

# The Kiwi



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

ISSN 0964-7821

Hon. Gen. Secretary: MRS. MARGARET FRANKCOM

Queens House, 34a Tarrant Street, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 9DJ. Tel: 0903 884139

Hon, Treasurer: E.W. LEPPARD

68 Chestnut Grove, Balham, London SW12 8JJ. Tel: 081-673 4710

Affiliated to: BRITISH PHILATELIC FEDERATION and to NEW ZEALAND PHILATELIC FEDERATION

Hon. Packet Secretary: B.T. ATKINSON

77 Wood Lane, Osterly, Middlesex TW7 5EG. Tel: 081-560 6119

Hon. Editor: ALLAN P. BERRY

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

VOLUME 42 No. 3

MAY 1993

WHOLE 238

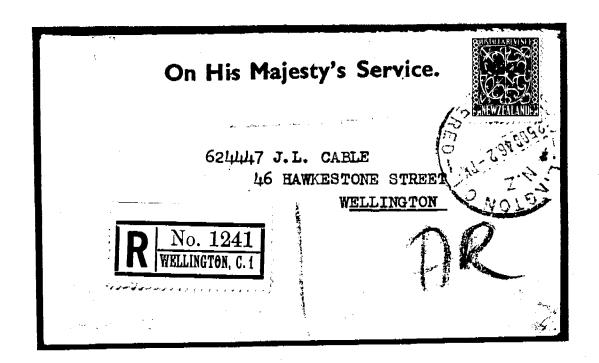
THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 5TH JUNE, 1993, AT THE Y.W.C.A. CENTRAL CLUB, 16 - 22, GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, WC1B 3LR, STARTING AT 2.30 P.M.

THE MEMBERSHIP WILL BE PRIVILEGED TO SEE A DISPLAY OF

EARLY POSTAL HISTORY AND STAMPS

GIVEN BY OUR MEMBER MAJOR HENRY DUMAS

NINE PENNY RATE USED WITHIN NEW ZEALAND IN 1946



SEE PAGE 55

### EDITORIAL

This is the time of year that the Officers and Committee of the Society have to go through the list of members who have failed to pay their subscriptions. To all of you who have paid promptly, our thanks. We are aware in some instances that ill health or absence from home on extended holiday may lead to delay in payment. Others of whom we have no such knowledge we are forced, with regret, to lapse from membership. However, the doors are open to any who may wish to rejoin the fold. Would any who read this and who know of members who have fallen by the wayside for any reason please let us know.

### ALLAN P. BERRY

### MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

K.C.Haley, 34, Burlingham Avenue, West Kirby, Cheshire, L48 8AP. Theodor Kerzner, 5:605, 19, Lower Villagegate,

Toronto, Ontario M5P 3L9, Canada. Virgil W. Snyder, 737, Pine Street, Hancock, MI 49930, U.S.A.

L.H.Turner, 19, Meadow Road, Balloch, Inverness, IV1 2JR. DECEASED

E.C.Bathe, 2, Shorefield Way, Milford-on-Sea, Lymington, Hants.

N.W.Baxter, 129, Ecclesall Road, Sheffield, S11 9PJ.

J.G.Stonehouse, 28, Lowndes Park, Driffield, N.Humberside. RESIGNED

Mrs. Myra Franks, Private Bag, Christchurch, New Zealand.

R.Herbison, P.O.Box 455, Whakatane, New Zealand.

K.G. Nielsen, Buderupholmvej 47, Dk 9530, Stovring, Denmark.

K.R.Wilderspin, 1, Delvine Drive, Mill Lane,

Upton-by-Chester, Cheshire, CH2 1DE.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

I.R.W.Cooke, 21, Tewkesbury Close, Chester, Cheshire, CH2 1NF. (previously of Slough, Berks.)

M.J.Cranfield, 11, The Acorns, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3YD. (previously of 41, Grange Road, Sevenoaks.)

LAPSED

H.I.Adam, 38, Murdoch Terrace, Dunblane by Stirling, Scotland.

P.W.Bundy, Maendy Fach, Lower Machen, Gwent, NP1 8UW.

R.H.Chipchase, 25, Hayton Road,

North Shields, Tyne & Wear, NE30 3TZ.

A.M. Davidson, Ivy House Farm, Liverton Hill,

Grafty Green, Lenham, Kent, ME17 2AH.

Mrs. A.E. Deacon, 26, Church Avenue,

Farnborough, Hants., GU14 7AT.

J.S.P.Dickie, 'Rockcliffe', 15, Benhar Road,

Shotts, Lanarkshire, ML7 5EN.

A.J.Greenwood, 6, Chardstock Avenue,

Coombe Dingle, Bristol, BS9 2RY.

K.H. Hoare, 136, Middleton Hall Road,

Kings Norton, Birmingham, B30 10L.

A.J.S.Parsons, 'Karanja', 39, Essa Road,

Saltash, Cornwall, PL12 4EE.

J.R.C. Spooner, The Lodge, Carclew,

Perranarworthal, Nr. Truro, Cornwall.

G.C. Nicklin, 4, Boscobell Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 2PL.

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, 27TH MARCH, 1993 - THE ANNUAL COMPETITION

Our Chairman, Alan Gardiner, opened the meeting at 2.30 p.m. with fifteen members present. Apologies for absence were received from Frank Scrivener, who is in hospital, and from Margaret Frankcom. The Judge for the 1993 Annual Competition, W.Alec Page, was introduced to the meeting, to be assisted by our Committee Member, Bill Maynard. They then departed to carry out their task.

The meeting was then handed over to Allan McKellar, who entertained us while the judging was taking place with a display entitled 'Modern Miscellany'. This largely consisted of out-of-the-way and unusual covers and cards, including those to raise funds for Tarapex '86; others with the various cancellations of Panpex '77; with personalised permit markings of the New Zealand Stamp Club, and a Miniature Sheet for the Timaru Philatelic Society. There were then shown some pilot-signed flight covers, Postal Stationery for the 'Royal 100' Exhibition, and covers, including rejects, for the Whakatane Philatelic Exhibition, which still found a market. One cover shown was beautifully illustrated by hand showing the Chatham Island forget-me-not, and those of Palmpex '82 with a series of Maori craft cancellations were interestingly written up with examples of stamps showing the various artifacts. In this connection, it was startling to see the Christchurch Exhibition 1d. claret, followed by the same in a bright blue! Neither, however, was considered to be genuine.

Alec Page then returned to give the meeting his verdicts on the

competition entries. The results were as follows:-

Classic Section : Noel Turner Trophy - E.W. Leppard

1898 Pictorial - 1d. Lake Taupo.

Runner-up : John D. Evans Trophy - E.W.Leppard

Chalon Heads.

Modern Section 1 : Kiwi Shield - Allan McKellar

One Penny Dominion.

Runner-up : Paua Musical Box - E.W. Leppard

King George V Booklets.

Modern Section 2 : Stacey Hooker Cup - J.A.W.Smith

1946 Health Stamps.

Runner-up : Paua Book Ends - E.W. Leppard

1960 3d. Kowhai.

Modern Section 3 : David Forty Salver - J.A.W.Smith

1970 4 cent Magpie Moth Provisional.

Runner-up : Teko-Teko Maori Carving - Lewis Giles

1990 40 cent Kiwi.

Postal History : John J. Bishop Trophy - E.W. Leppard

World War 11 Prisoner-of-War Mail.

Runner-up : The Barton Bowl - Allan P. Berry

P. & S.D. Second Frank.

Our Chairman then asked our President, John Smith, to propose a vote of thanks to Alec Page and his assistant, Bill Maynard. John also thanked Allan McKellar for entertaining the meeting with his Modern Miscellany. The meeting was declared closed at 4.45 p.m.

M.G.B.

### DISPLAYS TO LOCAL SOCIETIES

Our member George Gibson will be giving a display of New Zealand material to the Eastbourne and South Downs Stamp Club on Thursday, 27th May, 1993. The Society meets at the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade Headquarters, Bourne Street, Eastbourne, and the meetings start at 7.00 p.m.

### LIBRARY LIST AMENDMENTS

There is an error in the Library List recently circulated to Members. Will you please amend the Lending Code for Items 71 and 72 to 'G', as it is this rather than the 'C' as published.

### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

The Philatelic Press Collectors Quarterly. Published by New Zealand Philatelic Brokers Ltd., P.O.Box 80-226, Auckland, New Zealand. Two copies so far sighted, dated Spring, 1992 and Summer 1992/93. Produced in newspaper format, with articles and advertisements.

### REVIEW

History of the New Zealand Military Postal Services 1845-1991, by R.M.Startup and Edward B. Proud. Published by Postal History Publishing Co., P.O.Box 74, Heathfield, East Sussex, TN21 8PY. Price £40-00 plus postage and packing; £2-00 inland, £3-00 overseas.

From the Maori Wars to the Gulf War, students of New Zealand Forces Mail will be pleased to find under one cover the source to locate that elusive postmark and define where New Zealand Forces were operating during its use. Hitherto, the sources were both vague and numerous, such as the various Volumes of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand, 'The Mails Went Through', by Robin Startup, and various articles published in such journals as 'The Mail Coach', 'Captain Coqk' and our own 'The Kiwi', to name but a few. The book covers all periods - Maori Wars, the Boer War, World

The book covers all periods - Maori Wars, the Boer War, World Wars One and Two, Korea, Vietnam and various police keeping and staging posts up to 1991. I was glad to find items that I had searched for in vain, such as Sta.P.O.No.3 of World War One in the United Kingdom and KW18 of World War Two, were no longer listed. Presumably previous listings were in error. I was pleased to see the security period on the Western Front of 1917, when datestamps were exchanged, explained so that marks such as FPO C2X become clearer. Prisoner of War Mail is omitted altogether, with their routes and cachets used, which will perhaps make a separate book. Otherwise omissions are very few, although I did note that page 182 omits the marks for the Hospital Ships even where space was available. The Censor Marks on page 195 could have been expanded to encompass the range of these marks, recorded in 'The Mail Coach' at various times. The Reply Cards for World War One parcels are also omitted.

Diagrams, maps and illustrations are in profusion and the illustrations of datestamps must be complete. It is pleasing to see the annotation 'N.S.' for 'Not Seen' used so that the student

of New Zealand Forces Postal History can still find fresh items to discover.

A worthy book in the Ted Proud range and style of Military Handbooks, though he readily admits most of the work is that of Robin Startup, without whose work New Zealand Philately and Postal History would be much the poorer. It is strange therefore to see that the Copyright of the book is assigned to Edward B. Proud alone, although Robin Startup is shown as the precedent Author.

The book is indispensable for the collector of New Zealand

Forces Postal History of all periods.

### SWINPEX '93

The New Zealand Society of Great Britain has been allocated a room at SWINPEX '93, to be held by the Swindon and District Philatelic Society on Saturday, 19th June, 1993, at Drove Road School, Swindon. This event comprises a Stamp Fair from 10.00 a.m. several specialist societies will until 5.00 p.m. and represented. Admission is £0-25p per person. Light refreshments will be available, and there is an excellent pub just across the road.

Our Society proposes to hold a meeting in Room 'A' from 1.45 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Members who can attend are invited to bring along any items of interest - say from one to ten sheets - to talk about or just to display to fellow members and visitors. A map showing the location of Drove School is available from:-

Alan Gardiner, 34, Hulse Road, Salisbury, Wilts., SP1 3LY.

A stamped, addressed envelope would be appreciated.

It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend. in particular, those who live within easy travelling distance Swindon, but who find it difficult to attend London meetings.

### THE WATERLOW STUDY CIRCLE

A letter has been received from the Waterlow Study Circle asking that it be brought to the attention of members and to advise that it is still in existence. This Society was first brought to our attention in 'The Kiwi', Volume 31, page 24, March, 1982. As a Society, we were represented by the late Stanley Cross-Rudkin until his death in June, 1988. Ernie Leppard is a member of the Waterlow Study Circle and will act as the Society's representative in future. Any member can channel information through him, but those who might like to join the Waterlow Study Circle should contact either their Chairman,

Alex A.Turner, 10, Lower Park, Minehead, Somerset, TA24 8AX or their Secretary,

Noel Lyons, 96, Lowther Drive, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 7JR

### ANNUAL SOCIETY AUCTION

Do not forget to sort out those unwanted items. Full instructions in the September issue of 'The Kiwi'.

### THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

The Postal Stationery Society has been formed. A journal is in the process of production and a postal auction will be in operation by the Autumn. Initially, there are two meetings a year, the next being at the Union Jack Club, opposite Waterloo Station, London, on 17th April, from 2.00 p.m. Further details can be obtained from the Secretary,

D. Taylor Smith, 23, Britannia Road, Norwich, NR1 4HP

### SPECIAL DATESTAMPS

### PHILEX '93 STAMP EXHIBITION







Three special pictorial date stamps were used at the New Zealand Post stand at 'Philex '93' Stamp Exhibition held in the Chandelier Room, Chung Wah Restaurant, Worcester Street, Christchurch, from 12th March to 14th March, 1993.

### NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL MEETING REPORT

Saturday, 20th February, 1993, was the first anniversary of our Regional Study Group meetings and we were delighted to welcome George Rawle, from County Down, with a display of the first definitive issue of Queen Elizabeth 11. Unfortunately at this, our fourth official meeting, numbers were somewhat depleted, with only six members present and apologies for absence received from three.

The meeting opened with the presentation by the Secretary, on behalf of the Society, of the Novice Award Medallion to our Chairman, Tom Latto, for his entry in the 1992 Annual Society Competition in London. Congratulations were offered by all present.

George Rawle then started his display with a comprehensive selection of material collected over a twenty year period, from his early collecting days in New Zealand to the present. The display included almost complete plate blocks of all values, with many showing varieties such as major plate cracks and retouches. A fine assortment of shades was also shown in blocks, together with booklet panes and officials. Tom Latto showed blocks of the value markings on the 9d. to 10/- values, with emphasis on half sheet markings, including a triple cancellation on the 1/- value which is understood to be extremely rare. Stuart Potter and Jack Lindley also provided supporting material from this issue which included coils and booklets.

The next meeting will be held on 22nd May, 1993, in St. Luke's Church Hall, Orrell, near Wigan, starting at 1.30 p.m. The subjects will be King George VI definitives, by Stuart Potter, and Postal Stationery, by Geoff Wragg.

For the meeting to be held on 18th September, 1993, we are being

supported by our parent group with a visit from Ernie Leppard, who will show the First Pictorial definitives and material from World War Two. Please make a special effort to attend this meeting.

'A Bit of a Variety' will be the subject of the meeting to be held on 20th November, 1993, when it is hoped members will bring along up to six sheets.

The meeting was concluded at 4.30 p.m. The Chairman thanked George Rawle and those who contributed for providing such a comprehensive display.

J.H./T.D.L.

### NINE PENNY RATE USED WITHIN NEW ZEALAND IN 1946

### RON INGRAM

The cover illustrated on page 49 has the 9d. charge paid by the use of a 9d. 1935 Pictorial Definitive stamp printed on multiple watermark paper and overprinted 'Official' in black. The 9d. postage rate used within New Zealand is made up as follows:-

2d. Postage

4d. Registration

3d. Advice of Receipt (A.R.)

This combination is the only way that a 9d. stamp could be used within New Zealand in 1946 at the correct rate, on an internal, normal sized, small envelope. One other example is known with of the 9d. 1935 Pictorial Definitive stamp overprinted 'Official' in black, and this is on a parcel label in conjunction with a 2/-Official stamp to make up the 2/9d. parcel rate.

The cover is of Military origin as it bears the addressee's Service Number before the name. The Service Number indicates that he was on the 15th Roll of 1st January to 31st December, 1945. His full name was James Lindsay Cable, and he was a Private in the N.Z.E.M.E. - the New Zealand Mechanical and Electrical Engineers. The 1949 Electoral Roll lists the addressee as an 'apprentice' indicating that he was too young to have served overseas.

The use of the 9d. rate to pay postage, registration and advice of receipt by a Government Department is probably very rare. It makes one wonder why the advice of receipt service was required.

The addressee's parents were James and Mary Cable. James Cable Senior was an adviser to the Minister of Munitions during the Second World War and went to Australia to advise on ship building and munitions making. He was Chairman and Managing Director of William Cable Ltd. and Cable Price Downer Ltd. between 1922 and 1954. He died on 15th September, 1970, at the age of 85.

### BAR CODES AND NEW ZEALAND POST LIMITED PRODUCTS

### ALAN TUNNICLIFFE

Bar codes on New Zealand Post Limited stamp and stationery products have been in use for more than two years, having been introduced in March, 1990, with Postpaid Handibags. During the first year, only nine different products had bar codes printed on the reverse - eight stationery items and one stamp item, namely, the \$4-00 hang-sell type booklet with black cover containing ten

40 cent Brown Kiwi definitive stamps. On 17th April, 1991, a new stamp product was introduced, being a box of 100 40 cent self-adhesive Brown Kiwi stamps, priced at \$42-00. This box had a bar code on it which was the same bar code as that previously used on the Legal Long size of Easipost post paid plastic envelope - see Figure 1 below, which is slightly enlarged. For further information about this error and about product numbering and bar codes, see my article 'NZ POST MAKES BAR CODE ERROR!', published in Captain Coqk, Volume 19, number 4, pages 40 - 41, May, 1991.



# Good van



Figure 1

Following my revelation of this unfortunate bar coding error, New Zealand Post Limited decided to solve the problem by raising the basic standard letter rate from 40 cents to 45 cents! This allowed them to issue another box - officially a 'dispenser pack' - of 100 45 cent self-adhesive Rock Wren stamps, priced at \$47-00, on 1st July, 1991. Being a new product, these boxes of course carried a new, different bar code on them.

The product numbering / bar coding system allows a company to have up to 99,999 differently numbered and bar coded products on sale at the same time. When a particular product becomes obsolete and is withdrawn from sale, its bar code can be used again three years after the product was last supplied.

At the time of writing, 6th June, 1992, I have noted 38 different bar codes - that is, 38 different product numbers. These have been assigned to 43 various stamp and stationery products. In addition to stamp booklets, Postpaid Handibags, Easipost envelopes and boxes of self-adhesive stamps, bar codes are now found also on Non-prepaid Handibags, Handiboxes, Handisak, First Day and Souvenir Covers, Aerogrammes and on the selvedge of definitive and commemorative stamp sheets.

Bar codes printed in four different positions on a sheet of stamps were introduced on the 50 cent Kingfisher definitive reprint issued in late February, 1992 - contrary to the New Zealand Post Limited Leaflet announcing the introduction as on 3rd April 1992.

So far, 38 product numbers in the range 2 to 201 have been used. It appears that some of the numbers not hitherto used will not be used, but many of the gaps in this range are fast filling up now

that bar codes are used on stamp selvedges, First Day Covers,

Souvenir Covers and pre-stamped envelopes.

What follows is a listing of the 43 bar coded stamp and stationery products issued by New Zealand Post Limited. It should be mentioned that there are other products issued by New Zealand Post Limited with different types of bar codes - namely, a Handivideo box with eight digit code 9413 9204 on it; and the nine digit code numbers and bar codes on the tracking tickets which are stuck on to the front of CourierPost and RegisteredPost plastic envelopes. In the listing, the first five of the last six digits of the 13 digit number are the product number, the last being a check digit.

Pr	coducts	Number	Item Reference	Product Description
9	415599	000026	2	Postpaid Handibag Size 2
9	415599	000040	4	Postpaid Handibag Size 4
9	415599	000057	5	Postpaid Handibag Size 5
9	415599	000064	6	Postpaid Handibag Size 6
9	415599	000088	8	Postpaid Handibag Size 8
9	415599	000118	11	\$4-00 Kiwi Stamp Booklet, August, 1990.
9	415599	000125	12	\$42-00 box of 40 cent self-adhesive stamps.
9	415599	000125	12	Easipost envelope, Legal Long size.
9	415599	000132	13	Easipost Envelope Large size.
9	415599	000149	14	Easipost Envelope Extra Large size.
9	415599	000163	16	Easipost Envelope A4/Large size.
9	415599	000248	24	Non-paid Handibag size 4
9	415599	000255	25	Non-paid Handibag size 5
9	415599	000262	26	Non-paid Handibag size 6
9	415599	000286	28	Non-paid Handibag size 8
9	415599	000316	31	Handibox size 1
9	415599	000323	32	Handibox size 2
9	415599	000330	33	Handibox size 3
9	415599	000347	34	Handibox size 4
9	415599	000415	41	Handisak.
9	415599	001009	100	\$4-50 Rock Wren Stamp Booklet, Blue Cover.
9	415599	001009	100	\$4-50 Booklet, Hang-Sell, Red Cover.

9	415599	001009	100	\$4-50 ordinary red booklet, First Print I.
9	415599	001009	100	\$4-50 Ordinary red booklet, Second Print II.
9	415599	001016	101	\$2-25 Thinking of You 45 cent booklet.
9	415599	001023	102	\$2-25 Happy Birthday 45 cent booklet.
9	415599	001030	103	\$47-00 box self-adhesive, first issue.
9	415599	001047	104	45 cent Olympic Runner stamp, issued 3rd April, 1992.
9	415599	001054	105	45 cent Olympic Cycling stamp, issued 13th May, 1992.
9	415599	001061	106	80 cent Olympic Archery stamp, issued 13th May, 1992.
9	415599	001078	107	\$1-00 Olympic Equestrian stamp, issued 13th May, 1992.
9	415599	001085	108	\$1-50 Olympic Sailboarding stamp, issued 13th May, 1992.
9	415599	001160	116	First Day Cover, Glaciers issue, 12th June, 1992.
9	415599	001184	118	45 cent Lily pre-paid envelope, second issue.
9	415599	001214	121	10 cent Dotterel definitive stamp reprint.
9	415599	001221	122	20 cent Yellowhead definitive stamp reprint.
9	415599	001265	126	50 cent Kingfisher definitive stamp reprint.
9	415599	001597	159	Expo '92 Seville Souvenir Cover.
9	415599	001603	160	World Columbian Stamp Expo Cover.
9	415599	001757	175	\$8-00 80 cent definitive stamp booklet.
9	415599	002006	200	Aerogramme, plain.
9	415599	002013	201	Aerogramme, Season's Greetings.
				J

Of the first seven digits in the 13 digit bar code, the first two digits 94 refer to products made in New Zealand. Australia's code is 93, and that of the United Kingdom 50. The next five digits, 15599, identify New Zealand Post Limited and were assigned to it by the New Zealand Product Number Association Limited.

# AN INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST DECIMAL DEFINITIVES OF NEW ZEALAND R.G.DARGE

Continued from page 31.

### TWENTY EIGHT CENT FOX GLACIER

This lovely stamp was released on the 30th July, 1968, and depicts the Fox Glacier, a feature of Westland National Park.

The stamp was designed by the Post Office Publicity Section and issued as a part of the Tourist Section of the Set, the previous values being the 30 cent, 50 cent, one dollar and two dollar.

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

The sheets of 100 stamps in 10 rows of 10 were perforated by the same double comb head used for the 20 cent Maori Rock Drawing.

The new paper with P.V.A. gum was used and the watermark is upright on the stamps.

The imprint and cylinder numbers appear at the bottom selvedge below the first three and the fourth stamps respectively.

The missing '0' of the sheet value was corrected in a similar manner to the 25 cent Dairy Industry.

Some sheets have been seen with a minor double perforation extending 4 mms through the left selvedge and one sheet with extra perforations extending across the selvedge and 12 mms through the perforations of the stamps.

A used copy with inverted watermark has been reported in England.

28 cent varieties.

1A1A1A1A Row 1, stamp 10 Touching up in left top of sky.

Row 3, stamp 10 Touching up by left centre leaf.

Partial double perforations.

Inverted watermark.

Sheet fold causing partial imperforate of bottom right hand corner of stamp and misplaced perforations.

### THIRTY CENT TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK

The stamp depicts the Chateau Tongariro with the peak of Mount Ngauruhoe in the background, which forms a part of Tongariro National Park.

The stamp is similar to the 3/- designed by A.C.Mitchell.

The printing by Harrison & Sons Ltd. required three cylinders, being blue, buff and green and numbered 1A1A1A.

The layout of the sheet and perforation details are similar to the 25 cent Butter Making.

A second printing with the same cylinders appeared during March, 1969, on a whiter paper with P.V.A. gum, but not the paper used for the 10 cent Timber Industry, new design, the 15 cent Tiki, new design, and 28 cent Fox Glacier. Some sheets have been found without watermark and it is probable that the balance of the printing may have been completed on unwatermarked paper.

The colours are paler but brighter than the earlier printing.

30 cent varieties.

1A1A1A Row 2, stamp 1 Touching up under 'N' of 'NEW' - all printings.

Row 7, stamp 1 Dot to right of flag-pole - second printing only.

Row 7, stamp 7 Touching up below right leg of 'N' 'ZEALAND' - all printings.

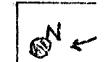
Row 8, stamp 1 Retouch to right of flag.

Watermark inverted.

No watermark.

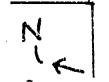
Ink blobs on stamps.

Partial imperforate stamp bottom right corner due to corner fold before perforating.



Row 2, stamp 1

1A1A1A



Row 7, stamp 7

1A1A1A

### FIFTY CENT SUTHERLAND FALLS

The stamp depicts the Sutherland Falls, the highest in the country and situated in the Fiordland National Park.

The stamp is similar to the 5/- designed by L.C.Mitchell.

The printing by Harrison & Sons Ltd. required only one green cylinder, numbered 1A.

The sheet layout, watermark and perforation details are similar to the 20 cent Maori Rock Drawing.

The second printing from the same cylinder appeared during March, 1969, on the same paper with P.V.A. gum as used for the reprint of the 30 cent Tongariro National Park.

The colour is paler but brighter than that of the first printing.

A partial double perforation has been seen causing perforations through the left selvedge and extending into the stamps.

One unusual variety is a bottom half sheet of which two horizontal rows show a number of white horizontal bars of varying thickness across the face of the stamps. The green is less intense than the normal and suggests a deficiency in the ink flow rather than wiper blade flaws.

50 cent varieties.

1A Row 6, stamp 5 Small flaw to left of waterfall - both printings.

Partial double perforations.

White streaks - second printing.

Large green flaw in selvedge of value block.

### FINDINGS FROM FILES

## PAPER FOR THE 1935 PICTORIAL STAMPS - PART 4 ALLAN P. BERRY

The story continues from page 37 with a letter from the Trade and Produce Officer of the New Zealand High Commission to Messrs. Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie, Ltd., dated 23rd August, 1933. It reads:-

"I am directed by the High Commissioner to refer to your letter of the 23rd June, and to previous correspondence on the subject of the water-marked paper to be supplied against this order, and to state that the New Zealand Government have now decided that the printing of the 9d. stamp is to be proceeded with.

"I am accordingly directed to ask you to kindly forward to Messrs. Waterlow 2,700 sheets gummed paper, size 21" x 11½" from the half-ton experimental make. They desire that, if possible, the paper should have a little more surface and I should be glad if this could be arranged.

"With this letter I am sending you, in triplicate, a form of advice of delivery and acknowledgement of the receipt of the paper. Will you please fill these in with the necessary details and pass them on to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, ..., who have been instructed to retain one copy and to return the other two to yourselves. Will you then please forward one copy to this Office and on receipt, the necessary printing warrant will be forwarded to Messrs. Waterlow.

"I take this opportunity of informing you that the New Zealand Government have decided to abandon the photogravure process for the new series and that all values except the 9d. will be produced by the recess printing process. Messrs. De La Rue will be responsible for the contract, and the High Commissioner would be glad if you would kindly submit, say, 12 sheets of gummed paper, mill finished, for the production of stamps by the recess process. These will be submitted to the Somerset House Authorities, and to Messrs. De La Rue to enable a decision to be reached as to the bulk supply."

The reply is also on the file. It is dated 30th August, 1933, and reads:-

"We wish to thank you for your letter of the 23rd inst., from which we are glad to observe that supplies of the watermarked paper to be supplied against the above order may be called for in the near future.

"We are as requested by your goodselves sending forward 2700 sheets of the Gummed paper size  $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$  to Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, and this quantity should be delivered to them during the course of a day or so. We have also noted that the special delivery forms sent us to be signed by Messrs. Waterlows and a copy of which is to be sent to you.

"Furthermore, we would inform you that we have been instructed by Messrs. De La Rue to send them 24 sheets of flat paper from the experimental making for testing purposes. These sheets will

be forwarded to them within a day or so.

"In conclusion, we do hope to receive your instructions to make the balance of the full quantity at a later date.

The next letter on the file is also from Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Export) Limited, dated 28th September, 1933, addressed to the Post Office Stores Department. It reads:-

### The High Commissioner for New Zealand.

### New Series of Postage Stamps.

"We have received from the High Commissioner a communication in respect of some supplies of Gummed Postage Stamp Paper we have on hand for delivery to Messrs Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd., for printing, and the following points are made in connection with the trial sheets formerly submitted.

- (1). The paper to be a little softer.
- (2). The surface of the paper to be a shade smoother.
- (3). The paper to be more non-curling.
- (4). The bulk supply to be thoroughly matured before delivery.

"We propose putting in hand with our mill a small trial lot made to the above specification, but before doing so it would help us very considerably, if you would kindly consider the sample sheets sent herewith in regard to the smoothness of the surface. These sheets are drawn from a special making put through to supply the requirements of Messrs Waterlow & Sons, they are in a smoother finish to the sheets formerly submitted to Messrs Thomas De La Rue & Co., for experimenting with, and if the finish of these revised sheets will meet requirements, it will be of much help to our mill folk when bringing forward the new trial making.

"We would also like you to comment upon the softness of this paper, as if these sheets meet the case, it will be something for our mill folk to work on.

"We await the favour of your reply before definitely instructing our mill folk to go ahead with a further trial making."

The following letter on the file is from the Post Office Stores Department to Messrs. Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd., dated 2nd October, 1933. It refers to a letter sent to the High Commissioner for New Zealand, which is not in the file. It reads:-

"With reference to your letter of the 7th ultimo addressed to the High Commissioner for New Zealand, on the subject of the suitability of some sample sheets of New Zealand Stamp Paper supplied by Messrs. Wiggins Teape, I forward herewith three further sample sheets, together with a letter submitted by that firm.

"I shall be glad if you will be good enough to inform me whether you consider this paper satisfactory, particularly as regards the degree of smoothness and softness."

As the next letter on the file is a fair copy of that from Wiggins Teape dated 28th September, 1933, it is clear that it is this letter that was sent on to Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd. That

firm replied with a letter dated 4th October, 1933, saying:-

"We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant enclosing three sample sheets of New Zealand stamp paper and a copy of letter received by you from Messrs. Wiggins, Teape & Co.

"We have tested and examined the three sheets referred to above with the following results:-

- 1. The softness of the paper is satisfactory.
- 2. The surface of the paper is not quite right. The printing has a slight 'woolly' or 'fuzzy' appearance. We enclose herewith a sheet of gummed stamp paper taken from our stock, the surface of which is just what we require.

"With regard to the remaining two clauses of our specification concerning making the paper more non-curling and thoroughly maturing the bulk supply, we presume that the paper makers will bear these matters in mind at the proper time."

There follows a letter from the Post Office Stores Department to Messrs. Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Export) Ltd., dated 5th October, 1933, which reads:-

### New Series of New Zealand Postage Stamps.

"In reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo on the subject of paper required for the abovementioned stamps, I beg to enclose a copy of a letter dated 4th instant, together with a sample sheet of paper received from Messrs. De La Rue."

The following letter is from Messrs. Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Export) Ltd. It is addressed to the High Commissioner for New Zealand, is dated 6th October, 1933, and says:-

"With further reference to your letter of the 19th ultimo, we duly submitted further sheets to the Controller, Stamp Section, Post Office Stores Dept. Somerset House, and we have today received a reply stating that the sheets have been tested and examined and the softness of the paper is satisfactory.

"It is considered, however, that the finish of the paper is not quite right, and a sheet is sent us to show just what is required, and this has been duly passed on to our mill and we understand that we may now proceed with the manufacture of the main supply, and we propose doing so, unless we hear from you to the contrary."

The reply to this letter is from the Trade and Produce Officer at the New Zealand High Commission, and is dated 11th October, 1933. It reads:-

"I am directed by the High Commissioner to thank you for your letter of the 6th instant in connection with which I have had a further conversation with the Somerset House Authorities.

"They confirm that a sheet has been sent to you showing just what is required, and I suggest that before you proceed with the bulk supply it might be more prudent if you just made a further sample and submitted this for final test and approval. If you agree, no doubt you will get in touch with the Controller

accordingly."

There follows a long Memorandum, dated 29th November, 1933. This has been initialled over the date 30/11/33, and a number of corrections have been made in ink by the person initialling the document. The corrections and additions are shown in square brackets where they occur in the text, which reads:-

"A representative of Messrs. Wiggins, Teape & Company called me up on the 'phone yesterday and stated that some difficulty had arisen in supplying the watermarked paper to Messrs. De La Rue for their contract for the recess stamps for the New Zealand Government. It appears that the difficulty has arisen [is] with the register of the paper. Messrs. De La Rue have supplied to Wiggins, Teape, a rough sketch of the exact size and register of the paper that they require and Messrs. Wiggins Teape appear unable to meet exactly that firm's requirements. It was decided to have a conference on the subject, and ... of De La Rue's, ... of Wiggins Teape, and ... of Messrs. Portals attended to thrash the matter out. It transpires that the paper, which is being made at the Stoneywood Mills, Aberdeen, when cut into sheets varies slightly from that required. The firm submitted sample sheets with their tender and subsequently for Messrs. Waterlows' and these appear to be quite satisfactory. It was, therefore, a little surprising to find that Wiggins Teape cannot supply similar paper to [correct] register for Messrs. De La Rue. The explanation appears to be that Wiggins Teape have a [N.Z.] dandy roll of their own which impresses the watermark across the grain of the paper whereas the dandy roll which was lent to them by Messrs. Cowans impresses the watermark in the machine direction and with the grain of the paper. Wiggins Teape find that they can get a more correct register with their own dandy roll than by using Messrs. Cowans but De La Rue's state that they require the watermark to run in the machine direction of the paper, that is with the grain of the paper, [and] it is doubtful whether their method of printing will take paper with a watermark across the grain. After much discussion it was agreed that Wiggins Teape should supply a few reams of paper impressed with their own dandy roll, for trial by Messrs. De La Rue with the object of ascertaining whether such paper with the more satisfactory register would be acceptable. ... took away with him a sheet of [numbered] watermarked paper which his firm [Messrs. Cowans] had supplied with their tender [to show type and register and which was shown to (?).

It is of course important that paper with the New Zealand watermark correct to register, that is within 0.125" laterally and vertically, should be supplied as this important condition [was one among others which] formed the basis of their contract with the High Commissioner. (initials) 30/11/33."

The next document on the file is a letter from Thomas De La Rue addressed to the Post Office Stores Department, dated 30th November, 1933. It refers to the meeting discussed in the Memorandum, and states:-

### New Zealand Government Postage & Revenue Stamps.

"We refer to the recent visit of ... together with the representatives of Messrs. Wiggins, Teape in connection with the watermarked paper for these Stamps. We note that in view of the difficulty that the paper makers are experiencing in making the layout of the watermark correspond with that of the perforation blocks, it may be necessary for us to make an alteration to the sizes of the paper that will be required. The details regarding the paper mentioned in our letter of September 1st to the High Commissioner for New Zealand may therefore need amendment after your final approval of the paper."

The next letter is also from Thomas De La Rue to the Post Office Stores Department, and is dated 16th December, 1933:-

### New Zealand Government Postage and Revenue Stamps.

"Following our letter dated 30th November, we write to inform you that we are able, should it be required, to print the paper for the above stamps with the watermark on the sheet running in the opposite direction to that originally intended. This means (1) that the paper makers' other dandy roll would be used and (2) that the sheet sizes detailed in our letter of 1st September would be amended as follows:-

Old Size.	New Size.
11½ x 19¾"	$11\frac{1}{4} \times 18\frac{1}{2}$ "
22 x 21"	$X. 20\frac{1}{4} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ "

"In all the above sizes the first dimension is the direction across the dandy roll and the second the direction of the flow of the paper.

"X. We understand from the paper makers that it would be convenient for them to send these sheets  $21 \times 23$ " and we confirm that this would be quite satisfactory to us."

The following letter is yet another from Thomas De La Rue to the Post Office Stores Department, dated 19th December, 1933. This one reads:-

### New Zealand Government Postage and Revenue Stamps.

"As arranged by telephone we send herewith six sample sheets of paper perforated to give size of stamp  $20 \times 24$  mms. for your consideration of the fit of the watermark.

"Three of these sheets marked 'A' (ungummed) are from the dandy roll which was under consideration when we first submitted our paper sizes on 1st September. The other three marked 'B' (gummed) are from the second dandy roll for which we detailed revised paper sizes in our letter of 16th December.

"We would like to point out for your information:

(1) that although the stamp size is correct, these six sheets have not been perforated on a die but have been put through the machine twice, although of course the result is exactly the same with the exception of the corner holes not coinciding exactly. The stamps afterwards will, of course, be perforated on a die.

(2) Whereas the lines of perforation on these sheets run right up to the edge of the paper this will not be the case in the supply of stamps."

The next letter is from the Post Office Stores Department to the High Commissioner for New Zealand, dated 3rd January, 1934. It reads:-

### New Series of New Zealand Stamps.

"I enclose for your information copies of letters submitted by Messrs. De La Rue on the subject of watermarked paper for the above-mentioned stamps, following on the proposal to use Messrs. Wiggins, Teape's Dandy Roll in order to get a better register than is obtainable from that belonging to Messrs. Cowans. The size of paper thus produced will be 21" (across the dandy roll) and 23" (in the machine direction) which will be trimmed down by the printer.

"During a discussion today at the above address, ... (of De La Rue) and ... (of Wiggins Teape) being present, it was brought to notice that to print 160 set denominations from this paper in the manner at present decided upon, viz. 10 stamp widths across and 16 stamp widths down (with the watermark not registering, as you are aware) would result in a waste of about half of each sheet; and, with a view to avoiding such waste, it was proposed that the 160 set should be printed 20 stamp widths across and 8 stamp lengths down.

"Will you be good enough to state whether this would be acceptable to you."

There is an ink written P.S. on the letter, which reads:-

"One specimen each of sheets A and B referred to in the letter of the 19-12-33 are enclosed."

The whole letter is then crossed out, and there is an ink annotation on the top of it. This reads:-

"This letter was brought back by ... and withdrawn. The layout of the 160 set stamps must not be disturbed because of the perforating mechanism in New Zealand. I discussed the matter with ... and he agreed that the paper as originally ordered would be suitable. The actual sheets required are shown in De La Rue's letter of Jany. 16th annexed. (initials) 18/1/34"

The letter from De La Rue dated 16th January, 1934, referred to in the above notes is the next one on the file. Addressed to the Post Office Stores Department, it reads:-

### New Zealand Government Postage & Revenue Stamps.

"Following our letter of 16th December and confirming ...'s interview of Friday last in connection with the paper for the above, we now write to verify the sizes of paper and direction of stretch which you have finally decided upon. Our requirements of the two different sizes will be:-

No. of sheets	Size.	Direction of greatest stretch
27,250	11½" x 18"	11½"
208,000	23" x 21"	23"

"As agreed on the telephone, we confirm that the whole of the paper should be delivered to us in the large size and that we should cut out the necessary quantity of 160-set paper. The offcuts would be collated and balanced with the remainder of the order. The total revised quantity required by us from the mill would therefore be:

No. of sheets.	Size.	Direction of greatest stretch
221,625	23" x 21"	23"

"We shall be glad to receive your confirmation of this arrangement.

"With regard to the margin of white paper round the delivered sheets, this would be approximately 0.375" to 0.5" on all four sides."

There are two notes on the letter. The first, in pencil, is against the first 'table', and reads '(including spoilage)'. The second is an ink written note, which reads:-

"(De La Rue) reports that Wiggins Teape's first delivery of paper was delivered in single sheets with the stretch in the 21" direction and not in the 23" or  $11\frac{1}{2}$ " as arranged. He feared that this would gravely interfere with correct register during printing. The matter was discussed with ..., ..., and ..., (the latter Wiggins Teape representative) being present and it was agreed that De La Rue should try the paper on their machine with a view to ascertaining whether it could be used without undue wastage (initials) 1/3/34"

This latter note is out of date sequence with the other documents and letters on the file. The following letter on the file is from Thomas De La Rue & Co. Limited, dated 24th January, 1934, being addressed to the Post Office Stores Department. It reads:-

### New Zealand Government Postage & Revenue Stamps.

"We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 22nd January in which you confirm the quantity and size of the paper which we shall require for the above order. The printing plates will be laid down so that the perforated sheets of stamps will correspond exactly with the specimen perforated cards which we hold.

"We give below a list showing the number of stamps that will appear on the delivered sheets for the thirteen values, upon which our estimates and subsequent calculation for the size of paper have been based.

	Number of stamps in one complete
<u>Values.</u>	block on the delivered sheets.
½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 3d, 1/-	240
5d, 2/-	120
4d (bi-colour), 6d, 8d.	160
2½d (bi-colour), 3/- (bi-colour	60

On this letter there is a pencil note against the above 'table', simply, 'Agreed (initials)'. The next paper carries hand written notes. It is set out roughly as shown below:-

### Paper

### Recess - Waterlows

 $21 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$  totally unsuitable 3 mm gutter - require  $14.625 \times 18.5$  to be cut from web so that greater stretch is in the 14.625 dimension.

### Spoilage 10%

Size	of Stamp	Set	Size of Sheet
18 x	21mm	480	$20\frac{1}{2} \times 22$
11		240	$11\frac{1}{2} \times 20\frac{1}{2}$
22 x	38mm	120	$11\frac{1}{2} \times 20\frac{1}{2}$
22 x	25mm	160	12 x 19

Spoilage 5% single colour

" 10" bi-colour

The other side of this paper carries some doodles in pencil, which may or may not be of significance. It starts with a note reading 'De La Rue 2417', and is followed below by what appears to be a part sketch of a dandy roll, showing two sides each of  $34\frac{1}{2}$ " length, with a central gutter, the size of which is not given. On the left side of the sketch, below the indication of the  $34\frac{1}{2}$ " inch length appears the sum 23" +  $11\frac{1}{2}$ ", which is, of course, 34". Below this sketch there are pencil notes, reading:-

"Die proofs of 13 values 12 weeks

"Delivery - 9 weeks after approval of proofs. 30,000 sheets.

The final letter on this file is from the Post Office Stores Department to the New Zealand High Commission, dated 24th August, 1934. It reads:-

### Dominion of New Zealand Postage and Revenue Stamps.

"With reference to your order dated 23rd February, 1933, on Messrs Wiggins Teape & Co. Ltd. for watermarked paper to be supplied to Messrs. Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd. and which was found by the latter firm to be not quite suitable for their recess method of printing, I have to inform you that altogether 42 reams and 95 sheets of this paper for trial and other printings have been supplied to Messrs. De La Rue. The statement

furnished by Messrs. De La Rue of printed sheets has been checked in this Department and found to be correct.

"Included in the 42 reams and 95 sheets is some unprinted paper, amounting to 22 reams, which can be returned to Messrs. Wiggins Teape for repacking with their mill stock of 368 reams of similar watermarked paper 21" x 23". As your Department in New Zealand is prepared to take this paper Messrs. Wiggins Teape will now presumably be instructed to pack this paper [it] for shipment and if you agree you will no doubt issue to the firm the necessary instructions. This will clear the order with Messrs. Wiggins Teape for the first supply of rag and wood paper, which Messrs. De La Rue did not find suitable. Messrs. Wiggins Teape can then furnish to you a statement of their account. Meanwhile the printed paper held by Messrs. De La Rue and this Department can be destroyed under a joint certificate."

The final document on the file appears from its handwriting to be a much later addition. It reads:-

"Size subsequently altered to 23" x 21" to suit Messrs. De La Rue's printing presses. (See file of NZ.....)

"Extract from N.Z. letter of 15 Feb 1934 (NZ /5)

"In regard to the paper Messrs. Wiggins Teape wrote me on the 9th inst as regards the delivery date of the 50 reams 23" x 21" stamp paper urgently required by Messrs. De La Rue:-

"We learn from our mill folk that they hope to put at least a portion.....on Sat 10 inst.....we would like to point out that some amount of time is taken in the <u>numbering of the sheets</u>, which of course cannot be done until after the paper is made, cut and sorted.

"The paper was not gummed. De La Rue were to gum after printing.

"Apart from the 5d. denomination (NZ /6) this paper was not used for the De La Rue printings for which it was ordered, but was sent out to New Zealand. (NZ /7)

"The furnish was the same as that used for British line engraved stamps, i.e. rag + wood (NZ / )"

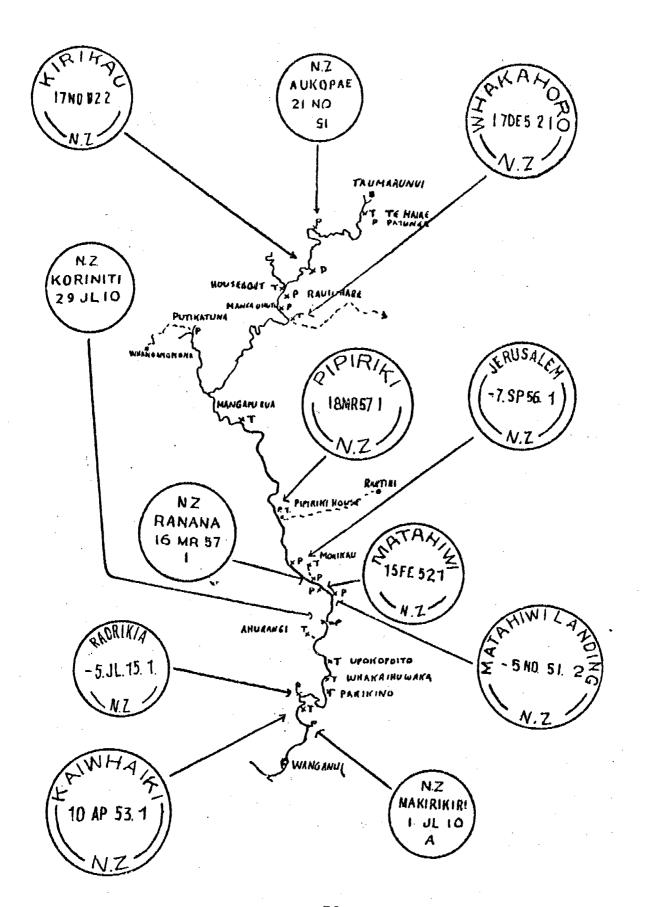
This end a long and complicated story, from which much interesting information can be gleaned. I am very grateful to the National Postal Museum for allowing access to these files, and for permission to publish extracts from them.

### WANGANUI RIVER MAILS

R.M. STARTUP

Continued from page 43.

Following the expiry of the wartime extended mail contacts with A.Hatrick & Co. Ltd., a further contract was arranged in 1920 or 1921 providing for continuation of the three times a week service to Pipiriki and the service to Taumarunui, three times a week from December to April, and twice a week for the rest of the year. The annual subsidy was increased to £2,793-00 including £1,705-00 paid



by the Lands and Survey Department. The services continued on this basis until when, in July, 1928, A.Hatrick & Co. Ltd. announced that they intended to discontinue their river services when the contract expired in December, 1928, while no tenders were received when the service was advertised. Apart from the Post Office and the 'loose bag', 63 private bag holders were being served.

Public discussion from alarmed river settlers who depended on the river service and a departmental enquiry saw three proposals

being made:-

- 1) that the Government take over and finance the service.
- 2) continue as a private enterprise.
- 3) that Wanganui River Trust take over.

It was thought that A.Hatrick & Co. Ltd.'s move was brought about by financial losses from the service though a comment years later was that it was brought about by those with a financial interest in the recently developed Chateau Tongariro to force greater Government financial involvement in this area of tourism.

The enquiry showed that the Wanganui to Pipiriki section was not essential for tourism while roading along the east bank ought to be completed; that the Pipiriki to Houseboat section was the most scenic on the whole river; and that the Houseboat to Taumarunui section was not scenic enough to be worthwhile. It was decided that, as Taumarunui was being linked with Kirikau by road, to re-advertise the mail service as:-

- 1) Wanganui to Taumarunui by steamer.
- 2) Wanganui to Kirikau by steamer, thence to Taumarunui by road.

Roland S. Hatrick, of A.Hatrick & Co. Ltd., having formed Wanganui River Services Ltd. to take over the river fleet and associated accommodation business, tendered for alternative 2), while J.P.Uden, postmaster Aukopae, tendered for the Kirikau to Taumarunui road service.

The matter was referred for Cabinet decision and the outcome was that a contract from 1st January, 1929, to 31st December, 1933, was made with Wanganui River Services Ltd., with an annual subsidy of £5,000-00, of which £3,000-00 was contributed by the Department of Lands and Survey. The contract required a thrice weekly service by steamer Wanganui - Ranana - Jerusalem - Pipiriki, and a service by steamer Pipiriki - Opatu - Kokakoriki - Kirikau thrice weekly from 15th December to 30th April, and twice weekly for the rest of the year, with a linking road service from Kirikau to Taumarunui. The estimated revenue from mails for the service was £58-00.

The down river time table in summer time was:-

Taumarunui depart 10.00 a.m. motor car Monday Wednesday Friday Te Maire depart 10.45 a.m. 11.30 a.m. Kirikau steamer Otuit1 noon Kokakoriki 12.15 p.m. Opatu 12.30 p.m.1.30 p.m. Houseboat arrive Houseboat depart noon steamer Tuesday Thursday Sunday Pipiriki arrive 5.30 p.m.

Pipiriki depart 7.00 a.m. steamer Monday Wednesday Friday Wanganui arrive 12.30 p.m.

Wanganui River Services Ltd. sub-let the Taumarunui to Kirikau road section of their contract and the first driver of the service car over this section was Robert C. Kelland. There was some fine native bush along the road and the trip proved popular with tourists. Aukopae, across the river from Kirikau, was no longer served by the river steamers but a temporary service with Taumarunui, by J.P.Eden who was carrying cream daily, was arranged until a rural delivery could be finalised.

The mail service terminal in Taumarunui, though road services were now operating, remained the river landing until October, 1929, when it was arranged for the service car to call at the Taumarunui post office itself. The other end of the road terminal at Kirikau was at the Kirikau post office where the postmaster, Mr. W.F.Le Gros, a local farmer, was required to take the mail one mile by foot over a metal road to the Kokakonui Landing. However, from the commencement of the road service the service car had taken the mail to and from the river landing and in January, 1933, the Kokakonui to Kirikau service, and payment, was abolished.

There was some criticism of the £5,000-00 subsidy being paid and high freight charges being levied. R.S.Hatrick pointed out that the subsidy required a service up river three days a week and down river three days a week and the £5,000-00 worked out at £15-00 a trip. He further pointed out that the freight charges were Government controlled and if it were not for the subsidy the service would not operate. World depression conditions were having their effect on the at best marginal farming conditions along the river and this is reflected in that now 48 private bag holders were being served against the 63 in 1929.

In the summer of 1931-31, low water levels saw delays in the timetable and Wanganui River Services Ltd. picked up passengers and down river mails at Parikino and brought them on to Wanganui by motor car. This meant that mails arrived about 10.30 a.m. and caught earlier onwards despatch. Though this commenced in March, 1932, as a temporary measure, it soon became a permanent arrangement and a larger service car was used on the river road from Wanganui. By January, 1933, the motor service had been extended north to Atene, 32 river miles. All post office bags, private bags, and the 'loose bag' beyond Atene were now carried by road while eight private bag holders en route were also served, though there was no provision for this service in the contract.

In January, 1933, a Mr. Barnes, a former employee, commenced a daily motor service from Wanganui to Koroniti in opposition to Wanganui River Services Ltd. thrice weekly service, both services being approved by Highways Board, and also carried two private bags. Wanganui River Services Ltd. naturally objected to this, but private bag holders had the right to use alternative means of transport. It seems that the Barnes service did not last long.

To be continued.

The Lots for the Rita Gilders Postal Auction, Catalogue enclosed, will be on view before and after the next meeting, 5th June, 1993.