

Campbell Paterson's NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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

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Vol. 13, No. 9 — APRIL, 1962. Issued Monthly—Subscriptions, 6/- per annum.

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT by Peter Oldham

Current Pictorials With Colours Missing

With the discovery of another missing colour this month, I think it is time to take stock of the position. The latest find is the $\frac{1}{2}$ d without green, and this brings the total varieties of this nature seen by me in this issue to nine. Those I have positively identified are: $\frac{1}{2}$ d no green, 1d no orange, 2d no black and no yellow, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d no brown, 3d no green, no yellow and no brown, 9d no red. I have also received reports of the $\frac{3}{4}$ d without blue and 6d without mauve. I have not seen the last two, but in any case they must be considered only minor, as the missing colour referred to is the shading on the petals of the flowers and is not outstanding.

Most readers will have discovered by now that although Stanley Gibbons list some of these varieties at high prices, they usually change hands at a very much lower figure. This is understandable, because the issue is still current and there is always the possibility that more may turn up. The current life of all issues is limited however and once this set has been replaced, I think Stanley Gibbons prices may be far more realistic than they appear today. It is very difficult to estimate accurately the numbers of each variety issued, but I doubt whether any of them amount to more than a hundred or so. In many cases it is much less than this; for instance, it is reasonably certain that only five copies of the 1d without orange exist and some of these are damaged. It can be seen, therefore, that they are all rarities, but the fear that more may appear at a late date has depressed them well below their true value. In my opinion this is an ideal time to pick up cheap copies because I feel confident that eventually they will be changing hands at much higher prices.

I have recently read several articles on stamp production and printing, and from time to time I will publish some of them in the Newsletter. One thing emerges very clearly, however, and that is that there are methods of printing which are superior and cheaper than that employed in the production of our own photogravure stamps. Both the French and Americans have produced some very fine specimens without misplaced or missing colours and some of the thematic sets issued by many of the smaller and lesser known countries are real works of art and the essence of perfection. In stamp production, as with any other manufactured article on the market today, it is essential to move with the times and to take advantage of new processes and ideas as they become available.

Postscript to the "Breathing Lake"

Dr. R. D. McDiarmid of Port Chalmers has written to me regarding "The Lake That Breathes," published in our March Newsletter. He points out that the inability of scientists to explain its ebb and flow every five minutes is a misconception. In 1912 the "Canterbury Times" made the following statement: "More recently the lake movement was investigated by the Science Society of the University of Otago, who reported that it was obviously *seiche* action, already well known in lakes overseas, that produced oscillation in Lake Wakatipu." This may mean something to somebody, but it is getting far too technical for me. I think I had better stick to stamps in future, as suggested by another reader.

The 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d Pictorial Is Not Buried Yet, by Jack Keatley

The theory that this stamp is being printed from similarly numbered plates has got to be abandoned in its infancy. Mr. Campbell Watts (late of Stamps Div.,

(Continued on back page)

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

1d Dominion

As in most other sections at present, our stock of the Dominion stamp is very strong. We urge you not to miss this opportunity because the range is unusually wide.

719	De La Rue paper S.G. 450:	
	(a) Set of four shades carm, dull carm, purp carm and blurred (from Booklet). The four	6/-
	(b) Used set as above with additional "pink" shade. The five	2/6
	(c) Mint block of four	3/-
710	Jones paper S.G. 520:	
	(a) carmine, mint 1/6, used 4d. (b) deep carmine, mint	1/6
	A special offer of two highly unusual shades of the Jones paper — a pale dull carmine and a bright reddish carmine. These two magnificent shades	10/-
711	De La Rue Unsurfaced S.G. 524:	
	(a) Mint singles, 2/6. (b) Mint block of four	9/-
712	De La Rue sideways wmk paper S.G. 526:	
	(a) Carmine or deep carmine, mint. Each	6d
	(b) Stamp with clear "letter" watermark, mint. Each	2/-
	(c) Stamp entirely without watermark, mint. Each	4/-
	(d) Two stamps, the normal wmk, one inverted, mint. The two	1/-
	(e) Mint block of four, all stamps "no watermark"	15/-
	(f) Mint strips of three, wmk, letter wmk, no wmk. Each	6/-
	(g) Mint block of four, normal wmk	2/-
	(h) As above, inverted wmk	3/-
713	Litho Watermark S.G. 528:	
	(a) Set of four interesting colour variations of watermark, pale green, blue-green, yellow-green and blackish green, mint. This latter is one of the scarcer types. The four	15/-
	(b) The "almost colourless" watermark, mint	5/-
	(c) Set of three used pale green, blue-green, yellow-green	15/-
	(e) Mint block of four	2/-
714	Cowan paper S.G. 531:	
	(a) Deep carmine, mint, 1/6. (b) carmine or deep carmine, used. Ea.	2d
715	Cowan Reversed Watermark S.G. —:	
	(a) Carmine, mint, 3/6; used	3d
	(b) Mint block of four	12/-
	(c) As above, but showing clear plate wear from top of sheet	14/-
716	Wiggins Teape paper S.G. 535a:	
	(a) Set of two stamps, one showing clear plate wear. The two mint	5/-
	(b) As above in used	1/6
	(c) Mint block of four pale purple-carmine	10/-
	(d) As above in much deeper shade, showing plate wear	12/6
717	Official Stamps:	
	(a) JO1a (S.G. 074) Mint, 9d; used, 2d; mint block	4/-
	(b) JO2a (S.G. 0103) Mint (deep carm), 4/6; carm used, 1/6; deep carm used	1/-
	(c) JO5a (S.G. 0105) Mint, 2/6; mint block, 10/-; used single	1/3
	(d) JO6a (S.G. 0107) Mint, 2/6; mint block, 10/-; used single	1/-
	(e) JO7a (S.G. —) Mint, 7/6; mint block, 30/-; used single	3/-

A Few Variety Offers

718	(a) J1a (S.G. 450). A fine group of four mint blocks; Q flaw, broken globe, feather. The fourth shows the constant damaged top frame line to Row 6 No. 21. One only	20/-
	(b) Offset on back. This was always a good one	10/-
	(c) Broken globe flaw, mint, 3/6; used	2/6
	(d) Q flaw, mint, 7/6; used (fair copies)	3/-
719	(a) J5a (S.G. 528). Mint copy of the major misadventure known as "watermark on front" where the watermark was printed on the face of the stamp, in error, on two sheets. Chronicled in Vol. I and showing as a reversed wmk on the back	£6
720	(a) J8a (S.G. 535a). Mint block of four with watermhark inverted (one only)	35/-
	(b) Strip of six from slot machine showing overlapping join. Seldom seen (one only)	20/-

Special Offers

721	1906 Christchurch Exhibition. The complete set of 4 values in perfectly centred mint blocks. Bright and fresh appearance, one set only. Cat. £20	£16
722	1913 Auckland Exhibition. The set of 4 mint blocks in lovely condition. Well centred and of fresh appearance, only one set available. Cat. £29/14/-	£25
723	1931 Airs (V1a-V4a inc.). The four clean, well centred mint blocks, beautiful condition	130/-
724	1934 Trans-Tasman (V5a). A mint horizontal strip of 3, each stamp showing the "broken N" variety, fine condition	30/-
725	As above. A mint block of 8, the bottom two stamps showing the "broken N" variety. Fine mint	90/-
726	1920 Victory. A fine mint set of singles (Cat. 33/9). We are able to offer a very limited number of sets at the special price of	25/-
727	As above, but also including $\frac{1}{2}$ d deep green and 1d carmine-pink. The mint set of 9	28/-
728	As above. A fine used set of 7 singles (Cat. 35/10). Our special offer price	25/-
729	1923-5 Map. The 3 stamps, one printed on De La Rue, one on Jones and one on Cowan paper. The mint set of 3	4/6
730	As above, fine used	2/6
731	1925 Dunedin Exhibition. A clean, well centred set of 3 in mint blocks. Our special price	50/-
732	As above. Mint singles, per set	12/6
733	As above. A fine used set of singles	20/-

Niue

734	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d Blue (S.G. 2). Mint, overprinted in red	1/9
735	As above, overprinted in carmine	2/6
736	As above, no bar to $\frac{1}{2}$ d variety	5/-
737	$\frac{1}{2}$ d Green, 1d Carmine (S.G. 17, 19). The pair, mint	1/-
738	1d Carmine (S.G. 19b). A mint block, one stamp showing the spaced "U" and "E"	10/-
739	1d Carmine (S.G. 19c). No stop after "PENI." Mint or used	7/6
740	1d Carmine (S.G. 19d). A mint block of 6, two stamps with the "no stop after PENI" variety and one stamp with the "no stop" and spaced "U" and "E." The block	30/-
741	Edward VII (S.G. 30, 31, 32). The set of 3, mint	6/6
742	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d Blue (S.G. 33). Mint single, 2/- A block	8/-
743	1d Carmine (S.G. 34). Mint single	1/9
744	3d Chocolate (S.G. 35). Perf 14 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$, mint single	20/-
745	As above (S.G. 35b). Perf 14 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$, mint single, 32/6. Fine used	25/-
746	George V Recess Printed. Perf 14 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$. (S.G. 38-41 inc.), plus 1d Dominion (S.G. 37). The set of 5 mint singles	10/-
747	As above. Perf 14 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ (S.G. 38a-41a inc.). The mint set of 4	9/6
748	As above. Two perf pairs (S.G. 38b-41b inc.). Fine mint (Cat. S.G. 54/-)	40/-
749	As above (S.G. 38b-41b inc.). Mint blocks (Cat. S.G. 108/-)	80/-
750	2/- Blue. Arm Type (S.G. 42). Mint single	6/-
751	As above. Fine mint block	24/-
752	4/- Green Arms Type. Perf 14 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ (S.G. 43). Mint single	20/-
753	As above. Perf 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 14 (S.G. 43a). Mint single	15/-
754	As above (S.G. 43a). A mint block	60/-
755	As above (S.G. 43a). A mint block. One stamp showing short stroke to "N" variety. The fine mint block	65/-
756	George V Surface Printed (S.G. 44-47 inc.). The mint set of 4	5/-
757	As above. Fine mint blocks	20/-

A Soldier's Letter

758	This is a special offer, being the cover of a soldier's letter, sent from England in 1865 to a member of the Imperial Forces in New Zealand. The 1d postage rate proves it to be a "ranker's" letter. Like any soldier's letter in those days when few of the "ranks" could read or write, it is of considerable rarity. The fine cover—to the first order	£10
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Seychelles

759	A page consisting of 43 mint and used stamps, mainly Queen Victoria and George V. The condition generally is very good. Well worth asking to see on approval (Cat. S.G. £22/9/7) To the first order	105/-
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760	Original issue of 1890, Die I (S.G. 1-8 inc.). Condition is good, but S.G. 4 has a slight tear under the hinge. The set of 8 (Cat. S.G. 126/-)	55/-
761	Surcharged issue of 1896. (S.G. 29-30), mint. Excellent condition. (Cat. S.G. 30/-). The pair	15/-
762	Surcharged issue of 1901. (S.G. 41-44 inc.). Fine mint. The set of 4 (Cat. S.G. 14/-)	7/-
763	1917-20 George V issue. (S.G. 80-104 inc., and including 95b, 96a, 100a). All in fine mint condition. The set of 19 (Cat. S.G. £10/16/-)	105/-
764	1921-32 George V issue. (S.G. 105-120 inc., and including 109a, 117a). A fine mint set of 8 (Cat. S.G. £10/13/4)	110/-
765	1922-28 George V issue. (S.G. 121-127 inc., and including 122a). Mint, excellent condition (Cat. S.G. 27/8). The set of 9	15/-
766	1935 Silver Jubilee. (S.G. 128-131 inc.) The set of 4 (Cat. S.G. 16/2)	8/6
767	1937 Coronation. (S.G. 132-134 inc.) A fine mint set of 3	1/3
768	1938 Original George VI Pictorial issue. (S.G. 135-149 inc.) All in fine mint condition (Cat. S.G. £13/17/10). This scarce set of 15	£7
769	1941 Pictorial issue. (S.G. 136a-139a inc. — "a" numbers only; 139c, 140a, 142a, 145a, 146a). This fine mint set of 9 (Cat. S.G. 23/6)	12/6

(Continued from page 1)

Wellington), writing in the Royal Philatelic Society Newsletter, has brought out some new facts not previously known. He has had the unique opportunity of studying a large number of sheets and has also been able to scan the proof sheet. As has now been proved, something like this was necessary to bring finality to a very sticky problem. Mr. Watts reports that his examinations were based on P1 1B 1B 1B sheets only, but this was sufficient to establish that there was just as much proof offering in favour of single plates as for two plates, although he agreed there were at least two states of each plate. His discoveries included some "key" impressions where identical flaws persisted on all sheets, but these could also have been attributed to two background plates manufactured from a common source. Readers will remember that the 1A and 1B plates used for the 1958 Kingsford Smith stamp each showed identical characteristics and were later proved to have been made from a common "master" plate.

Some interesting information on P1 1B 1B 1B emerging from the "Royal" report is that "As the printings progressed there was the following deterioration: R3/1 background broken around IT of TITOKI; R3/11 screen badly broken around and below NEW Z of NEW ZEALAND. This weakness in the screen extends down, through and below TO of TITOKI in R4/11; R5/11 minor break of screen above KI of TITOKI; R6/6 ditto above ND of ZEALAND; R9/1 breaking up of screen across most of top of stamp; R9/2 similar to R9/1 but not so extensive; R11/7 screen broken around TITOKI; R11/11 and 12/9 breaking of screen above 2 of 2½d; R14/2 break below first T of TITOKI; R14/10 ditto to right of 2 of ½; R16/1 break to right of second I of TITOKI. There is also a curved line of dark dots to right of TITOKI which is common to both early and late printings" It will be noticed that these differences to the background, most of which are mentioned in December notes, are described as "deteriorations," but whether they are deteriorations resembling retouching I do not know.

The news which really clinches the matter (and would seem to answer the question raised in the last sentence) is that I have good reason to believe the printers have been approached for definite information. Their reply, I understand, states that only one of each plate is in existence. The plates have given considerable trouble in surface wearing and have been refaced with chromium more than once. Further, there has been no touching up carried out. The resurfacing of the plates could account for much that has been mystifying. The statement that no retouching has been done is a little hard to stomach, but there the matter must lie — for the time being anyway.

P1 1A Row 8 No. 6: This stamp shows a reforming of the junction of the large 2 where the neck meets the base. Officially this is not a touching up, but it has the earmarks of one. Small background disturbances are seen on either side.

White patches: I have noticed, and have had my attention drawn to several examples of white areas of varying size and position on the sheets. In all examples seen the outer edges are not clean cut, but have a "feathered" appearance. In view of the news about resurfacing of the plates, the reason for these patches is almost certainly due to a breaking down or peeling of the original surface and as such assume a new importance.