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FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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THE HAZARDS OF PHILATELY Tom Moseley of Washington State has sent us a copy of an article (part of which is reproduced here) which recently appeared in "The American Philatelist".

Lighter Fluid Often, lighter fluid contains naphtha, a chemical mixture which may contain as a contaminant benzene and n-hexane, both extremely dangerous. *Lighter fluid should not be used for watermark detection.*

1,1,1-trichloroethane, or Methyl Chloroform Although this is the least dangerous in its class of chemicals, it should be avoided, as should other chemicals with the words "chloro" or "chloride" in them, indicating the presence of chlorinated hydrocarbons, which are especially apt to damage the kidneys and liver. 1,1,1-trichloroethane also affects the heart, and can cause heart arrhythmias and dizziness. It is not considered flammable, but in the presence of fire, lit cigarettes and ultra-violet light it can produce highly dangerous phosgene gas.

Wow. That's some list. How are we supposed to figure out a stamp's watermark without killing ourselves? The safest way is to use a non-solvent watermark detection system. This might include the use of light filters. Or you could try using water and to heck with the gum. Or try holding the stamp up to different kinds of light, at different angles and against different coloured backgrounds.

If you insist on using a regular watermark fluid, follow these safety steps:

1. Do not let children use the fluid. Store it as you would any dangerous chemical.
2. Do not smoke while using the fluid. As with many kinds of cancer-causing and other dangerous chemicals, smoking aggravates illness. (See also No. 7)
3. Avoid skin contact with the chemical. Not only do many solvents cause skin problems but the body can absorb many dangerous chemicals through the skin. Use tongs.
4. If you are pregnant, *do not use any watermark fluid.*
5. Always use the fluid in a well-ventilated place. This does not mean a window cracked open halfway across the room! This means a wide-open window with a fan or breeze blowing the fumes away from you. *Don't assume that a fluid with no smell isn't dangerous.*
6. Avoid eye contact with the fluid. Watch out for splashes.
7. Take fire precautions. Many fluids are flammable. Don't smoke while using them. Store them away from heat.

Finally, there are things which we, as members of America's leading philatelic society, can do:

We should form an on-going committee to monitor all watermark fluids on the market and all new fluids. We should demand from manufacturers the names of the chemicals they use and refuse to accept advertising from any distributor or stamp dealer who carries fluids without the chemical ingredients.

We should begin a massive education effort to alert collectors to the dangers of fluid chemicals. This effort should include contact with other philatelic organisations and journals. Special efforts should be geared to dealers and youths.

Manufacturers should be contacted and encouraged to develop non-toxic detection methods."

1970 PICTORIAL BOOKLETS

Colin Capill comments: "I agree with your correspondent regarding the three types of 1970 Pictorial booklets with unwatermarked paper as referred to in the November Newsletter. Types (a) all panes with shiny gum and (b) the pane with 3 x 1c stamps with bluish gum were both on sale concurrently and were from the second printing which was issued from September 1974. From personal observations it appeared that there were about twice as many of type (a) than of type (b). Type (c) all panes with blue gum were from the third printing which was issued from December 1975.

"I always find the Newsletter particularly interesting, especially where errors and varieties are concerned". - D.J.O., Wellington.

THE "CLAYTONS" 8c ROSE - OR WHEN IS A REPRINT NOT A REPRINT? Recently I observed that the Philatelic Counter of the Chief Post Office Auckland Sales Section was supplying two perforation types of the 8c Rose (both of the same gauge). One type was rotary (i.e. perforated on a continuous drum); the other was by double comb head, working horizontally. I thought it worthwhile to make enquiry of the Philatelic Bureau, Wanganui (who supply Auckland) why they did not list this two types as available. If this seems a minor point, I should clarify at this stage that the use of different perforation methods is one sure way of identifying a reprint in the issue concerned and the Post Office itself undertakes, at least on the face of it, to identify reprints for the benefit of collectors when they take place. It seemed to me that a collector could receive either type of perforation method as both printings would be listed under "original". Wanganui furnished me with the answer that such a reprint had never taken place.

I pursued the enquiry a little further and wrote to Postal Division at Post Office Headquarters, Wellington. This approach gained a surprising response. Apparently an order was placed in 1975 for delivery to the 8c Rose to be made in three parts. No less than 17 shipments were made against this three-part order between 1975 and 1978, as it appears that the Post Office regards these shipments as making up one lot. This being the case, no reprint dot is required as Post Office policy appears to dictate that a reprint dot is only used if another order is placed.

In my opinion, this calls into question the system of reprint dots to denote new printing. Logically, the printer during the four years could change papers, shades, perforations, gums - all without using the definitive reprint dot, but could (and has) put a reprint dot on a succeeding order where no difference occurred (the 5c Rose is an example of this).

Reprint dots are therefore obviously of administrative significance internally to the Post Office - I question whether they can have any true philatelic significance.

**Note for Overseas Readers: "Claytons" refers to an alcoholic beverage substitute sold in this country as "The drink you have when you are not having a drink". The manufacturers appear not to have researched the New Zealand character as fully as they might. "Claytons" is now, we believe, discontinued. - Ed.*

GOVERNMENT LIFE ISSUES - A QUESTION OF USAGE I have received the following information from Government Life Department which will undoubtedly interest many collectors. (I had questioned the necessity of placing a 20c "Life" plus a 4c definitive on every envelope and suggested an overprint of 24c might be labour saving).

"Our negotiations with the Post Office only enable us to produce stamp issues covering six denominations. When the latest stamp issue was released on the 3 June 1981, the letter postage rate was 20c and has since increased to 24c. However, because of the small volume of stamps involved, the cost of an overprint of our 20c stamp to 24c is not an economical proposition and as this was the only denomination affected by the new postage rate, it was not warranted to consider a full new issue.

Government Life stamps are used by our Regional, Area Offices and Sales Centres for their daily outgoing mail and the Corporation actually contracts with one of the local hospitals to have all our envelopes stamped ready for the despatch of premium notices. Due to share bulk, the yearly bonus notices are processed through a franking machine."

JUNIOR SPOT FROM VAL MCFARLANE

ESSAY An essay is a design which has been submitted for a stamp, but not adopted, or has been adopted after alterations have been made to the original design.

From a happy Monthly Budget client ...

"The stamps you are sending are simply great and provide a tremendous amount of interest - philately. Keep them coming ... P.S. Keep up the sendings as I await the nice surprises. There is always something to learn." - D.M.S., Christchurch.

SCARCE ITEMS TO FILL THOSE ETERNAL GAPS

Multiple choice - for your convenience - and your pocket.

1967 PICTORIALS

- 1010 (a) OOD18a, \$2 Pink UHM \$40: LH \$35: MNSF \$5: FU \$40: CU \$35:
NSFU \$5
- (b) OOD18b, \$2 Multicolour UHM \$125: LH \$100: MNSF \$10: FU \$50: CU \$40:
NSFU \$5
- (c) OOD25, 25c Dairy UHM \$5: LH \$4: MNSF 50c: FU \$4: CU \$3: NSFU 50c

COMMEMORATIVES

- 1011 (a) SQL, 4d. Christchurch Ex. UHM \$50: LH \$35: MNSF \$10: FU \$55: CU \$35:
NSFU \$5
- (b) SQ2, 1d. Do. UHM \$50: LH \$35: MNSF \$10: FU \$55: CU \$35:
NSFU \$5
- (c) SQ3, 3d. Do. UHM \$200: LH \$150: FU \$225
- (d) SQ4, 6d. Do. UHM \$500: LH \$350: CU \$175
- (e) SQ5, 4d. Auckland Ex. UHM \$50: LH \$40: MNSF \$5: FU \$55: CU \$45:
NSFU \$5
- (f) SQ6, 1d. Do. UHM \$50: LH \$40: MNSF \$5: CU \$45
- (g) SQ7, 3d. Do. UHM \$400: LH \$350
- (h) SQ8, 6d. Do. UHM \$500: LH \$375: MNSF \$50
- (i) SQL2, 2d. Victory UHM \$2: LH \$1.50: MNSF 20c: FU \$1: CU 75c:
NSFU 10c
- (j) SQL3, 3d. Do. UHM \$35: LH \$30: MNSF \$5: FU \$20: CU \$15:
NSFU \$2
- (k) SQL4, 6d. Do. UHM \$50: LH \$40: MNSF \$5: FU \$50: CU \$35:
NSFU \$5
- (l) SQL5, 1/- Do. UHM \$100: LH \$75: MNSF \$10: FU \$100: CU \$75:
NSFU \$10
- (m) SQL7c, 4d. Dunedin Ex. UHM \$130: LH \$100: MNSF \$15: NSFU \$15
- (n) SO18c, 6d. Jubilee 1935 UHM \$50: LH \$40: MNSF \$5: FU \$65: CU \$45:
NSFU \$5
- (o) SO22, 24d. Chamber Comm. UHM \$7.50: FU \$10
- (p) SO23, 4d. Do. UHM \$5: FU \$8
- (q) SO24, 6d. Do. UHM \$5: FU \$8
- (r) SO25b, 24d. Coronation 1937 UHM \$1: FU \$1.50

HEALTHS

- 1012 (a) TQ1, 1929 Health UHM \$40: LH \$35: FU \$40: CU \$35: NSFU \$5
- (b) TQ2, 1930 Health LH \$50: FU \$65
- (c) TQ3a,b, 1931 Health pair UHM \$450: LH \$400: FU \$400: NSFU \$50
- (d) TQ11a,b, 1939 Health pair UHM \$6: FU \$10: CU \$8
- (e) TQ12a,b, 1940 Health pair UHM \$12: FU \$25: CU \$20
- (f) TQ13a,b, 1941 Health pair UHM \$5: FU \$11: CU \$10

AIRS

- 1013 (a) VQ1, 3d. Chocolate 1931 UHM \$50: LH \$45: MNSF \$5: FU \$15: CU \$12:
NSFU \$2
- (b) VQ2, 4d. Purple 1931 UHM \$45: LH \$40: MNSF \$5: FU \$18: CU \$15:
NSFU \$3
- (c) VQ3, 7d. Brown-orange 1931 UHM \$70: LH \$65: MNSF \$7.50: FU \$40: CU \$35:
NSFU \$5
- (d) VQ5, 7d. Blue 1931 UHM \$100: FU \$100: CU \$75: NSFU \$10
- (e) VQ7, 3d. Purple 1935 UHM \$6: LH \$5: MNSF \$1: FU \$4: CU \$3.50:
NSFU 50c
- (f) VQ8, 6d. Blue 1935 UHM \$12: LH \$10: MNSF \$2: FU \$10: CU \$9:
NSFU 50c

ROSS DEPENDENCY

- 1014 (a) RDQ4, 3d. Erebus UHM \$4: LH \$3: FU \$3.50: CU \$3
- (b) RDQ5, 4d. Explorers UHM \$3: LH \$2: FU \$2: CU \$1.50
- (c) RDQ6, 8d. Map UHM \$8: LH \$7: FU \$4: CU \$3
- (d) RDQ7, 1/6d. Queen UHM \$15: LH \$12.50: FU \$10: CU \$7.50
- (e) RDQ8, 2c Erebus UHM \$8.50: LH \$7.50: FU \$8: CU \$7
- (f) RDQ9, 3c Explorers UHM \$8.50: LH \$7.50: FU \$8: CU \$7
- (g) RDQ10, 7c Map UHM \$15: LH \$12.50: FU \$16: CU \$15
- (h) RDQ11, 15c Queen UHM \$25: LH \$20: FU \$25: CU \$20

FULL FACE QUEENS

FIVE

The K.J. McNaught Full Faces now brought to a conclusion. Interest has remained high over the past few months as we have made up selected offerings from this fine specialised collection.

PERFORATED 10

- 85 (a) Aln (SG.126) 1d. Reddish-brown (Intermediate wear). Nice copy with four margins (wide at top). Clear marking, if over face a little \$50.00
 (b) Aln Ditto Copy a little less reddish and more extended plate wear, but the face is clear and it is a very good-looking stamp. (Cat. \$110). \$50.00

PERFORATED 10 x 12½

- 86 (a) Alp (SG.128) 1d. Reddish-brown Nice used copy, if marking over the face a little. (Intermediate plate wear). A good-looking well-centred stamp \$30.00
 (b) Alp Ditto, mint o.g. Nice copy (scarce) if perfs enter design at top and side. (Cat. \$175). Lovely full colour and intermediate wear ... \$165.00
 (c) Alp(z) (SG.128a), 1d. Ditto Mixed perforations. One of the sides originally perf. 12½ and re-perf. 10. Lovely used copy of this rarity. Marking a little smudged at the side, but face clear and well centred.. \$210.00
 (d) Alp(z) 1d. Ditto This time copy with marking a little over the face, but re-entry row 19/3 (extensive doubling top margin and "ZEA". Well centred, superb offering \$200.00
 (e) Alq(y) 1d. Ditto Mixed perforations (perf. 12½, re-perfed with 10 machine). Superb-looking copy with light W2 (Taita) March 1872. Intermediate plate wear and certainly a lovely copy of this rare variety. Horizontal crease does not obtrude \$125.00
- 87 (a) A2r (SG.130) 2d. Orange-vermilion Attractive right-hand marginal stamp with light postmark off the face. Fine example \$40.00
 (b) A2r, 2d. Ditto Worn plate copy (R17/10). Marking slightly over face, but good bright colour and interesting \$22.50
 (c) A2r(x) Ditto Irregular compound perf. (Top side perforated 10, other sides 12½). Clear mark bottom right and an excellent example of the variety \$300.00
 (d) A2s(x) 2d. Ditto Accidental imperforate. Copy with large margins left and bottom. Marking a little over face. Great rarity, although it is not possible to guarantee this as genuine \$100.00
- 88 (a) A5j (SG.131) 6d. Pale Blue Superb unused copy, centred high, but a great rarity in this form. Plate wear evident \$1000.00
 (b) A5j(z) (SG.131c), 6d. Deep Blue Perf. 10 at top - other perfs 12½. Copy with very light marking to the right of the face and little plate wear. Perforations on top left side and bottom into stamp, but a lovely example of a rarity (cat. \$400) \$325.00

Please note: Plated examples from the damaged or retouched part of Plate 2 in both the 2d. Blue and 2d. Orange are available on request. Clients should specify the position of the plates which interests them. Prices from \$30 for intermediate copies to \$75 for fine copies. Both perforated 12½ and perf. 10 x 12½ available. Alternatively, we shall be happy to make up a selection of examples demonstrating this most interesting aspect of the 2d. Plate 2. All copies plated.

UNWATERMARKED PAPER

- 89 (a) Alr (SG.137) 1d. Brown (advanced plate wear) Fine used copy with a light postmark \$75.00
- 90 (a) A2t (SG.138) 2d. Vermilion Fine used copy of very bright shade and light postmark off the face, centred left \$37.50
 (b) A2t(w) 2d. Ditto, double perforations Superb used copy with perforations doubled at top \$100.00
 (c) A2t(x) 2d. Ditto Unused copy showing heavy retouching in top row of the sheet \$200.00

- 91 (a) A4c (SG.139) 4d. Orange-yellow Superb unused copy \$250.00
 (b) A4c 4d. Ditto Used copy with contemporary date stamp. Beautifully centred - some soiling. Very rare \$825.00
 (c) A4c 4d. Ditto Superb copy from presentation set with part of Wellington CDS "NZ". Perfect condition \$1250.00
 (d) A4c, 4d. Ditto Super superb unused copy showing watermark "S" of "SAUNDERS" \$500.00

PAPER WITH WATERMARK "NZ"

- 92 (a) A2v (SG.141) 2d. Vermilion Used copy with reversed watermark. Postmark central over the face, but fine colour \$100.00

PAPER WITH WATERMARK "LOZENGES" AND "INVICTA"

- 93 (a) A2x (SG.142) 2d. Vermilion Fair used copy with postmark slightly over the face \$375.00

PROOFS

- 94 (a) Perkins Bacon Proof of 6d. in Black Four margins - a fine example ... \$100.00
 (b) Proof of 2d. Plate 1 in Blue on Card Sent to Perkins Bacon Company to show the extent of plate wear (1864). Fine four-margined example..... \$150.00
 (c) Set of three "Reprints" Made in 1884 to provide the Post Office with stocks of stamps in the original colours. All copies have four full margins and they are in magnificent condition. 1d. Orange, 2d. Deep Blue, 6d. Brown - set of three \$500.00
 (d) "Hausberg" Proofs Taken in 1906 on heavy card from the plates of the 1d., 2d. Plate 1, 2d. Plate 2 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1/- . In blocks of four - the complete set of seven blocks of four with four full margins. In perfect condition \$500.00
 (e) Ditto "Hausberg" Proofs From 2d. Plate 2 from the undamaged portion of the plate. A page with single and block of sixteen \$100.00

THREE OUTSTANDING MULTIPLES

No comment needed.

- 95 (a) G7a, 1d. UNIVERSAL Booklet Pane Superb and scarce these days. In fine condition - binding selvedge has been trimmed but is present - perforated at top and sides (w2c(y)). Centred right \$350.00
 (b) C3a, 3d. Deep Brown (First Sideface 1874). Perf 12½. Delightful full o.g. block of four - well centred. Hinged lightly and the original heavy brown gum has been unevenly applied (not uncommon thus). Absolutely guaranteed. Glorious item (illustrated) \$750.00
 (c) C4d, 4d. Indian Red Ditto Perf. 12 x 11½. Lovely block if centred right. Two stamps UHM, two LH. Superb item for the specialist who likes to impress with the odd "big" item \$750.00

APPROVAL TERMS

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