

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN

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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

By Colin Hamilton

Second Pictorial ½d Fantail. Offer 602(j) in last month's N.Z. Bulletin was a marginal block of four including the Row 9, No. 7 'Pale Bird' variety. I stated that while Volume 2 of the N.Z. Handbook (on page 5) allocated this variety to 'one panel of the **unnumbered plate**', I had previously seen it in a true positional block proving the plate to be that **with the small number 1B** (actually the block referred to was of 14 stamps from the bottom left corner of the sheet, complete with the plate number!).

In making that statement, however, I completely overlooked the fact that several years earlier, **I had also seen the variety in a similarly true positional block from an unnumbered plate!** In this case the block was of 21 stamps, and also proved that the unnumbered plate concerned was the one including Row 8, No. 3 **without** flaws.

That raises two intriguing possibilities:

- Either (1) Similar varieties occurred in identical positions on two different plates — surely stretching the arm of coincidence too far,
or (2) The unnumbered plate concerned was in fact the original '1B' plate with the plate number removed.

Thanks to its present owner, Mr. J.H. Hicks, I have in the meantime re-examined the '1B' proving block, and I find that the plate wear (the apparent cause of the variety) is somewhat less pronounced and less extensive than in the block offered last month, there being no white blob on the bird's claw, but being an earlier printing, that would of course be entirely consistent with the second possibility suggested above. All the more so since (also thanks to Mr. Hicks) I have seen an intermediate state — in a non-positional used pair — where the 'blob on claw' was beginning to develop.

So if indeed possibility (2) were to be the correct one, is it not then possible that the **other** unnumbered plate was the original '1A' with plate number, R8/1 Clematis flaw and major R8/3 flaw removed? I have to add that I can find no evidence of this treatment; although such a set of circumstances might help to explain the more minor R8/3 flaws found on this unnumbered plate.

Counter Coil Section Numbers — A New Discovery. The first and second types of machine-printed coil numbers are illustrated on Permanent Page M6 in the C.P. Catalogue as types (a)

and (b). Generally the type (a) numbers were used only for the George VI issues prior to those listed as MC3a/b/c. Exceptionally, however, several instances have been recorded in the earlier Queen Elizabeth issues of counter coils of the use of type (a) numbers in error, either alone or in combination with type (b) numbers.

But as far as I'm aware, the similarly erroneous use of type (b) numbers when type (a) would have been the norm has never been reported. However, I can now place on record a pair of the King George VI 6d (MC2h) with section no. 19, the first digit being type (b), the second type (a).

Since the smaller and neater type (b) fount appears to have first come into use very late in the currency of the George VI issues (hence MC3a/b/c mentioned above), presumably (i) this 6d is from a late coiling of that value, and (ii) some mixing of individual slugs occurred due to human error during the changeover of founts, and this confusion extended into the earlier Q.E. issues.

\$1 Circular Kiwi. The red version of this stamp (issued in sheet form on 17/4/91) was, like its green predecessor (which was issued in booklets only), printed by the intaglio or recess process. **Almost** a true statement, but not quite. Certainly the stamps are recess-printed, and so too are all the marginal instructions **except the sheet value marking**. Closer examination indicates that this marking, uniquely, is printed by lithography.

If, as seems to be the case, the same plate or plates were used to produce both issues, the explanation is no doubt quite simple — that there was no sheet value at all originally, such a marking being both unnecessary and inappropriate for booklet stamps. However, the fact that it was decided to add a sheet value for the new sheet issue by a different process implies a second printing operation, and these markings should therefore be watched carefully, for example, for variations of colour or position in relation to the stamps (those we have seen to date show a minor difference of colour only).

KING GEORGE V RARITIES

701	4d Deep Purple. A marginal example of much the rarest of all two-perf. pairs — from plate 44, stamps perf. 14 x 14½ over 14 x 13½ (K5j). Now Cat. \$2750 for hinged mint. This pair is very lightly hinged, but a little light toning allows	£545.00
702(a)	5d Blue. Finest mint vertical pair, upper stamp imperf., lower stamp imperf. at top, in the blue shade (K7aX). Cat. \$500	£200.00
(b)	As above. Marginal block of four of the same partly imperf. error, but in the ultramarine shade, (K7aW). One of only two ultramarine blocks recorded. Now Cat. \$1000 as a pair	£675.00

SECOND PICTORIAL MULTIPLE WMK. ISSUES (Contd.)

703(a)	2d Whare, Coarse Paper (L4f). Complete set of ten plate blocks. Although only nine are listed, each of the two panels of the final plate was originally numbered '5', and after a short period of use in this form, the letter A and B respectively were crudely hand-scratched into the plate to distinguish the respective panels. Thus the set includes two '5' markings (which are identifiably different). The set of ten plate blocks of 4	£32.50
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(b)	As above. Set of four plate blocks from the two-panel last plate, showing both original '5' markings, and the later 5A and 5B	£11.75
(c)	As above. A superb used copy with variety Watermark Inverted. Rare — now Cat. \$ 150	£60.00
(d)	As above. One of the finest of all 'Offset on Back' varieties occurred in this issue — the design is reproduced at full strength, and in every detail, in mirror image on the gum. This occurred on part of one sheet only, the remainder of the sheet being normal. We can offer:	
(i)	A single mint copy with complete offset (now Cat. \$ 250)	£95.00
(ii)	A mint strip of 3, one stamp with complete offset, one 80% complete, and one 20% complete. A spectacular strip!	£175.00
(iii)	A mint pair, one stamp 80% complete offset, the other 20% complete	£87.50
(e)	As above. Complete set of plate numbers as listed for the issue overprinted Official (LO4f). Regrettably the '2A' — the scarcest — is in corner pair only (albeit superb unhinged); all others are in corner blocks of four. The set, very difficult to assemble nowadays	£55.00
(f)	As above. Individual 'Official' plate blocks, nos. 2B, 3A, 3B or 4B, each block	£5.00
(g)	As above. Marginal block of LO4f with the mystery letters 'EN' (or 'FN') — the N being reversed — scratched sideways into the surface of the plate by hand, and straddling the perforation guide mark. According to Volume 2 of the N.Z. Handbook, this marking appeared "on some of the sheets with the marking 2B", but no possible explanation has ever been forthcoming. (One other similarly positional mysterious hand-added marking — in this case the letter 'B' — is recorded, on some sheets printed from the 5d plate 2). The intriguing block	£35.00
704(a)	2½d Mt. Cook/Lilies, Perf. 14—13 x 13½ (L5c). Unhinged mint copy	£6.00
(b)	As above. Set of two corner blocks of four in the listed frame shades of blue-slate and pale blue-slate. Superb contrasts	£45.00
(c)	As above. Plate (no. 1) block of four	£27.50
(d)	As above. Unhinged mint copy with variety Watermark Inverted (L5cZ) ...	£12.50
(e)	As above. Marginal (positional) block of four overprinted Official (LO5c), showing the major frame damage affecting R5/5 and 6/5, which occurred late in the life of frame plate 1. Mint unhinged	£35.00
705(a)	2½d Perf. 14 Line (L5d). Marginal block of four, unhinged mint (as indicated in the C.P. Catalogue, the ideal form to distinguish this line perf. issue from the later comb perf. of the same gauge (L5e)	£11.50
(b)	As above. Unhinged mint copy with variety Watermark Inverted (L5dZ) ...	£6.75
(c)	As above. The same 'invert' variety, but here in finest mint plate block of four (Incidentally, the plate number 3, as here, is the only one in the whole series which appears in reverse on the printed sheets — in fact, apart from some	

	of the early hand-scratched numbers on turn-of-the-century issues, we can't think of another 'reversed' example. This one must have been the result of an error during the making of the plate)	£32.50
	(d) As above. Plate block of four, overprinted Official (LO5d)	£25.00
706(a)	2½d Perf. 14 Comb (L5e). Marginal block of four – as with the previous line perf. issue, again the best form to ensure that you have the correct identification. Fine mint	£8.50
	(b) As above. Plate block of four (again with the no. 3 in reverse)	£13.50
	(c) As above. Another plate block, but with centres in a notably brighter shade	£15.00
	(d) As above. Plate block of four, overprinted Official (LO5e)	£25.00
707(a)	2½d Perf. 13½ x 13½ (L5f). Set of two plate blocks (both no. 4), one with plain bottom selvedge, the other with a striking example of the burele band (10mm deep) in the colour of the centre plate	£11.00
	(b) As above. Bottom marginal block of four, including the listed R10/4 re-entry (LV5c) and, infinitely more prominent, the burele band with job-number 1653–2 (in reverse). The spectacular block, exactly as illustrated on page 20 of Vol. 2, N.Z. Handbook)	£27.50
	(c) As above. Set of two mint corner blocks, one with the R1/1 'Stalk to Flower' flaw, the other without the flaw. This variety developed early in the life of plate 4, and the pre-flaw state is very scarce	£42.50
	(d) As above. Unhinged mint copy with an enormous upward shift of the centre – the mountain peaks project through the 'NEW ZEALAND' panel, and there is a massive 'snowfield' in the foreground. With normal stamp for comparison	£25.00
708(a)	2½d Perf. 14½ x 13½ (L5g). Set of two plate blocks (no. 4), with and without burele band	£27.50
	(b) As above. Marginal block of four (plain selvedge) including the R10/4 re-entry. Mint unhinged	£15.00
	(c) As above. Similar block, but with burele band in selvedge	£18.50
709(a)	3d Maori Girl (L6b). Mint blocks of four in the listed deep chocolate and reddish chocolate shades. Lovely contrasts!	£100.00
	(b) As above. Unhinged mint copy with variety Watermark Inverted (L6bZ). Cat. \$85, special offer at	£22.50
	(c) As above, but lightly hinged, also at special price, only	£9.50
	(d) As above. A superb used (dated 1941) positional block of eight, including the R6/4 late re-entry. 3d re-entries are seldom encountered, and this block must be a rarity, if not unique	£65.00
	(e) As above. Unhinged mint copy in deep brown, overprinted Official (LO6b)	£25.00

(f) As above, but lightly hinged, in either of the listed shades, each £11.50

1960 – 69 PICTORIALS – TWO EXCEPTIONAL OFFERS

- 710 Sterling Issues (Section O).** A near-complete collection of 68 plate and imprint blocks, lacking only the 8d plate 1121, 9d plate and imprint from 14A15 and the near-impossible 4d plate 2333 on chalky paper. Individual selling prices total over £950. The collection of 68 blocks, mostly fine hinged mint, though one or two are unhinged – all in the sizes listed in C.P. £575.00
- 711 Decimal Issues (Section OD).** We have two imprint/plate blocks (10 stamps each) of the original \$2 top value (OD18a) surplus to stock requirements. Both are perfect unhinged mint. To the first two cash-paid orders, each block only .. £95.00

KING GEORGE VI – COUNTER COIL PAIRS

Rubber-Stamped Numbers

- 712(a) 1d Green, FVM paper, with purple number (MC1b)** £4.00
- (b) As above. Complete set numbered 1 – 19. Nineteen pairs. Special offer .. £40.00
- (c) As above, but pair with red number (MC1bZ) £6.00
- 713 2d Orange, CVM paper.** Variety pair with section number sideways reading downwards on selvage of left stamp – normally the number is sideways reading upwards on selvage of right stamp. Scarce (MC1dZ) £15.00
- 714(a) 2d Orange, CHM paper. (MC1e)** £6.00
- (b) As above. Complete set numbered 1 – 19. Nineteen pairs. Special offer ... £57.50
- 715 3d Blue, CVM paper, with red number (MC1f)** £7.25
- 716 4d Magenta, FVM paper, with red number (MC1g)** £6.50
- 717 5d Grey, FVM paper, with red number (MC1h)** £9.00
- 718 6d Carmine, FVM paper, with purple number (MC1j)** £9.00
- 719 Matched Set.** One pair of each value (1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d), all with the same section number Six matched pairs £42.50

Machine-Printed Black Numbers, Type (a)

- 720(a) 2d Orange, CVM paper (MC2a)** £4.00
- (b) As above. Complete set numbered 1 – 19. Nineteen pairs. Special offer .. £40.00
- (c) As above. Variety pair, one stamp CVM paper, one stamp CHM paper (MC2aY) . £10.00
- 721(a) 3d Blue, FVM paper. (MC2c)** £4.00
- (b) As above. Complete set numbered 1 – 19. Nineteen pairs. Special offer ... £35.00

722(a)	3d Blue, CVM paper (MC2d)	£6.00
(b)	As above. Complete set numbered 1 – 19. Nineteen pairs. Special offer ..	£57.50
723(a)	4d Magenta, FVM paper (MC2e)	£6.00
(b)	As above. Complete set numbered 1 – 19. Nineteen pairs. Special offer ..	£57.50
(c)	As above. Variety pair, one stamp FVM paper, one stamp CVM paper. (MC2eZ). A particularly attractive pair, since the basic colours of the stamps are markedly different	£15.00
724	4d Purple, CVM paper (MC2f)	£6.00
725	5d Grey, FVM paper (MC2g)	£4.00
726	6d Carmine, FVM paper (MC2h)	£4.00
727	8d Violet, FVM paper (MC2j)	£6.00
728	8d Violet, CVM paper (MC2k)	£8.00
729	9d Brown Sepia FVM paper (MC2l). A very scarce pair!	£42.50
730	9d Brown-Sepia, CVM paper (MC2m)	£7.50
731	1/- Red Brown/Claret, Centre Die 1. Variety pair, one stamp wmk. upright, one stamp wmk. sideways (MC2nZ)	£10.00
732	1/- Red Brown/Claret, Centre Die 1, Wmk. Sideways. MC2o).	£5.00
733(a)	1/- Red Brown/Claret, Centre Die 2, Wmk. Upright. (MC2p)	£5.00
(b)	As above. Complete set numbered 1 – 19. Nineteen pairs. Special offer ..	£50.00
734	1/3d Brown/Light Blue, Frame Die 1a. (MC2q)	£5.00
735	1/3d Brown/Light Blue, Frame Die 1b, Wmk. Sideways. (MC2r)	£5.00
736	Matched Set. Pair of each value (2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d, 9d, 1/-, 1/3d) all with the same coil number. Nine pairs	£47.50
Machine Printed Black Numbers, Type (b). All of these are scarce , and exist with section numbers 1 to 17 only (although rolls were the same size as before, section numbers 18 and 19 in these issues were always type (a).		
737	2d Orange, CVM paper. (MC3a)	£18.50
738	3d Blue, CVM paper. (MC3b)	£25.00
739	4d Purple, CVM paper (MC3c). Minor hinge-stain, not evident on face	£10.00
740	Matched Set. Three pairs (2d, 3d, 4d) all with same coil number	£57.50

Bulletin readers are frequently referred to these superb N.Z. Handbooks in our offer descriptions (and indeed we ourselves frequently consult our own reference set!). We have one set available for sale, comprising Volumes 1 to 7 inclusive, all in exceptionally fine condition. Price, post paid £1,225.00

Also available, one odd copy of the latest Volume (7) in absolutely new and unopened condition. Price, posted £42.50

N.Z. COMMEMORATIVES (Continued)

All offers are mint unless otherwise stated.

- 742(a) 1969 Bay of Islands (S120a/121a).** Plate block of six and sheet value block of four, for both values. The set of four blocks £12.50
- (b) **As above.** Three plate blocks (4c, 6c x 2) showing 2, 3 and 5 erroneous perf. holes in the bottom selvage £15.00
- (c) **As above.** 4c marginal block of eight with the R4/3 flaw (S120aZ) £4.50
- (d) **As above.** Block of four of each value, used £5.00
- 743(a) 1969 Capt. Cook (S122a-125a).** Unmounted mint set of all four plate blocks. Cat. \$ 135, offered at £37.50
- (b) **As above.** 4c corner block of six including the R8/2 retouch (S122aZ) £2.50
- (c) **As above.** 4c block of four with R3/9 flaw (mentioned in Vol. 6) £2.50
- (d) **As above.** 6c marginal block of four, R5/1 flaw (also in Vol. 6) £7.50
- (e) **As above.** 8c block of six with R6/6 flaw (S124aY) and R7/8 retouch £17.50
- (f) **As above.** 8c marginal block of four with R9/7 retouch (S124aX) £10.00
- 744(a) 1969 Capt. Cook, Miniature Sheet (SM122-5).** Unmounted mint, special offer at £17.50
- (b) **As above.** Miniature Sheet with the 18c major retouch £22.50
- (c) **As above.** Miniature Sheet with the green Tarapex cachet in the bottom selvage £35.00
- (d) **As above.** Miniature Sheet on illustrated F.D.C. £37.50
- 745(a) 1969 CORSO (S126/7).** Imprint/plate and sheet value block of both values. Four blocks (20 stamps) £12.50
- (b) **As above.** Used blocks of four £10.00
- (c) **As above.** Two 8c blocks, **both used**, imprint/plate and sheet value marking .. £12.50
- (d) **As above.** Two different illustrated F.D.C.'s £8.00

RECENT ISSUES

1991 Sheep (issued 23/1/1991). 40c, 60c, 80c, \$ 1, \$ 1.50, \$ 1.80.

Mint set of six stamps	£3.60
Set of six imprint blocks of six	£25.00
Official illustrated F.D.C. (Wanganui pmk.)	£3.85
Informative presentation pack (including a set of stamps, plus all you ever wanted to know about N.Z. sheep ? !) post paid	£6.00

1991 N.Z. Football Association Centenary (issued 6/3/1991). Two 80c stamps se-tenant.

Mint se-tenant pair	£1.05
Imprint block of eight stamps (includes four se-tenant sets)	£5.25
Official illustrated F.D.C. (Wanganui pmk.)	£1.30

1991 Bicentenary of the Discovery of the Chatham Islands (issued 6/3/1991). 40c, 80c.

Mint set of two stamps	80p
Imprint block of six of each value	£5.60
Official illustrated F.D.C. (Wanganui pmk.)	£1.05

\$ 1 Round Stamp, in Red (issued 17/4/91). Issued in sheets of 24, four rows of six, each row being of similar format to a 1988 green booklet pane.

\$ 1 Mint single	70p
Official illustrated F.D.C. (Wanganui pmk.)	£1.00
(i) Strip of six, imperf along top edge, sheet value marking in right selvedge (See Bulletin note on page 2)	£5.25
(ii) Strip of six, perforated along top and bottom edges (from rows 2 or 3)	£5.25
(iii) Strip of six, imperf. bottom edge, (from bottom row)	£5.25
(iv) Complete sheet of 24, showing graphically the unusual nature of this issue	£19.50

1991 The Tuatara (issued 17/4/91). Four different 40c stamps.

Mint set of four	£1.05
Complete set of four imprint blocks of six	£7.35
Official illustrated F.D.C. (Wanganui pmk.)	£1.30

40c Brown Kiwi Self-Adhesive Issue (17/4/1991), with pseudo-perf. 11¼ — See June Bulletin for the basic details relating to this stamp.

Mint single	36p
Official illustrated F.D.C. (Wanganui pmk.)	65p
Set of 4 strips — plain strip of 4 stamps, three strips of 4 stamps with the mid-roll stickers, 'N.Z. POST GOOD VALUE' 'ONLY 25 STAMPS LEFT', and 'ONLY 5 STAMPS LEFT' respectively. A most attractive and unusual set ..	£8.50
Complete roll of 100 stamps plus stickers, housed in its own box-dispenser	£35.00

40c Brown Kiwi (PC14a). Imprint block of nine stamps 7-kiwi or 8-kiwi reprint marks, each block

£3.35

\$ 4 "Hang Sell" booklets (black cover) — primarily issued for sale from counter displays, and the replacement for conventional booklets.

(i) Booklet with plain selvedge at left or right, each	£4.25
(ii) Booklet with colour code dots/6-kiwi marks (the first issue)	£5.00
(iii) Booklet with 7-kiwi marks	£5.00
(iv) Se-tenant pair of booklets with 8-kiwi marks (a pair of booklets will be essential here to distinguish this printing from the 9-kiwi when issued) ..	£9.25