

Campbell Paterson's NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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LONDON NEWSLETTER

(by Campbell Paterson)

Rugby at Twickenham. I cannot pretend that this Note has anything to do with stamps but I am quite unrepentant about that. To most New Zealanders I believe a little chat on football will come as a cool drink in the desert. (The desert that to some at least stretches in long monotony from October to April). This one is on me.

I cannot give a learned appraisal of the state of English Rugby at this time for I have seen only a few games so far and all these at Twickenham. I can say though that what I have seen leads me to believe that the next All Blacks are going to have their work cut out to come back with a record comparable with that of their predecessors. The game is in a very healthy state and gaining in popularity in an entirely new way. For several weeks now there has been a heated controversy going on in the main Daily and Sunday newspapers, mainly in the form of cries of dismay from soccer fans at what they think is the unfair way in which headmasters all over the country are switching their schools from what they call "Football" to "Rugger." As to the headmasters' motives I cannot say, I can only suppose that it is because Rugby is, (as we all know), a better game. That at least was the final crushing answer given by one head of a Grammar School when with others he was interviewed on T.V. only last night by the B.B.C. sports reporter. Some boys who have been switched over were also interviewed and seemed generally well satisfied with their lot. It does seem that it is not just newspaper talk but a genuine trend. Of course the big Public Schools, with one or two noteworthy exceptions like Charterhouse, have long given Rugby preference—what is exciting comment is the fact that the Grammar Schools, which are the equivalent of our High Schools and which have in the past been mainly Soccer schools, are now turning to Rugby in increasing numbers. It is interesting to speculate on the reasons for this. Perhaps there are many like myself who find something repellent in some of the established customs of Soccer players such as the hysterical adulation heaped on a goal-scorer by his team mates—not only after some brilliant piece to play but every time a goal is scored. Also the vehement protests directed at the referee by maybe half the team when a penalty is awarded against them. Be that as it may, it must be worry for the Soccer authorities. Not that Soccer is on its way out I am sure. Immense crowds still follow the game each week and come away well satisfied. I am sure everyone present reckoned he had got his money's worth the day I saw Tottenham Hotspur play Nottingham Forest. Probably because they were a newly promoted team and at that stage enjoying a grand run of victories, the Forest played an inspired game and came from being two goals down to win 4-3. On the evidence that day, Soccer is a truly scientific game and a joy to watch. But I am supposed to be writing about Rugby.

I have been to Twickenham four times in all—twice to see Harlequins, playing club games, once to see them against Cambridge University and once for the game Wallabies v London Counties. The Harlequins play a delightfully free and open game and mostly this season it has paid dividends. I saw them run Llanelly properly into the ground—no mean feat. The Wallabies' game was a bit disappointing. The Australians managed to draw but were lucky to do so and on only one occasion showed any penetration in the backs. However that one occasion was so good that one wondered why they had not walked home to a big win. The fact was that the Counties were good and the Aussies no better—which they will have to be to measure up to International standards. I should have said that the Harlequins, who use Twickenham as their home ground, are this year generally accounted the top club team in the country. "Club team" does not mean what it means in Auckland. It has a standard almost up to Inter-Pro.

SCARCE ITEMS

Lot No. 515

- (a) **CHALON PROOFS.** This offer is of the lovely posthumous proofs taken from the impressions laid down from the original Master Transfer Roller for the benefit of the Herts Philatelic Society. The set is of 14 proofs, all on white card showing a huge margin all round. Being from the original Die, in a superb range of colours, they are eminently collectable. They are in fact every bit the equal in excellence of production of the original London prints. There are five types, differing only in the value tablet. It must be understood that, tablet is either blank or filled in with lettering or fancy designs. Types: (a) Tablets blank, black and green-blue (2); (b) Tablet with wavy lines and short strokes, colours as for (a) above; (c) Tablet with straight lines, colours black, blue and vermilion; (d) Tablet with wavy line and dots, colours as for (a); (e) Tablet with "H.P.S. 4th. June, 1907" a lovely range of five, in black, ultramarine, red-brown, carmine and vermilion. The superb set of 14, as fresh as the day they were printed. £20
- (b) **O.P.S.O. ON COVER.** A cover dated May 3rd., 1894, "On Public Service Only," from the G.P.O. Wellington, and addressed to a Madame Somebody (name erased), in Brussels, Belgium. It is one of the P. & T. Department's own envelopes. Now this, in our opinion, is the only form in which the O.P.S.O. Officials can be accepted as absolutely unquestioned since the over-print is easily (and often) forged. But since the use of these stamps was restricted to the G.P.O. this cover fills all requirements. The discerning collector who know a good thing when he sees it, will jump at this opportunity. The stamp is the 2½d Second Sideface, perf 10, and except for the erasure (why will they do these things?) is in top grade condition. Price 90/-
- (c) **CHRISTCHURCH EXHIBITION BLOCKS.** A complete set of four well-centred blocks mint, colours fine and fresh. Scarc in blocks. Price £19/10/0

1898 PICTORIAL COLLECTIONS

516

We have two small mint collections of these colourful stamps, regarded by many as the finest issue in our postal history. It seems a pity to break them up before giving someone a chance to incorporate them into their collection as they stand.

- (a) The 1902-1903 Perf 11 watermarked issue covering the 2½d to 1/- values in a wide range of shades. 2½d pair and two singles; 3d two blocks and a pair plus "no watermark" pair; 4d two blocks; 5d single, pair and block; 6d two singles, three blocks (including the scarce "carmine-pink" shade) plus a pair "no wmk.;" 8d three singles and block; 9d pair in "brownish-lake;" 1/- two singles, pair and four blocks. The collection, valued at over £26 ... £21
- (b) The 1906 Perf 14 group covering 1½d to 2/- values, again rich in shades and high-lighted by the scarce variety, 4d value imperf. vertically in pair. 1½d block of four; 2d three singles, three pairs and four blocks (including aniline shades); 2½d imperf. pair; 5d pair; 6d three singles and pair; 8d single and block; 9d single and block; 1/- pair and block; 2/- single and two pairs. This collection, cataloguing over £28 £23

SECOND SIDEFACE QUEENS— A GRAND OPPORTUNITY

517

It will not be news to collectors who have been trying to complete sets of these semi-classics" when we say that they are becoming more difficult all the time to get hold of in mint condition. Nevertheless we have a few of the perforation groups we can offer in **MINT MOUNTED SETS.** (On Frank Godden "Burleigh leaves).

- (a) **Original Perf. 12 x 11½ 6mm watermark.** The complete set of seven stamps; 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d (no gum), 6d, 8d (no gum) and 1/-. Worth having and catalogued at £7/17/6d £4/15/0
- (b) **Perf 12 x 11½ on the 7mm watermark paper**—the set of twelve; (complete except for the 6d DIE II rarity) ½d, 1d DIE I, 1d DIE 2, 2d DIE I, 2d DIE 2, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d DIE I, 8d and 1/-. Cat. £5/15/6d £4/15/0
- (c) **Rotary Perf II**—the complete set of ten, all good condition except for a pin-hole in the 5d value. Comprising ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d and 1/-. Cat. £3/11/8. £3/4/0

SIDEFACE ADVERTISEMENTS IN RECONSTRUCTED STYLE

We can offer something here of special interest in the form of the complete third setting of Advertisement 2d value stamps—240 stamps in all mounted one pane of 60 stamps to a page. Someone who wants to strengthen their early issues should welcome this chance to snap up this seldom offered material.

The four mounted panes on F.G. type leaves £12

Good Used Sets on Burleigh Leaves

518 How often are these offered in perforation groups as under:—

- (a) **Original Perf 12 x 11½ 6mm wmk.** Complete set of seven as in “a” above plus examples of the 1d and 2d retouched Dies (background lines opened up) £1/7/6
- (b) **Perf 12 x 11½ 7mm wmk.** A set of twelve (includes the interesting 1d “substituted electro”) and needing only the scarcer ½d and 6d DIE 2 to complete—naturally these will be noted for later delivery if requested. The set as described £1/12/6
- (c) **Perf 10.** The complete set of eleven; ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d DIE I, 6d DIE 2, 8d and 1/- £2/7/6
- (d) **Perf 10 x 11.** The complete set of nine values issued in this perforation; ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d and 1/- plus the much scarcer ½d **perf 11 x 10.** The ten stamps £1/7/6
- (e) **Rotary Perf 11.** The complete set of ten values; ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d 6d, 8d and 1/- £1/2/6

519

These Offers are worth looking through, too!

- (a) D1c S.G. 226 scarce perf 11 x 10 used 6/-
- (b) D2c 1d “substituted electro”—Die 2 electro used to replace a faulty Die I and showing the “wedge” shaped flaw opposite first “E” of REVENUE, used 7/6d
- (c) D2p S.G. 201 with watermark **inverted and reversed**, mint 17/6d
- (d) D2p “Chisel” flaw mint 3/6d
- (e) D2j S.G.214 “Chisel” flaw and **advert on back**, mint 7/6d
- (f) D3a original Die I, perf 12 x 11½ with mushy background lines, mint 5/-
- (g) D3a as above but retouched (clear background), mint 10/-
- (h) D3d S.G. 242—the first 12½ 2d DIE 2 rarity on 7mm paper—nicely used with undetracting crease. Cat. £5 £5
- (i) D3f as above but perf machine used again temporarily in 1890 on 4mm paper and even scarcer than the “first use” stamps—attractive used. Catalogued at £6 £4/10/0
- (j) The difficult “Life Insurance” paper stamps, perf 12 x 11½—these are in used. D2g 1d val. 1/-; D3e 2d val. 1/6d; D4a 2½ val. 2/6d; D5c 3d val. 7/6d; D8c 6d val. 4/-
- (k) **Advertisements on back used.** D5e 3d val. 5/-; D9e 8d val. 10/-; D10e 1/- val. 7/6d

520 **Blocks of four mint**

- (a) D1c S.G.226 3/-
- (b) D1h S.G.292 4/-
- (c) D2p S.G.201 3/6d
- (d) D3e RARE Life Insurance paper £2
- (e) D4e S.G.216 30/-

- (f) D4j S.G.203 25/-
- (g) D5h S.G.206 30/-
- (h) D7a S.G.196 (horiz. perfs off centre) 20/-
- (i) D9d S.G.211 (horiz. perfs off centre) 45/-

521 D7d S.G.222 **used** block of four 14/-

D10a **used** block of six slightly heavy “squared circle” cancellation but scarce thus 40/-

CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD., C/o Post Office, Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2

T e l e p h o n e : 2 0 . 6 2 1

vincial in New Zealand and the "Quins" play teams like Llanelly, Cardiff and Leicester—in fact City teams and only just short of County standard. Well, as I say, the "Quins" are really good and include three or four Internationals. So I had to see them play Cambridge University. What a lovely game it was—one of those that one will bore one's grandchildren talking about. Rather one-sided though, for the 'Varsity made this top-grade team look pedestrian. This seems likely to be a Cambridge vintage year and since they include at least two giants of the game, men the All Blacks will certainly meet, I may be forgiven by my non-Rugby-mad readers if I take up just a little more space on this match. One of the giants is a forward—name of Marques. Mark it well, you will hear of him again, especially in the line-outs. The other is the Scottish International right-wing, Smith. That day we saw him score four glorious tries, every one a gem and all quite different. The first was an orthodox wing try but lovely to watch for the ease with which he outpaced both his opposite number and the fullback. Next, a beauty following his sudden appearance between five eighth and centre on the opposite side of the field; thirdly a copy-book punt over the fullback's head and grand ball control in the final dribble over the line; lastly a solo weaving run from inside his own twenty-five past half the opposition to score in the corner. That's Rugby. The other wing, Leonard, more of the power-drive type, scored a fine couple, too. Finally I have to warn New Zealand that one Loveday habitually does his goal-kicking from inside his own half. He shocked the Aussies by doing that one Saturday, then did it again on this day, just to let us see how it is done. The peculiar thing is from that distance the ball does not just skim the bar, it goes over like a Sputnik. I find I am nearly forgetting to give the core. It was Cambridge U. 33, Harlequins 3. Next week brings the Cambridge v Oxford game. I will be there.

LOCAL NOTES

3/6d Arms Type 2 Lettering. We had imagined this "sans serif" lettering to be confined to the last printings with multiple inverted watermark but we have been shown it on multiple upright watermark paper—a new Catalogue listing.

Booklets. A new series has been issued having new design 1d stamps as well as the previously issued 3d. The Eveready, Ford and BP advertisements appear in different form and the Thrift Club replaces N.Z. Forest Service on the inside of the back cover. There has also been some alteration to the page on "postage rates."

½d Victoria Land. A very interesting and hitherto unreported variety of this overprint on the ½d Edward VII was shown us recently. This stamp was "without stop" after LAND. Although the 1d value is known similarly (Row 7 No. 5), we have not previously heard of the ½d. According to information, after having overprinted the d value a new set of type for the overprinting work on the ½d was used so that the position in which this "no stop" could have occurred is unknown. Assuming that it occurred once on a sheet, and keeping in mind that the total number of this value ran only to 2400, it will be seen that, at the most, only ten copies can exist.

1855-1955 Postage Centenary "blurred centre." Over two years after the issue of this set, a nice variety in the form of a "blurred centre" (Plate Block 1A 1A) has come to light. This has been kindly shown us by Mr. H. Robinson of Auckland.

Middle value Coils with double-lap-joints. Mr. Cox, whose notes appeared in November Newsletter now writes as follows: It is possible to find some of the 9d, /- and 1/6d coil rolls with evidence of two separate joins (1/- and 1/6d examples enclosed).

After numbering, sheets are gummed together to form a sheet-width roll. The Mid-value stamp rolls are composed of alternate "A" and "B" panes, with an un-numbered joint at the centre between each 8 stamps of the 16 stamp section. Here the top of a "B" pane has been gummed to the bottom of a "B" pane, the mistake noticed and the panel of stamps cut off but leaving the selvage attached. The correct "A" pane has then been gummed on.

3d Edward VII varieties. From Mr. R. Samuel of Waimate comes used copies of the 3d perf. 14 x 14½, one ordinary, two Official showing clear doubling of the bottom frame line and horizontal lines above the "letters of value" panel on each side of the circular inset containing the Monarch's head. Although one of the Official stamps shows the doubling particularly strongly, there are so many points of similarity that all may be from the one plate position.