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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENTS by WARWICK PATERSON

FULL FACE QUEENS

Make sure they are clean and properly identified.

In almost all the issues of New Zealand stamps there are examples of stamps which, while looking superficially like their relatively common fellows, are distinguished by differences, detectable to the practised eye, which make them much more valuable. These differences take the form of variations in paper, perforation, watermark, mesh, printing plate or what have you. Not only are the differences quite tangible, but the value "bonus" for a good find is real and well worth the time it takes you to learn how to do it. (This leaves out of consideration the sheer fun you have in the meantime).

In no case is the foregoing more true than in the Full Face Queens (1855 - 1873). A glance down the value columns in Section A of the CP Catalogue leaves you in no doubt as to the magnitude of the prize, if only you can obtain material to look through and gain the expertise to know what you are looking for.

This is the fundamental of the CP Catalogue, the idea being to present the user with a concise and readable check list backed up by extensive illustrations, notes and information which will, combined with familiarity with the stamps, allow him to develop his philatelic abilities. This to the point where the previously seemingly minor differences between varieties of the same stamp become daylight clear. Experience, needless to say, is all important - you can't do without some stamps to look at and study.

Three examples of Full Face Queens which I have seen lately illustrate the point. In one, Mr. Alan Jackson of Kuwait sent over a batch of Full Faces for opinion and comment recently. The condition was variable, but the stamps were clean and well presented. One - a copy of the 1/- Blue-green of 1858 - 1861 printed by Richardson on unwatermarked white paper, appeared facially as a fair copy only with crease and corner damage. No matter! A glance at the back revealed that it was only the second copy I have ever seen with vertical mesh and as I had discovered the first some years ago in an auction lot, this added spice to the corroboration of a variety which is

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listed in CP (A6ca). This vertical mesh (thinner and harder) paper by the way, is little scarcer in the other values in which it appears (1d., 2d., 6d.) than the other (thick) HM paper. Here, recognition of mesh was the important factor.

In the second case a new client in Auckland approached us with an envelope of Full Faces - maybe a dozen items in all - most of which were "on piece". His father had given them to him years before with the instruction to "look after one of the 1d. stamps". Advice had been hard to come by in the meantime, or so it seemed and our client had been given a certain amount of clearly inaccurate information about identifications - information which brief reference to the CP Catalogue could have corrected. Nevertheless, one 1d. pair on piece with Dunedin obliterator took my eye in that way certain stamps do sometimes (and not always for reasons of which one is entirely conscious). The pair looked as if they might have come through the frying pan with the bacon - nevertheless, they looked interesting. With the permission of the owner I immersed this gum-soaked pair in fresh water and the gum floated away revealing a brilliant pair of SG. 81 1d. Bright Orange-vermilion on Pelure Provisional paper of 1862 (see illustration front page of Newsletter last month). A lovely find! The upshot of the story is that the pair sold for \$5500 last month to an American specialist who observed after a little high-powered detective work that this was the third pair known, the first two having been in the "Caspary" and "Burrus" collections. "Ex Pack" had been a strip of six later reduced to a perfect strip of five. Our client's pair was a nice find indeed and is not untypical of what can happen with some careful observation.

Finally, a single of the 2d. Plate 2, perf 12½ (SG114) which I found "ex stock" took my interest. A tiny line in the bottom margin identified it as coming from the bottom row and there was evidence of plate damage - yet there was none of the characteristically crude retouching of the last state of Plate 2 which corrected the earlier damaged state. (The damaged state in turn followed the undamaged state). This was, then, a pre-retouch copy of the damaged state of Plate 2 (actually R 20/6) and another nice find. It had the additional technical interest of showing largely blind perforations on the right - a result of perforation machine inefficiency endemic to this period of the Full Faces. Another nice find - it is advertised this month.

Back to the moral of the story! In my experience all Full Face Queens will respond well (without suffering damage) to a wash in very hot water - without additives. The residue of gum and dirt accretion of many years is usually relatively easy to remove. Drying or light pressing should be done on or between clean blotting paper. Try it with your Full Faces, but do exercise caution. Wet stamps tear easily, so lift each copy out of the water with the flat of a knife or fine spatula. Avoid handling or the use of tweezers and soak for 10 minutes at the most - and good hunting - you may yet be surprised to find what you already have!

POSTAL RATES The recent announcement that the Post Office plans to issue a \$5 stamp on 2nd December 1981, brings home again to us the spectre of rising postal rates, more expensive philately and less Xmas cards and personal mail communications. Pity the UK collector and mail user, however. The latest Royal Mail postal rates published reveal the following shocks (approximate NZ equivalents in brackets). Letter post 1st class (60g) 14p (35¢), 2nd class 11½p (29¢). Parcel post 1kg. £1.10 (\$2.75). The following statistics may also raise a few eyebrows in the believe it or not section. The British Post Office, according to the Sunday Times "prints money". It is estimated that they made last year at least £15 million in extra revenue just from "special stamps". They issued 5000 million stamps worth £435 million of which collectors took (and presumably demanded no service in return for) about £20 million worth

NEW LIFE INSURANCE ISSUES PROJECTED Mr. Neil Walker of Hawera has kindly shown me a letter he has received from the Hon. Derek Quigley, Minister in charge of the Govt. Life Insurance Office, in answer to his queries. Mr. Quigley states:

"The Office has successfully negotiated with the New Zealand Post Office for a new set of stamps in varying denominations to be issued approximately midway through 1981. Detailed consideration has been given to this issue with particular reference to design and denomination.

Continued bottom opposite page...

FIRST SIDEFACES - ½D, NEWSPAPER STAMP

A recent purchase allows us to list this now terribly scarce issue. The listing is specialised and displays an uncommonly high level of condition, both mint and used. A chance which may not soon be repeated.

¾d. NEWSPAPER STAMP

68 (a)	Bla "NZ" Wmk., p.10 (1873) Superb with full gum V.V.V.L.H.....	\$75.00
(b)	Bla Copy with no gum - nice	\$25.00
(c)	Bla Ditto Used copy with full strike "OTAGO" obliterator. Good of the period	\$10.00
(d)	Blb Ditto, perf 12½ Good used copy	\$35.00
(e)	Bld Ditto, perf 10 x 12½ This the scarcer variation (usually p.12½ x 10). Centrally placed obliterator ("21") but nice copy of rarity. (Cat. \$100)	\$50.00
(f)	Bla, b, c "NZ" wmk. paper In all perfs (10, 12½, 12½ x 10) in the "no watermark" variation. Three used copies - "a" has slight crease, "b" slight thin, "c" super used. Lovely set of three (Cat. \$160)	\$80.00
(g)	Bla (2) As above Unused, "no gum" corner crease. (Cat. \$75)	\$15.00
(h)	B2a "Small Star" Wmk. set Includes B2a (p.12½) o.g. (stain) and set of six shades good to fine used (incl. wmk. inverted)	\$2.00
(i)	B2b Ditto, perf "nearly 12" Fine used (g'teed) with a thinned, but super-looking part o.g. copy thrown in	\$15.00
(j)	B3a "NZ and Star" wmk. Nice LH set. The two main shades, plus varieties "no wmk." and "letter wmk." - four mint stamps	\$3.00
(k)	B3a Ditto Fair used set, including six shades plus not-so-fine copy of double perfs. Free with lot (j) (above)	

FIRST SIDEFACES

1d. LILAC

69 (a)	ClA, Perf 12½ LH copy (mint) - well centred - lovely. Deep Lilac shade	\$35.00
(b)	ClA Ditto As above V.V.V.L.H. in Lilac. A glorious copy	\$45.00
(c)	ClA Ditto "Intermediate", but attractive used	\$1.00
	Or a pair fair used in the blueed paper variety (dated)	\$5.00
	Or super blueed single (used)	\$15.00
(d)	Clb Ditto, perf 10 x 12½ Most attractive unused copy (no gum) with faults (cat. \$100 at least)	\$10.00
	Or superb used - lovely condition	\$35.00
(e)	Clb Ditto Lovely LH copy o.g., of the scarce "blueed paper" (p.10 x 12½)	\$120.00
(f)	Clb (x) Ditto Irregular comp. perf - in superb dated used p.10 x 12½ x 12½ x 12½. Exceptional item	\$50.00
(g)	Cld Ditto, perf 12½ (wmk. "large star") Good used copy (cat. \$60)	\$40.00
(h)	Cle Ditto, perf. 12 x 11½ Set of three, including unused (no gum) and two excellent used (shades)	\$10.00

2d. ROSE

70 (a)	C2a, Perf 12½, used Set of three good shades in excellent used. Rose, Pale Rose, Deep Rose	\$7.50
(b)	C2a Ditto Blueed paper - fine used copy	\$15.00
(c)	C2b Ditto, Perf 10 x 12½ Good used copy - slightly untidy prk.....	\$45.00
(d)	C2b Ditto, Perf 12½ x 10 (variety) Superb used copy - centred to right	\$60.00

LIFE INSURANCE ISSUES (Contd.)

As a keen philatelist you will be aware that the Government Life Office is the only commercial organisation in the world with the rights to use its own postage stamps and your point is taken that over recent years some of the District Offices have been making use of franking machines to introduce some element of efficiency. However, I am assured by the Commissioner that it is his policy to phase out the use of franking machines wherever possible and reintroduce the usage of its own stamps.

As a matter of general interest to you it is already arranged that a further Centenary issue will be promoted in 1991 to mark the occasion of the Government Life Office's first issue of stamps which occurred in 1891."

FIRST SIDEFACES (Contd.)

70 (e)	C2d Ditto, Perf 12 x 12½	Lovely used copy of a great item. Perfs g'teed. Super opportunity	\$175.00
(f)	C2e Ditto, p.12½, wmk. "large star"	OUTSTANDING Superb V.L.H., o.g. example of this great variety. Lovely centring - a specialist's chance and the price is right	\$450.00
(g)	C2f Ditto, perf 12 x 11½	Superb U.H.M. copy - perfect (Rose)	\$55.00
	Or V.L.H. copy of gorgeous appearance		\$35.00
(h)	C2f Ditto	Used - fine. Rose, Deep Rose, Pale Rose in gorgeous set...	\$9.00

3d. DEEP BROWN

71 (a)	C3a, Perf 12½	V.L.H. copy mint. Large part o.g. Cat. lately at \$200, this super copy	\$150.00
	Or very good used with light obliterator pmk. of the period. Lovely item		\$50.00
(b)	C3a 3d. Ditto	Blued paper. Lovely V.L.H. copy o.g. - blued paper. Wide bottom margin - exceptional and typical of this superior listing. An important item - unlisted in C.P.	\$300.00
		<i>(The above lot is unconditionally guaranteed genuine)</i>	
	Or beautiful looking dated used - minor crease		\$25.00
(c)	C3b, 3d. Ditto, perf. 10 x 12½	Lovely L.H. o.g. mint. Well centred and featuring irregular compound perf. Outstanding appearance and condition	\$300.00
	Or fine used copy of this irregular compound perf variety with slightly blued paper. Wonderful item		\$100.00
(d)	C3b, 3d. Ditto, p.10 x 12½	Used copy of fetching appearance. Left side clipped, right side slightly clipped	\$10.00

4d. INDIAN RED

72 (a)	C4a, Perf 12½	Superb mint copy. V.V.L.H. and large part o.g.	\$150.00
	Or superb used copy		\$50.00
(b)	C4b, 4d., p.10 x 12½, irregular compound	Lovely example of commercial usage, clear face - outstanding value	\$120.00
	Or a fair used copy with blued paper - cat. \$200 - lovely at		\$50.00
(c)	C4d, 4d. Ditto, perf. 12 x 11½	L.H. copy of fresh, lovely appearance. Centred slightly right	\$150.00
	Or used of super appearance and minor fault		\$10.00

6d. BLUE

73 (a)	C5a, Perf 12½	Lovely mint V.L.H. copy, o.g. and well centred - beautiful Or copy with heavy hinged, but super appearance o.g.	\$250.00
	Or no gum - minor thin		\$100.00
	Or not-so-fine used of good appearance		\$20.00
(b)	C5a 6d. Ditto, used	Perfect used copy - could not be bettered	\$25.00
	Or good used		\$10.00
	Or average used with blued paper (cat. \$50)		\$2.00
	Or average used with blued paper (cat. \$50)		\$20.00
74 (a)	C5b 6d. Ditto, perf 10 x 12½	Good to fine used copy	\$20.00
	Or L.H. copy, part o.g. Lovely!		\$100.00
(b)	C5b 6d. Ditto, Irregular Compound perf.	On blued paper - dated. Excellent used copy of scarce item	\$85.00
	Or commercially used irregular comp. perf.		\$20.00
75 (a)	C5c, 6d., Perf 12 x 11½	Superb mint L.H. copy. Well centred etc., - o.g. Minor perf stain	\$125.00
	Or good/average commercially used		\$10.00

1/- GREEN

76 (a)	C6a, perf 12½	Absolutely superb example - o.g., perfect centring - rare Or attractive unused copy (cat. \$825). Lovely centring, etc. An impressive example (possibly not o.g.)	\$750.00
	Super looking without gum		\$100.00
	Or vertical crease - o.g. and glorious appearance		\$100.00
(b)	C6a 1/- Ditto	Superb used copy	\$40.00
	Or super commercially used		\$15.00
	Or copy with minor fault		\$5.00

NZ MINT UNHINGED (OR VERY LIGHTLY HINGED)

A fine collection broken up - containing many of the most sought after sets, some on the original pages - some off. Quite a chance this. It is all lovely, fresh, unstained material. Check on prices carefully! Where hinging is slightly heavier, full price allowance has been made.

- 100 (a) 1898 PICTORIALS (LONDON PRINTS) A complete set in LH condition with some shade variation. Contains ½d. Mt. Cook Purple-brown and Blackish Purple, two shades 2d. Pembroke, two shades of 4d. Terraces, two shades 2½d. "Wakitipu", two shades Otira Gorge (incl. Sepia), two shades 9d. Pink Terrace etc. Magnificent VUH copies of the 2/- and 5/- on its page in all its glory (complete) \$1100.00
- (b) 1900-1901 PICTORIALS etc. (Watermark, double lined NZ and Star) Perf 11. LH. ½d. Green Mt. Cook, four good shades included. Blackish-green, Pale Yellow-green. 1d. Terraces, Crimson, Lake-crimson, Rose-red. ½d. Boer War, Chestnut, Red Chestnut, Pale Chestnut. 2d. Pembroke Peak (Purple), Dull Violet, Mauve, Purple. Off the page \$100.00
- (c) 1900 PICTORIALS Perf 11 (no watermark), LH. 4d. Lake Taupo Three good shades, including Greenish Blue. 6d. Kiwi Red Rose and Lisbon paper. 6d. Kiwi Green Yellow-green, Deep Green. 5d. Otira Three good shades. 9d. Pink Terrace Deep Purple, Rosy Purple. 1/- Kea and Kaka Red, Dull Red, Dull Orange, Orange-red. 3d. 8d., 2/- Blue-green, 5/- Vermilion. Superb: off the page \$800.00
- (d) 1902-1907 Pictorials (Perf 11, watermarked) Another superb LH set. 2½d., 3d., 4d., Taupo, 5d., (four shades incl. Black-brown), 6d., Red (three shades), 8d., 9d., 1/- (four shades) 2/-. Short of 5/- only. Fully adjusted for all condition factors. Off the page \$370.00
- (e) 1903 2/- "Laid" paper Part o.g. Copy of superb appearance \$100.00
- (f) 1902-1909 Pictorials (Perf 14) On their attractive page. 1½d., 2d., (three shades), 2½d., (two shades), 4d., (three shades), 3d., (two shades), 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d., 1/- (2), 2/- (2), 5/- (sideways wmk.).... \$675.00
- (g) 1901-1908 An interesting study of the issues of this period in LH condition - mounted on three pages. Includes ½d. Green Mt. Cook Basted Mills, perf 11 x 14, 14 x 11, p.14 (pair top left selvedge). Cowan wmk., p.14, p.14 x 11, mixed perfs, new plates p.14 (three shades), p. 14 x 13 - 13½, p. 14 x 15. 1d. Universal London print, Pirie, p.11 (2), Basted Mills, p.14, p. 11 x 14, Cowan wmk., p.14. Dot plate worn and unworn. Surface printed. 3d. Huias (redrawn) p.14, p. 14 x 13 - 13½, p.14 x 15. 6d. Kiwi (redrawn), p.14 (Pink and Red p.14 x 15. 1/- Kea and Kaka (redrawn) p.14 x 15. 4d. Taupo p.14 x 13 - 13½. ½d. KE VII, 1d. Dominion (Jla). Lovely lot in outstanding condition \$525.00
- (h) 1906 CHRISTCHURCH EXHIBITION One of the finest unHINGED mint sets we have seen. 1d., and 2d., are selvedge copies, 6d., is top and left side selvedge. Condition is absolute perfection. UHM and finest mint \$1100.00
- (i) 1913 AUCKLAND EXHIBITION Another UHM set - condition fine. European dealer's mark on the back does not detract. The last UHM set we sold was priced at \$1400 which makes this offer outstanding \$1000.00
- (j) 1909 KING EDWARD VII A mini collection of this superb issue. The set is complete from 2d. to 1/- and contains all the papers and perforation varieties and some shades in LH singles plus two-perf pairs of 5d. and 8d. in blocks of four - 20 stamps, two blocks of four. (The 6d., p. 14 x 13½ is good dated used) \$950.00
- (k) 1915 KING GEORGE V Recess and Surface A lovely lot on eight pages. A number of the recess prints are UHM, some are LH. The surface prints are LH. Recess - all varieties (excl. pl. 44) in singles plus 1½d., 2d., Violet, 2d., Yellow, 4., Yellow, 4d., Violet, 2½d., 4½d., 5d., 7½d., 8d., 9d., in two perf pairs plus 3d., and 1/- in two perf blocks of four. Also single used 4d., pl. 20 R/E, R 4/10, 1½d., two perf pairs, one with no wmk. (pictorial paper), 6d., Camine-rose - a beauty (p. 14 x 13½), 9d., Yellow-olive. Surface prints are complete as to papers and include 1d. Dominion and Map stamp. Lovely chance of some very high quality material \$3000.00
- (l) 1920 VICTORY SET Super LH set in dazzling condition. Two shades of each of the ½d., (including Pale Yellow-green), 1d., 1½d., 2d. o/p, also 3d., 6d., 1/- . Lovely! \$125.00
- (m) 1925 DUNEDIN EXHIBITION Super page. ½d., and 1d. UHM; and block of four with full selvedge, 4d., of R 1/2 POSTAGE. Variety (with full stop) \$525.00

FIRST SIDEFACES (Contd.)

77 (a)	C6b 1/- Ditto, perf 10 x 12½	Glorious U.H.M. copy - centred slightly right, but quite exquisite. One of the nicest items this month - outstanding	\$750.00
(b)	C6b, 1/- Ditto, used	Dated - heavy clean pmk. - good (cat. \$100)..... Or not-so-fine	\$50.00 \$15.00
78 (a)	C6c, 1/- Ditto, perf 12 x 11½	Magnificent L.H. copy o.g. Appearance perfect - one of those stamps!	\$300.00
(b)	C6c, 1/- Ditto	Lovely used copy	\$35.00
		Or fine looking used with minor fault	\$10.00

2/- CLARET

79 (a)	C7a, p.12 x 11½	L.H. o.g. copy of deep vibrant colour and superb centring. Original sheet fold (shows printer's "set-off" previous sheet) does little to detract. It is a beautiful copy - lately cat. at \$750	\$400.00
(b)	C7a 2/- Ditto used.	Attractive with slightly parted perf. at top and minor scuff. Light pmk..... Or copy with good (genuine used) appearance. Perfs clipped	\$295.00 \$50.00

5/- GREY

80. (a)	C8a, perf 12 x 11½	One of the best MINT we've had for years. Outstanding in every way - o.g. with V.V.V.L.H.....	\$750.00
(b)	C8a 5/- Ditto	Good commercially used copy. Heavy but clear oblit. pmk. A little paper crinkling at reverse. Good looking genuine used (and that's worth a lot!)	\$75.00

FULL FACE QUEEN - PERF 12½

67 (a)	SG.114, 2d. Plate 2, Deep Blue Shade	Nice specialist item, magnificent used (as described in this month's NZ Notes). Row 20/6 in "damaged plate" but "pre-retouch" state. Perfs on right lower side "blind" but intact. This stamp thus illustrates two major variety features of early New Zealand stamp production and is rare	\$125.00
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WE MUST BUY

Our regular monthly spot - Remember - until stocks are filled. UHM or finest used only please.

MINT (UHM)

<u>King Geo. VI</u>	
M1a	½d. Green 20¢
M2a	1d. Scarlet 20¢
M4a	1½d. Chocolate.. \$6
M8a	4d. Magenta 20¢
M9a	5d. Grey 60¢
M11a	8d. Violet 65¢
M12a	9d. Brown \$1
M14a	1/3d Brown/Blue. 80¢
M14b	1/3d " " 80¢
M14c	1/3d " " \$1.25
M16a	3/- Brown/Grey.. \$4

QE II

N15a	5/- Carm..... \$20
N16a	10/- Blue \$60
NO27a	1/- Purple (Off) \$1
NO39a	3/- Grey (Off.). \$30

USED (FINE)Life Insurance

X21a, b, c \$1
X25a \$2
X25c \$4

MINT (UHM)1935 Pictorials

LO6b 3d. Maori Girl (Off)..\$25

Health

T5a 1933 Pathway\$17.50
T11a 1939 Ball 1d on ½d+½d \$1.75

Life Insurance

X19a 6d. Brothers\$1
X25a 5¢ on 6d.....\$2
X25b,c 5¢ on 6d.....\$4

Commemorative

SI67a 8¢ Rowers\$1.50

USED (FINE)1935 Pictorials

L14g 3/- Egmont,
p. 14½ x 13½\$1.25
LO5 2½d. Mt. Cook (Off)...\$7.50
LO11c 9d Panel (Green o/p)..\$25
LO11c 9d Panel (Black o/p)..\$10