



The Kiwi



The Official Organ of the NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY of GREAT BRITAIN.

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and to NEW ZEALAND PHILATELIC FEDERATION

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WHOLE 237

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 27TH MARCH, 1993,
AT THE Y.W.C.A. CENTRAL CLUB, 16 - 22, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,
LONDON, WC1B 3LR, STARTING AT 2.30 P.M.

THE ANNUAL COMPETITION WILL TAKE PLACE, DETAILS OF WHICH MAY
BE FOUND ON PAGES 7 AND 8 OF THE LAST ISSUE OF 'THE KIWI'
WHILE THE JUDGING TAKES PLACE, ALLAN McKELLAR WILL GIVE A DISPLAY
ENTITLED 'MODERN MISCELLANY'

A GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT ADVERTISING CARD

ON PUBLIC SERVICE ONLY.

*These are Post Cards
Scattered broadcast
thru the land*

From

GEORGE THORNE, JUN.,

CHIEF AGENT,

Insurance Commissioners' Department,

Post Office, Auckland, N.Z.

SEE PAGE 43

EDITORIAL

For some time now, the displays that members give to local Philatelic Societies have been announced through these pages. This column was started so that any other member within travelling distance would have the opportunity to see the displays give. It is very difficult to assess just how beneficial this service is, but please still let me know if you are going to give such a show, so that it can be announced.

The next meeting will be the Annual Competition. Your Officers and Committee are hoping for many entries to lay before our distinguished Judge. Do please have a go.

ALLAN P. BERRY

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

E.G.Barber, 'Ananda', Pennymead Rise,
East Horsley, Surrey, KT24 5AL.
R.W.Barber, 150, Hinton Way, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB2 5AL.
K.H.Chandler, 57, Seabright, West Parade,
Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 3QT.
J.C.Daneman, 5421, Corkhill Drive, Dayton, OH 45424-4707, U.S.A.
C.Dodwell, 63, Oglander Road, London, SE15 4DD.
R.Faith, 48, Wathen Road, Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire, CV32 5UZ.
W.A.Williges, P.O.Box 6419, Concord, CA 94524, U.S.A.

RESIGNED

G.A.Crump, 16, Springbank Way, Cheltenham, Glos., GL51 0LQ.
A.Haydock, 5, Taskers Croft, Wiswell, Whalley,
Blackburn, Lancs., BB6 9BY.
A.M.Williams, 3, Avenue Road, Kings Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 5NN.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

B.Babister, 3, Oakdene Court,
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, KT12 1PD.
(previously of Esher.)
R.J.E.Jenkins, Flat 29, Lindsay Park, Lindsay Road,
Branksome Park, Poole, Dorset, BN13 6AN.
(previously of Boyatt Wood, Eastleigh, Hants.)
J.Lindley, 32, Woodhill Fold, Bury, Lancs., BL8 1UY.
(Previously of Unsworth, Bury.)
T.MacLaren, Oxford Cinderellas, Rue Grehan, Akaroa,
Banks Peninsula, New Zealand.
(previously of Oxford, North Canterbury, New Zealand.)
G.F.Turner, 22, Westbrook Park, Weston, Bath, Avon, BA1 4DA.
(previously of Harpenden, Herts.)
B.J.Wilson, 'Christleton', Gainsborough Drive,
Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 6DS.
(previously of Christleton, Chester.)

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, 30TH JANUARY, 1993

C.R.P.GOODWIN - NEW ZEALAND HIGHLIGHTS AND SIDELIGHTS

The meeting was opened at 2.30 p.m. by our Chairman, Alan Gardiner, with 19 members present, including John Mowbray, head of the famous New Zealand Auction House.

The Chairman then introduced Mr. Goodwin, inviting him to show what was described as only 10% of his full collection. He proposed to show merely representative sheets from it. Because of the great amount of material, the display would be divided chronologically into three sections, with the 'back of the book' material at the end.

The display began with sheets of Chalon Head issues, including a repair on a strip of the 6d. value, and a printers sample from Perkins Bacon in brown, but without value. The Newspaper stamp was represented by a wrapper and fine mint examples of the first printings. There were plentiful mint copies of the First Sideface issues, and with the Second Sidefaces, major flaws, Adsons and postal stationery. The First Pictorials were shown with proofs, double perfs., imperf. between pairs and repaired perforations. When showing the Penny Universals, the speaker illustrated the difficulties in sorting out the printings and detecting and plating the re-entries. Most variations were shown, including large blocks, the Waterlow 1 and Waterlow 2 plate markings, mixed perforations and the Slot Machine trial stamps. The Christchurch Exhibition set was present with the Exhibition cancellation and a selection of the advertising labels. For the Penny Dominion, there were a range of proofs, booklet plates with a variety of marginal markings, and a variety of plate flaws.

The definitives of King Edward VII were shown with different perforations and two-perf. pairs, and the stamps overprinted for the Auckland Exhibition. The stamps of King George V were shown with the two-perf. pairs mounted between singles showing the different gauges. These were followed by a Forces Letter from the First World War, the Dunedin Exhibition with the 'POSTAGF' flaw and the beautiful Victory stamps. The first Health Stamps were shown, the slogan being changed from 'Help Stamp Out Tuberculosis' to 'Help Promote Health', as it was thought the first caused offence. The first Air Mail set was graced by a copy of the rare 3d. value perf. 14 x 15. Various First Flight covers were followed by the Second Pictorial issue. Here there was the start of a specialised study of the 2/- value, including the COQK flaw. Plate 1 and Plate 2 of the 1936 Health Stamps were shown on covers signed by James Berry, the designer. The King George VI definitives came next, with a complete set of coil pairs with the numbers rubber stamped, concerning which a lucid explanation was given. There was a Plate Proof block of four of the stamps prepared for the Royal Visit but never issued as the visit was cancelled because of the King's illness. Railway Stamps, Pigeon Post Stamps, Prisoner-of-War letter sheets and covers bearing stamps used by New Zealand Forces in Egypt were followed by a range of the definitives in Plate Blocks of six.

The last section was started with the Queen Elizabeth II issue on First Day Cover, including the 'Queen on Horseback' stamps. The well known overprint error on the 1½d. value with stars was also present. The 1960 Pictorials were shown with Chambon perforations, plate flaws, and a nice mini-study of the work of different printers employed during this period. There was then a representative showing of the Postage Dues, the Life Insurance stamps, the Long Type Fiscal stamps and the later Arms Type Fiscal stamps. So far as the Fiscal stamps were concerned, the speaker

suggested that they could be collected fiscally used, and indeed it was a way of obtaining examples of otherwise rare stamps.

All the normal varieties of the Official stamps came next, including those associated with the overprinting, such as the 'no stop' varieties. All types of the Express Delivery stamp were shown, and the display concluded with two covers carrying the 'Return to Sender' cachet boxed in a pointing finger, and a series of blocks of the 1971 Christmas stamps showing a travelling flaw, caused it was thought by a piece of fluff gradually moving across the printing cylinder.

The Chairman expressed the gratitude of those present for the pleasure of seeing a thoroughly comprehensive display, which was endorsed in the usual manner. The Meeting was closed at 4.45 p.m.

M.G.B.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

New Zealand's Second Pictorial Issue - The 1935 Pictorials, by Graham Sanders. Copies are marked 'DRAFT'. Available from the Author at P.O.Box 13-608, Christchurch, New Zealand, price NZ\$32-50, plus postage. Credit Cards accepted.

1946 Peace Issue of New Zealand Stamps, by Graham Sanders. Copies are marked 'DRAFT'. Available from the Author at P.O.Box 13-608, Christchurch, New Zealand, price NZ\$13-50, plus postage. Credit Cards accepted.

Information suggests that both the above publications have been prepared by the Author for distribution to interested collectors for comment, so that more definitive versions can be prepared in the future.

1993 A.C.S. Colour Catalogue New Zealand Stamps, 16th Edition. Published by Auckland City Stamps, P.O.Box 3496, Auckland, New Zealand. A simplified listing of New Zealand stamps from 1855 to April, 1993. Includes Framas, four pages of Cinderellas, and Pitcairn Island. Price given by the Publishers is NZ\$5-00, but copies are available from normal distribution outlets in Australia, Great Britain and the United States of America. Any one having difficulty obtaining a copy should write to the Publishers.

DISPLAYS TO LOCAL SOCIETIES

Our member Wally Jackson will be giving a display of the Second Pictorial Definitives and Postal Stationery to the Leicester Philatelic Society on Tuesday, 6th April, 1993. The Society meets at the Hall of the Ancient Order of Foresters, Ground Floor, St. Nicholas Circus, Leicester, and the meetings start at 7.15 p.m.

Allan Berry will be giving a display of New Zealand material to the Gravesend and District Stamp Club on Friday, 19th March, 1993. The Club meets at Anglo-Saxons Hall, Berkley Street, Gravesend, and the meetings start at 8.00 p.m.

Ernie Leppard will be giving a display to the Bath Philatelic Society on Wednesday, 28th April, 1993. The Society meets at the Bath Postal Museum, 8, Broad Street, Bath, and the meetings start at 7.30 p.m.

FINDINGS FROM FILES - A COMMENT

DAVID BIGNELL, Operations Manager, Stamps & Collectibles, New Zealand Post Limited, has written concerning the last part of 'Findings From Files' published in 'The Kiwi', Volume 41, page 132, November, 1992. This was Part 2 of the extract related to the 'Paper for the 1935 Pictorial Stamps'. He says:-

"I found your article most interesting. We have a different way of obtaining paper for stamps today. Very briefly we include in our tender documents to prospective stamp printers the weight of paper we require (usually 103/104 gsm), and the phosphor reading which must be given by the finished stamp product. Sourcing the paper is the stamp printer's responsibility. The cost is included in the stamp printers's quotations to us.

"One thing I find daunting as I read carefully researched articles such as your own, is that one day somebody may scrutinize the documents relating to my own work and then seek to publish articles about it.

"I am sure that by now others have pointed out the '1992' apparent misquotes on pages 135 and 136."

For my own part, I find these comments of interest. Dealing with the last point first, the error in the year dates that David has pointed out on pages 135 and 136 is entirely mine. I would ask all to correct my mistakes.

The second point which is of interest is that it is now the printers responsibility to source the paper on which modern stamps are printed, working only to a specification provided. This almost certainly explains the variations that are found in modern issues.

I do not think that David need be too concerned about the publication at some time in the future of 'Findings from Files' relating to his own work. While I do wish him long life and happiness, I cannot see it happening for at least thirty years, the time scale to which we work in the United Kingdom. At least by that time his bosses will no longer care, I am sure!

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST DECIMAL DEFINITIVES OF NEW ZEALAND

R.G.DARGE

Continued from Volume 42, page 11.

TWENTY CENT MEAT INDUSTRY

The stamp was issued on the 8th July, 1969, as part of the Export set.

The design was prepared by the Public Relations Division of the Post Office and features in the left panel, a sling of meat being loaded into a ship, and cows grazing in the right panel.

The printing, by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., required four cylinders, being black, blue, red and yellow and numbered 1111 and 111111. The sheet value is \$20.

The sheet layout is similar to the 7 cent value of the Export Set. The stamp has no watermark.

The sheets were perforated in a similar manner to the 8 cent value of the Export Set, with the exception that sheets have yet to be found perforated from the top.

One unusual variety shows chalk has flaked from the paper before printing. When printed it has taken place over the thin spots.

A number of sheets were used for the manufacture of counter coils. The make-up is similar to the 10 cent value of the Export Set.

20 cent Meat Industry varieties.

Chalk flaked from paper. Printing over thin spots.

TWENTY FIVE CENT BUTTER MAKING

The stamp depicts the process of butter making, one of the chief exports of New Zealand. It is similar to the 2/6 designed by L.C.Mitchell.

The printing by Harrison & Sons Ltd. required two cylinders, being yellow and brown, and numbered 1A1A.

The single sheets of 100 stamps in 10 rows of 10 were perforated from the top by the same double comb head used for the 20 cent Maori Rock Drawing and measuring 14.7 x 14. The watermark appears upright on the stamps.

The imprint and cylinder numbers appear on the bottom selvedge, below the first two and the third stamps respectively.

A few sheets showing a partial double perforation have been seen with the holes extending into the top row of stamps. A paper crease through vertical rows 1 - 8 is known in two sheets.

The stamp was withdrawn on the 10th December, 1968, and replaced with a new design.

25 cent Butter Making varieties.

1A1A Row 8, stamp 6 Dot above second 'A' of 'ZEALAND'.

Partial double perforations.

Paper crease.



Row 8, stamp 6

1A1A

TWENTY FIVE CENT DAIRY INDUSTRY

On the 10th December, 1968, this, the second of the Export Set was issued in the two panel horizontal format. The design was produced by the Post Office Publicity Section.

The left panel has cows grazing in a field with Mount Egmont in the background and the right panel has a sling of butter boxes being loaded into the S.S.Surrey.

The printing by Harrison & Sons Ltd. required four cylinders, being yellow, blue, brown and black, and numbered 1A1A1A1A.

The sheet layout was similar to the old value with one major exception. The missing 'O' of the value has been corrected but an error has now crept into the dollar sign, which shows two bars,

where before there was one.

A new double comb head was used for the perforating with the sheets being fed into the comb head from the right selvedge and measuring 14.7 x 14.

25 cent Dairy Industry varieties.

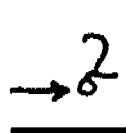
1A1A1A1A Row 1, stamp 6 Broken frame line centre right.

Row 4, stamp 6 Flaw below '2' of '25'.

Partial double perforation.



Row 1, stamp 6
1A1A1A1A



Row 4, stamp 6
1A1A1A1A

FINDINGS FROM FILES

PAPER FOR THE 1935 PICTORIAL STAMPS - PART 3

ALLAN P. BERRY

The story continues from page 140 of Volume 41 of 'The Kiwi' with a letter from the Post Office Stores Department to the New Zealand High Commission, dated 7th March, 1933. This reads:-

"With reference to your letter of the 6th instant, I am arranging with Messrs. De La Rue to submit proofs of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. master dies on the samples of postcard, lettercard and newspaper wrapper which you have been able to send to me. As soon as the proofs have been obtained I will let you know, so that you can examine them. The two small bromide photographs were as you state in the hands of Messrs. De La Rue.

"With regard to the numbering of the sheets of watermarked paper by Messrs. Wiggins Teape, I think it will be quite sufficient if the firm start numbering the sheets from one up. The numbering to be placed in the top right hand corner of each sheet. It will not be necessary, in my opinion, to have an index letter preceding the figures. When the sample sheets are available it will be necessary for Messrs. Waterlows to give their approval and for an analysis to be furnished by the Government Laboratory. These two matters we will endeavour to settle as quickly as possible but in case of necessity an extension of the delivery date could no doubt be agreed.

"If Messrs. Waterlows do actually exceed the 5% spoilage allowance it will be quite satisfactory for them to draw on the surplus from the mill making [at their expense].

There follows a letter from Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Export) Limited, dated 20th March, 1933, and addressed to the Post Office Stores Department. This states:-

High Commissioner for New Zealand.

"We have pleasure in enclosing twelve outturn sheets representing the first quantity of paper which we have run off for the above mentioned order, and we trust that these will meet with your entire approval.

"Kindly advise us at your convenience, when the paper has been passed, in order that we may proceed with the manufacture of the bulk of this order."

There are two notes on this letter. One, in pencil, notes '13 sheets received numbered 2 - 14'. The second at the bottom of the letter, in ink, notes '11 sheets in (name)'s safe, 2 sheets destroyed by Govt. Laby. (initials) 15/8/34'. This letter is acknowledged by a reply dated 22nd March, 1933, saying:-

"I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant enclosing 13 sheets of watermarked paper for the High Commissioner for New Zealand for approval. Your letter advises 12 sheets, but 13 sheets were received here numbered 2 to 14.

"As soon as the paper has been examined, a further communication will be sent to you."

There follows a letter from the Post Office Stores Department dated 22nd March, 1933, addressed to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., saying:-

"With reference to your Contract with the High Commissioner for New Zealand for the supply of photogravure stamps, I now enclose five specimen sheets of the watermarked paper which have been submitted by the paper manufacturer for approval. I shall be glad if you will, at your early convenience, intimate whether the printing surface is satisfactory and to perforate one or two sheets for the purpose of ascertaining whether the perforation may be regarded as suitable in every way. Any other observations you may wish to make on the paper will be appreciated."

Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Export) Limited were clearly getting rather concerned about the time it was taking to gain approval for the paper they had submitted. This is apparent from the next letter on the file, which is from that firm to the Post Office Stores Department, dated 31st March, 1933. It reads:-

High Commissioner for New Zealand.

"We would refer you to our letter of the 20th instant with regard to the above, and we should be glad if you would kindly advise us whether you can see your way to let us have your report on this making before very long, as we are advised that this order is extremely urgent.

"We trust we are not inconveniencing you in this, but we would like to mention that we have only so far run off a portion of the making as a trial and we do not wish to disappoint the High Commissioner with regard to delivery of the bulk."

An ink written note on the letter says 'Waterlows report promised for tomorrow (initials) 3/4/33'. Indeed, the next letter on the file is from Waterlow & Sons Limited, it is dated 3rd April, 1933, and is addressed to the Post Office Stores

Department. It reads:-

"Referring to your letter of the 22nd ultimo, enclosing five specimen sheets of watermarked paper, we have tested the paper for printing surface, and find it quite satisfactory, but the bulk supply must not have less surface than the sample sheets. The paper also appears satisfactory for perforation, the sample sheets taking the operation cleanly.

"We return herewith the five sheets."

Against the end of the last sentence there is a pencil note which reads 'In my cupboard in roll (initials)'. The following letter is an acknowledgment of the one just quoted, and reads:-

"With reference to your letter of the 3rd instant, I note that the specimen sheets of watermarked stamp paper for the New Zealand stamps are quite satisfactory and I thank you for testing them. Five sample sheets have been duly received."

There follows a letter from the Post Office Stores Department to Messrs. Wiggins Teape & Alex Pirie (Export), Ltd., dated 4th April, 1933, which reads:-

"In reply to your letter of the 31st ultimo, reference relative to watermarked paper to be supplied to the High Commissioner for New Zealand, I have to inform you that the sample sheets of paper are being examined and analysed and, as soon as the result is known, a further communication will be sent to you, probably at the end of the week."

As a complete diversion, the next letter on the file is from the London Midland and Scottish Railway Company (Northern Division), Goods Department, Lothian Road Station, Edinburgh. It is addressed to the Controller of the Post Office Stores Department, Edinburgh, and is dated 15th March, 1933. It reads:-

"On 28th February you handed us one case Dandy roll for conveyance to Messrs Wiggins Teape & Alex. Pirie Ltd Bucksburn carriage to be paid by the High Commissioner for New Zealand.

"Please note it is against regulations to refer to a third party for payment and shall be obliged if you will send me a Post Office conveyance note and adjust matter direct with High Commr. for New Zealand."

The letter carries the cachet of the Post Office Stores Department, Edinburgh, dated 16 MCH 33. A terse letter in reply dated 24th March, 1933, is next on file, reading:-

"In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, I enclose herewith a Post Office conveyance note to cover the Dandy Roll dispatched to Messrs. Wiggins Teape, Bucksburn, on the 28th ultimo."

The next letter is a request from the Post Office Stores Department in London to the Government Chemist, Government Laboratory, dated 22nd March, 1933. This reads:-

"I beg to forward herewith two sheets of New Zealand Watermarked Paper. Perhaps you will be good enough to report on the analysis of the paper on the usual lines, also on its

fastness to light, and upon the quantity and quality of the gum and as regards the presence in it of any poisonous or deleterious matter.

"I shall be glad if you will also sign and return the annexed receipt."

The receipt requested is the next document on the file, and reads, simply, 'Received from the Controller, Post Office Stores Department, Stamp Section, two sheets of New Zealand Watermarked Paper for examination.' The next document is a piece of paper with notes written on it by hand in ink. It reads:-

	<u>New Zealand WM. Paper</u>	
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Weight	15.5	15.1
21" x 11½"		
	Average 15.3	
Thickness	3.5 mils	
Bursting Strength	28.	29.
	30.	28.
	27.5	25.
	30.	28.
	25.	25.
	30.5	31.
	<u>28.5</u>	<u>27.66</u>

Average 28.08 lbs per square inch

There follows a request, dated 22nd March, 1933, from the Post Office Stores Department to the Director of Stamping, which reads:-

"I should be glad if you would be good enough to have the accompanying two gummed sheets of New Zealand Watermarked Paper tested as regards 'Breaking Strain' and 'stretch' and inform me of the result.

"When replying please return the sample sheets."

The reply is on the same sheet, and reads:-

"I have had the paper tested with the following results:-

	<u>Breaking strain</u>	<u>Stretch</u>
Machine direction	14.3 lbs	3.4%
Across	7.92 lbs	5.4%

"The paper is returned herewith."

The letter carries two different cachets of the Stamping Department, one dated 22 MAR 1933, and the second dated 28 MAR 1933. The paper also has a pencil note 'Has Lab report been received yet? (initials) 28/3'. In fact, this is the next document on the file, using the same printed format of document as reported previously. The Laboratory Reference Number is 4340. The report is dated 8th April, 1933, and reads:-

Gum per 76 Sq. Ins.

1.04 grams.

"The paper is gummed with gum arabic. The adhesive tests were satisfactory. No evidence was afforded of the presence of lead or of any other deleterious substance.

"The analysis of the degummed paper is as follows:-

Average Weight of 9 s.ins.	...	...	0.3945 gram
Average thickness	...	...	0.090 mm.
Mineral matter (calculated on dry paper)			1.6 per cent.
Resin	(	" " " " )	1.4 " "
Gelatin	(	" " " " )	1.5 " "
Starch	(	" " " " )	nil. " "
Cellulose	(	" " " " )	90.4 " "

"The paper is composed of chemical wood, rag and esparto.

"The exposure test is attached."

The exposure test paper is the next document on the file, and consists, once again, of two pieces of the paper gummed to a third piece. The whole is labelled 'New Zealand Watermarked Paper. P.O. 4340', and the left hand piece of paper is labelled beneath 'Original', and that on the right 'Exposed'. Once again, the piece on the right has a yellow tinge compared with the piece on the left. Clearly, the Laboratory Report did not give sufficient information, as the following letter on the file, dated 12th April, 1933, is once again from the Post Office Stores Department to the Government Laboratory. It reads:-

"With reference to your report Laboratory No. 4340 and this Department's reference No. 352, for the examination of samples of New Zealand watermarked paper, I have to inform you that, in accordance with the specification for this paper, the furnish is to consists of cotton rag not less than 50%; chemical wood and/or esparto not more than 50%; and I shall be glad to know whether the cellulose conforms to the specifications in these respects.

The reply from the Government Laboratory follows, dated 18th April, 1933, and reading:-

"The cellulose of the paper consists of approximately 50% cotton rag, remainder chemical wood and esparto, and conforms to the requirements of the specification."

On this report, there is a note written in ink, which reads:-

"Wiggins Teape advised by 'phone that the paper is satisfactory in every respect but that further manufacture must be suspended until they receive a letter from the High Commissioner for New Zealand. (initials) 20/4/33."

The reason for the delay in the manufacture of the paper becomes apparent from the next letter on the file. It is from the Trade and Produce Officer at the New Zealand High Commission, and is addressed to Messrs. Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Export) Ltd., and is dated 25th April, 1933. It states:-

"Further to my letter of the 9th March, I am now directed by the High Commissioner to state that his Government have decided

to abandon the photogravure process in connection with the new issue of stamps, and to adopt the engraved process. As it is possible that different surfacing will be required for the latter, I shall be glad if you will hold the matter in abeyance until further advised.

"The New Zealand Government have approved the printing of the 9d denomination by the lithographic process, and a small portion of the half ton trial make will probably be required by Messrs. Waterlow, assuming that the surfacing is entirely satisfactory for that process. I am in communication with them on the subject, and hope to write you further in the course of next week."

There follows a piece of paper which has obviously passed to and fro between the Controllers of the Post Office Stores Departments in Edinburgh and London, each writing and dating a memo or reply. It is a little confusing to sort out, but reads as follows:-

"13/7/33 Dear ..., We have today received a Dandy Roll from Alexander Pirie, Aberdeen. What do we do with it? (initials)"

"This enquiry crossed mine of same date. Exchange of dandy rolls between Pirie of Aberdeen and Cowans of Penicuik. (initials)"

"Dear ..., Have you completed the exchange now? If so perhaps you can let me have the papers back. (initials) 24/7/33"

"Dear ..., Papers herewith. We have not had the Dandy Roll back from Cowans yet. I spoke to Cowans this morning and they said they had not been instructed to send it to us but would do so. In the circs. I will await your further confirmation, after getting it, before sending it on to Stoneywood. (initials) 25/7/33"

"Dear ..., Dandy roll 1392 should be sent to Stoneywood as soon as it is received from Cowans and ... assures me that Cowans were told to send it to you (vide his letter of 12th July) (initials) 27/7"

"Dear ..., The roll returned by Cowans was sent on to Stoneywood yesterday. (initials) 29/7"

Much of this exchange of notes is clarified by the subsequent letters on the file. The first is from the Trade and Produce Officer at the New Zealand High Commission to the Post Office Stores Department, dated 4th July, 1933. It reads:-

"Messrs. Alex. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., have advised the High Commissioner that they have received instructions from Wellington to ship as soon as possible 500 reams of gummed, coated and numbered stamp paper. It will, therefore, be necessary for them to have the dandy roll which was loaned to Messrs. Wiggins Teape in accordance with the arrangement referred to in your letter of the 16th February on the file dealing with the new issue of photogravure stamps I [propose] have, therefore, [to ask] asked Messrs. Wiggins Teape to deliver the dandy as soon as possible to the Controller, Post Office Stores Department, Edinburgh, for transfer to Messrs. Alex.

Cowan & Sons, Ltd., Valleyfield Mills, Penicuik, Scotland, all charges to this office. I trust this will be in order."

The reply, dated 11th July, 1933, follows on the file, stating:-

"With reference to your letter of the 4th instant relative to the transfer of the Dandy Roll from Messrs. Wiggins, Teape to Messrs. Cowan & Sons, I have today been advised by our people at the Russell Road Depot, Edinburgh, that the Dandy Roll was received by them from Messrs. Wiggins Teape on the 8th instant and despatched to Messrs. Cowan on that day."

There was an immediate response from the New Zealand High Commission, dated 12th July, 1933. It reads:-

"Thanks for your letter of the 11th instant, regarding the dandy roll, but Messrs. Cowan phoned me yesterday to the effect that the wrong roll had been returned. The roll they loaned was numbered 19306 and was longer than No. 1392 which has been sent to them in error. I have advised Messrs. Wiggins Teape accordingly and have asked them to forward the correct roll immediately. I have also asked Messrs. Cowans to return No. 1392 to the Post Office Stores Department in Edinburgh. Will you kindly advise the latter of the mistake and ask them to forward the correct roll as soon as they receive it from Stoneywood."

On this letter there is a pen written note. It reads:-

"Dear ..., Please see. This is very puzzling. I wasn't aware that Wiggins Teape held any N.Z dandy roll other than the one transferred to them by Cowans numbered 19306 (initials) 13/7/33"

On the reverse there is a reply, which immediately indicates that notes are being exchanged between the Controllers of the Post Office Stores Departments in Edinburgh and London. The reply reads:-

Dear ..., The Roll received from Stoneywood yesterday (no doubt 19306) has been sent on to Cowans Penicuik today. You will no doubt tell us how to dispose of No. 1392 when returned by Cowans. (initials) 14/7/33"

The reply note reads:-

Dear ..., Dandy Roll 1392 should be returned to Wiggins Teape & Alex Pirie Ltd, Stoneywood Works, Bucksburn, Aberdeenshire. (initials) 15/7/33"

The next series of letters on the file will be published in a subsequent issue of 'The Kiwi'. I am very grateful to the National Postal Museum for allowing access to these files, and for permission to publish extracts from them.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Our Member ROBIN STARTUP has written to comment on two subjects that have been published in 'The Kiwi'.

HEALTH CAMP DATE STAMPS

The original article was published in 'The Kiwi', Volume 41, page 127, November, 1992. Readers may not be aware that certain of

the health camp post offices had two current date stamps, or that two date stamps were held for those camps. This is known for Roxburgh and Otaki, where both camps are quite a distance from the district Chief Post Office. For Roxburgh one date stamp was sent to the Postmaster Roxburgh for use at the local camp on 'the' day while the second was held at the Chief Post Office Dunedin for use on 'camp' covers posted locally or sent in from around the country. This certainly applied to the 'sun-rays' type date stamps. Another area which could be looked at by collectors is registered mail from the camps. As they were post offices registered letters were accepted, and I have examples in my collection.

PERMANENT PICTORIAL DATESTAMPS

The notification to which I refer was published in 'The Kiwi', Volume 41, page 122, November, 1992. I did not recognise the building illustrated and as it was not mentioned in the New Zealand Post Limited leaflet, I made enquiries. The building is Mansion House, Kawau Island, the historic home of the former Governor of New Zealand, Sir George Grey. The post office on the island, now a popular seaside residential area, closed some years back and mail is sent to Warkworth thrice weekly by rural private bag service. The mail, and that posted at the Sandspit Ferry area on the mainland, is cancelled with the new date stamp.

I have not looked at the Bethlehem pictorial date stamp yet but this is obviously designed for use on the Christmas mails sent there specially to get the Bethlehem mark.

CAVEAT LECTOR - INSTALMENT SEVEN - PART TWO

ALAN GARDINER

Since Instalment Seven was published in 'The Kiwi', Volume 41, page 115, September, 1992, a little more information has been found with regard to Kiwis who became Prisoners of War while flying with the Royal Flying Corps in World War One.

Lieutenant William Wallace Allison Burn was born in Melbourne and not in Queensland, as previously reported. Educated at Christchurch Boys High School, he entered the New Zealand Permanent Force in 1911 and was commissioned in the New Zealand Staff Corps. In August, 1912, he was sent to England to learn to fly, and was awarded Royal Aero Club Certificate No. 746 at the Central Flying School, Upavon. He also spent some time at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough., then returned to New Zealand. Following the outbreak of war he was seconded to the Indian Army, which was responsible for providing the expeditionary force for the Mesopotamia campaign. Whilst with the Australian Half-Flight, under Major Reilly, he and his Australian companion, Lieutenant G.P.Merz, were flying on a reconnaissance mission to Nasiriyeh when engine failure caused them to land about 20 miles north of Abu Salibiq on 30th July, 1915. The two airmen were killed after a lengthy fight with Arabs and their bodies were never recovered. So Burn was never a Prisoner of War. A memorial at Basra lists the names of those lost in Mesopotamia during World War One and who have no known grave. Merz is listed, but, for some reason, Burn's name was not known to the Commonwealth War Graves

Commission and was omitted. However, thanks to the efforts of Squadron Leader Chris M. Hobson, of the Royal Air Force Staff College, Bracknell, the matter has been investigated by the New Zealand authorities and Burn's name will be added to the memorial by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission - when safe access to the memorial can be assured.

To Major Hugh L. Reilly, Captain T.W.White (actually Second Lieutenant at the time), and E.H.Garland, I have nothing to add, but one further name has sprung into sight. Lieutenant Lowell Yerex was a New Zealander who was a Prisoner of War from 5th September, 1918, until the end of the war, but his origins are still to be unearthed. He appears to have gone to the United States after the war, and is reported as having 'barn-stormed' there before joining, as a pilot, the Corporation de Aeronautica de Transportes (C.A.T.), founded by Theodore Hull, a Los Angeles banker, to connect Mexico City with El Paso. The Company failed when Hull was killed in an air crash in 1931. Yerex then founded, in 1931, his own airline, Transportes Aeros Centro-Americanos (T.A.C.A.), based in British Honduras. Despite his efforts, he gradually lost his routes to the mighty Pan American Airways. Not to be deterred, he founded British West Indian Airways (B.W.I.A.) in 1941. B.W.I.A. was sold to British South American Airways in the post-war years. So where did Yerex come from and what happened to him? Any help would be appreciated, as would any information on other New Zealand airmen who became Prisoners of War.

WANGANUI RIVER MAILS

R.M.STARTUP

Continued from page 21.

Hatrick advised the Post Office on 28th April, 1900, that he was planning to extend his river service to Tangarakau and in 1901 light launches were used to run from Pipiriki to Putikituna. A post office was opened at Putikituna from 1st June, 1901, and in October one of the settlers offered to carry mails from the Wanganui river landing to Putikituna and Whangamomona, for £40-00 a year. Maintenance of the Tangarakau proved too much of a burden and after running a hit-and-miss launch service with limited patronage it was abandoned in the 1902 winter. By this time the pack-track had been opened to the Wanganui river landing and settlers could now obtain their supplies through either Whangamomona or from the Wanganui. However, the main track through to Ohura, and north to Te Kuiti, had not been opened though Hatrick had been relying on this to generate tourist traffic. The Tangarakau river was abandoned for river services in 1904 after floods filled the channel with snags and trees.

When the Main Trunk Railway from the north was opened to Taumarunui for railway traffic on 1st December, 1903, there was an impetus to the work in clearing the Wanganui north from Pipiriki and Tangarakau through to Taumarunui, for light draught shipping. The mail contracts from January, 1904, provided for this extension to Taumarunui. A five days a week service from Wanganui to Pipiriki, with £700-00 subsidy, during the summer, from 15th December to 30th April, and twice weekly for the rest of the year,

was contracted, as well as a weekly service from Pipiriki to Taumarunui, with £400-00 a year subsidy. Hatrick had the 'Ongarue', a 13 ton screw motor vessel, built in 1903 for upper river work and in 1901 had also added the 70 ton screw steamer 'Waione' to his fleet for use in the Pipiriki to Houseboat, or middle section.

About this time, Hatrick arranged a pigeon-post between Taumarunui and Wanganui, the loft being in his home at Ingestre Street, to obtain regular reports on the state of the river and departure time of steamers. Though the 'Ongarue' was the regular vessel on the upper river, it had to be replaced by motor canoe, either Parinui, Wakanui or Moa, whenever the water-level dropped too low to allow her to be hauled over the many rapids.

There was some uncertainty in official circles about the upper river, or Pipiriki to Taumarunui, services, for the Chief Postmaster told Wellington on 5th December, 1904, that it was experimental, while on 6th February, 1905, there was a query as to the cost of the service. Though operating regularly in 1906, the mail service was abolished about 1st September, 1906 - and then reinstated. On 16th March, 1907, the Chief Postmaster reported that the Tourist Department was proposing not to renew the Pipiriki to Taumarunui subsidy after the contract expired - possibly with the knowledge of the near completion of the Main Trunk Railway in mind.

It seems that the Wanganui to Pipiriki mail subsidy had been borne entirely by the Post Office but that the Pipiriki to Taumarunui subsidy was paid either wholly or partly by the Tourist Department, being payable firstly for the carriage of mails, and secondly for tourist passengers. The upper river contract ceased on 28th April, 1907, but on 7th May, 1907, Hatrick asked for the continuation of the £400-00 a year subsidy. The subsidised mail service was back in operation by the 1907-08 summer and continued until the service ceased.

By 1910, the upper river service had become thrice weekly and it had become necessary to provide overnight accommodation on the 90 mile stretch between Pipiriki and Taumarunui. A Houseboat, and so named, was built on a barge at Taumarunui and floated down river to a point 113 miles up river, at the junction with the Ohura river, and just off the site of the former Maori settlement of Maraekowhai. This also permitted tourists being taken into the lower Ohura river for the river scenes there. In 1913, Houseboat was linked to Taumarunui by telephone and a telephone office was opened on board under the name Maraekowhai - reverting to Houseboat in 1915. In 1926 she was floated five miles down river to the mouth of the Retaruke, with the idea that tourists could be brought here from the National Park. After being destroyed by fire on 25th August, 1933, it was replaced by a small accommodation house ashore.

The subsidy, for the complete service from Wanganui to Pipiriki and from Pipiriki to Taumarunui, was £1,100-00 in 1910, providing for a five times a week summer service and a three times a week winter service to Pipiriki and a three times a week service to Taumarunui. When the contract was renewed, by 1913, it provided a year round three times a week service to Taumarunui for an annual subsidy of £1,250-00. This contract was renewed on the same basis

during the Great War with expiry 'twelve months from the date of the termination of war'. Alexander Hatrick died on 30th July, 1918, but his firm and the river services were continued by his executors, principally Mrs. Katherine J. Hatrick.

The section from Wanganui to Pipiriki served a number of post offices in addition to Jerusalem and Pipiriki and as these opened Hatrick's steamers were required to deliver sealed bags to the new offices. However, as one or two of these were up to a quarter of a mile from the river landing, Hatrick soon protested and the postmasters then had to collect their mail at their landings. The post offices along the lower river were:-

Raorikia	14 miles west bank	June, 1912 to March, 1918
Te Tuhi	33 miles west bank	October, 1907 to May, 1913
Koroniti	37 miles east bank	April, 1898 to end
Matahiwi	42 miles east bank	November, 1908 to April, 1909
Matahiwi		
Landing	43 miles east bank	April, 1937 to end
Ranana	45 miles east bank	February, 1904 to end

thence Jerusalem and Pipiriki.

On the Pipiriki to Taumarunui section, other post offices opened and depended on the river service for their mails. These were all north of 105 miles, or the junction of the Retaruke river, and most were under the control of the Auckland, or, from 1920, of the Hamilton, Chief Postmaster. Though the mail contracts were prepared in Wanganui details of upper river requirements had to be provided by either the Chief Postmaster, or the Postmaster, Taumarunui. It should be noted that there was very little settlement between Pipiriki, 55 miles up river, and Whakahoro, 107 miles up river, and road access into this isolated area was never developed. The upper river post offices were:-

Whakahoro	107 miles east bank	1922 - 1929
Mangaohutu	112 miles east bank	1912 - 1919
Opatu	114 miles east bank	1913 - end
Kokakoriki	121 miles east bank	1911 - end
Kirikau	122 miles east bank	1911 - end
Koiro	123 miles west bank	1914 - end
Aukopae	127 miles west bank	1907 - end
Patunga	130 miles east bank	1909 - end

Apart from the post offices along the river there were numerous Maori settlements as well as quite a number of farms - located mostly on river flats or at the mouths of river or stream valleys. Though many of these were served by private mail bag from Wanganui or Pipiriki, the river mail service was unique with 'community' bags and a 'loose bag'. The Post Office rule was that a private bag could be used only by one person and members of his family or employees, but with the number of groups of people scattered along the river a 'community' bag had to be permitted. This was a private mail bag in the name of the Maori settlement and was used by all persons there. The annual charge for the bag was met by the community, either by one individual or collectively. But not all communities or farm homesteads had private mail bags and extensive use was made of the 'loose bag'.

The 'loose bag' service apparently came into being about 1887

and continued as long as steamers operated on the river. Mail for those river settlers or Maori communities was simply sorted into the 'loose bag' in the Wanganui mail room and when closed was taken with the sealed bags for post offices and private bag holders to the river steamer and handed to the Purser. It was the Purser's task to put ashore the mail at all appropriate landings - being either handed to waiting folk or bundled and thrown ashore as the steamer slowly passed by. If stores were being landed, and no one was there to receive them, the mail was left in the pataka or small store house that had been erected at most landings. Outwards mail was simply handed to the Purser at these landings and returned to the Wanganui mail room on conclusion of the down trip.

In March, 1930, the Wanganui mail room had some difficulty in getting clearances or receipts for registered letters sent through the 'loose bag' mail. This was mainly due to the need of the Purser to carry the letter up and down the river until the person concerned appeared at the landing. The Purser did not have a safe on board for such mail and was forced to carry such letters in his coat pockets! The problem was overcome by having undelivered registered letters listed on the inwards letter bill until such time as they were cleared. However, during the investigation one suggestion made was that the Purser should be appointed non-permanent postmaster of 'River Steamers' and that the small salary involved would encourage interest in mail duties.

Letters carried out or in by 'loose bag' were not marked or specially endorsed in any way, being treated in the Wanganui mail room as mail through any other private bag.

Both floods and drought conditions with low water levels presented problems in operating the river steamer service. Though floods were used to send heavier steamers into the upper river to uplift consignments of wool, major floods usually meant the suspension of all river travel for one or two days. Floods on 22nd July, 1916, which saw the Houseboat floating 40 feet above normal level, prevented the Pipiriki bound steamer getting beyond Parikino, 23 miles up river. The river channel between Kirikau and Taumarunui was blocked through flood damage and upper river steamers on this section did not resume until 14th March. In the meantime, the Postmaster, Taumarunui, railed mailbags for Koiro, Opatu, Kokakoriki and Houseboat to Wanganui for sending on by up steamer to Houseboat, and for collection from there by postmasters further up river.

Floods again on 24th May, 1918, saw river services postponed for four days and though Wanganui attempted to get mails to Pipiriki by rail to Ohakune and Raetihi, the Raetihi to Pipiriki coach road was blocked by slips. A heavy flood on 7th September, 1918, postponed river shipping for a day while the Raetihi to Pipiriki road remained blocked for a fortnight on this occasion.

On the other hand, the Pipiriki to Taumarunui normal twice weekly service was reduced to once weekly between 19th May and 9th June, 1919, through the low state of the river. With water 39 inches below normal it took a launch 21 hours to travel the 60 miles from Pipiriki to Houseboat, and a shallow steamer two days to get to Taumarunui.

And in 1920, more floods saw services suspended from 5th to 6th

June, 1920. The 'Houseboat' floated to 26 feet above normal and during the height of the floods was anchored over the flower beds ashore!

To be continued.

THROUGH THE NAPIER DISTRICT POST
ACTIVITIES, ADVERTISING, EVENTS, MESSAGES AND OCCASIONS

HISTORIC PHILATELIST

There appears to be an upsurge of opinion that the present limitations of postal history exhibiting are far too restrictive. Newcomers to the hobby tend to loose interest partly because the system in most cases deter participation to a so-called acceptable level and partly because 'it has all been done before'. This is leading to collectors at all levels taking up variations of Social Philately which allows the incorporation of more diverse material with a greater prospect of acquisition. Our friends in Australia refer to the activity as Historic Philately.

Don't be misled though, some items are far scarcer than many of the Full Face Queens because in the past so often they have been discarded. Often they become available to the keen eyed at bargain prices. The pleasure too is delving into the background of the items of mail and what it represents historically.

To demonstrate what I mean, I hope you will bear with me in a series of illustrated articles - anyway, the Editor and/or readers can switch me off at any time!! I apologise for the fact that the material is confined to the Napier Postal District in the main, but you can adopt or adapt your own collecting to please yourself and derive a good deal of fun looking at a wider range. I believe that the title of this introduction is self-explanatory as well as the headings of ensuing articles.

MESSAGE - FIRST SALES OF SECTIONS IN NAPIER

Alfred Domett (1811 - 1887), the English poet, arrived in New Zealand in 1842. After various governmental assignments, he was appointed in January, 1854, as Resident Magistrate and District Commissioner, Hawke's Bay, at Ahuriri. He was responsible for laying out Napier, for the first sales of sections there in April, 1855, and February, 1856, and for the naming of the streets in a literary connotation.

Illustrated on page 44 is an expanded cover addressed to him from Auckland, MR 20 1856, receiving the transit datestamp of Wellington MR 26 1856. How sad that the stamp is missing but the cover does refer to transfers of purchases at the initial sales. It is also very likely a proving cover that the Ahuriri datestamp had not been placed at the office at that time.

A GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT ADVERTISING CARD

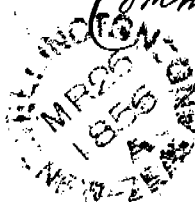
ALLAN P. BERRY

I recently acquired the card, the front of which is illustrated on page 25. The front is inscribed ON PUBLIC SERVICE ONLY, and at the bottom there is printed 'From / GEORGE THORNE, JUN., / CHIEF AGENT / Insurance Commissioners' Department, / Post Office /

March 1856.

Henry J. Hurley transfers
his purchases, Town & Subur-
ban, Scinde P. to Browning.
via Wellington. —

Alfred Domett Esq.
Commissioner of Crown Lands.
Napier.
Ahuriri.
East Coast.
New Zealand.



Auckland, N.Z.' The reverse carries a table giving the Premiums on whole Life Policies for £500 with share in profits.

Covers from the Government Life Insurance Department are known advertising mortgage rates on the reverse, but this is the first example of an advertising card from the Department that I have seen. Perhaps of greater interest is the inscription written on the front of the card, which I interpret to read 'These are Post Cards I scatter broadcast thro the land'. This elevates the card to the status of an unofficial specimen, and suggests that they were prepared by George Thorne, Jun., himself.

In an attempt to find out more about George Thorne, Jun., I wrote to Noel Quinn, the Chief Archivist of Tower Corporation, the successor organisation to the Government Life Insurance Department. I am grateful for the information that has been provided from this source, and I quote verbatim from Noel Quinn's letter:-

"I located an entry in an old Salary Register...I do not know how much to trust this entry - it appears to have been completed all at once by the same person. Other entries covering similar periods have been completed by several people. However, it does indicate that Thorne was appointed as an Agent in Auckland on 6th July, 1872, on a commission of 10/- per cent and resigned on 26th March, 1873. He recommenced on 22nd May, 1876, as a Travelling Agent on a salary of £250-00 and horse hire of 6/- a day. He was appointed Superintendent of Agents on 5th October, 1881, on a salary of £450 and commission of 4/- (??) on net increase (of New Business?) with the appointment being terminated by the Commissioner in April, 1884. The Salary Register has the note 'see papers', but they are not known to me and there is no reference to them in the Archives."

Noel Quinn also referred me to 'Tower of Strength - A Centennial History of the New Zealand Government Life Insurance Office', by C.W.Vennell, published by Wilson & Horton Ltd. in 1969. There are a number of entries concerning George Thorne, Jun., from which it is apparent that he was quite a character. On page 39, one reads:-

"The redoubtable Rudd figured in a bold plan to discourage a rival office from establishing itself in the colony. The plan was conceived by George Thorne, then superintendent of agents, late in 1883. Learning that the chairman and manager of a Victorian company were visiting New Zealand with a view to extending their operations to the colony, Thorne was determined to block further competition from Australia. Hearing that the two Victorians were travelling on the Dunedin express, he sent an urgent telegram to one of his men operating in that area. Dated November 28, 1883 it was marked "confidential" and read:-

'Director and manager aboard express train Dunedin today, spying with view to starting New Zealand. Rudd, canvasser, at them with view to preventing their coming. Do not canvass them but be a newspaper man travelling. Apply the pump handle judiciously. Tell that that Government insurance agents are thick as bees. Hard enough for them to exist. Other agents would starve or worse. Sympathise and deprecate the unfair advantage Government Insurance possess. They are to be

canvassed again in Dunedin by Edwards - George Thorne'.

"With all its ingenuity, however, Thorne's plan failed and the company started operations in New Zealand."

On page 47, there is another reference to George Thorne, Jun.:—

"Government Life's political opponents must have rubbed their hands with glee when it was disclosed that the Superintendent of Agents, George Thorne, Jun., had received £2,500 in commission in one year, after his salary of £450 had been deducted from his total earnings. This was more than the combined salaries of the four top executives of the department.

"A member was quick to point out that the sum was nearly as much as the salary received by the Governor. The fact that more than double the number of policies had been written compared with results for the previous year was allowed to pass without comment."

Returning to Noel Quinn's letter, he expresses an opinion as follows:—

"I cannot help but wonder if the termination [of his employment] was the result of the publicity that Thorne stirred up over the Australian office attempting to commence business here. The year of his termination was also the year that the Department was changed to the Government Insurance Association with a Board of Directors. At that time there would no doubt have been some public scrutiny of the organisation with input from opposing companies seeking to overcome the fierce competition offered by the Government Department and perhaps termination was a way of offering a sacrifice."

There is one final reference to George Thorne, Jun., that Noel Quinn has been able to find for me. There was an early staff magazine for the Government Life Insurance Department, entitled 'The Recorder'. In the issue of November, 1908, there is a reference to the fact that he had died some months earlier at Weston-super-Mare where he had resided for some years.

Altogether, a fascinating item of postal matter - from which research has given quite a fascinating story. One could wish that modern mortgages could be obtained for the rates given on this advertising card.

If anyone can give further information about the card or about George Thorne, Jun., I would be grateful to hear from them. It would be nice to know if any other examples of the card have survived, in mint or used condition.

FOUNTAIN OF LOVE - AN ESCAPED PRISONER OF WAR

E.W.LEPPARD

Following publication of my article in 'The Kiwi', Volume 42, page 16, January, 1993, concerning a 1/- Prisoner of War Letter Sheet addressed to Lieutenant S.S.F.Goodwin, I have learnt a little more about his exploits. The Letter Sheet illustrated on page 47 was sent by him as a Prisoner of War from Campo 47 at Modeno, Northern Italy, towards Florence. The Italian stamps were affixed to pay for postage by air mail, and it is dated 6th June,

1943. It was originally addressed to Whitianga, from where it was forwarded to Thames on 24th September, 1943. By this time Lieutenant Goodwin had escaped. Censored in Rome, the Letter Sheet probably travelled via the Vatican and Marseilles to Lisbon for the Pan-Am flight to New York and thence via San Francisco to New Zealand, which was one of the regular routes for mail from Prisoners of War in Italy.



Lieutenant S.S.F. Goodwin was captured in Crete whilst serving with the 24th Battalion of the 5th New Zealand Brigade, and the following is an extract from W. Wynne Mason's book 'Prisoner of War':-

"A New Zealand Officer, Captain S.S.F. Goodwin, 24th Battalion, 5th Brigade, who had been mentioned in despatches, escaped by securing a boat and sailing down the Adriatic. He got away from the camp at Modeno after it had been taken over by German troops by remaining hidden for three days in a shallow trench under some tomato plants, and then dodging through the wire unobserved. With help from the Italians in the neighbourhood he acquired civilian clothes and a map and travelled by various

trains to Senigallia, whence he got a lift in a German truck as far as Ancona. He then travelled by bicycle and walked to Porto Civitanova, where he arranged with a fisherman to take him with a party of others to Termoli, announced over the radio as in British hands. They arrived safely on 14th November. Since the beginning of October an MI9 section based on Termoli had been landing agents on the Adriatic coast as far north as Ancona: fishing boats loaded with such parties had been regularly heaving to in the small harbour at Termoli."

I have not been able to find out anything further about Flying Officer R.D.Campbell, to whom the other Letter Sheet I described in my article was addressed, except that D.M.Davin in the official history 'Crete', page 291, states that an R.D.Campbell was Killed in Action at Maleme Airport on 24th May, 1941.

A clutch of books appeared in 1991, the 50th Anniversary of the fall of Crete. These have the advantage of the German side of the story, and more importantly, the Enigma signals, called the Orange Leonard intercepts, which Churchill sent to Freyburg via Wavell. These now appear to exonerate Freyburg and pinpoint the loss of Crete to the first 24 hours, when Brigadier Hargest of the 5th Brigade failed to order an immediate counter attack for the overrun 22nd Battalion on Maleme airport. The German casualties were such that Hitler never used airborne forces again during the war and the German sources admit that an immediate counter attack would have compelled the Germans to withdraw.

POST OFFICE 'APPRECIATION' CARDS

TONY DODD

I do not think that many members will know that for many years, the New Zealand Post Office arranged special, pre-printed 'Appreciation' cards for delivery towards the end of each year. These were enclosed in First Day Covers of the Christmas Stamp issues, and were handed to those members of the public who assisted during the year by allowing their premises to be used as overflow mail depots.

Post Office vans deliver mail bags to these locations prepared for collection and individual mail item delivery by the local 'Posties' on one of their circuits. This bagged mail is that which is in excess of the carrying capacities of the 'Posties' bicycle when leaving the base depot.

I have no information as to when these cards were first used, but I have seen cards for the years 1974, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1983. The Christmas Stamp First Day Covers in which these cards were delivered were not addressed, except for that for 1974. I suspect that the cards for 1977 and 1982 exist, but I have not been able to locate copies. I am trying to find out if the custom continues beyond 1983, but I would be grateful for any information that readers can provide.

An example will be illustrated in the next issue of 'The Kiwi'.

A RED CROSS ON THE ADDRESS LABEL IN WHICH THIS COPY OF 'THE KIWI' WAS SENT TO YOU INDICATES THAT THE TREASURER HAS NOT YET RECEIVED YOUR SUBSCRIPTIUN. PLEASE PAY HIM AT ONCE.