

Campbell Paterson's for collectors of NEWSLETTER New Zealand stamps

VOL.20,NO.2,SEPTEMBER,1968 Issued monthly, Subscription \$1; registered at G.P.O.
Wellington as a magazine. Published by Campbell Paterson Ltd, Auckland.
incorporating VERNE COLLINS AND CO. LTD.

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENTS – by Warwick Paterson

CHALON "PERSONALITY TRAITS"

One of the most delightful features of our Full Face classics to me is one which may not be obvious at first sight, but after a time of collecting, working with and enjoying them, impresses the viewer in a subtle way. Obviously, anyone can appreciate that in balanced design, rich and varied colours, and the technical magnificence of their engraving, they are far and away out on their own; but I wonder how many New Zealand collectors recognise that the portrait in each value is markedly different from every other value. In other words, presented with a black and white reproduction of the head only how many collectors could say "that's the 4d" and so on. The reason for this is that the subsidiary dies, from which the roller dies (transfer rollers) were made, were recut and altered, when the different value tablets were being inserted in the basic design. The separate roller dies, once made and hardened, were then used to transfer their own impressions 240 times on to each printing plate. There are various differences in the lettering of "NEW ZEALAND", but most significant is the expression on the Queen's face which had been touched up, and in a curious way the whole personality of each stamp made different. The best of them must be the 6d and the "Handbook" refers to the "Queen's pleasing expression" in this value - this is the stamp which has been described as "the Rembrandt of Philately" hardly an exaggerated description.

One feature of great interest, pointed out to me by Mr. Stanley of Wellington is a small white flaw in the lower left corner of the 1/- value. It appears in the engine-turned design, just to the left of the Queen's shoulder (at Thirkell grid reference R.1) as a white spot. All 1/- Full Faces have this flaw and I illustrate it (a) the flaw and (b) for comparison, the same lower left corner of the 1d value. The explanation is intriguing: It can be proved from an electronic examination of the roller die (which is still in existence) that it had been used before to transfer another impression to a plate of stamps of another country - laid down at an earlier time by Perkins Bacon in London - this design being burnished off, and the roller die used again for our 1/- stamp. The only remaining visual evidence of this splendid example of Victorian economy being the small white flaw, which of course was duplicated in each impression on the 1/- plate, and in every 1/- Full Face ever produced.

OUR NEW PHONE NUMBER FROM SEPTEMBER 30TH is to be 379-118 please note it.

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENTS



fig (a)

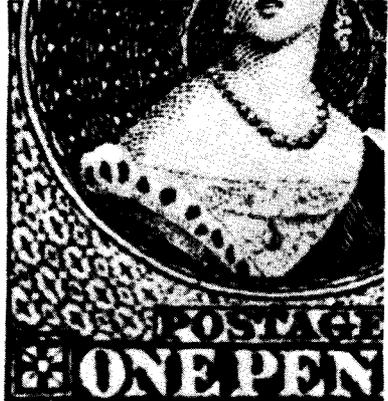


fig (b)

1968 HEALTHS In designs and colours drab and unimaginative, this year's lamentable effort is likely to arouse yet another storm of protest, and a continuation of last years catastrophic drop in Health Camp revenue. I can't help feeling that if the current trend of insipid health stamps goes on much longer, the collecting and stamp-using public may become more than a little tired of it. My only other suggestion is that the youth on the 2½¢ go and have his eyes tested immediately.

FLAWS. 2½¢ and 1¢ RUNNER: At rows 5/2 and 4/4 the tape has become knotted.

3¢ and 1¢ SWIMMER at Row 1/1 we found a "loop on the hoop" second from left.

As far as I can make out, incidentally, neither stamp has a watermark, but with the experience of recent years in trying to find watermarks on chalk-surfaced papers it is dangerous to be too conclusive. I hope to report on this one later !

28¢ Fox Glacier - a triumph for the N.Z.P.O. !! Not an overstatement I think - I can imagine quite a lot of people wanting to go quite a long way to look at a view like that! The extraordinary thing about the stamp is that it gives one a 3-dimensional impression of depth - a feeling that you could walk into the scene; this I find stands up to magnification - if this is Harrison's answer to Delacryl, I hope we'll see a lot more of it! One of our visitors suggested that the very dense, shadowed mountainside in the middle distance may be produced by a different process - lithography? - this is certainly on the cards. Flaws. Apart from a number of U.F.Os notably at R10/6 and R1/10 in the sky, we haven't noticed many. We did find a few sheets with an extra strike of perforations into the left hand selvage (not doubled).

3c BIBLE: Jim Lawrence of Opotiki reports two variations in the gold print of this stamp - examples taken from plate 1B. One gold print is thick and blurry lacking definition - the other clear cut and fine. He suggests a possibility of different cylinders with the same number. I feel that perhaps the varying quality and viscosity of the ink flow may be at fault. Comments and observations?

4c SERVICES COMMEMORATIVE - INVERTED I have seen a number of sheets of the inverted watermark in this stamp. This I predict will be a scarce one with a maximum supply of perhaps 15 to 20 sheets. They have only been reported from Masterton.

DECIMAL ARMS TYPES \$8 and \$10 have been reported with a new comb perf (not line as previously) of the same gauge. The watermark is now W8b (W8a inverted) previously W.8a. It is likely that the lower values will follow suit but I hear from Wellington that stocks of \$4 and \$6 are still high.

NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENTS

GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE DECIMAL OVERPRINTS

A summary of the developments to date. Several of the values have now appeared in all three of the recorded papers - that is:

- (a) coarse paper (from the previous issue)
- (b) Cream toned esparto paper with vertical mesh.
- (c) fine white esparto paper with vertical mesh.

* The varieties available are:

1c coarse (wmk sideways)	3c cream (wmk sideways)
cream (wmk upright)	5c coarse (wmk upright)
white (wmk upright)	cream (wmk upright)
2c cream (wmk sideways)	white (wmk upright)
2½c coarse (wmk upright)	10c coarse (wmk upright)
cream (wmk sideways)	cream (wmk sideways)
	white (wmk sideways)

Scarcity: Coarse: The 10¢ value is scarce in this paper. The 5¢ has become more plentiful.

White: 5¢ and 10¢ are scarce and examples should be secured straight away. The 1¢ is moderately scarce.

Cream: This slightly surfaced paper is common in all values.

Variety: Mr. W.A. Greathead sent me a block from the top left hand corner of a 2½¢ sheet with a blunt fold diagonally across Row No. 1 and cutting the overprint in half on Row 1/2. Row 1/1 has no trace of the overprint. As Mr. Greathead said - the next sheet to be overprinted must have picked up a fine offset on the back at Row 1 Nos. 1 and 2!!

½c MANUKA Row 6/6. We have seen a massive touching up in the leaves at top left. This is a very prominent naked eye example.

3c and 10c UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE scheduled issue 19th September 1968.

The designs have been published and they don't look too hot to me - better wait and see. They are being printed by the Japanese Government Printing Bureau, Tokyo - an interesting new departure.

1968 XMAS 2½c is to be "Adoration of the Shepherds" by Van Hon Thorst the original of which is at the Pitti Art Gallery in Florence.

1/- GREEN (FIRST SIDEFACE) C6b COMPOUND PERF 10 x 12½

Mr. Lester G. Shepard of Waterbury, Connecticut has sent over a copy of this stamp with irregular compound perforation - as yet unlisted in C.P.

NEW ZEALAND FIRST DECIMAL ISSUE 10 July 1967

A transcript of a talk to the R.P.S.N.Z. by Mr. Arthur Dexter.

The first printing by De la Rue of the ½c.1C, 2C, 2½c, 3c, 5c, & 7c, was made from photogravure cylinders which had 2 panes of 200 stamps each (20 rows of 10) laid down side by side.

In each value the A pane was on the right & the B on the left excepting the 2½c and 3c value.

In all values NZ Star Vertical Mesh Chalk Paper was used, in sheet fed presses, except in the case of the 2½c and 3c values.

The 2½c and 3c values were printed on the web, the paper running vertically through the press. In these values the A pane was on the left and the B on the right.

The paper coming from the web machines was cut into double sheets containing the A and B panes, before perforating.

DECIMALS:

All the perforating of the De la Rue printings was done by double comb machines, working sideways across the double sheets, and gauged 13.7 x 14.1 Perforating guide squares were printed in the top and bottom selvedge of all panes, both A and B in the background colour of the stamp.

Only the A pane squares were punched by a hole, and the A pane was fed into the perforating head. One exception has been found where a 2B sheet of the 2½c value was fed into the perf. head.

The 2½c and 3c values had perf. guide squares printed in the side selvedge but these were not used.

A variation of the position of the perf. guide square in the top and bottom selvedge occurs on both cylinders of the 3c and on the 2A-2B cylinder of the 2½c. The square is much closer to the stamps than in all other values.

Although all values were first issued on 10 July 1967 the 2½c from cylinder 1A-1B was not available at P.O.s until 5 months later.

About Dec. 1967 a second printing of the 2½c was released from cylinders numbered 2A2A2A3A - 2B2B2B3B. This differed from the first printing in that it was done on a sheet fed press, the A pane was on the right and the B on the left and in all respects was the same as printing of all the values from sheet fed presses, the perforating was also the same.

Enquiries were made to the Stamp Division, Wellington, about the missing 1A-1B sheets of the 2½c value and the only conclusion that can be drawn is that these sheets were misplaced and a new order hurriedly placed with the printers to ensure continuity of supply of this value.

There is evidence of small flaws and touching up in the production of many cylinders of this issue but the blue cylinder 2B of the 3c has been found in two states, first with numerous flaws, 16 worthy of note, and a later state with most of these flaws retouched. These flaws occur in the following positions: 1/3, 1/4. 1/8. 2/3. 3/7, 5/10, 7/3, 7/4. 9/9. 12/9, 13/3, 14/3, 15/9, 19/5, 20/3 & 20/4.

There is an example of a perf., guide pin coming out while a sheet of the 3c value was being perforated. The first stroke of the double comb is clearly shown on the left side of the sheet, then the paper is allowed to twist and all the other stamps on the sheet are almost cut in half by the perf. holes.

Several other examples of extremely bad perforated sheets have been found.

A 7½c value, printed by De la Rue was placed on sale on 29 Aug. 1967. A new value, commemorating the Centennial of the Introduction of Brown Trout, this was printed by photogravure, vertically in 4 colours, and perforated vertically in sheets of 10 rows of 15 on N.Z. Star Vertical Mesh chalk paper with the watermark sideways.

The perforating was done with a single comb head gauge 13.2 working vertically from the bottom of the sheet.

The head was unusual in that the short rows of pins were one pin too short to completely perforate the stamps, resulting in an effect similar to some sheets of the 9d, 1/- and 1/9 values of the Q.E.11 issue.

The ½c and 5c stamps were printed in 3 colours and all other values by De la Rue were printed in 4 colours.

Harrison and Sons Ltd, printed the remaining 9 values on Horizontal Mesh chalk paper from the Guard Bridge Mills in Scotland. They were printed from photogravure cylinders, the 5 low values in 2 colours, the 30c in 3 colours and the 3 top values in one colour only.

The 8c and 10c were printed horizontally in single sheets of 15 rows of 10. The watermark is sideways and they were perforated sideways with a single comb head 14.7 x 14.

The 15c was printed vertically in single sheets of 10 rows of 15. The watermark is upright and they were perf. vertically from the top with the same single comb head 14 x 14.7.

The 25c, 30c and \$1 were printed vertically in single sheets of 10 rows of 10 with the watermark upright. They were perf. vertically from the top 14.7 x 14 with the same double comb head as the previous values.

In all values of the Harrison printing a mistake was made in the sheet value. Only one figure was used after the decimal point in the dollar value.

CONT: BOTTOM NEXT PAGE:

ALPHABETICAL IMBROGLIO - EPISODE V

This month we move further into the 20th Century with a fine selection of Dominions - the listing should interest specialist and simple - lifer alike - a number of the rarer items should be snapped up while stocks last.

1d DOMINION

J1a De la Rue chalk surfaced (8.11.09)

- | | | | |
|----|-----|--|---------|
| 1. | (a) | A set of three fine shades in mint. Carmine, Dull Carmine and Pink (from the booklets) 3 superb | \$1.50 |
| | (b) | Blurred print - from booklets - spectacular | \$0.60 |
| | (c) | Booklet pane set - both panes have selvedge bars - one blurred print - one clear (2 panes) | \$20.00 |
| | (d) | Mint set of three flaws on De la Rue. "Q" "Globe" and "feather" lovely !! ... | \$2.45 |
| | (e) | Vertical pair including "Q" flaw mint - and good at | \$1.25 |
| | (f) | (i) <u>USED De La Rue</u> Attractive set of used shades and varieties. The set of five fine used contains shades: Carmine, Dull Carmine, Ruby, Pink and a blurred copy (from booklets) (5) and a small number of clear print booklet copies to match above at each ... | \$0.80 |
| | | (ii) | \$0.10 |
| | (g) | Flaws in fine used | |
| | | (i) "Q" flaw ... | \$0.75 |
| | | (ii) "Globe" flaw ... | \$0.40 |
| | | (iii) "Broken frame" ... | \$0.35 |

J2a on Jones Chalk - surfaced

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------|--|---------|
| (h) | <u>MINT</u> | | |
| | (i) | Set of Carmine and Deep Carmine - nice (2) | \$0.50 |
| | (ii) | Example of the thicker paper. Block of four single | \$1.00 |
| | | | \$0.25 |
| | (iii) | Booklet pane - fine! | \$6.00 |
| | (iv) | The unsurfaced paper - super! | \$50.00 |
| | (v) | "Feather" flaw in Mint pair | \$0.85 |
| (i) | <u>USED</u> | | |
| | (i) | Set of two shades used Carmine and Deep Carmine | \$0.10 |
| | (ii) | Thicker paper - good | \$0.05 |
| | (iii) | Fine used with inverted watermark | \$1.25 |

J3a De la Rue - thin unsurfaced

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|---------|-----|--------|
| (j) | <u>MINT</u> | Singles | ... | \$0.45 |
|-----|-------------|---------|-----|--------|

DECIMALS : CONT:

OVER:

In the 15c value this caused the sheet value to read \$22.5 which could be taken as 5 cents instead of 50 cents. Many Post Office clerks corrected this error by adding an 0 to each sheet.

Some sheets of this value have been found which have been perforated from the bottom instead of the top.

A number of 15c sheets have been found with inverted watermark.

Some sheets of the 25c and \$1 have been found with double perfs. in the top row.

On Row 6 No.4 of the \$2 value there appears an unusual number of flaws. Although they are minute dots, obviously recesses in the cylinder, there is a line of colour extending in each direction vertically from each mark.

As these sheets are printed sideways they are not the usual wiper flaws. It appears as if the wiper blade jumped as it hit each flaw. They appear to be constant over the whole printing. They could have been caused in the final polishing of the cylinder.

IMBROGLIO V

(k)	<u>USED</u>	Really superb used copies absolutely guaranteed, U.V. and watermark checked and all with clear, legible 1925 postmarks - outstanding at	\$12.00
		<u>J4a De la Rue medium wmk sideways</u>	
(l)	Mint copies	...	\$0.10
(m)	Used - Deep Carmine and Carmine in fine used (2)		\$1.30
		<u>J5a on art paper, litho watermark</u>	
(n)	<u>MINT</u>		
	(i)	Yellow Green wmk	... \$0.08
	(ii)	Blue Green wmk	... \$1.00
	(iii)	Blackish wmk	... \$4.00
	(iv)	SPECIAL Litho wmk <u>ON FRONT!!</u>	... \$20.00
(o)	<u>USED</u>		
	(i)	Set of fine with wmk's Yellow, Green Blue and Blue Green (4)	... \$0.35
	(ii)	Blackish Green in not so fine used	... \$1.00
	(iii)	Colourless - a good used with horizontal mesh	\$12.50
		<u>J6a on "Cowan" thick chalky paper</u>	
(p)	<u>MINT</u>		
	(i)	Fine blocks of four in Carmine and Deep Carmine (2)	\$2.50
	(ii)	Singles	\$0.55
	(iii)	"Globe" and "Feather" flaws in fine selvage - singles (2)	\$1.50
(q)	<u>USED</u>		
	(i)	Set of 3 fine used. Carmine, Deep Carmine and worn (top row) copy	... \$0.10
	(ii)	Set of fine used pairs, Carmine, Deep Carmine, worn plate	\$0.25
	(iii)	and a not so fine booklet pair used	\$0.35
	(iv)	Selvage booklet single used with Abdulla adverts	\$0.10
	(v)	Ditto fine used with Dainties advert	\$0.25
	(vi)	Set of (3) lovely used blocks of four - the two shades and worn plate	\$1.00
	(vii)	Pair with grossly misplaced perfs - awful!	\$1.50
	(viii)	Ditto single	... \$0.50
	(ix)	"Feather" flaw	... \$0.55
		<u>J7a Cowan with reversed watermark</u>	
(r)	<u>MINT</u>		
	(i)	Selvage booklet single	... \$0.50
		<u>USED</u>	
	(i)	Used singles two shades fine	... \$0.07
	(ii)	Selvage booklet singles "Kodak" ads...	\$0.10
	(iii)	Fine used blocks of four	... \$0.15
		<u>J8a WIGGINS TEAPE paper</u>	
(s)	<u>MINT</u>		
	(i)	Fine selvage corner block of four with serial number	\$2.25
	(ii)	Top selvage block of four with arrow marking - shows very worn plate	\$2.00
	(iii)	Singles	... \$0.50
	(iv)	"Globe" and "Feather" set	... \$3.25

CONT: NEXT MONTH

UNIVERSALS

Presenting!! What may be regarded as one of our best offers for years - an offer so difficult to repeat in quantity that to pass this month's lot is to lose a chance which may not be seen again certainly anywhere else than the Newsletter and maybe not even there.

The 1d UNIVERSAL seen these days as one of the best single specialist issues in the history of New Zealand stamps. Literally packed with different printers plates, papers, perforations, watermarks and shades. Crammed with re-entries, retouches and flaws - and with a supply drying up so quickly these days that it's often difficult to find good copies even in the "commoner" groups we offer this month a "specialist reference set" of fine used copies giving a complete coverage of paper and watermark types, printing plate groups and printing processes.

The set includes copies from

(i) London prints - printed in London as the name suggests these are probably technically the best Universals produced. For clean cut perforations, fine rich colour and high quality paper they take some beating

(ii) and (iii) First Local Print from plates 1, 2 and 3 on Waterlow thick paper with double-lined N.Z. and star watermark perforated 11 (two shades). The mesh is always vertical in these prints - a good differentiating factor with later issues. The shades are often deep and rich - almost a blood red in some extreme examples - perfs. are often coarse. (2)

(iv) On Basted Mills paper perf 14 watermark and mesh as above. The paper here is much thinner and harder and the design often shows through to the back. Quality of the print is often not as good as the Waterlows.

(v) On Cowan medium unwatermarked paper perf 14 Here we have a mesh change to horizontal and an inferior print, shades and perforation to the Londons. The paper lacks the clean-meshed look of the Londons - the other no-watermark group with which they might be confused.

(vi) and (vii) Prints from the Original "local" plates perf 14 The watermark is single-lined from now on - mesh horizontal. These three plates wore heavily towards the end of their effective life and we include an unworn and a late (worn) copy (2).

(viii) Prints from the Reserve Plate (plate "4") perforated 14 With their fine deep carmine shades and absence of inherent flaws this may be the finest of the prints on single-lined watermark paper. The spur ornament below the left rosette has a stronger inner line and the central area is more fully shaded than in (vi) and (vii). This plate was in use intermittently over a period of about 6 years (1902-1908).

(ix) Booklet Plate perf 14 A special plate was laid down in 1902 for the Booklets and the original die was damaged producing the flaw in the top right rosette "the 4 o'clock flaw" on all subsequent stamps in the series. The top left pearl was redrawn (possibly with a punch) and is heavy and distinct in all Booklet copies.

(x) and (xi) From the Dot Plate This plate wore heavily like the early local plates the distinguishing characteristic being the 4 o'clock flaw in the "Dots". We include an unworn and a worn copy. Both show the typical weak top left pearl and teeth of the spur ornament at left in this plate (2)

CONT: TOP BACK PAGE:

Memo!

CAMPBELL PATERSON'S LOOSE LEAF

NEW ZEALAND STAMP ALBUM

JUST OUT IN A HIGH QUALITY

COVER - WILL MAKE A PERFECT

GIFT FOR BIRTHDAY OR XMAS..... \$5.00

UNIVERSALS : CONT:

(xii) Waterlow plates perf. 14 The top left pearl and centre 3 pearls at left and right frame are strong. Two plates were used (W1 and W2).

(xiii) Royle Plates perf 14. The top left pearl is incomplete but the spur ornament is strong - there is an extra line of shading in the spur. These stamps are noted for their full and blood red shades.

(xiv) Surface Printing plate very similar to the later 1d Dominion plate - the shading lines in the globe at Zelandia's left are diagonal. This plate of course shows none of the distinguishing characteristics of the recess plates other than its general design.

Lot 4. The superb reference set of 15 different copies ... \$3.50
 (Booklet stamps are in relatively short supply so sets filled later may lack this item - it will certainly pay to order immediately).

MAINLY ARMS TYPE - MINT

Mainly rare too - and how!! Prices are up - yes, and are based on C.P. mid 1968 Catalogue Revision prices; which in turn are based on demand, supply (such as it is) and auction realisations.

Arms on the up and up! Some have (slight) hinge marks - all are very sound. New C.P. catalogue prices in brackets.

2.	(a)	Z.31b 2/6 Wiggins Teape single watermark (\$4.50)	...	\$4.00
	(b)	Z.33a 5/- Cowan single watermark (\$6.00)	...	\$5.00
	(c)	Z.39a 10/- Cowan single watermark (\$6.00)	...	\$5.00
	(d)	Z.40a 12/6 Cowan Single (\$40)	...	\$37.50
	(e)	Z.41a 15/- Cowan single (\$10)	...	\$5.00
	(f)	Z.42a £1. Cowan single (\$10)	...	\$7.50
	(g)	Z.44b 30/- Wiggins Teape Single (\$150)	...	\$140.00
	(h)	Z.53a 3/6 on 3/6 Wiggins Teape single (\$3)	...	\$3.00
	(i)	Z.54a 5/6 on 5/6 Wiggins Teape single (\$6)	...	\$5.50
	(j)	Z.55a 11/- on 11/- Wiggins Teape single (\$24)	...	\$22.50
	(k)	Z.56a 22/- on 22/- Wiggins Teape single (\$60)	...	\$60.00

GEORGES

3.	(a)	<u>George VI</u> 2d on 1kd. (M.5a) mint "Reinserted 2" in perfect positional block of four (Catalogued by C.P. at \$160)	\$125.00
	(b)	<u>George V.</u> K.4a plate 19 - perfect again	...	\$5.00
	(c)	<u>George V.</u> K.8a plate 22 no less	...	\$12.00

* Xmas buying prices. We owe all an apology for a misprint in last month's Newsletter. It should have read

Mint Xmas 1960	-	50¢
1961	-	30¢
1962	-	20¢
1963	-	7¢

still good prices !!



We would never jump on you but ----- Newsletter subs are now overdue!!!
 Just a dollar (or U.S. two dollars) will do.