

THE KIWI

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

VOLUME XIII No. 4. JULY 1964

WHOLE No. 67

The next Meeting of the N.Z. Society of Great Britain will be held on Wednesday, 29th July, at 6.15 p.m. at the Shaftesbury Hotel, Monmouth Street, London.

At this Meeting members will display and discuss items of Postal History connected with the following. Mr. J.D. Riddell will be showing "Flag Station" covers or "Loose Letters" and, the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G.E.C. Pratt, will be showing Returned Letter Cancellations (including Rural Delivery markings) and Postage Dues. Articles on "Flag Stations" by Mr. John Riddell and Returned Letter Cancellations by Mr. Pratt will be found in the January 1964 KIWI. It is to be hoped that all members who have interesting items on these subjects will either bring it to the meeting or send their material to the Hon. Secretary. It would also help to complete the story if someone can bring a collection of Postage Due adhesives.

Our last Meeting in London on 27th May was not very well attended, this probably being due to the holiday season commencing, and, that it clashed with the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain being held at Bournemouth at which several of our members were attending.

Apologies were received from the President, Mr. Bartrop; Noel Turner; Campbell Paterson; Mr. H.F. Taylor; Mr. M.S. Burberry and Mr. R.D. Williamson.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Mr. Pratt took the Chair.

He introduced Mr. R.C. Agabeg, a prospective new member, to the members present on the proposal of Mr. H.F. Taylor (as will be seen elsewhere in the issue he has become a member of the Society.)

The subject for discussion was the First Pictorial Issues of 1898, and your Editor displayed and discussed the reasons for this issue of the scenic attractions of New Zealand after the drab issues of the 1870's and 1880's. Re-entries abound in all values of this issue but more particularly in 1d. Bi-coloured, 1d. Red, 2d. Lake, 2½d. both the original and corrected issue, 4d. original issue, and the 9d. value. The numerous shades of the 6d. KIWI in carmine, rose carmine, aniline carmine, bright carmine pink, salmon, pink, rose red, brick red, etc. had been arranged with the assistance of a quartz lamp. Also displayed were the 1½d. Boer War Contingent, colour trials in purple, brown and green imperforate, the rare Khaki shade of the original issue and the major re-entry on row 2 No. 12. A right hand marginal block of four of the 2/- value with sheet margin of the Provisional Printing on vertically laid paper, perf. 11, with no watermark issued in March 1903 showed a re-entry in the letters "SOUND" of Milford Sound.

Finally, a sheet containing compound perfs of 11 and 14 of the 2d. Pembroke Peak in purple and the 6d. KIWI in carmine, a block of six of the 3d. Huias perf. 11 water-marked paper, the original perfs badly misplaced through the value tablet, patched upon the back with strips of gummed paper and re-perforated 11 in the correct position, also plate proofs in black on Indian paper watermarked NZ and star imperforate of the ½d. Mt. Cook, 6d. KIWI (pair and single) and 1/- Kea and Kaka.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Pratt, also showed some interesting items containing re-entries, etc. from his collection and his predecessor, Peter Garnett, who arrived late with his wife, having had transport difficulties, showed a number of interesting sheets, which, as he said contained a number of problem items of which he would be glad of information and I think most of this was forthcoming.

Since the last issue of the KIWI we have had a letter from Mr. F.C. Macdonald informing us of the sudden death of his son, Mr. R.A. Macdonald, in London on January 11th 1964.

Mr. Macdonald, whose home was in New Zealand, was an old-time member of our Society, and we send our sincere condolences to his family.

NEW MEMBER.

We are pleased to welcome:-

R.C. Agabeg

"Shenley", 5, Coombefield Close,
New Malden, Surrey.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

D. Burton, now at 36, Penberth Road,
Gatford, London. S.E. 6.

J.A. Gregson, now at 11, Fell Close, Adams Hall Est,
Bamber Bridge, Nr. Preston,
Lancs.

J. Robb, now at 34, Grassmere Road,
Lytham St. Annes, Lancs.

W. Hasler Young.

"POSTAGE STAMPS OF NEW ZEALAND", Vol. IV.

The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand has met with continuous and unexpected difficulties in its efforts to publish Volume 4, which should, by now, have been in the hands of the subscribers. All these problems have now been resolved and the printers, Whitcombe & Tombs Ltd., have advised the Society that the first delivery of the volume will be made before the end of August. Despatches will be completed within the following six weeks.

'Report quoted from 'STAMP COLLECTING'.

Members should note that it will take a further 8 weeks for their volume to reach them - it should therefore make a grand Christmas present.

W.H.Y.

In this issue we publish the Society 'Exchange Packet Rules' etc. We suggest that you place this new double page with your membership list, which, of course, you are keeping well up-to-date?

14th June, 1964.

from: R.M. Startup,
P.O. Box 275,
Masterton, N.Z.

Dear Mr. Hard,

Just a quick note with information I think you and fellow members of the N.Z. Society of G.B. will be interested in,

As you will be aware the New Zealand Post Office has under preparation an official history, compiled during a 12-months visit to this country by Professor Robinson of U.S.A. Professor Robinson also compiled "The British Post Office" which is the standard reference of the postal history of Great Britain.

I have now been advised that the long awaited handbook "A History of the Post Office in New Zealand" will be published in a few week's time at 35s. a copy. Though I have no details of the book itself I would assume that it will contain photographs and maps and though mainly a postal history, will contain numerous philatelic references. Technically the book should be of the usual high quality produced by the Government Printer.

Copies should be obtainable in due course from Harris Publications Ltd., Maiden Lane, Strand, London, or else from Government Printer, Private Bag, Wellington, N.Z. Though I will not be holding stocks myself I would be only too pleased to obtain and forward copies for those members who may not be able to obtain copies otherwise.

In the philatelic field the design of the April 1965 ANZAC stamp has been announced. This shows a view of Anzac Cove, Gallipoli (Turkey), with a Gallipoli poppy inset. There has been some controversy over this design from ex-servicemen's associations and consequently the eventual design may differ. There has been some comment that Australia and New Zealand should issue identical designs while Turkey is being persuaded to issue a similar commemorative stamp.

With regards

Sincerely yours,

R. M. Startup.

RURAL DELIVERIES.

(Notes by G.E.C. Pratt).

The definitive list of Rural Delivery Markings on mail which cannot be delivered as addressed is contained in Mr. R.M. Startup's "Travelling Mails".

The following markings of which I have specimens have not hitherto been recorded -

- (a) NOT A BOXHOLDER ON No. 5/RURAL DELIVERY
CHRISTCHURCH/INITIALS. (Framed)
- (b) NOT KNOWN/BY POSTAL CONTRACTOR/GLENEDEN/INITIALS.
(Framed)
- (c) NOT ON/FITZHERBERT W.R.D. (Unframed)

(Mr. Startup tells me that this was used at Palmerston North on Fitzherbert West Mails and is now known as Palmerston North R.D.4.)

- (d) NOT A BOXHOLDER ON 4 R.D. MORRINSVILLE.
(Unframed)
- (e) NOT A BOXHOLDER ON/4R.D. MORRINSVILLE
(Unframed)
(i.e. two lines).
- (f) NOT A BOXHOLDER/ON R.D.2/OTOROHANGA.
(Framed)
- (g) NOT No. 4 R.D. (Cover shows used at WHANGAREI)
(Unframed)
- (h) NOT A BOXHOLDER No. 9 R.D. INVERCARGILL.
(Unframed)

We invite any members who bought anything special at the recent Auction of Dr. Clarke's Postal History Collection to bring it to the July Meeting.

Gerald Pratt,
Hon. Secretary.

TUHIKARAMEA and NGAHINAPOURI.

There is history hidden behind many of the old country Post Offices, but how little we are aware of it today.

TUHIKARAMEA was the name of the whole district in North Island when a Post Office was first recorded in about 1863. This was split about 1870 into two parts, the old name being retained by the upper half: NGAHINAPOURI was the name given to the lower part where a post office was opened in a butter factory.

In about 1872 there was a post office in a farm house up the road at TUHIKARAMEA which continued to function from there until about 1914 when it was closed. The first postmaster, VICKERS the farmer, had arrived in 1872 and was still alive in the 1920s, when I arrived after the first World War.

Ever since I have regretted that my philatelic interest at that time was solely in the adhesives on an album page: I have always wanted since to be able to question him about early postal arrangements in the neighbourhood. However, I was able to learn from his sons that his 300 acre farm was the first to be settled in the district: it had been allocated to a Captain PEACOCK after the Maori War when the whole district was surveyed into 50 acre plots for the soldiers, with 300 acres for the Officers.

My own farm had been allotted at that time to a Sergeant MURPHY but until the availability of modern improvements, particularly refrigeration, it was not easy to make a living from a small area of tree and scrub covered land, so few of the old soldiers stayed for long.

VICKERS was able with a little capital to break in the land he had brought, and to grow oats which he could sell for cash as cut chaff for horse owners in Auckland. He had to use the WAIPA river route on which the river steamer service continued into the 1920s when it was superseded by a road service to OHAUPO.

One wonders why a post office was needed in 1863 in TUHIKARAMEA since other settlers did not become established for another ten years - Reids, Livingstones, Gores and others - when Vickers was recognised as postmaster at a salary of £2 - not much money by modern standards for a year's service, even part-time. The clue to this early need for a post office may lie in army records of Colonel Cameron's campaign with the 65th Regiment against the Maoris. He moved up the WAIPO river from NEWCASTLE, (now NGAPIAWAHIA)

TUHIKARAMEA and NGAHINAPOURI (contd).

to TUHIKARAMEA and from there to NGAHINAPOURI. These army records mention a Mr. WASHINGTON as postmaster at NGAHINAPOURI; and later a Sergeant Evans.

Thus the NGAHINAPOURI post office was almost certainly needed in 1863 as a Military Post Office and the evidence of the old earthworks of the redoubt and occasional findings of 65th Regiment buttons and badges helps to confirm this. It is surprising, however, that there is no mention of an army rank for Mr. WASHINGTON.

Finds of Maori axeheads and other stone implements help to confirm the importance of the area as a Maori centre which it was important to hold.

This first post office may have closed a year later when the whole force moved on to TERORE, where a post office is known to have been opened, and thence to ALEXANDRA (now PIRONGIA).

However I am still hoping to find cancelled covers of this early post office or entries referring to it. Possibly the Province of Auckland No. 4, which is known to have been used at TE AWAMATU, may have been used; or possibly even a manuscript cancellation with the initials of the Postmaster or of the Force. (TFF).

Nevertheless I wonder still if Colonel Cameron's Headquarters carried on their march (from NEWCASTLE to TUHIKARAMEA to NGAHINAPOURI to TE RORE and finally to ALEXANDRA (PIRONGIA) and TAURANGA) the Headquarters' cancellation supposed to have been used only at Auckland Headquarters. It is unusual for a Headquarters to show its location as does this Auckland stamp, but it may well have been carried throughout the Campaign. Certainly such a cancel with the Headquarters' lettering removed (though with traces remaining) was used at TAURANGA where peace was signed at the end of the Campaign. This is confirmed by four covers identified by the distinctive TAURANGA bar cancellation.

Certainty is unlikely to be achieved after the burning of records in the Wellington fire but anyone having entries of the Maori War period containing references to these places may be able to help to complete the story.

Douglas Edsall.

LIEUT. JAMES COOK.

..... continuing the story of Capt. Cook's re-discovery and circumnavigation of New Zealand - from "Hawkesworth's Voyages" published in Dublin in 1775.....

OCTOBER 1769.

FRIDAY 20

In one of the canoes that came about us as soon as we anchored, we saw two men, who, by their habits, appeared to be Chiefs: one of them was dressed in a jacket, which was ornamented, after their manner, with dog's skin; the jacket of the other was almost covered with small tufts of red feathers. These men I invited on board, and they entered the ship with very little hesitation; I gave each of them about four yards of linen and a spike-nail; with the linen they were much pleased, but seemed to set no value upon the nail. We perceived that they knew what had happened in Poverty-bay, and we had therefore no reason to doubt that they would behave peaceably; however, for further security, Tupia was ordered to tell them for what purpose we came thither, and to assure them that we would offer them no injury, if they offered none to us. In the meantime those who remained in the canoes traded with our people very fairly for what they happened to have with them: the Chiefs, who were old men, staid with us till we had dined, and about two o'clock I put off with the boats, manned and armed, in order to go on shore in search of water, and the two Chiefs went into the boat with me. The afternoon was tempestuous, with much rain, and the surf every where ran so high, that although we rowed almost round the bay, we found no place where we could land: I determined therefore to return to the ship, which being intimated to the Chiefs, they called to the people on shore, and ordered a canoe to be sent off for themselves: this was accordingly done, and they left us, promising to come on board again in the morning, and bring us some fish and sweet potatoes.

In the evening, the weather became fair and moderate, the boats were again ordered out, and I landed, accompanied by Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander. We were received with great expressions of friendship by the natives, who behaved with a scrupulous attention not to give offence. In particular, they took care not to appear in great bodies: one family, or the inhabitants of two or three houses only, were generally placed together, to the number of fifteen or twenty, consisting of men, women and children. These little companies sat upon the ground, not advancing towards us, but inviting us to them, by a kind of beckon, moving one hand towards the

LIEUT. JAMES COOK (contd).

breast. We made them several little presents; and in our walk round the bay found two small streams of fresh water. This convenience, and the friendly behaviour of the people, determined me to stay at least a day, that I might fill some of my empty casks, and give Mr. Banks an opportunity of examining the natural produce of the country.

SATURDAY 21

In the morning of the 21st, I sent Lieutenant Gore on shore, to superintend the watering, with a strong party of men; and they were soon followed by Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander, with Tupia, Tayeto, and four others.

The natives sat by our people, and seemed pleased to observe them; but did not intermix with them: they traded, however, chiefly for cloth, and after a short time applied to their ordinary occupations, as if no stranger had been among them. In the forenoon several of their boats went out a-fishing, and at dinner-time every one repaired to his respective dwelling; from which, after a certain time, he returned. These fair appearances encouraged Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander to range the bay with very little precaution, where they found many plants, and shot birds of exquisite beauty.

..... to be continued.

NOTES FROM NOEL TURNER.

- (1) Members will note from the Membership Sheets that the address previously given as "Temporary" is now to be regarded as a permanent address for our Member, David Burton.
- (2) In a recent issue of "KIWI" Members were requested to withdraw the name of R.A. MacDonald of New Zealand. Since that publication we have learned with deep regret that Mr. MacDonald has recently died. He was a Member of our Society for many years and we express to his family our sincere sympathies.
- (3) We also record with pleasure that our Member, Mrs. Versey of Leeds, in conjunction with her husband, Professor Versey, were the donors of a new Cup for the Melville Memorial Competition. This Cup was presented for the first time in the new Class of Junior Collectors and is known as the Upper Senior Award.

NOTES FROM NOEL TURNER (contd).

(4) At Congress at Bournemouth the first proposition considered at the main business meeting was that G.B. Erskine should be made an Honorary Life Member. The proposition was put by Kenneth F. Chapman, with suitable remarks on Mr. Erskine's philatelic career and was passed unanimously with acclamation.

Our Members will know that Gerry Erskine was one of the Founders and shining lights of our Society and with his wife, Margareta, kept things going for many years.

We offer Gerry our hearty congratulations.

ALBERT A. HARD

Honorary "KID" Editor.