

Revenue Review

Ed's Rails

Hopefully most of you will remember Ed Druce. It was with his foresight he amassed a nice collection of Railway fee stamps of the Australian States, with Victoria being his favourite. When Ed's rails came up for auction, they were bought by a Melbourne dealer who has sat on them for 10 years, and this last few months has been individually selling the collection off on eBay, which have been fetching some very handsome prices indeed.

Queensland sold very well followed by South Australia and as I type this edition Victoria is being spread out to several collectors with yours truly getting a very small slice of Ed's gems. Figures 1 & 2 show a couple of the 'harder' issues to find. As with most of the harder rails you have to grab them at any cost, as it will be a good while before another may turn up.

Two Swans a Swimming

Collecting the Western Australia Waterloo printings of the 1904 long swan issues can be a challenge for

the new revenue collector let alone the expense. eBay yielded a couple of beauties in July. One, the £50 [fig 3] the other, is a £100 [fig 4] both selling of over \$750 each to different collectors of this fascinating series. Those of us who have been lucky enough too have acquired these early on can enjoy watching the prices go up and up.

Duty Paid

Figure 5 appears to be one of those rather scarce New South Wales PAID revenues that turn up once every 20 years. That said I must have missed one 20 years ago, as this is a first for me in several ways; the first I have seen, the first I have seen dated and the first I have seen outside of archives. It was on good old eBay from a Tasmanian seller who had a small collection of documents for sale. I am hoping one of you readers has other copies, if so please share them here. One old printed catalogue gives a date range of 1867-1907 but it is unclear if this is just archival die dates or actual seen usage. My gut instinct tells me it's the preceding of the two.



Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3



Fig 4

Dave Elsmore

More Beers

At Charles Leski's last auction, a few Tasmania beers were up for grabs and by the time you are reading this the auction would have closed a few days ago so I cannot give you results. Figure 6 is just one of the beauties being offered for adoption.

P C L of NZ

For those of you interested in private parcel delivery revenues [a fee for a service] the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand last year issued 'The Parcel Carriage Labels of New Zealand' ISBN 978-0-9876534-0-6. Adam Miller is the author of this 100 page full colour A4 work. The alphabetical listing is clear and easy to follow. Rarity ratings are also shown. Very little of this material has ever come my way, not for the want of trying to find it, its just exceedingly scarce to rare. Adam has done a fine job in putting this 'on the far side' of revenue collecting together. A must for any revenue collector if only to identify that packet of odds & sods labels you have been hanging onto.

Further information can be found on the Royals web site rpsnz.org.nz Figure 7 showing the front cover.

NZ Tramways

While I'm chatting on New Zealand, Richard Peck has included New Zealand Tramway tickets in his 2006 'Tickets Please' publication. For those of you who are unaware of a catalogue on these fascinating tickets it is available on cd direct from Richard. Figure 8 showing a Tramway ticket from my collection that appears not to be listed in this work perferd all round, furthermore showing initials 'AH' [A. Hall] These initials are also part of the background design with part horse, I can only presume the horse was included on the ticket as it must have been a horse drawn tramway.

Whereas figure 9, a 1/- is listed, perferd at left side only probably from a booklet. It shows the unique conductors identification punch that was used on each of the six journeys allowed for within the ticket. No this does not fit in Perfin corner, or does it? Maybe you have a few Australian or New Zealand Tramway



Fig 5



Fig 6



Fig 8



Fig 7

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tickets in your collection, if so I would love to see them.

Long Wiggle

It has been pointed out to me by a prominent Australian Revenue and Railway collector that the New Zealand Revenue and Railway Catalogue by Mowbray's has missed an important issue in the railway section. This being the 1890-1925 Type 'B' Newspaper Stamps showing a longer and stronger Scroll under the word NEWSPAPER to the ½d & 1d values of the late printings.

Both values appear scarce. Figure 10 clearly shows the Type B ½d with the longer scroll. You may like to go check your collection. This was listed in early catalogues and of course it's in my free on line catalogue for New Zealand Revenues and Railways. Say no more!

Perfin Corner

Victoria ultra high values are just not found with security Perfins in them, which can be a puzzle as you would think the higher the face value, the more there was to protect. So with that said I was surprised to see a £50 [fig 11] up in auction. This £50, apart from being unique, has taken the record [so far] for being the highest recorded face value revenue stamp from any of the Australian States to survive with a company Perfin in it. Selling for a very modest \$250 plus buyers. To me this is worth three times that.

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Fig 9

Fig 10



Fig 11

