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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

Sheet Values. These are probably the least considered of all the main markings to be found on the selvages of sheets of stamps. Yet apart from their simple and sole purpose (as information for those engaged in accounting for and selling the stamps), any piece showing the sheet value automatically indicates the size — but not the layout — of the sheet, and it is surprising how frequently there is some point of extra interest relative to these markings.

On odd occasions an error may be made in the calculation or the printing of the sheet value. For example it is fairly well known that the first sheets (of 200) of the 5c definitive of 1970 carried a printed value of \$12.00. This mistake was realised at an early stage, and the great majority of sheets already in New Zealand had the value marking torn off before sale. A very few sheets were, however, issued intact, and examples of the "\$12.00" marking are highly prized. In the meantime, the printers (Harrisons) rectified the error on all supplies still in their hands by means of a printed surcharge, consisting of a bar obliterating the "\$12.00", with the correct value "\$10.00" alongside. Subsequently the value was corrected on the original plate itself, by erasing the '2' and substituting a '0' (evidence of the correction is clearly discernible on the issued sheets). Thus the whole history of this little saga can be neatly and graphically illustrated by three blocks showing the various forms of value. A strikingly similar sequence occurred on the 2/- of 1960.

Other avenues of interest include those which arise from an alteration to the sheet value, for reasons other than correction of an error. The 4c/2½c provisional of 1971-73 provides a fascinating study in this respect — our Catalogue listings provide a basic guide. The element of human error cropped up here, too. A number of those sheets which were surcharged locally in New Zealand had the increased sheet value omitted, and examples of the unaltered value are known to exist, as well as innumerable "makeshift" corrections made by Post Office staff. Further instances of altered sheet values occurred where part sheets were issued for one reason or another — examples of this type include the 1953 Coronation 2d, and the middle values of the 1953 definitives.

The Harrison-printed denominations of the 1967 Pictorial set are interesting from a different point of view. Initially all carried a sheet value with only one digit following the decimal point, e.g. \$10.0 for the 10c, \$22.5 for the 15c. Although mathematically quite correct, this form was frowned upon by the authorities in New Zealand, presumably because of the possibility of errors of interpretation, like reading "\$22.5" as "twenty two dollars and five cents". Was it, one wonders, unfamiliarity with the decimal system (which was new to N.Z. at least) that was the root of the trouble? In any case, after April 1968, all Harrison sheet values appeared with **two** digits after the

point. At the same time, incidentally, the dollar sign began to appear with two vertical bars, instead of one.

At that point in time, supplies of the 15c in altered colours (OD12b) — still with the offending form of sheet value — were replacing the original 15c, and instructions were given to Post Office staff that the value must be amended before issue, by the addition of a zero in red ballpoint pen. This appears to have been strictly adhered to, and only a tiny number of examples of the marking are known **without** the manuscript addition. This is another very collectable and desirable item. A portion of the supply of this stamp was made up into counter coil rolls, and some counter coil pairs carried the sheet value on the underlapped selvage. No attempt was made to amend the value of these sheets, because after manufacture into rolls the accounting procedure was entirely different, involving a tabulation of values calculated by reference not to the sheet value but to the section numbers which were an integral part of these rolls. Nevertheless, a coil pair including the “\$22.5” value is an attractive “extra” to show in a collection.

New Zealand Health Camps — Six or Seven? Mr. T. Latto of Lancashire has raised an interesting point. The official illustrated first day cover used for the 1964 Health stamps issue carries a map purporting to show the locations of the N.Z. Health Camps. On this map appear seven names—Maunu, Pakuranga, Gisborne, Otaki, Glenelg, Roxburgh and Nelson. The first six of these will be familiar to collectors as comprising the complete set of Health Camp Postmarks which have been available annually for a number of years.

However, we have been unable to discover any information whatsoever on a Health Camp at Nelson. So the question is: Was the 1964 cover in error, or was (or is) the Camp at Nelson a kind of secret establishment which is not publicised, and which does not have the facility of a one-day-a-year post office, as in the case of the six permanent Health Camps?

Mr Latto (and we) will be pleased to hear of any explanation of this little mystery.

Q.E. SHADES, ETC

1001(a) ½d Grey (N1a). The two listed shades, in unmounted mint blocks of 4	£1.00
(b) As above. Same shades, but mint singles (2)	25p
1002(a) 1d Orange (N2a). Catalogued shades of orange and yellow-orange, unhinged blocks of 4	£1.00
(b) As above. Similar shades, mint singles	25p
(c) As above. Booklet pane of 6 stamps, wmk upright (W7aZ)	£1.50
(d) As above. Mint copy from booklets, wmk inverted (N2aZ)	18p
(e) As above. Wmk inverted booklet pane of 6 (W7aY)	£1.50
(f) As above. Two used copies, both inverted wmk, in the two listed shades.....	£1.00
1003(a) 1½d Lake-Brown (N3a). Imprint/plate blocks (6 stamps each), plate nos 12, 13, 14, in the three shades of Deep Lake-brown, Brown-lake and Rosy-lake	£5.00
(b) As above. Imprint/plate block, plate no 12 or 14, each	£1.20
(c) As above. For the shade ‘fanatic’ this lot is a must — no less than six different contrasts of brown-lake, all in mint blocks of 4	£6.00
(d) As above. A similar set of 6 shades, but in mint singles	£1.50
(e) As above. Four commercially used blocks of 4, in contrasting shades	£5.00
1004(a) 2d Myrtle-Green (N4a). Imprint/plate blocks, plate nos 15, 17, 18, in varying shades of green	£3.00

(b) As above. The three Catalogued shades (deep green, green, paler green), each in mint block of 4	£2.00
(c) As above. Similar set of 3 shades, singles, mint	50p
1005(a) 3d Vermilion (N5a). Set of four blocks, includes listed shades of pale vermilion, vermilion, deep bright vermilion — all die 1a — and a block of die 1b, which was used to lay down plates 32 and 33 only. The superb set of four blocks (4 stamps each block), unmounted mint	£8.00
(b) As above. Similar set of 4, but single copies, mint	£2.00
(c) As above. Unmounted mint block of 4, die 1b, quite elusive	£3.60
(d) As above. Block of 4, die 1b, cancelled by Wellington Airmail c.d.s. dated 7 JUL 55 — just 5 weeks after sheets from these plates were issued. The used block	£3.00
(e) As above. Booklet pane of 6 stamps, upright wmk (W7aX)	£1.20
1006(a) 4d Ultramarine (N6a). Two imprint/plate no. 9 blocks, in deep ultramarine and a notably pale ultramarine shade. A fine pair of blocks	£3.00
(b) As above. The same two shades, mint blocks of 4	£2.00
(c) As above. Subtle shades abound in this value, and this set of 7 stamps ranges from bright to pale ultramarine	£3.00
1007(a) 6d Purple (N7a). Unmounted mint block of 4	£1.00
(b) As above. Set of 5 shades, all mint singles — the Queen's portrait positively 'glows' in this set	£2.00
1008(a) 8d Rose-Carmine (N8a). Unhinged mint blocks, in rose-carmine and pink-carmine. Most striking	£3.00
(b) As above. This set includes 6 shade variations between rose-carmine and pink carmine (sorry — no pale-pink!). Mint set of 6 stamps	£2.00
(c) As above. Three commercially used blocks of 4, lovely shades	£2.00
1009(a) 1/- Black and Carmine (N10). Four blocks of 4, lovely carmine contrasts. Mint	£5.00
(b) As above. A similar set of 4 shades, mint singles	£1.25
(c) As above. Mint copy of the scarce centre die 1b variety (N10b)	£48.00
1010 2/6 — 10/- Queen on Horseback. Complete set of imprint/plate blocks, four stamps each block. A superb set of 4 blocks, lightly mounted mint	£245.00
1011 2/6 Brown (N13a). Two unmounted mint copies, in the Catalogued shades of chocolate-brown and deep brown	£55.00
1012 3/- Green (N14a). Two mint copies in green and deep green, most unusual to find shades in this value	£13.75
1013 5/- Carmine (N15a). Deep carmine and bright carmine, mint singles. The set of two	£15.75
1014(a) 10/- Ultramarine (N16a). Mint set of 2, in listed shades of deep ultramarine and royal blue. Most distinctive	£50.00
(b) As above. Glorious used (c.d.s.) block of 4. One or two splitting perfs do not detract from a desirable item	£82.50
1015(a) 1d Orange, Redrawn, Original Paper (N31a). Imprint/plate block of 6 from plate 11, with of course the big R10/22 retouch	£5.00

(b) As above. Two used stamps in the listed shades of deep orange and orange, both wmk inverted (N31aZ)	£1.50
(c) As above. Booklet pane of 6 stamps, wmk upright (W7cZ)	£3.50
(d) As above. Two booklet panes, both wmk upright, in the two listed shades	£8.00
1016(a) 1d Orange, Redrawn, White Paper (N31b). Mint copies in the three Catalogued shades	£1.50
(b) As above. Used copy in the scarcer red-orange	90p
(c) As above. Deep orange and orange shades, both used and both inverted wmk (N31bZ). The two used stamps	£1.00
(d) As above. Booklet pane of 6 stamps, wmk upright (W7dZ)	£3.50
1017(a) 1½d Lake-Brown, Redrawn (N32a). Mint singles of the two listed shades	60p
(b) As above. The same two shades, but used (this stamp is peculiarly elusive in used). The set of two	£1.20
1018(a) 2d Myrtle-Green, Redrawn, Original Paper (N33a). A set of 4 selvedge blocks (three being unmounted) of 4, in lovely contrasts of green	£5.00
(b) As above. Two imprint/plate blocks of 6 stamps each, from plate no. 3, with and without full stop – incidentally in attractive shades	£3.30
(c) As above. Mint set of 6 stamps, ranging from deep green to a very pale green ..	£2.00
1019 3d Vermilion, Redrawn, Original Paper (N34a). This value was only found in Q.E. 4/- Booklet (W7b and c). We can offer :	
(a) Complete booklet pane of 6 stamps, upright or inverted wmk, each	£3.50
(b) Mint single upright or inverted wmk, each	45p
(c) Used single, upright or inverted wmk, each	45p
1020(a) 3d Vermilion, Redrawn, White Paper (N34b). Two imprint/plate blocks (of 6 stamps each), plate nos 17 and 19, in fine shades of vermilion	£2.00
(b) As above. Three unmounted mint selvedge blocks of 4, in delicate shades of vermilion	£2.00
(c) As above. Mint set of 5 single stamps, ranging from pale to deep vermilion	£1.50
(d) As above. Inverted wmk (N34bZ), mint single .. 24p; used single	30p
(e) As above. Booklet pane of 6 stamps, upright wmk (W7dZ)	£3.50
1021 4d Ultramarine, Redrawn, Original Paper (N35a). Two unmounted mint blocks of 4, in fine shades of ultramarine	£5.00
1022(a) 4d Ultramarine, Redrawn, White Paper (N35b). Unhinged mint block of 4	£3.50
(b) As above. Three contrasting shades, mint singles	£3.00
1023(a) 6d Purple, Redrawn (N36a). No less than 5 blocks of four, all unmounted mint, in superb purple shade contrasts	£15.00
(b) As above. The two listed shades, mint singles	£1.20
(c) As above. Set of two imprint/plate blocks (plate nos 1 and 2)	£9.00
1024(a) 8d Light Brown, Redrawn (N37a). Imprint/plate block of 6	£30.00
(b) As above. Light brown and chestnut brown, each in mint block of 4	£25.00
(c) As above. The same two shades, in single stamps, mint	£6.00

1025(a)	2d on 1½d Small Dot (N40a). Set of 3 imprint/plate blocks (plate nos 7, 8, 10) in contrasting shades of lake-brown	£1.50
(b)	As above. Similar set of 3 shades, each in block of 4, mint	£1.00
(c)	As above. Same set, but mint singles	25p
1026(a)	2d on 1½d Large Dot (N40a). Imprint/plate block of 6 (plate no 9)	45p
(b)	As above. Lake and brown-lake, each in mint block of 4 (unmounted)	£1.00
1027(a)	2d on 1½d Error Stamp (N41a). Unmounted mint single	£67.50
(b)	As above. Used single (c.d.s. cancel)	£80.00
(c)	As above. Glorious used block of 4, with central c.d.s. cancel. An exhibition item, and rare	£350.00
1028(a)	2½d on 3d. Two imprint/plate blocks, plate no. 20 narrow setting (N42a), and plate no. 18 wide setting (N42b)	£1.80
(b)	As above. Mint blocks of 4 (unmounted) from both wide and narrow settings	75p
(c)	As above. Two unhinged mint blocks of 4, both narrow setting (N42a), in vermilion and pale vermilion	£1.50
(d)	As above. Vertical pair, wide/narrow se-tenant pair (C.P.N42aZ, S.G. 808b) ..	£9.00
(e)	As above. Similar se-tenant pair, but horizontal (N42aY)	£12.00

1029 FIRST PICTORIAL 6d KIWI — WHAT IS RED?

In the perf. 11 wmk'd issue (E14e), our Catalogue lists six shade groups. This is the merest hint of the range to be found, as evidenced here by a truly dazzling set of 18 (yes, eighteen!) selected used copies, each clearly different from all of its companions. If ever a page justified the description breathtaking, this is surely it. The unrepeatable set of 18 glorious answers to the question above! ..

£175.00

SECOND PICTORIALS SPECIALISED (contd).

1030(a)	1/- Tui, Reg'd Wmk (L12a). Single stamp, mint	£4.50
(b)	As above. Plate block of 4 (pl. no. A1)	£22.00
1031(a)	1/- Mult. Wmk, Perf. 14x13½, Fine Paper (L12b). Mint single	£1.20
(b)	As above. Mint block of 4, finest	£5.00
(c)	As above. Plate block of 4	£6.00
(d)	As above. Superfine mint block of 4, one stamp with re-entry, showing as minor doubling of bottom frame	£6.00
1032(a)	1/- Perf. 12½ (L12c). Marginal copy, mint unmounted	£4.50
(b)	As above. Plate block of 4, fine and scarce	£20.00
(c)	As above. Another plate block, not so fine (stained)	£9.50
(d)	As above. Positional block of 4 including the good R9/13 bottom frame re-entry and the "extra Claw" on R10/12. Very fine mint	£22.50

(e) As above. Another block of 4 (non-positional) with three stamps showing pronounced doubling of the bottom frame — probably R7/15-16 and R8/16. Some staining on two stamps, hence	£10.00
1033(a) 1/- Perf. 14x13½, Coarse Paper (L12d). Single stamp, mint	50p
(b) As above. Set of two bottom marginal blocks of 4, one perforated from bottom to top (lower selvage not perfed through), the other perforated from top to bottom (selvage perfed through). The two blocks, finest mint	£5.00
(c) As above. The same two perforation variations as above, but in plate blocks of 4	£6.00
(d) As above. A magnificent marginal block of 36 (12x3) including no less than 19 re-entry stamps from rows 7—9, one of which is not recorded in the N.Z. Hand-book. The multi-re-entry block (plating details supplied), superfine mint	£40.00
(e) As above. Another large multiple-variety block, this one a corner block of 18 (6x3), with 10 re-entries — all of these are present in the previous item. Again first class mint	£22.50

SUPERB K.G.V.

In the list of offers that follows, there are a number of items marked★ and entitled "Exhibition Page". In every case, these consist of four mint blocks: (1) a plate block with full corner selvage; (2) a block perf. 14x13½; (3) a block perf. 14x14½; (4) a block showing the two perfs se-tenant. Thus each lot represents the ultimate in basic requirements for that particular value, and the four blocks will mount up beautifully on any standard album page. We suggest a 'diamond' layout, with plate block at top centre, two-perf block at bottom centre, and the other blocks at left and right centre respectively.

1034(a) 1½d Grey, Cowan Paper, Perf. 14x13½ (K1a). Plate block of 4 (pl. no. 14) full corner selvage. Superb unmounted	£55.00
(b) As above. Another plate block, but of 12 stamps (4x3), again brilliant mint ..	£65.00
(c) As above. Mint block of 4	£5.50
1035 1½d Cowan Paper, Two-Perfs Se-Tenant (K1c). Superfine mint block of 4	£67.50
1036 1½d Grey, Pictorial Paper, Perf. 14x13½ (K1d). Mint block of 4, left hand pair being the variety No Watermark	£4.00
1037 1½d Pictorial Paper, Perf. 14x14½ (K1e). Corner block of 4 including two no wmk stamps. Diagonal crease across corner of selvage, well clear of stamps (unmounted)	£4.50
1038(a) 1½d Pictorial Paper, Two Perfs Se-Tenant (K1f). Mint block of 4, unmounted	£33.50
(b) As above. Marginal block of 4, unmounted, one vertical pair being without wmk (K1f/K1fz)	£50.00

★ 1039	1½d Pictorial Paper, Exhibition Page. Set of 4 choice blocks, as detailed in the introduction to this listing. The plate block is in the rare form with the number absolutely complete	£160.00
1040(a)	2d Violet, Perf. 14x13¼ (K2a). Finest mint block of 4 in a lovely bright shade	£27.50
	(b) As above. Top right corner block with sheet serial number. Brilliant unmounted	£32.50
	(c) As above. Plate block of 4, full selvages, with pl. no. 16. Again unmounted and superb	£55.00
1041(a)	2d Violet, Perf. 14x14¼ (K2b). Corner block of 4, superb unmounted	£27.50
	(b) As above. Marginal block of 4, unmounted mint	£26.50
	(c) As above. Mint block of 4 in deep violet	£22.50
	(d) As above. Another block in a nicely contrasting bright shade	£22.50
★ 1042	2d Violet, Exhibition Page. The comprehensive set of four blocks as detailed .	£155.00
1043	2d Yellow, Cowan Paper, Perf. 14x13¼ (K2d). One of the few used multiples in this listing, but what a beauty! Lovely used (dated 1916) block of 4, slight scuff mark affecting the decorative border of one stamp. Decent used 2d's (whether violet or yellow) are very scarce. The used block	£30.00
1044(a)	2d, Yellow, Two Perfs Se-Tenant (K2f). An absolutely flawless mint marginal block of 4	£50.00
	(b) As above. Another two-perf block, non-marginal and lightly hinged	£40.00
1045	2d Yellow Pictorial Paper (K2g). Mint block of 4, the upper pair of stamps being virtually without watermark. In contrast to the 1½d, there is infinitely less possibility of no watermark varieties occurring on this paper when used sideways (on the George V 2d, 3d, 6d, and the Edward 8d). The block	£55.00
1046(a)	2½d Deep Blue, Perf. 14x13¼ (K3a). Superfine mint block of 4 in the deep blue shade	£18.50
	(b) As above. Plate block of 4 (pl. no. 17) with full selvages, in deep blue. Finest mint — hinged in selvedge only	£47.50
	(c) As above. Another similarly fine plate block, but from a later printing — proved by both the colourless gum and the very distinctive slate blue shade	£47.50
1047(a)	2½d Two Perfs Se-Tenant (K3c). Mint block in deep blue. Fine	£80.00
	(b) As above. Another two-perf block in a particularly intense shade	£80.00
1048	3d Chocolate, Cowan Paper, Perf. 14x13¼ (K4a). Plate block of 4 (pl. no. 18), full corner selvedge, and including the R1/1 re-entry, with clear doubling in the ornamental border design at right and left centre. Superfine mint	£67.50

1049	3d Two Perfs Se-Tenant (K4c). Block of 4 mint, hinged and fine	£67.50
1050(a)	3d Pictorial Paper (K4d). Superfine mint block of 4, marginal	£10.00
	(b) As above. Equally fine mint block, non marginal	£9.25
	(c) As above. Another mint block, the upper pair of stamps without trace of watermark. Rare thus. The block (K4d/K4dZ)	£69.50
	(d) As above. Vertical strip of 3, consisting of one stamp without watermark, flanked above and below by normal watermarked copies. A marvellous piece to show the variety. Finest mint	£37.50
1051	4d Yellow, Perf. 14x13½ (K5a). Plate block of 4 (pl. no. 20), with full corner selvedge. Superfine mint — stamps unmounted	£45.00
1052	4d Yellow, Perf. 14x14½ (K5b). Mint block of 4. Diagonal crease (2 stamps) does not intrude on superb appearance	£11.50
1053	4d Yellow, Two Perfs Se-Tenant (K5c). Finest mint (hinged) block of 4	£40.00
★ 1054	4d Yellow, Exhibition Page. The "Standard Set" of four superb blocks as earlier detailed	£124.50
1055(a)	4d Violet (pl.20), Perf. 14x13½ (K5d). Marginal block of 4 (selvedge irregularly torn, but showing part plate no.) in brilliant bright violet. Stamps superb unmounted	£27.50
	(b) As above. Another block of 4 in dull violet. A magnificent contrast to the previous block, being distinctly purplish in comparison. Finest mint, lightly hinged	£22.50
	(c) As above. Lovely mint block of 6, again in dull violet, but a late print showing the advanced plate wear which necessitated replacement by a new plate (44) ..	£35.00
1056(a)	4d Violet, Two Perfs Se-Tenant (K5f). Mint block of 4, superfine mint, light hinge one stamp	£67.50
	(b) As above. Another two-perf block, this one with three additional attractions: one, the shade is exceptionally bright; two, it is postally used (parcel cancel, but of its type quite acceptably clean and light); three, it includes the major "club-foot" re-entry at R4/10. A delightful block, sound, fresh and attractive (Cat. \$175)	£57.50
★ 1057	4d Violet, Exhibition Page. A particularly appealing quartet of "standard" blocks, since they also run the gamut of both shades and plate wear	£167.50
1058(a)	4d Deep Purple (Plate 44), Perf. 14x14½ (K5g). Superb mint block of 4 in the distinctively deep blackish-purple shade	£39.50
	(b) As above. Marginal block in blackish-violet (scarce). Hinge-thin near outer edge of selvedge — far away from the stamps, which are superfine mint	£60.00

To be continued