



THE KIWI



Hon. Secretary:
Mrs. M. Erskine,
12, Elliot Road,
London. N.W. 4.



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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY.

THE SPECIAL "BLUE CROSS" CACHET.

Although I dislike opening these few notes with the subject of finance, it is so important to the Society that I must do so. I learn from the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A.A. Hard, that there are still quite a number of current subscriptions unpaid although they became due on the 21st November last. I thank all those members who paid promptly and as regards the others, I am sure it is just an oversight on their part. In order to make things easy for them, I have placed a small blue cross at the bottom left-hand corner of the envelope which brings them this issue of "The Kiwi". Before you destroy your envelope, therefore, please do first ascertain if you have this blue cross on it; if there is, please pin your cheque or postal order for 10s6d. to it and post either to me at the address shown above, or direct to Mr. A.A. Hard, 42, Irvine Road, Colchester. Thank you.

NEXT MEETING.

As previously announced, the next meeting will be held on Saturday, 20th March at 2.30 p.m. The meeting place is, as usual, the Kingsley Hotel, Bloomsbury Way, London. W.C.1. On this occasion one or two members will be bringing along material for display and discussion. Any members who will be attending are invited to do likewise. These meetings, with several people showing something, are always most interesting events. For our following meeting, in May, we hope to have with us a visitor from New Zealand, Mrs. M.E. Taylor, past President of the New Zealand Stamp and Cover Club.

LAST MEETING.

At the last meeting of the Society held on Saturday, 23rd January, members had the pleasure of a further visit from our Swindon member, Mr. Bartrop, when he gave his second long and

interesting display and talk on New Zealand philatelic material generally, and Maori art in particular. I had hoped to produce some lengthy notes of this last display in this issue of "The Kiwi", but find it must be held over until the next on account of the long membership register which is included this time.

"THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF NEW ZEALAND, VOLUME III".

I would direct the attention of members to the notes which appear elsewhere in this issue under the above heading. These are taken from a recent issue of the "News Letter" of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand. Unfortunately, I only have one copy of the reproduction of the 43 cancellations mentioned in the last paragraph of our extract. If any members think they can help with identification, I shall be pleased to loan this copy, or, alternatively, they could send an air letter to Mr. D.A. McCurdy, 90, Kelburn Parade, Wellington. W.I., who I am sure will send one by return air mail. Mr. McCurdy is the Editor of the New Zealand Royal's "News Letter", and several of us had the pleasure of meeting him during his visit to Great Britain last year. Any other material or suggestions could be sent to him. I do hope some members of this Society will be able to co-operate.

MAJOR T.H. PINE.

It is with great regret that I have to advise members of the death of Major Harry Pine, one of the founder members of this Society and also a regular attendant both at members' meetings and committee meetings. It is only a few months ago since he left the Army and removed from Woolwich (he was President of the Woolwich Philatelic Society) to Totton, near Southampton. He was taken suddenly ill on the 20th of last month with coronary thrombosis and died two days later. I am sure all members will wish to offer sincere sympathy to Mrs. Pine and her daughter. Harry will be greatly missed in this Society.

In a letter just received, Mrs. Pine says, "Some time ago, (in what we thought then was idle chatter) he said, 'if ever you want advice contact Gerry Erskine and for valuation Harmer Rookes'. ... I am wondering if he ever made any promises of first offers to you or anyone for any items? I believe his New Zealand collection is almost complete from 1882, from some letters we found. The albums are beautifully arranged and I'll hate selling but shall have to eventually as my own capital is small and Harry's was practically all in his stamps. But they gave him great pleasure all his life, especially since he has had so much time on his hands. When he was taken ill, he had left all his 'gear' on the table, and I still feel he must come back and finish what he was doing."

M. ERSKINE (Mrs.)
Hon. Secretary.

RE-ENTRIES ON THE PICTORIALS OF 1898by Albert A. Hard

(concluded)

6d. "Kiwi" green, London Print, S.G.263-4.

The only recorded re-entry on this plate is in Row 4, No. 9. There seems to be some doubt as to whether this is a re-entry or not. It appears as a horizontal line parallel to the bottom frame in the lower right corner and approximately 4 m.m. above it, extending from the right of the base of the lower scroll to the inner frame line of the Revenue tablet, cutting through the E of Revenue. Confirming that this line is a duplication of the bottom frame line are three short perpendicular lines corresponding to the three vertical lines in the ornamentation to the right of PENCE.

Considering the position of this unit on the plate and that, guide lines were scribed on the plate to assist in the transfer process, as can be seen from an examination of the stamps of this issue, 4 m.m. is a considerable displacement. It could be that, the operator "touched down" the transfer roller while positioning it over the plate, and, it was a very tiresome business correcting misplaced impressions.

I have another re-entry on a single stamp, position unknown, which is a shift to the right. It consists of a doubling of the top pearl at the right and, a doubling more pronounced to the right, of the lower scroll and vertical lines in the rectangular ornamentation in the bottom right-hand corner.

6d. "Kiwi", green, Local Print, S.G.278-9.

Row 1, No. 1 A downward shift showing in the bottom left-hand corner of the stamp. It shows immediately below the coloured background of the value label, particularly under the SIX and first E of PENCE, and also in the S of SIX. The outer frame lines in the bottom left-hand corner shows doubling.

Row 1, No. 2. A minor re-entry similar to the above, but the doubling is evident only in the bottom left-hand corner.

6d. "Kiwi", Red, S.G. 310-312, 361-365, 392-3.

As the plate was the same as that used for the 6d. green printings of 1899 the re-entries are the same as described above.

8d. "War Canoe", London print, S.G.265-6.

Two minor re-entries are recorded. Row 5, No. 11, showing as a shift to the right evidenced by an extra coloured line near the top left-hand bevelled corner at the junction of the curved line with the inner horizontal frame line. The right-hand curve of the ornamentation at the middle of the top inner frame line shows

additional colour. Row 10, No. 12. This is a similar type of re-entry with the additional colour showing within both of the outer curves of ornamentation in the middle of the inner frame line at the top of the stamp and also shows a line of colour at the top and between the two curved lines of the right-hand bevelled corner.

8d. "War Canoe", Local Print, S.G.280-1, 366-7, 394.

There are several minor re-entries in this issue, the most prominent is row 10, No. 9. Shift to the left and upwards, lines of colour in the white space of the bevelled curves in both top corners, also top central ornament and scallop ornaments top right corner show doubling. The upward shift is seen as a doubling of the inner top horizontal frame line to the right of the centre ornamentation, while the inner and outer uncoloured boundary of the outline figure show extra lines to the top left of the crown. Dots of colour are seen in the UE of REVENUE. Another prominent re-entry on a single stamp, position unknown, shift to the left. Consists of a doubling of the inner and outer frame lines of figure "8" to the right of the crown, extra lines show above EVE of REVENUE, through bottom of NUE of REVENUE and below these letters, to the left of the crown above N and through the top of E of NEW, and in the white space of the top left bevelled curve.

Most of the minor re-entries consist of extra lines in the top central ornament and/or in the scallop ornaments at top left and right.

9d. "View of Pink Terrace, Rotomahana", London Print, S.G.267.

This value is prolific in re-entries and will pay for careful examination, no fewer than 22 are recorded. They occur mostly in the top and bottom left scrolls and numeral circles and the difference in some cases is very slight making the detail of each difficult to explain without the aid of sketches. The most important are as follows:-

Row 1, No. 2. The re-entry is seen in the upper and lower left-hand corners of the stamp about the coloured circles containing the figure 9. Extra lines are evident in the 9 in the upper circle, while below and slightly to the left of the figure distinct lines show in and below the uncoloured ring enclosing the coloured circle. The scroll immediately to the left of this also shows evidence of doubling. Extra lines are seen in the lower 9 and lines of shading of the coloured circle containing it extend into the uncoloured ring below. The finest is on stamp from Row 1, No. 5. The impression was originally too low and very definite evidence remains in this re-entry. In the upper left-hand corner extra lines are seen in the figure 9 and the coloured circle containing the figure is doubled below showing clearly in the uncoloured ring. The scroll immediately to the left of this is also doubled. In the lower left-hand corner extra lines are seen in the figure 9 and the shading of the coloured circle below into the white ring. Extra lines are also seen in the scroll above and at either side of the circle. The doubling is also

prominent in the letters NE of NEW, POS of POSTAGE and the first N of NINE and in the labels containing these. Particularly is this so in the NE of NEW and the O of POSTAGE. A very fine example of a re-entry.

Row 7, No. 7. Re-entry shows in both the figures 9 and scrolls at the left. A downward doubling showing a line of colour between the inner and outer frame lines at the top, curved lines of colour in the upper and middle portion of the figure 9, the outer circumference of the coloured circle is extended below and to the left of the 9, and a slight doubling of the lower curve of the left scroll is seen to the right of its junction with the vertical frame line. The corresponding scroll at the bottom shows marked doubling below the upper curve and the figure 9 shows two lines of colour at the top.

9d. Local Print S.G. 282-3, 368, 395.

This plate was more carefully laid down and the few re-entries are of a minor character. They occur mostly in the bottom right corner.

Row 1, No. 1. An upward shift seen in the bottom right-hand corner. The upper circumference of the solid circle containing the value figure is extended at the top, while the figure of value shows dots of colour at the top, centre and base. The curved scroll adjacent to the top right of the value circle is doubled above.

Row 1, No. 9. A downward shift seen in the bottom right-hand corner. It shows at the top of the figure 9 and slightly at 4 o'clock on the solid circle of colour containing the 9. The curved scroll adjacent to the top right of the value circle is doubled below.

Row 1, No. 10. An upward shift seen as an elongation of the tongue of the last E of REVENUE and extra lines in the clear space above and to the right of the CE of PENCE. An extra curved line joins the outside top of the curved scroll adjacent to the top right of the value circle to the base of the vertical frame line.

ONE SHILLING, "KEA and KAKA", London Print, S.G. 268-9.

There are a number of re-entries recorded on this value but owing to the colour of the stamp they are more difficult to detect. The most important are:- Row 3, No. 4. This re-entry shows mainly in the letters of POSTAGE and ZEALAND. The upright stroke of the G and E is doubled to the left, while the upright stroke of the T is doubled to both right and left. In ZEALAND the bottom of the Z is doubled and extra lines are seen in AND. The New Zealand label has a slight extension to the right at the top and bottom. Row 6, No. 12. The impression was too high and to the right. Seen clearly in the letters TAGE of POSTAGE, the upright stroke of the T is doubled well to the right. The top wing of the bird on the left is doubled above, while the head and throat of the bird on the right are doubled above and to the right respectively. The cluster of dots at the top right-hand corner of the frame enclosing the birds is doubled and four

extra markings are seen to the right of this cluster jutting on to the outer frame line. The letters AND of ZEALAND show evidence of the re-entry, while the coloured rectangular background of ZEALAND protrudes to the right at the top and the bottom. Row 8, No. 9. This is a doubling to the left, showing prominently to the left of the vertical stroke of the T of POSTAGE and to a less extent to the left of AGE. The letters ND of ZEALAND also show evidence of the re-entry. Row 10, No. 3. This re-entry shows clearly as an almost complete doubling to the left of the letters of POSTAGE, more particularly in STAGE. Row 10, No. 12. Here again the T of POSTAGE shows a shift to the right and a vertical line extends downwards from the right of the horizontal stroke of the letter. Two fainter lines also show to the left of the vertical stroke of the T. A prominent line shows in the upper left of the L of ZEALAND. From the lower right of the coloured background for NEW ZEALAND a line of colour extends to the outer frame line. Two dots of colour are also prominent on the outer frame line to the right of the value circle at the bottom right of the stamp.

ONE SHILLING, Local Print, S.G. 284-7, 369-372, 396-8.

There is only a minor re-entry on this plate in Row 5, No. 11 showing in the letter D of ZEALAND. A prominent vertical line of colour shows in the first stroke of the D and in clear impressions it shows slightly in the Z and the N.

TWO SHILLINGS, "Milford Sound", London Print, S.G.270.

Two re-entries are recorded, Row 11, No. 1. The vertical frame line at the left shows a doubling to the right extending from the top to the leaves of the small cabbage tree. Three of the leaves on the left of the middle cabbage tree show the doubling. The line of shading between the inner and outer frame lines on the right of the stamp also show evidence of the doubling. Row 12, No. 4. The original impression was too low, showing as dots of colour below the design at each corner and also below the stroke of the 2/-. It is also seen in some of the letters of NEW ZEALAND and as extra horizontal lines of colour in the top of the letters P and E of POSTAGE, and in the R.V. and U of REVENUE.

TWO SHILLINGS, Local Print, S.G. 288-9, 373-4, 377, 399-400.

A few minor re-entries, Row 4, No. 6. An upward shift showing as extra colour in the base of the letters UND of SOUND and as a horizontal line of colour above these letters in the uncoloured band below the central scene. Row 6, No. 10. A distinct shift to the right showing as a doubling of the outer frame line to the right of the stamp extending from the bottom right-hand corner for about two-thirds up the stamp. The line of shading between the inner and outer frame lines is also doubled. The curved end of the label containing Milford Sound and the triangular ornaments adjacent are doubled to the right and a spot of colour is seen in the D of SOUND. Row 9, No. 9. A minor re-entry showing only a line of colour below the

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bottom right-hand corner of the frame immediately enclosing the view.
(See Vol. 11 for Row 9/7 and Row 10/6).

FIVE SHILLINGS, "Mount Cook", London Print, S.G.271.

There are three re-entries recorded in Row 6 and described in Vol. 11 of "The Postage Stamps of NEW ZEALAND" which I will give for the benefit of members not possessing a copy of this handbook.

Row 6, No. 6. There is a line through the top of IL and another below LLING of SHILLINGS. The letters of Mount Cook show evidence of doubling and appear to be slightly enlarged. Row 6, No. 7. The horizontal lines of the top are doubled and there is a line through the top of SHIL. The letters of Mt. Cook are doubled and there is a line of colour in the panel under COOK and above ILLI. Row 6, No. 8. There is a line through the top of IL and another below ING of SHILLINGS. There is also a doubling of portions of the frame-line at the bottom.

FIVE SHILLINGS, Local Print, S.G. 290-1, 375-6, 401-2.

No re-entries have so far been reported on this plate.

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If these series of articles have been of some assistance to members, then the labour will not have been in vain.

Albert A. Hard.

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R E V I E W.

The Penny Universal of New Zealand. By G.R. Lee.
Edited by R.J.G. Collins and C.W. Watts.
Published by the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand.

For those who are interested in the "Penny Universal" stamp of New Zealand, this is one book which must be obtained. Mr. G.R. Lee has obviously given considerable time and thought to the study of this stamp, and with excellent results. The historical background to the choice of design and to the production of the Plates is clearly given, but it is the "Booklet" plate and the "Dot" plates of 1904 which are dealt with in a most comprehensive manner. There are numerous excellent illustrations of the varieties, re-entries, etc, to be found, and many details of the layout and touching-up of these Plates.

The Appendix gives a tentative "family tree" of the Dies and Transfer rollers, this provides a nice touch of mystery for the end of the book, the problem is set --- who can solve it?

The volume is beautifully produced in the same way as the New Zealand handbooks Vol. I & II. Sir Heaton Rhodes has written the Preface.

E.C.M.M.

Copies of this Handbook can be obtained through the Secretary.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF NEW ZEALAND, VOLUME III.

To enable this book to be published in July 1955, it will be necessary to allow the printers about twelve months, consequently the editorial work will have to be completed by July. A vast amount of work has already been completed, and it is now possible to estimate that the book will be of approximately the same size as Vol. I.

Mr. Collins has already made drawings of over 1700 different postal markings and work is still proceeding. The drawings have been photographed and a set has been sent round to collectors who are known to possess postal history material. Valuable co-operation and assistance has been received from Messrs. F.H. Jackson, J. Currie, K.J. McNaught, G.W. Sides, G.E. Paterson, R.S.W. Owen, R. Savill, J.S. Richards, H.S. Porter, H.W. Hanlon, R.M. Startup, A.A. Orton, D. Edsall, D. Walker, R. Rowell, J.J. Bishop, G. Forster, C. Hitchings and A.G. Tibble.

Mr. S.R. Dacre will be responsible for the very important section dealing with manuscript cancellations and he has had a gratifying response to the appeal made in an earlier number of the NEWSLETTER for material of this description.

Mr. A.S. Helm of the Public Relations Branch of the Post and Telegraph Department has done a great deal of research into the historical side and he is now busily engaged in drawing up a list of all New Zealand post offices from 1840 to the end of 1953.

Mr. C.W. Watts will be responsible for the sections dealing with machine and slogan cancellations, and in addition has been making a careful check of official records, relating not only to his own sections, but to those of other contributors as well.

In order to make the information in this book as comprehensive as possible, it is essential that the Society should have the help of all members, and an urgent appeal is therefore made for any unusual material, which should be submitted to Mr. C.W. Watts, Stamps Division, G.P.O., Wellington. One example of material required is that connected with New Zealand marine post offices. The official records of this section are very scanty and the Editors would appreciate the opportunity to view stamps and covers with markings of the marine post offices - particularly the early markings.

Another section where assistance is required is in the identification of the offices at which certain usual types of cancellations were employed. During one period some postmasters provided their own cancellations. This is known to have happened extensively in Canterbury, but it may also have occurred in other districts.

Reproduced in this NEWSLETTER are 43 cancellations which are known to have been used on New Zealand stamps, but which have not been identified with particular offices. Any member who has material which would assist in the solution of this problem is exhorted to co-operate.

(See Secretary's Notes - page 2.)

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DOUGLAS EDSALL
writes from New Zealand.

The new 1954 edition of Verne Collins Catalogue has been issued in the usual handy pocket size, very convenient for carrying around, and the price (15/-) is very reasonable in these days of rising prices.

A wonderfully comprehensive work on the stamps of New Zealand, a "handbook" in miniature, it contains all the information a serious collector of New Zealand stamps should know, and lists all known varieties, and all re-entries, etc., that are of real philatelic importance. The "prices" are a true indication of values in New Zealand. It also has a new foreword on pre-adhesive covers, well illustrated.

First Side Face "nearly 12" perf.

If you think you have a copy of the very rare, much rarer than most collectors think, "nearly 12" perforation in the first side faces, examine the side perfs.

In the "nearly 12" they are continuous, for this was a line machine, whilst the 12 x 11½ was a comb machine. The perforations on these stamps can be confusing to some, but a good check can be made if you examine the perforations on the sides. The teeth of the comb machine did not always meet the bar of the next comb perf. consequently a small but noticeable gap occurs, so, if your stamp has this gap on the sides, it is not the "nearly 12" perf.

This point may be well known to you, if so, I apologise for wasting your time.

2½d. Pictorial "Inverted Centre".

I noticed in a recent issue of a prominent English stamp journal, an article on "Auction realisations"; amongst the items mentioned was "2½d. N.Z. 1936 Pictorial, inverted centre" which fetched £27: I had never heard of this "variety" before, so enquired from the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand as to its genuineness. The reply was that it is not known thus, is certainly not an official issue, but is probably printers waste and anything but genuine.

£27. seems a high price to pay for such rubbish! This may have been a misprint for a Niue issue, also existing with inverted centre, a stamp that has also been a "doubtful starter" as an official issue: other values of the 1936-40 Pictorial issue exist "variety imperf" mostly bearing the Egypt F.P.O. postmark, these are officially declared as part of some stamps "looted" after the bombing of the printers' works during the war, some of these were sold at auctions some years ago: they are definitely not genuine issues.