

D.F. Newsletter

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THE NEW STAMP.

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Power Development, 1930" (printed in Irish).

It is designed by Mr. E. L. Lawrenson, who was responsible for the design of the Irish Free State bank notes.

The new stamp is being issued in the twopenny denomination only.

OCTOBER 1930

*"Why the ambiguity regarding the date of issue".
Taken from a Dublin Newspaper.*

BY SUBSCRIPTION

D.F. Newsletter

EDITORIAL

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David Feldman Ltd.



Above: (left to right) Bill Kane, President C. O'Dalaigh,
David Feldman, and David Mac Donnell

Irish Postal History and particularly the House of D.F. Ltd. were greatly honoured on Tuesday, 9th December 1975 when a copy of "Handbook of Irish Postal History" was presented to his Excellency Judoe C. O'Dalaigh President of Ireland at Arus an Uachtarain - the presidential residence.

The President was most interested in the story of Irish Postal History. He talked for some time on the development of the Post Office in Ireland, and said the Handbook should fill a long-needed want. He referred to the Handbook as a great achievement and a wonderful work of reference.

SHANNON HYDRO ELECTRIC SCHEME 1930

By Bill Kane

With the increasing popularity of collecting First Day Covers, it is not surprising that the price of the early covers should cost so much. It is a question of supply and demand. The usual practise with collectors starting, it to buy the current issues and work backwards. It can now be estimated that approximately 25,000 cachet covers are sold in Dublin for each issue. If all these people expect to complete their First Day Cover collection, they are wrong. In the period from 1929 to 1934 only a small number of keen philatelists prepared First Day of Issue Covers. With the New Constitution in 1937, the theme became more popular. Surely only hundreds of each of the first six issues exist. The highest price is demanded for the Shannon Scheme Why?

It is now established that the First Day of Issue is the 15th October 1930. A lot of people would like to consider the 16th October as the correct date.

In order to give some food for thought, I give details of what some writers have had to say on this subject.

1. Gibbons Stamp Monthly dated December 1930, page 43 regarding new issues. (illustrated with a picture of the stamp).

"Irish Free State"

"The second Irish Commemorative issued appeared on the 17th October, and is a 2d. stamp celebrating the completion of the Shannon Electricity Scheme. The design is quite good, showing the Ardnacrusha Power House, but it is a pity a better colour was not used in the printing."

2. "Postage Stamps of the Irish Free State" by R. A. King, Second Edition, 1931.

"Shannon Scheme Commemoration" (illustrated by a picture of the Stamp.)

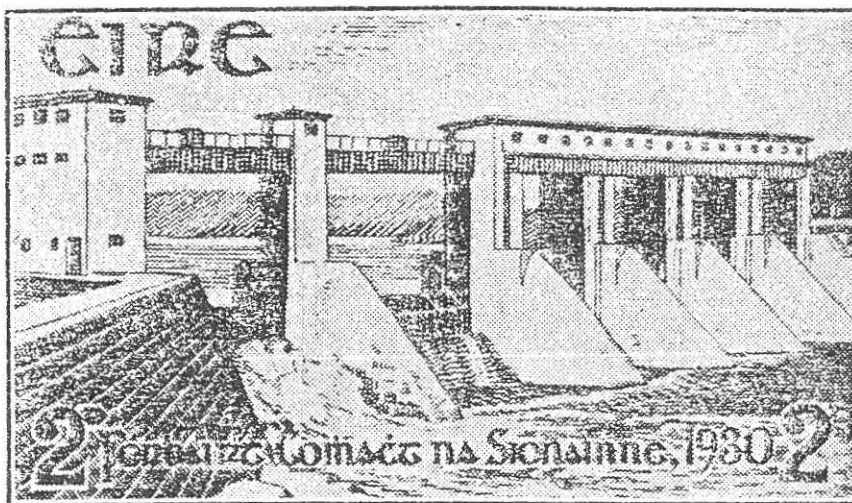
"The original plate of the Shannon Electricity Scheme Commemorative stamp proved faulty, but the issue was made on October 16th and the stamp was on sale until the end of 1930, during which time the 2d map stamp was withdrawn from sale. The design shows a view of the Power Station and Barrage at Ardnacrusha, and the wording reads "Shannon Power Development 1930". The stamp was designed by Mr. E. L. Lawrenson, and was surface printed at Dublin Castle.

3. "Irish Postal History" by C. J. Cooke. Printed in 1935, page 49.

"The Shannon Barrage"

"The next commemorative was on completion of the Shannon Hydro Electric Power Scheme - the 2d. value only, in numerous shades, red-brown to deep sepia. There was delay and uncertainty as to the issuing of the stamp, but it appeared officially on 16th October 1930, and had a short life, being withdrawn on 30th December. The design, by Mr. E. L. Lawrenson, who designed the Irish Bank Notes, represents the weir near O'Briens Bridge, County Limerick.

Since in the past year so many people have mentioned this subject to me, I thought it would interest readers to read my notes.



THE NEW STAMP.

The new twopenny stamps in connection with the Shannon power scheme will be issued on Thursday next.

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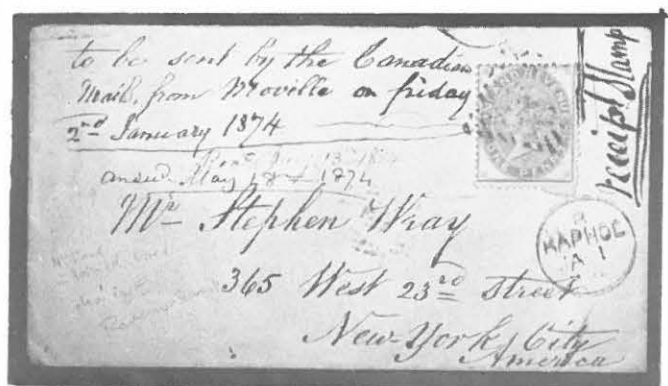
Note: "issued on Thursday next" The calendar for that year says Thursday was the 16th October 1930.

CALENDAR, 1930

CALENDAR, 1930

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							
S	...	6	13	20	27	...	3	10	17	24	31	...	7	14	21	28	...	4	11	18	25
M	...	7	14	21	28	...	4	11	18	25	...	1	8	15	22	29	...	5	12	19	26
T	1	8	15	22	29	...	5	12	19	26	...	2	9	16	23	30	...	6	13	20	27
W	2	9	16	23	30	...	6	13	20	27	...	3	10	17	24	...	7	14	21	28	
Th	3	10	17	24	31	...	7	14	21	28	...	4	11	18	25	...	8	15	22	29	
F	4	11	18	25	...	...	8	15	22	29	...	5	12	19	26	...	9	16	23	30	
S	5	12	19	26	...	...	9	16	23	30	...	6	13	20	27	...	10	17	24	31	

OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER							
S	...	5	12	19	26	...	2	9	16	23	30	...	7	14	21	28	...	4	11	18	25
M	...	6	13	20	27	...	3	10	17	24	...	1	8	15	22	29	...	5	12	19	26
T	...	7	14	21	28	...	4	11	18	25	...	2	9	16	23	30	...	6	13	20	27
W	1	8	15	22	29	...	5	12	19	26	...	3	10	17	24	...	7	14	21	28	
Th	2	9	16	23	30	...	6	13	20	27	...	4	11	18	25	...	8	15	22	29	
F	3	10	17	24	31	...	7	14	21	28	...	5	12	19	26	...	9	16	23	30	
S	4	11	18	25	...	...	8	15	22	29	...	6	13	20	27	...	10	17	24	31	



Recently I had the pleasure of examining a most interesting cover, which posed several problems. I feel this pleasure should be shared with other Historians, and would welcome their observations on this item.

Details as follows :-

1874 - Cover from RAPHOE, IRELAND addressed to NEW YORK, U.S.A. bearing a Queen Victoria 1d.

Lilac Inland Revenue Stamp, cancelled by a faint Irish numeral Diamond '383' (RAPHOE), also a Raphoe C.D.S. of 1st January, 1874

Manuscript endorsement in the top left hand corner:

"to be sent by the Canadian Mail from Merville on Friday 2nd January 1874" also endorsed by the addressee,
 "Recd. January 13th 1874 - answered May 18th 1874."

Backstamps:-

New York PAID ALL in Red - Date indistinct.
 New York Transit mark in Black, again date indistinct.
 Partial Circular Black mark, with what appears to be a large Capital E in albino.



The questions to be answered:

1. Revenue stamp instead of the normal postage stamp.
2. The value of the stamp, which did not cover the postage rate.
3. Canadian Mail to New York, U.S.A.
4. No surcharge raised.
5. Why New York PAID ALL, when there was insufficient postage paid when posting.
6. What is the explanation of the circular Black mark, with the albino 'E' or 'F'.

1. REVENUE STAMP Fiscals were sometimes used for postage in England and Ireland, so much so that in 1881 the validity of Revenue Stamps for Postage was confirmed by the inscription POSTAGE AND REVENUE in the stamp design. (Note this example was used in 1874)

2. POSTAGE RATE in 1874 The rate from 1845 to 1848 was one shilling per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to the U.S.A. An imperial postage rate of one penny per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. was established in 1898. Post Office Notice dated December 1867 stated:-

On 1st January next the combined rate of British and United States postage on letters posted in the U.K. addressed to any part of the U.S.A. will be reduced to sixpence per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. This remains thus, a mystery.....?

3. CANADIAN MAIL to the United States. It is recorded that the Montreal Ocean Steam Packet, departed from London every Thursday night with Mail for the U.S.A. and called to Moville, (LONDONDERRY) Friday at 5.30 p.m. to collect mail from that port for New York. It is also recorded that in 1860 the North Atlantic service of the Allan line introduced a call en route at Moville, the port at the mouth of Lough Foyle, some 18 miles north of Londonderry. Letters landed at Moville from the contract packets were handled at the Derry Post Office.

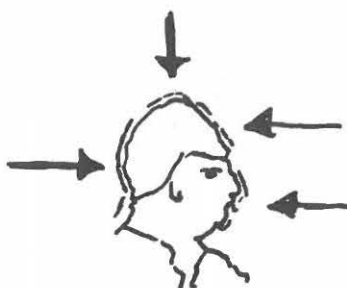
4. NO SURCHARGE RAISED At the moment this must remain unanswered.

5. N.Y. "PAID ALL" Perhaps due to the fact that no surcharge was raised in Ireland the Official at the EXCHANGE OFFICE paid no attention to the 1d. Revenue Stamp, and backstamped the cover in the normal way, as all fully paid letters were handled?

6. ALBINO 'E' or 'F' in solid black circle. No trace of any information relative to this mark. This may have been a "BAG SEAL" applied in error at the EXAMINERS OFFICE, or the EXCHANGE OFFICE where the New York "PAID ALL" C.D.S. was applied. Many such instances of a Bag Seal being used instead of the normal handstamp are known.

You will agree a most fascinating cover.

-LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Sir,

I note that in issue Winter 1975 reference is made to the doubling of the head, neck, hat etc. of Dean Swifts "C 122" 3p value. I have examined a number of these and find this doubling varies extensively in all parts of the hat, head, shoulder and neck, extending from the lower left margin of the stamp. It seems to vary with the intensity of the inking, and is most noticable in the top left of the hat.

Being the photogravure process with a reported printing of 25 million I do not know nor have seen the number of plates prepared and used. Not being an expert in printing, I can only suggest, and offer the thought that the variety may have been caused by the wiping of the ink during printing, or the minute dots on the plate forming the pattern became worn and did not accept the printing ink adjacent to the main outline of hat and face.

In one of my copies examined, I note the forehead and front of hat almost shows as a white unprinted line with occasional spots of ink, the top left crown of hat is doubled yet the back of neck and hat is not doubled.

It seems to me that this is another of the recognised varieties of this issue and it's listing should be considered.

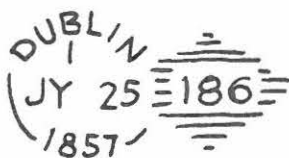
V.A. Linnell, Montreal
Canada

Sir,

Relative the report from Mr. Freyer of Co. Galway regarding the Dean Swift 3p value variety (page 13 Winter issue of D.F. Newsletter), I wish to inform you that I have found the same variety on the sheet cylinder no. 2.

A.L. Stokes, Dublin

—LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



F. E. Dixon, Dublin writes as follows

1. It is noteworthy that the periods of use of the Dublin Signet Ring (see Newsletter page 9) and the small Dublin Duplex (page 14) should be similar.

I can extend Rev. Davey's dates for the last-mentioned, having an example on piece of March 18th, 1857. I cannot match his code IE.

2. Brian Wallas's problem datestamp on page 14 is the morning-duty datestamp of the London General Post Office. One letter identified the handstamp and the other was changed each day, so a vast number of combinations occur.



Dear Sir,

Reference Winter D.F. Newsletter just received page 14 letters.

Mr. Wallas's unnamed datestamp is a London one - but I am at a loss to discover why the letter is dated in the way he describes. It apparently originated in College Green, Dublin, thence I would expect London 16.9.53, Bristol (15?), surely should be 17.9.53 thence by British Packet - with Boston arrival denoting British Packet - and on to Philadelphia. The British c.d.s. could be in error but if not clear may well be misinterpreted.

M. V. D. Champness, Essex

OBSOLETE DEFINITIVE SERIES

BY ANNE LIFFEY

Recently I was discussing with a friend the philatelic merits of certain countries. When we came to Ireland, my friend stated that in his opinion Ireland was far behind other countries, in that Irish stamps did not offer enough depth for research or study.

He maintained that with Irish stamps, one could only display a straight forward assembly of stamps, issue after issue with this viewpoint I disagreed.

The 1922 Overprints have given philatelists enough material to digest for the past 54 years, and they are still coming up with new discoveries.

Unfortunately the Definitives have not received the same attention, and when they do, people will be surprised at what they missed by just mounting their stamps, and not really having examined them.

At this juncture my friend said what have the Irish Definitive stamps to offer. It would not be possible to record my reply in the space allotted to me in this issue, but it was based on the following points.

The first Definitive set with the "SE" watermark were in use from 1922/23 until 1940 when the watermark was changed to "E". A life span of 18 years. During this time many printings were made, and the stamps were not always identical.

Shades for instance varied and a great range of shades are to be found over the span of years. The type face due to wear and tear provide a wealth of variety. This is a field that could provide enough material for specialisation.

The watermarks can also be examined and attention should also be paid to the coils of this series.

What I have said relevant to the First Series applies to the Second Series 1940 - 1966. How many printings took place in those 26 years? There is great scope for a keen philatelist to study these stamps.

Even to take a single value and follow it right through to date. "How can it be done?" are words everyone will ask. The answer is simple, but the work in bringing the project to a finality is a different matter.

One must set about collecting the used stamps on piece or cover with clear date stamps over the complete range of years.

Just consider the first two series for the moment. If one gets 10 stamps for each year, you will then have 180 "SE" and 260 "E" a total of 440 stamps. In these days this is not considered a great collection of stamps by the average collector. What fun you will have with this collection noting the various changes over the years.

It has been said that Irish collectors should be more out-looking in their mode of collecting. Look at what collectors in other countries are doing with the same stamps we collect and are interested in.

Take for example Germany, where there is a great interest in Irish stamps. Look at "Michel" the German catalogue, and you will be surprised to find the layout is so different in some aspects to the catalogue you normally use.

The multivalued coils for instance. In Ireland we just mount the Coil strip of 3 or 4 stamps as the case may be. Not so in Germany. They break the strips into all possible combinations and collect same both used and mint. We in Ireland can put the three multivalued coils on one page. In Germany, the collector of the same stamps fills at least 5 pages, and makes a most colourful display from the same three multivalued coils. The same applies to the Booklets.

How many Irish collectors have examined the watermarks on their stamps. With the introduction of stamps with out watermarks, it is time to do so before it is too late to put matters right.

With the watermarked stamps we have the normal Inverted and Sideways watermarks. Also have a look at the Gum (if your stamps are mint of course). In recent years we have three kinds of gum used on Irish stamps. Gum Arabic, P.V.A. and Dextrine. Then the paper comes to attention - white or cream.

One could go on and on, but if I have started you thinking then I have not wasted my time.

The Commemorative issues have always been more popular and accordingly have received more attention from collectors. I will not dwell on these, other than to say, the points outlined above will pay dividends.

Finally, do not forget the Postage Dues, much neglected by Irish collectors. Here we have a wealth of material for study and research.

Note Book

BILL KANE

HOLYHEAD AND KINGSTOWN PACKET DUPLEX



This is a really scarce cancellation, a marking that all collectors interested in the H + K Packet are looking for.

It was introduced when the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company put new steamers into service, on which mails were sorted and datestamped. The bars of the diamond can be found both thick and thin. The earlier stamps had thin bars.

CONGRATULATIONS

Ed. Sullivan of Illinois, U.S.A. has recently been awarded two medals. A Vermeil at the Chicago Philatelic Society's Exhibition and a Gold at Sacramento, California with his Irish Exhibit. We offer Ed. our sincere congratulations. We understand this exhibit will be on show at two exhibitions in 1976. "The best of luck" is our final word.

'STAMPEX 1976'

We offer congratulations to the following exhibitors on their success at the recent "STAMPEX" Exhibition held in London.

"BRIAN STANLEY" - Stanley Gibbons Silver Cup and Gold Medal
FINLAND - 1856 to 1874

REVD. J. BRENNAN - Silver Medal
IRELAND - 1922 High Value Overprints

G. COATES - Aerophilatelic Club Certificate and Bronze Silver Medal
MALTA AIR MAILS - 1928 to 1974

T. D. ROSE - Diploma
IRELAND - International Reply Paid Postcards

POSTAL HISTORY

TOWN NAMES

Bill Kane

C-M.C

(Fig. 1)

CL BAR

(Fig. 2)

N T LIMY

(Fig. 4)

CLE MARTYR

(Fig. 3)

N L VADY

(Fig. 5)



If I were asked to name the 'Cinderella' of Irish Postal History, I think the section that I would nominate would be that of the Irish straight line town names. Could it be that these markings appear dull in comparison to the other more colourful Irish marks.

This is an aspect of study that offers great scope for specialisation. Illustrated above is a strike rarely seen, that of the two line MULLINGAR struck in Black on an 1806 cover, an item worth looking for.

Most of the abbreviated marks are worth searching for, particularly the following few items:-

C-M.C CARRICKMACROSS (fig 1)

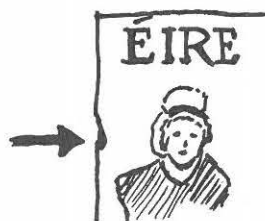
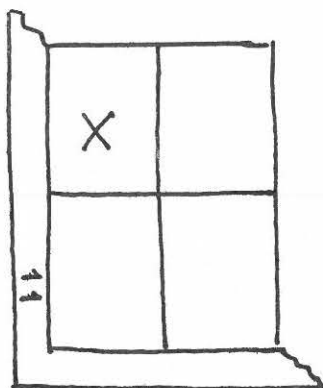
CLBAR CASTLEBAR (fig 2)

While the letters 'CL' stand for the word Castle in this instance, when it is used for the abbreviation in the case of CASTLEMARTYR, an extra letter 'E' is added - CLEMARTYR (fig 3)

Another interesting Town Name which has two abbreviations, is that of NEWTOWN LIMA VADY - N.T. LIMY, and N.L. VADY (fig's 4 and 5). The latter is generally associated as the rare type. The former being the more common mark.

VARIETIES

by HIBERNICUS



PRESENTATION ORDER
C208 and C209

5p. and 7p. values
Row 9 - Stamp 1

Indent to the left hand
side of the Frame line
opposite the face of
Mother Nagle



James Larkin 1876-1947



JAMES LARKIN
C219 - 7p value
Row 3 - Stamp 7
Line over the letters
'I' and 'N' of LARKIN

C219 - 7p value
C220 - 11p value
Row 3 - Stamp 1 and 2
Damage to the lower right
hand corner of the frame line.

ADDITIONS

1976 (JANUARY 21) JAMES LARKIN

			Unmtd.	Used
C219	7p	Grey and Blue	14p	14p
C220	11p	Yellow and Brown	22p	22p

(F.D.C. 55p)

SET 110C



AUCTION

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TEL (022) 93.61.96

With this issue, we are sending you details of our Auction in Zürich which we plan to hold in October. This is not entirely a new experience for us; when D.F. Ltd was first established part of our organisation was devoted to running special postal auctions. In the past couple of years David Feldman has travelled much on the Continent as a director of Robson Lowe International, and as a result of this we are now firmly convinced that the ideal place for philatelic auctions of high quality is in Switzerland. To give an illustration of this a selection of some interesting prices paid at recent Swiss auctions is shown below. We intend to offer an efficient and courteous service with de-luxe handbook catalogues and a truly international register of serious philatelists. We feel that with our combined expertise and with strength of the international market we will achieve excellent results:-
"Deal with people you can trust to act in your best interest".

PRICES REALISED

RAPP AUCTIONS - ZÜRICH - OCTOBER 1975

Lot			Est.	Real.
328	Ireland	1d black on cover Carlow to Dublin	£30	£68
331	"	Collection 1840 - 1922	£1,500	£2,550
337	"	Thom Die II 2d Overprint Inverted mint	£40	£90

347	Ireland	1935 Re-engraved set mint	£80	£130
354	Gibraltar	£5 strip of three, mint S (S.G. £825)	£900	£1,400

CORINPHILA AUCTION - ZÜRICH - MAY 1975

2573	Belgium	1933 Orval set mint (SG £200)	£200	£360
3481	Vatican	1951 Gratian set mint (SG £102)	£70	£115
3737	India	1935 Zeppelin cover	£40	£240
3956	Cyprus	1933 Zeppelin cover	£40	£375
5162	U.S.A.	1869 15c Inverted Centre used (SG £3,000)	£3,000	£5,100
5297	U.S.A.	1930 Zeppelin set, mint (SG £415)	£300	£485
5548	Canada	1851 12d Black used (SG £16,000)	£8,000	£13,000

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William Kane

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STAMPS OF IRELAND

NEW PRICED CATALOGUE

MARCH

1976

Illustrated catalogue of Irish Stamps

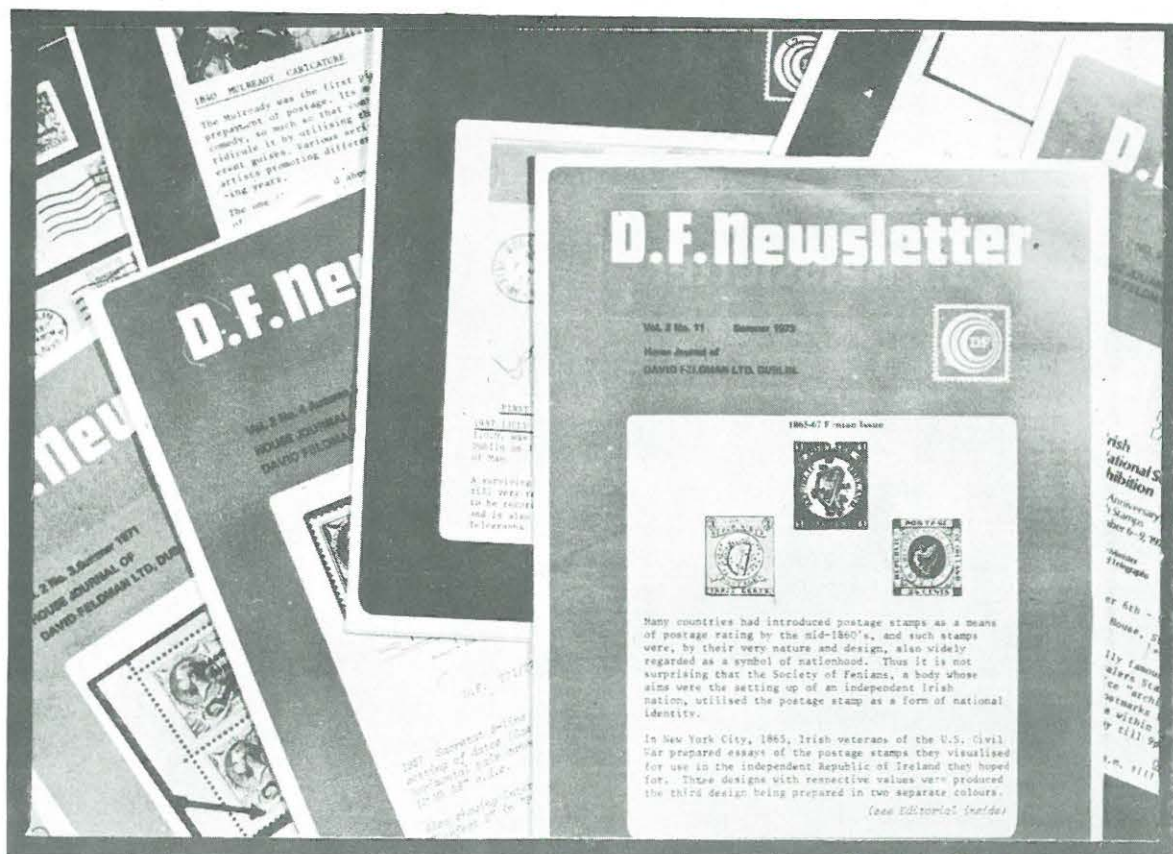
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