



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

THE SECRETARY'S NOTES

NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 27TH JULY 1955
6.00 P.M. FOR 6.30 P.M.

Will members kindly make a particular note of this date for our next meeting at the Kingsley Hotel. While it is something over three weeks ahead of the time that members should receive this copy of the bulletin, it may not be possible to send out reminder notices a few days before the meeting as in the past because I anticipate being away on holiday until about 25th July.

As previously announced, part of this July meeting will be taken up with an auction sale and accompanying this bulletin is a complete descriptive list of the lots to be offered, together with notes on postal bidding. Those members who attended the May meeting were able to see this material and it will, of course, be on view again from 6.00 to 6.30 p.m. on 27th July. In addition to the auction it is hoped that two members will give short displays. They are Mr. P.B. Homes (who hails from New Zealand) and Mr. H.F. Blease of Trowbridge.

OUR COMPETITIONS - NEW CLOSING DATE

Set out on the fourth page of the auction catalogue - in order to save paper - are the full details of the Society's two competitions; these have been repeated from the February/March issue. Some may remember that it was provisionally arranged to display entries and have them judged at the July meeting, but as several members have indicated that they could not prepare entries in time for this, it has now been decided to extend the closing date to 3rd September so that entries can be in hand well in time for the September meeting (Wednesday, 14th). With six to seven weeks extension of time, it is hoped that those members, who found time too short on the original closing day, will now prepare entries for both competitions. I should greatly appreciate a line from those who intend to send in entries so that I can have some idea beforehand of what is to be involved.

SEPTEMBER MEETING - DATE RE-ARRANGED

You will notice that in the last paragraph I referred to our September meeting as Wednesday, 14th. The original date was, of

course, the 23th but in order to oblige the Management of the Kingsley Hotel (and the Lord Mayor of London) I have agreed to an earlier date in preference to one in October. So will all members please note "14th September" and I do hope none will be inconvenienced by this change. Incidentally, had the telephone call been an hour later this bulletin would have been finished on the duplicator, so "My Lord Mayor" and the Kingsley were just in luck.

MAY MEETING

At the last members' meeting held on 25th May, in addition to a display of the late Harold Munday's material which the Society is auctioning, there was also a very fine show from a visitor from the Croydon Society, Mr. H.J. Hare. He put up some 140 sheets of covers, various cancellations, photographs, press cuttings, leaflets, etc., all connected with the mail of the New Zealand forces in Korea. As the proposer of the vote of thanks remarked, this seemed an entirely new phase of New Zealand philately. Mr. Hare has been kind enough to draft out notes of his talk and on the items displayed; as they are somewhat lengthy, it has been necessary to divide them into two; the first part appears elsewhere in this bulletin.

ENLARGED PHOTOGRAPHS

At a recent meeting one member displayed a number of enlarged photographs which he had had prepared to use in his own collection. Obviously the original work was somewhat expensive but now that the negatives are in existence, prints from them are quite reasonable - 1s.3d. each. Stamps are enlarged three times linear in these photographs, and prints available at present are (1) any of the Health issues, (2) all values of the 1935 Pictorials. Later in the year prints of the 1898 and also the various commemoratives will be available in the same style and enlarged size. Any members requiring those which are now ready or those which are to come may have them at 1s.3d. each. Orders to me, please.

A FORGERY QUERY

The following is an extract from a letter to hand from one of our members:-

"I have recently met a reasonably good forgery of S.G.??, the 6d. red-brown with star watermark and the 13 perforation. The forgery has the star watermark. I cannot find this forgery mentioned in 'The Postage Stamps of New Zealand'. I wonder if any member has met this one before or can give me any information about its origin."

NEW ZEALAND CENTENARY

I expect there are many members who would like to be in Auckland round about 16th July for the opening of the New Zealand International

Stamp Exhibition: so would I. A bulletin just to hand from the Exhibition Secretary, Mrs. E.C. Murray, gives some information about the Official Catalogue which should be ready on 16th July. In addition to full details relating to the Exhibition and descriptions of all entries this catalogue will contain a number of articles which, it is suggested, will prove of great value for reference purposes long after the Exhibition is over. There will be quite a number of members who would like to receive a copy of this catalogue and, therefore, I suggest that they write direct to Mrs. E.C. Murray, P.O. Box 1932, Auckland, C.I. The cost of the catalogue is 2s.9d. including postage, but I feel sure that if members sent a Postal Order for 3s.9d. Mrs. Murray will, if requested, see that the catalogue is posted on the Centenary day, 18th July, from the Exhibition Post Office thereby providing a nice souvenir first-day cover with the special cancellation on the new centenary stamps that will be issued that day. This suggestion comes from me and not from the Exhibition authorities, so those members who decide to write for a catalogue should indicate their wishes regarding posting; and remember, there is only just time to do this by airmail.

DEFECTIVE AND INVERTED WATERMARK BLOCKS

One of our New Zealand members, Mr. George Morris, has written to say that he has quite an amount of New Zealand material which some members may like to acquire and thinks it better to offer it this way than through the exchange packet. The following is a list of some of the blocks of which he has spare copies together with the price he is asking. Any interested member should, therefore, get in touch with Mr. Morris direct:-

Defective Watermarks

Block 10. 1/2d. Chestnut	10.0.	Block 10. 1d. Green	3.6.
Block 10. 5d. Grey	10.0.	Block 10. 6d. Carmine	10.0.

Inverted Watermarks

Block 4. & pair 1d. Green	25.0. ea.	Block 6. & 1. 1d. Red	4.0. ea.
Block 4. & 2 1/2d. Brown	8.6."	Block 4. & 1. 9d. Brown	40.0."
Block 4. pair & 1. 1/- Value		Block 4. & 1. 1/3 Value	
Block 4. & 1 Die 1.	45.0."	Block 4. & 1. 3/- Value	30.0."
Block 4. & 1 2/- Value	25.0."		

Mr. G. Morris' address is 65 Clarkins Road, Fairfield, Hamilton, N.Z.

CLOSING REMINDERS

Next Meeting: 27th July.

Postal Bids: Last day, 26th July.

Competitions: Closing date for entries, 3rd September, but do please advise me soon that you are preparing an entry.

(Mrs.) M. Erskine: Hon. Sec.

A N U N U S U A L A I R C O V E R

(Notes from J.G. Williams, "Rosemont, Lion St. Hay via Hereford")

In my collection I have an unusual airmail cover which was intended to be sent by the usual land transport but which due to serious flooding and the presence of planes returning from an air pageant was flown to its destination by a temporary air service.

The cover is an ordinary commercial cover addressed to Messrs. Suckling Bros.Ltd, Boot Manufacturers, Christchurch and is stamped with a 1925 King George V 2d. yellow which is torn and affixed sideways and is apparently S.G.No.533. It is postmarked "Dunedin, N.Z. 12.15 a.m. 20 Feb.1932", with a line cancellation "Buy Health Stamps for Health Camps" while in the bottom left-hand corner is the signature "J.L. Findlay".

On the 20th February, 1932 the South Island Air Pageant was held at Invercargill when covers were flown by Captain T.W. White in the White Star plane and it seems that Capt. J.L. Findlay was one of the pilots at this Air Pageant who was returning to Christchurch. There was serious flooding at Oamaru between Dunedin and Christchurch and a railway bridge was washed away. The planes returning from the pageant helped the railway folk over the flooded area and an emergency flood flight was arranged to carry mail from Dunedin to Christchurch.

Oamaru is about 60 miles north of Dunedin where the cover was posted and is about 150 miles south of Christchurch, the destination of the cover. As far as is known only about 60 covers were flown on this emergency flight and Capt. J.L. Findlay, the pilot in charge, autographed a few of those. This cover may have been flown on 21st February, 1932 but I have no information about this and I would be glad to receive any further details.

BISECT FROM FANNING ISLAND

I have been offered a Fanning Island cover dated 16th January, 1912 which bears a 3d. K.E.VII brown stamp and a vertically bisected 1d. Dominion stamp. The postmark is "FANNING ISLAND JA.6.12" and as I have not seen anything mentioned about the 1d. Dominion stamp being bisected I am wondering if this is a genuine cover. Perhaps some member can let me have any available information there is about this cover.

CAN WE HAVE A LIBRARY?

I am glad that our Society is flourishing and I think it would be a good idea if a library was formed of books and articles which relate to New Zealand stamps and postal arrangements. This library would enable the members to acquire information about their particular interests which might otherwise be unavailable or unknown to them. To make a start I am enclosing three old number of "The London Philatelist" which contain some interesting articles and which I gladly give to the Society.

NEW ZEALAND FORCES IN KOREA
(On 25th May, 1955 Mr. H.J. Hare of West Wickham, entertained members of The New Zealand Society of Great Britain with a display of 140 sheets. Here are extracts from the speaker's notes)

The Korean war lasted from 25th June, 1950 to 26th May, 1953 with total casualties of over 2,300,000. This figure includes, of course, killed, wounded, missing and prisoners of war. The Communists' losses in killed and wounded were 1,340,000 while those for the United Nations were 320,117. The British Commonwealth army casualties excluding the United Kingdom were - killed: officers 19, other ranks 465; wounded: officers 98, other ranks 1638; prisoners: other ranks 5; missing: officers 4, other ranks 50.

I mention this as naturally the N.Z. Army Units became, eventually, part of the British Commonwealth Brigade. Once again New Zealand, like the other Colonies and Dominions, offered men, materials, ships and supplies for the conflict and on 10th December, 1950, 1100 men of the N.Z. Force, 16th Field Regt. Art. sailed from Wellington, N.Z. At the same time the N.Z. advance party, 5 officers and 17 other ranks, led by Brigadier R.S. Park, the Forces Commander, arrived in Tokyo.

A tax-free gratuity for each day of service in Korea is to be made to past and present soldiers and sailors of New Zealand's "K" Force.

There were six N.Z. frigates serving in Japanese/Korean waters in this conflict. They were Hawea, Kaniero, Pukaki, Rotoiti, Taupo and Tutira; some of these, I think, are now out of commission and others back in home waters or S.E. Asia. United Nations Fleet supplies were kept at the Japanese supply bases of Kure and Sasebo, Pusan, Korea and, of course, Hong Kong where some mail was posted, no doubt, fetching supplies. The frigates often formed parts of various Task Forces.

Mail was sent home by the N.Z. Navy in various ways and stamps used were ordinary N.Z. and "Officials", also Great Britain and Australian stamps presumably when supplies of N.Z. stamps ran out. Hong Kong stamps were used in addition to the above although so far I have seen just one cover with these on it.

Stationery was, in addition to special ship's headed paper, that of the N.Z. Kayforce, N.Z. Patriotic and Fund Board and G.B. Forces letters, the latter being available to other Nations' personnel posting mail at Sasebo, Japan. G.B. Forces' letters were types 38/216 and in some instances unnumbered light and dark. Airmail labels were light and dark issues.

Covers were sent various ways and here are details of varieties which so far I have seen from those frigates.

S/S HAWEA.

G.B. stamp marked Cancelled in red and Auckland Naval Base postmark underneath with G.B. I/O Postage Due uncanceled.

G.B. stamp - G.B. Post Office Maritime Mail cancellation undated.

Wellington, N.Z. Packet Boat cancellation on Australian 3d. stamp.

Auckland Naval Base cancellation on G.B. stamp.

British Fleet Mail 41 Japan on Hong Kong stamp on G.B. Forces' letter.

S/S KANIERE.

FPO 949 G.B. of Japan on Forces' letter unstamped.

Post Office in round ring only on G.B. Forces' letter unstamped.
Whitstable backstamp.

Maritime Mail of G.B. only on Forces' letter unstamped with Deal backstamp.

N.Z. stamp cancelled G.B., P.O. Maritime Mail undated.

S/S ROTOTI.

London 13.3.52. Maritime Mail on stamp G.B.

NZAPO 444 Japan unstamped with G.B. P/D 3d. collect.

No.8 Aust. Base P.O. "C" with G.B. stamp from Japan with Reigate and Redhill backstamp.

NZAPO 444 Japan with G.B. stamp cancelled.

NZAPO 444 Japan unstamped with no collect charge by the P.O. over here (as was often done when no stamps, although letter marked "Active Service").

FPO 376 G.B. Korea with G.B. stamps.

NZAPO 444 Japan G.B. stamps and added FPO 949 of G.B.

A in a Diamond on G.B. stamp with Auckland N.Z. on back of the envelope.

S/S TAUPO.

N.Z. Official stamps cancelled Lambton Quay, N.Z.

N.Z. ordinary stamps cancelled Auckland Naval Base.

N.Z. stamps cancelled Auckland Naval Base.

Lines cancellation only on G.B. stamps with Auckland, N.Z. on back of envelope.

Lines cancellation only on G.B. stamps with no back stamp at all visible.

FPO 949 of G.B. Japan on G.B. stamp.

S/S TUTIRA.

G.B. stamps cancelled Auckland Naval Base.

G.B. stamps and N.Z. used together with postmark of Milford, N.Z. (letter got ready in Korean waters and taken to N.Z. for posting).

G.B. stamps cancelled Auckland Naval Base, N.Z.

To digress, Captain M.L. Hardie, R.R. must have been a proud officer in charge of the parade at the Naval Base at Devonport, near Auckland, New Zealand when H.M. the Queen presented a new Queen's Colour on the Royal Visit; there were many Korean veterans on parade.

ARMY POSTMARKS

The Army postmarks were NZAPO 444 H.Q., and Branch Offices, NZAPO 444/1/4 although the writer so far has none of Branch No.1 and would be pleased any time to hear from anyone with any to spare. The postmarks have numbers 1/12 as I think times of despatch, so that a collection of all these numbers may be quite considerable. I have many of these, of course, but not a complete collection; most of the Branch Office P.O.'s are now closed. With the Commonwealth Division to about a third of its normal strength of war time it is unnecessary to keep so many troops there although now and again there is some trouble between the Air Forces of China and the United Nations.

Air Forces most of which are US Sabres 35th Squadron, 8th Fighter Wing. As a matter of interest previous other Forces NZAPO numbers used were 222 and 222 FPO 2/6, and RNZAF NZAPO 333 in 1947 when the N.Z. Forces were part of the BCOF (British Commonwealth Occupation Force) that occupied Japan in 1947 after the signing of the Japanese Surrender Treaty.

The N.Z. Forces in Korea/Japan used their own stamps as well as those of G.B. and Australia and sometimes used on the same cover stamps of N.Z. and G.B.

As a tribute to them South Korea issued some special thanks stamps, two in number, for the N.Z. Forces which showed the N.Z. flag. The set of those so called "Thanks" stamps are rather elusive and few seem to be seen in this country.

Here is an extract from a letter from the GPO Wellington dated 2.4.52 which I feel may be of interest:-

The following steel date stamps are being used by the New Zealand Forces in Korea and Japan.

NZAPO 444. at Kure, Japan, by Base Camp, Hospital, etc.
NZAPO 444. These four stamps are used by Units in Korea.
FPO 1. 2. 3. 4.

The NZAPO 444 stamp is enclosed in a single circle 35mm in diameter with NZAPO at the top separated from bottom by an arc on each side. The date, followed by an index number, is in the centre. The Field Post Office date stamps are all similar in layout. NZAPO in an arc at the top with 444 in a straight line, immediately below, FPO - I in the lower portion bound on each side by curved lines. The date and an index

number are across the centre. The diameter of the single circle surrounding Nos.1, 2 and 3 is 34mm, whereas that of No.4 is 33½mm.

It may be of historical interest to record that the original steel date stamps numbered 1, 2 and 3 were lost when the troopship "Wahine" was wrecked on Marsela Island, North of Australia. These date stamps were similar in every respect to those now in use.

Prior to the introduction of steel date stamps, oval and round rubber stamps were used with purple ink.

It is regretted that the Department cannot supply impressions from any of the stamps referred to above.

I made enquiries at Lloyds who kindly gave me the following information. Vessel Wahine was built in 1913 and on a voyage from Wellington, N.Z. went ashore at Marsela Isle, Arafura Sea and was abandoned on 15th August, 1951.

Ed.Note: It is at this point we must leave Mr. Hare's interesting discourse; the remainder will appear in our next bulletin. It is not easy to transcribe a speaker's notes into a readable article, and if we have slipped up here and there, our apologies to Mr. Hare and to members.

NEWSPAPER STAMP

At a recent meeting we were told by Mr. H.F. Blease, who is quite an authority on this issue, that the Newspaper stamp with a cross on it is genuine. Mr. Blease holds a "Royal" certificate for his copy. He would like to hear of any other copies. It is perf.10, Watermarked with six pointed irregular star.

RESOLUTION ON HEALTH STAMPS

The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand passed the following resolution at a recent meeting:-

"That this Society disapproves of the action of the Government in increasing the number of denominations of Health stamps and considers that such action is not in the best interests of philately and that suitable representation be made to the Postmaster-General accordingly."