

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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MORE ABOUT THE Q. E. MIDDLE VALUE PERFORATIONS by Colin Hamilton

Since the appearance of last month's notes, there has obviously been a good deal of scrutinising of collections, and to some purpose, too! As a result of observations made by a number of correspondents, the answers to some of the questions posed can now be filled in. For convenience, I will repeat those questions here, appending to each any further information now available.

1. Were the "18-pin" heads ever used on the 1/-, 1/6 or 1/9 values?

In the case of the 1/-, the answer is certainly yes. Mr R.D. Tweed of Ringwood has shown me two blocks of 4, both of which are definitely the products of an 18-pin head, and show the characteristic wide "tooth" at the upper corners of the stamps. There can be little doubt that this is a rare variety.

2. Were the "18-pin" heads ever used to perforate sheets from top to bottom?

I have no evidence so far that this was so. As indicated above, Mr Tweed's blocks are "bottom-to-top", like all the 18-pin 9d's seen to date.

3. Were sheets of the 1/-, 1/6 or 1/9 ever perforated from top to bottom with the 19-pin heads?

Mr F. Scrivener of Canterbury reports that he has a single copy (used) of the 1/6 which shows all the signs of having been perforated thus. Like the 18-pin 1/-'s, this must be a minor rarity.

4. Does the "perf. through right selvage" variety exist in the 19-pin state on the 9d, as suggested in Volume 4 of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand"?

Again I have no fresh evidence on this, but see below for further comments.

5. Does the same variety exist in either 18-pin or 19-pin state on the 1/-, 1/6 or 1/9?

In the 18-pin state, instances on all three values have been reported by quite a number of correspondents. Mr. J. A. W. Smith of Wootton Bassett notes that his examples include the R6/10 centre plate 2B variety in all five states from normal to second retouch; he infers from this that the head was in use over a considerable period of printing time - a simple but very neat piece of philatelic observation and deduction. In connection with the time factor, it is interesting that while the "perf through" variety appears quite frequently in conjunction with centre plate 2B (and also with 3B, that is, on 1/- die 2 sheets) no example on a sheet from centre plate 1B has been reported. It therefore seems probable that the earliest use was fairly soon after the introduction of centre plate 2, i. e. very

close to the time when the final printings of the 9d value were made (see Vol. 4, page 152). Could it be that this head was first utilised when the 18-pin experiment was in operation, and that its original use was therefore in the 18-pin form (unlike the other heads, which began as 19-pin, were later converted to 18-pin, then restored to 19-pin again). If so, and if it were used thus to perforate the final supplies of the 9d (and a very few 1/-'s), and subsequently converted to a 19-pin head at the same time as the other heads then in use, this would help to explain the apparent non-existence of the 9d in 19-pin, "perf through" form.

6. Does the same variety exist on any sheets perforated from top to bottom?

This is another instance of "no fresh evidence".

In view of the latest findings discussed here, it seems to me to be at least possible (if not probable) that some of the as yet unrecorded variations do exist. I can only repeat the familiar advice to keep a wary eye open.

Meanwhile thanks to all who have by their reports made these additional notes possible.

FORTHCOMING VISIT TO U. K.

Mr. Campbell Paterson (accompanied by his wife) is planning an extended visit to this country, arriving early in May and remaining here until late September. His exact whereabouts at any given time are not yet known, but anyone wishing to contact Mr. Paterson during this period should write to him c/o our Woking address, and any correspondence will be relayed to him with the minimum delay.

FIRST PICTORIALS - MINT

Offers "as they come" from a fine collection arranged according to the C. P. Catalogue listings. Pricing is according to condition, which is generally well above the average for these issues. Study these offers closely - there is an abundance of good material here!

- | | | |
|-----|---|--------|
| 501 | <u>The Low Values.</u> Four pages covering the London Print $\frac{1}{2}$ d (3 shades incl. the scarce purple-black), 1d (3 shades) and 2d (2 shades); the Local 1d (3 shades incl. lake-red), $1\frac{1}{2}$ d (3 shades perf. 11, one of which is an authentic brown, and one perf. 14); finally there is a first-class showing of the Local 2d, with 3 glorious shades in each of perf. 11 and perf. 14, an additional block of 4 perf. 11 and - highlight of the lot - a fine marginal pair with <u>mixed perfs.</u> (official patching on the back). The four pages, 27 stamps | £19.25 |
| 502 | <u>$2\frac{1}{2}$d "Rhapsody in Blue".</u> Two shades of the "WAKITIPU" spelling error stamp, and two each of all the "WAKATIPU" issues, supplemented by a superb block of 4 in the final perf. 14. 14 stamps, mint | £ 5.50 |
| 503 | <u>3d Huías.</u> Another comprehensive display of the London Print (2 shades), perf. 11 no wmk (2), perf. 11 wmk'd (3), perf. 14 (3), and one copy in each perf. of the 1907-08 reduced design. In addition, there are blocks of 4 of the perf. 11 no wmk and of the perf. 14 x 15 reduced design, each being in a shade contrasting with its single counterparts. 21 stamps..... | £16.50 |
| 504 | <u>4d Terraces.</u> Singles in each of the four catalogued shades, plus a pair, one stamp in which shows the R7/6 re-entry. 6 mint | £ 6.00 |
| 505 | <u>4d Lake Taupo.</u> 8 mint singles in the design which was originally that of the London Print 1d. All the main printings are represented (incl. the scarce final issue with comb perfs.), and there are extra shades of both the centre and frame colours... £ | 4.95 |
| 506 | <u>5d Otira Gorge.</u> Lovely shade contrasts in the London Print (4, including a very | |

	good copy of the scarce sepia), perf. 11 no wmk (2), perf. 11 wmk'd (3) and perf. 14 (2). 11 stamps	£16.50
507	<u>6d Green.</u> Three shades each of the London Print (one being grass-green) and of the Local Print, plus a very fine example of the outstanding London Print variety complete offset on back. The 7 scarce stamps.....	£20.90
508(a)	<u>6d Red.</u> A quite remarkable lot of 16 stamps, comprising perf. 11 no wmk (6 glorious shades), provisional "Lisbon" paper (1), perf. 11 wmk'd (6), perf. 14 (2), and a copy of the rare compound perf. 14 x 11. Super representation.....	£27.50
(b)	<u>As above.</u> A fine pair of the variety Imperf. Vertically on unwatermarked paper, perf. 11. Very scarce and desirable	£16.50
509	<u>6d Reduced Design.</u> A small but comprehensive set, including the perf. 14 (4 shades), perf. 14 x 13-13½ (an excellent copy of this rarity), and perf. 14 x 15 (2). The seven stamps	£22.00
510	<u>8d War Canoe.</u> The four main issues (i.e. excluding the very rare compound and mixed perfs.) each represented by two copies, showing shades. The eight 8d's.....	£ 7.70
511	<u>9d Pink Terrace.</u> A page of 8 singles and one block of 4, showing all the main papers and perfs, and including several attractive shades of purple. 12 stamps.	£17.60
512(a)	<u>1/- London Print.</u> Three mint singles - good shades	£ 6.60
(b)	<u>1/- Perf. 11, No Wmk.</u> Five singles in a superb range of red shades, plus a superfine mint pair in an unusually bright orange-red, and with a distinct "aniline" effect on the back - most unusual. The five singles and pair.....	£12.65
(c)	<u>1/- Perf. 11, Wmk'd.</u> Five mint shades. Brilliant contrasts	£ 8.25
513	<u>1/- Reduced Design.</u> Three copies, being two good shades perf. 14 x 13-13½ (shades are not common in this issue) and one perf. 14 x 15. The three.....	£ 9.90
514(a)	<u>2/- Milford Sound.</u> Set of 5, being one each of all the major issues (London Print, Perf. 11 no wmk, Provisional "Laid" paper, Perf. 11 wmk'd, Perf. 14) One or two minor faults (heavy hinging etc.), but extremely fresh looking copies, and rarely available as a set	£14.85
(b)	<u>As above.</u> The three shades of the perf. 14 issue, as listed by C.P. Three mint (one heavily hinged)	£ 9.90
515(a)	<u>5/- London Print.</u> Two excellent shades, both fresh, well centred copies.....	£19.80
(b)	<u>As above.</u> Mint single, some creasing (not visible on face). A scarce stamp at a bargain price	£ 4.40
(c)	<u>5/- Perf. 11, No Wmk.</u> Mint copy, heavily hinged, but fresh-looking and collectable	£ 4.40
(d)	<u>5/- Perf. 11, Wmk. Sideways.</u> The two shades of red and deep red, both a little off centre, but well above average condition	£14.30
(e)	<u>5/- Perf. 11, Wmk. Upright.</u> Mint single, fresh, colour gloriously deep. A lovely stamp	£ 9.90
(f)	<u>5/- Perf. 14, Wmk. Sideways.</u> The two shades, one having a slight stain at top right (the result of a "Truvel" hinge), and the other a faint crease. The faults sound much worse than they appear - see the stamps on approval, and judge for yourself!	£ 8.80
(g)	<u>5/- Perf. 14, Wmk. Upright.</u> Two shades, fine copies.....	£16.50
(h)	<u>As above.</u> Mint single, in a deep shade. Minute thin at top does not affect fine appearance	£ 5.50

THE "NEW ZEALAND HANDBOOKS" - A COMPLETE MATCHED SET

We offer a rare opportunity to acquire the five volumes of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" in a true set, that is with each volume bearing the same serial number.

These incomparable reference works, dealing in the greatest detail with all aspects of N. Z. stamps and postal history, are beautifully produced and luxuriously bound in a manner befitting limited editions. Actual numbers published were 1000 copies (Vols. 1 and 5); 2000 (Vol. 2), and 1150 (Vols. 3 and 4).

For the serious philatelic student, the connoisseur, the investment-minded collector - or a combination of all three! The set of five Handbooks, in superb condition. Price (zero-rated for V. A. T.)..... £122.50

LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

For anyone about to embark on a new field of collecting, much the best starting point is to acquire a basic collection of the chosen issue. We can thoroughly recommend any of the following lots as substantial foundation stones on which to build. Indeed many better items are already included in these offers.

- 516(a) First Sides. An unused lot of this fast-rising issue. All values 1d - 5/- represented, with 1d (6), 2d(6), 3d(6), 4d,6d, 1/--(2), 2/- and 5/-. The lower values include a range of shades (some without gum), and one of the 1/-'s is a very presentable copy of the rare original issue perf. 12½ (this stamp alone is now cat. £75). The 5/- is a superb example, as is the 2/- save for a faint gum crease. The lot of 24 (current cat. in excess of £180)..... £71.50
- (b) As above. A used collection, similar in scope to the previous lot, but without the range of shades. Again all values are present, with additional copies of the 2d (shade), 4d (different perf.), 6d (2, both diff. perfs.). The 2/- is fine, with circular pmk. (slightly heavy); the 5/- is superfine. The lot of 12 (cat. £50+).. £44.00
- 517 ½d Mt. Cook. Every C. P. Catalogue listing from F1a to F5c is represented in this collection by at least one example, with the solitary exception of the "impossible" perf. 11 x 14 on Cowan unwatermarked paper (F3d). Shades abound, even in the scarcer perfs. (some in pairs and blocks), and there is also a fine pair of F4b imperf. vertically. Cat. value is estimated at £90, and since condition is generally fine, this all-mint collection (of 60 stamps) must be a bargain at £66.00
- 518(a) 1d Universal. An excellent lot, not quite as comprehensive as the ½d Mt. Cooks above, but all the main groups are well represented, with many scarcer perfs., some in mint blocks. Other notable items include a booklet pane of 6, a marginal vertical pair from the Royle Plates with the scarce variety imperf. horizontally, a fine example of the Royle Trial Plate R1 plate number (in mint marginal pair), and various large mint blocks (some with staining have been ignored in the pricing). In all, 99 mint and 1 used (the used stamp is a good copy of the rare Royle mixed perfs, alone cat. \$40!). The collection, cat. over £110..... £49.50
- (b) 1d Universal Trial Slot Machine Stamps. A most attractive page of these seldom seen issues - we guarantee there are no trimmed Booklet Plate stamps in this lot! Nine Trial Slot Machine stamps, comprising GS1a single and pair (all Dot Plate copies); GS2a single and pair, both items having roulettes 14 at both sides (the single is from a coil join); GS4a (Reserve Plate) and GS4b pair (Reserve Plate). The last has a Trupel hinge mark, and one stamp creased, and is not charged for. The collection of three singles and three pairs (total cat. \$200). Rarely available at any price - a real bargain at £55.00

- 519 Air Stamps. The 1931-34 issues (5 values) are present in mint singles and blocks of 4 (the latter with some very minor foxing, but scarce in blocks), with an additional single of the 7d Blue showing the "Broken N" variety. Of the 1935 Aerodrome set, there are mint singles and a plate block of the 1d value. Finally, a fine copy of the 1930 Gisborne to Hastings 6d label (C. P. VL2). The collection as described. £24. 75
- 520 Postage Dues. Good coverage of all three designs. Strongest in the First Types (38 stamps) including all listed values to 2/- (2) and the 3d "No Stop after D" variety. Of the later issues there are 32 Second Types and 10 Third Types. The mint and used collection of 80 Dues. £21. 00
- 521 Long Fiscals. A magnificent lot of 13 different (ask any collector of these attractive stamps how difficult it is to pick up even the odd mint copy!). Various perfs and papers, values to £1. All beautifully fresh copies (very much under-catalogued). To the first order (try phoning before 9 a. m.!) £30. 25
- 522 Arms Types. The Cowan paper issues of 1931-35 complete mint to £1, including the rare 12/6. Condition exceptionally high throughout, though the £1 has an almost imperceptible corner crease. The scarce set of 14, providing a brilliant blaze of colour. £41. 25

RECENT ISSUES

7. 2. 73 N. Z. Commemoratives. 3c (Thames Borough Centennial), 4c (Westport Borough Centennial), 5c (Canterbury University Centennial), 6c (Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society 50th Anniversary), 8c (XXth Olympics - Rowing), 10c (E. C. A. F. E. 25th Anniversary).
 Set of 6, mint or used. 30p
 Complete set of 11 plate blocks (one 10c, two each of other values). £ 5. 25
 One plate block each value. Set of 6 blocks. £ 3. 00
 F. D. C. Auckland postmark 36p
4. 4. 73. N. Z. Steam Locomotives. 3c (Class "W"), 4c (Class "X"), 5c (Class "Ab"), 10c (Class "Ja").
 Set of 4 mint. 19p
 Complete set of 8 plate blocks (two each value). £ 3. 25
 One plate block each value. Set of 4 blocks. £ 1. 70
 F. D. C. Auckland postmark. 24p

Special Cancellations.

5. 3. 73. Eketahuna to Masterton, Centennial of Stage Coach Mail, Eketahuna, N. Z. 11p
28. 3. 73. 50th Anniversary Royal Forest & Bird Protection Soc., Paraparaumu N. Z., Kapiti Lookout. Special postmark on cover with 6c stamp commemorating the same event 11p

1967 PICTORIALS SPECIALISED

A series of offers of interesting material, much of which is already elusive, and available only when specialist collections formed when the issue was current are broken up.

- 523 1/2c Manuka. Plate and imprint blocks complete. Also two blocks including constant varieties (R6/6 and R15/2), and a single with an astonishing shift of the red colour - misplaced 6mm upwards, with spectacular results. The lot of 45 stamps, mint. £ 3. 30

- 524 1c Karaka. Again plate and imprint blocks complete (two of each), with two additional variety blocks (R7/7 and R11/10), and a strip from a slot machine showing the characteristic "grip-marks". In all, 39 stamps mint. 77p
- 525 2c Kaka Beak. Varieties are particularly prominent in this lot - there are five blocks including no less than 11 constant variety stamps. Two plate blocks, and two imprint blocks complete a fine display of 78 stamps, all mint. £ 2.75
- 526 2½c Kowhai. A very thorough collection of 227 stamps, including shades, a wealth of varieties in blocks, five imprint blocks, and a complete set of six plate blocks. The fine study £ 8.80
- 527(a) 3c Puarangi. The 3c was one of the most interesting of all the 1967 values, and the collection offered here certainly bears witness to this. Displayed (in Hawid mounts) on 17 album leaves, it is highlighted by complete sheets from plate 2B1B1B1B in original and retouched states, with many differences fully annotated. In each case the sheets have been quartered for convenient mounting. Also included are a multitude of mint blocks showing constant plate varieties, pre-printing paper crease (unusual in these issues), misplaced perfs., etc., etc. A magnificent single-value collection of 640 stamps, all mint. £24.75
- (b) As above. Mint strip of 3 with right selvage, one stamp being the rare variety "imperf at right". £33.00
- 528 5c Pikiarero. Two good constant varieties (R6/1 and R4/9) in positional blocks, two contrasting shades of green in pairs, and plate and imprint blocks complete. 48 mint £ 3.30
- 529 7c Rata. Three variety blocks (incl. R9/1, R10/3 and R16/5, together with a plate block of 6. An attractive pageful of 32 stamps mint. £ 2.75
- 530 7½c Trout. The original issue (sideways wmk) and the later printing (upright wmk) are here each represented by a plate block and an imprint block. All, incidentally, include constant varieties (R9/2 on the plate blocks, and R10/13 on the imprints). The four blocks of 6. £ 3.30
- 531 15c Green/Orange. Imprint/Plate block of 12. The scarce one! £16.50
- 532 25c Buttermaking. Top selvage block of 4 with partial double perfs; bottom selvage block of 6 including the R8/6 variety "Apostrophe over A of LAND"; and an imprint/plate block of 6. Splendid coverage! The three blocks. £11.00

KING GEORGE V RECESS

- 533 "Two-Perf" Vertical Pairs. A fine lot of nine pairs + 1½d "Pictorial" paper (2 pairs, one being the no wmk variety), 2d Violet, 2d Yellow, 4d Yellow, 5d, 7½d, 8d Blue, 9d - all showing the use of two quite different comb perforating heads on the sheet (in each pair, one stamp is perf. 14 x 13¼, and the other perf. 14 x 14¼). The 9 two-perf. pairs, mint. £19.25
- 534 "Two-Perf" Blocks. 2d Yellow, 2½d, 3d, 4½d, each in a magnificent mint block of 4 made up of two "two-perf." vertical pairs. The 4 variety blocks, scarce... £18.70
- 535 5d Pale Ultramarine. A magnificent block of 16 (2 x 8) from the top left corner of a sheet, complete with top and left selvage. In addition to the plate number 43, this block being from a "two-perf." sheet, includes two "two-perf" vertical pairs and demonstrates that, in the 5d, these pairs are from rows 5 and 6 (rather than, as is normal, from rows 4 and 5). Finally the block provides a reference example of the pale ultramarine shade, since "two-perfs." occur only in this shade. An exceptional specialist item, in superb condition. £27.50