

# 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

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VOLUME XVI No. 5. SEPTEMBER 1967

WHOLE No. 86.

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NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 27th SEPTEMBER at

SHAFTESBURY HOTEL, MONMOUTH STREET, LONDON.

at

6.15 p.m.

SUBJECT: MISCELLANEOUS AND SIDELINES.

Gerald Pratt, (our Secretary and Packet Secretary), will be the Leader for this meeting, which is the last evening gathering of the current season. He will be showing a wide range of Postal History sheets from a large number of sideline collections, hoping to find something of interest for everyone.

If you have any unusual items that might be of interest to other members, please bring them along.

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ANNUAL AUCTION.

Members are reminded that the Auction will take place after the A.G.M. on the 25th November. In order that a list of the Lots for sale can be published in the next 'KIWI', will members please let Mr. Warrenne H. Young have details

of Lots that they are intending to include in the Auction by the 23rd October. It is not necessary to send the actual material at this stage, merely the details, which should include a 'reserve' if one is required.

(Mr. Young's address: 23, Angel Close, Edmonton, London N. 18.)

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REPORT OF LAST MEETING - 26th JULY. CHALONS and NZ PROOF MATERIAL.

To Marcel Stanley we extend our most grateful thanks, for what must surely be one of the finest displays that this Society has been privileged to see. No write-up by your humble Editor, or one of the experts 'conned' into the job, could really do full justice to the material that was on view. For this reason, Marcel Stanley himself, has promised to let me have a detailed report of his display in due course. Unfortunately, this is not to hand at the time of going to press, and John Evans has most kindly contributed the following summary of the main highlights of the display.

The Marcel Stanley Evening.

I have been asked in that polite but firm manner by our Editor, for some brief notes on the highlights of the evening, and though members no doubt have different ideas, the biggest highlight was undoubtedly the comprehensive display of all values of these beautiful stamps, and the assembly of several examples of rarities in a profusion which we are unlikely to see again.

My own view of the highest individual highlight, is without question the unused copies of the 1d, 2d, and 1/- values printed by Perkins Bacon (S.G. 1,2,3), including the 2d on white paper. It was the custom to present an unused copy of each stamp to Queen Victoria, and I have been privileged to see these copies in the Royal Collection. These copies, of course, never went to N.Z, and this is the only other occasion that I have seen S.G. 1,2, and 3 together and unused.

Next I would choose the study of the 6d Richardson Printing (S.G. 12 to 15), with particular emphasis on the shades. I noted generally the quantity and the very excellent quality of the stamps. Beauty and stamps are unto the beholder, and I must confess having a fleeting doubt between the deep bistre brown and the deep brown shades as shown. The display however, will remain in my mind for a long time, and its excellence was fully appreciated by all present whether they collect Chalon Heads or other issues.

Thirdly, the 1/- Davies Print 1862-64 in the emerald green shade unused, attracted my admiration partly perhaps because I have three used copies (one with postmark dated 23rd May 1864), and partly because in a catalogue of 1864 belonging to Noel Turner, this value is described only as in emerald green.

(Editor's Note: I like the reference to N.T.'s catalogue of 1864 - I wondered why he was looking rather thin and grey on top!)

In the second part of the display covering the 1864 Perf 12½ until the end of the use of the stamps in 1873, I would highlight the extensive study of the 3d value. As is well known, this value has many varieties of shades both in the lilac and deep mauve colours, and the grouping of the shades was very accurate. I liked also the shades of the 4d value, and was interested to hear that the bright yellow and golden yellow shades are scarcer than the others.

Personally I regard as a highlight the research into the shades of the 1864-73 issue, because for the last two years or so, I have been proceeding on the same lines, not knowing what Mr. Stanley was up to on the other side of the world.

Owing to the length of the meeting at which such a superb amount of material was displayed to us, I had to leave before the end and was unable to thank Mr. Stanley, or to wish him a safe return to New Zealand, and so I hope he will accept my belated but sincere thanks through the columns of the 'KIWI'.

John D. Evans.

The display continued with examples of manuscript cancellations, the early obliterations 1-18, covers showing the Headquarters, Queens Redoubt and Otago Goldfield cancellations, 2 scarce soldiers letters, and a variety of other material.

The display of Proof material was so all embracing that it could well have formed the basis of a separate subject in its own right. Highlights as far as I was concerned were the proofs of the Perkins Bacon London prints, the progressive die proofs of the second side face, and the examples of the Presentation Sets given to visiting notabilities.

At the end of a long, very warm evening, Mr. Agabeg proposed a vote of thanks in words so carefully and skillfully chosen, that they conveyed the sentiments of all those present, in a way that we would have found impossible to voice ourselves, stunned as we were with the never ending

mass of material and information that had been placed before us in the past few hours. And so to the BAR!

Editor.

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EDITOR'S NOTES.

I must apologise for an error in the write up of the Pacific Island Study Circle's visit to us. On page 50 of the July 'KIWI', I gave the impression that their President was Dr. Grumbridge. This is not so. Please amend your copies to read..... apologised for the unavoidable absence of Mr. F.B. Howard-White F.R.P.S.L. (their President), and Dr. Grumbridge,.....

Ross-Hokitika Cancellations. Letters in the November 1966, January 1967, and March 1967 KIWI'S have stimulated interest in the obliterators used at Ross. This interest has mainly been in connection with the  $\frac{V}{4}$  obliterators. In this edition of KIWI, John Evans and Jimmy Riddell have kindly submitted an article on this subject, and have asked for members' help in trying to pin-point the dates when  $\frac{V}{4}$  was in use at Ross. Since the article necessarily embraces the  $\frac{C}{6}$  obliterators, I think our studies should include this cancellation as well as the  $\frac{V}{4}$ . I have added some notes at the end of the article, which I hope may stimulate further investigation and help from members.

Forces Postal History Society. Replying to Jimmy Riddell's request in the July KIWI for details of Soldiers letters from the Maori Wars, Mr. H.J. Hare points out that people tackling military subjects of this nature, should contact the Forces Postal History Society whose Secretary is Mr. W. Garrard, 7 Hillbeck Way, Greenford, Middx. This Society is a source of information that is often overlooked.

Meters The Meter Stamp Study Group are in the initial stages of collecting information for a booklet on the meter stamps of Australia and New Zealand, and naturally enough,

are keen to obtain all the information they can. Will any member of our Society who studies this particular aspect, please get in touch with me. The Group are also seeking details of any meters that have been altered to take decimal currency, apart from obviously new dies.

The 1d Universal. I have received a copy of a paper on the 1d Universal by our new member Martin Tombleson of Gisborne, NZ. This paper was presented to the Congress at the NZ National Stamp Exhibition Whakatane in April 1967. It is far too bulky to publish in KIWI in one go, and will therefore be spread over a number of future issues.

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NEW MEMBERS.

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|-----------------|--|
| G.O. Foot,      | - 1, Valley Close, Hertford, Herts.                |
| L. Marx,        | - 9, Mangahoe Street, Teawamutu, New Zealand.      |
| A.W. Neubecker, | - 3649 Livernois Ave, Detroit 10, Michigan, U.S.A. |

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

- |               |                                       |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| T.E. Grassie, | - 35, Brompton Road, Southsea, Hants. |
| B. Upton,     | - 3, Camperdown, Maidenhead, Berks.   |
| L. Wells,     | - 43, Esmead, Chippenham, Wilts.      |

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'DECIMAL DELIGHTS'

New Zealand has now converted to decimal currency, in which no  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. coin exists. But the basic printed matter postage rate is  $2\frac{1}{2}$ c.

To purchase a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. stamp, one is permitted to tender a 3c. coin and receive a  $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamp as "change". The question now arises whether the Post Office will accept a 2c. coin plus a  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. stamp in payment for a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. stamp. If so, then the  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. stamp becomes a means of exchange, and therefore a unit of coinage; if not, then the Post Office has no legal right to force the customer to accept it in the first place!

('Stamp Collecting' - August 11th)

NOTES FROM NEW ZEALAND.

The New Zealand Post Office has announced that £.s.d. postage stamps may be used for prepayment of decimal postage until 31st July 1969. The Post Office will still re-purchase stocks of £.s.d. stamps after that date, but only until 31st July 1972.

Since mid 1966, a number of post offices have been issued with new Universal or Pitney Bowes automatic post-marking machines. The dateheads fitted to these machines show the name of the office, as usual, around the top of the circle, but the foot, where N.Z. usually appears, is blank. The Post Office has planned to replace these errors with new dateheads fitted with N.Z. at foot, but so far no new heads have appeared.

N.Z. National Stamp Exhibition, Whakatane. For the record, the Post Office at the Exhibition used a special rubber-die datestamp on 19th April to cancel first day covers; this cancellation was in the form of one of the old time squared circle datestamps. From the 19th until 22nd April, when the Exhibition closed, a steel die datestamp was used to cancel mail matter. Registration labels were rubber stamped STAMP EXHIBITION/WHAKATANE in two lines in black.

From 1st April 1967 postage meters have been used with decimal postage symbols, while from D.C. day, existing £.s.d. postage meters are rapidly being converted or replaced. Most impressions show c instead of d after the value, i.e. 3c instead of 4d, but some have 0.03 instead of 0/04 as before. New Rotex "B" and Regent "Z" meters have the word CENTS in the impression.

AKAROA Post Office (page 40, May "The Kiwi"). This Post Office is said to have opened February 1842 with Charles B. Robinson, Police Magistrate, as Postmaster. The office has been open continuously ever since. The office came under Customs control on 30th September 1843. J. Watson was Postmaster in 1845. In 1850, when the Post Office reverted to colonial control, P.M. Zillwood, Police Magistrate was Postmaster.

R.M. Startup.

## POSTAL STATIONERY.

Members who collect N.Z. Postal Stationery, and who possess a copy of the Handbook recently issued by the Postal History Society of New Zealand, may care to amend their copies in the light of two findings that I have been able to make.

The first concerns the OFFICIAL postcard - No. 72a in the Handbook - the date of issue being given as October 1935. I have just acquired an example of this card, and at the bottom right corner, beneath

Head Teacher,

School.,

is a line of figures reading:- 20,000/3/33 - 13889. My interpretation of this is:- Quantity (20,000)/Month(March)/Year(1933) - Job No.(13889)., thus making the probable time of issue about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years prior to that quoted. Confirmation of this may be gained from noting that the first OFFICIAL card was issued in 1932 (No. 83b) when the postcard rate was 1d. As the rate was reduced to  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in June 1932 it is evident that a  $\frac{1}{2}$ d card would then be needed, and indeed, one may have been issued earlier than my copy. This finding does not necessarily affect the statement in the Handbook that 50,000 copies were overprinted in 1935, after the basic card had been withdrawn.

The other amendment concerns the K.G.VI 1d green, newspaper wrapper (No.121a). I have two copies, on one of which the wrinkled line box measures 65mm. and 1d. has a straight serif. On the other, the box (still wrinkled) is only 62mm and 1d has a sloping serif. Additionally the word ONLY is below the level of the other words in the line.

J.M. Shelton.

## QUESTIONNAIRE TO MEMBERS.

The Officers and Committee of the Society wish to express their thanks to the many Members who returned the Questionnaire which was included in the July issue of 'Kiwi'. In these thanks John D. Evans wishes to be particularly associated as the replies were sent to him.

The observations of our Members on these forms have proved to be most helpful. The various suggestions are being carefully analysed, and we are making special notes of those Members who have offered assistance, and should the need arise, we shall undoubtedly turn to them.

A certain amount of re-organisation and re-allocation of Officer duties will undoubtedly take place at the A.G.M., which is to be held in November, and we shall then permit a period of time to pass before deciding whether there shall be further sub-division of the work of running the Society.

A series of visits to Provincial centres may be arranged in coming seasons. Substantial organisation will be called for and our Member, Peter Collins of 85, St. Johns Road, Woking, Surrey, has kindly accepted responsibility in this direction. Further details will be published when outline plans have been agreed.

We have been very happy to welcome so many new Members over the past few months. Older Members will know that in the past we have managed to restrict our Subscription to the 1952 figure of 10/6d and have been able to balance our budget by raising considerable sums through the Annual Auction and the commission on the Packet. It is clear that we shall not be able to raise additional money from either of these sources, and we are facing the problem that the Subscription rate may have to be raised. We are hoping to carry on at the same figure of 10/6 for at least the balance of this year, and the whole of 1968, but as and from 1st January 1969, an adjustment will be necessary subject to a Resolution being passed at the A.G.M. in November of this year.

Members will appreciate that all costs have risen substantially over the past fifteen years. As an instance of this, the cost of the six copies of the 'KIWI' per annum now exceeds the subscription paid by a member. It is for this reason, and others, that it is suggested that the subscription rate shall be adjusted.

Arising from the above, Notice is hereby given that a Resolution will be placed before the Members at the Meeting on November 25th, that subscriptions from the 1st January 1969 shall be as follows:-

For Full Members	£1. 0. 0.
For Man & Wife Membership	£1. 10. 0.
For Overseas Membership	10. 0.

We are avoiding guineas and half guineas because of decimalisation overseas and a similar change of currency in this country in 1971.

Noel Turner.

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1d DOMINION.

(S.G. 528b, CP J5a)

Our President Harry Bartrop, has two copies of the colourless lithographed NZ and Star - a used copy dated July 1925, and a copy purchased at the Robson Lowes auction of Albert Hard's collection. Both are on soft paper which has a vertical mesh, whereas CP list the colourless lithograph as having horizontal mesh. Mr. Bartrop therefore wrote to Ken McNaught who is a recognised authority, enquiring whether in NZ they are of the same opinion as CP. Ken's reply is as follows:-

"About 4 out of every 5 of the 1d Dominion 'colourless' in NZ collections have vertical mesh. The horizontal mesh ones might be from the trial sheets, but I doubt whether all are. What Gibbons call 'colourless' are any stamps with practically no colour."

In case it might be of interest to members, Mr. Bartrop adds the following:-

"I find that my two colourless litho watermarked stamps have colourless varnish which is water repellent; i.e. if one places them on water the paper absorbs the water except where they are 'watermarked', and in consequence the watermark shows up dead white. Coloured watermarks absorb some water and the colour is deepened by immersion."

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Our President Mr. Harry Bartrop, is showing 'Early NZ' to Warminster P.S. on October 19th at Bath Arms Hotel, Warminster at 7.30 p.m. Visitors are welcomed.

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AIR MAIL POSTAL HISTORY.

I have received several letters in reply to the item in the May 'Kiwi' regarding AIR SERVICE INTERRUPTED boxed cachets. The main source of reference is 'The Air Mails of New Zealand' Vol I, published by the Air Mail Society of NZ. As I do not have a copy of this handbook, I find it difficult to edit the replies I have received, and have therefore published extracts from the letters with little or no amendment on my part.

R.M. Startup - This rubber stamp is apparently held at a number of Chief Post Offices in NZ, for use on air mails that could not be dispatched on schedule, such as air services cancelled through flooded air fields.

Examples of this stamp are by no means common. Neither of Peter Collins' examples are recorded in the Air Mail Society's handbook. The 1936 example was probably applied within NZ - I have no record of any interrupted air mail service from NZ in the Vol 2 'External Flights' manuscript.

F.B. Scrivener - I find that the cachet is mentioned in The Postage Stamps of New Zealand Vol III page 314. It states there that, 'At times adverse weather conditions will cause an airport to be closed and the service to be suspended'. Four examples of the type of markings used when a trip is cancelled are illustrated, these include the boxed cachet AIR SERVICE INTERRUPTED.

However, it seems strange that the Air Mail letters are sent by surface mail causing a considerable delay in delivery. Surely the weather would only have been adverse for a day or two, and a delay of this period would have involved less delay than sending by surface mail. In any case the Post Office had been paid for Air Mail service!

I have an item with the boxed AIR SERVICE INTERRUPTED cachet in red, and bearing a Woodbourne Air Force cancellation dated 10/7/51.

F.O. Woodruffe - I have a cover posted at Franz Josef Glacier Post Office on 24th August 1944, with a purple cachet AIR SERVICE INTERRUPTED in a single-lined rectangle.

In Vol I of the Air Mails of NZ, 36 interrupted flights are recorded between 21.5.21 and 2.11.54, 6 in 1936, and only one in 1944 (on 30th June when a D.H. Dragon crashed near Mount Hope in Nelson Province.) Neither the two quoted by Peter Collins nor my cover is recorded.

The majority of interrupted flights occurred on the west coast service of South Island (Nelson, Westport, Hokitika) operated by the Cook Strait Airways Ltd., up to 1939, and thence by Air Travel (NZ) Ltd.

H.F. Barrett - The first regular official external airmail from NZ to the UK - commenced in April 1940. Mail to the UK could be sent by sea to Australia and onwards by air as early as December 1934. The cover dated 1936 could be 'Internal' and 'External' but only an examination of the stamp rate could decide this.

Opportunities for carrying official mail in 1936 were not few in number. On March 16th UANZ and Cook Strait Airways began flying regular official mail through Palmerston North, Blenheim, Christchurch, Dunedin, Nelson, Wellington, and Okuru. These two Airways connected with

Air Travel (NZ) on this date. On March 22nd UANZ and Cook Strait Airways began a Sunday service. Frequent flights took place - how else could an Airway using light aircraft endeavour to make a profit?

The combination of backstamp and cachet on Mr. Collins' second cover was probably created by an aircraft diversion. Levin is 20 miles south of Palmerston North. Could not the aircraft have been diverted, instead of landing at Palmerston North, and the mail held at Weraroa prior to dispatch by rail or road?

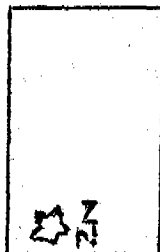
(Editor: Mr. Barrett has also sent me a list of services which were interrupted between 1936 and 1954 and which can be recognised by cachets or cancellations. Because of space limitations, I have not included this list in this edition of Kiwi. The above replies show that the information given in the respective handbooks is far from complete, and there is more research work that could well be done by an interested member to produce a comprehensive list. If any member is prepared to take on such a task would they please get in touch with me.)

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1898-1908 PICTORIAL ISSUE.

Mr. G.K. Molland of Hull is seeking information regarding an unused set of the 1898-1908 Pictorial Issue overprinted 'OFFICIAL', and in violet ink 'ULTRAMAR'. He was informed when he purchased the set that it meant specimen in Portugese.

Secondly, the watermark of the 5/- value is C.P. 7f. The catalogue only gives 7 and 7a.



## NEW ZEALAND PERFINs ON GREAT BRITAIN STAMPS.

Mr. N.W.Hoggarth of Leicester has given me a copy of a letter from New Zealand House, London, which was sent in 1961 to Mr. C. Hilton (one of our members recently deceased) in reply to a query regarding British postage stamps perforated 'N.Z.'. The information given was that the perforation was used on Official mail from New Zealand House only, and the perforating was carried out by the London firm of J. Sloper & Co. Ltd.

Since this letter was over 6 years old, I wrote to N.Z. House myself in an attempt to bring the information up to date. I have received a most helpful reply, but there are still many questions that need answering. The following details are known/required:

1. First date of use?
2. No longer used. Last date of use?
3. Values used, probably 2d to 1/6d.
4. As far as is known no Comems. were perforated.
5. Any changes in the style of perforations?
6. Numbers used?
7. Used on a world wide basis.

If any members can help, will they please get in touch with me. In the meantime, I will get in touch with the firm of J. Sloper & Co. Ltd.

Have any members any of these stamps that they do not want please?

Editor.

### NEW ISSUES.

- 29th August 1967 - Pictorial 7½c Brown Trout (De La Rue)  
Issued to commemorate the centenary of the introduction of the Brown Trout into NZ. Will remain on sale as part of the pictorial definitive set.
- 3rd October 1967 - Christmas Stamp. 2½c. (Harrisons)  
Depicts part of the painting 'Adoration of the Shepherds' by Poussin. Original hangs in the National Gallery, London. Coloured postcards are available.
- 10th October 1967 - Centenary of Royal Society of NZ. 4c & 8c.  
4c depicts Mount Aspiring with the Aurora Australis and the Southern Cross in the background. The 8c features a portrait of Sir James Hector, Founder of the Society.

ROSS - HOKITIKA CANCELLATIONS

$\frac{V}{4}$

Mr. G.K. Molland in the November 1966 'KIWI' refers to a cover with a Ross postmark used in conjunction with a  $\frac{V}{4}$  cancellation, and states that the Ross datestamp is the day previous to the Hokitika mark on the cover, and Mrs. Gordon Kaye in the January 1967 'KIWI' kindly gave details of some Pen cancellations. A list containing all the items notified to date has been compiled and the Pen cancellation of the 8th May 1866, is No.1. in this list. This is apparently similar to the Manuscript cancellation "Ross 2/7/66" No. 143 illustrated on page 103 of Vol.III N.Z. Handbook. Mrs. Gordon Kaye's second Manuscript cancellation, No. 2 in the list below, is dated 8.6.67. The illustrations of the two  $\frac{C}{6}$  obliterators and the  $\frac{V}{4}$  obliterators on page 74 of the Vol.III N.Z.Handbook, show all three as having seven thick bars, so that Mrs. Gordon Kaye's third and fourth Ross entires (Numbered 3 and 4 on the list below) could be either  $\frac{C}{6}$  or  $\frac{V}{4}$ , so that  $\frac{V}{4}$  might or might not have been in use at Ross between 28.1.68 and 27.9.68.

The obliterator  $\frac{C}{6}$  however was superseded by  $\frac{V}{4}$  which was later transferred to Kumara, (see p.73 Vol.III NZ Handbook.)

The office at Ross was opened on November 1st 1865 according to page 645 of Vol.III. If as Mrs. Gordon Kaye says in relation to her fourth cover, the numeral 6 could have been contained in the "blurred bar cancellation", the  $\frac{V}{4}$  could not have been in use before 27.9.68.

My example of  $\frac{V}{4}$  on the 2d Pale Blue Chalon Head, (No.5. on the list below), is on piece with no date, and this value, in blue was superseded on the 1st July 1871 by the printing in orange, and example No.6. in the list below, is the 2d orange, 10 x 12 perf S.G. 128. The  $\frac{V}{4}$  obliterator must therefore have started its life at Ross between 27.9.68 and 1.7.71. Perhaps some member has a  $\frac{V}{4}$  cover or dated piece to narrow down the date or period when  $\frac{V}{4}$  was first in use at Ross.

The statement that  $\frac{C}{6}$  was superseded by  $\frac{V}{4}$  at Ross (Vol III N.Z. Handbook) may well be incorrect, because Mr. J.D. Riddell has a 2nd Second Side Face, Die 1 perf 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , cancelled  $\frac{C}{6}$  (No.8. in the list) which must at the earliest be dated 1882, when these stamps were first issued. Unless therefore  $\frac{V}{4}$  was used somewhere else other than Ross, it would appear that, having regard to my examples of  $\frac{V}{4}$  on Chalon Heads of 1871, or perhaps earlier, both obl iterators were used over some similar period at Ross.

The second uncertainty is that on page 73, Vol.III states that  $\frac{V}{4}$  was later transferred to KUMARA. This office was opened on 1st. July 1876. At the January meeting, 1967, of our Society, I produced my covers on the list below, and was prompted to suggest that the obliterator  $\frac{V}{4}$  would naturally have been transferred to co-incide with the opening of the office at Kumara. However Mr. Campbell Paterson who was present said that in the past he had "dredged up from somewhere" that the  $\frac{V}{4}$  obliterator had not been transferred to Kumara when that office

was first opened, i.e. on 1st July 1876.

Mr. J.D. Riddell has a cover (No.10 on the list below) of  $\frac{V}{4}$  used at Kumara on 16th July 1886, about ten years after the opening of the Kumara office. There is therefore a long gap to be filled and those members who have any of these interesting, and I am told, fairly rare obliterations, might be tempted to let either John Evans or our Editor know what they have in their collections, using, if possible, the same details as on the list below.

The four First Side Faces (1874-1878) and the other stamps mentioned by Mr. K. McNaught in his interesting letter to Mr. Molland published in the March 1967 Kiwi, might help considerably to fill in this gap.

The List I and Mr. Riddell have compiled is as follows:-

No.	Stamp	Cancellation and date	Backstamps and Dates on covers.	Notified by
1	6d S.G. 122	Pen Cancellation Ross 8.5.66	Hokitika My.8.66	Mrs. Gordon Kaye
2	6d S.G. 122	Pen Cancellation Ross 8.6.67	Hokitika Jn 67 Christchurch 29.6.67 London 27.8.67.	Mrs. Gordon Kaye
3	6d S.G.122	Manuscript on envelope 28.1.68 Cancel 7 thick bars	Hokitika 29.1.68 London 29.3.68.	Mrs. Gordon Kaye
4	6d S.G.122	Cancelled by blurred cancel. Manuscript 'Via Panama'	Ross datestamp 27.9.68	Mrs. Gordon Kaye
5	2d plate 2.S.G.115	$\frac{V}{4}$ on Piece	-----	J.D. Evans

6	2d.S.G. 128 (1871-2)	$\frac{V}{4}$	-----	J.D. Evans
7	2d S.G. 133 (1871-2)	$\frac{V}{4}$	-----	J.D. Evans
8	2d Second Side Face S.G.189	$\frac{C}{6}$	-----	J.D. Riddell
9	2d Second Side Face S.G.189	$\frac{V}{4}$		J.D. Evans
10	6d Second Side Face S.G.196?	$\frac{V}{4}$	Kumara 16.7.86 cds Sq.circle. Wellington 18.7.86	J.D. Riddell
11	6d Second Side Face S.G.196	$\frac{V}{4}$	Kumara 10.9.86 Wellington c.d.s.?	J.D. Riddell
12	6d Second Side Face S.G.196	$\frac{V}{4}$	Kumara 5.5.87 Wellington 5.5.87 Litchfield GB.14.6.87	J.D. Evans
13	6d Second Side Face S.G.196	$\frac{V}{4}$	Kumara 26.7.87 Christchurch 27.7.87 Litchfield 5.9.87	J.D. Evans
14	6d Second Side Face	$\frac{V}{4}$	Kumara 1 No 89 Wellington c.d.s.	J.D. Riddell
15	6d Second Side Face S.G.196	$\frac{V}{4}$	Kumara 6.1.88 Wellington 10.1.88 Litchfield 22.2.88	J.D. Evans
16	6d Second Side Face S.G.196	$\frac{V}{4}$	Kumara 15.5.88 Wellington c.d.s	J.D. Riddell
17	6d Second Side Face S.G.196	$\frac{V}{4}$	Kumara 22.1.89 Wellington 25.1.89 Litchfield 5.3.89	J.D. Evans
18	?	$\frac{V}{4}$	Kumara 18.3.89 Wellington 22.3.89	G.C. Pratt



Mr. Riddell has a cover with two 2½d Second Side Face, to GB, cancelled Kumara c.d.s. 31.3.91. with Wellington c.d.s.

From what has been said above, it follows that we must narrow the gap between:-

(a) What is the evidence to prove when  $\frac{C}{6}$  ceased to be used and when  $\frac{V}{4}$  was first used at Ross, and

(b) When the obliterater  $\frac{V}{4}$  was transferred from Ross to Kumara.

Opinions are invited. Mr. Riddell and I have jointly compiled this article, and we hope our members will be able to enlarge on our lack of information on these rather rare obliteraters.

J.D. Evans  
J.D. Riddell.

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Page 74 of Vol.III illustrates two distinct examples of the  $\frac{C}{6}$  obliterater. On p73, it states that the first obliterater used at Ross was the first of these illustrated, and goes on to state:-  
'This was superseded by an obliterater with V over 4, which was later transferred to Kumara'. The underlining is mine. If the word 'this' refers specifically to the first  $\frac{C}{6}$  obliterater, rather than to the general use of a  $\frac{C}{6}$  obliterater, it is most important. P73 then goes on to say:- 'A second obliterater with O over 6 was used at Ross.' This was the second of the two illustrated on p74. There is nothing to say when this second  $\frac{C}{6}$  obliterater was first used, or for how long. There appear to be three possibilities.

1. That the two  $\frac{C}{6}$ 's were in use at the same time, and if only the first  $\frac{C}{6}$  was superseded by  $\frac{V}{4}$ , the second  $\frac{C}{6}$ , and  $\frac{V}{4}$ , were in use at the same time.
2. That the second  $\frac{C}{6}$  came into use after  $\frac{V}{4}$  was transferred to Kumara.
3. That the second  $\frac{C}{6}$  came into use before the  $\frac{V}{4}$  was transferred, but after the first  $\frac{C}{6}$  was superseded. Again,  $\frac{C}{6}$  and  $\frac{V}{4}$  would have been in use together.

From the above possibilities I consider it would be wrong to try to date  $\frac{V}{4}$  by accepting that it followed the general use of  $\frac{C}{6}$ . No.8 in the list above clearly shows that  $\frac{C}{6}$  and  $\frac{V}{4}$  were probably in use at Ross at the same time.

What we need to discover are proving covers to give us the earliest and latest dates of the use of:-

1. the  $\frac{V}{4}$  obliterator
2. each of the two  $\frac{C}{6}$  obliterators.

The proving of the  $\frac{C}{6}$  obliterators is clearly not easy, as it requires clear distinct cancellations that can be compared with the illustrations on p74 of Vol.III.

Well members, CAN YOU HELP? Please check your collections very carefully, and if you have any  $\frac{C}{6}$  or  $\frac{V}{4}$  cancellations, please let either John Evans or myself know the details. In the case of the  $\frac{C}{6}$  cancellation, if you are able to say which of the two it is, so much the better.

Editor.

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