

THE KIWI

Hon. Editor:

G.B. Erskine,
12 Elliot Road,
Hendon, N.W.4.

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Volume ~~Four~~ ^{FIVE}

Number Three

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that the Fifth Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be held at the Kingsley Hotel, Bloomsbury Way, London, W.C.1. on Saturday, 24th November, 1956 at 2.30.p.m. for the ordinary business set out on the Agenda. (See next page)

31st October, 1956

(Signed) Margarete Erskine (Mrs)
Hon: Secretary.

Notes from the Secretary

PROGRAMME FOR THE A.G.M.

The proceedings for our 24th November meeting are somewhat extended in comparison with last year (more on the lines of the very successful 1954 meeting) and include, at the request of several members, a dinner to wind up the day. Will you please return, appropriately completed, the form enclosed with this Bulletin. May I have this as quickly as possible and certainly not later than November 20th. It will be seen that this form also provides for the submission of nominations for the various offices and committee. As all those serving at present are eligible and prepared to allow their names to go forward, it is only necessary to nominate new names. These will be most welcome and in any case there is one vacancy on the present committee; so I do ask you to submit nominations for this. If any member would like to serve it will be perfectly in order for he (or she) to submit their own name as a nominee. The present officers and committee (1956) are as follows:-

President: Mrs. E.C.M. Moore.

Vice President: T.H. Hopkins.

Hon: Sec: Mrs. M. Erskine.

Hon: Exchange Sec: W. Hasler Young

Hon: Treasurer: Noel Turner.

Hon: Auditor: G.B. Erskine.

Committee: G.B. Erskine, W.G. Farrow, A.A. Hard and R.D. Williamson.

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

KINGSLEY HOTEL, W.C.I. SATURDAY, 24th NOVEMBER, 1956.

PROGRAMME

- 11.45.a.m. Display of N.Z. Material contributed by various members.
12.0.no n. Bid Board Lots on view (until 2.25.p.m.)
1.15.p.m. Lunch (informal in the restaurant)
2.30.p.m. Annual General Meeting

AGENDA

1. To receive and approve Minutes of the fourth Annual General Meeting held on 26th November, 1955.
 2. To receive from the President a report on the past year.
 3. To receive the financial report from the Hon. Treasurer.
 4. To elect a President and Vice-President. (For these offices there will be a ballot and the nominee with the highest number of votes will become President and the second highest Vice-President).
 5. To elect (a) an Hon. Secretary; (b) an Hon. Treasurer; (c) an Hon. Exchange Packet Secretary; (d) Hon. Auditor.
 6. To elect a Committee of five members.
 7. Any other business proper to an Annual General Meeting.
- 3.0.p.m. Presentation of Trophies:-
(approx) The Stacey Hooker Cup to Mr. A. B. Johnstone (Edinburgh)
The Kiwi Shield to Mr. Noel Turner (N.22)
- 3.15.p.m. Clear "Bid Board".
3.45.p.m. Tea.
4.15.p.m. Film show and commentary by Mr. A. Malcolmson of the New Zealand High Commissioner's Office, London.
5.15.p.m. Close of meeting.
6.30.p.m. Dinner.

We will all wish to thank Mr Malcolmson not only for giving us his valuable time but also for the loan of the necessary films and projection equipment.

YOUR SUPPORT PLEASE.

In addition to the support of your attendance on 24th November next, and particularly for dinner with a guest if at all possible, support is also required in other directions. A few sheets of interesting material for display only and no verbal commentary is going to help to make the earlier part of the proceedings a success. For the "Bid Board" anything philatelic which you do not require is solicited. A similar effort last year was quite successful, but our last auction was the reverse on account of lack of material. For those who are attending and will be there by 12 noon or shortly after, it will be in order for them to bring their material with them, but in any case I should like to have some information in advance. Those who are unable to attend should let me have sheets for display and lots for the "Bid Board" by the 20th November and as regards Lots for sale, if they will indicate the lowest price they are prepared to accept, this will be entered as the first item on the Bidding Sheet. AND please do not forget the nominations.

YOUR PARTICULAR INTERESTS.

There appears to be some forty members who neglected to read the paragraph on page 2 of "The Kiwi" (July) "New Zealand - and What Else?" because I am still without that number of forms to complete the proposed Revised Membership Register. A red cross against this paragraph is to indicate that YOU are one of the "guilty". Can I have your form at once please? If you have mislaid it I have some spares. To those who have no "red cross", I say thank you for their prompt attention.

EXCHANGE PACKET.

Mr.W.Hasler Young asked me to remind members that it is no longer necessary to register packets when sending them to the next member on the list providing a receipt for postage is obtained from the Post Office and passed to him immediately with the Remittance Slip. In view of the high cost of registration, this new arrangement is now becoming generally accepted in Exchange Circuits with, of course, the co-operation of the Insurance Company. By the way, when did you last send Mr.Young some books for our Packets?

NEW MEMBERS.

W.J.Lee
Rossdale,
122, Preston Grove,
Yeovil, Somerset.

G.C.Nicklin,
4, Boscobel Road,
Walsall,
Staffs.

The above were elected to Membership of the Society at the last meeting of the Committee (11th October).

Margarete Erskine (Mrs)
Hon. Secretary.

AN UNSTAMPED AND UNDATED COVER.

A number of years ago I received a small batch of covers from a kind friend in New Zealand and at the time I was unable to find any information about a few of them. They were put on one side, being a hopeful hoarder, with the idea that some day I would be able to obtain some details. Eventually that day arrived when I received my copy of Volume III of The Postage Stamps of New Zealand and after many pleasant hours of reading through this great work I was able to find many interesting things about those covers which had been lying idle for so long.

One of them is unstamped and undated and is an "ON ACTIVE SERVICE" cover from a member of the New Zealand Forces fighting against the Japanese in the Pacific. It bears a New Zealand Field Post Office cancellation in purple which reads "N.Z. A.P.O. 150 7". and a purple triangular censor mark which reads "SERVICE CENSOR No. 41" over which is the signature of the officer who censored the letter. The letter was addressed to Timaru by Gunner W.R. Hawke and written across the top is "On Active Service". During the World War II troops on active service were excused from paying postage by a Post Office concession except for extra registration and air mail fees.

The censor marking was the type used by the New Zealand 3rd Division in the Pacific and the serial numbers in the triangle ran from 1 to 137. The main body of the 3rd Division arrived at Noumea New Caledonia in December 1942 and used the Army Post Office number 150. The central numbers varied for different units and ran from 1 to 10 inclusive. All these postmarks were used in New Caledonia and some were employed in the forward units at Guadalcanal, Vella Lavells, Nissan and other areas.

It appears this cover was posted sometime during 1943 or 1944 and no doubt sometime during the fierce battles that were fought against the Japanese on these tropical islands. When some of the facts are known, this ordinary looking cover has a very interesting story to tell and it recalls those perilous years when New Zealand was in danger of a Japanese invasion.

(J.G.Williams, Hay, Via Hereford)

NOTE. Mr Williams is one of many members who has written expressing great appreciation of Volume III of the Handbook. Quite a number eagerly await Volume IV (and Volume V).

It is learned from the Royal, New Zealand that both of these are planned and work is already in progress in connection with Volume V which is to deal with the Dependancies.

Incidentally, the last news regarding Volume III is that there are still a few copies available at Four guineas each.

"PHILATELIC TERMS".

Brief extracts from the talk given by Mr G.B.Erskine on 31st October, 1956 to Students taking the B.P.A's present series of Lectures.

Like most other hobbies, sports and professions philately has collected unto itself its own particular jargon - we call the result Philatelic Terms. In some cases such terms are meaningless to the non-philatelist while quite a few are not at all clear in the minds of the ordinary collector. I am thinking now of such terms as Surface Printing. The average Master Printer would not recognise it, but describe this process to him and he would immediately say, "Oh! you mean Letterpress". He would be equally fogged if one started talking about "Typo". In the printing and publishing trades typography is lay-out, selection of type and so on.

Why the early philatelists gathered such terms around them when the correct technical expression was already in common useage, I don't know.

Here are a few more at random. "Re-entry", "Fresh Entry", "Surcharge", "Jubilee Line", "Etiquette", "Entire", "Albinism", "Pre-Cancel", "Malburin". Each has its own particular meaning in philately while some have a completely different meaning (or, alternatively, are meaningless) to the non-philatelist.

"Penny Black". The real root of philately. The definition contained in the Congress Glossary is a mere short sentence: "Famous as one of the first adhesive postage stamps issued and also for its unsurpassed excellence in production". I am sure you must agree that this contains but little information for anyone who does not already know the "Penny Black". Being the first adhesive obviously a truly comprehensive definition should include details of engraver, method of printing and date of issue, and certainly its country - G.B.

Another term which should follow the "Black" in the Congress Glossary is the "Penny Blue", but it is omitted. It does not appear to be generally known that in December, 1840, trial sheets in blue of the (then) seven months old "Penny Black" were printed at the request of Rowland Hill for experimental work. While it is true they were not issued for use, the fact remains a used specimen did go through the post in March, 1857, and this now rests in the Royal collection.

Essay. A design in the form of a stamp proposed but not adopted, or not without some alteration. You will see that this definition includes the expression "in the form of a stamp". Those words are omitted from the Congress definition which, therefore, could be equally true of an Artist's Sketch.

Perforation. The somewhat ungrammatical definition in the Congress Glossary reads "which removes, by punching out, a portion of the paper, as distinguished from Rouletting." This is almost meaningless. What is meant by "a portion of paper" and where in the sheet is the removal

of paper effected? Perforation is:- A process, used to facilitate the separation of stamps from the sheet, in which the gutters between the vertical and horizontal rows of stamps are weakened by punching out small pieces of paper. The result is to leave a line of small holes in the paper between the stamps. Perforation differs from Roulette in that paper is actually removed from the sheet by the punch, whereas rouletting merely weakens the paper by cutting. The gauge of the perforation is denoted by the number of holes in a length of 2 centimetres.

Missing Perf.

This is rather an unfortunate term but one which is accepted by philatelists. It results, of course, from a short or missing pin on the machine. The use of "Missing Perf" for missing tooth is general, but quite inaccurate. If a perforation means anything at all, it means a hole, and consequently a missing perf is a missing hole, and not a missing bit of something which is left after the hole has been made. Never use the term "Missing Perf" when you mean "Missing Tooth". The former is an interesting perforation variety while the latter is just a damaged stamp.

Cancellation.

Although I am not actually producing specific sheets under this heading, I would make just a brief comment on this subject. The terms cancellation, obliteration and postmark are used somewhat loosely as synonymous expressions to describe the various devices employed to cancel a stamp and prevent its use a second time. Actually however there is a considerable difference between two of the terms. A postmark, or as it is sometimes termed, a date-stamp, is the device indicating the place at which a letter has been posted or received and the date of such operation. An obliteration is merely a mark, which, while sufficing to prevent a stamp being used a second time, does not necessarily indicate the place of use and certainly does not contain any indication as to the date of use. The term cancellation is generally understood to include both the other terms.

Fresh Entry and Re-entry.

Here is a wide subject which could form at least one complete lecture. Briefly, a Fresh Entry is a correction of a misplaced impression of the transfer roller on to the plate before it has been hardened; usually it is deliberately non-coincident with the original entry and it always shows an original state. A Re-entry is a repair, possibly of a worn impression; it occurs after the plate has been hardened and used. It can be either coincident or non-coincident. It is the latter, if is accidentally so. A re-entry shows at least a second state of the plate. In the case of a fresh entry, where the original faulty impression has been completely erased, obviously they are not discovered by the philatelist; there must have been thousands of them. Just in the same way many re-entries are not discovered by the philatelist because they coincide with the original entry, and although the plate has been used, the re-entry may have been made in a very early state.