



The Kiwi



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

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VOLUME 41 No. 6

NOVEMBER 1992

WHOLE 235

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 28TH NOVEMBER, 1992,
AT THE Y.W.C.A. CENTRAL CLUB, 16 - 22, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,
LONDON, WC1B 3LR, STARTING AT 11.00 A.M.

IT IS KIWI DAY

AND STARTS AT 11.00 AM WITH THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
THE ANNUAL SOCIETY AUCTION WILL COMMENCE AT 2.00 P.M.

41ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Notice is hereby given that the 41st Annual General Meeting of
the New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be held at the
Y.W.C.A. Central Club, 16 - 22, Great Russell Street, London,
on Saturday, 28th November, 1992, starting at 11.00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting.
2. President's Report and Review of 1992.
3. Financial Report from the Hon. Treasurer.
4. Report from the Hon. Packet Secretary.
5. To elect
 - i) A President.
 - ii) Vice-Presidents.
 - iii) A Chairman.
 - iv) A Vice-Chairman.
 - v) An Hon. General Secretary.
 - vi) An Hon. Assistant General Secretary.
 - vii) An Hon. Exchange Packet Secretary.
 - viii) An Hon. Treasurer.
 - ix) An Hon. Auctioneer.
 - x) Other Officers of the Society.
6. To elect a Committee.
7. Any other business proper to the Annual General Meeting of
which due notice has been given in writing.

Nominations are invited from Members for the above posts,
having obtained the agreement of the Member so nominated.

MARGARET FRANKCOM, HON. GENERAL SECRETARY.

EDITORIAL

This issue closes Volume 41 of 'The Kiwi', and our 40th Anniversary year. I believe that it has been a most successful year in trying circumstances. I am grateful to all those who have helped with contributions over the past and previous years. The careful husbandry of our resources has permitted a larger issue than normal. It remains to be seen if this can be sustained.

It remains just to wish you all the very best for the Festive Season, which will be over by the time the first issue for 1993 is with you.

ALLAN P. BERRY

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

R.A.M.Barten, Kruisbessengaard 15,
3962 JN Wijk Bij Duurstede, The Netherlands.

E.J.Bourne, Elms Farm, Bromham, Chippenham, Wilts., SN15 2JJ

A.W.Gould, Keepers, Valebridge Road,
Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 0RT

J.E.Lays, 5481 East Colorado Avenue,
Denver, Colorado 80222, United States of America.

A.Naples, 82, Osborne Place, Aberdeen, Scotland.

Jim Turk, P.O.Box 4437 Stn E, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 2C3, Canada.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Postal History Society of New Zealand,
P.O.Box 81-085, Whenuapai, Auckland, New Zealand.

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER, 1992

ALBERT B. JOHNSTONE - RAILWAY TRAVELLING POST OFFICES

The Meeting was opened at 2.30 p.m. by our Chairman, Alan Gardiner, with 22 members present, including Maurice Allen, who was attending for the first time, and Robin Gwynn of Palmerston North, the President of the New Zealand Philatelic Federation. The Chairman invited Robin Gwynn to give a short talk on the future of New Zealand Post Limited. In this, Robin stated that the implications of possible privatisation were not fully clear and that the New Zealand Philatelic Federation hoped that it would be consulted to ensure that the interests of philatelists would be protected.

The Chairman then introduced Albert Johnstone, the well-known writer on philatelic subjects, and invited him to display his collection of the Railway Travelling Post Offices of New Zealand. Starting with an illustration of an early 'sorting carriage', which was merely an adaptation of a conventional passenger coach, Albert asked his audience if anyone had heard of Lady Barclay. As no answer was received, he explained that 'Lady Barclay' was the name of the lightweight engine used on the Areiki Railway Invercargill - Goldfields run, in preference to a heavier locomotive, because of the hardwood rails then in use. He expressed disappointment that no commemorative stamp had been issued for this first use of the railway for mail.

The first section of the show dealt with the North Island, and included examples of all the various routes as they came into use.

Even mail from and to places well off the rail routes was speedily dealt with whenever it touched the railway in its travels. Roller cancellations were introduced about 1907 for bulk ship mail - one was shown on half a cover, from Sydney. Index were shown within the hand cancels prior to 1901 to show which official had dealt with the item, but these were replaced by the simple '6' for outbound and '9' for inbound. Tattersall's covers, one with the boxed LOOSE LETTER marking, were shown and a cover carried on the Rimutaka line. A photocopy of a 1905-1906 cover from Labuan to Taranaki showed an R.T.P.O. Datestamp.

The South Island section started with a cover carried on the Christchurch - Invercargill line in 1878 and various other examples of mail dealt with on later routes. In 1907, a machine roller canceller was introduced, and an example was shown, this time the complete cover had been preserved. Some perplexity had been caused by the issue of a 1959 cover reading 'R.T.P.O. Centenary' as no one appeared to be aware of such an Anniversary.

Albert produced some of the other treasures from his collection. A block of 70 (7 x 10) of the 1d. Queen Victoria Second Sideface Definitive was shown that had had some stamps patched in and the rotary perforating machine had produced double and even triple perforations, and inter-panneau doubles. Another full sheet had been inverted before guillotining, resulting in the usual bottom selvedge watermark appearing 2½ inches from the bottom of the sheet. The bottom row of stamps were therefore genuine examples of the 'no watermark inverted' varieties. Finally, Albert showed his example of the King Edward VII ½d. stamp with the inverted 'Official' overprint. It was agreed that this was number five of the eight (or is it nine?) now known.

The Chairman expressed the appreciation of the Society for being able to see such a fine display, a view enthusiastically supported by those present. The Meeting closed at 4.40 p.m.

A.G.

NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL MEETING REPORT

The second Regional Meeting, held on Saturday, 5th September, 1992, was again a success, with ten members present. Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of L.Briscoe, A.Durant, L.Kimpton, B.Peace and A.Smith. The Chairman, Tom Latto, welcomed Norman Lloyd and Brian Wilson who were attending a Regional Meeting for the first time. He opened the Meeting at 1.30 p.m. by reminding Members of the purpose of these gatherings. He proposed that, as a study group, it would be useful if recent acquisitions providing new or additional information on a subject should be made known to the Members as soon as convenient. With this in mind he then presented two Health items which had recently come to light. The first was a circular cachet on a 1943 Health First Day Cover impressed at Dunedin Chief Post Office on behalf of Roxburgh Health Camp. The second was a 1941 Health First Day Cover containing a reference to a Camp at Riverton - so far unsubstantiated.

The first half of the Meeting was led by Geoff Wragg who presented a wealth of Fiscal and Revenue material in mint and used forms, on covers and on documents. Commencing with the early

imperforate issue, the history of the designs and issues of the stamps in this vast field were clearly and ably demonstrated. The Arms type stamps were supported by copies of the designs submitted by H.L. Richardson, together with the amendments leading to those finally adopted. Material illustrating the steps taken by the authorities to prevent fraudulent use of the fiscal and revenue items, such as aluminium foil and perforations, was well displayed.

A most impressive array of supporting material was included ranging from Share Transfer, one of which was in the name of King George VI, Denoting, Fine Paid, Beer Duty, Honey Seals, Estate Duty, Land and Deeds, etc.

After light refreshments, the second half of the Meeting was devoted to a display of the Second Pictorial Definitive Stamps. Jeff Hook ably demonstrated his knowledge of the subject by presenting examples of all papers and perforations used, together with plate blocks for each value commencing with the single watermark, followed by the multiple watermark. Many varieties were included together with photographs, taken by Jeff and enlarged to highlight a variety.

Supporting material was provided by Jack Lindley, Brian Wilson and a One Penny Kiwi collection by Geoff Wragg.

On behalf of those present the Chairman expressed his appreciation on the excellence of the two presentations and reminded Members that the next Meeting would be held on Saturday, 21st November, 1922, commencing at 1.30 p.m., in St. Luke's Church Hall, Orrell. The programme for that occasion will be:-

(a) External Airmails - Lawrence Kimpton.

(b) Six sheets on any subject - Members attending.

The Meeting closed at 4.30 p.m.

J.H./T.D.L.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

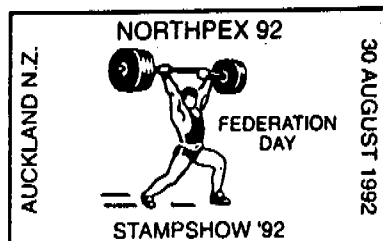
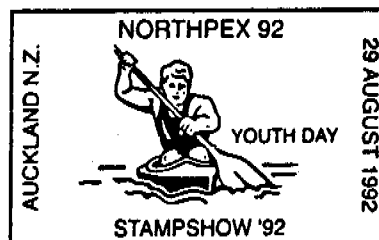
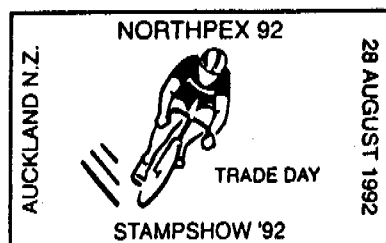
An appeal was published in the last issue of 'The Kiwi' seeking a volunteer to take over the post of Auctioneer. We are glad to report that a member has agreed to take on the job.

The present Publicity Officer has been in the post for a number of years and feel that he ought to stand down. Any member willing to undertake this job is requested to contact the Secretary before the Annual General Meeting.

Our Honorary General Secretary reports that the response to her appeal for members willing to give displays of New Zealand material to other Societies has been disappointing. Many whose names have appeared in the section devoted to notifying these displays have not yet written in. Please do so, giving an indication of the subjects that can be covered, and any restrictions such as distance willing to travel, and whether or not expenses would be required. These displays are a very good way in which our Society can be publicised to the rest of the philatelic community. Would those who undertake these displays please notify the Editor with all relevant information as soon as possible so that they can be notified to members through the pages of our journal.

SPECIAL DATESTAMPS

NORTHPEX 92 STAMP EXHIBITION



Three special pictorial date stamps were used at the New Zealand Post stand at the Northpex 92 Stamp Exhibition held in the Easton Light Lounge, Alexandra Park Raceway, Epsom, Auckland, from 28th August, 1992, to 30th August, 1992.

OFFICIAL OPENING INTERNATIONAL ANTARCTIC CENTRE



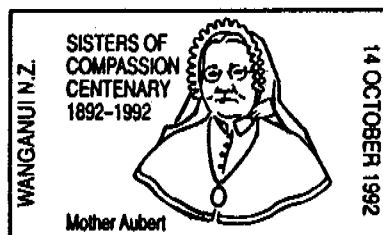
A Special pictorial date stamp was used at the Stamps and Collectibles, Christchurch Philatelic Sales Centre on Tuesday, 1st September, 1992, to mark the official opening of the International Antarctic Centre.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YOUTH HOSTELS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND



A special pictorial date stamp was used at the Stamps and Collectibles, Christchurch Philatelic Sales Centre, on Friday, 9th October, 1992, to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Youth Hostels Association of New Zealand.

SISTERS OF COMPASSION CENTENARY, 1892-1992



A special pictorial date stamp was used at the Wanganui Post Shop on Wednesday, 14th October, 1992, to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Sisters of Compassion in Jerusalem, on the Wanganui River.



New Zealand Post



**CYCLE
CLASSIC '92**

30 OCT 1992 WELLINGTON N.Z.



New Zealand Post



**CYCLE
CLASSIC '92**

7 NOV 1992 AUCKLAND N.Z.

Nine special pictorial date stamps were used at selected Post Shops along the course of the race.

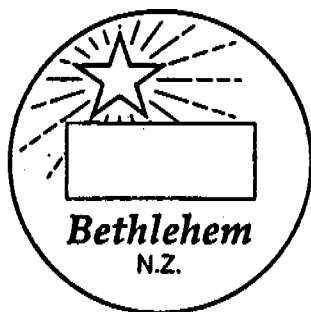
PERMANENT PICTORIAL DATESTAMPS

WARKWORTH



A permanent pictorial date stamp was introduced at the Warkworth Post Shop on Wednesday, 16th September, 1992.

BETHLEHEM



A permanent pictorial date stamp was introduced at the Bethlehem Post Delivery Centre on Wednesday, 16th September, 1992.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Illustrated Postcards & Covers of the Anglo-Boer War, 1899 - 1902, by John Campbell, (Editor of 'The Mail Coach'). 253 A4 pages, comb bound in landscape, profusely illustrated. ISBN 0-473-01517-X. Published by Radway Press, Auckland, and available from the Author at P.O.Box 15766, New Lynn, Auckland, New Zealand, price NZ\$28-00 plus postage and packing.

This book covers Commonwealth, South African and British Patriotic covers, hand illustrated covers, cinderellas, cartoonists, illustrators, and continental propaganda postcards. It is profusely illustrated. The section on New Zealand is only eight pages, so it may be of limited interest to collectors of New Zealand material only. To the Boer War enthusiast, it is a must.

REVIEW

Philatelic Guide, published by the Philatelic Youth Council, P.O.Box 2979, Auckland, New Zealand. Paginated in sections. Price NZ\$25-00, plus postage to the United Kingdom - Air Mail NZ\$23-50; Surface Air Lifted NZ\$19-00; Surface NZ\$12-00.

This is a loose leaf publication produced specifically for young collectors but containing information useful to collectors of all ages. It is divided into four sections - Technical, Help, Collecting and Information. Each section contains a number of well written sub-sections produced by some of the most respected names in philately in New Zealand, headed by Gerald Elliott whose Foreword could almost be used as a Review!

The Technical Section discusses the production of stamps from design to final use through printing methods, papers, watermarks, inks and perforations, stressing that reading is no substitute for 'hands on' experience and understanding of this side of philately is imperative to the full understanding and enjoyment of the hobby.

The Help Section goes into the mechanics of collecting itself, how and where to obtain stamps, how to look after a collection and keep it in good condition. There is a list of the more difficult to trace countries and how to identify some of the abbreviations found on stamps. It also contains help for those who wish to go on to exhibiting.

The Collecting Section gives an indication of the many facets of philately, traditional, postal history, thematic, cinderella, the list is endless and there is always room for individuality.

The final Information Section helps with the location of clubs throughout the country and the services available from New Zealand Post.

One criticism of the copy I saw. The last two sections had been punched on the wrong edge so one had to start reading from the back. A small minus point in a Volume full of pluses!

New Zealand Air Post Cinderellas with Valuations, compiled by James A. Stapleton. Published by The Air Mail Society of New Zealand Inc. ISBN 0-959-7787-4-8. 46 A4 pages, comb bound. Available from The Secretary, Air Mail Society of New Zealand, P.O.Box 29144, Fendalton, Christchurch, New Zealand. Prices to include postage and packing to overseas addresses is NZ\$23-00 by surface mail, or NZ\$27-00 by air mail.

Twenty-one leaves of solid information, being a compilation and update of material from previous publications and now including Pigeon Post and Fastpost labels.

The black and white illustrations give an indication of the issues and the text gives virtually all the fact available; printers, printing methods, papers, perforations, colours and quantities are listed with, in many cases, the reason for their issue.

The valuations for mint and in many cases used copies must obviously be taken as estimates only. A worthwhile volume for collectors of this type of material.

DISPLAYS TO LOCAL SOCIETIES

J.H.Hicks will be giving a display entitled 'New Zealand - The Back of the Book' to the South Birmingham Philatelic Society on 1st December, 1992. The Society meets at the Sparkwell Centre, 447, Stratford Road, Birmingham. The meetings start at 7.15 p.m.

J.H.Hicks will be giving a display entitled 'New Zealand - Stamps with a Difference and Postal History' to the Birmingham Philatelic Society on Wednesday, 6th January, 1993. The Society meets at the Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham. The meetings start at 6.30 p.m.

THE PUBLIC TRUST OFFICE ADHESIVE OFFICIAL FRANK

COLIN CAPILL

I read with interest the article on the Public Trust Office Adhesive Official Frank in 'The Kiwi', Volume 41, page 100, September, 1992. I can add some further information.

The example mentioned on page 101 as 'also postmarked in Christchurch' was actually dated 17th December, 1890, exactly the same date as the one mentioned earlier in the paragraph.

A further label is also known postmarked at Blenheim on 7th November, 1890. This was offered at auction by Laurie Franks Ltd. some time ago, and I am unaware of its present location.

In the New Zealand Post Office Directory (Wises) of 1902, there is listed a John Smith, carpenter, as living at Westport. At that time these Directories were issued every year or two, but the Library which I am able to consult only has those of 1892 and 1912, and these do not list him.

WATERLOW PLATE MARKINGS - FIRST PICTORIALS

The gremlins got into the illustrations for this article, and some interesting 'philatelic' varieties have been produced! The illustration at the bottom of page 103 has been inverted, while that at the top of page 104 is both inverted and reversed. Please will readers make the necessary corrections.

HEALTH METER MARK

ALLAN MCKELLAR

While rummaging through the Library of the National Philatelic Society, I came across an article about a Health Meter Mark. It was in the July, 1978, issue of the journal, 'The Informer', under the heading 'Moss Machine 1d. Health Meter Marks' by L.J.Kilgour. There was a very poor reproduction of it in the journal.

The franking machine used was a Moss Model 'E' type, first introduced in February, 1924. This type of machine was an improvement on the Moss Model 'D' machine. The dies were made in two parts to prevent fraudulent use. The dies for use by the public had a number in the centre of the die, whereas those for use by Government Departments or Organisations had a letter or number or the town abbreviation.

According to the article quoted above, Health die had a town abbreviation in the centre of the die, namely, WN for Wellington. It appears that the New Zealand Post & Telegraph Department agreed

to a trial use of a meter machine for HEALTH SERVICE. Unfortunately, Post Office records were destroyed by a fire in 1961. It is believed that the meter was used from 1924 through to 1928.

Has any member got any further information on this subject. Reports of examples of this meter mark would be greatly appreciated.

The use of postage adhesives for the collection of funds for health campaigns was approved at the Universal Postal Union Convention held in Stockholm in 1924.

The first issue of Health Stamps was made on 11th December, 1929, through the instigation of a number of people, but notably Mrs. Mette Kirstine Nielsen of Norsewood.

References

The Informer, Volume 42, number 5, page 55, July, 1978.

The Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Volume 3, page 446.

The article above was sent to K.J.McNAUGHT for his comments, and as might be expected, Ken has gone right back to basics, with comments on:-

ARTICLE IN 'THE INFORMER', VOLUME 42, No. 5, JULY, 1978

'MOSS MACHINE 1d. METER MARKS', BY L.J.KILGOUR

Basic evidence and its discussion

Although the illustration is poor, I accept that the two 1d. impressions have the word HEALTH in the bottom panel, but the contents of the central circle cannot be deciphered. The datestamp MOLESWORTH ST. relates this to Wellington. L.J.KILGOUR has read the date as 26 MY 24 but it looks more like 20 MY 21 to me. A request to check the date and to advise the colour of the ink used has produced no reply. The ink colour is crucial as black ribbons were replaced by red in all machines before the end of 1921, as required by the Universal Postal Union when meter franks were recognised in October, 1921.

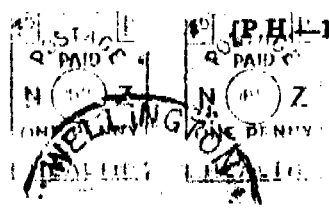
In 1962, with the co-operation of Mr. C.R.Hawkins, the Manager of the Automatic Franking Machine Company (N.Z.) Limited, I extracted from the Company's Impression Register a full list of Government Machines with dies of this type. This list was recorded in the May, 1963, issue of 'The New Zealand Postal Historian', Volume 4, number 11, edited by Mrs. O.C.Gawler, Christchurch. In that list I recorded three machines supplied for use by the Health Department in Wellington.

<u>Panel Inscription</u>	<u>Central Circle</u>	<u>Proof Date Entry</u>	<u>Model</u>
HEALTH	WELtn	31st May, 1916	D
PUB.HEALTH	WELtn	12th Aug. 1921	D
DIS.HEALTH OFF.Wn.	WELtn	8th Dec. 1925	E, with 3d. die

Evidence discussed below raises the question whether the PUB.HEALTH dies were a replacement set for the original dies inscribed HEALTH only.

The relevant machine must be the first. There is no record of conversion of this machine to E or replacement by a Model E with WN in the central circle.

I have two cut-out items from the first machine, a 1½d. impression in black dated 12 SE 18 (?19), and an undated pair of 1d., also in black, presumably used during the period 1 AU 20 to 1 FE 23 when the minimum rate of postage for a closed letter was 2d. Of particular significance is a cover with Wellington machine cancellation of 3 MAY 1919 franked with a black 1½d. impression. Though the bottom panel inscription is apparently blank, this must be HEALTH as the envelope has the printed endorsement 'Department of Public Health, Hospitals and Charitable Aid' and Company records show that PUB.HEALTH dies were not supplied until 12th August, 1921. This cover establishes that the HEALTH franks were used, at least initially, in a machine supplied for general use by the Department of Public Health in Wellington.



Illustrations provided by Allan McKellar

I have no HEALTH impressions in 'red', that is, after 1921. All my Wellington impressions in various 'red' colours are from dies either inscribed PUB.HEALTH or DIS.HEALTH OFF.Wn. The absence of franks inscribed HEALTH in post-1921 colours in my collection, which incorporates the R.J.Scarlett and J.R.Richards collections, nor mentioned in Barfoot & Simon's Catalogue (1953), supports my theory that the Wellington dies inscribed HEALTH were used only between June, 1916, and August, 1921, long before the period 1924 to 1929 referred to by L.J.KILGOUR.

L.J.KILGOUR has an obligation to state whether or not his pair of HEALTH meter frank impressions is in black. If it is in black, his explanation cannot be sustained. If his franks are in a post-1921 colour, the onus is still on him to quote the source of his evidence in support of the story he has outlined. For example, what was the origin of the statements in paragraph 5 of his article that 'Meters were the interim measure' and that '... the Post Office agreed to a trial use of meters in 1924 during the Health Camp period'? Because he has not documented his statements, the question must be raised whether the story is factual or just his own interpretation or explanation.

References

McNaught, K.J. 'Early N.Z. Meters' (Moss Models D and E) : The New Zealand Postal Historian, 1963, Volume 4, No. 11, pages 169 to 170; Volume 5, number 1, pages 174 to 176.

Barfoot, S.D., and Simon, Werner. The Meter Postage Stamp Catalogue : Universal Postal Frankers Limited, London, 1953. Page 82.

HEALTH CAMP DATE STAMPS

JOHN WATTS

The New Zealand Health Camp movement has been operating for over 70 years and by tracing the history of the datestamps used by the New Zealand Post Office and now New Zealand Post Limited one can highlight how the various permanent Health Camps have been established.

The first Health Camp was held at Turakina near Wanganui in 1919. During the ensuing 20 years the need to provide summer camps for children attracted the interest of groups throughout New Zealand. In 1936, the various local associations were brought together in a National Federation of Health Camps. At this time an appeal was being organised to commemorate the memory of the late King George V. The sum of £90,000 was raised with the Government adding an equivalent amount. The suggestion was put forward that the best memorial would be the establishment of permanent Health Camps. This suggestion was implemented, and the Health Camps became a national rather than a regional responsibility under the King George V Memorial Health Camps Federation.

Health Stamps were first issued in 1929 but it was not until 1941 that the Post Office introduced a special cancellation for the stamps.

The first three permanent Health Camps were:-

- Gisborne - in the southern residential area of Gisborne, not far from the sea.
- Otaki - near the southern end of the beach at Otaki.
- Roxburgh - on the eastern outskirts of Roxburgh, in Central Otago.

They were all officially opened by the Minister of Health, the Hon. A.H. Nordmeyer in 1941, when temporary post offices were opened at the camps for the one day and in each case, handstamp Type 1 was used with the appropriate name and date.

Gisborne - 11th October, 1941 - 1532 covers serviced.

Otaki - 1st November, 1941 - 2000 covers serviced.

Roxburgh - 6th November, 1941 - 2446 covers serviced.

Examples of these covers bearing these cancellations are not common.

The Second World War brought about various demands on the accommodation that was provided at the camps which had a priority over the needs of the children.

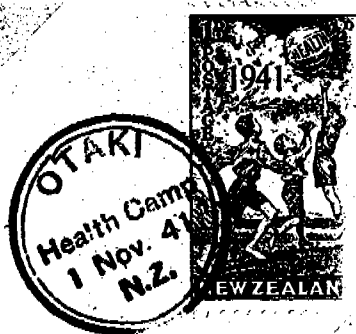
On 12th January, 1945, Otaki Health Camp was re-opened for children after having been used for geriatric patients from local hospitals who had been moved to make room for Allied Service Personnel during the war. Again, a temporary post office was opened for one day and a hand stamp, Type 2, was used on specially prepared covers.

A fourth camp was opened by the Governor General, Lord Bledisloe, in April, 1945.

Glenelg

- on a northern hillside spur overlooking Christchurch City.

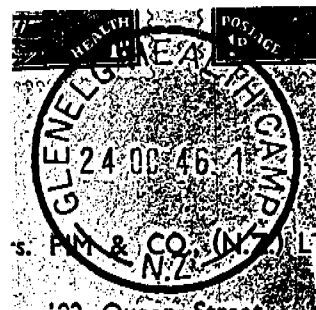
On 24th October, 1946, a special hand stamp, Type 3 - a J-class steel faced datestamp - was used to cancel Health Stamp First Day Covers at the temporary Post Office opened for the one day. The same hand stamps with the appropriate date change was used for Health Stamp issues up to 1956.



Type 1



Type 2



Type 3

Only two of the older Health Camps used Type 3 hand stamp with the appropriate name change - Otaki from 1954 to 1956, and Roxburgh from 1950 to 1956.

A fifth Health Camp was opened at Whangarei on 3rd November, 1945, by the Hon. A.H.Nordmeyer.

Maunu

- in the rolling countryside on the southwestern outskirts of the city.

The practice of having a temporary Post Office and special hand stamp was not introduced until 3rd October, 1955, when 5549 covers were serviced using a Type 3 hand stamp. This datestamp was used again for 1956.

On 10th December, 1949, the Minister Elect for Welfare of Women and Children, Mrs. G.H.Ross, opened a sixth Health Camp in Auckland.

Pakuranga

- on the southern slopes of the Tamaki estuary, overlooking Half Moon Bay, Pakuranga.

Special covers were prepared and cancelled at a temporary Post Office opened for the day with a Type 3 hand stamp. The Health Stamps used were from the 1945 issue. This caused confusion among collectors who thought that the Post Office had re-issued the stamps when in fact they came from an earlier bulk purchase made in 1945.

This camp continued to use the Type 3 hand stamp every year up to 1956.

In 1957, the Post Office issued the first of a series of pictorial hand stamps, Type 4 - J-class with central detachable disc instead of wheeled date stamp - which was used for the Health Stamp First Day Covers at all the camps with the appropriate name identity. For subsequent years up to 1963, a different insert was made available - Types 5 to 10.



Type 4



Type 5



Type 6



Type 7



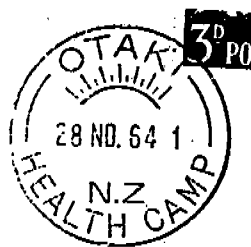
Type 8



Type 9



Type 10



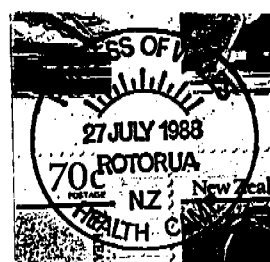
Type 11



Type 12



Type 13



Type 14

For the 1964 Health Stamp issue on 5th August, a new hand stamp, Type 11 - J-class wheeled datestamp - with the appropriate identifying name was introduced. This has been used at the temporary Post Office opened for the First Day of Issue up to this present time.

A seventh Health Camp was opened in Rotorua in 1983.

Princess of Wales - built on 6 acres overlooking Lake Rotorua off Tarawera Road on the way to the Blue and Green Lakes.

It was intended that the official opening would be by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. R. Muldoon, on 16th March. Special covers were produced using the 1982 Health Stamps and cancelled with hand stamp Type 12. But owing to bad weather the plane carrying the Prime Minister could not land. The issue of the covers went ahead, and finally, the 'official' opening took place on 22nd April without an issue of special covers.

The first temporary First Day of Issue Post Office at the camp was opened in 1983, and a Type 11 hand stamp was used with the original camp name. In 1986 a new version of the hand stamp was issued to incorporate the change of name 'Princess of Wales Health Camp', which actually occurred in 1983. This is Type 13 and is 31mm in diameter. It was replaced in 1988 with a version, Type 14, which was 29mm in diameter.

By studying serviced First Day of Covers for Health Stamps it will be seen that replacement hand stamps have been made over the years. The different types can be distinguished by measuring the length of the 'arcs' on Type 3 and the position of the 'rays' on Type 11.

It is hoped that the information in this article will help to open a fresh dimension for some people collecting Health Stamps and Covers.

Reference.

The Mail Coach, Volume 13, number 1, pages 2 - 9, September, 1976. New Zealand's Health Camps, by R.M. Startup.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST DECIMAL DEFINITIVES OF NEW ZEALAND

R.G.DARGE

Continued from page 100.

FIFTEEN CENT TIKI - ORIGINAL DESIGN

The stamp depicts the greenstone neck pendant commonly worn by high caste Maoris, and is similar to the 1/6 designed by J. Berry.

The printing by Harrison & Sons Ltd. was on single sheets each of 150 stamps in 10 rows of 10, with the watermark upright.

Two cylinders, being green and red, were required for the printing and numbered 1A1A.

The Imprint and cylinder numbers appeared on the bottom selvedge below the first three stamps and the sixth stamp respectively.

The sheets were perforated from the top by the same single comb head that was used for the 8 cent and 10 cent values. A sheet is reported in Campbell Paterson's Newsletter, Volume 19, number 9, April, 1968, to be perforated from the bottom causing the perforations to run through the bottom selvedge. Due to the smaller size of the sheet, perforations appear through both side selvedges, the gauge being 14 x 14.7.

A number of sheets are known with the watermark inverted.

One significant doctor blade flaw arose from the green cylinder

and appears as a thick green stripe on the left edge of the first vertical row of stamps. Another sheet has been seen with 15 fine vertical blade flaws across the face of one row.

The stamp was withdrawn on the 19th March, 1968, and was replaced with a new colour.

15 cent Tiki - original design - varieties.

1A1A

Inverted watermark.

Doctor blade flaws.

Colours out of register.

FIFTEEN CENT TIKI - NEW DESIGN

On 19th March, 1968, a similar design to the old value was released.

The format is slightly large, being 21 x 25 mms. The numerals of the value are smaller but the words 'TIKI' and 'NEW ZEALAND' are larger.

The printing by Harrison & Sons Ltd. required three cylinders, being green, red and black, and numbered 1A1A1A.

The layout of the single sheets was similar to the old design except that the cylinder numbers now appeared below the fourth stamp.

The stamps were the first to be printed on the new paper with the watermark sideways to the mesh and appearing sideways on the stamps. The stamps were also the first to be gummed with the new adhesive P.V.A.

The perforation details are similar to the old design of the same value but the comb head now fits the printed area of the sheet.

The missing '0' of the '\$11.5' sheet value was not corrected despite certain confusion to postal officers over the old value. The matter was rectified by the employment of officers to insert the '0' in red biro. It was inevitable that some sheets would be missed, thus creating another variety.

A doctor blade flaw causing vertical white and green lines to appear through the right centre of the stamp in one vertical row has been seen.

A number of sheets have been used for the manufacture of counter coils. The stamps were vertically coiled with numbers 1 - 29 upright and appearing at every tenth stamp.

An unusual series of short black lines through the left side of the tiki and red lines on the 'N' and 'D' of 'NEW ZEALAND' appear between coil number 28 and 29.

A double print of Counter Coil 7 is known.

15 cent Tiki - new design - varieties.

1A1A1A

Doctor blade.

Red '0' in value \$22.5 not inserted by postal clerks.

Large green ink blob on stamp.

Counter Coils,

Black and red doctor blades.

Double print of Coil 7.

Dark green ink drop on pair.

INFORMATION LABELS FROM NEW ZEALAND

In Issue Number Three of 'Philately and the Letter Box', dated August, 1992, published by the Letter Box Study Group, the Editor, GLENN MORGAN, published a small piece under the above title. This reads:-

Insufficiently addressed mail with a private box address once received an adhesive label to make the recipient aware of the deficiency. The text of one label reads:-

It is observed that the box number is omitted from the address of this letter.

To avoid any possibility of delay in sorting the Post Office suggests that you advise your correspondent to include the box number in the address in future.

This label is printed on white paper. The next, printed on light blue paper, reads:-

It is observed that our private box number was omitted from the address of your last letter to us. To avoid the possibility of delay in sorting, the Post Office has emphasized the need for our private box number being shown in the address of all our inward correspondence, and that it would be appreciated if you could insure that this is done in future.

Our Post Office Box number is

Does any member know when these labels were in use?

If any Member of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain can help, please let the Editor know.

FINDINGS FROM FILES

PAPER FOR THE 1935 PICTORIAL STAMPS - PART 2

ALLAN P. BERRY

The story continues from page 114 of the last issue of 'The Kiwi'. The next letter on the files is dated 26th January, 1933, and is from the Controller of the Post Office Stores Department, addressed to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd. It reads:-

"Paper similar to the accompanying specimen sheet has been offered in connexion with the contract for the printing of the New Zealand stamps by the photogravure process. Will you be good enough to give it a practical test including the perforation as required by the New Zealand Government and report the result at the earliest possible moment."

There is a hand written post script which reads:-

"The specimen sheets are only supercalendared but the supply

will be plateglazed. As arranged by telephone will you plateglaze these sheets before experimenting."

There follows a standard printed form from the Government Laboratory, Clement's Inn Passage, London, W.C.2., dated 6th February, 1933. This is a "Report on the examination of [a] samples of [experimental (gummed) paper,] received from [The Controller, Post Office Stores Department, Stamp Section, Somerset House,] on [28th January, 1933.] Laboratory No. [2734.]" The words in square brackets are typed in on the printed form, and below is the report, which reads as follows:-

Gum 22 per cent

Gum per 76 s.ins 0.89 gram.

"The paper is gummed with gum arabic. No evidence was afforded of the presence of lead or any other deleterious substance. The adhesive tests were satisfactory.

"The analysis of the paper is as follows:-

Mineral matter (calcd. on dry paper.)	1.7 per cent.
Resin	do. 1.2 " "
Gelatin	do. not determined.
Cellulose	do. 91.1 per cent.

"The paper consists of wood and rag in approximately equal proportions. The exposure test is attached."

The report carries two signatures over the printed designation "Government Chemist". On it the statement that the Gelatin analysis had not been determined is crossed out and in manuscript is written "about 3.9% Govt. Lab. 15/2/33", the actual report on this analysis being the next but one document on the file, under Laboratory No. 2890. Also on the above report is a pencil note which is difficult to decipher or to understand. It reads:-

"Comparative statement of R.C.O. - De La Rue's esparto and Wiggins Teape N.Z paper withdrawn for (name). 4/3/33."

On the above report an exposure test is mentioned. The next paper on the file is a small piece of paper headed with the Government Laboratory's name and address, to which are fixed two pieces of paper. Over them are hand written the words "EXPOSURE TEST. P.O.2734. Gummed Paper". The left hand piece of paper is labelled "Original", and the right hand piece "Exposed". The latter has a yellowish tinge compared with the former.

The next letter on the file is from Waterlow & Sons Limited, dated 30th January, 1933, and addressed to the Controller of the Post Office Stores Department. It reads:-

"As requested in your letter of the 26th instant, we have plate-glazed the six specimen sheets, perforated, with the New Zealand 'boxes', two of them, and printed the equivalent of one sheet.

"In the plate-glazing we used, on four sheets (marked No. 1), the same pressure as we used on the Royal Cipher Paper, and found that the surface was higher. We reduced the pressure on the remaining two sheets (marked No. 2), which gave us

approximately the same surface as the Royal Cipher. You will see, therefore, from the printed sheets, that the No. 2 surface gave the better result. Providing this standard of finish is maintained, and that the watermark is not too strong, we think this paper will be quite satisfactory for printing and perforating.

"We should be obliged if you could arrange for the printed specimens to be returned to us, in due course."

A pencil note on the letter "Ack. & Waterlow sheets retd. (initials) 18/2" indicates that the request in the last paragraph was fulfilled. The document that appears on the file next is a printed receipt from Waterlow & Sons Limited, dated 31st January, 1933, on which is written in pencil "1 roll - ref 6 experimental shts paper - N.Z.". It carries the pen written words "Receipt ackd (initials) 31/1/33".

The sheet of paper following on the file is a combination letter and reply. The first, or letter, part is from the Controller of the Post Office Store Department and is addressed to the Director of Stamping, being dated 6th February, 1933. This reads:-

"I should be glad if you would be good enough to have the accompanying two sheets of Experimental paper tested as regards Breaking Strain and Strength and inform me of the results.

"When replying please return the sample sheets.

"As the matter is urgent perhaps an early reply can be given please."

The reply part of the document is addressed to the Controller, and this states:-

"I have had the paper tested with the following results:-

	<u>Breaking strain</u>	<u>Stretch</u>
"Machine direction	15.58 lbs	3.6%
"Across	7.87 lbs	7.9%

"The paper is returned herewith."

This document is initialled over the cachet of the Director of Stamping dated -7 FEB 1933. The next letter is from the Trade and Produce Officer at the New Zealand High Commission, to the Controller of the Post Office Stores Department. It is dated 11th February, 1933, and reads:-

"As promised, I am sending you herewith the reference copies of the proofs of our new issue of photogravure stamps (28 in all), as well as the frame of the Cook Island and Niue stamps, which contract you recently carried through for us. There is no hurry about returning them. Will you kindly acknowledge receipt.

"..... of Messrs. Cowans, rang through this morning to say that he had been on to Valleyfield and that they were quite willing to release the roll. He stated that he was writing to us to that effect and was also explaining their position so that we can notify the Government Printer. Perhaps you will give me a ring on Monday and I will come over and we can prepare the necessary cable."

The acknowledgement of the proofs requested is the next copy letter on file. It is dated 13th February, 1933, and reads:-

"Many thanks for the proofs of the photogravure stamps (28 in all), also for the frame of the Cook Islands and Niue stamps, which you have sent me on loan. I will keep them safe and return them to you shortly."

A pen note on this letter notes "Returned by by hand to on the 15th inst.", which is initialled over the date 18/2/33. There seemed to be little need for this note, as the receipt of the proofs is acknowledged "Received 28 proofs & frame 15/2/33" over the signature of the Trade and Produce Officer of the New Zealand High Commission in ink on the same piece of paper. There is in addition a pencil note "Vide also letter of 20th Feby in File (initials)".

A hand written memo follows, dated 13/2/33. This states:-

"I saw ... at the N.Z. Offices 13/2/33. He showed me a letter from Cowan & Co. agreeing to the loan of the Dandy Roll. He sent a cable to N.Z. informing the authorities there of the saving to be effected by placing the contract with Wiggins Teape & Co. and stating that the contract had accordingly been allotted to W.T. & Co.

"I said that we should be prepared to accept the Dandy Roll from Cowans at our Edinburgh Depot and to send it out thence to Wiggins Teape & Co. at Stoneywood Mills."

An undated note on a scrap of paper follows, which is handwritten. It is headed "Experimental Paper", with a note in the top right hand corner "Ref. P.", and reads:-

Weight per ream of 500 sheets 11.25 lbs.

Size 11½ x 21 (one sixteenth)"

Bursting Strength 32.)

34.)

33.5) Average 33.66 lbs per square inch.

36.0)

33.5)

33.)

A pencil note on the scrap of paper indicates that the report refers to "NZ Wiggins Teape". There follows now a letter from the Controller of the Post Office Stores Department to the New Zealand High Commission, dated 16th February, 1932. This reads:-

"With reference to your letter of the 23rd ultimo enclosing tenders in connection with the paper required for the photogravure stamps to be printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., I have to inform you that the specimen paper submitted by Messrs. Wiggins Teape & Alex Pirie, Ltd., has been examined and analysed. This paper conforms approximately to the furnish stipulated in the specification and is in every other respect suitable for the printing of stamps by the photogravure process. Messrs. Wiggins Teape's tender, which is so much more favourable in price than Messrs. Alex Cowan & Sons, Ltd., is, therefore, recommended for acceptance, subject to the relative

specification [and conditions of contract].

"The finish of the paper should be similar to the accompanying sheet (marked 'No.2) which has been plateglazed by the printers, and it has been suggested to the firm that the strength of the paper might be slightly reduced in order to ensure a satisfactory perforation. Tests that have been made with the specimens submitted by the firm appear to indicate that the stamps would not be so easily separated as [those] at present [issued]. The firm promise to rectify this and suggest that a trial making of $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of the paper should precede the bulk supply. To ensure the supply of correct paper at the outset, I recommend that this suggestion be adopted.

"Messrs. Wiggins Teape's price for gumming is more favourable than the allowance in Messrs. Waterlow's tender, and the contract with Wiggins Teape should, therefore, include the gumming of the paper, plateglazing, and cutting into the standard sheets.

"It is understood that you have made arrangements for the dandy roll, now in the possession of Messrs. Cowan, to be transferred to the new contractor and, as the paper is to be made by Messrs. Wiggins Teape at their mill at Stoneywood Works, Bucksburn, Aberdeenshire, it will save carriage expenses if the dandy roll is sent to the Controller, Post Office Stores Department, Russell Road Depot, Edinburgh, and transferred from there to Wiggins Teape at Bucksburn. To save the cost of carriage appearing in this Department's accounts, it is suggested that the consignment of the dandy roll be 'carriage forward' to the account of the High Commissioner.

"The printers desire that the watermarking of the paper should so light as not to interfere with the printing surface of the stamps. [Originally read - ...should be as light as possible so as].

"If there are any other points which you would like to discuss before sending an official acceptance of Messrs. Wiggins Teape's tender, perhaps you will communicate with me further.

"The tenders received from Messrs. Cowan & Sons and Messrs. Wiggins Teape, Ltd., together with their covering letters, and a communication from Messrs. William Nash, Ltd., are returned herewith as desired."

The following letter is also from the Controller of the Post Office Store Department, and is dated 18th February, 1992. It is addressed to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., and reads:-

"With reference to your letter of the 30th ultimo relative to the plateglazing of the paper for the printing of New Zealand stamps by the photogravure process, I note that you consider the sheets marked 'No.2' give you approximately the same surface as the Royal Cipher paper and that, providing this standard of finish is maintained and the watermark is not too strong, the paper is thought to be quite satisfactory for printing and perforating. Arrangements are being made for the paper manufacturers to supply paper with the requisite standard of finish. The printed specimens submitted by you are returned herewith as requested.

"I am much obliged to you for plateglazing the specimen sheets and furnishing your report."

There follows a short letter dated 20th February, 1933, from the New Zealand High Commission to the Controller of the Post Office Store Department, reading:-

"Please accept my best thanks for your letter of the 13th instant, with which you kindly returned the twenty-eight proofs of the new issue of photogravure stamps and frame of Cook Islands stamps. They came safely to hand, and I am glad they have been of interest."

The next letter is also brief, and is from Waterlow & Sons Limited to the Controller, dated 21st February, 1933. It reads:-

"We acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, with reference to the paper for New Zealand stamps, and the return of the three panels of printed specimens."

The next document is headed STAMP SECTION, and is dated 22nd February, 1933. It reads:-

"Messrs. Cowan & Sons, papermakers of Penicuik, Midlothian, will shortly be advised to despatch to the Edinburgh Depot a Dandy Roll which, when received, I shall be glad if you will readdress and consign to Messrs. Wiggins Teape & Alex Pirie, Ltd., Stoneywood Works, Bucksburn, Aberdeenshire, account for carriage to be sent to High Commissioner for New Zealand, 415 Strand, London, W.C.2. The Dandy Roll will be consigned carriage paid by Messrs. Cowan (the cost of carriage is on account of the High Commissioner for New Zealand) and there will be no need for it to be opened and examined at Edinburgh Depot."

The paper carries the cachet reading 'Post Office Stores Dept / Edinburgh Depot 23 FEB 33'. At the base there is the manuscript note reading:-

"The Dandy Roll was received and despatched to Messrs. Wiggins Teape today. (Initials) 28/2/33."

There follows a letter dated 23rd February, 1933, from the New Zealand High Commission to the Post Office Stores Department which, although out of date sequence, seems to tie up many of the loose ends of the correspondence. It reads:-

"Watermarked Paper for the New Issue of Photogravure Stamps

"I am directed by the High Commissioner to thank you for your letter of 16th instant, commenting on the tenders received for this paper and recommending the acceptance of the tender of Messrs. Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie, Ltd. I have also to confirm our recent conversation, and to state that the various points are being mentioned in our formal letter of acceptance to the firm, copy of which I enclose for your records.

"I am this day asking Messrs. Cowans to forward the dandy roll to the Edinburgh Office of the Post Office Stores Department, in accordance with your suggestion, and I note you will arrange with them for its transfer to Messrs. Wiggins Teape's mill at Stoneywood. If accounts for carriage are sent to the High

Commissioner, it will be quite satisfactory to this Department.

"I am also obliged for your returning the original tenders received from Messrs. Cowan and Messrs. Wiggins Teape, together with their covering letters and the communication from Messrs. William Nash, Ltd., safe receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.

"Notification has this day been sent to Messrs. Waterlows that paper will be supplied to them in gummed sheets and that the reduction of £1.1s.0d. per thousand sheets will accordingly be claimed. A copy of the letter to the firm is enclosed for your information."

A copy of the letter to Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Export) Ltd., dated 23rd February, 1933, follows:-

"I am directed by the High Commissioner to acknowledge the due receipt of your letter of the 20th January....submitting your tender offering to supply the Government of New Zealand with watermarked stamp paper, and to state that the matter has been discussed with the Stamp Section of the Post Office Stores Department... In accordance with their recommendation, your tender is accepted, subject to the terms and conditions specified, for 950 reams, gummed, plate-glazed and cut into standard sheets, for the price of 16s.4½d. per ream of 500 sheets, delivered carriage paid to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., within thirty days from the date of acceptance.

"Decision has not yet been arrived at in regard to the balance of 800 reams, but a further communication will be addressed to you in due course in regard to this item of your tender.

"The finish of the paper should be similar to the accompanying sheet (marked NO. 2), and, as suggested to you by the Stamp Section of the Post Office Stores Department, the strength of the paper might be slightly reduced in order to ensure a satisfactory perforation. The High Commissioner relies on your promise to rectify this and agrees with your suggestion to the Stamp Section that a trial making of half a ton of the paper should precede the bulk supply. Sample sheets should then be submitted to ... at Somerset House, and his approval should be obtained before you proceed with the bulk.

"As regards gumming, the Stamp Section advise that analysis shows that the quantity of gum is rather below the specification quantity, and the High Commissioner will be glad if you will kindly rectify this when proceeding with the order.

"Your attention is also directed to the printer's desire that the watermarking of the paper should be light enough so as not to interfere with the printing surface of the stamps. This has already been mentioned verbally to you by

"Arrangements are being made to have the dandy roll delivered to your mill by the Post Office Store Department, Edinburgh, as soon as possible, so that there need be no delay in commencing manufacture.

"When you are ready to commence delivery of the paper to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., will you kindly notify the High Commissioner. For the purpose of checking each delivery and its receipt by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, you are requested to notify them in writing, in the form attached, of the despatch of each

consignment from your mill, asking them to acknowledge receipt at the foot of the form. This letter should be issued in triplicate, and all copies should be signed by yourselves before being sent to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons. The latter will be requested to retain one copy, return one copy to you, and send the other to the High Commissioner for our records. The printing warrant will then be forwarded to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons by this Office.

"On completion of the order, will you please render your account, in duplicate, on the enclosed Treasury Voucher, supported by four copies of your invoice.

"Your formal acknowledgement of this acceptance is requested."

A copy of the form of notification of despatch mentioned in the letter is the next document on the file, laid out as follows:-

FORM OF ADVICE OF DELIVERY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF PAPER

FROM - Messrs. Wiggins, Teape & Alex Pirie (Export) Ltd.
TO - Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd.

Dear Sirs,

We have this day despatched.....
to.....by.....
the under-mentioned gummed watermarked paper, on behalf of the
High Commissioner for New Zealand.

No. of packages.	Contents

Will you kindly acknowledge safe receipt in writing at the foot hereof.

Yours faithfully

Signed Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Export) Ltd.
.....

Date.....

FROM - Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd.

TO - Messrs. Wiggins, Teape & Alex. Pirie (Export) Ltd.

Dear Sirs,

Gummed Watermarked Paper for the New Zealand Govt.

The receipt, in good order and condition, of the above-mentioned water-marked paper is hereby acknowledged.

Yours faithfully

Signed Waterlow & Sons, Ltd
.....

Date.....

The document is completed by a typed line vertically along the left hand side, which reads 'N.B. This form to be kept intact, i.e. do not detach bottom portion.' This paper is followed by a letter dated 23rd February, 1933, from the New Zealand High Commission to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., which reads:-

"In continuation of my letter of the 2nd December last, and with particular reference to section (h) of the second paragraph, I am now directed by the High Commissioner to state that it has been decided to supply the paper to you in gummed sheets, and accordingly the reduction of £1.1s.0d. per thousand sheets is hereby claimed in accordance with the offer in your letter of 31st August.

"I take this opportunity of advising you that the tender of Messrs. Wiggins, Teape & Alex Pirie (Export) Ltd., has been accepted for the supply of the paper, and they have been asked to notify you formally by letter when making delivery to your mill, making provision at the foot thereof for the addition of your acknowledgement of receipt. Their letter of notification will be issued in triplicate, and, after you have signed the receipt form, will you please arrange to retain one copy of their letter for your records, return one to Messrs. Wiggins Teape and send the other to the High Commissioner. This will enable a check on each delivery and its safe receipt by you to be kept by all concerned.

"Lastly, will you please note that, for the purpose of signing approved specimen proofs under clause 3, and for the purpose of signing stamping orders as required under clause 5 of the Conditions of Contract, you are hereby authorised to accept only the signatures of the two officers of this department under-mentioned:-

(Name), Official Secretary,
who will sign.....

(Name), Trade and Produce Officer,
who will sign.....

"Will you kindly acknowledge receipt of this communication."

There follows a very short letter from Alex Cowan & Sons Ltd., dated 24th February, 1933, and addressed to The Controller, Post Office Stores Department, Edinburgh. It reads:-

New Issue of Photogravure Stamps for N.Z. Government.

"At the request of the High Commissioner for New Zealand we are instructing our Valleyfield Mills at Penicuik to deliver to you a Dandy Roll, on receipt of which please hold to order of the New Zealand Government."

There is then a gap of some weeks before the next dated letter, which will form the next part of this particular extract of 'Findings from Files'.

I am very grateful to the National Postal Museum for allowing access to these files, and for permission to publish extracts from them.

MARGARET FRANKCOM

According to 'A History of the Post Office in New Zealand', by Howard Robinson, published by the Government Printer in 1964, the official postal service in Port Nicholson, later Wellington, dates from 4th June, 1840, following the arrival there of the Colonial Secretary, Willoughby Shortland. He was accompanied by, amongst others, Thomas Paton, who was to serve as postmaster and clerk to the magistrate. There are two letters in my collection from Thomas Paton. Both are from Port Nicholson, and are dated 18th June, 1840. One is of interest, as it gives details of his arrival in New Zealand and his transfer from the Bay of Islands to Port Nicholson. This letter reads:-

My Dear George,

"I now afford myself the pleasure of addressing you from this land as it is termed here.

"I arrived at Sydney on the 27th February last, the passage was rather tedious, but pretty pleasant, to be such a length of time on board ship, it is exceedingly difficult to conduct one's self so as to give universal satisfaction to every individual passenger, however, although there were several occurrences among some of the passengers of rather a disagreeable nature, I am proud to say, I was quite disconnected with any of them and when I left the vessel at Port Jackson, parted with all my fellow passengers on friendly terms.

"I had the good fortune to be introduced to some of the most respectable people in Sydney, from what I could learn from them I came to the conclusion that if I embarked in the pursuit of keeping sheep, my intention of doing on leaving England, I could not on account of the hazardous nature of it, have the least assurance of success, in consequence, I determined on attempting something else. A friend of mine, a Commander of a Vessel, was on the Harbour, he had been two voyages before to Sydney by which he had I may say a very good knowledge of the Country. He had his vessel chartered by Government to convey to New Zealand Officers, Mechanics, etc. for the purpose of forming a Government, that land having now been taken under British protection, in expectation thro his influence, of perhaps obtaining a situation in the Service, and to appropriate my money in purchasing Town allotments as in this way large amounts of money have been made in New South Wales. I was induced to accompany him. I arrived at the Bay of Islands on the 17th March a distance of 1,000 miles from Sydney, the Vessel (the Westminster of London Captain Molison) was detained there about five weeks during which time I lived on board gratuitously. The Captain was exceedingly attentive to me, as a proof of the same I not only lived on board his vessel, gratis, altho in the end I made him a small present, but he actually devoted a portion of his time in assisting me to make bargains I cleared thro him £65"-". After his departure, I lived in a tent (and am writing at present in one) with the Colonial Architect a young fellow named Mason from Suffolk. Thro his influence I was appointed to come down here with the Colonial Secretary, Willoughby Shortland

Esq. to act as his Clerk and be postmaster, for the latter receiving 25 per cent of the amount of money collected for postages. The former, my remuneration rests with the Lieutenant Governor Captain Hobson.

"Mr. Shortland visits this place for the purpose of establishing a System of Government, earlier than arranged, in consequence of the Land Company of this place having established a government of their own, and taken upon themselves the assurance to arrest British Subjects, without the Sovereign Authority; in case of them putting Her Majesty's Government at defiance, we brought down with us from the Bay of Islands 30 soldiers, half the force that was at that place but we had a most welcome reception and have as yet no occasion for the troops -.

"I was not long enough at Sydney to justify myself in giving an opinion on it. I believe Cousin Alexander will be home. To him I refer you for a more experienced one -.

"I cannot from what I have seen speak very favourably of this land of promise but in my next I shall venture an opinion on it - this is the winter season and on account of the Canvas Edifice its inclemency is severely felt - there are about 2,000 souls here from England recently imported and many more expected. I expect to leave soon for the Bay of Islands again as Magistrates are coming to replace us from Sydney - in expectation of having the pleasure of writing you again soon,"

At the top of the letter, there is an endorsement which reads:-

"Despatched 27th June, 1840. The Barque Brougham has just brought us the news of the Queen's marriage - (??) to 18th February."

On the front, the letter has the handstruck 'PAID SHIP LETTER SYDNEY AU 4 1840' in red. On the back there is a straight line 'SHIP LETTER' marking of London, and a London receiving mark '5 JA 1841' both in black. There is a manuscript '8' in black, indicating eight pence to be paid by the recipient.

The second letter sent with the one quoted above is addressed to 'My Dear Uncle', and refers to the letter above. As it deals with family matters only, it is not appropriate to transcribe it here.

AUTUMN STAMPEX / B.P.E.

Congratulations to Ernie Leppard, who was awarded a Large Silver Gilt Medal for his exhibit of the Penny Universal in the International Class. 'The Kiwi', Volumes 39 and 40, was awarded a Silver Medal in the appropriate Literature Class.

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