

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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SOME NOTES ON THE 1970 PICTORIALS by Colin Hamilton

The recent appearance of the 'Postafix' provisional issues and the \$1 booklet serves to underline what a rich specialist cake the 1970 Pictorial definitive issue has proved to be. Even now the possibility of further surprises is very much alive, since the higher values are still current, but a brief resume of the history of the set to date may be of interest.

The stamps of this series are the work of four different printers (in fact five if we include the surcharges applied by the Government Printer in New Zealand), and it is convenient for the purposes of these notes to deal with them thus.

Courvoisier S.A., Switzerland (\$1, \$2). The two highest denominations are unquestionably the least interesting philatelically. In view of their face values, I can almost hear a chorus of "Perhaps that's just as well!" from collectors! In my own opinion, they also happen to be the least attractive designs in the entire series, but that is in no way the fault of the printers. To judge from not only these two stamps, but also earlier issues, the standards of both workmanship and checking maintained by this Swiss firm are quite exceptionally high, and from a philatelic point of view, it is fortunate that others do not quite match this excellence. If they did, N.Z. stamps would inevitably be of considerably less appeal than they are.

Joh Enschede en Zonen, Holland (23c, 50c). These values are notable for the different printings which are readily identifiable from individual stamps. The second printing of each, in particular, is as far as I know unique in N.Z. philatelic history - in addition to being differentiable by sight, the second printing stamps, in mint form, can also be identified by smell. Soon after the 23c and 50c were first available to the public, it became apparent that they had one serious defect - they would not adhere to packets. I believe there were some instances of stamps simply disappearing without trace from items of mail, and the recipients being charged double deficiency postage due. Many irate users resorted to Heath Robinson measures, such as the use of cellulose tape, before new supplies were forthcoming. These - the second printing - were on noticeably whiter paper, the shades of the

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inks were markedly different from the originals, and the gum had a distinctive odour, quite strong, and not exactly pleasant. The gum problem was apparently overcome, however, and later printings have gum which is both adequately adhesive and odourless (some of this has a bluish tint, not unlike that used by Messrs. Harrison and Sons Ltd. on many of their more recent printings, of which more later). Several major errors (missing colours and complete double perforations) have been found on the 50c. Of these, the missing paler green (headland at right) occurred on both the second and third printings; the former proved to be scarce, the latter more common.

Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., Surrey. (25c, 30c). Unwatermarked paper has invariably been used for these - as indeed for all values thus far discussed - and in this firm's case, the visual quality of both paper and gum have been relatively stable. True to form, however, B.W. & Co. Ltd., have really "gone to town" in their plate-making department. To date, no less than five different pairs of plate combinations have been used for each of these stamps, the demand for which cannot be extraordinarily heavy. However, this multiplicity of plates is not at all surprising, since over their many years of printing stamps for N.Z., 'Bradbury's' methods have involved the regular and frequent replacement of printing plates. The most extreme examples are of course to be found in the lower values (1d, 2d) of the King George VI definitives. Tradition apart, I think it is fairly evident that the tiny 'islands' of solid colour which are a feature of the designs of both the 25c and 30c are a contributory cause, possibly due to these areas being abnormally susceptible to damage or rapid wear. Shades abound - some very striking - and the other notable feature of these stamps is the recent appearance of stamps with perforations of a gauge (14) different from earlier printings (13½x13½). Changes of perf. were quite frequent during and prior to World War II, but have not been at all common since the days of the Second Pictorials.

However, it is in the Harrison-printed stamps, and the provisionals, that the 1970 Pictorials really spring to life, and I will continue this review next month with some general notes on these values.

HEALTHS YEAR BY YEAR

A continuation from last month's Bulletin of specialised issue collection offers.

- 801(a) 1956 Apple Tree. A superb lot with in addition to "standard" complete representation (plate blocks, sheet value blocks, mint and used singles and first day cover), additional plate blocks showing fine shades. Of the 1½d deep sepia, there are two blocks, one being mint (from the corner of a sheet) and the other superfine used. 39 mint, 7 used, and a cover £16.75
- (b) As above. The complete set in mint sheet value blocks of 4, including the scarce 1½d shade in just about the deepest sepia we have ever seen. The four blocks, lovely £ 7.00
- 802 1957 Beach Scenes. Plate blocks (two of each value, showing shades), sheet value markings, miniature sheets (with both upright and sideways watermarks) and a first day cover are complemented by the Catalogued "Bunion" and "Missing Toes" varieties in mint blocks, and by used sets with both watermarks. A superb lot, not at all easy to duplicate £20.00
- 803 1958 Brigade Children. Perhaps the most interesting of all modern Health issues, amply borne out by the material in this big collection. In addition to the standard coverage, there is a complete replating of both miniature sheets, plus three additional 3d+1d sheets with tent retouches, and 3d+1d variety blocks include the R2/11 retouch, the "design duplicated in selvage", and a sheet value block including the rare large sheet tent retouch at R1/20. 142 mint, 20 used and a first day cover £92.50

- 804 1959 Tete/Poaka. Plate blocks, sheet value blocks, miniature sheets, mint and used singles and a first day cover, plus varieties which include in the 2d, R5/6 wing retouch (in block of 4), and a miniature sheet with the "black-eyed gull" retouch; and in the 3d, the R2/9 retouch (in the sheet value block), and a pair with wmk inverted. 50 mint, two used and a cover £17.25
- 805 1960 Kotare/Kereru. Mint and used sets (in both perfs), first day cover, plate blocks, sheet value blocks and miniature sheets complete £15.00
- 806 1961 Kotuku/Karearea. Representation exactly as in the 1960 issue above, but without the different perfs, of course. 30 mint, 2 used and first day cover £ 9.75
- 807 1962 Kakariki/Tieke. A complete collection of plate blocks (4), sheet value blocks, miniature sheets, mint and used sets, and F.D.C., plus two interesting blocks of the higher value, one of which is doubly gummed and the other showing the astonishingly poor spacing of the pins in one of the perforating heads used (this peculiarity was illustrated in the "N.Z. Stamp Collector", May 1963) £17.00
- 808(a) 1963 Prince Andrew. Yet another magnificent display, with the basic items complete, including the listed shades in both values. Extras include all the listed varieties, with the 2½d R10/10 with and without weak entry in matching positional blocks, and both states of the 3d R3/5 in marginal blocks of 6. 95 mint, 2 used and F.D.C. £45.00
- (b) As above. The 3d R3/5 "Finger Flaw" and "Flaw Partially Removed" each in perfect unhinged corner blocks of 15 stamps. The two states of the flaw, scarce thus £21.00
- 809 1964 Tarapunga/Korora. Singles mint and used, plate, sheet value and "traffic light" blocks, and miniature sheets - all topped with a delightful page of 2½d's, five showing different shifts of the red colour (with most peculiar results!), and one with the error Red Omitted. The latter is a perfect unmounted example, and since the 1977 Catalogue price of this item alone is \$220 (£137.50+), the collection is the bargain of the month at £87.50
- 810 1965 Kaka/Piwakawaka. Miniature sheets, plate, sheet value and traffic light blocks complete, plus mint and used pairs and F.D.C. Two additional blocks of the 3d have constant varieties annotated, and there is one variety noted on the 4d. 56 mint, 4 used and a cover £10.00
- 811 1966 Bellbird/Weka. Plate blocks, combined sheet value/traffic light blocks, miniature sheets, mint and used sets and F.D.C., with an additional double variety block (R3/7 and 4/10) of the 3d. The 1966 collection £12.25
- 812 1967 Rugby Football. Standard coverage is again complete, and all three listed varieties are included in the lot of 48 mint, 2 used and F.D.C. £ 8.75
- 813 1968 Olympics. All the listed plate varieties (and several others besides) are present in this collection of 62 mint and 2 used, which also includes plates, sheet values and miniature sheets complete £10.00

- 814 1969 Cricket/Dr. Gunn. No varieties here, but two quite outstanding shade blocks of the "Dr. Gunn" stamp complement the usual coverage of plates (6), sheet values (3) and miniature sheets (2), together with singles mint and used and F.D.C. Note that the 4c+1c of this issue is one of the key stamps of all the modern Healths. The collection of 71 mint, 3 used and a cover £30.00
- 815 1970 Netball/Soccer. As fine an in-depth collection of this issue as we have ever seen. All the Catalogued varieties are included - the "Phantom Doubling" on the 2½c is in block of 4 - and many others are shown besides. Shades in both values are especially prominent, both mint and used, particularly in the 2½c, where one used block in deep, deep scarlet is outstanding. 122 mint, 32 used and F.D.C. £67.50
- 816 1971 Hockey/Dental Service. An equally thorough study, including many, many varieties on all three values, as well as the 'Basics' complete. 125 mint, 28 used, F.D.C. £40.00

SECOND SIDEFACE "ADSON"

The 1882 - 1897 Queen Victoria Second Sideface stamps with Advertisements printed on the back ("Adson") are much sought after by N.Z. collectors. The stamps included in the following list of offers are all perf. 10, unless otherwise stated.

- 817 Reference Set. of 3 stamps, provably from 1st, 2nd and 3rd settings. The First setting has the advertisement either inverted or sideways reading downwards; the Second has a "Cadbury's" advertisement; the Third has a "Poneke" advertisement. The reference set of 3, fine used £ 3.50
- 818 1d - 1/-. A complete simplified set of 9 stamps, being one from each of the values existing with "Adson" - 1d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d and 1/- The 9 used stamps, in fine condition. Cat. £34+ £ 27.50
- 819 Green Adson. Adson printed in green are invariably Second Setting, and are found only on the 1d, 2d and 2½d values. This set of three used stamps is therefore complete, and scarce £ 13.00
- 820 Advertisement Errors. Set of two, one having the advert widely misplaced (parts of adjacent impressions are clearly seen) and the other showing ad. with a shadow double impression. The two used stamps, attractive, and a must for the collector seeking to add a distinctive touch to his display £ 2.50
- 821 1d perf. 12x11½. Two stamps, both perf. 12x11½ (D2e). One is 3rd Setting in red-brown, and the other 2nd or 3rd setting in mauve - this latter stamp is dated 15 SP 93 at CRONADON, an office whose name was changed from CRONADUN on 1st AUG 93 (just 6 weeks before), and reverted to the original spelling again in 1908. The two attractive and very scarce stamps £ 12.50
- 822 1d Adson in Blue. A used copy - elusive in this colour £ 5.00

823(a)	<u>1d 1st Setting Mint!</u> A copy with the original block type 1st Setting of the <u>CREASE'S AT COFFEE</u> advertisement. Fine	£ 6.50
(b)	<u>As above.</u> A used copy also with one of the few distinctive original block type 1st Setting adson (this one is <u>FLAG BRAND SAUCE</u>)	£ 3.00
824	<u>1d Mixed perfs, mint!</u> Perf. 10 stamp in which the horizontal perforations have been misplaced upwards and reperfed 12½, complete with official patching, i.e. variety D2jY but with Adson. Tiny thinning of one corner, but an excellent copy of a rare variety (Cat. \$80)	£ 35.00
825	<u>1d Part Sheet Reconstruction.</u> 104 used 1d Adson, in either 2nd or 3rd setting, forming a part simplified reconstruction of the sheet as printed. A wonderful basis for expansion of a fascinating exercise	£ 50.00
826	<u>1d Pairs.</u> Adson in multiples are always eagerly sought after, and invariably in short supply. We can offer 9 pairs of the 1d - either 2nd or 3rd Setting - one pair is definitely 2nd Setting (Cadbury Ad) and two more are 3rd Setting (Poneke Ad). An attractive lot	£ 17.50
827	<u>1d Screwdriver Flaw.</u> 1d Adson ('Beecham' ad in violet), the stamp being the R9/2 "Screwdriver" flaw from the bottom left hand pane. Used	£ 4.00
828	<u>2d Block Type Ads.</u> Three different used 2d stamps, with the distinctive Block Type Advertisements of a few First Settings	£ 5.00
829	<u>2d Part Sheet Reconstruction.</u> 63 used 2d's, 2nd or 3rd Setting, form a simplified sheet reconstruction. Offered as a lot, with plenty of scope for further additions	£ 25.00
830	<u>8d Mint (D9c).</u> Second Sideface stamps in mint condition can justifiably be called scarce, mint items with Adson are rarely seen. We offer a fine mint copy of the 8d, the kingpin of the set	£ 15.50
831	<u>1/- perf. 12x11½.</u> Used copy, 2nd or 3rd Setting, perf. 12x11½. Extremely scarce with Adson	£ 7.50
832	<u>1/- Black Adson.</u> Second Setting, with black Advert. Rare and superb used ...	£ 16.00

EARLIER BOOKLET PANES

833	<u>King Edward VII.</u> Complete panes of the ½d Edward and 1d Dominion with coloured selvedge bars (W3bY and W3bO). These are from the 1912 2/- booklet, and are accompanied by the front and back covers and four interleaving sheets (with advertisements on both sides) from an exploded booklet. Despite a little off-setting of interleaving advertisements on the backs of the panes, condition is fine and fresh. All the requirements for an exceptionally interesting and seldom-seen page of booklet material	£125.00
834(a)	<u>King George V ½d.</u> Brilliant mint pane of 6 (complete with all selvedges) on Jones paper (W4cZ). Very lightly hinged in binding selvedge, otherwise in a word, perfection	£ 46.25

- (b) As above. Another superb complete booklet pane (this one unmounted) on Cowan paper, perf. 14x15, with Jeyes' Fluid advert in binding selvedge, and Abdulla ads in side selvedges (W4dZ). Absolutely flawless £ 46.25
- (c) As above. Pane on Cowan paper, perf. 14, with 'Parisian' tie adverts. Again complete, but not quite so fine as the previous offers. The Parisian pane (W4fX) £ 19.50
- 835 K.G.V. 1d Field Marshal. Complete pane, perf. 14, with selvedge bars but no adverts (W4fZ). Perfect mint condition £ 25.00

KING GEORGE V 'ADMIRALS'

- 836(a) Complete Set. No less than 10 of these highly desirable high values (6x2/-, 4x3/-). On Jones paper, there are examples of each value with both upright and inverted watermark, and on Cowan paper shades are complete in both 2/- (ordinary and overprinted 'Official') and the 3/-. The set of 10 Admirals, fresh mint, and unrepeatable £260.00
- (b) Jones Paper 2/-. Brilliant, well-centred block of 4 with inverted watermark. Very light hinge-mark on one stamp, otherwise a magnificent block in every way £ 95.00
- (c) Cowan Paper 2/- and 3/-. The set of 2, finest mint £ 45.00
- (d) As above. Similar set, but in 'selected used' condition, each stamp having neat c.d.s. cancellation (not the heavy parcel 'daubs' so commonly found on used Admirals). The used set of two £ 35.00
- (e) Cowan Paper 2/-. A superfine used pair, brilliant fresh deep colour, central c.d.s. Beautiful! £ 11.50

SOME LONG DEFINITIVE SETS

- 837 King Edward VII Heads. An outstanding set of 36 mint, covering perfs. and shades. Includes: perf. 14x15 - ½d (3); perf. 14x14½ - 2d (4), 3d (3), 4d orange, 4d yellow (2), 5d (2), 6d (2), 8d (3), 1/- (2); perf. 14 line - 3d, 4d orange, 5d (2), 6d (2), 1/-; perf. 14x13½ - 5d (2), 6d, 8d (2); perf. 14 line, wmk sideways - 8d (2). The 36 Edwards, finest condition, and a glorious blaze of colour £108.00
- 838 King Edward VII Officials. Rarely seen set of 20 stamps. Shades and perfs (including two-perf pairs) are absolutely complete per C.P. Catalogue listings, with one extra shade each in the 3d perf. 14x14½ and the 1/-. The very scarce 14x13½ 3d is a little off-centre as usual, but overall condition is superb £107.50
- 839 1935 - 43 Pictorials. An astonishing total of 69 stamps is necessary for completion here, and that's just what we offer - no shades, but one example of every C.P. - listed issue from L1a through to L14g, including all the scarce ones, and the rare 3/- Single wmk inverted-and-reversed (L14c). Condition

is exceptionally fine throughout - there are no less than 32 marginal copies. As a bonus, seven of the marginals show plate numbers, the example of L13a has inverted watermark, and the very scarce L13d shows the R1/4 COQK variety. From recent experience it will be years before a similarly complete set becomes available. (Total Cat. now just under £300) £250.00

- 840 King George VI Heads. Yet another magnificent long set - every listed issue from M1a to M19a is included, with many additional shades. 98 stamps, comprising ½d green (3), ½d chestnut (8), 1d red (3), 1d green (13), 1d on ½d green (3), 1½d brown (2), 1½d red (6), 2d on 1½d (2), 2d (5), 3d (8), 4d (4), 5d (4), 6d (5), 8d (4), 9d (5), 1/- (4), 1/3 (8), 2/- (3), 3/- (2), 1½d Arms (2, wmk upr and wmk inv), 3d on 1d (2), 1d on ½d chestnut (2). The comprehensive George VI set, mint £ 29.50

1970 PICTORIALS

- 841 A complete set of 102 imprint/plate blocks, all values ½c - \$2, including the various printings of the 23c, 50c and 4c on 2½c, and all changes of watermark, gum and perf. that we have seen to date. A total of 864 stamps in blocks of 6, 8 or 10 as Catalogued, all unmounted. Many of the earlier plate blocks are already elusive, and this set provides a superb ready made display, or an equally superb foundation on which to build a comprehensive specialised collection. The complete set of 102 plate/imprint blocks £175.00

MISCELLANY

A listing of interesting material, including a number of better and not-often-seen varieties.

- 842 King George V ½d. Vertical pair (with left selvedge) of the perf. 14 issue, the upper stamp showing a complete double strike of the comb perforating head. A superb example of the Double Perfs Variety (K13fX), perfect mint £ 45.00
- 843 K.G.VI Counter Coil Pairs. Set of 25 coil pairs, all different, and fully identified by C.P. numbers, including the scarce trio with smaller-type numbers. As a refinement, the entire set is "matched" (i.e. all pairs have the same coil section number). The 25 counter coil pairs, mint £ 47.50
- 844 Q.E. Counter Coil Pairs. Comprehensive set of 32 pairs, including the scarcer horizontal pairs of the Middle Values and the later white paper issues complete. As in the previous lot, this set too is matched, and as such very difficult to repeat £ 62.50
- 845 1960 Pictorial 2d. Superfine mint corner block of 6 including, at R3/1, the "ZFALAND" retouching error, which occurred only on the black plate numbered 2 £ 21.50
- 846 1960 Pictorial 3/- Multicolour. Sheet value blocks of 4 in both listed shades, each including the R1/6 sky retouch (OV18b). The two variety blocks (now Cat. over £75 as normal stamps!), superb unhinged mint £ 45.00

- 847 1967-70 Pictorial 15c. The later issue of this value (in altered colours) had a peculiarity in that the sheet value appeared in error as "\$22.5". The great majority of sheets had the error corrected to \$22.50 by the addition of the final nought in manuscript but a very few sheets were issued without the correction. Our offer is of two sheet value blocks of 4, one showing "\$22.5" (the scarce one) and the other \$22.50". The two blocks, superfine mint £ 12.50
- 848 1967-70 Pictorial \$1. Perfect mint top marginal block of 4, with a complete extra strike of perforations affecting the top and sides of the upper pair of stamps. Very spectacular (OD17aZ) £ 52.50
- 849(a) 75c Booklet Variety. Complete booklet on watermarked paper, in which the 3c pane has watermarked inverted (i.e. wmk W8a). This is one of several extremely scarce 'inverts' among the 1970 Pictorials. The variety booklet £ 28.50
- (b) As above. Single 3c 'booklet' stamp with inverted wmk variety (P5bZ) £ 6.50
- 850 1970 5c Fish. Two sheet value blocks of 10 stamps, one with the original erroneous VALUE \$12.00 obliterated and corrected by the printed addition of VALUE \$10.00 alongside, the other with the original altered to VALUE \$10.00 by retouching £ 5.00
- 851 1925 Dunedin Exhibition. Complete set of 3 used, each with c.d.s. The 4d is not the finest copy we have ever seen, but still eminently collectable. The set vastly underrated in used £ 25.00
- 852 1953 Coronation 3d. The excellent R1/6 "Bisected R" variety, in marginal block of 4, finest mint (SV60a) £ 6.25
- 853 1931-35 Air Mail. Complete simplified set of all N.Z. air mail stamps, comprising the 3d, 4d, 7d and 5d on 3d of 1931, the 7d blue 'Trans Tasman' of 1934, and the 1d, 3d and 6d of 1935, all finest used. The set of 8 'Airs' ... £ 35.00
- 854 1/3 Arms Type. The Sept. 1955 issue on Wiggins Teape paper with multiple watermark upright (Z30f). Far and away the scarcest of all the lower value Arms issues on this paper. Perfect mint £ 15.00
- 855 3/6 on 3/6 Arms Type. Unmounted mint copy on multiple inverted wmk paper, with sans serif letters. The rarest of all the 3/6 on 3/6 stamps £ 20.00
- 856 Short set of Surcharged Arms. A simplified set of three surcharged stamps (3/6 on 3/6, 5/6 on 5/6 and 11/- on 11/-) on multiple watermark paper, unmounted mint. Cat. £36 and a bargain at £ 25.00

LITERATURE

We have available a few copies of Mr. Takeshi Watanabe's excellent study of the plate varieties of the 2½c Magpie Moth. All varieties are meticulously illustrated and plated, and the work is essential for anyone attempting to reconstruct sheets of either the 2½c or the 4c on 2½c provisional. Price, posted £ 1.25