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LIGHTHOUSES IN NEW ZEALAND - Eric Clark

Our well-known contributor Eric Clark of Auckland has a special interest in his subject and has researched extensively to give us the following articles to be serialised over the next several months' Newsletters. They are intended to be read in conjunction with the articles already seen recently in these pages and will add interest and background to the collection of Life Insurance Department Issues from 1947 to date. Reference to the map showing location of manned Light Stations in N.Z. Produced with our April 1970 number will be useful.

Light houses have been known to exist from early antiquity, in most cases taking the form of flares or beacon fires lit for the purpose of assisting specified vessels to make a landfall.


The earliest recorded light which appears to have been in permanent service for mariners is mentioned by the Greek poet Lesches (Circa 660 B.C.) as being erected at Sigeum, now known as Cape Incihisari, in the vicinity of what are now referred to as the Ruins of Troy.

By far the most famous light of ancient days is the lighthouse on the Island of Pharos, off Alexandria, which has been considered as one of the Seven Wonders of the Old World. This lighthouse was built by Sostratus for Ptolemy the Second (283 to 247 B.C.). The height is variously given from 400 to 600 ft. It was destroyed by earthquake in the 13th Century but remains were still said to have been visible about 1350 A.D.

In connection with light houses built on wave swept rocks, probably the most exposed of these, which would be of course the most exposed lighthouse in the world, is that on Bishop's Rock at the tip of the Scilly Isles, which is of course well out into the Atlantic, off Lands End. This lighthouse was erected by Sir J.N. Douglas, of Eddystone Fame. Some idea of the violence of the storms which beset this spot will be understood when it is mentioned that the original structure was fully complete, awaiting the installing of the lantern, when it was all totally swept away one night during a heavy gale. On another occasion the big heavy bronze fog bell, which was suspended from the balcony on the tower over 100 ft. above sea level, was also swept away during a heavy storm.

NEW ZEALAND:

New Zealand's rugged coastline has been the graveyard of many ships, both large and small, as will be realised when it is stated in the latest edition of Ingram and Wheatley's "N.Z. Shipwrecks" that over 1750 casualties were recorded between the years 1795-1960. This figure includes only a few strandings where the vessels were subsequently refloated.

please turn to back page 

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LATEST COMMEMORATIVE DESIGNS

Things are looking up it seems with the two latest sets providing four fine new designs.

4c Country Women's Institutes and 10c Rotary International in New Zealand

are both pleasing stamps to look at. They are very formal and stylised in the time-honoured manner of so many N.Z. stamps - not what you'd call modern designs but quite acceptable - colours pleasant.

One Ton Cup Issue, 5c Rangitoto and Yacht and 8c Plans and Cup

These are two excellent designs in my opinion, well-balanced, full of rhythm, action and interest. The 8c could be accused of drabness, I suppose, but the 5c with its bright red spinnaker seems to me to convey much of the colourful excitement of the occasion.

FORWARD STAMP PROGRAMME

Alterations to the programme already announced and that for the second half of 1971 have been released.

<u>April 14</u>	Current Definitives \$1 Geothermal Power and \$2 Agricultural Technology.
<u>July 7</u>	Commemorative issue for the opening of New Zealand's first satellite earth station - two stamps (date dependent on opening).
<u>August 4</u>	Health issue of three stamps - two featuring hockey and the other commemorating the Golden Jubilee of the School Dental Service.
<u>September 1</u>	Definitive stamps - National Parks designs - four stamps.
<u>October 6</u>	Christmas - three stamps, one featuring an "Old Master" one a Church stained glass window and the other a symbolic design.
<u>November 3</u>	Commemorative issue for First World Rose Convention to be held in New Zealand - three stamps.
<u>December 1</u>	Commemorative issue for the centennial year of Lord Rutherford's birth - two stamps.

LARGE MULTIPLES OFFER

Of unusual stamps. Ideal for plate study and replating. Condition perfect. Investment future of some of these scarce papers is superb.

KING GEORGE V



137 (a)	2d Green De la Rue paper complete right hand side of the sheet 120 stamps catalogued at \$54	...	\$ 27.00
(b)	Ditto "art" paper with litho watermark. We have several interesting multiples showing selvedge lettering top left hand selvedge block of 30 showing "New" at top selvedge and "EALAND" at right.	...	\$ 2.00
	Top and bottom selvedge block of 60 stamps showing selvedge lettering parts of "New Zealand Postage" in top and bottom selvedge.	...	\$ 3.50
(c)	Ditto. Cowan paper perf 14 x 15 vertical double strip of 20 stamps right selvedge; plate in worn state; selvedge shows watermark "New Zealand".	...	\$ 2.00
(d)	Ditto. Jones paper a similar piece four wide, 9 deep block of 36 from bottom left selvedge cat. \$21.60	...	\$ 12.50
(e)	Ditto. Cowan "Reversed" paper block of 70 from right hand side of the sheet - 7 stamps across from the right cat. \$35.00	...	\$ 25.00
138 (a)	2d yellow litho watermark. Lovely bottom selvedge block of 40 with selvedge markings cat. \$20.00	...	\$ 15.00
	Bottom left selvedge block of 20 4 x 5.	...	\$ 7.50
139 (a)	1d Dominion De la Rue beautiful bottom left selvedge block of 42 6 x 7.	...	\$ 3.20
(b)	Ditto Jones paper block of 120 top and bottom selvedge.	...	\$ 24.00
(c)	Ditto art paper Virtually complete sheet except for one block of four removed 240 stamps - unrepeatable.	...	\$ 27.50
140 (a)	Map Stamp De la Rue Paper. Bottom right hand selvedge block of 60 stamps 12 x 5 minor gum stains, and another block matching exactly in Jones paper.	...	\$ 3.00
		...	\$ 20.00
150 (a)	Express Delivery Motor Car. Top right selvedge block (serial number) 3 x 8 with brown gum.	...	\$ 5.00
151 (a)	1939 Health "Nurse" block of 48 from r/h side of sheet - a fast riser this stamp cat. \$76.80	...	\$ 57.50
	Our price.	...	\$ 35.00
(b)	1935 "Key" A complete sheet of 48 cat. \$50.00	...	\$ 35.00
(c)	1936 "Lifebuoy" Complete sheet of 48 cat. \$21.60	...	\$ 15.00

BREAKING UP A SUPERB COLLECTION JUST PURCHASED - MINT N.Z.

A wonderful specialised N.Z. lot - small but containing some of the scarcest sets and varieties listed absolutely as it stands, by the page set etc, in a glorious blaze of varieties.

Read on!

Lot 135 Page 1 Christchurch Exhibition

Mint	set - fine	\$ 25.00
	<u>Page 2 & 3</u>	ditto, set of 4 blocks of four mint - condition stupendous	...	\$ 120.00
	<u>Page 4</u>	1898 Pictorials perf 14. Page including F4b 1/2d green, deep green and yellow green, E10a 3d Huias E15a 6d Kiwi, carm. pink and red	...	\$ 3.00
	<u>Page 5</u>	ditto. perf 14 - 13 x 13 1/2. Page E15b 6d Kiwi E10b brown and yellow brown F5b dull green, deep yellow green, yellow green	...	\$ 33.00
	<u>Page 6</u>	ditto. Perf. 14 x 15 page. F5c yellow green, deep yellow green. E15c	...	\$ 2.50
	<u>Page 7</u>	K.E. VII issues perf 14 and 14 x 15 page. Includes 2 shades of 1/2d green and 1d Dominion, Cowan Dominion imperf. single, 4d red orange, 4d yellow, 3d chestnut, 5d Brown (2 shades) 6d carmine, 1/- orange vermilion(2 shades) a lovely page	...	\$ 10.00
	<u>Page 8</u>	ditto. perf. 14 x 14 1/2 page 2d deep, Rosy, and pale Rosy mauve, 3d (2 shades), 4d (2 colours) 6d (2 shades) 8d (both shades)	...	\$ 6.00
	<u>Page 9</u>	<u>Auckland Exhibition</u> The four values in singles	...	\$ 50.00
	<u>Page 10</u>	Ditto - This time in the most glorious mint blocks of four you've seen	...	\$ 225.00
	<u>Page 11</u>	K.G. VII again per 14 x 13 1/2 page inc. 6d carmine, 8d Dp bright blue, 5d Dp Brown	...	\$ 5.00
	<u>Page 12</u>	ditto. 5d Dp Brown 2 perf. pair, 8d side ways water mark perf 14	...	\$ 3.00
	<u>Page 13</u>	<u>George V Issue</u> page of perf 14 x 13 1/2. Recess prints. 1 1/2d grey, 2d three shades of violet one very deep, 2 1/2d deep and slate blue, 3d deep and choc. brown, 4d yellow 4 1/2d Deep green, 6d carmine, deep and pink carmine 9d pale sage green and yellowish olive, 1/- vermilion	...	\$ 11.50
	<u>Page 14</u>	ditto. Page of perf 14 x 14 1/2 1 1/2d grey 2d violet and deep violet, 3d choc. and very deep chocolate, 7 1/2d deep blue, 4d yellow, 4 1/2d deep green, 6d carmine and pink carmine, 7 1/2d deep red brown, 9d two fine shades of sage green 1/- vermilion, two shades orange vermilion, salmon (17)	...	\$ 17.25
	<u>Page 15</u>	<u>Geo V</u> Page of two perf pairs 1 1/2d grey, 2d violet, 2 1/2d dp blue, 3d dp choc, 4d yellow, 4 1/2d dp green, 6d carmine, 7 1/2d Dp Red Brown, 9d sage green, 1/- vermilion (10 pairs)	...	\$ 50.00
	<u>Page 16</u>	<u>George V cont'd</u> colour change page of perf 14 x 13 1/2 and perf 14 x 14 1/2 2d yellow 2d yellow (both perfs) and two perf pair. 4d violet, Bright violet, dull violet and Deep purple (both perfs) and a two perf pair : a glorious coverage	...	\$ 12.50
	<u>Page 17</u>	ditto "Pictorial" paper page, includes 2 shades of each perf 14 x 13 1/2 14 x 14 1/2 and two perf pairs of the 1 1/2d grey 2d yellow 3d brown, 6d carmine (2 copies of each - one no watermark)	...	\$ 17.00

<u>Page 18</u>	ditto Page of surface prints 1½d black (local) 2 shades ½d green de la Rue, Jones and Cowan, 1½d black London plate (2 shades) 1½d orange-brown De la Rue and Cowan, 2d yellow de la Rue (2 shades) and Jones. 3d choc de la Rue ...	\$ 6.00
<u>Page 19</u>	War Stamp (2 shades) ...	\$.15
<u>Page 20</u>	<u>Victory Issue</u> short set high vals. 1½d, 3d, 6d and 1/- (2 shades) ...	\$ 12.00
<u>Page 21</u>	<u>George V recess again</u> 5d p. 14 x 13½ light blue, steel blue perf. 14 x 14½ light blue, a single and a block of four, ultramarine and a two perf pair, 8d blue both perfs and a two perf pair, 8d Red brown ...	\$ 24.50
<u>Page 22</u>	<u>Map Stamp</u> set of de la Rue, Jones and Cowan (complete) ...	\$ 1.40
<u>Page 23</u>	ditto in blocks of four - this time! ...	\$ 5.50
<u>Page 24</u>	<u>K.G. V Surface prints</u> includes Jones (thick) 1d Dominion, 2d yellow, 3d brown Jones (thin) ½d green, 1d Dominion, 2d yellow 3d brown De la Rue un surfaced, 1d Dominion de la Rue un surfaced 1d Dominion with <u>no</u> wmk and letter mark ...	\$ 10.00
<u>Page 25</u>	ditto page of litho wmk. ½d green and a horizontal mesh copy with "colourless" wmk. 2d yellow, single and block of four; 1d Dominion block of four and singles wmk on front and black wmk (thrown out!) at ...	\$ 27.50
<u>Page 26</u>	ditto page of Cowan perf 14 and perf 14 x 15 surface prints, ½d green p 14 x 15 green and deep green. p 14. green and yellow green, 2d yellow p 14 and p 14 x 15 yellow and deep orange 3d brown choc. and red choc. 1d Dominion ...	\$ 4.00
<u>Page 27</u>	ditto Wiggins Teape page 1d Dominion 2 shades, 2d yellow p 14 x 15 yellow and orange yellow p 14 yellow and orange 1½d orange-brown p 14 ...	\$ 8.50
<u>Page 28</u>	<u>Dunedin Exhibition</u> ½d, 1d and 4d mint and a fine copy of the "F" flaw POSTAGF ...	\$ 24.00
<u>Page 29</u>	ditto This time pairs two shade pairs in each value ...	\$ 7.50
<u>Page 30</u>	ditto a stupendous set to match pages 2, 3 and 10 (a bargain this for these scarce Exhibition stamps) HS ...	\$ 15.00
<u>Page 31</u>	1d Field Marshal Cowan paper page. p 14 x 15 booklet pair, single and block of four (minor gum stains) p14. block of four, two pairs, two singles ...	\$.50
<u>Page 32</u>	Outstanding page of the v. scarce high values Jone 2/- (stain) and 3/- two shades (perfect) Cowan two shades of each of the 2/- and 3/- unrepeatable! ...	\$ 39.00
<u>Page 33</u>	<u>1931 airm</u> 3d choc, 4d purple and 7d Br. orange - also a top selvage copy of the scarce 3d perforation 14 x 15 ...	\$ 18.00
<u>Page 34</u>	ditto in blocks of four, 3d, 4d and 7d ...	\$ 35.00
<u>Page 35</u>	ditto 5d surcharge two shades of yellow green (minor stain one stamp) and 7d Trans Tasman blue two copies, one showing the scarce broken N in "IN" flaw ...	\$ 7.75
<u>Page 36</u>	ditto 5d surcharge in 2 blocks of four - one block shows "broken E in FIVE" ...	\$ 14.00
<u>Page 37</u>	ditto 7d overprint in blocks of four - shows "broken N" flaw ...	\$ 12.00

CP SPECIALISED CATALOGUE

More than ever the CP catalogue of N.Z. stamps is the perfect companion to the enjoyment of your hobby. Full of friendly informative notes and hints and information of the highest technical accuracy and standards, it is today, both unique and indispensable. We wonder how many users of the catalogue have noticed that in the face of heavy cost increases, over the past three years the annual cost of the supplements to the catalogue has actually reduced. From \$2.40 to \$1.90, and this year, an unbelievable \$1.50. In terms of sheer volume of information and good value could you beat that? This year's supplement included information never before published in N.Z.'s great classic issues. Why not try a copy of approval? ... \$ 12.00

SOME RARE COVERS

136 (a)	Christchurch Exhibition Postcard showing fine pairs of all four values - posted at the Exhibition. 9 AP 07 a lovely item	...	\$ 100.00
(b)	First direct and return air flight Auckland to Hamilton 10/12/31 shows Blue and Red Boy pair (good) 3d and 4d/Airs and 29 Health	...	\$ 40.00
(d)	ditto First Flight Wellington/Nelson and return. 3d, 4d, 5d(2), 7d airs	...	\$ 10.00

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BREAKING UP A COLLECTION (continued)

<u>Pages 38</u>	<u>1935 Pictorials</u> page representing all values	...	\$ 2.50
& 39			
<u>Page 40</u>	ditto Rarity page shows Experimental "wet" prints 1½d, 2½d and 3/- and ditto with water mark inverted and reversed 1½d (2) 3/-	...	\$ 37.50
<u>Page 41</u>	1935 airs 1d Dp carmine, carmine, carmine pink, 3d Dp violet and two shades of violet and 6d Dull Blue and Brt aniline blue	...	\$ 10.00
<u>Pages 42,</u>	ditto shades as above in blocks of four	...	\$ 40.00
<u>43 & 44</u>			
<u>Pages 45,</u>	Silver Jubilee set in singles 2 sets of pairs and five blocks of four	...	\$ 16.00
<u>46 & 47</u>			
<u>Pages 48,</u>	<u>1935 Pictorials</u> three pages of various perfs	...	\$ 5.00
<u>49 & 50</u>			
<u>Pages 51, 50,</u>	<u>52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58</u> Commemoratives pages showing Anzacs, Commerce and 1937 Coronation in singles and blocks of four	...	\$ 6.00
<u>Pages 59,60</u>	Early Healths in singles includes both nurses, Blue and Red Boys, and all years up to 1939 - Bargain at	...	\$ 45.00
<u>Pages 61,62</u>	ditto in blocks of four all years	...	\$ 150.00
<u>63 & 64</u>	1931 - 1939 all for a ridiculous One or two stamps show minor gum stains.	...	

LIGHTHOUSES - continued from page 1.

The largest vessel to be wrecked on the N.Z. Coast was the "Wiltshire", of 12,160 tons, gross, which struck off Rosalie Bay, at the Southern end of Great Barrier Island, on May 31st, 1922, during a severe easterly gale, and became a total loss. The next largest was the "Wahine", 8,944 tons, in Wellington Harbour on 11th April 1968, followed by the "Pt Bowen" 8,267 tons at Castlecliff (Wanganui) on July 19th, 1939. The largest vessel to be lost on the coast, was the "Niagara", of 13,415 tons, which struck an enemy mine just north of Mokohinau Island, early in the Second World War. The greatest loss of life, occurred with the wreck of H.M.S. Orpheus, on the Manukau Bar, on 2nd July 1863, when 189 lives were lost. The next greatest casualty was the "Tararua" at Waipapa on October 29th, 1894, 131 lives. The "Wairarapa", at Miner's Head, Great Barrier, on April 29th, 1882, 121 lives, takes third place.

To assist mariners in these waters, lights have been erected from time to time at various points on or about the coast. Where the lights are within Harbour limits, they are the responsibility of the local Harbour Board concerned, but all lights outside these areas are controlled by, and are the responsibility of the Marine Department.

The Dept has at present 25 "watched" and 130 "unwatched" lights operating. About 52 lighthouse keepers are employed at the "watched" station (varying from 1 to 3 men at each station) together with their wives and families, and are accommodated in separate housing from the light itself; no-one actually lives in the tower. In addition to the light-keepers, the Marine Department employs about 12 extra men, stationed at Auckland and Wellington, for servicing and maintenance.

The light-keepers, with their wives and families live on the Light Stations. The dwellings there are their homes. There is no question of periodical reliefs. They are entitled to varying amounts of annual leave which they can take off station whenever they like, subject to Departmental convenience. They are relieved temporarily during this period. They are subject to transfer to other Light Stations every three or four years.

The one exception to the above is The Brothers, a "rock" station manned by men only, where a man does three months on station and one "ashore".

The Loneliest Station. This is a matter of opinion. Puysegur Point, at the entrance of Preservation Inlet, is remote from civilisation and claims this distinction, but it is only half an hour by amphibian aircraft from Invercargill, whereas Moko Hinau and Cuvier Islands are nine hours by sea from Auckland.

Tiritiri Matangi. The lighting equipment was supplied by Messrs. Stone, Chance Ltd of England, who supplied the original lighting for this Station. It has a beam intensity of 11,000,000 candlepower and is believed to be the most powerful light in the Southern Hemisphere, as well as ranking amongst the most powerful lights in the world. Whilst it has a luminous range of 54 miles, owing to its fairly low height above sea-level, (300 ft.), the visibility is reduced to 24 miles at sea-level.

The light towers are designed and erected by the Ministry of Works, and handed over to the controlling authority on completion. The cost of erection varies considerably, due to widely differing circumstances, and together with maintenance costs is borne by the levying of "Light Dues" on all vessels using N.Z. ports, the present charge being 5c per nett registered tonnage for the first port of entry, and 83c per ton for subsequent ports.

Where possible, lights are serviced by land, otherwise by sea by vessels under the control of the Marine Department for this purpose.

Vessels employed in this manner have been the -

"Luna"	-	about 1867 - 1880
"Stella"	-	1877 - 1890
"Hinemoa"	-	1876 - 1922
"Tutaneikai"	-	1922 - 1930
"Matai"	-	1930 - 1939

The H.M.S. "Lachlan" has also been loaned for this purpose by the Navy, from time to time. Servicing of the lights is now being attended to on a regional basis by various smaller vessels available to the Marine Department controlling the area. Extending use of helicopters is now being brought in, for servicing unwatched lights.

Landfall lights for N.Z. are usually the following:

To the Northern end:	From Tasman	-	Cape Reinga
	" North	-	North Cape
	" North E.	-	Cape Brett or Moko Hinau
	" East	-	Cuvier

To Cook Strait from Tasman: Farewell Spit - Stephen's Island.

" East: Castle Point or Cape Palliser

To Foveaux Strait from Tasman: Puysegur Point

" Pacific: Nuggetts