

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. Vol. 11 No. 8, March, 1960 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.

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT by Campbell Paterson

Sour Grapes? In the January Newsletter of the R.P.S.N.Z., the writer "Rotide" (the Editor, looking backward) writes of events during 1959 and says, inter alia: "Printers' Waste seems to have had a benefit year and the top prize for a finder, we understand, was a brand new motor car. The leading examples were the missing red crosses, the white legged poakas and the four legged kinds of the same species. Is this necessary?"

If there is one thing clear from the above it is that "Rotide" was not the finder of any of the above varieties. Everyone is free to hold opinions (though only a very few, like "Rotide" and myself, have the opportunity to inflict them on others) but I do find it hard to believe that if "Rotide" had found a sheet of "No crosses" his opinion of them would have been quite the same. It takes a good deal of conviction to make one tear up a sheet potentially worth hundreds of pounds—which "Rotide" would surely do with "printer's waste"?

The fact is that collectors do like to have things like white legged Poakas in their collections and if enough of them are bidding the price inevitably goes up. It has always been so and always will be. All that "Rotide" may possibly achieve is to drive all the sought-after varieties overseas—where the collectors do not reject them as "printer's waste" any more than they would reject a 4d Taupo inverted centre. In any case "Rotide" is in error in calling such things "printer's waste". Scorn them if you will, they are printer's errors, not printer's waste. "Waste" is quite definitely material defective in some respect and rejected by the printer—though later salvaged and (possibly illegally) put on the market by someone else. The objects of Rotide's disgust were not rejected by the printer and were legally issued over post office counters. Which makes a difference.

Error. In the February Notes I said that the 1d Kiwi with watermark inverted in Booklets was unrecorded. I stand corrected by Ken McNaught who refers me to page 11, para. 3 of the Handbook Vol. 2. Thanks Ken.

Q.E. Coils. Bernard (Coils) Cox, gives us the dates of the coils so far seen on the new white paper. Some of these have not yet been seen here. They are: 1/9d, since 21 July, 1959; 2d and 3d since 19 Jan., 1960. This is the first large figure 3d to appear in coil form. Thanks Bernard.

Designs—whose job? Apropos of my lone crusade (Dec. Newsletter) to have our stamp designing taken out of the exclusive province of the Post Office—on the grounds that the job is beyond their scope and too important to be handled by a Department not concerned with either Art or advertising—I read with interest in "Stamp Collecting" of a furere in Australia over the recent Platypus stamp. It has received some biting criticism and the artist, Miss Mayo, in defending her work, has stated that the "P.M.G." (Post Office) people "tampered" with her original motif by all sorts of modifications, such as opening the animal's eyes under the water—and so on. "Stamp Collecting" quotes the Director of the N.S.W. Art Gallery, speaking in support of Miss Mayo, as saying of the P.O. and its allied officials: "They seem to think that because they are leaders in the community and in authority they know all about the visual arts." These are harsh words. I would not dream of saying anything so unkind about our P.O. people. I am sure they do not claim to be authorities on artistic matters—which is why not they, but someone who IS an authority should have the job of deciding on our future designs.

I have seen newspaper photos of the forthcoming Westland set. Maybe it will be acceptable when seen in its colours but it does not promise well. The designs, heavy with symbolism and sentimentality in the good old lay-it-on-with-a-trowel fashion, would look more suitable as illustrations in a children's encyclopaedia. This is Election year and I freely hand it to either of our main

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POSTAGE DUES

Lot No.

1. (a) **Second (1902-1937) Design.** A simplified set in fine mint blocks of 4. One block each of the complete set, $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, 2d and 3d. The set 18/6d
- (b) **Third (1939) Design.** A complete set, specialised, of the 4 values in blocks of 4. Included blocks are $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d (2 diff. wmkcs); 2d, (3 diff. wmkcs) 3d, $\frac{1}{4}$ different wmkcs). Seldom seen today and definitely difficult to get. The ten blocks 70/-

2 1940 Centennial Plates

A set, complete except for the two great rarities (the 2d A7 and A8) in finest mint blocks of four. The scarce 1d J5, $1\frac{1}{2}$ d B2, 2d B4 and 9d B1 (retouched) are each present of course. This is a chance not to be lightly forgone. Goodness knows how long it would take to accumulate this set piecemeal. Included are blocks: $\frac{1}{2}$ d, (4); 1d, (30); $1\frac{1}{2}$ d (6); 2d, (43); $2\frac{1}{2}$ d; 3d, (4); 4d; 5d; 6d; 7d; 8d; 9d, (2); 10d, (4); 1/- strip of 4. The lot (Cat. over £40) £32

$\frac{1}{2}$ d GREEN MT. COOK, A SUPERB COLLECTION

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The following describes what we believe may be the finest collection of $\frac{1}{2}$ d Mt. Cooks outside of museums. In some respects it is certainly unique and the buyer can be confident that he has a prize-winning collection against any competition.

The collection contains plate number pieces from the early plates—Plate "2" on blocks of F1a, F1b, F2d; Plate "3" on F1b; Plate "1" on F3b. Every one of these is a rarity—seldom seen in any collection. One not yet mentioned is Plate "2" in a block completely "imperf vertically". This is indeed a unique piece. Of the new plates 1 and 2 there are blocks in the 14 x 15 perf. Apart from plate blocks and complete sheets the collection contains every major listing of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d green Mt. Cook—in most cases in multiple blocks. The Pirie perf 11 showing is very fine—a wonderful range of shades. Each of the 14 x 11 and 11 x 14 is in two mint blocks and numerous singles; in the Pirie "mixed" there are blocks of 10 and 6 in the Basted besides blocks etc. of the perf 14 (one a block of 12) there is a block in each of the perf 11 and 14 x 11, plus singles, and 6 blocks plus singles in the 11 x 14. A pair with mixed perfs completes the Basted Mills. The No Wmk group is very fine with numerous attractive blocks in the perf 14. singles mint in the very rare 14 x 11 and perf 11 stamps (plus a used single 14 x 11); finally there is a mint pair plus a used single of the No Wmk "mixed". (This "No Wmk group alone has a C.P. Cat. valuation of over £35). The Cowans watermarked (need we say?) defy description with a plethora of material in all perfs and mixed. Then in the "New Plates" there is the expected grand showing of shades in all three perfs—plus pairs and singles and variety pieces including the scarce PFNNY variety.

In all this is an unmatched lot, condition splendid throughout, a "prestige" collection indeed. Just what is its total "Catalogue" is hard to say—how can one assess the Plate numbers, so scarce that they are nowhere listed, much less priced, in any up-to-date Catalogue? Certainly the Catalogue figure for the whole lot is greatly in excess of our price.

We have decided to offer this collection in toto. If no order for the whole lot is received in a reasonably time we will break it up. So do not hesitate to ask for what you want—it may well be your luckiest bid. The whole collection as described £145

BROWSING!

Among the collections recently bought is an album which contains many special or attractive pieces—as well as much pedestrian material. Browsing through the pages we notice:

- 7 **Geo. V 1/- 2 perf block.** A block of the 1/- orange-vermilion, top pair perf 14 x $13\frac{1}{2}$ bottom pair perf 14 x $14\frac{1}{2}$. This pair has adhered lightly to the album page. It has been carefully dry-salvaged and now bears no foreign matter. The gum is complete, only a slight dullness bearing witness to the misadventure. Catalogued £7/10/0, this block is a gift at 90/-
- 8 **Geo. V 3d 2-perf pairs.** A set of 3 pairs of the 3d, all 2-perf. Two are distinct shades of the unworn early prints, the third is a fine example of the worn plate. The bargain set of 3 (cat. 40/-) 27/6d

- 9 **Geo. V set of 2-perf blocks.** Blocks of the 1½d, 2d purple, 4d yellow, 4½d and 9d, all with the combined perfs. Of perfect appearance these blocks are in some cases from the same page as Lot 7. But the 4½d and 9d blocks are perfect. These mentioned perfect pieces have a Cat. total of £7/10/0 while the whole offer of 5 blocks has a Cat. total of over £10. The bargain lot £6/10/0
- 10 **Geo. V Complete set of 2 perf blocks.** A set, complete with a block to each value (2 each 2d & 4d of course) all in the combined perfs. Every block is immaculate except the 6d which has a pinhole in one stamp and is therefore only one perfect pair for valuation purposes. The values are: 1½d, 2d violet, 2d yellow, 2½d, 3d, 4d yellow, 4d violet, 5d, 6d, 7½d, 8d blue, 9d and 1/-. Total Cat. (reckoning a pair only of 6d) is £31/6/0. Terrific bargain offer, this splendid lot £25
- 11 **Geo. V 6d 2 perf used pair.** This is a very scarce thing, a genuinely used 6d pair. Some pulled perfs at top right but still a desirable piece 45/-
- 12 **Geo. V 5d scarce pair.** A pair, fine used (with 1923 date) of the scarce 5d light blue 14 x 14½. To those who find the 5d shades difficult a date is worth having since the other shades did not appear until 1929 on. The pair 17/6d
- 13 **Geo. V Surface prints.** Mounted pages of ½d War Stamp, 1½d black (both types) and 1½d brown. A grand range of blocks (10, 6, 4 etc) and strips, majority used. We note some postmarks—Killinchy, Fairburn's, Cape Campbell (on 1½d brown), Kuri Bush, Courtenay, Awareo, Conway Flat. The three pages 40/-
- 14 **Geo. V Jones paper, used.** For the collector who likes the scarce and unusual block. A page with two blocks of the 2d Jones, two blocks of the 3d Jones, and four strips (3, 3, 3, 4) of the 3d Jones—all splendid shades used. A page of considerable virtue. Cat. 76/-. Price 60/-
- 15 **Geo. V 1d Field Marshal.** A fine big mint block of 36 perf 14, said to be the first issue, plus a Booklet pane (pinholed and minus binding selvedge) and a strip of 4 with attached red "feeder" material (for slot machines). Also a big finely used block of 16 perf 14 and a mint block of 4 perf 14 x 15. The lot 7/6d
- 16 **1d Dominion.** A page of De La Rues in a mint pair from Booklet, a magnificent offset in block of 4 and a freakish USED block of 4 so badly centred that it needs 9 pieces of paper to make 4 stamps. Included with the page is another bearing 3 fine blocks plus strips and pairs fine used of the 1d Dom. on Cowan. The two pages 40/-
- 17 **1d Dominion "Litho".** Some pages, mainly used, but including the scarce "on front" yellow and the "black" both mint. Also a mint "nearly colourless", a blue, a yellow-green and a "double gum". The used include several nice blocks and some plate varieties. Thrown in is a page with a no-binding-selvedge pane of the "Kodak" Booklet with Reversed Wmk, a mint pair of Jones from a slot machine and a damaged "blurred" De La Rue Booklet pane. Total cat. must be about £15, the stamp with "litho on the front," a perfect example, being alone catalogued at £10 £7/10/0
- 18 **Geo. V Officials**
- (a) A page of the 3d OK4a etc. An outstanding page in that a pair and a single of the 14 x 13½ have inverted watermark, a block of 8 (the centre block of 4 of which is the 2-perfs) also has inverted wmk, and a single 14 x 14½, completes the picture by likewise having inverted wmk. There is also a block with sideways wmk (OK4d). Catalogued over 90/- this page is a gift at 50/-
- (b) A fine display, used, of the 3d, 6d and 1/- George Officials in the line-engraved group. In the 3rd there are 15 including a block (v. scarce used) and a single of the sideways wmk and a used 2-perf pair. In the 6d there are 7 in, a strip of five perf 14 x 14½. The 1/- shows pairs in both main shades plus a beautiful used block and single of the scarce salmon shade. This must be a very scarce block. A complete range (plus four pairs) of the De La Rue surface prints to the 3d value makes this an attractive lot, catalogued about 60/-. The lot 42/6d
- (c) A mixed lot of Official surface prints mainly used but including blocks mint of the ½d, 2d and 3d Cowans, the ½d being the grossly worn plate; the 2d includes the "No Stop," (Cat. 15/-). Then on two pages we have a series of 42 1d Field Marshal officials included to show varieties of over-print There are 2 "No stops" and numerous breaks in type, extra thick type etc., etc. A good lot 30/-

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political parties that "A new deal in Stamp Designs" would win them lots of votes. Those who have seen the recent edition of "Life" illustrating hundreds of "the world's prettiest stamps" will now realise how we are dragging our feet. Needless to say, not a single N.Z. stamp was in the gallery. That Westland possessor of what is N.Z.'s finest natural feature, the Franz Josef Glacier, should fail to use it and instead use trite "human interest" daubs is inexplicable.

Q.E. Variety. Frank Mohr reports retouching on R3/12 and 3/13 of the 2d (small figures), Plate 15. "R3/12 has heavy ragged right outer frame, particularly opposite the forehead and the inner frame line, and horizontal background lines inside this have also been recut. Across the gutter the left frame line of R3/13 is also affected, as are the inner frame line from the bottom of the lowest spray upwards to the spray above, and the two sprays above, on the same stamp. Thanks Frank.

While agreeing with all the above and that the variety is definitely collectable, I doubt whether it is sufficient striking to warrant Catalogue illustration and listing. We have to draw the line somewhere and this is a borderline case.

19 Life Insurance. The "no VR" Lighthouse type on the De La Rue paper of 1913-20. A page of 37 nice used, all values inc. 1½d black, 2d purple, 3d orange-brn, 6d (2) and several shades in the ¾d, 1d, 1½d, 2d yellow. There are four pairs, a block of 8 and 3 singles of the 1d, these including 4 examples of the striking sky retouches. The page 50/-

20 Postage Dues

- (a) Original set, 1899. A complete set unused with extra copies of the 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d, 10d and 2/- . One 6d is used and one has doubled frame. Also included are some used of each low value with a fine used block of 3d and a 3d "doubled frame." Finally there is a superb mint selvage block of 12 of the ¾d including the stamp with "No stop after D" and a used block of 4 also with the "No stop" stamp. The whole, mounted on 4 pages 85/-
- (b) Set of 1902. The first issues of the ¾d, 1d and 2d complete in the perfs 11 and 14. A page of 22 inc. both mint and used in all values—that means there are mint and used copies of the rarest Postage Due, the 2d perf 11. This stamp alone we now Catalogue at 45/- each. The mint copy is very fine, the used is good, just a bit off-centre. The page is a bargain at 70/-
- (c) As above, a block of 38 of the ¾d perf 11 watermarked, being the lower part of a pane. Cat. 6d each, price 5/-
- (d) Sets of 1913 to 1938, complete mint and nearly complete used. The lot includes ¾d Jones, 2d "reversed wmk" mint; 2d Litho used (2), Cowan 3d mint (2) and so on. Excellent value on three pages 22/6d

ARMS TYPE

21 Arms Type, Single Wmk. These stamps are among the most active "risers" in the Catalogues—especially in S.G., which reflects the big U.K. demand. The following, fine used, should be snapped up quickly—goodness knows when we will have them again. All finest used—especially the top values.

- (a) 8/- violet Single Wmk S. G. 544k 7/6d
- (b) 10/- carmine Single Wmk S.G. 544m 4/6d
- (c) £1 pink Single wmk, S.G. 544p (Cat. 30/-) 15/-
- (e) £2 purple Single wmk, S.G. 544t (Cat. £8) 80/-
- (e) £3 pale green Single wmk, S.G. 544v (Cat. 80/-) 70/-

RARE ARMS TYPE

23 Arms Type 3/6d. For the first time on record we can advertise the really scarce 3/6d Arms with the "sans serif" lettering. This is now known to be a scarcer stamp than any of the 1/3d values. A price rise is necessary, to 90/-, but as a discount we include with the rarity its opposite number, the earlier 3/6d with "Roman" lettering. Both stamps are mint and both have inverted multiple wmk. Not many available. The two stamps 90/-

ARMS TYPE

3 1931-1939 Arms

- (a) 7/6d and 12/6d. The two difficult values, mint or fine used. Both on the original Single Wmk Cowan paper 57/6d
- (b) 12/6d value only. Mint or fine used, Cowan paper 35/-

5 6d Kiwi Red, No Wmk. Perf 11. Variety, imperf vertically, a mint pair (Cat. £8) £6