

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



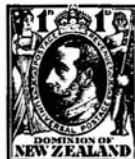
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VOLUME XII

NUMBER 8

MARCH, 1975

KING EDWARD VII BOOKLET PANES "WITH STAR"

by Colin Hamilton

My note on the above in the January 'Bulletin' elicited a considerable response from readers - my thanks to all who took the trouble to write or telephone. Before dealing with the salient points which emerged, I must first correct a piece of careless (and as it happens, faulty) reasoning on my part. In dealing with the illustration numbered 1 - that is, the pair with Star on left and stamp on right - I wrote: "... (this confirms that the Star does exist in the bottom left position". It confirms nothing of the sort, of course; it proves merely that the Star exists on the left. The importance of this will become clear below.

Most of those who responded confirmed, from examples in their collections, the existence of the Star on the left and on the right. Two, however, (Mr. S. F. Cross-Rudkin of Scotland and Mr. M. C. Stanley of New Zealand), reported complete panes in their possession with the Star at top left.

I am particularly indebted to Mr. Stanley who, in addition to commenting extensively, sent along copies of three items in his collection, as follows:

1. A pair with Star on left (similar to January's illustration 1, but with part of a sheet serial number in the right selvedge).
2. A complete pane with top and side selvedges, and with Star at top left.
3. A pane minus all selvedges - this pane has the Star at bottom right.

His accompanying observations make fascinating reading, and I therefore quote (additions in parentheses are mine):

"... The Star does appear either to the right or left, but this was intended. In fact it appears at the top left of each pane in the upper and middle rows of panes (i. e. in all 16 panes from the top two-thirds of the 'Star' booklet plate), and at the bottom right in the lower row of panes (i. e. the 8 panes from the bottom third of the plate).

"The reason for this, I understand, is that when the panes were made up into booklets, the Star was always closest to the staples (so that users did not require to remove the postally valueless Star label). As you are no doubt aware it was usual to staple the top and middle rows of panes at the top, whilst the bottom row of panes was stapled at the bottom.

"I am not aware that the Post Office has a proof sheet of this plate, but from my own

examination of panes, they comply with the above. Panes or pairs showing the Star to the left were therefore twice in number to those showing the Star to the right.

"I enclose a photocopy of three of my items (those described above), and they illustrate the foregoing, and also as follows:

1. The pair. It has part of the sheet serial number on it, indicating it is from the top right-hand corner (of the large sheet of panes as printed). There is a portion of a double-lined 'D' watermark in the right-hand margin, from the marginal watermark 'NEW ZEALAND'.
2. Pane with binding edge. Even as a photocopy the NZ and Star watermarks can be seen in the top selvedge, indicating it is from the middle row.
3. Pane less the binding edge. Had it been complete, the binding edge (at the bottom of the pane in this case) would have shown portion of double-lined 'NEW ZEALAND' watermark.

"In addition to item 2, I have a complete booklet including a similar pane".

All the available evidence, then, seems to agree with the facts as outlined by Mr. Stanley, so the possibility that there was a second 'Star' plate can be discounted (because of the small printing involved, this was always a most unlikely contingency in any case). Nevertheless we have been able to add considerably to the information given in Volume 1 of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand".

And the new information doesn't end there, for Mr. Stanley goes on:

"It is interesting to compare the reason for the positioning of the Star with panes of later issues with the advertising in the selvedges. As you are no doubt aware, the wording of the advertisements in these later panes reads downwards on the top and middle rows of panes, and upwards on the lower row of panes. The reason for this is that (as in the case of the ½d Edward) the two top rows were stapled at the top, and the bottom row was stapled at the bottom, so that when the booklets were opened as one would open any book the advertisements were always upright to the reader".

In regard to the rare 'Kaitangata Coal', 'Big Tree' and 'Cameron Bros.' panes of the 1d Dominion/½d K. G. V. issues, Mr. Stanley writes:

"These panes came from a booklet prepared for sale in Otago, and which contained:

- 2 x 1d panes with KAITANGATA COAL
- 1 x 1d pane with BIG TREE
- 1 x ½d pane with CAMERON BROS STAFFORD ST
- 1 x ½d pane with CAMERON BROS CARGILL RD

They are all very scarce. I do have one of these booklets, but the actual stamps on the 'Cameron Bros' and 'Big Tree' advert. panes have been removed leaving the binding edge intact. In spite of that, it does show the composition of this rare booklet.

"Concerning earlier booklets it is interesting to note the comments in Volumes 2 and 4 of 'The Postage Stamps of New Zealand'. They say:

1. The Post Office has very few proof sheets, and no examples of complete booklets.
2. Earlier collectors considered booklets as postal stationery, in which there was

little interest, as compared with stamps.

3. Well-known collectors of 1d Universals and 1d Dominions generally ignored them.

"These are some of the reasons why the sections covering booklets in the Volumes are rather limited. There is much research to be done."

I couldn't agree more - but if even only some of the information Mr. Stanley has provided is a foretaste of what Volume 6 has in store, I for one can hardly wait for publication day.

BEWARE !

I have recently seen two items which, while readily recognisable as 'dud' by the more experienced collector, could easily fool the tyro. For the benefit of everyone, these items are described below:

1. ½d Victoria Land. A mint copy with forged overprint. The lines of the overprint were much thinner than normal, and there were numerous differences in the shape of individual letters, the most notable being the abnormally wide opening between the ends of the C, and the tail of the R. In the forgery the foot of this line tends to curve inwards (towards the upright stroke of the R), while in the genuine overprint, the curve is in the opposite direction. In addition, there was no full stop after LAND, and while the overall dimensions of the overprint were very similar to the genuine, the overprint was placed noticeably lower than normal on the copy seen. This forgery is recorded in Volume 5 of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand", but it is the first actual example I have seen. According to Volume 5, there is an even more insidious version of this forgery, in which the perpetrator has "corrected" the shape of the letters and added a full-stop after LAND. The same thinness of the lines of the overprint, however, identify that forgery from the genuine stamp.

2. 1d Universal. The copy seen purported to be from the Trial Slot Machine issues, being without perforations at top and bottom, and having apparent 'roulettes' at each side, with portions of large holes at the centre of these sides. The large holes were very ragged (they were normally clean-cut), the 'roulettes' looked distinctly like a sewing machine job, the imperf top and bottom were ragged (unlike the genuine, which is guillotined), and the cancellation - it was supposed to be a used copy - was an indefinite blotch. But the real clincher was the stamp itself. It was clearly a copy from the Royle Plates, which of course were never used for the Slot Machine experimental issues! Just one more example of the basic errors which would-be forgers almost invariably seem to make - thank goodness!

THE NEW ZEALAND HANDBOOKS

We offer another rare opportunity to acquire these incomparable philatelic reference works, which contain the results of countless years of study and research by many of N. Z. 's most distinguished philatelists. Their chief value to the serious collector lies of course in the information they provide, but their investment worth should not be overlooked. Over the years, all of the volumes have shown a steady increase in value.

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|--|----------|
| 301 (a) <u>Complete Set</u> of all volumes dealing with N. Z. stamps and postal history, that is, Volumes 1, 2, 3 and 4 and the matching monograph on the 1d Universal by G. R. Lee. This is an unusually fine set, Vol 1 being in really first-class condition, and all the others "as new", except for some raggedness of the outer dustjackets. The set | £195. 00 |
| (b) <u>Volume 2</u> . A single copy, again in excellent condition, and complete with the superb die-proofs in colour of the Chalon Heads | £27. 50 |
| (c) <u>Volume 3</u> . The book described by some as the most fascinating of the lot, and which all would agree is the postal historian's "bible". A brilliant, virtually unused copy | £37. 50 |

We have for sale fine used copies of both the great rarities, the 6d red with upright watermark and the 1/- orange with upright watermark (in each case the watermark is of an earlier type found otherwise only on surface-printed stamps with a portrait of Queen Victoria). Of these two stamps, in our experience fewer than 30 of the 6d are known, and even fewer of the 1/-, - perhaps no more than 12-18 copies (all used). Both stamps here offered are very fine used, the 1/- exceptionally so.

These will be priced at a combined value of \$250 in the forthcoming 1975 Supplement to our Catalogue. The two rarities (C. P. E14f, E18c; S. G. 362a, 376a) £152. 50

SELDOM - OFFERED DIE PROOFS

The adjective is superfluous really - can you think of any N. Z. die-proofs which are other than seldom offered? These gorgeous things add the ultimate touch of distinction and rarity to a collection of the stamps themselves. All die-proofs offered below are printed centrally on large tablets ("margins" vary in width from about 10mm to 22mm). Readers may be interested to know that die-proofs from the same middle period have recently been offered elsewhere at prices as high as £275 each.

- 303 King Edward VII $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Die proof in black on glazed white card. Apparently from a complete but uncleared state of the die, since there is evidence that the impression of the raised metal surrounding the design has been carefully scraped away on the proof itself. This particular state is unrecorded in the Handbooks. Supplied with a mint copy of the issued stamp for comparison £67. 50
- 304 King Edward VII $\frac{1}{2}$ d Postal Stationery. Die-proof - printed in an attractive shade of yellow-green, on glazed white card - of the design used on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d postcard of 1907 (an unused example of the postcard as issued, with the 'stamp' printed in deep blue, is included). Superb material ! £75. 00
- 305 1d Dominion. Set of three uncleared die-proofs (i. e. with extraneous colour surrounding the design), being one printed in black, one in pale chestnut and one in rose-carmine, representing all the recorded colours. A truly remarkable set, made even more remarkable by the inclusion of three plate proofs printed in black (one on thick unwatermarked paper, imperf., another on thin orange card, imperf., and the third on gummed paper, wmk'd NZ and Star, perf. 14 x 15), plus mint and used copies of the issued stamp, thus providing a complete history of the issue. Condition of every item is absolutely superb £235. 00
- (Note: If the above finds no buyer as a set, we might be persuaded to break it and offer in sets of four comprising die-proof, plate proof and mint and used copies of the issued stamp. In this case a set including the black die-proof would be priced at £75, and a set including a die-proof in colour would be £85. Let us know if interested in one of the smaller lots - but priority would go to an order for the complete set, of course).
- 306 K. G. V 1d Essay. A die-proof in red by Perkins, Bacon & Co., of H. Linley Richardson's originally approved design (which was subsequently

- rejected in favour of a later design by Richardson). The essay die-proof here offered is that reproduced as illustration no. 3 on page 294 of Volume 1 of the Handbooks. Again on glazed white card, and superfine. Included is a photocopy of the interesting 1928 article and illustrations mentioned in the footnote on page 295 of Vol. 1 (see photo on front cover) £75. 00
- 307 K. G. V 1d Postal Stationery. Final proof of the 'Field Marshal' die, used for the K. G. V letter-card of 1927 and postcards of 1932. Printed in black, on glazed white card, and offered with an unused example of the issued postcard. Note that this design varies in several respects from the 1d Field Marshal adhesive stamps. The die-proof and card .. £65. 00
- 308 K. G. V 1½d Postal Stationery. Progress proof from the die used for the letter-card and postcard of 1920 (with the vignette surrounded by a white border). In this proof the surround and the corners of the vignette are uncleared. Printed in black on white glazed card, and again in superfine condition. Supplied with a superb used single example of the issued postcard £67. 50

PLATE PROOFS

- 309 First Pictorials. The 'local' ½d Mt Cook, 1d Terraces and 2d Pembroke Peak, all in imperf. blocks of four on thick unwatermarked paper, and printed in shades of slate, deep dull lake and brown-lake respectively. The three proof blocks, condition brilliant £10. 50
- 310 As above. Single copies, all imperf. of the ½d, 1d and 2d local issues, the 5d (cut into at foot), and the 3d, 6d and 1/- redrawn designs, the last being a marginal copy with full selvedge. All are printed in black except the 2d (brown-lake) and the 5d (brown as issued). The set of 7 plate proofs .. £11. 50
- 311 1d Universal. Imperf marginal block of 4 from the surface-printing plate (GII), printed in carmine on thick card, with a faint but clear inverted offset impression on the reverse. The scarce proof block £27. 50
- 312 K. G. V Recess-Prints. Set of 15 imperf plate proofs in black comprising: (a) on thin unwmk'd paper - 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 4½d, 5d, 6d, 7½d, 8d, 9d, 1/- ; (b) on paper wmk'd NZ and Star - 5d, 6d, 8d. The set of proofs £22. 50
- 313 (a) K. G. V Surface-Prints. Set of 6 plate proofs in black, incl. 1d Field Marshal, 1½d 'London' plate, 2d (2, one imperf, one perf. 12½), 3d (2, one being grey-black). All are on gummed paper wmk'd NZ and Star except the 1d which is ungummed and unwmk'd £10. 00
- (b) As above. Set of 5 imperf proofs on very thin glazed card, incl. ½d, 1½d (London plate), 2d and 3d in shades of black/grey-black, plus another ½d in green. The set of 5 £9. 25
- 314 K. G. V Colour Trials. Three copies of the ½d on gummed, wmk'd paper (two being imperf., one perf. 13¾ x 14¾), all in distinctly different shades of green, and all overprinted "COLOUR PRINT" in black. Insignificant stains (from previous hinges) affect two of the three, otherwise condition is fine. The trio of green colour trials £22. 50

MAGNIFICENT MISCELLANY

- 315 Chalon Heads Imperf. It isn't often that we have these to offer in the Bulletin, but here is a simplified set of quite outstanding appearance, comprising 1d red, 2d blue (2 fine shades, one with notable plate wear), 3d brown-lilac, 6d red-brown, 6d black-brown, 1/- dull emerald-green. The unworn 2d is badly thinned but is included (at no charge) for its appearance alone. Cancellations are all light "numeral in barred oval" types except on the 6d black-brown, which has a fine dated strike (1863) of the E5 "relief" type of Wakefield. Three of the stamps are three-margined - margins otherwise are adequate to small. A most attractive set of Full-Face Queens (cat. about \$470) £72. 50
- 316 (a) 1d Universals. The issue on "Pirie" paper, perf. 11 (G2a) is a common enough stamp, but notoriously difficult to find in fine used, well-centred condition. We have in stock some of the finest copies we have seen, and can offer a set of 4 superfine used copies, being one in each of the Catalogued shades. The very scarce deep-carmine lake is a really breathtaking copy. The set of 4, very best used £5. 75
- (b) As above. Set of three, without the deep-carmine lake. Equally superb used copies £2. 00
- (c) As above. An excellent dated used copy of the rare Reserve Plate issue with mixed perfs (G6d). Cat. \$120 (just a few pence short of £75), but there's no hidden catch in our price - it's just a bargain for someone at £27. 50, yes, we repeat - £27. 50
- (d) As above. First-class used copy from the Booklet Plate 60p
- 317 (a) Postmarks Bonanza ! An astounding accumulation of postmarks of the late 19th - early 20th century period, including many small/closed/name changed offices. Almost all are on piece (usually with a multiplicity of stamps), and the quality and clarity of the strikes are much better than one expects in such an accumulation. At present housed loose in a fat stock book, and roughly sorted into types and into alphabetical order of the offices (some duplication, of course), this lot is crying out for some concentrated work by an enthusiastic philatelist. Well over 800 items (the number of actual stamps must run into the thousands - and a quick glance at the stamps revealed some re-entries too !), almost entirely Second Sidefaces/First Pictorials/1d Universals. To the first order at £27. 50
- (b) As above. A real treasure trove of R. T. P. O., R. P. O., Loose-Letter, Packet Boat, and Marine P. O. markings. 123 items (incl. 29 pairs, two strips of 3, 16 covers and 5 postcards). Stamps are mainly 1d Universals/Dominions, but with a few Sidefaces, First Pictorials, K. G. V and later. Some duplication of markings but a superb lot for the specialist £30. 00
- 318 K. E. VII ½d. One of the very few naked-eye varieties on the Edward "heads" is the constant (and Catalogued) "Flaw under NY" on R3/18. We can offer a single copy showing the flaw, very good used £2. 75
- 319 K. G. V 4d Yellow. The major "Club-foot" re-entry on R4/10 (caused by the original rolling in - erroneously - of an impression of the 2½d value), here offered in a mint 'two-perf' pair, with photographic enlargements illustrating the variety (very useful for write up). A small "Trupel" hinge stain affects the variety stamp, hence the price (now Cat. \$20) £6. 25

- 320 K. G. V ½d Green. A delightful pair from the top right corner of the sheet (with full selvages and showing the complete sheet serial number) of the Cowan paper, perf. 14 x 15 issue with the variety "imperf at top" (K13eZ). A rare piece, in beautiful mint condition £25. 00
- 321 K. G. V 1d Field Marshal. A lovely non-philatelic cover, bearing a perf. 14 1d adhesive cancelled with the Havelock North c. d. s. of 22nd August 1928. The beauty of it lies in the fact that the stamp is the bottom left hand copy from booklet pane no. 8, and thus shows the outstanding (and only recorded) re-entry on the 1d Field Marshal. An enlarged photographic copy of the variety is included. The cover, very desirable £12. 50
- 322 K. G. V Surface Printed 'Officials'. Set of 5 examples of the "No Stop after 'Official' " varieties (from R5/24 of sheets overprinted from 1929 onwards). The set includes the ½d (KO13f), 1d (KO15a), 1½d (KO17c), 2d (KO18e) and 3d perf. 14 x 15 (KO19c). The ½d, 1½d, and 3d are in marginal blocks of 4, the 1d and 2d in pair with normal. The variety set, all mint £10. 00
- 323 K. G. VI Complete Booklet. A superb example of the scarce 2/3 booklet as originally issued in November 1938 (i. e. containing 3 panes of the 1½d chocolate and a leaf detailing overseas and inland postage rates - this was later removed from booklets prior to sale to the public, when a rise in rates made the information obsolete. The entire booklet is in superfine condition - even the staples are free from rust ! £25. 00
- N. B. The price of the basic 1½d chocolate stamp is rising substantially - you have been warned !
- 324 (a) Air Mail Covers. On 20th January 1932, an air mail flight was made from Wellington - Nelson - Westport - Hokitika and return. Thus there were twelve "stages", each of which was recorded by a special cachet impressed on covers carried on that particular stage. We have a set of 11 covers (short only of the Wellington - Westport stage), all bearing the FIVEPENNY surcharge air mail stamp, and all with excellent strikes of the different cachets. The set of 11 first flight covers £30. 00
- (b) As above. Wellington - Masterton - Pahiatua - Woodville - Dannevirke and return was the route of another first flight on 16th March, 1932. Thus there were 20 stages to this flight, and we offer matching covers flown on nine of the stages. Again all are stamped with 5d on 3d adhesives, and all show the relevant cachets. The nine covers £25. 00
- (c) As above. Cover carried on the famous First Trans-Tasman flight from N. Z. to Australia on 17th Feb. 1934, and back stamped on arrival at Sydney on the same date. The cover bears a 7d Blue Air Mail adhesive (nicely cancelled) and the special circular first-flight cachet impressed in purple ... £5. 50
- 325 Arms Types. A simplified set of all values to £1. All the face-different 1/3d's are here, including the error with blue lettering (S. G. 634c) and the scarce 12/6 (S. G. 544n). The set of 16 stamps, all used except the 1/3 lemon and the 9/-, which are mint (total minimum Cat. \$66. 75) £24. 50
- 326 Antarctica. Very fine used block of 4 of the King Edward VII Land 1d cancelled by the British Antarctic Expedition datestamp of MR 4 09. Included with the block is an unused picture postcard (in sepia) depicting Shackleton and others in N. Z. with some of the dogs they took south on the expedition - the postcard is autographed by Shackleton on the reverse. Marvellous material. £20. 00

A fine all-mint collection of this popular and philatelically interesting issue mounted on 55 leaves and housed in a spring-back album. All values from $\frac{1}{2}$ d - £1 (incl. both 1/9d's and both 3/-'s) are well represented, as are both the original and the later chalky papers, and the collection is particularly strong in variety blocks and imprint blocks. The collection of over 850 stamps, with a Catalogue value exceeding £350 - a wonderfully solid base on which the collector wishing to specialise in the "1960's" could really go to town ! £210. 00

Note: We might consider a time-payments arrangement over a three-month period for anyone keen to have this lot, but for whom a full-cash settlement is not convenient.

OTHER 1960 PICTORIALS

Very few of the items in the following lots are duplicated in the collection offered above.

- 328 (a) 2d Kaka Beak. A variety collection containing 60 stamps all in positional blocks. Included are varieties R1/9, 3/11, 4/3, 4/4, 9/12 (flaw and retouch), 16/11, 17/9, 19/4, 19/12 and 20/1. The collection £10. 50
- (b) As above. Three mint blocks, including the Catalogued varieties R3/1 (ZFALAND), 9/12 (partly missing U) - both of these varieties are in lot 327 - and 16/11 (Spur on 2). Attractive and offered at an unrepeatable price ... £15. 00
- (c) As above. Used singles of the Catalogued varieties R3/1 (ZFALAND), R4/14 (Shaved D of LAND) and R16/11 (Spur on 2). First class condition .. £8. 50
- 330 8d Rata. Varieties R1/1 and 1/9 are represented, in both their flaw and retouched states, in four positional pieces (22 stamps).
Attractive Catalogued varieties £10. 00
- 331 Unusual Printing Errors. A total of 43 mint 1960 Pictorial stamps in pieces of varying sizes, showing different types of "transient" varieties - doctor blade flaws, misplaced colours etc. , many spectacular - on values to 2/6. This is the type of material to ginger up your collection. See it on approval. £20. 00

RECENT ISSUE

- 5/2/75 N. Z. Anniversaries. 3c, 5c, 18c and General Commemorative 10c (International Women's Year).
Set of 4, mint 33p
Imprint/Plate blocks. Complete set of 4 blocks (of 6 stamps each) £2. 05
Official First Day Cover, Wanganui postmark 40p

SPECIAL CANCELLATIONS ON COVER

Three recent additions to these attractive series of pictorial datestamps.

- 27/12/74 Kingston Flyer/Lumsden N. Z. 12p
1/1/75 7th New Zealand Jamboree/Tokoroa N. Z. (Boy Scouts) ... 12p
22/1/75 Centenary of Borough/Inglewood N. Z. 12p