



THE KIWI



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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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OUR NEXT MEETING.

Owing to the Easter Holidays - the next meeting will be held at The Kingsley Hotel, on SATURDAY at 2.30 p.m.

4th APRIL 1959

(Not on 28th March, as per January 'The Kiwi')

At this meeting our Vice-President, Mr. H. La Coste Bartrop will give a display and talk on "New Zealand Classics - past and future". We will also have the pleasure of being entertained by Mrs. J. Willis who will display "Stamps of -----." I do happen to know the theme of this display but - if you wish to know the answer - See you on the 4th APRIL. I can assure you of a most interesting afternoon. Do! remember the new date! 4th APRIL.

Mr. Bartrop will be travelling from Swindon and Mrs. J. Willis from Tunbridge Wells, for the sole purpose of pleasing you; so let's show our appreciation of their keenness, by supporting them.

REMINDERS.

Northern Members.

2nd April. 25, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh 2.
7.30 p.m. Mr. Farrow requires your backing -
Do not leave it to the other fellow, because
you can bet he will not be there.

Southern Members.

25th March. Sidcup P.S.
Only 9 members have so far promised to attend.
Address: United Services Club, Main Road,
Sidcup.

(Please re-read the January issue of the "Kiwi")

PACKET NEWS.

We are getting slack - and We are causing little me, extra work and worry: Naughty! - Naughty!!

1. Certificate of Posting MUST be obtained from the Post Office when posting a packet - and C. of P. SENT to the Exchange Secretary.
2. PAYMENT IN STAMPS - Please in values of 3d. or under.
3. SIGN ADVICE SLIP - SIGN ADVICE SLIP (at the Bottom)

And of course the usual plea - Booklets - don't hoard, you misers! - let the stamps see the light of day - rake out that shoe box from under the stairs and get cracking.

4th - 4th. - Do not forget the 4th. - 4th.

We extend a sincere welcome to the following new members and trust that they will learn to enjoy N.Z. to the full.

Peter H. Simmons,
10, Crossfield Road,
Southend-on-Sea,
Essex.

John M. Shelton,
37, Windermere Court,
Wembley,
Middlesex.

Arthur H. Grubb,
White Cottage,
Bruisyard,
Saxmundham,
Suffolk.

Col. Herbert C.R. Gillman,
Noads House,
Tilshead,
Salisbury,
Wiltshire.

John Ashcroft,
3, Queensway Close,
Penwortham,
Preston, Lancs.

Miss Dorothy Nicholl,
c/o Stephenson's,
12, Howe Street,
Market Square, Burnley, Lancs.

Capt. Robin B. Merton,
Junior Leaders Reg. R.A.C.,
Bovington Camp,
Wareham, Dorset.

Mr. Rene Van Rompay,
Koolstraat 28,
Mechelen,
Belgium.

W. Hasler Young,
Hon. Secretary.

After the business of the Meeting had been disposed of the members were entertained with a talk on "Philatelic Terms" by Mr. G.B. Erskine. The Sheets accompanying the talk had been compiled by Mr. Jordan and consisted of the actual philatelic items that illustrated the terms under discussion. The display was divided into three groups, -

Group (I) The anatomy of the Stamp, e.g., paper, gum, watermark.

Group (II) Type of Stamp, e.g., definitive, provisional, etc.

Group (III) Individuality of the Stamp, e.g. Errors, re-entries, etc.

Owing to the large number of sheets forming the display, they had to be shown in two parts and, in the limited time available, it was impossible to note all the items displayed. Listed below are some of the items seen:-

Group (I) Papers, samples of wove, laid, Dickinson silk thread, battonne, quadrille, granite, chalky, bleute, moire, French bank note (Channell Islands), Winchester Security, burelage.

Watermarks, nothing to do with "water" but simply a thinning of the paper in the pulp stage by the "bits" attached to the dandy-roller. Various types of single and multiple in different designs, pseudo watermarks, e.g. impressed on the 1862 issues of Switzerland. A monogram C.S.P. appears on the gum of the 1923 series of Czechoslovakia and the lithographed watermarks on the 1925 issues of New Zealand.

Printing processes, letterpress (expressed by philatelists as "surface printing", why?) litho, offset photogravure, embossed, typewriter (Uganda), typeset.

Gum, examples of various colours, ribbed, honeycomb design (German issues), rose coloured (Hanover), yellow (Canada), sugar content (Switzerland).

Perforations, line, comb, compound, irregular, rouletting.

The final items in Group I were examples of die proofs, plate-proofs and essays of Great Britain by Perkins, Bacon & Co. submitted in 1880 as examples of their printing by the letterpress process when they lost the contract for printing by the line engraved method.

Group (II) Use of the Stamp, definitives, i.e., stamps in regular use, provisionals, overprinted, under-printed, e.g., unadopted, local stamps, bogus issues, discount 10% Belgium. T.P.O's and R.P.O's, frank and newspaper stamps, Tin Can Mail.

Group (III) Errors, etc. Inverted centres, inverted frames and overprints, artists mistakes, paper creases during printing resulting in voids in the design, double prints and double impressions, printed both sides and on the gummed side, re-touches and re-entries. It was unfortunate that the examples chosen to illustrate a re-entry were the New Zealand 2/- Captain Cook issue of 1942-3 Plate 3, the typical "dragged" print variety due to the wearing of the chrome facing of the plate. Varnish bars to prevent removal of cancellations, control and cylinder numbers, guide lines, printers' waste, etc.

The meeting closed with a Vote of Thanks by Mr. Noel Turner to Mr. Jordan for supplying such interesting material for display and discussion and for a speedy return to good health after his illness. Also to Mr. G.B. Erskine for so ably presenting the display. The motion was warmly seconded by Mr. Givan with acclamation from the members present.

To the Editor of the Kiwi.

Here is an extract from a recent letter from New Zealand dated 16th January 1959.

" You will see on my last letter another perfectly useless stamp "Boy Scout" and now there is to be yet another Centenary Issue for the South Island of Marlborough Province.

Nelson have been declared "off issue" and Hawkes Bay also. Very short time of issue!! With this new issue and the proposed "Pictorial set" they have to make room on the P.O. counter for "New Issues"! and did the clerks curse the issues? They had to have two books of stamps and dodge from one to the other for special stamps asked for and did it with a poor grace. Quite overdone - we actually had six 3d. stamps, all different on sale at the same time:-

3d. small figures of value
3d. large " " "
3d. Health

3d. Nelson figures of value
3d. Scout
3d. Hawkes Bay

If the New Zealand Government continues putting out all these unnecessary issues their country will become "unpopular" and their stamps not collected. "

Information is required on two subjects, one in connection with the Maori war cancellations, details of Stanley Gibbons numbers of full face Queens that have Queens Redoubt or Headquarter cancels. Also dates, where known, to determine how long they were used and, of course, any "manuscript" cancels that have a bearing on Maori War P.O.'s, in fact any information gleaned from stamps would be very welcome. It is hoped to publish a small treatise on this subject if sufficient information is forthcoming and details should be sent to -

Douglas Edsall, No. 2 RD, Ohaupo, New Zealand.

Mr. Edsall would also like any information members can provide regarding stamps of the 1864-65 period cancelled by a circular date stamp, which has "Province of Auckland, N.Z." round the perimeter and the date in two lines in the centre.

"

Bracondale,
Popeswood,
Bracknell, Berks.

Like most vendors at the Society's auctions, I have been, and often still am, a buyer. As such I can see the force of the Editor's and members' views on "high reserve values". No doubt they agree with Lewis Carroll.

'I never loved a dear gazelle
Or anything that cost me much.
High prices profit those who sell,
But why should I be fond of such!'

A vendor will naturally feel differently, and after seeing lots at Society auctions knocked down at very low prices will feel amply justified in putting reserves on his own property. The question then arises, "what is a reasonable reserve?" or stated more broadly, "what is the value of a stamp?"

Some time ago I was sent a packet from another Club with a considerable number of N.Z. Dependencies priced at a very low proportion of catalogue, but not being taken by

members. Priced too high? Yes, for that market, but the prices seemed to me so ridiculously low that I took a chance on two stamps priced about £2, and sold them at once to Stanley Gibbons at a profit. What was the real value of those stamps? The 36/- received by the vendor, the £2 I paid, the £2.7.6. I received, or S.G.'s selling price of about £4 or so? They must sell at least some of their stamps, or they would not be in business. If so, why should collectors buy from them and ignore obviously genuine stamps on a club sheet?

Look at the problem in another way. All the lots I put into the A.G.M. auction were, I believe, reserved on much the same scale. Only a few sold, but why consider the reserve reasonable for these and not for the others?

The fact is, a Club auction is a bad market for sellers. Members already possess most of the common, and many of the not so common stamps, or perhaps are specialists on some issues only, so that it may well happen that a stamp is only wanted by one member and there is no competition in the bidding. Lack of competition produces an atmosphere of apathy, which, in turn, has a bad effect on the bidding. If buyers want to wait for miracles like the amateur who sold me a collection very cheap, because he had been crossed in love, all good luck to them, but that is no reason why a vendor should allow himself to become the victim of a miracle.

L.E. Jacob.

Albert A. Hard

Hon. Editor, "Kiwi"