



the kiwi

The Official Organ of the NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY of GREAT BRITAIN
Affiliated to: BRITISH PHILATELIC FEDERATION

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VOLUME XXIX No. 3

MAY 1980

WHOLE 161

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

THE SOCIETY MEETINGS AT THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION 1980

WEDNESDAY, 7TH MAY, FROM 2.30 TO 4.30 P.M.

This meeting is to be graced by His Excellency the High Commissioner for New Zealand, the Hon. L.W.Gandar, and Mrs. Gandar. The Chairman of the Exhibition has also indicated his intention to be present. There will be an exhibition of the Stamps and Postal History of New Zealand. It is not intended that there shall be any talks associated with this showing.

Representatives of the New Zealand Press and Radio have indicated that they will be present, as will representatives of the principal Philatelic Press of the United Kingdom.

Invitations have also been extended to our Overseas Members to attend this meeting if in London for the Exhibition, and several acceptances have already been received.

IT IS STRONGLY URGED THAT EVERY MEMBER OF OUR SOCIETY WHO CAN BE PRESENT AT THE EXHIBITION ON WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY SHOULD ATTEND OUR SPECIAL MEETING SO THAT A PROPER WELCOME CAN BE EXTENDED TO OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND OVERSEAS MEMBERS

SATURDAY, 10TH MAY, FROM 10.30 A.M. TO 12.30 P.M.

At this meeting we are to be entertained to displays of Postal History and Specialised Philatelic Material to be given by Marcel Stanley and John J. Bishop.

Both these Members are, of course, from New Zealand, and from the details that have been supplied to us we know that much exceptional material will be available for our pleasure.

WE STRONGLY URGE EVERY HOME-BASED MEMBER WHO CAN BE PRESENT TO ATTEND THIS MEETING TO SUPPORT WHAT WILL BE A GREAT OCCASION

Having these two meetings, the Society will NOT be holding its usual May Meeting on the last Saturday in the month.

EDITORIAL.

The International Stamp Exhibition at Earls Court, London, will be held between 6th and 14th May, 1980. On the previous page, appear details of the two special Meetings to be held in association with this Exhibition.

All your Officers hope that members will be able to attend both these Meetings, which promise to be of great interest. Unfortunately, this issue of 'The Kiwi' could not be distributed earlier than usual, due to the Easter Holidays. However, it is hoped that sufficient notice has been given for you all to be able to attend.

ALLAN P. BERRY

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

A.E.Black, 49, North Hyde Lane, Heston,
Hounslow, Middlesex, TW5 OEP.
A.P.McCulloch, Anwoth House, Gatehouse of Fleet,
Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland.

RESIGNED

Ben Rae, 17, Market Place, Lavenham, Nr. Sudbury, Suffolk.
J.K.Reid, 11, Kinnear Street, Buckhaven, Fife.

DECEASED

C.A.Gilders, 10, Southspring, Avery Hill, Sidcup, Kent, DA15 8DX
CHANGE OF ADDRESS

R.Davis, c/o Lipton (Ceylon) Ltd., 525, Union Place,
P.O.Box 86, Colombo 2, Ceylon.
(previously of Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.)

Alan Jackson, c/o Dr. E.F.Chaplen, English Language Division,
Faculty of Medicine, University of Kuwait,
P.O.Box 24823, Safat, Kuwait.

(previously of P.O.Box 27-208, Wellington, New Zealand.)
D.J.Northover, 66, Howard Drive, Letchworth, Hertfordshire.
(previously of Sandy, Bedfordshire.)

W.Haslar Young, 20, Gaudick Close, Meads,
Eastbourne, Sussex, BN20 7QF.
(previously of Rotherfield, East Sussex.)

+ CYRIL A. GILDERS +

It is with deep regret that we have to report the passing of Cyril A. Gilders, one of our Vice-Presidents. Cyril died on Thursday, 6th March, 1980, after a long and painful illness patiently borne. We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife, Rita.

For many years Cyril was the hard-working and enthusiastic Secretary of the Society. We have always been blessed with efficient Officers in the key posts within the Society and Cyril's work for us was truly remarkable. It is perhaps an unusual fact that he was never a collector of New Zealand stamps but used to attend our meetings with his wife and when we found ourselves in some difficulty about secretarial work he cheerfully volunteered. He will be sadly missed, and remembered, by his many friends within the Society

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, 29TH MARCH, 1980 - THE ANNUAL COMPETITION

The Society's Annual Competition took place at the Shaftesbury Hotel on 29th March, 1980. A goodly muster of members turned up to enjoy the proceedings in spite of the somewhat impropitious circumstances - a strike on the London Underground and a demonstration in Trafalgar Square. One well-known member managed to walk from Paddington Station to the Shaftesbury Hotel.

While judging was in progress, members were treated to a splendid showing of Maritime Mail, led by our Treasurer, Bernard Atkinson, who started the display with a series of covers and postcards dating from 1923 onwards. His collection of covers was made even more interesting by the many postcards depicting the ships involved. Noteworthy items included the Hospital Ship Marama and the R.M.S. Tahiti, with a cover salvaged from her wreck. There was also a cover bearing Canadian stamps with a dumb cancellation as well as the markings of R.M.S. Niagara and her Purser's Office.

The second part of the display was given by our Vice-President, Michael Burberry. This dealt largely with earlier material and included the scarce cancellations of the steamers Monowai and Mariposa and a magnificent cover franked by three imperf. Chalon Heads, two 2d. and a red-brown 6d., and cancelled with several strikes of the A81 in bars postmark.

Next on the programme came the moment to which the competitors had been looking forward, or perhaps, in some cases, dreading! Our Judge, David Boyd, of Phillips, the Auctioneers, rose to give his usual sage and constructive comments on the entries. These had been of high quality and the worthy winners were as follows :-

- | | | |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Classic Section | : | Kiwi Shield - J.D.Evans,
6d. Kiwi, 1898 - 1908. |
| Runner-up | : | Paua Musical Box - A.B.Johnstone,
½d. Newspaper Wrapper. |
| Modern Section 1 | : | Stacey Hooker Cup - A.E.Harrad,
King George V Definitives. |
| Runner-up | : | Paua Book Ends - P.L.Evans,
4d. Mitre Peak. |
| Modern Section 2 | : | Noel Turner Trophy - G.W.Harrison,
1960 Pictorial Definitives. |
| Runner-up | : | John D. Evans Trophy - J.A.W.Smith,
1967 Pictorial Definitives. |
| Postal History | : | John J. Bishop Trophy - D.Churchill,
Railway and Parcel Stamps. |
| Runner-up | : | Barton Bowl - J.D.Evans,
Pen Cancels on Chalon Heads. |

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to David Boyd, proposed by our Chairman, Phil Evans.

S.F.CROSS-RUDKIN

Congratulations to our member, M.D.JACKSON, who was awarded a Vermeille Medal in the Junior Section of India 80, the International Stamp Exhibition held at New Delhi from 25th January to 3rd February, 1980. The collection displayed was of the Second Pictorial Definitives of New Zealand.

E3	1936 6d Express Delivery on Cowan paper P14x15. Superb UM £18 or FU	20
E5	1939 6d Express Delivery on Wiggins Teape paper P14x15 UM	20
D20	1906 2d Red & Green Postage Due on Cowan paper P11 UM	80
059/65	1907 Pictorial Official set to 1/- (6) Superb UM	150
064	1907 6d Kiwi Official, upper marg block of 4 superb UM	375
065	1907 1/- Kaa & Kaka Official block of 4, superb UM	225
067	5/- Mount Cook Official, superb LMM	200
067a	5/- Mount Cook Official on upright wmk paper, superb UM. Rare thus	500

★

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★

073/92	KE VII Official set to 1/- (5) Superb UM	90
095b	KG V 6d Carmine 2 perf vertical pairs in block of 4, Fine LMM	100
097	KG V 9d Sage Green Official, superb UM	60
093/98	KG V Official set to 1/- (6) Superb UM. Scarce thus	275
0108b	1934 KG V 1½d Orange-Brown on Cowan paper P14x15. A superb corner marg block of 4 UM	40
0112	1928 2/- Blue Admiral Official, lower marg example, superb UM	75
0132b	2/- Captain Cook Official, difficult P13½x14, superb UM	35
0138	KG VI 1½d Purple-Brown Official Plate 21 marg single example, superb UM Scarce thus	20
0134/58	KG VI Official set complete (14) Superb UM	35
L1/6	1891 Life Insurance set to 1/- FU	100
L41	1947 6d Pink Life Insurance, corner marg block of 4, superb UM	25
F156	12/6d Plum Arms on Cowan paper, VFU	75
F185	1940 7/6d Olive-Grey Arms on unsurfaced paper, superb UM	75
F186	1939 35/- surcharge Orange-Yellow Arms, superb UM	175
F187/90	3/6d-22/- surcharge set on single wmk paper, superb UM	200
F207	£2/10/- Red Arms, superb LMM	175
F209	£3/10/- Rose, well centred & superb UM. Rare! Cat £1,000+	1250
F216	1940 22/- surcharge Scarlet, VFU example	110
F212/6	1942-5 3/6d-22/- Arms surcharge set (4) Fine LMM. Cat £186	160
A2	1911 KE VII ½d Green Victoria Land opt. Superb LMM	325



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London
1980

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★ SPECIAL SELECTION ★

SG No.		Price £
271	1898 5/- Mount Cook, an upper marg example, well centred & superb UM	275
375	1906 5/- Mount Cook on sideways wmk paper P11. A well centred example superb LMM	175
399	1903-9 2/- Green Milford Sound, well centred & superb UM	50
401	1903-9 5/- Mount Cook on sideways wmk paper P14. Well centred & superb UM	250
424/7	1906 Christchurch Exhibition set (4) Well centred & superb LMM	350
424/7	Ditto set of 4 FU each with CDS	375
427	1906 6d Christchurch Exhibition FU with light CDS	200
452/62	1909-13 KE VII set to 1/- superb UM	90
470/3	1913 Auckland Exhibition set (4) Fine LMM	375
470/3	1913 Auckland Exhibition set (4) Well centred & FU each with neat CDS	400
511/6	1920 Victory set, superb UM	70
536/8	1925 Dunedin Exhibition set (3) Superb UM	75
536/8	Ditto the set of 3 VFU	85
573/5	1935 Silver Jubilee set (3) Superb UM £25 or VFU	25
480b	KG V 2d Violet 2 perf vertical pairs in block of 4, superb UM	40
482b	KG V 2½d Blue 2 perf vertical pairs in block of 4, superb UM	70
490b	KG V 7½d Red-Brown 2 perf vertical pairs in block of 4. superb UM	125
491b	KG V 8d Indigo Blue 2 perf vertical pairs in block of 4, superb UM	90
494a	KG V 1/- Vermilion P14x13½, a superb block of 4 UM	60
450c	1912 1d Dominion booklet pane of 6 with bars on selvedge, FM. Cat £90	75
526b	1925 1d Dominion Del la Rue sideways wmk paper, a superb imperf block of 4 UM	80
532a	KG V 1½d Orange-Brown on Cowan paper P14x15. Superb LMM	30
540/1	1926 2/- Blue & 3/- Mauve Admiral pair on Jones paper, superb LMM	120
542/3	1927 2/- Blue & 3/- Mauve Admiral pair on Cowan paper FU	80
554	1934 7d Blue Trans Tasman Airmail block of 4 VFU	100
556/69	1935 Pictorial set on single wmk paper (14) UM	50
589a	1938 2/- Captain Cook P13½x14 superb UM. Scarce thus	40
590b	1942 3/- Mount Egmont P14x13½, corner marg Plate No 1 block of 4, FMM	25
544	1929 Nurse block of 4, superb UM	50
545	1930 Health inscribed 'Help Promote Heath', a superb block of 4 VFU Scarce thus	150
546/7	1931 Smiling Boy pair FMM	160
553	1933 Path to Health, superb block of 4 LMM	60
733b/36	1953 QE II 2/6d - 10/- values in corner marg plate blocks of 4, superb UM. Cat £314++	300
853 VAR	1967-70 7c Rata, superb horizontal marg IMPERF pair UM	70
925	1970 10c Royal Visit, a spectacular & rare silver colour omitted. An upper marg example, superb UM	175

AUCTION REALISATIONS

LOT	
1	- W/D
2	- £ 10.00
3	- £ 6.00
4	- £ 7.50
5	- W/D
6	- £ 1.50
7	- £ 1.00
8	- £ 2.50
9	- £ 2.75
10	- £ 2.75
11	- £ 11.50
12	- £ 1.75
13	- W/D
14	- £ 2.25
15	- £ 9.00
16	- W/D
17	- W/D
18	- £ 4.00
19	- £ 9.25
20	- £ 3.50
21	- £ 5.75
22	- £ 3.75
23	- £ 9.50
24	- £ 6.75
25	- £ 3.00
26	- £ 2.00
27	- £ 11.00
28	- £ 11.00
29	- £ 34.00
30	- W/D
31	- £ 51.00
32	- W/D
33	- £ 4.50
34	- £ 3.50
35	- £ 2.00
36	- £ 4.00
37	- £ 1.00
38	- £ 6.50
39	- £ 2.00
40	- £ 10.00
41	- W/D
42	- £ 4.50
43	- W/D
44	- W/D
45	- W/D
46	- £ 5.00
47	- £ 4.25
48	- £ 15.00
49	- £ 11.50
50	- £ 3.50
51	- £ 3.75
52	- £ 1.00

LOT	
53	- £ 5.00
54	- £ 1.00
55	- £ 6.50
56	- W/D
57	- W/D
58	- £ 2.75
59	- £ 2.25
60	- £ 2.25
61	- £ 2.25
62	- £ 2.50
63	- W/D
64	- W/D
65	- £ 3.75
66	- £ 3.00
67	- £ 3.00
68	- £ 0.50
69	- W/D
70	- £ 51.00
71	- £ 15.00
72	- £ 2.00
73	- W/D
74	- NO LOT.
75	- W/D
76	- £ 1.60
77	- £ 6.00
78	- W/D
79	- £ 1.50
80	- W/D
81	- £ 2.00
82	- £ 10.00
83	- £ 2.50
84	- £ 2.00
85	- £ 3.75
86	- £ 3.75
87	- W/D
88	- £ 1.00
89	- £ 1.50
90	- £ 2.50
91	- W/D
92	- £ 2.75
93	- £ 1.50
94	- £ 0.75
95	- £ 2.00
96	- £ 3.50
97	- £ 1.00
98	- £ 8.00
99	- £ 8.00
100	- £ 2.25
101	- £ 3.25
102	- W/D
103	- W/D
104	- W/D

LOT	
105	- £ 2.00
106	- W/D
107	- £ 0.75
108	- £ 25.00
109	- £ 40.00
110	- W/D
111	- £ 10.00
112	- £ 12.00
113	- £ 13.00
114	- £ 7.00
115	- £ 3.50
116	- £ 10.50
117	- £ 13.00
118	- £ 2.25
119	- £ 4.75
120	- £ 8.00
121	- £ 2.00
122	- £ 4.25
123	- W/D
124	- £ 3.00
125	- £ 1.00
126	- £ 4.25
127	- £ 5.00
128	- £ 5.00
129	- £ 6.75
130	- £ 4.00
131	- W/D
132	- W/D
133	- £ 7.00
134	- £ 5.00
135	- £ 5.25
136	- £ 2.75
137	- £ 2.25
138	- NO LOT.
139	- W/D
140	- £ 5.25
141	- £ 9.50
142	- £ 8.00
143	- £ 1.00
144	- £ 3.00
145	- £ 5.00
146	- £ 1.50
147	- £ 5.50
148	- £ 3.00
149	- £ 1.50
150	- £ 1.00
151	- £ 2.00
152	- W/D
153	- £ 4.75
154	- £ 2.25
155	- W/D
156	- W/D

LOT	
157	- £ 4.50
158	- £ 0.75
159	- £ 4.75
160	- £ 6.00
161	- £ 5.50
162	- £ 8.00
163	- £ 1.00
164	- £ 2.00
165	- £ 3.75
166	- £ 0.25
167	- W/D
168	- £ 12.00
169	- £ 2.00
170	- £ 8.75
171	- £ 10.00
172	- W/D
173	- W/D
174	- W/D
175	- W/D
176	- £ 1.00
177	- £ 9.00
178	- £ 3.50
179	- W/D
180	- W/D
181	- W/D
182	- £ 1.75
183	- £ 2.00
184	- W/D
185	- £ 4.50
186	- W/D
187	- W/D
188	- W/D
189	- W/D
190	- W/D
191	- W/D
192	- W/D
193	- W/D
194	- W/D
195	- W/D
196	- £ 2.50
197	- W/D
198	- W/D
199	- W/D
200	- W/D
201	- W/D
202	- W/D
203	- W/D
204	- W/D
205	- W/D
206	- W/D
207	- £ 29.00
208	- £ 12.00

AUCTION REALISATIONS - CONTINUED

LOT		LOT		LOT		LOT	
209	- £ 5.00	261	- £ 6.50	313	- £ 15.00	365	- £ 4.50
210	- £ 5.00	262	- £ 3.25	314	- £ 10.00	366	- £ 2.25
211	- £ 3.00	263	- W/D	315	- £ 3.75	367	- W/D
212	- £ 28.00	264	- W/D	316	- W/D	368	- W/D
213	- £ 5.00	265	- £ 2.75	317	- £ 11.50	369	- £ 0.50
214	- £ 16.50	266	- £ 7.00	318	- £ 5.25	370	- £ 1.50
215	- W/D	267	- £ 8.00	319	- £ 4.50	371	- £ 2.00
216	- £ 5.50	268	- W/D	320	- £ 3.75	372	- £ 5.00
217	- W/D	269	- £ 5.50	321	- W/D	373	- £ 7.00
218	- £ 8.00	270	- W/D	322	- £ 3.00	374	- £ 10.00
219	- £ 2.75	271	- W/D	323	- £ 2.00	375	- £ 12.00
220	- £ 3.75	272	- £ 1.50	324	- £ 9.00	376	- £ 4.75
221	- £ 3.75	273	- £ 4.50	325	- £ 2.25	377	- £ 10.50
222	- £ 5.50	274	- W/D	326	- W/D	378	- £ 15.50
223	- £ 2.00	275	- W/D	327	- W/D	379	- £ 3.50
224	- £ 3.70	276	- W/D	328	- £ 6.50	380	- £ 7.25
225	- £ 11.50	277	- £ 1.50	329	- £ 16.00	381	- £ 4.00
226	- £ 3.00	278	- £ 3.25	330	- £ 3.75	382	- W/D
227	- £ 1.00	279	- W/D	331	- £ 8.00	383	- £ 11.00
228	- £ 10.00	280	- W/D	332	- £ 4.00	384	- £ 6.50
229	- £ 2.50	281	- W/D	333	- W/D	385	- £ 5.00
230	- £ 2.25	282	- W/D	334	- £ 8.50	386	- £ 4.00
231	- £ 3.25	283	- W/D	335	- £ 4.25	387	- £ 12.50
232	- £ 2.20	284	- £ 12.00	336	- £ 12.50	388	- £ 5.00
233	- £ 2.50	285	- W/D	337	- W/D	389	- £ 9.00
234	- £ 9.25	286	- W/D	338	- £ 12.00	390	- £ 6.00
235	- £ 0.75	287	- W/D	339	- £ 4.00	391	- £ 7.00
236	- £ 1.50	288	- W/D	340	- W/D	392	- £ 8.00
237	- W/D	289	- £ 2.25	341	- £ 6.00	393	- W/D
238	- W/D	290	- W/D	342	- W/D	394	- W/D
239	- W/D	291	- W/D	343	- £ 1.00	395	- £ 1.00
240	- £ 25.00	292	- W/D	344	- £ 20.00	396	- W/D
241	- W/D	293	- W/D	345	- £ 1.00	397	- W/D
242	- W/D	294	- NO LOT.	346	- £ 5.00	398	- £ 27.00
243	- £ 15.00	295	- £ 8.50	347	- W/D	399	- W/D
244	- W/D	296	- W/D	348	- £ 4.00	400	- W/D
245	- W/D	297	- £ 2.00	349	- £ 9.50	401	- £ 7.50
246	- £ 5.75	298	- W/D	350	- W/D	402	- £ 4.00
247	- W/D	299	- W/D	351	- W/D	403	- W/D
248	- W/D	300	- W/D	352	- W/D	404	- W/D
249	- W/D	301	- W/D	353	- £ 7.00	405	- W/D
250	- £ 6.00	302	- W/D	354	- £ 8.00	406	- £ 1.25
251	- W/D	303	- £ 2.00	355	- £ 29.00	407	- £ 3.50
252	- W/D	304	- £ 1.75	356	- W/D	408	- W/D
253	- £ 9.00	305	- W/D	357	- £ 1.00	409	- W/D
254	- £ 5.00	306	- £ 10.00	358	- £ 4.25	410	- W/D
255	- W/D	307	- £ 4.50	359	- £ 5.00	411	- W/D
256	- £ 13.25	308	- £ 10.00	360	- £ 1.50	412	- £ 11.50
257	- W/D	309	- W/D	361	- £ 4.50	413	- £ 35.00
258	- W/D	310	- £ 5.50	362	- £ 2.25	414	- £ 6.50
259	- £ 3.75	311	- W/D	363	- £ 9.00	415	- £ 7.25
260	- £ 7.50	312	- W/D	364	- £ 9.00	416	- £ 5.00

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AUCTION REALISATIONS - CONTINUED

LOT		LOT		LOT		LOT	
417	- W/D	436	- W/D	454	- £ 0.50	472	- W/D
418	- £ 4.50	437	- £ 2.00	455	- £ 1.25	473	- W/D
419	- W/D	438	- £ 0.75	456	- £ 2.00	474	- W/D
420	- W/D	439	- £ 0.50	457	- £ 6.00	475	- W/D
421	- £ 13.00	440	- £ 1.30	458	- £ 2.15	476	- £ 1.00
422	- £ 0.75	441	- £ 1.00	459	- £ 75.00	477	- W/D
423	- £ 0.75	442	- £ 1.80	460	- W/D	478	- £ 0.80
424	- £ 0.70	443	- £ 1.50	461	- £ 18.00	479	- £ 0.70
425	- W/D	444	- £ 5.00	462	- £ 15.00	480	- £ 1.10
426	- £ 1.50	445	- £ 10.50	463	- £ 15.00	481	- £ 0.50
427	- W/D	446	- £ 2.00	464	- £ 8.00	482	- £ 0.90
428	- £ 2.10	447	- £ 4.00	465	- £ 6.00	483	- £ 0.90
429	- £ 6.00	448	- £ 1.00	466	- W/D	484	- W/D
430	- £ 5.00	449	- £ 5.75	467	- W/D	485	- W/D
431	- £ 1.00	450	- £ 1.00	468	- £ 2.00	486	- £ 2.40
432	- £ 5.00	451	- £ 1.75	469	- £ 2.00	487	- £ 9.00
433	- £ 1.40	452	- £ 1.50	470	- W/D	488	- £ 4.25
434	- £ 2.00	453	- £ 3.00	471	- W/D	489	- £ 5.25
435	- W/D						

Lots sold for the Society Funds realised as follows :-

A - £ 1.00	B - £ 0.75	C - £ 0.40	D - £ 2.00
	J - £ 1.60	K - £ 0.75	

Lot sold for 'Save The Children Fund' realised - £11.50.

THE 'ZEAPEX '80' MINIATURE SHEET

Most members will be aware by now of the great shortage of the Zeapex '80 Miniature Sheet. None were available at the New Zealand Post Office Stand at Stampex in London in February, although the Commemorative Stamps issued on the same day and the Miniature Sheet designs in standard sheet format were available. Some Dealers have reported being unable to obtain supplies from the Philatelic Bureau at Wanganui. Where supplies are available, prices are reported to be extortionate, both in England and in New Zealand.

Surely, the print order for these Miniature Sheets should have been massive so that copies could have been freely available to the benefit of Zeapex '80, the New Zealand Post Office, collectors and dealers.

All these points were put to A.M.MADIGAN, Principal, Postal Division (Stamps), Post Office Headquarters, Wellington, in a letter dated 7th March, 1980. His reply, dated 17th March, 1980, is quoted below in full.

The number of stamps printed was based on a realistic assessment of likely sales and it took into account the normal demand for similar miniature sheet issues as evidenced by past trends. However, during January, it became apparent from orders received at the Philatelic Bureau that demand for this issue would be unprecedented. This meant quantities distributed for sale at Post Offices were not as great as would otherwise have been the case

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and it was also necessary to limit sales through the Philatelic Bureau and Philatelic Sales Sections.

Counter sales were made on a first-come-first-served basis with a limit of ten sheets per customer and Philatelic Bureau orders in excess of 100 sheets were reduced by 50% (standing orders for miniature sheets in excess of 100 were not reduced). All orders received by the Bureau up to and including issue date were honoured (within the limitation mentioned above) but, in the circumstances, orders received after the date of issue had to be declined.

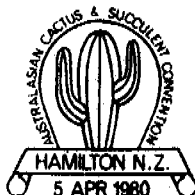
Consideration was given to ordering a reprint but in the time available it would not have been possible to arrange for further supplies to be printed and shipped to New Zealand. In any case, this course of action would not have been appropriate because it would not have been in accord with the principle consistently followed of confining special commemorative issues to one printing run. Moreover, a second printing would not really overcome the problem because it would not be possible to entirely avoid fine differences in the printing process, with the result that stamps in the second printing would always be distinguishable from those in the first. Consequently, the second printing would create a demand of its own and would not eliminate the problem caused by collectors not having been able to obtain stamps from the initial edition.

Supplies of the miniature sheet are now exhausted and it is a matter of regret to the Post Office that not all customers were able to obtain their requirements. However, for the reasons explained it is not proposed to arrange a reprint of the miniature sheets.

Any comments from members would be appreciated. These will be passed on to Post Office Headquarters in Wellington, where it is to be hoped that steps will be taken to avoid this state of affairs arising again.

SPECIAL DATESTAMPS

AUSTRALIAN CONVENTION OF THE CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETIES AND CLUBS.



A special pictorial datestamp was used at the Hamilton Chief Post Office on Saturday, 5th April, 1980, to mark the Australasian Convention of the Cactus and Succulent Societies and Clubs.

LIONS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING.



A special pictorial datestamp was used at Wellington on Friday, 11th April, 1980, to mark the Lions International Board of Directors Meeting. The design features the Lions International emblem.



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1980 ARCHITECTURE STAMPS

Four buildings from the colonial era feature on the 1980 architecture stamps, released by the Post Office on 2nd April.

This is the second issue in the architecture series, begun last year and designed by Peter Leitch. His finely detailed line drawings of the old buildings appear in black and white against a plain coloured background, in a different colour for each denomination.

On the 14c stamp is Ewelme Cottage and on the 17c stamp, Broadgreen historic home. The two public buildings, one each from the North and South Islands, are the Oamaru Courthouse which appears on the 25c stamp, and Government Buildings, Wellington, which appear on the 30c stamp.

Ewelme Cottage at Parnell, an Auckland suburb, was built in 1863-64 for the Rev. Vicesimus Lush, the first vicar of Howick (near Auckland). It was named after an Oxfordshire village in which Mrs. Lush lived for several years prior to her marriage.

The cottage was originally built so that the vicar's two sons could attend the Church of England Grammar School nearby, while other members of the family lived with the vicar in whatever locality he worked. According to Vicesimus' diary, the house was "enlarged and improved" in 1865.

When as Archdeacon of Waikato he died in 1882, his widow returned to Ewelme Cottage to live, and had the cottage altered and extended. From that time, members of the Lush family continued to live in the virtually unaltered cottage until it was sold in 1969 to the Auckland City Council, and leased to the Historic Places Trust.

Lush had undergone a brief architectural training and is thought to have designed the original cottage (that part under the main roof) basing his design perhaps on some house plans he brought with him from England in 1850.

The asymmetrical appearance of the house today is typical of the better kind of colonial house which grew with the needs of the family - in the 'carpenters tradition'.

It combines without pretension the early English Regency style in gable roofs with attic bedrooms, with French windows and verandahs - partly enclosed to make extra rooms - and both Georgian and double hung windows.

Like Ewelme Cottage, Broadgreen displays an interesting combination of stylistic elements. The solid formality of the large bay windows contrasts with the more picturesque dormer and attic windows with their hoodmounds, and the Elizabethan style oriel window. The decorative barge boards and elaborate verandah contrast with the Ionic order expressed in the pilaster framed front door with its arched portico.

Broadgreen is a cob house, as indicated by its deep-set windows and the chamfered corners of its front walls. The house is situated in Nelson, in the north of the South Island. This was an area the early settlers apparently found scarce in timber suitable for house building, so that many adopted the English provincial technique of building their houses with earth walls (cob walling).

Modelled on a traditional Devonshire farm house, Broadgreen was built around 1857 for Edmund Buxton. It was occupied by members of

his family until 1901, when it was sold to Mr. Fred Langbein. Called "Langbein" for a while, the property was bought by the Nelson City Council in 1965 with assistance from the Historic Places Trust, and restored.

The building depicted on the 25c stamp was opened in 1883 and is still in use as the Oamaru Courthouse, but was not Oamaru's first.

The court had been active in Oamaru since 1861, partly in response to the gold rushes in the district. The first permanent courthouse was opened in 1863. It was the town's first public building in Oamaru stone - the creamy white easily worked local limestone. The 1883 Courthouse is also built in Oamaru stone, as are a long list of the city's other public buildings designed at around the same time by the architects Forrester and Lemon. The Courthouse is considered the best of their classical buildings.

The front of the building follows the Corinthian Order. The triangular pediment over the portico is supported by six columns, at whose heads are carved the traditional acanthus leaves. Providing a graceful balance to this ornate central block are the two simple wings, using the same arched windows but on a lower level.

The other public building, depicted on the 30c stamp, is also still in use, housing departmental offices. Government Buildings, Wellington, is the largest wooden building in the Southern Hemisphere - in fact it has the largest floor space of any wooden building in the world. Designed by the Colonial Architect, William Clayton, it was opened in 1877.

For economic reasons, Clayton was directed to design the building in timber, rather than the more permanent building materials he would have preferred. However it has survived well and at present is undergoing restoration work. Fine native timbers used in the interior panelling are being revealed under layers of paint.

Regardless of the building materials used, Clayton managed to express his love of the grand neo-Renaissance form he most admired, and its detail. Even the kauri weatherboards and the carved decorations under the eaves were painted in a mixture of paint and sand to make them resemble masonry.

The regular pattern of fenestration is in fact composed of windows of different designs for each of the four floors.

The land on which the building stands was reclaimed from the harbour two years before the central block was built in 1876. The two wings were added in 1897 and 1907.

The stamps measure 42mm x 25mm and were printed in Holland by Joh Enschede en Zonen, by lithography.

STEPHANIE KING

A New Zealand Post Office Feature Article.

WEST COAST CANCELLATIONS WITH GOLD FIELDS ORIGINS.

I was prompted to seek out cancellations of West Coast Post Offices with some connection with the gold rush there after attempting to follow the sequence of the offices opened in the Otago District following the Otago gold rushes which started in 1861. These gold rushes are recorded on the fascinating book

'Early Days in Central Otago', by Robert Gilkison, first published in 1930. In the Otago gold rushes the characteristic 'costume' of gold diggers from a contemporary print included high crowned 'wide-awake' hats, coloured shirts and moleskin trousers tucked into gum boots. They carried picks, triangular shaped shovels with long helves, billy-can and in many cases a canvas tent. From the 1960 Westland Centennial issue, the 3d. stamp shows the gold digger of the West Coast clad in bush shirt, trousers and boots. A broad brimmed hat and a shovel with a long helve are also shown. This 'costume' is quite different from that of the Otago gold diggers, but perhaps artistic licence was allowed to depict the West Coast gold digger in 'costume' worn much later than 1860. I leave the recorded difference of 'costume' with the above comments.

There does not appear to have been written any book on the Gold Rushes of the West Coast equivalent to 'Early Days in Central Otago', but piecing together information in various publications I have attempted to record for Postal History Collectors chiefly, but also for members' reading pleasure, I hope, some details about cancellations used on the West Coast which actually or probably had gold field origins. I also hope that from these notes much more detail will be supplemented by members from time to time.

In 1857, gold was discovered in the Aorere District in the north-east corner of the Nelson Province and a rush of gold miners followed. In 1860 a small party of miners led by Reuben Waite of Collingwood made their way to the mouth of the Kawatiri River on the West Coast, later named the Buller River after Charles Buller, a Governor of the New Zealand Company. Gold was found at the mouth of the Buller in 1860. The Otago rushes of 1861 drew many diggers from the Buller River, but in 1862 and 1863 many returned.

At the height of the gold rushes on the West Coast in 1866, it has been said that there may have been as many as 27,000 gold diggers and a total of half a million ounces of gold in a year seems probable. Gold mining however had long passed its peak by 1900 and probably earlier except by crushing quartz or operating dredging barges.

NELSON DISTRICT AND WESTPORT DISTRICT.

A post office was opened on 1st May, 1863, as Buller River in the Nelson District and diggings became active in 1865. The name was changed to Westport in 1866. Some of the offices with gold fields origins remained in the Nelson District. By 1862, postal datestamps had been in use, so that one would not expect to find many manuscript cancellations. Westport Postal District was formed by secession from the Nelson District in 1874.

WESTPORT

This office used a postal datestamp, but from what date I cannot say. I have this on a 3d. Chalon Head, perf. 12½, S.G. 117, dated 29 DEC 67. Westport was using the A-class datestamp of about 1875 as late as 1 SEP 90, which I have on the 3d. Second Side-face Queen Victoria Definitive Issue, S.G. 189.

HOPE

The obliterator 'N over 4' within seven horizontal bars was used at Hope but was transferred to Westport in 1874. The office at Hope was opened on 1st January, 1865. I have 'N over 4' on a 3d. lilac Chalon Head, also S.G. 117, but with double perfs.

CHARLESTON

In August, 1866, gold was discovered here on an open coastal plain some eighteen miles south of Westport. By the end of October there were some 1,200 diggers on this gold field and their numbers were increasing daily. This office was opened on 6th January, 1867, as Pakihi and there were alternative names Waite's Pakihis or Constant Bay. The office changed its name to Charleston on 1st May, 1867. I do not know of any manuscript cancellation used but the obliterator 'N over 5' within horizontal bars, probably seven, was used at Charleston. It may be, and probably is, the case that this exists on Chalon Heads but I have not seen it. I have it on 2d. Rose First Side-face Queen Victoria Definitive, 1874 - 1875, perf. 12½, S.G. 153. Charleston at one time had 81 'hotels' but after the rush by the end of 1866 only one remained. Gold was extracted by crushing from about 1870 at Charleston as later mentioned.

FOX'S RIVER

Afterwards known as Brighton. Fox, who discovered the Arrow River in the Otago gold fields, was a prospector on the West Coast and prospecting further afield from Charleston made a new discovery of gold at Fox's River about fifteen miles south of Charleston. Every steamer on the Coast was called on and such roads as there were were thronged with gold seekers. Soon there were some 5,000 of them on the spot. An office was opened at Brighton in November, 1860. The Westport District Office Number allotted was 3. Some offices in the Westport Postal District used an obliterator WP over a figure within seven horizontal bars but I have not seen any of these.

ADDISON'S FLAT

This was the last of the spectacular gold rushes in the Westport Area and was discovered a few miles south of Charleston in May, 1867. There were 8,000 diggers on this field for a time and though it did not retain them all, it yielded well for at least two years. The office was opened on 1st November, 1867, and was later known as Addison's. The District Number allotted was 1 in the Westport Postal District but I have not seen any manuscript or other cancellation which could have been used during these gold rushes. In the 1860's the place had an alternative name of Skibbereen. Any mail sent before 1st November, 1867, is likely to have been sent from Charleston, but this is speculation.

REEFTON

An office was opened at Reefton on 14th May, 1871. There was a manuscript cancellation 'Reefton', illustration number 141 on page 103 of Volume III of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand. In 1870, quartz reefs were discovered and shafts were sunk into the hard conglomerate and the gold extracted by crushing. Reefton was due west of Charleston, where shafts were also sunk at the time to extract gold by crushing, and about 48 miles north-east of Greymouth, of which more later. Reefton remained in the Nelson District and used 'N over 8' within seven thick horizontal bars (see page 380 of Volume VI of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand) as illustrated on page 62 of Volume III of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand. I happen to have this cancellation on the 6d. blue Chalon Head, perf. 12½, S.G. 136, which stamp was first issued in this colour on 1st July, 1871, some six weeks after the Post

Office was opened at Reefton. Reefton was in the early days also known as Quartzopolis after the quartz reefs there.

JOHN D. EVANS

To be continued.

MANUSCRIPT CANCELLATIONS

In the course of my research into the use of Manuscript Cancellations by the New Zealand Post Office I was sent two interesting covers by John Bishop from his collection.

The first is a cover addressed to Rev Dyer, Langhton, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, England. It has a 6d. Chalon Imperf. cancelled with barred obliterator 1 of Auckland. On the left side is written "Robt Coates Dyer. New Zealand July 1/62. Recd. Sep 19/62." On the back there is a Manuscript endorsement in red, WARKWORTH 28/6/62;

Warkworth
28/6/62

Auckland unframed 25mm datestamp 1 JL 1862; Tetbury datestamp of SP 18 62.

This cover is a very fine example of the Post Office use of manuscript. The stamp has been left uncanceled to be obliterated at the sorting office (Auckland) and the Office name and date (equivalent of a datestamp) applied in red on the reverse.

The cover is further interesting in that according to all records there was no Post Office called Warkworth in 1862, the Post Office being officially known as Mahurangi until 15/11/1870. In addition a datestamp was Proofed for Mahurangi MAY 24 62. Gerald Elliott has a cover in his collection which bears a Warkworth manuscript of 9/22/59.

From this evidence it would appear that although the Official name was Mahurangi the local name remained Warkworth and the Postmaster regarded his office as Warkworth and endorsed the mail as such. This practice is not without parallel. I have a manuscript endorsement on cover of Turanga 4/11/60 when the Official name was Poverty Bay, changing July 1st, 1869. The manuscript Turanga is well known on imperf. Chalons.

The Mahurangi datestamp proofed MAY 24 62 may not have been delivered to the Post Office for some time, or; the Proof date could be incorrect, or; the Postmaster may not have brought the datestamp into use for some time perhaps because he felt the datestamp should have been inscribed Warkworth. The earliest record of the Mahurangi datestamp I have is MAY 5 69.

Papanui
31/7/61

The second cover is addressed to Mrs. Ann Harris, Hamptnete, near Northleach, Gloucestershire, England. It is inscribed Registered 717 and has 6 in red. The front bears the Christ-church unframed datestamp JY 31 1861 and Lyttelton unframed datestamp

AU 1 1861. The back has a fine endorsement PAPANUI 31/7/61 with Cheltenham datestamp of OC 23 61 and Northleach OC 24 61.

The cover has only 6(d) prepaid postage which was the correct rate to England. The Registration fee (1/-) was presumably paid in cash and a receipt obtained for it with just the word Registered and the number applied to the face of the envelope. John Bishop tells me that during the early years the amount paid in registration fees was very seldom noted on the face of the letter.

I would appreciate comments from any Members on these interesting manuscript covers, sent to me via our Editor. In addition, I appeal to any reader who has any manuscript markings on stamp or cover to send me details with photocopies or tracings to help in the research of this aspect of New Zealand Postal History.

A.R.MARSHALL

A FISCAL PROBLEM

The piece that prompted the above title was illustrated in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXVII, page 71. After many fruitless enquiries and blind alleys this extract from a letter from Mr. A.DIBLEY, the District Registrar of Companies, Hamilton, New Zealand, (himself apparently a keen philatelist) at least partially answers the problem of the fiscal impression variation :-

"Coming to the item as illustrated in the clipping from 'The Kiwi' I can say that, from the lettering and general look of the piece as reproduced, it has been cut most probably from a Company Annual License. This stamp duty was introduced initially in 1871 and imposed an annual duty of one shilling per cent on the nominal capital of all companies carrying on business in New Zealand with a maximum of £200. As a matter of passing interest this duty remained in force effectively until 1975.

"As to the circular stamp this will be found to be mentioned in passing on page 526 of Volume III of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand as being used at Wellington. I rather gather from what I have seen that this cancellation was used for functions done centrally as against regional cancellers more commonly seen. In the particular case, the Company Annual License was issued by the Commissioner of Stamps at Wellington in the first instance, the collection of this duty being passed on to District Commissioners much later on. From 1956 on at least the duty (by then called a fee) was collected by District Registrars of Companies until the system was replaced.

"So far I have been unable to locate a license that is intact as a proving piece - unfortunately as annual charges they tended to be destroyed, in the same way as any other annual receipt - and only a few have survived.

"As to the embossed impression, I am here in more difficulty as the records that must be consulted are held in Wellington. I anticipate visiting that city in the coming few months and I am hopeful that I can get access to the required records then."

This certainly seems a logical and satisfactory explanation. Any further information regarding the embossed impression will be passed on in due course.

DAVID CHURCHILL

PENNY UNIVERSAL POSTAL STATIONERY.
OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE FIRST DAY MATERIAL.

Under very great pressure from our worthy and hard working Editor, I have been press-ganged into putting pen to paper yet again on this subject.

A considerable amount of information has come from articles in "The Mail Coach" and "Captain Coqk" and I must thank the members of these Societies and the Editors of their journals for their forbearance.

Obviously, I do not want to repeat the previous articles, which started, so far as I am concerned, in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXV, page 79, July, 1976. All I want to do is to summarise these, add bits of further information and speculation, and to reply to our President's article, 'Naughty, Naughty, Sir Joseph Ward?' in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXVIII, page 80, July, 1979.

However, let me first deal with the PRIVATE ITEMS which first aroused my interest:-

1. The "Facsimile Card".

No further examples have come to light since I started this hare. It is still not known how many started life in 1901.

2. The "Milton Mill" envelope - previously Muir & Moodie?.

This one really took off. When I first started enquiring into this one, only one example was known to me. Since then, five more have been reported. From these, and I have handled three of them (and soon hope to own one myself), I have been able to reconstruct the paper maker's watermark. This was illustrated in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXVIII, page 23. This was done by scale drawings of parts sent from New Zealand by two collectors and one from Great Britain. Two have no watermark and the last one - I don't know - yet. When it does occur, the watermark can be either upright or inverted.

The possibility exists that the printers were Messrs. Cusack & Merriman of Christchurch, who according to "Captain Coqk", Volume 7, page 129, went out of business in 1945 and no records of theirs still remain. "The Mail Coach", "Captain Coqk" and myself - aided and abetted by others - all seem to have arrived at this possibility independently. However, the story does not end here. A strong possibility exists that they were commissioned by "The Imperial Stamp Company", of Box 174, Post Office, Christchurch, who have also, I believe, ceased trading. Two examples exist with this, or a similar address.

Where do I go from here to prove these suppositions?

3. The "F.C.B. Bishop Card and Envelope".

Since reporting second example in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXVII, page 51 - 52, I have been told that a friend - not a member of our Society - has one of the envelopes. I have not seen this item, nor a photostat. The question still remains - who were the printers?

4. The "New Zealand Express Company Card".

Nothing to add. Still only one recorded.

OFFICIAL ITEMS.

I really did not intend to do anything about these at all. I thought it had all been said. But, in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXVIII, page 80, our President, Noel Turner, aided and abetted by Fred Dixon, and with his natural aplomb, raised one of his notorious questions.

Many of us had suspected that there had been some jiggery pokery with the Post Office issue cards and envelopes. Noel Turner, with the assistance of Fred Dixon, has now proved it, and by doing so, has raised an ethical question. Should they be shown or not? Tom Hetherington could only remember one handwriting. I can assure you that there are at least three. So here hangs the answer - or does it?

Show the lot! Handwriting is, at best, difficult to prove and the majority of the cards and envelopes were undoubtedly genuinely used on 1st January, 1901. I really cannot believe that Sir Joseph Ward wandered around with 5,000 of these cards and envelopes stuck in his pocket. They would make rather a bulge in his natty waistcoat, and be somewhat weighty to boot! Also, if Sir Joseph Ward wanted it kept quiet - see the President's article - 5,000 people 'in the know' is not much of a secret. Another point. Some of these items came to Great Britain to Government Officials. Were these also expected to 'not mention it to others'? In my humble opinion, NO.

Sir Joseph Ward was certainly guilty of indiscretions, but since they were apparently gifts, no more than that. To bar this material from competition at any or all levels seems a bit hard.

As I said at the start of this bit about the Official items I hadn't really intended to do any work on these. Now, however, I have got to, for my own satisfaction if nothing else. To do this I must have information, and my filing system (!) has not been kept with these dratted things in mind. To all those kind members of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain, The Postal History Society of New Zealand and the Christchurch Philatelic Society, please send me photocopies of all the items in your collections - even if you have already done so before. Also, please spread the word round your local Societies. There must be hundreds of these things still around and the chance to study a large number at the same time could solve a number of questions -

- 1) How many different handwritings are there.
- 2) How many did Sir Joseph Ward write personally. These would all be 'suspect'.
- 3) How many still remain in existence.

Please, all of you, do help. Without your help, I cannot even begin to answer the above questions.

You will probably raise a lot more questions, but having started this hare, who cares?

B.J.PRATT

c/o Stephenson Clarke Shipping Company,
Europe House, World Trade Centre, London, E1 9AJ.

YET MORE MUSINGS

Most organisations from Philatelic Societies to Governments seem to contain one or two members who do so much more than just pull their weight as a member. Eric Barton contributed so much more than his share to the well being of this Society. When I first met him he was not only Editor of 'The Kiwi' but Packet Secretary as well, and both jobs were run efficiently in spite of his own personal problems. He was an enthusiast and the Society was important to him. The continued success of 'The Kiwi' and the

Packet are due to the foundations laid by Eric Barton. One has only happy memories of stamp collectors. I have just been glancing again with pleasure through the special edition of 'The Kiwi' which he brought out at his own expense for Phylimpia 1970. This is his memorial.

"On the back of an old envelope" is an everyday expression, and tales are told of scientific calculations or election results forecast on an old envelope. We have all used them for shopping lists and stamp collectors have even been known to pop stamps in them temporarily. I have an ordinary envelope with the manuscript note "Motor cycle license 1907". Unfortunately the license was not included but it must have been one of the first such. Another, just received from the Kiwi Day Auction bears in manuscript "Bacon, matches...pay Mrs. Briggs...ribs of mutton...something for Ka, crumpets." Mixed up with these details is a circular datestamp NZ / IRONMILL / NOV 11 1879. What more British could there be than these details. This domestic scene of a hundred years ago, echoed in my own home today bring pleasant thoughts, which is what stamp collecting is all about.

It is surprising where one can pick up odd bits of interesting information. In a historical novel about early days in New South Wales I read that the Rev. Samuel Marsden was in charge of the little church at Paramatta just outside Sydney. He was little more than a name to me having been commemorated on the 1964 Christmas stamp, S.G. 824. This then set me on a trail to find out more about one who contributed so much to the modern New Zealand. He was born at Horsforth, near Leeds, in 1764, and educated at Hull Grammar School and St. John's College, Cambridge. Having taken holy orders he served in several posts in England before being appointed second chaplain in the colony of New South Wales. After a visit home in 1807 - 1809, he turned his attention to New Zealand and purchased the brig 'Active', in which he sent two missionaries there. On November 19th, 1814, he began the first of seven voyages to New Zealand where he was received in friendship by the Maoris. Surely the Missionaries must have held services before Samuel Marsden arrived. In any case, the Maori welcome illustrated to him the foundations laid by his two forerunners. Described once as the "Apostle of New Zealand", no one at that time could have exerted more influence over the Chiefs than he. Are there any letters to or from Samuel Marsden?

The recent acquisition of an envelope sent from Geelong to Hokitika in 1867 and bearing a variety of Victoria and New Zealand handstamps set me thinking again. There cannot have been much correspondence between the two places. Is the cover unique? I have asked myself this question before when handling an early cover between two distant, small, and out-of-the-way places. A second intriguing feature is the address, "Daily Times Office, Hokitika". So Hokitika had its own newspaper in 1867! Possession of a newspaper printing works seems to have been quite a status symbol in many of the early colonial settlements throughout the world. How often do we find that the early overprints in a colony were produced in the local newspaper works? I can pay the citizens of Hokitika the compliment of saying I know where the town is, but to learn more I looked it up, and found a population of 3,400. Hardly enough to sustain a local newspaper. However, further information

showed that in 1867, at the time of my envelope, there was a population of 50,000 in the town and surroundings. Indeed it was the sixth largest town in the country. This was the time of the gold rush, of wealth, and of circumstances which could easily explain the existence of a newspaper. It is a pity the envelope did not go in the opposite direction as it would be considerably more valuable. Anyway, it has given me one of the earliest circular datestamps in my New Zealand collection.

TOM HETHERINGTON

AN OUTSIDER'S VIEW

This journal is noted for its learned and erudite articles. This is not one of them! Actually, I am not even a member of your Society. There is worse to come - I don't even collect New Zealand stamps. For the brave souls still reading, let me explain.

For years my wife and I have collected stamps. My collection consists of three countries, whilst my wife collected anything which took her fancy, with a slight bias towards Australasia. About eighteen months ago we joined the local Philatelic Society and met a certain prominent New Zealand collector whose enthusiasm for the country prompted my wife to concentrate on New Zealand to the almost total exclusion of all else. As the collection grew she had to be persuaded to dispose of some other sections of her collection to make room for and finance her new love. Auction Catalogues and Dealers' Lists were scoured for New Zealand material and each new acquisition lovingly identified and gloated over. We then branched out into the field of covers. I say 'we' advisedly because the mounting, checking and listing of the covers was delegated to myself. Fair enough, I collect covers and enjoy arranging them.

By this time your Society had gained a new member who learnt that there was only one Catalogue for New Zealand collectors. That is where I made the biggest mistake of my life! I bought as a birthday present what I must agree is the most comprehensive and best produced Catalogue I have seen. Prior to that fateful day I could recognize and appreciate a Chalon Head. Now I am expected to enthuse over and even pass opinion on horizontal mesh, vertical mesh, hard paper, soft paper, thick paper, thin paper, pelure paper, Jones paper, Cowan paper, Wiggins Teape paper, London plates, local plates, watermark this or that number of mm; the list of variables seems endless. Don't misunderstand me, I can appreciate an interesting stamp whatever its country of origin but why, oh why did things have to be made so complicated in New Zealand? No, don't tell me please - I am confused enough already.

My knowledge of New Zealand stamps is inevitably increasing, despite all my efforts. But it would not do to have two fanatics in the same household so there is no likelihood of my applying for membership of your Society, even if this article had not killed any chance of election.

Despite everything, the friend who started it all is still a good friend!

ANON

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION? IF NOT, PLEASE DO SO NOW!!