

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

By Colin Hamilton

Printed on the Gum. This variety has occurred only very infrequently among N.Z. issues. Although there may be others, just three instances come to mind as I write: (i) Second Sideface 1d (with Advertisements); (2) Q.E. 4d Official; (3) 4d Parliamentary Conference of 1965.

Only in one of these cases, it seems was the variety noticed at or near the time of issue, for the 4d Official alone is known in mint condition. This has always struck me as rather strange. Major varieties of other kinds can easily pass unnoticed, since casual users of postage stamps, as a rule, are not the most observant of beings (the same, alas, could also be said of many collectors, judging from the frequency with which we see misidentified and unidentified items in our ordinary everyday business!). The nature of the printed-on-the-gum varieties, however, is such that the stamp will not fulfil its basic function as far as the user is concerned — that of adhering to an item of mail. I can only assume, then, that the people through whose hands these stamps passed must have applied them to their mail with paste (no doubt bemoaning their luck as they did so!)

None of these printed-on-the-gummed-side varieties is common. A sheet of 240 4d Officials was distributed among several government departments in the Christchurch area, and a few of them were used by the Justice Department on urgent legal mail, but most were returned for exchange, and the bulk of these subsequently passed into the hands of collectors. So this is the most frequently seen of the three. But at the other extreme I have seen just one example of the Parliamentary Conference 4d, and have heard of one other. At least one sheet (120stamps) must have existed, so used copies of this stamp are well worth a second look. Bear in mind that there is no watermark to assist in identification — a feature of the earlier varieties is that both have reversed watermark (in the case of the 4d Official, inverted-and-reversed). Even so, the 1965 variety should present no difficulties. In the single copy seen, much of the gum was still intact, although its glossy quality was masked by the superimposed design, and was noticeable only on the white gutters. On the other hand, crazing of the gum was clearly visible over the whole stamp, excepting one or two small areas which had presumably been in contact with water, which had removed the gum, and with it the design. For the foolhardy that would be the sure-fire test, of course — soak the stamp in water, and if the result is a totally blank bit of paper, you've got the variety, or to be more accurate, you've had it! This, I understand, is exactly what happened to the second copy mentioned above.

1960 Pictorial 3d Counter Coil Pair. Mr Harrison of Kettering reports a "mixed papers" pair with section no. 18. Not having seen the pair ourselves, we are not in a position to confirm this, but it would be a previously unrecorded combination of original and chalky papers. Mixed paper pairs already known occur only with coil numbers 19, 17, 4 and 3 (the last being of great rarity).

COVERS ETC.

- 601 1884 Registered Envelope.** Commercially used example of N.Z.'s first printed envelope, size 132mmx82mm (Samuel A1a). Unlike its successors, this first type had no impressed stamp, hence this one bears Second Sideface 1d and 6d adhesives, neatly tied by 1889 c.d.s. Filing crease well away from stamps, otherwise very good condition £17.50
- 602(a) 1898 Pictorial 2½d Wakitipu.** N.Z.'s most famous error stamp superb used on cover dated May 1898. This stamp is relatively common in unused condition, but genuinely used copies are scarce, and on contemporary cover, real top drawer material. The "Wakitipu" cover, in beautiful condition £22.50
- (b) As above.** Very similar cover, but with a horizontal pair of the error stamp. Again May 1898 date, and again quite superb condition £32.50
- 603(a) 1900 Q.V. 1d Boer War Postcard.** Printed in sepia on light buff card, with scene "The Camp, Second Contingent" (Samuel A10b(k)). Superfine used (dated Dec. 1900) £17.50
- (b) As above.** Another example, printed in brown on buff card, featuring "Mounted Parade/Dismounted Parade" (Samuel A10b(l)). Condition again superb used £17.50
- 604 1903 K.E.VII 1d LetterCard.** Fine used, printed in red-brown on greenish card. Although commercially used the card has been opened carefully, and the perforated tear-off edging is intact (Samuel B1) £15.00
- 605 1925 Dunedin Exhibition.** Neat plain registered cover to England, with Exhibition registration label, and complete set of the Exhibition stamps, each tied by a separate strike of the Exhibition c.d.s. of 3rd April 1926. Clean, fresh, attractive and rare! £150.00
- 606(a) 1936 Chambers of Commerce.** The complete set in blocks of 4, each on separate matching 'O.H.M.S.' cover and cancelled by the special first day cancellation. The unusual set of five F.D.C. (four of which are registered) £37.50
- (b) As above.** The set (in singles) complete on one registered first day cover £12.00

We have at present a wonderful stock of Second Sideface covers from the Lex Robb collection. Includes registered and unregistered, with values from ½d to 6d (many with attractive combinations of values, some with postal markings of unusual interest), at prices ranging from £3 to £22.50 each. Ask for a selection on approval — you won't be disappointed.

MISCELLANY

- 607 Perkins, Bacon Trade Sample.** From the delectable series of special die-prints of the Full-Face Queen design. This one (with value tablet inscribed 'H.P.S. 4th MAY 1909') printed in sepia on large piece (70mmx90mm approx) of thin

	paper with part of the SPECIAL POSTAGE PAPER LONDON watermark. Both the colour and paper incidentally, are previously unrecorded in association with this particular design	£75.00
608	Austin Walsh Card. The finest freshest unused example of this scarce and fascinating little advertising/competition card (with impressed ½d Newspaper stamp) that we have ever seen — an item to grace even the very best of collections	£75.00
609(a)	Second Sideface Plate Proofs. Set of 4 matching proofs of the ½d, each with right selvage. Imperf, on unwatermarked paper, and printed in maroon, ultra-marine, greenish-slate and black respectively. A superb group	£175.00
(b)	As above. Single copy of the 2½d, imperf, printed in red-brown on paper wmk'd NZ and Star. Slightly damaged, but scarce	£20.00
(c)	As above. Set of 5 proofs of the 5d, imperf, printed on unwmk'd paper in deep grey, dull deep blue, purple-mauve, dull maroon-red and bistre-brown respectively. Exhibition material!	£200.00
610	First Pictorial 4d Lake Taupo. A delightful plate proof (imperf, on unwmk'd paper), printed in similar colours to those of the issued stamp, but in reverse, i.e. the frame in deep bright blue, and the centre in bright yellow-brown. Perhaps familiarity breeds contempt, but the design appears much more attractive this way! A delightful item	£45.00
611	First Pictorial 6d Kiwi. Top marginal block of 4, perf. 14 (E14g) in a lovely deep bright rose-carmine. Beautifully centred, and pristine fresh (one stamp lightly hinged, others unmounted). A gorgeous block	£97.50
612(a)	Edward VII Booklet Pane. ½d pane of 6 from the electrotpe plate, the stamps showing pronounced blurring. This pane is from the top right position in the sheet, with all selvages complete, and in addition to the selvage bars (top bar is continuous), part of the sheet serial number appears at upper right. The pane (W3b(X)), very fine mint	£120.00
(b)	As above. Pane of the 1d Dominion, matching the previous item in all respects (blurred impressions, identical configuration of selvage bars, part sheet serial number). Almost certainly from the same booklet as the above ½d. The 1d Dominion pane (W3b(N)). Superfine condition	£110.00
613	K.G.V. 4d Yellow. Two-perf vertical pair, upper stamp with the major "Club Foot" re-entry at R4/10 (KV5c(a)). The variety pair, unhinged mint, sheer perfection	£75.00
614	K.G.V. 6d Carmine. Vertical pair (both stamps 14x13¼) with spectacular perforation variety — if separated, one stamp would be a "dwarf" without face value, the other would have face value at foot! See illustration on page 1 — it tells more than a thousand words can	£37.50
615	K.G.V. 8d Official. Superb used copy (and we really do mean superb, with neat Auckland East c.d.s. of April 1924). Despite catalogue quotations fine used copies of this stamp are very considerably scarcer than mint	£150.00
616	2/- and 3/- Admirals. Set of two on Jones paper (2/- with wmk inverted, 3/- wmk upright). Unmounted mint, and superb in every way	£225.00

617	K.G.VI Booklet Panes. Complete set of three panes of 6 stamps each (½d green, 1d red and 1½d chocolate) all with upright wmk. The three booklet panes (binding selvages intact), finest mint	£45.00
618	Second Pictorial 9d.Official. The larger design, with green overprint (LO11c). It's ages since we had more used copies of this stamp than names on our waiting list. Now we have just two or three, superb used, to satisfy first-comers at, each ..	£30.00
619	1967 Pictorial 15c Tiki. Imprint/plate block of 12 stamps, unmounted mint. Never an easy one, this	£22.50
620	1969 Capt. Cook Miniature Sheet. Fast becoming established as the key modern commemorative item. The 'Cook' sheet, mint unmounted	£30.00
621(a)	1913 Auckland Exhibition. Brilliant set of 4, unmounted mint, and fresh as a spring morning. Rare in this exceptional condition, so no apology at all for the price of	£575.00
(b)	As above. Finest mint block of 4 of the ½d, one stamp with variety. "Notably thick comma after EXHIBITION"	£87.50
(c)	As above. Single mint copy of the ½d with the R3/18 "NY" flaw (SV5a(a)). Only 250 sheets of the ½d were printed, and most of these are recorded as having been destroyed, so this must be one of the rarest of all constant plate varieties. A little light perf. toning on the gummed side, but fresh facial appearance	£50.00
(d)	As above. Marvellous mint (perfectly centred) block of 4 of the 1d, including the R3/1 "Feather" flaw (SV6a(b)) on bottom left stamp. An immaculate variety block, one very light hinge at top only	£150.00
(e)	As above. Single mint copy of the very scarce slot machine issue of the 1d (S6a(Z)) – easily recognised by the double gum. Very fine, light hinge. Rare!	£75.00
(f)	As above. Another slot machine copy, but 240 times rarer than the previous item, for this one is the R5/24 "Broken Globe" flaw. A little off-centre, but fine hinged mint – a gem	£110.00
622	Long Fiscal 12/6. Apart from the ephemeral ultra-high values which were printed individually as required, the 12/6 is far and away the rarest of all the long fiscals – by comparison, the very highly rated £1 Official seems a common stamp! The copy here offered is only the second or third we have seen in the last ten years. Fiscally used, with crisp Stamp Duties Dept Auckland c.d.s. (no embossing), and of superb appearance – a tiny surface defect, clear of design, does not detract ...	£75.00
623	Arms Types. A selection of the less-common values.	
(a)	7/- Pale Blue. On Cowan paper (Z35a), lightly hinged. superfine	£32.50
(b)	As above. Wiggins Teape paper, mult. upright wmk (Z35c). Unmounted mint	£27.50
(c)	7/6 Grey. Cowan paper (Z36a). Fresh mint, hinged	£55.00
(d)	As above. Wiggins Teape unsurfaced paper, single wmk (Z36b). Marginal copy, superb unmounted	£80.00

(e)	As above. Non marginal example, lightly hinged, very fine	£75.00
(f)	As above. Superb used copy	£75.00
(g)	As above. Wiggins Teape paper, mult. inverted wmk (Z36c). Light hinge, superfine	£50.00
(h)	8/- Indigo-Violet. Cowan paper (Z37a). Mint hinged, fine	£30.00
(i)	9/- Brown-Orange. Wiggins Teape paper, mult. upright wmk (Z38c). Unmounted mint	£25.00
(j)	15/- Sage-Green. Wiggins Teape paper, mult. upright wmk (Z41c). Unmounted mint	£35.00
(k)	As above. Finest used copy	£20.00
(l)	3/6 on 3/6 Green. Wiggins Teape paper, multiple upright wmk, sans-serif letters (Z53d). Lightly hinged mint	£30.00
(m)	5/6 on 5/6 Lilac. Wiggins Teape paper, single wmk (Z54a). Superfine mint	£25.00
(n)	As above. Wiggins Teape paper, mult. upright wmk (Z54b). Superfine mint	£20.00

624	5/- Arms Official Vertical Overprint. (ZO33a). Brilliantly fresh, very lightly hinged mint copy of a rare and desirable stamp	£375.00
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1960 PICTORIALS SPECIALISED

625(a)	Complete Set of 23, ½d - £1, including the changes of colour in the 1/9 and 3/-. Superb unmounted	£50.00
(b)	As above. but finest used, all with c.d.s. cancels	£17.50
626(a)	Chalky Papers. The later issues of the 1d, 3d, 6d, 2/-, 5/- and 10/-, set of six, mint unmounted	£18.50
(b)	As above. but with the scarce 4d added. The complete set of 7, superfine used ...	£15.00
(c)	As above. The set of six as lot 626(a) above, but in perfect unmounted blocks of 4	£75.00

627	Something Different. A magnificent long set of 29, all in mint corner blocks of 4 with sheet value markings. All values and colour changes are represented, plus the late printings of the 1/- (from 10B10C) and the 3/- multicolour (yellow-bistre), plus the chalky paper 6d, 2/-, 5/- and 10/-. In three of the blocks (one each of the 1/-, 2/- and 5/-) two stamps have been very lightly hinged, otherwise previous mounts are confined to the selvedge only. Close to completion — of the very few blocks missing, only the 4d chalky paper would prove unduly difficult — and almost impossible to assemble from scratch nowadays. The value block set, excellent buying at	£250.00
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CHAMBON PERFS (all in blocks of 6 — 2x3 — and all showing very clear 'Chambon' characteristics.)

628(a)	1d Karaka	£1.75
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(b) 2d Kaka Beak.	£1.75
(c) 3d Kowhai	£1.75
(d) 4d Puarangi	£1.75
(e) Complete Set. Ten blocks, comprising the four values listed above, plus the ½d, 6d, 8d and, on chalky paper, the 1d, 3d, and 6d – the last three are distinctly scarce	£30.00

BOOKLET PANES

629(a) Stapled Panes. Complete set (½d, 1d, 3d), mint	£5.00
(b) As above. 1d pane only, mint	£1.00
(c) As above. 3d pane only, mint	£1.00
(d) As above. Another complete set, all three panes with good Chambon perfs	£8.50
630(a) Stitched Panes, Unnumbered. Complete set of three panes (½d, 1d, 3d), mint	£4.50
(b) As above. 1d pane, only, with Chambon perfs	£1.25
(c) As above. 3d pane only, fine	80p
(d) As above. 3d pane, with Chambon perfs	£1.25
631(a) Stitched Panes, Numbered. Superb complete set of 18 panes, each value (½d, 1d, and 3d) being represented by six panes with cylinder nos 1 - 6 in the binding selvedge. Magnificent	£37.50
(b) As above. Set of three panes (one of each value) each with matching selvedge number	£6.00
(c) As above. 1d pane only, with pronounced Chambon perf characteristics	£1.75
(d) As above. 3d pane only, mint	£1.00

COUNTER COIL PAIRS

632(a) Complete Set of 5 pairs (2d, 4d, 1/-, 1/6, 1/9) with the earlier, and much scarcer, black section numbers	£32.50
(b) As above. Similar set, but all show the sheet value marking in the selvedge. (The difficulty in reading the section numbers on these sheet value pairs was said to be the reason for subsequently printing all section numbers in red). The interesting set, very scarce	£35.00
(c) As above. Set of five red numbered pairs (2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 8d) all showing clear Chambon perf characteristics. Super mint and complete	£12.00

VALUE BY VALUE OFFERS (all varieties are fully annotated).

633	½d Manuka. Plate block, sheet value block (these in nicely contrasting shades), block of 4, and two blocks including constant plate varieties. An attractive and inexpensive showing, all mint	£3.60
634(a)	1d Karaka. Superb lot of 62 mint, with (a) on original paper, a plate block, sheet value block, block of 4, booklet pane (with plate variety) and three variety blocks; (b) on chalky paper, a plate block, block of 4 and two variety blocks; (c) slot machine issue with wmk sideways, a pair	£12.00
(b)	As above. Two marginal blocks of 6 showing the constant and prominent R12/3 variety, in the original weak state on ordinary paper, and retouched on chalky paper. The flaw-and-retouch blocks	£3.50
635(a)	2d Kaka Beak. Philatelically one of the most interesting of stamps, as evidenced by the superb collection here offered. Included are six different plate blocks, a fine example of "wide-and-narrow" Chambon perfs in block of 18, and 12 blocks, a pair and a coil pair all with plate varieties — altogether there are 17 varieties noted (and no doubt many more waiting to be picked up by an eagle eye!) 158 stamps, all mint	£52.50
(b)	As above. The major "ZFALAND" variety (R3/1, black pl. 2) in mint corner block of 6	£24.00
(c)	As above. The attractive and readily seen "Spur to 2" flaw (OV3f) in mint positional (corner) block of 10	£4.00
(d)	As above. "Shaved ND" (OV3a) in marginal block of 8. Another nice variety	£4.00
636(a)	2½d Titoki. Complete set of 8 plate blocks (of 12 stamps each) as listed in our Catalogue. Two of the blocks (4A3A and 4B3B) are in the scarcer and distinctive pale yellow-green	£42.50
(b)	As above. Set of five fine shades, ranging from deep green to pale yellow-green all in mint blocks of 4. A glorious page in the making	£6.75
(c)	As above. As in the case of the 2d, this is another stamp of immense specialist interest (Vol 6 of the Handbook devotes the best part of seven pages to plate varieties). This collection of 7 blocks (65 stamps) and two coil pairs, with a total of no less than 22 varieties noted, provides a real appetiser!	£25.00
(d)	As above. Major error Brown Colour Omitted (04aZ) — for some odd reason Gibbons list it as "Yellow Omitted" — in pair with a partial omission. Most of the examples of this variety that we have seen have in fact shown traces of the colour still remaining. True complete omissions are rare — this one is the real thing, guaranteed! The error pair, lightly hinged on the partial omission only	£32.50
(e)	As above. Bottom selvedge block of 6 (with plate nos 1Ax4) showing a notable Partial Double Perfs (04aU). The extra strike of the comb head is complete, and extends upwards into the bottom row of stamps for a distance of some six holes	£7.50

- (f) **As above.** Mint block of 4 with a massive shift of three of the colours, giving the so-called "Fruit Salad". Spectacular! (one of the misplaced colours, incidentally, is pale yellow-green) £15.00

(Note: We can supply one or two singles of the above variety at £4 each).

- 637(a)** 3d Kowhai. Seven shade blocks (incl. two on chalky paper) plus a single of the scarce 'Westport' shade (05a(5)), plus a strip of 4 coil stamps with sideways wmk. 33 stamps, all unmounted mint — comprehensive and attractive £7.50
- (b)** **As above.** Four good shades, all in Chambon perf blocks of 6. Most unusual! £6.50
- (c)** **As above.** Seven different plate blocks (of 8 stamps each), some with Chambon perms, and again showing a nice range of shades £13.50
- (d)** **As above.** For anyone requiring just one example of a plate block with Chambon perms, we can repeat pl. 2235 several times over at £3.25
- (e)** **As above.** Fine variety collection, with ten varieties noted on six blocks (two of which are on chalky paper), a coil strip and a counter coil pair. 75 stamps, all mint £17.50

- 638** 3d "Mixed Papers" Counter Coil. A complete set of 23 pairs (with wrapper and centre paper) from the rare September 1966 coiling in which a very small number of sheets on chalky paper were included with the vast bulk of sheets on original paper. This resulted in sets made up of 16 pairs on ordinary paper, four pairs with both stamps on chalky paper, and three pairs with the two papers combined. The wrapper has an ordinary paper stamp attached, the centre paper a chalky stamp. Supplied with a photostat of a lengthy article which appeared in the N.Z. Bulletin of January 1972 (readers who have a copy may care to refer to it). The rare and desirable set, mint unmounted £195.00

Note: It is not generally realised that this tiny issue is the **only** source of 3d chalky coil pairs. Thus these are infinitely scarcer than most catalogue quotations suggest.

(to be continued)

RECENT ISSUES

- 2/4/80 19th Cent. N.Z. Architecture.** 14c (Ewelme Cottage, Parnell), 17c (Broadgreen, Nelson), 25c (Courthouse, Oamaru), 30c (Government Buildings, Wellington).
Mint set of 4 stamps 66p
Imprint/plate blocks (6 stamps each). Set of 4 blocks (one each value) £4.25
Official Illustrated First Day Cover (Wanganui pmk) 80p
- 3cRose.** New reprint imprint/plate blocks of 15 (5x3) with two imprint dots in the left selvedge — surprisingly, on the **original** plates 1A1A1A1A1A and 1B1B1B1B1B and in the **original** perf. 14½x13½. Set of two 3c Rose (PA3a) reprint blocks 90p
- 9c Rose.** New reprint imprint/plate blocks of 15 (5x3) — plate nos 1Ax5 and 1Bx5, perf. 14½x13½ — with one reprint dot in the left selvedge. Set of two 9c Rose (PA9a) reprint blocks £2.40
- 14c Maori Artifact.** Imprint/plate blocks of 6 with new plate nos A221 and A222 (both blocks have the usual Courvoisier reprint marking). Each block 85p