

Campbell Paterson's NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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This Newsletter gives valuable information. Retain it for reference purposes.
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All lots offered subject to being unsold and will be sent on approval to known clients. Complete satisfaction is guaranteed on all lots offered.

Postage Extra on Orders Under 10/-.

NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT by Campbell Paterson

Q.E. Middle Values, Centre Plate Varieties

Frank Mohr mentions in passing that he has proved a sequence of the various retouches. He says "The centre plate retouches 7/8, 6/3 and 6/10 were each carried out at a separate stage— R6/10 (1st retouch), then 6/3, later again 7/8, still later 6/10 (2nd retouch)". All this bespeaks an anxiety on the part of the printer to keep this centre plate (the double plate 2A, 2B) in use. One wonders why, since there is (or was) another centre plate in existence, namely the double plate 3A, 3B. This 3A, 3B centre plate poses a first class puzzle. We have reports of rather less than a dozen sheets having been found, some of them over a year ago (viz. our listing in the 1958-59 Catalogue) and some fairly recently. Enquiries made of the Stamps Division have brought, I am told, the reply that the Division has no knowledge of the existence of this centre plate—presumably they have no proof sheet. Yet we have certainly seen it, in fact one keen Waikato specialist, Stuart Larsen, has the complete double sheet. One can only theorise but it does seem feasible that the new centre plate was produced and some proofs run off it. At that stage (this is only guessing) it was rejected because of some serious defect or maybe it was damaged beyond repair. Whatever the facts, the result is apparently that sheets were printed and have been issued but no large supply is known to exist. The efforts to keep the earlier plate in use certainly suggest that 3A, 3B no longer exists.

1/- Centre Plate 3A variety. On his (apparently rare) sheet from this plate Stuart Larsen found an unusual impression, R6/4. On this stamp all the shading is absent in a relatively broad band above, and following the line of the dress from the Queen's right shoulder (left of stamp) down to the pendant. The shading in the vicinity of the necklace and pendant shows two different instances of slight doubling; the misplacement of the doubling differs in distance, suggesting two different re-entries to the same impression. Very odd.

1/9d Plate 1A 2A Frame Varieties. Stuart Larsen calls attention to R4/3, a very minor doubling at S.W. corner, similar to that known before on R4/1. Incidentally, the lowest and right stars on R4/1 are rather weakly shaded but not strikingly so. These surely must have been retouched since in earlier prints on the coarse paper these stars and indeed most of the letters "NEW ZEALAND" are covered by an orange haze.

Reviews. The Newsletter is not of a size to allow of full scale reviews—that is, reviews that would do justice to any worthwhile work. Still, no less than four new publications lie on my desk, all worthy of reviewing and come what may, demand attention.

1. "Province of Auckland" Cancellations. This 10 page cyclostyled work in an almost new field is by R. M. Startup. The subject is a cancellation found occasionally on Fullfaces and Maori War covers. Mr. Startup, as usual, is an astonishing mine of information. The work is issued gratis by Mr. Startup and is a must for all Postal Historians.

2. "American Post Offices in New Zealand, 1908-1959" by R. M. Startup. Seventeen cyclostyled pages of incredible information (goodness alone knows where he gets it) on another almost unknown subject. How many know, for instance, that on the occasion of the 1908 visit of the U.S. "Great White Fleet", a Post Office was opened on Quay Street, Auckland, for 5 days? Here too we get such data as a list of all U.S. War vessels known to have visited N.Z. during World War II. This is another invaluable contribution to N.Z. Postal History. It is published by Laurie Franks, 567 Barbados Street, Christchurch. Price 6/-.

3. Postal History Catalogue of N.Z., Vol. 2, "Slogan Postmarks". Published by Laurie Franks with much (fully acknowledged) assistance from R. M. Startup. All known N.Z. slogan Postmarks listed, illustrated and priced. In this case much of the information is available in Volume 3 of the Handbook but it is

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Q.E. VARIETIES

Now that these are adequately described and illustrated in our Catalogue, collectors are going to find them even more interesting than before.
184 Row 6 No. 10. Variety NCV3, as illustrated Perm. Page N12, C.P. Catalogue.
 NCV3 (a) 9d Positional corner block of 6, pre-flaw state 9/-

- (g) 1/- ditto showing the second flaw 15/-
- (h) ditto showing the second retouch 12/-
- (m) 1/6d ditto showing the second flaw 25/-
- (n) 1/6d ditto showing the second retouch 17/6d
- (o) 1/9d ditto in the pre-flaw state 22/6d
- (p) 1/9d ditto showing the first flaw 25/-
- (s) 1/9d ditto showing the second retouch 18/6d
- (t) Special offer: Items (a), (p), (g) and (n) which (as can be seen) provide a block of each value and at the same time show the full progress of the series through all its phases except the scarce first retouch. This demonstration set 60/-

185 1/6d Row 8 No. 4. Variety NV11a, illustrated Perm. Page N9

- (a) Positional corner block of 8 including R8/4 with prominent flaw 22/6d
- (b) Similar to (a) but with clear evidence of the retouching done to remove the flaw 22/6d

186 1/- Row 7/7. Variety NV10d, illust. Perm. Page N9.

Positional block of 6 including printers imprint and showing retouching of some unrecorded blemish above "ZEAL" 12/-

187 1/- Row 5/2. Variety NV10c, illust. Perm. Page N9.

Positional gutter block of 8 inc. R5/2 with "W" of "NEW" showing the second retouch 16/-

188 1/ Rows 1-4, Nos 10. Variety NV10b, illust. Perm. Page N8.

- (a) Positional block of 8, four stamps showing doubling and the selvage with plate marking "£8" 16/-
- (b) Similar to (a) but with the scarce cancelling out of the "£8" and the substitution of "£4" 22/6d

188a 3d Major Retouch, Plate 22 R5/11, Variety NV5a, illust. Perm. Page N7.

Positional block of 10 showing the very extensive retouching to left background and frame. The excellent block 15/-

Q.E. Variety Illustrations. Thanks to the co-operation of our Blockmakers and Printers we have some superb illustrations of Q.E. varieties in our Catalogue this year. We think many collectors will like the idea of using these to illustrate their album pages but they can hardly cut up their Catalogues—so we have arranged it that we can offer extra sets of Permanent Pages N7 to N12. The offer is open only to owner-users of C.P. Catalogues, but such an order as many as they like—we have a good supply. Remember, if it is your intention to cut the pages up for illustrating purposes you will need two sets since the sheets are printed on both sides. You may care to buy sets for overseas N.Z. collector correspondents.

The set of 3 art paper leaves, Pages N7 to N12, just as published in the Catalogue 2/6d

1940 CENTENNIAL OFFERS

- 181 (a) The complete set of 14 (inc. 7d and 10d) finest mint 25/-
- (b) The complete set of 14, choicest used 13/6d
- (c) The scarce 7d value alone, special price, mint or used 5/-
- (d) The complete set of 14 in superb mint blocks of 4 90/-
- (e) The complete set of 14 in superb mint plate blocks (the 1/- in magnificent block of 8)—one block of each value. Will make a striking show in the album. Cat. (C.P.) approx. £11/10/0, a grand bargain £8
- (f) The very scarce 1½d Plate Block, B2, seldom seen. (Cat. £8) £7
- (g) A complete set of all the Plates used for the 10d overprint. A1, A2, C1, C2. The set of 4 blocks (bargain) 15/-
- (h) "Joined FF" set. The complete set of 8 values that appeared with the error overprint having the FF of the overprint joined—each in superb "pair with normal" and finest used. Scarce thus £7

SOME PLATE BLOCKS

- 190 **Life Insurance Pictorials.** The complete set of Plates, one to each value, in blocks 26/-
- 191 **1946 Peace Plates.** A complete set of all plates including both 1A and 1B in the 1½d and 1/- (in blocks of 4), all 1d and 2d plates (inc. 2d, 7 and 8) and an Imprint in all values that did not have plate numbers. The complete set £4
- 191a **1937 Coronation.** A complete set of all 1937 Coronation Plates and Imprint blocks. Included are eight 1d plate blocks, two 2½d and two 6d (one of which shows a re-entry). Also Imprint blocks of all three values. This is a handsome lot and excellent buying at 50/-

1959 HEALTH MINIATURE SHEETS PLATED

- Per dozen mint (Cat. £9!) 25/-
- 179 **As shown in recent Newsletters,** it is possible to find 8 different miniature sheets in each of the two 1959 Health stamps. These are recognisable by small peculiarities, details of which can be provided, though Newsletter subscribers will not need such description—having the information already. We can supply the full range of 16 different sheets—while stocks last. The set of 16 56/-

OLD SURVIVING POSTMARKS

- 207 Some two years ago we went to the trouble of getting examples on cover (2d Q.E. stamp) of some cancellers of the early days, then still in use. Most of these have since been superseded by modern types. They are: "Three ring" circles: Puysegur Point, Tawanni, Whananaki, Hukarere; "Coin" small circles: Luggate, Bell Block, Coutts Island, Papawa; "Squared circles": Pukenui, Eureka, Aorere, Kaitieke; finally, we have the Nov. 1957 Te Kaha "Relief". The set of 13 covers, to clear 10/-
- 208 **Pioneer Cover.** A folded "entire letter" posted from Wellington to Stonehaven, Scotland, February 9, 1852. The letter is from Robert Fife of "Kai Korae near Wellington" to his uncle George Fife in Scotland. He speaks of the great stir in the colonies over the discovery of gold in Australia and says "many are leaving New Zealand . . . to try their fortune as gold seekers". On the front of the letter there are pen figures "8" in black and "2" in red, a very fine strike of the Wellington "Crowned circle" in brown-red and unexplained letters "C R", likewise stamped in brown-red. On the back appears the Wellington circular mark in black, "Wellington-New Zealand FE 9-1852-A", the words forming the circle around the date; also British circle-marks "BI-16 JU 16-1852" in red and "Stonehaven—Jn 17-1852" in olive-green. The whole piece is in excellent condition for its age. Price £8
- 209 **Adverts on Second Sides.** We have a splendid range of the adverts.
- (a) 1d First Setting. These are quite scarce. We offer in small selections, all different ads fine used, 8 different at 14/-
- (b) 2d First Setting. Again difficult to find, 8 diff. at 14/-
- (c) 1d and 2d. Second or Third settings. Selected copies in fine used, all different ads, per dozen 14/-
- (d) 1d, the very scarcest of this value, with green advert fine used, each 5/-
- (e) 2d, the good issue with green advert, fine used, each 3/-
- (f) 1d. The scarce issue with blue advert, good used, each 4/6d
- (g) A set of 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d and 6d values, all with ads, one of each value in quite good, if not immaculate, condition. Set of 5 20/-
- 210 **1925 Pictorial rarity.** The 2/- perf 14 x 13½ from Plate 2 in the heavily blurred double print (one albino)—a perfect mint horizontal pair with bottom selvedge. The double print can be seen on the stamps but even more clearly on the selvedge where the colourless impression stands out with great clarity. This is a major and (in this form) definitely rare variety. The albino pair, mint £12

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none the less a most useful effort and invaluable for specialists in its pricing of all known slogans, on cover. Cyclostyled, price not stated.

4. "Timaru 100 years of Postal Services". By R. D. J. Collins. The author, not to be confused with Mr. R. J. G. Collins of Christchurch, has written a very fine little booklet, profusely illustrated and excellently printed on art paper. The postal history of the district is very fully covered and one can only hope that other keen specialists will eventually do the same service for their cities as Mr. Collins has for his. Published by Laurie Franks, price 5/-.

Anyone requiring any of these works should apply to the publishers. The reasonable thing (particularly in the case of No. 1 above) would be to enclose return postage with order. No. 1 is a limited issue of 50 copies so is hardly likely to be available.

A good Design. As an action picture of genuine appeal I recommend Australia's recent 4d "Birth of the Post Office". The artist has captured the spirit and movement of the scene, even something of the romance and excitement of the pioneering days. One could wish that some of our "action" stamps, (Healts of 1951, 1954, 1956-1958 for horrible examples) were half as lively as this one. The fact is that not one of them, except possibly the green 1957, is anything but dead and stiff; more suitable for a hoarding or a match box top. Action, like anatomy, is a good thing to avoid in art unless you have that magic something that makes a good picture, and that magic something has to apply all along the line. A poor engraver will spoil an artist's work—a poor artist gives the engraver little chance; a poor printer or a poor paper, can make all other efforts futile. Where the fault lies in our N.Z. issues is hard to pinpoint perhaps, but the end results are often deplorable.

GEORGE VI OFFICIAL PLATES (seldom offered)

174 M1a ½d green Pl 2	7/6d
M2c 1d green fine paper Pl's 32, 33, each	4/-
M2d 1d green coarse paper Pl's 43, 49, 53, 66 ea. 12/6d; Pl 85	15/-
M2d as above Pl's 122, 123, 124, 125, each	5/-
M4a 1½d chocolate Pl 21 L or R, ea.	40/-
M4c 1½d red Pl's 132, 136, each	8/6d
M6a 2d yellow Pl's 46, 12/6d; Pl 54, 7/6d; Pl 55	40/-
M6a as above, Pl's 61, 62, 76, 140, 145, each	4/6d
M6b coarse H.M. paper. Pl's 86,	
87, each	20/-
M12a 9d sepia	
Pl 97	10/-
M7c 3d blue Pl's	
57, 58, 69, ea.	5/-
M13a 1/- Die I	
Pl 1-1	15/-
M8b 4d mauve	
Pl190	4/6d
M15b 2/- sideways	
wmk Pl 1-1	15/-
M10a 6d carm.	
Pl 98	7/6d

HERE AND THERE

386 **Map Stamp**—wholesale quantities. We have a large quantity of the 1d Map (1923) mint. These we can supply as follows: Per doz. 3/-; per 5 doz 12/6d; per 10 doz

146 1957 Healths, Upright Watermark. Apart from variety pieces we consider the "Beach Scenes" Healths with upright watermark as the most promising of recent years. They came, it will be recalled, only in Miniature sheets. We can supply both mint and used.	
(a) Miniature Sheets—the two values with upright watermark. The pair of sheets	20/-
(b) Mint block of four, either value	9/-
(c) Mint or used single, either value	2/6d