

Lot No.

S96 1949 Health Varieties.

A curious line, apparently a watermark or paper flaw is found on a number of sheets of the recent Healths and we have some interesting pieces in the green stamp incorporating this variety in conjunction with the "Bandaged finger" and "wristlet watch" flaws.

- (a) A corner block of 12 (4x3) showing the "watermark" line through four stamps. The top left stamp of the block shows the "Bandaged finger". The block..... 4/6d
- (b) Selvage block of 12 (4x3) showing the "watermark" line through four stamps. The bottom right stamp of the block shows the "wristlet watch". The block..... 4/6d
- (c) "Arrow" block of 12 (4x3) from the bottom three rows showing the "watermark" line across the top four stamps. The block..... 3/3d
- (d) Plate block of 12 (4x3) showing the "watermark" line across the top four stamps. The block..... 3/9d

S97 Current Geo VI 3/- shades.

The new plate (3A/1) has provided some centre shades even more striking than anything we have seen from the older plate. We have four in all grading from a light dull brown (similar to the dull brown of Lot 263 but lighter) through reddish chocolate and deep reddish chocolate to the darkest chocolate we have yet in this value. The difference between these four shades here offered is very noticeable. We can supply the lightest and darkest shades at 4/6d each and the two middle shades at 4/- each or the range of four complete at.... 16/-

S98 Current Geo VI 1/3d shade.

A new shade in this value showing a deep chocolate centre with less red content than any previously offered in Lot 260. The new shade, each..... 1/8d

S99 Obsolete Geo VI 1d red varieties.

In the October Newsletter details were given of two varieties in the 1d red Plate 8. We are fortunate in having obtained a supply of both the retouch and the flaw.

- (a) Pairs mint, one stamp showing the extensive retouching of the background lines on the right side above the King's shoulder. An excellent variety. Per pair..... 10/-
- (b) Pairs mint, one stamp showing the flaw obliterating the crown on the King's chest. Per pair..... 8/6d

S100 Obsolete Geo VI. 1/2d green and 1d red shades.

In each of the above we are now able to offer the two basic shades. In both cases the difference is outstanding. All stamps mint.

- (a) 1/2d green and yellow-green. Each..... 1/3d
- (b) 1d rose and scarlet. Each..... 1/3d

S101 1936 1d Kiwi, Varieties Mint.

- (a) The well-known and noticeable variety "Frog on log", in pair with normal..... 4/6d
- (b) A less well-known, but probably more important, variety with mis-shapen Z in "Zealand". This has every appearance of being a strong retouch. Few available. In pair with normal, mint..... 7/6d

S102 1942 2nd Lt. Cook and Lilies. Pim's 569c

Some varieties in this issue.

- (a) The popular "Flower with stalk" flaw in corner block of four, mint. We seldom see this variety but have a few at present. Per block..... 5/-
- (b) Excellent block of four mint from the bottom right of the sheet with every stamp showing signs of re-entry to the outer frame. Per block.. 5/-
- (c) Two centre shades of 569c mint, one being appreciably darker than the other. Available in blocks or singles (Cat. 6d each). The two blocks 2/6d; Two singles 8d.

S103 1931 3d Airmail Perf 14x15.

The rarity, without which no N.Z. collection of Airmails can be complete.

- Cat. 90/- each. We have a very few mint and one only genuine used. Mint.. 80/- X
- Used.. 85/- X

S104 1d Otago Invert. Watermark.

We have a few more of this scarce item to hand. (No further sheets have been discovered to our knowledge). Blocks are available. Mint blocks..... 55/-

Singles..... 13/6d

S105 1898 1d Taupo. Re-entries. Used.

There are quite a few re-entries known in this handsome little stamp but two, (Plate 2 Row 1 No.1 and Plate 3 Row 2 No.10) are quite outstanding. We have available splendid little sets containing both of the major re-entries plus four other good examples. The set of six stamps, used.....

8/-

S106 1d Boer War. Major Re-entry.

The stamp which is generally acknowledged to be N.Z.'s finest re-entry. Doubling occurs over virtually the whole of the stamp. We have it in three forms.

- (a) In block of four, chestnut shade (Cat. 39/-) mint..... 30/-
- (b) In block of six, brighter chestnut (Cat. 46/-) with corner selvage and sheet serial number..... 35/-
- (c) A remarkable piece, genuine used. A vertical strip of three with corner selvage and sheet number; centre stamp shows the re-entry. Rare thus... 37/6d

S107 2/- and 3/- George V Admirals.

We have a fine range of these difficult stamps.

- (a) Jones paper, 2/- mint, normal wmk 40/-; (b) Jones, 2/- mint, invert wmk. 40/-
- (c) Jones, 3/- mint, normal wmk..... 70/-; (d) Jones, 3/- mint, invert wmk. 70/-
- (e) Cowan, 2/- used (fine postal cancellation)..... 4/6d
- (f) Cowan, 3/- used (fine postal cancellation)..... 25/-

MAKE YOUR ORDERS FROM THE DECEMBER AND JANUARY OFFERS EVEN IF THE HOLIDAYS HAVE MADE YOU LATE. EVERYONE ELSE IS LIKELY TO BE EQUALLY LATE AND IN ANY CASE STOCKS GENERALLY ARE EXCELLENT AND SUPPLIES SHOULD BE ADEQUATE FOR ALL.

N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT.

Correction.

.. printer's error occurred in Newsletter No.7 where Lot 248(a) duplicates 249(a). Lot 249(a) is correct but 248(a) should read: (a) The (2d brown) issue from Plates 17,18 and 19 on the thick Esparto paper with horizontal mesh: Two distinct shades available. The two..... 2d.

2/- Captain Cook Retouches.

Continuing the discussion of the December Supplement. .. good many readers will have seen for themselves the evidence of retouching on Row 9 No.2, this stamp being the top right-hand copy in any Plate 1 corner block of four with plate number. Under a medium glass it can be seen that the farthest hills have had all the lines of shading retouched and in appearance are quite different from the normal. Five lines of sky shading above these hills have been retouched and are darker than normal.

.... In Row 8 No.2, the stamp which in the 13x14 perf can be found with "coconuts" falling from the cabbage palm on the right, retouched copies can be recognised by clear redrawing of all of the palm leaves to the right of and below the date "1769". The upper portion of the tree trunk is also affected and to the naked eye has a white and patchy appearance. All the leaves retouched have a stiff, unnatural look and the sky shading around them is defective, having white patches where retouching has been insufficient.

A third retouch, probably of the same period, was done on Row 1 No.6, the stamp which in Pim's No.577 has the "top hat" re-entry illustrated in Pim's Catalogue on page 100. Here the only portion affected appears to be the sky lines immediately to the right of the musket barrel which projects above the head of the standing figure nearest the masts of the "Endeavour". In this spot the sky shading is again heavier than normal, as can be seen with the naked eye. Other stamps on the plate show similar patchiness of sky shading and these may well be further retouches.

The collector who saves stamps showing minute dots and spots gets a lot of criticism thrown at him with the old taunt of "fly spot philately". I myself have in the past deprecated the practice to some extent, though goodness knows it is no one else's business what a collector chooses to collect. In the case of this 2/- stamp however, such a collector would have been well justified by events, for the original "fly spots", intelligently studied and their later disappearance noted, are clear pointers to the subsequent retouches. I consider these retouches to be amongst the most interesting in N.Z. Philately and I only wish as much energy had been put into saving them as was expended in the saving of the "Cook" flaw on the same plate.

Owing to the printer's holidays the Newsletter No.8 will not appear until the latter half of January. In it will appear.....