

# Campbell Patersons for collectors of NEWSLETTER New Zealand Stamps

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## NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENT—by Warwick Paterson

Over the past few years a new controversy has appeared amongst collectors of New Zealand's stamps, triggered off largely by the policy - not seen before in this country - of the Government in apparently using every centenary, bicentenary and notable event as an excuse for the issue of a new stamp or set. The practice of "jumping on the bandwagon" has left collectors of a number of countries unhappy and disillusioned and may, in the case of some small countries, actually have killed the market for their issues. We saw such machinations as the previously unannounced appearance of a whole series of high values with a face value of anything up to \$10 (you have to buy them or your set is incomplete), or the appearance of variations in paper (this time you have to buy the whole set again). Fortunately New Zealand has been above this type of dubious practice and there has never been any suggestion of dishonesty on the part of our Government. Such is the trauma of "too many issues" however that the situation that we see in 1971 - most of a major definitive issue as well as a commemorative, Health or Xmas issue every month from now until the end of the year - is likely to produce a very definite reaction on the part of collectors who envisage sets appearing for every insignificant reason in an apparent Governmental ploy to exploit the stamp collector. To its credit the New Zealand Post office can be said to have displayed excellent public relations on most occasions lately and obviously makes a point of keeping its ear to the ground. A recent release states that 1971 is a much heavier year for new issues than was originally planned due to delays in the definitives. "With a view to preventing a similar situation in future" it is now planned to limit the number of special issues - meaning Commemoratives, Healths and Xmas - to six per year. As with the recent City Centenaries issue the grouping of commemoratives will assist in this aim and recognition has been given to the emergence of "constructive philately" or thematic collecting. All the signs are good and show that the Post office does intend to act with collectors' interest at heart, despite the fact that the flood of new issues must provide a large part of the takings in the three Philatelic Bureaux now in operation. A larger country, can, as Russia does, support a far greater number of new issues by dint solely of its huge population - this obviously can never apply in New Zealand. However, there are two areas in which I believe that Post office policy could be improved. Firstly the hardy perennial about designs and production standards. Nothing will popularise our stamps more quickly both at home and abroad than an immediate and marked improvement in the quality of design. The design concepts and symbolism of the 1930's and 1940's are simply not enough to carry a message across a competitive world. Tired old ideas with coats of arms, aerial photographs of towns, and jumbled up "everything but the

### CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD

PO Box 5555, Auckland. 1.  
Room 404 Fourth Floor,  
Canterbury Building,  
Queen Street,  
Telephone: 379-118 Auckland

### CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD

PO Box 17,  
Oriental Road  
WOKING,  
SURREY,  
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kitchen sink" designs just won't do. I think we have to look ahead and not back if it's new export markets we want. Secondly I believe that the Post office should encourage the use of stamps on overseas mail. The publicity gained when one finds an overseas stamp on an envelope cannot be gauged and the impression can last a lifetime - the same can hardly be said for the impression left by those awful machines - - - - .

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K.G. VI SHILLINGS BONANZA - IV By Claude Scott

The 3/- red-brown and grey, as befits the highest denomination, has what seems to be the rarity of the series - a stamp with the frame doubly printed, one of the impressions being albino.

A double printing of the centre exists in the 1/- with watermark upright (M15a). The Campbell Paterson Catalogue suggests that some 30 mint examples of this survived and I know of a block, a pair and a single. Of the 3/- double print, on the other hand, there is apparently recorded only a single used copy, long in the collection of Mr. Arthur Dexter, of Auckland. The whole frame is blurred, as is normal in a double print, and the albino impression is clearly visible in the bottom margin.

Another scarce item is mentioned in Volume IV of the Handbook: "One sheet was issued at Wellington on paper so thin that it could correctly be called pelure." A few others have come to light since. I have seen two plate numbers blocks from Plates 2 - 1 and four from Plates 3A - 1, two of the last nestling unnoticed among lots on normal paper.

By the rarest of good fortune one of these 3A - 1 pelure blocks was big enough to include R15/4 with its frame re-entry. This R15/4 and the stamp immediately above it in the sheet, R14/4, provide a whole course in philatelic study and the Handbook note, devoted as it is to R15/4, leaves much unsaid. Excluding the pelure paper variety and shades, there are at least seven combinations.

In early printings with Centre Plate 2 R14/4 was normal but R15/4 had a small flaw at the top left of "L" of "Zealand" (State 1). Soon R14/4 developed a flaw above the value tablet at right and on R15/4 another flaw appeared on the "W" of "New" (State 2). To remove these blemishes the frames of both stamps were re-entered. The re-entries provided even more prominent varieties: the whole of the right side of each stamp was noticeably darker (State 3).

"After the re-entered plate had been in use for a while", to quote the Handbook, a vertical scratch appeared on R15/4, running down from the top of the inner frame line to opposite the ear (State 4). For some reason this scratch gradually became fainter until it was scarcely visible but, by that time, frame plate cracks had opened in the margins between R15/4 and R15/5 (State 5).

Centre Plate 3A replaced Plate 2 and the first printing showed the very faint scratch and the cracks between R15/4 and R15/5 (State 6). As the printings went on, the cracks became bigger and more extensive to give the final State 7.

Any collectors lucky enough to have bigger blocks to study may relate the sequence of these R14/4 and R15/4 combinations to varieties on R16/6. There was first a flaw in the margin at the top left and then a re-entry of the whole frame.

As in the 1/3 value, the frame of the 3/- has more interest than the centre plates, which are relatively free from flaws. There are, for example, flaws and re-entries on R3/2, R10/1, R10/8, R11/10 and R14/9. And there is the major scratch across the bottom inscription of R7/10 into the lettering at the top of R8/10. Because it was so prominent a defect, blocks showing it are fairly easy to find. The same cannot be said of the original undamaged state and of the later retouch to remove the scratch: the last seems rare.

Inverted watermarks are worth watching for. They come in several shades but in nothing like the profusion of shades of the ordinary stamps. Shades, in fact, are among the biggest attractions of this denomination.

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 Pair imperforate, lovely in colour and condition - one of the greatest rarities of the series, and undoubtedly a "highlight" of any George V collection and indispensable if that collection is to rank as one of significance. This is a "Plum" (Gum brown) ... \$300.00

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More items selected for their particular specialist interest.

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## COMMEMORATIVES

- 315 (a) Christchurch Exhibition  
 Complete set in outrageously fine condition - blocks of four ... \$120.00
- (b) Ditto (yes another!) set in slightly lesser condition minor perf stains some stamps ... \$100.00
- (c) Ditto short set of vertical pairs - short of 6d MINT \$ 14.00
- (d) Ditto singles set of four values - minor hinges some stamps MINT \$ 27.50
- (e) Auckland Exhibition set of singles - v. fine \$ 50.00
- (f) Dunedin Exhibition The three values in lovely blocks of four ... \$ 15.00
- (g) Ditto 4d value Fine left hand selvedge complete vertical double strip including the rare Row 10 No.1 "POSTAGF" flaw (cat \$86.50) (This last is an investment piece) \$ 75.00
- (h) Victory Issue  
 1/- value orange vermilion, in lovely block of four \$ 20.00
- (l) 1935 Silver Jubilee The three values in attractive blocks of four ... \$ 8.00
- (j) 1936 Chamber of Commerce The five values in fine used plate blocks ... \$ 5.00

## HEALTHS

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 Wonderful mint pairs ... \$ 90.00
- (b) Ditto mint singles ... \$ 45.00
- (c) Ditto fine used ... \$ 43.00
- (b) 1932 Goddess Hygeia Two fantastic blocks of four mint. Quite the deepest carmine and palest pale carmine we have seen - the blocks ... \$ 50.00

## AIRS

- 317 (a) 1931 Short set in fine used 3d Chocolate, 4d purple, 7d Brown orange 5d surcharge, yellow green \$ 9.50
- (b) 1931 Airmint, as above but includes 7d Trans Tasman complete set 5 stamps ... \$ 12.50

## LONG TYPE FISCAL

- 318 (a) Z015f, £1 pink used (fine) a stupendous block of four condition perfect ... \$ 45.00

## GEORGE VI

- 319 (a) M10a 6d Carmine mint block of four with the scarce inverted watermark ... \$ 45.00  
 or singles each ... \$ 12.00

## SECOND SIDEFACES

- 320 (a) Fine set of mint blocks of four includes ½d black (D1h) 1d Rose (D2p) 2d Lilac (D3k) 3d yellow (D5h) 4d Green (D6g) 2½d blue (D4j) 5d olive-black (D7e) 6d brown (D8m) 8d blue (D9d) (two stamps 8d stains - no charge) 1/- Red brown (D10k) super set (10 values) ... \$ 47.50

## GEORGE V - 1d DOMINIONS

- 321 (a) a really outstanding lot of booklet panes - includes ½d green; Jones thick, Jones thin paper, De la Rue clear print reversed' (Kodak ads). 1d Dominion the same papers as above excluding the De la Rue. Marvellous set of Nine ... \$100.00

8c FLAG SEVERAL WONDERFUL MODERN ITEMS

A result of painstaking research and vigilance these items came to us from an assiduous devotee of N.Z. moderns.

313 (a) of outstanding importance



A "progressive damage and flaw" set of three fine bottom right, traffice light selvedge blocks of 15 (3 x 5) showing at Row 11 No 8 Stage 1. A flaw develops in the top of the N of Zealand showing where a foreign body has inbedded itself in the plate. Stage 2. The doctor blade encounters the foreign matter and "jumps" it leaving a "Rangitoto" doctor blade flaw in this position in the direction of printing Stage 3. Foreign body and flaw have almost gone and later sheets showed that it eventually disappeared.

The unique set ... \$ 65.00

(b) Again! Three consecutively numbered serial number selvedge blocks of ten stamps showing stage 1. Small Red "Rangitoto" flaw above D of New Zealand stage 2, flaw appears as a dot in the blue plate (doctor blade flaw gone) and stage 3. The flaw and doctor blade flaw have both disappeared. \$ 35.00

(c) Block of six shows blue printing flaw on L of Zealand \$ 2.50

(d) Row 1 No. 9 a huge red flaw covers the flag - truly a battle-stained ensign - one of the most spectacular inking flaws we have seen ... \$ 15.00

(e) Row 15 No. 9 large marginal blue inking flaw \$ 5.00

SOME SCARCE MATERIAL IN SHEETS POSTAGE DUE

209 (a) Y11a 1st Type Due 3d. A complete sheet comprising both panes of 60 120 stamps some stains on back but unusual and ideal for research most stamps fine ... \$ 20.00

DUNEDIN EXHIBITION

210 (b) 4d Exhibition Buildings Green - complete sheet, some stains but priced for fine stamps only \$ 8.25

1935 PICTORIAL

211 (a) L5f 2½d Mt Cook & Lillies. perf. 13 3/4 x 13½ coarse paper. A complete pl. 4 sheet (60 stamps) cat \$6 \$ 4.00

(b) L12d 1/- Tui - p14 x 13½ (coarse) complete sheet of 240 stamps (Cat \$48) ... \$ 20.00

(c) L13g 2/- Captain Cook p13 3/4 x 13½ (coarse) plate 3 - a complete sheet (cat. \$72) ideal for replating and research. ... \$ 35.00

(d) L14g 3/- Mt Egmont p 14½ x 13½. Complete sheet plate 1 (Cat \$60) ... \$ 40.00

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