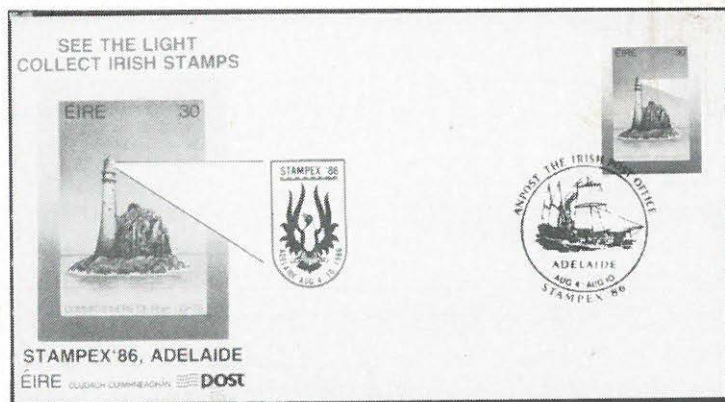


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IRISH STAMP NEWS

No. 23. Winter 1986



90p

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EDITORIAL

Whatever happened Autumn — or Fall as our Colonial cousins call it? Well it didn't happen in Ireland in 1986 as some of you may remember. In fact the best weather of the year, after a miserable excuse of a summer, was in September and October. So of course we couldn't publish an Autumn IRISH STAMP NEWS — could we? Besides which the editor was off skiving in Stockholm and on his return had to spend the next couple of months selling stamps to pay off his bar bills there (and at £4.70 a pint in Sweden it will be some time before he gets his credit cards back!).

After the plethora of pathetic excuses given in the last issue for the non-appearance of this Irish quarterly (now down to one appearance in a blue moon) the Editor received a host of suggestions which included giving up wearing a Blue-shirt, abandoning the repair of a tumbledown church building for the simplistic life of a Tibetan monk, converting the two cats into a fur stole for the wife and a supply of meat for the local Afghan takeaway, not to mention selling off STAMPA to Chipperfield's Circus. With sympathetic readers like that who needs a circulation anyway?

Seriously though . . . to our three remaining readers (i.e. those of you in the University libraries who get this journal free of charge under the Copyright law) we have at last caught up with ourselves having got our major opus STAMPS OF IRELAND — the annual specialised catalogue published every four years! — out of the way.

As we write this the intention is to publish simultaneously and without the aid of a safety net TWO ISSUES of IRISH STAMP NEWS! That is the intention, and as you read this you will know whether we kept to it or not . . .

In the meantime a Happy New Year (whatever one it is when you receive this) and while we are at it a Happy S. Patrick's Day as well.

Ian W. Whyte/Editor



*A message to our Irish friends from the Australian
stamp magazine that's read in more than sixty countries . . .*

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AMERIPEX — "THE GREATEST STAMP SHOW ON EARTH"

The adaptation of Barnum & Bailey's circus slogan could well apply to AMERIPEX 86. The show had all the razzamataz of an American circus and for most of the staggering attendance of 150,000 plus it *was* the greatest stamp show they are ever likely to see.



AMERIPEX exterior crowd scene (after Cecil B. de Mille?).

The show organisation was magnificent. It was geared up from the outset to get the most amount of people through the doors ever to a stamp exhibition and it worked. Over 8 million stamp booklets sold by the US Post Office bore a free ticket to the show. In addition tens of thousands of free tickets were distributed. Entire schools were mobilised to visit AMERIPEX where an enormous hall was exclusively devoted to the young collector. Incidentally the number of children who visited the show is not included in the 150,000 plus — the organisers didn't bother to do a proper count but it is probable that it was about 20,000.

The high turnout was of course very beneficial to the dealers who occupied the couple of hundred stands at the show. None of the professionals were unhappy and many were ecstatic. Some were saved from bankruptcy after a gruelling five year depression while others were claiming to be millionaires after eleven days of non-stop selling.

The outstanding success business wise of the show is epitomised by the popularity of a stand beside MacDonnell Whyte which was selling nothing but metal badges. To the astonishment of his Irish neighbours a Californian was, when they arrived stocking his stand with nothing but metal lapel badges with reproductions of mainly American stamps, priced between three and five dollars each. The Irish boys could not understand

how he could recoup the \$3,600 for the stand let alone the travelling and hotel expenses from such a stock.

After eleven days of a crowd six deep at times they realised this is America where anything sells. The Californian must have sold \$100,000 worth of the badges. This could never happen in Ireland.

The exhibits were of course the main attraction and being a World Philatelic Exhibition they were mainly top class. Whilst the Selection Committee were accused of a bias in favour of collectors from Chicago and the Mid West, one could sympathise after seeing the gargantuan effort put into staging the show by the hundreds of unpaid volunteers from Chicago.

The unfortunate — to say the least — exclusion of collectors from Ireland did not prevent a dazzling display of Irish material being shown. The top award for Irish material, a Gold Medal went to Patricia Stillwell Walker of Maryland for her Irish Postal History 1662-1900 which contains many outstanding pieces including "Missent to H&K Packet", "IRISH/Ship Letter", "Curragh Camp" scroll, and a fantastic franking of GB embossed to make up a 72 pence rate from Ireland to the USA. What impresses most from Patricia's collection is the superb quality throughout, quality which transforms even the most mundane mileage mark to a highly desirable piece rivaling some of the aforesaid gems.



Ed Sullivan of Chicago and Jack Keough of New York at MacDonnell Whyte's stand.

Patricia must have been just short of a large gold but that honour will not, one suspects, elude her for long. She is missing a few key items such as a Dublin Dockwra — and there are not many of them around, let alone for sale — and one

AMERIPEX Continued



AMERIPEX interior crowd scene.

feels that the presentation, while the research shown is unrivalled, could be improved. No doubt that by London 1990 this collection will be in the Championship Class.

Ed Sullivan of Chicago had an excellent showing of Irish postal history from 1628 to the mid 19th century. His particular strength was in the Bishopmarks including a very rare 'invert'. Ed was delighted with his large Vermeil award.

Cyril Dulin of Switzerland won a large Vermeil for his superb range of Irish overprints. His scholarship in this area was clearly evident in the detailed and well illustrated — by enlarged colour photographs — writing up. You could photograph Cyril's collection and publish it as a book of reference. In fact Cyril Dulin is working on a major handbook on Irish postage stamps.

Johan Rehnberg's (Sweden) extensive collection showing the postal history and postage stamps of Ireland from the 1916 Rebellion through to the overprints was also awarded a large Vermeil.

Johan's collection is especially strong in the 'Troubles' period as well as the transition but his high value overprinted issues must rate as one of the best showings in this field.

Another large Vermeil went to James Maher from Wisconsin for a very fine exhibit of the overprints. One interesting cover, a one shilling ONF error on cover to the Solomon Islands was merely described as an unusual destination. This was by no means ignorance on the part of the owner but he did not show any other errors on the basic GB stamps and did not want to draw the Jury's attention to the fact. It was a lovely understatement from a very unassuming gentleman.

Amidst this liberal showering of gold and vermeil glitter Jean MacDonald of Chicago was surprisingly unlucky to only get a Silver. It may have been that something — possibly one or two

rather obvious philatelic covers — that offended the Jury. This is one of those quirks of exhibiting at a world show whereby an otherwise excellent exhibit can lose out because of the inclusion of something that shouldn't be included. However the experience will stand Jean to good stead and we will see her beautifully presented collection in the higher awards list at future world shows.

An Post were also in the medals, in the official government class which did not suffer from the ban on Irish collectors. They won third prize in the First Day Cover section, a very creditable performance against tough competition.



MacDonnell stays out of range while Whyte demonstrates his walking stick and plastered foot — a war wound of AMERIPEX.

The Eire Philatelic Association had a stand at Ameripex and Gene Labiuk, the President came down from Canada to get to meet as many members as possible. All the EPA 'personalities' were there including Bill Zellers, Bill McCaw, Mike Giffney, Pat Walker, Jim Lavelle and many others who helped promote the society and Irish philately at the show. No doubt the membership has swelled appreciably as a result of their labours.

One thing that stood out at this show was the genuine warmth and friendship offered to all the overseas visitors by the Chicago organisers and collectors. The fabulous receptions and dinners are over but the friendliness of the people of the 'Windy City' is a memory that will persevere.

**MAKE SURE OF YOUR
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TAKE A SUBSCRIPTION
RATES ON PAGE 3**

NEW AIR SERVICES INAUGURATED FROM SHANNON

Following receipt of the necessary Irish Government approval, Delta Air Lines Inc. which is an American based carrier, began its new Trans Atlantic service on May 9th 1986.

Delta's headquarters is at Atlanta, Georgia, and as well as providing international services from that city, domestic flights are also provided to over one hundred cities in America. To mark the first commercial non-stop service from Ireland to Atlanta, Delta Air Lines made arrangements for first flight covers to be carried on the outward and return stages of the new service. The postmaster at Shannon also facilitated any collectors who contacted him following pre-flight publicity by having their covers included on the outward flight from Shannon Airport.

Covers carried from Shannon Airport bear the ordinary handstamp cancellation of Shannon (Town) of May 9 and are backstamped with the datestamp of Atlanta, GA. Airmail Facility of the same date. Some of the collectors mail carried was returned however without the all-important backstamp, which of course is vital in proving that the covers were carried on the flight in question, and this was only rectified after the postmaster at Shannon had made representations to his United States counterpart.

On the same day as the Atlanta flight, a new service was also opened by Delta between Ireland and Europe, when a route from Shannon to Munich was inaugurated. Covers carried on this flight bear the Shannon postmark as before, with the backstamp this time "Munchen Flughafen 9-5-86". It is believed that approximately 350 covers were carried on the Atlanta flight, and less than forty on the flight to Munich.

A. F. Finn

AIRMAILS

At a reception held to launch the two stamps celebrating 50 years of service by Aer Lingus on May 26th, there was bad news for the many aerophilatelists who have harboured hopes that some day Ireland might re-introduce special airmail stamp issues.

During the course of his address, Feargal Quinn, Chairman of An Post, referred to the special airmail designs in the "Vox Hiberniae" series issued from 1948 to 1965 as showing the significance of airmail on our postage stamps. However, he then went on to say that, as the

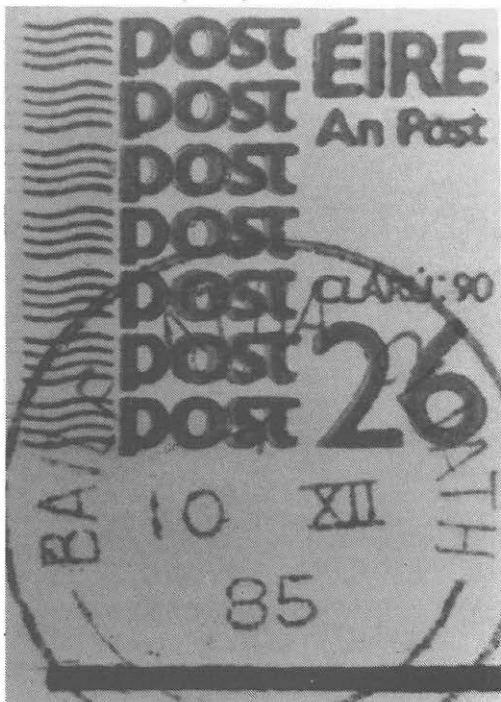
number of special and commemorative stamp issues, many of them in airmail rate denominations, has greatly increased, since then specially designed airmail stamps are no longer required.

Elsewhere in his address, Mr Quinn quoted some interesting statistics regarding present day airmail. Aer Lingus now carries over 90% of the mail leaving Ireland, whilst An Post contributes about £2 million of the annual revenue of Aer Lingus at a time when air continues to take a larger proportion of postal traffic from sea and surface transport.

A. F. Finn

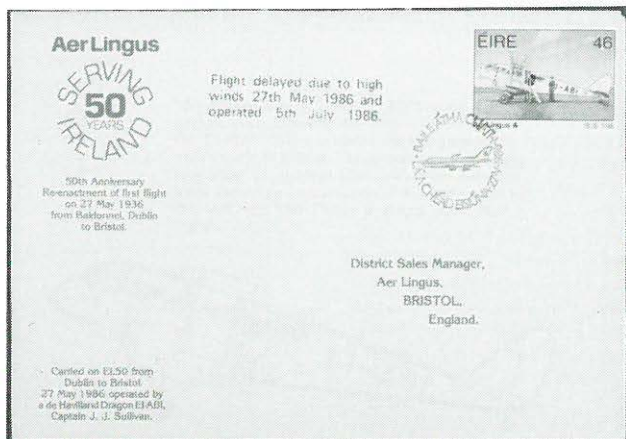
REGISTRATION ENVELOPE VARIETY

by Selwyn Deacon



Some of the first printing of G size registration envelopes issued 10 December 1985 with postage 26p + registration 90p showed double printing of most of the "stamp". The separation of the two impressions is about ½mm over most of the area but over 1mm for the wavy bars.

My photograph is an enlargement from an example used on the first day.



The Aer Lingus Golden Jubilee Flight Cover.

AER LINGUS COVERS EVENTUALLY TAKE OFF

On Saturday July 5 last the DM 84 Dragon aircraft "Iolar" — which made the first Aer Lingus flight in 1936 — took off from Dublin for Bristol carrying commemorative covers.

Originally intended to fly on May 27, the actual anniversary of the first flight, the 'plane was prevented from making the journey by high winds. The flight was postponed on two further occasions before being successfully completed on July 5.

The covers are as illustrated here and bear the 46p Aer Lingus Jubilee Stamp — which features the "Iolar" — postmarked on May 27 with a cachet explaining the delay. The covers are back-stamped at the Aer Lingus desk at Bristol Airport on arrival.

The covers can be obtained from the Aer Lingus Philatelic Society, Dublin Airport at a cost of £2.50 including postage to Europe or £3.50 (US\$5.00) including postage elsewhere.

DE LA RUE SMURFIT SEEK STAMP PRINTING CONTRACTS

De La Rue Smurfit, the Dublin based security printers are back in the business of printing stamps. They recently supplied television licence savings stamps to An Post and are to compete for the Postage Stamp printing contract which is currently held by Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd of Santry.

The last Irish Postage stamps printed by De La Rue Smurfit were the two issued to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Radio Éireann in 1976. From 1961 to 1968 they printed

the Airmail series, when they traded as Thomas de La Rue Ltd.

The company presently prints banknotes for a number of overseas countries and it hopes to supply postage stamps to some of its foreign clients. A representative of De La Rue Smurfit was at STAMPEX in London last March to sound out potential clients. BDT, a sister company of Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd has already produced stamps for several overseas countries.

REPORT ON THE A.G.M. OF THE IRISH PHILATELIC CIRCLE

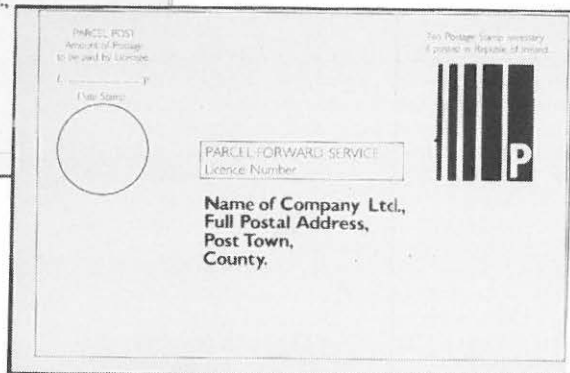
The Annual General Meeting of the Irish Philatelic Circle was held at the Clarence Hotel in Dublin during the weekend of the 17/18 May 1986.

Officers and Committee elected for 1986/87 were:- President: Rev. W. E. Davey. Vice Presidents: Mr M. Freyer, Mr P. H. Williams, Dr C. I. Dulin. General Secretary: H. K. Jamieson, 3 Cleves Way, Hampton, Middx TW12 2PL. Area Secretaries: A. V. Cassidy, O. M. Richards, J. G. Lennon. Hon. Treasurer: W. Stevens. Hon. Auditor: B. Warren. Hon. Auctioneer: M. Leonard. Committee Members: S. W. Gayler, G. E. R. Ithell; J. Madeley, Dr V. W. D. Hale, W. Kane, J. O'Neill.

During the proceedings adjudication for the Thomas E. Field Awards were made with the following results:- General Philately: 1st G. Warren, 2nd W. Stevens. Postal History: 1st G. E. R. Ithell, 2nd G. E. R. Ithell. Thematic: 1st W. Stevens, 2nd Miss N. K. Wright. Literature: 1st Otto Jung, 2nd B. Warren.



Sample card and label of the Business Reply Service.



BUSINESS REPLY SERVICE

A newly designed business reply designation has been introduced by An Post. The system, which was previously shown by a box with two broad vertical lines beneath it, has been replaced by a short series of vertical bars, with a broad bar to the right and four more bars to the left becoming increasingly thinner.

A further new service similar to business reply has also been introduced for parcels called "Parcel Forward". Again in this system the addressee pays the postage. The labels for this service are similar to the business reply design but with a "P" incorporated in the broad vertical bar on the right. See illustrations.

NEW 20p COIN ISSUED

A 20p coin was issued by the Central Bank of Ireland on Thursday, October 30 1986. It features a horse, based on the original design by Percy Metcalfe for the half-crown (2/6) coin first issued in 1928. As with other Irish coins the obverse design is the harp with the inscription 'Eire' and the year of striking.

Made of an alloy — 79% copper, 20% zinc and 1% nickel — the new 20 pence coin is 27.1mm in diameter and weighs 8.47 grammes. This alloy gives the coin a golden colour thus distinguishing it from the existing coins of bronze (½p, 1p and 2p) and cupro-nickel (5p, 10p and 50p).

As an aid to people with impaired vision, the

new 20 pence will feature an edge of alternating arcs of plain and milled surfaces, unique among Irish coins to date. It was minted at the Central Bank's mint and currency centre in Dublin.

The new 20 pence is smaller than the existing 10p (28.5mm) and larger than the 2p (25.9mm). While having twice the value, the 20p is also lighter than the 10p (11.31 grammes).

Initially twenty million 20p's will be issued into circulation. The new coin will increase the options in the giving of change and will reduce the overall weight of coins needed for day-to-day spending.

Current circulation of existing coins, in millions, is as follows: 40m (50p), 186m (10p), 151m (5p), 262m (2p), 264m (1p) and 166m (½p).

Overseas collectors may purchase Irish coins from the Numismatic Section of the Central Bank of Ireland, Dame Street, Dublin 2.

1987 SCOUT & GUIDE CHECKLIST

J. David F. McKee has just published the 9th edition of his checklist of "Scout, Guide and Brigade Stamps of the World". The useful book for thematic collectors is available at IR£3.80 (US\$8.00) post paid from J. D. F. McKee, 3 South Park Drive, Foxrock, Dublin 18.

886 issues for 241 countries, involving over 3,000 stamps plus miniature sheets and variants are listed together with items of postal stationery.

BOOK REVIEW

Sub Office Rubber Datestamps of Ireland
Dátstampaí Rubair na bhFó-Oifigí an Phoist in Éirinn

by James A. Mackay. Price: £6.00 each.

These two new publications from James Mackay are an important addition to the library of books on Irish stamps. Both books are largely based on Post Office archives and records in proof books. What is very clearly shown are the types and varieties of sub-office rubber datestamps employed from 1885 to 1953. The first mentioned volume deals with the English language postmarks, and the second volume with the Irish language equivalents which gradually came into use after 1922. This is a relatively new field for philatelic research of Irish material.

As the listings are mainly drawn from Post Office records which are not often complete in showing new or subsequent issues of datestamps to offices, stamps used and found on items of postal history often do not appear in the book. The author does not suggest that he includes anything like all the marks used and welcomes additional notes from collectors. The indices in each book are computer set and as such will easily enable the inclusion of new information on marks and periods of usage in future references.

The distinctive rubber cancellations, termed Climax datestamps because of the revolving date slugs incorporated in them, came into being in 1885 for use at offices with a small volume of business. They were intended for use on postal orders and not for cancelling adhesives. However their use gradually extended to cancelling adhesives shortly after the turn of the century. A high proportion of offices in Ireland were issued with these stamps eventually. The interest in these postmarks is growing and consequently these books should be welcomed by postmark collectors.

**FREMDWÖRTERBUCH DER
PHILATELIE (Philatelic Dictionary of
foreign words) 1985 Kylling & Son, Hel-
singor. 148 x 210mm. pp 140. Price
DM 28.50 (c. IR£10.40).**

This dictionary may prove very useful to those philatelists who have recourse to catalogues or publications produced in Continental Europe. The catalogue lists Danish, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. The book is divided into different sections. The first translates German words into those of all the other languages listed. Then six sections follow, one for each language, which translate the words

of the particular language into German. The book appears useful though not all technical words have been included. Some of the English spellings are also a little unorthodox, though no difficulty is presented in knowing what is meant. A table at the end of the book shows the numerical characters of many systems which will be of benefit to many general collectors.

LETTERS

Dear Sir,

Brian Warren and Eddie Fitzgerald's book "The Gerl Definitive" refers to a paper join (Mill Join) to the 1p dog on page 35 (note ii).

I have a 15p dog on piece with what appears to be a mill join right along the right perforations. (see photocopy).

This should leave the adjacent stamps with a slight thinning on the left side if they happen to come apart rather than tear along the perfs.

My example was postmarked at Sligo but the cancellation has no year slug. I estimate that it was 1981, 28th Feb

I wonder if any reader has already come across this stamp, or the adjacent stamp with the thin left side or in fact a pair, which should show up under u.v. light.

Yours etc.,
Comdt P. Farry

Naval Base,
Haulbowline,
Co. Cork.

Reference:

Mr Black's letter in I.S.N. No. 18 and Dr Wilkinson's in I.S.N. No. 21.

Dear Sir,

I am still waiting for the expert comments, in the meantime I will offer the little bit of information that I have which may be of some assistance to Mr Black.

I also have a joined pair (D2) on cover of perforated "paste ups" from coil rolls. Their perforations are 14.5 x 14 and are pale carmine red. On checking some normal D2 stamps (1922-37 1d map definitive ex sheets) I have found that their perforations are 14.75 x 14.

In the absence of comments forthcoming from the experts, maybe the editor could add his comments.

Yours etc.,
Comdt P. Farry,

ED. The normal sheet stamps are perforated 15 x 14 as detailed. The difference of ½ to ¼ perforation over 2cm is most likely due to paper shrinkage or drying after the stamps were perforated.

THE "MOLLISON STAMP" & FLIGHT COVERS

BY
F. C. GODFREY
APPENDIX 'B'

During the course of three years of research it now seems that the majority of the Mint Overprinted Stamp (Ireland AC6a) and the Flight Covers, associated with the epic flight of James A. Mollison, have now been located, but from evidence available, a number of covers have escaped my efforts to locate them — perhaps in due course these 'Missing' covers will surface, if they have survived the span of fifty five years.

With the publication of this Appendix 'B' — the third and final part of my research — all the covers located have been illustrated, commencing with the original research and followed by the Appendix 'A' articles, both published in 'Irish Stamp News' No. 15 & No. 19 respectively.

Since the publication of Appendix 'A' four more covers have been located and are now illustrated here in the appropriate sections of the Classified List of Covers.

The Headings and Sub-Headings, and the Classified Listing of Covers in the original research article and the Appendix 'A' article remain for recording these further four covers, so that the figure numbers of the illustrations follow in sequence after the listings in the previous articles.



(1) *The Flight — Arrival at New York*

Having crossed the North Atlantic, Mollison had been forced to land at Pennfield Ridge, Saint John, New Brunswick at 5.45 p.m. August 19th 1932 — fatigue and fuel shortage had prevented the proposed non-stop flight to New York.

Mollison remained at Saint John for some forty one hours, resting from the fatigue of his flight and being honoured by the prominent citizens of that city, while his airplane was prepared for the next lap of the flight.

Leaving Saint John at 11.22 a.m. on August 21st. 1932 his flight to New York took five hours and twelve minutes — this brought his total flying time to approximately thirty six hours, and an overall time of under three and a half days from Dublin to New York — no doubt a record time for an 'Airmail Delivery' between the two cities in that distant year of 1932.

Ten thousand Americans gave a riotous welcome to Mollison when, as the first man to achieve a East-West solo flight across the Atlantic, he put his plane 'The Hearts Content' down on Roosevelt Field at 4.34 p.m. August 21st. 1932.

Mollison was taken from his plane, placed on the roof of an automobile, to be paraded before hundreds of movie and newspaper camera men, and subsequently escorted by motorcycle police, with sirens opening the way, to the Hotel Plaza New York where he was received by the Chairman of the Mayor's Reception Committee from the Distinguished Guests Commission.



At the Plaza Hotel Mayor J. Walker pins the gold medal of the City of New York on Captain J. A. Mollison.

(2) The Flight — Arrival at New York. The Official Reception

Mayor Walker, having been absent from the city when Mollison arrived in New York, returned on August 26th. 1932. The Mayor went directly to the Hotel Plaza for the official reception which had been arranged to honour Mollison.

In recognition of that record flight the Mayor conferred on the pilot the Medal of Honour of the City of New York.

Mollison had presented the letter from the Lord Mayor of Dublin to the Mayor of New York, and in return he was given a letter from Mayor Walker to be delivered to the Lord Mayor of Dublin on Mollison's return home.

(3) *Classified List of Covers*

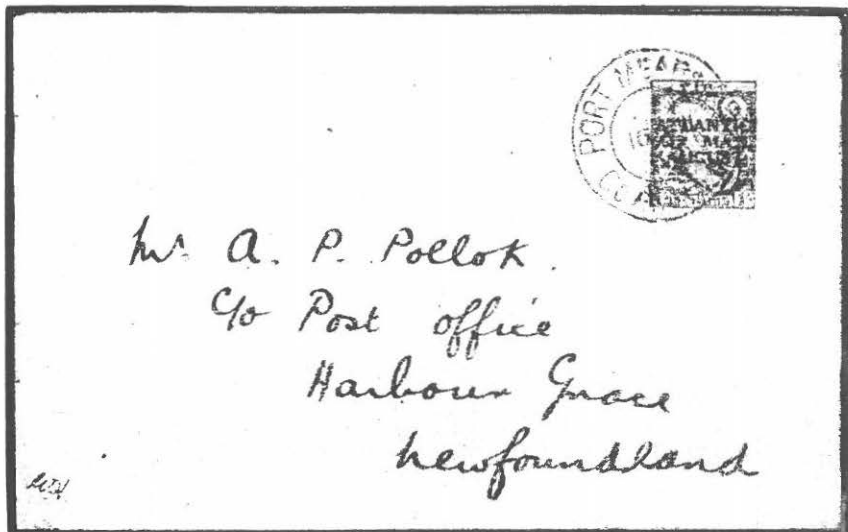


Fig. 23

'B' Class Covers

A further two covers have been located in this class, they are addressed in similar handwriting to those already recorded in the 'A' and 'B' Class Cover sections, and as with the previous covers postmarked – PORT MEARNOG (PORTMARNOCK) dated 16. VIII.32. The covers are addressed as illustrated in Fig. 23

The cover addressed to Mr. A. P. Pollock – Fig. 23 – was only discovered after a long search, but to locate this cover was essential in order to complete, as far as possible, the covers in the 'Mollison' collection. This cover contains the only used example, known to exist, with the variety "1932" missing from the overprint.

'F' Class Covers

Two additional covers have been located in this class, both directed to the New York office of the Wakefield Company and addressed to the following –

H. S. CHAMBERLAIN ESQ. Fig. 24.

C. D. BROWNE ESQ.

As with the previous covers in this class, these have the gold embossed Seal of the City of Dublin, the scarlet embossed Seal of the City of Saint John and on the reverse the Seal of the City of New York, together with the signed and dated endorsements of the Lord Mayor of Dublin, the Mayor of Saint John and that of James A. Mollison.

The cover addressed to H. S. Chamberlain Esq. – Fig. 24 – is the first cover in this class to have the personal Seal of the Lord Mayor of Dublin, which Seal has been

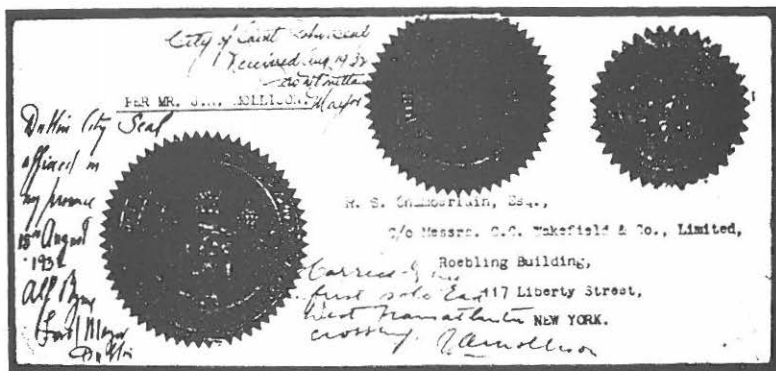


Fig. 24

signed by the Lord Mayor — this Seal is affixed to the top right hand corner of the cover front.

It is unknown why this cover had the personal Seal of the Lord Mayor affixed, but it may have been affixed in error at the Lord Mayor's office during the preparation of both the 'E' and 'F' Class Covers prior to Mollison's departure from Portmarnock.

This cover should not be confused with the 'E' Class Covers, which were addressed to 'Prominent Citizens' of New York, while the 'F' Class Covers were addressed to associates of the Wakefield Company.

AMENDMENTS TO RESEARCH

Further correspondence with Municipal Archives New York has made it necessary to make the following corrections —

- (i) Appendix 'A' page 13 — The signature on the reverse side of the 'F' Class Covers should read F. H. Ayden who was the New York Manager of C. C. Wakefield & Co., Ltd. and not an official of the Mayor's office in New York.
- (ii) Appendix 'A' page 14 — The official reception took place at the Hotel Plaza on the night of August 26, 1932 and not as previously stated.

SUMMARY OF THE 'MOLLISON STAMP' AND FLIGHT COVERS RECORDED DURING THE COURSE OF RESEARCH 1983/85

THE OVERPRINTED STAMP

Mint Stamps 21 Stamps (including 2 blocks of 4 — 1 block illustrated Fig. 1)
Mint Stamps 2 Stamps with variety '1932' missing from the overprint — 1 in
block of 4 illustrated Fig. 14.

THE OVERPRINTED STAMP ON COVER — POSTMARKED PORT MEARNOG (PORTMARNOCK) dated 16.VIII.32. ADDRESSED TO — C/O POST OFFICE, HARBOUR GRACE, NEWFOUNDLAND.

'A' CLASS COVERS . . . Signed by Mollison . . . 2 Covers . . . Fig. 2 & Fig. 8.
 'B' CLASS COVERS . . . Covers not signed . . . 8 Covers . . . Fig. 3, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17
 & 24. (1 further cover existed in this class but was accidentally destroyed)
 'B' CLASS COVER . . . Cover not signed . . . 1 Cover — with variety '1932' missing.
 Fig. 23.
 'A' or 'B' CLASS COVERS . . . If signed, unknown . . . 2 On Piece . . . Fig. 4 & Fig. 13
 'G' CLASS COVER . . . Cover not signed . . . 1 Cover

COVERS WITH A COMBINATION OF IRISH & CANADIAN STAMPS —
 IRISH STAMPS POSTMARKED DUBLIN ON 18 AU 32 — CANADIAN STAMPS
 POSTMARKED SAINT JOHN AU 20 32. ADDRESSED TO — MR. D. E. SAUL,
 M. S. MONARCH OF BERMUDA, PIER 95 N.R. NEW YORK.

'C' CLASS COVERS . . . Signed by Mollison . . . 4 Covers . . . Fig. 5, 12, 18 & 19.
 (1 further cover in this class recorded but not located)

COVER WITH CANADIAN STAMP ONLY — POSTMARKED SAINT JOHN ON
 AU 20 32 ADDRESSED TO — CITY HALL, CORK HILL, DUBLIN.

'D' CLASS COVER . . . Signed by Mollison . . . 1 Cover . . . Fig. 6.
 (Dated 19.8.32) The personal Seal of the Lord Mayor of Dublin is embossed on this
 cover and dated 18th. August 1932.

COVERS WITHOUT POSTAGE STAMPS OR POSTAL MARKINGS'

'E' CLASS COVERS . . . If signed, unknown . . . 14 Covers . . . None located.
 Personal mail of the Lord Mayor of Dublin addressed to prominent citizens of New
 York, each cover with the personal Seal of the Lord Mayor of Dublin.

'F' CLASS COVERS . . . Signed by Mollison . . . 5 Covers . . . Fig. 7, 20, 21, & 26
 Covers addressed to associates of C. C. Wakefield & Co., Ltd., at the New York office.
 Covers have the signature of Lord Mayor of Dublin and the Mayor of Saint John, and
 the Seals of the city of Dublin, Saint John and New York. One cover also has the
 personal Seal of the Lord Mayor of Dublin

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS — APPENDIX 'B'

*I acknowledge with gratitude the assistance given by the following during the research
 of Appendix 'B' of this article.*

Burmah—Castrol (U.K.) Limited, Swindon, England.

Burrell's Press Clipping Bureau, New York, U.S.A.

Healey & Wise Ltd, London, England.

Ronny Vogt, Zurich, Switzerland.

The American Air Mail Catalogue, U.S.A.

The 'Daily News' newspaper, New York, U.S.A.

The 'Times' newspaper, New York, U.S.A.

CURRENT POSTMARK DIE TYPES OF COUNTY LONDONDERRY — ULSTER PROVINCE REVISITED

By Baron Vernon Wilhelm von der Heydt

A much neglected Area of Philately, for those who collect both Great Britain and Ireland, are the Postmarks of the Six Counties of Northern Ireland. I feel that this could become a real goldmine of possible postmark research, as all British postage stamps used in postal traffic in the Six Counties can certainly be classed as "GB Used In Ireland" stamps. In this sense, I believe that it must now be finally admitted that this particular classification does not at all end with the Establishment of the Irish Free State in 1922, but actually continues on to the present day. That is, all of the post offices in the Northern Six Counties of Antrim, Down, Armagh, Fermanagh and Londonderry continue to stock and sell only the stamps of Great Britain, along with the special regional definitives issued for Northern Ireland. On that point, a quick glance in Gibbons Catalogue will tell us that there are indeed a total of 42 definitive stamps that have been issued for Northern Ireland, beginning in 1959. Since 1971, these stamps carry the 'Machin' portrait of Queen Elizabeth II, with the Ulster provincial arms being imposed to the left of the Queen's face in the common design. Since these stamps are anything but scarce, only a few pounds expenditure will suffice to get you a complete collection.

Now since the more traditional pre-1922 "GB Used In Ireland" covers are bringing astonishing prices, they have just gotten beyond the reach of the average collector of GB and territories (i.e. Guernsey, Jersey, Isle of Man, Ireland, Gibraltar). The easiest way to start collecting postmarks of Northern Ireland is to check out your club packet, or to just sift through large boxes of common used GB kiloware. There, it should be easy enough to spot the well known postmarks of Londonderry and Belfast. Now, if you want good, clear strikes of the other localities in the Six Counties, it would really be best if you could find a friendly Ulsterman who would be kind enough to service whole covers there for you.



The same type of machine cancel is widely used — here is shown Belfast and Aden.

Now when you get a clean strike on cover, you'll need a listing in order to find the particular locality in question. For this purpose, the Irish Post Office Guide is sufficient. This reference gives a complete listing of all post offices in the Northern Six Counties of Ireland, in both 'Anglo-Irish' versions and in Irish Gaelic (Gaeilge). For non-Irish speakers, the Anglo-Irish place names used in Northern Irish postmarks should present no problems.

This is so since the Irish Constitution legally defines all 32 Counties as being the "sovereign territory" of the Irish Republic. Postmark die types in use are those currently standard in the UK: single ring type 23 mm circumference, double ring type 27 mm circumference and mechanised letter office machine cancellation type. These MLO machine cancellation types have been fully described by Jack Peach, in his two-part article "The Ring Around & The Hole In The Middle", which appeared in *Philatelic Magazine* in October & November 1983. An illustration of these machine cancellations can be seen here in Fig. 1. Here we see a Belfast machine postmark of 1 September 1984 on a cover, alongside a "on postal service" stationery envelope of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. A quick glance under "South Yemen" in an almanac will indicate that this particular country was the former British Crown Colony of Aden. The machine cancellation of "Crater, Aden 23 AUG 1984" bears a similarity to the Belfast postmark, as obviously the die types were all sent out from the same works in the UK.

Londonderry is easy to pick for postmarks, as not only is it one of the two boroughs in the province, but it is never out of the newspaper headlines for very long, so it should be familiar to us all. Not only that, but earlier this year the City of (London)Derry Council voted to remove the "London" from the official name. The traditional Irish form of "Derry" is spelled "Doire" in Irish, and means oak tree or oak forest. The "London" in (London)derry comes from a group of English settlers to the area during the Reign of King James I, early in the 17th Century. These English had obtained a Royal Charter for their settlement from the King, adding the London to the name, from whence this particular plantation had arrived. This jingoism with the name is due perhaps to the fact that (London)derry sits right on the border with neighbouring County Donegal in the Irish Republic. This fact is also reflected in the postmark die types, although the official "Co. Londonderry" seems to be preferred over the more common Irish "Co. Derry". Among the types of post offices to be found, there are five Head Offices which are: Londonderry, Coleraine, Limavady, Magherafelt & Maghera. The majority of the Sub Offices are grouped under Londonderry, Coleraine and Magherafelt. Details of post office locations, postmark text and die types follow.

<i>LOCALITY</i>	<i>TEXT OF POSTMARK</i>	<i>DIETYPE & SLOGAN</i>
<i>Londonderry Head Office:</i>		
	"Londonderry 12, 6 DE, 83" (Fig. 2)	single ring, 23mm circ.
	"Londonderry, First Day Of Issue, 6 MAR 1984"	single ring, 25mm circ.
	"Londonderry, 4-PM, 19 SEP 1984"	machine postmark, 20mm circ., slogan "CHRISTIAN HERITAGE - A NATIONWIDE CELEBRATION - MAY 1984 - MAY 1985"



Londonderry Sub Offices:

PARK	"Park, Londonderry, 12 MR 84" + side postmark – "Londonderry, 4 15PM, 12 MAR 84"	single ring, 23mm circ. machine postmark, 20mm circ., slogan "Write It!"
CAMPSIE	"Campsie, Londonderry, 12 MR 84"	single ring, 23mm circ.
DRUMAHOE	"Drumahoe, Londonderry, 12 MR 84"	single ring, 23mm circ.
DUNGIVEN	"Dungiven, Londonderry A, 12 MR 84"	double ring, 27mm circ.
NEW BUILDINGS	"New Buildings, Londonderry, 12 MR 84" + side postmark – "Londonderry, 4 15PM, 12 MCH 84" (Fig. 3)	single ring, 23mm circ. machine postmark, 20mm circ., circ., slogan "Write It, Say It Better In A Letter!"



/ernon Wilhelm v.d. Heydt ,



CLAUDY	"Claudy, Londonderry A, 12 MR 84"	single ring, 23mm circ.
EGLINTON	"Eglinton, Londonderry, 12 MR 84" + side postmark – "Londonderry, 4 15PM, 12 MCH 84"	single ring, 23mm circ. machine postmark, 20mm circ., slogan "Write It, Say It Better In A Letter!"
FEENY	"Feeny, Londonderry, 12 MR 84" (Fig. 4)	single ring, 23mm circ.
GREYSTEELE	"Greysteele, Londonderry, 26 AP 84" + side postmark – "Londonderry, 7 15 PM, 26 APR 1984"	single ring, 23mm circ. machine postmark, 20mm circ., wavy lines.



Port Stewart

"Port Stewart, Co. Londonderry,
5 45AM, 12 MR 84" double ring, 27mm circ.

Coleraine Head Office:

"Coleraine, Co. Londonderry,
"Coleraine, Co. Londonderry,
25 NOV 83" (Fig. 5) single ring, 3
single ring, 30mm circ.

"First Day Of Issue 6 MAR 1984
Coleraine, Co. Londonderry" single ring, 27mm circ.

"Coleraine, Co. Londonderry,
5PM, 12 MCH 1984" machine postmark, 20mm circ.,
slogan "Write It!"

Coleraine Sub Offices:

KILREA "Kilrea, Coleraine, Co. Derry,
2.15 PM, 12 MR 84" double ring, 27mm circ.

ARTICLAVE "Articlave, Coleraine, Co. Derry
A, 12 MR 84" single ring, 23mm circ.

+ side postmark – "Coleraine,
Co. Londonderry, 5 PM, 12 MCH
1984" single ring, 22m circ.

GARVAGH "Garvagh, Coleraine, Co. Derry,
1.45 PM, 12 MR 84" double ring, 27mm circ.

AGHADOWEY "Aghadowey, Coleraine, Co. Derry,
13 MR 84" single ring, 23mm circ.

CASTLEROCK backstamp – "Castlerock, Coleraine,
Co. Derry B, 15 SP 84" single ring, 23mm circ.

"Coleraine, Co. Londonderry,
12⁴⁵ PM, 15 SEP 1984" machine postmark, 22mm circ.,
slogan "Remember To Use The
POST CODE"

KILLYKERGAN "Killykergan Coleraine, Co. Derry,
14 SP 84" single ring, 23mm circ.

Limavady Head Office

"Limavady, Co. Londonderry,
5-PM, 12 MR 84" double ring, 30mm circ.

Limavady Sub Offices:

Bellarena	"Bellarena, Limavady, Co. Derry, 12 MR 84"	single ring, 23mm circ.
	"Limavady, Co. Londonderry, 5-PM 12 MCH 84"	machine postmark, 23mm circ., slogan "Be Properly Addressed – Postcode It!"
BALLYKELLY	"Ballykelly, Limavady, Co. Derry, 13 MR 84"	double ring, 27mm circ.

Magherafelt Head Office:

"Magherafelt, Co. Derry, 5.45 PM, 12 MCH 1984" Post-code It!"	machine postmark, 20mm circ., slogan "Be Properly Addressed –
+ backstamp – "Maghera, Co. Londonderry, 12 MR 84"	single ring, 30mm circ.
"Mahgerafelt, Co. Londonderry, 12 MCH 84 11.AM" (Fig. 6)	single ring, 30mm circ.
"Magherafelt, Co. Derry, 5.45 PM, 26 SEP 1983" (Fig. 7)	machine postmark, 20mm circ., slogan "Be Properly Addressed – Post-code IT!"



Magherafelt Sub Offices:

DESERTMARTIN	"Desertmartin, Magherafelt B, 12 MR 84"	single ring, 23mm circ.
CASTLEDAWSON	"Castledawson, Magherafelt D, 12 MR 84"	single ring, 23mm circ.
BELLAGHY	"Bellaghy, Magherafelt, 12 MR 84"	single ring, 23mm circ.
MONEYMORE	"Moneymore, Matherafelt, 12 MR 84" (Fig. 8)	single ring, 23mm circ.



*Be properly
addressed*
POSTCODE IT

TOBERMORE	"Tobermore, Magherafelt A, 13 MR 84"	single ring, 23mm circ.
Knock Cloghrim	"Knock Cloghrim, Maghera – felt, 12 MR 84" (die very worn through long use)	single ring, 23mm circ.
	+ side postmark – "Magherafelt, Co. Derry, 5.45 PM, 12 MCH 1984"	single ring, 20mm circ.
<i>Maghera Head Office</i>		
	"Maghera, Co. Londonderry double A, double ring, 27mm circ. 12 MR 84"	
<i>Maghera Sub Offices:</i>		
SWATRAGH	"Swatragh Maghera, Co. Derry D, 12 MR 84"	single ring, 23mm circ.
UPPERLANDS	"Upperlands, Co. Derry, 15 III 84"	double ring, 25mm circ. + meter frank "16p Postage Paid, Great Britain (Crown)"
	+ side postmark – "Magherafelt, Co. Londonderry, 15 MCH 84, 5.45PM"	single ring, 30mm circ.

My listing of County Londonderry Postmarks should now serve as an Introduction to a previously undiscovered philatelic area. Although the older machine postmarks of the Borough of Londonderry have already been categorised and listed, I believe that there has been no recent Listing of the entire County done, so this should be the first such. I hope that you agree with me, that this is really an exciting field which is just as interesting as any Pre-1922 "GB Used In Ireland" material. It should really be quite simple: all you really need is a pile of self-prepared covers, a supply of GB 22p stamps, and a form letter that you can send yourself to all of the post offices mentioned in my list. And you don't even have to buy a subscription to an auction catalogue. You, too, can build an inexpensive collection of "GB Used In Ireland" covers, right up to date! If I have, by any chance, overlooked any out of the way post office agencies, then I would appreciate knowing which ones. Now I hope that you, too, will discover that collecting Postmarks of Northern Ireland can be just as exciting as reading the daily newspapers!

1840 GPO NOTICE

We extend our thanks to Martin Willcocks, who kindly provided us with the illustration of the September 1840 GPO notice sent to the receiving houses. This clearly shows that before this date, the local receivers could not have had the adhesive stamps (1d black, 2d blue), which were issued on May 6th. With the additional obligation to enter into a bond, it seems likely that the earliest the receivers would have had adhesive postage stamps was October 1840. Supplies of the stamps would of course have been sent to the chief Post Offices (there is one First Day Cover of the 1d black known used from Cork) in advance of the issue date, for sale on May 6th.

This notice underlines the scarcity of May date covers bearing adhesives from the smaller towns and villages in Ireland. The only reason that they do exist at all is due to some letter writers acquiring a "stock" of the stamps when they were issued. One of the most famous pieces of GB Line Engraved, the "Buccleuch" block of 48 2d blues mint, was found inside a Victorian writing desk. It is also conceivable that travellers writing regular reports home would also have carried a supply to prepay their letters.

It is still not clear, however, when exactly the worlds first postage stamps were put on sale in Ireland. It was long thought that they had arrived after May 6th, until Dr. Stafford Johnson unearthed the Cork First Day Cover among a bundle of old rubbish in a junk shop. He is reputed to have paid the very handsome sum of 6d (2½p) for it.

D. MacD

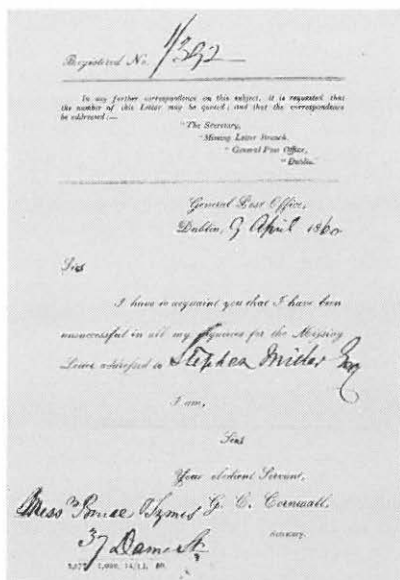
GENERAL POST OFFICE, September, 1840.	
With reference to Instruction No. 1,—1840, I am now commanded by the Postmaster General to transmit you a License, to enable you to sell Postage Stamps, and a Bond to the Stamp Office, which it is requisite you should enter into. You will carefully preserve the License in case it should be necessary to have it produced; and, with respect to the Bond, His Lordship desires that you will sign it in the presence of the Supervisor or Officer of Excise, or in case of there being any difficulty, in the presence of the Clergyman or Churchwarden, or Overseer of your Parish, who is requested to write his name and description at the foot of the attestation, as having witnessed the same, and return it to the Postmaster of <i>Cork</i> <i>without delay</i>. I am also to desire that you will distinctly state, when you return the Bond, whether you wish the Postage Stamps to be supplied to you from this Department, or from the Stamp Office, in order that no misunderstanding on the subject may arise. I am, Your obedient Servant, W. L. MABERLY, Secretary. Sub-Deputy, or Letter Receiver, at <i>W. H. H. H.</i>	

AN UNUSUAL POSTAL DOCUMENT

by
Dr A. L. Furst

Sometime in early 1860 a letter sent by Messrs Bruce & Symes of 37 Dame St. Dublin to one Stephen Miller Esq. went astray. Their resulting enquiry on the matter to the Dublin GPO produced an official, printed response in the form of an entire in pale-blue paper which is described below.

The front of the reply (Fig. 1.) is headed 'ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE' which is underlined, and at the lower left 'General Post Office, Dublin' appears between two lines in smaller lettering. There is also a single ring 'OFFICIAL PAID DUBLIN' cds in red (Kane No. 135) and, at the 'back' of the front, a blackish imprint of the GPO coat-of-arms which is circled by the words 'General Post Office Dublin, Secretary'.



A standard type reply to the enquiry is contained within (Fig. 2.). This is printed with the details pertaining to the particular case at hand inserted in manuscript. The letter is signed by the 'secretary', one G. C. Cornwall, but whether he was the secretary of the Dublin GPO or just of the missing letter branch is unclear.

As can be seen the postal authorities were unsuccessful in tracing Messrs Bruce & Symes' letter to Stephen Miller.

Small figures at the bottom left of this reply suggest that this particular post office letter was printed in a batch of a thousand in 1859.

Incidentally in his book Kane indicates that this type of 'OFFICIAL PAID DUBLIN' cancellation is recorded in, or from, 1860 and his illustration is of one dated October 4th 1860.

Has anyone seen an earlier date for this cds than the one on this document, April 9th 1860?

THE ARCHITECTURE DEFINITIVES

No: 3

by Brian Warren and Eddie FitzGerald

There was a general revision of postal rates on 3 March 1986 and as a result three new stamps 32p (non POP size letter rate), 39p (Non EEC letter rate) and 46p (airmail letter rate) were issued on 1 May 1986. A new £2 vending machine and counter booklet was released on 8 September 1986. The booklets were bundled together in packs of ten with an elastic band and no wrapper. Five packets of ten were shrinkwrapped and distributed together with a plain yellow label with black printing which reads "Post £2 Vending Machine Stamp Booklets 50 Books Value £100". Note there is no reference to a counter booklet in the text. The overall size of the cover is the same as the previous £1 booklet and features the slogan "Keep in Touch" together with an advertisement for PostPhoto and a smiling postbox. The pane of twelve stamps is printed on CCP3 paper and all panes seen to date bear an imperforate left margin. A complete list of all new values/printings since our last report is set out below. All stamps are on CCP3 paper. Note however the re-introduction of CCP1 paper on some recent commemorative issues; collectors should bear this in mind as it may re-appear on future definitive printings also.

Value	Plate Numbers	Perforation Type	Issue Date
2p	1A/1B	G4	July '86
24p	2A/2B	G4	April '86 (A); July '86 (B)
32p	1A/1B	G4	1 May 1986
39p	1A/1B	G4	1 May 1986
46p	1A1A/1B1B	G4	1 May 1986

The 46p value was the first large format stamp to appear with the G4 perforation. The usual first day facilities were available on 1 May with a similar cancel as for the previous two releases. The round tower at Clonmacnoise was once again used for the cover design which was in the unnecessary large format. The 32p and 39p values have been inserted in the low value presentation pack and the 46p in the high value pack increasing the prices of the packs to £4.35 and £7.71 respectively. The texts of the packs remain unaltered.

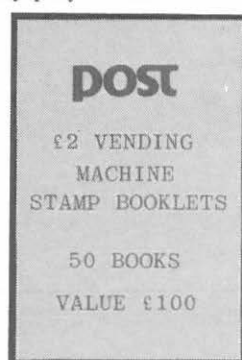
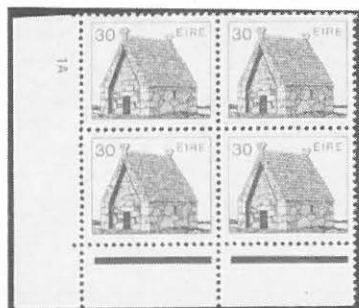
We have set out in the following table a complete check-list of all plate and imprint blocks for all three paper types. A few basic notes will enable new collectors to readily understand the table. There have been three paper/gum types — CCP1, Clay Coated Paper, white in colour with a slight blue-green gum — CCP2, similar white paper but brilliant white gum and CCP3, cream paper with an off-white/cream coloured gum. There have been five different perforators used to date — G1, G2, G3, G3E and G4. The "G" stands for the standard Grover perforator box and the numeral refers to the number of margins of a post office sheet which are fully perforated. There has been a gradual progression from G1 to the present state whereby all margins are fully perforated (G4). The various perforator boxes have resulted in three types of corner blocks as illustrated. The G3E perforator is similar to the G3 box except that on "A" sheets, on every alternate row, the single extension hole is missing.



P1 — One margin with single extension hole, second margin fully perforated.



P2 — Both margins fully perforated.



£2 Booklet shrinkwrap label.

PIE — One margin with single extension hole every alternate row, second margin fully perforated.

There are a total of 171 collectable plate and imprint blocks. The table notations are as follows:—

x = exists
 - = does not exist

An empty space means that the imprint is already listed under an earlier plate.

"A" PLATEBLOCKS "B" PLATEBLOCKS IMPRINT BLOCKS									
VALUE	PLATE NUMBERS	P1	P1E	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	PERFORATOR TYPES
CCP1									
1p	1A/1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
1p	2A/2B	x	-	-	-	x			G3
2p	1A/1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
3p	1A/1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
4p	1A/1B	x	-	-	x	-	x	-	G1
4p	2A/2B	x	x	-	-	x		x	G3 & G3E
5p	1A/1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
6p	1A/1B	x	-	-	x	-	x	-	G1
7p	1A/1B	x	-	-	x	-	x	-	G1
10p	1A/1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
12p	1A/1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
15p	1A/1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
20p	1A/1B	x	-	-	x	-	x	-	G1
22p	1A/1B	x	-	-	x	x	x	x	G1 & G3
23p	1A/1B	x	-	-	x	x	x	x	G1 & G3
26p	1A/1B	x	-	-	x	x	x	x	G1, G2 & G3
29p	1A/1B	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	G1, G3 & G3E
30p	1A/1B	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	G1, G3 & G3E
44p	1A1A/1B1B	x	-	-	x	x	x	x	G1 & G3
50p	1A1A/1B1B	x	-	-	x	-	x	-	G1
£1	1A1A/1B1B	x	-	-	x	-	x	-	G1
(Cahir Castle)									
£5	1A1A/1B1B	x	-	-	x	-	x	-	G1
CCP2									
£1	1A1A/1B1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
(Cahir Castle)									
CCP3									
2p	1A/1B	-	-	x	-	x	-	x	G4
4p	2A/2B	-	-	x	-	x	x	x	G3 & G4
6p	2A/2B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
20p	1A/1B	x	-	x	-	x	x	x	G3 & G4
22p	1A/1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
22p	2A/2B	x	-	x	-	x			G3 & G4
24p	1A/1B	x	-	x	-	x	x	x	G3 & G4
24p	2A/2B	-	-	x	-	x			G4
24p	3A/3B	-	-	x	-	x			G4
26p	2A/2B	x	-	x	-	x	x	x	G3 & G4
26p	3A/3B	-	-	x	-	x			G4
28p	1A/1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
28p	2A/2B	x	-	x	-	x			G3 & G4
32p	1A/1B	-	-	x	-	x	-	x	G4
37p	1A/1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
39p	1A/1B	-	-	x	-	x	-	x	G4
44p	1A1A/1B1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
44p	2A1A/2B1B	x	-	-	-	x			G3
46p	1A1A/1B1B	-	-	x	-	x	-	x	G4
50p	2A1A/2B1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
50p	2A2A/2B2B	x	-	-	-	x			G3
£1	1A1A/1B1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
(Cahir Castle)									
£1	1A1A/1B1B	x	-	-	-	x	x	x	G3
(Killarney Cathedral)									

Notes:

- (a) The 4p on CCP3 paper with G3 perforator has not been seen on plate 2A.
 (b) The £1 Cahir Castle stamp was withdrawn on 14 November 1984.

RECENT RELEASES

by Brian Warren



Date of Issue	Issue	Description	Sold For	Plate Numbers
1/5/86	Europa		28p	1A1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B1B and 2A1A1A1A1A/2B1B1B1B1B
			39p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
1/5/86	Architecture	— St Mac Dara's Church	32p	1A1B
	Definitives	— Cormac's Chapel	39p	1A1B
		— Cahir Castle	46p	1A1A/1B1B
25/5/86	Louth Philatelic Society Exhibition	— Booklet	£1.50	
27/5/86	Ireland Series (7th Series— Waterways)	— Grand Canal	24p	1A1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B1B
		— Fishing	28p	1A1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B1B
		— Cruising	30p	1A1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B1B and 1A1A1A1A2A/1B1B1B1B2B
27/5/86	Aer Lingus — 50th Anniversary	— Jumbo Jet	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
		— Iolar	46p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
8/7/86	28p 'A' Envelope		32p	
10/7/86	B&I — 150th Anniversary	— Severn	24p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
		— M.V. Leinster	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
10/7/86	Irish Lighthouse Service	— Kish	24p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
		— Fastnet	30p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
21/8/86	Dublin Council of Trade Unions	— Centenary	24p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
	Women in Society		28p	1A1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B1B
	Statesmen of Ireland	— Arthur Griffith	28p	1A1A/1B1B
	International Year of Peace	— Claspéd Hands	30p	1A1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B1B
		— Dove	46p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
8/9/86	£2 Vending Machine and Counter Booklet		£2	



From Left: Commissioners of Irish Lights; International Year of Peace; Arthur Griffith.

Commemorative and Special Issues

All stamps were printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited. Perforations and printing format as for previous issues. The B&I stamps and the Irish Lighthouse set together with the stamp commemorating the centenary of the foundation of the Dublin Council of Trade Unions were printed on the earlier CCP1 paper (white paper with blue-green gum).

The cream CCP3 paper (cream paper and off-white/cream gum) was used for all other stamps. This might indicate a return to CCP1 paper for future issues. Separate first day covers and cancels were available for the Waterways and Aer Lingus issues. A single cover was used for the B&I and Lighthouse sets; separate cancels were advertised but on the day only one cancel covering both issues was used. The all purpose cover was used for the five stamps released on 21 August. The Arthur Griffith stamp is the first in an annual series to feature Irish Statesmen.



24p B+I Stamp showing "The Severn", plate block 1A1A1A1A.

Definitives and Postal Stationery

Three new values were added to the series as a consequence of the revised postal rates introduced on 3 March. All stamps on CCP3 paper but note my comments above regarding the reappearance of CCP1 paper for commemorative and special issues. New printings of existing definitive values might appear on the CCP1 paper. The Cahir castle design previously used on the original withdrawn £1 stamp was re-introduced for the 46p stamp. The £2 booklet is to be used both as a vending machine and counter booklet and contains 2 x 2p, 3 x 4p, 3 x 24p and 4 x 28p in a block of 12 (2 rows of 6). The former £1 machines which take 2 x 50p coins have been altered to take 4 x 50p coins. Although a £1 booklet can only give a maximum of three first class 28p postings, the introduction of a £2 machine booklet in the absence of a £1 coin in Ireland appears to be unusual. Few people will ever have four 50p coins in their loose change. The vending machines have yet to be adapted to take the new booklet.



Only one new item of stationery has been issued since March. On July 8, a new "A" envelope with a 28p stamp was issued in line with the inland and E.E.C. letter rate of 28p introduced on March 3, 1986. The stamp is lithographed in light green and is in the second setting type as the 24p postcard stamp.

A special promotion pre-paid postcard was planned for issue on July 15, 1986. The cards were intended as part of the "Keep in touch" campaign and were to be sold at discounted rates. The cards were however not issued and this is believed to be as a result of a dispute between the Post Office where the employees refused to handle new products without negotiations taking place.

A new unstamped airletter form was issued in early September. The new form is of a similar design to the earlier An Post issue of 1984. Instead of being on grey paper the new form is on light blue paper with the An Post print in bottle green instead of bright green. The new form is smaller in size, 301 x 186mm (old form 318 x 210mm) (side gummed flaps not accounted for in size).

Exhibition and Miscellaneous Souvenirs

The cover of the Louth Booklet features a drawing of Kelly's Monument, Dundalk and contains three of the 1985 Christmas stamps (2 x 22p plus 26p) in hawid strips (175 numbered copies). In addition to the above several items of Irish interest were available at the two recent international exhibitions. At Ameripex in Chicago (22 May — 1 June), the Eire Philatelic Association issued two small cards featuring their emblem and a booklet containing 2 x 22p Love stamps. A cachet was also available at the Irish Post Office stand. At Stockholmia '86 (28 August — 7 September) the Irish Post Office agent produced a large card with the 1986 Love stamps affixed thereto; a cachet was also available.

A cachet and special cover was available at STAMPEX 86, Adelaide, Australia from the agent for the Irish Post Office, Wesley Hudson. See the illustration on the front cover.

Special Cancellations and Slogan Postmarks

Special postmarks were available in connection with the following events on the dates indicated:-

May 20: Aviation and Marine Radio Officers Association 50th Anniversary. Similar postmark available at Dublin, Limerick, Ennis, Cork and Shannon.

June 6: In connection with two special charity balloon flights from Tipperary, two postmarks were available at Tipperary.

June 19-22: Carrolls Irish Open Golf Championship, Portmarnock.

July 26: Air Corps Apprentice School 50th Anniversary, Baldonnell.

August 31 to September 5: 10th World Computer Congress, Trinity College, Dublin.

Three new slogans came to my notice; neither was announced in advance by An Post. A slogan reading "WAWC Focus on Family" was used in Killarney during May in connection with an International Conference of Women Clubs. Sponsored by the Irish Countrywomens Association, WAWC presumably stands for the World Association of Womens Clubs. The second slogan was introduced in Dun Laoghaire on September 1 and reads "Dun Laoghaire 40th Year Bridge Congress". The third was used in Limerick during April/May and reads "Fleadh Nua '86/Ennis, Co. Clare/May 23rd-25th.

Other Matters

The 50p International Reply Coupon issued on 10 June 1985 and referred to in my last report was increased to 72p on 1-1-86 and not as stated. No new coupon covering this rate has yet been issued; instead the 50p coupon is uprated in manuscript. The 1985 Year Pack costs IR£7.50 (not IR£17.50!).

STAMPA SOUVENIRS

At a recent Council meeting of the directors of Irish National Stamp Exhibition Limited, it was agreed to destroy all remaining stocks of souvenir sheets, cards and booklets remaining unsold. Such stocks remaining were incinerated in July 1986. The following table is an update of the listing published in Irish Stamp News No. 16 and gives details of all souvenirs since their introduction in 1976.

Year	Printing Warrant	Sold	Destroyed	Notes
1976 (sheet)	3,000	2,966	34	
1977 (card)	5,000	1,446	3,554	Note 1
1978 (booklet)	1,000	1,000		
1979 (booklet)	1,200	1,200		
1980 (sheet)	1,850	1,850		