

# Campbell Paterson's NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

Registered at the G.P.O. Wellington as a Magazine.

This Newsletter gives valuable information. Retain it for reference purposes. April, Vol. 9, No. 9, 1958. Issued Monthly—Subscriptions, 6/- per annum.

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## LONDON NEWSLETTER (by Campbell Paterson)

**The Historic "Overland" Route.**—A romantic feature of New Zealand's early postal history is dealt with briefly on page 13 of the Handbook, Volume 3. It is the inauguration in the 1950's of the Overland Mail between Wellington, Wanganui, New Plymouth and Auckland.

It is safe to say that this is a completely unknown subject to the vast majority of New Zealand collectors and yet it is a subject that should surely rank very high in philatelic LORE. One would be dull indeed not to feel the romance of this early effort to establish direct land contact between the isolated settlements of the infant colony. The 2d stamp of the 1855-1955 Stamp Centenary set is a tribute to the Macri runners who were the backbone of the service. Their difficulties and devotion to a (to them) rather novel mission can now only be guessed at and their names are long forgotten. How much mail they carried may be known, I cannot say, but the number of covers that survived as their memorial is exceedingly few.

It has been therefore a real thrill for me to be able to buy, together with much other almost equally romantic material, two covers carried on the Wellington-Auckland route. Both are in excellent condition. One was carried the whole way, taking some three weeks for the journey and is addressed to a Missionary in Auckland. It could be almost unique and is certainly a delightful piece but I cannot help liking the other even better. This second cover is also to a mission station, this time Kawia (sic). It started off well, receiving an excellent Wellington "Crowned Circle" mark. This alone would make it desirable these days for the "Crowned Circles" are very popular. But it also carried the oval black town mark of New Plymouth (Type 10 on Page 24, Vol. 3. See also paragraph below the illustration on Page 25), itself a scarce and desirable feature. As if that were not enough, the cover bears a manuscript inscription in Maori that I have not yet had translated but which may well turn out to be "By overland mail." Finally, it is addressed to the Rev. Whitely whose name ought to be known to every New Zealand school child. I remember being told a story of his bravery and devotion to his work when I was in my very early schooldays. Altogether quite a cover—the sort of thing that it hurts one to part with!

## LOCAL NEWS

**1/9d Q.E. Plate 1A 2A R5/10 frame flaws.**—Mr. R. W. Nunn has pointed out, with submitted examples, that flaws are developing on the "9" of 1/9d and on the "N" and "E" of NEW. These flaws, which at present take the form of a fairly large single spot on each of the 9 and N and a cluster of small flaws on the E, will bear watching.

**R5/10 flaw and retouch on Q.E. middle values.** We can now confirm that it is clear there are three states of retouch following the flaw which developed on the Queen's left shoulder. What is not clear at present is to what values these states apply. However if we recapitulate the differences and mention the values seen with each state perhaps others can "take it from here." All apply only to the new centre plate 1B 2B.

9d pre flaw only.

1/- retouch with vertical line joining 3rd, 4th and 5th oblique lines of shading (counting from bottom).

1/6d (1) pre-flaw; (2) retouch with vertical line as in 1/- above; (3) retouch (with vertical line cleared away) showing two short lines near ends of 4th and 5th shading lines, the third line redrawn (possibly others) and definite redrawing of the short underlying horizontal lines.

## TWO FINE BLOCK COLLECTIONS

Lot No. 531

### (1) Geo. V Surface Prints.

A wonderful collection in block of four form of the Geo. V Surface Printed issues. This is a very comprehensive lot of 49 blocks and one pair (the 1½d Wig. Teape) covering all watermarks, papers and perforations of the ½d—3d issues 1915—1933. There are only three omissions—the 1915 ½d Cowan Experimental printing, 1927 2d Cowan reversed watermark, 1925 3d Jones paper—and these we would undertake to supply whenever available. There is no doubt that stamps in block form do appear to advantage, this collection with its lovely shade range and selvedge pieces is no exception. The collection as described above, mounted on F. G. Burleigh leaves and cataloguing over £26 ..... £21 N.B.—To further round off this Surface Print collection we can offer two more fine pieces.

- (a) The 1d Field Marshal with reversed watermark in perfect block of 4 ..... £13  
(b) The 2/- Admiral on Cowan paper, perfect selvedge block ..... £6

### (2) Edward VII, Geo. V Recess and Surface Officials

Another tip-top little collection covering Official stamps of the above issues. A really fine little lot made up of Edward VII blocks, one of each value (6). Geo. V Recess has 3d both perms. and Pictorial paper plus block of **inverted** watermark; 4d (with "crown" retouch); 6d, 8d, 9d (also pair with Row 10 No. 23 "joined IC"; a variety we have seen before); 1/- (2), one of these the scarcer salmon shade. Surface prints comprise ½d (3) including an example of official patching; 1d Field Marshal—block showing selvedge arrows; 1d Dominion (1); 1½d (4) Local and London black, two 1½d brown; 2d (2); 3d (1). A further addition is a page devoted to the famous Row 4 No. 24 "no stop" variety. There is a pair of the 2/- Q.V. Long Type, ½d in block, 1d ditto, 2d and 3d in pairs plus ½d green used in pair, a 2d block showing partial stop and also the Row 6 No. 8 "flaw on face" in pair. It will be obvious this lot of thirty-one blocks and six pairs is something out of the ordinary. Mounted on Burleigh leaves and conservatively valued at over £18 as **singles**, we believe this lot to be well worth £17

## 1d DOMINION COLLECTIONS

532 Two beautifully mounted sets (one mint, one used) rich in varieties. Not often do we see as fine a showing as these so be in EARLY. Details are as follow:

(a) **MINT**.—Mounted on eight Favourite leaves. De La Rue shades (4); Pairs showing "Q" flaw; "feather flaw" (2 shades); "NNY" flaw (block of 4); Globe flaw (single); scarce vertical pair, top stamp with "split bow" and bottom stamp "Q" flaw. 2 booklet panes, both blurred prints but one in a very pale shade. Jones paper, two blocks of four and strip of four, the latter with a broken shield flaw. De La Rue unsurfaced paper in block of six. De La Rue sideways watermark has two blocks of four, a single and two pairs (one pair with letters watermark). Litho issue covers six watermark colours, defective impression and feather flaw. Cowan shows two blocks of four (one block defective impression) and a block of eight with "NNY" flaw. A single selvedge copy of the Cowan reversed watermark and finally three blocks of four of the Wiggins Teape, one block on thick white paper. A grand total of 104 stamps catalogue £18/18/ £15

(b) **USED**. Again mounted on eight Favourite leaves. There are altogether eighty-one selected copies covering a vast selection of shades, blurred impressions, frame line flaws and also the well-known "feather," "globe" and "NNY" flaws. Too much to individually enumerate but all sections are represented except the De La Rue unsurfaced paper. Catalogued at over £3/6/0 ..... £3

(c) **EXTRA**.—We have available and just to hand, a single mint copy of the very scarce Jones unsurfaced paper. According to the Handbook Vol. I, only half of one sheet was affected therefore there is no necessity for us to point out the scarcity of this item. The purchaser of the above mint collection will be given first refusal. Price ..... £27/10/0

## GEORGE V SURFACE PRINTS

533 These are often neglected in favour of the more imposing Recess Prints but comprise a very interesting group which look well when properly laid out.

<b>De La Rue</b>			Mint	Used				Mint	Used
½d deep green	1/-	6d			1½d orge-brown		6d	1d	
green	-	1d			deep orge brown		6d	1d	
yellow-green	-	9d			2d yellow		1/6d	3d	
1½d Local Print black	2/-	3d			pale yellow		-	6d	
grey-black	1/6d	2d			orge-yellow		-	2d	
grey	1/6d	3d			3d choc.		5/-	1d	
1½d London Print black	1/6d	1d			deep choc.		5/-	1d	
grey-black	2/-	1d			1½d War stamp green		3d	2d	
					yellow-green		4d	3d	

#### Jones paper

½d yellow-green	2/6d	9d	
2d pale dull yellow	5/6d	-	

2/- Admiral	35/-
3/- Admiral	60/-

#### Litho Watermark

½d green	6d	3d	
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2d yellow	3/-
fair copies used	- 6/-

#### Cowan perf. 14 x 15

½d pale green	6d	2d	
pale yell.-green	4d	2d	
2d orge-yellow	1/6d	3d	

3d choc.	2/6d	1d
deep choc.	2/6d	1d
red-choc	3/6d	3d

#### Cowan perf 14

½d green, deep green or pale yell.-green	-	2d	
pale green	-	3d	
yellow-green	-	1d	
1½d brown	3/6d	1/-	

2d orge-yellow	1/-	1d
yellow	-	6d
deep orge.	-	2d
3d deep choc.	8/6d	8d
choc.	-	8d

#### Cowan reversed watermark

½d green	3/6d	6d	
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2d orge-yellow	5/-	12/6d
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#### Wiggins Teape perf 14 x 15

2d yellow	2/6d	1/6d	
orge-yellow	3/-	1/6d	
orange	2/6d	1/6d	

<b>1d Field Marshal</b>			
Cowan 14 x 15	3d	1d	
Reversed wmk. (fair)	45/-		
Cowan 14	3d	1d	

#### Wiggins Teape perf. 14

1½d brown	-	3/6d	
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2d yellow or orange	2/6d	1/-
orge-yellow	3/-	1/6d

534 (a) Complete set of MINT singles of all papers, watermarks and perms. except for two of the scarcer stamps (½d Cowan "experimental," 1½d Cowan 14 x 15). The set comprises ½d (6); War stamp; 1½d black Local and London; 1½d brown (3); 2d yellow (8); 3d choc. (4)—a total of twenty-four. Cat. just over £4 ..... £3/10/0

(b) Complete set USED, exactly as above. Cat. £2/2/6 ..... £1/15/0

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#### Official Sets

Complete set MINT except for two stamps (½d Cowan reversed, 3d Cowan perf. 14). The set comprises ½d (4); 1½d black (2); 1½d brown (3); 2d yellow (2); 3d choc. (3); 2/- Admiral (1). A total of fifteen stamps cataloguing £1/5/3 ..... £1/2/6

### AIRMAILS

536 A neglected set which is hardening fast as shown by overseas catalogue prices and continued difficulty here in locating supplies.

<b>1931</b>			Mint	Used				Mint	Used
(a) 3d choc.	10/-	4/6d			7d brn orange		16/6d	8/6d	
3d pale choc	15/-	-			5d green (surcharge)		6/-	-	
4d purple	10/-	5/-			5d ditto (off-centre)		4/6d	-	
4d deep purple	15/-	-			7d Trans-Tasman		14/6d	18/-	
4d pale purple	15/-	-			7d ditto (off-centre)		12/6d	-	
<b>1935</b>									
(b) 1d carmine	6d	3d			3d deep violet		2/6d	2/-	
1d carmine-pink	6d	3d			6d dull blue		3/-	2/-	
3d violet	1/6d	1/3d			6d blue (shade variety)		3/-	-	

1/9d (1) pre flaw; (2) flaw (various stages); (3) retouch (vertical line cleared away) with two short lines at ends 4th and 5th shading lines but no redrawing of third line or underlying short horizontal lines.

It emerges therefore that only the 1/6d has been seen with what appears to be the final state but that the 9d, 1/- and 1/9d should eventually follow suit.

#### **The 2d on 1½d Q.E. Provisional Issue of Jan. 6th., 1958**

This stamp has created considerable interest. One reason is that considerable uncertainty exists as to how large was the supply of sheets which were surcharged and as a result how long—or how short—is it to remain on sale. Another reason is that at least two overprinting formes were used and the sheets from each forme are easily identifiable from the measurements of the black circle obliterating the former figures of value. It is possible to find all plates 7, 8, 9 and 10 with the smaller 4mm circle and also with the larger 4.2mm circle—indeed we would say the difference is fairly easily discernible with the naked eye.

Another correspondent points out a difference between the shape of the “D” of 2d in that the one associated with the 4.2mm circle shows four design lines through its interior and the smaller circle stamp shows either five or six.

A fairly small “stop” after the D has been noticed on plates 7, 8, 9 and 10 with 4mm circle on R4/24 but sheets of this small circle may also be found without it.

Mr. J. S. Lawrance has submitted a piece from Pl 7 “large circle,” showing stamps 19 and 20 in Rows 9 and 10, replaced by a block of four (obviously from another sheet because of shade and watermark discrepancies) and “officially” patched—patching was carried out after surcharging. We have ourselves seen a broken piece from Pl. 9 small circle showing signs of patching in the same area but in slightly different position.

**Later.**—We can confirm that some sheets of the original design Pl. 13 have been surcharged and it is reliably reported that an extremely limited number of Pl. 11 also got through the checker and were available for sale. We would welcome offers of these stamps or Plate Blocks.

**A good retouch on 1d New Design Row 10 No. 22, Pl. 11.**—Although orange or yellow is anything but a good colour to study at close quarters, this retouch is easily seen. It affects the area of short horizontal lines representing part of the Queen’s right shoulder and lying just right of the D of 1d, these lines having been strengthened. In addition an area of shading above—but not immediately above—the ZEA of ZEALAND has been redrawn and possibly some of the cross hatching lines above EW of NEW have received attention.

#### **The 4d Q.E. Official Printed on Gum**

Through the good offices of at least two of our readers and also because of some authentic information recently published in a contemporary journal, we can now give some further facts about this most unusual variety. It appears that some time between the end of August and early September a full half sheet was issued to a Government Dept. which uses a meter franking machine but requires adhesive stamps for its officers in the field; the remaining half sheet was returned to headquarters and subsequently to the Christchurch Chief Post Office where it was noticed by a sharp-eyed client, who purchased a quantity. Other people present took the opportunity to purchase varying quantities, the residue of thirty copies eventually being snapped up by a prominent Christchurch dealer. It is known that, of the remaining stamps of the sheet (which were distributed among other Govt. Depts. as mentioned above), 40 were issued to a Dept. which was in urgent need of this value and fifteen copies were pasted on correspondence, the remainder being purchased eventually by collectors. It is believed that others of the remaining 80 copies may possibly have been placed on envelopes but unless these are found and allowed to remain on the envelopes they must be counted as lost, as immersion in water would be fatal. It will be seen that the majority of the stamps from the sheet have been salvaged but they are widely dispersed and how many will be available for sale is a matter of conjecture.

Mr. R. J. G. Collins reports in his “N.Z. Stamp Collector” that he has proved (by test on a damaged copy) that the impression is definitely printed on top of the gum and not vice versa, which clears up another point.