

LEEWARD ISLANDS

KING GEORGE V DE LA RUE ISSUE

from the collection of Robert de Keyser

From 1912 De La Rue, using Key and Duty Plates, printed all of the King George V definitive issues of both the low values from ¼d – 5s and the 'NYASA' type high values of 10s and £1. The exhibit contains single examples of 102 out of 107, possible upper or lower Plate number singles. Leeward Islands used the following plates numbers 1,2,3,5,6,8,10,11,16,20,21,23,26 and 28. Each of these plates has its own distinct characteristics and shade colours. Many of the plates have both key and duty plate flaws and the exhibit highlights some of the more spectacular flaws in positional pieces.

PLATE 1A



PLATE 1B



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PLATE 2



PLATE 3



PLATE 5



PLATE 6



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PLATE 8



PLATE 10



Inexplicably, some of the plate numbers are extremely rare and are highlighted here as follows. 1/2d Plate 1a, 1 example known. 1/4d Plate 2, 1 example known. 1d Plate 3, 3 examples known. 2d Plate 5, 2 examples known. 1d Plate 6, 1 example known, 1/- Plate 28, 1 example known.

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PLATE 11



PLATE 16



PLATE 20



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PLATE 21



PLATE 23



PLATE 26



PLATE 28



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The missing "S" flaw on the 5d Plate 11 printing is only found on requisition 532 on 09.03.25 issued in Montserrat



The flaw is found at R6.4 and shows the damaged s early state

This flaw is thought to be due to grease on the plate



Shows the progression of the flaw so that the last stamp has virtually no "S" left and a substantial break in the value tablet

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The broken N.flaw. This spectacular flaw is only found on PLATE 5 on the first three printings of 1916. The first and second printings are identified by the continuous marginal rule under L10.3 and also by the absence of the scratch on neck on L10.3. The broken N is found at L9.5.



The printing is from requisition 62/16 on 25.07.16



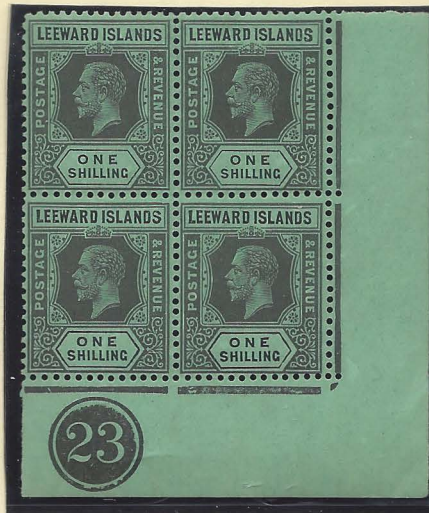
The third printing is from requisition 99/16 on 21.12.16. and again shows the broken N at 29.5. The marginal rule under L10.3 is broken



This is also from the third printing requisition 99/16 on 21.12.16. This positional piece shows the Broken S at R.9.6, the broken S at R.10.5 and the broken D at R.9.6. These flaws are not found on the first two printings.

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The 1/- "DI" flaw is the most well documented flaw in Leewards Philately. It is first observed on the Plate 23 Reversion to Die 1 printing requisition 683 on 10.11.31. This is one of only two known blocks of four. It is also found on Plate 28 and Plate 1 of George VI



R9.6. "DI" flaw

Plate 23 has significant other flaws and this positional block is R1.3, 1.4 and R2.3, 2.4



R2.4 has significant dent in upper frame of value tablet

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The 5/- from PLATE 1b.

This is the largest positional piece known of any 5/ printing from the Leeward Islands. It was only printed from PLATE 1b and comes from requisition on 30.09.14 from Virgin Islands.

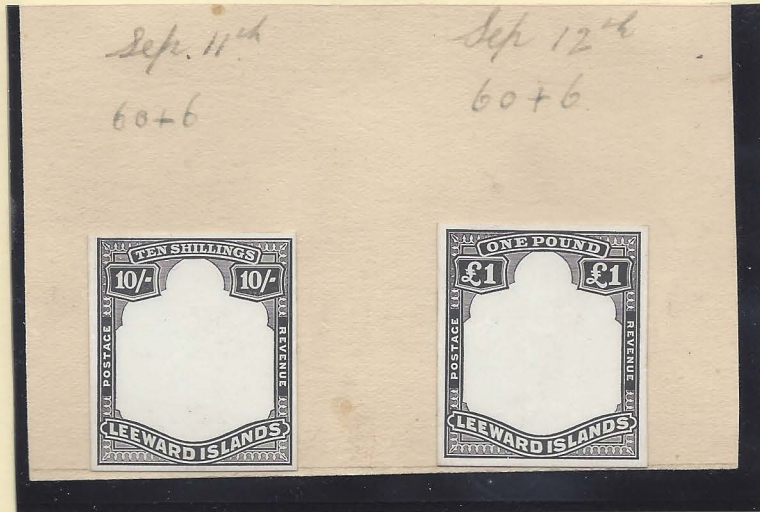


L.1.6
Jubilee line flaw

L.7.3. has broken frame rosette break. This is first seen on the Nigeria ½ d of March 1914 and is also found on several Leeward Islands printings of 1914

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De La Rue made the Duty Plate high value proofs in September 1928



The piece was endorsed September 11th and 12th with 60 leads plus 6 spares. This is the only archived piece showing both the 10/- and £1 duties together



Imperforate colour trials issued on gummed watermarked paper in October 1928

The specimens below show handstamped specimen and perforated specimen examples. Both examples are position 12 and show "break in scroll" flaw



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Control Pairs from positions 12 and 24 for 10/- and £1 duties
 Position 12 shows "scroll" flaw and Position 24 shows "crown and scroll" flaw



Lower right control blocks of 4 from positions 47,48,59,60 for both values showing
 break in outline of upper right scroll on the 10/- duty on Position 60

June 09



Dec 06



May 1912



May 1912



Oct 1912



15/100



Oct 1912



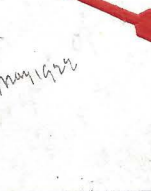
July 10



July 1913

Mar 27

Nov 1912



May 1912



De La Rue's Progressive File Sheet

The 10s & £1 have been removed and the 2s re-positioned. Due to the rather haphazard progress of the sheet manuscript notes have been erased and dates obliterated with additions. Only one, a SPECIMEN from the first printing of each change in design or colour was added.

Particular examples of interest are:

- 1 - 1907, 1d Red (UPU colour) handstamped 'SPECIMEN' in violet
- 2 - 1922, 4d & 4s with Key Plate colour clearly grey and not black
- 3 - 1928, 1d & 1 1/2d. A marginal note in the same hand in CA book against the first printing - "Colours 1d Red - 1 1/2d Env 1 1/2d Brown - submit 1 1/2d before proceeding." Single impressions for stationery.