

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN

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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

The proposed Royal Visit to N.Z. of May 1952. A set of four stamps was planned to commemorate this event — 2d, 3d, 5d and 6d. These were all to be modifications of the designs prepared for the earlier Royal Visit arranged for 1949, but which had to be cancelled due to the illness of King George VI. In the case of the 2d and 6d, only minor alterations were made, the inscriptions being changed from 'ROYAL VISIT 1949' to simply 'ROYAL VISIT'; in the 5d, the general design remained the same, but new portraits (of the King, Queen and Princess Margaret) were used; and in the 3d, H.M.S. 'Vanguard' was replaced by R.M.S. 'Gothic'.

In October 1951, however, when the planned set of stamps was well under way, the proposed Royal Tour was again cancelled due to the King's poor health. Instead, it was hoped that an alternative tour would be undertaken by Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh only, again including New Zealand in the itinerary.

Permission was obtained to retain the four stamp designs already approved, but further modifications were necessary. The words 'ROYAL VISIT' were to be removed from the 2d, 5d and 6d, and a fifth value, 1/3, featuring Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, was added to the set.

Alas, this set too was destined never to be issued, for while the Princess and the Duke actually set out on their tour, they had progressed only as far as Kenya when the King died, and the remainder of the tour was abandoned, the royal couple returning immediately to London.

Although the stamps themselves remained a "set that never was", some delightful proof material exists as a record of the unfortunate story. Some of these rare and unusually interesting proofs are illustrated overleaf, and offered elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin. Amongst them — but physically too large to illustrate here — is a progress plate proof of the 3d value. Progress die proofs, whilst not common, are reasonably well-known, and exist in quite a number of N.Z. designs. Progress plate proofs, on the other hand, are of the utmost rarity — in fact this is the only such N.Z. item recorded. It was pulled after just 28 of the 120 impressions had been laid down on the plate. These comprise two complete horizontal rows of 10, plus nos 9 and 10 in the row above, and nos 5 to 10 in the row below. The proof is printed on a large rectangular piece of unwatermarked paper, the incomplete areas showing numerous guide lines and other marks for impressions yet to be rolled in.

Maori Council Franks. Following my note about these (July Bulletin), nothing has come to light since to suggest that examples of the franks are other than very scarce indeed. Prof. George Branam of the U.S.A. has sent me photostat copies of no less than five in his possession (all, incidentally, on cut-outs from the 'On Maori Council Business Only' envelopes). Four of the five, however, proved to be already included in my list of just twelve known examples. But the fifth is new to me, and thus increases the tally to thirteen. It is a second copy of the Arapawa District frank, dated 4 SP 03 (the previous one, illustrated in the July Bulletin was undated). Thanks, George !

1931 — 35 AIR MAIL ISSUES

The covers section of the 'Michael Burberry' air mails collection has been sold intact but the following is a selection of non-cover items from the same collection.

901 3d Perf. 14x14½ (V1a). Marginal block of 4 in pale chocolate. Some purple discolouration of gum (due to setting-off from a sheet of 4ds), but superb

	facial appearance. Cat. \$ 400	£30.00
902	3d Perf. 14x15 (V1b). Top marginal block of 4 (in dark chocolate, of course). Stamps unusually well-dentred for this issue, and all perfect unhinged mint. Light hingeing in selvage only. Rare, especially in block as fine as this one. Cat. \$ 1800	£600.00
903	4d Purple (V2a). Marginal block of 4. Slight setting off (of 7d colour) on gum, but again immaculate appearance	£40.00
904(a)	7d Brown-Orange (V3a). Marginal block of 4. Centred slightly left, but stamps superb unhinged – once lightly hinged in selvage	£75.00
	(b) As above. Imperf plate proof block of 4, printed in black on thick glazed unwmk'd paper. Rare	£225.00
905(a)	5d on 3d Provisional (V4a). Marginal block of 4. Light selvage hinge – stamps superb unhinged	£32.50
	(b) As above. Imperf plate proof pair, in issued colours, printed on yellow-buff paper with multiple SPECIMEN printed in black on back	£25.00
906(a)	7d Trans-Tasman (V5a). Mint block of 4, upper pair with 'Broken N' variety. Small indelible pencil mark on one stamp, otherwise very fine	£75.00
	(b) As above. Corner block of 4 with gum toning – stamps facially fine	£37.50
907(a)	1935 Bell Block Aerodrome. Set of three die-proofs – 1d printed in dull-green, 3d in royal blue, and 6d in purple-brown. All three are mounted in one large piece of sunken card (265x103mm). The 1d has an unobtrusive tear just encroaching into the foot of the design, otherwise condition is superb. A beautiful and possibly unique set	P. O. R.
	Note: Three illustrations stated to be die proofs appear at the bottom of page 451 of Volume 1 of the N.Z. Handbook. Curiously, however, only master die proofs (without value) are included in the checklist in the proofs section – no proofs in any colour from any of the subsidiary dies for the individual values are recorded.	
	(b) As above. The complete set of issued stamps in superb mint plate blocks of 4 .	£45.00
	(c) As above. A remarkable set of 9 plate blocks, showing three good shades in each value. Min. Cat. \$ 405	£135.00

1d VICTORIA LAND

908	A fabulous corner block of 20, including the R7/5 'No Stop After LAND' variety. Very rare in truly positional block. (Being from the 1d Dominion plate 13, the block also shows that the characteristic flaw of this plate is not present on the first three vertical columns of stamps). The rare block, in superb mint condition (Cat. C.P. \$ 2900, S.G. £1305 as single stamps)	£875.00
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1952 PROPOSED ROYAL VISIT

A rare group of proofs, printed by Waterlow and Sons on gummed paper with wmk multiple NZ and Star.

909(a)	2d Treaty House, Waitangi, inscribed 'ROYAL VISIT' . Die proof in red-brown and deep violet	£150.00
(b)	As above , but in dull red and deep greyish olive	£150.00
(c)	As above , but in brown-red and green, with circular hole at right	£125.00
910(a)	3d R.M.S. 'Gothic', inscribed 'ROYAL VISIT' . Die proof in dull deep blue, in the first state (as described on page 392 of Vol. 4 of the N.Z. Handbooks), before the alterations to the ship's ventilation funnels etc.	£150.00
(b)	As above , but in bright ultramarine	£150.00
911(a)	5d King, Queen and Princess Margaret . Die proof in light brown, with circular hole at right	£125.00
(b)	As above , but in reddish violet	£125.00
(c)	As above , but in red-chocolate	£125.00
(d)	As above , but in lake-red	£125.00
(e)	As above . Plate proof vertical pair, imperf, in bright mauve-purple	£47.50
912	6d Crown and Royal Sceptre, inscribed 'ROYAL VISIT' . (This design was later adopted and adapted for the 1953 Coronation 1/6d). Die proof in deep purple and royal blue, with circular hole at right	£150.00
913(a)	1/3d Princess Elizabeth and Duke of Edinburgh, inscribed 'ROYAL VISIT' . Die proof in lake-purple, circular hole at right	£125.00
(b)	As above , but in brown-purple	£125.00
914	Collection . The above 13 items, complete and probably unique. Special price, the lot	£1500.00
915	3d 'Gothic' – Progress Plate Proof . The unique item described at length in this month's Notes. In this (in contrast to the die proofs offered above) the impressions show the alterations made to the ventilation system and to the flag flying at the stern. Printed in deep dull blue on sheet measuring 415x130mm	£1950.00

Note: The above would readily divide vertically into three lesser pieces, each retaining all the features and characteristics necessary to confirm its progress proof status. If unsold intact, we'll be pleased to consider inquiries for the lesser pieces – two of which would be priced at £750 each, the other at £600.

1893 – 4 ADVERTISEMENT STAMPS

916	Mint Adson. 8 mint stamps, one of each of the 1d (incidentally with the "Screwdriver" flaw), 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 8d, 1/- — complete except for the 6d. A couple of minor faults, but overall lovely. Cat. \$ 750	£157.50
917(a)	Used Adson. Six different, the adverts in contrasting colours, from purple to red, green and brown. Attractive	£11.50
(b)	As above. 1d pair with misplaced adverts — in total parts of 6 different adverts are present !	£12.50
(c)	As above. A lovely little reference set of three, being copies from the three settings, 1st, 2nd (Cadbury) and 3rd (Poneke)	£6.50
(d)	As above. No less than 186 2nd Setting Advertisements (mainly 1ds but a few 2ds are included). A part reconstruction put together by the previous owner on an accurately plated basis, using the plating details in Vol. 4 (pp 36–45). Not completely checked by us, but a marvellous start for an "accurate reconstruction". Condition a little mixed, as usual	£225.00

918

UNUSUAL LITERATURE ITEM

To coincide with Philypia, the London International Philatelic Exhibition of 1970, the New Zealand Society of Great Britain produced a special edition of its publication "The Kiwi". In the form of a booklet of 56 pages, it includes 18 articles by leading experts, covering many facets of N.Z. philately. Much of the information is not generally accessible, so the booklet forms a valuable as well as an interesting reference work. We have just one or two spare copies available at, each (post paid)

£7.50

1967–80 SPECIAL ISSUES AT HALF CATALOGUE !

A series of "by the year" offers of Commemorative, Christmas, Scenic and Health issues, each complete unhinged mint.

919	1967	3 sets	(5 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 1.60)	35p
920	1968	5 sets	(9 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 10.40)	£2.20
921	1969	8 sets	(19 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 41.70)	£8.90
922	1970	6 sets	(13 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 16.95)	£3.60
923	1971	11 sets	(22 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 23.60)	£5.00
924	1972	6 sets	(24 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 60.65)	£13.00
925	1973	6 sets	(23 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 39.45)	£8.40

926	1974	8 sets	(27 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 31.45)	.....	£6.70
927	1975	5 sets	(20 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 22.20)	.....	£4.75
928	1976	5 sets	(21 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 18.85)	.....	£4.00
929	1977	8 sets	(29 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 23.55)	.....	£5.00
930	1978	5 sets	(20 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 9.55)	.....	£2.05
931	1979	7 sets	(21 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 10.05)	.....	£2.15
932	1980	6 sets	(20 stamps)	(Cat. \$ 11.35)	.....	£2.45

Q.E. HEADS, continued.

Unless otherwise stated all offers are mint.

933(a)	1d Original Coarse Paper (N31a). The two listed shades, orange and deep orange .	50p
(b)	As above. The same two shades, blocks of 4	£2.00
(c)	As above. All four imprint/plate blocks (nos 11, 12, 13, 14)	£14.00
(d)	As above. Two plate blocks in the listed shades	£6.00
(e)	As above. Horizontal pair from a slot machine, with central butt-join	£3.75
(f)	As above. Two booklet panes of 6, watermark upright and inverted (W7cZ and Y)	£13.50
(g)	As above. Two booklet panes, both upright wmk, in lovely shade contrasts .	£10.00
934(a)	1d White Paper (N31b). Two fine orange shades	60p
(b)	As above. Imprint/plate (no. 13) block of 6	£3.00
(c)	As above. Booklet pane of 6, upright watermark (W7dZ)	£5.00
(d)	As above. Commercially used copy in the scarce red-orange shade	£1.00
935(a)	1½d (N32a). Three very fine shades	£3.75
(b)	As above. Three imprint/plate blocks of 6 (nos 7, 8, 9)	£22.50
(c)	As above. Three superb paper contrasts, thin, normal and thick. Most unusual .	£6.50
(d)	As above. This stamp (together with the 8d) is the most difficult to obtain used in this set. We have available:	
	(i) fine used (c.d.s. cancel)	£2.00
	(ii) commercially used	£1.00

936(a)	2d Original Coarse Paper (N33a). Three fine green contrasts	£1.25
(b)	As above. Complete set of imprint/plate blocks (6 stamps per block), including nos 3 x 2 (with and without stop), 4, 5 x 2 (with and without stop), 6. Seldom available	£22.50
(c)	As above. Two different papers, thick and thin	£4.00
(d)	As above. NC4a counter coil pair	£2.00
(e)	As above. Another NC4a coil pair, the stamps in lovely green contrasts	£6.00
937(a)	2d White Paper (N33b). Two shades, single copies	90p
(b)	As above. Three imprint/plate blocks of 6 (nos 3, 4, 5)	£12.50
(c)	As above. NC8a counter coil pair	£3.75
(d)	As above. Another NC8a coil pair, the stamps in fine shade contrasts	£7.50
938(a)	3d Original Coarse Paper (N34a). This stamp was only issued in booklets. Our set of 2 singles, watermark upright and inverted (N34a and N34aZ) have perfect perforations (the exception rather than the rule for booklet stamps) .	£2.00
(b)	As above. Three superb vermilion shades, all upright wmk	£3.00
(c)	As above. Two booklet panes of 6, upright and inverted watermarks (W7bZ and Y)	£14.50
(d)	As above. Two booklet panes, both inverted wmk, in brilliant shade contrasts .	£17.50
939(a)	3d White Paper (N34b). Two vermilion contrasts	50p
(b)	As above. Complete set of four imprint/plate blocks	£16.50
(c)	As above. Single copy with inverted wmk (N34bZ), again with perfect perms ..	£1.00
(d)	As above. Two booklet panes of 6, upright and inverted watermarks (W7dX and W) – the inverted wmk pane is particularly elusive	£15.00
(e)	As above. Corner strip of 3 with large pre-printing diagonal crease. Highly spectacular	£17.50
(f)	As above. NC8b counter coil pair	£4.50
940(a)	4d Original Coarse Paper (N35a). Two blue contrasts	£2.25
(b)	As above. Both imprint/plate blocks of 6	£20.00
(c)	As above. NC4c counter coil pair	£3.00
941(a)	4d White Paper (N35b). Two very fine shades	£3.50

(b) As above. Both listed imprint/plate blocks of 6	£23.50
(c) As above. NC8c counter coil pair (one of the scarcest of all the Q.E. coil pairs)	£17.50
(d) As above. Counter coil pair, stamps in lovely shade contrasts	£27.50
942(a) 6d (N36a). Three excellent shades, deep to bright	£5.00
(b) As above. Both imprint/plate blocks of 6	£20.00
(c) As above. NC4d counter coil pair	£3.00
(d) As above. NC4d coil pair, stamps in fine shades	£7.50
943(a) 8d (N37a). The two listed shades	£8.50
(b) As above. Unmounted mint corner block of 4	£15.00
(c) As above. Imprint/plate block of 6	£27.50
(d) As above. The other scarce stamp of the series in used condition, either:	
(i) fine used (c.d.s. cancel)	£6.00
(ii) commercially used	£3.00
(e) As above. NC8d counter coil pair (Cat. \$ 30)	£9.00
(f) As above. Counter coil pair, the stamps in fine shade contrasts	£14.50
(g) As above. NC8d coil pairs, complete set 1 – 19. Cat. \$ 570 offered at half catalogue	£117.50

RECENT ISSUES

1986 Scenic (Bays), 55c, 60c, 65c, 80c – issued 11/6/86.

Mint set of 4	£1.70
Complete set of 4 imprint/plate blocks (6 stamps per block)	£11.65
Official Illustrated First Day Cover (Wanganui pmk)	£1.80

1986 Scenic Miniature Sheet. Officially issued miniature sheet in support of the 1990 Philatelic Exhibition in Auckland (the mini sheet carries a 40c surcharge as donation to the exhibition). Highly attractive, featuring the **whole** of the Wainui Bay (not just the small part featured on the 80c stamp of the above set)

85p

60c Maori Head (PA29a). Imprint block of 6, two black asterisk reprint marks opposite R10/1

£3.20

1986 Healths (issued 30/7/86), 30c+3c x 2 se-tenant, 45c+3c.

Mint set of 3	74p
Complete set of 2 imprint blocks (30c block of 8, 45c block of 6)	£4.40
Official Illustrated First Day Cover (Wanganui pmk)	84p
Miniature Sheet of 6 (2 sets se-tenant)	£1.48