philatelic link with the only other English speaking continent.

THE LOCAL STAMPS OF U.S.A.

The Local Stamps of U.S.A. form an important group in connection with the Postal History and Devel-

opment of the United States. These independent carriers and mail distributors worked in competition with the Government controlled services and were instrumental in effecting the reduction in Government United States rates.

Between the period of approximately 1840 and 1880 there were some 120 private firms mainly operating in the Eastern States who not only delivered the mail with far greater speed than the Government mail but their rates for local delivery were definitely less.

As the time when the minimum rate in the United States was 5c., and frequently 10c., the local carriers would distribute mail within the city limits of their headquarters for 1c. within a very short space of time.

As indicated by the name, "The Local Stamps" paid the postage on mail addressed within the city from which the local carrier operated.

Accordingly, if one wanted to send a letter to a friend in the city in which one lived, the local carrier would sell you a 1c or a 2c stamp and deliver the letter within a few hours of receipt as opposed to the Government rate of 5c or 10c whereby mail would go through the normal postal routine. If a letter was to be sent outside the city limits the local carrier stamps paid the postage within the city and a Government stamp had to be affixed to carry the letter outside the city limits to the ultimate place of destination.

Many of these local post stamps appeared prior to any of the U. S. Government issues, and the method of operation developed by the pioneer mail carriers was ultimately followed with the Government insisting upon its legal rights to carry all the mail, and the firms of free enterprise were gradually absorbed into the operations of the United States Official Post Office.

In addition to issuing stamps, these local mail carriers also used their own canceller and handstamp.

Nearly all local stamps are imperforate, latterly one or two of the carriers did issue perforated stamps

but they are very few and they fall rather later in the era between 1880 and 1890 by which time most of the local mail carriers had been absorbed by the Government Post Office Authorities.

The U. S. local stamps on covers are difficult to acquire and they are very keenly sought after, particularly in the United States.

As those of you who study the stamps of United States know, the

Government reduced its rates and effected needed reforms in the Postal Services and at the same time legislated the private posts out of business.

You will remember that in 1847 the lowest adhesive U. S. stamp was the 5c. but by 1851 they issued the 1c. and the 3c. stamps for local and printed matter delivery. This was a direct result of the competition provided by the independent mail carriers.

30th Philatelic Congress Of Great Britain

by E. F. Aguilar

The 30th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain was held this year at Bournemouth, from May 25th to 28th with its headquarters at the Linden Hall Hydro. Arriving on the Tuesday afternoon with Mr. Nicholson we found at the Congress headquarters a special Post Office, at which miniature sheets and souvenir envelopes were on sale.

For the first part of the afternoon the Post Office were hard at it, trying to keep up with the philatelic mail of collectors and dealers. That evening, a reception was held by the Mayor and Mayoress of Bournemouth (Councillor and Mrs. J. W. More) at the Town Hall — a brilliantly successful function.

Bright and early next morning, long before 10 o'clock most of the Members and Delegates were on hand to sign the attendance book, which duty performed, we proceeded to the ballroom at Congress headquarters, where all the meetings were held. At 10 o'clock the Mayor opened the proceedings briefly and with wit, after which the business for the day was dealt with. In the Chair was Major Adrian E. Hopkins, Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. F. Hugen, Hon. Treasurer, Mr. G. W. Collett and Mr. C. Heygate Vernon, President of the Bournemouth Philatelic Society.

After the morning session we all gathered in the forecourt at Linden Hall where an official Photograph was taken (in typical English weather!!).

That afternoon a Motor coach tour took about two hundred of the Members and Delegates for a tour along the Old Bournemouth — Poole Rest Road, stopping at Christ Church Priory for a visit, then proceeding to Ringwood for tea, enjoyed by one and all, after which we returned to Linden Hall by way of Poole.

In the evening the study circle meetings took place in various rooms at Congress Headquarters. The circles were as follows:—

British North America

Leader Mr. J. C. Cartwright
United States of America

Leader Mr. C. Heygate Vernon
Australia & New Zealand

Leader Mr. Frederick Walker
British West Indies

Leader Major Adrian Hopkins
M.C.
Belgium

Leader Mr. Harry Green
Postal History

The British West Indies study circle was located in a most appropriate spot, close to the bar! Many interesting items were discussed, and early selections of Antigua-Bahamas-

St. Vincent — and Jamaica “specimens” (CA and Coat of Arms fiscals on thin card) were shown. The Jamaica items belonged to Mr. Collett, and like those of Pictorial Issue (1921) these CA and Coat of Arms fiscals on thin card, were all “Printers Samples” and not “specimen” stamps of the issue.

Thursday morning the second session was held, at which two papers were read: The first by Mr. Harry Green on “Have you joined a Study Circle”? The second by Mr. W. Dennis Way “Lighter Moments on Philately”, both were most enjoyable; this closed the morning session.

That afternoon we went on a Motorcoach tour by Weymouth to Portland Bill where we tea’d sumptuously, returning by Wareham to Linden Hall. In the evening the Study Circles resumed activities; Major Hopkins gave us a most interesting story of the Dominicas with the thick bar cancellations; he proved to “The Royal” in 1933 that these stamps were genuine and not a forgery as “The Royal” had stated, as far back as the early twenties.

Friday morning the third session opened with a paper by Major A. Walker D.S.O. on “Collectors and Governments” after which there were five resolutions to be voted on, the most important one being put forward by Mr. Stanley Phillips, B.P.A. and Mr. B. H. S. Grant, F.R.P.S.L. (Member of Congress) which read as follows:—

“That this Congress strongly deprecates the proposal to include stamps of high denomination in

the Colonial Silver Wedding series, as this will be detrimental to the reputation of this Country and of the Colonial Empire: will provide an ideal medium for illegal exports and thus will lose interest in modern Colonial Stamps, so reducing the sales of future issues by Colonial Post Offices; and urges that the face value of the series be very sharply reduced”.

There was comprehensive discussion of this subject, and “it was felt by most of Congress, that the set would be far beyond the means of the small collector”:— a vote was taken, and it was agreed to send a telegram of the above resolution to Mr. Creech Jones. If it was not possible to stop this issue, then we must make sure that this pattern of stamp-issuing would not again occur.

At 2.30 that afternoon the final business session was held; at which the names of four collectors were added to the roll of distinguished Philatelists, they were H. R. Harmer (Gt. Britain) S. Graveson (Gt. Britain) A. Brun (France) and D. J. H. Pirie (S. Africa). Dr. Pirie not being in England was unable to sign, after this an official visit to the Assembly Hall, where was an exhibition of stamps on display; there were some very fine old American covers, a very interesting collection of Gilbert and Ellis Island, and of St. Helena, to mention only a few. To mark the end of the session, that evening there was held the farewell banquet at the Congress headquarters followed by a dance.

Jamaica Stamps Sold At Auction During 1948

by E. F. Aguilar

During the year there were many Jamaica items to be found at most auctions, but it was not until October 23rd, at Robson Lowe's in Philadelphia, that the first important specialized collection came up for sale; this was the collection of

Mr. Harvey Green. There were a number of Postal History, modern covers, Specimen stamps to be found among the hundred and thirteen lots. But for the ‘dollar controls’ I am sure that many more bids from collectors would have been received,

as it was, we in the sterling area had to be content with reading the list of prices realised!

The Jamaica section opened with the Pre-Adhesive covers, and a really fine copy with "Jamaica 15 Jan. (1903)" in two straight lines, which is not often seen now-a-days was sold for \$16. There were a number of covers with Great Britain stamps used in the Island, one such item was "A 48" on a strip of 4d which was sold for \$17 and which any collector of Jamaica would have liked to have in his album. After this there were many covers of Jamaica stamps with some very interesting obliterator numbers, which went far between \$8 and \$20 each. Next listed were the Specimen stamps, the 1d Pine with 'Specimen' in manuscript was sold for \$20 while the 4d of the same issue, with the overprint in block type went for \$15.50. The 1/- Die Proof of the 1848—Fiscal issue fetched \$12.50.

Next on the list came adhesive stamps; only a few of the interesting items will I mention. The 1/- Imperf. Pine was sold for \$21.50, while the 1/- of the same issue with the "\$" for "S" in shilling was sold for \$16. The "dollar" error in the 1905/11 issue, the black/green sold for \$30. After the War Stamps, this more or less brought the Jamaica section to a close. Anyone outside the dollar area, lucky enough to get any of these items at the prices reached, should more than treasure it, while the dealer will have the opportunity of making a handsome profit.

A month later at Messrs. H. R. Harmer, of Bond St., London was auctioned one of the most outstanding collections in recent years, mainly comprising Die Proofs, colour trials, Imperfs. etc., and as I sat waiting on the sale to start, it was interesting to note that the catalogue listed ninety-four lots, of

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which thirteen items were hitherto unknown, only now coming to light. The first of these was the 5/- Die Proof in black on glazed card, dated "June 18, 1875" "Before Hardening" which was sold for thirteen pounds ten shillings. The next item was a very interesting composite proof of the Arms of Jamaica 2½d. value, Imperf. in "Brown and Blue", there was keen bidding for this item, which went up to £24.

In the 1905-11 Arms type, there were three new colour trials to be seen, all on the ½d. value and Imperf.; They are as follows:— "Mauve and Orange" "Purple and "Grey" and "Mauve and Orange-brown, on each item the bidding went to £12. In the 1919-21 Pictorial Issue several new Die Proofs and Colour Trials appeared in "Bistre" and "Green", which was the colour of the issued stamp. For the 3d. Die Proof in Purple (slightly stained) the bidding went to £4 15/-. For the 4d. Black and Green, and the 2/- Blue and Brown, the bidding went to nine guineas each, while the 3/- Brown and Black, the bidding went to ten guineas for this item. The unissued Slave 6d. Die Proof in Carmine and Greyish-blue was next offered, and after some brisk bidding was knocked down for £29. This was the last of the "new" items.

As the sale continued more and more Die Proofs, Colour Trials, and Imperfs. were sold; of the first issue of Jamaica stamps 1860-63, with the Pineapple watermark, a block of 6 (3x2) of the 1d. blue was sold for £12 10/-. The 1d pale blue, bisected diagonally and used on entire as ½d. with A49 nicely tied was sold for sixteen pounds. The 3d. Die Proof in black on glazed

card reached £10 while a block of the 4d. brown-orange, well centred and rich in colour was sold for £28; A pair of the "Specimen" of the same stamp was sold for £7. The 1/- dull brown Imperf. with large margins (truly a very fine copy of a rare stamp) brought £16. In the C. C. issue 1870-73, for the ½d Die Proof in Black on glazed card, "After Hardening" dated "July 31, 1872" the bidding went up to nine guineas, while the Imperf. of the same value was sold for £12 10/-. The 1d. Die Proof in black on glazed card was sold for £10 and the 4d. brown orange Imperf. £14. The 5/- lilac Imperf. a rare item was sold for £18. In the 1890 Provisional issue, 2½d on 4d red brown a block of twenty four (6 x 4), showing all the varieties of settings and errors, fetched £44. A single copy with surcharge double, one surcharge space 1mm., other 1½mm., was sold for £12 10/-, while a pair with the surcharge double and showing the variety "F" for "E" and broken "K" for "Y" was sold for £30.

In the 1905-11 'Arms' issue, (with multiple watermark) the 5d ser. et error was sold for £40., today an exceedingly rare stamp.

The high spot of the sale was the 1/- orange-yellow of the Pictorial issue with Block MCA watermark with the frame inverted. This went for £460. The set of the Jubilees with the double flagstaff errors was sold for £10.

The last important item of the sale was the 1890 official 2d. green, of which only about four or five copies are known mint, while a used copy is known in Jamaica. This very rare item was sold for £25.

The Jamaica Philatelic Society

Annual Report.

Covering the year June 1947 to June 1948.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The 28th Annual General Meeting of the Jamaica Philatelic Society.

Membership. During the year we have enrolled 25 new members, of whom 11 are Life Members. We have been notified of the loss of 4 members through death, and one through resignation.

Society's Finances. Mr. A. S. Briscoe has continued his good work of tending the Society's finances throughout the year, and will give a detailed report. The heavy drop in bank balance as compared with last year is mainly due to the extremely high cost of printing and distributing the 1947 Magazine, which shows very little return on the Credit side of the account.

New Issue Service. Under the supervision first of Mr. F. L. Williamson, and later Mr. G. C. Livingston, this service has continued in operation, and over £20 worth of stamps have been handled. Mr. Livingston advises that there are still a number of stamps on hand to be disposed of.

Exchange Packet System. Mr. A. W. Perkins has worked hard to make the Exchange System a success. During the year 5 large packets have been circulated containing stamps to a total value of about £255, from which sales of £66 3/- have been made, earning a commission of £6 12/4, less costs. A packet from the Trinidad Philatelic Society has also been sent round recently.

An appeal is made to all members participating in the Exchange System to keep the packets moving quickly and to adhere to the rules printed in the Society's Constitution booklet, for the benefit of all concerned.

Society's Rule Booklets. A new edition of these booklets, revised to the current year, have been printed and circulated, and all members in

Jamaica and new members should by now have received copies of this publication.

Auctions. With a view to encouraging attendance at the monthly meetings, and to enable Members to exchange their higher value stamps, auctions were introduced by the Hon. Secretary during 1948. The services of Mr. Donald Hart as Hon. Auctioneer have been greatly appreciated.

The first auction in January was encouraging, being attended by 15 members and 4 visitors. The next auction in April was however, most disappointing, with an attendance of only 10 members and 1 visitor.

The Jamaica Philatelist. This publication of the Society appears to be a very popular one with philatelists everywhere, and it is to be regretted that we have been unable to produce an edition for 1948, as no member could be found to undertake the Editorship of the Magazine, although several outstanding members of the Society had been asked. However, as the 1947 issue was brought out only with heavy financial loss, it would appear advisable to charge for all copies distributed in future editions.

The Trinidad Philatelic Society. Close cooperation has been maintained with this most progressive Society throughout the year. We have received regularly copies of the minutes of their meetings and other interesting items which have been circulated at our own meetings. In return we have kept them supplied with copies of the minutes of our meetings etc.

Climaxing a very successful year, the First Caribbean Inter-Colonial Exhibition was held early in May in Port-of-Spain under the auspices of the T. P. S. A valuable collection of Jamaica stamps was sent for display by Mr. E. F. Aguilar, our late Secretary, earning for him a Honour Diploma.

Over seas Correspondents. A large number of appeals for exchange

correspondents in Jamaica have been received from philatelists overseas. By circularising Members, and by passing the letters round at the monthly meetings, several correspondents have been found, but there are still a considerable number of applicants from all quarters of the globe to be satisfied.

Signed:

B. C. STONE,
Honorary Secretary.

3rd June, 1948.

THE JAMAICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Hon. Secretary's Annual Report.

Covering the year June 1948 to June 1949.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The 29th Annual General Meeting of the Jamaica Philatelic Society.

Membership. Fifteen new members have joined the Society during the year, of whom six are Life Members and nine subscribing members. Two members have resigned.

Society's Finances. The financial situation has remained reasonably constant throughout the year, and our Honorary Treasurer, Mr. A. S. Briscoe, who has held the purse-strings except for a short period during illness is presenting his Annual Statement showing how the funds have been administered.

New Issue Service. Mr. G. C. Livingston, in charge of New Issues, has had a busy year, and is able to report good sales which have earned £11 12/10 commission for Society funds, of which about £3 15/- was due to receipts on account of "Silver Wedding" issues.

Exchange Packets. Mr. A. W. Perkins is to be congratulated on having kept the Exchange Packet system operating in full swing throughout the year, and the following figures speak for themselves.

Eight packets have been circulated, of total value £435 9 7, with sales of £82 18 5 earning over £8 commission for the Society.

The Jamaica Philatelist. We have been most fortunate in securing the services of Mr. J. M. Nethersole to edit this year's Magazine, assisted by Mr. E. F. Aguilar and Mr. S. C. Harris. The production of the 1949 edition is now well under way, and I am sure it is eagerly awaited by Members of the Society and many others the world over.

The decision which was made at the April meeting to charge 2/- per copy to Members resident in Jamaica, and 2/- for all additional copies purchased locally or overseas, is felt to be well justified by the high costs of printing and publishing at present in force.

Philatelic Exhibitions. It has been decided to hold a Philatelic Exhibition in Jamaica towards the end of this year, and a Committee has been formed to prepare for this, which it is hoped will give fillip to the apparently re-awakening interest in stamp collecting now taking place. It has also been proposed that the Third Caribbean Inter-Colonial Exhibition should be held in Jamaica next year, and this proposal has received the support of Col. H. G. Reid, President of the Caribbean Philatelic Association, of which the Jamaica P. S. is a Member.

"Stamp Collecting" and other Magazines.

Following a suggestion made and adopted at the November 1949 meeting, the copies of philatelic magazines and other journals which are received for the Society, have been regularly circulated in a similar manner to the Exchange Packets, and most Kingston and country members should have seen sufficient copies of these publications to keep them abreast of matters in the philatelic world.

Vale. As your out-going Honorary Secretary, I send my thanks to all members for your co-operation during the past year, and best wishes for a most successful year ahead.

Signed.

B. C. STONE,
Hon. Secretary.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT TO PERIOD ENDING 2ND JUNE 1949.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance forward	35	2	10	Rental of Club Room	2	10	0
Entrance Fees	1	14	0	Stationery	16	8	
Subs. Annual	3	8	6	Postages (Secretary)	2	3	0
Subs. Life	6	6	0	New Issues Purchased	150	18	3
New Issue Sales	145	5	2	Renewal Subscriptions			
Comm. Packet Sales	14	6	10½	to Foreign Magazines	8	5	7
Sale of Magazine 1947		1	0	Catalogues purchased			
Sale of Catalogues	1	15	0	George VI	1	15	0
Bank Interest		3	10	Sub. Congress of Gt.			
Refund from Secretary		3	6	Britain	2	3	0
				a/c Advertising		12	0
				Sundry		4	8
				Balance in Bank	38	18	1
				Cash on hand			5½
	£208	6	8½		£208	6	8½

NEW ISSUE SERVICE

	£	s.	d.
Stamps on hand and on order	30	14	9
Amounts owing for stamps	2	9	1
	£33	3	10

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Hon. Treasurer.

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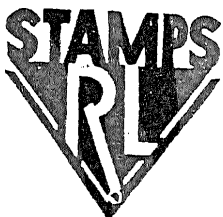
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