THE KIWI



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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. 6. NOVEMBER 1963.

WHOLE No. 63

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that the Twelfth Annual General Meeting of The New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be held at the Shaftesbury Hotel, Monmouth Street, London. on SATURDAY, the 30th November, 1963, at 2.30 p.m. for the ordinary business set out in the Agenda.

21st October, 1963.

G.E.C. Pratt Hon. Secretary.

AGENDA.

- To receive and approve the Minutes of the Eleventh Annual 1. General Meeting.
- To receive a report from the President. 2.
- To receive a financial report from the Hon. Treasurer. 3.
- To receive a report from the Hon. Packet Secretary. 4.
- 5. To elect a President.
- 6. To elect a Vice-President.
- 7. To elect the following Officers:-

Hon. Secretary

Hon. Bulletin Editor

Hon. Treasurer

Hon. Auditor Hon. Packet Secretary.

- To elect a Committee of FIVE members. 8.
- Any other business proper to an Annual General Meeting. 9.

RETIRING OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

President:

Vice-President:

Hon. Secretary:

Hon. Treasurer:

Hon. Packet Secretary:

Hon. Bulletin Editor:

Hon. Publicity Officer:

Hon. Auditor:

Committee:

H.L. Bartrop

J.D. Riddell

G.E.C. Pratt

Noel Turner

W. Hasler Young

A.A. Hard

M. Burberry

G.B. Erskine

Mrs. E.C.M. Moore

Mrs. I.J. Willis

Messrs. G.B. Erskine

Royton Heath

R.D. Williamson.

The Officers of the Society, being eligible, have offered themselves for re-election. Nominations to be received.

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN SHAFTESBURY HOTEL, LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1963.

- 11.45 a.m. Exhibition of Members' sheets Auction lots on view.
 - 1.00 p.m. Lunch (informal in the Restaurant).
 - 2.30 p.m. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
 - 3.10 p.m. (approx). Presentation of Trophies.
 - 3.15 p.m. General Display (for further details see elsewhere in this issue).
 - 4.30 p.m. Auction.
 - 5.30 p.m. Close of meeting.

MEMBERSHIP LIST. No. 6 11/63.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Mrs.	H. Gordon Kaye	now at	c/o Mrs. Ward, "Arden", 77, Marine Drive, Rhos-on-Sea, COLWYN BAY, Denbighshire.
G.B.	Talbot	delete	c/o R.F. Wilkins & Co.,
		and	Box No. should now read 31.

AUCTION SALE OF NEW ZEALAND MATERIAL. To be held after the Annual General Meeting.

Bidding by post in a Stamp Auction is a little different from normal auction bidding. Simply select the Lots on which you wish to bid and list the maximum amount you are prepared to pay for each. We will endeavour to purchase the Lots for you at as low a figure as possible and will go to the limit of your bid only when absolutely necessary to purchase the Lot.

Please bid early. Besides assisting us this has the great advantage that if two bids of the same amount are received for a particular Lot, then the first to reach us takes precendence.

Descriptions of each Lot are given as clearly and fully as possible. The purchaser of postal bids will be required to bear all Postal Charges, etc.

Right hand column is the approximate rough estimated value of the Lot - not the reserve (if any).

Last Postal bids to reach W. Hasler Young, 23, Angel Close, Edmonton, London. N.18 by FRIDAY, 29th November.

Ref. No.		Est. Value.
1	King Ed. VII. Iand ld. F.U. S.G.A.1.	18/-
2.	Victoria Land. Blk 4 of ld. Unmounted	£5. 0.0.
3.	Ed. VII. S.G. 449 (pr) 456, 461, 457 Mint and 457, 460, 463, 469 (single & pr), 461, 477 used.	£1. 0.0.
4.	Auckland Exhibition. 1d. & ld. Mint pairs	£1.10.0.

Ref. No.			Est. Value
<i>5</i> .	1920 Vict	ory. ½d, ld, l½d & 3d. Mint	8.0.
6.	1925 Dune	din Set Mint	16.0.
7.		ictorials. 577, 580, 579, 582, 584, 85, 588. Mint, Multi.Wmk.	9.0.
8.	Geo. V.	Officials. 0.84,86,87,89,94,95,96,97.	7. 6.
9.	Healths.	1931. Superb Mint	\$5. 5.0.
10.	tt .	1931. Used	<i>\$</i> 5, 0.0.
11.	SF .	1932. Mint	£1. 2.6.
12.	11	1932. Used	18.0.
13 .	Ħ	1933. Mint	15. 0.
υ ₊ .	11	1933. Used	10.0.
15.	11	1934. Mint	10.0.
16.	Ħ	1934. Used	8.0.
17.	11	1934. Used	8.0.
18.	u	1935. Mint	2.6.
19.	11	1935. Used	2.6.
20,	11	1936. Mint and F.Used	3.0.
21.	11	1937. Mint and F. Used	5.0.
22.	e e	1938. Mint and F.Used	4.0.
23.	ŧŧ	1939. Mint	4.6.
24.	tt .	1939. Used	4.6.
25.	11	1940. Mint	6.6.
26.	tt	1940. F.Used	6.6.
27.	ti .	1941. Mint	2,6.
28.	11	1941. F.Used	3.6.
29.	. 11	1942 and 1943. Mint	2.6.
30.	11	1942 and 1943. F. Used	2.0.
31.	11	1944, 45 and 46. Mint & F.Used	3.0.
32.	11.	1947, 48 and 49. Mint & F.Used	2.6.
33.	11	1950, 51 and 52. Mint & F.Used.	3.0.
34.	Ħ	1953. Mint and Used Blks of 4.	3.6.
<i>35</i> •	11	1954. Mint & F.Used. Blks of 4.	3.6.
36 .	t 1	1955. Mint & F.Used. Blks of 4.	6.0.
<i>3</i> 7.	n	1956. Mint & F.Used. Blks of 4	6.0.
21.		AND BELLEV OF E-CHOOKS DAME OF 4	0.0.

Ref. No.		Est. Value
38.	Healths. 1957 Miniature Sheets Mint	10.0.
39.	" 1957 " " F.Used	10.0.
40 •	1936-43. Picts. ½d 3/- Various perfs. Mint & Used. 49 stamps	£1.10.0.
41.	1937. Coronation Set. Mint & Used.	2.0.
42.	1936. Anzac Set. Mint & Used.	1.3
43.	Arms Type. 634, 634a, 635, 636, 637, 641, 643, 645 and 646. Used.	£1. 0.0.
¼ }+•	Arms Type. 1/3 Chalky. Up.Wmk. Sept. 1955. S.G.634b. F.Used.	£1.10.0.
45.	Arms Type. 1/3. Blue lettering F.Used. PAIR.	£2.0.0.
46.	Arms Type. 3/6. Surcharge S.G.657. F.Used.	10.0.
47.	Q.E.II. 8d. CHESTNUT. Blk of 4. unmounted Mint	a. 0.0.
48.	" do. Unmounted Mint Pair	7.6.
49•	Geo. VI. 1938-44 (SG.603-605b) and 1947-52. (680-689) complete, except for 687a and 688a. Mint set and Used set. 39 stamps.	al. 5.0.
<i>5</i> 0.	Peace 1946. Mint and Used Sets	7.6.
51.	1940 Centennial Set. Mint	17.6.
<i>5</i> 2.	ditto. F.Used.	12.0.
53.	1957 Lemb Set. Mint Blks of 4.	17.6.
54.	Postage Dues Various incl. D.24-26. Mint & Used. (11 stamps)	8.6.
<i>55</i> .	1939 Express Delivery. SG.E.4 Mint	9.6.
56.	1939 Express Delivery. SG.E.6 Mint	1.6.
<i>5</i> 7.	ditto. F. Used.	2.0.
<i>5</i> 8.	Various Old Picture Post Cards about 1911-16 period. 25 cards (11 stamped)	
<i>5</i> 9.	Similar Lot. 25 cards (11 stamped)	
60	Again another Lot. 23 cards (11 stamped)	
lors	to be sold on behalf of the society funds. Lots 61 to	70.
61	1947 Healths. Blocks of 4 Mint	
6 2	1947 Healths. Blocks of 4 Used First day Postmark	
63	1948 Healths, Blocks of 4 Mint	
64	1948 Healths, Blocks of 4 Used. First day postmark	

OTS TO B	E SOID ON BEHALF OF THE SOCIETY FUNDS (contd). LOTS 61 to 70.
65.	G.B. 2/- Booklet. YES, the one with the Se-tenant $\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. with white stitching.
66,	Packet of 11 stamps inc. Iamb set. Westland set. Mint. 4 Healths. U. 1961 Xmas mint and used.
67.	26 copies of the 3d. Southland. Cent. Used.
71.	One BOX containing 1,000's, from 1898 to date.
72.	Geo. V. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. De la Rue 2/3 of booklet pane 12.6.
73.	S.G. 502-3. Set of 5 shades Mint 12.0.
74.	S.G. 534 Mint pair with sheet number 4.0.
75.	Geo. V. 6d. Official Mint with P.N.22. 8.6.
76.	Geo. V. 9d. " " " 25 4.6.
77.	Geo. V. 1/- " " " 26 10.0.
78.	Geo. V. $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. perf. $14x14\frac{1}{2}$ used well centered 5.0.
79.	Id. Dominion Mint pair de la Rue. Blurred 5.0.
80.	ld. " Litho wmk. Official Mint pair 3.6.
81.	Geo. V. 3d. Mint pair de la Rue perf. 14x15 5.6.
8 2.	Sideface $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ used. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. well centered 6.6.
83.	Chalon Head. S.G.40. 3d. Good margins, almost imperceptible crease R. top corner light cancel £4. 0.0.
84.	Pims 1955 Catalogue Mint condition 12.0.
85.	Verme Collins 1954 Catalogue 5.0.
86.	S.G.530a. Mint strip of 6 with top selvedge and large arrow in selvedge 2.0.
87.	Second Sideface Id. 1896 On Cover. Posted Ngahere.
88.	ditto. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.1897 ditto.
8 9 .	ditto 1d. 1896 ditto.
90.	ditto. 21d.1896 Cover. Christohurch
91.	ditto. 2½d.1897 " Posted Ngahere
9 2.	ditto. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.1896 " Wellington
93.	ditto. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.1896 " " Ngahere
94.	ditto. 2x 2½d.1894 " " "
95.	ditto. 21d.1897 " Wellington to Sunderland
96.	ditto. $2x$ ld. plus $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Newspaper 1899 Ngahere
97.	ditto. 2d. " " 1895 Ngahere

98	Second Sideface	2d. plus	d. Newspaper	1894.	Ngah	ere
99	ditto.	2d. "	tt	1895	Ngah	ere
100	ditto. Reg	distered Cov	er 1d. 2d. 3	x 2½d.	1896.	Ngahere
101	ditto. Oov	er 2 x ld p	lus <mark>1</mark> d. Blac	c	1896	11
102	ditto. Lab	el ld. 2d.	. plus 1/-		1895	31
103	ditto. Cov	rer (Out) 2 :	x 2đ. plus l	i. '	1898	12
104	ditto. Pie	ce ld. and	2 d.		1895	11
105	ditto. Cov	er 2d. and	id. black (c	rt)	1898	11.

Geo. VI NIUE Coronation Set on First Day Cover. Five Covers to be sold as Lots 106 - 107 - 108 - 109 - 110.

REPORT OF THE MEMBERS' MEETING ON 25th SEPTEMBER 1963.

The President, Mr. Harry Bartrop, was in the Chair. Apologies were received from Noel Turner and Mr. R.D. Williamson regretting their inability to attend.

The Meeting opened with a Display and Talk on the early cancellations of New Zealand from 1855 - 1879, by Mr. John Evans of Sheen. He produced an early map of New Zealand by Blackie dated 1859 which covered the period of the Display.

The range of cancellations from 1855 to 1879 can be formed at a relatively small cost but, after 1879 they become too numerous to specialise in. Mr. Evans recommends that anyone interested in these early cancellations should obtain a copy of the "Notes on the Early Cancellations of New Zealand" by Dr. K.J.L. Scott, which was published in serial form in "The Philatelist" commencing May 1948, Vol. 14 Nos. 8 to 12 and later in pamphlet form by Robson Lowe Ltd. Thirty-six brass cancel stamps were supplied by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. on invoice dated 26th September 1854 and numbers above 18 have not been seen. It is thought they may have been supplied in duplicate. Examples of these cancels were shown and the names of places to which the various numbers were allocated, numbers 2,3 and 13 being the rarest.

REPORT OF THE MEMBERS' MEETING ON 25th SEPTEMBER 1963 (contd).

A similar type of barred oval with heavier type was introduced in the early sixties and numbers 19 to 25 were introduced. From 1863 onwards, cancellations become more numerous and varied in type and are best dealt with under the heading of the various Provinces.

Auckland province made use of the prefix "A" for some 230 sub-offices shortly after 1870. Special cancellations were used during the second Maori war "Headquarters" in a barred oval at OTAHUHU and "Queen's Redoubt" at the Field H.Q. COROMANDEL was also used and is very rare, not having been seen on cover.

Wellington District

The Wellington Office made use of a duplex canceller with circular date stamp and a vertical barred oval containing the figures 070. Number 7 was recognised as the distinguishing number for Wellington and it is assumed that the 0's which flanked the 7 were used to fill in the spaces at either side. Various types of single and duplex cancellations containing the letter "W" or "WN" were later used. The letter "Z" in a barred oval was in use at Palmeston North.

Christchurch.

The first double cancellation used at Christchurch Chief Office has a C.D.S. at left with "CH.GH" at right in a barred oval. Various types of barred oval containing the letter "C" followed.

Otago.

Because of the discovery of gold in 1861 Dunedin handled more mail than Auckland and was the first office to adopt a special obliterator, this consisted of the name "Dunedin" within an oval of 15 thin bars. Numerous single and duplex cancellers followed which contained "OTAGO", "O" or "D" and are found more easily than those of any other province.

New Plymouth.

Mr. Evans showed a photo-copy of a cancellation NP2 used at Clifton in 1866 and is the only known copy used on cover.

He concluded by saying that there is still plenty of scope for collecting cancellations as many collectors ignore stamps heavily cancelled which again are usually cheaply priced. The Society's Exchange Club Packet has yielded quite a useful selection.

Mr. John D. Riddell followed with a Display and Talk on the "Early Marine and Ship Cancellations on New Zealand Mail".

EARLY MARINE and SHIP CANCELLATIONS ON N.Z. MAIL

by John D. Riddell.

Up to the middle of the 19th century mail was taken to and brought from New Zealand mostly via Australia, and took from G.B. up to five months to arrive, and at considerable expense, up to six shillings being the charge to the Bay of Islands or Port Nicolson. From there an extra charge was made for further delivery in New Zealand. So evasion of sending mail through the post office was rife, and the bulk of mail was brought by courtesy of a ship's captain or purser.

The first Marine Cancellation was NEW ZEALAND SHIP LETTER in two lines, and was applied in Auckland. It was in use from 1842 to 1845, it having been sent out from the G.P.O. in London. When these letters arrived in London they were back stamped with SHIP LETTER in black, and when they arrived in Liverpool they were back-stamped with a framed LIVERPOOL SHIP, in two lines, with the date above, found in black and blue-green.

Between 1850 and 1860 the amount of marine mail increased considerably, a lot arriving in port having been posted on board. So a special branch called the Marine Post Office was opened in Auckland, to deal with all matters pertaining to marine mail. Also Marine Post Officers, or travelling Mail Agents, were established on the regular shipping lines to sort and look after the mail they carried. Prior to 1860 the bulk of the mail went from N.Z. to Sydney and connected up with the P. & O. Steamship Co. On these ships the Mail Agents had their own cancellators A81 to A85 in a circle of bars, and N.Z. adhesives can be found cancelled with them. From 1860 most of the mail went to G.B. via Panama, where it was taken across the Isthmus by rail, and by ship to England, after 1870 the ships went to San Francisco and across the American continent. By this route mail took from N.Z. about 45 days but by Suez it took about 60 days.

The first actual N.Z. MARINE P.O. cancellation was used around 1864 by the Mail Agent on the N.Z. Government contracted interprovincial ships which ran between Port Chalmers & Melbourne, belonging to Messrs. McMeekin, Blackwood & Co. This cancellation was thought to be a duplex one with a 23 mm c.d.s. with N.Z. MARINE P.O. in three lines, and date in two lines below, on the left and on the right, OTAGO in an oval of bars. However I have the C.D.S. on an N.Z. adhesive, so much to the left that it would indicate that since the OTAGO oval is not there it was not a duplex, although undoubtedly the OTAGO oval was used always at the same time as the C.D.S. There are two types of the C.D.S., one with the letters N.Z. close together, and no stops after the letters P O.

EARLY MARINE AND SHIP CANCELLATIONS ON N.Z. MAIL (contd).

Between 1860 and 1884 various contracts were drawn up between the N.Z. Government and Australian and American shipping companies for the carrying of mail, and it was on the last of these on the San Francisco run that cancellators were first regularly used. The companies concerned were the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand, the Ocean Steamship Company of San Francisco and another to carry mail between Australia and the U.S.A. via N.Z. The ships involved at first were the Mararoa, Australia, Zealandia, City of New York, City of Sydney, City of San Francisco, Granada, Colima, City of Melbourne, Cyphrenes, and Mikado, and after 1891 the Monowai. During this time some of these ships applied rubber stamps of the ship's name to the mail. This has been found as part of the word "Zealandia" on an adhesive. However, the regular cancellator in use between 1884 and 1895 was a 22½ mm. C.D.S. with N.Z.Marine P.O. in two lines and the date below in one line. There were at least two types. One with a hyphen between the N and the Z and small letters for the MARINE P.O., the other with a dash between the N and the Z, larger lettering for the MARINE P.O, and no dots after the P and the O. The first type has been recorded on the adhesives on New Zealand, New South Wales, and United States of America, and the second type on the adhesives of New Zealand and New South Wales only. Found in black and in violet. However, it has never been ascertained on which ships or by which Mail Agents these cancellators were carried. At this time there is also to be found a 34 mm. double lined C.D.S, with round the top NEW ZEALAND and round the foot MARINE P.O., with, in the centre, in two lines, the date. Recorded use NOV. 1890 until FEB. 1895. Found in black and purple.

Somewhere around this period it was decided to add the word mail also with the term PACKET BOAT within a frame. Presumably all the N.Z. ships received this cancellator, the only distinctive one being that which was supplied to the R.M.S. Moana, because it had a hyphen between PACKET and BOAT. This cancellator was to be used to cancel adhesives other than those of New Zealand. but often one finds that the adhesives of New Zealand were cancelled in error with this PACKET BOAT cancellator, and it is found in red and black. The mail matter was also cancelled with the N.Z. MARINE P.O. c.d.s. Then it was decided by the N.Z. postal authorities that each of their ships should have a cancellator giving the name of the ship and the date. So covers are found with the package cancelled with the framed PACKET BOAT this circular cancellation giving the name of the ship, and the adhesives cancelled with the N.Z. MARINE P.O. c.d.s. This was soon seen to be an excessive amount of cancellating, and so as each of the ships of the Ocean Steamship Co. returned to N.Z. they were supplied with a new 30 mm. plain or crenellated double lined c.d.s. with the N.Z. MARINE P.O. round the top and the name of

EARLY MARINE AND SHIP CANCELLATIONS ON N.Z. MAIL (contd).

the ship round the foot and the date across the middle, and they retained the PACKET BOAT cancellation for cancelling the adhesives of countries other than N.Z., the R.M.S. Monowai being the first ship to receive the cancellation about the end of 1896. These cancellations can be found from the following ships, the R.M.S. Aorangi, Alameda, Mariposa, Monowai, Moana, Sierra, Sonoma, and Ventura. The Sonoma and the Ventura having each two types of the same cancellation with or without a star design, above and below the date in the centre. The Sonoma also used a small rubber stamp reading S.S. Sonoma. These cancellations are found in red, orange, blue, black and purple, and were in use up to 1907, when all N.Z. Mail Agents were withdrawn.

In 1903 there was in use a 26 mm. double lined c.d.s. with MARINE P.O. round the top, N.Z. at the foot and the date in two lines in the centre, but it is unknown upon which ship it was used.

Re: R.M.S. Sonoma, N.Z. Marine Post Office Date Stamp Mystery.

In reply to Royton Heath's query in the September "KIWI", Mr. John D. Riddell writes:-

"In answer to Mr. Heath's query, I have two Sonoma covers, one of each type. The type with the star designs above and below the date quite definitely has no stop after Sonoma but the other cover, which is the one from the Studd collection mentioned in the Handbook, and by Collins and is type two, having no star design above and below the date could possibly have a stop, but there is a smudge just at that spot, so one cannot tell.

"Karori", 4, Windmill Rise, Heath Road, Upton-by-Chester.

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Dear Mr. Hard,

I was most interested to read your report in the September issue of "KIWI" of Mr. John D. Evans' (Sheen) page of Chalon Heads with "Province of Auckland" postmarks shown to members on 31st July

Perhaps those members who are collectors of Maori War postmarks, may be interested in details of these items in my collection:-

Office No.	Value	Perf.	Date.
2 2 3 5 7 7 7	2d. 6d. 6d. 1d. Verm 6d. 6d.	12½ 12½ Impf 12½ 12½ Impf Impf	Feb. ? 1865 Oct. 25 1865 Oct. ? 186? Ju 4 1865 Oct. ? 1865 Dec ? ?
"Port Waikato"	6d.	Impf	Oct 25 1865

One or two of the above were not, I believe, recorded in Mr. R.M. Startup's excellent paper written in 1958.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) J.G. Stonehouse.

The following letter is in reply to Mrs. Willis's query in the September "KIWI", Mr. Davey has a fairly extensive collection of Peace stamps, and can plate most prominent varieties, about which our members want to know and, most minor ones too in the case of the more interesting values.

Dear Mrs. Willis.

With reference to your query in the September 1963 "KIWI", the plate crack in the ½d. Peace stamp is I presume at the lower right of the stamp, most visible just inside the frame plate design.

If so, it is Frame Plate 42790 Row 5, No. 6. This stamp and its neighbour Row 5, No. 5, were later re-entered, and the crack disappeared. The traces of the re-entry are, however, very small, and if one were not looking to see what had happened to the flaw the chances are that one would not see it at all. The doubling is tiny and mostly visible in the radial lines of the flower at lower right.

I have a fairly extensive collection of the 1946 Peace set, and have done quite a bit of replating of the more interesting values, and if there are any other Peace set queries as to varieties over which I can help, I shall be delighted to pass on information which I have. It is mostly based on blocks taken from complete sheets, so I have the evidence present and not relying on hearsay.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Peter Davey.

The following letter and useful information has been received from our Member from Eastbourne, Mr. D. Cross re Mr. Michael Burberry's query in the September "KIWI".

8, Marine Parade, Eastbourne.

Dear Mr. Hard,

I hope the enclosed sheets re "Emergency Earthquake Air Mails" will help Mr. Burberry and perhaps other members who are interested in Internal Mails. As I am a member of The Airmail Society of N.Z. Christchurch, I have Volume 1 which was published by the Society in 1955 @ 22/6d. Copies were quoted at 23/6d. plus postage in their Newsletter of July, as

Letter from Mr. D. Cross (contd).

they have some copies still on hand. Volume II - External Flights is now being compiled by Mr. Robin Startup. They have been about 3 years getting down to it! Perhaps Mr. Burberry will persuade "our" Society to buy a copy - or maybe buy one himself - if only for the sake of those 4 covers he was so fortunate in buying. The address is -

Mr. J.C. Stapleton (Treasurer, Exchange Supt), P.O. Box 1646, Christchurch 1, N.Z.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) D. Cross.

P.S. Since writing the above Mr. Cross has received the August Bulletin of the Air Mail Society of New Zealand in which it is stated that, as a result of the article in the July issue re Vol. 1 a bookseller purchased the entire supply. Endeavours are being made to reprint this volume in a very limited edition and, all intending purchasers are advised to contact our Treasurer (J.C. Stapleton, address above) to ensure a copy will be held for them.

EMERGENCY EARTHQUAKE AIR MAILS.

1931 - February 4th.

Wellington Aero Club - Earthquake Flight - Wellington - Hastings.

The first airmail carried in connection with the disastrous Hawkes' Bay earthquake was dispatched from Wellington on 4th February when pilot G.G.Wallace left Rongotai Aerodrome in a D.H. "Moth" plane at 5.20 a.m. and reached Longlands Aerodrome, Hastings, at 7.25 a.m. One bag of mail was carried and this contained a large batch of telegrams and 12 (only) special delivery letters. Each envelope was franked with 6d. "Special Delivery" stamp, in addition to the 1d. postage stamp. No ordinary letters were carried. Each of the 12 envelopes bears Mr. Wallace's signature.

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1931 - February 5th.

Earthquake Emergency Flights: From Gisborne and Hastings to Fielding.

As the earthquake damaged the road badly between Gisborne and Hastings mail posted after 8 a.m. on 2nd February was dispatched from Gisborne at 5 a.m. on the morning of the 5th of February. Flying Officer G.A. Nicholls flew the mail in his Descutter monoplane and one bag was delivered to Hastings. Mail for Wellington and southern offices had been accumulating at Hastings since 3rd and this, together with the mail from Gisborne, and a small bundle of letters from Napier, was carried to Fielding. Flt. Lieut H.B. Barrell of the N.Z. Permanent Air Force. At Fielding the mail connected with the Main Trunk express. A rubber-stamp cachet "Emergency Earthquake Air Mail" was applied to covers when signed by pilots.

Gisborne - Fielding (180)
Napier - Fielding (-)
Hastings - Fielding (-)

Information from The Air Mails of New Zealand Volume 1.
"The Internal Flights".

1931 - February 5 - 9.

Emergency Earthquake Flights: Various Pilots Hastings to Gisborne.

Although mails were carried by air from Gisborne to Hastings from the 5th - 27th February, they were carried by air from Hastings to Gisborne from the 5th - 9th only. No backstamps were applied at Gisborne. Following is a list of the flights with the pilots:-

Feb. 5th. F/O F.D. Mill (Moth). 2 bags letters delivered 12.50 p.m.

6th. F/L G.B. Bolt (Desoutter). Dominion Airlines. (2 flights).

6th. F/L S. Wallingford (N.Z. Permanent Air Force). Left Hastings at 11 a.m.

7th. Mr. G.M. Firth (Left Hastings at 11 a.m. and delivered 1 bag).

1931 - February 5 - 9. (contd).

Feb. 9th. F/L G.B. Bolt 9th. F/L S. Wallingford 7 Total 4 bags

Covers from these flights were stamped with a cachet "Emergency Earthquake Air Mail" in purple when signed by pilots.

1931 - February 6th.

N.Z. Permanent Air Force - Flight Hastings - Auckland.

Although mails were carried by Air on 8 occasions from Hastings to Auckland between 6th and 10th Feb. there is no means of positively identifying covers with the exception of the mail on the 6th. The official records show that mail posted before 10.30 a.m. on the 6th was included in the bag which was flown to Auckland by F/L S. Wallingford. After the 6th the road service was restored and mails were carried by motor as well as by air and no means is available of identifying covers from these flights as no backstamps or cachets were used.

Hastings - Auckland (-)

1931 - February 5 - 27.

Earthquake Emergency Flights: By various Pilots - Gisborne to Hastings.

Considerable use was made of aeroplanes in conveying mails from Gisborne to Hastings after the Hawkes' Bay earthquake and a number of pilots assisted in these flights. Following is a list.

Feb. 5th. F/O G.A. Nicholls. Desoutter Monoplane 6th. F/L G.B. Bolt (Dominion Airlines) 7th. 11 8th. I.L. Knight (crashed). " G.B. Bolt & F/L H.B. Barrell. (Perm. Air Force). loth. " G.B. Bolt & F/L D.M. Allan (Auckland Aero Club llth. Moth). " W.H. Lett (Dominion Airlines). 12th. L.D.M. Allan (Moth) & F/L W.H.Lett (Dom. Airlines) 13th. Ħ W.H. Lett (2 trips) 16th. 17th. 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 25th and 27th -All F/L W.H. Lett.

3

On the flight on February 8th, when the Descutter of Dominion Airlines crashed at <u>Wairoa</u> killing the pilot and two passengers, the craft was carrying telegrams only. These mails also included letters for Napier, no direct flights being made to that town. With the conditions prevailing at the time it is easy to understand why records were not kept of the quantities of mail carried in the flights. Cachet applied when signed by Pilots.

Gisborne - Hastings (-)

1931 - February 7 - 9.

Earthquake Emergency Flights - Wairoa to Hastings by F/L W.H. Lett.

Owing to the badly damaged roads between Wairoa and Hastings mails for Napier and Hastings were forwarded overland to Gisborne and distributed from there except on 7th and 9th Feb. when F/L Lett made flights carrying mails for Napier and Hastings. No quantities were recorded but on both occasions the mails were small.

Wairoa - Hastings (-)

1931 - February 16 - 17.

Dominion Airlines Ltd. Special Mails Bearing Labels - Gisborne - Hastings.

Although <u>F/L W.H. Lett</u> carried official mails from Gisborne to Hastings on the 16th & 17th Feb. covers are also recorded which were apparently carried under the "Label" system of that airline. These carry the Gisborne to Hastings label cut and affixed so as to obliterate the value. They were posted at the end of the flight, namely Hastings and are signed by Pilot W.H. Lett.

Gisborne - Hastings (-)

1931 - March 10.

Gisborne Air Transport Ltd. Inauguration of "Daily Week-Day" Service from Gisborne to Hastings, and return.

On the discontinuance of the service by <u>Dominion Airlines</u>
Ltd., a syndicate was formed and a new company was registered as

"Gisborne Air Transport Ltd.". The first flights were made
on 10th March when a <u>D.H. Moth Coupe left Gisborne at 6.45</u>
a.m. which reached <u>Hastings at 8 a.m.</u> Pilot being <u>F/L W.H. Lett.</u>
The return flight left at <u>9.45 a.m.</u> and arrived at <u>Gisborne</u>
at 11 a.m. A charge of <u>6d. per cover</u> was made by the pilot
for signing letters and only signed covers were carried. A
special envelope was prepared for the first flights. Printed
in black on manilla the inscription read:Gisborne Air Transport Ltd. <u>Gisborne - Hastings</u> (or Hastings Gisborne). <u>First Flight</u> at top of the cover whilst the pilot
signed in lower left-hand corner. Mail was posted at end of
flight.

(Gisborne - Hastings - (180) (Hastings - Gisborne - (180)

STOP PRESS.

A Committee Meeting of the New Zealand Society will be held at 12 noon prior to the A.G.M. on the 30th November, 1963.

Will all the Officers and Committee please endeavour to attend at this time to consider suggestions for a programme for next season's meetings.

H.L. Bartrop, President.

ALBERT A. HARD
Hon. Editor - "KIWI"