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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

The 4mm, 6mm and 7mm N.Z. and Star watermarks (Types W.5, W.3 and W.4 respectively in our Catalogue) are a source of no end of trouble for many collectors.

As users of the C.P. Catalogue will know, the 6mm type is **invariably** on paper with horizontal mesh, while the 4mm and 7mm types occur **invariably** on vertical mesh paper, so provided only that one can identify paper mesh with confidence, part of the apparent problem is at once solved, or to be more accurate, doesn't exist at all, for it is never necessary even to be able to see the 6mm watermark in order to isolate it from the 4mm and 7mm types — the horizontal mesh paper automatically identifies it with 100% accuracy. This is one of the many reasons for our continual emphasis on the importance of having the ability to 'read' paper mesh.

That leaves the 4mm and 7mm watermarks to be pondered over. In normal circumstances, these should not present any difficulty. Three millimetres may not sound an enormous measurement, but related to the spacing between the 'NZ' and the 'Star' in these two watermarks, it really does represent a major difference, so notable in fact that no actual measurement need be made — a visual check is quite sufficient. However, individual stamps on both of these papers are not infrequently found from sheets which have been printed out of register vertically with the watermarks, to the extent that the star appears at the top of the stamp, and the NZ at the foot. In these cases the usual test is obviously impossible to apply, either by visual means or by actual measurement. Fortunately there is a simple solution.

Not only is the space between the NZ and the star of any watermark 'bit' markedly different in these two papers, **so too is the distance between the foot of a 'Star' and the top of the 'NZ' of the 'bit' immediately below.** In the 7mm wmk paper, this space measures approximately 5mm, while in the 4mm wmk paper, it is approximately 8mm. A block of 4 (or indeed any multiple which includes a vertical pair, since the important thing is to have an identified piece showing

two vertically adjacent watermarks) is extremely useful, giving an immediate visual check against any single copy with 'star over NZ' may be compared, and identified with total certainty. (Elsewhere in this Bulletin, just such a reference block is offered).

1970 PICTORIAL COUNTER COILS

Volume 6 of the Handbook states, in relation to these issues: "... experiments were made with the (section) numbers 1, 6 and 9, and the use of full stops was frequent, continuing into the unwatermarked issues".

For some considerable time now, we have been recording all variations we have seen, and the following tabulation summarises our findings to date. If any readers have pairs which confirm the existence of any of the 'blanks' in the table, we shall be pleased to see them. Note particularly that we have not yet found any evidence of experimentation with coil no. 6. All additional information will be published.

	No. 1 without stop	No. 1 with stop	No. 6 without stop	No. 6 with stop	No. 9 without stop	No. 9 with stop
PC5a	*	*		*		*
PC5b	*			*	*	*
PC6a	*	*		*		*
PC7a	*			*		*
PC7b		*				*
PC8a	*			*		*
PC11a	*			*		*
PC12a	*	*		*		*
PC15a	*	*		*	*	*
PC5c					*	*
PC6b white gum	*			*		*
PC6b blue gum	*			*	*	*
PC7c	*			*	*	*
PC8b	*			*	*	*
PC11b	*			*	*	*
PC12b white gum	*			*	*	*
PC12b blue gum	*			*	*	*
PC15b	*			*	*	*

SOME UNUSED CHALON HEADS

101(a)	S.G. 35, 1d Carmine-Vermilion, Imperf, Large Star Wmk. Beautiful example, 3½ margins, touched at bottom left	£75.00
(b)	As above. A marvellous copy, slightly deeper shade, and four complete margins. A beauty	£200.00
102	S.G. 36, 2d Deep Blue, Imperf, Large Star Wmk. Just touched bottom left, otherwise margins all round, Early (unworn) impression. Lovely stamp!	£52.50
103	S.G. 38, 2d Blue, Imperf, Large Star Wmk. O.g. copy with intermediate plate wear. 3½ large margins (enormous at left), cut into lower right	£37.50
104	S.G. 108, 6d Red-Brown, Perf. 12½, 'NZ' Wmk. Attractive o.g. copy. Creased but excellent appearance	£37.50
105(a)	S.G. 110, 1d Carmine-Vermilion, Perf. 12½, Large Star Wmk. centred right, otherwise magnificent. Glorious deep shade	£42.50
(b)	As above. Shade not quite so deep, but well-centred and fine	£62.50
106	S.G. 111, 1d Pale Orange-Vermilion, Perf. 12½, Large Star Wmk. Delightful copy, radiant colour, very neat clean perfs (most unusual). Centred to top	£62.50
107	S.G. 115, 2d Blue (Pl. 2), Perf. 12½, Large Star Wmk. Brilliant colour, good centring — what more could one ask?	£47.50
108(a)	S.G. 125, 1/- Yellow-Green, Perf. 12½, Large Star Wmk. Really superb example	£100.00
(b)	As above. Another copy, paler shade, almost as fine	£75.00
109(a)	S.G. 132a, 1d Brown, Perf. 12½, Large Star Wmk. Pale shade, extended plate wear, fine	£75.00
(b)	As above. Less worn example, and in a much deeper brown. Some clipped perfs at right, hence	£17.50
110	S.G. 139, 4d Yellow, No Wmk. Very good copy of a scarce stamp	£62.50

1940 CENTENNIALS

Some individual values, all in unmounted mint blocks of 4.

111(a)	½d Maori Landing (S26a)	35p
(b)	1d Capt. Cook/Map (S27a)	60p
(c)	1½d Five Sovereigns (S28a)	75p

(d) 1d Abel Tasman/Chart (S29a)	85p
(e) 2½d Treaty of Waitangi (S30a)	80p
(f) 3d Settlers at Petone Beach (S31a)	£5.50
(g) 4d Progress of Transport (S32a)	£6.75
(h) 5d H.M.S. Britomart (S33a)	£6.75
(i) 7d Maori Council (S35a)	£11.00
(j) 9d Gold-Mining (S36a)	£22.50
(k) 10d on 1½d (S37a)	£1.50
(l) 1/- Kauri (S38a) — corner block	£40.00

MISCELLANY

112	½d Second Sideface — Reference Block. Unmounted mint block of 4, perf. 11 (D1e). Since this block clearly shows the vertical spacing of the W.4 (7mm) watermark bits, it provides the perfect check for isolating the some-times-difficult 4mm watermark (W.5) from the 7mm — see this month's notes	£10.00
113(a)	1d Second Sideface, Perf. 11. The scarce variety Watermark Inverted (D2pX), superb unmounted mint!	£18.00
(b)	As above. Another copy, lightly hinged, but very fine	£14.50
(c)	As above, but superfine used	£15.00
(d)	As above. Superb unhinged mint example with Watermark Reversed (D2pW).	£21.00
(e)	As above. Lightly hinged copy with Watermark Reversed	£16.50
114(a)	2/- Capt. Cook. Complete set of three plate blocks (with pl. nos 1, 2 and 3), all from the final issue (L13g). The pl. 1 block of course includes the R9/2 Hills Retouch. Cat. \$135, the three plate blocks, finest mint	£45.00
(b)	As above. Plate block (pl. no. 3) of the same issue, but overprinted Official (L013g), and very scarce thus	£40.00
115(a)	Q.E. 1/- R5/2 (frame plate 1B) was retouched on two separate occasions to repair an earlier flaw. Both retouches are easily identifiable (see illustrations in our Catalogue), and examples of the first rather crude effort are very scarce. Our set of two used shows both. Cat. \$ 60+, a half-price bargain at	£15.00
(b)	As above. R7/2 (frame plate 1A) was another impression which twice received attention, and again both retouched states are included in this set of two used	£4.25

116	Q.E. 1d 'Large Figure'. Corner block of 6 with imprint/plate no. 11, including the R10/22 major retouch (NV31a(2)). Apart from the very rare earlier state (the weak entry which necessitated this retouch), this is the most extensive and prominent plate variety in the entire issue. Unmounted mint ..	£6.00
117(a)	1965 Parliamentary Conference. The complete set in corner blocks of 4 with sheet value marking (not often seen in this form). The 2/- block is unmounted, others lightly hinged in selvedge only.	£22.50
(b)	As above. Marginal pair of the 2/-, including the R10/10 retouch to harbour. Selvedge hinge only	£12.50
(c)	As above. The only other plate variety of note on the 2/- is R6/8 prominent retouch to water above the oblique stroke of '2/-' (recorded in Volume 6 of the Handbook). Here offered in superb mint positional strip of 3 (stamps unmounted)	£18.00
118	28c Armed Services. Imprint/plate block of 6 with Watermark Inverted (S111aZ). Unmounted mint. Cat. \$150 as single stamps	£32.50

KING GEORGE V – MINT AND USED

An exceptional listing from stock. No high-priced rarities, but an abundance of excellent basic material.

119	1½d Grey (K1). Set of 6, all recess printed, including both perfs on Cowan paper (K1a, K1b), and wmk and no wmk singles, in both perfs, on Pictorial paper (K1d, K1dZ, K1e, K1eZ). The elusive set of 6, all used	£7.50
120(a)	1½d Cowan Paper. Used single, perf. 14x13¼ (K1a), or perf. 14x14¼ (K1b), each	£1.00
(b)	As above. Two shades of grey, perf. 14x14¼ (K1b), both used	£2.00
121(a)	1½d Pictorial Paper. Mint set of 6, wmk and no wmk perf. 14x13¼ (K1d, K1dZ), the same in perf. 14x14¼ (K1e, K1eZ), and a wmk two-perf pair (K1f)	£15.00
(b)	As above. Used copy, either perf, each	85p
(c)	As above. Two shades of grey, perf. 14x13¼ (K1d), used	£2.00
(d)	As above. Top marginal horizontal pair, perf. 14x13¼, showing the plate no. 14 in the selvedge (95% of the number is present). The right-hand stamp is unwatermarked. Unmounted mint	£30.00
(e)	As above. Mint horizontal pair, perf. 14x13¼, wmk and no wmk se-tenant ..	£2.00
(f)	As above. Mint pair identical to the previous lot, but perf. 14x14¼ (K1e, K1eZ). Unhinged	£2.50
(g)	As above. Unmounted mint single, perf. 14x14¼ (K1e)	£1.00
(h)	As above. Two shades of grey, perf. 14x14¼, mint	£1.50

122(a)	2d Violet. Mint set of 4 stamps, including singles in both perfs (K2a, K2b), and a "two-perf" pair (K2c). Lovely	£25.00
(b)	As above. Two shades of violet, both perf. 14x13¼ (K2a), both mint	£10.00
(c)	As above. This mint set includes three violet contrasts, all perf. 14x14¼ (K2b) — one shade being notably bright	£15.00
(d)	As above. For the unmounted mint enthusiast, we can offer a copy of K2b ..	£7.50
(e)	As above. Used copies of 2d violets are notoriously difficult to obtain, particularly in fine condition. This one, perf. 14x14¼ (K2b) is superfine	£12.50
(f)	As above. Mint "two-perf" vertical pair (K2c), very fine	£17.50
123(a)	2d Yellow. Mint set of 5, including perf. 14x13¼ (K2d), perf. 14x14¼ (K2e) and Pictorial paper perf. 14 (K2g), together with a "two-perf" pair (K2f)	£20.00
(b)	As above. Superb used copies, perf. 14x13¼ (K2d), or perf. 14x14¼ (K2e), each	£10.00
(c)	As above. Two shades of yellow and bright yellow, both perf. 14x13¼ (K2d), and remarkably both brilliant used	£25.00
(d)	As above. A similar set of shades, this time both mint, perf. 14x14¼ (K2e) ..	£7.50
(e)	As above. Unmounted mint single (block of 4 pro rata) of the perf. 14, Pictorial paper issue (K2g)	£1.50
(f)	As above. Two shades of yellow, deep and bright, mint (both K2g)	£4.00
(g)	As above. Mint (lightly hinged) single of the very difficult no wmk variety (K2gZ, S.G. 498a)	£30.00
(h)	As above. Fine used copy on Pictorial paper, a particularly elusive stamp	£15.00
124(a)	2½d Deep Blue. The two listed shades, perf. 14x13¼ (K3a), mint	£7.00
(b)	As above. Similar shades, same perf, but used	£3.00
(c)	As above. Single copy of K3a (perf. 14x13¼), used	£1.25
(d)	As above. Mint top selvage example, with plate no. 17 (perf. 14x13¼)	£17.50
(e)	As above. Set of both perfs, 14x13¼ and 14x14¼ (K3a, K3b), used	£4.50
(f)	As above. Both catalogued shades, perf. 14x14¼ (K3b), used. Much scarcer in this perf	£7.50
(g)	As above. "Two-perf" vertical pair (K3c), unmounted mint	£42.50
125(a)	3d Chocolate. Set of 5, identical to our offer for the 2d yellow (lot 123a), including K4a, b, c, d. Superb mint	£40.00

(b)	As above. Either major perf., 14x13¼ (K4a), or 14x14¼ (K4b), superb used, each	60p
(c)	As above. Perf. 14x13¼ (K4a) set of 3, includes both listed shades and an example with plate wear (K4aZ), all used	£2.75
(d)	As above. A similar used set of 3, but perf. 14x14¼ (K4b and K4bZ)	£2.50
(e)	As above. Mint "two-perf" vertical pair (K4c)	£30.00
(f)	As above. Two mint copies on Pictorial paper (K4d), in delicate contrasts of brown	£3.50
(g)	As above. No watermark copy (K4dZ, S.G. 499a), very elusive, mint	£20.00
126(a)	4d Yellow. Set of 4, including perf. 14x13¼ (K5a), perf. 14x14¼ (K5b), and a two-perf. pair (K5c), mint	£22.50
(b)	As above. Mint single, perf. 14x13¼, with the R1/6 re-entry (KV5a(a)). Although the gum is discoloured facial appearance is unaffected. Cat. \$ 50 and offered at	£7.50
(c)	As above. Block of 4 used , perf, 14x13¼ (K5a), WELLINGTON PARCELS oval cancellation, dated 1916. Genuine commercial usage (Cat. \$100), and very scarce thus	£22.50
(d)	As above. Unhinged mint single, perf. 14x14¼ (K5b)	£5.00
(e)	As above. Two-perf vertical pair, including the other major re-entry at R4/10 (KV5c(a)). Some pulled perfs, otherwise a fine mint pair and a bargain at (Cat. \$125),	£22.50
127(a)	4d Violet, Plate 20. Basic set of 4, includes copies in both perfs and a two-perf pair (K5d, e, f) — all in the same matching Bright Violet shade	£40.00
(b)	As above. Both listed shades (bright and dull violet), and a worn plate example, all perf. 14x13¼ (K5d, K5dX), all used	75p
(c)	As above. Same composition (two shades and a worn plate), but perf. 14x14¼ (K5e). The three used stamps	£1.50
(d)	As above. Used copy, perf. 14x13¼, with the R1/6 major re-entry (KV5d(a)).	£10.00
(e)	As above. The other major re-entry at R4/10 (KV5d(b)), also used	£12.50
(f)	As above. Two-perf vertical pair (K5f), lightly hinged mint, in a dull-violet shade	£25.00
(g)	As above. "Two-perf" block of 4 in bright violet, including the R4/10 re-entry (KV5f(a)). Centring of the upper and lower pairs is markedly different, thus emphasising the double perforating operation. A superb variety block, lightly mounted mint (Cat. \$190)	£80.00

- 128(a) **4d Deep Purple, Plate 44.** Three mint stamps, all perf. 14x14¼ (K5g), including two shades of purple, plus the scarce violet shade £22.50
- (b) **As above.** Similar set of three shades, but fine used £4.50
- (c) **As above.** Mint single, perf. 14x14¼ (K5g), showing the R10/12 re-entry illustrated in our Catalogue £10.00
- (d) **As above.** Set of 7, all perf. 14x14¼, including three re-entries, three retouches, and one plate scratch, all used. Lovely variety material £10.00
- (e) **As above.** Single copy with the R3/8 major re-entry, in the scarce **violet** shade dated 20/5/27. Small corner crease, but a nice item, used £15.00
- (f) **As above.** Three stamps, all perf. 14x13¼ (K5h), two in blackish-purple, the other blackish-violet. A lovely used set £20.00
- (g) **As above.** Two Catalogued varieties, both used, in the scarcer 14x13¼ perforation, R4/6 and 4/7 retouches £15.00
- 129 **4d Plate 20 and 44. Reference set of 4,** includes perf. 14x13¼ and 14x14¼ from plate 20 and plate 44 (K5d, e, g, h). Fully identified, all used (the typical violet and deep purple shades are illustrated to perfection) £5.00
- 130(a) **4½d Deep Green.** Another value in the basic set of 4 (K6a, b, and c), mint £50.00
- (b) **As above.** Two brilliant contrasts of green, both perf. 14x13¼ (K6a), and both mint £20.00
- (c) **As above.** Choice of **superb used** singles, in either perf. 14x13¼ (K6a), or perf. 14x14¼ (K6b), each £8.00

(To be continued)

OFFER OF THE MONTH

- 131(a) **1d Dominion. Unmounted mint** copy on De La Rue paper with the R5/24 Broken Globe variety (J1aP). A snip at £3.00
- (b) **Q.E. 1/- Die 2 (N10b).** Superfine used copy (with Die 1 stamp for comparison). Cat. \$ 75. Our never-to-be-repeated price £7.50