



# Philatelic Society of Trinidad & Tobago

(Founded May 1942)

P.O. BOX 596, PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD, W.I.

PRESIDENT & BULLETIN EDITOR: MR. JOHN CHAY, 42 ELIZABETH ST., ST. CLAIR, PORT OF SPAIN  
TEL: 622-1673

HON. SECRETARY: MR. ROBERT FRANCO, 33 VERBENA RD., VICTORIA GARDENS, DIEGO MARTIN  
TEL: 637-3603

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

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## NEW ISSUE NEWS

TTPost launched an issue to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China on the 19th September. However, up to the end of 2014, the issue has not been placed on sale and for this reason it will not be considered a 2014 issue. To date we have been unable to obtain an image or details of the issue. We will publish this information when it becomes available.

## GENERAL NEWS

If you wish to read more on the Red Cross Provisional Stamp of 1914 (see Bulletin #265), Ed Barrow wrote an article on it in the British West Indies Study Circle Bulletin #243 December 2014.

Errata: The Returning Officer at the 2014 AGM was Mr. Mark McPeanne and not Mr. Dirk Cabral.

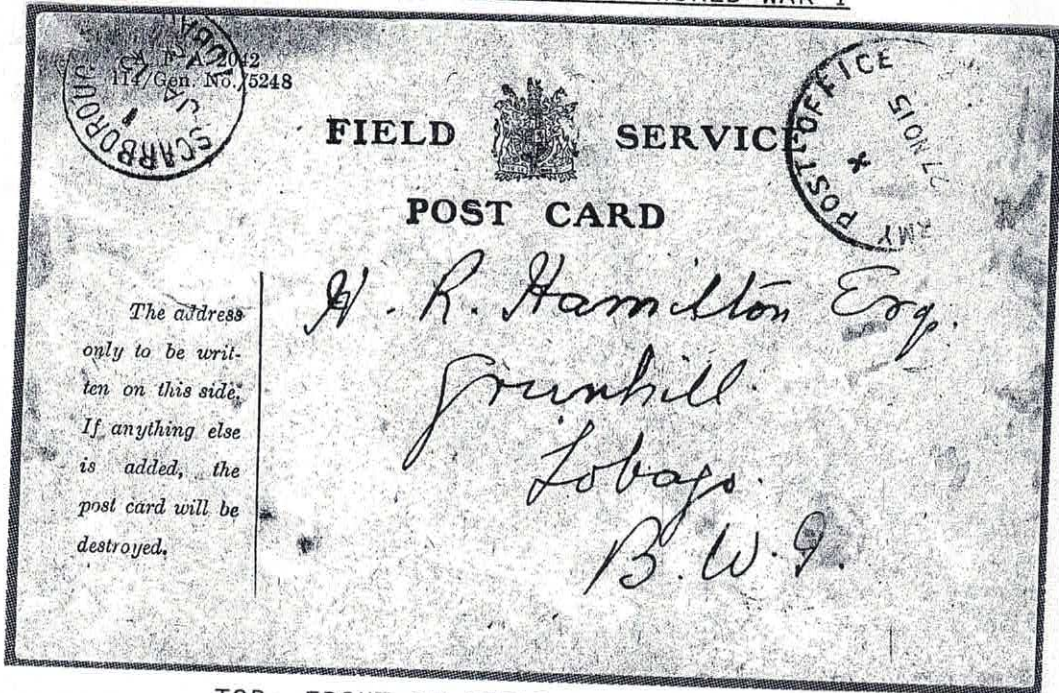
TTPost produced four attractive book-markers using stamps on them. Two of the same stamps were used on each book-marker, one on each side. Each book-marker had brief notes of the subject on the stamp. The stamps used were the \$2.50 of the Humming Bird issue (2002), the \$3.75 of the Butterflies issue (2001), the \$5.00 of the Surf and Sand issue (2000) and the \$5.25 of the Sweet Memories issue (2003). The book-markers were sold at \$10.00 each.

## OBITUARIES

In May 2014, we lost our long-time life member, Hans (John) Stetcher. Hans Stetcher was born in Austria but at age 15, he and his family had to flee Austria. They came to Trinidad in 1938 with a wave of Jewish refugees. The family was interned at the St. James Internment Camp but was released in 1943/44. Hans shared graciously his research with the Editor and this information will be published in future Bulletins.

In 2014, Gerald Sancho, another long-time life member passed away. Gerald served as our Hon. Auditor for over thirty years.

FIELD SERVICE POSTCARD- WORLD WAR I



TOP: FRONT OF FIELD SERVICE POSTCARD  
BOTTOM: REVERSE OF FIELD SERVICE POSTCARD

**NOTHING is to be written on this side except the date and signature of the sender. Sentences not required may be erased. If anything else is added the post card will be destroyed.**

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*I am quite well.*

*I have been admitted into hospital*  
 { ~~sick~~ } *and am going on well.*  
 { ~~wounded~~ } *and hope to be discharged soon.*

*I am being sent down to the base.*

*I have received your* { letter dated \_\_\_\_\_  
 telegram ,, \_\_\_\_\_  
 parcel ,, \_\_\_\_\_

~~Letter follows at first opportunity.~~

*I have received no letter from you*  
 { ~~late~~ }  
 { ~~for a long time.~~ } *A Merry Xmas*

**Signature only.** } *Happy New Year*  
*[Signature]*

Date *26. XI. 15*

[Postage must be prepaid on any letter or post card addressed to the sender of this card.]

(B12160)—Wt. W 3497/293—1000m.—9/15. S. & S., Ltd.

This Field Service Postcard was written from someone on Active Service on the 26th November 1915. It received the cds of an Army Post Office on the 27th November 1915 and on arrival in Tobago it received the cds of Scarborough 15th January 1916. This type of card where the message was chosen by crossing out the unwanted parts and only the signature was written expedited processing. The card did not have to be censored. The contents of regular letters and post cards were read thoroughly by the military censors and anything that should not be there was cut out or the items returned to sender. This was a very time-consuming process.

CHOCOLATE GIFT WORLD WAR I

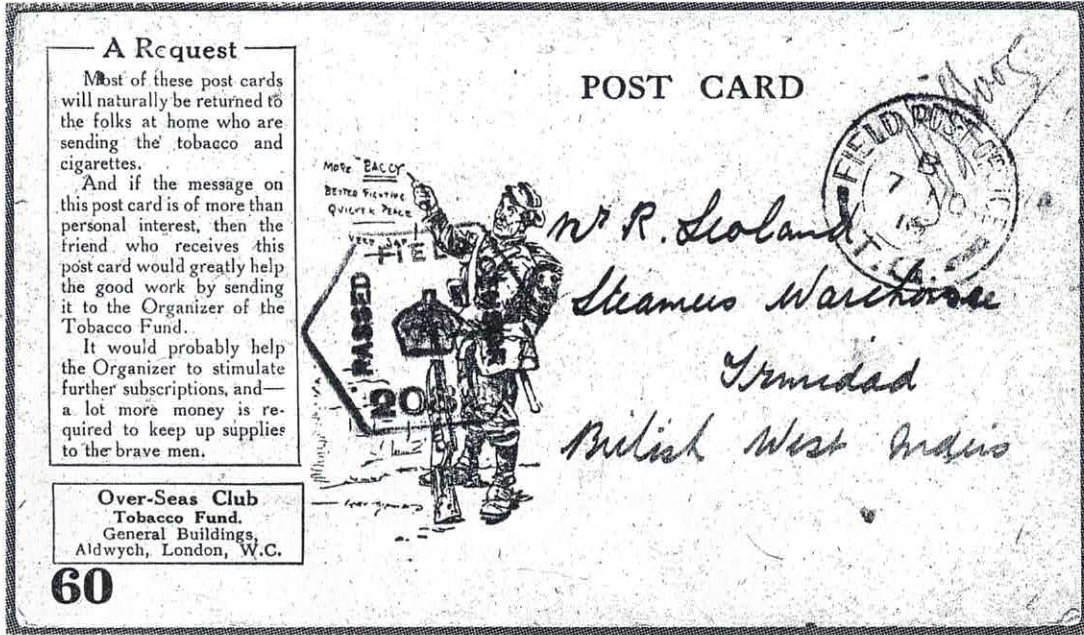


THE PRINTED LID OF A TIN OF CHOCOLATES (reduced 75%)

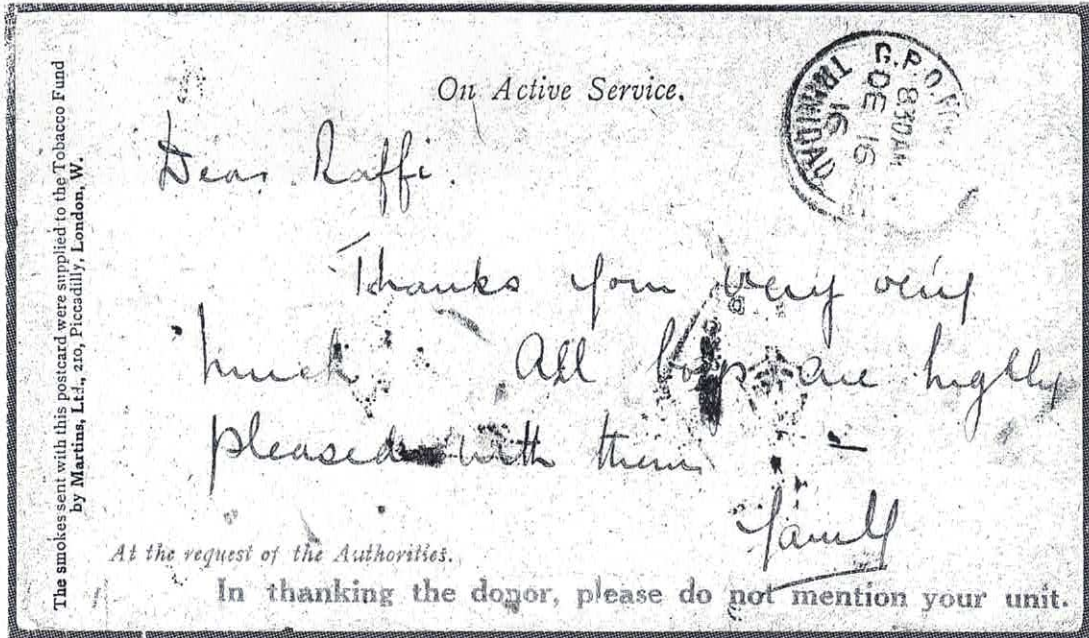
Albert Sydney provided us with a tin container that had contained chocolates. The lid was printed in imitation gold ink on a black background: 'The GIFT OF THE COLONIES OF TRINIDAD, GRENADA & ST. LUCIA TO HIS MAJESTY'S NAVAL & MILITARY FORCES. THIS CHOCOLATE IS MADE FROM COCOA GROWN IN TRINIDAD, GRENADA & ST. LUCIA'. Above the words were the Colonial Seals of Trinidad, Grenada and St. Lucia. The tin measured 230mm x 98mm x 27mm deep.

There were many organizations that carried out activities / raised funds to provide sundry items for the men on Active Duty. We have not found any philatelic connection to the chocolate gifts as yet.

OVER-SEAS CLUB TOBACCO FUND POSTCARD



FRONT OF OVER-SEAS CLUB TOBACCO FUND POSTCARD



REVERSE OF OVER-SEAS CLUB TOBACCO FUND POSTCARD

On the left is printed 'The smokes sent with this postcard were supplied to the Tobacco Fund by Martins Ltd., Picadilly, London, W.'

The 'Over-seas Club Tobacco Fund' (OCTF) address was General Buildings, Aldwych, London, W.C., England. From the information printed on the postcard, the OCTF raised funds 'subscriptions' in the British Colonies, purchased tobacco and cigarettes in London and sent them to the troops on active service. Each package of 'smokes' distributed to the troops contained a postcard with the name and address of one of the 'subscribers' of the OCTF. The postcard gave the recipient an opportunity to thank the subscriber. Replies from the troops no doubt encouraged the folks at home to make more 'subscriptions' to the OCTF.

The postcard was mailed from a Field Post Office on the 7th November 1916. The postcard has an arrival cds, GPO Port of Spain 16th December 1916, and was addressed to Mr. R. Leotaud, Steamers Warehouse, Port of Spain. The message read: "Dear Raffie, Thank you very very much. All boys are highly pleased with them. Signature". On the front has the rubber-stamp, 'PASSED FIELD CENSOR 208'. The Active Service troops were not charged postage.

#### GENERAL NEWS

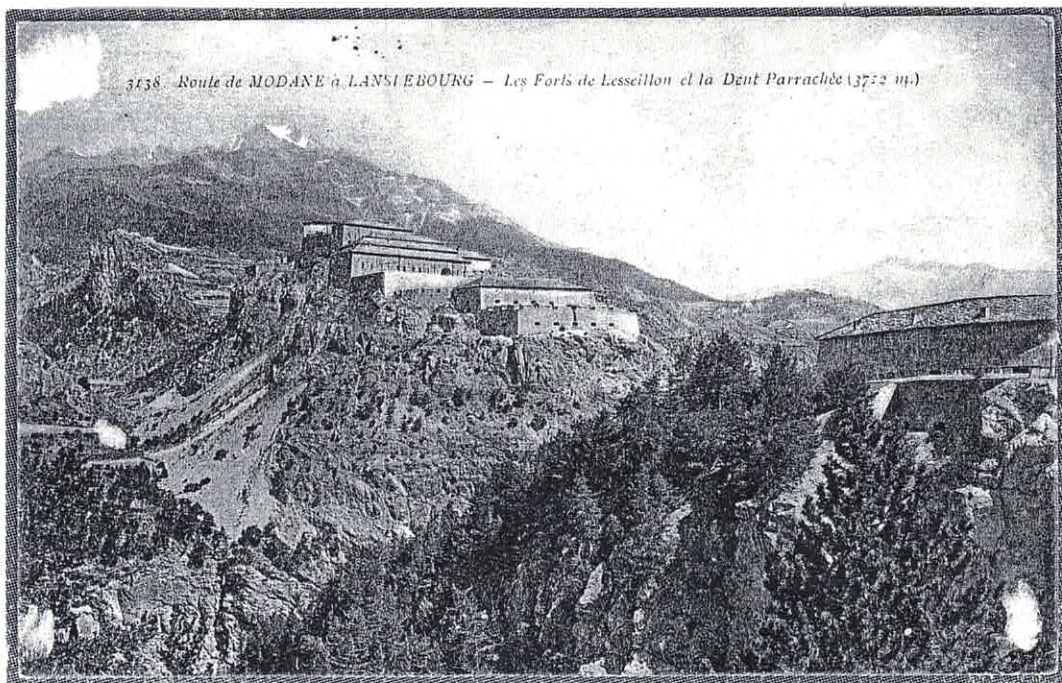
In Bulletin # 259, an article on Advertising Covers illustrated a cover from The English Pharmacy dated 13th April 1899. Angelo Bissessarsingh in an article in the Sunday Guardian of 10th November 2013 illustrated a list published 7th December 1914 captioned, 'Liquidation of Alien Enemy Businesses in the Colony'. Number 7 on the list was The English Pharmacy. The business was confiscated and sold by the Government.

#### ACTIVE SERVICE PICTURE POSTCARD - 1919

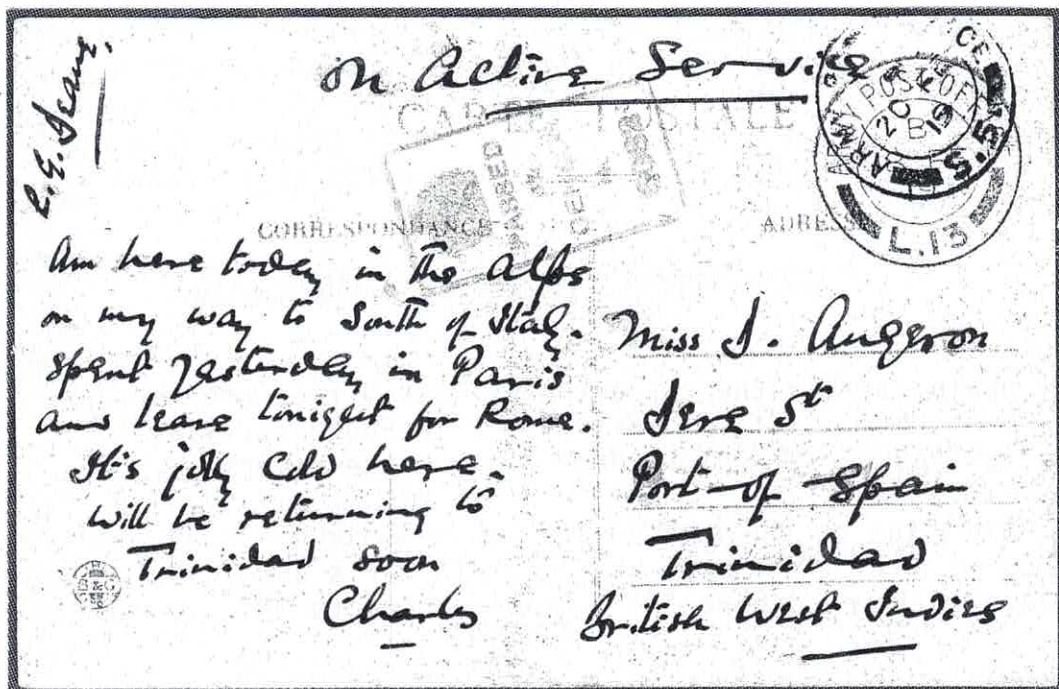
On the next page is a picture postcard from one of the troops to Port of Spain. It has the cds of 'Army Post Office 8th February 1919 L.13' and another cds 'Army Post Office 20 February 1919 S.5.'. There was also a 'PASSED BY CENSOR 5008' mark on the reverse.

The message on the card read: 'Am here today in the Alps on my way to South of Italy. Spent yesterday in Paris and leave tonight for Rome. It's jolly cold here. Will be returning to Trinidad soon. Charles'.

Although the war officially ended with the signing of the Armistice on 11th November 1918, the troops returned home in February / March 1919. Men from Trinidad served in Italy, the Western Front and Middle East.



FRONT: PICTURE POSTCARD WITH A SCENIC VIEW IN THE ALPS



BACK: REVERSE OF PICTURE POSTCARD