



The Revealer



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Neil Stack, Editor

COUNTY MEATH



River Boyne near Trim, Co. Meath

By Neil Stack
Editor of The Revealer

County Meath consists almost entirely of rich limestone plain, from which occasional low hills rise prominently. In the Slieve na Caillighe or Loughcrew Hills, in the northwest, the county reaches its highest point of 911 feet.

"Royal Meath" was for centuries a separate province (which also included Westmeath), ruled by the pagan and early Christian kings of Ireland. Among its numerous historic sites are such places as Tara, seat of the high-kings; the Hill of Slane, where St. Patrick

lit the Paschal fire; Ceanannus Mór (Kells), with its monastic ruins; and the ancient royal tumuli of Brugh na Boinne.

The Boyne Valley contains much to interest the visitor, in scenic beauty and in its numerous and ancient monuments, along with its historic sites. For the seaside vacationist, there is a sandy beach which runs the entire length of the county's seven-mile coast line.

AN UAIMH

(AN UAIMH: The Cave or Grotto)

(NAVAN)

IRISH STAINED-GLASS ENJOYS WORLD-WIDE DEMAND

Dublin, Ireland--Though a small industry, the manufacture of Irish stained-glass is rapidly becoming one of importance. The export of this product has earned over \$100,000 a year for the industry, during the past three years, supplying churches and cathedrals throughout the world.

The Catholic Hierarchy in the United States insists on strict conformity to liturgy--detailed exactness in the color of vestments and scriptural details. This is one of many reasons why Americans are now turning to Ireland for church and cathedral windows.

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An Uaimh, in a pleasant rolling country at the confluence of the Boyne and Blackwater rivers, is the largest town of the county and a prosperous marketing center with a number of small industries.

Although of considerable antiquity, it was as a palatinate town of English settlers that An Uaimh grew to importance. Walled and fortified by Hugh de Lacy, it became in later centuries a notable outpost in the defenses of the Pale. Charters of incorporation were granted by successive English kings down to the seventeenth century when, having suffered from the Wars of 1641, the town began to decline. Its corporation was finally dissolved by the Union of 1800.

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COUNTY MEATH

(CONTAG NA MÍRÉ)

(Continued from page 191)

The sportsman will find good angling in both the Boyne and Blackwater--salmon, trout and perch abound here. The Meath Foxhounds and the Tara Harriers cover the district so much good shooting is available. Permission must be sought, in all instances, from the land-owners.

On an elevation west of the town is the great Mote of Uaimh, a favorite vantage point in the neighborhood.

Athlumney Castle, the striking ruin of a sixteenth century fortified mansion, stands near the eastern bank of the Boyne, 1½ miles south of An Uaimh.

Bective Abbey, beside the Boyne, 5 miles south of An Uaimh, is one of the finest of many ancient remains in the district. Founded for the Cistercians in 1146, it became a very important establishment whose abbot in later centuries was a lord of Parliament. The ruins are extensive and show a great many prominent features.

Ardbraccan, 3 miles west of An Uaimh, is the site of the monastery of St. Breacan, who died in 650 A.D. In 656 St. Ultan, bishop of Ardbraccan, founded a hospital there for children who had been deprived of their mothers by a plague.

Northwest of An Uaimh is the mutilated Newinstown Cross, with its inscription commemorating Michael Cusack who died there in 1589. Farther along the Blackwater and about two miles northwest of the town is Rathaldron Castle, a quadrangular tower (15th century) partly modernized, and incorporated in a handsome castellated mansion of the 19th

IRISH STAINED-GLASS

(Continued from page 191)

The art of stained-glass manufacture is as old as Ireland herself, but was suppressed during the Tudor and Cromwellian days. For over a century the industry was dormant and not a whole piece of Irish stained-glass was to be found intact.

In 1829, after Catholic Emancipation, all stained-glass was imported to Ireland from England and Germany. At the turn of the century a revival of the industry was begun in Dublin. Today, there are only two firms in America that can give equal competition to Ireland--and even they cannot supply the ever-growing demand for this type of glass.

NUMERICAL CANCELLATIONS

By Neil Stack

In 1844 the G.P.O. in London, at the suggestion of Mr. F. Abbot, set up a system of numerical cancellations for important offices--each using a number assigned alphabetically. Ireland was assigned 450 numbers in 1844 and was given a type of cancellation which showed the cancellation number in a diamond of bars.

With the years 1856, 1874, 1887 and 1906 came additional changes in the original list--new numbers were added while others were changed or deleted. In 1906 the final changes were made and the last number assigned, bringing the list to 564. They continued in use until the middle 1920's.

Many variations occurred in the initial marking which was a square diamond with the numerals in the center of a rectangle--5 bars above, 5 below, and 5 at either side. These variances, from the original, began in the late 1840's and continued to the middle 1850's when duplex markings came in to widespread usage.

(See listing on Page 194)

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The fundamental purpose of E.P.A. is to bring the collectors of Irish philately together for mutual exchange of information and a better understanding of their hobby.

Should any member, in his correspondence or dealings with a fellow-member, have just cause for complaint, he is urged to contact headquarters immediately.

John J. Clark, Secretary

IRISH PENNY BRINGS 50¢ IN NEW YORK

A bookseller and coin dealer, located at 4th Ave. and 11th St., Manhattan, currently sells Irish Pennies at 50¢ each.

What a handsome profit the Irish Government could make supplying such dealers at twice or three times face value.

COUNTY MEATH

(Continued from page 192)

century. On the opposite bank of the river stands Liscartan Castle, another quadrangular fortress, which was held in 1633 by Sir William Talbot. Nearby are the ruins of Liscartan Church, containing some beautiful windows. Three miles beyond Liscartan is Donaghpatrick (Domhnach Phádraig: The Church of St. Patrick), occupying the site of a church which, according to the Book of Armagh and the Tripartite Life of St. Patrick, was built for the saint by Conall, brother of King Laoghaire. Near the church are the remains of an ancient rath which consisted of a mound surrounded by four ramparts.

GIBBSTOWN

At Gibbstown, near Donaghpatrick, is the center of a Gaeltacht colony and has an Irish College. On the Hill of Tailte, west of here, is the Rath Dubh (Black Fort), site of the ancient palace of Tailte, one of the four celebrated royal residences built by King Tuathal. This was the venue of the great festival called Aonach Tailteann, the Olympic Games of Ireland, established in prehistoric times in memory of Queen Tailte, and held here until 1180 A.D. The Tailteann Games were revived in Dublin in 1924 after a lapse of 700 years. Teltown Hill is a good place to view the picturesque, meandering courses of the Boyne and Blackwater.

THE HILL OF TARA

(Teamhair na Ríogh: The Royal Acropolis)

Six miles south of Navan, was in ancient times the religious, political and cultural capital of Ireland. Its triennial feis was a great national assembly at which laws were enacted and revised, tribal disputes settled and matters concerning peace and defense arranged. The importance of Tara waned with the spread of Christianity but its prestige was maintained until the reign of the last pagan king in the sixth century. It was also the royal residence of Malachi II, who died in 1022. On the crest of the hill stands a modern statue of St. Patrick, and a pillar-stone, the reputed Lia Fáil, coronation stone of the ancient kings. Apart from some low mounds and earthworks, little else is to be seen today. The great Banquet Hall, plans of which are given in certain old manuscripts, was 700 feet long and over 90 feet wide.

TRIM

(Baile Átha Triuin: Town of Elder-tree Ford)

Charmingly located on the River Boyne, Trim, the county town, is one of the oldest ecclesiastical centers in Ireland.

Trim takes its name from a small ford, still to be seen above the town bridge, at which the earliest inhabitants settled. St. Loman

was the first bishop of the See established here by St. Patrick in the fifth century; it was united with several others in 1152 to form Meath. With the coming of the Anglo-Normans, Trim and the surrounding district was granted to Hugh de Lacy, who at once erected a mote and bailey castle; this was later enlarged and rebuilt, becoming one of the largest and strongest Anglo-Norman fortresses in Ireland. Edward Bruce halted his army at Trim on the retreat from Munster; and later Richard II committed the young Lords Gloucester and Henry of Lancaster (afterward Henry V) prisoners to the castle. In 1359 the town was walled and the fortifications further strengthened. Several parliaments were held here during the fifteenth century. The inhabitants supported Lambert Simnel in his attempts to claim the English throne from Henry VII, and in the following (sixteenth) century "Silken Thomas" Fitzgerald raided and occupied the town during his ill-fated insurrection against Henry VIII.

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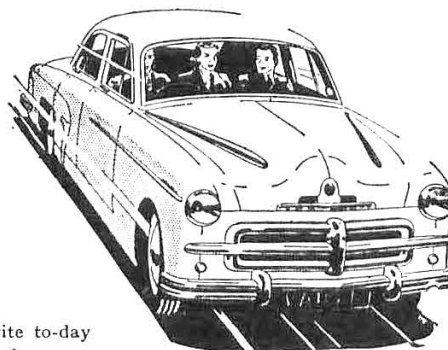
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NUMERICAL CANCELLATIONS

(Continued from Page 192)



- 1 Abbeyleix, Queens County
- 2 Adare, Limerick
- 3 Ahascragh, Galway
- 3 Bunratty, Clare
- 4 Ardra, Donegal
- 4 Cratloe, Clare
- 5 Ardee, Louth
- 6 Ardglass, Down
- 7 Ardraham, Galway
- 7 Abbeyfeale, Limerick
- 8 Armagh, Armagh
- 9 Ballingarry, Limerick
- 10 Arklow, Wicklow
- 11 Arthurstown, Wexford
- 11 Armoy, Antrim
- 12 Arva, Cavan
- 12 Ashbourne, Meath
- 13 Ashbourne, Meath
- 13 Aghadowney, Londonderry
- 14 Ashford, Wicklow
- 15 Athboy, Meath
- 16 Athenry, Galway
- 17 Athleague, Roscommon
- 17 Ardsollus, Clare
- 18 Athlone, Westmeath
- 19 Arva, Cavan
- 20 Athy, Kildare
- 21 Anghnacoly, Tyrone
- 22 Aughrim, Galway
- 23 Antrim, Antrim
- 24 Askeaton, Limerick
- 25 Bagnalstown, Carlow
- 26 Baileborough, Cavan
- 26 Baily, Dublin
- 27 Balbriggan, Dublin
- 28 Ballaghaderin, Roscommon
- 29 Ballina, Mayo*
- * Ballina, Derry--ERROR for #29
- 30 Ballybay, Monaghan
- 31 Ballinakill, Queens County
- 31 Ballinamallara, Fermanagh
- 32 Ballinasloe, Galway
- 33 Ballincollig, Cork
- 33 Ballybrack, Dublin
- 34 Ballinderry, Tipperary
- 34 Ballybofey, Donegal
- 35 Ballingary, Limerick
- 35 Ballycassidy, Fermanagh
- 36 Ballinrobe, Mayo
- 36 Ballybrophy, Queens County
- 37 Ballycastle, Antrim
- 37 Ballyunion, Kerry
- 38 Ballyclare, Kerry
- 39 Ballyconnell, Cavan
- 39 Ballylongford, Kerry

- 40 Ballybrittas, Queens County
- 40 Ballygawley, Tyrone
- 41 Ballygowley, Tyrone
- 41 Ballycastle, Antrim
- 42 Ballyglass, Mayo
- 42 Balla, Mayo
- 43 Ballyhaise, Cavan
- 43 Ballyglunin, Galway
- 44 Ballyjamesduff, Cavan
- 44 Ballyhaunis, Mayo
- 45 Ballymahon, Longford
- 46 Ballymena, Antrim
- 47 Ballymoe, Galway
- 48 Ballymoney, Antrim
- 49 Ballymore, Westmeath
- 49 Ballymore Eustace, Kildare
- 50 Ballymote, Sligo
- 51 Ballynacargy, Westmeath
- 51 Ballymurray, Roscommon
- 52 Ballynahinch, Down
- 53 Ballinamore, Leitrim
- 53 Baltinglass (also 85), Wicklow
- 54 Ballyragget, Kilkenny
- 55 Ballyshannon, Donegal
- 56 Ballytore, Kildare
- 57 Banagher, Kings County
- 58 Banbridge, Down
- 59 Bandon, Cork
- 60 Bangor, Down
- 60 Barnesmore, Donegal
- 61 Bantry, Cork
- 62 Belfast, Antrim
- 63 Bellaghy, Derry
- 63 Belleek, Fermanagh
- 64 Bellmullet (also 74), Mayo
- 64 Beauparc, Meath
- 65 Belturbet, Cavan
- 66 Broadford, Limerick
- 66 Bessbrook, Armagh
- 67 Blackwatertown, Armagh
- 67 Blackrock, Dublin
- 68 Blackrock, Dublin
- 68 Booterstown (also 71), Dublin
- 69 Blessington, Wicklow
- 70 Boyle, Roscommon
- 71 Booterstown (also 68), Dublin
- 71 Borris, Carlow
- 72 Bray, Wicklow
- 73 Broadway, Wexford
- 73 Belfast and N.C.R.P.O.
- 74 Brookborough, Fermanagh
- 74 Bellmullet (also 64), Mayo
- 75 Broughshane, Antrim
- 75 Beragh, Tyrone
- 76 Bruff, Limerick

76 Bango Erris, Mayo
 77 Buncrana Donegal, Kings County
 77 Belmont, Kings
 78 Bunratty, Clare
 78 Beaufort, Kerry
 79 Burrin, Galway
 79 Blarney, Cork
 80 Borrisokane, Tipperary
 80 Bruree, Limerick
 81 Borrisoleigh, Tipperary
 81 Brittas, Dublin
 82 Borris in Ossory, Queens County
 83 Bushmills, Antrim
 83 Bundoran, Donegal
 84 Buttevant, Cork
 85 Baltinglass (also 53), Wicklow
 85 Burton Port, Donegal
 86 Cabinteely, Dublin
 87 Cahirciveen, Kerry
 88 Cahiroonlish, Limerick
 88 Rathdowney, Queens
 89 Camp, Kerry
 90 Cahir, Tipperary
 91 Caledon, Tyrone
 92 Caragh, Kerry
 93 Callan, Kilkenny
 94 Camolin, Wexford
 95 Cappelquin, Waterford
 96 Carlingford, Louth
 96 Carbury, Kildare
 97 Carlow, Carlow
 98 Carey's Cross, Cork
 99 Carna, Galway
 100 Carndonagh, Donegal
 100 Carrickmore, Tyrone
 101 Carnew, Wicklow
 101 Carrickmines, Dublin
 102 Carrickfergus, Antrim
 103 Carrickmacross, Monaghan
 104 Carrick-on-Shannon, Leitrim
 105 Carrick-on-Suir, Waterford
 106 Cashel, Tipperary
 107 Castlebar, Mayo
 108 Castlebellingham, Louth
 109 Castlegregory, Kerry
 110 Castleblakeney, Galway
 111 Castleblayney, Monaghan
 112 Castlecomer, Kilkenny
 112 Castleconnel, Limerick
 113 Castleconnel, Limerick
 114 Castledawson, Derry
 115 Castlederg, Tyrone
 116 Castledermot, Kildare
 116 Castlenock, Dublin
 117 Castlefin, Donegal
 118 Castlemartyr, Cork
 120 Castlepollard, Westmeath
 121 Castlereagh, Roscommon
 122 Castletown, Cork
 123 Castletown, Delvin, Westmeath
 123 Castle Mullingar, Westmeath

124 Castletownroche, Cork
 125 Castlewellan, Down
 126 Cavan, Cavan
 127 Celbridge, Kildare
 128 Charleville, Cork
 129 Church Hill, Fermanagh
 129 Clifden, Galway(also 134)
 130 Clane, Kildare
 131 Clara, Kings
 131 Clanabogan, Tyrone
 132 Clare (also 465), Clare
 132 Claremorris, Mayo
 133 Clashmore (also 466), Cork
 133 Clara, Kings
 134 Clifden, Galway (also 129)
 134 Clondeboye, Down
 135 Cloghan, Kings
 136 Clogheen, Tipperary
 137 Clogher, Tyrone
 137 Clonee (also 140), Meath
 138 Clonakilty, Cork
 139 Clonard, Meath
 139 Cleggan, Galway
 140 Clonee (also 137), Meath
 140 Clonelly, Fermanagh
 141 Clones, Monaghan
 142 Clonmel, Tipperary
 143 Clough, Down
 144 Cloughjordan, Tipperary (also 145)
 144 Clonsilla, Dublin
 145 Cloyne, Cork
 145 Cloughjordan (also 144), Tipperary
 146 Coachford, Cork (also 151)
 146 Clonbur, Mayo
 147 Coalisland, Tyrone
 148 Colehill, Westmeath
 148 Clogher, Tyrone
 149 Coleraine, Derry
 150 Collon, Louth
 150 Collooney, Sligo
 151 Collooney, Sligo
 151 Coachford (also 146), Cork
 152 Cong, Mayo
 152 Comber, Down
 153 Comber, Westmeath
 153 Coole, Westmeath
 154 Cookstown, Tyrone
 155 Cootehill, Cavan
 156 Cork, Cork
 157 Cove, Cork
 157 Queenstown, Cork
 158 Carrigart, Donegal
 158 Courtmacsherry, Cork
 159 Craughwell, Galway
 159 Corofin, Clare
 160 Creeslough, Donegal
 160 Craughwell (also 159), Galway
 161 Cookstown, Cork
 161 Crossgar, Down
 162 Crossakiel, Meath
 163 Crossdoney, Cavan

(To Be Continued in Jan.-Feb. Issue)

COUNTY MEATH

(Continued from page 193)

At the Dissolution the monasteries were closed and their property and possessions confiscated. Confederate forces occupied the town in 1642 but were dislodged by Sir Charles Coote, who was later slain here. During the Cromwellian campaign the fortifications were destroyed by retreating Irish forces but after the massacre at Drogheda in 1649 the town declared for the Protector.

TRIM CASTLE

This enormous structure, on the east side of the town and overlooking the Boyne, is the largest Anglo-Norman fortress in Ireland. Originally founded by de Lacy, it was later rebuilt and, in the thirteenth century, much was done in its reconstruction. The present well-preserved ruins, occupying an area of two acres, consists of a keep with turrets having a total height of 70 feet and flanked by rectangular towers abutting on each side. The outer wall is 500 yards in length and is strengthened by ten circular towers including those at the gates, at almost equal distance. The five extant towers and one of the two gate towers date from 1220, but the South Gate (unique in Ireland) is of later date. The barbican is well preserved, but the portcullis and drawbridge have disappeared. A moat which could be filled from the Boyne surrounded the fort and completed its isolation. Trim possesses two other fortresses—Nangle's Castle and Talbot's Castle. The latter, off High Street, was built in 1415 by Sir John Talbot, then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. It was later converted into a school in which the Duke of Wellington and Sir William Rowan Hamilton received their early education. The Duke lived in Dublin-gate Street, where a pillar surmounted by his statue commemorates him.

CLONARD

Clonard is a tiny village, on the main road 9 miles west of Enfield and 3 miles from Kinnegad (County Westmeath), shows no visible trace of its glory in Ireland's Golden Age, when the great monastic school of Clonard, founded in the sixth century by St. Finian, was renowned throughout western Europe. The school attracted thousands of pupils from all over Ireland, from England and the Continent, and continued to flourish for centuries after Finian's death, despite repeated plunderings and burnings. An Augustinian monastery, built on the ancient site in 1175 was suppressed in 1540. A large body of insurgents was defeated at Clonard with heavy losses in one of the last engagements of 1798.

Cardinal Glennon, archbishop of St. Louis, Missouri, who died in Dublin on his return

journey from Rome in 1946, was born at Clonard in 1862.

ATHBOY (Baile Átha Buíde: The Town of the Yellow Ford)

Athboy is a small agricultural town on the river of the same name, in pretty wooded country near the Westmeath border.

In medieval times this was a walled stronghold of the Pale. Owen Roe O'Neill successfully besieged it in 1643 and six years later Cromwell encamped his army on the nearby Hill of Ward.

CEANANNUS MÓR

(KELLS)

(Ceanannus Mór: Great Residence)

This town is probably most remembered for the famous BOOK OF KELLS, a manuscript of the Four Gospels, in Latin, written here in the eighth century. It is probably the most complete triumph of illuminated art which the world has yet seen. Archbishop Usser received the book from a descendant of Abbot Plunkett, last Abbot of Kells. The Archbishop's library was later purchased for Trinity College Library of Dublin, where the book is still preserved and on view.

SLANE (Baile Sláinge: Slaine's Town)

This pleasant village lies beneath historic Slane Hill, in one of the prettiest parts of the Boyne Valley.

On Slane Hill (500 ft. altitude), less than 1 mile from the village, St. Patrick kindled the Paschal fire in 433AD, thus proclaiming Christianity throughout the land. The view from the hill embraces the whole of Boyne Valley from Trim to Drogheda.

On the farther bank of the Boyne, about 1 mile west of Newgrange, is Rossmore, where the illustrious King Cormac Mac Airt (3rd century) was buried as he had requested, after attempts to inter him with the pagan kings at Brugh na Boinne had been foiled by the sudden rising of the river.

WILLIAM III WON CROWN OF ENGLAND AT DONORE

About ten miles from Drogheda is the town of Donore. A short distance north of the village the ground slopes to the River Boyne. It was here that the great battle (The Battle of the Boyne) was fought on July 12th in the year 1690. William III defeated the exiled James II for the crown of England. James had his headquarters in the little medieval church ruin crowning the summit of Donore Hill. William's army, superior in numbers, experience and equipment, crossed the Boyne at several points, causing the Jacobite forces to fall back to Donore and, towards the end of the day, to Duleek, four miles distant. General Schomberg, the able Williamite commander, was killed while leading the Blue Dutch Guards, the Enniskilleners and the French Huguenots across the

(Page 197, please)

COUNTY MEATH

(Continued from page 196)

principal ford at Oldbridge. William himself received a shoulder wound during a reconnaissance before the battle. On the northern (County Louth) bank of the river is the little wooded ravine called King William's Glen, which hid the approach to the river of a large body of William's forces.

BETTYSTOWN and LAYTOWN

(Baile an Diaibairg: *Town of the Hospitaller*)
(port na hinse: *The River-meadow Fort*)

Bettystown and Laytown, twin seaside resorts, are on the short strip of coastline which is Meath's only outlet to the sea. There is a magnificent sandy beach extending over 6 miles from south of Laytown to Mornington at the mouth of the Boyne.

The TARA BROOCH (eighth century), one of the finest examples of the goldsmith's work in Early Christian Ireland, was found on the beach at Bettystown in 1850. Sold afterwards to a Drogheda watchmaker, it eventually came into the possession of the Royal Irish Academy, and is now in the Academy's Collection in the National Museum, Dublin.

TWO SIGNIFICANT SALES

Noted by The Editor

Despite the unprecedented scarcity of Irish material through the philatelic year of 1953-1954, there were nevertheless a few sales well worth recording. Two of the more noteworthy were in the Definitive Coil group of experimental part-perfs., some of which have begun to show such marked advances in price.

The first sale was of one of the two known copies, both used, of the 3d (Map Design) Coil, numbered by Gibbons at 74b, Perf. 15 x Imperf., at \$40.00. The variety is unlisted by Scott.

The second sale was of a used Scott 87a (Gibbons 72a), the 1d (Map Design) Coil, Perf. 15 x Imperf., with extra single perf. at each side near top. This Experimental is so seldom seen used that neither Scott nor Gibbons price it in that condition. The copy in question, like some others of the few known used specimens, was slogan-cancelled by elements of the BUY IRISH GOODS cliché of the period. The stamp sold at \$15.00.

Both of these sales are reported by Perry Adams, and THE REVEALER is happy to add that the two rare coils found homes within E.P.A.

E.P.A. MEMBER CALLED BY DEATH

Officers and members of E.P.A. extend sympathy to Mrs. Donald F. Kelley, upon the death of her husband. Mr. Kelley (E.P.A. #228), passed away on July 10th at his home near Norwich, Connecticut.

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THE YEAR OF DROUGHT IRISH STAMPS THROUGH THE SEASON 1953-54 By Perry Adams (E.P.A. #84)

More than the broad lands of these United States have known drought this past year. In the stamp buying season of 1953-54, which roughly extended from just before September through about the middle of June, we experienced the first profound drying up of the Irish stamp market. That this writer's receipts were less than 10% of normal could be of small significance, were it not for the fact that you heard the same story on every hand. The malady is of epidemic proportion.

OVERPRINTED ISSUES BECOMING RARITIES

With little more than trickles of stock offered, the London wholesale market has been perhaps 30% to 50% higher than our own. Nor do prospects for the season we have now entered, seem any better.

It would appear that the great speculative holdings of the 'Twenties, 'Thirties and 'Forties must have been all but consumed. We have reference, of course, to stocks of the Overprinted Issues. It is not a happy fact that while the Irish Philatelic Agency persists in offering even the earliest commemoratives and other definitive issues no longer on regular sale, such stamps are afforded small opportunity of appreciating in value. The few that have become semi-rarities, reached such status more by accident than by regulation. In this small group are included

the 3d value of the 1916 Easter Rising set, issued in 1941, and the part-perf experimental coil group, watermarked Se and E. To a lesser extent the same thing applies to values of the Regular Issue first printing, on paper with Se watermark--the 2½d and 10d. But the list is relatively short.

BROKEN COLLECTIONS WILL SUPPLY MARKET

Reverting to the Overprinted Issues, those who closely watch trends through the quantity and quality of material offered at auction, saw on the whole a meager showing fully in line with the general famine. And thus on all fronts the story for Irish stamps is the same; and appears likely to be identical in 1954-55 and beyond. In the main, the only source of supply for the high-priced part of the Irish list, will henceforth derive from the breaking up of private collections.

How long will it be before the standard catalogue takes notice of the higher prices thus so clearly indicated? It may be another year--two years. Such lags, which appear so unpardonable to affected specialists, are the result of many factors little reckoned by the average collector. You may be sure that specialist-dealers, all along the line, will soon be selling, not "by the book" but on a basis of much higher replacement costs. Good Irish stamps are mounting in value.