

THE NEW ZEALAND

STAMP MONTHLY

-
- ★ CARDIGAN BAY ISSUE ?
 - ★ INSURING YOUR COLLECTION
-

25c

VOL. 1. No. 8.

NOVEMBER, 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:

Approval Books—We have a comprehensive range covering all the Pacific Islands and many New Zealand issues.

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The Pacific Stamp Journal is published monthly and contains Articles, Notes, New Issue News, Postal History News etc, relating to the countries of the group. **New Zealand Stamp Auctions:** Each year we hold four Postal Auctions, all subscribers to the Pacific Stamp Journal automatically receiving Catalogues. The Sales (usually of 300-350 lots each) contain a good range of world-wide material.

A sample copy of **The Pacific Stamp Journal** and full details of all our services will gladly be sent upon receipt of a stamped and addressed envelope.

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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STAMP MONTHLY

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Please Note Society Reports—
 By the 15th of the month prior
 to publication please.

Please address general
 correspondence to
 N.Z.S.M. P.O. Box 513
 New Plymouth

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66A COURTENAY PLACE
 WELLINGTON

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Philatelic Bureau,
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Name

Address

Please place my name on the mailing
 list for the Philatelic Bulletin.

Country

From the "Newsletter" November, 1968

7½c Trout. A new printing has appeared in which the shade of the stamps seems greener, caused, I think, by a deepening of the yellow colour. The shock comes in the watermark (now upright with vertical mesh paper) and the missing perforation at the top of each vertical row of perfs has now been inserted, probably as an additional pin in the (single) comb head used on these stamps. The interesting thing is that the new pin is of a slightly smaller gauge than the others.

Items like this and masses of other valuable information on New Zealand stamps appear every month in the "Newsletter".

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NOVEMBER ISSUES

Christmas is not far away and the following items will make ideal presents for any member of the family.

COOK ISLANDS: Airmail set. In mint prs. showing missing and misplaced planes. **\$40.00.** This set is also on First Day Cover and the plane on the £1 is again missing. **\$40.00.**
Churchill Letter I for figure 1 in date 1874. Set with error in pair with a normal. **\$40.00.**
Cat. S.G. Pt. 1. £33.15.0.

NEW ZEALAND

6d Red Kiwi S.G. 363, 364, 365 in blocks of four Cat. over £20 by S.G. Our price only **\$25.00.**
2d Purple 2 shades S.G. 303, 305. **75c.**
3d Huias 2 shades (Local print in blocks of four). **\$2.50.**

We have just received a consignment of very attractive First Day Cover Albums, and these sell for only **\$5.00.** Colours are blue, black and green.

We also have a new consignment of Warwick 55 Mufto-Ring in a new attractive pack for Christmas. **\$2.70** or slightly more plush **\$3.30.** Most colours available.

We have a complete list of all British Commonwealth sets we have in stock at the moment. Also incorporating our monthly list which contains many wonderful offers. It's **FREE,** so write now!

RECENT PACIFIC SETS

	m.	u.	F.D.C.
Cook Is.			
Capt. Cook	80	85	1.00
Mexico Games	1.50	1.60	1.75
Western Samoa			
I.H.R.	80	85	1.00
Martin Luther King	41	45	60
Christmas	80	90	1.00

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THE STAMP SHOP

P.O. BOX 174, NEW PLYMOUTH.

Don't forget our Gift Packs. See the Oct. N.Z.S.M. for all details.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

NEW PRICE

It is with regret that, through circumstances beyond our control, the price of the N.Z.S.M. has had to be increased. We have tried very hard to maintain prices and have given much thought to where we can make economies—cut out the centrepiece, less pages etc. However, we are told that most collectors look first at the centrepiece and we already have had to leave out articles through not enough room, so one by one the avenues were struck off our list.

We can take solace in our price rise that we are not the only magazine in this position. Many very large national magazines with massive circulation figures have had to raise their price.

However I am sure that stamp collectors will spend another 5c a month to buy the magazine that keeps them up to date with the latest news, views and issues. I am sure many collectors have already saved 25c a month through the news that the N.Z.S.M. gives them.

HEALTH STAMPS

The downward trend of Health Stamp sales has continued this year, even after widespread advertising and door to door selling. Members of the Taranaki Society discussed Health Stamps and their popularity at a recent panel night. Varied were the answers—the present economic conditions, with a fully fledged welfare state the public conscience is no longer pricked—were perhaps the two most popular reasons. Suggestions of better designs did not appeal, as it was felt that if a person was going to buy Health Stamps, they would do so even if they were all black with a silver fern.

One suggestion, with considerable merit, to boost Health Stamp sales—a special Christmas Health Stamp. The Health Stamps to be discontinued in their present form and besides the ordinary Christmas issue, another (even with the same design) with an additional surcharge for Health Camps.

This is just one of a few ideas. Perhaps readers would like to take up their pens and let us know their views—on the idea above, or ideas they have. I would be pleased to hear from you—letters to be published under writers name or non de plume. **LEN JURY.**

\$2 SOON

The Pacific Stamp Journal reports that the reprinted \$2 Pictorials have recently been received in Wellington and will be placed on sale shortly. Printing is in multicolour, and reports state that the stamp is most attractive.

\$4 and \$6 ARMS

Not only with line and comb perms reported, but now the Pacific Stamp Journal reports that there is a possibility of new colours!

NEW PRINTINGS

1c: An unconfirmed report as we go to press. The background is a dark brown, where the original printing was a light brown.

7½c Trout: Stamps from the new printing have an extra perforation and upright watermark.

REPRINTS

N.Z. \$4 and \$6 ARMS—Comb reprint issued 17/9/68. The four D/C Arms stamps are now all available perf COMB—previously LINE.

NIUE. \$1 and \$2 Arms—Latest reprints are COMB perf for the first time.

TOKELAU IS. 5c Arms has been reprinted and has been COMB perforated. This is a distinct colour change to the original print and is now a very light blue.

The type for the Niue and Tokelau reprints has been reset and gives a much cleaner effect.

N.Z. 10c and 15c old designs—withdrawn (unannounced) from sale as at the close of business 13/9/68.

—TIKI STAMP SERVICE

International Labour Organisation Anniversary

The New Zealand Post Office announces that a stamp will be issued next March to commemorate this important event.

SPECIAL "ROYAL" ANNIVERSARY PROGRAMME

On the occasion of the Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Philatelic Societies to be held in Wellington on the

evening of Friday 15th November and the morning of Saturday 16th November and on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, the Royal Philatelic Society is arranging a special meeting to take place in the afternoon of Saturday 16th November.

Both Federation and Royal meetings will be held in Club Rooms 1, 2, and/or 3 on the first floor Y.W.C. Building, 355 Upper Willis Street, Wellington.

The following are brief details of the Special "Royal" programme being arranged:-

1.30 p.m.: Welcome by the Chairman and addresses by the President and a representative of the Federation.

2.00 p.m.: Three half hour talks and displays by prominent Royal members on various subjects.

4.00 p.m.: An auction of approximately one hundred lots of very good (mostly New Zealand) items.

6.00 p.m.: Meeting ends.

Also on display will be an exhibition comprising several groups of 12 pages. Each group will depict different aspects of collecting and will include, regular stamp issues, thematic, postal history, air mails etc. One sheet in each group will be devoted to a description of the stamps or type of collecting shown on the other pages.

It is intended to have on display books from the Royal Library, awards that have been made to members and also some of the earliest minute books.

Hosts and their guests will be left to make their own arrangements for dinner on the Saturday evening.

Wellington members of the Royal will be making arrangements for visitors to meet in groups appropriate to their interests after dinner on Saturday evening and at other times.

All philatelists, their friends and visitors are invited to attend.

A more detailed programme will be issued later, but this will enable intending visitors to make plans for Friday evening and all day Saturday 15th and 16th November, 1968.

For further information please write to the Secretary, Royal Philatelic Society of N.Z. (Inc.), P.O. Box 1269, Wellington.

LET'S BE REALISTIC NEW ZEALAND STAMPS WANTED

You have no doubt often seen other buying lists and tossed them out after reading the inadequate prices offered. We don't blame you. To stock high class stamps, one should expect to pay top prices for them. WE DO and here is the proof. \$10,000 to spend before Christmas until our stocks of each are sufficient.

OUR BUYING LIST. R. SAVILL & CO., BOX 1053, CHRISTCHURCH. (Ph. 40.349).

1874 Queen Vict.			1915 King Geo. 5th			HEALTHS		
Mint	Used		Mint	Used		Mint	Used	
3d Brown	6.00	2.50	3d Brown	20	—	1931 Red Boy	12.00	12.00
4d Maroon	6.50	2.25	4½d Green	30	25	1931 Blue Boy	12.00	8.00
6d Blue	3.00	5.00	5d Blue	35	02	1906 Christchurch Exhibition		
1/- Green	7.00	2.25	7½d Brown	35	30	4d Green	85	85
2/- Red	12.00	9.00	8d Brown	35	03	1d Red	60	40
5/- Grey	13.00	9.50	9d Green	40	05	3d Brown and Blue	1.25	1.50
1882 Queen Vict.			1/- Vermilion	50	01	6d Pink and Green	10.00	11.00
2½d Blue	50	20	2/- Admiral	2.50	—	1913 Auckland Exhibition		
3d Yellow/Orange	45	25	3/- Admiral	4.75	3.50	4d Green	40	40
4d Green	60	—	Ditto OFFICIAL			1d Red	60	60
5d Grey	85	45	3d Brown	08	02	3d Brown	7.50	8.00
6d Brown	1.25	—	4d Violet	18	02	6d Red	10.00	10.00
1/- Brown-red	2.00	30	6d Red	12	02	1920 Victory		
1898 Pictorials			8d Brown	2.00	2.00	3d Brown	40	25
2d Lake	30	—	9d Green	20	15	3d Violet	75	40
6d Green Kiwi	1.00	1.00	1/- Vermilion	30	03	1/- Vermilion	3.00	2.50
2/- Green Milford	1.50	1.00	2/- Admiral	1.50	65	1925 Dunedin Exhibition		
5/- Red Mt. Cook	9.00	8.50	1935 Picts. OFFICIAL			4d Mauve	1.75	1.75
Ditto OFFICIAL			9d Maori panel	25	25	1931 Air Mails		
4d, 1d or 2d value	05	01	2/- Green Cook	60	10	3d Brown	1.00	55
3d Brown Birds	20	07	1940 Cent. OFFICIAL			4d Purple	1.15	65
6d Red Kiwi	70	25	Set of 11 values	1.00	—	7d Orange	—	75
1/- Vermilion Birds	65	25	1931-56 COAT OF ARMS			1935 Airs		
2/- Green Milford	1.00	75	4/- Red	55	—	3d Violet	25	20
5/- Red Mt. Cook	3.50	3.00	5/- Green	75	—	6d Blue	30	25
1908 Small Picts			6/- Pink	1.25	20	1899 Postage Dues		
6d Red Kiwi	45	20	7/- Blue	1.50	50	1d Red and Green	10	—
1/- Vermilion	1.25	45	7/6 Grey	7.00	3.50	2d Red and Green	15	—
Ditto OFFICIAL			8/- Violet	1.85	75	2/- Red and Green	4.50	4.50
1d Universal	45	02	9/- Orange	2.00	95	1891 Life Insurance (VR)		
6d Red Kiwi	90	40	10/- Red	1.75	10	4d purple	35	03
1908 Queen Victoria			12/6 Purple	25.00	20.00	1d Blue	30	01
Stamp Duty OFFICIAL			15/- Green	2.75	1.25	2d Brown	40	05
5/- Green	11.25	85	£1 Pink	3.50	40	3d Brown	3.00	65
£1 Pink	12.00	10.00	25/- Blue	40.00	35.00	6d Green	6.00	2.50
1909 King Ed. 7th			35/- Or-yell	450.00	450.00	1/- Rose	12.00	4.00
2d Mauve	25	10	50/- Red	50.00	50.00	1905 Ditto (No VR)		
4d Orange	35	30	70/- Red	350.00	225.00	2d Chestnut	35.00	2.00
4d Yellow	30	20	90/- Grey	125.00	120.00	2d Violet	50	40
6d Red	75	04	1933 Arms OFFICIAL			3d Orange-brown	50	35
1/- Vermilion	1.15	15	5/- Vertical O/P	5.00	5.00	1968 Decimal ARMS		
Ditto OFFICIAL			1968 Decimal ARMS			\$4 Violet	—	2.50
3d Brown	20	05	\$6 Green	—	4.00	\$6 Green	—	4.00
6d Red	40	08	\$8 Blue	—	6.00	\$8 Blue	—	6.00
1/- Vermilion	1.25	75	\$10 Blue	—	7.50	\$10 Blue	—	7.50

The prices quoted are for stamps as follows. Mint—unmounted or lightly hinged. Used—good average copies. We reserve the right to refuse those stamps not up to our requirements. We also desire to purchase Queen Victoria 1st type Full Face on or off original envelopes, Exhibitions and 1929-34 Health stamps on covers, wreck and earthquake covers, pigeon post stamps, Antarctica and covers pre 1954. In fact anything rare or unusual and almost anything pre 1935 of New Zealand. We have the demand. Have you got these stamps?

R. SAVILL & CO.

R. Savill and Co., 10 Chancery Lane, Christchurch, N.Z.

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

READER'S LETTERS

BETTER POSTAGE PLEA

OAMARU.

Dear Sir,

Why do so many of the big name dealers in N.Z. use common curret definitives on their correspondence to collectors?

I deal with dealers big and small, all over the country and far too many use common issues.

Surely, for customer goodwill, they could use special issues on their correspondence. I can get current definitives on ordinary correspondence and certainly expect to get something different from a dealer.

Whenever possible, I use a special issue, or plate block or even a flaw, if not of too major variety, on my correspondence to dealers or posting club circuit books, for here collectors are as guilty as dealers. My idea as a collector is that you try to send the recipient something different and which may be of real use in their collection.

I therefore appeal to collectors and dealers alike to forget about common definitives and use special issues etc. instead.

I would like to see other collectors' and dealers' views on this subject in print. I find the N.Z.S.M. a very useful magazine for the collector and hope it will see many years of publication.

Yours faithfully,
MR. J. A. COLE

FIRST DAY COVERS

Hawkes Bay.

Dear Sirs,

I have recently been sent a first day cover from Swaziland featuring the new Independence issues, and while I do not collect covers, I feel it would be a pity to destroy it to put the stamps in my album. Are the stamps of more value on the cover?

I would also like to take this opportunity to say how much I enjoy "Stamp Monthly" and to congratulate you on such a fine publication.

Yours faithfully,
MISS MARIE DRISCOLL.

(Usually modern covers have no extra value, but attractive covers are often used by collectors to add a great deal of interest to collections.)—Editor

CASEBROOK P.O.

Dear Sir,

On reading the Postmark Corner in the September issue of the N.Z.S.M., which is always very interesting and informative, perhaps the following may be of interest to collectors.

Casebrook P.O., in Grampian Street, Northcote, opened at 9 a.m. on the 16th September. The postmistress is Mrs. M. H. Chisholm, who held the same position at the Styx branch. It is in leased premises in a new block of shops.

The post office at Lincoln College started operations on the same date from the new Hilgendorf Block, having moved from the administration building.

Any collectors who may be studying the Royal Society issue will find many errors, more in the 8c stamp rather than the 4c may be found. A constant variety in the 4c is a white mark at the base of the fern, only found on the last stamp in the top row, the one next to the sheet value.

One variety of the 8c stamp that is quite outstanding is the one where THE between 1867 1967 is OHE. The exact position of the block of four with the variety in my collection, cannot be stated with any certainty, but is the second stamp in from the mark on the left hand selvedge.

Congratulations on a very fine Stamp Monthly.

Yours sincerely,
R. BINGHAM.

FAMOUS BRITISH SHIPS ON STAMPS

Speaking in London, the Postmaster General, the Rt. Hon. John Stonehouse, MP, said that when he was a boy in Southampton, he used to watch the great liners using the port, and that he was therefore particularly pleased that two of the stamps on British ships to be issued in January next year would show the Mauretania and the new Queen Elizabeth II.

The other ships which will appear on the stamps—there will be five altogether—are an Elizabethan galleon, the Great Britain and the Cutty Sark.

Details of the Designs and values will be announced later.

AUCKLAND CONVENTION AT LOGAN PARK

September 14th, 1968

A very large number of collectors from throughout the North Island and as far south as Christchurch attended this very enjoyable convention.

The previous night the Federation had held its quarterly meeting—the first time a Federation meeting had been held in Auckland. On the Saturday morning before the Convention, the Royal Philatelic Society held its monthly meeting away from home. Both meetings were well attended and enjoyed by participants. A story leaks out from the "Royal"—(Discussion was centred on more participation by vice-presidents)—one gentleman remarked all he had to do was to interview deceased members!

The first speaker for the Convention was Mr. Marcel Stanley from Wellington. Mr. Stanley presented a very fine display of essay proof material showing the origin of some New Zealand stamps. A very interesting build-up was given of the use of the Chalon portrait on banknotes from many countries. Unfortunately only 50 minutes could be allotted to Mr. Stanley and view his display. It was like tearing round all the scenic spots in New Zealand in one day—impossible.

Ladies hour was a highlight of the Convention. Six ladies who have been outstanding in N.Z. philately gave very short talks and displays.

Mrs. E. Svendsen, New Plymouth, displayed a very neat collection featuring AIRMAILS OF New Zealand.

Mrs. P. McCarthy, Whangarei, stole the limelight with her lightning humour and a very extensive display of Pitcairn Islands.

Mrs. E. Thompson, Wellesley P.S., sorted out interesting stories in the best scouting (or guiding?) traditions.

Mrs. N. Dennis, Whakatane, flowers on stamps. Not a scrap interested in stamps, Mrs. Dennis found she was invariably roped into activities held by the Whakatane P.S. Sure enough, the inevitable question always arose at these functions, "and

Continued page 7

1969 LISTER

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- Big 8 page off-set printed supplement containing illustrated and priced catalogue of all the world's new issues—published by special arrangement with Scott Publications Inc. of New York.
- Cartoon story with cartoon oddities by Monty Wedd.
- Commonwealth Corner, Market Notes, Gossip, Quiz Kids, Junior Section, Society Notes, etc.

“Stamp News” is available from newsagents throughout Australia and New Zealand (price 20c per month) or may be obtained on direct subscription of \$2.40 per annum (2 years for \$4) postpaid to any address in the world. Send subs to “STAMP NEWS,” Sterling Street, Dubbo, N.S.W., Australia. 2830.

Auckland Convention Cont.

what do you collect?" Finally Mrs. Dennis, always a keen gardener, succumbed and flowers on stamps became her collecting interesting.

Mrs. N. Williams, Auckland. Queen Elizabeth varieties of N.Z. Another person with an interesting repertoire of stories connected with her collection—especially the dear Teller who saved her a couple of 2d Overprint with star plate-blocks for a week waiting for her to come in. I wish we could train them all like that!

Mrs. S. Craddock, Whakatane. Opera on Stamps—and what a marvellous collection (or part) this proved to be. This is not an easy subject to collect.

Forgeries have enough element of Satan to arouse the curiosity of all. With Mr. R. Dacre of Christchurch, we were treated to a fine talk and display on all aspects of identifying forgeries. Unfortunately New Zealand has had her share of these fakers and some of their products can be very dangerous indeed. Japan, renown for its craftsmen has had many forgers, but there they operated under the death penalty if the Emperor's Emblem was forged in the same likeness. Hence most Japanese forgers show the chrysanthemum with more or less than the correct number of petals.

CONVENTION PARS

by Val McFarlane.

The Gold Star Award for the week went to Marcel Stanley, Chairman of the Royal Philatelic Society, who addressed four meetings in one week, the Manawatu Society on the Wednesday night, Whakatane Society on the Thursday night, the Royal Society members on the Saturday morning, and the Auckland Philatelic Society's Convention at Logan Park in the afternoon. All excellent shows, "Well done Marcel, your efforts are appreciated".

Among the many visitors from Whakatane were Mr. and Mrs. Norman Taylor. Norm was the very popular hard working Secretary for the Whakatane Exhibition, who played a major part in its great success. Norm and Mrs. Taylor were noticed

sitting at the back enjoying a well earned rest. Well done Norm, you certainly earned it.

Among the many personalities at the Official Dinner Table were: Mr. Ray Herbison, President of the Federation of Philatelic Societies, and his charming wife Ruth; Mr. Arthur Dexter, Secretary of the Auckland Philatelic Society, and his equally charming wife, Mary; Mrs. Ida Dyson, Vice President of the Auckland Society, very ably supporting President Karl Lellman. Dan Dacre, "Top boy in the class at Christchurch" talking stamps with R. D. P. Campbell Watts, while at the other end of the table, Marcel Stanley and Dick Burge were having a "Royal" time.

Waikato sent along Mr. and Mrs. Ken McNaught, with "Ella" at her charming best, also the genial Eagan Schoenberger, always a bright spark at any show.

Among those missing from the Convention was Mrs. Mary Chesterman, Vice President of the Wellington Society, and "Star" Bronze medallist at the Whakatane Exhibition.

"Mary, Mary, quite contrary,
Said she couldn't come,
We think a Big Spider,
Should have sat down beside her,
And made our 'Mary' come."

Visitors to the Convention from Whangarei included Mr. and Mrs. Derrick Sofio. Derrick, ably supported by his wife, is the Secretary of the Whangarei Winter Show Committee, and in conjunction with the Winter Show, they staged an excellent Stamp Exhibition for all ages, 9 to 90, which produced many fine entries. Well done Mr. and Mrs. Sofio, Philately is in good hands at Whangarei.

Talking of Exhibitions, it was good to see Mrs. Eileen Murray, (nee Penk) who made such a grand job as secretary to the 1955 Auckland Exhibition, attending the afternoon session. Eileen, who now has two young daughters to care for, still returns to her first love, Philately. "It was nice seeing you Eileen".

"Pars from the Auckland Philatelic Society's Convention "Ladies Hour."

Mrs. Pat McCarthy, Whangarei. "Would you believe?" that a woman could put a two hour talk over in 10 minutes? Don't you believe it, it took 12 minutes.

Mrs. Nell Dennis, Whakatane. Stated that she started off collecting flowers on stamps, and then found herself in the vegetable garden.

Good work Nell, but be careful that you don't get in the "Cactus".

Mrs. Nita Williams, Auckland P.S. "I had to buy that from a Dealer". Shame, but it is nice to know that the Auckland Dealers have at least one customer.

Mrs. Shirley Craddock, Whakatane. Added a touch of dignity to proceedings with her "Grand Opera" display, but a few low types at the back were whistling "Oh you beautiful doll".

Mrs. Eileen Thompson, Wellesley P.S. Told an interesting story on the Boy Scouts and their Beer Cans. Now Eileen, where did you get the inspiration for that story? One suspects the "Logan Park Lounge".

Mrs. Pat McCarthy, Whangarei. During her talk stated that she was not interested in Women's Rights etc., she liked being the pampered female! That we can believe Pat, judging by the way you had the Tenor from the entertainment party on his knees singing to you his Love Song, and being rewarded with a kiss. Nice work Pat.

Mrs. E. Svendsen, New Plymouth. Opened proceedings with a neat display of N.Z. Air Mails, and looked charming after her illness. Congratulations Mrs. Svendsen, and best wishes to a complete recovery.

Among the many dealers present, it was good to see Eric Brodie, looking very well after a long illness. "Well done Eric, carry on the good work."

Would you believe . . . That a dealer bought his wife along to her first ever Stamp meeting. From reports to hand, it will not be her last. "Congratulations Mrs. Welch."

WANTED TO BUY

Good collections and accumulations, especially New Zealand, Australia and Pacific Islands. Top prices paid: spot cash.

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Niue Arms LINE PERF 11. \$30 (\$33); 5/- S/WAYS WMK Line \$36 (\$40); COMB PERF \$60 (\$64); 1967 Xmas 4c (5c), Inv Wmk (cat 6/-) 10c (10c).

Norfolk Is.: Christmas '68 8c (8c); '67 8c (9c); '66 10c (11c); '65 20c (20c); '64 30c (30c); '63 35c (35c); '62 40c (40c); '61 90c (90c); '60 \$4.50; Qantas or Coils 16c (16c); Lions 35c (35c); Mission 50c (50c); Pines 35c (35c); Dep o/p 14v \$5.

Fiji: '68 Def FDC 7.50; K/Smith, Bligh, Tourism, '63 Royal Visit each 60c set; QE £1 Script \$4.

Pitcairn Is.: Handcrafts 75c (80c); H/R or Bligh 45c; Discovery 85c; Unesco 50c; Dec o/p 2.85.

P.N.G.: H/R 80c (85); Frogs 70c (75c); Heritage 1.30 (1.30); Parrots, Ind or Beetles 85c (90c); War 1.20 (1.25); Education 50c (55c); '66 Games 75c (75c); Flowers 1.40 (1.45); UNO 80c (80c); Lae Conf 40c (40c); Health \$1 (\$1); Roll 85c (85); Masks 2.50 (2.50); '63 Games \$1 (\$1); Dancers (90c). Postal Charges o/p (3) \$6 (6.50). **SHOW CANCELS**—'68 Morobe 25c; New Britain, Port Moresby or Goroka ('68 or 67) each 30c.

Cook Is.: Voyage 85c (90c); set of 4v. 11c (12c)—sheets 4v \$1 (1.10) Hurricane 3.25 (3.25); Gaugin 75c M/S 80c; Anniv 45c., M/S 50c; Dec o/p to \$1. 14v \$9; to 10c incl both 2½c and 5c (10) \$1.25.

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TARAPEX - 1969

For many months, even before the National Exhibition held at Whakatane in 1967., there has been much talk of a suitable philatelic event to commemorate the Bi-centenary of Captain Cook. It had always been hoped that the Gisborne society would sponsor a national exhibition, but lacking in sufficient members, the Gisborne society finally declined. Approaches were also made to the Hawkes Bay and Hastings societies.

Last June the Taranaki members held a convention at Palmerston North, and fired with enthusiasm from the success there, the Taranaki Society volunteered to hold a National exhibition to commemorate the Bi-centenary of Captain Cook's arrival.

Already much preparatory work has been done. The Urgent business committee of the Federation has given their approval, approaches have been made to the Post Office and a short list for the Jury and Judges has been made. These gentlemen have since all been approached to see if they will be available. A very suitable location has been booked for a tentative time in October, 1969. Mr. Ray Herbison (Federation President and Chairman Whakatane Exhibition Committee) together with Mr. John Dennis (Vice-Chairman Whakatane Exhibition) travelled down from Whakatane to pass on their experiences and any practical help they could give. The Prospectus is very neatly organised and it is hoped to have it ready for distribution by the end of November. Publicity envelopes have been designed and are now being printed. A special news bulletin is now available free to all those interested. The exhibition emblem has been designed and appropriately it features the obverse of our 50c coin—Captain Cook's Endeavour with Mt. Egmont in the background—when even you see a fifty cent coin remember TARAPEX, Oct., '69. Lastly it is hoped that the exhibition will co-incide with the issue of the Cook Bi-centenary issue already announced.

However, exhibitions cost a large amount of money to stage, and the TARAPEX Organising Committee—Mr. Ben Hutchinson, Chairman; Mr. J. Kilgour, Vice-Chairman;

Mr. C. Lilley, Organiser; Mr. and Mrs. S. Dixon, Co-secretaries; Mr. I. Rutherford, Treasurer, and myself would very much appreciate any donations to help with the staging of this exhibition. All donations will be acknowledged and a list of donors will be published each month in the N.Z.S.M. on the TARAPEX 69 page.

The mail address for the Exhibition is TARAPEX, P.O. Box 491, New Plymouth.

LEN JURY.



BEN HUTCHINSON

Chairman Exhibition Committee
Branch Manager of New Zealand wide manufacturing company. Educated at Wellington Boys College, came to New Plymouth in 1948. His collecting interests are South Africa and N.Z. War-time Covers and postmarks. Sport has always been one of his great pleasures and he has represented Taranaki at cricket and played Rugby for Tukapa (New Plymouth). Nowadays he takes keen interest in golf and outdoor bowls. Ben was Liaison Officer for the Indian cricket team at New Plymouth, and manager of the first cricket test held away from a main centre, when New Zealand gained its first victory over Australia.

He has always been a staunch supporter of the Taranaki Philatelic Society—for many years on the committee and has served two years as President. He holds the post as vice-president on the present committee.

Most collectors will probably know Ben best as the genial owner of one of the three biggest stamp auctions in New Zealand.—United Stamp Auctions.



JIM KILGOUR

Vice-chairman

Builder. Born and educated at Whakatane and shifted to New Plymouth in 1960. Jim's collecting interests are New Zealand Pigeon Posts and modern varieties. He joined the Taranaki Society in 1963 and has been an enthusiastic member since. He served on the committee for four years and this year is also vice-president.

Since arriving in Taranaki, Jim has followed one sport—Hockey—both as an active player (representing Bay of Plenty and Taranaki Associations) and administrator. Last year he was liaison officer to the Indian and Australian Hockey teams which visited New Plymouth on their New Zealand tours.

As Taranaki's delegate, Federation affairs also claim much of Jim's attention.

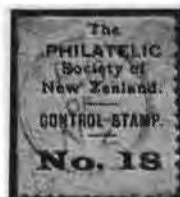
NEW ZEALAND SCARCE IN AUSTRALIA

Recently popular Christchurch dealer Mr. Ron Savill took a spell and for a few days relaxing in Australia. Whilst in Sydney he spent a couple of days hunting for good New Zealand stock. There appeared to be a dearth of anything good and the little available he had to buy at prices currently over retail quotations in New Zealand. Such items were rare Arms, Healths and Pigeon Posts. The always hard to obtain early exhibition sets were non-existent.

More and more we are finding that for older better class N.Z. material the catalogue can only be a guide, and prices are being forced up by strong demand throughout the country.

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

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE?



Dear Sir,

The enclosed stamp from my father's collection has always intrigued me. Can you, or any of your readers tell me anything about it?

There is a 4d value of the same design in green.

Yours faithfully,
CORY MATHEW JR.

S.O.S. READERS!

Not Postage stamps, but closely related. We would be pleased to hear from any reader who can give us details for the use of the five items shown. Mr. H. D. Mullan sent the People's League Stickers, while Mr. B. Hutchinson, also of New Plymouth, enquires the use of the Control stamps.

A TOUCH OF HUMOUR IN GRIM DAYS



This cover will appeal to those readers with a sense of humour. It may be appreciated more if the incorrect spelling Taupau is changed to Tuakau. Mr. D. F. Batley, Auckland, found this cover in a box of old letters and covers he was sorting.

POSTMARK CORNER

A. F. WATTERS

SPECIAL POSTMARKS

The New Zealand Post Office has, from the early days of the colony, had a desire to be of convenience to the public as this extract from the Annual Report of the Postmaster General, dated 24th June, 1882, says. "With this desire to afford a convenience to the public and at the same time commemorate an important event in this history of the colony, a post and telegraph office was opened at the International Exhibition which was opened in Christchurch on the 10th April last, and the office placed in communication with the Christchurch telephone exchange." This office had a coin type datestamp (also known as a 6d type datestamp). The datestamp was small, so the word Christchurch was abbreviated to CHCH. The business was good, however very few copies of this datestamp exist. From this beginning, commemorative datestamps had their beginnings. Over the years, Industrial Exhibitions, Fairs, Shows, Fetes, Carnivals, Philatelic Exhibitions, Health Camps, Special Conventions, and special occasions have all been marked with datestamps which tell us of these important events in New Zealand's history.

Many of these datestamps are rare and in a number of instances only one copy is known. This especially applied to the Fete's and Carnivals of around the 1912 to 1916 period. Why? As yet no one really knows, although other mail from this period has survived the years, and even earlier, it does seem strange that these should be lost.

Since the 1940 Centennial Exhibition many of these commemorative datestamps have been made with 2 or even 3 datestamps of the same type, yet with a difference which specialists can tell with a glance. This is possibly Post Office policy so that the datestamp can be traced. Just off the track for a moment though, Manners Street has four datestamps numbered 1 to 4, and these are the most identical datestamps I have seen or heard of, yet these are a little different and can be traced with a slightly different spacing around the datestamps.

POSTMARK VARIATIONS



This illustration shows the difference of three datestamps of the same type used only on the first day of this special temporary Post Office for a Scout Jamboree in Auckland. There were other differences, but the flag pole in relation to the "A" in Pan is the most significant one. 1 middle of "A", 2 top of "A", 3 bottom of "A"

In 1941 new permanent Health Camps were opened at Gisborne, 11th Oct., Otaki, 1st Nov. and Roxburgh, 6th November, and each had a rubber datestamp which was applied to all covers posted on the opening day. I have read that the Health stamps were issued on different dates in 1941 due to the different opening dates, but I would point out that the health issue had gone before these camps were opened, and covers from these offices in 1941 are First Day of Camp and not First Day of Issue of the stamps.

A similar thing happened in 1945 with Otaki which had the official opening on the 2nd January—a bit late. Each year at each permanent Health Camp a

special datestamp is used on all first day covers posted through that Post Office.

The 6th February, 1940, had a special point of interest in our history for it was 100 years to the day of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi. Two special datestamps of a similar type were used at Russell and those who were arranging for the special celebrations at Waitangi were most upset that they had no special datestamp, so they applied and it was approved, however so little time was left, that a datestamp could not be engraved, so a relief was sent up from Auckland to be used at the Special Post Office. However the N.Z. was missing and during the day, the first i in Waitangi went missing too (see N.Z.S.M. Vol. 1 No. 4, July 1968, page 31).

Petone also celebrated its centennial on the 22nd January, 1940. Two datestamps were used here, both of similar design and after a considerable portion of the mail had been cancelled, it was discovered that one datestamp had the year 1939 instead of 40. This was altered in manuscript, and is far more common than the correct one.

Otago celebrated with two datestamps, one at Dunedin and the other at Port Chalmers, plus a slogan which read "Centennial of Otago 1848-1948". This was a novel idea.

In 1937 a new chief Post Office was opened at Dunedin, with a special datestamp and a slogan on the machine. In New Plymouth a new chief Post Office was opened and after representation was made to Wellington, a slogan was used on the machine there from 2 p.m. Whangarei followed suit in 1968. Much more could be written on this topic for I have only just touched the surface, however think twice before you wash stamps off a cover with a special datestamp.

S.D., New Plymouth, writes for information about a relief datestamp that was used at Ohura in 30-3-48. This relief was used from 18 Feb-30 March, while the normal datestamp was repaired. During this period, a large quantity of First Day Covers came into the office, and were backstamped with this relief. These covers were the Centennial of Otago set that was cancelled with the special datestamp at Dunedin or Port Chalmers.

St. Helena

The South Atlantic island of St. Helena is one of the loneliest inhabited spots in the world. Four and a half days sea voyage to the south-east lies Cape Town, the nearest part of the African mainland is over 1,000 miles away, and London is 4,600 miles to the north. St. Helena has two dependencies, but even they are at a considerable distance from the main island. Ascension is 703 miles to the north-west, while Tristan da Cunha lies 1,500 south by west of St. Helena.

St. Helena is some 10½ miles in length and 6½ miles across at its greatest breadth. It has a total area of 47 square miles, supporting a population of about 4,600. The island is volcanic in origin and almost everywhere rugged and mountainous. Steep cliffs ring the island on all sides, broken by deep, narrow valleys which run down in all directions from a central ridge 2,700 feet above sea level. This ridge forms a horse-shoe with its end on the south coast. It contains an area of seven square miles and in formation closely resembles the crater of an extinct volcano. The rest of the island is covered with steep hills ranging in height from 1,000 to 2,000 feet, with a few square miles of comparatively flat land on the eastern coast.

CLIMATE

St. Helena has a warm, moist climate resulting from its position in tropical seas in the path of the steady south-east trade winds. The annual rainfall varies from an average of eight inches in the dry, low-lying area of Jamestown, the main settlement to about 35 or 40 inches in the cool, cloudy uplands of Hutt's Gate. There are no rivers or streams of any note, but rain-water and springs supply the needs of the islanders. Much of the island is barren. Below 1,500 feet the vegetation consists principally of cactus; above that level, with the higher rainfall and closer proximity to the sources of streams, the island presents a green appearance, affording useful pasture for cattle and sheep. Trees, plantations of New Zealand flax and even patches of arable land, are to be found at this level.

Like Ireland, St. Helena is free of snakes. Purely land fauna is, in fact, rather scanty although the island is visited by migratory birds. About a third of the population live in Jamestown, situated in a steep-sided valley on the north-eastern coast. About the same number reside in the Longwood district where some of the best farming land is obtained, and the remainder are scattered in small settlements through the rest of the island. The economy of St. Helena is predominantly agricultural. Potatoes, fruit and vegetables are raised for domestic consumption and sale to passing ships. Cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and poultry supply most of the requirements of the islanders and a little dairy farming is carried on. In-shore fishing is carried on on a small scale; attempts to develop this commercially ten years ago were unsuccessful. St. Helena has no mineral assets, beyond stone for building and road-metalling. The rather solitary life of the island is compensated for in some degree by the breathtaking beauty of the place.

DISCOVERY

St. Helena was discovered by the Portuguese navigator, Juan de Nova Castella, on the 21st May, 1502, the saint's day of Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine. The Portuguese landed at the valley where Jamestown now stands and built a chapel, hence the name Chapel Valley by which it is still known locally.

The Portuguese concealed the discovery of the island from their English and Dutch rivals and used it as a port of call for their East India Fleet. In the year of the Spanish Armada, however, Captain Thomas Cavendish, commanding H.M.S. Desire, called at St. Helena on his voyage round the globe. He stayed there for twelve days, noting the presence of pheasants and partridges which are still found there.

Thereafter English and Dutch ships called at St. Helena regularly on their voyages to and from the Cape. It was a convenient place to take on water and carry out refits. In 1633 the Dutch formally annexed it, but did not establish a settlement. The honourable East India Company seized St. Helena in 1659

and later founded Jamestown, named after James, Duke of York (later King James II). The population was considerably boosted in 1667 by settlers made homeless by the Great Fire of London and thereafter the colony began to flourish. During the Second Dutch War the Dutch captured St. Helena, on New Year's Day 1673, but the British recaptured it on the 5th May. The East India Company held it by charter from King Charles II until 1834 when it became a Crown Colony and was transferred to the jurisdiction of the Colonial Office.

NAPOLEON

The island was garrisoned by British troops in the early nineteenth century when it became the home of the exiled Emperor Napoleon. Napoleon died at Longwood on the 5th May, 1821 and was buried there. In 1840 his body was disinterred and taken to France aboard the frigate La Belle Poule. Several other distinguished exiles have made St. Helena their home; the Zulu chief Dinizulu lived there from 1890 till 1897 and during the Boer War the island was used as a prisoner of war camp, General Cronje and 6,000 Boers being interned there between 1900 and 1902.

In more recent times St. Helena has been of great importance as a link in the vast global network of telecommunications. In November 1899 the submarine cable from Capetown was landed at St. Helena by the Eastern Telegraph Company, thus completing the first stage in the South Africa to Britain cable.

Although St. Helena was a convenient place for East Indians to deposit letters, for outward transmission by ships proceeding in the opposite direction, early postal material from the island is very rare. Very few letters from St. Helena have been recorded before 1815 when the incarceration of Napoleon led to a great increase in the amount of correspondence, official and otherwise. The island's post office dates from this period. It is thought that, since the two postmarks in use at this time were of the pattern used at the Cape, the post office probably came under the jurisdiction of that colony. Prior to 1880 there was no inland collection or de-

St. Helena Cont.

livery of letters. They were held at the post office in Jamestown until such time as they were called for and the charges met. After that date, however, a local service was instituted and eventually expanded into the present system with sub post offices opened in January, 1965.

In the mid-nineteenth century St. Helena enjoyed frequent communication with the outside world. It has been recorded that, in 1850, as many as a thousand ships visited the island, but with the opening of the Suez Canal nineteen years later, the former South Atlantic shipping lanes became virtually deserted. Nowadays barely a score of merchant ships visit St. Helena each year, although this number is augmented by service ships of Britain, the United States, the occasional tanker, private yachts and French warships. Letter and parcel mails are carried by the Union Castle and Clan Line ships plying between Britain and South Africa.

Reprinted with acknowledgement to the Crown Agents Bulletin.

IRELAND NEW ISSUES



COUNTESS MARKIEVICZ

The centenary of the birth of Countess Constance Markievicz was commemorated by the issue of a special stamp on Monday 23rd September, 1968.

Countess Markievicz was born in London on 4th February, 1868, the eldest child of Henry Gore-Booth, heir of Sir Robert Gore-Booth of Lissadell Estate in Sligo. She married Count Casimir Dunin-Markievicz in

1900. She spent her life as a young woman in the milieu of the Anglo-Irish landowning society, but later became totally committed to the cause of the workers of Ireland and to the struggle for national independence. She helped to found "Fianna Eireann", was President of Cumann na mBan, and fought in 1916 as an officer of the Citizen Army. She was sentenced to death for her part in the Rising but the sentence was commuted. She was the first woman to be elected to the British Parliament when in the General Election of November, 1918, she stood as a candidate for Sinn Fein. She did not, however, take her seat. In the First and Second Dail Eireann she was Minister for Labour. She died in Dublin on the 15th July, 1927.



JAMES CONNOLLY

The centenary of the Birth of James Connolly was commemorated by the issue of a special stamp on Monday, 23rd September, 1968.

James Connolly was born in Edinburgh of Irish parents on 5th June, 1868. The hardship endured by many workers at the time was experienced at first hand by Connolly from his youth. In forceful speech and writing he took up the cause of working class emancipation and Irish political freedom in this context. He founded the Irish Socialist Republican Party and edited its organ, the "Workers' Republic". From 1914 onwards he was in command of the Irish Citizen Army, which joined forces with the Irish Volunteers in the Rising of 1916 to proclaim the Irish Republic. He was executed on 12th May, 1916.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY TAX STAMPS

Have you a book of old tax stamps at the back of a drawer? Then get them out—they're just as interesting as postage stamps once you get used to the fact that the pounds values are more common than the pence values.

My own collection is by no means complete, so readers may well find that they have varieties not mentioned here.

Dates were overprinted on the stamps in red or black, according to the colour of the stamps. Two types of date exist—a single year printed on the left hand side and top of each stamp (1953 or earlier), or a double year printed on the left and right sides of every stamp (1954-5 to 1957-8). Some 1940 2/- stamps were redated 1944 (right hand side and bottom), but these are scarce.

There are two perforations—14 x 15 and 14. The perf. 14 appeared in 1954-5 and was used for the remainder of the issue.

Several different papers exist. A thick chalky VM paper was used in 1940, 41, 43 and from 1947-53. A thin unsurfaced VM paper occurs in all dates from 1942-45, but it is scarce in 1943. (I have no 1946 stamps). A poor HM paper with inverted watermark was used for 1954-5 and I have one copy of the 4/- on this paper dated 1953.

A slightly surfaced paper (VM and perf. 14) was introduced in the year 1954-5, but did not become common until 1955-6. The remaining two years were printed on an unsurfaced HM paper (1956-7 and 1957-8). In 1959 the stamps were discontinued with the introduction of PAYE.

All stamps were watermarked NZ and star. The watermark is single on stamps before 1947, but multiple from 1947 on. The 1943 chalky stamps also have multiple watermark.

Inverted watermarks and plate varieties are not hard to find. One of the best plate varieties being an inverted figure 1 in the date 1951. (I have noticed it only on values overprinted in red.)

Some good shades occur and sledge blocks with arrows and colour bars look well on any album page.

C. MATHEW JR.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE?

(An extract from the Wellington P.S. Newsletter).

In the last newsletter I quoted from a news item in the daily press to the effect that a stamp would be issued to commemorate the achievements of that mighty N.Z. horse Cardigan Bay. The reason given at that time why a stamp could not be issued immediately was that it takes 18-24 months to design and print a stamp.

Imagine my surprise when I read the following Question and Answer in the Column "Action Line" in the Dominion newspaper of Saturday, October 5th:

"Q: I understand there is to be a picture of Cardigan Bay on a stamp issue. Has there been anything like this on a New Zealand stamp before?—M. M., Wellington.

A: There is no proposal to feature Cardigan Bay on a stamp issue this year or next. However, as the bloodstock breeding industry is one of a number of subjects being considered for the new definitive sets in 1970, the question of featuring Cardigan Bay in one of the designs will be examined if it is decided to develop the proposal further. The bloodstock breeding industry has not yet been featuring in the designs of any New Zealand stamps."

The earlier press reports seemed quite definite that a Special Stamp would be issued to commemorate our wonder pacer Cardigan Bay. These reports were no doubt based on information obtained. An almost complete about face in a matter of a couple of weeks in my opinion is incredible. Surely it is better to issue a separate stamp or stamps to commemorate notable events or achievements, than merely to include the subject as a theme in a long definitive (regular) issue. We have seen this latter method adopted with the present 7½c Brown Trout issued on 29th August, 1967, but as a commemorative stamp its significance has long since faded. As an example, I tackled the members of our office records room and none of them had even heard of, let alone seen a N.Z. 7½ cent stamp.

As for the time factor, I believe that it is far better to issue a commemorative stamp as

soon as possible while the subject is still topical. Where there is a will there is a way. Nothing typifies this axiom better than the efforts of the Vatican stamp designers and printers on the death of a Pope. Recent "Vacant See" (SEDE VECANTE) stamps have been issued in a matter of 72 hours. I realise that it would take a little longer under N.Z. conditions. This leads me to another point. N.Z. is pretty well dependent on overseas printers for the production of most of its postage stamps.

If we have not the necessary sophisticated equipment, then it is surely high time that we did. Instead we have to continue to expend valuable overseas funds. It is true that the purchase of printing equipment requires the expenditure of overseas funds in the first instance, but if the stamp printing results are satisfactory, quite an export market could be developed by seeking contracts for the printing requirements of the smaller countries in this region. Australia is already ahead of us in this respect.

There is, of course, an alternative to the printing of a special issue, i.e. an appropriate overprint on a current or other stamp issue. In recent times we have seen this method adopted by — Fiji (Compac Cable); Samoa (Kingsford Smith Anniversary) and many other countries. What is wrong with a special and immediate overprint for Cardigan Bay or the Olympic Games for that matter.

Whilst I agree that New Zealand should avoid a flood of stamp issues, I feel that our current policy is still too conservative and uninspiring. We can have our much maligned 1968 Health Stamps with Olympic Symbols, but not an Olympic Games Set. Other countries including Australia, Cook Islands, China (Taiwan), Montserrat, Dubai, Hungary, Russia, etc. etc. have issued special stamps in honour of the Mexico Olympics. New Zealand, for its size, has an Olympic Games record of which she should be proud, but we leave it to others to proclaim their prowess and reap in the overseas exchange to boot. It's time we woke up before it is too late.

As we go to press we read again in the Dominion (8/10/68, page 42) as follows:—

"P.M. Attending C. B. Farewell, N.Z.P.A. YONKERS, New York—The Prime Minister, Mr. Holyoake, will be guest of honour at the retirement ceremonies for Cardigan Bay, harness racing's only million dollar winner, the Associated Press reported. The ceremonies will be held next Saturday (12/10/68) at Yonkers Raceway."

The occasion was important enough for our busy Prime Minister to attend, yet it did not warrant a special stamp or overprint back home here in New Zealand. M. G. WING.

GREAT BRITAIN POSTAL MESS

One of the functions of the Post Office, be it in N.Z., Aust., U.S.A. or Great Britain is the quick and efficient delivery of mail. To date Aust. and U.S.A. have introduced codes to be added to addresses to facilitate and quicken mail delivery. Great Britain has experimented with a little of everything and the latest development has been the introduction of a two tier postal system, 5d for next day delivery, 4d for slower less important mails. This system was the brilliant brain child of Post Office officialdom. Carefully molly cuddled and then in a blaze of publicity, launched upon the British public. In an English magazine comes one of the first reviews of the current two tier situation.

"The post in Britain today is a chaotic farce, and inevitably it will get worse. Notwithstanding all the bunkum of first and second class letters phosphor-treated stamps automatic letter facing equipment, postal codes, et al, correspondence is now regularly taking four, five and more days to reach us from less than twenty-five miles away.

In apologizing in advance for the frustration this sort of delay will cause our many correspondents, we are obliged to plead that we, like everyone else in 'swinging' Britain, have to negotiate the ever-deepening quagmire which politicians and officialdom describe as progress."

The writer also bemoans that now it takes a letter posted 5 miles away twice as long as one posted AIRMAIL from AUSTRALIA.



Cherokee Strip

The stamp marks the 75th anniversary of the dramatic land run into the northern portion of the state, where 40,000 homesteads of 160 acres awaited successful claimants.

Norman Todhunter, a member of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, designed the horizontal stamp, which will be printed in brown on the Cottrell press. It pictures a prospective homesteader in a buggy, lashing his horse forward in a lunge as the race began on September 16, 1893 at the Kansas border. In the background are two mounted men. Across the bottom are "Cherokee Strip," in Grubstake italic, and "United States Postage 6c," in Gothic.

The Cherokee Strip of Oklahoma Territory was some 57 miles wide and 180 miles long, extending along the Kansas border. It had been granted to the Cherokee tribe as an outlet to hunting grounds in the west.

Until the day of September 16, 1893, the strip of fertile land had been closed to settlers. A year earlier, Congress had paid the Cherokees \$1.40 an acre for the 6.3 million acres in the strip and the land was subsequently opened to homesteaders in the great land run.

Earlier, sections of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory had been opened by similar methods, but on a lesser scale. In one of these, the population of Oklahoma City increased from a few hundred to ten thousand in a single day.

More than 100,000 prospective homesteaders were on the Kansas border awaiting the signal that began the run. Troops had difficulties in restraining them, for there were only 40,000 homesteads available.

U.S.A. NEWS

Chief Joseph

The 6 cent stamp, which will be issued with first day ceremonies November 4 in Washington, D.C., reproduces a portrait of Chief Joseph, the great Nez Perce warrior. This oil painting by Cyrenius Hall hangs in the National Portrait Gallery.

Until June 1877, the Nez Perce (pierced nose) Indians had been friendly. They willingly had ceded much of their land in the plateau area of Oregon and Idaho to the Government, but when gold was found on their reservation and settlers moved in, trouble brewed.

Hot-blooded young braves killed about 20 of these invaders and federal troops took reprisal.

Chief Joseph, Five Wounds, Toohoolhoolzote and Rainbow elected to lead their people to safety in Canada, but were captured just short of the border after a chase of some 1,300 miles. The sympathy of people in the east was heavily with the Indians.

Chief Joseph, whose Indian name translates "Thunder Traveling to Loftier Mountain Height" was famed for his war strategy and humaneness toward his enemies.

The Nez Percés surrendered to a force of 600 in October 1877 near the Bear Paw Mountains, in Montana. The Government revoked a promise to permit them to return home, and shipped them instead by boxcars to the Indian Territory, south of Oklahoma, where many of the Indians sickened and died.

Public sentiment for the Nez Percés prompted their transfer to the Colesville Reservation in Washington State in 1885, where Chief Joseph died in 1904.

20 CENT AIRMAIL STAMP

This stamp will be issued November 22 in New York City to coincide with the American Stamp Dealers' Association National Postage Stamp Show.

Intended primarily for use on mail bound to Europe and parts of North Africa, the stamp replaces the Audubon "Columbia Jay" stamp which came out in 1967.



A red, white and blue "USA" dominates the horizontal stamp. The bar of the "A" is extended and provides a background for a small black airplane. Above is "20c" in open face Gothic. Across the bottom in the same typestyle is "United States Air Mail." Red and blue will be printed by offset; black by the Giori press.

The stamp was engraved by Joseph S. Creamer, Jr. (vignette) and Kenneth C. Wiram (lettering) of the bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Collectors desiring first day cancellations may send addressed envelopes, together with remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed, to the Postmaster, Ponca City, Oklahoma 74601. A close-fitting enclosure of postal card thickness should be placed in each envelope and the flap either turned in or sealed. The envelope to the Postmaster should be endorsed "First Day Covers 6c Cherokee Strip Stamp" and postmarked no later than October 15, 1968.



PACIFIC ISLANDS COMING ISSUES

British Solomon Island: End of Inaugural Year of the University of the South Pacific, 1969.

Fiji: 9th Dec., 1968, 20th Anniversary of W.H.O. 13th Jan. 1969, Decimal Currency. 1969, Inauguration of the South Pacific University at Laucala Bay, Suva.

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

New Hebrides: 1969: Timber.

Papua and New Guinea: January 22nd., 1969: Shell definitive series. 9th April, 1969: Heritage, Folklore. 25th June, 1969: South Pacific Games.

Pitcairn Islands: 1968., 25th November: 20th Anniversary of W.H.O. 1969, 17th September: new definitives.

Western Samoa: 1969: 7th Anniversary of Independence. Robert Louis Stevenson.

Western Samoa

Christmas 1968

For the first time Western Samoa is releasing a set of Christmas stamps. The stamps, which are in common design, show a charming Polynesian conception of the Madonna and Child. The Madonna has a typical Polynesian hairstyle and features, and a Samoan fale (house) appears in the background.

Release date: 14th October, 1968. Printer: Thos. De La Rue & Co. Ltd. Process: Delacryl (litho). Watermark: Kava bowl. Designer: Mrs. Marilyn Onyschak.

WESTERN SAMOA'S WHARF

Remember the set of stamps issued in 1966 to mark the completion of the deep water wharf? There will be scope for another set to mark its opening for shipping.

The catch was that only after the wharf had been completed was it discovered that the coral sea bed was too tough for dredging a channel through the lagoon to the open sea.

Since then the New Zealand Navy has been blasting the coral so that it could be dredged, and the wharf should be opened next year.—Hutt Valley Newsletter.

COOK ISLANDS

SPECIAL STAMPS COMMEMORATING XIX OLYMPIC GAMES, MEXICO, OCTOBER 12th-27th, 1968

On Monday, 21 October, 1968, the Post Offices of the Cook Islands placed on sale a beautiful multicoloured series of six postage stamps, commemorating the nineteenth modern Olympic Games.

A record 119 nations have entered a record 7,226 athletes for the current Olympic Games in Mexico, October 12th to 27th. Previous highest number of nations participating: 94 nations in the 1964 Tokyo Games; previous highest number of athletes entered: 5,867 participants in the 1952 Helsinki Games.

This beautiful stamp series is the second of the two 1968 commemorative series to be issued by the Cook Islands, which limits its commemorative stamp issues to only two or three series per year.

The designs show those modern Olympic sports which are also popular sports of New Zealand and the Cook Islands. The stamps are printed in sheets of ten stamps, with two decorative corner labels, and the ancient origins of the Olympic contest are noted in the Greek Olympic frieze design shown in the bottom sheet margins.

The stamps are printed on the same high quality paper, with special gum and surface of the utmost brilliance, as the earlier Captain Cook commemorative issue, but the new paper has also been treated, for the first time, with a special fluorescent security marking (coat-of-arms) which is visible under ultraviolet light.

Unless supplies are exhausted earlier the stamps will be withdrawn from the Post Office on 31 December, 1968.

First Day of Sale: 21 October, 1968. Unless supplies are exhausted earlier the stamps will be withdrawn from sale at the Post Office on 31 December, 1968.

Denominations: 1c, 5c, 15c, 20c, 30c and 50c.

Face Value of Series: \$1.21 in New Zealand currency, equivalent to about 11/6d Sterling and U.S. \$1.38.

Designs: Modern Olympic sports which are also popular in New Zealand and the Cook Islands.

Size of Stamps: 35 mm x 45 mm. Printing Process: Photogravure. Colours: All stamps are in five colours.

Special Security Paper: with fluorescent coat-of-arms visible under ultraviolet light.

Sheet Size: Ten stamps (180 mm x 200 mm).

Sheet Margins: Ancient Greek motif to convey the origins of the Olympic Games in classical Greece.

EXPERIMENTAL STAMP PAPER

An experimental stamp paper of the highest quality, with synthetic gumming and surface of the utmost brilliance, has been tested in the Cook Islands area earlier this year.

In addition to being a thin and hard paper, the almost invisible gumming adheres better than the previous gum arabic adhesive, and does not "melt" under adverse climatic conditions, so interleaving is not necessary. The printed sheets lie very flat without curling under climatic conditions.

The new paper can also be treated with a special fluorescent security marking (coat-of-arms) which is visible under ultraviolet light. The commemorative series of stamps for the Mexico Olympic Games use this security marking for the first time.

Because of the superiority of reproduction on this paper, and greater ease in Post Office handling, all future issues of the Cook Islands will be on this paper, and any reruns of the definitive stamps will also use this superior new paper.

FIJI DECIMAL CURRENCY

The pictorial set to be issued when Fiji changes to decimal currency on the 13th January, 1969, will consist of the current set with the values expressed in decimals. However, there will be no half cent, the current ½d stamp will become 6c.

EXPANSION

During 1967/8, Philatelic sales of Gt. Britain Commemoratives totalled £1,473,500, compared with £884,500 in 1966/7.

COOK ISLANDS
OLYMPICS — 21/10/68



TRISTAN DA CUNHA
30th ANNIVERSARY
1/11/68



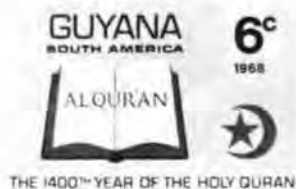
MALAYSIA
OLYMPICS
12/10/68



HOLY QURAN
CEYLON
14/10/68



GUYANA
9/10/68



**ST. LUCIA
CHRISTMAS**
17/10/68



**SAMOA
CHRISTMAS**
14/10/68



MALTA FAO CONFERENCE

**NIGERIA
5th ANNIVERSARY**
1/10/68



**BOTSWANA
NATIONAL MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY**
30/9/68



GREAT BRITAIN
CHRISTMAS
25/11/68



MALTA CHRISTMAS
3/10/68



BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY
NEW DEFINITIVES — 23/10/68



BRITISH COMMONWEALTH NEWS

CROWN AGENTS FROM THE

October Releases

1st October, 1968

Cayman Islands. Olympic Games. 1/-, 1/3 and 2/-.

Nigeria. 5th Anniversary of Federal Republic. 4d and 1/6.

St. Vincent. International Human Rights Year. 3 and 35 cents.

Turks and Caicos Islands. In Memoriam Martin Luther King. 2d, 8d and 1/6.

3rd October, 1968

Malta. Christmas 1968. 1d, 8d and 1/4.

9th October, 1968

Guyana. 14th Centenary of Al Quran. 6, 25, 30 and 40 cents.

Falkland Islands. Definitive. 4d, 1½d, 2d, 3d, 3½d, 4½d, 5½d, 6d, 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 3/-, 5/- and £1.

12th October, 1968

Malaysia. Olympic Games. 30 and 75 cents.

14th October, 1968

Ceylon. 1400th Anniversary of Holy Quran. 25 cents.

East Africa. Olympic Games. 30 and 50 cents; Shs 1/30 and 2/50.

Nigeria. Olympic Games. 4d and 1/6.

15th October, 1968

British Honduras. Definitive. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 25, 50 cents; \$1, \$2 and \$5.

British Virgin Islands. Martin Luther King In Memoriam. 4 and 25 cents.

17th October, 1968

St. Lucia. Christmas, 1968. 5, 10, 25 and 35 cents.

21st October, 1968

Malta. Sixth F.A.O. Regional Conference for Europe. 4d, 1/- and 2/6.

23rd October, 1968.

British Indian Ocean Territory. Definitive. 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 40, 45, 50 and 75 cents; Rupees 1, 1.50, 2.25, 3.50, 5 and 10.

Zambia. International Human Rights Year. 3 ngwee. U.N.I.-C.E.F. 25 ngwee. 20th Anniversary W.H.O. 10 ngwee.

Ascension Island. Fish Thematic. 4d, 8d, 1/9 and 2/3.

29th October, 1968

Barbados. International Human Rights Year. 4, 25 and 35 cents.

31st October, 1968.

Antigua. Opening of St. John's Deep Water Harbour. 2, 15, 25 and 35 cents; \$1.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

Definitive Issues

Abu Dhabi: 1969. **Barbados:** 1969. **Bermuda:** Decimal Currency, 2nd January, 1969. **British Antarctic Territory:** Replacement of existing £1 value 1969-70. **British Virgin Islands:** 1969. **Brunei:** 1968. **Cayman Islands:** 1st February, 1969. **Ceylon:** 1969. **Malawi:** 13th November, 1968. **Mauritius:** 12th March, 1969. **St. Helena:** 4th November, 1968. **St. Kitts:** 1969. **St. Lucia:** 1969. **St. Vincent:** 1969. **Singapore:** 1968. **Swaziland:** April, 1969. **Uganda:** 9th October, 1969.

Commemorative Issues

Antigua: 40th Anniversary of Air Services in Antigua, 1969. Centenary of Phosphate Industry on Redonda, 1969. Tercentenary of Parliamentary Government, 1969. **Ascension Island:** Royal Naval Crests, 1969. **Bermuda:** 50th Anniversary of Girl Guides, 1969. **Botswana:** Christmas, 11th November, 1968. Important Crops, April, 1969. 22nd World Scout Conference, 21st August, 1969. **British Antarctic Territory:** 25th Anniversary of Continuous Scientific work by the British Antarctic Survey, 6th February, 1969. **British Honduras:** Orchids, 1st March, 1969. **British Virgin Islands:** National Development, 1968. Tourism, 1969. Extension of 1968. **Brunei:** Opening of Dewan Beef Island Airport, December, Majlis and Lapau Di-Raja, 1968. International Human Rights, December, 1968. **Cayman Islands:** Christmas 1968, 1st November, 1968. **Ceylon:** Centenary of the Archaeological Department, December, 1968. 1400th Anniversary of Holy Quran, 1968. Golden Jubilee of the All Ceylon Buddhist Congress, December, 1968. International Human Rights Year, 1968. WESAK stamp, April, 1969. 50th Anniversary of I.L.O., April, 1969. **East Africa:** 50th Anniversary of I.L.O., 14th April, 1969. Water Transport, 20th January, 1969. **Falkland Islands:** Centenary of the Diocese of the Falkland Islands, 1969. 21st Anniversary of the Falkland Islands Government Air Service, 8th April, 1969. **The Gambia:** Centenary of the first two stamps issued by The Gambia 1869, January, 1969. **Aeronautical (historical)** 1969. **Gibraltar:** Christmas, 1968, 1st November, 1968.

Guyana: Opening of the Airport Terminal Building, 1968. Tropospheric Scatter System, 1968. 50th Anniversary of I.L.O., 1969. Christmas 1968, 1968. 3rd Caribbean Jamboree and Diamond Jubilee of Scouting in Guyana, 1969. Easter, March 1969. **Hong Kong:** Lunar New Year, 1969. International Human Rights Year, 20th November, 1968. **Jamaica:** International Human Rights Year, 3rd December, 1968. 50th Anniversary of the I.L.O., 1969. Tourism, 1968. Christmas, 6th November, 1968. **Lesotho:** Rock Paintings: 1st November, 1968. Centenary of Maseru, 1968. Culture and Natural Resources, 1969. **Malawi:** Christmas 1968, 6th November, 1968. -Masks, April, 1969. 50th Anniversary of I.L.O., January, 1969. **Mauritius:** Bi-centenary of the visit of Bernardin de St Pierre to Mauritius, International Human Rights, 2nd December, 1968. **Montserrat:** In-December, 1968. Development Projects, June, 1969. Christmas 1968, 15th December, 1968. Tourism, February, 1969. **Muscat and Oman:** Oil, 1968. **Nigeria:** Timber, 1969. Martin Luther King, 1968. **St. Helena:** Dress Uniforms, 1969. Mail Communications, 1969. **St. Kitts:** Fish, 25th February, 1969. Christmas 1968, 27th November, 1968. **St. Lucia:** Birds Issue, 10th January, 1969. Easter, March, 1969. **St. Vincent:** Statehood, 1968. Carnival, 1969. **Seychelles:** 200th Anniversary of the landing on Praslin Island, November, 1968. **Tristan da Cunha:** 30th Anniversary as a Dependency of St. Helena, 1st November, 1968. Ships, 1969. Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, 1969. **Zambia:** Natural Resources and Tourism, 5th February, 1969. 50th Anniversary of I.L.O., 18th June, 1969.

Tristan da Cunha

30th Anniversary of Tristan da Cunha as a Dependency of St. Helena.

Release date: 1st November, 1968. Designer: Miss J. Toombs. Printer: Thos De La Rue & Co. Ltd. Process: Delacryl (litho).

Tristan da Cunha, together with Gough, Nightingale, Inaccessible and other small islands in the group was made a dependency of St. Helena in 1938. The Administrator of Tristan da Cunha is appointed by the Governor of St. Helena who is also Governor and the Legislative Authority for Tristan da Cunha.

DETAILS OF NEW AND FORTHCOMING ISSUES

Malta

VITH F.A.O. REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR EUROPE

At the invitation of the Government of Malta, the Sixth F.A.O. Regional Conference for Europe will be held at the Malta Hilton Hotel from 28/31 October, 1968. The main purpose of the Regional Conference, as the principal F.A.O. policy meeting in the Region, is to review F.A.O.'s work and provide the necessary guidance to the Organisation in orienting its future programmes to meet the needs of member countries. The Conference, which is held every two years, is expected to be attended at ministerial level. Although the Conference is mainly for the benefit of the European Member Nations of F.A.O., any Member Nation or Associate Member of the Organisation outside the F.O. European Region that wishes to be represented at the Conference is given every facility to do so.

F.A.O. originated in the hope expressed in the Atlantic Charter of seeing established a peace which would afford assurance that all men in all lands may live out their lives in freedom from want. F.A.O. was established on October 16th, 1945, when its constitution was signed in Quebec.

The purposes of F.A.O. are to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living; secure improvements in the efficiency of the production and distribution of all food and agricultural products from farms, forests and fisheries; better the conditions of country dwellers; and, by these means, to contribute to an expanding world economy.

In carrying out these purposes, F.A.O. promotes the development of the basic soil and water resources of countries and encourages the establishment of a stable international market for their commodities. Among many other activities, it promotes the global exchange of new types of plants; spreads advanced techniques across the world; combats epidemics of animal diseases in many countries; promotes the development and utilization of

the resources of the sea; and provides technical assistance in such fields as nutrition and food management, soil erosion control, reforestation, irrigation engineering, control of infestation of stored food and production of fertilisers. National committees are active in some 75 countries, furthering the activities of the Organisation, whose Headquarters are in Rome.

To commemorate the VITH F.A.O. Regional Conference for Europe, the Malta Post Office has issued a set of three postage stamps.

Technical Details:

Release Date: 21st October, 1968. Designer: Chev. E. V. Cremona. Printer: Enschede en Zonen. Process: Photogravure. Watermark: Maltese Cross.

Malaysia

THE OLYMPIC GAMES

Malaya first participated in the Olympic Games at Melbourne in 1956 with a team of 11 officials and 34 athletes. Athletics, hockey, shooting, swimming and weight-lifting were represented.

In 1959, the Hon'ble Tun Abdul Razak bin Dato Hussein, S.M.N., the Deputy Prime Minister, became President of the Olympic Council of Malaya. Just like the Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, he is a keen sportsman himself and, despite the heavy burden of State, he has shown keen interest in promoting sports in the country.

In 1960 Rome was the host city to the Olympic Games and Malaya sent a small contingent which participated in athletics, shooting, swimming and weight-lifting. The 1964 Olympic Games were held at Tokyo, and Malaysia sent a big contingent of 90 to participate in athletics, boxing, cycling, fencing, hockey, judo, shooting, swimming, weight-lifting, and wrestling. Malaysia will be sending a team to the 19th Olympic Games which are to be held from the 12th-27th October 1968 at Mexico City to uphold the lofty Olympic ideal—to meet with other nations in the field of sports without distinction of race, religion or creed.

Malawi

Christmas 1968

This year the Malawi Christmas issue shows on the four values various artists' interpretations of the Bethlehem stable scene.

4d value "The Nativity"

Piero Della Francesca (Active 1439, died 1492). This artist was one of the Italian school of art who worked in Florence Sansepolcro, Arezzo Urbino and elsewhere. The "Nativity", which measures 49 x 48½ inches, is considered to be a late work by this artist. It remained in the possession of the artist's descendants until the late 19th century. It is now to be found in the National Gallery.

9d value "The Adoration of the Shepherds"

Bartholome Murillo (1618-1682 Seville). This artist was a famous 17th century painter from the Spanish school of art. He painted almost entirely religious pictures. The "Adoration of the Shepherds" was bought in Genoa in 1846 and has been part of the Wallace Collection in London for many years.

1/6 value. "The Adoration of the Shepherds"

Guido Reni (1575-1642). Guido Reni was an Italian painter of the Bolognese School of Art. He worked mainly in Bologna, but also in Rome and Naples. "The Adoration of the Shepherds" in the National Gallery is a large picture, measuring 189 x 126 inches, and it was painted late in the artist's life.

3/- value: "The Nativity with God, the Father and Holy Ghost"

Giovanni Battista Pittoni (1687-1767). Pittoni was an artist of the Italian school of art, who was born in Venice. The full title of the National Gallery picture is "The Nativity with God the Father and the Holy Ghost". The measurements of the picture are 87½ x 60½ inches. This picture combines the Trinity and the Nativity in a single representation. It was probably painted in the early 1730's.

The stamps have been printed by Harrison and Sons Ltd. using the photogravure process and Malawi Cockerel water-marked paper. Release date is the 6th November, 1968.

Nigeria

5th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC

To mark this occasion, Nigeria are issuing a two value, 4d and 1/6d, set of stamps which has been designed by G. L. Vasarhelyi.

Nigeria, the largest country in Africa in terms of population, became a free and sovereign nation on 1st October, 1960. With a population of 55.6 million, Nigeria offers the largest single market in Africa. It is a country endowed with rich agricultural and mineral raw materials on which flourishing industries can be built. Among these are mineral oil, natural gas, tin, columbite, coal, iron, limestone, lead and zinc, palm-oil and palm-kernels, cotton, groundnut and other oil-seeds, rubber, timber and cocoa.

The home market supplies the needs of over fifty-five million people whose standard of living is rising steadily. The country is also well placed geographically in relation to other states in West Africa to take advantage of the closer economic association which is developing in this part of the continent. There exists also in Central and East Africa a large potential market for the products of Nigerian industries. As the standard of living of the teeming millions of Nigerians rises, so is their demand pattern changing to include a greater proportion of more sophisticated products which science and industrialisation bring. This trend has the effect of widening the range of productions which can be manufactured, assembled or processed locally.

Three years after Independence in 1960 Nigeria became a Federal Republic and the Government was made up as follows:-

In the first Republic (1963-1966) Nigeria comprised four regions: Northern Nigeria, Western Nigeria, Eastern Nigeria, Mid-Western Nigeria, together with the centrally administered territory of Lagos.

The President was Head of State, and Parliament comprised the Presidency, the Senate (Upper House) and the House of Representatives (Lower House).

Executive power was vested in the Prime Minister and his Cab-

inet—all of whom were members of, and responsible to Parliament. Each of the four Regions had a bicameral legislature: a House of Chiefs (Upper House) and a House of Assembly (Lower House). The Premiers were the Chief Executives in the Regions, while Regional Governors were the ceremonial Heads.

In the second Republic (1966-) the administration is vested in the Federal Military Government consisting of the following two major organs: (i) The Supreme Military Council and (ii) The Federal Executive Council consisting of both Armed Forces Personnel and civilians. The Head of the Federal Military Government and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Major-General Yakubu Gowon is the Chairman of both Councils, while Chief Obafemi Awolowo is the Vice-Chairman* of the Federal Executive Council. Civilian members of the Council are allocated departmental responsibilities.

The Administration of each of the twelve States is under a State Governor who is the Chairman of the State Executive Council. Like the Federal set-up, civilians are also included in the State Councils.

Cayman Islands

Christmas 1968

On the 1st November a commemorative set of Christmas postage stamps is to be released for the first time by the Cayman Islands. The set is made up of six values using two background designs appropriate for this great Christian festival, both being paintings of "The Adoration of the Shepherds". The masterpiece by Rembrandt (1606-1669) is the design common to the 1d, 8d and 2/- values. This picture will be familiar to collectors for it has previously been used as a background design for a Christmas issue by New Zealand in 1960, with interesting consequences. The stable scene is depicted in shades of brown, the only relief being a reddish glow from a lantern held by one of the shepherds. In the printing this red colouring was missed on a few stamps and the error was

quickly termed "Black Christmas" by the philatelic trade. This stamp is currently valued at £225 (Gibbons 1968) and would considerably brighten a collection.

Not all of the Rembrandt work is reproduced on the Cayman Island issue, a considerable portion of the stable roof is omitted to focus attention on the main characters of the scene. No errors are anticipated, but the previous reproduction of this masterpiece and its consequences will undoubtedly arouse considerable interest.

The 4d, 6d and 1/- values also have a work of art as their common design, entitled "The Adoration of the Shepherds". This painting is attributed to Barent Fabritius (1624-1673) who was a pupil of Rembrandt around 1640 and traces of his master's influence can be seen in his style.

Both paintings hang in the National Gallery, London.

The stamps have been printed by Harrison and Sons Ltd. by the photogravure process in sheets of 60 stamps.

MALTA CHRISTMAS 1968

The three stamps illustrated in the centrepiece are the latest in the series of Christmas stamps issued by Malta since 1964. In each case the stamps have been designed by Chev. E. V. Cremona and all bear the distinctive style of this artist.

1d value

This stamp portrays the Shepherds in the fields being awakened by the Angel with the Star of Bethlehem shining in the distance.

8d value

This stamp shows the Child Jesus lying in the manger with the Star shining over His head and Mary and Joseph with one of the Shepherds looking down at the sleeping Child.

1/4d value

This stamp depicts the Three Wise Men following the Star and bearing gifts.

All three stamps are of an irregular pentagon shape.

Technical Details

Release Date: 3rd October, 1968. Designer: Chev. E. V. Cremona. Printer: Harrison & Sons Ltd. Process: Photogravure. Watermark: Maltese Cross.

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

Botswana

Opening of the National Museum and Art Gallery

The Bechuanaland Protectorate became the independent sovereign state of Botswana on 30th September, 1966. Not only was a new state in existence, but a new capital had been created. Until 1965, the Protectorate had been administered from Mafeking which is in the Republic of South Africa. This situation could not continue under independence and a new capital was built at Gaborone, about eighty miles north of Mafeking.

The new capital is a pleasantly planned area, with traffic free shopping areas, banks and a first class hotel. Government Offices and the parliament buildings are at one end of the town and at the other end with two churches, the National Library and the Town Hall, is the National Museum.

The Government of Botswana is to be congratulated on opening a National Museum which will have on display items of cultural interest from the history of the peoples and land of Botswana. The time to establish a museum is early in a state's life so that people are conscious of the need to keep a record for posterity of developments as they happen.

An important feature of the museum will be a philatelic section and the special stamps issued to commemorate the opening on 30th September, 1968, will have pride of place.

The issue, which was released on 30th September, comprises a set of four. The 15c value shows the buildings and a long stamp has been used to emphasise the line of the building. The large 7c value shows ceremonial beadwork on a young girl. Examples of similar beads and explanations of the ceremonies at which they are worn are shown in the Museum. The 2c stamp depicts rock paintings found in the Tsodilis Hills. An eland and a giraffe are depicted, as well as the artists' hands, applied as a sort of signature. The 5c stamp reproduces a painting by Thomas Baines of baobab trees. The trees are still standing in Botswana and their age has been estimated at as much as two thousand years.

ST. LUCIA CHRISTMAS 1968

St. Lucia are following their very popular Easter issue with an equally attractive Christmas issue. Again the issue features old masters by a well known artist.

The issue comprises four denominations featuring two Murillo portraits.

The 10 and 35 cents values depict "The Virgin and Child" and the 5 and 25 cents values depict the portrait entitled "The Virgin and Child in Glory." These portraits are to be found in the Pitti Palace Gallery in Florence and the Walker Art Gallery Liverpool respectively.

Bartholome Murillo (1618-1682 Seville). This artist was a famous 17th Century painter from the Spanish school of art. He painted almost entirely religious pictures.

Release Date: 17th October, 1968. Designer: Harrison's Staff Artists using Old Masters by Murillo. Printers: Harrison & Sons Ltd. Process: Photogravure.

CEYLON

1400th ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOLY QUR'AN

In the year 570 A.D., the founder of the Islamic faith, the prophet Muhammed was born at Mecca, Arabia. At the age of 40 he received a vision of a Holy Book and was commanded to recite it. This was the beginning of the Qur'an, the 'recitation', which did not reach its final form until some time after Muhammed's death in 632 A.D., eventually containing 114 chapters (suras) of varying length and content. Whilst the Qur'an acknowledges other sacred writings (indeed it contains several references to the Christian Bible, including references to Jesus alternatively referred to as the Word, Spirit or Messiah) it is held as superior to all others, being regarded as the very speech of God.

The Islamic creed includes belief in — God; angels; the revealed books; the prophets; the Day of Judgment; and God's predetermination of good and evil. The profession of faith made by all Muslims is that 'there is no God but God and Muhammed is his Apostle.'

The commemorative stamp issued by Ceylon to celebrate 1400 years of the Holy Quran, illustrates the sacred book and the words 'Holy Qur'an Anniversary' appear in English, Sinhala and Tamil on the bottom of the design. An attractive stamp for religious thematic collectors and of special interest to collectors of Ceylon issues.

Release Date: 14th October, 1968. Designer: Local Design. Printer: Harrison and Sons Ltd. Process: Photogravure.

GUYANA

THE 1400th YEAR OF THE HOLY QUR'AN

The Qur'an (Koran) is the sacred book of the Islam faith. Islam ranks as one of the world's greatest religions with adherents (Muslims) now calculated as in excess of 400,000,000! The Qur'an is recited in Arabic across the whole of the Muslim world, which today extends from India and China in the East, westwards to the Americas, making it virtually world-wide. These achievements are even more remarkable since it is a comparatively "modern" faith.

The prophet Muhammed, born in the Christian year 570 A.D. at Mecca, Arabia, was its founder. At the age of 40 he had a vision of the archangel Gabriel showing him a book and telling him to recite it. This was the beginning of the Qur'an, the 'recitation'. It reached its final form some time after Muhammed's death (632 A.D.) and contains 114 chapters (suras), some short and fiery, others long and argumentative. Whilst other sacred writings are acknowledged, the Qur'an is held superior and regarded as the very speech of God. Similarly, Muhammed is regarded as the final prophet, the seal of the other prophets. Like them he was sinless and his intercession with God is anticipated on the behalf of all Muslims.

The four values have a common design depicting the Qur'an and the set should therefore have a special appeal to Muslim and religious philatelists.

Details. Release Date: 9th October, 1968. Designer: R. Gates. Printer: Thos. De La Rue & Co. Ltd. Process: Photogravure.

Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand Celebrates Eightieth Birthday

This year the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand completes eighty years of service to New Zealand and world philately, and it is an appropriate time not only to review its activities and achievements of past years and its role in present day philately, but also to take a quick look into the future.

The Society was formed in September, 1888, as the Philatelic Society of New Zealand. It retained this title until 1946, when it was granted the right to use the prefix "Royal". Although formed in and administered from Wellington, its membership comprises philatelists from throughout New Zealand.

It can count amongst its members, almost without exception, every eminent New Zealand philatelist of the past eighty years and includes no less than four signatories to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. These have given the Society a tower of philatelic and financial strength.

From its earliest days, many members formed outstanding collections, particularly of New Zealand stamps, and the results of the studies by these early students were published in philatelic journals of the day and include no less than the outstanding "London Philatelist", published by our sister society, The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

The first serious effort to publish the findings of the early students was undertaken by the Philatelic Society of New Zealand in 1913 with the publication of "A Handbook of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand", often referred to as the "Jolliffe Handbook", after its editor. Apart from the many articles contributed by individual members and published in various philatelic journals of the world, the next concerted effort by the Philatelic Society of New Zealand was in 1938 when the first of the present magnificent series of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" was published. This volume received an outstanding reception from philatelists throughout the world. It was awarded the Royal Philatelic Society of London's Crawford Medal for outstanding philatelic publication. Readers may be in-

terested to learn that where copies of this first volume now change hands at up to \$60 a copy, its pre-publication price thirty years ago was only a guinea.

It was not the fixed intention of Council at that time to proceed with any further volumes, hence the reason for the first volume being unnumbered. However, enthusiasm was high and it was decided to proceed with a second volume and this was published in 1948.

"CLOUGHER" AWARD

Volumes III, IV and V have subsequently made their appearance. Volume III was wholly devoted to Postal History, and since its publication, there has been a rapid growth in the popularity of this material. For this work the Society was recently a recipient of a "Clougher" Award of Honour for outstanding contribution to postal history.

These outstanding handbooks—a thousand or more of each volume!—perhaps more than anything else have been responsible for putting New Zealand philately and philatelists on the very high plane they are today.

The foregoing has been written not just to show what the Society has accomplished, but to demonstrate that the Society has been able to achieve this only through the efforts of a large number of outstanding philatelists throughout New Zealand who comprise its membership.

The Society is in effect a clearing house, collator and publisher, and every member, whether or not he has taken an active part as a contributor or assisted in publication or administration of Society affairs, has by virtue of his membership enabled the Society to meet the very large financial commitments necessary whilst the various volumes are in production.

A further activity of the Society, again concerned with the dissemination of philatelic knowledge and administration, is the support it gives to both the New Zealand Stamp Collector and the Federation of New Zealand Philatelic Societies. The former is supplied free to all members.

The foregoing describes the major activities of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand as the senior New Zealand-wide philatelic society.

The Society also plays an important part as a major Wellington Society, and in this respect the Council has a dual role. In the first place it is required to attend to the affairs of a New Zealand wide membership, and in the second place to run and organise a large Wellington section with its attendant activities.

A large and efficient Council is required to run the affairs of so large a Society, and of necessity, meets for a full evening once a month.

A further activity is that of Fellowship. Members who have given outstanding service to New Zealand philately may be elected Fellows. This honour is not given lightly, but so high is the standard of advanced philately throughout New Zealand, it would be hard to find any area which cannot boast of a past or present Fellow amongst its "Royal" members.

Further awards administered are the "Rhodes Medal"—The Society's highest honour—and the "R.J.G. Collins" Memorial Award" for literature.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

Still another essential function of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand is that of expertising. The Expert Committee accepts items for examination from members and non-members. New Zealand stamps in the main are received, but stamps from other countries are accepted. The Expert Committee has established a very proud precedent and its opinions are held in high esteem throughout the world.

Criticism is sometimes levelled at the Society, and it has even been called "high and mighty". This is generally unfounded and comes from those who do not understand the aims and objects of the Society. Among its objects, that of advancement of philately is primary. To carry out this aim, the society not only encourages, but makes available a wealth of knowledge so willingly given by earlier and present student philatelists. The many hundreds of New Zealand collectors who have used this knowledge to the full and are today enjoying their philately, are the sure answer to such unfounded criticism.

What of the future? Volume V has been successfully "launch-

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Insuring Your Collection Against Loss or Damage

To suddenly lose or have destroyed the fruits of one's labours, especially if it should be one's hobby, is a most disturbing matter, whether it be caused through the destructive forces of the elements, such as fire, floods, earthquake, or simply by theft. Naturally, all collectors in the field of philately do not adopt the same practices or routine in their pursuit of collecting stamps. Whilst some choose to collect their treasures all the year round, others are seasonal or erratic in this respect. Again, some philatelists are devoted to their hobby, whilst others are half-hearted. It's merely a matter of just how serious the subject of stamps becomes to each individual. Irrespective of the particular class of collector that you yourself may be, your own collection arranged in your album or stockbook does represent a definite value in terms of dollars and cents, and generally can be considered as a long-term investment.

INSURE

In some cases, when you consider what the total contribution in effort to your hobby over a span of several years has produced, how distressing it would be to lose it all. Therefore, if you are wise you will have already had your collection insured against such a catastrophe. If not, then my advice would be to see about taking out a stamp collector's "All Risks" policy, solely to safeguard your stamps. Even though many of us older associates of the hobby may possess a Householder's Comprehensive Policy to cover the various items contained in the house, this does not altogether protect one's collection from the many risks to which it is vulnerable. As one example, consider the fact of sending it from one place to another, where through mis-handling it could become damaged or even lost. It's quite easy to insure and not really expensive.

VALUATION

When it becomes necessary to assess the approximate value of the stamps contained in your collection, perhaps the main point to consider is the actual price it would cost you to replace them, providing they are readily procurable today. Some of the stamps in your possession, no

doubt, will have increased in value since you acquired them. Others will be difficult to obtain at acceptable prices. Again, your collection may include a good selection of the Classics (stamps issued between 1840 and 1875) or some scarcer and more valuable items of quite high catalogue prices. Conversely, you may have a fairly modern lot, much of which may have good realisation potential. Should your collection contain some blocks of stamps, their value can be calculated at four times the price quoted for a single stamp of that issue. However, stamp blocks bearing plate numbers do carry an additional premium, slightly above that of the normal block value. By allowing fifty or sixty percent of the price quoted in reliable stamp catalogues for any one stamp, a reasonable yardstick can be realised to approximately assess your collection's worth for insurance purposes.

CONDITION

Whether you decide to eventually take out a policy or not, it's always wise to take a close look at your stamps from time to time with the idea of value foremost in mind, if only to ensure that they are up to recognized standards. Always be critical of condition. All too often, philatelists tend to clutter their albums with poor specimens which, upon inspection, are found to be torn, creased and dirty. You would be well advised to follow the practices of the ardent students of condition, choosing only those stamps which possess the desired qualities. In this way you will accumulate a collection of which you will be always satisfied and pleased to display. In assessing a stamp's value, never forget that its condition is largely the determining factor. To finish off the subject of stamp insurance, don't overlook the fact that popular stamps tend to increase in value with the passage of time. Therefore, should you decide to take out an insurance policy, be sure to review the sum insured at periods of five years or so, in order to incorporate the many additions you will have made, and take into account the general increases brought about through market demand and current supply. C. LAWSON

UNITED NATIONS STAMP ISSUES FOR 1969

The following programme of United Nations stamp issues, although subject to alteration, is scheduled for 1969:-

January: 6c envelope (standard and legal size), 10c airmail envelope (standard and legal size), 5c postal card, 8c airmail postal card.

February: United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)—6c and 13c.

March: ECLA Building, Santiago (Building Series)—6c and 15c. New 10c airmail stamp, 13c definitive stamp.

April: Peace Through International Law—6c and 13c.

June: Labour and Development—6c and 13c.

November: Tunisian Mosaic (Art Series)—6c and 13c.

ROYAL SOCIETY CONT.

ed", and although no fixed plans have been made for a forthcoming volume, the general feeling is that a sixth volume should be considered to bring existing information in previous volumes up to date. Possibly one or two monographs will be considered.

All in all, with the majority of New Zealand's leading philatelists as members of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, the Society must continue to gain strength and prestige, and thus retain its position as a disseminator of philatelic knowledge to collectors of New Zealand stamps throughout the world.

Membership in the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand is open to all Philatelists and application forms are available, on request, from the Secretary, P.O. Box 1269, Wellington.

In Wellington, meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Y.W.C.A. Building, 355 Upper Willis Street. Speakers and displays of philatelic material covering all aspects of this wonderful hobby, items of interest and new issues are shown. The Society has a wonderful library and also a sales branch, and auctions are held at most meetings.

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SOCIETY NOTES AND NEWS

THE WELLINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY (INC.)

The main features of the programme at the September Monthly General meeting were two most enjoyable talks and displays on widely different topics. Mr. D. Young presented his speciality "Paintings on Stamps". Evidently Rembrandt is his favourite artist and Mr. Young gave us some interesting facts about his life. Next year will be the 300th anniversary of Rembrandt's death. In his lifetime he produced some 650 paintings, 300 etchings and 2000 drawings. Living beyond his means, Rembrandt eventually became bankrupt. In later years his wife and son managed his business affairs and he was virtually employed by them. Both the mother and son (Titus) appear on stamps. Rembrandt did 62 self portraits from age 23 until his very last year. Mr. Young explained that he had several important rules when collecting paintings on stamps viz. a. Ascertain the name of the artist; b. Check name of painting; c. Determine date executed; d. Find out where it is at present located. Other items of interest besides a widely representative collection of stamps (only a fraction of his whole collection) which Mr. Young displayed were special Paintings on Stamps

Mr. Fred Glasson displayed "Fish on Stamps." He explained the two main types of fish, i.e. freshwater and seawater. His interests lie in the freshwater variety and he detailed the different breeding habits and other characteristics of freshwater fish. Apparently different species swim at different speeds and the faster swimmers feed nearer the surface, whereas the slow-coaches feed at the bottom. Some fish eggs can be sent by mail to and from overseas, and it seems that they can be deposited in water and the young raised quite successfully. To illustrate the various points he made, Mr. Glasson produced two glass jars containing several different varieties of tropical freshwater fish. During the journey home later that night, the writer learned other facts about this fascinating hobby from Mr. Glasson, e.g. the fish will stand a drop in temperature for short periods necessary to take them

in jars without heating, but if left too long, the results are fatal. Fish fanciers soon learn not to be too sentimental about a particular specimen. Incidentally, Mr. Glasson transported the two glass jars in an outer (leather) carrying case. It is not surprising that Mr. Glasson is interested in fish, since one of his other interests was the sea. He served in R.N.Z.N.V.R. and was awarded the M.B.E.

A small auction completed the night's programme. Bidding was keen and very few items were passed in. A £1 Pohutu Geyser fine used fetched the reasonable price of only \$1.10. Again there was a keen demand for the unknown quantity—cellophane bags of stamps on paper N.Z. and foreign.

M. G. WING.

WHAKATANE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Our main meeting for the month of September was held on Thursday 12th in the Lyceum Club Rooms, when we were favoured with a visit and talk by Mr. Marcel Stanley of Wellington. Visitors also included the Chief Postmaster of Rotorua and the Postmasters of Kawerau and Whakatane—Messrs J. A. R. Kirkwood, L. B. Weenink and T. Cusack respectively.

Introduced by Mr. R. Herbison, Mr. Stanley gave a very interesting talk and display. Illustrated by slides and unique material, Mr. Stanley covered the origin of design, composition and essays of unreleased designs submitted, but not used by the N.Z. Post Office, with special emphasis on the Full Face Queen issue. The engraving of the Queen was based on the Chalon Portrait by William Humphreys, the portrait being used as a model for various purposes one of the main ones being for Bank notes of Canada and Australian States. Of particular interest were the machine turned designs and how they were used as the background for the portrait in the stamp or note design.

Besides numerous pages of "Full Faces", also shown were proof sheets from each plate showing the wear that developed on each, also a sheet of the hand made paper that these issues were printed on.

Mr. Kirkwood suitably replied and passed a vote of thanks to Mr. Stanley for such a stimulating and revealing address.

At our second informal meeting in September, Mr. Ramson gave our members an enlightening talk on Samoa and their stamp issues, supported by a very attractive and almost complete collection of their stamps.

R. S. CRADDOCK.

HUTT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September Meeting: There were eight entries for the J. A. Barry competition, and Mr. C. G. Goodman was declared the winner, with a fine entry of Barbados. Another entry particularly singled out for mention by the judges (Messrs. Garford and Cook) was of the earlier issues of Ascension.

Stamps of Norway were shown by Mr. C. A. Aagesen. While there are many variations over the years, it was particularly interesting to see that the post-horn design of 1871 is still used for some of the current stamps.

Much nearer home were "covers from 1930," shown by Mr. S. D. Sherwood. This period spanned many of the early flights in and around New Zealand, and Antarctic expeditions as well, with many famous autographs, such as that of Admiral Byrd.

Present at the meeting was a big muster of members whose collecting goes back quite a long way, too. Messrs Coates, Gittings, Grubb, Goodman, Hunt, Lennie and Toomath were among our "old timers" who have in various ways contributed a lot to the Society in the past.

ASHBURTON STAMP CLUB (Inc.)

On the date of their September Meeting, the Ashburton Club were hosts to a dozen visitors from the Timaru Stamp Club.

The evening commenced with a welcome extended by the Ashburton Club President, Mr. D. Townley, and apologies were received.

The programme then took the form of an excellent display of used New Zealand, by Mr. Holdgate, and Mr. Sides and Mrs. Wood displayed German and thematic collections respectively.

A spirited auction followed, with plenty of bargains and fun for all. An excellent supper brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

ALISTAIR BAIRD.

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WAIKATO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Mr. D. Pountney, deputising for J. Woodhouse who was unable to give his scheduled talk on Australia, gave an informative talk accompanied by fine display from his specialised Tongan collection, featuring the first issues and subsequent early issues to 1968 with specimens of the rarer varieties of overprints etc.

Supper and auction brought to a close a well attended meeting: October meeting?—Pim Cup and Quiz. D. EDSALL.

ROTORUA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The members present at our meeting on the 24th September were well entertained by a very interesting talk and display by Mr. N. Davenhill who has been a very keen collector for many years specialising in British Colonial issues. His interest however, in each colony, ceased as soon as that colony achieved independence from which it will be gathered that his scope has been and is still being considerably curtailed. His was brief and consisted mainly of a few words on each sheet of the 20 sheets exhibited which had been picked at random. Many scarce items were displayed and the sources from which some were obtained were most extraordinary. Apart from these special items he drew attention to a page of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika consisting of the common varieties which were splendid specimens and here he demonstrated his practice of continually being on the search for a better item than that in his collection. This would often taken considerable time owing to his strong objection to placing in his albums stamps cancelled to order. All his used stamps had been commercially used and here attention was drawn to the varying office cancellations on stamps of many of the countries of the fast disappearing colonial possessions. He concluded with a few well chosen remarks on the protection of stamps, the persistence needed to reach a set standard and to getting and holding contacts and pen friends.

Mr. Davenhill had quite a busy time answering questions while the members were inspecting the display and the effort certainly deserved the vote of thanks accorded him.

W. W. VINSON

CHRISTCHURCH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September Meeting:

At the September meeting, talks and displays were given by club members as follows: Mrs. Stephen, Messrs R. Scarlett, R. Turner, J. Farthering, J. Bettle, A. Orten, A. Taylor, W. Watts, B. Alexander, R. Savill, R. Prebble, G. Hunt, F. Jackson, L. Vernazoni, I. Hunt and Rev. W. Pierre. The meeting was very enjoyable, some very good items being displayed, in particular one outstanding display by our Patron, Mr. L. Vernazoni—"Unrecorded varieties."

BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY

Created on November 8, 1965, the British Indian Ocean Territory consists of the Chagos Archipelago (1,180 miles north of Mauritius), and Aldabra, Farquhar and Desroches in the western Indian Ocean. The Chagos Archipelago was formerly administered by Mauritius, and the other islands by the Seychelles, but they have now been formed into a separate Crown Colony.

Diego Garcia, the chief of the Chagos islands, encloses a horse-shoe-shaped lagoon about 13 miles long and 4 to 5 miles wide.

Although there is no permanent settlement, two camps house about 400 employees of Moulinie & Co. (Seychelles) Ltd. (who manage the Crown Lands on behalf of BIOT) working in the fishing and coconut industries. They export copra, salted fish and tortoiseshell.

The Seychelles used to administer the western group of the Territory, comprising Aldabra, Farquhar and Desroches islands, with a total population of about 200 people, working on the coconut estates and fisheries.

Communications between the islands are being greatly improved with the entry into service of the m.v. Nordvaer. This BIOT vessel has a post office on board, with a crew member detailed to act as postmaster, and on its rounds, will collect the mail from the various islands. Mail volume is considerably higher than one would expect from such an isolated community—and high value stamps are required largely for the franking of frequent dispatches containing detailed accounts from the islands to the head offices in Mahe (chief town of Seychelles), and Mauritius. Detailed population statistics in June 1968 show a total of 1,019 inhabitants of the territory, distributed as follows: Aldabra: 42; Farquhar: 50; Desroches: 120; Peros Banhos: 244; Salomon: 183; Diego Garcia: 380.



THIS AND THAT

... from WELLINGTON

Judging by the comments of experienced local philatelists, the material offered at the recent stamp auction conducted by the Hutt Valley Philatelic Society was outstanding. The auction lists were also well produced, and the Society's officers are to be congratulated on a very fine sale.

Our old friend Alan Sterry has returned to the capital city for approximately one month, but he expects to return to the "Mainland" in November, as there are a number of jobs requiring his attention around Timaru and Christchurch. He tells me that he is impressed with the keenness of Christchurch philatelists and enjoys their monthly meetings. As most readers will be aware, Alan collects sports on stamps and is looking forward to the Mexico Olympic Games Issues. He says that there were 900 stamps issued for the last Olympics.

Wellington collectors are most appreciative of the service given by the Post Office Philatelic Bureau, but recently several local philatelists were airing their views on the need for the staff on the bureau counter to be provided with a small adding machine. I commend this idea to the Post Office, as the small cost involved will create a better public image, as well as protecting the staff. I understand that the Bureau opened without a ready reckoner being available at the counter, but this was remedied.

The proposed Wellington International Philatelic Exhibition in 1972 is a step nearer reality. At a recent meeting of the Executive of the Wellington Philatelic Society, it was decided unanimously that such an exhibition will be held, provided a suitable venue and finance can be arranged. The President and Secretary were empowered to commence the necessary enquiries regarding suitable premises. It is contemplated that the exhibition would be held in March or April, 1972.

It is not easy to break into the stamp dealing business without a good deal of experience, but young John R. Mowbray seems to be making an excellent showing. His monthly bulletins are well illustrated and of good quality.

We hear of printers errors and think naturally of stamps. These days it can apply to anything. I saw a Stanley Gibbons Catalogues Part 1 1969 the other day, with a considerable number of pages printed on one side. If my theory is correct, if there is one there must be a lot more somewhere.

The weekly stamp auctions at Petone continue to attract a good number of buyers. A few weeks ago I went out on the off chance only to find that the absence of a notice of meeting meant that the auctioneer had decided to take a Thursday night off for a change. There were other hopefuls there too, including the assistant who collects the cash.

Local dealer Ray Rowell is also a keen amateur gardener. The outside potato which has graced his display window in recent months was removed for dissection and planting the other day. It would appear that Ray expects to plant a complete row with the one potato.

M. G. WING

AUCKLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY HOW TO START A SPECIALISED COLLECTION

We had a wonderful meeting on 17th September, 1968, when Mr. Arthur Dexter gave a talk, "How to start a specialised collection". It was well received and appreciated, particularly by myself. To be brief and to the point, don't.

To collect current issues and specialise for pleasure as a hobby, for relaxation or for profit, is a first decision, and a first essential is a good album, and Frank Goddard (F.G.) Burrell album was suggested as well and truly tried and tested for 30 years. Find out all that is possible in the new issue Newsletters, Magazines and The Philatelic Bulletin, such as designer, printer, printing method date of issue, how many sheets to a plate positioning, how perforated, whether sheets are separated before or after perforation, composition of sheets, paper and watermark.

Now you are ready to write your sheets, with all the information assessed, with the first sheet containing all the information, designer, date etc, and the second page requires paper, watermark and perforation. A good magnifying glass is essen-

tial, magnifying 10 times, a small one to carry in your pocket and one with a built-in light to use at home, constantly and perhaps for hours at a time. If possible, try to get access to sheets of stamps and look for all sources of news of varieties from literature, societies and dealers and confirm the varieties at the Post Office. In 2 to 4 weeks major varieties should have turned up and now plan your buying. Get blocks to demonstrate all the points in your heading, and from examination, try and figure out what varieties can occur. Can sheets be perforated differently? Can sheet values be changed? Can printing methods be changed? Can paper be changed? Up to this point your purchases have been at face value, and from now on, any variety offered, buy at sight if possible, because there is no second chance, but buying within reason. The expensive pieces are the ones that make your collection, they are the highlights. Everything in your collection must have a reason.

Varieties: Where possible buy positional blocks in the low values, and in the higher values buy the varieties in pairs, showing one normal stamp. If possible, hinge the stamp to the normal stamp. Be careful in mounting your stamps, do not wet the hinge too much, just very lightly, make the hinge damp only on a very small portion, the tip. When mint varieties are not available, used stamps are then acceptable, as sometimes an issue has passed before an error is found.

Our meeting for 1st October, 1968, was a competition with Mr. V. McFarlane as Convenor. A competition of 20 photographs which have been shown in other parts of New Zealand and the winning highest member 17. Mr. J. Robinson was the winner of the Auckland Society, and you must admit there was a choice of pick. Perhaps luck did play a good part in the right answers. The score was 16.

Coming events:

November 5th: Big auction of donated material for Building Fund.

November 19th: Ladies Night. Convened by Miss N. A. Williams, "Fiji" with slides shown by Mrs. I. Dyson after her recent Fijian holiday.

N. A. WILLIAMS

GREAT BRITAIN

CHRISTMAS STAMPS

This year's Christmas stamps which are to be issued on 25 November show three scenes of children playing with toys.

The old stamp depicts a young boy and girl playing with a rocking horse; the 9d shows a girl with dolls and a dolls house, while the 1s 6d has a boy with a train set and a constructional toy. The three stamps were designed by Rosalind Dease, who worked with David Gentleman on previous stamp designs such as the Churchill and Battle of Britain series.

Each stamp bears, in addition to the toy design, the Queen's head and the words "Happy Christmas" and shows the name of the designer and printer.

Presentation packs will be available.

Printing details

Printer: Harrison and Sons. Paper: Coated unwatermarked phosphor lined. Process: Photogravure. Machines: Sheet fed rotary. Perforation: 15 x 14. No. to sheet: 120. Colours: 4d, Black, brown, blue, orange, red, gold. 9d, Yellow, cerise, orange, black, brown, olive green, green-blue gold. 1s 6d, Green, cerise, orange, blue, black, gold.

THE ARTIST

Rosalind Dease was born in Jersey in 1928, studied at the Royal College of Art and is married to an architect. She is a freelance illustrator and typographer, draws for newspapers, magazines and book publishers; also designs fabrics. In studio partnership with David Gentleman, she worked with him on successful stamp designs.

UNITED NATIONS STAMPS IN SWISS DENOMINATIONS

The Executive Council of the Universal Postal Union, at its 1967 and 1968 sessions, considered a proposal by the United Nations and the Swiss Government to issue United Nations stamps in Swiss denominations, to be valid for postage from the European Office of the United Nations at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland. The proposal was endorsed on 15th May, 1968.

Negotiations are now in progress on the text of a definitive agreement between the United Nations and the Swiss postal authorities. It is expected that this agreement will be virtually identical with that under which the United Nations Post Office operates at Headquarters in New York.

These United Nations stamps in Swiss denominations would be issued during the second half of 1969. Further details will be announced in due course.

TIMARU PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The monthly meeting was held on 8th October and a good attendance of 47 people heard a report by Mrs. V. Harwood on the visit to the Ashburton Philatelic Society by a party from our society. This visit took place on 25th September, and was enjoyed by both Ashburton and ourselves.

The display for the evening was given by Mr. R. J. Comrie, and consisted of his specialised collection of N.Z. King Geo. V issues. We saw many breathtaking errors which most of us had not seen before of this issue, and the display was much appreciated.

At the November meeting, entries for the annual competition will be judged and the awards announced.

STAMPS. A COLLECTORS GUIDE by Bill Hornadge. \$1.50

Available from all leading Stamp Dealers in New Zealand.

Often reviews of books are merely a review of contents and left at that. I am not going to set out to list the contents—that would only spoil the fun and pleasure you and every stamp collector will have in reading this book. Somehow this is a stamp book with a difference, a book any person can read and enjoy whether interested in stamps or not—a book you and I and any stamp collector can pick up, start reading and find it very difficult to put down again. There are many philatelic stories, amusing, interesting, hilarious and warmly human. For light stamp reading this book is one of the best I have read for a long time.

L.W.J.

19th Olympic Games 1968

The origin of the Olympic Games is not certain but there is a historical record of the ancient games beginning in 776 B.C. Thereafter these games were held at intervals of four years between the end of June and the first half of July—a period which was known as the Sacred month. During this period heralds were dispatched throughout Greece to proclaim the truce and enable competitors to attend the games unmolested. Even after Greece was conquered by the Romans the Games continued to be held, but after Christianity was declared the official religion of the Roman Empire, it was felt that this pagan festival should be stopped. In A.D. 393 Emperor Theodosius abolished the Games.

For over 1,000 years after its abolition the Games were forgotten. After many unsuccessful attempts to revive these games, the modern Olympic Games were born, on the evening of the 25th November, 1892, at a meeting at Sorbonne University, Paris, held to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Union of Athletic Sports. At this meeting, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, a brilliant educator and scholar, recalled the ancient tradition and suggested that the Olympic Games be revived. At a congress held at the Sorbonne in June, 1894, which was attended by representatives of various nations, it was decided that the Games should be revived.

The modern Olympic Games are held once every four years and only amateur sportsmen may compete without any distinction of race, religion or creed. The Games are kept above politics and the organisation of the Games is entrusted to a city chosen by the International Olympic Committee and not to a nation.

The symbol of the modern Olympics consists of a flag, a motto and an oath. A white flag with interlaced rings represents five continents united by Olympic ideal, the motto "Altius, Citius and Fortius" means, "Higher, Quicker and Stronger". The oath is taken before the opening by an athlete of the nation where the Games are held. The flag, the motto and the oath were devised by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic Games.

MEXICO OLYMPICS

(Complete mint sets)

Australia 42c, Bahamas 2.25, Belgium
Bermuda 88c, Cayman Is. 70c, Cook Is.
1.85, East Africa 95c, Grenada 87c, Dto
Min. sheets 2.65, Germany 70c, Greece
95c, Luxembourg 90c, Malaysia 45c, Mon-
aco 2.85, Spain 32c. (Booking all others).

Commonwealth Definitive Issues.
(Cpl. Mint sets)

1967 Anguilla (16)	6.25
1966 Antigua (16)	7.25
1963 Ascension (14)	6.50
1966/67 Australian Decimal (27)	13.30
1966 Australian Antarctic (11)	3.05
1966 Bahamas Decimal O.P (15)	9.00
1967 Bahamas Decimal (15)	9.00
1966 Barbados Marine Life (14)	3.75
1962/6 Bermuda (19)	7.75
1966 Botswana Republic O.P (14)	9.50
1967 Botswana Birds (14)	7.95
1963 Br. Antarctic (15)	6.25
1962 Br. Honduras Birds (12)	6.60
1968 Br. Honduras Animals	7.25
1968 Br. Indian Ocean Terr. O/P (15)	6.00
1968 Br. Indian Ocean Terr Fish (15)	5.75
1966 Br. Solomon Is. Deci- mal O/P Upright (15)	7.00
1967 Br. Solomon Is. Deci- mal O/P Sideway (18)	6.95
1968 Br. Solomon Is. Pic- torials	6.50
1967 Canada (12) S.G. 579/90	2.95
1962 Cayman Is. (15)	5.95
1963 Christmas Is. Views (10)	1.00
1968 Christmas Is. Fish (10)	2.75
1967 Cook Is. Flowers (19)	6.50
1968 Cook Is. Flowers High vals (33)	24.00
1966 Cyprus	6.00
1968 Dominica O/P	6.25
1960 Falkland Is. Birds (15)	6.60
1968 Falkland Is. Flowers	5.10
1959/63 Fiji Script CA (13)	10.00
1962/6 Fiji Block CA (16)	8.50
1968* Fiji Pictorials	6.90
1966 Gambia Birds (13)	6.00
1960 Gibraltar (14)	10.00
1966 Gil/Ellice Is. Decimal O/P (15)	7.00
1968 Gil/Ellice Is. Decimal (15)	6.50
1966 Grenada (15)	5.25
1967 Grenada Statehood O/P (16)	7.75
1967/8 Guyana Local O/P (23)	25.00
1968 Guyana Animals (15)	6.00

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JUNIOR PAGE—ERRORS

By Simon Sam

When a new set of stamps comes out, someone is sure to ask—"Any mistakes?" There are two kinds of mistakes in stamps—one by the artist, the other by the printer. These enquiries—any mistakes?—refer to the mistakes made in printing. Wrong colour, centre part of the design upside down; damage to the printing plate which affects the printing. But what of the mistakes made by the artist! These are not always his fault. He may have been supplied with incorrect information by the post office concerned.



NOT SO FRIENDLY

If you think it is easy to design a stamp, try it out for yourself and you will soon discover that it is not as easy as it looks. I would like you to look at some New Zealand stamps, not for the purpose of "picking holes", but as a matter of philatelic and historical interest. The 3d stamp issued in 1906- to commemorate the exhibition held in Christchurch at that time: (The four stamps were designed by Mr. L. J. Steele, an artist of some considerable ability.) We are told that this is an impression of the landing of Captain James Cook at Poverty Bay on 8th October, 1769. In the stamps we see Cook landing on the beach where the City of Gisborne stands today. A stone monument marks the spot. The two men in the picture would be Mr. Joseph Banks after whom Banks Peninsula is named—a remarkable man who inheriting a fortune, devoted his money and his life to the pursuit of science. He was president of the Royal Society from 1788 until his death in 1820. His companion is Dr. Daniel C. Solander, after whom Solander Island takes its name. Cook is shown shaking hands with a Chief; that is how the Commander would have wished it, but what are the facts of the case? We have to turn to Cook's own account of his first meeting with the Maori. That most im-

portant and historic event, the 200th anniversary of which is to be commemorated next year.

In Cook's journal under date Sunday 8th October Cook tells us that seeing the opening of a bay that appeared to run pretty far inland, they anchored off shore until morning. Next day, Monday 9th October, in the afternoon, the Endeavour came into the bay and anchored near a small river "after this I went ashore with a party of men in the pinnace and yawl, accompanied by Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander". But the reception was far from friendly and the marines were forced to fire to protect some of the ship's company who were in danger. Hence Cook called it Poverty Bay "because it afforded us not one thing we desired". A few days later he visited another place which he named Bay of Plenty and you do not have to ask why he did so. So the Artist depicts a friendly welcome instead of what actually took place.

2/- 1935 PICT.

Turn to the 2/- stamp of 1935, which we are told, portrays "Captain Cook at Poverty Bay, October 8th, 1869". I have said that Cook's Journal gives the date of the landing as October 9th. Why then does the stamp say it was the 8th? Both are correct and here is the answer—"It was the custom on board ships to keep what was known as Ship time—i.e. the day began at noon before the civil reckoning in which the day commences at midnight. This puzzling mode of keeping time continued to a late period and was common of all seamen of all nations." The landing at Poverty Bay took place in the afternoon—9th ship time: 8th our time. The 2/- stamp of 1935 has mistakes or errors of both kinds. On one stamp a defect developed in the printing plate and the second O of Cook developed into a Q, forming the popular variety known as the C O Q K. But now get your magnifying glass on to the footwear that Cook is wearing, one BOOT and one SHOE? When Cook sailed in the Endeavour on this first Pacific voyage he held the rank of Lieutenant and I suppose correctly speaking, this stamp should refer to him as Lieutenant.

The 3d Centennial of 1940, designed by Mr. L. C. Mitchell, shows four ships in Port Nicholson. These are the — Helena, Aurora and Cuba. The Post Office has stated that this was the only stamp in the set which did in fact contain a mistake in the design. You will notice that the ships are shown with double yardarms. This type of rigging was not introduced until 15 years later than the period of the design! The exact location of the landing of the immigrants on the Petone Beach was not marked at the time, but letters from pioneers suggest that it was nearer the Hutt Road than is shown in the stamps. Also that the ships were under the lee of Somes Island, not lying open to the full force of the current from Cook Strait.

The 7d and 8d design of the same set has an interesting study of Maori life. The ladder leading to the food store house you will notice, is a Pakeha ladder—the Maori was quick to adopt European methods and ideas—but why oh why didn't someone tell the artist that a Maori type ladder was a single stick with notches cut into it. Genuine Maori ladders are rare today and I understand that one of the very few complete specimens was found in a swamp at Pungarehu, Taranaki, some years ago and is now in the Taranaki Museum.

SIMON SAM may be heard from 2ZP and 2ZH (Radio Taranaki) SUNDAY 3rd and 17th NOVEMBER, at 9.5 a.m.

UGANDA COIN ISSUE

Palmerston, Otago.

Dear Sir,

Here is some more information on the "COIN ISSUE" of UGANDA as listed in the September Issue of the N.Z.S.M., as supplied by the Bank of Uganda.

The Five Shillings Proof Coins (Crown) of the Food and Agriculture Organisation are expected to be available in the middle of October and the cost of each will be Shs 63/- including postage.

There will also be five shilling coins in uncirculated condition available for sale at their face value, i.e. Shs 5/-. One U.S. dollar would be sufficient to cover the cost and postage of one coin.

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Yours faithfully,

R. HARRIS.

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