

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN

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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT by Colin Hamilton

Having commented not so long ago (Bulletin, Jan. 1985) on the alterations made to the 4/3d booklets of the 1960 Pictorial series due to changes in postage rates, we have just recently been reminded that there was a similar occurrence during the currency of the 4/- Queen Elizabeth booklet first issued on 1st May, 1956 (C.P. W7b). Originally, these booklets contained a rate sheet which appeared immediately after the first pane of 1d stamps, but about a year later, after a change in the rates structure had been made, an official instruction was given that this sheet was to be removed from all booklets remaining in stock. Our experience is that examples **without** the rate sheet are relatively much less numerous than those with the sheet, but **whether** this is because most of the supply had already been sold, or because the instruction was largely ignored, who can say! In any event, while interesting, the "rateless" booklets command no premium, for obviously it would be a simple matter for anyone to remove the sheet (it was simply torn out) at any time. In the few examples we have seen, the removal has apparently been carefully done, the tear being very close to the binding staples, and it would be easy to overlook the fact that a sheet was missing at all. Unlike the case of the 1960 Pictorial booklets referred to above, no amended rate sheet was prepared for these particular booklets, and it was not until the new issue of 5th Sept. 1957 (C.P. W7c) that booklets again appeared with (correct) information on postage rates.

A New Departure? Somewhere recently (I think it was in an official announcement issued by the N.Z. Philatelic Bureau) I read that a set of stamps for issue in the Tokelau Islands was to be printed by a **private** firm in New Zealand. I'm open to correction here, but unless I'm mistaken, this is the first time in 75 years (and only the second time in all) that anyone in New Zealand other than the Government Printer has been entrusted with the printing of Postage stamps, or those for which the N.Z.P.O. is responsible, at least. The only other instances that come to mind are (i) the Edward VII Land 1d of 1908 (and in this case it was only the **overprint** that was involved — the stamps themselves had of course been printed by the Govt. Printer) and (ii) the Full-Faces printed by Richardson between 1855 - 1862. The Government Printer himself used to print stamps quite regularly, but since the Second World War he has very much taken a back seat in this connection. Apart from the application of the occasional surcharge as an emergency measure, I think the only stamps produced at the Government Printing Office since then have been the Arms Types (which are still printed there to this day).

Sodoes the Tokelau announcement indicate that we may possibly see one or more issues for New Zealand itself contracted out to a private N.Z. printing firm?

1985 C.P. Catalogue Supplement. The good news is that by the time this issue of the Bulletin is in your hands, we expect the new Supplements will have reached us from New Zealand, and that the considerable task of collation, packing and distribution will be well under way. **Even better news is that the 1985 Supplement is to cost U.K. subscribers less than any since 1981.** May we, however, ask all to co-operate by remitting promptly, as the cost of sending out reminders makes it that much more difficult to hold down prices. Annual Bulletin/Newsletter subscriptions also fall due for renewal now, and we take this opportunity of reminding subscribers that if remitting for both Catalogue Supplement and subscription renewal simultaneously, there's no need to write two separate cheques (some invariably do so); one cheque covering both items is perfectly acceptable).

MISCELLANY

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|--------|---|--------|
| 701(a) | ½d Newspaper Stamp. Two superb shades of the 1875 perf. 12½ issue with wmk 'Small Star' (B2a). Note that this watermark (Type W.1a in the C.P. Catalogue) is to be found on no other N.Z. stamp ever issued. The inexpensive used set of two '½d Newspapers' | £2.25 |
| (b) | As above. Three good used shades of the commoner 1892 issue with wmk N.Z. and star (B3a) | £1.25 |
| 702 | 2d First Sideface. Excellent used copy of the provisional issue on paper with wmk Large Star (as used for many of the Chalon Head issues). Quite a scarce stamp | £11.75 |
| 703(a) | 4d First Sideface. Fine used copy, perf. 12½ (C4a) | £27.50 |
| (b) | As above. A beautifully fresh used strip of 3 , lightly cancelled and of superb colour. Very unusual | £62.50 |
| 704(a) | 1d Second Sideface. Mint block of 4 of the 1882 first issue — Die 1, 6mm wmk, horizontal mesh paper, perf. 12x11½ (D2a). Scarce (Cat. \$85 per stamp) and a gift at, the block, only | £62.50 |
| (b) | As above. Two fine used copies, perf. 11 (D2p), one being on normal paper, the other on the notably coarse paper used around 1898 for printings of this and most other values of the series. A useful and cheap reference set | £1.00 |
| 705(a) | First Pictorial 1½d. Very fine fresh mint block of 4, perf. 11 (E4a) in a pale chestnut shade, and magnificently centred. Lovely | £25.00 |
| (b) | As above. Good mint copy in the very scarce and distinctive brown shade (S.G. 300). A couple of minor gum tones allow | £12.50 |
| 706 | First Pictorial 3d. Block of 4 (with bottom selvage) of the perf. 11 wmk'd issue (E9c). Upper pair normally wmk'd (NZ and star sideways), lower pair includes one stamp with complete letter wmk, and one totally unwatermarked (E9c(v) — a new listing in the 1985 Supplement). Facial appearance superb, but gum rather messy, hence | £17.50 |
| 707 | First Pictorial 5d. Two delightful shades of the London Print (E13a) in red chocolate and deep chocolate — both superb used and clearly dated 1898 | £20.00 |

708(a)	First Pictorial 6d Green. Brilliant example of the London Print (E14a) mint unhinged!! Rare thus	£42.50
(b)	As above. The other green 6d, Local print unwmk'd (E14b). Not unhinged, this one, but fresh mint, exceptionally well centred for this issue, and in a beautiful pale shade	£40.00
709	First Pictorial 6d Red, Perf. 11, Unwmk'd (E14c). Block of 4 in rose-red, very fine mint	£62.50
710(a)	First Pictorial 5/-. Superfine mint copy, perf. 14, wmk sideways (E21e). Fresh, well centred, rich colour	£115.00
(b)	As above. We have two copies overprinted Official (E021e), one mint and one used, both of beautiful facial appearance, but with defects – the mint copy has hinge-thinning, the used has an internal split. Excellent space-fillers at, each	£12.50
711	1d Universal 'Official'. Unhinged mint copy from the Booklet Plate (G07a). Cat. \$15, special offer at	£5.00
712	King Edward VII 5d. Vertical pair, two-perfs se tenant (H5d). Superb mint unhinged	£52.50
713	King Edward VII 6d. Another two-perf. pair (H6e), very fresh appearance, but several previous hinges	£125.00
714(a)	1d Dominion. Finest mint copy on De La Rue paper, with variety full offset impression on back (J1aZ)	£10.25
(b)	As above. Same variety, but in superb mint block of 4. One block only available at	£40.00
715	1960 Pictorial 1/9d. The original (single-colour) issue (015a) in a superb corner block of 9 with printer's imprint and plate number. Mint unhinged, and very scarce	£97.50
716	1960 Pictorial 2/6d (017a). The two listed shades – with the butter in lemon-yellow and orange-yellow respectively – each in corner block of 4 with plate number. Former block unhinged, latter hinged in selvage only. The two plate blocks	£17.50
717	1960 Pictorial 3/- Original Issue (018a). Imprint/plate block of 6 stamps (current S.G. cat. £35 each!), perfect unhinged mint	£147.50
718	1967 Pictorial F.D.C. The complete original set of 18 stamps (½c – \$2) tied to large registered cover by the special 'decimal' postmark which was issued to all chief post offices for use on 10/7/67 only – the Wellington datestamp is the one used on this cover	£27.50

719	1967 Pictorial 15c. Imprint/plate block of 12 stamps, superb mint unhinged. Never an easy one, even when it was on current issue	£18.50
720	1d Auckland Exhibition. Fine Mint copy with double gum (S6aZ). From the rare slot-machine issue	£57.50
721	1899 Postage Dues. Complete set (14) of the First Types (C.P. Y1a – Y14a, S.G. D1 – D16). All mint except one 2d (Y10a), which is fine used. Cat. \$1000 (S.G. £438), and very scarce in complete set	£250.00

KING GEORGE VI (Contd.)

722(a)	2d Orange, VM paper (M6a). Mint corner block of 15, from Plate 76, including R5/24 variety	£10.00
(b)	As above. Mint corner block of 4, showing abnormal perforation in the selvedge due to the sheet corner being folded-over during perforating. Most attractive	£10.00
(c)	As above. Counter coil pair, rubber-stamped coil number (MC1d)	£4.00
(d)	As above. This coil pair has the listed variety "inverted number on left selvedge" (MC1dZ), but with a difference – the inverted number is doubled – (unrecorded in the "Scott" coils booklet)	£30.00
(e)	As above. Counter coil pair, black machine-printed numbers (MC2a)	£2.50
(f)	As above. This example of MC2a has two different papers, one thick the other thin	£6.00
(g)	As above. Another MC2a coil pair, this time the stamps in superb yellow shades	£5.00
(h)	As above. The listed variety, one stamp with Horizontal Mesh (MC2aY)	£5.00
(i)	As above. No less than 11 used varieties, including plate 41 R2/21, pl. 61 R4/5 R10/24, pl. 62 R6/22 first and second state retouches, pl. 76 R5/24, pl. 80 R5/20, pl. 140 R7/1, pl. 145 R1/7 R4/10 R6/8. Full descriptions provided	£27.50
(j)	As above. The "Official" overprint issue (M06a), unmounted block of 4	£1.00
(k)	As above. Imprint/Plate block of 8, no. 61 overprinted Official	£1.25
(l)	As above. Two used varieties, pl. 61 R4/5 and 10/24 (both M06a)	£5.00
(m)	As above. Two used official stamps, showing the normal coarse paper and a distinctly finer paper not usually found on the 2d value	£5.00
723(a)	2d Orange HM paper (M6b). Two lovely mint shades	65p

(b)	As above. Five different imprint/plate blocks (8 stamps each) — plate nos. 81, 86, 87, 88, 89	£17.50
(c)	As above. Imprint/plate block, on thin paper (unusual in this stamp)	£12.50
(d)	As above. Counter coil pair, rubber stamped section number (MC1e) the two stamps in fine orange contrasts	£7.50
(e)	As above. Marginal block of 16, from plate 87, showing the catalogued R7/5 retouch (MV6b(e))	£12.50
(f)	As above. Corner block of 18, from plate 89, showing the R8/6 retouch	£12.50
(g)	As above. Corner block of 6, with excessive printing ink over the King's face. Attractive!	£7.50
(h)	As above. Used single, with a wedge-shaped flaw showing complete loss of design (due to foreign matter on the sheet during the printing operation)	£10.00
(i)	As above. Three used singles, showing plate 86 R3/7 and R7/21, and plate 87 R7/5 retouches — all listed in Volume 4 of the N.Z. Handbook	£10.00
724(a)	3d Blue, Fine VM paper (M7a). The two listed shades, unhinged blocks of 4	£20.00
(b)	As above. Three shade singles, mint	£7.50
(c)	As above. Mint imprint/plate block of 8, plate no. 39	£17.50
(d)	As above. Imprint/plate block of 6, plate no. 138 (very scarce on this paper), mint	£27.50
(e)	As above. Complete set (1 — 19) of 19 counter coil pairs (MC2c). Cat. \$190, mint	£50.00
725(a)	3d Blue, Fine HM paper (M7b). Unhinged mint block of 4	£11.50
(b)	As above. Imprint/plate no. 27, block of 8, mint	£20.00
(c)	As above. Corner block of 4, with R9/24 variety, mint	£17.50
(d)	As above. Two used blocks of 4 (both c.d.s. cancels), in the two catalogued shades	£6.00
(e)	As above. Commercially used block of 12 (most unusual)	£7.50

1970 COUNTER COIL PAIRS, MINT

726	Matched Set. 15 coil pairs, all with the same coil section number — complete by the C.P. Catalogue except for the extremely elusive 3c no wrmk pair (PC5c). Now cat. \$132	£37.50
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727(a)	3c (PC5a). Set of starter and centre pages	£8.50
(b)	As above. Two coil pairs, coil section nos. in brown-red and orange	£5.00
728(a)	3c (PC5b). Two coil pairs, section nos. in red and orange	£5.00
(b)	As above. Coil pair, the two stamps in attractive shades of brown	£3.50

BUYING. We need unmounted mint copies of the 3c coil pair, on unwater-marked paper (PC5c). We will pay £5 per coil pair, subject to inspection and to stock requirements.

729(a)	4c (PC6a). Set of starter and centre papers	£8.50
(b)	As above. Three coil pairs, section nos. red-brown, bright red and orange. Lovely	£8.00
(c)	As above. Two coil pairs, no. 1 with (PC6aY) and without full stop	£10.00
(d)	As above. Coil pair with shades of light blue and dark blue	£3.50
730(a)	4c, no Wmk, White Gum (PC6b). Set of starter and centre papers	£8.50
(b)	As above. Three coil pairs, section nos. brown-red, deep red and orange	£6.00
(c)	As above. One stamp of this coil pair shows the wing veins largely omitted ..	£7.50
731(a)	4c, No Wmk, Blue Gum (PC6b). Set of starter and centre papers	£8.50
(b)	As above. Complete set of coil pairs, numbered 1 – 19	£25.00
(c)	As above. Two pairs, section number in brown-red and orange	£4.00
(d)	As above. Coil pair, one stamp with wing veins largely missing	£7.50
732	5c (PC7a). Starter and centre papers	£12.50
733(a)	5c (PC7b). Starter and centre papers	£12.50
(b)	As above. These two coil pairs, both with section no. 1, are (i) without full-stop (PC7a), and (ii) with full-stop (PC7b)	£10.00
734(a)	5c No Wmk. (PC7c). Set of starter and centre papers	£8.50
(b)	As above. Complete set of coil pairs, numbered 1 – 19	£25.00
(c)	As above. Two coil pairs, brown-red and orange section nos.	£4.50
(d)	As above. This coil pair has the two stamps in attractive green shades	£3.50

(To be concluded)