

CAMPBELL PATERSON



NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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New Zealand's new postal era
Does the future look like this?

CP'S NEW ZEALAND STAMPS - WELCOME TO OUR TRADITION

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NEW ZEALAND NOTES – By WARWICK PATERSON POSTAL SERVICES IN NEW ZEALAND – A NEW ERA DAWNS

It's safe to say that the world of postal communications in New Zealand will never be the same again. With the Postal Services Act which came into force on 1 April 1998, New Zealand Post's monopoly on the carriage of standard letters was removed and with it the final act in the dismantling of New Zealand Post's monopoly structure began. With the passing of that legislation a whole new panoply of postal communications in New Zealand kicked in and the revolution which once overtook the delivery of parcels and other couriered items is now about to engulf all items of mail in New Zealand.

Momentous times indeed! It is now 143 years since New Zealand first issued stamps and of course mails have been carried internally and externally since long before that. Late 1998 seems an appropriate time for to take stock of the situation and summarise current developments in what is now a dynamic field.

The Current Scenario

With the Postal Services Act 1998 a new Deed of Understanding between New Zealand Post and the New Zealand Government came into force.

First of all the government agreed that for a period of five years New Zealand Post continue to be the sole designated postal administration for the purposes of acting as a representative of the country at the Universal Postal Union and the Asian Pacific Postal Union. Concurrent with this NZ Post has the sole right to issue postage stamps in which the words **New Zealand** appear except – as will be seen later – where those words appear as part of the name of the postal operator by which the stamp is issued.

New Zealand Post is bound to provide six day per week deliveries to more than 95% delivery points and for the balance a slightly lesser frequency of weekly deliveries. New Zealand Post is bound for three years not to increase the price of the standard letter above 45cents. New Zealand Post has to maintain a network of at least 880 postal outlets and post centres excluding stamp retailers and it has to provide access to its postal networks to other postal operators on the same terms and conditions.

So far so good – it is comforting to know that New Zealand Post is contractually bound to maintain services and issue stamps much as it always has done.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

GST will be added to all prices listed in this Newsletter for local orders (12.5%). Overseas orders are "zero-rated" and do not pay GST.

Clearly however, with the opening up of postal services to full and untrammelled competition, the need for a new set of regulations emerges and these are embodied in the Postal Services Act 1998. There the obligations and rights of what are now known as postal operators – including New Zealand Post - are set out. Essentially any company or individual is allowed to carry letters for profit so long as that company is registered as a postal operator by the Secretary of Commerce. The Act only regulates the carriage of letters – there being no restriction on the carriage of other parcels or courier packages.

What is a letter? Again the Act comes up with the necessary definition. It is a written communication or document that is addressed to a specific person or address, is not electronic, on which the charge is no more than 80cents. Envelopes, packets and wrappers are included. And how would you recognise a “postal operator” on a dark night? With some restriction – mainly involving crime or dishonesty – anyone can become registered as a postal operator. The penalty for not registering but carrying on business as a postal operator is substantial fines. The rights of postal operators under the Act are interesting – and don’t forget these apply to New Zealand Post. Postal operators can detain, open or examine postal articles and may erect public letterboxes. They are exempt from liability arising from the loss of the letters! Postal operators do have obligations of course and these relate partly to the detention of postal articles but also to the obligation to identify mail accepted by them by marking each postal article with that operator’s “postal identifier”.

A postal identifier is identified as a name, logo, etc., fixed or impressed on postal articles identifying the postal operator and making clear to the public that they are accepted by the postal operator for the purpose of conveyance by post. Stamps are included as postal identifiers.

This leads us on to the interesting bit – can a postal operator issue stamps? Yes, it appears they may issue stamps but not “official New Zealand stamps”. Postal operators are allowed to use the words New Zealand where those words appear as part of the name of the postal operator or his company which must appear in full on the stamp. “New Zealand” must appear in the same typeface and point size as the company name appears. It’s expensive to transgress – a fine of \$10,000 for breaking this law. This won’t change for another five years because up till 1 April 2003 New Zealand Post has the sole right to UPU designation.

So those are the ground rules – there will only be one source of “genuine” New Zealand stamps for the next five years.

“Received the NZ Catalog in fine shape Tue Aug 11. To say I was pleased with it is an understatement it is beautiful. Much nicer than the Scott catalogs you get in the USA.” (RL, North Carolina)

Who are the new “postal operators?” Reference to the Ministry of Commerce website early last month revealed the names of eleven such among whom of course is New Zealand Post. Details of each operator are given and a number are fairly clearly names of entities established solely for the purpose of taking advantage of what may in time be seen as an ideal business opportunity. Names like “Pete’s Post, Smartpost, Collectpost” and so on give little away. In view of recent press reports in New Zealand however one name stands out and that is “Fastway Post New Zealand Limited” registered on 30 June 1998 giving its place of business as Napier, Hawkes Bay. Fastway Post’s postal identifier is shown on the front page this month.

Fastway Post has arisen out of Fastway Couriers, a firm which was started in 1983 and it’s ambitions are far reaching – nothing less than a national network of postal services and deliveries including 400 outlets. It projects franchised pharmacies, dairies and service stations, to come into its system by early November. These outlets will sell Fastway Post stamps based on their logo from these outlets as well as pre-paid packages. The first fifteen outlets opened in Hawkes Bay on 31 August.

The company’s Chief Executive Chairman, Bill McGowan, has said that he hopes that provincial areas that have lost their New Zealand Post centres will now start a Fastway Post franchise. Charging for packages may cost less than New Zealand Post because only the cost of the pre-paid carton rather than its weight or destination will govern the charge. Example was given of a four kg carton sent from Napier to Dunedin, which with Fastway Post would cost \$1.45 less than with New Zealand Post. Needless to say New Zealand Post is now reviewing its prices – claims it is always reviewing its prices.

An agreement between New Zealand Post and Fastway Post allows for deliveries by New Zealand Post of Fastway letters in residential areas as well as letters with Fastway stamps on them which are dropped into New Zealand Post boxes. Another interesting innovation is the fastgram which is similar, we are told, to old style telegrams. Customers will be able to leave a message at their Fastway outlet which will be faxed to a central office then emailed to the telegram’s destination locality and delivered.

Fastway Post’s opportunism was evident immediately with the choice of colours for their “fastbags” closely matching that of New Zealand Post. Elmar Toime, New Zealand Post Chief Executive, was clearly unhappy when interviewed on TV, with this aspect of Fastway Post’s presentation. Toime said New Zealand Post has spent a lot of time and money building up New Zealand Post’s branding and whereas once it didn’t matter, now – as pointed out by Consumers Institute Chief Executive, David Russell – “the whole thing becomes very messy – and you have to question whether it was necessary for them to compete in residential post”. The whole

question of whether it's necessary will no doubt be foremost in the minds of the Directors of Fastway Post when they look at their first few months' results. My belief is that the future for courier companies and others entering the field as postal operators probably lies in the securing of bulk mail contracts and Government Department mails which may number in the millions rather than attempting to win over the man in the street who is likely to stick with his traditional methods of mailing letters and postcards, at least for the first few years of competition. It's hard to see its being profitable for Fastway Post at this stage but perhaps becoming known at street level is the first way to establish a business and that may lead on to bigger things. No doubt the other nine registered postal operators are watching developments very closely indeed.

So who are Fastway Post? The company has twenty shareholders and was set up in 1983. It now operates from 42 sites and has about 850 courier franchisees in New Zealand and Australia which produced turnover last year of over 80 million dollars.

Bill McGowan was interviewed on Radio New Zealand one morning about the time of the opening of the fifteen outlets in Hawkes Bay and this gave him a chance to air some of the rationale behind Fastway Post's initiative (or "Post" as he terms it). Primarily, says Mr McGowan, Fastway's research has shown that the consumer wants to be able to post a letter or parcel where they shop now – hence the bookstore, pharmacy, service stations and stationers franchises. He claims that the resulting increased supply of postal outlets will not mean that costs will rise and employees will be paid less. He says that another 970 jobs are going to be created this year and that there will be a lot of cheaper prices brought to the public. His claim is that the cost of sending letters between businesses will be cut by 10% next year.

McGowan seems to expect that there is a lot of new market to be created particularly when the cost of sending a parcel comes down and more parcels are sent. For one price throughout New Zealand, he says, most consumers will be able to send a parcel anywhere in the country because Fastway has through its existing courier system trucks running between all locations throughout New Zealand. Parcels sent by Fastway Post will simply slot into the existing system. Mr McGowan claims that using central collection points, Christchurch in the South Island and Turangi in the North Island, costs are contained at the same level regardless of where in the country you're sending a parcel to. A parcel would go from Wellington to Turangi in the central North Island, from Turangi to Picton and then to Nelson.

Fastway intends to introduce a business to business product next year which will reduce their standard letter rate from 40cents to 30cents. Business to business mails would be cleared from businesses when the

normal courier clearances are taken. Again it seems that Fastway Post are looking at relatively minor sections of business mail rather than the major bulk of business. Fastway claims to have reduced courier prices ever since it started in 1983 with a pre-paid system – claimed to have reduced prices by about 25%. He acknowledges that there will be a lot of regional entrants into the market – people that deliver mail for a power board in a small town, or a local service for residents. However, he claims that few entrants will have the infrastructure which Fastway or New Zealand Post have to offer a nationwide service. He suggests that there may be room for two or three in the postal services just as in the courier industry there are about six main players. Fastway have ordered four new “B-trains” which are large trucking units. These are locally built vehicles and similarly all the Fastway’s post boxes are built in New Zealand, as well as the production of packaging, stamps and so forth.

McGowan does not see New Zealand Post and Fastway as being head to head in any war for business, he sees the services as complementary and because it becomes easier with more convenience, more choice, business will expand.

Fastway see no future in duplicating highly sophisticated sorting systems throughout the country and the Postal Services Act allows them to avoid doing this.

It is possible to see some spin-off for New Zealand Post compensating for loss of sales of stamps to the extent that Fastway will have to pay New Zealand Post for the services they use.

In the meantime New Zealand Post is exploring other roles, one of which is the link between physical mail and email. According to Mr Toime this could include providing paper message delivery (hard copy) for email senders or even converting paper messages to email.

Clearly we have not seen the last of innovation in New Zealand’s communication services. We may even be witnessing the development of a blueprint for the establishing of services in other countries if New Zealand Post’s current drive to provide services through management contracts for Post Offices overseas succeeds. In the latest announcement, Trinidad and Tobago has disclosed that it has contracted New Zealand Post to run the country’s postal service for five years. New Zealand Post secured this contract in competition with Canada Post, Dutch Post and German Post.

**CP SPECIAL SITUATIONS!
THE WAY THE WORLD’S GOING**

NEW ZEALAND ISSUES OF THE 19TH CENTURY

Animal Vegetable or Mineral – All these are probably represented on your album pages.

The catalogues tell it all – the constituents of paper – rag, esparto, the gums – gum arabic and so forth. But what of the inks and dyes? Few cataloguers deal with that aspect of early stamp printing – probably few even know – probably little is recorded.

The information is available however – perhaps not for specific issues but certainly general. The sources of various dyes were well established before stamps came into being. Production of stamps matched the pace of experimentation and research. The following is a summary of our research into this subject. Reading between the lines one can see clearly the characteristics and variations so familiar to any collectors of 1d Universals, 1898 Pictorials, even Full Face Queens.

Here's a sampling of the amazing mix which gave us stamp colours in an age which died long before "high tech" and colour laser prints.

First of all the colours used in stamp printing were always known as "fine" this in comparison with coarser dyes which were used for paint production and other somewhat less demanding grades. Moreover the "colour-maker" who was asked to provide the dyes had to maintain consistent standard over time – month after month, perhaps year after year. No easy task. Generally colours were supplied in the form of small lumps, or fine powder, to the printing ink manufacturer who in turn ground them up with suitable varnish in specially constructed mills fitted with steel rollers. The end product was smooth enough to be spread with a knife, like butter on a glass plate, without defects or inequalities.

Black: Traditionally black had been obtained from charcoal originating in wood, bones and other animal matter. By the end of the 19th Century better quality blacks were obtained by the burning of the residue from the final stages of oil refining. These were regarded as softer and deeper in tone due to their freedom from mineral matter. The addition of Prussian blue or white pigment enhanced these shades producing glossy blue-black tints and grey shades respectively.

White: White is the one colour of which there are said to be a million variations. Most of the early whites seem to have come from mineral sources such as "blanc fixe" or precipitated barium sulphate; white lead (lead carbonate); oxide (zinc white); chalk (calcium carbonate). Mixes of two or more of these chemicals were common.

Red: Red of course is one of the most popular colours and was routinely used for the low and most often used values. The "standard rate" of the

time. Carmine and lake shades so familiar to New Zealand collectors were often obtained from the cochineal insect (*Coccus Cacti*) largely emanating from Mexico. A number of early New Zealand shades conform to this description. Cochineal, which varied according to the area from which it was obtained, was progressively being supplanted in the late 19th century by gaudier tints obtained from coal-tar – a much less durable and fast product. This is almost certainly the source of some of the aniline shades seen in the 1d Universals, King George V and so forth. Also contributing to the range of red shades were dyes derived from sapanwood, peachwood and barwood, all of which, after treatment, provided deep toned red colours of the maroon or claret classification. Again these were progressively being overtaken by coal-tar products by the late 19th Century. From mineral sources early inkmakers used red and orange lead (seen in the 7 cents US 1875 and 1879 issues) and vermilion (or cinnabar – Red mercuric sulphide); vermilion obtained from Chinese sources provided a somewhat less yellow shade to the European variation. It appears that both provided perfect stability and fastness under very demanding conditions. Again one can speculate that some of the early New Zealand issues like the 5/- Mt Cook, 1d Christchurch Exhibition and others demonstrate these characteristics. Around about the turn of the century imitation vermilions were coming on the market and represented a general cheapening of stamp colours. These consisted of a combination of red or orange lead coloured with eosine, one of the most fugitive of all the coal-tar colours. A typical shade of this class is the 3 cents 1897 (Jubilee) issue of Canada. Bright reds and reddish-browns were obtained from oxides of iron but these varied considerably in uniformity of shade and in surface covering qualities.

Coal-tar was the source of a lot of red shades and is known to have been used in the production of “lake”. Coal-tar colours are known to be subject to fading in daylight. Brighter reds were produced around about this period varying between crimson and yellow shades and these were regarded as really fast. They were manufactured from alizarine, a product obtained from the heavier oils of coal-tar. These were known as “madder reds” because they were very similar to earlier colours produced from the madder plant which originated in the Mediterranean.

Yellow and Orange: Various shades from pale lemon to very red orange were extracted from chrome yellows, which in turn were compounds obtained by treating asphalt of lead with bichromate of potash or soda in suitable proportions. This is the source of the misnamed “oxidisation” which afflicts so many New Zealand issues. Presence of lead in the dye made stamps very subject to blackening when exposed to slight traces of sulphur fumes. In the industrialised Northern hemisphere this meant the atmosphere of large towns or in a room where coal gas was consumed.

Blue: These could vary in tone from green to red and were obtained from ultramarine which had a rather complicated manufacturing origin. They

continued opposite page

1898 PICTORIALS

Major Varieties

Continuing with the greatest cascade of 1898 Pictorial collections we have ever handled this month a completely new and significant lot containing many of the very great rarities of the series. All of the following varieties are absolutely guaranteed by CP Ltd and many carry certificates of authenticity. There are a number of varieties listed here that we have not seen for many years.

Printers Sample Sheet

- 32 (a) **2½d Lake Wakatipu in Dull Greyish Olive colour.** Overprinted in Deep Blue "Waterlow & Sons Ltd". Miniature sheet of nine stamps with full selvedge. The second vertical row of perforations has been omitted producing three imperforate pairs vertically. Great rarity. \$1,750

1d Lake Taupo

- 32 (b) **E2a(w) 1d Lake Taupo pair imperf. between.** The pair is fine used and dated and perforations are missing between the stamps vertically. Very fine condition with RPSNZ Certificate – lovely item. \$ 750

1½d Boer War Contingent

- 33 (a) **E4a(z) Vertical strip of three** with two rows of double perforations between units. Some separation and adhesions with hinging and slight stains. Nevertheless this is a magnificent looking piece which would grace any exhibition collection. \$ 150

STAMP COLOURS OF THE C19th

were very popular in stamp printing due to their durability and other good qualities. Cobalt blue was among the most popular – but also most expensive – colours available. Prussian and Antwerp blues were descriptions of deep blue dyes obtained by causing potassium ferrocyanide to combine with an iron salt. Again these were very popular colours. Pale blues could be obtained from this source by adding various white bases (see above). Coal-tar makes its entry again with the blue lakes which were bright, quite suitable for stamp printing, but not very fast.

Green: Emerald greens are known to have come from a compound of arsenic and copper, which was most brilliant and permanent. Green oxide of chromium was another source. The mixing of Prussian blues and chrome yellows in various proportions could produce a wide range of green colour varieties for stamps. Coal-tars produced lake shades of green with the same limitations mentioned above.

So when you're next mounting your Lakes and Carmines give a thought to the insects that gave them their lasting beauty.

Source: Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal

Note: some of the terminology in the above article, where colours and chemicals are concerned dates from the 19th Century

- (b) **E4a(w) Vertical pair with bottom selvedge** imperforate between pair and with imperforate bottom selvedge. The other perforations normal. Glorious item in superb condition. Top unit hinged and minor adhesions – very rare. \$1,500

2d Pembroke Peak (Brown lake)

- 34 (a) **E5a(z) Pair imperf. vertically**, beautiful looking pair with hinging and some minor gum disturbance. (Catalogued \$1,000) \$ 275

2d Pembroke Peak (Purple)

- 35 (a) **E6a Perf 11 Horizontal pair**, imperforate at bottom with selvedge – attractive \$ 250

- (b) **E6b(y) 2d ditto, Perf 14 vertical pair** with top selvedge imperforate horizontally. Horizontal sheet bend in upper stamp but this is an item in crisp mint “as issued” condition (Catalogued \$750) \$ 675

- (c) **E6d 2d ditto Mixed Perfs 11 & 14**. Single example with bottom selvedge, perf 14 row misplaced and reperf 11. Lightly hinged (Catalogued \$700) \$ 625

or **amazing top selvedge block of four**, four stamps showing the mixed perf variety. Patching between horizontal pairs and some slight creasing, some gum loss all units. Catalogued \$2,800 – Spectacular opportunity \$ 475



36 (c)

2½d Lake Wakatipu

- 36 (a) **E8b(x) No watermark Perf 11 vertical pair** with bottom selvedge completely imperf horizontally. Lightly hinged, very fresh brilliant item \$ 750

CP SPECIAL SITUATIONS!
THE WAY THE WORLD'S GOING



37 (2)

3d Huias

- 37 (a) **E9b(y) Magnificent horizontal pair** LH imperforate between (vertically) – great rarity in our experience and only very seldom seen \$1,750
 (b) **E9b(x) Horizontal strip of three** completely imperf vertically. Some adhesions and lightly hinged but generally fine condition \$ 975

4d Lake Taupo

- 38 (a) **E12a(y) Perf 11 no watermark**, commercially used example with double perforations at top, dated (RPSNZ Certificate) \$ 50
 (b) **E12c(y) ditto Perf 14 LHM horizontal pair**, imperf vertically. Lovely fresh condition as nice looking an item as we have seen \$ 975
 (c) **E12e ditto Mixed Perfs 11 and 14**. Bottom selvedge single with full mixed perfs at bottom, hinged and some gum loss (Catalogued \$600) \$ 300



39 (2)

5d Otira Gorge

- 39 (a) **E13b(x) No watermark Perf 11**. Imperforate at side with selvedge. Very very rare item in our experience and unpriced in CP. Very lightly hinged – superb appearance \$1,250

6d Kiwi Red

- 40 (a) **E14c(y) No watermark Perf 11**. Vertical pair showing double perforations between the stamps and (in bottom selvedge) markedly out of place perf 11 row. The sheet has been reperforated 11 to correct the perf 11 inaccuracies except in the bottom selvedge where this was not deemed necessary. Lightly hinged, good condition \$ 250

- (b) **E14c(z) ditto Perf 11 no watermark.** Double print. Hinged example of one of the great definitive varieties of New Zealand philately. The double print is displaced downwards by approximately half the depth of the stamp with the impression of the press clear in the form of the paler print of the design. Large hinge and slight perf inequalities. (Catalogued at \$1,000). A glorious strong example of the variety \$ 575
- (c) **E14c(w) Perf 11 no watermark** horizontal pair imperf between. This is a very major item and another one almost never seen. Very lightly hinged – magnificent fresh appearance, RPS London Certificate \$1,975
- (d) **E14e(z) ditto Perf 11 watermarked** pair imperforate vertically. Lightly hinged and some adhesions and gum lifted. Appearance and condition otherwise fine. (Catalogued \$800) \$ 400
- (e) **E14e(y) Pair in fair condition** imperforate at top with selvedge. Side selvedge folded over and stuck and adherence (hinged). (Catalogued \$200) \$ 50



40 (5)

- (f) **E14f ditto Perf 11, abnormally watermarked** (watermark upright). Magnificent rarity seen here in good commercially used single (date 8 June 1903). Rarely seen (RPSNZ Certificate) \$1,400
or key rarity item this month **E14f superb** dated horizontal pair (also June 1903). Very great rarity in this form – fine commercially used, key exhibition piece \$3,000
- (g) **E14h ditto Compound Perf 11 and 14.** Superb light hinged example (Catalogued \$1,000) RPSNZ Certificate \$ 975
or irregular compound perf (one side perf 11) from mixed perfs, left selvedge hinged \$ 225
- (h) **E14j Mixed perforations 11 & 14.** Magnificent bottom right corner selvedge piece showing two rows of mixed perforations vertically (on either side of stamp). Some patching, fine clean condition (light hinged). This is a definitive piece and better than almost any we have seen. \$1,250
or nice example with right selvedge mixed perfs at right \$ 675



40(-)

41(a)

1/- Kea and Kaka

- 41 (a) **E18c Perf 11 watermark W4 inverted** (abnormal issue). Another of the very great rarities of New Zealand philately and key item in this months lineup. Commercially used item of magnificent appearance with clear marking in bottom half of the stamp. Perforations at left fully intact. Glorious and unrepeatabe, RPSNZ Certificate

POA

2/- Milford Sound

- 42 (a) **E20b(y) No watermark Perf 11** imperforate at side. Lovely very lightly hinged example of a seldom seen variety

\$ 750

6d Kiwi Red Official

- 43 (a) **EO14g(z) Pair imperforate vertically**, lightly hinged good looking item (Catalogue \$2,000)

\$ 400



44(a)

3d Huias – Official – MAJOR RARITY

- 44 (a) **EO9e Mixed perfs 11 & 14**. Another all-time great rarity this month. This item is commercially used and dated (27 April 1908). To our knowledge this is only the second copy recorded of this variety and it has never been found unused. RPSL Certificate

POA

HEALTH VARIETIES

An interesting selection of specialised Health Varieties for the New Zealand Health stamps enthusiast.

500	(a)	T1a 1929 Nurse 1d Right selvedge pair showing broken perf pin, UHM	\$ 95
	(b)	T5a 1933 Pathway 1d T5a(y) R2/1 Healt'h flaw, LHM	\$ 35
	(c)	Ditto T5a(x) R3/3 Clouds flaw, LHM	\$ 35
		Ditto CU	\$ 20
	(d)	T6a 1934 Crusader 1d T6a(z) inverted watermark, UHM	\$125
		LHM	\$ 85
501	(a)	1946 Soldier 1d T18a(x) Block of four, R8/8 re-entry, frame lines, UHM/LHM	\$ 10
	(b)	Ditto T18a(w) Blurred centre, golden shade, LHM	\$ 80
	(c)	Ditto 2d T18b(z) Blurred centre, golden shade, LHM	\$ 80
	(d)	Ditto T18b(y) Block of four, R8/8, flaw on soldier's hat, UHM/LHM	\$ 30
	(e)	Ditto T18b(u) Block of four, R6/1, flaw no clouds top left, UHM	\$ 40
502	(a)	1947 Eros 2d T19b Value marking £1/4/0 doubled, UHM	\$ 50
503	(a)	1948 Health Camp T20a(z) 1d fine medium thick Tokelau paper, UHM	\$ 10
		Ditto LHM	\$ 7.50
		Ditto U	\$ 5
504	(a)	1949 Nurse & Child 1d T21a(z) R4/1, flaw bandaged finger, block of four, UHM	\$ 20
		Ditto Single U	\$ 10
	(b)	T21a(y) R6/8 flaw wristwatch, block of four, UHM	\$ 20
	(c)	Ditto T21b(z) 2d R1/2, flaw no dot below D, block of four, UHM	\$ 15
		Ditto Single CU	\$ 5
	(d)	T21b(y) R6/20, flaw left side of daffodil above New, block of four, Cat \$25, UHM	\$ 15
505	(a)	1950 Elizabeth & Charles 1d T22a(y) inverted watermark, UHM	\$ 10
		Ditto LHM	\$ 5
		Ditto U	\$ 5
	(b)	T22b(y) 2d inverted watermark, fine marginal UHM	\$ 60
	(c)	1951 Yachting 2d T23b(z) inverted wmk, fine marginal UHM	\$ 85
506	(a)	1953 Guides & Scouts 1½d T25a(z) R2/10, white flaw on leg, block of four, LHM/UHM	\$ 5
507	(a)	1956 Apple Tree T28a(2) 1½d Deep sepia shade, UHM	\$12.50
		Ditto LHM	\$ 10
		Ditto U	\$ 10
		Ditto CU	\$ 5
508	(a)	1958 Brigade Children 3d T30b(z) Single , R4/1, portion of design duplicated on selvedge, U	\$ 15
	(b)	1959 Poaka 3d T31b(y) inverted watermark, UHM	\$ 40
		Ditto LHM	\$ 30
509	(a)	1963 Prince Andrew 2½d T35a(z) R12/7 Plate 1B re-entry, UHM	\$ 15
	(b)	T35a(y) R10/10, Plate 1B weak entry, UHM	\$ 30
	(c)	T35a(x) R11/10 re-entry UHM	\$7.50
	(d)	T35a(x) R5/8 re-entry, selvedge block of six, UHM	\$ 10
	(e)	T35b(z) 3d R3/5 Plate 1B, bloodstained finger flaw, marginal block of ten, UHM	\$150

NEW ZEALAND CHALONS

Some real rarity here in this new lineup from a recent collection. Where there are faults these are meticulously described and accounted for in the pricing. Beautiful appearance throughout – without exception.

- 50 (a) **A6b(SG6) 1/- Green on Blue paper, Richardson print**, unwatermarked. Copy with four huge margins, light Auckland obliterator largely off-face – colour superb, glorious copy, minor repaired pin-hole (Catalogued \$12,000) Major rarity. \$2,400



50(a)



51(a)



52(b)

- 51 (a) **A2c(3)(SG10) 2d Richardson print** on horizontal mesh, white paper. Glorious four marginal copy with very light mark well off the face \$ 400
- 52 (a) **A5b(1)(SG41) 6d Black-Brown**, lovely four marginal with light mark largely off the face, good colour – a stamp of superb appearance. A tiny tear in margin top left \$ 125
- (b) **A5b(4)(SG43) 6d Deep Red-Brown**, another wonderful four marginal copy if obliterator over face. Relatively heavy but very clean, clear strike. Impressive example \$ 400
- (c) **A5b(5)(SG43) 6d Red-Brown**, lovely four marginal with light mark slightly over the face. Much paler shade than previous lot – attractive \$ 400
- (d) **A5b(6)(SG43) 6d Pale Red-Brown**, three marginal copy with slight bend and worn bottom right corner. Good of the shade \$ 75
- 53 (a) **A5b(v)(SG55) 6d Red-Brown**, roulette 7. Good roulettes on four sides, light marking off the face, three margins. Top left margin “pulled” (Catalogued \$1,500) \$ 500
- (b) **A6d(y) (SG57) 1/- Yellow-Green**, roulette 7, ditto. Lovely copy with light mark off the face and large part of unit above. Roulettes two sides, tear at base. RPSNZ Certificate \$ 175
- (c) **A2d(14)(SG39) 2d Dull Blue**, four marginal pair in good condition if marking a little untidy over both units \$ 250

continued next month

CATALOGUERS CHOICE

Hard on the heels of last months article on catalogue numbering comes a piece by B W Hempseed in *Captain Coqk*, journal of the Christchurch Philatelic Society. Mr Hempseed quotes a cataloguing system which he noticed on the Internet and reading on one would have to ask the question – could it have appeared anywhere else? The system is supposed to do away with individual publishers' catalogue numbers. First of all the number gives a three letter code for the country concerned, next come four numbers, the year the stamp was issued, then comes alphabetical designation A-L representing the month in which it was issued. Then two numbers for the range 1-31, the day during the month the stamp was issued and finally there is a number to show where in the set the stamp came. Finally there is a small alphabetical designation for the variety of the stamp in the range A-Z.

Hence, according to Mr Hempseed if you get a set of stamps issued in New Zealand on 25 August 1998 they would have codes between NZL1998.H25.01 to NZL1998.H25.10.

Parts of the coding can be dropped off when dealing with stamps from a given country with other features in common.

The advantage, as Mr Hempseed points out, is that these codes can be used in the preparation of international data bases, particularly with thematics where "contributions from different parts of the globe can all be integrated into one machine readable form". The authors of the "international numbers" system have copyrighted their system to stop others from claiming the credit, who may then restrict its use. Non commercial users are to be allowed free use, particularly on the Internet.

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