

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD.

P.O. BOX 17, WOKING, SURREY GU22 7BL

ISSUED MONTHLY ☎ WOKING (04862) 5887

All lots offered on approval subject to being unsold

Postage and Insurance/Registration extra on all orders

(U.K. : 40p up to £100, £1.25 over £100, Overseas at cost)



VOLUME XX

NUMBER 12

JULY 1983

N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

Victoria Land Expedition. I have quite recently seen a cover bearing a 1d Victoria Land stamp tied by the Expedition c.d.s. dated 19th January 1911. This pre-dates any other usage of the datestamp known to us. The earliest date recorded in Volume 5 of the N.Z. Handbook is 31st January 1911, although Mr. J.E. Williams of the U.S.A. has for some time had in his collection a cover (with enclosed letter) postmarked 23rd January. As Mr. Williams commented when I mentioned my find to him, the fact isn't quite as surprising as it might first appear, for it is on record that Captain Scott (as Postmaster) actually first established his Post Office at Cape Evans on 14th January. It is therefore possible that still earlier dates may exist, and readers should keep an eye open for any of these, either on or off cover.

Penny Universal Perforations — Some Random Observations. The frequency of use of perfs gauging 11 appears to have been peculiarly inconsistent in the many and varied issues of this stamp which were printed in vast quantities in New Zealand during the period 1901-08.

Initially stamps perforated in this gauge, either by itself or in combination with perf. 14, were very numerous indeed. Perf 11's on "Pirie" paper (G2a in our Catalogue) are among the commonest of all 1d Universals, and compounds (both 11x14 and 14x11) on Basted Mills paper, while not exactly in the "ten-a-penny" category, are certainly not rare. Thenceforth, however, this gauge was used extremely sparsely, and in some cases not at all, until the Royle Plates issues towards the end of the 1d Universal period. For example, stamps on Cowan unwmk'd paper, and those from the Dot Plates, are unknown perf. 11 all round, and those of other issues in this perf. (G5 First Local Plates, G6 Reserve Plate, and G9 Waterlow Trial Plates) are among New Zealand's very great rarities. Even in compound with 14's the 11's are seldom encountered. For a spell, in fact, the 14x11 form virtually disappeared altogether. Reserve Plate stamps are unknown thus, and of Waterlow and Dot Plates stamps, I know of just a solitary (used) copy of each.

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There seems no logical explanation for this meagre usage of the perf. 11 heads. One possibility is that after the initial heavy use they were found to be in some way unsatisfactory, and were pressed into emergency duty only when the 14 head broke down. If that were the case, it would be trebly odd. Firstly the 14's at their best were themselves far from being of outstanding quality. Secondly, the main use of the 11's during this period appears to have been to put right some of the inadequacies of the 14's (resulting in the numerous mixed perf. varieties). And thirdly, when perf. 11's did reappear in some quantity again, on the Royle Plates stamps, the quality was better than it had been in either gauge since the early issues on Pirie paper.

MIDSUMMER MISCELLANY

A wide selection of choice material, much of it at never-to-be-repeated prices. No "seconds specially bought in for the sale" here, either! Quality is right out of the top drawer throughout.

- 701 Full-Face Queen Special Offer.** For the collector wishing to acquire at least one representative example of N.Z.'s classic Chalon Heads, we can supply a good collectable used copy of any of the following perforated values (your choice while stocks last): 1d red, 2d blue, 2d orange/vermillion, 3d lilac, 6d red-brown, 1/- green at the very special price of, each £5.50
- (N.B. Even better still, you can if you wish order all six values listed for only £30 the set.)
- 702 5/- Mt Cook Official.** Mint copy with wmk. sideways. Beautifully fresh, very lightly hinged, but centred somewhat to the right. Cat. \$1000 (S.G. £275). A gift! £115.00
- 703 ½d Mt Cook Green.** Perf. 11 on Basted Mills paper (F2a) is Cat. \$50 (S.G. £35), and is by no means over valued at that — it's one of the scarcest of the basic ½d Mt Cooks. Our copy is fine mint and (in an issue notorious for poor centring), near perfect in this respect £17.50
- 704(a) 1d Universal.** Superb mint block of 4 'London' Prints (G1a), including one stamp with major re-entry, plated and fully identified. Cat. as normal singles \$64 (S.G. £32) £24.50
- (b) As above.** Glorious block of 4, perf. 11, 'Pirie' paper (G2a) in a rich and vibrant carmine-lake. Mint. Cat. \$120 (S.G. £60) £40.00
- (c) As above.** Set of two blocks of 4 on Basted Mills paper, one perf. 11x14, the other 14x11 (G3c/d). Finest mint. Cat. \$320 (S.G. £96) £75.00
- (d) As above.** A perfect example of the rare mixed perfs variety, again on Basted Mills paper (G3e), in superb mint block of 4. Originally perf. 14x11, and reperf. 11 to correct wayward horizontal perfs, with official patching. Cat. \$1100 (S.G. £400) £195.00
- (e) As above.** Last but not least in this quintet of incredible 1d Universal offers, a complete booklet pane of 6 (binding selvage intact) overprinted Official (W02aZ). Superfine condition. Cat. \$80 £19.50
- 705 ½d Edward VII.** Corner block of 8 (with sheet serial number) including the little known, seldom seen, but constant and good variety, Flaw on Right Value Tablet (Plate 10, R3/24). Minor gum stain on two stamps — not the variety — in no way affects magnificent facial appearance £25.00

- 706 K.G.V Recess-Printed.** Of especial interest to the collector on a one-of-each basis, or with a printed album, this offer. A complete simplified set of 15 mint stamps, 1½d — 1/-, including the 2d, 4d and 8d colour changes. Some of the hinging is a little heavy or extensive (typical of the period), but appearance is quite exceptionally fine. For brilliant colour and sheer aesthetic appeal, this is to many an eye one of the loveliest sets ever conceived. Minimum Cat. \$252.50 (S.G. £150), a unique chance at £62.50
- 707(a) K.G.V Recess-Printed Officials.** An absolutely complete collection as listed by Stanley Gibbons (S.G. 093 — 0100a, including all 'a' and 'b' numbers). 0100 and 100a are in vertical pair, the ideal form in which to show the no wmk variety. Thus there are four vertical pairs — the others being two-perfs se-tenant — and 11 singles. A marvellous set, full of scarce items, and in magnificent condition throughout. Cat. \$1028 (S.G. £500+) unbelievable value at £267.50
- (b) As above.** A brilliant unhinged copy of the good 9d (K011a) £45.00
- 708 2d Whare Official.** One of the key Second Pictorial Officials is the 2d perf 12½ (C.P. L04e, S.G. 0123a). Here offered in **superfine mint plate block of 4** (pl. no. 2A, of course), at very much less than the normal price of 4 single stamps £175.00
- 709 Q.E. 2/6d — 10/-.** The complete set of 'Queen on Horseback' in matching corner blocks of 4, all with sheet value marking. Lightly hinged in selvage only, all stamps being superb unmounted mint. At our once-only price, a top drawer set to tuck away in your bottom drawer! £275.00
- 710 Q.E. 7d Arms Type Provisional.** Unusual representation of an unconsidered little stamp, consisting of mint blocks of 6 from all four corners of the sheet, including sheet serial number and sheet value markings. These four blocks would mount up beautifully on an album page in the form of a 'miniature sheet' £9.50
- 711 Q.E. Counter Coil Pairs.** A complete matched set (all with coil no. 16) of the five values on thick white paper (NC8a — e). Very scarce, and seldom offered now (it's literally years since we last had a set like this). The five elusive coil pairs £57.50
- 712 1960 Pictorials.** The complete set of 23 values (½d — £1, incl. both 1/9d's and both 3/-'s), each in either a plate block (9d, 1/-, 1/3d, 1/6d, 2/-, 2/6d), or an imprint block (multicolour 1/9d and 3/- — these two had no plate numbers), or a combined imprint/plate block (all other values). In every case, individual blocks are of the size listed in our Catalogue. A really marvellous basis on which to build a specialised collection of this attractive, colourful and interesting issue. Minimum Cat. \$1166 (S.G. £590 as single stamps), this must surely be the bargain of the year, and needless to say we can do it only once at £235.00
- 713 1960 Pictorial Counter Coil Pairs.** We have one or two complete numbered sets available, as follows:
- (a) 2½d Titoki (0C4a).** Nos 1 — 23. Twenty three pairs £15.00

(b)	4d Puarangi (OC6b). Nos 1 – 23. Twenty three pairs	£12.50
(c)	8d Rata (OC10a). Nos 1 – 23. Twenty three pairs	£20.00
(d)	1/6d Tiki (OC14b). Nos 1 – 19. Nineteen pairs	£22.50
(e)	1/9d Multicolour (OC15c). Nos 1 – 19. Nineteen pairs	£37.50
714	1d Christchurch Exhibition. Top left corner block of 4, with full selvages and showing sheet serial number. All stamps unhinged mint. Brilliant!	£57.50
715	½d Auckland Exhibition. Finest mint block of 4, one stamp showing prominent "heavy comma" variety in the overprint	£50.00
716	1920 Victory. A really superb mint set of 7, incl. the 2d surcharge. Very lightly hinged, and as fresh and crisp as on the day they were issued 63 years ago	£32.50
717	1d Map Stamp. Reference set on all three papers used for this stamp – De la Rue, Jones, and Cowan Unsurfaced (S16a, b, c). All superfine unmounted mint, and individually identified (and guaranteed correctly classified, of course!) Cat. \$58+ (S.G. £22.75)	£12.50
718(a)	Dunedin Exhibition. Complete set of 3 (½d, 1d, 4d), previously lightly hinged but very fine, and brilliantly fresh	£32.50
(b)	As above, but finest used, all with the Exhibition c.d.s. Extremely difficult to find in this condition	£67.50
719	1936 Chambers of Commerce. A most attractive little collection of this issue, including a mint set, a first day cover (with the special 'Empire Conference' cancellation), and six mint corner blocks of 4 (2 x 1d, one each of the other values) showing the complete range of plate numbers. Minimum Cat. \$115	£35.00
720	1940 Centennial Officials. The complete set of 11 (½d – 1/-) in superb mint blocks of 4 (rarely seen thus). All blocks are in fact brilliant unmounted except the 1/-, which has been just once hinged, and almost imperceptibly at that. Cat. \$602 (S.G. £320) as singles, a wonderful chance for someone at, the set of 11 gorgeous blocks	£175.00
721	1936 Health. Beautiful unmounted mint block of 4	£3.00
722	1941 Health. The set in unhinged mint blocks of 4	£5.00
723	1946 Health. Complete mint sheets (120 stamps each) of both values in this, the specialist's delight among Health issues. We have left the finding and identification of the varieties to the purchaser. The pair of sheets, finest condition	£17.50
724(a)	First Type Postage Due. Unmounted mint copy of the 8d (Y2a). Centring well above average for this, and rare unhinged	£40.00

(b)	As above. The top value 2/- (Y4a), again pristine unmounted mint. Centred somewhat right	£70.00
(c)	As above. The 10d (Y7a) is one of the most difficult of the whole series. Again a superb unhinged mint copy	£52.50
725(a)	Decimal Arms. Finest used set of 4 (\$4 – \$10) in the original line perf. (as a double-check, the wmk is "sideways inverted", W8b, on this issue, whereas on the later comb perf. stamps it is "sideways", W8a). Despite relative catalogue values, the line perfs are much scarcer used than mint in our experience. The used set	£30.00
(b)	As above. Similarly fine used set, with comb perf	£16.50
726	Somes Island Internment Camp. Very rare cover (opened out) from a P.O.W. detained in this camp (situated on an island in Wellington Harbour) during its World War II period of use. Addressed to the Secretary of the Allien Tribunal (sic) in Wellington, the stampless cover bears the purple boxed cachet "Exempt from postage under/International Convention/regarding Treatment of/Prisoners of War", and an N.Z. censor's mark	£65.00
727	Crash Cover. Air mail cover from N.Z. addressed to England, with excellent strike (in red) of the boxed cachet SALVAGED MAIL/AIRCRAFT CRASH/ SINGAPORE 13.3.1954. Rather tatty, as is to be expected of salvaged mail, but an interesting postal history item	£12.50
728	"The Postage Stamps of New Zealand", Volume 2. We have one copy only of this Handbook, in perfect condition, to clear at	£67.50

DECIMAL DEFINITIVE VARIETIES

Most items offered are listed either in our Catalogue or in Volume 6 of the Handbook, although full annotation will of course be provided where necessary. All stamps are unmounted mint (except where stated) although there is the occasional marginal mount. Quantities available are in most cases very limited; please state alternatives wherever possible.

(A) 1967-69 Pictorials

729(a)	½c (0D1a) Marginal block of 8, including R15/2 retouch	£2.50
(b)	As above. Block of 4 (plate 1A), with R6/6 retouch (0DV1a). One non-variety stamp is hinged	£2.50
730(a)	2c (0D3a) Marginal block of 4 (pl. 1A), R11/10 flaw	£2.50
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 8 (pl. 1A), R15/7 retouch	£2.50
(c)	As above. Marginal block of 6 (pl. 1B), R18/3 flaw	£2.50
(d)	As above. Corner block of 16 (pl. 1B2B) with R17/4, 19/3 and 20/1 varieties	£5.00

731(a)	2½c (0D4a) Marginal block of 8 (pl. 1A), R10/7 variety (0DV4b)	£2.50
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 4 (pl. 1A), R15/9 variety	£2.50
(c)	As above. Corner block of 4 (pl. 1A), R2/9 retouch	£3.00
(d)	As above. Marginal block of 10 (pl. 2A1A), R8/5 'Butterfly' flaw (0DV4e)	£4.50
(e)	As above. Marginal block of 10 (pl. 2A1A), R10/6 flaw (mentioned in our Catalogue)	£2.50
(f)	As above. Marginal block of 6 (pl. 2A1A), R14/1 and 16/2 varieties	£2.50
(g)	As above. Marginal block of 8 (pl. 2B1B), R12/7 major retouch	£3.50
(h)	As above. Marginal block of 4 (pl. 2B1B), R14/9 flaw (0DV4f)	£2.50
(i)	As above. Marginal block of 6 (pl. 2B1B), R16/8 retouch	£2.50
(j)	As above. Corner block of 12 (pl. 2B1B), R18/7 flaw	£4.00
(k)	As above. Marginal block of 4 (pl. 2B1B), R20/4 flaw (0DV4g)	£3.50
(l)	As above. Corner block of 9 (pl. 2A3A), R3/3 flaw (0DV4h)	£3.50
732(a)	3c (0D5a) Marginal block of 4 (pl. 1B), R13/1 flaw	£2.50
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 6 (pl. 1B), including R14/10 and 15/8 varieties (0DV5c)	£6.00
(c)	As above. Marginal block of 4 (pl. 2A1A), R13/9 retouch (0DV5e)	£2.50
(d)	As above. Two matching corner blocks of 6 (pl. 2B1B), with R1/8 in both flaw and retouched states	£7.50
(e)	As above. Two matching corner blocks of 6 (pl. 2B1B), with R2/3 both flaw and retouch	£6.00
(f)	As above. Two marginal blocks of 6 (pl. 2B1B), with R3/7 both flaw and retouch	£7.50
(g)	As above. Two marginal blocks of 6 (pl. 2B1B) with R7/3 flaw and retouch (both blocks also include the R7/1 retouch)	£8.50
(h)	As above. Two marginal blocks of 6 (pl. 2B1B), R12/9 flaw and retouch	£7.50
(i)	As above. Corner block of 10 (pl. 2B1B) including both R4/10 and 5/10 varieties	£3.50
(j)	As above. Marginal block of 8 (pl. 2B3B), R9/4 retouch	£3.00
733	4c Daisy (0D6a) Marginal block of 6, R8/8 retouch (0DV6a)	£3.00

734(a)	7c Rata (0D9a) Marginal block of 6, with R9/1 (0DV9e) and 10/3 retouches	£4.00
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 10, with R15/5 and 16/5 varieties	£6.00
735	25c Butter-making (0D14a) Marginal block of 6, R8/6 flaw (0DV14a). Cat. \$40	£12.50
736(a)	30c Park, Wmk'd (0D15a) Marginal block of 4, R2/1 retouch. Cat. \$40 as singles	£12.50
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 4, R8/1 retouch (also Cat. \$40)	£12.50
(c)	As above. Imprint/plate block of 6, with a small green shift to the left, resulting in a noticeable doubling of the design in the bottom left corner. Cat. \$70 as a normal plate	£22.50
737	7c Fishing (0D20a) This single stamp has a minor blue shift, upwards — the shift is no more than 1mm but the effect is dramatic (all of the 'pictorial' design is blurred). See it, it's a nice one (normal stamp included for comparison)	£5.00
738	8c Fruit (0D21a) Normal 'red' apples, the abnormal 'orange' apples! Two singles, attractive	£3.00
739(a)	18c Wool (0D23a) The two Catalogued shades	£2.50
(b)	As above. For the used collector we can offer the same shades	40p
740(a)	7½c Trout. Two superb green contrasts, blocks of 4, wmk sideways issue (0D26a)	£4.00
(b)	As above. Two corner blocks (6 stamps each), with the R9/2 and 10/3 varieties, wmk upright issue (0D26b)	£7.00
741	28c Fox Glacier (0D27a) Corner block of 6, including R1/10 and 3/10 varieties	£10.00
(B) 1970-75 Pictorials		
742(a)	½c (P1a) Corner block of 12 (pl. 1A) including R1/6 and 2/1 varieties (PV1a)	£4.00
(b)	As above. Corner block of 10 (pl. 1A), R6/20, 8/20 and 9/20 varieties (PV1c)	£4.00
(c)	As above. Marginal block of 6 (pl. 1B), with R3/14 retouch (PV1d — this variety is R3/14 and not as stated in our Catalogue	£4.00
(d)	As above. Two marginal blocks of 8 (pl. 1B), showing R10/8 in both its original flaw, and later extended flaw, states (PV1e and f) — both blocks include the R10/5 retouch	£10.00
743(a)	1c, Wmk'd (P2a) Marginal block of 12 (pl. 1B), R7/3, 9/1, 9/4 retouches (PV2a and b)	£8.00
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 10 (pl. 1B), R3/10 and 5/9 varieties (PV2c)	£4.00

744	2c Wmk'd (P3a) Corner block of 12 (pl. 1A), R8/17, 9/17 and 9/18 varieties (PV3a)	£4.00
745(a)	2c No wmk, blue gum (P3b) Two butterfly shades, one normal, (deep), the other extremely pale. Attractive and eye-catching	£3.50
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 12 (six horizontal pairs) showing varying depths of colour of the butterfly. Top two pairs are near normal, the third pair is 1/3 normal / 2/3 pale; the next pair is pale; the fifth pair reverts to near normal; and the final pair is pale again!! A most unusual piece	£27.50
746(a)	2½c (P4a) Corner block of 6 (pl. 1A) with R2/3 retouched (PV4a)	£5.00
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 4 (pl. 1B) with R2/14 flaw (PV4c). Cat. \$40 ..	£12.50
747(a)	3c Wmk'd (P5a) Marginal block of 10 (pl. 1A), with R8/13 retouch (PV5b)	£3.00
(b)	As above. Corner block of 8 (pl. 1A), R7/20 and 10/20 varieties	£3.00
(c)	As above. Marginal block of 8 (pl. 1B), R2/14 retouch (PV5e)	£3.00
(d)	As above. Marginal block of 10 (pl. 1B) R6/13 variety	£3.00
(e)	As above. Marginal block of 6 (pl. 1A2A), R3/9 – 10 retouches (PV5h)	£3.00
(f)	As above. Top marginal strip of 3, partial double perforations (P5aZ). Most attractive	£10.00
748	4c Wmk'd (P6a) Marginal block of 6 (pl. 1B), R9/16 and 10/18 retouches (PV6c)	£3.00

(to be continued)

K.G.V RECESS—PRINTED, MINT (Cont'd)

761(a)	5d Blue, Perf. 14x13¼ (K7a). Single stamp (blue shade)	£6.25
(b)	As above. A brilliant set of the three listed shades of blue, pale ultramarine and steel blue. See this set, and any difficulties you may have with the 5d will just melt away	£27.50
(c)	As above. Another set of three shades, none of which are duplicated in the above — a pale blue, a deep bright blue, and a deep steel blue. Superb contrasts as a trio, or combine them with the previous lot, and they'll make a truly remarkable display	£27.50
(d)	As above. Corner copy (full selvage) in blue, with plate no. 43	£30.00
762	5d Blue, Perf. 14x14¼ (K7b). Another magnificent reference set of the three Catalogued shades. The blue, incidentally, is notably scarcer in this perf. than in 14x13¼	£42.50
763	5d Two-Perfs, Se-Tenant (K7c). In this value the two-perfs. are the reverse of normal, with 14x14¼ appearing above 14x13¼. Here offered in very fine mint block of 4	£85.00