

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.
Nov. Vol. 10, No. 4, 1958 Issued Monthly—Subscriptions, 6/- per annum.

All lots offered subject to being unsold and will be sent on approval to known clients. Complete satisfaction is guaranteed on all lots offered.

Postage Extra on Orders Under 10/-.

6d Kingsford Smith—a Real Puzzler.

In my last Notes (Oct. Supplement) I called attention to the stars on Row 10, Nos. 9 and 10, of the Kingsford Smith sheets from **both plates**. Those who have had the opportunity will have spotted the rather remarkable fact that the top star on R8/10 and the bottom left star on R8/9 show **identical flaws on both Plates 1 and 2**. Other minor flaws and marks are duplicated on both plates and careful measurement of the width of the spaces between the impressions leaves no doubt whatsoever that the two Kingsford Smith plates are in fact perfect facsimiles of each other—except for their plate numbers and imprints.

First to notice this was Mr. C. S. Mayer of Auckland—to whom congratulations on stirring up what should be a most interesting and enlightening controversy.

For the benefit of the uninitiated I should say here that the size of the flaws on ~~R8/9~~ and ~~R8/10~~ is of no significance at all. As flaws they are hardly worth noting. Their whole significance (and it is a big significance) lies in the fact that they prove the two plates to be as alike as identical twins.

Now under usual methods of production of recess plates such perfect identity is impossible. It just could not be and does not make sense. So where do we go from there? I have written to Mr. Watts of the Stamps Division asking if he can throw any light on this problem. He may be able to tell us of some new method of plate production, or in some other way enlighten us. But there is no reason why we should not do a bit of theorising in the mean time.

The immediate reaction of everyone who knows the facts (of sheets from both plates showing identical characteristics) is to jump to the conclusion that there is only ONE plate but for some reason it has had its number changed! I personally do not think this is so but there is no technical reason why it should not be the case. It would be a relatively simple matter to obliterate an existing plate number and imprint and to substitute another. My reason for dismissing this idea is that it seems quite unreasonable. I can imagine no circumstances that would call for the changing of a plate number.

So, dismissing the possibility of one plate with two numbers we can accept it that here we have two plates identical to a degree hitherto unknown (to me) in recess-printing.

The most obvious way to make an exact facsimile of anything is by photographic methods and we have to consider whether these plates could be constructed by medium of a photographic negative of 120 images taken from a single Master die. The negative would be used on a sensitised plate and the latter would then be "etched" by chemical action. Such etching would result in the surface of the plate being eaten away in places and left unaffected in others. In other words it would be an effective medium for recess (intaglio) printing. This same method is used in the production of photogravure plates, though there the recessed depth is much less than in an intaglio plate. It was also used for the 1932 Healths (Hygeia), so it is far from being unknown. In these Healths we do get the incidence of varieties common to both plates—but we also get a host of other varieties peculiar to one plate. These last were the result of shortcomings in the etching methods used in 1932. The technique may have been greatly improved so that now we could perhaps have two plates with features common to both but no features peculiar to one. To reiterate then, if a photographic etching method is in use, it follows that any defects on the negative will be faithfully reproduced on both plates; the theory therefore fits the facts. But I cannot say I feel convinced. For one thing, if this technique is in use in Australia one would expect to hear of Australian plates showing identical peculiarities—I have not heard of any.

Another, but far-fetched, theory suggests that a master-plate is laid down by transfer roller in the usual way and from it, by means of a huge secondary

(continued on back page)

George V

Our recent offers of Edward VII 1898 Pictorials, Universals, etc., were from two splendid specialised collections. We now come to the George V and can promise that these are equally fine. We deal with them value by value as we did with the Edwards and we do not doubt they will be equally popular. N.B.—These lists contain some great bargains with prices heavily reduced—study the offers carefully, you will find it worth while. Overseas readers can order with confidence—a proportion of our stock has been set aside for your benefit.

1½d Grey, George V

123 Perf 14 x 13½. Superb mint block 4/-; Singles, mint 10d used	3d
124 Perf. 14 x 14½. Mint block 4/-; Singles, mint 10d used	3d
125 Combined Perfs. Superb mint selvedge block 15/-; pair mint	7/6d
126 Pict paper 14 x 13½. Mint block of 6, four stamps. No wmk	10/-
127 Ditto ditto. Singles mint, 1/-; mint no wmk.	2/-
128 Ditto 14 x 14½, mint block 3/-; mint block two stamps No wmk.	4/-
129 Ditto ditto. Single mint, 5d; used, 4d; No wmk. mint	1/6d
130 Ditto Combined perfs. Mint block 15/-; Mint block, one pair no wmk	20/-

2d Violet George V

131 Perf. 14 x 13½, mint single	1/9d
132 Perf 14 x 14½ Blocks, two fine shades	12/-
133 Ditto. Singles, mint 1/6d; two fine shades, mint	3/-
134 Combined perfs. Pairs mint, deep violet and deep bright violet, the two pairs	15/-
135 Ditto. The above shades in superb mint blocks	27/6d
136 Ditto. Single pair either shade, mint	7/6d

2d Yellow George V

137 Perf 14 x 13½. Superb mint block 12/6d; single, mint	3/3d
138 Perf 14 x 14½, block mint, 7/6d; single mint	1/9d
139 Combined perfs. Two superb mint blocks, diff. shades	20/-
140 Ditto. Pair, mint	5/-
141 Pict paper, perf 14. Single, mint 1/-; No wmk, mint	20/-

2½d Blue, George V

142 Perf 14 x 13½. Two superb mint blocks, deep blue and slate blue	14/-
143 Ditto. Block, either shade, 6/6d; single mint, 1/9d; used	9d
143 Perf 14 x 14½. Singles, mint, slate blue, 3/6d; deep blue	3/6d
144 Ditto. Superb block, deep blue, selvedge	13/6d
145 Combined perfs. Blocks mint, two fine deep shades	45/-
146 Ditto. Pair, mint,	12/-

3d Brown, George V

147 Perf 14 x 13½. A choice lot of 5 singles, mint, in 5 diff. shades, 3 are worn plate	17/6d
148 Ditto. Similar to above, three shades (two worn)	10/-
149 Ditto. Singles mint, 3/6d; used	4d
150 Perf 14 x 14½. A fine lot of three mint shades, singles, two being worn plate	7/6d
151 Ditto. Single, mint 2/6d used, 4d Single, mint, worn	2/9d
152 Combined perfs. A really magnificent set of four blocks in four beautiful shades, two are worn plate	90/-
153 Ditto. Equally fine, three shades (two worn) in mint pairs	35/-
154 Ditto. Mint pair, deep early print, unworn	10/6d
155 Ditto. Mint pair, warm brown shade, worn plate	12/6d
156 Pict. paper, perf. 14. Single, early print, mint	1/-
157 Ditto, ditto. Single mint, showing plate wearing. Unusual,	2/-
158 Ditto, ditto. Pair mint, one no watermark	17/6d

4d Yellow, George V

159 Perf 14 x 13½. Block, mint 8/6d; Single, mint	2/3d
160 Perf 14 x 14½. Block, mint 7/6d; Single, mint	2/-
161 Combined perfs. Two fine mint blocks, diff. shades	32/6d
162 Ditto. Pair mint	7/6d

4d Violet or Purple, George V

163 Perf 14 x 13½. A beautiful mint block, dull violet, worn plate	15/-
164 Ditto. The deep purple shade, very scarce in this perf., a block, mint,	

slightly off-centre but attractive, clean and of intense shade	55/-
165 Perf 14 x 14½. Two fine violet shades in mint blocks	27/6d
166 Ditto. As above, two shades, mint singles	7/-
167 Ditto. The deep purple shade, mint block 7/6d; single mint	1/6d
168 Ditto. A curious and interesting piece, a block of 4 as above with combined rough and clean-cut perfs. in each vertical pair	10/-
169 Combined Perfs. Two fine mint blocks in two violet shades	50/-
170 Ditto. Two fine shades in mint pairs	25/-
171 Ditto. Pair, mint, deep violet shade	12/6d

4½d Green, George V

172 Perf 14 x 13½. Mint block 12/-; mint single 3/-; mint single with plate number 21	6/-
173 Combined perfs. Two mint blocks in diff. shades	80/-
174 Ditto, mint pair	20/-
175 Ditto. Magnificent mint block of 10 (5 vert. two perf pairs)	109/-

5d Blue, George V

176 Perf 14 x 13½. Set of 5 mint pairs in three diff. shades of light blue, and one each of pale ultramarine and steel-blue. A very pretty lot (10 stamps)	55/-
177 Ditto. Five singles, mint, two shades of blue, three of steel-blue	32/6d
178 Ditto. Four singles used, two shades each of blue and steel-blue	3/6d
179 Perf 14 x 14½. One mint single of the ultramarine shade	10/-
180 Ditto. A superb mint block of the steel-blue	40/-
181 Combined Perfs. A superb mint block of four	80/-
182 Ditto. A superb mint vertical pair	40/-

6d Carmine George V

183 Perf 14 x 13½. Three superb mint blocks, rose-carmine, carmine and a brilliant aniline pink-carmine	50/-
184 Ditto. Rose-carmine, carmine and pink-carmine, singles, mint	11/-
185 Combined Perfs. Pair, mint, 55/-; block, mint (special offer)	100/-
186 Ditto. Two superb blocks, carmine and deep bright carmine	£10
187 Pict. paper, perf 14. Single, mint 2/-; block	7/6d
188 Ditto. Two fine mint blocks, diff. shades	15/-

7½d Red-brown, George V

189 Perf 14 x 13½. Single, mint 2/-; mint block	7/6d
190 Perf 14 x 14½. Single, mint 5/-; mint block	20/-
191 Combined perfs. Pair, mint 25/-; mint block	50/-

8d Blue, George V

192 Perf 14 x 13½. Single, mint 2/6d; mint block	14/-
193 Perf 14 x 14½. Single mint 2/6d; mint block	14/-
194 Combined perfs. Pair, mint, 12/6d; mint block	25/-

8d Red-brown George V

195 Perf 14 13½. Singles, mint, in red-brown and choc-brown	9/6d
196 Ditto. Blocks, mint, (centred a little high) of both shades (8 stamps)	32/-

9d Sage-green George V

197 Perf 14 x 13½. Single, mint 6/-; superb mint block	25/-
198 Ditto. Very fine used single	8d
199 Ditto. A remarkable and beautiful block in pale yellow-olive	40/-
200 Perf 14 x 14½. Single, mint, 10/-; fine, used	3/6d
201 Ditto. A fine mint strip of four	40/-
202 Combined perfs. Superb mint pair 45/-; superb mint block	90/-

1/- Orange-vermilion, George V

203 Perf 14 x 13½. Single, mint 10/-; fine, used	1/-
204 Perf 14 x 14½. Single, mint 6/-; fine used	3d
205 Ditto. A fine mint block	24/-
206 Combined perfs. Pair, mint 75/-; fine block mint	£7/10/-

INSPECTOSCOPES IN STOCK AGAIN

We have a limited stock of these ideal torch magnifying glasses. Wonder of wonders the price has not risen. All are fitted with transformer-adaptor to run off your domestic power service—no constant expense for batteries. Will make a grand Christmas present.

Inspectoscope, power unit, clear plastic head, 10 x magnifier £5/8/0

TWO SUPERB COLLECTIONS ON OFFER

(a) We invite enquiries for one of the finest collections of "1935" Plate Blocks in existence. The property of one of N.Z.'s leading collectors it is of superb condition and scope. In the 4d Mitre Peak, for instance, there is a grand range of bottom strips—almost unobtainable today. **Then there is a perfect mint block of four with plate number of the 3/- (L14c) with watermark inverted and reversed.** We cannot do it justice here but anyone genuinely interested in seeing this collection has only to let us know. We will do the rest.

(b) **George VI Special Collection.** Another superb showing, being nearly complete lot of George plates plus Official plates, some variety pieces, booklet panes, coils, etc. In the Officials there are one or two plates never recorded elsewhere. Again, anyone interested should contact us.

NOTE.—The prices for these two collections will definitely be MOST REASONABLE. They were built up largely at face value and the owner has no interest in fancy profits. You may credit it or not but this is your golden opportunity.

(continued from front page)

transfer roller taking up an impression of the whole plate, any number of new plates can be made. However, (apart from the fact that the mind boggles at the thought of a roller more suitable for the front lawn), the form of the flaws, being in colour and therefore raised on the roller, seems clearly to rule out this theory—for technical reasons that I hardly think worth while to discuss here.

Current Blue Health, Border Variety. Our other recent puzzle, the reproduction of part of an extra stamp in a break in the blue border line on the left of the Blue Health sheet, beside Row 4 No. 1, may now be solvable—subject to my information being correct. It seems that at the recent 70th Anniversary celebrations of the R.P.S.N.Z. (at which, regrettably, I could not be present), the complete negative from which the plate of the 4d Meat stamp was made, was shown to members. I understand that this negative consisted of more images than appear on the plate, there being an excess of one row of images on every side of the negative. I am told that black tape had been applied around the edges of the negative to mask the extra rows, thus ensuring that when the negative was used only the correct number of images would be transferred on to the sensitised plate. Presuming that the same technique would be used for the Healths we can now surmise that a portion of the black tape was turned back, or absent, to account for the peculiar variety.

No doubt this puzzle, and that of the Kingsford Smiths will be explained in time but personally I get a lot of fun trying to solve such problems on the available evidence—and later finding just how far off the mark I have been! I recommend a bit of theorising on knotty problems as adding zest to collecting—but you have to be prepared to find yourself wrong. Then you get it in the neck, as I will probably get it for the above!

½d War Stamp, Overprint Varieties

This is one of those offers we get a kick out of making—and you will get a kick out of them, too. We offer sets of no less than 19 different overprint flaws in this neglected little stamp. Some are small, some are large, all are worthwhile and collectively they will make up a first-class page for your album. We can repeat the lot quite a few times so don't think you have no hope. They are cheap, too—less than 1/- each!

226 ½d War Stamp. 19 Different overprint varieties, in singles mint 15/-

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

Telephone: 50-621
