

1965

*IRISH
PHILATELY*

The Journal of the
IRISH PHILATELIC CIRCLE



"Irish Philately"

VOLUME 1965

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Members who require extra copy of any of the pages in
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cover the return postage charge.

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IRISH PHILATELY

Journal of the Irish Philatelic Circle

Volume

1965

August

President: Rev. Fr. J. Brennan

Hon. Secretary: David Warren, 109, Dollis Hill, London, N.W.2.

Editorial: R.P. Woods, 22, Rosslyn Road, Shoreham by Sea, Sussex.

EDITORIAL The adage "Silence signifies consent" might be applied to the reception of the Journal. As Editor, I receive a condemnatory epistle, and actually one praising our efforts, but generally - 'no comment'.

Typographical errors do slip in, but after a day's work, to endeavour to be perfect upon a task, unpaid, is perhaps asking too much. Every effort is made to ensure that such errors do not occur, but "To err is human, to forgive is divine"

'Lack of meat'; 'Waste of money'; 're-hashing'; non-philately' - all such criticisms have been levelled at one's efforts, but here it can be said "Physicians heal thyselfes". If members won't send material, then perforce one has to publish what is available.

The question which immediately comes to mind - 'Is it worth the effort ?' Most Study Groups/Circles, produce their own publications, and here I started the Journal in 1960 and have endeavoured to keep it going aided by certain stalwarts. As such, is there an equivalent publication in this country which caters exclusively for Irish Philately ? The answer must be 'No'. To the best of my knowledge, there is only "The Revealer" - the official organ of E.P.A. of U.S.A. A number of our members are members of that Association, and in this context, it must be said that Mr. Dixon - the Author of the highly successful "Random Notes" is the President. Those who receive The Revealer will know it is now quarterly, and is dealing very fully with the Over-Prints. Their production is superior to ours, but possibly their finances are better. Is there room for two such publications ? So we come to the future - "To be or not to be" This can only be decided by our Members, so views will be gratefully received and published.

In future, any articles which are sent will be published and are the responsibility of the progenitor. Criticisms etc. are requested to be addressed to the Author and not to the Editor.

Regarding work to be done, have any members sent their findings on the Postage Due Stamps to Mr. Fletcher ? It is to be hoped that they have, so that we can compile and publish them. Needless to say, notes and news and articles relating to Irish Philately are always welcome.

R.P. WOODS
Editor

DOES THE IRISH DOUBLE OVERPRINT ON THE WATERLOW 10/-
OF 1935 EXIST ?

(Notes compiled by members of the Irish Philatelic Circle)

In "Stamp Collecting", July 30th, 1938, we read - "Nearly three years have elapsed since "Stamp Collecting" recorded the discovery of three unusual (sic) copies of 10/- stamp of G.B. in the re-engraved type showing a double overprint of the words "SAORSTAT EIREANN 1922". Now two more copies have turned up, both of them unused, which have been shown us by Messrs. G.W.Saunders, Ltd., by whom they were found in a mixed lot. The date of the postmark - 12th August, 1935 - suggests that they must have come from the same sheet, so that there could not have been more than forty of these doubles in all. "

Towards the end of 1939, one mint, and two used copies of this variety came up for sale in two London Auction Rooms. It was stated emphatically, on that occasion by one of the Auctioneers that only a total of eight copies of this variety existed altogether. He said that only the last stamp of each row received the double O/P. On that assumption he should, of course, have said ten, not eight, for there are ten rows on these sheets. He agreed with this later when it was pointed out to him.

Three copies were known Mint at that time, and it was stated that only three mint existed.

In 1949, a used copy was sold by a London Auctioneer. On the 8th July, 1959, the late J.S.Preston's copy (used) was sold at a London Sale.

It is quite possible, and indeed probable, that in these sales, one, OR more of these stamps came up for sale more than once. Even if this did not happen, and that all known copies are, in fact different, less than ten have been on the Public market in London in the past 28 years - at least as far as we know. This would help to substantiate the claim that not more than ten stamps received the double overprint.

1935 - 10/- indigo; Government overprint with wide date on Waterlow

re-engraved

(Variety - Overprint double S.G. 101a)

Eight copies of this variety are reputed to exist, three mint and five with Telegraph Cancellations. We have been able to examine two of these from the collection of the late Thomas E. Field - one mint and one with a Telegraph cancellation, and we are not satisfied that the "double" overprint is genuine.

The following are our comments on the two stamps which we have examined:

"Double" overprint ? with Telegraph cancellation. Fig.1.

Note in the "double" overprint -

In Saorstát - First S leans left
First A leans right.
Accent on 2nd A, only top tip shows and is at
incorrect angle
Final T more open,
Saorstát is very slightly shorter than genuine.

In Éireann - Both Ns are narrower than genuine, but appear wider
as they have thinner verticals and are more open.

In 1922 - 1 has large top serif, both 2s are slightly narrower.

Use for
blue-black
overprints?

When photographed normally both overprints appear to be of equal density, but when photographed with a deep blue filter, the "Double" appeared to be much lighter showing that this was printed with an ink with more blue than the genuine.

SAORSTÁT
SAORSTÁT
ÉIREANN
1922
1922

Fig.1

"Double"overprint mint. Fig 2

Note in the "Double" overprint -

- In Saorstát - First S. broken top left, more open and leans slightly right.
- First A appears narrower than original.
No accent visible on Second A
Final T. more open.
- In 1922 - Short serif to 1
First 2 tilts.

Similarly the lines of overprint are slightly shorter than genuine and when photographed with a deep blue filter the "Double" appears to be much lighter showing that the "Double" was printed with an ink with more blue than the genuine

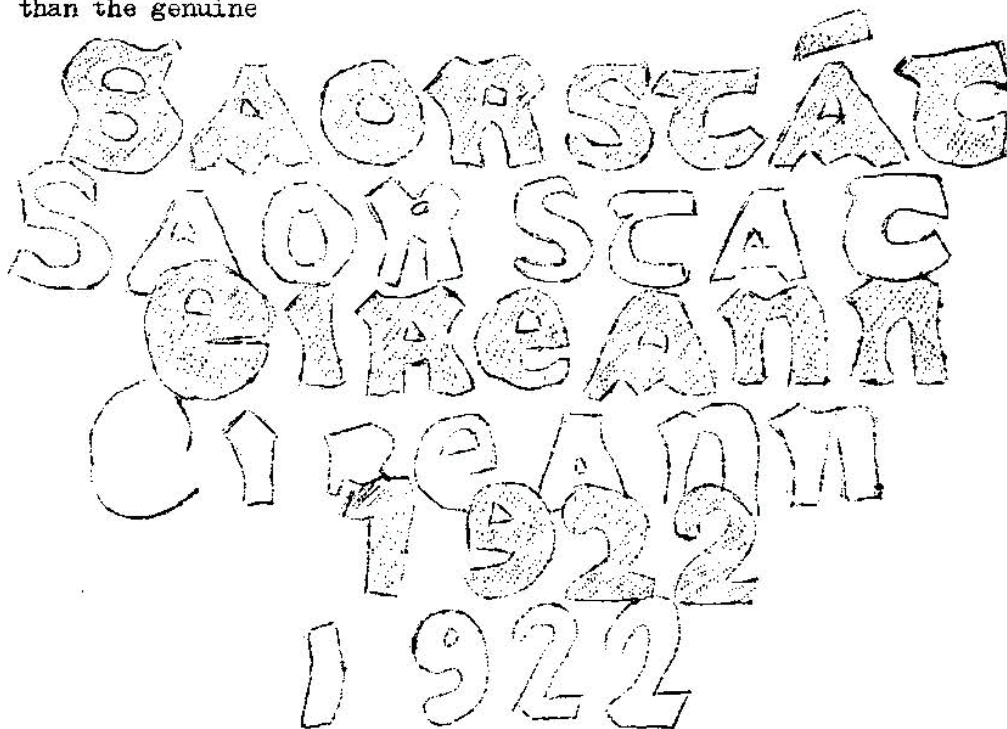


Fig.2

In the interests of Irish Philately, we are most anxious to determine the true status of this "Double" overprint on the 10/- Waterlow re-engraved stamp and would very much like to get in touch with the owners of the remaining six reputed copies with the possibility of examination and having them photographed.

Fr. J. BRENNAN

President - Irish Philatelic
Circle.

ALBUM SHEETS and WRITING-UP

by T.S.Telfer

I presume I am like most Collectors, having tried, since early schooldays, most types of albums ranging through :-

1. Small size, bound, stamps both sides
2. Large size, bound, stamps one side only
3. Small size, loose-leaf
4. Large size, loose-leaf, - what is termed "standard"
5. De luxe, gold leaves, padded cover - very expensive.

All were ideal, according to the shopkeeper, at the time, until from the point of view of writing-up, snags began to appear, mainly due to the high cost of wastage of sheets.

Again, like most Collectors, I have tried, without any degree of success, to write-up, which, as everyone says, makes or mars an exhibit, particularly so in competitions. I have attempted at one time or another, the various methods of writing which falls into a number of categories :-

- a) Handwritten, script or block letters in Indian Ink.
- b) Ordinary writing with a fountain pen - ball point included !!
- c) Gummed labels
- d) Lettering in pencil - various from HHH to BBB
- e) Stencilling, typewriting or mechanical device.

During the past six months of 1965, I have had the opportunity to study and view exhibits of high International order, in competition and otherwise, and have been frankly amazed at what passes for First-Class. One does expect exhibits of the classic stamps or the winners in their class to be beautifully written-up, and on clean sheets of standard size -but this is not so ! It seems to me that the Owner-cum-Expert can submit any under-, or over-size sheet, ruled or plain - in some cases not even high quality - whilst the writing up can be sparse or over-crowded, in ink, pencil, or mechanical device. The stamps themselves, were, at least to outward appearances, faultless, and I, of course, in my humble station in life, could never possess them.

But the point is - Is the ordinary Collector, with his material, supposed to emulate these so-called Expert and Priceless exhibits ? I wonder ! For any schoolchild could write better than some of the Experts, and, in addition, would be severely reprimanded for submitting a smudged album sheet. All that the Expert seems to do is to possess a stamp, study it, and record his findings by whatever means come readily to hand ! Reluctantly, I have come to the conclusion that the album sheet and the writing-up counts for nothing.

Album Sheets and Writing-up (contd)

Having come to this conclusion, I am now of the opinion that the best method which comes readily to hand is the typewriter, a view with which I feel sure your Editor will agree? Most people can read typing, and, to the true-blue philatelist there is the added attraction of finding, besides the fly-specks on the stamp, the numerous typographical errors in the story !

As for album sheets, as we generally know them, they are a nuisance in the typewriter. Forget them; sell them; don't give them house-room. Any typist can get hold of a packet of good quality standard size sheets, at a fraction of the cost of the usual standard linen hinged glassine fronted gold edge album sheets which, if we are honest with ourselves - have never seen the inside of the album cover since first bought ! Invariably, such sheets have always been out on loan, or on exhibition up and down the country, or, more often than not, lying in a pile at the foot of the cupboard.

Of course I shall not win a competition. Typing on plain white sheets seems to be unacceptable by the Expert Judges. But, at least I shall have the satisfaction that my sheets are clean, that my story can be read easily, and that that stamp in the middle is in the middle, for there are no centralising marks on the sides of the sheets to show that it is otherwise.

Who knows, one day, instead of entering an exhibition as a competitor, I may be INVITED - hors de combat, de concours, or whatever it-is ... SIC ITUR AD ASTRA.

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SPECIAL STAMPS

It was reported in the Irish Times 3/6/65 that it had been decided to issue a series of 8 special stamps commemorating the 1916 Rising, next April.

Seven of these would bear the portrait of a signatory of the Proclamation; these would be based on the drawings by the late Sean O'Sullivan. The eighth stamp would be of a more general nature. Designs are being considered by the Stamp Design Advisory Committee.

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IRISH PEAT POSTCARDS

Collecting picture postcards has nothing to do with philately, and very little with postal history, although the story of the postcard as a cheap means of communication is obviously important. Ireland does not figure prominently in the story, but there is one peculiarly Irish style of card about which I have often been asked.

Most postcards 60 years ago comprised a core of stiff board between two sheets of paper, one for the picture and the other for the message and address. These Irish cards were different, being of uniform composition throughout, and the brown of brown paper, the colour being understandable, when one learns that the raw material was Irish peat. There were several issues, variously headed "PEAT POST CARD", "PEAT-MOSS POST CARD", "BOG-MOSS POST CARD" etc. Most have also more detailed particulars, e.g.

"PEAT IS USED FOR FUEL: MOSS AS A BEDDING:
BOTH COMBINED MAKE THIS, AN IRISH PEAT-MOSS
POST CARD"

Even this isn't enough, there being added elsewhere on the card - "A BIT OF OLD IRELAND", in Gaelic lettering.

The earliest were in 1904, produced by the Celbridge Peat Paper Mills, and with the Harp for picture, printed in dark blue together with the doggerel :

"I was a sod of turf
But now am paper brown !
And used for wrapping Parcels up
In every shop in town !!"

The next series were published by the Irish Paper Agency, Dublin, and featured well-known beauty spots, roughly lithographed in the same dark blue. There were later attempts to print coloured views direct on the brown card: they were not successful.

Much better were some cards printed by M'Caw Stevenson & Orr, Ltd. and issued by MacGinty & Mackey. A Patent was applied for (but probably not granted) for their idea of facing the dirty card with white paper and printing a coloured picture on that. The pictures were rural scenes from blocks much more attractively used for Marcus Ward's publications.

I have seen very few of any type of Peat card used later than 1907, and suspect that none were then being made. However, considerable numbers had been sold and they are not as rare as some dealers suggest. In Dublin they change hands at 6d to 1/- each.

F.E.DIXON
(June, 1965)

POST BOXES IN IRELAND

By A.A.Horner

Post-boxes in Ireland at the present time are painted in a standard colour of green. There was no systematic attempt to replace British post-boxes by Irish and those which have been replaced were changed not for political reasons, but because of old age or accident.

Nor was there any systematic attempt to erase either the Royal Monogram or any other inscription. However, almost all pre-1922 post-boxes now display the letters P&T (for POIST AGUS TELEGRAFA) in Gaelic script, painted in gold and outlined in black, and new boxes show the P&T lettering cast in relief on the body. I have noticed one or two post-boxes, both wall and pillar, on which the royal initials and crown appear to have been deliberately erased, albeit incompletely. P&T is painted on these boxes. It is possible to distinguish these boxes from post-1922 boxes because the words POST OFFICE are cast on the former. There does not appear to be any pattern regarding the distribution of these boxes.

An analysis of twenty-seven pillar and wall boxes in Dun Laoghaire revealed the following types :-

A. Victorian

1. One small wall-box about 20" x 9" for letters only with the VR (interwoven letters) monogram.
2. Five wall-boxes with letters V R and crown; P & T painted on.

B. Edward VII

3. One wall box with EViIR and crown; P&T painted on.
4. One pillar box with royal monogram and crown; made by McDowall Steven & Co., London and Glasgow.

C. George V

5. One wall box with letters G R and crown; P&T painted on
6. Three pillar boxes with letters G R and crown made by McDowall Steven & Co.

Two with painted P & T. All with words Next Collection.

All the above except (1) had the words POST OFFICE incorporated with the cast. The wall-boxes were made by W.T.Allen & Co., London.

Post boxes in Ireland (Contd)

D. Post-1922

7. Wall box with (SE) Monogram of Saorstát Éireann cast in metal.
 8. One wall-box, with P&T in the cast, made by Derby Casting Ltd., Derby.
 9. One Wall-box without any inscription whatsoever
 10. Two small letters only, boxes (attached to Telegraph poles) with P&T painted on.
 11. One pillar box by Carron Company, Stirlingshire with P&T in cast and also the words NEXT COLLECTION (Also in cast).
 12. One Carron pillar box as above with, in addition, the Irish equivalent to the words Next Collection, An Chead Bailiu Eile cast in Roman lettering.
 13. One Carron pillar box as (12) but makers are this time described as Carron Company, made in Scotland.
 14. One pillar box made by Jessop Davis, Enniscorthy with P&T and Next collection, in iron.
 15. One pillar box made by St. John's Ironworks, Enniscorthy, with P&T, NEXT Collection and An Chead Bailiu Eile in cast.
 16. One pillar box, recently erected in a new estate, with no inscription other than P&T integral with the cast iron body.
- The makers of Nos 14 and 15 are presumably the same firm.

E. Period undetermined

17. One McDowall Steven Box with P&T painted on, the words POST OFFICE in cast, but no royal inscription.
18. Two wall boxes with words Post Office; painted P&T: V R and crown faintly discernible on one, G R and crown just apparent on the other.
19. Two pillar boxes by A. Handyside & Co. Ltd., Derby & London, with no inscription other than a P&T painted on.

As far as is possible, the post-1922 boxes are arranged in what I think is the possible chronological sequence.

There are many unaltered Victorian pillar boxes in central Dublin bearing the Victorian monogram. _____

Editor's Comment:

Our Stencil-cutter, on a recent tour of Ireland, by coach, took a superb colour photograph of a circular Pillar Box in Listowel with EVLR Monogram; needless to say, painted green.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY MEMORIAL STAMPS

Following on our late President's series commemorating famous Irishmen, our Secretary, D. Warren, has compiled this list of countries who have issued stamps commemorating the late President Kennedy -

United States of America - 5c (1 value)
(Aerogram 11c) -(1 value)

Bhutan - 1 NU; 3 NU; 33 CH (3 values)

Republic de Mauritanie - 100 F (1 value)

Monaco - 50c (1 value)

Republic Gabonaise - 100 F (1 value)

Republic du Tchad - 100 F (1 value)

Republic du Niger - 100 F (1 value)

Sharjah - 40 Np; 60 Np; 100 Np (3 values)

Republic de Haute-Volta - 100 F (1 value)

Republic du Senegal - 100 F. (1 value)

Paraguay - 15 G

Republic du Cameroun - 100 F (1 value)

Republic du Mali - 100 F (1 value)

Dubai - 1 R; 2 R (2 values)

Chile - 4 Cts (1 value)

Mexico - 80 Cts (1 value)

Brazil - 100 Cts (1 value)

Argentina - 4 pesos (1 value)

Costa Rica - 5 Colones (1 value) (Part of a set of 7 values)

Republic of Central Africa - 100 F (1 value) plus Min.
Sheet 4 x 100 F.

Germany - 40 p (1 value) } also overprinted with the
West Berlin 40 p (1 value) } President Kennedy's words

Republic of Yemen - (Red overprint) $\frac{1}{2}$ B; $\frac{1}{4}$ B (2 values)
(Black overprint) $\frac{1}{2}$ B; $\frac{1}{4}$ B; $\frac{1}{2}$ B (3 values)
 $\frac{1}{2}$ B; $\frac{1}{4}$ B; $\frac{1}{2}$ B; 4; 6 plus Min. sheet 4B
(6 values).

Guatemala 7 c (1 value) (understand another value also
not available at the moment)

Ecuador 5 S.; 10 S (2 values).

President Kennedy Memorial Stamps (contd)

Nicaragua - 2C; 35C; 75C; 1.10C (4 values)
Republic de Cote D'Ivoire - 100 F (1 value)
San Marino - 70 L; 130 L; (2 values)
Salvador - 6 Cts; 10 Cts; 15 Cts; 20 Cts; 40 Cts; 50 Cts. (6 values)
(2 Min. Sheets 70 Cts; 80 Cts)
Phillipines - 6^s; 10^s; 30^s (3 values)
Ajman - 10 Np; 50 Np; 1R; 2R; 3R; 5R; 10R. (8 values)
(plus Min. sheet of the top 4 values).
Columbia - 10 c (1 value)
Liberia - 20 C; 25 C (2 values)
Sierra Leone 1d. 3d. 4d. 6d. 7d. 9d. 1/-; 1/3; 2/-; 2/6; 3/6;
5/-; 6/-; 11/-; (14 values.
" " Decimal Discharges.
Over Sterling, 1964 : 2c; 4c; 7c; 60c; 1 LE; 2LE;
(6 values)
" " " " 1965 : 2c; 15c (Black overprint)
15 c (Red Overprint)
1 LE (4 values)
Republic de Guinee - 5 F; 25 F; 50 F; 100 F (4 values)
Jordan - 1964 1F; 2F; 3F; 4F; 5F; 85 F (6 values)
1965 10 F; 15 F; 25 F. 50 F. (4 values) plus
Min sheet.
Nigeria - 1/3; 2/6; 5/- (3 values) Plus Min sheet 4 x 5/-
values.
Congo - 5 F; 6 F; 9 F; 30 F; 40 F; 60 F; 150 F. (7 values)
*Qwain 10 Np; 15 Np; 50 Np. 1R; 2R; 3R; 5R; 7 R. 50Np (8 values)
(Plus Min sheet)
Cyprus - 10 M; 40 M; 100 M. (3 values) plus Min sheet of
same values)
Fujeria - 5 Np; 10 Np; 1 QP; 20 Np; 50 Np. 1R; 2R; 3R; 5R
(10 values)
Qatar - 50 Np; 75 Np; 2R; 5R; 10 R. (5 values)
Uruguay - 20 C; 40 C; \$1.50.; \$2.40 (4 values)

FOOTNOTE:

The following countries have also advised the issue of stamps
in the future; some have already. Congo (1 value) amongst
a set of famous men; Ras Alkhama (3 values) plus min. sheet;
(Dubai Min. sheet); Butuan (Min sheet) (Dubai Birthday
overprint) (Fujeria. Min sheet)
*Umm Al Qwain - Imperf Min. Sheet)

SECRETARY'S NOTE : Ireland (We are waiting).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I read Mr.Langton's articles on "Improving the Breed", and the resulting letters from "A.B.Ginner" and "Mochanic" with great interest, as recently I spent a few pleasant, but at times frustrating evenings preparing and mounting some Irish slogans.

Life would be very pleasant for slogan and postmark collectors if every cover had the stamp placed $\frac{1}{8}$ " from each edge of the top R.H.corner, and was addressed well down in the L.H.corner as Mr.Langton does on his self-posted covers, but, unfortunately, this is rarely the case. Therefore, I find by using a format of 4" x $1\frac{5}{8}$ " a slogan can be placed more centrally within the piece, and in many cases the name of the addressee can be eliminated, which, perhaps could not be achieved by using a 4" x 2" format.

When trimming a slogan, I use a rectangle of Perspex 4" x $1\frac{5}{8}$ " and cut along the edges with a sharp craft knife. It is recommended that the cutting is done upon a scrap piece of hardboard, or similar material.

I also have a second rectangle of Perspex $4\frac{1}{8}$ " x $1\frac{3}{4}$ " with which I cut a piece of black cartridge paper, and upon this I mount the slogan centrally by means of a stamp hinge at each end. The effect of the $1/16$ " black surround is more pleasing when finally mounted upon a white album page.

Sheets of black cartridge paper 30" x 20" are obtainable from most art shops for less than 1/- each so that the cost per slogan is negligible.

Like Mr.Langton, I favour the 2" x 2" format as being the ideal size to contain a circular handstamp, and again I mount them upon black cartridge paper before putting them upon the album page.

As regards "A.B.Ginner's" plea for information on how others mount slogans and postmarks, I find that 3 or 4 slogans ($1\frac{5}{8}$ " wide) are ample on a standard loose album leaf. Whether they are arranged vertically, diagonally, or staggered, is largely a matter of the preference of the individual.

Yours, etc.

H.K.JAMIESON

(21st July, 1965)

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I.P.C. NEWS and NOTICES

The Exchange Packet An attempt is being made to revive this activity of IPC and, already, preliminary results are heartening. It is essential, however, if experience in this field is anything to go by, that we have support from members in the supply of material for circulation. With parcel postage rate now so high, the Packet will be kept to the most economical rate and "heavy" postcard material, therefore, unless of definite 'Irish flavour', will not be included.

Members who wish to receive the Packet should please write to, Mr. A.T.Sedgley, 86E Wickham Rd., Brockley, London, S.E.4, in the first instance. He also will be pleased to receive items for the Exchange Packet - small or large will be equally welcomed.

In the past, comment has been made that one's name is never at the top of a Circuit List. Here is an opportunity to see that it is - if you will advise and support Mr. Sedgley in his efforts.

Meetings It is hoped that when Autumn starts, we shall have more regular meetings at The Irish Club, London.

The Secretary, Mr. David Warren, wishes it to be known that he is generally available during the lunch hour 1 - 2 pm., in the first floor Bar, at Mooney's House, Cambridge Circus, London, W.C., where he will be ready to welcome any members.

The Editor, Mr. Pat Woods, would also be pleased to participate in such meetings, on receipt of a 'phone call - MUSEUM 3761.

On October 12 next, Mr. T.S.Telfer is giving a Display of 'Irish Miscellany' to the Philatelic Society at Bishop's Stortford, Herts., some 30 miles North of London. He would be pleased to hear from any member who might care to accompany him on the visit, or to meet him at the venue.

Postmarks: F.P.O's in Northern Ireland News has just reached us that the Royal Engineers are holding recruiting Displays and visiting Northern Ireland for the first time. We understand that they will be in Belfast during August 28 - 30, before moving to Limavady, September 1 - 2; Derry on Sept. 3; Enniskillen, Sept. 4 & 6; Omagh, Sept. 7 - 8; and then Magherafelt on September 10 - 11.

Mail posted in the special post box will receive the postmark

- F P O No. 1 0 5 0 -

Postmarks: GB Slogans Mr. A.T.Sedgley is endeavouring to compile a List of all the Slogan

Postmarks used in Northern Ireland from 1917 (?) to date 1965. Will members kindly examine their collections and report their findings and so assist in this worthwhile project. We are given to understand that some Slogans and Postmarks are not so 'Common' as one might think, so that all information and data will make this List more complete.

I.P.C. NEWS AND NOTICES (Contd)

List of members Since the publication of the list of members
in the last issue of the Journal, the following
changes have been notified:-

M.MARCEL JENNI is now at Paradieshofstrasse 41, 4000 Basel,
Switzerland.

MR.E.S.GARNER is now at 12, Marian Square Fermoy, Co.Cork (until
November, 1965)

MR.R.ASTALL of Llandudno - to be deleted from the List of Members.

P.C. of G.B In attendance at the Philatelic Congress of G.B.
at Harrogate, Yorkshire, during May 18 - 21st, 1965,
were two of our members - Mr.Jack O'Neill (Dublin), and Mr.Stewart
Telfer (Forest) - as delegates of their Local Societies. Apart
from entering into the discussions, on general philatelic matters,
the opportunity was taken to exchange views and items of a more
"Irish" nature.

MR.LESLIE FLETCHER - We understand our vice-President had to
undergo a minor operation during mid-May,
and is now recovering at home.

- - - - -