

THE NEW ZEALAND

STAMP MONTHLY



The Samoa miniature sheet for Interpex, New York to be released on 12th March, 1971. It is designed by Australian artist Mr. E. W. Roberts and shows a long-boat (Samoan "fautasi") in Apia Harbour with the New York skyline in the background.

VOL. 3, No. 12.

MARCH, 1971.

FEATURING THIS ISSUE:-

- ★ PAPUA & N. GUINEA MAMMALS, FLORA AND FAUNA CONSERVATION ISSUE
- ★ PHILATELY IN INDIA
- ★ FLOWERS OF SWAZILAND

25c

NEW ZEALAND

This issue is being replaced with an entirely new set, the first 15 values of which have already been issued. Many values have had a short life while for others there has been little commercial use. Our advice is to complete your sets now before all the stamps are off sale and prices begin to move upwards—as they certainly will.

For brevity, where shades occur in the lower values, only the shade change is listed. In the list of varieties the number of stamps in the block is given in brackets at the end of the description.

	Mint		Used		Imprint and Plate No. Blocks	\$ c	
	\$	c	\$	c		\$	c
1c plum, green and blue	.02	.02			½c Plate No. 1A,1B or Imprint (6)		.15
1c brown, yellow, green and wine yellow-brown	.02	.02			1c Plate No. 1A,1B or Imprint (6)		.15
deep brown	.05	.05			2c Plate No. 1A, 1B, 1A2A or Imprint (6)		.25
2c red, green, black and yellow	.03	.02			2½c Plate No. 1A, 1B, 2A1A, 2B1B, 2B3B or Imprint (6)		.35
deep green	.03	.02			3c Plate No. 1A, 1B, 2A1A, 2B1B, 2A3A, 2B3B or Imprint (6)		.40
2½c blue, brown, green and yellow	.04	.02			4c Plate No. and Imprint 1A or 1B (12) ditto (PVA gum), 2A1A or 2B1B (12)		.90
deep blue	.04	.02			5c Plate No. 1A, 1B or Imprint (6)		.55
grey-blue	.20	.15			6c Plate No. and Imprint 1A or 1B (12)		1.20
3c blue, buff, green and purple	.05	.02			7c Plate No. 1A, 1B or Imprint (6)		.85
pale blue	.05	.02			7c (Fishing) Plate No. and Imprint 1 or 1A (4)		.55
greenish-blue	.06	.02			7½c (Wmk Sideways) Plate 1A or Imprint (6)		.80
4c black, purple, green and yellow	.07	.03			7½c (Wmk Upright) Plate 1A or Imp. (6)		.85
5c green, olive and lilac	.08	.02			8c (Flag) Plate No. 1A and Imprint (8)		1.10
6c red, green, yellow and pink	.09	.06			8c (Apples) Plate No. and Imprint 1 or 1a (4)		.55
7c Rata	.11	.06			10c (Pines and sawn timber) Plate No. 1A and Imprint (6)		1.00
7c Fishing industry	.12	.08			15c Tiki (green, red and black), Plate No. 1A and Imprint (8)		1.90
7½c Trout (Wmk sideways)	.12	.12			18c Plate No. and Imprint 1 or 1a (4)		1.20
7½c Trout (Wmk upright)	.13	.15			20c (Rock drawing) Plate 1 and Imp. (10)		3.25
8c Flag	.12	.06			20c (Meat industry) Plate No. and Imprint 1 or 1a (4)		1.25
8c Apple growing	.12	.08			25c (Butter) Plate No. 1A and Imprint (6)		5.00
10c Timber (Kauri logs)	.40	.25			25c (Dairying) Plate No. 1A and Imp. (6)		2.25
10c Timber (Pines and sawn timber)	.15	.05			28c Plate No. 1A and Imprint (10)		4.25
15c Tiki (green and orange)	.60	.30			30c Plate No. 1A and Imprint (6)		3.75
15c Tiki (Wmk inverted)	7.50	7.50			30c ditto, ditto (PVA gum)		3.00
15c Tiki (green, red and black)	.22	.08			30c ditto, ditto, (No wmk)		3.00
18c Wool industry	.25	.12			50c Plate No. 1A and Imprint (10)		8.00
20c Maori Rock Drawing	.30	.05			50c ditto, ditto (PVA gum)		7.50
20c Meat industry	.28	.12			\$1 Plate No. 1A and Imprint (6)		8.50
25c Butter	.65	.50			\$2 (multi) Plate No. 1A and Imp. (10)		30.00
25c Dairy industry	.35	.20			\$2 (magenta) Plate No. 1A and Imprint (10)		45.00
28c Fox Glacier	.40	.20					
30c Tongariro National Park	.50	.20					
30c ditto, No Wmk	.45	.30					
50c Sutherland Falls	.75	.20					
\$1 Tasman Glacier	1.35	.75					
\$2 Pohutu Geyser (Magenta)	4.00	4.00					
\$2 ditto (multi-colour)	2.75	2.00					
Complete set (28 stamps)	13.00	9.00					

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STAMP MONTHLY

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New Zealand	\$3.00 p.a.
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Please Note Society Reports—
By the 10th of the month prior
to publication please.

Please address general
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New Plymouth.

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NEW ZEALAND STAMPS WANTED

Take advantage of these prices that we offer for stamps in good condition up to our requirements. Mint, lightly hinged and lightly postmarked used copies required at the prices listed.

1906 Christchurch Exhibition	Mint	Used	1926 King George 5th	Mint	Used
½d green	1.50	1.75	4½d green	.60	.55
1d red	.85	.85	7½d brown	.40	.60
3d brown and blue	2.00	2.25	8d brown	.65	.8
6d pink and green	15.00	16.00	9d green	.75	.12
Set on envelope		25.00	1/- vermilion	.90	—
1913 Auckland Exhibition			2/- blue (Admiral)	3.00	1.00
½d green	1.00	1.25	3/- mauve (Admiral)	10.00	8.00
1d red	1.75	1.75	Same Set Overprinted Official		
3d brown	11.00	12.00	4d violet	.35	—
6d red	17.00	19.00	8d brown	2.25	2.50
Set on envelope		38.00	9d green	.40	.35
1920 Victory			1/- vermilion	.30	—
3d brown	.60	.45	2/- blue (Admiral)	2.25	1.25
6d violet	1.20	.55	1935 Pictorial Official		
1/- vermilion	4.00	3.00	2½d blue and brown	.20	.25
Set of 6 stamps on envelope		6.00	8d brown	.15	.10
1925 South Seas Exhibition			9d red and black	.65	.65
4d mauve	3.00	3.00	2/- green	1.25	.20
1931 Air Mail			5/- (Arms of N.Z.) green and over- printed vertically	8.50	8.50
4d violet	1.75	1.50			

We also wish to purchase all N.Z. Railway parcel stamps, Railway Newspaper stamps, all Law Courts, all Lands and Deeds, all Beer Duty stamps. Other requirements will be detailed in subsequent lists. OUR MINIMUM PURCHASE IS \$2.

OUR 1971 MAIL ORDER CATALOGUE OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS (1855-1971) was published at the end of last year. All sets are in stock and nearly every stamp is available separately. It is just so easy to order from. Only 10c posted.

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|---|---|
| <p>2. Full Face Queen. S.G.9 2d Blue Imperf. \$10.00</p> <p>3. Full Face Queen. S.G.12 6d Brown Imperf. \$40.00</p> <p>4. 6d Kiwi Red. Compound Perf. 11x14. mint \$12.50</p> <p>5. Edward VII 8d Blue. Provisional on Pictorial Paper. Watermark 7a and No Watermark. Mint Pair \$5.00</p> <p>6. Edward VII SG.474—477b. P. 14x13½ \$8.50</p> <p>7. Geo. V Pictorial Paper. No Watermark.—
 2d Yellow \$3.00
 3d Brown \$2.25
 6d Red \$4.00</p> <p>8. Health. 1937 Hiker. Full Sheet. \$37.00</p> <p>9. Geo. V 2d Violet Block of 60 with two perf pairs. \$21.00</p> <p>10. 2/- and 3/- Admirals. Jones Paper. Used pair. \$8.25</p> | <p>11. Tristan da Cunha overprints on St. Helena. S.G.1—12 mint \$32.00</p> <p>12. Nauru Ships. 1924. Shiny Paper, mint set \$40.00</p> <p>13. British Post Office's in Crete. 1898 (2) and 1899 (2) \$3.50</p> <p>14. Ceylon. Q. Victoria S.G. 5 used. Imperf. \$4.00</p> <p>15. Barbados Q. Victoria. 6d Imperf. \$12.00</p> <p>16. Norfolk Island 5/- Sepia Bloody Bridge, mint \$10.00, used \$12.00</p> <p>17. Fiji 1/- Queen Victoria "Fournier" Forgery used \$22.00</p> <p>18. Rocket Mails.
 1930 S.S. Europa (U.S.A.) \$8.00
 1935 (Special Rocket Stamps) \$8.00
 1931-1961 (Austria) \$8.00
 1964 (Poland) \$4.00</p> |
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Pacific	Brit. Solomons	Paintings	Butterflies
Fiji	Gilb/Ellice Is.	Sport	Famous People
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EDITOR'S NOTES

STOP THE ISSUES

In the January N.Z.S.M. comment was asked from readers on New Zealand's stamps issue policy and other related matters. Since that editorial I have received a number of letters from readers concerning the points raised.

Without a doubt the most contentious point is the number of issues per year. Most readers made the point that New Zealand issues too many stamps per year. One reader wrote, "I find it very frustrating to be continually 'on the save' to keep up with the spate of new issues inflicted upon us in the last couple of years". Another wrote, "In general I have started over thirty friends collecting First Day Covers, but quite a number are dropping it this year when I gave them the list of new issues and the prices".

Unfortunately over the last year or so the staggered issue of the new pictorials has confused the matter. This was done to make it easier on collector's pockets. However this policy combined with a number of commemorative sets has done nothing to alleviate the problem.

Obviously the time has come, with public opinion running as it is, for the Post Office to give earnest consideration to revising future new issue policy.

The rise in postage rates can also cause some headaches. The rate for a registered letter is now 22c; for a 2oz registered letter, 24c; for parcels up to 1½lbs there are rates at 9c, 11c, 13c, 14c, 16c, 17c and 19c. Let's hope the Post Office does not decide that stamps are required for a number of these.

Last month in reporting the replies from societies to the questionnaire, I was surprised to note the almost total rejection of the use of the Monarch's head. However, all those who dealt with this point in writing to the editor expressed a desire for the Queen's head to be used at some time in some form or manner.

In this issue we have reproduced two talks given at the Victoria Philatelic Association Congress. These deal with collector-dealer relationships. It is pleasing to note that one New Zealand Stamp dealer is rated best in Australasia.

Jal Cooper, one of the best-known philatelists in India, has written a short article on collecting in India.

LEN JURY.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

P.O. COVERS

Dear Sir,—I wish to bring to notice that the Philatelic Bureau (Wellington) has lately omitted to enclose with its pamphlets the F.D.C. order form for ordering through one's local P.O. I find this most inconvenient when living some distance from the nearest P.O. and having to obtain this particular form whenever I should make the trip to town. Why has this been discontinued in sending it with the pamphlet as in the past? What are the views from the readers?

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. A. A. Peters.

REPLY FROM THE PHILATELIC BUREAU

The pamphlets for new stamp issues are normally posted two weeks before orders for unaddressed first day covers are accepted at post offices. When the order forms for unaddressed covers were enclosed with being presented at post offices before the date of acceptance and during the time that orders for covers of the previous issue were still being placed.

In view of this, it was decided to discontinue supplying a separate order form in addition to the pamphlet. Persons receiving the pamphlet, may, of course, use it to order mint stamps and unaddressed first day covers from the Philatelic Bureau or, as explained in the pamphlet, if unaddressed covers only are required the special order form available at post offices may be used instead.

Your correspondent and other readers may be interested to know that the Philatelic Bureau's standing order service is very popular with persons who wish to obtain unaddressed covers of all issues, and who find it rather inconvenient to place orders with their local post office. By opening a deposit account, and placing a standing order, collectors may have unaddressed first day covers (and mint stamps also if required), automatically posted to them as each issue is released. Full particulars of this service are available from the Philatelic Bureau, Private Bag, Wellington.

WITHDRAWALS

The following stamps are to be withdrawn from sale on March 31, 1971:—

7c Rata; 8c Flag; 20c Rock Drawing; \$2 "Pink"; 1970 Health (Set 7½c) 3½c, 4c to be withdrawn March 31, 1971; 1970 Christmas (Set 15½c) 2½c, 3c, 10c to be withdrawn June 30, 1971.

The remaining definitive stamps issued during the period July 10, 1967, and December 3, 1969, will be withdrawn from sale on December 31, 1971.

LATEST DEFINITIVE ISSUES

MINISTERIAL PRESS STATEMENT

The stamp programme for the second-half of 1971 was released by the Postmaster-General (Hon. Allan McCready), today.

The four new definitive stamps featuring National Parks which were to be released on 14th April, will not be available in time and so they will not be issued until 1st September. However, the two definitive stamps with denominations of \$1 and \$2 featuring National Development and Agricultural Technology will be released on 14th April in their place. The Post Offices would be releasing details of this issue shortly.

Details of the programme for the last six months of 1971 are as follows:—

7th July: Commemorative issue for the opening of New Zealand's first satellite earth station — two stamps (date dependent on opening).

4th August: Health issue of three stamps—two featuring hockey and the other commemorating the Golden Jubilee of the School Dental Service.

1st September: Definitive stamps — National Parks designs — four stamps.

6th October: Christmas — three stamps, one featuring an "Old Master" one a Church stained glass window and the other a symbolic design.

3rd November: Commemorative issue for First World Rose Convention to be held in New Zealand—three stamps.

1st December: Commemorative issue for the centennial year of Lord Rutherford's birth — two stamps.

Mr. McCready added that further details of all issues will be publicised at a later date.

J. M. A. GREGSON

We wish to announce to our many New Zealand friends and customers that we have now found attractive Bristol premises and commenced trading on November 30th. We shall specialise in Great Britain, New Zealand and the British West Indies Group, but will also carry stocks of the whole Commonwealth. In addition we shall be able to supply by return the following range of albums and accessories — Gibbons, Lighthouse, Hagner, Safe, Netto, Davo, Collecta, Hawid and Philatel. Please ask for our quotation for your particular requirements. We accept N.Z. cheques.

Great Britain — Unmounted mint

<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>1924 Wembley</td><td style="text-align: right;">4.50</td></tr> <tr><td>1925 Wembley</td><td style="text-align: right;">16.00</td></tr> <tr><td>1929 P.U.C. to 2½d</td><td style="text-align: right;">4.50</td></tr> <tr><td>1935 Jubilee</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.35</td></tr> <tr><td>1937 Coronation</td><td style="text-align: right;">.07</td></tr> <tr><td>1940 Postal Centenary</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.45</td></tr> <tr><td>1946 Peace</td><td style="text-align: right;">.08</td></tr> <tr><td>1948 Silver Wedding</td><td style="text-align: right;">9.50</td></tr> <tr><td>1948 C.I. Liberation</td><td style="text-align: right;">.33</td></tr> <tr><td>1948 Olympics</td><td style="text-align: right;">.45</td></tr> <tr><td>1949 U.P.U.</td><td style="text-align: right;">.75</td></tr> <tr><td>1951 Festival</td><td style="text-align: right;">.28</td></tr> <tr><td>1953 Coronation</td><td style="text-align: right;">3.65</td></tr> <tr><td>1957 Scout Jamboree</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.65</td></tr> <tr><td>1957 45th Parl. Conf.</td><td style="text-align: right;">.60</td></tr> <tr><td>1957 B.E. Games</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.35</td></tr> <tr><td>1960 G.L.O.</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.95</td></tr> <tr><td>1960 Europa</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.75</td></tr> <tr><td>1961 P.O.S.B.</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.00</td></tr> <tr><td>1961 C.E.P.T.</td><td style="text-align: right;">.35</td></tr> <tr><td>1961 Comm. Parl. Conf.</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.15</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Phosphor</td></tr> <tr><td>1962 N.P.Y.</td><td style="text-align: right;">.95 5.25</td></tr> <tr><td>1963 F.F.H.</td><td style="text-align: right;">.95 4.85</td></tr> <tr><td>1963 Paris</td><td style="text-align: right;">.25 1.05</td></tr> <tr><td>1963 Nature Week</td><td style="text-align: right;">.25 1.00</td></tr> <tr><td>1963 Lifeboat</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.35 5.85</td></tr> <tr><td>1963 Red Cross</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.45 6.90</td></tr> <tr><td>1963 Compac</td><td style="text-align: right;">.90 2.80</td></tr> <tr><td>1964 Shakespeare</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.65 2.75</td></tr> <tr><td>1965 Geograph. Cong.</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.35 4.55</td></tr> <tr><td>1964 Botanical Cong.</td><td style="text-align: right;">1.35 4.55</td></tr> <tr><td>1964 Forth Bridge</td><td style="text-align: right;">.30 .90</td></tr> <tr><td>1965 Churchill</td><td style="text-align: right;">.32 .85</td></tr> <tr><td>1965 700th Parl.</td><td style="text-align: right;">.60 .30</td></tr> <tr><td>1965 Salvation Army</td><td style="text-align: right;">.60 1.75</td></tr> <tr><td>1965 Lister</td><td style="text-align: right;">.33 .55</td></tr> <tr><td>1965 Arts Festival</td><td style="text-align: right;">.50 .90</td></tr> </table>	1924 Wembley	4.50	1925 Wembley	16.00	1929 P.U.C. to 2½d	4.50	1935 Jubilee	1.35	1937 Coronation	.07	1940 Postal Centenary	1.45	1946 Peace	.08	1948 Silver Wedding	9.50	1948 C.I. Liberation	.33	1948 Olympics	.45	1949 U.P.U.	.75	1951 Festival	.28	1953 Coronation	3.65	1957 Scout Jamboree	1.65	1957 45th Parl. Conf.	.60	1957 B.E. 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Abbey</td><td style="text-align: right;">.50</td><td style="text-align: right;">.15</td></tr> <tr><td>1966 Landscapes</td><td style="text-align: right;">.50</td><td style="text-align: right;">.55</td></tr> <tr><td>1966 World Cup</td><td style="text-align: right;">.30</td><td style="text-align: right;">.30</td></tr> <tr><td>1966 Birds</td><td style="text-align: right;">.25</td><td style="text-align: right;">.25</td></tr> <tr><td>1966 Winners</td><td style="text-align: right;">.10</td><td style="text-align: right;">—</td></tr> <tr><td>1966 Technology</td><td style="text-align: right;">.50</td><td style="text-align: right;">.50</td></tr> <tr><td>1966 Hastings</td><td style="text-align: right;">.50</td><td style="text-align: right;">.50</td></tr> <tr><td>1966 Xmas</td><td style="text-align: right;">.28</td><td style="text-align: right;">.28</td></tr> <tr><td>1967 E.F.T.A.</td><td style="text-align: right;">.30</td><td style="text-align: right;">.30</td></tr> <tr><td>1967 Flowers</td><td style="text-align: right;">.50</td><td style="text-align: right;">.50</td></tr> <tr><td>1967 Paintings</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.38</td></tr> <tr><td>1967 Chichester</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.23</td></tr> <tr><td>1967 Discoveries</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.55</td></tr> <tr><td>1967 Xmas</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.28</td></tr> <tr><td>1968 Bridges</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.55</td></tr> <tr><td>1968 Anniversaries</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.55</td></tr> <tr><td>1968 Paintings</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.55</td></tr> <tr><td>1968 Xmas</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.33</td></tr> <tr><td>1969 Ships</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.65</td></tr> <tr><td>1969 Concorde</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.40</td></tr> <tr><td>1969 Anniversaires</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.75</td></tr> <tr><td>1969 Cathedrals</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.58</td></tr> <tr><td>1969 Prince of Wales</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.40</td></tr> <tr><td>1969 Gandhi</td><td></td><td style="text-align: right;">.20</td></tr> <tr><td>1969 P.O. 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12 A

POSTMARK CORNER

by A. F. Watters.

SHANTY TOWN, (Greymouth). This post office opened on 23rd January, 1971 with postal services only. It is situated in a town rebuilt from the early gold rush era on almost the same site as Rutherglen was. It has a great tourist potential and should be busy with tourists from within and outside New Zealand. It has a pictorial datestamp making it the second New Zealand post office with a pictorial datestamp. An interesting note is that the rubber stamp being used on the registration label shows the name as one word, while the datestamp has it as two. The datestamp also has a time indication which makes it a type that is usually used at only the larger offices. The datestamp has a very clear design of a lady, a horse and even a hitching rail on the lower half.

MAROKOPA (Hamilton). This post office was "broken into" on 19th or 20th January this year and the safe was removed. It is now using a relief datestamp (on 3rd February), which must be short of spacing material for it has a letter inverted, showing as a black square in the lower right quarter.

AVENAL (Invercargill). A relief datestamp was used from 6th January to at least 25th January at this post office.

WAKEFIELD (Nelson). The new datestamp was first used by this post office on 20th January.

WAITUA BAY (Rotorua). This post office has a new datestamp and it has the time symbols, though my copy shows the "A.M." with no time stated.

FORD ROAD (Rotorua). A non-permanent post office was opened in a shop on the corner of Ford and Maltroy Roads on 8th February. This is a fast developing area of the city.

HOROPITO (Wanganui). This post office closed permanently on 11th February. It opened originally on 6th July, 1907, and was in the railway station, then the store but for many years it has had its own building. It is seven miles

from Okahune and is situated 2,467 feet above sea level. Horopito was once a big railway community but like many such places the folk have moved to the larger towns and the diesel engines spelt the end of this place.

Stop Press. Postal branches should occupy the new Post Office Headquarters toward the end of February and a public post office will be opened at the Whitmore Street entrance called "Wellington Postal Centre". All mail over the counter will be cancelled but mail posted in the mail boxes will be cancelled "Wellington" at the chief post office.

CHRISTCHURCH: Slogan "All Over/the World/the Best/in Wool." with the wool symbol before it. It is boxed.

ALEXANDRA-CLYDE. The establishment of post offices in the Alexandra-Clyde area dates back to the gold rushes of the 1860's. The first post office opened at Manuherikia Junction on 1st December, 1862, with Mr. Williams acting as postmaster. By the end of that year Mr. D. C. Campbell was appointed postmaster with a salary of £30 per year which was increased to £275 per year when the full extent of business and risks were known. (The risks, no doubt, refer to holdups, etc.). On 22nd May 1865 the name was changed to Alexandra but this was short lived for as another post office near Hamilton had that name and confusion could arise so the name changed to Manuherikia on 1st October, 1867. This continued until 1st September, 1881 when the name reverted to Alexandra South. One early datestamp shows it as Alexandra South. The Auckland district Alexandra post office had changed its name to the Maori name for the nearby mountain, Pirongia on 10th May, 1896, so by 1910 it was felt that "South" should be dropped, but it was not until 1st January, 1914 that the change was made. Alexandra came from the then Prince of Wales, but it appears that an Alexander felt it should be named after him. I am not able to find out anything about this person. Was he a prospector, a member of parliament or just a local resident? Possibly a local resident.

The Dunstan post office opened on 10th October, 1862 with R. A. Greenslade as postmaster. However early in November of that

year Mr. A. Hume became the second postmaster on a salary of £275 per year. The name changed to Clyde on 17th July, 1901.

The mails to these offices went by coach in the early days and the route was changed many times. The opening of the Lawrence railway line on 2nd February, 1877 made the first permanent route for mails. By 1901 the railway had reached Ida Valley on the Central Otago line and so a change was made and by 1906 the railway went all the way to Alexandra but it was not until January, 1907 that the mail went by railway all the way. A reporter on the "Otago Witness" wrote:

"The post office is totally unable to meet the demands made upon it. A long file of people extending for nearly a quarter of a mile go up in turns to be served. It takes an average of two hours to reach the window. From morn' till night the office is besieged. An extra clerk would only be in the way because of lack of space." This appeared on 2nd February, 1863.

In 1864 a telegraph service to the gold fields was being established by the Otago Provincial Government. The line was open to Clyde in 1886 but it did not prove very successful due to the fact that only 16 poles per mile were used and the snow and frost breaks were many.

Mr. J. K. Logan, a 21 year-old emigrant built the line and taught all postmasters on route how to use it and more important, how to repair the line. He did such a great job over almost unsurmountable obstacles that he was given the job of rebuilding it by the Government in Wellington in 1866. He submitted his plans which were approved, and he built it. Some of it was in use for many years and the original poles were still in use in places until the 1920's. Logan was Chief Inspector for telegraphs by 1893.

APOLOGIES: Mangawhia and Mangawhia Heads are the correct names for the post offices. Not Maunguwhai and Maunwhai Heads, as spelt in The New Zealand Stamp Monthly, Volume 3, Number 9. I am very sorry for these errors and am grateful to all the readers who brought this to my notice.

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FB 1	500 All different stamps of the world.	PPD \$ 1.65
FB 2	1000 All different stamps of the world.	PPD \$ 3.75
FB 3	2000 All different stamps of the world.	PPD \$ 7.70
FB 4	3000 All different stamps of the world.	PPD \$12.75
FB 5	150 British Empire stamps—all different.	PPD \$.85
FB 6	200 British Empire stamps—all different.	PPD \$ 1.10
AC 186	Lighthouse stock books TC—16 pages with 6 pockets per page. Page size 4½" x 6½". Hard linen cover.	PPD \$ 2.10
AC 187	Lighthouse stock books MK—16 pages with 7 pockets per page. Page size 6" x 8". Hard linen cover.	PPD \$ 3.10
AC 188	Hawid Mount Precision Cutter—Eliminates Guess-work & slanted edges. Includes Glass Ruler, Cutting Knife, Moistening Pad, Cutting Table & Instructions. Made in West Germany.	PPD \$ 1.65
FB 105	Cook Islands 1970 Royal Visit miniature sheet	Mint \$1.75 Used \$1.90
FB 117	BR. Solomon Islands 1971 Ships and Navigators (4)	Mint .70 Used .80
FB 110	British New Hebrides 1971 De Gaulle in Memonum (2)	Mint .70 Used .75
FB 160	Australia—1971 Australia—Asia Series (3)	Mint .70 Used .65
FB 174	Papua & New Guinea—1971 Native Dwellings (4)	Mint .90 Used .95

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WISE COLLECTORS

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 1957 Meat Export set, mint 55c.
 1955 or 1956 Health sets, mint 11c each.
 1936 2½d Pictorial 14 line, mint 20c Blk. \$4.80c.
 1936 2½d Pictorial 14 comb, mint 8c Blk. \$4.32c.
 1950 Canterbury Centennial set, mint 35c, used 30c.
 1953 Coronation set, mint 65c, used 55c.
 1953 Q.E.II. 9d. to 5/- (7v) used, \$1.00.
 1953 Q.E.II. Official set to 1/- inc. hurch. (10v), used 75c.
 Plate Blocks of 4.—
 1953 Coronation 2d 15c.
 1953 Coronation 4d 60c.
 1953 Coronation 8d \$1.15.
 1967 15c Tiki Plate and Imprint Blk. of 12. \$12.50.

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STAMPHOUSE**

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Airport

Reg. Post extra.

C.W.O.
—12p

CANADA

50th Anniversary, DISCOVERY OF INSULIN

Date of Issue: 3 March, 1971.
Design: Ray Webber, Toronto, Ontario. Printer: British American Bank Note Co. Ltd., Ottawa. Colour: Yellow, red, blue and black.

Special Notice: The designer's name appears in the marginal inscription of Philatelic stock.

Printing Process: This stamp is printed by four colour process lithography. Marginal inscriptions will appear on the four corners of each pane of 50 stamps available from the Philatelic Service.

Fifty years ago, medical history was made in Canada when insulin, the hormone used in the treatment of diabetics, was isolated. Millions of doomed diabetics were given the gift of life and Canada took a giant step into this century's medical research as a result of the work of two medical scientists, Dr. Frederick G. Banting and Dr. Charles H. Best. They laboured through the hot summer of 1921 in a laboratory of the University of Toronto Medical School to find a remedy for diabetes, a condition in which the body is unable to efficiently use sugars and other food materials.

With insulin, the life expectancy of diabetics increased to near normal for most sufferers. Almost overnight the picture had changed as the death rate began to drop. Children, formerly the worst sufferers from diabetes since it was invariably fatal to them, have become the greatest beneficiaries of insulin.



In 1923, one of the co-discoverers, Dr. Banting, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine, the first Nobel Prize won by a Canadian in any field. This recognition was an inspiration to Canadian medicine in that a more realistic amount of the nation's resources was devoted to medical research. Dr. Banting perished tragically and prematurely on 21st February, 1941 in the crash of an R.A.F. Ferry Command Hudson aircraft in the bleak wilds of northern Newfoundland. "He died as he lived, in the service of his country and of humanity".

The unique characteristics of this stamp prompted the following comments from members of the Canada Post Office Design Advisory Committee:

We recognized an immediate difficulty in trying to find a design to commemorate the discovery of something that in itself could not be illustrated. One possibly which occurred to us was a drawing or photograph of the original laboratory in which Banting and Best worked and which is now preserved at the Ontario Science Centre. We turned to Mr. Ray Webber as a man who is particularly able to give life to inanimate objects and he certainly surpassed our expectations. In this photograph, which we believe is a first in stamp design, Webber has taken the actual instruments and materials used by Banting and Best to a still life of charm and beauty. It contains moreover, a feeling about the human act of discovery and it puts the viewer in direct touch with the minds of the scientists themselves.

NEW COMMONWEALTH VARIETIES

The editor of the Commonwealth Q.E.II catalogue reports the existence of the following varieties:

Guyana 1969 Christmas 5 cent and 6 cent stamps with overprint omitted.

Dominica 1968 10 cent International Human Rights Year imperforate sheet.

One sheet of each of these varieties has recently been found and acquired by Urch, Harris and Co. Ltd.

U.K.-STYLE POSTCODES FOR CANADA

The Hon. Jean-Pierre Cote, Minister responsible for the Canadian Post Office, has announced that Canada is to adopt postcodes based on Britain's alphanumeric system.

With four senior Canadian postal colleagues Mr. Cote has recently completed a four-day examination of the British Post Office by visiting the highly-mechanised Head Post Office at Croydon. Canada is currently considering the type of equipment to be installed during the mechanisation of their Ottawa office, and British manufacturers are tendering for the Canadian installation.

The Canadian Post Office decided to adopt a United Kingdom-style postcode system after intensive studies of postal coding systems throughout the world — by their own experts and by outside consultants.

BOOK REVIEW

COLLECT BRITISH STAMPS

SEVENTH EDITION

Price:—4s/6d. (22½p)

A new edition of the G.B. collector's vade-mecum (carried constantly about the person), the handiest pocket stamp catalogue ever published, bang up-to-date (listing the new 1970 Christmas stamps), with stamp prices thoroughly revised and all prices expressed in the new decimal currency which became effective in February, 1971.

New collectors are reminded that "C.B.S." comprises a basic listing of all the postage stamps of Great Britain, from the Penny Black on, including all stamps with different watermarks and perforations, but not shades, errors and other specialised varieties, numbered in accordance with the main Gibbons Catalogue. The Publishers have omitted independent Channel Islands this time to keep the price of this essential new edition down to 4s/6d.

The important thing about Collect British Stamps in its new, seventh edition is that it reflects the state of the G.B. market "as of now", and following the fantastically successful "Philympia 1970" Exhibition in London, when British stamps were in such great demand.

QUICKSALES NO. 10

P.O. BOX 174, NEW PLYMOUTH.

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Lots available for inspection by prior arrangement.

All lots purchased are on three days approval.

ABBREVIATIONS

F.D.C.—First Day Cover

U—Used

F.U.—Fine Used

M—Mint

V.F.U.—Very Fine Used—

Circular cancels.

O/P—Overprint

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1 S.G. 33. 1d Unused. (No gum). Four margins. Two small marks. Cat. \$30 C.P.	10.00	18 S.G. 40. 3d Lilac. S.G. 13 Light Brown and S.G. 45 Bluish green. Poor copies.. Cat. \$135.00	7.50	Adverts	
2 Ditto. Used. Cut into one margin. Small crease on back.	5.00	COIL PAIRS		Sidefaces	
3 Ditto. Used. Second class copy. Two small tears.	2.50	1967 Decimals		41 1d 8 diff.	2.00
4 S.G. 38. 2d Blue. Three small margins. Other cut into F. Used. Cat. \$10 C.P.	3.00	19 2½c 1-19 and start and end value	4.50	42 1d (2), 2d (3)	1.50
5 Ditto. Three large margins, other close. Small thin and crease.	2.00	20 3c 1-8 11-19 start, ends many blue square or holes	5.00	43 2½d (2), 3d (2)	2.50
6 Ditto. Three large margins, other cut into small thin.	2.00	21 4c 1-19 and start and end	7.50	Adverts on selvage	
7 S.G. 9. 2d Pale Blue. Used four good margins. Creased across front. Cat. \$40 C.P.	7.50	22 6c 1-19 and start and end	9.50	44 1d Dominion (1), 1. Marshall (2). 1d Kiwi (2)	1.00
8 S.G. 10. 2d Blue. Used three margins. Cut into other margin. Cat. \$40.00.	4.00	23 8c Flag, 1-29 and start. (10c Roll O/P for 8c)	21.50	Envelopes	
9 S.G. 40. 3d Lilac. Used stained. Three small margins, other cut into. Cat. \$35 C.P.	6.00	24 10c Timber (1968) 1-19 and start and end	16.00	45 500 Envelopes (N.Z.) All slogan postmarks	3.00
10 S.G. 41. 6d Grey-brown. Used. Four margins. Cat. \$24 C.P.		25 15c Tiki (1968) and start and end (10c roll O/P for 15c)	36.00	46 1000 Envelopes (N.Z.) All slogan postmarks	6.00
11 Ditto. 6d Black-brown. Used. Four margins. Toned. Cat. \$24.00.	4.00	26 20c Art 1-8 10-15	35.00	47 2000 Envelopes (N.Z.) All slogan postmarks.	12.00
12 S.G. 43. 6d Red-brown. Used. Four margins (three small). Attractive copy. Cat. \$20.00.	10.00	27 Meat 1-19 and start and end	33.00	48 500 Envelopes (Unused) Ideal bulk posting	2.00
13 Ditto. Used. Three large margins. Stain spot and crease show on back.	3.00	28 1c and 2c Start and end of each	2.00	Bulk on paper	
14 S.G. 45. Green. Used. Small margins or cut into nice copy. Small thin on back. Cat. \$40.00	5.00	REGISTRATION LABELS		49 ½lb Large N.Z. some small but 4c and above.	6.00
15 Ditto. Used. Three large margins cut into at top. Small thin.	4.00	29 70 different rubber stamped or hand written	5.00	50 20lb N.Z. Common Mix. Ideal flaw hunting	20.00
16 Ditto. Used. Three small margins cut into at side. Crease and thin on back.	3.00	30 110 different printed labels	5.00	51 20lb N.Z. General Mix	40.00
17 S.G. 100. Green Cat. \$60.00 N.Z. watermark. Three margins cut close or into. Good copy.	12.00	31 50 different	2.00	Off paper	
		COVERS ETC.		52 ½lb Whole World. All damaged in some manner	2.00
		32 6 Printed Stationery Used envelopes	1.00	New Zealand Bulk	
		33 30 Envelopes. Deficient Postage markings	2.00	53 Christmas (100 each) 1961, 1962 and 1964. U. (300)	2.50
		34 35 Return letter markings. Each on envelope	2.50	54 Railway 3d, Anzac 4d, Scouts 4d (100 ea), U. (300)	1.80
		35 10 odd markings, i.e. irregularly posted etc.	2.00	55 Suffrage 3c, Law 3c, U.N. 3c (100 ea) U. (300)	1.50
		36 20 overseas envelopes. Special Govt. markings etc. Abu Dhabi, Maldives, etc.	2.00	56 Decimals 1968 10c Timber, 15c Tiki (100 ea.), U. (200)	1.50
		37 Pacific Covers. All with special markings, i.e. Govt. Franks etc.	2.50	57 30c Ruapehu (50) Good, used	2.00
		38 Ditto.	1.50	58 56c Falls (50) Good, used	5.00
		39 Relief pmks. Murchison. 23.11.70. Hinds 5.2.70 and Wakefield 11.12.70.	1.00	59 28c Glacier (100) Good, used	6.00
		40 Ditto Coach Corner 7.7.70, Pt. Chevalier 4.5.70, and Wang-anui. Loose letter Cachet.	1.00	60 4c Captain Cook (100) Good, used	2.00
				61 18c Wool (300) Good, used	10.00
				62 10c U. Nations (100) Good, used	6.00
				63 10c Royalty, 1960 6d Pict, 5c 1967 Decimal, ½c Butterfly (100 ea.), U. (400)	2.00

MATERIAL REQUIRED FOR FUTURE SALES.

SAMOA TO ISSUE MINIATURE SHEET FOR "INTERPEX"

On 12 March, 1971, Samoa will release a 70 sene "jumbo" size stamp in the form of a miniature sheet. The day of issue will coincide with the opening of the New York stamp exhibition, INTERPEX, at the American Hotel.

For the first time Western Samoa is participating directly in an overseas philatelic exhibition. The 70 sene stamp most effectively commemorates this step that the country has taken.

The miniature sheet measures 137 mm by 80 mm and the actual stamp 29 mm by 87 mm. Perforations extend the depth of the sheets vertically but the horizontal perforations are the width of the stamp only.

Samoa has gone to Switzerland to have the printing done by Helio Courvoisier S.A., of La Chaux-de-Fonds. Four colour photogravure was used on high quality unwatermarked paper specially treated with tropically-resistant gum.

The sheet, designed by Australian artist Mr. E. W. Roberts of Adelaide, has as its central motif a long-boat (Samoan "fautasi") being rowed in Apia Harbour. The shoreline of the Apian commercial and administrative centre appears in the distance.

The artist has blended the leisure of the South Seas with a busy commercial world by using the New York skyline at the top margin of the sheet.

Samoa's link with the exhibition in the United States has been emphasised with the use of the first stamps of the respective countries plus the lettering INTERPEX 1971 at the top of the stamp.

The Samoan Express 3d red first used in 1887 appears on the left, while on the opposite side is the U.S. 5c brown Benjamin Franklin of 1847.

Artist Roberts has further stressed the exhibition participation with block lettering on the bottom margin in two lines—

**INTERPEX NEW YORK
MARCH 1971**

The fautasi or long-boat was the usual Samoan means of travel by the early Samoans. Up until 1890 there were no roads outside Apia that could be considered usable by vehicles; there were only bush paths which, unless frequently used, were quickly covered with undergrowth after torrential rains.

There was really no need for roadways or paths as all inter-village communication was by canoe.

In 1786 during his world voyage Frenchman Lous Antoine de Bougainville was so impressed with the number of canoes in the island group that he named it Navigators' Archipelago.

BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY

ALDABRA NATURE RESERVE



45cents Giant Land Tortoise.

Very large land-tortoises were once widespread on islands in the Western Indian Ocean, but human colonisation has resulted in their extermination except for *Testudo* (or more correctly *Geochelone*) *gigantea*. This species is still quite abundant on Aldabra and semiferous populations also occur on Mahe in the Seychelles. *T. gigantea* hatches from round eggs about two inches in diameter and may grow to a weight of as much as 800 lb. and a shell length of over four feet. It is predominantly vegetarian but will eat carrion and other animal matter when it gets the opportunity.



75 cents Aldabra Lily.

The Aldabra Lily (*Lomatophyllum* Weld.) is one of a few species of Lilaceous plants from the Mascarene Islands which have berry-like fruits. For this reason, and the distinctive horny margins on

the leaves, they are segregated from the otherwise similar widespread African genus, *Aloe*.

The leaves of the Aldabras species are up to 1 m. long and have toothed red margins; a thick stem, up to 2.5 m. long bears the flowers which are reddish-brown, some 20 mm. long; its fruit resemble a small plum. In Britain the plant is grown in hothouses; it was introduced in 1766 for the first time but did not flower here until 1813.

Some authorities would regard the Aldabra Lily as a form of the wider ranging species: *Lomatophyllum purpureum* (Lam.) Dur. Schinz.



Rs 1 *Rachis aldabrae* Aldabra Snail.

It is found only on Aldabra, but is probably closely related to a species from the Comur Islands.

It is an arboreal species found almost exclusively on a species of *Euhporbia*.

The shell is usually coloured black and pinkish-red, and the species has been found fossil on the island.



Rs 1/50 *Egretta dimorpha* Dimorphic Egret.

Closely related to the Little Egret of Africa and Eurasia, the Dimorphic Egret is notable for the common occurrence of a dark blue-grey phase in addition to the normal white phase. It is confined to the Aldabra archipelago and Madagascar.

Release Date: 1st February, 1971. Designer: G. Drummond. Printer: Format International Ltd. Process: Lithography. Watermark: C.A. Block.

The latest from PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Mammals Unique To The Territory From March 31.

This delightful and appealing series of wildlife featured here on our new Flora and Fauna Conservation Stamp Issue will capture the hearts of both young and old.

Printed in four and five colour photo-gravure by Helio Courvoisier of Switzerland, the designs for these stamps came from the skilful brush of Australian artist, R. J. Bates.

First Day Covers and Stamps, addressed or unaddressed, may be ordered from leading stamp dealers or by filling out the order below. If ordering direct from Port Moresby please remit by bank draft, bank cheque, British Postal Order or international money order.



Cut along this line.

170014



PHILATELIC BUREAU PORT MORESBY PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Please supply stamps and First Day Covers for the "Mammals" special issue on March 31, 1971.
The denominations: 5c, 10c, 15c, 25c, 30c.

	Qty.	Price \$ N.Z.	Total Cost
ADDRESSED COVERS: Full set/s on cover/s—use separate sheet for addresses		95c	
UNADDRESSED COVERS: Full set/s on cover/s		92c	
PACKING FEE: For unaddressed cover/s		5c	
MINT SET/S		86c	
USED SET/S		86c	
Total Enclosed			

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE POST CODE

Information on how to subscribe to all future stamp issues will be sent if you tick here.

PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

MAMMALS—FLORA AND FAUNA CONSERVATION SPECIAL STAMP ISSUE

This beautiful set which features five species of mammals unique to the Territory of Papua and New Guinea was designed by Australian artist, R. J. Bates, and printed in four and five colour photogravure by Helio Courvoisier of Switzerland.

Phalanger maculatus—(5c)

The largest and the most strikingly coloured of the phalangers in New Guinea is the spotted cuscus of the lowland rainforests which are found mainly on the perimeter of the island. The males are covered with spots and irregular patches of colour that range from light brown to black; the females are solid coloured, very rarely having spots. This difference in colouring between the sexes is one of the finest examples of sexual dimorphism in the world of mammals. Entirely white individuals are also known. Large males may reach a weight of 15 pounds and a head and body length of 26 inches. The highly prehensile tail is heavily furred for over half its length. The spotted cuscus is nocturnal and arboreal in its habits.

This species of cuscus is a slow-moving feeder on the leaves and fruits of certain rain-forest trees. Little information is available on its actual preferences. The flesh is very palatable and much sought after as a source of protein by New Guinea peoples. The same is true of three other species of cuscus in the mountain forests. Trophy skulls of all phalangers are commonly found in homes throughout the island.

Female phalangers have capacious pouches with a complement of two pairs of teats. However, two young are but rarely found. Young males show their spotting at an early age. Cuscuses sleep by day in tree holes or in leafy vine tangles. Hunters with keen noses can often spot their whereabouts by tracking them down by the characteristic musky odour. Spotted cuscus fur is avidly sought by the highlands people of New Guinea to decorate their sing-sing, headdresses and ceremonial spears.

Phalanger

From the French "phalange", meaning "phalanx". In turn from the Greek word meaning a bone of finger or toe, in allusion

to the peculiarity of the hind foot, in which the second and third digits are webbed together.

Dactylonax palpator—(10c)

Found only in New Guinea this peculiar, brown and white striped possum with an elongated finger on each "hand" lives in the mountain forests at altitudes from 3,000 to 9,000 feet. *Dactylonax* ranges from the Weyland Mountains of western New Guinea to the mountains of the Territory of New Guinea and of south eastern Papua; it is also common on the Huon Peninsula.

A white stripe, beginning on the nose, divides on the head and runs the entire length of the body. The relatively short, hairy tail (eight and one half inches) is tipped with white. The head and body length averages about nine inches, and the weight of this possum is about a pound. The females have a well formed pouch that is partially divided into two parts, each furnished with a single teat. Only one young is born at a time.

The favourite insect food of *Dactylonax* is evidently found beneath the bark of rotting trees. Such "feeding trees" are often scarred from top to bottom with bite marks. Once an insect is located only a few seconds are needed by the possum to tear open the bark cover with its specially adapted and powerful incisor teeth. The long finger (the fourth, up to two inches in length) then comes into play to extract the insect. The tongue is also very useful in this feeding process.

Another closely related arboreal and nocturnal possum, *Dactylopsila*, lives in New Guinea and north eastern Queensland. However, it can be easily distinguished from *Dactylonax* by several characters: longer tail, shorter probing fingers, and longer hair which in many cases is almost coal black.

The tail of *Dactylonax* is often used by the highlands people of New Guinea in their sing-sing head dresses. They also make a peculiar comb-like ornament by tying a dozen or more lower jaws to a stick sharpened at one end; only the long, pointed incisor teeth show above the fibre lashing.

Dactylonax: from two Greek words, meaning "finger" and "master", in allusion to the greatly elongated fourth finger.

Distoechurus pennatus

This small arboreal marsupial is one of the most distinctive and beautiful mammals in New Guinea. First described from the Vogelkop in Western New Guinea in 1874, this lovely feather-tailed possum has a known range from one end to the other of this largest of all tropical islands. The altitudinal distribution is from the lush primary rain forests at sea level to the mid-mountain forests at 6,000 to 7,000 feet.

The horizontal placement of the long hairs on the tail is similar to that of the flattened tail of the beautiful pygmy glider of Australia, and gives this acrobat of the tree tops one of its common names, feather-tailed phalanger. Unlike its relative, however, it does not have gliding membranes. The female has a pouch with two teats; the usual number of young found in the pouch is one. If we look closely at the toes of the hind foot, we find a large opposable first toe and two small syndactylous toes (bound together with a single fold of skin, but having two separate claws which are used for grooming). This arrangement is similar to the striped, long-fingered possums, the ring-tailed possums, and the large cuscuses or phalangers.

The soft wooly hair of the body is warm brown in colour (lighter below), and the striking head pattern identifies this seldom seen but common marsupial at once. A central white stripe bordered on each side by a wide black stripe runs from the nose over the top of the head. The cheeks are white. The eyes are large and adapted for its nocturnal life in the trees; they shine a pale pink in the light of a torch.

Occasionally snared in its arboreal habitat, but more often found in holes in trees when the forests are cleared for gardens, the details of the life history of this tiny marsupial are practically unknown (head and body 4½ inches, tail 5½ inches). Even the details of its diet are uncertain.

Distoechurus probably feeds on nectar-laden blossoms of forest trees, vines, and epiphytes, but its sharp, blade-like teeth suggest an insectivorous diet as well. Only one species of this wide-spread, endemic marsupial has been described.

Distoechurus: From two Greek words meaning: "in two rows", "tail"; in allusion to the arrangement of the long hairs of the tail in two opposite lateral rows like the vanes of a feather.

Zaglossus bruijni

Certainly one of the strangest of all living mammals, the long-beaked echidna or spiny anteater is found today only on the island of New Guinea. During the recent ice age that we call the Pleistocene even larger echidnas lived in Australia; we have their fossil remains as proof. Although the evolutionary history of echidnas must be very long we, as yet, have none of this early fossil evidence.

Zaglossus, and *Tachyglossus*, its short-beaked relative of Australia and New Guinea, together with the platypus of Australia form a separate and very primitive order of egg-laying mammals, the Monotremata. Members of this order have some anatomical characters, as well as the one of egg-laying, that are of reptilian nature. Birds as well as mammals have evolved from reptiles. Female monotremes carry the egg in a seasonally developed infolding of the abdominal skin which has been called an "incubatorium"; it does not resemble the spacious pouch found in many marsupials. There are two areas in the pouch where mammary glands are concentrated; the young imbibe the milk by sucking. The female carries the pouch young for several weeks; the young are then left in a burrow and are suckled at intervals by the mother. Little data is available on the life history of *Zaglossus*, but meagre evidence based on *Tachyglossus* suggests that the females care for their young for at least three months.

Zaglossus has no teeth. The echidna has a set of horny spines at the base of the tongue which grind against sets of spines on the palate. The details of its diet are not well known. However, it is beautifully designed anatomically to feed on termites and ants which flourish in the mountain forests of New Guinea (its known altitudinal range is from 3,500 to 9,500 feet). There is also evidence that aglossus feeds on earthworms which abound in its habitat. This large echidna (weight up to 25 pounds, length to 30 inches) is covered with coarse black hairs that almost conceal the white-tipped spines. The tongue can be extended beyond the tip of the beak several inches and is sticky to the touch, useful features for termite feeding. The front feet are armed with powerful digging claws, while three of the claws on each hind foot are elongated for grooming. Each spine is held firmly in place by a circlet of muscles. The echidna can quickly roll itself into a ball with spines presented in every direction. Speculation is interesting. Before modern man and his dog arrived perhaps the thylacine or marsupial "wolf" (known from a 10,000-year old fossil) was the echidna's only enemy!

Zaglossus: from a Greek word meaning "tongue", plus an intensive prefix; in allusion to the long, slender extensible tongue.

Dendrolagus goodfellowi



The colourful Goodfellow's tree-climbing kangaroo, together with its close relative Matchie's tree kangaroo of the Huon Peninsula, are distinguished from other species of tree-climbers by their rich mahogany-brown coats. In addition, Goodfellow's has two yellow stripes on the nape and rump, and a mottled yellow and brown tail; Matchie's has a pure yellow tail, and rarely shows the stripes.

The herbivorous tree kangaroos are found in the mountain forests of the mainland of New Guinea, and the big scrubs of Cape York, Queens/and. Goodfellow's has a wide dis-

tribution in the central mountain ranges of the eastern half of New Guinea from altitudes of 3,000 to 8,000 feet. In some areas this species is replaced at the higher altitudes by the hoary-headed, dark brown Doria's tree kangaroo. In West Irian and on the coastal ranges of the Sepik District (T.N.G.) there is another species, the Grizzled tree kangaroo (*D. ursinus*).

Tree kangaroos are less nocturnal than many other marsupials. They appear to be most active during the early morning and late afternoon. Adaptations for an arboreal life include: shortening of the hind feet and roughening of the pads for a better grip on branches; enlargement of the fore limbs and the sharp, strongly curved claws which are used in climbing; a long muscular tail used for balancing. They use a two-feet-together climbing motion, seldom climbing hand over hand as a possum does, and then only on gently sloping branches. When alarmed on the ground, tree kangaroos hop like other macropods, front paws held clear of the ground. When descending tree trunks they come down backwards, but will move head-first down a sloping branch. They also spend considerable time on the ground, probably obtaining some of their food there.

They are hunted throughout New Guinea with dogs which pick up their scent on the ground, and finally track them to their refuge or feeding tree. When pressed by hunters climbing after them, tree kangaroos will jump to the ground, often from considerable heights, landing heavily on all fours with the thick-soled hind feet taking most of the shock. They are greatly prized as food, and are becoming scarce in many parts of New Guinea as human population pressure increases and more of their forest habitat is felled for gardens.

One young is born at a time, spending many weeks in its mother's large pouch. Even after it is able to leave the pouch the joey stays close to the female and retreats to the pouch to nurse or hide when danger threatens. The joey remains with the family group well into adulthood. Pythons and eagles are probably their only natural enemies.

Dendrolagus: from two Greek words meaning "tree" and "hare", in allusion to its arboreal habits.

Acknowledgement is extended to Mr. Hobart M. Van Deusen, Assistant Curator, Archbold Expeditions of The American Museum of Natural History, New York, for providing the background material for this issue.

SWAZILAND

FLOWERS OF SWAZILAND

3 cents. *BAUHINIA GALPINII*—essentially an ornamental species Jasper-red flowers, the leaves being joined for more than half their length, and the calyx lobes adhering to each other and sweeping to one side. In the northern and eastern Transvaal, especially in the Barberton district, *B. galpinii* beautifies the landscape throughout the summer months. It is known as Pride of De Kaap, and by that is meant the De Kaap Valley in the Barberton district. Many South Africans have introduced this bright sprawling shrub into their gardens, for it is easily grown from seed or cuttings and is useful as a border plant in a shrubbery or to cover stone walls. In some catalogues the name for this species is given as *Bauhinia punctata* Bolle but this is not correct for although it is the earliest published name for this species the epithet *punctata* is disqualified according to the rules of nomenclature, since it was previously combined with *Bauhinia* for quite a different plant.

10 cents. *GLORIOSA SUPERBA*—is found throughout the tropics of India (from which country it was first described), Ceylon, Madagascar and Africa. In the Transvaal it has been recorded from the northern and eastern regions. The species is characterised by the perianth segments being much crisped, more or less the same width all the way and reflexed to different degrees but the segments do not curve inwards from about the middle. The colour varies from pale or rich yellow to fiery-red, or partly one of these colours and partly the other, and often with some green at the base of the flowers. The plant usually climbs, depending upon its surroundings, the optimum habitat being in shade with other plants nearby to which it can cling by the long slender tendrils at the tip of the leaves. Since the segments of the flower reflex from the base they leave exposed the green ovary with the long style from its apex sweeping upwards. The stamens spread out with only a slight upward tendency and at the tips are the yellow versatile anthers.

Some of the commonest vernacular names are Flame Lily, Dragon Flower, Superb Lily, Climbing Lily and in Afrikaans, Geelboslelie or Rooiboslelie, probably depending on the colour of the flowers of the individual referred to.



15 cents. *CROCOSMIA AUREA*—Because this name seems to ring with the splendour of the orange-yellow flowers, it would be a pity if it were found necessary to follow the classification in Phillips' Genera of South African Flowering Plants and revert to the genus *Tritonia* for this species. There is scientific justification for keeping it under *Crocospmia* because of the characteristic spread of the lobes, the equal disposition of the stamens (not unilateral) and the fewness of the developed seeds. *C. aurea* brings to mind the garden *Monbretia* and it is in all probability one of the parents of this successful horticultural product. In nature our plant is found in the mountains of the eastern Cape, Natal, the Transvaal and tropical east Africa. It flowers in autumn and the plate speaks for the striking beauty of the inflorescence. The leaves are linear and fan out on each side of the stem. In the top right-hand corner of the plate a fruiting spike is depicted with the three-lobed capsules just beginning to open to shed the black seeds.

25 cents. *WATSONIA DENSIFLORA*—The genus *Watsonia* is found wild only in South Africa and Madagascar. There are over 50 recognised species, all beautiful, and although most of these occur in the Cape, the

Swaziland Flowers Cont.

Transvaal has nine to its credit. They grow in the moist eastern regions of the province. Easily recognised among them is *W. densiflora* because of its large intricate bracts, overlapping each other in the bud-stage and closely enveloping the basal portion of the open flower. These chestnut-brown bracts are two-ranked, giving the spike a flattened appearance. This species, which ranges from the Transvaal through Swaziland and Natal to Port St. Johns in the eastern Cape, occurs in at least three colour forms. Plants in Natal and the Cape usually bear phlox-purple flowers, further inland they are mostly phlox-pink like the figured one, which came from

Piet Retief in the Transvaal and, lastly, a lovely carmine to deep crimson strain is found on Pigg's Peak and Forbes' Reef in Swaziland.

The Director of Posts and Telecommunications acknowledges with gratitude the assistance rendered by Professor R. H. Compton, retired Botanist, in the selection of flowers and the choice of designs on which the Swaziland's commemorative issue of stamps depicting flowers was based.

Release Date: 1st February, 1971. Designer: L. D. Curtis. Printer: Questa Colour Security Printers Ltd. Process: Lithography. Watermark: C.A. Block (Paper with pure gum arabic).

BRITISH HONDURAS – NEW CAPITAL



Belmopan, the storm-spawned Capital, the world's newest, rises from a lush plain in British Honduras, Central America. Because hurricanes periodically devastate Belize City, the old capital, this last British Colony on the American mainland, constructed Belmopan 50 miles inland and transferred the government there in August 1969. The new city heralds prospective Independence, when British Honduras will change its name to Belize.

To commemorate this unique occasion British Honduras is issuing a six value set of postage stamps featuring the following designs:

The 5 cents features the south side of the Old Capital Belize City—showing its proximity to the sea and all its attendant perils.

The 10 cents the Government Plaza which is part of the New Capital city at Belmopan.

The remaining four values 15, 22, 25 and 50 cents feature the following new establishments at Belmopan: the legislative assembly house, the magistrates court, police headquarters and the new general post office.

Release Date: 30th January, 1971. Designer: G. Drummond. Printer: Joh Enschede en Zonen (Holland). Process: Lithography. Watermark: C.A. Block.

WHAT'S COMING ?

NEW ZEALAND

1971: March 3rd: One Ton Cup Yachting Contest. 5c, 8c.

1971: April 14th: National Parks. 25c, 28c, 30c and 50c.

1971: May 12th: Centenaries Palmerston North, Auckland and Invercargill.

1971: June 9th: UNICEF and Antarctic Treaty.

PITCAIRN

1971: March 1st: Polynesian Pitcairn. 5c, 10c, 15c and 20c.

PAPUA & NEW GUINEA

1971: March 31: Flora and Fauna. (Five stamps.)

1971: June 9: Fourth South Pacific Games. (Four stamps.)

1971: Aug. 18: Development series.

WESTERN SAMOA

1971: March: Intrepex miniature sheet, one stamp, 70 sene.

1971: June: Tourism, four stamps.

1971: August: Legends of Old Samoa, four stamps.

1971: Oct.: Christmas stamps, four values.

1972: New definitives to \$1.

AUSTRALIA

1971: March 31: Armed Services. 3 and 6c.

1971: April 24: Centenary of Australian Natives Association. 6c.

1971: May 7: Centenary of Sydney Stock Exchange. 6c.

1971: May 17th: 50th Anniversary of Rotary. 6c.

1971: 100th Anniv. R.S.P.C.A.

1971: Animals Series (3).

1971: 50th Anniv. of RAAF.

1971: Parliamentary Conference.

NORFOLK ISLAND

1971: June 16: 20, 30 cents, \$1.

ROSS DEPENDENCY

1971: New Definitive series.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS

1971: New Definitives.

BR. SOLOMON ISLANDS

1971. Centenary of Bishop Patteson's Death.

GREAT BRITAIN

June 16: "Ulster 71": Ulster paintings, values 3p; 7½p; 9p.

July 28: Literary Anniversaries: 150th anniversary of the death of John Keats, 3p; Bicentenary of the death of Thomas Gray, 5p; Bicentenary of birth of Sir Walter Scott, 7½p.

August 25 General Anniversaries: 50th anniversary of the British Legion, 3p; 1900th Anniversary of the founding of the City of York, 7½p; Centenary of the Rugby Football Union, 9p.

September 22: British Architecture Series: Modern university buildings, 3p; 5p; 7½p; 9p.

October: Christmas stamps, 2½p; 3p; 7½p. The firm issue date will be announced later.

CANADA

March 3: 50th Anniversary, Discovery of Insulin.

March 24: 100th Anniversary, Birth of Sir Ernest Rutherford.

April 14: Maple Leaf in Four Seasons—Spring.

May 7: 100th Anniversary, Death of Louis Joseph Papineau.

May 7: 200th Anniversary, Samuel Hearne's Expedition to the Coppermine River.

NIUE STAMP SALES

Local stamp sales for the year amounted to \$13,627.73, and \$46,585.80 worth were sold overseas through the New Zealand Post Office up to the end of December 1969. The total of \$60,213.53 compares with \$28,518.09 for last year, an increase of \$41,695.44.

The question of establishing a stamp bureau in Niue was considered by the Executive Committee in December and it was decided to defer the matter for re-examination in about twelve months time. In the meantime, the New Zealand Philatelic Bureau continues to provide an excellent service in marketing Niue stamps overseas. This is reflected in the revenue Niue receives from the sale of stamps overseas.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE

THE 50th ANNIVERSARY

On February 19, 1971, the Swedish Postal Administration issued two commemorative stamps to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the introduction of woman suffrage in Sweden. The stamps were issued in the values of 45 ore and 1 Sw. cr.

It is fifty years ago since Swedish women, after decades of stiff resistance, got the right to vote. In the general election of 1921, the first with female participation, four women were returned—Nelly Thuring, a photographer, Agda Ostlund (both social democrats), Elisabeth Tamm, a landlady (independent) and Bertha Wellin, a nurse (conservative). Several

ROSTRATT FOR KVINNOR 50 AR



SVERIGE 45

1971

weeks before this election, Kerstin Hesselgren had become Inspectors of Employment in the Upper House. Some people placed great hope in women's involvement in government, in their fairness and motherliness. Others were afraid that they would devote themselves mostly to sentimentalizing about household problems. Neither were right, for from the outset the women members worked energetically to catch up on the male lead in politics. Kerstin Hesselgren became one of the most significant politicians we have had. Her rich experience of the defects in the working conditions at that time helped her to work for peace through social justice both in Sweden and abroad. She also united the women Riksdag members above party levels on issues of deeper human values and in the struggle for equal rights.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS SHIPS AND NAVIGATORS



The 3 cents value shows a portrait of La Perouse, the French navigator, with his ship "La Boussole". In February 1788 La Perouse sailed from Botany Bay with two ships "La Boussole" and "La Astrolabe", then disappeared.

It was not until 1826 that the remains of the two ships were discovered at Vanikoro (Santa Cruz Islands) by a Captain Peter Dillon in a research ship of the East India Company.

The ships had foundered in a storm, one had sunk in shallow water inside the reef, this presumably being "La Astrolabe", and the other ship, "La Boussole", in deep water outside the reef.

In 1827 D'Urville (another French navigator) recovered cannon from "La Astrolabe". On an expedition in 1958-59 Mr. Reece Discombe of Vila, New Hebrides, recovered cannon, copper, iron and lead ingots in 100 fathoms, half a mile from the relics of "La Astrolabe's" findings.



The 4 cents value depicts an illustration of a marine Astrolabe of the 16th century and an earlier Polynesian Reed map.

The marine Astrolabe was brought into use at sea about 1480, and its introduction is attributed to Martin Behaim, a native of Nuremberg, who served at sea with the Portuguese. It is made of brass with an alidade or sighting bar, and a scale by which the altitude of the sun or stars were taken. It measures 7 inches in diameter and weighs a little over 5 lb.

The Reed Map

The first settlers to the islands of Micronesia came from Asia. They were skillful navigators. Though they did not have any instruments to help them, they knew how to use the seasonal winds and ocean currents to carry them to their destination.

To find where the islands were situated in relation to each other, they used a form of crude map. These were made of reeds, with tiny shells for the islands and reefs.



The 12 cents value shows the portrait of the greatest of Dutch navigators Abel Tasman who was born at Lutjegast in Groningen about 1603, with his ship the "Heemskerk". On 14th August, 1642, he was despatched from Batavia, Java (now known as Jakarta, Java) by Anthony Van Diemen, governor-general of the Dutch East Indies, on a voyage of discovery in search of new lands etc. Probably he is best known for the discovery of Tasmania and New Zealand, but during this voyage he sailed through the Solomon Islands, and discovered Ontong Java 160 miles north of the island of Ysabel. He arrived back in Batavia on 15th June, 1643, after a ten months' voyage.



The 35 cents value depicts a Te puki canoe from the Santa Cruz islands which are a small volcanic group within the British Solomon Islands. This is a sea-going canoe with a small outboard float on the portside. Between the main hull and float there is a deckhouse. It also has an oceanic lateen sail. The canoe is steered by a large oar, the oarsman sitting on a platform that is lashed over the starboard side of the hull.

It has the disadvantage of not being able to beat to the windward, the canoe can only sail "running with the wind".

Release Date: 28th January, 1971. Designer: John Wadington Studio. Printer: Questa Colour Security Printers Ltd. Process: Lithography. Watermark: C.A. Block.

WELPEX '72

His Worship the Mayor of Wellington, Sir Francis Kitts, has kindly consented to be the Patron of Welpex '72, the National Stamp Exhibition which is to be held in the Wellington Town Hall from 15th—20th May, 1972. A prospectus is being prepared and should be available shortly. A survey of the space available is also being undertaken at present, and this will enable more detailed planning of special exhibits and displays by Postal Authorities, etc. to be put in hand at an early date.

The Exhibition Committee is receiving excellent co-operation from the N.Z. Post Office for which they are extremely grateful. The Federation of N.Z. Philatelic Societies has made a generous grant of \$350 available to the Committee towards the cost of Welpex.

Already enquiries about the Exhibition have started to arrive from Philatelists within N.Z. and overseas. (All enquiries regarding WELPEX '72 should be directed to the Exhibition Secretary, P.O. Box 610, Wellington.)

PALMERSTON NORTH NATIONAL JUNIOR STAMP EXHIBITION

Newsletter No. 2 has recently been released by the Manawatu Philatelic Society for the Juniors' Exhibition, known as "Stampex '71", to be held from 24th—28th August. Entry forms will be distributed in February. The Manawatu Society would be grateful to receive donations of cash or stamps to help meet the cost of staging this exhibition. It is hoped to hold a postal auction early this year. Please send any donations to the Manawatu Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 206, Palmerston North.

SPAIN, 1868-1893

By H. Moy Hammerton.

The abdication of Isabel II, though welcomed by all political parties, threw the country into confusion, as no agreement could be reached as to the future, though by general consent the restoration of a monarchy appeared the only solution. The tumult is illustrated by the stamps issued. First, a large number of overprints on the last issues of Isabel appeared, these are almost all of doubtful authenticity, then followed the issue of 1870, an allegorical figure of Spain, designed by Don Eugenio Julia and possessing a secret mark common to all values. At this time, too, an unusual and interesting postal innovation occurred. Free Postage was granted to Don Diego Castell in connection with



The stamp granting free postage issued to Don Diego Castell.

his philatelic work "The Postcard of Spain" and a special stamp printed and issued to him — these stamps are not common. Eleven years later the same privilege was granted to Dr. Thebussem for his philatelic work but in this case a series of Franks were used.



One of the Franks granted to Dr. Thebussem.

A new constitution having been agreed upon, the choice of the new Monarch became urgent. There were a large number of claimants but agreement was impossible until as a compromise Amareo, the second son of the Italian King, Victor Emmanuel II, was invited

In October 1872, an issue of stamps bearing his portrait was made—not a very attractive set but extremely difficult to find in good condition. Though undoubtedly an admirable and conscientious man, his position was impossible from the beginning and in February 1873 he abdicated.

In the meantime, the whole of the North had rallied to the cause of Don Carlise and the Carlist War of 1872-76 was fought with great bitterness. The Carlists issued stamps for use in the territories under their control and these, particularly on cover, are amongst the prizes of Spanish philately. A number of designs for the different provinces exist, but reprints and forgeries are common and the greatest care should be taken in the purchase of these stamps. Of the genuine, used are very much rarer than mint.



The first Carlist stamp issued for the provinces of Vascongadas and Navarra. Used at Mondragon.

After the abdication of Amadeo, the 1st Republic issued two sets of stamps, those of 1873 and 1874, these are not uncommon used but owing to poor production and the cancellations in use at this time, Fine Used are very rare. A "superb" of these issues would probably only rate as good used in contemporary sets.

Towards the end of 1874, the restoration of the Bourbons was agreed and King Alfonso XII came to the throne at the age of eighteen. Unfortunately for Spain, this Monarch, who showed every promise of being a great and good King died in 1885. For the philatelist, the five sets issued during this reign are not particularly distinguished and are, again, difficult to find in good condition, but have interest for the specialist, as many varieties of postmarks exist.

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REFUGEE STAMP

FOR UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations Postal Administration announced today that it will issue a commemorative stamp on 12 March, 1971 on the theme "International Support for Refugees".

The new stamp will be issued in three denominations—6 cents (brown), 13 cents (blue) and F.s.0.50 (red). (Equivalent value in U.S. currency of F.s.0.50 is 12 cents.) The new issue will be printed in the following quantities:—

6 cents—2,400,000, 13 cents—2,000,000, F.s.0.50—1,900,000.

The stamp was designed by Kaare K. Nygaard (U.S.A.) and Martin J. Webber (U.S.A.). The stamp will be printed in offset by Joh. Enschede en Zonen, Netherlands.

A sculpture entitled simply "Refugees" will soon become known internationally when the United Nations stamp "International Support for Refugees" is released on 12 March, 1971.

The bronze figures of two adults fleeing with two children is the work of a Norwegian-born surgeon, Dr. Kaare Nyaard. His interest in poetry, painting and particularly sculpture can be traced back to his early teens and, although he never received any formal training, his success in sculpture speaks for itself. His bronze "Cancer" was awarded first prize at the International Physicians' Art Exhibit, 1968, in Washington, D.C. Many of his works are permanently exhibited at the Percy Grainger Museum in Sydney, Australia and in the Joseph Hirschorn Collection. As recently as 1969, he exhibited forty bronze sculptures, among them "Refugees", at a New York gallery, receiving critical acclaim for his work.

A surgeon by profession and a sculptor only when he has some spare time, Dr. Nyaard was born in Lillehammer, Norway and graduated from the University of Oslo's Medical School in 1929. He was a Fellow in Surgery at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, before he settled in White Plains, New York, thirty years ago.

The stamp itself was designed with the invaluable assistance of Martin J. Weber, a New York lithographer.

U.S.A. LATEST



GIVE BLOOD

Design of a postage stamp to salute blood donors and to urge increased participation in this vital programme was announced by Postmaster General Winton M. Blount, himself a donor.

The 6 cent stamp will be issued March 12 in New York City in conjunction with the International Philatelic Exhibition.

"Giving Blood Saves Lives" is the theme of the stamp.

In announcing the stamp, Mr. Blount noted that blood donations are not keeping pace with increasing demands for this life-saving fluid. More sophisticated surgery—open heart, for example—claims heavily on supplies of blood and its by-products.

When President Nixon proclaimed January "National Blood Donor Month" he stated: "Among the noblest acts of personal generosity is the gift of one's blood for the benefit of another. It is a contribution to health and life for which there is no substitute."

Only about 3% of eligible American donors give blood, Mr. Blount said in asserting his belief that the postage stamp would focus attention on the problem of short supply. A French blood donors stamp is credited with trebling the amount of blood contributed there.

The horizontal stamp was designed by Howard Munce, of Westport, Connecticut, who makes his debut on a U.S. stamp. It is a poster type stamp, with "Giving" in red, "Blood" in blue, and "Saves Lives" in blue, against a lighter blue background. A drop of red blood falls beneath the first "O" in "Blood".

PHILATELIC THOUGHTS

Murray G. Wing.

A local philatelist showed me an envelope mailed to him by the Philatelic Bureau when they sent him a brochure about a forthcoming issue. He has a private box at the Chief Post Office, Wellington but the address was shown as Wellington 6. If the postal zone numbers are to mean anything the Post Office should set an example and get the numbers straight or is there a new zone 6?

The first reaction locally to the new 15c, 18c and 20c Maori Artifacts stamps issued on 20th January are not too favourable. I think the 18c Maori Club does not seem too bad, but a group of Wellington philatelists chewing things over during recent lunch hour agreed that these stamps were below average. Not too good a prospect if these issues are to be our silent ambassadors overseas. In a U.K. philatelic publication last year one of the countries tipped as a good buy was Japan. Certainly that country was very much to the fore during Expo 70. The latest 1971 editions of the Japanese stamp catalogues in colour include the Expo 70 issues of the various nations, including N.Z. The price for our 3 stamp set mint is 300 yen or about 75c-80c. I have noted a number of rises in catalogue prices of earlier Japanese issues. Two examples are the 1948 and 1949 Philatelic Week stamps which in 1969 were priced at 3,000 and 5,000 yen compared with 9,000 and 11,000 yen respectively in 1971. These rises do not seem to have been reflected in the English catalogues yet. The USA has just had its first full colour catalogue (see N.Z.S.M. for January 1971, Page 3). I understand that we could see the first N.Z. coloured stamp catalogue in the near future. I certainly hope so, as it would be most useful for publicising our stamps overseas. Talking about Catalogues, the one country volumes issued by Stanley Gibbons last year seem to be very popular. Already several stockists have sold out of some volumes and have had to re-order. Gibbons new pricing policy and the new decimal currency listings certainly are topics of the moment. Gone are the days when individual common stamps were catalogued at 1d each. A local bank is currently featuring a display

about Esperanto and its street level front windows are full of interesting stamps and covers, all of course with some association with Esperanto. Lunch time shoppers crowd the pavements whilst stopping to get a closer view.

THE AUSTRALIAN SCENE

OBSERVATIONS

by Warwick Paterson

During a recent trip to Australia I was concerned by the number of complaints I heard both from dealers and collectors of the slowness of Philatelic Bureau Service from New Zealand. It does seem to me that the N.Z. Post Office should take steps to ensure that this does not persist. The increase in business resulting from an improvement in service could be surprising and would, I suggest, more than pay for the extra staff involved to achieve it.

The "scene" in Australia, is incidentally one of considerable promise for New Zealand issues with better specialist material finding an active market. Collection of European Countries has advanced quickly there, due no doubt to the arrival of so many "New Australians". Most collectors still seem to regard the Australian States as "too complicated" despite the recent work of one of the leading specialists to simplify Victoria in particular. Apex definitely gave the hobby a real boost. Even so I was able to pick up a 1/- Geo V two perf pair, in orange vermilion, fine used for 30c (catalogue \$14) from one dealer in a major city. The item was priced as "two singles".

TONGA

On the 30th January, 1971 the Post Office placed on sale a Memorial Commemorative Series marking the 5th Anniversary of the demise of Queen Salote Tupou III. These Commemoratives have been produced by a appropriately blocking in metallic foils over the original Memorial Series. Less than 10,000 Complete Series, exist. The Overblocking Dies plus all remaining Basic Stamps have been destroyed.

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COLLECTORS AND DEALERS

'Dealer-Collector Relationship' by Mr. Albert Isaacs.

There are three major questions, namely, "How should a collector regard his dealer?", "How should I, the dealer, regard my customers?", and "What is the difference between a stamp shop and the retailer next door to him, and how will my talk differ from that of say, a grocer talking to a group like the Housewives' Association?" My comments are purely my own.

How should a collector regard his dealer?

First of all, it must be remembered that both the Dealer and Collector have a mutual interest—Stamps, and both usually like to talk about them and study them.

Next, it must be remembered that the early collectors naturally had no dealers to go to, and that the collector himself created the demand for a place where he could go and browse through books, collections, etc. of the thing he collected, and also a type of trader who would be prepared to let him look at comprehensive ranges of stamps even in his own home through an approval service.

A dealer is usually an expert in his field just like a doctor, lawyer, etc. He must have a knowledge of stamps if he is to survive in his chosen profession. Proof is given to this point by looking at the ads in the A.S.M. and realising just how many dealers have gone out of business after only a month or two of dealing.

'Professional Advice'

Many serious collectors tend to develop a highly significant relationship with their favourite dealer—much, much more than the pleasantries exchanged between the Man in the Street and the chap in his corner store, because after a few trips, a customer finds that his dealer knows exactly what book to get out for him, in what condition he collects his stamps, and, after a while, his dealer will probably be putting away for him the type of material he wants, and even going out of his way to find and purchase special items for his collector friend. In other words, the collector's trip to the "Stamp Shop" should be more than going into a shop to buy stamps, it should be and usually can be, a case of an amateur discussing his collection with a professional who is able to advise what is best for his album and then produce some for his perusal and perhaps ultimate sale.

How should I, the dealer, regard my customers?

It would be quite easy to say that a dealer regards the collector as a way of making money. Naturally, a dealer must live, but, as I explained, a dealer is a specialist, and as such his interest in his work goes much further than just being a way of making money, it is also naturally an interest. I normally make it my business to give as much help as I can to both the beginner and also to the more advanced collector looking for some new philatelic paths to travel. It must be realised that, although philatelic societies are there to help the collector, the dealer is working with stamps right throughout his working day, and is readily accessible to all and sundry, and therefore must make the advising of philatelists a major part of his day's routine.

If a customer is genuinely interested, a dealer may spend up to an hour or so with him helping him choose and advising him. This is part of our job and perhaps our most important role, but it must be remembered that both time and advice must be added to the price of stock, and this is appreciated by most customers when pricing an item.

'Word of Mouth Advertising'

A dealer should never forget that, through philatelic societies and the like, his customers usually have a good deal of contact with each other and, therefore, the way he treats one customer gets around to other customers and prospective customers. Yes, word of mouth advertising is more vital in this game than any other business I can think of.

Let me give you an example of how word of mouth advertising works. One November, my former employer was able to import a good U.S. made album at a very reasonable price. As a form of experiment, he decided that, although it was Christmas, he would not advertise these in anyway—not even by window display—but would just show them to customers in the shop. They proved very popular, and very soon we had sold out but, unfortunately, were unable to re-import at a comparable price, as a large import duty had now been placed on the albums. However, even though we had not advertised this line, we had enquiries for them, after

we had sold out, and could have sold three times our quantity just on these casual enquiries.

What is the Difference Between a Stamp Shop and the Retailer Next Door to Him?

Earlier this afternoon, Mr. Stern explained to us how a dealer could be compared with a solicitor, and this is a very neat comparison, but because we operate from a shop, it is pretty easy to compare us with other retailers and here, as I hope to point out, the differences are quite dramatic. Through this comparison, we will be able to see some reasons why my customer-dealer relationship is different also.

Whereas a grocer will soon get a pretty good idea as to what he will sell in a month, as the average person eats about the same amount each month; or as the draper gets an idea of how much he will sell, as, once again, this mythical average person buys new clothes at fairly regular intervals; the stamp dealer can never be in that lucky position. Sure, he may be able to work out approximately his takings for the month as he can see how much people are spending, etc., but he could never work out what part of his stock will be sold. This means in effect that his stock be extremely large and therefore his overhead is always high.

To a certain degree there is a comparison between the sales a dealer makes in accessories (e.g. albums, catalogues, hinges, perforations gauges, etc.) and those of his neighbouring retailer, and because he can work out a satisfactory ordering system, one would usually find that here the dealer's profit margin is quite low.

But, if someone comes in and sells me, say for argument's sake, a pair of Czech Scouts post stamps of 1918, I could not have a clue whether I would be able to re-sell this set to the next customer who walks in, or whether it will be dead stock for months and months.

Let us take a look at the way I buy stamps. If I was running out of size 8 shoes in a shop, all I would have to do would be to ring up my wholesaler and he would get new stocks to me. But, excepting new issues, children's sets, and some cheaper Australian items, there is no way of doing this successfully in stamps. Tell

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me, for example, whom I could ring up for a re-order of £2 1st Wmk. Roos. No, a stamp dealer wanting to replenish stocks has three ways open to him:

- He can sit back in his shop and wait until finally someone comes in with a £2 Roo to sell.
- He can start buying up old collections until he gets all the items he wants. At the same time though he is also getting thousands upon thousands of stamps he does not need.
- He can try to get this item he needs from one of his competitors who would probably be disposed to giving him a small discount on the retail price.

There are my comments, and I am now looking forward to the paper on the "COLLECTOR-DEALER RELATIONSHIP" to find out what collectors expect from dealers.

Collector Viewpoint by Dr. W. G. Wells

You've just heard a dealer's view on this subject, so now I'd like to put a few thoughts from the collectors viewpoint. Perhaps I shouldn't really say the collector's viewpoint, but only a collector's—mine! I firmly believe Congress papers should not present an open and closed case on any subject, but should be aimed at developing discussion at the end of the paper, and I am presenting this paper with a view to provoking discussion.

Without any doubt, the main factor influencing collector-dealer relations is the extent of your cheque book. We must realise that a dealer is in business and, as he is only human, he will naturally favour his best accounts—what business man doesn't? Most other factors are subsidiary to this one.

I was interested to hear Mr. Isaccs talk of a collector and his dealer, in the same way we talk of our dentist or physician. This is an excellent principle, but one which is rather doomed here in Australia. As any specialised collector knows, the average stocks of better class material, other than Australian and Territories, is almost NIL. A specialist collector cannot restrict himself to one dealer simply because that dealer does not have a continuous input of this form of stock. I collect Malaysia and can claim to have looked over the stocks of this area held by every dealer in all capital cities of Australia. I

may have picked up some useful items from a dealer the first time I visited him, but after that new stock intake is so low I would average 10 visits over four years before something worthwhile has come into stock again.

I am therefore forced, because of lack of suitable material being offered by dealers in Australia to buy 95% of my requirements from dealers overseas—London, Kuala Lumpur, U.S.A. and New Zealand.

Collector's Requirements From His Dealer

There is only one Australian dealer, in Sydney, who seems to offer a fairly efficient Want List watching service, and who seems to replenish his stocks with better class material quite regularly, yet this type of service is offered by many English dealers.

With this background, what do I, as a collector, want from a dealer?—

- Courteous Service. This is a requisite in all forms of retail business.
- Philatelic Intelligence. In specialist fields, a dealer cannot always be knowledgeable—e.g. the postmarks of Sierra Leone may not be the most popular topic, but a dealer should be prepared to adopt an intelligent approach in talking to a specialist in this field, and not wipe him off "as a nut".

It follows from this that I strongly deplore the employment of young juniors in philatelic supermarkets who appear to have no knowledge at all, apart from the price on the packet.

- Marked Prices. I believe we are in a civilised country, and that haggling over prices (as say occurs with goods bought in a duty-free port) is undignified and undesirable. Once you become known to a dealer, too often the dealer adopts the attitude "if he wants it he'll pay more for it". A Melbourne dealer once offered me a stamp from one of my specialist countries, at full catalogue. I refused, simply as "too dear". The next day a friend of mine visiting the dealer for the first time bought it at half catalogue—the price had been doubled because I was a specialist and known to the dealer! Several dealers throughout Australia and New Zealand do mark all their prices clearly and this should be encouraged.

- Philatelic Integrity. How many times have you been in a dealer's shop and a junior has come in—he may have wanted a packet of

Australia, but is sold a packet of Russia or Czech, or he has been assured that a damaged stamp is good buying. But if his mother wants to buy a packet of world, how often does the dealer advise her to buy a packet of Australian as they really are better value?

How many times have you seen a dealer beat down a prospective seller, when you yourself reckon the purchase would be good, even after allowing a 50% profit to the dealer!

Do these things give you confidence in your friend, the dealer? 5. The Opportunity to Browse. I realise that "time is money", but dealers must realise that they are concerned with a "hobby". People often don't want to rush in, order Packet M41 Manama Birds, pay 45c, and rush out again. Serious collectors may want to examine considerable stock, and may not purchase anything. In how many shops in Melbourne can you browse for 15 minutes and, often buying nothing, still feel you are a wanted customer?

6. Reasonable Stock. The fact that delegates to this Congress are prepared to sit and talk stamps and philately for half a day, without seeing a stamp, establishes them as serious collectors. But how many dealers can you go to who do have good stocks of better class stamps, or postal history material? The average Melbourne dealer is for too pre-occupied with new issues. What our city lacks is a serious dealer, prepared to specialise in better class material, ignoring the volume of new issues.

My Most Perfect Dealer

By way of conclusion, I must outline my "most perfect dealer". He is in Auckland, and has a smallish shop. After spending a couple of dollars at the counter (and thereby no doubt establishing yourself as a serious collector), you are invited to look at approval books, by sitting at special tables behind the counter. By the time you've spent \$10, you are offered the choice of a port or a sherry. Roughly every 20 mins. thereafter your glass is refilled. Conversation is bright, questions are answered promptly with courtesy.

This dealer fulfils all my criteria—courteous service, philatelic intelligence, marked prices, philatelic integrity, and the opportunity to browse. And he has a good stock. How does your favourite dealer measure up to these criteria?



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Distributed by Philatelic Distributors, New Plymouth.

PHILATELY IN INDIA

By Jal Cooper

INDIA, a sub-continent by itself, is still in the bullock-cart age as far as philately is concerned. The country owes a deep debt of gratitude to those early British stalwarts who introduced philately in India, even though it did not take root deeply for the simple reason that even today—after 22 years of independence—over 70 per cent of the people are illiterate.

Therefore, it is not surprising that in the last few years, more juvenile collectors in schools and colleges have taken up the hobby as never before. And their stamp collections mostly fall in two groups: (1) Post-Independence stamps of India and (2) Thematics. Even the adult collectors nowadays go in for thematic collecting, because most of the modern thematic stamps are readily available at a small price or can be exchanged with foreign collectors with post-independence Indian stamps.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

To cater to the needs of this new regime of collectors, a large number of stamp clubs have been formed in most of the seventeen Indian States—India now being a Federal Unit comprised of these States. These Clubs often hold small scale stamp shows and are thus responsible for creating local interest in philately. In some of the States, philatelic societies have been formed and they claim a membership of 25 to 250. The honour of being the largest philatelic society in India, with membership of over 600 collectors from all over the world, goes to the Empire of India Philatelic Society and I have the honour to be its Honorary Secretary since its inception 28 years ago.

PUBLICATIONS

There are about half a dozen philatelic publications published in India, one of them being edited and published by this writer for the last 33 years and is internationally known as "India's Stamp Journal" published monthly, and costs £1 sterling for annual subscription.

To help collectors of Indian stamps, the writer publishes priced catalogues on Indian stamps and they are: "A Specialised Priced Catalogue of Indian Stamps, 1852-1968" (12th edition; Price £1 sterling including postage) and "A Priced Catalogue of Indian Post-Independence Stamps, 1947-1968" (3rd edition; Price: 15 shillings including postage).

For students of Indian stamps, this writer has also provided a handbook entitled "Stamps of India" which is now in its third edition and is priced at £2/10 sterling.

INDIAN CLASSICS

Owing to strict import regulations, stamps cannot be freely imported into India, and the consequence is that prices of classics which were always in short supply in India, are now very high, putting them beyond the reach of medium collectors. In fact, this is one of the main reasons why Indian collectors go in for thematics!

STAMP AUCTIONS

For nearly twenty years, this writer had conducted regular monthly stamp auctions and they were brought to an end only when, owing to stamp import restrictions, it became impossible to import new material for sale in auctions. However, for the last two years regular stamp sales have been held in Calcutta and they are well patronised. One of the Calcutta auctioneers also holds auctions in Bombay, once in three months, and they too are well attended.

AUCTION IN AID OF CRIPPLED CHILDREN

Heads of State from all parts of the world have been responding to an appeal by Field-Marshal Lord Harding, Chairman of the National Fund for Research into Crippling Diseases, for stamps and philatelic items which are to be sold in a major stamp auction to be supervised by Stanley Gibbons and held in London next June. The aim is to raise £20,000 from the stamp world for the National Fund to devote aiding research into the cause, prevention, cure and treatment of all forms of crippling.

The Queen has given a special philatelic item to be sold at the auction. King Gustaf of Sweden has sent an album containing all the stamps of his reign; U Thant of the United Nations sent a sheet of autographed stamps and so have Prince Rainier and Princess Grace of Monaco; Sir Keith Holyoake has given an engraved, signed album of New Zealand Health stamps. The Shah of Iran has donated a superb album with an ivory hand-worked cover, bearing a central enamel inlay surrounded by a silver filigree border.

1971 ISSUES FOR INDIA

- Centenary of Life Insurance in India—January, 1971.
- Kashi Vidyapeth—10th February, 1971.
- Deenabandhu C. F. Andrews (Philosopher) (Birth Centenary)—12th February, 1971.
- Acharya Narendra Dev—12th February, 1971.
- Guru Ravi Das (Saint)—February, 1971.
- Census (100-year completion)—March, 1971.
- Ramana Maharishi (21st Anniversary of Maha Nirvana)—14th April, 1971.
- Raja Ravi Verma (Artist) (123rd Birth Anniversary)—April, 1971.
- Dadsaheb Phalke (Centenary Year)—April, 1971.
- Swami Virjanand (noted Scholar of Vedic Literature (103rd death anniversary) — 14th September, 1971.
- Children's Day 1971 (to be issued every 5th year—the last stamp was issued in 1966)—14th November, 1971.
- Sskharam Genesh Deuskar (Journalist) (Centenary Year)—December, 1971.
- National Savings Scheme (coinciding with the World Thrift Day)—1971.
- Army Postal Service—1971.
- Indian Masks (series of 4 stamps in multi-colour)—1971.
- Indian Miniature Paintings (series of 4 stamps in multi-colour) — 1971.

SOVIET STAMPS TO HELP MEDICAL RESEARCH

President Podgorny has sent a valuable collection of postage stamps to help British research into polio and other crippling diseases.

They were sent in response to an appeal to various heads of state including President Podgorny, from the Lord Harding (Field-Marshal Sir John Harding), chairman of the National Fund for Research into Poliomyelitis and Other Crippling Diseases.

The collection includes various rare early Soviet issues, the Lenin centenary issues, various first-day covers and covers autographed by Soviet cosmonauts, as well as stamps with a special "British" angle.

These include stamps commemorating Burns, Shakespeare, Shaw, Milton, Darwin and Dickens.

The album will be displayed at the 1971 International Philatelic Auction, and the proceeds will go to research and treatment of afflicted children.

Books on Indian Stamps

STAMPS OF INDIA

By Jal Cooper

The new **THIRD** edition has 177 pages of useful information on Indian stamps; it also gives a chronicle of 5000-year-old Indian history as well as the early "Postal History." It is printed on imported quality art paper and has as many as 375 illustrations.

Price: \$2/10.

A Specialised Priced Catalogue of Indian Stamps, 1852-1968

By Jal Cooper

The twelfth edition of 112 pages with 336 illustrations gives prices of early pre-stamp covers, Scinde Dawks, Essays, Proofs Specimens stamps issued from 1854 to 1968, airmails, booklets, pigeongrammes, First Day Covers, Folders, Special Postmarks, etc.

Price: £1.

A Priced Catalogue of Indian Post-independence Stamps, 1947-1968

By Jal Cooper

The fourth edition has 46 pages with 177 illustrations and gives prices for both unused and used stamps and First Day Covers.

Price: 15/-.

Other Publications

BHUTAN—A SHORT POSTAL HISTORY SKETCH

By Jal Cooper

Illustrated with map of Bhutan and contains a list of post offices in Bhutan.

Price: 10/-.

The History of the Postal Service in Kuwait, 1775-1959

(Fully Illustrated — by A. N. Donaldson)

Price: 10/-.

Evolution of Postal Communications and Administration in the Deccan, from 1294 A. D. to the formation of Hyderabad State in 1724 A.D.

By M. A. Nayeem.

Price: 6/-.

Nizam—British Relations in Postal Communications and Administration 1748-1947

By M. A. Nayeem.

Price: 10/-.

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REGISTRATION LABELS ARE COLLECTABLE

Believe it or not but the adhesive registration labels found on registered letters or parcels are collected by an increasing number of people. These labels were first used in New Zealand in 1908 when they were printed in large sheets and a separate receipt had to be written out for the sender. Today, as you know, the receipt is attached to the label and is simply torn off, datestamped, and handed to you.

Three main types of labels are used in New Zealand post offices today. At the larger offices, where over 2,000 registered articles a year are despatched, the labels have the office name and telegraphic code printed in black ink. Medium size offices use the same type of labels but the office name (and occasionally the code) has to be rubber stamped. The smallest offices use a different type of label



in which the butt forms the actual record. These have the offices name shown in pen and ink, by rubber stamps, or by the office datestamp.

It can be quite fascinating to collect these labels with all the various types and designs. There are errors too. The new post office of Shanty Town (two words) near Greymouth used labels rubber stamped Shantytown (one word). The office code, which is shown to make it easier transcribing the office name on letter-bills and receipts, can be printed up-side-down, missed completely, or in the rare cases printed above the name or another office's code shown!

Labels are also used by branches of the Post Office Savings Bank or by Government Departments. Many of these have the branch name rubber stamped below the printed departmental name. The Philatelic Bureau, Wellington, for example has its won labels.

Labels are mounted with hinges just like stamps on stamp album pages. Some collectors have a space for every post office open

and try and fill these spaces, others have a page for each letter of the alphabet mounting Ahurea, Ahuriri, Ashburton, Auckland, Avondale under the "A's, and so on.

Books have been written about registration labels. The Postal History Society has published a rather interesting book on labels from 1908 showing all the different types of labels and their varieties, and has just published a supplement to the first book. This brings the labels right up to 1970 and also shows the types of



receipts that have been used over the years. Both these books, written by Professor I. D. Campbell, can be obtained at \$1.50 each from Len Jury, P.O. Box 174, New Plymouth.

DON'T NEGLECT THE WASTEBASKET

by Everett C. Erle

(With acknowledgments to Western Stamp Collector.)

Has your stamp collection reached the point where additions will cost a pretty penny? Don't worry! While you are waiting for that "penny", why not participate in Postal History? Your wastebasket (and those at the office) will provide the material.

Have you ever given the ordinary envelope—yes even the one which brings those bills—more than a passing glance, if that? You may have overlooked auxiliary postal markings that tell a story.

Perhaps your mail will have a letter which you mailed—but on which you failed to include the correct address. It may have merely a small rubber stamp reading "RETURN TO SENDER", but the more popular way is to direct attention to the sender's address by the use of a hand pointing to the left. This hand may be impressed by a rubber stamp, or it may be the product of a machine—the same machine which cancelled your letter on the way out—but with the die, of course, changed.

After you have viewed a number of these "hands", you will be surprised at the variety they take; the variety of the messages which accompany. There are right hands, and to a lesser degree, left hands, hands with no thumb, with three fingers. The message "RETURNED TO WRITER" may appear on the back of the hand, in the palm of the hand, or alongside it. The machine marking will have the left hand, in keeping with the fact that the cancel is to left of the datestamp, and may have the additional reason for return—"UNCLAIMED".

Hands for the return markings are not peculiar to New Zealand—you will find them used in USA, Canada and Mexico, among others.

Another method used for returned mail is a rubber-stamped four, five, or more-lined marking which lists several possible reasons for non-delivery, ranging from "Moved—Left No Address"—"No such Number"—"Addressee Unknown"—through similar connotations to "Moved—Not Forwardable". There is a box or space by each for the convenience of the clerk in checking off the particular reason for the letter's return.

The Post Office Department is too busy these days to give much service—but in the previous decade or so the delay in delivering a letter was something the Department felt had to be explained. Handstamp—circular as well as the one or two-liner—say "Deficiency in Address Supplied by Clerk No . . ." or "Address Supplied by Directory Searcher . . ." Then again there was "DELIVERY DELAYED BY INCOMPLETE ADDRESS" or "RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CONNECTIONS" and similar apologies.

Of course, this is just a sampling of the many auxiliary postal markings you are liable to find on those covers which, without thought, you consign to the waste basket. There are literally hundreds more—"Damaged by Cancelling Machine", "Found in Ordinary Mail", "Received in Bad Condition", "Received without Contents", "Supposed to Contain Matter Prohibited Importation". These are some of the more provocative ones—and each has the possibilities of a story of its own.

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DIAMOND JUBILEE CHRISTCHURCH SOCIETY

The Society will be celebrating its Diamond Jubilee in August, 1971, and a sub-committee is now engaged in planning the following events:

7th—14th August. A non-competitive exhibition will be held at the Canterbury Museum. Members will be invited to exhibit a certain number of pages from their collections and we are confident that this small exhibition will be of a very high standard.

In conjunction with this non-competitive exhibition there will be a **competitive** exhibition for junior collectors (under 21 years of age) resident in Canterbury or the West Coast. We will be using the same classification of entries as will be used at the National Junior Exhibition being run by the Manawatu Philatelic Society during 24th-28th August and successful entries from local exhibition will be, if desired, forwarded on for entry in the national exhibition.

Friday, 6th August. The Federation of New Zealand Philatelic Societies will be holding its quarterly meeting at the Canterbury Museum lecture hall. Members of this society will be welcome at this meeting as observers.

Saturday, 7th August. The Federation will be holding a short Congress at the Museum lecture hall on the Saturday morning. Papers will be presented from invited philatelists and all collectors are invited to attend.

THE BIG EVENT will be the Society's dinner to be held at Te Kura Lounge, on the evening of Saturday, 7th August. This is timed to commence at 6.30 p.m. and tickets will be available in the near future, priced at \$5.00 (single) and \$7.50 (double).

ACCOMODATION. The Society's Diamond Jubilee coincides with the running of the Grand National. Accomodation will be difficult to obtain and out of town members who wish to come to Christchurch at this time are strongly urged to make their booking **NOW**.

ENQUIRIES in connection with the Diamond Jubilee celebrations should be addressed to:—

R. D. Samuel,
Diamond Jubilee Sub-committee Secretary,
P.O. Box 29,
Christchurch.

DUNEDIN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

JANUARY MEETING

Pre-1900 stamps was the subject of talks by five members at the January Meeting of the Dunedin Philatelic Society.

The convenor of the evening, Mr. L. W. Paul, opened the proceedings, speaking on early N.Z. Full Face Queens and also exhibited some interesting envelopes.

Mr. J. DeGroot displayed and talked about some of the early issues of Norway, Egypt and Switzerland, then Miss A. H. Henderson spoke on early Canadian and New Foundland stamps.

Mr. K. McDonald gave an interesting talk on Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Brazil, humorously referring that the first three issues were known as "Bulls Eyes", "Goats Eyes" and "Cats Eyes".

Mr. J. Hamel then spoke about Japan, Great Britain and Sweden. He explained that in early Japanese issues, forgeries were very common, some forgers even placed their own Japanese Symbol in the corner of the stamp.

I. R. Coutts

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11. 1962 Telegraph (2)	.40
12. 1963 Railway (2)	.60
13. 1970 Expo (3)	.35
14. 1970 United Nations (2)	.10

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SHIPS ON STAMPS

In 1968 the Post Office decided it was time to have a set of stamps in honour of the men who have defended our country, in the Navy, Army, and Air Force. The Navy always comes first, because it was first to serve in New Zealand. Although we are an independent nation we do not celebrate our independence day as a public holiday as is the custom in most of the Commonwealth countries. We have dropped our Dominion Day but we still keep our several provincial anniversary holidays, Anzac Day and Labour Day. It does seem likely that before long we shall have another national holiday to celebrate the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi which took place on 6th February, 1840.

Because of the Navy's connection with this famous place, Waitangi, it seems a suitable time to have a look at the Navy on New Zealand stamps, the Royal Navy and the Royal New Zealand Navy.

After Tasman in 1642, the first contact between Maori and Pakeha was made by an officer of the Royal Navy in command of a Royal Navy ship. James Cook was the man, and the ship, the Endeavour. Captain Cook had his picture on four New Zealand stamps, three of which show also his famous ship.



In the Cook issue of 1969 the Endeavour is shown on the Joseph Banks stamp. The 3d stamp of 1906 and the 2/- of 1935 show Cook landing at Poverty Bay with Endeavour in the background. The 1d centennial of 1940, has a view of Endeavour, all sails unfurled, with a portrait of the Commander copied from his statue at the Admiralty Arch, London. On the Cook stamps of 1969, the 4c associates Cook with science, while Cook's ship features on Bank's stamp. The Endeavour was not built as a fighting ship. It commenced its life as a coal boat in the North Sea. When

Cook was given command of the expedition to the Pacific he was able to choose the ship he would take. Cook had a great knowledge of ships and immediately asked for a Whitby-built coal boat, which although slow and cumbersome would be the most suitable ship available. They gave it the name "Endeavour", but because the Navy already had a vessel of that name they called it "H. M. Bark Endeavour". This word may be spelt either "Bark" or "Barque".

JUNIOR PAGE

by Simon Sam

Stamp Talks by Simon Sam can be heard on Radio ZP and ZH on Sunday mornings, March 7th and 21st, at 9.05 a.m.

The next Navy stamp was the 6d 1906 which shows William Hobson, an officer of the Royal Navy, and in the background a ship which the artist probably intended to be H.M.S. Herald, which was in New Zealand waters at that time. The 5d centennial is definitely a Navy stamp. The ship is H.M.S. Britomart which was under the command of Captain Owen Stanley. He would be one of the men pictured standing beneath the Union Jack on shore. Captain Stanley later achieved fame as an explorer. The Owen Stanley Mountains in New Guinea were named after him.

The name "Britomart" appears on the map of Auckland and in the Capital city there are three streets connected with this flag-flying ceremony at Akaroa, as we see it on this 5d stamp—Britomart, Stanley and Levaud. Levaud was in command of the French ship which arrived at Akaroa the day after the event, after the famous race that never took place, "the race to Akaroa".



We saw Captain William Hobson on the 6d stamp of 1906. He is also on the 24d centennial,

1940, with his friend and assistant Lieutenant Willoughby Shortland Royal Navy.

A flag pole now stands on the site of this treaty-signing event and a bronze plate tells us the story. The Royal Navy looked after the defence of New Zealand until 1913 when the New Zealand Government obtained its first ship of war, H.M.S. Philomel. Then came the war and it was not until 1921 that the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy was formed. The final change took place in 1941 when the Division was changed to the Royal New Zealand Navy—it had grown to manhood.

The 5d stamp recalls one of the proudest moments in New Zealand naval history—and also a great day for the Royal Navy. H.M.N.Z.S. Achilles is the war-ship on this stamp and it was in December 1939 that Achilles along with Ajax and Exeter cornered the mighty German battle ship, Admiral Graf Spee, and after a fight in which the New Zealand ship was hit several times, forced the enemy to seek refuge in neutral waters. Achilles' commander took his ship to the entrance of the river and scuttled the German ship. A sad end to a fine ship; a glorious victory to the three smaller British ships. Achilles then served in the Indian Navy.

The Union Steam Ship Company's "Awatea" was used as the model for the ship on the 4d centennial and although she was not a navy ship she went down in the heat of battle during the British landing in North Africa in 1941.

Achilles accomplished her mission and on leaving port she met the full force of the enemy air force who seemed to have her picked out for special attention. She went to the bottom with the New Zealand Ensign still flying. A grand ship with a short life span.

To bring the story up to date, the ship on the 28 cent Navy stamp is H.M.N.Z.S. Waikato.

Another stamp design we cannot overlook is that of the 2/- and 3/- stamps of 1926 with the portrait of our "sailor king", George V who is wearing the uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet.

Let us then give thanks to the men of the Navy for the work they are doing in the defence of our country.

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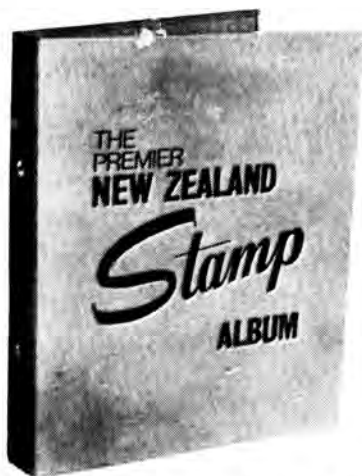
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