

CAPTAIN COQK

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

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Philatelic Currency Promotions

Thanks to Alan Jackson for the below philatelic currency promotion item, produced by Ray Dobson, a well-known Christchurch pharmacist, stamp, and coin enthusiast.

It is unlikely that this was the only such philatelic currency that Ray was involved with as he had obviously arranged for promotional cards to be printed. As may be seen, the below is numbered 1 of 3 such (presumably containing the 3c & 4c 1972 Vintage Car Rally stamps), and it is possible that other stamps may also have been used at the time.

In 1972 3c was the cost of sending an unsealed letter, and 4c the cost of sending a sealed letter within New Zealand. Today's equivalent for a standard letter is \$1.50 and at the time, these stamps represented some significant value.





It is suggested that when one may have collected and paid for a prescription that one of these philatelic currency promotions was packed with the prescriptions, so that when the package was opened, this would have been a pleasant surprise for the recipient!

Presumably, as this was currency, these items could be redeemed against purchases within the shop on a repeat or a specific purpose visit. This 7c was valued by the customer with their repeat business - a clever marketing ploy!

Alternatively, the customer would be able to use the stamps on their mail. If nothing else, these were not the dreary definitive stamps which most businesses etc. used on their mail, and so may have stirred interest in collecting stamps.

Whatever the reasoning behind these items, I am sure that Ray would not have lost too much money on this scheme, as some of these items would have been reused several times by Ray and his staff at the Victoria Street Pharmacy, garnering in additional sales from the collection of prescriptions.

David Smitham

SOCIETY NEWS

June Meeting

Members attending the meeting participated by bringing along some pages of interest from their accumulations or prepared exhibits. This provided attendees with a diversity of topics and pages to look at. With the President now unable to judge on the night it was decided that the popular vote would be the method of judging for the evening to determine the winner. Several participants opted for a formal judging to be carried out later in the month.

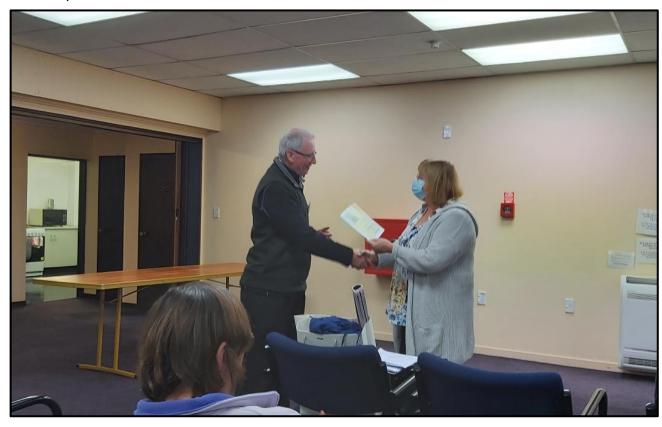
Thematic topics were James Cook and Water Jewels. Traditional subjects included the perforations of the 1960 pictorials, $7\frac{1}{2}$ 1968 brown trout, whilst postal history/postmarks subjects were the WWII civilian airmails from GB to NZ, mail from the post offices on the Road to Akaroa and with a nod to the platinum jubilee of the Queen, celebrated recently some royal mail and royal train trips.

The winners as determined by popular vote on the night were and presentations will be made at the July meeting: -

1st - The perforation of the 1960 pictorials - Murray Willocks

2nd The postmarks from the offices on the Road to Akaroa - Lindsay Carswell

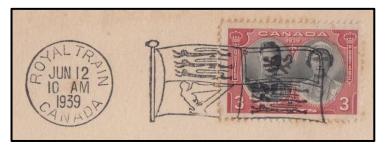
3rd - Captain James Cook - Fred Saunders



The President was delighted to formally thank the secretary to the 17th National Literature Exhibition, Mr Murray Clark with the presentation of a certificate of appreciation for his hard work prior to and during the exhibition.

Sue Claridge







SOCIETY PAGE

PROGRAMME

JULY 4 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP Open for all members

JUNE 12 SOCIETY MEETING John Martin

1935 Pictorials

John Martin: 1935 Pictorials

John will display interesting airmail & civilian censored covers from the period as well as 1935 pictorial items. He has collected this issue for many years and is an expert authority on the issue.

JULY 19 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

JULY 26 POSTCARD GROUP Other collectables, Recent acquisitions

Interesting items

AUGUST 1 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP Open for all members

AUGUST 9 SOCIETY MEETING Steven McLachlan

Stamp Dealers anecdotes

AUGUST 16 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

All meetings are held at the Philatelic Centre, 67 Mandeville Street, Riccarton, and

commence at 7.30 pm. (Library night closes at 10 pm)

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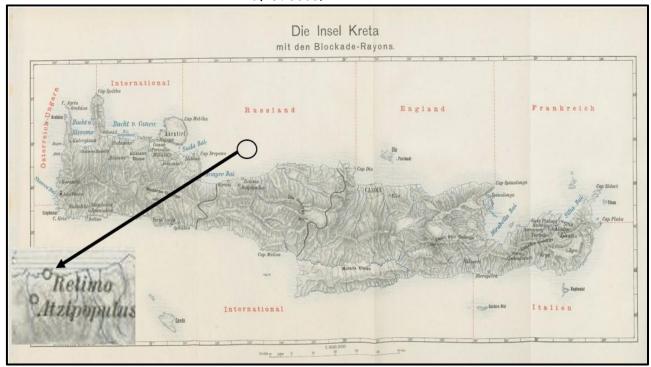
Where On Earth Is: Rethymno?





Russian administration of Rethymno

Rethymno is a city on the northern coast of Crete. Unlike their current invasion and occupation of the Ukraine, Russian forces occupied Rethymno and its surrounds from 1897 to 1909 with the agreement of the other European powers. The Russian forces were among a group of European powers that had occupied Crete. They oversaw the end of Ottoman Crete and its transition to being part of Greece.



After the Ottoman conquest of Cyprus in 1571, Crete was Venice's last major overseas possession. The Ottoman Empire invaded Crete on June 23, 1645, starting the Cretan (or Fifth Ottoman-Venetian) War.

Although Crete was overrun in a few years, Heraklion (Candia) held out. It turned out to be the second longest siege in recorded history, from May 1, 1648 to September 27, 1669.



Italy 1973 Symbol of Venice

After the Ottoman conquest, a sizeable proportion of the population gradually converted to Islam. According to the 17^{th} century British diplomat Paul Rycaut, the orthodox population welcomed Ottomans as liberators from the "oppressive rule of Roman Catholic Italians". Contemporary estimates vary, but on the eve of the Greek War of Independence in 1821 as much as 45% of the population of the island may have been Muslim. By the last Ottoman census in 1881, Christians were 76% of the population. Muslims were over 60% in the three large towns on the north coast.







Crete 1905-Mt Ida & Arkadi Monastery

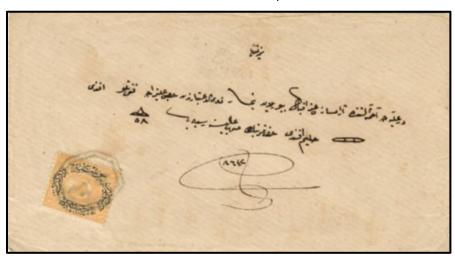
Crete had an extensive history of rebellions against Ottoman rule. Crete was actively involved in the Greek War of Independence, 1821-1829. Cretan Muslims were forced into the northern cities where many died from plague or famine, or left Crete.

Ottoman Sultan, Mahmud II, was forced to seek aid from Muhammad Ali of Egypt, to suppress the Cretan revolt. From 1825-1829, Egyptian forces massacred thousands of Cretan Christians.



Greece 1966 - Centenary of 1866
Crete Uprising

Britain feared that if Crete joined Greece, Russia would establish a naval base on Crete and dominate the eastern Mediterranean. So, Crete remained within the Ottoman Empire.



1876 Ottoman Empire stamp postmarked Hanya (Chania) Crete backstamped 1876

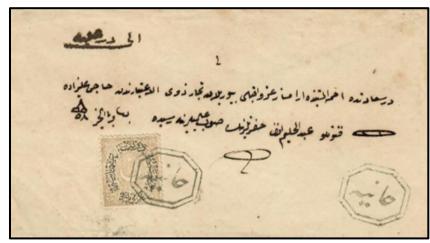
Crete agitated for "enosis", union with Greece. A revolt in 1841 had secured some privileges.

On March 30, 1856, the Treaty of Paris obligated the Sultan to apply the Hatti-Houmayoun, which guaranteed civil and religious equality to Christians and Muslims.

In 1868, the Ottomans established the Organic Law, which gave Cretan Christians equal (in practice, majority) control of local administration. This brought the revolt to an end

During the Balkan Crisis of 1875-1876, Crete again rebelled. The result of the Russo-Turkish War, 1877-78, and the Treaty of Berlin July 13, 1878, was the introduction of the Pact of Halepa, October 27, 1878. Crete became semi-independent.

The Ottoman Governor was to be a Christian.



1882 Ottoman Empire stamp postmarked Hanya (Chania) Crete backstamped 1888

In the parliament, liberals and conservatives battled for power. Parliamentary disputes led to a rebellion on August 1, 1889. The European powers, disgusted at what seemed to be factional politics, allowed the Ottoman authorities to send troops to the island and restore order.

On November 29, 1889, Ottoman Sultan Abdul Hamid II, issued a firman which effectively abrogated the Pact of Halepa. The Firman reduced the rights of Christians and favoured the Muslims. A small uprising began in September 1895. By mid-1896 the Ottoman forces had lost control of most of Crete



1892 Ottoman Empire Tughra Sultan Abdul Hamid postmarked Rethymno 1894

Apprehensive of the deteriorating situation in Crete, on February 13, 1897 British, French, German,



Military mail from French marines in Crete 1897

Italian, Austro-Hungarian, and Russian warships arrived off Crete. On February 14 Greek troops landed on Crete to support the uprising. This caused the international squadron to form the "Admirals Council" which landed international marines on Crete on February 15.

On March 18 the Admirals Council devised a 2-stage strategy to resolve the Cretan situation. They implemented a naval blockade to prevent Greek reinforcements and supplies from reaching Crete and split Crete into five (later four) zones of occupation to be garrisoned by international forces. Crete was to remain within the Ottoman Empire.







Russian Empire issues for their administration of Rethymno

On May 23 Greek forces withdrew from Crete. Unable to bring the civil war to an end, the Admirals Council decided to establish an autonomous Cretan state. Germany and Austria-Hungary, seeking to gain favour with the Ottoman Empire, withdrew from the international coalition.

From March 24, British, then later French, Italian and Russian troops landed on Crete. On September 6, 1898, Muslim Cretans attacked and massacred Christian Cretans and British troops. Ottoman forces did little to help the international forces regain control or suppress the riot.

On October 4 the Admirals Council ordered all Ottoman troops to leave Crete. By November 6 the last Ottoman troops had left. On December 21 Prince George of Greece became the High Commissioner of the new Cretan State. December 26 the Admirals Council dissolved itself.







Theriso Revolt

The Cretan question, enios (union with Greece) was left unresolved. The Theriso revolt, March 23 - November 25, 1905, agitated for union with Greece. This led to a new constitution on February 8, 1907. In May 1908, the powers announced that soldiers would gradually be withdrawn when order could be assured.

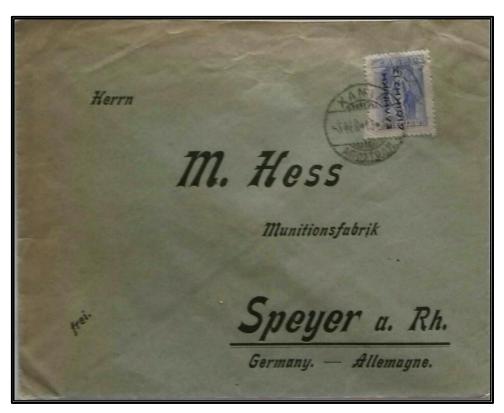






Crete overprinted "Greece" 1909

Following the Young Turk revolution, July 24, 1908, Bulgarian independence, October 5, and the Austrian annexation of Bosnia, October 6, Crete proclaimed union with Greece on October 7. This was not recognised by the Ottoman Empire, the European powers or Greece. However, nothing was done. At the end of the Second Balkan War, the Treaty of Athens between the defeated Ottoman Empire and victorious Greece, November 14, 1913, effectively ceded.



1913 Greece "Greek Administration" postmarked Chania (Crete) cancelled 5 February 1913. The stamp & postmark indicate Crete was now part of Greece



British admin of Crete



Italian Offices in Crete



Austrian Offices in Crete

Murray Taege









Overprints of Russian Offices in Rethymno

Campbell Island

From 1952 until 1995 a meteorological station was based in Campbell Island. A Post Office was established, and the postmaster was the officer-in-charge of the station. The Post Office was in the Wellington postal district. Campbell Island is 660km south of New Zealand and due to its remoteness, the meteorological office was manned by teams working a 12 month rotation.



Airmail cover posted Campbell Island November 8, 1965 to Wellington and redirected to Onehunga in Auckland. The postal rate is the correct rate for first class airmail in New Zealand, however airmail services were not available on Campbell Island so airmail postage applied once the letter was delivered to the mainland. The cover is cancelled with the 1st postmark (34mm diameter) which was in use from Sep 1, 1952 to Dec 22,1974. The cachet was 2nd cachet designed by George Poppleton OIC 1955/56 season. The 2nd version of the cachet had been amended to read "NZ Sub-Antarctic Research Station" instead of "The NZ Antarctic Research Station".

How did the letter get to addressee?

Due to the remoteness of the islands visiting ships were very infrequent. The MV Holmburn visited annually to change over the teams and restock the island. The US Operation Deep Freeze programme stationed picket boats 700km south of Campbell Island throughout the summer season. The role of the picket boats was to supply weather and upper air conditions to planes flying between Christchurch and McMurdo Station, function as a navigation beacon for the flights, be available for search and rescue in case of emergencies and deliver and collect mail and supplies at Campbell Island.

During the 1965/66 season two ships, the USS Thomas J Gary and the USS Calcaterra, functioned as the picket boats operating out of Dunedin. They operated on a 10 - 12 day roster. On December 1, 1965 the USS Thomas J Gary called into Campbell Island and on December 3 the USS Calcaterra visited. This was for a change of roster with the USS Thomas J Gary sailing south to relieve the USS Calcaterra of picket duty, dropping off fresh supplies at Campbell Island. When the USS Calcaterra visited Campbell Island it was on the return voyage to Dunedin and collected the mail to take back to the mainland.

The letter would have entered the postal system in Dunedin, been sent to Holm & Co in Wellington and redirected to Onehunga where the MV Holmburn was moored.

Murray Willocks

References

Mark Jurisich A Polar History of Campbell Island (NZ) 2003 https://rnzncomms.files.wordpress.com/2014/10/weather-picket-1.pdf

Raoul Island.

Situated 1,000km north of New Zealand, Raoul Island is the largest island in the Kermadec Islands group. In 1936 a permanently manned station was established, providing weather reporting, radio services and, latterly, Department of Conservation services. Raoul Island is small, 29km² and is the furthest north outpost of New Zealand. On March 2, 1945 a Post Office, administered within the Wellington Postal District. was established on the island⁽¹⁾.



Cover posted from Raoul Island to Wellington on 8 Dec 1964 with the correct postal rate for first class inland surface mail.

The cancellation was first issued(entered into the Impression Book) on the 5th December 1944⁽¹⁾. The cover contains 3 separate cachets - Kermadecs, Raoul Island and HMNZS Lachlan.

How did the letter get to addressee?

HMNZS Lachlan was a navy survey ship. In November 1964 it was used to transport a group of 13 ornithologists to Raoul Island. They were members of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand who were on a field trip to commemorate 25 years of the Society. The group was landed on November 19. However, on November 21, a volcanic eruption occurred necessitating the evacuation of the staff of the meteorological station and the ornithological group to the HMNZS Lachlan while 'developments were observed'.

On December 6, 1964 the staff returned to the island. The above cover was posted two days later in the first batch of mail to leave the island following the eruption. It was carried by the HMNZS Lachlan on its return visit to New Zealand and entered the mainland mail system in Auckland.

Murray Willocks

Reference

(1) R J G Collins The Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Volume V, Section 8.

1862 "He Believed It To Be A Good One"

While trawling through Papers Past for research, you can often find unexpected pieces that really reflect how differently things were viewed a 150 or so years ago. In this case, CPS member Andrew McNiven found details of court proceedings against a person accused of reusing a stamp.

Breach of the Post Office Act, 1858.—Mr. Charles Davis was prosecuted, at the instance of the Post Office authorities, for a breach of the 2nd subsection of the 38th clause of the Post Office Act, 1858, by having affixed to a letter a cancelled postage stamp, which came into the possession of Mr. Fitz-Gibbon, the chief clerk in the post office, on the 16th May. The following is the evidence given on the occasion:—

Henry Wm. Barber deposed—I am clerk in the Auckland post office. I cancelled the stamp on the letter now produced, but I forget on what day. On a letter addressed to Mr. Clendon, Hokianga, there was a stamp which had been cancelled. I took the letter from the posting box in Auckland, and I then discovered that the stamp had been cancelled by the Hokianga post office. I have the means of ascertaining the various stamps of the cancelling post offices. I gave the letter to Mr. Fitzgibbon. I do not know the writer of it. The letter produced is the same letter. I do not know who posted it.

By the defendant—The stamp has been defaced. I defaced it. I cancelled the post mark. The difference is the number. I can see the mark in the stamp. I see No 3, which is the Hokianga mark. When I was cancelling it, I discovered that it had been can

celled by the Hokianga post-office.

James John Fitzgibbon deposed—I am chief clerk in the Auckland post-office. On the 16th of May the letter which I now hold in my hand came into my possession. It was posted on that day, as I know from the stamp. It bears a postage label for 2d. On examining this stamp I perceived that it had been previously cancelled at Hokianga, and afterwards at Auckland. The stamps are numbered, and I can tell the cancelling office by the number 3. Hokianga number is 3. This stamp must have been on a letter or book previously, or it could not have the Hokianga impression. I do not know Mr. Davis's hand-writing, but "Charles Davis," is signed to it, and I believe this Mr. Davis (the defendant) to be the Charles

Davis. I believe Charles Davis to be the writer of the letter—I mean Charles Davis, the defendant. I

do not know who posted the letter.

For the defence William Ellis was examined. deposed—I am storeman to Mr. Charles Davis, the defendant. I remember Mr. Davis giving me a letter a week ago to post. This is the letter now in my hand. When defendant gave it to me it did not bear a postage stamp. I told the defendant there was a stamp sticking to the wall, and I brought it and asked him if it was a good one, and I put it on This is the stamp, as I know it from a the letter. pin-hole, it having been stuck to the wall by a pin. I got the stamp originally lying amongst the defenfeudant's papers on his table. I believed it to be a good one, and being a small thing I pinned it to the wall to prevent its being lost. I called the defendant's attention to it at the time, before I put it on, and he stated that he believed it to be a good one.

Mr. Beckham said the act required that a fraudulent intent should be shown before conviction, but from the evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution, it was quite clear the case must fall to the ground, as they had failed to show by whom the letter was written, as well as giving proof of fraud. But while nothing fraudulent had been shown, the very contrary was proved to be the case, for the defendant himself, after he saw in court that the case for the prosecution must fail, had brought forward a witness, who, of all others, would have convicted him if there had been any fraud in the matter. witness proved conclusively all absence of fraudulent intention. Possibly the law on this subject was not generally known, and therefore the post-office authorities were to be commended for their vigilance in bringing the matter under the notice of the bench, at the same time that the defendant left the court free from any damage except the trouble of coming into it.

The case was consequently dismissed.

Given that today the post office almost invites people to reuse uncancelled stamps on mail, the whole episode seems a little heavy handed.

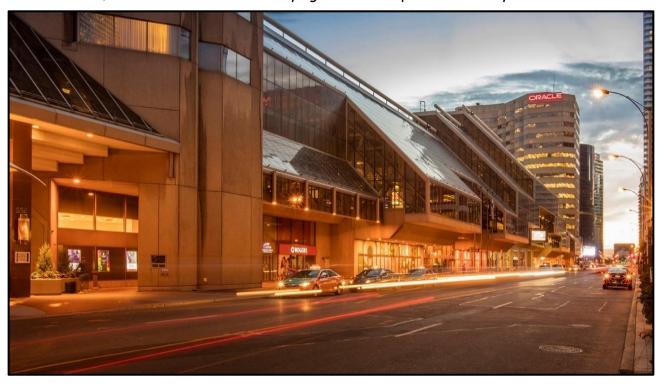
A hanging offence indeed.

And now from the desk of our Canadian correspondent, Stephen Jones.

CAPEX 2022, Toronto

Finally after two years of measures to mitigate the spread of the Covid virus, restrictions on international travel were beginning to ease up. International events of all types had been cancelled or rescheduled, sometimes more than once, in the hope that they would eventually be held. Earlier this year, after a two year delay, London 2020 finally went ahead and in June CAPEX 2022 was held in Toronto.

CAPEX was an International one frame exhibition receiving more than 380 entries from over 30 different countries. My neighbour was chosen as the New Zealand Commissioner and as I hadn't been to Toronto before, it didn't take a lot of persuasion to accompany him to the exhibition. So, after about 40 hours of flying and two stop overs I finally arrived in Toronto.



Metro Toronto Convention Centre, the venue

The exhibition was held downtown in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre near Union Station and our accommodation was a short walk to the exhibition. The venue is a very impressive building with a mixture of large halls and smaller meeting rooms where the seminars and Society meetings were held. If you needed a break during the exhibition, you could pass your time listening to talks on diverse subjects as "Scout and Guide Philately in Canada" or "Around the World on the Graf Zeppelin". Alternatively you could attend a meeting of the Iran Philatelic Study Group or US Philatelic Classics Society so there was plenty to keep attendees entertained.

The exhibits were spread over two areas, one adjacent to the bouse and the other close by. One of the roles of the Commissioners was to mount the exhibits that they bring so I helped mount the displays from New Zealand and then assisted the Australian Commissioner with his entries. There was still lots of entries to be placed in frames, so I spent the balance of the afternoon working with the local volunteers doing this.

The opening day was Thursday, June 9 and the show was scheduled to run for four days. This gave ample time to look at the exhibits and get around all the dealers who were in attendance. There were 57 vendors represented made up of a mixture of retailers and auction houses. As would be expected the majority were from North America but there were two from Australia, BurStamps and Abacus, that had stands. Unsurprisingly the bulk of what was on offer was from

Canada or the USA with several dealers offering only material from those two countries. As my friend and I were probably the only two that travelled from New Zealand I wasn't expecting much in the way of competition for material. Still, you need a plan to ensure that the first choice of dealer to visit was the best choice. Given my main interest, I chose Covers Only and went straight to the stand once I was in the room. Things started well and their stock of New Zealand was sufficiently big enough to have its own large plastic container.



The main bourse

Eagerly sorting through the box I was able to find a few covers of interest, but it wasn't quite the treasure I was hoping for. A second identical box bought in the next day yielded a similar haul. Oh well, you get that on the big jobs. The rest of the day was spent visiting each of the dealers that looked likely to have some New Zealand items in their stock and had the same mixed results. It was a little disappointing as I had expected see some better New Zealand 19^{th} and early 20^{th} century postal history to overseas destinations but there was none to be had.

However, if your interest was in Canada then there was everything you could wish for to look through from squared circle cancellations from different towns through to stellar essay and proof material. Even as a New Zealand only collector, you could appreciate the significance and rarity of the better items being offered.

Having been to all the dealers that looked promising, it was time to look over the entries on display and with 380 plus fames there was plenty to see. I am pleased to say there were a few frames of New Zealand material, some of which was the equal to any from other countries, both in quality and the way the exhibitor had put the display together. What was very gratifying to see were entries from two of our local members, Lindsay Carswell and Alastair Watson. Altogether from eight New Zealand exhibitors there were eleven entries.



A row of exhibits in the main hall

If the Canadian Saint Lawrence Seaway inverts were of interest, there was one entry that included five covers, or how about early USA Postmaster Provisionals with many unique covers, or 16 pages of the GB QV £1 issue of 1883 - 1901. Clearly there was plenty of variety for everyone.



Uruguay 1932 "Publisellos"??



Lindsay Carswell's "Early Post Offices of Lyttelton Harbour"

It would be difficult to be objective and pick a favourite, but one did intrigue me, partly because the text was in Spanish, and I wasn't able to get a full understanding at the time what it was all about. A search on eBay, Delcampe and using Google failed to come up with anything at all on these so I can only speculate on what the purpose was.

If this is an indication of rarity, I can't imagine how long it took to get 16 pages of material together. Possibly one of our members can elaborate on them?

On a final note, entries of New Zealand material scored very well with Mark Benvie's 1876 Law Courts scoring 93 and an entry from a Swiss collector of Great Barrier Pigeon Post scored 95 and won the Grand Award. I understand this to be the first time an exhibit of New Zealand material has won the Grand Award at an International Exhibition.

Stephen Jones

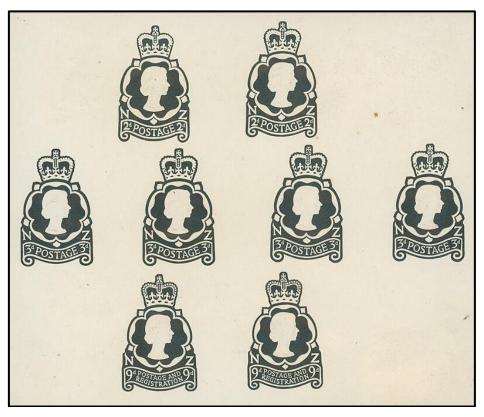
Queen Elizabeth Postal Stationery Proofs

Seen in a recent Grosvenor auction, two lots containing essays and proofs for New Zealand postal stationery issued at beginning of Queen Elizabeth's reign. Described as being photographic essays, they included a mixture of accepted and unaccepted designs and came from the personal workbook of Cecil Thomas, an engraver at the Royal Mint. Unique.



Lot 914 Realised £320

Lot 915 Realised £270



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