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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT BY WARWICK PATERSON

"Newsletter" this month will find everyone nearly used to writing "69" and New Zealanders meditating again on that lemming like urge which drove them all down to the beach at Xmas and back to their desks in time for the hot months!

I found it interesting to ruminate recently on the C.P. New Variety Service and some of the things we have said in the past about it. This brings up something of a hobby-horse of mine. The *modern* issues give to thousands the chance to specialise, do original research on unlimited material, all without putting themselves into the bankruptcy court over it. To me the approach which classifies recess engraved issues as virtually the only stamps worthy of serious specialisation, is a short-sighted one and unfounded. Not everyone wants to take specialisation as far as Allen Acott - he has examined tens of thousands of 4d Anzac and come up with some remarkable conclusions about the modern processes - but one thing is well established; that the potential is there and many in the future will take advantage of it. In this regard "getting in early" has obvious advantages and I take the liberty of proving my point where our own service is concerned. Buyers of the 4c Services watermark inverted paid \$2 per copy late last year for theirs (as far as I can make out we were the only people with them). The same variety (now long off general P.O. sale) was advertised last month at \$3.50 - not an exorbitant price for an item of which only a few sheets were ever found. Buyers of the 4c Royal Society "5 number" plate blocks (there were admittedly only a few to go round) paid \$60 when they were first discovered. My buying price is in excess of \$60 each for these now and market soundings in the U.K. suggest that the price will go higher. In a hobby with interest burgeoning like ours is the implications are obvious whatever the issue.

For another example in the earlier issues, Full Face Queen enthusiasts will have been watching the Auction realisations over the past few months. I was particularly keen to buy several of the finer (and rarer) varieties included in Robson Lowe's sales of late November and early December and alerted our English Branch to this. After the sale back came their rather jaundiced comment "For anything "super" as a description the sky was the limit" and they weren't joking. I quote several examples.

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-------------|
| A pair of 1d Dull Carmine (London print S.G.1) | ... | ... | £1350 (stg) |
| catalogued by C.P. \$1800 (£900) | ... | ... | |
| A pair of 2d Dull Blue (London S.G.2) C.P. Cat. | ... | ... | £180 (stg) |
| \$200 (£100) | ... | ... | |

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| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|----------------|
| <u>Single Richardson 1d Red on Blue paper S.G.4</u> | | | |
| C.P. Cat \$150 (£75) | ... | ... | £95 (stg) |
| <u>Single 1/- Green Richardson Blue paper (S.G.6)</u> | | | |
| C.P. Cat \$400 (£200) | ... | ... | £310 (stg) |
| <u>Single Richardson 2d Pale Blue on NO wmk white paper S.G.9 C.P. Cat \$30 (£15)</u> | | | |
| Ditto 2d dull Deep Blue S.G.11 C.P. Cat \$35 (£17.10.0) | ... | ... | £115 (stg) |
| <u>Single Richardson 6d Chestnut on no watermark white paper S.G.15 C.P. Cat \$100 (£50)</u> | | | |
| | ... | ... | £57.10.0 (stg) |

and so it went on with prices for fine stamps exceeding all previous conceptions in their realisations.

* Note: *For Chalon enthusiasts I am tempted to suggest your fine copies may well be your best investment!*

2½c Kowhai plate 2A(3)3A, 2B(3)3B

Mrs. Lois Foote raised the alarm with a phone call that she had found 2A(3)3A sheets perforated through the left hand selvage a variant suggesting that the (double) sheets had been turned around in the perforating and machined from right to left - the opposite from the normal found in these sheets where the only imperforate selvage is that on the left side of the 2A(3)3A; i.e. normally they are perforated left to right. The double sheets are guillotined after perforating. It was logical to expect that sooner or later 2B(3)3B sheets would turn up with an unperforated right hand selvage. Sure enough my own enquiries bore fruit and we managed to find some of these matching sheets. Miss N. Williams of Auckland had in the meantime written to Thos. De la Rue in London who in an extraordinarily communicative letter not only confirmed Arthur Dexter's notes (see September Newsletter) where they touched on D.L.R. stamps but reported regarding the 2½c plates under discussion "the A and B panes were fed into the perforating head some "A left" and some "B left" and that "this is done to overcome difficulties caused by paper curl - this is also the reason for placing guide squares in the centre of each side" Nothing in the D.L.R. statement says anything about quantities - my observations are that the variant is the scarce one - and it is is very uncommon to date.

Another oddity of this particular (double) perforating head (report Mr. E.J. Duthie) appears in every second vertical row of perfs. in Row 17 and 18 of the "normally" perforated sheets and presumably (although I have not seen it) in Rows 3 and 4 of the "abnormally" perforated sheets. Row 17 (or 4) shows 9th and 10th holes close-spaced and Row 18 (or 3) shows 6th hole well out of place. This applies only to these sheet-printed 2½c plate 2A(3)3A and 2B(3)3A and 3c 2A(3)3A and 2B(3)3B; not any others to my knowledge.

DOLLAR ARMS TYPE FISCALS - WATERMARKS

Some correction and clarification is in order now to my original report of the watermark and perforation variations available - briefly: all values (\$4, \$6, \$8, \$10) have now appeared with both comb and line perforations and slightly modified shadings. Of the original line-perforated issue most have watermark W8b (Watermark W8 sideways inverted) although I have reason to believe that the stamps exist with watermark W8a (W8 sideways). (I have seen a sheet of the \$10 with line perforation and watermark W8a). In the comb perforation (now current) the stamps have watermark W8a. I have not seen copies with inverted watermarks in any values yet in this comb perf. issue.

2½c KOWHAI PLATES 1A(4), 2A1A(3)

Barry Smith of Masterton reports that Row 19/1 in both these sheets shows the "malformed bottom stroke of the small 2 of 2½" - another multi-positive flaw and one which can be shown to superb advantage in a pair of matching plate blocks from these sheets.

D5a SECOND SIDEFACE 3d MARK W3 p. 12 x 11½

Mr. Henry Rubin of Sydney tells me of an expertised copy of a double strike of the comb perforation in this stamp.

X10b LIFE INSURANCE No. V.K. 2d PURPLE

Dr. E.G. White showed me an inverted watermark in this stamp (a used copy).

MORE LOVELY FULL FACE QUEENS

Such was the volume of response to our Xmas Chalon Heads section (perforated groups) and the manner in which we presented them that we can now justifiably infer that the classifications used filled a real need in helping enthusiasts to select and purchase stamps suitable to their individual wants. This month, using the same three condition groupings we move on to the earlier imperforate issues 1862-64 printed by J. Davies at Auckland on the large star watermarked paper. The following short or complete sets are highly suited to those who would represent this, New Zealand's most magnificent of postage stamps. "Fine" have four full margins, no paper defects, good colour and light, clean postmarks off the face (priced usually at full catalogue these wonderful stamps occasionally command a premium over catalogue price).

"Intermediate" markings may be prominent and some may have paper defects - items all of good appearance 1/3 - 2/3 catalogue.

"Not So Fine" "Representation" items with defects (1/5 - 1/3 catalogue) often of superb appearance.

(Total catalogue on a complete set is over \$150.00)

"Not So Fine"

- 75 (a) A complete set of absolutely magnificent appearance including 1d red, 2d blue, 3d brown lilac, 6d red brown and black brown, 1/- yellow green - a chance in a thousand \$45.00
- (b) As 75 (a) but excludes the elusive 3d lilac - again appearance excellent ... \$25.00
- (c) As 75 (b) excluding 6d black brown ... \$17.50
- (d) Includes 2d blue, 6d red brown, 1/- green .. \$15.00
- (e) Includes 1d red and 3d blue ... 5.00

"Intermediate"

- 76 (a) Another "special"!! a lovely coverage of shades in this excellent Intermediate class. 1d vermilion 2d blue, 2d deep ultramarine (the rarity) 3d brown lilac, 6d red brown, 6d brown, 6d black brown, 1/- yellow green, 1/- blue green, 1/- emerald green. Total catalogue on this lot Yes! \$421 - yours for ... \$150.00
(And it's magnificent!)
- (b) Complete set as specified - 6 values ... \$100.00
Appearance stunning !
- (c) As 76 (b) but excluding the 3d brown lilac (5) \$65.00
- (d) 2d blue, 6d red brown, 6d black brown ... \$45.00
- (e) 1d red, 2d blue, 6d red brown ... \$25.00

"Fine"

77 (a) Into the material dreams are made of.



Ask to see one of the following sets and prepare to succumb to an impulse few can resist !

- Complete set of six values, large margins, brilliant colours and light postmarks ... \$175.00
- (b) As above and nearly as good ... \$150.00
- (c) As 77 (a) and (b) but excludes 3d Lilac ... \$100.00
- (d) 1d red, 2d blue, 6d red brown, 6d black brown \$75.00
- (e) 2d blue, 6d red brown, 6d black brown ... \$45.00
- (f) 2d blue and 6d black brown ... \$27.50



* 1970 is the year of Apex, the Sydney international exhibition (April). I will be in Sydney for the period of the exhibition with what I believe will be a large number of New Zealand enthusiasts; Australian readers with New Zealand material to sell may care to note that I am keen to value and purchase their collections or advise them on their best course of action. I am, in any event looking forward immensely to meeting as many as I can of our quickly growing number of friends and New Zealand collectors in Australia in the time which will be available.

IMBROGLIO VII a plethora of fascinating George Vs in the Surface Printed groups. Read on for papers, perforations, shades and varieties in a listing the like of which may prove hard for the expert or would-be enthusiast to find again.

½d Green K13a De la Rue mint

| | | | |
|------------|--|-----|--------|
| 66 (a) (i) | Short set of shades including green, pale green and yellow green. Lovely range | ... | \$2.80 |
| | Used | | |
| (ii) | Set of four fine shades, green, deep green pale green, yellow green | ... | 55¢ |
| (iii) | Two f.u. strips of three in yellow green and pale green | ... | 90¢ |

K13b Gowan Experimental - used

| | | | |
|-----|---|--|--------|
| (b) | Fine used singles of the scarce variety | | \$2.00 |
|-----|---|--|--------|

K13c Jones Chalky

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|--------|
| (c) (i) | Mint - yellow green and green singles (2) | ... | \$1.20 |
| (ii) | Thicker paper each | ... | 80¢ |
| (iii) | Used green and yellow green pair (2) | ... | 35¢ |

K13d Art paper Litho work

| | | | |
|---------|--|-----|--------|
| (d) (i) | Mint: Superb complete set of watermark types - blue green and colourless | ... | \$1.00 |
| (ii) | Block of four colourless watermark | ... | \$3.00 |
| (iii) | Used short set of 2 fine used blue and green watermarks | ... | 10¢ |

K13e Gowan Chalky

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|-----|
| (e) (i) | Mint: short set deep green, green, yellow green (3) | ... | 25¢ |
| (ii) | Copies showing worn plate (yellow green) each | | 20¢ |
| (iii) | Used set of five shades in fine condition deep green, green, pale green, yellow green and pale yellow green | ... | 25¢ |

K13f Gowan p.14

| | | | |
|---------|--|-----|-----|
| (f) (i) | Mint: short set green, pale green, pale yellow green | ... | 40¢ |
| (ii) | Special worn plate set of shades from top row with selvage green, pale green, yellow green, - spectacular! | ... | 35¢ |
| (iii) | Used: Nice set of used pairs in deep green, green, pale green, yellow green | ... | 50¢ |
| (iv) | Set of five listed shades in fine used (5) | ... | 30¢ |
| (v) | Copies from row 1. Show plate wear each | ... | 10¢ |

K13g Cowan Reversed watermark

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|--------|
| (g) (i) | Mint green copies each | ... | 50¢ |
| (ii) | Lovely block of four | ... | \$1.80 |
| (iii) | Worn plate copy from top sheet showing plate wear (selvage) | ... | 60¢ |
| (iv) | Used - fine each | ... | 20¢ |

K14a ½d. Green War Stamp

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----|-----|
| (h) (i) | Mint green and yellow green (2) | ... | 15¢ |
| (ii) | Used ditto used pair of shades | ... | 8¢ |

K15a 1d. Rose Carmine Field Marshall

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|--------|
| (i) (i) | Mint a magnificent set of blocks of four in the Rose Pink, Rose Carmine and Deep Rose Carmine | | \$1.75 |
| (ii) | or singles in those shades (3) | ... | 40¢ |
| (iii) | block of four from top sheet shows buffer bars (deep rose carmine) | ... | 20¢ |
| (iv) | Booklet pane in impeccable condition | ... | \$6.50 |
| (v) | Used superb block of four Rose Carmine | ... | 15¢ |
| (vi) | Strip of three | ... | 10¢ |
| (vii) | three fine vertical pairs, Rose Carmine, and Deep Rose Carmine | ... | 20¢ |
| (viii) | Lovely set of pairs - Rose Pink, Rose Carmine, Deep Rose Carmine | ... | 50¢ |
| (ix) | Ditto three fine shades in singles | ... | 25¢ |

K15b Cowan p.14 x 15

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|--------|
| (j) (i) | Mint lovely buffer bar offer in blocks of four from the top of the sheet, selvage shows buffer bars in Rose Carmine, Deep Rose Carmine, Rose Pink | | \$1.75 |
| (ii) | or blocks of four (3) | ... | \$1.50 |

ODD BODS

| | | |
|--------|--|---------|
| 79 (a) | Set of Edward VII proofs on thick card includes 3d, 5d, 8d black, 4d green, 6d carmine, 1/- bistre brown (6) superb introductory display to this issue | \$15.00 |
| 80 (a) | <u>E11a 4d Taupo (1898) p.11</u> <u>No water mark.</u> A huge block of 32 from the left hand side of the sheet showing patched insertion of a block of 24 | \$25.00 |
| (b) | <u>Eo 6b 2d Pembroke Peak p.14</u> block of 16 from top left of sheet | \$2.00 |
| (c) | <u>E15a 6d Kiwi red p.14 (reduced)</u> a transcendent block of 12 in the rare Deep Rose Red | \$25.00 |
| (d) | <u>E13b 5d Otira Gorge p.11</u> <u>No water mark</u> left hand selvage imperf. ... | \$15.00 |

K.G. V

| | | |
|--------|---|---------|
| 81 (a) | <u>Ko 5d plate 20 in block of four</u> | \$10.00 |
| (b) | <u>Ko 11a plate 25 ditto</u> | \$3.00 |
| (c) | <u>K 5f. 4d Geo V two-perf pair major "club foot"</u> re-entry plate 20 Row 4 No.10 Spectacular .. | \$15.00 |

IMBROGLIO VII (Continued)

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------|
| (iii) | singles 3 shades | 35¢ |
| (iv) | Used - three commercially used blocks of four In the three listed shades (above) good at | 75¢ |
| (v) | Three shades in finest used | 15¢ |
| <u>K15d Wiggins Teape</u> | | |
| (K) (i) | <u>Mint</u> Buffer bar block of four top selvage - fine | \$4.50 |
| (ii) | Two good shades (2) | \$2.00 |
| (iii) | Block of four of the thicker paper | \$8.00 |
| (iv) | Used Two fine shades in Rose Carmine | 30¢ |
| <u>K16a 1½d. Black - Local Plate</u> | | |
| (1) (i) | <u>Mint</u> - set of three blocks of four fine shades Black, grey black and grey | \$6.50 |
| (ii) | Ditto superb singles (3) | \$1.60 |
| (iii) | Used delightful set of 3 used shades | 15¢ |
| <u>K17a 1½d. Black - London Plate</u> | | |
| (m) (i) | <u>Mint</u> Blocks of four two shades black and grey black | \$2.50 |
| (ii) | Singles ditto | 60¢ |
| (iii) | Used Ditto singles (2) | 10¢ |
| <u>K17b 1½ Orange-brown De la Rue</u> | | |
| (n) (i) | <u>Mint</u> Pale Chestnut and orange brown singles | \$2.10 |
| (ii) | Used Two shades of orange brown in f.n. pairs | 15¢ |
| (iii) | Set of 3 fine used orange brown, deep orange brown and pale chestnut | \$1.10 |
| <u>K17c Cowan p.14</u> | | |
| (o) (i) | <u>Mint</u> Two lovely shades of this now scarce issue (2) | \$2.00 |
| <u>K18a 2d. yellow De la Rue</u> | | |
| (p) (i) | <u>Mint</u> yellow and orange yellow singles (2) | 60¢ |
| (ii) | Used yellow, pale yellow and orange yellow in set of 3 good used | 45¢ |
| <u>K18b Jones</u> | | |
| (q) (i) | <u>Mint</u> Pale yellow and pale dull yellow in marvellous matching blocks of four | \$8.00 |
| (ii) | or singles | \$2.00 |
| (iii) | Used two shades | \$1.50 |
| <u>K18c Art Litho Watermark</u> | | |
| (r) (i) | Two contrasting shades mint | \$1.00 |
| (ii) | Used very fine each | \$3.00 |
| (iii) | a dated pair (!!) | \$7.00 |
| <u>K18d Cowan p.14 x 15</u> | | |
| (s) (i) | <u>Mint</u> superb offset single | \$2.50 |
| (ii) | Orange yellow and yellow singles | 70¢ |
| (iii) | Used orange yellow | 5¢ |

Continued page 6

LONG TYPE FISCALS

A RUSH !! is about to ensue for the following seldom advertised lots.

Long Type Fiscals all guaranteed postally used, U.V. checked etc. Ideal for simplified album holders or others who may never have had the chance of such sets.

| | | | |
|--------|---|-----|---------|
| 78 (a) | comprises fine postally used copies of 2/- blue, 2/6 brown, 3/- mauve, 4/- brown red, 5/- green, 6/- rose, 8/- deep blue, 10/- maroon, 15/- green, £1 rose pink - what a set! | ... | \$13.00 |
| (b) | 2/- blue, 2/6 brown, 3/- mauve, 4/- brown red, 5/- green, 8/- blue, (6) | ... | \$5.00 |
| (c) | 2/- blue, 3/6 brown, 3/- mauve, 4/- brown red 5/- green, (5) | ... | \$3.50 |
| (d) | As 78 (c) but excludes 5/- green | ... | \$2.25 |
| (e) | 2/-, 2/6 and 3/- | ... | \$1.25 |
| (f) | 2/6 and 3/- | ... | 50¢ |
| (g) | 35 heavily used items or fiscals lot of duplication, but good for trade | ... | \$1.75 |

IMBROGLIO VII (Continued)K18c Cowan p.14

| | | | | |
|-----|------|--|-----|-----|
| (t) | (i) | Mint orange yellow each | ... | 25¢ |
| | (ii) | Used orange yellow (dated) copies and yellow shade short set | ... | 30¢ |

K18f Cowan Reversed

| | | | | |
|-----|-----|------------------|-----|--------|
| (u) | (i) | Used a good used | ... | \$4.00 |
|-----|-----|------------------|-----|--------|

K18g Wiggins Teape p.14 x 15

| | | | | |
|-----|-----|--|-----|--------|
| (v) | (i) | Mint Lemon yellow, orange, orange yellow 3 glorious shades | ... | \$2.85 |
|-----|-----|--|-----|--------|

K18h Wiggins Teape p.14

| | | | | |
|-----|-----|--|-----|--------|
| (w) | (i) | Mint Set of super 3 shades yellow, lemon yellow and orange, yellow | ... | \$2.40 |
|-----|-----|--|-----|--------|

K19a 3d. Chocolate De la Rue

| | | | | |
|-----|------|--|-----|--------|
| (x) | (i) | Mint shade pair chocolate and deep chocolate | ... | \$1.30 |
| | (ii) | Used Ditto finest | ... | 10¢ |

K19b Jones

| | | | | |
|-----|------|---------------------|-----|--------|
| (y) | (i) | Mint chocolate each | ... | \$2.50 |
| | (ii) | Used Ditto | ... | 75¢ |

K19c Cowan p.14 x 15

| | | | | |
|-----|-------|---------------------------|-----|-----|
| (z) | (i) | Mint Red chocolate | ... | 85¢ |
| | (ii) | Used superb block of four | ... | 25¢ |
| | (iii) | Shade set of three | ... | 15¢ |

1966 XMAS - A WARNING

I have seen several examples of an apparent "missing red" in this issue in used copies. Mr. Cory Matthew has carried out some investigations of his own on this stamp and has shown that this variety (catalogued by us) can be "manufactured" by exposure to sunlight. Strangely enough none of the other colours of the stamp seems to be affected by the treatment. All copies of this variety are, of course, now suspect although there is no proof that genuinely missing colours do not exist. Our listing of the variety in the C.P. catalogue was based on a used stamp from a reputable source. This was followed by a second also used which bore the authentication of another well-known catalogue producer. In view of the doubts now raised however we shall delete our listing at the first opportunity and until clearly provable copies appear listing will be withheld.

Finally a few thoughts. I wonder why the New Zealand Post Office invariably uses non-porous cellophane bags when they supply miniature sheets of the Health stamps each year. Admittedly they may be better from an appearance and publicity point of view but buyers of the Healths and those who would use the same type of material as inter-leaving in their albums should be warned that any non-porous substance brought into direct contact with stamps has a tendency to "sweat" - to be more explicit, under cellophane moisture absorbed from the atmosphere by the fibres of the paper of the stamp has no chance to escape - remains in the stamp - and provides a breeding ground for that fungoid growth "foxing" or "rust". Hence miniature sheets in the bags are well removed immediately.

The alternative is "glassine" - a thin opaque paper which is manufactured from woodpulp and not cellulose, is porous and allows the stamp to "breathe"