

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)

Elizabethan News.

6d Invert. Mr M. T. Johnson reports the finding of a few copies of the 6d Elizabeth with inverted watermark. As I understand it, the greater part of the sheet had been used up.

1/- Value Marking.

I have now been shown by Mrs Simmons and Mrs Francis, both of Dunedin, the value marking "£4" with "£3" cancelled. (Previous "£4" blocks seen had been without prior marking or with "8£.")

2½d Mt. Cook Design.

During my trip I had a day or so at the Hermitage, the fine Government Hotel close to Mt. Cook in the Southern Alps. I arrived at the beginning of the biggest snow storm for 12 years and so saw the mountains at their very best. The return journey by road round Lakes Pukaki and Tekapo, across the Mackenzie country and through Burke's Pass to Fairlie, was an unforgettable experience for one who had not handled snow since early childhood. For 30 or 40 miles the snow covered everything to a depth of two feet. But most impressive and to me surprising was Mt. Cook itself. I had never seen this peak closer than from Timaru and my preconceptions of it were based on the 2½d Pictorial of 1935 and numerous photos taken from the same place. This spot, where two slopes form a "V" in which Cook is framed as it were, lies very close to the Hermitage, in fact the view from the Hotel is almost that seen on the stamp. From this angle the mountain is not nearly as impressive as when seen from about 15-20 miles away. I had always thought that while Cook was higher than the neighbouring peaks it would not loom so very much more impressively since those peaks were also lofty. In fact, from the shores of Lake Tekapo (which is a drowned glacier valley) New Zealand's highest mountain literally dwarfs everything else in sight. Far from being lost in a maze of high mountains, as I had imagined, it appears strangely isolated and literally colossal in size. Probably many readers share my previous ignorance of the Alps so some explanation of the features seen on the 2½d Pictorial may be of interest.

Looking at the stamp, the dark slope on the right is the foot of Mt. Wakefield (6561 feet), this mountain being part of the Mt. Cook range. The stamp hardly conveys the fact that Mt. Cook (12349 feet) is nearly twice this height. The left slope looks smaller but is actually the eastern side of the main range, hereabouts dominated by Mt. Sefton (10,359 feet), The Footstool (9073 feet) and Mt. La Perouse (10101 feet). Mt. Cook is not part of this main north-south range. The Hooker glacier lies behind the left slope while the Ball, Hochstetter and Tasman glaciers are on the eastern side behind Mt. Wakefield. The nearer peak of Cook is not the highest of the three which crown Aorangi (the cloud-piercer) as the Maoris call it. Personally I thought "cloud-maker" would be a better name. On a clear day, with a westerly wind, one can see a constant series of clouds forming to the east of the mountain and drifting off over Canterbury.

ASIAN WAR COVERS

1. We have a small number of covers posted from Hong Kong and Singapore immediately after liberation in 1945. These are of considerable interest and we believe of some rarity.
 - (a) N.Z. Insurance Co. Ltd. cover posted in Hong Kong, front stamped with four cachets. One in black is of Chinese characters. Two others in purple read "No Service" and "Detained in Hong Kong by Japanese from December 1941 to September 1945." Finally appears the French word "Retour" in black. Two George VI 15 cent stamps are postmarked "Victoria Hong Kong 4 Dec. 1941". The cover _____

- (b) Covers to N.Z. Ins. Co. Ltd., Auckland, postmarked 4 De 1945 and stamped in black. "Passed Free/Surface Postage/24 Oct. 1945." The cover 60/-
- (c) Cover marked with a large black cachet "Hong Kong/Postage Paid/1945"; postmarked later "Sydney N.S.W. 22 Oct. 1945." Addressed to the N.Z. Insurance Co. Ltd., Auckland. The cover 65/-

GREAT BRITAIN BOOKLET PANES

2. (a) A Booklet pane of 6 of the 2½d red Elizabeth. With this we include a block of 6 from an ordinary non-booklet sheet to show the use of different dies. In the booklet stamps the front, square ornament on the coronet is outlined in colour. In the "normal" the top of the square lacks outline. The two blocks of 6 (good stocks held) 4/-
- (b) A set of 3 George and 2 Elizabeth panes, all of the 1d value, all containing 3 stamps and 3 "blanks." All differ in the lettering on the "blanks" or in shade. Interesting and cheap at, the set of 5 panes 2/6

GREAT BRITAIN

3. (a) Soon to be withdrawn. The 1951 set. 2/6 (H.M.S. Victory), 5/- (white cliffs of Dover) and 10/- (St. George). All mint 25/-
- (b) Fine used copies of the 2/- H.M.S. Victory, each 9d
- (c) Fine used copies of the 5/- Cliffs of Dover, each 1/3
- (d) Superb (really splendid) copies of the 10/- St. George. This is a stamp which must be good. Fine buying at, each 3/-
- (e) Finest used copies of the 1951 £1 (Coat of Arms). Again a really good prospect. All G.B. £1 stamps are good. Each 12/6
- (f) The obsolete £1 brown of 1939 (Medallion type). Fine used 15/-
- (g) The scarce 10/- dark blue of 1939, fine used (S.G. 25/-) 15/-
- (h) Complete set of 4 values G.B. Coronations 1953. 2½d, 4d, 1/3 and 1/6. All finest used, picked copies. The set 2/3
- (i) Coronation 1/3 value finest used 1/-; 1/6 value finest used 1/-

ANTARCTICA

4. A lot of outstanding interest comprising a cover with the 1d Ed. VII Land stamp, cancelled by the Expedition postmark and also at Wellington when readdressed to Nelson marked "per Nimrod, Antarctic Exp. Lieut. E. H. Shackleton." Also the 1d Victoria Land used on piece with the well known Penguin and "Terra Nova" badge. Finally (perhaps best of all) the 1d Universal, Royle Plate, **no overprint**—off cover but with very clear postmark "Brit Antarctic Expd. N.Z. Fe 27 '08." The three pieces £5

COOK ISLANDS

5. **Cook Islands Federation (First Type).**
- (a) 1d black on white paper (S.G.5). A fine mint **block of 6** 50/-
- (b) 1½d mauve on white paper (S.G.6), fine mint 10/-
- (c) 2½d blue on toned paper (S.G.3). Mint 12/6
- (d) 10d carmine, a superb used **pair** on white paper 90/-
6. **Makea and Torea Types.**
- (a) 1d, 1½d, 2½d, 5d and 10d values (S.G.16, 17, 19, 20, 22) all fine used on a single registered cover. Rarotonga 5 Ap 1896 (catalogued S.G.23/9r, V.C.19/6). The Cover 20/-
- (b) **The 1d blue (S.G.16) bisected** and used with two other 1d blues on a cover from Rarotonga, 4 Ap. 1896. We know nothing of this uncatalogued bisect beyond that it has been genuinely used. (There is an N.Z. back-stamp 14 Ap. 1896). Could be a very rare item. The cover £7 10/-
- (c) **6d Torea S.G. 21.** A fine used **block of 4** deep purple 20/-
- (d) **1d brown, Crown overprint.** S.G.26, fine used 65/-
7. **Penrhyn Island.**
- (a) Complete set of 1920 Pictorials (no wmk) used on cover to Wellington in 1922. Fine condition 20/-
- (b) 2½d George V 14 x 14½ deep blue. (V.C.21, S.G.24) in fine used block of 4 7/6

ALL ORDERS TO
CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD.
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Visitors are always welcome at our place of business, 82 Queenstown Rd., Auckland, S.E.3.