

THE NEW ZEALAND

STAMP MONTHLY



★ DO YOU COLLECT STAMPS — THERE'S MONEY IN IT

★ LATEST NEW ISSUE NEWS

20c

VOL. 1 No. 3.

JUNE, 1968.

NEW ZEALAND AND BRITISH PACIFIC ISLANDS

If your collecting interests cover any of the countries in this group then we can almost certainly be of help to you with your hobby. Amongst our services are the following:

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1968 PRICE LIST

The 1968 edition of our Price List of New Zealand and the British Pacific Islands sets is now available—complete and right up-to-date. Every collector interested in the stamps of this group should have a copy. Send 10c in stamps for your copy NOW.

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WHEN REPLYING TO ADVERTISEMENTS SAY YOU SAW IT IN N.Z.S.M.

STAMP MONTHLY

Vol. 1. No. 3. June, 1968.

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THIS MONTH

	Page
New Zealand News	3
Delacryl Printing	5
Have You Seen These	7
Postmark Corner	8
Cook Islands News	9
Fiji Anecdotes	10
Stamp Market Corner	12
Isles of Solomon	13
U.S.A. News	14
Pacific Island News	16
Commonwealth News	17
Great Britain News	20
Guyana	21
Society News	24
This and That	25
Wainuiomata Youth Camp	26
There's Money In It	27
China Drops Serial Numbers	29
Junior Page	31
Photographic Section	Centre

LIST OF ADVERTISERS

Ace Covers	4	Master Stamps	Cover 3
Ao-te-a-roa Stamp Co.	28	Mowbray, J. R.	Cover 3
Ambury, A.	4	Mullon, H. D.	32
Auckland Coin Centre	28	N.Z. Coin News	28
Batts, E. W.	28	Pettit, H. T.	4
Bishop, John J. Ltd.	Cover 2	Pim and Co. Ltd.	Cover 3
Campbell Paterson Ltd.	2	Renown Stamp Co.	28
Davies, M. S.	28	Savill, R. and Co.	6
G.P.O. Wellington	2	Stamp Centre	Cover 3
Hillary, A.	Cover 3	Stamp News	30
Ion, D.	4	Stirling and Co.	4
Johnson, T.	4	United Stamp Auctions	4
Jury, Len (Stamp Shop)	Cover 4	Zealandia Stamp Co.	Cover 3, Page 6

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list for the Philatelic Bulletin.

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Country

WHEN REPLYING TO ADVERTISEMENTS SAY YOU SAW IT IN N.Z.S.M.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

June 30th marks a milestone for New Zealand stamp collecting, for after that date, stamps will be freed from import licensing.

This is a move that must be warmly applauded, for no longer must New Zealand collectors and dealers labour under harsh restrictive regulations to obtain stamps they require. No longer will dealers have to work under masses of paper in 5 copies with exchange licences, that must certainly have restricted for ten years, the most educational hobby in the world.

Once again the New Zealand collector can enter the open market for the items he desires. With this renewed interest it will be interesting to note the side effects—overseas firms showing interest in New Zealand,—perhaps a renewed interest in New Zealand stamps overseas, for these things move in curious circles.

Whatever the effects, the New Zealand collector stands to gain. I hope, along with I am sure every other collector, that the Government in the near future will see its way clear to delicense all types of stamp accessories, for these items while not amounting to large monetary sums, are items that New Zealand collectors have been deprived of the choice of, for long enough.

FEDERATION MOVE

At the next Annual meeting of the Federation, owing to greater running costs and perhaps a feeling of frustration that members of our Federations cannot do more to stimulate and help stamp collecting in New Zealand, a notice of motion has been given to the next A.G.M. that the annual subscription of a member society or club shall be ten (10) cents for each senior member of such society or club.

This, I feel, is a move that is long overdue. For many years the Federation has tried to carry out its functions on a limited purse, and over the last few years has seen its precious reserves start to whittle away. In a move to halt this disappearance of reserves, in a move to help societies, in a move to foster exhibitions, in a move to foster this grand hobby of stamp collecting, all the Federation asks of you and me is a donation of 10 cents a year.

This move has come so late that I feel that the requested donation has not caught up with the times. 20-25 cents is not out of any stamp-

lovers way—it's time the Federation stopped toeing the ball and gave it a hefty boot. I hope for the future of stamp collecting that the appropriate amendment will be made at the Annual Meeting in November.

The proposed Exhibition rules were criticised by Mr. Vernazoni in a special open letter published in the April N.Z.S.M. I do not propose to go into this further at this stage, but I would remind all societies and clubs that the closing date for submission of amendments or suggestions is June 15th. I hope societies and clubs will take this opportunity to show their interest, for they ultimately will be the ones affected.

Before I finish this note and still on exhibitions, I wonder—Who gets the profits and who stands the losses? I am sure the Federation will not be well received when it solicits club support to help pay for an extravaganza in a poorly supported city, if the organisers of another sit on the sizable profits of their venture.—Len Jury.

NEW ZEALAND NEWS

PRICES REALISED IN AUCTIONS. G.B.

NEW ZEALAND

1855 (Nov.) 1/- Green, Blue Paper, bisected vert. used on front to Edinburgh and cancelled "18" (Dunedin)—£250.

1963 Railway Cent. 19 Mint, red printing omitted—£170.

ANTARCTICA

1903 British National Antarctic cover to Dover with N.Z. 1d and special blue adhesive label—blank at bottom—£220.

NEW PLATE NUMBERS

Stamp: 3c New Zealand Pictorial; Plate number: 2A 2A 2A 3A; Date issued: 1/3/68.

Stamp: 3c New Zealand Pictorial; Plate number: 2B 2B 2B 3B; Date issued: 1/3/68.

2c DEFINITIVE REPRINT

Supplies of a reprint of the 2c stamp are now available at the Philatelic Bureau. The plate numbers (1A 1A 1A 1A, 1B 1B 1B 1B) remain the same as for the first printing. Stocks of the original printing held at the Bureau are now exhausted.

NEW PICTORIAL VALUE 28c

This stamp, the denomination of which was previously announced as 22c, will be issued as an addition to the definitive set. Featuring the world famous Fox Glacier in the Westland National Park in the South Island, this stamp will be issued on 30 July, 1968.

HEALTH STAMPS 1968

The design of the 1968 Health Stamps will be the second issue of the new series depicting sport and denominations will again be 2½c and 1c and 3c and 1c.

Souvenir envelopes produced by the Health Camps Federation will be available at a cost of 3c each and a servicing fee of 2c for each cover will be charged.

PENDING ISSUES

Further stamp issues to be released this year, will be the Christmas stamp in October and a set of two commemorative stamps to be issued in September. One stamp will commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Universal Suffrage in New Zealand while the other will recognise the 20th Anniversary of the adoption by United Nations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

SOUVENIR STAMP SETS IN FOLDERS

As previously notified, sets of definitive stamps specially packed in attractive plastic folders (one blue and one black) are on sale at the Philatelic Bureau, all Chief Post Offices, Post Offices in tourist centres and overseas air and sea passenger terminals.

From 30 July, when the new 28c pictorial stamp will be introduced as part of the definitive issue, the black folder will contain 18 stamps (½c to 50c) and be sold for \$2.53. The blue folder containing 12 stamps (½c to 10c) sells for 85c.

NIUE ISLAND FISCAL STAMPS

The position regarding the Niue fiscal 25c 50c, \$1 and \$2 is that when the initial supply was perforated, the power machine broke down at a critical stage. In order to have an initial supply available for the first day of issue in New Zealand and Niue Island, a small quantity of the order was perforated on a manual machine. The balance of the order was completed on the power machine after this machine had been repaired. Only a limited quantity of the fiscal stamps perforated on the manual machine was received and supplies are now exhausted.

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UNITED STAMP AUCTIONS

FREUD WOULD HAVE LOVED TO ANALYSE THESE COLLECTORS!

The insistence on unmounted mint stamps strikes me as having Freudian implications. If the gum hasn't been disturbed, nor the paper damaged, AND the front is in perfect condition—why worry? If the gum sides of the stamps are so important to certain collectors why don't they mount them FACE DOWN in their albums?

Having rid my id of that emotional outburst, let's get on with the bargains: GREAT BRITAIN Churchill F.D.C. date-stamped at "OXFORD" . . . we believe this is a very scarce item. 2 only at \$12 each. Please knock before entering as we don't want to be trampled underfoot. . . . Calling TEMUKA! Do you read me? Got your \$2 in that cute little pink envelope, but what about your address, baby? . . . MINT PHOSPHORS: Don't ask, sold out! Dealers, too, have been paying retail to get them, including Poms.

Those SAMOA 3d Kava Bowl watermark stamps: Fine used have been selling in England at \$10 each. Our price: \$3 each . . . Don't forget the British High Values due September: 2/6 to £1, Mint \$4.25, F.D.C. \$4.50 . . . Captain Cook, Concorde, Suffragettes, Trade Union, 50 Years R.A.F., Paintings, Christmas, etc, all due this year from Choom Country, Mint and F.D.C. So, if you can yell loud enough let's hear from you . . . Finally, if in BROADWAY, Auckland, nip into 277 and see the stamps, covers, books, etc., AND free comics for the kids.

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PACIFIC ISLANDS

Norfolk Is: Ships 4th set 2.40 (2.50); Ships 3rd set. 80c (85c); Christmas '67. 8c (8c); '66 9c (9c); '65 12c (15c); Lions 15c (15c); Anzac 12c (14c); Ships to 10c 58c (60c); 1967 Views 2v. 25c (25c); Mission 45c (50c); Decimal O/P's 14v. 4.95 (5.25).

Fiji: 1968 Pictorials 6.90; Capt. Bligh 58c (62c); Tourism 60c (65c); W.H.O. 50c (55c); 1966 Games 32c (32c); Rotuma 55c (55); Football 40c (45c); Churchill 70c (75c); I.C.Y. 50c (55c); 1959-63 Defins. Wmk Script 13v. 9.50; 1962-67 Defs. wmk block 15v. 8.00; I.T.U. 55c (60c).

Pitcairn Is.: Human Rights 40c (45c); Capt Bligh 45c (50c); Decimal O/P 2.75 (3.00); Discovery 65c (75c); Unesco 50c (55c); W.H.O. 45c (50c) Football 55c (60c); 1964 Defins. 3.75 (4.25).

Br. Solomon Is.: 1968 Pictorials 6.50 (6.75); Discovery 1.95 (2.05); Guadalcanal 55c (60c); Unesco 1.70 (1.80); W.H.O. 80c (85c); Football 55c (60c); Decimal O/P 6.95 (7.25); short set (8v) 70c; I.C.Y. 50c (55c).

Gilbert & Ellice Is.: 1968 Defins. 6.45 (6.75); Flag 60c (55c); W.H.O. 25c (30c); Football 50c (55c); Decimal O/Ps 6.50 (6.75); I.C.Y. 65c (70c); Unesco 50c (55c).

New Hebrides: Bougainville 43c (48c); 1963/7 Pictorials 13v 5.15 (5.50); Pacific War 85c (90c); Unesco 45c; W.H.O. 40c; Football 28c; Churchill 48c; I.C.Y. 28c; I.T.U. 35c.

Nauru: 1968 Republic O/P's 14v 3.95 (4.25); Decimals 14v. 4.25 (4.50).

Christmas Island: 1968 Fish 2.75 (2.85); 1963 Pictorials 90c (1.00).

"DELACRYL"

NEW PRINTING PROCESS FOR ROYAL SOCIETY AND BIBLE STAMPS

This new De La Rue method is reprinted from "The Crown Agents Stamp Bulletin."

New developments in the history of printing have been rare and in the sector of stamp printing they have been rarer still. One of De La Rue's early contributions to this gradual evolution was relief engraving pioneered in 1855. Since then changes in demand have prompted the introduction and successful application of lithographic and photogravure techniques, as further alternatives to recess engraving. In 1966, the word Delacryl made its first appearance—as the name of the most recent development in stamp printing. Naturally, the interest of philatelists and issuing authorities alike was immediately aroused. This interest has been sustained, for in the short interval of time since then, 35 countries have commissioned Delacryl work. The name and style have become as familiar as those of the older processes, and the new process has come of age.

The origins of Delacryl lie in simple but revolutionary thinking. Postal authorities had never been asked whether their design policies were in any way restricted by the abilities of printers generally to implement their wishes. So De La Rue sent out a questionnaire, inviting them and their designers to put aside accepted notions about what was possible and to describe their ideal. The response was immediate, comprehensive and forceful—and it showed that this approach struck the authorities as timely. De La Rue were made increasingly aware of a longstanding gap in communications between printers and "users" of stamps. The facilities offered by printers were no longer geared to dealing satisfactorily with modern-day needs.

The replies showed that authorities had two principal demands—for stamps with a potential philatelic appeal by virtue of their beauty or originality and for stamps that were worthy and complimentary symbols of national culture. (As competition for the attention of philatelists intensifies because of the increasing number of independent issuing authorities, so, of course these two considerations become more closely linked). The designers, in their turn, sought an opportunity to concentrate on their profession without concerning themselves with the difficulties facing printers.



No single one of the traditional processes seemed regularly to satisfy these requirements. What the "consumers" sought was a combination of the best features of all of them. They wanted a triple capability—for subtle definition over a wide colour range, for firm block colours and for clear, sharp line work. And from the issuing authorities' point of view this flexibility was only relevant if it could be achieved at an economical rate.

It was clear that the means of producing postage stamps needed to be brought up to date with this demand and, daunting though the technical implications were, this was the basis for the "brief" that was handed to De La Rue's Research Centre. The research team was able to draw on the company's experience in printing by all the existing processes, while maintaining the objective, unbiased outlook natural to all research scientists. After a thorough examination of each of these processes the technologists became convinced that the triple capability and the required best method of achieving this triple capability and the required economies lay in the offset method.

The physical constraints of the size of a postage stamp meant that improvements could be made only through the most persistent and meticulous attention to detail. In their empirical work, of refinement and "cross-breeding," De La

Rue's research team were acting the role of philatelists—working under a magnifying glass and searching intently for minute flaws—though for very different motives, of course. The results of this magnification were startling. Under this searching scrutiny, the ordinary process was revealed as furry in its outlines and patchy in its background colour, while the improved line work the greater solidity of the block colour of Delacryl's prototype retained its impact.

The highly encouraging results of these early examinations prompted further full scale development work and in early 1966 De La Rue were able to present the product of all these researches into opinions and techniques as Delacryl. Delacryl was able to prove its point because modern issuing authorities have demanded design features of increasing complexity and variety—animals, portraits, landscapes, reproductions of old masters, historical scenes, national symbols—the list gets longer every day.

An excellent example of an effective representational design is the Barbados Harbour Police Centenary stamp of 1967. The designer, Mr. Victor Whiteley, shows a smart patrol boat, manned by alert and dignified officers making its way through the brilliantly clear waters of the Caribbean under an azure sky. The approach is naturalistic—with a radiance and dignity that lifts it above the humdrum. Mr. Whiteley's subtle use of colour makes this a distinctively clean stamp—clean water, clean skies, clean detail—and it demanded clean printing. The delicacy and tonal range of the blue from the sky to the sea is considerable and is an admiral foil to the shining black colour of the varnished hull of the ship and the sharp detail of its superstructure. All these features pay tribute to Mr. Whiteley's art—a tribute which he graciously reciprocated in acknowledging that the design had reproduced excellently.

Western minds may well be puzzled by their first glance of the Iraqi Hajeer Year stamp of 1967



PHOTOGRAVURE



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5 Norfolk Is.	15c	
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5 New Hebrides	15c	
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G.B.: The Bi-centenary stamp issued 1st June, mint at 25c. Ditto on special First Day Cover. 40c.

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10 LS New Zealand	60c per 100
11 L Far East	\$1.20 per 100
11 LS Far East	85c per 100
12 LS Pacific Islands	
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PLIMMERTON

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DELACRYL Cont.

from Iraq. The starlit desert sky has an immediate romantic appeal—but why the spider's web? To some the spider's web is a symbol merely of disuse or of intricate but sinister craftsmanship—but in the Middle East it has a much wider significance. A marvel! So the story goes, when Mohammed fled Mecca because of the menaces of the Quraish tribe, he sought refuge in a cave. His pursuers drew up their horses outside the cave and were just about to search it when one of their number noticed a spider's web spanning the entrance. This was taken as a sure sign that no one had entered the cave for some time and Mohammed was miraculously saved.

The special place of this story in Islamic religion makes this commemorative stamp an exacting test of Delacryl's ability to hold fine lines. The beautiful Iraqi script at the base of the stamp and the delicate Arabesque work around the casement (in gold in the original) complete a stamp which is a thoroughly fitting expression of a nation's spiritual heritage.

Delacryl was De La Rue's response to a demand expressed by postal authorities and designers. What is most important about the process is the philosophy behind it—that production techniques should be amended to suit the pattern of demand rather than vice versa. The main check against complacency is the realisation that in the distant future, the pattern of demand may change again. To maintain a flexible approach to anticipate and to adjust to such a change will be the future responsibility of stamp printers.

STOP PRESS

Mr. L. Vernazoni advises that besides the two sheets of Bible stamps with gold omitted announced in last month's Stop Press, there have appeared a number of well executed fakes with the gold removed—**BEWARE!**

READERS QUERIES

This month we have had a number of queries regarding various aspects of Philately. If you have an answer to offer, or further queries, please drop us a line "Readers Queries", P.O. Box 513, New Plymouth. Initials or non de plumes accepted if your full name and address enclosed.

CLEANING

I have a number of used stamps, especially late British varieties, which, although not heavily post-marked, have been smudged with finger-prints etc. Is there any effective method of cleaning these stamps, more especially the chalky surfaced British ones, without damaging them, or being guilty of "restaurating". R. O'M.

DOT PLATE RE-ENTRIES

I have a vertical block of 10 (2 x 5) 1d Universal, Dot Plate 1 stamps showing the Row 4 No. 11 re-entry. Row 5 No. 11, while not showing the doubling in, above, and below New Zealand, shows doubling in every letter of Universal Postage, also in One Penn of One Penny, together with doubling of the top horizontal line of the value panel.

Row 6, No. 11 and 7, No. 11 show the doubling in Universal Postage, and the top horizontal line of the value panel, though less pronounced.

As I cannot find any reference to these in "The Penny Universal of N.Z." on "Dot" plates, could you enlighten me in any way, perhaps through your N.Z.S.M. C. F.

WHITE FLAW

I have a mint pair of 8c and Royal Society stamps, one of which has a white dot by the centre line of E of PROMOTE. Can readers with the same variety give the sheet position of this small dot and whether it is constant or a transient flaw? P.T.

WANTED: This page is for collectors' use to publish their latest discoveries. We will be pleased to include any notes that collectors care to send. If particular outstanding items can be sent so that they may be photographed please send by registered mail. All letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 513, New Plymouth.

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE?

"Flying High". The words New Zealand appear in the white border. A striking colour shift, sent for readers interest by Mr. G. Lawson, Auckland.



"Butterfly." On current 24c kowhai. R8/5 for this variety.



Z — "apostrophe" — E. A constant variety on R11/5.

SEND YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO N.Z.S.M. TODAY

POSTMARK CORNER

A. F. WATTERS

The Post Office records show that before the advent of the motor car, the number of Post Offices open in New Zealand was at a higher figure than today. The peak was around 1910 and then began a steady decline which has continued until about four years ago. The closings and the openings now just about balance each other out. The only upward swings were due to the two world wars and in particular 1939-45 when defence commitments forced the opening of many camps for the troops and Air Force personnel, who needed a Post Office.

Little did the inventor of the date stamp think that collectors would go "mad" to get copies of datestamps, for he invented something to stop people using stamps a second time. The marks and names came later, though only by a few years. The idea of cancelling a stamp was to put the postmark right in the middle, hence the great number of postmarks that can be found on the older stamps.

Penny universals, 2nd side face and the like, are still available in quantities and some for "a song". The 1898 Pictorials too can be purchased quite cheaply really and all these stamps prove a rich harvest for the postmark collector. The smaller datestamps used in the early days can be found on these early stamp issues, and even in cases right up to and including 1936 Pictorials, however, the larger datestamps used today make it considerably harder to find any useful postmarks on cleaned used stamps.

The coin type size 5c piece, (do not confuse it with machine date-head) is by far the best postmark and fitted nicely on a stamp. The English type and the squared circle are a little larger and hence you will find that some parts are missing on cleaned stamps, nevertheless these are very useful too, so if you have an opportunity to see any, do not refuse, but rather enjoy yourself to the full. I have recently had the chance to go through 11,000 cleaned stamps and found hundreds of useful postmarks including a Tumahu, which was new to my collection. (Tumahu is up under Mt. Egmont on the west side.)

I use filters and these make it possible to find clearly even the hardest to read copies. My filters are pieces of coloured cellophane, red, blue and green, and these cut out the colour and make it quite clear. The red one is useful for red, some oranges and yellows. The blue and green likewise for these colours. I have found colours where two filters can be used to great value at one time, you can experiment with them and have lots of fun.

Old envelopes are good too and should not be cut for piece, unless you have a very good reason, for many good covers have been ruined by quick cutting, rather than mounting as a cover. Unclaimed and re-addressed envelopes are helpful too and can be very interesting. Post cards from old accumulations are also good if you can find them. I have found these are also good for R.T.P.O. (Railway Travelling Post Office) and have been able to make a good collection of these too, with little trouble. Again the rule, **THINK BEFORE YOU CUT!!!**



SQUARED CIRCLE



ENGLISH TYPE

Coronet Peak (Invercargill)—Seasonal office opens again July. Whangamoa (Nelson) is still open, not closed as was thought. Greigs (Greymouth) closed 31st March, 1968.

Post Office Opening Ashley Avenue
Auckland — May 27th.



COIN TYPE. EARLY USE

Now for a query. A person writes that she has an unusual postmark in her collection. Napier Telegraph Office on a 1946 Peace Stamp. From time to time copies of this type of datestamp turn up and collectors add them to their collections. I have a number in mine. There are two avenues open—the first being that the wrong datestamp was used, or it is off a telegram or toll card, in which case it is "black" for a quantity were probably stolen from telegram forms. The large Post Offices have this type of datestamp and, of course, will not give copies of them. They were also used at many telephone and Telegraph Stations around N.Z. in the early days, however there are only a couple in use at this class office nowadays. The rest use ordinary datestamps.



TELEGRAPH POSTMARK
ON TELEGRAMS

COOK ISLAND, MANUAE, PALMERSTON AND SUWARROW.

SOLAR ECLIPSE. The non-permanent post office opened on 30th May 1965 to handle the Eclipse mail, was later closed and the special date-stamp returned to the Chief Postmaster, Rarotonga. However, it appears that the CPM was not aware that a J type date-stamp had also been supplied from New Zealand, and this, at the time of writing (February 1968) was still held on the island by the storekeeper who acted as postmaster. Covers sent to Manuae have come back with the stamps cancelled with this date stamp, the latest date being "22 DE 67 12."

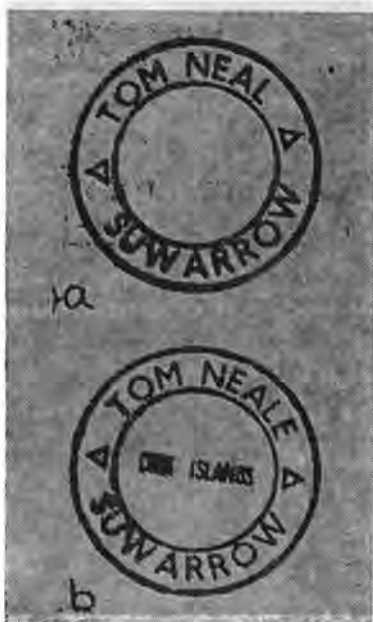
It is possible that this date-stamp may shortly be withdrawn, although it is understood that consideration is being given to the question of opening post offices on Manuae, Palmerston and Suwarrow. The Manuae date-stamp may be held pending the result of these discussions. So far as Suwarrow is concerned, Tom Neale, has once again returned to his "island" and hopes to remain there permanently. Anticipating plenty of correspondence as a result of his recent book—"An Island to Oneself," he took with him a "frank" as illustrated (a). This was made of rubber from a die cut from an old piece of copper pipe. On receiving the frank Tom pointed out the error in the spelling of his name, and the Government Printer at Rarotonga who made the frank had to cut another one (b). Pending the receipt of the latter, Tom added the "E" in manuscript on any letters sent back by him.

If Tom Neale is ever appointed postmaster of Suwarrow and given a proper date-stamp, he will be in the unique position of acting as postmaster to a population of 1—himself.

COOK ISLAND NEWS

By Mr. A. R. Burge.

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MITIARO, COOK ISLANDS.

A new date stamp has been ordered for Mitiaro to replace that lost in the December hurricane, when the Post Office and the Radio station were washed away. Covers sent to the island in November 1967 for date-stamping have not yet been returned and it seems likely that they, too, may have "gone with the wind"! Up to early February Rarotonga had received no mail communication from Mitiaro since the official visit by the Premier shortly after the hurricane.

Advice has just been received from the Philatelic Bureau in Rarotonga that a new date stamp has been supplied to Mitiaro to replace that lost in the recent hurricane. It is not known when it was first brought into use but the circumstances of its manufacture are of great interest. It was made locally by Mr. I. A. Forbes, the former Government Printer from an old Rarotonga date stamp. Mr. Forbes has described the work as follows:

"This is how I went about it. I obtained an old Rarotonga date-stamp and after I had made repairs to this I turned out the 'RAROTONGA — COOK ISLANDS' letter in my lathe, and this was one great problem in itself because the material was as hard as glass. It took me 12 hours to turn out these letters and leave a groove to take the new insert. The groove had to be accurate so that he new plastic insert could be a press fit. The new plastic insert, which I made similar to making a rubber stamp, was 125 thousandths of an inch, so the insert had to be exactly this, so that an even pressure would be on the circle, insert, and date wheels. I then turned up the new insert on the lathe and pressed it into the old stamp and this is the proof you now see. I think this date-stamp will last for many years."



FIJI ANECDOTES

M.G. WING

I suppose that it is only natural for me after reading the article on "The Postage Stamps of Fiji" in the April issue of the N.Z.S.M. to immediately cast my mind back to my five and a half year tour of duty in the Colony.

In fact I only need to look at my own stamps and covers of Fiji to recall many varied and interesting highlights of my sojourn in those delightful islands.

I would therefore like to share with readers some recollections which stem from my recent reading of the article mentioned earlier.

When I became aware of my posting to Fiji, I made enquiries at the Customs Department in Wellington about the formalities necessary for me to take my stamp collection to Fiji. They assured me that no formal documentation was required. Accordingly, I packed my various albums etc., into several small lockable attache cases.

The 3d value of the 1964 issue commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the 1st Fiji-Tonga Airmail service reminds me that my wife and I travelled initially to Fiji in an R.N.Z.A.F. Sunderland flying boat, which at that time (1947) had not been converted for civilian passenger use. The trip, by today's standards, was long and arduous, but our lot was made brighter by the provision of lots and lots of blankets and excellent food.

CUSTOMS TROUBLES

We landed at Laucala Bay early in the afternoon, but it was several hours later before Immigration and Customs formalities were complete. The searching officers had found an automatic pistol in the luggage of another passenger early in the proceedings and they were determined to search everyone and everything thoroughly. Each half hour or so, a different Customs Official would come up to me and ask what I had in those locked bags. I told them the same old story, i.e. that they contained my stamp collection. Each Officer in turn, not convinced with my story, took on an air of incredibility. I thought I would break the deadlock and offered to unlock and open the cases, but at this point the Officials retreated. They then concentrated on our other suitcases where they found many items still in shop wrappings.

Although they were items bought in Auckland for our own use (tennis shoes, stockings, unexposed camera film etc.) it was eventually decreed that some duty was payable. What of my stamps? Yes, they remained

locked in the attache cases and were "passed" without inspection. After clearing Customs and Immigration at Laucala Bay, we proceeded to Suva, where we stayed overnight (at the Garrick Hotel) before going on to Nadi Airport by R.N.Z.A.F. Dakota (D.C.3).

The 2/6 value issued in 1961 depicts Nadi International Airport.



NADI AIRPORT

Our first accommodation at Nadi Airport was a couple of rooms in the "Hospital Block". There were simply no facilities for keeping stamps and I began to wish I had left my collection in N.Z. Our next move, after several months, was to a double unit flat. Storage facilities were still almost zero and other amenities such as running water, toilet and ablution block were, at that time, located approximately 100 yards away. Access was by means of crushed coral paths. After seemingly endless delays, first running, and then toilet and shower facilities were provided. At this stage I was beginning to wonder what I should do about my mint stamps as they were becoming stuck to the pages. I found some U.S.A.A.F. dehumidifying crystals, but these were not very effective. Luckily, when things seemed blackest, we received word that we were to occupy one of the "new" houses constructed out of U.S. wartime buildings. Fortunately the architect had provided storage cupboards complete with electric lamp sockets. I was not long in moving my stamps and covers to a reasonable degree of safety.

Just after I arrived in Fiji, I joined the Philatelic Society of Fiji, which has its headquarters in Suva. Nadi Airport is some 130 miles by road from Suva. It was my privi-



STERN OR BOW?

lege and pleasure to meet several prominent Fiji philatelists during my stay there.

Reference to Stanley Gibbons Part 1 will show that the 1/2d, 1/- and 2/6d values of the 1938 Fiji Geo. VI definitives were designed by V. E. Ousey. This is more correctly stated as Mrs. Voilet E. Ousey of St. Annes on Sea, Korotoga, near Sigatoka. I was fortunate enough to spend 3 or 4 weeks at St. Annes, where I rented a holiday cottage from Mrs. Ousey. It was not long before conversations centred around stamps and Mrs. Ousey showed us her paintings, including the originals on which the 3 stamp designs were based. It would appear that at the time, there was considerable controversy over the 1/2d stamp as to whether or not the outrigger canoe showed the prow, or incorrectly (as some people maintained) the stern. Mrs. Ousey was adamant that the design was correct in every detail.

Korotonga is ideally situated as far as examining the reef is concerned, as it is possible to walk out to the edge of the reef at low tide. No doubt it was the sight of Fijians fishing on the reef by torchlight which inspired the design of the 1/- stamps.

The river scene in the 2/6 value is near Navua, which is the centre of a considerable beef raising and rice growing area.



NO POWER

Several stamps remind me of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company Ltd., and the sugar industry. (5d blue or green sugar cane; 1/6 sugar cane train and 10/- 1961 Cutting Sugar Cane. Nadi is in the centre of the western sugar growing area. The C.S.R. railway was only a few hundred yards from our house. In the cane cutting and crushing season, we had many a sleepless night as the trains rattled and grunted past on their way to the mill in Lautoka, 17 miles away. It is disconcerting living on an aerodrome in any case, but it is amazing how soon one becomes used to the noise of aircraft engines and after a while one learns to "tune out". Nevertheless it is possible to experience the phenomenon of being "tired out" by noise you don't consciously hear.

The 10/- Paw Paw design and the

2/- transportation of bananas on bamboo rafts design, both bring to mind the delicious paw paws, bananas, and pineapples I had growing in my garden. Many a breakfast menu problem was solved by picking a ripe paw paw. Bananas grew outside our bedroom window, not to mention the coconut palms nearer the roadway.

Hibiscus hedges abounded everywhere on the Airport (8d and 9d



SLEEPLESS NIGHTS

values of Q.E.11 definitives) and I recall the occasion when the electric power went off at the administrative office area and we could not boil the water for morning tea. A new arrival from N.Z. volunteered to drive the jeep plus the Fijian typist to the Mess hall for a pot of tea. He made the Mess hall alright, but on the way back he could not stop the jeep, and the tea, typiste, jeep etc., finished up in the Hibiscus hedge near the Office. It transpired that the volunteer had not really learned to drive and had no driver's licence. The Fijian typiste emerged unscathed, but nevertheless extremely frightened, and somewhat paler.



EXCITING RUGBY

The 2d and 1d green value of the 1951 Health Stamps brings to mind the many exciting rugby football matches witnessed in Fiji, including a match in Lautoka between N.Z. Maoris and Western Districts. Our Fiji housegirl was also there and remarked to me afterwards, "These Maoris are not like us, they are white just like the European." The Fijians very seldom don foot-

ball boots, preferring to play bare-footed.

When I see the Heron Aircraft of Fiji Airways on the 6d 1964 Airmail Service set, I can cast my mind back to several exciting flights with Captain Freddie Ladd (Auckland Harbour Bridge fame) in a Fiji Airways Dominic. The highlight of one of my flights was a landing on a recently cleared runway at Lautoka, almost between rows of sugar cane.

Although Mrs. V. E. Ousey was a stamp designer, she displayed very little interest in philately. Her main hobby was collecting shells. In fact, she was one of the foremost conchologists in this part of the world. I was privileged to see amongst her valuable collection of sea shells, several examples of the rare golden cowrie which is featured on the 3/- value of the new Fiji definitives.

COWRIE SHELLS

It is not surprising that I brought a small collection of shells back to N.Z. with me. There are various types of Cowries, including the white cowrie used solely for decorating the interior (rafters) of a chief's house; trochus shells, used for making shirt buttons; mother of pearl shells; conch shells (used by the itinerant Fijian fish vendor as a trumpet to announce his presence to intending customers; spider shells giant clam shells and so on.

The sea snake on the 1968 2/- definitive takes me back to a trip in a dinghy with an outboard motor six miles off Lautoka, where I saw my first Fijian sea snake. Shortly afterwards, the outboard motor broke down and as we found, there was only one oar in the boat. The "Skipper" decided the solution was to investigate the motor. After some anxious hours on a tidal sandbank, the engine sprang to life and we made port just before darkness fell.

The black marlin fish on the new 1/- value brings to mind several trips I made to such places as the Malolo Group (9 miles west of Nadi) and the Yasawa Group (25 miles north west of Lautoka). On one occasion I did the Blue Lagoon Cruise with Captain Trevor Withers, when he introduced me to eating raw fish (soaked in lime juice and coconut milk).

I saw the actress Jean Simmonds when she was in Fiji for the filming of "The Blue Lagoon". We were fortunate to see many celebrities passing through Nadi, e.g. Lord Avon (Sir Anthony Eden); Harpo Marx; the original cast of the musical "Oklahoma"; and others too numerous to mention.

You can see from the foregoing that I enjoy my stamps, (and covers for that matter) and I trust that readers will find time, if they have not already done so, to reflect upon the treasured memories suggested by various items in their own collections.

Sales Figures Fiji for the Year 1967

Definitive	Sales
½d	88,560
1d	274,440
1½d	93,560
2d	2,231,340
2½d	17,640
3d	1,670,515
6d	665,010
9d	190,470
10d	237,060
1/-	440,122
1/6	116,098
2/-	131,840
2/6	120,303
4/-	106,425
5/-	59,634
10/-	22,982
£1	17,854
Tourist Issue	
3d	348,000
9d	127,960
1/-	138,330
2/-	103,825

KENNEDY ON DOMINICA I.H.R. ISSUE

Dominica is to issue a five value International Human Rights Year series in the near future. Incorporating the I.H.R. symbol and the Crown and Royal Cypher, they also portray the following "fighters for civil rights, human dignity and 'The four Freedoms.'" 1c President John F. Kennedy (1917-1963); 10c Cecil E. A. Rawle (1891-1938), a Dominican who pioneered freedom for West Indian people and whose statue was recently erected at Roseau; 12c Pope John XXIII (1881-1963), one time Unesco observer for the Vatican and a leading ecumenical; 48c Florence Nightingale (1820-1910) the great Crimea War Pioneer in military nursing; 60c Dr. Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965), philosopher, theologian, doctor and musician, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1952.

The designs were by G. L. Vasarhelyi and the printing by De La Rue in Delacryl.

ST. HELENA: TRISTAN DEPENDENCY ISSUE

St. Helena issued on May 21st a set of four stamps marking the 30th anniversary of Tristan da Cunha as a dependency of St. Helena: 4d., 8d., 1s.9d. and 2s.3d., all in sheets of 60.

THE STAMP MARKET CORNER

E. HOFFMANN.

How often have we heard that the price of stamps is governed by demand and supply and on the face of it this seems to be correct. However, I feel that it is more often demand than supply that is the deciding factor. The mere fact that an issue has a low printing is on its own not enough, to make the price of any stamp go up. There is for instance a beautiful Miniature Sheet of the French Legion Volontaires, who served under Hitler's third Reich. It had a printing of only 5000 and is inscribed "Contre le bolshevism." You can still buy it for \$18 to \$20. Compare that with the Liechtenstein Vaduz-sheet, with a printing of 7788 which is still quoted at \$800 or over, or the Sydney Harbour Bridge set, of which over 60,000 were printed and will cost you now about \$75. Best of all there is a Brazilian Min-Sheet, featuring a church, which had a printing of only 9000 which still goes for something like \$5!!! So be careful, when the Arabian Gulf Sheikdoms and others offer rarities with low printings, imperf. sheets and blocks, indicating untold riches for the future. The only rarity these blocks may possess, will be possible resale to a dealer later on, should you decide to sell.

Our present 50c stamp booklet has a little variety that should add spice to any collector's album. One 1c pane of five carries a little label saying: "Register Letters Containing Valuables." It will take some searching to find a booklet where the perforation are not partly shorn off, but it will be worth it. And since the GB booklet panes are listed in Stanley Gibbons like SG 464b of Geo. VI or SG 516a of Qu.E. I can only advise, get these booklets now, while they are still available. Few collectors have bothered in time, to get the G.B. booklets and look, how sorry they are now. You risk nothing, since the pane should not cost you more than 5c, while you can use the rest of it for postage.

Our big English speaking brother the U.S.A., has many friends in New Zealand and there are quite a few stamp collectors among them. I believe the U.S. Post Office would attract by far more collectors abroad, if it would pursue a more inspired stamp issuing policy than at present. A monotonous series of 3, 4, or 5c commemoratives as singles is enough to put anybody off the U.S. as a collecting field. More-



133 MILLION PRINTING

over, most of these commemoratives are being printed by the hundreds of millions and their future scarcity value is about nil. However, all is not as dismal as it appears for the U.S. collector. With the huge printing goes often a huge demand. Take the coil stamp of Edison's first lamp commemorative of 1929, SG 859b. It had a printing of over 133 million and now catalogues in Scott with \$5.50 Mint. Apparently, most of these low value stamps were used up for postage, and particularly pairs are hard to come by. This will always be a good stamp, so if you are interested in U.S. get a copy now. While I am talking about U.S. stamps, I might as well mention that a low priced Miniature Sheet of 35 years ago, the Byrd sheet SG 901 is beginning to show up on more and more dealer's buying lists. The price they offer for this Mint sheet is \$2.75 and one can look for further rises for this item from now on. And if you are absolutely rolling in money, don't overlook the American Zeppelins, which are as gilt-edged investments as the Australian £1 and £2 Kangaroos. Another U.S. set worth looking for is the 1918 first airmail set of three. In 1959 one could still buy this set for something like \$15, now dealers offer as much as \$50 for the set and signs are strong that the set will be rising much higher.

Well, you all have read that interesting article on Feejee or Fiji in our Number 1 issue and you may wonder what would have happened to the stamps of Fiji, if Uncle Sam had not been asleep in 1859 and had accepted King Cakobau's re-



FIRST SOUTH PACIFIC GAMES

quest for protection. By and by, though the early and middle issues have been a dull lot, they have not done badly investment-wise. But let us look at the newer issues. One set not mentioned in the previous article, which springs to mind is the 1963 First South Pacific Games set, SG 331/34. Catalogued at \$NZ3.00 it will cost you something like \$2 to get a decent uninged mint set. While somewhat speculative at the moment, the strong thematic appeal and the fact that it is the first commemorative set showing a "New Look" in Fiji —stamp designs could make this set very secure in a very short time. Likewise, the second South Pacific Games issue SG 358/60 is worthy of special mention. Catalogued at only 32c, it will cost you a ready 45c and, mark my word, it will go higher still. The wise stamp-buyer will not cling slavishly to catalogue prices, but will judge the market at any given time, lest he misses out.

While both the sports sets have popular appeal, don't overlook the boy-scout set SG 338/9 and the Cable stamp SG 337, which are all good property to have.

For anyone knowing the stamp market and the low level that Vatican stamps have dropped to, it seems absolutely crazy and balmy to tip a Vatican set for investment. And yet, that is what I am going to do. When tipping the 1958 Lourdes Set SG 265/70 I imagine to hear people say: "Nuts, that set hasn't done much good for years. Why should it now?" Well, there are several reasons. The set had a supposed printing of 400,000, which was later corrected to 300,000. Dealers offer around 72c per set at the moment, for a set 10 years old, when new issues with a printing of up to 2 million sets cost just as much! What would happen, if the Vatican Post Office would issue NOW a commemorative set of only 300,000? Can you imagine the stampede? You just cannot afford to ignore it. Buy at best for around \$1.50 or \$1.70 for unmounted Mint. Catalogue price is 32/6.

Somebody beat me with a forecast I meant to make about the stamps of Jersey and Guernsey. However I may safely put my recommendation to this article on page 29 of the N.Z. Stamp Monthly No. 2. For years almost neglected I find all of a sudden "Wanted to Buy" lists of the early Channel Island stamps. Still ridiculously cheap and with their issues having very low figures really, I can only

Cont. Page 13.

"THE ISLES OF SOLOMON"

The British Solomon Islands Protectorate is the largest United Kingdom territory in the Pacific Ocean and comprises the six main islands of Chosiseul, Santa Ysabel, Malaita, New Georgia, Guadalcanal and San Cristobal, with a large number of smaller islands, from the Shortland Islands in the north-west to the Santa Cruz group in the southeast, and the outliers, the Lord Howe Atolls (Ontong-ava) and Rennell Island in the extreme north and south respectively. The Protectorate covers almost a quarter of a million nautical square miles, with a land area of 11,500 square miles. The main archipelago extends some 900 miles in a double line from Bougainville in the north-west to San Cristobal in the southeast, separated by the New Georgia Sound, which gained the nickname of "The Slot" during the Second World War

(Continued from Page 12.)

endorse the writers remark to fill all gaps now, at no matter what price of cat., in fact it would not be too much to pay full cat. Even the most common of the original Island stamps under German occupation, the 1d Guernsey has an issue of only 2½ million stamps. And the stamps are being collected by collectors in G.B. as well as in Germany. Often overlooked (just because they are a little dearer) are G4 and G5, for which dealers are already offering full cat. Since the stamps are being collected on the Continent, the wise buyer will insist on unhinged Mint and will keep them like that!

The old Pohutu Geyser £1 stamp has not done nearly as well as its Australian counterpart after Decimal-Day. It appears that everybody was buying in heavily with the result that there is simply no extra demand and prices stay put. Disgustedly Investors will turn up their noses, and murmuring, there is a racket going on somewhere, forget to put their money on the current \$2.00 stamp, which will disappear later on this year. Having a run of only a little more than a year, it looks too good to be true. Be in while you can and I am fairly certain you will be doing better with the \$2.00 than you will with the £1 stamp.

E. HOFFMANN.

when it was the scene of many naval engagements between the United States and Japan.

The origin of the Melanesian population is not known and it is less than four centuries since the first Europeans visited the island. In the autumn of 1567 the Spanish navigator, Alvaro de Mendana de Neyra, set out from Callao in Peru on a voyage in quest of the fabled land of gold which the Incas averred lay across the Pacific. After a voyage of nearly three months, Mendana sighted, on the 7th February 1568, an island which he named Santa Ysabel. Subsequently the neighbouring islands of Guadalcanal, San Cristobal and Malaita were discovered and Mendana moved his headquarters in May to Puerta de la Cruz in Guadalcanal where the present capital of Honiara is now situated.

Mendana's colony, however, failed to find the legendary gold and in August the explorer and his company set sail for Peru again. Nevertheless his confidence that he had in fact discovered El Dorado induced him to give the archipelago the title "Isles of Solomon", in an allusion to the wealthiest king of Biblical times.

Two centuries elapsed before they were sighted again. In August 1767, Captain Philip Carteret in H.M.S. Swallow rediscovered the Santa Cruz group which he renamed in honour of Queen Charlotte.

From the middle of the nineteenth century onwards, however, the islands attracted the unwelcome attention of the "black-birders"—slave traders who raided the Pacific islands in search of cheap labour for the mines and plantations of Fiji and Queensland. This activity was fiercely resisted by the islanders and the ensuing 50 years was a period of savage brutality, murder and reprisals on both sides, and Britain and Germany were induced to intervene in 1886 and divide the islands into "spheres of influence". Germany exercised control over the northern group, including Bougainville, Buka, Choiseul, Santa Ysabel and the Shortland Islands, while Britain declared a protectorate over the rest in 1893. In 1900, by the terms of the Anglo-German agreement over Samoa, Germany ceded Choiseul, Buka and the Shortlands to Britain. The remaining German-held islands were surrendered to Australian forces in December, 1914 and are now administered with New Guinea under Australian trusteeship from the United Nations.

Fear of unemployment in Queensland and alarm at the influx of coloured labour led to the repatriation in 1906 of those islanders who had formerly been press-ganged. The return of thousands of native labourers to the Solomons in 1906-7 caused economic problems for the protectorate, but they were largely solved in 1908 by the introduction of the copra industry by Lever Brothers whose Pacific Plantations Ltd. (a subsidiary of Unilever) introduced a degree of prosperity hitherto unknown and did much to raise living standards in the group. Copra is still the most important crop, more than 20,000 tons being produced annually, but cocoa production and fishing are now being developed as secondary industries.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Release Date: 20th May, 1968.
Designer: R. Granger-Barrett.
Printer: Harrison & Sons Ltd.
Process: Photogravure.
Watermark: CA Block.
Set: 50.
Format: Horizontal.

Designs and Values

1 cent: Vine Fishing.
2 cents: Kite Fishing.
3 cents: Platform Fishing.
4 cents: Net Fishing.
6 cents: Gold Lip Shell Diving.
8 cents: Night Fishing.
12 cents: Boat Building.
14 cents: Cocoa.
15 cents: Road Building.
20 cents: Geological Survey.
24 cents: Hauling Timber.
35 cents: Copra.
45 cents: Harvesting Rice.
\$1: Honiara Port.
\$2: Internal Air Service.

HUTT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

INSTANTA SPYING: Nowadays we are well used to instant this and that, but the "Instanta" perforation gauge once gave Mr. Palmer (Hutt Valley Philatelic Society's speaker at their May meeting) some anxious moments. In pre-war Japan he was using the gauge, which has its information marked on to a transparent strip of plastic, when Japanese police burst in to the meeting. They thought he was drawing maps of military installations!

WISE WORDS: Mr. Palmer quoted that "the whole art of collecting is to please one's self."

1968 U.S.A. CHRISTMAS DESIGN

The 1968 Christmas postage stamp will reproduce a portion of "The Annunciation," by Jan van Eyck, the great 15th century Flemish artist. The painting is one of the major works of the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

A richly-robed Angel Gabriel, with wings of peacock feathers, is the detail of the painting that has been adapted for the 6-cent stamp. Van Eyck produced this masterwork about 1425-30 when he was court painter to Philip the Good of Burgundy.

An initial print order of 1.5 billion stamps has been placed for this year's version of the highly-popular series of holiday stamps that began in 1962. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing is experimenting with its new 9-colour press and it is hoped that the 1968 Christmas stamp will be printed on the new press.

The vertical stamp will be printed in five colours, with red in the Angel Gabriel's brocaded robe dominating the design. Yellow, blue, brown and green will supply other details. Across the top of the stamp is "Christmas 6c" in red. Across the bottom, also in red is "van Eyck National Gallery of Art/United States." It measures 0.84 x 1.44 inches and will be issued in panes of 50.

The stamp was designed by Robert J. Jones and modeled by Leonard E. Buckley. Engravers are Edward R. Felver (vignette) and Howard F. Sharpless (lettering) of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

A Brussels resident sold the small van Eyck painting to William II of the Netherlands in 1819. Czar Nicholas of Russia acquired it in 1850, and the U.S.S.R. sold it to Andrew Mellon, of Pittsburg, in 1937 as part of a \$6.5 million purchase.

"The Annunciation" was painted on wood and measures 36½ inches tall and 14 3/8 inches wide. It has now been transferred to canvas.

Van Eyck perfected the new technique of oil painting, which displaced the tempera method of the Italian school of art. The egg yolk binding the pigment in the tempera method dried so quickly that the artist could not blend his paints to achieve subtle gradations.

With more flexible oil paint, van Eyck revolutionized art. He was able to render the texture of materials, ranging from cold, polished stone to the fragile petals of flowers. Consequently, he is regarded as one



of the most important figures in the history of art.

Van Eyck's career preceded by one generation that of Hans Memling, a fellow Flemish artist, whose "Madonna and Child with Angels" was reproduced in last year's highly-acclaimed Christmas stamp.

HENRY FORD

This stamp will be issued on July 30th with first day ceremonies at Greenfield Village, Michigan, where the automotive pioneer established a sprawling museum, not far from his birthplace near Dearborn.

The stamp reproduces a portrait of Ford superimposed on the silhouette of a 1909 Model T touring car. This model, known affectionately as the "tin lizzie" or "flivver," revolutionized the infant industry. The first Ford cars sold for \$850, but improved assembly line production methods eventually resulted in a vastly better car that cost as little as \$310.

The horizontal stamp which is the 17th issued in the "Prominent Americans" series of regular stamps, will be printed in black.

With an aptness that can hardly be accidental, black is the colour of the U.S. 12c Henry Ford stamp due for issue on July 30th. The legendary remark of Henry Ford that you can have a car in any colour you want so long as it's black, was doubtless the determining influence in the choice of colour for this stamp.

When Henry Ford was twenty years old, in 1883, his father praised the futures of the Ford boys: "John and William are all right, but Henry worries me. He doesn't seem to settle down and I don't know what will become of him."

What became of Henry Ford began at the Chicago auto show in December 1907, where his Model T car was launched. By 1924, the model, now vastly improved accounted for about two-thirds of total automobile production in this country. More than any other man, he put America behind a steering wheel.

The fortune he built established the Ford Foundation, the world's largest private trust fund, which has made grants to worthy causes of some \$2 billion.

Ford pioneered in increasing wages and reducing hours of work for his employees. In 1914, he startled the business world by setting a \$5 minimum daily wage, which was about twice the going rate. In 1926, he established a five-day work week, years before the national trend.

During the depression of the 1930's, Ford stubbornly resisted cutting wages as other businessmen were doing, and in one year his company lost \$68 million.

Ford was born July 30th, 1863 on a farm near Dearborn, Michigan. He died April 7, 1947, at his estate in Fairlane, not far distant. The Henry Ford stamp is being issued on the 105th anniversary of his birth.

The New York Times said in the obituary editorial:

"To a peculiar degree he was the embodiment of America in the era of industrial revolution. He built for the great multitude and they were, both directly and by accident the great beneficiaries of Henry Ford, master mechanic."

The stamp was designed by Norman Todhunter. The portrait of Ford is credited to The Ford Motor Company and appears in the book, "Ford—Decline and Birth" by Nevins and Hill.



SUPPORT OUR YOUTH

The 6-cent stamp will be issued with first day ceremonies on May 1st at Chicago, during National Youth Week sponsored by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

In observance of its centennial this year, the BPOE is extending its youth service programme. One activity will be a massive job hunt in some 2,100 communities to uncover summertime and part time employment opportunities for young people.

During the month of April, Elks lodges throughout the country will survey potential employers of young people and will prepare job lists of positions available. School principals and guidance counselors will be asked to supply the names of students who most need employment to augment family income.

This is in co-operation with President Johnson's Youth Opportunity programme, which began in 1966 when more than a million jobs were found for 16-to-21 year olds. When President Johnson created the Council on Youth Opportunity, which acts under the direction of Vice-President Humphrey, he said: "Many youth, particularly those who live in impoverished areas, need special help in improving their lives and finding a place in the mainstream of our society . . . the summer months provide an exceptional opportunity to enhance the sound growth and guidance of youth."

In addition to job opportunities for young people, there will be increased emphasis on educational and recreational programmes for youth.

The postage stamp shows four young citizens—two girls and two boys—against a red, white and blue panel.



FATHER JACQUES MARQUETTE

The 6-cent stamp honouring the 17th Century explorer-missionary will be issued September 20 at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, where Marquette established in 1668 the oldest permanent settlement in that state.

Design of the stamp was unveiled April 19 in a ceremony at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at which Lawrence S. Lewin, Administrative Assistant to the Postmaster General, represented the Post Office Department. Marquette's bones repose in a vault at the University. He and two companions were the first known Europeans to visit the site of Milwaukee.

Father Marquette's most celebrated exploration took him down the Mississippi river with Louis Joliet in 1673.

Artist Stanley W. Galli, of Kentfield, California, depicted this canoe voyage in the stamp design. Marquette, Joliet and two paddlers are shown in a large canoe.

Across the top of the horizontal stamp, in black is "Marquette Explorer." At the bottom, also in black is "United States." The denomination, "6c" lower right, is in

brown. The shimmering river is in green. Black will be applied by the Giori press green and brown by offset.

Japan

POSTAGE STAMP TO MARK THE PHILATELIC WEEK 1968.

To mark the Philatelic week 1968 which begins on April 20, and as the fourth of the modern beautiful postage stamp is coming out which has for its design part of the painting by Bakusen Tsuchida titled "Bugi Rinsen" (Dancer in a Garden).

This picture, produced in 1924, portrays a maiko (young traditional dancer) with the Tenjuan Garden of Nanzenji Temple, Kyoto, for its background. Date of issue, April 20th.



PACIFIC ISLANDS COMING ISSUES

This month we are able to give a date of issue for the forthcoming **FIJI DEFINITIVE ISSUE**. Three countries have announced their intention to issue stamps for the inauguration of the **South Pacific University** in Fiji. Pitcairn Island's new definitive issue date has been brought forward from 1969. Lastly, readers will note with interest the latest Samoa Addition.—A 1968 Christmas issue.

British Solomon Islands

1969 University of the South Pacific.

Fiji

June 5th: 40th Anniversary of Kingsford Smith's landing. July 15th: Definitives set. 1968: 20th Anniversary of W.H.O. 1969: The Inauguration of the South Pacific University at Laucala Bay, Suva.

Gilbert-Ellice Islands

Nov. 21st: 25th Anniversary of Battle of Tarawa. 1969: University of the South Pacific.

New Hebrides

August 5th: Concorde Maiden flight. October 9th: Correction of French Cyphers on the 10 and 20 gold centimes and 3 gold francs. 1969: Timber.

Norfolk Island

June 18th: Ship series, 30c, 50c and \$1.00 definitives. Sept. 25th: 25th Anniversary of the inauguration of the Qantas air service between Sydney and Norfolk Islands. Oct. 23rd: Christmas stamp.

Pitcairn Island

Aug. 4th, 1968, handicrafts. Sept. 17th, 1968, new definitives.

Papua and New Guinea

June 26th: Free elections and Huma Rights. August 28th, October 30th and January 22nd: Shell Definitive series definitives in groups of five.

Western Samoa

17th June: Bicentenary of Bougainville's visit. 12th August: International Human Rights. November Agricultural series. Christmas, 1968. 1969: Robert Louis Stevenson.

FIJI

NEW DEFINITIVE

Pictured in the Centrepiece are the revised designs of two values of the Fiji definitive issue which is to be released later this year. They replace designs illustrated in the April issue of the N.Z.S.M.

Western Samoa

Bicentenary of Bougainville's Visit

Release date: 17th June, 1968. Printer: Bradbury Wilkinson & Co., Ltd. Designer: J. Toombs. Process: Lithography. Watermark: Kava Bowl. Set: 50.

In December, 1766, Louis Antoine Bougainville organised an expedition to sail around the world. Passing through the Straits of Magellan and across the Pacific, visiting Samoa in 1768, the New Hebrides, the Solomon Islands and returning to St. Malo in 1769.

The set comprises four values. The 3 cents value features a map of the route Bougainville took. The map used is a detail from one of the old maps in "Voyage Autour de Monde" and shows the archipelago of Western Samoa as depicted by the Bougainville Expedition, then known as "L'Île des Navigateurs", with the routes and dates recorded.

The 7 cents denomination features the portrait of Count Louis de Bougainville (1729-1811).

The 20 cents value features "Bougainvillea". This is a flamboyant climbing plant of Western Samoa and many other parts of the world.

The 25 cents denomination features two of Bougainville's ships. The design has been taken from an engraving in "Voyage Autor de Monde". The flag at the stern of the ship shows the arms of the French empire.

PACIFIC ISLAND ROUND UP

In March, Stanley Gibbons raised the price of the Norfolk Island 1960 Christmas Mint or Used to 18/- each. If you can buy below this price, don't delay— if you see it offered at two-thirds above this price, I wouldn't be surprised.

Papua-New Guinea stamps today often come up for discussion after their meteoric catalogue rises. However, this country is not losing any favour with collectors and certainly seems on the other end of the ladder. Keep an eye on the modern sets.

Pitcairn Island, often in the news in New Zealand, has a set that is romantic, historic, costly for a few dollars, and yet very much sought after. Norfolk Is. have a reciprocal set which is also in the same class. There are many dealers who would like to know of wholesale stocks.

Samoa has joined the many countries where issuing policies have come in for sharp criticism. Their sets on the other hand are not over expensive each time, and should they revert to a more conservative policy, don't be left among the multitudes looking for used sets.

Lastly, after all and sundry have criticised the latest Cook Island emission, I wonder how many will buy when they see these beautiful stamps. It is a pity the Cook Island could not have thought of more reasonable values for which they have a large internal demand for postal work.

LATEST NEWS

NEW ISSUE 6th JUNE
KINGSFORD SMITH
40th ANNIVERSARY

A special overprint on the current Samoan 10 sene value will be issued on the 6th June. The overprint commemorates the Fortieth Anniversary of the "Southern Cross" epic flight across the Pacific from United States to Australia in 1928 commanded by Captain Charles Kingsford Smith.

The "Southern Cross", a trimotor Fokker was the first aeroplane to conquer the Pacific. Special First Day Covers and Aerogrammes will be used by the Western Samoa Chief Post Office.

Further New Issues Dates. 12 August, 1968: International Human Rights. 14th October, 1968: Christmas 1968 issue.

FIJI NEWS

Fiji will issue four stamps in the set to commemorate "Smithy's" flight. Face value 3/8.

"INVERTED SWAN"

FLIES HIGH

The 1954 4d Pale blue Western Australian error on which the frame is inverted in relation to the vignette (but is generally referred to as the "Inverted Swan") sold for £1,100 at Harmers in Bond Street.

This used example, with slight defects, originally passed through Harmer's auction rooms in 1933, when it sold for £115 and again in 1948 when it realised £300. Only 14 examples of the error are known. Three of these are in national museums in Australia, one is in the Tapling Collection in the British Museum, and one in the Royal Collection at Buckingham Palace.

FIJI

Revised Designs

15/7/68



WESTERN SAMOA

Bicentenary of Bougainville's Visit

17/6/68



HONG KONG

Sea Craft

24/4/68



INTERNATIONAL HUMAN

MALTA 2/5/68



BOTSWANA

8/4/68



FALKLAND ISLANDS



CAYMAN ISLANDS

3/6/68



BRITISH HONDURAS

15/7/68



ASCENSION

8/7/68



RIGHTS YEAR - 1968

DOMINICA 1/5/68



BAHAMAS 1/4/68



WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

LESOTHO 8/4/68



TRINIDAD—TOBAGO



MALAWI—Flowers

24/4/68



ANTIGUA—Tourism

1/7/68



TRISTAN DA CUNHA—Birds

15/5/68



IRELAND—Europa

29/4/68



BRITISH COMMONWEALTH NEWS FROM THE CROWN AGENTS

MAY RELEASES

2nd May, 1968

Malta. International Human Rights Year. 2d, 6d and 2/-.

6th May, 1968

Montserrat. Six definitive values surcharged. 15c, 25c, 50c, \$1.00, \$2.50 and \$5.00.

13th May, 1968

EAST AFRICA. 20th Anniversary of W.H.O. 30c and 50c. Shs. 1/30 and 2/50.

15th May, 1968

Tristan Da Cunha. Bird issue. 4d, 1/-, 1/6 and 2/6.

17th May, 1968

St. Vincent. World Meteorological Day. 4, 25 and 35 cents.

20th May, 1968

British Solomon Islands. Definitive. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 15, 20, 24, 35, 45 cents; \$1. and \$2.

23rd May, 1968

Jamaica. Labour Day 1968. 3d and 1/-.

23rd May, 1968

New Hebrides. 200th Anniversary Bougainville's Voyage. 15 gold cts, 25 gold cts and 60 gold cts.

25th May, 1968

People's Republic of Southern Yemen. Independence. 10, 15, 50 and 100 fils.

Coming Issues

Abu Dhabi: Anniversary of Accession of Sheikh Zayad, Ruler of Abu Dhabi—6th August, 1968.

Antigua: Tourist, 1st July, 1968.

Ascension Island: International Human Rights Year: 8th July, 1968.

Barbados: World Meteorological Day, 2nd June, 1968. Golden Jubilee of Girl Guiding in Barbados, 1st August, 1968. International Human Rights Year, October, 1968.

Botswana: Opening of the National Museum and Art Gallery, 30th September, 1968. Christmas 1968.

British Honduras: Human Rights, 15th July, 1968. New definitives, September, 1968. Christmas, 1968.

B.L.O.T.: New definitives, 23rd October.

British Virgin Island. Carnival, Aust., 1968.

Brunei: Birthday of the Sultan of Brunei, 15th July, 1968. Coronation of the Sultan of Brunei, 1st Aug., 1968.

Cayman Islands: Human Rights, 3rd June, 1968. Olympic Games, 2nd September, 1968. Christmas, 1968.

Ceylon: Opening of Colombo Airport, 30th June, 1968.

East Africa: Olympic Games, October, 1968.

Falkland Islands: New Definitives, 9th October, 1968.

Gibraltar: 20th Anniversary of W.H.O., 17th June, 1968. Int. Human Rights, 26th August, 1968. Christmas, 1st November, 1968.

Guyana: 2nd Anniversary of Independence, 1968. Savings Bonds, June, 1968. Olympic Games, September, 1968. Christmas, 1968.

Lesotho: Rock Paintings, 1st October, 1968.

Malawi: Definitives, September, 1968.

Malta: Int. Trade Fair, 1st June, 1968. Fourth Centenary of Grandmaster La Valettes death, 1st August, 1968. Christmas: 7th October, 1968.

Nigeria: 5th Anniversary of Independence, 1st October, 1968.

St. Vincent: Human Rights, November, 1968.

Singapore: National Day, 9th August, 1968.

Southern Yemen: Girl Guide Movement, 21st September, 1968.

Swaziland: Independence, 6th September, 1968. 2½ cents overprinted 3 cents 6th September, 1968.

Zambia: International Human Rights, 23rd October, 1968. Trade Fair, 29th June, 1968. U.N.I.C.E.F., 23rd October, 1968. 20th Anniversary W.H.O., 23rd October, 1968.

Ascension Island

International Human Rights Year

Ascension Island, a dependency of St. Helena, lies in the middle of the South Atlantic and first became important in the early 1830's when it was an anchorage for ships detailed to control the slave trade. The duty of the Admiralty vessels was to protect the west coast of Africa from slave hunters. Vessels suspected of carrying slaves were boarded, and apprehended vessels were confiscated. Many of the freed slaves, unwilling to return to Africa for fear of being recaptured by slave traders, decided to work on Ascension Island; others joined plantations in the West Indies.

It is appropriate therefore that Ascension Island should commemorate International Human Rights Year by the issue of a set of postage stamps. The set of three, of common design by Harrison and Sons' staff artists, has been printed by the lithographic process on CA Block security watermark paper in

sets of 60. The stamps each have a different background colour and in addition to the portrait of the Queen, bear the United Nations Human Rights symbol surmounted by a chain with three links. The issue is to be released on the 8th July, 1968.

Falkland Islands

International Human Rights year

To commemorate International Human Rights year, the Falkland Islands will release a set of four stamps of common design, but with a change of background colour. The four values are 2d, 6d, 1/- and 2/-. Besides a "half silhouette" of the Queen, the stamps bear the United Nations Human Rights Symbol over a graphic representation of the world.

Designed by R. Farrer Bell, the stamps have been printed by Harrison and Sons Ltd by the Photogravure process on C.A. Block watermarked paper in sheets of 60. The release date of this issue will be announced shortly.

Cayman Islands

International Human Rights Year

On the 3rd June, 1968, the Cayman Islands will release a set of three stamps of common design to commemorate International Human Rights Year.

The stamps have been designed by Harrison and Sons Ltd. staff artists and printed by the firm in the photogravure process on A.C. Block watermarked paper in sheets of 60.

The design is based on a photograph taken at Christmas, 1910, in Cayman, of former slaves freed in 1837 and includes the Human Rights Flame and the United Nations symbol for International Human Rights Year.

The Marquis of Sligo liberated the slaves in the islands in 1837.

At the time there was no less than 1000 slaves in Grand Cayman. In 1910, twenty-nine persons were still alive of those who had been born into slavery and freed in 1837.

Lesotho

The Department of Posts and Telecommunications, Lesotho, states that it is the intention of Lesotho to leave their present philatelic marketing arrangements undisturbed i.e. distribution will continue to be made through the Crown Agents. Further, it is intended to follow a conservative stamp issuing programme, which will be confined to no more than three or four issues a year on subjects which are of national significance.

MALTA

International Year for Human Rights

Release Date: 2nd May. Designer: Chev. E. V. Cremona. Printer: Harrison & Sons Ltd. Process: Photogravure. Watermark: Maltese Cross. Set: 60.

On the 2nd May, 1968, Malta marks the 20th Anniversary of the adoption and proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with release of a set of three stamps.

The aim in issuing such a set is to encourage and increase recognition of human rights and fundamental freedoms which will in turn serve the cause of strengthening world peace and friendship among the peoples.

Malta in her eventful history has often played the part of mediator.

The word "Malta" could be regarded as synonymous with "refuge", for it is common belief that the name given to the Island by the Phoenicians (thought to be about 1,450 B.C.) was "MALETH" meaning "a Place of refuge", and well may it have been so, because of the Island's geographical position, its natural features and the goodness of heart of her people. St. Paul, the Apostle, shipwrecked on Malta in A.D. 60, commented on this characteristic of the Maltese.

Of interest is the historical flight to Malta of many Italian political refugees, during the Risorgimento (1821-1870).

In living memory, Malta was again chosen to be the Refuge Centre for hundreds of Russians escaping from the Revolution of 1917 and taken to Malta by ships of the Royal Navy. They included the high and low and amongst them was Her Imperial Majesty, The Dowager Empress, Marie Feodorovna; aunt of King George V.

Hardly had the Russian refugees left Malta to settle elsewhere, when the Island again became the Reception Centre for refugees, mostly of Greek origin, from SMYRNA.

In May, 1919, Greek Troops occupied Smyrna and their arrival there gave rise to a series of distressing incidents which inflamed the Turks against the arrivals, culminating, in the early twenties in an armed invasion of Smyrna and a heavy death toll among the Greeks. All available shipping in the Eastern Mediterranean area, then under allied control, was used to transport the refugees from Smyrna to Malta, where they arrived in a pitiful state. With their characteristic kindness and hospitality, the Maltese cared for them for many months.

British Honduras

International Human Rights Year, 1968.

On the 15th July, British Honduras will issue a set of postage stamps, illustrated in this magazine, to commemorate International Human Rights Year, 1968. Designed by G. L. Vasarhelyi, the two stamps have been printed in four colours by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., by the lithographic process on C.A. Block watermarked paper in sets of 50.

The 22 cents denomination features the Royal Cypher, the United Nations symbol for Human Rights Year and the Monument to Belizean Patriots (at Memorial Park, Belize City) as well as the caption Human Rights Year, 1968. The inscription in the book at the base of the tree stump reads: To our Belizean Patriots.

The 50 cents duty features the Mayan Motif Stele, the monument marking the dedication of the New Capital Site, the Human Rights Year symbol, the Royal Cypher and the caption International Human Rights Year, 1968. The inscription on the monument reads: Dedicated to Beliceans by Anthony Greenwood, Secretary of State United Kingdom, October 9th, 1965. C.A.

KUWAIT'S 1968 PROGRAMME

Kuwait has announced 13 issues for 1968 as follows:

Education Day (Jan. 15th); Discovery of Oil in Greater Burgan Oil Field (Feb. 23rd); Seventh Anniversary National Day (Feb. 25th); Teacher's Day (Mar. 2nd); Inauguration of Shuaiba Refinery (no date); Family's Day (Mar. 21st); World Health Day (Apr. 7th); Traffic Day (May 4th); Palestine Day (May 15th); International Human Right (no date); Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry (no date); United National Day (Oct. 24th); 1400 Anniversary of the Revelation of the Quran (November).

Antigua

Tourism Issue

On the 1st July, 1968, Antigua will release a five denomination set of postage stamps featuring tourist attractions.

These have been designed by Harrison and Sons' stamp artists and have been printed by the firm in the photogravure process on C.A. block watermark paper in sheets of 50.

The ½ cent and 50 cents stamps are of common design except for the background colour, and feature

a male limbo dancer with the bar in flames and female dancers in silhouette in the background.

The 15 cents duty features a beach scene with three girls and water ski-ing in the distance.

The 25 cents denomination shows a typical sandy bay with coloured umbrellas and people watching others sailing, a yacht at anchor and palm trees.

The 35 cents stamp depicts underwater swimming and features a female swimmer, coral formations and fish.

Antigua contains an area of 108 square miles and is mostly flat, with a hilly region in the South West, topped by Boggy Peak, reaching a height of 1,330 feet. Because of the flatness, there is no more rainfall than in New York.

The greatest attraction of the island lies in its numerous beautiful coves and beaches, enough to provide a different one for every day of the year. Crystal clear waters, reef protected bays, white capped breakers, the deep blue sea beyond and a fanciful scalloped coastline create one of the world's finest holiday resort areas. The dry climate combined with the fine beaches, bright and sunny days and the mild 62-82 degrees temperatures, provide perfect ingredients for a growing tourist industry, which is fast becoming Antigua's prime economic asset.

Antigua can boast an impressive number of resort hotels throughout the island on some of the best beaches in the Caribbean. The hotels offer exciting calypso and steel band entertainment. Recreation, land and water sports are enjoyed the year round—the finest sea bathing, swimming, deep sea fishing, golf, tennis, water ski-ing, snorkling, skim diving, horseback riding, sailing, exploring sunken ships, hiking, climbing and just plain cycling. Dining and dancing are excellent at all hotels. Devoid of mass tourism, Antigua retains its authentic island atmosphere with modern amenities. C.A.

Lesotho

Additional definitive value

Lesotho has found it necessary to add a 3 cents stamp to the present definitive issue as 3 cents has become the new internal letter rate. The stamp has a portrait of H.M. King Moshoeshoe II and a sorghum plant and is in keeping with the rest of the definitive issue. (The ripe grain of the sorghum is a very dark golden brown and the foliage is a normal grass green.) The issue, is designed by Harrison and Sons staff artists.

WILD BIRDS FROM Tristan Da Cunha

Birds of Tristan

Release date: 15th May, 1968.
Designer: V. Whiteley. Printer:
Harrison and Sons Ltd. Process:
Photogravure. Watermark: C. A.
Block. Set: 60.

(Designs pictured in Centre piece.)

The Petrel

Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis*

With one possible minor exception, the Tristan Da Cunha group is the only breeding place in the world of this far wandering species, which circles the whole Atlantic in its migrations and is regularly seen off the British Isles. It is also the most numerous nesting bird in the Islands (at least 2 to 3 million) and also the most exploited and popular for food, being eaten both fresh and salted and the fat being rendered and stored for cooking purposes in very large quantities.

The Gony

Wandering Albatross, *Diomedea exulans*.

This species used to nest on the main island of Tristan, but was exterminated, probably mainly through over exploitation, and now only occurs in the group on Inaccessible Island (a few pairs, very strictly protected) and on Grouse Island (Numerous). These breeding birds do in fact constitute a "Tristan" sub-species which can readily be distinguished from the races occurring in the Falklands and elsewhere. This is, of course, the "true" "Ancient Mariner" Albatross, with the biggest wing span (eleven feet or more) of any flying bird, except the Condor. It is the great feature of all southern oceans and familiar to anyone who has sailed them.

The Starchy

Tristan Thrush, *Nesocichla eremita*.

This is the most successful of all the land birds which have established themselves in the islands, being still found on the main island (despite cats and rats) and very numerous on Nightingale and Inaccessible. It has evolved a long way from the original South American ancestor, developing several unique features in the process, and each of the island populations has also become distinct.

This is an extremely perky and inquisitive bird (which may account for its curious island name) and is a great favourite with the islanders, though it is nothing more than a rather dull brown thrush in appearance.

The Big Canary

Big billed Bunting, *Nesospiza wilkinsi*.

This is the rarest species of the islands, some 30-40 pairs nesting on Nightingale and 20-30 pairs of a slightly different race on Inaccessible, and nowhere else in the world. It finds a place, of course, in the "endangered species" of IUCN's "red book", though unless its habitat is destroyed by a natural calamity or by man, or it is over-trapped to meet the demands of museums, it is secure enough. The two kinds of "bunting" of Tristan are of as great an evolutionary interest as "Darwin's finches" of the Galapagos. The Big-billed species is entirely dependent on the hard seeds of the "island tree" philica.

Hong Kong

SHIPS

On the 24th April, the Government of Hong Kong released a set of stamps featuring some of the types of sea craft seen in Hong Kong harbour. (Readers will be interested to know that Hong Kong means "fragrant harbour".)

Designed by De La Rue staff artists, the stamps have been printed by the firm's Delacryl process on unwatermarked paper in sheets of 50 in the horizontal format.

The 10c denomination has a green background and features a liner with a buff funnel—typical of British ships which frequent Hong Kong—against the new Sea Terminal.

The 20c duty features a pleasure launch built in Hong Kong with a sailing cruiser in the background, both white against a blue background.

A vehicle ferry is the subject of the 40 cent value, colours mauve and white, with orange as the background colour.

With a red background colour, the 50 cent duty features a passenger ferry boat, colour green and white. This vessel, powered by diesel engines, has loading doors amidships.

The \$1.00 stamp features a red sampan against a yellow background colour.

The highest value \$1.30 features a junk, a sturdy craft designed centuries ago and still a common sight around Hong Kong. They are used for ferrying, transporting goods, fishing and many other purposes. Colours: Pink for the junk, blue background.

It is fitting that Hong Kong should feature sea craft on its stamps, as the economy of the Crown Colony remains basically

that of a free port, having few natural resources and dependent on overseas trade to pay for the imports of food, raw materials and equipment which it needs. Tourism is an increasingly important invisible export aided, of course, by the craft featured on these stamps. Tin Hau, the Goddess of the sea, is the patron saint of Hong Kong's fishermen and a day is set aside to honour her when, junks flying flags and decorated with 20ft. tall ceremonial arches, carry thousands of fishermen and their families, to temples in secluded bays where firecrackers are detonated, pigs roasted and offerings made to Tin Hau. These and similar type festivals delight the tourists, as besides being very colourful and gay, they are based on customs and beliefs upwards of two thousand years old.

Malawi

Wild Flowers

Release date: 24th April, 1968.
Designer: G. Drummond. Printer:
Thos. De La Rue and Co., Ltd.
Watermark: Malawi Cockerel sideways. Set: 50.

4d value—*Calotropis procera*.

A large shrub or small tree with grey green leaves bearing clusters of bell-shaped flowers, ½ inch across. The corolla lobes are white with purple tips. Found in dry grassland. Found over many of the drier parts of Northern Tropical Africa. The inner bark yields a strong flax, from which halters, lines and ropes are made. The silky hairs of the seeds are used to stuff mattresses; the acrid milky juice, mixed with salt is employed to remove hair from hides; pieces of the roots are in common use for tooth brushes (or tooth rubbers) and gunpowder charcoal is made of the wood.

9d value—*Borreria Dibrachata*.

This is the winged forget-me-not, which is common in Mashonaland during the summer months. The striking feature of this plant is a pair of large leaf like, pointed bracts, just below the flower head. The flowers themselves are mauve or blue, about ½ inch long; they are tubular, dividing into four lobes and in this genus the tube is relatively long compared with the Calyx. The flowers are borne in dense terminal heads. It will be noticed that the stem is covered with short stiff hairs.

1/6 value—*Hibiscus rhodanthus*.

A dwarf woodland shrub with bright red flowers ¾ inch long.

3/- value—*Bidens pinnatifida*

A robust perennial composite with yellow ray florets 1½ inches across. Found in submontane areas.

GREAT BRITAIN NEWS

NO COOK PORTRAIT ON NEW ISSUE

Two old-stagers among stamp designers produced the successful designs for the series of four "Anniversaries" stamps which will be issued on Wednesday, May 29th. David Gentleman has given the T.U.C. a 4d one and Clive Abott, pioneer (with the G.P.O. Tower Stamps) of a British stamp bearing the artist's name, produced the other three.

Among those who tried hard were M. C. Farrar-Bell (who designed the 1952 2½d definitive, later adapted for the 4d and 4½d) and J. Mathews, who has yet to be successful.

Politically and artistically, the T.U.C. stamp was the most difficult to cope with, and Gentleman's solution to the problem is generally considered the best of several attempts he and other artists made. This T.U.C. Centenary 4d stamp is printed in Black, blue, green and brown, the solids of the lettering being "incognito" faces symbolising membership of the organisation.

The statue of Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst (not that of her daughter Sylvia, as incorrectly reported by some papers) supports Clive Abott's Suffrage Golden Jubilee stamp. bold lettering in the Women's This 9d value is printed in grey, violet and black with the Queen's head in silhouette.

The Sopwith Camel 1914-18 fighter plane fittingly commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the R.A.F. as the successor to the Royal Flying corps of the actual war years. It contrasts strongly with a formation of Lightning fighters in the background. This 1s stamp is in brown, blue, grey, red and black.

The stamp commemorating the bicentenary of Capt. Cook's first voyage of discovery in the South Pacific features the explorer's signature set against his ship, the Endeavour. Some criticism has been expressed that Cap. Cook's portrait would have been a welcome component of the design, possible at the expense of his signature, especially as Mrs. Pankhurst "made it" on her stamp. This 1s 9d stamp mainly for use on airmail letters to the Antipodes is in brown and black.

The stamps are printed by photogravure on non-watermarked paper by Harrison and Sons Ltd. The 4d stamp will be rotary reel-fed, the 9d and 1s 9d stamps sheet fed gra-

vure, and the 1s stamp fed rotary. All the stamps will have phosphor lines.

The G.P.O. First Day Cover for use with the four stamps was also designed by Clive Abott, as was the Presentation Pack. The cover features all four anniversaries.

S.C.

THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT THE BOOM

An indication of the strength of the boom in stamps has been given by the publication of the analysis of the Stanley Gibbons profit figures over the last 10 years. Allowing for the fact that the addition of Mr. Michael's undoubted flair and managerial talent into the Board gave Gibbons a commercial advantage, yet it is also perfectly clear that Gibbons figures, in a very real way, reflect the growth and development of the stamp market in Britain as a whole.

There is no doubt that Stanley Gibbons "going public" has added fresh prestige to the trade. It is now positively respectable to be a stamp dealer at a time when the boys in the big league are quoted on the stock market. It would be true to say that the issue of Spinks, the medal and coin specialists, a few months ago, had a significant impact on that hobby and their stock has done remarkably well. It seems likely that each new issue of British stamps will have an effect on the trading in Gibbons shares, and given the fact that there seems likely to be an ever-increasing interest in stamps in Britain, the Gibbons stock should do well.

An investigation of the figures themselves reveals some interesting facts that one would have suspected. In the first place, it is perfectly clear that a rise from a turnover of £326,000 in 1958 to £2,150,000 in 1967, is very substantial indeed, but what is also interesting is that the total net profit on the turnover has risen from £30,049 to £232,254, a rise from only 8.9 per cent. to about 11 per cent. With the publication of the Gibbons Catalogue in America, the opening of the Stan-Gib offices in New York, and, above all, the acquisition of American franchise for merchandising from the Post Office, should give Gibbons a head start in America. With the injection of new capital, coupled with the continued facilities from the bank. Gibbons seem set to make yet further record profits. The only worry that seems to have disturbed the City is the compara-

tive inexperience of the Board in managing a public company, as distinct from a private company which operates away from the glare of continual public watchfulness. A tough period of development lies ahead, say the City pundits, and it may require the talents and resilience of a team of younger men, versed in finance and interested in stamps, to guide the company along the right lines.

C.H.

GIBBONS SHARES ON THE MARKET

When trading in Stanley Gibbons shares opened on the London Stock exchange on April 16th, the opening price was 26s 6d per 5s share (which has cost 20s when allotted the previous week) and during the day rose to 29s. Selling took the price down to 25s 10½d and the day ended with the shares at 27s 7½d placing a value of nearly £34 million on the company.

The market seemed to appreciate the novelty of dealing in a philatelic firm's shares for the first time, the Business News section of the Times commenting: "At this level the shares have, like rare stamps, become collector's pieces." The same writer referred to the tender method of offering the shares originally at 12s 6d and deciding on a striking price of 20s. for the allotments. Even this, said the Times, could not prevent a runaway demand in "a unique situation."

4d SINGLE—LINE PHOSPHOR IN SEPTEMBER

The introduction of the "Two-Tier" postal tariff on September 16th will result in the current 4d "Machin" stamp appearing with one phosphor line, since this value will be in general use for "slower" mail.

Other likely effects are that the 4d Regionals will be similarly treated and that 5d Regionals will appear for use of "fast" mail. The 3d Values of the Regionals may well be discontinued.

PROVISIONAL SURCHARGES FROM MONSERAT

To provide for revised postal rates the following surcharges on current definitives appeared in Monserrat on May 6th: 15c on 12c; 25c on 24c; 50c on 48c; \$1 on \$1.20; \$2.50 on \$2.40; \$5 on \$4.80. The basic values withdrawn from sale on May 3rd.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF GUYANA

The Commonwealth's only representative in the continent of South America is Guyana, situated on the north-east coast. It is bounded by Venezuela on the west, Brazil on the south and Surinam (Dutch Guiana) on the east. The word "Guyana" is Amerindian for "Land of Many Waters"—an allusion to the immense number of rivers and streams which cut into the land and make travel difficult except along the more navigable waterways. The coastal belt consists of an alluvial plain extending from 18 to 50 miles inland. Much of this area is below sea level at high tide, but protected by mangrove banks and dikes. Farther inland the terrain rises gently to a plateau marked by wide savannahs and traversed by sand dunes. This in turn gives way to the highlands of the interior, with heavily forested mountains reaching their highest point in Mount Roraima (8,595 feet) which stands at the western boundary of the country. Guyana has an area of 83,000 square miles, or slightly more than that of Great Britain, but most of this is covered by dense forest so that the majority of the country's half million population live on the coast or in the settlements along the main river banks.

Guyana is one of the most cosmopolitan countries of the Commonwealth, hence it has often been referred to as the Land of Six Peoples. Of the original inhabitants, the Amerindians, there are only 25,000 left, mostly living a nomadic existence in the tropical rain forests of the interior. The coast-line was sighted by Columbus during his third voyage in 1498, but two years elapsed before the Spaniard, Vicente Yanez Pinzon ventured ashore and explored the river, in French Guiana, which bears his name to this day. The Spaniards founded settlements to the north-west, in Venezuela, but did not trouble with Guiana as such. From the Amerindians the Europeans picked up tales of Manoa, the fabled king whose reputed riches earned him the nickname of El Dorado—the "Golden Man". Manoa's kingdom, on the banks of the legendary inland lake Parima, drew adventurers such as Sir Walter Raleigh who made three attempts to find the golden city. On his first visit to South America, in 1595, he in fact discovered the black gold of Lake Asphalt in neighbouring Trinidad, but neither of his subsequent expeditions, in 1596 and 1617, led to the discovery of El Dorado and, following his skirmish with Spanish

settlers in defiance of the explicit orders of King James I, he was sent back to the Tower of London and eventually beheaded.

English attempts at colonising the area were abortive, but the Dutch were successful. By 1613 they had established a number of trading posts on the coast of Demerara and Essequibo and within three years had penetrated the interior. At a somewhat later date the French founded a colony in Cayenne, while the English settled in Surinam by the middle of the seventeenth century. The British surrendered Surinam to the Dutch in exchange for their colony of Nieuw Amsterdam (renamed New York) in 1667, following the Treaty of Breda which brought the Anglo-Dutch War to an end. It is interesting to speculate which party got the better bargain.

This territorial arrangement temporarily brought British interest in Guyana to an end. The Dutch cultivated sugar cane in the coastal plantations and imported thousands of slaves from West Africa to work on them. Under the Dutch the colonies of Essequibo, Berbice, Demerara and Surinam flourished for more than a century. They were invaded by the British during the American War of Independence and came under the control of the Governor of Barbados for a short period before the French drove out the British and returned them to their Dutch allies. Following the war, Essequibo and Demerara were united into one colony, with its capital at Stabroek (the present Georgetown). The French Revolutionary Wars gave Britain the excuse to retake the Dutch colonies, after the House of Orange had been ousted and the Batavian Republic founded by the French. The British occupied Guyana from 1796

till 1802 when, by the Treaty of Amiens, it was yielded to the Dutch, only to be recaptured the following year when war broke out afresh. Berbice, Demerara and Essequibo were formally ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Versailles in 1815. The various European powers which occupied Guyana have left their mark in the place names of the country—Kijkoveral (Watch over all), Meer Zorg (More Sorrow) and Vreed-en-Hoop (Peace and Hope) bear witness to the Dutch settlement; Fear Not, Two Friends and Endeavour are British relics; while the French have left their mark in Mon Repos and La Bonne Intention.

The three colonies remained separate till 1831 when they changed their status to become counties welded into one colony, henceforward known as British Guiana. The history of the nineteenth century was dominated by the interminable dispute with Venezuela over the western boundary of the country. A compromise was suggested in 1840 by Sir Robert Schomburgk along a line which still bears his name. Forty years later Britain fortified outposts along the "modified" Schomburgk Line and this led to a state of cold war with Venezuela which lasted for a decade. International arbitration at Paris in 1899, demarcated the boundary more or less on the Schomburgk Line and the affair was eventually settled in 1904. At the same time a dispute with Brazil over the southern boundary was settled through the mediation of the King of Italy.

Following the abolition of slavery in 1838, indentured Indian labourers were brought to Guyana. The East Indians proved to be most resilient and they now form the largest racial group in the country, forming more than 300,000 of the 600,000 population. Portuguese (mainly from Madeira) and Chinese were also brought to Guiana, thus making up the six main races which occupy Guyana today. Guyana has progressed during the past forty years from Crown Colony to an independent state with full sovereignty. The country changed its name from British Guiana to Guyana on the 26th May, 1966 on achieving independence.

Sugar, and its by-products molasses and rum, constitute the main agricultural industry, though rice, timber and balata are also important products. Minerals, however, account for the country's main revenue, gold, diamonds and bauxite being the principal exports. The bulk of the export trade is with Canada and Great Britain, though



trade with the United States and the West Indies is on the increase.

The earliest post office in Guyana was established by the Dutch at Demerara in 1783, but apparently it was so inefficient that the first thing the British did when they captured the territory in 1796 was to send out an official of the General Post Office in London to re-organise it. The earliest postmark dates from about 1790 and consists of the word DEMERARY and the day and month of the date in a straight line. The present spelling was adopted about 1809 when a curved hand-stamp came into use. A post office was established in Berbice by 1815. Mails at the beginning of the nineteenth century were despatched to Europe via Barbados, but from 1810 onward a direct sailing packet was established with a monthly service between Falmouth, Berbice and Demerara via Surinam. This service functioned for three years, when the route via Barbados was re-adopted.

Postal charges within the colony were exorbitant in the early period. The Deputy Commissioner of Accounts, reporting on the economic situation in the colony in 1804, wrote:

"Ship letters, whether from Europe or the Islands, were charged by the Postmaster ten stivers or tenpence sterling over and above their postage; and colonial letters five stivers or fivepence sterling, delivered at the post office, when called for every day, Sundays excepted. Since then the Postmaster has been appointed by the Postmaster General, and although no charge is made for colonial letters, one guilder or 1/8 sterling is demanded for every inland letter, and two guilders ten stivers or 4/2 sterling for every single letter from Britain for which the marked postage is 1/10 sterling. In other words £127 ls. 8d sterling per cent advance is exacted on the amount of postage."

The Inland Posts of British Guiana were radically re-organised in July 1850 when adhesive stamps were brought into use. In denominations of 4c, 8c and 12c, the stamps were printed in black on coloured paper at the offices of the Royal Gazette in Georgetown. They were simply produced in letterpress with a circular border made up of printer's rule and their odd appearance led them to be nicknamed the "Cotton-reels". As a safety precaution the stamps were initialised by the postmaster or his subordinates.

The following March a local delivery service was inaugurated in Georgetown. A notice published

in the Royal Gazette on the 22nd February, 1851, announced that at the beginning of the following month a twice daily delivery of letters would commence in the capital. "Each letter must bear a stamp, for which Two Cents will be charged, or it will not be delivered and when called for will be subject to the usual postage of Eight Cents." A 2c stamp was accordingly introduced and its purely local usage may account for the fact that it is extremely rare and correspondingly expensive nowadays.

The postage on letters was initially charged accordingly to distance, but on the 1st January, 1852, a new system fixing a uniform rate of 4c for a half-ounce letter irrespective of the distance, was introduced. At the same time a special 1c rate for printed matter came into force. Two new stamps in these denominations were put on sale on New Year's Day, 1852. They are interesting in that they were the first stamps ever printed by Waterlow and Sons and were lithographed in black on coloured glazed paper. The simple design featured the emblem of the colony, a ship under full sail, and bore the motto in Latin, "We give and seek in return". Unfortunately the printer's Latin was none too good, for he rendered the second word as PATIMUS instead of PETIMUS, thereby altering the sense to "We give and suffer in return". This error was rectified when 1c and 4c stamps in a new, smaller design appeared the following year.



Like many colonial postal administrators in the mid-nineteenth century, British Guiana was bedevilled by inrequent and slow communications with England and on several occasions ran out of stocks of stamps. Pending the arrival of fresh supplies from London, therefore it was necessary to print stamps locally and this gave rise to a number of interesting—not to say rare—provisional issues, the best known of which is the celebrated 1c black on magenta of 1856.

Six years later a shortage of stamps printed by Waterlows led to a second provisional issue of 1c,

2c and 4c stamps. Mr. George Melville, of the Royal Gazette, produced the stamps in sheets of 24, using an ornamental border of minion flowers in the type-setting. The stamps abound with errors and varieties and, indeed, it may truthfully be said that no two stamps in the sheet were alike. The stamps were initialised in the blank centre space by Robert Mather, the Acting Receiver General of the Colony.

In 1876 the contract for printing Guianese stamps passed to De La Rue and it is interesting to reflect that, apart from the local issues, all of the stamps of British Guiana have been produced by either one or other of these two firms.

The last two decades of the nineteenth century are particularly fascinating in the history of Guianese stamps—unique in that Official stamps, fiscal stamp and specimen stamps were all used postally in the normal way. The low values had been overprinted OFFICIAL for use by Government departments, in 1875-77. A shortage of 1c and 2c stamps at the end of 1881 led to the provisional surcharge of a quantity of Official stamps and these were put on sale in the ordinary way. The following year came some of the oddest stamps ever produced. A further temporary shortage of 1c and 2c stamps resulted in Messrs. Baldwin and Co. of Georgetown being commissioned to print type-set provisionals. These were not unlike the makeshifts of 1862, but depicted the sailing ship in the centre. As a security precaution, the stamps were taken to the Receiver General's Office in the Guiana Public Buildings and there perforated diagonally with the word SPECIMEN. A few sheets escaped without the security perforation and such stamps are comparatively scarce. This must be a unique case of Specimen stamps intended for postal usage.

In 1888 De La Rue printed a definitive series ranging from 1c to \$5, the cents denominations in fugitive purple ink and the dollar values in fugitive green ink. The value tablets were left blank and the stamps were overprinted INLAND REVENUE, since they were intended primarily for fiscal purposes. The value was surcharged in words and figures across the centre. The stamps were valid for postage, but several of the dollar values are extremely elusive in postally used condition.

The following year De La Rue produced an entirely new series, featuring the sailing ship vignette as before, but differing from the 1876 issue by incorporating the inscription POSTAGE & REV-

ENUE and greatly enlarging the value tablet which was now printed in a second colour. It is interesting to note that, although Guyana was using a decimal currency at this period, it was very closely tied to sterling (1 cent = 1/2d), hence the multiples of 24 in the higher denominations.

Temporary shortages of certain denominations led to the provisional surcharge of the dollar stamps of 1888 for us as a 1c value in July, 1890, while a similar dearth of 2c stamps led to the surcharge of three of the Jubilee issue in 1899. There were numerous errors and varieties of this surcharge, the best known being the notorious "2 GENTS" for "2 CENTS" error.

Guyana's first commemorative series appeared in 1898 belatedly marking the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. The stamps were recess-printed by De La Rue on Crown CC paper. Two designs were employed; a horizontal format depicting Mount Roraima was used for the 1c, 5c and 15c, while a vertical format showing the Kaieteur Falls was used for the 2c and 10c values. These magnificent falls, five times the height of Niagara, were discovered in 1870 during a geological survey of the Potaro River, a tributary of the Essequibo. The water falls sheer for 740 feet into a basin whence it falls a further 82 feet in a cataract into the river below.

The colours of the definitive low values were changed between 1900 and 1907, and between 1905 and the latter year the watermark was gradually changed from single Crown CA to the new multiple watermark. A \$2.40 denomination was added to the series in 1905, with the inscription POSTAGE AND REVENUE overprinted across the top for good measure. Finally, the colours of the low values on Multiple Crown CA paper were changed yet again, between 1907 and 1910 and the 2c design was substantially redrawn in 1910. The main difference lies in the position of the flag on the main truck, in the former printing it seems to be flying loose from the halcyards, whereas in the redrawn version it is shown much closer to the mast.

More than sixty years elapsed before Guianese stamps bore the effigy of the reigning monarch and even then the traditional sailing ship had to be included. Between 1913 and 1921 the old design was gradually replaced by stamps portraying King George V, with the ship emblem inset at the bottom. There are numerous variations in the shade

of these stamps, while the top value, produced originally on paper tinted on the surface only, was re-issued two years later on paper tinted right through and considerable variation in the colour of this paper is also recorded. The 2c stamp was overprinted "War Tax" in 1918 to denote the wartime levy on correspondence. The overprinting was



carried out by De La Rue and for this reason perhaps the errors and varieties which characterize so many of the locally produced War Tax overprints of other colonies were absent.

Between 1921 and 1927 the watermark of the definitive series was changed to the new Script CA style. Changes in postal rates in 1922-3 led to the 2c and 6c stamps being re-issued in altered colours.

The year 1931 marked the centenary of the unification of the three colonies of Berbice, Demerara and Essequibo to form what is now Guyana and the opportunity was taken to release a set of five values as part of the celebrations. The names of the three countries were inscribed on the 1c and 6c denominations which featured rice-growing and the Public Buildings in Georgetown respectively. The remaining stamps bore the dates "1831" and "1931" in the upper corners and depicted an Indian shooting fish with a bow and arrow (2c) and the Kaieteur Falls (4c and \$1). These two designs, without the commemorative dates, were subsequently modified for use in the pictorial definitive series of 1934. The commemoratives went on sale on the 21st July, 1931. They were recess-printed by Waterlow and Sons, from dies engraved by J. A. C. Harrison, and were



printed on Multiple Script CA paper.

The definitive series recess-printed by Waterlow and Sons in 1934, highlighted the industry and scenery of the country and alluded to its Anglo-Dutch history. The 1c was a modified form of the commemorative stamp showing a rice field under cultivation. The flat, well-watered coastal lands are well suited to rice growing, an industry which has greatly increased in importance during the past fifty years. Many kinds of timber are exported and it is interesting to note that Guyanese greenheart was used for the locks on the Panama Canal. Two stamps in the series referred to the timber industry; lumberjacks shooting logs over the rapids were shown on the 6c, while a roadway in the heart of a forest appeared on the 48c. Sugar is still among the most important agricultural products of Guyana and was represented in this series by the 24c which showed the transportation of cut cane by river punts. Most important of the minerals extracted in Guyana is gold which is found in the river beds. Miners washing gold from the mud of the rivers were depicted on the 3c stamp. This form of alluvial mining has become greatly mechanised and the primitive wooden sluices shown on this stamp contrast strangely with the modern dredging equipment shown on the \$2 value in the recently obsolete Elizabethan series.

The flora of Guyana was represented by a general view of the Botanic Gardens (\$1) at Vlissingen on the eastern side of Georgetown; in the picture can be seen the remarkable Traveller's Tree (*Ravenala Madagascariensis*) and several varieties of palm. Not for nothing has Georgetown been dubbed the "Garden City" with its wide, clean streets interspersed by beautiful gardens of hibiscus and bougainvillea. But it is in the canals which intersect the city's thoroughfares that the floral marvel of Guyana is to be seen—the magnificent *Victoria Regia* lily (shown on the 60c) whose leaves measure up to five feet in diameter. This giant water plant was discovered in Brazil in 1801 and first found in Guyana by Sir Robert Schomburgk who imported them from Gluck Island in Essequibo to Georgetown.

The history of Guyana was alluded to in the 96c stamp which reproduced the portrait of Sir Walter Raleigh and his son which now hangs in the National Portrait Gallery in London.

SOCIETY NOTES AND NEWS

If you are not yet in membership with a local philatelic society, or the specialist society which caters for your particular interest—don't delay—Join Now!

List of Societies and Secretaries—Page 24, April N.Z.S.M.

Coming Events

WELLINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY (Inc)

24th June, "Marlborough Postmarks"

Display and talk by Mr. G. C. Dodson.

22nd July, Full night Auction.

DUNEDIN PHILATELIC SOCIETY (Inc.)

27th June—Miniature Sheets—Mr. J. C. McMahon.

25th July—Pacific night. Convener Mr. L. D. Fogo.

WAIKATO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

5th June—Auction

19th June—Imperial Russia, Mr. J. Moore.

3rd July—Ladies' night.

17th July—Mr. R. G. Fowke "U.S.A."

WHAKATANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

13th June—"Shamrocks and Blarney." Mr. D. Leslie.

27th June—"Fiji Stamps and People." Mr. V. Powley.

11th July—Grand Auction.

25th July—Birds. Mrs. N. Ramson.

AUCKLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Annual Meeting.

Election of Officers resulted in: Patron: The Mayor, Dr. R. G. McElroy; President: Mr. K. V. Lellman; Vice Presidents: Mrs. I. R. Dyson, Mr. J. Regan; Secretary: Mr. R. A. Dexter; Treasurer: Mr. S. A. Wood; Committee: Mrs. E. Bryne, Mrs. A. H. M. Vanderpyl; Messrs. S. Goffin, W. Brown, D. Burrus; Exchange Superintendent: Mr. J. Valentyn; Librarian: Mr. J. Brundell; Curator of Collection: Miss N. A. Williams; Auditor: Mr. L. E. Martin; Solicitor: Mr. E. Cowell.

80 YEARS THIS YEAR

The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand this September celebrates its 80th year. It is hoped to hold suitable functions in Wellington to celebrate this occasion.

WELLINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Quite an interesting programme was presented at the April Monthly General Meeting.

The first item was a general discussion on the 4d Puarangi on chalk surfaced paper introduced by Mr. M. G. Wing. Mr. Wing mentioned that early last year when he was soaking off stamps, that one or two 4d stamps seemed to assume peculiar characteristics when immersed in water. For example the colours appeared to show through the paper more than usual and the back seemed to have a mottled appearance. He had noticed similar effects when soaking off 1d and 3d values but paid no particular attention. Some months later the existence of 4d on chalky paper was discovered by an Auckland member. Mr. Wing then looked through his duplicates and sure enough there were one of two 4d on the scarce paper. With the assistance of two fellow collectors (both eminent scientists—Mr. J. W. Brodie and Dr. Hurley), he examined the stamps in greater detail. A microscope showed the background screen to be very smooth on the Chalky paper printing, whereas in the normal the background colour was pitted with white dots showing through. The "silver" test was applied but it was discovered that whilst the normal stamps gave no reaction there were two different papers which reacted positively, i.e. there was a coarse paper which showed a black mark when rubbed with silver, and a much whiter smooth paper with a much more positive reaction. The latter proved to be the proper chalky paper. This was later confirmed by a marked difference in the shade of blue which was brighter.

Mr. B. K. Lawton then demonstrated to members the reaction of the three papers under ultra violet light. The ordinary paper remained dark the partly chalky paper gave a dull glow whereas the rarer item showed a brilliant white glow.

Mr. R. Allen referred to a recent article on this stamp in Campbell Paterson's newsletter. This was supplemented by further observations by Mr. W. A. Greathead and a comment by Mr. A. R. Rowell that the marks of the silver test could be easily removed by a soft art rubber.

Mr. Lawton continued by demonstrating the effects on Australia

and Foreign stamps under Ultra Violet light.

The second part of the programme was devoted to answering philatelic problems posed by the audience. Whoever felt competent to speak assumed the role of the expert. There were the usual questions about such things as removing rust, storing albums etc., when not in use, explaining Philatelic terms and so on. Only one question could not be resolved, viz: How do you remove cello tape from stamps? It was clear that the tape could be soaked off in water but the adhesive remained. Whilst chemicals might remove the adhesive the stamp would be ruined. It was generally agreed that perhaps these stamps should be destroyed.

The meeting concluded with a spirited auction of approximately 100 lots. Members were very enthusiastic about the choice of the new meeting place. (Y.W.C.A. Building 355 Upper Willis Street).
M. WING.

TARANAKI SOCIETY

The 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Taranaki Society was held in the Red Cross Rooms, on the 6th May, with a very good attendance.

The President opened the meeting and spoke of the good progress which the society had made during the past twelve months, in which we have gained an increase of 25% in membership, from 120, to 150 members. The President congratulated members on the way in which they had introduced interested people to the society and also our new members on the way they have joined into club activities.

Mr. H. D. Mullon, or as many know him, Simon Sam of Radio Taranaki, was granted life membership of the society. Mr. Mullon was the founder of the society and has continued his interest ever since. Many members spoke highly of the way in which Mr. Mullon has gone about his interest in stamps and for the way in which he has continued to help foster stamp collecting today.

The meeting closed with a sale.
I. RUTHERFORD.

ANPEX 1970

This Postage Stamp and Postal History Exhibition is being held to commemorate the Bi-centenary of the discovery of the East Coast of Australia by Captain James Cook. Collectors wishing to gain fuller particulars can obtain these by writing to John J. Bishop Ltd.

THIS AND THAT

... from WELLINGTON

A stamp listed as Johore S.G. 128 used viz. \$500 blue and red Sultan Sir Ibrahim (1926) was auctioned at a recent sale in Petone. The Auctioneer indicated that it was only catalogued mint at £3,000 sterling. According to the "experts" present at the auction, it was obviously a forgery and sold as such at around \$4 N.Z.

At the same sale, Vols. 1 to 4 of the Postage Stamps of N.Z., in very good condition, fetched \$90 (£45).

The 10/- N.Z. Q.E. is quite scarce hereabouts. Vendors have recently offered superb mint at \$4.50 each.

The Royal Philatelic Society of N.Z. and the Wellington Philatelic Society have both held monthly meetings in the new Y.W.C.A. building in Upper Willis Street. Judging by the comments made by various members, everyone is very happy with the new meeting place. A cordial invitation has been extended to residents and staff of the Y.W.C.A. to attend future meetings.

It is interesting to note from the newsletters of various Philatelic Societies, both in N.Z. and overseas, that their Exchange Branches suffer from the same difficulties; e.g. members holding on to circuit books too long, failing to send in advice slips and omitting to advise changes of address. In fact, one of the local societies appears to have lost track of three exchange books.

Mr. Colin McNaught has resumed active dealing in stamps after his visit overseas and has opened up at 113 Willis Street, (near Perrett's Corner).

The May school holidays saw the Philatelic Youth Camp at Wai-nuiomata. Local senior Philatelists have been busy helping to keep the young campers entertained. In the city, Wellington schoolchildren were greatly in evidence seeking out stamps at the dealers shops or in booksellers etc.

Organised philately in the Wairarapa seems to have evaporated (only temporarily we hope). There was a time when there were two active stamp dealers in Masterton. Recent enquiries indicate that the local stamp club there, is no longer in existence. If interested collectors in the Wairarapa get together and reform a club, they will get support from kindred societies in the Wellington area. (C'mon Wairarapa!)

Mr. Ashton Cook, who was the secretary of the Hutt Valley Philate-

lic Society for the past nine years, did not offer himself for re-election. Mr. Cook has been a very able and active member of the executive of the H.V.P.S. and it is pleasing to note that he will continue to be responsible for the society's newsletter and library as well as serving on the committee. Mr. Cook's Philatelic interests include Pacific Island Issues. His successor as Secretary is another well known collector Mr. J. H. Frederickson.

The Hutt Valley P.S. has adopted a procedure called "Penny Approvals" which could well be copied by kindred societies. On Junior nights the "penny approvals" are donated by Senior members. Although Juniors are not given something for nothing, each pennyworth they purchase represents good value. The proceeds are credited to club funds.

At the suggestion of the Hutt Valley P.S. the usual inter Society meetings between the Royal, Hutt Valley and Wellington will be held in abeyance this year. It has been found that the effort involved falls on relatively few people and interest has waned. This is a great pity as these meetings were a means of the locals getting acquainted. However the Royal and Wellington have indicated that if there are any programmes this year which they feel will be of particular interest, they will issue a general invitation to all local society members to attend. This is quite different to the Inter-Society meetings where each takes a turn at providing the programme at another society's meeting and members of all three societies attend.

M. G. WING.

... from AUCKLAND

The first attempt to reach the stratosphere was made by the Belgian Prof. Auguste Piccard, Belgium, S.G.344/46. Together with his assistant Kipfer, they reached a height of 15,781m (41,077ft), in Augsburg in 1931 by using hermetically sealed cabins with oxygen performed in Euerich got them to supply. A second attempt in 1932 16,940m (56,902ft). A year later, 3 Russian explorers, Prokofiew, Godonov and Birnbaum reached even 19,000m. This flight was honoured by Russia with the issue of S.G. 634/636. A second Russian attempt in 1934 reaching 22,000m (72,600ft) in the balloon Sirius, ended in tragedy, Usyiskin, Vasenko and Fedosienko were found dead when the balloon reached the ground. Their portraits can be seen on Russia S.G. 659/661. Poland then planned a balloon flight into the stratosphere in 1938

and issued a beautiful (and now expensive) miniature sheet on September 15th of that year. However, war intervened and nothing came of it, and the miniature sheet is the only reminder of the proposed flight.

The British G.P.O. reports that in 1967, not less than 18 million stamps were produced by British printing firms, bringing in foreign exchange to the value of £1,340,000 while the British Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh netted £174,000 from foreign sales. The Philatelic Bureau is, by the way, not in London, as most collectors assume, but, as mentioned above, in Edinburgh, the full address being:

G.P.O. Philatelic Bureau,
2-4 Waterloo Place,
Edinburgh.

Christmas stamps are being produced by more and more countries and I personally welcome this. The stamps are usually of low denomination and are helping to revive the real meaning of Christmas, drawing attention to the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. It may interest readers that it was St. Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, who is credited with the establishment of December 25th as the universal date for the commemoration of the Nativity of Christ and that the date has been observed since 354 A.D.

Many collectors who have taken up G.B. as a collecting field and have ventured away from the modern issues into the earlier ones, have been puzzled by stamps which show a very wide margin on one side and only then the perforation. These are called wing margins and occur on the surface printed issues of de la Rue and they occurred because the gutter between each pane of stamps was perforated down the centre instead of each side, as it is today. There were two types of sheets for the British stamps of this period: type I had twelve panes arranged 3 times 4, each of the panes having 20 stamps (4 times 5) making a sheet of 240. Type II had 4 panes of 60 stamps (6 times 10). On the 3d, 6d, 9d, 10d, 1/-, 2/- values printed from type I plates with letters in the corners, you will find that these wide margins occurred on the vertical columns D.E.H. or I (i.e. with these letters in the right bottom corner squares). On the 4d and 8d values printed from type II plate only, the F and Z columns have wing margins.

As collectors didn't like these oversized stamps, the fakers got to work and soon gave them perforations in the usual place, making the stamp normal size and more

WAINUIOMATA PHILATELIC YOUTH CAMP

M. LEA.

The camp was organised by Mr. Rob. Hunt in conjunction with the Home Journal Stamp Club. The camp was officially opened on May 9th, and was attended by 47 children.

During the first afternoon, films were shown, especially interesting was the film showing the process of photogravure printing.

In the evening, Mr. Wing spoke on exchange circuits, and Mr. Stanley explained arrangement and annotation, using part of his fine collection of Full Face Queens to illustrate his talk.

On the Friday morning, projects were started, and in the afternoon films were shown. Mr. Garford spoke in the evening on stamp collecting as a whole, and he explained condition, soaking and ways on mounting. He also ex-

plained the best type of album to use, and the use of trade journals.

On Saturday morning, projects were continued, and the afternoon programme was filled by Mrs. Chesterman, who spoke on her fine collection of airmails, and errors in healths and commemoratives. Mr. Wing spoke on cover collecting, and also gave a very interesting talk on the stamps of Fiji. In the evening, a talent quest was held, and this was won by a comedy act. The verses printed below gained second place.

On Sunday morning, projects were completed, and in the afternoon, Mr. Cunningham spoke on postmarks and errors. In the evening, parents were invited to view the projects, and a film of the stamps of the United Nations was shown. This was supplemented by an excellent display, provided by Professor Campbell. Another film shown was "Postmark Impressions", which was a story of the stamps of Papua and New Guinea.

On Monday morning, Mr. Freeme, from the stamps section of the Post Office, spoke on stamp designing, and various drawings were shown. A few handstamps were on display, and also the die of the Peter Pan health stamp. This was followed by Mr. Pies-Linz, who spoke on his fine collection of Germany. Rev. Morley followed this with an interesting talk on his T.V. programmes, newspaper cuttings and the stamps of Israel.

Over the period of the camp, 372 ordinary letters and 28 registered covers were serviced. Mr. Hunt is quoted as saying that it is the best camp he has ever held.

Second Prize Talent Quest

We're all here for philately,
Many wonder what that'll be.
Youngsters join in these camps,
Just to learn about their stamps.
Talks, displays and films are shown,
And of these subjects, little is known.

Where we sleep is dark and dusty,
Mattresses are hard and musty.
The floors are rather a disgrace,
To clean them would be such a waste.

Because the mud is rather deep,
People have such dirty feet.

We think the food is rather nice,
But if you'll take our advice...

Keep well away from our stew,
It's rather like a dreadful glue.
The puds are very much in favour,
For their most delicious flavour.
We hold our tums in anticipation,
Of impending constipation.

The toast is dry and hard like rocks,
The soup tastes of dirty socks.

For our breakfast bangers and mash,
Were a change from the usual hash.

Children are suffering from coughs
and sneezes.

From the rather nippy breezes,
We feel so sorry for poor old Rob,

With his complicated job.
For all these trials and tribulations,
Our camp deserves congratulations.

THIS & THAT Continued

acceptable to collectors. But they forgot that it is not possible to have normal sized stamps with these corner-letters!

One very odd thing about these wing margined stamps is that although they are 3 times as scarce as a normal, when you go to buy one, the price is usually less than for normal stamps.

For the above details I am indebted to an article by Kay Horowitz that appeared in "Stamp Magazine" in January, 1968.

NOTWITHSTANDING what forecasters have said, notwithstanding the dire warnings of such an august body as the F.I.P. about unnecessary stamp-issues, notwithstanding even my own warnings, people cannot be pressurised into any particular collecting field. Take the East-German stamp-issues for inst., the collectors were told (and no doubt rightly so) that:

1. The stamps are being issued with the object of getting foreign currency into the country.

2. A great number of entirely unnecessary sets are being issued.

3. Almost all sets contain so-called "blocked values" not available at the P.O. counter for normal customers.

And yet,—and yet, the demand for East-German stamps is getting bigger and bigger in West-Germany.

YOU DO KNOW that the capital of India is New Delhi. But did you know that Pakistan's new capital is now Islamabad, which was planned in 1961, not far from Rawalpindi.

E. HOFFMANN.

PALMERSTON NORTH PHILATELIC CONVENTION

CONVENTION PROGRAMME

Doors will be open 10.00 a.m.

10.15	a.m.	Morning tea.	
10.30		Official opening by his Worship, The Mayor of Palmerston North.	MR. G. M. RENNIE.
10.50		The Philatelic History of South Africa.	MR. B. HUTCHINSON
			MR. J. KILGOUR
11.30		N.Z. Pigeon Post.	
12.30		Lunch.	
2.00	p.m.	N.Z. Telephone Office Date Stamps.	MR. F. WATTERS
			MR. C. LILLEY
3.00		Radio Communication.	MR. I. RUTHERFORD
		Self Adhesive Maps.	
3.30		Afternoon Tea.	
3.45		Auction.	
5.30		Tea	
7.30		Replating on 4' ANZAC.	MR. A. ACOTT
8.15		Replating and Flaws N.Z. 1' Dominion.	MR. E. R. WILSON
9.15		Supper.	

This popular convention will be held this year on Saturday 29th June at the Lutheran Hall, Church Street, Palmerston North.

The Taranaki Society are hosts for this year's programme and have selected items which should appeal to all tastes. All stamp collectors are invited to attend.

30 YEARS AGO

The Coronation issues of King George 6th and Queen Elizabeth as I have mentioned in an earlier column, were all the rage. Cover collecting was also gaining many recruits at the same time. Here are some of the prices being asked for Coronation covers.

Gilbert and Ellice Is. £6.6.0.
Ascension £2.2.0. Solomon Is. £3.3.0. Nauru £1.0.0. Nyasaland £1.1.0. South Rhodesia £2.5.0.

Curiously, philatelic tipsters could not agree on the future of the 1937 Coronation issues. There were often as many voices for, as against, and so a writer in this 1937 N.Z.S.M. takes a middle road and pumps for Covers. There are certainly few around today, but on the other hand, there does not appear to be any demand. The £15 spent on above covers may possibly only nett 2 or 3 dollars now.

Where have all the collectors gone? Thirty years ago, the Horowhenua Philatelic Society was one of the many clubs on the N.Z. scene. At the meeting reported here, there were over 30 interested collectors in attendance. The Taranaki Society noted 180 members in Taranaki. (Compared to approx. 100 nowadays.) At that time there were 6 clubs in Taranaki holding monthly meetings with the T.P.S. filling a role in much the way the Federation does in N.Z. today.

The Advertisements are certainly interesting, not so much for their content, but for their origins. This issue's overseas advertisers are from Japan, Ceylon, U.S.A., Switzerland, Canada, Australia, England and Scotland!

WANTED

We hope collectors will take the opportunity to use this magazine as an open forum to air their stamp views. Please send all letters to **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** P.O. BOX 513, NEW PLYMOUTH. Nom de plumes accepted as long as the writer includes his name and address with the letter.

DO YOU COLLECT STAMPS—THERE'S MONEY IN IT

This story is told by Captain E. T. Webster, who, as a Master Mariner, has visited many unusual places on his travels.

"In the winter of 1910 I was mate on a small tramp steamer trading on the Danube. One night we tied up at a wharf of a small town on the banks, but the night was too unpleasant outside to make shore leave attractive, so I decided to settle down in my cabin to a few hours with my stamps. On assembling my material, however, I discovered that I was out of hinges. A few inter-leaving sheets cut into suitable pieces would, I thought, overcome that difficulty, but then I could find no gum. So there was nothing for it but a trip ashore in search of a bottle. I was no stranger to this town and I made straight for the shop of an elderly German trader. Yest, he had a bottle of gum meinherr, but, recognising me as a ship's officer his price rose from one lei to ten. This was wholesale robbery, but as I did not want to trudge around the town on this wretched night, I said nothing, tendering the shopkeeper a 25 lei note in payment.

When he pulled out a drawer under the counter to get my change, I noticed in it a cigar box which appeared to contain nothing but old stamps and envelopes. At that stage of my collecting I did not know much about stamps, but I did at least recognise one stamp in the box as being an early and rare Moldavian. Pointing to the box, I asked the trader if he wanted to sell the stamps, saying that I had a nephew who would be glad to have some stamps from foreign countries to add to his collection. In reply he said that he didn't think there was much there, but I could have them for the "kinder" if they would please him. So telling him to keep the change from my note, I tucked the box under my arm and headed for the ship with my almost forgotten bottle of gum. Back in my cabin, I up-ended the box and commenced examining my find. Picking up an odd stamp here and there and making hasty reference to a catalogue I was amazed at what I found. So desiring to know the full extent of my lucky find, I set about

listing and pricing the contents of the box. The total was staggering and I blessed the chain of circumstances that led me to the little shop on the Danube that night.

Eventually I parted with all those stamps, many of them by auction through well-known firms in London and New York. One I sold for £80 to the late Mr. Hind, the American multi-millionaire, when I was in New York. Altogether my find realised about £1,200. Needless to say my appetite was whetted and that early experience led to many other "philatelic adventures."

PHILATELIC CONVENTION

The Auckland Philatelic Society, Inc., will be holding a Philatelic Convention in the Conference Room of the Logan Park Motor Hotel, in Campbell Road, Auckland, on the 14th September, 1968.

The Convention will coincide with the New Zealand Federation of Philatelic Societies Executive Meeting, that will be held in the Conference Room on Friday, 13th September 1968, at 8 p.m.

On the Saturday afternoon, the 14th, the Convention will feature talks and displays by prominent New Zealand Philatelists, and in the evening, a Dinner and Social evening will be held in the Conference Room.

The Auckland Philatelic Society extends a cordial invitation to all Philatelic Societies in New Zealand to take part in the Convention. Hotel accommodation for all visitors to the Convention will be reserved at the Logan Park Hotel.

All enquiries re accommodation and the Convention, please write to V. McFarlane, 1101 New North Road, Mt. Albert, Auckland 3.

With the notice of this convention, the Auckland Society kindly sent the N.Z.S.M. a colourful brochure of their convention location. If you are at all considering attending this convention, I would recommend that you write to Mr. V. McFarlane.

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AUSTRALIA'S "ALL THE WAY" RAILWAY

The completion of Australia's standard-gauge trans-continental railway from Brisbane to Perth will be commemorated by a special stamp when the route opens in 1969. Hitherto, differing gauges in the various states has meant broken journeys for "through" passengers.

Macquarie Lighthouse on Outer Head, Sydney, will appear on a 5c stamp marking its 150th anniversary later this year. The original building was authorised by Govern-

ment Lachlan Macquarie and designed by Francis Greenway. It went into operation on November 30th, 1818, the first of Australia's marine navigation aids.

STATE "FLORALS" FOR AUSTRALIA

On July 10th Australia will issue six floral emblem stamps (one for each State) which will replace the current Bird design, although both will be on sale until stocks of the Bird stamps are exhausted: 6c., Kangaroo Paw (W. Aust.); 13c., Pink Heath (Vic.); 15c., Tasmanian

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Blue Gum (Tas.); 20., Sturt's Desert Pea (S. Aust.); 25c., Cooktown Orchid (Queensland); 30c., Waratah (N.S.W.). All in multi-colour photographure.

The new floral stamps were designed by three artists:—6c and 30c by Neil Welson, of Sydney; 15c and 20c by Dorothy Thornhill, of Sydney; 13c and 25c by the late Ralph Warner who died in July, 1966, before completing work on the 13c. Mr. Warner's son, Paul, who teaches art at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology finished the work.

CHINA DROPS SERIAL NUMBERS

Bruce R. Henderson

After just over 18 years of issuing stamps, the Communist People's Republic of China has finally let drop their original system of putting serial numbers on all commemoratives issued.

The only Post Office in the world to use such a system, China's serial numbers have appeared on all commemoratives since 1949, and take the form of a row of figures along the base of the stamp outside the design but inside the perforations. These numbers were intended as guides for philatelists and the Chinese Post Office, but as most philatelists do not understand the significance of the numbers, they have often served only to detract from the stamp itself. This may be the reason that they have been abolished.

Definitive stamps have never had serial numbers on them, probably because the Post Office thought them obvious to any collector, but where a single set has eight stamps all the same value, confusion would arise—if not for the helpful serial numbers.

There are usually six different groups of figures in the serial number, and each group has its own significance. Using them as a guide, no one should need to refer to a catalogue to see "what set comes after this?" or "how many stamps are there in this set?"

A typical serial number is on the stamp illustrated below:



The numbers are *4.4-2(24). The asterisk represents a Chinese character in this case "C".

The Chinese character and the number after it are the "stock number" of that set, for the convenience of the Post Office. If you wished

to write over and buy a set when these were on sale, instead of giving the full name of the set, you could just say "a set of C4."

The second number, following the dot after the first shows the number of stamps in the set, in this case 4.

A hyphen separates that from the third number, which is the stamp's number in the set. In this case "2" means this is the second stamp, of a set of 4.

The number in brackets on the right is the number of the commemorative stamp, in relation to all issued previously. In the example above (24) means this is the 24th stamp issued, since 1949 when No. 1 appeared.

All stamps after 1952 also had the year at the extreme right.

The serial numbers have now been stopped probably permanently. Set no. "C124" issued on 10th March, 1967, for the Heroic Oilwell Firefighters were the last numbered issues, and all sets issued since have been without. The first issue to appear without the numbers was a set of 11 stamps (all 8f. values) showing quotations from Mao Tse-tung.

Other sets issued since then seem to look much more attractive without the numbers.

A recent multicoloured stamp from China without the serial number:—



THE "MONTGOMERY" SALE

Field Marshal Lord Montgomery's presentation volumes and sets of stamps he had received from Heads of State during his post-war travels, made just over £850 when sold at Stanley Gibbons Auctions on January 24th. An album of Soviet Russia issues from 1921 to 1959, signed by Nikita Krushchev, made £300. A proof sheet of the Ethiopia Roosevelt commemoratives of 1947, signed by Emperor Haile Selassie, sold for £60. Other official (but unsigned) presentations included those from New Zealand (£170), China (£110), and Turkey (£60).

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH COMPETITION FOR STAMP DESIGNS

Complete success was given to the Luxembourg Postal Administration, when it opened an international competition for young people. The aim was the creation of designs for three stamps that are to be issued on the occasion of the First International Philatelic Exhibition of Youth Collections, "JUVENTUS 1969" organised under the sponsorship of the International Philatelic Federation (F.I.P.).

Young people living in 19 different countries from North and South America, to Syria and Turkey, sent in 633 projects which generally were valuable and original.

The three designs as shown were selected as the winning entries.

The three winners were:—

Miss Betty Verdrengh, Kessel-Lo (Belgium); Mr. Andre Chavillaz, Le Locle (Switzerland); Mr. Johannes-Wolfgang Neugebauer, Klosterneubury (Austria).

Four entrants were also awarded each 1,500 Belgian Francs for the high standard reached in their entries:

Miss Carine Kraus, Brussels; Miss Marie-Claude Vermeulen, Bruy-sur-Escuat (France); Miss Mady Welter, Luxembourg; Mr. Jan Stejskal, Praha (C.S.S.R.).

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WHEN REPLYING TO ADVERTISEMENTS SAY YOU SAW IT IN N.Z.S.M.

JUNIOR PAGE

By SIMON SAM

We have already told you the story of Maui, the great Polynesian explorer who "fished up" the North Island from the sea and whose canoe and anchor stone became the South Island and Stewart Island. Now what of the first Pakeha to visit this land of New Zealand. The 2d Centennial stamp of 1940 has a portrait of him, a picture of his flagship, and a copy of the chart he made of the West Coast of New Zealand. Abel Janszoon Tasman, born in the village of Lutjegast, Groningen, Holland, in 1603. We know nothing of his boyhood; We know he was married twice and a record of his second marriage may be seen in the official records of Amsterdam. We have no portrait of Tasman and, the only known relic of him is his signature at the end of the Journal kept by one of his officers during that remarkable voyage of 300 years ago when he "discovered" New Zealand. The portrait used on this stamp is an impression by a Wellington artist, J. McDonald. Tasman's journal was lost for 200 years and was discovered in a pile of old musty papers in Batavia—it is now in the possession of the Dutch Government at The Hague. In 1898 the Journal was reproduced in facsimile with a translation in English by Dr. J. E. Heeres. A valuable book in itself



and of interest not only to historians but also to lovers of postage stamps. For in this journal there are pictures made by Tasman's artist of events during this voyage of discovery. The artist who designed the stamp seems to have taken his model for the ship a painting by Captain T. M. Slayton; had he been informed of this Journal I am sure he would have used one of the sketches from this original source.

Tasman was employed as a seaman by the Dutch East India Company and his work was held in high regard by the Directors of the Company. It was in 1642 that the Council of the East Indies decided to send an expedition to the south in search of new lands and the possibility of a sea passage to South America. Tasman was chosen to lead the expedition and a more capable man could hardly be found in the company's employ. It is true that Tasman did not have the genius of James Cook and as Dr. Heeres has said concerning this voyage of discovery, although Tasman was by

no means a genius "he undoubtedly was a man of great talents, a man of far more than common ability—he performed the task with great talent, with great ability, with energy and with great care." Tasman was provided with two ships, the Zeehaen and the Heemskerck, the latter being shown on this 2d stamp. Zeehaen can be translated into "Sea Rooster" while the other ship commemorates the Dutch explorer Admiral Jacob van Heemskerck, who was killed in a sea fight with the Spaniards off Gibraltar in 1607. His body lies in state in the "Oude Kerk" in Amsterdam. The ships with 110 men were provisioned for 12 months, and sailed from Batavia in August. After calling at Mauritius they sailed eastwards, sighting the island which we know as Tasmania but which Tasman named in honour of his patron the Governor General, Anthony Van Diemen. Then ever eastward until—but let us open his Journal and read the entry dated 13th December 1642: "Towards noon we saw a large high lying land bearing southeast of us at about 15 miles distance." The locality where Tasman first sighted land near Hokitika has been marked by the New Zealand Government with a suitable memorial. A few days later Tasman met tragedy in that lovely place we know as Golden Bay but which he called Murderers Bay be-

Cont. over page.



Deltzijl, Noorder Kweekschool voor de Zeevaart „Abel Tasman“

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JUNIOR PAGE Cont.

cause of the four of his men who lost their lives here in the first contact between Maori and Pakeha.

On the 300th anniversary of Tasman's discovery the people of New Zealand paid tribute to Tasman and his men in the dedication of a memorial at Tarahoke on a highland over-looking Golden Bay. The Queen of the Netherlands sent a special personal representative, Dr. Charles O. van der Pais. The Abel Tasmans National Park, 44,000 acres, although the smallest of our national parks, possesses scenery not to be found in any of the others and with further development and acquisition of several parts now privately owned, will in time become one of the most popular attractions in the South Island. Tasman left 10

named places on his chart of the coast; all but 3 have disappeared.

Rocky Points is now Cape Foulwind; Steep Points was changed by Cook to Rocks Point; Sand Duning Hoek is our Cape Farewell; Abel Tasman Rede becomes Admiralty Bay; Moordenaars Bay is now Golden Bay; while Zaachaens Bight is Cook Strait; Cook renamed Cape Pieter Boreels, Cape Egmont.

Tasman Sea remains as do Three Kings and Cape Maria Van Diemen. Tasman has however gained in the great peak seen on the 3d peace stamp (second only to Cook) which now bears Tasmans name; the mighty Tasman Glacier on the current \$1; Tasman National Park and one or two other places which bear his name. The early stamps of Tasmania are inscribed

Van Diemens Land and the Tasmanian pictorial 24d shows the Tasman Arch. Australian Explorers issue of 1963 pictures Tasman on the 4s value. Abel Tasman died in Batavia on 22nd October 1659 a comparatively wealthy man. He did not forget the poor of his native village in far distant Holland and left a sum of money for their comfort and use. His own country remembers him in the Naval Training School at Delfzijl while his home town of Lutjegeest is proud to proclaim to visitors that it is Abel Tasmans town.

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