

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



PUBLISHED BY CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD.
P.O. BOX 17, WOKING, SURREY GU22 7BL

ISSUED MONTHLY ☎ WOKING (0483) 715887

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VOLUME XXVII

NUMBER 12

JULY 1990

N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

By Colin Hamilton

The sheet serial numbers of the large blocks of the Jones paper 2/- and 3/- K.G.V. Admiral, which we advertised last month, proved to be of more than a little interest, on investigating the information available to me.

The late F.H. Jackson made an extensive study of the records of the Government Printing Office, and a long series of articles detailing his findings was published in 'The New Zealand Stamp Collector', quarterly organ of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, spread over a period of some 12 years between 1970 and 1982.

The March 1973 'N.Z.S.C.' dealt with the King George V surface printed issues, including the Admirals, and while Mr Jackson was able to extract from the records, and publish, a detailed tabulation of the printings of the 2/- and 3/- on Cowan paper, including quantities, sheet numbers, and dates, his only reference to the same two values on Jones paper was: "There is curiously enough no record of the printing" on this paper.

So, dealing with our 2/- block, this bore the sheet number M699758. Elsewhere in his extracts, Mr Jackson included a printing, in July 1925, of 4000 sheets of the 3d value on part of the sequence of 5000 sheets numbered M696001 — M701000. In the record, there was a note against this 3d printing stating "Cowan paper". That left 1000 sheets from this sequence unaccounted for, so it is now evident that at least some, if not all, of those 1000 sheets were of Jones paper, and were used in the printing of the 2/-.

Now we turn to the 3/-, and this raises something of a mystery. Another of Mr Jackson's extracts from the records refers to a printing of the 2d value, in July 1925, of 7000 sheets numbered M701001 — M708000, again with a note appended "Cowan paper". In this case, the 2d printing accounts for the entire sequence of sheets recorded. Yet our 3/- block had the number M704062. It seems inconceivable that there would be two identically numbered sequences of sheets in existence at around the same time. So was Mr Jackson's interpretation of the records in error, or were the records themselves inaccurate? Other sheet number blocks, of either the 2d or the 3/-, bearing numbers from this sequence might be illuminating, but unfortunately they are far from easy things to locate!

6d Express Delivery. It must be seldom that anything fresh turns up in these issues, but I have recently handled a block of four (in 'post office fresh' unhinged mint condition,

incidentally) on Cowan paper, perf. 14 x 14½ (U1b), with the central figures of value in **carmine**. Until now, only **vermilion** centres have been associated with this 1926 issue, and this block effectively puts the peter on the erstwhile and very convenient 'sight recognition' method of differentiating between the two Cowan paper issues — vermilion centres for the 14 x 14½, carmines for the 14 x 15. It's back to the old perforation gauge now, I'm afraid!

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES by Angela Nicholson.
(from C.P. Newsletter Monthly, June 1990)

Native Orchids Issue. Available in miniature sheet form only, the 1990 Orchids Issue was released on 18 April. Designed by Lindy Fisher of Auckland, the sheet contains four 40c stamps (sun orchid, spider orchid, winika orchid, greenhood orchid) and one 80c stamp (odd-leaved orchid). A First Day Cover, also designed by Lindy Fisher, was available.

Printing was carried out in Australia by Leigh-Mardon Pty Ltd., using the lithographic process. The five stamps measure perf. 14¼ all round and form a horizontal se-tenant strip in the centre of the sheet. All examples seen to date have blue gum and are of vertical mesh.

The Orchids miniature sheet is a special issue, released by New Zealand Post in support of the 1990 World Stamp Exhibition. Retailing at \$4.90, the sheet has a face value of only \$2.40, with the remaining \$2.50 going towards the exhibition costs. The exhibition organisers inform us that an **imperforate** version of the miniature sheet is available and will be given away free with each \$25 Exhibition Season Ticket. According to NZ Post, these imperforate stamps are valid for postage — the first legal imperf. New Zealand postage stamps since the Chalon heads! Perf. or imperf. however, outside of philatelic circles I can't imagine that many people will wish to break up a \$4.90 sheet to obtain \$2.40 in postage.

Incidentally, those philatelists unhappy with the cost of the 1990 miniature sheet should consider the plight of the G.B. collector. The British 1d Black miniature sheet commemorating the 150th anniversary of the first postage stamp has a postal value of only 20p and retails for £1 — five times face value!

\$4.00 Stamp Pack. A recent addition to the NZ Post retail range is a \$4.00 stamp pack, now available in Foodtown supermarkets. The pack consists of a sealed white window envelope which contains one 40c Brown Kiwi miniature sheet (10 stamps) and five Fastpost labels. New Zealand Post produces the pack specially for Foodtown and the envelope carries the logos of both companies. The pack retails for \$4.00 — face value.

The miniature sheet which we purchased from an Auckland Foodtown supermarket has blue gum and there is a distinct yellow tinge to the colour of the kiwi. Sheets from the \$200 Stamp Pads have cream gum and the kiwi is reddish-brown. In both cases stamps measure perf. 13½ x 13¼ and the paper is of vertical mesh.

\$1.00 Kokako Shade. Mr D.J. Carter of Invercargill sent up an example of a light shade of the \$1.00 Kokako on white paper (PC5a). The bird is grey as opposed to the usual deep grey. Although both of these shades are known on the later cream paper printing (PC5b), this is the first time we have seen such a light shade of the original white paper printing. Mr Carter's example is on a First Day Cover (24 April 1985) and he also possesses an Imprint block of 15 stamps. It appears that this lighter shade was on sale at Invercargill North Post Office.

Commenting on the above mentioned imperforate "Orchids" miniature sheet in the same

issue of C.P. Newsletter Monthly, Warwick Paterson writes:

Dick Armstrong, of the Exhibition Committee, has suggested to us that as New Zealand Post have advised that the imperforate sheet is valid for postage, the Stanley Gibbons and Campbell Paterson Catalogues should list it.

CPNLM would like to have its readers' views on this vexed subject. The decision seems to me to be a clear-cut one: either (a) The sheet is issued imperforate by New Zealand Post, is valid for postage and should be listed in the Catalogue; or (b) The sheet has been deliberately manufactured imperforate as part of a plan to raise funds for the Exhibition. It is literally given away to collectors with a cut-price season ticket, in order to encourage attendance at the Exhibition. It is not apparently available from ordinary Post Offices to the general public. I have a clear idea what the decision of the major cataloguers will be on this subject — why not let us have your views?

Bulletin readers may also care to comment.

UNUSUAL MISCELLANY

701	First Sideface 1d, perf. 12½ (C1a). Reasonable used copy with inverted watermark (C1aX). Cat. \$ 100, but a couple of minor defects, hence only ..	£17.50
702	First Sideface 2d, perf. 12½. Two nice used copies, one on normal "white" paper (C2a) the other is the "paper blued" variety (C2aY). Clear contrasts ..	£22.50
703	First Sideface 2d, Provisional Printing on Large Star Wmk Paper (C2c). Unused copy of a rare stamp. Not perfect (off centre and with only part original gum), but still a fresh, attractive stamp. Cat. \$ 775 (S.G. £300)	£95.00
704	First Sideface 2d, perf. 12 x 11½ (C2f). Used copies in the three listed shades .	£7.50
705	First Sideface 3d, perf. 12½. Superb used example with double perforations (C3aZ)	£45.00
706	First Sideface 6d, perf. 10 x 12½ (C5b). Two used stamps, one with regular compound perfs (10 x 12½ x 10 x 12½), the other with irregular compound perfs (10 x 12½ x 12½ x 12½). Cat. \$ 200 the pair	£50.00
707	First Sideface 1/-, perf. 10 x 12½. Superb used copy with inverted watermark (C6bZ). A seldom-seen variety, unpriced in our Catalogue, but the basic stamp is listed at \$ 300	£82.50
708	Mint Adson. Set of nine stamps (1d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d, 1/-) all with advertisements on the back and all mint — the 5d is without gum, otherwise condition is generally very fine. It's years since we last offered such a set	£275.00
710	Second Sideface 2½d, perf. 10 (D4e). Mint copies of the three listed shades. Nice set (Cat. \$ 195)	£52.50
711	Second Sideface 3d, perf. 10 (D5d). Three lovely shades, all mint, and all fine, in the three S.G. listed colours (S.G. 221, 221a, 221b — cat. £112) ...	£50.00
712	First Pictorial 3d, perf. 11, no. wmk (E9b). Mint marginal block of 4 (three stamps unhinged) including the Catalogued R1/10 re-entry (EV9b)	£37.50

713	First Pictorial 4d, perf. 11, wmk'd (E12b). Used copies of this stamp are elusive, but this example is particularly nice, showing the major R1/3 re-entry (EV12a)	£30.00
714(a)	First Pictorial 1/-, London Print (E18a). Mint example of the Catalogued R3/4 re-entry (EV18b). Cat. \$ 200, offered at	£52.50
(b)	As above. Another mint variety, this time the R6/12 re-entry (annotation included)	£52.50
(c)	As above. A third London 1/-, this one with the R7/11 re-entry (although not listed in our Catalogue, this is a particularly fine example of a re-entry) ..	£52.50
715(a)	½d Mt. Cook. Mint block of four, Cowan Watermarked Paper, perf. 14 (F4b), showing the R9/2 re-entry (description included)	£15.00
(b)	As above. Mint corner block of 4 on the same paper, but with mixed perfs (F4e). No patching, but the stamps are unhinged. An attractive multiple. (Cat. \$ 180)	£50.00
716	King George VI 2d. Mint copy with inverted watermark (M6aY), one of the the more difficult inverted wmk varieties of this period. (N.B. This 2d variety is known only from counter coils, therefore top and bottom edges are invariably guillotined – in this example the process was perfectly executed, all perfs being full).	£52.50
717	Christmas Postcards. 17 postcards (fifteen in colour) illustrating the religious paintings used for the first 16 years of Christmas issues (1960 – 1975) – the extra card is for 1968 (the details as printed on the stamp are in error, and the two 1968 cards illustrate both the correct and incorrect paintings!). A lovely set, which we haven't been able to offer for many a year	£35.00

N.Z. NEWSPAPER WRAPPERS

Second and final part of the listing begun last month. As before, Samuel catalogue numbers are quoted.

718(a)	King George VI 1d Yellow-Green. On thick buff unwmk'd paper, panel in wavy-line frame (FE10a). Fine unused	£5.00
(b)	As above, but fine commercially used	£6.50
719(a)	K.G. VI 1½d on 1d Provisional. As FE10a, but panel now enclosed in straight-lined frame, and wrapper surcharged 1½d in black (FE12a). Fine unused	£6.00
(b)	As above, but fine used	£8.50
(c)	As above, but with '1D' in panel removed prior to surcharging (FE13a). Fine unused	£10.00
(d)	As above, but printed on laid paper (FE14a). Superb unused	£22.50
(e)	As above, but fine commercially used	£20.00

720(a)	Q.E. 1½d Chocolate (FF1a). Fine used example	£5.00
(b)	As above, but printed in red-brown, Superb unused	£6.00
721	Q.E. 2d on 1½d Provisional (FF2a). Fine unused	£10.00
722(a)	Q.E. 2d Green, printed on laid paper, panel lettering seriffed (FF3a). Fine used	£6.00
(b)	As above, but printed on thick wove paper (FF4a). Fine unused	£5.00
(c)	As above, but with panel inscription reset in sans serif lettering (FF5a). Fine used	£3.50
723(a)	Q.E. 2½d Green (FF6a). Fine unused	£5.00
(b)	As above, but fine used	£4.00
724(a)	Q.E. 3d Orange Red, without sender's address panel (FF7a). Fine unused ..	£4.00
(b)	As above, fine used example	£3.00
(c)	As above, with sender's address panel added (FF8a). Fine unused	£3.50
(d)	As above, but fine commercially used	£3.00
725(a)	Q.E. 2½c on 3d Provisional. As wrapper FF8a, but surcharged 2½ CENTS in black below the stamp to meet the change to decimal currency in 1967 (FF9a). Fine unused	£7.50
(b)	As above, but fine used	£6.00
726(a)	Q.E. 2½c Orange Red, printed on white paper (FF10a). Fine unused	£4.00
(b)	As above, but fine used	£3.00
727(a)	Q.E. 3c Green, printed on yellow paper (FF13a). Fine unused	£4.00
(b)	As above, but printed on white paper (FF14a). Fine unused	£7.50
728	Q.E. 7c Green. The last stamped N.Z. newspaper wrapper to be printed (in 1976). This fine unused example has the 'Capex '78' cachet in blue-green ..	£7.50

SECOND TYPE POSTAGE DUES – WIGGINS TEAPE PAPER

A rare offering of these elusive 1937–38 issues, all superb unhinged mint.

729(a)	Complete Set. ½d – 3d (C.P. Y15h, Y16f, Y17h, Y18c, S.G. D37–40)	£45.00
(b)	As above, but in brilliant blocks of 4 (all marginal except the 3d)	£175.00
730(a)	½d (Y15h). Single copy	£8.50
(b)	As above, Block of four	£32.50

(c)	As above. Another block of 4, including the good centre plate R5/10 variety 'Flaw on foot of 2' (this same variety appeared on R2/11 in earlier printings from the first setting of the 120-impression plate)	£37.50
731(a)	1d (Y16f). Single copy	£8.50
(b)	As above. Block of 4	£32.50
732(a)	2d (Y17h). Single copy	£8.50
(b)	As above. Block of 4	£32.50
(c)	As above. Another block with corner selvage and sheet serial number. Minor faults	£25.00
733(a)	3d (Y18c). Single copy	£22.50
(b)	As above. Block of 4	£87.50
(c)	As above. Marginal block including the prominent R2/5 centre plate variety 'Dent in value circle at 3 o'clock'. Although the same centre plate was used for all printings of the 3d, this variety is found only in the Wiggins Teape paper issues	£95.00

734

Q.V. LONG FISCALS

An amazing accumulation of nearly 800 copies, covering all types, imperf and perf. All fiscally used, and very few values above £1, but apparently no undue duplication of any one value (although there are no doubt more 2/-s than any other individual value). Totally unchecked for papers, watermarks, perfs and other varieties. Inevitably some faults, but general condition appears well above average for these. For any specialist in these issues, established or budding, there's enough interest here to fill a month of winter Sundays. The kind of lot that turns up all too rarely — in fact we don't recall seeing an unsorted lot on anything like this scale before. To the first order

£185.00

735

1d UNIVERSAL — REFERENCE SET

A perennial favourite with Bulletin readers, whenever we are in a position to make up these sets. This month we can offer a limited number of MINT sets of eleven copies, consisting of one stamp from each of the major listings in the C.P. Catalogue, G1 — G11 inclusive, accurately identified. The mysteries of a group of issues (looked upon with some trepidation by many) resolved for you.

The mint reference set of 11 Penny Universals (min. Cat. \$ 345), all selected for fine condition

£100.00

736

½d MT COOK (GREEN) REFERENCE SET

Much less often done in the past than the 1d Universal. A set of five mint examples (one each from the listings F1 — F5 in the C.P. Catalogue), again guaranteed correctly identified. Minimum Cat. \$ 52

£20.00

N.Z. COMMEMORATIVES

Continued from last month. All stamps mint unless otherwise stated.

- 737 1925 1d Map, Cowan Unsurfaced Paper (S16c).** To produce the plate for this issue four groups of electrotypes were used (40, 40, 20, 20) from the bottom five rows of the plate used for the Jones printings. These groups were re-arranged to produce a new printing plate of 120 (10 rows of 12). Result is the same plate varieties can be found on both Jones and Cowan papers, but not all of them in the same position in the sheet!
- (i) Block of 4, mint unmounted £75.00
 - (ii) Bottom marginal pair, including the R10/7 plate variety (which occurs at the same position in Jones printings). Unmounted mint £45.00
 - (iii) Bottom marginal block of 4, also unmounted. The left-hand stamps are R9/8 and 10/8 (the same positions on both Jones and Cowan printings), the right-hand stamps being R9/9 and 10/9 (which on the Jones printings were R9/21 and 10/21). Thus this block includes, on R9/9, the same plate variety as lot 627c last month. One stamp with crease, otherwise superb £92.50
 - (iv) Block of 4 (two unhinged) with R5/7 plate variety (also to be found on R10/15 on Jones paper) £65.00
 - (v) **1925 Cover**, addressed to Scotland, the 1d Map adhesive being on Cowan Unsurfaced Paper. The stamp was issued in April, this cover was posted in July. A lovely and scarce cover £60.00
- 738(a) 1923 Letter Card**, the imprinted stamp being the 1d Map design (Samuel BC12a). Unused, on normal blue card £20.00
- (b) **As above.** Used example on the recorded pale-greenish blue card £20.00
- 739 1924 Provisional Letter Card**, with imprinted 1d Map stamp alongside the obliterated original George V 2d (which had itself been surcharged 1½d), on blue card (Samuel BC13a). Very fine unused £25.00
- 740(a) 1925 Dunedin Exhibition (S17a—c).** Hinged mint set of 3. Cat. \$54, offered at just £15.00
- (b) **As above.** ½d value, two green shades, mint £5.00
 - (c) **As above.** Same shades, but fine used copies £10.00
 - (d) **As above.** 1d value, two red shades, mint £5.00
 - (e) **As above.** Two 1d stamps with R5/4 and 9/3 plate varieties £7.50
 - (f) **As above.** 4d value, two brilliant shades, mint £30.00
 - (g) **As above.** 4d stamp, mint, with R2/6 plate variety £15.00
 - (h) **As above.** Corner copy with R10/1 POSTAGF variety — SV17c(3) — hinged in selvage only £95.00
 - (i) **First Day Cover.** Commercially used F.D.C., with set of 3 stamps. Normal retail £115, but heavy creasing (clear of stamps) allows £37.50

- (j) **Illustrated Exhibition Cover**, with complete set of stamps, each tied by a superb strike of the Exhibition c.d.s. of 1st May 1926 (the closing day of the Exhibition). The ½d has the R1/4 U for O flaw and the 4d shows the well-known R10/1 'POSTAGF' variety. Cover has been folded vertically (clear of adhesives), but a rare item £175.00

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| (k) Dunedin Exhibition Illustrated Lettercard , with 1d adhesive and posted on 7 Apr. 1926. Highly attractive, and most elusive | £95.00 |
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- 741(a) 1935 Silver Jubilee (S18a–c).** Unmounted mint set of three (Cat. \$ 45) £12.50
- (b) **As above**, but unhinged mint blocks of 4 £50.00
- (c) **As above.** Unmounted set of six, comprising two fine shades of each value. Most unusual in this issue £30.00
- (d) **As above.** Two ½d blocks of 4, showing the perforation guide cross in the right and left selvages respectively (fine green shades to boot) £3.50
- (e) **As above.** Set of all three values, **superb used** with c.d.s. cancellations. (Cat. \$ 75) £25.00
- (f) **As above.** Marginal used block of 4 of the 1d (dated 1935). Lovely £2.50
- (g) **As above.** ½d value on illustrated F.D.C. (7 May 1935) £4.50
- (h) **As above.** Superb illustrated cover commemorating the 1935 Wheelbarrow Push of 400 miles from Bluff to Christchurch — the cover bears a ½d Silver Jubilee adhesive (S18a) and is pmk'd Christchurch 12 Oct, the day the journey was completed £27.50
- 742(a) 1936 ANZAC (S19a/b).** Five unmounted mint corner blocks of 4 (two ½d, three 1d's) from different corners of sheets, but **not** showing any plate nos .. £7.50
- (b) **As above.** Two matching F.D.C's, one in green the other in red, bearing ½d and 1d stamps respectively, dated 27/4/36 £4.00
- 743(a) 1936 Chamber of Commerce (S20a–S24a).** Set of ½d plate blocks from all four different positions. The four corner blocks £1.50
- (b) **As above.** Two 1d plate blocks, both plate no. 1, from top left and bottom right corners. Superb £1.50
- (c) **As above.** Seven different corner blocks (four ½d, three 1d's), but **not** showing any plate markings £3.50
- (d) **As above.** Marginal ½d and 1d blocks of 4, showing the perforation guide dot which appeared opposite R6/1 £2.50
- (e) **As above.** Two shades of both the ½d and 1d values. Nice contrasts £2.00
- (f) **As above.** Superb **used** set of all five stamps, all c.d.s. cancels £12.50