



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

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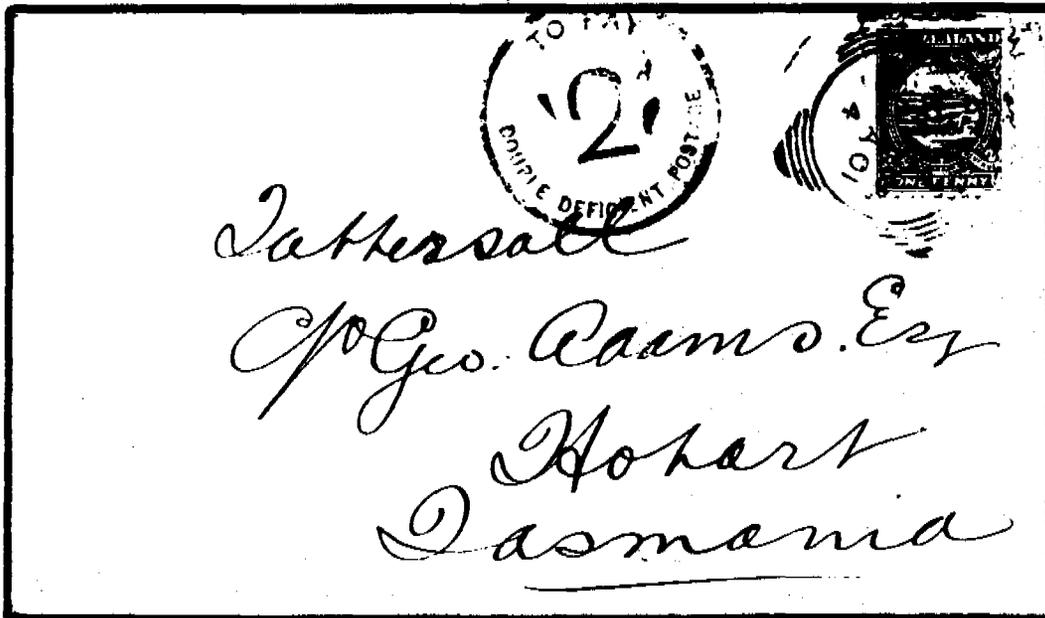
WHOLE 173

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 22ND MAY, 1982,
 AT THE Y.W.C.A. CENTRAL CLUB, 16 - 22, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,
 LONDON, WC1B 3LR, STARTING AT 2.30 P.M.

THE SUBJECT WILL BE TRAVELLING POST OFFICES AND RAILWAY STAMPS
 LED BY DAVID CHURCHILL.

ANY MEMBER WHO HAS MATERIAL OF INTEREST - ESPECIALLY
 TRAVELLING POST OFFICES - IS ASKED TO BRING IT ALONG TO SHOW

PENNY UNIVERSAL ENVELOPE WITH AUSTRALIAN POSTAGE DUE



SEE PAGE 56.

EDITORIAL.

The number of entries for this year's Annual Competition was disappointing, once again. The Meeting Report shows that only one award was made in Modern Section 2 - this was because there was only one entry in this class. As with previous years, the Judge's comments were of great interest, and I am sure that we can all learn from the constructive criticisms given by such experts.

From 28th April to 7th June, your Editor will be in New Zealand, attending, among other events, Palmex '82. Therefore, there will be some delay in answering letters. Please keep writing, however. They will be dealt with as soon as possible after 7th June.

ALLAN P. BERRY

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

G.A.van Albada, Klimopzoom 119, 2353 RH Leiderdorp, Nederland.

F.N.Cloke, Wayland Cottage, Wenhaston,

Halesworth, Suffolk, IP19 9EQ.

Miss M.M.Cole, 13, Southey Road, Wimbledon, London, SW19 1NN.

G.J.Elliott, P.O.Box 59090, Mangere Bridge,

Auckland, New Zealand.

N.P.Osborne, 12, Hertford Road, Clare, Suffolk, CO10 8QH.

W.R.Paterson, c/o Campbell Paterson Ltd.,

P.O.Box 5555, Auckland, New Zealand.

P.W.Penney, The Chalet, 29, Painshawfield Road,

Stocksfield, Northumberland, NE43 7PF.

T.A.H.Plevy, 16, Dumbleberry Avenue,

Sedgley, Dudley, West Midlands, DY3 3NN.

T.K.Thorson, 1809, Ash Street, Wyandotte, Michigan 48192, U.S.A.

J.Wesley, 5a, Ashlyn Court, Ashlyn Close,

Bushey, Hertfordshire, WD2 2EZ.

RESIGNED

S.Brock, 12, Beechdale, Thwaite Street, Cottingham, E. Yorks.

Dr. J.Cargill Somerville, 9, Hillhouse Road,

Barassie, Troon, Ayrshire.

J.L.Constable, Elm House, Station Road,

Clenchwarton, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

B.P.Flack, 28, Norley Drive, Vicars Cross, Chester.

W.J.Geenty, 12, Wakelins End, Cookham, Berks.

C.N.Green, 5, Beech Road, Halton, Nr. Lancaster.

W/Cdr. C.M.Hudson, 108, Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton.

W.A.O.Jacob, 25, Convoy Lane, Otahuhu, Auckland 6, New Zealand.

K.A.Latimer, Melrose, Hampton Lane, Blackfield, Southampton.

H.Wilkinson, 8, Cross Street, Nelson, Lancashire.

Paul K.M.Yap, C312 Laguna Park, Marine Parade Road,

Singapore 1544.

V.R.Young, 8, Habgood Road, Loughton, Essex.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

K.I.Bennett, 31, Borstal Street, Rochester, Kent.

(previously of 15, Meadow Road, Gravesend.)

L.Bestow, 131, Holmley Lane, Sheffield, South Yorks., S18 6DA.

(previously of Llandrindod Wells.)

D.B.Clayson, Box 248, Carp, Ontario KOA 1L0, Canada.

(previously of Omaha, Nebraska 08124, U.S.A.)

E.N.Lloyd, 2, Laura Place, Aberystwyth, Dyfed, Wales, SY23 2AV.

(previously of Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth.)

Dr. R.B.Parker, 78, Newton Road, Mumbles, Swansea,

Glamorgan, SA34 B15.

(previously of 42, Old Way, Bishopton, Swansea.)

E.Ward, 10, Rundells, Letchworth, Herts., SG6 2SF.

(previously of 76, Newells, Letchworth.)

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, 27TH MARCH, 1982 - THE ANNUAL COMPETITION

The meeting was opened at 2.30 p.m. by our Chairman, Stanley Cross-Rudkin, with approximately twenty-five members present.

Apologies for absence were received from Rita Gilders, and from Eric Ward, who has been in hospital recently.

The Chairman then introduced the Competition Judge for the afternoon, W.Raife Wellsted, F.R.P.S.L., the Curator of the National Postal Museum.

While the various exhibits were being judged elsewhere, we were given an interesting show and talk by Ian Fogg, entitled 'Chalon Heads and Related Material'. Ian went through all the values, showing a variety of shades of the Penny Vermilion and Penny Brown, the Two Penny value mint and used with worn plate, etc.; the Three Penny value with lilac and mauve shades in profusion, followed by a full page of the Four Penny rose which was outstanding, and the Four Penny yellow again with a mass of shades. The Six Penny brown included a variety of shades, various papers, both watermarked and unwatermarked, imperf. and perf., while the Six Penny blue included misplaced and double perfs. The Shilling green included pelure paper variety, NZ watermark and Star watermark papers, starting from the earliest issues.

The related material included a full sheet of Plate 11 of the Hausberg reprint, Miniature Sheets of labels for the 1940 Exhibition sold in aid of the Red Cross, Miniature Sheets of the 125th Anniversary of New Zealand stamps, and items related to the Jeffreys Forgeries.

Our distinguished Judge then returned to take the floor and gave the members present some useful hints on how to improve exhibition material, and then announced the results, as follows :-

Classic Section	:	Stacey Hooker Cup - J.D.Evans.
Runner-up	:	Paua Book Ends - S.Cross-Rudkin.
Modern Section 1	:	Noel Turner Trophy - A.E.Harrad.
Runner-up	:	John Evans Trophy - A.G.G.Riley.
Modern Section 2	:	Kiwi Shield - J.A.W.Smith.
Postal History	:	J.J.Bishop Trophy - J.D.Evans.
Runner-up	:	The Barton Bowl - T.H.Brock.

A vote of thanks to our Judge and to Ian Fogg was given by Phil Evans, and the meeting closed at 5.00 p.m.

A.E.H.

LIBRARY COPIES OF 'THE KIWI'

In order to complete the Society's Library holdings of our journal, certain issues are required. These are listed below. If any member has copies of any of them, we would be grateful if

they would allow them to be borrowed for duplication. Great care would be taken of the originals, which would be returned as soon as possible.

Volume 1, Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.	(1952)
Volume 2, Numbers 2 and 6.	(1953)
Volume 3, Numbers 1, 2, 5 and 6.	(1954)
Volume 4, Numbers 4, 5 and 6.	(1955)
Volume 5, Numbers 3, 4, 5 and 6.	(1956)
Volume 6, Numbers 3 and 6.	(1957)
Volume 7, Numbers 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.	(1958)
Volume 9, Numbers 3 and 6.	(1960)
Volume 20, Number 6 only.	(1971)

If you are in a position to help, please write to
A.McKellar, 267a, Lady Margaret Road, Southhall, Middlesex.

A LETTER TO OUR PRESIDENT.

...I learn that I have been elected a Life Member of the Society.

This gives me great delight, especially as my husband was, I believe, the first to receive this award. I am very proud to follow his lead and I thank the Society for according me this high honour.

Yours sincerely,

signed :- Grace L.Kaye. (Mrs. H.Gordon Kaye)

SPECIAL DATESTAMPS

CENTENARY OF MARTINBOROUGH



A special pictorial datestamp was used at Martinborough on Tuesday, 13th April, 1982, to mark the Centenary of Martinborough. The design features the Coat of Arms of Martinborough. The hills behind Martinborough form a natural shape of three upturned canoes which according to legend represent the canoes of Kupe. Mail posted in a special posting box at the Martinborough Post Office was cancelled with the special datestamp.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YOUTH HOSTELS ASSOCIATION



A special pictorial datestamp was used at the Chief Post Office, Christchurch, on Tuesday, 13th April, 1982, to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Youth Hostels Association. Mail posted in a special posting box at Chester Hall, Christchurch, the venue for the celebration, was cancelled with the special datestamp.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW ZEALAND JAYCEE INC.



A special pictorial datestamp was used at the Chief Post Office, Auckland, on Wednesday, 14th April, 1982, to mark the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of Jaycee in New Zealand. Mail posted in a special posting box at the Chief Post Office, Auckland, was cancelled with the special datestamp.

Congratulations to our Members J.A.W.Smith and D.Churchill, both of whom were awarded Bronze-Silver Medals at Stampex 1982.



Once again, the New Zealand Post Office was present at Stampex, their stand being manned by the staff of Stanley Gibbons Ltd., their agents in the United Kingdom. As has now become the custom, a cachet was available for those customers who requested it. This is illustrated by courtesy of Robin Duckering.

A NEW AND DANGEROUS FORGERY.



The item illustrated above was recently purchased in Cyprus by one of our members as a mint pair of the well-known (and nowadays highly priced) error "2d. surcharge on 1½d. with stars" (C.P. N41a, S.G. 763b). But the surcharges are in fact forged, and have been certified as such by one of the recognised expertising authorities.

There are several points of difference when compared with the genuine. The ink is less glossy, less dense, less intense black, and has not "taken" as well as the genuine invariably does; the impression of the '2d' is abnormally heavy, with pronounced indentation of the paper surface (and corresponding embossing effect on the back); the curved line forming the back of the figure '2' narrows at a point level with the top of the curved part of the 'd', giving the effect of a slight kink in the curve - in the genuine, this line is of uniform thickness, and the curve is quite smooth; the right-hand end of the foot of this figure, normally rounded in profile, is angular and cut obliquely; the

base of the 'd' is higher than that of the '2'; and the obliterating dot is not circular - there is a bulge in the circumference at 5 o'clock, and a flattening at the left-hand side, resulting in a diameter measurement which varies from 3.9 mm to 4.1 mm.

Individually, none of these peculiarities is outstanding (some may not be evident even in the enlarged illustration), but together they produce a surcharge which is obviously "wrong" to the experienced eye. Members who may protest that that's all very well for those who see sufficient genuine copies should remember that the surcharge on the error stamp is identical to that on the common normal, so the necessary knowledge is readily accessible to everyone.

Two other forgeries of this surcharge have been recorded previously. One has been seen by the writer and the Editor, and is quite unmistakable. The other (which caused quite a furore down under fairly recently) is known only from a description, but there seems no doubt that it differs from that described here.

POSTCARDS ISSUED BY THE NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT OF TOURIST AND HEALTH RESORTS, 1903 - 1914.

ALAN JACKSON

Through the co-operation of several collectors who have shown me cards in their possession, I am able to report the following alterations to information in the article on these cards published in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXX, page 100, November, 1981.

Firstly, there is a correction to be made to the listing of the views. Series 1, view 10, "Wanganui River, New Zealand", is actually a vertical design. Mention of this was accidentally omitted from the article.

It has become evident that the original set with Type A backs were on sale in New Zealand in 1902. A total of 15 cards are now known with 1902 postmark dates, as follows: 9th October, 19th November (a full set of 10!), and 2nd, 12th, 15th and 20th of December.

From this and other evidence accumulating, it now appears likely that the Type A backs were issued first, probably in 1902, and the Type B backs only later. The earliest postmark so far recorded on a Type B back dates from February, 1904.

A further example of a Series 1 card used overseas is reported - a card with Type A back postmarked London, April, 1904.

A variant of the blue card with painted view of 'Lake Kanieri New Zealand' can be added. It is identical to the card described in the article except that the back design, in blue, is printed on white card, not pale blue. It was posted on 22nd December, 1914, some seven years after the recorded date on the earlier version, and the painted scene is overprinted "Best Christmas Wishes / May Christmas bring you pure joy / Which nought can sever or destroy". So it seems possible that variants of the Lake Kanieri design may have remained on sale for several years, contemporary with the Series 2 set.

A FINAL REMINDER - PLEASE RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION!

POSSIBLE RECORDING ERRORS IN AUCKLAND DISTRICT OBLITERATORS.

K.J.McNAUGHT

There is an entry in the G.P.O. Register of 1885-1893 recording that 20 obliterated were sent to the Chief Postmaster, Auckland, on 1st September, 1887, but there is no direct evidence to show which offices received these obliterated or their numbers. However, there are 20 new or changed obliterated numbers entered against specific offices in this register and furthermore several unrecorded obliterated are known.

Eighteen of the 20 offices which appear to have been involved have been identified with a high probability. Although there are no references to obliterated being supplied to Otorohanga (mailbag seal 94) or Pukekararo (mailbag seal 222) the known obliterated with these numbers are included for reasons which will be apparent from the table below.

All the relevant obliterated so far examined have 'A' over the number in oval of 9 or 11 bars, distinguishing them from the 1874 distributions with 'A' over the number in oval of 7 bars, but not from the very few other 9-bar obliterated apparently supplied in the late 1870's. All examples I have seen are on stamp printings of 1887 or later.

The offices probably involved are listed in the following table in alphabetical order in the first column.

Post Office	Its Seal Number	Its Obliterated No. in 1885-93 Register.	Office with Seal No. same as Obliterated No. in third column.
ARCH HILL	215	"A5"	CHELSEA
BIRKENHEAD	211	69	PARAKAKAU
CHELSEA	5	28	MOUNT ROSKILL
HAUTAPU	130	94	OTOROHANGA
MITITAI	133	98	WHATAWHATA
MOUNT ROSKILL	28	111	TOKATEA
OTOROHANGA	94	(91)	(PUHOI)
PARAKAKAU	69	129	TAUMARERE
PIAKO	203	215	ARCH HILL
PUHOI	91	130	HAUTAPU
PUKEKARARO	222	(222)	(PUKEKARARO)
PUKEKOHE EAST	85	85	PUKEKOHE EAST
REMUERA	213	133	MITITAI
TAMAHERE	207	177	WAIHOU
TAUMARERE	129	203	PIAKO
TOKATEA	111	207	TAMAHERE
WAHAROA	233	A233	WAHAROA
WAIHOU	177	213	REMUERA
WALTON	223	A223	WALTON
WHATAWHATA	98	211	BIRKENHEAD

There can be no question that the actual seal and obliterated numbers in the second and third columns are correct, except for the two known obliterated numbers 91 and 222 which are not recorded in the Register but have been included in brackets in the third column to complete the paired series. There is also no

question concerning the allocations of the seals, as shown in the first and second columns, as these allocations have been confirmed from the Auckland Chief Post Office Register of 1879-1887, but regrettably this Register does not record the numbers of the obliterators distributed in 1887.

The records show that three of the above listed offices received obliterators with the same number as the seal, namely Pukekohe East 85, Walton 223 and Waharoa 233. Walton's obliterator A223 has been confirmed from proving covers and there can be no doubt about the reliability of the other allocations. It is reasonable to add Pukekararo, seal 222, as obliterator A over 222 is known.

What is in doubt, however, is the allocation of the numbers of the obliterators used at the remaining 16 offices. The reason for this doubt is that two of these offices are known to have used obliterators with numbers which conflict with those recorded in the Register, but match their seal numbers. Obliterator A over 91 (unregistered) is known cancelling stamps on pieces with Puhoi datestamps of 1896 and 1897 alongside. Puhoi's seal number was 91. Obliterator A over 207 was used to cancel the printed stamp on a postcard with a Tamahere address and Tamahere datestamp of 1890 alongside. Tamahere's seal number was 207.

This evidence raises the question whether the Chief Postmaster, Auckland, actually distributed all 20 obliterators supplied in 1887 to offices with the same numbered seals. It will be seen from the table that every obliterator number matches a seal number. As there were numerous other free or available numbers not already used for obliterators, this could have come about only if the Chief Postmaster, Auckland, had applied for 20 obliterators with specified numbers to match the numbers on the mailbag seals. If his requisition set out the offices in roughly alphabetical order much as in the table above, there is a possibility that the clerk at the G.P.O. WELLINGTON then wrongly entered the obliterator numbers in the G.P.O. Register in a similar order, instead of attributing them to offices with the same numbered seals.

The only way this query can be resolved is to search for further proving covers or pieces. If a proving cover from just one more of the 14 remaining offices still in doubt can be located, with datestamp evidence supporting the seal-matching theory, this will vastly increase the probability that this explanation is correct and will justify revision of the allocations for the 14 offices involved.

In view of the importance of such evidence for the correct allocation of obliterators to specific offices, I make a special appeal to collectors to check whether they have covers or pieces with any of the following obliterator numbers (A over the number) with associated datestamps indicating where the obliterator was used :- 5, 28, 94, 98, 111, 129, 130, 133, 177, 203, 211, 213 and 215.

In any event, I wish to know whether anyone has clear examples of obliterators with A over 5, 28, 177, 203, 211, 213 which I have not yet seen. This is to record whether these were 9 or 11 bar obliterators.

There is uncertainty where six further known obliterators were actually used, four because the entries in the Registers are ambiguous for type and two (A over 108 and A over 167) because

they are not recorded in the Registers. All are A over the number in oval of 9 bars :- A over 22 assumed to be Dairy Flat; A over 47 possibly Mauku or Ellerslie; A over 74 assumed to be Whakahara; A over 108 assumed to be Poroaterao with same seal number but queried because I have this on a 2d. perf. 10 stamp printing of 1893 after Poroaterao was closed (31st December, 1890) and before this office was reopened (15th December, 1896); A over 117 assumed to be Manurewa; A over 128 assumed to be Upper Waiwera; A over 167 assumed to be Okoroire, Oxford North, Tirau. Evidence from proving covers is needed for these obliterations also.

Information, please, to Dr. K.J.McNaught, 627, Grey Street,
Hamilton, New Zealand.

FINDINGS FROM FILES.

THE DUTY STAMPS.

ALLAN P. BERRY

The story of the preparation of the plates used to print the Arms Type Duty Stamps of New Zealand can be found in the files now in the custody of the National Postal Museum. This particular story has suffered severely from the "pruning" which took place in January, 1942, in association with the National Campaign for Waste Paper. Nevertheless, there is still much of interest available.

As before, the story starts with a letter from the High Commissioner for New Zealand to the Controller, Post Office Stores Department, Stamp Section, Somerset House, London, dated 15th October, 1929. This reads:-

"...it has been decided by the New Zealand Stamp Duties Department that a new issue of Duty Stamps be created to take the place of the Queen's head issue at present in use. The new stamps are to be of exactly the same size as the 2/-s and 3/-s Stamps, Dies and Plates for which were made by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., and passed by the Stamp Section of the British Post Office, in January, 1926.

...has received the designs, also specimen perforated sheets, to show the exact perforation required and size of the stamps. Full specifications of the new Dies and Plates are contained on the attached sheet, and, acting on instructions,...obtained tenders from Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., and Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. Ltd., for supply of the new Dies and Plates...to forward these tenders to you for a recommendation, which is to be communicated to the Dominion, by cable, before an order is placed.

...kindly examine these offers, and let...have your recommendation thereon at the earliest possible date. It will be noted that although nickel-faced electro plates are called for, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. Ltd., have quoted, alternatively, for hard metal Stereos, and...is prepared to submit their figure for these, if you consider they are likely to interest the Stamp Duties Department."

The next paper on the file is a handwritten note which is headed New Duty Stamps for Stamp Duties Dept. New Zealand. It reads as follows:-

Specifications.

Design (1) 1/3, 2/6, 7/6 and 12/6

Design (2) 4/-, 5/-, 6/-, 7/-, 8/-

Design (3) £2:10:0, £3:10:0, £4:10:0

Design (4) £1, £2, £3, £4, £5, £6, £7, £8, £9, £10.

Design (5) For various denominations Blank Pounds.

Size of the new stamps to be exactly the same as for the 2/- and 3/- stamps dies etc. produced by Waterlow & Sons in January, 1926. (Printing Plates actually made in Royal Mint from dies engraved by Waterlows).

A separate die to be made for each denomination with the exception of No. 5 design which is to be made for blank pounds in order that the amounts may be overprinted after the stamps are printed.

A collar to fit the dies to be supplied and a punch to fit the press for striking moulds also.

A complete set of nickel faced electro plates to be made and forwarded with the dies.

Plates also to be made exactly the same as those for the 2/- and 3/- stamps and to ensure them fitting the perforating head at present in use with these plates specimen perforating sheets accompany this specification to show size of stamps etc. and perforations.

The total number of plates required in accordance with the foregoing specifications are 4 of No. 1, 11 of No. 2, 3 of No. 3, 10 of No. 4, and 1 of No. 5.

The lettering of the designs not altogether satisfactory and it is desired that the dies etc. bear improved lettering in the engraving. Designs etc. to be seen at office of High Commissioner.

The original tenders are also hand-copied on the files. That for Waterlow & Sons Ltd. amounts to £1,547:15:0; that for Perkins, Bacon & Co. Ltd. amounts to £1,015. The latter firm also quoted a sum of £685 for nickel faced hard metal stereotypes in place of electros.

A memorandum which follows reads:-

"Perkins, Bacon quoted a cheap alternative price for hard metal stereo plates - in place of nickel faced electro plates. On enquiry of the Mint as to their experience of stereo plates it was ascertained that Waterlow's tender was really based on quotations by the Mint to Waterlows - (no less than £536:15:0 had been added by the firm to the Mint's total figure).

...suggested that it would be economical for them to approach the Mint direct for a quotation, as...the Mint was in a position to undertake the work. The suggestion was acted upon and a copy of the Mint's tender is annexed. We recommended the High Commissioner...to accept it."

A copy of the Royal Mint's tender follows, and shows that this amounted to £1,011:0:0. Following this quotation, there are some interesting notes:-

"The printing plates for the 2/- and 3/- stamps, referred to in the specification, were actually made in this Department from engraved dies supplied by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, but these

were made in copper and subsequently steel-faced. We do not recommend this practice of facing with steel or nickel, as it must of necessity be very thin and, therefore, does not protect the printing surface for very long. In our process for making the plates now quoted, the nickel is deposited first to a substantial thickness, so that the sharpness of the design is maintained, and a much greater resistance to wear secured.

It is, therefore, a better production than the nickel faced electro plate asked for in the specification, and the fact that the average printing from these plates is over a million sheets, justifies the extra care and cost of manufacture involved.

With regard to times for delivery, the first die would be engraved in 5 weeks from the date of receipt of the order to proceed, and the first printing plate would be ready for issue three weeks later. The plates would then follow at the rate of five in two weeks, so that the total time required for the 29 plates would be five months. This assumes that no serious loss of time would be incurred in obtaining approval of the dies."

On 12th November, 1929, the Controller wrote to the High Commissioner:-

"...this Department recommends the acceptance of the quotation you have received from the Royal Mint. The printing plates used by this Department are manufactured at the Mint and are produced by the process recommended in the Mint's tender consisting of an electrolytic deposit of nickel with a similar deposit of copper behind it. They give the highest satisfaction for accuracy and uniformity of detail as well as for wearing qualities. These latter qualities are not overstated in the Mint's tender and that tender is without doubt more favourable than the tenders of either Messrs. Waterlow & Sons Ltd. or Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. Ltd.

The opinion of the Royal Mint as to the superior merits of plates produced by the process mentioned as compared with plates faced with nickel is fully concurred in by this Department.

It is considered that hard metal stereotypes, for which Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. Ltd. quote a cheaper alternative price would not prove satisfactory for the purpose for which the plates are required."

On 12th December, 1929, the High Commissioner replied, saying:-

"Your recommendation that the offer of the Royal Mint be accepted for Plates to be produced by a process consisting of an electrolytic deposit of Nickel, with similar deposit of Copper behind it, was duly cabled to the Dominion,...received a reply ...to accept the offer of the Royal Mint, but to amend the Specification of Design No. 5, the words "Pounds Sterling" to be left out, thus leaving a space at top and bottom for printing denomination.

...will be glad to know if you have any further remarks to make before...finally accepts the tender...by the Royal Mint."

From a memorandum from the Prime Minister's Office, Wellington, dated 11th December, 1929, one can read:-

"The reason for altering the specifications of the No. 5

design which is described as being 'for various denominations blank pounds' is to enable the plate when made to be used for printing, in addition to the denominations for which it is intended, a 'not liable' stamp in which the word 'not' will appear at the top and the word 'liable' at the bottom."

On 23rd January, 1930, the Royal Mint wrote to the Controller:-

"...I enclose, for your approval, two proofs of each of the three new soft steel dies, which will be used in the preparation of the 80 set copper master plates of the 4/- and 5/- stamps of the No. 2 design, and the £2/10/0 stamp of the No. 3 design.

In all, twenty-nine denominations of stamps, in five designs, are being prepared, and the proofs of the representative dies will be sent to you in due course, for approval before hardening.

The original designs for the series of stamps to above, as received from the New Zealand authorities, are forwarded herewith for your guidance."

The Controller replied on 27th January, 1930:-

"...the proofs of the soft steel dies for the 4/-, 5/- and £2/10/0 denominations have been examined and are approved.

It is pointed out that the proofs are slightly larger than the reduced photographs of the designs to the extent of .03" in width and .02" in length, but presumably the proofs are correct in size to ensure production from the dies of plates which will print stamps of exactly the same size as the 2/- and 3/- New Zealand stamps as required by the New Zealand Government.

One proof of each die and the two original designs are returned enclosed."

On 31st January, 1930, the Royal Mint submitted:-

"...two proofs each of three further soft steel dies, for use in the preparation of 80 set master plates of the 6/- and 7/- rates of stamps in No. 2 design, and the £3/10/0 rate of design No. 3.

In reply to the second paragraph of your letter dated the 27th instant, I would point out that the picture size of the present series of stamps is .840" x .975", thus giving perforation gutters of width .115", and conforming with the 2/- and 3/- stamps referred to, copies of which, as forwarded by the New Zealand authorities, are enclosed for your inspection."

On 27th March, 1930, the Royal Mint wrote to the Controller:-

"I enclose for your approval, two proofs each of the £6 and £7 dies of the No. 4 design...which have been engraved for the preparation of the 80 set master plates."

The Controller's reply, dated 29th March, 1930, reads:-

"...the proofs of the soft steel dies for the £6 and £7 denominations (No. 4 design) have been examined and are approved.

One proof of each die is returned herewith."

Again, on 2nd April, the Royal Mint wrote to the Controller:-

"...for your approval, two proofs each of the 35/- (design No. 2) £8 and £9 (design No. 4) dies which have been engraved

for the preparation of the 80 set master plates..."

The Controller's reply, approving these proofs, is dated 4th April, 1930. Once again, one proof of each die is returned. On 4th April, 1930, the Royal Mint submitted:-

"...two proofs of the £10 (No. 2 design) die...This die is the last of the 29 which have been prepared for the New Zealand plates."

The Controller's reply, approving these proofs, is dated 8th April, 1930. Once again, one copy of the proof is returned. It is clear that this is only a fraction of the correspondence involved. The next paper on file is a hand-written memo dated 4th January, 1942, initialled by one W.P.Mason. This reads:-

"These papers were examined and 'pruned' in January, 1942, in connection with National Campaign for Waste Paper. All advices from Mint of proofs of dies and plates, with memoranda relating to examination of proofs and letters to Mint re defects discovered and final approval of proofs, withdrawn and destroyed with three exceptions, viz:- (there follows a list of the letters extracted above between 27th March, 1930, and 8th April, 1930).

In each of these cases the other copy of the proofs was found with the correspondence.

Two proofs were advised on all the other cases and only one was referred to as returned in the Department's letters of approval to the Mint. There is nothing to show what became of the other copies of the proofs.

The attached appears to be a list of all the dies and plates supplied by the Mint.

In order of listing:-

1/3, 2/6, 4/-, 5/-, 7/-, 10/-, 7/6, 8/-, 9/-, 15/-, 12/6, £1, £1/5, £1/10, £2, £1/15, £2/10, £3, £3/10, £4, £4/10, £5, £6, Blank Panel, £7, £8, £9, £10.

There is a copy of a letter from W.P.Mason to W.G.Pratt of the New Zealand Government Offices, Strand, W.C.2., dated 4th January. This reads:-

"Hitherto I have not been able to find an opportunity to examine any of our files relating to work performed for the New Zealand Government before the present Pictorial series of stamps was introduced in 1935.

I have just been through the earlier papers, which relate almost entirely to the supply of dies and plates for printing stamps in New Zealand, and I have discovered the following proofs of Master dies for the 'duty' plates which were obtained from the Mint in 1930.

Black proof of £6 soft die, No. 4 design - dated 27.3.30
Black proof of £7 soft die, No. 4 design - dated 27.3.30
Black proof of 35/- soft die, No. 2 design - dated 2.4.30
Black proof of £8 soft die, No. 4 design - dated 2.4.30
Black proof of £9 soft die, No. 4 design - dated 2.4.30
Black proof of £10 soft die, No. 2 design - dated 4.4.30
Many other proofs of the dies and plates under this order were

supplied by the Mint, always in duplicate one copy being sent back with criticism or approval. There is nothing to show what became of the other copies.

It is a little disconcerting to find that we have some of these items and not others, but we must suppose that the others were properly disposed of. Possibly you have some records which show what became of them, or perhaps the Mint would know.

It all emphasises the need for keeping strict record of all proofs, essays, etc. and arranging for their disposal when no longer required.

I shall be glad if you will acknowledge receipt on the attached form."

The final document relating to this story is a receipt for the proofs listed above, dated 6th January, 1942, and signed by W.G.Pratt on 4th February, 1942.

Concurrent with the preparation of these dies and plates, an extra perforating head and cutting plate was also ordered. This was supplied by William Jackson, and was approved on 15th February, 1930.

I am very grateful to the National Postal Museum for allowing access to these files, and for permission to publish extracts from them.

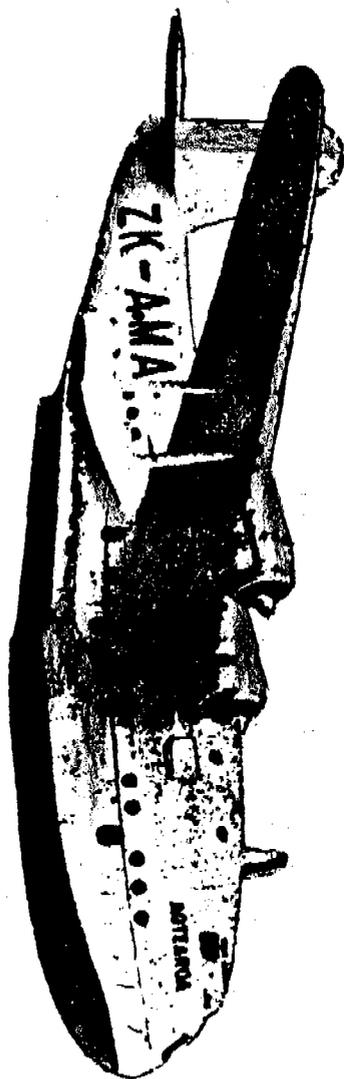
A MEMBER'S MUSINGS

TOM HETHERINGTON

Campbell Paterson's Catalogue states that there are three printings of the Abel Tasman National Park stamp. Recent acquisition of another of these printings set me examining the stamps carefully and then examining the map to find out where this National Park is. This then set me thinking about New Zealand National Parks generally. How many are there, where are they, and has New Zealand done justice to their obvious splendid scenery yet? As far as I can find there are four in the North Island and seven in the South Island as follows, with their date of establishment and acreage where known.

North Island			South Island		
Hauraki Gulf			Abel Tasman	(1942)	45,000
Tongariro	(1887)	166,560	Nelson Lakes	(1956)	126,800
Urewera	(1954)	493,000	Arthur's Pass	(1929)	243,000
Mt. Egmont	(1900)	79,000	Mount Cook	(1953)	173,000
			Westland	(1960)	700,000
			Mt. Aspiring	(1964)	492,290
			Fiordland	(1953)	3,000,000

Mount Aspiring appears on the 1954 Health Stamps and again on the 1967 Royal Society stamp. Mitre Peak and Lake Wakatipu have both appeared twice, and so on, but I will not try and list all the National Park illustrations. There are over thirty different with some duplicated and other illustrations associated with the Parks. If you want to make a special collection or competition entry with this idea there is no copyright.

A black and white illustration of a three-masted sailing ship, likely a clipper, shown from a three-quarter view. The ship is sailing on a choppy sea. The text 'Centennial Postage Stamp Issue' is overlaid in a large, stylized, cursive font across the upper part of the ship.

*Centennial
Postage
Stamp
Issue*

1840 1940

In November, 1978, ('The Kiwi', Volume XXVII, page 122) I was musing about booklets issued by the Post Office and associated with special stamp issues. The 1940 Centennial booklet opens with the statement "the main idea has been to review New Zealand history, both prior and subsequently to 1840, but to lay emphasis on the centennial period." Historically two of the most important features of the development of mail communications have been the overseas services, officially opened in 1831, and later, airmails. Hence it was appropriate to illustrate the front of the booklet with a full rigged sailing ship and the back with one of the early Imperial Airways four engine flying boats "Aotearoa", ZK-AMA. However, there was no name to the former, so this picture of a strange ship has been staring me in the face for years. A short while ago, on a visit to Edinburgh, I was glancing through a back number of 'Scotland's Magazine' (the issue for December, 1971) in

which was an article entitled 'Clan MacQuarrie'. Among the illustrations was the identical picture of this sailing ship, named 'MacQuarrie'. The family originated in Ulva, to the west of Mull, and their most distinguished member was the Governor of New South Wales in the early 1800's. Now there was something to look for. From the book "Painted Posts - the Story of the Ships of Messrs. Devitt and Moore", by A.G.Course, one reads that she was built on the Thames at Blackwall in 1875; steel hull, 1965 tons gross, at a cost of £46,500. Originally named 'Melbourne', she was sold in 1888 to Messrs. Devitt and Moore, who renamed her 'MacQuarrie'. She traded from Britain to Sydney and Melbourne. In 1897 she took over from 'Hastinger' as a cadet training ship, but changed hands again in 1904 with another name change, this time to 'Fortune'. 1949 found her converted to a coal hulk in Sydney Harbour.

It appears that she never sailed to New Zealand. Why, if this is so, did the Post Office use her picture as part of their Centennial celebrations? Why not 'Endeavour', or 'Britomart', or 'Tory', or 'Dunedin', or any other of the many ships that have brought fame to New Zealand, or exported it. There is an acknowledgement for the use of the illustration to the Wellington Harbour Board. Can one of our New Zealand members find out a little more?

Talking about learning things, how often do you have a good look through your collection? Being what I like to think, a serious New Zealand collector, mine is rather extensive, so rarely gets a thorough examination. More often a small section is studied, possibly only one page, either after acquiring something new, or reading an article in 'The Kiwi'. The illustration on page 91 of Volume XXIX of 'The Kiwi', with the notes on page 100, reminded me of a sheet of Health Camp cancellations. I got this out and learnt of all the camp cancellations, or so I thought. Several months later I had occasion to go through the Health collection and on my 1937 cover was a picture of a child with the caption "I've been to Kurow". Having learnt of all the camps there were then two questions; where is Kurow, and what has it to do with Health Camps? The atlas answered the first - it is about forty miles inland from Oamaru. Can anyone answer the second?

NEW ZEALAND ARCHITECTURE STAMPS - 1982

NICKI MORTIMER

New Zealand's present philatelic recognition of a heritage of imposing and gracious buildings ended on 7th April, 1982, with the third issue of architecture stamps.

As with similar releases in 1979 and 1980, four stamps designed by Mr. P.G.Leitch of Wellington comprise the 1982 set.

The subjects for Mr. Leitch's skills - again two residences and two public buildings - are "Alborton", Auckland and "Caccia Birch", Palmerston North in the North Island, and Dunedin Railway Station and the Ophir Post Office in the South Island.

Alborton carries the 20c denomination, Caccia Birch 25c, the Dunedin Railway Station 30c and the Ophir Post Office 35c.

The New Zealand Post Office had the co-operation of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust in deciding the subjects for the

architecture series.

Featured in the 1979 issue were Riverlands Cottage, Blenheim; Mission House, Waimate North; The Elms, Tauranga; and the Provincial Council Buildings, Christchurch.

The 1980 issue covered Ewelme Cottage, Parnell; Broadgreen, Nelson; Courthouse, Oamaru; and the Government Buildings, Wellington.

Alberton, depicted on the 1982 20c architecture stamp, was built in 1867 by Allan Taylor who came to New Zealand as a boy, having lived in India and Scotland.

Essentially Alberton was a farmhouse, a timber frame and gabled building of 11 rooms (5 upstairs and 6 down) with a verandah and open balcony.

Sixteen months after the death of his first wife, Allan Taylor, at 34, married Sophia Louis Davis (17) who was to reign for 65 years as mistress of Alberton.

In the late 1860's, Allan Taylor prospered greatly from forestry, mining, commercial ventures and banking. His affluence allowed him to add to Alberton a ballroom, more bedrooms, a small conservatory, and the fantastic verandahs and towers which give it character.

The architect seemed to turn to India for inspiration, and three towers with their ogee tops and paired openings recall the romance of that land.

The next 20 years saw a flurry of balls, entertainments, archery parties and elaborate "At Homes".

After Allan Taylor's sudden death in 1890, Mrs. Taylor added to the house by enclosing an upstairs balcony to form a sewing room and putting in a bathroom and boys' bedroom over the kitchen.

For Aucklanders, Alberton is very much an external image. Inside it retains its Victorian furnishings without much change, and shows clearly how a 19th century land-owning family lived.

Caccia Birch House, subject of the 25c stamp, is located by the Hokowhitu Lagoon in Palmerston North. Beginning as a modest dwelling in 1893 it was added to in stages as the home of Mr. J. Narrestad, of the sawmilling firm of Richter, Narrestad and Jenssen.

Mr. J. Strang bought the property in 1903 and named it Woodley after his wife's home in Cheshire.

With his two boys, Alan and Walter, he was known far beyond Palmerston North for his prowess in polo. The family had their own polo ground across the lagoon.

The commodious stables were built in 1908 to accommodate a man and a boy whose most important duty was to care for valuable polo ponies.

When Parliament House was destroyed by fire in 1907 and Government House was taken over for the use of Parliament, Woodley became the temporary vice-regal residence and was occupied by the Governor-General Lord Plunket and his family.

From 1921, the property was owned by the Caccia Birch family who gave it to the Government in 1937. It was used for various purposes and for a period served as a convalescent home until made available to the Massey University.

The Dunedin Railway Station (30c stamp) built in 1904 at a cost of \$239,000 is regarded as the city's grandest public building.

The architect George A. Troup (later Sir George) received the

British Institution of Architects Award for his design.

Possibly regarded as an anachronism in this age, the Dunedin Railway Station has been described as a remarkably assured design and as the culmination of four decades of solid Victorian building activity in Dunedin.

The pundits have said of it - "Its ranging proportions are enhanced by the spacious setting; this is architecture in the grand manner. Contrasting materials are used in an extremely vigorous way for the exterior."

The station has a most unusual ticket office with white tiled walls, ceramic panels and a mosaic floor depicting Victorian railway engines. During a recent restoration the mosaics were replaced with replicas. Parts of the building were repainted and stonework cleaned.

The Post Office building at Ophir, the subject of the 35c stamp, was built in 1886 and is of considerable historical and architectural interest to Central Otago.

It is of schist masonry, with plaster quoins and window dressings. The interior retains the atmosphere of the early days, and still has a postal box of the Victorian period with the cipher VR set into its frontage.

Gold mining began at Ophir in 1863, and within three months 1,000 miners were in the area.

By 1865, the town which was originally called Black, had four stores, four hotels, two banks, a police station, a courthouse, several churches and a cottage hospital with a resident doctor.

By 1866 the population had settled to 600 and after a public request the Government surveyed Black and named it a township.

It was renamed Ophir - after the Biblical Ophir, where the Queen of Sheba obtained gold for King Solomon.

The Ophir Post Office is now under the control of the Historic Places Trust, although post office facilities are still provided there on an agency basis.

A New Zealand Post Office Feature Article.

PENNY UNIVERSAL ENVELOPE WITH AUSTRALIAN POSTAGE DUE

Following the publication of the article in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXX, pages 37 and 41 - 42, by B.J.PRATT, our Member, Mrs. PAT CAPILL has written as follows:-

"The half ounce letter rate to Australia was 2d. until 1902 when apparently Australia accepted New Zealand's Universal Penny Postage, and the rate was reduced to 1d. This lower rate is indicated on the cover of the Penny Universal booklet issued in August, 1902. The illustration on page 39 is of a cover in my collection, cancelled N.Z / HOKITIKA / 21 JA 01 / 4, also from the Tattersalls mail. It shows that the rate should have been 2d. I have other covers dated 1906 and 1907 which correctly show the 1d. rate. However, quite a proportion of the Tattersalls envelopes must have been over half an ounce in weight, as they contained money, and this explains the frequent use of the 2d. rate (1d. per half ounce) on later, 1904 - 1907, covers in my collection."

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION YET? LAST WARNING!!