



# THE KIWI



Hon. Editor:

A. A. Hard,  
42 Irvine Road,  
Colchester.  
Essex.  
Tel. 4560



Hon. Secretary:

G. E. C. Pratt,  
32a The Ridgeway,  
Sutton,  
Surrey.  
Tel. VIGilant 7827

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Affiliated to:- BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION and PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

VOLUME XII. No. 2. MARCH, 1963.

WHOLE No. 59.

## NEXT MEETING

SATURDAY, MARCH 30th  
at SHAFTESBURY HOTEL, MONMOUTH STREET, W.C.2.

Annual Competition for KIWI Shield and STACEY HOOKER Cup.  
Amended Competition Rules elsewhere in this issue.

Members will know that we no longer meet at The Kingsley Hotel and that all our future meetings will be at the Shaftesbury Hotel in Monmouth Street, W.C.2.

The detailed instructions on how to reach the Shaftesbury given in the last Kiwi were somewhat inaccurate and members should note as follows:-

- (1) Travel to Leicester Square Underground Station.
- (2) Walk along Cranborne Street in the direction of Long Acre (NOT towards Leicester Square).
- (3) Turn left into Upper St. Martin's Lane, continuing straight on into Monmouth Street and the Shaftesbury will be found on the left-hand side.

It is hoped that we shall have a very large attendance on -  
SATURDAY - MARCH 30th.

ALTERED ARRANGEMENTS for COMPETITION ENTRIES.

Members should note that this year, entries should be sent to NOEL TURNER, Gladstone House, High Road, Wood Green, London. N. 22 and not as previously.

All entries should arrive not later than TUESDAY, MARCH 26th, unless you are attending the Meeting on Saturday, March 30th, in which case you may bring your entries with you. Please arrive 10 to 15 minutes before the time of the meeting so that your entry can be recorded, numbered and set out. The name and/or address of the entrant should not appear on the entry, but on a separate sheet of paper attached.

Briefly, the Competition Rules are as follows:-

GROUP A.

Classics and up to and including Edward VII for the Kiwi Shield.

GROUP B.

King Geo. V to date (inclusive) for the Stacey Hooker Cup.

Any number of sheets up to TWELVE.

SUBJECT, to competitors' own choice, but restricted to stamps, postal history, covers, etc. of New Zealand and Dependencies.

<u>Marking.</u>	Philatelic Knowledge and Research	30%
	Arrangement	30%
	Condition	20%
	Writing-up	20%

MR. E.W. BISHOP of Finchley, appointed by the Royal Philatelic Society, will act as Judge, and we would like a RECORD number of entries. Please co-operate.

Noel Turner.

AUCTION REALISATIONS - HELD 24th NOVEMBER 1962.

Lot No.	1 - 27/6.	2 - 20/-.	3 - 70/-	6 - 27/6.
	8 - 6/-	9 - 4/-	11 - 17/-	12 - 8/6
	13 - 37/6	14 - 25/-	17 - 32/6	18 - 32/6
	22 - 8/-	23 - 8/-	24 - 5/-	26 - 4/6
	27 - 12/-	29 - 15/6	31 - 32/6	32 - 22/6
	33 - 35/-	34 - 22/6	35 - 20/-	36 - 17/6
	37 - 5/-	38 - 15/-	39 - 12/-	40 - 2/6
	41 - 9/-	42 - 7/6	43 - 21/-	44 - 22/6
	45 - 10/-	46 - 22/6	47 - 27/6	48 - 25/-
	50 - 55/-	52 - 87/6	53 - 80/-	56 - 47/6
	57 - 10/-	59 - 27/6	62 - 5/-	63 - 9/-
	65 - 55/-	68 - 10/-	70 - 17/6	71 - 15/-

Fourteen other lots were presented to the Society, making a Total of £12 for the Funds. I once again express my thanks to all those who gave so generously to such a good cause.

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MEMBERSHIP LIST.                      No. 2.                      3/63.

All members are strongly urged to amend their Lists.

NEW MEMBERS.    We are pleased to welcome the following:-

BRETT, C.J.	115, Chilton Street, Bridgwater, Somerset.
GWYM, R.D.	49A, Lytton Grove, Putney. S.W.15.
MOLLAND, G.K.	93, Hull Road, Anlaby, Nr. Hull, Yorkshire.
PEACE, B.R.	24, The Green, Leeds 17, Yorkshire.
TODD, N.	74, Linden Road, Bognor Regis, Sussex.
WOOD, W.F.	53A, Dyke Road Avenue, Hove 4, Sussex.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

D. GIVAN,	Now at 23, Nutfield Road, Redhill, Surrey.
A.L. MICHAEL,	Now at 391, Strand.

MEMBERSHIP LIST No. 2 (continued).

RESIGNATIONS.

We regret to report the following resignations:-

De MANUEL, Mrs., of Bromley.                      Wilkins of Aldridge.  
Atkins of Stamford.                                      Bell of Ilkley, and  
Collett of Strand.

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In most F.D. Covers of the ANZAC DAY STAMPS OF 1936, there was an insert (Pamphlet - two types - one printed in black, the other in red). Will any member exchange with me a black for a red. (in mint condition).                      Thank you.

W. Hasler Young.

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THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY.

The opening meeting at the Shaftesbury Hotel, W.C. 2 on 26th January was well attended, considering the weather, with the President, Mr. Bartrop ski-ing up from Swindon and Mr. Garnett surviving the trip from Worthing. Mr. M.S. Burberry gave a talk on "Amateur to Professional Stamp Production in N.Z.". The beautiful illustrations enabled us to follow his researches.

In the "Rigcongram" issues (amateur) he showed that the Marotiri Bland overprint had been made on sheets of 24 and not 12 as formerly thought. The "Postage Stamps of New Zealand" was also incomplete in its record of cancellations. Proofs and issued stamps of the Christchurch Exhibition followed.

He ended with the 1906 "Penny Universal" plates of Waterlow Bros. & Layton, showing examples of 3 different die proofs, two probably from impressions taken from the master die, the third being retouched; then examples of the vertical plate from which impressions of the 5 retouched dies were taken on a 2nd (?) roller to lay down the plates. This showed the possibility of re-grouping the list of die proofs.

I am convinced that the original research upon which this member has embarked will eventually result in greatly enlarging our knowledge and appreciation of these issues. His display was one of the finest we have ever been privileged to see and his explanation was both learned and lucid.

Harry Bartrop - President.

## MR. BURBERRY'S DISPLAY.

At the January meeting, Mr. M.S. Burberry gave a most interesting talk and displayed some of the unusual and remarkable items in his collection. It would be impossible to explain each and every piece, I will therefore quote from his own words:-

He used as his theme "AMATEUR STAMP PRODUCTION", "SEMI-PROFESSIONAL" and "PROFESSIONAL".

"The first is the "Amateur" used for the pigeon-grams from the Great Barrier Island and, later, Marotiri Islands. These were, of course, "Local Stamps" in that they were not recognised for ordinary postal use. Against this they were not issued as a money-making gimmick, but served a genuine purpose - namely, Advertising a service - which even Government Departments used. The first agent to send off the pigeons was a Miss Springall - the local post-mistress at Okupu on the Gt. Barrier Island. The need for the service was quite simply "lack of communications other than through the weekly ship's call." It is also interesting to note that when Mr. Holden Howie, the pigeon fancier and operator of the service, made an agreement with Mr. Hector Bolitho who suggested and arranged for the production of the Stamps, "The agreement would terminate when the Telegraph came to the Island", the agreement was signed in 1898, the telegraph arrived in 1908. As you see, even in those days speedy action was an integral part of Government policy.

How would you go about designing a stamp for a pigeon post? Mr. Bolitho went to the Observer Printing Works in Auckland and between them it was done this way.

- (1) Take a Stock Ornament used for Valentine and greetings cards - it's got a bird on it, (but no one will know the difference between a SWALLOW and a pigeon.)
- (2) Draw in by hand a label with "Great Barrier Island".
- (3) Print a Photographic Reduction on a zinc block and treat it with acid to produce a line block.
- (4) Good heavens! we've left in "be my Valentine". Cut it out and replace with "SPECIAL POST". Note that although the ornament and label are on a slant, "Special Post" is parallel to the base.
- (5) Add ONE SHILLING in ordinary type and enclose the whole with ordinary printer's rule. Hey presto! our stamp!!!!

Three impressions were taken from a mould and mounted vertically, so that to produce our sheet of 18 stamps

MR. BURBERRY'S DISPLAY (contd).

the stereotypes had to be inked SIX times!! (Time and money no object). The total printing was 100 sheets. F.D. Cover specialists should note that their flimsies should be dated 19th November, 1898. The next issue came in January, 1899, as by then the 400 inhabitants had dealt with their Christmas mail; this second issue was printed by the publishers of "The New Zealand Herald". The design was cut in Box Wood, and 6 stereotypes produced - mounted horizontally, therefore 4 inkings to produce sheets of 24 stamps. The G.P.O. then tried to stop private issues of stamps, but the most they could do was to state that the word "post" must not be used.

This gave rise to the 3rd issue. For of the original order for 200 sheets, 40 were overprinted "PIGEONGRAM". At this time a Company began to open copper mines on Marotiri Island and it was decided to issue a special stamp for use on this Island. A special printing was made and over-printed. It is generally thought that these sheets were printed by using 3 stereotypes only, repeated 4 times to make a sheet of 12. I have not seen this corrected anywhere, which is possible, as the printing is stated to have been 20 sheets of 12 - or 240 stamps in all. As you will see I have satisfied myself that all 6 stereotypes were used for the printing - each of which is identifiable and further, that the type was set up 6 times for the overprinting. I suggest, therefore, that the actual printing was NOT 20 sheets of 12, but 10 sheets of 24, which, for some reason, were then torn in half.

(Mr. Burberry displayed copies of all types - Mint and Used on flimsies. Complete sheets of the first two types, blocks of the others, his "probable unique sheet" of the Marotiri Island, was I must say, a beautiful sight. His story of how the acquisition of this unique "sheet" was "When the sale of the Marquis of Bute's airmail collection reached the section of pigeongrams it was announced that this "sheet" had fallen out of a collection of Lithuanian or Latvian WAR STAMPS".)

The "SEMI-PROFESSIONAL" productions, as illustrated by the 1906 Christchurch Exhibition Set. I am not being unkind to N.Z. when I say this. You must remember that though N.Z. issued stamps from 18th July 1855, in the main the plates and dies were produced in England. Their own efforts were limited to:-

- (1) 1873  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Newspaper stamp adapted from the current small  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. of G.B.
- (2) 2nd. Side face issue of 1882 - 1898 adapted from the 1st Side Face. So that when it was decided to publicise the Exhibition with a set of four stamps one can say that it was the first issue they were to create from scratch.

MR. BURBERRY'S DISPLAY (contd).

It was decided to use four water colours out of a series of sketches of Historical and Local Interest which Mr. L.J. Steel, had submitted to the Postal Authorities some years previously. The original idea was for each stamp to be in one colour, and line drawings with suitable frames were made for the 3d. and 6d. These frames were later modified and then W.R. Bock set about cutting the die for the 1d. and 6d. values. A proof of the 1d. value was submitted to Steel, who was undoubtedly disgusted with the result, but politely suggested that perhaps better results might be obtained from Photo-Lithography. Bock's dies, in the eyes of Steel, may have been poor, but whoever produced the lithographs was pure ham, for he managed to get the negative in the wrong way for the 3d. value and produced a REVERSED PRINT.

(Mr. Burberry whilst talking about these dies, colours and reversed prints, etc. was able to show us many various colour-prints, essays, the reversed print and numerous other items to prove his point.)

The colours of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. values, controlled by U.P.U. Green and Red. In fact Claret was the shade chosen.

Presumably to satisfy Steel - having failed so far - it was decided to issue the 3d. and 6d. in TWO Colours - but which two colours? (Mr. Burberry then stated that he was showing about half their colour trials, I believe he had 9). Eventually it was decided -  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Green. 1d. Claret. 3d. Brown & Blue. 6d. Pink & Olive Green. and so to print.

It was then considered that the 1d. shade was too dark to do justice to the design, so a further printing in Vermilion was made. I feel that, in fact, this was Steel's last critical fling.

Except for 16 sheets the Claret printing was destroyed. The Post Office kept 14 and sent 1 to the P.M.G. and one to the Exhibition Committee. The poor harassed Committee had no clue what to do with a sheet of stamps in two panes of 30 so they gave it to the Postal Clerk at the Exhibition Post Office and the clerk sold it on the First Day!!!!!!

Mr. Burberry's final selection for "PROFESSIONAL STAMP PRODUCTION" was the 1d Universal. Waterlow - Royle etc. his explanation of impressions until the signs of wear appear, retouching, flaws, etc. were too vast to explain, so I have asked him to write an article on the subject for publication in the "KIWI". His study of the Die impressions or proofs is an "eye-opener", and the many Roller proofs (which are in the form of 5 stamp impressions, the centre one being inverted), have to be seen to be believed. Many thanks for a most instructive and interesting display, Mr. Burberry.

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Forty years ago when I decided to devote my spare cash and my time to collecting and studying the postage stamps of New Zealand, there was no C.P. catalogue, and the first volume of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" did not appear until 1938. I therefore collected some back numbers of magazines which contained articles by renowned collectors. One of these was The Philatelic Magazine dated March 1st 1917 which contained a verbatim report of a paper read before the Manchester Philatelic Society on February 16th 1917 by Benjamin Goodfellow, entitled "Notes on the 2d. Type 1, Plates I & II with special reference to the Retouched Portion of the Damaged Plate II".

I intend to present to you several of these old reminders of collectors who have studied New Zealand Stamps, because even now - after many years - we can learn from them. I shall refer to them as:-

### OLD TIMERS. No. 1 - BENJAMIN GOODFELLOW.

" The chief consideration which led to these notes was the fact that I have recently been fortunate enough to acquire something of exceptional interest in the shape of what are practically complete reconstructions of the material Retouches on Plate II, and it is, with me, a natural wish to afford to this Society - as my first-love, in the philatelic sense - an early opportunity of sharing the interest in my new acquisition. Another consideration was the fact that I have long regarded the 2d. New Zealand type I. as perhaps the most difficult of all the values among the early New Zealands, and the one about which, above all others, the student is most likely to go wrong, unless he enjoys the benefit of the experiences of some one who has specialised these stamps. As I have made some attempt to study them, it may prove useful to some of you to see the results.

There were two plates of the 2d. value, Type I, both manufactured by Perkins Bacon & Co., and both doubtless constructed from the same - or from identical - mother dies. If you are fortunate enough to find the stamps in pairs or in strips, there is usually no difficulty about settling the plate to which they belong, inasmuch, as the stamps from Plate II, are always spaced more evenly and wider apart than those from Plate I, in which latter the spacing was so irregular as to create difficulty, when perforating machines came into general use. The stamps from Plate II, are never found imperforate (except as proofs), neither are they found perforated 13 from the machine, which was used at Dunedin; but they come only with the perf. 12½ from the Government perforating machine used at Auckland. For the most part stamps from Plate II are as regards



OLD TIMERS. No. 1 - BENJAMIN GOODFELLOW (contd).

colour a deep dark blue, which is quite distinct from most of the early shades from Plate I, and as soon as Plate I got seriously worn, there can be no risk of confusion until you come to deal with the damaged Plate II, to which reference is made later.

The first 2d. plate - Plate I - together with 66,000 stamps, (275 sheets of 240 each), printed therefrom in London was despatched to the Colony by Perkins Bacon & Co., on 22nd September 1854. The actual date of issue was July 1855, and the colour of these "London Prints" is a deep dull blue, which has what Mr. E.D. Bacon has described as a slightly greenish tinge, but which I should almost prefer to describe as a tinge of cobalt. It is printed on the large star-watermarked paper, and comes most often upon paper described as "Bleute", which latter - by the way - at once fixes its being a London print. The blueing of the paper is said to have been due to a chemical action set up between certain substances present in the paper (probably prussiate of potash) and certain ingredients used in the printing ink - or present in the gum, or possibly a combination of all. In order to assist the operation of printing, the paper was usually damped before being put to press, and the more damp the paper was, the greater seems to have been the chemical action, and the greater the resultant blueing. If, however, the sheet of paper had partially dried before getting to press, less chemical action would be set up in the dried portions, so that some stamps from the sheet might show no blueing at all. Other instances of such blueing are known in the early stamps of Gt. Britain, e.g., the Ivory Heads, Cape of Good Hope, triangulars, etc. etc. Mr. M.P. Castle has suggested - and the suggestion is apparently adopted by the authors of the History of N.Z. Stamps published in 1913 - that the 2d. London print (S.G. 2), might be more correctly described as being "upon paper not blued" instead of as "upon white"; the idea evidently being that both the "blued" and the "white" paper stamps might come from different parts of one and the same sheet. The point of importance to the student is however that the colour and shade of both the stamps, viz. S.G. 2, and S.G. 2a, must be precisely the same.

I next pass, very rapidly, through the remaining printings from Plate I, viz., the 1856 printing by Richardson on the "Blue", as distinct from the bleute or blued paper; the 1857-62 printings on the hard and soft white unwatermarked papers; that of 1862 (early) on the thin pelure paper, in its peculiar shade of ultramarine (almost always badly faded), and come to the imperforate issue of 1862 on the large Star watermarked paper. It is the stamps of the early shades of this issue which are so often mistaken by collectors - and even by some stamp dealers - for the London prints.

These early stamps of 1862 are in a full deep blue, and shew a thick impression, in many cases looking as if they had been over inked. The stamps also come at early dates, in shades of a rich dull blue, and in slate and violet blue, before the plate had begun to show signs of serious wear.

Towards the latter part of the year 1863, Plate I began to show signs of wear, and by the time you reach the next issue of 1864 on the "N.Z." watermarked paper, all the specimens can quite properly be styled as from Plate I worn.

It is next necessary to refer briefly to the subject of perforations, as we have now reached another region, which contains for the student difficulties in the shape of pitfalls - or in the language of today, "shell-holes" - which may prove traps for the unwary. The true road is, however, a straight-forward one, and quite easy to follow, if you will bear in mind the leading landmarks, and pay heed to the direction posts.

At this time, 1863, the stamps were distributed in imperforate sheet from the Government Printing Office at Auckland in North Island. Those sent to Dunedin, the capital town of Otago in South Island, were during 1863 and part of 1864 semi-officially perforated by the officials of the Dunedin Post Office upon a private single-line perforating machine belonging to a firm of printers in Dunedin - Messrs. Fergusson & Mitchell. This machine gauged exactly 13, the holes being small and invariably clean-cut. Meantime, of course, stamps of similar issues and shades were in use in the rest of the Colony, but as imperforate stamps. By June, 1864, however, the Government had installed an official perforating machine at Auckland, and from that date onwards - except during temporary breakdowns of the perforating machine - all stamps were perforated at Auckland before being issued. The Government machine gave a perforation of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  - sometimes nearly  $12\frac{3}{4}$  - with larger and more irregular holes than the Dunedin machine, and the pins of the Government machine were re-set at least twice.

The earliest recorded date for the use of the perf. 13 machine is stated by the History of N.Z. Stamps to be December, 1862, but I can shew nothing among the 2d. values in the way of dated specimens earlier than August 1863, and this is on the thick white unwatermarked paper. Judging from my collection alone I should think the date, 1862, is rather too early. Other dated specimens shown read: 18th September, 1863; November, 1863; December, 1863; and February and July, 1864. "

To be continued.....

From: H. QUICK,  
5, York Road,  
Wisbech,  
Cambs.

9th January, 1963.

Dear Sir,

Wishing all Members a Happy and good Stamp Collecting New Year.

I don't know whether any other member has received the New Health Variety. I was fortunate in getting a first-day Cover with this Variety, and would like more information, if any member would care to write.

The Variety in question is a Colour Drop on the 3½d. value, giving The Bird two Beaks, or open Beak, and a shadow underneath bottom leaf, etc. It looks as though one colour has dropped a little. The Stamp is off a Miniature Sheet, Middle Top Value.

Also if there is any N.Z. member interested in G.B. who would care to exchange S.G. No. Cat. Value, I would like to hear from them. Am also interested in the first six years of Health Stamps first-day covers.

Am writing this, hoping it might be interesting for the "Kiwi".

Yours sincerely,

H. Quick.

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CORRECTION.

Page 4 - "The New Zealand Society" - 2nd para. the word "Rigcongram" should read "Pigeongram".  
(Apologies from the printers).

## CHRISTCHURCH EXHIBITION. THE ADVERTISING LABELS.

### FURTHER INFORMATION SOUGHT.

I do hope that Members who are only interested in the stamps and postal history of New Zealand will forgive this intrusion into the Kiwi. Personally, I am interested in any kind of material, that may make its appearance on covers from time to time, that can be genuinely associated with the issues, or the events commemorated by them.

Long before the Christchurch Exhibition of November 1906, there began to appear, on letters to all parts of the world, a series of advertising labels. Our Packet Secretary has one, on cover, that has been post-marked April 25, 1906. It will be interesting to learn from members, what is the earliest known date of their use.

Each label is of fairly large format, is perforated and gummed. Each is numbered (not priced) suggesting that a "complete set" could be accumulated. The design of each number is different and the labels are either printed in one colour or a combination of two or more. The inscriptions are the same on each label "New Zealand International Exhibition, Christchurch, N.Z." and the dates "NOV. 1906 - APL. 1907". A complete set would make a nice preliminary sheet to any show of the proofs, essays, colour trials and the stamps of the Christchurch issue.

Information is now sought from our friends in New Zealand, and our members in Great Britain and throughout the World, so that we may place on record, all that we can discover about this "issue". In particular I should like to know how many of these labels can be found and the details of each design, the colours and the printers. These are the details I have been able to record so far:-

### LABEL.

<u>No.</u>	<u>GENERAL DESIGN.</u>	<u>COLOURS.</u>
2	Maori Head	Blue & Chocolate
3	Kiwi	Red
4	Maori Girl with Tiki	Red, Brown & Green
5	Secretary Bird	Green
6	Carved Maori Head	Black and Pink
7	Portrait of Sir J. Ward (?)	Silver, Purple & Green.

The Printers (very small letters at the foot of each design) are as follows:-  
2. CH.CH.PRESS Co.      3. LYTTLETON TIMES CO.  
4. as No. 2.      5. as No. 2 with N.Z. added.      6. PRESS LITHO.  
7. as No. 3. with LTD added.

## CHRISTCHURCH EXHIBITION. THE ADVERTISING LABEL (contd).

In addition to the above, another label is known that may not be of the same set. It is imperf, and the design consists of a map of N.Z., with a Maori Head in one corner. The size is the same as the others and the colours are Red, Blue-green and Yellow. It is NOT numbered, and the speculation is - was it the first to be issued and therefore really No. 1.? It bears the same kind of advertising for the Exhibition.

One of our members believes that there were 13 or 14 of these labels? What is the highest number that you possess - or have ever seen? Can you add to the above list and give the same sort of detail? All letters will be acknowledged and new information given in the Kiwi. Please write to me:- NOEL TURNER, Gladstone House, High Road, Wood Green, LONDON. N.22.

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## TRAVELLING MAILS AND RURAL DELIVERIES.

The specialist publications by R.M. Startup about New Zealand Postal History have received surprisingly little notice in "Kiwi".

They are listed from time to time in the bibliography in the J.P.S's "Stamp Lover" and presumably in the general philatelic press. The latter, however, is probably not universally read by those with specialist interests. I for one find it of little value or interest so rarely see any of it.

I have found R.M. Startup's list of "New Zealand Post Offices, Past and Present" invaluable over the years, for its list of all N.Z. Post Offices. My only criticism would be to wish for inclusion of an alphabetical list of the letter prefixes to the old style cancellations comprising a letter and a number. There is a need for this as Vol. III of the Handbook shows numbers preceded by "A" and "O" on several different pages, while it is not easy to relate some of the lesser known letters to their parent postal districts.

Now I am intrigued by his "Travelling Mails", not least for its title. I was expecting at least some information on the Railway Travelling Post Offices. This was not to be.

This book is primarily concerned with Rural Delivery arrangements. These are little known to collectors in this country. I for one assumed that the post office delivered all mail and that there was no longer room for private contractors who bid for the contract to deliver letters in various remote areas.

TRAVELLING MAILS AND RURAL DELIVERIES, (contd).

Our ignorance is fostered by there being no evidence of the existence of these contractors in the markings on normal mail. Their existence becomes apparent, however, on that small proportion of correspondence which has to be re-directed or returned to sender. Rural Delivery contractors have a multitude of markings used for these purposes. These are described in magnificent detail in this book.

Some regular post offices without Rural Delivery facilities have even found it necessary to provide themselves with rubber stamps to re-direct mail to a neighbouring post office from which Rural Delivery can be provided into their own area.

The author of this useful publication admits that his knowledge - which to me seems encyclopaedic - cannot be complete and asks for details of other markings not listed by him. One such in my collection is described below:-

NOT ON

FITZHERBERT W. R.D.

The Rural Delivery Service is recorded - though perhaps generally unrecognised - in one of the photographs in the Times Supplement on N.Z. issued on 6th February. The caption reads: "The postman brings a little girl her lessons in the Southern Alps". The postman is shown to be the driver of a lorry of which most of the name of the owner is hidden. All that is legible is "Co. Ltd." but that seems enough to show that this is a contractor's lorry undertaking a Rural Delivery Service.

Have other collectors in this country any unusual covers in this category?

Gerald Pratt.

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NEW ZEALAND STAMPS AS I SEE THEM, by Campbell Paterson.

(contd).

PART TWO.

I have already discussed the 1d. London Print at some length and interesting as it is I must not overdo it - after all, most collectors see only one or two in a lifetime. But I think I should mention a feature in these stamps - that there seems to be some chance that there were two printings. The stamps appear to me in two grades - one, the better, is a beautiful print with deep centre and most delicate "paler" corner

NEW ZEALAND STAMPS AS I SEE THEM (contd).

spandrels; the second is in the same shade but lacks the master touch and more resembles the later Davies prints. The spandrels lack the delicate appearance and the whole print is poor by comparison. This is just an opinion I have formed myself, without reference to experts or records, but it does perhaps raise the question of whether there were two printings - and if so why the noticeable difference in execution?

The next 1d. is the problem stamp. Alb in our Catalogue, S.G. No. 7. The story behind this stamp - in a print in orange on the "Large Star" paper, is based entirely on one or two prs that have been found used on dated covers - dated in the late 1850's when the records say nothing of any printings other than the Londons and the Richardson prints on blue or white unwater-marked paper. The most likely explanation of this great rarity is that Richardson tried his hand with the "Star" paper and rejected it as unworkable (hence his use of other, smoother types of paper), but somehow his trials got issued and a few have survived. The stamp is said to be exactly in the shade of Richardson's prints on white paper (S.G. No. 8) and this tends to support the "trial" theory. One thing is certain, that no one should ever buy a copy said to be this stamp without the most cast-iron guarantees. To me the only satisfactory copy would be one on dated (pre 1862) cover and even then I would make stringent tests to prove that the stamp really belonged to that cover!

The two Richardson 1d's, on deep blue and on white papers, present few problems. The blue paper usually carried a paper-maker's watermark and copies showing portion of this are rare and desirable. Really top class stamps are seldom seen, but when in superb condition the print on blue paper can be very handsome indeed. No. 8 of the 1d. on white paper is always in orange and little variation is seen. It is not bright colour and the stamps unless superb tend to look a bit nondescript. So this is a stamp where condition - good clean colour, clean paper, good margins - matters even more than in most cases. As a matter of fact it is not a very scarce stamp, but so few copies really measure up to superb standards that when they do they fetch high prices. I would not advocate the paying of any high proportion of "catalogue price" where the colour is washed out or dirty. I need hardly say that a watch should be kept for copies showing pin perms, roulettes or, best of all, perforation 13. These are all exceedingly rare and may have been experimental.

In my next instalment I will deal with the "Davies" 1d. prints on "Star" paper.

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ALBERT A. HARD  
Hon. Editor, Kiwi.

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