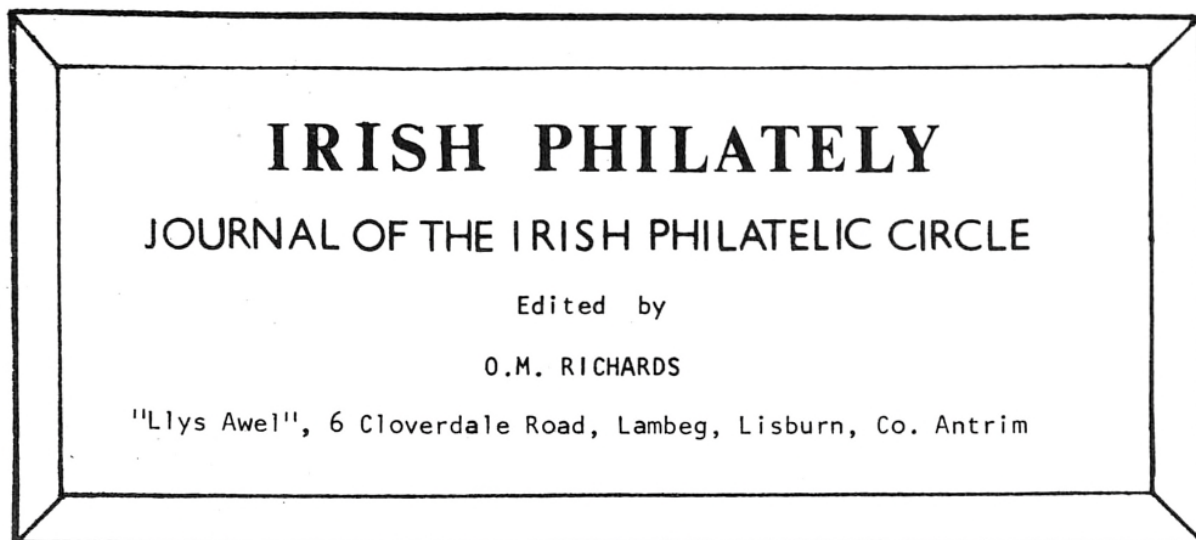




Volume 1977

June 1977

No. 2

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"Irish Philately"

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EDITORIAL

Reading the minutes of the AGM in the 'NEWS' leaves one with the impression that it was a cold business like meeting, this is far from the truth.

It was a weekend of meeting old friends, making new ones, talking Irish philately in all its aspects, looking at the competition entries and seeing the TE Field treasures of postal history now owned by Martin Wilcocks.

For those who attended, and had entered the competitions, the comments of the Judges were very beneficial and will spur them on to greater efforts. All in all a most enjoyable weekend.

The third part of the series on the 'Date Stamps of Ireland from 1894' has been omitted this issue in order that contributions by other members could be published.

O.M. Richards

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Letters to the Editor:-

Dear Sir,

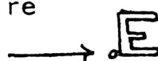
In reply to the letter from Paddy Smithers in the December 1977 Journal, the following may be of assistance:-

CASEMENT 5d. SG 221 - The varieties which appear as small white marks I refer to as 'stops' and appear as follows:-

a). on R3/6 left pane.

b). on R3/5 do

In addition there is a 'serif' on the first E of Eire R2/7 left pane.



Enclosed is a list of additional varieties worthy of inclusion under the 'Varieties Since Decimal Day' heading.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Hynes

CONSTANT VARIETIES

- A. 1975 EUROPA 9p. R4/1 'Bird in the Sky' over headless horse on left.
- B. 1975 EUROPA 11p. R7/6 'Re Entry' bottom left rim of plate.
- C. 1975 EUROPA 11p. R7/3 'Re Entry' bottom left frame.
- D. 1975 EUROPA 11p. R7/1 'Bullet hole' bottom left corner.
- ✓ E. 1976 CHRISTMAS - all values. R2/7 'Yellow spot' over 7 of 1976.
- F. 1976 CHRISTMAS - all values. R6/10 'Spot on infant's forehead'.
- G. 1976 CHRISTMAS - all values. R2/6 'Red spots on either side of child.
- H. 1976 CHRISTMAS - all values. R1/3 'Red spot on roof' to left.
- I. 1976 CHRISTMAS - all values. R6/2 'Red disturbance to right of infant'.
- J. 1976 CHRISTMAS - all values. R3/2 'Blue mark on garment over 9 (value) and red smudge at feet of infant'.
- K. 1976 CHRISTMAS - all values. R2/2 'Red line over 6 of 1976'.

Dear Sir,

CEPT STAMP (11p) THE BOWL - said to be privately owned. Does anyone know the name of the owner?

ART STAMP (15p) Where is or who owns the original picture 'The Lobster Pots'?

This information has eluded me in my efforts to write up my 1976 Irish Collection. I like to delve into and record the theme of the stamps, and their connections, otherwise I feel that my display is very incomplete.

Yours faithfully,

M.J. Kerr

Dear Sir,

I would like to correct some comments which I made in my two submissions to the December 1976 issue of the Journal.

1. The variety on the 1975 Women's Year (both values) appears on R3/9 and not R3/8 as stated.
2. Some sheets of Cylinder 212 of the 9p Bicentennial are reported to have been on sale at a Dublin Post Office as well as Co Monaghan as stated.
3. Regarding the 10p 0x 1st Printing (Lavender Outline) this item was on sale generally from Decimal Day but was superseded after some months by the more common 2nd Printing (Brown Outline). The exception to this was Cork City where the 2nd Printing was on sale from Decimal Day onwards.

However, the essential point that Cylinder Blocks of the 1st Printing are difficult to find, which I made, is correct.

Yours faithfully,

E. FitzGerald

Dear Sir,

Some time ago I contacted Feldman's regarding a variety on the W.B. Yeats 5p stamp of 1965 which they appeared to have no record of and which they published in their magazine but I have had no further confirmation as to its location etc., or whether or not it appears on the 1/5 value.

I have, in fact, got three copies - all used - so it would appear to be a possible constant variety although I can find no reference to it anywhere.

Perhaps you could include it in a future issue of the Journal - some members may be able to elaborate on it.

LE

Yours faithfully,

J. Downey

Variety - Joined LE of BUTLER

I was recently given a bundle of official envelopes from various Irish Government Departments. Most of them had errors in the cancellations, inverted town dies, inverted year etc., etc. One which caught my eye was from the Paymaster General's Office, the cancellation was unusual as the wavy lines with IOCTHA GO hOIFIGIUL in two lines vertically in the centre were transposed, the town die being to the right of them. As I am interested in the official franks, I checked on my collection of these and suddenly I realised that the harp was reversed!! Comments please.



O.M. Richards

CATALOGUE OF THE PERFIN OF IRELAND

Compiled by Norah K. Wright

<u>PERFIN</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HOLES</u>	<u>HEIGHT</u>	<u>AMPERSAND</u>	<u>IDENTITY</u>
<u>LETTER 'G'</u>				
G	19	7½		Guinness & Co Dublin
G	15	8½		" "
GA/C ^o	10,10/8,4	4½		Guardian Assurance Co
GA/C ^o	9,8/7,4	4½		George Angus & Co Belfast
G & C ^o				
GC	12,9	8½ - 8		
G/CC	9/7,7	5½		
GCC	11,8,8	5½		Grand Canal Co Dublin
GJ/BL ^o	10,7/14,7,7	5½		
GJB/L ^o	10,7,13/7,7	5½		
GL ^o /B	10,7,7/14	5½/B=4½		Gallaher Ltd Belfast
GL ^o /B	10,7,7/13	5½/B=4		" "
GPC	10,9,8	5½		
GSP	10,11,9	5½		
GS	9,9	4½		Glasgow Co-op Society
GSR	9,9,10	4½		Great Southern Railway
GSR	10,11,12	4½		" "
GS/R	9,9/10	4½		" "
G/SWR	10/10,16,11	4½		Great Southern & Western Railway
GS/WR	10,10/15,11	4½		" "
GS/WR	10,11/14,12	5		" "
G & S	10,13,11	5½	(III)	
GWB	10,17,13	?		
GW/K	10,15,12	5½		
GWR	9,12,10	5		Great Western Railway
GWR	10,14,13	4½		" "

<u>PERFIN</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HOLES</u>	<u>HEIGHT</u>	<u>AMPERSAND</u>	<u>IDENTITY</u>
<u>LETTER 'H'</u>				
H	12	5½		
H/&C ^o	12/13/10,6	6½		
H.D/&C	12,12/13,9	5		
HD/&S	12,11/14,10	4½	(1a)	H. Denny & Sons Limerick
HD/&S	12,11/12,11	4	(111a)	
HD+S	12,11,15,10	5		
HD/&S	11,11/13,11	5½	(111)	
HD/&S	14,14/19,15	8		
H.F	12,8	5½		
H.F./&S	11,8/13,11	5½	(111)	
H.I/C	11,5/8	5½		
H.L/C ^o	12,5,9,6	6		
HJN	11,8,14	5		
HL/D	11,7/11	5½		
HLHL (continuous)	19 (overall)	11		Acme Printing Works (Messers Hely & Co)
<u>LETTER 'I'</u>				
IAO/C ^o	5,10,10/8,6	5½		Irish American Oil Co
IAO/C ^o	9,10,10/8,6	5½		" "
I.B/C ^o /B	4,12/6,6/12	4½		Ireland Brothers Ltd Belfast
I.B/L ^o B	4,12/6,6/12	4½		" "
IBP/C ^o L ^o	4,11,8/7,4,6,4	4½		
IBP/C ^o L ^o	4,11,8/7,4,6,7	4½		
I.C ^o /L ^o T ^o	5,8,6/7,5,7	4½		
IDCO/L ^o	?			
I/GNR	5/10,10,13	4½		Irish Great Northern Railway
IHC	5,12,7	5		
IL/D	6,8,13	6½		
IRC ^o /L ^o T ^o	5,5,8,6/7,5,7	6		
IS/L	5,10/7	4½		Irish Shell Ltd
IS/L	4,9/6	4		" "
IT/C	9,10/10	5½		Imperial Tobacco Co

<u>PERFIN</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HOLES</u>	<u>HEIGHT</u>	<u>AMPERSAND</u>	<u>IDENTITY</u>
<u>LETTER 'J'</u>				
J				
J.B	7,13	5		
J&C. ^o	7,12,8,6	4½	(IIIa)	Jacob & Co Dublin
JGS	7,10,11	6		
JJ&S/L ^{TP}	7,7,13,11/7,5,6	6	(III)	John Jameson & Son Ltd
JMS/L (in shamrock)	J=6,M=11,S=9,L=6			
J.P	10,11	5½		
JP/S	7,10/11	5½		John Player & Son
JP/S	9,10/9	5½		" "
JP/&S	7,9/11,10	6	(Ia)	
JP/&S	7,10/14,10	5	(I)	
J.S	7,10	6		
JT/D	6,6/9	4½		
J.&W.S	7,12/13,11	5½	(III)	
JW/&TC	7,14/14/7,8	4½	(III)	
<u>LETTER 'K'</u>				
<	10	9½		
K	10	5		
◇	28,10	12½, 5½		T.W & I Kelly Lr Gardiner St Dublin
<EN/NAN	11,10,13/13,10,13			Kennan & Sons Dublin
<G/&C. ^o	10,10/13,8,6	5½		
<L ^o	14,7,7	10½		Kodak Ltd
< LTD (monogram)	49	14 x 17		
$\frac{<}{S}$	10,9	5½		
<u>LETTER 'L'</u>				
L	8	10		
LA	6,8	4½		London Assurance Co
LAF/AYE/TTE	7,10,8/10,7,10/7,7,10	4½		Lafayette Westmoreland St Dublin
L.B	7,15	5		
-B /L ^P /PS	7,13/7,7/9,10	4½		Lever Bros Ltd Port Sunlight

<u>PERFIN</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HOLES</u>	<u>HEIGHT</u>	<u>AMPERSAND</u>	<u>IDENTITY</u>
LB/L ^D /LP	7,14/7,7/7,9	4½		
L.BROS	7,13,12,10,11	5		Lunham Bros Cork
L&E.E	7,14,10,10	4½	(III)	
L/G.A.	8/10,10	6½		
LK&L/L ^D	7,10,12,7/7,6	5m	(III)	Leahy Kelly & Leahy Ltd Belfast
LL	6,6	4½		London Lancashire Insurance Co
L.L/D	7,7/11	5½		
L&L/&G	6,12,6/12,9	4½	(IA)	London & Liverpool & Globe Insurance Co
L&L/&G	7,13,7/13,10	5½	(III)	" "
LOANE	8,10,10,14,10	L=6 Rest = 5		Loane Cookstown
LP/HC	6,8/10,7	4½		Londonderry Port & Harbour Commission
L/P&H/C	7/10,12,12/8	4½	(IIIa)	" "
LSS/C ^O	7,10,10/8,4	5		Limerick Steamship Co
LS	6,9	4½		" "
L.U/&C	7,10/12,8	4½	(IIIa)	Law Union & Crown Insurance Co
LU/&R	7,10/13,12	6½	(III)	Law Union & Rock Assurance Co
<u>LETTER- 'M'</u>				
M	17	6½		
M	11	4½		W. MacQueen & Co Belfast
MBL ^D /C	15,13,7,7/10	5½		Musgrave Bros Ltd Cork
M&C ^O	15,16,8,6	5	(II)	
M ^C . B/&C ^O	18, .7,14/12,8,8	6	(IIIA)	
M ^C .K	15, .6,10			
M.D/C ^O	15,11/8,6	4½		Maypole Dairy Co
MG/&S	15,10/12,11	4½	(IA)	
M/G.W.R	15/10,16,14	5½		Midland Great Western Railway
MH	17,12	6½		
MR/C ^O L ^D	17,12/10,8,7,9	4½		May Roberts & Co Ltd Dublin

<u>PERFIN</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HOLES</u>	<u>HEIGHT</u>	<u>AMPERSAND</u>	<u>IDENTITY</u>
MR/C ^O L ^D	15,12/8,6,7,7	4		May Roberts & Co Ltd Dublin
MR/L ^D	11,10/6,6	4½		" "
M.S	17,10	6		
MS/C ^O	15,10/8,4	5		
M&S/N	15,12,11/13	4½	(IIIA)	
MW	15,14	5½		
<u>LETTER 'N'</u>				
N/A/F/I	10,8,7,4	4		Navy & Air Force Institute
NES	11,9,9	4½		Nestle & Co Ltd Belfast
N&S	13,14,10	5	(I)	Newson & Co Cork
NS/PCC	13,10/10,8,8	4½		National Society Prevention of Cruelty to Children
<u>LETTER 'O'</u>				
OA/BG	8,8/11,9	4½		Ocean Accident & British General Insurance Co
OA/GC	8,8/9,7	4½		Ocean Accident & Guarantee Corporation
O'M/✱	12,21/24	5½		O'Meara Bacon Curers Limerick

RANDOM NOTES

by F.E. Dixon

THE DUBLIN
PHILATELIC
SECTION

One of my spies (not a P & T employee) has supplied the 1976 November/
December issue of the POSTAL WORKER from which I quote:-

"An area of serious complaint at the present time is the Philatelic section in the GPO. Working conditions in this important section are primitive. The section is overcrowded; toilet and washing facilities inadequate. Furniture is of the variety rejected from the other sections in the GPO or recovered from the forgotten regions of the basement. These conditions, allied with what appears to be lack of official concern, lead to frustration and a loss of job satisfaction. It is difficult to understand why a section capable of making substantial profits should be so neglected. Until recently it was usual to receive letters of appreciation from satisfied customers: today the situation is reversed. Complaints about the lack of service are received regularly and, in addition, we have complaints about

complaints not being replied to.

We regularly receive complaints from the Department about the lack of staff co-operation in overcoming the worsening of the postal service. Here is a situation where staff co-operation is guaranteed and all that is necessary is the official will and enterprise to provide a good service to our customers and make a substantial profit in the process.

THE MISSING YEARS At the beginning of February the machine cancellations to lack their '1977' included those of Ballinasloe, Carlow, Ennis, Mullingar and Youghal. I'm not sure about Galway. The batch I inspected included several envelopes from Galway but the cancellation was poorly inked and identifiable only by an expert.

BUSINESS REPLY SERVICE Add to list:- Licence No DLY 10 = Dalkey School Project, 20 Burdett Avenue, Dun Laoghaire.

E.S.B. Meter-readers' Postcards Although the Electricity Supply Board is now issuing Business Reply Service cards to its meter-readers some stocks of stamped are still being used up and there are at least two more additions, to our list:-
(1976) 2½p brown + 1p blue + 1½p claret
(1976) 7p grey

DUBLIN SHIP LETTER DISCOVERY A cover of 1774, sold at a Robson Lowe auction on 4 March and ex-TE Field, is more interesting than earlier owners realised. The rates charged make it clear that the letter was put ashore in Dublin, to which one can, therefore, attribute the handstruck 'SHIP' which differs from any recorded by Robertson and is 20 years earlier than any Ship Letter marking he had found for Dublin. The 'SHIP' is 27½mm x 7mm, the 'H' being very wide and more so below than above.

'THE ALBUM' This the title of a new Journal, the first issue being dated Spring 1977, produced by the Cork Philatelic Society. It has a bad article on the Duke of Leinster's famous inverted swan, an analysis of the modern definitive gums and papers and colours, a prediction of stamp changes resulting from the new postal rates, an excellent introduction to Postal Stationery, a mercenary outlook 'Making Stamp Collecting Pay', current price trends and a list of the Cork sub-offices with their registration label numbers.

RATE OF INFLATION The latest increases in Irish postal rates are appreciably less than would be consistent with the general rate of inflation and show a deceleration in the rate of increase. No longer can I find any formula which fits the changes for 50 years back. The most recent changes expressed as percentage increase per year are:-

July 1971 to October 1974	11%)	
October 1974 to January 1976	22%)	(inland letter rate)
January 1976 to April 1977	8¾%)	

My prediction is that this is too good to last and that there will be further, and savage, increases quite soon.

THOMOND The episode of the regrettable Thomond 'stamps' was recalled by the death on 31 March of Raymond Moulton-O'Brien (The Earl of Thomond) at 5 Charlemont Street, Dublin. The burial was not in the Dalcassian territories he claimed but in Birmingham.

MODERN IRISH COVERS AND SIGNATURES

by R. French

I mentioned in my first article that covers for some issues were easy to design whilst others were not so forthcoming due to the particular theme of the issue or a mixture of events within an issue.

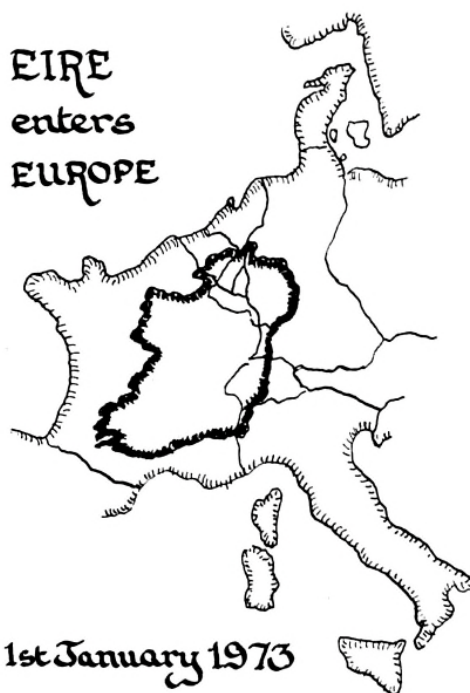
Once an idea has been formulated you must consider the limitations of your own illustrating ability, in my case human features such as faces and hands etc., create problems, therefore, use of these must be stylised or symbolic rather than actual. You may be good at geometric design, so try to build up the illustration around this strength, or any other particular strong point. I usually produce an enlarged version then scale it down to suit the cover size.

The printing which is applied to the cover is not difficult to accomplish as it would appear, even the more elaborate type such as in the centre of my definitive cover. Any reasonable library will have books relating to the different types of printing and with practise a fair standard can be achieved quite quickly, although you will probably finish, as I have done, with a personal style roughly resembling a formal pattern.

Definitive Issue



First Day Cover



Before attempting to apply any printing onto the cover it is essential to practise the actual wording to determine the size and spacing, as printing which is too large or badly spaced can encroach onto the area required for the stamps. Any pencilled guide lines are easily erased providing drawing ink or Indian ink has been used. Erase when the cover is finished and not at any intermediate stage as this can result in a slight roughening of the surface which can cause further

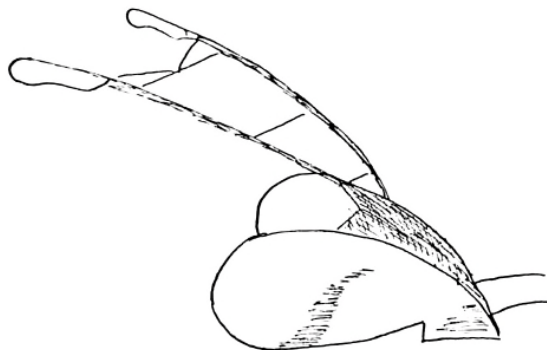
application of inks to blur and run.

It usually takes an average of two hours to produce a cover from start to finish. Two hours of concentration during which time all sorts of things can happen, e.g., the fire goes out, the potatoes or cabbage boils dry, or you are distracted by the sound of very hard boiled eggs ricochetting around the kitchen (this latter may be a possible sphere for research with a view to harnessing the energy released when the pan boils dry), it can also be hazardous when your wife returns and finds what has happened to her best pans, she may voice some strange and uncomplimentary views concerning your covers.

Patience and care are essential as the slightest mistake at any stage can be disastrous. I remember doing four covers for a GB issue which were to receive different postmarks, unfortunately I inscribed them with the wrong date - I think I would have committed suicide by jumping out of the window had we not lived on the ground floor. So instead I counted to ten and started again. It is surprising how many mistakes or slips occur when you are aware that the cover is almost finished.

The covers used in this article are those I used for definitive issues and also the designs for the World Ploughing Championships and the E.E.C. (1973) issues. The E.E.C. cover shows the map of Ireland superimposed on the map of Europe.

WORLD PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS



First Day Cover

POSTMARK MISCELLANY

by O.M. Richards

I recently saw advertised a 'LISNEGAR CAMP' double ring cancellation, which I sent for. To my surprise, when it arrived, it was on a postcard and turned out to be one of the numbered Irish skeleton stamps - Number 26.

This stamp is recorded as being used in 1911 with the Number 24, at the same location. I wonder if this was in use at the same time as the one I illustrate. LISNEGAR CAMP is in Co Cork.

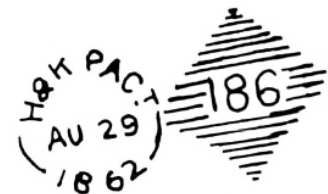


I believe there are three types of the H & K PACT/186 double stamps. A recent cover I acquired with this stamp is different to the example I already had on piece; both are illustrated.

The use of this stamp was occasioned by the geographical location of Dublin in relation to its suburbs and it appears that mail for England from offices on the railway line from Dublin to Kingstown which was received too late to be sent in to Dublin was placed on the train and cancelled on board the packets. The scarcity of such covers makes it difficult to be certain of the foregoing.



The cover I have is backstamped DUNDRUM which was not on the Dublin/Kingstown railway line but it may be that the bags were made up from such offices and sent directly to Dublin to be placed on the train because there was insufficient time for it to be sorted.



NO SUCH THOROUGHFARE
IN BELFAST N. IRELAND.

If you not already done PLEASE
INFORM CORRESPONDENTS that
your POSTAL DISTRICT No. is

BELFAST 6
B75 7LH

Two instructional stamps recently seen on mail addressed to Belfast, the 'NO SUCH THOROUGHFARE IN BELFAST N. IRELAND' was on a letter returned to the office from which it had been sent. The 'POSTAL DISTRICT' instruction is used at the main sorting office in Belfast, the post code being written in manuscript.

The only island post office in Northern Ireland is that on Rathlin Island off the North Antrim Coast. As far as I am aware this is the only such office in Northern Ireland.

Another office bears the legend 'Island' in its name, 'ISLANDMAGEE' but this is a peninsula north of Carrickfergus at the entrance to Belfast Lough.



WATERMARKS ON IRISH STAMPS

by J. Hearn

There tends to be some confusion in the describing of the watermarks on Irish stamps and collectors are mystified at some of the descriptions applied. This article is an attempt to clarify the matter. But first it is necessary to explain how Irish stamps are printed, with particular reference to the definitives.

LOW VALUE DEFINITIVES

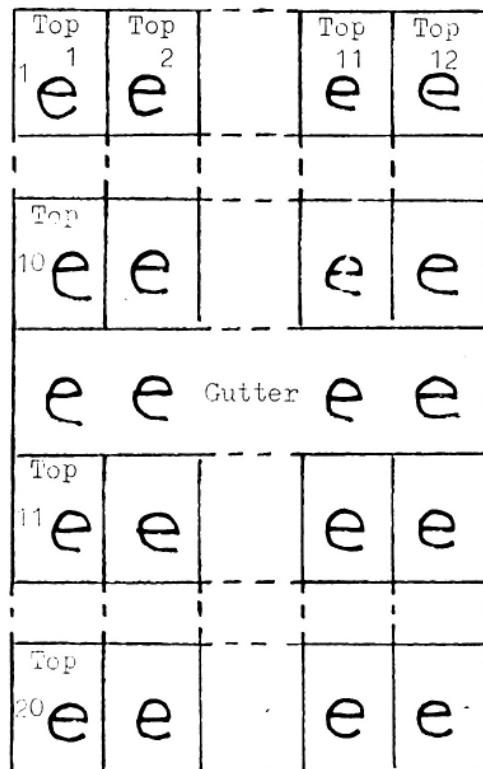
Dealing first with the low value definitives let us assume that the stamps are printed on paper about 300mm wide and 550mm deep (in practice of course the paper will be cut to this size after printing). The watermark will always appear upright on the sheet of paper, thus:-



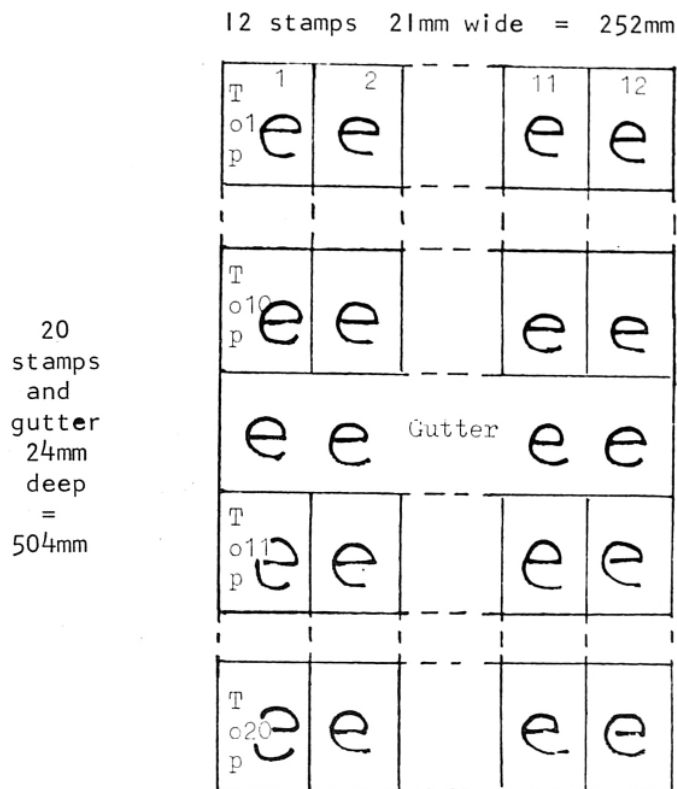
For accounting reasons all the £sd low value definitives were printed in sheets of 240 stamps (therefore each sheet of 1d stamps cost £1, of 2½d stamps £2 10s etc). The 1922 and 1940 definitive stamps were printed upright on each sheet of paper in the following layout:-

12 stamps 21mm wide = 252mm

20
stamps
and
gutter
24mm
deep
=
504mm



The 1968 animal definitives were the same size and were printed in sheets of the same size and layout. However, because the design was landscape (horizontal) instead of portrait (vertical) the stamps were printed sideways, thus:-

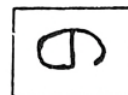


Therefore the watermark appears sideways on each stamp:-

Viewed from front



Viewed from back

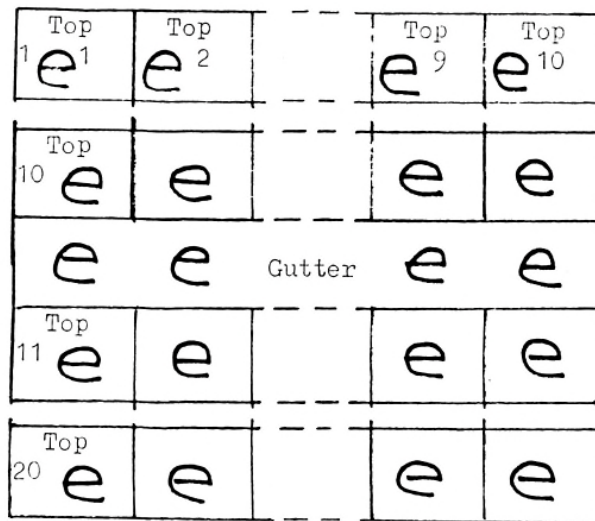


Another result is that gutter pairs are horizontal instead of vertical as on the 1922 and 1940 definitives (and the decimal currency issues).

For accounting reasons when decimal currency was introduced the number of stamps per sheet was reduced to 200 (so that each sheet of 1p stamps was worth £2, of 1½p stamps was worth £3 and so on). It was, therefore, possible to print the landscape design animal definitives upright on each sheet, thus:-

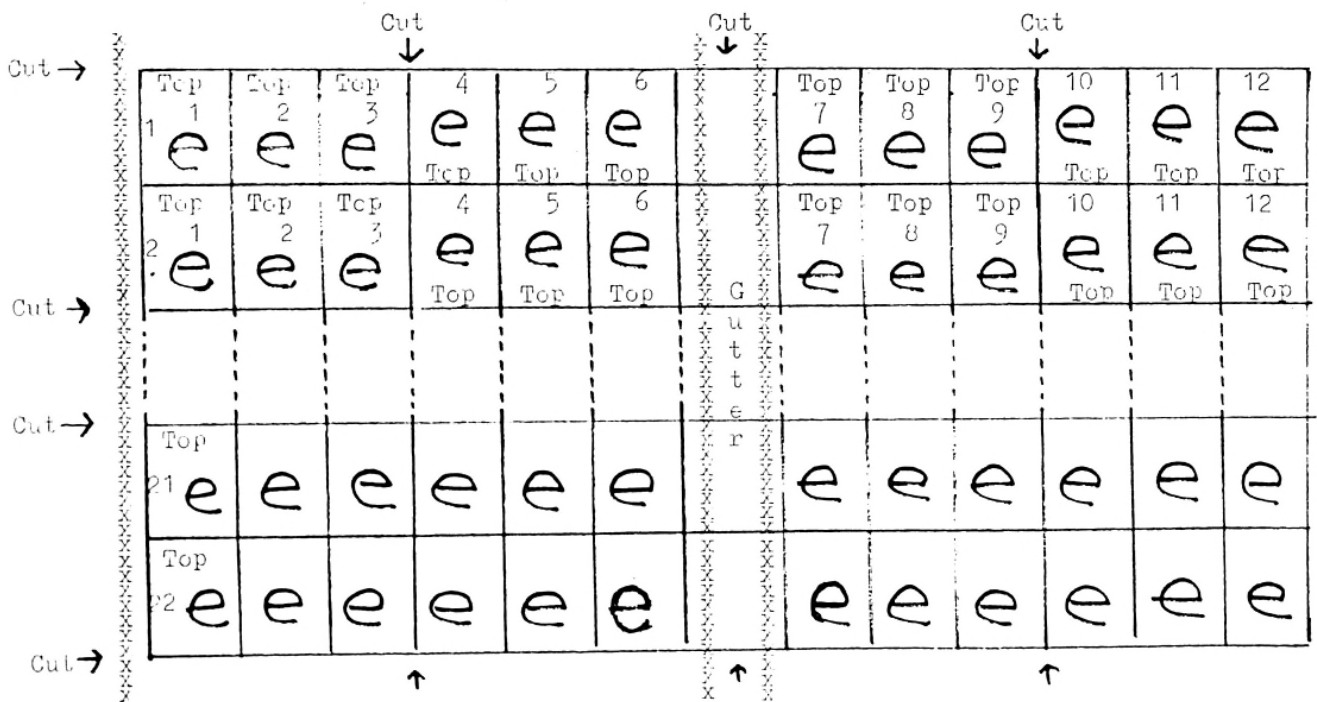
10 stamps 24mm wide = 240mm

20
stamps
and
gutter
21mm
deep
=
441mm



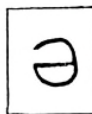
Special sheets have been printed for the production of booklets, on which half the stamps are printed upside down. the following diagram shows the layout of the sheets and how they were stitched and cut to provide 44 booklets:-

12 stamps and gutter 21mm wide = 273mm Stitching shown - xxxxxxxx



Because of this on half the stamps the watermark appears inverted:-

Viewed from front



Viewed from back



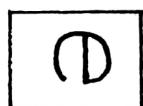
In the case of the animal definitives (£sd and decimal) the same format was used but the stamps were printed sideways:-

1	T	2	T	3	TT	4		5	T	6	
1	e o p	e o p	e oo pp	e o p	e o p	e o p		e o p	e o p	e o p	
2	T	T	TT		T			T		T	
2	e o p	e o p	e oo pp	e o p	e o p	e o p		e o p	e o p	e o p	

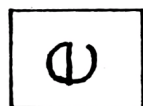
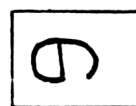
On all the stamps the watermark appears sideways but there are two varieties:-

Viewed from front

Viewed from back



Watermark
sideways
'A'



Watermark
sideways
'B'

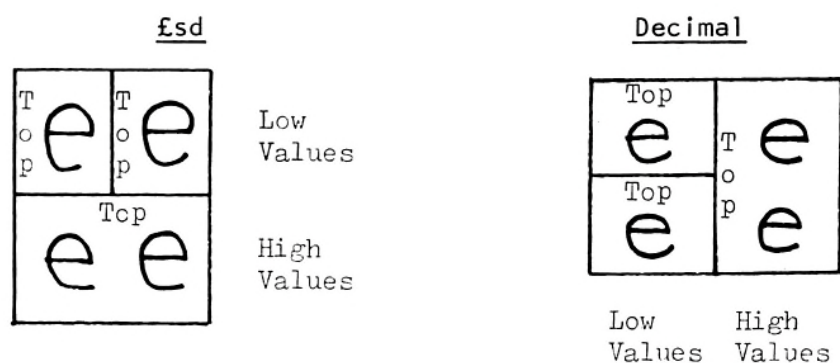


Some catalogues describe these watermarks as sideways right or sideways left but this is confusing because the description sideways right is applied looking from the front, the top of the watermark is at the left when looking from the back and vice versa. Others use the terms 'sideways' and 'sideways inverted' which is more logical because if the stamps were portrait instead of landscape the watermark would be 'upright' or 'inverted' and the description does not vary depending on which side the stamp is examined. But the question remains which is the 'sideways' watermark and which the 'sideways inverted'. I would suggest that 'A' is the 'sideways' watermark (and 'B' the 'sideways inverted') because it is the 'sideways' watermark that normally appears on the £sd animal definitives and also because it is in line with the convention adopted by Gibbons in their British Commonwealth Catalogue (see page xv) - although the Elizabethan Catalogue appears to have a different convention for each set!

HIGH VALUE DEFINITIVES

The 1937 and 1940 high value definitive stamps were printed in sheets of 40 stamps, 8 stamps 24mm wide across the sheet and 5 stamps 41mm deep down the sheet. The watermark appears upright.

The Animal high value definitives were exactly double the size of the corresponding low value definitives, thus:-



The stamps were, therefore, printed in sheets of 120 stamps (£sd) or 100 (decimal) instead of 240 or 200. As will be seen from the diagram above the watermark must be upright when the watermark on the low values is sideways (£sd issues) or vice versa (decimal issues).

COMMEMORATIVES

The same general remarks apply to the commemorative issues. In general they are the same as the high value animal definitives but portrait size designs have the watermark sideways on £sd issues and upright on decimal issues as, of course, it is the design that is moved not the way the stamp is printed on each sheet.

SUMMARY

From the above it will be seen that for technical reasons the watermark can appear in four different positions on Irish stamps and these are illustrated below:-

Viewed from front		Viewed from back
e	Watermark upright	ᵉ
ᵉ	Watermark inverted	ᵉ
ᵉ	Watermark sideways	ᵉ
ᵉ	Watermark sideways inverted	ᵉ

In some cases the paper was fed into the printing presses the wrong way round for the whole or part of a printing. Most values of the 1940 definitives were affected and the whole of the 1s 5d Countess Markievicz, 1970 Irish Art and other commemoratives were affected. The result, of course, is that the stamps appear with inverted or sideways inverted watermarks. In some cases the stamps are printed on what is normally the gummed side, the result is that the watermark is reversed, ie the illustrations headed 'Viewed from front' in fact refer to the 'View from back' and vice versa - but the argument is rather academic as the only stamp recorded is D4b in Feldman's Catalogue.

THE CANCELLING MACHINES OF IRELAND

PROVINCES

by O.M. Richards

CEATHARLACH (Carlow)

The cancelling machine issued to the office in Carlow late in 1951 was manufactured by Universal Postal Frankers Ltd. It was a DD (slow) model, Serial Number 2013. First used in December 1951 it is still in use today. Slogans have been used but I have not seen PAID or OFFICIAL PAID items from this machine.



Fig. 54

CILL AIRNE (Killarney)

I have no record of the exact date when a cancelling machine was brought into use in Killarney. The postmaster informs me that it was early in January 1953. It was supplied by Universal Postal Frankers Ltd and is a DD (slow) machine. There have been two town dies used, varying only slightly. I have seen PAID mail, using the Irish 'IOCTHA', but no OFFICIAL PAID mail as yet.

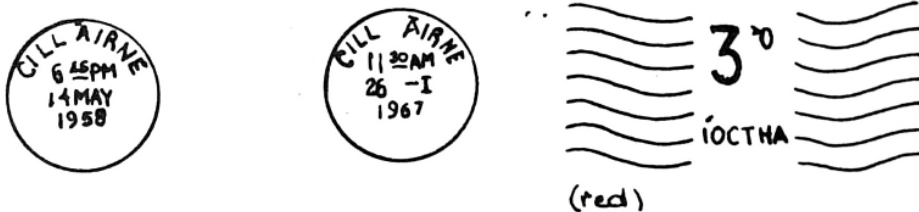


Fig. 55

CLUAIN MEALA (Clonmel)

Clonmel was one of the offices, some 15 in number, which were issued with cancelling machines in 1951. The machine used at Clonmel was issued in December 1951 and was first used that month, I have no record of the actual day. It was made by Universal Postal Frankers Ltd and is a DD (slow) model, Serial Number 2010. Slogans have been and are still used in this machine but I have not seen PAID or OFFICIAL PAID mail.

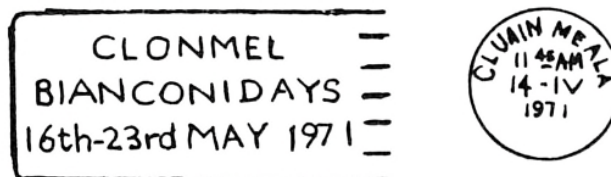


Fig. 56

CARRAIG DHUBH-Á CLIAITH (Blackrock)

Universal Postal Frankers Ltd supplied the cancelling machine to Blackrock in December 1952. It was first used on the 13th of that month. It is a DD (slow) model, Serial Number 2123. I have examples from this machine of PAID dies with values 2d, 3d, 4d and 5d. I have not seen decimal values as yet, neither have I seen OFFICIAL PAID mail.



Fig. 57

DROICHEAD ÁTHA (Drogheda)

Another office which received its cancelling machine in the 1951 programme, in December, was Drogheda. The first day of use is not recorded except for the fact that it was pre Christmas. Manufactured by Universal Postal Frankers Ltd, it is a DD (slow) model, I have no record of the serial number. It has been used for PAID mail but not for OFFICIAL PAID, as far as I know.



Fig. 58

DŪN DEALGAN (Dundalk)

The cancelling machine used in Dundalk was issued to that office in December 1951, the first day of use was the 15th of that month. It was manufactured by Universal Postal Frankers Ltd and is one of the DD (slow) models, Serial Number 2005. I have not seen PAID or OFFICIAL PAID mail from this machine. Slogans are used regularly, it has had one publicising the Dundalk Maytime Festival, first used in 1967. In subsequent years the date was omitted.



Fig. 59