

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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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT by Peter Oldham Centenary of Telegraph in New Zealand

The two stamps were placed on sale on 1st June and in keeping with other recent issues, the photogravure method of printing has been employed. The 3d stamp was designed by Mr. A. G. Mitchell and the 8d by his father, Mr. L. C. Mitchell. They are printed in sheets of 120 by Messrs. Harrison & Sons and are in two colours. Both sheets carry the Plate No. 1A 1A in the bottom right-hand corner of the selvedge and half-way down the selvedge on the right-hand side are the words G GREEN G BROWN on the 3d and G BLACK G RED on the 8d, in corresponding colours. I do not know what the letter G signifies, but no doubt some of our readers may be able to tell me.

Mr. Owen Kemp, of Auckland has made a careful study of the 3d sheet and has sent me a list of flaws and retouches which he has detected. I am at present checking his information and will publish a list of our findings at a later date.

STOP PRESS — These Centenary stamps have been quick off the mark with a missing colour. In the 3d value the green colouring consists of a light and heavy shade. I have just seen a vertical strip with 2 stamps (probably complete horizontal rows), with the lighter shade completely missing. The effect of this is to produce a white sky and partially white (or snow clad) hills.

Continued from June Newsletter . . .

Investigating Gum Application in Stamp Production

By A. G. AREND (Reproduced from "Stamp Collecting")

No More "Fracturing"

One of the important features is that curling must be minimised, which is always more difficult to achieve where paper is coated, and it would be undesirable to have sheets of stamps which would not normally lie flat. Formerly the gummed product was drawn over a knife edge in such a way that it was bent backwards away from the gummed side, in the operation known as "breaking" or "fracturing." When so treated the surface of the gum on the paper is seen to be broken or crazed, which minimises curling, and which crude method sufficed in earlier stamp production methods. Today various softening agents are added to render the milo starch more flexible and obviate the need for breaking.

Where stamps were destined for tropical regions it was frequently necessary to be very careful in the matter of adding softening agents, otherwise a stack of stamp sheets might finish up as a solid block of paper.

Modern methods avoid this danger. The sheets of stamps show no tendency to stick together, even in the humidity of the tropics, because the critical limits are under control.

Many old stamps show the "crazed" appearance on the gum, because the paper has been deliberately put through the breaking operation to minimise the possibility of curling. Modern stamps, even before the introduction of milo starch as adhesive, rarely show any evidence of crazing.

It should be understood that gumming falls into three different categories. For very strong adhesion where taste is of no account, select glues are used, but for envelopes, dextrine or a general purpose adhesive which may be licked, is

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**CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD., Room 44, 4th Floor, Lewis Eady
Bldg., Queen St., Auckland, C.1. Telephone 49-118. Box 5555.**

Edward VII Mint Blocks

½d Green

887	A set of mint blocks. Four fine shades; deep green, green, deep yellow-green, pale yellow-green. A very nice showing	17/6
888	Ditto. A mint block	4/6

2d Mauve

889	A set of mint blocks. A handsome lot of 4 blocks; deep mauve, rosy-mauve and two shades of the pale rosy-mauve. The four blocks	40/-
890	Ditto. A mint block	10/-

3d Chestnut

891	Perf 14 x 14½ blocks. Three fine blocks; bistre-brown, chestnut and deep chestnut. Most attractive	50/-
892	Ditto. A mint block	18/-
893	Perf 14 x 13½. One of the scarcest of the Edwards. Here we have a truly superb mint block of four	75/-
894	Perf 14. Another scarce stamp in fine mint block of four	55/-
895	Combined Perfs. Vertical pairs in block. The staggering of the perfs has made one horizontal pair off-centre and there is a slight crease on one stamp, but this is nevertheless a desirable and very scarce block (Cat. C.P. £7)	100/-

4d Orange

896	Perf 14 x 14½ blocks. Shades are not very commonly seen in this stamp, but here we have two blocks in widely divergent shades mint. The two blocks	32/6
897	Ditto. A mint block	17/6
898	Perf 14. Again two excellent shades in mint blocks in a stamp not noted for wide divergence. Two blocks	32/6
899	Ditto. A mint block	17/6

4d Yellow

900	Perf 14 x 14½. Two fine shades in mint blocks. The two blocks	25/-
901	Ditto. A mint block	13/6

5d Brown

902	Perf 14. Two mint blocks, scarce — thus a fine contrast	60/-
903	Ditto. A mint block	30/-
904	Perf 14 x 14½. No less than four excellent shades in blocks, mint. A very handsome showing	80/-
905	Ditto. A mint block	20/-
906	Perf 14 x 13½. Two superb shades in mint blocks. The two blocks ..	40/-
907	Ditto. A mint block	20/-
908	Combined perfs. Two fine mint blocks in the two perfs with strikingly contrasting shades	62/6
909	Ditto. A single block in the two perfs	32/6

6d Carmine

910	Perf 14. A fine mint block of this scarce stamp	47/6
911	Perf 14 x 13½. A superb mint block of four of this rarity	65/-
912	Combined perfs. A fine mint block in the two perfs. Probably the rarest of the Edwards	150/-

8d Blue

913	Perf 14 x 14½. Four fine shades, a wonderful range of colour. The four mint blocks	120/-
914	Ditto. Indigo blue. A fine mint block	24/-
915	Ditto. Deep bright blue. A fine mint block	37/6
916	Perf 14 x 13½. Two fine mint blocks in deep indigo and deep bright blue	65/-
917	Ditto. A fine mint block in the deep bright blue shade	30/-
918	Combined perfs. Two mint blocks, fine contrasting shades	80/-
919	Ditto. A mint block	40/-
920	Pictorial paper (perf 14, sideways wmk). Two fine mint blocks in good contrasting shades	37/6
921	Ditto. A mint block	20/-

1/- Vermilion

922	Perf 14. A superb mint block of 4	65/-
923	Perf 14 x 14½. A mint block of 4. We find this a scarce block these days	70/-

Edward VII in Sets

924	Perf 14 x 14½ complete set. 2d, 3d (2 shades), 4d orange, 4d yellow, 5d (2 shades), 6d, 8d (2 shades), 1/-.	The complete mint set of 11	65/-
925	Ditto, but without shades and including 4 orange and yellow.	The complete mint set of 8	50/-
926	Ditto.	The complete set of 8 fine used	10/-
927	Perf 14 x 13½ complete set. 3d, 5d (2 shades), 6d 8d (2 shades).	The mint set of 6	60/-
928	Ditto, but without shades.	The complete mint set of 4	45/-
929	Ditto.	The complete set of 4 fine used	25/-
930	Perf 14 line, complete set. 3d, 4d orange 5d (2 shades), 6d, 1/- and the 8d (2 shades) on Pictorial paper.	The mint set of 8	65/-
931	Ditto, but without shades.	The complete mint set of 6	55/-

Edwards for the General Collector

Perf 14 x 15:	Mint	Used		Mint	Used
H1a ½d green	1/-	1d	H6c 6d carmine	17/6	15/-
Perf 14 x 14½:			H7c 8d blue	7/-	6d
H2a 2d mauve	2/6	1/-	Perf 14 line:		
H3a 3d chestnut	4/-	4d	H3d 3d chestnut	15/-	1/3
H4a 4d orange	4/-	4/6	H4b 4d orange	4/-	4/3
H4c 4d yellow	3/3	1/6	H5a 5d brown	7/-	1/9
H5b 5d brown	4/6	8d	H6a 6d carmine	12/-	2/-
H6b 6d carmine	11/6	3d	H8a 1/- vermilion	15/-	2/6
H7b 8d indigo	5/6	9d	Pictorial paper:		
H8b 1/- vermilion	15/-	1/9	H7e 8d indigo	5/-	—
Perf 14 x 13½:			Vert. Pairs:		
H3c 3d chestnut	20/-	16/-	H3d 3d chestnut	65/-	—
H5c 5d brown	4/6	6d	H5d 5d brown	15/-	—
			H7d 8d blue	17/6	—

Edwards "Official"

Perf 14 x 15:	Mint	Used	Perf 14 x 14½:	Mint	Used
OH1a ½d green	1/-	1d	OH3a 3d chestnut	1/3	3d
Perf 14 x 13½:			OH6b 6d carmine	2/-	9d
OH3c 3d chestnut	35/-	—	OH7b 8d blue	2/6	3/-
OH7c 8d blue	2/-	3/-	OH8b 1/- vermilion	4/-	2/-
Vert. Pairs:					
OH7d 8d blue	12/6	—			

Cook Islands

932	George V surface prints (S.G. 50-54 inc.). A mint set of 5 (S.G. Cat. 6/11)	5/-
933	1925 Pictorials (S.G. 81, 82). The pair mint. The ½d value a little off-centre, but this is reflected in the price (S.G. Cat. 4/6)	2/6
934	1d Grey black and carmine (S.G. 82), with crane re-entry	5/-
935	2d on 1½d (S.G. 93, 94). The mint pair, one with and one without wmk	4/-
936	1933 Pictorials (S.G. 106-112 inc.). The mint set of 7 (S.G. Cat. 15/9)	11/6
937	2/- Admiral (S.G. 116), mint, 8/-; fine used	12/6
938	3/- Admiral (S.G. 117), mint, 12/-; fine used	17/6
939	1937 Coronation , mint set of 3	1/3
940	As above , mint set of plate blocks	5/-
941	1/- George VI (S.G. 127). Single wmk. Mint	2/6
942	2/- Pictorial (S.G. 128). Single wmk. Mint	4/-
943	3/- Pictorial (S.G. 129). Single wmk. Mint	6/-
944	3d on 1½d (S.G. 130). Mint	6d
945	1944 Pictorials (S.G. 131-139 inc.). The mint set of 9, multiple wmk, to the 3/- value (S.G. Cat. 19/3)	14/-
946	2/6 Arms Type (S.G. 140). Mult wmk, mint	4/-
947	5/- Arms Type (S.G. 141). Mult wmk, mint	6/-
948	10/- Arms Type (S.G. 142). Mult wmk. Fine used	15/-
949	£1 Arms Type (S.G. 143). Mult wmk. Mint	22/6
950	1946 Peace issue (S.G. 146-149 inc.). The mint set of 4	2/-
951	1949 Pictorials (S.G. 150-159 inc.). The mint set of 10	10/-
952	1933 Coronation . The mint pair	1/6
953	1/6 on 5d (S.G. 162). Mint, 1/9; fine used	1/6

Colonial Corner

Gilbert and Ellice Islands

954	½d Green (S.G. 1). Edward VII stamps of Fiji overprinted and issued as a temporary measure. Fine used single (S.G. Cat. 25/-)	15/-
955	1d Red (S.G. 2), as above. Fine used (S.G. Cat. 35/-)	22/6
956	2d Grey (S.G. 3), as above. Used (S.G. Cat. 15/-)	10/-
957	The three stamps as above (S.G. Cat. 75/-)	42/6
958	½d Green (S.G. 1), as above. Fine used on piece with clear and complete circular cancellation used on BUTARITARI ISLAND. The piece	20/-
959	½d Green (S.G. 1). A fine used block with clean, clear postmark. First day of issue at TARAWA ISLAND, 1st Jan., 1911 (S.G. Cat. 100/-)	65/-
960	1d Red (S.G. 2), as above (S.G. Cat. 140/-)	90/-
961	2d Grey (S.G. 3), as above (S.G. Cat. 60/-)	30/-
962	2½d Ultramarine (S.G. 4), as above (S.G. Cat. 80/-)	50/-
963	5d Purple and olive green (S.G. 5), as above (S.G. Cat. 90/-)	55/-
964	The 5 blocks as above, all first day of issue on TARAWA ISLAND. Fine used (S.G. Cat. £23/10/-)	£14
965	½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d values (S.G. 8-11 inc.), all on piece with fine clear circular postmarks, used on BUTARITARI ISLAND and dated 12 Mar., 1912 (S.G. Cat. 28/-). The complete set of 4	20/-
966	1935 Silver Jubilee. A fine used set of 4 (S.G. Cat. 87/6)	60/-
967	1939 Pictorials (S.G. 43-50 inc.). A short set of 8 to the 6d value, mint S.G. Cat. 7/9)	4/6
968	As above (S.G. 43-51 inc.). A mint set of 9 to the 1/- value (S.G. Cat. 11/9)	6/6
969	As above (S.G. 43-54 inc.). The complete mint set of 12 to the 5/- value (S.G. Cat. 29/6)	17/6
970	As above (S.G. 43-51 inc.). A set of 9 in mint blocks to the 1/- value (S.G. Cat. 47/-)	27/6
971	1937 Coronation. The mint set of 3	1/3
972	As above. Mint blocks	5/-
973	1949 Silver Wedding. The mint pair	22/6
974	1949 U.P.U. The mint set of 4 (S.G. Cat. 7/-)	4/6
975	1953 Coronation. Fine mint	6d

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substituted. Stamps are different in that both strength and absence of taste are necessary and gum arabic was formerly largely used, i.e., prior to the modern dextrines.

Tested by Machine

In testing methods used to determine the strength of the adhesive itself the paper selected for making the stamps has the underside coated with a solution of the milo starch dextrine composition. This is done so that 5, 10 and 15 per cent of solid matter is added, according to the adhesive character of this preparation. As a basis for comparison, the ratio of the tearing strength to the adhesive content gives a rough criterion. In the first place, a strip of the gummed paper to be used for the stamps, 2in. by lin., is bent across the centre without creasing, so as to produce two square areas. One of these is placed with the gummed side downwards for three seconds on a piece of blotting paper containing as much water as it will readily absorb. Without delay, this surface is then applied to the top or ungummed side of a similar strip of paper. The two are then pressed together by rolling six times with the roller used in a standard test apparatus, and after a period of one minute the strips are torn apart in an instrument made for the purpose. Should the paper and not the adhesive joint tear then the test must be repeated by sticking the sample on a paper of stronger disposition.

Briefly, the instrument comprises a sector-shaped plate hanging from its apex on a substantially frictionless bearing and free to swing in its own plane in pendulum fashion. This pendulum may be held in a raised position for releasing instantaneously, when it will then swing to virtually the same height on the other side of its normal vertical position, while the maximum arc through which the sector travels is indicated by a pointer. There is a scale on the sector which is graduated in 100 divisions to show the work in grams per centimetre necessary to tear the specimen apart.

Other tests relate to determining the extent of humidity and temperature which the stamp papers can withstand without showing any disposition to stick together, while perforating cleanly.

Gum application in modern stamp production is thus vastly superior to any methods previously introduced and is the outcome of extensive researches.