

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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VOLUME XII

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K. E. VII $\frac{1}{2}$ d BOOKLET PANE WITH ORNAMENTAL STAR

by Colin Hamilton



1



2

According to Volume 1 of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand", two plates were used for printing the $\frac{1}{2}$ d Edward booklet stamps, one of which produced 24 panes of 6 stamps each, and the other 24 panes of 5 stamps with an ornamental star replacing the sixth stamp. We are concerned here with the second of these plates.

Again according to Volume 1, this "Star" plate was made by clamping together blocks, each of which was made from the original group of six electros (used in the making of the first booklet plate), after having replaced the bottom left-hand electro of this group with the ornamental star. Thus one would expect the ornamental star device to appear in the bottom right-hand position in each pane as issued (i. e. R3/2, or "stamp" 6, in each pane).

However, the illustration of a proof on page 270 of Vol. 1 apparently contradicts the stated method of preparing the plate, since in this illustration the Star is to the left of the adjoining stamp impression. I have recently handled part of an issued pane (illustration no. 1 above), which confirms that the Star does exist in the bottom left position, and furthermore the illustration on Permanent Page H4 of our Catalogue (reproduced as illustration no. 2 above), confirms that the Star is also to be found in the position one would expect from a reading of Vol. 1.

The conclusion must be, therefore, that:

1. More than one group of electros was used in the making of the blocks for this plate.
- or 2. If as stated in Vol. 1 only one group was used to produce the blocks, the positions of at least some of the individual electros in the group must have been interchanged during the making of the blocks.

This raises the further intriguing possibility that there may even have been two plates made to print the Star panes - one having the Star on the left, the other having the Star on the right.

An examination of a complete proof sheet from this plate (if such a thing exists) or a careful study of issued Star panes in quantity, would possibly allow a decisive conclusion to be made on these questions.

1972 VINTAGE CAR RALLY - 3c 1895 BENZ.
by Colin Hamilton

One of the six colours used in the printing of this stamp could be described as a pale brownish-pink. This is the colour which forms the sky and appears extensively in combination with other colours in other areas of the design, notably on the buildings and the roadway in the foreground.

Over the past year or so I have been shown several copies (and in addition have myself found one or two others) in which this particular colour is conspicuous by its absence - in its place there is a pale grey or greenish-grey, giving the stamp an overall appearance totally different from the normal.

This has led some of the finders to believe that they have discovered a major "colour omitted" error. Sadly, however, a missing colour is one thing it cannot possibly be, since there is invariably colour present (the grey mentioned above) and moreover that remaining colour does not match, nor even approximate to, any of the other colours used in the normal printing of the stamps. So the only alternative (if we pursue the "optimistic" line of thought, that is !), would be that an ink of the wrong colour - grey - was substituted in error for the pale brownish-pink, for part of the printing run.

But to come back down from the clouds, there is an explanation which is much less exciting, much simpler, very much more plausible - and in my view almost certainly the correct one. I would say that all of these apparent "errors" acquired their unusual appearance after issue, due to the red pigment in this particular ink being unusually susceptible to fading when exposed to some unidentified external agent, maybe chemical, maybe not. Significantly, every one of the oddities seen has been a used copy, and most if not all have emanated from kiloware or similar anonymous sources. Summing up, these "varieties" must be classed as changelings, and as such they are worthless.

KING GEORGE VI

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------|
| 101 | 1/- Red-Brown and Claret, Centre die 1, wmk upright (M13a). Set of 4 stamps, three having quite remarkable shifted centres (all different) the fourth being a normal stamp for comparison. A delightful and highly spectacular page in the making. The set | £12. 50 |
| 102 | As above. Two plate blocks of 4 stamps each (plate 1 - 1), one having R15/2 without flaw, the other having R15/2 with flaw on second E of REVENUE. The two blocks, as Catalogued | £4. 30 |
| 103 | As above. Top marginal block of 4 in the rare and distinctive copper-brown shade, being from the one recorded sheet with the variety "centre double print, one albino". In addition to the shade and the very blurred print, characteristic of this variety, the selvage shows a clear "pressure line" caused by the edge of the sheet under which this sheet received its albino print. The mint block, possibly unique (Cat. over £300) | £250. 00 |
| 104 | As above. Mint positional block of 4 incl. the constant variety R16/5 Top frame lines strengthened. The same stamp also has a constant flaw on the E of ZEALAND, and the adjoining stamp above (R15/5) shows a constant flaw below LA of LAND. The variety block | £1. 70 |

105	<u>1/- Red-Brown and Claret, Centre die 1, wmk Sideways (M13b).</u> Block as above, showing the same R15/5 and R16/5 plate varieties...	£2. 00
106	<u>As above.</u> Positional block of 10, including the Catalogued re-entry at R11/9 (M13bY), and with four other constant varieties noted. The multi-variety block	£3. 75
107	<u>As above.</u> Corner block of 8 which includes the constant variety on R13/2 (upper part of left frame line strengthened). The block, with plate no. 1 - 1	£3. 00
108	<u>As above.</u> Large irregular mint block of 66, with no less than sixteen varieties noted. Supplied with full description	£15. 00
109 (a)	<u>As above.</u> Mint block of 4 with wmk sideways inverted (M13bZ)	£9. 00
(b)	<u>As above.</u> Single stamp with wmk sideways inverted. Mint	£2. 30
110	<u>1/- Red-Brown and Claret, Centre die 2 (M13c).</u> Mint marginal block of 10 including the R10/7 re-entry (M13cY). The block also includes a minor re-entry on R11/7	£3. 40
111	<u>As above.</u> Mint single with partial offset of frame design on back. Attractive.	£1. 00
112	<u>As above.</u> Plate nos. 3A - 2 or 4 - 2 in mint block of 4. Each block ..	£1. 70
113	<u>As above.</u> The inverted watermark variety (M13cZ). A scarce 'invert', mint	£5. 70
114	<u>1/- Plate Blocks.</u> Complete set of 4 blocks, comprising M13a, 1 - 1 (with R15/2 flaw); M13b, 1 - 1; M13c, 3A - 2 and 4 - 2. The set (Cat. £7. 70), at the special price of	£5. 75
115	<u>1/3 Brown and Light Blue, Frame die 1a (M14a).</u> Two excellent contrasting centre-plate shades (red-brown and chocolate) in mint blocks of 4. The two shade blocks	£2. 30
116	<u>As above.</u> Plate numbers 2 - 1 or 3A - 1, each in mint block of 4. (If both are ordered, we shall select different shades as long as stocks permit). Each plate block, mint	£1. 45
117	<u>As above.</u> Plate block (pl. 2 - 1) with extra strike of perforating head in bottom selvedge extending into bottom row of stamps, thus giving partial double perfs. (normally the bottom selvedge is not perforated through). The block	£3. 75
118	<u>As above.</u> Another plate block of 4 (pl. 3A - 1) with strong partial offset of frame design on one stamp, other stamps normal	£3. 50
119	<u>As above.</u> The Catalogued R15/3 frame re-entry (illustrated on Perm. Page M8 in our Catalogue), in mint corner block of 6 stamps, with plate nos. 3A - 1	£3. 45
120	<u>As above.</u> Positional block of 6 including the good frame retouch on R10/3 (M14aX). The block also shows a constant and clear flaw above the King's ear at left on R9/3. The variety block	£3. 45

121	(a) <u>As above.</u> Marginal block of 4 with variety wmk sideways inverted (W8b). Mint (single copies are available price each 50p) block of 4 ...	£1. 85
	(b) <u>As above.</u> The Catalogued R10/3 retouch in mint positional block of 6 with wmk inverted. Very scarce thus	£5. 75
122	<u>1/3 Brown and Light Blue, Frame die 1b, wmk sideways (M14b).</u> Mint block of 4 and plate block of 4 (pl. 3A - 2) showing pronounced shades of the centre colour. The two blocks	£3. 50
123	<u>As above.</u> Both of the listed plate varieties (R13/5 and R16/6) in one positional block of 8. R13/5 is particularly interesting in that the re-touch has the effect of making it appear to be a Die 1a stamp. The double-variety block (M14b X, Y)	£2. 60
124	<u>As above.</u> Inverted watermark varieties are much scarcer in this issue than in M14a. We can offer:	
	(i) Mint singles at, each	£2. 85
	(ii) Marginal block of 4, mint	£11. 25
125	<u>As above.</u> Mint blocks of 4 with faint but clear partial offset impression of frame design on two stamps	£2. 35
126	<u>1/3 Brown and Light Blue, Frame die 1b, wmk upright (M14c).</u> Mint block of 9 from the unique "Make-ready" proof sheet issued at Auckland in October 1952. One stamp in the block has a faultily printed area of the vignette circled in red crayon, the crayon mark having been made before the frames were printed. The great rarity (only seven such varieties exist)	£110. 00
127	<u>As above.</u> Plate block of 4 (pl. 4 - 2). Mint	£5. 70
128	<u>As above.</u> Mint block of 4, one stamp being the R13/5 retouch (M14cZ)	£5. 15
129	<u>As above.</u> Positional block of 8 including the R13/5 and R16/6 retouches	£9. 25
N. B. The item above and the block offered as lot 123 form a "matched pair". Anyone purchasing both may have them at the special price of £10. 50 the two blocks).		
130	<u>As above.</u> Plate block of 24 (pl. 4 - 2) which includes the R13/5 and R16/6 varieties mentioned in lot 123 above. The fine mint block of 24	£28. 50
131	<u>2/- Brown-Orange and Deep Green, wmk upright (M15a).</u> Mint block of 4, plate block of 4, and a positional block of 6 including the centre plate re-entry on R11/9. The three mint blocks - complete as per our Catalogue listing	£5. 00
132	<u>As above.</u> A most unusual perforation variety, caused by a horizontal fold (affecting the bottom row of stamps in a sheet) prior to perforating. The result is as illustrated on page 1 of this Bulletin. Our offer is of:	
	(i) A vertical pair incl. one "long-size stamp" as illustrated, and one normal	£5. 00
	(ii) A block of 4 incl. two "long-size stamps" and two normals	£10. 00

133	2/- Brown-Orange and Deep Green, wmk sideways (M15b). Mint blocks of 4 with (a) normal wmk sideways and (b) wmk inverted. The two blocks	£3. 55
134	As above. Positional block of 6 including the Catalogued centre plate re-entry on R11/9. Mint	£2. 30
135	As above. Magnificent set of 4 blocks demonstrating progressive states of the variety stamps R12/3 and R13/1. In chronological order, the blocks show: (i) both stamps normal (pre-flaw), (ii) R12/3 normal, R13/1 flaws, (iii) both stamps with flaws, and (iv) both stamps re-touched. The four mint blocks (of 6 stamps each)	£22. 50
136	As above. Two blocks showing states (iii) and (iv) as described in the previous lot, i. e. the Catalogued items M15b (W) and M15b (V). The flaw-and-retouch blocks, mint	£9. 25
137	As above. Set of 4 plate blocks, all in different states. The appearance of flaws, and their subsequent removal by re-entry, is fully annotated. The four plate blocks	£7. 50
138	As above. A prominent flaw developed on the bottom serif of Z on R15/10. The mint corner block of 4 here offered shows this flaw	£1. 00

SECOND PICTORIALS UNSORTED

A wonderful chance for the specialist (whether budding or confirmed!), to set himself up for the remaining winter evenings. The following lots are from a large accumulation, all neatly tied up in bundles of 100 (we often wonder who exactly it was who went to the trouble of first counting such stamps into hundreds, and then parcelling them up with thread - it must have been a finicky job!). From an examination of a few bundles broken at random it is obvious to us that sorting has been into values only. No notice has been taken of watermarks, perforations, dies or varieties. So the opportunity of a real 'find' is obviously there.

139	<u>½d Fantail.</u> Watch especially for the 'Clematis' flaw (on single wmk paper particularly!), re-entries, and (gem of gems) the 'double print one albino'.	
	(a) 100 for	30p
	(b) 1000 for	£2. 50
140	<u>1d Kiwi.</u> Watch here for - amongst others - the scarce perf. 13½ x 14, and Die 1 re-entries on Multiple wmk paper.	
	(a) 100 for	50p
	(b) 1000 for	£4. 00
141	<u>2d Whare.</u> Mainly overprinted Official, these, but still look out for 'Teko-teko' re-entries.	
	(a) 100 for	25p
	(b) 500 for	£1. 00

Note. For easier packing, we will remove the thread, but rest assured this does not indicate we have picked over the stamps.

MISCELLANY

A short series of offers with emphasis on more unusual, seldom-offered material.

- 142 (a) Adson. 10 Second Sidefaces (1 x 1d, 9 x 2d) all with different advertisements in the First Setting. The 10 Adson, used £5. 00
- (b) As above. 11 different advertisements (all on 1d values) in the Second or Third Settings, including one in blue and three pairs. An attractive lot .. £7. 00
- (c) As above. 10 different Second or Third Setting ads. (all on 2d's) including one in green £5. 50
- (d) As above. Used copy of 1/-, perf. 10 (D10e), with advertisement printed in black. Very scarce £7. 50
- 143 1d Universal Watermark Variety. Top grade used copy from the early Local Plates on Cowan paper, with wmk inverted-and-reversed (G5aU). Scarce £3. 70
- 144 (a) 1d Dominion. Pair from slot machine (De la Rue chalky paper - J1a) with variety 'doubly gummed'. This was used as a means of strengthening the stamps, to reduce the risk of damage when removing them from the machine. The mint pair 40p
- (b) As above. A used copy of the very scarce variety on Jones unsurfaced paper (J2ax). Rarer by far than mint examples, so a real bargain at £47. 50
- 145 (a) K. G. V Booklet Item. Mint single of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d green (K13e) with "533 Cargill Road/DUNEDIN" printed in selvedge - thus proving it to be from that rarest of all K. G. V booklet panes with 'Cameron' advertisements £6. 50
- (b) As above. Mint pair of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d (K13e) with "Abdulla" advertisement 'tabs' at both sides £2. 75
- (c) As above. Another pair of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, complete with selvedge at both sides with 'Dainties' advertisements. This pair is beautifully used, with Kaiapoi c. d. s. 30 JA 26 Rare £12. 50
- (d) As above. An equally fine used pair, but from the perf. 14 issue (K13f) and having selvedges without advertisements £2. 25
- (e) As above. Unused booklet pane of 6 of the 1d Field Marshal, with "Parisian" ads in side selvedges. A heavy crease affects the top pair of stamps, so priced as a block of 4 at £4. 75
- 146 (a) 3/- Mt Egmont. An unusually fine used example (if any used copies can be described as 'usual' !) of the rare experimental printing with wmk inverted-and-reversed. (L14c) £20. 00
- (b) As above. Complete sheet of 60 of the final issue on coarse paper, perf. $14\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ (L14g), with all retouches and re-entries. Apart from a very minor defect in the bottom left corner (affecting the selvedge only), the sheet is in fine mint condition. Ideal for research - the 3/- is a wonderful "study" stamp. The sheet (cat. over £74 as normal stamps) £50. 00

- 147 6d Harvesting "Official". Set of 3 plate blocks showing the development of the spectacular plate crack which appeared on and around the plate number 1. The three blocks (LO9b) £4. 75

COUNTER COIL PAIRS

- 148 (a) Queen Elizabeth 'Heads' Issues. A matched set of 32 coil pairs, all having coil no. 5. All values in all 8 groups as listed in our Catalogue are represented, including the scarce middle-value horizontal pairs, and the later issues on thick white paper. The comprehensive specialist set, superfine mint throughout £40. 00
- (b) As above. A smaller collection of the pence values to 8d. Small and large figures of value, original and thick white papers are all represented. Not complete, but a fine representative lot of 16 mint coil pairs, with coil numbers "as they come" £11. 50
- (c) As above. A collection of 15 middle-value coil pairs, being complete per the C.P. Catalogue listings (NC5, NC6, NC7 and NC8e) with the additional narrow and trimmed gutter varieties on the 1/- and 1/6. Again with mixed coil numbers. The set of 15 coil pairs £25. 00
- 149 (a) 1960 Pictorials. Complete matched set (coil no. 1) of the original issue with black coil numbers. These are scarce - the black numbers were superseded by red within a few weeks on all five values (2d, 4d, 1/-, 1/6 and 1/9). The matched set of 5 coil pairs, mint £15. 50
- (b) As above. Complete set of 11 coil pairs, 2d - 1/9 (both) with red numbers, plus an additional pair of the 6d on chalk-surfaced paper. Coil numbers are mixed. The 12 pairs, mint £17. 50
- (c) As above. Coil pairs of the 2d (3), 3d (3), and 8d (2), all showing varieties (some transient, some constant). An unusual and interesting lot of 8 coil pairs, mint £8. 00

K. G. V RECESS - SINGLE VALUE COLLECTIONS

- 150 2d Yellow. 21 mint, including a block of 6, three blocks of 4 (one being a "two-perf" block), a pair and a single. All the perfs, and both papers, are represented, and there are additional shades. The collection £8. 50
- 151 4d Yellow. A superb page in the making, comprising a plate block of 4 (plate no. 20, of course), blocks in each of the main perfs, and a two-perf. block. The four mint blocks of 4 £13. 00
- 152 8d Indigo-Blue. A four-block set of identical make-up to lot 151 above (except that the plate block shows plate no. 39 !). For good measure, the blocks show a nice range of shades, unusual for this value £26. 00

EARLY COMMEMORATIVES

- 153 1913 Auckland Exhibition. Fine mint set of 4, $\frac{1}{2}$ d - 6d. At first glance the 6d appears to have a blunt corner at bottom right, but closer examination shows that this was the result of a misplaced strike of the comb perforating head in the row of stamps below. The set (now rising rapidly, as we warned it would !) £40. 00

- 154 1925 Dunedin Exhibition. The complete set of 3 values, $\frac{1}{2}$ d - 4d, used on cover and cancelled by the Dunedin c.d.s. of 17 NO 25, the first day of issue. The very scarce first day cover, neat and clean £22. 50

LITERATURE

- 155 "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand", Volume 1. The cornerstone of the entire set of Handbooks, seldom available by itself, since almost all existing copies are held in complete sets. This copy is in excellent condition. The very scarce volume £100.00
- 156 "Cinderella Stamps of Australasia". A recent publication from the pen of Bill Hornadge, with an interesting section on New Zealand, and the Antarctic Expeditions. Price (post paid) £1. 75

HEALTH MINIATURE SHEETS

1957 (wmk sideways).....	£1. 49	1966	£1. 24
1957 (wmk upright)	£3. 09	1967	£1. 24
1958	£1. 24	1968	£1. 24
1959	£1. 24	1969	£1. 37
1960	£2. 16	1970	£1. 33
1961	£1. 85	1971	93p
1962	£2. 00	1972	93p
1963	£1. 49	1973	93p
1964	£2. 16	1974	52p
1965	£2. 00		

RECENT ISSUES

4th Dec 1974	<u>Offshore Islands.</u> 6c, 8c, 18c, 23c.	
	Set of 4 mint	52p
	Imprint/Plate blocks of 6 stamps. Complete set of 4 blocks	£3. 30
	First Day Cover	57p
No fixed date of issue	<u>20c Tattoo Pattern.</u> Counter coil pair on unwatermarked paper with bluish gum	£1. 48

1974 CHRISTMAS

Postcard-size reproduction, in full colour, of "L'Adoration des Mages" by Conrad Witz, the painting featured on the 3c value of the 1974 Christmas set. The original painting hangs in Geneva. The coloured card (essential "write-up" material for your Christmas collection) 27p

(Note We can still supply similar "paintings" cards for the years 1961, 1965, 1966, 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973 - all at 30p each).