

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



PUBLISHED BY CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD.

P. O. Box 17, 3a Oriental Road, Woking, Surrey.

ISSUED MONTHLY.

☎ WOKING 5887.



All lots offered on approval subject to being unsold.

VOLUME IX

NUMBER 11

June 1972

NEVER A DULL MOMENT

by Colin Hamilton

Ploughing through auction lots with a view to possible bidding - as anyone who has had any experience of it will verify - can sometimes be a chore. But it's certainly never a bore.

Frequently a collection will live up (or should it be live down?) to the standard descriptive phrases so often used: "Some hundreds, mint and used, mixed condition, nothing rare". But the excitement of the chase is always present. Will there perhaps be something the describer, and the owner (and presumably all the other previous owners) haven't recognised? Sometimes, just sometimes, there is.

The other day I was leafing through a lot such as I have described. Page after page of the most mundane material. In the entire album there were probably not more than half a dozen stamps of which we didn't have drawers already full, and of that half dozen three at least came at the wrong end of the "mixed condition" scale.

Another lot to forget about, my mind was already made up. Then, tucked away on the last page of all, amidst a scattering of common, scruffy and mutilated "Officials", I noticed a very nice used copy of the King Edward VII Land 1d.

Now it's a fairly safe bet - in fact in another sphere the expression would be a racing certainty - that if you're looking at a K. E. VII Land 1d, you're looking at a Penny Universal printed from the Royle Plates. Nonetheless, it is always worth the second or two it takes to scan any copy under a glass, because there are two other possible alternatives - the rare Waterlow Trial Plate 1 print, and the excessively rare copy from the Dot Plates.

In this case, a quick glance was enough to confirm in my own mind that this was not a Royle, but a Waterlow.

There need never be any question of confusing the two. A number of clear-cut indentifying factors are listed on Permanent Page G3 of the C. P. Catalogue. In addition, conclusive identification of 80% of all Waterlow Trial Plates stamps (whether or not they happen to have the K. E. VII Land overprint) is possible by reference solely to the "Five Types" characteristics which have been discussed at length in previous Bulletin articles. The exception is Type C (i. e. copies from horizontal rows 3 and 8 in the sheet), in which the curved line below the rosette at the top left is similar to that in the Royles.

The stamp I was examining had this indeterminate characteristic, but on all other counts it answered the description of a Waterlow Plate W1 copy - complete pearl at top left, pearls at left and right centre all well-defined, those at the right having no line of shading within the circumference. Nevertheless, taking the "professional" line (call it sceptical if you prefer!) that all swans are geese until proved otherwise, I set about double-checking my identification against an ordinary copy.

As it happened, there was only one other available - our stocks having been depleted by a recent advertisement. And believe it or believe it not, this "ordinary" copy also proved to be a Waterlow, in this case a crystal clear example of Type A, with the line through Zealandia's right wrist!

Here we have a stamp of which only about fifteen or sixteen copies are said to be known, yet two had turned up within a matter of minutes, neither of them previously recognised for what they were.

As I said at the beginning, there's never a dull moment with stamps!

1960 PICTORIAL 3d "MIXED PAPER" COUNTER COILS

Following my article on the above in the January 1972 Bulletin, Mr J. Whincop of New Zealand (who has done considerable research into the subject) has kindly sent the following additional information.

"Stamps are supplied to the Government Printer by the Custodian of Stamps in bundles of 500 sheets, flagged every 50 sheets. In this case 12 bundles, each of 500 sheets, were supplied in Aug. 1966, a total of 6000 sheets, plus 48 extra sheets, probably to cover any sheets damaged when connecting up the sheets prior to cutting into coils. It is usual to lay out ALL the sheets at the start of the coiling. So 24 heaps were laid out, each of 250 sheets, and you will see that one bundle, making 2 heaps (of stamps printed on chalky paper) was at the high numbered end, and 2 bundles, making 4 heaps were at the low numbered end. This shows plainly on your plan. As to the No. 3 mixed pair, I would assume that at the end of the coiling run on the 6000 sheets, the other 48 sheets, in 24 heaps of 2 sheets, were also coiled, as the Custodian of Stamps duly received from the Govt. Printer 3024 coils. If an odd sheet or more in the last 48 sheets happened to be chalky, then a variation in some coils could occur, and as no damaged sheets were returned to the Custodian of Stamps, then these last 48 sheets were coiled. The coiling started in August and finished in September; my coil is dated Aug. 1966. (Mr Whincop is still trying to ascertain the exact dates when coiling commenced and was completed; also how many rolls, if any, were destroyed when the issue was withdrawn in July, 1967.) Although these mixed pairs may appear to be scarce, this has come about mainly because of the scarcity of coil collectors, and the fact that many collectors did not recognise the variety. I know of other collectors in N. Z. with the complete set, and they all tally with your plan."

$\frac{1}{2}$ d MOUNT COOK

601	Double lined NZ and Star wmk, "Waterlow" paper	
(a)	Perf 11 (Fla). Block of 4, mint	£1.00
(b)	As above. Two fine shade singles, mint	50p
(c)	Perf 14 x 11 (Flc). Mint single	75p
(d)	Mixed Perfs. (Flc). Perf 14 x 11, reperfed 11 at foot, with official patching, Mint single	£2.00

- 602 Double lined NZ and Star Wmk, Basted Mills paper
- (a) Perf 11 x 14 (F2d). Green and deep green, two mint..... £1.50
- (b) Mixed Perfs. (F2e). Vertical crease, but scarce. Unused..... £3.00
- 603 No wmk, Cowan paper.
- (a) Perf 11 (F3a). Very fine used copy. Rare.....£10.00
- (b) Perf 14 (F3b). Mint single..... 25p
- (c) Perf 14 x 11 (F3c). Another rarity (As in fact, are all Cowan no wmk issues, with the exception of the perf 14 all round). Single mint or used..... £10.00
- (d) As above. Block of 4, never linged mint.....£40.00
- (e) Almost certainly unique. An exquisite mint block of 36 (6 x 6), perf 14 x 11, being from the top left corner of the sheet, with top and side selvedge. The block carries a note that it is "from the only sheet found", and we cannot refute this statement! The mint block, in superb condition£350.00
- (f) Mixed Perfs. (F3e). Yet another exhibition-class piece, being a block of 4 with bottom selvedge, originally perf 14 all round, and re-perfed 11 vertically. With official patching on reverse, and razor cuts to facilitate separation. The mint block £40.00
- 604 Cowan Wmk'd paper, printed from original plates
- (a) Perf 14 (F4b). Three excellent shades of green, from deep to pale. Three mint..... 70p
- (b) As above, but three used...... 12p
- (c) As above. Variety wmk inverted-and-reversed. Scarce..... £5.00
- 605 Cowan wmk'd paper, printed from new plates
- (a) Perf 14 x 13½ (F5b). Block of yellow green. Lovely mint..... 75p
- (b) As above. Shade singles in dull green and yellow green. Superb contrast. The two mint..... 55p
- (c) Perf 14 x 15. The catalogued shades of yellow-green and deep yellow green, both mint and used. The four stamps, complete..... 35p
- 606 Reference set. Used copies of F4b and F5a, clearly showing the differences between the old and new plates. The two used..... 25p

MISCELLANEOUS

- 607 K. G. V Variety. The prominent "Flaw on face" (Row 6, No. 8), which is constant on all 3d surface printed issues, here offered on the "perf 14 Cowan" issue (K19d), in joined pair with normal. Mint..... £2.75
- 608 K. G. V Officials
- (a) 1/- Vermilion. Perf 14 x 14½ (KO12b). A magnificent set of three blocks of 4, being one each of the vermilion, orange vermilion and the scarcer salmon shades. Truly superb display. The three blocks, mint..... £4.25
- (b) As above. The salmon shade only, in mint pair..... £1.25
- (c) 1½d Orange-Brown. Perf 14, Cowan (KO17c). The nice "No stop after Official" variety in marginal block of 4 (three normals). Mint..... £2.25

- 609 K. E. VII 8d Official, perf 14 x 13½ (HO7c) Mint corner copy with variety wmk inverted £1.50
- 610 K. G. VI 1d Scarlet (M2a). Two booklet panes of 6, one with wmk upright, one with wmk inverted. The pair of panes, mint. £3.50
- 611 1940 Centennial Officials. Eight values of this set exist with the variety "Joined ff in Official". The forme used for overprinting the 2½d value included, by mistake, one of the stereos used for the Second Pictorial officials. This forme was later broken up, and 80 of the stereos (including the one with joined ff) were made up into another forme, which was used to overprint some of the supplies of the other values in which it appears. We offer the complete set of 8, each in marginal pair with normal (the 2½d is in marginal strip of 3). A scarce set, superfine mint. £20.00
- 612 1929 Health. Marginal pair, the left hand stamp being the variety R1/1 "Partially unshaded veil". The variety pair, mint £2.00
- 613 (a) 1930 Health. A clean, fresh First Day Cover (clearly postmarked CHRISTCHURCH 29 OCT. 1930). This is a very scarce item - the C. P. Catalogue price of \$5.50 is obviously a printing error (which will incidentally be rectified in the coming Supplement Sheets). The elusive cover £20.00
- (b) As above. A mint block of four of this fast-rising stamp, plateable as Rows 3 and 4, Nos 1 and 2 by reference to small but constant marks on three of the stamps. The "plated" block. £7.00

RECENT ISSUES

For readers who may have missed them first time round, we list again some of the Commemorative issues of the last year or so.

9/6/71	6c. Antarctic Treaty. Single mint 4p used.	4p
	Imprint/plate block of 4.	20p
	7c. UNICEF. Single mint 5p used.	5p
	Imprint/plate block of 10.	55p
	F. D. C. with both the above stamps.	14p
14/7/71	8c., 10c. Satellite. Set of 2 mint 13p used.	13p
	Imprint/plate blocks of 4. Set of 2, complete.	60p
	F. D. C. Auckland postmark.	16p
	F. D. C. Special Warkworth postmark.	18p
3/11/71	2c., 5c., 8c. Roses. Set of 3 mint 16p used.	16p
	Imprint/plate blocks of 4. Set of 3, complete.	70p
	F. D. C. Auckland postmark.	18p
	F. D. C. Special Hamilton postmark.	23p