



Volume

1999

Issue No

3 / SEPTEMBER

Irish Philately

THE JOURNAL OF THE IRISH PHILATELIC CIRCLE



1942 CENSORED COVER; Beaconsfield, Bucks to Bangor, County Down. THE HANDSTAMP ON REVERSE – CENSOR OFFICE / BELFAST – IS NOT PREVIOUSLY KNOWN. SEE ARTICLE BY ALAN KANE, page 47.

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CONTENTS – September 1999

EXPRESS DELIVERY	Alan Kane	page 47
THE INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS OF IRELAND	Otto Jung	page 48
RAILWAY SUB-OFFICES – Part 3	Tony Goodbody	page 64
OBITUARY – Tony GRAHAM	Tim Stephens	page 67

EXPRESS DELIVERY

Alan Kane

A cover that recently took my attention was addressed to a private in the East Surrey Regiment, 126 Military Convalescent Depot, BANGOR Castle Wing, Bangor.

On the front is a 1/2d, 2d and 6d George VI issue cancelled August 5th, 1942 at Beaconsfield in Bucks. as well as a Post Office Delivery label. The end is sealed by *PC90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 2798* censor label. On the reverse is a hand-stamp for censor office Belfast 27 AU 42.

The cover is illustrated on the cover of the *JOURNAL* with the back-stamp also shown on bottom left.

I had been left to believe that most Northern Ireland mail was censored in Liverpool. Have any other *IPC* members seen other examples of this wartime mark?



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THE INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS [IRCs] OF IRELAND – Part 1

Otto Jung

General Introduction

After fifteen years of preparatory observations and reflections, on how to make international letter post easier, plans had advanced at the beginning of the twentieth century to a level that the UPU Congress in Rome 1906 decided to introduce a coupon which could be bought by the sender and sent to a foreign addressee, who could exchange this coupon in his local post office and obtain in return a stamp equivalent to the foreign postage rate.

This problem had already been solved in the case of postcards by the issue of reply cards, but an alternative was required for letter post. The new international reply coupon (IRC) became valid on October 1st, 1907. Its value was 0,25 French Gold Franc, which also appeared in the watermark. When the value was altered to 0,50 and later to 0,40 Gold Franc the watermark was changed to these figures.

The Universal Postal Union (UPU) was resident in Bern, and the official language of the UPU was (and still is) French. The printing of the IRCs was centrally arranged by the UPU; so the IRCs of all countries look the same, except for the relevant inscriptions appropriate for each country i.e.: name of the country, selling price and the national language in the upper part on front. The instructions for the use of the IRCs was described in six languages (later this was changed): the national language was at top front, French at bottom, German, English, Spanish and Italian on reverse, each separated by a horizontal line (for the first print only). After World War II, German and Italian were removed from the coupon and replaced by Arabic, Chinese and Russian; but in the fifties the German language was reinstated.

The size of the coupons was 80 x 108 mm, but from 1925 – after the Stockholm Congress - it was reduced to 74 x 105 mm, and so it has remained .

There are two areas on the front of each coupon designated for the postmarks, the left one – when the areas are on the left and right hand side – for the postmark of the post office selling the coupon, that on the right hand side for the cancelling postmark when it was exchanged for a postage stamp. The areas are underneath each other on the Vienna pattern, the upper being for the first postmark. As they were kept by the post office for accounting reasons after receiving the second postmark coupons with both should not be in the possession of collectors. Coupons bearing no postmark are of suspicious status: either they were from the printer's stock stolen or sold by ignorant or careless post staff. In recent years it has become use to apply no cancellation on coupons when selling them; but that is a problem of its own I shall discuss later.

When postage rates increased the coupons still in stock were not destroyed nor returned, but they were sold at the new price either without any visible mark or they were uprated in manuscript or with a handstamp or overprinted.

The design of the first IRC showed a female figure with a letter in her left hand hovering between the west and east hemispheres, which were the areas to be postmarked; this is called the **Rome – Design**; it was subsequently altered at the following Congresses.

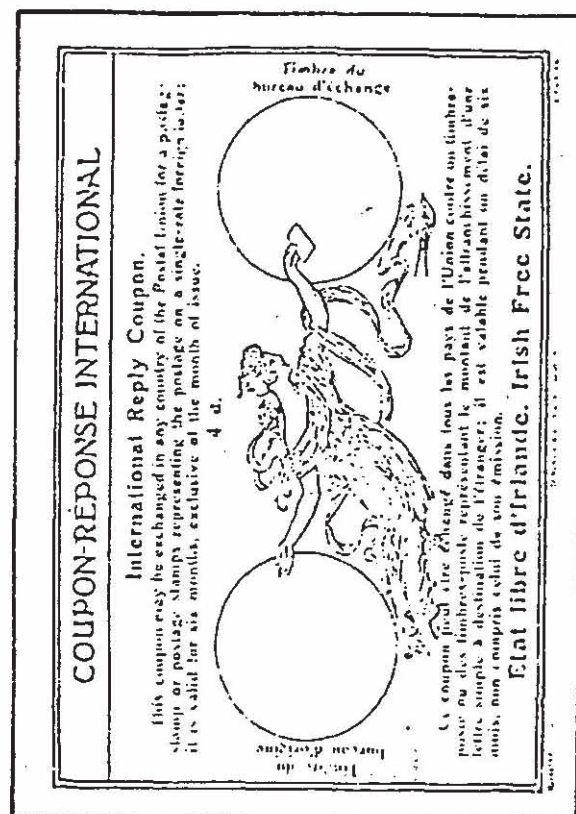
There were a few small changes of the coupon on the Stockholm Congress in 1924: the continents are only faintly visible, no meridians and latitudes are imprinted, the instructions for postmarks beside the continents are in two lines, and the size was reduced to 74 x 105 mm. This is called the **Stockholm – Design**.

The coupon was completely remodelled on the UPU Congress in London 1929: no hemispheres, no flying woman, but a stamp-like design looking as if it were perforated; this **London –Design** remained valid for a long time.

It was changed again by the Vienna Congress in 1964: only text is to be found on the **Vienna – Design**; the postmark areas are one below the other on the right hand side.



The Rome –Design



The Stockholm - Design

Another – very fundamental – change occurred in Lausanne in 1974: formed absolutely modern and abstract without surrounding line, without a country's name or native language imprinted, without value of any currency, the new coupon was the same for any country. This was the consequence of a new system of accounting. The origin of the coupon is often recognizable from the town name of the office where it had been bought. The UPU recommended that each country should in any way indicate where the coupon was issued, but many countries did not follow this proposal; and as nobody can know every small town anywhere in the world it became most difficult to identify the origin of many coupons. When no country's name, no postmark, no currency indication is to be seen you nearly cannot decide which country issued the coupon. This coupon and all

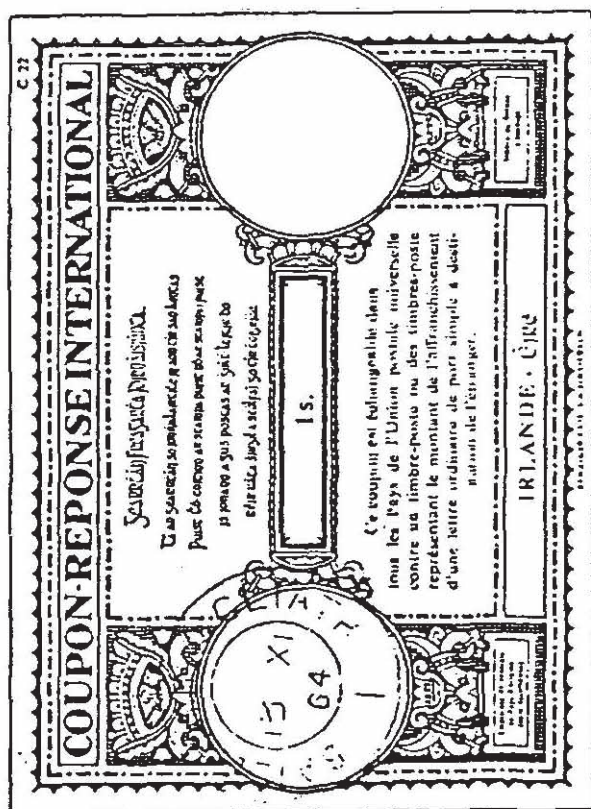
following ones are UPU – Designs; the first one of these sub – patterns is called the **Lausanne Model**.

In Rio 1983 the **Rio Model** was created; it differs slightly: there are two lines of text in the postmark area at bottom left (instead of three), and the circle is missing.

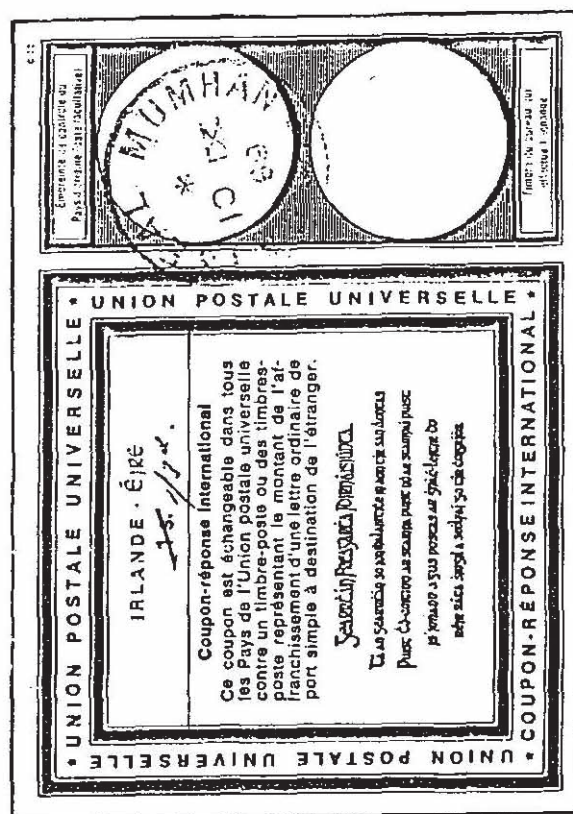
The **Washington Model** – initiated in the early nineties – shows a change of text of all languages used, now allowing for airmail postage; later issues show the printing date “9.1992” or “8.1993”.

The **Seoul Model** (from 1995) got the new code “CN 01” instead of “C 22” on previous coupons and the printing date reads “4.95”

It is not certain whether all coupon types issued in the recent years appeared in Ireland.

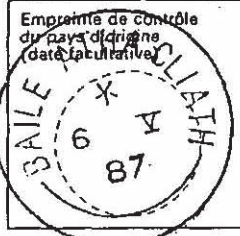
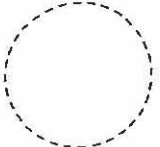


The London – Design

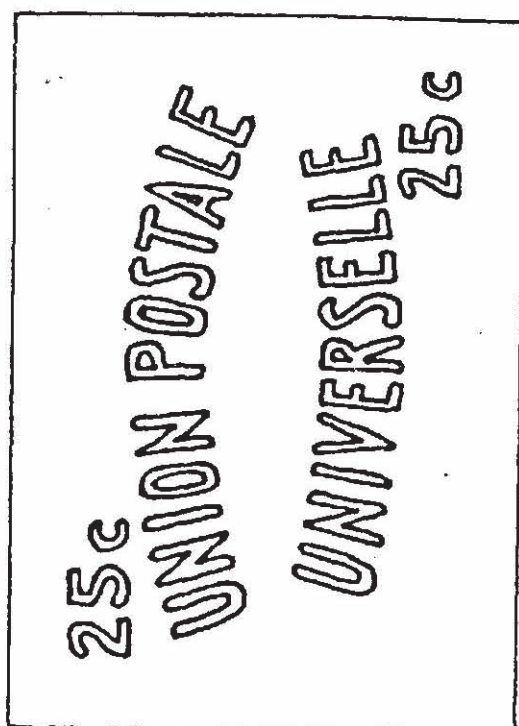


The Vienna - Design

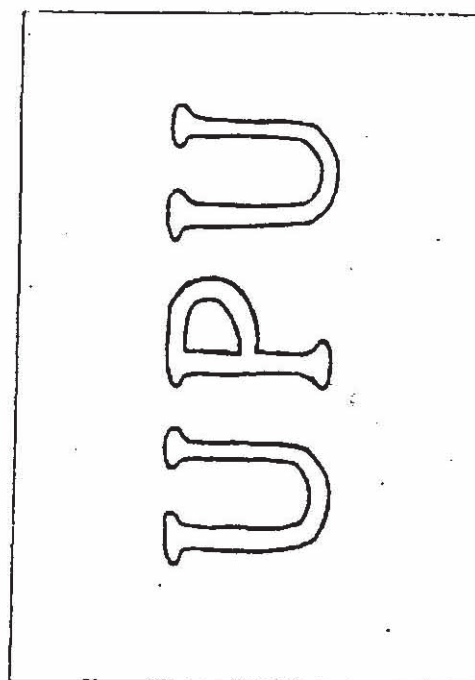
As I mentioned on page a you cannot be sure whether the coupons of the last decade were really issued in the same country where they were postmarked; if there is no indication of a country on the coupon (name or value or postmark) you can have a coupon postmarked in a country different from that where it was bought. So it looks as if this country had sold this coupon, but in reality it never was at its post counters. Some indication can be taken from the UPU lists which appear every year to show which coupons were delivered to each country during the last year.

	UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE	COUPON-RÉPONSE INTERNATIONAL	C 22
Ce coupon est échangeable dans tous les pays de l'Union postale universelle contre un ou plusieurs timbres-poste représentant l'affranchissement minimal d'une lettre ordinaire, expédiée à l'étranger par voie de surface.			
Empreinte de contrôle du pays d'origine (date facultative) 	Prix de vente (indication facultative)	Timbre du bureau qui effectue l'échange 	

The UPU - Design



Watermark 1a



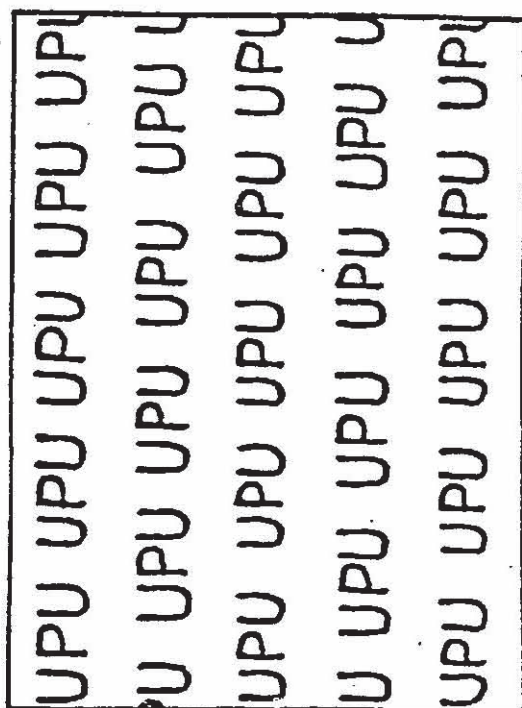
Watermark 2

All IRCs have a watermark. Three different forms are found, the first and the third on in variations. The first watermark appeared on the Rome and Stockholm design, the second on the London and first Vienna design, the third on the later Vienna and following models.

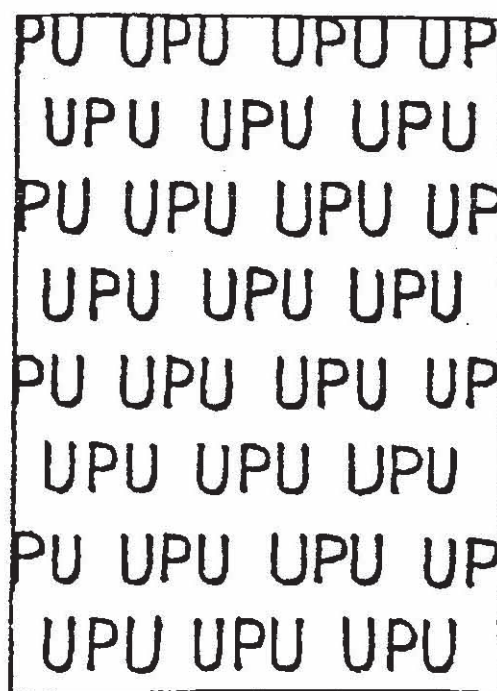
The first watermark is in four lines and shows the value of the coupon: "25c / UNION POSTALE / UNIVERSELLE / 25c" ; later the figure was changed to 50c, finally on the Stockholm – design to 40c, the text itself remaining as before. FIAS, the German based collectors' society, calls these watermarks 1a / 1b / 1c.

At the London Congress the second watermark was created: "U P U" in 25 mm high double – lined letters, appearing once per coupon (watermark 2).

During the time of the Vienna – design the third watermark was introduced: five or six horizontal lines (watermark 3h) of "UPU" in 8 mm high letters, or later seven or eight vertical lines of "UPU" (watermark 3v).



Watermark 3h



Watermark 3v

As on stamps, reversed or inverted watermarks occur.

All IRCs were printed in Switzerland, from 1907 to 1992 by Benziger in Einsiedeln, from 1993 to 1995 by Kürzi in Einsiedeln, from 1995 by IPRESSOR SA in Syens.

There are two societies of IRC collectors, FIAS (with many German members) whose system and numbers I use; the other one in English speaking countries, whose journal is titled "The International Reply Coupon Collector".

FIAS (Research Group of International Reply Coupons) has published catalogues, the fundamental one being

"Die Systematik der Internationalen Antwortscheine" (The System of the International Reply Coupons) by Paul August Koch (issued 1990).

The terms as the numbering of watermarks, the description of "designs" and "types" were established in this book.

In addition there are catalogues of many countries, but not yet of Ireland.

Listing of the Irish International Reply Coupons:

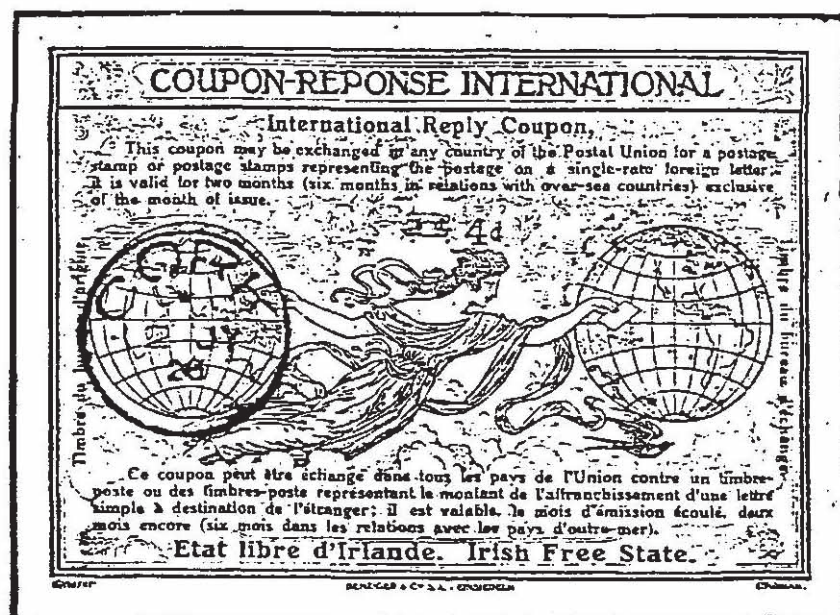
From 1907 Ireland used the IRCs of Great Britain being a part of the United Kingdom; such coupons with Irish postmarks can be regarded as forerunners; few of them have survived.

Coupons in the Rome Design (size 80 x 108 mm):

No. 1: (6d. – 30/1/1924)

After becoming independent, Ireland issued the first coupon of its own on January 30th, 1924; it was in the Rome design and had a face value of 6d; the country's name "Etat libre d'Irlande. Irish Free State." was imprinted in even, medium bold letters. The texts on the front are in the English and French language; the same text is found on reverse in German, English, Spanish and Italian; the paper is watermarked "50c / UNION POSTALE / UNIVERSELLE / 50c" (watermark 1b). This coupon is numbered Type VI in the FIAS catalogue.

The 6d rate was reduced to 4d by several types of rubber stamps (1926?).



No. 1 (FIAS VI)
4d over 6d

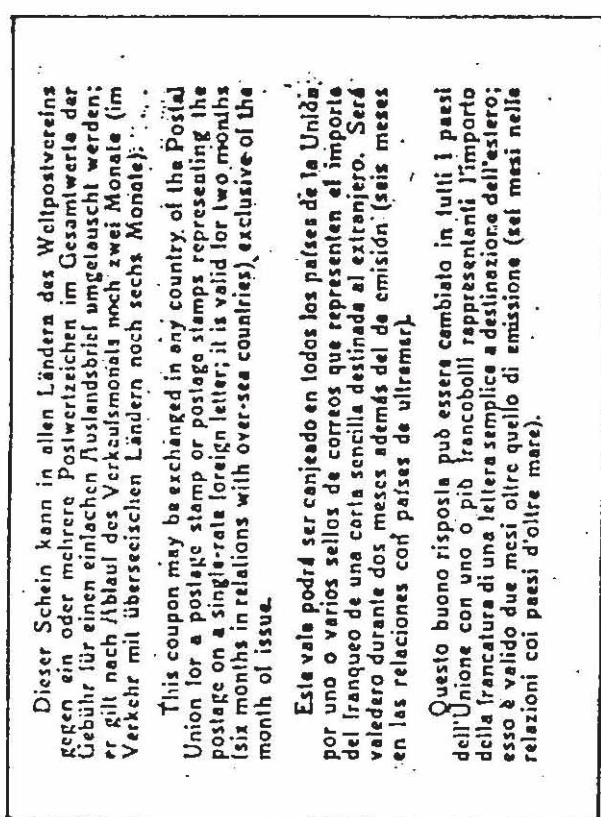
Coupons in the Stockholm Design (74 x 105 mm):

No. 2: (4d. – 1/10/1925?)

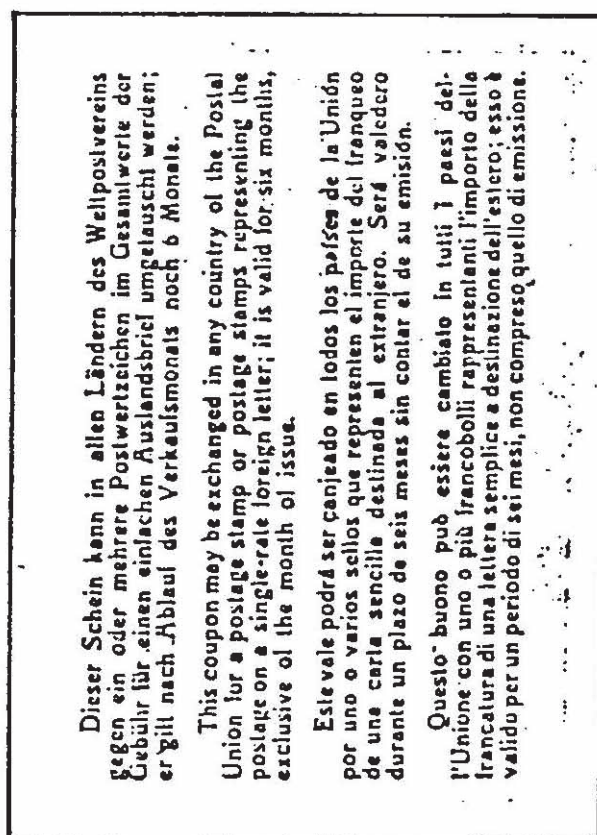
The differences from the Rome design are small: the postmark areas show the continents only very faintly, they have no meridians and latitudes, and the postmark instructions are in two lines (see illustration on page b). This coupon was probably issued on October 1st, 1925. The languages printed on the front are English and French; on the reverse the same languages are to be seen as on No. 1 (German, English, Spanish and Italian), but they are reset (16 lines altogether). The period of validity was extended to six months everywhere. The coupon bears the watermark 1c (value 40 c). The FLAS Type number of this coupon is VIII.

No. 3: (4d. – September 1929)

There are two changes on the front: the English language was replaced by the same text in the Irish language, now printed in Roman letters; and the country's name was altered to "État Libre d'Irlande. – Saorstát Éireann.". No changes are found on the reverse, and the watermark has remained No. 1c. This coupon, too, bears the FIAS Type number VIII.



No. 1 reverse

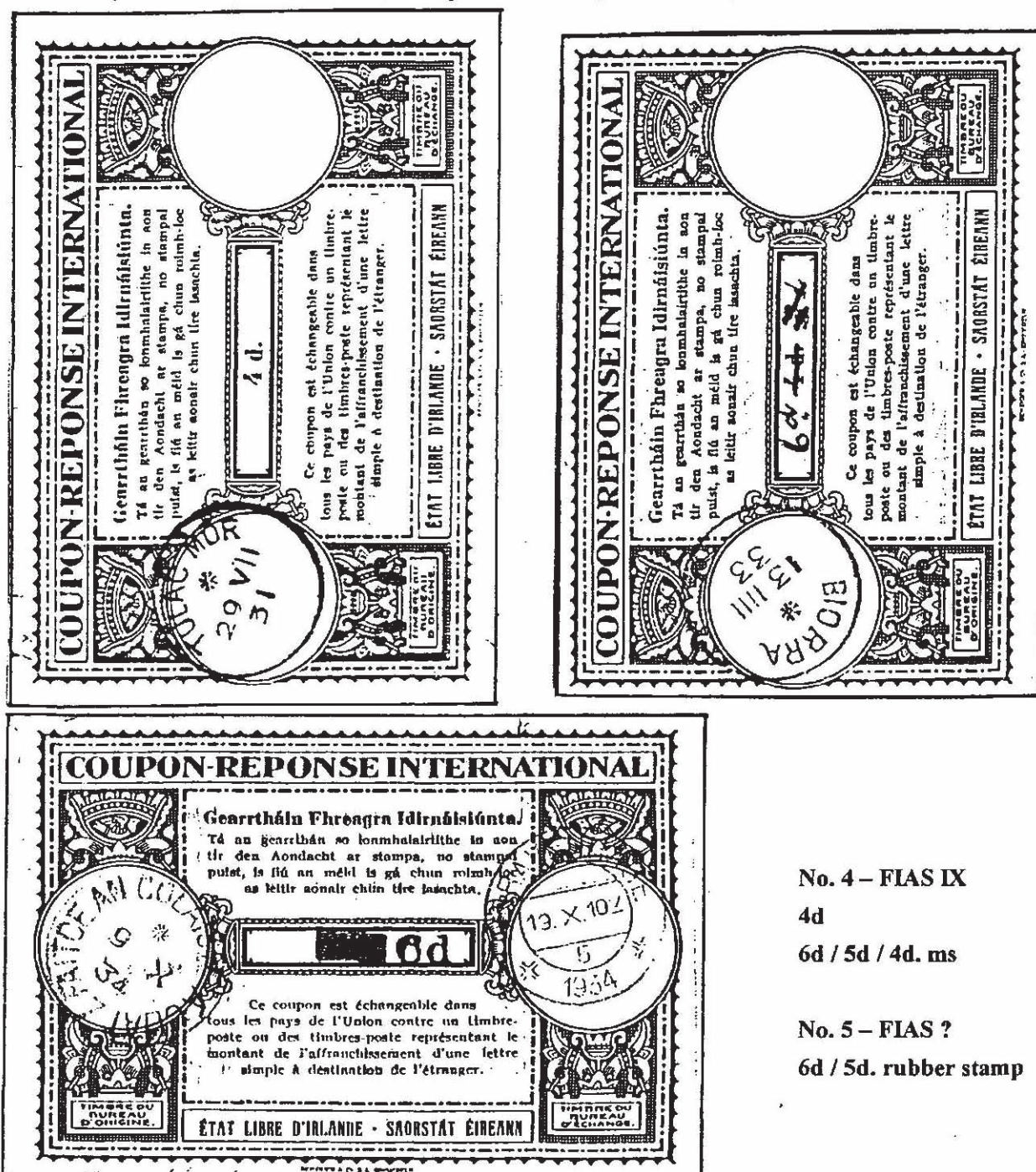


No. 2 & 3 reverse

Coupons in the London Design

No. 4: (4d. – 7/1931?)

This coupon was given a totally new design (see illustration on page c). On the front are Irish (in Roman lettering) and French; the word “pays” in the second line of the French text begins with a small “p”. The country name is printed in capitals “ÉTAT LIBRE D’IRLANDE . SAORSTÁT ÉIREANN.” The text on the reverse is in the usual four languages, printed in twelve lines (see illustration on page i). The coupon has the watermark 2 (see illustration on page d). The FIAS Type number of this coupon is IX. This coupon is known manuscript – uprated to 6d (6d over 4d).



No. 4 – FIAS IX

4d

6d / 5d / 4d. ms

No. 5 – FIAS ?

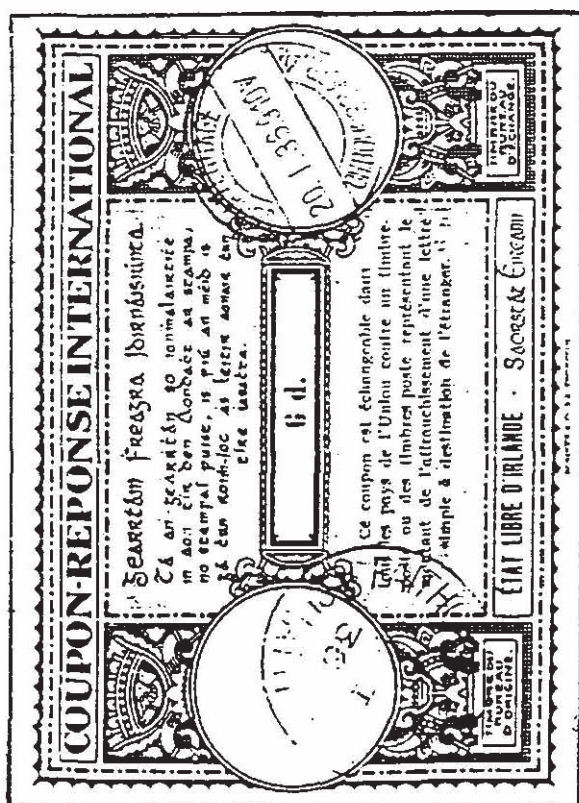
6d / 5d. rubber stamp

No.5: (5d. – 1934?)

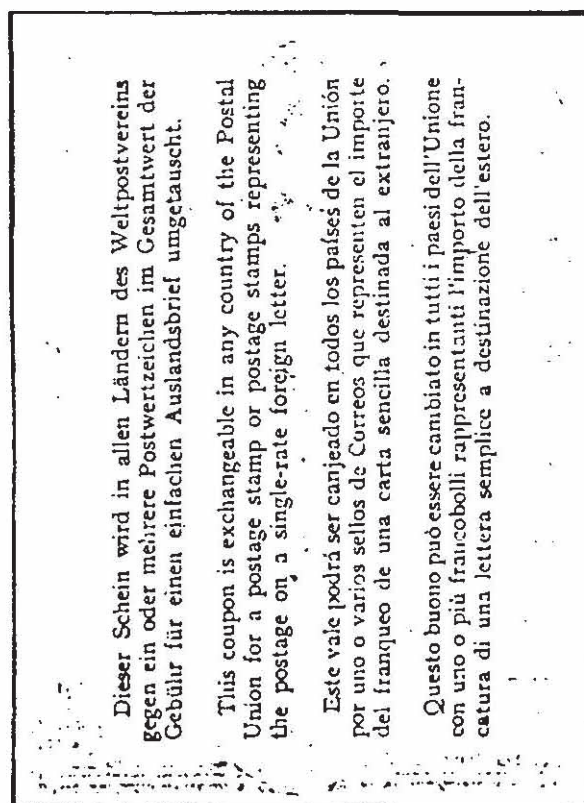
I have only seen the photocopy of one item, which is illustrated at bottom of page h; its front looks like that of No. 4, its reverse is unknown.

No. 6a: (6d. – 1936?)

This is the first coupon which incorporates Irish lettering. Six lines of Irish text are found on the front. The last line of the French text reads “simple à destination de l'étranger.”. The country name is “ÉTAT LIBRE D'IRLANDE · SAORSTÁT ÉIREANN”. (see **illustration** on page i). On the reverse there are twelve lines of text in four languages (the same as on No. 4) (see **illustration** on page i). The watermark is No. 2 as on all coupons in the London design (see **illustration** on page d). The FIAS Type number is IX.



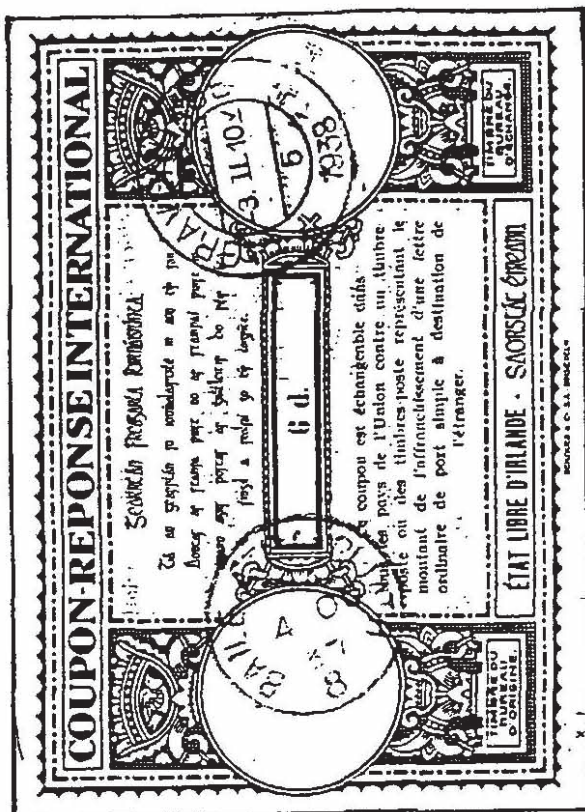
No. 6a front



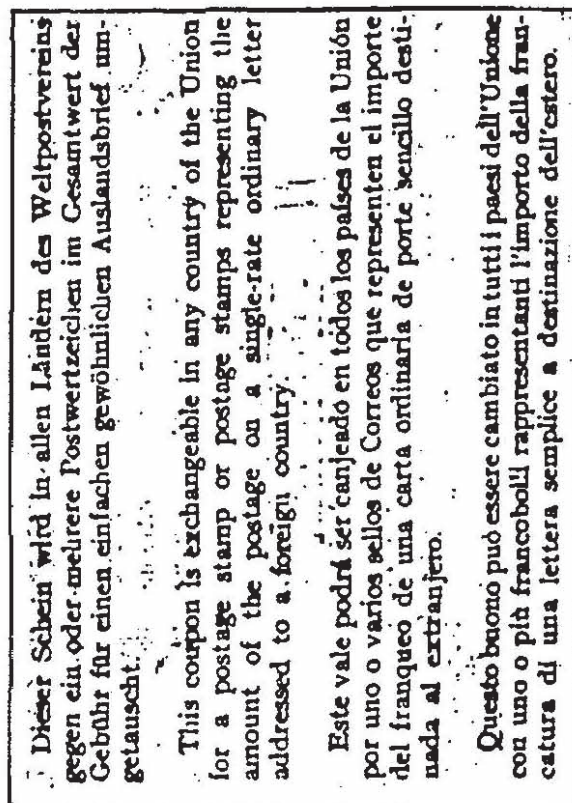
No. 4 & (5?) & 6a reverse (FIAS IX)

No. 6b: (6d. – 1937?)

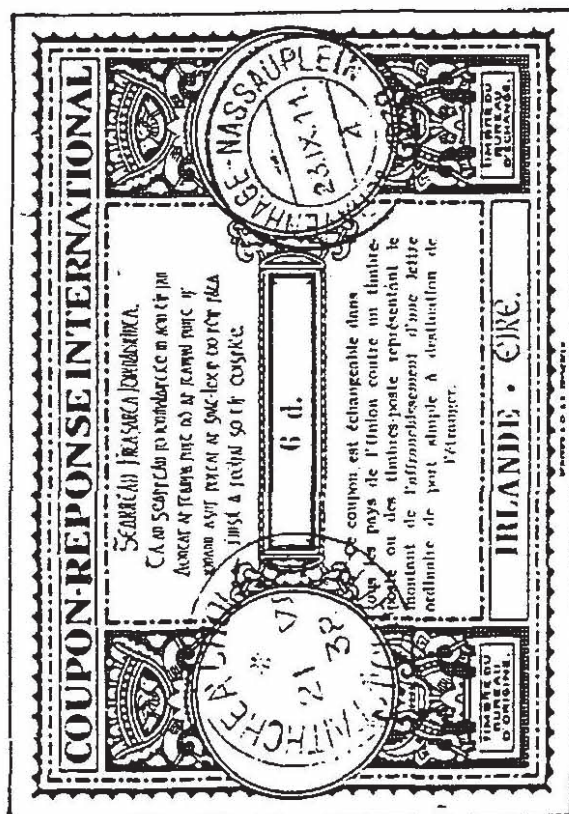
Five lines of Irish text, the last four in very tiny letters. The last French line reads “l'étranger”. “pays” in the second line of the French text begins with a small “p.” The country name differs in the Irish letters “ÉTAT LIBRE D'IRLANDE · SAORSTÁT ÉIREANN” (see **illustration** on page j). Fifteen lines of text are on reverse, the last German one reading “getauscht” (see **illustration** on page j). FIAS Type number XI.



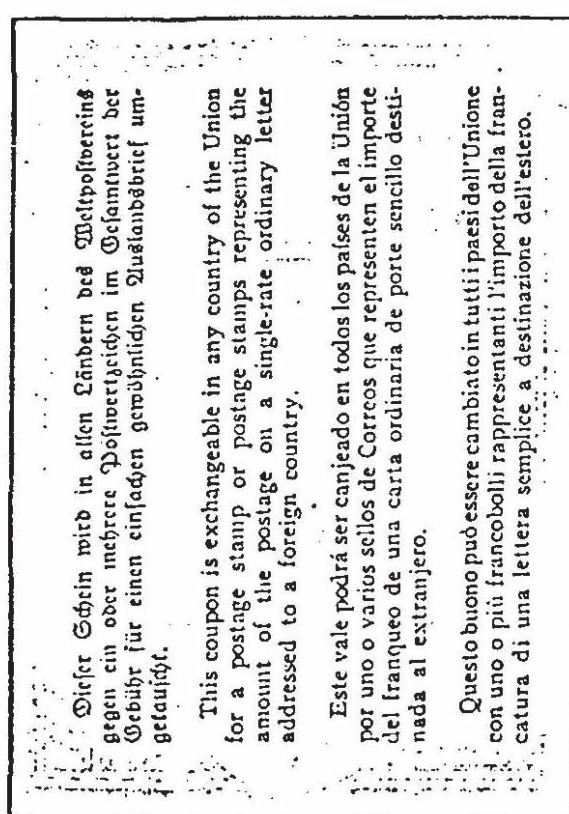
No. 6b front



No. 6b reverse (FIAS XI)



No. 6c front



No. 6c reverse (FIAS XII)

No. 6c: (6d. – 1938?)

page k

There are five rows of Irish text in tall letters; the French text has – as on No. 6b – as its last line “l’etranger”; “pays” in the second line of the French text begins with a small “p.” the country name reads now “IRLANDE. ÉIRE” (see **illustration on page j**); the German text on reverse is written in lettering type “Fraktur”; the last English line is “addressed to a foreign country”; (see **illustration on page j**). This coupon is FIAS Type number XII.

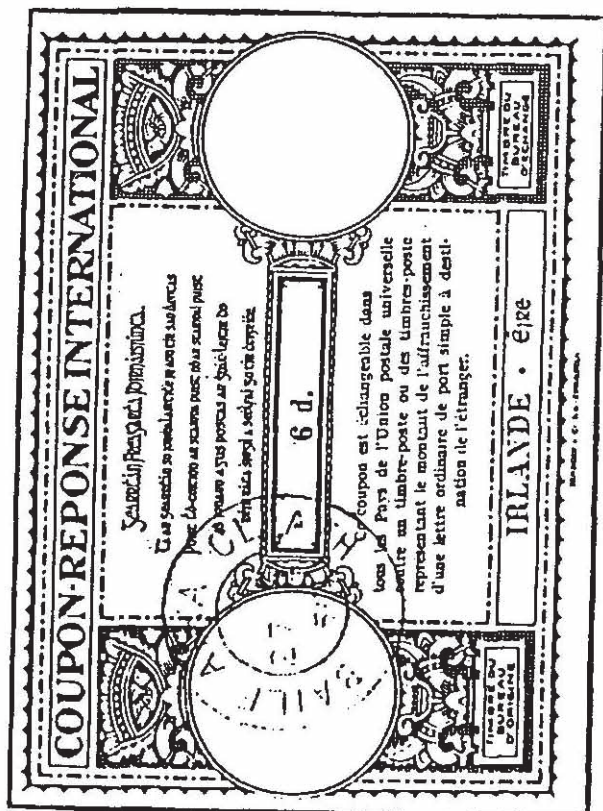
No. 6d: (6d. – 1946)

Five rows of Irish text in very small letters are at top; the French text is reset: “Pays” begins with a capital, the last French line reads “nation de l’etranger.”; the country name is in different Irish letter types “IRLANDE · ÉIRE” (see **illustration on page k**). Sixteen lines of text are on the reverse, the last English line reading “rate letter destined for a foreign country” (see **illustration on page k**). The FIAS Type number is XIV.

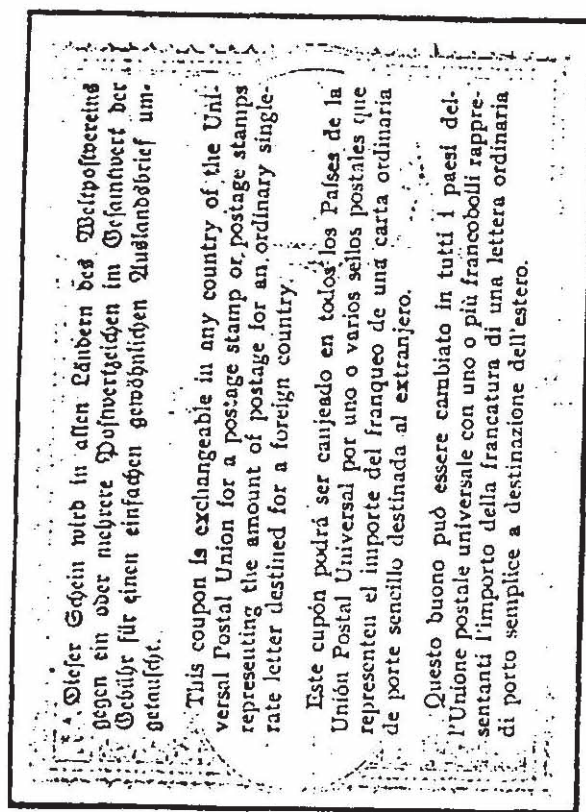
No. 6e: (6d. – 1949)

The front of this coupon is similar to No. 6d; the German and Italian languages have been removed from the reverse and replaced by Arabic, Chinese and Russian (five languages in altogether 14 lines) (see **illustration on page l**). The watermark 2 is as before. This coupon has the FIAS Type number XV.

It is found uprated in manuscript to 8d.



No. 6d & 6e front



No. 6d reverse (FIAS XIV)

This coupon is exchangeable in any country of the Universal Postal Union for a postage stamp or postage stamps representing the amount of postage for an ordinary single-rate letter destined for a foreign country.

هذه القسيمة يتجرسبها في جميع البلدان الدائرة ضمن اتحاد البريد العالمي
بطائع أو طابع بريدي بقيمة الجائز على خطايت غاذي من الورقة الأولى برسم الخارج

本券得在郵會各國兌換等於該國寄
國外普通信函起首重量郵資之郵票

Este cupón podrá ser canjeado en todos los Países de la Unión Postal Universal por uno o varios sellos postales que representen el importe del franco de una carta ordinaria de porte sencillo destinada al extranjero.

Этот купон по всех странах Всемирного Почтового Союза обменивается на почтовую марку или марки на сумму представляющую собой стоимость оплаты простого письма в одну единицу веса по адресу за границу.

No. 6e & 7 reverse
(FIAS XV)

No. 7: (8d. – 1950)

This coupon is like No. 5e except the new face value. Its FIAS Type number is also XV.

No. 8a: (9d. – 1955)

There is the code "FORMULE C 22" on all 9d coupons at top right. There is a mistake on this first issue in the fourth line of the Irish text: the first two words are printed without gap in one word (corrected in the next issue of 1956) (see **illustration on page m**). Six languages are on reverse: German (reinstated), English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and Russian. The English text ends with a full stop under "u" of "amount" (see **illustration on page m**). The watermark is No. 2. This coupon has the FIAS Type number XVIu.

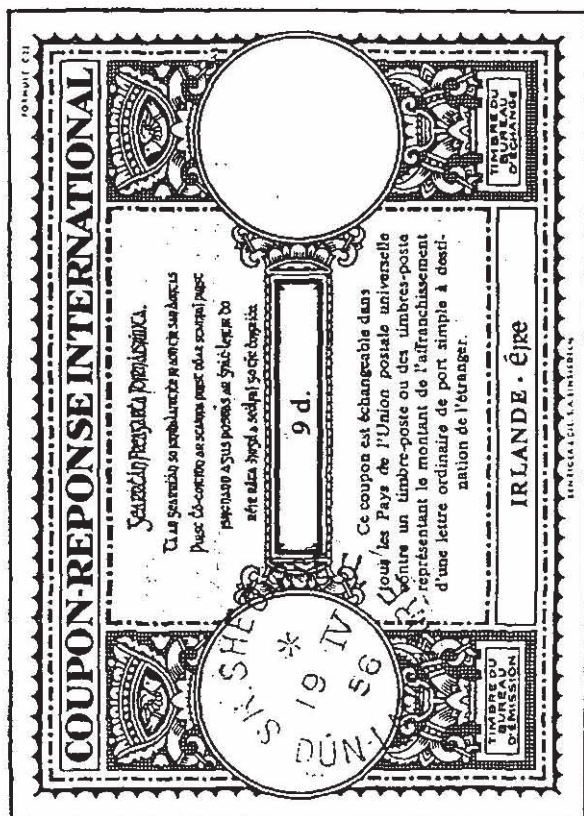
No. 8b: (9d. – 1956)

The only difference from No. 8a is the correction of the Irish text: there is now a gap between the first two words of the fourth line. (see **illustration on page m**). The reverse of this second issue is like that of No. 8a. The coupon has the watermark 2. The FIAS Type number is also XVIu.

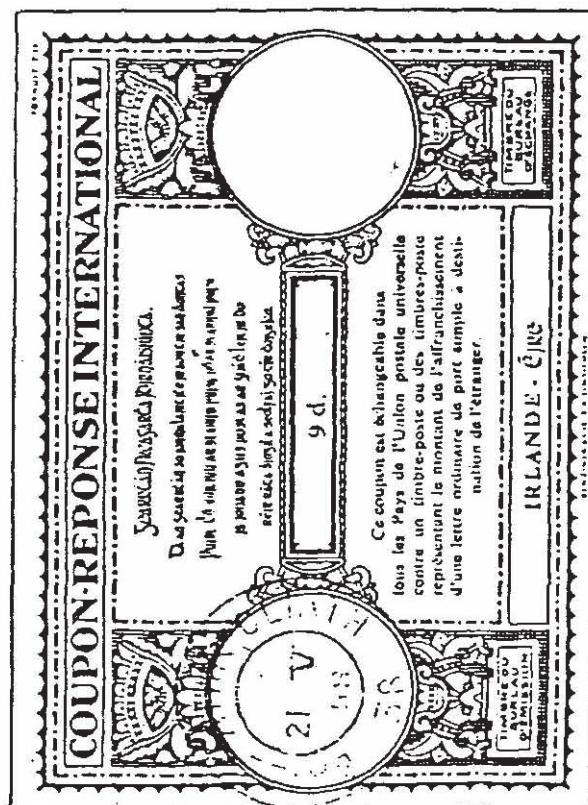
No. 8c: (9d. – 1956)

This coupon is similar to No. 8b, the code is as before as is the watermark, but the English text on the reverse ends under "n" of "amount". (see **illustration on page m**). The FIAS Type number of the coupon is XVIIn.

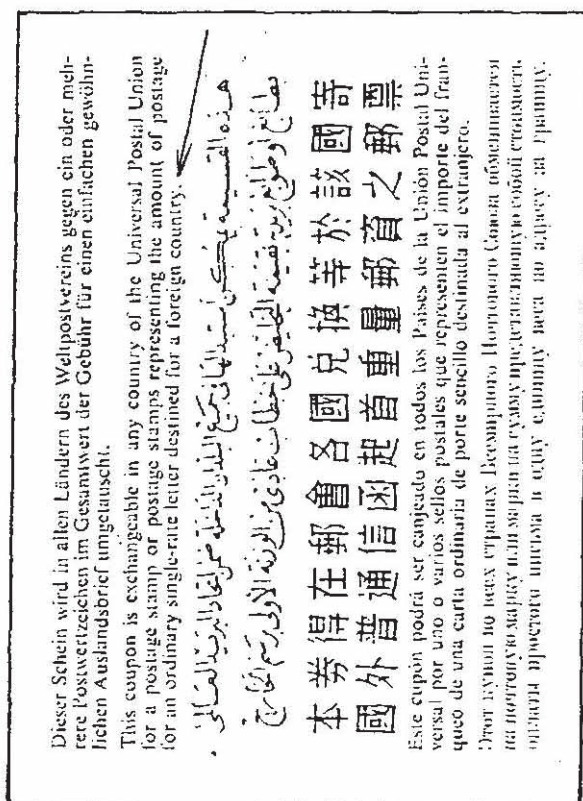
This coupon is known uprated in manuscript and by several handstamps.



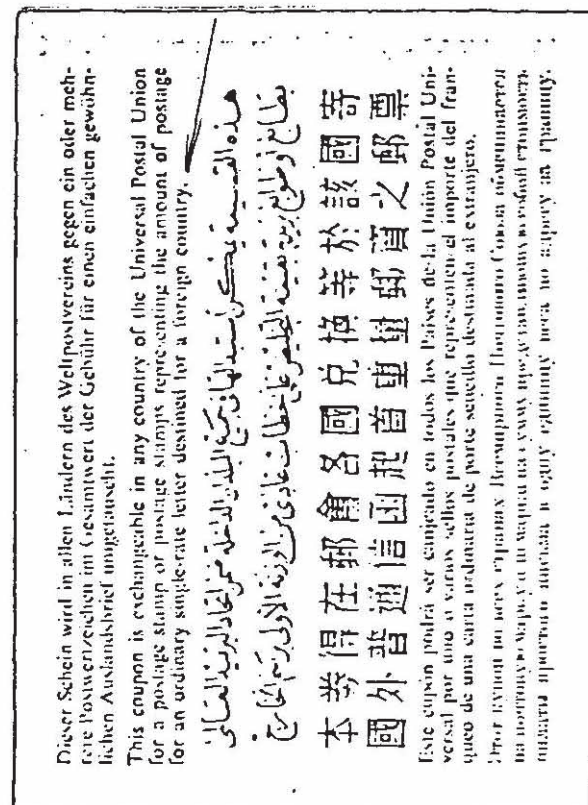
No. 8a front



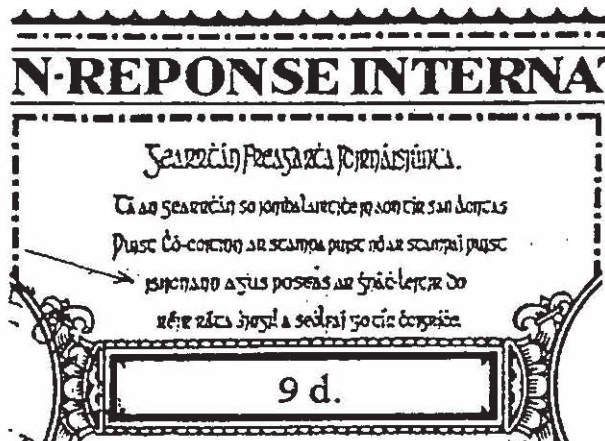
No. 8b & 8c front



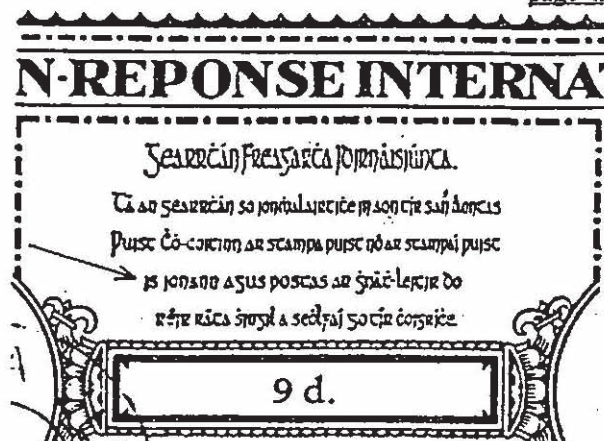
No. 8a & 8b reverse (FIAS XVIu)



No. 8c & 9a reverse (FIAS XVIu)



No. 8a (mistake in the fourth line)



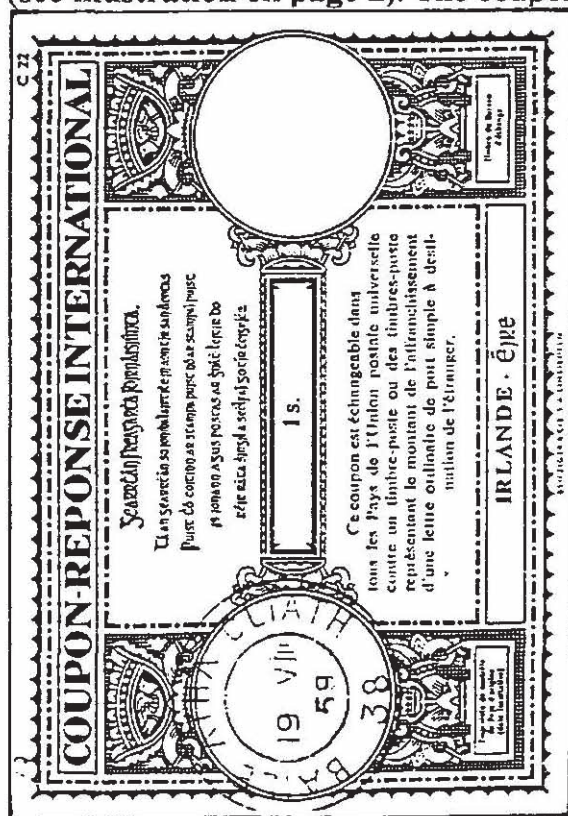
No. 8b & 8c (fourth line corrected)

No. 9a: (1 s. – 1960)

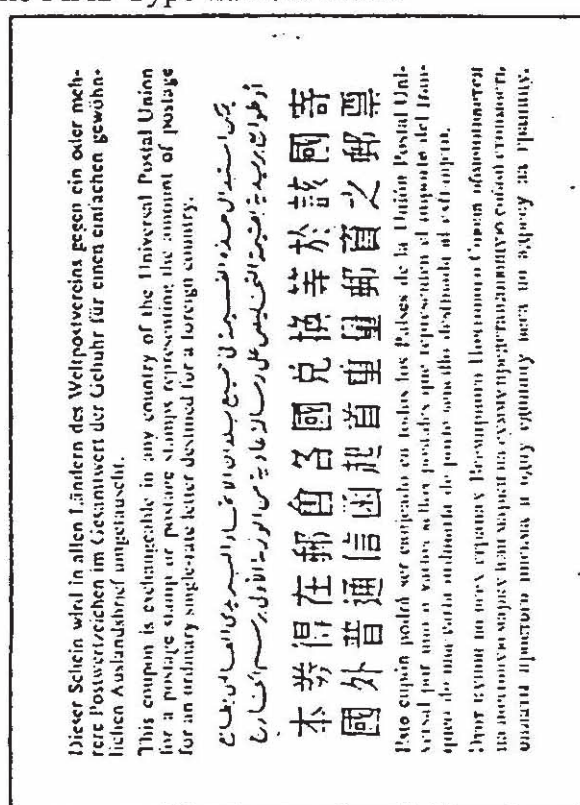
Beginning with this issue there is a new code at top right: "C 22". The postmark instructions under the postmark areas are very small; three lines at left, two at the right hand side (see illustration on page n). The height of the two lines of Arabian lettering is 12 mm (together) (see illustration on page m). The watermark is No. 2. This coupon, too, bears the FIAS Type number XVII.

No. 9b: (1 s. – 1964)

There is no change on the front, it has the same code and watermark. The only difference is on the reverse: The height of the two lines of Arabian lettering is only 7 mm (together). (see illustration on page n). The coupon has the FIAS Type number XVII.



No. 9a & 9b front



No. 9b reverse (FIAS XVIIu)

Coupons in the Vienna Design

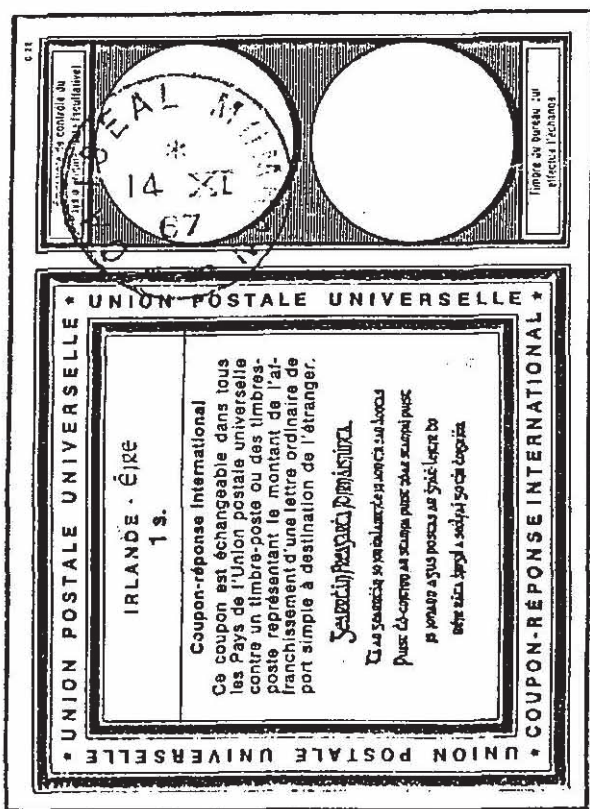
No. 10: (1 s. – March? 1968)

This coupon has a completely reset design. The round postmark areas are below each other on the right hand side, the upper one being for the selling post office. The country name is printed at top in the French and Irish language in red; the order of the texts was changed: first French, followed by Irish (see **illustration** on **page o**). On the reverse the Arabic text is of the small style as on No. 9b, the English and Spanish texts are set a little shorter than on No. 9b (see **illustration** on **page p**). This is the last coupon with watermark 2. Its FIAS Type number is XVIII.

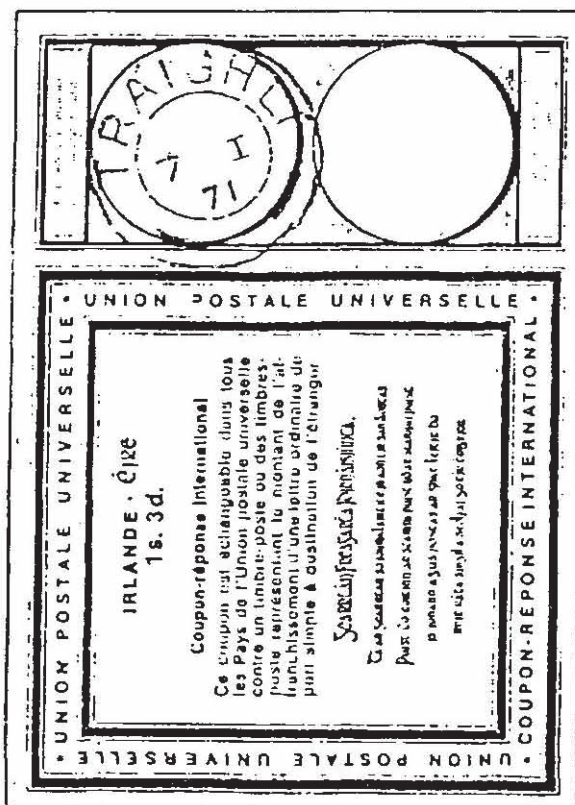
Most coupons were in manuscript uprated to 1s. 3d.

No. 11: (1s. 3d. – January 1971?)

Front and reverse are as on No. 10, but this coupon has the watermark 3h (horizontal rows of UPU as illustrated on **page e**) (see **illustration** of front on **page o**). This coupon is the last one of the fsd currency. It has the FIAS Type number XIX.



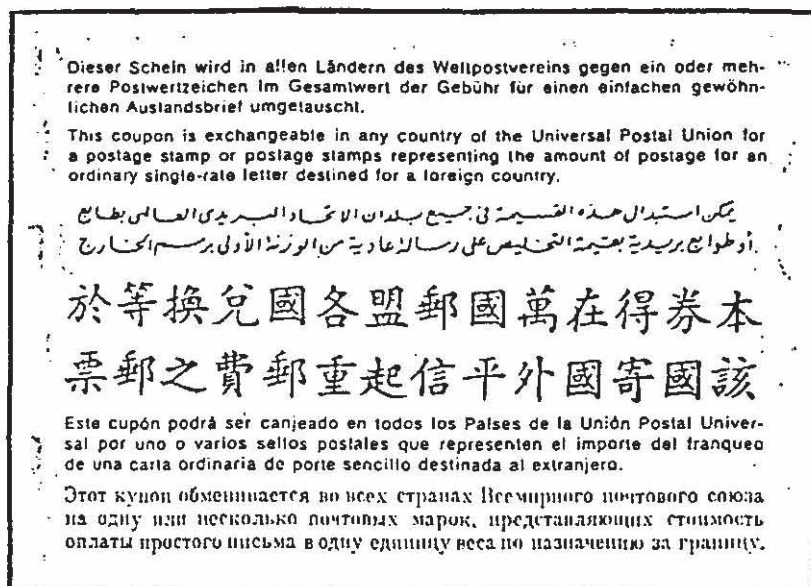
No. 10 front



No. 11 front

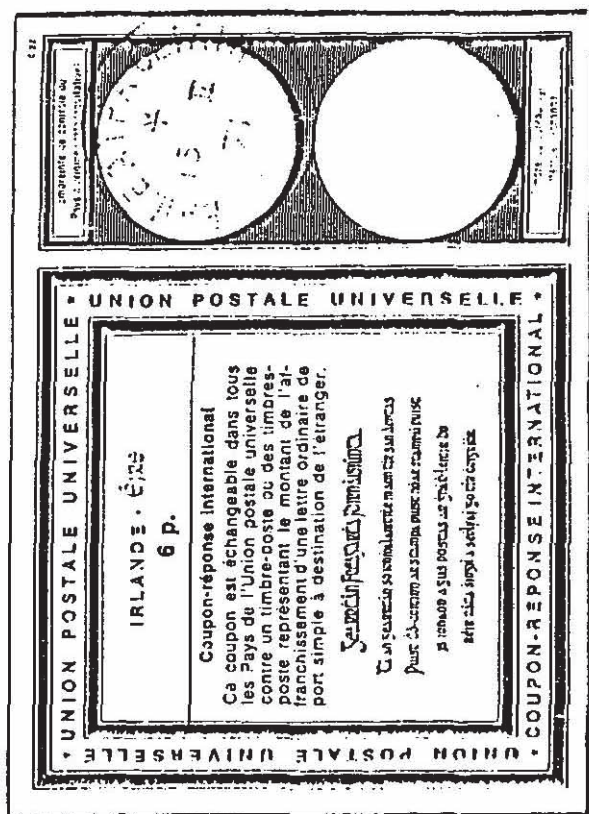
No. 12: (6p. – 15/2/1971)

This was the first issue after decimalisation. There is no change to the front except the new value (see illustration on page p) and none on the reverse (see illustration on page p); the watermark 3h is the same as before. This coupon has also the FIAS Type number XIX. The coupon is found manuscript - uprated to 8p.

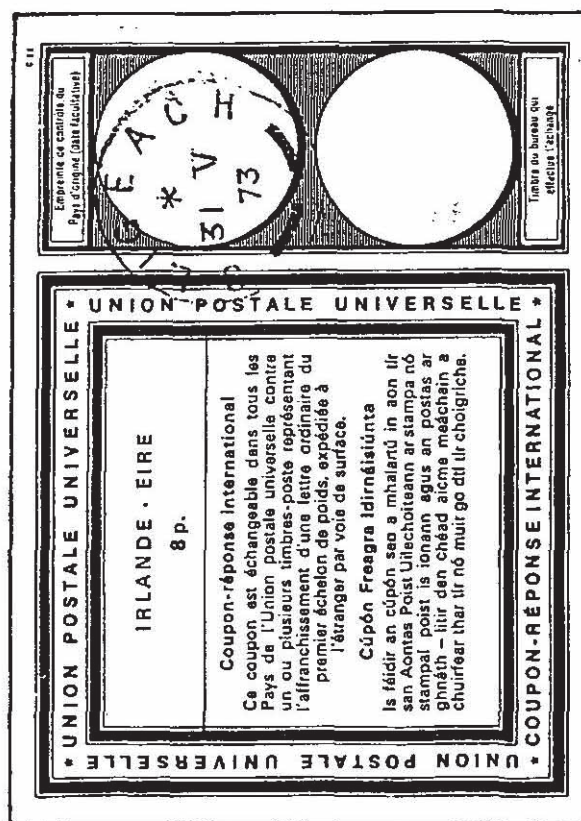


No. 10 & 11 & 12

Reverse, FIAS XVIII



No. 12 front



No. 13a & 13b front

RAILWAY SUB-OFFICES – Part 3

Tony Goodbody

[Continued from the December 1998 *JOURNAL*]

The updated list is available from Tony at £1.50 with an Irish only section at £1, both post-free. Contact the Editor if the list is required.

Many of the entries are known only from the PROOF book and have not, as yet, been recorded used.

ILLOUR./ NEALE R.S.O. / Co.MAYO	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ILLYCOLPY/ STEWARTSTOWN R.S.O. / Co.TYRONE	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ILLYLEA.R.S.O. / Co ARMAGH	SR26	AP. 19.04	OC. 11.12	(54,12) (DT4)
ILLYLEA.R.S.O. / Co ARMAGH	SR26	JU. 12.08	AP. 15.10	(73,73) (DT3)
ILMEEDY/ BALLINGARRY.R.S.O (Co.Limerick)	SR23	JU. 2.05	DE. 20.09	(73,12)
ILMORE./ CROSSGAR R.S.O / Co.DOWN	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ILMORE/ DRUMSNSA.R.S.O (Co.Leitrim)	SR27	MY. 24.05	MR. 25.09	(73,?)
ILMORE/ KILCOCK R.S.O. / Co.KILDARE	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ILNABOY.R.S.O. / Co CLARE	SR24	10. SE.12	1. SP.32	(4,12)
ILPEDDER R.S.O. / Co WICKLOW	SR27	JY. 10.04	6. FE.23	(1,1)
ILSALLAGH/ BALLYMOE R.S.O. / Co.GALWAY	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ILSHANNY/ ENNISTYMON. R.S.O. (Co.Clare)	SR28	22AUG.01		(2) (PB) (RV)
ILSKEERY.R.S.O / Co TYRONE	SR23	OC. 30.05	16. JA.29	(12,1)
ILTYCLOGHER.R.S.O / Co LEITRIM	SR26	AP. 1.05	MR. 19.06	(73,73) (DT3)
ILTYCLOGHER.R.S.O / Co LEITRIM	SR26	FE. 3.02	NO. 21.07	(12,77) (DT4)
ILWORTH.R.S.O / Co CORK	SR25	FE. 1.05	AU. 29.10	(74,27) (DT4)
INCUN/ KILLALA R.S.O. / Co.MAYO	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
INGWILLIAMSTOWN RATHMORE R.S.O. / Co KERRY	SR28	FE. 14.08	FE. 14.08	(27,27)
INSEALY/ MALAHIDE R.S.O. / Co.DUBLIN	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
NOCKADERRY/ NEWCASTLE WEST R.S.O. / Co.LIMERICK	SR28*	22APR.01	22APR.01	(5) (PB) (RV)
NOCKCROGHERY.R.S.O / Co ROSCOMMON	SR274	JY. 29.01	AU. 23.10	(82,2) (DT3)
NOCKLONG R.S.O / Co LIMERICK	SR27	AP. 15.01	JY. 10.07	(12,?) (DT3)
NOCKLONG R.S.O (Co.LIMERICK)	DR32/29	AU. 19.04	AU. 19.04	(57,57) (S)
NOCKNAGASHEL/ABBEYFEALE R.S.O. (Co Limerick)	SR27	MR. 1.06	22.NO.22	(12,82) (DT3)
NOCKRAHA/ GLANMIRE. R.S.O., CORK	SR28	13MAR.99	13MAR.99	(5) (PB) (RV)
NOCKROGHERY R.S.O / Co ROSCOMMON (sic)	SR27	NO. 11.00	AP. 9.02	(63,57) (DT4)
OLEMORE.R.S.O / Co GALWAY	SR28	JU. 11.04	DE. 22.10	(?,?) (DT)
ACKENDUFF/ CLONAKILTY R.S.O. / Co.CORK	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
AHINCH R.S.O / Co CLARE	SR25	SP. 12.02	AU. 20.06	(1,57) (DT4)
AURENCETOWN/ GILFORD.R.S.O (Co.Down)	SR24	SP. 25.03	5. AP.17	(57,46)
EAP/ R.S.O /482 (Co Cork) (Circle in 2 arcs)	DX19	AP. 11.83	DE. 10.89	(50,82) (C,DX)
EAP/ R.S.O /482 (Co Cork) (Circle in 2 arcs)	DX224	DE. 21.81	AU. 31.82	(2,2) (DX)
EAP/ R.S.O /482 (Co Cork) (Complete circle)	DX21	FE. 20.90	OC. 20.97	(2,82) (DX)
EAP/ R.S.O (Co Cork)	SR23	AU. 27.82	MR. 30.99	(57,77)
ECKANARAINNEY/MANORHAMILTON R.S.O./Co.LEITRIM	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
EENANE.R.S.O / Co GALWAY	SR27	JA. 22.02	AU. 4.16	(12,?) (DT4)
EENANE.R.S.O / Co GALWAY	SR27	JY. 24.07	AU. 17.09	(73,2) (DT3)
EENANE R.S.O. / Co.GALWAY	SR27	3. SE.14	3. SE.14	(27,27)
EENANE.R.S.O / Co GALWAY	SR29	AU. 25.11	AU. 25.11	(81,81)
EIXLIP.R.S.O / Co KILDARE	SR29	JA. 2.03	SP. 22.09	(1,?) (DT4)
ETTERFRACK.R.S.O / Co GALWAY	SR27	JY. 19.04	FE. 23.11	(8,12) (DT4)
IMERICK JUNCT R.S.O / Co TIP	SR26	DE. 14.03	JY. 24.07	(74,2) (DT3)
IMERICK JUNCT R.S.O / Co TIP	SR27	MY. 28.03	JY. 26.09	(4,77) (DT4)
ISBEALAD/ DUNMANWAY R.S.O. / Co.CORK	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ISBELLAW R.S.O / Co FERMANAGH	SR28	MY. 1.01	OC. 10.09	(39,12) (DT4)

ISCOLMAN. / DERVOCK R.S.O. / Co. ANTRIM	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ISDEEN R.S.O / Co CLARE	SR25M	JY.23.04	AP.19.13	(81,73) (DT4)
ISDGART/ BALLYGAWLEY R.S.O. / Co. TYRONE	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ISDOONVARNA.R.S.O / Co CLARE	SR26M	NO.28.02	16.NO.32	(4,74)
ISDUFF/ VIRGINIA R.S.O. / Co. CAVAN	SR28	27OCT.03		(2) (PB) (RV)
ISGREY CROSS ROADS/VIRGINIA R.S.O. /Co. CAVAN	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ISMACAFFREY/ STREET R.S.O. / Co. WESTMEATH	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ISMORE.R.S.O / Co WATERFORD	SR26	AU. 9.01	AU.22.07	(46,73) (DT4)
ISNAGRY.R.S.O / Co LIMK	SR23	DE.23.06	JY.22.09	(12,12)
ISNALONG/ ROCKCORRY R.S.O. / Co. MONAGHAN	SR28	10MAY.04	22MAY.06	(5,57) (PB, RV)
ISNAMUCK/ MAGHERA R.S.O. / Co. DERRY	SR28	22MAY.04	22MAR.05	(2,73) (PB, RV)
ISNASKEA R.S.O / Co FERMANAGH	SR27	JY. 5.01	SP.25.09	(12,77) (DT4)
ISNASKEA.R.S.O / CO FERMANAGH	SR27	SP.23.11	SP.23.11	(11,11) (Re)
ISSATAVA/ HOLLYMOUNT R.S.O. / Co. MAYO	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ISSINAGROAGH/MANORHAMILTON R.S.O. /Co. LEITRIM	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ISSLETON R S O / Co KERRY	SR26	DE.30.05	DE.30.05	(12,12)
ISTOWEL R.S.O. / Co. KERRY	SR26	JU.14.05	JU.14.05	(1,1)
ISULLYCURRAN/ DROMORE R.S.O. / Co. DOWN	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
ISULLYCURRAN/ DROMORE R.S.O. / Co. DERRY	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JANENDS/ TEMPLEPATRICK R.S.O. / Co. ANTRIM	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JNGWOOD/ MOY VALLEY.R.S.O (Co. Kildare)	SR27	DE.11.08	.30	(1,1)
JUGH RYNN R.S.O. / Co LEITRIM	SR24	JA.22.99	4.JY.14	(12,1)
JUGH RYNN/ DROMOD R.S.O. / Co. LEITRIM	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JUTH INNISKEEN/ R.S.O (Co. Louth)	SR26	AU.18.99	AU.13.13	(57,12)
JUTH/ INNISKEEN R.S.O. Co MONAGHAN	SR27	MY.21.09	MY.21.09	(1,1)
JCAN.R.S.O / Co DUBLIN	SR28	FE. 3.02	13.DE.14	(74,11) (DT4)
JRGA/ CHARLESTOWN R.S.O / Co. MAYO	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JAM CROSS ROADS/ R.S.O. (Co. Galway)	SR22	MY. 7.88	JU. 2.90	(12,11)
JADAMS CROSS ROADS/ DROMORE R.S.O. / Co. DOWN	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JACMINE R.S.O. / Co WEXFORD	SR24	SP.21.04	DE.23.12	(1,12)
JADABAWN/ COOTEHILL R.S.O. / Co. CAVAN	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JADDEN/ KEADY R.S.O. / Co ARMAGH	SR28	27NOV.05	23NOV.06	(12,57) (RR)
JAGHERY CASTLE, /BALLYCASTLE R.S.O. /Co. ANTRIM	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JANORCUNNINGHAM R.S.O / Co DONEGAL	SR28	FE. 2.05	8.AU.35	(73,77) (DT4)
JANORHAMILTON. R.S.O. / Co LEITRIM	SR24M	AU.16.05	15.SP.14	(46,12) (DT3)
JANSFIELDSTOWN/ CASTLEBELLINGHAM R.S.O. / (for of spelling) Co. LOUTH	SR28	22MAY.04	22MAY.04	(5) (PB) (RV)
JYNOOTH.R.S.O. Co KILDARE	DR27/18	NO.20.04	29.SE.22	(74,74) (DT3)
JYO/ BALLYGLASS R.S.O / Co. MAYO	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JYOGALL/KNOCKCLOGHRIM R.S.O. /Co. LONDONDERRY	SR28	22MAY.04	21NOV.08	(2,2) (PB) (RV)
JELICK/ EYRECOURT R.S.O. / Co. GALWAY	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JENGGLASS/ BALLYBOFEY R.S.O. / Co. DONEGAL	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JDDLETOWN, TYHAN.R.S.O. / Co ARMAGH	SR23	JA.21.04	23.NO.15	(74,35)
JLL ST. R.S.O / Co CORK	SR26	JA.29.02		(12)
JLLSTREET.R.S.O / Co CORK	SR26	AU. 5.02	JY. 1.11	(1,?)
JTCHELSTOWN.R.S.O. / Co CORK	SR27	JA.10.04	DE.29.10	(74,12) (DT4)
JIRA.R.S.O / Co DOWN	SR29	DE.18.99	SE. 5.12	(1,77) (DT4)
JMASTERADEN.R.S.O / Co SLIGO	SR27	AU. 7.02	7.JY.28	(57,1) (DT4)
JMASTEREVAN.R.S.O. / Co KILDARE	SR25	JY.16.04	MR. 3.10	(63,12) (DT3)
JMEYDIG/ GARVAGH R.S.O. / Co. LONDONDERRY	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JMEYGLASS/ TOOMEBRIDGE R.S.O. / Co. ANTRIM	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JMEYNEANEY/DRAPERSTOWN R.S.O. /Co. LONDONDERRY	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JMEYNICK/ RANDALSTOWN R.S.O. / Co. ANTRIM	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JMEYREA/ COMBER R.S.O. / Co. DOWN	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JMEYROD/ RANDALSTOWN R.S.O / Co. ANTRIM	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
JMEYSHARVAN, / MAGHERA R.S.O. / Co. LONDONDERRY	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)

MONASTOWN/ WHITE ABBEY R.S.O. / Co. ANTRIM	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MOUNT BELLEW R.S.O. / Co GALWAY	SR25	AP.20.04	JY.19.08	(1,12)
MOUNTCHARLES R.S.O. Co. DONEGAL	DR27/18	AU.18.06	JY.23.13	(77,?) (DT4)
MOUNTJOY/ COALISLAND R.S.O. / Co. TYRONE	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MOUNT LUCAS/ PHILIPSTOWN R.S.O. / KINGS Co	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MOUNTMELICK R.S.O. / QUEENS Co	SR28	JU. 9.01	AU. 3.08	(12,12) (DT3)
MOUNTMELICK R.S.O. / QUEENS Co	SR28	OC.21.01	SE. 9.10	(39,74) (DT4)
MOUNTRATH R.S.O. QUEENS Co	DR27/17	JY.23.05	DE.11.08	(77,12) (DT3)
MOYARGET/ BALLYCASTLE R.S.O. / Co. ANTRIM	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MOYCULLEN R.S.O. / Co GALWAY	SR26	DE.23.02	1.AU.34	(73,74) (DT4)
MOYNE/ BALLAGHADERIN R.S.O. / Co. ROSCOMMON	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MULLAGH/ MILLTOWN MALBAY R.S.O. (Co. Clare)	SR24	AU.21.08	8.OC.28	(81,12) (DT3)
MULLIN/ EMYVALE R.S.O. / Co. MONAGHAN	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
(The above entry is a mis-spelling of Mullan)				
MULLINACUFFE/ TINAHELY R.S.O. / Co. WICKLOW	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MULLIN'S CROSS/ DUNLEER R.S.O. / Co. LOUTH	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MUNTERBYRNE/ CALEDON R.S.O. / Co. TYRONE	SR28	22MAR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MURROE NEWPORT R.S.O. / Co TIP	SR25	10.JY.04	12.OC.16	(77,1) (DT3)
MARIN/ GLENTIES R.S.O. (Co. Donegal)	SR25	JY.27.08	3.AP.20	(27,12)
MEALE/ R.S.O. / 529 (Co. Mayo)	DX25	JA. 4.95	JA. 4.95	(11,11)
MEALE/ R.S.O. (Co. Mayo)	SR25	AP.19.95	AU.19.08	(?,39) (DT3)
MEDSHERRY/ KESH R.S.O. / Co. FERMANAGH	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MEWBLISS R.S.O Co MONAGHAN	DR29/18	JY.12.02	DE.20.06	(73,2) (DT4)
MEWCASTLE/ HAZELHATCH R.S.O. / Co. DUBLIN	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MEWCASTLE WEST R.S.O. / Co LIM	SR26	AU.13.01	23.NO.22	(77,82)
MEW INN/ BALLYJAMESDUFF R.S.O. / Co. CAVAN	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
MEWMARKET ON FERGUS R.S.O. / Co CLARE	SR28	AP.29.02	OC. .14	(54,4) (DT4)
MEWPORT R.S.O. / Co TIP	SR24	JY.11.11	FE.13.12	(39,74)
MEWTOWN BUTLER R.S.O. / Co FERMANAGH	SR25	AU.19.04	JA.11.10	(77,73)
NORTHLANDS/ CARRICKMACROSS R.S.O. / Co. MONAGHAN	SR28	22APR.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
NATFIELD/ SIXMILEBRIDGE R.S.O. / Co. CLARE	SR28	22APR.01		(2) (PB) (RV)
NLDCASTLE R.S.O. / Co MEATH	SR24	JY. 7.07	6.SP.29	(1,74) (DT3)
NWNING/ PILTOWN R.S.O. / Co. KILKENNY	SR28	22APR.01		(2) (PB) (RV)
PALLASGREEN R.S.O. / Co LIMERICK	SR27	SP.11.02	JY.13.09	(12,1) (DT4)
PALLASGREEN R.S.O (Co. Limerick)	SR26	JY.10.03	JY. 2.07	(73,73) (DT4)
PARKGATE/ DOAGH R.S.O. / Co. ANTRIM	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
PASSAGE WEST R.S.O. / Co CORK	SR20	JA.13.03	SP.23.09	(57,57) (DT4)
PASSAGE WEST R.S.O. / Co CORK	SR26	MY.14.02	12.NO.19	(1,18) (DT4)
PASSAGE WEST R.S.O. / Co CORK	SR27	SP.23.09	2.JA.23	(73,82) (DT3)
PATRICKSWELL R.S.O. / Co LIM'K	SR24	AU. 5.03	18.MY.33	(57,74)
PHILIPSTOWN R.S.O. / KINGS Co	SR26	JU. 1.00	AP.11.12	(12,73) (DT3)
PHILIPSTOWN/ DUNLEER R.S.O. / Co. LOUTH	SR28	22MAY.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
PILTOWN R.S.O. / Co KILKENNY	SR26	DE.27.07	SE.16.10	(2,73) (DT3)
PILTOWN R.S.O. / Co KILKENNY	SR26	SE. 1.02	16.OC.23	(63,12) (DT4)
POLLREMON/ BALLYMOE R.S.O. / Co. GALWAY	SR28	22JUN.04		(2) (PB) (RV)
PORTLAW R.S.O. / Co WATERFORD	SR28	SP.18.07	MR.15.09	(39,57)
PORMAGEE/ VALENCIA ISLAND R.S.O (Co. Kerry)	SR27	OC. 3.07	OC. 3.07	(3,3)
PORTRUSH R.S.O. / Co GALWAY	SR27	AU. 8.08	AU. 8.08	(82,82) (DT3)
PORUMNA R.S.O. / Co GALWAY	SR25	AP.19.04	SE. 2.11	(?,77)
POYNTZPASS R.S.O. / Co ARMAGH	SR26	AP.28.00	AU.20.09	(63,77) (DT4)
QUIN R.S.O. / Co CLARE	SR26	AP.21.02	JU. 9.13	(4,4)

OBITUARY – TONY GRAHAM

Some extremely sad news for me, and I suspect other *IPC* members, was that of the death of *IPC* member TONY GRAHAM at his home in Holywood, County Down.

As I write this, I am still unclear about the details – he can only have been in his late 40s – but it is presumed that he died around Christmas, 1998. He last spoke to me on the telephone on Christmas Eve, and had written on the 21st. Tony seemed his usually chirpy self, and mentioned plans to publish a book on early straight-line postmarks.

Tony was a student at the University of Ulster in the 1960s and worked as a temporary postman/sorter for the Post Office in Belfast and Portrush. After two decades of 'exile' he returned to Northern Ireland and first wrote to me in June 1982. Our common interest in researching and recording Northern Ireland postmarks and Post Offices [in my case, Belfast in particular, but Tony took me on a wider field]. There followed a fruitful and continuous correspondence up until his death, by which time he had made enormous progress. Recent articles in *IRISH PHILATELY* testify to Tony's thoroughness of research. When he first wrote to me he said he had lots of rabbits in his hat, and so it proved.

We first actually met in front of Belfast City Hall in June 1993, and I well remember first seeing the smiling 'wee man on the bike. In 1995 he came over to London to visit the Post Office Archives and British Library, and we met again [he often said he could have spent a month in the Archives]. Our last meeting was in 1996 when I saw Tony in action, so to speak. He visited, I believe, all the Post Offices [including sub-offices] in Northern Ireland [about a thousand], obtaining examples of their hand-stamp strikes, questioning staff and locals and taking photographs. Tony would wait, or make repeated visits, to get exactly what he wanted. Considering the different politics of some of the areas visited this was no mean feat! In 1996 he told me that he had to explain himself to the RUC after being pointed out as a 'suspicious character' while visiting south Armagh. He took photographs not just of existing Post Offices, but also of previous locations.

Tony seemed to tackle every conceivable record that could help in the search to identify dates, staff and locations of Post Offices. He extracted a great deal from old newspapers, discovered rare or even unrecorded postmarks in collections of letters in the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland, checked maps and directories for Post Offices and postmasters, renumbering of streets and much more. He also had a sense of humour, and obtained postmark of places suited to various stamp issues – LOANENDS and BALLYMONEY for the European Economic Summit stamp [see various articles in past issues of the *JOURNAL*]. In the early 1990s he was pursuing research and postmarks while at the same time looking after his very frail father.

I never knew Tony to tire of his research. He told me he liked the Sherlock Holmes aspect of it, and so it was with me. He sometimes wrote to me perhaps about three times in one month, at a pace that I could barely keep up with, though I usually managed a letter once a month. To my mind it was the perfect partnership. Tony was also in touch with several others. He also belonged to the *BRITISH POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY* and the *NORTH OF IRELAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY* – there may have been others.

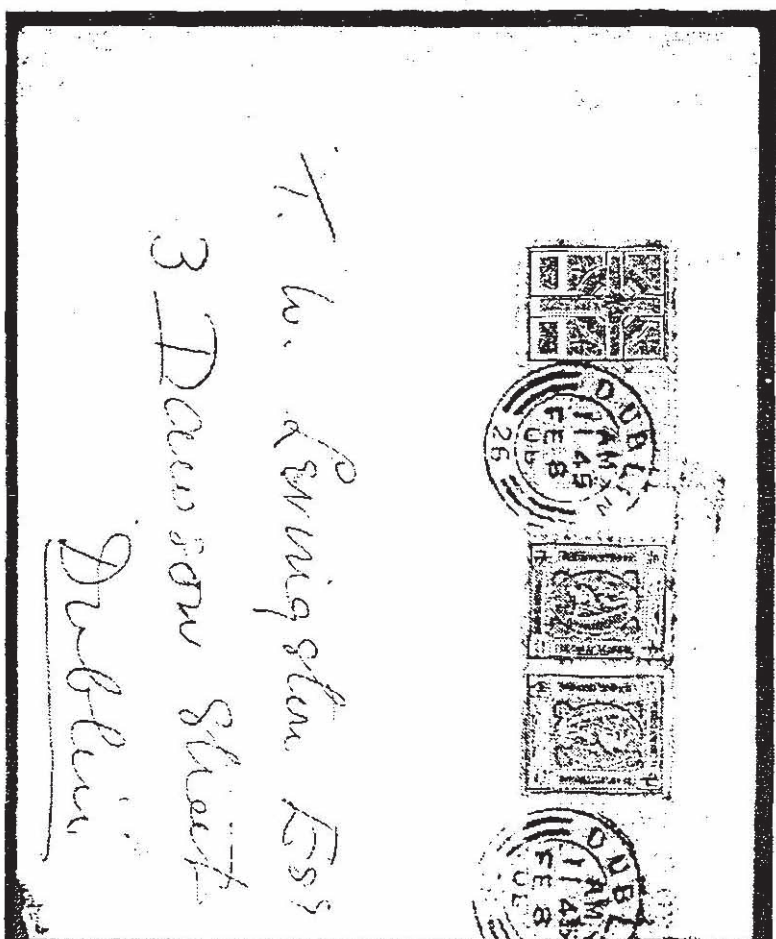
I am still enquiring as to the whereabouts of his research. Fortunately I have copies of almost of the basic work on Belfast. At best it may be possible to publish some reference work. At the very least, there is material for articles to be published in the *JOURNAL*. But I will miss the 'Dear Tim' 'Dear Tony' correspondence.

Tim Stephens ◊

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