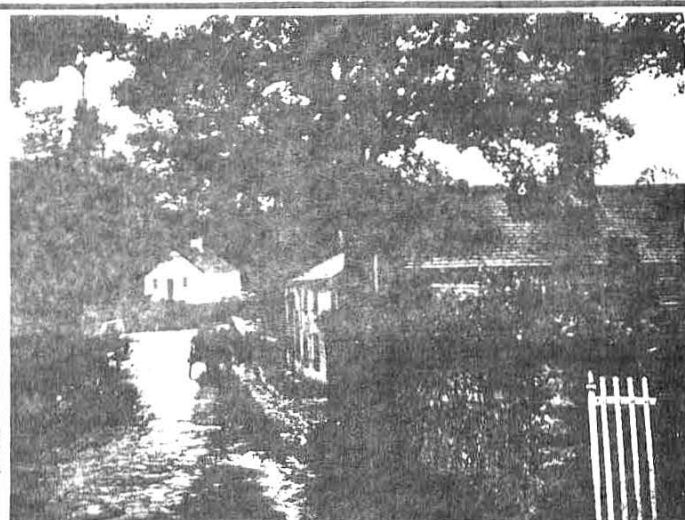


## C O U N T Y L O U T H



Near Termonfeckin, Co. Louth

By Neil Stack  
Editor of The Revealer

Louth, the smallest of the Irish counties (317 square miles), extends northward from the River Boyne to Carlingford Lough. It consists principally of fertile, undulating country, with a coastline of wide sandy bays and occasional rocky headlands. In the north, however, between Dundalk Bay and Carlingford Lough, is the mountainous Cooley Peninsula. A noted scenic area is found here with the Cooley Mountains on the south and the Mourne Mountains rising from the northern shore.

### DUNDALK

(Dún Dealgán: Dealga's Fort)

Dundalk, located at the head of broad Dundalk Bay, has a population of 18,562; it is the principal town and administrative center of the county. A busy and progressive manufacturing town, it contains the chief shops of the Great Northern Railroad, and brewing, distilling, bacon curing, boot-making and tobacco manufacturers are carried on.

#### ELECTRICAL MFG. PLANT FOR LEITRIM

Carrick-on-Shannon, County Leitrim now enjoys a new \$64,000 factory for the manufacture of electrical accessories. When in full operation, the new plant is expected to have a weekly payroll of \$300.

Contracts have already been awarded the firm by the Electrical Supply Board and the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. Items on the initial production schedule include: switches, sockets, plugs etc. It is hoped that this will mean an impetus to local employment.

The Department of Industry and Commerce recommended County Leitrim as the site for stimulating employment. Also, the Board tendered a grant for the erection of the factory.

Dundalk and its neighboring environs are closely associated with Cuchulainn, hero of the legendary Red Branch Knights (about the beginning of the Christian Era) who is said to have been born at the fort of Dealga, at the place now called Castletown Hill. In 929, when the Norse sea rovers held many bases on the east coast of Ireland, a fleet of their vessels was captured in Dundalk Bay by "Murtagh of the Leathern Cloaks," Prince of Aileach. About the middle of the same century another Norse naval force was defeated in the bay by the Munster fleet. Callaghan, king of Munster, whom they had carried off, was rescued, and the Danish chiefs, Tor, Sitric and Magnus, were killed.

The Anglo-Norman, John de Courcy, took possession of Dundalk in 1177, on his way north to (Page 218, please)

**\*E.P.A. OFFICERS\***

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**COUNTY LOUTH**

(Contae Lúghairé)

(Continued from Page 217)

subdue Ulster. In 1185 Henry II granted the town to Bertram de Verdon, who walled and fortified it, and King John later made the place a royal borough. It was burned in 1253 by Brian O'Neill and again in 1315 by Edward Bruce, who was crowned King of Ireland on a hill near the town. Bruce's army was defeated and he was slain at Faughart in 1318.

**A FRONTIER TOWN FOR 300 YEARS**

During the next 300 years Dundalk, as a frontier town of the English Pale, was the object of repeated attacks, sieges and burnings--chiefly by the O'Neills, who were an almost constant threat. In 1600 the town was garrisoned by Lord Mountjoy as part of his campaign against the great Hugh O'Neill. It changed hands several times in the wars of the seventeenth century--down to 1690, when the Williamite army entered as James II withdrew his forces southward to the Boyne. Most of the fortifications were removed during the eighteenth century, and to-day few visible traces of the town's historic past remain.

**PLACES OF INTEREST**

The Church of St. Patrick (Catholic) is a fine building in Newry granite, its exterior designed after the style of King's College Chapel, Cambridge. The high altar and pulpit are of carved Caen stone, and the chancel and side-chapels have much fine mosaic work. Other Catholic churches are St. Joseph's (Redemptorist), St. Mary's (Marist), St. Malachy's (Dominican) and St. Nicholas' Parish Church.

The Kelly Memorial, facing the Cathedral, commemorates a sea tragedy of 1858, in which four members of a rescuing party lost their

(Page 219, please)

**THE IRISH SPOON CANCELLATIONS**  
By Malcolm G. O'Reilly, E.P.A. President

When the "1844 cancels" did not prove to be the answer to the Post Office department's needs for a cancellation device that would obliterate the postage stamp and inform as to the office and time of posting, the use of the duplex marking came into use. These were a combination of an obliterator containing the office number and (other than the first duplex cancellation) a date stamp containing in addition to the date of posting, the office of origin. Code letters to designate time were also used in the date stamps.

The "spoon" duplex markings, while not the first Irish duplex cancellation, are demanding in their interest. They were the first duplex cancellation with the office name in the date stamp. In use between 1855 and 1864, they followed by a little under a year a similar type employed in certain English provincial offices. Their major period of use seems to extend from 1855 to 1859. There appears to be only three major types. They may be easily differentiated by use of the illustrations listed.



Type I--Oval date stamp and oval obliterator with side bars more or less vertical.

Type I



Type II

Type II--Oval date stamp with oval obliterator whose side bars are horizontal and parallel to the top and bottom bars.



Type III

Type III--Oval date stamp with the familiar diamond obliterator.

There are several variations in each type but they do not seem of sufficient importance to warrant separate listing by type. The variations are mainly in the number of bars at sides, top and bottom.

The normal ink for use with these cancellations was black. Green ink is occasionally found and was used almost exclusively from Cork.

While the following list may be incomplete, it catalogs those specimens of the 3 cancellations

## COUNTY LOUTH

(Continued from Page 218)

lives. The Town Hall, Courthouse and Market House are nineteenth-century buildings. In Market Square stands the Ninety-Eight Memorial.

In Clanbrassil Street, which runs north of Market Square, is St. Nicholas' Church (The Church of Ireland). The records of this church go back as far as 1207, but only the tower of the present structure is ancient. Among the interesting old tombstones in the adjoining churchyard is that of Agnes Galt, sister of Robert Burns, Scotland's national poet. Burns is commemorated by a pillar, erected in 1859, to the right of the church entrance.

## FAUGHART

North of Dundalk, about 2½ miles, is Faughart, the reputed birthplace of St. Brigid, whose shrine attracts many pilgrims. Edward Bruce, slain in a battle at Faughart Hill in 1318, was interred at Faughart cemetery.

## THE COOLEY PENINSULA

Between Dundalk Bay and Carlingford Lough, is one of the finest scenic areas on the east coast. Carlingford Lough, with the Cooley Mountains on the south and the Mourne Mountains rising steeply from the north in County Down, is particularly beautiful. This peninsula was the scene of the *Táin Bó Cuailgne* ("The Cattle Raid of Cooley"), a famous hero tale of ancient Ireland.

## CARLINGFORD (Cárulinn: The Town of Carlin)

Carlingford, with a population of 465, lies at the foot of Slieve Foye (1,935 ft.). It is an ancient place with many historic associations. There are well-known oyster beds located in Carlingford Lough--these provide local fishermen with a livelihood.

Tradition, unsupported by historical evidence, says that St. Patrick landed near Carlingford on his return from Rome. Later the Norsemen established a settlement here, from which they raided and plundered the rich hinterland. After the Anglo-Norman invasion King John ordered the erection of a castle to guard the harbor. The right to levy murage for six years was granted to the bailiffs of Carlingford in 1326, and, although not walled until the sixteenth century, the town was always strongly fortified, having at one time no less than thirty-two castellated buildings.

## OMEATH

(Ó Meith: [Territory of] the Descendants of Meith)

Omeath is a popular little resort in lovely surroundings near the head of Carlingford Lough. It is connected by a ferry with Warrenpoint, County Down. Power and oar boats may be hired for pleasure trips on the lough.

219 (Page 222, please)

## THE IRISH SPOON CANCELLATIONS

(Continued from Page 218)

ation types which have been seen by the writer.

Information as to additional listings will be most welcome if accompanied by the item to be listed. Such information may be sent to me in care of THE REVEALER.

## IRISH SPOON CANCELLATION LISTINGS

| Office             | Type I | Type II | Type III |
|--------------------|--------|---------|----------|
| Athenry            |        | x       | x        |
| Athlone            |        | x       | x        |
| Ballina            | x      | x       | x        |
| Ballinasloe        |        |         | x        |
| Ballymoney         |        |         | x        |
| Belfast            | x      |         | x        |
| Carrick-on-Shannon |        |         | x        |
| Clonmel            |        |         | x        |
| Cork               | x      |         | x        |
| Derry              |        | x       | x        |
| Drogheda           |        | x       | x        |
| Enniskillen        |        |         | x        |
| Galway             | x      |         | x        |
| Kilkenny           |        | x       | x        |
| Kingstown          | x      |         | x        |
| Limerick           |        | x       | x        |
| Mallow             |        |         | x        |
| Mullingar          |        |         | x        |
| Newry              |        | x       | x        |
| Omagh              | x      |         |          |
| Oranmore           |        |         | x        |
| Roscrea            | x      |         | x        |
| Sligo              | x      |         | x        |
| Tuam               | x      |         | x        |
| Tullamore          |        | x       | x        |
| Waterford          |        | x       | x        |
| Westport           | x      | x       | x        |
| Wexford            |        | x       | x        |

## ITALY AIDS IRISH OPERA

The Dublin Grand Opera Society's spring season got under way at the Gaiety Theatre, on April 26, with a grant of \$5,000 from the Italian Government.

There will be a festival of Italian opera this season. The visiting artists will be among the leading personalities in Italian Grand Opera. One of the guest conductors will be Signor Alberto Erede, who recently conducted at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.

## MOVEMENT TO SAVE IRISH CASTLES

Many castles, some over 700 years old, are falling into ruins in County Wexford. Only a few are protected by the ancient monuments act.

An unprotected castle often proves a dangerous liability for the farmer on whose land it stands. Falling stones and crumbling walls kill cattle sheltering beneath them. A movement has started to "save the castles."



NUMERICAL CANCELLATIONS  
(Continued from Page 211)  
(Mar.-Apr. 1955 Issue)



- 407 Sixmilebridge, Clare. Changed to 409 in 1874.  
407 --- --- Assigned to Shillelagh, Wicklow in 1874.  
408 Skibbereen, Cork.  
409 Slane, Meath. Changed to 543 in 1892.  
409 --- --- Assigned to Sixmilebridge, Clare in 1874.  
410 Sligo, Sligo.  
411 Stewartstown, Tyrone. Changed to 419 in 1887.  
411 --- --- Assigned to Scarriff, Clare in 1887.  
412 Strabane, Tyrone.  
413 Stradbally, Queens.  
414 Stradone, Cavan.  
415 Strangford, Down. Assigned to Straffan Station, Kildare, in 1874.  
416 Stranorlar, Donegal.  
417 Strokestown, Roscommon. Assigned to --- --- Shanagolden, Limerick in 1887.  
418 Stoneyford, Kilkenny. Assigned to Stafford-on-Slaney, Wicklow in 1874.  
419 Summerhill, Meath. Assigned to --- --- Stewartstown, Tyrone in 1887.  
420 Swinford, Mayo.  
421 Swords, Dublin. Changed to 422 in 1874  
421 --- --- Assigned to Stranocum, Antrim in 1887.  
422 Taghmon, Wexford. Assigned to Swords, --- --- Dublin in 1874.  
423 Tallaght, Dublin.  
424 Tallow, Waterford.  
425 Tanderaghee, Armagh. (Also called Tandragee)  
426 Tarbert, Kerry.  
427 Templemore, Tipperary.  
428 Thomastown, Kilkenny.  
429 Thurles, Tipperary.  
430 Tinahely, Wicklow. Changed to 432 1887.  
430 --- --- Assigned to Tinode, Wicklow 1874  
431 Tipperary, Tipperary.  
432 Toome, Antrim. Assigned to Tinahely, --- --- Wicklow in 1887.  
433 Tralee, Kerry.  
434 Trim, Meath. Changed to 436 in 1874.  
434 --- --- Assigned to Trillick, Tyrone in 1874.  
435 Tuam, Galway.  
436 Tubbermore, Derry. Changed to 452 1874.  
436 --- --- Assigned to Trim, Meath in 1874.  
437 Tulla, Clare.  
438 Tullamore, Kings.  
439 Tullow, Carlow.  
440 Tynan, Armagh.  
441 Tyrrellspass, Westmeath. Assigned to Urney, Tyrone in 1874.  
442 Valentia, Kerry. Assigned to Toomebridge, Antrim in 1887.  
443 Virginia, Cavan.  
444 Warrenspoint, Down. (Also called --- Warren Point.)  
445 Waterford, Waterford.  
446 Waringstown, Down. Assigned to Woodlawn, Galway in 1874.  
447 Westport, Mayo.  
448 Wexford, Wexford.  
449 Wicklow, Wicklow.  
450 Youghal, Cork.  
-END OF THE 1844 LIST-  
451 Clonegal, Carlow. 1856-57 lists in Post Office Guide. Assigned to The Ward, Dublin in 1887.  
452 Dunamanagh, Tyrone. 1856-57 list.  
452 --- --- Assigned to Tubbermore, Derry in 1887. (Also called Tubermore.)  
453 Mount Bellew Bridge, Galway. 1856 list.  
453 --- --- Assigned to Newtown Butler, Fermagh in 1857.  
454 Ovoca, Wicklow. 1874.  
455 Curragh Camp, Kildare. 1874.  
456 Templeogue, Dublin. 1856 list. Changed to 492 in 1874.  
456 --- --- Assigned to Batterstown, Meath in 1874.  
457 Dalkey, Dublin. 1856-57 lists.  
458 Stillorgan, Dublin. 1856 list.  
458 --- --- Assigned to Ballisodare, Sligo in 1874.  
-END OF THE 1857 LIST-  
This was the last list published in the Post Office Guide (and/or postal directory). The subsequent lists (1874, 1887, 1892, 1899 and 1906) were for official use only and were not available to the general public.  
459 Baldoyle, Dublin. 1874 list.  
460 Banteer, Cork. 1874 list.  
461 Ballinhassig, Cork. 1874 list.  
462 Ballyneen, Cork. 1874 list.  
463 Castleisland, Kerry. 1874 list.  
464 Carrigtwohill, Cork. 1874 list.  
465 Clarecastle, Clare. 1874 list.  
466 Clashmore, Waterford. 1874 (previously used 133---1844-57.)  
467 Clondalkin, Dublin. 1874 list.  
468 Drimoleague, Cork. 1874 list.  
469 Drumree, Meath. 1887 list.  
470 Enniskean, Cork. 1874 list.  
471 Glounthaune, Cork. 1874 list  
472 Not Assigned

473 Innishannon, Cork. 1874 list.  
 (previously used 255 1844-57)  
 474 Not Assigned.  
 475 Kilkee, Clare 1874 list.  
 476 Killeagh, Cork. 1874 list. Previously  
 used 274 1844-57.  
 477 Not Assigned.  
 478 Not Assigned.  
 479 Knocklong, Limerick. 1874 list.  
 480 Not Assigned.  
 481 Not Assigned.  
 482 Leap, Cork. 1874 list.  
 483 Mill Street, Cork. 1874 list.  
 Previously used 327 1844-57.  
 484 Manorhamilton, Leitrim. 1874 list.  
 Previously used 322 1844-?  
 485 Not Assigned.  
 486 Little Island, Cork. 1874 list.  
 487 Maynooth, Kildare. 1874 list.  
 Previously used 325 1844-?  
 488 Not Assigned.  
 489 Not Assigned.  
 490 St. Margarets, Dublin. 1874 list.  
 491 Templepatrick, Antrim. 1887 list.  
 492 Templeogue, Dublin. 1874 list.  
 Previously used 456 1856.  
 493 Traveling P.O. Service. 1887 list.  
 498 --- --- --- ---  
 499 Welchtown, Donegal. 1887 list.  
 500 White Abbey, Antrim. 1887 list.  
 501 Doagh, Antrim. 1887 list.  
 502 Ballinamore, Leitrim. 1887 list.  
 503 Doochary, Donegal. 1887 list.  
 504 Not Assigned.  
 505 Upperlands, Derry. 1887 list.  
 506 Dervock, Antrim. 1887 list.  
 Previously used 173 1844-57.  
 507 Ballinrobe, Mayo. 1887 list.  
 Previously used 36 1844-57.  
 508 Timoleague, Cork. 1887 list.  
 509 Baileborough, Cavan. 1887 list.  
 Previously used 26 1844-57.  
 510 Kingscourt, Cavan. 1887 list.  
 Previously used 288 1844-57.  
 511 Macroom, Cork. 1887 list.  
 Previously used 317 1844-74.  
 512 Ballinlough, Roscommon. 1887 list.  
 513 Glenanne, Armagh. 1887 list.  
 514 Limerick Junction, Tipperary. 1887 list.  
 515 Hill of Down, Meath. 1887 list.  
 516 Moycullen, Galway. 1887 list.  
 517 Rosscahill, Galway. 1887 list.  
 518 Oughterard, Galway. 1887 list.  
 519 Maam Cross, Galway. 1887 list.  
 520 Maam, Galway. 1887 list.  
 521 Leenane, Galway. 1887 list.  
 522 Rosmuck, Galway. 1887 list.  
 (Also spelled Rasmuck.)  
 523 Recess, Galway. 1887 list.  
 524 Cashel, Galway. 1887 list.  
 525 Letter Frack, Galway. 1887 list.  
 221

526 Ballycroy, Mayo. 1887 list.  
 527 Ballyglass, Mayo. 1887 list.  
 Previously used 42 1844-57.  
 528 Tourmakeady, Mayo. 1887 list.  
 529 Neale, Mayo. 1887 list.  
 (Also called The Neale.)  
 530 Cong, Mayo. 1887 list.  
 Previously used 152 1844-?  
 531 Sion Mills, Tyrone. 1887 list.  
 532 Dromahair, Leitrim. 1887 list.  
 533 Toombeola, Galway. 1892 list.  
 534 Bangor, Down. 1892 list.  
 Previously used 60 1844-57.  
 535 Holywood, Down. 1892 list.  
 536 Strandtown, Down. 1892 list.  
 537 Donaghadee, Down. 1892 list.  
 Previously used 175 1844-57.  
 538 Dundrum, Down. 1892 list.  
 539 Newcastle, Down. 1892 list.  
 540 Ardagh, Limerick. 1892 list.  
 541 Six Mile Cross, Tyrone 1892 list.  
 542 Maguiresbridge, Fermanagh, 1892 list.  
 543 Slane, Meath. 1892 list.  
 Previously used 409 1844-?  
 544 Ardfert, Kerry. 1892 list.  
 545 Lisdoonvarna, Clare. 1892 list.  
 546 Not Assigned.  
 547 Lisselton, Kerry. 1892 list.  
 (Also called Lisselton Cross.)  
 548 Headford, Kerry. 1892 list.  
 549 Ballinacollig, Cork. 1892 list.  
 Previously used 33 1844-57.  
 550 Ballinskelligs, Kerry. 1892 list.  
 551 Glenbeigh, Kerry. 1892 list.  
 552 Valencia Island, Kerry. 1892 list.  
 553 Waterville, Kerry. 1892 list.  
 554 Dunboyne, Meath. 1892 list.  
 555 Annascaul, Kerry. 1892 list.  
 556 Blennerville, Kerry. 1892 list.  
 557 Woodenbridge, Wicklow. 1892 list.  
 558 Bawnboy, Cavan. 1892 list.  
 559 Ballyconnell, Cavan. 1892 list.  
 Previously used 39 1844-?  
 560 Bushmills, Antrim. 1892 list.  
 Previously used 83 1844-50.  
 561 Ardara, Donegal. 1906 list.  
 Previously used 4 1844-57.  
 562 Bruckless, Donegal. 1906 list.  
 563 Carrick, Donegal. 1906 list.  
 564 Mount Charles, Donegal 1906 list.  
 \*THE END OF THE NUMERICAL CANCELLATIONS\*



Latest Slogan Cancellation  
 "PREVENT FOREST FIRES"

## COUNTY LOUTH

(Continued from page 221.)

The open-air Calvary and Stations of the Cross at the Charity Fathers' Monastery are much visited. The figure of Christ together with the statues of the Blessed Virgin and St. John were smuggled from France during the persecutions there. At the foot of the Cross are two small windows covering relics from Bethlehem and Calvary, and at the back are replicas of the nails used in the Crucifixion. The stations around the Calvary have each a little cross on top, containing a small case with soil from the place represented in the station. Also located here is the tomb of Father Gentili, a saintly member of the Order, whose remains were transferred here from Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin.

### DROGHEDA

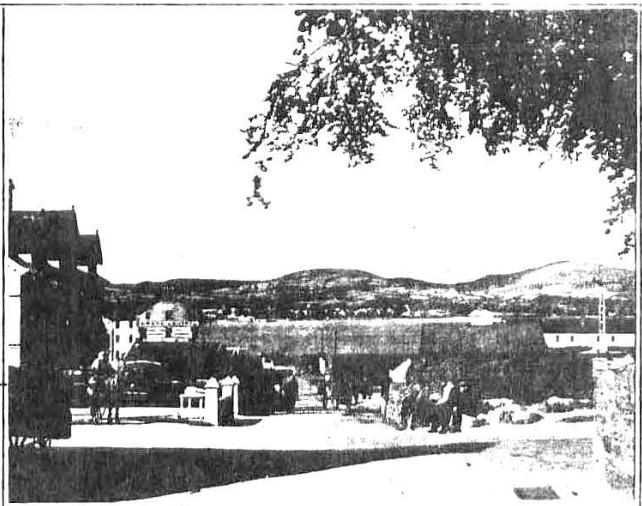
(*Donoreto Sax: The Bridge of the Ford*)

Drogheda, an ancient and historic town, is well situated on the River Boyne, which separates the counties of Louth and Meath. An important industrial center, it contains the largest cement processing works in Ireland. Breweries, iron works and various other manufacturing companies complete its industries.

The ancient name of this town was Inver-Colpa—Port of Colpa—and a colony appears to have existed here from early times. In 911, the Danes under Turgesius, established and fortified a permanent settlement, which during the tenth century increased in importance and, later, ranked with Dublin and Wexford as a Danish trading center. The Anglo-Normans built a bridge at the site of the ancient ford.

At first two towns evolved, one on either bank of the river, but these were united by a charter of Henry IV. During the fourteenth century, Drogheda, walled and fortified, advanced in trade and commerce and was regarded as one of the four staple towns of Ireland. In 1394 Richard II held court here to receive the submissions of the Irish princes of Leinster and Ulster. During the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries Drogheda continued to prosper. The corporation was granted rights to coin its own money and permission to constitute a university with privileges similar to those of Oxford. On occasion meetings of Parliament were held, notably in 1494 when a dominated assembly enacted Poyning's Law, decreeing that no future law passed by the Irish Parliament would be valid unless ratified by the English Privy Council.

In the succeeding centuries Drogheda declined considerably, but in modern times as a center of the Irish industrial revival it has regained much of its former importance. (Page 224, please)



Omeath, Co. Louth

PLEASE READ AND REFLECT—JUST THIS ONCE!

By Perry Adams, S.P.A. #64

When a query was put to our editor about doing another article on Irish Overprint ink, he replied a bit wearily—"I don't know, frankly, how you could clarify it more than you have. Yet it is unhappily true that the need for more understanding is greater than ever. Perhaps you might cite examples that we know recur over and over again, showing members types of pitfalls that cost them so much more than they need to spend."

If any approach can be made to hit home, that just suggested may do the trick. But, first, a very brief word on the methods of ink determination open to the collector. Most of the catalogs and many philatelic writers, claim that the best way to distinguish blue-black overprint ink from black, and so forth, is to hold the stamp up to a strong light and peer through the stamp. It may be so, and if you have luck this way, stick to it. But the system does not happen to do a thing for me—except to leave spots before my eyes. Rather, the method of holding the stamp so that the light strikes slantingly across it, then rocking until the cast or glint of the overprint ink appears, has worked very well ever since a series of expensive buying mistakes convinced me that either I must become reasonably self-sufficient in the matter or quit. A little practice is necessary, but not much. Granting that most of us resist instruction in direct proportion to the amount of trouble involved, I greatly hope that the following everyday examples of mismarking will hit hard enough in terms of your pocketbook, to drive home the fact that whatever small personal effort is necessary to teach yourself how to (Page 223, please)

PLEASE READ AND REFLECT--JUST THIS ONCE!  
(Continued from page 222)  
detect such things. It is not only worth-while but highly necessary....Catalog prices quoted are from 1955 Scott.

EXAMPLE ONE. Scott #16 (S.G. #12) offered as Scott #26b (S.G. #31). #16b, the five-line Thom Rialtas overprint in black on Die I of the 2d value, catalogs mint at 30¢. Current retail is about 15¢. The same overprint in blue-black, on the same stamp, 26b, lists at \$1.50, with a retail worth of full catalog. Thus, while the black overprint on Die I is worth only one-tenth as much as the blue-black, daily it is bought as such. Can you afford to do this?

EXAMPLE TWO. Scott #34 (S.G. #43), offered as Scott #34a (S.G. #43a). Here the same overprint as in EXAMPLE ONE, this time blue-black on the 10d value in blue, listing at \$4, is offered as the dull black variety, cataloging at \$15. The blue-black is worth about 50% of the catalog, or \$2. The dull-black variety, now quite scarce, today sometimes sells as high as \$12. A blue background makes distinction of the overprint doubly tricky. Even so, can you afford to pay up to \$12 for a mismarked stamp worth \$2?

EXAMPLE THREE. Scott #37 (S.G. #45) offered as Scott #37a (S.G. #45a). Mismarking the scarce 5/- Thom Rialtas for its much rarer variety with overprint in so-called dull black, due to a lack of both is not nearly so common as the previous examples, yet still happens enough to warrant inclusion and almost inevitably, involves a lot of money. (Even Scott #13, the Dollard 5/-, is at times offered for #37a, as we were recently reminded by an actual case, but such mismarking introduces elements beyond the ink and is thus only mentioned in passing).

As set up in 1955, the Scott catalog gives only partial indication of the wide net price swing between #37, with its blue-black overprint, and #37a, in black. #37 itself retails for more than the familiar "half-cat"--netting \$13 and above against its \$18 listing. Yet when we consider the excessively hard-to-get #37a, even the Scott listing of \$30 is less than retail worth. The most recent, true, #37a I am able to report on at first-hand, at the turn of the year sold for \$33. And it is now so seldom available, that the retail worth is probably higher.

In this instance, not only can a mismarking cost the collector around \$20, but the let-down of having failed to acquire the hoped for rarity is doubly hard to take. Yet just a little time spent in learning to distinguish between black and blue-black would have been enough to prevent accepting the mismarking.

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The foregoing examples have been chosen because each is slightly different in degree from its fellows, but it all boils down to the same thing. It isn't really a question of whether, as a collector of Irish, you can afford the time to familiarize yourself with this ink distinction--can you afford not to know? (The End)

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limited supply left--\$1.50each--while they  
Map of Ireland--small supply--only one to a  
member. Send 10¢ in coin to cover handling.

#### SURGEON BARBERS GRANTED CHARTER IN 1446

The first charter of incorporation granted a body of doctors in Great Britain or Ireland was given to the "surgeon barbers" in Dublin by Henry VI in 1446. Charles II granted a charter to the College of Physicians in Dublin in 1667.

A further charter, granted by William and Mary in 1692, and only slightly modified, still governs the college.

#### AIR FERRY SERVICE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

An air ferry service for automobiles is soon to commence between Nutt's Corner airfield in Northern Ireland and Speke Airport, Liverpool.

Dragon Airways has applied to the British Air Transport Advisory Council for permission to use this route. Passengers will also be carried by the Bristol 170 planes which it plans to use.

#### TRAVELERS PRAISE NEW DUBLIN BUS STATION

Travelers in Ireland have been quick to praise Coras Iompair Eireann's (Ireland's Transport Company) new Dublin Central Bus Station.

The new bus station on Store Street contains a spacious passenger concourse, shops, lounges, a restaurant and a movie theatre.

## COUNTY LOUTH

(Contae Lúghair)

(Continued from page 222)

### ARDEE

(Baile Átha Fírida: The Town of Ferdiad's Ford)

An ancient town on the River Dee near the border of County Meath, Ardee is to-day a busy market center for the surrounding district.

Even in pre-Christian times this was a place of importance as a strategic crossing on the main road to the North. It formed part of the ancient territory of Muirtheimhne and was the scene of one of the most famous of Ireland's ancient epics—the four-day hand-to-hand combat in which Cuchulainn finally slew his friend and companion in arms, Ferida, from whom the place was afterward named. In the year 943 Murtagh "of the Leathern Cloaks," prince of Aileach, was killed at Ardee in a battle with the Norsemen, whom he had defeated from Carlingford to Annagassan, along the coast of Louth. After the Anglo-Norman invasion the district came into the possession of Roger de Pippard, who founded the Trinitarian monastery and hospital of St. John of Ardee in 1207 and also, probably, erected Ardee Castle. The town grew around these establishments and became an important outpost of the English Pale. It was the object of many attacks in the next 400 years, especially in the wars between the O'Neills and the English. (16th century.

In 1641 Sir Phelim O'Neill took the town on his way to Drogheda, but on the retreat was overtaken here by English forces and his rearguard defeated. Ardee was occupied by James II from October to November, 1689, and in the following year both James and William passed through the town on their way to th Boyne. The old Corporation of Ardee was dissolved in 1800, but the silver maces and the minute book (earliest entry 1661) are still preserved. (The End)

### HICKEY EXHIBIT AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

William P. Hickey, 96 Georgia Avenue, Providence, R.I. exhibited his collection at Boston University philatelic library in conjunction with St. Patrick's day celebration. Mr. Hickey's collection, consisting of First Day Covers and stamps was on loan to the philatelic library from March 14 to April 1.

### TOM O'NEILL SHOWED "IRISH" AT BINGHAMTON

Tom O'Neill (E.P.A. # 30) Liverpool, N.Y., exhibited a cross section of his Irish collection at the Hotel Arlington in Binghamton, N.Y., from April 15-18. The exhibition was sponsored by the Society of Philatelic Americans in conjunction with the Federation of Central New York Philatelic Societies.

Tom's entry was varied for the purpose of attracting interest in Irish philately. He showed pages on revenues, covers, definitives, commemoratives and Bishop Marks.

### MULLINGAR TO USE IRISH STREET SIGNS

Mullingar (Co. Westmeath) officials will soon order the town's streets to bear only Irish names. This is in line with the movement to revive the Irish language.

## Change of SCENERY?



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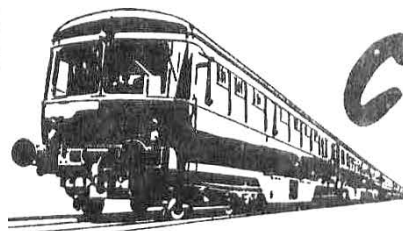
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