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Edited by

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EDITORIAL

We have almost reached the end of 1982 and have managed to produce four issues of our Journal. My sincere thanks to those who have enabled me to do this by providing material.

As we go to press we are faced with the third definitive series of Irish stamps, I think the timing of this issue just before Christmas savours a bit of "lets soak the collectors and increase our revenue for 1982". The new stamps are a radical change from the previous definitives, a step in the right direction I think.

May Dorothy and me wish you all a very happy time at Christmas and may 1983 be good to you.

OM Richards

"Irish Philately"

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INTERESTING ENTIRES

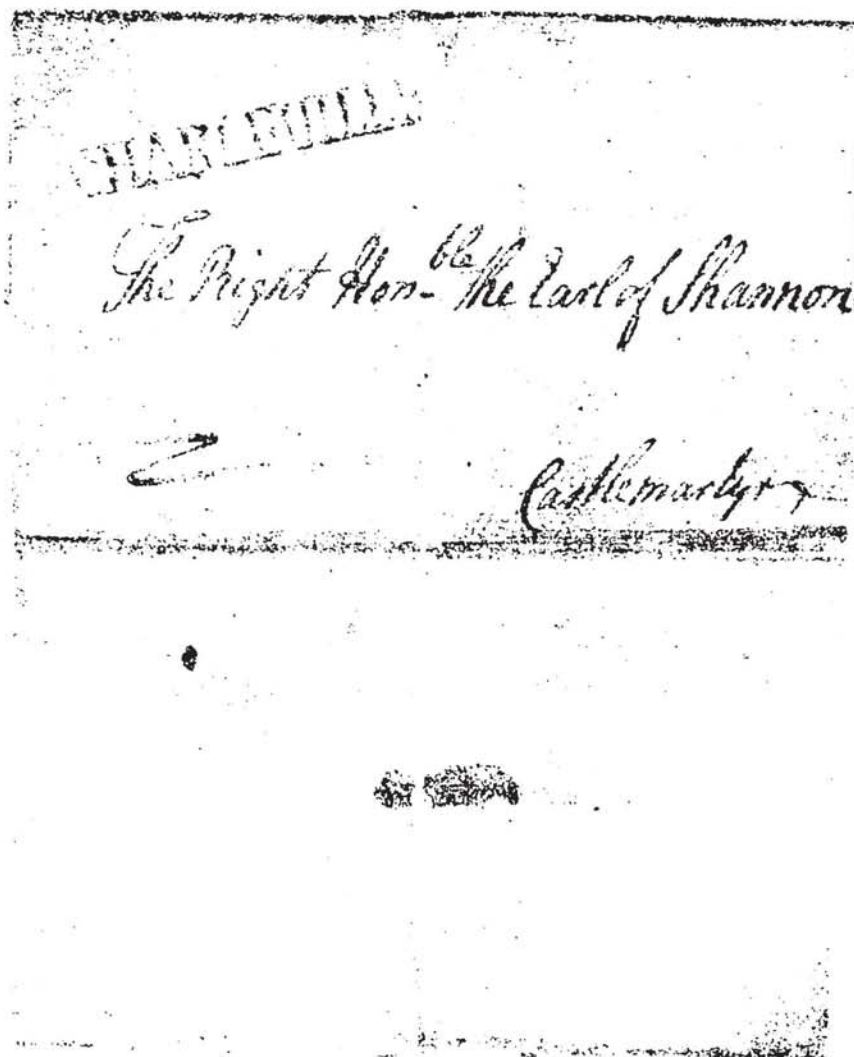
Once again we are indebted to our President, Dr B de Burca, for allowing us to reproduce the following two interesting sheets from his collection.

The first is a straight line stamp from Charleville which shows the letter 'U' for 'V'.

CHARLEVILLE

CO. CORK

19 JULY 1797



The second entire is from Leighlinbridge to Dublin and has, in addition to the LEIGHLIN/BRIDGE stamp showing the combined 'H' and the Dublin 'Bishop' stamp, an example of the N 28 M stamp - November 28 Morning.

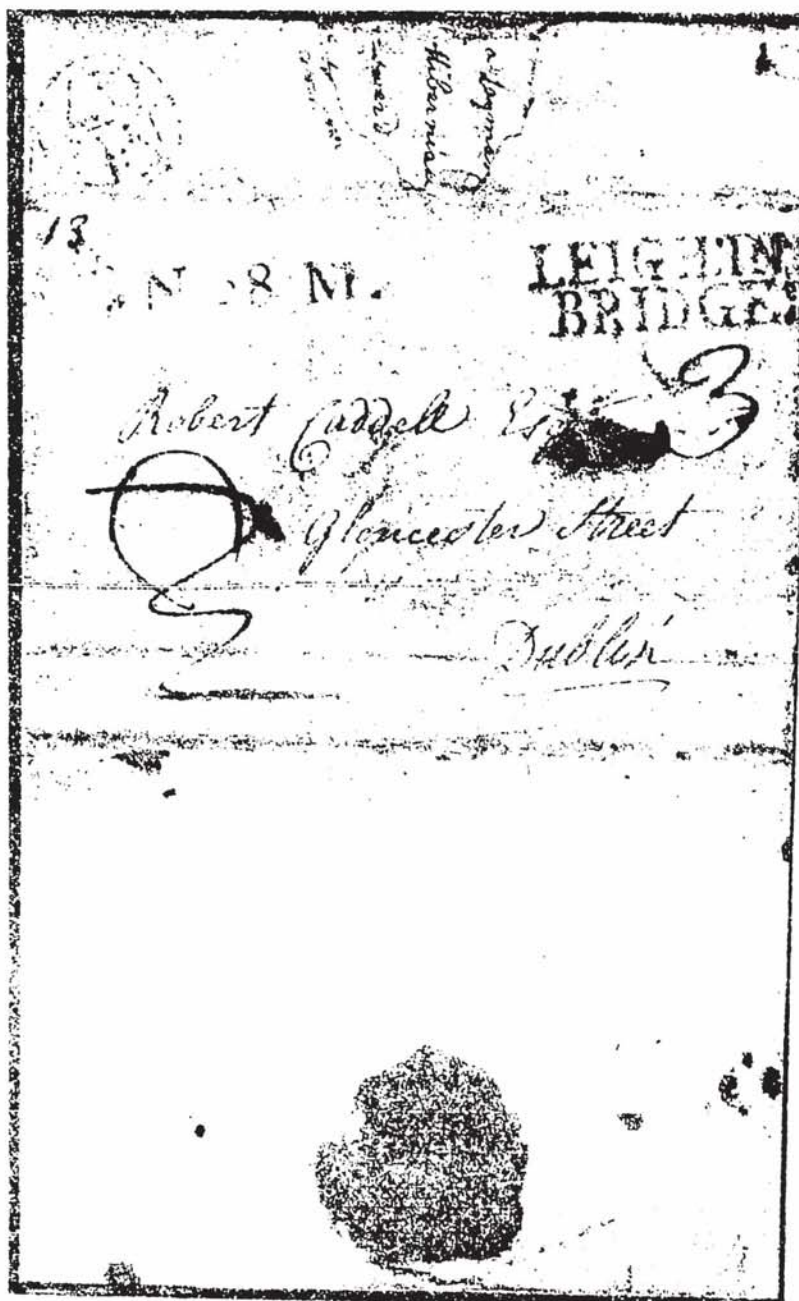
DUBLIN PENNY POST

N 28 M.

November 28th Morning



1775



< 'H' >
Combined 'H' in LEIGHLIN.



LEIGHLINBRIDGE

A STORY OF THE BALLYMACLINTON VILLAGE 1908 - 1910

POSTAL HISTORY'S NEW CHAPTER

BY

G.E.R. ITHELL



Posted at
BALLYMACLINTON

IRELAND'S UNIQUE POSTMARK

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The handbook 'Posted at Ballymacclinton' by G E R Ithell is due to be on general sale in January at £2.50 retail, plus postage. To readers of this journal a pre-publication reduced price is offered as follows:

UK addresses £2 plus 23p postage
Irish addresses IR£2.36 plus 27p postage
Europe addresses 7.80 DMks plus 1.20 DMks post
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Feltham Hill Road
ASHFORD
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Please supply copies of 'Posted at Ballymacclinton' at the special pre-publication price of £2 sterling, or equivalent, plus postage.

signed -----

Name and address in block capitals

THE DUBLIN EMERGENCY CANCELLATIONS OF 1916

by C.I. Dulin

The article of R.J. Partridge in the December 1981 issue of Irish Philately raised the still unanswered question of how long these cancellations were in use.

As always, articles of this type raise, in turn, further questions. For example, when were they introduced and, perhaps even more important, what different types were employed?

There were, in fact, many more types than the author has noted and, moreover, some of his illustrations of the types he did describe may need amendment.

Accordingly, these notes are written with the aim of attempting to define the various types, give their key characteristics and help establish their period of use.

1. SKELETON TYPES

These are of two varieties, single ring and double ring (Figures 1 and 2).



Figure 1



Figure 2

Of the single ring type (some 35½ mm in diameter) Codes 1 to 7, with the exception of 6, are known or have been reported. However, I have some reservations about Code 5 which, personally, I have not seen. Perhaps a reader can confirm its existence with an actual copy.

Codes 8 and 9 are not known but Codes 10, 11 and 12 certainly exist and are of the double ring type. These are slightly smaller than the single ring type being some 34 mm in diameter.

It is usually noted (by inference with other types of cancellation) that the single ring types are for day duty and the double ring for night duty. However, whilst this may have been so it is not necessarily true.

It must be remembered that the period was one of emergency, where any type of canceller was brought into use. It is only recently that I realised that a single ring skeleton was unknown in Ireland, only double ring types being normally used. The conclusion that seems a logical one is that the single types were, in fact, imported from England to cater for the emergency. This also explains the seemingly puzzling difference in diameter

between the single ring and double ring types.

Very regretfully, Bill Kane's booklet (Postal Markings of Dublin 1840 - 1922, published by M. Giffney, Dublin) is extremely misleading about many aspects of these (and other) emergency cancellations. For example, he gives only one diameter for both single and double ring types and notes them as existing in Codes 1 to 8. Your author also quotes Bill Kane's booklet as to the usage period (on these skeletons) as 4 May 1916 to 7 August 1916.

Whilst one cannot be too pontifical about these things, very certainly they were in use by 2 May 1916. I have Codes 1 and 7 in my own collection with this date. The 7 August 1916 date may be correct (the latest date I possess is 29 May 1916, Code 4). However, the dates of use may be more complex in that whilst all codes may have been put into use at the same time (and this too is unconfirmed), certainly it appears as though they were phased out at different times.

It is possible on these skeletons to note differences in the spacing and tilt of the letters and figures, so that each and every one of the different Codes can be identified by these characteristics alone. Interestingly, for example, the Code 11 skeleton was back in the Parcels Office (with Code number removed) by 3 July 1916. This I am able to confirm with a huge block of postage due labels cancelled (with no less than 17 imprints) of the Code 11 skeleton, Code removed.

Similarly, I suspect that Codes 2 and 3 were retired from the Letter Office earlier than August. The deformed Code 4 skeleton seems to have been in use longer than Codes 2 and 3.

One practical problem in the study of these skeleton types is their comparative rarity. Bill Kane's valuations on them seems optimistically far too low compared with auction realisations - on the equally rare occasions when these cancellations appear in auctions. Hopefully, however, some of our readers may be able to supplement the relatively meagre data thus far published.

2. THE BARRED HANDSTAMP



Figure 3

A typical one of these is illustrated in Figure 3. As can be seen, it has 9 vertical bars. The illustration in R.J. Partridge's article has the cancellation showing 11 bars, whilst Bill Kane's booklet show a similar structure. If an 11 barred cancellation exists it must be of the utmost rarity.

As to how many different variations of this cancellation were employed is still not known. It is possible to differentiate between at least six different ones. All, however, have the characteristic 9 vertical bars.

I believe it was Fred Dixon (Dixon's Irish Philatelic News 1 April 1958) who first noted that at least two different handstamps were in use at the time, with a distinct difference in size of the letters 'DUBLIN'.

My measurements indicate that these two can be categorised as having on one,

letters 3.5 mm high with a word length of 18 mm, whilst the other has 4 mm high letters and is somewhat shorter at 17½ mm.

Other types include a constant worn rim type (which, of course, could be one type transformed into an apparently different type by use, although ~~the skimpy dated evidence tends to preclude this~~); one with 'DUBLIN' virtually omitted but having two distinguishing dots at either end of the word; yet another with vertical bars distinct but the circumference eroded in the horizontal space section.

As your author remarks, with this type of 'dumb' cancellation evidence of dating must come from inferential data. Fortunately, this cancellation is the commonest of the emergency period and many postcards, in particular, exist to provide the clues. For example, when the sender wrote a date as well as a message. Much scarcer are back-stamped envelopes showing arrival dates. Overwhelmingly, the letters sent at the time were within Ireland or to England. Letters of this type rarely had an arrival date stamped on them. However, some letters to destinations which used an arrival stamp exist, although here the transit time between Dublin and the destination brings an uncertain factor into the picture.

As an aside, probably the ultimate in rarity (if it exists) would be a registered letter with an emergency cancellation. I have never seen such an item.

On the earliest date of usage, this is likely to have been 1 May 1916 (the day postal services were resumed using the Rotunda as the GPO). The earliest definitive date I own (on an 'On Active Service' letter sent to Nottingham dated by a postage due cancellation) is 8 May 1916, presumably having been sent from Dublin on 7 May or possibly earlier.

The last date of use I have is in September, although I have seen a 26 October date. Certainly the beautiful trio of cards illustrated by your author, with its inferential date of 11 November 1916, convincingly points to a much later date of usage.

3. ROLLER TYPE CANCELLATIONS

There were at least two types of roller cancellations used during the emergency period (Figures 4 and 5).



Figure 4

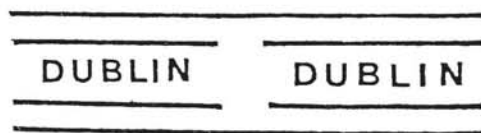


Figure 5

The one illustrated by your author is of the type originally reading 'DUBLIN/PARCEL OFFICE' (Figure 4) and then having the word 'PARCEL' removed. However, his illustration again regretfully follows that in Bill Kane's booklet which, in turn, is erroneous.

As far as I am aware, all the roller type parcel cancellations used in the 1916 emergency had the common characteristic of two outer continuous lines and two (not one) parallel interrupted inner lines. Moreover, they were all of the horizontal type and not the vertical types that Bill Kane's illustrations, in his booklet, implies were used.

The Figure 5 roller cancellation consists simply of the word 'DUBLIN'. This, too, is often referred to as having the word 'PARCELS' removed. However, this is not so, the word 'PARCELS' was never there in the first place.

Both of these cancellations are relatively scarce, especially the 'DUBLIN' only type, although are seen more frequently than the skeletons.

As a result, their dates of use are more nebulous than the 9-barred dumb cancellations. I have them, inferentially, in early May extending into late June, although it may well be that they lasted until July. This, however, is pure conjecture.

4. EMPTY HANDSTAMP CANCELLATIONS



Figure 6

This type (Figure 6) is the rarest of the emergency cancellations. It appears to have been an empty handstamp without lettering or figures of any kind. The areas where the letters, time, date and code should be, however, can be discerned by the smearing of the cancellation.

Its period of use, inferentially, seems to have been only in May 1916 and probably for a few days at most. But this is no more than a hazardous guess.

5. ARMY CANCELLATIONS

Whilst not strictly in the same category as the emergency cancellations used for civilian mail, mention may also be made of the Army Post Offices cancellations.

These were in use for the British soldiers (59th Division Sherwood Foresters) sent to Dublin immediately following the outbreak of the Uprising. Four types were used:-

APO (HD) 40	The 176th Brigade	APO (HD) 42	The 178th Brigade
APO (HD) 41	The 177th Brigade	APO (HD) D14	Divisional HQ

Coming into use in the first week of May, they were phased out in July and August.

Overall, the Emergency Period is one that has been relatively neglected in relation to both its intrinsic philatelic and historical importance. Whilst there is no doubt that postally used items are scarce, perhaps with the opening of an Irish Postal Museum more material will come to light.

RANDOM NOTES

by F.E. Dixon

REGISTRATION ENVELOPES A fascinating example of the disorganisation within the Irish Post Office is provided by the registration envelopes. Almost every issue resulting from the increased rates is found with a variety of reverses. These seem to happen through there being stocks of envelopes printed except for the stamp. My theory is that each fresh batch is piled on top of existing stocks. Only when one pile is nearly finished do the older printings come to light - sometimes years after their information became outdated.

The latest case is the G size envelope with 55p stamp, which appeared in March 1981, the envelope having blue lining and with a reverse inscription not specifying the registration fee. In 1982 (I think July) a batch was distributed with the old scrim lining and a reverse alleging the fee to be 12p (now 70p!). This printing of the envelope first appeared in 1974 and has since been misused with the 25p in 1975, 33p in 1976, 37p in 1978, 44p in 1980 and now 55p in 1982.

This makes it very expensive for collectors of postal stationery who try to obtain every successive variety.

POST OFFICE GUIDE The long awaited new edition of Part I of EOLAÍ AN PHOIST has appeared (I think during September), price £1 plus postage (inland 41p, overseas £1) in the same form as previous issues, ie with 158 pages devoted to the lists of post offices in English and Irish. A note in "Pagust" advises that it will be the last issue in the present form. I suspect that this means that the lists of offices will eventually be printed as a separate publication, just what will suit the growing number of postmark enthusiasts. One unfortunate aspect of the new edition is that it went to press before the last increases in postal rates; they are given only as a supplement.

GRATTAN AND DE VALERA Yet again I dislike the new stamp designs. Grattan's Parliament should not be commemorated: it was corrupt and eventually passed the Act of Union which led to many of Ireland's troubles. Henry Grattan's portrait could have been used: he was a great patriot and a brilliant orator. As for De Valera, the portrait is a poor one and the suggestion of a halo is in bad taste. Better would have been a full-length portrayal of the man as most people saw him, with a large hat and long overcoat. It would have been reasonable to have used the same format as the Shaw stamp.

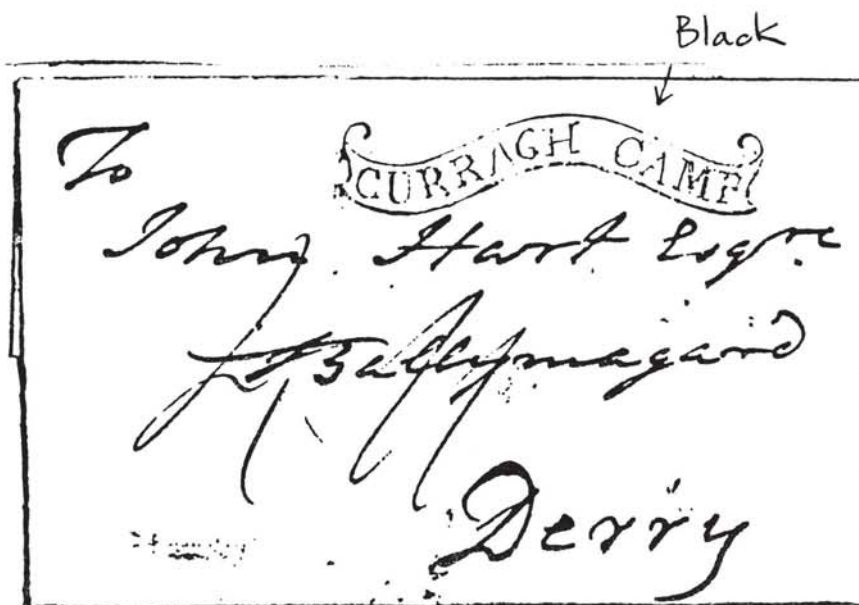
UPU DAY 9 October 1982 was a Saturday, the day on which fewest letters are posted, so examples of the special machine cancellation will be hard to find. However, Limerick (as in 1981) continued to use the cancellation for at least a week after the event.

DISCOVERY A provincial collector has found in an old scrap book what seems to be a waybill, headed REGISTRY OF UNPAID DOUBLE LETTERS FROM DUBLIN. It was filled in for two letters to Leighlinbridge on 4 August 1828, the datestamp being a circular REGISTER'D DUBLIN. It is evidence of the system used

in Ireland from 1824 to 1831 whereby, without any fee, all letters double (or more) were registered. Possibly we should term the system registering rather than registration?

* * * * *

CURRAGH CAMP CO KILDARE



Letter Headed:-

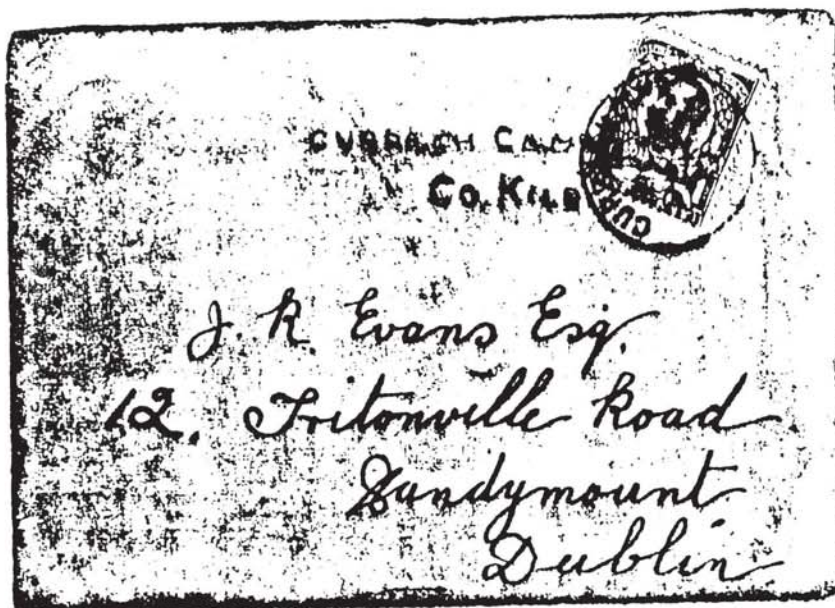
"CURRAGH CAMP"

(Tells about drill)

Recently I received a photostat of an entire, bearing a "CURRAGH CAMP" scroll type handstamp. In the past I have seen about four such marks but always on piece. As far as I know, the date of use has not been recorded so I was very pleased to get this photocopy which was dated.

The sender requested some information relative the mark, also some details of the camp. In order to obtain this data I reached for a file into which I throw anything relating to Military Camps. To my surprise I found a cover which must have lain unnoticed for years. It had a faint but readable two line "CURRAGH CAMP/Co KILDARE".

The Curragh Camp is located on an expanse of grassland, known as the Curragh, which extends to almost 5000 acres and can be traced back to remote antiquity. It is recorded that in the year 777, the Battle of the Curragh was fought between Ruadhri, son of Faelan, and Bran, son of Muireadhach. There are records showing that in 1599 the Earl of Essex camped on the Curragh. In 1688 records tell us that there was a camp on the Curragh consisting of three regiments of horse, one regiment of dragoons and seven regiments of foot. The reorganisation of the Irish Militia, in the years prior to the 1798 rebellion, saw the force assembled on the Curragh; it is known that six regiments of cavalry were in camp on the Curragh in 1797.



27 September 1910

CURRAGH CAMP 40x4 mm

Co KILDARE 30x4 mm

It was the Crimean War, 1853 to 1856, which led to the construction of the first permanent camp on the Curragh of Kildare. In August 1860 a total of 11,000 men were located in the camp under canvas. By 1901 seven barracks made up the camp. There was a famous "Mutiny" in the Curragh Camp during the month of March 1914. The Irish Volunteer prisoners, 1500 in number, were held in the Curragh Camp in 1921. The Camp was handed over to the Irish Army by the British on 16 May 1921. It must be the largest Military Barracks in Ireland and it is still in use.

* * * * *

The following article is published by kind permission of Noel Langton. It is a somewhat dated article on the registration labels of Dublin and of the number allocated to each office or department as it was put together in the early 1960s. I am aware that some of the membership have a great interest in these labels and publish this as a guide for them. Thanks are due to Noel Langton.

DUBLIN POST OFFICE NUMBERS

by N.J. Langton

In the process of forming a collection of Dublin District Post Office postmarks, I became aware that, apart from a few of the mid-city office cancellations, they were a fairly scarce commodity. To secure the postmarks of the suburban offices I had to resort to the expedient of sending a self-addressed envelope, registered, from each of those missing from my collection.

Shortly, I found that the registration labels used differed from office to office

in having an identifying number following the word "Dublin". No two of the offices used the same number and so it was possible to compile a list of offices and their numbers. This has been done and follows in Appendix 1 of this article.

In the course of collecting the office numbers, one major and some minor points of interest emerged. Taking the minor items first, they are:-

1. One office, Rutland Street, was using a blank label with DN 175 inserted in manuscript.
2. Three offices were using labels inscribed with their own names instead of the "Dublin" and the number. Hence it is not possible to include them in Appendix I, and they are listed in Appendix II.
3. A few offices deal with so little registered mail that it was only with difficulty that the assistants were prevailed upon to issue receipts etc.
4. Whilst pursuing another "postal marking" theme, ie trying to secure a "Posted out of course" strike, I posted a letter in a postbox in Finglass, bearing a shilling's worth of stamps and crossed in blue pencil. It was delivered with a registered label "Dublin 82" and circular red cancellation "Baile Atha Cliath Deimnighte 9". A further attempt to secure the "Posted out of course" mark, this time with a similarly prepared cover posted in the city centre, resulted in a "Dublin 82" label and a machine cancellation (H machine "Make Sure You Are On The New Voters List"). This occurred, apparently, through the letter being undetected as an intended registered item until it had already gone through the machine.

The major problem noted can best be explained by referring to Appendices I and II. It will be seen that there are 116 public post offices in the Dublin Postal District. This is two more than is listed in the 1959 edition of the Post Office Guide, as Finglass East and Ballymun Avenue were opened in 1960 and 1961, and so are to be found in the supplement only and not in the book proper; but the numbers allocated to these offices range from 1 to 256, with gaps mainly after the first 100. The problem is - what has become of the numbers not listed? A partial solution is to be found in Appendix III. Here are listed several government offices and departments with numbers. The numbers are those seen by me on labels on official registered letters. The labels are standard issue with progressive numbers also. It would appear that facilities exist within certain government offices for the registration of mail for onward transmission by normal postal means. This has been confirmed by private conversation but when the Department of Post and Telegraphs were requested to fill in the gaps in the public office list (Appendix I), the reply was :- "It would not be practicable to comply with your request".

So, for the moment we are stuck, there are 131 gaps between 1 and 256. I should be obliged if anyone can assist in completing the listing by informing me of any additions or by comments. Mr FE Dixon has shown me a few items requiring explanation. These are noted in the appendices.

It is interesting to note that numbers are allocated to newly opened offices in a very haphazard fashion. This can be seen by reference to Finglass East, which is 203. The Finglass East office was opened in March 1961, yet offices much

older have higher numbers. It should be remembered too that, offices which were previously rural will not show a number on the labels used during their rural period. Temporary offices, such as the Surgical Conference Office in UCD last September, are not numbered.

APPENDIX I Numbers of Offices using registration labels inscribed
"Dublin" followed by No:-

1.	GPO O'Connell Street	46.	Benburb Street
2.	St Andrew Street	47.	Morehampton Road
3.	(formally College Green)	48.	Drumcondra Road
4.	James Street	49.	Donnybrook
5.	Phibsboro'	50.	Whitehall Terrace Clontarf
6.	North Wall	51.	Usher's Quay
7.	Portobello Bridge	52.	Ringsend
8.	Ballsbridge	53.	Sandymount
9.	South Anne Street	54.	High Street
10.	(formally at Duke Street)	55.	North King Street
11.	Dame Street	56.	Church Road
12.	Captain's Road Crumlin	57.	Berkeley Road
13.	Westmoreland Street	58.	Harold's Cross
14.	Merrion Row	59.	Dolphin's Barn
15.	Leinster Street	60.	Islandbridge
16.	Harcourt Road	61.	Dunville Avenue
17.	Rathmines	62.	Russell Street
18.	Clare Street	63.	Marino
19.	23 Pearse Street	64.	Kimmage Road
20.	Lr Baggot Street	65.	Kilmainham
21.	Capel Street	66.	Terenure
22.	Upr Baggot Street	67.	Drumcondra
23.	Upr Ormond Quay	68.	Cork Street
24.	Talbot Street	69.	St John's Terrace Clontarf
25.	Harcourt Road	70.	Merrion
26.	Aungier Street	71.	Mobhi Road (Saint)
27.	Ranelagh	72.	Church Street
28.	Parkgate Street	73.	Somerset Street
29.	72 Pearse Street	74.	Milltown
30.	Parnell Street	75.	Dollymount
31.	Upr Clanbrassil Street	76.	Windy Arbour
32.	Lr Leeson Street	77.	Artane
33.	Thomas Street	78.	Annamoe Road
34.	Rathgar	79.	
35.	Upr Leeson Street	80.	Crumlin
36.	Lr Mount Street	81.	
37.	Granby Row	82.	
38.	Manor Street	83.	
39.	Camden Street	84.	
40.	Gardiners' Row	85.	
41.	Fairview	86.	
42.	Upr Kevin Street	87.	
43.	Lr Dorset Street	88.	
44.	Inchicore	89.	
45.	North Strand	90.	
	Infirmary Road	91.	
	Sheriff Street	92.	
		93.	

94.
 95.
 96. Irishtown
 97. Killester
 98.
 99.
 100.
 101.
 102.
 103.
 104.
 105.
 106.
 107. Ballygall Road E
 108.
 109.
 110.
 111.
 112.
 113.
 114. Harold's Cross Road
 115. Roebuck
 116.
 117.
 118.
 119. Cabra
 120.
 121. Harmonstown
 122.
 123.
 124.
 125.
 126.
 127.
 128.
 129.
 130. Dundrum
 131. Galtymore
 132.
 133.
 134.
 135. Donnycarney
 136.
 137.
 138.
 139.
 140.
 141.
 142.
 143.
 144. Lisadell Avenue
 145.
 146.
 147.
 148.
 149.

150.
 151.
 152.
 153.
 154.
 155.
 156. Upr Ballyfermot
 157.
 158.
 159.
 160. South King Street
 161.
 162.
 163.
 164.
 165.
 166.
 167.
 168.
 169.
 170.
 171.
 172.
 173.
 174.
 175. Upr Rutland Street
 176.
 177.
 178.
 179.
 180.
 181.
 182.
 183.
 184. Ballymun Avenue
 185.
 186.
 187.
 **188. Gaeltacht Park
 Fassaugh Avenue
 189.
 190.
 191.
 192.
 193.
 194.
 195.
 196.
 197.
 198. Cappagh
 199.
 200.
 201. Botanic Road
 202.
 203. Finglass East
 204.
 205.

206.		232.	
207.	Drimnagh	233.	
208.		234.	Bluebell
209.		235.	Rialto
210.		236.	Upr Drumcondra
211.		237.	
212.	Greenlea Road	238.	
213.		239.	
214.		240.	Santry
215.		241.	Ballyfermot
216.		242.	Walkinstown
217.		243.	
218.		244.	
219.		245.	
220.		246.	
221.	Phillipsburgh Avenue	247.	
222.		248.	
223.		249.	
224.		250.	
225.	Shanliss Road	251.	Carberry Road
226.		252.	Churchtown
227.		253.	
228.		254.	
229.		255.	
230.		256.	Shantalla Road
231.	Navan Road		

* Mr FE Dixon reports Dublin 9 as Molesworth Street (an office now closed) on two pieces - 1922 and 1949.

** He also reports 156 on a cover with Gaeltacht Park pink 1959.

APPENDIX II Offices using Registered Labels endorsed with their own name and not "Dublin" and No:-

Finglas

Rathfarnham

Silveracre

APPENDIX III Government Departments and Offices having Registered facilities and using standard Registered Labels with numbers not accounted for in Appendix No I:-

I.R.2.

I.R.4. Income Tax Commissioners - Income Tax Commissioners is the only exception to the rule regarding the use of adhesive labels. The I.R.2 is a violet rubber or metal impression.

Dublin 82 Probably Sorting Office Pearse Street - see remarks Page 71.

Dublin 82A As above.

Dublin 86 "An Cuntasoir" Dublin. Reported by F.E. Dixon.

Dublin 89 Land Commission

Dublin 95 Department of Local Government

Dublin 125 Department of Education - Primary Branch - seen with Label Dublin 25 with pen "1" to make 125. Apparently used while 125 labels were out of stock.

Dublin 148 Department of Defence

Dublin 149 Department of Social Welfare

Dublin 151 Paymaster General
Dublin 195 Department of Industry and Commerce

R.L.S. Returned Letter Section

Dublin 87 O.P.W
Dublin 101 Andrew Street (1)

* * * * *

EDITOR:- I am aware that a considerable amount of white space appears in Appendix I but this has been done deliberately in order to help members complete the list by filling in blank spaces from their own collections. If you have information concerning the missing numbers I should be glad to receive it for inclusion in the next issue of the Journal. Thank you.

* * * * *

THE CANCELLING MACHINES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

by O.M. Richards

ARMAGH Since writing the first part of this series of articles I have found a 1st PAID in red from Armagh, the die is as Figure 7 and dated 8 March 1971.

BANGOR CO DOWN Bangor Co Down is a very busy seaside resort, very popular with the people of Belfast in the holiday season and the volume of mail posted during this period is reflected in the early issue of a Krag type machine. There was a good service of trains from Queen's Quay Station of the Belfast and Co Down Railway Company and a good service of steamers from a quay built out from Queen's Bridge. There is still a good rail service to the town, the steamers, alas, are long since departed.

The earliest example of the Krag type machine is for 17 May 1927, this had five wavy lines and a three line die box, Figure 18. I have examples from the machine to 23 August 1936. As far as I am aware slogans were not used on this machine.

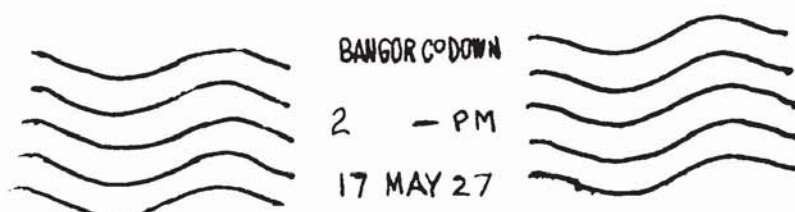


Figure 18

A Universal machine was issued to this office in 1937, my earliest example is for 29 June 1937, Figure 19 shows an example of this die. the absence of arcs will be noted.



Figure 19

Slogans were used with this die, Figure 20.



Figure 20

This machine had a long life, until at least 1963. A new die was issued about 1954, this time with arcs, Figure 21, the two dies were used concurrently from 1954 to 1963. To my knowledge there has only ever been one machine in use at any one time in Bangor so the use of different types of die is unusual. I had thought that one die may have been used for ordinary mail and the other for Bulk Paid Mail but examination of a number of examples does not indicate that this was the case.



Figure 21

The machine is used for Bulk Paid Mail, I have examples of 1½d PAID, 1st PAID and 2nd PAID. All the paid examples are a very dark red in colour, in fact more black than red in most cases. This is further proof of the use of only one machine, poor cleaning between black and red usage results in a dark red.

I have not seen OFFICIAL PAID MAIL from this office.

CARRICKFERGUS CO ANTRIM

A letter from the Postmaster of this office states that older members of staff have indicated that a Krag type

machine was issued to this office in December 1958, my own earliest example is for 21 October 1959. A friend, George Stelfox of Belfast, reports an example dated 28 August 1959. This machine was apparently in use to the opening of the new sorting office in June 1961. FE Dixon reports an example dated 14 April 1961. Figure 22 shows my only example.



Figure 22

My earliest example of the Universal Machine is for 17 August 1963, the British Postmark Society's Bulletin reports 4 July 1964, none other of my lists shows a date earlier than the one I quote. Figure 23.



Figure 23

Slogans are used on this machine and it is also used for Bulk Paid Mail cancelling in red. I have not seen OFFICIAL PAID MAIL cancelled at this office.

COLERAINE CO LONDONDERRY The Head Postmaster of Londonderry wrote to tell me that there was no record as to when the Krag type machine was issued to the office at Coleraine. My own earliest example is for 13 June 1938. Figure 24. It was in use until at least 5 April 1947 (FED).



Figure 24

By 20 October 1949 (FED), a Universal machine was in use at this office, Figure 25, and this type of machine is in use at present. My own earliest example is for 10 November 1949.

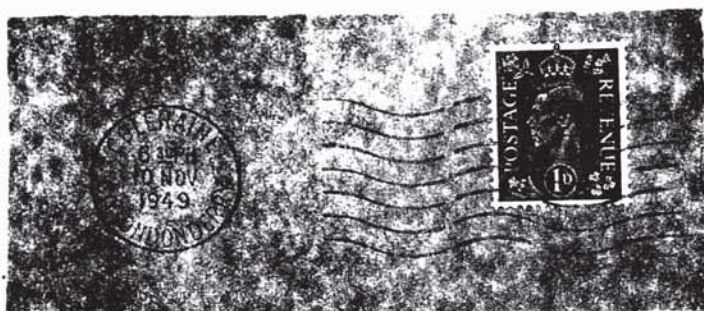


Figure 25

The die in Figure 25 was used to 1962 when a new die was issued. This is illustrated whilst cancelling OFFICIAL PAID MAIL, Figure 26. I also have examples of 1st and 2nd Class Bulk Paid Mail. Slogans are used regularly.

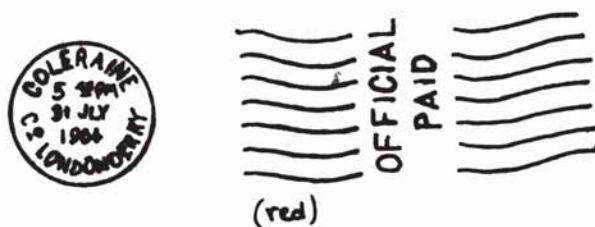


Figure 26

COOKSTOWN CO TYRONE

By 26 March 1952 a Krag type machine was in use in the office at Cookstown, Figure 27. This machine was used up to July 1960 when it was recovered and a Universal type machine installed.



Figure 27

George Stelfox reports an example from this from 1961 (no precise date given), my own earliest example is for 16 August 1963, Figure 28. I have not seen PAID or OFFICIAL PAID MAIL from this office. Slogans are used regularly.



Figure 28

DOWNPATRICK CO DOWN

This office was using a Krag type machine by 24 December 1942 (FED). My own earliest example is for 24 December 1943, Figure 29. It had five wavy lines with a four line box. In the example shown the time line has been omitted as is usual at Christmas time.



Figure 29

The Postmaster informs me that this machine was used up to about 1950 but I do have examples to 20 December 1951.

By 1959 (George Stelfox) a Universal type machine was in use, I do not have a note of the precise date. My own earliest example is for 30 December 1960 and is a 2d PAID die in red, Figure 30. I have not seen OFFICIAL PAID dies used on this machine. Slogans are used occasionally.



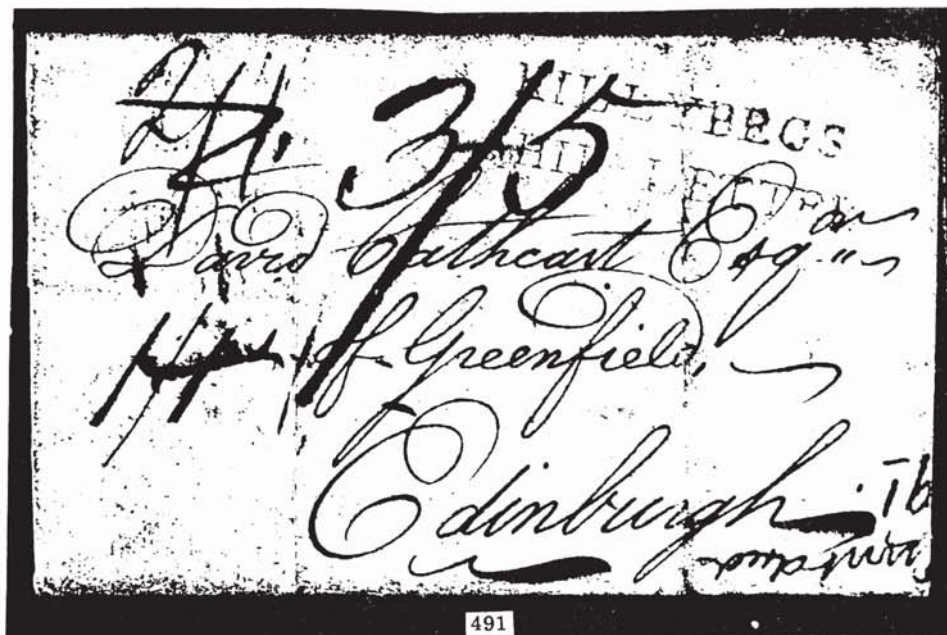
(red)

Figure 30

IRISH SHIP LETTERS

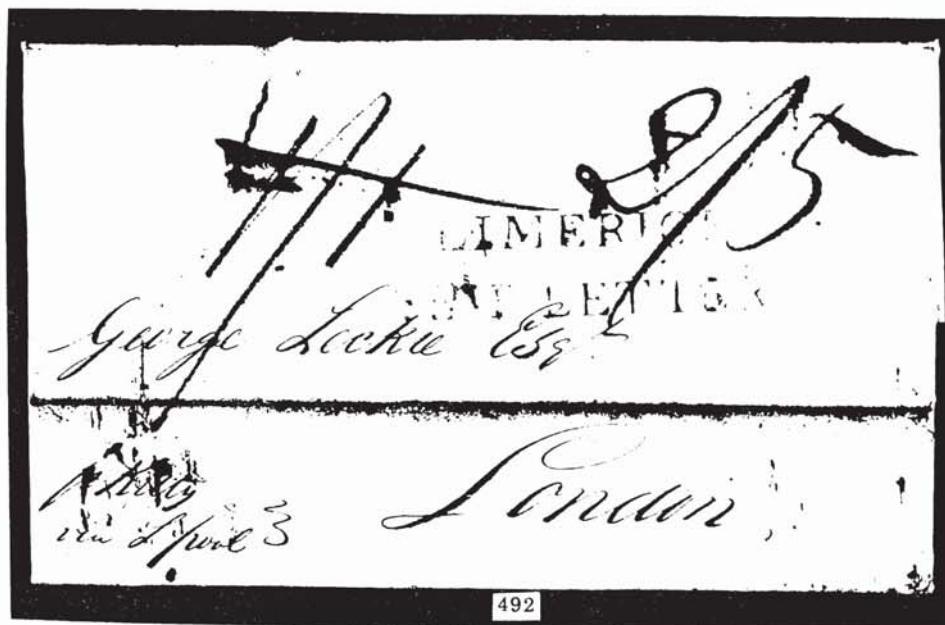
My thanks to member Brian Thomson of Stirling, Scotland, who sent me details of two Irish Ship Letters which were offered in an auction list in Scotland in August. One is a Killybegs Ship Letter described as follows:-

- 491 1797 KILLYBEGS/SHIP LETTER. A good strike on obverse of EL from Philadelphia to Edinburgh, variously rated 1/1d, 2/1d and 3/5d. Edinburgh Bishop mark struck on arrival. This mark is completely unrecorded in Robertson and no other ship letter mark has been recorded for this small town in Donegal. There is some overall soiling and a filing crease affects the handstamp, nonetheless a very fine and possibly unique item Estimate £500.



The other a Limerick Ship Letter as follows:-

- 492 1800 LIMERICK/SHIP LETTER EL ex Jamaica to London with on obverse a fine strike in a slightly watery brown ink of an unframed LIMERICK/SHIP LETTER in a type unlisted by Robertson. Filing crease well clear of the handstamp Estimate £500.



The Killybegs item realised £1225 and the Limerick item £630.