

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



PUBLISHED BY CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD.

P.O. BOX 17, WOKING, SURREY, GU22 7BL

ISSUED MONTHLY. ☎ WOKING (04862) 5887

All lots offered on approval subject to being unsold.

Postage extra on all orders under £5, please.



VOLUME XIV

NUMBER 10

MAY 1977

N. Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

By Colin Hamilton

During its entire period of use — from 1907 to about 1938 — the first N.Z. "OFFICIAL" overprint, with the letters in block capitals (Type 02 in our Catalogue) was invariably applied to stamps vertically reading upwards, that is to say with the 'O' nearest to the foot of the stamps, and the 'L' nearest to the top. Or so we have always believed.

In recent months, however, I have had two apparently unconnected reports of copies of the King Edward ½d with this overprint reading downwards. Both stamps are, I believe, in the collections of individuals whose interests are not primarily in N.Z., but the existence of one of them has been confirmed to me by an experienced N.Z. specialist, in whose opinion it appeared to be genuine. I personally have not examined either of the reported examples, however, so the comments that follow are necessarily of a speculative nature.

With all due respect to my specialist friend's opinion, I am sure he would agree that the present rather scanty evidence is inconclusive, and that these varieties may be bogus. Most overprints (including this particular one) are relatively uncomplicated affairs, and a reasonably accurate simulation would not prove too difficult in unscrupulous hands.

Nevertheless the alternative — that they may be authentic — cannot be dismissed merely on the grounds that (a) an overprint happens to be involved and (b) nothing has ever before been heard of such a variety. Regular readers of both Bulletin and Newsletter will be aware that fresh discoveries are not all that unusual occurrences, even in issues which over the years have been studied in much greater depth than have Official stamps. The very fact that these 'inverts' are previously unknown in N.Z. specialist circles lends credence to the view that they were not produced by someone whose purpose was to deceive the collector. Another point in their favour is that the circumstances in which an inverted overprint could occur naturally are by no means inconceivable. Whole sheets were overprinted in one operation, so the simple error of passing a sheet upside down through the overprinting press would result in 240 stamps with the variety.

Assuming for the purposes of argument, then, that this is what occurred, it may at first sight seem odd that not a single copy out of so many has come to light until now, some 65 years later. But on closer consideration this becomes much less of an improbability. The Edward ½d

was a quite commonly used value, and the wastage rate (wastage, that is, from a philatelic viewpoint) would therefore be high. Of those which did survive, many were doubtless tied into bundles of 100 and packed away in cigar boxes (like many other common stamps of the period) and remain there today; many others would surely find their way into schoolboy collections via cheap packets. I'm pretty sure that as an eight-year-old I had a copy in my own album, gleaned from a Woolworth's 3d packet. Who knows, it may even have had the overprint 'the wrong way round'!

[In parenthesis it is interesting to speculate on the rich pickings a census of all "toy-box" collections might reveal, even if one looked only at the New Zealand pages. For instance it is said that the bulk of the Edward 4d in the elusive ochre shade was inadvertently consigned to the packet trade!]

Losses in the various ways I have suggested might well have decimated the original 240, then, but there is still one important aspect we have not yet touched on. Suppose a copy had at some time come our way, I wonder how many of us could truthfully say we'd have given it a second glance. Or to put it another way, did YOU notice anything unusual about the illustration on the title page of this issue of the Bulletin, before reading these notes? I should add that it is a composite illustration, the inverted 'OFFICIAL' having been added photographically to an ordinary ½d stamp.

If the result of these notes is that further copies are discovered, it will have served its purpose, and we may perhaps then be in a better position to establish the true status of this variety.

PANPEX '77

The difficulties of competing at 13,000 miles distance were no doubt responsible for keeping the number of entries at Panpex from the U.K. down to a handful. The New Zealand Society of Great Britain, however, kept the Union Jack flying, gaining a Bronze Award in the Literature Section with its regular magazine "The Kiwi". Congratulations, N.Z.S.G.B.!

MISCELLANEOUS OFFERS

- 501(a) Full-Face Queens Imperf. A simplified set of 6 used (1d red, 2d blue, 3d brown-lilac, 6d red-brown, 6d black-brown, 1/- green). Not top-grade copies, being short of margins in places and with other minor faults, but appearance is good overall, and colours in every case are brilliantly fresh. Quite a respectable set of classics, offered at a tiny fraction of Catalogue price £37.50
- (b) As above. Another set, similar in content except that a 6d yellow-brown replaces the red-brown. Fine appearance, but most of the stamps are repaired. A spacefiller set at a real spacefiller price (which wouldn't even begin to cover the repairers' time and trouble!) £10.00
- 502 Full-Face Queens, Perf 12½. Set of 8 used, incl. 1d red, 2d blue, 3d lilac, 3d mauve, 4d yellow, 6d red-brown, 6d brown, 1/- yellow-green. All sound copies, intermediate to fine quality. Min.Cat. now \$183 (£110+). See this set on approval at £62.50
- 503 2d Pelure Paper, Imperf. (S.G. 83). Nice copy with 3½ margins, neatly tied to small piece. Colour somewhat faded (as the 'pelure' ultramarine invariably is), but good for this difficult stamp. Cat. \$350. The 2d pelure £40.00

- 504 1d Richardson White Paper (S. G. 8). Four full margins, good colour, fine central '1 in barred oval' cancel, leaving the Queen's face absolutely clear. Cat. \$ 130, but a tiny defect allows £42.50
- 505 6d Richardson White Paper. Copy in pale brown (S. G. 14) of really gorgeous appearance — fresh colour, four good even margins, light cancel, no thins. This example would be at 'full Catalogue' but for a tiny stain spot in the value panel. An excellent buy at £45.00
- 506 ½d Newspaper. 1873 compound perf issue (B1c), but with perf 10 x 12½, as opposed to the normal 12½ x 10. Choice of copies unused no gum (with marginal line wmk letter) or used (with marginal line wmk), each £9.50
- 507 First Pictorial 4d Lake Taupo. Mint corner block of 4, perf. 14, including the re-entry at R8/10 (EV12b). Superb! £15.50
- 508(a) 1d Universal. Corner block of the 'London' Print (G1a) with sheet serial number. Gum slightly patchy, and a few split perfs (in selvedge only), but beautiful fresh appearance, and a most attractive block £6.00
- (b) As above. Lovely mint block of 4 (marginal, with arrow marking), on Pirie paper, perf 11 (G2a) in deep carmine lake. Thin spot in selvedge, well away from stamps. The rare block £45.00
- (c) As above. Booklet pane of 6 with almost complete binding selvedge. This is pane no. 3 as detailed in G. R. Lee's "1d Universal" monograph, and all three of the stamps in the left vertical row thus show re-entries. Fine fresh appearance (the merest hint of a vertical crease is discernible only from the back). The scarce booklet pane (W2eY), now Cat. \$ 150 £47.50
- (Footnote: We have available one copy of the above-mentioned G.R. Lee monograph. Binding matches that of the N.Z. Handbooks. Price, in fine condition, £10.50 post paid).
- (d) As above. Block of 4 from a booklet pane, with complete binding selvedge at top. Fine mint £35.00
- (e) As above. Two pairs of 'Royle' perf 14 stamps, each from the bottom right corner of a sheet, with full selvedges. The stamps are in really outstanding shades, but the main point of interest lies in the water-marked numbers ('2' and '3' respectively) in the extreme corners of the selvedges. Some mystery surrounds these numbers, but they are believed to identify the dandy rolls used by the paper manufacturer. The two pairs, mint and fine £12.50
- (f) As above. Corner block of 4 of the final 1d Universal issue, the surface print (G11a), with full selvedges, and showing the sheet serial number. The scarce block, superfine mint £7.75
- 509(a) Rare ½d Edward Booklet Item. Superb mint block of 4, comprising three stamps and an ornamental star, complete with side selvedges, from the 1909 2/- booklet (which contained only 1/11½d worth of stamps, hence the reason for the label with star) £77.50

509(b)	<u>As above.</u> Another example of the ornamental star, in pair with ½d stamp, and with side selvages intact. Fine mint	£62.50
510	<u>1d Dominion.</u> Unmounted mint marginal block of 4 on Art paper, with lithographed 'watermark' in <u>blackish green</u> (J5aV). Scarce	£18.50
511	<u>K.G.V ½d Booklet Pane.</u> Perf 14 issue, with "Parisian" advertisements, and full binding selvedge (W4fX). A little faint toning at the top, otherwise good mint and of attractive appearance. The pane	£18.50
512	<u>Q.E. 3/- Official.</u> We can offer the kingpin (or rather 'queenpin') of N.Z.'s last set of Official stamps, in the following forms – all scarce:	
(a)	Single stamp, perfect mint	£15.50
(b)	Block of 4, again perfection	£62.50
(c)	Single stamp, finest used	£18.00
(d)	On official 'Official' First Day Cover, postmarked 1st March 1963 (the cover also bears the 2½d olive-green, the only other value issued on that day)	£24.50
or (e)	Collection comprising lots (a), (b), (c), and (d) above, to give a truly magnificent display of this key stamp, at the special inclusive price of	£105.00
513	<u>1940 Centennial 9d.</u> Superfine mint imprint/plate block of 4, showing the frame plate no. 1 in its recut and resited form, with faint traces of the original '1' remaining	£18.25
514	<u>1946 Peace 5d.</u> Mint example of the variety Blurred Centre (S45aY). The blurring in this variety is very pronounced, and the colour a distinctive bright (emerald) green. From the only known sheet, the blurred centre, perfect unmounted	£33.50
515	<u>1964 Health Missing Colour.</u> Superfine mint copy of the 2½d+1d (Tarapunga) with variety Red Colour Omitted (T36aZ). Now Cat. \$220, so a snip at	£67.50
516	<u>½d Victoria Land.</u> Absolutely first class used copy of this rare stamp, cancelled (as it ought to be) by the British Antarctic Expedition c.d.s.	£110.00

N. Z. PROOFS, ETC.

A magnificent listing of these scarce and desirable adjuncts to any collection; whether it be highly specialised or not, the addition of some proof material to a display lends a unique touch of distinction.

517	<u>2d Full-Face Queen.</u> Imperf plate proof, printed in black on white paper. Fine	£22.50
518(a)	<u>6d Full-Face Queen.</u> A similar proof	£22.50
(b)	<u>As above,</u> but a horizontal pair	£45.00
519	<u>1/- Full-Face Queen.</u> Imperf plate proof, printed in black on white paper ...	£22.50

N.B. The above four items are all early printings from the plates in pristine, unworn condition, and bring out the full beauty of the Chalon Head design as few stamps can.

- 520(a) 2d Hausburg. The 1906 official reprint from Plate 2, printed in black on stout card, imperf. Single copy 50p
- (b) As above, but a block of 4 £2.00
- (c) As above. Another block of 4, but from the damaged area of the plate. Two of the impressions in the block show heavy retouching £3.00
- 521 First Sidefaces. Set of 5 imperf plate proofs in unissued colours (1d orange-brown, 2d blue, 3d mauve-lilac, 4d deep carmine, 6d brown), each overprinted CANCELLED in black. One or two surface smears as usual, but a very pretty set of colour trials £19.50
- 522 Second Sideface 5d. One of Mr. Bock's die proofs, printed in grey-black on thin paper. Not rare as die proofs go, but a nice item £12.50
- 523 Second Sideface 6d. Block of 4 of the reprint in black, imperf. Faint vertical creasing (invisible from front) affects two impressions, otherwise superb £7.50

First Pictorials

- 524 ½d Mt Cook. Plate proof block of 4 in purple-brown, imperf. Note that this block is in the design of the 'London' (1898) ½d, and should not be confused with the relatively common plate proofs in the same colour from the later Local plates. The rare proof block, very fine £65.00
- 525 1d White Terraces. Plate proof single in crimson, imperf £12.25
- 526 2d Pembroke Peak. Plate proof block of 4 in rosy lake, imperf. As in the case of lot 524 above, this block is in the 'London' design, not the very much commoner Local plate proofs in the modified design of 1899-1900. Large margins on three sides, cut close at top £47.50
- 527 2½d Lake Wakatipu. Plate proof block of 4 in deep bright blue, imperf. One or two minor tone spots on back. Cut close but clear at one point, margins otherwise generous, and beautiful fresh colour £55.00
- 528 3d Huias. Single copy (good margins all round) in yellow-brown, imperf. This item bears a contemporary coin circle type datestamp of Wellington, and although we cannot guarantee genuine usage of a plate proof, it certainly looks good ! £5.00
- 529(a) 4d White Terrace. Plate proof block of 4, imperf, printed in pale rose. Outer frame line just trimmed at one corner, margins elsewhere clear to large. Lovely item ! £47.50
- (b) As above. Single copy, imperf., with large even margins, in a somewhat deeper shade than the block. Like lot 506, this copy is cancelled by a contemporary type of datestamp (in this case, a squared circle of Timaru). Again not guaranteed, but attractive and unusual £5.00
- 530 5d Otira Gorge. Plate proof block of 4, imperf, in a rich deep shade of purple-brown. All four impressions show an identical fine horizontal line through the

	upper part of the letters ZE. Good to large margins all round, except for a small V-shaped nick which just touches the frame of one impression. The block	£47.50
531	<u>6d Kiwi</u> . Plate proof block of 4 in deep green, imperf. Superb in all respects	£65.00
532	<u>As above</u> . Plate proof single in pale brick red, imperf	£15.50
533	<u>8d Canoe</u> . Plate proof block of 4 in steel blue, imperf. Absolutely immaculate and once seen, irresistible !	£65.00
534(a)	<u>9d Pink Terrace</u> . Plate proof block of 4 in reddish purple, imperf. Good margins on three sides, slightly cut into at right, hence	£37.50
(b)	<u>As above</u> . Two plate proof singles, imperf, in purple and deep violet (distinctly different colours, these, not shades). The two proofs	£30.00
535	<u>1/- Keas</u> . Plate proof block of 4, imperf., in a delightfully delicate shade of red orange. Good to large margins three sides, close but clear at right	£57.50

King George V Colour Prints

All items under this heading are printed from the recess plates, are imperf., and are overprinted COLOUR PRINT in two lines in black. With the exception of the 2½d, all are on 'Pictorial' paper as used for the provisional printings of the 1½d of 1916, hence the occasional no watermark varieties.

536(a)	<u>1½d</u> . Single in black	£10.00
(b)	<u>As above</u> , but variety No Watermark	£12.00
(c)	<u>As above</u> . Single in grey (very similar to the issued colour)	£10.00
(d)	<u>As above</u> . Block of 4 in grey, two of the impressions having no wmk	£42.50
537(a)	<u>2d</u> . Single in bright violet	£10.00
(b)	<u>As above</u> . Corner block of 4 in deep slate purple, including two No Watermark varieties	£42.50
538	<u>2½d</u> . Block of 4 (marginal) in deep blue. This block is on the normal Cowan paper with 'registered' (regularly-spaced) watermark	£40.00
539(a)	<u>3d</u> . Corner copy in black-brown	£10.00
(b)	<u>As above</u> . Top marginal copy in deep black brown	£10.00
(c)	<u>As above</u> . Single copy in an attractive soft brown shade	£10.00
(d)	<u>As above</u> . Another example in the same shade, but with No Watermark	£12.00
(e)	<u>As above</u> . Block of 4, again in the same soft brown shade	£40.00

540(a)	<u>4d, Plate 20.</u> Top marginal copy in ochre	£10.00
(b)	<u>As above.</u> Block of 4 in ochre	£40.00
(c)	<u>As above.</u> Another block in the same shade. This one is quite possibly unique, since two impressions are without watermark <u>and</u> the block includes the big R4/10 "Club-foot" re-entry. Faint blue crayon marks affect three of the impressions, but this is a frequent feature of these Colour Prints, and does not detract from a delightful specialist piece	£47.50
(d)	<u>As above.</u> Block of 4 in pale orange	£40.00
(e)	<u>As above.</u> Single copy in pale orange, but No Watermark	£12.00
(f)	<u>As above.</u> Single in reddish orange, with variety <u>Watermark Sideways Inverted</u> (the 4d in this shade is the only recorded instance of the use of the paper sideways)	£15.00
541(a)	<u>4½d.</u> Single copy in bronze green	£10.00
(b)	<u>As above.</u> Another example, this one in myrtle green	£10.00
542(a)	<u>7½d.</u> Single in chocolate	£10.00
(b)	<u>As above.</u> Another 7½d, but in bright red-brown	£10.00
543(a)	<u>9d.</u> Single copy in olive green	£10.00
(b)	<u>As above.</u> Block of 4, including two No Watermark varieties	£42.50

RECENT ISSUES

6/4/77	<u>1977 Education Issue.</u> Strip of five different 8c stamps se-tenant. Mint	38p
	Imprint/plate block of 10 stamps	80p
	Official First Day Cover, bearing se-tenant strip of 5 stamps, postmarked Wanganui	50p

Special Cancellation

15/4/77	N.Z. Dairy Research Institute, 1927 – 1977, Palmerston North, N.Z., on the special Pictorial Date-Stamp Service Postcard	30p
---------	--	-----

Panpex '77

We mentioned briefly last month the sets of Exhibition cancellations on the specially produced Panpex postal stationery envelopes (7c ordinary and 38c registered). These are now to hand, and the complete set of 16 covers can be supplied at, post paid

£7.50

(N.B. Stocks are strictly limited, so early ordering is advisable).

HEALTHS

(no. of stamps in each set indicated in brackets)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Mint</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Mint</u>	<u>Used</u>
1929 Stamp out Tuberculosis (1)	£9.50	-	1954 Mt Aspiring (2)	13p	13p
1930 Help Promote Health (1)	£19.00	-	1955 Medallion (3)	38p	38p
1931 Smiling Boys (2)	£100.00	-	1956 Apple Tree (3)	35p	32p
1932 Hygeia (1)	£14.25	-	1957 Beach, wmk s/w (2)	26p	26p
1933 Pathway to Health (1)	£9.25	£9.25	1957 Beach, wmk upr (2)	64p	-
1934 Crusader (1)	£5.10	-	1958 Children (2)	13p	13p
1935 Keyhole (1)	£1.60	£1.90	1959 Tete and Poaka (2)	19p	13p
1936 Lifebuoy (1)	48p	£1.90	1960 Perf. 13½ (2)	26p	26p
1937 Hiker (1)	£1.60	£2.25	1960 Perf 11½x11 (2)	64p	-
1938 Children at Play (1)	48p	95p	1961 Kotuku/Karearea (2)	19p	19p
1939 Beach Ball (2)	£1.60	£3.60	1962 Kakariki/Tieke (2)	19p	16p
1940 Beach Ball (2)	£3.20	-	1963 Prince Andrew (2)	16p	13p
1941 Beach Ball (2)	95p	-	1964 Tarapunga/Korora (2)	19p	13p
1942 Swing (2)	32p	48p	1965 Kaka/Piwakawaka (2)	19p	19p
1943 Triangulars (2)	13p	13p	1966 Bellbird/Weka (2)	15p	13p
1944 Princesses (2)	13p	13p	1967 Rugby (2)	13p	13p
1945 Peter Pan (2)	10p	8p	1968 Olympics (2)	13p	13p
1946 Soldier and child (2)	11p	8p	1969 Cricket/Dr Gunn (3)	54p	54p
1947 Eros (2)	11p	8p	1970 Netball/Soccer (2)	20p	19p
1948 Health Camp (2)	12p	8p	1971 Hockey/dental (3)	46p	42p
1949 Nurse and child (2)	12p	9p	1972 Tennis (2)	13p	10p
1950 "Elizabeth" and "Charles" (2)	13p	10p	1973 Prince Edward (2)	13p	10p
1951 Yachting (2)	12p	9p	1974 Children and Animals (3)	20p	16p
1952 "Charles" and "Anne" (2)	13p	10p	1975 Farm Animals (3)	16p	16p
1953 Guides and scouts (2)	10p	9p	1976 Children and Animals (3)	27p	27p

HEALTH MINIATURE SHEETS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Mint</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Mint</u>
1957 wmk s/w (2)	£3.05	1967 (2)	£2.50
1957 wmk upr (2)	£6.35	1968 (2)	£2.50
1958 (2)	£2.50	1969 (2)	£2.80
1959 (2)	£2.50	1970 (2)	£2.75
1960 (2)	£6.35	1971 (2)	£2.50
1961 (2)	£3.80	1972 (2)	£1.90
1962 (2)	£4.10	1973 (2)	£1.90
1963 (2)	£3.05	1974 (1)	£1.00
1964 (2)	£4.45	1975 (1)	80p
1965 (2)	£4.10	1976 (1)	55p
1966 (2)	£2.50		

Miniature Sheets — Complete set of 39 miniature sheets as listed above £55