

Campbell Paterson's BULLETIN

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

This periodical gives valuable information. Retain it for reference purposes.

Vol. 1, No. 3. NOVEMBER, 1963. Issued Monthly—free. All lots offered subject to being unsold and will be sent or approval to known clients. Complete satisfaction is guaranteed on all lots offered.

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENTS

by Campbell Paterson.

Readers who have struggled with the watermarks of the 1935-1947 Pictorials have my sympathy. In some cases, notably the 1935 2d., it is extremely hard to see any watermark at all. Then there is the hazard that one may have a "multiple" watermark stamp, but because a "N.Z. Star" unit occurs at dead centre it looks like a "single" watermark. All very trying and enough to make one give up! So much so that if I say it is possible to sort any value of this "1935" set at a rate of **three minutes per one hundred stamps**, few will believe me. Yet that is true, as I can demonstrate, and furthermore anyone—but **anyone**—can learn to do it. The secret is not to bother about the watermarks at all, but to concentrate on the papers. The two papers—the so-called "Wiggins Teape" with Singe Watermark, and the so-called "Jones" with Multiple Watermark, are seen to be quite different if one studies them in a good natural light. They even differ slightly in colour, but the main difference lies in the "mesh" of the paper. (Please don't stop reading at this point—"mesh" is easy). I suggest that any reader who wants to learn should take a page of newsprint—no matter how murky the news the mesh will be clear enough. First try tearing the paper. It will be found that it tears easily and nearly straight one way, but tearing the other way is more difficult and the direction of the tear will be like the proverbial dog's hind leg. That is the first clue—the paper tears more easily in the direction of the mesh than it does against the mesh. Another clue is the direction of curling when a stamp is heated; the tendency is to curl into a vertical roll when the mesh is vertical and into a horizontal roll when the mesh is horizontal. Try any low value British stamp on the palm of your hand—you will find the curling is vertical because the mesh is vertical. Incidentally the mesh of the current 2½d. British stamp is very easy to see. Imagine you are looking for the grain in a piece of wood. Mesh in paper is not quite so simple to see as that, but once seen and understood it becomes quite easy to detect. In fact you get to the stage where you automatically record the mesh of every piece of paper you handle. An exception is coated paper, for in this the mesh is hidden under the coating, but few if any papers are coated on the back so always look at the back of your stamps, never the face.

Returning to the N.Z. 1935-1947 Pictorials—it will be found that all the 1935 Single Watermark stamps display a vertical mesh. In the case of the 8d., the paper (and consequently the watermark) is sideways. So although the 8d. mesh is vertical in relation to the watermark it is horizontal to the design. Such exceptions are sent to try us,—I always call such cases "Sideways Vertical Mesh," (or "Sideways Horizontal" where a horizontal mesh paper is used sideways). Cases also occur in the Multiple watermark paper. One "sideways" is the 9d., S.G. 587, and all except one of the 8d. (S.G. 586) have sideways watermark. Since in all the stamps S.G. 577 to 590 b—without exception—the mesh is vertical, it only requires due allowance made for the "sideways" stamps for one to be able to spot the "singles" from the "multiples" at a glance. When I call attention to the fact that mesh is equally useful in removing either wholly or to a considerable degree all need to look for watermarks in Sideface Queens, 1d. Universals, ½d. Mt. Cooks, Edward V.I, George V (both recess and surface prints), 1d. Dominions, George VI, Arms Type, Life Insurance, Postage Dues—well I ask you! Don't you think you ought at least to try to see the mesh?

Stop Press. The current 3d. "Kowhai" has appeared with sideways watermark and new perf., 14x 13.

An Ex-expatriate looks on.

Let me warn readers, this has less than nothing to do with stamps.

As one who combines the right to comment on the English-British scene (being British by birth and inclination) and, at the same time has the onlooker's advantage of seeing more of the game, I think I might just possibly be able to say something from time to time that will strike a new note. Perhaps in thinking that I deceive myself; at least no-one has to pay anything to read what I say. Quite likely most will not read it anyhow.

Banknotes and Bandits. I gather that most (or many) of the current big robberies are of soiled banknotes being sent from outside Banks to the Bank of England for destruction. Possibly there is some law to the contrary but would it not be reasonable to make a practice of punching a hole—say about the size of a penny—in the centre of each note before it is dispatched? One might reason that the Insurance Companies, which stand the losses, would only need to insist on this action—"either the hole or no Insurance"—to force a change in the rules overnight. But that is muddled thinking. Since the punching of such holes in old notes would render them utterly useless to thieves, they would not be worth stealing; equally they would not be worth insuring. Action is due from the Bank of England. Being there to guard the public's interests—for it is certainly the public which pays in the end—they should ensure that no more of this costly nonsense goes on.

OUR GUILDFORD MAILING LIST,

Our Guildford files now contain a very large number of names and inevitably these include many who are not active collectors but who have written for our literature because it is free. That's O.K. with us and we hope that in some cases we have inspired these friends with the desire to collect N.Z. But today's costs for printing and postage are very heavy—too heavy to permit of indiscriminate circularising—and we must do some culling out. All who have paid the 7/6 sub. for the Newsletter will, as promised, continue to get the Bulletin free but others who are not apparently active will unfortunately be deleted from now on. Those who have been pleased with the Bulletin should let us know—we will keep them on the list as long as is economic or they can make sure of a privileged position by paying that very small sum of 7/6.

Dig these New Zealand !

My usual custom is to advertise in some sort of order—all Healths together, varieties together and so on. This time, with lovely things coming into stock in big parcels, I hardly know where to begin. So the heading above is not so much intended to mean that we are "with it" as to be taken literally. Whatever your special interest, if you dig diligently in this Bulletin you will probably find it!

Lot No.

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|-----|---|-----|
| 128 | 1963 Healths. First Day Covers —the handsome official cover with both values | 1/6 |
| 129 | 1946 Peace Varieties. | |
| (a) | 3d. Aeroplanes. Row 3. No. 2—Aeroplane with retouched (complete) tail in positional block of six | 5/6 |
| | In block of four | 3/6 |
| (b) | 3d. Aeroplanes. Row 2. No. 4. Similar to (a), but with extra "flight of bluebirds" retouch above and behind the tail. In positional block of four | 5/6 |
| | Single stamp | 4/6 |
| (c) | 6d. Industry. Two types of the 6d. are known (indicating the use of a defective roller). In one type there is a frame break above the dove at top right, in the other type this is absent. We have blocks of four with the top stamps in the "break" type, the lower pair being normal. Positional block | 5/- |
| 131 | Commemoratives—Low values mint 1953-1963. For the more modest collector we offer the following in the form of a set. (The face values of the stamps are given). Royal Visit 1953, 3d. and 4d.; Stamp Centenary, 2d., 3d. and 4d.; Southland, 2d. and 3d.; Meat Export, 4d.; Kingsford Smith, 6d.; Nelson, 3d.; Hawkes Bay, 2d. and 3d.; Scout Jamboree, 3d.; Marlborough, 2d. and 3d.; Red Cross, 3d.; Westland, 2d. and 3d.; Telegraph, 3d. | |
| (a) | The very attractive set of 20 mint | 7/6 |
| (b) | The same 20 stamps, choice used | 3/9 |

N.B. These sets would make a handsome present for a beginner.

Lot No.

- 132 **Commemoratives. High Values 1953-1963.** Here we offer the 8d. values of the Southland, Meat Export, Hawkes Bay, Marlborough, Westland and Telegraph sets.
- (a) The set of six 8d. stamps, all difficult, mint 8/6
- (b) The same set of six, finest used 7/6
- N.B.** Lots 131 and 132 combined make up a complete set of all N.Z. Commemoratives from the Royal Visit set up to today's date.
- 133 **Christmas Stamps.** Do not get left. The Christmas stamps are now an annual N.Z. event and you must have the early issues for completion. Buy before they rise out of your reach.
- (a) 1960, Rembrandt "Nativity," mint, 1/- used 6d.
- (b) 1961, Durer "Adoration," mint, 9d. used 4d.
- (c) 1962, Sassoferrato "Madonna," mint, 6d. used 3d.
- (d) 1961, Shades. Two shades; dull and bright skies. The pair mint 2/-
- (e) 1962, Shades. Three shades:—
1. Madonna with "olive" complexion.
 2. Ditto, "rosy" complexion.
 3. Ditto, the lovely "Golden Shawl," now increasingly difficult to get. The three 10/6
- 134 **1958 Queen Elizabeth, 1/- (S.G. 732a).** We have a new supply of finest used copies of this rare stamp (S.G. £6). These are really choice used examples—in condition the top 5% of any selections. Each 40/-
- 135 **1933 Pathway Health.** Choice specialist blocks.
- (a) Superb mint corner block of twelve, with three stamps (R 1/4, 2/1 and 3/3) all showing "rifts in clouds;" one, R 2/1, showing obvious retouch to "LT" in the small word "HEALTH;" another, R 1/3, with obvious redrawing of top and bottom background lines—and so ad infinitum! This fine block of twelve (Cat. S.G. £18 for normals) at the very special price of (less than £1 each) £11/10/-
- (b) As above but minus the bottom row and including (as in (a) above) varieties on R 1/3, 1/4 and 2/1 (2). The superb mint block of eight £7/15/-
- (c) Row 3/3 (big cloud rift) in strip of three, mint £2/15/-
- 136 **Marlborough 2d. ("Endeavour" at Ship Cove).** The finest retouch of the issue, Row 14/3 with heavy retouching around the bowsprit and "thumbprint" effect at top right. Several available. In positional mint block of six 8/6
- 137 **1935 Air Stamps.**
- (a) The perfect mint set of three, 1d., 3d., 6d. 5/9
- (b) A truly lovely array of shades—two of the 1d., three (glorious) of the 3d. and two (vivid) of the 6d. The set of seven 14/-
- 138 **Q.E. 2/6 brown.** Need we say this stamp is scarce? And is it generally known that it came in two distinct shades? We have the choicest—and largest stock—ever, of superb used.
- (a) The Q.E. 2/6 either shade, superb used 2/-
- (b) The two shades, superb used 4/-
- (c) The 2/6 in superb used pair 4/-
- (d) The two shades, both in superb used pairs 8/-
- 139 **George VI—1/- stamp with "Broken E" in Revenue (Row 15/2)**
- (a) This popular variety, in mint plate block of four, wmk. upright 9/-
- (b) as (a) but with watermark sideways. The plate block 10/-
- 140 **1925 Dunedin Exhibition.** This popular set, mint, first-class condition 16/6
- 141 **1958 Health.** The odd variety (very similar to the G.B. "phantom R")—here we have a tent reproduced in the selvage line. The mint block 7/6
- 142 **Chalon 2d. (S.G. 96).** This rare stamp, Catal. S.G. £45, in very fine condition, four good to huge margins (not close anywhere), fine colour, without defect. This is a fine buy £20
- 143 **Kingsford Smith Anniversary.** Two mint blocks—the first of nine stamps including both R 7/7 and R 9/5 re-entries, the second, of four stamps, including clear flaw across star, lower left. The two variety blocks 18/-

- Lot No.**
- 144 **Arms Type.** The scarce 1/3 lenon of 1931 (S.G. 544b Cat. 15/-) — while they last at the low price, mint 7/6
- 145 **1956 Health — 1d. Colour variety.** S.G. 755 and 755a. The two colours "purple" and "blackish" (they are far more than "shades") of the 1d. Apple Tree Health. A delightful contrast at a bargain price.
 (a) The two colours in single, mint (Cat. S.G. 15/4) 4/8
 (b) As (a) but in blocks of four, mint 17/6
- 146 **Nelson Centenary.** Two plates were used. The two Plates, 1 and 2, mint blocks of four 4/-
- 147 **1960 2d., Chambon Perfs.** We have a special supply of the 2d. in two magnificent shades — a beautiful difference. In addition each shows top-class Chambon perfs. peculiarity and so must be sold as such. The two shades, each Chambon, (and how!) in mint blocks of six 12/6
- 148 **1960 2d. Plates.** No less than five different plate blocks in this now-little-used value. They are Plates 1111, 2212, 2231, 2232, 2251. Needless to say, whoever takes the full five gets five different shades! Each plate block is of eight stamps. All are obsolescent or obsolete. Prices, for any one plate 4/6; for any two or three different plates 4/3 each; for any four or five plates each 4/-
- 149 **1/- Q.E. Re-entries.** On the first 1/- Q.E. frame plate (1B) the top right stamps — R 1/10, 2/10, 3/10, 4/10, all showed doubling of frame lines at lower right and/or left. We can offer the set of four different, all selected and identified by Mr. R. J. G. Collins. The set of four, all fine used 8/6
- 150 **1960 2½d. Pictorial,** as is known to Newsletter readers, the 2½d. has appeared printed sideways (from plates) or upright (from cylinders). We supply the two, identified, in singles, fine used. The two 1/-
- 151 **3d. George V.** Surface print flaw. The "Flaw on face" is both obvious and scarce. We can make the surprising offer of this major flaw on:—
 1. De La Rue paper. 2. Jones paper. 3. Cowan paper. Surprising, but true! The set of three, very seldom seen 45/-
- 152 **1d. Dominion Flaws.** The major flaws in an interesting set. Includes "Globe" flaw on De La Rue, on Jones, on Cowan, on Cowan reversed and on Wiggins Teape; plus "Feather" flaw on Wiggins Teape, and "NNY" flaw on Cowan. The rather remarkable set of seven, mostly scarcer types. All used 35/-
- 153 **5/- Official.** The new issue of the 5/- Arms Type overprinted Official — on unsurfaced paper, perf. 14 x 13½. (Blocks pro rata). Mint 6/9
- 154 **6d. (1939) Motorcar Express, S.G. E 6 (Cat. 3/-).** This is not an easy stamp and is sought after by Thematic Collectors. We can supply at 1/- mint. For those who like shades we offer three excellent differences each in blocks of four at (3 blocks) 17/6
 Or in singles, the three shades 4/6

Id. DOMINIONS—Simplified Sets.

- 127 **A set of 1d. Dominions,** complete mint singles, one of each major issue. Includes:—
 (a) S.G. 450, De La Rue (Roughway) paper. (b) S.G. 520, Jones Paper. (c) S.G. 524, Unsurfaced paper. (d) S.G. 526, Sideways wmk. (e) S.G. 531, Cowan paper. (f) S.G. 535a, Wiggins Teape paper. (g) S.G. 528, Litho wmk
 The complete set of seven, mint 12/6
- 128 **As above,** (a), (b), (c), (f) and (g), fine used plus (c) and (d) mint (both these are very scarce used) plus a variety of (e) the error issue with reversed watermark, used. The set of eight 7/6
- 129 **As above.** Variations, all mint, of the "Litho Watermark" 1d. Dominion. Includes "watermarks" in blue-green, yellow-green, pale green and the rare blackish-green (C.P. 30/-). This fine and scarce selection 40/-