

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

By Colin Hamilton

The Waterlow & Sons Shift Markings. (continued). Last month we covered these interesting and intriguing markings on the regular issues of the Second Pictorials. Now we examine — as far as we are able to — the issues overprinted Official. Unlike the ordinary issues, the N.Z. Handbooks make no reference whatsoever to shift markings on the 'Officials'; in fact this is an aspect which does not seem to have been documented anywhere. The only real clues to work on are the recorded issues, plate numbers, and available material, which is by no means plentiful.

The Official overprints were, of course, invariably applied by the Government Printer in New Zealand to sheets already in stock there. So as before, it is best, from a shift markings point of view, to consider the 'Officials' in two groups, i.e. those in which the basic stamps were (1) printed by Waterlow & Sons, and (2) subsequently printed from the same plates by De La Rue & Co.

Group (1) includes the following: 4d (LO7c); 4d (LO7d); 6d (LO9c); 8d (LO10d); 1/- (LO12c); 2/- (LO13e). It might be assumed that exactly the same range of shift markings should be found on these as on their unoverprinted counterparts, since exactly the same plates were involved in all cases. However, this is not necessarily so. Everything depends upon which sheets, with which markings, were extracted from stock for overprinting. For instance, while no less than seven different shift markings are recorded on the unoverprinted 8d perf. 12½ (L10d) — see last month's checklist — I have a note of just one of these markings on LO10d. Some or all of the others **may** exist on the Official, and simply have escaped notice; but equally sheets bearing any or all of these markings may not have been among those sent for overprinting. On the other hand, it may be that some shift markings exist **only** on sheets with the Official overprint, although I know of no evidence of it at present. If this were the case, however, it would certainly help to explain some of the otherwise inexplicable gaps in the sequences of shift markings. Again taking L10d as an example, the recorded markings are 1 dot, 7 dots, 8 dots, 10 dots, 13 dots, 14 dots, and 15 dots. What became of 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11 and 12 dots? Did they ever exist (and if not, why not, I wonder)? Could it be that all sheets with these markings were overprinted Official? It seems a long shot, especially since not one example to my knowledge has been found, but it is a possibility! Clearly there is much that has yet to be established in this particular field.

Turning now to Group (2), the issues printed subsequently by De La Rue, these consist of: 4d (LO7e); 6d (LO9e); 8d (LO10e); 1/- (LO12d); 2/- (LO13f); 2/- (LO13g). The position here ought to be much simpler — without going into elaborate detail, precisely the same shift markings should be found on all of these as on the basic unoverprinted issues (again refer to Group 2 checklist last month). However, I have a report (as yet unconfirmed), of a 16 dot (5,5/3,3) marking on LO7e. If that proves to be accurate, it will be very difficult to find a logical explanation, since centre plate 3 (represented by the 5,5 part of this combination) is known to have had a 20 dot (10,10) marking when it was returned by Waterlow to De La Rue!

The following is a checklist of the relatively few 'Official' shift markings of which I have a note. I am sure it can be considerably extended, and any additions will be welcomed:

LO7c	16 dots	(5,5/3,3)
LO7d	20 dots	(7,7/3,3)
LO7e	6 dots	(-,/3,3); 16 dots ?(5,5/3,3) (This is the 'subject-to-confirmation' marking mentioned above).
LO10d	14 dots	(7,7)
LO10e	15 dots	(7,8)

Until quite recently, it was assumed that these shift markings were unique, at least as far as N.Z. issues were concerned, to some of those Second Pictorial issues printed by Waterlow & Sons under the emergency London Blitz conditions of late 1940 — early 1941 (the exceptions being the 1/-, 2/- and 3/-, where no such markings are known). But in late 1985 I had the pleasure (and considerable surprise) of finding similar markings on sheets of both values of the 1947 Health stamps. In this case, they were positioned high above the top rows of stamps, and thus appear only rarely, on sheets with abnormally wide top selvage. It is possible, therefore, that this is the reason for this apparent lack of markings on the three Pictorial values.

My thanks to (in alphabetical order) George Branam, Dr. Philip Hoare, Wally Jackson and John Smith, whose kind co-operation was of great assistance in compiling the checklists.

NEW ISSUES & VARIETIES by ANGELA NICHOLSON

(reprinted from C.P. Newsletter Monthly, May 1990)

Heritage — The Ships The fourth issue of the Heritage stamp series was released on 7 March. Entitled "The Ships", the issue features six sailing vessels which carried explorers and settlers to the shores of New Zealand. The denominations chosen are as follows:— 40c (Voyaging Canoe), 50c (Endeavour), 60c (Tory), 80c (Crusader), \$ 1.00 (Edwin Fox) and \$ 1.50 (Arawa). The stamps were designed by Geoff Fuller of Havelock North.

Printing was carried out in Australia by Leigh-Mardon Pty. Ltd., using the lithographic process. Sheets are comprised of 100 stamps in 10 rows and each stamp measures perf. 14 x 14½. The mesh of the paper is horizontal. Sheets of the 60c, \$ 1.00 and \$ 1.50 values have blue gum, whereas sheets of the 40c, 50c and 80c values have white gum.

New Definitive Reprint A 4 kiwi reprint of the 40c Brown Kiwi was released in February. All sheets examined to date have blue gum.

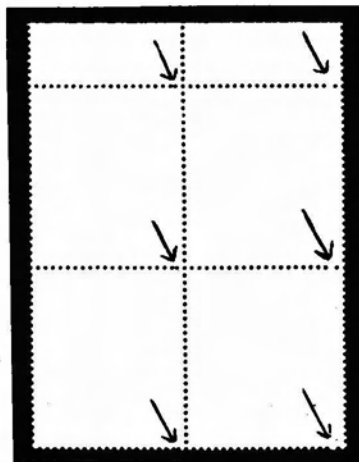
Booklets Brian Peachey of Wellington reports that the \$4.00 Mt. Cook booklet is available with the 3 kiwi reprint symbol above the colour dots in the left selvedge. The 3 kiwi reprint of the 40c Brown Kiwi in sheet form was released in October of last year. Although Mr Peachey bought his 3 kiwi booklet from the Titahi Bay Post Office back in November, we were unable to obtain a supply here in Auckland until January 1990. It seems that this reprint in booklet form may have had a limited distribution and it is now proving difficult to obtain further copies with the 3 kiwi imprint marking. *(Later information is that a quantity of booklets with this marking was among those overprinted 'Stamp World London 90' for sale at that exhibition. — Ed.)*

In a letter just to hand, Malcolm Francis of Palmerston North reports that a 5 kiwi reprint of the 40c Brown Kiwi is now being used in the \$4.00 Mt. Cook booklet. The fifth kiwi symbol is situated in the selvedge adjacent to the first kiwi symbol (a first in New Zealand philately) and thus the total Imprint information can be obtained by purchasing one booklet only. The 5 kiwi reprint is on blue gummed paper and to date it has not appeared in large sheet format. It may be remembered that the 1 kiwi reprint of the 40c Brown Kiwi was used only in the manufacture of booklets — time will tell if this is also true of the 5 kiwi reprint.

To our knowledge, the 4 kiwi reprint of the 40c Brown Kiwi has not appeared in booklet form.

Presbyterian Church P.S.E. A 40c Pre-Stamped Envelope commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Presbyterian Church in New Zealand was released on 23 February. The envelope depicts the Celtic cross at Petone, the site of the first Presbyterian service to be held in New Zealand. The stamp itself features St. Andrew's Church in Wellington. A special pictorial date stamp was used at Petone Post Shop on the first day of issue.

Varieties Update. Dr. Ken McNaught of Hamilton sent in a Plate block of the 30c value of the 1981 Government Life issue (X38a) which shows a distinct doubling of the black colour. In our opinion this is an excellent example of a "slip print" which can occur in offset printing when the soft rubber blanket surrounding the offset roller is badly adjusted. The blanket can buckle up and then snap back into place, causing a double impression. Such varieties are not true double prints, as the sheet of paper has actually only passed through the printing rollers once. A similar slip print on the 80c + 3c 1989 Health stamp was reported in the October 1989 Newsletter.



We recently discovered several sheets of the \$2.00 Black Robin which show discrepancies in the placing of the single comb perforating head (see illustration). The sheets show an alternate wide and narrow placing of the strikes which is noticeable in the variable spacing of the perforations in the horizontal rows.

The sheets are perforated sideways using a single comb perf. head. This head is notable in that each short row is one pin short, but carries one pin **below** the horizontal (long) row of perfs. The effect of this is to ensure invariably neat separations at the corners. This is a new variation of the Chambon perforations of the 1960 Pictorials which are listed in the C.P. Catalogue.

KING GEORGE V 4d PLATE 44

As many regular N.Z. Bulletin readers will know, stamps from this (the last of all the K.G.V. recess plates to be made) are a plating enthusiast's delight. The C.P. Catalogue listings of re-entries and retouches only hint at the interest to be found. In fact, stamps from every one of the 120 impressions show individual characteristics enabling single copies to be assigned to their sheet positions. Not surprisingly, the following offers are all 'one only'.

- | | | |
|-----|--|---------|
| 601 | Complete Used Reconstruction of 120 copies (includes 13 pairs), using both regular and 'Official' issues. Guaranteed correct — we've checked each assignation — and condition exceptionally good for this kind of exercise ... | £160.00 |
| 602 | Complete Mint Sheet. Divided into four corner blocks of 30 stamps each. Some faults (tone spots, etc.), but quite reasonable condition, and obviously superb reference material | £250.00 |
| 603 | Do-It-Yourself! A marvellous cornucopia of over 450 used copies, including a couple of blocks (of six and four), a few strips of three, and numerous pairs — always very useful for re-plating. Unchecked for perfs., though the majority will certainly be 14 x 14½ (K5g/KO5g), but we have checked that all are from plate 44, rather than the less interesting plate 20. We haven't seen such a lot in years | £175.00 |

604	UNUSUAL OFFER OF THE MONTH
Perfect unhinged mint copy of the 1930 Hastings to Gisborne 6d air mail label of Dominion Airlines Ltd. (the name of the company appeared, incorrectly, as Dominion Airways Ltd.). Although unofficial, these labels were accepted as legitimate for a period of just one week in December (22nd — 29th) 1930. Total printing was 600, in sheets of six, of which 300 were subsequently used. The mint label	
	£30.00

605 ARMS TYPES — 1940 SURCHARGES

3/6d on 3/6d — 22/- on 22/-, the complete set (4 values) on Wiggins Teape registered watermark paper (C.P. Z53a — Z56a, S.G. F187 — F190), unhinged mint. In our experience, much more elusive than the same values on the later paper with multiple watermark

£295.00

KING GEORGE VI PLATES, Concluded

- | | | |
|-----|---|--------|
| 606 | 4d Magenta, Fine VM Paper (M8a). Plate 90 or 94, each | £2.50 |
| 607 | 4d Purple, Coarse VM Paper (M8b). Plate 94 | £5.00 |
| 608 | 5d Grey, Fine VM Paper (M9a). Plate 91 | £8.00 |
| 609 | 5d Grey, Coarse VM Paper (M9b). Plate 91 | £37.50 |
| 610 | 6d Carmine, Fine VM Paper (M10a). Plate 92 or 98, each | £2.75 |
| 611 | 6d Carmine, Coarse VM Paper (M10b). Plate 146 in corner block of 4 | £22.50 |
| 612 | 8d Violet, Fine VM Paper (M11a). Plate 93, 95 or 99, each | £5.00 |

613	8d Violet, Coarse VM Paper (M11b). Plate 110. Cat. \$ 100	£22.50
614(a)	9d Sepia, Coarse VM Paper (M12b). Plate 134 or 135, each (Cat. \$ 65)	£17.50
(b)	As above. Set of two plates (nos. 134 and 135) in corner blocks of 4, mint unhinged. Given away at, the pair of plate blocks	£17.50
615	1/- Centre Die 1, Wmk. Upright (M13a). Plate 1 - 1 with R15/2 flaw	£4.00
616	1/- Centre Die 1, Wmk. Sideways (M13b). Plate 1 - 1	£4.00
617	1/- Centre Die 2 (M13c). Plate 3A - 2 or 4 - 2, each	£6.50
618	1/3d Frame Die 1a (M14a). Plate 2 - 1 or 3A - 1, each	£5.00
619	1/3d Frame Die 1b, Wmk. Sideways (M14b). Plate 3A - 2	£8.00
620	1/3d Frame Die 1b, Wmk. Upright (M14c). Plate 4 - 2 (Cat. \$ 35)	£10.00
621	2/- Wmk. Sideways (M15b). Plate 1 - 1	£10.00
622	3/- Red Brown/Grey (M16a). Plate 2 - 1	£19.50

623	Variety Set. 1/- and 2/- plate blocks printed from centre plate 1 are of considerable interest. R16/2 from this plate — the bottom right stamp in plate block of 4 — developed a prominent flaw above the King's right eyebrow. This was later removed by a re-entry, but later a smaller flaw developed, high on the forehead, just below the hairline. We can offer four blocks showing the first flaw (M13a, M13b, M15a, M15b); two blocks showing no flaw (M13b, M15b); and three blocks showing the second flaw (M13a, M13b, M15b). Superb set of nine variety plate blocks	£75.00
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624	3d on 1d Provisional (M18a). Plate 112, 113, 117 or 118, each	£1.75
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N.Z. COMMEMORATIVES

1920 VICTORY (Contd.)

625(a)	1d (S10). Mint block of 4 in the carmine-pink shade	£10.00
(b)	As above. Although only three shades are listed for the 1d, we have put together no less than six different, from deep carmine through to the brightest of pinks. Nice (all mint)	£15.00
(c)	As above. Unhinged mint copy, variety watermark inverted (S10aZ)	£15.00
(d)	1½d (S11). Two unmounted mint blocks of 4, nice shade contrasts	£7.50
(e)	As above. The two listed shades, mint singles	£1.50
(f)	As above. Two mint copies, part letters wmk. (A and S of POSTAGE)	£4.00
(g)	As above. Used copy with variety watermark inverted (S11aZ)	£17.50

- (h) **2d on 1½d Provisional (S12).** Three lovely shade contrasts, mint £5.00
- (i) **As above.** Two mint copies with surcharge varieties — respectively flat top to 2 at left, and 2a instead of 2d at right (S12aY) — both mentioned in the N.Z. Handbook, Vol. 1 £12.50
- (j) **As above.** The same '2a for 2d' variety, but stamp in pale yellow-green shade, mint £10.00
- (k) **3d (S13).** The two listed shades, mint £10.00
- (l) **6d (S14).** The three listed shades, mint (one is unhinged). Cat. \$ 190 £50.00
- (m) **As above.** Mint copy with virtually complete letter wmk £17.50
- (n) **1/- (S15).** Both listed shades, mint, brilliant contrasts (Cat. \$ 80) £22.50
- 1923 — 1925 1d MAP

- 626 (a) 1923 De La Rue Paper (S16a).** Marginal block of 4, unmounted mint £5.00
- (b) **As above.** 1924 cover, addressed to U.S.A., bearing a 1d Map adhesive. A nice clean cover £25.00
- 627 (a) 1924 Jones Paper (S16b).** Unmounted mint block of 4 £12.50
- (b) **As above.** Bottom marginal block of 4 with R9/13 plate variety (mentioned in Handbook, Vol. 4). Unmounted mint £17.50
- (c) **As above.** Similar unmounted block of 4, with R9/21 plate variety £17.50
- (d) **As above.** Top marginal horizontal pair, with buffer bars in top selvage, and showing just sufficient of the water mark to prove it is the scarce inverted variety (S16bZ). Normal retail £75, offered at £40.00

N.Z. NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS

An extraordinarily comprehensive listing of these interesting, and seldom offered, items of postal stationery, unused and used. Catalogue numbers quoted are those of the excellent 'New Zealand Postal Stationery Catalogue' compiled by R.D. Samuel.

- 631 1878 ½d Newspaper.** The scarce first issue on unwatermarked paper (FA1a). Inscription in four lines, enclosed in straight-lined frame with ornamental corners. Unused. Condition superb £40.00
- 632(a) 1881 ½d Newspaper.** As the 1878 issue, but now on paper watermarked ONE HALFPENNY/NEW ZEALAND, surmounted by an ornamental crown flanked by five-pointed stars (FA2a). Unused. Condition fine £20.00
- (b) **As above.** Used example (with additional ½d Newspaper adhesive), used at Masterton, 13 DE 90. Fair condition £7.50
- 633 1889 ½d Newspaper.** The third issue, as 1881, but inscription now enclosed in frame of wavy lines (FA3a). Unused, very fine £15.00

634(a)	1892 ½d Newspaper. As FA3a, but inscription altered, and now running to five lines (FA4a). Unused, very fine	£5.00
(b)	As above. Used example, fine	£8.50
(c)	As above. Another fine used wrapper, but specially overprinted in black 'DUNEDIN STOCK EXCHANGE/SHARE REPORT'	£25.00
635	Complete Set of all four wrappers with the ½d Newspaper imprinted stamp (FA1a–4a), in exceptionally fresh and fine unused condition	£85.00
636(a)	½d King Edward VII. Original issue, with watermark sideways, and '½' in panel in sans-serif type (FB1a). Fine unused.	£17.50
(b)	As above. Another fine unused example, with variety watermark inverted-and-reversed. Unlisted	£22.50
(c)	As above. Superb used wrapper	£20.00
637(a)	½d King Edward VII. As original issue, but printed on yellow-buff paper with upright watermark (FB2a). Fine unused	£10.00
(b)	As above, but very fine used	£17.50
638	½d King Edward VII. As FB2a, but printed on pale yellow paper with watermark sideways (FB3a). Very fine used	£17.50
639	½d King Edward VII. As FB2a, but '½' in panel now in seriffed type. (FB4a). Superb used example, with Wellington c.d.s. of 20 AU 07 – very considerably earlier than the tentatively listed 1909 issue date	£20.00
640(a)	½d King Edward VII. As FB3a, but now with seriffed '½' (FB5a). Very fine unused	£12.50
(b)	As above, but used – fine condition	£17.50
641	½d King Edward VII. As FB5a, but printed on shiny buff paper (FB6a). Very fine used example	£20.00
642	½d + ½d King Edward VII. The scarce 1920 issue, following an increase in postage rate to 1d. As FB6a, with additional ½d (in the design of the adhesive stamp) printed alongside. N.Z.'s only wrapper with two printed 'stamps' (FB7a). Fine used example	£52.50
643(a)	½d King George V. The July 1924 issue, with stamp design inscribed 'POSTAGE' (FC2a). We can offer superb unused examples printed in blue-green or yellow-green (remarkable differences) at, each	£10.00
(b)	As above, but superb used (yellow-green shade)	£10.00
644	1d Field Marshal (FC3a). Curiously, the paper used for this issue still had the watermark 'ONE HALFPENNY'. Very fine unused	£20.00

(to be continued)



M 704062

FABULOUS !

Corner blocks of 20 of the Jones Paper 2/- and 3/- Admirals (latter illustrated in somewhat reduced size). By far the largest blocks of Admirals known to us. Condition brilliant — top left stamp in each block very lightly hinged.

A showpiece pair of blocks to grace even the grandest of K.G.V collections (Cat. \$ 8420 as single stamps)

PRICE £3,750