

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)

The New Healths: I have heard some very adverse comment on the new issue and little favourable. Criticism ranges from a complaint that the child "does not look like a New Zealand child" to a fairly general reaction that the stamps are "colourless," "washed out" and "nondescript." Now I can hardly be accused of having lavished praise on earlier designs. For years to me they have been a succession of dull, unattractively coloured stamps in designs that are maudlin, sentimental and stereotyped. This year they seem to me to show a vast improvement. In colour, printing, size and treatment of the design I see them as artistic and dignified stamps—something to compare favourably with similar Swiss children's issues. But it seems I must be quite wrong—the public apparently likes the recipe as before. I think I had better give up commenting on designs!

Sales of the New Healths: A Press Association message in the "Herald" on the 20th October gave the "gross" sales of Health Stamps up to October 15th (i.e., after a fortnight on sale) as "£110,758—an increase of £18,011 over the same period last year." The message proceeds to give other figures all in the same vein of "increased sales." Nowhere is there any reminder that this year there are three stamps in the set as against two last year—an omission which may seem of no importance, but which does in fact make the message misleading for anyone who reads it (as most would do) as indicating substantially increased funds for the Health Camps.

It is fair, I think, when assessing what will be the Camps' share of the gross total, to presume that equal quantities of each value have been sold. This would be the position in the case of the large First Day Cover demand and the huge wholesale orders for overseas—both of which would come in the first fortnight. Later there might well be greater sales of the 1½d + ½d for Christmas cards, but as against this the 3d + 1d, being for ordinary letter mail, will (one imagines) keep pace with the other two stamps. Working then on the reasonable hypothesis that the figure of £110,758 represents the result of the sale of a certain number of complete sets, we find that the number of sets sold (at 9d per set) is 2,953,546. Last year, assessed at the same date, the gross sales (£92,747) represented (at 5d per set) a total sale of 4,451,856 sets. These figures would seem to bear out the prophecies which have been made that the increase in the face value of the set would cause decreased sales. On the other hand, I suppose it could be argued that without the new value the returns would have been substantially less than last year. One would say on the figures that overseas orders this year must have been for many less sets, though higher in total value. But that is not the whole story. When the figures are further analysed a position is revealed that can be

pleasing only to the F. & T. Dept. A comparative table will show best what I mean. (Figures are for the first fortnight of the campaign.)

	Sales	Sets	Gov. Share	Camps' Share
1954	£92,747	4,451,856	£64,922	£27,825
1955	£110,758	2,953,546	£79,992	£30,766

These figures show that (presuming other factors have remained unchanged) the results of the introduction of a new value have been:

- 1 The public has paid more, to the sum of £18,011.
- 2 Of this increase the Government gets £15,070.
- 3 Of the same increase the Camps get £2941.

But, it may be said, the ratio of the Government's share to the Camps' share is not 15 to 3, as it would appear here, but 13 to 5 (i.e., 6½d to 2½d in every 9d). The apparent anomaly is caused by the fact that last year the "Postage" proportion was seven-tenths, "Health" three-tenths. This year it is "Postage" thirteen-eighteenths, "Health" five-eighteenths. This is a lesser share to "Health," with the result that the "Camps" action in asking for a larger set has netted them an extra paltry £2941, while adding £15,000 to the "Postage" intake. The situation calls for speedy rectification. It is not to gain results like these that people buy Health stamps.

Whoever it was on the Camps Committee who thought up an extra stamp with a high face value and a low Health premium would surely have an assured future in the Minister of Finance's Department. Such a flair for increasing public revenue should be extremely useful to the Minister around Budget time.

Given a suitable sense of humour one can get a good laugh out of the thought of the Camps Federation paying half of the printing costs and thousands of pounds on advertising!

Been Squz Yet? A paragraph in a recent letter from a correspondent will no doubt ring a bell with many readers here and in Australia and Great Britain. He writes:

"The Credit Squeeze is affecting me too—mainly by the fact that those who are being squeeze are withholding payments to me, thus creating a squeeze on me!"

3d 1955 Centennial Varieties: A peculiar and unexplained variety has been seen on a few stamps of the first 3 vertical rows on Plate 1B. It takes the form of a black appearance affecting the deepest parts of the design as if some darker ink had been in use and the plate had not been efficiently cleaned before the red ink was applied. It could perhaps be caused by cleaning fluid—the effect is somewhat similar to that seen sometimes in the 2d Whare. On Row 2 No. 3 of the same plate a white patch is seen on the Queen's chin, caused by a weakness or absence of shading dots. I

do not know if this was constant on all sheets, but it certainly appeared on several.

1931 Airs—a peculiar perforation: The "14 x 14½" perforation used for all values of this set has been receiving some scrutiny from Mr W. R. Vercoe, of Auckland. He has uncovered the peculiar fact that it is not in fact a 14½ perf on the sides. Careful gauging gives a perf gauging 15 for six holes, the rest being 14 with, if anything, a tendency toward 13½. "his may not be the case for all the short legs of the comb, but it certainly applies in most cases, judging from those in stock.

Healths—Misplaced Imprints: Mr Vercoe also comments on the imprint of Frame Plate 2 in the 2d + 1d 1954 Health. This imprint lies "off the straight," in relation to the stamps, to a degree quite appreciable to the naked eye. Not an important point, but a peculiar one in these days of precision machinery. The Y of "Surrey" is ½mm nearer the stamps than is the B of "Bradbury." A similar misplacing in slightly lesser degree is seen on Frame Plate 1 of the current 1½d + ½d Health, again a Bradbury imprint.

A VOYAGE TO AMERICA IN 1853

Editor's Note: We continue John Wilson's account of his voyage on an immigrant ship. Very similar conditions were doubtless quite usual on ships sailing to New Zealand at the same period. Our admiration for the hardness of our pioneers cannot but be increased by Wilson's narrative. He is if anything too "delicate" in his account, saying practically nothing of what must have been an appallingly "thick" atmosphere. The imagination boggles at the thought of such a mass of damp and often sick humanity—unwashed for 46 days.

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We had a number of deaths on the passage, some 10 or 12 I think. I remember one woman who had a baby on her knee who was very sick and apparently dying. She was sitting at her bedside on a box with the child when there came a sudden lurch of the ship. She was thrown off her seat and when she scrambled up again the child was dead. As I have said I believe 5-6ths of the passengers were Irish Roman Catholics. Once or twice they lighted one of their holy candles when someone was dying, but were immediately ordered to put it out for fear of fire. I mind one very rough day when there was a good deal of screaming and praying. There was an Irishman with his wife and family occupied two berths, the one directly above the other. He was in the lower one with some of the family, while she occupied the upper one with some of the younger children. He had a bottle in his hand out of which he poured some liquid on those who were beside him and then stretching out his arm he threw some of the contents on his wife on the bed above. "Holy Mother," she cries, "what's that?" "It's a drop of the blessed Holy water in our distress," he said. This was often had recourse to when the weather was rough, though that was the only time I saw it thrown from a distance.

Amid all these ills however I found opportunity to pen an epistle to my wife whom I had left at home, which ran thus:

I ken fu' well thy earnest prayer
Nicht after nicht will be,
That I would be the special care
O Him Wha rules the sea,
And when we hear the whistlin win'
And rattling blast doth see,
I ken ye'll specially think on aye
And that aye will be me.

And hae I e'er deserved sic love,
Sae tender and sae true,
And what hae I e'er done to prove
As strong a love for you?

Mere words would fail me to express
A' I would say to thee.
I send enclosed a kiss to Bess,
Which you maun pay for me;
Wee Mary plump and rosy tae,
Anither ye maun gie,
Likewise my Johnnie's cheek maun hae
A like salute frae thee.

The infant twins, fu' well I ken
Thy lip they often pree,
But gie them just an extra aye,
And say that it's frae me—

And oh how gaily I'll repay
Whene'er your face I see,
And this and liker debts ye may
Hae standing against me.

The wild Atlantic's waves may roll
And bear me o'er the sea,
But tho' they bore me to the Pole,
My heart is still wi' thee;
There's naething here but want and
care,

This prison on the sea,
And whiles I think that never mair
Your smile will gladden me.

The rough Atlantic's raging wave
Doon on our ship does flee,
And threatens us a watery grave,
Far far frae home and thee.

Of a' the days that mark my life,
The happiest aye will be
When I rejoin my ain dear wife—
The day I meet wi' thee.

A voyage of this kind however is anything but favourable to the manufacture of poetry and a lot of more miserable half-starved wretches can hardly be imagined, than were the passengers on board that vessel. It had got such a straining in the gale we encountered in the first night of our voyage that there was a constant leaking and an eternal creaking. The bed clothes were almost always wet. Hunger was pressing upon us so hard that it was difficult to fall asleep and when an uneasy doze would come on, with its dreams of groaning dinner tables, we wakened to the wretched realities of the place, with our hair soaked with the water oozing through the chinks and trickling down on our heads. With our appetite still further sharpened by the recent dream and nothing to appease it, you may imagine the plight we were in.

There was an Irishman who had made the passage before and had a good stock laid up to meet such a casualty with whom I scraped up an acquaintance and bought biscuits and cakes from him at an exorbitant price as long as he had them to dispose of, but his stock likewise became exhausted and the nearer we approached the land of promise our hardsips grew harder. The ship's allowance was utterly inadequate to sustain us, being about a biscuit a day, with a chance of some of the rice or porridge if the weather was good, which was seldom the case. The provisions which the passengers had laid in for themselves, being now utterly exhausted, so that they had nothing to steal from one another, led to a result which somewhat mitigated our sufferings. One night when we were all in our bunks, probably calculating how long we would take from that moment to finish half a dozen pies, if we had the chance, for the ever constant cravings of hunger prevented us from musing on anything else, some of the passengers broke into the ship's store room, which was on the lower deck and divided from our place by a temporary wooden partition. The oatmeal and flour and biscuits were all packed in barrels and had simply to be rolled out to the light of the lamp, the end knocked out and the contents were laid open. My friend and I lay

in our beds and looked on. The scene of operations was not far from our bunk, but we knew from the character of the captain, as well as of the officers and crew, that if anyone had been caught in the act he or she would have been shot on the spot without mercy, consequently we took no share of the plunder. But the scene was ludicrous in the extreme. Fancy a barrel turned out containing biscuits, and a man here and a woman there making a rush from their beds in the usual night habiliments to the centre of attraction and making a grab at a lot, dart away with them into the darkness like so many rats. And then there was the frequent collisions between parties running to and from the barrel and the falling and sprawling of those who were the weaker vessels, and the odd and indescribable pictures they presented in their frantic efforts to secure the provender, at the same time tugging violently to keep their night gear in proper order, is easier imagined than described. The affair seemed to have been preconcerted, for one was watching while another was breaking open the barrels, another handing out the contents to all comers. At the time when a barrel of oatmeal had been tapped a woman among the rest made a rush for the digging. Expecting to get an armful of biscuit, she was not prepared for a supply of oatmeal, but the moments were precious and the goods were valuable. Remember, this is no made-up story, but a solemn fact, witnessed by myself. Well, you know the poor woman had to make the best shift she could under the circumstances. She could not afford the time to run back for something to carry the meal in. Consequently she turned up the tail of her shift, ever such a small morsel, as she would have done an apron if she had had one. The man was shovelling it out with the middle board of the top of the barrel, an admirable scoop, which would life perhaps 5 or 6 pounds at a time. In pitching in the first shovelful, the garment in question was dragged down so that she had to hunker down collier fashion to rearrange matters, another couple of shovelfuls was now hastily thrown in, there was plenty of room under the altered conditions, but now came the poser—how was she to get up? There was no time to stand or even hunker on ceremonies. She must get away and the meal must be kept. At this moment my attention, and let us hope that of the rest, was drawn toward something else, and when we looked again, behold she was gone. The whole affair occupied but a few minutes, during which I think some 6 or 8 barrels were disposed of, when the chief performers were scared by the steward coming down and a watch was set upon the store for the remainder of that night. The captain came down next morning armed with a pair of pistols, followed by the mate and one or two seamen carrying hatchets to smash open the chests or barrels of those who might be reluctant to open them in the search for the

stolen provisions. It was only however a demonstration to strike terror to the already cowed and half-starved crowd and nothing was done to any particular one in consequence. An armed guard however was placed in the store room during the remainder of the voyage, and the mate came down occasionally and sold us some biscuits, which was an alleviation to some extent of our former sufferings. As I have said the weather in general was stormy, although we had some good days. Sometimes we were becalmed, which was more disagreeable in one sense than when blowing hard, as we then knew we were making no progress in our journey. Forty-six mortal days in such a place, surrounded with all the comforts and elegancies of which I have mentioned, is not exactly a voyage which we would wish to be prolonged. Yet some of these calm days presented a variation which helped to break the dull monotony of our existence. On one of them when we were crossing the banks of Newfoundland, the captain and one of the passengers who had provided himself with the necessary lines and hooks, had a day's fishing and they caught about a dozen codfish each, which met with a ready sale at fabulous prices. But these sort of days were the exception, the stormy ones were the rule. Sometimes a heavy wave would strike the bows of the ship with a clap that would make her shiver from end to end, and the passengers shivered too, I assure you. But I never saw any of the mountain waves that I have read about. As near as I could calculate, the surface of the ocean would never be agitated more than perhaps 20 feet, that is, the waves 20 feet high. I have said that owing to the strain in the first storm the vessel was leaking a little during the whole voyage and the captain, calculating I daresay on the assistance of the passengers, had not his full complement of a crew, and as the pump had to be kept going often, especially when it was blowing hard, the passengers had this job. And those who were the most willing workers got the best share of the porridge. When a wave would break on the ship and send a sheet of water thundering down the open hatchway it resembled for a couple of moments as if the ship had foundered and we were going down and already below the surface. And if the pumps were wanted to be brought in the night time and the sailors otherwise engaged the steward would come down, and, going to some of the men's beds, would whisper, "I don't want to alarm the women, but if you have any regard for the safety of the ship you had better come up and give us half an hour at the pump." And the poor fellows would come down after a while dripping like Newfoundland dogs. But our ship stood the buffeting well and crawled across safely. We had calculated upon the voyage being made in some 20 or 24 days.

(To be concluded.)

The Invention of the Perforating Machine:

Our good friend, Mr T. I. Robinson, of Wolverhampton (where the Wolves come from), last year sent me a little paragraph which I think well worthy of reprinting, though this is the first space I have had available.

"This year (1954) is the centenary of the official perforating of stamps. Although the Archer patent for the perforating machine was accepted in 1849, it was not until January 28, 1854, that the machine was set up in Somerset House and perforated sheets of stamps were issued. It is interesting to note that the machine was a comb machine and had a device for feeding the sheets, which in principle is still used on machines in use today. The editor of Gibbons' Stamp Monthly makes the following note, which is probably of interest: Photostat copies of the Archer patent specification No. 12,340, A.D. 1848, are obtainable from the Patent Office, London; the price is 2/8.

"Great credit must be given to Archer for perfecting his machine to such a point that little more has been added to the idea since. It was undoubtedly ahead of its

time, as it had to wait until stamps were better aligned in the sheet and the sheets not subject to variation in size, before the machine produced its best work."

The first stamps were themselves a most remarkable invention. Like Archer's machine, they reached near-perfection in one bound as it were. It is a quite astonishing fact and a perfect tribute to the craftsmen responsible that today, 115 years later, the "standard" type of ordinary postage stamp shows no improvements whatsoever over its earliest predecessors other than in having perforations.

In size, format, basic design, type of printing (recess), balance of design, lettering, paper, gum, watermark and, not least, in artistic merit, these stamps have not been improved upon. Despite her would-be detractors, cases like these show that it was no accident that Great Britain attained world leadership in the industrial field.

Carbon Tetrachloride:

In November we published a letter from an experienced collector advocating the use of this fluid as a cleaning and sterilising agent. It will be recalled that I disclaimed any personal experience of it. Probably as a result of our mentioning it, the R.P.S.N.Z. Newsletter has published a solemn warning of the bad effects on liver and kidneys that result from the use of this (apparently) highly poisonous substance. Inasmuch as carbon tetrachloride is openly sold to the public as a cleaning agent, without restrictions of any kind, it would seem that either the R.P.S.N.Z. Newsletter is being alarmist or the public is being exposed to dire danger. For although bottles of the fluid are marked POISON and an antidote is prescribed for cases where it is "taken internally," no warning of danger from the fumes is given—and this is the danger we are now warned about. It is not suggested that collectors are using carb-tet. as a substitute for their daily tot of gin or meths. But I would be the last to scoff at such a warning since I cannot speak with any authority myself, so I would strongly advise everyone to cease using carb-tet., at least until advice is obtained from a chemist. It is also pointed out that a few stamps (the 3d George V brown, surface-print, in particular) are adversely affected in shade by the use of carb-tet. By and large, it would seem that fame and fortune still await the discoverer of some sterilising chemical which will adversely affect neither the collection nor the collector.

2d FULL-FACE QUEEN VICTORIA RETOUCHES

The story is well known of how the 2d Plate 2 was damaged and numerous impressions had to be retouched, most of them being easily recognisable by peculiarities of appearance. Our offers are of 2d stamps in both **blue** and **orange** printings, matched in many cases with **the same impressions in black plate proofs**. We believe that these offers are probably unique in the history of N.Z. stamp dealing.

- 73 (a) R17/8 in **blue**, R17/9 and R17/10 in **orange**, all being very distinctive impressions. The stamps are accompanied by a **strip of the same three impressions in black**. The stamps are all good copies, R17/10 being on the scarcer No Watermark paper. The set of 6 **72/6**
- (b) R13/12 and R14/12 are outstanding impressions in that a curved area of damage has affected both, making them among the more easily recognised of the impressions on the plate. A remarkable offer: **both impressions in blue, both in orange** (one repaired) and both (in a block) in **black proof form**. Can you beat this? The set of 4 stamps and 4 proofs **50/-**
- (c) Rows 19 and 20, Nos. 4 to 7 in a block of 8 proofs (this is from the area of maximum retouching). Stamps to accompany the block are: R19/7 in orange, R20 Nos. 5 and 6 in orange, R20/7 (very fine) in blue. Postmarks on two of the oranges are liberal, but the retouching readily seen. This lot could be added to by a keen collector setting himself to get the missing stamps in both blue and orange—making a replating of this distinctive block. The set of 4 stamps and 8 proofs **£5**
- (d) Similar lot of (c) above, this is a corner block of 6 black proofs, inc. Nos. 1 to 3 in Rows 19 and 20. To match with stamps in both colours would take 12 stamps, wouldn't it? Believe it or not, we can provide 6 of them, three blue and three orange. We have

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Visitors are welcome at 115 Orakei Rd., Remuera, S.E.2.

- R19/1 in blue, R19/3 in both colours, R20/2 in both colours and R20/3 in orange. All are major retouches and all finely used. One orange (small defect) is perf 10 x 12½ and another (a splendid retouch) has the Rangitata manuscript postmark. The set, 6 stamps, 6 proofs £8
- (e) Smaller lot. A pair of proofs R18/1 and 18/2 accompanied by a nice copy of R18/1 in orange. This is a major retouch. One stamp, 2 proofs 30/-
- (f) An unusual piece, being a stamp from the top of the sheet with recognisable features (99% of the varieties are in the lower half). Row 1 No. 12 in orange, together with a corner block of black proofs (including R1/12 of course). One stamp, 4 proofs 35/-
- (g) R19/10 and R20/9 both major retouches in orange (one no watermark), together with the same striking impressions in black (in a block of 4). Two stamps, 4 proofs 60/-
- (h) R16/1 in blue. This impression is in pale blue with bar postmark, but matches well with its companion proof (which is in pair with R17/1). One stamp, 2 proofs 24/-
- (j) No proofs this time, but four major orange retouches, all from Row 18. They are Nos. 4, 5, 7, 8. R18/7 is of the No Watermark issue and the same impression is repeated in blue (not so fine), making a set of five in all 95/-
- (k) 2d No wmk unused R18/7 retouch; 2d blue same retouch; 2d 10 x 12½ orange R18/4 retouch. All major varieties, but all slightly defective. The three 35/-

74: **First Sideface Collection:**

A small but unusually attractive collection, mainly used singles, but some mint and a few used pairs. Ask to see on approval. The total (C.P.) catalogue figure is close to £100 and the price most reasonable. There are 113 Sidefaces in all. Mints include 1d and 3d perf 12½, 1d 10 x 12½, 1d (3), 2d, 6d, 1/- and 5/- (2, all perf 12 x 11½. "Blued papers" include fine examples of the 1d (5 including a pair) 2d and 6d. The perf 10 x 12½ is well represented with 1d (3), 2d, 3d (2), 4d, 6d (3) and 1/- (4). The collection is mounted on hinged leaves suitable for "Peerless" or any Godden peg album. "Thrown in" with the Sidefaces is a 4-page collection of 57 Newspaper stamps. These include some mint and pairs, etc. Well worth seeing at our price £35

OUTSTANDING VARIETY OFFERS

This is "variety" month at C.P. Ltd. We have seldom had a nicer range of popular varieties than at present.

- 75 **1946 Health Blurred Centre:** The striking "golden brown" centres found only in the "blurred" prints. A must for the complete Health collection. We offer blocks, but anyone wanting singles at pro rata rates should ask for them. The two values, golden blurred centres, in selvedge blocks of 4 (8 stamps) £8
- 76 **George V Vertical 2 perf pairs:** A complete set of vertical pairs of each value of the George V set with top stamp 4 x 13½, bottom stamp 14 x 14½ (position reversed in the 5d). Set includes 1½d, 2d violet, 2d yellow, 3d, 4d yellow, 4d violet, 4½d, 5d, 6d, 7½d, 8d blue, 9d and 1/-. The 1/- pair, incidentally, is in the scarcer vermilion shade, while the 6d is in the scarce and attractive pink-carmine shade. Cat. (C.P.) £16/10/-. The set of 14 pairs £14
- 77 **George V 4d Major Re-entries:** The two most interesting re-entries in all N.Z. stamps, both in mint blocks of 4 in the violet shade. Row 1 No. 6 shows traces of original 1½d value; Row 4 No. 10 shows traces of the original 2½d. The block including R4/10 shows the two perf: 14 x 13½ for the top stamps, 14 x 14½ for the lower. The two blocks £6
- 78 **George V, 1d Field Marshal, Abnormal issue Mint:** The very scarce stamp with reversed watermark, only one or two sheets seem ever to have existed. Cat. C.P. 70/-, this is a special offer while the few we have last. Single, 40/-; block £8
- 79 **George V Invert Wmks:** The 2d perf 14 on Wiggins Teape paper, mint, plus the 1d Field Marshal also on W. Teape, used, and the 2d perf 14 on Cowan, used—all three with inverted watermarks. These are all scarce varieties, the 1d not having been listed before in our Catalogue. The three stamps 30/-

- 80 **1½d Maori Cooking Pictorial:** The very scarce purple-brown shade (Multiple wmk) in superbly used strip of 4. Demand has forced a price rise here, but this, perhaps the most outstanding genuine colour variation in the Pictorial set, is worth every penny of our price. We include in the offer another equally fine used strip of 4, this one in the normal red-brown shade. Someone is going to be delighted with these two splendid strips. Price the two (eight stamps) 40/-
- 81 **Express Delivery Invert Wmk:** The Motor Car type with inverted watermark—only 120 copies are known to exist. From a very small supply we can supply single mint copies at 25/- each. Block of 4 £5
- 82 **1d Dominion Litho Varieties — Mint:**
- (a) With litho wmk on the front—a rarity; special offer 95/-
 - (b) With black (excellent example) litho 40/-
 - (c) With colourless litho (horiz. mesh paper); special offer 60/-
- 83 **1d Universal Varieties—**
- (a) **GS1a. Reserve Plate:** A pair with the two large holes at the sides and between the stamps. "Roulettes" 9½ at one end. Very fine appearance, one stamp has a small thin. The pair £8
 - (b) **GS1a Reserve and Dot Plates—**one of each. Cat. £10. Neither is a top grade stamp, both somewhat soiled, one off centre. Unused. Cheap, the two 45/-
 - (c) **GS4b Reserve Plate:** A single mint, imperf all round, previously hinged, but otherwise a very fine specimen £5
 - (d) **G4a Cowan No Wmk:** Mint perf 14. A brilliant mint single in the brightest, most obviously aniline shade we have ever seen in any Universal 10/-
- 84 **1d Taupo:** For the 1898 specialist. A mint single in which the centre is a deep indigo—a shade we have never seen before. The frame is in the scarcer brown shade 20/-
- 85 **Edward VII Invert:** A used copy of the 8d perf 14 x 13½ with invert wmk. Really scarce 20/-
- 86 **½d Mt. Cook:** Pair (F4b) unused, imperf vertically, cat. £4. One stamp is defective, but this is a scarce variety. The pair 40/-
- 87 **6d Kiwi Letter Watermarks:** A finely used selvedge strip of 4; one stamp completely without watermark, the other three bearing the complete watermark letters ZEA. The piece 10/-
- 88 **2/- Captain Cook Varieties:**
- (a) The good variety "2 dots over bow" (R9/2), in the good perf 13½ x 14 multiple watermark. A superb used, well centred stamp 25/-
 - (b) The same variety plus the equally good "coconuts" (R8/2), both in the good perf 13½ x 14, both rather untidily cancelled and somewhat off centre. The two 15/-
- 89 **Health Varieties:**
- (a) 1948 2d + 1d. We have a new variety here, position unknown except that it is in Row 9. A clear straight line in red projects upward from the frame just in front of the boy's right foot. Prominent and relatively large, this is constant, since we have quite a few examples. In block of 4 mint 2/6
 - (b) The ever popular "No do; under D," 1949 issue. Cat. S.G. at 50/-. In block of 4 mint 25/-
 - (c) 1950 Guides. Row 2/10 with prominent variety "white spot behind knee." In block of 4 mint 5/-
- 90 **5d Swordfish, Plate Block Varieties:** Plate 2, perf 13½ x 13½ (the final issue) in four different stages. (1) No varieties; (2) flaw on T of Postage R9/1; (3) plate badly pitted; (4) pitting gone, major re-entry on R10/1. The interesting set of blocks 35/-
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- 91 **George VI Rarity:** The 2d Provisional of 1941 with the very scarce variety "2 inserted in second printing operation." Perhaps the foremost N.Z. variety of recent times—certainly one of the most sought after. The variety in block of 4, mint £25
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- 92 **1d Otago. Watermark Inverted:** This is a must for those who partook of our recent variety blocks. In the 1d, 2d and 6d Otago. Reasonably priced too at (mint) 12/6