

Campbell Patersons for collectors of NEWS LETTER New Zealand Stamps

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENTS by WARWICK PATERSON

THE NEW STANLEY GIBBONS 1978

The popularity of N.Z. is undoubted - we even rate an editorial note this year. It states that "it was decided to give catalogue recognition to the three types of single "NZ and Star" watermark". (C.P. catalogue users will recognise these as C.P. Types W3, W4, W5 - affecting principally the Second Sidefaces, but also Postage Dues, Life Insurance and Postal Fiscals). Also in the Second Sidefaces S.G. list the dies of the 1d, 2d, 6d and the rare mixed perf varieties - Homer nods? Various other improvements in the listing of papers and Fiscals have been implemented - we can only applaud, of course!

Some significant price movements have been included this year and the impression I gain is that S.G. have realised that in several "key" areas they had fallen badly behind the market. Some prices are still hard to justify. S.G. equate the prices of SG.117a and 118a (3d Lilac and Purple F.F.Q. in imperf pair), while S.G. 117a is unquestionably much scarcer. Notable movements (1977 in brackets) in sterling are PFQ London 1d (SG.1) £5000 (m), £3000 (u) (£2750, £1800); London 1/- (SG.3) £1100 (u) (£800); Davies prints 1862-1864 (imperf) and 1864-1873 (perf 12½) increases vary between 50% and 100%. 1st Sideface 2/- £120, £120 (£42, £40) and 5/- £140, £140 (£42, £40) and at that may still be underpriced. QEII 2d on 1½d overprint "with stars" error £30, £25 (£20, £17). (N.Z. dealers are offering \$60, \$65). 10/- "On horseback" £12, £6 (£11, £5). 1967 Pictorial \$2 Multicolour stands still in the face of the facts at £5, £5. Christchurch Exhibition 6d £90, £95 (£28, £35) and Auckland Ex. 6d £110, £110 (£45, £45). Dunedin Ex. 4d moves to a justifiable £35, £40 (£12, £14). Most of the "key" postwar commemoratives have token increases (e.g. 2/- Parliamentary £1-25, £1-10 (£1-10, £1) which I find out of touch with the facts. All in all, S.G. seem most progressive with the big rarities and earlies - King Edward VII Land 1d £180, £15 (£110, £9) and ½d Victoria Land £250, £200 (£160, £130). Certainly a much more "with it" revision than was 1977. (Note: To compare the above sterling amounts add approximately 75% to estimate NZ dollars).

LIFE INSURANCE ISSUE

Two new plates are reported. 3¢ plate 2a2a, 4¢ plate 3a3a. 

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WOKING
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ENGLAND

WARWICK PATERSON (Contd.)

10¢ "Royal" stamp, plate 2A2A2A3A

More information. The post Office Philatelic Bureau, Wanganui, advise me as follows:

"Further to my letter of 15 April 1977 regarding current 10¢ "Royal" Definitive stamp, plate block 2A2A2A3A; it has now been confirmed that when Harrison & Sons last reprinted supplies of this stamp a number of sheets using a plate numbered 2A2A2A3A were produced. Our attention was not drawn to this plate number at this time by the printer and accordingly, we were not aware of its existence until some time after supplies had been distributed to post offices for ordinary sale purposes and subsequently sold.

Consequently, we are now in the unhappy position of not being able to supply this plate block number to our standing order or other customers. This situation is disturbing to us and steps have been taken which I trust will prevent a similar problem arising in the future."

Further comment from me would be superfluous apart from noting that this will be one of the rarest modern plate blocks.

4¢ SUPERSTAR - Plate 1A

I have seen a remarkable sheet in which the right hand vertical column of stamps is completely without colour over the right two-thirds of its width.

8¢ JOHN DORY

One of the finest missing colours in existence came into our hands last month in this issue, on unwatermarked paper. The Green back-ground (and hence the value) is totally omitted. It is a startling item with its white background. Twenty or thirty copies are believed to exist.

10¢ RAILWAY LOCO 1973

Mr. S. Aranyi of Wellington has shown me a copy with the engine in a striking "steel blue" which we have not sighted before.

8¢ SILVER JUBILEE - Miniature sheets

I have seen a copy (sent from the U.S.A.) with a missing perforation hole in the top row, repeated with each strike of the single comb. The sheet was type 6 (see July N.L.) and the missing hole the eighth from the right in each stamp.

And a set of five sheets which I have seen all featured varying degrees of a large silver splash of ink on stamp 5 and the right selvedge. What made the series of five significant was that two of them were completely imperforate.

I believe this brings the total known number of imperforate sheets in this issue to five.

1959 HEALTHS - 3d plus 1d POAKA

Mr. E.V. Richards of Turangi has reported that in addition to the several miniature sheets of the above known to exist with missing Red colour, two complete sheets were found in the same state at the Otematata Post Office (of the Benmore Power Project).

1977 HEALTHS

Last month I stated that the designs in the miniature sheets were the same as those in the main sheets, but larger. In fact they are not quite the same. Close examination reveals a number of minor differences and the size difference is about 3 mm vertically. The fact that the Post Office used mainly (possibly exclusively?) strips of miniature sheet stamps on its serviced first day covers (i.e. each sheet produced two se tenant strips of three) has resulted in an apparent complete sell-out of miniature sheets in late August and a scarcity of FDC's with other than mini sheet stamps on them - wonder if they are always totally innocent of the consequences of their own policies?

WARWICK PATERSON (Contd.)

THE NEW POSTAL RATES (1st OCT. 1977)

Post Office staff have given every appearance for months of being as much in the dark about some of the finer points of the new rates as I was. Dealing with the salient points only (the whole story would require a special issue of "Newsletter"). Our mail has now gone metric - a fact which we (trusting souls that we are) accept as for our own good - like numerous other miracles of the modern age.

The main rate is 10¢ for "standard letters". These are defined as rectangular in shape and the length must be not less than the width multiplied by 1.4. It must be no smaller than 90 x 144mm and not larger than 120 x 235mm, with a thickness not greater than 5mm (you're getting worried? - join the club). There are special rates for "other articles" and "non-standard letters" and parcels. Airmail letters are 12¢ for the first 10g. Registration is 35¢ for \$16 and insurance 60¢ for the first \$50 (10¢ for each additional \$50). "Standard letters" it will be noted are not defined by weight or whether sealed or unsealed. Apparently the UPU has adopted these standards. The standard is the basis for the design of automatic mail processing systems and it also makes manual sorting easier.

POSTAFIX 7¢ and 8¢

The change of postal rates in October announced in the 1977 Budget will result in these surcharges becoming obsolete. Another report suggests that as the machines were made in the U.S.A. to fit U.S.A. stamps, even the moths don't fit them properly - ah me! Colin Capill reports that from his observations it is likely that neither Blue nor White gum will be scarcer.

C.P. CATALOGUE USERS ALERT

A printing error appears on Temporary pages P9, P10, P11, T10 of the 1977 Revision in that they should state "1977 Revision" and not "1976".

SELLING ?

I shall be in Wellington on Saturday, 29th October for the full day. Readers in Wellington who are considering selling are invited to write to me before 14th October, giving a brief description of the material they have for sale so that suitable arrangements may be made in advance.

Write to: P.O. Box 5555, Auckland, 1.

A N N O U N C I N G

The opening of our new branch in SYDNEY. Australian clients are invited to order direct from -



CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD.,
P.O. BOX 419,
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SYDNEY, N.S.W.,
AUSTRALIA.

Watch "Stamp News" for some outstanding offers over the next few months. As always, we shall be specialising exclusively in N.Z. Such is the popularity of N.Z. stamps today that we believe that old friends and new in Australia will find it quick and convenient to order from our "pied à terre" in Sydney.



**Modern New Zealand stamps have produced a
fascinating range of varieties, some very rare.**

NZ NOTES (Contd.)

EARLY N.Z. STAMPS PERFORATED BY TWO DIFFERENT HEADS OF THE SAME OR DIFFERENT GAUGE

As mentioned last month, Dr. Nigel Eastgate of Dunedin continues with some further observations and reflections on the above.

Note: His references relate to the series "The Postage Stamps of NZ", published by the Royal Philatelic Society of NZ (Inc.), Volumes I to IV.

"The other striking thing that comes out of these volumes is that after the two-perf system for George V stamps had given way (in most cases) to perf 14 x 13½ throughout from 1922 onwards, the two-perf method was still used with two 14 x 13½ heads and thus presumably on two machines to save the tedious frame adjustment. The two heads are listed, the first in 1914, the second "later". (Vol. I, p624 and 629).

This idea is explicit for the 4d (I.309-10) 1922-5 and the 5d (I.313) 1926; and implicit in the descriptions of perf varieties of the 6d (I.314) and 9d (I.316), where sheets are mentioned with the fifth row imperf or with the top four or five rows imperf, a significant place in the two-perfing even though these are nominally 14 x 13½ throughout. The mention of one row of perfs doubled in the 5d (I.313) may be significant too.

I note that the 1913 Life Insurance and the 1909 Dominion were perforated with the 1907 14 x 15 combs and that no double perfs are described in them. Perhaps they were not involved in "experiments", but then it is surprising that there are not more faulty alignments, especially with the larger sheet size of the Dominion (10 rows of 24). The 14 x 15 Universal is described with double perfs.

Mere errors of "stepping" or slipping in the comb machine would tend to produce not double perfs, but varieties of the type shown in IV.85, which can happen even these days.

I note with interest that double perfs are defined (I.606) as existing "where the original machine or one of the same gauge was used", so my particular block's situation is already covered.

(Dr. Eastgate refers to his F5c block (p.14x15) with double perfs two perf heads se tenant - see September NL).

I can't find out when power machines were introduced, but it was later than 1910 (I.624). As I said before, these would be more likely than treadles to have produced the double-perfs of the top row and selvedge (if someone had slow reflexes in turning it off!) and the earliest note of these I can find is in a ½d King Edward, (I think that's in II in the perf supplement).

Above all, why in heaven did they go on with a two-frame process right up to 1930 when a little design ingenuity would have given a single stable frame? Do you know how they get over this nowadays? Of course, they're all in England now, I suppose.

By design ingenuity, I mean for instance having the frame riding under the back of the machine with only the holding pins protruding up to hold the sheets, in which case they would travel in slots and could hold the lower and side selvedges simultaneously. There would doubtless be more elegant methods possible.

I hope this helps your food for thought"

NOTES BY C.P.

Re 5d Swordfish (see Newsletter Notes - April)

I am indebted to Mr. T.K. Robinson for sending me a 5d Swordfish undoubtedly perf 14½ x 13½. He also sent a photostat copy of a sheet from the Newsletter dated June, 1952!

However, I am satisfied that the latter is not relevant and seems to refer only to peculiarities in the perf 13½ x 13½ (C.P.L8f). The 14½ x 13½ still seems to be new to all and I am able to add something new regarding it.

ANOTHER VARIETY MISCELLANY

This month many items of not excessive price - some scarce. However, all good varieties!

FULL FACE QUEEN

- 202 (a) SG.10 (unused) Richardson 2d print on unwatermarked soft paper. Blue shade. There are several minor thin spots - it is a superb and very scarce item. Cat. \$300 - our ridiculous price \$50.00

SECOND SIDEFACES

- 203 (a) D1h (x) ½d Black, perf 11, "Waterlow" The famous "HAIF" flaw in superb used condition \$25.00
 (b) D1c (y) Ditto, perf 10 x 11 The perforation variety 11 x 10 - essential \$2.00
 (c) D2m (z) 1d Rose, perf 10 x 11 The perf variety 11 x 10 - basic! \$5.00

1898 PICTORIALS

- 204 (a) E4b 1½ Boer War, perf 14 The famous Row 2/12 re-entry - incredible in its extent. MINT - if a little off-centre. \$30.00
 (b) E4a Ditto, perf 11 Companion to the above - this time superb dated used. The shade is the rich Reddish chestnut \$30.00
 (c) E12c 4d Lake Taupo, perf 14 A most interesting item. Unused (no gum), but watermark is reversed \$7.50

½d GREEN MT. COOK

- 205 (a) F4b (w) Cowan (wmk'd), perf 14 Beautiful dated used of the scarce watermark "inverted and reversed" \$15.00
1d UNIVERSAL

- 206 (a) G2b "Pirie" paper, perf 14 A gorgeous copy of the elusive Deep Carmine (guaranteed)! \$2.50

- (b) G5a Cowan (wmk'd) perf 14 Lovely copy - watermark inverted and reversed \$6.00

KING EDWARD VII

- 207 (a) H7c 8d Blue - perf 14 x 13½ Superb used - watermark inverted (unpriced in CP) \$12.50

1d DOMINION

- 208 (a) J1a De la Rue A delightful single mint. It shows book-let (bars) selvage two sides and the shade is Ruby. A lovely check-item for anyone with this issue to sort \$8.00

- (b) J2a Jones paper Lovely used copy of the watermark inverted (unpriced in CP) \$12.50

- (c) J3a De la Rue unsurfaced Most unusual (mint) and shows the unsurfaced paper well. A single with side selvage. Or a single \$7.50
 \$6.00

- (d) J4a De la Rue sideways wmk Mint, fine, slightly off-centre single 50¢

- (e) J5a "Litho" wmk in mint set of two. Blue-green and nearly colourless yellow-green wmk 50¢

- (f) J6a Cowan Lovely single shows excessive plate wear \$1.50
Or single 50¢

C.P. (CONTINUED)

From careful examination of Mr. Robinson's single copy it seems quite clear to me that it is from a sheet perfed from left to right (or right to left), not top to bottom of the sheet as is every sheet of L8f. So that fact may lead to an uncovering of more information. The problem remains difficult in that we are still without any mint blocks or even singles on which to do more research. The "14½" certainly seems fundamentally different from the "13½" - not just a perf aberration. And it certainly seems to be rare.

1d DOMINION

- 208 (g) J6a Ditto Inverted watermark. Lovely top selvage
 Block of four mint \$20.00
 Or single mint \$5.00
 Or single superb used \$7.50
- (h) JO2a Jones "Official" Mint single \$2.50
- KING GEORGE V RECESS
- 209 (a) KV5d (a) and (b) A superb used set. The major plate
 20 re-entries of the 4d Violet Row 1/6 and Row 4/10 (the
 latter the famous "club foot" re-entry. Quite
 unrepeatable \$25.00
- (b) K5a 4d Yellow, perf 14 x 13½ A gorgeous used single.
 Not only dated, but features the major plate 20 re-entry
 Row 4/10. Rare! \$35.00
- (c) K5c Ditto Two perfs se-tenant in vertical pair The
 top stamp has the Row 4/10 re-entry - must be terribly
 scarce - fine used \$40.00
- (d) KO4a 3d Chocolate (Official) Fine used, perf 14 x 13½,
 watermark inverted \$2.50
- (e) KO4b Ditto, perf 14 x 14½ Fine used, inverted \$2.50
- (f) KO12c 1/- in Vermilion (used) The two perf pair. With
 genuine 1922 date (unpriced in CP). Very rare, superb
 used \$75.00
- GEORGE V SURFACE
- 210 (a) ½d Green Nice set of four mint blocks of four. K13a
 De la Rue in Deep Green, K13c Jones (top corner serial
 no.) and K13d art paper, very bright Blue watermark on
 HM paper and a block of four of the doubly gummed
 paper (one stamp perf stain). Superb varieties all \$35.00
- (b) K13c ½d Jones Nice mint single \$2.00
- (c) K13c Ditto This time the rare watermark inverted in
 superb used (unpriced in CP) \$25.00
- (d) K13g ½d Reversed watermark Inverted! Nice in finest
 used \$8.00
- (e) KO13c ½d Jones Official Mint single \$1.00
- 211 (a) K14a ½d War stamp In fine mint - bottom selvage block
 of four \$2.00
- 212 (a) K15a 1d Field Marshal Cowan perf 14. Fine top selvage
 serial number block \$1.25
 Or single 30¢
- (b) K15b Ditto, perf 14 x 15 Nice mint single 20¢
- (c) K15d Ditto Wiggins Teape Scarce - lovely mint single
 with its distinctive vertical mesh \$4.00
- 213 (a) K17b 1½d Orange-brown De la Rue - nice single \$1.50
- (b) K17e Ditto Wiggins Teape Lovely top selvage - mint ... \$25.00
 Or copy with minor stain \$2.50
- 214 (a) K18a 2d Yellow De la Rue Superb contrasting set of the
 two shades. Pale yellow and Deep Orange - mint \$14.50
- (b) K18b Ditto Jones Superb mint block of four in Pale
 Yellow \$6.00
 Or single \$1.50
- (c) K18c Art Paper Block of four \$2.00
- (d) K18h 2d Wiggins Teape Lovely single in Yellow \$4.00
- (e) K18h 2d Ditto In Orange - mint. The watermark inverted,
 single \$7.50
- 215 (a) K19b 3d Chocolate Fine dated used. The "flaw on face"
 Row 6/8 \$10.00

GEORGE V RECESS PRINTED

All in super-superb mint blocks of four. These seldom last long so do not delay.

- 220 (a) K4c 3d Chocolate Two perfs se tenant in block of four.. \$40.00
 (b) K5c Yellow As above - se tenant perfs in fine block of four \$24.00
 (c) K9c 7½d Deep Red Brown As above, se tenant perfs \$70.00
 (d) K11c 9d Sage Green As above, se tenant perfs \$120.00

OFFICIALS

- 221 (a) KO4c 3d Chocolate Two perfs in block \$50.00
 (b) KO8c 6d Carmine Two perfs in block of four \$120.00
 (c) KO12c 1/- Orange-vermilion Two perfs in block - glorious! \$90.00
 (d) KO12a 1/- perf 14 x 13½ Beautiful Vermilion in rare block of four \$100.00
 (e) KO18e 2d Yellow (surface) Cowan, perf 14 "No stop" in Official in fine selvage block of four \$8.00

1906 CHRISTCHURCH EXHIBITION PROOF MATERIAL

Rare and desirable - all items offered are listed in the "Proofs" chapter of Volume 1 of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand".

- 219 (a) 3d Essay Printed in Brown on white unwatermarked paper, imperf. Design of the vignette closely resembles that of the issued stamp, but the frame varies in several respects, including overall size, which is smaller than in the issued stamp \$157.50
 (b) Ditto The same design in Brick-red, but printed in reverse (i.e. as a mirror-image). Horizontal crease (not noticeable from front), but a very attractive item.. \$148.75
 (c) 3d Plate Proof Printed in Black on thick glazed unwatermarked paper, imperf., from the plates used for printing the issued stamps \$141.25
 (d) 3d Die Proof A complete die-proof of the approved design. The frame (in dull Ultramarine) is printed on thick card, while the vignette, printed in bright Chestnut, is printed on thin paper and pasted into position. Dimensions of the card are 50mm x 32mm approx. The die proof \$525.00
 (e) 6d Essay Printed in Deep Pink on white unwatermarked paper, imperf. As in Lot 219 (a) above, the vignette design is almost identical to that of the issued stamp, but the frame shows several differences \$157.50
 (f) 6d Die Proof Vignette printed in Bright Mauve, frame in Deep Olive Green - otherwise specification is as for the 3d die proof (Lot 219 (d) above). A magnificent item \$568.75

SELECTION OF OLD AND NEW VARIETIES - offered on behalf of a client.

- 222 (a) ZO2j and ZO6g 2/- and 5/- Long Type Fiscals (mint) in pairs. One stamp of each shows "no stop after official". \$95.00
 (b) S68a 4d Airliner 1955 Plate block 1A. One stamp (Row 11/1) shows a major printing flaw under "4" \$10.00
 (c) O11a 9d Flag (1960 series) In fine used pair. One stamp shows missing red in flag \$125.00
 (d) O15b 1/9 Top Dressing (multi) Mint in pair - major colour shift gives two planes per stamp flying in formation \$50.00
 (e) T31b 1959 "POAKA" Health 3d + 1d Major colour shift - red legs shifted to left in mint single \$15.00

SOME GRAND SPECIALIST ITEMSGEORGE V BOOKLETS

- 200 (a) W4h ½d Green on Cowan paper, perf 14 x 15. A single pane
(this listing is to be reinstated in our 1978 Catalogue
supplement). A nice item and must be fairly scarce \$40.00
- (b) W4d(n) ½d Green in pair with side selvages intact.
"Cameron Bros." 533 Cargill Road, "Dunedin". A lovely
and rare pair \$150.00

SECOND SIDEFACES - ADVERTISEMENT STAMPS - RECONSTRUCTIONS

- 201 (a) 1d Third setting A superb reconstruction of the four
panes. Only one item missing. Mainly Red adson. Most
difficult to achieve these days \$350.00
- (b) 4d Green Reconstruction This one must be terribly scarce.
The stamps themselves are hard enough to find without
adverts. This four-pane reconstruction is short only of
13 copies. Most of the stamps are in fine condition \$750.00

1940 CENTENNIAL OFFICIALS

Fast becoming one of the great "sleeper" issues of NZ stamps. Rising fast in all the catalogues, many collectors are realising that in many of the values good material is simply not available. A fortuitous recent purchase allows us to make the following impressive offering. In the past 15 years we have never had such a fine stock - they will not last.

½d Maori Landing

- 44 (a) S026a Green mint single 50¢
(b) Ditto " used single 50¢
(c) Ditto " mint block \$2.00
(d) Ditto " superb used block \$2.00

2d Abel Tasman

- 47 (a) S029a Green and Choc mint 30¢
Ditto " " " used 20¢

2½d Treaty of Waitangi

- 48 (a) S030a Green and Blue mint 20¢
(b) Ditto " " " used 50¢
(c) Ditto " " " mint block \$1.00
(d) Ditto " " " gorgeous used block \$2.50

3d Settlers at Petone

- 49 (a) S031a Purple and Carmine used \$2.00
(b) Ditto " " " fine used block \$10.00
(c) Ditto " " " used with Brown o/p \$6.00

4d Transport

- 50 (a) S032a Sepia and Purple used \$2.00

6d Refrigerated Transport

- 51 (a) S034a Green and Violet used \$4.50

8d. Maori Council

- 52 (a) S035b Black and Vermilion mint \$7.50
(b) Ditto " " " mint block \$30.00
(c) Ditto " " " used \$7.50

9d Gold Mining

- 53 (a) S036a Olive-green and Orange mint single \$5.00
(b) Ditto " " " " mint block \$20.00
(c) Ditto " " " " used single \$4.50

1/- Kauri

- 54 (a) S038a Sage-green and Deep Green used single \$10.00