

IRISH PHILATELY

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Edited by

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EDITORIAL

We are gratified by the number of letters received from the membership expressing their appreciation of the new format Journal, thank you. This issue brings a variety of topics to interest you, thanks are due to those who provided articles. To maintain the mixture more are needed.

Our President, Bill Kane, has contributed a letter to the members and we are pleased to know that this will be a regular feature in future.

Noel Langton's article for beginners appears to have been delayed in the post, it had been mailed over a week before going to print. This is the aftermath of the recent strikes in Northern Ireland, the Post Office is still desperately trying to catch up with deliveries. All being well, the series will be continued in the next issue of the Journal.

O.M. Richards

N.J. Langton

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Letter from the President:-

Dear Member,

I have just returned home from the Annual General Meeting and feel that I must put my thoughts on paper. Without any doubt this was the best AGM of the IPC that I have ever attended. We had an excellent attendance, excellent displays and a full discussion, followed by a wonderful meal on the Saturday night. All of which made it well worthwhile travelling from Dublin and other members to whom I spoke had the same sentiments as myself.

During the Saturday evening session I had the most pleasant task of presenting the EPA "Thomas E. Field Award" to W.G. Meredith, that wonderful man of Irish Philately. Strange to say, this award was presented on the 50th Anniversary of the publication of his handbook - "The Postage Stamps of Ireland". A tribute to the wonderful vision of this great philatelist, he was only in his teens when he wrote that handbook.

Following a long discussion on the T.E. Field Bequest to the IPC, it was agreed that a sub-committee consisting of Dr. de Burca, W.G. Meredith, A. Stokes and W. Kane be appointed to investigate the possibility of an annual award to perpetuate the memory of our first President. The award to be presented at each AGM and to be in two parts, one for Literature and the other for Philatelic Study.

I do not intend to give a full resume of the meeting, our General Secretary will furnish this at a later date, but I must not let this occasion pass without paying tribute to the London Committee responsible for the meeting, also to "Sedge" for the running of that most successful Mini Auction which brought in £100. A big "THANK YOU" to the good people who sent in lots for the auction, also those who sent contributions to help cover the cost of the entertainment. Nor must we forget the members who paid good prices for the lots, all this generosity is proof that we are working in the right direction in developing that most important aspect of sociability. Thank you all sincerely.

My thanks to Peter Harradine for taking the photographs of the presentation. How can I find words adequate to thank all the exhibitors who provided such excellent material for the displays on both Saturday and Sunday, and last, but by no means least, the members who travelled long distances to attend the meetings. I sincerely hope you all went home as happy as I did.

I made a promise to the meeting that I would surpass the London meeting when the AGM is in Dublin next year, what a task I have set for myself! More anon.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Kane

Letters to the Editor:-

The Editor
Irish Philately

25th April 1974

Dear Sir,

Like J.P.R. Holt, I too have a cover addressed to Samuel Parker and dated Nov 1843. I have checked the address in the Post Office Dublin Directory for 1871 and find:-

Back - Lane 36 - 39 Parker, Samuel L, wholesale leather merchant - tannery, 25 James Street - res Summerville, York Road, Kingstown.

There were other entries which would indicate the Lane was a centre of the leather trade.

- 19 Dowling, R & J - bellows makers.
- 29 Harding, Robert - last maker.
- 30 Lewis - shoe maker.
- 33 McKee Denis - leather seller.
- 34 - 35 Doyle, William - leather stores, res Herberton House, Circular Road South.
- 36 - 39 Parker, Samuel L etc.
- 40 - 41 Ross Bros - leather merchants.
- 42 Dowling, Richard - bellows maker.
- 47 - 48 Queale, Robert - wholesale leather and bark merchant - tannery, 42 James Street.
- 51 Higgins, Michael - dealer in shoe trimmings.
- 52 & 53 Mulligan, John - tanner currier and leather merchant.

Back - lane from Nicholas - street to Corn - market.
Parish St. Nicholas within 1 to 19 and 46 - 61.
Parish St. Cludoen 20 to 45.

- Between 3 & 4 here Angel - alley intersects.
- 7 & 8 here Despard - court intersects.
- 17 TAILORS HALL.
- 30 & 31 here Corn - market intersects.
- 31 & 32 here Furlongs - court intersects.
- 42 & 43 here Fegan's - court intersects.
- 49 & 50 here Blackhall - row intersects.

All this information was taken from the Post Office Directory 1871 which belonged to my Great Grandfather and which I have found most useful many times. Rocques Map of Dublin & Environs C 1756 marks Back Lane very clearly, as do all modern maps.

Yours sincerely,

Signed: Brian Roffey

The Editor
Irish Philately

Dear Mr. Editor,

I often read with pleasure, and with sometimes a little envy, of all those clever members of the Circle who have won medals or given exhibitions at various venues through-out the country.

As you always seem to be asking for material for the Circle Journal, is it possible for these members to describe their winning or successful displays for the benefit of others. For instance, what motivated them to commence, how did they acquire the material, how long did it take to prepare etc., etc., ?

As a mere collector, with aspirations to be a philatelist in the real sense of the word one day, I would look forward with much interest to the revelations of these scholarly people.

Yours sincerely,

Signed: Des Graham

THE CANCELLING MACHINES OF IRELAND

PROVINCES

by O.M. Richards

KILKENNY

KRAG. A Krag type machine was issued to Kilkenny in the 1912 programme, this machine had a long life at this office and was in continuous use to 1951. The earliest date seen is for 11th April 1914, Fig. 18. This machine was fitted with wavy cancelling bars when issued.

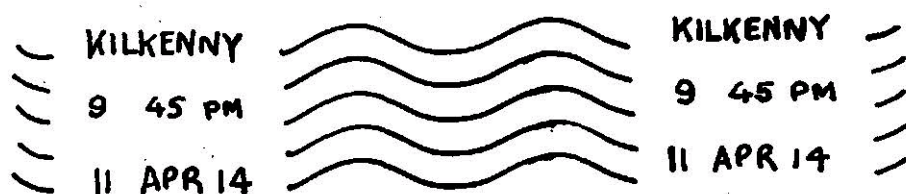


Fig. 18

The change of name from the English KILKENNY to the Irish CILL CHAINNIGH took place late 1922 or early 1923, the earliest date seen is for 29th January 1923, Fig. 19. The spelling CILL CHAINNIGH was used to at least 1939, the last date I have seen, by 1942 it was altered to CILL COINNIGH and finally, in the Universal machine, to CILL CHOINNIGH. The last date of use of the Krag machine seen was for 30th October 1951.

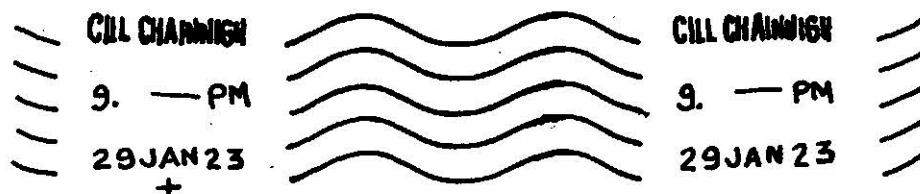


Fig. 19

SLOGANS. (Hibernian Catalogue Numbers). Again we have the use of slogans in a Krag machine, those in my own collection are listed, details of others would be welcomed.

- SP 8 INVEST IN POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK
 - SP 12 BUY IRISH GOODS
 - SP 19 KILKENNY CIVIC WEEK JUNE 1 - 9
 - SP 21 BUY THIRD NATIONAL LOAN
 - SP 22 KILKENNY CIVIC WEEK JUNE 28 - JULY 6
 - SP 24 IRELAND FOR HOLIDAYS
 - SP 28 GROW MORE WHEAT
 - SP 29 BUY FOURTH NATIONAL LOAN
 - SP 37 USE THE TELEPHONE EIRE
 - SP 39 LA AN BUNREACT (Constitution Day) (Irish lettering)
 - SP 44 JOIN THE VOLUNTEERS
 - SP 47 BUY EXCHEQUER BONDS
 - SP 52 SAVE BREAD - FLOUR
 - SP 54 LABAIR GAEDILGE (Learn Gaelic) (Irish lettering)
 - SP 55 BANK YOUR SAVINGS IN THE SAVINGS BANK
 - SP 56 MUINTIR NA TIRE RURAL WEEK KILKENNY AUG 13 - 20
(Irish lettering)
- Note:- The illustration in the Hibernian Catalogue
lacks a line beneath MUINTIR NA TIRE which
appears in the slogan as used.
- SP 65 FLY AER LINGUS IRISH AIR LINES
(In 1953 this slogan used in Universal machine)

No PAID or OFFICIAL PAID dies have been seen from this machine.

UNIVERSAL. The Universal machine was issued to Kilkenny in December 1951, a DD (Slow) model, Fig. 20. The earliest date seen is 25th February 1952. Slogans have been in use from the date of issue and the original machine is still in use.

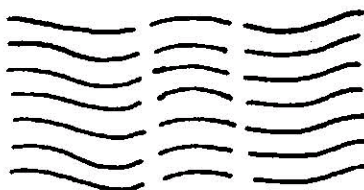


Fig. 20

I have not seen any PAID or OFFICIAL PAID examples from this machine, but it is probable that a PAID die is used.

WATERFORD

KRAG. The Krag machine issued to Waterford some time in 1923 was very probably the machine formerly in use in Limerick. This assumption I base on the fact that Limerick retained the straight cancelling bars throughout its use and my earliest example from Waterford also has straight cancelling bars, this would appear to be a reasonable deduction. Wavy lines appeared early in 1928. The date of this early example of the Krag machine from Waterford is 26th February 1923, Fig. 21. Waterford is one of the offices to have been issued with a cancelling machine after the formation of the Irish Free State and thus the Irish PORT LAIRGE was used in the dies.

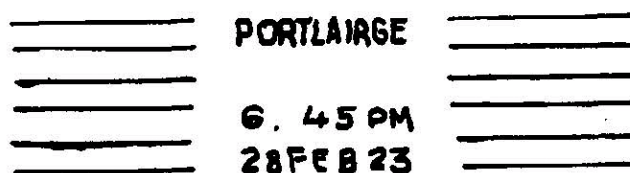


Fig. 21

SLOGANS. Slogans were used in the Krag machine too and are listed below:-

- | | |
|-------|--|
| SP 8 | INVEST IN POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK |
| SP 10 | TAILTEANN GAMES DUBLIN AUGUST |
| SP 12 | BUY IRISH GOODS |
| SP 16 | BUY IRISH GOODS |
| SP 21 | BUY THIRD NATIONAL LOAN |
| SP 28 | GROW MORE WHEAT |
| SP 29 | BUY FOURTH NATIONAL LOAN |
| SP 32 | BUY AT SAORSTAT FAIR BALLSBRIDGE DUBLIN MAY 7 - 11 |

When slogans were being used the second line in the die box sometimes appeared as a solid bar, Fig. 22.

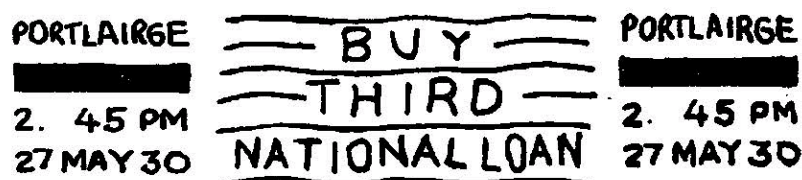


Fig. 22

No PAID or OFFICIAL PAID mail has been seen cancelled by this machine.

UNIVERSAL. On 11th February 1938 a Universal DD (Slow) machine was issued to Waterford, Serial Number 1400, Fig. 23. This machine is still being used.



Fig. 23

A new die, Fig. 24, appeared in mid 1961



Fig. 24

PAID mail cancelled in red has been seen but not OFFICIAL PAID.

MONAGHAN

KRAG. An enquiry to the Postmaster, Monaghan, some time ago intimated that a Krag machine had been used at that office from about 1924, however, the earliest date seen was for the 11th August 1930. Thanks to member Mike Priestly, who has provided me with a photocopy of a cover in his possession, it has been established that Monaghan had a Krag machine from at least 6th April 1922, Fig. 25. The name Monaghan was in English and this continued throughout its use at that office. The last date seen for this machine is 5th July 1934.

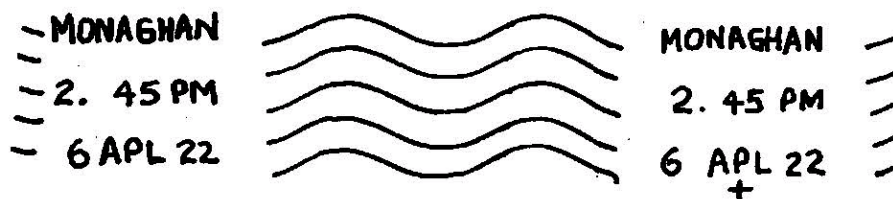


Fig. 25

SLOGANS. Those used on the Krag machine which I have in my collection are as follows:-

SP 24 IRELAND FOR HOLIDAYS
SP 28 GROW MORE WHEAT
SP 29 BUY FOURTH NATIONAL LOAN

I would be grateful for details of any other slogans used on this machine.

No PAID or OFFICIAL PAID mail has been seen cancelled by this machine.

UNIVERSAL. There was a gap of some nineteen years during which time it appears that cancelling in Monaghan was done by hand. It was not until early 1953 that a Universal machine was issued. This was a DD (Slow) machine, Serial Number 2134, and is still in use. The town die on the Universal machine had the Irish MUINEACHAN, Fig. 26.



Fig. 26.

PAID mail cancelled in red has been seen, but no OFFICIAL PAID, or its Irish equivalent, by me.

IRELAND

Wide 4th Line Variety Found on the Thom 5 Line
Narrow Setting Stamps

by B.C. Weinman

Recently I was engaged in an enjoyable activity of positioning my R/Se and Ei/I varieties. Whilst searching for examples of R/Se in the third position*, I noticed that the fourth line seemed longer than normal on some copies. Using a mm scale my suspicion was confirmed, the fourth line was $\frac{1}{2}$ mm longer.

To obtain more information I started corresponding with fellow Irish collectors. The data I have obtained on this unlisted variety can be summarized as follows:-

The wide fourth line occurs once on stamps printed from Plate 2, it is the fourth stamp in the twelfth row. The variety is, therefore, found always with the R/Se in the third position.

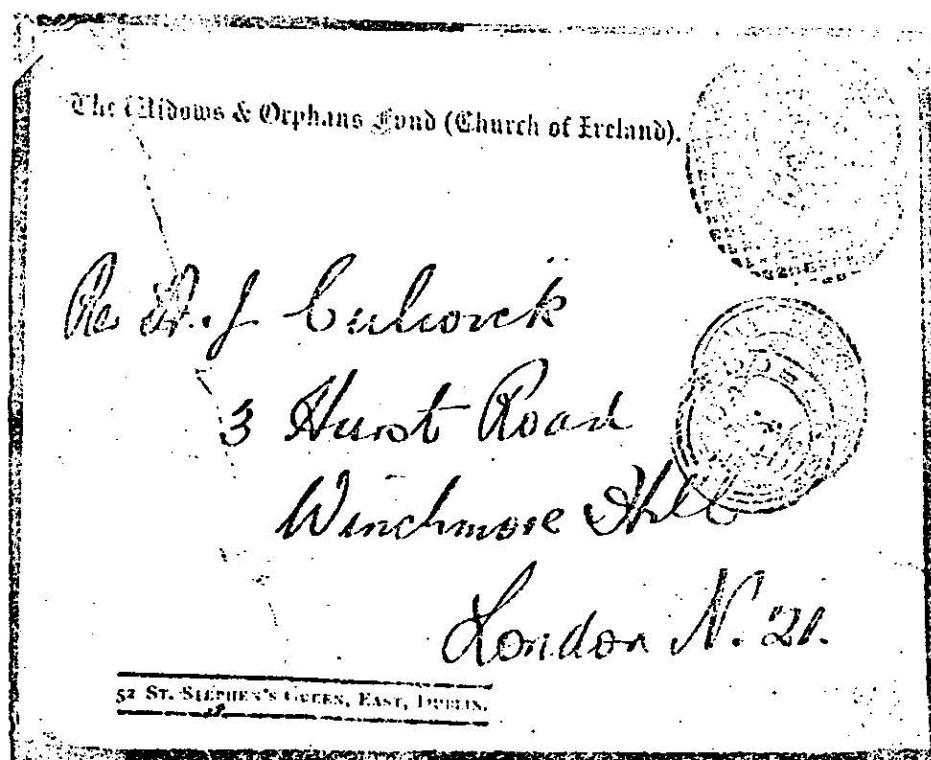
In my own collection I have five examples with black ink and one example with blue-black ink. Of these, three examples are contained in larger pieces to aid in the conformation of the position indicated above.

Should any other students of Irish philately find this variety in this, or other positions, I would enjoy hearing from them.

* Priestley, Maj. M.H., The Revealer, Supplement 42, October 1969, "The R/Se Overprint Varieties Thom Narrow Setting".

RARE POSTAL STATIONERY

by H.K. Jamieson



Recently Mr Alex Droar of the Society of Postal Historians showed me an item of Irish Postal Stationery which is illustrated above. The Widows & Orphans Society Fund (Church of Ireland) had their envelopes embossed under contract by the Dublin Stamp Office. In error the $\frac{1}{2}$ d embossed stamp was struck in red rather than in green, as was required under UPU regulations. As the printed paper rate was increased from $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1d in June 1918, and the error having been noted, the $\frac{1}{2}$ d red was defaced by a red cross hatched oval and the new correct 1d red embossing was applied below. The entire is postmarked DUBLIN 26 JU 18, and, as far as Mr Droar is aware, is the only recorded used example.

FREE POSTAGE TO AND FROM HM FORCES IN NORTHERN IRELAND

by O.M. Richards

On Saturday 1st June 1974 the postage free facility to and from HM Forces in Northern Ireland and their dependants in the UK commenced. Only lightweight Forces Air Letter forms are given free postage, all other correspondence has to be paid for at normal rates.

Senders are required to print the endorsement - "HM FORCES NORTHERN IRELAND" - in the top righthand corner of the form, immediately above the postage stamp box. In Northern Ireland these must be posted through BFPO channels and not in civilian post-boxes. However, Forces Air Letter forms mailed to Northern Ireland may be posted in the normal way.

This mail posted from Ulster is cancelled by an additional machine at Headquarters Northern Ireland in Lisburn, and the first day cancellations were as Fig. A.

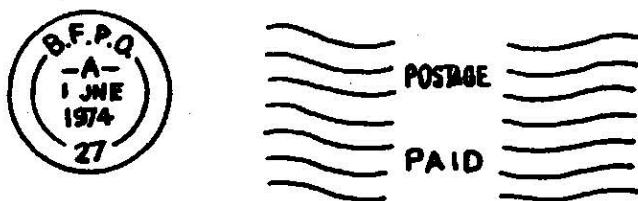


Fig. A (Red)

Difficulty was experienced for the first couple of days of use, "POSTAGE PAID" was poorly printed and unreadable, red ink too caused problems. On the third day of use the "POSTAGE PAID" was replaced by "OFFICIAL PAID", Fig. B. Am I right in thinking that this is the first time that any FPO has cancelled mail in red?



Fig. B (Red)

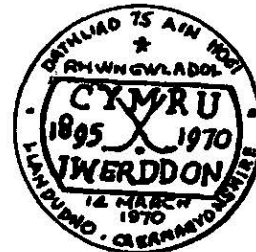
POSTMARK MISCELLANY

by O.M. Richards

The campaign to interest the public in the problem of "MENTAL HEALTH" during May 1974 produced slogan cancellations in both Eire and Northern Ireland. The lettering on both slogans was identical, that used in the North had wavy lines above and below the wording. The one used in Eire is illustrated.



This special handstamp would appear to be out of place in the IPC Journal, however, when it is revealed that "IWERDDON" is the Welsh for Ireland the connection becomes apparent. The handstamp was used in Llandudno on the occasion of the 75th Wales - Ireland International Match.



Keith Jamieson reports that this postmark was on a letter posted during the Christmas period 1973 and is normally used in the Foreign Section of the GPO Dublin.



Longford has revived this slogan used originally in 1957, it was in use for at least January and February 1974. The fact that it was in use for quite a long period precludes the possibility of it being used in error.

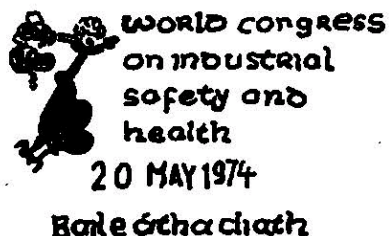


Keith Jamieson has submitted this postmark with a query as to the significance of the NI. It cancels SG 197 $\frac{1}{2}$ d vermilion QV.



Any theories?

This handstamp was used during the "WORLD CONGRESS ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH" at the Burlington Hotel, Dublin on 20th May 1974. I have it on covers in both violet and black.



Queries on postmarks are welcomed, the membership has a wide knowledge of these and may be able to provide the answer to something which has been puzzling you for some time.

Details of new discoveries too will be appreciated.