

IRISH STAMP NEWS



No.3

40p Quarterly



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Irish Stamp News

No. 3 Spring 1979

Edited and Published
by

IAN WHYTE

3 Fitzwilliam Place,
Dublin 2.

Telephone: 761383

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Front cover: the 33p embossed stamp used
on registered envelopes. See Brian Warren's
article elsewhere in this issue.

Editorial

STRIKE-BOUND

The delay in publishing this edition of IRISH STAMP NEWS is regretted. At the time of publication the postal workers strike is still continuing without any sign of settlement. The strike has cut off most of our communication with the outside world and we have not been able to receive much of our normal contributions or advertisements.

We hope that the strike will be over by the time we publish our next edition in July but in the meantime we would ask that you use our Belfast address for all our correspondence.

£50 FOR BEST ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN IRISH STAMP NEWS

In an effort to stimulate contributions to this journal we are offering a prize of £50 for the best article published in the next four issues. A runners-up prize of £25 will also be awarded, and all other published entries will receive consolation prizes.

Each entry must be at least 500 words, and should be illustrated where possible. There is no maximum length, but we would point out that we normally publish articles of between 500 and 2,000 words, though we could 'serialise' lengthier contributions.

As regards subject matter we are basically looking for articles within the general sphere of Irish philately and postal history. However articles of a general nature regarding aspects of philately or postal history that do not relate specifically to any country or group of countries but which would be of some relevance to Irish philatelists, will be considered.

The best entries will be published in the next four issues of IRISH STAMP NEWS and they will then be judged by a three person jury including the Editor.

It is preferable that all entries are typed, double spaced, on one side of the paper, and they should be submitted as soon as possible to the publisher.

Due to the current suspension of postal services in the Irish Republic all correspondence should be addressed to the following address:

19 Skipper Street, Belfast BT1 2DZ

IRELAND
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PLATED SETS OF 14

Ireland's first miniature sheet was originally printed in sheets of 14 which were then split up for distribution to the Post Offices. Thus there are 14 sheets which can be distinguished and 'plated'. As the 'uncut' sheet of 14 has been on display at exhibitions philatelists have been able to position each sheet.

Only 130,000 miniature sheets were issued, thus less than ten thousand plated could possibly exist, and, in fact due to the wide distribution of the sheet, it is very unlikely that it would be possible to assemble more than 1,000 plated sheets.

Compared to the G.B. Miniature sheet the Irish issue is over TEN TIMES SCARCER (130,000 as opposed to 1,600,000). Yet the current retail price is approximately the same. Truly this is a sheet with considerable potential for the future.

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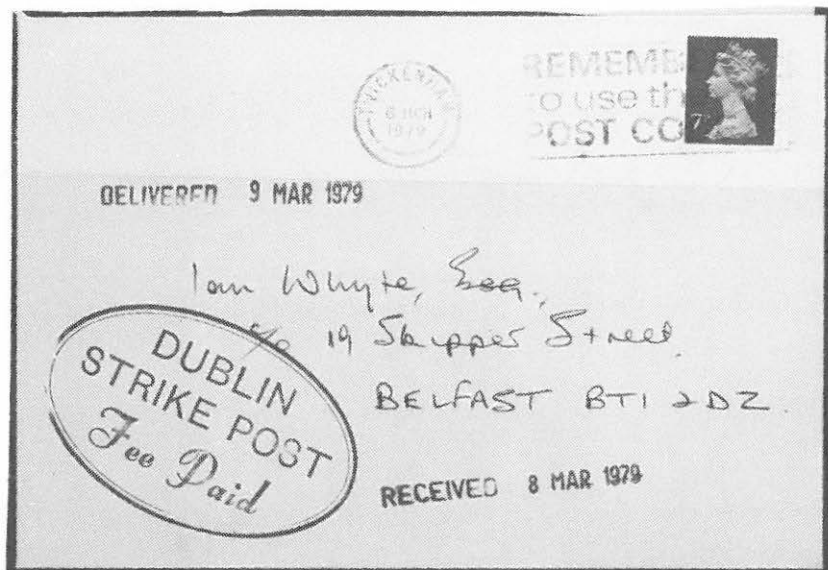
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NEWSBEAT



IRISH POSTAL STRIKE

Since February 18 last there has been no postal services in the Republic of Ireland due to a strike by Post Office workers. The strike is in support of a claim for pay increases of between 30% and 51%. The strike also affects telephone services as the operators are also out and only S.T.D. calls can be made.

Irish Stamp dealers have been badly hit as most of their business is by mail-order. It is estimated that over £100,000 worth of export orders have been lost so far due to the strike, and even when the strike ends it will be months before business will be back to normal.

Mr. Peter McBride, proprietor of the Belfast Stamp Shop has been operating an emergency postal service for his colleagues in the South. Once a week he collects mail from Dublin which he posts in Belfast and he delivers mail received at his Belfast office to addresses in the Republic. A small fee is charged on each item handled by the service and an oval shaped handstamp - 'DUBLIN/STRIKE POST/FEE PAID' - is applied as a receipt of this fee. No stamps or labels have been issued.

IRISH STAMP NEWS

Mr. McBride's service handles about 400 items a week. Since May 1st the handstamp has not been as widely used due to a threat by Northern Ireland Postal workers to 'black' mail from the South in sympathy with the strikers.

Various other courier services are operating in Dublin but so far none have produced anything of philatelic interest. No markings have been used on any of the mail carried by their services nor have any labels been seen.

The Philatelic Services of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs are of course suspended and the sales office, like the G.P.O. is closed. If and when the strike is over there will be a large number of Stamp issues to be released in a very short period. So far the issues affected are 'World Cross Country Championships' and 'Sir Rowland Hill Centenary' both of which were to appear on February 23, and 'The European Parliament Election' which was scheduled for May 9.

Several attempts have been made to end the strike but to no avail and at the time of publication there would appear to be a stalemate situation which could last indefinitely.

HIBERNIAN OF DUBLIN
PRESENT
A PUBLIC STAMP AUCTION
AT THE
BERKELEY COURT HOTEL
ON
SATURDAY 21st JULY 1979



PRE-SALE ESTIMATE £130,000

GENERAL

The sale will commence with 110 general collections and mixed lots, strong Airmail section with good covers and maritime mail.

GREAT BRITAIN

1840 1d Blacks include strip of 4 and an unused example, Plate II on cover. 1840 2d Blue, used block of 4, pair, and single. Other line engraved. High values include Q.V. 10s, £1 and £5 orange. 1883-4 10s, Jubilee £1 green (mint). Strong section of Seahorse issues include £1 green, (2 mint, 1 used). 1929 P.U.C. £1, block of 4 unmounted mint and singles. Numerous other G. B. sections include missing colours and imperforates.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

AUSTRALIA: Roos to £2 (3) mint. Opening of Parliament 1½d pair imperforate between, Sydney Bridge 5s. (f.u.). **BARBADOS:** 1873, 5s. Proof.

CANADA: Good range includes the celebrated 12d (sheet corner), proof, 1897 Jubilee \$2 S.U.

RHODESIA: "Double Heads" to £1 mint.

SIERRA LEONE: 1912-16 £5 (2).

SOUTH AFRICA AND S.W.A. : All the early rare items include £1 vals, superb mint. Most countries are well represented and include good George V sets, etc.

FOREIGN AND OVERSEAS: Well represented, with good Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany and States, Italian States, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, and Scandinavian countries.

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OVERPRINTS include over 60 lots of Seahorses alone, Re-engraved blocks of four to 10/- unmounted mint, 10s. Wide and Narrow Se-tenant (2 pairs) etc.

ERRORS include many inverted overprints, accent errors and others. New discoveries include the **DOUBLE OVERPRINT**, **ONE ALBINO** on 2/6 Dollard (Est. £1,000).

COLLECTIONS of Overprints, Booklets and general Ireland.

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COLLECTOREX

'79

VISIT
COLLECTOREX '79

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL COLLECTORS EXHIBITION

STAMPS AND POSTCARDS

COINS, MEDALS AND TOKENS

BANKNOTES

COLLECTORS EXHIBITS

20 LEADING DEALERS

EXPERT VALUATIONS

SATURDAY 9th JUNE — 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

SUNDAY 10th JUNE — 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

GRESHAM HOTEL DUBLIN

ADMISSION: 30p (Adults) and 15p (Children)

BALLYMENA MAN WINS MAJOR STAMPEX TROPHY

Mr. Oswald Bailie, from Ballymena, Co. Antrim was awarded the prestigious Post Office Trophy for the best exhibit of British postage stamps 1924 to date, at STAMPEX '79, the British National Stamp Exhibition, held on February 27 to March 3. His exhibit was a specialised collection of the 1929 P.U.C. issue, which was also awarded a Silver Medal. Mr. Bailie had previously won a Silver-Bronze medal, the second highest award, at STAMPA '78 in Dublin with the same exhibit.

Dr. Cyril Dulin won a Silver medal for his exhibit of 'Ireland 1922-23 Saorstát' overprints, and Major 'Mike' Priestly won a Bronze-Silver for his study of the 5-line Harrison coils. Another well known Irish philatelist, Dr. Brian de Burca, won a Silver medal for his exhibit 'Argentine - a study of the 5 cent 1862-64'. E. A. Kane was awarded a Diploma for 'Norther Ireland Postal History'.

In the literature section C. P. ('Charlie') O'Neill won a bronze medal for his book, 'Newspaper Stamps of Ireland', and Dr. J. P. Mackey was awarded a Bronze-Silver medal for 'The Saxon Post'.

The only Irish standholder at STAMPEX this year was David Feldman Ltd. The Irish Post Office was allocated a stand for the first time this but due to the post office workers strike they were unable to open it, and it was given to another standholder. Several Irish dealers and collectors were present at the exhibition however.

There was a good demand for Irish material at the show with the emphasis on the 'Seahorse' overprints. The prices asked for, and paid, for these latter items were phenomenal. For instance one company was offering the 1935 'Re-engraved' set lightly hinged mint at £600. Other than on David Feldman Ltd.'s stand there was little Irish material on offer, and what little there was appeared to be somewhat over-priced.

COLLECTOREX '79

COLLECTOREX '79, the Fourth Irish International Collectors Exhibition will take place in the Gresham Hotel, Dublin on Saturday and Sunday June 9 and 10 next.

The show covers a wide range of collector's interests including stamps, coins, postcards, medals, tokens, banknotes, badges, etc. Over twenty leading dealers will be present to buy, sell, exchange and advise. Special exhibits are planned and if the

postal strike is over a special postmark will be used on mail posted at the exhibition.

The Exhibition will be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on both days, and admission will be 30p for adults and 15p for children. It is hoped to have a special souvenir available exclusively at COLLECTOREX '79 but the postal strike may affect this. Further details are available from the organiser, Ian Whyte, at 3 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2. (Telephone 761383)

NAVAN STAMP AND COIN FAIR

A Stamp and Coin Fair was held in Navan, Co. Meath on April 7th and 8th at the Russell Arms Hotel. The following stamp dealers had stands: Gwyn Bennett, Dublin Stamp Sales; Peter Hynes, Bill O'Connell and Ian Whyte.

The show was well organised by George Foster and good publicity ensured a large attendance. Most of the business appeared to be in coins and medals and few significant sales were made in stamps, though a few interesting items were purchased by dealers. The Standholders were well looked after and the presence of a bar in the room was a distinct advantage for most of them.



Gwyn Bennett Stamps and David MacDonnell of David Feldman Ltd., having a 'heated' discussion over one of Gwyn's stamps at the Navan Coin and Stamp Fair.

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IRELAND AT THE 'ROYAL'

The Irish Philatelic Circle have arranged a display of Ireland at the Royal Philatelic Society on May 24th. The display will take place from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the R.P.S., 24 Devonshire Place, London.

Over 600 album leaves displayed in 52 frames will comprise what is believed to be the biggest exhibition of Irish philatelic material ever assembled. It will cover the period 1840 to date including G.B. used in Ireland, the transition period of 1921/23, the overprints, definitives and commemoratives, postage dues, airmails and flight covers, booklets and coils, railway letter stamps, perfins., revenues and fiscals, newspaper stamps, postal stationery, registered mail, prisoner of war and internee mail, paquebot mail etc.

The participants in the display are as follows: Rev. John Brennan, Dr. Brian de Burca, F. E. Dixon, Dr. Cyril Dulin, H. G. Fletcher, G. E. Ithell, Keith Jamieson, Michael Leonard, James Munro, Pádraig O Mathuna, Charles P. O'Neill, Michael Phelan, Michael Priestly, Dr. J. A. Quigley, Ken Rushworth, Arthur Stokes, Bill Stevens, Brian Warren, Patrick Williams and Miss Nora Wright.

A full report on the display will appear in the next edition of Irish Stamp News.

THE PUNT

As many readers are now aware the Irish pound (punt) is now worth slightly less than the U.K. sterling pound. This is a result of Ireland's membership of the European Monetary System which the U.K. has not joined as yet. The effect of this change on the Irish philatelic market has yet to be seen.

Unless the difference becomes greater than the current 3% or so there shouldn't be any significant difference in Irish stamp prices. Most Irish stamps are bought and sold outside this country and therefore the effect will be minimal. Irish dealers and collectors who import stamps from Great Britain will find that their purchases are costing them 3% more, e.g. a stamp purchased for £100 sterling will cost IR. £103. Most dealers will probably increase their prices in Irish pounds by about 3% to 5% to cover this difference. This will make no difference to those customers outside the country but local collectors will feel the pinch.

IRISH STAMP NEWS

NORTHERN IRELAND 'DAFFODIL BOOKLET'

To commemorate the visit to Northern Ireland of the World Daffodil Convention the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group have issued a commemorative stamp booklet. The booklet contains panes of the 10½p G.B. 'daffodil' stamp, the 9p Northern Ireland regional, and the ½p definitive, and was produced in a limited edition of 1,000.

The booklet contains a pane of airmails and advertisements from the Post Office and the Belfast Stamp Company who were commissioned to produce the booklet. It is the first G.B. Booklet to include commemoratives, regionals, and definitives.

Each booklet is numbered and has an attractive multi-coloured cover. The booklets are available from the official agent for the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group, Belfast Stamp Co. Ltd., 19 Skipper Street, Belfast BT1 2DZ, Northern Ireland. They are priced at £3.60 each plus 10p postage.



Special booklet issued to commemorate the visit of the World Daffodil Convention to Northern Ireland.

FELDMAN ET FILS

Congratulations to David and Fabienne Feldman on the birth of a son, Emil, their first child on March 3rd last in Geneva.

David Feldman is currently preparing his fourth annual auction, which will be held in Zurich in September. Amongst the many fine Irish lots will be a mint copy of the 2d perf. 15 x imperf. experimental coil of 1935, which is currently catalogued at £7,000. The auction catalogue will be available in July.

BELFAST STAMP SHOP

SPECIAL BOOKLET FOR DAFFODIL CONVENTION

To commemorate the visit to Northern Ireland of the World Daffodil Convention, the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group has issued a special stamp booklet in a limited edition of only 1000. The booklet contains panes of the G.B. 'Daffodil' special stamp, Northern Ireland regional stamps and definitives. It also contains interleaved notes as well as advertisements from the Post Office.

- * First ever U.K. Booklet to include commemoratives, definitives and regionals.
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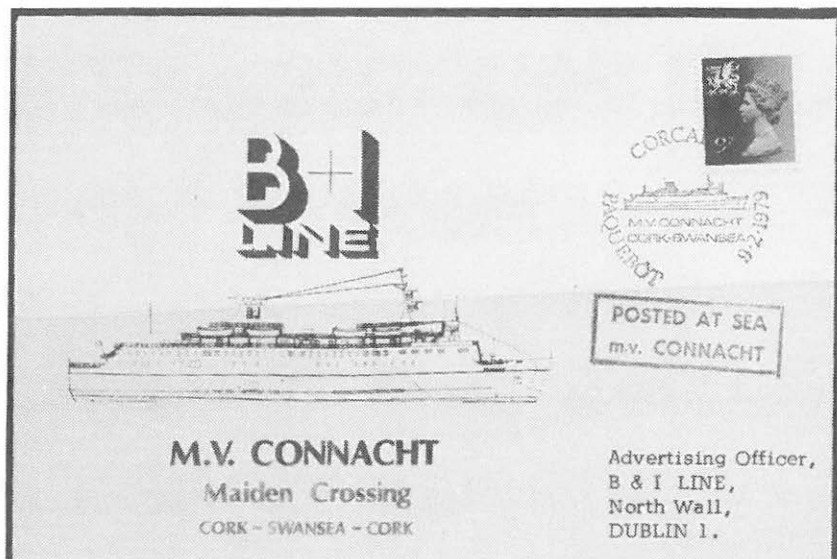
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**URGENTLY REQUIRED: Mint/Used G.B. stamps of all periods.
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Note to customers in the Irish Republic: Correspondence/Orders may be communicated through Ian Whyte, 3 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2. Telephone 01-761383, until postal strike ends.

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Belfast, BT1 202
Northern Ireland
Telephone Belfast 31954**

Member: Philatelic Traders Society, London and American Stamp Dealers Association,



Cover carried on maiden crossing of the m.v. Connacht

M. V. 'CONNACHT' POSTMARK

The postmark to commemorate the maiden crossing of the M.V. 'Connacht' (see Irish Stamp News No. 2) was issued on February 9 and not on January 25. The reason for the change was due to the postponement of the maiden crossing because of engine trouble during sea trials.

The commemorative covers issued for the event were very popular and were sold out very quickly. In fact a large quantity, believed to be over 100, went missing during the crossing and this has made the covers even scarcer. It should be noted that the properly serviced covers bear the 'Posted at Sea' cachet; those that don't bear this cachet were probably misappropriated.

MANUS NUNAN D. J.

With deepest regret we record the passing of District Justice Manus Nunan in his 89th year, probably the oldest active philatelist in Ireland. He was an enthusiastic general collector, and his 200 or more albums of "all-world" stamps contained unusual items. He seldom missed a meeting of the Irish Philatelic Society and the Dublin Stamp Society; he was present at a gathering of the latter on the evening before he passed peacefully away in his sleep. He had a keen sense of humour, and liked to link it with his philately; he was a friend of all, and we shall miss the warmth of his

presence for a long time to come.

He had a colourful career. Early in life he saw active service and was seriously wounded in France as an Officer of the famous Munster Fusiliers. Before returning to Ireland to practise as a barrister, he travelled in many countries including U.S.A., Australia, the Pacific Islands, and India. In America he learned the art of panning gold, and he once tried his luck at this in the Gold Mine River in Co. Wicklow with some success. He was an officer in the Irish Army during the second World War; later in civil life he was appointed a Justice of the District Court. He sometimes related with amusement an occasion when Brendan Behan appeared before him for being a little too exuberant; he was fined £2, but Brendan insisted on shaking hands with him before leaving the court.

His favourite author was Shakespeare, who perhaps had such a man as Manus in mind when he wrote: "He was a man, take him for all in all, I shall not look upon his like again".

May he rest in peace.

A.L.S.

STAMPA '79

As announced earlier the dates for this year's Irish National Stamp Exhibition are October 4, 5, 6 and 7, and the venue is, as usual, the R.D.S., Ballsbridge, Dublin.

The prospectus for exhibitors and standholders is now ready and is available from the secretary, Stampa 79, 3 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2. Telephone 761383.

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Dublin 2.

TELEPHONE 714509



Mr. & Mrs. George Allan (Sanu Stamps) at the Waterford Stamp and Coin Fair.

WATERFORD STAMP AND COIN FAIR

The first Stamp and Coin Fair held in Waterford for a number of years took place on May 12 and 13 in the Tower Hotel. The Fair was organised by Peter Hynes, the Carrick-on-Suir based stamp dealer.

There were seven stamp dealers and seven coin dealers present including Ian Whyte, Tony Byrne, Gwyn Bennett, all from Dublin, George Allen (Sanu Stamps) from Cork, Jim Brophy from Carlow, and Wilhelm den Hartog from Dundalk. Peter Hynes also had a stand.

The total attendance was approximately 100 and this poor turn-out was mainly due to a lack of proper advertising, though the petrol shortage probably prevented a large number of people from coming into town.

NEW COLLECTORS CENTRE IN DUBLIN

A new shop for philatelists to visit is now open in Dublin. The 'Collectors Centre' is a co-operative effort housing five dealers, Tony Byrne, Mike Giffney, Charlie O'Neill, Ivan Maxwell, and Hugh Oliver. Amongst the many items dealt in are stamps, postal history, postcards, coins, medals, banknotes, and tokens.

The Centre is situated at 8a South King Street which is off St. Stephen's Green (Grafton Street side). It is directly opposite the Gaiety Theatre so visitors unfamiliar with the area can ask for the theatre and they'll easily find the Centre.

The Collectors Centre is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and Bank Holidays. Tony Byrne is also usually there weekdays from 12 noon to 3 p.m.

Only The Irish Post Office sell more Irish stamps than we do!

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(old and new!)

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and we can now offer our customers a chance to buy, sell or trade with
Ireland's leading dealers, in privacy and comfort.

COLLECTORS CENTRE

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Michael Giffney

Tony Byrne

Hugh Oliver

Ivan Maxwell

for

Coins, Medals, Banknotes, Stamps, Postal History
Picture Postcards

COLLECTORS CENTRE

8A SOUTH KING STREET, DUBLIN.

Auction Report

Unfortunately the postal strike has prevented us from receiving most of the auction catalogues and prices realised so we may have missed some sales which would have been of interest to Irish philatelists.

Bournemouth Stamp Auctions had some Irish in their January 3 sale. A mint Dollard 2/6 5/- and 10/- set, hinged, went for £90; the Thom 1½d 'PENCF' corrected flaw in a pane of 60 sold for £135, and the 1935 'Re-engraved' 5/- and 10/- mint, hinged, went for £230. Twenty sets of 1954 Marian Year, unmounted mint, with some foxing, sold for £70.

On Wednesday, February 21, Harmers held a Postal History Sale which included 130 lots of Ireland. A 1661 entire letter from Dublin to London bearing a fine London bishop mark (first year of use) fetched £1,050. This was of course of more interest to the English collector who bought it than to any Irish postal historian. An 1800 entire letter with a superb strike of the large 'IRELAND' mark in red made £95, a 1784 EL with a very good strike of the circular 'FREE/D' mark in red made £80.

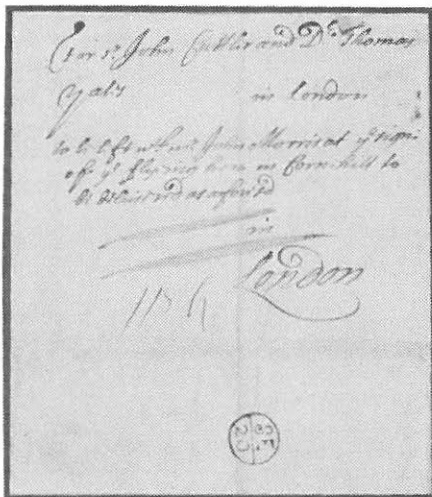
In the last IRISH STAMP NEWS Fred Dixon explained on page 31 the unusual datestamp used in the Dublin Penny Post. Three of these appeared in the sale: a fine 'JU21' went for £90; a fair 'F 2M' was on the 1784 EL described in the previous paragraph, and a fair 'JY 30' sold for £39.

An 1813 EL with a very fine 'LURGAN GREEN/37' circular mileage mark fetched £70, while a straightline 'SIX M BR/102' (Six Mile Bridge) sold for £22. A 1727 EL with a good strike of 'TRALEY' (Tralee) sold for £70 while an early (1705) but poor 'WATERFORD' straightline realised £80.

Two very unusual envelopes dated 1856 and 1859 sold for £340. One had a perf. 1d red tied by a the straightline 'LISSELANE' in blue, but the other had a pair of the same stamp cancelled by a circular undated 'LISSELANE'. This was a most unusual method of cancellation probably due to the office not having been supplied with a proper cancellation.

A fine strike of a "Free" Mermaid on an 1812 E.L. realised £170. An 1840 printed House of Commons 1d envelope with various Paid and "Free" markings, signed by Daniel O'Connell, sold for £260.

The uniform Fourpenny Rate applied from December 5 1839 to January 9 1849, only 36 days, and items bearing its markings particularly the handstruck markings, are rare. Three E.L.'s with manuscript '4' markings for Baileborough, Ballymoney, and Belfast made £200, a superb Dublin handstruck '4' sold for £400, and a very fine Newry '4' went for £230. The star item here was the superb Galway handstruck '4' which fetched a record £975.



1661 Letter from Dublin to London which realised £1,050 at Harmers on February 21st.

The instructional marks included a fine strike of the rare dated 'POSTAGE TO DUBLIN/NOT PAID' mark in red which sold for £380, and a fine strike of the fancy "Missent to Dublin" in red which realised £130. An interesting cover of 1838 from Enniskillen to South Wales, apparently carried on the Waterford-Hobbs Point crossing, endorsed in manuscript 1/3½d, comprising 1/1d mileage, 2d packet post and ½d surcharge, fetched £130.

The Harmers sale proved once more the popularity of postal history material and the obvious scarcity of the Irish items. Even mileage marks, town names and other fairly run-of-the-mill markings were fetching an average of £15 each.

Ian Whyte held his first public auction

AUCTION REPORT CONTD.

in the Gresham Hotel, Dublin, on February 24, and of course the Irish section was particularly strong. An interesting cover addressed to 'Comdt. Eamon de Valera' and franked with a Sinn Fein label cancelled by a Dublin c.d.s. of April 24, 1916 (the first day of the Rising), realised £150, though very little is known about this item's origin. A very fine pair of the 1d red, Plate 225, cancelled by a Belfast duplex, described as 'possibly unique', was sold for £440.



Galway Uniform Fourpenny Rate handstruck '4' which fetched £975 at Harmer's sale of February 21st.

Overprint issues were very much sought after and record prices were achieved for many lots. The very rare 'missing overprint' variety in a mint pair, estimated at £500, went for £725, while another variety, the Thom 2d die I overprint inverted used on cover on first day of issue, fetched £270. SG46, (or Scott 38), the Thom 'Rialtas' overprint on the 10/- mint sold for a record £900, which was double its pre-sale estimate. An unmounted mint set of the Thom Saorstát 'Seahorses' sold for £215 and the 'Composite Setting' pairs were knocked down for a startling £1250.

An unmounted mint set of the 1937 St. Patrick definitive issue fetched £210 against an estimate of £150, and the 1940 ½d to 1/- set went for £74 in the same condition. Complete sheets of the 1939 U.S. Constitution 150th Anniversary set realised £650 and Ireland's first booklet, issued in 1931, sold for £245.

FORTHCOMING AUCTIONS

Ian Whyte holds his second public auction on Saturday, May 26, in the Gresham Hotel, Dublin. The sale consists of 600 lots with the strength in Australia, Canada, G.B., Malta, and of course, Ireland of which there are 200 lots. Lots are estimated from £5 to £1,500 and pre-sale estimates total about £30,000.

Hibernian Stamp Company Limited will be holding an important auction on July 21 in the Berkeley Court Hotel, Dublin. The sale will include several major rarities including two mint copies of the G. B. £1 'Seahorse'. The total pre-sale estimates are in excess of £100,000 which will make it the largest stamp auction held in Ireland since Shanahan Stamp Auction's last sale nearly twenty years ago.

The sale of the late J. D. Houston's collection of Great Britain, including the Irish Postal History, which Robson Lowe had scheduled for May has been cancelled. This is the second time the sale has been cancelled, as it was first scheduled for October last. Mr. Houston was a leading member and former president of the Irish Philatelic Society and had an excellent collection of G.B. line-engraved, mostly used in Ireland, as well as an interesting accumulation of Irish Postal History and several unusual Mulready caricatures.

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REGISTERED ENVELOPES SINCE DECIMALISATION

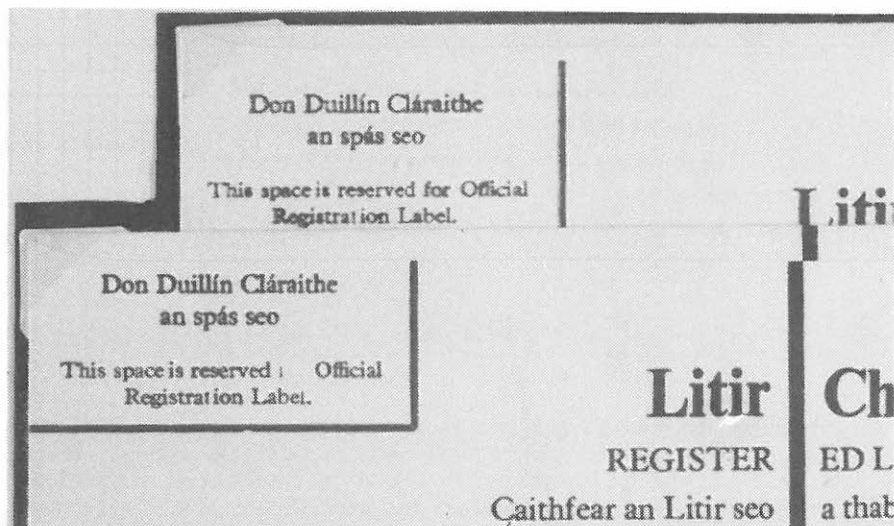
By Brian Warren



The rapid rate of inflation since decimalisation (15th February 1971) has resulted in several alterations to registration fee rates due to increasing postal charges. This has given rise to a large number of new issues and the introduction of a new style envelope. There are three sizes of official envelopes, size G (156mm x 95mm), size H (203mm x 120mm) and size K (292mm x 152mm). A smaller size F envelope in use prior to decimalisation was withdrawn from sale on 1st February 1971. The envelopes are manufactured by private printers and are then sent to the Revenue Stamping Branch, Dublin Castle for embossing with the appropriate stamp. Most of the varieties occur as a result of the Stamping Branch utilising old stocks when embossing envelopes with a new increased rate.

Prior to decimalisation and during the period January 1st 1969 to September 30th 1970 the registration fee was 1/3 giving inland compensation to a maximum of £20 and foreign compensation of £3/8/0. In anticipation of decimalisation envelopes with the appropriate decimal equivalents of 6p, £20 and £3.40 were printed. This information is set out in both Irish and English on the reverse side of the envelope as illustrated above. However postal rates were increased on 1st October 1970 whereupon the registration fee was increased to 2/-. The compensation rates were unaltered. Although postal rates remained unaltered at the date of changeover to decimal currency the Post Office took the opportunity to increase the inland compensation amount to £50 and the foreign compensation amount to £5.44. As a result the first 14p decimal envelopes (10p registration fee + 4p postage) were incorrect in three respects — fee: 6p instead of 10p; inland compensation: £20 instead of £50;

type of envelope saw the introduction in late 1975 of a new type of envelope known as Duplex Manilla. The new envelope without cotton scrim did not refer on the reverse side to the actual registration fee thus alleviating the problem of having to alter the fee wording upon an increase in postal rates. The compensation amounts of £50 and £6.35 were stated as heretofore. The new duplex manilla envelope was initially utilised on the 25p size K. Further increases in rates in 1976 and 1977 (33p and 37p respectively) saw the introduction of the new style envelope which has a blue interior to all three sizes. The new

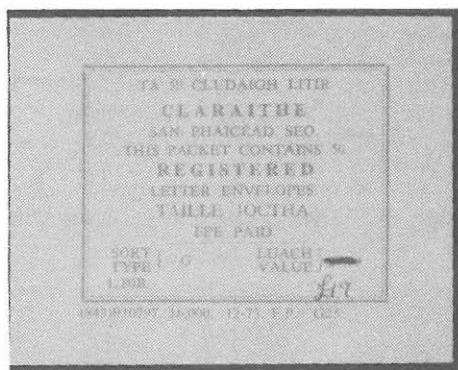


37p — Size H: Top left corner illustrating the missing “for” variety with normal.

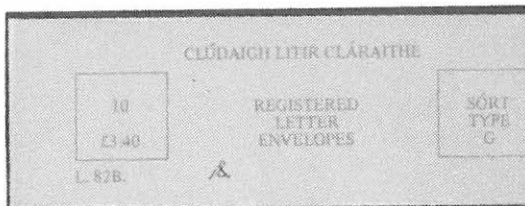
Duplex Manilla envelopes are set out in Table B. A considerable quantity of size G cotton scrim lined envelopes were obviously in stock as both the 33p and 37p values appeared on both types.

The foreign compensation amount was altered on 1st April 1977 when the 37p rate was introduced. The compensation amount increased by 85p from £6.35 to £7.20. The first envelopes to be printed with the revised text of £7.20 appeared in October 1978. The word “for” was discovered missing from the instruction, “This space is reserved for Official Registration Label” on a limited number of 37p (1st issue) size H envelopes (with £6.35). Although this discovery was made in February 1978, it is generally believed to have occurred in the initial deliveries to post offices in 1977.

In the accompanying tables the two columns on the extreme right indicate the date at which the registration and postage rates set out in columns 1 and 2 became effective and the actual foreign compensation covered by the registration fee. Under the heading “Reverse” the fee and foreign compensation as printed in the text on the envelope are stated for the cotton scrim lined issues only.



Size G packet label for fifty 37p envelopes i.e. five packets.



Size G wrapper for ten.33p envelopes.

Wrappers and Labels: A collection of registered envelopes can be further enhanced by the addition of wrappers and labels. G and H size envelopes are sold at 1p above face and are wrapped in packets of ten envelopes. K size envelopes are wrapped in packets of five envelopes and each envelope is sold at 2p above face. Complete packets are wrapped in brown paper upon which a green printed label is attached as illustrated above. Manuscript alterations to wrappers and labels arise due to increases in rates.

Table C sets out the letter rates and registration fees in operation during the period 1969–1978. All rates refer to the first weight step. In conclusion I wish to thank Fred Dixon, Bill Kane, Padraig O'Mathuna and Dr. C. A. Ross for confirming the accuracy of the attached listings.

DECIMAL REGISTERED POSTAL STATIONERY CHECK LIST

NOTES:

1. All three sizes have on the reverse side a mis-spelling in the word "Mhor".
2. All three sizes have a slightly revised text in Irish and the spelling error was corrected to "Mhoir". However with the size K a new spelling error was introduced – "Bhreatian"
3. Mis-spelling on size K corrected to "Bhreatain".
4. No set date of issue was given by the post Office for other than envelopes with a rate alteration.

A. Cream Coloured Envelopes with inner scrim lining 1971 – 1977

Embossed Stamp	Make-up (Reg + Post)	Reverse		Size	Date of Issue	Correct	
		Fee	For Comp.			Date	F. Comp.
14p	(10p + 4p) See Note 1	6p	£3.40	G	15 Feb 1971	15/2/71	£5.44
		6p	£3.40	H	15 Feb 1971		
		6p	£3.40	K	15 Feb 1971		
14p	(10p + 4p) See Note 2	10p	£3.40	G	Mid 1972		
		10p	£3.40	H	Mid 1972		
		10p	£3.40	K	Mid 1972		
14p	(10p + 4p) See Note 3	10p	£5.44	G	1973		
		10p	£5.44	H	1973		
		10p	£5.44	K	1973		
14p Blank	(10p + 4p) —	1/3	£3/8/0	G	1971		
		6p	£3.40	G	1971		
17p	(12p + 5p)	10p	£5.44	G	21 Nov 1973	1/7/73	£6.35
		10p	£5.44	H	21 Nov 1973		
17p	(12p + 5p)	12p	£6.35	G	1974		
		12p	£6.35	H	1974		
		12p	£6.35	K	28 Mar 1974		
25p	(18p + 7p)	12p	£6.35	G	19 Feb 1975	1/10/74	£6.35
		12p	£6.35	H	16 Jan 1975		
		12p	£6.35	K	16 Jan 1975		
25p	(18p + 7p)	10p	£5.44	G	1975		
33p	(24p + 9p)	12p	£6.35	G	5 Feb 1976	1/1/76	£6.35
33p	(24p + 9p)	10p	£5.44	G	1976		
37p	(27p + 10p)	12p	£6.35	G	1977	1/4/77	£7.20

B. Duplex Manilla –

White Coloured envelopes with blue interior 1975 – 1978

Embossed Stamp	Make-up (Reg. + Post)	Reverse For Comp.	Size	Date of Issue	Correct	
					Date	F. Comp.
25p	(18p + 7p)	£6.35	K	Late 1975	1/10/74	£6.35
33p	(24p + 9p)	£6.35	G	Mid 1976	1/1/76	£6.35
		£6.35	H	25 Mar 1976		
		£6.35	K	5 Feb 1976		
37p	(27p + 10p)	£6.35	G	25 July 1977	1/4/77	£7.20
		£6.35	H	30 May 1977		
		£6.35	K	21 Nov 1977		
37p	(27p + 10p)	£7.20	G	Dec 1978		
		£7.20	H	Oct 1978		

C. Letter Rates and Registration Fees in operation from 1969 to 1978

	LETTER RATE			REGISTRATION (Note IV)		
	Inland	Foreign Surface	Foreign Airmail	Fee	Inland Compensation	Foreign Compensation
1/1/69 to 30/9/70	6d	9d	1/9	1/3	£20	£3/8/0
1/10/70 to 14/2/71	9d	1/2	2/9	2/-	£20	£3/8/0
15/2/71 to 30/6/71 (note i)	4p	6p	14p	10p	£50	£5.44
1/7/71 to 30/6/73 (note ii)	4p	6p	12p	10p	£50	£5.44
1/7/73 to 30/9/74	5p	7p	12p	12p	£50	£6.35
1/10/74 to 31/12/75	7p	9p	15p	18p	£50	£6.35
1/1/76 to 31/3/77	9p	11p	15p	24p	£50	£6.35
1/4/77 to 24/7/77	10p	12p	17p	27p	£50	£7.20
25/7/77 to date (note iii)	10p	11p	17p	27p	£50	£7.20

NOTES

- (i) There was no increase in rates on the changeover to decimal currency; the rates are the decimal equivalent of the previous £.s.d. rates. The compensation amounts were altered as already discussed in the text.
- (ii) Alterations in the foreign postal rates came into effect on 1st July 1971 as a result of the U.P.U. Congress meeting held in Tokyo in 1969. Notably the airmail letter rate was reduced by 2p (14p to 12p). Weight steps were also altered.
- (iii) The Metric weight system was introduced by the Post Office on 25th July 1977. Although there were no general alterations in rates, some of the foreign rates were reduced to compensate for a reduced weight step under the metric system.
- (iv) The basic registration fee, as stated covers the compensation amounts stated. Higher compensation in the inland service can be covered by the payment of additional fees.

A RARE HANDSTAMP

By Bill Kane



In 1952, I purchased the pair of used Victorian Five Shilling Stamps (S.G.181) illustrated above. I was not interested in the stamps themselves but the cancellation which is a single-ring c.d.s reading 'SIR JOHN ROGERSONS QUAY/ T.O.' with a 22mm. diameter. It should be noted that there is no town name on the handstamp which is possibly because the mark was used for internal use in the office and not for cancelling adhesives on letters. There could, however, be some registered letters bearing this cancel. The initials 'T.O.' indicated 'Telegraph Office'.

For the past twenty seven years I have carefully watched the market to see if I could duplicate this cancellation, but without success. I now hope, that by publicising its existence, companion cancels may be brought to light.

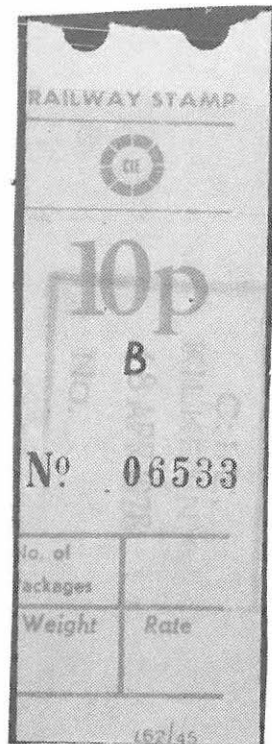
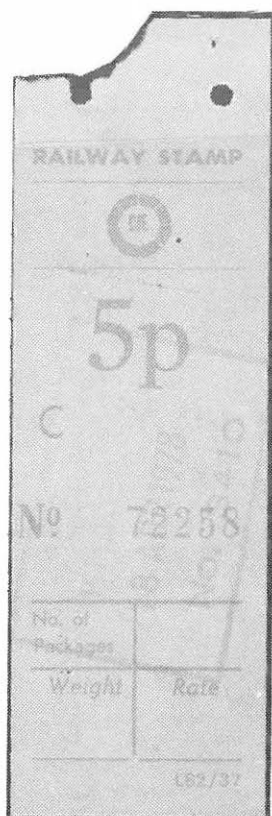
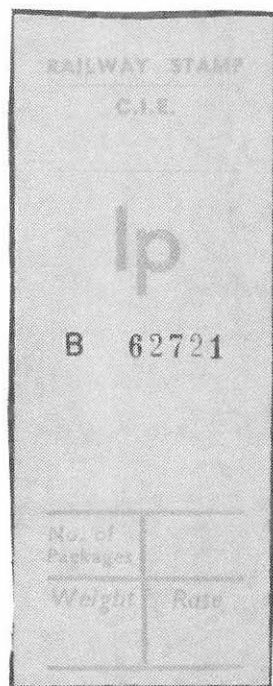
Sir John Rogerson's Quay — commonly known as 'Rogerson's Quay' — is in Dublin, and at the time this postmark was used it was the first quayside on the South Bank of the river Liffey where ships docked. It must be the second longest quay in Dublin, and at that time was a most important dockside.

According to the 1841 Post Office Dublin Street Directory, number 16 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, belonged to B. O'Meara, grocer, coal factor and Post Office Reiever. The Post Office wall box is still in use although the office has been closed for many years now.

Dr. Stafford Johnson records in his listing of Dublin Receiving Houses: 'Sir John Rogerson's Quay (1810-1840)' qualified by the fact that the information was obtained chiefly from contemporary Dublin directories, which must be accepted as purely approximate. It is believed that the office commenced Telegraph business sometime around 1858-59.

DECIMAL PARCEL STAMPS OF CORAS IOMPAIR EIREANN

A Preliminary Checklist

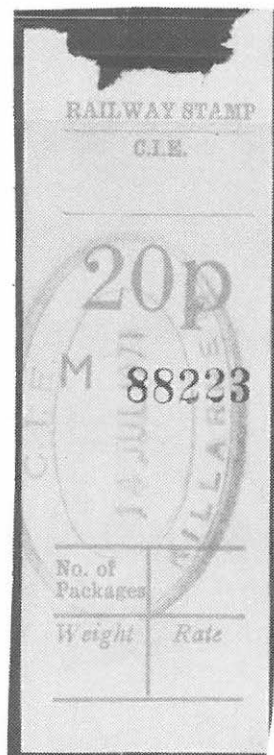


In my earlier article in Irish Stamp News No. 1 (Autumn 1978, pp. 18-21), I gave brief information of modern Irish railway parcel stamps. In these notes I give fuller details of the decimal issues of the C.I.E. Whilst the basic design of the stamps has remained unchanged, minor variations occur each time the stamps are reprinted. To date I know of nine different printings, the main characteristics of which are:

1st printing (1971) value in 10mm serif printing; 2nd printing (summer 1971) value in 9mm serif ptg., distinct yellow-green shade; 3rd printing (1971/2) value in 8mm serif ptg.; 4th printing (1972/5) value in 8mm sans-serif ptg.; 5th printing (1975) value in 11mm sans-serif ptg.; 6th printing (1975) CIE emblem motif, value in 9mm serif ptg., yellow-green shade. Printer's reference number in bottom right hand corner; 7th printing (1977/8) CIE emblem, value in 6mm sans serif ptg., printers reference number in bottom right-hand corner; 8th printing (1978) CIE emblem, value in 7mm serif ptg., printers number in bottom right-hand corner; 9th printing (1978) CIE emblem, value in 9mm ptg. Distinct blue-green shade, thick typeface. Reference number in right hand corner.

In the checklist below I give the printings known to me for each value with the earlier date on examples in my collection. I can make no claim that these dates in any way correspond to the dates of issue or that they are even chronologically correct. I hope in later notes to give further information about these most interesting stamps.

- 1p 1 (June 71)
4 (October 75)
- 2p 1 (April 74)
4 (April 75)
6 (March 78) (Ref. L62/36)
- 5p 1 (October 71)
4 (October 75)
5 (April 75)
6 (April 78) (Ref. L62/37)
7 (October 78) (Ref. L62/37)
- 8p 6 (December 77) (Ref. L62/42)
- 10p 1 (August 71)
4 (April 74)
5 (April 75)
7 (June 78) (Ref. L62/45)
9 (June 78) (Ref. L62/45)
- 20p 1 (October 71)
3 (July 71)
4 (reported, but not seen)
5 (reported, but not seen)
6 (October 75) (Ref. L62/38)
7 (December 77) (Ref. L62/38)
9 (June 78) (Ref. L62/38)

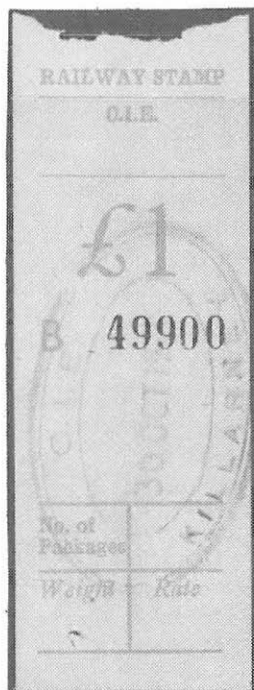
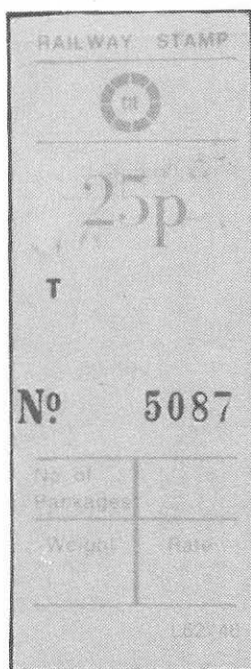


25p 3 (August 72) (Ref. C2)
 4 (reported, but not seen)
 1), I 5 (March 76)
 7 (May 77) (Ref. L62/46)
 8 (March 78) (Ref. L62/46)
 9 (October 78) (Ref. L62/46)

50p 1 (May 71)
 1 (September 71) (Ref. B2)
 2 (July 71)
 4 (December 72)
 5 (reported, but not seen)

£1 1 (October 71)
 2 (July 71)
 5 (reported, but not seen)
 £1.00 4 (November 72)

£2 4 (December 72)
 5 (April 75)
 8 (September 78) (Ref. L62/41)
 9 (September 78) (Ref. L62/33)



SOME POSTMARKS TO LOOK FOR

By F. E. Dixon



1



2



3



4

The first is a datestamp with a very special purpose, being applied to the appropriate space on a postal order. My example is on a half crown order payable to the R(oyal) Bank and issued at Trim on June 18. Sundry pinholes and a punch-hole suggest that the P.O. was subsequently the subject of correspondence, which helps to explain why it has escaped destruction.

No. 2 is distinctive, with two long arcs and no enclosing circle. So far I have seen only three, all of 1896 or 1897, all on small pieces, and none cancelling stamps. One has an indistinct figure, probably 1, above the year. Can any reader report this type on cover to help determine if it has any special significance?

No. 3 is peculiar in that the handstamp number (1 to 4) is squeezed into the space above the time whereas there is much more space available below. This is found cancelling stamps, but also on missorted and undeliverable letters, in the period 1905 to 1913.

No. 4 is identifiable by the device below the date, not an asterisk, but a dot surrounded by 12 rays. Otherwise it seems to belong to the series numbered 1 to 25, current from 1894 to 1922. They were general purpose datestamps, but this special one was reserved for postage due items. The earliest seen is 1902 and the latest, on postage due labels is 1915.

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Book Review



STAMPS OF IRELAND

Specialised Catalogue 1979 Edition. Octavo 123pp. Paperback. Edited by David MacDonnell. Published by David MacDonnell and David Feldman Ltd., at £1.50.

This is the eighth edition of this handy catalogue which started life 12 years ago as a price list to complement David Feldman's "Handbook of Irish Philately". The first few editions were unillustrated, then a simplified illustrated version appeared, followed by successive editions with added sections, until this edition which has practically supplanted the 'Handbook', which in any case is well out of print.

The main additions are contained in the 'Appendix' where Railway Stamps and Exhibition Souvenirs are now listed and priced. All the other sections have been enlarged and detailed notes on the printing and design of each issue are now given. In the G.B. used in Ireland section plate numbers are now listed and George V issues are now included, though why the 2/6, 5/- and 10/- Seahorses are not listed is not known as the 2/6 at least was used in Belfast in reasonable quantities.

In the 'Overprints' section many of the minor but well-known varieties are listed and priced, and the new illustrations of the major re-entries are a tremendous improvement on the previous line drawings. One or two new major varieties are listed, for instance the 9d red overprint (Dollard) with the "Postage" flaw. Useful notes on

various printings are now included.

The Essays section is expanded with the various different colours individually listed. The Definitives section is more or less the same for the first three sets. The gums and papers of the Gerl Definitives are now listed and priced, though the listing is slightly confusing. It is interesting to note that the two different types of the 1971 10p watermarked definitive are now not only listed and priced but considered to be two different stamps for the purpose of set making. The type I appears to be the scarcer at £3 against £2, mint.

The Commemoratives section includes several new varieties and many of the line drawings have been replaced by photographs which illustrate the flaws or re-entries with a much greater degree of clarity. Again the notes on printing details are added and cylinder or plate blocks are now individually priced.

'Airmails' and 'Postage Dues' are much the same as the last edition but with the additional notes on printing, and one or two new flaws have been listed. The 'Flight Covers' remain unaltered apart from the addition of a couple of new items and of course the price changes.

The 'Booklets' and 'Booklet Panes' sections are much improved with a clearer layout and precise descriptions of the contents of each booklet. The numbers given to the stamps in the imperforate booklet could be confusing: for instance the 5p pane, B22a, is listed as 'D60ya, 2a x 6' which sounds like a complex algebraic formula. 'Postal Stationery' is better illustrated and a little more detail is apparent.

The addition of Railway Letter Stamps is a welcome improvement. Though one seldom comes across them nowadays it is useful to have a priced checklist like this to find comparative scarcity. I use the term 'comparative scarcity' as the prices are so high in most cases as to put the great majority of collectors off any involvement with them. A complete collection would cost in the region of £1,800 mint according to this catalogue. 'Exhibition Souvenirs' is a completely new section in the 'Appendix' and is an excellent umbrella for the dozen or so collectibles issued by various exhibitions over the last decade. It includes special packs, souvenir cards, miniature sheets and booklets issued by, for, or at various exhibitions both at home and abroad.

It would be fair to say that the vast majority of people who buy this catalogue are more than slightly interested in the prices of the material listed and described therein. The current philatelic 'boom' has

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ensured that, in most cases, the prices in this eighth edition are appreciably higher than those in the seventh. In general the pricing appears to follow the market values of the items listed. Only in the specialised sections can one begin to quibble as in many cases there isn't a sufficient market to establish a price and one can only surmise that the Editor thought of a price, multiplied it by two and stuck it in, e.g. 2½p post card, available at face value up until quite recently at most post offices (although obsolete) is listed at £3, the 9p letter card, still available at 10p, is down at £5, the current air-letter form, available free with an 11p stamp, is priced at £1. I can hear the special offers already – "catalogued by Feldman at £8, my price 26p!" (and that's still making a 100% profit).

Commemoratives, definitives, overprints low values, airmails and dues all appear to be fairly priced and one will not find much discount being given off these prices. Some may argue that the used prices are a bit high. They are, but remember that these prices are for superb used, i.e. perfect condition with a light circular datestamp; anything other than this is worth considerably less.

For the prices given for the 'Seahorse' overprints substitute question marks as the market in these has gone mad. In the same week that this catalogue was published, a Thom ten-shilling mint, hinged, sold for £970, and a 'Wide and Narrow' set also mint, hinged, sold for £1,250, both at a Dublin auction (see 'Auction Report'). 'Stamps of Ireland' lists them at £650 each! It is impossible to price these items now due to the spiralling demand for British 'Seahorse' stamps whether overprinted or not. Note that this demand is based on the British stamps and not on the Irish interest.

To illustrate the increase in the prices I will give a few examples, with the 1978 prices in brackets. The Dollar overprint ½d to 10d, Set IT is now £20 unmounted mint (£11.55) and £14 fine used (£9.50). The ½d Saorstát 'missing-accent' error is now £600 (£350) mint and £500 (£275) used, while the same error on the ten-shilling value moves to £1,500 (£700) mint. These prices, reflecting almost 100% increases on last year are typical of the overprint section.

The definitives are much the same as the overprints with the 'SE' ½d to 1s unmounted mint now priced at £135 (£58) and the 2/6 to 10/- in the same condition now listed at £175 (£100). Mounted mint has also risen but not in proportion, the same two sets being listed at £45 (£26) and £85 (£60) respectively. The much publicised 2d perf. 15 x imperf. experimental coil stamp is still the most expensive item in

the book at £7,000 (£4,500) mint and £950 (£500) used. The 'E' watermark set is now £85 (£50) unmounted mint. The 'Gerl' definitives' prices reflect the growing interest in these issues with the 1968-69 set at £17.50 (£9.50), and the 1971-74 set at £21 (£11) including the extra 10p at £3. The unwatermarked set price remains unchanged but some of its constituent values are up such as the 3½p at 75p (20p) and the 7p stag at 60p (40p) and one is down, the 6p stag at 35p (£1).

Many of the commemoratives in unmounted condition show startling increases, such as O'Connell now at £10 (£3.75), Easter Rising overprints at £21 (£12), Robert Emmet £21.50 (£11), Admiral Brown £20 (£9), and the fastest and most surprising mover of the lot, 1972 Europa at £4 (£1). Most of the better commemoratives show increases of about 50% such as 1932 Eucharistic Congress at £3.50 (£2.25), 1937 Constitution at £2.60 (£1.75), Fr. Mathew at £5.50 (£3.75), 1950 Holy Year at £12 (£8.50), Mother Aikenhead at £8.75 (£6) and O'Donovan and O'Curry at £2.50 (£1.75).

Postage Dues are evidently much in demand and the 1925 set has increased by 100% to £70 for unmounted mint while mounted mint is now £25 (£18) and used £17.50 (£14). The second issue is also well up at £36 (£22) unmounted mint while used rises to £20 (£18).

The most outstanding increase in the 'Booklets' section is on the price of the 1971 30p booklet which has risen from £5 to £18, mainly on the strength of the ½p pane which is much in demand for completing the set of imperforate stamps which are listed in the German catalogues and albums. Most of the other booklets are well up with the 1948-53 2/6 moving from £12.50 to £25, and the 1964 3/- rising from £10 to £20. The panes have risen in proportion but one must query the pricing of the 3d panes, B11 B11a at £5.50 and £8 respectively. These are as common as 1d, B6 and B6a, which are priced at £1 and £1.50, while the 2d, B9 and B9a are much scarcer and yet are only priced at £2.50 and £4.50.

The phrase 'essential for any collector of Irish Stamps' is too hackneyed to be applied once more. All I can say is that I find it an invaluable reference work and that I usually wear out at least three or four copies a year by thumbing through them. The most amazing price in the book is printed on the front cover – £1.50 which represents an increase of exactly zero per cent on last year despite a 50% increase in size. It is obviously the philatelic 'steal' of the year.

Ian W. Whyte

Letters

Dear Sir,

The Winter Irish Stamp News was very impressive. I look forward to future issues and hope that it will be a success.

The article discussing "the rarest Irish postage stamp" was indeed interesting, although one cannot help feeling that the author did not include all the candidates. The rarest regularly issued Irish stamp, excluding varieties, is the 1922 Thom 4-line 10/-, of which an estimated maximum of 6000 were issued to the Irish post office. If one considers rarities, then there are a number of specimens of which less than four have been found viz.— T6c 5d Dollard reversed watermark (three), T10aa 4d Dollard (carmine) break under FOUR (three), T21a Harrison 1d QNE (one), t26a Thom 1d QNE (one, illustrated in SG and the basis of the GB listing), T41a Thom 10-re-entry 1/1 (three), T41b Thom 10/- re-entry 2/1 (one), T41c Thom 10/- strokes over TEN (not yet been seen but must have been issued), T61c Thom 10/- Runnals re-entry (three), T65b Harrison 2d watermark inverted (three). Furthermore, there are instances of freak errors like the 1922 Thom Blue-black 1½d with almost missing overprint which are unique. Curiously, the most expensive Irish stamp, the 1935 2d perf 15 x imperf mint (catalogued at £7000) is not the rarest; more than twelve have been discovered.

There are a number of inconsistencies needing contradiction in the article. SG66a is the 10/- Thom 3-line accent missing, the variety of stamp 40 with the accent inserted and reversed is not catalogued. There is a single unused example of SG53aa, the 1d missing accent, in Ireland. It was on display at 'Stampa' three years ago along with the 1/- missing accent used on piece. The SG66b mint single offered by us in GSM was not ex Dodd. It came from an old collection in South Africa. This particular variety is not as rare as one might believe. We have sold twelve in the last ten years. The collection purporting to belong to Herbert Wallace actually belongs to a different gentleman. Wallace merely acted as an agent. I suspect that the valuations in US\$ from American auction catalogues are Scott catalogue quotations, not the auctioneers' estimations.

The Saorstat accent varieties are, and always have been, unquestionably popular.

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However, I am sure this article will bring forth many more contenders for the title "the rarest". The relative importance of a stamp varies from collector to collector, so much so that I would not imagine that the term "rarest" will fire the imagination of philatelists everywhere. Besides, one only has to read the advertisements in "Stamp Collecting Weekly" to see how much the term is abused.

Yours etc.,

David McDonnell, Managing Director
David Feldman Ltd, Dublin 6.

Dear Sir,

1. **Re. Rev. Davey's Letter:** I am quite sure that Clare, Co. Clare was Brumell's mistake.. It was from study of the earlier postal markings, especially mileage stamps, that I deduced that this Clare is Claremorris. Joyce's work on Place Names is quite erratic, omitting many well known places.

2. Re. Second Instalment:

252. I feel sure that the Hollywood is Co. Down not Wicklow. The 1857 list of numbers does not give counties and Brumell must have guessed — but the 1857 P.O.G. shows that the Co. Down one was the more important office as it dealt in Money Orders.
- 266 Kildorrery.
- 278 Insert 1874 before Killybegs
- 280, 281, 282, 286, 293. In each case indicate that the number was vacant in the lists of 1857 on.
- 290 Should be Kinsale (Cork).
- Top of page 35, 1st line, delete.
- 291 Amend date of Knockcloghrim to 1885.
- 294 Amend spelling to Knockroghery.
- 298 Amend Letter's county to Donegal.
- 311 Amend to Loughgall.
- 322 Amend date of Manorcunningham to 1865.
- 323 1859 is the latest date for Markethill and 1874 first recorded for Magheramena.
- 347, 350 In each case vacant from 1857.

Yours etc.,

F. E. Dixon, Dublin 6

Dear Sir,

May I congratulate you on your great achievement of publication of an Irish Stamp magazine — ad multos annos!

The very many amateur collectors throughout the country will eagerly look forward to its quarterly appearance — soon to be monthly (hopefully).

Yours etc.

W. A. Gannon, Co. Roscommon

IRISH STAMP NEWS

Diary

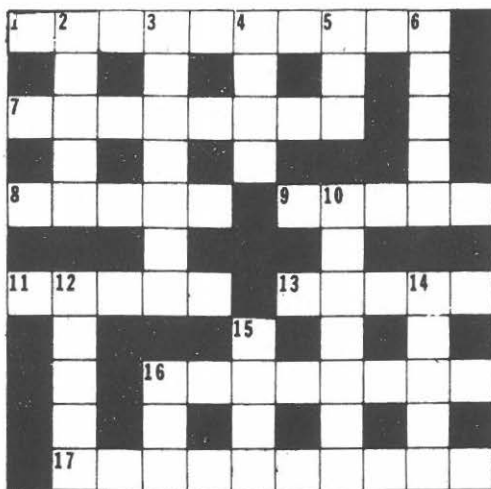
- May 26** Stamp Auction: Ian Whyte, Gresham Hotel, Dublin at 2.30 p.m. (Viewing 10 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.).
- May 31** Joint I.P.S. D.S.S. Bourse, Clarence Hotel, Wellington Quay. 7.45 p.m.
- June 9** COLLECTOREX '79. Gresham Hotel, Dublin. 11a.m. - 7p.m.

- June 10** COLLECTOREX '79. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- June 14** I.P.S. meeting: "From under the Counter" by Ian Whyte.
- June 28** I.P.S. meeting: "Mixum Gatherum". Pat Casey.
- July 12** I.P.S. Meeting: "Granada" by Dr. R. P. Towers.
- July 21** Stamp Auction: Hibernian Stamp Co. Ltd., Berkeley Court Hotel, Dublin 2.

PHILATELIC CROSSWORD NO. 3

Compiled by Wolfgang Heidenfeld

ACROSS: 1, Is the student of Irish postal history interested in EEC measurements and German money? (5,5); 7, One in charge of the Irish P.O. mess might be in a real funk (8); 8, It is seen in Ireland SG Nos. 221, 389 and 412 e.g.; 9, Slogan of the advertising society - philatelic or otherwise (5); 11, The 1931 Bird of Paradise issue of New Guinea (5); 13, It can be seen on e.g. Australian stamps and you may get lost in it, we hear (5); 16, What you put in, is a matter of choice, obviously (8); 17, Put the stamps of an African country in your album in such a way as to cause elevation (5,5); **DOWN:** 2, What to do with fiscal cancels? (5); 3, How to spot the hidden varieties (7); 4, It produces money - but only unmounted, presumably (4); 5, Three are of the very greatest rarity (1,1,1); 6, Lost money in the first United Nations Gamble (5); 10, Perhaps one of those shown on USA SG No. 1069 - but why should he be in a float in a Scottish river? (7); 12, Just the book for a collector (5); 14, East European currency unit (5); 15, The aroma, we hear of Netherlands, USA, and South African stamps? (4); 16, A coin that has not yet figured on stamps - but may do so in the not-too-distant future? (3).



First correct entry drawn from those received before June 30th will receive a prize of £5.

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD NO. 2

ACROSS: 1, Penny Black; 7, Stampede; 8, Crabs; 9, Marks; 11, Assam; 13, Agora; 16, Wardrobe; 17, Perforated.

DOWN: 2, Eater; 3, Namibia; 4, Blew; 5, Ape; 6, Kopek; 10, Algeria; 12, Strip; 14, Ruble; 15, Bino; 16, War.

IRISH STAMP NEWS

NOTE: Due to the postal strike only one entry has been received. If, and when the strike ends the winner will then be drawn from all the correct entries which are postmarked before the closing date, i.e. 31st March, 1979.

IRISH POST OFFICE NUMBERS 1844-1906

This is the final part of our listing of the numeral collections, based on the lists by C. F. Dendy Marshall and G. Brumell with additional notes by F. E. Dixon. Most of the numbers were in the Post Office lists of 1844 to 1857. Those listed later have the dates noted. Where earlier dates have been recorded they also have been noted.

- 353 Newcastle (Limerick)
1886-changed to Newcastle West
- 354 Newmarket on Fergus (Clare)
- 355 Newport (Mayo)
- 356 Newport (Tipperary)
- 357 Newry (Down)
- 358 Newtownards (Down)
- 359 Newtownbarry (Wexford)
1874-Newtownforbes (Longford)
- 360 Newtownforbes (Longford)
- 361 Newtownhamilton (Armagh)
- 362 Newtown Limavady (Derry)
1882-changed to Limavady
- 363 Newtownmountkennedy (Wicklow)
- 364 Newtown Stewart (Tyrone)
1882-double stamp reads "Newtownstewart/Ireland"
- 365 Nobber (Meath)
- 366 Oldcastle (Meath)
- 367 Omagh (Tyrone)
- 368 Oranmore (Galway)
- 369 Pallasgreen (Limerick)
- 370 Pallaskenry (Limerick)
- 371 Parsonstown (Kings)
1906-changed to Birr
- 372 Passage West (Cork)
1885-Philipstown (Kings)
- 373 Philipstown (Kings)
1874-Pettigo (Donegal)
- 374 Piltown (Kilkenny)
- 375 Portadown (Armagh)
- 376 Portaferry (Down)
Pomeroy (Tyrone)
- 377 Portarlinton (Queens)
- 378 Portglenone (Antrim)
1885-Patrickswell (Limerick)
- 379 Portlawn (Waterford)
- 380 Portumna (Galway)
1874-Portrush (Antrim)
- 381 Ramelton (Donegal)
1874-Portstewart (Derry)

- 382 Randalstown (Antrim)
- 383 Raphoe (Donegal)
- 384 Rathangan (Kildare)
1874-Raheny (Dublin)
- 385 Rathcoole (Dublin)
1874-Portglenone (Antrim)
- 386 Rathcormack (Cork)
1874-Rathcoole (Dublin)
- 387 Rathdowney (Queens)
- 388 Rathdrum (Wicklow)
- 389 Rathfarnham (Dublin)
- 390 Rathfriland (Down)
- 391 Rathkeale (Limerick)
- 392 Rathowen (Westmeath)
1874 Rathnew (Wicklow)
- 393 Red Hills (Cavan)
1885-Ratoath (Meath)
- 394 Rich Hill (Armagh)
1885-Rockcorry (Monaghan)
- 395 Rochfort Bridge (Westmeath)
1885-Roundstone (Galway)
- 396 Roscommon (Roscommon)
- 397 Roscrea (Tipperary)
- 398 Ross (Wexford)
1856-changed to New Ross
- 399 Rosscarbery (Cork)
- 400 Rostrevor (Down)
- 401 Ruskey (Roscommon)
1874-Rush (Dublin)
- 402 Saintfield (Down)
- 403 Scarriff (Clare)
1874-Sandyford (Dublin)
- 404 Scrabby (Cavan)
Scarva (Down)
- 405 Shanagolden (Limerick)
1874-Saggart (Dublin)
- 406 Shinrone (Kings)
1874-Skerries (Dublin)
- 407 Sixmilebridge (Clare)
1859-Shillelagh (Wicklow)
- 408 Skibbereen (Cork)
- 409 Slane (Meath)
1874-Sixmilebridge (Clare)

- 410 Sligo (Sligo)
- 411 Stewartstown (Tyrone)
1885—Scarriff (Clare)
- 412 Strabane (Tyrone)
- 413 Stradbally (Queens)
- 414 Stradone (Cavan)
- 415 Strangford (Down)
1874—Straffan Station (Kildare)
- 416 Stranorlar (Donegal)
- 417 Strokestown (Roscommon)
1885—Shanagolden (Limerick)
- 418 Stoneyford (Kilkenny)
1872—Stratford on Slaney (Wicklow)
- 419 Summerhill (Meath)
1885—Stewartstown (Tyrone)
- 420 Swinford (Mayo)
- 421 Swords (Dublin)
1885—Stranocum (Antrim)
- 422 Taghmon (Wexford)
1873—Swords (Dublin)
- 423 Tallaght (Dublin)
- 424 Tallow (Waterford)
- 425 Tanderagee (Armagh)
1848—used at Tallaght
1847—changed to Tandragee
- 426 Tarbert (Kerry)
- 427 Templemore (Tipperary)
- 428 Thomastown (Kilkenny)
- 430 Tinahely (Wicklow)
Tinode (Wicklow)
- 432 Tipperary (Tipperary)
- 432 Toome (Antrim)
1878—Tinahely (Wicklow)
- 433 Tralee (Kerry)
- 434 Trim (Meath)
1874—Trillick (Tyrone)
- 435 Tuam (Galway)
- 436 Tubbermore (Derry)
1868—Trim (Meath)
- 438 Tullamore (Kings)
- 439 Tullow (Carlow)
- 440 Tynan (Armagh)
- 441 Tyrrellspass (Westmeath)
1874—Urney (Tyrone)
- 442 Valentia (Kerry)
1885—Toomebridge (Antrim)
- 443 Virginia (Cavan)
- 444 Warrenspoint (Down)
1874—changed to Warrenpoint
- 445 Waterford (Waterford)

- 446 Warringtonstown (Down)
1854-59—used at Delgany (Wicklow)
1874—Woodlawn (Galway)
- 447 Westport (Mayo)
- 448 Wexford (Wexford)
- 449 Wicklow (Wicklow)
- 450 Youghal (Cork)
- 451 Clonegal (Carlow)
1885—Ward (Dublin)
1892—changed to the Ward
- 452 Dunamanagh (Tyrone)
1885—Tubbermore (Derry)
1906—changed to Tobermore
- 453 Mount Bellew Bridge (Galway)
1857—Newton Butler (Fermanagh)
1885—changed to Newtown Butler

HERE THE LIST FOR 1844 ENDED

The following are from the list of 1857 unless otherwise stated.

- 454 1869 Ovoca (Wicklow)
- 455 1856 Curragh Camp (Kildare)
- 456 Templeogue (Dublin)
1874—Batterstown (Meath)
- 457 Dalkey (Dublin)
- 458 Stillorgan (Dublin)
1859—Ballisodare (Sligo)

The following appeared in the 1874 list except where shown.

- 459 Baldoyle (Dublin)
- 460 Banteer (Cork)
- 461 Ballinhassig (Cork)
- 462 1863 Ballyneen (Cork)
- 463 1865 Castleisland (Kerry)
- 464 Carrigtwohill (Cork)
- 465 1861 Clarecastle (Clare)
- 466 Clashmore (Waterford)
- 467 Clondalkin (Dublin)
- 468 Drimoleague (Cork)
- 469 1885 Drumree (Meath)
- 470 Enniskean (Cork)
- 471 Glounthaune (Cork)
- 472 Vacant
- 473 Innishannon (Cork)
- 474 Vacant
- 475 1872 Kilkee (Clare)
- 476 1865 Killeagh (Cork)

- 477 Vacant
- 478 Vacant
- 479 1866 Knocklong (Limerick)
- 480 Vacant
- 481 Vacant
- 482 Leap (Cork)
- 483 Mill Street (Cork)
- 484 1869 Manorhamilton (Leitrim)
- 485 Vacant
- 486 1864 Little Island (Cork)
- 487 1871 Maynooth (Kildare)
- 488 Vacant
- 489 Vacant
- 490 1871 St. Margarets (Dublin)
- 491 1885 Templepatrick (Antrim)
- 492 Templeogue (Dublin)

HERE THE 1874 LIST ENDED

The following numbers appeared in the 1885 list.

- 493 T.P.O.
- 494 T.P.O.
- 495 T.P.O.
- 496 T.P.O.
- 497 T.P.O.
- 498 T.P.O.
- 493—498: It is not known what T.P.O.'s these were.
- 499 Welchtown (Donegal)
- 500 White Abbey (Antrim)
- 501 Doagh (Antrim)
- 502 Ballinamore (Leitrim)
- 503 Doochary (Donegal)
- 504 Vacant
- 505 Upperlands (Derry)
- 506 Dervock (Antrim)
- 507 Ballinrobe (Mayo)
- 508 Timoleague (Cork)
- 509 Bailieborough (Cavan)
- 510 Kingscourt (Cavan)
- 511 Macroom (Cork)
- 512 Ballinlough (Roscommon)
- 513 Glenanne (Armagh)
- 514 Limerick Junction (Tipperary)
- 515 Hill of Down (Meath)
- 516 Moycullen (Galway)
- 517 Rosscahill (Galway)

- 518 Oughterard (Galway)
- 519 Maam Cross (Galway)
- 520 Maam (Galway)
- 521 Leenane (Galway)
- 522 Rusbuck (Galway) changed to Rusbuck 1906
- 523 Recess (Galway)
- 524 Cashel (Galway)
- 525 Letterfrack (Galway)
- 526 Ballycroy (Mayo)
- 527 Ballyglass (Mayo)
- 528 Tourmakeady (Mayo)
- 529 The Neale (Mayo)
1906—changed to Neale
- 530 Cong (Mayo)
- 531 Sion Mills (Tyrone)
used at Newbliss in error for 351
- 532 Dromahair (Leitrim)

This was the last number in the 1885 list.

- 533 Toombeola (Galway)
- 534 Bangor (Down)
- 535 Hollywood (Down)
- 536 Strandtown (Down)
- 537 Donaghadee (Down)
- 538 Dundrum (Down)
- 539 Newcastle (Down)
- 540 Ardagh (Limerick)
- 541 Six Mile Cross (Tyrone)
- 542 Maguiresbridge (Fermanagh)
- 543 Slane (Meath)
- 544 Ardfert (Kerry)
- 545 Lisdoonvarna (Clare)
- 546 Vacant
- 547 Lisselton Cross (Kerry)
1906—changed to Lisselton
- 548 Headford, Killarney (Kerry)
- 549 Ballincollig (Cork)
- 550 Ballinskelligs (Kerry)
- 551 Glenbeigh (Kerry)
- 552 Valencia Island (Kerry)
- 553 Waterville (Kerry)
- 554 Dunboyne (Meath)
- 555 Annascaul (Kerry)
- 556 Blennerville (Kerry)
- 557 Woodenbridge (Wicklow)
- 558 Bawnboy (Cavan)
- 559 Ballyconnell (Cavan)
- 560 Bushmills (Antrim)

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