

TRINIDAD NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS

AND TOWN DATE STAMPS.

by J. B. Marriott F.R.P.S.L

I was interested in Mr. R. M. Heataud's paper in TPS Bulletin No. 18 and wish, if I may, to add a few comments on the same subject.

I hope very much that Mr. Heataud's article will raise interest in cancellations among collectors in Trinidad and that they will be encouraged to seek out fresh material and make new discoveries. For those who wish to have a check list of the numeral cancellations and town date stamps for the period prior to 1913, I would refer them to the one published in TPS Bulletin No. 12 (Nov-Dec 1961).

The problem of trying to put a price on the various cancellations

POSTAL CANCELLATIONS

Mail posted on the steamers was cancelled with three different types of postmarks:-

(i) A double circle approximately 26mm diam, with the words "COASTAL STEAMER No. 1" at the top and "TRINIDAD" below, in the outer circle, and a code letter (A, B or C), month, and day, and year, in three lines in the centre of the inner ring.

(ii) Similar in size and conformation, but reading "COASTAL STEAMER No. 2" at the top

(iii) Also similar but reading "COASTAL STEAMER" without the code number and without the word "TRINIDAD".

The postmarks were applied either in black or violet ink.

I cannot say when cancellers were first issued to the steamers, as the few examples I

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POSTAL MARKINGS

below, with a number in the inner circle; in purple (28 Feb. 1919)

(b) World War II (1939-45)

1. "OPENED BY CENSOR" in sans-serif, capitals, 46 x 3 mm.; in purple (4 Oct 1939)

2. "OPENED BY CENSOR" No 1" (and other numbers), 61 x 3 mm.; in purple (25 Oct 1941)

3. "OPENED BY EXAMINER ELI5" (and other numbers), 61 x 3 mm.; in violet (29 June 1942)

4. A triple oval, blank between the outer and second oval, with "TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO" in the second oval above and blank below; and in the inside oval "ASSISTANT CENSOR" POSTAL" in

The "W. A. Townsend"

Gold Medal

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October 20th, 1969

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