

THE NEW ZEALAND

STAMP MONTHLY

TONGA OIL STAMPS



SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME?

VOL. 2. No. 11.

FEBRUARY, 1970.

FEATURING:-

- ★ NEW ZEALAND ROYAL VISIT ISSUE
- ★ OPINION—N.Z. ISSUES—THE C.T.O. STAMP
- ★ COMING ISSUES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR WHAT A BEAUTY!

Cardy is home. Every New Zealander is justly proud of the magnificent achievements of this horse. To commemorate Cardigan Bay, the first horse in the world to win over one million dollars in light harness racing, the Post Office issued the Cardigan Bay stamp. This time the Post Office gave the printing order to Courvoisier of Switzerland.

The stamp, like its namesake, is a beauty. Throughout the country there has been widespread interest in the issue. Sales have been exceptional. The colouring of Cardigan Bay is superb.

I sincerely hope the Post Office will no longer put up with the shoddy workmanship so commonplace with our usual English printers. Let us enhance New Zealand's philatelic name with quality to back it up.

WHAT A PITY!

While speaking of quality, my attention is drawn by Ashton Cook (Hutt Valley Newsletter Editor) to an article in the New Zealand Herald.

Someone, somewhere, it does seem in our Post Office, believes that New Zealand should sell stamps like the Cook Islands. The first paragraph of the article may make you disbelieve this statement but read carefully the other paragraphs in the article, especially this direct statement—"The Post Office (New Zealand) will look to wholesalers as the Cook Islands does—to take bulk orders".

"STATEMENTS"

Let us look at some of the other "statements" that bear the name of Post Office thinking. Firstly the Cook Islands calculates that it could earn \$1 million a year from stamps, but has settled for a more modest return to avoid saturating the market with an excessive number of issues. Anybody who believes this statement is not showing the qualities that earned him his position. Already many collectors have turned away from the Cook Islands and their doubtful stamp-issuing policy. If it put more sets on the market sales would drop out. The Cook Islands just cannot afford to issue more stamps. The stamp collector is far more effective on sales than any hippie, protestor, what-you-like when he shows his opinion.

Secondly: This statement—The New Zealand Post Office believes that upwards of a million dollars a

P.O. PLANS?

Stamps as export commodity:
The following article appeared in the N.Z. Herald on 13 January:-

Whether New Zealand is profiting from the vigorous example of the Cook Islands Government promotion of postage stamp sales is not certain, but efforts to stimulate sales of New Zealand stamps to foreign countries are following a strangely familiar pattern. The Cook Islands Government calculates that it could earn \$1 million a year from stamps, but has settled for a more modest return to avoid saturating the market with an excessive number of issues.

Big Prospects: The New Zealand Post Office believes that upwards of \$2 million a year can be earned by the sale of New Zealand stamps in the densely populated and affluent markets of Britain, North America and Japan. Present sales in those areas amount to little more than \$100,000 a year.

The Post Office therefore sees the possibility of a dramatic increase in sales if the market is properly planned and developed. It is unlikely that such a market could be built quickly, or at all, by direct sales to collectors. The Post Office will look to wholesalers—as the Cook Islands Government does—to take bulk orders.

Tour Planned: To make American and Canadian wholesalers better acquainted with New Zealand issues, the Post Office decided late last year to send the senior supervisor of the postal branch at Auckland, Mr. E. F. Parnell, on a six-month promotional tour of North America.

If the arrangements he makes are sufficiently encouraging, it is possible that the drive will be extended, later this year, to Japan, where some interest will already have been aroused by the postal display and information booth in the New Zealand pavilion at Expo 70.

year can be earned by the sale of New Zealand stamps in the densely populated and affluent markets of Britain, North America and Japan.

"WESTERN GERMANY"

My first comment is—is the Post Office so out of touch to not even include the most affluent market of all—Western Germany. Second—\$2 million. Great Britain reached this figure in 1967/68 with a collecting population 30 times greater—a little over \$100,000 were sold by overseas agencies on

Great Britain's behalf. I note no date of attainment was set for this figure of \$2 million by the New Zealand Post Office.

Thirdly—let us take the market of Japan. From all reports I have seen, it seems that the Japanese are very slow to branch out into other countries—over 90% of Japanese senior collectors collect Japan of associated material only. The other markets, Western Germany, North America and Great Britain are much the same and certainly it is only in Great Britain that there is a little general interest in New Zealand. The point being only a small percentage will collect New Zealand even after a fine sales campaign.

SPECIAL PACKS

It is also interesting to note that the Great Britain Post Office is no longer printing special language packs of G.B. sets for (the affluent markets) of Germany and Japan. No prize for the first in with the answer. I would also say that the dramatic rise in sales of the G.B. Post Office in 1969/70 will be matched by a dramatic drop in the next few years as more and more thousands of sheets of Great Britain stamps of 1966/70 are unloaded on to the market well below face value and collectors become thoroughly disillusioned with their hobby.

WHOLESALEERS

The third point—The Post Office will look to wholesalers—why? Has it become uneconomic to service collectors orders? Cannot the Post Office handle collectors orders effectively? Will they look to the already over-burdened new issue wholesalers who buy on booked orders. If the Cook Islands have such a modest programme, why don't these wholesalers sell more?

COMMISSION

But then—what kind of a wholesaler?—As the Cook Islands Government does—to an agent at a commission. Yes, that's a fine idea, an agent in every affluent market—until the bubble bursts. Thank goodness our Post Office will not step to that sort of practice.

Come gentlemen of the Post Office—you are far above the criticism I have levelled at you here—as the ultimate goose for the pot. Surely we (as collectors) have as much, if not more right than the general public through such reports/interviews to know the correct story.

It is a pity, but it seems to me that one person's opinion, speaking as if on behalf of the Post Office, can undermine the good work of so many with the good name of the New Zealand Post Office at heart.

LEN JURY.

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NEW ZEALAND NEWS



10c "ROYAL STAMP"

The "Royal Stamp", the first of the new 1970 Definitive stamps, will be released on 12 March 1970 to coincide with the visit to New Zealand of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

The stamp has a postage value of 10c and was designed by Mr. M. Cleverley of Auckland. With a white background, the stamp features a silhouette of Her Majesty's head in Prussian blue and the New Zealand Coat of Arms in silver. The stamp was printed by Harrison and Sons Ltd., London, by photogravure process.

The Post Office has produced a specially designed first day cover for this issue which will be supplied unaddressed and date stamped at the Philatelic Bureau Post Office Headquarters, Wellington. Orders for these covers will be taken at all Post Offices up to and including 11 March 1970.

PLATE BLOCK COMMENT

by Ashton Cook,
(Editor Hutt Valley P.S. Newsletter.)

A Post Office spokesman gave a curious answer about plate numbers at the Federation A.G.M. according to the N.Z. Stamp Monthly. Upon being asked if plate numbers and imprints could be placed together, so that they could be collected in blocks of four, rather than in tens, as is often done now, the spokesman replied that these were placed at the printer's discretion.

There seems to be no technical reason to prevent the grouping of imprint and plate numbers. If collectors are showing impatience with the proliferation of plate numbers and the sizes of blocks involved, there could well be good reason for the Post Office to examine this question, and if satisfied that the complaint is well founded, to require the printer to place plate numbers and imprints at the Post Office's discretion.

C.P. NEW PAGES

Just to hand are the 1969-70 Campbell Paterson Catalogue revision pages. Many upward prices

can be noted right from S.G.1 or C.P. Ala Mint. It has moved from \$1,300.00 to \$2,000.00 while the used is up \$300 to \$1,200.00.

The whole Full Face section has been thoroughly revised and one cannot but note the general move upwards of all the lower priced Full Faces. In the mid-68 revision the cheapest was catalogued at \$2.25. With this Revision the lowest price is now \$3.50.

The upward revision of the 1898-1907 Pictorials is timely for a very popular set.

For those who have been waiting, the jump in prices of the 1953 Queen Elizabeth High Values will give them a shock. Here are the new prices with the old in brackets.

2/6 Brown M. \$6.00 (3.50), U. \$1.25 (80c); 3/- Green M. \$3.00 (1.50), U. 60c (35c); 5/- Carmine M. \$3.00 (1.30), U. 60c (35c); 10/- Blue M. \$11.00 (6.00), U. 6.50 (4.50).

Very few alterations are apparent in the Mint and Used prices of the 1960 pictorials. The oft-tipped 7d moves from 15c both mint and used to 25c and 30c respectively. The 1/9 and 3/- monocolours have apparently passed their boom and have moved no further.

In the early commemoratives many prices have shot ahead, emphasising the keen demand for better class New Zealand. The 1906 Christchurch set priced at just over \$20.00 used is now \$35.00 while the Auckland set Mint is up \$16 to \$36.00 from \$20.00 and used has more than doubled from \$20.00 to \$42.00.

A few will wonder why the 1/- Kauri of 1940 Official Mint should have been bumped up \$1 to \$1.50 while all the other mint and used prices remain the same. A point to note here is the significantly higher prices for the joined f's.

The Healths have few changes. The "Smiling Boys" are brought into line with the current prices while used Hygeias are now \$4.50 as against \$3.00.

As usual a sleeper set has been slowly disappearing off the market. Have a close look at the new prices for the Life Insurance (No V.R.) listings. To give readers an idea the previous lowest price was 3c— in this revision it is 15c!

For the Postal History enthusiasts a very interesting page on New Zealand Postal Rates from 1855 to 1873 has been included.

In reviewing the pages it is good to see a steady changeover to one basic type style, though it would pay some readers to pause and reflect before they write away for the Full-faces priced from 10 to 60 each. It is a pity the \$ signs were left out to cause this ambiguous situation.

However the person who believes his 3d Huia Official Mint has jumped from 40c to \$50.00 may be in for a nasty shock with the next Campbell Paterson Newsletter.

Helicopter Mail, Taupo-Turangi: On the northern shore of Lake Taupo are the remains of a lake steamer that used to ply from Turangi to Taupo, before there was a road around the lake. So when the new Postmaster-General Mr. McCready, accompanied the Taupo Centenary Helicopter mail to Turangi, he was able to compare progress in transport over quite a part of Taupo's 100 years.

Over 6000 special envelopes were sold and accumulated in a special mail box. The envelope read "Centennial", but the special postmark called it a "Centenary".

The idea of a special helicopter mail was dreamed up by Taupo's Public Relations Officer to publicise Taupo.

SOUVENIR

Presentation Collections: Besides helicopter rides, Mr. McCready will probably be presented with a fine souvenir collection of New Zealand and Islands, a little-known "perk" of each Postmaster-General. In the past these contained representative sets of earlier New Zealand issues, and Islands stamps including the Queen Victoria and Arms overprints up to £1. The Islands stamps alone have greatly increased in value over recent years and probably eclipse in value the ordinary run of New Zealand stamps included in the collections.

DUTCH FORGERIES

The Dutch police have arrested an Amsterdam dealer on charges of selling forgeries of current Dutch issues. The stamps in blocks and strips showed outstanding imperfs and different value arrangements, e.g. a 1c beside a 12c. Other dealers in Amsterdam became suspicious as the blocks reached the market, and they found on approaching the Netherlands Post Office that these blocks were never printed or circulated. Mr. J. Meyer of Putaruru who sent the N.Z.S.M| news of the forgeries says that latest information to hand states that the stamps were printed on waste paper and smuggled out of the printing office.

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

A sensational collection of N.Z. (includes early Healths), Australia, Canada and most other countries, allows me to sell many items at ridiculously low prices. This collection mainly compiled between 1930 to 1940 is in excellent condition generally. (Mint varieties mainly hinged). All enquiries welcome.

COMPETITION NUMBER THREE

VIEWS ON THE N.Z.S.M.

Our thanks to the many readers who took the time to pen us a few lines to tell us their thoughts on the New Zealand Stamp Monthly. We will keep each letter and assure readers that your suggestions will be followed up wherever practicable.

SPECIAL RATE

It was obvious to us that many of those who wrote in have not been readers since Volume 1 No. 1, and hence some of the suggestions for articles were for items that have already been included in past numbers. So if you would like to see your files up to date, this month we are pleased to suggest our special offer of the 12 issues of Volume 1 for \$1.20 post free (a saving of \$1.80). We get hours of enjoyment browsing through back numbers and we know you will too.

POPULAR ARTICLES

Thank you to the readers who paid many compliments to the N.Z.S.M. and our contributing writers. We were very interested in the articles and features readers enjoyed most. The most popular articles were: Readers letters, Society reports, and special interest articles such as thematics, and flaws. We were interested to note the high proportion of readers who made special mention of the interest they derived from reading dealers' advertisements.

We also noted quite a few readers requests for very basic "beginner" articles, so we will look into providing these articles in the near future.

It really was a hard job deciding the winner and the five runner-up places. The results were as follows:

Winner of \$5 to be spent with an advertiser this month: R. Osborn, Glen Eden.

Five prizes of \$1 each were awarded to: Miss L. C. Snowden, Northland; Leslie Brighton, Invercargill; Mrs. J. M. Carr, Hastings; Mr. M. L. Williams, Napier; G. Hutchinson, New Plymouth.

Most readers were reluctant to suggest any great change in the magazine, but many suggestions came forth, some of which we have recorded here for your interest.

Excerpts from readers letters:

QUESTION AND ANSWER COLUMN

"... I would very much like to see a question and answer column (especially for ignorant people like me!) and a regular feature of the history of some of the really rare stamps of the world. Also I think it would be interesting to read of collectors and their problems in little known parts of the world (for instance do the Eskimo people collect stamps?)"

"... An article to help adults to guide children in stamp collecting. In their different age groups I know the young ones. You can only expect them to put them in their right countries, but what age to teach them to set them out properly and then on to watermarks, paper, perforations etc., also for educational subjects as History and Geography..."

"... I would like to see on the shiny pages samples of attractively set out and written up pages of stamps which are likely to be in an average or even mildly specialist collection. You could request winning entries from monthly club competitions, or run your own if this wouldn't prove too cumbersome..."

AND STAMP INVESTMENT

"... Writing as a beginner I feel a grassroots page, where the physical aspects of stamp cleaning, care and selection would be a handy adjunct, and perhaps suggestions on the financial aspects of stamp investment for the benefit of that large section of the community whose interest in stamps is coloured by the potential financial gain..."

"... Each month a specialist collector of note to submit an article (perhaps you would have to choose the collectors and approach them with the request) fully describing either the country they collect, or the thematic subject. I suggest emphasising the lesser known countries and thematic subjects first, to diversify philatelists' attention and show them the fields available..."

"... One thing I would like to see in the Stamp Monthly is a detailed account in serial form of the life of a stamp; from tree-velope..."

"... List of stamps being withdrawn that month, sometimes it seems to be included, but not always..."

PHILATELIC THOUGHTS

It was approximately two years since I did the rounds of stamp dealers in Auckland, so when I arrived in the northern metropolis just prior to Xmas I managed to send my family off on another excursion and proceeded to call on all and sundry. My prime object was to obtain material for my own specialist collection, but very few N.Z. dealers cater for my particular needs. However I did achieve limited success and I am extremely grateful. Aided by the yellow pages in the Auckland telephone directory plus reference to recent advertisements in the newspapers I probably covered about 75 per cent of the dealers in that city. Even then it is amazing how difficult it can be in some cases to find the shop in question. The moral in this I think is if you want to sell anything you must make it easy for the purchaser to reach you, especially in a happy frame of mind. I had read an advertisement in the Auckland papers that a dealer wished to sell stamps and was located at such and such chambers. As I was a stranger to the city this meant nothing to me. Furthermore, when I eventually found the establishment it was on second floor level. At street level there was no sign displayed and at second floor level it was necessary to pass through the office of another concern before I found the very nice stamp shop (again there were no proper signposts). Other dealer's premises were easily found and adequately signposted but some were left with doors locked without any indication whether the proprietor was away for 5 minutes or 5 months. I was most appreciative of the hospitality offered to me by one of the larger dealers in Queen St. on Xmas Eve, especially the refreshments which were just what I needed on a sweltering day. Looking through his approval books became a matter of joy and needless to say I made several purchases.

What does one do about the hobby when on holiday? Personally I was well behind with soaking stamps off paper so I figured that the hot weather at Waiheke Is. would be just the thing for drying off. How right I was. On the last evening I was there I ran across the Exchange Supt. of the Auckland Society who was also holidaying at Waiheke and we had a very enjoyable chat.

M. G. WING.

THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO 1914 RED CROSS STAMP/LABEL

by Col. Fred F. Seifert

The Scott catalogue lists under Trinidad and Tobago, a Red Cross semi-postal stamp (no. B1) giving a valuation only for used, on-cover copies. A footnote states, "This stamp was allowed to pay postage as 1d on one day only, September 18, 1914."

Whether the above usage warrants classifying as a Postage Stamp, what would otherwise be referred to as a label, will probably be debated as long as there are stamp collectors. Stanley Gibbons does not accord it catalogue status nor even deign to mention it in a footnote. In Robson Lowe's Regent Encyclopaedia and Catalogue it is also conspicuous by its absence. However, the fact remains that it was used on covers which carried no further franking and said covers were duly postmarked by the G.P.O. Port-of-Spain, 3 PM, September 18, 1914, and were delivered to their destinations without any postage due indicated.

On September 4, 1914, at a public meeting in Port-of-Spain, a committee was formed to raise funds for the Red Cross Association of London. Mrs. M. E. Burslem of Queen's Royal College, Port-of-Spain, and Mrs. J. I. Blackwood Wright were the Joint Secretaries and a Committee member was appointed to each of the following Districts: Diego Martin, Santa Cruz, St. Joseph, Maracas, Caroni, Tunapuna, Tacarigua, Dabadie, Arima, Sangre Grande, Chaguanas, Couva, San Fernando, Princes Town, Montserrat, Cedros, Blanchisseuse and Toco.

To publicise its fund raising, the Committee on September 18, 1914, addressed a printed form letter dated September 1, 1914, to the managers of the various estates throughout Trinidad and Tobago. This letter advised of the formation of the Committee and said, in part:

"... the money is to be collected by the women of Trinidad and Tobago and their aim is to reach every man, woman and child in the islands and give them an opportunity of doing their share, however small, for the relief of the sick and wounded soldiers and sailors who have been fighting so gallantly for our protection and liberty. These will include not only the British, but our French and Belgian Allies as well as our East Indian troops in whom the East Indians on the est-

ate will have special interest. The Committee will be glad if you will do your best to interest the employees of your estate to contribute a small sum—from cent upward—every month while the war lasts."

To frank the above letter, a copy of the stamp/label was applied to the cover. Is it a stamp or label? I leave it to you, the reader, to decide. It is interesting to note that Grenada issued, at the same time, a Red Cross label, identical to the above except for the name of the colony. However, there has never been any question as to its status as a label since it was never employed as a frank.

The above article is typical of the articles appearing in the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal. This authoritative bi-monthly is the official publication of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (Unit 27 of the American Philatelic Society). For membership particulars, interested readers are invited to contact: A. NN. Johnson, 2610 Virginia St., Baytown, Texas, 77520, or Alfred J. Branston, 144 The Avenue, Highams Park, London E.4, England.

Coral Sea Is. Claimed by Australia

(from "Stamp News" Australia.)

Australia has officially proclaimed its sovereignty over a vast area of the Pacific to be known as the Coral Sea Islands Territory, but it does not in the near future propose to set up a separate postal administration or issue postage stamps for the new territory.

The Territory is situated east of Queensland between the Great Barrier Reef and the meridian 157 degrees 10 minutes east longitude.

Despite the importance of this move, and its wide implications on the international (and philatelic) scene, the Bill received very little coverage in the Australian press.

The Coral Sea Islands Territory comprises 400,000 square miles, but there are only a few square miles of reefs and low lying islands and these mainly are of interest to fishermen, mineral and oil prospectors and meteorologists.

Only one of the islands in the area is inhabited and that is in the Willis Group where three members of the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology are stationed. Islands

in the Territory include Cato Island, Chilcott Islet in the Coringa Group and the Willis Group. A lighthouse is erected on Bougainville Reef and beacons are operating on Frederick Reef and Lihou Reef. In addition to the meteorological station which has operated in the Willis Group since 1921, there is an unmanned weather station on Cato Island.

The Bill proclaiming the area as the Coral Sea Islands Territory under Australian sovereignty was introduced to establish Australia's claims to the area as a result of extensive oil exploration taking place in the area.

When "Stamp News" learned of this piece of legislation it sought from the Department of External Territories information on the philatelic status of this new Australian Territory.

The Department advised "Stamp News" that the new Territory would not have an Administration or permanent resident. It would not have a separate postal service nor issue its own stamps.

The Department spokesman went on to say that the stamps to be affixed on articles from the territory would depend on the country to which the articles were taken for posting for onward transmission. If taken to an Australian port then Australian stamps would be used on the mail; if taken to Norfolk Island for onward posting then Norfolk Island stamps should be used.

The Department spokesman stressed that there were no facilities in the territory for postmarking mail nor was there any plan to provide philatelic services.

As the present permanent population of the territory is only three persons (on the Meteorological Station) the amount of mail from the area obviously is very small. In the near future however, the population is likely to be considerably enlarged by crews of oil drilling rigs and this may prompt the Department to establish postal facilities in the Territory similar to those provided for Australian Antarctic Territory.

This also is an area in which there has been a considerable amount of "poaching" by Japanese fishing vessels in recent years and sometime in the future the Department might consider it advisable to establish a token Administration in the Territory—in which case the issue of special postage stamps from Coral Sea Islands Territory would be a distinct possibility.

READERS LETTERS

STAMP ISSUE POLICY OF NEW ZEALAND

Hawera.

Dear Sir,

I notice that your January editorial comments on the Post Office New Issue Policy outlined in the December issue. I consider that every commemorative issue should have one value of the inland rate (at present 3c) and some one for the second class rate (2½c)—I don't think it would matter if there was an additional stamp as a result.

The policy states—"In deciding on the denomination, the Post Office takes into account such factors as the organisation or event being commemorated, the likely areas in which it will be of special interest and so on." May I ask why the Law Society issue had a 3c stamp and the Cook issue did not—surely the Cook Bi-centenary was of more interest to the general public than the Law Society anniversary. Anyway is this aspect all that necessary, the Australians put out a 5 cent stamp for every issue and only occasionally put out a higher value.

I'm afraid that I have come to the conclusion that our Post Office is getting into the philately game and will soon be like the Cook Islands and some of the others that issue stamps far in excess of their own requirements. Otherwise why do we have to have an issue of some sort almost every month, values inconsistent with their use—why three 4c stamps in quick succession, two in August alone, and issues of new definitives just before a new general issue, particularly ones of relatively little use—7c and 8c.

In my opinion the stamp issuing policy leaves a lot to be desired.

Yours faithfully,

Peter H. Gibbs.

½d NEWSPAPER STAMP

Dear Sir,

Hamilton.

Concerning the ½d Newspaper stamp with N.Z. and Star watermark, the June date shown in Vol. I of the "Postage Stamps of N.Z." was **not** an official date of issue but merely the earliest date known about 1938 to the late R. J. G. Collins.

In a subsequent detailed study of these stamps I found several examples with May dates (Dunedin,

Nelson, Christchurch, Invercargill), the earliest being 3 and 5 May at Dunedin and 5 May at Nelson. I overlooked recording this early date evidence both in my article in "Philately from Australia" (1964) Vol. XVI No. 1, Pg. 7-10, and also in Vol. IV.

Yours truly,

K. J. McNAUGHT, F.R.P.S.N.Z.

THOUGHTS FROM PHILATELIC THOUGHTS

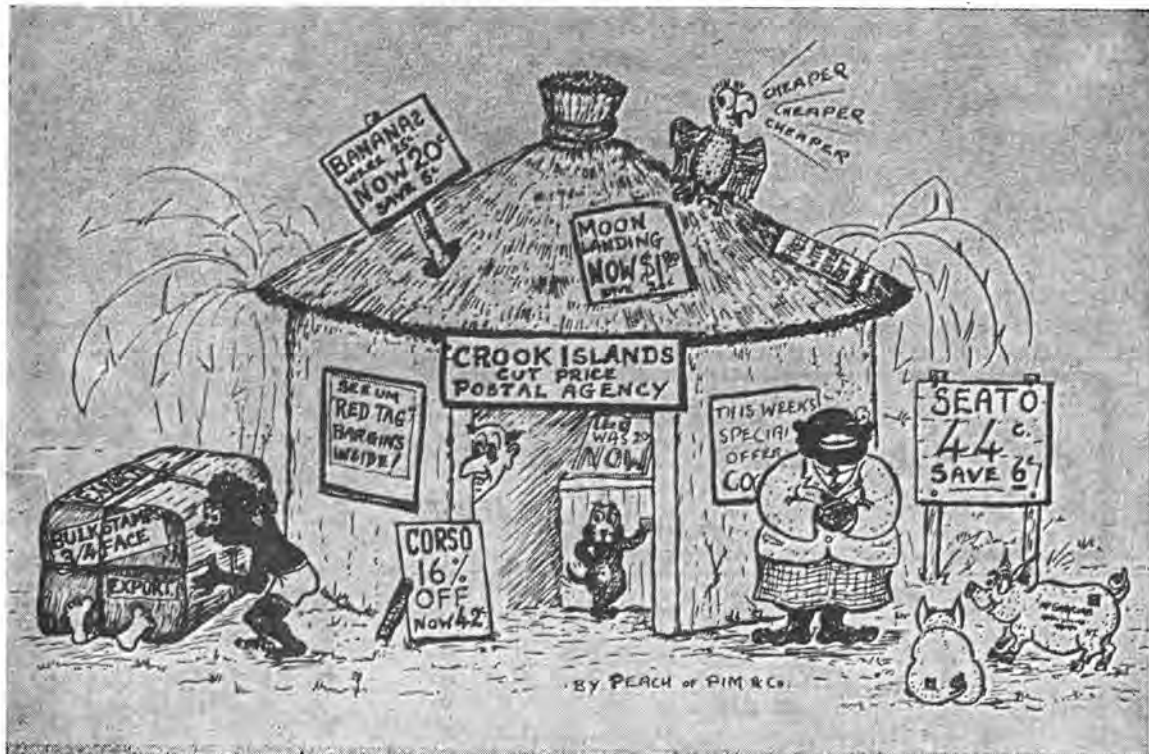
Wanganui.

Dear Sir,

An article in Jan. N.Z.S.M. does lay open some grumbles among smaller Collectors. I have the trouble of not receiving—Itemised order. (All for rarer stamp and latest issues mint.) I can name 3 of the largest N.Z. Dealers who send me what I "don't want". I have ordered these in Norfolk, Fiji and G.B. All I have received is Approval Books of used stuff at very very exorbitant prices. Went into a Wellington dealer lately—asked for 4 sets Aust. Air Race. Total 60c face; price 96c and a torn window envelope = 58% profit. I had already put them in my pocket or I would have walked out. Never no more.

"Millions from Mugs".

PHILATELY WITH DENNIS



The N.Z.S.M. deplores the fact that certain territories are selling their stamps at less than face value . . . Will it come to this?

Classifieds (Cont. from page 32).

NEW Zealand and Pacific Illustrated Mini Wholesale List priced in small quantities eminently suitable exchange purposes and small dealers. Send 6c stamps.—Nelson Stamp Company, Box 280, Nelson, New Zealand. Members P.T.S. —11

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12

HARRY Pettit's Stamp Shop, 93 Hurstmere Arcade, Takapuna, Auck. 9, offer 7d Transstaman F.U. \$2.50, 833,078 sold, so? Norfolk Island 1947 set 12 on F.D.C. fine \$5.50. Same set 12 F.U. \$5.00 Australia 19330. Surcharges M. or U. \$1.00 set. Stuart Set U. 70c. 1938 Kooka Good U. 80c. Post Free, Reg. extra. Approvals of N.Z., Aust. —11

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POSTMARK CORNER

by A. F. WATTERS

As I write this, we in New Plymouth like almost all of New Zealand are enjoying glorious weather with the temperature around the 70's. It makes my first question rather appropriate for it is about the Cook Islands.

COOK IS. POSTMARKS

Mrs. A. D. (Eltham) asked if there is anyway of getting Cook Island stamps for using on covers to each post office over there, as they only seem to supply sets. There are fourteen post offices in the Cook Islands group which means that if you require a registered cover and an ordinary cover you will need 14 18c and 14 2½c. There is no 18c stamp in the current issue. This could be done with two stamps, however if three were used you would almost certainly get two copies of the date-stamp where only one would be needed on two stamps. A strip of 3 6c stamps would be ideal for the job and therefore you want 42 stamps, which can be obtained from the Chief Post Office, Rarotonga, Cook Islands. If you are writing why not get an extra ordinary cover or two and this would increase the order to 28 2c and the same of 4c. Remember to put a filler in each cover and with the ordinary one just tuck in the flap so that the registration receipt can while the registered one left open be enclosed before sealing. I always mention in my letter with the order that these stamps are wanted for covers which will be sent to each post office. (See next note.)

SENDER'S RECEIPT

I was asked by a lady the other day why the Post Office didn't enclose her sender's receipt in the registered letter. There was at least two reasons, first you must ask the postmaster to enclose it please, and secondly the cover should be marked "Philatelic Mail". All covers for collectors should be marked "Philatelic Mail" and a lot of collectors use a rubber stamp for that as well as address.

Alan Robb, Motueka, writes, "The Post Office at MANGARAKAU is run by a young married woman who lives in a mill house next to the post office. There are few people at the settlement since the mill was burnt out about 12 months ago. The employees are bush men."

Coach Corner (Christchurch). A post office was opened at the corner of Yaldhurst and Racecourse Roads on the 8th December 1969. A relief datestamp was used until at least the 18th December pending the receipt of the steel datestamp. I am informed that the name of this area comes from the coaches as this was one of the more important stops.

RELIEF POSTMARKS

The New Zealand Geographic Board ruled a number of years ago that only two place names would be allowed to be possessive. One is Hawke's Bay (that is the province—the bay is Hawke Bay). Over the years a number of post offices were given names with an apostrophe. A friend Mr. Simmonds of Wellington pointed this out to the Post Office Headquarters. The outcome was reliefs at Anderson's Bay and Sawyers' Bay (both for only a few hours), Barlett's and Buckland's Beach. All except the later have had a relief and even that may be altered by now. The Barlett's relief was the same set up at Waiomatatina (see N.S.M. Vol. 2 No. 10).

SLOGAN

A new slogan appeared a number of post offices prior to Christmas "Save the Children Fund Xmas Appeal". This had a short life and was at Otahuhu, Birkenhead, Auckland East and others. I have heard that a group of folk in Auckland are to protest to the Department at the use of Xmas, which they say takes Christ out of Christmas. X is the old roman for the unknown, person or quantity so that makes Christmas an unknown period of time. I would like to point out, in all fairness to the Department, that it would have been very difficult to put the whole word in. (Many years ago this group protested against the usage of this word by a New Zealand wide firm and they changed it to the word in full.)

Campbell Island. I have just received a cover from this post office with a cachet on the envelope saying "Campbell Island Meteorological Expedition 1969-70" in three lines.

Scott Base. On the 1st January 1970 I had a cover posted to me by Mr. W. Topping who, with three other University students, have been down to the Antarctic. The four signed the cover.

The **Paturau** telephone exchange serves two subscribers and the public toll box is a 4 x 4 (approx.) room in the house of the folk who operate the service. The same datestamp as was used by the post office which closed 1953 is used on the toll cards.

The other post office you may be interested to hear of is at **Bainham**. This is in the same building as the local store. The people of the district (which is fairly compact and surrounded by the natural boundaries of the hills) voted to retain the counter collecting postal services when given the opportunity to vote on it a few years ago. At that time the rest of the district around Collingwood changed to Private Bag or R.D.

On the first October, 1969, **Glenbrook Steel Mill** post office closed after a life of just over 2 years. The construction workers had been leaving for quite a while and as the employees live mainly at Waiuku the need for this service ceased to exist.

Kaipoi post office moved on 12 December 1969 to new premises which replace the 1904 building—thanks to R. Bingham, Christchurch, for this information.

Terrace End (Palmerston North) used a relief on 18 December. The Postmaster there advised me of this—thank you Mr. Gardner.

MANUAL EXCHANGES

Thanks to the Post Office at Whakatane. I was given a most interesting pamphlet. To many of us who pick up the telephone receiver and dial the number we want, little thought is given to those on manned exchange, for although the operators do a fantastic job it just isn't the same. "The Post Office introduced to Whakatane Automatic Service 14 November 9.30 p.m. The pamphlet shows a map showing the main exchange area plus the satellite exchanges at Ohope and Edgumbe which gives free dialling over the whole area. Pages two, three and four give useful and helpful information.

A short while ago I was able to see a very early telephone book (which I would have liked for my collection) and it gave useful hints too. The one which made me smile was "pick up handpiece in the left hand and place right hand on the bell handle." Yes—the year was 1889. The telephone book had less than 200 listings.

YOUTH PHILATELIC CAMP AND SEMINAR 1970

SPONSORED BY THE NEW ZEALAND STAMP MONTHLY. BULLETIN NO. 1.

YOUTH PHILATELIC CAMP MAY 10th - 14th

Introduction:

The fifth Youth Philatelic Camp is to be held at the Elsdon Methodist Campsite, Raiha Rd., Porirua, Wellington from May 10th-14th, 1970. The camp is open to any boy or girl aged 10 or over on 8th May, 1970. The camp is recommended for those who have had less than three years experience with stamp collecting and for those who wish to obtain a general beginners knowledge of the hobby.

The camp will provide a programme that is interesting, educational and varied but will give campers plenty of opportunity to express their ideas, participate in activities of their own choice and above all make lasting friendships with the other campers. The camp will be fun, so why not come.

Camp Fees:

The Camp fee is \$8.00 per person. This fee pays for Camp hire, camp food and the other necessary items of equipment needed to run the camp. Campers will have to pay their own fare to and from Porirua. Campers will be met at the Porirua Railway Station, Bus Terminal or any other point to be arranged and taken to the camp. A deposit of \$3.00 is to be paid when enrolment is made. The balance is to be paid on arrival at the camp. Please make cheques payable to "Youth Philatelic Camp".

Camp Staff:

At the present time (Jan.) camp staff is still being arranged. Details of the camp staff will be announced early in April. The camp will be staffed by several Camp Parents. Cooking will be under the control of Mrs. V. Hunt of Christchurch.

Transport to Wellington and Porirua:

Group travel has been arranged from and back to Auckland and Christchurch. For further details please write. Campers from other centres can also make inquiries for the most suitable transport arrangements to the camp. We recommend you contact your N.Z. Railway Road Service Depot or Railway Station. Campers can arrive at the camp from 6 p.m. on Saturday, 9th May. The camp officially opens at 9 a.m. on Sunday, 10th May. Campers who travel from centres outside Wellington on Saturday, 9th May, can make arrangements to attend the camp earlier.

Camp Facilities:

The facilities at the camp are excellent. The large heated meeting hall is very suitable. The bunkrooms are ideal and the beds comfortable. Camp staff will run a canteen and a stamp shop for campers. Campers will be able to deposit money, valuables and stamp collections in the Camp's Bank. A posting box will be provided at the camp to enable campers to post letters home. It is hoped that there will be a special postmark. Meals at the camp will be up to the usual high standard that previous campers have had from our regular chef. The camp has first aid equipment and several staff members are conversant with its use. Campers are expected to maintain a satisfactory standard of behaviour and to assist in all duties allotted to them. The camp is restricted to 60 boys and girls.

What to bring:

Campers should bring to the camp a sleeping bag or blankets, a pillow case, dinner plate, dessert plate, cup or mug, knife, fork, dessert spoon, tea spoon, two tea-towels, toilet gear, casual clothing, a pair of shoes suitable for hiking, notebook and pen. In addition campers may also bring stamps for swapping, their stamp collections, accessories and handbooks.

PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING!!!

YOUTH PHILATELIC SEMINAR, MAY 14th - 19th

Introduction:

At the last camp at Auckland Mr. Rob Hunt was asked to provide something different for the more advanced collectors in the 12 to 18 age group. The hard job was to organise something that would suit beginners as well as these ardent philatelists. It just could not be done. So hence this year we have the Youth Philatelic Seminar. It will commence at 7 p.m. on 14th May and conclude in the morning of May 20th. The seminar is recommended for those who have had at least 3 years stamp collecting experience or have attended a previous Youth Philatelic Camp. Minimum age that will be accepted is 12 years on 8th May, 1970. In the Seminar programme Mr. Hunt has attempted to give the young people topics which will involve them with the speakers in discussions about ordinary and controversial philatelic matters. The debates and investigations are also part of a plan to show the young

people how they can learn more from and about their hobby. Campers will also be able to suggest their own topics for debate, discussion and investigation.

Seminar Fees:

The Seminar fees are \$9.50 per person. This pays for all normal camp expenses. Campers will have to pay their own fares to Porirua, where they will be met at the railway station, bus terminal or other point to be arranged. A deposit of \$3.00 should be paid when enrolment is made. The balance is due on arrival at the camp. Please make all cheques payable to "Youth Philatelic Camp".

Seminar Staff:

The seminar staff will be the same as for the Beginners Camp.

Transport to Wellington and Porirua:

Campers will have to make their own way to Porirua. Group transport has been arranged from Auckland and Christchurch and I will be only too pleased to make suggestions on transport from other centres. Campers from outside Wellington can start arriving at the camp from 8 a.m. on 14th May. Local campers can start arriving from 1 p.m. The seminar officially opens at 7 p.m. on 14th May and closes during the morning of 20th May.

Seminar facilities and what to bring:

The camp facilities and items to bring are listed in details about the Youth Philatelic Camp. The Seminar is limited to 40 people.

Camp and Seminar Organiser:

The Camp and Seminar Organiser is Rob Hunt who works for a New Plymouth Stamp Firm. This firm publishes the New Zealand Stamp Monthly Magazine which is sponsoring the Camp and Seminar as part of the magazine's staff campaign to promote stamp collecting among young people.

All correspondence regarding the camp should be sent to Rob Hunt, C/- N.Z. Stamp Monthly, P.O. Box 513, New Plymouth. Phone 87961 New Plymouth.

Enrolments:

ALL Enrolment forms for the Camp and Seminar should be sent to Mr. Hunt before Saturday, April 18th, 1970. Please remember that the camp and seminar are restricted to 60 and 40 respectively and Mr. Hunt recommends early enrolment to make sure that you can attend.

1970 YOUTH PHILATELIC CAMP PROGRAMME

TALKS (and Displays).

1. Handling and Mounting stamps.
 2. Writeup and Display.
 3. Collecting First Day Covers.
 4. Collecting Thematics. (e.g. Space, Sport, Flowers.)
 5. Collecting New Zealand Simplified.
 6. Collecting any other country or group of countries. (e.g. Pacific Islands.)
- Films.** (These are all Philatelic Films.)

Postmark Impressions. East Africa. Miniatures Magnificent. 26 x 36 Messenger. Netherland Miniatures. Molala Harai (The Morning Star). Pens & Steel. Our Story in Stamps.

Other Activities.

1. Tour of Wellington Post Office.
2. Swapping sessions.
3. Campers talks.
4. Philatelic Quiz.
5. Philatelic Panel.
6. A Hike.

SEMINAR PROGRAMME

Talks and Discussions.

1. The benefits of Stamp Collecting to Social activities.
2. How to obtain pleasure and enjoyment from Stamp Collecting.
3. The Post Office's services to stamp collectors and how these services can be improved.
5. Is collecting F.D.C.'s profitable.
6. How to study stamps for perforations, watermarks, papers etc.
7. The place of Postal History.

Investigations.

1. The stamp issuing policy of the N.Z. Post Office and that of overseas P.O.'s.
2. The reasons why people collect stamps and in what age groups, if any.

Debates.

1. That Thematic collecting is more rewarding than one country collecting.
2. That the weaker sex (females) collect stamps only because their menfolk do.
3. That stamp collecting is a dying hobby.

Other Activities.

1. Swapping sessions.
2. Campers Talks.
3. Philatelic Quiz.
4. Films.
5. Fun and Talent Evening.

Please Note: This is not the final programme, only proposed items which will give an idea of the scope of the camp and seminar.

A COLLECTION WITH A DIFFERENCE

THE POSTMASTER

TEA TREE OR TI TREE

For some reason I have always had more than a passing interest in a New Zealand native LEPTOSPERMUM (Manuka, or very loosely called Tea Tree). It was this interest that started me looking for Post Offices that had that name. I decided that in my collecting I would wander from the basic name. Other words could be added or as far as foreign words those that sounded the same would also be included.

Where would I start and how? I did have lists of post offices from New Zealand, Australia, Great Britain and U.S.A. Would there be post offices in other places with that name?—so I wrote all over the world and my final result was 11 post offices and 6 telephone offices and private bags. However many of these have closed many years ago. I did find that some countries with closed post offices didn't know the date these offices were open as the files were destroyed.

NEW ZEALAND

Tea Tree Camp: This camp had a rubber marking that was used on outgoing mail as a means to get a post office.

Te Tree Point: 1896-1964. This was the name given to the Tea Tree Camp Post Office. At this time it was the policy of the post office to use Maori names hence the Ti.

AUSTRALIA

Tea Tree (Tasmania): This is a railway Post Office and is still open.

Tea Tree Gully 5091 (South Australia): This post office closed in July 1969 when a post office was opened a quarter of a mile away in a shopping area. It is called St. Agnes 5097.

Tea Tree Well (South Australia): Mail for this post office goes to Alice Springs (N.T.) and is still open.

PACIFIC

Tea Tree Well (Fiji): This closed prior to 1936.

Teatree (Fiji): Little is known of this post office other than a copy of the datestamp which was found on a 1938 Geo. VI issue. The dates are not clear.

T-Tree (Perak, Malaya).

INDIA AND CEYLON

Teatree Valley (India): This was a tea growing area and was open in 1967.

Tea Valley and Tea tree (Ceylon) are the names of two private bag deliveries in Ceylon.

AFRICA

Tea Tree (South Africa): This was the name of a railway station that also had a post office. They both are closed and I do not know if the Post Office had the same name or not.

Ta-Tea (Rhodesia): This was a telegraph station. It closed about 1936-7.

This post office is in the province **Tete** (Portuguese East Africa): of Mocambique.

Tatritown (Botswana): The spelling is now Tatitown. I do not know when the change took place.

BRITISH WEST INDIES

Tree Tea Valley, Tea Tree are post offices in Jamaica. **Tea Tree Point** and **Big Tea Tree** were apparently telephone offices but have long since closed. There were also four variations in U.S.A., but they are closed and nothing is known of them. They could have been Private Bags only.

Remember next time you write to The Postmaster, Tea Tree,—it would pay to state the country. I have been able to get at least a copy of over half of these date-stamps.

For an interesting collection with a difference I would suggest that you try say Pine . . . something, dale, lodge, hill, meadows, etc. A quick check shows that N.Z., Australia and U.S.A. can muster over 100. Perhaps you would like to try **Tecomis**, or branch out into any name that takes your fancy.

A. F. WATTERS.



THE CANCELLED TO ORDER STAMP, IN MY VIEW

by OTTO HORNUNG

It always gives me great pleasure to receive letters from people who read my articles, even if they disagree. A reader's letter is practically the only direct contact a columnist can have with his public. It proves that not only have people read his bit, but that it caused them to think, and react in writing. Hence my thanks to a gentleman in Rugby who has commented on some of the points I made in last month's column.

The point he raises--is of such importance that I have decided to answer in public print. First, though, let me quote from his letter:

"Please do not think me presumptuous when I, an inexperienced new dealer, say how timely and right I think your remarks are, in the September issue of 'The Philatelic Exporter', concerning the responsibilities of dealers to young collectors. However, there is one kind of 'stamp' to which you did not refer, but which I think is deserving of your condemnation, I mean the cancelled-to-order stamp . . . I have always regarded the so-called used stamp, having a beautifully-applied cancellation mark, but also having full gum, as bogus, in that it is neither used nor mint . . . I have decided not to sell such stamps, but am still undecided as to whether it is ethical or not to give them away. I would very much appreciate your views, either privately or in your column, as to the status of these 'stamps' in responsible philatelic circles. Am I old-fashioned in my outlook, or are these 'stamps' really rubbish?"

STANLEY GIBBONS

How very timely these questions are is proved by the 1970 edition of the Stanley Gibbons catalogue. On Page XI of the introductory explanations, the publishers state under the heading Used Stamps: "Our used prices are normally for stamps postally used, but may be for stamps cancelled-to-order where this practice exists."

The inclusion of this remark in Gibbons' catalogue has been necessitated by the great numbers of cancelled-to-order stamps on the market. No doubt the publishers gave this problem a great deal of thought before publishing such an important decision which, in a way, legalises c-t-o stamps.

Let us consider the character of c-t-o stamps: Are they stamps or rubbish?

Stamps which are subsequently cancelled-to-order and invariably produced in exactly the same manner as all the other stamps of the issue. The difference occurs later. Cancelling-to-order can be done at a local post office, at the G.P.O., or at the printers. Some postal authorities have found it is much more economical to have that part of an issue intended for sale in c-t-o condition 'postmarked' by the printers overprinting whole sheets with a cancellation. This practice is being used in many countries, including West Germany.

Cancelled-to-order stamps do not pass through normal channels, but are sold directly (in most cases well below face value) to the stamp trade. In other words, the procedure is exactly the same as in the case of mint stamps sold wholesale to stamp dealers or collectors.

NEW ISSUES

Many countries have philatelic bureaux which supply mint or cancelled stamps singly or in quantity. For instance, the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau produces postage stamps for a great number of territories, it also supplies mint new issues directly to the trade. Such mint stamps never travel back to their issuing country, but reach the market directly from Sutton. I am sure my friend in Rugby will agree that nobody can object to this simplification. It speeds up deliveries and saves money. Nobody will doubt the genuine nature of such mint stamps. They have been produced and sold on the instructions of a postal authority operating postal services; they are on sale at post offices in the country of origin; and they prepay the cost of conveying mail to the addressee.

CANCELLATIONS

The difference between a postally used and a c-t-o stamp is in the cancellation.

The cancellation on a normally used stamp denotes the fact that the stamp has served its original purpose. In the case of c-t-o, it just makes the stamp invalid for use on mail, and in most cases reduces its price. There can be no doubt, though, that the defacing has been done by the post office, or on its authority, and therefore it must be considered as being an official postal defacement. That means that c-t-o stamps must be regarded as postage stamps just the same as mint stamps for these

have not served their original purpose either. Such is the basic character of c-t-o stamps.

Another aspect is their 'moral' character. Many philatelists feel that to cancel stamps which have never been through the mail involves deceiving trustful stamp collectors. In their opinion c-t-o stamps are not genuinely cancelled stamps, and therefore cannot be considered to be stamps at all.

The practice of many countries selling c-t-o stamps in great quantities and at reduced prices has provoked much criticism. It will, no doubt, produce more. In all fairness it has to be said that if there were no market for c-t-o stamps, they would not be produced. Therefore not all the blame can be laid on the issuing countries.

C-T-O. PRODUCTION

In my view the production of c-t-o stamps is a very dangerous thing for the countries concerned. They are in fact casting doubts on the value of their own stamps. They are undermining their own issues; producing cheap substitutes. In a word 'wallpaper'. The mass production of such material undermines the confidence of collectors and leads to dropping sales. The bulk cancellation of new issues is also likely to affect the value of older stamps, and generally cast a shadow on the country's whole philatelic reputation.

But some countries do not seem to care that they are likely to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs.

To many countries the propaganda value of stamps is very high. Massive exports of c-t-o material help spread their particular gospel, so it is thought. The results of this policy are well known. Who, nowadays, collects the stamps of a dozen countries that were once highly popular. Thus are collectors disenchanted by c-t-o stamps.

Nor are such stamps ideal for thematic collections. In such, it is preferable to include mint stamps on which the design, so important for the collection, is not marred at all, not even by a corner cancellation.

Who then takes c-t-o stamps? They go mostly into stamp packets intended for junior collectors.

DEMOCRATIC HOBBY

Philately is a democratic hobby. Every collector is entitled to decide what he is going to collect. If he wishes to collect c-t-o stamps nobody can object. If, on the other hand, he wants only stamps can-

celled in the mail, again it is up to him. Some people prefer stamps cancelled only lightly across the corners; others want central cancellations showing the date and name on the handstamp; and yet another group will take only stamps on cover.

The dealer's obligation is different. If his customers demand or are willing to take c-t-o stamps, there is no reason why he should not supply them: provided he makes sure his customers know what they are buying. This is also probably the reason why the Gibbons catalogue includes the phrase I have quoted.

All I have said so far about c-t-o stamps presents them in a rather dark light, but hardly anything in this world is just pure white or pitch black.

POSITIVE ROLE

Cancelled-to-order stamps also have a very positive role in philately. They are cheap, attractive and readily accessible to collectors with the least capital: the youngsters. Many a boy who started with cheap packets and c-t-o stamps has become a serious and knowledgeable philatelist. Stamps cancelled in bulk to order have spread the hobby farther than any other type of stamps. How could the wholesalers supply the huge quantities of cheap attractive stamps needed if it were not for c-t-o supplies? How much would a packet of 100 pictorials cost if they had to be collected one by one, soaked off, counted, packeted, etc?

In my opinion cancelled-to-order stamps are a product of the tremendous growth of philately; a fact which has to be accepted complete with its merits and demerits.

Otto Hornung.

Reprinted through the courtesy of "The Philatelic Exporter."

MAYFLOWER HANDSTAMP

"On 6th September 1620 the MAYFLOWER sailed from Plymouth"—this special rectangular handstamp will be used at Plymouth, Devon on September 6th, 1970. A posting box will be available at Plymouth Head Office from September 1 to September 5. Fully stamped and addressed items for reposting should be sent to the Head Postmaster Plymouth. Outer covers must be clearly marked "SPECIAL HANDSTAMP".

COOK IS. PRINT FIGURES

Self-Government Commemorative Issue (16 September 1965)

4d —	202,178
10d —	81,276
1/- —	90,000
1/9 —	60,000

Of these quantities 21,250 were used on first day covers.

Sir Winston Churchill Memorial Stamps. (24 January 1966)

4d —	54,600
10d —	28,660
1/- —	28,300
2/- —	28,300
3/- —	28,300
5/- —	28,300

Definitive Airmail Stamp Issue. (22 April 1966)

6d —	19,440
7d —	19,580
10d —	33,400
1/- —	22,760
1/6 —	19,160
2/3 —	19,160
5/- —	18,680
10/- —	15,960
£1 —	14,880

Christmas Issue (1966). (28 November 1966)

1d —	267,762
2d —	167,760
4d —	167,760
10d —	167,760
1/6 —	165,760

Second South Pacific Games Issue. (12 January 1967)

½d —	395,792
1d —	90,182
4d —	87,840
7d —	85,488
10d —	82,720
2/3 —	80,952

Decimal Currency Overprints. (3 April, 4 May, 6 June 1967)

1d = 1c	19,857
2d = 2c	57,730
3d = 2½c	75,556
4d = 3c	67,822
5d = 4c	31,136
6d = 5c	48,780
6d = 5c	25,684 (Solar)
8d = 7c	46,377
1/- = 10c	44,109
1/6 = 15c	14,085
3/- = 30c	9,056
5/- = 50c	14,318
10/- = \$1	8,724
£1 = \$2	1,098
£3 = \$6	863
£5 = \$10	876

75th Anniversary of First Cook Islands Stamps Issue. (3 July 1967)

1c = 1d	398,800
3c = 4d	103,584
8c = 10d	98,800
18c = 1/9	98,800

Souvenir sheet quantity 39,761.

Gauguin Paintings Issue. (24 October 1967)

1c —	232,103
3c —	149,159
5c —	175,955
8c —	138,659
15c —	138,455
22c —	138,659

Souvenir sheet quantity: 45,914.

Christmas Issue (1967). (4 December 1967)

1c —	508,880
3c —	156,188
4c —	153,984
8c —	151,908
15c —	150,408
25c —	151,908

Hurricane Relief Overprint. (12 February 1968)

3c + 1c	—	32,672
4c + 1c	—	33,404
5c + 2c	—	31,161
10c + 2c	—	30,474
25c + 5c	—	30,586
50c + 10c	—	29,833
\$1 + 10c	—	29,598

Captain Cook Bicentenary Issue. (12 September 1968)

½c —	498,280
1c —	230,080
2c —	160,280
4c —	160,280
6c —	134,080
10c —	131,280
15c —	129,280
25c —	126,280

Mexico Olympic Games Issue. (21 October 1968)

1c —	343,880
5c —	106,880
15c —	92,680
20c —	92,680
30c —	91,880
50c —	91,880

Christmas Issue (1968). (9 December 1968)

1c —	343,995
4c —	170,889
10c —	168,129
20c —	161,715
30c —	161,889

Souvenir sheet quantity: 50,680.

Multicoloured decimal definitive issue showing flowers of the Cook Islands, issued during July and August 1967: Supplies are now exhausted of some denominations, and additional quantities have been ordered of the full series on a superior new paper with fluorescent treatment.

The quantities printed of the definitive stamps on the original paper are as follows:

400,000 each: ½c, 1c, 2c, 2½c, 3c, 4c; 300,000 each: 5c, 6c, 8c, 9c, 10c, 15c; 200,000 each: 20c, 25c, 30c, 50c; 100,000 each: \$1, \$2; 30,000 each: \$4, \$6; 15,000 each: \$8, \$10.

WHAT'S COMING ?

NEW ZEALAND

- 1970: March 12: Royal Stamp 10c.
1970: April 8: Expo 70. 7c, 8c and 18c.
1970: May 20: Moths and Butterflies—New pictorials. ½c, 1c, 2c, 2½c, 3c and 4c.
1970: June 24: United Nations. 2c, 3c and 10c.

PITCAIRN ISLAND

- 1970: March 23: Flowers. 1, 2, 5 and 25 cents.
1970: September: Fish.

NIUE ISLAND

- 1970: Two commemorative issues.

ROSS DEPENDENCY

- 1971: New Definitive series.

WESTERN SAMOA

- January 19 — 8th Independence set.
April — 1889 Apia Hurricane series.
June — Tourist series.
August — Regular Air Mail Series.
October — Christmas set of 4.

PAPUA & NEW GUINEA

- 1970: 11 Feb: Native Art. 5c, 10c, 25c and 30c.
1970: Bird Series.
1970: Native Art.
1970: Scenic Series.
1970: Famous Men Series.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND

- 1970: Ships Series.

AUSTRALIA

- 1970: Feb. 11: Brisbane-Perth Rail Gauge.
1970: 29 April: Anniv. of Cook's discovery of Australia. 5 and 10 cents.
1970: Royal Visit, 5c, 30c.
1970: April: International Grassland Congress.
1970: April: Expo issue.
1970: 18th International Dairy Congress.
1970: Orthopaedic Conference.
1970: United Nations Anniversary.
1970: Alcoholism and Drug Conference.
1970: 50th Anniv. of Qantas (2 stamps).
1970: Famous People (Booklet).
1970: National Development Series.
1971: Sydney Stock Exchange.
1971: 100th Anniv. R.S.P.C.A.
1971: Animals Series (3).
1971: 50th Anniv. of RAAF.
1971: May: Rotary Convention.

- 1971: Parliamentary Conference.
1971: Aust. Natives Assn.

NORFOLK ISLAND

- 1970: April 29: Aniv. of Cook's discovery of Australia. 5c, 10c.
1970: New Birds definitive series.
1970: Feb. 25: 3, 4, 9, 45 cents.
1970: July 22: 1, 7, 10, 25 cents.
1971: Feb 24: 2, 5, 15, 50 cents.
1971: June 16: 20, 30 cents, \$1.
1974: Discovery of Norfolk Is. by Captain Cook.
1979: Death of Captain Cook.

FIJI

- 1970: March: Royal Visit. 2c, 10c and 25 cents.
1970: March: Closing of the Leprosy Hospital. 2, 10 and 30 cents.
1970: Cent. of Postal Services.
1970: Discovers and Explorers.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS

- 1970: March 2: Cent. British Red Cross. 3c, 10 and 35 cents.
1970: June 1: 25th Anniv. U.N.
1970: London Missionary Society.
1970: New Definitives.
BR. SOLOMON IS.
1970: Post Office.
1970: New Constitution.

EASTER STAMPS FOR COOK ISLANDS

Definitive Postage Stamps:

As supplies are exhausted of some of the original definitive postage series featuring the colourful flowers of the Cook Islands, placed on sale in 1967, this series has been reordered on a superior new ultra-white paper with synthetic gum and fluorescent markings, and this will be introduced into the Post Offices during 1970, when delivered in the Cook Islands.

A definitive airmail stamps series has been prepared, but with the limitations on airmail service will not be issued until commercial air service begins.

Definitive official stamps will be introduced into service during 1970 or 1971.

Holiday Season Stamps:

The Cook Islands will continue its traditional and popular policy of releasing special stamps appropriate for use on Holiday mails during the Christmas Season. During 1970 the Easter Holiday Season will see similar stamps for use over this Holiday Season.

Stamp Programme for 1970:

Three commemorative issues are on schedule for 1970 and details of these will be sent approximately one month before each scheduled issuance.

(1) An unusually beautiful series of stamps will be released to mark the Royal Visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and the Duke of Edinburgh, to New Zealand in April in connection with the bicentenary celebrations of Captain James Cook, namesake of the Cook Islands.

(2) A pictorial stamp issue is on schedule for release during July or August in commemoration of the fifth anniversary of internal Self-Government of the Cook Islands.

(3) A third special commemorative may be released during September or October, subject to the approval of the artwork for designs and the production and delivery of the stamps. This series may either honour the close association of the Cook Islands with the Apollo moon exploration programmes, or another subject may be substituted.

NEW PAPER FOR COOK IS. FLOWERS

With supplies of some of the 1967 definitive postage stamps series exhausted, the issue was ordered reprinted. The new printing is on the new ultra-white paper, with a synthetic gum, treated with an invisible fluorescent ink coat-of-arms security underprinting.

The complete sixteen denominations, from ½c to 50c are being distributed to the Post Offices and will be placed on sale on 9th February 1970.

The denominations are as before: ½c, 1c, 2c, 2½c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 9c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c and 50c. The total face value of the sixteen denominations is \$1.91 in New Zealand currency, which is equivalent to 18/2 Sterling and USA \$2.18.

These definitive stamps reproducing in five colour photogravure Mrs. Kay W. Billings' paintings of the "Flowers of the Cook Islands", have been widely acclaimed as being of exceptional beauty.

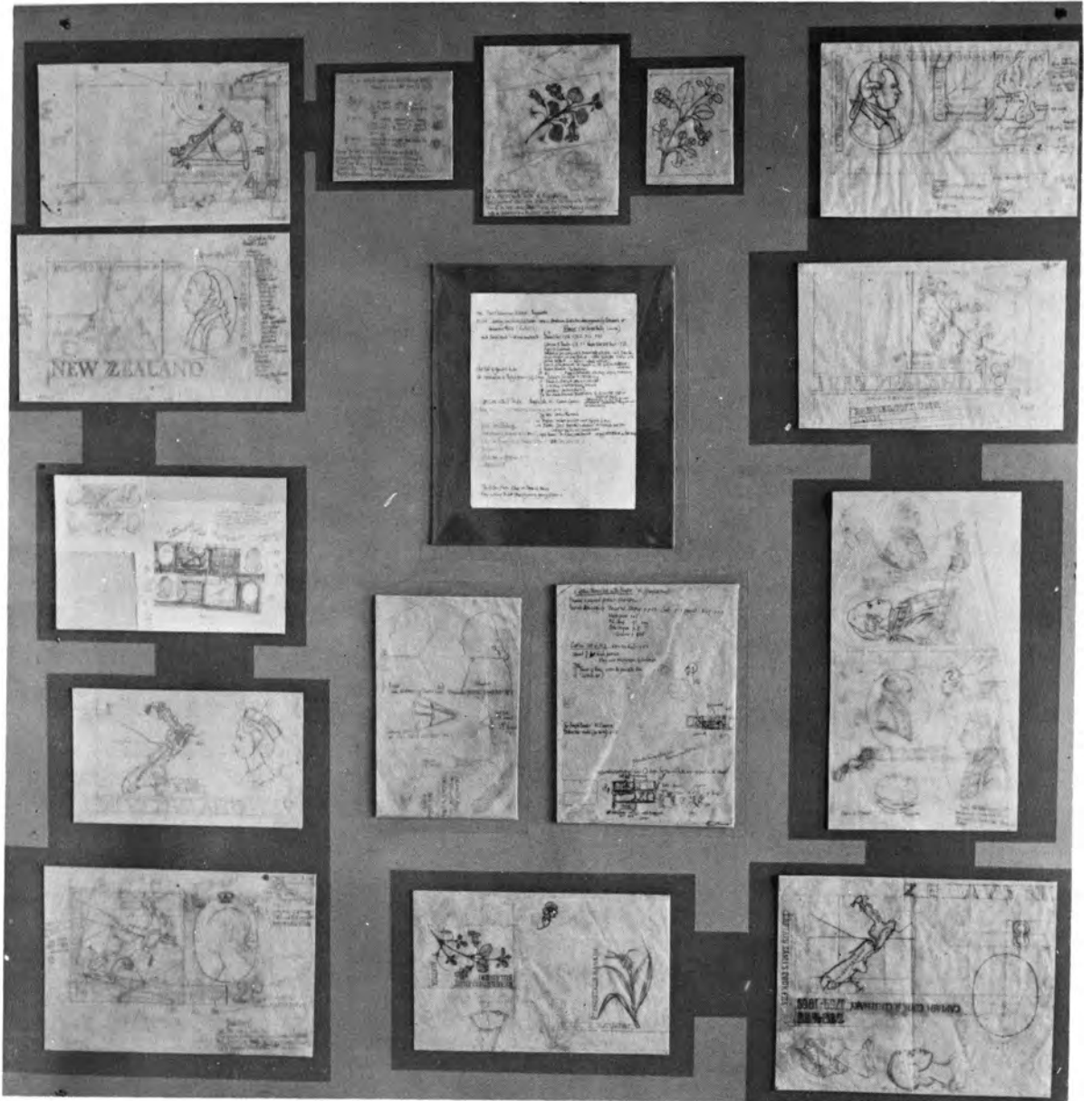
No further supplies of the remaining odd values of stamps on the old paper will be distributed to the Post Offices, though quantities which they have on hand will be used up. The Philatelic Bureau will be allowed to retain those quantities on the old paper which have been pre-processed into sets.

All orders, enquiries and communications should be addressed to:

**Philatelic Bureau
Post Office, Box 200
Rarotonga, Cook Islands (South Pacific)**

CAPTAIN COOK BICENTENARY ISSUE FROM IDEAS TO STAMP SET.

ROUGH ARTWORK BY MISS E. MAYO OF CHRISTCHURCH.



four
artists
invited
to
submit
designs



THE SET AS ISSUED



PROOFS AND SHEETS



the cook bi-centennial stamps



SPECIAL COVERS DESIGNED BY EILEEN MAYO

PHOTOGRAPHS SUPPLIED BY THE NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICE, FROM ITEMS AT THE NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICE EXHIBIT AT TARAPEX '69.

COMMONWEALTH NEWS

January Releases

- 5th January, 1970
Lesotho. Prehistoric Reptiles.
 12th January, 1970
St. Vincent. Definitive Issue.
 20th January, 1970
Antigua. Coils for vending Machines.
 26th January, 1970
Cyprus. Centenary of the Birth of Gandhi.
 28th January, 1970
Hong Kong. Lunar New Year.

Forthcoming Issues

DEFINITIVE ISSUES

- Anguilla,** 1970. **Antigua,** 3rd August, 1970. **Barbados,** 1970. **Bermuda.** Decimal Currency Overprint. 6th February, 1970. **British Virgin Islands,** 16th February, 1970. **Brunei,** 1970. **Cayman Islands.** (New Value Tablets.) 8th September, 1970. **Montserrat,** 1970. **St. Kitts,** 1st February, 1970. **St. Lucia.** 1st February, 1970.

COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES

- Antigua.** 40th Anniversary of Air Services in Antigua. 16th February, 1970. Military Uniforms. 15th April, 1970. Centenary of Death of Charles Dickens. 14th October, 1970. **Ascension.** Deep Sea Fish. 4d, 9d, 1/9 and 2/3. 6th April, 1970. **Barbados.** Tourism. March, 1970. 25th Anniversary of the United Nations. May, 1970. **Botswana.** Developing Botswana. 23rd March, 1970. Centenary of the Death of Charles Dickens. 9th June, 1970. United Nations. 24th October, 1970. Christmas, 1970. 13th November, 1970. **British Honduras.** Orchids. 2nd April, 1970. Population Census, 1970. 2nd February, 1970. Hardwoods. 2nd July, 1970. Christmas, 1970. 2nd October, 1970. **British Virgin Islands.** Spanish Main. 16th November, 1970. **Cayman Islands.** Tourist. 2nd February, 1970. Easter. 17th March, 1970. Centenary of the June, 1970. **Ceylon.** National Heroes. February, 1970. Opening Death of Charles Dickens. 17th of the U.P.U. Building. May, 1970. Expo, 1970. March 1970. Asian Productivity Year. June 1970. Centenary of the Faculty of Medicine. July, 1970. Keppitipola. 28th September, 1970. U.N. Anniversary. 24th October, 1970. **Cyprus.** Europa. May, 1970. **East Africa.** East African Musical Instruments.

- 16th February, 1970. Satellite Earth Station. 18th May, 1970. 25th Anniversary of United Nations. 24th October, 1970. **Falkland Islands.** Defence Force Golden Jubilee. 30th April, 1970. **Guernsey.** 25th Anniversary of Liberation. 9th May, 1970. Horticulture. 12th ember, 1970. **Guyana.** Republic August, 1970. Churches. 11th Nov-Day, 1970. February, 1970. **Hong Kong.** Tung Wah Centenary. April, 1970. **Jersey.** 25th Anniversary of Liberation. 9th May, 1970. Battle of Flowers. 30th July, 1970. **Lesotho.** Centenary of the Death of Moshoeshoe. 11th March, 1970. **Malawi.** Insects. 4th February, 1970. Rand Easter Show. 18th March, 1970. **Montserrat.** Easter. Late February, 1970. **St. Helena.** Centenary of the Death of Charles Dickens. 9th June, 1970. **St. Kitts.** Stamp Centenary. 1st April, 1970. Arts Festival. July, 1970. Centenary of the Death of Charles Dickens. 14th September, 1970. Christmas, 1970. 16th November, 1970. **St. Lucia.** Easter. 7th March, 1970. Centenary of the Death of Charles Dickens. 8th June, 1970. Centenary of British Red Cross. September, 1970. **St. Vincent.** Centenary of British Red Cross. 1st June, 1970. 20th Anniversary of Regular Air Services to St. Vincent. 10th March, 1970. 150th Anniversary of the Anglican Cathedral. 7th September, 1970. **Seychelles.** Centenary of British Red Cross. April, 1970. Bicentenary of the first settlement on St. Anne Island. 27th August, 1970. **Tristan da Cunha.** Centenary of British Red Cross. 1st November, 1970. **Turks and Caicos Islands.** New Constitution. 2nd February, 1970. Easter. 17th March, 1970. Centenary of British Red Cross. July, 1970. Centenary of the Death of Charles Dickens. October, 1970. **Zambia.** World Meteorological Day. 23rd March, 1970. Preventive Medicine. 25th May, 1970.

East Africa

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

On 16th February, 1970, the East African Posts and Telecommunications Administration will release a set of four stamps showing musical instruments. Designed by Mrs. Rena M. Fennessy, the stamps have been printed by the lithographic recess by Messrs. Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. in sheets of 100 stamps.

The four instruments shown on this issue of stamps have been chosen because they represent typical musical instruments found in

Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. They also illustrate the three main categories of instruments, stringed wind and percussion with another that falls into none of these groups.

Marimba (Tanzania)

This instrument is found in most parts of Africa, but apparently nowhere else in the world. Whereas many other African musical instruments have recognisable parallels in other parts of the world, this is unique. It is known by a number of names in different parts of Africa, one of the most common being the Mbirra. The prongs which are plucked to produce the notes are made of metal, and in modern instruments these are often constructed from discarded umbrella stays.

Amadinda (Uganda).

The Uganda xylophone is very characteristic of the instruments of Uganda. The notes are cut from logs of wood and laid across two banana stems, which naturally have to be renewed from time to time. It can be played by one, two or even three players, two being the most common. The technique of playing is complex. Each player has a short repetitive phrase played in "octaves", but the notes of the theme played by the second player have to fit in between those of the first player. When a third player joins in the ensemble, he echoes a few notes of the song at the top end of the instrument.

Nzomari (Kenya).

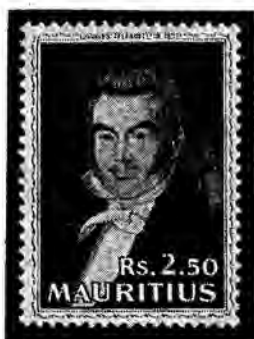
This is a very sophisticated wind instrument found on the coast of Kenya. It has at least two names, the Wadigo call it the Nzomari, while elsewhere it is known as the Bung'o. It has a double reed which gives the instrument a timbre very much like that of the chanter of the Scottish bagpipes. One of the skills which the player has to acquire is that of a rare breath control which gives the impression that he never has to stop to take a breath.

Adeudeu (Kenya).

This five stringed harp from Teso country at the foot of Mount Elgon is one of the most beautiful instruments to be found in East Africa, both to look at and to listen to. It has lovely curved lines, enhanced by the feathers which decorate the top of the main stem of the instrument. It has a gentle quality of tone. The top of the bowl of the harp is covered with hide and is sometimes used like a small drum to add a percussion accompaniment to the song which the player sings as he plays.

MAN OF THE MONTH

150th Anniversary of Telfair's Improvements to the Mauritius Sugar Industry



On the 22nd December last year Mauritius issued a special set of five stamps plus a souvenir sheet to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the improvements to the sugar cane industry instigated by Dr. Charles Telfair.

Although sugar was introduced into Mauritius by the Dutch, during the 1640's, they never grew more than a few acres of cane; and most of the juice extracted was used to make arrack or rum. Not until a century later, by when Mauritius had passed into French occupation as Ile de France, did sugar assume any economic significance. The greatest French governor, Labourdonnais, encouraged its cultivation in an attempt to make Mauritius not only self-sufficient but also able to supply passing ships and the neighbouring island of Bourbon (now Reunion). He set up the first sugar-mill in Mauritius on his estate at Villebague, in north-central Mauritius; his friend Moulinot set up a second mill in the south-east close to Grand Port near the site of the present-day Ferney estate and factory—where the Dutch growers had cultivated their few acres.

EFFICIENCY

Only with Telfair's improvements of 1819—whose sesquicentenary this issue of stamps celebrates—did the organisation of sugar manufacture begin to approach efficiency; the second great step forward being the application of steampower (by Adrien d'Epinay) in 1823. Telfair, indeed, heralded the industrial revolution in sugar processing; nowadays the Mauritian sugar industry is amongst the most efficient in the world.

Both Dutch and French relied on slaves to grow the cane, extract its juice by crushing, and convert the juice into sugar. From the beginning of the French occupation in 1710 until 1806, cane was crushed by means of the frangourinier (15c), a device which, though simple, was primitive and wasteful. Made of wood (later, stone) it consisted of a heavy table with a shallow gutter along its periphery and an opening in the centre of each narrow side. The canes, 4 or 5 at a time, were placed on the table; a heavy roller, rather longer than the width of the table and fitted with handspikes at each end, was caused to travel over the canes once in each direction. The juice from the crushed canes ran into the gutters and was collected in tubs. From these it was transferred to cauldrons, boiled, and turned into sugar.

In 1806 the frangourinier was replaced by the slightly less wasteful 3-roller vertical mill (2c) of the type known to have been used in Sicily early in the fifteenth century. Its use persisted in parts of Mauritius until mid-century. Worked by water, wind, oxen or slaves, the rollers—cogged at the top—were erected upright in a strong framework of wood above which the central roller protruded for ease of connection to the source of power (on the stamp, oxen). Slaves placed the canes between the first and central rollers; as the half-crushed canes came through, other slaves caught them and passed them back between the central and third rollers.

BRITISH CONQUEST

The beginning of the industrial revolution in sugar manufacture in 1819 was a direct consequence of the British conquest of Mauritius in 1810 which, as the island's leading historian Auguste Toussaint has said, "brought peace, new capital, and enterprising newcomers . . . Foremost was the Irish doctor Charles Telfair, who built a model sugar factory at Bel Ombre (in Savanne) and there introduced the first horizontal roller mill in 1819". Telfair's horizontal rollers were the elementary ancestors of the complex horizontal crushing machines used in modern factories; their effect on sugar production, hence on the growth of the industry, was

immediate. Crushed by vertical rollers, 100lb of cane produced only 7lb of sugar; the early horizontal rollers yielded 5lb per 100lb of cane—a dramatic increase in productivity of 40 per cent. (Modern machinery extracts 10-12lb of sugar per 100lb of cane; though it must be admitted that agro-genetic research has developed richer canes.) In 1812, there were 10,000 acres under cane; in 1825, 25,000 acres; but sugar exports had increased fivefold. In 1826 Britain abolished the discriminatory duties on Mauritian sugar (an extra 10s. per 100lb. compared with sugar from the West Indies), which gave further impetus to the growth of the industry—an impetus facilitated by the horizontal rollers and, later the use of steam: whose application to vertical rollers would not, of course, have been economic.

SLAVE OWNER

Although under severe criticism, slavery was not abolished in Mauritius until 1835. Telfair, however, had a reputation as a sensible and enlightened slave-owner. At Bel Ombre (in the south-west) his was a model estate where, says Toussaint, "the slaves lived in clean and well-built houses, were fed regularly and sufficiently, were instructed in religion and their duty to God; they worked reasonable hours according as they were strong and capable; they were given reasonable time for meals, rest and sleep". In 1830 Telfair felt compelled to publish a pamphlet refuting many of the charges levelled against Mauritian slave-owners by the Abolitionists.

The rapid expansion of the sugar industry led to the establishment of a large number of small factories, of which the one at Beau Rivage (60c—reproduced from an 1867 painting by Numa Desjardins) was typical. It was dismantled in 1872 and rebuilt elsewhere. A modern factory, indeed the third largest of the island, appears on the Re. 1.00: Mon Desert/Alma, in Moka. Its mills can crush 150 tons of cane per hour, and it manufactures some 36,000 tons of sugar per year. (1967: 38,543 tons of sugar from 337,686 tons of cane; 1968: 34,037 tons of sugar from 287,851 tons of cane—an extraction rate of 11.8 per cent.) Continued next page.

TELFAIR

The first stamp to show a sugar factory was the 1c definitive of 1950—it depicted the Labourdonnais Factory, now closed down.

Born in Belfast in 1777 or 1778, Telfair achieved prominence as a botanist and naturalist in Mauritius and Reunion. He was honorary superintendent of Pamplemousses Gardens (founded 1769, the oldest botanical gardens in the southern hemisphere) and introduced many new plants to Mauritius via his own gardens at Bois Cheri; he also supplied exotic plants to Kew Gardens. In 1829 he founded the Societe d'Histoire Naturelle, being its first president; the society later became the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences of Mauritius. From Rodrigues he collected skeletal remains of the solitaire (an extinct bird depicted on the Rs. 2.50 value of the 1964 definitives); his wife, who predeceased him by a year, was also a noted naturalist, her interest lying in Mauritian algae.

Telfair's botanical pursuits are recognised in the name of the Telfair Gardens at Souillac, the southernmost town in Mauritius; a new housing estate at Moka also bears his name. He died on 14th July, 1833, at Port Louis where he is buried and whence his portrait (reproduced on the Rs. 2.50 stamp) can be seen. His private secretaryship to Sir Robert Farquhar, first British Governor of Mauritius (1810-1823) is largely forgotten; his name as a naturalist lives on in the name (given by Sir William Jackson-Hooker) of the African genus Telfaria, a member of the cucumber family.

The stamps and souvenir sheet were designed by Mr. Victor Whiteley and printed by Messrs. Joh. Enschede en Zonen, Holland, by the photogravure process. The stamps were printed in a size 1.75" x 1.6" perforation to perforation in sheets of 25 stamps on CA Block watermarked paper. The souvenir sheets comprise one stamp of each of the five denominations within a decorative border.

NO MORE STAMP ISSUES FROM ZANZIBAR

Zanzibar, which united with Tanganyika in 1964 to form the "United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar", shortly afterwards renamed Tanzania, has had its own regular stamps withdrawn and replaced by regular Tanzanian issues. Its Postal Department has been taken over by the East African Posts and Telecommunications Cor-

poration, the body which handles stamps for Kenya and Uganda as well as Tanzania. No commemoratives have appeared for Zanzibar since the "Voluntary Brigade" set in 1968, and the Commemoratives of East Africa will now be the only ones available in Zanzibar.

The three East African states, having their posts operated by the same Corporation, are unusual in that stamps of one state are perfectly valid in the others, so specialist collectors of Kenya, for example, can get covers for their collections with Dar-es-salaam (Tanzania) postmarks on Kenyan stamps! Zanzibar did not previously accept East African stamps, and even a commemorative set issued by Tanganyika in 1964 to mark the Union (S.G. 124-127) inscribed "United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar" was not allowed to be used in Zanzibar, and letters bearing the stamp were treated as unpaid!

B. R. Henderson.

Sales Figures

British Antarctic Territory: 25th Anniversary of Continuous Scientific Work by the British Antarctic Survey.

34d: 56,528; 6d: 53,684; 1/-: 52,912; 2/-: 52,863; FDC: 3,626.

Abu Dhabi: Progress Issue.
5 fils: 275,029; 10 fils: 239,775; 35 fils: 289,049.

Antigua: Tercentenary of Parliament.

4 cents: 118,679; 15 cents: 105,647; 25 cents: 96,853; 50 cents: 45,255; FDC: 2,384.

Antigua: 1st Anniversary of CARIFTA.

4 cents: 122,024; 15 cents: 101,767; 25 cents: 96,054; 35 cents: 53,151; FDC: 1,805.

Ascension: Fish Issue, 1969.
4d: 42,022; 6d: 38,293; 1/6: 38,514; 2/11: 35,402.

Bermuda: 50th Anniversary of Girl Guides.

3d: 694,043; 1/-: 339,683; 1/6: 189,733; 2/6: 81,673; FDC: 6,132.

Gilbert and Ellice Islands: South Pacific University.

3 cents: 40,256; 10 cents: 41,651; 35 cents: 35,405; FDC: 2,296.

STAMP SHOP BURGLED

STAMP AGENCY, 41 Queen St., Auckland, was recently broken into. The intruders removed and smashed fittings and display materials while stock and correspondence were thrown about the office and shop. It is estimated that some time will be necessary to sort everything out again, and mail may be delayed a short time.

ANPEX NEWS TROPHIES FOR ANPEX 70

The Australian Post Office has advised that their trophy for the GRAND PRIX at the Exhibition "ANPEX 1970" will be donated by that Department. It is understood the approximate value of the trophy will be \$100.

The President of ANPEX 1970 has advised he will donate a trophy which will be awarded in the section covering the Islands of the Pacific.

The Bank of N.S.W. is awarding trophies in the Junior Sections of the Prospectus. The nature of the trophy has not yet been determined, but it is probable they will be in the form of collectors' kits.

The American Philatelic Society has again indicated that "The Award of Merit" will be made available for allocation by the Jury.

The United States Specialist Society of Melbourne, has also indicated its willingness to award a prize. The nature of the award is yet to be determined.

The ANPEX Commissioner in India, Mr. Dhirubhai Mehta of Bombay, is awarding a trophy which will be linked with entries from the Asiatic area.

QANTAS, Australia's overseas airline, which has been appointed official carriers to ANPEX, has indicated it will be pleased to donate a return flight to Norfolk Island for two persons. This is a fine award.

COURT OF HONOUR

There has been a very satisfactory response to invitations extended for exhibits to be included in the Court of Honour.

The following have indicated that they will be pleased to provide exhibits:

The Royal Philatelic Society, London, England. Mr. Robson Lowe, London, England. Mr. J. R. W. Purves, Melbourne, Victoria. Mr. M. C. Stanley, Wellington, N.Z. Mr. John Marriott, Surrey, England. Mr. J. D. Risdell, London, England. Mr. P. Pearson, London, England. Mr. Wallace W. Knox, Oakland, Calif., U.S.A. Mr. R. W. Wellstead, Waltham, England. Mr. H. W. Fisher, London, England. Courvoisier, Switzerland.

Special Note If you are contemplating going to ANPEX, book NOW. Hotel bookings must be released very shortly if not required. Phone John J. Bishop Ltd. or R. Herbison, Whakatane.

"WHEN ORANGE BECOMES BLACK"

The first Canadian stamp issue in 1970 is not a new design.

It will be a change in colour of the current 6c definitive, from orange to black and it is related to the extended use of more sophisticated mail handling equipment.

Since the early years of adhesive postage stamps, two very tedious and time consuming mail handling tasks have been the letter-facing and the stamp-cancelling operations. Where volume justified them, cancelling machines were developed and have been used for many years. However, facing, which is simply the process of taking individual letters from a random pile and arranging them so that the addresses face the same way, remained a manual operation, no matter how mountainous the pile.

RECENT YEARS

Only in recent years have machines been developed to do this facing job on a reasonably effective operational basis. It is self-evident that the cancelling machine would be combined with the new one that faced the letters. Thus we have facing and cancelling machines—sometimes referred to simply as facer-cancellers.

Machines of this type search for the stamp on the swiftly moving letter, then according to the relative position of the stamp, the letter is routed into a corresponding path for cancelling and stacking.

TAGGED STAMPS

Several techniques are used to search and find the stamp. Bars of phosphorescent material may be built into the stamp—tagged stamps as you know them. Machines using this technique expose the search area to a bright light momentarily, then in comparative darkness, look for the glowing phosphorescent bars. A positive reading will electronically trigger the gates, belts and wheels that send the letter on its proper path. A negative reading allows the letter to continue along to the next reading position, and so forth. Negative readings in all four possible stamp positions will send the letter to a reject stack, which is to say simply "do this one by hand—the old fashioned way".

Such a system, based on phosphorescent bars is used in the Sefacan, facing and cancelling machine installed a few years ago in the Winnipeg post office—hence our use of tagged stamps in the Winnipeg Metropolitan area.

I should mention here that, currently, we tag only the lower value definitives and the 5c and 6c Christmas issues. However, we have received a request from our Engineering Branch to tag future supplies of the higher value stamps to be used in the Winnipeg area. We will also tag, for that area, the longer term commemoratives such as the Manitoba Centennial and the Expo issues. Presumably collectors may wish to order these and we will therefore keep a supply in the Philatelic Service. There will be no special "day of issue" for these tagged items. Notices will be sent through our mailing list when their availability can be estimated.

CONTRAST

Another successful type of facing and cancelling machine, the Pitney-Bowes Mark II, was recently installed in our large post offices. These machines are using a different search-for-the-stamp technique. The stamp does not require phosphorescent tagging. The search area of the envelope is exposed to a continuous light source while an electric eye measures the amount of light reflected from the surface of the moving letter. It scans the area that should normally include the stamp and, in fact, it is looking for a measurable degree of contrast in colour between the envelope and the stamp.

When you now consider, for example, that there is a sizeable proportion of kraft envelopes in the mail stream, you will begin to appreciate the nature of the problem of the 6c orange. There is insufficient contrast between the envelopes and the stamp.

Our Research and Development Group and field maintenance personnel have experimented with light filters, they tuned-up the electronic gear to hair-trigger sensitivity, and so forth. In spite of all their ingenuity, the rejected letters continued to discount the effectiveness of the facer-cancellers.

INTERIM MEASURE

As an interim measure, for the duration of the current definitive series, a change or an intensification of the colour of the orange 6c stamp became essential. However, when you consider the range of colours of the other low-value definitive series and the obvious need for easy visual recognition, there are not many alternative colours.

We tried intensifying the orange to the limit of the printing process, without success.

Eventually we tried three other colour possibilities—moss green, emerald green and black. Only the black and the emerald green tested satisfactorily, and in that order, on the electronic gear. The moss green was technically little better than the orange.

Unfortunately the emerald green was similar to the regular 2c green and this choice would probably require also a change in the colour of the 2c stamp. At this stage, the officers involved were not especially keen on changing over to the black. Nor for that matter, were we impressed with the prospect of changing two stamps.

BLACK SELECTED

Up to this point, the Design Advisory Committee was unaware of the problem or the tests. Therefore, we placed the trial proofs before them, described the initial technical problem of the machine and simply asked for their choice on purely aesthetic grounds. They selected the black—unanimously.

Consequently we ran proof sheets in black, recommended and received approval. Frankly I am satisfied with the selection now and I hope that you will be.

6c REGULAR ISSUE

The re-issuance of Canada's 6c definitive stamp in black, a colour with superior qualities for detection by electronic recognition systems, is an outgrowth of the increased employment of mechanical facer-cancelling equipment. This stamp, originally issued in an orange shade on 1st November 1968, is compatible with the five lower denominations in the definitive series all of which include symbolic views of Canada's major economic regions. In each instance the image of Queen Elizabeth is inserted at the extreme right as an acknowledgement of the constitutional Head of State.

5,000 MILES x 3,000 MILES

Communications and transportation, vital services in linking the vast reaches of Canada, are given recognition on the 6c value. The microwave tower, part of a coast-to-coast system supplementing land-line and cable connections, is symbolic of communications. Transportation is illustrated by a variety of land, air and water vehicles.

Extraordinary transportation statistics become commonplace in a land approximately 5,000 miles by 3,000 miles. Canada's vital trans-

port needs in the commercial development of a 21,000,000 population are served by an estimated 60,000 miles of railway tracks, more mileage per capita than any other country in the world. Nearly 500,000 miles of highways and streets, mostly surfaced, are available for some 6,500,000 registered motor vehicles. "Main Street" in Canada, a dream for decades, became a reality in 1962 with the completion of the Trans-Canada Highway. This vast one billion dollar project, coordinated by an Act of Parliament passed in 1949, stretches more than 4,800 miles from St. John's, in the island Province of Newfoundland, to Victoria, on British Columbia's Vancouver Island. Herculean engineering feats in the construction of Canada's "Main Street" recall epic achievements in the 1880's when the nation's Pacific coast province, British Columbia, was first linked with the eastern provinces by a transcontinental rail line. Approximately 65 miles of railway track were in existence in all British North American Colonies in the year 1850; by 1860 the ribbons of steel exceeded 2,000 miles.

FIRST FLIGHT

Since Alexander Graham Bell's "Silver Dart" achieved Canada's first airplane flight in 1909, conquest of the air has made vast contributions to the nation's economy and to communications with remote areas. Powerful jets today speed passengers and goods from Halifax to Vancouver on scheduled flights with an elapsed time of 6 hours and 30 minutes. By contrast in 1920 the first coast to coast flight, organised by the Canadian Air Board, required a flying time of 45 hours from October 7th to October 17th. Waterways had been the whiteman's first highways and a development of these natural routes was synonymous with the spread of commerce. Nature's barriers in the form of waterfalls and rapids have been overcome by vast engineering works, the most notable being the St. Lawrence Deep Waterway's Project. Completed in 1959 at a total cost of \$470,000,000, Canada's share of which was \$330,000,000, the Seaway transformed inland lake cities into seaports and enables all but the largest seagoing vessels to steam 2,000 inland.

Stephen Leacock Commemorative

... Whenever a part of the earth contains a sufficient number of people to need stamps, the people

all get together and join in forming a government, the purpose of which is to issue stamps. If the stamps are to have a man's head as the design, the country is placed under a king, the person selected for the king having the kind of features needed for a stamp. The British Royal family makes such excellent stamps that it is thought that they will be kept at the head of Great Britain for a long time to come. On the other hand, the Emperor of Brazil had to be deposed in 1889, his whiskers being too large to go through the Post . . .

From Stephen Leacock's
"The Stamp-Album World, in
Short Circuits."

FIRST DAY COVERS AVAILABLE

A limited quantity of unaddressed first day covers, complete with "Laughter by Leacock" enclosure, is available at a price of one dollar postage paid, all taxes included.

Collectors are requested to send money order, payable to McGill University, to "Leacock Centennial" c/o The McGill Fund Council, 3618 University Street, Montreal 112, Que., Canada.

MISSING COLOUR ON CANADIAN XMAS STAMP

The Canada Post Office has announced that a quantity of mis-registered 6c Christmas 1969 issue postage stamps were included in the 100 million stamps which went on sale to the public on 8th October 1969.

The Christmas stamps were printed by four colour lithography. The mis-register was caused by the stamps not receiving the black colour which comprised the design frame, wording "Canada Christmas-Noel", the denomination "6" and miniature year date "1969" during the production run.

Produced on a printer's sheet of 400 stamps and then guillotined into post office panes of 100 stamps it is estimated that a total of 400 defective stamps were shipped from the manufacturer in the general distribution to post offices.

The Department has recovered 209 of the mis-registered stamps. Therefore, it is estimated that 191 of these stamps are in circulation, having been purchased by customers. The identity of the persons who purchased these stamps is not known to the Department.

It has not been necessary to make any withdrawal of the 6c Christmas issue from stock or from circulation on this account.

The interest, among collectors, in this year's Christmas issue has been above average.

INSIDE OF A LEAF DEPICTED

A microscopic view of the inside of a leaf will be the principal design element of a 6c stamp to be issued by the Canada Post Office on the 18th of February, 1970, to mark Canada's work as a major participant in the International Biological Programme, the theme for which is "The Biological Basis of Productivity and Human Welfare".

The new 40 mm x 24 mm stamp, designed by Israel Charney, ARC, Montreal, will be printed by a combination of the photogravure and steel engraving process in green, light orange and blue. A total of thirty-four million will be printed by the British American Bank Note Co. Ltd., Ottawa.

In choosing the microscopic view, the artist symbolizes the productivity theme of the IBP, a programme involving scientists in some sixty countries for a period of five years commencing on the 1st of July 1967. The co-operative efforts of more than one hundred and fifty scientists, students, and assistants in different disciplines from Canadian university and government laboratories, co-ordinated by a Canadian committee appointed by the National Research Council of Canada, are engaged in detailed studies of the functioning of prairie grasslands, temperate and arctic lakes, marine bays and estuaries, as well as in studies of circumpolar peoples and other aspects of the programme. Human activities are creating rapid and comprehensive changes in the environment. Consequently, in terms of human welfare, the reason for the IBP lies in its promotion of basic knowledge relevant to the needs of man. It is recognised that the rapidly increasing human population and the wide extent of malnutrition call for greatly increased food production coupled with rational management of natural resources. This can be achieved only on the basis of scientific knowledge which, in many fields of biology and in many parts of the world, is considered to be inadequate.

STAMPS ON APPROVAL

Seven Seas Stamps Pty., Ltd., of Dubbo, N.S.W., Australia, is by far the largest Philatelic Organisation in the Southern Hemisphere, with one of the world's largest retail stocks made up into a fine series of approval books available to Australian and New Zealand collectors on 14 days' approval. The present range of approval selections includes:—

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Price Lists Wanted

Name

Full Address

Signature

Date

NOTE: If applicant is under 21 parent or guardian should sign above.

RHODESIAN POSTAGE STAMPS SECOND DEFINITIVE ISSUE (DECIMAL)

Rhodesia changes to decimal currency on Tuesday, 17th February, 1970. The new unit of currency will be the Dollar (\$), which is divided into 100 cents. The Dollar equates to ten shillings (10/-) of our existing currency. A new definitive issue of postage stamps is being introduced to coincide with this change.

The astonishing development achieved in less than 100 years in what was virgin country is portrayed in a wide cross-section of activities ranging through the three themes of Land, Air and Water. The sweat and toil involved in this progress was necessarily supplemented with healthy recreation. This has not been overlooked in the new issue which includes coverage of sport, tourism and wild life.

THE STAMPS

Land—Lower values

1c: Agriculture has consistently been a major contributor to the economy and the subject of this stamp, "Wheat Harvesting", fittingly pays tribute to the dramatic break-through in wheat production in the last three years. From almost nothing to self-sufficiency in less than a decade is the ambitious programme now enthusiastically and energetically under way.

2c: Industry is represented by this stamp, which depicts the pouring of molten metal. Rich in iron ore reserves, Rhodesian industry stands poised to take its place among the giants of Africa.

2½c: Tourism, which is rapidly expanding, is represented by this illustration of the controversial Zimbabwe Ruins. The conflicting opinions of archaeologists, attributing the origin of the ruins either to the indigenous Bantu people or to a bygone Arab or Phoenician civilization, serve only to heighten the mystery of the ruins and their attraction to visitor and resident alike.

3½c: Commerce is symbolised in this stamp by a complex of buildings with a statue of the Founder, Cecil John Rhodes in the foreground. The first government in Rhodesia was provided by a commercial organisation, the British South Africa Company, and Rhodesia's modern history can be said to date from 1899 when, in a commercial transaction, Rhodes signed a contract with Major

Frank Johnson for £90,000 to bring the Pioneer Column into what is now Mashonaland to take up the concession granted by Lobengula, King of the Matabele.

5c: Mining—the country's first industry and now a major economic undertaking—is the subject of this stamp, which depicts simply a mine headgear. Rich in numerous minerals, Rhodesia's mining industry is now experiencing an exciting resurgence with new discoveries of deposits ranging from gemstones to nickel.

Water—Middle values

8c: Tourism is featured again in this stamp, which depicts the Devil's Cataract at the Western extremity of the famous Victoria Falls. The Falls need no introduction to the international traveller. Some interesting statistics: Peak flow of water (April 75,000,000 gallons per minute; minimum flow (October) 4,000,000 gallons per minute; mean height 304 feet; greatest height (Rainbow Falls) 355 feet; width of Falls 1860 yards. Discovered by Dr. David Livingstone on the 16th November, 1855, the Falls are today almost exactly as they were when he first saw them.

10c: Recreation is represented by this stamp. With its abundant sunshine Rhodesia is ideally situated for outdoor recreation of all kinds all the year round. The stamp depicts yachting on Lake McIlwaine.

12½c: Wild Life is the subject of this stamp, which shows a hippopotamus lazing on the surface of a river. Rhodesia is among the leading countries in the world in wild life conservation and her National Parks and Game Reserves provide a secure home for her rich fauna.

15c: Power, the life blood of all development, is featured on this stamp, which shows the great Kariba Dam. This is one of the world's finest technological achievements. From its enormous transformer and generator halls spreads a vast network of more than 9,500 miles of power lines. The double-curvature concrete arch dam, 420 feet high and 2,025 feet long, carries a 40-foot-wide road along its crest. There are six massive flood-gates to control the flow from the 170-mile-long and 20-mile-wide man-made lake.

20c: Irrigation is the theme of this stamp, which depicts a typical irrigation canal in the Low Veld. Rhodesia has deservedly earned a high reputation in the field of water conservation. Vast areas of almost barren virgin bush are being transformed into green productive

agricultural lands making significant contributions to the economy and providing employment, food and social services to many who in the past existed at subsistence level.

Air—Higher values

25c: Bird Life is typified in this stamp by the Bateleur Eagle. This is perhaps one of our most beautiful eagles and was adopted as the insignia of the Royal Rhodesian Air Force. Rhodesia is fortunate in the extent and variety of its bird life of which more than 620 species have been recorded. It is virtually an ornithologist's paradise that shows no signs of diminution in numbers of species.

50c: Communications is the subject of this stamp, which portrays a modern radar antenna over which has been "ghosted" an Air Rhodesia Vickers Viscount aircraft. Salisbury International Airport has one of the longest runways in the world and is capable of accepting any aircraft now in service. This stamp is symbolic of the high level of activity required to keep pace with the spectacular growth of the country.

\$1.00: Social services in the field of health, education and welfare are represented by this stamp, which illustrates one of the many services provided. The subject is "Air Rescue" and the illustration shows an air rescue helicopter of the Royal Rhodesian Air Force.

\$2.00: This stamp depicts the national flag of Rhodesia. It is representative of all the peoples of Rhodesia, who in little more than 75 years have together transformed a wild undeveloped country into a modern progressive state.

AUSTRALIAN POSTMARKS SPECIAL POSTMARK AT WAGGA WAGGA

A temporary post office will be established on the site of the first Cobb and Co. staging station in Wagga Wagga, N.S.W., during that city's celebrations for the centenary of local government.

The temporary post office will operate from 12th to 21st March, 1970, and a special postmarker will be provided.

Overseas collectors should forward fully addressed but unstamped envelopes to the Philatelic Bureau, 12th Floor, 374 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 3000, with a remittance to cover the costs of the stamps to be affixed and the service charges (for affixing not more than four stamps, 3c per cover; for affixing five or more stamps, 6c per cover). These orders must reach the Bureau by 5th March, 1970.

SOCIETY NOTES

WELLINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY (INC.)

The Wellington Philatelic Society does not meet during December, consequently there is very little to report.

One of our members Mrs. Hedy Stoneham whose husband is Government Printer in Western Samoa has sent us Christmas Greetings and says that she hopes to see us all again in February 1970.

I understand that one of dealer members, Colin McNaught, was in Auckland after Christmas, but was disappointed to find many of his confreres had closed up shop for the holidays.

Several of our members expect to go to ANPEX so there could be quite a sizeable N.Z. contingent there.

M. G. Wing,
Hon Secretary.

TARANAKI PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Following formal business, the remainder of the evening was of an informal nature and consisted mainly of philatelic party games and quizzes organised and directed by Mr. J. Kilgour. As this was the Christmas meeting a special spread was prepared by our ladies.

The next meeting will be held on the 2nd February. The programme is being organised by the ladies of the society.

Society Dinner: The annual society dinner was held on Saturday, December 20th, 34 members attending and a good time being had by all. The festivities ended for most people about 10.30 p.m.

General News

Mr. Chris Hegley (our Norfolk Island collector) was married during the holidays. May we on behalf of the society wish you and your wife all the very best for the future Chris.

Miss Janet Sole and Miss Sharon Lockyer both performed well academically during the year, Janet being made Dux of Devon Intermediate and Sharon obtaining her U.E. with very high marks. Congratulations to you both.

We also have to report that one of our Auckland members, Mr. H. Bray, will be returning very shortly from a year long trip overseas, taking in Canada and Europe.

Another of our members will be off overseas shortly upon his retirement in March. Mr. R. Shoemark of Timaru will be making a short trip before settling in New Plymouth.

DUNEDIN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

At the Dunedin Philatelic Society's January meeting five members displayed British Commonwealth stamps.

A Canadian exhibit described by Mr. L. Paul included recent Christmas issues, birds, famous Canadians, first Atlantic flight, and new definitives. Mrs. Y. Benson exhibited a collection of post-independence Maltese stamps most of which have been produced in a beautiful stylised fashion by one designer. Attention was drawn to the apostle St. Paul's shipwreck on the island and the recent stamps commemorating this event.

A display of British West Indies issues of the early thirties was shown by Mr. J. C. McMahon. These stamps have a relative rarity due to the economic climate prevailing at the time.

Mr. J. de Groot displayed some recent Rhodesian stamps including pre and post independence issues. In anticipation of decimal currency both sterling and decimal values appear on some of the recent issues.

Mr. A. G. Edey used stamps from some of the lesser known outposts of the Commonwealth to illustrate trends in design through the years. Designs ranging from monarch's heads only, through heads with pictorial backgrounds, symbolic pictorials, pictorials, multi-coloured issues to thematic sets were displayed. The influences both of advertising through stamps and also the need to cater for the changing interests of collectors were illustrated.

Dr. R. M. Carr.

TIMARU PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Quite well attended for a holiday time, the January meeting began with a display of the latest F.D.C.'s of various countries by various members.

A quiz on philatelic topics which had all present really thinking was won by Mr. S. R. Bennett.

The monthly raffle (in aid of Society funds) was won by our president, Mrs. V. Z. Harwood, who received a prize of a set of 1935 Silver Jubilee Stamps on F.D.C.'s, donated by Mr. R. J. Comrie.

A well-written up and very attractive display of 1968 French Commemoratives was given by Mr. R. Y. Trigrance. All stamps were mint and many blocks of four were featured.

B. R. Henderson,

CAMPBELL PATERSON TO TOUR NEW ZEALAND NEXT YEAR

(Notes from C.P. Newsletter)

Further to our announcement to publish an itinerary for Mr. and last month we are now in a position to publish an itinerary for Mr. and Mrs. Campbell Paterson's tour of N.Z. next year. As founder of our firm and managing director C.P. is known to many throughout N.Z. and we are anxious that any who would like to meet him again—or for the first time—should have the chance to do so. In publishing this itinerary we trust that philatelic societies will not hesitate to contact us as he will be available on the stated dates to give addresses—interested societies should contact us immediately so that we may make the necessary arrangements.

A list of meetings which have been arranged will be published at a later date. Those wishing to contact him personally, and we are anxious that none should hesitate, should contact him on the days indicated at his hotels in the various centres.

Sunday 15th March to Wednesday 18th March: Wellington, Royal Oak Hotel.

Thursday 20th March: Wanganui, Avenue Hotel.

Thursday 27th March to Thursday 10th April: Auckland, Earls Court Motel.

Saturday 12th April and Sunday 13th April: Dunedin, Cherry Court Lodge.

Tuesday 19th April: Oamaru, Haeremai Hotel.

N.B. Societies in other centres who wish to arrange for an address by Mr. Paterson should contact us now so that, where possible, such arrangements may be made.

Campbell Paterson Ltd.,
P.O. Box 5555,
Auckland, 1.

AUSTRALIAN POSTMARKS

POST OFFICE FOR MOOMBA STAMP DISPLAY

A temporary post office will be located in a mobile unit at the Victorian Philatelic Association Stamp Display to be held in the Treasury Gardens during the Moomba Festival in Melbourne over the period 27th February to 9th March, 1970.

A pictorial postmarker will be used at the temporary post office. The design of the postmarker will be similar to the one used last year.

Charges as for Wagga Wagga postmark, page 23.

QUICKSALES NO. 4

P.O. BOX 174, NEW PLYMOUTH.

HOW TO BID

NOTE LOT NUMBER of each item in which you are interested together with your maximum bid. Each page should include your printed name and full address. Please note last date for mailing bids. Overseas buyers please airmail offers.

Cat. no's and values, S.G. Part one 1969 unless marked.

Lots available for inspection by prior arrangement.

All lots purchased are on three days approval.

BIDS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN THE 15th FEBRUARY

ABBREVIATIONS

H.M.—Hinged Mint

U—Used

[]—Block

M—Mint

Catalogues

C.P.—Campbell Paterson

S.G.—Stanley Gibbons

Lot No.	Estimate		
NEW ZEALAND (Flaws etc.)			
320	1.00	6d Pict. Chalky paper, strip 5 M. Cat. \$1.25	
321	.50	1d Pict. Flaw in D of 1D Pair M.	
322	.50	1c Pict. Flaw by N Block 4 M	
323	.60	3d Pict. Short N R. 12/12 Block 4 M	
324	1.20	1/- Timber Brown and Dull Green Bl. 4 M Cat. \$1.80	
325	4.00	2½d Pict. Various Flaws/Retouches etc. 1B.A. R. 17/4, R 6/1 1B.B. R. 9/1, R 9/2, R 3/5, R 4/2, Also R 11/7, R. 13/10	
326	1.25	1d Karaka R. 10/9 Flaw below RA of KARAKA	
327	1.00	1d KARAKA Booklet Pane showing retouch to Green leaf R. 17/2 in Proof sheet	
328	2.50	2½d Pict. Bl. 6 M Partial Double Perfs. Cat. \$3	
329	1.50	3d Pict. Coil Issue Strip 4 M Cat. \$2 C.P.	
330	1.50	½d Manuka Bl. 4 M Blue misplaced "splochy petals"	
331	1.00	2d Pict. R 4/3 Line of Damage	
332	3.00	2/- Pict. Teardrop Variety Bl. 4 R 2/12	
333	1.00	1d Pict. Bl. 9M Flaw R 12/3 Very prominent	
334	1.00	9d Pict. Flaw by Flagpole, later retouched out.	
335	.25	5d Pict. Showing Blind perf. each side.	
336	.50	½d 1960 Pict. Pl. & Im. Bl. 8	
337	3.00	6d Pikiarero Chalky paper M Bl. 12 Retouch R 8/7	
338	6.00	1/3 Arms Bl. 4 M Blue lettering Cat. C.P. \$12.	
339	1.00	Capt. Cook Min. Sheet on Tarapex F.D.C. postmarked at Tarapex.	
340	1.00	Ditto on Post Office F.D.C. postmarked Bureau	
341	1.00	Captain Cook set pmked. Gisborne F.D.C. Pictorial postmark	
342	5.00	8d George V Pair M Official	
343	5.00	2/- Admiral M Pair Official one with broken stop	
344	20.00	1940 Cent. Off. with double ff's in pairs. Complete set. Cat. \$36. C.P.	
345		Pair 10d Postage Dues M. S.G. D. 8/Cat. \$10.	
346		Pair M. 5d Postage Dues. S.G. D6 Cat. \$5	
347		1935 2/- COQK M & COQK off. M. Cat. \$4 C.P.	
348	5.00	N.Z. 2lb Bulk Mix. Good General Selection to higher Values	
349	3.00	N.Z. 4lb Bulk Mix. Common flowers only. Ideal for flaw hunters	
350	3.00	Ditto.	
351	5.00	N.Z. 500 Commercial Envelopes. Ideal pmks., and slogans	
352	5.00	N.Z. Ditto	
353	1.00	N.Z. 10 envelopes with special markings. Irregularly posted etc.	
354	3.00	N.Z. 25 Registered envelopes. a few Cook stamps	
355	6.00	10 1960 Christmas M. Cat. S.G. \$6	
356	50.00	1960 Christmas Cpl. sheet. (60) M. Cat. S.G. \$36 plus Plate and Imprint. Investment item	
357	2.00	1949 No dot flaw M. Bl. 4 Cat. S.G. 60/-	
358	6.00	1960 2d Pict. ZF Flaw U. Cat. C.P. \$12	
359	2.50	1960 4d Pict. Chalky paper U. Cat. C.P. \$10.	
PACIFIC			
360	1.25	Papua Covers (3) S.G. 114, 146, 147, and 1 New Guinea Cover 1937 S.G. 191. (146, 147 are F.D.C.'s) Stamps Cat. \$2.38	
361	5.00	Papua/New Guinea 200 Commercial Envelopes. Ideal for postmarks, slogans etc.	
362	5.00	Ditto.	
363	27.50	Papua/N.G. S.G. 1-15 except 1/- val. Cat. £16.10.0	
364	5.00	Nauru Ships. 1½d, 6d, 2/6. Used on piece. Cat. 94/-	
365	\$20.00	Nauru Ships. Used on piece. 9d, 1/-, 2/6, 5/- Cat. £15.7.6	
366	40.00	Nauru. Ship set to 10/- M. (14) Cat. £25. Shiny paper	
367	2.50	Nauru. 1954 Set M. (9)	
368	1.50	Niue. S.G. 50 & 67 Bl. 4 M. (2) Capt. Cook. Cat. 24/-	
369	3.50	Cook Is. Rarotonga. S.G. 93 Capt. Cook. Bl. 4 & pair M. Cat. 60/-	
370	4.00	Cook Is. Rarotonga. S.G. 77 Capt. Cook Fine Bl. 6 M. Cat. 66/-	
371	2.00	Cook Is. Rarotonga O/P 2½d Vert. Pair George V M Cat. 32/6	
372	2.00	Samoa May 28 1895 Bisect. Tied on piece Cat. 25/-	
373	2.50	Niue. 1d Universal M. Variety No stop after peni. Cat 35/-	
374	2.00	Fiji U.P.U. Bl. 4 M	
375	3.00	New Hebrides. U.P.U. Mint & Used British & French	
376	2.00	Gilbert/Ellice U.P.U. set M & U.	
377	2.00	Br. Solomons. U.P.U. set M & U. Cat \$3.00	
378	5.50	Pitcairn U.P.U. F.U. Cat. \$8.50	
379	2.00	Tonga 1949 U.P.U. Set M & U.	
380	1.75	Tokelau Is. Decimals, S.G. 12-15 (5c new setting) Cat. 23/-	
381	2.00	Tokelau Is. S.G. 6-8 Bl. 4 Mint 6d, 8d First setting 2/- third setting. Cat. 26/-	
382	2.50	Ross Dependency. 1/6 M. Bl. 4 (2) Mint Imprint & Pacific No. Cat. \$3.50	
383	2.50	Ross Dependency. 8d Map Bl. 4 M. (2) Two distinct shades. Cat. \$3.80.	
BRITISH COMMONWEALTH			
384	3.00	Australia. Bulk mix. Commens & Picts. mainly 5c val. Colourful 1lb	
385	1.50	Overseas 25 Registered or special marked envelopes	
386	2.50	Gr. Britain. 10/- Blue. H.M. S.G. 478a Cat. 65/-	
387	1.00	Canada 1951 Booklet with scarcer 4c vermilion. Cat. 18/9	
388	4.00	Australia. Empire Games set Bl. 4 M	

Rural Architecture on New Stamps

Four special stamps featuring cottage architecture in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will be issued by the Post Office on February 11. This British Rural Architecture issue is the work of two designers, David Gentleman and Sheila Robinson. Stamp values are 5d, 9d, 1s and 1s6d.



David Gentleman designed the 5d Fife harling and 9d Cotswold limestone stamps. Harling is rough-cast cement rendering, applied to brickwork, typical of this region of Scotland. The stamp is in eight colours: grey, yellow, brown, black, light grey, dark blue, light blue and green.

The 9d stamp is based on typical cottages in the Bibury district of Gloucestershire and is in six colours: grey, yellow, brown, black, light grey and green.

Sheila Robinson designed the 1s Welsh stucco and 1s6d Ulster thatch stamps. The 1s stamps has a bilingual caption and shows a cottage in Aberaeron, Cardiganshire. It is in four colours: grey-green, purple, light blue and dark blue.

BADEN-POWELL HANDSTAMP

The special handstamp "Baden-Powell House Founders Day" will be used on February 22 at the South-Western District Office, London. It is rectangular showing the Scout Stamp Collectors' Club Badge as a motif. A posting box will be available at Baden-Powell House, Queen's Gate, Kensington, G.B., on Saturday, February 21. Fully stamped and addressed items for reporting should be sent to the District Postmaster, SWDO, G.B.



The 1s6d stamp shows a thatched house in the Ulster Folk museum grounds and is in four colours: black, blue, green and yellow.

Both artists have previously designed stamps for the Post Office. David Gentleman has designed many, his most recent being the Post Office technology series issued in October 1969 to mark Vesting Day of the new Post Office. Sheila Robinson designed the 3d 900th anniversary Westminster Abbey stamp issued in 1966.

The 5d and 9d values are double size and will be issued 120 to a sheet. The 1s and 1s6d values are slightly larger than double size and will be issued 60 to a sheet. All four will be printed in photogravure by Harrison and Sons Ltd. and will have phosphor lines. Perforations are 15 x 14.

In choosing the designs the Post Office had the assistance of the Stamp Advisory Committee.

ALL-PHOSPHOR STAMPS RELEASED

Sheets of the 1s 6d definitive postage stamp printed in phosphor all over are on sale at the Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh, the London Chief Office and all other Head Offices with philatelic counters.

Altogether, 140,000 sheets—three months' normal issue—have been printed all-over-phosphor for test purposes. They will be issued to local post offices as these replenish their stocks of 1s 6d stamps.

BEFORE CHANGEOVER BRITAIN'S FIRST DECIMAL STAMPS

Three new high-value decimal postage stamps will be issued by the Post Office on June 17 this year. Their values will be 10p, 20p and 50p. Basic design will remain the same, the only change being newly-designed decimal value figures.

The £1 stamp design will be unchanged, but, like the other three stamps, it will be produced 100 to a sheet instead of 40 to a sheet as at present.

To avoid confusion with the current 2s6d and 5s stamps, which will continue to be valid for prepayment of postage after June 17, the 10p and 20p values will be printed in cerise and in olive green respectively. The colour of both the 50p and 10s stamp (which also remains valid after June 17) will be blue.

"TO PAY" LABELS—high-value equivalent of postage-due labels, will also be introduced in 10p, 20p, 50p and £1 denominations on June 17.

Postage due labels are most widely used to surcharge unpaid or underpaid mail; To Pay labels are mainly used for collection of customs charges on postal packets from overseas.

The new decimal To Pay labels will be in a completely new design, to be announced later. The artist is Jeffrey Matthews, well-known stamp designer whose most recent stamps were the 4d and 1s values in the British Bridges series of April 1968.

Special Note: The new high-value stamps and To Pay labels are being introduced prior to decimalisation to ease pressure on stamp printing and distribution caused by the need for a completely new series of stamps and labels. Current high-value stamps were introduced in March 1969. The design of To Pay labels has not been changed since they were introduced in 1914.

CORRECTION

Our apologies to readers for the inconvenience caused by the ending of British Virgin Islands famous ships descriptions in mid-sentence. This article was continued on page 21, January Issue.

BACKGROUND TO British Honduras

British Honduras is bounded on the north and north-west by the Mexican province of Yucatan, on the west and south by Guatemala and on the east by the Caribbean Sea. The total area of British Honduras is about 8,867 square miles, included 212 square miles of cays or offshore islands. The coast is approached through cays and reefs which make navigation difficult. The coastal belt is low-lying and swampy, with alluvial fertile land further inland and the arid, sandy expanses known as pine ridges from the trees which cover them. Farther inland comes the less elevated broken ridge country of mixed scrub, intersected by the "Cohune ridges" with a deep rich soil covered by rich tropical vegetation. The hills rise in parallelness with the coast, the Manatee Hills near the capital Belize being up to 1,000 feet high, while beyond these the Cockscomb Mountains rise to a maximum height of 3,700 feet. The tropical vegetation and fauna of British Honduras is typical of Central America and the climate of the country, generally, is warm and humid.

SMALL POPULATION

British Honduras is a little larger than Wales, but supports a population of only 115,000. Ethnographically British Honduras is exceedingly complex; most of the inhabitants are racially mixed, being descendants of former African slaves, English buccaneers, and logwood cutters, German and Scottish traders, Spanish-Indian settlers, East Indian and other Asiatic races with later migrations of Caribs and Maya Indians from the adjoining territories.

The greater part of the country is covered by dense forest and timber represents a major industry. Apart from hardwoods such as mahogany and cedar, British Honduras exports chicle, the basis of chewing gum. Agriculture (sugar and citrus) is the principal industry in the country's economy.

HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED

The earliest known inhabitants of this region were the Mayas of Central America and British Honduras abounds with vestiges of their highly sophisticated civilisation. Although the Spaniards had occupied Central America from the beginning of the sixteenth century

the area now known as British Honduras was comparatively untouched by Europeans till the seventeenth century. Shipwrecked seamen and buccaneers first settled in Belize in 1638. The name "Belize" is said to be a corruption of Wallace, named after a Scotsman who settled in this area in the early seventeenth century. A regular colony was established in 1662 when settlers were attracted from Jamaica by the logwood and mahogany which soon became an important export from the Bay district.

BITTER FIGHTING

These woodcutters exploited the forests over a wide area, extending far beyond the boundaries of present-day British Honduras but pressure from the Spanish authorities gradually forced the British settlers to confine their activities to the environs of the Belize river. The colony then known as Belize prospered in the eighteenth century and slaves were imported from West Africa, but rivalry with the Spaniards was keen and often led to bitter fighting. The rights and privileges of the "Baymen" was not recognised until the Treaty of Paris in 1763, but in return for Spanish agreement the settlers were forced to destroy their fortifications. During the American War of Independence Spain again attacked the British settlements along the Belize river, destroying them and deporting the colonists to Havana in Cuba where most of them died. The survivors, however, returned to Belize at the end of the war in 1783 and by treaties between Spain and Britain in 1784 and 1786 were granted permission to cut logwood. During the French Revolutionary Wars, when Spain was allied to France, the Spanish again launched an attack on Belize but this was repulsed and since 1798 Britain has enjoyed the unmolested, though not the undisputed, possession of British Honduras. The question of Spanish suzerainty over the Bay area appears to have been tacitly admitted as late as 1814, but with the disintegration of Spanish power in Latin America Britain's claim to British Honduras was felt to be strengthened. At various times since 1826, however, both Mexico and Guatemala, as heirs to the old Spanish Empire, have laid claim to all or part of British Honduras.

STATURE

The government of British Honduras was originally in the hands of a general meeting of all the free

inhabitants but in 1765 the Crown granted a constitution providing for an unpaid magistracy of seven, headed by a superintendent. Various modifications were instituted between that date and 1862 when British Honduras became a dependency of Jamaica under a lieutenant governor. In 1871 it became a crown colony in its own right and in 1884 was separated from Jamaica. British Honduras attained a measure of self-government as early as 1892, long before such

FIRST HANDSTAMP

status was granted to most Crown colonies. Under the constitution granted in January 1964 British Honduras has been completely self-governing with a National Assembly consisting of a House of Representatives and a Senate.

It is not known when a post office was established in Belize but by 1800 a General Post handstamp was in use inscribed BELIZE in a straight line. Paid handstamps were introduced about 1842, the earliest type being inscribed PAID AT BELIZE. In 1857 a post office under the General Post Office in London was established in Belize and in the following year British adhesive stamps came into use. Their use in British Honduras may be recognised by the oval obliterator "A 06". The stamps thus used were the 1d, 4d, 6d and 1/- of 1856-7. The use of British adhesives was relatively short-lived, being terminated in May 1860. Handstruck markings were again resorted to until January 1866 when distinctive postage stamps were issued in British Honduras.

EIRE STAMP PROGRAMME

The following subjects have been chosen for the programme of special postage stamps to be issued by the Republic of Eire, in 1970:

Conference of European Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (Europa Stamp).

European Conservation Year, 1970.

250th Anniversary of Yachting in Ireland and of the founding of the Royal Cork Yacht Club.

50th Anniversary of the death of Terence McSwiney.

50th Anniversary of the death of Kevin Barry.

A work of art by a contemporary Irish artist.

SPACE STAMPS OF THE SOVIET UNION, PART 3

by G. M. van ZANTEN

The 4th October 1962 was the fifth anniversary of the first Sputnik launching and a commemorative stamp was issued for the occasion, showing the red Sputnik against a black background studded with blue and purple stars, the value of the stamps is 10 Kopek and perforation 12.



Russia's first set of stamps to show the statue "TOWARDS THE STARS" appeared on the 7th November 1962; it consisted of two stamps 6 Kopeks and 10 Kopeks. This set commemorates the flights of Vostok 2, 3 and 4; perforation of these two stamps is 11½, they also exist imperforate, the lower value has a blue background and the other a violet one.

The 10 Kopek stamp of this set was overprinted "Mars one" and the date 1.1X; making it a provisional stamp to commemorate the launching of Mars 1. This satellite had a weight of 893½ kg and stood over three metres high and had a diameter of 1m 10cm, aerials extended out 4 metres, radio contact was lost on the 25th of March 1963.

On the 17th November a large stamp was issued to show the launching of Mars 1, a striking design, showing against a background of violet the cosmic vehicle separating from its launch vehicle and heading for Mars, shown in red, the receding earth surrounded by the path the rocket took. The value of this super-size stamp is 10 Kopek and it has a perforation of 12. The First Day Cover that goes with this stamp shows again the statue "towards the Stars" and a stylised space vehicle.

Four Soviet cosmonauts are the subject of the largest of all Soviet cosmos stamps it measures 151 x 70 mm in colours blue and black it shows Gagarin, Titov, Nikolayev and Popovich in a panel. The perforated copy of this stamp has an extra perforation under the panel in which the portraits are shown, which is missing on the imperforate copies. To the left of the large panel is the statue "Towards the Stars", value of the stamp is 1 Ruble and it was issued

on the 27th Nov. 1962. Luna 4 was launched on the 2nd April 1963, it weighed 1442 kg and reached the moon on the 6th April, where it went in orbit 8000 km from the surface; a large stamp commemorating this event was issued in April 1963; it shows a large red rocket approaching the moon in blue against a very black background, the value of this stamp is 6 Kopek.

In 1963 the 12th April was proclaimed Cosmonauts Day and a stamp or stamps have appeared each year since to commemorate this day on which the first manned space flight was made. The first issue consisted of six different stamps of value 10 Kopek arranged in one sheet, forming a panorama. Two sets can be made with value figures both clear and coloured and these are arranged in alternate horizontal rows. The panorama thus shows sputniks, the globe, Vostok 1, the moon, a cosmic rocket and the sun.



Vostok V was launched on the 14th June, 1963, it made 81 revolutions of the earth in 119 hours, covering over 2 million miles. It was piloted by Valeri Bykovsky. Vostok VI was launched on the 16th June 1963, it made 48 revolutions of the earth in 71 hours, covering approximately 1.2 million miles. This was piloted by the first woman to venture into outer space. She was, of course, Valentina Tereshkova. Valentina's flight was planned to last 24 hours, however as her condition remained satisfactory it was decided to allow her to allow her to continue for three days and she returned to earth on the 19th June some 390 miles north east of Karaganda on latitude 53° Having passed the period of maximum heat-



ing, with speed reduced to 493 mph the hatch cover was automatically fired off at an altitude of 22966ft. Valentina ejected in the seat at 21,385ft. Twenty seconds later, at 13,123ft altitude, the capsule landing parachute was triggered by the automatic descent control.

Valentina herself was still high in the air, swinging lazily beneath the parachute, as her capsule bumped down. Bykovsky landed 2½ hours later. A few months after Valentina's flight it was announced that she was to marry cosmonaut Andrian Nikolayev; the wedding took place on the 3rd November, 1963. In flight Vostok V and VI flew as close as 6km as a team, compared with 11km for Nikolayev and Popovich.

Several stamps were issued to commemorate this double flight, the first series was a set of three stamps, two of 6 Kopek and one of 10 Kopek. In the perforated set there are 15 different types of the 10 Kopek showing small variations. The first 6 Kopek stamp shows Bykovsky in brown against a purple background with a rocket, the other 6 Kopek stamp shows Valentina Tereshkova in a red panel against a green background, also a red carnation. The 10 Kopek shows a symbolical representation of a man and woman in space predominant colour of this stamp is blue.

The next two stamps make up a panoramic view including both Vostok vehicles and large portraits of the Cosmonauts facing each other in space helmets of a bright orange colour, the sheets consisted of 10 stamps. A 10 Kopek stamp shows Valentina in black against a blue background and red rocket, both perforate and imperforate copies of this stamp exist.

A set of six Kopek stamps was issued on the 28th December 1963 commemorating "FIRSTS IN SPACE", all different designs in the one sheet. All stamps are red with gold embossing and white space vehicles, they show in order from top to bottom the following designs: Sputnik I, moon landing of Lunik II, the reverse side of the moon and the Luna III rocket, the first Vostok, the first twin flight and a seagull representing the first woman in space.

AUSTRALIA:

SPECIAL MAIL TO BE CARRIED ON FIRST PASSENGER TRAIN OVER STANDARD GAUGE RAIL

Philatelic mail will be carried on the inaugural passenger train to travel over the standard gauge railway linking Sydney with Perth. The train is scheduled to depart Sydney on 23rd February, 1970.

A special postmarker will be applied to all covers carried on this train.

A special stamp commemorating the completion of the standard gauge railway will be issued on 11th February, 1970.

Covers may be addressed to any destination and must be prepaid. The top left hand corner of the envelope should be endorsed "Inaugural Train".

Normal postage rates will apply to articles to addresses within Australia and its Territories. For overseas addresses the appropriate postage rates apply. Covers intended to be carried from Perth to overseas addresses by air mail must be prepaid with the correct air mail charges. (10c to N.Z.)

Overseas collectors should forward fully addressed but unstamp-ed covers to the Philatelic Bureau, 12th Floor, 374 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 3000, with remittances to cover the stamps to be affixed and the service charges (for affixing not more than four stamps, 3c per cover; for affixing five or more stamps, 6c per cover).

Covers must reach the Bureau by 16th February, 1970.

1d COIN

The 1d coin is shortly to be withdrawn in the Falkland Islands. This will probably result in the early withdrawal of the 1d, 1½d, 3½d, 4½d and 5½d definitives.

NEW ZEALAND: ISSUES AVAILABLE

The following stamp issues are currently available at the Philatelic Bureau Wellington and the Philatelic Sales Sections Auckland and Christchurch.

Definitive Set (set \$5.4½c)

½, 1c, 2c, 2½c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 7c, 7½c, 8c, 10c, 15c, 18c, 20c, 25c, 28c, 30c, 50c, \$1, \$2.

New Zealand Fiscals (set \$28.00) \$4, \$6, \$8, \$10.

Commemorative and Special Issues

Centenary New Zealand Law Society (set 31c): 3c, 10c, 18c.

Centenary University Otago (set 13c): 3c, 10c.

Bay of Islands (set 10c): 4c, 6c.

New Zealand Christmas: 2½c Health (set 12½c): 3½c, 4c, 5c.

Cook Bicentenary (set 56c): 4c, 6c, 18c, 28c; also available in set-tenant blocks.

Corso (Committee for Relief Services Overseas) (set 15c): 7c, 8c.

Government Life Insurance (set 25c): ½, 2½c, 3c, 4c, 15c.

Ross Dependency (set 27c): 2c, 3c, 7c, 15c.

Tokelau Islands

Pictorial (set 13c): 1c, 2c, 10c.

Historical Series (set 50c): 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c.

Christmas: 2c.

New Zealand Fiscals overprinted Tokelau (set 35c): 3c, 5c, 7c, 20c.

Niue

Pictorial Set (set 82c): ½c, 1c, 2c, 2½c, 3c, 5c, 8c, 10c, 20c, 30c.

Christmas: 2½c.

New Zealand Fiscals overprinted Niue (set \$3.50): 50c, \$1, \$2.

The following old prints of New Zealand definitives are still available. 7c (Flower), 8c (Flag), 20c (Maori Rock drawing), \$2 (Pohutu Geyser, Pink colouring).

Reminder

The following issues will be withdrawn from sale on the dates indicated.

Law Society (set 31c) 31.1.70

University Otago (set 13c) 31.1.70

Health (set 12½c) 31.3.70

Tokelau Historical (set 50c) 30.4.70

Christmas (N.Z. Tokelau and Niue) 30.6.70

Cook (set 56c) 31.7.70

CORRECTION

10c Aerogramme. The news of a new aerogramme appearing on page 5, Jan. N.Z.S.M., should have read Papua and New Guinea/10c Aerogramme. Our apologies to readers for any inconvenience caused.

\$1 GLACIER INVERTED PRINTING

Mr. N. Scott of Thames has found a mint \$1 Tasman Glacier with the wording NEW ZEALAND faintly printed upside down along the bottom of the stamp. A similar effect could be gained if the stamp was folded horizontally, however this stamp is not folded. Mr. Arthur Dexter, one of New Zealand's keen students of decimal varieties has sent this explanation.

"There seems to be only one explanation of this to fit all the facts. As this was printed and lay

on top of the pile of printed sheets, the next sheet, as it came off the press, somehow flicked over and fell on top of this sheet upside-down. As it had just come off the press the ink was in the wettest state possible and left the inverted impression on the sheet under it. If the sheets are picked from the press by several suction cups and fed to the pile that way, where the suction cups press on the sheet they would cause pressure in a few places only, so this double impression need not appear uniformly over the whole sheet, but only in several places.

This effect cannot be caused by the sheet touching the inked printing plate or cylinder as it is reversed, nor can it be caused by offset on another sheet as it is inverted."

REVIEW

"Have Fun—Collect Stamps" by Dace Logigas, published by Review Publications Pty. Ltd., Sterling St., Dubbo, N.S.W., Australia. Price: 35c N.Z.

This publication is designed to help the beginner (both adult and junior) to stamp collecting, and a surprising amount of useful information is packed into its 48 pages.

The reasons why stamp collecting is such a universally popular hobby with young and old are well set out and there is much sound practical advice on how to take up the some of the problems and pitfalls. hobby—with hints on how to avoid A section is devoted to the finer points and mysteries of the hobby, including an interesting chapter on the "secret marks" to be found on Canadian stamps. As well as advice on the investment side of the hobby, the book covers catalogues, the problems of mounting pages, watermarks, perforations and other philatelic mysteries and all are dealt with clearly and in an easy-to-understand manner.

The publication is particularly well illustrated throughout with photos and drawings and it has an amusing two colour cover caricaturing well known stamps. This is an ideal little book to present to beginners and to people who have no knowledge of philately but who are interested in knowing something about the hobby.

Available from The Stamp Shop, P.O. Box 174, New Plymouth at 35c (post 3c).

N.Z.S.M. APPRECIATES NEWS
FROM READERS

JUNIOR PAGE

by Simon Sam.
THE 1d BLACK

These small pieces of paper which we call postage stamps are printed and sold to pay postage on letters and other articles we wish to send through the post office. It is an easy and convenient way to do this. But it has not always been so. When we talk about stamps we must include the "franking machines", labels and marks which are used by many business houses. These are printed on the envelope by a small hand machine which keeps a record of the value of the postage, which is collected from time to time by the post office. But for most people stamps are the things.

Once upon a time there was no such thing as a postage stamp; the charges made by the post office were collected in cash usually from the person who received the letter. The post office had a cumbersome system of keeping records of all letters received and delivered so that the correct amount of money could be accounted for. This book keeping cost a lot of money. Great Britain led the way in getting all this changed by the invention of the postage stamp.

AGITATORS

Men—and women—who get things changed are often called agitators and what a poor place this would be if there were no agitators. The leader of the men who agitated for postal reform was a certain Rowland Hill. This name comes up three times in English history. Rev. Rowland Hill, one of England's greatest preachers; his nephew, General, later Viscount Hill; Sir Rowland Hill, postal reformer.

Rowland Hill had a long and hard fight to persuade the post office and the Government that something should be done and quickly to improve the post office. He wanted a cheaper means of paying for postage and thought out the idea of using a small printed label which would be bought and put on the envelope by the writer. It seems so simple to us today but when Rowland Hill talked about it, he was called all sorts of names, silly agitator and the rest. But he stuck to his guns and 20 years after he had won his battle; he was given royal recognition and became Sir Rowland Hill.



In January 1840 the British Post Office brought in penny post and on 6th May the first postage stamp in the world. The value was 1d and the stamp being printed in black is known everywhere as 'the penny black'. The post office had a competition for a suitable design and although hundreds of entries were received not one was considered suitable and Mr. Hill was asked for his advice. He not only invented the postage stamp but gave us the outline of the 'penny black' which many people still think is one of the finest stamps ever produced. Have you noticed how Mr. Hill 130 years ago picked on the perfect shape and size for his postage stamp?

INTEREST

Postage stamps were brought in by the British Post Office with little public interest; the London "Times", probably the greatest of all newspapers, had a brief mention of the event, which was to completely change the working of not only the British post office, but the postal systems of the whole world. I read a book many years ago, "A world without a Child"; can you imagine this busy world of today without a postage stamp! A small piece of paper, the result of the persistence of Rowland Hill—not overlooking those in and out of Parliament who backed him up.

Perhaps you have a good idea for something—think it out carefully—talk it over with friends you can trust—remember the story of Robert Bruce and the spider and of Rowland Hill, and who knows what your persistence may bring forth some day.

The 'Penny Black' is still one of the most popular stamps in the world and it is the aim of collectors everywhere to own at least one copy.

LATE

New Zealand was rather late in following the example of the British Post Office there were good reasons for the delay which we will not go into now—you could think them out for yourself, I am sure.

The first New Zealand Postage Stamp was issued in July 1855;

there was no definitive "first day" and the earliest known date is 18th. These "Full Face Queens" as the stamps are known, have never been excelled for simplicity and dignity of design, and the early printings are masterpieces of the printer's art.



The centenary of our first postage stamp was commemorated by a set of three designs, one of which is similar to the Queens of one hundred years earlier. The 2d value takes our thoughts back to the days before New Zealand had motor cars or railway trains or roads, while the 4d brings us up to date with the aeroplane which the post office uses extensively in giving us one of the most efficient postal services in the world.

The British Post Office commemorated the centenary of the postage stamp with a set of six values showing portraits of Queen Victoria and King George VI but the only other British country to do so was Burma which overprinted one of its regular stamps with a suitable inscription in English. But several foreign countries recalled the event and so we have the portrait of Sir Rowland Hill and reproductions of the Penny Black on stamps of foreign countries, including Portugal, Paraguay, Mexico and Cuba.

RADIO TALKS

Simon Sam can be heard on Radio Taranaki on Sunday, February 8th and 22nd, at 9.05 a.m.

POSTING BOX AT AYERS ROCK—CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

The Ayers Rock letter receiver will be re-opened on 1st February, 1970, on a permanent basis to cater for the increasing demand for this facility through the year. All letters posted in the special box will be postmarked with a pictorial hand postmarker depicting a representation of Ayers Rock, one of the world's largest monoliths. The letter receiver will be cleared frequently and letters taken to Alice Springs Post Office for postmarking and despatch to their destinations. This facility does not provide for the acceptance of registered mail.

CLASSIFIED COLUMNS

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TOP prices for N.Z. Stamps on or off paper. Send 5c for buying list.—Stamp Wholesalers, Putaruru.

NEW ZEALAND, Great Britain, Australia, Pacific Islands mint or used material in quantity—we pay top prices. Send 5c stamp for illustrated buying list to John Hillary, Box 4075, C.P.O., Auckland. 2

COLLECTOR wishes to purchase any Pitcairn postal material ex island not Philatelic Bureau. Old envelopes especially wanted. Box 750, Whangarei. —11

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PERFIN stamps of N.Z., any amount accepted. I. Rutherford, 58 Gilbert St., New Plymouth. —2

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GENERAL

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WANTED. Buying members only. Ashmore Stamp Circuits. Membership free. Particulars write C. A. Botting, 129 Trewavas Rd., Motueka, Nelson, N.Z. 3/3

AUCKLAND Stamp Auctions, Box 116, C.P.O., Auckland. Telephone 371-545, Auckland.

GENERAL (Cont.)

SEEKING OVERSEAS CONTACTS? Boomerang Hobby Dictionary lists 1300 active collectors and many clubs in 90 countries. Send N.Z. \$1.00 bill. Big Mail including Boomerang Magazine 25c (mint N.Z. commemorative stamps o.k.) PATSALES (N.Z.), 10 Melbourne Ave., Glenroy, Vic. 3046, Australia.

FIND out why philatelists in over 100 countries are members of the Concorde Correspondence Club. Details 38 Parkside Drive, Edgware, Middx., England.

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WORLDWIDE Exchange Bulletin. Interests—Collectors/Peenpals. Copy with listed G.B. High Values. Send 9d or International Reply Coupon to: X. Quinn (NZSM), 57 Fane Drive, Berinsford, Oxford, England. —12

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N.Z. Collector wishes to swap Australian stamps (singles, blocks 4, half sheets, etc.) for same N.Z. stamps. Senior only. Write to Mr. I. Stapp, Flat 4, 38 Lynch St., Footscray, Vict. 3011. —11

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1000 Australia \$3.00, 100 World \$2.00, 500 China \$2.00, 500 Germany \$2.00, 500 Hungary \$2.60, 500 British Empire \$2.50, 200 Finland \$2.75, 300 Italy \$2.15, 100 Maps \$2.00, 200 Canada \$2.00, 200 Russia \$2.50, 500 U.S.A. \$5.20. Send N.Z. Bank Notes or cheques to Staneth, Box 24, Greenacres, South Australia, 5086. 3/5

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