

# CAMPBELL PATERSON'S NEWSLETTER

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENTS

By CAMPBELL PATERSON

**2/- George VI Retouches to the Frame Plate:**

The 2/- value has figured in these notes on several occasions—mostly in reports from Mr Mohr. It has become evident that the plate has received attention for defects on more than one occasion and a report from Mr P. E. Hudson is valuable in proving the sequence of the repairs. Mr Hudson asks me to acknowledge Mr Mohr's priority in the actual noticing of most of the varieties. Varieties are generally very small, but of significance in that they tell us much of the history of the plate. Of those mentioned below, R15/2, 12/3 and 13/1 were dealt with in a report from Mr S. M. Marsden in the December, 1952, Newsletter; R6/2 shows a flaw on one of the "arrow" ornaments at the bottom right; R3/7 has flaws on D of LAND and above; R14/3 a spot of colour between the frame lines above E of ZEAL; R16/6, slight re-entry top left horizontal frame lines; R15/10, bifurcated foot of Z (Mr W. Hawkins, April, 1953, Supplement).

Mr Hudson reports as follows:—

**Upright Watermark:** All sheets seen have flaws on R6/2, 15/10, 15/2 and R16/6 (re-entry).

**Sideways Watermark:** Mr Hudson has six sheets or pieces (which he lettered A, B, etc., in apparent order of printing) and his findings were—

Sheet	R3/7	R14/9	R13/1	R12/3	R15/2
A	Flaw	—	—	—	Retouch
B	Flaw	Flaw	—	—	Retouch
C	Flaw	Flaw	Two flaws	Flaw	Retouch
D	Flaw	Flaw	Two flaws	Flaw	Retouch
E	Flaw	Flaw	One flaw	—	Retouch
F	Not seen	Not seen	Retouch	Retouch	Not seen

All sheets A to E show the flaws on R6/2 and 15/10 and re-entry on R16/6.

Almost simultaneously, Mr R. A. Dexter has uncovered another variety, this time on R14/4. This stamp shows no variety in the Upright Watermark, but has a prominent dot in the left margin one-third of the way up from the bottom on one sheet with Sideways wmk. Another sheet shows this flaw to have been "repaired," perhaps by burnishing off after hammering from the back. The flaw is now in the form of an elongated smudge and the adjacent frame is weaker than before. As neither of these sheets shows the first flaw of R13/1, they must both be earlier than Mr Hudson's sheet "C."

It would seem clear then, that the plate was retouched or otherwise repaired on four occasions at least, as is proved by the particular cases of (1) R15/10 (very early, see December Newsletter); (2) R15/2 (seen on all sideways wmk sheets); (3) R14/4; (4) R13/1.

In passing, Mr Hudson mentions that the "proof sheet" at the G.P.O., Wellington, is on "Sideways" paper, with characteristics of sheet "A" above—it is therefore a later print than any sheet with upright watermark.

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