



The Kiwi



The Official Organ of the NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY of GREAT BRITAIN.

Affiliated to: BRITISH PHILATELIC FEDERATION
and to NEW ZEALAND PHILATELIC FEDERATION

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VOLUME 40 No. 3

MAY 1991

WHOLE 226

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 1ST JUNE, 1991,
AT THE Y.W.C.A. CENTRAL CLUB, 16 - 22, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,
LONDON, WC1B 3LR, STARTING AT 2.30 P.M.

THE SUBJECT WILL BE THE STAMPS OF THE NEW ZEALAND
GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS, 1890 - 1959

THE DISPLAY WILL BE GIVEN BY OUR MEMBER DAVID CHURCHILL
WE HOPE AN IMPORTANT GUEST FROM NEW ZEALAND WILL BE PRESENT.

AN UNRECORDED MARINE POST OFFICE OBLITERATOR



See page 48

EDITORIAL

There is an interesting variety on the 2d. + 1d. value of the 'Nurse and Child' Health Stamp of 1949 at Row 1, stamp 2. There is no stop below the 'd' of 1d. If you examine copies closely, you will see that this came about when the person entrusted with touching up flaws on the cylinder became over enthusiastic, and touched out not only a flaw, but the dot mentioned as well.

It can happen in other circumstances, but apparently in this case, it passed members without notice. If you look at the illustration at the top left on page 11, you will see that the arrow that is meant to indicate the position of the flaw is pointing at nothing! Our printer, Ron Fisher, in removing extraneous marks from the illustration, touched out the flaw as well. With this issue of 'The Kiwi', we are enclosing, with Ron Fisher's apologies and compliments, a replacement page 11/12. Now I wonder how many telephone calls I am going to receive asking what I am doing sending a loose page with 'The Kiwi'. We will see!

ALLAN P. BERRY

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

A.H.W.Kennard, 26, Birkett Way, Chalfont St. Giles,
Buckinghamshire, HP8 4BJ
B.R.Stonestreet, 32, Bedgebury Close, Vintners Park,
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 5QZ.

DECEASED

F.N.Cloke, Nethermead, St. Michael's Way, Wenhaston,
Halesworth, Suffolk, IP19 9EH.
Laurie Franks, Private Bag, Christchurch, New Zealand.
E.K.Hossell, 8, Landeman Circus, Weston-super-Mare,
Avon, BS23 2QF.

RESIGNED

A.Dibley, 19, Pelorus Street, Hamilton, New Zealand.
Mrs. T.Hudson, 31, Avondale Road, Earlsdon, Coventry, CV5 6DZ.
Tauranga Philatelic Society, P.O.Box 666, Tauranga, New Zealand.
C.S.Tulk, 57, The Drive, Isleworth, Middlesex, TW7 4AA.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

J.B.Hunt, 89, Kingstone Avenue, Steyning, West Sussex, BN44 3FT.
(previously of Corner Croft, Castleway, Steyning.)
A.Jackson, 65, Scobie Road, Dunedin, New Zealand.
(previously of Christchurch, New Zealand).
K.G.Nielsen, Buderupholmvej 47, Dk-9530 Stovring, Denmark.
(previously of Terndrup, Denmark.)
Mrs. Val Palenski, P.O.Box 1781, Palmerston North, New Zealand.
(previously also of Palmerston North.)
K.S.Sargeant, 64, Glendale Avenue, Eastbourne,
East Sussex, BN21 1UN.
(previously of 5, Ashburnham Gardens, Eastbourne.)

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, 6TH APRIL, 1991 - THE ANNUAL COMPETITION

The meeting was opened at 2.35 p.m. by the Chairman, Alan Gardiner, with fourteen members present. Apologies for absence had been received from Bernard Atkinson, Allan P.Berry, John Buchanan,

Ian Fogg and R.R.Balmer, the last a new member.

The Chairman introduced the Judge for the Annual Competition, Graham Carey, of Christie's Robson Lowe, an International and National Judge and a member of the B.P.A. Expert Committee. Then the Judge, with administrative support from Margaret Frankcom and Bernard Babister, left for the Library to get on with the task of assessing the nineteen entries.

A few announcements were made by the Chairman. Firstly, it was his sad duty to report the sudden death on 21st February, 1991, of our member Laurie Franks, the well known dealer and stalwart of philately in New Zealand.

On a happier note, he announced that our member R.P.Odenweller of the United States of America had been invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists at the British Philatelic Federation's Congress at Cardiff in September, and said he was sure that all members would join him in congratulating Bob on this recognition of his considerable services to philately.

Whilst the judging was in progress, a few members displayed items of interest. Gwynn Evans had a picture postcard marked with a 'PROHIBITED' handstamp, because, at the time, cards with tinsel or flock in the design were considered to be a hazard. However, despite the marking, this card, surprisingly, appears to have been delivered.

Lewis Giles had an air mail cover flown by Air Travel (NZ) Ltd. from Bruce Bay in 1935, and also three different Auckland postmarks from the large number used at the time.

Ernie Leppard had a magnificent array of blocks of the Penny Universal, and reviewed his efforts at plating these from the clear surface scratches present on most.

Finally, John Woolfe showed some examples of the elusive 'AR' (Advice of Receipt) markings, with their various configurations of franking.

On his return the Judge, Graham Carey, commented on the high standard of the entries and gave a few comments on his reasons for allocating the places in the various classes. He said that he combined the entries in Modern Section 2 and Modern Section 3, because there were only five entries in the two classes. He then announced the results as follows:-

Classic Section	:	Stacey Hooker Cup - Gwynn Evans
		Halfpenny Mount Cook Definitives.
Runner-up	:	Paua Bookends - E.W.Leppard
		Queen Victoria Postal Stationery.
Modern Section 1	:	Noel Turner Trophy - R.T.E.Standing
		Penny Dominion.
Runner-up	:	John D. Evans Trophy - E.W.Leppard
		Penny Universals.
Modern Section 2	:	Kiwi Shield - E.W.Leppard
Modern Section 3	:	Four Penny Mitre Peak.
Runner-up	:	Paua Musical Box - John Smith
		1967 Three Cent Definitive.
Postal History	:	John J. Bishop Trophy - Mrs. Stella Terry
		Registered Mail Markings.
Runner-up	:	The Barton Bowl - E.W.Leppard
		The New Zealand Navy.

Ernie Leppard thanked Graham Carey for all his hard work and also for the constructive comments given in his summing-up. The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.55 p.m.

A.G.

+ LAURIE FRANKS +

We are all saddened by the sudden death, on 21st February, 1991, of Laurie Franks, just a few days short of his 60th birthday. Many of you will have known his name as the Stamp Dealers of Christchurch, and, indeed, this was Laurie's metier for all of his working life. Yet as I knew him it was as a staunch supporter of the hobby, with every effort put into the running of local societies, exhibitions, both local, national and international levels, at all of which he was qualified to judge. He was ever ready to share his knowledge with collectors throughout the world, and was willing not only to write to disseminate his own knowledge, but to publish the work of others. His catalogues, published originally under the Tasman name, probably did more to promote the hobby than any other activity of the time in New Zealand.

His views were trenchantly held, and often expressed in a like manner. Yet I always found him willing to listen, and to argue his point of view forcefully, while seeing that of the other fellow. At the time of his death, he was Editor of the New Zealand Philatelic Federation's Newsletter, and the first, and alas only, issue to appear under his control clearly shows his guiding hand.

Many Philatelic Honours were awarded to Laurie, but I prefer to remember him as a friend and counsellor, and one who was always ready to offer help and advice whenever it was asked for. He will be sadly missed.

We extend all our sympathy to his two children and to his widow, Myra, who remains a member of this Society.

A.P.B.

PACKET CIRCUIT

Members of the Packet Circuit are reminded that it is absolutely essential to ensure that the packet is transmitted between members by hand or by registered post. When registered post is used, it is essential to ensure that the fee paid is commensurate with that payable to ensure full cover for the value of the packet at the time of transmission and that the Post Office clerk enters the correct amount on the registration receipt form. A fee of £2-10 will ensure cover for up to £2,200-00.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

To hand recently is a copy of 'A Catalogue of New Zealand Cinderellas', dated March, 1991. This modest A5 illustrated booklet is the third produced by Tim Maclaren of Oxford Cinderellas, Bush Road, Oxford, North Canterbury, New Zealand. It illustrates many New Zealand Cinderellas that are scarce to rare, and is a most useful publication for the collector of these items. The cost is NZ\$2-00, to which NZ\$2-00 must be added for packing

air mail postage. According to the information to hand, Visa, Bankcard and Mastercard are accepted, as are cheques in United States currency and Sterling, although in the latter case, time will be required for clearance.

THE ROLL OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

It is with great pleasure that we can announce that our member, ROBERT P. ODENWELLER, of the United States of America, has been invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists during the British Philatelic Federation's Congress at Cardiff on Saturday, 21st September, 1991. Many congratulations on a well deserved honour.

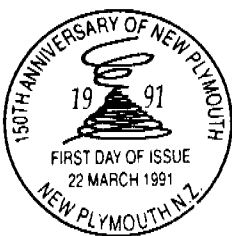
SPECIAL DATESTAMPS

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE AUCKLAND MAIL SERVICE CENTRE



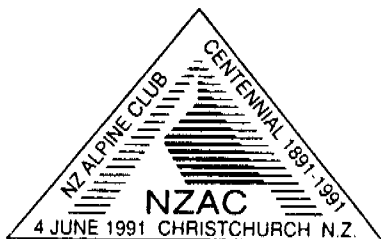
A special pictorial date stamp was used at the Auckland Philatelic Sales Centre on Thursday, 14th February, 1991, to commemorate the official opening of the Mail Service Centre.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEW PLYMOUTH



A special pictorial date stamp was used at New Plymouth Post Shop on Friday, 22nd March, 1991, to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of New Plymouth.

CENTENARY OF THE NEW ZEALAND ALPINE CLUB



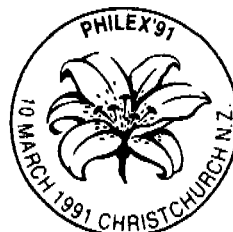
A special pictorial date stamp was used at the Christchurch Philatelic Sales Centre on Tuesday, 4th June, 1991, to commemorate the Centenary of the New Zealand Alpine Club.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF CRETE, 1941 - 1991



A special pictorial date stamp was used at the Rotorua Philatelic Sales Centre on Monday, 20th May, 1991, to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete.

PHILEX '91 STAMP EXHIBITION



Three special pictorial date stamps were used at the New Zealand Post stand at the Philex '91 Stamp Exhibition held in the Shandelier Room at the Chung Wah Restaurant, Worcester Street, Christchurch, from 8th March, 1991, to 10th March, 1991.

DISPLAYS TO LOCAL SOCIETIES

Margaret Frankcom, Ernie Leppard and Allan Berry will be giving a display to the Worthing Society of Postal Historians on behalf of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain on Friday, 10th May, 1991. The Society meets at the East Worthing Community Centre, Pages Lane, Worthing, and the meeting starts at 7.30 p.m.

George Gibson will be giving a display entitled 'New Zealand' to the City of Wells Philatelic Society on Monday, 13th May, 1991. The Society meets at the Town Hall, Wells, and the meeting starts at 7.30 p.m.

Allan McKellar and Allan Berry will be giving a display to the Walton & Weybridge Philatelic Society on behalf of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain on Tuesday, 25th June, 1991. The Society meets at the Lecture Room, The Library, Church Street, Weybridge, Surrey, and the meetings start at 7.30 p.m.

Ernie Leppard and Allan Berry will be giving a display to the British Society of Australian Philatelists on behalf of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain on Wednesday, 12th July, 1991. The Society meets at the British Philatelic Centre, 107, Charterhouse Street, London, and the meeting starts at 7.30 p.m.

NEW ZEALAND POSTAL STATIONERY

A very fine and comprehensive specialised collection of New Zealand Postal Stationery, built up in New Zealand over many years, will be offered, on behalf of the owner, by our member Alan Jackson in a special postal auction scheduled for June, 1991. The collection contains many scarce items and a number of real rarities. The sale catalogue will be widely distributed within New Zealand, but any United Kingdom member of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain interested in receiving a copy should write, as soon as possible, enclosing 60p in mint stamps to cover air postage, to:-

ALAN JACKSON, 65, SCOBIE ROAD, DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND.

FAX-LINK FROM NEW ZEALAND POST LIMITED

ALAN TUNNICLIFFE

Further to my article on this new New Zealand Post service in

'The Kiwi', Volume 40, page 36, March, 1991, I advise that the costs of sending messages by Fax-Link are as follows:-

Within New Zealand

\$3-50 for the first page, \$1-20 for each extra page, plus toll charge, plus \$5-00 if delivered by Courier Post (free if called for or delivered by Fast-Post). Delivery charges only apply if sent to another New Zealand Post Fax-Link machine.

Sent Overseas

\$5-80 for the first page, \$3-80 for each extra page, plus toll charge, plus \$5-00 delivery charge if not sent to a private fax machine.

The service can be used by private fax machine owners to send messages direct to a Fax-Link machine at a Post Shop, in which case the addressee will be telephoned and when collecting the faxed message has to pay the following charges:-

\$3-50 for the first page, and \$1-50 for each subsequent page, with a maximum charge of \$8-30, so if more than five pages are received, the extra pages are not charged for.

These charges and information about the Fax-Link service are detailed on brochure FAX 005/10/90.

The lodgement form, which consists of four pages, is designated FAX001(9/90). No charge is made for the message on the top copy (faxed) of the lodgement form, unless this is the only page sent. Drawings, etc., may be sent by Fax-Link. However, if a photograph, very small or blurred print, or anything with less than a 10 mm margin is sent, then this is a 'Sender's Risk' and no refund will be made in the case of a poor quality transmission.

One of the special occasion forms that have been introduced was in use for St. Valentine's Day on 14th February, 1991.

AN 1856 OTAGO LETTER

MARGARET FRANKCOM

Continued from page 30.

19th January

I must really finish this letter. When I got to the 5 Station I discovered that Geordie Maitland had gone and engaged himself to the eldest Miss Richardson - the marriage is to take place in about a twelvemonth. Neither of them are yet 21. Lawrence is leaving the Maitlands and Geordie while fitting up his house as the abode of himself and his future spouse. Mr. Maitland after leaving me in Dunedin started along with Mr Williams on an excursion to the north. He was away about two months - he seems very much pleased with his journey. Mrs Rich has got a son. Mrs Maitland was down at Wairuna for about six weeks. When Mrs M. came back we had a grand washing - it lasted (including ironing etc) six days. I worked the machine and Mrs M and Miss Richardson wrung the clothes and took them out to dry. Mrs M washed above 60 shirts - 3 doz sheets, 2 or 3 pairs of blankets, 2 or 3 doz canvas coverlets, pillow-slips, under flannels etc etc etc. On Friday

morning George, Little Willy and I crossed over to the island to have a pig hunt. We went first up to Mr Ferguson's for his pig dog. We took a few bags of wheat down in the boat with us, - left them at the house and then pulled for Mosleys Bush - Geordie and I were both equipped for the hunt with large knives in our belts. We landed and went up to Mr Morley's house. He said he was very glad we had come for on taking us into his garden we perceived that the pigs had rooted up all his early potatoes. Mr M went in for his long knife and we then proceeded to the hunt. We walked round a swamp for about 3 miles without the dog giving scent. We at last came to the place where the pigs had bedded the night before. Geordie here slipped the dog who ran before us at full gallop. We passed through the bush and came to an extensive flat with fern flax and toot growing higher than your head. The dog here lost scent. He however went down to the river - had a drink, and got on the scent again. By the dog's movements the game was pretty near. Mr Mosley had been telling us about a large boar which would weigh he thought about 3 cwt. It had very large tusks he said. I was thinking of this at the time - when I heard a grunt - I was about to ascend the trunk of a cabbage palm when I heard Geordie's voice call, "At him Nicky". I immediately rushed to the spot just in time to see Mr Mosley plunge his knife between the ribs of a nice fat boar. In about half an hour we heard a grunt which upon examination we discovered it proceeded from a large sow which Nicky had hold by the ear. Geordie put an end to it's career by a quiet dig in the ribs. We now thought of returning as we had as much as we could carry. I had the boar on my back half the way (about 2 miles) which deteriorated the pleasures of pig hunting very much in my esteem. We had dinner and were about starting off for another hunt when Wright (Mr Ferguson's man) came galloping down the island to tell us that the "Endeavour" (a schooner) had run ashore on a sandspit at the mouth of the river and to ask if any of us would go down the river to help in getting her off. Geordie was to be excused, as Miss Richardson was staying with the M's at the time. I volunteered and in half an hour the M's boat with Mr Ferguson, Wright, Mosley, Willox (a carpenter) and myself started down the river. We hadn't much bread, but plenty of cheese and butter. It was 3 p.m. when we left and we reached the store at about 8 p.m. The tide was full at 12 o'clock that night. All hands were to be on the sandspit to try and get the schooner round into the river. (In a letter of James' dated 31. 1854 you will see an account of the same thing and strange to say this was the same schooner & within a few days of the time of year. We had our tea in the bush. We pulled over to the sandspit about 10 p.m. On reaching the place where the schooner was we found that her timbers were rove in at the bows, so that if she did get into deep water she would probably sink. The sailors had got up a tent on the sandspit. The crew had all been in the "Strathmore". I had not been long there when a boat came down the Kuaru (the right branch of the river) with Major Richardson and the two Archibalds. The sailors were very kind to the Major and I. They gave us coffee and potatoes, and we sat and smoked for an hour or so. At 12 o'clock all the tackle being ready we commenced operations. There were altogether about 40 hands. After 4 hours work we had moved her about a third of her length only. We therefore stopped. It was now

blowing a gale of wind, so there was very little chance for her. We crossed to the store. I got on the top of a wool bale and tried to sleep, but couldn't for toothache. All next day it blew such a gale that we couldn't venture up the river. I went and saw a Dane and his wife who came out in the Strathmore. They were passengers by the "Endeavour" - were going to an "Ruabaki" an island which the Danes have for a whaling station. They can hardly make themselves understood in English. The Agent at the store is going to provide them with a Maori guide to take them to the Bluff. On Saturday night the gale abated so we put on a piece of mutton to boil it at 11 p.m. having previously roasted some coffee in the pot and ground it with a stone. I got hold of a zinc plate, part of the roof of the store and went into the bush to have a sleep. At 3 in the morning we took breakfast, started at 4, and after a good deal of hard work pulling and tracking, we reached the M's at half past 3 p.m. having been eleven and a half hours on the river. Jimmy Maitland, his wife and child had arrived the night before. Next morning Jimmy asked me if I would go up to the station to let Coupland no he had come. I immediately set off, stayed at Mr Pillen's station all night and got to the station on Tuesday morning at eight o'clock.

James has sent home Mr Ross' power of Attorney filled up with a letter instructing him to send out all his money. Mr T. - If it could be managed I would prefer giving you my power of Attorney. I am 21 on the 24th February 1858. As soon as you receive this letter, answer it, - if it can be done send out the paper ready for signature when I come of age. If not let me know and tell Mr Ross to send me out, James did not get his till the other day.

James has enjoyed very good health here and likes the country very much. He is very much changed. He is much more manly. He seems to be much liked by all who know him. Mr Maitland always talks highly of him. They are all very kind to us. The work James has done for the last three years he would have received £40 or £50 per annum from anyone else. However I hope we will soon set up ourselves as sheep owners. If you could manage it, send this or a copy to the girls. Give them my kindest love and insist on them writing. Send newspapers, - a Punch occasionally and write yourselves immediately. Kiss little Maggie and James for me

and believe me to be
your affectionate brother
W.D.Murison

FOOTNOTE

In the seventh revised edition of 'New Zealand Shipwrecks', published by Beckett Books Limited in 1990, it states that the 'Endeavour' went ashore on a sandspit at the mouth of the Clutha River and became a total wreck. This was attributed to the negligence of the Master. Most of the cargo was saved but was greatly damaged.

The brothers became well known in Otago. After two further years of exploration in Central Otago looking for suitable land, they took up the Puketoi Station in the Maniatoto Plain. Unfortunately, owing to hard times and financial depression, they did not make a success of runholding and were forced to sell in 1865.

Both men married and had families, and their descendants live in the South Island to this day. William became the first representative for Manuherikia on the Provincial Council. He strongly supported the founding of Otago University and was a founder of the Otago Institute. From the time of its formation he was a director of the 'Otago Daily Times', becoming Editor in 1871. He was widely liked and respected for his 'gentleness of manner, sound judgement, urbanity and kindliness'. He died on 28th December, 1877, aged 39 years. His brother James died of consumption at the age of 48.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To the Editor of 'The Kiwi' for information on Waitahuna and the 'Endeavour'.

To the Librarian of the North East Fife District Council, District Library Service, for information on Mr. W.A.Taylor of Cupar.

To Mrs.K.Milburn, Reference Assistant, and Ms.G.McLay, Archives Assistant, both of the Hocken Library, who did a first rate piece of detective work on my behalf, coming up with detailed information, maps and photographs.

To Volume VII of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST DECIMAL DEFINITIVES OF NEW ZEALAND

R.G.DARGE

Continued from page 26.

TWO CENT KOWHAI-NGUTU-KAKA

The stamp depicts the flower of the Kowhai (Kaka beak), a soft woody shrub growing up to six feet. It is similar to the 2d. designed by A.G.Mitchell.

The printing by De La Rue required four cylinders to print the stamps - being red, yellow, black and green. The cylinders were numbered 1A1A1A1A - 1B1B1B1B and the sheet value \$4.

The sheet layout and perforation details are similar to the ½ cent. The watermark is upright on the stamps.

A second printing from the same cylinders was released during March, 1968. The paper is whiter and the colours are sharper. The background colour is paler with the red brighter.

A further printing was released during October, 1969, from a new green cylinder. The numbers appear on the sheets 1A1A1A2A - 1B1B1B2B. A number of new flaws have been noticed and in particular, a cylinder scratch extending through Row 20, stamps 7 and 8.

Mrs. Capill writing in 'The New Zealand Stamp Collector', Volume 52, page 51, states 'that the sheet value exists in two different styles - one larger and plain, the other smaller and serified'. I have since established that the serified \$4 type occurs on both the 2A and 2B printings.

The stamps are also available from stamp vending machines and are joined at every tenth stamp.

An interesting variety from the 'B' pane of the second printing takes the form of a curved horizontal smear across eight rows. The example suggests a quick wipe of the doctor blade has been made

with a rag and the edge has flicked the moving cylinder.

A horizontal doctor blade flaw of the red cylinder has also been seen across the bottom of both panes. The blade has jumped, leaving three bands of colour.

2 cent varieties.

1A1A1A1A	Row 11, stamp 10	Flaw under 'E' of 'NEW'.
	Row 12, stamp 7	Chip in left centre petal and red dot to left of petal.
	Row 13, stamp 7	Touching up in second 'A' of Zealand.

Doctor blade bottom selvedge.

1B1B1B1B	Row 1, stamp 1	Flaw on right leg of 'N' of 'NEW'. This flaw is not constant, but may have developed.
	Row 18, stamp 3	Flaw above 'KAKA'.

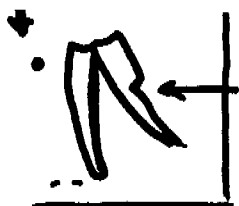
Doctor blade bottom selvedge.

Curved smear across several stamps.

1A1A1A2A	Row 20, stamp 7)	Green scratch extending through most of both stamps.
	Row 20, stamp 8)	
1B1B1B2B	Row 2, stamp 10	Areas of green spots bottom right of Row 2, stamp 10, and top left of Row 3, stamp 10.
	Row 9, stamp 9	Flaw under 'L' of 'ZEALAND'.
	Row 14, stamp 3	Touch up above 'Z' of 'ZEALAND'.
	Row 17, stamp 4	Crescent shaped flaw half way down left side.
	Row 19, stamp 2	Strengthening of design to area top right of stamp.
	Row 20, stamp 1	Touch up above 'A' of 'KAKA'.



Row 11, stamp 10
1A1A1A1A



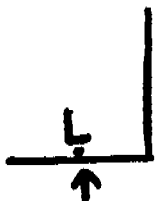
Row 12, stamp 7
1A1A1A1A



Row 13, stamp 7
1A1A1A1A



Row 18, stamp 3
1B1B1B1B



Row 9, stamp 9

1B1B1B2B



Row 17, stamp 4

1B1B1B2B



Row 20, stamp 1

1B1B1B2B

Stamp Vending machine - coil join every tenth stamp.

AN UNRECORDED MARINE POST OFFICE OBLITERATOR

A.J.WOOLFE

One of the joys of studying Postal History is that it is still possible to discover items even in well known collections.

The cover illustrated on page 37 was one of the minor Lots in the 'Midas' collection sold by Sotheby's in late 1989. It shows the previously unrecorded use of a mailbag seal as an obliterator on the mail ship R.M.S. Ventura.

The cover was probably posted on ship-side at Auckland. It is addressed to the United States of America and should have been franked 5d. - 2½d. single rate plus 2½d. late fee. It is only franked 4½d., and there is no sign that a ½d. stamp has become detached.



The cover received a purple R.M.S. Ventura date stamp for 23 SEP 1904 and the stamps were cancelled by the use of a Mail Bag seal in black ink. The three strikes are incomplete, but luckily sufficient can be deduced from the two major portions to determine 75% of the original. From this an artist's impression of the whole seal has been reconstructed, and is illustrated.

I would be interested to hear if anyone has a similar item from this or from any of the other ships.

SIR EDWARD WILLIAM STAFFORD, 1819 - 1901

ROBSON LOWE

Edward William Stafford emigrated to Nelson, New Zealand, in 1843 and in 1855 was elected to the House of Representatives. From 1856 to 1861 he was Premier and Colonial Secretary. He created three new Provinces and established itinerant Courts of Justice and Native Juries.

He visited England and Scotland in 1859 and was elected Premier and Colonial Secretary in 1865, remaining in office until 1869. He was Postmaster General in 1865, 1866 and 1869. He was Premier for a third time in 1872 and retired to live in England in 1874.

His wife wrote to him from Nelson several times a week and he kept her letters in the original envelopes.

The late Jal Cooper of Bombay witnessed the third and best of the parcels of the Stafford correspondence that came my way. The Stafford family were prominent in New Zealand and in the fifties and sixties of the last century, one of the members was a naval

officer. The representative of the family who lived at No. 1, Bodorgan Road, in Bournemouth, was a minute and fiery old lady who always screamed at me. She came in on one hot day and demanded my attention, so still in my shirtsleeves I came out of the adjoining office to be met with the charge that I was improperly dressed to meet a lady. Having made a few hasty adjustments, a small brown paper parcel was produced and £50 demanded. The terms of the transaction did not permit me to examine the parcel but I felt that the type was honest and I paid up. Nearly all the letters in this lot were the local 2d. rate. The highlights were two covers posted on successive days each bearing a serrated 2d., the two stamps forming a severed pair. I know where these lovelies are today.

The last time Miss Stafford came in she banged her umbrella on the counter with frustration because I was on the telephone. "Calm yourself madam" said Jal Cooper, "Mr. Lowe is a very important man in the stamp world", but this only added fuel to the flames, and hot abuse was being exchanged by the time I arrived. Jal had used the word "termagant" and had expressed the view that it was a pity that the prosecution of women as "common scolds" had been abandoned. Suppressing my desire to giggle I asked Miss Stafford her pleasure. She expressed the view that it was no pleasure of hers to be held up for five minutes while I expressed valueless badinage on that most hideous of male inventions, the telephone. Further I was overfed and why did I not take more exercise? Jal wanted to murder her. I wanted to cry with laughter but £50 was demanded again, and paid cheerfully. With a final screech of derision the lady left and then Jal turned on me for being such a coward as to give in to her. After such abuse, £10 was enough for such a wretched woman.

I made soothing noises, poured Jal a Bristol Cream, and suggested that he should amuse himself by looking at the contents of the parcel. This he did and in five minutes screamed it was all a plot. Looking over his shoulder I saw that he had found three covers from Labuan, two bearing Hong Kong stamps and one an Indian 4 annas black. Jal did not believe that I had never seen these before. We had both known of this "circle of dots" cancellation but neither of us had ever supposed it was Labuan. The story was written up in detail in 'The Philatelist', Volume 16, number 2, page 38, November, 1949, but I still want to cry with laughter when I recall Miss Stafford exchanging broadsides with Jal.

A year later, I called at No. 1 on my way home and enquired after Miss Stafford and was told that she had died a few months ago. I asked what had happened to her papers and was told that they had been burned.

The late H. Gordon Kaye bought the cream of the New Zealand and they were among the covers which were sold on behalf of the Saddlers Company.

WHAT I CANNOT UNDERSTAND....

HUBERT A. TULLNERS, JR.

....is what has happened to the old philatelic saying, 'use commemorative stamps on all your philatelic mail'.

Back in the 40's to the early 70's every stamp periodical use to

use that slogan at the bottom of almost every page in their publications. As I recall, 'Linn's Stamp News' was the champion for the use of this slogan as it appeared on just about every page or every other page in their fine stamp periodical.

Today, like the five cent cigar, this message has disappeared and I doubt that it will be found in any publication today. I subscribe to many stamp magazines, club newsletters, bulletins, dealer's house publications and so on, yet I fail to find the mention of this long forgotten slogan.

Aren't collectors today just as interested in receiving mail with commemorative stamps as we 'oldtimers' are?

I do not know how much mail I receive in the course of a week but sometimes it appears as if I am a dealer receiving orders from a recent advertisement of mine. (The Post Office has just issued me with my own personal nine digit zip code since I receive so much mail). It is amazing that the percentage of this mail has meters, fraction stamps, common definitives and torn commemoratives from someone's 'damaged file'. The few envelopes with commemoratives I clutch to my heart as if it were a stamp I lacked for my collection and have been searching for for years.

Surely, this problem is not created by the lack of commemoratives. Heaven knows, our post office has long past caught up and passed the 'sand dune' countries when it comes to issuing commemorative stamps.

I did receive one foreign stamp publication that took the time to place a commemorative or high valued stamp on the mailing envelope. Now, I do not know just how many subscribers they had, but for being around for so many years they must have had, at least, 2,000 overseas subscribers. The stamps they used were worth more than the cost of the subscription with the publication thrown in as a bonus. Until I badgered our own Editor, Allan P. Berry, 'The Kiwi' was mailed with Great Britain definitives. Also 'The New Zealand Stamp Collector', the publication of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, has taken to mailing their fine journal by courier. Once upon a time, they used nice stamps. All other publications and auction catalogues that I receive from New Zealand are mailed with very nice stamps - commemoratives or of high value. If they can do this - why not other foreign publications?

United States dealers are the worst offenders of this old rule. Most just put the common stamp on their mailings and if the mailing is too much they use the metered stamp rather than place a nice stamp on the envelope. I would hazard a guess that it is easier to mail a letter from a roll of coil stamps than it is to tear three to four sides of a stamp from a sheet. Since I am from the 'old school' every piece of mail or package that leaves my apartment has some commemorative stamp thereon. If I am caught short with none on hand I enclose some used ones with the contents.

It has reached a point that when I receive mail from a dealer with no worthwhile stamps on the envelope it is torn right in half without even opening the envelope.

When I purchase stamps I use only the dealers that use nice stamps on their mail and, believe me, they are few and far between. I keep a list of dealers that do not use worthwhile

stamps on their mailings and they receive no orders from me.

How many collectors reading this article order stamps from overseas dealers? As my remaining area is New Zealand I can only vouch for the ones in that country. Your orders or even just correspondence are returned to you with a variety of nice stamps. They use se-tenant stamps, miniature sheets, blocks, and plate numbers with only a definitive to make up the correct amount of postage and then they are nicely cancelled, in most instances, to insure lovely stamps for your stamp collection or for trading purposes.

Some time ago I purchased a new 1983 R.D.Samuel New Zealand Postal Stationery Catalogue from a New Zealand dealer. The Catalogue must weigh all of 11 to 12 pounds with the binder. The dealer sent it air mail though I had paid for surface postage. At that weight the postage costs were enormous but what this dealer did for me has never happened to me ever. The Catalogue was packed in a carton with extra protection about the rings in the binder and then wrapped twice with brown wrapping paper. He then proceeded to place plate blocks of six of every value in six commemorative sets. He then went to the Post Office and had each block nicely cancelled on the front and back of the carton. Then the carton was wrapped in plastic wrap to ensure that I would receive all the stamps in perfect condition, which I did. The dealer did not make that much money on this deal but what he spent in postage and the time and effort he took to get this order to me insured my continued patronage right up to the time I write this. Thus, he has recouped his loss on that deal with the many sales of stamps to me since then. In my case, you treat me nice - you are my dealer of choice.

Also, I receive one monthly newsletter from a club in New Zealand that always mails it with a very nice pictorial cancel which makes for a nice collection.

Yes, New Zealand dealers go to great lengths, in my case, to satisfy me regardless of the value of the stamps used on their mailings. As a result, all of my purchases are done with New Zealand dealers as the United States dealers do not seem to care about your order or correspondence other than the dollars they receive. They seem to elect to sell our se-tenants, miniature sheets, plate blocks and so on and use 'junk' stamps on your mail. The United States dealers have lost all my business due to the foregoing.

Let the publications, once again, take up with that old philatelic saying by publishing it throughout their pages. It takes up hardly any room and means just as much as what is used commonly - 'mention that you saw their advertisement in Stamp News'.

Editor's Note

It is not often that I comment on a note published in our journal. Hubert has a point about the use of commemorative stamps on philatelic mailings and so on. There may be a variety of reasons why it is not possible. So far as the home mailings of 'The Kiwi' are concerned, members will know that there is no commemorative stamp paying the second class rate - the nearest is the Christmas Stamp. For overseas mailings, usually the stock at

CHANGE OF ADDRESS REQUEST



Figure 1

DEAR _____

This card is to let you know my new permanent address which is shown below
My Subscription/Policy reference No. is

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME AND NEW ADDRESS OF SENDER:

TELEPHONE No. _____

MY OLD ADDRESS WAS:

POST PAID



TO: _____

PO 127

Figure 2

our local post office is sold out before we can get a sufficient supply - and we want to continue using the local office, to give it sufficient business to keep it open. Nevertheless, we will try and use the better stamps for our overseas members. This is not the first time this point has been made - readers are referred to 'The Kiwi', Volume 38, page 30, March, 1989, and Volume 39, page 62, July, 1990. It really seems strange that some stamp dealers do not use stamps on their mail!

WE'VE MOVED - CHANGE OF ADDRESS REQUEST

TONY DODD

Following the last information published concerning the New Zealand Post cards PO 127 in 'The Kiwi', Volume 39, page 83, September, 1990, I write to advise that yet another new issue of these cards has been made. The front is a completely different design, and in this case, is entitled 'CHANGE OF ADDRESS REQUEST', as illustrated at Figure 1 on page 52. All the usual information is provided for on the reverse, but the layout is different, as can be seen from Figure 2 on page 52, when compared with the illustration on page 83 of Volume 39 of 'The Kiwi'. One wonders what will come next!

MULTI-MAIL STAMPING

ALAN TUNNICLIFFE

A new service has been introduced by New Zealand Post Limited, in July, 1990, the first date of use in Christchurch being 5th July, 1990. According to the leaflet:-

Multi-Mail Stamping is the quick, convenient service for organisations and individuals sending large amounts of mail, who don't want the hassle of licking and sticking stamps onto envelopes.

With Multi-Mail Stamping, you just drop off your addressed, unstamped mail at selected Post Shops, and we'll stamp it, seal it and send it off for you. At no extra cost.

But that's not all. You can also use our Multi-Mail Stamping service to stamp large amounts of envelopes up to B4 size, in advance. So you don't have to worry about getting to a Post Shop every time you need a stamp.

For further information please enquire at your local Post Shop.

Multi-Mail Stamping. It makes stamping lots of mail so simple.

It appears that the service is only available from a few very large Post Shops. From the examples reported to me, it appears that only about forty machines, or Automatic Stamping Machines, Hasler type, are in use throughout New Zealand, with die numbers from D3000 to D3040 from South to North. Illustrated on page 54, Figure 1, is an example of D3021 from New Plymouth, used on 17th September, 1990. I have unconfirmed reports that the minimum number of items that can be 'stamped' in this way is 100. Readers will recall that a few Pitney Bowes machines were available at Chief Post Offices back in the 1970's for a similar service.

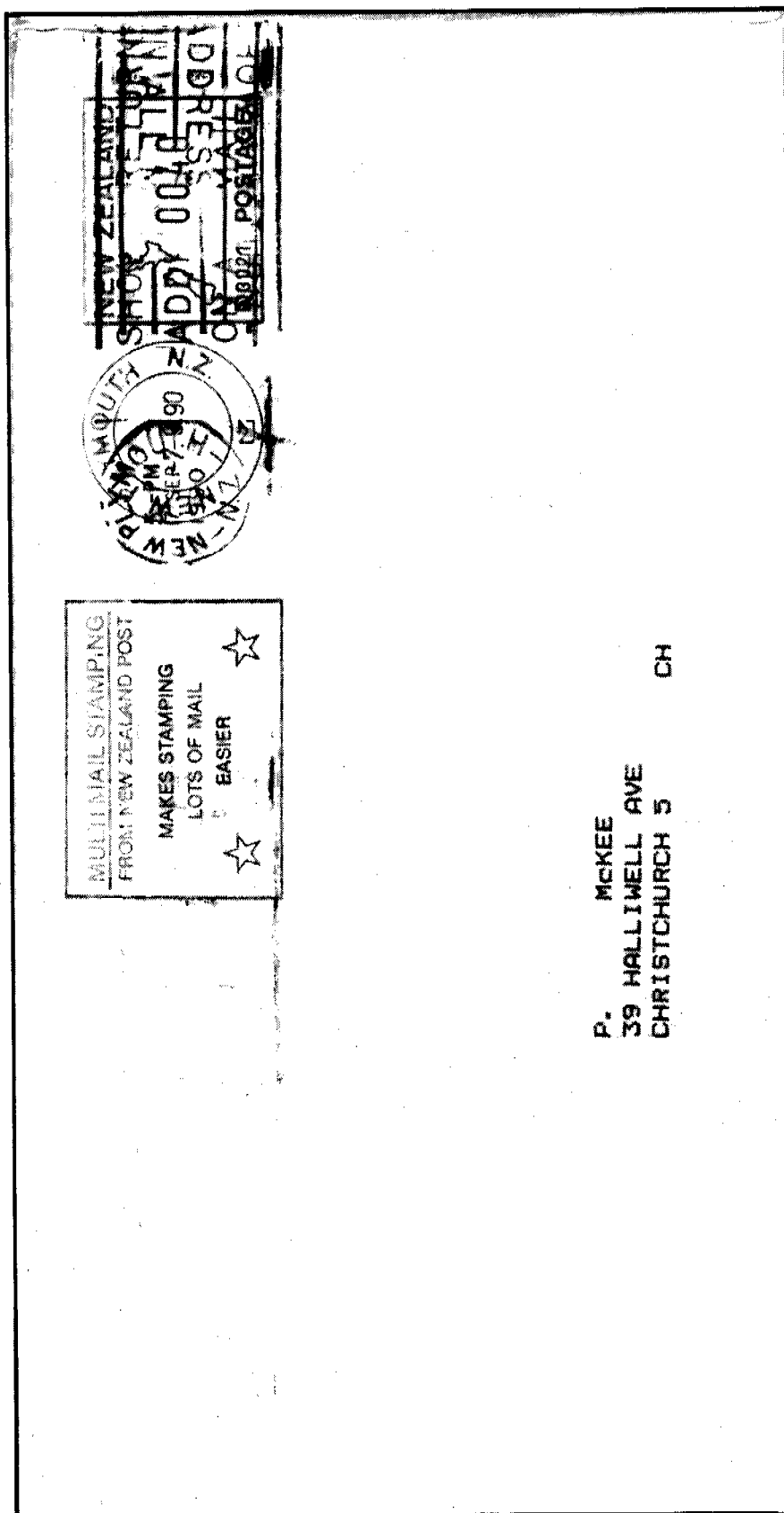


Figure 1