

CAMPBELL PATERSON'S NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

This Newsletter gives valuable information. Retain for reference purposes.

Vol. 6 No. 10—May 1955.

Issued Twice Monthly—Subscription, 6/- per annum.

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N.Z. NOTES and COMMENT

(By Campbell Paterson)

9d Centennial Plate B1 (refer March Supp. Notes):

The number of blocks sent in was very small. I suppose most collectors were too modest and imagined that theirs would not be of any use. However, those that were sent in were very fruitful—practically every one helped toward solving the problem. I will not mention any names, as the good results obtained are a community effort and any special mention would be unfair.

To sum up, it can be said with certainty that the second theory put forward is correct; that the new figure "1" was **not** engraved on the plate, but was **printed on the sheets by a second operation**. Ample proof is offering, despite the fact that I found no third position of the new figure. All those examined were in one or other of the two positions already known, i.e., items (2) and (4) of the March Supp. Notes. The proofs now offered appear impossible to refute. They are: (a) The new figure 1 is sunk into the paper and is therefore "surface-printed" and cannot have been printed at the same time as the stamps; these are recess-printed and the inked portions are raised, not sunk. (b) A block has been seen which has had the original figure erased. This has disturbed the surface fibres. It is easy to see that the new 1 is printed over the disturbed area.

The owner of "item (5)" of the March Supp. Notes was kind enough to return his pair for inspection. It proved unique among all those seen in that the **original "1"** has been redrawn. The figure is misshapen and the ink is thick and raised. I have been unable to decide whether it could have been the result of re-engraving on the plate or of redrawing by pen (or brush) on the sheet, but I think the evidence points to the latter. Another block seen I have already mentioned, that with the original figure erased. I would say that before the erasure the figure has been a crude retouched "1" as in "item (5)," not just the original weak figure. The ink has been very greasy and a clear oily trace remains of a thick heavy figure. In this case, as in the "item (5)" pair, a new figure "1" stands to the right of the original figure.

One can theorise now something on these lines:

The original figure "1" was weak from the beginning of the printings in conjunction with the "B" centre plate. The total printing was made and by the end of it the weakness was so advanced that some sheets showed no "1" at all. Others had a fairly clear "1," while still others showed only weak traces. Sheets with readable "1" were passed for issue and on a few of the other sheets attempts were made to touch up the "1" by hand. This proved slow work and unsightly, so it was decided to run all the remaining sheets through a letterpress machine which printed a new "1" on each sheet. At first this new "1" was placed to the right of the old figure, but later was placed to land exactly on the site of the old figure. Of the touched-up sheets at least one was given a new figure without removal of the retouched original, while at least one other was given a new figure after the retouched figure had been erased. Quite a range of blocks are therefore necessary if one wishes to show the whole story.

- 1 Original weak but readable figure "1."
- 2 Traces only remain of the original "1."
- 3 No traces remain of the original figure.
- 4 Original figure crudely redrawn.
- 5 Redrawn original figure erased.
- 6 As (4) plus a new figure to the right.
- 7 As (5) plus a new figure to the right.
- 8 (As (2) with new figure to the right.

NOTES Continued on back page.

1d UNIVERSALS

As is fairly widely known (refer Handbook Vol. I, p. 239) the "Waterlow Trial Plates" of 1906 form quite a study in themselves. Five types exist in each of Plates W.1 and W.2, distinguishable by various small features and one or two more noticeable features.

- Type A**—A line cuts through Zealandia's wrist. In Plate W.2 this extends through the scroll at left.
- Type B**—Seldom even a trace of a second line under the left top rosette. An extra line appears in the scroll ornament to left of the U of Universal.
- Type C**—Two lines under top left rosette (like "A" but no wrist line). Usually two dots under N of ONE on Plate W.1.
- Type D**—The second line under the rosette is long, but does not cut into the New Zealand label.
- Type E**—The second line under the rosette is long, strong and cuts into the New Zealand label. The top right pearl is in spiral form. Plate W.1 usually shows a guide dot at lower left.

We have made up sets of ten stamps, being Types A to E in both plates:

- | | |
|--|------|
| (a) Set of 10 used, being Types A to E in both plates W.1 and W.2 | 10/- |
| (b) Set of 10 used as (a), but overprinted "Official" | 8/6 |
| (c) Two stamps, both Type A, used, showing the difference in the "wrist line" of the two plates | 3/- |
| (d) One stamp, Type E from Plate W.1, showing the spiral pearl at top right and guide dot at bottom left. Used | 1/6 |
| (e) Two stamps both Type C, showing dots below N of PENNY in Plate W.1, no dots in Plate W.2. Used | 2/- |

Note: In the event of stocks being exhausted of "ordinary" stamps, may we substitute "Officials"? These show the plate characteristics just as well as the ordinaries.

133 1d Universal Official Booklet Panes:

- | | |
|--|------|
| (a) A set of six faultless mint panes, being panes Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 13. Of these No. 3 shows three major re-entries and No. 13 shows two re-entries, one being major. Every pane is in a different shade , ranging from pale pink to deep bright red. An unusual and very colourful set | 60/- |
| (b) A similar range of six panes. Includes two of pane No. 1 and one each of panes No. 3 (with 3 re-entries); No. 4, 6 and 13 (two re-entries). Again all panes are different shades. The set | 55/- |
| (c) A single pane (actually Pane No. 1), mint | 7/6 |

HAPPY HUNTING

135 Very occasionally we get in a wholesale batch that we **know** for sure has not been looked through for varieties. The offers below are **guaranteed** unsorted material and appear at a casual glance to promise very well in both shades and philatelic varieties such as watermarks, peris, dies, plate flaws, etc. The condition is above average.

- | | |
|--|------|
| (a) 1d Rose Second Sidface. No adverts noticed, but apparently collected over a long period. Per 100, 2/6 ; per 500 | 11/6 |
| (b) 2d Lilac Second Sidface. Similar to (a), but we happened to notice an unusual percentage of copies on the "Life Insurance" paper. Per 100, 2/6 ; per 500 | 11/6 |
| (c) 1d Taupo. Plenty of shades, re-entries and what have you? Per 100 | 3/6 |
| (d) 2d Pembroke London Print. Not many available. Some of the nicest re-entries are found in this stamp. Per 100 | 5/- |

HERE AND THERE

136 Eros 1d + ½d Green—Inverted Watermark:

This is one of the rarities of the Health Issue. To the best of our knowledge only one or even part of one sheet was ever found—so it is probably as rare as its companion invert in red which sells readily at £6. We have a choice block of 4 **£14**
(Readers interested in singles at **70/-** should let us know.)

137 Queen Victoria (Long Type) Official:

- | | |
|--|------|
| (a) The two values, 2/- and 5/-; perf 14½ x 14, De La Rue paper, fine used. The pair | 8/6 |
| (b) The scarce 2/- issue on Cowan paper (V.C. 139), a mint pair, one stamp "No Stop" (Cat. 62/6). The pair | 35/- |

138 **Second Sides:**

- (a) A complete set, one of each value, mint. These are not all of the finest, but defects, if any, are of a minor nature—slightly off-centre or gum a little disturbed, etc. A chance to get a difficult set cheap (Cat. C.P. 50/-). The set of 10 20/-
- (b) Individual values "not quite so fine," mint. No rubbish. $\frac{1}{2}$ d at 4d, 1d at 4d, 2d at 6d, 3d at 2/-, 4d at 2/-, 5d at 3/6, 6d at 3/-, 8d at 4/5
- (c) Complete set one of each value specially selected fine used. This set, which naturally includes the scarce 8d nicely used, is good buying. Only a very small percentage of Second Sides are found fine used. The set of 10 20/-
- (d) Individual values specially selected, fine used: $\frac{1}{2}$ d at 2d, 1d at 2d, 2d at 2d, 3d at 1/9, 4d at 9d, 5d at 4/-, 6d at 6d, 1/- at 3/-
- (e) 4d and 5d Sides faces **mint with adverts** on back. One of each value, advert rather faded in the 4d, clear in the 5d. The two (Cat. 25/-) 17/6
- (f) 2d Specialist's piece. This piece, **a strip of 4** of the 2d Die I perf 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ (D3b) in the **second** state, with background lines opened up, is finely used with dated postmark. In our opinion as pretty a piece as we have seen for some time. The strip 7/6

139 **Christchurch Exhibition 1906:**

- (a) 1d Maori Art, used on picture postcard with special Exhibition cachet "Posted at the top of the Tower" 10/-
- (b) 1d ditto. Used at the Exhibition on complete plain envelope 7/5
- (c) Complete set, superb used, with Exhibition postmark. It is no exaggeration to say that this is the finest, cleanest and most attractively postmarked set we have seen. Each stamp is on a small piece of original to show the complete circle of the special Exhibition cancellation. A set that will shine in any company **£8/10/-**

THE C.P. LOOSE-LEAF N.Z. CATALOGUE

The Catalogue is now available and can be purchased either from us or from good book shops throughout the Dominion. Those who do not know this outstanding production should ask to see it at all branches of Messrs. Whitcombe and Tombs, Messrs. South's book shops and other leading book sellers and stationers. A new price is now necessary as the work is substantially larger than when the original price was fixed and printing costs have continued to increase.

Make a point of inspecting this beautiful and unique Catalogue at your first opportunity — **Price 50/-**.

HELP YOUR CLUB FUNDS

Some New Zealand Clubs have been able to add substantially to their funds by taking advantage of our offer of **10/- commission on every Catalogue sold**. Yet other Clubs—perhaps not having heard of the offer—are losing a grand opportunity to increase revenue. Handled energetically, this offer could mean so much new revenue that subscription rates could be reduced. So why not raise the matter at your next meeting, calling your Executive's attention to the opportunity?

HELP YOURSELF

The offer of 10/- commission on every copy of our Catalogue sold is open to private individuals as well as to societies. Why not make your hobby pay for itself? Any private individual in New Zealand may qualify as an agent provided he already owns a Catalogue himself or is prepared to buy one at the full retail price.

GEORGE VI OFFICIAL PLATES

Plates of the George VI Officials have always been difficult to get and will certainly not become easier. Stocks are good at the moment, but on past record are not likely to remain so.

| | | |
|-----|---|------|
| 140 | $\frac{1}{2}$ d Green Official . Plate 2, Block of 4 | 6/6 |
| 141 | 1d Scarlet Official . Plate 6, Block of 4 | 7/6 |
| 142 | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d Chocolate . Plate 21, block of 4, left or right | 40/- |
| 143 | $\frac{1}{2}$ d Chestnut . Plate 19, block of 4 | 2/- |
| 144 | ditto. Imprint block of 8 | 2/8 |
| 145 | 1d Green (OM2b). Plate 29, block of 8 | 15/- |
| 146 | ditto (OM2c). Blocks of 8, Plate 32, 4/-; Plate 33 | 4/- |
| 147 | ditto (OM2d). Blocks of 8, Plate 43, 15/-; Plate 48, 15/-; Plate 49, 15/-; Plate 50, 15/-; Plate 53 | 12/6 |
| 148 | ditto (OM2e). Block of 8, Plate 85 | 17/6 |
| 149 | 2d Yellow-orange (OM6a, Vert. mesh). Block of 8, Plate 61 | 4/6 |

| | | |
|-----|---|------|
| 150 | 3d Blue (OM7a). Plate 39, fine paper, block of 8 | 10/- |
| 151 | 3d Blue (OM7b). Plate 39, coarse paper, block of 8 | 5/- |
| 152 | 8d Violet. Plate 93, block of 6 | 7/6 |
| 153 | 9d Sepia. Plate 97, block of 6 | 8/6 |
| 154 | 1/- Upright wmk (Die 1, OM13a). Plate 1-1, block of 4 | 15/- |
| 155 | 2/- Sideways wmk (OM15b). Plate 1-1, block of 4 | 15/- |

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL OFFERS

| | | |
|-----|--|------|
| 156 | George VI ½d green, M1a, mint, single, 8d; per dozen | 6/- |
| 157 | George VI 1d scarlet, M2a, mint, single, 1/-; per dozen | 10/- |
| 158 | George VI 1½d chocolate, M3a, mint, single, 4/3; per dozen | 40/- |
| 159 | ditto. Inverted wmk, mint, single, 5/-; per dozen | 50/- |
| 160 | ditto. Booklet pane of 6, mint, inv. wmk | 35/- |
| 161 | ditto. Complete booklet as issued (3 panes) | £5 |

NOTES:-

9 As (2) with new figure on the site of the original.

10 As (3) with new figure to the right.

11 As (3) with new figure on site of the original.

Of the above I can personally vouch for the existence of Nos. 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5 were probably never issued without the new figure.

1d Centennial Double Perf:

There passed through our hands recently an entirely new and unrecorded variety, the 1d 1940 Centennial with double perfs. It was a plate block, E2, and all stamps in the block were doubly perfed. The variance between the two strikes of the comb was not large, but had the result of making all the holes "sausage-shaped." The 2d Centennial exists with double perfs, but I have not seen it myself. This and now the 1d seem to be the only perf varieties in the issue.

George VI Official Plates

We recently had in stock our first few examples of the 2d Official Plate 55. We had not seen this before, and therefore had not listed it, though it is recorded in the Handbook, Volume 2. Collectors of these plates, relying on us to list everything, should note this now as existing and let us know if they need an example from future stocks.

Another new item to record is the 1d Official Plate 65. This seems something of a mystery. It has not been recorded anywhere before; even the G.P.O., Wellington, did not previously know of it. We have seen only one block to date.

5d Peace Variety:

Mr J. H. Hicks, of England, has shown us a top selvage block of the 5d Peace with distinct partial double perfs. This is an example of an extra strike in the selvage, being so placed that the short rows of pins have doubly perforated the sides of the stamps to a distance of seven holes. This variety has not previously been recorded as far as is known.

4d 1898 Variety:

A very attractive variety, not apparently recorded before, is the 4d Terraces, London print of 1898 "imperf at top" with wide top selvage. The two copies we have seen recently were in beautifully fresh condition. We will be cataloguing this item.

Supplements:

Owing to the Easter break no Supplement to the Newsletter was published in April and with Mr Paterson away on a buying trip there will be no Supplement in May.

ELIZABETH PLATE BLOCKS — FOURS OR SIXES?

Some controversy has lately taken place in at least two New Zealand Societies as to whether the plate numbers of the current lower values should be collected in blocks of four or six stamps. I understand that a vote taken at a meeting of the Hutt Valley Society was heavily in favour of fours, while at Waikato the decision was, unanimously in favour of sixes. I will discuss the matter later from our point of view and readers may care to let me have their views in the meantime.

ALL ORDERS TO

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