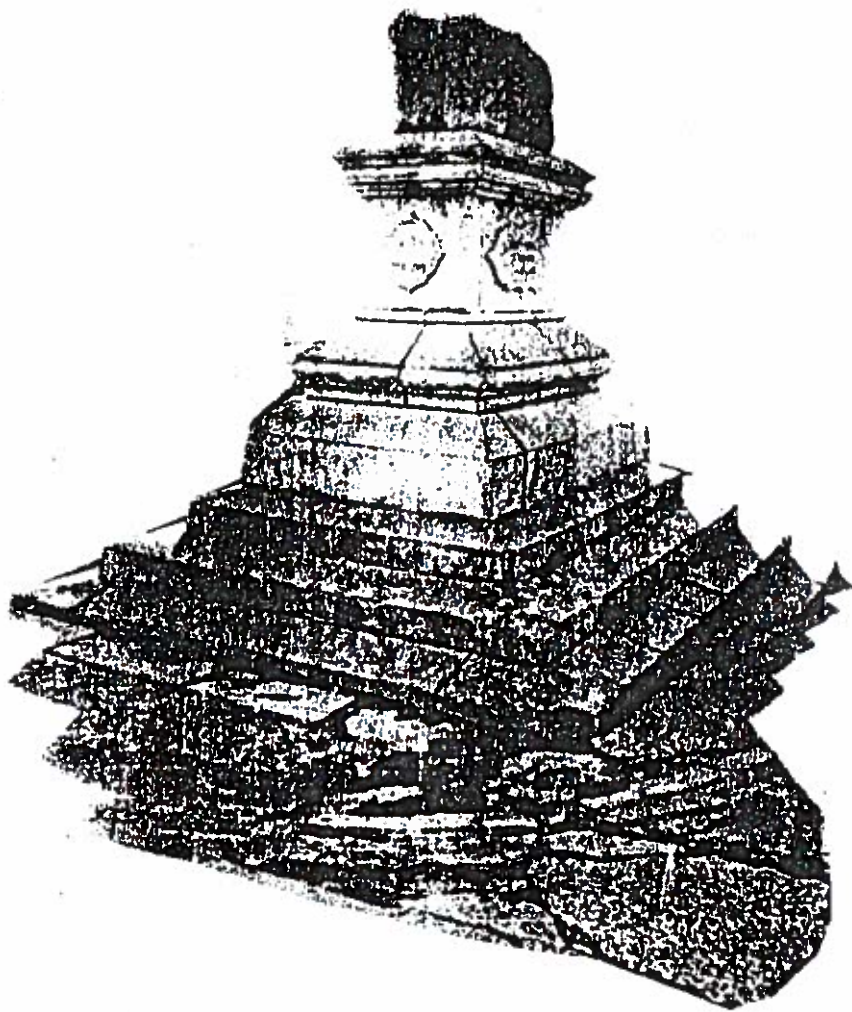


Mid Western Philatelic Society



Newsletter

SUMMER 1990

Mid-Western Philatelic Society - Newsletter - Summer 1990.

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Editorial:

I am most grateful to all who have been so generous with their praise of the Newsletter - thank you, one and all, for your encouragement and support.

The last quarter has been a busy one for the MWPS, culminating in our very successful Annual Exhibition which was held in March. An Post has favoured us with a variety of new philatelic items over the period, most notably the first of the new definitive series which appeared on 22nd. March last.

Please keep articles coming in. Without your continued help with articles items and ideas, the Newsletter cannot continue. Thanks to those who made contributions during the past three months, we have been able to expand this issue to a record twenty-two pages, which is a good size for a club "publication". Thank you, but please keep it up.

Items from non-members are particularly welcome (v. Jim McAllister's story) - the newsletter is circulated to quite a few who are not members, and any contribution from any reader would be very welcome.

M.H.

News, Views and Comments.

The highlight of our February meeting was the presentation made by Society President, Sean Moore, to our out-going secretary, Joe McCarthy. In the course of his short address, Sean commented on the dedicated service which Joe has given to the society as it's secretary over a period of more than eleven years. He remarked that, Joe, more than any other member or helper had contributed to the success of the Society since it was founded. Joe has been involved in every single activity undertaken by the society, and has made a particular contribution to the success of the Annual Exhibition, which is now in it's eleventh year. Joe's contribution has increased the pleasure which all our members get from the hobby, as well as our knowledge of philatelic matters, and we all wish him a long and happy retirement on "the back benches".

It is appropriate to wish our new secretary, John Grace every success in his new job. John took the job on last October, and since then has worked hard and diligently on behalf of our members. He has, without doubt, taken on the most difficult job in the club, and we all wish him luck as well as success.

Our annual exhibition was held in Cruises Hotel on 3rd. March last, and was very successful indeed. A short report on the day is given on a later page.

An Post issued the first of the new definitive series on 8th. March last. Six values were issued - 26p., 30p., 32p., 41p., 50p., and £1. They are quite attractive stamps, the design is distinctively Irish, and I expect that they will be popular with both collectors and users. However, I find myself wondering if we really need a new set of definitives at this time. The first set of definitive designs were in use, with only minor changes for 46 years. The next designs (the Gerls) for fourteen years, and the present series for eight years. If this progression is followed, we will have the new Irish Heritage and Treasures series on sale for only about six years before we have yet another series foisted on us.

I agree that forty-six years is far too long for a set of stamps to be around, but eight seems quite a short time and, again, the question arises, are these a necessity or is their purpose solely to raise revenue? At what point will the goose be killed finally?

Personally, I found the Architecture Series excessively dull, and from that point of view, I am glad to see the back of them. However, from a purely utilitarian viewpoint, I do not feel that there is any need to replace that series at this time.

Sean Moore, in his capacity as Society President, made a brief "appearance" on Clare Radio on Saturday 10th. March last. Despite being 'sandwiched' between the Bishop of Killaloe and Sile De valere, sean made a good showing, and managed to give our hobby a good boost on the airwaves.

At our March meeting, a vote of thanks was proposed to Jack Ormston, and his vallient team, for the very effective advertising campaign which he mounted for our Annual Exhibition. The meeting expressed sincere appreciation of the way in which Jack and team braved most difficult weather conditions to give the exhibition the best form of advertising to date. Sean Moore also expressed the Societies thanks to all those who helped out in various ways, and by their generous gift of time and effort, helped to make the exhibition one of the best to date.

Tim O'Connor has produced an excellent "Mini-Poster" to advertise our "Mini-Mart". Thank you, Tim. As a reminder to our members, I have reproduced this on a later page.

A postbox, probably the oldest in these Islands, has been found in Lincolnshire, in England. It was discovered when an old coaching inn/village called Spilsby was being refurbished. It was used for the collection of letters, which were picked up by passing stagecoaches, and is estimated to be about 300 years old.

A new "Greetings" booklet was issued at a discount price by An Post on 22nd. March last. Containing 4 x 30p. and 4 x 26p. stamps it sold at £1.98 and these stamps are only available in booklets. The selling price represents a free 26p. stamp in each booklet.

Our monthly meeting in April was held in Halla Ida, instead of St. Munchins. Despite this (or maybe partly because of) there was a good attendance, and much lively discussion on a wide range of topics took place. As a result of attacks on the club's only smoker, an immediate drive is to be launched to recruit smoker-collectors. National press, T.V. and radio are to be used in an endeavour to attract smokers. Announcing the recruitment drive, our Treasurer is quoted as saying that this would be the biggest boost to stamp-collecting in its entire history, and he volunteered to spearhead the campaign.

(A more accurate account of the discussion may be gleaned from the minutes of the meeting, though the correct version is somewhat less entertaining)

Sean O'hAllmhurain and Joe McCarthy volunteered to give displays from their collections at our May meeting. It was also agreed that we would hold a "Philatelic Quiz" at this meeting. A prize of £10 will go to the winner.

Sean Moore entertained the April meeting with a display of some unusual forgeries of the Gerl and Architecture definitives. These items are seldom seen, and created much interest.

Change of Venue for meetings: See notice on page 7.

Contacts:

1. Herik Danielsen,
Ryttergaardsvej, 18000, 205,
3520, Farum,
Denmark.
Phone: (direct): 1645 295 3116.

)
) Herik is a mature collector, who would
) like to exchange Danish for Irish
) stamps.

2. Miss Daniela Milici,
via Sottopovolo, 93,
33053, LATISANA (Ud),
Italy.

) Daniela is a 23 year old student at the
) University of Padova. She is interested
) in the study of old letters and Post
) Cards; F.D.C.'s & Military Mail. She is
) prepared to exchange anything philatelic
) for items relating to her areas of
interest.

Worth Looking For?

As you probably know, the British P.O. issued a "Charity Stamp" for Christmas mail. It was a terrible flop, and is unlikely to raise more than £300,000 for charity against a target of at least £1m. This would suggest, for those interested in the 'investment' side of collecting that postally used covers bearing the charity stamp might be worth looking out for.

A consequence of the British public's antipathy to the charity stamp was that supplies of the 'non-charity' 15p. stamp as well as the basic Machin definitive ran short in many P.O.'s, and it is reported that the "Penny Black" definitives, due to go on sale on 10th. January, were issued by some post offices up to a month early. Perhaps, trying to establish a 'First Day of Issue' for this stamp, could make an interesting philatelic game.

In late February, An Post issued a pack of five postcards, pre-paid to any EC country at a price of £1.00. This is a price of 20p. each and represents good value for anyone who has a need to send the occasional PC. Apart from the An Post Logo with "Postage Paid - Postas Iochta" and the word "TO" on the front, the card is blank.

The now familiar St. Patrick's Day cards were issued on 17th. February. This year An Post added a letter card to the range. The PC's sold at 30p. each, and the letter card 35p. post paid to anywhere in the world. A total of six designs were issued. I understand that these items are relatively unpopular with collectors, but are very popular indeed with the general public, and as such are a most commercially viable item.

An Post sells about 9,000 First Day Covers for each Irish issue. This is an interesting statistic - I had no idea that there are so many FDC addicts out there. It could also be taken as another indication of the strength of the market in Irish material generally.

A new "Iochta" label has appeared. It is self adhesive, and measures 23mm by 19mm, with "tab" ends. It bears an imprinted date at the top, with the legend "Baile Atha Cliath - Iochta" on a yellow field, and the "An Post" logo in green underneath. It appears to be used by "bulk-mailers" in place of the old "Official Paid" mark.



Stamps to look for: the Canadian Queens head definitives contains one value - the 36¢ - which was on sale for only a short time, and may well be worth tucking away, if you come across a copy. The official release date was set for May 1987, but due to production problems, it was not actually released until 1st. October 1987. The postage rate was increased to 37¢ in Jan. 1988, rendering the 36¢ obsolete.



Diary Dates: Don't forget that our meetings are held on the third Friday of each month ~~at the same time and place as last year~~. Get more from your hobby by attending regularly.

MWPS - 11th. Annual Exhibition.

Our 11th. annual Exhibition was held on 3rd. March in Cruises Hotel. There was a somewhat international flavour to the event, with visitors from as far afield as Dublin and Cork. We were pleased to welcome one Russian visitor, who appeared to enjoy the event considerably. Yuri (I will not attempt to spell his sir, name) moved from stand to stand, spending a good deal of time at each, and at the end of the day seemed well pleased with his purchases.

We were supported by a number of dealers and we are indeed grateful for their support. Despite the "love-hate" relationship which appears to exist between dealer and collector at times, there is no doubt that we need each other. Our thanks to Raven Stamps and Sanu Stamps from Cork, and to Willie Wolfe and Eoin Boyle from Dublin. For the first time this year, two of our members, Sean Moore & William Ryan tried their hands at dealing. The decision to make this break with tradition was taken in view of the small number of professional dealers attending this year. The fact that we clashed with "Stampex" was the reason given by most for their inability to come to Limerick.

Attendance was up on previous years, and in fact was possibly the best yet, though we have not yet got a final attendance figure. Dealers reported a brisk trade, and appeared pleased with the days work.

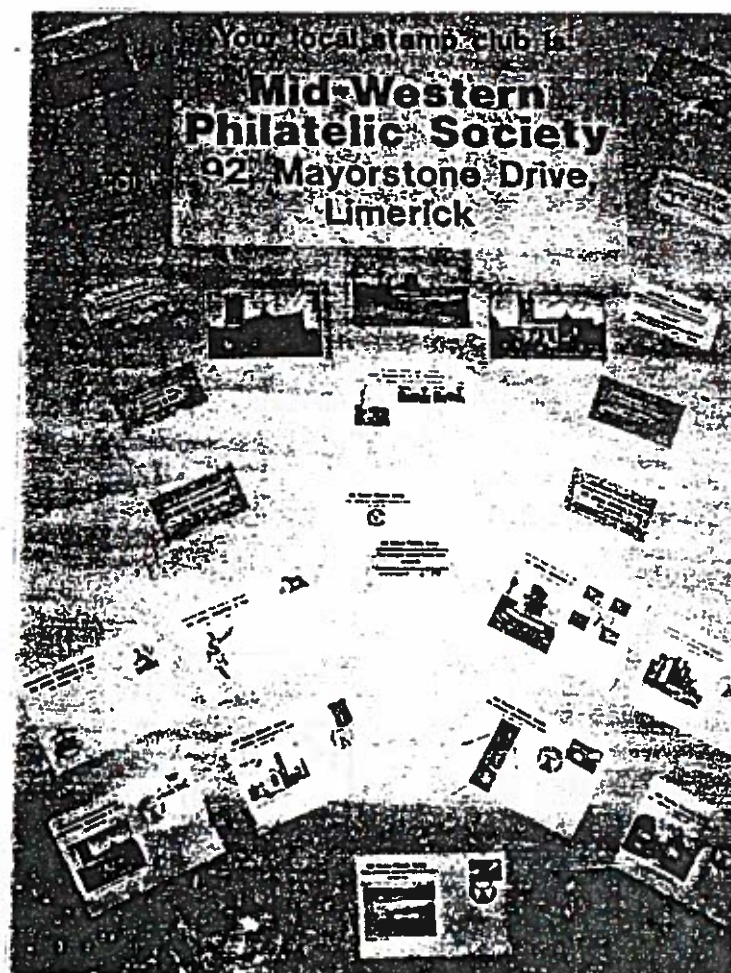
The focal point of the exhibition was, of course, the An Post stand, and we are most grateful to An Post both for attending and for providing us with advertising in their new issue bulletin.

Two souvenirs were produced for the Exhibition - a booklet containing two of the 24p. Birds issue, in a limited edition of 300, and a cover, which used the "Ennis 750" logo as it's motif. Notwithstanding the unattractive appearance of the cover - it was printed incorrectly - it sold out quite early in the day, and many collectors expressed disappointment at being unable to obtain a copy.

The organisers did an excellent job, and most of the credit for the exhibitions success must go to them. The advertising of the event, under Jack Ormston's able direction, was most effective, and also contributed in no small measure to the good attendance. At our monthly meeting on 16th. March last, Society President offered grateful thanks to all the members who had helped to make the exhibition such a great success.



Sean Moore and friend at the "Limerick Stamp Co." stand.



Part of the MWPS display. This frame contained examples of the souvenirs issued annually by the society to commemorate the annual Exhibition and in fact, represents a complete collection of each of the souvenirs issued over the past eleven years - i.e. from the first Exhibition in 1980 to the present one. A total of eleven booklets and ten covers have been issued. These now have a catalogue "value" of about £70, though it should be possible to buy a complete set for about half of that figure.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Change of venue for meetings - All future meetings will be held in HALLA IDA, 18, THOMAS STREET, LIMERICK, and not in St. Munchins College as heretofore.

Meetings will continue to be held on the third Friday of each month, at 8.00 p.m.

The last meeting before the "Summer Break" will be held on Friday 18th. May (in Halla Ida) at 8.00 p.m. The next meeting thereafter will be on 21st. September 1990.

Don't forget - put it in your diary!

The photo. on the facing page is from the O'Donaghue Studio. Thanks Roger.

VARIETIES: By Sean Moore (continued).

The following pages conclude Sean Moore's study of varieties to be found on some Irish issues.

It has proved impossible to photocopy these in a manner which makes the variety referred to plainly visible. The intention, therefore is to indicate to anyone who is interested, what to look for, and where on the stamp to look. Sean has brought to our February meeting the pages from his collection which illustrate the varieties shown in this and in the previous issue, and is prepared to bring them again to a future meeting for the benefit of anyone who would like to view the actual varieties.

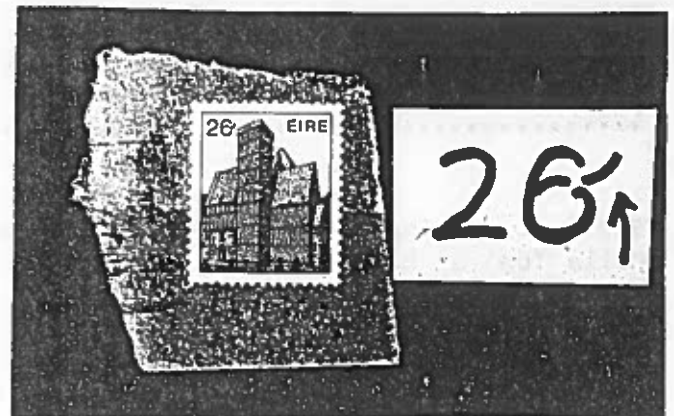
**LINE THROUGH TREES.
ROW. 4. STAMP. 2.**



**"STIGMATA"
R.3. S.3**
↓



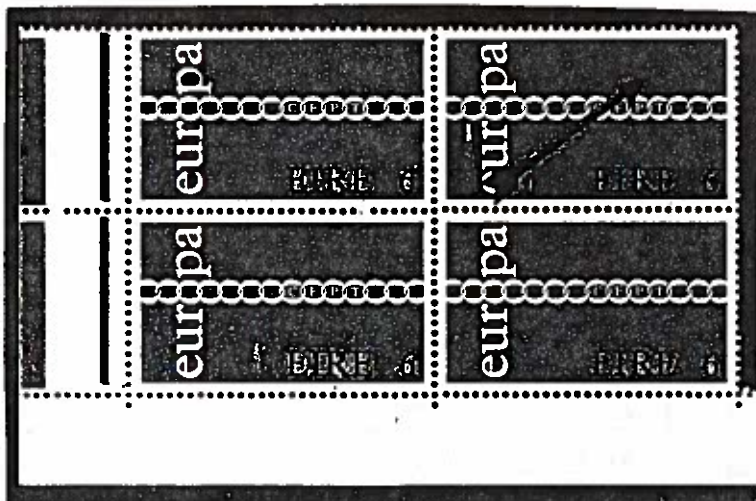
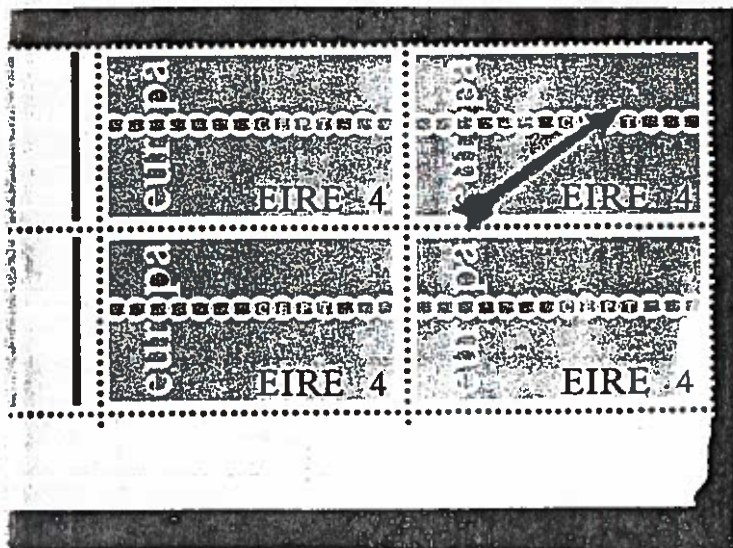
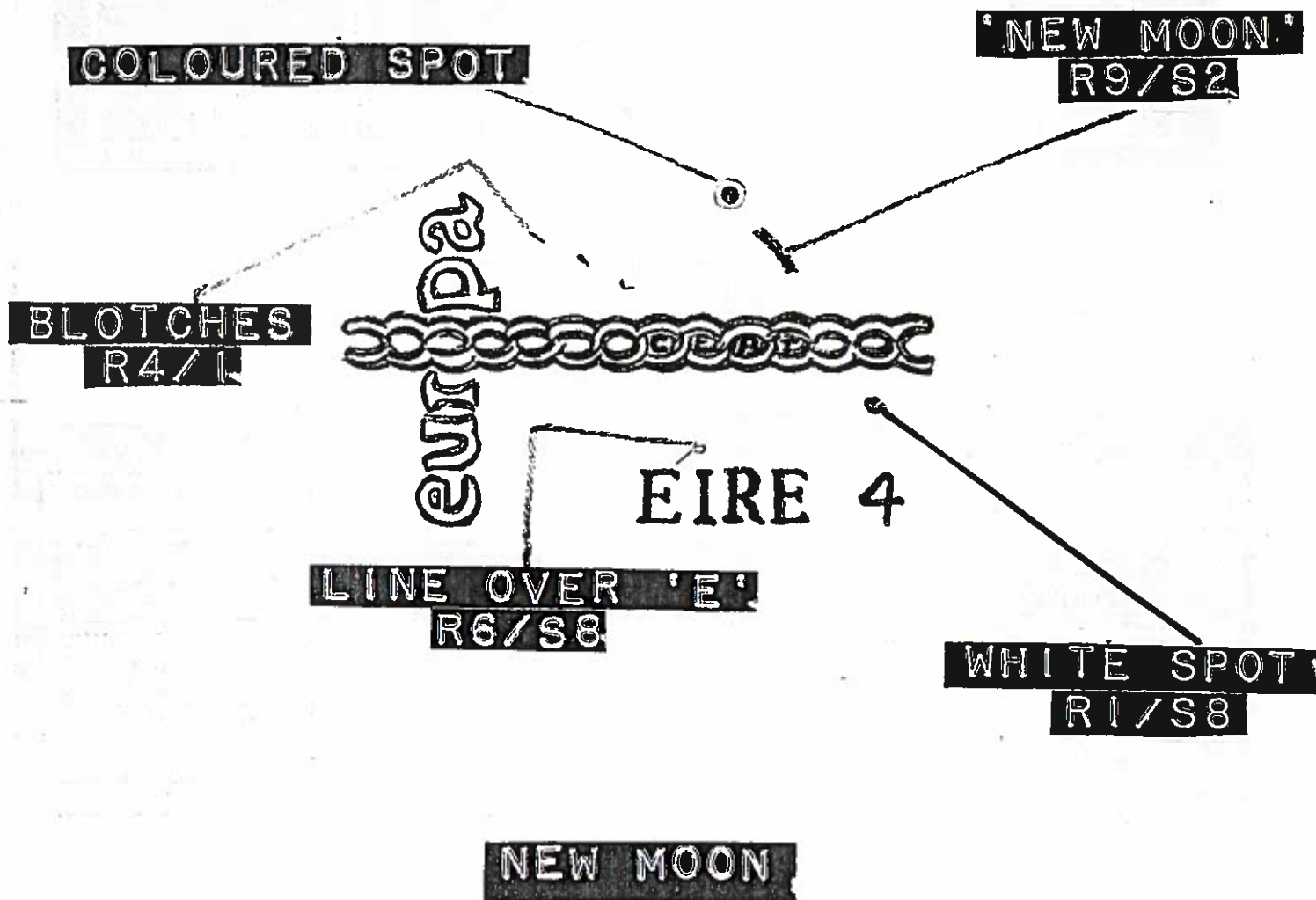
MISSING GOLD



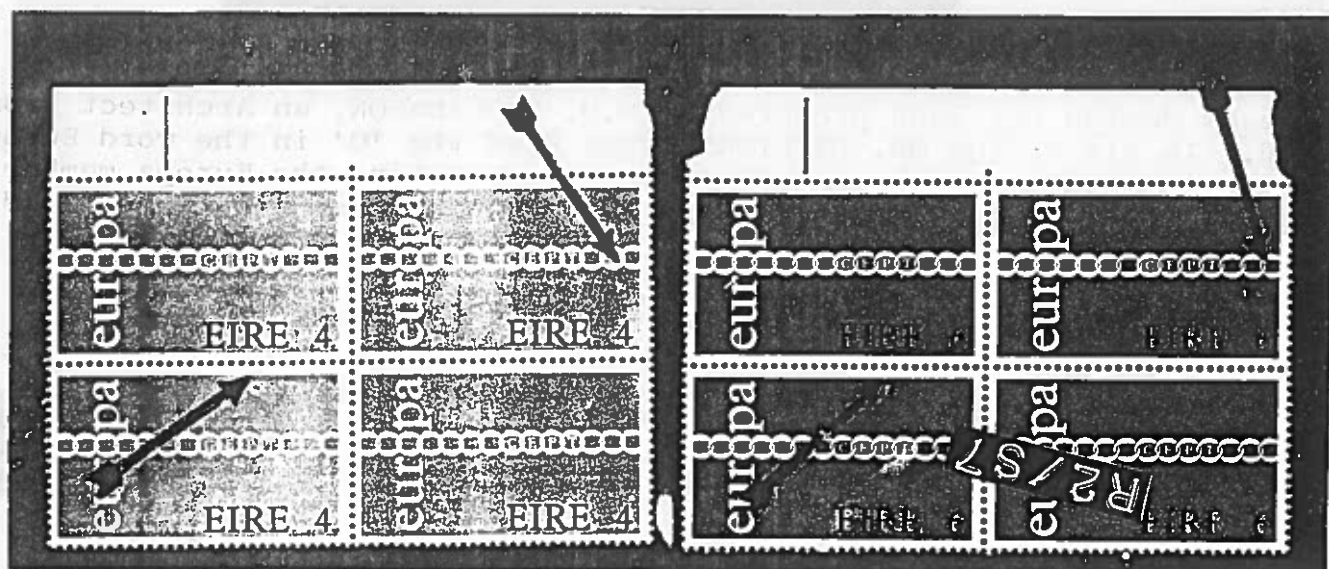
EUROPA

ISSUED MAY 3. 1971.

This years design has been prepared by M.H. HAFLIDASON, an Architect from Iceland. In his design MR. HAFLIDASON has used the 'O' in the word Europa as a link in a chain which symbolises the bond uniting the Europa members in their co-operative methods in the postal and telecommunications field.

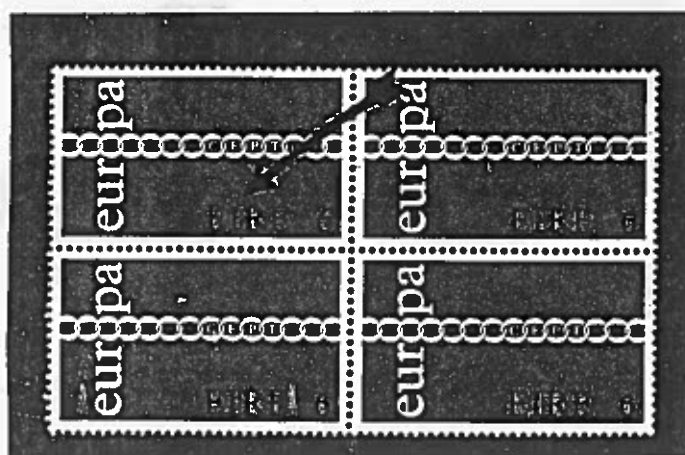
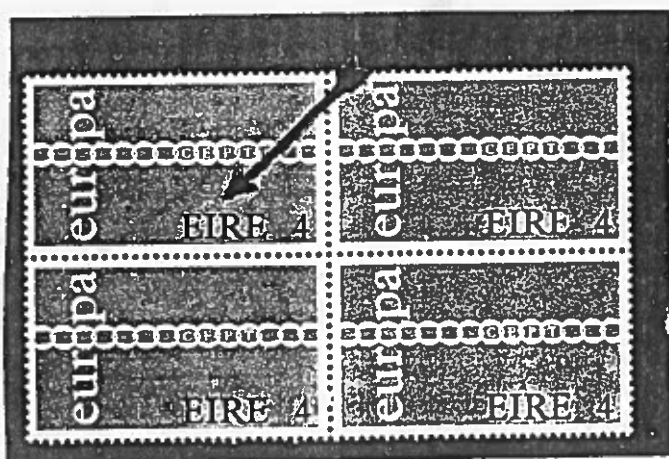


COLOURED SPOT

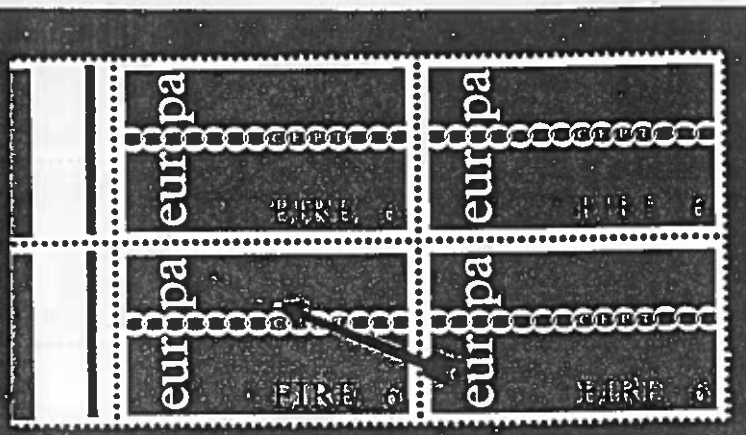
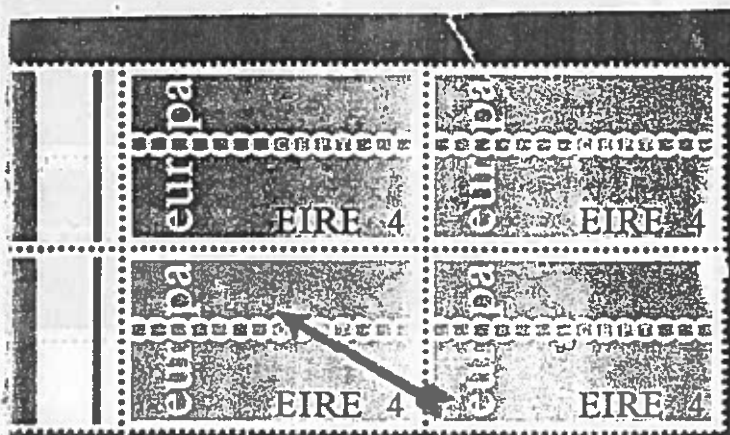


LINE OVER

'E'



BLOTCHES



1.

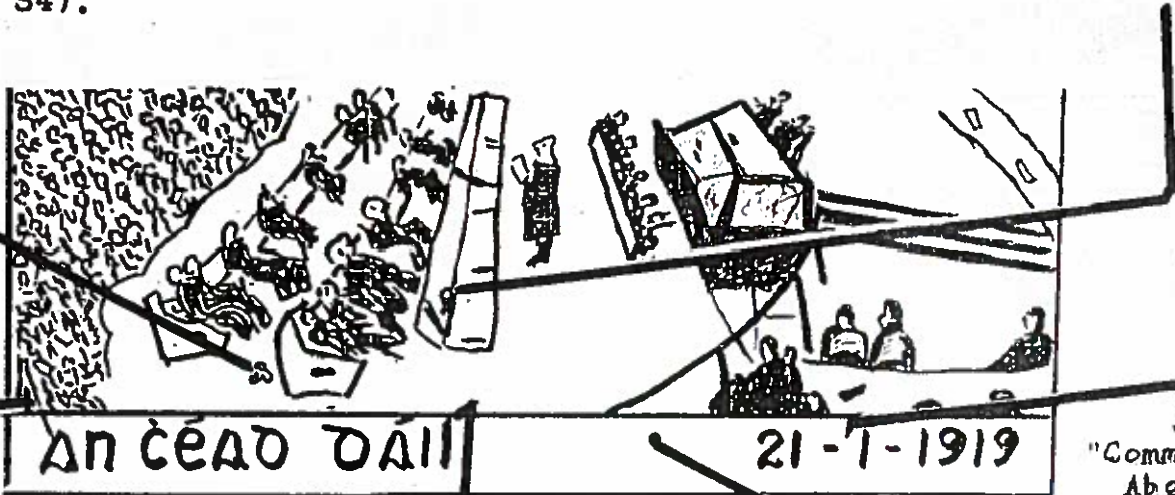
FIRST MEETING OF DAIL EIREANN

This meeting took place in the Mansion House, Dublin on the 21st January, 1919, when the Sinn Féin members who had been elected to the British Parliament at the General Election of 1918, met and in pursuance of their election policy, issued a declaration confirming the Republic proclaimed in 1916 and constituted themselves the National Parliament (Dail Eireann).

"Doll" Behind
Seat.
(R7 / S4).

"Ghost On Seat"
(R2 / S1).

Hair Line.
(R2 / S1).

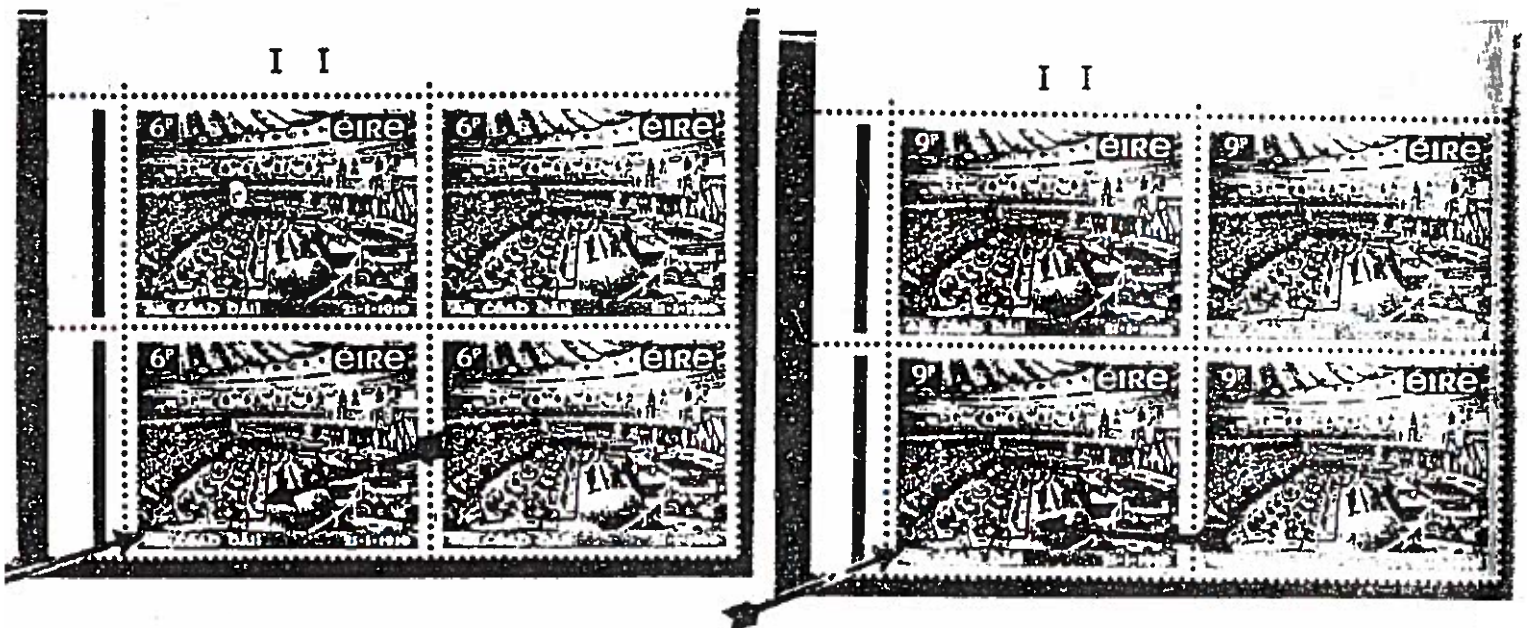


"I" Fade.
(R5 / S8).

Dot Near Rail
(R2 / S6).

"Comma"
Above '7'
(R4 / S7).

GHOST ON SEAT & HAIR LINE.



'COMMA'

W H I T E S P O T N E A R R A I L

DOLL BEHIND SEAT.



L FADA



The Principality of Thomond:

I have very little information on these attractive lables, and I wonder if any of our members can shed some more light on them? As far as I can make out, they were issued about 1981, in values ranging from ½d to 2/6. They are printed in a diamond format 35mm. x 35mm, with a 5mm. border, and depict a variety of subjects, including flowers, aircraft, birds and sports. One of the sets is overprinted "Europa 1961".



They were (apparently) printed in Dublin, and "issued" from a small office there, which was described as "The Embassy of the Principality of Thomond". Full page adverts. appeared in the U.S. Philatelic press, advertising these "stamps" for sale. Following the appearance of the advertisements, the "Embassy" was raided by the Gardai, who seized a number of the lables. However, they were a bit late, as by the time of the raid, most of the stocks of the lables had been shipped to the U.S.

A great many sets appear to have been exported, though the issue does not appear to have achieved any great degree of popularity, even with Cinderella collectors. Both sets are available from Price & Co. of Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin for less than £1.00 per set.

Can anyone provide more information on these items, which have such an obvious Limerick connection?

Irish Airmails:

I am told by Roger O'Donoghue that anew society, called "The Irish Airmail Society" has recently been formed, and is open to anyone who has an interest in Irish Airmails. The annual sub. is £10.00 which includes a copy of the Societies Quarterly bulletin. Anyone interested should contact the Hon. Sec., Mr. F. McDonald, 63, Rafters Road, Drimnagh, Dublin, 12.

Wants:

1986 £2 numbered booklet. Need 13, 16 and 20 in exchange for 1, 3, 5, 6, 9 or 10.

Replies to: S. O'hAllmhurain, 4, Ardan Bride, sr. Nua, Luimneach.

Contacts:

Ian Michielsen, Middelstede, B., B-2310, Rykevorsel, Belgium.
Would like to exchange both mint and used Belgium and W.Europe for Irish similar.
Ian is also interested in aquiring Irish Banknotes.
(It could be said that quite a few Irish people are also interested in aquiring Irish Banknotes .



MID-WEST STAMP CLUB

MINI-MART

1ST SATURDAY
OF EACH MONTH.
(HALLA 'IDE) 10:30-1:00
18 Thomas street P.M.
Exchange, Sale AND
PURCHASE OF STAMPS,
POSTCARDS, AND
CIGARETTE CARDS.

Above is a reproduction of Tim O'Connor's poster
to advertise the monthly "Mini-Mart".
Could you get a copy placed somewhere where it
would be of use to the club? In your local shop
maybe?
Copies can be got from Joe McCarthy or John Grace.

The Catalpa Affair.

I correspond with a noted collector of Irish and U.S. material from Pawtucket, in the U.S.A. by the name of Jim McAllister. About a year ago he sent me a cover P.M. "Catalpa Sta. New Bedford, Ma" and issued on 24th. Aug. 1976 to commemorate the 100th. Anniversary of the Return of Catalpa to New Bedford. For some reason, this cover spiked my curiosity, and I wrote to Jim asking him if he knew anything of the 'story behind the cover'. As it happened, he had done some research into the affair, and he told me a most interesting story, which I summerise briefly here-under.



The story began in Ireland in the second half of the 19th. century, when James Wilson, a young Irishman, who had been conscripted in the English Army, along with many other young Irishmen took part in the ill fated Fenian Uprising of 1867.

Wilson survived the insurrection, but was courtmartialed, and sentenced to life imprisonment in the penal colony of Freemantle in Australia. One of his fellow prisoners, John Boyle O'Reilly, succeeded in excaping from Freemantle after eight attempts, and made his way to America, where he was employed as a journalist. He bacame an active civil rights campaigner, and under his direction, a great deal of publicity was given to the plight of Irish prisoners in Australia.

O'Reilly and his associates raised \$25.000, which they used to purchase an old Whaling Ship - The Catalpa, and they set out on a mission to rescue O'Reilly's fellow Fenians on 13th. April 1876.

The vessels Captain was aware of their true mission, though the crew was not. The Catalpa whaled for several months before reaching it's destination. Wilson and his companions had been kept aware of events, and were awaiting rescue when the Catalpa arrived at a point sixteen miles off Freemantle.

(Catalpa - 2)

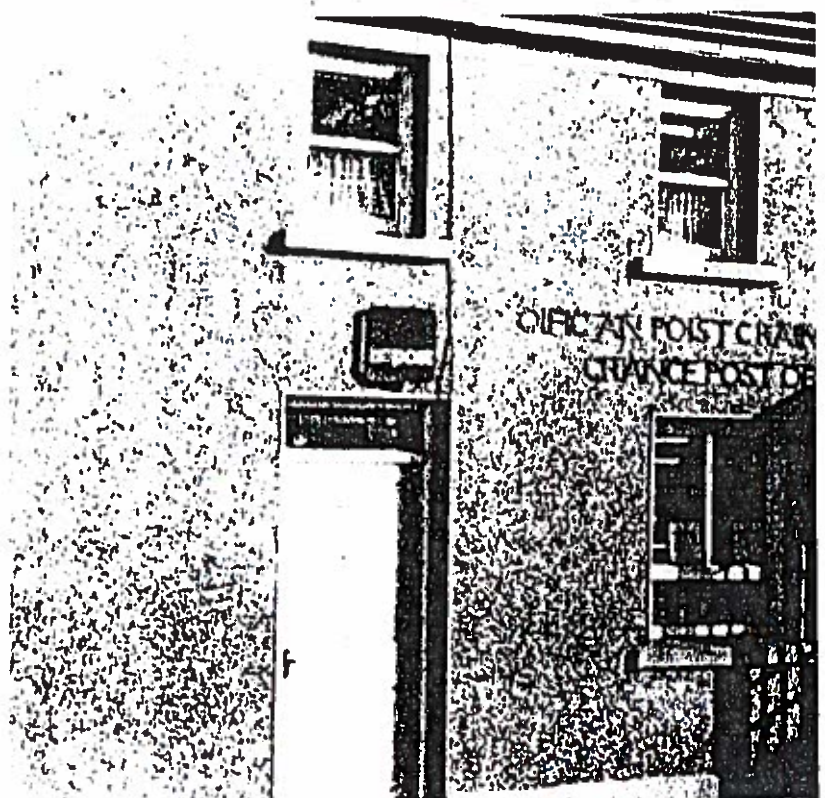
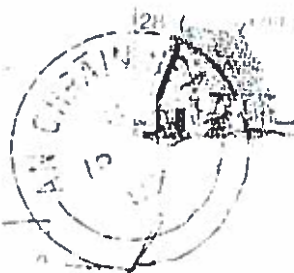
The Catalpa launched a small whaleboat, which proceed to pick up Wilson and nine other excapees. They were persued by the British Coast Guard, who had got wind of the excape, but finally reached the Catalpa after thirty-six hours in the water. Shots were fired across the Whalers bow, but when the Captain reminded the Coast Guard that they were an American Ship in international waters the attack was called off and the Catalpa sailed for home. They arrived in New Bedford in August 1876.

John Wilson settled in Pawtucket, when he was something of a celebrity. He was visited there by Mamonn DeValera in 1919. He died in his 85th year in 1921, and is one of the last Irishmen in Pawtucket to have had a public wake.

Limerick Postmarks: For this issue, I have chosen a selection of marks from offices which are now closed.



While I have no opening or closing dates for any of these, I am sure that Roger O'Donoghue can supply these to anyone who might be interested. Grange is a slight exception, as I know that it closed between January and August of 1989.



Member's Profile.

MWPS President - Sean Moore:

Sean was born in 1922 in Thomondgate, and has lived thereafter in "THE" parish of St. Mary's, so has no claim to being a "sodacake". Though christened John Henry, he has been known as Sean almost since birth.

Educated by the Christian Brothers and at the "Tech" in O'Connell St., where he did a course in Business Methods, he followed in his father's footsteps by taking a job in the transport division of Rank's, then in Roches Street. Laid off with the advent of World War Two in 1939, like many others, he emigrated to England where he was employed by John Laing & Sons, in East Anglia, about ten miles from Norwich. There, for the princely sum of £4.10.0, he worked a 48 hour week, and took his chances with the incessant bombing.

In 1942, Sean returned to Limerick and worked for a time with Woodford Burns, before returning to work with Ranks in their new premises in Dock Road in 1945. He remained with Ranks, until 1976 when he took voluntary retirement. Not satisfied with "doing nothing", he then took employment with the Teachers Training College S.C. Road, until 1980, when, following a heart attack, he decided to call it a day.

Sean has always had a strong interest in sport, especially Soccer, but also Hurling, Gaelic Football, Handball, Billiards and snooker. He is justly proud of the fact, that he won at all these games, and now plays Pitch and Putt with the Ardnacrusha Club.

His interest in stamp collecting dates from about 1930; he was much encouraged by a local shopkeeper, an avid collector, and Sean has vivid memories of many penny jotters crammed with 1922 overprints. The shopkeepers collection came to an unfortunate end, when on moving to new premises the collection was stored in a shed with a leaking roof.

In the 1960's, Sean became involved in running a stamp club, the aim of which was to raise money for the Redemptorist Missions in Brazil. This club lasted for about fifteen years during which time the members made up many packets of stamps for sale in the Duty Free shop in Shannon, Toods, Woolworths and Hutchinsons in Cecil Street.

Sean's collecting interests diversified over the years; he has collected ashtrays, coins, Postcards and Cigarette Cards, but he has always returned to Stamp Collecting, and has specialised in Irish Varieties. It would be fair to say that most of the better varieties on the modern issues have passed through his hands. In fact, he probably has one of the best collections of varieties anywhere. He regrets neither the time nor the money spent on his hobbies over the years, and remarks that it takes retirement to make one fully appreciate the value of a hobby in productively filling extra leisure time.

In Sean's own words: " In times past, retirement meant reaching the age of 65, but in the present economic climate, retirement can occur even at such early ages as 30, 40 or 50 years of age. A hobby can help to relieve the stress and strain of the loss of employment. Stamp collectors can be happy in the knowledge that it is "THE" most popular hobby of all, practised by people in all walks of life; lifelong friendships are developed; one meets new people, and enjoys new company, and I have enjoyed all my years collecting. I have been President of the MWPS since it's formation in 1978, and I have enjoyed our "get-togethers" every month. Long may our Society continue".

Contributions are urgently needed for our next issue. Please write something for your newsletter. Items may be left with John Mitchell at M-Sign Products, Mallow St. or to Michael Hartnett, 1, Clifton Close, Ennis Road (Phone - 061/51228), or to any committee member at meetings.

Mise agus an Ceannasaí

le

Seán Ó hAllmhúráin

What was a reasonably pleasant exercise for a stamp collector dealing with the Philatelic Service under An Roinn Phoist agus Telegrafa and, latterly, An Post, changed over the past three years to become a trying experience needing unlimited patience (a quality I'm not over-endowed with), the writing of many letters and finally, towards the close of 1989, the cancellation of my standing order.

For many years I've had a standing order account (D50) with the Philatelic Service. On 20.3.89 I altered it to plates 'A' and 'B', colour and imprint blocks of commemoratives, a total of sixteen stamps. Here's how I fared:

- 11.4.89. Ireland series issued. The Philatelic Service sent me strips 2x8 stamps for each value.
- 18.4. The few corner blocks included retained and the remainder returned with a request for the missing blocks and credit for stamps returned.
- P.S. supply missing blocks.
- 6.6. I sent on a supplementary order to the P.S. I also queried the total amount to my credit in view of stamps returned 18.4.89.
- 19.6. P.S. provide full details of my account in their letter.
- 6.7. I sent on a cheque to the P.S. and advised items listed on my account as having been sent to me on 15.6.89 had not arrived.
- 19.7. Letter from P.S. acknowledging my cheque and advises P.S. not sure which stamps I'm missing. (Letter awaiting me on return from holidays).
- 8.8. Letter to P.S. advising of non-arrival of joint Irish/German maxi cards. Damaged £1.48 booklet returned also with request for replacement.
- P.S. sent on set of maxi cards and replacement booklet.
- 25.8. Strips of 16 stamps of the 27.7.89 issues received from the P.S. Returned with request P.S. consult my standing order and comply with it.
- Philatelic Service send on correct order.
- 11.10. Cheque and list of definitive values needed sent to P.S.
- 31.10. P.S. acknowledge my cheque.

(2).

- 3.11. Letter (angry) sent to P.S. requesting plate blocks etc instead of 2x8 strips received of the Flora & Fauna issue.
- 25.11. Letter from P.S. apologising for wrong order and enclosing some of the plate blocks.
- 2.12. Letter to P.S. listing missing blocks needed and not included in theirs of 25.11.89 and inquiring about definitives ordered on 11.10.89 posted at the G.P.O., Dublin this date.
- 8.12. Flora & Fauna and Sail Ireland blocks requested supplied by P.S.
- 23.12. Letter to P.S. inquiring about my order for definitives made 11.10.

Since writing above I received some of the definitive stamps ordered the previous autumn on 23.1.90. No imprint blocks were included but a list of the plate blocks available was included.

I would point out the majority of the commemorative issues for 1989 were correctly processed and received by me in good time.

Comparing my treatment by the Irish Philatelic Service with that I've experienced in dealing with the Philatelic Services of Denmark, Jersey and Canada its perfectly clear to me our service has considerable leeway to make up. I trust this short account will help.

Can Anyone help?

I recently aquired at auction an unusual lable, and I wonder if anyone knows anything about it? It is 40mm long by 15mm wide in a frame of irregular size, poorly rouletted, and depicting a building, a figure, an aeroplane and a ship across it's length. The words "Airmail - Karlsruhe - Galway" appear under the picture.



I would be very grateful for any imformation on this item.

M. Hartnett.

Acknowledgements:

A number of people have helped in different ways in the production of our newsletter, and I want to take a little space to thank them publically.

Firstly, of course, thanks must go to those who have taken the time and effort to write for the Newsletter. Contributions are the lifeblood of any publication, however small and amateur it may be. Particular thanks for this issue to Sean Moore and Sean O'Halloran, both of whom have provided articles.

Next in the "Roll of Honour", I would mention those who have provided material for articles, and pride of place in this category must go to Jim MacAllister of Pawtucket, for his story on the Catalpa. This story loses much by the way I condensed it - in its original form, it read like something that could only be produced in Hollywood. A story with much romance, adventure, excitement and even a happy ending.

I am very grateful to those who have provided ideas for articles and other items - especially, William Morris, Joe McCarthy, John Mitchell and Roger O'Donoghue. Roger has also provided postmarks and photographs which I have used. A thank you also to Desmond O'Donoghue who lent Roger the camera with which some of these photos were taken.

Those who help distribute the Newsletter - Sean, Joe and John Grace. A special 'thank-you' to John of "Shannon Stamps" who most generously defrays the expenses of distribution.

I would express the Societies gratitude to MacDonnell Whyte and to James A. Mackay who have generously given permission to quote from their publications. The item - "Rare Irish Stamps" is reproduced by permission of MacDonnell Whyte, who by their help to the MWPS continue a long tradition of service to our hobby.

James Mackay deserves a special word of thanks - he is a very busy man, whose time is divided between writing, research and lecture tours; despite the many demands on his time, he took the time to write to me, giving permission to quote from his many books. The postmarks in the item "Limerick Postmarks" are reproduced with his very kind permission, from his work "Datstampai Rubair na bhFo-Oifigi an Phoist in Eirinn". (I have quite a few of James books, and would be happy to lend them to any member who may be interested).

Thank you one and all, and especially anyone I have missed out.

Last Word -

Get more out of your hobby - support your local stamp club;

- attend our monthly meetings (third Friday of every month ~~in the library, St. Mary's Church, College, Corbally~~); ***
- come to the Mini-Mart (First Saturday of each month in Halla Ida, 18, Thomas Street), and bring a friend;
- write something for your newsletter - anything about stamp collecting, however short;
- bring something philatelic to our meetings - show others what you collect, and how you do it; learn from what others do;
- is there anything you would like covered in the newsletter - mention it to the Hon. Ed. who will try to oblige;
- is there anything you would like covered at meetings - mention it to Sean or John.

Note new venue for meetings - Halla Ida, 18, Thomas Street, Limerick.



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