



Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago

(Founded May 1942)

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PORT OF SPAIN MEETINGS: 6pm second Wednesday every month, St. Mary's College, Frederick St.

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NEW ISSUE NEWS

To date there is only one issue on the 2012 programme. This issue will honour T&T's first female Prime Minister. Presently, there are no other issues being processed, although there are issues under consideration.

1990 20 cents BIRDS DEFINITIVE STAMP

Joel McFarlane reported that the 1990 20 cents Birds definitive stamp exists with the watermark BLOCK CA Diagonal (sideways). It is not listed in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue, although other denominations of the Birds definitive with this watermark are listed, see SG #837 to #846. TTPost, National Mail Centre, has a stock of some of the denominations SG #837 to #846 available. The PSTT has some of the 20 cents available for members. Please place orders with Robert Franco. The price is 20 cents each.

TRINIDAD E TOBAGO - 1987 VATICAN STAMP

In 1985, Pope John Paul II paid a visit to T&T which lasted several hours. T&T marked the visit with a cover and special postmark in 1985. The 2006 Pope John Paul II issue (SG #1082-1087) featured photographs from his 1985 visit.

In 1987, the Vatican issued a set of stamps listing the countries the Pope visited in 1985. T&T was stated on one of the stamps (50 denomination), SG #886/Sc #795. The stamp stated '28th January - 6th February 1985, Venezuela - Ecuador - Peru - Trinidad E Tobago'.



REPORT ON THE A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 8th February at St. Mary's College, Port of Spain. Present were six members. The returning officer was Mr. Frank Ferreira. The results of the election of officers are: President - Mr. John Chay; Vice-Presidents - Mr. Jazad Ali and Mr. Albert Sydney; Hon. Secretary - Mr. Robert Franco; Treasurer - Vacant; the four Committee Members - Mr. Joel McFarlane, Ms. Marjorie Smith, Mr Roger Ramoutar and Mr. Selwyn Gomes; Librarian - Mr. Mark McPeanne; Hon. Auditor - Mr. G. Sancho. Mr. Albert Sydney will act as Treasurer until the post is filled.

Here is the directory of services:

HON. SECRETARY: Mr. Robert Franco, 33 Verbena Road, Victoria Gardens, Diego Martin. Tel: 637-3603. General correspondence, change of address and new issue standing orders. Please make payments for the new issue standing orders payable to Robert Franco. If you have not received a bulletin, please inform Robert. His e-mail address: *virgo@tstt.net.tt* If you have any ideas for new stamp issues, please send them to Robert. Please note that the stamp programme is planned one to two years in advance.

PRESIDENT: Mr. John Chay, P.O. Box 596, P.O.S. Tel: 622-1673. Sale of accessories, i.e. Stockbooks, albums, mounts, etc. Bulletin Editor. Fax: (868) 632-2759.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Mr. Jazad Ali. His e-mail address is *jazali@tstt.net.tt*

VICE-PRESIDENT & AG. TREASURER: Mr. Albert Sydney. P.O. Box 596, Port of Spain. Tel: 725-6065. All remittances are to be sent to Albert except for the new issue service. Payments are to be made to the Philatelic Society of T&T. His e-mail address is *albertsydney@hotmail.com*

ROGER RAMOUTAR: His e-mail address is *rogerr.law@hotmail.com*

EDWARD BARROW's WEBSITE: *www.westindia-co.com* His e-mail address is *ebarrow@tradewinds-co.com*

JOE CHIN ALEONG's WEBSITE: *www.westindiana.com* His e-mail address is *info@westindiana.com*

Please remember that our monthly meetings at St. Mary's College start at 6pm on the second Wednesday of every month. At our meetings, we have stamps to give away, - free !!

ADVERTISING COVERS - OPTICIANS

It is quite common to find commercial covers of other countries, such as the USA, with an advertising cachet on them. However, it appears that this form of advertisement was not popular in T&T as relatively few businesses used them.

J.S. Mata, trading as the 'Optical Cabinet', advertised the 'Fits-U Eyeglasses' (Fig.1). The cachet was printed in two colours - orange and black. The cover has the American Optical Company logo on the reverse, therefore, they supplied the covers to J.S. Mata. This cachet has been observed used in other countries but with the names of different businesses stated. The cover was postmarked, G.P.O. Port of Spain, 10th September 1921.

The regular business envelope of J.S. Mata is illustrated in Fig. 2. On the reverse of this envelope was a letter-seal which advertised their business. This cover was postmarked, G.P.O. Port of Spain, 16th September 1921.

Both of the J.S. Mata covers were franked with the one penny stamp (SG #150c/Sc #13) of the 1913-23 definitive.

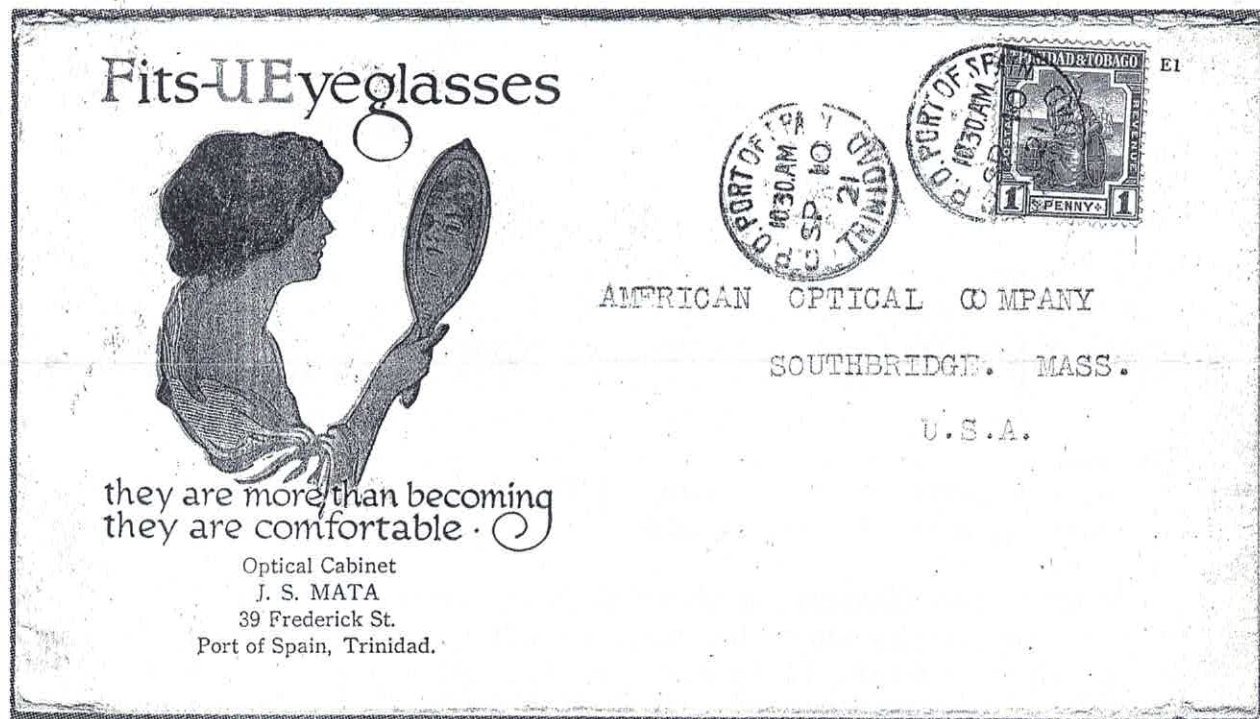


Fig.1: J.S. MATA 'OPTICAL CABINET' 1921 ADVERTISING COVER FOR EYEGLASSES

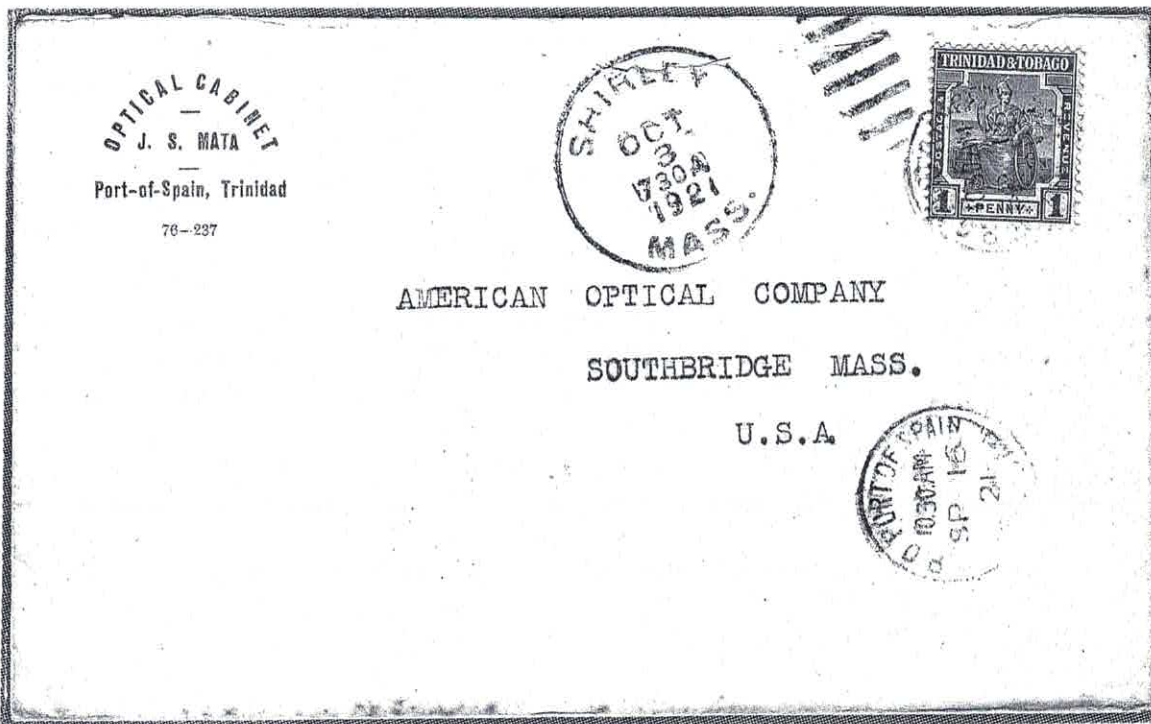


Fig.2: J.S. MATA 1921 COVER (TOP) WITH LETTER SEAL (RIGHT) ON REVERSE



Felipe Yabrude advertised his business in Fig.3 and Fig.4. The regular business envelope appears to be in Fig. 3 with simply an illustration of an eye. This envelope was postmarked, G.P.O. Port of Spain, 10th March 1936. The illustration in Fig.4 showed the latest equipment available. In the illustration the customer placed her face in a frame and her head was held steady with a support from the back of the chair. The cover is postmarked, G.P.O. Port of Spain, March 1942. Both cachets were printed in black.

A.P. Plimmer and Company, a short distance away from J.S. Mata on Frederick St., advertised their business on the cover of Fig. 5. The cachet was printed in blue. It is obvious that this cachet was printed abroad as there was a skier on the right of the woman. Skiers use shades to protect their eyes from the reflection of the sunlight off the snow. The cover was postmarked, G.P.O. Port of Spain, December 1936.

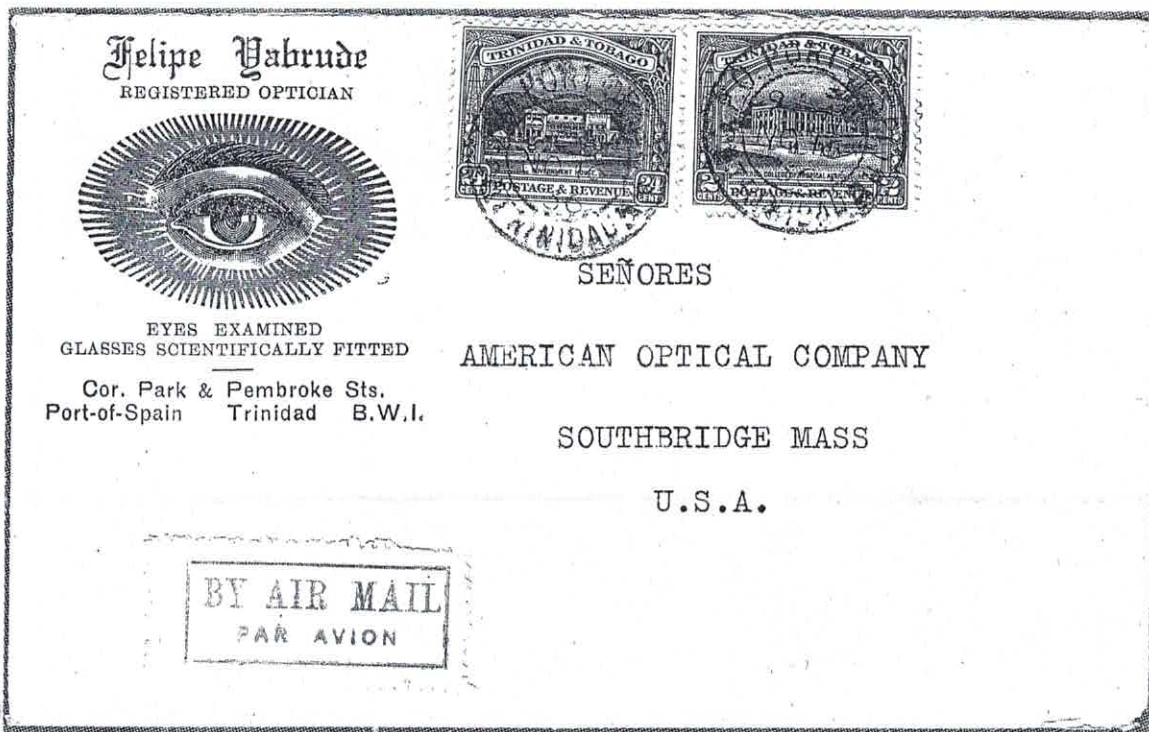


Fig.3: FELIPE YABRUDE 1936 ADVERTISEMENT COVER WITH EYE ILLUSTRATION

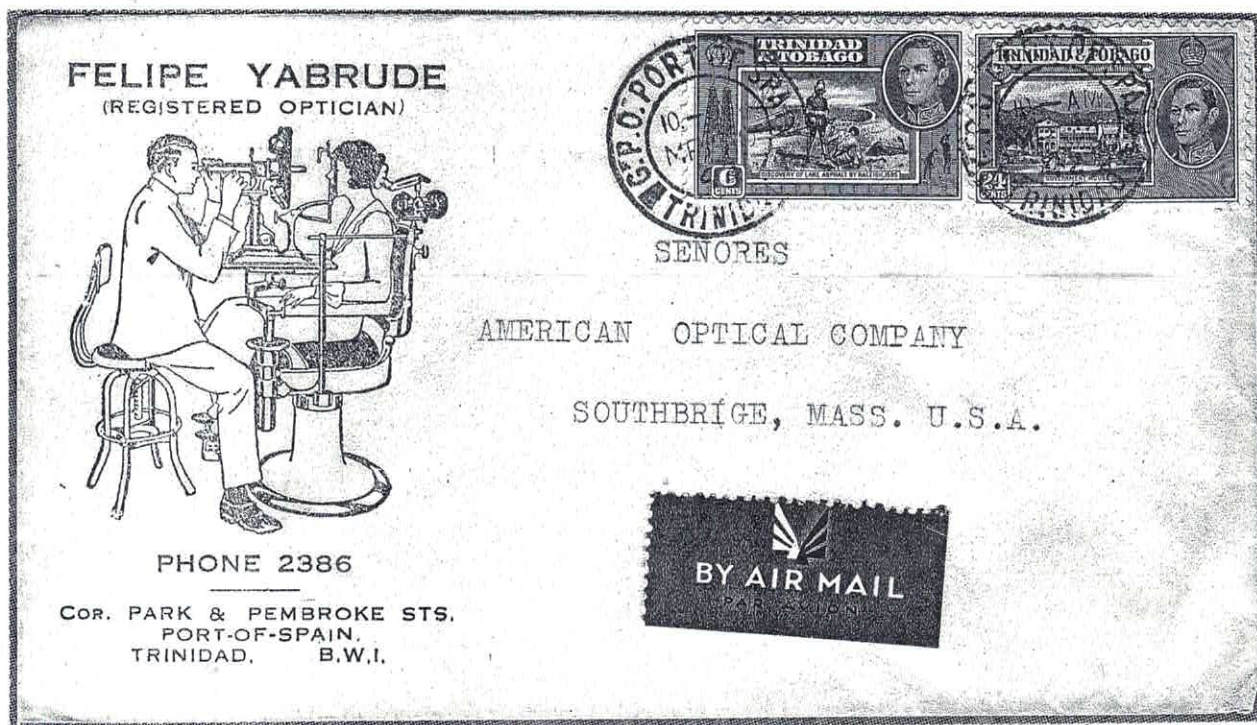


Fig.4: FELIPE YABRUDE 1942 ADVERTISEMENT COVER WITH EQUIPMENT ILLUSTRATION

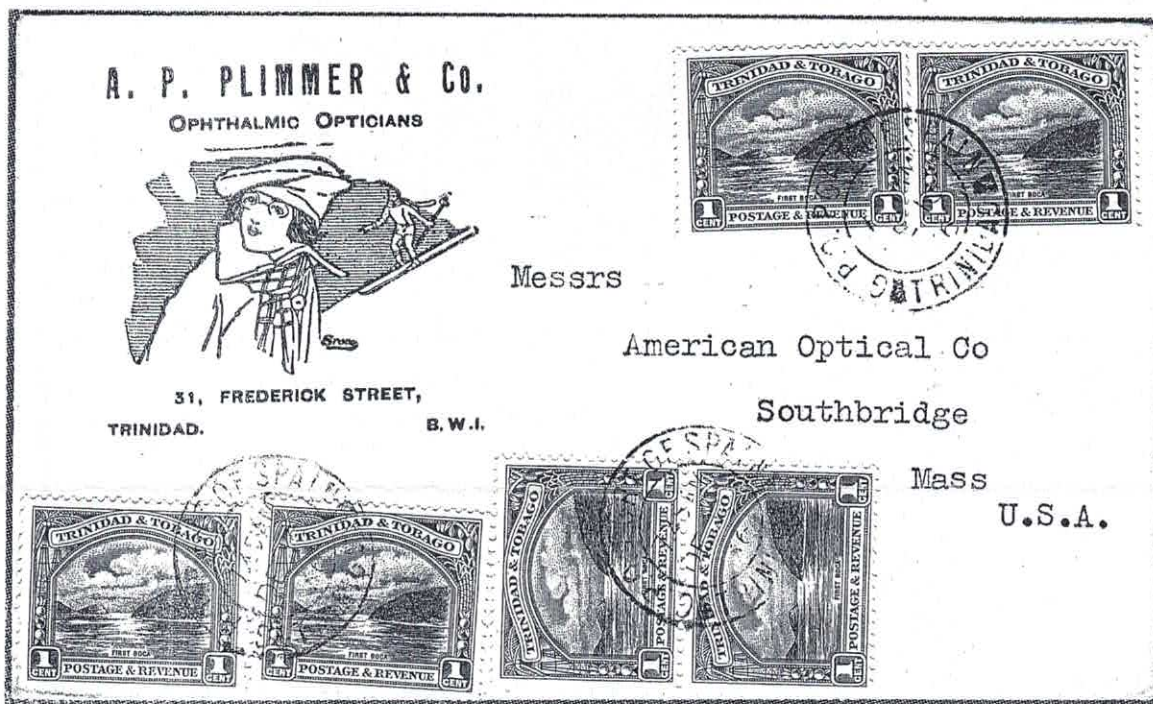


Fig.5: A.P. PLIMMER & CO. 1936 ADVERTISEMENT COVER

The Felix Yabrude air mail cover of 1936 was franked with the two cents (SG #231/Sc #35) and twenty-four cents (SG #236/Sc #40) stamps of the 1935-37 definitive. The Felix Yabrude airmail cover of 1942 was franked with the six cents (SG #250/Sc #51) and twenty-four cents (SG #253/Sc #58) stamps of the 1938-44 King George VI definitive. The A.P. Plimmer & Co. cover of 1936 was sent via surface mail and was franked with six one cent stamps (SG #230/Sc #34) of the 1935-37 definitive.

The J.S. Mata cover (Fig.1) and the A.P. Plimmer & Co. cover (Fig.5) are quite plentiful and fairly easy to obtain from postal history dealers. The other three covers (Fig.2, Fig.3 and Fig.4) are difficult to find.

GENERAL NEWS

There will be a slight change in the Bulletins. The four 2012 Bulletins will be classified as Volume 2. The four 2013 Bulletins will be classified as Volume 3 and so on. Volume one will be all the Bulletins from #1 to #255.

Congratulations to Albert Sydney, he was appointed a temporary independent Senator in January.