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N.Z. STAMPS by C.P.

1965/1947 Pictorials — 2½d Mt. Cook & Lillies. Last month we reached the point where we had (theoretically) divided a large accumulation of these stamps into two piles, — the first being of all stamps with "Single" watermark, the other of all with "Multiple" watermark.

Now putting aside the "Multiples" for attention later, we concentrate on the "Singles."

Our catalogue tells us that there were two different perforations, known as the "13-14 x 13½" and the "13½ x 14." Much time could be spent on explaining the difference between these two perfs. and their history; I prefer to leave that to another day. This article is meant to help collectors to recognize their stamps and to sort them with ease. So, instead of going into a long description of the perfs. and how they were used I will merely record this easy fact: to sort the "Singles" just select (with a simple perf. gauge) all stamps which gauge an exact and regular 13½ along the top of the stamps. These are the 13½ x 14 and it follows that all the other "Singles" are the "13-14 x 13½;" simple isn't it? In passing, it may be noted that the 13½ x 14 issue was an experimental one, made with dampened paper and perforce gummed after the sheets had dried. The gum used was a heavy brown one and serves as an instant identification in mint stamps as no similar gum was used on any other 2½d. In the 13-14 x 13½ a relatively common inverted watermark exists. No 13½ x 14 with inverted and reversed watermark has ever been recorded but for reasons that will be obvious to students such a thing would be a major discovery and very valuable. For the record, the 13-14 x 13½ is our L5a, S.G. 560. The 13½ x 14 is our L5b, S.G. 560a. A superb albino, (uncoloured second impression on an otherwise normal stamp), is known on L5a; one pair only has ever been reported. It is the finest albino I know, with the doubling showing in embossed effect across the central peak and elsewhere. I can describe it with authority as I was fortunate in being its discoverer.

Now to the "Multiples." Our catalogue (but not S.G.) shows that two grades of papers were used for these issues. One was the pre-war fine textured, rather heavy paper and the other was the wartime inferior grade with coarse back surface, easily seen watermark and inferior, dull prints. The fine-paper prints have a smoother, clearer appearance. But the best guide is the rather thin, ill-finished texture of the coarse paper seen best on the backs of the stamps. We divide the "Multiples" into "fine" and "coarse" piles. Turning first to the "fines."

Our Catalogue reveals that there are three perfs. on fine paper with Multiple wmk. They are the "13 x 14 x 13½" and two "perf 14" issues, one of these being a "line" perf, the other a "comb" perf. (The 13-14 x 13½ is our L5c, S.G. 581; the perf "14 line" is our L5d and the perf "14 comb" is our L5e, S.G. list only one perf 14 as No. 581a). In sorting, the 13-14 x 13½ is easily eliminated by the general weakness of colour, the result of plate-wear, and the thin lines that form the outer frame are very weak; in both perf. 14 issues the outer frame lines are uniformly clear and strong. Another easy way to find L5c is to select all stamps that do not gauge an even 14 along their tops. The two perf 14 issues are admittedly more difficult to separate. One must judge by their corner perfs. when sorting single stamps. "Line" perf. stamps have one or more

irregular corners, "comb" perf. stamps have uniform corners. The matter is much easier when blocks are examined. By their nature, "line perf." holes tend to vary in their placing at the central point of any block; comb perfs. result in there being one hole only at any central point between four stamps. Practice will soon make for generally easy recognition though there will inevitably be stamps about which there is some doubt. The question of whether to differentiate at all between the two issues is one for the individual collector to decide. The purist will be in no doubt and for him there is only one satisfactory way to handle the situation, namely to collect these two stamps in blocks even if the rest of the collection is in singles.

Having now eliminated the fine paper stamps we turn to those on coarse paper. Here our catalogue (but not S.G.) tells us that there were two perfs. used, — one gauging 14½ along the top or bottom of each stamp, the other 13½ similarly. Exact gauging is time-wasting; a perfectly satisfactory result can be achieved by sorting out (with aid of a gauge) all stamps that nearly gauge 13½ along the top; these must be L5f while the remainder, (by elimination perf 14½ along the top) will be L5g. That S.G. list these two together as one perf, "14 x 13½," is unfortunate as they are clearly different issues and L5g is decidedly scarcer than L5f. The joint S.G. number is 581c. It will be seen that we list seven major variations of this 2½d stamp as against the five listed in S.G. It is a fine stamp for intensive study for those with time and the inclination. The final issues, L5f and g, came from Frame Plate 4 and an unnumbered centre plate; both plates were subject to repeated repairing work, — no doubt to lengthen their life at a time when economy was of vital importance. The result is a series of issues showing some impressions in two or even more states. Further details are available in the recently issued Vol. IV of the N.Z. Handbook.

Apart from the numerous variations, re-entries and retouches, in L5f and g, there are certain flaws in the same stamps and an inverted watermark in L5c that are worth watching for.

The general consensus of opinion is that this 2½d is one of N.Z.'s most attractive designs and one of our more rewarding subjects for intensive study.

Q.E. ? Here's Opportunity !

423 Q.E. Plates.

- (a) A set of the 1954 issue, all in **Plate Blocks** of four stamps, one of each value — ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d and 8d; the set of 8 blocks 14/-
- (b) A set of the middle values, 9d, 1/-, 1/6, 1/9, all in **Plate Blocks** of 4 stamps. The 7 blocks 47/6
- (c) A set of the 4 scarce top values — 2/6, 3/-, 5/- and 10/-, very difficult to find today. The four **Plate Blocks**, each of four stamps £9/10/-
- (d) A 1954 set similar to (a) above but in **plate blocks** of six stamps — one of each of the ½d, 1½d, 2d, 3d, 4d and 6d. The set of 6 blocks 32/6
- (e) A remarkable set of 1954/58 **Plate Blocks** — all of the original designs and all in **Plate blocks** of 6: ½d, Plates 1 and 2; 1d, Plate 5; 1½d, Plates 11, 12, 13, 14; 2d, 15, 16, 17, 18; 3d, Plates 3, 4, 7, 8, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30 and 33; 4d, 9, 19; 6d, Plate 6; 8d, 10, 20. Also **combined Plate and Imprint blocks** of 12 of the 9d, 1A — 1A, 1B — 1B, 1A — 2A, 1B — 2B; 1/- 1A — 1A, 1B — 1B, 1A — 2A, 1B — 2B; 1/6 1A — 1A, 1B — 1B; 1/9 1A — 2A, 1B — 1B; Also the scarce and desirable "Queen on Horseback" 2/6, 3/-, 5/- and 10/- values all in **Plate Blocks** of four. This magnificent lot of plates is not far off completion £29/19/-
- (f) Here is a set to form a good beginning in the difficult 1955/59 "large figures" **plate blocks**. The set includes (all in **Plate Blocks** of six stamps); 1d Plates 12, 13; 1½d, 7, 8, 9, 10; 2d, 3 (without stop), 3 (with stop), 4, 5 (without stop), 5 (with stop), and 6; 3d Plates 18 & 19, plus Plate 20 in the scarce pale shade; 6d Plates 1 and 2; 8d Plate 21; 2½d Provisional, Plate 19. (The 1d, 1½d, 2d and 6d Plates are on the thin paper). The set of 18 plates £7/4/-

424 Q.E. Shades in Blocks

- (a) Another splendid opportunity – an incredible showing of shades in Q.E. 1d to 1/9, both 1953/58 and 1955/59 sets. This is the set for the collector who appreciates shades in blocks, for all are in superb mint blocks of four. There are (of the various values) shades as follows: 1953/58, 1d, four shades; 3d, five; 4d, five; 6d, three; 8d, four; 9d, two; 1/-, two; 1/6, two, inc. the scarce blue shade; 1/9, three. Of the 1955/59 set on the thin paper: 1d, two; 1½d, four; 2d, four; 4d, three; 6d, four. Of the thick paper stamps there are: 1d, three; 2d, two; 3d, two; 4d, three; and 8d brown, two. Of the 2d on 1½d provisional there are six (three each with small and large dots), and of the 2½d on 3d, two shades in each (wide and narrow) setting. Remember every shade is in a mint block of four – a beautiful display of colour. Your money back if you are not delighted. The set of 86 blocks £19
- (b) Something very special – two fine shades in blocks of 4 of the scarce 2d on 1½d S.G. 763b. The two blocks (Cat. £32) £12
- (c) The “Queen on Horseback” 3/-, 5/- and 10/- values, all now becoming scarce. Two shades of each. The six pairs 67/6
- 425 1946 Peace Issue – Shades. An odd purchase has provided us with two fine shades of the 1d Peace and three of the 2d Peace. Both are offered in Plate Blocks of four stamps each. The set of five blocks 5/-
- 426 1947 Eros Health – Shades. Similar to the above but in with blocks of four, not plate blocks. Three shades of the 1d and two of the 2d. The fine set of 5 blocks 5/-
- 427 Great Britain – bargains.
- (a) As everyone knows, we are “N.Z.” but occasionally other things come our way. Here we offer the G.B. 1953 Coronation set and the 1957 Scout Jamboree set – both sets complete in mint blocks of four. (Cat. C.W. 92/-). The lot 40/-
- (b) G.B. George VI 10/- Ultramarine S.G. 40/- each. A difficult stamp – here is a fine mint pair 30/-

GEORGE VI Plates.

- 428 George VI – a fine retouch. Here we offer the 1½d red George VI in block of six with Plate number 129 – including Row 9 No. 22, a stamp with a prominent retouch to the background lines at the top left corner of the central area. (Illustrated in C.P. Catalogue). We can repeat this fine variety block so order with confidence 2/6
- 429 George VI, Early plates. (all in usual size blocks)
- 1d green Plates 2, 16L, 16R, 18L, 18R – the five plates 32/6
- 1d red Plates 7, 8L, 11L, 14R, 15R, 15L, Imprint – the 7 blocks 94/-
- 1½d brown Plates 20R, 21L, the 2 Plates 70/-
- 1½d brown, the scarce Imprint block of 8 stamps £7/10/-
- 430 George VI, Later Plates.
- 1d brown (M1b) Plates 17L, 17R, 18L, 18R (Plate 18 is very scarce), 19L, 19R and Imprint. The 7 blocks 46/-
- 1d brown (M1c) Plates 100 (scarce) and 101 – the 2 plates 7/6
- 1d brown (M1d) Plates 101, 111 and 133 – the 3 plates 2/6
- 1d green (M1b) Plate 29 9/-
- 1d green (M1c) Plates 28, 30, 32, 33, 36, 102 to 109 inclusive – 13 Plates 30/-
- 1d green (M1d) Plates 48, 72, 73, 78, 85, 108 (scarce), 109 (scarce), 112, to 120, 122 to 125, 128 – fourteen plates 80/-
- 1d green (M1e) Plate 85 20/-
- 1½d red (M4b) Plates 20L, 20R, 21L, 21R and Imprint – 5 blocks 6/-

1½d red (M4c) Plates 20, 21, 129 to 132, 136 and 137, 8 plates	12/6
2d orange-yellow (M6a) Plates 40, 44, 46, 51, 54, 55, 61, 62, 68, 75, 76, 79, 80, 141 to 145 - 18 plates	27/6
2d yellow-orange (M6b) Plates 79, 81, 86, 87, 88, - 5 plates	27/6
3d blue (M7b) Plate 27	5/-
3d blue (M7c) Plates 45, 57, 58, 63, 138, 139 - 6 plates	27/-
4d mauve (M8a) Plate 94	2/6
4d purple (M8b) Plate 90	2/6
5d grey (M9a) Plates 91, 96 - two plates	8/-
6d carmine (M10a) Plates 92, 98 - 2 plates	8/-
6d carmine (M10b) Plate 1 and 6	6/-
8d violet (M11a) Plates 93, 95, 99 - 3 plates	21/-
8d violet (M11b) Plate 110	7/6
9d sepia (M12a) Plate 97	7/6
9d sepia (M12b) Plates 97 (scarce), 134, 135 - 3 plates	30/-

NOTE: The above splendid lot (No. 430) of George VI plates taken as a whole is subject to a substantial discount - if interested in the lot, price on application. If on the other hand you need only a few George VI plates ask us about them too.

N.Z. ...General List.

This list covers stamps **not** listed in our similar list last month.

S.G.	Mint	Used	S.G.	Mint	Used	S.G.	Mint	Used
472	65/-	—	553	15/-	12/6	632	6d	4d
473	70/-	—	555	10/-	10/-	633	6d	5d
506	6d	3d	573	3d	—	634	5/-	1/-
508	1/-	3d	574	3d	—	634a	5/-	—
508a	1/6	6d	575	9/6	10/6	634b	80/-	50/-
510	9d	2d	576	4/-	—	634c	20/-	10/-
511	6/-	—	591	6d	6d	634d	4/-	6d
512	10/-	6/-	592	6d	6d	Wmk. inv.	15/-	—
513	22/6	—	593	2d	2d	635	5/-	6d
517	6d	3d	594	3d	2d	636	6/-	9d
518	6d	2d	595	1/9	2/6	637	10/-	2/-
521	—	4d	596	2/-	2/8	638	10/-	2/6
535	3/-	—	597	1/6	1/6	639	12/-	8/-
544	10/-	—	598	2/6	1/6	640	45/-	—
544a	20/-	—	599	2d	2d	642	17/6	—
544b	6/-	6/-	600	5d	5d	643	20/-	3/-
544f	20/-	—	601	8d	5d	645	30/-	17/6
544g	20/-	—	602	4/-	2/9	646	—	25/-
544k	25/-	—	606	2/9	1/6	648	—	30/-
544l	30/-	—	607	2/3	—	650	50/-	30/-
544m	25/-	—	608	2/3	—	651	£15	—
544t	—	80/-	622	3/3	3/3	652	70/-	50/-
545a	40/-	—	623	3/3	3/3	653a	£6	—
545c	£20	—	628	1/9	2/9	654	£7	60/-
546	—	55/-	629	1/9	1/9	657	12/6	4/6
547	72/-	60/-	630	6d	9d	657a	80/-	80/-
552	24/6	20/-	631	6d	6d	659	£5	60/-

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