

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



PUBLISHED BY CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD.
P.O. BOX 17, WOKING, SURREY GU22 7BL
ISSUED MONTHLY ☎ WOKING (04862) 5887

All lots offered on approval subject to being unsold
Postage and Insurance/Registration extra on all orders
(U.K. : 40p up to £100, £2.00 over £100, Overseas at cost)



VOLUME XXIV

NUMBER 8

MARCH 1987

N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

A Health Problem. Question — in the 1961 Health issue, how does one distinguish between plate blocks from large sheets, and similar blocks from miniature sheets? That was the starting point for what proved to be quite an interesting little exercise.

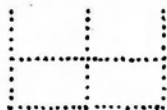
The background to the question is, of course, that in three consecutive years' Health issues — 1959, 1960 and 1961 — large sheets and miniature sheets both carried the same plate numbers in the same positions in the bottom selvedge. The 1959 and 1960 sheets present no difficulty in this respect. In the 1959s, a printer's imprint appears immediately to the right of the plate numbers in the large sheets, but this imprint is absent from the miniature sheets. In the 1960s, while plate numbers and imprints are common to both types of sheet, the gauge of the perforations is the giveaway (13 x 13½ come from large sheets, 11½ x 11 from miniature sheets). But in the 1961s there are no such obvious differences.

Consultation of the N.Z. Handbook (Volume 6, page 221) suggested we might be pursuing a red herring. There it is stated that in the large sheets, the printer's imprint and plate number appear below stamps 1 and 2 (of the bottom row), while in miniature sheets, these markings appear below stamps 2 and 3. Obviously if this were so, then corner blocks showing the markings would be at once identifiable one from the other. Unfortunately, though, the Handbook is in error on this point. The imprint and plate number are in fact identically placed in the large sheets and miniature sheets, i.e. below stamps 1 and 2 in the bottom selvedge in **both cases**.

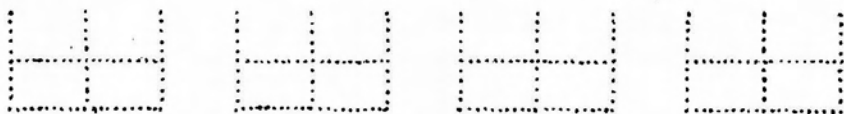
On the evidence of the limited quantity of material we had available for examination it would appear, however, that there is a ready means of identifying the source of 1961 blocks. In all of the full-sheet blocks we looked at, the vertical rows of perforations continued downwards through the bottom selvedge, while in the miniature sheets, the bottom selvedge was invariably imperforate. So subject to blocks turning up to prove the contrary, that seems to provide the answer to our opening question.

But that wasn't the end of the matter. Following up a specific line of inquiry in matters philatelic is a bit like looking up a reference in an encyclopedia — there is a strong tendency to get side-tracked on to something else. And so it proved here. Although as far as we know no attempt has been made to "plate" the 1961 miniature sheets (as has been done in several other

issues), it is recorded that they were printed from a "sixteen-up" plate, with the panes arranged in four rows of four, and that perforation was effected by a double-comb machine moving sideways. Now it would be logical to assume that the perforating was done prior to any guillotining. However, not only is the bottom selvedge of the miniature sheets invariably imperf. (as has already been mentioned), but so too is the top selvedge. On the face of it, that seems to suggest that horizontal guillotining, into strips one-sheet deep, preceded perforation, and that the perforating head used was an extraordinarily small one, shaped thus:



However, we have isolated miniature sheets perforated by four entirely different sets of pins. This fact would mean that of necessity four different machines had been used for what was a relatively small job. A much more likely explanation is that no guillotining took place before perforating, and that just one head was employed, but a special and very unusual one, made up of four sections, each of the above configuration, and each separated from its neighbour by a pinless "gutter", thus:



This knowledge, incidentally, would considerably simplify the work of anyone setting out to reconstruct a "sixteen-up" sheet. Given a mixed stock of miniature sheets, they could first be quite easily sorted by perforation characteristics into four groups, i.e. one group from each section of the head. That accomplished, the remaining task would be to identify just four different types within each group.

THE ANTARCTIC EXPEDITIONS

A selection of fine and interesting material from the Shackleton Expedition to King Edward VII Land, and the Scott Expedition to Victoria Land.

- 301(a) King Edward VII Land 1d (RD1a).** Mint copy (Royle), very fine, lightly hinged £275.00
- (b) As above.** Superb used copy, cancelled by the British Antarctic Expd. c.d.s. £32.50
- (c) As above.** Superb used block of 4, with central Expedition c.d.s. — choice of dates FE 27 08 or MR 4 09, each block £120.00
- (d) As above.** Another finest used block (MR 4 09), but from rows 5 and 6 of a pane of 60, and showing misalignment of the overprints on the upper and

	lower pairs of stamps, nicely demonstrating the fact that panes were overprinted by a block of 30 stereos in two separate operations. The proving block	£137.50
302	King Edward VII Land 1d (RD1b). A very rare mint copy from the Waterlow Trial Plate W1 overprinted for the Expedition. Rather off-centre, and light horizontal crease (invisible on face), very fresh appearance (Cat. \$ 2500, S.G. £1300)	£350.00
303(a)	Victoria Land ½d (RD2a). Left marginal example – stamp brilliant uninged mint, if centred a trifle high	£425.00
	(b) As above. Superb used copy – provably not from the remaindered supply which were attached to certificates and cancelled posthumously	£425.00
304(a)	Victoria Land 1d (RD3a). Mint uninged, superfine copy	£35.00
	(b) As above, but lightly hinged	£27.50
	(c) As above. Major variety 'No stop after Land' (R7/5) in pair with normal. Superb lightly hinged mint	£350.00
	(d) As above. Lightly hinged mint copy with the plate 13 R10/19 'Q' flaw	£80.00
	(e) As above. Superb used copy	£43.50
	(f) As above. Another used copy, with naked-eye variety 'Raised IA in VICTORIA'. Stamp centred left, otherwise superfine	£45.00
305(a)	Expedition Datestamp. Brilliant strike centrally on pair of N.Z. 1d Universal booklet stamps (G7a)	£15.00
	(b) As above. Similarly fine impression on unoverprinted 1d Royle (G10a)	£5.00
306	Write-Up Material. Photographs of (a) Sir Ernest Shackleton, and (b) 'The Nimrod' (Shackleton's expedition ship) in Antarctica	£10.00
307(a)	Cover. Official expedition envelope (monogram on flap) addressed to J.J. Kinsey bearing 1d K.E. VII Land (Royle) tied by expedition c.d.s. of MR 4 09. Central fold, well clear of stamp and pmk	£60.00
	(b) As above. Similar envelope bearing (i) 1d K.E. VII Land, (ii) Victoria Land 1d, (iii) Another Victoria Land 1d, and (iv) ½d Victoria Land pair, each item tied by Expedition datestamps of different dates (MR 4 09, 9 FE 11, 3 MR 12 and FE 4 13 respectively). Backstamped Christchurch 25 MR 09. A typical 'Kinsey' multiple use cover (Kinsey was N.Z. agent to both the Shackleton and Scott expeditions, and was a keen philatelist). Stamps alone Cat. \$ 3350. Cover very conservatively priced at	£675.00
	(c) As above. Very similar multiple-use cover. Adhesives identical to the above, but K.E. VII Land 1d tied by FE 27 08 c.d.s. in green, and one of the 1d Victoria Land by c.d.s. of 31 JA 12. Cover additionally bears an attractive adhesive label celebrating Charles Dickens' centenary	£675.00

KING GEORGE V – RECESS PRINTED

A selection from stock of mint blocks of four.

308(a)	1½d Grey. Two-perf. block on Cowan paper (K1c), beautifully centred and facially immaculate, but gum-tone on one stamp allows	£45.00
(b)	As above. Unhinged marginal block on 'Pictorial' paper, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K1d), right-hand pair with no watermark. Centred to right, otherwise superb	£3.75
(c)	As above. Another 'Pictorial' paper block, perf. 14 x 14¼ (K1e), again marginal, and right hand pair without watermark. One stamp lightly hinged	£3.75
(d)	As above. Completing a 'Pictorial' paper trio – a two-perf. block (K1f), again the right-hand pair showing variety no wmk. One very light hinge, otherwise absolutely superb	£35.00
309(a)	2d Violet. Top marginal block of four, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K2a), perfect unhinged.	£25.00
(b)	As above. Marginal block, perf. 14 x 14¼ (K2b), in bright violet. Brilliant unhinged	£25.00
(c)	As above. Two superb shade blocks (bright violet and deep violet), yet again unhinged, and magnificent contrasts	£50.00
(d)	As above. Two-perf. block (K2c), superfine unhinged	£50.00
310(a)	2d Yellow. Two-perf. block (K2f), 2HM/2UHM	£32.50
(b)	As above. Marginal block on 'Pictorial' paper (K2g), perfect unhinged	£13.50
(c)	As above. Marginal pair on 'Pictorial' paper, upper stamp the no watermark variety (K2gZ). Scarce! Unhinged	£50.00
311(a)	2½d Deep Blue. Finest mint block, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K3a) in slate blue	£18.00
(b)	As above. Another block (same perf.) in the contrasting deep blue. Very fine .	£18.00
(c)	As above. Two-perf. block (K3c) in deep blue. 2HM/2UHM	£70.00
312(a)	3d Chocolate. Block on 'Pictorial' paper (K4d). Unhinged and perfectly centred .	£13.50
(b)	As above. Vertical pair, upper stamp variety no watermark (K4dZ). Previously hinged, but very fine. Scarce	£42.50
313(a)	4d Yellow. Perfect unhinged block, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K5a)	£20.00
(b)	As above. Two-perf. block (K5c), 2HM/2UHM	£32.50
(c)	As above. Another two-perf. block, including the major R4/10 re-entry (KV5c(a)). 2HM/2UHM	£57.50

- 314(a) 4d Violet.** Marginal block in dull violet. Perf. 14 x 13¼ (K5d), and demonstrably from the lower half of a sheet perforated in this gauge throughout (the selvage has the coloured perforation guide dot, which occurred between rows 6 and 7). Nice proving block – 2HM/2UHM £27.50
- (b) As above.** Another perf. 14 x 13¼ block, this one an early print in bright violet and including, on the bottom right stamp, an unplated re-entry (showing as clear doubling to the right of the moustache). Superb condition – 1HM/3UHM £35.00
- 315 4d Deep Purple.** Perf. 14 x 14¼ block (K5g), upper right stamp showing the major R3/8 (plate 44) re-entry, as listed and illustrated in the C.P. Catalogue. Minor dulling of gum, due to slight adhesions, but facially lovely £20.00
- 316(a) 5d Blue.** A magnificent unhinged block, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K7a) in the light blue shade £27.50
- (b) As above.** Two-perf. block (K7c) in pale ultramarine. Brilliant appearance, three small gum-tone spots affecting nothing but the price! £40.00
- 317(a) 6d Carmine.** Block in deep dullish carmine, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K8a). Unmounted, well centred, fresh – sheer perfection £37.50
- (b) As above.** Block on 'Pictorial' paper (K8d). Unhinged £27.50
- 318(a) 8d Indigo-Blue.** Perf. 14 x 13¼ block (K10a). 1HM/3UHM. Superfine £32.50
- (b) As above.** Perf. 14 x 14¼ block (K10b), marginal unhinged £45.00
- (c) As above.** Two-perf. block (K10c). Facial appearance perfect, but gum a little patchy, so only £27.50
- 319 9d Sage Green.** Marginal block, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K11a). Unhinged but a couple of very minor perf. tones, intrusive only on the gummed side £45.00
- 320 1/- Vermilion.** Superb block, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K12a) in orange vermilion. Just the very faintest trace of a hinge on the upper stamps £57.50

OFFICIALS

- 321(a) 3d Chocolate.** Corner block, with sheet serial number, perf. 14 x 13¼ (KO4a). Superb unhinged £22.50
- (b) As above.** Marginal block, same absolutely perfect condition £20.00
- (c) As above.** Very fine block with variety Watermark Inverted (KO4aX). 2LHM/2UHM £32.50
- (d) As above.** Corner block, perf. 14 x 14¼ (KO4b). 1LHM/3UHM £17.50
- (e) As above.** Block on 'Pictorial' paper (KO4d). 2HM/2UHM £13.50
- (f) As above.** Vertical pair, lower stamp with variety no watermark (KO4dZ). Both stamps previously hinged £24.50

322	4d Violet. Block of 4, perf. 14 x 13¼ (KO5d). Although the product of the same head, this block is clearly from a sheet perforated in two separate operations, the perfs. of the upper pair being rough, while those of the lower pair are clean and clear-cut. Condition very fine – 3HM/1UHM	£62.50
323(a)	4d Deep Purple. Block of 4, perf. 14 x 14¼ (KO5g) in deep purple. 2LHM/2UHM	£55.00
(b)	As above. Block in deep blackish purple, including (on the bottom left stamp) a good moustache re-entry. 2LHM/2UHM	£65.00
(c)	As above. Block in bright violet-purple, including the major plate 44 retouches on R4/7 and 5/8. In addition to the crudely redrawn cross on the crown, the entire right half of the top frame line was crookedly redrawn on both of these impressions – the results are clearly naked-eye varieties. 2LHM/2UHM ...	£97.50
324(a)	6d Carmine. Block in a bright shade, perf. 14 x 13¼ (KO8a). All four stamps hinged, but fresh and fine	£13.50
(b)	As above. Lovely block in the scarce and distinctive carmine rose shade. 2LHM/2UHM	£97.50
(c)	As above. Marginal block, perf. 14 x 14¼ (KO8b) in a brilliant deep bright carmine. Perfect unhinged	£32.50
325(a)	9d Sage Green (KO11a) Superfine block in deep sage. 2HM/2UHM	£110.00
(b)	As above. An even finer block in pale bright sage. Very light hinge on upper pair, lower pair unhinged	£120.00
326(a)	1/- Vermilion. Perf. 14 x 14¼ block (KO12b) in vermilion – a scarcer shade in this perf. Unhinged, and perfect in all respects	£120.00
(b)	As above. Two-perf. block (KO12c) in vermilion. 2HM/2UHM	£100.00

FIRST PICTORIAL PLATE PROOFS, Concluded

327 (a)	1/- Kea and Kaka. Block of 4 from the 'Local' plate, printed in bright orange red on unwatermarked paper	£50.00
(b)	As above. Another block, in a much deeper shade	£50.00
(c)	As above. A third block, this one including the minor R5/11 re-entry	£52.50
(d)	As above. A horizontal pair	£25.00
328 (a)	5/- Mt. Cook. Block of 4 from the 'Local' plate, printed in orange-vermilion on unwatermarked paper. Very much scarcer than the issued stamps, but a horizontal crease (invisible on the design side) allows	£185.00
(b)	As above. A superb horizontal pair	£100.00

(c) As above. Single example, slightly cut into at top £25.00

1907-08 Perkins Bacon Plates. Proofs from these (all in black) fall into two groups:

(i) Printed by Perkins Bacon on paper without watermark (or with part of 'PERKINS BACON & CO LTD LONDON' letters wmk.), and (ii) Printed by the N.Z. Gov't Printer on paper wmk.'d NZ and Star. The former are much the scarcer.

329 (a) 'London' Proofs. ½d block of 4 £35.00

(b) As above. 3d marginal block of 4 £37.50

(c) As above. 3d corner block of 4 £40.00

(d) As above. 3d single £8.50

(e) As above. 6d marginal block of 4 £37.50

(f) As above. 6d single £7.50

330 (a) 'Local' Proofs. ½d block of 4 (gummed) £27.50

(b) As above. 6d block of 6 £37.50

(c) As above. 6d block of 4 (gummed) £27.50

(d) As above. 6d pair (gummed) £13.75

(e) As above. 6d marginal pair £15.00

(f) As above. 1/- block of 4. Watermark inverted (as it invariably is on this value) £27.50

(g) As above. 1/- marginal pair £15.00

RECENT DEFINITIVE PLATE BLOCKS, Contd.

331(a) 1c Mineral, perf. 12¼ x 12½ (PB1a). Imprint/plate block of 6, bottom selvedge perforated or not perforated, each £1.00

(b) As above. Sheet value block of 6 £1.00

332(a) 1c Mineral, perf. 14¼ x 14 (PB1b). Imprint/plate block of 6, plate dots 1:1:1:1:1, bottom selvedge perforated or not perforated, each 30p

(b) As above. As (a) but dots 1:1:1:1:2, bottom selvedge not perforated only 30p

(c) As above. As (a) but dots 1:1:1:1:3, each 15p

(d) As above. As (a) but dots 1:1:1:1:4, each 15p

(e)	As above. Sheet value block, of 6	15p
333	2c Mineral, perf. 12¼ x 12½ (PB2a). The key stamp of this set. Sheet value block of 6	£6.00
334(a)	2c Mineral, perf. 14¼ x 14 (PB2b). Imprint/plate block of 6, plate dots 1:1:1:1:1, bottom selvedge perforated or not perforated, each	30p
(b)	As above. As (a) but dots 1:1:1:1:2, bottom selvedge not perforated only	30p
(c)	As above. As (a) but dots 1:1:1:1:3, each	15p
(d)	As above. Sheet value block of 6	15p
335(a)	3c Mineral, perf. 14¼ x 14 (PB3a). Imprint/plate block of 6, plate dots 1:1:1:1:1, bottom selvedge perforated or not perforated, each	50p
(b)	As above, As (a) but dots 1:1:1:1:2, bottom selvedge not perforated only	50p
(c)	As above. As (a), but dots 1:1:1:1:3, each	25p
(d)	As above. Sheet value block of 6	25p
336 (a)	4c Mineral, perf. 14¼ x 14 (PB4a). Imprint/plate block of 6, plate dots 1:1:1:1:1, bottom selvedge perforated or not perforated, each	60p
(b)	As above. As (a) but dots 1:1:1:1:2, bottom selvedge not perforated only	60p
(c)	As above. As (a) but dots 1:1:1:1:3, each	30p
(d)	As above. Sheet value block of 6	30p
337(a)	5c Mineral, perf. 14¼ x 14 (PB5a). Imprint/plate block of 6, plate dots 1:1:1:1:1, bottom selvedge perforated or not perforated, each	60p
(b)	As above. When this value was reprinted in 1986, the plate and print box were removed and replaced by Kiwi symbols, Imprint/plate blocks of 6: (i) 1 Kiwi, bottom selvedge perforated or not perforated, each	35p
	(ii) 2 Kiwi, choice or 2 different as (i), each	30p
(c)	As above. Sheet value block of 6	30p
338(a)	9c Mineral, perf. 14¼ x 14 (PB6a). Imprint/plate block of 6, plate dots 1:1:1:1:1, bottom selvedge perforated or not perforated, each	£1.10
(b)	As above. As (a) but dots 1:1:1:1:2, bottom selvedge not perforated only	£1.10
(c)	As above. As (a) but dots 1:1:1:1:3, each	55p
(d)	As above. Sheet value block of 6	55p

(to be concluded)