

# THE KIWI

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Affiliated to BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION and PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

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VOLUME XLV No. 4.

JULY 1965.

WHOLE No. 73

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The July meeting of the New Zealand Society will be held on Wednesday, 28th July at 6.15 p.m. at the Shaftesbury Hotel, Monmouth Street, London.

Your leader for this meeting will be Mr. Noel Turner who will be displaying "Unusual Philatelic Material" and would like as many members who have any type of this material to bring it to the meeting to entertain the members present.

AMENDMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP LIST No.15. 4/65.

NEW MEMBERS.

H.J. Taylor

32, Hardenhuish Lane,  
Chippenham, Wilts.

E.K. Hossell

7, Brean Down Avenue,  
Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

R.H. Horton

71, Cromes Crescent, Coltishall,  
Norwich, Nor.657. Norfolk.

DECEASED MEMBER.

R.J.G. Collins of New Zealand.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

David Burton

to 27, Ravensdale Mansions,  
Bourne Rd, Crouch End, London. N.8.

J.R. Hinvest

to 136, St. Mary's Drive, Pound  
Hill, Crawley, Sussex.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS (contd)

W.E. Lea to 1, The Adelphi, John Adam  
Street, Strand, London. W.C.2.

M.H. Boyce to 3818, Warrington DR, Charlotte,  
N.C. 28211, U.S.A.

Sdn.Ldr. R.J. Riley to 81, Brooklyn Road,  
Cheltenham, Glos.

DELETE AT SECRETARY'S REQUEST.

R.F. Freeman Sutton, Surrey.

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OBITUARY.

R.J.G. Collins M.B.E., R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L., F.R.P.S.N.Z., has died after a long life dedicated to New Zealand Philately. The first handbook I possessed "New Zealand a Philatelic Handbook" was written by him and published by Verne & Co. I believe it was published in 1922. Ray Collins was then Hon. Secretary to the Philatelic Society of New Zealand. Another handbook compiled by him for the Air Mail Society of New Zealand was "The Air Mails and Pigeon Posts of New Zealand" published in 1931. The four volumes of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" were all edited by him in collaboration with H.T.M. Fethers (Part 1) and later with his great friend C.W. Watts who was Director General Posts and Telegraphs at Wellington G.P.O. I was privileged to meet both these gentlemen when I visited New Zealand, and I received very great kindness from both of them. Ray Collins and his wife Mabel took me one unforgettable afternoon to have tea with Sir Heaton Rhodes - a former Postmaster General of New Zealand - on his ninety first birthday, and we sat in his beautiful garden while I was allowed to see two volumes of his Chalon Head stamps. Ray Collins helped Sir Heaton to form his wonderful collection which was bequeathed to the Christchurch Museum. At the time of my visit to New Zealand Ray Collins was a dealer - the principal of Verne Collins. He gave one whole afternoon to me and went carefully through the collection which I took to New Zealand and taught me a great deal. No-one could possibly have been kinder and more considerate. He gave me an autographed copy of his other great work on the 2/- value 1935 Pictorial Stamp. In the "London Philatelist" dated Feb.

## OBITUARY (contd).

1959 he wrote an erudite article on "The Problem of the 8d with N.Z. and Star Watermark upright, Line Perf 14 (SG 468)." I say without fear of contradiction that Ray Collins was the greatest student, Editor, and Teacher of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand who has ever lived. The tasks he undertook and accomplished would have daunted most men, but his capacity for detailed sifting and annotating information was enormous as the Handbooks testify. Look at page VI of your Handbook Part 4. Chapters 14 to 24 contributed by Messrs Collins and Watts! Ray Collins I believe earned his income largely by his work for the Racecourse at Christchurch. We were taken to a race meeting there to see trotting races at which horses pull two wheeled vehicles, and he came quietly up behind me as I sat in the stand and said, "Can you not lose your money in England without coming all the way to New Zealand to do it" with a hearty chuckle. Ray and his wife designed the 1959 Scout Jamboree stamp "A Scout is a friend to all, and a brother to every Scout, no matter to what social class the other may belong." That was the inspiration which motivated Ray Collins. Ray you were a great Scout, and I am proud to have met you and to have received your friendship.

H.L. Bartrop.

### REPORT ON THE MAY MEETING BY THE EDITOR.

The President was in the Chair and there were about twelve members present. An apology was received from the Secretary who was also to have taken part in the display of World Wars One and Two Covers, but had sent along his material to be displayed for him.

#### Notes on World War II Faces. Covers by Honorary Secretary Mr. G.E.C. Pratt.

Military and Air Force Camps      Conventional C.D.S.  
Less Common Machine Slogans  
Relief Type with made up letters and N.Z.  
straight not curved.

Transit Stamps.      Maximum Security for troops on move from  
Camps - N.Z. to Overseas Theatres - MED -  
PACIFIC  
NZEF FIELD POST OFFICE      No date  
No identification  
between the dozens used.

Notes on World War II Faces (contd)

Mediterranean.

First From arrival in Egypt 2/40 to about Spring 1941.  
Egyptian Adhesives  
N.Z. Army Field Post Office, N.Z.FPO 1 etc.

Second Spring 1941 N.Z. Adhesives authorised but  
Egyptian Authorities insisted on word  
EGYPT in CDS.  
Code numbers allocated to various Allied P.Os.  
to N.Z. 22-25-42-50-87  
Others also found in N.Z. mail  
21-26-28-30-43-46-52-65-70-80-82-94.  
Identification of F.P.O. available when REG.  
LABEL marked N.Z. FPO No--- also used.  
Allied P.O. agreed to accept each others stamps  
so find Mixed Adhesives on Covers.  
GB/AUS Stamps at N.Z. FPOs.

Third. KW Series KW - KWI - KW2 - KW5 Most common  
types but each had several identifiable  
C.D.S.

P.W. Camps Other Numbers to 20.

Pacific. (Including separate Air Force markings not  
found in MED)

No Dates.

NZAPO 50 Norfolk Is - Later 400

100 Tonga - Later 200

150 New Caledonia, - With sub-ident-  
ification figure in  
but units later carried middle. First type  
cancellers with them as preceded NO, 2nd type  
they moved elsewhere. Digit only.

Also Relief Stamp with no  
middle number.

RNZAF. NZAPO with Capital Letter identifying  
place A to H.

Japan. NZAPO 222 with FPO 1 to 7 -  
RNZAF 333

Korea. NZAPO 444 with FPO 1 to 4

Malaya 1964/5 Local adhesives and CDS but sent at  
concessionary Rates. Presumably Air Mail at  
Inland Rates.

INFORMATION WANTED. { Identifications of Egypt and KW series  
with FPOs by Registered Labels.  
{ Identifications provided by F.P.O. numbers  
shown as Return Addresses.

## Report on May Meeting (contd)

Your Editor's exhibit consisted of material in connection with World War I - Trentham Military Camp on 2d K.E. VII and same camp on strip of 3 K.G. V 2d yellow overprinted OFFICIAL.

Cover with large oval postmark Type II Vol.III N.Z. Handbook "N.Z. Military Post Office, Troopship No.12, Nov 14. 1914, Expeditionary Force." No.12 was transport "Wairmana". Cover type 19 Vol III oblong cancel "N.Z. Military Post Office, 19 Oct. 1915, Troopship No.30." which was troopship "Maunganui" and carried 1st N.Z. Rifle Brigade, 2nd F.A. Brigade. Cover with oblong cancellation with cut away four scalloped corners "N.Z. Expeditionary Force, 22nd Dec. 1914, Record Office London" in four lines in blue not recorded in Vol III nor L.J.G. Franks Postal History Catalogue. Manuscript Troopship No. 12 Cover Type No. 20. "N.Z. Expeditionary Force, Oct. 23 1916, Troopship No. 61" in 3 lines in purple. Troopship No. 61 is not recorded in Vol III nor the P.H. Catalogue only as high as Troopship No. 60. Six Covers type 10 in Vol. III "Military Post Office, Sep 30 1914, Expeditionary Force" in 3 lines in purple from ZEITOUN CAMP, Cairo Egypt between Sept. and Dec. 1914. Cover and P.C. with "Military Post Office, date 1915, Expeditionary Force" in large oval double lined purple post mark in 3 lines. Type 14 in Vol. III. There is some peculiarity regarding these two postmarks, the postcard was written in Cairo on 8 Jan 1915 but the postmark reads SAT. 9. 1915. and the cover is dated Sat. 15. 1915 but is not dated in manuscript printed on the flap at the back of the envelope is "The Auckland Battn.N.Z.E.F., Zeitoun Camp, Cairo, Egypt in four lines in black. In Vol. III page 355 para 3 it is stated that this date stamp is found with the date Sat 8 1915 and it is thought that when it was repaired the Egyptian set up SAT for SEP but the postcard is definitely dated 8 Jan.1915 and is addressed to Fred. J. Melville, London and if it was meant to be SAT they would not be 6 days apart. I have another P.C. with the same type of cancellation from the same writer dated 4/1/15 and postmarked 5 Jan 1915. Several covers with type No. 10 cancellation were shown and these all bear Egyptian stamps but Vol.III page 349 states that the mail was made up in convoy on the Manganui in closed bags for transmission to New Zealand and no postage stamps were affixed, the canceller must have also been in use in Egypt. Several Covers and Field Service Post Cards bearing a circular cancellation Type 25 Vol. III a double bar across the centre of the C.D.S. with the date between the bars, Infantry Brigade with Field below in the top half of the C.D.S. and Post Office N.Z. Division in the lower half.

Report on May Meeting (contd)

A cover addressed to Capt. Sinel, 6th Hauraki Coy. Auckland Inf. Bgd. Ismalia postmarked with a circular C.D.S. double bar across centre with date 16 FE 15 and Aerodrome - Heliopoles below & Military Camp in sector above.

Several covers Field Service P.C's all bearing Egyptian stamp and cancelled with type No. 23 Head-Quarters Field. A set of Registration Labels No's 12 - 13 - 14 - 31 and 36 cancelled with Head Quarters Field - Post Office - N.Z. Division in black C.D.S. type No. 23 Vol. III.

A cover addressed to Pte. C. Balfour Melville 965 6th Hauraki Regt Auckland Inf. Batt. N.Z.E.F. Zeitoun. C.D.S. Passed by censor No. 4. with 2½ inch wide band closing letter after censoring with Martial Law. Opened By Censor in blue letters over an ornamental interlaced background.

A Registered cover impressed with 2d K.G.V. type in black registration fee cancelled with combined C.D.S. two bars across centre for date 16 MR 16 - AUST. N.Z. ARMY CORPS in top half and field P.O. in sector below, not seen recorded anywhere. Pink registration Label Australia Imperial Force R. No. 00063 addressed to O.A.S. Capt. Gate, 11 D.A.C. C.E.F.

Cancellation on piece Type 24 Vol. III Mounted Brigade Post Office N.Z. Division.

Set of Registration Labels, N.Z. Advanced Base, A.P.O. in blue, Nos. 1 to 18 except 2 - 10 and 12 which were not used.

Blocks of 4 of K.G. V head type ½d surface printed, 3d, 4d, 6d, 9d and 1/- line engraved all cancelled with N.Z. Advanced Base, Army Post Office, with various dates 1915 to 1916.

Wreck cover O.H.M.S. postmarked C.D.S. Army Post Office, 26 Mr 1918, SZ 10. addressed to P.D.M.S., N.Z.E.F. Head Quarters, 8 Southampton Row, London W.C. Large oval double lined cancellation in blue undecipherable owing to immersion except for word "Hospital." Rubber stamp framed "Damaged by immersion in water" in blue impressed on front of cover. Another wreck cover O.H.M.S. C.D.S. Army Post Office, 22 MR 1918, S.Z. 32., triangular censor mark Passed by Censor No. 3287, hand stamped in blue N.Z. Mtd., FIELD AMBULANCE signed for R.H. Walton Lt. Col. Addressed to D.M.S. N.Z.E.F. Headquarters, Southampton Row, London. W.C. Rubber stamped in black "Damaged by immersion in Sea Water.1.8."

Several official covers O.H.M.S., cancellations C.D.S.

Report on May Meeting (contd)

with double bars across centre for date. "New Zealand" in top half, "No. 1 (or other appropriate number) of Stationary P.O.," in lower half. Registration Label No.2 N.Z. Stationary A.P.O. No. 25 in blue used at Base Office.

Cover from Christchurch 10 AP 17 to a Private N.Z. Medical Corps, No. 3 Field Ambulance, N.Z. Division, France, N.Z.E.F. c/o G.P.O. Wellington. Oblong handstamp in purple "No AT No 2 HOSPITAL -WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Cover O.H.M.S., Base Army Post Office (2) Alexandria in C.D.S. also oval hand stamp No 17 General Hospital date through centre 3/8/18.

On piece of parcels wrapper oblong handstamp in blue "NEW ZEALAND - BASE ARMY POST OFFICE - AUG 16 1918 - RETURNED - PARCELS BRANCH" not recorded in Vol III nor Post History Cat.

O.H.M.S. Cover C.D.S. "Field Post Office - 39 -"also square pink handstamp "A.D.M.S. - NEW ZEALAND - DIVISION No----- Date ----- addressed to D.M.S. N.Z.E.F. Hq. 30 Bloomsbury Square, London W.C.1. Not recorded.

O.H.M.S. cover C.D.S. NEW ZEALAND - 29 AU 18 - No.8 STA. POST OFFICE. Also large oblong handstamp in black - "N.Z. MEDICAL CORPS -ATTACHED - 29 AU 18 - N.Z. R.B. RESERVE DEPOT."addressed to N.Z.E.F. Medical Headquarters, 28, Bloomsbury Square, London W.C.1. Type 42 Vol. III

Several O.H.M.S. covers C.D.S. "NEW ZEALAND - 8 No 18 - No 5 - STA.POST OFFICE"handstruck 1½d to PAY - A02. No. 5. Stationery Post Office was used at No.3. General Hospital, Codford where there was a Command Depot through which Hospital mail passed. Type 42 Vol. III.

Cover with manuscript "On Active Service" circular "Passed by Censor - crown - No. 13 N.Z." in purple, C.D.S. "NEW ZEALAND - 10 OC 18 - Base - ARMY POST OFFICE" Type 32 with "ADVANCED" deleted. Manuscript on back flap "S.S. Doric" outward bound." O.H.M.S. cover addressed to D.M.S., N.Z.E.F., Bloomsbury Square, London. W.C.1. oblong censor mark in red type 97., also C.D.S. "ARMY POST OFFICE - 5 N.Z. 2" ( Army Embarkation Camp Rouen. Handstamp in purple "NEW ZEALAND - EMBARKATION CAMP ROUEN - No----- Date-----"

Cover O.H.M.S. addressed to o/c New Zealand Stationary Hospital. Pencil marking Left "B.E.F." C.D.S. "ARMY POST OFFICE -20 MY 19 - 538" oval handstamp in black "Clearing House No----- -20 MAY 1919 - BASE FRANCE." Also roller

## Report on May Meeting (contd)

cancellation Type 69 Vol III "Advise N.Z. Base P.O. - of any change of address - New Zealand Base Army Post Office - 29 MY 1919" also oblong handstamp NEW ZEALAND - BASE POST OFFICE - 18 JUN 1919 - RETURNED LETTER-BRANCH in black.

Two Charity Labels issued during 1st World War. One - "Auckland Provincial Wounded Fund" showing a soldier charging with bayonet fixed, square value tablet  $\frac{1}{2}$ d in lower right corner and Red Cross in red in lower left corner, rest of design in sombre grey. Second - Conquest of German South West Africa - New Zealand's Tribute 1915 - Bothe Souvenir - one shilling, showing map of German South West Africa in red and South Africa with Pretoria-Durban-Capetown marked. Britannia in a shield with "For Valour" beneath and flags of New Zealand - Great Britain - and South Africa above.

Albert Hard.

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Mr. R.D. Williamson also brought an assortment of covers to entertain the members and I was hoping that he would send me a description of his material, as with the Secretary being absent, I did not have time to take a note of his material, which was enjoyed by all.

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### THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GT. BRITAIN HARROGATE MAY 17 - 21.

Submitted by Mrs. H.J. Versey

From a report compiled by Miss Dorothy Nicoll.

On Thursday evening May 20th a good crowd of about twenty delegates, members and friends were welcomed to the N.Z. Study Circle by the Leader Miss R.N. Solly.

Many came to see the film taken by Mrs. Versey, to show geographical features of both North and South Island. The details of the photography and the explanatory comments which Professor Versey made, were an excellent introduction to the sheets which Mrs. Versey passed round, having chosen those stamps which had the same geographical features for their central design, as we had just seen on film. Mr. D. Burton showed some items of Postal Stationery, and Miss Solly her enthusiasm for modern issues, by passing round part of the material she had used for her Presidential Display at Bradford earlier this season.

This was followed by a display of modern printing errors, which had been awarded a silver medal recently at Seymour Hall. Mr. Hossell who showed these outstanding items, had many examples of the missing colours, in the current pictorials. We were very fortunate to have Mr. J.C. Whibley of Hamilton with us. He was the delegate of the Federation of N.Z. Philatelic Societies, and told us a little of the workings of the Postal



The Philatelic Congress of Gt. Britain Harrogate (contd)

and Telegraphs Department, and that this department has a design committee which includes one member from the Philatelic Federation, and so although in a minority, the Federation may be able to influence future policy toward designs.

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NOTES FROM NOEL TURNER.

JULY MEETING. Members will be aware that I have been coerced into giving a show on the evening of Wednesday, 28th July. I shall be showing what I call 'Unusual Items from New Zealand' and it is fair to warn you that the word 'Unusual' has more than one meaning. I hope that all the members who attend will bring along items which they consider to be a little off beat or about which an interesting story can be told.

GOOD NEWS FOR ONE OF OUR MEMBERS! We have available for sale a complete set of 'The Postage Stamps of New Zealand' Volumes 1, 2, 3, and 4. No. 1 is something of a rarity and a recent sale in New Zealand was at the price of £36. The complete set of four will be sold to the best offer, of £35 or over, received by me not later than first post on Monday 2nd August.

One of our Members who possesses a huge mass of New Zealand material is seeking the assistance of another Member who would be prepared to mount the collection and write it up. Proper financial arrangements will be made; probably on the basis of a charge of so much per sheet. Obviously the person undertaking this work will need to have time on his hands and have some knowledge of how to write up stamps of New Zealand. Anyone with time to spare and a lot of patience should write to me.

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NEXT MEETING.

The September 29th meeting will be at 6.15 p.m. and the subject will be the "First and Second Side Face Issues" including the issues with advertisements on the backs of the stamps, conducted by Mr. Campbell Paterson.

Extracts from the letters of the Rev W. Nihill, Church  
Missionary Society from New Zealand. 1842 - 1855.

Edited by J.D. Riddell.

William Nihill left Plymouth as a lay member of Bishop George Augustus Selwyn's party in December 1841, with the object of being ordained. He was 17 years old. His father being the minister at The Penitentiary London, at that time. They left Plymouth Sound in the sailing ship "Tomatin" on December 26th., 1841. In the party were Bishop and Mrs Selwyn, their small son, and five servants, Mrs Martin wife of (later) Judge Martin with servants, Mr. Whytehead, clergyman, Mr. and Mrs Dudley with daughter and son, Mr. Reay, Mr. Cole, Mr. Watson, Mr. Butt, Surgeon, and Mr. Cotton, all belonging to the Church of England Church Missionary Society. Also Mr. Bambridge, schoolmaster, Mr. Lowther, Mr. Fisher and Mr. Evans. Also on board a Mr. Farmer and a Mr. Jones, not of the party. There was also a Maori boy called Rupi, with the party specially to teach them the New Zealand language, which the Bishop more or less mastered on the way out. He also learnt navigation, to the extent of being able to master his own ship not long after in New Zealand. They breakfasted at 8, dined at three, had tea at seven and lights out at ten p.m.

Jan 20th 1842. Lat.3. Long.20.

We exchanged numbers with a ship about three weeks ago and spoke to a Brig going to Sierra Leone. We are working very hard for such a climate as this. We have three classes every day. New Zealand at ten, Greek at 11, Navigation at 2. We have had beautiful weather, not a very quick run as we have had light breezes for some days, but as soon as we got into the trade winds, we went along at a splendid pace.

We made Madiera on the evening of the 5th, but did not touch anywhere, as we have plenty of water, but if we do it will probably be at Rio Janiero. We all agree very well, and are very happy and comfortable I am getting quite a sailor.. I try very hard to learn everything about observations & sails & ropes & Greenwich mean time & longitude & latitude etc. The captain is a very nice man, I like him. His name is McPherson. The Bishop has offered us a prize if we can work out a theory about the New Zealand language. I am working very hard at it.. The Bishop saw my work and praised my diligence. I like the Bishop so much. He is very kind. His little son is very fond of me I have been carrying him up to the poop for his nurse cannot carry him up when the ship rolls. I have got my sealegs very well. A ship is going to hail us, so I must end now.

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Sydney, Apr. 15. 42.

My dearest Lizzy,

We arrived at Sydney yesterday, so I am going to write you a nice long letter. We have been 108 days from Plymouth. Is not that a fine passage. Thank God we have not had a storm or any accident the whole way; we have had such beautiful weather. We are now lying at anchor in Sydney Cove, in the very middle of Sydney. Oh, everything is so beautiful here, especially the balny smell of the whole place. The water is as smooth as glass, and of such a beautiful blue colour. And then it looks so

Sydney Apr. 15. 42. (contd)

lovely through the bush, embosomed in the bright green trees. I think I never saw such a lovely place on point of scenery. The weather is like the first days of real spring in England. But yet I would sooner be in the open sea. It is so curious to be on a place that is not moving. The ship is of course, quite still and it feels so leaden and heavy under ones feet. There is one thing that is certainly pleasant in lying at anchor, that is instead of having to lash your light to the table, and put your arm round something to prevent your slipping about, you can sit quiet, and put things down without fear of their fetching way (as the sailors call it). Oh, I wish I had all of you here. You would enjoy it so much. Yesterday I went on shore with Evans and Fisher. We saw the greater part of Sydney, and went into the Domain, as they call the port. It is a very pretty place. There were lots of officers riding up and down in a band. There were a few carriages. The people in them were about three degrees lower in the scale of gentility than those you see in England. The only gentlemanly people I saw were the officers, the Governor of N.S.W. Sir G. Gipps, and one or two others. The only lasses I saw were Sir G.G's daughter, and a lady in a carriage. I have not called on Mr. Jones yet, but I hope to do so on Monday, when we are a little more settled. I do not know yet whether we are to live on shore or on the ship. Yesterday evening I was watching the pretty Tomatin for about twenty minutes. Oh, she looks so lovely in the sunset... She is certainly the prettiest ship in the harbour. I was thinking how I should feel when the dear old lady leaves us. I think if ever I felt sorrow at parting it will be when the Tomatin leaves us on the "wild New Zealand shore". I don't know why it is, but I certainly feel that if I could cry at anything that is likely to happen to me out here it is that. It may seem very strange to you, but I can't express the feelings at all. Mr. Gott, the first mate, was speaking about our being left in New Zealand, and he said that there would be many a tear shed when her white sails were lessening on the sea. It would be a ray from England, the bridge that has carried us over. He said we would miss even his old fashioned face. He is a very fine man, by the by. Oh, it is very interesting. There is a steamer, the Juno, now lying close to us, who is going to run between here and New Zealand. That will be very convenient for us. Some of the people give a .... account of New Zealand. They say it is always raining, without even the poor relief of the Scotsman, "Na sur, ( ) snaws sometimes". But, however I don't feel the least reluctance to go there, and I don't wonder the people of Sydney think it rainy, for I never saw such a dry parched up place in my life. There seems to be no water but that in this estuary, and one or two wells. As to rain that only comes at stated seasons, and all the rest of the year the town is all dust. There are plenty of trees in the bush, but they are very small. Water is a penny a pail here. It is so very warm that we can hardly bear it. But the Sydney people call it cold weather. This is the beginning of their winter. I am the only one that has not been on shore today. I like staying on board much better. The people here are so very thin and lanterned jawed. They are worse than myself. I suppose it is the hot weather that makes them so. The men all wear wide straw hats and

Sydney, Apr. 15. 42 (contd).

turn-down collars. They are mostly dressed in white - I mean - the middle class, and they have all very long hair, and bushy whiskers. As for the women, I never saw such creatures. They have all such little heads just like nuts, and very sunken eyes. The natives of which we have seen a good many are wretched looking creatures. They are short and terribly thin, and they seem to have a natural desire for covering the shoulders and leaving the leg from the knee downwards quite bare. Their hair is matted and altogether they are most degraded looking beings. You must remember that these are not New Zealanders but Australians. Four of the former came with the pilot boat. Such fine looking men they were and so intelligent. The Bishop spoke to them in New Zealand. He speaks it very fluently for the short time he has learned, and the few means he has to learn. In entering the harbour, the pilot in a very lubberly way ran the ship aground, she hung for a minute, but they hoisted the top foresail, and we got her off again. They don't know yet whether much damage has been done, but they will most likely have to careen her, and that perhaps will keep us a fortnight longer. I am so thankful that we have arrived safe, not that I felt any danger for I like the sea extremely, indeed I have been called up once or twice to reef topsails in preference to any other passenger, and when that poor fellow fell off the yard, and the boat was swamped, the steward was ordered to light the signal lamp, and I was sent up to hang it in the rigging. I shall never forget that melancholy accident. If that other poor man, the one that was drowned in the boat, had been able to swim, there would have been every probability of his being saved. I can swim a little, and in New Zealand, I shall make it a point to improve that little, it is so very useful. The Bishop is so kind to me. He always calls me "Nihill", instead of "Mr". as he calls Evans and Fisher and all the others. I suppose it is because I am the youngest. Are you still at Mrs. Teeds. How long are you going to stay there. I should have asked you a great many more questions but it must be seven or eight months before I can get an answer so do you tell me everything about everybody and I will do the same. Write whenever you can, I shall look so anxiously for letters. Yesterday I saw lots of people, lasses and gentlemen on horseback at a post-office waiting for the letters we have brought. All our names are put down in the Sydney paper. I, of course, am put down as Mr. Nicholl. There are two Frenchmen on board - I have not spoken very much French during the voyage, but a great deal of German. There is one German sailor on board, Ianskowsky, a very respectful, well educated man. I have spoken a good deal of German with him. How do you get on with yours? I'm afraid I must close now, I'll kiss dearest Marge and my own dear Henry when He comes home. Mrs. Selwyn and Mrs. Martin are quite well, and baby has not been stung by the bees. By the by, all the bees died on board. We have brought too some guinea fowls and pheasants, and the cow, all safe and sound. I am sorry John Pryce has left Sydney, I should have liked to have seen him. Now I must wish you goodbye for the mail leaves today. Goodbye my own dear Liz. God bless you and believe me

Your own affectionate brother

William.

Sydney. Apr. 21, 1842. Address: Auckland.

My own dear Mamma,

I am afraid you were disappointed at my first letter being so short, and the second being addressed to Lizzy, and containing so little information. I have written two or three letters in the voyage in the expectation of meeting homeward bound ships, but we could only send letters by one, the Vixen, and a very vixenish little craft she proved to be for instead of coming under our stern and passing to leeward of us as she should have done, she attempted to cross our bows and consequently ran foul of us. Providentially hardly any damage was done. She only lost her fore-topmast stensail boom, and tore the sail and carried away our main topsail. However we very honourably returned them their property in one of our boats at the same time our letters, in doing which we found that their bulwarks were stove in, and their quarter damaged. But it was all their own fault for they were very clumsy, and there will most likely be a lawsuit about it. I have tried to give you some idea of our position. You must remember that the Vixen was on our weather side. You see the Tomatin was going very fast nearly before the wind and the Vixen was much too far off to allow her to cross the point a (our bows) before the Tomatin came up. Instead of making for a - she ought to have made for b (our stern) and then she could have managed easily to keep up with us on the lee side. We afterwards met the Seagull which afterwards promised to report the ship. It was so early in the morning that nobody but the Captain and Mr. Cotton and I were up (except the crew) and the breeze was too fine to lie to to send letters, so we only spoke her. What a beautiful sight a ship at sea is, ploughing up the waves and dashing the white foam from her bows. Oh, it is a glorious sight. Speaking a ship is such an interesting thing. What ship is that? Where are you bound to. How long have you been out? What is your latitude? Will you report this ship? all follow each other in such quick succession that you wonder how you can crowd so much information in such a short space of time. Just off Montague Island we had a very melancholy accident. One of the crew, a very nice young man, by the name of Tom Brown, a Swede, was hanging on the earring of the mainyard doing something to the reef points, when in attempting to get up again on to the yard, he lost his hold and fell into the sea. He managed to swim for some time, but before a boat could reach him the poor fellow was no more. As the boat was returning from its fruitless search, as they were attempting to get her alongside, she was swamped and all her crew except one who climbed up the mizen chains were thrown into the water. One of them was saved by the Bishop, throwing him a life preserver. The second poor fellow was a very fine young man of the name of Alec Diok. Before he reached the ship he was heard to say, indeed I believe they were almost his last words, "Now, my lads, let this be a warning to us all, for we don't know how soon we may be hurried into eternity". Oh, how true that is. I hope this dreadful lesson was not lost on some of us. I shall never forget it - it was such a dreadful sight, to see the poor fellow struggling in the water. The Bishop preached a beautiful sermon in the evening. All the crew and all the steerage passengers attended. What a thing it is to know how to swim. If poor Alec had been able to swim, there was every chance, humanely speaking, of his being saved. But I must dismiss this painful subject, humbly praying that God may teach me to number my days, that I may apply my heart unto righteousness.

AIRMAIL RATES TO U.K.

DATE	LETTERS	A.L.C.	REMARKS
1. 3.31.	9d.		
1. 6.32.	8d.		
11.34.	1/6d.		
26. 7.38.	1½d.		Empire "All-Up" Scheme
9.39.	-		Scheme suspended
26. 6.44	-	6d.	
25. 9.45	1/3d.		Resumption Civilian Air-Mail
By 11.47	1/6d.		No record in P.O. Reports.
4.10.48.	1/3d.		
1. 1.53	1/6d.	8d.	
1.11.56	1/9d.	8d.	
1.10.64	2/-d.	9d.	

New Zealand is one of few countries using adhesives on Air-letter Cards: presumably to permit local printing without security complications.

Inland Air Mail Rates within New Zealand have fluctuated with the rate for Inland Surface Letters. A supplementary fee of 3d. was established in December 1931 and this was reduced to 1d. in June 1937. This fee of 1d. still continues.

The new Air Mail Rate to Australia on 1.10.64 of 7d. and adoption of this rate for Foreign Surface Letters is the reason why 7d. adhesives are now needed.

SEE AMENDMENT

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G.E.O. Pratt.

ALBERT A. HARD

Hon. "KIWI" Editor.