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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

Q.E. Middle-Value Perforations — Postscript. We have recently noted what appears to be an "action replay" of the 18-pin and 19-pin variations which we have discussed several times in Bulletin notes. (It will be recalled that the abnormal 18-pin form is common on the Q.E. 9d, rare on the 1/-, and unknown on the 1/6d and 1/9d).

The stamps involved in this case are the comb-perf Decimal Arms types issued in 1968. First, one or two basic points about these issues by way of background information. The original (1967) printings were perf. 14 line, and had watermark W8b (i.e. sideways inverted). The 1968 and subsequent printings were perf. 14 comb, and had watermark W8a (i.e. normal sideways). There was no fixed date of issue for the comb-perf stamps, but we believe the \$8 and the \$10 in this form appeared before the \$4 and \$6. At about the time the comb-perf issues first appeared, there was some mention of the line-perf \$10 being found with inverted watermark (i.e. W8a), but if this variety exists, on the \$10 or any of the other values, we have never seen an example.

Bearing the above in mind, we have examined corner blocks of all four values which there is good reason to believe came from the first supplies to appear with comb-perf. Of these blocks, the \$8 and \$10 show use of a comb head with 19-pin short rows, while the \$4 and \$6 have 18 holes only on the vertical sides. From the evidence of the blocks, the 18-pin form was just about ideal for the job, but the head with the extra pin at the top of each short row was quite obviously too big to fit satisfactorily — the topmost holes on the sides cut into the bottom holes of the strike above almost to the point of coinciding with those holes. At first sight, the effect could easily be mistaken for that of line-perfs. So was this perhaps the reason for the alleged existence of the original line-perf issue with inverted watermark?

It is of course possible that two different heads were used (one with 19-pin short rows, the other with 18-pin), but it is much more probable that the Government Printing Dept — which was responsible for producing these stamps — realised soon after printing commenced that the 19-pin head was unsuitable, and converted it by removing the uppermost pin in each short row. If that were so, the "19-pin" would be confined to very early printings of the \$8 and \$10 only, and these must be relatively scarce.

Since the comb-perf Arms are still on issue, someone may care to follow this up a little farther. For instance, are current supplies all "18-pin"? And do any \$4 and \$6 exist in "19-pin"? And what about the line-perf inverted watermark — does anyone have a proven copy in any of the four values?

Footnote: Since the above was written, I have seen a used block of the \$10 in 18-pin form.

BREAKING A C.P. ALBUM COLLECTION

The offers below are from a reasonably well-filled copy of one of our simplified albums, with stamps supplied displayed in Hawid mounts on the leaves concerned. Apart from the page of Chalon Heads (all of which are used), condition is mint hinged or unhinged throughout. An unusual opportunity — and at these prices almost certainly a unique one!

901	Full-Face Queens. A near-complete page of 6 imperfs and 10 perforated — lacking only the 3d imperf and the black-brown perforated 6d. Condition is not top grade, but there is not one tatty-looking copy in the lot. The attractive page of N.Z. classics — Cat. value must be enormous (the 1d and 1/- imperfs are on pelure paper, and alone Cat. well over £2000). Price for the page	£175.00
902	½d Newspaper/First and Second Sidefaces. First sidefaces are conspicuous by their absence (not one is present), but all others are here complete. Condition well above average, appearance lovely! Total Cat. \$500. The page of 11 stamps	£72.50
903	First Pictorials. This section covers two leaves, and with the exception of the Officials (none here), and the reduced design 6d, all spaces are occupied, 22 stamps to 5/-. Condition a little mixed, but appearance throughout is absolutely superb. Cat. around \$900, a marvellous chance for someone at	£125.00
904	1d Universal/Edward VII/1d Dominion. Seven gaps on this page (1d Universal surface print ordinary and Official, and the five Edward Officials), but stamps present include ordinary Edwards complete to 1/-. Edward 2d slight faults, otherwise very fine throughout. Min. Cat. \$370+, another real bargain at, the page (13 stamps)	£92.50
905	King George V. Recess and Surface prints, ordinary and Official, absolutely complete on two leaves. One or two of the recess-printed Officials have part gum only, and the 2/- Official has a rounded corner — condition otherwise is very fine, and appearance is superb throughout. 41 stamps, Cat. well over \$1100, offered at	£270.00
906	Second Pictorials. Complete on two leaves (ordinary and Officials). The 9d Official is the scarcer issue with green overprint. Superfine mint throughout. Min. Cat \$235. The two pages (26 stamps)	£72.50
907	King George VI Heads. Again complete both with and without Official overprint, including all surcharged issues. 36 stamps on two leaves, min. Cat. over \$119, all finest mint	£32.50
908	Queen Elizabeth Definitives. The original issue ½d - 10/-, the later "large figure" 1d - 8d, the provisionals (incl. the 2d on 1½d with stars), and Officials 1d - 3/- (incl. provisionals) — complete unhinged mint. 38 stamps on 3 leaves. Cat. over \$500	£175.00

909	1960 Pictorials. Complete set of 23 (incl. colour changes) on two leaves. Stamps all unhinged mint. Cat. \$ 147.50 approx.	£50.00
910(a)	Commemoratives. Three lovely pages, including all the glamour issues complete from 1906 - 1935 (22 stamps). The Christchurch Exhibition 1d has one or two small gum tones, and the 3d Auckland a few ragged perfs, otherwise condition is very fine. Cat. about \$ 2130, a once-only chance at	£650.00
(b)	As above. All the later issues, from 1936 ANZAC to 1967 P.O.S.B. (the last issue before decimalisation), including the scarce 1940 Centennial Officials set. 102 stamps (28 lightly hinged, the rest unhinged). Cat. over \$ 210, on 11 leaves	£50.00
911(a)	Healths. Page 1, carrying the early issues from 1929 - 38 complete. Condition is brilliantly fresh, ranging from lightly hinged to unhinged - the 1931 Red and Blue Boy have been so lightly mounted that one could almost describe them as apparently unhinged. A superb page of 11 stamps (Cat. over \$ 825)	£280.00
(b)	As above. Issues 1939 - 1967 complete (60 stamps) on 6 leaves, superfine mint (most are unhinged). Cat. \$ 33.50	£9.50
912	Express Delivery/Air Mail. Page of 10 stamps, complete. Condition not quite up to the high general standard of the rest of the collection, but appearance is fine. Cat. \$ 350, the page	£42.50
913	Life Insurance. 20 stamps on three leaves. Earlier types are sparsely represented, with none of the 1891 'VR' and six of the 1913, but the 1947 and 1967 issues are complete. All 20 stamps are unhinged mint. Minimum Cat. \$ 68+	£18.50
914	Postage Dues. Six First Types (values to 8d), ½d - 3d Second Types complete, the three Third Types (no ½d), on two leaves. The 6d First Type has no gum, condition otherwise good to superb. The 13 Postage Dues, min. Cat. over \$250 .	£60.00
915	Postal Fiscals. 17 stamps - all Arms Types - including ten values to the scarce 12/6, three surcharged to 11/- on 11/-, three decimal values to \$ 8 (all line perf, we note), and a 5/- with horizontal Official overprint. Condition varies from fine to unhinged. Minimum Cat. over \$ 900. The collection of Arms Types, an excellent basis for expansion	£225.00
916	Antarctica. No early expedition stamps, but the Ross Dependency 1957 (lightly hinged) and 1967 (unhinged) sets are complete. 8 stamps on two leaves.	£28.50

917

EXTRA SPECIAL OFFER

The prices of the above 18 lots total up to over £2425, against a Catalogue value (on a simplified basis, and ignoring the imperf Full-Face Queens) of nearly \$10,000. To anyone interested in a comprehensive basic N.Z. collection, we can offer the entire album, containing all 18 lots as described, at the even more attractive price of £2250 (N.B. As we expect keen demand for individual lots, a telephone call is essential to give a reasonable chance of securing the collection intact).

KING GEORGE VI

The concluding part of a highly popular listing, covering the issues overprinted "Official".

918(a)	Set, ½d - 2/-. One of each value and colour change, all overprinted "Official". 14 stamps, all unmounted mint. A superb simplified set (S.G. Cat. now £55) ..	£40.00
(b)	As above. A similar one-of-each set, but finest used (each stamp with c.d.s. cancel)	£25.00
919	½d Green (MO1a). Three shades of green, used	£2.00
920(a)	½d Chestnut. Unmounted mint copies on fine and course papers (MO1b and d), incidentally in striking shades of chestnut	60p
(b)	As above. Both listed papers, again fine contrasts, in unhinged blocks of 4	£2.00
(c)	As above. Three shades on fine paper (MO1b), mint singles	£1.00
(d)	As above. Corner block of 4, also fine paper, unmounted mint	£1.75
(e)	As above. Imprint block of 8 on fine paper, mint	£4.50
(f)	As above. Two chestnut shades, mint, on coarse paper (MO1d)	75p
(g)	As above. Similar shades, coarse paper, marginal blocks of 4, unmounted	£3.50
921	1d Scarlet (MO2a). Three shades of red, brilliant contrasts, used	75p
922(a)	1d Green. A set of all four papers (MO2b, c, d and e), fine used — seldom available, and all fully identified	£10.00
(b)	As above. Three shades of green, all on fine VM paper (MO2c), mint	50p
(c)	As above. Thick and thin MO2c papers, mint	£2.00
(d)	As above. Coarse VM paper (MO2d), four lovely contrasts, mint	75p
(e)	As above. Same paper, three shades in mint blocks of 4	£2.00
(f)	As above. Thick and thin MO2d papers, mint singles	£2.00
(g)	As above. Imprint/plate blocks, plate nos 43 and 53, mint. The two blocks	£6.00
923(a)	1½d Chocolate (MO4a). One of the key K.G.VI values, our offer is a fine used copy (Cat. \$ 35), at	£10.00
(b)	As above. Lovely shades of chocolate and red-chocolate, both used	£22.50
(c)	As above. Brilliant used block of 4 , red-chocolate shade, MOTUEKA c.d.s. dated 31/10/39. A rare multiple	£60.00
924	1½d Scarlet (MO4c). Mint marginal block of 4, one stamp R9/22 retouch from plate 129	£5.00

925(a)	2d Yellow-orange. Four superb shades, mint, on coarse VM paper (MO6a)	60p
(b)	As above. Similar set of 4 shades on the same paper, each in mint block of 4	£2.50
(c)	As above. Imprint/plate (no. 140) block of 4, mint	75p
(d)	As above. Coarse HM paper (MO6b), two fine shades, mint singles	£1.50
926(a)	3d Blue. The two listed shades on fine paper (MO7a), mint	£3.50
(b)	As above. Same fine paper, mint block of 4 in grey-blue	£7.00
(c)	As above. Four shades of blue, mint, coarse paper (MO7c)	£1.50
(d)	As above. Three shades on coarse paper, each in mint block of 4	£4.50
(e)	As above. Two imprint/plate blocks of 4, plate nos 138 and 139, on coarse paper, mint	£6.00
927	4d Magenta (MO8a). Three shades on fine paper, magenta, bright magenta and a pale bright magenta. Lovely, mint	£5.00
928(a)	4d Purple. Mint set of 3, two shades of purple both on coarse paper (MO8b1), and a copy also in purple on fine paper (MO8b2) — a very scarce stamp	£12.00
(b)	As above. Two mint blocks of 4, purple contrasts, both on coarse paper	£10.00
929(a)	6d Carmine, fine paper (MO10a), Two shades, mint	£5.00
(b)	As above. Similar contrasts, marginal blocks of 4, mint	£18.00
930(a)	8d Violet (MO11a). Two lovely shades, mint	£8.00
(b)	As above. Imprint/plate no. 95, block of 6, mint. One small tone spot, but still a scarce plate block	£25.00
(c)	As above. Another imprint/plate block of 6 (pl. no. 95), with the "Official" overprint Offset on the back , being complete offsets on two stamps, and partial offset on one other. One small tone spot, hence	£30.00
(d)	As above. Similar partial offset variety, unmounted mint single	£8.00
(e)	As above. Shades of violet and bright violet, used	£4.00
(f)	As above. Commercially used block of 4, a bargain at	£12.50
931(a)	9d Brown-sepia. Unmounted mint, fine paper (MO12a)	£6.00
(b)	As above. Two lovely shades, also on fine paper, mint	£15.00
(c)	As above. Similar shades, but used, fine paper	£6.00
(d)	As above. Marginal block of 4, MO12a paper, unmounted mint	£27.50

(e)	As above. Unhinged mint copy with virtually complete "Official" offset on back	£8.00
(f)	As above. Two commercially used blocks of 4, on fine and coarse papers (MO12a and b) — the shades of brown-sepia and grey-sepia are shown to perfection	£25.00
932	1/- Set. Used set of all 3 Catalogued 1/-'s (MO13a, b and c), each suitably identified	£6.00
933(a)	1/- Centre Die 1. Unmounted mint block of 4, wmk upright (MO13a)	£20.00
(b)	As above. Plate 1 — 1 block of 4, with natural paper flaw (large piece of 'foreign matter' is embedded in the paper). A lovely block	£25.00
(c)	As above. Magnificent plate block of 48 , including centre plate varieties R10/6, 11/5, 16/1-2, 16/2, and frame plate varieties R13/2, 13/3, 14/3, 15/2, 16/4, 16/5. A superb specialist multiple, full annotation provided. Unmounted mint (Cat. \$ 480)	£100.00
(d)	As above. Two fine shades, wmk sideways (MO13b), unmounted mint	£12.00
(e)	As above. Same two shades (claret and pink-claret), wmk s/w, each in unmounted mint block of 4	£40.00
(f)	As above. Plate 1-1 block of 10, including R15/2, 16/4, 16/5, 16/1-2 varieties, unmounted mint	£45.00
(g)	As above. Watermark inverted variety (MO13bZ), unmounted mint	£15.00
934(a)	2/-. Two shades of the green frame, wmk upright (MO15a), unhinged mint	£15.00
(b)	As above. Unhinged mint marginal block of 4 on MO15a paper	£25.00
(c)	As above. Two lovely green shades, mint, wmk sideways (MO15b)	£7.50
(d)	As above. Similar shades, but used (wmk s/w paper)	£4.00
(e)	As above. Unmounted mint block of 4, MO15b paper	£12.50
(f)	As above. Corner block of 4, including R15/10 frame variety	£17.50
(g)	As above. Marginal mint block of 14 (7 x 2), including R13/9, 14/4, 14/9 varieties — a lovely piece (full details supplied)	£45.00

1967 PICTORIALS SPECIALISED — VALUE BY VALUE

935(a)	½c Manuka (OD1a). Single stamp, two different plate blocks, an imprint block and a booklet pane. Finest mint	£3.25
(b)	As above. Set of two different variety blocks (both constant plate varieties) including the Catalogued R6/6 retouch	£4.00

936	1c Karaka. (OD2a). The three listed shades (yellow-brown, brown, deep brown), plus two different plate blocks, an imprint block, a constant variety block and a booklet pane. All mint	£4.50
937(a)	2c Kaka Beak (OD3a). The two listed shades, two plate blocks and two imprint blocks (all different), plus another plate block with two constant plate varieties. All mint	£3.75
(b)	As above. Four mint blocks, including a total of seven different constant plate varieties, all fully identified	£6.25
938(a)	2½c Kowhai (OD4a). Striking shades of blue and deep blue, plus six different plate blocks and two different imprint blocks	£5.00
(b)	As above. Plate block of 6 (2A1A) in the very scarce and distinctive milky-blue shade	£17.50
(c)	As above. A superb set of twelve mint blocks, all including at least one constant plate variety (full annotation supplied)	£25.00
939(a)	3c Puarangi (OD5a). Three fine shades, complete set of six different plate blocks, four different imprint blocks, and two booklet panes, one with selvedge code letters, one without. All mint	£10.50
(b)	As above. Mint marginal block of 4 showing the major error Imperf at Right, the right-hand pair of stamps being perforated on three sides only (OD5aZ). Very scarce	£27.50
(c)	As above. The 3c was the most fruitful of all values for the plate varieties specialist — especially Plate 2B1B which was extensively retouched after printing had begun, resulting in an interesting series of flaw-and-retouched states. The superb collection of seventeen variety blocks here offered includes no less than five pairs showing flaw-and-retouch sequences. A magnificent lot (fully annotated throughout)	£37.50
(d)	As above. Block of 8 with left selvedge, the right hand block of 4 appearing imperf vertically due to a massive mis-stepping of the perforating head. Spectacular variety	£12.50
940	4c Daisy (OD6a). Imprint/plate blocks complete (of these, plates 1A x 4 and 1B x 4 invariably have the glossy gum arabic, while 1A1A2A1A and 1B1B2B1B always have the matt PVA gum), mint singles with both gums, two counter coil pairs with the coil numbers in notably different red shades, and the purple plate 1B R8/8 retouch in positional block of 6. The all-mint collection of 60 stamps ...	£12.00
941	5c Pikiarero (OD7a). Two lovely shades (of both the green and lilac) in blocks of 4, plate blocks complete (pl. 1A and 1B) and an imprint block. 26 mint	£5.25
942	6c Koromiko (OD8a). Single stamp, two counter coil pairs (again with vastly differing shades of coil number), plus imprint/plate blocks 1A and 1B. 25 stamps mint	£13.50

943	7c Rata (OD9a). Single stamp, imprint block and two plate blocks complete, and a constant variety block (fully annotated). All mint	£12.50
944	8c Flag (OD10a). Single stamp, counter coil pair, imprint/plate block, and three constant plate varieties, two of these being in further counter coil pairs. An attractive collection of 19 mint	£10.00
945	10c Timber Industry (OD11a). A straightforward value, this — just a mint single and a combined imprint/plate block of 8	£6.50
946	15c Tiki (OD12a). Marginal copies with watermark upright and inverted, plus an imprint/plate block of 12. Even when current plate blocks of the original 15c were quite scarce. The collection of 14 stamps, all unhinged mint	£25.00
947	15c Tiki (OD12b). An interesting showing of the design in altered colours, with single stamp, imprint/plate block (of 8), and a set of three counter coil pairs, one having a section number higher than 23 (this and the 8c Flag were unique among N.Z. coil pairs in having numbers up to 29), and another with the sheet value \$22.5 unaltered (with only a rare exception, issued sheets had the value altered in red ballpoint to read \$22.50). 15 stamps, mint	£12.00
948	20c Rock Drawing (OD13a). Two superb shades as Catalogued — the yellow-buff is outstanding — together with an imprint/plate block of 10 and a counter coil pair, all mint	£15.00
949	25c Butter-Making (OD14a). Single stamp, imprint/plate block, and the listed R8/6 "Apostrophe after A" variety in marginal block of 6	£17.00
950	30c Tongariro (OD15a). Mint blocks of 4 in the three identifiable forms of this stamp: (i) wmk'd, gum arabic; (ii) wmk'd PVA gum; (iii) unwmk'd, PVA gum. Also included (all wmk'd, gum arabic) are an imprint/plate block, and two constant plate varieties, each in positional block of 4. Total Cat. \$268+, offered at	£75.00

OFFER OF THE MONTH

Commencing a short series of quality offers at extra-special prices, for Bulletin subscribers only. Items advertised under this heading will invariably be at half-normal price or less, so that even if you already have them in your collection, they are still worth buying to tuck away for the future. Available while limited stocks last only.

951	O.E. 2½d on 3d Provisional. Pairs showing the wide and narrow settings se-tenant (C.P. N42a Z and Y, S.G. 808b).	
	Vertical pair, perfect unhinged mint (Cat. C.P. \$20, S.G. £15)	£5.00
	Horizontal pair, perfect unhinged mint (Cat. C.P. \$25, S.G. £15)	£6.25
or	One pair in each format, same condition, at the even better discount price of	£10.00