

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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SEEING IS NOT NECESSARILY BELIEVING by Colin Hamilton

We have to record yet another appearance, in a recent auction list, of that hoary old chestnut (the phrase is curiously apposite here) — the 1900 1½d Pictorial in the alleged Khaki shade. More in forlorn hope than in anticipation, we viewed the item, and our scepticism turned out to be fully justified.

It seems there is still a widely held precept, in regard to the shade of this stamp, which runs "if it's different, it must be the Khaki". In this instance — a pair, seemingly fresh mint — it certainly was different, violently different, from the normal range, but Khaki it equally certainly was not. The colour could be described as brownish yellow (yellow being the predominant colour), but its most striking feature was its brightness, a feature totally absent in the true Khaki, which is a notably drab and lifeless shade.

Without a shadow of a doubt, the pair seen was an example of a colour changeling (and as such, of course, worthless). Changelings can and do occur when stamps are exposed, whether accidentally or deliberately, to heat, light or other external agents, for instance, to various chemicals. Some colours are more prone than others to this alteration in appearance, but the range of susceptibility is wide, and there is unfortunately no handy formula for identification. Experience, plus common sense, is the only yardstick.

Many cases, for example varying degrees of simple fading of a colour (which is one form of changeling) are readily recognisable, since these result in an appearance which is just a pale, insipid, washed-out version of the original true colour. Extremes are known where a colour has virtually or completely disappeared through fading (½d Newspaper, 1d and 2d First Sideface, 2d Second Sideface, red 6d Kiwi, ½d Christchurch Exhibition, 1d Universal surface print, frame of 6d Express, red of 1966 Christmas are examples, although these would rarely occur without some other evidence that something was amiss, like an unnatural appearance to the paper itself, or some less dramatic change in another colour present).

In others, however, the alteration can be both radical and surprising and a list of some of the more startling variations (all of which either we have seen or are reliably recorded) may be interesting and educational. For ease of reference, the normal colour is indicated in parenthesis:

1d Full Face Queen (red): deep brown, black; 2d Full Face Queen (blue): blue-black, green; 3d Full Face Queen (lilac): blue, greenish-blue, pale brown; 4d Full Face Queen (rose): red-brown, black-brown; 6d Full Face Queen (brown): black; 1/- Full Face Queen (green): blue, pale bistre-brown.

Second Sides. 4d (green): pale blue.

First Pictorials. 1d London Print (blue/brown): deep brown/brown, black/deep brown, blue/black; 1½d (chestnut): yellow, olive-yellow (the latter is probably a similar "shade" to that mentioned earlier in this note); 2d Local Print (purple): deep slate blue, pink, black; 2½d (blue): black; 3d (brown): black; 4d Local Print (blue/brown): black/deep brown, blue/black; 9d (purple): grey; 1/- (red): black; 2/- (green): blue; 5/- (vermillion): black, brown-orange.

Edward VII. 2d (mauve): pink; 6d (carmine): brown.

George V. ½d (green): yellow, turquoise-blue, turquoise-green; ½d War Stamp (green): black; 1½d surface print (brown): olive-yellow; 2d recess (violet): blue-black; 2½d (deep blue): black; 4d (yellow): orange-brown; 4d (violet): pale maroon; 6d (carmine): pale maroon; 1/- (vermillion): pale orange (not to be confused with the salmons, which are true colours and quite distinctive).

Second Pictorials. ½d (green): yellow; 1d (red): brown, salmon; 2d (orange): yellow, brown; 6d (scarlet): pink; 2/- (olive-green): pale blue.

George VI. 1d (red): pink, orange, deep brown.

Commemoratives. 1940 Centennial 3d (purple/carmine): grey/carmine; 1940 Centennial 9d (olive-green/orange): orange/orange (the centre almost exactly matching the normal frame colour!); 3d Telegraph (chocolate/green): chocolate/blue.

The above is by no means an exhaustive list. In particular, many of the inks used for recent multicolour stamps appear to be subject to notable changes. Occasionally only one colour may be affected, but in most of those we have seen, two or more of the individual inks used show differences from normal — this is a virtually certain sign that the colours are not "as printed".

OFFICIALS 1907 — 1961

Breaking a superb and near-complete collection, arranged along the lines of Gibbons listings (but with many extra items).

- 601(a) 1907—08 Issues.** 27 stamps (between S.G. 059—072) on two leaves, incl.
 (a) original issues — ½d, 1d (9—Waterlow, Royle and booklet plate singles, plus complete booklet pane), 2d (3 shades), 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 5/- (3 copies all showing variations of both watermark and shade); (b) redrawn etc — ½d (block of 4), 1d, 6d (both perfs). All finest mint except (curiously) the 1d Royle which is used. A magnificent and difficult group. S.G. cat. £1785. £1395.00
- (b) As above.** A brilliant used example of the Long Fiscal £1 on unsurfaced paper (S.G. 068, cat £700). Well-centred, fresh-colour, beautifully cancelled by a perfect and complete strike of a small, neat Invercargill c.d.s. dated 26 NO 13. A connoisseur's copy £550.00
- 602 Edward VII Issues.** ½d, 1d (3, incl. a vert. pr. with overprint misplaced 5mm low), 3d (4 — singles in each perf., plus two-perf pair), 6d (2 shades), 8d perf. 14x14½ (3 — two shades plus copy with inverted watermark), 8d perf. 14x13½, 8d two-perf (pair plus marginal block of 4 showing shades), 1/- (2 shades). The 1d pair has toned gum, otherwise condition is fine to superb throughout. 22 stamps, all mint £650.00

- 603(a) 1913 – 25 Long Fiscal Issues.** 2/- (3 shades), 5/-, £1, all on De La Rue paper, perf. 14 (S.G. 080 - 082). The rare set of 5, fine fresh mint (S.G. cat. £950) .. £725.00
- (b) **As above.** De La Rue paper, perf. 14½x14 2/-, finest postally used set of two, with and without stop after Official (S.G. 083, 083a, cat £108) £95.00
- (c) **As above.** De La Rue paper, perf. 14½x14 5/- (S.G. 084) superfine mint £120.00
- (d) **As above.** Brilliant mint se-tenant pair, one stamp being the 'No Stop' variety (S.G. 084/084a). The normal stamp is very lightly hinged, the variety is unmounted, the centring is perfect. An exhibition piece £375.00
- (e) **As above.** Similar 'Stop/No Stop' pair of the 2/- on Cowan paper, perf. 14½x14 (S.G. 085/085a). A little gum-toning in no way affects the facial appearance (which is quite outstanding), but allows £85.00
- 604 King George V Issues.** All-mint collection beautifully presented on five leaves absolutely complete per S.G. (086 – 091, 093 – 0113 incl. all 'a', 'b' and 'c' numbers). Several of the 'No Stop' varieties are in pair with normal, and other extras include 3d and 6d two-perf blocks of 4, 3d block with inv.wmk, plate number pieces of the 4d (pair), 6d (block of 4) and 1/- (single in salmon), and a magnificent block of 4 of the scarce 2/- Admiral. A total of 72 stamps, S.G. cat. £2000+. Four 'No Stop' items have gum tones, condition of the remainder is superfine £1450.00
- 605 Second Pictorial Issues.** With the solitary exception of the impossible 1½d S.G. 0116a, again this four-page collection is complete by S.G. (0115 – 0133a), and includes a fine copy of the rare 8d (0128b). Several extras – the most notable of which is a superb plate block of the scarce perf. 12½ 2d – boost the total to 49 stamps, all mint except two which are used. S.G. cat. £2400+, unrepeatable at £1250.00
- 606 King George VI Issues.** S.G. 0134 – 0140 and 0152 – 0158a complete (0158a is in corner block of 4, and there are additional plate blocks of 0157 and 0158). Together with several other extras, a total of 34 stamps, all finest mint. S.G. cat. £151+ £97.50
- 607 Q.E. Issues.** Complete set of 16, 1d – 3/- (incl. changes of paper, and both provisionals). S.G. cat. £37.55. Lightly hinged/unhinged £18.50
- 608(a) 1940 Centennial Issues.** Set of 11, lightly hinged and superb (S.G. cat £60) .. £37.50
- (b) **As above.** Complete set of 8 "Joined ff" varieties, all but two (2d and 4d) being in pair or strip with normal. Finest mint – of the variety stamps only the 2d is lightly hinged, the others being unmounted £185.00

MISCELLANY

- 609(a) King Edward VII Heads.** Complete simplified mint set of 9, ½d – 1/- (incl. both 4d colours). Minimum Cat. \$359-50 (S.G. £182.50). Quality – not quite superfine, but fresh appearance and an attractive set. Price - a gift at £39.50

(b)	As above. Used set of identical content, condition good to very fine. Minimum Cat. \$67.50 (S.G. £25.50+). The simplified set of 9 used	£11.50
610	1d Dominion. Unhinged copy (marginal) on De La Rue paper with brilliant full offset on back (J1aZ). Really spectacular variety	£9.00
611	Q.E. 2½d on 3d Provisional. Plate block of 6 from plate 17, with narrow setting of the surcharge. The "commonest" of the abnormalities, but nevertheless still very scarce indeed. Superb unhinged	£35.00
612(a)	1960 Pictorial Booklet Panes. Set of three complete panes (½d, 1d, 3d) from a stapled booklet. Finest mint unhinged	£5.00
(b)	As above. Similar set, but from a stitched booklet, all panes having number (in this case '2') printed in selvage. Hinged mint	£6.00
(c)	As above. Set of 6 x 3d "stitched" panes, showing the complete range of selvage numbers (1 - 6). Hinged mint	£7.50
613	1960 Pictorial 8d Rarity. Imprint/plate block of 8 stamps with plate nos 1121. Offered at half-price, very lightly hinged	£37.50

Note: The printing from this combination of cylinders was very small, a fact borne out by the scarcity not only of plate blocks, but also of individual stamps, which can be recognised by a notable absence of colour from the topmost green leaves at both right and left, giving the appearance of a thick covering of snow.

614(a)	1933 Health Variety. R2/1 retouched (and notably shorter than normal) letters LT in value panel at right, also flaw in clouds retouched (T5aX). In pair with normal stamp, finest mint	£27.50
(b)	As above. R3/3 Flaw in Clouds (naked-eye and very prominent). Mint hinged	£12.50
615	1963 Health 2½d+1d. Matching corner block of 6 (incidentally in nice shades of dull and bright blue) showing R10/10 with (i) pronounced weak entry at bottom and (ii) weak entry corrected. From pl. 1B. Both blocks also include the constant R11/10 re-entry	£7.50

RARE REFERENCE BOOK

616	"The Cancellations of New Zealand (With Notes on the Early Philatelic History)", by R.J.G. Collins. Published 1926, in a limited edition of only 250 copies, and signed by the author, this is the first copy we have seen. In reasonable condition for its age	£67.50
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COUNTER COIL PAIR BARGAINS

We have a few of each of the following in excess of our stock requirements — so you the customer get the advantage of real giveaway prices, but only while the surplus lasts. All top-quality material.

King George VI Rubber-Stamped Numbers.

MC1b	1d purple no. (Cat. \$3)	50p	MC1h	5d red no. (Cat. \$12.50)	£2.50
MC1e	2d purple no. (Cat. \$7.50). £1.00		MC1j	6d purple no. (Cat. \$12.50)	£2.25

King George VI Machine-Printed Numbers.

MC2a	2d coarse VM (Cat. \$ 1.50)	30p	MC2k	8d coarse VM (Cat. \$ 10)	£2.00
MC2c	3d fine VM (Cat. \$ 2.50)	40p	MC2m	9d coarse VM (Cat. \$10)	£1.75
MC2e	4d fine VM (Cat. \$ 5)	£1.00	MC2q	1/3d die 1a (Cat. \$7.50)	£1.75
MC2f	4d coarse VM (Cat. \$ 6)	£1.25	MC2r	1/3d die 1b (Cat. \$ 7.50)	£1.75
MC2j	8d fine VM (Cat. \$ 10)	£2.50			

1960 Pictorials, Red Numbers.

OC3b	2d (Cat. \$ 4.50)	£1.25	OC10a	8d (Cat. \$ 7)	£1.25
OC4a	2½d (Cat. \$ 4)	70p	OC13a	1/3d (Cat. \$ 9)	£1.75
OC5a	3d (Cat. \$ 4)	70p	OC14b	1/6d (Cat. \$ 9)	£1.75
OC6b	4d (Cat. \$ 3)	60p	OC15c	1/9d multicolour (Cat. \$ 16)	£3.00

1967 Pictorials.

ODC8	6c (Cat. \$ 1.50)	45p	ODC12	15c (Cat. \$ 4)	65p
ODC10	8c (Cat. \$ 3)	50p			

1970 Pictorials, Watermarked.

PC6a	4c (Cat. \$ 4.50)	80p	PC12a	10c (Cat. \$ 9)	£1.50
PC8a	6c (Cat. \$ 7.50)	£1.50	PC15a	20c (Cat. \$ 9)	£1.50

1970 Pictorials, Unwatermarked.

PC6b	4c white gum (Cat. \$ 3)	£1.00	PC12b	10c blue gum (Cat. \$ 6)	£1.75
	blue gum (Cat. \$ 3)	65p	PC15b	20c (Cat. \$ 9)	£1.50
PC7c	5c (Cat. \$ 3)	£1.00			

MORE KING GEORGE VI

Commencing a new series of offers from this highly popular issue. Very little of this listing, which is rich in variety material (the spice of any collection), was included in our previous series of K.G. VI offers, so close examination is recommended. Where necessary a full description of the varieties is included.

617(a)	½d Green (M1a). Five unmounted blocks of 4, fine contrasts	£10.00
(b)	As above. Plate no. 18 in left slevedge, mint marginal block of 4	£4.00
618(a)	½d Chestnut, Coarse VM Paper (M1d). Marginal block of 4 from plate 133, with R5/24 retouch, mint	£4.00
(b)	As above. Mint corner block of 4, also plate 133, including R9/1, 10/1 and 10/2 retouches	£5.00
619	½d Chestnut Slot Machine Material. Three pieces, including strip of 4 (M1b paper); joined strip of 4 (M1c paper) which shows the piercing pin marks on two stamps; and a used pair (M1b paper) with a roughly torn edge (caused by the difficulty in removing the stamps from the slot machine) and part plate number on the attached binding selvage. Unusual	£7.50

620(a)	1d Green, Fine HM Paper (M2b). Unmounted mint corner block of 18 (3x6) from plate 29, including R4/3 and 6/3 defective impressions. Now Cat \$ 90 as singles, but tone spots allow	£12.50
(b)	As above. Mint block of 12 (stamps unmounted) from plate 31, showing the R2/6 variety. Cat. \$ 60 as singles, and offered at	£20.00
(c)	As above. Mint block of 4, also plate 31, including the Catalogued R3/17 variety — MV2c(e) on M2b paper (Cat \$ 40)	£12.50
621(a)	1d Green, Fine VM Paper (M2c). Imprint/plate blocks of 6, your choice of plate nos 104, 106, 107, 108, 109, each	£1.00
(b)	As above. Complete set of counter coil pairs, nos 1 — 19, rubber stamped red coil nos (MC1b)	£17.50
(c)	As above. Mint block of 6 from plate 29, including R4/3 and 6/3 defective impressions	£6.00
(d)	As above. Unmounted mint block of 4, plate 36, including R4/2 retouch (MV2c(f))	£6.00
622(a)	1d Green, Coarse VM Paper (M2d). Mint imprint/plate blocks of 6, your choice of plate nos 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 122, 123, each	£1.00
(b)	As above. Marginal unmounted block of 4, plate 72, including R7/2 plate cracks	£5.00
(c)	As above. This unhinged block of 4 includes R5/7 variety, plate 72	£5.00
(d)	As above. Unhinged block of 4, also plate 72, including R8/4 variety	£5.00
(e)	As above. Mint block of 4 from plate 73, including the Catalogued R5/20 flaw in an advanced state — MV2d(h)	£10.00
(f)	As above. Mint corner block of 18 (6x3) — all stamps are unmounted — including the R3/6 retouch on plate 77 (MV2d(j)). Very scarce in positional block	£17.50
(g)	As above. The same variety, but in the more normal marginal block of 6 (stamps unmounted)	£7.50
(h)	As above. Unmounted mint block of 4 from plate 78, including R4/16 weak panel variety — easily seen with the naked-eye	£6.00
(i)	As above. Mint marginal block of 4, also plate 78, including R7/1 retouch	£5.00
(j)	As above. Mint block of 4 includes the R7/17 Catalogued retouch on plate 78— MV2d(k).....	£6.00
(k)	As above. Mint block of 4, also plate 78, including R8/11 retouch — MV2d(m) — you don't need a glass for this one!	£10.00
(l)	As above. Mint block of 6, plate 114, including R3/15 and 3/16 varieties	£6.00

(m)	As above. Mint imprint/plate 115 block (12 stamps, all unmounted), including R10/6 variety	£6.00
(n)	As above. Mint marginal block of 4 from plate 117, including R10/13 doubling of top ornament	£5.00
(o)	As above. Mint marginal block of 4 plate 119, including R2/18 retouch	£5.00
(p)	As above. Mint horizontal pair, also plate 119, showing the R3/17 variety ...	£3.00
(q)	As above. Mint imprint/plate block of 6 (plate no. 120), including the R10/3 variety	£2.50
(r)	As above. Mint marginal block of 4 from plate 122, including R1/11 and 1/12 varieties	£5.00
(s)	As above. Plate 124 corner block of 4, mint, includes the R2/2 variety	£4.00
(t)	As above. Similar block of 4 (marginal) from plate 124, with the R7/1 defective impression	£4.00
(u)	As above. Mint marginal block of 6 from plate 125, with the R10/19-20 and R10/20-21 plate cracks	£4.00
(v)	As above. This marginal block of 10 from plate 125 shows similar plate cracks at R9/9-10, R10/10-11, R10/12-13	£5.00
(w)	As above. Used horizontal strip from a slot machine, includes three stamps (all showing the gripper-pin marks), and a $\frac{1}{4}$ of a stamp where the strip has been roughly torn from the machine. Most unusual	£5.00
623(a)	1d Green, Coarse HM Paper (M2e). The scarcest of all the 1d Greens. Three shades, unmounted mint	£10.00
(b)	As above. Mint block of 4, plate 85 including the R2/22 retouch — MV2d(n) on M2e paper — readily visible	£10.00
(c)	As above. Unmounted block of 6, including the listed plate 85 varieties R8/15 and 9/17 — MV2d (o and p) on M2e paper	£15.00
624(a)	1d on $\frac{1}{2}$d Green Provisional (M3a). Mint selection includes five blocks of 4 and three singles, showing 9 varieties of the overprint. Slight toning on one block, otherwise fine	£7.50
(b)	As above. Commercially used horizontal pair, one stamp being the Catalogued plate 19, R7/5 retouch (MV3a)	£5.00
(c)	As above. Four used 'plate' pieces, showing (i) part of the plate number; (ii) the plate no. blacked out; (iii) the plate no. punched out; and (iv) the plate no. punched and blacked out — this latter state being normal. The first such set we can recall having seen.....	£20.00
(d)	As above. Used single, with the plate number blacked and punched out	£3.00

625 (a)	1½d Chocolate (M4a). Mint booklet pane of 6, with inverted watermark (W6cY). Cat. \$ 95 and offered at	£25.00
(b)	As above. Commercially used booklet pane of 6, no binding selvage, with upright watermark. Unusual thus	£17.50
(c)	As above. Unhinged mint single, watermark inverted (M4aY)	£6.00
626 (a)	1½d Rose-Red, Fine HM Paper (M4b) Four corner blocks of 8, showing plate nos 20 and 21 in both right and left selvage, together with an imprint block of 8. The five 'classic' mint blocks, complete	£15.00
(b)	As above. The Catalogued variety, R8/18 retouch from plate 20 (MV4b(a)) here shown in corner block of 21 (7 x 3) — seldom seen in positional piece	£15.00

(to be continued)

RECENT ISSUES

1/4/82	24c Map Stamp Definitive.	
	Single, mint (blocks pro-rata)	19p
	Imprint block of 6	£1.30
	First Day Cover (Wanganui pmk)	35p
7/4/82	1982 Architecture 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c.	
	Set of 4 mint (blocks pro-rata)	83p
	Imprint/plate blocks (of 6 stamps each). Complete set of 8 blocks (two each value)	£10.75
	Set of 4 imprint/plate blocks (one each value)	£5.50
	First Day Cover (Wanganui pmk)	95p

Postal Stationery.

20c + 4c Provisional Envelope.	20c vermilion envelope (163mm x 114mm) with 'ADDITIONAL 4c/POSTAGE PAID' in black below printed stamp. Unused	40p
24c Envelope.	(162mm x 115mm). Stamp printed in magenta. Unused	30p
20c + 4c Provisional Letter Card.	20c Letter Card (vermilion on blue) with 'ADDITIONAL 4c/POSTAGE PAID' in black below printed stamp. Unused	40p

OFFER OF THE MONTH

627(a)	1967 Pictorials. Set of 18, ½c — \$2 (S.G. 845-862), unmounted mint. Now Cat. \$ 113+ (S.G. £50)	£28.50
(b)	As above. The same set, but in unmounted mint blocks of 4. To the first two orders only at	£110.00