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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENTS – by Warwick Paterson

7½c BROWN TROUT COMMEMORATIVE

A beaut! A lovely stamp! were some of the early reactions I heard, and De la Rue have really come up trumps with this one. No doubt this is a fine example of their photo-offset printing and the screen is very good. I feel that the use of colour blending to produce the required hues and shades has been beautifully done and makes a stamp of extreme visual subtlety and interest. The Trout itself for instance is a combination of blue, yellow and red to produce a brown effect with black for shading. Apparently this issue is to fill an obscure step in the second class packet rate and as such fine used are sure to be scarce! Statistics next month.

FURTHER STATISTICS – THE RUGBY HEALTHS

2½c plus 1c Printed by Harrison and Sons, London, in four colour photogravure silver, sepia, carmine-red, yellow orange, in sheets of 100 (10 rows of 10) There is one plate the plate numbers 1A1A1A1A appearing under the 5th stamp in the bottom selvedge; the imprint appears under the first three stamps of that row and the sheet value (\$3.50) above the 10th stamp in the top selvedge. The water mark is N.Z. and star (sideways W 8a), the mesh of the chalk-surfaced paper sideways horizontal. The perforations gauge 14½ x 14 (14.65 x 14.05) and the C.P. Catalogue type No. will be T 39a.

3c plus 1c Printed in four colour photogravure, silver, sepia, yellow, light blue. Format, value tablet \$4.00 and perforations are as 2½c plus 1c. The plate numbers 1A1A1A1A appear under the 4th stamp in the bottom selvedge the imprint under the first two stamps of the bottom row. The watermark is N.Z. and star (W.8) and the mesh of the chalk-surfaced paper horizontal. The perforations gauge 14 x 14½ (14.05 x 14.65) The C.P. Catalogue type number will be T 39b.

Miniature Sheets of six are available inscribed "Miniature Sheet 2½c" (2½c plus 1c) or "24c" (3c plus 1c) on top selvedge and imprint in the bottom selvedge. The format of the 2½c plus 1c is vertical, 3c plus 1c horizontal. All other particulars are the same as the sheets described above.

THE HEALTHS

Dennis Hills of Christchurch points out two flaws.

2½c & 1c Row 10/3 the All Black has the "ball at his toe" in the form of a small cylinder retouch.

3c & 1c Row 2/2 the boy has a bandaged finger – small white etching flaw.

3c & 1c Row 1/8 The all Black has a torn collar. Etching flaw.

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THE GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT DECIMAL OVERPRINTS

The overprinted values (in parentheses) in the new set are 1c (o/p 1d) 2c (o/p 2½d) 2½c (3d o/p) 3c (o/p 4d) 5c (o/p 6d) 10c (o/p 1/-) and two designs have disappeared - the ½d "Castlepoint" and 2d "Cape Palliser". The paper, watermark and perforation details of the 1c, 2c, 2½c, 3c, 5c are unchanged except that I have not heard of the equivalent to x 18a the 3c of this set being on finer esparto paper (as x 18b) and the 5c has appeared on two varieties of paper (a) the old coarser paper and (b) a fine white paper. The 10c has appeared on these two varieties of paper as well. In the 10c fine white paper the watermark is sideways (w 8a) and the mesh vertical. The coarser paper is as the 1/-. Early reports suggest that this 10c and 5c "old paper" will be very scarce, particularly the former.

THE 1967 DECIMALS - FURTHER OBSERVATIONS.

BOOKLET panes. I have noticed the plate marking "XA" in the selvedge of all the panes in a proportion of booklets. The marking must be in two positions as in some booklets it appears by the top stamp in each pane - in some by the bottom stamp.

MORE VARIETIES (GOOD!)

2c Kakabeak plate 1A1A1A1A row 11/10 - Flaw under E of New. 2½c Kowhai plate 2B1B1B1B - Row 14/9 apostrophe over the D of ZEALAND (GOOD!)
3c Puarangi plate 2A1A1A1A Row 11/5 white blob on the Z
25c Butter plate 1A1A Row 8/6 white blob above the 2nd A of Zealand

LATE £.S.D. Note.

5d Mountain Daisy. I saw a tiny quantity of a really striking (lighter) shade than normal.

C.P. simplified New Zealand stamp album

We are now reviewing the final proofs to bring these albums up to date. We urge album holders to contact us (if they have not already done so) and order now - specifying pages for screw type binder or loose leaf cover. The pages are essential to bring the album up to date with the latest issues and will be right up to the high standard of production which we have maintained in previous years (import problems notwithstanding) - price will be in the region of \$1 to \$2.

WRITE TO US NOW!

Universal Covers

We are handling a limited quantity of the above of selected quality and interest. They include a wide range of markings - early registered stamps, coin type, squared circle and other interesting markings. Readers are invited to request approvals and this represents an opportunity to fill a few postal history gaps. Priced from \$1.00.

3/- TONGARIRO - SEPIA

A COMPLETE MOUNT SHEET IN PERFECT CONDITION

We wonder how many (or how few) of these there are in existence. This, a stamp which has proved one of the best bets of recent years. To be priced at \$5.00 per stamp in the new C.P. 1967-68 Catalogue Revision. YOUR chance to buy something rare, outstanding and very promising indeed.

PRICE ON APPLICATION

NOTE: We sold a plate block recently at \$40.

TWO UNUSUAL MODERN ITEMS

- 61(a) 1962 Xmas Madonna in Prayer
A fine used copy of the extraordinary bright blue shade. The only example we have ever seen and possibly unique - an amazing and striking shade.....\$10.00
- (b) 3d plus 1d Red Cross Commemorative An item of extreme rarity.
Page 286 of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" Volume IV states that the flaw at Row 13/6 in this issue (a large apparent plate scratch in the flag) was removed once by an engraver. However two states of this repair work are known and the printers explained this as being caused by the action of the doctor blade and plate wear. We present a set of 3 used copies including the flaw itself and the very rare second state (no obvious repair characteristics other than a small dot where the flaw had been) Volume IV states that there is only one known of this state. The set of great rarity (used).....\$100.

KING EDWARD VII used - Simplified.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 64 (a) ½d Green..... 2c | (e) 4d Yellow.....35c |
| (b) 2d Mauve.....25c | (f) 5d Brown..... 8c |
| (c) 3d Chestnut..... 5c | (g) 8d Indigo.....10c |
| (d) 4d Red Orange.....75c | (h) 1/- Orange Vermillion 30c |

SEVERAL IMPORTANT MODERN RARITIES - Q.E.II

- 66 (a) N10a QE II 1/- centre Die lb Vertical pair with blurred centre..... \$20.
or singles..... \$10.
- (b) N 11a Q.E.II 1/6 Vertical pair with blurred centre..... \$14.
or singles..... \$7.
- (c) N o25a Official Q.E. 4d printing "on the gum".....\$40.

ERROR September Newsletter - under watermarks mesh and paper read.
½c, 1c, 2c, 2½c, 3c, 5c, 7c, wmk W8 Vertical mesh.
4c, 6c, 13c, 25c, 30c, \$1 wmk W8 Horizontal mesh.
8c, 10c, 20c, 50c, and \$2 wmk W.8. sideways horizontal mesh.

We are buyers of the 4d Pictorial on chalk surfaced paper and can offer the best possible price. Let us know if you have some.