

CAMPBELL PATERSON



NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

VOLUME 44 NUMBER 6, JANUARY 1993



FABULOUS COLLECTION OF USED BLOCKS : From next month's Newsletter (clockwise) - K020b 2/- Admiral Official; E21e 5/- Mt. Cook perf.14 (wmk W7a); E14f 6d Kiwi Red perf.11 wmk upright (**unique used block**); E5a(y) 2d Pembroke Peak, Brown lake, block of four imperf between (**unique**). **THIS MONTH:** Sidefaces and Healtys.

CP'S NEW ZEALAND STAMPS - WELCOME TO OUR TRADITION

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THE YEAR THAT WAS REVISITED:

New Zealand stamp designs in 1992

This time last year I assembled all of the issues from NZ Post during 1991 and launched into a critique of each of them, attempting to apply a series of practical criteria to which it seems reasonable to expect the humble postage stamp to conform.

Features like the size of the stamp and a clear indication of the value were considered, and also less easily definable considerations like dignity in design, easy design interpretation and imagination were applied. Quality of execution was measured, and finally mature and informative national relevance was applied for the first time, in view of New Zealand's growing maturity on the international scene and the generally accepted importance of stamp designs in raising awareness of our country overseas.

Allowing for the fact that my criticisms were but one man's view, they raised the ire of at least one design company. Regrettably, none of their designs featured this year.

It has to be said, however, that NZ Post in the past twelve months has followed a safe course where stamp designs are concerned. The standard of design is remarkably high and consistent, and the general tone conservative. There is clearly an awareness of the collecting public in the issues, with strong thematic appeal in every case.

Hardly a bold year for NZ Post in this respect then, giving little to "jump up and down" about. Perhaps the NZ Post Designs Selection Committee has come to the conclusion, at last, that to steer a middle course and maintain a basically high standard of design and interest is the way to keep most people happy, most of the time. By all accounts, this year they succeeded, and although it is satisfying to see innovation and new developments in design, I am expecting that most collectors will agree it has been a good year in stamp designs, if a thoroughly "safe" one.

Nevertheless, there is always something for the critic to get his teeth into, so here goes:

New Definitive 45¢ Booklet - "Panoramic".

This booklet pane of ten 45¢ stamps certainly raised waves when it appeared in the later part of the year. The idea was intriguing - if not completely original - with a "panoramic scene" of typical New Zealand features crammed together into a small space. For instance, the booklet pane goes from Pohutukawa trees and coastal scenery to fiords, snow capped mountains and back to lake scenery, all in the width of five stamps, and is quite clearly not intended to stand up as a representative impression of reality.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

G.S.T. will be added to prices listed in this Newsletter for local orders (12½%). Overseas orders are "zero-rated" and do not pay G.S.T.



Suburban



Where's the excitement?



Period



Competent



Explosive



Indeterminate



Bit of a yawn, really



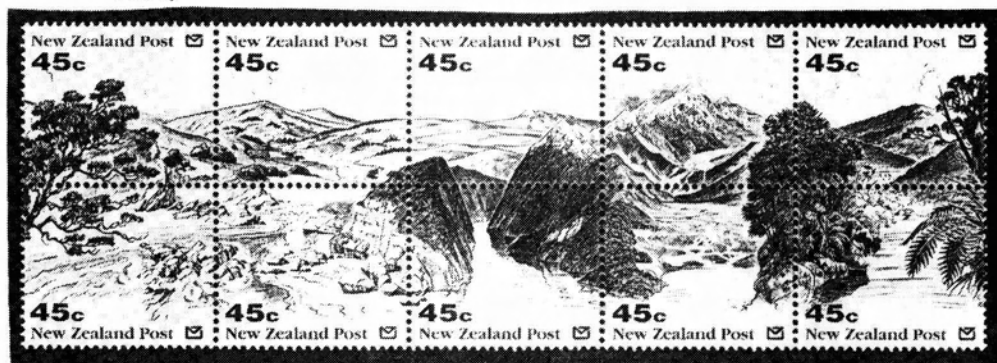
Fussy



Action



Sensitive



From the mountains to the sea

The reason of course is that each stamp is expected to stand alone as a small scene in its own right once separated from the pane. Frankly, I think that the designer must nearly have gone bonkers trying to achieve this, but I guess the end result is passable. Of much more interest was what some saw as "arrogance" when NZ Post put "New Zealand Post" and its logo on the stamp, rather than "New Zealand". It seems to me there are two ways of looking at this. New Zealand stamps used to carry the legend "New Zealand Postage and Revenue". The revenue aspect is long since gone so why not New Zealand Post? Perhaps if the logo had been omitted it might have been a little more acceptable! I suspect that we won't see this "New Zealand Post" business again - at least not before deregulation! Verdict: Innovative - yes, but successful? - well maybe. One observation; it is almost impossible to soak a pane and have it remain intact.

1992 Health Issue - 45¢ Wilding(Tennis) and 80¢ Dempster (Cricket).

Good, sound, conventional stuff with these "Hall of Fame" sportsmen doing their thing on the pitch and on the court. Head and shoulder portraits have been dropped in like cardboard cut-outs and in the 80¢ the artist has worked a miracle with perspective - but that's being churlish. "A bit staid" is about the only criticism you could level at these - the action seems to be paralysed in time, just as the sportsmen are frozen in history. Maybe that was the idea. The heavy information panel at the bottom of each issue doesn't do a lot to improve the overall balance of the design - something better should be possible with good material such as this.

1992 America's Cup Challenge : 45¢, 80¢, \$1 & \$1.50 - all yachts.

Bags of thematic interest and action in this set and all values follow what I have always considered to be a strong design feature in stamps - the old photo-journalist's trick of cutting off part of the picture to give an impression of motion bursting out of the allotted space. The lettering has been imaginatively handled although the values seem a little small. The scenes themselves, however, do not in my opinion succeed fully. There's a mass of tiny, jumbled detail and colour giving an almost "impressionistic" effect rather than the distinctive form and style that one associates with some of these elegant old racers of the past. Undoubtedly the artist was striving after something fresh. Whether he succeeded fully is a moot point.

Navigators : 45¢, 80¢, \$1 & \$1.50:

These are interesting designs and succeed in at least one respect where I think the yachts failed. The ship illustrations are laden with character and historical interest and command attention.

Again, the attempt to jam too much detail in, the map background, lines of latitude and longitude, place names and tiny printing, all jostling for attention, was risky. Why, for instance, the title of each issue in a detailed and scrolled plaque into which excruciatingly tiny print has been crammed?

Perhaps this is another case of a stamp designed in the large and being reduced to stamp size, losing its impact in the process.

Nevertheless a set with character and genuine appeal.

45¢ Olympic Games:

A simple design and bold concept with the various coloured figures exploding out of the blocks and a huge figure of value. An impressive design by any standards but not one you would want to see imitated too often.

Ross Dependency Seals: 45¢, 50¢, 65¢, 80¢, \$1 and \$1.80:

Again laden with thematic appeal and interest. This is one of the sets which retain the name Ross Dependency on New Zealand stamps, even though NZ Post no longer has a presence in Antarctica. Quite clearly geared to the thematic market again and to the back-of-the-book "Antarctica" collector. Few collectors of the Ross Dependency will be fooled, however, and I suspect most collections end with the closing of the Post Office at Scott Base. Lettering, value, and description, are all good in these issues, with black on white background. Again, however, in my opinion the illustrations are curiously confused and samey - a feature that the artist obviously tried to combat with the use of different colour combinations and positioning of the animals in each value. Who said the stamp designer's lot was an easy one?

Barcelona Olympics 45¢, 80¢, \$1 and \$1.50:

Here's an innovative set which in my opinion succeeds in almost all respects. Apart from getting all the technical aspects pretty well right, the artist has concentrated on body positions and muscular action, particularly in the arms, hands, and upper body in each sport. These are clever designs which encapsulate the very essence of each activity from the delicate touch of the equestrian with his reins held lightly in the fingers, through the muscular tension of the archer, to the sheer force in the cyclist's leg muscles in motion. Not just a thematic representation but a mine of information as well - great designs.

Camellias - 45¢, 50¢, 80¢, \$1, \$1.50 and \$1.80:

Excellent thematic appeal again and good designs, colours and representation of the different flowers. Again the character of each bloom comes through, despite the standardised handling of the background which could have over-powered the designs if not done so well.

These designs incorporate a number of successful features to highlight their subject and probably owe a lot to old prints and ceramics. Good designs, if not hugely innovative. These typify for me the standard of NZ Post's recent productions.

Glaciers - 45¢, 50¢, 80¢, \$1, \$1.50, \$1.80:

To my mind, one of the least successful of the recent sets. Illustrations are apparently straight Tourist and Publicity shots without any attempt at artistic input. Fine, except that in this reduced stamp size you could be looking at just about anything in the 50¢, the 45¢ and even perhaps the \$1. To top that, the strongly coloured and thick borders detract and overpower the information that might otherwise be available from these pictures. Pedestrian stuff, and the sort of design I hoped we had left behind years ago with the 1972 Lakes, 1973 Mountains, 1974 Off Shore Islands, 1975 Forest Parks, 1976 Waterfalls, 1977 Coastal Scenes, etc. etc. etc, to date. Come on, NZ Post - "scenic" surely doesn't always have to mean a reduced size print of a tourist's photographic slide.

OFFICIALS:

- 55 (a) **H01a ½d Green.** Nice pair in unhinged mint
 Green and Yellow-green..... \$ 30
 Or the two in lightly hinged..... \$ 12
 Lightly hinged example of the Deep "Bronze-green"
 shade..... \$ 15
 Example of the "design" off-set on back in Green
 (Official overprint). Really lovely example..... \$ 75
- 56 (a) **H03a 3d Chestnut perf. 14x14½.** Good example
 in hinged mint in Chestnut shade..... \$ 60
 Two LH 2 UH block of four in Deep Chestnut..... \$ 170
 Or 2 LH 2 UH block of four in Chestnut..... \$ 170
 The two shades in lightly hinged copies..... \$ 50
 Very fine used of the two shades..... \$ 8
 Or commercially used..... \$ 3
- (b) **H03c 3d ditto, perf. 14x13½.** Very fine unhinged
 mint copy of the rarity..... \$ 175
 Or fine lightly hinged copy..... \$ 100
 Very fine used..... \$ 135
 More heavily commercially used..... \$ 50
- (c) **H03e 3d ditto, 2-perf pair.** LH/UH pair in
 superb condition..... \$ 500
- 57 (a) **H06b 6d Carmine, perf. 14x14½.** Unhinged mint
 example, top selvedge in block of four. Superb.... \$ 400
 Very fine UHM..... \$ 80
 Lightly hinged example..... \$ 35
 Not-so-fine..... \$ 3
 Very fine used..... \$ 15
 Commercially used with heavier postmark..... \$ 5
- 58 (a) **H07b 8d Indigo Blue, perf. 14x14½.** Unhinged mint
 block of four in Deep Bright Blue..... \$ 250
 Or 2 LH 2 UH in deeper shade..... \$ 130
 Lightly hinged examples in Deep Bright Blue and
 Indigo Blue, the pair..... \$ 40
 Lightly hinged example of H07b inverted wmk..... \$ 35
 Very fine used..... \$ 40
 Commercially used..... \$ 20
 Not-so-fine used..... \$ 3
 Bottom selvedge block of four showing 1 Plate dot
 on selvedge under left-hand vertical pair.
 Magnificent..... \$ 400
- (b) **H07c 8d Indigo Blue, perf. 14x13½.** Deep Bright
 Blue in unhinged mint (2 LH) (2 block of four).
 Superb..... \$ 130
 The Indigo Blue shade in unhinged mint..... \$ 45
 Deep Bright Blue and Indigo Blue in lightly
 hinged singles..... \$ 40
 H07c(z) Lightly hinged example with inverted
 wmk..... \$ 40
 Very fine used..... \$ 40
 Commercially used..... \$ 20
 Not-so-fine used with heavy postmark..... \$ 3
- (c) **H07d 8d ditto, vertical pair.** LH/UH vertical
 pair. Nice. Cat. \$70..... \$ 50
- 59 (a) **H08b 1/- Orange-vermilion.** 2 LH 2 UH block of
 four. Magnificent..... \$ 500
 Unhinged mint single..... \$ 175
 Lightly hinged single..... \$ 80
 Commercially used example..... \$ 25
 Not-so-fine used..... \$ 5

NEW ZEALAND FINE USED BLOCKS

Beginning this month, a magnificent collection brought together over a period of many years, of some of New Zealand's scarcest issues in used blocks. The blocks have been selected, usually have fine dated circular datestamps "of the period" and will grace any collection of New Zealand stamps.

Experience shows that this type of material quite literally appears only very occasionally. The prices are now firming for such premium pieces and we cannot guarantee to hold prices at current levels much longer.

Clients interested in beginning or extending collections of fine used blocks should contact us now. There is much material in the collection at present being broken up - enough indeed for the foundations of several fine collections. We will happily consider orders of monthly sendings of this material, over a period.

EARLY HEALTHS

- 60 (a) T1a 1929 Nurse, 1d + 1d Scarlet. Absolutely superb with First Day cancellation. Truly superb..... \$ 180
- (b) T2a 1930 Nurse, 1d + 1d Scarlet. Postmarked Highfield 29 Oct 1930. Truly glorious item - perfection..... \$ 420
- (c) T3a, b, 1931 Smiling Boy, 1d + 1d Scarlet and 2d + 1d Deep Blue. Not First Day but two of the best blocks we've ever seen. These great rarities will never be bettered anywhere, anytime..... \$2400
- (d) T4a 1932 Hygeia 1d + 1d Carmine. Another superb block, Wellington cancellation (First Day)..... \$ 175
- (e) T5a 1933 Pathway 1d + 1d Carmine. Beautiful block with two strikes of Wairoa cancellation..... \$ 100

1992 DESIGNS (Cont'd)

1992 Christmas - 45¢, 65¢, \$1 and \$1.50:

These stamps seem to me to signal a return to the cloying symbolism and stylized tendencies of the past. Almost a parody of some of the less successful efforts of the Health series of a generation or so ago. I've tried to find something to recommend these designs, but I don't think even those in the know will want to know. Perhaps the designer was making a play for children's attention in the 45¢ block of four (composite of four designs). They have a laboured suburban feel about them, which to me seems out of place in 1992. Perhaps it's the growing diversity of New Zealand society, and the multi-cultural nature of a New Zealand Christmas. I think they fall short of an adequate response.

Emerging Years Set - 45¢, 50¢, 80¢, \$1, \$1.50 and \$1.80.

There's an honesty about this set that I find quite fetching. The style, the lettering, the subjects, the choice of colours, all seem to call forth the historical period portrayed and the information contained in these designs (fashions, activities, technology and sport) leave you feeling they've given you more than you ever bargained for in a set of stamps. But these are modern designs none the less, with good balance in every respect. Somehow you don't mind a new series if the standard can be kept as high as these. I can see NZ Post winning a lot of friends with this sort of thing.

FINE USED BLOCKS (Cont'd)

60	(f)	T6a 1934 Crusader 1d + 1d Carmine. Stupendous block of four.....	\$ 100
	(g)	T7a 1935 Key to Health 1d + 1d Scarlet. Lovely set with fine used block of four and nice example of the subject for the design (girl and bucket). First Day, Wellington c.d.s.....	\$ 35
	(h)	T8a 1936 Lifebuoy 1d + 1d Scarlet. Lovely F.D. block of four.....	\$ 12.50
	(i)	T9a 1937 Hiker 1d + 1d Scarlet. Superb block of four mounted on illustrated page - Mountain Scene and signed. Lovely exhibition display page..... Plate 1 (four positions) set of four corner block or fine used and two right-hand corner blocks of Plate 2 fine used. Six blocks in all, fine set.....	\$ 50
	(j)	T10a 1938 Children 1d + 1d Red. Lovely block of four (FD).....	\$ 10
		Plate H1 (two positions and bottom selvedge block of eight with imprint). Lovely set.....	\$ 125
	(k)	T11a, b, 1939 Beach Ball 1d + ½d Green, 2d + 1d Red. Very fine blocks of four.....	\$ 32
	(l)	T12a, b, 1940 Beach Ball 1d + ½d Green, 2d + 1d Light Brown. Superb blocks of four.....	\$ 60
	(m)	T13a, b, 1941 Beach Ball 1d + ½d Green, 2d + 1d Light Brown o/p 1941. Superb blocks of four..... Block of four 1d + ½d Green including the two photographs which were used as composite for the design.....	\$ 50
	(n)	T14a, b, 1942 Swing 1d + ½d Green, 2d + 1d Light Brown. Nice pair of blocks including photograph from which the design was taken.....	\$ 15
	(o)	T19b 1947 Eros 2d + 1d Carmine. Superb top left selvedge (value) corner block of eight (4 x 2) signed by William Appleton, Mayor of Wellington. Also press clipping showing Mr. Appleton buying the first of the 1947 Health Stamps at the Post Office in Wellington. Historic.....	\$ 25
		Imprint blocks of the 1d Green and 2d Carmine both signed by James Berry, Designer. Nice set...	\$ 30
	(p)	T22a 1950 Princess Elizabeth and Prince Charles 1d + ½d Green. Nice used block of four with inverted watermark.....	\$ 50
	(q)	T23a 1951 Yachting 1½d + ½d Yellow and Scarlet. An extraordinary and unique flaw in this stamp. Top right selvedge value block of four shows in R2/10 remarkable "new moon" confetti flaw in the sky under the 'W' of "NEW". This is a major and remarkable error and included are New Zealand and U.S. press reports of the variety. Unique and unrepeatable.....	\$ 250
	(r)	T28a, b, c, 1956 Apple Tree (3 values). Nice used blocks of four of all values, including an extra block in the Sepia shade. Sheet signed by L.C.Mitchell, Designer.....	\$ 50
	(s)	T29a, b, 1957 Beach Scenes, 2d + 1d Black and Green 3d + 1d Blue and Red. Lovely pair of blocks, sheet signed by L.C.Mitchell, Designer.....	\$ 20
	(t)	T21b 1949 Nurse 2d + 1d. Top left selvedge block showing no dot below "2". Fine used.....	\$ 25

CAMPBELL PATERSON ARE NOW BUYING
FINE, EARLY, RARE, "NEW ZEALAND"



64(e)



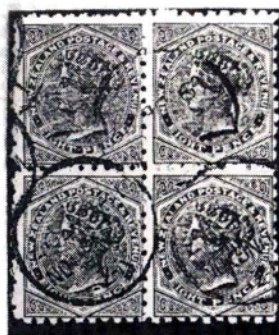
64(a)



64(f)



64(p)



64(r)



64(s)

Photocopies of any lots will be supplied on request (postage only will be charged).



60(c)



62(a)

ROSS DEPENDENCY

- 61 (a) **RD1a 1d Universal overprinted King Edward VII Land.** Extraordinary bottom selvage block of six showing part of bottom selvage arrow at the left and part of 3 dot plate marking (Royle Plate). This is the variety listed under RD1a in the C.P. Catalogue and is very rare. This item has full selvage and is in perfect condition, used..... \$4000

FULL FACE QUEENS

- 62 (a) **A2r 2d Orange-vermilion (1871) perf.10x12½.** Superb block of four of good centring. 8 obliterator struck once for each unit. Fine clear strikes and the appearance is dramatic. Lower left unit, minor dry print area in diadem does not denote damage to print or stamp. Outstanding and most unusual in this perf..... \$ 500

FIRST SIDEFACES

- 63 (a) **C1a 1d Lilac, perf. 12½.** Well-centred block of four and although Invercargill duplex "S" cancellation is untidy, a worthwhile example..... \$ 30
- (b) **C3a 3d Deep Brown, perf. 12½.** Nice used block of four. Few parted perfs and Napier duplex extensive impressions but clear and not unduly defacing (23 March 1881). Nice chance of an excellent block..... \$ 425
- (c) **C3b 3d Deep Brown ditto, perf. 10x12½.** Absolutely brilliant block of six in Deep Red-brown shade. Light clear duplex cancellation (Christchurch Dec 22nd 1874). Two left-hand units slight damage but this does not detract from what is one of this month's most magnificent offerings (see illustration)..... \$ 900
- (d) **C1f 1d Mauve-lilac, perf.12x11½.** Magnificent block of six with light, if extensive, Wellington duplex cancellation 26th Feb. 1882. Two right-hand units damaged but again this is a very brilliant item indeed..... \$ 100
- (e) **C4d 4d Indian Red, perf.12x11½.** Relatively heavily marked block of four but scarce in our experience. Certainly a worthy addition to any exhibition collection and the Dunedin duplex (27 Jan 1882) is a good clear strike. Well-centred stamps of good colour and sound condition. Cat. \$320, (our normal price for such a block in top condition \$400 plus)..... \$ 200
- (f) **C6c 1/- Green perf. 12x11½.** Block of wonderful appearance with light New Plymouth duplex cancellation Feb. 1882. One stamp pulled corner and two other units minor perf faults. The appearance and effect of this item is beautiful - probably unrepeatable..... \$ 250
- (g) **B3a ½d Newspaper Stamp perf. 12½.** Nice set of two blocks full of interest. (a) Two stamps "Letters" wmk, (b) normal but four strikes of Cust c.d.s. Nice set..... \$ 30

SECOND SIDEFACES

- 64 (a) **D1c ½d Black perf. 10x11.** Perfect block (Pirongia c.d.s. 4 FE 98). Really wonderful item and one in a million chance is the reason for this premium price..... \$ 50

- (b) D1e ½d ditto perf. 11. Another magnificent block of four almost the equal of the previous lot. In the Grey-black shade, light c.d.s. \$ 35
- (c) D1e ½d Black ditto, this time in deeper black shade with concentric ring cancellation (light). Coarse paper. \$ 30
- (d) D1h ½d ditto perf 11 "Pirie" Paper (sideways wmk SVM), Black shade. Nice Pongaroa cancellation 23 Nov 1900 on this glorious, well-centred block. Really wonderful item and scarce. \$ 75
- (e) D2a 1d Rose (dull) perf. 12x11½ (HM paper). Magnificent block of six with Wellington squared circle 13 May 1886. Light diagonal crease affects two units but overall, this is a wonderful piece. \$ 100
- (f) D2ba 1d Rose, (die 2) perf. 12x11½, horizontal mesh - 6mm wmk. Lovely block of four with Invercargill c.d.s. 13 Dec 1887. Deep Carmine Rose shade. This is a significant item and very much for the specialist. Invercargill marking is clear, if one strike heavyish. Of particular interest - all stamps are Die 2A. \$ 200
- (g) D2j 1d Rose (die 3) perf. 10. Set of four blocks in Rose, Pale Rose-pink, Rose-carmine and Carmine. The last two blocks are superb examples, with the former two having heavier postmarks (no charge). Lovely set of four. \$ 15
- (h) D2p 1d ditto, perf.11. Another set of three blocks, all with interesting c.d.s. (Ngairi, Paeroa and Swanson). This is a really wonderful set in fine condition, shades represented Carmine Rose, Rose, Rose-pink. \$ 50
- (i) D3k 2d Lilac (die 3), perf.11. Nice set of three blocks again with Mauve (two shades) and Purple. Also perf.10x11 block D3i with heavier marking (no charge). The set. \$ 30
- (j) D3p 2d ditto, perf.11 on "Pirie" paper, wmk.W6b. Lovely left selvedge piece in fine commercially used (Cromwell c.d.s.), left vertical row of perforations inset into design and selvedge separated vertically. A block of great interest and beauty. \$ 55
- (k) D3g 2d ditto, perf.10. Nice lightly marked item on coarse paper in the Lilac shade. \$ 15
- (l) D4e 2½d Blue, perf.10. Two blocks, one superb, one more heavily marked, the former in Pale Blue, the latter in Bright Ultramarine. Beautiful set for exhibition collection. \$ 60
- (m) D4h 2½d ditto, perf.10x11. Two blocks, this time Blue (heavily marked), Pale Blue (lightly marked and attractive, if centred low). Nice pair. \$ 50
- (n) D5d 3d Yellow, perf.10. Stupendous used block with advertisements on the back in Mauve. Really very lovely item with Blenheim squared circle, May 1894. Very hard to repeat. \$ 150
- (o) D5c 3d ditto, perf. 12x11½ "Life Insurance" paper with 4mm wmk. Scarce item with rather smudged Dunedin squared circle cancellation June 1892. General condition good - scarce. \$ 50
- (p) D5h 3d ditto, perf.11. Quite extraordinary block in Yellow with magnificent Wellington cancellation June 1898. One of the nicest pieces in the offering - spare block included no charge with heavier Christchurch postmark. \$ 200

- 64 (q) D8e 6d Brown (die 1) perf.10. Scarce item and particularly in a block of four such as this. Dunedin squared circle is clear, if over faces. This is a rarity piece for the discerning specialist - unlikely to be repeated here or anywhere else..... \$ 150
- (r) D9c 8d Blue, perf.10. Magnificent block of four with advertisements on the back in Purple. Light c.d.s. marking and faces all clear and fresh. Centring good, if slightly to the right. This is a major international exhibition item by any standards..... \$ 675
- (s) D9d 8d ditto, perf.11. Possibly the plum piece in this sideface offering. Although centred right, this block has extremely light postmark (Gisborne 9 May 1908) and is in perfect condition. Definitely impossible to repeat..... \$ 775
- (t) D10c 1/- Red-brown, perf.12x11½ with VM paper and D10h perf.10x11. Two commercially used blocks of good appearance..... \$ 50



60(q)



63(c)

SPOT-CASH BUYING LIST

For two months, any material may be returned.

- 58a 6d Auckland Exhibition (Edward VII) overprint LHM..... \$200
- 92c 1d Universal, Waterlow paper (wmk W6), perf.11x14
FU.....(or offer) \$500
- 94b 1d Universal, Cowan, unwmk paper, perf.11x14, FU..... \$160

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