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THE 3¢ "ROSE" ISSUES (1980)

By NGAIO GIDDINGS

Plate Markings With the new reprint of the 3¢ Rose sheets a summary of all the 3¢ plates could be of use.

1975 On the first day of issue the sheets appeared from two plates, lA(5) and lB(5), but the blue plate came in two states. In one state the blue plate in Plate lA(5) had the blue vertical line at the top right of the top selvedge (autotron) made up of patches of white and blue and the frame around the "traffic lights" was not broken at the lower right. On the Plate lA(5) sheets and the lB(5) sheets the vertical blue lines opposite Row 2 were made up of dashes. On the B sheets the perforation guide holes had the vertical sides frame made up of dashes, but at the bottom of the sheet the hole was not framed. In addition, blue plate number lB had a break in the top half of the downstroke of the B. Sheets in this state disappeared from sale by mid-1976.

In the 2nd state the blue autotron on the top of the A sheets was in solid colour. The blue frame around the "traffic lights" was broken near the bottom of the right frame. This is retouched roughly in the 1980 reprint with two dots. In the 1B(5) panes there is no break in the left edge of the blue plate no. 1B. The blue lines framing the top and bottom perforation guide holes and the vertical lines level with Row 2 are in solid colour. All successive printings - rotary drum perfs and 1980 reprints - have similar markings.

Perforations In the 1975 issue and in the 1980 reprints with two blue dots the perforations are done by a double comb perforation head commencing on the left of the lB sheets moving from left to right, crossing tandem lB and lA sheets and measuring 14½ x 13½. Consequently, the left selvedge of the lB sheets is not perforated across, but in the lA sheets it is. There is an extra perforation hole at the ends of the vertical lines of perforations. In the 1978 issue the perforation is done by a continuous rotary perforation of the same gauge running evenly across the sheets, including all left selvedges and right selvedges. Again, there is an extra hole at each end of the vertical perforations. The three-sided perforation guides are there, but not pierced. A fresh range of sheet nos. was commenced. The sheets from the 1980 reprints with two dots are similar to the previous 2nd state printings, but again a fresh range of sheet numbers appears.

CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD

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P.O. Box 17 WOKING SURREY ENGLAND

NGAIO GIDDINGS - 3¢ ROSE (Contd.)

Flaws In the 1st state of the 1975 issue only, the frames were smudgy without a clear dot. Flaws or retouches appeared in the frames of the A plate sheets at Rows 1/1, 1/5-10, 2/1 over "AND", 2/4, 2/5, 8/7 right frame and 8/9 by "Q". In the B plate sheets flaws or retouches occurred in Rows 9/2 and 10/3, in the form of pale patches. In the 2nd state all these disappeared except for some multi-positive flaws in the form of blue dots. The frames were now in a darker blue with a distinct dot pattern.

Flaws etc. These appeared in the A plate frame at Rows 3/3 top frame, 3/10 below the "A" of "AND" and in the right frame of 8/10. Row 9/10 has a small retouch to the right of "NEW". There are many other small flaws. The most notable is a large retouch at the bottom of the right frame of Row 1/6, Plate $\overline{\rm lB}$, which developed in the rotary perforation sheets and the reprint with two dots after a small flaw in the first 2nd stage sheets appeared.

All the above issues had the same flaws in the centres as the same cylinders were used for each. "A" plate - Row 2/1, red flaws at the right of the flower; Row 8/4, red flaw close to the inner right frame. In the "B" plate there is a mauve flaw at the left of the flower. In Row 7/3 there are two flaws in the green - one across the lower leaf stem and another in the form of vertical lines across the lower right leaf vertically. The most interesting red flaw in the red lB plate occurred at Row 6/9 where a long red dotted line appeared twisting about the centre of the flower. This has almost disappeared in the 1978 and 1980 issues.

THE 9¢ "ROSE" REPRINT WITH ONE BLUE DOT

Sheets of the new 1A and 1B reprints appear to be exactly similar to the 1975 printings.

PRESENTATION STAMPS

By Colin Hamilton, our UK Director

For many years it was (and possibly still is) the rather agreeable custom of the New Zealand Postmaster General to make occasional presentations of sets of NZ stamps to important visitors and guests. Stamps for inclusion in such sets were drawn from Post Office archives and were, until the George V period, usually given one of a number of different and distinctive cancellations — a glorious display of this material was included in Mr. Marcel Stanley's superb "London 1980" exhibit, which many readers may have had the good fortune to see.

Sometimes, however, the stamps were not defaced in any way and would thus be indistinguishable from their normally-issued counterparts, if removed or separated from the original folder or booklet in which they were presented. I have seen several of these uncancelled presentation sets, some very simple and consisting of a few relatively common stamps, others considerably more elaborate, but none even approaching the range and importance of one which recently came into my hands. Housed in a handsome morocco leather wallet inscribed in gold "POSTAGE STAMPS OF NEW ZEALAND AND ITS DEPENDENCIES", the set runs to 309 stamps (160 NZ and 149 from the Dependencies). A manuscript note on the fly-leaf indicates that the presentation was made on 29th March 1929 and the contents bear this out. For the record and for general interest, it is well worth detailing the NZ issues. Included are:

Full Face Queens - set of six perforated, ld - l/- (interestingly, the Id, 2d and 6d are not the reprints, but the issued stamps in the later colours); ½ Newspaper; First Sidefaces - set of eight to 5/-; Second Sidefaces - set of ten to 1/-; First Pictorials - set of thirteen London Prints to 5/- (no 2½d WAKATIPU) and set of fifteen Local Prints covering all values and colour changes; ½d Mt. Cook green; ld Universal - London Print and Surface Print; Edward VII - set of nine to l/- (both 4d's); George V - set of fifteen recess-printed to l/- including colour changes and set of nine surface printed to 3/- including ½d War Stamp and three different l½d's; 1920 Victory - complete (including 2d surcharge); 1925 Dunedin set; Express Delivery; Life Insurance - "VR" ¼d, ld, 3d, 6d, 1/-, "No VR" ld blue, 2d brown-red, ½d, ld red, l½d brown, 2d purple, 3d yellow-brown, 6d; Postage Due - first type set of eleven to 2/-, second type ½d (2), ld (2), 2d (2), 3d; Officials - First Pictorial 2d, 2/-, ld Universal, Edward ½d - 1/- set of five, George V recess set of six to 1/-, surface set of eight to 2/-, Long Fiscal 2/-, 5/-, £l.

COLIN HAMILTON (Contd.)

A number of great rarities there! The Dependencies (Aitutaki, Penryhn, Raratonga/Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa) are virtually complete of the period and for good measure include the rare Niue 1/- variety "Tahae Joined" (SG.15).

The original recipient must have been either an unusually important figure, or an extraordinarily fortunate one, to be so privileged. In any event he was fortunate, in that the person delegated to compile the set apparently had some philatelic knowledge. It is most unusual for presentation sets to contain anything more than a representative selection of face-different stamps.

Just one or two of the stamps - almost entirely Dependencies and fortunately all of relatively inconsequential value - have defects due to adhesion or careless housing, otherwise condition throughout, is superb unmounted mint.

We gladly paid the high asking price for this rare and important property and to be quite truthful, we'd be very happy to tuck it away in the bottom drawer for a year or two. But in keeping with our normal policy, we'll be equally happy to entertain serious enquiries, with a view to allowing someone else the pleasure of owning such a treasure and the no lesser pleasure of possessing an asset which, if anything is certain in the world in which we live, is sure to appreciate.

Note: Mr. Colin Hamilton will be in New 2ealand for the period of Zeapex '80 (23rd to 31st August.) Clients wishing to meet him will be most welcome at the "CP" stand on the Exhibition ground floor at the Trillo's complex in Downtown, Auckland.

NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT BY WARWICK PATERSON

SYDPEX '80 NEWS

A new section (Group "M") has been added to the entries which will be accepted for the Exhibition. This is for non-competitive entries (but not Court of Honour material). Also there is now a sub-section for literature entries published outside Australia.

Some relaxation has been allowed in the requirements for detailed descriptions item by item of each exhibit for insurance purposes. I can vouch for the fact that several prospective competitors had complained about the requirement to supply multiple photocopies of each page of their entry. Individual items with a value of A\$250 or more now have to be separately listed and there may be further relaxation.

LONDON '80

It is with much pleasure that we report that the Chairman of "Zeapex '80", Mr. Gerald Ellott of Auckland, has gained a Gold Medal at London '80 for his New Zealand Chalon collection. He also gained a special prize. Mr. Marcel C. Stanley also received a Gold Medal for his New Zealand Proofs and Essays collection. The CP Specialised Catalogue of New Zealand Stamps received a Silver Medal in the Literature class, as did the Royal Philatelic Society of Zealand's Vol. VI of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand". Another New Zealand resident, Mr. J. Mc. Thomson, received a Bronze Medal and a Bronze in the Literature class was awarded to the "New Zealand Stamp Collector". Congratulations. Gerald and Marcel.

1970 PICTORIALS 8¢ on 4¢ - POSTAFIX ISSUE

I have seen two strips of 20 of the above issue with the Deep Green veins in the wings omitted. This is one of the most common missing colours of recent years and it is not really surprising that it has turned up in this surcharged Postafix form.

1972 3¢ WANGANUI CENTENARY

Mr. Francis Mahony has shown me this stamp with the shield in the centre in a Light Turquoise shade, rather than the deeper Blue of the normal stamp. Fading tests in chloromine "T" and sunlight have failed to reproduce this variety.

COMMEMORATIVES

A few "collection" lots mounted on pages. Delightful material - quite hard to put together these days and nicely presented.

0.101		age and meety processure.	
926	(a)	1956 SOUTHLAND CENTENNIAL - 2d., 3d., 8d., mounted on one page and fully annotated. The most interesting right hand vertical three rows of the sheet (ref: Handbook, Vol. IV, page 244). The stamps show what is believed to be progressive damage to the transfer roller as the plate was	
		laid down, including the gradual disappearance of a line of shading. Essential for any study of the recess engraved process. Block of 24 (3 x 8) incl. top, bottom and right selvedge. Stamps alone cat. \$60.	\$50.00
	(b)	This fascinating page 1957 FROZEN MEAT EXPORT Let's hope the subject of this isn't a hazy memory by the time this Newsletter is published. Nicely mounted on four pages with interleaving. There are mint and used copies of 4d. and 8d., mint multiples and singles (m) and (u), plus block of four (m)	Ψ30.00
	(c)	4d. inverted wmk. 8d. R10/1, R8/11, R9/12 plate flaws in (m) multiples. Cat. at over \$130	\$100.00
		showing the more prominent retouches and flaws from the two plates. Superior study material (another recess printed issue)	\$15.00
	(d)	FIRST TASMAN FLIGHT 6d Another specialist study on four pages. The	720.00
	(e)	major flaws demonstrated in three pages of plates and large multiples. 1958 HAWKES BAY CENTENNIAL 2d., 3d., 8d On one page (m) and (u) copies, plus two selvedge-positional blocks in the 3d. showing R10/2	\$20.00
	(f)	flaw present and absent. Not listed in CP, but this must be one of the best "two-state" items going - naked eye	\$25.00
		(M) and (u) copies, plate blocks 2d (u) - a study of the major flaws (thumb print etc.) 3d., flaws, doctor blade flaws, 8d. flaw and the	
	, ,	bottom three rows 3d. value with part double perts. Cat. at over \$150.	\$125,00
	(g) (h)	1959 RED CROSS 3d. + ld. On two pages. Plates plus several major flaws. "Greenland", "Falkland Is." etc. 1962 TELEGRAPH CENTENARY 3d. and 8d. Lovely lot on eight pages of	\$12.50
		in (m) blocks and in used singles and partial Brown omission is there.	
	(i)	Catalogued well over \$150 - our giveaway price	\$100.00
	(j)	used R5/3, R5/8, R3/2, R4/6, plates etc. Nice	\$40.00
		(u). Cat. over \$70	\$50.00
)	in pos. blocks. Four states of "Soldiers on the Beach" and many other flaws. Similar range in the 5d., incl. "Red partial omission". This	
/ (is a small specialist collection of good depth and highest order and well mounted and annotated	\$100.00
	(1)	1965 CENTENARY ITU 9d. Two pages - major retouches and flaws, incl.	
	(m)	R2/4, R9/6 etc. Good 1965 CENTENARY OF GOVERNMENT 4d. On three pages. Minor flaws in mint blocks	\$12.50 \$3.00
	(n)	mint blocks 1965 ICY 4d. On seven pages. Many mint blocks showing flaws. Invert (m) and (u). Block of 12 shows paper crease and resultant "double" or dragged print. An interesting block shows five copies	43.00
	(o)	with darker shade in last vertical row. Valued to sell at \$75 1966 JAMBOREE 4d. On four pages - largely mint blocks, minor flaws,	\$50.00
		shades etc	\$5.00
	(q)	worth Well over 1967 ROYAL SOCIETY - 4¢ and 8¢ Super collection on 19 pages. In- cluded is a page devoted to the rare "five-number" plate block and the flaw series (R8/1) which accompanied it. Many flaws are there in	\$100.00
	(r)	Blocks, imprint block and two singles, 4¢ invert wmk, and a similar study of the 8¢ (of which there are 80 or so copies cat. alone at \$40). Superb showing - incredible buying	\$150.00
		positive flaws of this issue. Two copies inverted wmk. (u) - these cat. at least at \$80. Fine lot	\$85.00

SECOND SIDEFACES

More from the "Robb" collection. This month a coverage of the plate flaws, varieties of watermark, a small collection of forgeries and a selection of delightful "freaks" - the sort of thing club talks are made of.

d. E	J.ACK	
931 (a) White line across the centre of the stamp (constant). Dlc (p.l0xll). Dle (p.ll) Dlh (p.ll) coarse Row 7/5 Upper left pane). The fabulous "HAIF" flaw. One of the ancestors of the genre any modern flaw collector should have. In VLH block of four - unbeatable (W6b paper) In used (dated - heavyish pmk - minor thin) Dle Ditto Over ear. The two	\$5.00 \$5.00 \$6.00 \$275.00 \$10.00 \$5.00
ld. R	OSE	
(Row 4/6 Top Left Pane (Plate 7) Large rectangle (uncoloured) at top left margin over "ND" of Zealand - also notch bottom right hand margin: Perf 10 (u) - "chisel flaw" b) Perf 10 x 11 (u) c) Perf 11 (coarse) (u) e) Perf 10 x 11 Heavily used on good dated cover f) Ditto As a pair on superb cover g) Ditto On fairly good cover - stamps inverted (pair) h) Perf 11 As part of a strip of three on a cover bearing no less than seven 1d. stamps j) Ditto On 2d. cover In hinged block of four - also 3/6 "Crown flaw"	\$3.00 \$3.00 \$3.00 \$3.00 \$5.00 \$20.00 \$10.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$32.50
(Row 1/4 Top Right Pane (Plate 7) Left top margin again - over "D" of Zealand: a) Perf 10 (u)	\$3.00 \$3.00 \$3.00 \$1.00 \$12.50
	Row 9/2 Lower Left Pane (Plate 7) The "screwdriver" flaw: a) Perf 12 x 11½ (7mm paper). A pair (dated). Some small creases, but rare and nice b) Perf 10 Unused (thin) c) Ditto Used in fine dated pair d) Perf 10 x 11 Mint - part o.g. e) Used ff Perf 11 Mint LH g) Used in superb pair h) Perf 11 (coarse paper) - Unused i) Used pair fine j) Perf 10 on cover, as part of fine pair k) Or lovely cover with block of four (creased) incl. flaw 11 Perf 11 x 10 Superb used. Strip of six, Row 9, Nos. 1 to 6 incl., screwdriver flaw - spectacular	\$20.00 \$2.00 \$5.00 \$12.50 \$3.00 \$5.00 \$5.00 \$15.00 \$15.00
935 ((a) Two pages showing an extraordinary range of plate flaws in this ld. value - some undoubtedly transient, some constant. Wonderful study material - several mint copies (36 items with some duplication). All are naked eye. If you have Handbook Vol. IV - this is your chance! RENEW CP NEWSLETTER SUB FOR 80/81	\$100.00 \(\sum_{\text{\text{\$\sum_{\text{\text{\$\sigma}}}}} \)

SECOND SIDEFACES (Contd.)

2d. LII	AC	
936 (a)	Another amazing page which starts off with the spectacular substituted electro (of which four positions are known). There is the cracked plate of 1889 and nine other major items, including Row 3/3, 7/1, 4/4, some transient. Lovely and specialised page	\$40.00
937 (a) (b) (c) (d)	Perf 10 x 11 (u) Perf 11 (u)	\$15.00 \$10.00 \$8.00 \$8.00
938 (a) (b) (c)	Perf 10 x 11 (u)	\$3.00 \$3.00 \$3.00
2½d. BI	<u>UE</u>	
939 (a) (b)	Row 9/1, Top Right Pane D4j Dated (if heavy) used example of the large white flaw over "2½d.". Good - perf 11 D4e, p.10 (advert) Poor copy of "broken E in Revenue"	\$7.00 \$2.00
3d. YEI	LOW	
940 (a)	D5d, Perf 10 (Row 4/3 top right pane) Creased copy shows "flaw on neck"	\$2.50
5d. BLA	-	
941 (a) (b) (c)	Perf 10 (u)	\$15.00 \$15.00 \$15.00
6d. BRC	<u>WN</u>	
942 (a) (b)	Row 10/6, Lower Left Hand Pane (Die 1) Perf 10, (D8e) Superb and rare fine used shows flaw from left margin to "X". Lovely item and scarce as hen's teeth. D8h Ditto, Die 2 (p.10) Two major plate flaws (i) on cheek, hinged, unused, o.g. (ii) on eye. Fair used.	\$35.00
	unused, o.g. (ii) on eye. Fair used	\$55.00
1/- REI	BROWN	
943 (a)	flaw to nose	\$30.00
(b)	around .	\$15.00
(c)	1/1, lower right pane), but most spectacular. Fine dated used	\$20.00
(d) (e)	D10h Ditto (p.10 x 11) Fiscal shows the "bulbous nose"	\$5.00
		\$50.00
	WATERMARK VARIETIES	
INVERT	L WMKS.	
944 (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)	D2j, perf 10 adson (u) D2p, ld. Perf 11, unused (small stains) Or fine used (UHM) D3k, 2d. Perf 11 (coarse) (u) D10c, 1/-, Perf 12 x 11½, wmk. W4 (u). (Cat. \$15). Fair only D2p, ld. Perf 11 (coarse) Fine used pair Or single	\$15.00 \$5.00 \$15.00 \$20.00 \$5.00 \$3.00 \$40.00 \$20.00
	Or pair one stamp letters (marginal)	\$45.00

EARLY LIFE INSURANCE

It's been a long time since we attempted a listing. Some most attractive material here.

It's been a long time since we attempted a listing. Some most attractive material	here.
1891 - 1904 (With letters "VR")	
927 (a) X1, ½d. "VR" PURPLE Interesting little lot of nine selected fine used. Includes Xla (p.12 x 11½), two super shades finest used; Xlb (p.11 x 10); Xle (p.11 wmk. W4); Xlg (p.11, wmk. W7a or b). Fine copies (good	¢25.00
shades) X2 ld. "VR" BLUE Lovely little specialised lot (incl. scarce items). X2a (p.12 x 11½, wmk. W5) good dated used; X2b (p.12 x 11½) fine used; X2c (p.10) two shades; X2d (p.10 x 11) fine; X2f (p.11) letters wmk., (crease) plus three shade singles; X2h (p.11, wmk. W7a or b) five fine shades; X2j (p.14 x 11, wmk. W7a) v. fine used. This is a complete	\$25.00
collection	\$50.00
wmk. W7a) two shades, fine used. Another page waiting to be mounted!	\$50.00
(d) X4a 3d. "VR" BROWN Very fine used of this scarce one	\$75.00
(e) X4a 3d. Ditto Superb looking copy with slightly pulled perf at base. (f) X5a, 6d. "VR" GREEN Superb dated used copy - outstanding	\$15.00 \$150.00
(g) X5a 6d. Ditto Intact copy with clear dated Auckland pmk. if heavy	\$35.00
(h) X6a, 1/- "VR" ROSE Good used copy with unclear postmark. Slight soiling	\$200.00
(i) X6a 1/- Ditto Superb looking used with slightly blunt corner. Lovely example to prize	\$200.00
	4200.00
Without letters "VR" - Some good simiplified gap fillers.	
928 (a) ½d. GREEN Mint	\$1.00 50¢
(b) ld. BLUE Used	\$30.00
(c) Id. RED Mint	\$2.50
Used	\$1.00
(d) 1½d. BLACK Used	\$5.00
(e) Tod. ORANGE-BROWN Mint	\$2.00
Used	\$1.00
(f) 2d. BROWN-RED Fine superb used	\$300.00
Dated minor crinkle	\$175.00
(g) 2d. PURPLE Used	\$15.00
(h) 2d. YELLOW Mint	\$5.00
Used	\$4.00
(i) 3d. YELLOW-BROWN Mint	\$20.00
Used	\$18.00
(j) 3d. CHOCOLATE Mint	\$8.00
Used	\$20.00
(k) 6d. PINK Mint	\$15.00
Used	\$15.00
AND	723,00
929 (a) The complete "NO VR" set fine used. We can only do one such set - but what a set:	\$400.00
930 (a) X10d, 2d. YELLOW (Cowan p.14) The recorded, but unlisted inverted watermark - finest used - rare	\$50.00
KING GEORGE V OFFICIAL	
917 (a) KO10d, 8d. Red-Brown Plate 39. One of the great plate block rarities	
of all NZ philately. The block is unhinged mint. Selvedge bears an unobtrusive sheet fold and pin hole. It is, however, a superb and very rare piece. Stamps the finest	n request
KING EDWARD VII	
Continuing with MINT unhinged blocks.	
918 (a) H2a_2d. Mauve In absolutely clean, well-centred block. As good as	
you'll ever do	\$110.00
(b) H6b, 6d. Carmine, Perf. 14 x 14½ Condition as lot (a). Quite perfect. A brilliant block of four	\$150.00

REVERSED WMKS.

945 (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g)	D2j ld. (p.10) Good (u) D2p, ld. (p.11) Coarse (u). Fine D1h, 2d., p.11 (W/low) (u) fine D2m, ld., p.10 x l1 (u) fair D4e, 22d., p.10 (advert) f.u. D1e, 2d., p.11, f.u. D2p, ld., p.11 MINT (UHM)	\$7.50 \$20.00 \$50.00 \$12.50 \$60.00 \$30.00			
SIDEWAYS WMK.					
946· (a) (b)	Dle(t) ½d. Black The only copy known. This item has been sold, but is recorded here for specialist record	\$250.00			

FORGERIES



947 (a) A superb showing on two pages of these album weeds. A chance to start your own collection? Mr. Robb explains the process of deduction and observation which explodes the validity of each. There are ld., 2d., and 4d., forged mixed perfs, forged imperfs, compound 10 and 123 (latter forged) seen in ld., 2d., 3d., 6d., Die 2. Perf 12% forged ld., 2½d., and perf 10 x 12½ mixed perfs forged. Study the criminal mind.

superb rarity. The squared circle pmk., is heavy

\$50.00

\$200.00

FREAKS

948 (a) This time on four fascinating pages. There is the ld. illegal bisect (11 MR 99), paper fold perf variety in 1d., ld., perfs through centre and an extraordinary strip of three 2d., with all vertical perfs through the centres (also incl. imperf selvedge). Perf 10. Two covers show ld. blind perf p.10 and p.11. A cover (p.11) shows only four holes between ld. vertical pair. Three copies of the ld. show thick left margin - a startling variety. There is a series of partially imperf ld., (2 pr. 3 singles), 2d.(3 singles), examples of patching in the ld. (u) and a spectacular "off centre" series

\$100.00

WARWICK PATERSON (Contd.)

14¢ BOOKLET OUTLETS

From the 12th May the current 14¢ Booklets have been available through a number of unconventional outlets, such as dairies, hotels, service stations, garages, motels and any other retail outlets that are interested. With a face value of \$1.40 the outlets make $14\c$ on each booklet sold. Nice to see the Post Office tuning in to the needs of the community.

30¢ "BLUE SKY"

Further information from the printers. I have recently seen three more copies of this variety, one of which was a "partial" with a certain amount of brown in the sky. I have also heard of several other copies being shown to other dealers, but cannot confirm that they are the variety, not having seen them. The fact that a number of additional copies have turned up (none I may say having evidently been purchased to my knowledge in the South Island, but mainly emanating from the north of the North Island) induced me to write again to the printers enclosing the "partial" copy with a request for a further They answered as follows: opinion.

"The stamp is extremely interesting and it confirms one hypothesis which I have previously postulated. That is to say that these stamps originate from a waste sheet on which the printer was running up colour. I have had your stamp examined by our ink makers, including the Departmental Manager, who coincidentally was responsible for the original mixing of these inks. They remain adamant that the blue colour is separate colour and do not accept that it could be a result of the stone colour changing by immersion or

Would any clients or readers who have anything at all to add to this controversy please contact us, preferably letting us see any material which they may have. Such information will be useful in making a final decision on the Catalogue status of this variety.