

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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COLLECTING NEW ZEALAND by Peter Collins

Observations have shown that at present New Zealand is one of the four most popular countries with collectors in the U. K. The others are G. B. (naturally), Canada and Australia. At the British Philatelic Exhibition in October 1969, there were more entries for New Zealand than for any other single country except G. B., and it ranks as one of the most popular amongst displays given to Societies. Perhaps one of the attractions of N. Z. collecting is the scope it offers for specialisation. This, of course, is all a matter of degree. The tyro graduates from being a general collector to "specialising" in British Commonwealth, then he cuts down to a "group" of countries - probably a geographical area such as the West Indies or the Pacific Islands. When the collector reaches One Country Specialisation, he really thinks he has made the grade philatelically. As far as New Zealand is concerned at any rate, he is in fact merely at the threshold of a new, vast exciting land in which he may explore fascinating facets of philately in any one of a score of issues.

Not to labour the point, we have often written in the past (and offered specialist material to collectors) of the 1898-1907 Pictorials with their many printings, brilliant shades, re-entries and proofs; Chalons (too costly for most collectors to have more than a representative run-though) and the 1960 Pictorials which with their photogravure printing offered constant flaws, retouches and imprint or plate blocks providing old philatelic themes in a new form. But for a popular stamp that will allow the fascination of specialisation to whatever extent the collector desires; the perennial favourite must be the Penny Universal.

At any philatelic level, the Penny Universal provides fun. To the most casual collector, these issues provide a wealth of shades and perforations and it will not be long before he wants to know more about them, to sort out the characteristics of the different printings and realise that distinctive features like the quality of the paper, the appearance of the perfs., the "Four o' clock Flaw", and clarity of the "Pearls" at the corners and sides are all a key to identification. There is no need here to discuss how and why some perforation varieties are exceptionally rare (look out in any accumulation for the First Local Plate Printing in perf 11, C. P. G 5b, S. G. 341 or some shades particularly desirable). It is assumed that all our readers have a CP catalogue and from the Section G notes and listing can identify Penny Universals and recognise Plate Markings when they see them (What about the plates which are identified by marginal watermark numerals?) The fun among Penny Universals is endless; the deeper you get involved, the more fascinating they become and this issue could confidently be recommended to any N. Z. collector as a source of pleasure and education. Many articles have been written on the subject, but a point which has been seemingly neglected is the identification of the five types of the Waterlow Plate printings of 1906 Plates W1 and W2. WATERLOW PLATES W1 and W2.

Remember the identifying characteristics of the Waterlow prints; paper watermarked single lined NZ and star, "pearls" at top corners and the three half way down each side always firm, complete circles, and of course, always with the four o'clock flaw.

Specialists are still trying to reason out a satisfactory explanation for the phenomena which follows, but in each horizontal row, 1 to 5, a different sub-type is found, and in rows 6 to 10, these sub-types are repeated in the same order.

The key to recognition lies in the scroll-like support below the rosette in the top left, though there were other features which may be mentioned. Reference is made to the two lines within this scroll, which follow more or less the line of the circumference of the rosette.

In type a these two lines are always well defined, the lower one is shorter than the upper.

Also in most copies of type a, there is a horizontal line through Zealandias right wrist.

In type b, the upper of the two lines runs into the circumference of the rosette at its left end. The lower line is minimal, and sometimes practically non-existent. Look also at the bottom left ornamentation on this stamp. The large S shaped decoration above the "o" of ONE rises at the top left to a throat from which a pony's tail flies away to the left: note that in this throat (forming a root so to speak for the tail) there is an extra line of colour which is absent in the corresponding position on the other types.

In type c, the lines below the rosette are clear, similar to type "a" but rather stronger in definition, but remember that in type "a" there is the line through the wrist.

In type d the lower line of the two is longer than the upper and instead of following the same curve, it breaks away sloping from top left to bottom right.

In type e, the lower line is again longer than the upper, and this lower line joins the right hand frame by the "E" of NEW.

A further feature of this type is that close examination of the top right pearl above the right rosette shows that it is not in fact a circle with a line in it, but a spiral.

Waterlow plate stamps are still fairly freely found and with experience it will not be difficult to sort out the five types described - a useful philatelic exercise which like anything else, when mastered, will prove very satisfying.

Between the laying down of plate W1 and W2, the subsidiary master die of the five types was retouched, and a second transfer roller taken up to lay down plate W2. There were some minor superficial differences, but basically all the characteristics found in plate are repeated in plate 2, but owing to the retouching the lines appear in slightly deeper colours.

Bear in mind that these notes refer to one printing of one issue of New Zealand stamps. With interest of this kind in almost every definitive issue from 1855 to 1970, it is not surprising upon reflection that N. Z. is tops in popularity polls.



Having re-read these notes, I would emphasise that the points referred to do require working with a good glass. Eight to ten times magnification is ideal for philatelists and at around 30/- you should obtain a perfectly satisfactory glass. Any reader requiring help or advice in obtaining the right kind is invited to drop me a line. Having adequate magnification ready to hand does increase tremendously your philatelic ability - and pleasure.

N. Z. - CLASSICS TO MODERNS

A random series of C. P. specials, unusual offers with something to whet (and satisfy.) every philatelic appetite. We can repeat most items more than once, but don't delay - more and more customers are realising they have to get in quickly, so to give yourself the best chance of securing your first choice why not give us a ring right away? Our number is Woking 5887.

FULL FACE QUEENS

Its time you gave yourself a representative collection to fill those early album pages. They look so well, are a pride to own - and of course; Classics are the best investment.

- Jun 1a Imperf Chalons. Davies Star Wmk, 1d, 2d (2 beauties) 3d, 6d and two shades of the 1/-.
Of course they're not perfect, but the overall appearance is very pleasing with mostly good margins and fine glowing colours. The 7 used.....£17.10s
- 1b Perforated 12½ Davies Star Wmk. 1d pale orange-vermilion, 1d brown, 2d blue (2), 2d orange (2), 3d, 4d rose, 4d yellow, 6d brown, 6d blue and two shades of the 1/-.
A full representation with the changes of colour included. One or two stamps have defects, but on the whole they are of good appearance and a series you will be pleased to show. 13 stamps used.....£15
Other similar lots are available around this price range.
- 1c Richardson White Paper. A fine used horizontal pair of the 2d with margins all round really enormous margins on three sides! Fine stamps which cannot fail to do credit to your collection. The lovely F. U. pair.....£25
- Jun 2 ½d Newspaper Stamp. These stamps are not usually well represented in collections. Now's your chance to make up a striking pageful in Mint Blocks of Four. We really mean MINT, of fresh appearance and with full gum. ½d Star Wmk (S. G. 149) two shades, and ½d NZ Star (S. G. 151) two shades; in all, four blocks of four (all sparkling mint) of stamps missing from most collections..... 50/-
- Jun 3 Second Sideface. 2½d perf 12 x 11½, C. P. D4c S. G. 190. Really tip top mint condition (from the same source as lot Jun 2) Single stamps 17/6. Blocks of four £3. Larger blocks available pro rata - what a fine show. Remember they really are brilliant mint.
- Jun 4 a) Edward VII. The King's Head issues are a most attractive series seldom available in the superb condition in which we can offer these. Absolutely tip top mint blocks of four - we're most reluctant to break them. 3d chestnut, 4d orange, 4d yellow, 5d chocolate, 6d carmine, 8d in both shades and 1/- . The 3d, 6d and 1/- are line perf. All the others perf 14 x 14½. Eight mint blocks of four in perfect condition and a bargain at much below catalogue price (S. G. £34).....£17.10s
- b) From the above collection we also obtained some surplus copies of the 1/- value, all in very much better than average condition.
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| C. P. 8a, S. G. 469 | Mint 22/6 | Used 5/- |
| C. P. 8b, S. G. 462 | Mint 22/6 | Used 5/- |

FIRST PICTORIALS

- Jun 5 London Print $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d and 2d. (S. G. 246-252). A fine range of shades with three of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, including the scarcer purple-black, three of the 1d and two of the 2d. All mint (8)..... 32/6
- Jun 6 1d White Terrace (S. G. 297-299). Spectacular shades of lake-red, rose-red and crimson. The three mint..... 17/6
- Jun 7 2d Pembroke Peak. Perf. 14 (S. G. 379 and 381). Dull grey-purple and bright reddish aniline purple. Our copies aren't shades - they're different colours! The two mint..... 7/-
- Jun 8 As above, but the scarce mixed perforations variety (S. G. 406). This is a very nice used copy with, as you would expect, three sides perf 14 and the fourth perf. 11..... £5
- Jun 9 $2\frac{1}{2}$ d Lake Wakatipu. Five stamps, being one from each of the different printings of this value. Included are both London Prints - the first having the WAKITIPU spelling error - the perf 11 on paper both watermarked and unwatermarked, and the perf 14. The second London Print (S. G. 255) is used, the other are mint..... 22/6
- Jun 10 4d White Terrace. (S. G. 258-259). This stamp exists in shades ranging from lake-rose to dull rose. We offer four good contrasts, all mint..... 35/-
- Jun 11 4d Lake Taupo. A remarkable array of shades and printings. Perf 11 no wmk (3), perf 11 wmk'd, perf 14 (3) and finally the perf 14 x 13-13 $\frac{1}{2}$, easily recognised by the neat clear-cut perforations. 8 stamps, enough to make a perfect page. All immaculate mint..... 70/-
- Jun 12 5d Otira Gorge. Perf 11 no wmk. (S. G. 276-277). Three glorious shades, ranging from a rich deep chocolate to a delicate light red brown. Mint..... 22/6
- Jun 13 6d Kiwi perf. 11, no wmk. Matching mint singles in the original green (S. G. 279) and the later rose-red (S. G. 311). The two..... 35/-
- Jun 14 As above, but perf 11, wmk'd (C. P. 14e, S. G. 361-5). Two lovely shades, and beautifully mint, too!..... 30/-
- Jun 15 1/- Kea and Kaka perf 11, no wmk (S. G. 284-287, C. P. E18b). No less than six outstanding shades in this lot - a real riot in red! Mint..... £5
- Jun 16 London Print 2/- and 5/- (S. G. 270-271). Fine mint examples of these scarce values seldom available thus, and very good buying at, the pair..... £10
- Jun 17 1907-08 Redrawn "Small" 3d, 6d and 1/- . These are the missing ones in most collections. Here's your chance to get a comprehensive showing. In the perf 14 are the 3d and 6d (two fine shades); perf 14 x 13-13 $\frac{1}{2}$, 3d and 1/-; perf 14 x 15, 3d, 6d and 1/- . Eight elusive stamps, complete excepting only the rare 6d perf 14 X 13-13 $\frac{1}{2}$, condition absolutely sparkling mint throughout..... £10
- 18 Perfins. It has been stated that these are seldom seen in N. Z. stamps. Some years ago, our Auckland Office made up three approval books for a customer interested in these items. We believe he died before they had obtained sufficient material to fill the books; and now we have got them. There are about 75 stamps many identified with the firms' names - one is annotated "Rare - only 4 known"! The complete stock mounted and priced to about £7 (not all different)..... 35/-

- Jun 19 17th Feb 1934. First Trans Tasman Air Mail. Cover with the 7d blue air stamp, backstamped and with appropriate cachet - per "Faith in Australia"..... 40/-
- Jun 20 2nd Mar. 1945. Opening Day of Raoul Island Kermadec Islands P. O. Cover with either 2d Whare or "Girl Guides" Health stamp clearly postmarked on the opening day..... 6/-
- Jun 21 a) Health. Nurse. Seldom seen and a really exciting addition for the keen "Health" collector. 1930 marginal block of four good used. One stamp has small surface flaw, but a good clear postmark and very scarce..... 110/-
- b) Crusader. Another beautiful used block of four, seldom seen. With neat postmark 27 FE 35 once on each stamp..... 90/-
- c) Used Health. The earlier Health issues are becoming increasingly difficult. At present we can supply from stock
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| 1929..... | 15/- | 1937..... | 8/6 |
| 1931..... | £21 | 1938..... | 2/6 |
| 1935..... | 6/- | 1940..... | 12/6 |
- d) Inverted Wmk. Crusader, 1934 issue. A good variety. Mint..... 75/-
- Jun 22 Soldier. The 1946 Health Pair with "Blurred Centre". This is a scarce item and in a distinctive shade. With normal pair for comparison. (Altogether 4 stamps) Mint..... 30/-
- Jun 23 Q. E. Official. 3d with Wmk. Inverted - and quite a scarce one. Used..... 20/-
- Jun 24 Q. E. Provisional. 2½d on 3d. A mint block of ten (2 x 5). With four narrow and six wide setting, producing two vertical setenant pairs where they meet. A very attractive piece. Mint..... £5
- Jun 25 a) 1967 3c Puarangi. Some two years ago it was discovered that Plate 2B1B1B1B of this value had been retouched, so that sheets exist in two states, (i) original and (ii) retouched. As flaws on at least 9 impressions were retouched, and some 9 further varieties are constant throughout, sheets showing states (i) and (ii) are full of interest. We can again offer these, with full descriptive notes on all the points of interest. Two complete sheets of 200 stamps each, states (i) and (ii) as described..... £15
- (b) As above. The original flaw state (i) only. One complete sheet, again with full description..... £9

POSTAGE DUES

S. G.		MINT	USED
D1	½d Frame Type 1.	1/-	8/-
D2	8d	35/-	40/-
D3	1/-	30/-	40/-
D6	5d	17/6	12/6
D7	6d	17/6	15/-
D8	10d	37/6	-
D9	½d Frame Type 2.	9d	3/-
D10	1d	3/-	6d
D12	3d	3/-	6d
D16	4d	12/6	5/-

Frame type 1 has the D of value and N. Z. large, type 2 has small letters N. Z.

- Jun 26 We can offer a short mint representative set ½d Type-1, ½d Type 2, 1d, 3d, 4d. 5d and 6d (7) Mint..... 50/-

To remind you that we have straight forward stocks of most modern issues available. We can also supply from stock constant varieties, plate blocks and similar items of the Q. E. period.

Q. E. II QUEEN'S HEAD

S. G.	Mint	Used	S. G.	Mint	Used
723 ½d black	3d	2d	<u>Large Figures 1955-60</u>		
724 1d orange	3d	2d	745 1d orange	3d	2d
725 1½d lake	6d	6d	746 1½d lake	1/-	1/-
726 2d green	6d	6d	747 2d green	6d	3d
727 3d vermillion	6d	3d	748 3d vermillion	1/-	1/-
728 4d blue	1/-	3d	749 4d blue	1/-	3d
729 6d purple	2/-	6d	750 6d purple	1/-	3d
730 8d carmine	1/6	9d	<u>White Opaque Paper</u>		
731 9d brn and grn	1/6	6d	745Eo 1d orange	3d	2d
732 1/blk and red	2/-	6d	747Eo 2d green	9d	6d
733 1/6 blk and blue	3/6	9d	748Eo 3d vermillion	9d	3d
733a 1/9 blk and orge	6/-	1/6	749Eoi 4d blue	3/6	1/6
733b 2/6 brown	60/-	8/-	751 8d chestnut	10/-	10/-
734 5/- green	30/-	3/6	733Eao 1/9 white opaque paper	6/-	1/6
735 5/- carmine	30/-	3/6			
736 10/- blue	110/-	45/-			

1953-60 Queen's Head used to 5/ (22) including the "Queen on Horseback" and scarce 8d chestnut. (S. G. 723-735, 745-750 and 751). 27/6

BOOKLETS

Small Figures 4/ Book, first issue, two panes 1d stamps, two panes 3d. Complete. . . . 13/-
Large Figures 4/ Book, as above but the stamps with large figures of value. 27/6

COUNTER COIL PAIRS

At Stampex 1970, the Silver Bowl awarded for the best collection of Commonwealth Q. E. Stamps, was won by an exhibit of New Zealand Counter Coils. These are a most fascinating field for specialisation, and necessary for the completion of any Q. E. display. They are listed in the S. G. Elizabethan Catalogue, but fuller details are to be found in the Campbell Paterson New Zealand Specialists Catalogue. Anyone interested in the New Zealand stamps of this period should have a showing of these coil pairs.

QUEEN S HEAD COIL PAIRS

726Ea. 2dgreen. 3/-	727Ea. 3d vermillion. 3/-
728Ea. 4d blue. 5/-	729Ea. 6d purple. 6/-
730Ea. 8d carmine. 6/-	731Eb. 9d vertical pr. 7/6
732Ec. 1/- vertical pr. 10/-	733Ec. 1/6 vertical pr. 12/6
733EaEob 1/9 white paper. 25/-	747Ea. 2d large figures. 6/-
747Ea. 2d white paper. 12/-	748Eoa. 3d white paper. 12/-
750Ea. 6d large figures. 7/6	751Ea. 8d chestnut. 27/6