



The Kiwi



The Official Organ of the NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY of GREAT BRITAIN.
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WHOLE 257

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 27TH JULY, 1996,
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 FIRST WORLD WAR AND WILL BE LED BY
ERNIE LEPPARD AND BERNARD ATKINSON
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER MEMBERS WILL BE WELCOMED

NEW ZEALAND INLAND AIRMAIL

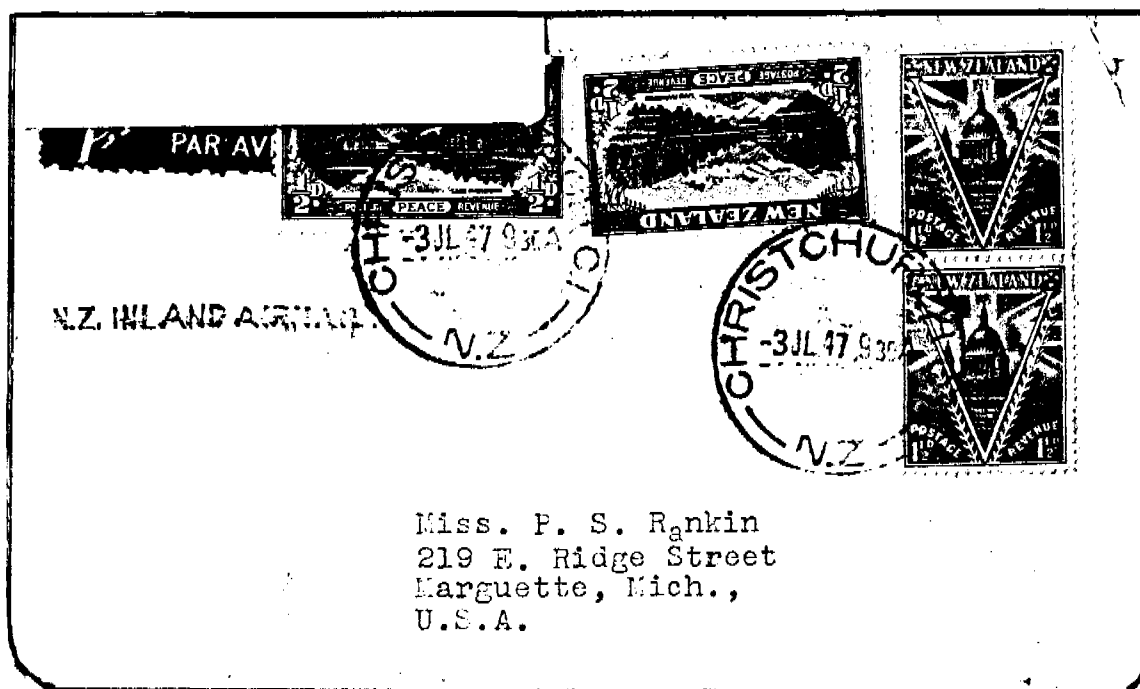


Figure 1
See Page 78

EDITORIAL

The perceptive among you will be aware of some changes at once with this issue of our journal. The old machinery has at last give up the ghost and I am being forced to use a more modern format. There is a learning curve on which I have embarked and it remains to be seen just how rapidly I manage to ascend it. In the meantime, I apologise to all if the journal is late getting to you. It has taken longer to prepare than normal but I trust it will be as welcome as others appear to have been in the past.

ALLAN P. BERRY

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

A. J. Wise, Dorset.

LAPSED

Richard Ashton, c/o Sotheby's, 34/35, New Bond Street, London, W1A 2AA

W.T.E.Chrystal, 60, The Street, Capel St. Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP9 2EF

G.E.Green, 'Avalon', Silver Street, Kilmington, Devon, EX13 7SN

M.R.Harvey, P.O.Box 50, Chiddingfold, Surrey, GU8 4XO

J.D.Langford, 10, Woodburn Boulevard, Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside, L63 8NH

D.Redshaw, 76, Hermitage Road, St. Johns, Woking, Surrey, GU21 1TQ

Lorrie Wilson, 21, Westfields Avenue, Hazel Grove, Stockport, Cheshire, SK7 6DX

DECEASED

S. J. Copeland, 29, Ashbourne Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport, Cheshire, SK7 6DX

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

A. R. Spence, 103, Connaught Road, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 0QQ
(previously of Laleham, Staines.)

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, 1ST JUNE, 1996

HEALTH STAMPS AND HEALTH CAMPS BY ALAN BAKER

Alan Baker, our Chairman, opened the meeting at 2.30 p.m. with three apologies for absence and nineteen members attending. He welcomed Tom Latto, our Regional Chairman, from Lancashire and a few others who were attending a meeting after some considerable time. Attention was drawn to HAMPEX '96 to be held in Petersfield on 19th October, 1996 and to MIDPEX to be held on 28th June, 1997, both of which the Society has booked to attend.

As an introduction, Alan started by saying that he was showing mostly stamps from 1929 to date, with only an occasional cover, the subject of the covers being worthy of a meeting of its own. The concept of Health Camps came from an idea of Dr. Elizabeth Gunn, with the first camp being held near Wanganui, under canvas and run on a military basis. The 1989 Health First Day Cover showed a Mrs. Kirstine Nielson who made the original suggestion of Health Stamps in 1926, based on the Christmas Seals of Denmark, sold for health generally.

Alan's display started with a photograph of Nellie Burt, the New Zealand registered nurse (just qualified at Wellington) featured on the 1929 Tuberculosis stamp. There followed a die proof by Perkins Bacon of the Smiling Boy stamp, dated 19th August, 1930. As production was delayed, the 1929 design was repeated for 1930 with the slogan changed to 'Promote Health', examples of which were shown demonstrating the jubilee plate infills around the sheet. There was a pair from a

plate proof of the 1931 Smiling Boy from the Royal Mint plated as Rows 2 and 3, where the plate was cut to enlarge it to accommodate the perforation head. An increase of the postage rate to 2d. required a second stamp to be printed, from a plate made by the Government Printer. A First Day Cover of the pair was shown. A study of the two plate for the 1932 'Hygeia' design was shown, including artwork and other unadopted essays. A Geo. A. L. Higlett booklet with an example of the stamp affixed deprecated the design. The 1931 and 1932 promotion stickers of 'Girl with Sandwich' and 'Boy with Mug' were shown, followed by the 1933 'Pathway' and 1934 'Crusader', each with some degree of study. The first official First Day Cover appears to be for the 1935 'Keyhole' design, where the plate was of four panes with plate numbers in the centre so that the post office counter sheets could have the plate number in any one of the four corners. This was repeated with the two plates for the 1936 'Lifebuoy' and the 1937 'Hiker', all also on display. The 1938 design was a composite from two photographs of the same child. The Wartime Beach Ball composite design was repeated for 1939, 1940 and 1941 were all shown, together with 'Swing' of 1942, the 'Triangulars' of 1943, the 'Two Princesses' of 1944, the 'Peter Pan' of 1945, the 'Soldier and Child' of 1946 and 'Eros' of 1947 continued the wartime connection with London. All were accompanied by original James Berry drawings, plate blocks, proof material and photographs showing the development of the stamps.

The second half started with the 1948 Health Camp design, a composite of the most Northerly and Southerly Health Camps. Harrison presentation cards of the 1949 issue were on display together with Bradbury Wilkinson Die proof cards of the 1950 issue. The issues to 1956 were shown in detail with plate proofs, plate numbers, flaws and varieties.

Miniature sheets were introduced in 1957. All issues up to date were shown, some still in their original Post Office cellophane wrappers. The six bird series from 1959 to 1966 were shown in some detail with many colour varieties. There was a 1965 plate block missing 3 plate number, a variety which still has to be explained. Alan brought us right up to date with the modern sheet and miniature sheet issues showing plate markings, colour shifts, offsets and double perforation varieties. He concluded with promotional labels and photographs he took of the Otaki Health Camp on his visit to New Zealand in 1993.

Tom Latto brought with him sheets showing personalities featured on the earlier stamps, with James Berry drawings, photographs and newspaper articles. Shown were the Marcus Adams photographs from which the 1938 design was made, Peter Bradshaw, the 'Climber' and Jim Hanson, the 'Hiker' and the Wilson twins who featured on the 'Apple Tree' design of 1956. A third promotional sticker produced by the Sunlight League of Christchurch was shown as a block of four. James Berry's daughter on a design used for a First Day Cover illustrated some of Tom's detailed studies into the background of some of the issues.

In proposing the vote of thanks Lew Giles remarked that the more we see of these issues the more interesting facets we discover. The display itself provided an interesting record of postal rates with all the first issues printed in red. He thanked Alan for an extraordinary display covering the whole range of the stamp issues and Tom for bringing down some icing on the cake.

E.W.L.

NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL MEETING.

The meeting at Orrell on Saturday, 11th May, 1996, was attended by 17 members and five apologies were received. A special welcome was extended to Allan Green from Harrogate who was attending for the first time together with a new member Stephen Byles. Members sent their best

wishes to Stuart Copeland who was seriously ill and has since died. The Chairman announced that two members, namely Geoffrey Wragg and Jack Lindley had volunteered to take over as Chairman and Secretary respectively with the handover taking place in September.

The topic for this meeting was six sheets on any subject and Geoff Wragg opened with the 1903 Express Delivery stamps on cover, showing the labels used at the time. He explained the rates and showed express items from Military Camps on Registered and Air Mail envelopes. Geoff is attempting to establish when Express Delivery started to be used abroad from New Zealand; if anyone can help, please let the secretary know. A selection of Honey Seal stamps was also shown together with Honey Pots stamped with levy paid. Stuart Potter followed with a display of King George VI Great Britain stamps perfinned N.Z., used by the New Zealand High Commission in London, and 1898 Pictorials with extra perforating head strikes, repaired and re-perforated stamps with reinforcing strips added.

Don Scregg presented an interesting King George VI 1/- Imperf. Plate Proof of the frame on pink paper with a sideways print of a foreign stamp in the centre, plus colour changes on stamps caused by sunlight, a 5c Parrot Fish with missing colour, 40c with missing value, 25c Queen "missing order of sash" prepared but not issued, 4c New Zealand Day stamp with missed perforation and 1960 3/-, in strip of 4, with a blue colour dry print adjacent to the vertical selvage.

Harry Fox showed an Airmail selection starting with a Trans-Tasman unofficial mail and souvenir card, carried in both directions, signed by all on board and one of 100 trial printed envelopes of which only 75 were flown. Other covers included Adelaide - Perth - Karachi - London service, Hastings air pageant drawn by Captain Peter McIntyre; the 1940 and 1941 New Zealand Expeditionary Force Xmas Cards and 10 postcards including those recently depicted in 'The Kiwi' and C.P. Newsletter. An illustrated book by this official New Zealand War Artist was made available to members.

Aubrey Halpern concentrated on covers from the Ross Dependency with cachet used in place of postmark, from 1990 Scott Base and those to commemorate the use of telephone cards at Ross. Graham Howard showed two covers from 1912 with roller cancels with place and date intermingled with year and asked if these were unusual. Allan Green continued with blocks of the 1946 Peace Issue and Waterlow and Sons Day Book Die Proofs for frame and centre plates, each with a set of three numbers. Further information on what these numbers relate to would be welcomed by the secretary. Tom Hetherington presented a New Zealand Post Office booklet commemorating the 1940 Centennial Issue and after investigations had established that the ship depicted on the booklet was the iron barque "Macquarie", built in 1875, which had been used on the New Zealand-Australia-United Kingdom run. Other covers included one from Glasgow to a Cabinet Minister in New Zealand in 1875 with a "Paid Glasgow" postmark and 1/- in manuscript - the question was why no stamp had been used. He continued with a cover from Geelong to Hokitika with a 'Too Late' cachet of 1867, a Napier to Penzance Registered item of 1875 and Explore Coromandel cover with local issue stamps.

Paul Wreglesworth displayed a superb selection of the Second Sideface Queen Victoria definitive issue overprinted 'specimen' with examples of the various cancels, together with Presentation sets and cancels with parallel bars. Allan Durant showed a range of King George V definitive issue with the various perfs., shades, officials, various watermarks and booklet stamps, together with stamps from the Dependencies. Ron Kirby presented some Tattersalls material with various cachets including Postage Paid, Unclaimed, Not Found and various Tattersall tickets and literature.

Tom Latto concluded with a display on two "not-so-famous" New Zealand people, Peter Bradshaw and Jim Hanson, whose photographs, taken by George Bull, a New Zealand Post Office photographer, has been used by James Berry for the design of the 1937 and 1938 Health stamps. He suggested that one of the 1937 First Day Covers depicting exactly the "Mountaineer" had been printed by the New Zealand Post Office which contrasts with previous reports that following the 1935 cover the Post Office had played no active part in Health First Day Cover designs until 1977.

The Chairman reminded members that the Annual Competition would be held at the 21st September, 1996, meeting when Ernie Leppard had kindly agreed to be the judge and would also display his 1935 Pictorial collection. In conclusion Allan Durant, on behalf of the members, thanked the retiring Chairman and Secretary for their efforts over the first four years of this Regional Group. The meeting then closed at 4.30 p.m.

J.H. & T.D.L.

HAMPEX '96

HAMPEX '96, the Hampshire Philatelic Convention and Stamp Fair, will take place at the Petersfield School, Cranford Road, Petersfield, on 19th October, 1996, from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. The New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be one of the Specialist Societies attending and there will be at least 30 dealers in attendance. Hopefully as many members as possible will attend. To get to the event, follow the R.A.C. signs from the A3 Petersfield By-Pass. We look forward to meeting you all there.

STAMPEX TAURANGA

Information has been received that the Tauranga and District Stamp Club Inc. will be holding a National (Youth) and National 16 page (Adult) Philatelic Exhibition from Friday, 24th January, to Monday, 27th January, 1997 - Auckland Anniversary weekend.

A special postmark is planned for each day of the Exhibition. Bulletins will be produced updating progress. For a Prospectus and further details, write to:-

Brian Feeney, Secretary, Stampex Tauranga, P.O.Box 666, Tauranga, New Zealand.

DISPLAYS TO LOCAL SOCIETIES

Our member Lewis Giles has been invited to give the Memorial Lecture to the Bishop's Stortford Philatelic Society on Wednesday, 2nd October, 1996. Lewis Giles has chosen to show New Zealand Airmail to the Society, which meets at the Sports Hall, Junior School, Bishop's Stortford College, Maze Green Road, Bishop's Stortford. The meetings start at 7.45 p.m.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

War Time Air Mail - An Introduction, by John Daynes. 177 A4 pages, plastic spiral bound. Published by Postal History 2000, 13, Hillcroome Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5EL. ISBN 0 9515815 7 0. Price £20-00, plus postage. Will be invoiced with order.

This book uses the same information as the book which was reviewed in the last issue of *The Kiwi* on page 48. Its presentation is different and the book includes copies of the G.P.O. circulars and the services listed in the Swiss P.T.T. Guides. Once again, it is a fascinating document and complements rather than supersedes the previous publication. Both should find a place on the

book shelf of any interested in the war time air mail services. Of course, New Zealand is included, although it is a relatively small part of the whole work.

Report on the Progress of Civil Aviation, 1939-1945 - Regular Services in British Empire Countries Other Than the United Kingdom. 170 A4 pages, heat sealed bound. Available from Postal History 2000, 13, Hillcroome Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5EL, price £12-50, plus postage. Will be invoiced with order.

This is a straight photocopy of Appendix "C" of the Ministry of Civil Aviation reports of 1940 - 1945 on the Regular Air Services in British Empire Countries other than the United Kingdom. It is one of the sources used for the publication previously mentioned.

United Nations Peace-keeping - An Introduction, by John Daynes. 107 A4 pages, heat sealed bound. Published by Postal History 2000, 13, Hillcroome Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5EL. ISBN 0 9515815 8 9. Price £12-50, plus postage. Will be invoiced with order.

The activities of the United Nations in trying to keep the peace throughout the world are perhaps more widespread than any of us realised. From Korea to date, the activities are listed, with a list of the countries that supplied Forces to assist in the policing. The Postal History is mentioned and although New Zealand figures in many forces, the search for covers from those people must be quite a challenge.

The Oranje Story - The Voyages of the Hospital Ship Oranje during the Second World War, by Lorna Howlett. Second Edition with amendments published by Postal History 2000, 13, Hillcroome Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5EL. ISBN 0 9515815 6 2. Price £17-50, plus postage. Will be invoiced with order.

The Netherlands Government placed the 'Oranje' at the Australian Government's disposal at no cost in outfitting her as a hospital ship. This is the story of her many voyages during the Second World War. Bearing in mind that it had New Zealand Medical Personnel and cared for some New Zealand wounded, it is an interesting background book to the students of New Zealand Forces Postal History.

----- **NEWS RELEASE**

NEW ZEALAND WILDLIFE GRACES LATEST STAMP ISSUE.

New Zealand's most cherished wildlife are captured in all their magnificence on the latest 1996 New Zealand Wildlife stamp issue.

The aquatic birds and marine mammals featured in this issue live in a variety of coastal areas around the country. While the bottlenose dolphin and fur seals can be found in several places along our coastline, the white heron have claimed their own unique spot at Okarito - South Westland, as have the royal albatross at Taiaroa Head - Otago Peninsula; the only mainland based albatross colony in the world.

"The wildlife depicted here have captivated the attention of visitors throughout the country," says Stamps Business Manager Russell Watson. "Whether you swim with the dolphins in the North or watch the first flight of royal albatross chicks in the South, the experiences are unforgettable and have now become 'must see' attractions for visitors to New Zealand."

Treasured New Zealand wildlife included in the 1996 stamp issue are the yellow-eyed penguin (40 cents), the royal albatross (80 cents), the white heron (\$1.00), the sperm whale (\$1.20), the fur seal (\$1.50), and the bottlenose dolphin (\$1.80).

The stamps are designed by Sea Sky Design of Paraparaumu and printed by Southern Colour Print in Dunedin by Lithography. Stamps and first day covers will be available in all Post Shops from 1st May, 1996.

STAMPS OPENS FOR BUSINESS ON THE INTERNET.

New Zealand Post is utilising the Internet to promote its distinctive stamp issues world-wide.

In April New Zealand Post's Stamps Business Unit launched its first World Wide Web Site on the Internet to inform stamp collectors of the range and uniqueness of its stamps and value-added products.

"New Zealand Post sees significant advantages in using the Internet to publicise the Company's philatelic products," says John Roestenburg, Manager of Information Services at Wanganui's Philatelic Bureau. "The Internet offers speed, inexpensive transmission cost and most importantly enjoyment."

The Stamp Business Unit has deliberately emphasised the fun element of its Web Site in the presentation of the opening menus. Through Shockwave, a multimedia package which enables the Web to be enlivened through the WWW browser Netscape, a variety of eccentric characters come to life when the mouse moves across the screen.

A comprehensive list of current and landmark issues are instantly available in full colour at the click of a button. New Issues such as the latest 'New Zealand Wildlife' stamp series will come on the screen as soon as they are released.

Despite being no longer available for purchase, the America's cup, Kiwiana and Man on the Moon issues have on-going fascination for collectors world wide, and a section of the Web Site is devoted to them.

The site is comprised of 60 separate linked documents with over 200 images, yet is so highly compressed that it can fit on a single floppy disk.

"We are really pleased with the way in which the technological aspects of our site have developed," Mr Roestenburg says. "The interactive screens are a lot of fun and the speed of download from modem to screen is incredibly quick."

He believes that through the Internet, New Zealand Post can build a closer relationship with customers.

"Current and new customers will be able to clearly view the actual products moments before purchasing and transmit their orders at a fraction of the traditional delivery time and cost," he says.

In the three weeks the World Wide Web Site has been functioning, several hundred users have accessed the home page and a number of orders have been received.

"We have received a positive feedback, and believe we are appealing to a new and rapidly increasing group of customers," John comments.

The production elements of the site were performed by The Bridge, Wellington.

The Philatelic Bureau Internet address is:

<http://www.nzstamps.co.nz>

LATEST HEALTH STAMP ISSUE KEEPS AN EYE ON ROAD SAFETY.

The important theme of road safety features on the 1996 Children's Health stamp issue, released on 5th June, 1996.

New Zealand Post issues the Children's Health stamps annually as a fund-raiser for Kiwi Kid's health. The recipient charity of the funds raised is Children's Health Camps, who help children with

a variety of physical, emotional and behavioural needs. The sale of Health stamps raised \$121,000 for Children's Health Camps in 1995.

"The amount that New Zealand Post provides makes a significant contribution towards the cost of the work done by Children's Health Camps. New Zealand Post has been sponsoring the Health Camp movement since 1929," said Ron Turner, Children's Health Camp Board Executive Director. "The Health Camp movement and the children are more than grateful."

A new feature for the 1996 Children's Health stamp is that in addition to the gummed 40 cent and 80 cent stamps, this year the 40 cent stamp is available in a boxed, self-adhesive roll of 100 stamps.

"This is the first time we've produced the self-adhesive for Children's Health stamps," says Stamps Business Unit General Manager, Russell Watson.

"They were designed with small businesses in mind, who have traditionally supported the sale of Children's Health stamps but prefer to use self adhesive stamps."

Collectors will notice a difference in printing formats and sizes between the sheet stamps and the miniature sheet stamps. Originally all the gummed stamps measured 29mm x 40.5mm, and were printed by Joh Enschede, of the Netherlands, by lithography.

However, prior to release New Zealand Post was advised that the original 40c stamp design incorrectly depicted a child in a car restraint seat. To avoid any possibility that a child may be put at risk through the incorrect illustration, New Zealand Post decided to replace the 40 cent Health stamp with a corrected design.

----- MINIATURE SHEETS YET AGAIN

ALLAN P. BERRY

I return to the subject of Miniature Sheets which was discussed in the last issue of *The Kiwi*, Volume 45, number 3, May, 1966, at page 52. In this I drew attention to the fact that these were now being produced primarily for the collector, serving no operational need. For instance, there are two for the Philatelic Exhibition in Peking, two for the Philatelic Exhibition in Canada, following that produced for Southpex '96 in Invercargill a few weeks ago. Generally speaking, these are available to all collectors who want them.

What may not be generally know is that one Miniature Sheet has been produced that has not been notified world wide - the so-called America's Cup Golden Booklet which was called a Victory Pack. The production was limited to 10,000 copies only and comprised one individually numbered sheetlet of ten 45 cent Victory stamps, enhanced with gold foil text on the selvedge; one souvenir cover carrying a block of four stamps cancelled with the official first day of issue date stamp in gold ink and a brief narrative of the America's Cup and a full listing of the Victorious Team New Zealand crew.

According to the Stamps Business Unit, advertisements were in the New Zealand papers only. I wonder how many overseas collectors would have been interested to know of this product? If one accepts that New Zealand Post are going to issue such blatantly money making items, then at least all collectors world wide should be given an opportunity to buy them.

The April, 1996 Issue No. 19 of *Focus* from the Philatelic Bureau announces on pages 4 and 5 yet another wheeze to try and part the collector from his money This has been discussed by John Wilson on page 35 of *Captain Cook*, Volume 24, number 4, May 1996. It has also been the subject of a letter from an expatriate New Zealander to the Philatelic Bureau. The scheme is called Stamp Points, whereby the value of purchases for 1996 are added up and points are awarded. One set of

three miniature sheets, produced especially for the purpose, will be sent for every \$150-00 of philatelic purchases. Apparently the sheets will not otherwise be available. Although valid for purchase, none are to be distributed until at least April, 1997. No wonder the serious hobby of philately is dying! What I find so distressing is the hypocrisy of it all. Those responsible for the issuing of stamps in New Zealand - and other countries for that matter - say they are doing it for the good of the hobby. I for one would prefer a degree of honesty on their part. They are there for one purpose and one purpose only - to make money by whatever legitimate means they can. If they would only admit this, we would all at least know where we stood. After all, there are now postal services in New Zealand for which one cannot prepay by means of adhesive postage stamps and these are becoming more and more common. The comments of concerned members would be appreciated.

FINDINGS FROM FILES
COST PROBLEMS WITH PAPER

ALLAN P. BERRY

This particular excerpt from the files starts with a copy of a letter from Samuel Jones & Co. (Export) Ltd. to The High Commissioner for New Zealand, dated 10th June, 1940. It reads:-

"We confirm the writer's conversation with you this morning in connection with the enquiry embodied in your letter of May 20th last. As explained, we have at last been able to make arrangements to get the base paper for this order made, but it would be on another mill. This will necessitate having additional lettering put on the old dandy roll at a cost of about £45.-/£50.-.

"Our price for the two items in question would be as follows:-

1250 reams 22½ x 21" on the old dandy 35/- per ream

plus cost of extending dandy as above.

1700 reams 20½ x 11" on the new dandy 16/8d. per ream

"Both prices are nett, delivered Bradbury Wilkinson or De La Rue.

"We should be able to commence delivery within 8 weeks.

"We would also like to confirm our remarks that on account of present difficulties of the paper mills, we could not guarantee to maintain the same high standard of quality and cleanliness as in the past, but we would of course give this aspect of the matter our very best attention and keep the standard as high as ever possible. We must make it quite clear, however, that on account of existing conditions we could not accept any responsibility on this question.

"In regard to the balance of the paper we have in stock of some previous makings, we have 1850 yards 45¾" old dandy roll paper which will turn out approximately 10 reams 22½ x 21". In addition to this we still have in stock 5,000 yards 43½" old dandy paper which we had in about January 1939 and for which since then we have had no suitable order. In view of the fact that we have had this on hand for so long and of course we have had to pay for it, we shall be obliged if you will see whether any use can be made of it; failing that perhaps you can give us permission to charge it to you and we hold it in stock for your account.

"We await your further instructions in regard to the proposed new order."

The underlining shown in the letter quoted above is in pencil, and has evidently been added by the Controller, Post Office Stores Department, to whom the copy was sent. There is a hand-written note at the bottom of the letter which reads:-

"Discussed with ... (N.Z. Govt.) about 4/6/40. He was advised that specimen ream of any new [making] paper should be submitted to STS and printers for approval and approved standard maintained in making. He decided to approach Paper Control for allocn. of furnish and make further attempt to get paper from previous suppliers Wiggins Teape."

The next letter is from the New Zealand High Commission and is addressed to the Post Office Stores Department. It is dated 11th February, 1941, and reads:-

"I have just heard from Messrs. Samuel Jones & Co. to the effect that there is very little likelihood of their being able to secure an esparto paper as previously supplied and would like to alter to your own specification. Would you please let me have the specification of that paper so that I may obtain a quotation."

The reply is dated 13th February, 1941, and reads:-

"Your letter of 11th duly received.

"I enclose herewith a specification for the paper we use for our line engraved stamps (2/6, 5/- and 10/-). It is somewhat heavier and therefore thicker than your paper, i.e. yours is about 3 mils (ungummed) while ours is 4 mils. Our paper for the ½d. to 1/- stamps is of exactly the same furnish but the weight is 17¾ lb. per ream of 500 sheets demy 22½ inches by 17½ ins., and the thickness (ungummed) is like yours, 3 mils. The latter seems to be the appropriate weight for your stamps, but, before you place an order, it would be advisable to get a few sheets from the mill and submit them to both Bradbury Wilkinson and De La Rue for report on the printing qualities of the paper. The trial sheets should also be perforated in order that the tear may be tested."

The next sheet is a copy of the specification referred to in the previous letter. It reads:-

- (1) The furnish to consist of cotton rag (not less than 50 per cent.), chemical wood and/or esparto (not more than 40 per cent.), with an addition of not less than 10 per cent. nor more than 15 per cent. of mineral matter; free from starch; engine sized to stand gumming; to be a good clear white colour which is to 'go back' only to the slightest extent after two hours exposure to the Mercury Vapour lamp.
- (2) The weight to be 13 lb. per ream of 500 sheets 19¼ inches by 13½ inches. A maximum tolerance in weight of 5 per cent., either way will be allowed. The weight to be net, i.e., excluding the weight of all wrappings, end papers, etc.
- (3) To have a bursting strain of 18 lb. per square inch - the mean of six tests on the Ashcroft machine. The tensile strength across the machine to be as nearly up to that in the machine direction as is feasible.
- (4) To be free from any deleterious or foreign matter, holes, streaks, pleats, creases, cockles or other defects.
- (5) To be quite uniform in thickness. Not to be calendared.
- (6) Tendency to expand or contract with changes in moisture in the atmosphere to be confined within the lowest possible limits.
- (7) To be clearly and accurately watermarked with the The watermarking to be parallel to the edges of the paper and to be of such a character as to take printing ink satisfactorily.
- (8) Sheets to be rectangular and to measure inches in the machine direction and inches across the machine. All sheets in a ream to face the same way and the watermark to be in the same direction.

- (9) To be put up for delivery flat in sealed parcels each containing exactly five hundred accurately trimmed sheets. Each ream of five hundred sheets to be placed between end papers and then packed in a strong wrapper securely tied with tape in a continuous length and sealed. The tape to be such as will not damage the paper and all knots and seals to be at the sides or ends of the package.

There follows a hand-written Memo by an Officer in the Post Office Stores Department, reading:-

"... rang up Portals in Feb. and asked them to arrange for a small supply of unwatermarked R.G.O. paper to Jones & Co. in order that ... may produce a trial ream for Bradbury Wilkinson's and one for De La Rue's to test and report on printing quality."

The next letter is from the New Zealand High Commission to the Post Office Stores Department, dated 7th March, 1941. It reads:-

"As you are aware, enquiries are now being made with a view to obtaining a supply of paper with a furnish similar to that being used for U.K. stamps, and I am attaching hereto a copy of a quotation received from Messrs. Samuel Jones.

"I do not yet know whether the new furnish will be entirely suitable for our printers, but in view of the urgent need for stamps, particularly the 2d. denomination, in New Zealand, I should like everything to be as far forward as possible.

"In regard to the 2d. stamps, I was surprised to hear from you that they are being perforated by Harrison's, and I should like to thank you for agreeing to put in a word with this firm with a view to hastening the completion of that part of the order. The Director-General in New Zealand is getting rather worried in view of the delay in delivery of these stamps, and I received a cablegram yesterday pointing out that 40,000 sheets are used per month, and their stocks in New Zealand must be fairly low.

"With regard to the paper, Samuel Jones are in touch with Ivybridge with a view to their supplying 4 reams ungummed in reel form."

There are two notes on the bottom of this letter, clearly communications between two Officers in the Post Office Stores Department. The first, dated 10/3/41, reads:-

"Can you urge the trial reams of unwatermarked R.G.O. paper with H.V. finish Portals are making for S.Jones & Co."

The reply, dated 11/3, reads:-

"Paper should be leaving the Mill for Saml Jones on Wedy."

The letter from Samuel Jones & Co. (Export) Ltd. referred to in the previous letter is the next document on the file. It is dated 25th February, 1941, and reads:-

"We acknowledge your letter of the 21st February, Ref. I/S.WP/MD, and note that you are getting in touch with the United Kingdom Government Representative in an endeavour to secure a few sheets of the British Stamp Paper for testing purposes by your printers and we await your further news.

"We would of course point out as we previously mentioned we can give any variation of finish that might be required to suit your printers' own particular requirements.

"In the meantime we are now able to give you prices. For British standard Stamp Paper quality which is the same as the pattern No. 1 enclosed with our letter of 10th February, prices would be as follows:-

21 x 22½".....51/1d. per ream.

20½ x 11".....25/8d. per ream.

"Both prices are nett, delivered to your London printers.

"As far as we can tell at the moment, the two existing dandies will be suitable for use at Ivybridge Mill where the new type of paper would be made.

"We are also forwarding quotation to Messrs. Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. for six 20½ x 11" and of course quoting them the same price as we have given you above.

"We might add that in a few days time we shall be moving to new permanent offices at 16 New Bridge Street....

"P.S. This quotation is based on to-day's paper price and is subject to any alteration in control prices prior to manufacture."

On the reverse of this letter there are memoranda between the same two Officers of the Post Office Stores Department as before. The first of these is dated 15/3/41, and reads:-

- "(a) Will you please state what the contract price would be under Portal's contract for our paper per ream 21" x 22½" and, if possible
- "(b) the latest addition to this price for cost variation.
- "(c) Is it possible to estimate the general percentage increase in the cost of paper due the war from any other information you may possess."

The reply is dated 18/3, and reads:-

- "(a) The contract price would be 9/3.875 per ream 21" x 22½".
- "(b) The latest addition for C.V. is approx. 40% but this does not include certain items such as coal etc. which would be taken into consideration on a separate order.
- "(c) No information available, but in view of the small quantity which would be required the contract price would at least be doubled."

There follows a memo which is a list of costings. It reads:-

"Rough estimate of costs of paper, gumming etc.

"Contract price (Portals Contract)	9/4 per ream 21" x 22½"
Add for cost variation 40%)	
Add for other costs (coal etc) 60%)	9/4
Gumming (see H'sons tender of 1935)	7/6
Increased cost of gum	2/4
Add for wages increase, coal, etc	<u>5/5</u>
	<u>33/11</u>

The next sheet of paper on the file is a hand written note that is headed 'Specification'. It reads:-

"*1 ream of 500 sheets 17½" x 22½" = 17¾ lbs. Therefore a ream 21" x 22½" would weigh 21.3 lb. At contract price of 5¼d. per lb this would cost 9/3.875d.

"In the 1941/42 estimates the Principal Accountant has added approx 41% for C.V.

"In giving the paper High Value finish some machine time would be saved by its not being calendared, this would not, however, reflect very much in the price and would probably be offset by the cost of sheeting.

"Samuel Jones prices are quite 100% too high but presumably they include sorting and gumming."

"*On this spec. 1 ream 20½ x 11 = 10.16 lbs."

The calculations used to arrive at the figures quoted are at the bottom of the sheet of paper. It is followed by a copy of a letter from the Controller of the Post Office Stores Department to Messrs. Samuel Jones & Co. Ltd., dated 20th March, 1941, which reads:-

"I have to refer to the quotation of 25/8d. per ream, 20½" x 11", for gummed paper of similar furnish to that used for British postage stamps contained in your letter of 25th February to the High Commissioner for New Zealand, to point out that this price appears to be much in excess of current costs of gummed paper of similar furnish supplied to this Department and that I am, in consequence, unable to certify that the charge is fair and reasonable.

"Perhaps you will be good enough to say how the charge is divided between the pre-war cost of the paper, the pre-war cost of gumming and increased costs due to the war.

"I note that the quotation is dependant upon future alterations to control prices. As papers of this furnish do not appear to be covered by Control Order No. 25 of 22 October, 1940, I shall be glad if you will say in what way the price is related to control prices."

The next is a Memo which reads:-

"Discussed with ... on 31st March at N.Z. Offices. He has had an interview with S.Jones & Co.'s representative and has informed him that the order will be for 47 tons approx.

"Meanwhile trial reams have been supplied by S.Jones & Co. to Bradbury Wilkinson and De La Rues.

"I pointed out that alternative quotations for gumming could be obtained from Harrisons."

There follows Samuel Jones & Co. Ltd.'s reply to the Controller of the Post Office Stores Department, dated 3rd April, 1941. It reads:-

"In regard to your request for some figures dealing with the comparative costs of the New Zealand stamp paper on the basis of our last quotation, as compared to pre-war prices, we have much pleasure in giving you the following figures:-

<u>Cost May 1939</u>	<u>Price.</u>
Paper at 3.875d. per lb.	
Gum £40-0-0	12/5d.
<u>Cost February 1941.</u>	
Paper 9½d. per lb.	
Gum £75-0-0.	
Increased ream costs:-	
Paper 5- 7d	
Gum 1- 5½d	
Labour)	
Wrappers) 1- 2¾	
Carriage)	
Extra cost running part half	
size reels. 2- 0	10/3¼
10- 3¼	22/8¼

OUR OFFER..... 25/8d.

"You will therefore see that the increased costs over the actual cost of raw material and labour is 3/- [crossed out and 4/3 inserted by pencil by recipient?] per ream. This, of course, is

due to the fact that our overheads and profit have to take care of the higher price. We think it is evident that the margin of profit to us has not been increased.

"We would like to point out that the making Mill have not a machine which will give a roll of the full size, as, unfortunately, the only machine on which they can make this order is a 70" deckle, and we have previously had 41½" reels. We now have to have 41½" and 21" reels, and this adds considerably to the cost of running the job, which affects the gumming, sorting and cutting.

"We quite realise that taken from the view of prices which might be received by your Department, this may seem high, but we would like to point out that it is based on our present day costs, and is the price we are securing for other similar orders. We are prepared to give proof to the High Commissioner that the prices we have quoted are exactly equivalent to those we are actually getting from other Dominions who are buying a similar type of paper.

"The Writer had an interview with ... [of the New Zealand High Commission] in regard to this matter, when it was pointed out that the present order for from 40/50 tons which, of course, is a very much larger quantity than we have ever received in the past. This would allow us a very good run on our machinery, which would enable us to give a special reduction of 5% on the price quoted.

"With reference to the final paragraph in your letter concerning alteration in the controlled prices, this, of course, should not apply to the present quotation which is on the basis of rag paper, and where our quotation from the Mill is given on a firm basis.

"Previously we always supplied an Esparto paper on this order, and when the mills quoted us on the basis of esparto body papers they made this reservation that their quotations were subject to changes in the existing price of Esparto paper, hence the error in including the postscript to our quotation.

"In connection with the suggestion made over the 'phone that we should give you figures on an esparto paper, unfortunately, at the present moment, we are finding it impossible to secure any quotations from the mills on esparto body papers, owing to the acute shortage of raw material. We therefore feel that it would be useless our quoting for a paper which we should be unable to deliver.

"We trust that these details satisfy you. In the meantime we shall be only too glad to give you any further information you may require."

There are various pencil notes on this letter where an Officer in the Post Office Stores Department has been doing calculations based on the figures supplied. Of greater importance is a note from an Officer dated 8/4/41, which reads:-

"Discussed with ... at N.Z. Govt. Offices. Agreed that further efforts should be made to reduce Jones' price."

The next document is an internal memo from one Officer of the Post Office Store Department to another. It is dated 4/4, and reads:-

"Refce S.Jones letter of 3rd April - The price under the present contract, placed in 1934, for paper of the same furnish as now required was 5¼d. per lb - based on annual uses of over 300 tons.

"In 1938 Acctcy Group added 1¼% for C.V. which figure rose to 13.3% in 1939 and 41% in 1940.

"For the quantity now required the price would certainly not be less than our contract price.

"It is clear therefore that S.Jones are either considerably underestimating the 1939 cost or are not quoting for the right kind of paper (unless they get it 'cut price'!!).

"The present contract price plus C.V. should be 7.4d. per lb and allowing say 5% increase for smaller qty as against 300 tons 7¾d. should be the outside figure.

"Have no information available re. £40 gum 1939."

There follows a 'Memo on S.Jones & Co's costings', which reads:-

May 1939

Paper at 3.875d. per lb = 3/3 per ream

Gum @ £40 = 1/4 per ream (see H'sons costing
in Centennial file)

Estimate of labour re = 6/4 per ream

Profit at 15% = 1/6
12/5

Feb 1941

Paper @ 9½d. per lb (5¼d per lb + C/V in 1940 was 41%
and the remaining 39% might be accounted for by other
increases - coal, light overheads etc.)

= 4/9½ per ream extra

(Ream = 10.16 lb @ 9½d. less 3.875d. = 5.625d. per lb)

Gum @ £75 = 1/5½ per ream (see H'sons costing
in Centennial file)

Labour) = 1/2¾ per ream. This implies an
Wrappers) increase of 20% approx since May 1939.
Carriage) No means of checking.

Extra cost of running = 2/- per ream. The extra labour only

½ size reels applies to one third of the paper supplied and if
the extra cost has been spread over the whole supply, it must
be 6/- per ream. This is just about 75% of total labour cost
which might be 6/- (May 1939) + 1/- increase (Feb 1941)

= 7/-

Total = 21/10¾ Offer = 24/4¾

On the reverse of this memo is a draft of a letter with a note that it was sent on 16.4.41. A carbon copy of this letter is the next document on the file. It is from the Controller of the Post Office Stores Department to Samuel Jones & Co. Ltd. It reads:-

"I have to thank you for your letter of 3rd April giving details of the increased costs of paper, gumming &c.

"I have to point out, however, that the specified weight of a ream, 20½" x 11", of the proposed paper is 10.16 lbs. and that the increased cost of 5.625d. per lb (i.e. 9.5d. less 3.875d.) would amount to just under 4/9½ per ream. It would appear therefore that this cost has been overestimated by about 9½d. per ream.

"As regards the third paragraph of your letter, I appreciate that gumming, sorting and cutting paper half the usual width would add considerably to running costs. Cannot this addition be

reduced by gumming two 21" reels simultaneously side by side? This is current practice elsewhere.

"In any event, the additional operations would only be necessary in the case of one third of the paper supplied by the mill. Is it to be understood that the additional cost is, in fact, 6/- per ream which has been spread over the whole supply?"

Samuel Jones & Co. (Export) Ltd. replied on 21st April, 1941, in a letter which reads:-

"We beg to acknowledge your letter of the 16th April, in regard to details in the increased cost of gumming.

"With reference to the question of weight. The difference in cost between our figures and the nett weight of paper is due to the waste which, of course, has to be taken into account.

"Concerning the question of running two reels of 21", this could, of course, be done on a Frenzel type machine. All our Postage Stamp papers are made on a festoon machine, and on this type of machine it is quite impossible to run two reels side by side, at least we have been unable to do so, and we believe that we have as much experience of this type of coating as any firm.

"We regret to say that we did make a very bad mistake in the additional cost of running a single reel. Our Factory gave us the price of 2/-, but this was actually on one reel. Therefore, the additional costs spread over the whole shipment would only be 8d. per reel. This, therefore reduces the cost as shown in our letter of 3rd April, which means, roughly speaking, that the increase on raw material and labour is reduced by 1/4d. per ream above the actual cost of raw material and labour. We must apologise for this error, which was entirely due to the Writer having misunderstood the figures sent up to us by our Works.

"We should be obliged if you would amend the letter which we sent you on 3rd inst., accordingly."

On the reverse of this letter there is a hand written memo dated 25.4.41, written by an Officer in the Post Office Store Department. It reads:-

"... [of the New Zealand High Commission] phoned that an urgent order had been placed on S. Jones & Co. for 27 tons paper = 6000 reams, 20½" x 11" required for Geo. VI 2d. stamps (2000 reams) Geo. VI other values (2000 reams) and reserve (2000 reams). Messrs. Jones had said that the mistake in allocating costs referred to overleaf did not mean that the ream price could be reduced by 1/4d; they were only prepared to take the order at 25/8 per ream less 5%. ... had therefore cancelled the order.

"I suggested again that an alternative quotation for gumming etc. could be obtained from Harrisons, who would be able to run half width reels, simultaneously, side by side. Had ascertained that Harrisons did not wish to undertake purchase of the paper from Portals. ... said that he could not wait for a ream of paper, gummed and finished by H'sons, to be tried by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co., as he had now received an urgent request from New Zealand for 2d. Geo. VI stamps.

"Agreed that ... should be asked to call at N.Z. Govt. Offices at 11 a.m. on Monday, 28th April to discuss the price quotation."

The question of Samuel Jones & Co. Ltd.'s increased costs was again tackled in a letter to that firm from the Controller of the Post Office Stores Department, dated 25th April, 1941. It reads:-

"I have to thank you for your letter of 21 April and to note that the additional cost of gumming &c. one third of the supply of New Zealand stamp paper in half width reels would be

8d. per ream when spread over the whole supply. Your letter of 3rd April has been amended accordingly.

"With regard to the waste, I have to point out that the cost of a ream of paper (20½" x 11"), weighing approximately 10.16 lbs. @ 3.875d per lb. would be 3/3.375d. and if increased ream cost indicated in your letter of the 3rd April be added, the ream cost becomes 8/10.375d. (i.e. 3/3.375d. + 5/7).

"At 9½d. per lb. 8/10.375d. would purchase 11.19 lb. of paper. The allowance for waste would therefore appear to be 1.03 lb. in 11.19 lb, i.e. 9% of the total dealt with or 10% of the 'good' gummed paper produced. A similar percentage appears to have been allowed for gum wasted in the process.

"This percentage seems, clearly, to be excessive and having regard to the high market value of waste gummed paper at the present time, I would suggest that a substantial reduction can be made in the ream costs of both paper and gum given in your letter of 3rd April."

There follows a further hand written Memo.

Analysis of Jones price of 12/5 per ream in 1939.

Paper @ 3.875d per lb	=	3/3 per ream
Gum @ £40 per ton		
= 4¼d. per lb	=	1/5 per ream (4 lb per ream)
Waste allc. 10% (Paper	=	4 per ream
(Gum	=	1½ per ream
Profit, say, 10%	=	1/1½ per ream
Labour costs &c were,		
therefore, about		<u>6/2</u> per ream
		<u>12/5</u>

Analysis of price of 24/8 less 5% = 23/3½:-

Paper @ 9½d per lb	=	8/0½
Gum @ £75	=	2/8
Waste allc. 10% (Paper	=	9½
(Gum	=	3¼
Labour, packing, &c	=	6/2¼
Addl. cost of above	=	1/2¾
Extra cost of running		
one third of supply in	=	8
half size reels.		
Profit & Overheads	=	<u>3/5¼</u>
		<u>23/3½</u>

There follows a paper that is headed:-

"Notes of a discussion relating to supply of New Zealand stamp paper with Messrs. S.Jones & Co.'s representatives [named] at the New Zealand Government Offices on 28th April. [name] (New Zealand Government) and [name] (P.O.Stores Department)."

The notes read as follows:-

"With regard to ...'s letter of 25 April, ... said that the allowance made in his letter of 3rd April for wastage in gumming and sorting the paper was on the low side; the usual allowance was 12½% (2% for gumming waste and 10½% for paper makers' waste); in order to produce 27

tons of good gummed paper 30 tons would be purchased from Portals. Present practice was to destroy this waste, but he would be prepared to return it to Portals for pulping under control and would agree to pass any credit obtained from Portals on to the New Zealand Government. Alternatively, the New Zealand Government could have the waste for disposal.

"The ream price quoted in the letter of 25 February was a 'standard' price, commensurate with the prices charged to other Governments, and could not be dissected. Discovery of the error made in calculating the extra cost of running half-width reels did not mean that the price could be reduced. In effect he agreed that the difference of 6% (approx.) between total costs and 'offer' in his letter of 3rd April was increased to about 13% by the amendment in his letter of 21st April.

"After further discussion, ... agreed, as a compromise, to reduce the offer for the 20½" x 11" paper from 25/8d per ream less 5% to 24/8 per ream less 5%. The price of the paper 21" x 22½" to be calculated pro rata."

To be concluded.

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

NEW ZEALAND INLAND AIRMAIL.

JOHN WOOLLAM

The cover illustrated at figure 1 on page 61 is franked with two halfpenny and two penny halfpenny stamps of the Peace Commemorative issue. The cover is addressed to America, carries an airmail etiquette and is cancelled at Christchurch on 3rd July 1947. In addition there is an unboxed cachet in purple N.Z. INLAND AIRMAIL.

Between 1st April 1947 and 15th September 1949 the rate for each ½ ounce by airmail to America was 2/-. The 1944 New Zealand Post Office Guide at page 7 states that

"Postage payable on an overseas article for dispatch by air within New Zealand only is 1d for each ½ounce in addition to the ordinary overseas postage."

This statement is repeated on page 7 of the 1948 New Zealand Post Office Guide.

The status of the New Zealand inland airmail cachet is open to doubt. However, as a service was available for which correct franking had been applied this is almost certainly an official cachet. So far as I am aware it has not previously been recorded and is a further example of a New Zealand Jusqu'a marking.

A.V.2. MARKING

E.W.P LEPPARD.

It is several years since I wrote on the Onward Air Transmission marking in *The Kiwi*, Volume 38, number 3 of May, 1989, and Volume 38, number 5 of September, 1989, on pages 53 and 93. It is a very scarce marking of which only a handful have been reported on mail from New Zealand. I can now report on its related marking the A.V. 2., illustrated at Figure 1 on page 80 shown on cover from Shirley, New Zealand dated 24 April 1949. The O.A.T. and A.V.2. markings are not uncommon on other countries mail and appear generally on mail passing through Singapore, Bangkok and Middle East countries such as Egypt, Lebanon, Tangier and so on, although most of the O.A.T. markings were applied to mail passing through London. The top cover of a small packet

would have this mark applied indicating onward transmission. Both these marks are found on occasional covers between 1938 and 1954.

POSTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, MALAYA

Administration expéditrice de la dépêche
(Administration of despatching of the mail)

MALAYA

Posts—Mail 57a
A.V. 2

BORDEREAU
(STATEMENT)

GREAT BRITAIN

des poids des correspondances-aéron contenues dans la dépêche-aéron
(of the weights of air-mail correspondences included in the air-mail)

du bureau d'échange d
(From the office of exchange of)

pour le bureau d'échange d
(For the office of exchange of)

expédiée le _____ 19 _____ à _____ h _____ m.
(despatched on the _____ 19 _____ at _____ h _____ m.)

arrivée le _____ 19 _____ à _____ h _____ m.
(arrived on the _____ 19 _____ at _____ h _____ m.)

Serial No. of Statement: _____ per _____

SINGAPORE
LONDON TOWN

Timbre du
(Stamp of the)

Timbre du
(Stamp of the)

bureau expéditeur
(despatching office)

bureau destinataire
(office of destination)

Numéro d'ordre (No.) (1)	Noms des pays de destination des correspondances-aéron (Names of the countries of destination of the air-mail correspondence) (2)	Poids net (Net weight) Grammes (3)	Nombre d'objets (No. of Articles) (4)	Observations (Observations) (5)
	Argentine Republic _____			
	British Guiana _____			
	Colombia _____			
	Dominica _____			
	Ecuador _____			
	Falkland Islands _____			
	French West Indies _____			
	Grenada _____			
	St. Lucia _____			
	St. Vincent _____			
	Surinam (Dutch Guiana) _____			
	Uruguay _____			
	Venezuela _____			
	Chile _____			
	French Guiana _____			
	Peru _____			

Figure 2

The A.V.2. marking is derived from a Bill of Lading sheet, illustrated at Figure 2 above for mail between Malaya and Great Britain, which was numbered A.V.2. It is a Bordereau (statement) of mixed small packets of mail being handed on for transmission to various destinations. Each small packet had its top cover marked A.V.2. to note a Bill of Lading went with the packet and required a signature for each change of destination.

The New Zealand cover has type eleven shown in the articles which places its origin as Cairo. The cover is addressed to Beirut and has datestamps on the reverse of Aeroport Farouk in Cairo, and the receiving mark of Beyrouth 12 May 1949. The postage rate was 1/6, plus 4d for

registration. Thus signatures would have been required being handed from place to place, the A.V.2. method of transmission being used for safe handling.

We should be glad to have any further reports of either of these markings on New Zealand which appear at the moment to be to destinations off regular routings.



Figure 1

PER KATE

JOHN WOOLLAM

The cover illustrated at Figure 1 below is from the Laver correspondence. It is franked with a 6d. Chalon Head and is backstamped with Auckland - New Zealand DEC 3 1864 and SHIP - LETTER = SYDNEY B DE20 1864. I can find no mention or record of the vessel called the Kate. I would be grateful for the assistance of our members in identifying the vessel, through our Editor.

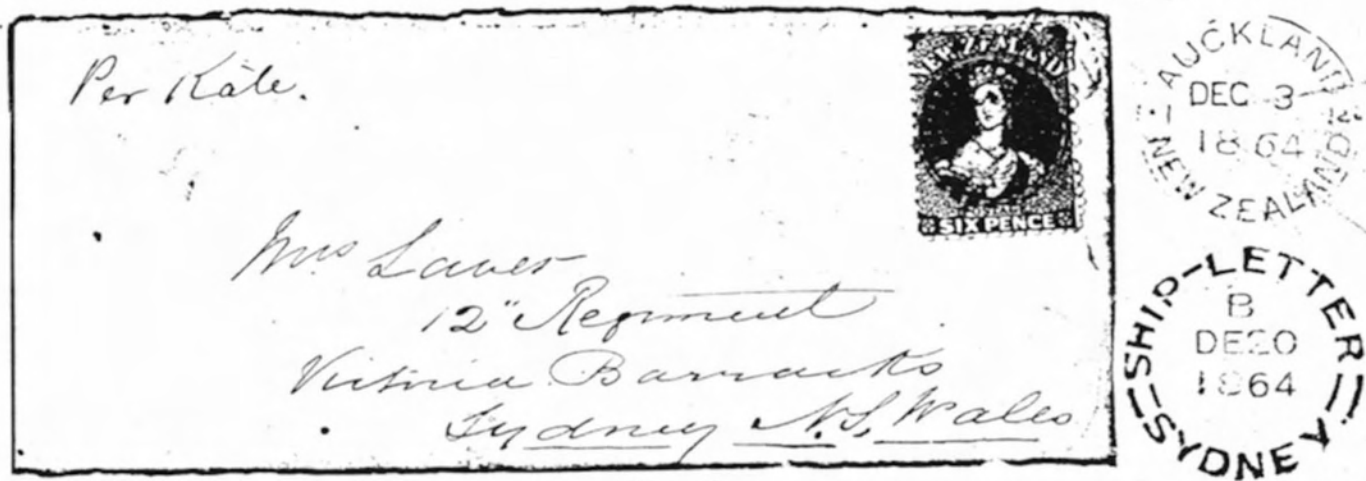


Figure 1