



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

the kiwi

Hon. Gen Secretary: TERRY BROCK

26 Old Cross, Hertford, SG14 1RD. Tel.: Daytime 0992-54911 ; Evenings 0992-58427.

Hon. Treasurer: I. G. FOGG

42 Oxford Road South, Chiswick, London, W4 3DH. Tel.: 01-994 1747

Kiwi Editor: ALLAN P. BERRY

24 Irwin Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5PP. Tel.: 0483 67185

VOLUME 32 No. 5

SEPTEMBER 1983

WHOLE 181

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER, 1983,
AT THE Y.W.C.A. CENTRAL CLUB, 16 - 22, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,
LONDON, STARTING AT 2.30 P.M.

THE SPEAKER WILL BE OUR MEMBER MARCEL STANLEY, R.D.P., WHO IS
VISITING THIS COUNTRY AFTER JUDGING AT THE INTERNATIONAL
EXHIBITION IN BANGKOK

HIS DISPLAY WILL BE IN TWO PARTS.

1. EARLY BOOKLETS.

2. ESSAYS, PROOFS AND SPECIMENS OF REVENUE STAMPS

THIS WILL BE AN OCCASION WHICH NO ONE SHOULD MISS

THE CANOE-YACHT 'TILIKUM'.



SEE PAGE 87.

EDITORIAL.

A great deal of effort has been put in by members in organising the Society's new venture - Regional Meetings. In this issue you will find a report of the first of these, held in Liverpool. The programme for the second, to be held in Bournemouth, is also announced. Knowing the shopping facilities and other attractions of Bournemouth, why not make it a family day out - let the rest enjoy the delights of Bournemouth, while you enjoy the first class displays promised.

ALLAN P. BERRY

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

S.D.Crawford, 42, Tite Street, London, SW3 4JA.

E.C.Harding, 3, Guardian Court, Rogate Road,

Worthing, West Sussex.

R.W.Robinson, 28, Pennsylvania Road, Liverpool,

Merseyside, L13 9BA.

D.Vickers, 9, Chester Court, Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside.

RESIGNED

D.N.Mortimer, 36, St. Georges Street,

Winchester, Hants., SO23 8BE.

T.B.Roydhouse, 3, Paton Street, Kingsford,

New South Wales 2032, Australia.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

G.E.Chowles, Flat 2, 30, Hardington Street,

Onehunga, Auckland, New Zealand.

(previously of Finsbury Park, London.)

J.A.Firebrace, Honeysuckle Cottage, Longparish,

Andover, Hants., SP11 6PH.

(previously of Winchester.)

J.M.A.Gregson, P.O.Box 11, Patchway, Bristol, BS12 4BH.

(previously of Cotham Hill, Bristol.)

Alan Jackson, c/o 28, Tedder Street, Dunedin, New Zealand.

(previously of Northland, Wellington, New Zealand.)

G.A.Nelson, 9, The Retreat, Little Chalfont,

Amersham, Bucks., HP6 6SS.

(previously of Sheepfold Lane, Amersham.)

Mrs. Enid Platt, 47, Wilkie Avenue, Burnley, Lancs., BB11 3QE.

(previously of Cliviger, Burnley.)

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, 30TH JULY, 1983, - 1935-47 PICTORIALS

Our Chair man, Stanley Cross-Rudkin, opened the meeting at 2.30 p.m., and introduced John Smith, the leader for the afternoon.

John started with several sheets of unaccepted designs up to the 1/- value, and proceeded through all the values, mostly in blocks with single and multiple watermarks.

Starting with the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value, he showed all the plate numbers, a variety of flaws and a block with inverted watermark. This was followed by the 1d. value, again with plate numbers and a variety of items from Dies 1, 2 and 3, and the booklet panes. The $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. value was represented by plate numbers and re-entries, and the experimental printing on wet paper.

Again with the 2d. value, there was the range of plate blocks, and the wartime issues illustrating the co-operation between the various security printing firms. Some fine offsets were also on display. The 2½d. and 3d. values were present in a variety of plate blocks and shades, as was the 4d. value.

The 5d. value was represented by a variety of shades and re-entries, and some letters watermarks. There were also many plate numbers, in various states, of the 6d. value, and a block showing the development of the transfer roller flaw in the 8d. value.

There was a fine full width block of the smaller design of the 9d. value, and blocks of both sizes showing the various bars that were printed as a security device on the selvedge. After showing some blocks of the 1/- value, the 2/- value was represented by die proofs, and the retouches to this that led to the later retouching of the rigging on plates 1, 2 and 3. All the various perfs. were represented, with a fine show of the Coqk flaw. The 3/- value showed re-entries to both frame and centre plates.

John finished with examples of the counter roll pairs that were first introduced with this issue, and stamps overprinted for official use.

Martyn Jackson showed a 1935 official booklet with a set of mint stamps. Our Chairman showed a double print, one albino, of the 5d. value. Phil Evans contributed items of postal stationery that used the same design as the stamps. Tom Hetherington showed the unadopted designs by R.J.G. Collins, the subject of an article in a past issue of 'The Kiwi'. Mr. Shepherd showed 24 sheets of plate numbers, perfs., shades and re-entries.

A vote of thanks was given by our Chairman, and the meeting closed at 5.15 p.m.

A.E.H.

NORTH-WEST REGIONAL MEETING.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society last November, it was agreed to hold regional meetings, and the first of these took place in Liverpool on Saturday, 25th June, 1983. This was an open meeting, invitations being sent to philatelic societies in the North-West as well as to our own members. Twenty people came to the meeting - nine of them non-members, of whom two joined during the course of the day and a few more are expected to join as a result of the meeting.

A team of Officers of the Society travelled to Liverpool for what may perhaps be irreverently termed the first New Zealand Society Road Show. The proceedings were opened by Allan Berry with a display of items of the Government Life Insurance Department, tracing its history from 1869.

Philip Evans introduced a display of King George V stamps, outlining the difficulties encountered in producing this issue, the design for which was eventually based on the G.B. Penny Black, 10 of the 11 original values being recess printed and the ½d. value being produced by the cheaper relief method of printing.

After lunch, Stanley Cross-Rudkin displayed a range of issues, concentrating on the Chalon Heads, starting with S.G. 1, the 1d. London Print of July, 1855, followed by examples of the

Richardson prints of November, 1855. Turning to King Edward VII, progressive die proofs of the ½d. were displayed, a sheet of plate proofs, and booklet panes. One block of the ½d. value showed a double perf. with an extra strike of the comb in the top selvedge. Of special interest were inverted watermarks - not previously catalogued. A set of forged Auckland Exhibition overprints was followed by an example of the King George V 4d. value with the major re-entry where the value had been altered, and several early air mail covers signed by the pilots.

Allan Berry's second display was of Official Postal Stationery, all prior to 1907 when Official stamps were introduced. One cover carried the frank signature of the Earl of Glasgow, who was Governor of New Zealand at the time.

The First Pictorials were the subject of Rita Langman's display, illustrating the wide variety of shades, perforations, watermarks and stamp size in this issue, and the mis-spelling Wakitipu in the 2½d. London prints. I.J.Till followed with examples of the 6d. value of the First Pictorials, including Waterlow's sample sheet. Tom Hetherington showed some early covers, and John Pickering an early Pitcairn cover backstamped Pitcairn Island - New Zealand Postal Agency.

Harry Graham, a member of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, thanked the speakers for coming and bringing such superb material. The day was a great success, and much enjoyed and appreciated by those privileged to see displays of such high quality, which can normally only be seen by members attending the London meetings.

RITA LANGMAN

ANNUAL SOCIETY AUCTION

This will be held on 'Kiwi Day', Saturday, 26th November, 1983. Members who wish to enter items in the Auction should note the following instructions.

A list of your lots, typewritten or in block letters please, should be sent to me:-

Ian G. Fogg, 42, Oxford Road South, Chiswick, London, W4 3DH
to reach me before 5th October, so that the Catalogue can be published in time for distribution with the November issue of 'The Kiwi'.

Please state your estimate of market value and reserve for each lot. This is a must. If you have no reserve, please say so. Also, describe each lot briefly, e.g. UM = unmounted; MM = mounted mint; MHH = mint heavy hinge; FU = fine used; U = used. If used, state what postmark is like, quality of perforations, etc. Lots may be sent with your list, but in any case need to be in my hands prior to the auction. Maximum number of lots from one member is forty. All lots to be mounted and carded ready for display. A space about one inch square should be left at the right hand corner for the insertion of the lot number. Individual lots should be valued - estimated - at not less than four pounds. The commission charged is 10% of sales. All postages, poundage, insurance, etc. is payable by the vendor. Lots which comprise of periodicals, collections of books, boxes of stamps and other bulky or heavy items cannot be accepted unless the vendor undertakes to deliver and collect from

the auction room, or, if sold, deliver to the purchaser direct.

APPEAL

Each year it has been the practice of many generous members to offer items, both philatelic and general, to be auctioned on behalf of Society funds. This is much appreciated. Do please see if you have anything surplus to your requirements. No matter what it is we will be delighted to receive it, preferably by 5th October so that it can be included in the catalogue, but in any case before 2.00 p.m. on 'Kiwi Day'.

BOURNEMOUTH REGIONAL MEETING.

Preliminary details of this regional meeting of the Society, to be held on 3rd September, 1983, at the Durley Hall Hotel, Durley Chine Road, Bournemouth, were given in 'The Kiwi', Volume 32, page 58, July, 1983. The intended programme for this meeting is as follows:-

11.00 a.m. - Introduction.

The First Pictorial Definitives, by Michael Burberry.

12.15 p.m. - From Chalons to Q.E.11, by Stanley Cross-Rudkin.

1.00 p.m. - 2.30 p.m. - Lunch Break.

2.30 p.m. - King George V, by Philip L. Evans.

- A Selection, by Mrs. Grace Gordon Kaye.

- The Christchurch Exhibition, by Michael Burberry.

3.45 p.m. - The Government Life Insurance Department,
by Allan P. Berry.

Please do make an effort, if you live anywhere near Bournemouth, to attend. It promises to be a splendid meeting.

REVIEW

New Zealand Railway Charges Stamps: Design and Printing, by J.W.Brodie. Published by the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, P.O.Box 1269, Wellington, New Zealand. Price £9-00 Sterling, postage included.

The New Zealand Railway Charges Stamps will be found listed at the back of many catalogues of New Zealand stamps. They are not listed in many others, since their use was strictly limited, that is, to prepay the freight charges on parcels and so on carried by the New Zealand Railways.

Since the publication of Volume VI of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand, new information has come to light from various sources. This has all been drawn together by the author of this, the fifth Monograph of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand.

The preparation of the design, the printing plates, flaws that are encountered, and details of the various printings are clearly and concisely outlined, with all the changes and additions that took place over the time that these stamps were on issue, as are the various station overprints. It is a masterly presentation of a

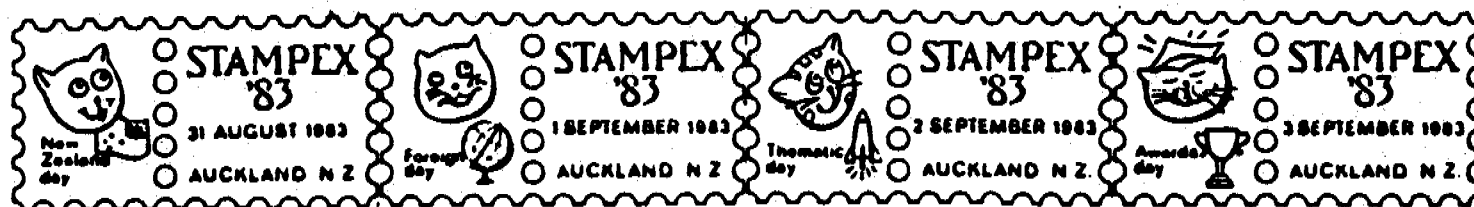
study in depth of one issue, and a lesson for all wishing to write similar books.

The typeface used is bold and clear, and the illustrations - some in colour - outstanding. Expense has once again precluded the use of hard covers, which is a pity. While this monograph covers a little known side-line of New Zealand philately, it is still a worthy addition to the growing Library of books on New Zealand philately and Postal History.

Your Editor has a limited supply of order forms for this book, whose printing number is very small. One will be sent to any interested member, against a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

SPECIAL DATESTAMPS

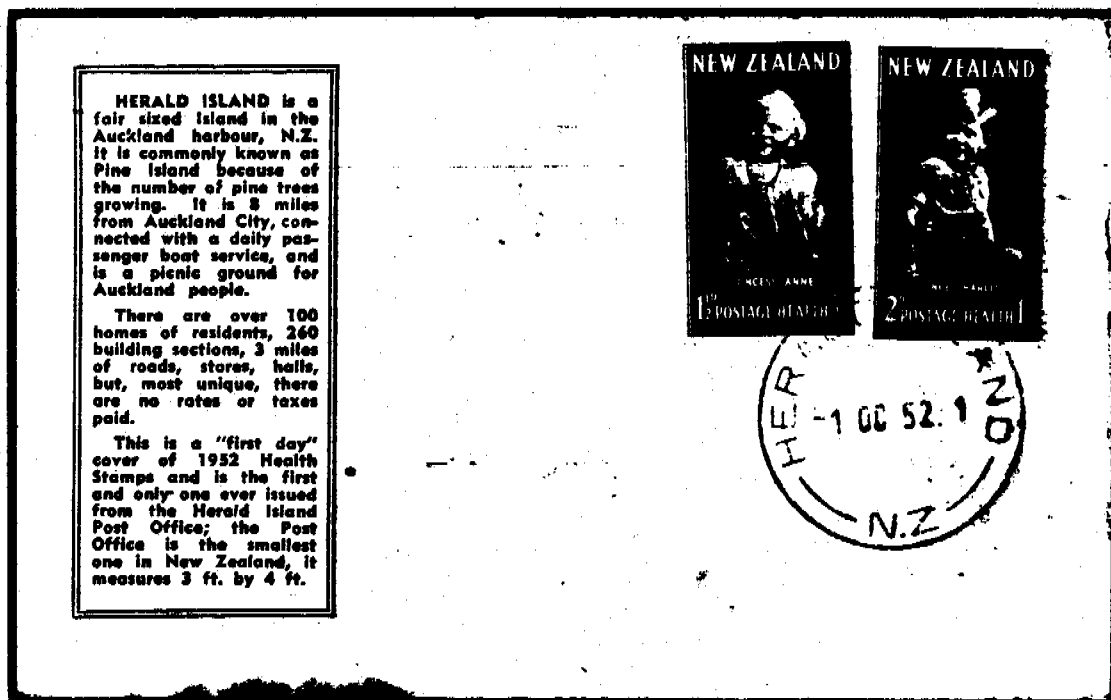
"STAMPEX '83" NATIONAL JUNIOR STAMP EXHIBITION



A series of four special pictorial datestamps will be used at the temporary post office to be established at the Auckland Town Hall from 31st August to 3rd September, 1983, for the Stampex '83 National Junior Stamp Exhibition.

There are four designs, one for each day of the Exhibition, based on the special events taking place each day.

HEALTH STAMPS FIRST DAY COVER - HERALD ISLAND POST OFFICE.



An interesting Health Stamp First Day Cover, kindly sent in by our member E.W.P.LEPPARD.

FINDINGS FROM FILES.

POSTAL ORDER SORTING MACHINE

ALLAN P. BERRY

This story starts with a letter from the New Zealand High Commission addressed to P.Green, Esq., Post Office Stores Department, Somerset House, W.C.2., dated 16th September, 1936. It reads:-

"The New Zealand Post Office advise that they recently saw an article in the London 'Times' concerning the development of an appliance known as the 'Macadie Ratcliff' postal order sorting machine, and that upon application to the British Post Office they were furnished with a non-technical description of the machine's operations. This indicated that the sorting operation of the machine was contingent on the orders having been previously pierced with one or more holes, and they now desire to know whether special apparatus is required to perform this work. They also wish to obtain the fullest particulars from the manufacturer and also a price quotation.

"This hardly seems a matter that would come within the jurisdiction of your Department, but in all probability you will be able to place me in touch with the right man at the Post Office to approach in the matter. If you can do this I shall be very greatly obliged."

Clearly, Mr. Green had to seek information elsewhere, as the next document on the file is a hand written internal memo giving details of the machine and its manufacturer. These details are incorporated in a letter from Mr. Green to the New Zealand High Commission, dated 19th September, 1936, which reads as follows:-

"...as regards the drilling of Postal Orders with the 'Macadie Ratcliff' Postal Order Sorting Machine, the British Postal Orders are drilled by the printing contractor before delivery, an additional charge being made. The drilling is of three holes, two for numerical sorting and one for value; all three holes are drilled at the same time. The machine used by the contractors are understood to have been supplied by Messrs. Hewitt Bros., 25, Field Street, W.C.1. The output is about 2½ million orders per machine per week. In order to ensure accurate sorting steps have to be taken to ensure that the drilling is accurately and cleanly done.

"I understand you would like to see the sorting machine working and I have arranged with the Money Order Department for a visit to be paid at a time which I will arrange with you later."

The New Zealand High Commission reply, dated 1st October, 1936, reads:-

"...thank you for the information...regarding the 'Macadie Ratcliff' postal order sorting machine and the drilling machine.

"I also desire to place on record my appreciation of your courtesy in arranging for our visit to the Money Order Department when we saw the sorter in operation.

"Application has now been made to the G.P.O. for price

quotation for the sorter, and I am in communication with Messrs. Hewitt Brothers regarding the drilling machine. I hope soon to be in a position to answer our Post and Telegraph Department's enquiry."

There is no indication on the files whether or not the machines referred to were ever ordered.

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

HEALTH STAMPS, CAMPS AND COVERS.

ALLAN McKELLAR

The first Health Camp was held at Turakina in 1919, and was run by Dr. Elizabeth Gunn. Dr. Elizabeth Gunn was an ex-Army Medical Officer, who at that time was Schools Medical Officer for the Wanganui Education District.

The Camp was held on ground near Turakina railway station, owned by a Mr. B.P. Lethbridge, a friend of Dr. Gunn. The Camp was held under canvas which was supplied by the Armed Forces. After two years of tents, a more permanent solution was provided by Mr. Lethbridge. He also supplied most of the food for the Camps in the early days.

The fifty-five children who attended the first Camp were from the Wanganui Education District and suffered mainly from malnutrition. With the permission of their parents, they attended the Camp for six weeks. On arrival at the Camp they were given a medical examination where their weight and height were taken and a careful check was kept throughout their stay at the Camp. The Camp routine was based on a regime of good food, rest, sunbathing, controlled play and basic hygiene - that is, tooth-brush drill.

Dr. Gunn ran the Health Camps for eleven years by means of funds from a private philanthropy and with help from the children's parents. The private funds soon became inadequate and a suggestion was submitted to the Post Office for a Health Camp seal to be printed. This idea was first brought up by Mrs. Kirstine Neilson of Norsewood, who got the idea from Christmas seals received on letters from her homeland in Scandinavia. She put it to her local Member of Parliament, Sir George Hunter, who then submitted it to the Post Office.

The Post Office rejected the idea of a seal in favour of a stamp having a charity value as well as a postage rate. Such stamps were in use in various countries and were approved for international use by the Postal Convention held in Stockholm in 1924.

Another person involved in the creation of the Health Stamps was Dr. Ada Paterson, the Director of Hygiene. She recognised the use of Health Stamps as a possible means for raising funds for the organisation, and strove to see the issue of Health Stamps in 1929.

The first Health Stamp, issued on 2nd October, 1929, was designed by Mr. Stanley Davis, who was on the advertising staff of the New Zealand Railways. His design was taken from a photograph of a nurse who had just qualified by passing her State Final Examinations. There was a simple slogan inserted at the bottom of the stamp 'Help Stamp Out Tuberculosis'. The colour of the stamp

was red to comply with the U.P.U. regulations, and 1d. Postage, 1d. Charity along with the date appeared at the very bottom of the stamp. The number of Health Stamps sold in the first year was approximately 592,800, and the sum of £5,000 was paid to the Health Camp Fund.

The Health Camps were consolidated into one body as a memorial to the late King George V, who died in 1935. This came about in 1936, when an Act of Parliament was passed and the King George V Memorial Children's Health Camps Federation was formed. In 1937, a national appeal was launched and from 25th March to 3rd June a special slogan was used on mail to advertise the appeal. The grand sum of £188,000 was raised, together with a subsidy from the Government. Owing to inflation, the costs of running the Camps increased, so the Government subsidy had also to be increased. This subsidy worked on a pound for pound basis on the sale of the Health Stamps. For instance, in 1943, 3,133,111 1d. + $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps and 3,339,686 2d. + 1d. stamps were sold. Therefore, the sum of £245,312 was raised by the sale of these Health Stamps, and the subsidy matched this figure. In later years, funds from the Christmas Arts Union were diverted to the Health Camps.

In 1968, the Government decided to replace the subsidy system with direct grant assistance. A new Act was passed by Parliament in 1972, which streamlined the Board's structure and tidied up the financial base of the Health Camp movement.

A further means of raising funds was by the sale of Official illustrated envelopes to collectors. The first official cover was produced in 1935, depicting a child sitting on the beach. Above the picture was the inscription 'Official Cover', and below 'Health Stamp / 1935'. Above the child's head inside the picture were the words 'Who said Health Camps'. I have only seen illustrations of this and earlier privately produced covers, as the earliest First Day Cover in my collection is 1936.

These Official Covers were sold for 3d., being 1d. postage, 1d. Health charge, and 1d. for the envelope. The next Official Cover, so far as I am aware, was issued in 1941. This cover depicted two girls and a boy building sand castles on the beach. At the top left hand corner are the words 'Souvenir Cover'; under this are the words 'Buy / Health stamps' in two lines, and at the bottom, 'for Children's / Health Camps', also in two lines. The 'H' of Health stamps and the 'H' of Health Camps are joined together to form the left hand edge of the picture.

During the period of World War II, all external mail had to pass through the Censors, and I have a couple of covers that were so treated. Most of the Official Covers were printed by John Dickenson Ltd. prior to 1951. In 1951, a change of name appears, now being Croxley Regd. This Company is now known as the Dickinson Robinson Group, who still produce the covers, which now bear the trade name Fortex.

From 1949, the Covers issued by the New Zealand Federation of Health Camps Inc. had a map of New Zealand on the flap, with the words 'issued by the' in an arc over the map, and 'New Zealand Federation / of Health Camps Inc.' in two lines across the map. This logo was used until 1952, when it was changed to the medallion type, similar to the design of the 1955 Health Stamps. It was surmounted by the words 'Souvenir Cover' and below were the

words 'Officially Approved by N.Z. Federation of Health Camps Inc.' in four lines. With minor changes, this logo continued in use until 1978. The first change took place in 1955, when the word 'Souvenir' was altered to 'Official'. The next of these minor changes took place in 1961, when the lettering was changed to 'King George the Fifth Memorial / Children's Health Camps Fed.' 'Officially Approved' and 'Souvenir Cover' being omitted. The 1968 Official Cover had a line drawing of 'A typical New Zealand Children's Health Camp' on the reverse. From 1970, the medallion only appeared, with a line for the sender's name and address. After 1978, there is nothing on the back of the envelopes.

It is my feeling that there should be a Study Group formed within the Society to try and gather together information about Health Camp history, postal history and Health Stamps for future collectors. It is such a fascinating subject to study and one of the few fields in New Zealand stamps and postal history which has still remained largely untapped.

DESIGN COMPETITION FOR THE 1935 PICTORIAL DEFINITIVE ISSUE

TOM HETHERINGTON

In the 1930's the Post Office may have decided that a change of stamp design was desirable, or perhaps they thought a pictorial issue might provide a little encouragement to people in the depression years. In addition, new pictorial stamps would find their way throughout the world and thus advertise New Zealand much more effectively than the earlier stamps had done. Apart from the Penny Dominion and a number of low value, short-lived special stamps, New Zealand had used a single design of King George V head on all its stamps from ½d. to 1/- since 1915.

In 1931 (1), the government announced an open competition and invited designs for a complete set of stamps from ½d. to 3/-. This was in the New Zealand tradition, as the 1898 set was launched in a similar way. £25 was to be paid for any accepted design. It was suggested that the ½d. to 3d. stamps would be typographed, while the higher values would be engraved, with the top value in two colours.

Designs came in quickly, from as many as 236 entrants, one of whom submitted 52 designs, the maximum permitted by the rules. One such set, to 1/-, but less the 1d. value, submitted by C.H. and R.J.G.Collins, was illustrated in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXXI, pages 36 - 38, March, 1982. Presumably the 1d. value was withdrawn from the otherwise rejected set of essays as it was later adopted for use. These essays came into my hands some years ago from a Robson Lowe sale. Two or three lots were described as 'photographs of essays for New Zealand stamps'. As far as I remember the lots were identical but for the colours. Shortly afterwards, our then President, the late Harry Bartrop, produced a page of similar essays, but in similar colours, to a group of us at a Society Meeting - obviously another Robson Lowe lot (2). He asked a number of questions but no one could help, and so there were two of us equally disappointed. I wonder what happened to these. Since then, BERNARD SYMONDS has reported that he has seven essays similar to mine but in differing colours and in addition an essay of the adopted 1d. Kiwi, in brown (3).

In 1932 the successful designs with designers' names were announced and illustrations of the complete set appeared (4). However, the published illustration for the 1/- value showed a picture of 'droving', by Marcus King of Wellington. Shortly after this, the Board of Adjudication for the Competition had second thoughts, rejected this design and substituted the Tui, by L.C.Mitchell, which was then issued (5). I hope that Marcus King was appropriately rewarded after the original acceptance of his design!

The designers of most of the issued stamps were, or later became, well known professional stamp designers. Probably most of them submitted at least one complete set of essays, hence most of their work was unsuccessful. As only successful designs were retained by the Post Office and the rest returned, there must have been alot that were put away in files. They cannot all have been destroyed. Where are they? There are far more of the 1898 essays extant. Surely some members have seen or heard of these later ones. Some of the questions posed in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXXI, page 36, March, 1982, have been answered but much remains to be discovered to complete the story.

My thanks are due to COLIN PENNY who has supplied much of the information and references for this article.

References.

- (1) Gibbons' Stamp Monthly, Volume IV, page 182, June, 1931, and pages 222 - 223, August, 1931.
- (2) 'The Kiwi', Volume XXVI, page 82, July, 1977.
- (3) 'The Kiwi', Volume 32, page 23, March, 1983.
- (4) Gibbons' Stamp Monthly, Volume V, page 78, January, 1932, and pages 171 and 186, June, 1932.
- (5) 'The Kiwi', Volume XXXI, page 12, January, 1982.

CHRISTCHURCH EXHIBITION PUBLICITY LABELS

DAVID CHURCHILL

Since last writing about this subject more than three years ago in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXIX, page 37, March, 1980, several more interesting pieces of information have come to light and the following summarises the latest developments.

In an article by J.W.Brodie, published in the New Zealand Stamp Collector, Volume 60, page 78, we learn from a reference collection of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand the sheet format of the labels. These are:-

- Label number 2 - six (?) rows of seven labels.
- Label number 3 - four rows of five labels.
- Label number 4 - five rows of five labels.
- Label number 5 - five rows of five labels.
- Label number 7 - four rows of five labels.

The article also lists several varieties which are known to exist. The most significant are what could be proofs or colour trials of Label number 7, on thick, surfaced, vertical mesh paper. There are registration crosses at each corner of the design and examples have been seen in issued colours, imperf., and with scarlet replacing the light violet, and light green the silver,

perf. line 12. The Label number 7 has also been seen with the vertical perforations missing between the first and second vertical rows, and other copies have been noted with the light violet colour missing. Labels number 3 and number 4 are known imperf.

On many labels in the sheets minor consistent flaws are apparent. On Label number 4, for example, at Row 1, number 1 there is a break in the innermost coloured circle at the bottom; Row 3, number 1 has the top of the A of APL filled; Row 4, number 5 has a white dot below the S of CHRISTCHURCH.

I have recently been fortunate to acquire a sheet of Label number 2 complete with all selvages. This is possibly unique as it has double perforations between vertical rows 4 and 5. From this I can state that the sheet format is four rows of seven, not six as suggested above. A registration cross appears on the bottom selvedge below Row 4, number 4, extending partly beneath Row 4, number 3 and Row 4, number 5. The sheet shows flaws on the labels at almost every position and these are listed below. Those flaws described on Row 1, numbers 1, 2 and 3, and on Row 2, numbers 1, 2 and 3 have been verified from a positional block in my collection.

I have also acquired four blocks of Label number 3 which purport to, and apparently do, reconstruct a full sheet - four rows of five - with only the top selvedge missing. Flaws here are not so prolific and those noted are again listed below.

I appeal to any Member who has any positional blocks of any of these labels to advise me of apparent flaws so that our knowledge may continue to expand.

LABEL NUMBER 1 2

- Row 1, number 1 - small spot of light brown colour on point of man's chin.
- Row 1, number 2 - a) prominent blue spot in upper part of left 2.
b) break in blue line immediately below the H of HAEREMAI.
- Row 1, number 3 - first dot above corner at bottom left of outer frame of dots almost non-existent.
- Row 1, number 4 - no varieties noted.
- Row 1, number 5 - a) break at 3 o'clock in circle around left 2.
b) two small breaks in brown outer frame line at right level with IB of EXHIBITION.
- Row 1, number 6 - white mark in blue background to left of first C of CHRISTCHURCH.
- Row 1, number 7 - break at 2 o'clock in outer part of circle around left 2.
- Row 2, number 1 - no varieties noted.
- Row 2, number 2 - small indentation at 3 o'clock in circle around left 2. The break is not as complete as that described at Row 1, number 5, a).
- Row 2, number 3 - a) break in blue line below T of EXHIBITION.
b) two very weak dots in right outer frame of dots between 2 and bottom corner.
- Row 2, number 4 - white dot in blue background below last C of CHRISTCHURCH.
- Row 2, number 5 - a) break in blue line above R of INTERNATIONAL.
b) break in brown outer frame line at left level

- with N of NOV.
- Row 2, number 6 - a) indentation at 10 o'clock in blue background to left of 2.
b) absence of dark brown cross-hatching in a small area to left of right ornamental curl below EXHIBITION, resulting in a spot of light brown colour in the background.
- Row 2, number 7 - prominent white dot in blue background before first C of CHRISTCHURCH.
- Row 3, number 1 - break at 2 o'clock in inner part of circle around left 2.
- Row 3, number 2 - a) break in brown outer frame line at left level with C of CHRISTCHURCH.
b) white line running from first I of INTERNATIONAL through blue background to left.
c) third dot from top in left outer frame of dots very weak.
- Row 3, number 3 - a) small break in brown outer frame line at left level with second N of INTERNATIONAL.
b) break in brown outer frame line at left level with N of NOV. The break is larger than that at Row 2, number 5.
- Row 3, number 4 - a) white line running from first T of INTERNATIONAL through blue background to left.
b) weak dot in top left outer frame of dots.
- Row 3, number 5 - break in outer frame line at left level with R of INTERNATIONAL.
- Row 3, number 6 - a) break in blue line below last N of INTERNATIONAL.
b) blue line across left limb of O of 1906.
- Row 3, number 7 - a) white dot in blue background after N of EXHIBITION.
b) indentation at 8 o'clock in circle around left 2.
- Row 4, number 1 - no varieties noted.
- Row 4, number 2 - a) break in brown outer frame line at left level with E of INTERNATIONAL.
b) small break at 4 o'clock in circle around left 2.
- Row 4, number 3 - two small breaks at 3 o'clock and 4 o'clock in circle around left 2.
- Row 4, number 4 - break in brown outer frame line at top left.
- Row 4, number 5 - no varieties noted.
- Row 4, number 6 - a) weak and broken outer brown frame line at top, towards right corner.
b) small break at 11 o'clock in circle around left 2.
c) weak dot at bottom left in outer frame of blue dots.
d) break in brown outer frame line above imprint.
- Row 4, number 7 - no varieties noted.

LABEL NUMBER 3

- Row 1, number 2 - break in downward stroke of T of CHRISTCHURCH.
- Row 1, number 3 - doubling of right limb of U of CHRISTCHURCH.

Row 2, number 2 - break at 10 o'clock in circle around 3.
Row 2, number 4 - break in top outer frame line above D of ZEALAND.
Row 3, number 1 - break in right limb of U of CHRISTCHURCH.
Row 3, number 2 - break in bottom of last C of CHRISTCHURCH.
Row 3, number 4 - break at 11 o'clock in circle around 3.
Row 3, number 5 - break in top outer frame line above LA of ZEALAND.

No varieties noted in other sheet positions of Label number 3.

Postscript. K.J.McNAUGHT has seen a preview of this article and has written to say that he has a complete although rather grubby sheet of Label number 3. From this, he has confirmed all the flaws listed above, with the exception of Row 1, number 3, in which the U appears normal. This tends to confirm that my reconstruction of the sheet of Label number 3 is correct. The doubling of the U on my copy of Row 1, number 3 does appear rather 'ghostly' and could well be a transient variety.

CATS FEATURE ON 1983 HEALTH STAMP ISSUE.

Three popular breeds of cat feature on the New Zealand Health Stamp issue for 1983, released on 3rd August. These stamps continue the domestic animals theme which began last year with a set depicting dogs, and they are by the same designer, Maurice Conly of Waikanae.

While there are over 50 breeds of cats, for show purposes they are divided into three main classes - short-hair British, short-hair foreign and long-hair. The Health Stamp designs show one example of each: a Tabby, 24 cents plus 2 cents; a Siamese, 24 cents plus 2 cents (printed se-tenant); and a Persian, 30 cents plus 2 cents. The stamp issue has been printed by Harrison and Sons Ltd., England, using the lithography process.

Cats have been kept as pets all over the world for many centuries, but there were no cats in New Zealand before the arrival of Europeans. Since the nineteenth century cats have made up for lost time and they are now firmly established as the most popular pets in this country.

The Tabby cat illustrated on one of the 24 cents plus 2 cents stamps probably derived its name from a type of silk, also called tabby, that was originally made in Baghdad. In England the breed was once known as the Cyprus cat, suggesting a link with the trade route through the Mediterranean, and Tabbys have also been called Tiger cats.

Pedigree Tabbys must conform to a carefully laid down pattern of stripes and bars which are not always possessed by ordinary domestic pets. A well-marked Tabby will also usually have a clearly defined "spectacles" pattern around the eyes, and on the forehead a characteristic 'M' which according to legend commemorates the prophet Mohammed.

There are many legends too, concerning the origins of the various breeds of Siamese cats, an example of which appears on the second of the 24 cents plus 2 cents stamps. Development of the Siamese cat has long been attributed to Kings of Siam (now Thailand), but similar animals can be found in Western art going back some centuries. When the first standard was established in

1902 Siamese cats were described as "in every particular the reverse of the ideal short-haired cat". They are particularly admired for their svelte appearance, but it is not only their looks that make the Siamese the most popular of the pedigree breeds. They have a character all their own, are particularly intelligent and become very attached to their owners, demanding attention all the time.

The third of the featured cats, long-hairs like the Blue Persian seen on the 30 cents plus 2 cents stamp also demand a great deal of attention, if only in keeping their beautiful coats in top condition. Long-haired cats were unknown in Europe until the sixteenth century when they were imported from Asia. The long hair of domestic breeds is interestingly not known in wild members of the cat family.

Queen Victoria owned two Blue Persians and her interest and support helped set the seal of approval on pedigree cat breeding. Blue Persians are still considered by many to be the king of cats, and they are often used to improve the colour and type of other long-haired breeds.

A New Zealand Post Office Feature Article.

THE CANOE-YACHT 'TILIKUM'.

ALAN JACKSON

The photograph illustrated on page 73, entitled 'ROUND THE WORLD IN A CANOE - THE CANOE-YACHT "TILIKUM" LEAVING AUCKLAND FOR LONDON, ENGLAND' appears on an early New Zealand black and white picture postcard published by W.Beattie & Co. Auckland. It was illustrated in 'The Mail Coach', Volume 14, page 55, November, 1977, in conjunction with an article by Rev. H.Voyce on Pacific canoe voyages, but the writer was unable to provide any historical information about the boat. Recently, while researching early New Zealand newspapers, I chanced to come across a reference to the "Tilikum" in the 'Otago Witness', published at Dunedin on 11th March, 1903. From this it is clear that Auckland was only a transit point on the "Tilikum's" voyage, not the starting point.

The "Tilikum" was described as a 4-ton schooner-yacht hewn from one log of wood by Alaskan Indians in 1860. It was 38 feet long, had a 6 feet beam and 18 inches draught. Its master was Captain Voss, and with a mate he set out from Victoria, British Columbia, to sail around the world. The boat arrived in Sydney, Australia, in November, 1901, and from there went on to Melbourne, where it remained until the end of 1902. It then sailed for Bluff, in the far south of the South Island of New Zealand, and reached there on 4th March, 1903. Its next stop was Port Chalmers, the main port for Dunedin, on 7th March. It left there on 25th March, and presumably proceeded north to Auckland. The only later reference I was able to find to the boat was that it arrived at Thursday Island, off Queensland, on 2nd October, 1903.

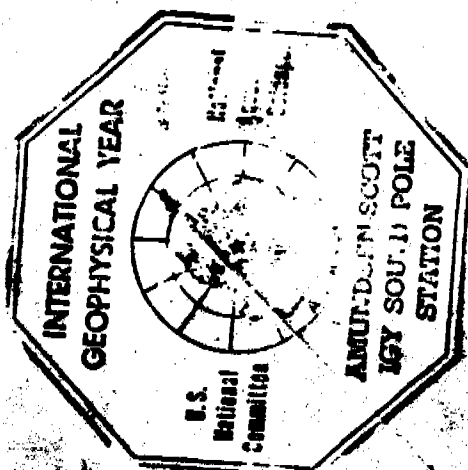
Both of the crew are visible in the photograph, one of them waving. It would be interesting to know if the yacht actually reached London, and if it carried any mail. Perhaps in those days, though, adventurers did not entertain such philatelic stunts.



INTERNATIONAL GEOPHYSICAL YEAR 1957-1958

Mr. Noel Barker
c/o Dwight Grant
36 Rue des Seigneurs
Paris France





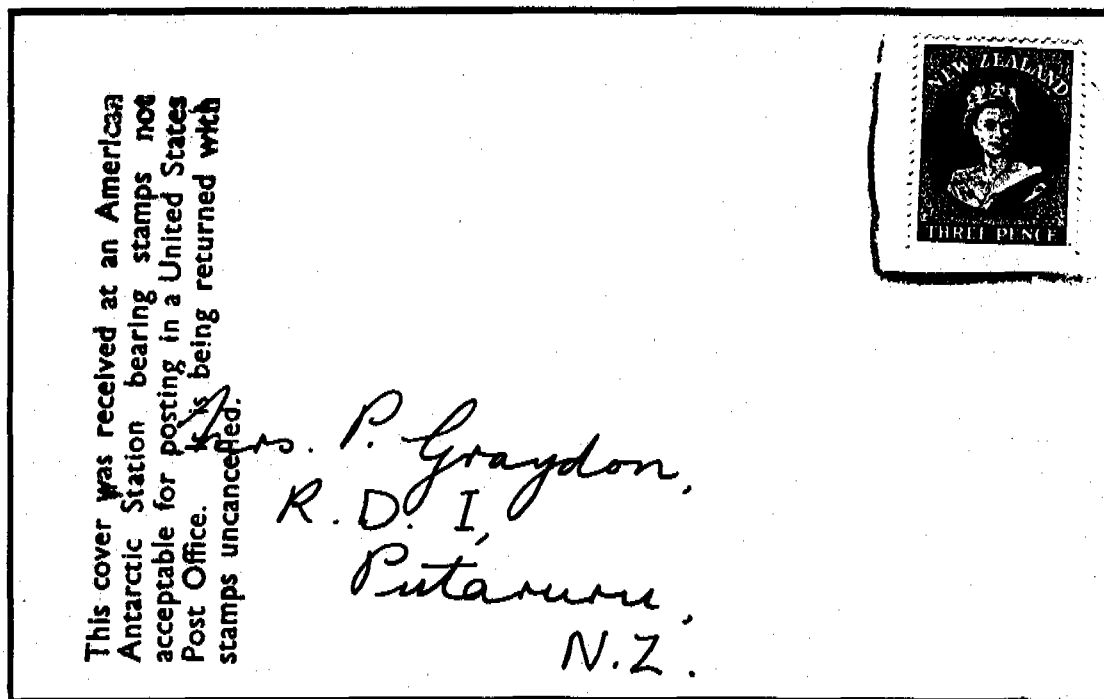
ROSS DEPENDENCY STAMPS 'USED ABROAD'

E.W.P.LEPPARD

In 1957, during the International Geophysical Year, the United States Navy with Operation Deep Freeze set up the Amundson-Scott I.G.Y. South Pole Station right at the South Pole. This had Postal facilities and normally United States stamps would have been used; it was equipped with Datestamp and Cachets.

Noel Barber, then Foreign Correspondent with the Daily Mail, accompanied Fuchs and Hillary on the Trans-Antarctic Expedition. Starting from opposite sides of Antarctica they met at the South Pole Station around Christmas, 1957. On sending his wife in Paris a Christmas Letter, he applied Ross Dependency Stamps, which were accepted by the United States Mail and received South Pole Station datestamp and cachets. Two cachets were applied on the reverse, one for the International Geophysical Year, the other for Operation Deep Freeze. An interesting example of Ross Dependency Stamps 'Used Abroad'.

NEW ZEALAND STAMPS NOT USED ABROAD !



Quite independantly of the article written above, our member G.W.HARRISON has sent in the cover illustrated above. It shows how mail sent to an American Antarctic Station that does not bear the stamps of the U.S.A. was treated in 1955. Were the regulations changed for the International Geophysical Year, or was the cover posted at the I.G.Y. South Pole Station discussed above granted exemption from the regulations?