

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN

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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

By Colin Hamilton

1960 Pictorial 2d (O3a). Volume 6 of 'The Postage Stamps of New Zealand' records that one sheet was found with the yellow colour omitted from the **bottom** row of stamps (and with the yellow plate number also missing). I can now confirm the existence of a vertical pair, with top selvedge, the **upper** stamp with the yellow omitted. This was in all probability from the adjacent sheet on the reel (the 2d being printed 'in the web'), and in that case the total number issued with the error would be 24. The 'No Yellow' isn't the most spectacular of the missing colours in this issue (which no doubt explains why some were used — recorded thus in Volume 4), but it is certainly one of the scarcest.

1935 1d Kiwi Booklet (W5a). The layout of the special plate for this issue consisted of twenty-four panes, each of six impressions, arranged in three horizontal rows of eight, the middle row of panes being inverted in relation to those in the top and bottom rows. Thus in each sheet printed, sixteen panes (the entire top and bottom rows) normally had the watermark upright, and eight panes (the entire middle row) had the watermark inverted.

However, Mr. B.L. Symonds of Warwickshire reports that he has a pane with watermark inverted, **but from the top row of panes**. This proves that at least one sheet was printed on upside down (or to be more accurate, inverted) — something quite new to me on this particular issue.

The evidence to look for is any trace of **letters** watermark in the binding selvedge of a pane with inverted watermark. A pane showing **both** of these characteristics **must** be an example of a true inverted watermark (as opposed to those inverts described above which occur naturally).

A similar set of circumstances is well-known in the 1d red of King George VI, proven by the existence of panes with the plate no. 5 in the selvedge **and** having the watermark inverted (in normal panes from this position, i.e. those showing the plate number, the watermark is upright). As far as I know, it has always been assumed that **only** panes with the plate number were acceptable as evidence of the true 'invert', but there is I believe another infallible and simple test allowing identification of **any** of the four unnumbered panes which, together with the pane showing the plate number, formed the left hand vertical row of panes in the sheet as printed. **Any** pane **with** inverted watermark and **without** horizontal perforations through the binding selvedge (whether showing the plate number or not) is certainly an example of the scarce variety. This test may be applied equally to the George VI ½d and 1½d booklet panes, which

I don't think have ever been considered in this connection before, so it will be interesting to learn if there prove to be previously unsuspected watermark varieties in these two values. Remember, the key is the combination of inverted watermark **and** no perforations through the binding selvage.

Q.E. INVERTED WATERMARK VARIETIES – AN ASTOUNDING LISTING

Inverted watermarks have been recorded on no less than eleven of the sixteen values in the original set. But the extraordinary thing is that, leaving aside the booklet issues of the 1d and 3d (where 'inverts' occurred naturally and inevitably in the production process, and are common), not one is less than scarce; on the contrary, almost all can be classed as extremely rare. Below we offer seven of the rarest – in fact several are the only examples known to us.

201	1½d Lake-Brown. Fine commercially used (N3aZ)	£250.00
202	2d Myrtle-Green. Fine commercially used (N4aZ)	£250.00
203	8d Rose-Carmine. A few shortish perfs, otherwise sound commercially used (N8aZ)	£175.00
204	9d Brown/Green. Superb used (N9aZ)	£120.00
205	1/- Black/Carmine. Fine commercially used (N10aZ)	£165.00
206	1/6d Black/Ultramarine. Lightly hinged mint copy from a counter roll – the only known source of 1/6d inverts (N11aZ)	£180.00
207	1/9d Black/Orange. Superb used (N12aY)	£225.00

KING GEORGE V SURFACE-PRINTED (Contd.)

This month's listing is devoted entirely to the 1d Field Marshal.

208(a)	Cowan Paper, Perf. 14 (K15a). Two lovely shades, finest mint	£1.50
(b)	As above. Similarly fine shade contrasts, but in superb mint blocks of four .	£7.00
(c)	As above. Complete booklet pane of six stamps (all selvages intact), without advertisements (W4fW). Superfine mint	£65.00
(d)	As above. Similar pane, but with 'Parisian' adverts in side selvages (W4fU). Brilliant mint	£70.00
(e)	As above. Beautiful set of three clearly different 'Parisian' panes – one from the top row of the printed sheet (no coloured bars in binding selvage); one from the middle row (coloured bars in binding selvage); and one from the bottom row (binding selvage at bottom, without coloured bars).	£200.00
(f)	As above. Another 'Parisian' pane, this one having the unique major re-entry on stamp no. 5 (W4fT). Cat. \$ 350, but some gum-toning (which has permeated only faintly to the face side) allows	£30.00

(g)	As above. Nice set of two items (incidentally in striking shades) both demonstrably from a slot machine roll: (i) Strip of three with coloured end-paper attached, and (ii) butted-join pair. Scarce!	£37.50
(h)	As above. Major variety pair, imperforate (K15aW). Fine mint	£60.00
(i)	As above. Another major variety, Imperforate at Top (with top selvage) (K15aV). Superfine mint	£35.00
(j)	As above. Single copy with variety Offset on Back (K15aY)	£7.50
(k)	As above. Unhinged mint copy, overprinted Official (KO15a)	£2.00
(l)	As above. Two 'Official' blocks of four showing (i) fine shades and (ii) thick and thin overprints	£17.50
(m)	As above. Variety 'No Stop after Official' (KO15aX), in pair with normal ..	£17.50
209(a)	Cowan Paper, Perf. 14 x 15 (K15b). Consistently a much more elusive stamp than is generally realised, here in a magnificent set of three mint shades as listed	£5.00
(b)	As above. The same shades set, but in finest mint blocks of four	£25.00
(c)	As above. Top marginal copy with complete extra strike of the comb perf. head in the selvage, resulting in stamp having double perfs at top	£22.50
(d)	As above. Complete booklet pane with 'Parisian' adverts (W4jZ). A little light gum toning, but facially superb	£45.00
(e)	As above. Set of two blocks of four, overprinted Official (KO15b), in magnificent shades. Finest mint	£15.00
210(a)	Cowan Reversed Watermark (K15c). Unhinged mint copy (our choice of shade)	£12.50
(b)	As above. Set of three, consisting of one from each of the main shade groupings — rose-carmine, scarlet and claret. A brilliantly contrasting trio, mint unhinged	£35.00
(c)	As above. The ultimate — seven mint blocks of four covering the entire range of listed shades. A gorgeous one-only set	£300.00
211(a)	Wiggins Teape Paper, Perf. 14 (K15d). Unhinged mint copy	£8.00
(b)	As above. Just one shade is listed in this issue, but here are two clearly different — one notably paler than the other. Mint unhinged	£17.50
(c)	As above. The same two striking shades, but in finest mint blocks of four ..	£57.50

212

1946 PEACE 5d

Vertical pair from top of sheet, lower stamp normal, upper stamp with full offset on back of the centre (green) design. A delightful and rare variety. Mint unhinged	£200.00
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213	1d UNIVERSAL SLOT MACHINE FIRST DAY COVER!	
	Reserve Plate stamp from the 'Parker' machine (GS4a) tied to locally addressed cover by the Wellington roller cancellation clearly dated JUN 21 06 – the first day of use of this trial machine. Any slot machine stamp on original contemporary cover is very rare – it's impossible to imagine anything more contemporary than this example. No doubt philatelically inspired, since the addressee was one of the leading lights in philatelic circles at the time, and much later became one of the earliest Fellows of the R.P.S.N.Z. Nevertheless, present day philatelists ought to be eternally grateful that there were a few such people, for without their initiative and awareness, much now-prized material simply would not exist. The rare cover (with B.P.A. certificate) ..	£750.00

214	1960 PICTORIAL 3d KOWHAI	
	Vertical strip of three on chalky paper, upper stamp normal, centre stamp Brown Colour Partly Omitted, lower stamp Brown Colour Totally Omitted (O5cZ). The only recorded instance of a missing colour on any of the later chalky paper issues, and very rare (first reported by us in the August 1981 Bulletin, and this remains the only recorded example)	£225.00

K.G. V PLATE BLOCKS

All items offered are mint blocks of four with corner selvage, and plate number above Row 1, No. 1.

215	1½d Grey (K1a). Plate no. 14. Unhinged	£70.00
216	2d Yellow (K2d). Plate no. 15. Unhinged	£85.00
217(a)	2½d Blue (K3a). Plate no. 17, deep blue shade. Unhinged	£85.00
	(b) As above, but in slate blue. Rounded corner on bottom right stamp, otherwise superb	£50.00
218	3d 'Pictorial' Paper (K4d). Plate no. 19 (partial number). Scarce. Unhinged ..	£85.00
219	4d Yellow (K5a). Plate no. 20. Unhinged	£60.00
220	4d Violet (K5d). Plate no. 20. Very light selvage hinge	£75.00
221	5d Perf. 14 x 13¼ (K7a). Plate no. 43, steel blue. Hinged in selvage, and bottom right stamp with rounded corner	£50.00
222(a)	5d Perf. 14 x 14¼ (K7b). Plate no. 43, blue shade. Ink manuscript identification on back of selvage by some fool in the past. Unhinged	£100.00
	(b) As above, but steel blue. Minor hinge stain in top selvage, clear of plate number	£75.00
223	9d Sage-Green (K11a). Plate no. 25, pale shade. Hinge stain just encroaching on plate no. Stamps immaculate unhinged	£100.00

224(a)	1/- Perf. 14 x 14½ (K12b). Plate no. 41, orange-vermilion. Lightly hinged selvedge and one stamp	£135.00
(b)	As above, but Plate no. 42, in salmon . Lightly hinged in selvedge only, stamps somewhat off-centre	£167.50

1970 PICTORIALS

The pickings from a recent purchase. All items are mint, many unmounted, but in all cases quantities available are strictly limited.

225(a)	½c Butterfly (P1a). Two imprint/plate blocks of ten, plates 1A and 1B ...	£5.00
(b)	As above. Two different sheet value blocks of ten, from plates 1A and 1B respectively	£5.00
(c)	As above. Sheet value block of six (plate 1A) the black lettering on the stamps in an unusually prominent deep shade, due to a shadow double print of the black colour	£10.00
226(a)	1c Butterfly. Two sheet value blocks of ten, plates 1A and 1B respectively, on the original watermarked paper (P2a)	£4.50
(b)	As above. Two sheet value blocks from plate 1A sheets, white and blue gum respectively on the 1973 unwatermarked paper (P2c)	£8.00
227(a)	2c Butterfly. Imprint/plate (1B) block, plus sheet value block from the same plate, on watermarked paper (P3a)	£4.50
(b)	As above. Two imprint/plate (1A and 1B) blocks on the unwatermarked paper with blue gum (P3b)	£9.00
228(a)	2½c Moth (P4a). Two imprint/plate (1A and 1B) blocks of ten	£6.50
(b)	As above. Two sheet value blocks of eight, from plates 1A and 1B respectively .	£6.00
229(a)	3c Moth. Imprint/plate blocks of ten, plates 1A and 1B, watermarked (P5a) ..	£4.00
(b)	As above. Two sheet value blocks of ten, from the A and B plates respectively .	£4.00
(c)	As above. Watermark inverted variety (P5aY) in imprint/plate 1A2A1A block of ten stamps	£20.00
(d)	As above. Same inverted watermark variety, but a marginal block of six with R3/9—10 retouch (PV5h)	£20.00
(e)	As above. 1973 Unwatermarked paper (P5c), imprint/plate 2B2B1B block of ten stamps	£3.25
230(a)	4c Moth. Two imprint/plate blocks of ten, plates 1A and 1B, watermarked (P6a)	£2.50
(b)	As above. Two different sheet value blocks of ten, from plates 1A and 1B respectively	£2.50

(c)	As above. Two plate 1B sheet value blocks of ten, one with inverted watermark (P6aZ), the other with normal upright wmk.	£30.00
(d)	As above. Four imprint/plate blocks on the unwatermarked paper, (P6c), plate nos. 1A and 1B both with white and blue gum. The four blocks	£9.00
(e)	As above. Two sheet value blocks from plate 1A and 1B respectively, on unwmk'd paper with white gum	£4.00
(f)	As above. Imprint/plate (1B) block of ten, unwmk'd paper with white gum, showing an attractive upward shift of the yellow (result in "two-tone" letters and values!)	£17.50
231(a)	5c Fish (P7a). Two imprint/plate (1A and 1B) blocks of ten	£12.50
(b)	As above. Sheet value blocks showing the original erroneous \$ 12.00 marking obliterated and \$ 10.00 inserted (this block from plate 1B), and later blocks from plates 1A and 1B with the original \$ 12.00 marking retouched to read \$ 10.00. Nice set of three blocks	£25.00
232(a)	6c Fish. Two imprint/plate (1A and 1B) blocks on the original watermarked paper (P8a)	£12.00
(b)	As above. Two sheet value blocks (from plates 1A and 1B respectively) on watermarked paper	£12.00
(c)	As above. Two plate 1B imprint/plate blocks on unwatermarked paper (P8b), with white and blue gum respectively	£20.00
233	7c Fish (P9a). Two imprint/plate (1A and 1B) blocks of ten	£12.00
234(a)	7½c Fish (P10a). Two imprint/plate (1A and 1B) blocks of ten	£20.00
(b)	As above. Two sheet value blocks of ten from plates 1A and 1B	£20.00
235(a)	8c Fish. Two imprint/plate (1A and 1B) blocks of ten on the original watermarked paper (P11a)	£12.00
(b)	As above. Two sheet value blocks from plates 1A and 1B respectively, on watermarked paper	£12.00
(c)	As above. Imprint/plate 1A block of ten on unwmk'd paper (P11b)	£22.50
236(a)	10c Royal Stamp. Original imprint/plate 1A block of six on watermarked paper (P12a)	£2.00
(b)	As above. Imprint/plate (1A) block of six on unwmk'd paper (P12b) with white gum	£4.00
(c)	As above. Four imprint/plate blocks of six all on unwmk'd paper with blue gum, plate nos. 1A1A1A1A, 1A1A1A2A, 2A2A2A4A, 2A2A2A5A	£12.50
(d)	As above. Two sheet value blocks of four, unwmk'd paper with white and blue gum respectively	£4.00

N.Z. COMMEMORATIVES (Continued)

All offers are mint unless otherwise stated. Descriptions of varieties included where necessary.

237(a)	1965 I.T.U. (S96a). Imprint/plate block of 6, and sheet value block of 4	£5.00
(b)	As above. Two attractive background shades (deep and pale beige)	£1.00
(c)	As above. The same two shades, but blocks of 4	£4.00
(d)	As above. Marginal block of four with R2/4 retouch (S96aZ)	£3.50
(e)	As above. Marginal block of four with R9/6 flaw (S96aY)	£3.50
(f)	As above. Marginal block of four with R9/9 flaw	£3.50
(g)	As above. Three different illustrated F.D.C.'s	£6.00
238(a)	1965 Sir Winston Churchill (S97). Three corner blocks, two top left blocks (one has black and grey colour bars, the other has no bars) and a bottom left block with blue and grey bars. (There are no plate or sheet value markings on sheets of this stamp)	£10.00
(b)	As above. Four different F.D.C.'s (all with superb illustrations)	£7.50
239(a)	1965 Cent. of Government in Wellington (S98). Four selvage marking blocks — imprint/plate block of eight, sheet value block of four, colour-box code block of four, and block showing colour-bars. A nice set (20 stamps)	£7.50
(b)	As above. Three different illustrated F.D.C.'s	£5.00
240(a)	1965 I.C.Y. (S99). Imprint block of four stamps	70p
(b)	As above. Two imprint blocks (six stamps per block) clearly indicating that at least two different plates/panes were used in the printing of this stamp	£7.50
(c)	As above. Three marginal blocks showing various red flaws, one being the listed R4/1 variety (S99aY)	£10.00
(d)	As above. Two matching corner strips of four, one with the R4/1 red flaw, the other without the flaw	£10.00
(e)	As above. Single mint copy with W8a Watermark Sideways (S99aZ) variety — note the normal wmk. on these stamps is W8b, i.e. "sideways-inverted" ...	£3.00
(f)	As above. Corner block of four, also with the W8a watermark sideways variety (S99aZ)	£15.00
(g)	As above. Same watermark variety, finest used	£1.50
(h)	As above. Illustrated F.D.C.	£2.00

241(a)	1965 Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (S100-102). Complete set of all four plate blocks (4d x 2, 9d, 2/-), all unmounted mint	£25.00
(b)	As above. Three sheet value blocks of four, one block each value	£20.00
(c)	As above. 9d marginal block of four, including the R11/6 flaw (S101aY) ..	£7.50
(d)	As above. 9d block of four including the R11/3 sky flaw, and R12/3 all flagpoles badly printed — both mentioned in Vol. 6	£15.00
(e)	As above. Illustrated F.D.C. (featuring the Parliament House, Wellington), bearing a complete set of stamps	£17.50
(f)	As above. Similar F.D.C., this one featuring a Kiwi and "Commonwealth Parliamentary Association"	£17.50
(g)	As above. Three matching illustrated F.D.C.'s, one stamp to each cover. The covers show an artist's impression of the proposed "Beehive" addition to the Parliament Buildings, which was later built and opened in 1977	£17.50

RECENT DEFINITIVE REPRINTS

30c Silvereye (PC 13a).	Imprint block of six, 2-kiwi marking	£1.65
40c Brown Kiwi (PC14a).	Imprint block of nine, 4-kiwi marking	£3.25
	Do, similar imprint block with 5-kiwi marking	£3.25
	Do, similar imprint block with 6-kiwi marking	£3.25
\$ 1 Kokoko (PC5).	Imprint block of six with 3-kiwi marking (left selvage perforated) .	£4.80
	Do, similar block, left selvage not perforated	£4.80
\$ 2 Black Robin (PC6).	Imprint block of six with 1-kiwi marking (left selvage perforated)	£9.60
	Do, similar block, left selvage not perforated	£9.60
\$ 3 Stitchbird (PC7).	Imprint block of 6 with 3-kiwi marking (left selvage perforated) .	£14.40
	Do, similar block, left selvage not perforated	£14.40

Note: The above \$ 1, \$ 2, \$ 3 stamps are due to be withdrawn during 1991.

1990 HERITAGE ALBUM

The impressive album entitled "NEW ZEALAND HERITAGE STAMP COLLECTION", a limited edition (completely sold out, incidentally) and featuring all six Heritage mint sets and F.D.C.'s. Profusely illustrated, very informative, and handsomely produced.

One only available (post paid) £65.00

1990 ALBUM COLLECTION

The latest in the series of yearly album collections (the first appeared in 1984). All 1990 issues (35 stamps and 5 miniature sheets) are displayed on lavishly illustrated pages. The collection is housed in an attractive turquoise binder with matching slip-in case. (post paid)

£32.50