

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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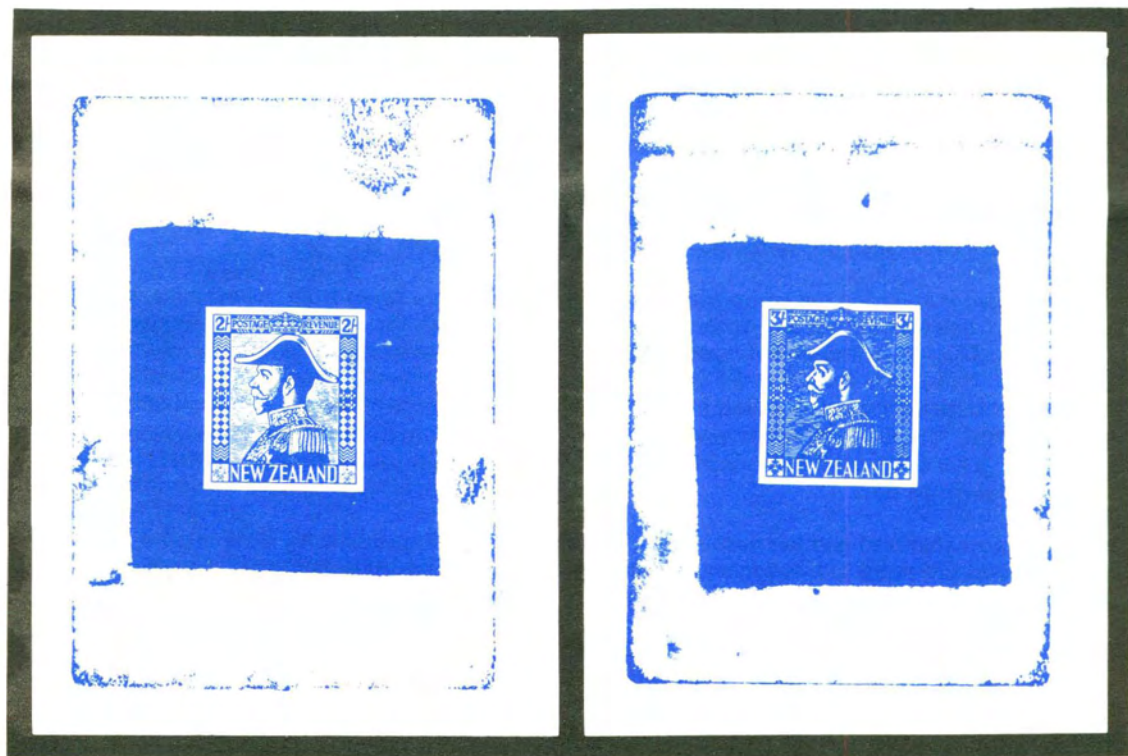
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Lot No. DP16

*(Illustration slightly reduced
from actual size)*

N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

Early Meter Mark. Public trials of franking machines began in New Zealand in March 1904. The first was at Christchurch, and the second at Wellington, both using the first "Moss" machine. The third was again at Wellington, using the same machine, but with a new die fitted. The fourth trial was at Dunedin, and others followed, using various machines. Covers franked by these early machines are generally scarce, but none more so than those from the Dunedin trial, which is the subject of this note.



(a)



(b)

A meter known as the 'Wales' (as in the case of the 'Moss', from the surname of its inventor) was installed outside the C.P.O. Dunedin on 7th July 1904, and remained in use there until 7th February 1905. At first it produced the distinctive impression illustrated as (a) above, but at some point in time it was fitted with a new and equally distinctive die (illustration (b)).

The official instructions to the Chief Postmaster, Dunedin, in regard to the use of the machine included the following: "All letters taken out of the box for the present to be marked with your 'Paid' stamp and for places beyond New Zealand and Australia are to have postage stamps affixed before sending on. A careful record should be kept of the number of letters posted, and also of the value of pence taken out of the box."

It is recorded that during the entire trial 47,024 impressions were taken from the machine. It is not known, however, how many of these were taken before, and how many after, the replacement of the die. The fact is that extant covers bearing **either** appear to be of extreme rarity. According to the N.Z. Handbook, Vols. 3 and 6 (to which due acknowledgement is made for much of the other information used in this note), just three from the second die have been seen, and only one from the first. The last-mentioned cover, addressed to a Fred Hagen, Esq., is well documented in Volume 3 (page 434). Vol. 3 also records one other impression from the first die, but this had not passed through the post.

I have recently handled another postally used cover bearing an impression from the original die. This one was addressed to London and as such its treatment accorded exactly with the official instructions to the Postmaster. After posting (with the meter mark duly impressed), the Dunedin squared circle 'PAID' marking had been applied, and a 1d Universal adhesive affixed and cancelled by an ordinary Dunedin c.d.s.

In its original position, the adhesive would have concealed all but a tiny part of the meter mark — it had subsequently been lifted and hinged alongside to reveal the rare marking in its entirety. Although the date on the adhesive was one day later than that of the 'Paid' mark, there is no doubt at all that it 'belonged'. Quite apart from the tying characteristics of the c.d.s., there was an unmistakable set-off of the meter mark on the back of the stamp!

The cover was philatelic (addressed to the Editor of 'Ewen's Weekly Stamp News', with the compliments of the N.Z. Stamp Co., and posted on the first day of the meter's use, proven by the 7th July date of the 'Paid' marking), but nevertheless a delectable item.

Footnote: The lesson of the above is an obvious one. A normal-sized adhesive (such as the 1d Universal) is large enough to cover this meter mark **completely**, so examine very carefully any such cover addressed abroad. The 'Paid' marking may be the only clue to an otherwise totally hidden treasure!

Super Stampex 1986. New Zealand was well represented among the competitive entries at this annual show early in March. (Conversely, there seemed to be very little on offer in the way of N.Z. material which was at all out of the ordinary at the multitude of dealers' stands!). Our congratulations to all of the following on their awards:

Small Silver-Gilt Medal: A.P. Berry (Life Insurance Dept. Issues).

Silver Medal: T.H. Brock (Air Mails); Dr. A.F. Dove (King George V Definitives); J.G. Evans (1893-4 Advertisement Stamps).

Bronze-Silver Medal: G.M. Cooper (King George VI Definitives); E.W. Leppard (Second Pictorials).

Bronze Medal: J.A.W. Smith (1960 Pictorial 2½d).

Diploma: J.H. Buchanan (Early Health Stamps).

MISCELLANY

- 401(a) 1d Universal.** Two matching corner blocks of 6 (both G5a), each with sheet serial number. The interesting point about these blocks is that, although the sheet numbers are consecutive (26897 and 26898), the blocks are in totally different shades, and are printed from different plates — the second block has the plate 1, R1/24 re-entry, while the first does not, and must therefore be from plate 2 or 3. Most unusual! £62.50
- (b) As above.** Very fine mint copy, with full left selvage, showing the major variety Imperf. at Left (G5aT). **Much** scarcer than pairs imperf. horizontally or vertically £47.50
- (c) As above.** A magnificent bottom right corner block of 4, perf. 14 x 11 (G5d), with the dandy roll No. 3 clearly watermarked sideways in the corner of the selvage. Although the stamps also happen to be from plate 3, this is quite coincidental — there is no connection at all between plate numbers and dandy roll numbers (of the latter, which were impressed during the manufacture of the paper, nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 are known). Cat. \$ 900 (S.G. £480) as single stamps, the bargain of the month at, the block £145.00
- (d) As above.** A similar block, but from the Dot Plates, with mixed perfs. (G8d), and with dandy roll No. 4. Stamps in poor condition, hence only £15.00
- 402 King Edward VII Heads.** An exceptional lot of 26, complete in all the basic perfs. (14 x 15, 14 x 14½, 14 line, and 14 x 13½), and with seven additional shades. Included are ½d (2), 2d (2), 3d (3), 4d orange (2), 4d yellow, 5d (5), 6d (4), 8d (5), and 1/- (2). Condition fine to very fine mint throughout. Minimum Cat. (1981!) \$ 1069 £275.00
- 403 1d Dominion.** Complete mint set of the eight basic issues as listed in the C.P. Catalogue (J1a — J8a). Fine (Cat. \$ 122.50) £40.00
- 404 1d Dominion.** The same set as 403, but in fine mint blocks of 4 (the J4a block has watermark sideways inverted) £150.00

405	K.G.V 2/- Admiral. Finest mint block of 4 on Cowan paper (K20b). One very light hinge, and beautifully fresh	£125.00
406	K.G.V 3/- Admiral. Block of 4 with full bottom left corner selvedge. Stamps fractionally off-centre to top right, and upper pair once hinged, but again very fresh, and an attractive showpiece. Cat. \$800 (S.G. £480)	£230.00
407	K.G.V. 1½d Official. Corner block of 22 (11 x 2) from the local plate (K016a) including, on R1/11, the excellent constant plate variety Frame Line Missing (at bottom left corner). Rare in positional block as here. Corner of selvedge creased (well clear of stamps), otherwise superb, and unhinged mint. Cat. \$330 (S.G. £154) as normal singles	£95.00
408(a)	King George VI Official. The elusive 1d green issue on coarse paper with horizontal mesh (MO2e). In our considered opinion, the scarcest of all K.G.VI Officials, and a real 'sleeper'. We have just a few copies, unhinged mint, each ..	£17.50
(b)	As above. The ½d, 1d and 1½d in original colours (green, red and chocolate respectively), overprinted Official. The set of 3 (MO1a/2a/4a), superb mint unhinged. Also scarce nowadays	£39.50
409	1929 Health. Corner block of 4 with sheet serial-number. Superb appearance, but minor faults (light internal crease and faint gum discolouration) hence only	£32.50
410	1930 Health. Block matching the previous block in all respects, and in very similar condition	£45.00
411	1931 Health. Fine mint pair of the 'Blue Boy', right hand stamp showing the very prominent R8/4 'HARITY for CHARITY' variety	£97.50
412(a)	1932 Health. Two superb mint copies (one unhinged, the other very lightly hinged) in magnificent shades of carmine and carmine pink. Outstanding contrasts	£35.00
(b)	As above. Marginal block of 4, plated by means of constant varieties to plate 1, rows 1 and 2, stamps 7 and 8. Lightly hinged in selvedge only — stamps brilliant unmounted	£85.00
(c)	As above. Corner block of 4, similarly plated to plate 2, rows 1 and 2, stamps 9 and 10. Again selvedge hingeing only	£85.00
(Curiosity note: Volume 1 of the N.Z. Handbook states: "The impressions (of the second plate) were etched much deeper than those of the first plate, and consequently the printings from it were much clearer and sharper." Yet of the above two blocks, the first appears to us to be unquestionably more deeply etched, and altogether a sharper and clearer print, than the second block!)		
(d)	As above. Another block of 4 (plate 1, rows 5 and 6, stamps 3 and 4). Although in the pale carmine-pink shade, this block too answers the general Handbook criteria for plate 2 stamps! Has it got matters the wrong way round? The block, superfine mint (Upper pair very lightly hinged)	£75.00

N.Z. DIE PROOFS

As announced on the back page of this issue of N.Z. Bulletin, we have been entrusted with the disposal of the matchless collections formed by the late Michael Burberry. One of his loves was for proof material, particularly die proofs, and this extended beyond the issues which he collected in depth. The following is a listing of just some of these superb exhibition items. References where given are to the relevant Volume of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand". N.B. All items in this section are offered free of U.K. value added tax.

DP1	1908 1d Universal. Essay progress proof from a recess die by Perkins, Bacon & Co., which was rejected when it was subsequently decided to produce stamps of this design (G11a) by the surface-printing process. Design only partly engraved, and with 'ONE PENNY' roughly pencilled into the value panel. A superb historical item (one of just three examples known to us), fully documented on page 375 of Volume 4. Printed in black on thick white wove paper (60 x 90 mm)	£350.00
DP2	As above. One of the outstanding die proof items of New Zealand — a proof from the accepted relief die, but used as a recess die . Thus the proof has the appearance of a negative, with all the (normally) coloured parts of the design being colourless, and vice versa, giving a spectacular, almost three-dimensional effect. This example is stated to be from the collection of Sir Joseph Ward (not the N.Z. P.M.G. of the same name, who actually introduced the 1d Universal). We know of only one other similar proof. Printed in black on white glazed card (58 x 78 mm)	£625.00
DP3	As above. Normal die proof, with outer surface incompletely cleared, leaving a 'frame' surrounding the design. Printed in chestnut on white glazed card (48 x 60 mm)	£150.00
DP4	As above. Identical proof, but printed in black	£110.00
DP5	1d Dominion. Die proof in carmine on cream card (78 x 114 mm), showing full extent of steel block (50 x 65 mm) on which die was centrally engraved. Some ageing, and horizontal crease, well clear of design. Unlisted in the N.Z. Handbooks	£150.00
DP6	As above. Die proof in pale chestnut on white glazed card (45 x 60 mm)....	£175.00
DP7	King Edward VII Definitives. Progress proof from the 2d die, with central portrait, crown above, and lettered panels at top all more or less complete, and other framing partly complete, but all other details of the design absent. Cut close to outer frame lines. Printed in black on thick white paper	£150.00
DP8	King George V Essay. Die proof from Perkins, Bacon & Co.'s relief die of the originally accepted design by H. Linley Richardson, based on the 1911 G.B. 1d (see Vol. 1, page 294, illustration no. 3, top row). This design, although initially approved, was subsequently rejected by the new N.Z. P.M.G., Sir Heaton Rhodes. Printed in dull carmine-red on thin card (85 x 130 mm), and dated July 1912	£175.00

DP9	As above. Similar essay die proof, but printed in black on smaller piece (36 x 37 mm)	£125.00
DP10	King George V Recess. Early progress proof of the 3d die (which became the master die for all the recess-printed values). This proof consists of the engine-turned design only, surrounding a blank space conforming roughly to the shape of the King's head. Printed in black on wove paper (78 x 88 mm)	£150.00
DP11	As above. Later progress proof of the 3d, with the King's head now largely completed, and outline details of the frame added (see Vol. 1, page 294, illustration No. 1, fourth row). A delightful progressive proof, printed in black on glazed paper (45 x 62 mm)	£275.00
DP12	As above. Proof from the completed die, but with stars in bottom corners unretouched. Printed in black on white glazed paper (83 x 88 mm)	£275.00
DP13	As above. An identical proof, but printed on unglazed paper (110 x 80 mm), giving a much better quality of print	£275.00
DP14	As above. Similar proof to the previous item, but printed in a beautiful shade of deep green (110 x 75 mm)	£300.00
DP15	As above. Final proof from the 3d die, with stars in bottom corners now retouched. Printed in black on wove paper (145 x 80 mm)	£275.00
DP16	King George V Admirals. Matching pair of proofs from the partly cleared 2/- and 3/- dies. Printed in royal blue, each on thick glazed paper (78 x 103 mm), showing the full extent of the steel blocks, and dated 7/10/25 and 8/10/25 respectively. Possibly listed in Vol. 4 (page 379), although that reference does not indicate whether the dies were in cleared or uncleared state. The only such examples we have seen, and a beautiful exhibition pair (illustrated)	£675.00
DP17	1935 Pictorial ½d. Progress die proof (without background shading at top), printed in green on thin white wove paper (70 x 95 mm)	£300.00
DP18	1935 Pictorial 1½d. Proof from completed die, printed in blue on thin white wove paper (60 x 80 mm approx.)	£275.00
DP19	1920 Victory. The set of six artist monochrome proofs, part of the design being printed, and the remainder brush-drawn by hand — the ½d in deep blue, the 1d, 1½d, 3d, 6d and 1/- in sepia. Each item mounted in its own sunken card (85 x 110 mm approx.), with printed identification letter/number, and manuscript date (April 3rd 19, or 15th May 19), and each annotated 'Design approved by Sir Joseph Ward'. In addition the ½d, 1d, 1½d and 3d are annotated "Green", "Carmine", "Cadmium brown" and "Dark brown" respectively (i.e. the colours to be used for the issued stamps), and the two values dated April 3rd (½d and 3d) are backstamped by Thos. De La Rue & Co. Ltd. Unique and extremely attractive set, listed on page 387 of Vol. 4	£1750.00
DP20	1920 Victory ½d. Progressive proof from uncleared die. Near complete, but with minor differences of detail compared with the finished design. Printed in black on glazed card (72 x 62 mm)	£225.00

- 413 1933 Health.** The very obvious R5/5 "Camp-site" variety (resulting from a missing line of shading to the right of and near the top of the path), in mint pair with R5/6, which itself also has a constant variety showing as an extended leaf on the top right cabbage tree head. The pair, finest mint (one light hinge) .. £25.00
- 414 1934 Health.** Corner block of 6 with plate No. 1 in bottom selvedge. The first of all the Healths plate blocks, and a scarce one. Finest mint £67.50
- ½d MT. COOKS, Concluded
- 415(a) Cowan Wmk'd Paper, Perf. 11 x 14 (F4c).** Very fine mint copy in green or deep green, each £9.50
- (b) As above.** Either shade in mint block of 4, each block £37.50
- (c) As above.** Top marginal block of 6 (in deep green) with centre stamp in top row (in green) officially patched in. The patched-in stamp appears to have been taken from a sheet which had already been perforated 14 vertically, but was imperf. horizontally, while the sheet into which it was patched was at that stage totally imperf. A most unusual, interesting and attractive block £77.50
- (d) As above.** Plate 4 R9/6 re-entry in selvedge block of 4 (with marginal arrow) . £40.00
- (e) As above.** Mint marginal block of 6 from plate 4, including R8/14, which shows the most prominent part of the big flaw. Included with this block, at no extra charge, are two used copies (F4a and F1c respectively) from R6/14 and R7/14, to show the complete extent of the flaw £70.00
- 416(a) Cowan Wmk'd Paper, Perf. 14 x 11 (F4d).** Mint single, fine £11.25
- (b) As above.** Corner block of 4 including the Plate 1 R1/1 minor re-entry. Hinged in selvedge only — stamps superb unhinged £50.00
- (c) As above.** Finest mint pair, both stamps showing good re-entries (Plate 1, R5/11 and R5/12) £28.50
- 417(a) Cowan Wmk'd Paper, Mixed Perfs. (F4e).** Single copy, mint £12.50
- (b) As above.** Superb mint marginal block of 4, all stamps showing mixed perfs. horizontally, with official patching. From the evidence of the patching, it is quite clear that in this case the correction to the horizontal perforations was completed before any vertical perforating was effected (the vertical perfs. 14 puncture the patching, so none of the usual razor cuts were required to facilitate separation). An added attraction of this block is that it includes, on the lower left stamp, an unrecorded re-entry. The presence of an arrow in the selvedge indicates that this stamp must be R2 No. 6, 12 or 18, but no re-entry is listed for any of these positions on any of the four plates. The block £57.50
- (c) As above.** Another mint block, this one with mixed perfs. vertically (always scarcer than their horizontal counterparts). Again full official patching and — unlike the previous block — razor cuts across the patching. Condition very fine £57.50

(d)	As above. Used copy with mixed perfs.	£10.00
(e)	As above. Fine used (dated) block of 4 (in a very pale shade), all stamps having mixed perfs. horizontally	£45.00
418(a)	New Plates, Perf. 14 (F5a). Two contrasting mint shades — offered for the price of one, since one of the stamps has some gum staining	£4.75
(b)	As above. Glorious shades set of four, used, including the scarcer green	£6.50
(c)	As above. Similar range of four magnificent shades, but all in used pairs . Unusual	£13.50
419(a)	New Plates, Perf. 14 x 12½ 13¼ (F5b). Set of two mint shades — dull green and deep yellow green, as listed in the C.P. Catalogue	£10.00
(b)	As above. Unhinged mint copy in the scarcer dull green	£7.50
(c)	As above. The two listed shades, finest used	£3.25
420(a)	New Plates, Perf. 14 x 15 (F5c). The three Catalogued shades, finest mint ..	£11.50
(b)	As above. The same three shades, but in mint blocks of 4, superfine	£45.00
(c)	As above. To clear a stock surplus of the paler green shade (Cat. \$ 15 per stamp), we can offer unhinged mint blocks of 4 at, per block	£11.50
(d)	As above. Shades of deep yellow green, pale green and deep green, finest used. The three	£4.25
(e)	As above. Corner block of 4 with sheet serial number, including the plate 1 re-entries at R1/24 and R2/24. Superb unhinged mint	£17.50
(f)	As above. Plate 1, R7/1 re-entry (minor) in corner block of 8, brilliant mint unhinged	£25.00
(g)	As above. Yet another corner block (of six stamps) to include the Plate 1, R10/22 and R10/24 re-entries. Bottom selvage trimmed to narrow width, otherwise superfine mint unhinged	£22.50
(h)	As above. Normally the last (topmost) strike of the comb head perforated the tops of the top row of stamps, leaving the short rows of holes projecting open-ended into the selvage. In the sheet from which this block came, the machine seems to have gone berserk. An additional strike commences 3/16" above the top row of stamps, and a second additional strike ¼" above that — all giving a most unusual result, including 'double perfs. in selvage'	£20.00
421(a)	½d Mt. Cook Re-entries. A range of 21 mint stamps (various issues) all with re-entries. Condition generally good to fine	£25.00
(b)	As above. A similar, but rather bigger, lot of used re-entries. 31 variety stamps, again of various issues	£25.00

N.Z. PACIFIC DEPENDENCIES

We don't normally stock 'Islands' issues, but exceptionally we can offer the following all-mint ranges, at very attractive prices (only one of each available).

PD1(a)	Cook Islands/Rarotonga. S.G. 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39a, 40, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 56, 58, 59, 61, 64, 65, 66, 68 (22 stamps). Cat. £168	£80.00
(b)	As above. 1920 Pictorial set, ½d — 1/- (S.G. 70 — 75, cat. £26), plus a matching set of 6 imperf. plate proofs in colours as issued	£50.00
(c)	As above. All of these are in mint blocks of 4: S.G.65 £7; S.G.93 £7.50; S.G.99 £3.50; S.G.100 £3.75; S.G.101 £5; S.G.103a £16; S.G.105 £22.50; S.G.106 75p; S.G.107 £1; S.G.112 £22.50, S.G.113/113a (two of each in the block) £5; S.G.114 £2.25; S.G.115a/115 (two of each in corner block) £30; S.G.117 £67.50; S.G.124—126 (three blocks) £1.85; S.G.146—149 (four blocks) £1.	
PD2(a)	Aitutaki. S.G.1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15a, 16, 17, 17a, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 (23 stamps). Cat. £251+	£120.00
(b)	As above. 1920 Pictorial set, ½d — 1/- (S.G.24 — 29, cat. £19), plus matching set of 6 imperf. plate proofs in colours as issued	£50.00
PD3(a)	Penrhyn Island. S.G.1, 4, 5, 14, 15, 17, 22, 25a, 26b, 27b, 28, 29, 30, 31. (14 stamps). Cat. £116+	£52.50
(b)	As above. 1920 Pictorial set, ½d — 1/- (S.G.32—37, cat. £19), plus matching set of imperf. plate proofs in colours as issued	£50.00
PD4(a)	Niue. S.G.2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22b, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29a, 31a, 33, 35 (22 stamps). Cat. £171+.....	£80.00
(b)	As above. Block of 4 purporting to be S.G.1, but with forged overprint (and R.P.S.L. certificate to confirm). Cat. £1500 as genuine!	£37.50
PD (c)	As above. All of these in mint blocks of 4: S.G.49 £45; S.G.56 £1.25; S.G.57 (one stamp torn) 90p; S.G.60 £4.25; S.G.68 £7.50; S.G.69/69b (two of each in block) £3.95; S.G.70/70a (two of each in block) £8.50; S.G.71/71a (two of each in block) £27.50; S.G.72—74 (three blocks) £3.25.	
PD5	Samoa. S.G.115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 121, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141a, 142a, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148. (26 stamps). Cat. £137	£65.00
PD6	Tonga. S.G.64—70, 2d on 5d — 2d on 5/- surcharges. Set of 7 in horizontal pairs. Cat. £110	£50.00

THE MICHAEL BURBERRY COLLECTIONS OF NEW ZEALAND AND GREAT BARRIER ISLAND PIGEON POST

We at Campbell Paterson Ltd., have been retained to handle the disposal of the renowned and unique postage stamp collections formed by the late M. S. Burberry. There are five main headings:

- 1. 1898-1907 PICTORIALS**
- 2. 1901-1908 Id. UNIVERSALS**
- 3. 1906 CHRISTCHURCH EXHIBITION**
- 4. 1919-1935 EARLY NZ AIRMAILS**
- 5. 1898-c.1904 GREAT BARRIER ISLAND
PIGEON POSTS**

Each collection is of outstanding merit and of the highest exhibition quality. Together they form probably the finest wealth of NZ material ever to become available to collectors at one time.

Enquiries are invited, for any of the above categories intact, or for individual items. These may be addressed to either our English or Auckland, New Zealand offices; viewing will be arranged (strictly by prior appointment only) in response to serious enquiries.

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