

CAMPBELL PATERSON'S NEWSLETTER

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N.Z. NOTES and COMMENT

(By Campbell Paterson)

Lower Elizabeth Values to be Altered:

Surprise news during May was that all the values of the current set from ½d to 8d are to be redrawn with larger figures of value, following complaints that the present figures are too small to read with comfort. Also the 8d is to be changed in colour, as it has tended to be confused with the 3d. It is intended that the new stamps shall replace the old as soon as the present supplies of the latter are exhausted. This might be fairly soon in some cases, but a long time ahead in others. I hope the 3d will be given the present 8d shade. The latter is to my eye a much pleasanter colour than the raw red of the 3d. I am told that there is quite a strong feeling among P.O. staff that the 5d, 1/3 and 2/- values should be reintroduced. They are useful values for making up odd amounts. It may be that the P.O. will take this opportunity of enlarging the set.

Collectors will hardly need to be told that now is the time for increased vigilance. Any striking shades, plate varieties, all plate numbers, coil pairs, etc., should be got before it is too late.

We received a coil pair of 8d the other day which was made up of by far the darkest and lightest shades of this value that I have seen. The pale one was only describable as "pink" and was quite unlike the normal. If anyone can spot this at his local P.O. I suggest he purchase the sheet immediately. We will gladly pay £12 per sheet for the first three sheets offered to us in this shade—but remember, it must be really pale, to match our example. The other shade would be equally welcome, but is harder to describe. It is nearer to the normal, but still a very deep rich shade, very pleasing and perhaps best described as "cherry."

Selling Our Catalogue On Commission:

I am amazed at the lack of interest displayed in our offer of 10/- commission on every copy of our Catalogue sold. I can only suppose that everyone is so very prosperous and well paid these days that 10/- is just so much chicken feed. I believe that if I was at the receiving end of such an offer I would think it a pretty good opportunity to turn an honest penny—and not too difficult either! Granted that at 50/- the book is probably beyond some collectors, there must still be many hundreds of keen New Zealand collectors who have never seen the book nor heard of it. Just letting them see it is enough in most cases. It practically sells itself once seen—the difficulty is to get it into the hands of the collectors. That is where you can help us, and help yourself to 10/- at the same time. And you have the added satisfaction of knowing that your contact gets his money's worth. A loose leaf book like this, containing nothing but blank ruled leaves, costs every penny of 45/- in stationers' shops today.

The Exhibition:

Only some four or five weeks now remain before "the big show." I can assure intending visitors that Auckland—the philatelic portion of it anyhow—means to give them a very hearty welcome. We hope that at the end everyone will feel that a grand time has been had by all.

If hard work and planning ahead are the prerequisites of success, then this will be the best of all Exhibitions. I recall that when the Committee was first appointed—it must be all of four years ago—1955 seemed a very long way off, just as 1960 does today. But time flies. Every minute has been needed and has been fully utilised.

It may not be known to all that dealers' stands will be a feature of the Exhibition. ours will be stand No. 1 (modesty forbids my commenting on this eminently suitable number), just inside the main entrance. Just how much time I will be able to spend actually in the stand I can't say. In a week that would need to be fifty days long to allow for all I will want to do, I am a little uncertain where I will be at any given moment—but someone will be in attendance all the time and visitors will have the opportunity to meet Miss Maher and Mr. Keatley. We'll be seeing you.

ODDS AND ENDS

167	George V. The issue on Pictorial paper showing the variety No Wmk. (a) 2d value "No watermark" in pair with normal, mint (b) 2d ditto, single stamp (c) 6d value, no watermark, single stamp mint. This is "not-so-fine," having a faint crease. Cheap	20/- 17/- 20/-
168	Sideface rarity. An extremely fine, lightly postmarked copy of the 2d lilac Second Sideface, perf 12½ on "Life Insurance" paper (D3f in our Catalogue). This is a gem. Catalogued £6	£5
169	George V Variety. The 2d surface print on Cowan perf 14— imperf at top with wide selvage. Has been damp at some time and gum mostly missing. Cat. 40/-	10/-
170	1d Dominion Variety. A pair on Cowan paper imperforate, mint. Gum is present, but somewhat disturbed. A bargain (Cat. 50/-)	20/-
171	Sideface flaws. The 1d Second Sideface, two mint pairs, showing major plate flaws, broken frame and "chisel" flaw. The later is a peculiar blotchy uneven print. The two pairs	7/6
172	"Handbook." "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand," Volume I. This is an indispensable book for every N.Z. specialist. This copy is in excellent condition	£20
173	Postage Due Variety. The scarce 1/- value of the 1899 set, finely used with double strike showing in the central ornamentation	10/-

174	1920 Victory Set. It is seldom indeed that one sees this issue in blocks, in fact, in the last six years we have never before been able to supply it complete thus. But now we can—and a grand lot it is! (a) Mint set in blocks—multiple shades. All in perfect mint blocks —one of the ½d, three of the 1d (not including the "pink"), two of the 1½d, one of the 2d overprint, two of the 3d, one of the 6d and one lovely bright vermilion of the 1/-. Note that one shade of the 1d has inverted watermark . This set will make a grand show for the lucky buyer. The set of 12 blocks	£9/10/-
	(b) Mint set in blocks, without shades. One mint block of each value, ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 3d, 6d and 1/-. A handsome lot	£6/10/-
	(c) Mint set in singles. One mint each of all values as in set (b), but singles only. Order early	32/6
	(d) Used set—multiple shades. Three of the ½d, six of the 1d, two of the 1½d, four of the 2d, three of the 3d, two of the 6d and one of the 1/-. The condition is fine throughout. The set of 21	42/6
	(e) Used set—without shades. One of each value, fine used. The set of 7 stamps	25/-
	(f) Individual stamps: ½d, mint 6d, used 3d (pale yell-green 6/-); 1d, mint 6d, used 2d; 1½d, mint 6d, used 1d; 2d, mint 6d, used 2d; 3d, mint 6/-, fine used 4/-; 6d, mint 10/-, fine used 6/-; 1/-, mint	15/-
	Note: We are particularly pleased with the condition of the above. The mint are of course immaculate and the used are far above the usual for bright appearance and light postmarks.	

175	1906 Christchurch Exhibition: (a) The complete set of ½d, 1d, 3d and 6d values in immaculate mint at a price we defy anyone to better. The set	80/-
	(b) Complete set. We describe this as "not-so-fine," but probably another seller would consider it the equal of the above. The only difference is that these lack the brightness of the above set and show rather too much trace of old hinging. The set	60/-
	(c) Individual stamps, finest mint: ½d at 6/6, 1d at 6/-, 3d at 9/6 (can you beat it?); 6d at 67/6. Not-so-fine mint, ½d at 3/6; 1d at 3/-, 3d at	5/-
176	Auckland Exhibition: Complete set, finest mint condition	£6/10/-