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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Volume Five **6**

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No. 1

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

OUR NEXT MEETING

2.30 p.m. Saturday, January 26th 1957.

At this meeting four members have been invited each to give a small display and a brief talk. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance at this first meeting of 1957 and that members will bring along their queries and points of interest for discussion. Tea will be served as usual about 4 p.m. and the meeting will close about 5.30 p.m.

Our New Editor. Mr. A.A. Hard having taken over the Editorship of "The Kiwi" all I have to do for this issue is to prepare a page or two of notes on the affairs of the Society. I am sure everyone will join the Committee in thanking Mr. Hard and I hope quite a number of members will help him by sending in contributions for publication in subsequent issues.

Future Meetings. In the first instance I must wish all members a very happy and prosperous 1957, and hope I shall have the opportunity of meeting more of them at our monthly meetings at the Kingsley Hotel during the coming year. Details of our next meeting are set out above and the dates for subsequent meetings, as previously announced, are as follows:-

Mar. 30th. (Saturday)	2.30 p.m.	July 31st (Wednesday)	6.30 p.m.
May 29th. (Wednesday)	6.30 p.m.	Sept 25th (Wednesday)	6.30 p.m.

Annual General Meeting - November 30th (Saturday) 11 a.m.

Please get these into your 1957 Diary.

Incidentally, in "The Philatelic Society's Year Book," an unfortunate printer's error has occurred in connection with the

last date; November 30th is indicated as a Wednesday. My 1957 Calendar shows the 30th to be a Saturday, and as that was the day intended, will those members who have a copy of The Philatelic Society's Year Book please make the necessary amendment. Should there be any member who would like a copy of that useful publication I still have a few copies of the last edition (1957) at the published price - 1/6d.

Fifth Annual General Meeting (1956). And from this reference to our next Annual General Meeting I must revert to the last A.G.M - our full day show - which was a most successful event. There was a very fair attendance, many members arrived for lunch and quite a number stayed for dinner in the evening after the close of the meeting at 5.30 p.m. For those who were unable to attend a copy of the Honorary Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts accompanies this Bulletin and following my own notes is the report which our President, Mrs. E.C.M. Moore, presented to the meeting. The result of the election of Officers and Committee for 1957 was as follows:-

<u>President:</u>	Mrs. E.C.M. Moore	<u>Hon. Editor:</u>	A.A. Hard
<u>Vice-Pres:</u>	T.H. Hopkins	<u>Committee:</u>	
<u>Hon. Sec:</u>	Mrs. M. Erskine		P.E. Dewdney
<u>Hon. Treasurer:</u>	Noel Turner		G.B. Erskine
<u>Hon. Packet Sec:</u>	W. Hasler Young		W.J. Farrow
<u>Hon. Auditor:</u>	G.B. Erskine		R.D. Williamson

I believe I am quite safe in saying that everyone spent a most enjoyable day, many saying so before they left, and the fact that for some the proceedings started before 11 a.m. and continued until after 11 p.m. is merely by the way. Before lunch some very interesting material was shown on the display boards by various members, and all available table space was taken up with some 60 lots for the Bid Board; for several of these lots there was very keen competition. The main event in the afternoon was, of course, the excellent film show provided by Mr. A. Malcolmson, on the staff at New Zealand House, who showed a series of colour films. Many of the scenes were familiar to one or two present who have had the good fortune to visit New Zealand, while others had to content themselves by recognising the various places as "on the design on a New Zealand stamp".

Current Subscription. I have been asked by our Treasurer to remind quite a number of members that their subscription for the present year has not yet been received. If, with this Bulletin you find a remittance slip asking for the current subscription, this will indicate that the Treasurer has no record of receiving it from you. Will the members concerned please give this their immediate attention?

Mail from New Zealand. I have just received two Aerogrammes - one from our old friend Alan Flemming, of Pim & Co. (N.Z.) Ltd., Auckland, and the other from Mr. R.J.G. Collins of Christchurch. Both send very good wishes to our Society for 1957. Mr. Flemming, when he wrote, was just on his way, with his wife Joy, by air to Ceylon. He says that one of his reasons for getting away from Auckland is the fact that they have just broken a ninety year old record for rainfall - just a mere seventy four inches! He does not say over what period the seventy-four inches fell. Like Mr. Flemming my other correspondent, Mr. Collins, sends his good wishes to the Society and I now quote a postscript to his letter written and signed by his wife Mabel.

"I think you may be interested to know that the above R.J.G.C's name was included in the New Year's Honours List, and was awarded an M.B.E. for services rendered to this country, Philately being the main subject. As you can well imagine we have had a hectic week, and the honour has been very well received by a host of friends and the local Press".

I am sure all members of this Society will join me in congratulating Mr. Collins on this well deserved honour and we only have to remember the Volumes of the New Zealand Handbook to realise how well deserved it is. Nevertheless, quite apart from this enormous work his philatelic activities extend much further, and it is an honour to have him as a member of our Society.

NEW MEMBERS

R. Chasmer,
13, Lucas Avenue,
Plaistow, London. E.13.

- (1) From 1937 on (used only)
- (3) British Pacific Islands and Malaya.

L.H. Ewings,
56, Clarence Place,
Newport, Mon.

- (1) All Issues
Not Dependencies.

Exchange Packet. By a coincidence, as I was half way through these notes, I received a telephone call from Mr. Young who tells me he is very anxious to get some more material for our circulating packets. I seem to have heard this plea before; I wonder if you have? Please do send some books to him; the address is: W. Hasler Young, 23, Angel Close, London. N.18.

Margarete Erskine (Mrs)
Hon. Secretary.

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT.

(Delivered at the A.G.M. November 1956)

Since the last Annual General Meeting this is the sixth member's meeting to be held at the Kingsley Hotel. Several members have given displays and many have contributed to general discussions.

I would mention in particular, Lt. Col. Burney, Mr. Michael and Mr. Gordon Kaye, each of whom provided a fine display accompanied by an interesting talk. In addition we had the opportunity of seeing some fascinating material in connection with the Chalon Portrait - the property of Mr. Robson Lowe - and on another occasion many sheets of "Sperati's reproductions" (fortunately for us this gentleman did not turn his attention to New Zealand). Both of these shows were presented for our entertainment by Mr. Erskine

Our annual competition, the second, was well patronised by members (far better than the opening competition last year). Actually there were nineteen entries for our 1956 competition and those members who were present for the judging will remember that we had some difficulty in providing space to display all these efforts. (Over 200 sheets). We were indebted to the late Mr. Trevor Edwards for judging this competition and his decision - a very popular one - sent the "Stacey Hooker Cup" North for a year, to Mr. A.B. Johnstone (Edinburgh) for his twelve sheets of George VI De la Rue Varieties (which featured paper, watermarks, flaws, retouches, and re-entries). Mr. Noel Turner came into second place for the "Kiwi Shield"; his entry of twelve sheets was concerned with numerous varieties on the Health issues. Mr. Johnstone cannot be with us today in order to receive his Cup and Certificate, but he has written sending his very best wishes to you all.

However, Mr. Turner is here and will be taking over the Shield at the close of the formal business of this Annual General Meeting. He will hold this until November 1957.

During the year we have had four issues of "The Kiwi"; I see that our Hon. Treasurer has made a reference to this publication in his report. I would merely add that I understand Mr. A.A. Hard is taking over from Mr. Erskine the responsibility for publication of our Bulletin for the coming year. I should like to thank him on your behalf for offering to do this.

During the year we have had six new memberships but, unfortunately, seven resignations, consequently at the close of the year our membership stands at 124 as against 125 this time last year.

I do hope that during the coming year some of those members

who have not yet given a display at one of our bi-monthly meetings will volunteer to do so.

We have already had proposed two additions to our 1957 programme; first, there is an invitation from the Hampstead Philatelic Society for our members to give a joint display. This invitation has been accepted by your Committee and the date arranged is Thursday, 28th March, 1957. We would like six members each to provide fifteen sheets. The frames at Hampstead can accommodate a total of ninety sheets. It will only be necessary for each member to talk about his (or her) sheets for some seven to ten minutes.

A second, similar, invitation comes from the Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Society of Great Britain but in this instance it is suggested that we should have an exchange of visits. The details of this are still to be arranged, and I hope that the result will be at least eight of our members visiting the "Kangaroos" and even more of the latter coming along here to the Kingsley Hotel to meet the "Kiwi's".

E.C.M. MOORE (MRS).

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OBITUARY.

It is with deep regret that we learn, since the last issue of "The Kiwi", of the death of our former President, Mr. F. Stacey Hooker. He was a founder-member of our Society and, after its formation, provided accommodation for our meetings.

He held the Presidential Chair for three years and, his generosity will be remembered by the STACEY HOOKER Cup that he presented for annual competition.

We express our sincere condolences to his family.

EDITORIAL.

Greetings!! As a provincial member of the Society I can appreciate that the only contact overseas and provincial members have with the Society is by means of the Exchange Packet and "The Kiwi". The success of both depends largely upon the material we members put into them and at the moment there is a shortage of material for both.

Regarding "The Kiwi", I would like to see more specialist items submitted, some of our members must have completed or are making a study of a particular stamp or issue. For goodness sake don't keep the information bottled up; we would like to hear about it - and what better place than the pages of "The Kiwi" to share your knowledge. It often takes time to get an article printed in the philatelic press or included in a handbook whereas, its publication in "The Kiwi" has the advantage of reaching interested members quicker, thereby having it vetted and, if necessary, corrected before it is put into print.

I am sure a lot of useful information can be spread if members will send their queries for publication in "The Kiwi"; someone is abound to know the answer and, if it is not entirely correct someone else joins in the correspondence to the mutual benefit of all. If you wish to remain anonymous then I will state, "a member wishes to know, etc" and publish the replies in the next issue.

I will also welcome short articles on new issues - varieties - re-entries - retouches - special postmarks - first flights - in fact anything that makes the collecting of the stamps of New Zealand more interesting.

By these means I hope to make the reading of "The Kiwi" more interesting, in addition to recording the social activities of the Society.

If the requisite amount of material is not forthcoming, I shall endeavour to put a few posers and supply the answer which, whether it be right or wrong may evoke some discussion.

For instance:- Do you know what is meant in the catalogues by "Vert pair perf. 14 x 13½ and 14 x 14½"?

Here is the explanation, with some sheets of stamps in the King Edward VII and King George V issues it was found that the perforating machine would not make a good job of the whole sheet. The perforations crept into the design of the stamps towards the second half of the sheet. One machine was therefore used for the top four rows of stamps and another for the remainder. The machine used for the top four rows gauged 14 X 13½ and that used for the bottom part of the sheet 14 x 14½. If one examines se tenant pairs or blocks it will be seen that the

horizontal row of perforations between the fourth and fifth rows of stamps belongs to the vertical row of perforations of row four. It is, therefore, the head of the comb and from this we can deduce that the sheet was perforated from the bottom by reversing the sheet. When six rows had been perforated the margin between the horizontal row of perforations and the bottom frame line of the design of the fifth row of stamps became wider. If a horizontal line is drawn between the top vertical perforation holes of row five, this line will invariably cut through the top of the design of the stamps in row five, as the head of the comb would have done if the perforating had continued. The second comb machine gauging $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ was brought into use, the head of the comb being placed fairly central in the margin between the fourth and fifth rows of stamps. As the vertical rows of the $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ machine had fallen short at the top of row five this gave rise to a wide perforation "tooth" between the perforations from the two machines.

What puzzles me is, why was it necessary to change over from a $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ machine to a $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ machine? Presumably, the same results could have been secured if after perforating six rows the machine had been stopped and, the sheet repositioned so that the head of the machine perforations fell centrally between the fourth and fifth row of stamps. The machine had perforated six rows before the perforations fell short and, it would seem, could have done the remaining four satisfactorily after resetting the sheets.

Possibly, it was easier to transfer the sheet to the $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ machine after perforating six rows than resetting the paper in the $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ machine. The length of the vertical rows of pins is the same for each machine, the difference being that there are 15 pins in the $13\frac{1}{2}$ and 16 in the $14\frac{1}{2}$ machine.

ALBERT A. HARD

Hon. "Kiwi" Editor.