

THE KIWI

~~Hon. Editor: NOEL TURNER~~
~~Clarendon House, High Road~~
~~Wood Green, London, N22~~
~~Telephone: Bayswater 4998~~



Hon. Secretary :
G. E. C. PRATT
32a The Ridgeway, Sutton, Surrey
Telephone VIGilant 7827

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
Affiliated to BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION and PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Hon. Editor: MAJOR GRAHAM C. MONK, "Spottiswood", Paynesfield Road, Tatsfield, Nr. Westerham, Kent.
Telephone: Tatsfield 562

VOLUME XVI No. 3.

MAY 1967

WHOLE No. 84.

NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 24th MAY at

SHAFTESBURY HOTEL, MONMOUTH STREET, LONDON.

at

6.15 p.m.

SUBJECT: VISIT BY THE PACIFIC ISLANDS STUDY CIRCLE.

Members of the Pacific Islands Study Circle are coming along to give us a representative show of a subject that is often ignored by the large majority of New Zealand Philatelists. With the publication of Volume V of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand, there is likely to be a boom in popularity among philatelists for the Pacific Islands stamps. So come along, whether you collect them or not, and learn from the experts.

PLEASE NOTE: THE MEETING IS BEING HELD ON MAY 24th AND NOT THE LAST WEDNESDAY IN THE MONTH AS IS OUR USUAL CUSTOM.

COMMITTEE MEETING.

Will all Committee Members please note that there will be a meeting of the Committee at 5.45 p.m.

LAST MEETING - 1st April. - ANNUAL COMPETITION AND QUIZ.

The standard of the entries for the Competition was high, and to those members, successful or otherwise, who entered material, a very warm and sincere vote of thanks from your lowly Editor for such an excellent and interesting display.

The Competition was judged by Mr. R.C. Alcock, the well known Great Britain specialist dealer from Cheltenham. Whilst the judging was taking place, the President opened the main Meeting with a delightful April Fool's story about the legendary figure of Daedalus in Greek Mythology. Daedalus was the first person to fit a pair of wings and attempt to fly. Greek mythology would have us believe that he failed, but according to our illustrious President he actually succeeded, and believe it or not, carried the world's first air mail! He eventually came to earth in California, and to prove the point, Mr. Bartrop showed a fine example of a cover that Daedalus carried backstamped with a c.d.s. showing CALIFORNIA 1338.

The President further continued by showing us a copy of 'Stamp Review' of August 1937, which contained a small piece about a Belgian dealer who produced a set of stamps of Capacua with the object of fooling another dealer in Leipzig. At the foot of the central shield in the design of the stamps appeared 1.4.83.

Having had both legs so expertly pulled, the Meeting continued with the Quiz. A panel of experts was formed consisting (if my memory still serves me well) of Harry Bartrop, John Evans, Jimmy Riddell, and Michael Burberry. A variety of questions was put to them, and these together with the answers given are reported later in this issue.

My thanks are due to John Evans and Jimmy Riddell, for the excellent work they put in to produce the following write up of the entries for the Competition.

The Entries for the 1967 Annual Competition

Judged by Mr. R.C. Alcock of Cheltenham.

Classic Section for the KIWI SHIELD.

Up to and including K.E. VII.

Entry No. 1. from Mr. J.C. Stonehouse. A very fine general display of the Penny Universal issues. There were examples of all the different types mint and used, showing nearly all the different perforations, mixed perf, and watermark varieties, and the different papers. This being the beginning of stamps to be completely produced in New Zealand, different experimental papers with different inks produced a large variety of shades, these also were shown, particularly in the Waterlow Trial Plates issues.

The Entries for the 1967 Annual Competition (contd)

Entry No. 2 from Mr. F. Gordon Payne. A very beautiful and probably unique display of the Christchurch Exhibition, November 1906, starting with two sheets of pictorial labels with portraits of Maoris, a map of New Zealand etc, seven in all, unused, perf. and imperf. These were followed by Colour Trials, Plate Proofs, Die Proofs, Electro-type Proofs of this issue, which must be very rare. Then came a copy of the rare 1d value in claret, and used and unused examples with watermark inverted and reversed, ending with blocks of each value mint, and a used example of the 9d value with inverted watermark.

Entry No. 3 from Mr. J.C. Stonehouse. A splendid study of the Halfpenny Newspaper stamp of January 1873, showing the various shades, perforations, and watermarks, including a fine example of a double perf. An attractive example of the stamp printed on a company's stationery, which had been specially allowed, also examples of the stamp on wrappers. There was a comprehensive range of shades of the 1892 issue, and some covers, also a very fine mint strip of eleven stamps showing entire NEW ZEALAND lettered postmark running across the middle of the sheet.

Entry No. 4 from Mr. J.R. Hinvest. A display of the 1864-71 Chalons showing attractive drawings of some postmarks. The 1d value with shades and showing the cancellations 21, 7, and 10 in oval of bars. The 2d value cancelled in manuscript K of Kowai, 7 and 9 cancellations. The 3d violet showing the 070 of Wellington duplex cancellation in its damaged state, and a nice cover from Nelson with the provisional imperf 3d value cancelled with the Nelson N over 1. The 4d yellow with the relatively scarce large O of the Dunedin duplex, as opposed to the rugby football O. Examples of the 6d brown and the 1/- green. All the cancellations with diagrams.

Entry No. 5 from Mr. J.C. Stonehouse. An excellent Postal History exhibit of the Maori War cancellations, showing examples of (a) the Headquarters (in oval of bars) cancellation used at the military post office established at the large camp at Otahuhu during the Taurangai war of 1863-65, on a 6d brown value S.G. 42; and (b) of the QUEENS REDOUBT in an oval of bars, on a pair of the same 6d value, used at a "Forward" military post office not far from Otahuhu camp. Examples of the cancellation ONEHUNGA with 4 above and 4 below, including the 1864-7 imperf variety of the 1d pale orange vermilion, also an example of the rare PORT WAIKATO c.d.s. on the 6d value S.G. 42. This P.O. was opened in February 1864, during the Waikato War. It was situated near the mouth of the Waikato River, where the river fleet was based.

The Entries for the 1967 Annual Competition (contd)

Entry No. 6 from Mr. J. Evans. A beautiful study of the 6d brown Chalon Head from August 8th 1859 to 1871, the rate for postage to England via Southampton. It contained examples of "overlaps" on the Richardson Printings, an example of the rare serrate 18 used at Nelson (S.G. 24.) Shades of the 1862 Davies Printings in Black-Brown and Red-Brown, including the 7 Roulette used at Auckland. Examples of the Perlure Paper followed by an example of the perf 13 at Dunedin on Large Star watermark paper. Lovely shades of the value during the 1864-7 period followed in some quantity, and the entry ended with two Provisional imperf varieties and two examples of the imperf reprints in dull brown issued in 1884 for Presentation Sets.

Entry No. 7 from Mr. M.S. Burberry. An attractive pre-adhesive postal history display, consisting of four covers from the North Island, four from the South Island, and four from G.B. to New Zealand, and a coloured illustrated Tallis' map of New Zealand dated 1851. The North Island covers consisted of a crowned oval Kororareka cancellation cover; a cover with NEW ZEALAND SHIP LETTER, crowned oval GENERAL POST OFFICE X AUCKLAND date stamp, and PAID AT AUCKLAND in hexagonal frame to England; a cover from Wellington to England dated 27/6/1840 (before there was a P.O. cancellation in use at Wellington), which took 193 days to deliver; and a native cover of 1844 to Bishop Selwyn written in Maori with the crowned oval Wellington date stamp. The South Island covers consisted of an 1848 letter from Otaku (Otago) before cancellators had been supplied there, but with the Wellington crowned circle cancellation in transit to England; two covers from Otago with, on the reverse in manuscript, P.O. OTAGO applied officially at the Otago post office before a cancellator had been provided, one sent via Wellington, the other via Suez, for safety; and a 23.11.1848 cover from Akareka to Auckland, without a cancellation of despatch (there being none), but with transit ones of Wellington and Auckland, of the unframed c.d.s. type.

Modern Section K.G. V to date. for the STACEY HOOKER CUP

Entry No. A. from Mr. J. Ashcroft. A study of the Christmas Stamps from 1960 to 1964, mint and used, with blocks and singles. These beautiful religious portraits made a very impressive display.

Entry No. B. from Mr. E.K. Hossell. A specialised study of the 3d Queen Elizabeth Head stamps, in the original and re-designed issues, with beautiful mint examples of all the Plate Number Blocks, Counter Coils, and general varieties, very attractively arranged.

Modern Section K.G.V to date (contd)

Entry No. C. from Mr. A.B. Johnstone. A magnificent and comprehensive study of the 2½d Mount Cook pictorial stamp of the issues from 1st May 1935 to April 1947, showing examples of the Esparto (Fine), and Royal Cypher Grade (Coarse) Papers drawings of the Dandy Rolls and their usage, examples of all the varieties of perforations and watermarks, with many different mint blocks all artistically arranged.

Entry No. D. from Mrs. E.T. Mitchell. A delightful and most informative display as depicted on the stamps of New Zealand of the life and work of William Colenso, who was originally the printer for the Christian Missionary Society with Mr. W. Williams at Paihia, Bay of Islands in 1842, and who became Postmaster at Napier, and in 1859 became Provincial Auditor, Treasurer, and Official Interpreter to the N.Z. Government, and was elected to the General Assembly in 1861. Mr. Colenso was one of the pioneers in the development of the post office in New Zealand.

Entry No. E from Mr. J. Bradford. A study of the FIVE PENCE surcharge on the 3d Air Mail value of December 1931. Showing varieties, with a chart indicating where they were on the sheet, including the printing flaws in the word FIVE surcharge. There were also seven local air mail covers, some with the special Christmas Air Mail cachets.

RESULTS

Mr. Alcock gave his summing up of each Section separately. The KIWI SHIELD for the Classic Section went to Mr. Evans for his very fine showing of the 6d Chalon Head issues 1859-71. Mr. Alcock stressed the appreciation of the use of fine leaves for the purpose of exhibits, as in this case; the good balance of the material on each page, combined with neat and easy to read "writing-up"; and the perfection of the material, taking into consideration whether it was stamps or postal history material. He complimented the owner on gaining 97 out of a 100 points for this entry on all the above considerations. This decision, as with all the following was received with applause. It was noticeable, at this time that Mr. Alcock did not include the actual monetary value of any entry as a point of evaluation.

The runner-up was Mr. Burberry's postal history entry of New Zealand pre-adhesive covers. Mr. Alcock mentioned their fine condition, and presentation.

The Stacey Hooker Cup Mr. Alcock awarded to Mr. Johnstone for his very fine display of the 2½d Mount Cook pictorial issues, and commented on their neat well balanced arrangement, writing-up, and the perfection of the items displayed. The runner-up was Mr. Hossell for his complete, equally well balanced and well presented, display of the 3d Queen Elizabeth issues.

Results (contd)

Mr. Alcock was very conscious of the effort and excellent results of all those who had taken part in this competition, as were all the members of the Society present.

QUIZ.

Several prepared questions were put to the team of experts, who were never quite sure whether the questions and the items submitted with them were genuine or leg pulls.

For the first question the team were asked to give their opinions as to whether there was a re-entry on a mint block of 9x1d Universal on Cowan paper, watermark NZ and Star, without the 4 o'clock flaw, from the Local plates. The top right stamp showed a vertical shift to the right with prominent doubling of the letters of NEW ZEALAND and panel, and almost the whole of the figure of Zealandie, particularly in the head and the vertical lines of the globe.

Michael Burberry asked to take the item away for study, and I understand has found that the re-entry is the recorded one of Row 8 No. 24 which was confirmed by the minor re-entry on Row 10 No. 24.

The next item was a ship's postcard, which although it had never been posted, was cancelled with SPC 6.10.10 in green. It was agreed by the panel that this was a ship's purser cancellation to deface the stamp in case it was subsequently posted.

The team were next asked to confirm whether an item described as a die proof of the un-issued 1/2d George V stamp which would have appeared at the same time as the penny map stamps, was in fact a die proof or not. The item had the appearance of a die proof even to the sunken appearance around the proof. There was also the appearance of a fold in the green colouring to the extreme left of the piece, and fine parallel lines outside on the right.

There was much discussion on this item both by the team and by members present, but no really satisfactory answer was given.

The next item was a block of six K E.VII 1/2d with the bottom row perforated and the top row unperforated. It was considered that this resulted from experimentation or trial perforation. There were added cries of 'printers waste' from behind the pillars of the room, and members were left finally to draw their own conclusions.

Quiz (contd)

The next question concerned a copy of the first pictorial 2½d purple slate stamp from the only known sheet printed in this colour. It was on gummed and perforated, but unwatermarked, paper. It has been described as a colour trial, but why when the previous 2½d Wakatipu had been in blue, and the subsequent 2½d Wakatipu was in blue, was there any need to make a colour trial if they were satisfied with the blue colour?

Michael Burberry pointed out that there were quite a few printings in odd colours which they never had any intention of using.

The next question concerned two Milford Sound 2/- values of the first pictorials. These stamps were printed on the watermarked paper which was brought into use in 1903, but both stamps were clearly cancelled 4 JA 01.

Possible explanations were 'courtesy cancellation', or 1 and 0 reversed. However, Mr. Bartrop produced the right answer in saying that the stamp had been cleaned and the cancellation forged. Vol 1 Appendix 6 gives this very cancellation as a known forgery.

Noel Turner then produced a "1958 New Zealand Health 1d plus 2d green, colour missing, in pair with normal, from top of sheet." Handing this albino to the panel he asked if this was the ultimate in missing colours!

Ted Hossell very kindly provided the answer to this poser. The pair has been taken from a miniature sheet. These miniatures were printed in sheets of 2 rows x 4 which resulted in each miniature having a complete blank perforated stamp at its left side. Security instructions were issued for further trimming in Wellington, as by then the whole issue had been sent out from Harrison's. The Government had wanted no perfs in the selvedge but the extra expense was prohibitive. It is interesting to note that the top and bottom margins are imperf., the machine working sideways.

Michael Burberry showed a pre-stamp cover addressed to the Bishop at Auckland. On the front were the Wellington and Auckland date stamps of December 1st and December 30th 1848. On the back of the cover, in manuscript, was "Posted at Akaroa 23rd Nov 1848". This manuscript marking could have been put on by the recipient Bishop Selwyn, the writer - though it does not look like his writing -, or the local postmaster. The population of the area had barely altered between 1844 and 1848, so that if the post office remained open, there would have been no greater need for a

date stamp than at the former date when the office operated without one. The queries arising from the above were:-

1. Was the post office of Akaroa still in existence in 1848?
2. Does anyone possess other examples, and if so are there any markings to identify the receiving post office as being Akaroa?

Can any member provide an answer.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

I had intended that this issue should have most of its emphasis on 'Moderns', but I am afraid that the write up of the Competition and Quiz has taken so much space that little is left for extra material.

I have received a complementary copy of 'La Philatelic Francaise' of the 15th March from Pierre Langlois. The magazine contains an article on the NZ 1d Universal and 1d Dominion, and is very aptly introduced by the phrase 'ces petits timbres, si communs...et si rares.' I also have 5 spare copies of 'La Documentation Philatelique' Jan/Apr 1967, containing a copy of the article by Jimmy Riddell on the RTPO'S which appeared in the January and March 1966 editions of KIWI. First come first served. (Postage please).

Whilst in Paris recently, I had the pleasure of meeting Pierre Langlois, and spent a most enjoyable and interesting evening at his home, looking through his NZ collection and drinking whisky.

Back Numbers of Kiwi. The early editions of Kiwi are highly sought after. I hear that a certain dealer in Philatelic Literature recently offered early numbers at a guinea each! The following not so early issues are available from the Editor, price 2/6 each (post free). (1) means 1 copy only available. No (-) means plenty.

- 1961. Mar (1) May (7) July (2) Sept (7) Nov.
- 1962. Jan - Nov complete.
- 1963. Jan - Nov complete.
- 1964. Jan. Mar. July (4) Sept (4) Nov (4)
- 1965. Jan Mar (3) May July (1) Sept Nov (1)
- 1966. Jan (5) Mar.

The Packet. Will members please remember to advise the Packet Secretary as early as possible of their holiday dates, so that the packet does not get held up. Thank you.

Books are now needed urgently for the packet.

The Packet (contd)

The large influx of new members, all anxious to see a packet, has created a big demand for more material. Empty books are available FREE on demand to the Packet Secretary.

Membership List. The Committee have under consideration the printing of a new Membership List. If any members have not notified a change of address, an error in their original published particulars, or are contemplating a move to a new address in the near future, will they please notify either the Editor, Secretary or Treasurer as soon as possible.

Future Meetings. Will members please note that there is a change to the programme as published in the January KIWI. At the July meeting Marcel Stanley of New Zealand will show us his Chalon Heads.

"GOLDFIELDS - MARLBOROUGH" C.D.S.

In the KIWI of March 1966 you published a letter from R.C. Agabeg re his discovery of a circular date stamp inscribed:-

GOLDFIELDS - MARLBOROUGH

I may or may not be the NZ owner of another copy referred to by Campbell Paterson. However, I too have a copy. My copy was purchased from the Meredith Collection which was sold by Robson Lowe on 16th March 1960, and illustrated at the top of page 22 (lot 220) in the relevant catalogue. At the time of purchase I did not realise the significance of GOLDFIELDS cancellations on this page as they differ considerably. It was not until some time later that the keen trained eye of Ken McNaught discovered the difference when looking through my postal markings.

MARCEL STANLEY.

Publications.

The following magazines are held by the Editor for disposal.

Air Mail Magazine - 1940 1944 complete.

Offers to the Editor please.

NOTES FROM NOEL TURNER.

CONGRATULATIONS: Hearty Congratulations are extended to our Members, Pierre Langlois of Paris, and 'Bill' Lea of the Strand, London, on their being elected to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists at the forthcoming meeting of Congress. It must be unique that two members of a Specialist Society should be elected to sign the Roll in one year. There are only three signatures to the Roll in each year, and we are proud that in 1967 two of them should be Members of our Society.

DISPLAY: Our President, Harry Bartrop, has given several displays during April, of which we were unable to give our Members prior notice, but on Tuesday September 19th he will be giving a display to the Portsmouth and District Philatelic Society who meet at Odd Fellows Hall, 356, London Road, North End, Portsmouth. All Members of our Society will be welcome to attend this meeting.

MAY 24th and JULY 26th: At both these meetings we are to enjoy the company of experts from New Zealand, and all Members are strongly urged to do their best to be present. The Editor's Note on Page 1 draws special attention to the fact that our May Meeting is on the 24th and not on the last Wednesday as is our usual custom.

CONGRESS: There will be a New Zealand Study Circle at Congress, and Ted Hossell has kindly agreed to take the Chair. Several of our active Members will be present at Congress, and all others are strongly urged to put in an appearance at the Study Circle meeting.

NEW MEMBERS: As a direct result of the special issue of 'Stamp Collecting' in February, there has been a large addition to our Membership List, and I take this opportunity of giving a warm welcome to all these new Members, and hope that we shall have the pleasure of their company at forthcoming meetings. Such a large influx has caused some difficulty on the organisation side, and in particular I would request patience with regard to the Packet, as there is a temporary dearth of material for distribution.

OVERHEARD: One lady to another, "my husband is philatelic", -
reply - "I am sorry to hear that; how long has he been like it?"

Noel Turner.

NEW MEMBERS.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| J.S. Andrews, | - 62, Moor End, Spondon, Derby. |
| E.S. Bacon, | - 3, Clinton Street, Worksop, Notts. |
| E.N. Barton, | - "Carliol", Wayneplate Tower Avenue, Esher, Surrey. |
| J.W. Brodie, | - 26, Croydon Street, Wellington, New Zealand. |
| R.J. Budden, | - 17, Richmond Way, Croxley Green, Herts. |
| H. Chandler, | - 44, Cambridge Road, King's Heath, Birmingham. 14. |
| A.K.J. Clarke, | - 27, Belle Meadow, Maidstone, Kent. |
| A.C. Cole, | - 34, St. John's Avenue, Harlow, Essex. |
| P.A. Dean, | - 4, Grange Road, Plympton, Devon. |
| F.G.W. East, | - 32, North Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex. |
| H.F. Eckersall, | - 29, Firbeck Road, Doncaster, Yorks. |
| J.A. Firebrace, | - Little Chart, Walden Road, Chislehurst, Kent. |
| R.V. Giles, | - 29, Melbury Avenue, Norwood Green, Southall, Mddx. |
| C.A. Gilders, | - 10, Southspring, Avery Hill, Sidcup, Kent. |
| Mrs. R. Higgins, | - 24, Stanwick Avenue, Nr. Blackley, Manchester. 9. |
| J. Howard, | - 57, Huddersfield Road, Delph, Nr. Oldham, Lancs. |
| W.A.O. Jacob, | - "Kenilworth", 8, Highfield Grove, Gt. Crosby,
Liverpool. 23. |
| C. Longworth-Dames, | - 27, Stoke Gabriel Road, Galampton, Brixham, Devon. |
| E.H.T. Melville, | - 65, Lansdowne Road, Walthamstow, London. E.17. |
| H.W. Moore, | - "Rockville", Butt Hill, Kippax, Nr. Leeds, Yorks. |
| G.G. Morgan, | - 33, Devon Close, Buckhurst Hill, Essex. |
| P.B. Phillips, | - "Neuadd", Treacastle, Brecon. |
| T.B.H. Rose, | - "Mallards", 145, Long Lane, Tilehurst, Reading,
Berks. |
| R. Sims, | - 75, Tennessee Road, Chaddesden, Derby. |
| Wm. Spencer, | - "Lynton", 137, Southbank Road, Southport, Lancs. |
| Mrs. H. Taylor, | - "Raphael", Clock Barn Lane, Hydon Heath, Godalming,
Surrey. |

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| D.N. Davidge, | - 55, Coulsons Road, Bridge Farm Estate, Bristol. 4. |
| Miss D. Nicholl, | - 9, Montague Road, Burnley, Lancs. |
| W.F. Wood, | - Milford Heath Cottage, Milford, Surrey. |

THE E 2 R ISSUES - Generalisation

So many collectors of N.Z. issues appear to be mesmerised by well-known, much studied and publicised issues of the past, and very lovely stamps they are too, that the stamps of the present reign, where the scope for research, the supplementing, recording and publicising of findings to help others to keep the facts up to date, are not given the position and attention they deserve.

They are dismissed as 'modern trash', 'that stuff' etc by these classical experts steeped in antiquity. The real reason for this summary dismissal is that they have not bothered to notice the more recent issues, and to find anything out about them would be quite beneath their dignity. It just isn't 'done'. Some of these are the master minds who down-grade modern entries in competitions at all levels on principle.

Personally, as one who takes the issues of the present reigning Queen seriously (and only these issues), I find great enjoyment in showing my efforts to all and sundry who want to see them or hear about them. I am proud to collect, study and show issues about which there is little known and it is amusing, and a challenge, to send exhibits to shows of as high a level as you gained qualification. By qualification I mean what I say, i.e. actual award of the appropriate grade required.

One of these days the powers that be will realise that 1900 is 67 years ago and they will have to acknowledge the collectors of stamps issued, shall we say for convenience, from 1937 for G.B. and Commonwealth as worthy of their place in any show and deserving of their rights. I would not suggest they look at them themselves, but ask them just to notice what a high percentage of the public are looking at - regardless of what the catalogue says.

The changes in production methods, the advances in the mechanisation of the postal services, the need to raise standards of design to take advantage of the availability of multi-colour printing (development of miniscule art) are all matters that have accelerated their advance in recent years. Changes come and go as we progress and those who study and record these changes are at least doing something original and, in conjunction, something lasting.

In the last 14 years New Zealand has continued to show a progressive policy with diversification. The second definitive set will shortly change to decimal values and later be replaced by new designs. No one could say the Commemorative issues are overdone. The 'Health' stamps are established and run a subject for a few years; they then

The E 2 R Issues (contd)

change to a completely fresh subject which maintains interest and results in many thousands of pounds (at the moment) being paid to the Health Camps and other organisations. Last, but far from least, the Christmas issue of a single stamp taken from a famous masterpiece of painting (with one exception) portraying some part of the story around the birth of the Holy Child.

Over this period six printers have been used. The early years being all 'recess' until the late 1950s when photogravure crept in and now holds sway.

The paper has changed from a variety of thicknesses and tints to a thick white esparto paper which, with coated surface, will no doubt take over all issues in the near future as it shows much better definition, though the colours are lacking in warmth on the dead white paper.

Changes of perforation abound, the watermark is more difficult to verify in the thicker paper and it's direction shows much variation.

In a simple, un-detailed way these comments surely show the wide range the specialist can cover and the variety of themes that can be collected by those who do not wish to become too involved. The flaws and varieties of the recess printings are a subject for research on their own and an alternative to those of photogravure - it also moves you from the Queen's head to pictorials.

Variety abounds in this fascinating period, problems are not easy to solve, material is not plentiful but if those interested will get together and compare notes, or write their queries and findings whether right or wrong, we shall save duplication, make progress and give the Editor something to slip in occasionally which is sure to be useful.

Let us increase our knowledge and pleasure by showing how worth while our 'modern trash' is.

E.K. HOSSELL

PROVINCE OF AUCKLAND

Pierre Langlois has in his collection a stamp clearly postmarked with a date later than the one shown in the Table in the last issue of KIWI. Details are as follows:-

Serial 5. 2d blue. Plate 1. 28 September 1865.

THE 1½d "OFFICIAL" MAORI WOMAN P 14 x 13½

By Peter Collins.

In 1936 sheets of 1½d stamps (Maori woman cooking) were being overprinted "Official" by the Government Printer, Wellington. Four stamps became damaged, and rather than waste the whole sheet, four stamps were obtained from another sheet and patched in before overprinting in place of the damaged ones.

Imagine the scene with the place stacked high with sheets of 1½d stamps, and the lad sent out to buy four 1½d stamps - "Yes sir, and shall I bring a bucket of pigeons milk back with me as well? "!!

It was not realised however that the four stamps patched in had the "single" watermark while the rest of the sheet was watermarked "multiple N.Z. and Star." Thus the very rare variety listed as S.G. O116a was created. The block of patched in stamps was obvious when the sheet was put into circulation, and a vigilant philatelist spotted the different watermark. These four are the only known examples of the 1½d (S.G. 558) single watermark perf 14 x 13½ with "official" overprint. The block has become broken. All four copies are at present believed to be in New Zealand. One of them has had an adventurous career having been in the U.S.A. and Great Britain, in the course of its travels getting a corner damaged but still being a very prestigious stamp.

Inevitably, the disposition of the Multiple watermark sometimes brings the N.Z. and Star right in the middle of the stamp so that only the slightest trace of adjacent watermarks appears at the edge of the stamp giving the appearance of it having single watermark. (This is something we have all experienced in trying to sort the 1935 watermarks and an example of where paper mesh is the only true guide.) At least one of these "false" stamps is in existence with a R.P.S. Certificate stating it is S.G. O116a and it would be interesting to learn where the four genuine copies at present repose so that members may be on their guard against being offered these items masquerading as great rarities.

AIR MAIL POSTAL HISTORY.

Some time ago I saw a cover of Dec 1936 from New Zealand to U.K. with a boxed cachet AIR SERVICE INTERRUPTED. There were probably very few planes carrying mail at this time, and if one was unserviceable (or had crashed?) it would no doubt disrupt flights. Can anyone trace any reason for services not being normal at this date?

Now a second cover bearing the identical cachet has been seen. This was from Hari Hari to Levin and has a backstamp Weraroa, 16th Sep. 1944. This is an internal war-time cover and one would have supposed that at this period if a mail-carrying-air service was disrupted, R.N.Z.A.F. planes would have undertaken the work. If the service was interrupted due to the war, one would suppose that this cachet would have been much more common, but these two are the only ones I have seen or heard of. No mention appears in the Handbooks. Forward philatelic detectives!

Peter Collins.

EDWARD VII 8d VALUE, LINE PERFORATION 14 (S.G.468)(C.P.H7a)

Members will recall that some fifteen months ago at our Quiz Meeting a copy of an 8d stamp was produced with the question, "is this S.G.468?" An interesting discussion followed but there was substantial conflict of views. Some Members questioned whether genuine copies of this stamp in this perforation truly exist, and expert writers have also endeavoured to prove "for or against". We are now engaged in an interesting investigation which takes the form of a communication to the four main Expert Committees with the question, "can you please inform us from your records whether you have ever issued a 'genuine' certificate for this stamp". A question has been addressed to a number of specialist dealers for similar information. It will greatly assist us if Members of the Society, both in this Country and in New Zealand, will write to me stating whether they possess this stamp and indicating whether it is supported by a certificate or not.

Noel Turner.

WHAKATANE N.Z. NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION - 19th April, 1967

Ken McNaught, who was the Chairman of the panel of Judges, broadcast on N.Z. radio and television on the opening day of the Exhibition. The competitive material occupied 557 frames each of 12 sheets. There were 2 gold awards, 14 silver-gold, 23 silver, 57 bronze, and 27 Certificates of Merit.

The two gold awards went to John Bishop for his N.Z. Pre-adhesive covers, and to Dr. Adam Hunter for his N.Z. Pre-adhesive, Chalon Heads, and Postal History. A special award of Distinction went to R.M. Startup; Ted Hossell was awarded a silver; R.M. Startup also won a bronze and a certificate of merit; and J.J. Bishop also won a certificate of merit.

3d Value 1960 Definitive Issue.

A new plate No. 3337 of the 3d value was issued in June 1966, on both ordinary and chalk surfaced paper, and the plate block 3337 on the chalky paper has chambon perforation. I was under the impression that the chambon machine was discontinued some time in 1962, and if so, we are left with two alternatives:-

1. The 'new' plate was used several years ago and printed on both ordinary and chalk surfaced papers, and stocks retained until their issue in June last year.
2. The chambon machine is again in use.

Can any member supply an answer?

F.L. Roberts.

G.C. MONK
Honorary "KIWI" Editor.