

# Campbell Paterson's NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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This Newsletter gives valuable information. Retain it for reference purposes.

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## NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT by Campbell Paterson

1/- Centre-plate 3 (3A and 3B). Lest there be some doubt still in anyone's mind I think it as well to list some of the major details by which the "1/- Plate 3" can be distinguished from earlier 1/- stamps—for it can be distinguished, easily, by anyone with a reasonably useful magnifying glass.

The points to note are, (1) the shading on the near sleeve as described in the April Newsletter; (2) vertical shading lines on the neck—these are few but in the "old" 1/- they are weak and disjointed; in Plate 3 they are clear and strong though not thick, and they are unbroken; (3) taken all over the Plate 3 stamps are much cleaner and finer prints than their predecessors.

These various points might conceivably be just a matter of better printing, or more care in laying down the plate—but a notable feature on Plate 3 is that while many fine and formerly weak lines (crosshatching on the sleeve for instance) are much clearer and stronger, the lines which before were thick and strong are generally less thick. Now I repeat, this could all be the result of new, improved techniques in the laying down of the plate—I doubt if that is sufficient answer though it could be—but, if it is possible that such results could be obtained from the old unretouched master die, it seems extremely doubtful whether they could be obtained from the old roller-die. Fortunately, and thanks to Arthur Dexter, we have strong evidence of the use of a new roller-die.

Careful examination of blocks from Plates 1B, 1A, 2B, 2A and 3B and 3A shows that the lower left leg of the "St. Andrews Cross" in the left square ornament on the diadem was originally long but gradually got shorter during the laying down of Plates 1B and 1A (in that order). This indicates that a small ridge of metal on the roller-die partly broke down. The same line was short all through Plates 2B and 2A but is of full length in Plates 3B and 3A. Since by no conceivable means could a tiny ridge of metal like this be reinstated on a roller-die it seems that a new roller-die must have been in use. We are now faced with the question—granted a new roller-die, how did the roller, used on the old master die, pick up, strongly, lines that were formerly weak while at the same time picking up, less strongly, or at least no more strongly—lines that previously were heavy and thick?

No one, here at least, is trying to be dogmatic or to force opinions. The aim is only to point to facts as seen on the stamps, to draw conclusions and to invite suggestions that will best explain the visible evidence.

**Westland Varieties.** As expected there is the usual crop of small varieties of the kind peculiar to photogravure. I am indebted to a number of correspondents for being very quick with their reports and only regret that no variety so far is of an outstanding nature. There has been inevitable duplication in the reports so I will just record the names, with thanks, and give a list of the small varieties found. Listing is not to be taken as indicating importance; all so far are trivial enough—but it is possible that earlier states of the plates—"pre-touching" states—could exist. This would immediately make the retouches more important. I do not anticipate anything of the kind for the varieties all look like the sort of touching up that a printer does after he has looked over the first proof sheet. Thanks, then, to Messrs. R. Samuel, A. B. Pinfold and R. Wing. Also to Miss Martin of our staff one of the few 8d finds so far—a small but clear retouch to the top of the N of NEW on R1/10.

Varieties recorded on the 2d are: A redrawing of the figure 1 of the sheet

(Notes continued on back page)

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## A 1936 PICTORIAL RARITY

Ours is the only Catalogue in the world to record the fact that the 1d Kiwi Die 1 exists with multiple watermark. Don't let that worry you—we are unique in the world with a lot of things in the Catalogue field. Anyhow this Die 1 multiple watermark is one of the scarcest plate varieties in the whole 1935-1947 Pictorial group.

120 **1d Kiwi Die 1 with Mult. Wmk.** The rarity, in pair with the normal Die 3 and easily recognisable by the difference in cloud formation and shading line behind the tree. The mint pair ..... £4

## IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK!

Get in now for those Q.E. shades and varieties while they are still obtainable. The issue has very little time left to run now before the new Pictorials arrive. We invite orders for shades listed in our Catalogue and below we offer some of the fascinating plate varieties that have made this one of N.Z.'s most fruitful issues.

## QUEEN ELIZABETH PLATE VARIETIES

121 **The Centre-Plate 2B, Row 6/10 Series.** Here is a case of one stamp undergoing two different retouches following the development of two different flaws—4 varieties, all in the same small area of the sleeve. (Catalogue listing is NCV3).

(a) A set of 5 positional blocks of 6, and one of 8, each with full selvage showing the plate numbers. The set is chosen specially to demonstrate the five states of the plate from "pre-flaw" original state to the final "second retouch" state plus the final print on white paper. The blocks, all perfect mint are:

- (1) 1/9d value with R6/10 in pre-flaw state.
- (2) 1/9d value with R6/10 showing the first flaw.
- (3) 1/9d value with R6/10 showing the first retouch.
- (4) 1/- value with R6/10 showing the second flaw.
- (5) 1/6d value with R6/10 showing the second retouch.
- (6) 1/9d value as (5) but on the thick white paper (this last is a bolck of 8 and includes also R5/10 with clear frame re-entry).

The set of six positional blocks ..... £7/5/0

(b) **Shorter set similar to (a) above.**

- (1) 9d value with R6/10 in pre-flaw state.
- (2) 1/9d value with R6/10 showing first flaw.
- (3) 1/6d value with R6/10 showing second flaw.
- (4) 1/- value with R6/10 showing second retouch.

The set of four blocks ..... £3/10/0

(c) **Still shorter set similar to (a) above.**

- (1) 1/9d value with R6/10, first flaw state.
- (2) 1/- value with R6/10, second flaw state.
- (3) 1/- value with R6/10, second retouch state.

The set of three blocks ..... £2/10/0

122 **The 1/6d Frame Plate 2A R5/10 Series.** Here we find R5/10 (not to be confused with the R5/10 mentioned in Lot 121 (a6) (above) in three positional blocks of 8. (Catalogue listing is NV12a).

- (1) 1/9d value with R5/10, heavy flaws on value figure 9 and NEW.
- (2) Similar to (1) but some attempt apparently made to remove the flaw. New flaws on N also apparent.
- (3) Similar to (1) but with R5/10 re-entered and no longer showing any signs of flaws. On the new paper. The set of three blocks ..... 70/-

123 **1/6d Frame Plate 1A R8/4 flaw and subsequent retouch.** Two corner blocks of 8, one showing the prominent flaw on R8/4, the other with strong retouching (evident to the naked eye) in the same area. Excellent examples of flaw and retouching. The two blocks (Cat. variety NV11a) ..... 45/-

124 **1/- Frame retouch, Plate 1B, Row 5/2.** This stamp also exists in two earlier states. This is the second retouched state, the retouching cleverly done but still very visible in the lines above the W of NEW. Catalogued as NV10c. In positional block of 8 with decorative design on gutter selvage. The block ..... 16/-

125 **1/- Frame retouch, Plate 1A, R7/7.** Another frame retouch—almost certainly a final state of an earlier flawed impression. In block of 6 with Imprint selvage. Variety NV10d. The block ..... 12/-

126 **1/- Frame retouch Plate 1B R6/5.** A small but definite frame retouch very similar to the better known Pl. 1A R7/2. This in block of 6 with Imprint. The block ..... 10/6d

127 **1/6d Centre Plate 1B R8/5.** The excellent "white patch" retouch (variety NCV2) in block of 4 together with a similar block, the white patch retouched out and a new flaw developing. The two blocks ..... 36/-

128 1/. "Blurred Centre." The interesting and scarce variety, essential to the complete specialised collection of Q.E. Mint ..... £5

## Q.E. BOOKLETS

We believe on good authority that these Booklets have little longer to run. Better complete your showing now.

129 "Small figures" panes.

A complete set of 4 panes, being the 1d and 3d, each with normal and each with inverted watermark ..... 11/-

130 "Large figures" panes. A complete set of 4 panes (as in lot 129), all on the old paper. (The two 3d panes have possibilities as this is the only form in which the 3d, (large figures, coarse paper) was ever issued. The 4 panes 10/-

131 "Large figures" on thick white paper. The set of 4 panes (2 normal, 2 inverted wmk.) ..... 7/-

132 Complete Booklets. To date there have been 5 different "set ups" in the Q.E. Booklets. They are:

- (1) with "Energol" ad. on back; (2) with "Viscostatic" ad. on back and including 6 airmail stickers; (3) with the 1d "small figures" and the 3d "large figures" included; (4) with both 1d and 3d in "large figures" design; (5) first use of new white paper stamps.

The complete set of 5 complete Booklets ..... 45/-

## 1d UNIVERSAL

### (Breaking up a Splendid Collection)

Most of the offers are of sections, virtually complete as studies and almost impossible to amass today. They represent the work of years. We have not thought it necessary to check the identifications—they are the work of a keen specialist and are sold as he left them.

137 The Special first day cover that was prepared for the issue, used (rather spotted) with 1d London print on the first day, 1 Jan., 1901. Also similar special Card, fine used. The two special First Day Pieces ..... 25/-

138 "Toast Card" of the Dinner of the Universal Postal Union at the Grand Hotel du Quirinal, Rome, 1906. This card, presumably issued by the U.P.U., carries a coloured facsimile of the 1d Universal—apparently the "mascot" of the U.P.U. at that time. This possibly unique piece. .... £5

139 London Print—specialised. A grand display of mint blocks, singles m & u, a proof in block, etc.—but mainly a beautifully arranged showing of the 13 major London Plates re-entries—often more than one example; accompanied by illustrative drawings mounted on seven F. G. De Luxe leaves. The collection (118 stamps) ..... £12

140 Local Plate 1—specialised. A collection similar to Lot 139—64 stamps including 32 in mint pieces, all being Cowan No Wmk. On seven F.G. De Luxe pages. The whole showing is designed to illustrate (with drawings) 8 prominent re-entries on the plate. As well as in mint, some of these re-entries are shown in several used examples. The collection ..... £8/10/0

141 Local Plate 2—specialised. A similar study, this time all but one of the 36 stamps are used. They are chosen from the Pirie, Basted Mills, etc. issues and all are used on F.G. De Luxe pages to illustrate 8 noteworthy re-entries of this plate. The collection ..... 70/-

142 Plate 3 and Reserve Plate specialised. Nine used and drawings illustrating the 5 best re-entries of Plate 3. Also 9 Reserve Plate, used, illustrating four "Reserve" re-entries. On five F.G. De Luxe leaves. The collection ..... 50/-

143 Pirie (Waterlow) Paper. A study in perfs., shades, etc. A fine study of 77 stamps—mint and used on 4 De Luxe pages. A plethora of shades in perf 11 inc. 2 used and one mint "lake"; also a used double perf, a mint pair imperf at side, with selvedge (rare) and reasonable pair imperf vertically. In the perf 14 there are shades inc. a near-lake—also a pair (with crease but handsome) imperf vertically. Finally a used mixed perf. The lot, attractive at ..... £10

144 Basted Mills Paper. On 6 De Luxe pages, a study in the "BM" issues. Many used inc. some re-entries, also mint inc. 5 blocks of four and a block of 16 perf 14 x 11 with a crease on 4 stamps but inc. a Re-entry and with invert wmk. There are three perf 11, numerous perf 14, 14 x 11 and 11 x 14 and, not least, nine used mixed perfs, six being really fine and including a beautifully used strip of 4. The collection of 116 stamps ..... £18

145 Cowan No Wmk. A small lot on two De Luxe pages giving a surprisingly good range of shades in used blocks and strips. The highlight here is undoubtedly a fine used block of four "mixed" perfs with two strips of patching still

adhering. There is also a mint pair of "mixed" and a mint single of the scarce 14 x 11. Total Cat. val. of the scarce stamps assessed as singles exceeds £22. We consider the used block of "mixed" perf probably worth the total price of ..... £20

146 "Cowan Watermarked" inc. Booklet Plate. Two De Luxe pages of the "local plates" stamps with a big show of 40 used shades and postmarks, mainly in strips or pairs—also two mint and one used "mixed" perfs and two good used copies of the very scarce 14 x 11 perf. The Catalogue value of these two alone is £7. Of the Booklet issue there **three mint panes** with well written up notation of plate position, re-entries, etc.; five others mint in pairs and a single and four used, two at least being re-entries. The very fine showing on four De Luxe pages in all ..... £22

147 Slot Machine Issues. A De Luxe page with six of the rare "slots" being Dot plate (used) and Reserve plate (mint) both with the two holes on either side. A similar "Dot" fine used on piece, dated Wellington 25 J1 1905; a pair of "Dots" mint with 9½ roulette on one side, and a single "Dot" rather heavily cancelled with "Sydney" postmark—this stamp having 9½ roulette on both sides.

The page, six genuine "slots" ..... £23

148 "Dot" Plates. Three De Luxe pages with a fine and large (25) display of "mixed" perfs in blocks mint and singles used; also one mint of the scarce 11 x 14; 10 mint perf 14 and finally a corner block of 4 superb mint, mixed perfs, with watermark number "4" in the corner selvedge. Total Cat. about £18. The lot ..... £15

149 Waterlow Plates. Three marvellous pages. The first has as centre-piece a block of 4 mint showing plate number W.1 but also on the page 35 used, all identified as W.1 re-entries—and what re-entries they are!

In many cases most of the design is doubled—condition is extremely fine, altogether a page that would take years to duplicate—if indeed it could be done. On page 2 are a block and a pair each with plate number W2 flanked by 6 grand used W2 re-entries; page 3 has pairs mint and used but notably a Plate W1 pair **imperf horizontally** and two used copies (fine appearance, one has crease) of the rare Plate W1 mixed perfs. These two alone have a C.P. Cat. value of £18. This splendid and irreplaceable collection ..... £36

150 Royle Plates. Three De Luxe pages, the first with superb mint blocks bearing the Plate numbers RI and R2. The second page carries Royles mint as follows; 7 perf 14, one perf 11 (creased) a pair per 14 x 11 and a single perf 14 x 14½. The third page shows what is perhaps the rarest piece described in this Newsletter—a mint block of 4, with selvedge, showing the arrow and 4 dots of the "4 dot" Royle Plate. We value this plate block (it is not catalogued) at approx. £20. The three "Royle" pages (including this rarity at £20 the total Cat. value of this lot is a little short of £40) ..... £30

151 Universal Plate Numbers. A set of 4, W.1, W.2, R.1, R.2, all in singles with plate number attached. All are used and fairly obviously C.T.O.—a useful lot for someone who does not feel like buying mint blocks at about £20. The set of 4 ..... £7

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(Continued from front page)

value and scratches in the LTD of the inscription; R2/2, a dot over T of THE; R5/3 retouch to left of the straight leg; R5/2 small disturbance above R of EXPLORER; R6/6, a faint but definite suggestion of colour running from the A of ZEAL to the N above the compass

A later report from Mrs. P. Purdie adds quite a few to the 2d list—all quite noticeable with a good glass but only three of any size. Very small varieties can be looked for on R1, Nos 5, 18, 19; Row 2 Nos. 1, 19, 20; Row 3 Nos. 1, 2, 3, Row 4, Nos. 2, 5, 12, Row 5 No. 12 and Row 6 No. 2. The best three are R1/15, retouch between S and S.W. points of star, R3/20 retouch between E and N.E. points of star; R5/3—as mentioned above.

Varieties recorded in the 3d; (a) Plate 4 without dot; R1/19, a retouching of some size to left of head; (b) Plate 4 with dot. R1/1 retouch on inside of straighter leg, above knee; R6/2 retouch below "dipper." The 3d sheets do contain other minor retouches, similar to those mentioned. 8d value. R1/10, mentioned before; R4/13, a clear retouch between N and T of CENT; a thin but definite scratch in colour stretches across Row 2 from R2/6 at least as far as R2/14, possibly further. It crosses the woman's skirt, descending as it proceeds to the right. R1/8 whitish lines from D of 8D to woman's face. I think it would be unwise to take the above lists as in any way complete.