

# THE KIWI

Vol. 1. No. 6.

October 1952.



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

PURELY DOMESTIC.

Notes from the new Secretary.

It is rather unfortunate that so early in the life of the Society it becomes necessary to send out apologies to members. First, the non-appearance of the anticipated September issue of "The Kiwi" - on this point apologies are due to every member; secondly, the cancellation of the September Members' Meeting at short notice - this, of course, affected a much smaller group of members, nevertheless, the apologies of the officers and committee are none the less sincere; thirdly, and this time it is hoped that an even smaller number is involved, the recent inattention to certain items of correspondence.

Obviously all these rather regrettable incidents had a cause and in each instance, that cause is common. Our Hon. Secretary and Bulletin Editor, following three weeks absence on his summer vacation, was obliged quite unexpectedly and at very short notice to transfer his business interests to the west country, thus finding himself unable to continue his duties for the Society. His resignation from these two offices has been accepted by the committee with much regret; bad luck then took a hand for, in passing over to our Vice President all the various records, papers, "The Kiwi" material etc., the files of current, and incidentally the most urgent, material seems to have strayed in transit. It is desirable, therefore, that any member who may still be awaiting a reply to any communication sent to the Society during August or September should write again with a copy of the original letter if possible; they are then assured of the earliest possible attention.

Until our Annual General Meeting in November, the Secretarial and Editorial work has been taken over by the undersigned who, in view of lack of experience in both directions seeks - and feels sure she will receive - the kind indulgence of all the members.

This issue of "The Kiwi" may lack some of the interesting features of its predecessors but the committee hopes that the comprehensive catalogue of lots for the November Auction may offer some compensation. With the November issue it is hoped to revert to normal.

With regard to the Auction, although some sixty lots are listed it was hoped that many more members would have sent material along for this first sale. In view of this our Vice-President, Mrs. E.M. Moore, High Trees, Blackhills, Surrey.....(cont. overleaf)



is now prepared to receive further Lots up to the 22nd October; this will allow time to include them in a supplementary catalogue in "The Kiwi" for November, and also for members in this country to send in their postal bids on these additional lots by first post on 12th November 1952. Full details for postal bidding are given on page 4 of this issue.

#### Next Committee Meeting.

Officers and Committee will meet at 6.30.p.m. on Wednesday 15th October at the usual rendezvous, 16 West Central Street, W.C.1.

#### October Members' Meeting.

As previously announced, the next Members' Meeting will be held at 6.30.p.m. Wednesday 22nd October at 151 City Road, E.C.1., (This is close to junction of Old Street and City Road; easily accessible by Bus, Trolley-Bus or Underground) and members are urged to come along bringing with them their queries and items of interest.

#### Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 15th November 1952 at 2.30.p.m.; accommodation for this meeting has been fixed at the Kingsley Hotel, Bloomsbury Way, W.C.1., (This is very close to Holborn (Kingsway) Underground and all Eastbound Buses from New Oxford Street stop outside the door.) The programme will include the formal business, (election of Officers, adoption of Provisional Rules, etc.) This will be followed by a talk, a short interval when Tea will be served and finally the Auction Sale. To precede this meeting, arrangements have been made to serve Lunch to any members who can arrive at the Kingsley Hotel by 1.15.p.m. and in order to complete the reservations those members desiring to make up the Lunch party are urged to let me know at once. (Incidentally, those members who have not had a copy of the Provisional Rules may have one on request.)

#### Nominations.

The last day for receiving nominations for the Offices of President, Vice President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Exchange Packet Secretary and Hon. Bulletin Editor, and also the four seats on the Committee is 22nd October 1952. Will members let me have any nominations they wish to submit by that date after first ascertaining that their nominee is prepared to stand.

#### Exchange Packets.

Mr. Hard, who is organizing the circulation of our Exchange Packets, reports that three are now on circuit while a further one is being built up. Sales to date are well above the average, and he urgently requests that more books are sent to him. Will you please do something about this at once. Books should be sent by Registered Post to:- Mr. A.A. Hard, 42 Irvine Rd, Colchester, Essex.

#### Contributions.

Articles, letters, enquiries, and any items of interest are urgently required in order to keep "The Kiwi" going month by month. I do hope that several members will let me have something for publication in the November issue. For instance here is an item which I have just received.....(cont. Page Six.)

## FULL FACE ISSUE.

by F. Stacey Hooker.

STAR WATERMARKS. The paper supplied by Perkins Bacon for the early New Zealand Stamp had a large star watermark and it is found on issues from 1855 to 1871. If one examines a sheet of 240 stamps it will be noticed that the entire watermark consists of the large stars spaced so that one falls on each stamp with the exception of those stamps on the four sides of each sheet and these may be found with five vertical or horizontal lines covering about half the stamp or parts of letters making up the word "postage" in double line letters. I was very puzzled for years at finding watermarks as above described until I saw a print of the entire marking. The five parallel lines form a border and the word "postage" is let in at about the middle of the side.

This same paper was also sent to several other British Colonies about the same time and the same watermark varieties therefore exist elsewhere. As some of the later full face issues and the Richardson prints are catalogued separately in respect of stamps with papermakers names instead of no watermark or star watermark surely the varieties I have mentioned deserve similar recognition. I have a number of them in my collection and they are naturally far more rare than the normal stamp.

The scarcity of dated town postmarks on the imperforate full face issues is realised by few collectors until they try to buy them. In a copy of the "London Philatelist" dated October 1894 will be found details of an enquiry made, and it was revealed that out of 5,000 imperforate stamps examined only the following had dated postmarks:-

15 on blue unwatermarked paper  
74 on white " "  
76 on other imperforate varieties.

These figures were made up from the examination of leading dealers stocks and specialists collections. Less than four stamps in every 100 - so it is quite clear that they are worth looking for. The perforated issues with such postmarks are not so rare but should be bought when offered. I have always felt that insufficient interest is taken in postmarks and the close connection they have to the old history of New Zealand. I will write a few notes soon about postmarks.

Should members have any which they cannot place they can send them along to me and I will gladly try and give them the history of such Marks. (Mr. F. Stacey Hooker's address is: 21 Vineyard Hill, London, S.W. 19.)

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Last month's article "Chalon Heads" contains several rather silly typographical errors; the typist who transcribed Mr. F. Stacey Hooker's handwritten notes to the stencil seemed to lack imagination. Will members please make the following (in some cases quite obvious) amendments:

On Page 3:- para. 1, line 2 "lately are" to badly or;  
para. 3, line 1 "in a volt" to wet;  
para. 6, line 2 "partition" to portion;  
para. 7, line 3 "hand" to band.  
On Page 4:- para. 5, line 2 "coloured" to colour;  
para. 7, line 2 "left hand" to right hand;  
para. 7, line 3 "Pair" to Pim.

(Page Five)

Secretary's Notes continued.

from Mr. F. Mallinson of Grantham:-

"I have three New Zealand ½d stamps of the Gibbons Cat. Type 60B one of which appears as re-entry; the other two which are paired show either damaged plates over the average or perhaps a move in the paper the crown ornaments being completely blurred out with colour and the D above the value (½d) is joined to the top line and also just a blob of colour.

"Has there been at any time similar variety found. I have been acquainted through the years with various Colonial stamps including many of Britain, but these stamps are very different from the general run, I have not cleaned them, they are just as I picked them from among an assorted lot of New Zealand stamps, and though they are not superb specimens they seem worthy of consideration in view of the fact that the damaged crown and ornaments are quite clear. If you wish I will send just as I've found them; I cannot detect any watermark."

Conclusion.

Although I mentioned earlier in these notes that this issue may lack some of the usual interesting features. It does occur to me that on pages 1, 2 and above I have submitted several items that require members' attention. I do hope I shall not be disappointed and also that before the next issue of "The Kiwi" is prepared I shall have had the pleasure of meeting many members at the October 22nd Meeting.

Margarete Erskine.

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"The Kiwi" is edited and produced by the Hon. Secretary:-  
Mrs. M. Erskine, 12 Elliot Road, Hendon, London. N.W.4,  
to whom all communications in connection with the Society  
should be addressed in future.