

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN

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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

K.G.VI 1d Red. The prominent 'Medallion' flaw (plate 8, row 6, no. 6) is widely known, and quite frequently seen in collections. It is a large flaw, very roughly circular in shape, and obliterates the crown and part of the cross of the insignia directly below the V formed by the front of the King's collar.

Less widely known, and infinitely less frequently seen, is the **pre-flaw** state of this stamp. It is not recorded at what stage in the use of plate 8 the flaw developed, but judging from the numbers of examples of the flaw extant, it must have been an early development. In any event, provable copies of the pre-flaw state are extremely rare, although this may be in part due to the fact that the **minimum** size of proving block required is 18 stamps (i.e. a block of 6x3, with plate number in left selvedge). Even the comparatively common flaw seldom turns up in positional block — it was usually preserved only in a block of 4, and thus recognisable only because the flaw is present.

Unknown to us, until quite recently, was the existence of an intermediate stage, in which the flaw appeared about half the size of its normal fully-developed state, and of a crude horizontal rectangular shape. The example seen was in a positional block as described above, so there can be no question that it was not the same variety. This raises the possibility that other intermediate states may well exist, and fortunately, of course, they need not be in positional block to be identified. A series of developing stages ranging from pre-flaw to full flaw would be a nice holding indeed.

1969 Bicentennial of Capt. Cook's Landing. Mr Leppard of London has raised an interesting point regarding the large-sheet issues of this set. According to Volume 6 of the N.Z. Handbook, sheets of all values carried the plate numbers 1A1A1A1A (i.e. four numbers) in the bottom selvedge below R10/3, while our Catalogue lists only 1A1A1A (i.e. three numbers) for each value.

Mr Leppard's query arose because his example of the 18c shows a clearly embossed colourless 1A, in addition to the three normal coloured 1A's — thus making the full plate number as listed in Vol. 6 — while his plate blocks of the other three values show no signs of a colourless embossed number, and thus conform to the C.P. Catalogue listing of 1A1A1A for these values.

My own notes (as far as they go, and they are not necessarily complete) indicate that we have in the past seen the following:

- 4c – blocks with and without an embossed plate number
- 6c – blocks with and without an embossed plate number
- 18c – only blocks with embossed plate number
- 28c – only blocks without embossed plate number

The depth of the embossing in the Capt. Cook issue varied quite widely from sheet to sheet, but curiously it does not seem to be the case that the absence of an embossed number on any particular block can be explained by a weak embossing plate impression, for we have seen blocks with pronounced embossing of the portraits on the stamps, but without any sign of a raised colourless plate number.

Can anyone offer an explanation for these apparent anomalies, or add to our checklist of variations seen?

KING GEORGE V – THE RECESS-PRINTS

A selection of superb material from these attractive, popular and desirable issues.

901(a)	1½d Grey, Cowan Paper. Plate no. 14 block of 4 (full corner selvage). Mint unhinged	£67.50
(b)	As above. Top selvage block of 4, perf. 14x13¼ (K1a), mint unhinged	£8.95
(c)	As above. Another mint block, tiny perf. reinforcement, otherwise unhinged	£6.95
(d)	As above. Two-perf. pair (K1c), upper stamp lightly hinged	£28.75
(e)	As above. Two-perf. block of 4, superb unhinged mint	£67.50
(f)	As above. Another two-perf. block, two stamps hinged	£57.50
902(a)	1½d Grey, 'Pictorial' Paper. Plate no. 14 block of 4 (full corner selvage), plate number 75% complete. Two stamps no watermark. Centred to right. Very light selvage hinge	£42.50
(b)	As above. Fine mint block of 4, perf. 14x14¼ (K1e), upper pair lightly hinged	£2.85
(c)	As above. Used two-perf pair (K1f). Possibly c.t.o., but nice	£13.25
(d)	As above. Finest used pair, but variety no watermark (K1fZ)	£32.50
(e)	As above. Mint two-perf pair with no wmk variety. Very fine, light hinge ...	£20.00
903(a)	2d Violet. Plate no. 16 block of 4 (full corner selvage). Superb unhinged ..	£77.50
(b)	As above. Finest mint block of 4 in deep violet, perf. 14x13¼ (K2a)	£26.50
(c)	As above. Another block in the characteristically intense and bright aniline shade	£65.00
(d)	As above. Perf. 14x14¼ corner block (full bottom left selvage) in violet (K2b). Mint unhinged	£30.00

(e)	As above. Set of three blocks of 4 in the listed shades of violet, deep violet and aniline violet. Beautiful contrasts, and as if that wasn't enough, the aniline block includes an unrecorded re-entry, with doubling of the moustache, of the group of stars at bottom right, and in the ornamentation at the right. The three blocks, finest mint	£120.00
(f)	As above. Two-perf pair (K2c), marginal, in deep violet. Fine mint (upper stamp hinged)	£22.00
(g)	As above. Two-perf. block of 4 in deep bright violet. Upper pair hinged, but very fine mint	£45.00
(h)	As above. Superb used two-perf. pair with contemporary coin-type c.d.s. Rare!	£38.50
904(a)	2d Yellow. Finest mint block of 4, perf. 14x14¼ (K2e)	£17.75
(b)	As above. Two-perf. pair (K2f), mint, light hinge. Very fine	£15.00
(c)	As above. Two-perf. block of 4. Fine mint (upper pair hinged)	£27.50
(d)	As above. Two-perf. pair used (Cat. \$75) probably c.t.o. and priced accordingly at	£17.50
905(a)	2½d Deep Blue. Marginal block of 4, perf. 14x13¼ (K3a) in deep blue. Superfine mint, very light hinge	£22.50
(b)	As above. Another block (non-marginal) in the contrasting slate-blue shade. Hinged on upper pair, but fine	£20.00
(c)	As above. Magnificent deep blue block of 4, perf. 14x14¼ (K3b). Considerably scarcer stamp in this perf., since the only source was two-perf. sheets, whereas stamps perf. 14x13¼ come from 14x13¼ - throughout sheets as well as two-perfs. Condition superfine	£45.00
(d)	As above. Two-perf. pair (K3c) in deep blue. Superb mint unhinged	£37.50
(e)	As above. Two-perf. pair in slate blue. Fine mint, hinged	£30.00
(f)	As above. Two-perf. block of 4 (deep blue), brilliant unhinged mint	£75.00
(g)	As above. Two-perf. pair, fine used — choice of two, in either deep blue or slate blue. Most would offer these at the heavy premium commanded by used pairs, but since they are probably philatelically inspired, our price for each pair is less than for mint, at only	£27.50
906(a)	3d Chocolate. Finest mint block of 4, perf. 14x13¼, in chocolate-brown, printed from worn plate (K4aZ)	£27.50
(b)	As above. Two-perf. pair in deep chocolate (no plate wear). Mint and fine ..	£30.00
(c)	As above. Similar two-perf. pair, but used	£22.50

(d)	As above. Mint two-perf. block of 4 (slight plate wear). Very fine	£60.00
(e)	As above. Superfine mint block on 'Pictorial' paper (K4d)	£13.50
907(a)	4d Yellow. Plate block of 4 (pl. no. 20), with full corner selvage. Mint unhinged	£65.00
(b)	As above. Superb mint block of 4, upper right stamp being the major R4/10 re-entry. Normally such a block would be two-perf., but in this case all stamps are 14x13¼ and thus provably from the very small batch of sheets perf. 14x13¼ throughout. The rare proving block	£132.50
(c)	As above. Another mint block, identical to the previous item in all respects save that it has the two perfs. se-tenant (K5c/KV5c(a))	£77.50
(d)	As above. Two-perf. pair with the same big R4/10 re-entry. Fine mint hinged	£55.00
(e)	As above. A 'normal' two-perf. pair, brilliant mint unhinged	£18.00
(f)	As above. Another two-perf. pair, fine mint hinged	£15.00
(g)	As above. Last but by no means least, a two-perf. pair absolutely superb used, with light coin-type c.d.s. of 3rd Sept. 1915. Extremely rare, connoisseur's item	£125.00

(To be continued)

SURPLUS STOCK BARGAINS

Overstocking happens occasionally in the best-ordered scheme of things. Right now we find we have too many counter-coil pairs of the 1960, 1967 and 1970 Pictorial series. Remedy? Pass them on to our regular customers at quite silly prices. Peruse the following list very carefully. The chance to fill those gaps (or even start a collection of coil pairs) so advantageously it is unlikely to be repeated. Quantities available at these low prices vary — in some cases we can spare only two or three — but quality is uniformly high throughout.

1960 Pictorials, Black Numbers

908(a)	OC3a	2d	(Cat. \$10)	£2.25	908(d)	OC14a	1/6d	(Cat. \$15)	£3.75
(b)	OC6a	4d	(Cat. \$12)	£3.25	(e)	OC15a	1/9d bistre	(Cat. \$60) .	£10.00
(c)	OC12a	1/-	(Cat. \$18)	£4.25					

1960 Pictorials, Red Numbers

909(a)	OC3b	2d	(Cat. \$6)	£1.50	909(g)	OC10a	8d	(Cat. \$8.50) ..	£2.00
(b)	OC4a	2½d	(Cat. \$5)	£1.25	(h)	OC12b	1/-	(Cat. \$14)	£3.75
(c)	OC5a	3d	(Cat. \$5)	75p	(i)	OC13a	1/3d	(Cat. \$10.50)	£2.50
(d)	OC6b	4d	(Cat. \$4)	60p	(j)	OC14b	1/6d	(Cat. \$10.50)	£2.50
(e)	OC8a	6d	(Cat. \$8)	£1.75	(k)	OC15b	1/9d bistre	(Cat. \$50)	£9.00
(f)	OC8a(Z)	6d chalky	(Cat. \$15) ..	£4.00	(l)	OC15c	1/9d multicolour	(Cat. \$18)	£3.75

1967 Pictorials

910(a)	ODC4	2½c	(Cat. \$3)	80p	910(f)	ODC12	15c	(Cat. \$5) ...	80p
(b)	ODC5	3c	(Cat. \$1.50) ..	40p	(g)	ODC13	20c Taniwha	(Cat. \$10)	£2.50
(c)	ODC6	4c	(Cat. \$1.50) ..	40p	(h)	ODC22	10c Trade	(Cat. \$5) ...	£1.25
(d)	ODC8	6c	(Cat. \$2)	50p	(i)	ODC24	20c Trade	(Cat. \$12) ..	£3.00
(e)	ODC10	8c	(Cat. \$4)	75p					

1970 Pictorials, Wmk'd Paper

911(a)	PC5a	3c no. reading down	(Cat. \$5) £1.00	(f)	PC8a	6c	(Cat. \$10)	£1.50
(b)	PC5b	3c no. reading up	(Cat. \$5) £1.00	(g)	PC11a	8c	(Cat. \$9)	£1.50
(c)	PC6a	4c	(Cat. \$6) £1.00	(h)	PC12a	10c	(Cat. \$12)	£2.00
(d)	PC7a	5c no. reading up	(Cat. \$10) £2.00	(i)	PC15a	20c	(Cat. \$12)	£2.00
(e)	PC7b	5c no. reading down	(Cat. \$10) £2.00					

1970 Pictorials, Unwmk'd Paper

912(a)	PC6b	4c white gum	(Cat. \$4.50) ..	90p	(e)	PC11b	8c	(Cat. \$18)	£4.25
(b)		4c blue gum	(Cat. \$4.50) ..	90p	(f)	PC12b	10c blue gum	(Cat. \$10)	£2.25
(c)	PC7c	5c	(Cat. \$8)	90p	(g)	PC15b	20c	(Cat. \$12)	£2.25
(d)	PC8b	6c	(Cat. \$6)	£1.25					

SECOND PICTORIALS SPECIALISED (Contd.)

913(a)	2/- Capt. Cook, Single Wmk, Perf. 13 - 14x13½ (L13a). Fine mint copy	£10.00
(b)	As above. Copy with light crease, but excellent appearance — good spacefiller	£3.25
(c)	As above. Superb used	£5.00
(d)	As above. Marginal example with R1/4 COQK variety. Very fine mint	£17.50
(e)	As above. Used copy with variety Watermark Inverted (L13aZ)	£15.00
914(a)	2/- Single Wmk, Perf. 13½x14 (L13b). Mint unhinged	£17.50
(b)	As above, lightly hinged, and very fine	£12.50
(c)	As above. Marginal mint copy with COQK variety. Stamp unhinged	£22.50
915(a)	2/- Mult. Wmk Perf. 13 - 14x13½ (L13c). Fine mint, light hinge	£6.00
(b)	As above, fine commercially used	75p
(c)	As above. R1/4 COQK, marginal unhinged	£13.50
(d)	As above. Another COQK example, but superb used	£13.50
(e)	As above. Used copy with R1/6 'Cocked Hat' re-entry (LV13bZ)	£12.50
(f)	As above. Used copy with R8/2 'Coconuts' flaw (LV13dX)	£12.50

916(a)	2/- Mult. Wmk Perf. 13½x14 (L13d). Superb used (c.d.s.)	£1.25
(b)	As above, but fine commercially used	85p
(c)	As above. Marginal copy with R1/4 COQK flaw. Brilliant unhinged	£60.00
(d)	As above. Another COQK example, but non-marginal, and lightly hinged	£37.50
(e)	As above. Used copy showing R1/6 retouch (LV13cZ)	£30.00
(f)	As above. R8/2 'Coconuts' flaw (LV13dW), used	£30.00
917(a)	2/- Perf. 12½, Fine Paper (L13e). Fine mint, light hinge	£13.25
(b)	As above, but superb used	£1.50
(c)	As above. Mint unhinged copy with R1/4 COQK (LV13aV)	£18.50
(d)	As above. Top marginal positional pair including R1/6 retouch (LV13cY). Lightly hinged in selvage only – stamps superb unhinged	£32.50
(e)	As above. Good used copy of R8/2 'Coconuts' flaw retouched (LV13eZ) ...	£12.50
(f)	As above. R9/2 'Hills' retouch (LV13gZ). Finest mint	£17.50
(g)	As above. Same R9/2 variety, commercially used, fine	£12.50
918(a)	2/- Perf. 12½, Coarse Paper (L13f). Unhinged mint copy	£7.50
(b)	As above, but lightly hinged and fine	£5.00
(c)	As above. R1/4 COQK flaw (LV13aU). Marginal copy, stamp unhinged mint	£10.00
(d)	As above. Good used copy with the COQK flaw	£5.00
(e)	As above. R1/6 retouch (LV13cX), finest mint	£15.00
(f)	As above. Fine commercially used copy with the R1/6 retouch	£8.50
(g)	As above. R8/2 'Coconuts' retouch (LV13eY). Fine mint	£17.50
(h)	As above. R8/2 again, but commercially used, and fine	£8.50

(To be continued)

RECENT ISSUE

1984 Endangered Wildlife, two 24c se-tenant, 30c, 58c, 70c (issued 11.7.84)

Mint set of 5	£1.42
Complete set of 4 imprint/plate blocks (24c block of 8, others blocks of 6) ..	£10.50
Official Illustrated FDC (Wanganui pmk.)	£1.52