

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

By Colin Hamilton

1967 50c Booklets. The C.P. Catalogue lists three basic types of this issue of booklets: (i) without code letters on panes (W9a(a)); (ii) with code letters 'XA' or 'XB' on the selvages of panes (W9a(b)); and (iii) abnormal booklets with a mixture of plain panes and/or 'XA' panes and/or 'XB' panes (W9a(c)).

We recently acquired an 'exploded' but complete example of a W9a(b) booklet, from which we made the rather surprising (and, to us, completely new) discovery that not only did the panes of stamps show 'XB' code letters — in this case alongside the upper row of stamps — **but so too did the pane of airmail labels.** See illustrations (i) and (ii) below.



illustration (i)

illustration (ii)

This has so far proved to be quite a difficult subject to research, firstly due to the shortage of material to examine (loose panes of airmail labels are regrettably not usually preserved, and complete booklets are not exactly in plentiful supply), and secondly because of the positioning of the code letters on the airmail label panes. As will be evident from the illustrations, the code letters on the stamp panes are **inside** the row of stitching which binds the booklets, and are therefore visible, or at least partly so, when a booklet is opened, whereas the letters on the airmail pane are **outside** the stitching, and thus not visible on normal examination.

In the illustrated example, clearly there are pronounced differences between the lettering on the stamp pane, and that on the airmail pane. The 'B' on the latter is larger and bolder, the 'X' is crudely executed (giving the appearance of having been added as an afterthought), and the letters are much wider apart.

Since this find, we have established that W9a(b) booklets exist with the airmail pane code letters in all four configurations, just as they do on the stamp panes (i.e. XA at top, XA at bottom, XB at top, and XB at bottom). In all panes seen, the 'X' shows similar "hand-inserted" peculiarities; in 'XA' panes, the letters are very much closer together; and in 'XA' at bottom panes, the code letters are very close to the bottom of the airmail pane indeed. We have also seen a couple of booklets in which the unprinted area of the airmail pane binding selvedge was somewhat narrower (the printed area being correspondingly wider), and in both cases the code letters were absent altogether, presumably having been guillotined off,

All booklets we have been able to examine to date have been from the initial printings, with the "General Accident" advertisement on one of the inner leaves. While we'd expect booklets from the later printings (with "Weetbix" advert replacing "General Accident") to show all the characteristics already detailed, it would obviously be of considerable interest to learn what markings, if any, are present on the airmail label pane in any of the abnormal 'mixed pane' booklets (W9a(c)).

Important Note For Clients in E.C. Member Countries. As from 1st January 1993, new regulations require all residents in the E.C. to pay U.K. Value Added Tax on purchases made from U.K. (instead of the liability for V.A.T. at their own country's rate on import). All other clients outside U.K. (elsewhere in Europe and overseas) continue to be entitled to relief from U.K. V.A.T. as before.

From C.P. Newsletter Monthly.

Q.E. Coils. Mr. G.A. Butt of Tawa, writes querying the C.P. listing of Queen Elizabeth coils. He writes: "There is a possible error appearing on Permanent Page N5 (1984 reprint) of your excellent Catalogue. In the penultimate line on the page it is stated, in relation to the Counter Coil issues, that the dots appearing after the "6" and "9" . . . were first seen in the 1s value in 1955. On the face of it this statement is incorrect since the first appearance of the dots (placed there to enable easy recognition) was on the 9d (Cat. NC6a) with an issue (?) date showing April 1955. The 1s value (Cat. NC6b) also showing the date April 1955 did NOT have the dots following the numbers 6 and 9. However the 1s (Cat. NC6c) showing the date December 1955 did have the dots. Much may depend on whether the dates shown in the Catalogue were the issue dates or the dates when the coils were first made up and whether there was a significant discrepancy between the two.

You may consider investigating this further and if found to be correct amending the page in due course."

Editor's Note: Mr. Butt has hinted at the answer to his own query. The dates given in the C.P. Catalogue against each listing of Q.E. Counter Coil issue (on Temporary Pages N9-10) are the earliest known dates of **coiling**, that is, the dates rubber-stamped on the wrapper-papers. It is highly unlikely (albeit not impossible) that any particular roll would be available to counter clerks on the same day as it was coiled, so actual dates of issue, which in most if not all cases are unknown, would almost certainly be later than those quoted.

To the best of my knowledge, the decision to add full-stops after the section numbers 6 and 9 (to lessen the likelihood of confusion of these numbers by counter clerks) was taken during the latter part of 1955, and the first counter rolls to be manufactured after that decision were those

listed as NC6c, bearing a coiling date of December 1955. So in that respect, the information given in the C.P. Catalogue is correct. However, the question raised by Mr. Butt is quite understandable, for in cases where there was more than one making of a particular issue, more than one coiling date exists for that issue. And that fact becomes especially relevant when considering the precise point at which full-stops were introduced. Mr. Butt cites the 9d (NC6a) as calling the Catalogue information into question, on the grounds that this issue exists with full-stops, yet the coiling date given is **April 1955**. But this is one of just two instances (the other being the 1/6d NC6d) where some rolls were made **prior** to the introduction of full-stops, and some were made **after** that point. So, uniquely, pairs of NC6a and NC6d numbered 6 and 9 exist both without and with full-stops. In all other cases, issues with listed dates prior to Dec. 1955 invariably had the numbers 6 and 9 **without** stops, those with dates after Dec. 1955 invariably had numbers 6 and 9 **with** stops.

Although it has nothing to do with the above, one minor error in the present Q.E. Counter Coil listings should be mentioned. The large-type listing NC7b is, by implication, the wide-gutter version ('narrow' and 'trimmed' being listed as small-type varieties). In fact, the 'trimmed gutter' variety (NC7bX) was the first to be coiled, so the date given, June 1956, applies to that listing. The wide-gutter version was not coiled until Nov. 1956 (and for the record, the relevant date for the 'narrow gutter' variety was Oct. 1957). G.C.H.

MISCELLANY

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| 201 | 1d Terraces (E3a). Three mint blocks of four in really magnificent shades of lake-crimson, crimson and rose-red respectively. Two of the blocks have minor gummed-side imperfections, but facially, they're beautiful! | £35.00 |
| 202 | 2d Pembroke Peak. Another set of three lovely shade blocks from the Local Plates, perf. 11 (E6a). Fine to very fine mint | £32.50 |
| 203 | 2½d Lake Wakitipu. (E7a). Two superb mint blocks of four of the 'error of spelling' issue in striking shades of dull blue and deep blue. The two blocks (one is unhinged) | £42.50 |
| 204 | 3d Huías, Perf. 11, Unwmk'd. (E9b). Marginal block of four in yellow-brown. Brilliant mint unhinged | £80.00 |
| 205 | 3d Huías, Perf. 11, Wmk'd (E9c). Another superfine mint block, non-marginal, but unhinged and perfectly centred, bistre-brown shade | £80.00 |
| 206 | 4d Lake Taupo, Perf. 11 Unwmk'd (E12a). Perfect unhinged mint block of four in bright blue/chestnut | £47.50 |
| 207 | 4d Lake Taupo, Perf. 11, Wmk'd (E12b). Block of four in deep blue/chestnut. Again unhinged mint and absolutely immaculate | £27.50 |
| 208(a) | K.E.VII Two-Perf. Pairs. Set of five vertical pairs, perf. 14 x 13½ over 14 x 14½ (3d, 5d, 6d, 8d indigo blue, 8d deep bright blue). Similar to the superb set we offered a few months ago, if anything even finer, but at the same price of | £475.00 |
| (b) | As above. 6d on its own, in a superb mint two-perf. block of four (H6e) .. | £285.00 |
| 209 | K.G.V 1d Field Marshal, Perf. 14 x 15 (K15b). Top marginal unhinged mint block of four in the very distinctive, and scarce, rose-pink shade. Supplied with a block (also unhinged), in a normal rose-carmine for comparison. | £42.50 |

210	K.G.V 2/- Admiral. A superb unhinged mint copy on Jones Paper, with inverted watermark (K20a(Z))	£80.00
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OFFER OF THE MONTH

211	Q.E. 1/- Die 1B (N10b). Brilliant unhinged mint copy (normal Die 1A stamp included for comparison). Now Cat. \$ 240 (= £97.50), this month only, to the first five orders	£57.50
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212(a)	1960 Pictorial Booklets. The original 4/- (stapled) issue (W8a)	£12.00
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(b)	As above. The scarcer 1962 4/6d booklet, also stapled, and with the additional content of 2 x ½d panes (W8b)	£35.00
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(c)	As above. The 1964 4/3d booklet (now stitched, and with the ½d content reduced to one pane). Without numbers on pane selvages (W8c(a))	£14.00
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(d)	As above, but all panes with number on selvedge (W8c(b)). Choice of numbers 4, 5 or 6, each booklet	£24.00
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(e)	As above. Complete set of six booklets, with panes numbered 1 to 6 respectively. One set only	£125.00
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(f)	As above. For those whose interest is in panes rather than complete booklets, we can offer an equally comprehensive set of eighteen panes, (6 x ½d, 6 x 1d, 6 x 3d), showing the complete range of numbers in each case	£75.00
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213(a)	1967 Pictorial Booklets. Example without code letters on panes (W9a(a)) .	£10.00
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(b)	As above, but with code letters on panes (W9a(b)). Choice of XA at bottom or XB at bottom, each booklet	£24.00
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(c)	As above. Complete set of four booklets containing panes with, respectively (i) XA at top, (ii) XA at bottom, (iii) XB at top, (iv) XB at bottom. Again one set only	£85.00
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214	1923 1d Map Stamp. Three top selvedge blocks of 4, of more than usual interest. All are on De La Rue paper (S16a), the first block being without buffer bars in selvedge, the second having a 5mm thick buffer bar at least 36mm long (probably longer, for the bar extends through the perfs. at the left), and the third having separate 8mm thick bars above each vertical row. The first and third blocks conform with the rather complex details given in Volume 4 of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand", but the second block doesn't appear to correspond with any of the published information. Closed tear in the selvedge of the second block, otherwise immaculate	£47.50
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215	1936 Chambers of Commerce. A wonderful set of 22 plate blocks of four (3 x ½d, 8 x 1d, 4 x 2½d, 3 x 4d, 4 x 6d), all used on the first day of issue — 1st Oct. 1936 — and all centrally cancelled by the special 'Empire Conference' c.d.s. of that date. Short only of a ½d block with plate number at bottom left, and a 4d bottom right block for absolute completion. The magnificent lot of used plate blocks, extremely unusual if not unique. Cat. \$ 462 as used single stamps	£195.00
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216	1946 Peace. An equally unusual set of 29 used blocks, including imprint	
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- blocks of the ½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d, 9d, and all-different plate blocks of the 1d (10), 1½d (2), 2d (8), 1/- (2). Every listed plate number and printer's imprint represented. Fabulous! £57.50
- 217 1929 Health First Day Cover.** Plain registered cover bearing a block of four of the 1929 Health stamp, centrally cancelled by a neat and clear strike of the Wellington Registered c.d.s. of 11 DE 29. Cover stuck down to piece of written-up album leaf, but beautifully clean and fresh. Addressed to the late C.W. Watts, who subsequently was co-editor of Volumes 2–5 of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" £125.00
- 218 1930 Health First Day Cover.** Plain commercial cover (addressed to Australia), bearing a single copy of the 1930 Health stamp, and clearly postmarked Christchurch, 20 OCT 1930. Condition superfine £140.00
- 219 1931 Health First Day Cover.** Red and blue 'Smiling Boys' tied to small plain cover by Christchurch c.d.s. of 31 OC 31. As lot 217 above the cover is stuck down to part of a written-up album leaf, but in this case the cover is signed by L.C. Mitchell, designer of the stamps. Cat. \$ 2000, offered at .. £375.00
- 220 1932 Health First Day Cover.** Pair of 'Hygeia' on plain cover to Scotland, central c.d.s. dated 18 NO 32 – cancel very slightly heavy, but perfectly legible and not at all disfiguring an attractive cover £110.00
- 221 1934 Health First Day Cover.** 'Crusader' stamp on plain local cover, clearly postmarked Auckland 26 OCT 1934 – the first day of issue of the stamp at most offices other than Wellington and Tauranga. Clean and fresh £75.00
- 222 3d Lake Scene Air Mail, Perf. 14 x 15 (V1b).** A superb used copy (if centred a little left), and clearly dated 22 AU 35. Despite the footnote in our Catalogue, this is a perfectly acceptable date, as it is recorded that this scarce issue was on sale at various times, at a very limited number of post offices, between April and October, 1935. Contemporarily used examples are rare. Cat. \$ 1000 (S.G. £425) £385.00
- 223(a) 1935 Air Stamps (V6a–c).** Complete set, 1d, 3d, 6d, in corner blocks of four showing plate numbers and sheet serial numbers. The three blocks, brilliant unhinged mint £57.50
- (b) As above.** Plate block of the 6d value, lightly hinged in selvage only, stamps unhinged £32.50
- (c) As above.** Registered cover to England, Bearing the complete set of 1935 Air stamps, each neatly tied by Port Chalmers c.d.s. of 30th May 1935. On the reverse is an interesting though non-philatelic "stamp" advertising Nyal Esterin (a treatment for neuralgia) £22.50
- 224 Cinderella Item.** No. 3 of the series of labels issued to publicise the 1906 Christchurch Exhibition, in a magnificent, perfectly centred, unhinged block of four. Superb in every way, and rare thus £42.50

KING GEORGE V RECESS PRINTS

It's difficult to keep pace with the constant demand for this deservedly ever-popular series of definitive stamps, but another fresh injection of stock allows us to commence the following listing.

225(a)	1½d Grey, Cowan Paper. Top marginal block of four, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K1a), perfect mint unhinged	£14.00
(b)	As above. Another block (non-marginal), 2LH/2UH. Fine	£10.00
(c)	As above. Block of four, perf. 14 x 14¼ (K1b). 2LH/2UH. Fine	£10.00
(d)	As above. Two-perf. pair (K1c), very light hinge at top. Superfine	£22.50
(e)	As above. Two-perf. block of four, same excellent condition	£47.50
226(a)	1½d Grey, 'Pictorial' Paper. Top marginal block of four, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K1d), superb unhinged	£7.50
(b)	As above. Similar block, but left-hand pair with variety No Watermark (K1dZ) ..	£10.00
(c)	As above. Superb unhinged mint marginal block of six (3 x 2) perf. 14 x 14¼, the central vertical pair being without watermark, flanked on either side by normal watermarked pairs. Lovely piece!	£14.50
(d)	As above. Two-perf. pair (K1f), mint unhinged	£22.50
(e)	As above, but very lightly hinged	£12.00
(f)	As above. Two-perf. block of four, unhinged mint	£45.00
(g)	As above. Two-perf. pair, variety No Wmk. (K1fZ), lightly hinged and superb ..	£17.50
227(a)	2d Violet. Top marginal block of four, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K2a), unhinged mint and perfectly centred. A beauty!	£35.00
(b)	As above. Non-marginal block, perf. 14 x 14¼ (K2b), otherwise same superb condition as previous lot	£30.00
(c)	As above. Marginal two-perf. pair (K2c), very light hinge in selvedge only ..	£32.50
(d)	As above. Two-perf. pair, lightly hinged, very fine	£15.00
(e)	As above. Two-perf. block of four, 2LH/2UH	£32.50
228(a)	2d Yellow. Finest mint block of four, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K2d). 2LH/2UH ..	£26.50
(b)	As above. Corner block of four, perf. 14 x 14¼ (K2e) stamps unhinged, lightest of hinges in selvedge only	£32.50
(c)	As above. Two-perf. pair (K2f), mint unhinged	£24.50
(d)	As above, but very lightly hinged and superb	£13.00
(e)	As above. Two-perf. block of four 2LH/2UH, very fine	£25.00
229(a)	2d 'Pictorial' Paper (K2g). Top marginal block of four, upper pair with just a trace of watermark at foot. Unhinged mint	£20.00

(b)	As above. Lightly hinged mint single, variety No Watermark (K2gZ). No watermark varieties are very scarce on all 'Pictorial' paper issues except the 1½ds	£35.00
(c)	As above. Corner block of four (full selvages), upper pair of stamps No Wmk. Unhinged mint	£120.00
230(a)	2½d Deep Blue. Superb top marginal block of four, deep blue shade, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K3a). Very light selvedge hinge only	£32.50
(b)	As above. Both listed shades — deep blue and slate blue — in finest mint blocks of four, 2LH/2UH in each case. Magnificent contrasts	£47.50
(c)	As above. Superfine mint block of four (1LH/3UH) in the scarcer perf. 14 x 14¼ (K3b) — scarcer because most 2½d sheets were perf. 14 x 13¼ throughout, and the only source of 14 x 14¼ stamps was the early two-perf. printings	£47.50
(d)	As above. Set of two blocks, both perf. 14 x 14¼, in excellent shades. Both blocks very fine, 2LH/2UH	£80.00
(e)	As above. Unhinged mint two-perf. pair (K3c) in slate blue	£50.00
(f)	As above, another two-perf. pair, same shade, but lightly hinged	£25.00
(g)	As above. Two-perf. block of four (2LH/2UH) in a choice of either deep blue or slate blue, each block	£55.00
231(a)	3d Chocolate. Superfine mint block of four, 1LH/3UH, perf. 14 x 14¼ in chocolate brown and showing pronounced plate wear (K4bZ)	£42.50
(b)	As above. Fine, lightly hinged mint two-perf. pair (K4c) in deep chocolate ..	£22.50
(c)	As above. Two-perf. block of four in chocolate brown (worn plate). Superfine mint (2LH/2UH)	£50.00
232(a)	3d 'Pictorial' Paper (K4d). Perfect unhinged mint marginal block of four ..	£22.50
(b)	As above, but overprinted Official (KO4d) — a superb mint plate block of four (full corner selvedge) showing part plate number 19. An added feature of this block is a repeating missing perf. pin at the top of the upper stamps, giving the appearance of "comb perfs. misplaced upwards" (although this issue was of course invariably line perf.). 'Pictorial' paper plate blocks — ordinary or Official — are extremely scarce	£85.00
233(a)	4d Yellow. Top marginal block of four, perf. 14 x 13¼ (K5a). Superfine mint unhinged	£25.00
(b)	As above. Two mint blocks of four in orange-yellow and yellow respectively. Very striking contrasts	£45.00
(c)	As above. Finest mint block (2LH/2UH), perf. 14 x 14¼ (K5b)	£17.00
(d)	As above. Very lightly hinged mint two-perf. pair (K5c)	£10.50

- (e) **As above.** Similar fine two-perf. pair, upper stamp being the big R4/10 re-entry (KV5c(a)). This re-entry is nowadays listed in S.G. Part 1, though curiously not in two-perf. pair £50.00
- (f) **As above.** Two-perf. block of four, superfine mint £22.50
- (g) **As above.** Another two-perf. block, this one including the R4/10 re-entry. Single very light hinge at top £62.50

N.Z. AIR COVERS

- 238 10 DEC 1931.** Auckland — Gisborne, and return. The two covers (one especially produced for this flight) £25.00
- 239(a) 16 MAR 1936.** Inauguration of the regular Palmerston North — Dunedin passenger service, with numerous stages recorded. These three covers all flown from Christchurch — to Wellington, Dunedin and Nelson respectively £25.00
- (b) **As above.** Three stages from Palmerston North — to Wellington, Dunedin and Nelson £25.00
- (c) **As above.** Four stages from Blenheim, to Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch and Palmerston North £32.50
- (d) **As above.** Four stages from Nelson, to Christchurch, Palmerston North, Dunedin and Wellington £32.50
- (e) **As above.** Three stages from Dunedin, to Wellington, Palmerston North and Blenheim £25.00
- (f) **As above.** Four stages from Wellington, to Christchurch, Palmerston North, Dunedin and Nelson £32.50
- 240 27 JUNE 1937.** Two stages Auckland — Palmerston North, and Auckland — Wellington (further carried to Christchurch on 28th June). Also included is a photograph of the DH86 ZK—AEF "KOTUKU" at Wigram airport (this plane carried the Mail onward to Christchurch) £20.00
- 241 15 MAR 1939.** Covers from this Wellington — Westport daily service are most elusive:
- (i) Nelson — Westport (only 30 carried) £27.50
- (ii) Hokitika — Westport (5 — yes, five — carried) £50.00
- (iii) Westport — Hokitika (15 carried) £35.00
- (iv) Westport — Wellington (the common stage — 150 carried!) £15.00
- 242(a) 20/21 MAR 1939,** Auckland to Gisborne. The southbound flight of this service was made on the 20th March. These four covers are all different stages £47.50
- (b) **As above.** The return northbound flight was made the next day (21st March). Four flight covers here offered all from this flight £47.50
- 243 1955—1978.** Twelve different flight covers (all illustrative) from this relatively modern period £55.00