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JAMAICA LABELS

By E.F. Aguilar

Many Jamaican collectors are not aware of the wide extent of labels used in this Island over the past fifty years. One can form a very interesting and varied collection of these.

The very first label which we have on record was in 1908, a small stamp of 23 x 28 mm. printed in red, white and blue, in the middle portraying the Union Jack and around the flag in a double circle ring "Buy Goods of (around top and around the bottom of the circle) BRITISH MANUFACTURE." The outside frame is in red. Postmarked Kingston – February 25, 1908. These are very scarce, and only rarely do they ever turn up.

The British Red Cross Society in Jamaica issued five labels during the 1914-18 War. These labels, although not authorized for postage, were accepted and sold by the Post Office over the counter to help boost the War Fund.

If one has the opportunity of collecting many hundreds they can be found in many flaws and errors. All the labels generally speaking are of a similar size of 22 x 28 mm, illustrating one of the early 'planes flying above the clouds with the big red Geneva Cross at the bottom. All the first printings were done as above in red. They can be found along with the normal postage stamp of that period tied to the postmark. These are becoming very scarce. The second printing which came out around 9 months later in 1915 shows a similar design as above, but with the word 'Jamaica' just above the Geneva Cross. Jamaica is printed in black. The third printing was done shortly after, and Jamaica appeared under the aeroplane in between clouds. Again in black.

Many copies can be found where the word 'Jamaica' is across the aeroplane and above the aeroplane almost on the frame. While the fourth printing shows the same design with the word 'Jamaica' once again just above the Geneva Red Cross and printed across the Geneva Red Cross is the word '½d.' Both wording in black. The fifth printing is very similar to the second except that the word 'Jamaica' appears in red and not black. There is to be found quite a variety of shades varying from deep red to carmine. This organization was able to purchase a number of 'planes and helped considerably during this period.

In the 1939–45 War the Jamaica Red Cross Society again issued labels, and these were distributed and sold in large amounts and helped form the Squadron named after the Island – also part of the proceeds went towards the Fund. These labels of the 1939–45 Issue are 22 x 28 mm framed with the word Jamaica at the top and the words WAR FUND at the bottom with the large Geneva Red Cross filling the rest of the stamp. These are almost as scarce as the first Red Cross labels of 1914–18.

Also at this period Mr. Cargill organized a Fund known as the Fellowship of the Blowers. These labels were issued to each member who had to pay either a ½d, 1d, upwards depending on how many 'planes were destroyed each month. This organization collected a very large amount particularly towards the last months of the war.

The third label to be issued for 1939–45 War was the St. Dunstons which is the same size as the above 22 x 28 mm framed with the words "HELP THE WAR FUND" printed in red at the top of the stamp showing the Tomb – framed with the word St. Dunstons across the Tomb, and the bottom of the Tomb, the word Jamaica B.W.I. All this is in black except for the frame which is in red. These are extremely scarce even more so used.

Many collectors do not realize that the War labels can be found in booklets. These booklets were prepared and printed in Jamaica and contained 12 War labels of the fourth printing. With interleaving of advertising by different firms in Kingston.

On the cover the advertisement – Adolph Levy and Bros. for Corn Oil. The second page has J. Wray & Nephew Ltd. – Wine and Spirit Merchants – Finest of Jamaican Rums. There is then 6 labels of the Red Cross – fourth printing.

On the following page advertisement by Fred L. Myers and Sons followed by an advertisement by the Jamaica Mutual Life Insurance Society. On the following page there is an advertisement to use the ½d labels on your letters going through the mails so as to help the Worthy Cause which these labels were being sold for. On the back of that page was an advertisement by Cecil deCordova & Co. for Golden Glow Milk, and then another 6 Red Cross labels. The advertisement on the following page is for Machados Cigarettes while on the back of that is Charleys of 64 King Street. On the cover inside Sherlock & Smith of King Street, and on the back of the folder was an advertisement of Fred L. Myers & Son. The whole booklet containing only 12 War labels, selling for 6d. per booklet.

One understands that there were also other earlier booklets, but these have never been seen or recorded. This is the first occasion that this booklet is being recorded.

The cover is in a greyish colour, usual size prepared by the Gleaner Company.

Certainly very rare items for any collector to find.

If any collectors are able to get large collections of these labels, they will certainly find some very interesting varieties and shades.

NOTES HERE AND THERE

JAMAICA Jamaica will be having a Girl Guides issue from reports currently rumoured in Kingston, but no official Notice has been forwarded.

TRINIDAD The Girl Guide set for Trinidad is due out in August. The release date will be announced in the next couple of weeks.

Jamaica Almanac

Many readers have never had the chance to read or see any of the old copies of "The Jamaica Almanack" which was issued between 1800 to 1870. The 1845 edition has some very interesting postal facts.

The G.P.O. Headquarters was located at the N.E. corner of lower Church Street, and Port Royal Street. The list of Royal Mail Steam Packet boats were as follows:

Avon - Clyde - Dee - Forth - Medway - Severn - Tay - Teviot - Thames - Trent - Tweed -
City of Glasgow - Schooners - Lille - Leo - Larne.

Passage to Southampton from Jamaica – Single After Cabin £50; Single Fore Cabin £45.

INTERCOLONIAL VOYAGES RATES 1845

Jamaica to Antigua	\$ 85	Return	Antigua to Jamaica	\$ 55
Jamaica to Barbados	\$100	Return	Barbados to Jamaica	\$ 70
Jamaica to Bermuda	\$105	Return	Bermuda to Jamaica	\$100
Jamaica to Carthagen	\$ 35	Return	Carthagen to Jamaica	\$ 35
Jamaica to Chagres	\$ 50	Return	Chagres to Jamaica	\$ 55
Jamaica to Demerara	\$130	Return	Demerara to Jamaica	\$ 80
Jamaica to Dominica	\$90	Return	Dominica to Jamaica	\$ 55

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Jamaica to Grenada	\$100	Return	Grenada to Jamaica	\$ 55
Jamaica to Guadeloupe	\$ 85	Return	Guadeloupe to Jamaica	\$ 55
Jamaica to Havana	\$ 40	Return	Havana to Jamaica	\$ 50
Jamaica to Honduras	\$ 60	Return	Honduras to Jamaica	\$110
Jamaica to Jacmel	\$ 30	Return	Jacmel to Jamaica	\$ 20
Jamaica to La Guayra	\$125	Return	La Guayra to Jamaica	\$ 85
Jamaica to Martinique	\$ 90	Return	Martinique to Jamaica.	\$ 55
Jamaica to Montserrat	\$ 80	Return	Montserrat to Jamaica	\$ 55
Jamaica to Nassau	\$ 65	Return	Nassau to Jamaica	\$ 70
Jamaica to Nevis	\$ 80	Return	Nevis to Jamaica	\$ 55
Jamaica to Puerto Rico	\$ 50	Return	Puerto Rico to Jamaica	\$ 55
Jamaica to St. Kitts	\$ 80	Return	St. Kitts to Jamaica	\$ 55
Jamaica to St. Lucia	\$ 90	Return	St. Lucia to Jamaica	\$ 55
Jamaica to Santa Martha	\$ 30	Return	Santa Martha to Jam.	\$ 30
Jamaica to St. Thomas	\$ 55	Return	St. Thomas to Jamaica	\$ 30
Jamaica to Tobago	\$115.	Return	Tobago to Jamaica	\$ 65
Jamaica to Trinidad	\$115	Return	Trinidad to Jamaica	\$ 70
Jamaica to Tortolla V.I.;	\$65	Return	Tortolla to Jamaica	\$ 55
Jamaica to Vera Cruz	\$ 80	Return	Vera Cruz to Jamaica	\$120

FREIGHT RATES - SPICES

At any distance exceeding 2,500 miles. or more 1½%
delivered to Bank of England

Exceeding 2,500 miles but delivered in England 1%

Exceeding 1,000 but not over 2,500 ¾%

Not exceeding 1,000 miles ½%

All rates are based on the Spanish' dollar to be taken in all British Possessions at the rate of 4/2 sterling - doubloon at 64/-'. •

PACKAGES OR PARCELS

One Cubic Foot and under 7/6 per package

Above one to three cubic ft. 15/- per package

Above 3 cubic ft. 5/- per ft.

SIGNED BY: R. CURRIE.

Railway / Motor TPO

The Motor Mail Services still continue, although nowadays they have been modernised and greatly extended to cover larger areas of the Island, and a small number of passengers are carried on each coach. Their schedules still continue to connect with the Railway Time-table and are maintained between:

Kingston and Port Antonio via Morant Bay
Bog Walk and Montego Bay
Anchovy and Lucca
Balaclava and Southfield
Balaclava and Ulster Spring
Maggotty and Black River
May Pen and Race Course
Montpelier and Savannah-la-mar
Williamsfield and Savannah-la-mar
Williamsfield and Cross Keys
Linstead and Gayle
Richmond and St. Ann's Bay; and
Shooters Hill and Brown's Town

In the lists which follow, the Railway Station Postmarks have been given the designation 'S' whilst those of the Travelling Post Offices carry that well known prefix 'TPO'. Earliest and latest known dates of use are given in all cases, but there is little doubt that many of these records of the writer can be extended.

NOTE Editor W.I.S. - In many cases earlier or later dates are known, many of these dates have been altered. (FFS = Fred Seifert, EA = Everard Aguilar).

RAILWAY STATION POSTMARKS TYPE "S".

In the B.W.I.S.C. Bulletin of July 1959 (Page 54) Lt. Col. F.F. SEIFFERT described a railway marking in his possession which is the only example known to the writer either by sight or reference.

The handstamp is struck in black ink on the obverse of a cover dated 21st December 1880 which also carried the Kingston postmark, and reads:

RAILWAY LETTER BOX
SPANISH TOWN

Its dimensions are 46 x 9¼ mm. with letters 3 mm. in height but further details are not known to the compiler.

It can be considered certain that this first type of railway markings was issued to postmark letters posted in the new Receiving Boxes at Railway Stations, as mentioned in the Notice of 1st August 1878 (see Page 3). If this theory is correct, and it would seem reasonable, then it can also be assumed that Kingston and possibly Old Harbour were also issued with a similar mark at the same time. Nevertheless, only the Spanish Town mark has been recorded.

SPANISH TOWN 21st December, 1880.

TYPE "S1"

A double-lined postmark which has the name of the town at the bottom and the legend "JAMAICA RAILWAY" at the top, with the date in the centre in three lines.

The lettering is usually small and square and there is a dot on either side of the postmark separating the lettering.

Highgate	Blue		13 June 1919	Tallish letters
Kingston				Definitely exists.
May Pen	Blue	16 Sept. 1903	27 May 1920	
	Red	Oct. 1906		
Porus	Blue	14 Feb. 1902	15 Jan. 1906	
Richmond	Red	Mar. 1906	June 1906	

TYPE "S1A"

A sub-type of S1 which has small Maltese crosses at each side instead of dots. It is possible, however, that the dots of type S1 may be worn crosses, as are often seen in the double-circle postmarks of Jamaica.

Balaclava	Blue	19 Dec. 1901		
Grange Lane	Blue			Seen on first Arms type No date
Green Vale	Blue	16 Sept. 1901	1907	

TYPE "S1B"

A further sub-type of S1 which has neither dots or crosses at the sides.

Albany	1	Blue	12 Aug. 1904	8 Apr. 1907	Has 3½ mm letters in name widely spaced.
	?	Purple	12 Nov. 1905		? 1 or 11
	?	Red	Dec. 1905		? 1 or 11
	11	Blue	18 May 1910	18 June 1910	Has 2½ mm letters in name not so widely spaced.
Annatto Bay		Blue	21 June 1903	1 Oct. 1919	Note incorrect spelling of name.
Annotto Bay		Blue	6 Aug. 1902	20 July 1908	Note correct spelling of name.
Appleton		Blue	20 Sept. 1901	2 Mar. 1909	
Balaclava		Red	22 Aug. 1902	27 Feb. 1906	
		Blue	29 Apr. 1902	30 Oct. 1920	
			(FFS)		
Bog Walk		Blue	3 Oct. 1901	Feb. 1902?	
Buff Bay		Blue	24 Aug. 1901	11 June 1921	
Cambridge		Blue	17 Bay 1904	23 Oct. 1910	
			(FFS)		
Catadupa		Blue	1906	2 Nov. 1910	
Clarendon Park		Blue	3 Oct. 1901	10 May 1919	Possibly two date stamps of this type exist.
Ewarton		Blue	10 Dec. 1.911	16 June 1923	

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Four Paths	Blue	Nov. 1901 (on cover EA)	12 Sept 1916	
Grange Lane	Blue	16 Jan. 1902	3 Jan- 1917	
Gregory Park	Blue	12 Dec. 1904	31 Jan. 1924	
Kendal	Blue	8 July 1902	7 Dec. 1918	
Kingston	1 Blue	8 Oct, 1901	1 May 1917	Small broad letters widely spaced.
	11 Blue	27 Mar. 1916	16 Dec. 1919	Letters-more widely spaced.
Linstead	Red	30 Oct. 1901		
	Blue	31 Oct. 1901	27 Jan. 1910	
Montego Bay	Blue	24 Oct. 1901	6 Dec. 1912	
	Red	12 Aug. 1905	24 Mar. 1906	
Montpelier	Blue	10 Oct. 1901 (FFS)	12 Dec. 1902	Note spelling.
Old Harbour	Blue	3 Feb. 1902	1905	
Orange Bay	Blue	27 Aug. 1902	17 Oct. 1912	
Port Antonio	Blue	24 May 1902 (on full cover EA)		2 Jul. 1909
	Red	24 Apr. 1907	16 May 1907	
Porus	Blue	18 Mar. 1902	10 ? 1904	on Blk. Llandoverly EA.
Richmond	Blue	8 Oct. 1901	30 June 1913	
Spanish Town	Blue	11 Oct. 1901		
	Red	6 June 1908 (Stitt)		
Troja	Blue	2 Nov. 1901	Jan, 1922	
Williamsfield	1 Blue	12 May 1902	14 Oct. 1904 (FFS)	Has broad letters
	? Red	6 Sept. 1905	1906	? 1 or 11
	11 Blue	22 Oct. 1918	28 Nov. 1924	(Has tall narrow letters)
	11 Violet		19 Nov. 1923	(Has tall narrow letters)
Hartlands	Blue	Feb. 26 1918 (FFS)	29 Nov. 1919 (EA)	
Bushy Park	Blue	Feb. 2 1902 (EA)		
Green vale	Blue	? 7 1904 (EA)		on Penny Llandoverly

UNIDENTIFIED TYPES

The following Railway Station Offices were all issued with and used the basic type S1, but so far the compiler has not yet been able to identify with any certainty which subtype they had.

Anchovy	Blue	18 Dec. 1906	7 Apr. 1915	
Bushy Park	Blue	30 Oct. 1901	1912	
	Red	29 Jan. 1906		This item in red possibly may be type S2. Confirmation needed.
Hartlands	Blue	24 July 1918	23 Aug. 1923	
Hope Bay	Blue	23 May 1906	1911?	
Ipswich		3 Nov. 1907	24 Aug. 1911	
Maggotty		20 Dec. 1905?		
Riversdale		27 Apr. 1906	6 July 1918	

NOTE: It is quite common to find inverted and/or transposed dates in all three sub-types of 81.

TYPE "S2"

A type similar in format to S1, but very much more scarce. It has the word "STATION" added at the bottom after the town name, and has the date at each side.

* NOTE: It is possible that neither sub-type S2 nor S2B exist, but as four offices have not yet definitely been identified, they have been included for possible future allotment and reference. Inverted dates can be found in Type S2.

TYPE "S2A"

A sub-type of S2 which has small Maltese crosses on either side, separating the wording.

Kingston	Blue	27 Ju 1903	Jan. 1908
		FFS	
May Pen	Blue	12 Mar. 1903	1911
Old Harbour	Blue	11 Feb. 1903	1905

TYPE "S2B"

A sub-type of S2 which has neither dots nor Maltese crosses at the sides.

UNIDENTIFIED TYPES

The following Railway Station Offices are known to have been issued with the basic type S2, but so far the compiler has been unable to identify with any certainty which subtype they used.

Bushy Park		20 Jan. 1906		Could possibly be Type S1.. vid.
Ewarton Station		20 Mar. 1905	20 Mar. 1906	Definitely exists
Grange Lane		13 Jan. 1905		
Kendal	Blue	21 Oct. 1916	1920	Would like some confirmation of this

TYPE "S3"

A new type of similar format to S1 and S2 which has the legend "JAMAICA GOVERNMENT RAILWAY" at the top and the name of the town only at the bottom. The lettering is tall and narrow, and there are small Maltese crosses on either side of the postmark.

Appleton	Blue	18 May 1914	23 Feb. 1922	
Bog Walk	Blue	10 July 1912 •	11 Mar. 1924	
Buff Bay	Blue	1 June 1915	5 Oct. 1923	Is definitely a different postmark to S3A from this town.
Cambridge	Blue	17 May 1912 -	15 June 1924	
Catadupa	Blue	20 Sept. 1919 .	Sep. 1922	
Four Paths	Blue .	16 June 1921	23 Apr. 1926	
			FFS	
Grange Lane	Blue	2 Nov. 1911	14 July 1921	
Highgate	Blue	27 Oct. 1915	26 Aug. 1922	A different postmark to S3A from this town
Hope Bay	Blue .	28 Feb. 1911	11 Dec. 1924	
Ipswich	Blue	2 Mar. 1920	13 July 1924	
Kingston	Blue	1 May 1916	6 Aug. 1925	
Linstead	Blue	4 Mar. 1921	7 Oct. 1924	
Montego Bay	Blue	5 Aug. 1910	18 Mar. 1924	
Montpelier	Blue	24 Aug. 1914	1 Sep. 1924	Note correct spelling.
			EA	
Old Harbour	Blue	23 May 1914	30 Dec. 1924	
		EA		
Porus	Blue	23 July 1917	10 Dec. 1924	
			EA	
Richmond	Blue	1 Oct. 1910	1926	A very late date but definite
St. Margaret's Bay	Blue	2 Jan. 1916	18 Sep. 1926	Another late date
Spanish Town	Blue	2 Oct. 1911	Feb. 1921	
Troja	Blue .	9 Feb. 1910	15 Nov. 1913	

NOTE: Inverted and/or transposed dates in Types S3 and S3A are very common..

TYPE "S3A"

A sub-type of S3 which has no Maltese crosses at the sides

Albany	Blue	6 May 1912	Dec. 1923	
	Violet	5 Nov. 1924		
Appleton	Blue	11 Aug. 1911		
Anchovy	Blue	20 Aug. 1919.	25 Oct. 1919	
Annotto Bay	Blue	20 Sept. 1912	31 Dec. 1923	
	Violet	11 Nov. 1924		
		HOC		

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Buff Bay		Blue	.	20 June 1924	Side S3 of Buff Bay
Bushy. Park		Blue	26 July 1919	7 Nov. 1924	EA
Clarendon		Blue .	6 June 1917 .	29 Oct. 1922	EA
Park		Black	24 Jan. 1921		
Danks		Blue	3 Dec. 1910	14 Dec. 1921	Note *
Green Vale		Blue	21 July 1917	29 Sep. 1922	Possibly two date-stamps of this type.
Highgate	1	Blue	23 July 1914	10 Mar. 1915	Smallish, broad lettering
	11	Blue	11 Nov. 1918	3 Nov. 1925	(Another late date.).
	11	Violet	18 Dec. 1945		(Has larger narrower lettering.)
Kendal		Blue	21 Oct. 1918	25 Oct. 1923	
Maggotty		Blue	20 Jan. 1912	24 Mar. 1923	
Orange Bay		Blue	20 Mar. 1914	3 Apr. 1924	
Port Antonio		Blue	24 June 1912	13 Jul. 1922	
Riversdale		Blue	4 May 1916EA	20 Nov. 1924	
Spanish Town		Blue .	5 Jan. 1907 .	13 Dec. 1924 EA	
Suttons		Blue	8 Sept. 1914	14 Dec. 1923	

* NOTE: "Nicholson" mentions (vide Page225 of Jamaica – It's Postal History, Postage Stamps and Postmarks) that Chapelton Station was originally called Danks from its opening in 1913 until 1921, but the known dates of use of Danks Type S3A and Chapelton Type S3 or 3A would appear to correct this statement, and it is probable that both places were open at the same time. It is interesting to consider why Highgate and Buff Bay (and possibly Green Vale) should have had two date–stamps of the same type issued to them.

UNIDENTIFIED TYPES .

The compiler has seen the following stations in this basic Type S3, but has been unable .to identify which sub–Type they used.

Balaclava					I have seen this recorded, but have never seen a copy, and must query it.
Chapelton S 3A		Blue	7 Aug. 1912	7 Apr. 1924 EA	See notes after Type Sa and Danks.
Ewarton S3A		Blue	3 Aug. 192?	could be 1921 EA	Have seen a vague report of. this but cannot confirm. Heavy block letters
Hartlands		Blue	23 Aug. 1920	5 Aug. 1920	
Williamsfield S3A		Blue.	.29 Mar. 1917	14 Oct. 1924	EA

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TYPE "S4"

A slightly larger date–stamp of the same format, which has the legend "JAMAICA GOVERNMENT RAILWAY(S)" at the top, and the name of the town only at the bottom, separated on either side by a single spacing line.

May Pen	Blue	3 Feb. 1923	Dec. 1929	(A very late date.
	Violet	29 Dec. 1924		(Spelt with final "S" in "RAILWAYS."

TYPE "S4A"

A sub–type of 84 which has dots on either side of the date–stamp instead of the spacing lines.

Inverness	Blue	21 May 1923	21 Aug. 1923	
Spanish Town	Blue	19 Dec. 1922	21 Oct. 1924	Spelt with final "S" in "RAILWAYS."
Troja	Blue	22 Aug. 1923	19 Sep. 1923	Dot at left often missing.

TYPE "S4B"

Another .sub–type of S4 which has neither spacing lines nor dots at the sides of the date–stamp.

Balaclava	Blue	1 Dec. 1923		
	Violet		11 June 1927	Another late date.
Chapel ton	Blue	31 Jan. 1922	14 Apr. 1924	
Grange Lane	Blue	1921	11 Feb. 1935	
Riversdale	Blue	1 Oct. 1923	9 Oct. 1923	
	Violet	8 Dec. 1924	7 Nov. 1945	In compiler's collection on 4½d. Constitution.