

Campbell Paterson's Newsletter

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

Registered at the G.P.O. Wellington as a Magazine.

This Newsletter gives valuable information. Retain it for reference purposes.
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Terms for all items offered in these Lists.—All lots are offered subject to being unsold. Please give alternatives where possible, as many lots can only be offered once. Any lots sent on approval to known clients. Complete satisfaction is guaranteed on all lots offered.

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT

by Campbell Paterson

Apology. A humble apology is due to Mr. Roy Heath of London for the cavalier fashion in which his authorship of some notes last month was treated. His was the very interesting paragraph on the 9d Peace Plate varieties (Newsletter August, 1957). Roy is an indefatigable student of the "Peace" and 1935-47 Pictorials and a regular contributor of N.Z. articles to the philatelic press.

New Healths. The advance photographs and other details of the forthcoming (Sept. 25th.) issue have now been released. There are several interesting points to note but the most controversial is the decision to issue miniature sheets—not through the usual Post Office channels, it would seem, but apparently through the Health Camps Federation only. Although nothing is definite we understand there is a possibility the "miniature" sheets may be sold from a stall (or stalls) insofar as Auckland is concerned.

In an editorial, "Stamp Collecting" for July 12th criticises this new departure strongly and indeed it is at this distance not easy to see the point behind the unusual procedure. Whether one views "miniature sheets" as desirable or not it is surely odd that the P.O. should not sell them. To place the handling of what will certainly be collectable pieces solely in the hands of a private organisation is a proceeding which could set an undesirable precedent.

As to the preparation of miniature sheets—this is nothing new in philately. At one time Nazi Germany and other states of similarly high ideals used to meet the great demand for this sort of fancy item. I have somewhat lost touch with the "foreign" philatelic world these last few years but I have the impression that miniature sheets are now considered to be a somewhat too blatant effort to relieve the philatelists of their loose cash. More finesse is used these days—states which were formerly counted as being mostly producers of flies and bananas reveal by their stamps that they are in fact unequalled for the diversity of their flora and fauna. Again, states hitherto blooming unseen in darkest Afrasia turn out to be leading contenders for Olympic honours—if one can credit the evidence of their stamps showing athletes of surpassing beauty. All of which proves but once again that N.Z. lags behind in these matters. Not for us the gentle guile that brings out the philatelist's pennies—as the old saying goes, a nod is a good as a wink to a blind horse and no doubt the philatelicly retarded N.Z. collector will be pathetically grateful for this "new" curiosity which is about to blanket his album page.

From the appearance of this brain-child it is evident that the Committee of the Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Health Stamps has been in a huddle as to how to increase sales. None of them (apparently) having gone to the trouble of finding out what philately is or what makes it tick, one can visualise the scene in the Committee Room after the Chairman has called for ideas. A deadly silence is broken by the Oldest Member (he is the one who caused some embarrassment in 1932—he had forgotten his glasses and thought that Hygeia was a girl guide—but he was old then); anyhow the O.M. breaks the silence by suggesting that something "with children in it" would be popular and so cause a huge demand. This is too much even for the Chairman, who recalls that there were two children under a tree one year—cannot recall which—so he taps the O.M. on the head with the gavel and calls on the Second Oldest Member for something better. This brings the response that the 2nd O.M. seems to recall

(continued on back page)

SOMETHING FOR ISLAND COLLECTORS

Lot 412

Our buying department has picked up some well preserved mint copies of some of the Dependencies overprints as set out below. The prices are based on Verne Collins "Islands" Catalogue last issued in 1952 so are worth having at those prices. Remember all are mint except for the last two offers.

Cook Islands. 1926-28 Cowan paper 2/- and 3/- Admirals (3/- slightly "rubbed") Cat. Verne Collilus 17/6d, the pair	12/6d,
1936 Cowan Arms Type 2/-, 5/-, 10/- and the later Wig. Teape printing on single wmk. paper of the £1—the set of four Cat. £4/16/0	£3/10/0
Niue. 1927-28 2/- Admiral on both Jones & Cowan paper. Cat. 10/-; 5/- respectively— Jones 7/6d, Cowan	3/6d
1941-45 Wig. Teape single wmk. 10/- at 22/6d, £1 at	£2/0/0
Wig. Teape multiple wmk. Arms 2/6d, 5/-, 10/-, £1 at face value	£1/17/6
Rarotonga. 1926-28. The Admiral set as issued with 2/- Jones paper, 2/- and 3/- Cowan. The three stamps Cat. £1/5/0 for	£1/0/0
1936 Cowan Arms 2/6d, 5/-, 10/- and £1 Cat. £4/2/6d	£3
Samoa. 1926-27 Admiral 2/-, 3/- on Jones paper—the 2/- has a rounded corner. The two Cat. 17/6d	10/-
As above but on Cowan paper, perfect. The two	17/6d
1935 Cowan Arms 2/6d, 5/-, 10/- and £1 Cat. £4/15/-	£3/10/0
1941-48 2/6d, 5/-, 10/-, £1 overprinted "Western Samoa" on multiple wmk. Wig. Teape. The four at face value	£1/17/6
Special. Two very neat looking registered "Niue" envelopes one with a fine pair of 3d Geo. V Recess and the other a 3d Geo. V and 1d Dominion and both with early type registration labels cancelled 11th Nov. 18 and 17 Sept. 18 respectively. The 11th Nov. coincides of course with the World War I cessation of hostilities on what is now known as Armistice Day. The fine covers, each	£1/10/0
Tokelau Islands. First Day Covers of three stamps as originally issued on June 22nd, 1948. Each Cover.	3/-
Complete sets 1946 Peace issue 1d, 2d, 6d, 8d overprinted Cook Islands. The four values used	1/3d
As above but overprinted "Niue"—the four values used	1/3d

EDWARD VII

Lot 413

Along with the Geo. V Recess stamps, this issue is generally voted tops for fine colours and general appeal. There is enough material in the offers below to get together a really "eye taking" section of these popular stamps.

	Mint	Used		Mint	Used
(a) $\frac{1}{2}$ d green perf. 14 x 15	1/-	1d	5d deep brown	6/6d	1/-
yellow-green	1/-	1d	deep red-brown	5/-	8d
blurred print (booklet) -	1/-	1/-	off-centred a little	3/6d	-
Perf. 14 x 14$\frac{1}{2}$			Excellent set of 4 shades	3/6d	3/6d
2d mauve	2/6d	9d	6d carmine	12/6d	3d
rosy-mauve	2/6d	9d	pale carmine	12/6d	3d
pale rosy-mauve	2/6d	9d	aniline shade	-	9d
3d deep chestnut	4/6d	4d	8d Indigo	6/-	-
bistre-brown	4/6d	4d	off-centred a little	4/6d	-
chestnut	4d	4d	deep bright-blue	10/-	1/-
4d red-orange	4/6d	-	Two good shades bright-blue	17/6d	-
off-centred	3/9d	-			
4d yellow	3/6d	1/6d			
not so fine	-	9d			
bright yellow	-	1/6d			

(b) Perf. 14 line	1/- orange-vermilion ...	15/-	2/-
3d chestnut (centred slightly	not so fine	-	1/-
to right	12/6d -		
good used	-	1/3d	
4d red-orange (good stocks permit	6d carmine	12/6d	2/6d
a special price).....	not so fine used	-	1/6d
not so fine used			
5d deep brown	6/6d	3/-	
deep red-brown ...	5/-	1/6d	
(c) Scarce perf. 14 x 13½			
3d Chestnut (two shades available)	6d carmine	12/6d	2/6d
.....	not so fine used	-	1/6d
a little off-centre	8d "Sideways" wmk.	5/-	-
Heavily cancelled, cheap -	6d carmine	17/6d	12/6d
5d deep brown	not so well centred	13/6d	-
deep red-brown	outstanding "aniline"	20/-	-
"Chatter print" giving blurred	8d Indigo blue	10/-	-
affect	deep bright blue.....	7/6d	6d

PHILATELIC ACCESSORIES

Arricators. These useful little coloured arrows are just the thing for drawing quick attention to your plate varieties. Available in red, black and green—per packet of 100

1/6d

412 Inspector. Once again in stock, this is an indispensable **MUST** for the serious philatelist. Obtainable in two models—battery or 230v A.C. power, they are superb 10 magnification illuminated magnifiers. We strongly advise the power operated one but either is a decided asset with its perspex head allowing use without assistance in all but the poorest of visibility.

230 volt A.C. model (posted)

£5/0/0

Battery model (posted)

£3/5/0

Stockbooks. We are the agents for the now famous, beautifully bound and slotted A.S.A. type stockbook. Transparent slots, linen hinges, brass screws, stiff rexine cover, all go to make this article THE stockbook. Leaves are approximately 7½" x 9"

(a) 6 leaf (12 page) standard size

32/6d

(b) 12 leaf (24 page) double size

£3

Postage 1/- extra on both the above.

Albums. Here we can offer you a selection from two well known and old established album-making firms—Frank Godden and Rapkins. We will mention some of the better class albums but please make enquiries for other types. Postage extra on all albums.

F.G. Graduate 75 unhinged leaves. 8 5/8" x 10¼" Peg fitting with glassine interleaving and rexine cloth in Royal Blue

£2/12/6

F.G. Burleigh. Possibly the most popular. 75 Hinged leaves with glassine interleaving attached. Peg fitting, size 8 5/8" x 10¼" leaves with rexine cloth cover. Red-brown and Blue available

£4/2/6

F.G. Warwick. This has been acclaimed by a large number of philatelists as offering the acme of service with durability in the constant handling of a collection "in the making." 75 Leaves 8 5/8" x 10½", doubly hinged, faint grey quadrille ruled, glassine protected and standard peg fitting leaves. Binding is in first class dark blue rexine

£6/10/0

Rapkins "Crown." This is a springback type with 75 heavy white leaves and grey quadrille ruled. Size 11 1/8" x 9¾". Morocco-grained cloth cover in Red, Green or Blue

36/-

Rapkins "Favourite." Similar to the above but with two patent stops and bevelled boards covered in morocco-grained cloth

40/-

that when he was a boy he had a collection of stamps and it was very valuable (he had one stamp that was issued in 1750 with Wakatipu spelt wrong)—anyhow among his finest pieces was a stamp, or was it four stamps all different, or were they all the same, anyhow he remembers they, or it, were, or was, surrounded by a lot of waste paper and this made this piece very valuable. So why not do that? Everyone being anxious to get on to more important matters the idea is adopted with great enthusiasm.

But enough of nonsense. One continues to hope that some day it will be realised that selling Health Stamps is like selling anything else. If your product appeals it will sell—if not, not. You can step the sales up temporarily by advertising gimmicks or novelties—you can even defy the law of diminishing returns by putting the price up (3 values instead of 2) but if the goods are shoddy and poorly presented you will fail in the end. There is only one way to increase Health Stamp sales year after year and that is to make them more and more attractive to an ever wider circle. And you do not do that by adhering to worn out themes. Once again I call attention to the brilliant idea (not mine) of portraying a series of Fairy Tale characters. This series could be spread over a period of years and if imaginatively handled in two or more colours could become the most popular set ever issued. What about it?

The designs this year could be worse. The bathing scene shows no imagination and little animation. The life-savers in action is better but not much. But we have had lots worse and the two colours may help a lot.

It is well that the issue has reverted to two values only. The issue of three values had resulted in a loss of goodwill and last year a drop in gross sales. This year the Federation will almost certainly face another drop in income since their share on the sale of a complete set is now 2d instead of 2½d. Only by heavily increasing the total sales can they hope to recover this loss. And once again I say that only by making their product more attractive to a greater number of people can they hope to do that.

Latest News. Just before going to press we have been advised that the miniature sheets are to be sold in—of all places—Woolworth's Stores. Granted the status of these sheets is not high among the philatelic world but surely they deserved a better fate.

LOCAL NEWS

Q.E. News. 6d issue in half sheets. It has lately been brought to our notice that half sheets from the new 9d Plates 1A 2A, 1B 2B have been issued with the usual alteration to “£6” crossed out and “£3” substituted on pane 1B 2B and “£3” inserted (no sheet value previously) on 1A 2A. This is not a new innovation; as collectors will know, sheets from the earlier Plates 1A 1A and 1B 1B were similarly issued and also half sheets from both 1/- Plates have been in earlier circulation. While nothing is known definitely of the reasons behind this practise it seems certain that half sheets have been salvaged from some damaged printings and made use of. In these 1A 2A, 1B 2B half sheets the sheet values can be identified from earlier 1A 1A, 1B 1B half sheets by the fact that, whereas the 1A 1A panes had the “£3” over R1/9, the 1A 2A have it over R1/10; the 1B 2B panes with “£3” substituted for “£6” have the newly inserted value appreciably closer to the old one than in the earlier 1B 1B panes.

1/- Inverted Watermark. Mr. Colin Henwood—yes he's done it again—has come to light with a used copy having inverted watermark. It is from Plate 1A 1A or 1B 1B and has been in circulation for some time as it shows a machine roller cancellation “Wellington 1955.”

Commemoratives. Mr. J. Whincop of Napier has been putting in some good work too and sends in for examination two hitherto unknown inverted watermarks from the 2d 1855-1955 Postage Stamp Centenary and the recently issued 3d Plunket. Both are used but in neither case is the town of origin decipherable. Congratulations

3d Plunket Thick Paper. We have been shown an example block of the Plunket Jubilee on really thick paper. Although as usual there is a good proportion of the issue on “intermediate” type paper, there is also a goodly proportion on paper of quite thinnish qualities, the thick paper making an astonishing contrast

against this latter. The shade is noticeably pinker and this variety is well worth watching for.