

CAMPBELL PATERSON'S NEWSLETTER

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENTS

By CAMPBELL PATERSON

By special request of the Chairman of the 1955 Exhibition Committee I publish here an important notice for all who intend making entries in the various competitive classes.

Exhibition Entries. Entries in the N.Z. International Stamp Exhibition are coming to hand steadily, but with very few exceptions these entries are all from overseas collectors. It is realised that many persons are inclined to leave matters such as this to the last minute but in this instance it would be of very considerable assistance to the Committee to have the **Provisional Entry forms returned now**. This is of the utmost importance in the case of those collectors who desire to take from space and display the highlights of their collections. At the time of writing (22nd Sept.) less than 50 frames remain available so that unless collectors in N.Z. move very quickly and send in their entries they will find that all available frame space has already been booked and no opportunity will be available for displaying their philatelic gems.

The problem of "rust" affecting mint stamps is one which causes a great deal of concern to collectors in New Zealand and particularly in northern parts where the general humidity of the atmosphere is high. Most collectors know that the trouble is not rust such as attacks ferrous metals; it is in fact a fungoid growth similar to mildew. The cause is precisely the same—damp conditions. That last point is certainly not fully appreciated. Many collectors think that provided the place where an album is kept is dry that is all that is necessary. Far more important is it to see that the album pages (and therefore the stamps) are dry when put away. It is not often realised what a large amount of moisture paper can absorb but the simple experiment of placing a stamp near a source of heat will show. The stamp of course curls up. It follows that stamps which are lying flat must contain more moisture and so they do. Within reason this does no harm over a short period but all stamps should be given a regular airing in a sunny or artificially heated atmosphere. Closing within the leaves of the album precludes any movement of air, the moisture is trapped within the fabric of the paper and fungus or mildew gets a chance to grow. Even a short enclosed period is bad if the moisture content is high. For instance I have known stamps to stick to a desktop in humid weather if left gum downwards overnight. It is certainly foolish to put stamps away in any such damp condition.

There is however no reason why any collector need fear rust. Provided he keeps the danger of damp in mind and takes sensible precautions, giving his album pages regular airing (simple turning of the pages in a dry atmosphere is enough) he will never need to worry. But he can also use artificial methods of rust prevention to make assurance doubly sure. A good friend of mine who has a magnificent collection of mint N.Z., including 19th century issues, uses both Thymol crystals and Carbon Tetrachloride and loses no sleep whatever over the rust problem. He has kindly given me a short description of his methods for the guidance of our readers and I will pass this on in the November Newsletter.

6d Kiwi 1902 "Lisbon Superfine" paper

A block of this provisional issue recently purchased by us showed the LISBON SUPERFINE watermark letters **reversed**, that is, they read normally when viewed from the back of the stamps. This may be exceptional or it may be quite commonly met with. I do not know. Would readers be kind enough to report how their copies are watermarked?

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CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD.

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STOCKTAKING DISCOVERIES

We have been busy stocktaking recently and as always have uncovered some fine pieces and stamps which we had forgotten we had. Also some lines in which stocks are rather heavy and must be thinned out. We offer below some of these good and bargain lots. The list will continue into the next Newsletter.

- 49 **Edward VII**
- (a) A really faultless unmounted and truly "mint" selvage block of 4 of the 6d comprising two vertical pairs with the combined perfs 14 x 13½ and 14 x 14½. This is one of the scarcest of N.Z. "se-tenant" perfs and in such a perfect block is seldom seen. The shade is a bright carmine of almost aniline intensity. The block **£5**
- (b) The attractive 2d stamp (p. 14 x 14½) in a fine range of six shades mint ranging from purple through rosy mauve to very pale. All stamps are in finest condition. Bargain price, the set **12/6**
- (c) The scarce 3d perf 14 x 13½ mint. Can be supplied in two different shades. Singles, each **16/6**
- (d) The scarce 6d perf 14 x 13½. Two shades are in stock, one deep carmine the other the same as Lot 49a. Singles, each **17/6**
- (e) 4d orange, perf 14 x 14½ Mint. We can make a very special bargain offer here. Catalogued (C.P.) 4/6, price, each (Blocks pro rata) **2/-**
- (f) 4d orange, Perf 14 line mint. Another smashing bargain. (Cat. 4/6), each **3/-**
- (g) 4d orange as Lot 49f, but used. (Cat. 3/6). We have fine copies at 3/- and "not-so-fine" (postmarks a trifle more generous) at **2/-**
- (h) 4d yellow. Perf 14 x 14½. A good stamp, mint at reduced price. Each **2/-**
- (i) 5d perf 14 line mint. Two shades available, deep chocolate brown and deep brown. The two (Cat. 17/6) **13/6**
- (j) 5d perf 14 x 14½ mint. A fine range of 4 shades from brown to deep reddish **16/6**
- (k) 5d Vert. pairs. Available in deep brown and deep reddish brown. Each vert. pair **12/6**. Also in stock, a superb mint block similar to Lot 49a. The block **25/-**
- (l) 6d perf 14 line. Either carmine or deep carmine. Mint, each **10/-**
- 51 **Pre-1855 Cover.** An envelope without stamps bearing postmarks "Gravesend My 8, 1850"; "Ship-letter London My 9, 1850"; Auckland New-Zealand Oc 9 1850"; Wellington New-Zealand No. 6 1850". Addressed to "Wellington, Port Nicholson, New Zealand" and marked in red ink "1 oz, 2/8". Also in black, "per ship to sail May 10th 1850". This fine old cover **90/-**
- 52 **Great Barrier Pigeongram**
The 1/- blue inscribed Pigeon Gram (P.G. 4 in Pim's Catalogue) **used on complete flimsy** with full clear impression of the canceling stamp dated Sep. 2 1899. This flimsy also bears the scarce "Copyright" rubber stamp impression. The message is from 'Charlie' to a "Mrs Pitt". Charlie asks — "How are you bobbing up?". Complete flimsies are of very considerable scarcity. The flimsy **£20**
- 53 **1932 Health block**
A lovely mint double strip of 20 of the Hygeia. From the bottom of the sheet, shows numerous retouches. Catalogued £26/10/-, (S.G. £35), a snip for the wide-awake collector **£20**
- 54 **½d Newspaper**
An **unused** newspaper wrapper of the 1890's with the small ½d stamp impressed. Perfect condition **7/6**
- 55 **Niue variety**
The 6d Coronation (1937) of N.Z. overprinted NIUE. A block of 4 with plate number 3L, the stamp adjacent to the plate number showing the clear re-entry beside the D in the N.E. Corner. The variety block **6/6**
- 56 **Full-face rarity**
One of the most difficult of the Full Faces is the imperf 1d on pelure paper (S.G. 81, C.P. A1q). We have a fine used specimen sound in all respects, in fact the best we have seen for a long time. Will be sent on approval of course. Good color and margins, light p/mark. The rarity **£33**