

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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VOLUME XX

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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

Plate Blocks To Watch For (continued). There were no conventional plate numbers between those appearing in the First Sidefaces (dealt with in last month's notes) and the W1 and W2, R1 and R2 of the 1d Universal Trial Plates of 1906. (These are, of course, quite valuable, particularly R1 and R2 when on the comb. perf. 14x14½ issue, i.e. G10f in the C.P. Catalogue, but they are fairly widely known, so the chances of finding them unrecognised are not high. But one never knows!). However, the issues of the year or two immediately following the turn of the century — which could well be termed the "scratched-in period" — certainly provide very considerable potential for anyone who knows his stuff. During this time several of the plates in use were identified by means of crudely formed numbers scratched by hand on to the printing surface. Known numbers include: ½d Mt. Cook, C.P. Type F—1, 2, 3, 4 (these appear in duplicate, and were later supplemented by one, two, three and four short vertical dashes, much more deeply engraved); 1d Universal — 1, 2, 3 and 4 (nos. 1-3 may be found on all issues G2—G5 in the C.P. Catalogue, and no. 4 on G6 only); 2d Pembroke Peak—11 (presumably indicating plate 2), 3 and 4. This list is not necessarily exhaustive, however. For instance, was there a plate 1 marking on the 2d, and were there any plate numbers on the other 'Local' Pictorial issues, particularly the 1d Terraces?

All the known scratched numbers invariably appeared at or adjacent to the centre of the bottom selvedge on the issued sheets, and by their nature tended to print faintly, frequently **very** faintly. So it is advisable to examine carefully any piece with bottom selvedge from this period. Then examine it again, and yet again, just to make certain you haven't overlooked that vital something. All the markings listed are highly desirable, and some — notably any of the 2d numbers, and the 1d Universal no. 4 (the 'Reserve Plate' marking) — are pearls of great price, as would be any fresh discovery not included in the above list.

Finally in this short period, mention must be made of the 1d Universal "Dot" Plates 'numbers' (one, two or three apostrophe-like marks immediately above the central arrow in the bottom selvedge), and of the Royle three and four-dot markings (these are found grouped around the central bottom selvedge arrow). None of these is generally recognised for what it is, and all are extremely rare. (*To be continued.*)

Registered Envelopes. Martyn Jackson of Leamington Spa advances the earliest date of use of Samuel D2 still farther (see my note in the Sept. 1982 Bulletin). He has an example used at Auckland on 3/1/38 — this date is nicely corroborated by a Surbiton arrival mark of 22/1/38.

Mr Jackson also reports an unrecorded envelope he acquired as recently as the middle of this year. This is a 3d Edward in size F (the smallest of the standard sizes). Previously, this envelope has been reported only in the larger sizes G and K.

It is evident that a great deal of the published information on postal stationery generally is subject to revision, and the opportunity of making fresh discoveries is available to anyone who keeps his eyes open. This is just one of the facets that make postal stationery the unusually interesting field it is.

40c 'Seasons'. Mr Nyss of London drew our attention to quite a nice variety on R9/2 (which of course appears in the printer's imprint block). The variety take the form of a cloud in the sky by the mountain slope, and appears to be constant.

Credit Cards. Customers will have noted that we can now accept payment by Access and Barclaycard/Visa. When ordering by letter, clients intending to pay by credit card must quote their card number in full, their **home** address, and sign the order; when ordering by telephone, all we require is the card number and the customer's **home** address.

1982 HEALTHS Derek Redshaw writes:

Only issued on 6th August, yet already proving to be full of philatelic interest:-

- a) Large-sheet stamps perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$, Miniature sheets perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$.
- b) Large-sheet stamps have Vertical Mesh (in relation to the stamp design), and Miniature-sheet stamps have Horizontal Mesh.
- c) Two different papers have been seen, on **both** the miniature sheet and the 24c Large-sheet stamps. The first paper appears 'normal' for modern issues (bluish gum and smooth paper); whilst the second has far less bluish gum, and the paper is 'coarser' giving a blanket-type effect. Two very distinctive papers. The 30c Large-sheet stamps have only been seen on the 'normal' bluish gum/smooth paper.
- d) Points (b) and (c) taken together possibly indicate that the large sheets and miniature sheets were printed "all-up" from a single set of plates, with the miniature sheet impressions lying sideways in relation to the large-sheet stamp impressions.
- e) Close examination of the 24c plate blocks suggests that **two** different series of plates are likely to have been used, both numbered 1111. Most plate blocks seen by us have on R10/2 a small blue dot above the 1 of 1982, and on R9/4 and 10/4 small dots (one red, the other black) within the W of NEW. A very few 24c plate blocks have been seen without any of these characteristics.

STOP PRESS. We have just seen a few examples of a peculiar and as yet unexplained variation in the plate numbers on the 30c + 2c. In the 'normal', the numbers 1111 are printed in black, red, yellow and blue respectively. In the variation, these numbers appear in the same order, but **additional figures 1 in black are superimposed over the red, yellow and blue numbers.**

VARIETY MISCELLANY

- 1101 1d Dominion.** Horizontal pair on Jones paper, from booklet pane and complete with barred selvage at both sides (W4cY). Superfine mint £15.00

1102	K.G.V. 4d Violet/Purple. Set of three used, showing the major re-entries at R1/6 and 4/10 (both from pl. 20) and R3/8 (from pl. 44) — all illustrated in the C.P. Catalogue. A superb variety set, Cat. \$ 80	£25.00
1103	K.G.V. ½d. Unmounted copy on De la Rue paper (K13a), overprinted with two vertical black lines 9mm apart. (From vending machine test strips, similar to those of earlier issues supplied to Mr Dickie)	£3.75
1104(a)	2/- Capt. Cook R1/4 COOK. On multiple wmk. paper, perf. 13-14x13½ (LV13aX). In top marginal pair with normal. A few very light gum tones, facial appearance unaffected	£9.50
	(b) As above, but superb used single	£10.00
	(c) As above. Perf. 12½, fine paper (LV13aV). Marginal copy stamp unhinged	£15.00
	(d) As above. Perf. 12½, coarse paper (LV13aU). Marginal copy, stamp unhinged	£9.50
1105	K.G.VI 4d. Counter coil pair, one stamp on fine paper, one on coarse (MC2eZ). Immediately recognisable by the difference in shade of the stamps	£15.00
1106	K.G.VI 9d. Counter coil pair, one stamp fine paper, one stamp coarse (MC2LZ). Known only with coil nos. 5 and 8, we can offer either at, each	£32.50
1107	K.G.VI 1/-. Counter coil pair, one stamp with wmk. upright, one with wmk. sideways (MC2nZ)	£12.50
1108	Q.E. 6d 'Small Figure' (N7a). Set of three mint blocks of 4 including five constant retouches. Varieties on this value are very seldom offered. Full annotation supplied	£12.50
1109	1960 Pictorial 2½d. Marginal pair, one stamp with Error Brown Completely Omitted (04aZ), the other with the brown partly omitted. Unmounted mint	£30.00
1110(a)	1960 Pictorial 3d. Counter coil pair, both stamps on chalky paper (0C5aZ). Rare!	£30.00
	(b) As above. Counter coil pair, one stamp original paper, one stamp chalky paper (0C5aY). Rarer still!	£35.00
1111	1960 Pictorial Booklets. Set of six 4/3d booklets, with panes bearing binding selvedge numbers from 1 to 6 respectively (W8c(b)). Complete, and extremely difficult to find nowadays	£87.50
1112	1967 Pictorial Booklets. A similarly complete set, this time of 4 x 50c booklets, showing the markings XA and XB at both top and bottom of the binding selvedges (W9a(b))	£35.00
1113	1920 Victory ½d. Unmounted mint copy with variety Watermark Inverted (S9aZ). Scarce!	£25.00
1114	1920 Victory 1d. Another scarce 'invert' (S10aZ). Facially fine, but a little gum toning, hence	£10.00
1115(a)	1940 Centennial Official. Marginal pair of the 1d, one with the "Joined ff" variety (S027aZ). Stamps unhinged mint	£20.00

(b) As above. Marginal single of the 3d, with "Joined ff" (S031aZ). Again stamp unhinged	£20.00
1116 1946 Peace 4d. Just a few years ago, part of a sheet was found with the watermark inverted — the one and only record of this variety. Unfortunately, having been carelessly filed by a (presumably) non-philatelist, the majority of the stamps were badly creased. One of the handful of fine copies would command the full listed price of \$150 at least, but we can offer a creased example as a spacefiller at	£10.50
1117 1947 Health 2d + 1d. Fine used copy with watermark inverted (T19bZ). A scarce one	£30.00

KING GEORGE V SURFACE PRINTED

All items offered are mint blocks of 4.

1118(a) ½d Green. Experimental issue on thick highly surfaced paper (K13b). Superb unhinged marginal block	£37.50
(b) As above. Jones paper (K13c). Corner block. Superfine	£15.00
(c) As above. Cowan paper, reversed wmk. (K13g) Superb unhinged block ...	£13.50
(d) As above. De la Rue paper, overprinted Official (K013a). Unhinged block in green	85p
(e) As above. Set of two blocks in green and yellow-green. Lovely contrasts ...	£2.25
1119 ½d War Stamp (K14a). Superfine block	£3.00
1120 1d Field Marshal. Perf. 14, overprinted Official (K015a). Unhinged block ..	£3.00
1121(a) 1½d Black. From the London Plate (K17a). Brilliant unhinged block	£13.50
(b) As above. Set of two blocks in the listed shades of black and grey-black. Superb!	£25.00
1122(a) 1½d Orange-Brown. On De la Rue paper (K17b). Unhinged	£7.50
(b) As above. Lightly hinged block	£6.00
(c) As above. Magnificent set of three blocks in the listed shades	£30.00
(d) As above. Cowan paper, perf. 14 (K17c). Superfine block	£22.50
1123(a) 2d Yellow. On De la Rue paper (K18a). Block in yellow. Superb	£4.00
(b) As above. Similarly fine block, in orange-yellow	£12.50
(c) As above. On Jones paper (K18b). Superb block in dull yellow	£13.50
(d) As above. Companion block in pale dull yellow	£13.50
(e) As above. On art paper, with litho 'wmk' (K18c). Finest condition	£15.00

(f) As above. On Cowan paper, perf. 14x15 (K18d). Marginal unhinged block	£12.50
(g) As above. On Cowan paper with wmk. reversed (K18f). Marginal unhinged block	£50.00
1124 3d Chocolate. On De la Rue paper (K19a). Superfine block	£27.50

KING GEORGE VI SPECIALISED (concluded)

1125(a) 3d on 1d Green. (M18a). Imprint/plate blocks of 6, nos. 112, 113, 115, 116, 117 or 118. Each block	75p
(b) As above. Imprint/plate no. 114, block of 6, mint	£1.25
(c) As above. One of the scarce imprint/plate blocks, no. 108. Superb unmounted	£6.00
(d) As above. Marginal imprint block of 6, plate 114, including R3/15 and 3/16 retouches	£7.50
(e) As above. Corner block of 10, also plate 114, including R9/20-21 plate cracks	£6.00
(f) As above. Corner block of 8, unmounted mint, plate 115, including R1/21, 1/22, 2/21, 2/24 varieties	£6.00
1126(a) 1d on ½d Chestnut. (M19a) Imprint/plate block of 6, nos. 101 or 133, each	£1.00
(b) As above. Corner block of 10, plate no. 133, including R3/23 and 5/24 varieties	£7.50

POSTAL STATIONERY (concluded)

1127 Q.E. 10c Red. Stamp in same design, but now reduced in size. Roulettes gauging 9. Superb	75p
1128 Q.E. 10c + 4c Provisional. Card as last, but with much larger roulettes (gauging about 3½), and with "ADDITIONAL 4c/POSTAGE PAID" in black below stamp. Superb	£4.00
1129 Q.E. 14c Magenta. Superb	75p

Registered Envelopes

1130 K.G.V. 4d Brown, 1924. (C5a). The first K.G.V. 4d Registered envelope, and superb	£10.00
1131 1958 Q.E. 1/- Rose Carmine. Reserved inscription error (reads "Return to/ If Undelivered") (F.4). Superb	£17.50
1132 1961 Q.E. 1/3d on 1/- Provisional. (F.8). One of three different types of 1/- envelope surcharged 1/3D in black. Superb	£8.00
1133 1965 Q.E. 1/4d Pale Blue. (F.12). Superb	£5.00

1134	1967 Q.E. 1/4d + 6d Provisional. Envelope as F.12, but with 6D/ADDITIONAL/REGISTRATION FEE/PAID printed in red alongside stamp (F.13). Superb	£20.00
1135	1971 Q.E. 18c + 4c Provisional. 18c rose-carmine, with 4c ADDITIONAL/POSTAGE PAID in black below stamp (lines of surcharge 4mm apart) (F.16). Superb	£5.00
1136	1976 Q.E. 38c Vermilion. With old printed stamp design (F.21). Superb ...	£2.00
1137	Q.E. 99c Vermilion. New design of printed stamp. Superb	£1.25

USED MINIATURE SHEETS

A selection of these much-more-difficult-than-mint items, all finest condition.

1138(a)	1958 Health 3d + 1d. With variety "One Tent Retouched"	£10.00
(b)	As above. With variety "Two Tents Retouched"	£13.50
1139	1961 Health. Both values, with Otaki Health Camp first day of issue cancels	£20.00
1140	1962 Health. Both values, cancelled as above	£22.50
1141	1977 Health	£8.00
1142	1978 Health	£4.00
1143	1979 Health	£4.00
1144	1980 Health	£2.75
1145	1981 Health	£1.75
1146	1982 Health	£1.75
1147	1969 Captain Cook Bicentenary. Used on piece	£20.00
1148	1974 N.Z. Day.	£2.00
1149	1977 Silver Jubilee.	£1.50
1150	1980 Zeapex. Used on piece	£6.00

1151

JOLLIFFE'S "THE HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS"

This scarce work, published in 1913, was an early forerunner of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand". The copy offered must be one of the finest extant, preserved intact and in absolutely pristine condition by a special library binding. Complete with the 2d plate 2 proofs (printed specially for inclusion in the book) and the illustrations of rare items from the 'Pack' collection

£72.50

1898 PICTORIALS

Commencing a series of offers of New Zealand's first Pictorials — an issue never easy to obtain. Full annotation included where necessary.

1152	London Print Perforations. Many of our readers will know that the perforation heads used on the London Printed stamps varied enormously in gauge, and this resulted in many combinations measuring from 12 - 16 (see our Catalogue, permanent page E3, for a detailed list). The set here offered shows no less than 12 different of these perforation combinations, and consists of used examples of ½d (E1a), 1d (E2a), 2d (E5a) and the 1d Universal (G1a). A fine perforation variety set, which we can't recall having offered before	£10.00
1153(a)	½d London (E1a). Three shades, striking contrasts, mint	£5.00
	(b) As above. A similar set of 3 shades, used	£2.50
1154(a)	1d Lake Taupo (E2a). Unmounted mint block of 4, one or two splitting perfs but a most attractive multiple	£10.00
	(b) As above. Three superb contrasts of the brown frame, mint	£7.50
	(c) As above. Six used stamps in as wide-ranging shades of brown as one could hope to see. Very nice	£4.50
	(d) As above. Plate 2, R1/1 re-entry (EV2a), used copy	£5.00
	(e) As above. Plate 2, R3/3 re-entry (EV2g), used copy	£3.50
	(f) As above. Plate 2, R3/6 re-entry (EV2j), used copy in a very pale shade of brown	£4.00
	(g) As above. Plate 2, R6/3 re-entry, listed and illustrated in Vol. 1 of the Handbooks. Used	£3.50
	(h) As above. Two used, both showing clear signs of different re-entries, neither being listed in Vol. 1	£6.00
	(i) As above. Used copy perforated on three sides, imperf. on fourth side (with large margin on the imperf. side). As a single, not absolutely guaranteeable of course, but looks good	£6.00
1155(a)	1d Terraces (E3a). Five used shades, Rose-red to crimson	£2.00
	(b) As above. Used copy in the scarcer lake-crimson shade	£6.00
	(c) As above. Mint copy of the plate 1, R5/19 re-entry	£8.00
	(d) As above. Used pair, one stamp being plate 1, R9/4 re-entry	£6.00
	(e) As above. Plate 2, R5/4 re-entry, used	£4.00
	(f) As above. Used pair, one stamp being a re-entry which is unlisted in Volume 1	£5.00

1156(a) 1½d Boer War, Perf. 11 (E4a). Very nice mint block of 4, pale chestnut shade	£22.50
(b) As above. Superb mint copy in the scarce brown shade (S.G.300), showing an excellent re-entry to the lower right corner	£40.00
(c) As above. Mint single, with double perfs. at left (E4aZ)	£15.00
(d) As above. Three superb shades of chestnut, startling contrasts, used (all c.d.s. cancels)	£12.50
(e) As above. Brilliant used copy (dated 1904) of the major re-entry at R2/12 (EV4f). Illustrated in our Catalogue and acknowledged as one of the best re-entries in N.Z. philately	£20.00
1157(a) 2d London (E5a). Mint copy of a most elusive stamp, rosy-lake shade	£15.00
(b) As above. Four fine contrasts of lake, all used	£1.25
(c) As above. The R4/4 re-entry (EV5a), used	£6.00
(d) As above. R5/2 re-entry (EV5b), used	£4.00
(e) As above. R8/7 re-entry, used	£3.50
(f) As above. R10/12 re-entry, (EV5d), used	£4.00
1158(a) 2½d Lake Wakitipu (E7a). Three contrasting shades of blue, one being unusually deep. All mint	£12.00
(b) As above. Attractive mint block of 4, two stamps unmounted. Vertical crease affects two stamps, hence	£10.00
(c) As above. Used copies of this stamp are not at all common — this set of two used shades (sky blue and dull blue) is all the more surprising	£20.00
(d) As above. Fine mint example of the R11/9 variety (EV7a) — the only major one noted on this plate in Vol. 1.	£15.00
(e) As above. Glorious mint copy, showing R12/1 variety (doubling of bottom right frame line), constant but unlisted	£20.00

(to be continued)

After a gap of some eight or nine years, the N.Z.P.O. has produced its third set of attractive full-colour postcards, based on the designs of the recent "Seasons" issue. The set of four cards

£1.00