

Campbell Paterson's NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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This Newsletter gives valuable information. Retain it for reference purposes. Vol. 13, No. 3 — OCTOBER, 1961. Issued Monthly.—Subscriptions, 6/- per annum. All lots offered subject to being unsold and will be sent on approval to known clients. Complete satisfaction is guaranteed on all lots offered.

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT by Peter Oldham

All who have seen this year's Christmas stamp will agree that it is very colourful and certainly a great improvement over last year. The colour toning affect is created by a yellowish wash over the picture section, and I have already seen stamps with this wash sufficiently misplaced to reveal colours far more brilliant than intended. This misplacement of colour is sufficient to tinge with yellow the bottom of the letters NEW ZEALAND, while at the bottom of the picture part of the stone wheel to the left is a pink shade and the green step in the centre is blue.

Two contrasting shades have already been recorded, the most outstanding differences being in the sky and the yellow colouring.

It would seem that this stamp was issued just in the nick of time, as stocks of the 2½d overprint are in very short supply and were in danger of becoming exhausted.

A Rise in Prices

"Stamp Collecting" of 18th August, 1961, reports that one of the most surprising features of the season just ended was the steady rise in prices paid at auction, and elsewhere, for stamps of all kinds. This year, more than any other we can recollect, choice items have created new records. It is, perhaps, understandable that fine classic pieces which pass through the auction room when a great collection is dispersed invariably realise higher prices than on their previous passages through the same rooms. Such pieces are becoming fewer and fewer as the ravages of age take their toll. Careful handling will preserve many of them for years to come, but inevitably some no longer justify the description "superb" and those that do find willing buyers.

Granted that the increases in value are right and proper in these instances, we are still puzzled at the realisations for comparatively common stamps which, however, are still on their original covers. Time and again stamps catalogued at anything from £10 to £20 sell at three and four times that figure on cover, not because there are any special postal markings which stimulate bids from keen postal historians, but simply because they are on cover. True, in this state they are many times rarer than off cover and it can only be assumed that the vogue for collecting stamps on cover is playing its part in producing these results. The growth of interest in postal history bids fair to ensure the maintenance of these prices.

Parcel Postage Labels of New Zealand

by R. M. Startup

Prepayment of postage on parcels by a gummed label, instead of a postage stamp, has become increasingly common in the United Kingdom and Australia since World War II. US America uses postage franking machines for this purpose. After some months of experimenting the New Zealand Post Office brought parcel-label issuing machines into regular use in March, 1961, on the parcel counters of the busy main Post Offices. At these counters and parcel branches hundreds of parcels may be handled in a single day, and previously postage stamps have had to be affixed to each parcel. During the experiments it was found that considerable time was taken in assessing postage, separating and affixing postage stamps, but when postage label-issuing machines were brought into use handling of parcels was speeded up to the extent that bulk-postings were being handled in half the time normally taken.

The successful use of label-issuing machines in Australia led to the trials in New Zealand. A "National" machine, similar to the Australian machines, was obtained and brought into use for trials at the Parcels Branch of the Chief Post Office, Wellington, on the 11th December, 1959. This machine is still in use there,

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

Full Face Queen Sets

In the September Newsletter I offered a set of 10 of the **Richardson Prints** (S.G. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17) in good condition with light cancellation, for £120. I also offered a set of 16 of the **Davies Prints** (S.G. 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, (2), 42, 43 (3), 44, 45, 46) in generally good condition with attractive postmarks, for £85. Neither of these sets were sold and I can only assume that readers expected them to sell so quickly that they thought they would be too late to put in a bid. Stanley Gibbons have just increased the catalogue values in their 1962 Part 1, from £315 to £345 for the **Richardson**, and from £140/10/- to £151 for the **Davies**, but despite this increase in value over the last couple of months, we are still prepared to offer them at our original price. Why not ask to see on approval? We have many other **Full Face Queens** in approval books and available for your inspection.

558	The Richardson Prints set of 10 (one set only)	£120
559	The Davies Prints set of 16 (to the first order)	£85

Varieties Add Interest To Your Collection !

560	(a) 1959 2d + 1d Health used copies of R5/6 showing clear touching up of bird's larger wing. Each	4/6
	(b) 1933 Health R3/3 "rift in clouds" flaw — mint in pair with normal	35/-
	(c) 1946 Health 1d + ½d yellow-green frame shade mint. Each	5/-
	(d) 1959 Red Cross R12/2 showing five islands below S. America instead of customary four. Mint blocks four. Each	4/-
	(e) As above R1/1 with clear flaw on south coast of Greenland. Each	4/-
	(f) As above R7/5 showing touching up of south coast of Greenland. Each	4/-
	(g) Row 1 No. 1 flaw as in "e," used. Each	2/6
	(h) Row 11 No. 6 showing touching up at South Pole and one of the islands below S. America touched out. Used each	2/6
	(i) Row 13 No. 5 touching up of top right shading in flag. Used each	1/6
	(j) 6d Otago Cent. R6/6 "gun on turret" flaw. Mint block four	5/-
	(k) 2d Marlboro Cent. R13/6 touch up of sky under E of NEW. Mint block four	3/6
	(l) As above R20/1 touch up to sky behind rear mast	2/6
	(m) R14/3 major touching up of sky and around bow. Block six	8/6
	(n) 3d Marlboro block of eight partial double perfs	12/6
	(o) 8d Marlboro R9/2 touching up below E of NEW. Block four	7/6
	(p) F4b (S.G. 342) with watermark inverted and reversed. Used	15/-
	(q) Ed. VII complete set of four values 3d, 5d, 6d, 8d in two-perf pairs plus an extra outstanding shade of the 5d. Five pairs in immaculate condition. Cat. £10/10/-	£10
561	Red Cross. An exceptionally neat and well laid out little mounted collection of these stamps featuring covers, flaws and retouches, etc. Seven delightful pages, some with pen sketches	47/6
562	(a) 1940 Cent. " Joined FF " set. The complete set of 8 values in appropriate pairs and strips: Mint, one only	£5
	(b) A representative of the above variety. The 2d value only, in mint block four. Each	10/-
563	(a) Geo. V 4d violet Row 4 No. 10 "clubfoot" re-entry. Used copy	15/-
	(b) As above but Row 1 No. 6 re-entry to right of top panel. Used	12/6
564	The 4d Meat Export inverted watermark. The variety showing "stars pointing right." Mint, each	12/6
565	(a) 1d red Second Sideface " Chisel flaw. " Row 9 No. 2. The major elongated white flaw in the Queen's hair. Perf 11 mint, 2/6, used	1/6
	(b) As above perf 10. Used	2/6
	(c) As above scarce perf 12 x 11½. Used	7/6
	(d) The equally large Row 9 No. 2 flaws to top and right frames. Perf 10, used	2/6
568	Geo. V ½d Green War Stamp ovpt. varieties. Small mint set of four, all different, constant variations to the lettering of WAR STAMP. The set of four	6/-

Queen Elizabeth Plate Varieties

569	(a) N12b, 1/9 Pl. 1B 2B R5/10 clear re-entry to top left frame, R6/10 retouch to shading on Queen's left shoulder. In mint block of four, the other two stamps showing doubling of lines of the collar. The mint block	20/-
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- (b) A superb little set of ten **mint pairs** for a budding specialist made up of 1/- x 2 (R7/7 1A 2A, R5/2 frame retouches), 1/6 x 3 (R8/4 1A 2A frame flaw and retouch—right vert frame also re-entered, R3/4 1B 2B, major frame flaw), 1/9 x 5 (R5/10 1B 2B, frame re-entry on both original paper and thick paper, R5/10 1A 2A series of three flaws, retouch and re-entry to letters of NEW). A special set — a special price, **but one only** £4
- (c) Another set of mint pairs, this time based on one of the best known Q.E. plate series, i.e., **Row 6 No. 10 from Pl 1B 2B**. Our offer, while stocks last, is made up of 4 mint pairs: 9d normal, 1/9 original flaw on Queen's shoulder, 1/- or 1/6 second flaw (on site of previous flaw), 1/-, 1/6 or 1/9 showing the impression retouched. The set 35/-
- (d) **3d Row 5 No. 11 retouch Pl 22**. One of the major retouches known in the Q.E. stamps showing redrawing of part of left frame line, the left hand background lines approaching the outline of the Queen, shading on collar, some letters of NEW ZEALAND, etc. In mint block four 10/-
- (e) **1/9 Row 4 No. 1 retouch Pl 1A 2A**. A retouch to the frame lines in lower left corner. A nice specialist piece, on the later thick white paper. In mint block four 14/-
- (f) **1/9 Row 5 No. 10 Pl 1A 2A**. Another series of real interest to specialists, consisting of three blocks of 8 showing (1) clear flaws on 9d of 1/9 and NE of NEW, (2) flaws partially touched out, (3) flaws completely removed and stamp re-entered. Apart from their interest value, these are extremely attractive blocks with full "engine turned" design gutter selvage and Plate No. 1A 2A. The three blocks 70/-
- (g) As above but in blocks four showing varieties only and excluding Plate No. The three blocks 45/-
- (h) **1/6 Row 8 No. 4 Pl 1A 2A**. Two positional blocks of eight, one showing the sizeable flaw which developed in the top frame, the other showing clear retouch. Both blocks also show R8/4 to be re-entered in the right vertical frame. If you have ever had any doubts as to what a genuine flaw and subsequent retouch look like, these are classic examples. The two blocks 45/-
- (i) **1/- Row 5 No. 2 Pl 1B 2B retouch**. Positional block with gutter selvage showing redrawing of W of NEW and one of the horiz. panel lines above. Study also reveals a fairly considerable redrawing of the left frame of R7/1, making this a block of considerable specialist merit. The block 16/-
- (j) As above R5/2, retouch only, in block four 8/6
- (k) **1/- Row 7 No. 7 Pl 1A 2A**. A neat lower selvage block of six inclusive of the Imprint lettering and R7/7 retouch to short panel dashes below insignia on the Queen's dress 12/-
- (l) **1/- Rows 1-4 No. 10 Pl 1B 2B re-entries**. Four clear frame re-entries to right panel in attractive corner selvage block of eight with sheet value "£8." The block 16/-
- (m) As above but with substituted value marking of £4 /£8/. The block 22/6
- (n) **8d Row 6 No. 16 Pl 20 retouch**. A really good retouch to the shading on Queen's shoulder and left background lines adjacent to the Queen's neck. Scarce because discovered shortly before withdrawal. Block of four 25/-

Q.E. 1/- Blurred Centre

- 570 From experience we know this to be a double impression (one albino). Although the uninked impression is not visible on the stamp the distinct blurring of the central vignette makes this an outstanding variety. The few we have in stock are from a coil roll and show traces of guillotining of right hand perfs. No Q.E. collector can pass up this opportunity. Mint, each 90/-

Coil Pair Sets

- 566 (a) **Geo. VI Scarce original rubber stamped numerals**. Six pairs 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d. The set 27/6
- (b) Later machine stamped numerals. Nine pairs 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d, 9d, 1/-, 1/3 35/-
- (c) **Queen Eliz.** original design pairs 2d-8d plus original vertical formation 9d, 1/-, 1/6 and 1/9. Nine pairs 40/-
- (d) Later issues in new "large figure of value" designs. Five pairs 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 8d 12/6

- (c) 1960 Pictorial complete set of 8 values 2d - 1/9 with red numerals 29/-
 567 Individual offers of scarcer black numeral pairs in the 1960 Pictorials:
 (a) 2d value at 2/3, 1/- at 8/6, 1/6 at 10/6

Ever Seen Sideface Advertisement Stamp Reconstructions?

We count ourselves fortunate to be in a position to offer reconstructions of the four panes of 60 which go to make a complete sheet of these fascinating stamps. Very seldom offered and a real link with early philatelic history.

- 571 (a) A genuine reconstruction of the 1d value third setting in mauve ink with each stamp correctly plated on both sides. A big task involving hours of work. Cheap at our price of £20
 (b) As above but 2d value in red brown ink £20
 (c) The 1d value third setting in red-brown but with emphasis on the advertisements only. This sheet illustrates correct placing of the 240 advertisements but not necessarily of stamps as per the printing plate £13/10/-

Rare Island Die Proofs

- 572 Die Proofs seldom come on to the market. Some Dependencies collector is going to welcome our offer for the 1920 Aitutaki 3d and 6d values at £19 each or the two £36

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no changes having been made to either the machine or to its impression.

A "Setright" label-issuing machine, of the type introduced in the United Kingdom in 1951, was placed on trials on 16th August, 1960, alongside the "National" machine at Wellington, but was withdrawn from use 2nd September, 1960.

The trial "National" machine proving so successful under New Zealand parcel handling conditions that a further six machines were obtained and brought into use. Further machines will possibly be introduced on parcel counters of other large or main Post Offices later. The new machines were introduced on 13th March at Chief Post Office, Dunedin, 14th March Moray Place P.O., Dunedin, 16th March Albert Street Parcels Branch, Chief Post Office, Auckland (two machines), Auckland East P.O., and at Hereford Street Parcels Depot, Chief Post Office, Christchurch. A seventh machine was placed on trial on 10th March at the Te Aro P.O., a city-suburban Post Office in Wellington.

The "National" machine supplied by National Cash Register Company (N.Z.) Ltd. is a cash register adapted to print and issue gummed postage labels of any value to £1/19/11½ and is operated by pressing the value keys. The labels issued by the machine are on stout whitish paper with colourless gum, measuring about 58 x 58 mm. Printed in dull red (magenta) at Dunedin and Moray Place, and originally at Wellington), the inscription on the label reads

AUCKLAND EAST, N.Z.

POSTAGE PAID

JUN 19 61 *0.1.0

There are no demonstrable differences in the inscriptions from the two Auckland machines.

The "Setright" machine, supplied by Setright Registers Ltd. of London, England, is a machine specially designed for issuing labels up to a value of 19/11. This electrically operated machine is set by turning two concentric dials, one for shilling values, the other for pence, and operated by pressing a button. This machine was introduced for trials at Kilbirnie, a Wellington suburban Post Office, on 17th July, 1961.

Impressions from this machine are similar to the "T.I.M." machine which had been under trials at Wellington March - August, 1950 (see pages 454-455, Vol. III Handbook). In the left panel the inscription reads PARCEL POST / PAID in two lines, while in the right panel, which simulates perforations, only the value is shown. The name KILBIRNIE / NEW ZEALAND is shown in two lines across the top between the two panels.

"Setright" labels are produced on white paper 58 x 28 mm, with the inscription in pinkish red. These labels are imperforate, while the "National" labels are imperforate vertically, but are perforated 17 (from "tear off" edge) horizontally.

The labels are used for both inland and overseas parcels and, as they show the date of issue, they are not cancelled or postmarked. Normally they are not issued to the public, as with "T.I.M." labels, but are placed directly on each parcel by the counter clerk. Philatelists, to obtain examples, will find it necessary to arrange for "philatelic" packets from each office or to watch discarded wrappings.