

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

K.G.V Recess — 2d Re-entries. Last month (readers may recall) we offered two blocks (in violet) with a previously unrecorded re-entry on Plate 16, Row 1, No. 12. Some time ago we reported another re-entry, on Row 1, No. 11, but at that time it was not possible to be certain whether this one belonged to Plate 15 or 16, although we favoured the former. As the R1/11 variety was not present on our recent blocks, we can now confirm that it is indeed a plate 15 variety. We have found a number of examples since our initial report, and for the information of new readers, the most prominent doubling is to be found on the right-hand side, below the D in the value tablet, and below the lowest corner star (as one would expect, it is more readily visible in the violet printings than in the yellows).

1960 Pictorial 4/3d Booklets. As originally issued, these booklets contained an interleaving sheet detailing inland and overseas postage rates. This sheet matched the covers and other interleaving sheets carrying advertisements, and appeared immediately after the pane of ½d stamps.

On October 1st 1964 postage rates were increased, thus rendering obsolete the information contained in the booklet. The postage rates sheet was therefore removed by the simple expedient of tearing it out of the remaining supplies of the booklets on hand, and these were sold in this mutilated condition. Later 4/3d booklets were issued containing a new rates sheet. Although stitched into the body of the booklet, this sheet was obviously an emergency printing, being on plain white paper not matching the rest of the booklet. In the example we have, it was also in a quite different position, appearing immediately before the first pane of 3d stamps.

(Elsewhere in this Bulletin, we offer a set of three booklets demonstrating the interesting sequence of changes described above.)

Perf-ectly Ridiculous! Amongst our incoming mail recently was a letter from a "gentleman" in Berlin, offering his services to us. It began:

"My profession is the restoration of stamps by methods of re-perforation. This work is accomplished as follows:

"I make an original-appearing perforation of perforation-defective stamps, and the price of such work is 50 cents in U.S. funds. I perform this service on stamps from all of the world — mint or used — and the price is the same — 50c U.S. each (or 60c Canadian, or 50p sterling)".

The letter goes on to give a "guarantee", to specify a minimum order (not less than 6 stamps to be sent for re-perforating!) and — a nice touch, I thought — to provide a reference (with an address in the U.S.A.)!

Final irony. The writer dares to admit that he's a dealer into the bargain, and "on the reverse you will find my price list . . ." (all 'restored' stamps, perhaps?).

Ausipex 1984. Heartiest congratulations to Martyn Jackson of Warwickshire who, at the recent Melbourne International Exhibition, achieved the rare distinction of a Gold Metal for his exhibit of N.Z. Postal Stationery.

COVERS! COVERS! COVERS!

A selection of the unusual, the scarce, and the rare. Allsorts here, but offered in approximately chronological order.

- | | | |
|--------|--|---------|
| 101 | 2d First Sideface. Copy from the 1875 provisional printing on paper with wmk Large Star (C2e) tied to cover to Cromwell by Dunedin duplex of 18th June 1875. Superb contemporary usage, and rare! | £95.00 |
| 102 | 4d First Sideface. 1881 cover to England with perf. 12x11½ pair (C4d) tied by double strike of Dunedin duplex of 20th Sept. 1881. On reverse, Campbelltown (NZ) transit mark, and red London arrival mark. Condition fine. Stamps alone Cat. \$130 | £57.50 |
| 103 | ½d Newspaper. Cover to England with strip of five ½d Newspaper stamps (B2a) tied by neat and clear Kaiapoi c.d.s. of 3rd March 1892. Backstamped Christchurch (3rd March) and Plymouth/Ship Letter (17th April) transit marks and Bradford (19th April) arrival mark. Most unusual usage of ½d Newspapers! Stamps and cover exceptionally fresh | £42.50 |
| 104(a) | Second Sideface Advertisements. Choice of several covers franked with pair of 1d 'Adson' — all clearly dated 1893 or 1894. Stamps in quite reasonable condition, but covers very tatty, hence only, each | £5.00 |
| (b) | As above. Similar, but with one 2d 'Adson'. Each | £4.00 |
| 105(a) | 1d Duty Stamp. The small 1d Blue (Z1b) tied to cover by Wanganui squared circle of 25 SP 97. No doubt philatelically inspired, but still unquestionably postally used | £57.50 |
| (b) | As above. Another cover with both 1d blue and its short-lived predecessor in lilac (Z1a) tied by Picton c.d.s. of 19DE99. Comments on previous item apply here too | £112.50 |
| 106 | Sir Joseph Ward's 1d Universal Postcard and Envelope. (Samuel AM1a/1b). To celebrate the advent of Universal Penny Postage, the then Postmaster-General (later Prime Minister) dispatched a special 'U.P.P.' card, enclosed in an envelope of similar design, to community leaders. Both card and envelope offered here are addressed to the same individual — such 'matched | |

pairs' are seldom found nowadays. Condition of both is only fair at best (the envelope in particular is almost invariably tatty, because the paper used was of inferior quality), but nevertheless two rare and desirable items £87.50

- 107(a) 1d Universal First Day Cover.** Plain cover to Dunedin with 1d Universal (London Print, of course) tied by superb Glenary c.d.s. of 1JA 01. Clean and fine £35.00
- (b) As above,** but unaddressed cover with stamp tied by Waihao Downs c.d.s. of the same date £30.00

- 108 Manuscript Cancel.** Cover to Woodville, with 1d Universal tied by manuscript cancellation 'Ahiaruhe 23/4/01' (see A.R. Marshall's 'N.Z. Postal Manuscripts', Type A9). Ahiaruhe was a rural post office, open for only 6½ years, from 1/5/97 to 31/10/03. This cover shows that the old days really were the good old days, as far as the mails were concerned, for the three backstamps — Carterton (the nearest railway station town), the Wellington-Napier R.P.O. mark (applied on the train from Carterton to Woodville), and the Woodville arrival mark — are all dated 24/4/01. A rare and delightful postal history item £175.00

- 109 R.T.P.O's.** Five covers (one registered) all from the early 1900s period, and all with different Travelling Post Office backstamps (the railway post office network of N.Z. is a thoroughly fascinating field of interest). The five covers £35.00

- 110 King Edward VII F.D.C.** Registered cover with 1d Dominion (pair), Edward 2d, 6d, 8d and 1/-, all tied by crystal clear Christchurch Registered c.d.s. of 8th Nov. 1909 — the first day of issue of all the stamps. Only the second F.D.C. of the period we have handled (the other, a number of years ago, bore the Edward ½d only). Fine, and very rare £250.00

- 111(a) Auckland Exhibition.** Inland cover bearing complete set of the Exhibition stamps, each tied by separate strikes of the Exhibition c.d.s. 7 AP 14. One of the grander items. Used set off cover Cat. \$1055 £550.00

- (b) As above.** Picture postcard no. 7 from Turnbull and Jones series, "View of Gardens from Concert Hall", bearing on the reverse a ½d Exhibition adhesive tied by Exhibition c.d.s. of 17 FE 14, with a superb impression of the POSTED ON TOP/EXHIBITION TOWER circular cachet in magenta (considerably rarer than the similar but much smaller cachet used at the 1906 Christchurch Exhibition). Lower corner of card creased, otherwise superb £72.50

- (c) As above.** Plain, small, neat cover to Rangiora with 1d Exhibition stamp tied by Exhibition c.d.s. (31 MR 14). Cover has unobtrusive and light vertical fold, well clear of adhesive and markings £47.50

- 112(a) World War I. 'On Active Service' cover to England with superb impression in violet of the framed rectangular N.Z. MILITARY POST OFFICE/ EXPEDITIONARY FORCE mark dated OCT 28 1914 (Vol. 3, page 349, type 10). This was used on some of the ten troopships carrying the main body and first reinforcement of the first N.Z.E.F., which left Wellington in convoy on Oct. 16th bound for Europe. Condition very fine £37.50**
- (b) As above. Printed envelope of the N.Z. EXPEDITIONARY FORCE/ PRESBYTERIAN INSTITUTE/TAUHERENIKAU CAMP addressed to Auckland, but used from Featherston Military Camp (post office open 29/11/15 – 11/1/20), and countersigned by the Chaplain there. 1d Dominion adhesive tied by clear strike of the Camp c.d.s. (Vol. 3, page 347, type 3). Superb condition £22.50**
- (c) As above. Two 'On Active Service' (stampless) covers to New Zealand, 1916/17. Both countersigned. The 1916 cover has FIELD POST OFFICE/ N.Z. c.d.s. (Vol. 3, page 360, type 43); the 1917 item has a similar F.P.O. c.d.s., with 'D.63' around the bottom arc, in place of 'N.Z.' Both with censor marks. Marks all good, but condition of covers fair only £20.00**
- 113(a) Express Delivery. 1918 cover to Hawera with K.G.V 1½d (K17b) and Express Delivery stamp (U1a), each tied (curiously) by Wellington Registered c.d.s. of 8th October – the item was not registered, but was correctly marked with two parallel blue lines front and back (fortunately clear of the adhesives). Lovely genuine 'Express' cover, and rare £72.50**
- (b) As above. Another Express Delivery cover from Auckland to Wellington, July 1931, with K.G.V 4d (K5g) and correct and contemporary usage of the second 'Express' stamp (U1b). Even scarcer than the first issue used on genuine cover £77.50**
- 114 1d Map Stamp. Dated (June 1924) commercial cover to U.S.A. bearing 1d Map stamp. Seldom seen used on cover. This one of course beautifully illustrates the reason for the issue of the stamp – the re-introduction of universal penny postage. Top of cover slightly trimmed, but leaving adhesive clear and intact £22.50**
- 115 K.G.V Admirals. Jones paper 2/- and 3/- beautifully tied to plain registered cover by Wellington Registered c.d.s. of 31 AU 26 – a mere six weeks or so after the issue of the stamps. Philatelic use (5/- was improbably high postage/registration for a small packet such as this), but extremely unusual and attractive. Priced as a fine used pair off cover at only £185.00**
- 116 1/3d Arms in Lemon (Z30a). Used on Oct 15, 1931 cover to the Supreme Court, Wellington. A scarce stamp used off cover – on cover must be rare. Good condition £27.50**
- 117 1935 Royal Train. Cover (with New Zealand Railways crest on flap) addressed to Wellington, with 1d Field Marshal tied by the postmark used on the train carrying H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester during his N.Z. visit in late 1934 – early 1935. This rather special R.T.P.O. was open for 17 days**

(19/12/34 – 4/1/35) while the Duke was travelling in the North Island, and just 8 days (7/1/35 – 14/1/35) in the South Island. This example is dated 14 JA 35, the final closing date. Some age spots around stamp and on the cover, but marking is an absolutely perfect strike

£75.00

K.G.V – SOME MORE UNUSUAL MINT BLOCKS . . .

A continuation of the listing begun last month.

Recess Prints.

- | | | |
|--------|--|---------|
| 118 | 2d Violet (K2b). A magnificent block of 24 (6x4), with full bottom right corner selvage. Mint unhinged | £140.00 |
| 119(a) | 2d Yellow. Top marginal block of 4 on 'Pictorial' paper, upper pair of stamps being the No Watermark variety (K2gZ). Beautiful example of an extremely difficult variety. The block, mint unhinged | £115.00 |
| (b) | As above. The same variety, but in top marginal vertical pair, mint unhinged | £57.50 |
| 120(a) | 4d Plate 44. Bottom marginal block of 16 (4x4), perf. 14x14½ (K5g), including no less than three C.P.-listed re-entries – R7/10, R10/8 and R10/9. In post-office-fresh mint unhinged condition | £125.00 |
| (b) | As above. Top right corner block of 8 (4x2), with sheet serial number. In this corner of the plate, the stars at the foot of the designs received much less attention than elsewhere – five of the stamps (R1/10-12, R2/11-12) show no evidence of retouching of any of the stars. On the other hand two others, R1/9 and R2/9, have clear retouches to the stars in both bottom corners, while R1/12 is a minor re-entry, the outer frame line being doubled in the top right corner. The block, superb mint unhinged | £65.00 |
| 121 | 4½d Deep Green – Proving Block. Left selvage block of 4, perf. 14x13¾, with marginal letters STA (of POSTAGE), plating the stamps to rows 5 and 6, thus proving them to be from an early sheet perf. 14x13¾ throughout. The selvage projects obliquely downwards at the foot and the coloured perforation guide dot (which appears alongside the top of row 7 in the sheet) just shows on the extreme edge – nice additional proof! The block, superb mint, unhinged | £82.50 |
| 122 | 6d Perf. 14x14½ (K8b). A quite remarkable block of 10 (2x5) from the bottom of a sheet. The lowermost pair are the palest of pale carmines, and the colour gradually deepens to a markedly deeper, fuller shade in the top-most pair. A phenomenon we have never before seen in the George V recess-printed issues. Truly beautiful, and perfect unhinged mint | £135.00 |
| 123(a) | 9d Sage-Green (K11a). Corner block of 16 (4x4) with sheet serial number. Stamps beautifully centred and from an early printing – designs full and unworn. Large multiples of the 9d are rare. Very lightly hinged at top of selvage only | £350.00 |

(b)	As above. Amazingly, another block of 16 (top marginal) — this one in a brighter, yellower shade, but not yellow-olive, and from a later printing with clear signs of plate wear. Never hinged, and apart from a couple of very minor gum tone spots, not visible on the front, absolutely brilliant	£300.00
124	1/- Vermilion (K12a). Corner block of 16 (with sheet serial no.) in a beautiful full shade of orange vermillion. Matching lot 123(a) above, and like the 9d rare in large blocks. Again very lightly hinged in selvedge only, stamps brilliant unhinged	£350.00

Surface Prints.

125	½d Cowan Reversed Wmk (K13g). Unhinged mint block of 8	£25.00
126(a)	1½d Orange-Brown. Corner block of 12 (4x3) with sheet no., on Cowan paper, perf. 14 (K17c). Hinged once in selvedge, stamps unhinged and "post-office" fresh	£67.50
(b)	As above. Bottom selvedge block of 6 on Wiggins Teape paper (K17e). Merest trace of a hinge on one stamp, otherwise immaculate. Very scarce ..	£200.00
127	2d Cowan Paper, Perf. 14x15. Corner block of 6 in orange-yellow, with full offset impression on the back of all stamps (K18dZ). Finest mint, stamps unhinged	£72.50
128	3d Cowan Paper, Perf. 14x15. The good R6/8 Face Flaw (K19cY) in positional block of 36. Some light gum-toning, but facially superb, and a quite remarkable piece	£137.50

..... AND SOME EQUALLY UNUSUAL USED BLOCKS

129(a)	2d Violet. Superb block of 4, perf. 14x13¼ (K2a), probably c.t.o. and priced accordingly at	£22.50
(b)	As above. Another block, perf. 14x14¼ (K2b), this one certainly not c.t.o., and very fine c.d.s. used, date May 1916	£57.50
130	4d Yellow. Two-perf block of 4 (K5c), superfine but c.t.o., hence	£32.50
131	7½d Deep Red-brown. Perf. 14x13¼ block (K9a). Nice, clean, and fresh, with indistinct parcel cancel, thus genuine commercially used	£18.50
132	9d Perf. 14x13¼ (K11a). A gorgeous block of 8 (4x2) in yellow-olive, beautifully cancelled by three complete strikes in echelon of the Pakotai c.d.s. of 30 SP 29. An exhibition piece	£92.50
133	9d Perf. 14x14¼ (K11b). Commercially used block of 4, light parcel cancel. Attractive	£7.50
134	1/- Perf. 14x14¼ (K12b). Set of three fine to superb used blocks, of eight, eight and four stamps respectively, in shades of orange-vermillion ranging from deep to pale. Lovely!	£8.50

Each of the following three superb items is cancelled by two perfect complete strikes of the N.Z. Advanced Base Army Post Office c.d.s. (Handbook, Vol. 3, page 354, Type 32) at Alexandria, Egypt during World War I.

135(a)	2d Violet, perf. 14x14¼ (K2b), block of 4 (dated 21 JA 16)	£62.50
(b)	2½d Slate-Blue, perf. 14x13¼ (K3a), block of 4 (dated 15 OC 16)	£37.50
(c)	7½d Deep Brown, perf. 14x13¼ (K9a), block of 4 (dated 22FE 16)	£47.50

1960 PICTORIALS

136	4/3d Booklets. Set of three complete booklets: (i) as originally issued; (ii) with original postage rates sheet removed; (iii) with new postage rates sheet added (see this month's Bulletin note). All three booklets have panes with numbers in selvage, and condition is fine	£52.50
137	3/- Tongariro National Park. The scarce original monochrome issue (O18a) in a perfect unhinged mint imprint/plate block of 6	£175.00

1970 PICTORIAL VARIETIES

138(a)	1c Butterfly. Marginal block of 12 on wmk'd paper, from plate 1B, and including the R7/3, 9/1 and 9/4 retouches (PV2a/b)	£5.00
(b)	As above. Set of three attractive colour shifts: (i) blue shifted upwards; (ii) Black shifted downwards; (iii) Red shifted upwards. All on unwmk'd paper	£17.50
139(a)	2c Butterfly. Plate block of 10 (pl. nos 1Ax4 or 1Bx4) with variety Watermark Inverted (P3aZ). Each block	£22.50
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 4 (unwmk'd, bluish gum) with striking pre-printing paper crease across lower pair of stamps. Block also shows notable upward shift of yellow	£10.00
(c)	As above. Unhinged mint copy (again unwmk'd, bluish gum) with major error Black Colour Omitted (P3bX). A really spectacular missing colour, with 'New Zealand', and butterfly's body, antennae and wing outlines all totally missing	£87.50
140(a)	2½c Moth. Positional block of 10 incl. the green plate 1B R2/14 flaw (PV4c). Also includes R1/17 touch up to leading edge of upper wing	£15.00
(b)	As above. Major error Albino Surcharge of 4c and bars (P4aZ). Question — is the face value 2½c or 4c? An intriguing and unusual variety	£75.00
141(a)	3c Moth. Plate block of 10 (pl. 1A2A1A) with watermark inverted (P5aY)	£10.00

(b)	As above. A remarkable positional block of 30 (10x3, with corner selvage), also with inverted watermark, including the Catalogued plate varieties on R1/8 (PV5a), R3/9-10 (PV5h), as well as the multipositive flaw on R3/5 (detailed in Vol. 6 of the NZ Handbook). The multi-variety block	£17.50
142(a)	4c Moth. Fine commercially used copy on the original wmk'd paper with Deep Green (wing veins) Omitted (P6aX). Not to be confused with the later and very much commoner similar missing colours on unwmk'd paper — this one is <i>rare</i> (only two or three used copies, and no mint, are known to us) ..	£42.50
(b)	As above. Perfect mint copy with complete five-colour offset on the back (P6aY). Rare and incredibly spectacular. Cat. \$500	£175.00
(c)	As above. Plate block of 10 (1Bx4) with watermark inverted (P6aZ)	£22.50
(d)	As above. Mint copy of the <i>other</i> , and infinitely scarcer, 4c 'invert' — from the booklet issue, with wmk W8a (P6bY)	£65.00
(e)	As above. Complete booklet pane of 6 with 3mm shift of the wing veins to the right, so that they appear on the rear wings only in all stamps. Nice! ...	£15.00
(f)	As above. Marginal block of 6 (unwmk'd, white gum) with the listed R1/14 and 2/14 varieties (PV6b)	£2.50
(g)	As above. Unhinged mint copy (unwmk'd, white gum) with major error Blue Colour Omitted (P6cW)	£115.00
(h)	As above. Set of two matching plate blocks (pl. 1B), one normal, the other with deep green omitted, resulting in stamps without wing veins, and only four plate numbers instead of the normal five (P6cZa). Cat. \$300+	£62.50
143	7c Fish. Marginal single (unmounted) from the unwmk'd issue (P9b) with spectacular shift of black colour. Extremely attractive	£15.00
144	8c Fish, unwmk'd (P11b). Single copy with green shifted downwards (a 'delicate' but still attractive variety)	£6.00
145	18c Club, unwmk'd (P14b). Brown shift leaving white border to the left-hand side of the Club. Misplacement slight, but effect nice!	£7.50
146	30c Park, perf. 13½x13½ (P18a). Imprint/plate 4444 block of 6, the blue coloured letters (NEW ZEALAND) of the lower 3 stamps — together with the imprint and blue plate number — are doubly printed, whereas the same area on the top 3 stamps is printed normally! Most unusual	£22.50
147(a)	50c Park (P19a). Corner block of 8, the left-hand four stamps with double perforations, the other 4 stamps are perforated normally	£17.50
(b)	As above. Two marginal singles, showing (i) light green at right omitted (scarce second printing): (ii) dark green at left omitted — P19aZ(1). V. Cat. \$350, special offer (one set only)	£100.00