

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN

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NEW ZEALAND AT STAMPEX by C. P.

I would like to offer my congratulations to the highly successful band of NZ exhibitors at Stampex who gained well merited awards. My congratulations are the warmer for the fact that all are friends of ours, most of them very long term friends indeed. Their success in such measure highlights what we all know - that NZ is one of the most 'collectable' of countries.

My hearty congratulations then, to Messrs:

R. C. Agabeg: Silver Mailcoach Trophy and Gold Medal
E. K. Hossell: Urch Harris Trophy and Silver Medal
J. D. Evans and N. W. Hoggarth: Silver Medals
E. N. Barton: Silver Bronze Medal
J. W. Fairbairn and N. H. Willis: Bronze Medals.

NEW ZEALAND NOTES by Campbell Paterson

I have two stories to tell this month - both of very recent events and both underlining that element of "treasure trove" that is perhaps the most fascinating feature of philately.

Last year, in a Bulletin article (September 1968) I mentioned a lucky find I made years ago of a pair of 1d brown Chalon, on cover, with perfs $12\frac{1}{2} \times 10$ - the only genuine examples of this perf. (as opposed to the usual $10 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$) that had ever been reported, up to that time. Shortly afterwards I had a visit from Dick Agabeg, an old friend and well-known to UK Specialists as the owner of a particularly fine collection of Chalon. Among other things Dick spoke of (and produced there and then) a copy of a 1d brown perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 10$. I examined the stamp and saw no reason to doubt its genuineness. Of course, faked perfs are all too common in the Chalon and with a single there must always be a greater element of doubt than with a pair - it would be nearly impossible to fake an unsevered line of perf. holes between a pair, but a single is obviously less difficult. Still, the stamp looked OK. It was at this point that I remembered that I had in my desk an enlarged photo of the pair on cover which I had written of in September. It took little time to find it and even less to realize that Dick Agabeg's single and the pair on cover had both been used in Palmerston North, in the same month, nearly a century ago. Furthermore, a feature of the canceller (a peculiar heaviness of the letters "PAL" of "Palmerston", as compared with the rest of the postmark) showed conclusively that the same canceller had been used on the single as on the pair. Even the angle of the strike and its position on the single was virtually identical with the angle and position of the postmark on the righthand stamp of the pair. To cap everything, it could clearly be seen by comparison of the centring of the stamps that the single and the pair had without a shadow of doubt come from the same sheet - probably from the same row on that sheet!

So here we had irrefutable evidence of the genuineness of a stamp which otherwise might always have borne an element of doubt. An astonishing thing indeed that three stamps from a single row of a single sheet should have survived so long and served to authenticate a prime rarity by their being there for comparison almost a hundred years after they were first separated. The story is not dissimilar from the one, widely known, of the 2d blue (1840) of Great Britain, one copy of which was bisected, each half being used on a separate envelope. As I recall the story, both covers survive to this day, although they went to different parts of the country and were neither reported nor recognised as carrying two parts of the same stamp for something like a hundred years. Such stories show that in our hobby almost anything is possible - I am still looking for, or awaiting news of, the once seen (then lost sight of) 2d First Sideface, wmk Star, perf. $10 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. It will turn up, some day!

My second story is one of those like the Indian Rope Trick that is usually ascribed to "a friend of a friend" - to be taken with a liberal pinch of salt. But in this case I can vouch for the facts as I was myself the buyer. Within the last year and not too far from Piccadilly Circus, an auction sale was held. One of the NZ lots, briefly described in general terms, with no reference to London prints at all, was an envelope with about two dozen Chalons - apparently of little consequence. Among the stamps was a used pair of the No. 1 London print 1d. As far as I know, although one was (as always in such places) in competition with the whole world of NZ specialists, no one else had noticed the pair. I may say the pair was not absolutely perfect - one stamp being cut into at the foot and both with minor paper defects - nevertheless, they made a handsome piece, very lightly postmarked and of splendid colour.

I do not tell this story in any spirit of self-congratulation (though I'll admit I was delighted!) but rather to encourage those who long for "the good old days" when great finds could be made. It seems they still can! It is almost an anti-climax to add that in the same envelope was a 1/-, NZ watermark, perf. 12½, Catalogued (S. G.) £250. True, it had one rounded corner, but otherwise was above average in condition.

I think I can understand the outlook of collectors who "cannot be bothered" with perfs. and watermarks and similar finer points - but I do know they miss a lot of fun!

KING GEORGE V

Our breaking of a collection of these issues provides a treat for collectors looking for some of the elusive and beautiful pieces from this series. In most instances lots can be produced more than once, so do not hesitate to write, you will not be disappointed.

- Ap 1 Plate Proofs Recess printed in black. 1½d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 4½d, 7½d, 9d and 1/-.
All on unwatermarked paper and imperf. Surface printed in black on card ½d, 1½d, 2d, and 3d, the ½d in grey on thick wove paper, and 1½d and 2d on gummed watermarked paper in black. Scarce and elusive. (15) £7/10/-
- Ap 2 Perf. 14 x 13½ One of each value, 1½d, 2d violet, 2d yellow, 2½d, 3d, 4d yellow, 4d violet, 4½d, 5d, 6d, 7½d, 8d blue, 8d brown, 9d and 1/- Mint. (15) 70/-
- Ap 3 Perf. 14 x 14½ One of each value as above except 8d brown which appeared in the one perf. only. Mint. (14) 82/6
- Ap 4 Two Perf. Pairs The method of perforating the sheets (top 4 rows 14 x 13½, lower 6 rows 14 x 14½) meant that vertical pairs of stamps from rows 4 and 5 show the upper stamp with perforation 14 x 13½, the lower perf. 14 x 14½.
Complete set of 14 vertical "two perf. pairs". Mint £24
- Ap 5a) Major Re-Entries 4d yellow. S. G. 484, a and b, (C. P. K5a, b and c).
Marginal block of 12 from top of the sheet with plate number (20) and including R1/6, the big re-entry in the top right value tablet and decorative panel where the wrong value (4½d) was accidentally rolled in. ALSO a block from Rows 4 and 5 - a "two perf" block which includes R4/10, the similar re-entry, but in the top left value tablet, where the 2½d value was accidentally rolled in. The two magnificent blocks with illustrations for writing up and seldom seen in this form £12/10/-
- b) 4d Violet Mint block of four from rows 4 and 5 - a "two perf" block including R4/10, the major re-entry with the remains of obliterated "2½d" in the top left value tablet. A fine item to have, and scarce £10
- c) As above 4d violet. R1/6 and R4/10. The two major re-entries on used single stamps. The two - not often seen nowadays 50/-
- Ap 6 Paper Varieties S. G. 496 - 500 group. As a wartime economy measure, printings of the 1½d, 2d, 3d and 6d were made in 1916 on paper which had been intended for the 1898 2½d Wakatipu. Except in the case of the 1½d, these stamps were printed with the watermark sideways, and perforated 14. Due to the wmk. not fitting the stamps exactly, some copies are found without watermark.

(continued)

- a) Collection of the "Pictorial paper" stamps, including 1½d block of four, p. 14½, block of four, including two without watermark, and block of four from rows 4 and 5 - "two perf" pairs, also 2d, 3d and 6d in blocks of four, and mint single "no watermark" varieties of the 2d, 3d and 6d (scarce). All mint. 6 blocks of four and 3 singles.... £9
- b) A "Straight Set" Pictorial paper 1½d perf. 14 x 13½, perf. 14 x 14½, "two perf" vertical pair, horizontal pair, one with and one without watermark, and 2d, 3d, 6d perf. 14. (9) Mint..... 20/-
- Ap 7 Two Perf. Pairs Blocks of four from rows 4 and 5 producing a tremendously colourful show. Minor faults on 2d, 4d and 4½d values do not detract from the appearance and this is a wonderful collection that cannot fail to give you pleasure. A "once only" lot - and a beauty! 14 mint blocks..... £44
- Ap 8a) "Official" Collection As fine a collection of these stamps as we have seen for a long time, and including 3d shades in both perfs, inverted wmk, "two perf" pairs M and U, pictorial paper M and U. 6d both perfs M and U and "two perf" pair mint, 4d both perfs M and U and a mint example of No R4/10 re-entry, shades of the 8d, and a single 9d. The 1/- is represented in both perfs M and U. Mint blocks of all values to 8d are included. Virtually complete with all the two perf pairs, many shades and varieties and the scarce re-entry on the 4d. Mint Used..... £30
- b) Surface Printed The second part of the "Official Collection" and equally comprehensive with the ½d represented on De La Rue, Jones and Cowan papers (both perfs and including the reversed watermark), both perfs of the 1d mint and used, no fewer than four fine mint shades of the "local plate" 1½d including block of four, the three papers of the 1½d brown are present, and both the De La Rue and Cowan papers of the 2d, and all the papers and perfs of the 3d. Of the High Values, we see the "Admiral" 2/- mint and used, and the 5/- Arms on Cowan paper mint and W. T. used. The "No Stop after Official" variety is shown on the ½d, 1d, 1½d and 2d. 40 mint. 24 used..... £20
- Ap 9 1900 Pictorial 1/- Perf. 11, no wmk issue (C. P. E18b. S. G. 284-287). No less than EIGHT marvellous shades, ranging from dull brown red through red to bright orange red. A glorious array, all mint..... £5/5/-
- Ap 10a) 1949 Health A specialised lot comprising the "Wristlet Watch" and "Bandaged Finger" varieties on the 1d + ½d and the "No Stop" variety R1/2 on the 2d + 1d, all in mint positional blocks. Both plate blocks and a F. D. C. complete the collection. 55/-
- b) As above The R1/2 "No Stop" variety on its own, in mint corner block of four 25/-
- Ap 11 3d Telegraph Centenary R11/2 "Green dots on hand", R14/1 "Green dotted line on morse keyboard", R15/4 Retouch in sky. Three fine, easily seen varieties, all on used singles..... 12/6
- Ap 12 1940 Centennial 1d Overprinted "Official". The catalogued "Joined ff" variety (S. G. 0142a). Marginal mint in pair with normal..... 30/-

ARMS

- Ap 13a) The last sterling £2, £3, £4, £5 mint (4)..... £23
- b) The £5 only mint..... £7
- c) The scarce obsolete line perf decimal issue. Picked by the "tipsters" and in short supply. Make sure of the set. While stocks last, \$4, \$6, \$8 and \$10. Mint (4)..... £21
- d) Comb perf. decimals and with changed watermark (stars pointing right when seen from the back). The four values \$4, \$6, \$8 and \$10 Mint..... £17

K G V Individual Offers

<u>Perf. 14 x 13½</u>				<u>Perf. 14 x 14½</u>					
C. P.	S. G.	M	U	C. P.	S. G.	M	U		
K1a	479a	1½d grey	1/3	8d	K1b	479	1½d grey	1/3	8d
K2a	480a	2d violet	3/6	—	K2b	480	2d violet	3/6	—
K2d	481a	2d yellow	4/6	—	K2e	481	2d yellow	—	—
K3a	482a	2½d blue	2/6	—	K3b	482	2½d blue	4/6	—
K4a	483a	3d chocolate	6/-	8d	K4b	483	3d chocolate	6/-	8d
K4a	—	3d worn plate	7/6	9d	K4b	—	3d worn plate	7/6	1/-
K5a	484a	4d yellow	3/-	—	K5b	484	4d yellow	3/-	—
K5d	485a	4d violet	5/-	3d	K5e	485	4d violet	4/-	3d
K5d	—	4d purple	40/-	—	K5e	—	4d purple	3/-	3d
K6a	486a	4½d green	6/-	—	K6b	486	4½d green	12/6	—
K7a	487a	5d blue	7/6	2/6	K7b	487	5d blue	7/6	—
K7a	488a	5d steel blue	12/6	2/6	K7b	488	5d ultramarine	12/6	—
K8a	489a	6d carmine	4/-	6d	K8b	489	6d carmine	7/6	1/-
K8a	—	6d worn plate	4/-	6d	K8b	—	6d worn plate	7/6	1/-
K9a	490a	7½d red-brown	4/-	—	K9b	490	7½d red-brown	6/-	—
K10a	491a	8d indigo	3/6	—	K10b	491	8d indigo	3/6	—
K10d	492	8d red-brown	7/-	2/-	K11b	493	9d sage	12/6	5/-
K10d	—	8d chocolate	6/-	1/6	K12b	494	1/- vermilion	17/6	2/6
K11a	493a	9d sage-green	8/6	2/-	K12b	—	1/- orge-vermilion	10/-	6d
K11a	493e	9d yellow-olive	20/-	—	K12b	495	1/- salmon	20/-	15/-
K12a	494a	1/- vermilion	25/-	3/6					
K12a	—	1/- orge-verm.	14/-	2/6					

Vertical Two Perf Pairs

C. P.	S. G.		M
K1c	479b	1½d grey	—
K1f	497b	1½d pictorial paper	12/6
	497c	No wmk.	—
K2c	480b	2d violet	15/-
K2f	481b	2d yellow	10/-
K3c	482b	2½d blue	—
K4c	483b	3d chocolate	27/6
K5c	484b	4d yellow	13/6
K5f	485c	4d violet	25/-
K6c	485b	4½d green	—
K7c	488b	5d blue	40/-
K8c	489b	6d carmine	—
K9c	490b	7½d red-brown	30/-
K10c	491b	8d indigo	12/6
K11c	493b	9d sage	60/-
K12c	494c	1/- vermilion	—

Pictorial Paper

C. P.	S. G.		M
K1d	497	1½d grey	1/3
	497a	No wmk.	3/6
K1e	496	1½d p14½	1/3
	496a	No wmk.	3/6
K2g	498	2d yellow	2/-
K4d	499	3d chocolate	2/-
K8d	500	6d carmine	2/-

- Ap 14 Postmarks Clear strikes all on selected copies of the Q. V 1d Sideways. Pairs, strips and blocks occur in some profusion and postmarks include small towns, scarce offices and R. P. O. s. 75 postmarks making a grand lot of the earlier markings as a basis for a specialised collection£8
- Ap 15a) Postal History Q. V. Postcards (2), Letter-cards (3) and a Wrapper with small circle, squared circle and concentric circle postmarks, providing a variety of markings 1889-1900 and showing various postal rates. Used stationery is scarce. (6 items)..... 60/-
- b) As above Edward VII. 4 covers bearing adhesives, 1 wrapper, 1 envelope and 4 postcards. Another fine selection of unusual material with many interesting postmarks 1907-1916 and values to 5d on cover. (11 items)..... 60/-
- c) K. G. V and K. G. VI Provisional items of postal stationery showing changing postal rates. All different K. G. V postcards show surcharges reducing postal rates which had in some instances been previously increased and including the scarce K. G. VI provisional letter-card 3d on 2d. All mint but two. (7 items)..... £4
- d) Q. E. II Postal Stationery Two registered envelopes, 1/9d and 18c, and three envelopes, 4d blue, 4d red Whakatane commemorative and 3c blue. All used (5)..... 6/-

1960 PICTORIAL COUNTER COILS

The following increases are announced in our catalogue prices:

O1a	2d black numbers	1.50	OC2a	2d red numbers	75c	OC2f	8d red numbers	85c
b	4d " "	2.50	b	2½d " "	35c	g	1/- " "	2.50
c	1/- " "	4.50	c	3d " "	40c	h	1/3 " "	1.50
d	1/6 " "	3.50	d	4d " "	45c	i	1/6 " "	1.70
e	1/9 " "	8.00	e	6d " "	75c	j	1/9 bistre	6.00
						k	1/9 multi-colour	2.50

We work on a conversion basis of \$1 NZ equals 10/-sterling.

From replenished (but still limited) stocks we can offer the following mint counter coil pairs. Items not listed we want to buy and would welcome offers.

C. P.	S. G.			
OC1a	783 Eb	2d	Black number	15/-
OC1b	786 Eb	4d	" "	20/-
OC2b	784 Eb	2½d	Red	3/6
OC2c	785 Eb	3d	" "	3/6
OC2c(i)	785b Eb	3d	Chalky paper	30/-
OC2d	786 Eb	4d	Red number	4/-
OC2e	788 Eb	6d	" "	7/-
OC2f	789 Eb	8d	" "	8/6
OC2h	792 Eb	1/3	" "	15/-
OC2i	793 Eb	1/6	" "	15/-
OC2k	795 Ea	1/9	Multi colour	25/-

Collectors may like to have a series all showing the same coil number, or any single values with a specific number. Let us know: we will do our best. Also special short sets of the "Flower" values have been made up:

2½d - 8d (5 values) Two pairs of each value, one with coil number only, one with coil number and sheet value. Ten mint pairs 50/-

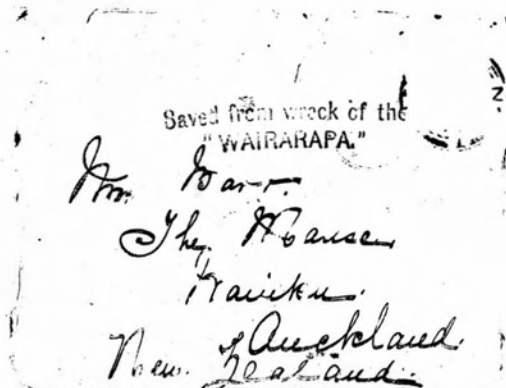
As above Sheet value on selvage. Set of 5 coil pairs 2½d - 8d.....25/-

Complete series of coil pairs with numbers 1 to 23. Some specialists like to show examples of each of the numbers found. We have a few sets (red numbers) complete, 23 mint coil pairs.
2½d.....70/- 3d.....70/- 4d 80/-

VARIETIES

- Ap 16a) Inverted Watermark Otago Centennial 1d. Good one to add to this series; not many varieties occur on this issue. Scarce 15/-
- b) 2½d Titoki Inverted wmk again. Used and seldom seen thus. Another good one.....80/-
- c) 5d Daisy Striking shift of the yellow. A real "Crazy Daisy" and in imprint block (of six). Mint.....45/-
- d) 8d Rata R1/1 the skilful retouch to the leaf that the grub had nibbled! A MUST for your 1960 pages. In corner block of four with three normals. Mint..... 12/6
- e) 8d Rata R1/9 The left hand leaf has a large hole in it due to a flaw on the printing cylinder. Another leaf that the grub nibbled! A fine block to match with the previous item. Again in marginal block of four. Mint.....12/6
- f) 1/9d Bistre R6/16, the notable flaw "cloud over mountain" being in the scarce and desirable form of a mint joined coil pair. A real specialist item..... £5
- g) Chambons Mint vertical blocks of six, ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d and 8d. Marginal copies showing printer's imprint Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd..... 115/-
- h) Chambons The set of seven as above, but not marginal (7 mint blocks of six)..... 110/-

- Ap 16i) Booklet Panes $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, and 3d panes of six show Chambon characteristics. The set of three mint blocks 45/-
- j) Chalk Paper Rare! 1d with "wide" gap, 1d with "narrow", 3d and 6d all in blocks of six and very elusive on chalky paper. Mint £6
- k) Counter Coils A few mint coil pairs are available showing "Chambon" perfs.
 3d 10/- 4d 8/6 6d 15/- 8d 17/6
- Ap 17 6d Kiwi 1898 London print 6d green with offset of the back. A clear offset and the stamp of lovely fresh appearance. Mint £12/10/-



MISCELLANEA

- Ap 25a) Great Barrier Island 6d blue triangular. A clean and attractive block of four. A desirable piece, unused. £12
- b) As above 6d, a fine used single (C. P. V7) £4
- c) "Special Post" C. P. V2. The Original Great Barrier Pigeongram Service " 1/-.
 Two attractive shades of blue (different printings?) One bright blue-green, one dull blue-green. The two unused £9
- Ap 26 Wreck Cover 1894, a marvellous piece with handstamp "Saved from the wreck of the "Wairarapa"; very clear strike, and a lovely historic item. £18
- Ap 27 Fox Glacier The beautiful 28 cent definitive on F. D. C. cancelled "Fox Glacier" 30 July 1968 special postmark. 6/-
- Ap 28 Postmarks Postal History of the K. G. V period. Clear strikes on covers specially selected for postmark interest, all uncommon, none from the bigger offices and many elusive. Can't be wrong at 18 covers £1
- Ap 29 a) 1920 Victory Imperf. plate proofs on watermarked paper in the issued colours. Scarce and fine, $\frac{1}{2}$ d (two shades) $1\frac{1}{2}$ d, 3d, 6d and 1/- £20
- b) As above The issued set in mint blocks of four with shades. $\frac{1}{2}$ d (2), 1d (2) $1\frac{1}{2}$ d (3), 2d/ $\frac{1}{2}$ d (2), 3d (2), 6d, 1/- and 3 shades of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d War Stamp. A really stupendous display. Scarce in blocks. 16 blocks of four - the scarcer pale yellow green 2d/ $\frac{1}{2}$ d is in vertical pair £16
- c) As above An attractive collection of shades and blocks. Six good shades of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d including a block, four good, distinctive 1d's, two each of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ d, 3d, 6d and 1/- and of the 2d/ $\frac{1}{2}$ d shades in three fine blocks and four singles. A really wonderful collection with a total of 42 mint. £10/10/-

We are breaking up a very fine and advanced mint collection of this increasingly popular issue. The collection is remarkable in the number of plate varieties, plate blocks, etc., etc. that it contains - being in fact one of the finest we have handled for a long time. We advertise it "Value by Value" - all stamps and blocks are on S.G. hinged leaves, Hawid mounting strips being used throughout.

First A complete run through to the £1 of the set in singles as originally issued in 1960 but including also the later issued (1961 and 1962) 2½d and 5d values and the multicoloured 1/9 and 3/-. The final 7d value (Koromiko) first issued in 1966 and becoming scarcer every day, is present.

The page of 23 stamps.....£10/10/-

- Ap 30 ½d Manuka A splendid show of this stamp, very strong in big mint blocks showing the scarce Chambon perfs. - including Chambons in Plate block and Booklet pane. Also several identified plate flaws or retouches and colour shifts. The whole lot of about 120 stamps on six album pages.....£8/7/6
- Ap 31 1d Karaka Another splendid mint lot, replete with plates, Chambons, flaws, retouches, Booklet panes with and without flaws; two strips (different shades) of the scarce Sideways wmk, scarce Chambons, plates, flaws, etc. on Chalky paper, etc.
A lovely lot. On four album leaves.....£11/12/6
- Ap 32 2d Kowhai This beautiful stamp provides a profusion of plates, coil pairs, shades, flaws, retouches, Chambons (here in great strength) etc., etc. To see this lot (on eleven album pages) is to be amazed. Definitely of Exhibition standard with plates complete, shades and varieties galore - even including two corner blocks of the rare "ZF" retouch in two different shades! To order this lot is to be well and truly hooked - you have been warned!£70
- Ap 33 2d Kowhai Missing Colour A meet comparison piece to go with the above magnificent eleven-page collection: a vertical strip of three - top stamp normal, middle stamp with name of flower completely missing, bottom stamp with all the black portions completely missing; that is, no name of the flower, no black shading and no name NEW ZEALAND!
The superb mint strip.....£85
- Ap 34 2½d Titoki Almost anti-climactic after the above but don't be deceived! On seven fine album leaves this handsome stamp is arrayed in plates of remarkable shades - all plate numbers being present. Apart from the delightful range of normals and plates there is also a page of colour shifts including a copy of the "brown colour completely missing". You will like this lot£35
- Ap 35 3d Yellow Kowhai The truly superb collection of the 3d value in lovely profusion over 16 album pages. Space does not allow of adequate description but all plates (mainly Chambon perfed!), all shades, Sideways wmk (3 strips), the special "Westport" shade in block and Plate block (very rare), flaws, perf. varieties, numerous Chalky paper pieces including a Chambon Plate Block; also a pair, one stamp partly "missing brown", the other completely ditto - all these make a splendid collection.
Ask to see it!£70
- Ap 36 4d Puarangi This stamp is particularly interesting in that it came originally from two different blue plates each numbered "1". It became known (and was fully discussed in the Bulletin) that by collecting corner Plate blocks of 25 (5 x 5) it was possible to show a series of flaws and for subsequent retouches on both plates. The plates (named for convenience 'A' and 'B') come as follows:-
- | | | |
|-----------------|----------|---|
| <u>Plate A:</u> | State 1A | Flaws on R18/3 and R18/5 |
| | State 1B | Flaw on R18/3, Retouch on R18/5 |
| | State 2 | R18/3 and R18/5 both retouched |
| | State 2 | As above, but with new green and purple plates in use, i. e. Plate 1221 instead of the original 1111. |
| <u>Plate B:</u> | State 1 | Malformed 'A' on R20/3 (no varieties on R18/3 or R18/5)
Very slight blue flaws on R16/5. (An earlier state with no flaws on R16/5 is known to exist but is very rare and here ignored) |
| | State 2 | Malformed 'A' now retouched, flaws on R16/5 substantially as before. |
| | State 3 | As State 2 but the flaws on R16/5 have now assumed major proportions. |
- This series, with the blocks written up, mounted in Hawid strips and on seven album leaves is a showpiece in any collection. One only set available, of course.....£30

Ap 37 4d Puarangi A small study on five pages. It starts with Plate blocks of 16 showing the first states of the two blue plates (flaws on R18/3 and R20/3 show the difference). These blocks are clearly perfered with different single comb machines. There follows a page with two Plate blocks showing the first (flaw) and second (retouched) states of R20/3 on Plate 'B'; one of these blocks has Chambon perfs. Next we have another page with the good flaws R6/4 and R9/9 and a page with Chambon and Single comb blocks of six plus yet another block of 16 of Plate B with malformed A on R20/3 - this is a superb Chambon block with "wide" and "narrow" features. Finally a page of Plate and "gremlin" variety blocks. The whole study, on five pages..... £12/10/-

Note: We expect to go on with the 5d pages of this outstanding collection next month, but by then they may be sold. This would hardly surprise us so why not put in a word for the rest of the collection - to view on approval, of course - if you are impressed by what has gone before.



MAORI NAMES

Recently coming across a Maori dictionary, I was fascinated by the romantic connotations behind many words and place names, and feeling sure that many of our readers will be similarly intrigued, I hope that from time we may reproduce definitions that will add pleasure to your collecting, and interest to your writing-up!

AORANGI: ao: cloud; rangi: sky. Cloud in the sky. This is one of the best-known names in New Zealand, because it is the Maori name for Mount Cook, the highest mountain peak in the country. It is popularly translated Sky-piercer, but this is not the real meaning of the name. The South Island Maoris called it Aoraki, because raki is the S.I. pronunciation of rangi. There are several versions of the true origin of the name. It is said to be named after well-known peaks in the Cook and Society groups of islands at which the Maoris called on their way to New Zealand.

Then there is a romantic legend connected with the arrival of the famous Araite-uru canoe which came from Hawaiki in the fourteenth century. The canoe was wrecked and the crew travelled by land northwards through the Mackenzie country. When they sighted Mount Cook they noticed that it was higher than any of the other peaks which had been named after members of the party. They looked round them to see who was the tallest in order that his name might be given to the mountain, and it was found that the one who was tallest was a little boy named Aorangi who was being carried on the shoulders of his grandfather.

There is another story which goes even further back into time, when the gods were to be found on the earth. Some of the sky children came to earth in a canoe which was called Te Waka-a-Aorangi, (the canoe of Aorangi). The canoe was turned to stone and became the South Island. Aorangi, the captain of the canoe, was turned into the mountain we know as Mount Cook. He had three brothers, Rangi-roa, Rangi-rua, and Rarangi-roa. They were turned into mountains too and became Mounts Dampier, Teichelmann, and the Silberhorn.

The name is applied to many other parts of New Zealand and sometimes it has an entirely different origin. There is a place of this name near Feilding. Here called the famous explorer Tamatea who was on his way to Wanganui. He left a lizard there and called the place Aorangi. It is possible that it was named after the lizard.

The Aorangi Range is mis-named, as it was originally Haurangi. The pronunciation of the two names is very similar.

(From "Maori Place Names" by A. W. Reed)