

# CAMPBELL PATERSON'S NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

This Newsletter gives valuable information. Retain for reference purposes.

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## N.Z. NOTES and COMMENT

(By Campbell Paterson)

### Health Stamps and Philatelists:

This year's decision to increase the number of Health stamps to three, with a face value 9d instead of the usual two for 5d, has raised a stormy protest from none other than Mr McCurdy, the Editor of the R.P.S.N.Z. Newsletter. In his editorial of the February, 1955, issue he fairly lets fly at the "Central Health Stamps Council" and in so doing attacks the whole idea of the supporting of the Health Camps by the issue of Health Stamps. Leaving entirely aside the question of whether the editorial of the Royal Society's Newsletter is a suitable place for the expression of so controversial a private opinion, I feel that the reasoning displayed in the article is very confused and on certain points should not go unchallenged. I should emphasise that the following is also a private opinion, my own, but this is a private publication, not a Society journal, so there can be no objection there. I would stress too that I hold no brief for the Health Camps Federation—an organisation that for 26 years has been a party to the issue of as poor and uninspired (not to say positively ugly) a series of stamps as can be imagined.

But why the outburst against the issue of one more Health stamp at the princely sum of 4d? If it is right that Health stamps should take any money from the general public then another 4d is not going to break even a school boy. If it is not right, then why do we submit to the impost of 5d and protest only when it is increased to 9d? It is either right or it is not right, and the amount is irrelevant.

As to the rightness of the system of asking the public to support the Camps by buying the stamps, the Editor comes right out into the open with the remark "my private opinion is that there should be very little need for Health Camps, supported by voluntary contributions, in the welfare state of New Zealand. If camps are necessary they should be run by the State and steps should be taken to see that only those requiring treatment are admitted. It is common knowledge that many children admitted to camps are suffering no disability, but are sent there while the parents are on holiday."

As one private opinion to another, I would say that this idea of leaving all good works to the State, carried to its ultimate conclusion, would result in a cold-blooded nasty system such as can be seen in operation in various parts of the world. It is just possible that it gives a few odd people pleasure to feel that there is some direct action they can take to give happiness to others. As to the "common knowledge" about children with no disability being sent to the camps—how can anyone outside know the truth of any single case? It could be that a child in perfect health might be suffering from the "disability" of a drunken father or sick mother, and so be unable to have any holiday for years. For myself I would hesitate to attack the Camps so long as even one child was receiving benefit from them. At what price can one assess the health and happiness of one child? In any case the supporting of opinions by the putting forward of rumour as if it were proven fact is an old dodge.

Mr McCurdy is sure that the whole idea (of the issue of an extra value this year) is just a scheme to extract a little more cash from the pocket of collectors. Except that I think the Federation would use the general word "public" rather than the selective word "collectors," I do not see how anyone can deny that. But if the Federation is convinced that the work is worth while how can anyone blame them for wishing to increase their funds? At least no one is **forced** to contribute, whereas they would be under any scheme where the State took over the financing of the Camps.

In any case, since Mr McCurdy is a collector, one would imagine that a new stamp would please him, inasmuch as it is new issues which make philately a living hobby. Again carrying his objection to its extreme conclusion, let us imagine what would happen to philately if no new stamps were ever again issued.

*NOTES Continued on back page.*

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## THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL OFFERS!

### 1935 - 47 PICTORIALS, PLATE BLOCKS

As a result of recent purchases our stocks of these popular plate blocks are better than usual.

#### 177 Single Watermark Plate Blocks:

½d Fantail 1A, 1B, each	4/-
1d Kiwi (L2a) A1, A2, B1, each	2/6
1d Kiwi (L2b) Plate B2	55/-
1½d Cooking (L3a) 1A 50/-, 1B	22/6
Ditto (L3b) 1A 50/-, 1B	20/-
2d Whare (L4a) 1A or 1B, each	7/6
2½d Mt. Cook (L5a or L5b) Plate 1	6/6
4d Mitre (L7a) Plate 1	7/-
5d Swordfish (L8b)	30/-

#### 178 Multiple Watermark Plate Blocks:

L1b ½d, 1A, 1B (small) each	2/-
L1b ½d, 1A (large)	8/6
L2d 1d, A3, A4, B3, B4, each	2/3
L3d 1½d, 1A 40/-, 1B	15/-
L4b 2d, 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, each	1/8
L4b 2d, 3A, 3B, ea. 3/-; 4B	7/6
L4c 2d (p. 14) 2A, 2B, each	16/6
L4d 2d (14 x 15) 2A, 2B, each	26/-
L4e 2d (p. 12½) 2A, 2B, each	4/-
L4f 2d, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 5, 5A, 5B, each 1/2; 4B	2/3
L5c 2½d (13-14 x 13½) Pl. 1	9/6
L5d 2½d (14 line) Pl. 3	6/6
L5e 2½d (14 comb) Pl. 3	6/-
L5f 2½d (13½ x 13½) Pl. 4	3/-
L6b 3d (scarce) Pl. 2	45/-
L7b 4d, Plates 1, 2, 2A, each	4/-
L7c 4d (rare perf 14 line), 3, 2B, ea.	£8
L7d 4d (p. 12½) 3, 2B, each	8/6
L7e 4d (14 x 14½) 1, 5/6; 5-1, 6/-; 2A, 2B, 4 each	2/6

6d Harvest (L9a) only part plate number shows	12/6
8d Tuatara (L10a) A2	11/-
1/- Tui (L12a) A1 (scarce)	65/-
2/- Cook (L13a) Plate 1	95/-
2/- Cook (L13b) Plate 1	£6
3/- Egmont (L14a) Plate 1	90/-
3/- Egmont (L14b) Plate 1	85/-

L7e 4d strips of 20 "Blank-2B", 30/-; 4-2A, 4-2B, each	17/6
L8c 5d (13-14 x 13½) Plate 1	12/6
L8d 5d (12½ Esp.) Plate 1	18/-
L8e 5d (12½ coarse) Plate 2	18/-
L8f 5d (14 x 13½) Plate 3	6/-
L9c 6d (12½) Plate 2	5/-
L9d 6d (14½ x 14 Esp.) Plate 2	50/-
L9e 6d (Coarse) Plates 2, 3 each	4/-
L10b (14 x 13½ W. Sideways) A2	45/-
L10c (14 x 13½ W. Upr) Pl. 3	6/-
L10d (12½) Plate 3	5/-
L10e (14 x 14½) Pl. 3, 4, each	5/-
L12b (14 x 13½) A1	10/-
L12c (12½) A1	65/-
L12d (coarse) A1	6/-
L13e (12½ Esp.) Pl. 1	10/-
L13f (12½ Cse) Pl. 1	34/6
L13g (14 x 13½) Pl. 2, 22/6; P.3	30/-
L14d (13-14 x 13½) Pl. 1	90/-
L14e (12½) Pl. 1 (S.G. £20)	£8
L14g (14¼ x 13½) Pl. 1	27/6

**Note:** These are grand bargains for the wide-awake reader. Study the list—it will be worth your while!

### 1935-47 VARIETIES

179 **8d Tuatara.** The following are specialist pieces from the F. J. Mohr study of this value.

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| (a) L10a. Single Wmk. Two plate blocks, one having perfs through the selvedge, the other imperf selvedge. The two blocks  | 25/- |
| (b) L10b. Similar lot, but in the scarcer Multiple watermark issue perf 14 x 13½, sideways watermark. One block perfed selvedge, the other with imperf selvedge. This is a scarce block in any form. The two blocks   | 90/- |
| (c) L10c. (14 x 13½ Upright wmk). Block of 4 including R10/10 showing re-entry to the lower left outer frame line. A good re-entry. The block   | 12/6 |
| (d) L10d. (perf 12½) Plate block with traces of burele band at bottom of selvedge. Rarely seen  | 12/6 |
| (e) L10d. This issue in four distinct shades including a strangely pale example. Single stamps, mint. The four  | 5/-  |
| (f) L10d. Block of four inc. R16/5 with large colourless flaw in the sky. This was a constant variety. The block  | 7/6  |
| (g) L10d. R10/10 with re-entry in block of 4. This is a companion piece to (c) above. The block   | 10/- |
| (h) L10d. Block of 8 (2 x 4) with plate number 3. Includes R13/10 "broken 8" flaw and R16/10 small "tongue out" flaw. The block   | 12/6 |
| (j) L10d. Block of 8 inc. R9/1, flaw in second A of ZEALAND; R9/2 small flaw in sky; R12/1 re-entry—this is a dark stamp and clear doubling is seen inside the main circle, to the right of the forefeet; R12/2 small flaws above reptile's head. The block | 15/- |

- (k) L10d. Block of 6 (2 x 3) from Rows 9 and 10. Row 10 impressions all show a roller die flaw inside the circle, S.W. of the Tuctara's back foot. This flaw does not appear on the top nine rows of this plate, but appears on all copies from plate 4. Specialist piece ..... 10/-
- (l) L10e. Block with Plate number 4 to form a check piece showing flaw illustrated in (k) above ..... 5/-
- (m) L10e. Strip of 4 from Plate 4 including R9/7 with re-entry. Curiously this re-entry is almost identical with R12/1 of Plate 3 (see lot (j) above). The strip ..... 8/6
- (n) L10e. Block of 12 (3 x 4), inc. Plate 4 R12/4 and 13/4. The former has broken S.E. corner, the latter a weak N.E. corner. This is a notable example of plate damage. R14/1, also in the block, has white patch above the tail. The block of 12 ..... 20/-

179 **5d Swordfish—States of Plate 2:**

A set of 3 plate blocks of L8f (perf 14 x 13½). The first shows no flaws or re-entries. The second shows deterioration with flaws and pitting of the surface. The third shows the plate re-entered (including the major re-entry R10/1). The specialist's sets of three blocks ..... 20/-

180 **3/- Egmont:**

- (a) A superb and possibly unique double strip of 12 of L14f from the bottom of the sheet in the scarce perforation 13½ x 13½. As well as the usual plate number two other plate numbers appear in reverse below the middle stamps. These were guillotined in 99.9% of sheets. Row 9/4 is in the state without re-entry, but R10/5 has the good sky re-entry first seen in the 12½ issue; R10/2 in the plate block is in the "second state" with flaws on both sides of the peak. Long curved scratches are seen on the bottom selvedge. This fine and scarce piece ..... £12
- (b) Block of 4 in the 14¼ x 13½ perf including R9/4 with the splendid sky and slope re-entry ..... 30/-
- (c) The same R9/4 major re-entry—single stamp mint ..... 10/-
- (d) A used single in the good 13½ x 13½ perf, showing **blurred centre** (most noticeable in the trees at left). The variety ..... 5/-
- (e) R10/5 re-entry in the 13½ x 13½ perf, mint. Scarce ..... 20/-
- (f) Re-entry to tree trunk at left—a fine used specimen, p. 14¼ x 13½ ..... 2/6

181 **2/- Captain Cook:**

**A selection of the well-known plate flaws.**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (a) L13c "Coconuts" R8/2, mint ... 40/-             | f) OL13d "Dots over bow," R9/2, Official ..... 30/- |
| (b) L13c ditto, used, thin spot ... 7/6             | (g) OL13d "Coconuts" R8/2 Official ..... 30/-       |
| (c) L13d ditto, used ..... 15/-                     | (h) OL13f "Hat" retouch R1/6 Official ..... 10/-    |
| (d) L13d "Top of Hat" retouch R1/6, used ..... 15/- |   |
| (e) OL13d as (d) Official ..... 30/-                |   |

**A selection of COQK flaws.**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| (j) L13a Cook mint ..... 30/-             | (o) OL13d ditto, Official, mint ..... 80/- |
| (k) L13b ditto, mint ..... 30/-           | (p) OL13e ditto, Official, mint ..... 20/- |
| (l) L13c ditto, mint ..... 25/-           | (q) L13e ditto, mint ..... 30/-            |
| (m) L13c ditto, used ..... 10/-           | (r) L13f ditto, mint ..... 9/6             |
| (n) OL13c ditto, Official mint ..... 35/- |  |

**QUEEN ELIZABETH SHADE**

We have available one of the best shade varieties yet seen in the current issue. It is regrettable that it is in the highest value, but that is hardly our doing and in any case gives the stamps a much better chance of being a good investment. The stamps are of the 10/- value and the shades differ markedly. The paper also varies, being thick in one shade and thinner in the other. Readers can order both and return which ever one they already have. The "deep ultramarine" is a full bright shade, the "Royal blue" is duller and darker by comparison.

- 162 The current Queen Elizabeth 10/-, in Royal Blue or Deep Ultramarine, each shade ..... 13/6

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## 1955 STAMP CENTENNIAL COVERS

We have a good supply of the special covers designed by Mr J. Berry for the Exhibition Committee. Buyers of these will not only get the most attractive covers, but will be helping the Exhibition to be a financial success. Readers can either buy the covers for their own use or can place orders with us for covers to be serviced on the day of issue, i.e., the cover addressed, franked with the full set of three stamps (face value 9d) and posted at the Exhibition, where a special cancelling stamp will be in use. Terms are:

Covers only per  $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen 1/6, per dozen (post free) 3/.

Covers fully serviced as described above, each 1/6.

Please place your orders early. If ordering covers to be serviced, names and full addresses must of course be supplied. These must be on sheets of paper separate from any other communication.

### NOTES:-

No, I suggest that Mr McCurdy, and other of like mind, find some other target than the Camps. There is too great a danger that an attack in that direction will hurt the children. Another target (and one so big it would be almost impossible to miss) is handy and ready no doubt to take on all comers. There is an opponent worthy of Mr McCurdy's steel.

How many people have troubled to work out what will happen to the 4d they will pay for the new stamp? Supposing five million copies are sold—not an unreasonable figure I think. The total proceeds of this stamp alone will then be about £83,333. Of this sum £20,833 **less costs and advertising** will go to the Camps—say, about £20,000. The Government will get the rest (£62,500!) and will have to give postal service on perhaps half. Also there will be some costs for printing and distribution. This should leave £30,000 profit on this stamp alone. Remember, this is on the 4d stamp only. I have previously reckoned (Newsletter Dec., 1951) that on the other two values the Government make a **profit** of £35,000 at least. These figures have never been seriously disputed. So we have a picture this year of a prospective clear profit to the P. & T. Dept. of about £65,000—money which it is safe to say has in large measure been paid by people who want to help the Health Camps!

Mr McCurdy would appear to be firing in the wrong direction.

Finally: In a recent New Zealand stamp publication the following comment has appeared concerning the issue of three Health stamps this year:—"This is a most unwise move and one liable to do infinitely more harm than good to the cause for which the stamps are issued. We believe that collectors and the general public will demonstrate their disapproval by refraining from purchasing this year's Health stamps as freely as they have done in the past." Though I do not think it was so intended, this reads very like an invitation to the public to boycott the Health stamps. I would not myself like to take the responsibility of starting such a movement.

### 1½d Elizabeth Invert:

The unbeatable Mr G. W. Sides is once again the first with news of a new inverted watermark. Just a used single again—alas!

### Hygeia Reversed Watermark:

After 23 years the Hygeia has been found with reversed watermark. The copy was found by Mr D. E. G. Naish and is used. The postmark is Waitahuna—a small township in Otago.

### 1946 Health Double Perf:

I have recently been shown one of the best "partial double perfs" I have seen. It is in an Imprint block of the 1946 1d + ½d Health. The second strike of the machine has doubly perfed the bottom row to a height of some six holes, completely severing the stamps as far as the doubling goes.

### Missing of Supplements:

I regret the absence of Supplements in April and May. Apart from the reasons I gave for their non-appearance, there is the fact that I have received doctor's orders to "ease up a bit," and this will affect the Supplement from time to time. The production of two issues monthly has proved a considerable strain—one has hardly finished one before the next requires doing—and I do have many other things requiring attention.

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