

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN

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WOKING 5887

All lots offered on approval subject to being unsold.

Postage extra on all orders under £5, please.

10c Coat of Arms
NO QUEEN'S HEAD!
NO VALUE!
(Dark blue omitted)
Magnificent!
Price £55

VOLUME XIII

NUMBER 2

SEPTEMBER 1975

N. Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

One of the most appealing aspects of stamps in general, and N. Z. stamps in particular, is their apparently endless capacity to surprise. No matter how much one thinks one knows about any particular issue, it is always liable to produce something entirely new and unsuspected.

Even the most intensively studied and documented issues retain this element of the unexpected. Who would have thought, for instance, that the counter coils of the 1953 - 56 period would today have much to offer that is really new, other than, perhaps, the odd obscure variety? These coil stamps attracted a profound interest when they were current, and one would have thought that the research and study (by the late Mr. B. G. Cox and others) would have uncovered every last grain of information there was to be learned about them.

There was particular concentration of interest in the section numbers of counter rolls, since that was the period of rapid change and experimentation, both in the positioning of the numbers and in the founts of type used. It will be recalled that towards the end of the currency of the King George VI counter coil issues, the original machine-printed numbers (referred to in our Catalogue as type 'a') were superseded by a smaller set (type 'b'), and the latter was used for all Q. E. issues until mid-1956 when it in turn was replaced by a third setting (type 'c'). Or so it has always, apparently, been believed. I can trace no record of the original K. G. VI type 'a' numbers ever having appeared on any Q. E. issues.

But I can now report having recently found no less than five indisputable examples of Queen Elizabeth coil pairs with section numbers from the original fount of type !

Furthermore, Mr. R. D. Tweed of Ringwood, has since confirmed that he has in his collection duplicates of two of the five mentioned above, and has shown me three other examples. (A check-

Good News for Woking Branch customers

Following the recent devaluation of the N. Z. dollar in relation to the £ sterling, we are pleased to announce that we are passing on to customers the full advantage of the improved rate of exchange wherever possible, and this is reflected in all current Woking branch prices.

list of all items now known appears at the end of this note). This points to the likelihood of still more lying unrecognized in collections.

Some of the numbers seen are of two digits, one being type 'a' and the other type 'b', so the almost certain explanation is that a few slugs from the type 'a' fount somehow escaped into the type 'b' fount. Whether by accident or design remains a matter for conjecture, although I suspect that accident is the more likely explanation. These varieties would thus be of a similar nature to the "joined ff" varieties which occur in a number of 1940 Centennial values overprinted "Official".

It is not suggested that the type 'a' fount was used in its entirety after the introduction of the Q. E. stamps - but as I said at the outset, one should be prepared for anything! Reports of any further examples will be welcomed.

Check list of Type 'a' coil numbers known on Q. E. issues.

Coil No. 8 - NC1a, NC5a (2 examples), NC5b, NC5c.

Note: the above has been seen on no. 8 only - not on no. 18.

O in Coil No. 10 - NC1c.

1 in Coil No. 11 - NC1d (first digit), NC1h (2 examples, both second digit),
NC6c (second digit).

1 in Coil No. 14 - NC1b

2d Whare. Mrs. M. L. Poole of the U.S.A. has shown us a used copy of this stamp overprinted "Official" on the coarse paper (LO4f) with the watermark inverted. This 'invert' in the unoverprinted issue has been known for a number of years (though it is by no means common), but Mrs. Poole's copy is to my knowledge the first recorded "Official" example.

VARIETIES - COMMEMORATIVE, CHRISTMAS AND HEALTH

Both the appearance and interest (not to mention the value) of a basic collection of stamps are invariably enhanced by the addition of varieties. The following list includes many such items to add that touch of distinction to a collection. Full annotation supplied with each item where necessary.

901 (i)	<u>Frozen Meat Export 4d</u> (S72a), watermark inverted, mint single	£1. 10
(ii)	<u>As above, 8d</u> (S73a). R8/11 and 9/12 in mint positional block of 6 ..	£2. 80
(iii)	<u>2d Marlborough Cent.</u> (S81a). Collection of 5 used stamps all showing varieties listed in Vol. 4 of the handbooks, and including the Catalogued R14/3 "Thumb print" variety (S81aZ)	£3. 00
(iv)	<u>3d Telegraph Cent.</u> (S88a). The scarce pale chocolate shade, mint single	£2. 75
(v)	<u>As above,</u> mint single with defective brown printing	£1. 50
(vi)	<u>As above.</u> R20/3 and 19/4 in mint positional block of 4	£2. 00
(vii)	<u>As above.</u> Set of four used variety singles, including varieties R11/2, 14/1, 15/4 and 20/3	£1. 25

901 (viii)	<u>3d Road Safety (S93a).</u> Catalogued variety R3/2 in mint positional block of 6	69p
(ix)	<u>1965 ANZAC, 4d (S94a).</u> R9/4 variety in mint block of 8 showing plate 1A markings	90p
(x)	<u>L. T. U. 9d (S96a).</u> R2/4 in mint block of 4	55p
(xi)	<u>I. C. Y. 4d,</u> watermark sideways (S99aZ) - the normal stamps were issued with watermark sideways inverted - used single	40p
(xii)	<u>Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference 2/-.</u> Mint horizontal pair one stamp with Catalogued R10/10 retouch (S102a)	£3. 50
(xiii)	<u>1966 Scout Jamboree 4d (S103a).</u> Mint sheet value block of 6 stamps, all three stamps in the second row showing strong evidence of retouching to the green plate in the ornaments in the upper corners	£1. 25
(xiv)	<u>1967 P. O. S. B. 4d and 9d, (S104a, S105a).</u> Three mint blocks, showing varieties R1/1, 4/20 and 5/19 on the 4d value and R3/7 on the 9d ...	£1. 75
(xv)	<u>1967 Royal Society 8c (S107a).</u> Three mint blocks showing the Catalogued varieties R1/10, 2/7, 7/6 and 10/5	£4. 50
(xvi)	<u>Armed Services 4c,</u> watermark inverted (S109aZ), mint	£2. 50
(xvii)	<u>As above,</u> 28c value with watermark inverted (S110aZ), mint	£1. 40
(xviii)	<u>As above,</u> the 28c wmk inverted but fine used	£1. 65
(xix)	<u>As above.</u> The 4c and 28c in blocks of four with sheet value markings - both with watermark inverted	£15. 25
(xx)	<u>Law Society 10c (S116a).</u> A mint block of 6 (3 x 2) with both stamps from the 3rd vertical row showing a spur upwards from the owl's head	£1. 85
(xxi)	<u>3c Otago University.</u> Mint value block of 6 showing R2/9 Catalogued variety (S118aZ)	£1. 00
(xxii)	<u>Vintage Cars 4c (S153a).</u> R9/4 in block of 8 with plate markings lalalalalala	66p
(xxiii)	<u>As above 5c,</u> Catalogued variety R4/2 (S154aZ) in mint block of 9 ...	£1. 70
(xxiv)	<u>As above 8c,</u> Catalogued variety R2/7 in mint block of 8 with sheet value marking (S156a)	£2. 10
(xxv)	<u>1972 Commemorative 3c (S158a),</u> R6/1 in mint block of 4	45p
(xxvi)	<u>1961 Christmas (SC2a).</u> Spectacular "Rainbow" variety caused by massive shift of yellow colour, mint single	£3. 70
(xxvii)	<u>1963 Christmas,</u> "nosebag" flaw R3/8 (SC4aV) in mint block of 6	£1. 00
(xxviii)	<u>As above,</u> but R3/8 flaw in used single	25p
(xxix)	<u>1969 Christmas, no wmk,</u> Catalogued variety R3/8 (SC10bZ) in mint block of 6	55p

901 (xxx)	<u>1970 Christmas 2½c</u> (SC11a), misplaced strike of the comb perforating head in the top selvage, mint block of 4	£1. 40
(xxxi)	<u>1967 Health 3c + 1c</u> (T40b). Catalogued varieties R2/2 and 1/8 in two mint blocks of four	£1. 15
(xxxii)	<u>1973 Health 3c + 1c Miniature Sheet</u> , (T45a) with variety R2/3	50p

PLATE BLOCKS - SOME INTERESTING OFFERS

902	<u>1936 ANZAC 21st Anniversary</u> . Complete set of 8 blocks of 4, with the plate number 1 in all four positions on both ½d + ½d and 1d + 1d values ...	£4. 40
903	<u>1936 Chambers of Commerce</u> . The set of 5 values (½d, 1d, 2½d, 4d, 6d), each in plate block of 4 with plate no. 1 in the bottom right corner	£4. 70
904	<u>Q. E. 2d on 1½d Provisional</u> (N40a). Complete set of 8 imprint/plate blocks (of 6 stamps each), showing the plate nos. 7, 8, 9 and 10 with both the large and the small surcharge dots	£3. 00
905	<u>Q. E. 9d</u> (N9a). This value exists perforated from bottom to top of the sheet - with the bottom selvage not perforated through - and abnormally, from top to bottom (in this case the vertical perforations cross the bottom selvage). This fact is displayed admirably in a set of 4 plate blocks, showing both perforation variations on plates 1A1A and 1B1B. The specialist set of 4 blocks	£4. 95
906	<u>1970 Health</u> . The 2½c + 1c value is notable for the very pronounced shades of the red colour in the design, ranging from a deep vermilion to a pale orange red. We offer the three shades listed in our Catalogue in <u>superfine mint imprint/plate blocks of 6 stamps each</u> (all plate 1A x 4). Very scarce thus - and a superb page in the making for any Healths collection	£5. 50

1960 PICTORIALS

907 (a)	<u>1960 Pictorials</u> . A really comprehensive lot of the "Flower" values (½d - 8d). Included are no less than 421 mint stamps covering shades, original and chalky papers, booklet panes, counter coil pairs, Chambon perforations in blocks, plate and imprint blocks and many varieties, both constant and transient, mostly in blocks. All the ingredients for a fine, interesting display of these attractive and colourful stamps. Catalogue value is well in excess of £60; condition is fine throughout; so a bargain for someone at	£38. 50
(b)	<u>Chambon Perforations</u> . Complete set of seven blocks of six, all on the original paper, and all showing good clear examples of the Chambon perforation characteristics. Values represented are ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d and 8d. The seven mint blocks	£13. 25
(c)	<u>8d Rata</u> . Perfect unhinged mint imprint/plate block of 8 stamps, with the plate numbers 1121. This (with the 4d plate 2333, on chalky paper, and the 9d plate 14A15) is one of the great 'plate' rarities of the issue. The plate block	£82. 50

The New Zealand Post Office has announced that in November of this year the current definitives, $\frac{1}{2}c$ - 10c, are to be replaced by a new series incorporating completely different designs. The following offers, therefore, provide the opportunity to ensure you are fully up to date with the present issue before it is superseded and before prices increase beyond their existing levels. Wants lists for individual items from any of these lots will be welcomed, of course.

- 908 (a) $\frac{1}{2}c$ - 10c Watermarked Issues, (P1a - P12a). A set of 21 unmounted mint plate/imprint blocks, all on the now obsolete watermarked paper. Only four blocks are missing (1c Pl. 1B, 2c Pl. 1A, 3c Pl. 1A and 1B2B1B). The 21 plate blocks, already becoming difficult £20. 00
- (b) 15c - \$2 Original Issues (P13a - P21a). 20 Unhinged mint plate/imprint blocks absolutely complete as listed in our Catalogue, with the addition of the later 25c plate 2a3a2a3a, and the 30c plate 2a2a1a2a £45. 00
- (c) Booklet Issue, Watermarked. A complete 1971 75c Booklet, including four panes of six stamps (1c, 3c, 4c x 2) and one 1c pane with 5 stamps and an advertising label, all on watermarked paper. Now obsolete £2. 30
- (d) As above. Set of four different booklet panes as detailed in (c) above, on watermarked paper £1. 75
- (e) Unwatermarked paper, 1c - 20c (P2c - P15b). A set of 29 plate/imprint blocks, including both the original 'white' gum and the current 'bluish' gum. Only the 4c plate 1A with bluish gum is missing from all plate and gum combinations recorded to date on the Harrison unwatermarked paper £11. 75
- (f) As above. A 1974 75c Booklet, including five panes as detailed in (c) above, but all on unwatermarked paper, and complete with full interleaving 86p
- (g) As above. All four different booklet panes on unwatermarked paper 64p
- (h) Counter Coil Pairs. 9 coil pairs on wmk'd paper and 6 coil pairs on unwmk'd paper, being complete with the exception of the 3c and 6c on unwmk'd paper which have only just been issued in New Zealand £9. 50

- (i) 4c on $2\frac{1}{2}c$ Provisional. Philatelically-speaking this is the modern day 1d Universal, having almost unlimited specialist interest. We can offer a comprehensive collection of all three printings, mounted on 28 leaves and well-written up. Very rich in mint blocks with plate numbers (complete in all printings) and the many different sheet value markings. Equally strong in varieties, including a number of the scarcer items (e.g. a strip showing the red colour partly omitted, and a block of four with double print of surcharge, one albino). Quite impossible to duplicate now, and an unrepeatable opportunity. 544 mint stamps, and 4 covers (one of which is postmarked 23/6/71, believed to be the earliest known date of use)..... £150. 00

(N.B. The above collection is offered on behalf of a client, and therefore does not attract V.A.T., so it represents excellent value.)

- (j) As above. Complete sheet of 200 with the original photogravure surcharge, from plate 1B1B1B2B and including the listed black plate flaws on R1/20, 10/17 and 10/18. In addition, the sheet shows the very scarce and abnormal variety "perforated from left to right", having the left hand selvage not perforated through, and the right hand selvage perforated through. (Normally the perforating was from right to left, giving the reverse effect in the side selvage). The complete sheet, full of interest, and ideal for further research £25. 00
- (k) As above. All three different surcharges (P30a, b and c) are represented in the set of 13 plate/imprint blocks. Complete, except plate 1A1A1A2A with Harrison's letterpress surcharge £15. 50

RECENT ISSUES

- 4/6/75 N. Z. Forest Parks. 6c Lake Sumner, 8c N.W. Nelson, 18c Kaweka, 23c Coromandel.
Set of 4, mint or used 50p
Imprint/Plate blocks. Complete set of 4 blocks (of 6 stamps each) £3. 25
Official illustrated F.D.C. (Wanganui postmark) 55p
- 6/8/75 1975 Healths. 3c + 1c Child and Lamb, 4c + 1c Child and Chickens, 5c + 1c Child and Ducks.
Set of 3 mint 13p
Miniature sheet of 10 stamps (4c + 1c only) 43p
Imprint/Plate blocks. Complete set of 6 blocks (2 each value) of 6 stamps each £1. 60
Imprint/Plate blocks. Set of 3 blocks (one each value)..... 85p
Official illustrated F.D.C. (Wanganui postmark) 21p
Health Camp Postmarks. Complete set of 6 different Camp Postmarks (Maunu, Roxburgh, Glenelg, Pakuranga, Otaki, Gisborne), each on official cover with a complete set of the stamps. These camp post offices are open for one day a year only, on the day of issue of the Health stamps.
The set of 6 covers £1. 40
- No fixed date of issue 8c Fish Definitive. No wmk, bluish gum. Counter coil pair 65p
25c Hauraki Gulf National Park. New plate numbers 2a3a3a2a3a, in block of 6 with imprint £1. 50

(Note: It is apparent that the printers have experienced considerable difficulty with the plates for the 25c. This is the ninth different combination we have seen. Incidentally we can supply any or all of the other eight from stock).

- Varieties 6c Offshore Islands. Prominent blue plate flaw in selvage below R10/4.
In mint block of 4 30p
18c Otago Medical School Centenary. R8/10. Extensive elliptical flaw behind EA of ZEALAND. In mint corner block of 6 (with "traffic lights" colour code markings) £1. 25
18c Sailing Ships. R8/1 (plate 1A) "Extra seagull" in sky above RY of TORY. In mint block of 4. An attractive variety..... £1. 00
- Special Cancellation on Cover. 20 JUN 1975. Opening of New Chief Post Office/Gisborne N. Z. 12p
- Postal Stationery. 3c Newspaper Wrapper, bright blue-green on white paper ... 7p
4c Envelope, 9" x 4", red on white 10p
Aerogramme Form. New larger size (8½" x 4" when folded), printed in red and blue on blue. (As with previous N. Z. aerogrammes, there is no printed stamp - adhesives have to be affixed). 5p