

Campbell Paterson's NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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Continuing . . .

THE HOLES AROUND OUR STAMPS (3)

(5) **The Pictorial Definitives from 1935 onwards:** It would serve no useful purpose to enumerate the many and varied perforations found in this issue. The catalogues offer a splendid resume of the gauges found and it will therefore be of more interest to look at the reasons for the changes rather than for the intrinsic value of the perforations themselves.

Initially, when the stamps were ordered it was in the "good old" pre-war days, when things were like they'll never be again, or so I hear! The main issue at test was the suitability of the existing heads to the printed sheets of stamps. We find, then, for the first supplies on "single" watermark paper, that very few changes were made in the perforation heads used. Only when the printing was a "wet" one, where the sheets were dampened prior to printing, in an effort to improve definition, do we find a different head being used, to fit the different sizes of the stamps. This difference in size of the printed stamps, although certainly not of any magnitude, was quite sufficient to render the normal comb head inadequate. And hence the different perf 13½ x 14 encountered.

How vastly different is the situation during the later, wartime issues on multiple watermark paper! Once again we find that the suitable heads as used in the first supplies are used for the initial supplies on the new paper. Sometimes, e.g., in the 3d Maori Girl, we get only the one head, or rather gauge, used throughout. But then the 3d, as with the 1½d, was not used in any really tremendous quantity. The two peculiar stamps of the group appear, to me, to be the ½d and the 1d. Nobody can deny that these two denominations were used in very large numbers; in fact it is difficult to imagine a commoner stamp than the 1d Kiwi! It is rather interesting to note, then, that in spite of all the many changes encountered in the other values, the perf of the 1d, and the ½d, remained constant throughout. The reason is, of course, rather simple. 1938 saw the issue of the King George heads, printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson, in the ½d green, 1d red and 1½d brown. The point I am trying to emphasise is that the later issue of the pictorials are far too often thought of as being complicated with "dozens" of different perforations. Surely if one is to derive satisfaction from any hobby one ought to look for the reason for such variations. To sum up in one word, the reason was war!

One would think that the German bombs were specially made to make life difficult for the printers of our stamps! This is, of course, pure nonsense, but it is a fact that due to direct hits on the works of the printers, the stamps (other than the 9d) were printed by De La Rue & Co. until 1941, when for a critical period the production was a matter of co-operation between De La Rue, Waterlows and Harrison's. In the C.P. catalogue is set out a list of these stamps from the wartime printings, and it is useful to copy it here:—

Printed and perforated by De La Rue & Co.: L4c, 4f, 5g, 7e, 8f, 9d, 9e, 10e, 12d, 13g, 14g, and presumably L5f and 14f.

Printed and perforated by Waterlow & Sons: L7d, 8d, 9c, 10d, 12c, 13e, 14e.

Printed by De La Rue, perf by Waterlows: L4e, 8e, 13f.

Printed by Waterlows, perf by De La Rue: L7c.

Printed by De La Rue, perf by Harrison & Sons: L4d.

A close study of this list and of the stamps in question will prove of interest to philatelist and non-philatelist alike. It is not a matter of the gauge alone. The gauge is but a means of identification. I believe that unless these stamps are collected with full recognition of the fact that every change was necessary, and a matter of no little trouble, and evidence of mutual co-operation in the face of dire troubles, we are but setting out to collect different sized holes around our stamps. When one can show a small portion of the very interesting period of history, by attributing in the collection the reasons for and the perpetrators of every change encountered in these stamps, the hobby itself takes on a new and much more stable significance. Is it any wonder then that this issue is so keenly studied? Surely the touch of time will not alter the popularity and significance of these holes around our stamps.

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT by John Robinson

New 3d Cylinder Number: In addition to the four new "plates" mentioned last month (2235, 2237, 2347 and 3347), a fifth has appeared, unheralded by the P.O. Bulletin — a common occurrence these days. It is Cyl. 3335.

New 3/- Pictorial, Issued 1 April: "Well, it will not look any worse as time marches on — it can't!" was one comment we heard. Where do they get these nasty colours from? Nevertheless, this is a great improvement on the old monochrome stamp, withdrawn from sale on 31 March. The new issue boasts no cylinder numbers, simply Harrison's Imprint in the lower left selvage, and the sheet value (£18) in the upper right. There are 20 horizontal rows of 6.

A good variety is to be found in the blue sky (and I mean "blue" sky!) in Row 1 No. 8. This unit shows a prominent example of "touching-up," Thirkell B4, C4. Is it not surprising how many New Zealand varieties come from R 1/6 of the sheet? How many can you recall?

We wish to buy all good New Zealand stamps, with the emphasis on the early Full Faces and Sidefaces; for these we pay astounding prices, governed by **condition** rather than by "catalogue"; e.g., we need the following, and show what we will pay for excellent copies:

| FINEST MINT | | | FINEST USED | | |
|-------------|------|----------|-------------|------|----------|
| C.P. | S.G. | We Offer | C.P. | S.G. | We Offer |
| G5b | 341 | £30 | J3a | 524 | 60/- |
| G6b | — | £30 | J4a | 526 | 3/- |
| K6c | 484b | 15/- | JC5a | O105 | 10d |
| K8c | 485b | 45/- | JO7a | — | 2/- |
| KO12C | 089b | 12/6 | K18g | 535c | 1/6 |
| S4a | 427 | 60/- | K18h | 535d | 1/- |
| Z49a | 544w | £30 | S7a | 472 | 50/- |
| Z49c | 653 | £25 | S8a | 473 | 50/- |
| Z49d | 653 | £25 | Z49a | 544w | £30 |

We are also keen to buy mint and used examples of the earlier Postage Dues and Government Life issues. For these, as for all scarce New Zealand, we pay prices which confound the trade!

TWO RARITIES

| | |
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| 481 SG 83: 2d pale ultramarine Full Face Queen, pelure paper, imperforate. A magnificent used copy, four margins, of course, and very fine | £45 |
|--|-----|

482 C5b, variety: Mixed Perfs. 6d deep blue Sideface Queen; an excellent used example of this rarity £6

SELECTED OFFERS FROM THE "MIDDLE" ISSUES

- 483 Q.V. Second Sidefaces: Simplified sets of 10, used, no poor copies, ½d to 1/-. Only 25/-
- 484 ½d Mt. Cook and 1d Taupo: London prints (SG 246-250). Three fine mint shades of each 8/6
- 485 2d Pembroke, London Print, SG 251-2. Three excellent shades, fine used 1/3
- 486 1d Terraces of 1900. 3 way-above-average copies, shades, used 1/-
- 487 1d Boer War, SG 301, chestnut, perf 11. Finest mint copies, each 4/-
- 488 E8a, SG 255-6: London Print, 2½d Wakatipu; 2 excellent shades, mint 5/-
- 489 E9c, SG 354-6: 3d Huia birds, perf 11, watermarked paper, 3 used shades 1/6
- 490 E11a, SG 258-260: 4d Terraces, London Print. 3 excellent shades, top-grade mint examples; lovely 11/-
- 491 E12a: 4d Taupo, first printing, no wmk, perf 11. A grand mint ☐ 10/6
- 492 E12b, SG 357: The scarce 4d Taupo on watermarked paper, perf 11, used 9/-
- 493 SG 262: The rare 5d London Print, SEPIA, used 110/-
- 494 (a) E14b, 6d green Kiwi, perf 11, no wmk, mint 12/6
- (b) Ditto, an exceptionally fine used example 17/6
- 495 E16a and E17a: 8d War Canoe and 9d Terraces, London Printings, perf 12-16; one of each of these two scarce items 12/-
- 496 E21a, SG 271: 5/- London Print; one of the scarcest "Mt. Cooks," in used condition. Cancel a trifle indistinct. Well worth 80/-
- 497 5/- Mt. Cook: Final issue, perf 14 on watermark (sideways) paper. Top grade used copies, each 75/-
- 498 F1a: The first ½d green Mt. Cook; perf 11 on thick paper. Fine used copies, 5 good shades 1/9
- 499 F1c, SG 319: Fine used. Difficult item 1/-
- 500 F4a, SG 340: Cowan watermarked paper, perf 11, fine used; rare 40/-
- 501 F5a, SG 428-9a: Four good shades, used 2/-
- 502 F5b, SG 433-4: Two fine used shades 1/-

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| 503 | (a) G1a, SG 313: The London 1d Universal, 2 really fine used shades | 6d |
| | (b) Ditto , fine mint copies, each | 8d |
| 504 | G2a, SG 315-6: Four lovely shades, picked used copies | 1/- |
| 505 | G3b, SG 327: Basted Mills paper, perf 14. Two shades, used | 1/- |
| 506 | G4a, SG 335: Cowan Paper, no watermark. Two used shades | 1/- |
| 507 | G6a, SG 345b: The glorious "Reserve" plate printings. Selected used copies, 3 different shades | 3/- |
| 508 | G6d, SG 351b: A genuine example, used, not perfect, but by no means a poor copy. Cat. £30, this is well worth | £7 |
| 509 | G7a: Booklet Plate; two good shades, used | 5/- |

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| 510 | J5a, SG 528: 1925 1d Dominion "Litho wmk." This interesting stamp has always been a firm favourite with many discerning collectors, for it is possible to undertake the formation of a good sideline collection without incurring any great costs. Below are a few interesting offers: | |
| | (a) A ready-made specialised collection, MINT, with the emphasis on the lithographed side. Includes a single of the rarity, "Colourless litho," SG 528b (with horiz. mesh); a fine marginal \square with true black litho (ex Collins), and several pairs and singles with lithos in blackish-green, almost colourless, yellowish, blue, green, etc. A grand selection | £14 |
| | (b) A mint single of the rare colourless litho; one of the 240 copies printed, this has horizontal mesh and is, of course, guaranteed; SG 528b | 110/- |
| | (c) A superb mint \square with litho in BLACK (SG 528a); ex Collins; this is the real thing, and a bargain at | £6 |
| | (d) As above, a mint single unmounted | 30/- |
| | (e) Four mint copies, with different lithos, including the scarce "blackish-green" and "yellow-green" colours | 25/- |
| | (f) Three different coloured lithos, each in mint \square | 10/- |
| | (g) Three different lithos, mint singles | 2/- |
| | (h) Two different litho colours, used singles | 9d |
| | (i) A used \square , rare thus | 10/- |
| | (j) A double-gummed mint specimen; scarce | 10/- |
| | (k) An off-centre specimen of the rare variety "litho on front of stamp." One copy only, and a gift at | 70/- |

511 KING GEORGE V, USED — THE ENGRAVED ISSUES

| | | |
|--|---|-------------|
| | (a) Perf 14 x 13½: Set complete, in used condition. No poor specimens for these are mainly from the fabulous Collins' stock. 1½d to 1/-, with all colour changes (15 stamps, cat. 42/-) | 35/- |
| | (b) Perf 14 x 14½: Complete set, 14 stamps, cat. 48/-, used | 38/- |
| | (c) Both perforations, the two sets, complete used; 29 stamps. Will be sent out in two envelopes, with perfs kept separate; cat. 90/- | 70/- |
| | (d) Pictorial Paper of 1916: 1½d grey, one of each perf, and also a 2-perf pair (K1f, SG 492b); also the 2d, 3d and 6d, all perf 14 line. The six items, used, some scarce thus | 20/- |
| | (e) A simplified set in good used condition throughout; cheaper perf in each case; 15 stamps, cat. 36/- | 30/- |

512 "1935" Pictorial Issue, overprinted OFFICIAL:

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| | (a) A simplified used set, one of each value, ½d to 2/- | 5/- |
| | (b) The two difficult 9d values, SG O134 and "a"; our OL11c, 11e, used | 2/9 |
| | (c) The BLITZ PERFS, overprinted OFFICIAL. Full set of 8 scarce, wartime issues, overprinted. These are: OL 4e, 7c, d, 9c, 10d, 12c, 13e, f (SG O127a; 130a, b; 132a; 133; 135a; —; 136a). An historic selection, all used | 12/- |

513 Current Pictorial Issue:

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| | (a) Used sets, fine condition, ½d to 1/- | 1/- |
| | (b) 1/3 to 5/- values (original colours only), used | 5/- |
| | (c) 1d and 3d, watermark sideways, perf 14½ x 13. The two slot machine issues, fine used | 4d |
| | (d) 3d Kowhai: The scarce "lemon" and "Westport" shades, used; these are numbered (2) and (5) in the C.P. Cat.; in limited supply, the two | 6/6 |
| | (e) The obsolete 3/-. A grand opportunity, per dozen, fine used | 15/- |
| | (f) 5/- Sutherland Falls: A lovely stamp, this. Fine used copies (12 for 12/-) or each | 1/3 |
| | (g) £1 Pohutu Geyser, very fine used | 15/- |

514 **Special Commemorative Offers:**

- (a) 1940 Centennial, the scarce 7d. in superb plate ☐, mint; cat. 30/- 22/-
- (b) 1940 Centennial Set, OFFICIAL, finest mint 12/6
- (c) 1940 Centennial Set, ordinary, complete set (inc. 10d), used 16/6
- (d) Frozen Meat set of 1957; scarce, mint or used; special price 4/-

HEALTH STAMPS

- 515 1929, "Tuberculosis," fine mint ☐ 30/-
- 516 1930, "Health," marginal mint ☐, superb 75/-
- 517 1931, "Smiling Boys," very fine used, the pair 125/-
- 518 1937, "Hiker," fine used copies, each 2/6
- 519 1939, Surcharged "Beach Ball," the set, used 4/6
- 520 1940, "Beach Ball" set, used 7/6
- 521 1941, Overprinted, dated "Beach Ball," set used 5/-
- 522 1942, "Swings," the set used 1/9
- 523 1943 to 1963, Complete, fine used; 44 stamps, cat. over 11/- 9/6
- 524 1957 Miniature Sheets, set with "sideways" watermark, MINT. Special offer for May only 5/-

N.B.—All Health stamps are in stock, so ask for the ones you require. We will pay 10/- per dozen sets for fine mint 1962 Healths, until such time as we have enough in stock. Have you any to spare?

- 525 **Healths, Used, condition not perfect. Stocks are limited.**
- (a) 1929 3/-
 - (b) 1930 8/-
 - (c) 1940, set 3/6
 - (d) 1941, set 3/-

526 **Some scarce "Government Life Insurance" Issues:**

- (a) X7e, SG 1040: The scarce ½d green, multiple watermark, mint or used 3/-
- (b) X10e, SG 1042: 2d yellow, mult. wmk, the last issue, used; scarce ... 4/6
- (c) X11a, SG 1032: 3d yellow-brown, used 3/6
- (d) X11c, SG 1043: 3d chocolate, mult. wmk paper; used 5/-
- (e) X12d, SG 1044: 6d pink, mult. wmk paper, used; very scarce 7/6

- 527 **EUREKA:** Special covers commemorating the Diamond Jubilee of this P.O., with appropriate rubber stamp cachet, 1 April 1964. This P.O. has used the one date stamp (squared circle) since it opened sixty years ago. Signed by P.M. Each 1/-

ACCESSORIES AND PACKETS

- 528 **HINGES.** All these are in packets of 1000; prices include postage.
- (a) Rapkins "Easipeel," small size, rounded corners 1/3
 - (b) Rapkins "Ideal," pre-folded, fine quality 2/6
 - (c) Frank Godden Exhibition, No. 2, medium size 2/6
 - (d) Frank Godden Exhibition, No. 1, large size 3/3

N.B.—This is the best selection we have had for ages, but stocks are strictly limited due to import control.

- 529 **TWEEZERS.** F.G. Series, in leather pouch. These are the very best made 6/9
- 530 **Watermark Detector Trays.** Black plastic, each, posted 1/9
- 531 **EROGRAPH PENS** — Ideal for "writing-up" a collection. Very few left; posted 16/-
- 532 **Album Leaves** to fit Rapkins "Crown" or "Favourite" albums. Per 25, posted 3/9
- 533 **LETRASET** dry-transfer sheet, for writing-up a collection of modern N.Z. Tailor-made for this purpose; each, posted 20/-
- 534 **MAGNIFYING GLASS.** Top quality, x 10 magnification; each 22/6
- 535 **CELLOPHANE ENVELOPES,** 6 cm by 11 cm size. Per 50, posted 3/-
- 536 **SUPERIOR PACKET OF N.Z.,** 102 different, fine used. Only better-grade stamps included and no junk. Guaranteed value at 20/-
- 537 **HEALTH PACKET,** 12 different, fine used. Suitable for a small gift or to provide useful swaps. Cheap at 2/-
- 538 **Two Indispensable GAUGES:**
 - (a) INSTANTA Perforation Gauge. Price, posted 6/-
 - (b) B. & K. Cancellation Gauge. A "must" for postal history enthusiasts. Posted 9/-