

Campbell Paterson's **NEWSLETTER**

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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This Newsletter gives valuable information. Retain it for reference purposes. Vol. 15, No. 4. **NOVEMBER, 1963.** Issued Monthly — Subscriptions, 6/6 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.

NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT by John Robinson

1913, 3d Government Life Insurance



Mr. R. D. Samuel has sent in a preliminary report which will be, I am sure, of interest to specialists. He has found that every one of these 3d stamps may be assigned to one or other of these three types:

- A. The upper loop of S in INSURANCE completes the circle; see the illustration.
- B. Note the break in the ornamentation under DE of DEPARTMENT, as shown in the diagram.
- C. Here, too, there is a break, under the left-hand "3."

We await reports of the placement of these three types in a complete sheet. Perhaps some reader may be able to carry the research a stage further? This initial lead will prove extremely helpful.

1d K.G. V "Field Marshal," Abnormal Paper:

The 1927 printing of this stamp, a small printing, on Cowan paper which was surfaced on the wrong side, watermark being reversed, is usually met with in a bright rose-carmine shade. We have now seen this stamp in an extraordinarily different shade, best described as scarlet. We have seen a block of 48 in this shade, which is the sum total of available copies in this colour. Because of the source of this supply, we conclude that it is a legitimate variety, for it is from one of the accumulations of the late Chas. Moore.

2½d + 1d "Blue" Prince Andrew Health Stamp:

Plate 1B, R 12/7: Mr. R. D. Samuel reports a re-entry, with lines doubled above ZEALAND.

Shades: I have been having a spot of trouble in trying to make some sense of the "shade" situation in this intriguing stamp. (Why did it have to be so ugly?) Our initial supplies from the large sheets were in a dull ultramarine, and from miniature sheets we also obtained a distinctive, pale, dull blue shade.

A later printing (with R 10/10 of Pl. 1B now re-entered) is in bright blue, and no mistake. This makes three main shade groups of this stamp:

dull ultramarine pale dull blue bright blue.

The differences are every bit as striking as in the 1½d + 1d of 1956.

"Arms" Type — unsurfaced paper: Mr. Paterson tells me that the new 5/- OFFICIAL Arms in dull green is perf 14 x 13½, and upon checking the gauge of the perfs in the ordinary issue of 1/3 and £1 on unsurfaced paper, I find that these too are perf 14 x 13½. All other Arms types are perf 14.

CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD.

P.O. Box 5555

AUCKLAND

Room 44, Lewis Eady Buildings

Queen Street. Phone 49-118.

CAMPBELL PATERSON

10 St. Margarets

London Road

GUILDFORD

SURREY, ENGLAND.

New 1/9 "Topdressing" Stamp:

November 4 should see the issue of the 1/9 stamp in completely new dress. Colours are to be blue and green, with the 'plane in red. Should be quite cheerful, but it would not take much for it to be superior to the present issue. Off hand I cannot remember any stamp design which originally appeared in monochrome being issued in multicolour. The 3/- sombre-hombre is also scheduled for a similar overhaul.

Striking Shades seen in the 2½d and 3d Pictorials:

In the "Collins" stock were a grand selection of shades in the current pictorial series. Most of these we had seen before, but two were so very outstanding that we have decided to chronicle them with full honours and to list them in the catalogue as soon as possible.

2½d Titoki: The stunning difference here is in the leaves, which are now almost a lettuce-green. The shade is paler and yellower than any other we have seen. The grey, too, is pale.

3d Kowhai: Here the most striking change is in the background, which is very dull blue. The flowers are orange-yellow and the stalks are brown. Issued, we believe, mainly in Westport, this appears to have been from a small printing.

The 1963 Christmas Stamp

What a lovely choice this is for a Christmas stamp! For the conception of the design I would give full marks. The only criticism I make is that the printers should have been asked (or paid!) to use a finer screen. A close look at the face of the Infant will bear me out on the necessity for this.

Issued on 14 Oct., this stamp is printed in four-colour photogravure; there are two plates for each. The numbers read 1A1A1A1A and 1B1B1B1B (found under the third stamp in the bottom row). There are six rows of ten stamps in each sheet. Perforation has been done with a single comb head, gauge 12½, moving vertically through the sheet.

Watermark: Some sheets have the wmk. "sideways inverted"; the stars point to the left as viewed from the back. Others have the usual sideways wmk., W 8a of our catalogue: stars point right

Perforation: The upper and lower selvages of both sheets are perforated right through EXCEPT for the lower selvedge of Pl. 1B. These "1B" sheets have punched holes within engraved guide squares in the selvedge opposite Row 3. Plate 1A sheets have none of these, so it is likely that the perforation was done in double sheets.

Flaws: A most obvious orange flaw exists on the donkey's nose. The position in the printed sheet is Pl. 1B, Row 3, No. 8. It is an odd fact that many of the impressions from Black Pl. 1B have extraneous spots of colour in various parts of the design, especially in the upper and lower labels. Sheets from 1A which I have seen do not show this peculiarity to the same extent. In actual fact the flaw in R3/8, the "Nosebag" flaw, is in the black plate. Please note that I am using the term "Plate" loosely. They may well have used a cylinder.

Shades: I have seen a rather brighter red shade in some 1A sheets. In any case, the plate number is barely significant.

NEWS FLASH

Mr. R. G. Law has shown me examples of the current 3d Pictorial with the watermark sideways.

These were from a slot machine roll. We could now reasonably expect the 1d to appear thus. Similar "roll" stamps of G.B. have had their watermark "sideways" for many years now, but this is a new innovation for New Zealand.

R.P.S. Anniversary Exhibition and Dinner:

"And a good time was had by all." This sums up the sentiments of most, if not all, the people who were present. Facetious sidelights: How did they manage to give all 79 diners one leg each from a chicken? Did everyone else feel as important as I did when ushered in and out of Parliament Buildings, where they held the super superb, non-competitive display, by uniformed attendants? Bernard Cox was "on form" (B. Cox sure of your Coils!), and so was everyone else. The Wellington locals did their visitors proud and ensured a most successful gathering for the 75th Anniversary of the R.P.S. (N.Z.).

KING GEORGE V

Emerging from under piles and piles, and envelopes upon boxes of envelopes of stamps from the "Collins" Lot, I don't know where to start offering them. So I have decided upon one of my favourite groups, KING GEORGE V. This is a section with something of interest for everyone. Here goes . . .

- | | | | |
|-------|--|---|------|
| 169 | K.G. V, Plate \boxplus 's, superb: | A basic lot, which will set up a collection well on the way for a grand showing of these exquisite items. There are 17 plate blocks, one each of the 1½d, 2d violet, 2d yellow, 4d purple, Pl. 44, 4½d, 8d brown, 9d. There are three shades in the 2½d, Pl. 17, and two different 4d yellows, as well as two different 7½d. Finally the three colour groups of the difficult 5d, K7a. This magnificent lot, which is catalogued over £24 | £20 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| 170 | Plate Singles: | Several collectors have noticed that plate \boxplus 's are quite expensive items and are content to display the plate numbers of the earlier issue with singles attached. We have one interesting lot of these (mint) and in this K.G. V issue they show up rather well. There are 13 items, which include three fine shades of each of the 4d purple, 5d and 9d; 2 of the 1's, a 2½d, plus an 8d brown. Well worth | £6 |
| 171 | Complete, simplified set, | all colour changes included, 15 stamps, mint | 40/- |
| 172 | Ditto, | but used, cleanly and "genuinely." The set of 15, including the scarce 2d's, 4d yellow, 4½d, 7½d and 8d blue. A good opportunity | 27/6 |
| 173 | (a) 2d purple, | both perfs. Nicely used copies, one of each | 7/6 |
| | (b) Ditto, | p. 14 x 14½. A scarce strip of 3, used | 12/- |
| 174 | 4d purple. Two perfect plate \boxplus's, | Pl. 44, in distinct shades. Lovely things | 35/- |
| 175 | 5d light blue. | A pair, top stamp completely imperforate, the lower one perf 14 x 13½. A grand bargain, for condition is perfect. The pair | £28 |
| 176 | 5d steel blue. | Perf 14 x 13½; two lovely plate \boxplus 's, Pl. 43, in very distinct shades, both in the STEEL group. The pair | 85/- |
| 177 | (a) 5d "blue." | A fine mint study, all three colours in both perfs (6 stamps) and a 2-perf pair in ultramarine as well. The seven items | 75/- |
| | (b) Ditto, | the 3 colours, but only one perf of each, in a mint \boxplus ; also a \boxplus with 2 pairs of SG 514b | £5 |
| 178 | 8d brown. | An absolutely glorious lot, and quite unrepeatable; o.g. unmounted \boxplus 's from the corners of various sheets, in violently different shades. One is on esparto paper | £5 |
| 179 | 1/- "salmon," | or pale orange-red, SG 488d. Two plate blocks, 41 and 42, in this colour. Be in quick! The pair | £6 |
| 180 | SG 488c. | The scarce 1/- orange-brown. We have two "reference" copies, guaranteed, of course, but not faultless. Used, each | 25/- |
| 181 | K13a, SG 498. | ¾d green, single used copies from the blurred booklet panes, distinctive | 1/- |
| 182 | 1d "Field Marshal." | An attractive reference set of used stamps as follows: (1) Cowan paper, p. 14, 2 shades; (2) 2 shades, Cowan, p. 14 x 15; (3) Cowan, p. 14, ex Booklet plate; (4) as (3), p. 14 x 15; (5) Wiggins Teape paper, p. 14. The 7 stamps, used | 4/- |
| 183 | (a) 2/- K.G. V Admiral, | Cowan paper, SG 542, a never-to-be-forgotten offer; finest used. Two strips of 3, different shades | 25/- |
| | (b) Ditto, | two shades, fine used pairs | 15/- |
| | (c) Ditto, | but 'umble singles | 6/6 |

We have very fine mint stocks of this issue, and in addition several of the values are available in USED MULTIPLES. We may be able to assist with that "impossible" want-list.

LETRASET

This dry-transfer method of annotating a modern section of any collection of New Zealand stamps is really excellent. If you have patience — you must have, to be a collector! — then this is for you.

A large sheet containing watermark devices, alphabets, printers' names and other specially designed material. Well worth a trial, posted 20/-

COMMEMORATIVES — to commemorate the fact that we have a lovely lot of them!

- 184 **Christchurch Exhibition:**
 (a) Five mint \boxplus 's, two shades each of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d and one of the 3d £6
 (b) Fine mint set of 4, $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 6d 95/-
 (c) Ditto, but 6d not superb, mint 45/-
 (d) The 1d, used, Exhibition cancel 8/6
- 185 **Auckland Exhibition.** The complete set, in top grade mint condition 150/-
- 186 **1920 Victory:**
 (a) A complete, simplified set, mint 35/-
 (b) Ditto, but to the 6d only 12/6
 (c) Three shades of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, mint 4/-
 (d) Three shades of the 1d, mint 3/-
 (e) Two shades of the 2d o/p, mint 1/3
 (f) A superlative mint block of the 3d 17/6
 (g) A simplified set, fine used, $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1/- 32/-
 (h) Ditto, fine used, to the 6d only 7/6
 (i) The 6d value, three shades, used 15/-
- 187 **Map Stamp:**
 (a) The three papers used, in mint \boxplus 's The three, finest mint 20/-
 (b) Ditto, in mint singles 5/-
 (c) The three, SG 518, 521, 535, used 3/-
- 188 **Dunedin Exhibition:**
 (a) The set complete, in mint \boxplus 's 64/-
 (b) Ditto, finest mint singles 16/-
 (c) The 1d value, used 6d
 (d) The 1d, in a lovely used \boxplus , with Exhibition cancellation 4/-
 (e) The complete set on a registered Dunedin Exhibition cover 35/-
 (f) Modestly, we offer a **superb mint sheet of 60**. This will repay study, for there are many varieties. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d value only 75/-
- 189 **Dunedin Exhibition, unused set, with gum, but not in our usual "CP" condition.** Each set of 3 10/6
- 190 (a) **1935 Jubilee.** The set, mint or used, in top grade condition 9/6
 (b) Ditto, the 6d value, not-so-fine mint 3/-
- 191 **ANZAC SET, 1936.** We offer a set of eight plate number blocks, four of each value, with the number in different corners. The offer comprises sixteen sets, in fact, and is well worth 16/-
- 192 **Chamber of Commerce:**
 (a) The complete set, in fine mint \boxplus 's 20/-
 (b) Ditto, in superb used \boxplus 's 25/-
 (c) The complete set, mint or used 5/3
 (d) A set of plate blocks, 4 of each of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d (different positions), and the 3 higher values, one each; 15 plate blocks 40/-
- 193 (a) **1940 Official Centennials.** Eight values with the JOINED FF overprint, and we offer a complete set, in superb mint pairs for 135/-
 (b) We have never seen the 1d value of the above, joined ff, offered on its own before, as it is the scarcest. We do the "impossible" once again. Fine mint pairs of the 1d value, with SG O142a 22/6
- 194 (a) **S75a, SG 766.** The 6d Trans-Tasman stamp, fine used copies showing the re-entry to the SE star, CW cat., S54a 8/-
 (b) Ditto, with a plate flaw in the NE star 8/-
- 195 **2d Marlborough.** A super-special offer, this is a used example of this major retouch, and the variety is listed by CW catalogue at 11/6. We refer to Row 14, No. 3, and the price is 2/-

*We have an outstanding range of Commemoratives in stock, no mistake!
So we will serialise (what a horrible word!) our offers, and continue them in another Newsletter.*

SPRING FEVER — A RELAPSE!

- 196 **1d, Davies' print on Large Star paper.** Fine, UNUSED. A grand frontispiece to your collection. We have two rather nice copies, SG 33 and 35, and all we ask for either (see them on approval) is £9
- 197 **Advertisements.** The 4d green and 6d brown Sidefaces, perf 10, with advert at the back. The pair 8/6

- 198 **Penny Universal, a superb re-entry.** The Waterlow Trial plates of this stamp are perhaps the most extraordinary ones ever made. Of the re-entries in Plate 2, Row 6, No. 18, stands out as being truly spectacular. The shading lines under the globe are missing, making this a "No sea under globe" variety. We have a couple of perfection used copies, each 30/-
- 199 **Penny Universal, OFFICIAL.** A selection of 10 different re-entries, used, from the Waterlow trial plates, and good ones at that 35/-
- 200 **G10a, the penny Universal from the Royle plates, in blood-red.** A few single used copies of this distinctive shade, at 1/-, and a lovely used block of 12 for 25/-
- 201 (a) **J3a, SG 524.** After an extensive search we have located a VERY FEW genuine used copies of this rare stamp. Never have we seen it advertised before, and it really is one of the rarest; each 95/-
- (b) **J8a, SG 535a.** Two jolly fine shades, in used \square 's. We are experts at gilding the lily! Even as singles the stamps are not all that common in shades 7/6
- 202 **L5f, SG 581b, 2½d Mt. Cook, from Plate 4.** This is a grand chance to make a good showing of this lovely stamp. Our offer is of 4 \square 's. One is a Pl. No., the others contain the 3 fine varieties found in this plate, viz., R 1/1, "stalk to flower," R 8/6 flaw, and the splendid re-entry in R 10/4. The four 16/-
- 203 **½d green, K.G. VI.** Three items: 2 are plate singles, Pl. 1 and 2, and there is also a pair with imprint. Mint 7/6
- 204 **M1b, ½d chestnut K.G. VI.** Three plate blocks of 8, Pl. 17, 18 and 19, superb mint 25/6
- 205 **1d red, K.G. VI.** Four mint stamps, with plate numbers attached (plate singles, in fact). Numbers are 3, 6, 7 and one other 10/-
- 206 **2/6 Q.E., brown.** A scarce stamp — with a promising future. We have a few fine used copies of this stamp printed on a thin grade of paper, and offer singles at 5/-; pairs at 10/-, and one only strip of 3, very fine 16/-
- 207 **1935 Air Stamp, 1d "carmine."** A special "gift" offer, this is a trio of shades, each in a single mint copy with full corner selvedge and plate number. Corker little pieces, the three 1/6
- 208 **1d red Govt. Life Insurance Dept.,** with good examples of retouching to the sky, fine used copies, each 2/-
- 209 **X8f, 1036.** A few copies here with watermark inverted. A scarce little item, used; each 1/-
- 210 **Covers of Interest:**
- (a) **Mauritius to N.Z., 1866.** This clean entire bears a copy of Mauritius, SG 59, and is back-stamped Nelson, MY 7, 66. We do not think it likely that there ever was a great flow of mail between "M" and NZ! A fine item 110/-
- (b) **1905, a good REGISTERED letter,** with the rectangular Registered rubber stamp impression "REGISTERED AT WELLINGTON S." The cover bears a 1d Universal, and a 3d pictorial of the period, and is addressed to Hobart 60/-
- (c) **An N.Z. Censor cover, 24 Nov '41,** which is interesting as it bears a nice copy of the 3/- pictorial, perf 12½, SG 590a, as well as a similar 2/-, and a redrawn 9d. A nice cover 15/-
- (d) **The 1d Blue fiscal of NZ,** used mysteriously in London, JY 18 '81; on a local cover addressed to the Strand. Heaven only knows why! 45/-
- (e) **1931 Air, with 7d orange, and 4d purple Airs;** a fine cover, from Taihape, via Adelaide-Perth-Karachi-London 10/-
- (f) **1934 Air.** With 3d choc., 5d O/print, and 7d orange Airs; per first flight NZ to New Guinea, to England 10/-
- (g) **1932 Air, bearing a copy of the 7d orange air stamp, of 1931,** from Napier, via Karachi, to England 7/6
- (h) **Censor covers, A ir, bearing copies of the "Arms" type, 5/- and the 6/- respectively,** both with censor labels at side of envelope. The two 12/-
- (i) **Censor cover, 1940.** This neat cover bears a 6d and a 1/- Centennial of 1940, and the "Opened and passed" censor label at the side 4/6
- (j) **Airmail Exhibition, 8 NO 38.** The 3d Air of 1935 cancelled with the distinctive "winged" date stamp 6/-
- (k) **A Dominion Airways Ltd. adhesive, cut in two and replaced on cover,** tied by initials, "Hastings to Gisborne." This cover was flown from Gisborne to Christchurch; pilot the late G. B. Bolt. Franked with a 1d "Field Marshal." Scarce and interesting 130/-

211 New 1/9: We have a few plain covers, posted on the First Day of issue. Each cover bears, in addition to the new stamp, a copy of the old 1/9. Each cover

6/-

★ ★ ★

THE "HOLES" AROUND OUR STAMPS (2)

(Continued)

We left off discussing the perforations on our stamps last July, so it is just about time to resume, perhaps.

(4) 1871-1909: Between 1864-1871 the Government Printer had managed with one perforating machine for postage stamps. Admittedly he had the heads altered and repaired at various times, but there was but one machine.

1871 saw the introduction of "perf 10." This was not a line machine, but rotary — the holes being cut with a gadget somewhat basically similar to leather punches one occasionally sees. These two, 10 and 12½, sufficed (with the desultory use of a line head nearly 12 in gauge) until 1878. Once again a comb head found favour, 12 x 11½ it gauged, and this was used for a great many stamps in both Sideface groups. One other gauge 10, together with the nearly 12, the 12½ and 12 x 11½ comb, provided all the variety any philatelist could reasonably expect. And the Post Office spared no combination — you name it, and such a copy is known, or could be!

It took Waterlow & Sons, however, to really show the combinations of perforations possible. They printed the 1898 Pictorial series, and used a grand variety of machines — so many in fact that the conventional method of dealing with this group is to treat them simply as perf "12 to 16." A very wise expedient, too.

Between 1899 and 1906 two gauges were in evidence, 11 and 14. These two are found in various bewildering combinations in a wide variety of stamps. Some are excessively rare. At times although the gauge was the same, a different head or type of perforator was used.

Two comb heads, 14 x 13-13½ and 14 x 15, bring our review of this group to a close. The former head saw very little service and most of it was off-centre service too — especially that poor old 6d redrawn Kiwi — a rare stamp mint and well centred (SG 438).

(5) 1909-1935. The finely engraved definitives of this period, K.E. VII and K.G. V, were perforated with various comb and line heads; these fell into three gauges: 14 x 13½ and 14 x 14½ (these were comb heads) and perf 14, line.

Ah! But the stamps were not just simply perforated in one or other of these gauges. Using as a precedent earlier experiments in the Edward issues where two different comb heads were used on the same sheet, we find large numbers of sheets in the recess Geo. V issues being perforated with two heads also, both in the one sheet. Hence our odd "two-perf" se-tenant pairs. The use of this device to get the stamps well centred (they never really succeeded in doing this, you know!) resulted, in a roundabout way, in the production of many of the popular part-imperf and imperforate varieties in this Geo. V issue. It also provided philatelists with that very rare item, the upside down "two-perf" pair of the 4d violet (our K5g).

Many philatelists do not agree that stamps with such perforation differences are of separable importance — simply because one specimen gauges 14 x 13½ and another say 14 x 14½. They maintain that the printing is the same — the perforating is but a matter of convenience to users. This argument is an old one, and nowhere does it apply more fully than in these issues. I cannot wholeheartedly agree with this viewpoint; if two different heads were used (albeit in the same sheet) then this represents a state of our philatelic knowledge of the issue, and as such they are worth collecting.

The surface-printed Geo. V and the long-lived Penny Dominions were perforated 14 x 15, comb. Later, in some of Geo. V values, a comb head gauge 14 was used. There is nothing very exciting about these two heads; they are easily separated. They often represented different printings; pity these two were not found se-tenant!

1916 saw the use of two of the line heads which gauged near enough to 14. These heads were brought into use for an odd assortment of stamps, printed on a residue of paper left over from the Pictorial 2½d Wakatipu stamp. We find here the 8d Edward with the watermark sideways (worse luck!), as well as the K.G. V 2d yellow, 3d and 6d, all perf 14.

This now brings us to 1935, the year of the Second Pictorials, and a subject in its own right — of which more some other time.