

Campbell Patersons for collectors of NEWSLETTER New Zealand Stamps

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NEW "OLD" VARIETIES FOUND - By Campbell Paterson

As I have said often enough over the years, New Zealand has a strange - and enviable - capacity for producing varieties many decades after they should, in theory at least, have been in every Catalogue.

Mr. S.G. Smith has written me, sending in two stamps and, believe it or not, they will give us two new listings in the Catalogue. This is surprising indeed, for one is at least 73 years old and the other is a new perf in the 5d Swordfish, 30 years old!

Taking them in turn: the first is the old Long Type Q.V. Fiscal - an 8/- value in the usual blue shade, but with sideways watermark (W7a) and perf 11 - never before recorded either in the Handbooks, in our Catalogue or anywhere else, to the best of my knowledge.

A glance at the Catalogue shows that it is one of a group issued in or about 1903. Values earlier known in this form (W7a or W7b perf 11) are the 2/6d, 3/-, 4/-, 6/-, 7/-, 10/- and £1. To this we can now add the 8/- and someone, inspired by Mr. Smith, may yet turn up the still missing values - 2/-, 5/-, 7/6d, 9/- and 15/-.

There is of course rather less interest in Fiscals than in definitives, so while the 8/- "find" is extraordinary after such a lapse of time, the find of a new perf in the 5d. Swordfish is quite sensational. Mr. Smith wrote to me about it because the 14½ x 13½ perfs on his single (used) copy appeared never to have been recorded. A quick check showed that the perfs were indeed 14½ x 13½ and the paper was unmistakably the coarse "woodpulp" grade used from 1942 to 1947. My first reaction was to suppose that the 5d. may have been, like the 2½d and 3/-, issued in the two perfs (13½ x 13½ and 14½ x 13½) which so far are only known in the latter two values. However, a little thought reminded me that the 5d, 13½ x 13½ (that is already in our Catalogue as L8f) was effected by a machine which had only one perf hole at the end of each horizontal row, whereas the "13½" used for the 2½d. (L5f) and the 3/- (L14f) had the perforations through both side-selvedges to the extreme outer edges. I was fortunate in finding sheets from both the 5d. machine (L8f) and the 2½d. - 3/- machine (L5f, L14f) in our reserve stock, so I can speak other than just from memory. W

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To sum up then, Mr. Smith's 5d. perf 14½ x 13½ may or may not be from the same machine that was used for the 2½d. and 3/- stamps L5g and L14g; from a single stamp I would not be prepared to say - but I can say that the 5d. "13½" (L8f) machine is not the same as that used for the 2½d. and 3/- (L5f and L14f).

For those with particularly active minds I can also say that the machine used for the 5d. L8f was not the same one as was used for the 2/- L13g.

Which still leaves us in doubt about the "14½'s" known on the 2½d, 3/- and (now) the 5d. Were they all from the same machine? And was that perf ever used in the 2/-? In view of the finding of one copy of the 5d. perf "14½", who would be so bold as to swear it never happened in the 2/-?

The upshot of Mr. Smith's find is that as Catalogue Editor I now have to list a new 5d. on the strength of one used copy! I suggest that a nice profit awaits any collector who can find more used copies or, better still, some mint. No-one, presumably, has been looking twice at his 5d. Swordfish stamp or stamps since only one was known on coarse paper (other than the self-evident 12½) - so I hope all will have a quick and careful look through their holdings and if successful will add to our knowledge by letting me publish the fact.

To Mr. Smith we can all accord hearty congratulations on two very nice finds.

INVERTED WATERMARKS

Mr. S.F. Cross-Rudkin of Christchurch, England, has shown us used copies of two inverted watermark varieties, both of which appear to be previously unrecorded.

One is the original issue of the Second Sideface 6d. Die I, i.e. the only issue of this value on horizontal mesh paper (D8a). The other - and perhaps more surprisingly, in view of the very considerable interest taken in the 1970 Pictorial issue while it was current - is the ½¢ value of that series (Pla). It will be recalled that a single used copy of the 7¢ Leather Jacket with wmk. inverted was reported, also from U.K., about a year ago and it would seem that both of these are destined to be very scarce items indeed. At any rate, we ourselves have never seen another copy of either in the innumerable quantities we have examined over the years.

Report from our U.K. Branch.

NEW VARIETIES REPORTED - 1970 PICTORIALS

30¢ MOUNT COOK PARK Another new plate is reported; this time: 3A3A3A3A.

10¢ "ROYAL" STAMP Another new plate (they're coming thick and fast these days). 2A2A2A4A. All details of paper, perforation etc., are unchanged.

GOVERNMENT LIFE

8¢ EAST CAPE The plate block (10) No. 111 of this issue has provided some interesting plate flaws and retouches: notably Row 9/2 - prominent black dot between "8" and "C". Row 10/2 - retouch in sky to the right of the lighthouse, below clouds. Row 10/5 - blue screen dots missing at left margin.

1976 XMAS

7¢ NATIVITY Row 10/6 displays a pronounced Brown plate scratch through the "S" of "CHRISTMAS" vertically.

8¢ SILVER JUBILEEMINIATURE SHEET

At time of going to press the position regarding variety discoveries in this issue can only be described as "fluid". We have had a confirmed report of a sheet with missing silver (also mentioned on National TV News). We have in our possession two examples of sheets completely imperforate. We also have a sheet with silver colour and perforations so badly out of register that the stamps are hard to look at for more than two seconds. We have had unconfirmed reports of other missing colours which we shall attempt to verify in subsequent Newsletters. If you have some information let us know - this is a promising item in more ways than one!

1960 PICTORIAL 1/9d. MULTICOLOUR

by Colin Hamilton

Here we have yet another obsolete N.Z. stamp producing a completely new discovery and a quite remarkable one at that.

Normally, the stamp has a straightforward watermark multiple N.Z. and Star upright (W8), so if any watermark variety did exist, one would expect it to be the equally straightforward inverted form (W8c). But - surprise, surprise! I have found two copies with the watermark sideways (W8a)!

Since this has come to light only now - some ten years after the stamp was withdrawn from sale - I think it must certainly be the result of an involuntary, erroneous use of the paper sideways, rather than one of the deliberate changes which have occurred from time to time (e.g. in the 7½¢ Trout). As such, it is unique among modern issues. In fact I can think of only two possible precedents. One, the First Pictorial 6d. (E14f), has remained a mystery to this day (in that case, the normal watermark was sideways and the variety upright, but the principle is the same). The other was a 1d. Map stamp printed on Jones paper with the watermark sideways, reported a year or two ago by Dr. K.J. McNaught ("N.Z. Stamp Collector", June 1973). However, Dr. McNaught made out a reasoned and convincing case for this particular instance being the deliberate result of a trial printing. As far as the 1/9d. is concerned, it is difficult to conceive of any explanation other than that of the simple error.

Each of the examples seen was one stamp in a counter coil pair (respectively, the right-hand stamp of a pair numbered 1 and the left-hand stamp of a pair numbered 2). Furthermore the complete (1-19) set in which both were included was made up entirely of pairs from the top horizontal row (proved by each pair having the word 'VALUE' in the gutter). So it seems reasonable to deduce that both stamps originally belonged to the same sheet. On the other hand there is a slight difference in the lateral centring of the two stamps and since sheets appear to have been perforated by a comb machine moving vertically, stamps from the same horizontal row of the same sheet should normally show the same lateral centring characteristics. It is thus possible that there were at least two sheets. In any event another 18 coil pairs at the least (nine numbered 1 and nine numbered 2) must have existed, not to mention 140 other stamps, so readers should carefully check all copies of the 1/9d. multicolour they come across.

It is worth mentioning that recognition of the paper mesh played a vital part in the discovery of these varieties. In both the normal and the variety, the mesh is horizontal to the watermark. In the former, therefore, it is also horizontal to the design, whereas in the variety, it is vertical to the design. It was the obvious contrary meshes which caught my attention and but for this I suspect the variety would have remained unrecognised, at least by me. The moral is there for all to see!

2½¢ MAGPIE MOTH - A major specialist study to be published.

Japan has never been traditionally regarded as a centre of specialist interest in New Zealand stamps. From Japan, however, comes some of the most detailed work yet carried out on a modern N.Z. stamp - the 2½¢ of 1970 ("A" plates only) and its surcharged form "4c" (the three variations of surcharge). Mr. Takeshi Watanabe of Hiroshima was in N.Z. just after Christmas and I had the pleasure of meeting him and discussing his work with him, as did several other Auckland dealers and collectors.

Basically what Mr. Watanabe has done is to compile an amazingly and painstakingly detailed stamp-by-stamp series of diagrams of most of the stamp positions on these two "A" plates. Various tiny plate flaws and retouches are used to "plate" each example and the whole series is cross-referenced to master diagrams of the stamp (one for each colour) which give the same information.

Fly speck philately it may be, but one cannot but marvel at the concentrated volume of research and sheer hard work involved in such an undertaking. The study of the 2½¢ Magpie Moth in all its forms is greatly enriched thereby.

An Auckland dealer has published Mr. Watanabe's research in a compact cyclo-styled book form and it is available from us at \$2.- wP

FULL FACE QUEENSPerf 12½ - UNUSED!

We seldom can offer any Full Faces unused. These are lovely stamps, all of them and the offering is complete with the rarities - ALL PERF 12½ STAR WMK.

1d. RED

- 342 (a) SG110 Carmine-Vermilion - superb unused \$40
 (b) SG111 Orange-Vermilion - unused \$40
 (c) SG111 Vermilion - lovely! \$40

2d. BLUE

- (d) SG113 Plate 1. Unused \$35
 (e) SG114/115 Plate 2 - unused. Superb! \$25

3d. LILAC

- (f) SG117 Lilac unused \$25

4d. ROSE

- (g) SG119 Stupendous copy of this great rarity. One of the most sought-after stamps in the N.Z. catalogue - UNUSED; perfs cut straight at base to minor extent. The stamp is absolutely intact and a glowing example (Cat. \$500) \$475
 (h) SG119 Ditto. Another gorgeous example. This stamp has the finest of thins at back. Beautiful condition \$275
 (i) SG120 Lovely unused copy \$35

6d. BROWN

- (j) SG122 Red-Brown - unused \$35
 (k) SG122a Brown - unused \$50

1/- GREEN

- (l) SG125 Lovely unused \$50

1d. LONDON PRINT

- 343 (a) SG1 1d. DEEP CARMINE-RED A copy of truly magnificent appearance - really deep colour, fine clear print. Certainly one of the finest-looking copies of "No.1" we have seen for years. The stamp has a repaired corner, but with a new catalogue price coming up of \$2200 used, our price for this item makes it one of this month's best buys \$450

TWO SMALL COLLECTIONS

But extremely useful ones! Both contain items of value in fine condition and both make superb buying at their prices.

SECOND SIDEFACES

- 344 (a) In a "Warwick" multi-ring binder mounted on 36 pages. A nice showing of all values and dies and a good selection of shades. Condition throughout is superb \$200

1898 PICTORIALS - USED

- (b) A most useful lot in mainly fine used. Includes 2/- and 5/- long type Fiscals - used. 1898 Officials - used (incl. 5/- fine used.) Plenty of good pickings and this collection would make an ideal base for a wider study of the issue. The value is certainly there - we guarantee it! \$300

**Some varieties are scarce,
 rare or even unique. The pleasure of
 including such items in one's collection
 adds a new dimension to philately.**

FULL FACE QUEENS

For the simplified collector a remarkable offering this month, considering how scarce they are becoming. Remarkable also in this respect - that every stamp offered below is of full exhibition appearance. As usual, of course, we adhere to our careful evaluation of each copy, priced on its merits and classified according to our groupings "Fine", "Intermediate" and "Not-so-Fine". They make a rare offer. Lucky buyers will be thrilled with the superb appearance of any of the items listed below. Stamps USED unless stated otherwise.

DAVIES PRINTS - IMPERFORATE.1862 - 1864 AT AUCKLAND1d. ORANGE-VERMILION

- 337 (a) SG33 Intermediate condition. A superb-1 stamp - 3¼ margins present and an excellent postmark. Mark all it "Fine".... \$45
- (b) SG33 Ditto - "Intermediate". Another stupendous looker. Now catalogued at \$80. Touching two corners - otherwise superb \$35
- (c) SG33 Ditto - "Not-so-Fine" - never mind! It has 3¼ margins, clear face - a possible corner repair \$15

1d. CARMINE VERMILION

- 337 (d) SG35 UNUSED Margin close top left side, but all-in-all a glorious example. Scarce these days and now catalogued at \$250. This is a fine deep colour \$150
- (e) SG35 USED-FINE A lovely copy in every way. Mark is slightly over face, but clean and light - another full glowing shade \$140
- (f) SG35 Ditto Another extraordinary appearance. This stamp is the equal of anything we've seen - a thinned area allows our "intermediate" price \$40
- (g) SG35 Ditto - "Intermediate". Three margins, marking a little untidy, but ideal as a spectacularly attractive example to fill a gap \$35
- (h) SG35 Ditto - "Not-so-fine". This stamp borders on the scarce Carmine. A glorious shade - face clear. There are several faults, but all fairly minor. Appearance superlative \$35

WATERMARK "NZ"

- (i) SG97 - "Intermediate". Appearance unbeatable! Four margins, light postmark - thins allow \$20
- (j) SG97 Ditto Marking over face and minor thin, but four margins and attractive (Cat. now \$85) \$20
- (k) SG97 Ditto Margins cut three sides and ink mark on reverse, but postmark light and colour good - as with all of this month's offering, it looks like a million! \$10

2d. BLUE - NO PLATE WEAR, PLATE 1

- 338 (a) SG36 2d. Dull Deep Blue "Not-so-fine" copy of truly outstanding appearance. Marking light and off the face \$10
- (b) SG36 2d. Deep Blue "Intermediate" copy of really wonderful appearance. Such faults as can be found are minor only in extent. In looks - superfine! \$20
- (c) SG36 Deep Blue "Not-so-fine" copy only by dint of its missing top margin - in colour and all other respects, lovely! \$15
- (d) SG36 Blue "Intermediate" and really superbly attractive \$20
- (e) SG36 Bright Blue "Intermediate" copy of quite extraordinary appearance \$25
- (f) SG36 Bright Blue Four-margined copy of perfect appearance - a repair allows \$5

2d. BLUE - EARLY PLATE WEAR

- (g) SG37 ULTRAMARINE Certainly a "Not-so-fine" stamp, but superb of the shade. Top and bottom margins missing and minor thin, but marking off the face and clean (now cat. \$300) \$30
- (h) SG37 Bluish Slate Attractive copy in all facial respects. There are major faults (tears) at back, but a good example \$20

FULL FACE QUEENS IMPERFORATE (Contd.)

- (i) SG37 Pale or Milky Blue "Intermediate" - a gorgeous stamp.
(Cat. \$100) \$35
- (j) SG37 Pale or Milky Blue "Not-so-fine" copy of superb appearance.. \$15
- (k) SG38 2d. Blue Superb four-margined copy with light mark - a
beauty \$40
- (l) SG38 2d. Blue "Intermediate" copy of lovely appearance again -
quite exceptional \$20
- (m) SG38 2d. Blue "Not-so-fine", but lovely again \$10
2d. BLUE. INTERMEDIATE PLATE WEAR
- (n) SG38 2d. Deep Blue "Intermediate" copy - verging on fine - wonder-
ful looks \$30
- (o) SG38 Ditto "Not-so-fine" with superb appearance \$10
2d. BLUE - ADVANCED PLATE WEAR
- (p) SG39 Pale Blue "Fine" copy \$30
- (q) SG39 Ditto "Intermediate" - glorious! \$20
3d. BROWN-LILAC
- 339 (a) SG40 "Intermediate" copy of the appearance that characterises
this month's entire listing - outstanding!\$40
- (b) SG117a "Accidental imperf" in Lilac. A space filler - yes,
but what appearance!\$25
- (c) SG118a Ditto Mauve. An "Intermediate" example\$30
- (d) SG118a Ditto "Not-so-fine", but a lovely space filler\$10
6d. BLACK-BROWN
- 340 (a) SG41 Black-Brown "Intermediate" and superb!\$40
- (b) SG41 Ditto "Not-so-fine" but you would never know it!\$15
6d. GREY-BLACK
- (c) SG41 "Intermediate" again. Again super\$35
- (d) SG41 "Not-so-fine" - gorgeous!\$15
6d. BROWN
- (e) SG42 "Intermediate" and excellent. Looks tremendous\$20
6d. DEEP RED-BROWN
- (f) SG43 "Fine" - lovely looker!\$40
- (g) SG43 "Intermediate" - as good looking as (f)\$30
- (h) SG43 "Not-so-fine" - superb!\$10
6d. RED-BROWN
- (i) SG43 "Intermediate" - delightful\$25
- (j) SG43 Ditto "Not-so-fine"\$10
6d. PALE RED-BROWN
- (k) SG43 Lovely fine used\$40
1/- BLUISH GREEN
- 341 (a) SG44 "Intermediate" copy and lovely (now cat. \$160)\$60
- (b) SG44 "Not-so-fine" - really excellent\$25
1/- EMERALD GREEN
- (c) SG44 "Intermediate" copy (now cat. \$200)\$40
- (d) SG44 Ditto "Not-so-fine" (repaired) - this is a stamp of finest
exhibition appearance \$20
1/- YELLOW-GREEN
- (e) SG45 "Intermediate"! \$50
1/- DULL OR DEEP YELLOW-GREEN
- (f) SG45 "Intermediate" copy \$70

ODDMENTS

The unusual miscellany below may yield something you've been looking for, for years - read on ...

345 (a) LONG TYPE FISCALS

A superb set of 25 plate proof singles including 4d., 6d., 8d., 1/-, 2/-, (two colours) 2/6d., 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 6/-, 7/-, 8/-, 9/-, 10/-, 25/-, 30/-, £2, £4, £5, £6, £10, £20. The superb set\$250

(b) CHRISTCHURCH EXHIBITION LABELS

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Or individual labels with or without original gum (we think they're better without) each\$2
(We shall make up short sets or send individual labels per request, numbers 1 to 7).

(c) 1898 PICTORIALS MINT

A small collection to boost an existing collection, start off a new one or as a superb gift which will never depreciate in value (quite the opposite in fact as long as it is properly looked after. 1½d. Boer War p14 (minor crease - no charge), 1d. White Terrace, 2d. Pembroke Peak p14, 2½d. Lake Wakatipu (p11 wmk), 4d. Taupo (p14), 5d. Otira Gorge (p14), 8d. Canoe (p14), 9d. Terraces (p14), 2/- Milford Sound (p14), 5/- Mt. Cook. Two copies - perf 11, no wmk (minor thin), perf 14 sideways watermark (superb).....\$162.50

(d) FIRST TYPE POSTAGE DUES

 A superb collection in fine used. Absolutely unbeatable. The fourteen copies needed to fill the set Y1a to Y14a - unrepeatable.\$350

(e) S37a 10d. Overprint "Five Sovereigns" of 1940 An interesting top selvage block of eight showing one stamp patched in - officially \$5(f) S88a 3d. Telegraph An interesting set of five fine used plate flaw examples - hard to find these days and well worth latching onto now. The flaws are: Retouch under "Z" of "Zealand"; retouch on the hand; retouch over "N" of "New"; retouch over "A" of "Zealand"; "Keyboard dots". The five fine examples\$6(g) T35b Prince Andrew Health (3d. plus 1d.) Claret A superb top left selvage block of 15 showing the major "finger flaw" at Row 3/5. These positional blocks of this scarce item are seldom seen these days \$20

To match the above block we offer the identical positional block with flaw partially removed \$6

½d. GREEN MOUNT COOK - MINT346 (a) Flc PIRIE (WATERLOW) PAPER Perf 14 x 11. Superb block of four in Deep Green\$25(b) Flc Ditto Fine single\$6(c) F2d BASTED MILLS PAPER Perf 11 x 14. Fine in block of four \$18(d) F2d Ditto Lovely single\$4.50(e) F4a COWAN WMK Perf 11. Superb single of this scarce item\$121d. DOMINION347 (a) J5a ART PAPER LITH WMK - with horizontal mesh and colourless watermark. A superb block of four! \$30

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- (g) SG45 Ditto "Not-so-fine" \$15
1/- BRONZE-GREEN
- (h) SG45 "Intermediate" copy of superb appearance (Cat. \$200) \$65
1/- DEEP GREEN
- (i) SG45 A fine copy - close one point \$145
- (j) SG45 Ditto "Intermediate" copy \$40
1/- DULL GREEN
- (k) SG46 "Intermediate" - super! \$70
- (l) SG46 Ditto "Not-so-fine", but you show this copy anywhere and be proud of it! \$25
NZ WATERMARK
- (m) SG100 Copy in "Fine" condition \$125
- (n) SG100 Copy in super-looking "Intermediate" condition \$60

Campbell Paterson Ltd.

loose leaf catalogue of NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

1855 TO THE PRESENT DAY

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***MODERN NEW ZEALAND VARIETIES.**

Sendings are frequent and good. You make sure of all the basic items while they're current — flaws, retouches, plate numbers, shades etc. Errors are sent as well. Many of them available **only** from C.P. **Most important** you specify what you want to collect and all sendings are purely on approval.

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