

CAPTAIN COQK

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

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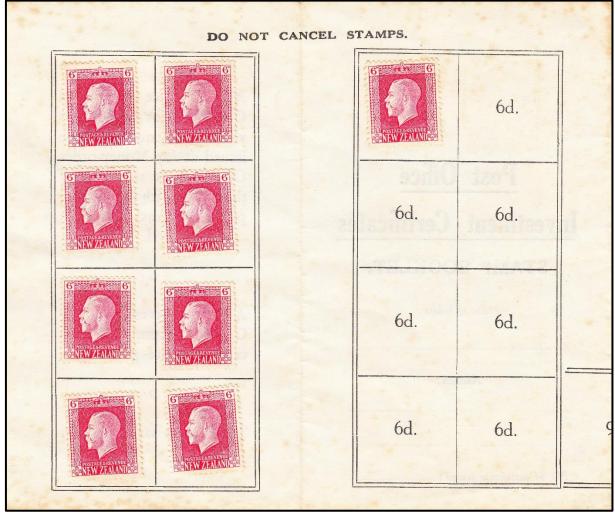
Post Office Investment Certificate



An interesting use of stamps in the form of a stamp booklet into which the person would stick a number of 6d stamps, plus one 9d, to the value of 16/9.

Once the booklet had been completely filled, it would then be taken to the post office and exchanged for a Bond maturing six years later for £1.

These would have made these available for encouraging customers to save small amounts of money until they had a sum large enough to invest with the post office.



SOCIETY NEWS

From the Philatelic Foundation;

They together with Classic Stamps will be holding a sales fair of estate material together at the Philatelic Centre, 67 Mandeville Street on 31 July 2021, from 10am to 3 pm.

This note may be too late for some of our members who get their newsletter by mail, but our digital subscribers should get this on time.

July Meeting;

A members night looking for material on topics starting with the letter C, P, and S which led to various interpretations. Most you provided material managed to find things with each letter. Eight displays; John Kersel with camouflaged ships, purser's cancels, and Sydney Harbour Bridge, Paul van Herpt called his "Unpronouncable" with Scouts in Hungarian (Czerkesc), German (Pfadfinder) and Danish (Spejderne), Robert Duns had a selection of Napoleonic Wars material aligned with the letters, Alan Tunnicliffe has Christchurch postmarks, US Precancels and Sports on stamps. Christine Haythornthwaite some of Canterbury's Country Churches on postcards, while Graham Muir had German Private post stamps depicting NZ's Rocket Lab launchings. Sue Claridge showed her collection of NZ Convalescent Homes in the UK during WW1 and Murray Taege rounded off the evening with "Aspects of Post as History"

Annual Competition;

The results from Junes annual 16 page competition are;

Bamber, Peter The Wild Roses Tamed Large Vermeil
Bamber, Peter The Symbolic Rose Large Vermeil
Carswell, Lindsay The Early Post offices of Lyttelton Harbour Gold

Kersel, John Mail Redirected to Union Steamship Co. Ships Large Silver Saunders, Fred New Zealand's Round Kiwi Stamps Vermeil Watson, Alistair The Border Collie, NZ's Working Farm Sheepdog Silver

Peter Bamber's entry was the most popular by the members vote taken.

Congratulations to those members for the awards and more importantly, thanks for taking the time and effort to submit an entry.

Seminar Series;

I really didn't do my proof reading particularly well last month, having noted the seminar series as being on Wednesday evenings when we meant Tuesday! 4^{th} Tuesdays are normally when we are folding and packaging up this newsletter and so is already a CPS evening at the Philatelic Centre, while the 4^{th} Wednesdays are the NZ Stamp Club meetings which we have no intention of interfering with so hope we didn't cause too much panic!!

Hopefully, we have everything right this month?

This Month's Personalised Stamp;

In case those receiving these stamps with this newsletter are wondering about the design, we are having "silent displays" so shhhhh.....please.

Paul van Herpt



SOCIETY PAGE

PROGRAMME

AUGUST 2 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

AUGUST 10 SOCIETY MEETING Annual Sale & Member's Night

Member's Night

Member's Silent Displays

Make another member's night, empty that treasure from your shoebox and top drawer and bring the contents to the Society's Annual Sale

AUGUST 17 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

SEPTEMBER 6 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

SEPTEMBER 14 SOCIETY MEETING Geoff Tyson

Japan

SEPTEMBER 21 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

SEPTEMBER 28 POSTCARD GROUP

All meetings are held at the Philatelic Centre, 67 Mandeville St, Riccarton, and commence at 7.30 pm. (Library night closes at 10 pm)

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Web Master Murray Taege

Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society (Inc) Subscription Rates

The annual subscription is \$60.00 which includes a digital copy of Captain Coqk. A \$10 discount may be deducted if paid by 31st March. Where husband and wife are members but require only one CAPTAIN COQK newsletter to be sent a combined subscription of \$90.00 is charged with a \$15.00 discount allowed. From 2021 there is an additional charge (for NZ members) of \$20.00 for receiving printed copies of Captain Coqk or \$30.00 if you want a printed copy with our personalised stamps. For overseas members, the additional charges are Australia \$35.00 and Rest of the World \$40.00 plus another \$10.00 if you want the personalised stamp used for postage.

The view expressed in this issue of CAPTAIN COQK are not necessarily those of the Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society (Inc) but are simply those of the respective authors.

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What's In A Name: Competency

When one looks at stamp, there is an implicit assumption that the political authority behind the name is both legitimate and competent. There has been plentiful writing on legitimacy, but little on competency. There is general agreement on competency which can be simplified into: maintenance of core services to its citizens; maintenance of law and order; and maintenance of its borders. Most Competency in core services is a common writing focusses on competency on



theme in the content of stamps

its impact on the perceived legitimacy of a political authority and the challenge to its legitimacy.

The challenge to a political authority's competency to maintain its borders, if not resolved peacefully, can give rise to an external war. This can involve at least two, a few, or many countries. Most external wars after 1840 are identified by postmarks or commemorated in the



content of a stamp. The principal reasons for this are the limited nature, area, and duration of the wars in since 1815, except for World War 1 and World War 2. Since World War 2, many civil wars have also been proxy-external wars. A few smaller conflicts have given rise to a new name. The first occupation issue was the 1850 Prussian occupation of Schleswig during the First

Prussian occ of Schleswig Holstein 1850 Schleswig War 1848-1852. The "S" and "H" inscribed in the top corners stand for "Schleswig" and "Holstein"

An invasion, the initial crossing of a pre-agreed border, which lays the challenge to the competency of defense, is identified by postmark. This is in case the invasion is unsuccessful, which has happened in a number of wars.

In many wars there has been more than one invasion. The first invasion which starts the war, and if the nation attacked is capable (with or without external support), they may in turn invade the aggressor's territory.

An invasion turns into an occupation after a lapse of time if the aggrieved nation is initially incapable of repelling the Greek invasion of the Ottoman Empire invasion.



Ottoman occupation of Thessaly (Greece) 1898, after the disastrous in 1898



Prussian-Austrian occupation of Schleswig Holstein 1864



US occupation of Puerto Rico 1899



German occupation of Belgium 1914-1918



Italian occupation of Corfu, Greece, 1923



German occupation of the Soviet Union

The occupation may be of all the territory a varying portion of it. An occupation is concluded when either; the occupying power is expelled; an indigenous civilian government is instituted; or when an internationally accepted treaty redefines the border.



German occupation of France 1870



Greek occupation of Dedeagatch 1913



Italian occ of the Dodecanese Is 1912



Bushire, Iran, British occupation 1915



Romanian occupation of West Ukraine 1919

In late World War 2, as German forces were being pushed back, some of the German military became surrounded and bypassed. Hitler forbade their withdrawal. As they were cut off, they produced their own stamps for postal purposes.



Kurland Pocket, Latvia 1944-45



Leros, Greece 1944-45



St Nazaire, France 1944-45



Ruhr, Germany 1945

If the occupation lasted, the occupying powers would institute a military administration of the occupied territories. Military administration varied not only during and after the war, but there were also variations in how an occupying power administered its various occupied territories. Military administration was dependent on the occupying power's policy to each occupied state. Some territories were left relatively untouched, some territories were split up and administered in different ways as separate territories.



General Government, Poland, 1944



Bohemia & Moravia, Czech, 1944



Japanese admin of Malaya 1943



French admin of Cameroun, 1916



Japanese admin of China 1943



Soviet admin of Germany 1948



British admin of Eritrea 1951



Australian admin of German Marshall Islands 1916

In all occupations, the civilian governments of the occupied territories were controlled by people who, for different reasons, were prepared to work in with the occupying power. Sometimes an occupying power would establish an "independent" civilian government to govern the territory, aka a "Puppet State". They were de jure independent with only nominal

sovereignty. De facto, they were completely dependent on the occupying power and subject to its orders.











Manchukuo 1932-45

Burma State 1942-45

Mengjiang 1936-45

Slovakia 1939-45

Croatia 1941-45

In many occupations, the aim of the occupying power was to annex the occupied territory or country for themselves or for an ally. In this case the name disappears if it is a country.

However, the polity of the country hasn't disappeared, but only changed in form. With the rare exception, these are only identifiable by postmark. All annexed countries All annexed countries have since returned to independence, and their name has returned.







Thai occupation of annexed Kelantan, Terengganu, part of Malaya

In some cases, new names have appeared at the conclusion of a conflict either through occupation or the immediacy of occupation. The later occurred with the new nations arising out of the breakup of the German, Austro-Hungarian, and Ottoman Empires



Yemen 1926, from the breakup of the Ottoman Empire



Czechoslovakia 1919 out of Austro-Hungarian Empire



Poland 1919 out of the Austrian, German, and Russian Empires



Saudi Arabia 1934 arose out of the Nejd occupation of Hejaz

Some countries had a change in their adjectival name during or at the end of the occupation, or immanent occupation.



KuK Austria to German-Austria in 1918



Royal Albania to Popular Republic in 1945



German Democratic
Republic arose from the
Soviet occupation of
Germany



Korea Democratic People's Republic arose from the Soviet occupation of Korea

The occupation of one colonial power's colonies by another is only one form of colonial occupation. Colonies themselves are also occupations, with the inability of the political authority's (indigenous leaders) competency to maintain its borders. Only a few colonies

voluntarily put themselves into colonial status, mostly with a view to prevent being colonized by another colonial power. These occupations ceased with the granting of independence.



Niger was a military territory until pacified in 1922



Transvaal was a British occupation of a Boer (Dutch) conquest



The Americas were a result of military conquest



Cook Islands didn't want to be occupied by France



Hawaii was occupied and annexed by the US.

A name can be a challenge to both a political authority's legitimacy and competency. These are capitulations. Capitulation is where one state is permitted by another state: to exercise extraterritorial jurisdiction over its own nationals within the latter's borders; rights and trading privileges not enjoyed by the latter's citizens; right to set up their own infrastructure within the latter's state, eg post offices, banks etc. These were usually granted by way of unequal treaties. In the Qing (Chinese) Empire these treaties also resulted in "concessions", land within China that China effectively lost sovereignty over. These were treated as virtual colonies. These came to be regarded by the locals as humiliating derogations of national sovereignty. Thus, they were also a challenge to legitimacy. The Ottoman Empire's capitulations ceased upon becoming a republic in 1922. Chinas ceased at the end of World War 2.



British Offices in the Ottoman Empire 1921



Italian Offices in China 1917



German concession of Kiautschou Bay, China, 1908



French Offices in China



Russian Offices in the Ottoman Empire 1909

Murray Taege

1958 Napier Cinderella

Seen on the back of the printed cover for the 1958 Hawkes Bay Centenary, a cinderella measuring $36mm \times 50mm$ promoting Napier Shopping Week as part of the year's centennial celebrations.

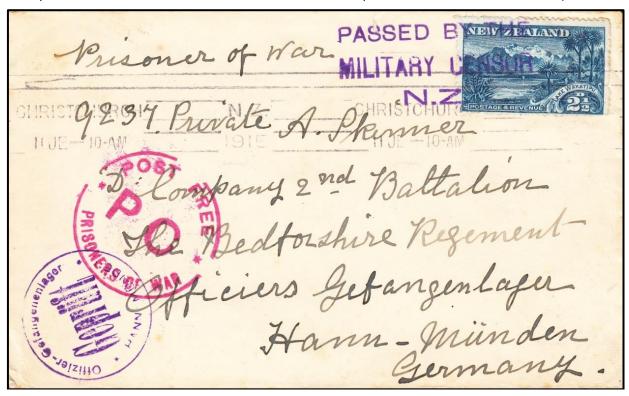




1915 Mail To POW Held In Germany

Collecting military related postal history is a popular subject with lots of interesting usages, markings, and destinations to look for. New Zealand has sent personal or had New Zealand citizens serving in most of the armed conflicts in the 20th century so there is plenty of material available to choose from. Depending on where the individual was based or what their role was, there was always the risk of being killed or captured during battle. Early in both conflicts, arrangements were made to facilitate the exchange of mail between captured serviceman and their relatives back home.

In WWII, the Red Cross in Geneva functioned as an intermediary for communication between New Zealand and POWs held by the Axis Forces. Covers addressed to Geneva are relatively common although examples of some of the short lived postage rates or routes can be a challenge to find. The Red Cross also acted in this capacity in WWI, but I have found correspondence of a similar nature addressed to Europe much more difficult to acquire.



I believe at the time, just over 45% of the eligible male population in New Zealand served during the war, a figure that would have included numbers of UK born migrants who returned to "... do their duty for the mother country". However, for reasons unknown to me, very little correspondence from New Zealand to POWs in Europe seems to have survived so this is why I was so excited to see this cover offered for sale. Sent in June 1915, it is the first I have seen addressed directly to the actual camp in Germany rather than via the Geneva Red Cross.

It is addressed to the Officiers Gefangenlager in Hann-Münden, a town in Lower Saxony, Northwest Germany. There are no transit back stamps so it is impossible to determine the delivery time for the letter or its route, but it has gone through the UK as this is where the magenta Post Free marking was applied. Its delivery to the camp is confirmed by the circular "Geprüft" (Inspected) marking applied once it had been opened and censored at the camp.

Turning to Google, I did a search on the recipient, 9237 Private A Skinner. Having the service number along with the battalion and regiment helped immensely as most of my initial searches bought up the "forces-war-records.co.uk" website which requires a subscription for full access. However, using his service number, the site did give me enough to confirm that his full name was Albert Louis George Skinner.

After checking a few more links, I had a stroke of luck with a link to the Labour Corps, a service group that I believe comprised of men who were deemed not fit enough for active duty.

It was a question/answer forum and Skinner's granddaughter had asked a question about discrepancies in his service records. It turns out there were two A Skinner's concurrently serving in the same regiment and some military records had become confused between the two of them. From the responses, I was able to get some further background on him.



Regimental badge

Skinner was born January 1890, in Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire. His granddaughter believed he joined the Bedfordshire Regiment when he was underage, and this confirmed by the regimental records indicating this was early November 1907.

The 2nd Battalion were in South Africa at the outbreak of war and were immediately recalled to England, landing at Southampton on September 19, and forming part of the 'Immortal' 7th Division. The division left Southampton on October 5, on board the S.S. Winifredian, stopping briefly at Dover for supplies, landing in Zeebrugge on October 7. The division marched south to meet the rest of the army and on October 18 saw action for the first time about 10km from Menin. The following day saw the division attack Menin, beginning their involvement in the First battle of Ypres. It appears Skinner was captured on November 24.

Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.	Roll on which included (if any)		
(A) SKINNER	3/Bedf. K	PTE -"-	9234	MEDAL VICTOR	K/2/10463	24 do
Action taken Gurblick DITO				P	of W.	
QUALIFYING DATE,	69		0.14			

The available information on Skinner is rather sparse but he appears to have spent the duration of the war as a prisoner.

The granddaughter related that he considered the POWs had been badly treated by their German captors.

Skinner's Medal Roll entry

The forum refers to details in his POW records showing he was hospitalised for an extended period at the beginning of his confinement, so he must have sustained injuries during the battle. After the war he married in 1926 and passed away in 1952.

His medal record shows he was eligible for the 1914 Star with clasp and roses (rosette). The Rosette was awarded to servicemen that were under enemy fire between August 5 and November 22, 1914. A bar with the above dates was also awarded allowing the Rosette to be mounted on the ribbon bar if required.

Given that everything in Skinner's background indicates he had always lived in the UK, means that the cover isn't the 100% New Zealand content I would like, and I am guessing the writer was a brother that had migrated to New Zealand.



Mons Star with Rosette
Stephen Jones

New Zealand Flown Covers (cont)

Emergency Flights etc

The previous sections explored New Zealand's developing airmail types, and for the most part they operated without interruption. However, there have been several occasions when additional unscheduled flights were necessary, some of which will now be discussed.

New Zealand is a very geologically active country, as evidenced for example by a volcanic eruption on White Island in December 2019 and of course the massive earthquakes that struck Christchurch in February 2011. Both events unfortunately caused fatalities, as did the 3 February 1931 Hawke's Bay earthquakes.

Much devastation resulted from a series of severe earthquakes which particularly affected the towns of Napier, Hastings, and Wairoa. Communications were largely destroyed and emergency flights from February 4 to 27, 1931 provided an essential link to the rest of the country.



Verne, Collins & Co. Ltd.,
P.O. Box 516,
CHRISTCHINCH.

Earthquake emergency flown cover cancelled February 3, 1931

Earthquake emergency cover flown February 4,

Torrential rain has in the recent past caused flooding in several areas of the country. South Canterbury has unfortunately experienced severe flooding too often - the most recent events being in March 1986 and in December 2019. The latter event washed out the South Island Main Trunk Railway line as well as State Highway One, but there was at least an alternative inland route available for vehicular traffic to use.

On February 21, 1932, severe flooding in South Canterbury, cut the road and rail links north of Oamaru. The previous day, an air pageant had been held at Invercargill and the Oamaru Chief Postmaster requested that returning flights land at Oamaru to pick up accumulated mails. The Dunedin Chief Postmaster made a similar request and an aircraft landed there for mail. The pilots offered to sign such carried mail, but very few covers were offered for their signatures.



Dunedin to Christchurch North Otago flood special flight cover



Hastings to Gisborne Hawkes Bay flood special flight cover

In late May 1933 heavy flooding in the Hawkes Bay region cut road and rail links to some towns. This resulted in a build up of mail at post offices. A special flight from Hastings to Gisborne carrying mail took place on May 29 and a return flight to Hastings on May 30, 1933.

During the Royal Tour of New Zealand in December 1934 and January 1935 HRH The Duke of Gloucester and his party travelled throughout the country by train. Royal Train postmarked covers may occasionally be found from the Duke's travelling party. However, the RNZAF played an important part in relaying official despatches and mail during the itinerary. A few flights were made from key centres to outlying aerodromes as required. RNZAF flights operated from Wellington between January 7 (to Hokitika) and January 28 (to Auckland). One such flight was made to Longbeach, near Ashburton on 16 January, where the Duke was staying, and only two covers are recorded from this flight, both pilot-signed.





Royal Tour Wellington to Longbeach January 16, 1935, flown cover

Wellington to HMS Achilles flown cover March 2, 1937

While HMS Achilles was in Pelorus Sound, near Picton at the top of the South Island, on her 1937 cruise, the opportunity was taken to fly a Supermarine amphibian to Wellington for despatches and mail. The amphibian returned from Wellington to the ship at Picton. So far, only one cover, addressed to Petty Officer Fricker, postmarked on March 2, 1937, in Wellington is known.

Severe southerly storms also affect New Zealand's transport from time to time. Wellington is often referred to as windy Wellington. In March 1968, a violent storm in Wellington harbour wrecked the Inter - island ferry, Wahine, and resulted in the loss of lives. At times flights are delayed or are diverted from Wellington airport due to the winds.

One such southerly storm in January 1939 affected flights across Cook Strait from Nelson and Blenheim to Wellington. Contemporary newspaper reports made mention of extensive wind and rain damage across the country and that flights were delayed on January 15. The severe weather also affected mail posted on January 16.



1939 storm delayed cover to Hastings via Blenheim & Wellington



Blenheim to Wellington shipping strike flown cover 4 May 1933

Wellington is not only New Zealand's capital city but is also a port city. An industrial dispute during April & May 1933 prevented scheduled steamship sailings between Wellington and Picton as well as between Wellington and Nelson, resulting in a build-up of mail at the Wellington GPO. The Marlborough Aero Club offered to fly mail to /from Wellington, and this was accepted by the New Zealand Post Office. A return flight was made on May 4 and a very few were pilot signed by AE Willis.

On June 19, 1940, a German shipping raider caused the sinking of RMS Niagara after she struck a mine north of the Hauraki Gulf. A complete shipping ban was then imposed. This particularly affected the Wellington to Lyttelton shipping service. The situation was further aggravated by the arrival of large overseas mails, adding to the usual internal mails for the South Island that had accumulated in Wellington.

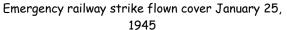
A series of special flights, from June 19 to 21, 1940, were arranged to carry mails between Wellington and Christchurch as well as Nelson. A small number of covers were identified and signed by the commander and second officer



War emergency airmail Wellington to Christchurch flown June 21, 1940

An industrial strike in January 1945 completely seized up the New Zealand railways. The RNZAF was ordered to provide emergency air services that would otherwise be provided by train in the North Island from January 24 to 28, 1945. Very few flown covers can be identified from these flights but a Christchurch aerophilatelist managed to provide a few examples of this service.







Hanmer Springs to Culverden NZ Army flown cover February 22, 1973

Hanmer Springs, a well-known thermal springs resort, about 90 minutes from Christchurch is accessed from State Highway 7, by a road crossing the Waiau River and gorge. The 1886 built bridge required urgent repairs and accordingly the bridge was closed to effect them. This of course cut access to the town. The New Zealand Army offered to airlift mail between Hanmer Springs and Culverden between February 20 to 23, 1973 by helicopter. Mail carried on these flights bore a red rubber stamped cachet.



 50^{th} anniversary first airmail Auckland to Dargaville flown FDC

To mark the 50th anniversary of New Zealand's first airmail flight the New Zealand Post Office introduced a postal stationery airmail letter with a 4c indicium.

A number of these covers were flown between Auckland and Dargaville and v.v. and bear the appropriate December 16, 1969, cancellations from Auckland or Dargaville with the other's cancel applied on arrival to their backs.

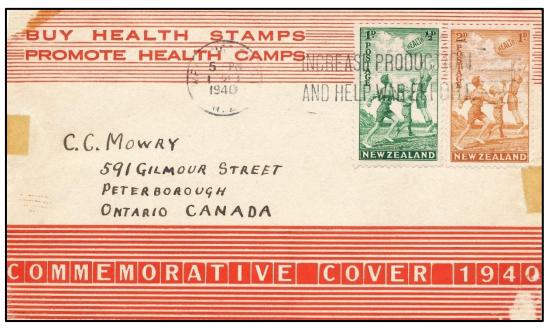
Flights, and souvenir covers marking them for posterity still happen today. They are very collectable and aerophilatelic exhibits at stamp exhibitions are usually places to see the more exotic/difficult to come by flight covers.

For further details of these and many other NZ flights, see the recently published The Airmails of New Zealand, Volume One, 2^{nd} edition, available from Mowbray Collectables: retail@mowbrays.co.nz

David Smitham

New Cacheted 1940 Health FDC

Since the publication of my revised Health FDC catalogue in 2007 the majority of new covers identified have either been varieties of existing covers or use plain textual rubber stamp cachets; very few printed cacheted covers that are uncatalogued turn up.



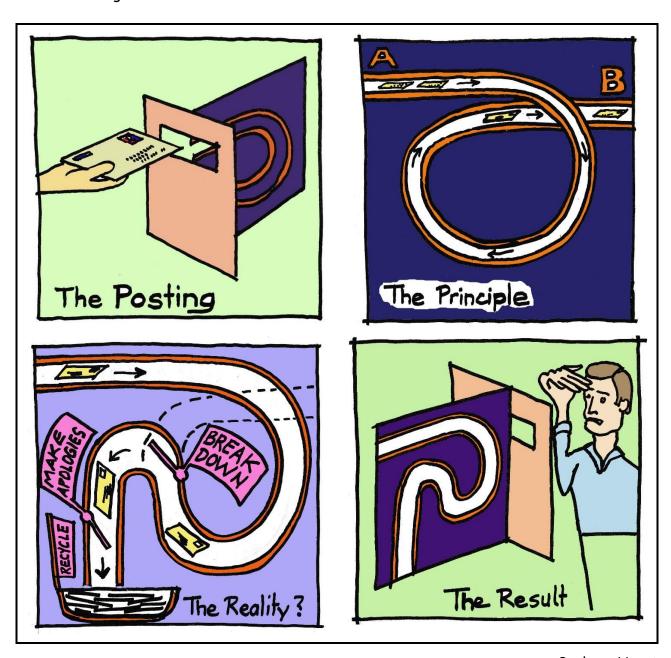
Recently CPS member Dr Alan Craig provided me with a scan of the above cover, specifically prepared for the 1940 Health stamp issue, and the first I have seen. These new finds always surprise me as someone had taken the time to think up a design, all be it fairly simple, and then get a quantity printed; so, where are they? For someone working in a print shop, printing a cover with just lines and text on it might be a simple exercise to produce. If this were the case, the economies of scale wouldn't be an issue resulting in an exceedingly small print run of the covers. This could explain why the cover is so rare. Notwithstanding the condition, its rarity was reflected in the bidding interest when listed, and sold, on Trade Me.

Commentary

Recently I was on the NZ Post website ordering CAL's and there was a "Stop Press" notice advising that due to mechanical breakdown overnight mail movement would be delayed. Most effected would be north of Whangarei, Otago, and Southland. What sort of mechanical breakdown would cause that I thought...? truck, plane, sorting equipment?

The next day I saw a new release revealing the new Post logo

Put the two together and I could not resist



Paul van Herpt



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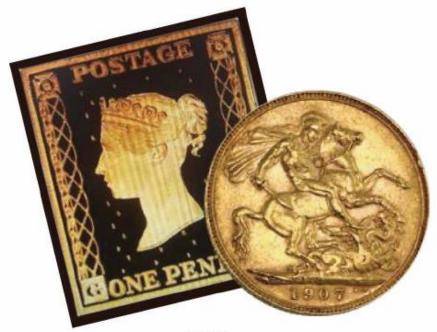
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*My whole focus is to look after the client and make sure they get the best result for their Stamps, Coins, Banknotes and Gold. It has been my passion since I was 6 years old. I was milking cows to pay for my regular trips to the Stamp and Coin events in Christchurch, on the bus from Rangiora, even at that early age. With me, you will get genuine and honest advice on the value of your collections and holdings.

Gold and Silver are at ALL TIME highs, And the Stamp and Coin market is actually stronger now than ever, I in no small part due to Covid 19, as people stay home and re discover their hobbies. So, now is a great time to sell!









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If you live outside of Christchurch. call me to make an appointment next time you are in town



" The greatest thing about collecting, is the people and the fun. At some stage it is time to move on and sell. Especially if the family has on interest in those things. There are still lots of passionate collectors out there who will love the work you have put in. So, why not get in touch and pass those items to people who really care"

