

THE KIWI

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
Affiliated to BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION and PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

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VOLUME XX1 No. 2. MARCH 1972 WHOLE No. 112.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD

ON

SATURDAY, MARCH 25th 1972

(AT 2 p.m. for 2.30 START)

AT THE

SHAFTESBURY HOTEL, MONMOUTH STREET, LONDON.

- 1) COMPETITION (Details of which have been sent to all members by post).
- 2) In the 2nd room our President will give a display of the First and Second "Sideface" issues.

ANNUAL COMPETITION 1972

It is with great pleasure that we announce the names of the Judges who will officiate at this event. They are A.R. Butler Esq., F.R.P.S.L., and W. Raife Wellsted Esq. F.R.P.S.L. These gentlemen having kindly accepted invitations to officiate on the day. In addition to other philatelic activities, Mr. Butler is well known as Honorary Librarian to the Royal Philatelic Society, London, and Mr. Wellsted as the Honorary Secretary of the Postal History Society.

Every Member should now be in possession of a notice giving full details of the 1972 Annual Competition. Should there be any doubt regarding this, a phone call or letter to the Hon. Competition Officer, W.H. Young, or the Secretary, Cyril A. Gilders will put things right.

A 'THANK YOU'

Many thanks to all Members who offered their services, following the request for volunteers to undertake duties within the Society. If you have heard nothing further in this matter, it does not in any way mean that your offer has been overlooked. It does take a little time to verify where help may be best used, and you will hear more of this in a short while.

THE POSTAL HISTORY TROPHY.

Resulting from the interest shown by Members, the Committee have, with gratitude to Mr. J.J. Bishop for his generous offer, accepted this Trophy on behalf of the Society. All things going as planned, this Trophy should be competed for, for the first time, at the Annual Competition of March 1973. Plenty of warning for the postal historians among our Members.

SOCIETY DISPLAYS

On April 25th, 1972, Mrs. I.J. Willis will lead a team of New Zealand Society Members with a display of New Zealand given to the Members of the Sevenoaks and District P.S. The meeting place of this Society is the Dorothy Parrot Hall, Buckhurst Lane, Sevenoaks, time of meetings 7.30 p.m. We feel sure that the host Society will be pleased to make welcome any of our Members who wish to go along and support Mrs. Willis on this occasion.

----- C.G. (Hon. Sec).

HOLIDAYS

I shall be away from April 4th - 15th. Ordinary mail can be sent as usual, but you are requested NOT to send any mail requiring a signature i.e. Registered or Rec. Delivery.

The bungalow will not be empty but no phone calls either during this period, as the caretaker cannot give you any reply.

E.N. Barton.

HOLIDAYS AND ABSENCE FROM HOME

MEMBERS ON THE PACKET LIST ARE REQUESTED TO ADVISE THE PACKET SECRETARY AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE OF HOLIDAYS AND ANY PERIOD THEY WILL BE AWAY FROM HOME OVER 4 DAYS. THIS WILL ENABLE THE PACKET TO BE DIVERTED TO ANOTHER MEMBER AND RETURNED TO YOU LATER.

PLEASE ASSIST BY GIVING THIS INFORMATION AND THUS SAVE INSURANCE COSTS.

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?
AIRMAIL RATE N.Z. TO U.K.

REDUCED

28c to 23c
FROM 1st OCTOBER 1971.

G. PRATT.

WOMEN'S LIB - AT AGE 9

Women's Lib has even reached the nine-year olds in New Zealand, it seems.

Deborah Smith wrote this letter to the Postmaster-General (Mr. McCready):

" Dear Sir,

I like last year's health stamps. However, why are the women always on the lower-priced stamps. Just for once, can't the women be on the higher-priced stamps?

I am nine, in Std three, and the girls are just as good as the boys.

The dental nurse on the five-cent stamp doesn't really count. "

In his reply, Mr. McCready agreed girls were just as good as boys and, in fact, in 1968 and 1969 the "girls" featured on the higher-priced stamps.

He has, however, asked the Director-General to see if this years health stamps could feature girls on the higher denomination stamps and this has been arranged.

(From N.Z. News. Submitted by K.B. Mann.)

NEW MEMBERS:

- D. Olow - 14, Fosseway, Syston, Leics. LE7. 8NE.
- R.A.Finn - 45, Falkland Park Ave. South Norwood, London. SE.25. 65Q.
- The High Commissioner for New Zealand. - (One of his principal Assts) K.R. Hitchcock - Finance Branch. New Zealand House, Haymarket, London. S.W.1.
- H.P. Punter - 25, Portico Lane, Prescot, Lancs. L35 7JN.
- L.J. Watson - 255, Cateswell Road, Hall Green. Birmingham 11. Warwick.
- P.J. Davies - 6, Fitzgibbon Square, Larkhill, Salisbury, Wilts.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- R. Aymes - Ferndale House, 31, Station Road, Headcorn, Kent.
- F.C. Fifoot - Eversley Hotel, 121, Brighton Road, Worthing, Sussex.
- E.K. Hossell - 1, Manordene, 75, Bristol Road, Lower Weston-Super-Mare. Somerset.
- R.P. Odenweller - "White Caps" South Road, Smiths, Bermuda.
- Campbell G. Paterson - PO Box 5555, Auckland. N.Z.

RESIGNATION:

- A.F. Barron - 3, Salcombe Way, Ruislip, Mdx. H.A.4. 6BA.
- H. Hayward - 11, Slades Hill, Enfield. Mdx.
- Canon D.O. Noble - The Rectory, 2, Aubery Crescent, Largs, Ayrshire.

DECEASED:

R.A. Watts - 26, Milehouse Rd, Milehouse,
Plymouth, Devon.

AMENDMENTS:

Mr. & Mrs. G.H. Barker now 55a, Chestnut Road, West
to read Mr. G.H. Barker, Norwood, London. S.E.27.
(Wife resigned) -

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

We offer our congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Riddell
and Philip Evans, who have been made fellows of the R.P.S.

NOTE FROM NOEL TURNER (TREASURER)

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS:

Your Officers do their best to keep down the cost of
running the Society so that our subscription can remain
at the same figure.

It will therefore greatly assist us if, when writing to
any officer, if you require an answer, to enclose a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ p
or 3p S.A. envelope. Your assistance in this matter will
be appreciated.

The Wreck of the "SS WAIRARAPA"

A recent article in the "KIWI" drew attention to the wreck of the "SS WAIRARAPA" and its romantic association with the formation of the famous Pigeon Posts on the Great Barrier Island at the turn of the last century.

I have collected this fascinating local post for the past three years, and, in view of the "Wairarapa's" connection with it, albeit a tenuous one, have tried very hard to obtain some of the wreck covers. It took two years to obtain the first (Campbell Paterson/Colin Hamilton produced this for me) and in October last year I was successful in obtaining Lot Nos 5842 and 6029 from Laurie Franks Ltd., Postal Auction. The last item was of more than unusual interest as it bore an hitherto unrecorded wreck marking in BLACK. These 3 covers have set me thinking and pose several questions which some members might be able to answer.

I shall first describe the covers:

Cover No. 1. This bears the normal "Wairarapa" wreck cachet as recorded on page 274 of Volume III of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" and as shown in Major A.E. Hopkins "A History of Wreck Covers" published by Robson Lowe. The marking is in VIOLET.

The cover originally bore three stamps (all washed off) and bears three partial impressions of a London squared circle postmark LONDON N? SP 94 and is addressed to a Mr. Thos Atkinson, Schoolmaster, Mititai, Nr Wairoa, Auckland.

The reverse carries the transit mark of Auckland 3 NO 94 and the arrival mark of Mititai 5 NO 94.

Cover No. 2. This was Lot No. 5842 and has on it the normal wreck cachet but this time in BLUE.

The cover bears a 2d Blue Queensland stamp (same shade as the wreck cachet) which has received two impressions of the BRISBANE QUEENSLAND cancellation as depicted in Major Hopkins' book but dated OC 18 94 and is addressed to Messrs Sutherland & Sheridan, Wairau Valley, Marlborough.

The reverse bears the transit mark of Auckland 10 NO 94 and a partial strike of Wairau Valley 16 NO 94, plus a faint impression/transfer of a Wellington address.

Cover No. 3. This was Lot No. 6029 at the Laurie Franks auction, and is possibly unique in that it bears a different "Wairarapa" wreck marking in BLACK. The cachet reads (SAVED FROM WRECK) in two lines in very small letters.
(OF "WAIRARAPA")

The cover bears a pair of NSW 1d Magenta stamps which have been obliterated by the single Auckland A Killer and is additionally marked on the front by the original type NZ boxed PACKET-BOAT. marking. The addressee is Walter Bull Esq., of Dunedin.

The reverse has on it the Auckland transit mark of 3 NO 94 plus part of another, presumably the arrival mark of Dunedin.

I think it would be fair to say that Cover No. 1 is in every respect the classic "Wairarapa" wreck cover - the marking is in VIOLET, the stamps have been washed off, the cover is salt water stained and the reverse bears the Auckland arrival date of the 3 NO 94.

I have seen one other cover with the cachet in VIOLET. This was dated 3 NO 94 on the reverse as was another mentioned by Major Hopkins but with the legend in PURPLE.

Cover No. 2 is somewhat different - the marking is in BLUE and the reverse bears the Auckland arrival date of 10 NO 94. The stamp has only just been retained on the cover which is salt water stained. The arrival date would seem to indicate that more than one trip was made to the wreck to recover mail. It is of interest to note that Major Hopkins had a cover with the cachet in BLUE dated 5 NO 94 and that a similar one to the same address was in the Penn-Gaskell collection at the British Museum.

Cover No. 3 is a problem. Is it genuine? It appears to be so and possible confirmation that it came from this wreck can be supported by the following. The cover is salt water stained and bears on the reverse the Auckland arrival date of 3 NO 94. In addition to the wreck marking on the front, the cover has received a PACKET-BOAT. marking and the stamps have been obliterated by the "Broken A" Auckland "Killer" - common practice at the time when a letter was received off a ship and found not to be postmarked. All the markings on the front are of the same intensity of BLACK.

Assuming that Cover 3 is what it purports to be the following conclusions may be reached :-

(a). Mail salvaged from the "SS WAIRARAPA" reached Auckland on 3 NO 94.

(b). A cachet (as per cover No. 3) was prepared so as to explain the condition of the mail and applied to some covers.

(c). This first cachet was found to be unsuitable, being too small, indistinct and in consequence liable to smudging. It was discarded.

(d). A second cachet was prepared (the one illustrated in Vol III of the "Handbooks" and elsewhere) and this proved acceptable.

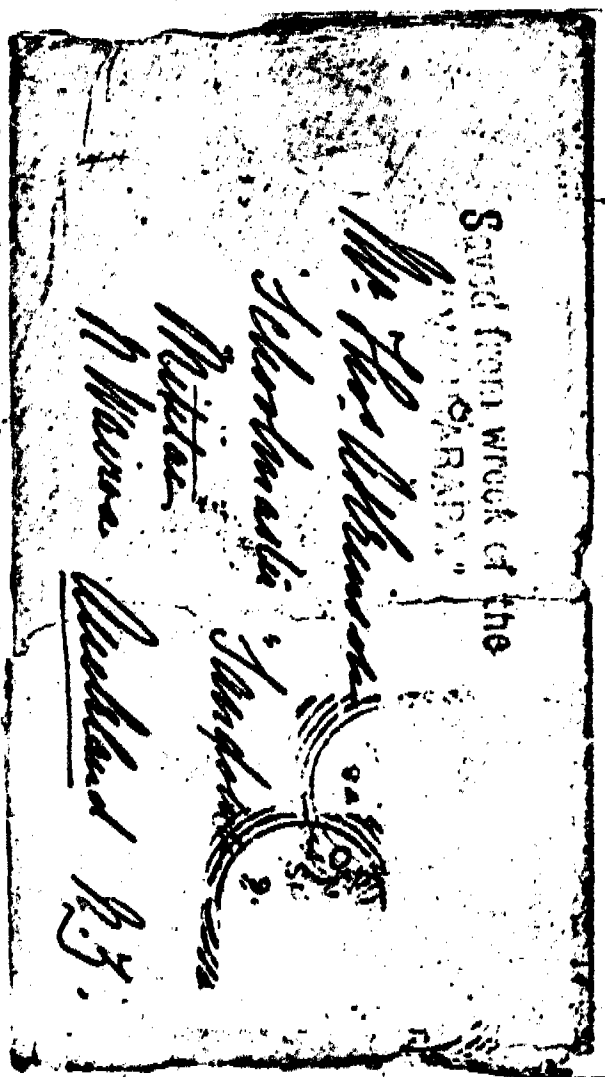
(e). Most of the salvaged mail received at Auckland on 3 NO 94 received the second cachet impressed in VIOLET or PURPLE.

(f). Subsequent batches of salvaged mail received the second cachet impressed in BLUE.

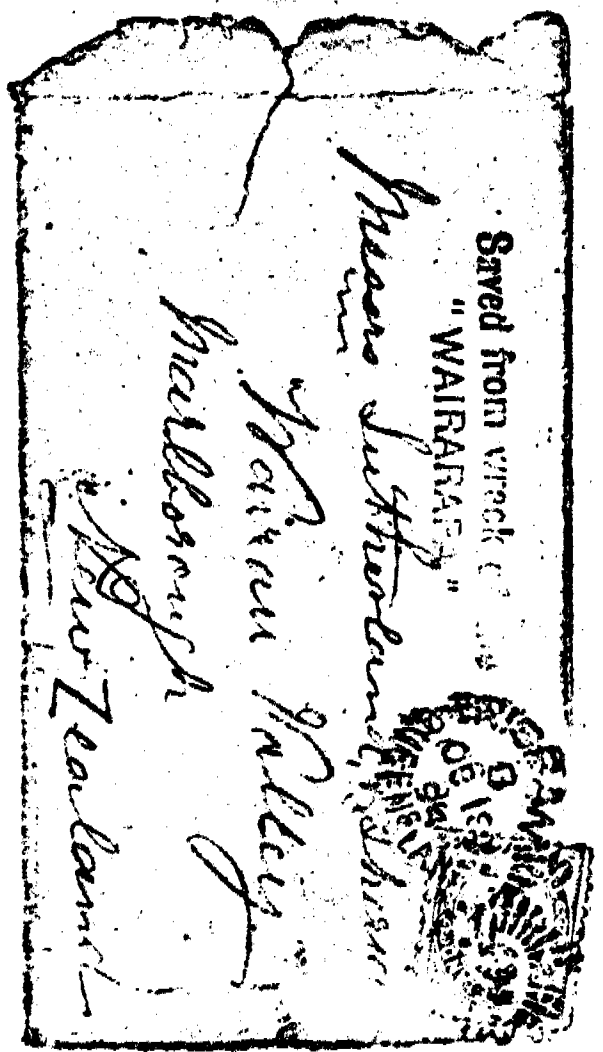
All the above is conjecture and I would be interested in hearing from members who have covers that support my assumptions or better still from those that do not. All the covers I have mentioned or seen have been dated between the 3rd and 10th of November 1894 - has any member one outside these dates and has the normal cachet (or as I contend No. 2) ever been seen impressed in BLACK?

A.G. Mathieson.

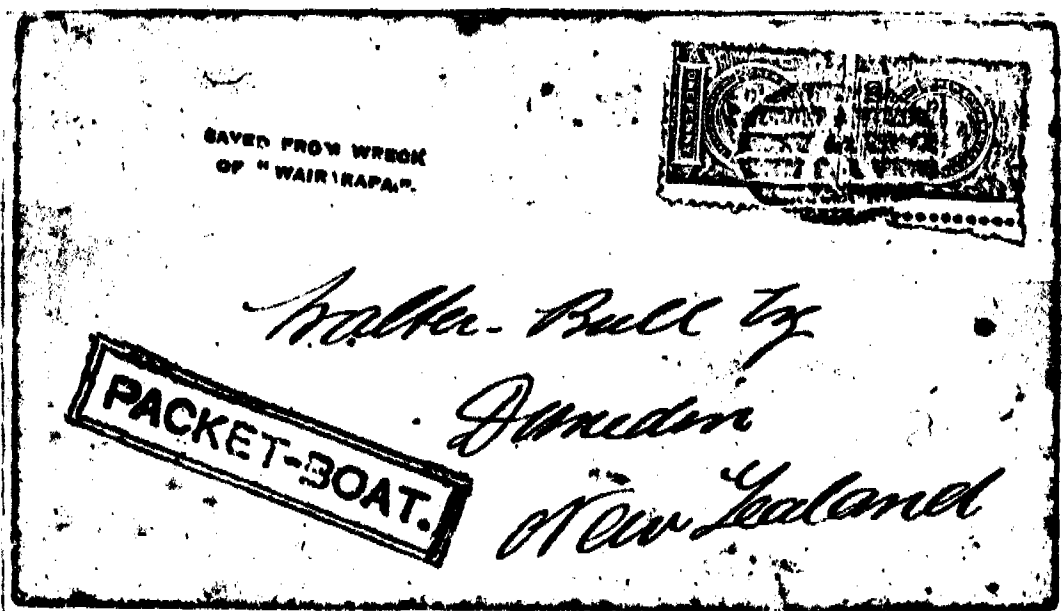
Cover No. 1



Cover No. 2



Cover No. 3



A. NOTE FROM NOEL.

Telephone calls from all over the Country; letters of good wishes and offers of material from North, South, East and West; a room packed almost to suffocation and a standing queue of Members waiting to show their treasures. This was the result of the conspiracy by the Gilders Gang (Cyril and Rita Gilders - Secretaries, John Evans - Chairman, and the rest of the Committee) to land me with the work of leading the Health Stamp Meeting on Saturday, January 29th. One Member even wrote to the Secretary wishing us all a "Healthy" start to the Year!!

It remains for me to thank everyone for their overwhelming support. I certainly expected help from some quarters, but the response was nothing short of fantastic, and proves the great strength of our Society. To each and everyone of you, my sincere gratitude.

Another word of thanks is also due to Philip Evans, who, at very short notice, undertook to write the report of the meeting, which he has done exceedingly well, in spite of viewing difficulties.

Could we one day have a similar show for the Commemoratives and Christmas Stamps? From Christchurch - right up to date? I am sure it would be a success. But please - please - NOT me as Leader!

NOEL.

THE JANUARY MEETING - HEALTH STAMPS.

The popularity of the Health issues attracted an attendance of 40 members, one visitor and a record number of exhibitors.

Leader for the day Noel Turner opened by expressing thanks to the members who had responded to his circular inviting contributions to the display - over 50 replies by letter and telephone call, from as far distant as the West Country and Scotland.

After outlining the circumstances in which the first Health stamp was conceived, Noel showed a first day cover

with a block of four of the 1929 Nurse stamp and some blocks which highlighted the problem of the varying marginal rules (jubilee lines or buffer bars) used with the single plate. A cover and specimens of the revised Nurse design used for the 1930 issue led to the best known of the Healths, the 1931 Smiling Boys, remarkable in that the dies and plates for the two values were made on opposite sides of the world - the 1d, in London, the 2d in Wellington. After putting up blocks of six which he had once thought to be the largest blocks existing, Noel added blocks of eight and then blocks of fifteen, which he had been impelled to acquire in New York & Wellington and expressed the hope that the discovery process would NOT be continued.

Successive years' issues were shown, illuminated not only by informative and witty comments but also by unusual items. There were rejected designs for the 1932 Hygeia; a photograph of a complete sheet of the 1933 Pathway showing all the many constant varieties and clearly illustrating the variation in the quality of impression along the NE-SW diagonal; pieces showing the progressive deterioration of the plates for the 1934 Crusader, plate number positions of the 1935 Keyhole, the 1936 Lifebuoy and the 1937 Climber, with an unexplained flaw in the last-mentioned; multiples and varieties in the 1938 Children and 1939-40-41 Beach Ball issues, and to end this section a remarkable shade of the 1942 2d, so distinctive that it must be either a colour trial impression or a chemical changeling. First day, commemorative and flown covers were included and such seldom-seen items as a 1941 Beach Ball cover with the special cancellation used at the opening of the King George V Memorial Health Camp at Otaki.

The leader then called on his support exhibitors and we saw a profusion of fine material from no less than twenty members, some of whom had sent items by post or by the hands of members attending. The contributors were H.L. Bartrop, K.V. Bracey, F.G.W. East, A.J. Greenwood, A.E. Harrad, N.W. Hoggarth, E.A. Hossell, F.W. Kerr-Cross, C. Longworth-Dames, L.W. Neel, J. Prince, E.H. Pyrah, F.R. Ribbens, J. Robbins, A.H. Rose, F.B. Scrivener, J.A.W. Smith, B.L. Symonds, N. Todd and W.J. Woolfe.

The Leader expressed his thanks to other Members who offered material by post but whose offers were declined in order to avoid duplication.

The number of unusual items and the eagerness of members to view them made it impossible for your reporter to examine them, much less to ascribe them to their

owners, and apologies must be made in advance for the glaring deficiencies of this account.

There were proofs of the Smiling Boys; varieties, including plate-wear examples, of Hygeia; a fine sequence of flaws and retouches in Pathway; a PRE-first day cover of Crusader (issued at Wellington a day early) and a leaflet of the letterbox-stuffer sort distributed to promote sales of this 1934 issue; a study of varieties in the 1946 Soldier and Child; prints of photographs which were used as basis for the designs of the 1935, 1939 and 1942 stamps; a monstrous printing flaw in the 1948 Health Camp (the more remarkable as the printing was by the usually impeccable Bradbury Wilkinson); the "phantom tent" variety and some other flaws and retouches in the 1948 Boys Brigade; miniature sheets showing watermark varieties, plate numbers, flaws and retouches including some which identify pane positions; a paper join made in the web-printing photogravure machine to join the end of one reel to the start of the next - in the 1962 Rarakiri; a block of six of the 1962 Tieke, imperforate, a variety of which no other specimens have been reported; examples of widely misplaced colours and "missing colour" specimens in various photogravure issues.

To wind up the display, Noel took the frames to show more material sent in by distant members, plus what he called off-beat items from his own collection. The first item was a 1936 Lifebuoy imperf. on four sides, unrecorded to the knowledge of those present but unfortunately not certificated; opinions were divided about its validity.

Next we saw the imperf. "proof or essay" of the 1943 Princess Elizabeth which almost earned for Noel a motorcade trip to Scotland Yard and thence to Bradbury Wilkinson's works, as related in his article in the Philymphia KIWI. This was followed by design-basis photographs of the 1945 Peter Pan, the 1946 Soldier and the 1947 Eros; Differences between the photographs and the issued stamps were pointed out. The Eros issue was also shown with an unexplained flaw in the gutter and with the progressive value-remaining marks in the sheet margins - an aid for postal clerks which was tried on this issue but discontinued for the following year.

The 1943 Princess triangulars included a photograph (pity it was only a photograph!) of the blocks of both values imperforate between, which realised the fantastic price of £1000 at auction in 1961. There was also a photograph (pity again!) of the 1955 Medallion with centre missing, another remarkable piece to have escaped from

Bradbury Wilkinson and which is catalogued priceless. Does anyone know who owns these items now?

Flaws in the 1949 Nurse and 1950 Elizabeth and Charles were shown (real stamps these, of course), the latter issue including the "toothless Queen" flaw, the constancy of which still remains to be proven. Question-time approaching, Noel wound up the display by showing misplaced and missing colour examples, using a series of the 1959 Poaka to illustrate his fable about a colour-hating employee at Harrison's who furtively diminished the red by stages until it vanished entirely and then tried to repeat the trick with the black. Norman Hoggarth claimed that the culprit was not bona fide an employee of the printers but was a highly trained saboteur planted by the stamp trade to ensure a regular supply of varieties; no denial of this was heard from a well-known specialist dealer who was present!

On a more serious level, there was discussion of the Smiling Boy die proofs, of which it was once believed that only eight copies existed; several of these were on show in the room and two more reported. Two other items were shown being the fine reproductions prepared a few years ago by Campbell Paterson and identified by a white line defacement across the north-west corner.

The significance and philatelic insignificance of the serial number applied to sheets of stamps for accounting purposes was mentioned.

A discussion of the unusual colours of the 1942 Swing and a similar distinctive shade of the Elizabeth Gunn commemorative seemed to result in a consensus of opinion that these are most likely to be colour changelings; it was suggested that they may have resulted from exposure in the vicinity of the famous sulphurous hot springs.

A vote of thanks - never better merited - to the leader and his team of exhibitors was passed with enthusiastic applause. In his endorsement of this, the President related some of the amusing comments on the Hygeia design which appeared in the Antipodean philatelic press when the stamp was issued. In so doing, he struck again the keynote of a meeting which proved that true philately is made even more enjoyable by wit and good humour.

Philip Evans.

JUST LITTLE PIECES OF PAPER.

A.B. Johnstone. Edinburgh.

A number of years ago in an hotel in St. Andrews I engaged in conversation with a gentleman who it transpired was on a world tour, business combined with pleasure, golf of course playing a prominent part in the latter. Soon I learned that he was in fact from New Zealand and having some interest in the stamps of that country I steered the chatter in the direction of his homeland. We discussed at length many features of New Zealand, places of interest, birds, flowers and so on until finally my companion asked how long I had spent there. His face registered surprise when I had to admit that to date this was an unfulfilled ambition and that I had never been. He was even more surprised to learn that anything I knew of his country came from a study of its postage stamps and my knowledge of its geography from tracing the routes followed by its R.T.P.O'S. My companions final remark was that in future he would have a greater respect for people who collected what he termed "these funny little pieces of paper".

Perhaps it was not unusual for a non-collector to overlook the significance of the postage stamp and yet we as collectors are often equally guilty of ignoring his point, that we do indeed collect "little pieces of paper".

In this day of specialisation, of fly-speck and microscopic philately, it is not suggested that the hobby should be further complicated by introducing a diversification of the papers used. However, when the paper itself is the best and the simplest method of determining an issue or a difficult watermark then its significance to the philatelist is paramount and any time spent upon its study fully justified.

Soon apparent to anyone who takes a more serious interest in the stamps of New Zealand, is the vital part to be played by the paper itself, the basic material without which there would be nothing to impress the stamp upon. With this in mind I have put together these notes and in this respect I am in good company. On June 20th, 1788, Benjamin Franklin read to the American philosophical society a treatise on paper-making. I hope that what proved of interest to the philosophers of Philadelphia will also interest the philosophical philatelist.

From the earliest times man has had a need for some means of recording the spoken word. Indeed his progress in civilisation may be judged by the measure of his success in converting the spoken word to the written word, the latter

being as old as civilisation itself.

The earliest writing materials were smooth sand upon which messages could be traced, or stones, bones or wood or even metal upon which symbols were scratched. Later, linen and other fabrics were used but these had their limitations.

The first step towards paper, although not true paper, was the introduction of papyrus by the Egyptians about the year 3500 B.C. Papyrus is a water reed which grows on the banks of the Nile, and the plant was peeled and laid in layers each at right angles to the previous. The mass was soaked with water containing a natural gum, hammered and pressed flat, and finally rubbed with a smooth stone to give it a writing surface. Papyrus was in use for 4000 years until it was gradually replaced around 200 B.C. by animal parchment.

Parchment was prepared from the skins of wild goats, calves or lambs. The skins were stretched on wooden frames and treated with a paste of lime and chalk, which when dry was scraped and the surface then smoothed with pumice.

Nevertheless none of these early writing materials were true paper which is ascribed to a Chinese, Tsai Lun about the year 105 A.D. and although crude his process was very similar to present day methods. It was not until 800 A.D. that a knowledge of paper making began to spread westwards when some Chinese paper-makers were captured by Arabs and a paper-making factory was set up in Baghdad. The industry gradually spread through Egypt to Morocco about 1120, and thence through Spain, France and Italy and to Germany by 1389, finally reaching Britain in 1490. Thus paper-making had taken nearly 1400 years to travel from its source in China to this country.

For the purposes of philately it would suffice to confine these notes to wire-wove paper as we know it today, but a brief mention should be made of the hand made papers as these were used for some of the earliest issues of stamps.

Hand made paper is produced on a flat rectangular mould originally covered with a woven cloth which left an impression on the finished paper, hence the term, wove paper. Alternatively the mould could be covered with strips of bamboo or grass laid in parallel and laced together at intervals with either hair, cotton or more commonly silk. Again these left their impression on the paper, hence we have "laid" paper, showing the characteristic laid lines or chain lines of the mould. When paper-making spread to Europe these mould covers were soon replaced by a more durable wire mesh, or strips of wire, each still retaining

the peculiarities of the original wove or laid covers which peculiarities survive to the present day.

The hand mould is dipped vertically into a vat of prepared pulp, and withdrawn horizontally, retaining on its surface a fine layer of pulp. The thickness and texture is governed by the dexterity of the vatman as he manipulates the mould to knit together the fibres and drain off the excess water. Removable strips of wood, deckles, surround the mould to prevent the pulp from slipping off. The drying or couching, and pressing processes are also done by hand, and even today hand made papers are still produced in this fashion. Invariably in the hand made papers the watermark is clearer and more prominent since the watermark bits are sewn into the mould cover itself and become an integral part interrupting the wove or laid marks. Conversely in machine made paper the watermark is impressed externally from a dandy-roll about which more later.

However, as all modern stamps are printed on machine made paper it is this process which should command our greater attention. The raw materials used were originally old rags, cotton and linen being most suitable, and many were the music hall jokes about selling one's shirt to the paper-makers. An old adage ran; rags make paper, paper makes money, money makes banks, banks make loans, loans make beggars and beggars make rags, which would imply that one way or the other everybody contributed to the paper trade. As demand outstripped the supply of rags, straw, wood and waste-paper were introduced and later esparto grass from the Mediterranean lands. From the middle of the 19th century woodpulp was being used increasingly because of its abundant supply and advances in technique gradually improved the quality of woodpulp paper. This was particularly fortuitous in 1940 when Britain was cut off from her supply of esparto grass and although was substituted, the bulk of supplies were manufactured from woodpulp.

After cleansing, the raw materials are broken up into small pieces and then thoroughly bleached and reduced to a pulp in special tanks or hollanders. Here the sizing or loading agents such as starch, china-clay or titanium are added to give opacity, and at the same stage any colouring matter is introduced to tint the finished paper as required. At this juncture it may be propitious to mention that herein lies the difference between tinted papers and printed colour. In the tinted paper the colouring matter is added to the pulp penetrating the fibres, whereas printed colour is on the surface only, leaving the back uncoloured unless of course printed on both sides. Similarly at this stage special fibres may be introduced to obtain specific effects

as in the so-called granite papers commonly used in Switzerland.

The pulp, or as it is called in the trade, the stuff, is now ready to be pumped into the machine chests where agitators keep it well mixed. Further cleansing and filtering remove any small particles of foreign matter before the stuff is strained into the breast box ready for the paper-making machine itself.

The stuff which is now about 99% water flows on to an endless wire screen whose function is to bind the pulp into a web of fine paper by agitation, suction and drainage through the mesh of the screen. It is at this point that the formation of the wire screening leaves on the wet web of pulp a series of small indentations which ALWAYS run in machine direction, where greater strength is required to minimise the danger of a paper break. This may be appreciated if a piece of the corrugated paper is taken and torn along the corrugations. It will tear quite readily, whereas there is a greater resistance to tear across the corrugations. One must bear in mind that the paper-making machine may run for days and would only be stopped in cases of extreme emergency. A paper break requires immediate and drastic action to ensure that the loose end is fed through the still revolving rollers.

To return to the wire mesh, the web is carried along to the dandy roll, which is a roller covered in wire gauze similar to the screen and upon which the bits in the form of the requisite watermark are affixed. These bits impress themselves upon the wet web of pulp leaving slightly thinner places which show in the paper when held up to light.

If I may digress for a moment, anyone who collects Germany will know how an acid in the gum eats away the paper of the Ostropa miniature sheet leaving actual holes where the thinner part of the watermark appears. What price full gum in this case?

Passing the dandy roll the web travels on under a couch roll made of felt which runs over the surface of the paper continuing the drying out process. From here the web progresses over felt blankets to the press rolls and drying cylinders which eventually reduce the moisture content to the required level, normally around 5%. Finally the paper goes through the calenders and ends its long journey on the reel-up.

The endless wire screen which began the whole process returns underneath in order to maintain a continuous flow

of pulp to the machine, its operative surface being approximately 8 feet by 24 feet.

We must now consider the effect of this wire screen upon the wet web of pulp and the paper itself. As stated earlier the screen leaves its impression upon the pulp in the form of minute indentations and despite rolling and pressing these remain throughout the life of the paper and are of great significance to the philatelist. When a light is reflected across the paper these minute hollows fall naturally into shadow and may be seen on the backs of our stamps running either vertically or horizontally. To assist in the recognition of these indentations or mesh I have found it helpful at Society meetings to use a piece of fine cardboard, or better still a sheet of woodpulp as supplied to the paper mills where the enlarged form is quite easily seen in reflected light. I then proceed to sheets of notepaper carefully selected for their prominent mesh, both vertical and horizontal.

Being not unlike tiny interrupted corrugations the indentations tend to make the paper curl when gently heated. The mesh or the curl is an invaluable aid to determine one issue of stamps from another, or more often one watermark from another. To collectors of the stamps of New Zealand the ability to recognise mesh has long been an important part of the specialist's knowledge. In the issues of 1882 it is virtually impossible to distinguish the watermarks visually, especially the 6mm from the 7mm. Fortunately the 6mm has horizontal mesh whilst the 7mm has vertical mesh, and although the 4mm also has vertical mesh the difference of 3mm is quite sufficient for visual identification with some experience.

Again with the Pictorial issue of 1935-47, difficulty may be experienced in determining the single and multiple watermarks, particularly in the small sized stamps, yet here also mesh solves the problem since the single watermark is vertical whereas the multiple is horizontal, with of course the exception in the case of the 9d. In addition the ability to tell the esparto paper from the coarser woodpulp paper is a further asset since all the woodpulp paper stamps have multiple watermark.

No issue could be more complex than the stamps of George V especially the surface printings, and yet with patience and study the papers can be sorted out again with some assistance from the mesh. In the same way it is possible to locate the odd sideways watermark in bulk lots simply by using the mesh or curl rather than laboriously scanning the watermarks themselves.

Turning our attention to the various types of paper used in stamp production, these are really only variations of wire wove papers and their characteristics merely impressed by the dandy roll. Hence the laid papers of today are in fact imitations of the hand made laid papers, the laid lines and chain lines being applied in the same manner as a watermark. This is typical of many modern products where the machine acknowledges the superiority of the hand by endeavouring to counterfeit its characteristics.

However, one cannot overlook the advantage of being able to recognise laid paper as instance the 2/- pictorial of 1903. Or much more important still, the laid papers of the 1868 large heads of Canada where the 2 cents recently fetched £10,416 at auction. Only two copies are known to have survived, but surely others must exist perhaps unrecognised as the rarities they are through an inability to distinguish the laid paper.

In more recent years, there is the example of the 4d pictorial of 1960 which appeared on the new white chalk surfaced paper, a very elusive little item but readily spotted by the perceptive collector prepared to spend some time on the study of the papers.

In conclusion, I would recommend to all collectors a visit to a paper mill since no amount of reading can substitute for a first hand practical knowledge of what is after all the basis of our hobby, just little pieces of paper.

LIBRARY

LIBRARIAN: A. Daborn, 72, Mulgrave Road, Ealing, London.
W.5. 1LE.

The Society now has Vols. 1, 2, 4 & 5 of the New Zealand Handbook, and these are available on loan under the same conditions (see Jan. 1972 Kiwi) for postage as for Vol. 3. i.e. 50p for postage pre-paid with application.

Also available from the Librarian new additions to the Kiwi Magazine List at 25p each post paid.

Vol. XIII	No. 4	July 1964
" "	" 5	Sept "
" "	" 6	Nov "
" XIV	" 2	Mar 1965
" XV	" 1	Jan 1966
" XVII	" 2	Mar 1968
" "	" 3	May "
" "	" 6	Nov "
" XIX	" 4	July 1970
" "	" 6	Nov "
" XX	" 5	Nov 1971

PRICE REDUCTION!!!!

Philymphia 1970 Kiwi edition now only 50p post paid.

Few only left.

NEW ZEALAND REGISTRATION MARKINGS

(Cover title: New Zealand Registered Mail Markings)
 The Rev. A.H. Voyce. 66 pages, numerous
 illustrations of postal markings and covers, index,
 10½" card cover. Mimeographed. \$NZ 2.25 post paid
 from Postal History Society of New Zealand, P.O.
 Box 1605, Auckland, New Zealand.

Letters that have travelled from one place to another under the registered mail system seem to be more fascinating than normal letters; they may have carried valuables, they usually have additional and not often seen postal markings and labels, and they are not always that easy to come by. In New Zealand, where adhesive serially numbered labels have been used on articles of mail despatched by the registration system since 1908, there is a keen interest in collecting such labels, and the Postal History Society has already published two monographs on this subject.

This new monograph carries the story of the registration of valuable letters back to the foundation of New Zealand in 1840, and explains how over the years the blue cross lines came to be applied, and the changes in the various systems as well as the postal charges.

The first postal marking restricted for use on registered mail seems to have come into use in the 1860s and the monograph illustrates all these early markings, and the successive R or REGISTERED metal or rubber markings that were used to make registered letters more distinctive. In the 1890s a series of REGISTERED AT (name of town) rubber stamps commenced to be used and though there was a standard design there were also quite a number of such stamps apparently manufactured locally. All known examples of these stamps are listed or illustrated. A discovery of many thousands of "Tattersalls" envelopes from New Zealand of the 1900s has proved of immense value in providing information for this otherwise elusive area.

About the same time as the REGISTERED AT markings were introduced postal cancelling datestamps with the inscription REGISTERED or simply R came into use in the four main centres. These are illustrated, as well as those date-stamps introduced over the years since at the larger post offices, and periods of known usage are listed.

This is followed by sections, where the markings and labels are again illustrated, on Compulsory Registered, Irregularly Posted, Postal Stationery, Advice of Receipt or AR, Forgeries, and an Addenda reporting items brought to notice since work on the monograph commenced.

The book concludes with an index listing every post office mentioned in either discussions on markings or in the several lists.

This is the seventh monograph to be published by the Society and is a fine addition to the series.

A copy of this publication is available on loan from the Librarian.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Bob Odenweller, His address is now - "White Caps"
South Road, Smiths, Bermuda.

In a letter to Noel Turner he informs us he is sending to me the Australasian Informer. I have received several copies, and should anything of particular interest to the

Society appear it will be reprinted.

Bob and his wife Jane, will be travelling to New Zealand in May to judge the show at Welpex '72.

E.N.B.

6, Birch Lea,
Crawley, Sussex.
RH10 2AR.

" Mr. Charles Ryder of above address would be very pleased to hear from NZ Society Members who have any interesting philatelic or other material connected with the 1906 Christchurch Exhibition, 1913 Auckland Exhibition or the 1925 Dunedin Exhibition. Exhibition brochures, postcards, newspaper articles would be particularly appreciated. "

Yours sincerely,

C. Ryder.

Ashford Chase,
Steep, Petersfield,
Hampshire.
Tel. 2844.

Dear Mr. Barton,

1d "Kiwi" - 1935/36.

I am involved in a study of this stamp and was responsible for the recent correspondence concerning the Die 1/Die 3 Booklet re-entry reported in the Campbell Paterson Bulletin, Vol.9, No. 1., of August 1971 by Campbell Paterson, and Vol. 9, No. 4., of November 1971 by Mr. P.L. Evans, a copy of whose letter appears on page 14 of the current "Kiwi".

TEMPORARY PERFORATION - PLATE B2.

The Collins Handbook Vol.1 appears inconsistent in regard to the date of this issue. Page 350 "Printings from A1-B1 were issued on May 1, 1935, while those from A2-B2 were first issued in February 1936"...."One small supply printed from plate B2 was run through the head used for the 1½d wet printing, and these copies guaged 13½ x 14".

Page 355, the Penny-Halfpenny value - "The sheets were run through a perforating head which resulted in these stamps being perf. 13½ x 14. They were issued in November 1935".... "A batch of 345 sheets of the wet printing was printed on the wrong side.... this printing was issued in February 1936".

Page 368, in the check list the temporary perforation is included in 1st May 1935 division, and in the Campbell Paterson catalogue it is dated 1935.

It seems clear to me that the date of this issue must have been February 1936 and I have asked Mr. F.W. Course of Hamilton, if he can clarify this from the records. It would be interesting to know whether Mr. P.L. Evans or other Members of the Society of G.B. can throw light on this point.

Yours sincerely,

Alan H. Rose.

E.N. BARTON,
Hon. KIWI Editor.

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