

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

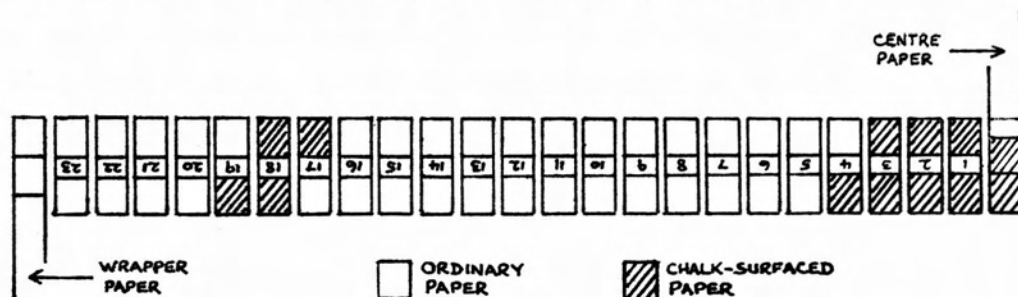
NUMBER 6

JANUARY 1972

1960 PICTORIAL 3d - COUNTER COIL VARIETY

by Colin Hamilton

Recently I obtained, from a non-specialist source, two complete sets of 3d Kowhai counter coil pairs, numbered 1-23, with wrapper and centre papers. Both sets included three examples of the scarce variety "coil pair, one stamp ordinary paper, one stamp chalk-surfaced paper", and both were of identical make-up (see illustration). In actual fact these sets are rather more elaborate than usual, the wrapper and centre papers being still attached to the nearest numbered joins (nos 23 and 1 respectively) by a complete section of 20 stamps, while the remaining 21 joins have two stamps on either side instead of the more usual one. In both cases the date of coiling, rubber-stamped on the wrapper and centre papers, is SEP 1966.



A substantial number of "mixed paper" coil pairs has passed through our hands since the variety was first noted in late 1966, but since these are the first complete sets containing the variety we have ever handled (or, for that matter, heard of), I was prompted to inquire into all the circumstances surrounding this variety. It proved to be a fascinating if rather complicated exercise and, as will emerge from what follows, the research is far from complete.

Strangely enough, a search through our files of the New Zealand Newsletter revealed no reference to the variety although, as I have already indicated, its existence has been well known to us for about five years. Fortunately, however, our Miss Tutt has preserved a careful record of the coil numbers appearing on those mixed paper pairs we have seen. The list is brief, for in every case the number has been one of only three - either 4, or 17, or 19. Furthermore, without having actual documentary evidence of this, I am as nearly certain as can be that the make-up of these mixed pairs always conforms to the following pattern:

Coil nos. 4 and 19 - upper stamp ordinary paper, lower stamp chalky.
Coil no. 17 - upper stamp chalky paper, lower stamp ordinary.

(these descriptions assume that the pairs are viewed with the stamp designs upright, i. e. with the coil numbers inverted).

In other words, these recently acquired sets confirm exactly our own observations over a period of some years.

To these three numbers, however, I can now add one other. Mr Frank Hughes, of Westcliff-on-Sea, has shown me a mixed pair with coil no. 3, the pair being of the same make-up as nos. 4 and 19 above. I will return to this later.

The next point to be considered is how the mixed paper variety came about, and to understand this some knowledge of the coil-making process is necessary. Briefly, a number of normal full sheets of 240 stamps had the bottom selvages trimmed to within 2 - 9 mm of the bottom row of stamps, and was then divided into 24 equal piles. Of these, the first pile had the top selvedge left unnumbered, the second was numbered 23 on the selvedge above each of the twelve vertical rows of stamps (the numbers being inverted in relation to the designs), the third was numbered 22 in similar fashion, and so on down to the last pile, which was numbered 1. Next, the sheets were gummed selvedge-to-selvedge in descending numerical order, starting and finishing with sheets of perforated coloured paper which eventually became the wrapper and centre papers, and the whole was wound, wrapper paper innermost, on to a reel. This monster reel was then fitted to a coiling machine and fed through a row of 13 rotary knives which guillotined off the side-selvages and separated the sheet-wide reel into 12 continuous vertical strips. These were then rewound on to bobbins - centre papers first this time - and the finished article was a counter coil or, to use official terminology, a counter roll.

At the beginning of the manufacturing process of some coils, a quantity (apparently a small quantity) of sheets printed on chalk-surfaced paper must have been added to a batch of sheets printed on ordinary paper, to make up the required number. By simple deduction from the evidence available, these chalky sheets were obviously apportioned to the piles numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 18 and 19, thus producing mixed paper varieties in the coils in which they were included, at the joins numbered 4, 17 and 19, and all-chalky pairs with joins numbered 1, 2, 3, and 17.

At this point we have to consider another factor - the general incidence of all-chalky 3d coil pairs. Unfortunately I have no record of the coil numbers seen on chalky paper pairs, but I do not recall ever having seen a complete set. This begs the question as to whether in fact the mixed paper coils were the only source of all-chalky pairs in this value. If such were the case, chalky paper pairs would exist only with coil numbers 1, 2, 3, and 17, and would therefore be to all intents and purposes as scarce as the mixed paper pairs.

There remains the matter of Mr Hughes' mixed pair with coil no. 3. I am completely satisfied with the authenticity of this pair, having been able by reference to complete top and bottom rows of stamps from sheets, also in his collection, to "plate" both stamps in the pair to the same vertical row of their respective sheets. (It will be obvious from the description of the manufacture of the coils given earlier that any complete coil must consist of the same vertical row from 24 different sheets). In addition, I happen to know whence this pair originally came, and the source is unimpeachable.

As an adjunct to the large and highly specialised collection which included this pair, Mr Hughes also acquired a vast quantity of immensely detailed notes. These notes tend to confirm much of what I have written about the make-up of the mixed paper coils, although it is interesting that in this instance the notes are not backed up by material, other than odd mixed-paper pairs.

I hasten to add that this is surprising only because of the advanced state of completion in the collection generally. On the precise point of how the variety occurred, the notes are rather "woolly", and in regard to the pair numbered 3, they merely observe: "In a few instances (in mixed paper coils) the pair numbered 3 was a mixed pair instead of the pair numbered 4". Although the quotation may not be word for word, the meaning is precise - the underlining is mine. I would therefore put forward the following as a theory.

Suppose the number of sheets used in a "making" of counter coils was 960, that is, enough to make 480 complete coils. The exact number is not particularly important, the only requirement being that it must be a multiple of 24. These 960 sheets would be divided into 24 piles of 40. Now suppose that during the making of one batch, on the usual unsurfaced paper, it was discovered that (perhaps due to miscounting, or to spoilage) piles 1, 2 and 3 consisted of only 35 sheets each, and pile 4 of 36 sheets, while piles 18 and 19 were also short, say by 5 sheets each. Additional sheets (on chalk-surfaced paper) would be obtained from stock and sufficient to make each up to the required 40 sheets would be placed on top of piles 1, 2, 3, 4, 18 and 19. Bearing in mind the date of coiling, the fact that these additional sheets were on chalky paper would be unremarkable in itself.

Taking the quantities I have suggested, the first four reels (i.e. 48 counter coils) would yield sets of coil pairs identical in make-up to that illustrated, and the next reel (12 counter coils) would yield sets containing mixed pairs with coil no. 3 instead of no. 4, exactly as suggested in Mr Hughes' notes.

I would emphasise again that the quantities I have used are quite arbitrarily chosen. Since Mr Hughes' mixed pair numbered 3 is the sole recorded example, however, it seems probable that, as I have suggested, only one reel was in fact made including mixed pairs in this position.

It will be evident from the above that, to fit the known facts, the low number chalky and mixed pairs (coil nos 1-4) must be inter-related, i.e. if the pair numbered 4 in any given coil was a mixed pair, then pairs 1, 2, and 3 from that coil must have been all-chalky. Similarly, the higher number mixed and chalky pairs (nos. 17-19) must be inter-related. But there need not of necessity be any such connection between the two blocks of numbers. The 1-4 group could have occurred in an entirely different making from the 17-19 group. The evidence of the two sets I have seen is inconclusive on this point. A careful examination of shade variations and minor colour shifts proves that in neither case were the individual joins originally parts of one continuous coil. Nonetheless, because of the peculiar circumstances, I incline to the view that all did come from the same making. This would not preclude the possibility, of course, that larger numbers of one group than of the other were made. For example, if the short-count of sheets on piles 17-19 was greater than that on piles 1-4, more chalky sheets would have to be added to the former, and this would in turn result in some coils containing the variety pairs numbered 17-19, but not those numbered 1-4.

In the absence of solid evidence, much of what I have written is inevitably conjecture, and is put forward in the hope that readers will be able either to confirm or refute the points in doubt with information based on material from their collections. For instance, do mixed paper pairs exist with coil numbers other than 3, 4, 17 and 19? Do all examples with the four recorded numbers conform to the pattern described? Do any other complete sets including mixed pairs exist? If so, are they demonstrably from the same coil? Do any all-chalky pairs exist with coil numbers other than 1, 2, 3 and 18? The list of unanswered questions is almost endless.

As a footnote, I am sure that Frank Hughes will not mind my mentioning that he plans not only to make a competitive entry (of the 1960 Pictorials) in the big Welpex 1972 Exhibition, but also to deliver the entry to Wellington in person. Quite an undertaking for one approaching 80 years young! We wish him good luck, and bon voyage.

USED VARIETIES BONANZA !

Add interest to YOUR collection, this inexpensive way. All varieties identified, ready to mount.

Definitives

101 (a)	<u>Q. E. 1/-</u>	Frame plate 1B R6/5 Retouch at lower right (Th. G7, H7)	20p
(b)	<u>As above</u>	Frame plate 1A R7/2 Second retouch at lower right (Th. G7, H7)	20p
(c)	<u>As above</u>	Frame plate 1A R7/7 Retouch above EALAN (Th. H4, 5)	25p
(d)	<u>As above</u>	Frame plate 1B R5/2 Second retouch around EW (Th. H2, 3)	25p
(e)	<u>As above</u>	Frame plate 1B R1/10 Re-entry - right frame line doubled	20p
(f)	<u>As above</u>	Frame plate 1B R2/10 Re-entry, similar to above.....	20p
(g)	<u>As above</u>	Frame plate 1B R3/10 Re-entry, similar to above.....	20p
(h)	<u>As above</u>	Frame plate 1B R4/10 Re-entry, similar to above.....	20p
(i)	<u>As above</u>	Frame plate 1B Set of 4 re-entries as above Although these are similar varieties, all are clearly identifiable, one from the other. Set of 4, a bargain at.....	60p
102 (a)	<u>1960 1/2d Manuka</u>	R1/4 White flaw on D of value.....	15p
(b)	<u>As above</u>	R7/8 "Tear-drop from fraction bar".....	20p
103 (a)	<u>1960 2d Kaka</u>	Beak Red pl. 2. R12/9. Red flaw below petal tip (Th. F5).....	15p
(b)	<u>As above</u>	Black pl. 2. R3/1. ZFALAND The good one - scarce....	£4.50
(c)	<u>As above</u>	Black pl. 1. R14/4. "Shaved ND of LAND".....	20p
(d)	<u>As above</u>	Green pl. 5. R16/11. "Spur on 2". Very prominent	25p
104 (a)	<u>1960 4d Puarangi</u>	R18/3 "Moon emerging from behind petal". Spectacular !	25p
(b)	<u>As above</u>	R6/4 "Foot on 4" flaw	20p
(c)	<u>As above</u>	R9/9 "P for D" flaw	25p
105	<u>1960 5d Daisy</u>	R9/5. Large retouch below 5D.....	35p
106	<u>1960 7d Koromiko</u>	Wmk inverted. Scarce used	£1.00
107 (a)	<u>1967 2 1/2c Kowhai</u>	R8/5 "Butterfly on flower" (Pl. 2A1A).....	40p
(b)	<u>As above</u>	R10/6 "Serif to large 2" (Pl. 2A1A).....	40p
(c)	<u>As above</u>	R14/9 "Apostrophe over D of LAND" (Pl. 2B1B)	35p
(d)	<u>As above</u>	R6/8 White flaw below top stalk (Pl. ?)	20p
(e)	<u>As above</u>	R12/7 Two prominent background retouches (Pl. 2B1B)	20p
(f)	<u>As above</u>	R18/7 White flaw on N of LAND (Pl. 2B1B)	20p
(g)	<u>As above</u>	R20/4 "Accent on A of LAND" (Pl. 2B1B)	20p
108 (a)	<u>1967 3c Puarangi</u>	R11/5 Enormous white flaw on Z (Pl. 2A1A).....	40p
(b)	<u>As above</u>	R13/9 Large re-touch above D of LAND (Pl. 2A1A).....	20p
(c)	<u>As above</u>	R5/4 White flaw above 3c (Pl. 2A1A).....	20p
(d)	<u>As above</u>	R15/8 "Gnome's head" flaw at top right (Pl. 1B).....	35p
(e)	<u>As above</u>	R20/9 White flaw at top right (Pl. 2A1A).....	20p
(f)	<u>As above</u>	R9/5 White flaw by flower at right centre (Pl. 2B1B).....	20p
(g)	<u>As above</u>	R7/3 White flaw below R of PUARANGI (Pl. 2B1B).....	20p
(h)	<u>As above</u>	R7/1 Retouch above D of LAND (Pl. 2B1B).....	20p
(i)	<u>As above</u>	Prominent white flaw above N of NEW (Constant, but unplaced).....	20p

Commemoratives

109	1958 Hawkes Bay 3d	R10/2 "White sail" (above A of LAND).....	30p
110	1959 Marlborough 3d	R17/5 "Extra horn" (bullock on left)	30p
111 (a)	1962 Telegraph 3d	R15/4 Sky retouch above A of ZEA.....	25p
(b)	As above	R20/3 Sky retouch below Z.....	25p
112 (a)	1963 Road Safety	R3/2 "Apostrophe between W and Z".....	25p
(b)	As above	R5/3 White nick in N of NEW.....	20p
(c)	As above	R5/8 Black bar on wrist.....	20p
(d)	As above	R9/6 Blue flaw in D of ROADS.....	20p
(e)	Set of four varieties	as described above. All are clearly naked-eye, and attractive. Special price, the set of 4.....	75p
113	1965 ANZAC 4d	R1/6. "Cap on 5 of 1915" Nice !	30p
114	1965 I. C. Y.	Wmk inverted.....	25p

Christmas Issues

115	(a)	<u>1961 R2/12</u>	"Slipped halo" (Retouch around neck of central figure) (Pl. 1A).....	35p
	(b)	<u>As above</u>	R3/8 Retouch at top of central arch. (Pl. 1A).....	35p
	(c)	<u>As above</u>	R4/4 Retouch at apex of barn roof (Pl. 1A).....	35p
116		<u>1962 R7/1</u>	"Stain on shawl" flaw.....	35p
117	(a)	<u>1963 R3/8</u>	"Donkey's nosebag" Spectacular ! Given away at.....	20p
	(b)	<u>As above</u>	R3/4 "Handle on boy's crook".....	15p
	(c)	<u>As above</u>	"Joseph with halo" (result of good colour shift).....	20p
118	(a)	<u>1962 R5/2</u>	"Spear in distant sand".....	20p
	(b)	<u>As above</u>	Grey flaw in gutter at bottom left.....	20p

1898 - 1935 AND ALL THAT

Anyone who has kept even half an eye on the market will know that these middle-period issues of New Zealand are the fast-rising stars of the philatelic future. We are breaking up a very fine collection of the K. E. VII of the K. G. V. period, and here make a selection of choice offers. But be warned - they won't last long, so don't delay !

- 119 1898 London Print Pictorials. A magnificent lot of all values from the $\frac{1}{2}$ d right through to the 5/-, including a lovely range of shades of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, 2d, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d (both), 4d, 5d (2, one being the scarce sepia), 6d, 8d, 1/- and 2/- . Also included are identified varieties in the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d (block of 9) and the 2/- (pair). 47 stamps, all mint except the 3d, which is fine used. 2 x $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1 x 5d (not the sepia) and 1 x 1/- are creased, and are completely discounted in the price. A marvellous collection for someone at..... £32.50
- 120 1899 Pictorials. Perf 11, no wmk. Again a brilliant display of shades, with $2\frac{1}{2}$ d (2), 3d, 4d (3), 5d (2, incl. a pair), 6d green (2), 6d red (2), 8d, 9d (2), 1/- (3), 2/- (2) and 5/1 (2). A beautiful set, and very comprehensive All mint..... £30.00
- EXHIBITION MULTIPLES. The following four items would grace any collection of the First Pictorials. Premium pieces at non-premium prices (All are of the perf 11, no wmk issue).
- 121 $2\frac{1}{2}$ d Lake Wakatipu. A super block of 25 (5 x 5) from the lower right corner of the sheet, in a glorious shade of blue. Perfs slightly reinforced at one point (in the selvage only). The block..... £5.00

- 122 3d Huías. Another large block (6 x 4), this time from the top left corner of the sheet, with gum so dull as to be almost undetectable (characteristic of certain printings of this period). Immaculate. £6.00
- 123 8d War Canoe. A delightful bottom selvage block of 24 (4 x 6), with the same matt gum as in the 3d block above. Pieces of this size, and in this condition, are rarely seen. £12.00
- 125 9d Pink Terrace. A gem among gems. Block of 8 (2 x 4) with left selvage in a breathtakingly rich shade of deep purple. So fresh it could well have been issued today, instead of 70 years ago. £10.00
- 126 1907-08 Redrawn Designs. These "small" stamps are far from easy to find, yet here we offer a complete showing (minus the shades). In perf 14, the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 3d and 6d (carmine-pink); perf 14 x 13- $\frac{1}{2}$, the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 3d, 4d, 6d (the rare one!) and 1/-; perf 14 x 15, the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, 3d, 6d and 1/-. The pretty, and valuable, pageful of 13 stamps, mint. £24.50
- 127 K. E. VII Definitives. S. G. 449-469 and 474-478 absolutely complete, with the exception of the imperf pairs, the vertical "two-perf" pairs and of course, the impossible 8d line perf 14 (S. G. 468). This comprehensive lot includes all S. G. listed shades, 26 mint, (Much undercatalogued). £29.00
- 128 K. G. V. Recess-Printed Issues. A magnificent blaze of colour, provided by no less than 32 stamps. Complete in both perf 14 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ (S. G. 479-491 and 493-495), including both shades of the 5d and 1/-, and in perf. 14 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ (S. G. 479a-491a, 492, 493a, 494a). What a page! All mint. £10.50
- 129 As above, but the issues on "Pictorial" paper. A fine little set, complete except S. G. 497c. Of the no watermark varieties both 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d's and 2d are in pair with normal. 10 stamps plus a "two-perf" vertical pair, all mint except the 3d no wmk, which is used. Seldom offered. £7.50

COUNTER COIL PAIRS IN COMPLETE SETS

There is an increasing demand for these fascinating issues - unfortunately there can be no corresponding increase in supply. Complete sets, even of comparatively recent issues, are by no means easy to find.

- 130 (a) Q. E. 6d "Small Figure of Value". (NC1j) Nos 1-19 19 Coil pairs. £5.00
- (b) Q. E. 8d Rose-Carmine, later type coil numbers (NC3e) Nos 1-19. £6.25
- (c) Q. E. 9d, vertical pairs, coil nos upright (NC3E) Nos 1-19. £7.50
- (d) Q. E. 1/-, vertical pairs, coil nos. sideways (NC6c) Nos 1-19, total cat. £23.75. Special offer. £15.00
- (e) 1960 Pictorial 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d Titoki. (OC2b) Nos 1-23 with wrapper and centre papers. £5.00
- (f) 1960 Pictorial 3d Kowhai. The "mixed papers" set as described in this month's Bulletin article, comprising four chalky paper pairs, three "mixed" pairs and sixteen ordinary paper pairs, with wrapper paper (chalky stamps attached) and centre paper (ordinary paper stamps attached). Only two such sets recorded. £20.00
- (g) 1960 Pictorial 8d Rata. (OC2f) Nos 1-23, with wrapper paper (cat. £9.75 as single pairs). £8.50
- (h) 1960 Pictorial 1/- Timber. (OC2g) Nos 1-19 with wrapper and centre papers. £27.50
- (i) As above, but the even scarcer black coil numbers issue. (OC1c). Complete set 1-19 with starter paper. £40.00
- 131 Specialist set. Two counter coil pairs with sheet value marking - 2d Kaka Beak with black coil no. (OC1a) and 8d Rata with red coil no. (OC2f) - illustrating clearly how the difficulty of reading the black coil numbers on sheet value pairs led to the change to red coil numbers. Two pairs showing a slice of philatelic history. £1.75
- 132 6d Pikiarero. The variety counter coil pair on chalk-surfaced paper. Very scarce! £1.50