

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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VOLUME XIX

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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

1d Dominions. Sheets of this stamp were printed from two plates, identified in the records as plates 12 and 13 (although of course no plate numbers appeared on the issued sheets).

As owners of Volume 4 of the NZ Handbook (or the Fisher monograph on the 1d Dominion) will know, the transfer roller impression used for laying down the latter plate developed a flaw, which shows as an extra bar of colour about 1mm above ON of ONE, connecting the solid patch of colour to the curved line immediately above. This flaw is present in 210 of the 240 stamps on sheets from plate 13 (it is absent from all the stamps in the first three vertical columns only), and it is usually accepted as the standard test for identifying stamps from this plate. Or so we thought!

Recently we purchased a considerable quantity of 1d Dominions from a non-specialist source. These were almost entirely in blocks of 4 or 6, plus a few singles and pairs, and the vast majority of the stamps showed the plate 13 flaw. This appeared to be a remarkable find, for stamps from this plate are quite elusive, and mint multiples are positively scarce. Two aspects were rather puzzling, however. Firstly, one block (a vertical block of 6) had the top four stamps clearly **with** the flaw, while the bottom pair were just as clearly **without** it. Thus the well-documented and widely accepted arrangement of flaw/no flaw stamps, as described in the previous paragraph, was called into question. Secondly, aside from the plate 13 flaw, not one of the blocks appeared to have any other characteristic which would enable it to be plated, yet a glance through the Fisher study reveals that there are innumerable minor constant flaws, etc. in plate 13 stamps, and it seemed almost inconceivable that so many blocks could be totally devoid of any of these marks.

We showed the material (without detailed comment) to our old friend Frank Scrivener of Kent, a keen student of 1d Dominions (and many other issues too). At first he was as puzzled as we were, and for very similar reasons. But Frank is seldom stumped, and he came up with what is

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almost certainly the complete answer to the problem. These were not plate 13 stamps at all, but **booklet stamps from one or other of the two electrotype plates**. In a way, this makes the lot even more remarkable. As Frank observed, what dreadful sacrilege someone committed in breaking up all of these booklet panes, and worse still, in removing all the selvages.

Footnote. From the evidence of the blocks seen, it would seem that most, but not all, booklet stamps from the electrotype plates show the plate 13 flaw. Usually, it should not be difficult to separate these booklet stamps from true 'plate 13s', due to the general blurred appearance of the former. But in early printings from the electrotype plates, the characteristic blurring is minimal or non-existent, and separation from plate 13 stamps is much more difficult in these cases. They fooled us, in any event! Finally, it should perhaps be added that stamps from the third 1d Dominion booklet plate (that is, the steel one laid down by Perkins Bacon) show neither the plate 13 flaw, nor any of the five progressive flaws which occurred on plate 12.

4c Life Insurance, Cape Egmont. Mr D. Garrett of Salisbury has shown us a commercially used copy of the chalky VM paper (X30b) clearly dated 22 October 1974. This highlights a little mystery as to exactly when the new paper first appeared. Stanley Gibbons catalogue lists the issue date as 16/6/77, while C.P. is currently rather more tentative, quoting '1976(?)'. We know for certain that both of these dates are too late, for our records show that our first supplies of plate blocks from plate 22 were to hand in September 1975, and as far as we are aware stamps from this plate exist only on the new paper. Furthermore, the only plate block numbered 2a2a we have ever seen was also on this paper, and the owner tells us that it was on issue in January 1975. Now we have Mr Garrett's copy! It is of course possible that it is an example of an error in the date-slug, but taking the other evidence into account, it is at least equally possible that it is correct. Any advance on October 1974? The N.Z. Philatelic Bulletin offers no help, with its occasional listing of the plate numbers extant. In fact, if anything, it confuses matters even more. The issue dated June 1969 gives the 4c plate numbers as 11, 1a1a, and from then we can find no further reference until the issue for October 1977, where the 4c plate numbers are given as 2a2a, 1a1a, 11, 22, 32, 3a2a (with the indication that 22 was at that time no longer available from the Bureau).

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| 701(a) | 1874 Q.V. Sidefaces. Complete used set of 6, 1d - 1/-, in the original perf. 12½ (S.G. 152-157). One or two small faults, but an attractive and very collectable representation of a difficult issue (S.G. cat. £152+) | £57.50 |
| (b) | As above. Nice used copy of the 1/- perf. 10x12½ (S.G. 164). A very scarce stamp (Cat. C.P. \$ 200, S.G. £90) | £35.00 |
| 702 | 1875 Q.V. Sidefaces. Provisional issue of 1d and 2d on Large Star wmk paper — the only use of this paper outside of the Chalon Heads. Seldom available as a pair, the 1d being particularly elusive. Good used (Cat. C.P. \$ 125, S.G. £84) | £25.00 |
| 703 | 1878 Q.V. Sidefaces. The final issue, perf. 12x11½, in good used short set of 5 complete to 1/- (S.G. 180-184). Cat. C.P. \$ 136, S.G. £81 | £25.00 |

EARLIER BOOKLET PANES

Lovely material! All items offered are complete panes, with selvages intact.

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| 704 | 1d Universal Official (WO2aZ). Pane with binding selvedge at top. Superfine — lightly hinged in binding selvedge only. Cat. \$ 80 | £35.00 |
|------------|--|--------|

- 705** 1d Field Marshal, Perf. 14. Issue without advertisements. Pane from top right corner of sheet (with part sheet serial number), **thus including the major re-entry on stamp no. 5**. Finest condition, again lightly hinged in binding selvage. The variety pane (W4fW). Cat. \$ 325 £145.00
- 706(a)** 1936 1d Kiwi The multiple wmk issue (W5bZ). Unhinged mint pane £15.00
- (b)** As above. Another unhinged pane, but including one Die 1 re-entry (W5bX). Cat. \$ 120 £57.50

SUPERB USED

A short selection of complete sets, all superfine used with crisp circular cancellations, and all elusive in this immaculate quality.

- 707(a)** 1965 Parliamentary Conference (S100-102, S.G. 835-7). Superb used set of 3 £11.00
- (b)** As above. To the first order, a set of three blocks of 4, all with central c.d.s. dated 30/11/65, the first day of issue £47.50
- 708(a)** 1968 Armed Services (S109-111, S.G. 884-6). Set of 3 (S.G. Cat. £4.95) £3.00
- (b)** As above. Set of three blocks of 4, central c.d.s. cancels £12.00
- 709(a)** 1960 Health, Perf. 11½x11 (T32c/d). Stamps with this perforation are found only from miniature sheets. The superb set of two £7.50
- (b)** As above. Glorious blocks of 4, central c.d.s. cancels £35.00
- 710(a)** 1969 Health (T41a-c, S.G. 899-901). Set of 3, including the elusive "Dr Gunn", S.G. Cat. £2.15 £1.50
- (b)** As above. Blocks of 4, central c.d.s. cancels £6.00
- 711(a)** 1957 Ross Dependency (RD4-7, S.G. 1-4). Set of 5, including 3d, 4d, 8d (ultramarine and blue), 1/6d — all with Scott Base c.d.s. cancels £13.00
- (b)** As above. Similar set of 5, each in block of 4, also with Scott Base c.d.s. cancels. Only one set available, so don't delay £52.00

UNUSUAL ITEM

- 712** ½d Mt Cook. Block of 4 from a sheet supplied to Mr Dickie for his experiments with early slot machines. The stamps are perf. 14x15 (F5c) and are overprinted vertically with two thin black bars. Until a few years ago, it was thought that stamps so overprinted were from presentation sets. A block to add spice and interest to any N.Z. collection. Unhinged £7.50

MORE KING GEORGE VI

A continuation of last months specialised listing. As usual, complete descriptions are included where necessary.

713(a)	1½d Rose-Red, Coarse VM Paper (M4c). Mint imprint/plate block of 8, plate nos 20 or 21, each block	£3.50
(b)	As above. Mint imprint/plate block of 4 or 6 stamps, plate nos 130 or 137, each block	£2.00
(c)	As above. Mint positional block of 21 (7 x 3) including the listed plate 20 R8/18 retouch (MV4c(a)), seldom offered in true positional piece	£15.00
(d)	As above. Marginal block of 12 (3 x 4), plate 21, showing the listed R4/10 retouch (MV4c(b)). Mint	£8.00
(e)	As above. Marginal block of 4, including the plate 129 R9/22 retouch, mint ..	£4.00
(f)	As above. Large multiple from the top two horizontal rows of plate 129, at least 6 impressions showing a doubling of the background lines	£6.00
(g)	As above. Plate nos 136 and 137 were laid down using the same transfer roller. This is proved by developing transfer roller flaws which are progressive 'across' the two plates. Our set of two large blocks (one from each plate), illustrates this to perfection. Most unusual	£12.50
714(a)	2d on 1½d (M5a). Mint block of 4, including the R8/18 first state retouch (MV5a(a))	£7.50
(b)	As above. Mint marginal block of 4, including R10/23 surcharge variety	£6.00
(c)	As above. Mint horizontal pair, one stamp being the major R10/10 "Re-inserted 2" variety (M5aZ, S.G. 629a). This example is a particularly good one (similar to the second illustration on Permanent page M4 in our Catalogue). Cat. \$ 600, S.G. £350. A little light gum toning does not detract from magnificent appearance, and allows	£60.00
715(a)	2d Orange, coarse VM Paper (M6a). Imprint/plate block of 8, mint, your choice of plate nos 40, 51, 75, 76, 79, each block	£1.00
(b)	As above. Imprint/plate block of 4, plate nos 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, each block	75p
(c)	As above. Imprint/plate block of 8, on very thin paper, mint	£6.00
(d)	As above. Corner block of 4, from plate 41, including R2/2 variety, flaw on Kings chest. Mint	£5.00
(e)	As above. Marginal block of 4, also plate 41, including R2/14 retouch, as listed in Vol 4 of the Handbook	£6.00
(f)	As above. Corner block of 8, once again plate 41, including R2/21 "double tail to ampersand" flaw. Mint	£6.00

(g)	As above. Mint block of 4, plate 61, including the listed R4/5 retouch (MV6a(a))	£6.00
(h)	As above. Plate 76 marginal block of 12 (3 x 4), including R3/22 flaw, and 4/23 & 5/24 doubling. Superfine mint	£7.50
(i)	As above. Mint block of 4, plate 80, including R5/20 retouch	£5.00
(j)	As above. Set of 4 blocks (20 stamps), all from plate 140, including R2/6, 7/1, 7/11, and 7/17 varieties. Superb material	£15.00
(k)	As above. Set of 3 blocks (36 stamps) all from plate 145, including R1/7, 4/10, 6/8, 8/4 varieties. Lovely	£17.50
716(a)	2d Orange, Coarse HM Paper (M6a). Imprint/plate block of 8, mint, plate no 86	£4.00
(b)	As above. Complete set of counter coil pairs, with purple rubber-stamped coil nos 1 - 19 (MC1e). Cat. \$ 152, offered at less than half price!	£35.00
(c)	As above. Mint block of 4, plate 81, including R6/19 retouch	£6.00
717	3d Blue, Fine VM Paper (M7a). Two imprint/plate blocks, both plate no. 39, including R10/11 flaw and retouch. Magnificent	£25.00
718(a)	3d Blue, Coarse VM Paper (M7c). Set of 6 mint stamps, showing remarkable variations in paper — thick to very thin	£5.00
(b)	As above. Imprint/plate no. 45, mint block of 8	£2.00
(c)	As above. Imprint/plate no. 138, mint block of 6	£1.50
(d)	As above. Mint corner block of 24 (6 x 4) from plate 45, including R1/1 and 4/6 varieties	£7.50
(e)	As above. Mint marginal block, also plate 45, including the R8/5 variety, listed in Vol. 4 of the Handbook	£7.50
(f)	As above. Plate 58 block of 4, mint, including R8/21 retouch	£7.50
(g)	As above. Marginal block of 4 from plate 63, including R7/2 retouch. Mint ..	£6.00
719(a)	4d Magenta, Fine VM Paper (M8a). Two imprint/plate blocks, both plate no. 94, in superb shades of bright magenta and magenta	£5.00
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 10 showing the "defective watermark" variety, which occurred very occasionally in some values due to faulty paper manufacture	£10.00
(c)	As above. Corner block of 12 (2 x 6) from plate 90, including the Catalogued R2/4 flaw (MV8a(a)), and R1/6 variety. Mint	£12.50
(d)	As above. Another mint corner block (of 8 stamps) including an unlisted intermediate state of the R2/4 variety , with the frame line restored but the shading lines still missing	£12.50

- (e) **As above.** Another mint corner block of 12, including R2/4 retouch (MV8a(b)) and R1/6 variety £10.00

Note: Lots 719c, d and e above form a fine progressive set. Subject unsold, the three blocks can be ordered at £30 the set.

- 720 4d Purple, Coarse VM Paper (M8b).** Imprint/plate no. 90 block of 6, unmounted £7.50
- 721 4d Varieties.** The following 8 lots, all unmounted mint, are matching variety blocks on fine (M8a) and coarse (M8b) papers, with the stamps printed in magenta and purple respectively. Orders for pairs of matching blocks will be subject to 10% discount, while stocks last.
- (a) **Plate 90,** marginal block of 16, including R1/13, 1/17, 2/13, 4/13 varieties, fine paper £7.50
- (b) **As above.** Identical variety block, on coarse paper £15.00
- (c) **Plate 94.** Marginal block of 14 including R4/16 variety, fine paper £6.00
- (d) **As above.** Identical block, coarse paper £12.00
- (e) **Plate 94.** Marginal block of 9, including R4/3 variety, fine paper £5.00
- (f) **As above.** Identical block, coarse paper £10.00
- (g) **Plate 94.** Imprint/plate block of 8, including R10/4 variety (listed in Vol. 4.) fine paper £7.50
- (h) **As above.** Identical imprint/plate block of 8, coarse paper £15.00
- 722 5d Fine paper (M9a).** Imprint/plate blocks of 6, plate nos 91 or 96, each block (Cat. \$ 17.50 each) £5.00
- 723 5d Coarse Paper (M9b).** Imprint/plate block of 6, pl. no. 96 (scarce on this paper) £37.50
- 724(a) 6d Fine Paper (M10a).** Imprint/plate block of 6, plate nos 92 or 98, each block £2.50
- (b) **As above.** Corner block of 10 showing "defective watermark" variety £12.50
- (c) **As above.** Mounted mint copy with inverted watermark (M10aZ). Cat. \$ 50 .. £15.00
- (d) **As above.** Marginal block of 4, from plate 98, including R10/12 variety £7.50
- 725(a) 8d Fine Paper (M11a).** Imprint/plate block of 6, plate nos 93, 95, 98 each block £2.50
- (b) **As above.** Corner block of 8, from plate 93, with R7/23 variety £8.00
- 726(a) 9d Fine Paper (M12a).** Imprint/plate block no. 97, mint (Cat. \$ 17.50) £6.00
- (b) **As above.** Marginal block of 8, with "defective watermark" variety £7.50

727	9d Coarse Paper (M12b). Unmounted mint copy with watermark inverted (M12bZ)	£12.50
	(to be continued)	

..... **AND MORE POSTAL STATIONERY**

Following our extensive listing in the April Bulletin (which proved to be extremely popular), here is another series of offers, all unused unless otherwise stated. As in the George VI, very little from the previous list is repeated below. Again Samuel catalogue numbers are quoted throughout.

Postcards.

728	1876 Q.V. 1d Red-Brown. Thin inner frame, thin buff card (A.1). Corner crease, otherwise very fine	£4.00
729	1881 Q.V. 1d Red-Brown. Thick inner frame (A.2). Printed text on reverse (Notice re. rates valuation list for the town of Inglewood). A little light toning	£3.75
730(a)	1886 Q.V. 1d Red-Brown. Thick buff card (A.4). Fair condition only	£1.50
	(b) As above. Variety "No Stop after ZEALAND". Superb	£8.50
731(a)	1890 Q.V. 1d Blue. Light buff or creamish card (A.6). Superb	£5.00
	(b) As above, but not quite so fine	£2.50
	(c) As above. Variety "No Stop after 'side'," Fine	£6.50
732(a)	1891 Q.V. 1d Blue. Card as A.6, but on white card (A.6a). Fair — some staining	£1.75
	(b) As above. Used, stamp cancelled by superb Oamaru squared circle mark, and Dunedin R.T.P.O. c.d.s. alongside. Fair	£2.50
	(c) As above. Another used card, heavy vertical crease at left	£1.50
733	1897 Q.V. 1d Brown. Creamish card, coloured views on reverse (A.7). Fine ..	£6.75
734	1901 Q.V. 1d Brown. Creamish card, inscribed 'CARTE POSTALE', no views (A.11a). Fair	£4.50
735(a)	1903 K.E.VII 1d Blue. Creamish card, inscribed 'NEW ZEALAND POST CARD' (B.1). Very fine	£6.50
	(b) As above. Very good used example	£5.00
736	1907 K.E.VII ½d Blue. Creamish card, inscribed 'INLAND POST-CARD' (B.2). Fine	£4.00
737	1923 K.G.V 1d on 1½d Yellow-Brown Provisional. Creamish card (C.6). Good condition	£5.00
738	1923 K.G.V. ½d on 1½d Yellow-Brown Provisional. Creamish card (C.10). Fine ..	£8.50

739	1924 K.G.V. ½d Green. Stamp with uncoloured border round portrait, and inscribed POSTAGE. Creamish card (C.13). Good	£2.50
740	1932 K.G.V. ½d on 1d Field Marshal (C.22). HALFPENNY surcharge hand-stamped in bluish violet. Fine	£7.50
741(a)	1932 K.G.V. ½d Provisional. 'Reply Card' portion of K.E.VII ½d deep blue ('Reply Card' obliterated), with additional K.G.V. ½d green printed alongside, surcharged HALFPENNY in red across both stamps (C.23a). Very fine	£10.00
(b)	As above. Similar item, but surcharged in blue. Good	£7.00
742	1932 K.G.V. ½d on 1d Field Marshal. Card as C.22 above, but 1d value obliterated and surcharged HALF PENNY in black type (C.24). Superb	£8.50
743	1935 ½d Fantail. On buff card (D.1). Superb	£2.00
744(a)	1941 K.G.VI 1d Yellow-Green. 'C' with two serifs. On buff card (E.4). Fine	£2.50
(b)	As above, but used. Fine	£2.50
745	1955 Q.E. 2d Green. Unshaded panels in coat-of-arms, inscribed POST-CARD (with hyphen). On buff card (F.1a). Superb	£2.00
746	1956 Q.E. 2d Green. Shaded panels in coat-of-arms, inscribed POST CARD (no hyphen). On buff card (F.2). Very fine	£4.50
747	1958 Q.E. 2d Green. New type coat-of-arms (NEW ZEALAND within design, instead of below as previously). On buff card (F.3). Superb	£1.75
748	1960 Q.E. 2d Green. As F.3 above, but on pale cream card (F.3a). Superb	£1.75
749(a)	1962 Q.E. 2d Green. On cream card (F.5). Superb	£2.00
(b)	As above. Used example. Good	£1.00
750	1964 Q.E. 2½d+½d Provisional. Card as F.5 above, but with ADDITIONAL/POSTAGE ½d in black below. Superb	£3.00
751	1967 Q.E. 2½c Rose-Red. On white card (F.8). Superb	75p
752	1968 Q.E. 2½c on 3d Rose-Red Provisional. '2½ CENTS' printed in black below stamp. On white card (F.9). Superb	£1.75
753	1970 Q.E. 2½c Green. On white card (F.10). Superb	75p
754	1971 Q.E. 2½c+½c Provisional. Card F. 10, with ½c ADDITIONAL/POSTAGE PAID in black below stamp (F.11). Superb	£1.75
755	1971 Q.E. 3c Green. On white card (F.12). Superb	75p
756	Q.E. 7c Deep Green. Stamp design as before. On white card. Superb	50p
757	Q.E. 7c Deep Green. New stamp design. On white card. Superb	30p