

# 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 XVII No. 2. MARCH 1968

WHOLE No. 89.

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## NEXT MEETING

SATURDAY, 30th MARCH AT

SHAFTESBURY HOTEL, MONMOUTH STREET, LONDON.

TIME: 2.15 p.m. for 2.30 p.m.

SUBJECT: ANNUAL COMPETITION AND QUIZ.

We look forward to seeing many new members at this meeting. Entries for the Competition are usually of a high standard, and provide the opportunity for members to see both excellent material and writing up.

The awards for 1968 are:

STACEY HOOKER CUP  
Paua Shell Bookends

Classic Section  
(up to and including KE VII)

KIWI SHIELD  
Paua Shell Cigarette Box

Modern Section  
(KG V to date)

The President will take the Chair for the Quiz, which is normally held either after the competition has finished, or whilst the judging is taking place. A panel of 'experts' attempt to answer queries put to them by members.

It was an enjoyable treat to be entertained by our lady members, led by Joan Willis. We were treated to a display of great interest and variety, which must have given heart to members who despair of ever having the material to put on a display of their own, or to contribute to a combined effort such as this. Our most grateful thanks to all those who took part or provided material for display.

There were five 'shows' as follows:-

Mrs. Gordon-Kaye. 'The Postal History of Otago'

Mrs. Kaye has pieced together items of information of the early settlers in Otago, from letters and covers in her collection augmented by the history books.

Otago Harbour (Port Chalmers) had settlers ( usually sailors who had deserted their ships) before a shore whaling station was established there in 1831. These were the forerunners of the emigrants who came out from Britain in large numbers from 1848 onwards to establish Dunedin.

The posts in these early days were handled by John McCarthy, who was sent down from Wellington even before the emigrants arrived. He took up residence at Port Chalmers.

Mrs. Kaye produced a map indicating the homesteads of the early settlers, and some early covers and correspondence which referred to them. Prominent among the covers were the Fulton correspondence which included a cover with 2d Blue dated 19 Dec 1863. The Fultons were established at Woodside (the homestead is thought to have been named Ravensbourne.) There were also 3 covers addressed to the Foulds, and 6 covers to the Parkers.

Gold was discovered in Otago in 1861. In 1860 Otago had a population of 12,000; by the end of 1863 it had grown to 80,000.

At first the mails went to central Otago by packhorse, but this clumsy method soon gave way to faster services, as the roads to the goldfields became passable. The 'Cobb & Coy' coaches were introduced at the beginning of the gold rush by Charles Cole. Hoyte & Coy came to Otago in 1862 and soon joined with Cole. Later Hoyte and Chaplin had a widespread service in the region. Mrs. Kaye produced a map showing the early coach routes.

The Province of Otago found it necessary to produce at

her own expense, a connection with Melbourne. A direct service going south from Otago Heads was much quicker than sending it via Wellington. In 1858 the 'Queen' was hired for two years to connect Otago, and later Canterbury, with Melbourne and the English steamer service, by the southern route.

Mrs. Kay also showed a cover from the wreck of the 'White Swan,' wrecked on 28 June 1862 in a race from Hawkes Bay to Nelson; a cover from London with a rare 'Forwarding Agents' mark postmarked on arrival at Nelson 10 June 1853 and at Wellington 20 June 1863; a cover from the 'Golden Age' on the Panama run; 8 covers with 6d Brown Chalons showing a series of Dunedin cancellations; a cover dated 13 Feb 1872 showing the Lawrence 0 17 obliterator on a 2d Vermillion; and a cover bearing 3 x 2d Blues postmarked Wellington 23 June 1866 carried by the ss Kaikoura on the first steamer run to Europe and America in 1866.

Mrs. Mitchell. 'William Collenso.'

This display, which tells the story of one man - William Collenso, who came to New Zealand as a printer for a Missionary Society in 1834 - won a bronze medal in last years British Philatelic Exhibition. It is the kind of display which gives hope to the less experienced members, there being no expensive material or detailed philatelic study. The charm of this display lies in its simplicity and originality, and it has a main theme which is well developed and well written up.

The full story of William Collenso, kindly written up by Mrs. Mitchell, will appear in a future Kiwi.

The story as told in this display, is of necessity a condensed one. It is well illustrated with selected covers, photographs, NZ pictorials, and the occasional postmark.

Miss Boyd. 'Mixed Bag.'

Simplicity was again the keynote of this delightful display. The emphasis was on the more unusual items and sideline material.

The display included a selection of 'Crash Covers' from the Scipio, Calpurnia, and Cygnus flying boats, and one from the 1954 BOAC Quantas Constellation; a cover dated 20 Sep 37 with an AIR SERVICE INTERRUPTED cachet; a pre-stamp cover with Auckland crowned circle cancellation dated 2 Ap 55; an example of the No.1 obliterator used on cover; a mint block of 25 ½d Newspaper Stamps (perf nearly 12); examples from the 1d Universal Dot Plates; a block of 4 of the 2/- Cook Blitz perfs; early air labels; a 1914-18 FPO card; examples of re-entries on the 1946 Peace Issue.

Mrs. Cross. 'Postal Markings'

Another charming display based on postal markings featuring Maori place names. Each place name was well illustrated, and its meaning and origin carefully explained. A simple theme, which produced a most pleasing result.

Mrs. Gilders. 'Examples from My Collection.'

Mrs. Gilders' 'treasure' was a copy of the Humphrys engraving prepared for the issue of the first postage stamps in New Zealand. The engraving was copied from a water colour sketch by Edward Corbould from the Chalon portrait of Queen Victoria.

Other items in the display included examples of the 2½d Lake Wakatipu with a block of 4 with double perfs; examples of the 'Smiling Boys' and 'Pathway' flaws; KG VI plate blocks, flaws, varieties, and coil pairs; ½d Newspaper Stamps with watermark letters; and plate proofs of the 1898-1908 Pictorial Issue 9d Pink Terrace.

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A vote of thanks to Joan Willis and her team of Ladies was proposed by Mr. Scrivener. He voiced our thanks for a most interesting and enjoyable afternoon, and remarked on the distances that some of the ladies had travelled in order to be with us.

Editor.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

STAMPEX. This year's Exhibition takes place from the 25th - 30th March. The Society will have its own Stand at the Exhibition on Monday 25th. Our President Harry Bartrop has organised volunteer members to man the Stand. We look forward to meeting any of our members who visit the Exhibition on that day. Please come up to the Stand and introduce yourselves.

Congress. Congress this year starts on June 4th. The NZ Study Circle is on the 5th. Will any members attending Congress please take along a few sheets with you.

Amendments. Please make the following three amendments to the January Kiwi:-

1. On page 5 there is an omission in the third paragraph. The last part of the final sentence should read, 'and a block of 6 of Plate 19 (wide setting).'
2. The item on Page 9 'The 7d Pictorial Def.' refers to the inverted watermark.

3. Page 14/15. Delete the sentence 'In my opinion. ....the pearl is complete.'

A.S.P.S. Spring Convention. The Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies are holding their Spring Convention at the Civic Hall Crawley on Saturday 27th April starting at 2 p.m. The guest speaker at this show is our member John Evans F.R.P.S.L. who will show some 80 pages of his very fine collection of Chalon Heads. The organising Committee have very kindly extended an invitation to any of our members who would like to go along. Tea will be available, and there will also be an auction starting at 5.15 p.m.

AND ANOTHER. Ted Hossell is showing some of his Moderns 'up North' during Stampex.

Tuesday March 26th. Leeds PS. 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. at Gilchrist Brothers Ltd, Claypit Lane, Leeds.

Thursday March 28th. Sheffield PS. 7.30 p.m. for 7.45 p.m. at The Livesey-Clegg House, 44, Union Street, Sheffield.

Rust Marks. I was recently shown a selection of mint NZ stamps badly stained by 'rust' marks. It brought to mind a tip mentioned about a year ago by one of our NZ members. The marks can be touched out with very diluted Milton's Solution. Use a small artists paint brush. The solution must be very diluted or you will spoil the stamp - try one or two drops to an eggcup of water. You are advised to experiment on a common stamp first - that is if you can find one, as it is an amazing fact, that these marks seem to appear on the higher more scarcer values.

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CLAENDAR OF EVENTS.

- 25th March - NZ Day at STAMPEX.
- 26th March - Display by E.K. Hossell at Leeds.
- 28th March - Display by E.K. Hossell at Sheffield.
- 30th March - Society Meeting. Competition and Quiz.
- 23rd April - Society Provincial Meeting at Huntingdon.
- 27th April - Display by J.D. Evans at A.S.P.S. Spring Convention, Crawley.
- 29th May - Society Meeting. Moderns.

- 5th June - NZ Study Circle at Congress.
- 31st July - Society Meeting. Members Evening.
- 28th Sept. - Society Meeting. NZ Airmails.
- 16th Oct. - Society Provincial Meeting. Wimbledon.
- 30th Nov - Society Meeting. A.G.M. and Auction.

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NEW MEMBERS

- A.F. Bardell - 18, Stubbs Lane, Braintree, Essex.
- G.W. Griffiths - 8, Hurst Close, Gossops Green, Crawley, Sussex.
- J.J.B. Haden - 31, Courtlands Ave, Hayes, Bromley, Kent.
- G.O.J. Hammond - 6/12, Queen Street, Colchester, Essex.
- A.E. Harrad - 81, Link Way, Hornchurch, Essex.
- T.S. Johnson - 26, Station Road, Histon, Nr. Cambridge.
- H.J. Lindsey - 67, Murray Road, Northwood, Middlesex.
- Capt. C.M. Meadowcroft - 21, Griffins Brook Lane, Bournville, Birmingham 30.
- J. Murr - Westover, 240, Broadway North, Walsall, Staffs.
- C.D. Orman - 'Stampers' Plot 6, off Whitesfield Road, Nailsea, Somerset.
- B.C. Smith - 2, Kingslee Court, Worcester Road, Sutton, Surrey.
- H.W. Smith - 53, Dundonald Road, Leicester, LE4.5GE.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

- OH/Tech H. Barrett - 20, Durham Avenue, Cleveleys, Lancs.
- H. Chandler - 'Petersfield' Bordon Hill, Evesham Road, Stratford-On-Avon, Warwicks.
- H.F. Taylor - 71 Flat 'Tower Court' Westcliffe Parade, Westcliffe-On-Sea, Essex.
- P.F. Werner - 77, Downlands Road, Purley, Surrey.

RESIGNATIONS.

- F. Chadwick - 6, Calder Drive, Mossley Hill, Liverpool 18, Lancs.
- O.V. Hartland - 1a, Meyrick Street, Hereford.
- E.J. Palmer - Clandon, Red Lane, Claygate, Surrey.
- D.B. Picton-Phillips - 'Jambo' 4, Ernle Road, Calne, Wilts.
- Mrs. H. Taylor - Raphael, Clock Barn Lane, Hydon Heath, Godalming, Surrey.

DECEASED.

- A.C. Orman - 30, Wellington Avenue, Harefield, Southampton, Hants.

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THE 4d DUNEDIN EXHIBITION.

Extract from a letter from Mrs. H. Versey:

' Both SG and GP mention a variety in the 4d Dunedin Exhibition stamp as having POSTAGE at right. In my block of four, this appears at the left in one stamp, and the figure 4 has an elongated foot. I should be grateful to know if this variety is out of the ordinary or if it is common.'

Mrs. Versey kindly sent me the block to see, and I was able to verify that this flaw was the recorded one of Row 5 No.2. I was able to confirm this by the flaws on the other stamps in the block, namely R4/1 and R5/1.

Those members not in possession of Vol 1 of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand, may be interested to know why the POSTAGE flaw is an unusual one. If this variety had been due merely to a flaw in the plate, then it would not have merited particular attention. For an explanation of the 4d error, it is necessary to reconsider the method of reproduction of the plate.

The drawing, which was for the 1d value, was photographed to the required size on a specially prepared glass plate. From this negative four prints were made on paper that had been coated with gelatine sensitised by immersion in a solution of potassium bichromate. The paper was coated with a thin film of fatty ink, and placed in water. The gelatine on the parts of the paper that had been exposed to light, became impervious to the effects of water, but the unexposed portions were readily removed by the use of a tuft of cotton wool, leaving the ink firmly attached to the exposed portions and producing four positive reproductions of the design. The paper was laid on a flat stone and pressure was applied. The result was a lithographic plate containing four impressions, which was used to make prints in black on plate paper. The sixty copies of the design so produced were stuck on to a thick card which was photographed and printed on to a sheet of zinc. The zinc sheet was etched, and the final plate was produced in the same way as a commercial line block is made.

The remaining values of the set were made by sticking lithographic reproductions of the value over the '1d' inscription on the 60 prints on the card. The zinc plate was then etched in the same way as the 1d. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ d value was the first to be done in this way, and it was decided to remove the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d inscriptions before adding the '4d'. The point of a sharp knife was used to prise off the small pieces of paper, and it was a slip of the knife point that was the cause of the lower limb of the E of POSTAGE being broken. In Mrs. Versey's stamp R5/2, there is an unretouched break in the frame under the E. In the catalogued example of R10/1 the damage to the frame was noticed and was touched up, but the damaged letter was overlooked. The lower limb of the E on the right was also damaged in R1/2.

Because of the use of lithography for the black prints and the photo-etching process for the plates, every stamp in the sheets possessed some individual characteristic. This issue therefore presents attractive possibilities for plating enthusiasts.

Editor.

RTPO CANCELLATIONS.

The following are further additions to the Table published in March 1967, amended in July 1967.

Ref. No.

- 28 Add Northbound 2 Southbound 1.
- 36 Add Northbound 1 Southbound 2.
- 38 Last column add 'and B.'
- 60 Last column add 'Also 1.'
- 61 Last column add 'Also 6.'

Gerald Pratt.

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QE II DEFINITIVES. COIL ISSUES.

The following items have been noted, all from coil section joins with the Queen's head upright.

C.P.

- NC6d. 1/6. One stamp (Pane B) with blurred centre.
- 1/6. One stamp (Pane B) watermark inverted.
- NC7a. 9d. One stamp (Pane A) blurred centre.
- 9d. One stamp (Pane B) blurred frame.
- NC7b. 1/- One stamp (Pane A) blurred centre.
- 1/- One stamp (Pane B) blurred centre.
- 1/- One stamp (Pane B) CP3, other CP2.
- NC7c. 1/6. One stamp (Pane B) blurred centre.

For clarity I would mention that Pane A overlaps Pane B. NC6 refers to the number upright to the head, and NC7 to the number inverted to the head.

Have any members any variations or additions to add to the above list?

Ted Hossell.

## COMPETITION PRIZES.

The Annual Competition is divided into two sections:-

- Classic Section - up to and including KE VII.  
Modern Section - KG V to date.

In each Section, the Principal Award (The Stacey Hooker Cup or The Kiwi Shield) is awarded to the best entry.

There will now be an additional Annual Trophy to be won in each Section. This will be awarded to the competitor who has never won the Principal Award in the Section, but whose entry secures the highest marking amongst those who qualify as 'non previous winners.'

To clarify:-

1. If you have previously won the Section in which you intend to enter, you can still win it again, but your entry will not qualify for the new trophy.
2. If you have not previously won a prize in the Section in which you intend to enter, your entry this year could win the Principal Award or the new trophy, but not both. The same rules are applicable to both Sections.

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THE NEW TROPHIES. The new trophies are a joint gift to the Society by Harry Bartrop, Ted Hossell, and Campbell Paterson. Details are as follows:-

1. A Cigarette Box in New Zealand Rewarewa wood inset with a border of Paua shell. When opened the box plays a Maori melody called Po-Kare-Kare. (This tune has recently been made popular by Rolf Harris.)
2. Two large Paua shells mounted on New Zealand Rewarewa wood bases and forming very delightful bookends.

Each Trophy will carry a silver plate engraved, 'New Zealand Society of Great Britain.'

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## ROSS $\frac{C}{6}$ and $\frac{V}{4}$ CANCELLATIONS.

Following the article in the September 1967 KIWI, and my request for further details of any C/6 or V/4 cancellations in the possession of members, I have received replies from two of our NZ members, Marcel Stanley and Ken McNaught. I have also heard from Gerald Elliott of NZ in reply to a request for

information published by Marcel Stanley in the NZ Postal History Society's journal 'The Mail Coach.'

O  
6 Cancellation. Gerald Elliott has a cover with a C/6 type 10 cancellation on a Davies (Brown) perf 12½, also with manuscript 'Ross 24/9/67' on front. On the back are p.d.s. Hokitika 25 Sep 67 and Carlisle 5 Dec 1867.

Ken McNaught has several C/6 type 10 cancellations on loose stamps. The latest of these is on a Second Sideface 2d perf 10 1894 print.

From the above information and the details from the original article it is possible to make the following comments:-

1. A pen cancellation alone was used at Ross in 8.6.67 (see serial 2 in original list.) If the C/6 obliterator was in existence then, why wasn't it used? Dare we deduce that the C/6 obliterator was not in existence at Ross up to at least that date?
2. The earliest positive recorded use of the C/6 so far is 24/9/67. Is it therefore possible that the C/6 was brought into use sometime between 8/6/67 and 24/9/67 ?
3. The latest recorded use of the C/6 is 1894.

V  
4 Cancellation. Marcel Stanley has a cover with the V/4 obliterator and a nice clear Ross cds dated 15 Feb 71, and backstamped Hokitika 18 Feb 71.

Gerald Elliott has a cover with V/4 obliterator and Ross cds dated 7 Sep 71, and backstamped Hokitika 8 Sep 71.

Ken McNaught has several V/4 cancellations on loose stamps, but since these are without a Ross cds they could equally well have been used at Kumara and do not help to establish the earliest and latest dates of use of the V/4 at Ross.

So far it is possible to make the following comments:-

1. The earliest date of use of the V/4 obliterator was not later than 15 Feb 1871.
2. The C/6 and the V/4 obliterators were in use at Ross at the same time.

More information is needed for both the C/6 and the V/4 obliterators. Can I please request members once again to have a close look at their collections for these cancellations, and let me have any details.

Editor.

## THE 1d UNIVERSAL.

### Part 2.

by M.G. Tombleson.

The fifth plate made by Waterlow & Sons was numbered 4, in New Zealand. In contrast to the numbers 1, 2, and 3, the 4 is very clear and easy to see, at least in its retouched state. This plate is known as the Reserve plate, and was used for printings on NZ star paper.

I venture to suggest that there are several examples of 'Reserve Plate' stamps among local collections, because this is the only difficult stamp of the issues. The early printings from this plate are in a distinctive deep colour, but don't be fooled too much if you find an ordinary carmine shade, because the last printings were very similar in colour to the 'Local' printings. The lines of shading behind Zealandia are more pronounced, there being less white or, if you like, more sky, especially on the outer edges. The right line of the left spur is also more definite.

It is suggested that Waterlows used more pressure than usual in making the transfer roller for the Reserve Plate and damaged the master die. This would account for the deeper impressions of this plate, and the fact that all subsequent transfer rollers showed the 4 o'clock flaw and evidence of weakness on the left side.

In the case of the Booklet stamps, a punch was used on the top left pearl of every impression. It is distinctive, being larger and clearer than usual. The outer of the three left central pearls was also punched in, and on many impressions the left rosette, the curved ornaments below this, and/or the left of the value panel have been touched up.

It must be remembered that the punched-in top left pearl is not always a bright clear circle. The operator sometimes held the punch on a slight angle and on many impressions either the bottom left or the top right of this pearl is fainter. Nevertheless, this pearl is the key to the Booklet stamps.

It is interesting to note that the 1d Universal was the first NZ stamp to be issued in Booklet form. In August 1901, the Chief Post Offices sold booklets made up from the printings on 'Pirie' paper. These were so successful that Messrs Royle & Sons were asked to make a special plate containing 24 groups of 6 stamps for use in Booklets, and these were issued in 1902. 'Official' Booklets were issued in 1908.

This issue also had the greatest imperf and perf variations

of the Universal, due partly to the layout of the plate. Stamps are plentiful imperf on one or two adjacent sides, so those of you who have Universals without perfs on one, or two sides, look at them again before throwing them away - they're most likely Booklet stamps well worth keeping.

The Dot plate stamps were from three plates, numbered in NZ in Roman numerals 1, 2, and 3. There are no general methods of dividing stamps into plates 1, 2 or 3, but all 10 examples of the left rosette being touched-up are from plate 1. The touching-up of the base panel is only on plates 1 and 2, and the horizontal guide lines between the central pearls are only found on plate 3.

The renovations to the value panel were almost always done with chisels, but on at least one occasion in plate 1, R4/10, a curved line was put in by hand to join two crooked chisel marks.

The Handbook states that on Plate 1 the dots are always low in relation to the central pearls. This is not necessarily so, especially on the left of the plate.

The 'Dot' plates were made by Royle & Sons and are called 'Dot' because it is the first issue with regular dots in the gutter half way down each stamp. The Booklet plate also had some dots, but not on both sides of every impression. These marks were evidently punched into the plate to allow more accurate alignment of the transfer roller.

Stamps showing the rosette touching-up of Plate 1 can all be easily plated. Let's assume you have all 10 stamps. Only 2 show the touch-up almost to the top of the rosette and both ends of the value panel touched-up. R1/4 has the left end of the panel very well done, but not right to the base line, while the right end extends below the base line, which is weak at both ends. The other is R1/6 which has the top line faintly doubled on the right, and the right end of the value panel is thicker at the top. R2/6 is the shortest rosette touch-up, with a line in the gutter below 'E-P'. The dot on the left is central and very close. R4/7 is a crooked touch-up, cutting inside the rosette for part of its length. There is slight doubling below 'W-Z' and the dot is low. R4/8 has slight doubling above 'EW' and the top right pearl is doubled about 4 o'clock. The dot is low. In R4/9 the top line of the value panel is doubled, 'Universal Postage' is blurred. The left corner of the value panel has been touched-up. The dot is central. R5/5 shows a scratch in the gutter below 'O', and the dot is low. In R5/9 the left end of the value panel has been touched-up and extends below the base line; the right side of the value panel is doubled to the left. 'Universal Postage' is blurred, as is the rigging of the ship. There are traces

of doubling in 'ONE' and the dot is central. R6/6 has a line in the gutter below the 'E' of 'one'. The dot is central and well out. In R7/7 the dot is low. I have been looking for that information for years, and only proved it a few months ago.

There are at least three dozen Dot plate stamps showing doubling, many of them really good examples. 24 of these have been plated, but I would like to query the one listed as plate 1, R1/8. In playing around this area with doubling and touching-up, I cannot find any trace of a re-entry on this stamp. The Handbook only lists six of the rosette touch-ups, and either it is very wrong for these and correct for the re-entry, or vice-versa. I assume the majority plating is correct and the re-entry mis-placed.

I would also like to add to the record for plate 1 the following stamps showing doubling of the design:

R3/5 is doubled to the left of the top line and the lower line below 'WZE'. It is extremely weak on the whole of the top line and there is a 2mm horizontal scratch on top to the right of the left rosette.

R3/9 shows doubling to the left of the top line and below 'NEW ZE', and the left of the value panel is touched-up.

R4/6 is doubled to the left below 'NEW ZE'.

R4/9 was previously described in the rosette section.

R5/6 has the top line and the line below 'NEW Z' doubled to the left.

R5/9 was also described in the rosette section.

R6/9 shows doubling below the 'NE' of 'NEW'. The rigging of the ship and 'Universal Postage' are doubled. The left edge of the value panel is touched-up and does not touch the horizontal lines. The right side is doubled and traces can be seen in 'ONE PENNY'. It is almost identical with R5/9, which has the touched-up rosette.

R7/6 has the top line doubled to the left, especially on the right and the line below 'NEW Z'. This is almost identical to R5/6, but the dot is a fraction lower.

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## THE PACKET.

In order to keep a continual flow of the Packet, it is essential that I have more books for distribution. At the moment there are approximately 160 members asking for books, and the general response of purchases is very good. A little effort by every member would be appreciated, you must have duplicates and these can be turned into money and thus enable you to buy items needed in your collection at a next to nothing cost.

Books are supplied free, and the Society benefits to the tune of 10% off the sales, thus you are not only helping yourself but also the Society.

If I get sufficient books I can cut the circuits in half, and thus get a quicker turn round of books, and the people at the end see more. Please try and help as quickly as possible.

Pricing is most important, it is no use sending a book priced at  $\frac{3}{4}$  Catalogue, you will not sell many items, but the books priced right often come back empty.

Now for a few means. PLEASE see that you obtain a certificate of posting, many of you may get it but fail to send it to me, this is most important as our Insurance depends on this slip of paper. It costs nothing from the G.P.O.

Print your name clearly on the advice slip, I often find that I am unable to read the name, and this causes more work. Likewise in the books when you make a purchase, do not initial but print your name, or better still buy a rubber stamp with your name on, this only costs a few shillings.

Lastly, if you change your address please advise either the Secretary or myself at once, and thus avoid delay caused by re-direction.

Eric Barton.

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## A NEW DIMENSION.

We have always felt that there were quite enough problems in philately without adding any more, but it seems that yet a new dimension has been added to the simple joy of collecting stamps.

In more recent journals we have noted that dealers in search of material to replenish their stocks, have added three significant letters after the word mint, 'uhd' which of course is the abbreviation for unhinged.

We understand that there is a growing tendency to feature this unhinged requirement, and it may even be heading to a catalogue listing of its own in due course.

While it would be nice to be able to pick up all one's requirements in pure virgin mint state, it seems that it will be a long long day before that ever happens. It means dispensing with hinges completely, and relying solely on containers, but the universal use of these alternatives is a long way off, and we surely have not reached the day when these gadgets really look the part in the scheme of things philatelic, and outweigh the simple advantages of the old stamp hinge.

Not so long ago, a lively argument went on as to whether or not gum should actually be removed altogether to save damage to the stamps, particularly those of the older vintage. We are not so sure that this idea is not the answer, even now, especially since this fetish of 'uhd' has raised its ugly head.

What status has an unused stamp without gum, although it may be a perfect example of a particular issue otherwise. At this stage it might be well to be a little realistic and not stretch out for the moon, as it were, in this 'craze' for virgin mint.

The New Zealand Stamp Collector.

May 1967.

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G.C. MONK,  
Honorary KIWI Editor.