



The REVEALER



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ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
(International)

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John J. Walsh, Editor

Postal Stationery

The late Mr. O.P. Kennedy of Dublin had perhaps the finest collection of postal stationery of Ireland at the time of his death. From his research, he compiled a "Check List of the Postal Stationery of Éire". This list, the last of which is known as "Second Edition Revised" and dated December 12, 1949 is the standard work on Irish Postal Stationery. Robson Lowe's, "The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps" Vol.1, 2nd edition 1952 has a general listing of the various issues as reported by Mr. Kennedy. The time appears an acceptable one in which to review the postal stationery of Ireland. In preparing this series of articles, your editor had the kind assistance of our members, Mr. William Kane of Dublin and Mr. Thomas E. Field of Huddersfield, England. Thru their efforts, Mr. F.E. Dixon, the noted postal historian of Dublin became interested in our project. Mr. Dixon kindly supplied the information on the early issues and brought Mr. Kennedy's research up to date. The resulting articles are largely the efforts of these three eminent students of Irish postal history. We are all deeply grateful to them and hope that their contribution will encourage the study and increase the popularity of Irish Postal Stationery.

STAMPED ENVELOPES

The definitive envelopes did not appear until 1925. The Government Printing Works printed the stamps upon plain envelopes. Up to 1940, the stamp was embossed on the envelope; thereafter it was typographed.

Issue of 1925

Two values were available in the first issue of 1925, $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 2d. For convenience we illustrate them as Type I and Type II



Type I



Type II

The $\frac{1}{2}$ d value appeared in a single size of envelope ($5 \frac{7}{16}$ " x $3 \frac{1}{8}$ ") either without watermark or with watermark

BALLYCLARE
CO. ANTRIM

(please turn to page 361)

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- # 289 Patrick Joseph McGowan
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(British Colonials)
- # 290 Joseph P. Cahill
18672 Hubbell Ave.,
Detroit 35, Michigan
(US-Japanese-Ryukus-Laos-Ghana-
Cambodia-Vietnam- UN)
- # 291 Michael Spillane
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(Vatican-Malta-Sports)
- # 292 Dr. Brian deBurca
10 Parchmore Road,
Thornton Heath,
Surrey, England
- # 293 Ernest A. Mills
41 Chadacre Road,
Stoneleigh, Epsom,
Surrey, England
(Red Cross issues & France)

Change of Address:

- # 264 Gerald O'Reilly
7 Belmead Terrace
Uniontown, Pa.

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Add to Membership List:

113 Leon Rose
252 74th Street
Brooklyn, 9, New York
(US blocks & singles-Israel-Tab
singles & covers)

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CACHET

The special St. Patrick's Day cachet of the Irish Cachet Cover Service of Brooklyn this year could not be properly serviced at the small sub-office of Killinick so they were posted at the Wexford Head Office.

DEFINITIVE "E" FIRST DAYS OF ISSUE

Perry Adams calls our attention to the fact that both Lowe and Stanley Gibbons give dates for first use of the high values as follows:

2/6 February 10, 1943
5/- December 15, 1942
10/- July, 1945

He also notes our obvious omission of the 8d and 11d values, both of the stamps having first day use on Sept. 12, 1949.

Perry also writes that the 10/- E value is scarce in used condition. Apparently SE stock was so ample that it is still in general use.

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SUPPORT THE ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

* POSTAL STATIONERY (from page 359)
The watermark is known horizontal or vertical. The color of the stamp is green. It is distinguished not only by its size, but also by the fact that it has an open tuck-in flap usually to the left. Some without watermark are known with the flap to the right (perhaps by being improperly fed into the printing press).

The 2d value appears in two sizes of envelope. The first of these was the so-called "Commercial" size (5 3/8" x 3 1/8") with a gummed flap. This size was apparently obtained from two different paper manufacturers. Both types of envelope were white in color. One bore the watermark, "Ballyclare/Co. Antrim" and is distinguished by the appearance of the envelope flap. The second bears the watermark,

GLENCAMAC

MADE IN IRELAND

and is distinguished by the straight appearance of the envelope flap. The color of the 2d stamp is a deep green.

The second size envelope with the 2d value in deep green is 4 3/4" x 3 3/4" with a gummed flap. This bears the "Ballyclare/Co. Antrim" watermark and is in cream color. In order to avoid confusion with later issues of the same value, it is necessary to note that this issue has a long flap which is straight in appearance with a pointed end which extends 2/3rds of the length of the envelope. Two later issues will not extend so far down.

Issue of 1926

In 1926, the second size envelope of the 2d value in deep green (4 3/4" x 3 3/4") with the "Ballyclare/Co. Antrim" watermark appeared in a white color. In order to distinguish this printing from the cream color previously mentioned, it is also necessary to note that the flap is shorter and extends about half-way down the length of the envelope.

ISSUE OF MARCH, 1929

In 1929, there appeared another 2d deep green value in size 4 3/4" x

3 3/4" with gummed flap with the watermark, "Ballyclare/Co. Antrim", this issue being on cream paper. This can be distinguished from the white paper of 1926 and the cream of 1925 by the same manufacturer by the flap which is medium in length and although also pointed at the end extends a little beyond the half-way point of the white 1926 issue and not as far as the two-thirds distance of the cream 1925 issue.

Issue of 1930

Beginning in 1930 and continuing to the present time, the stamped envelope is on paper bearing the "DEAN SWIFT" watermark and are of the uniform 4 3/4" x 3 3/4" inches size with gummed flap. There are distinguishing features of the various issues.

The 1930 issue, 2d deep green embossed is on a cream paper. Although its flap is similar to the issue of March 1929, the watermark distinguishes it.

Issue of 1933

In 1933, the 2d deep green was embossed on "Dean Swift" cream paper of the uniform size. This can be distinguished by the fact that unlike the issue of 1930 which has a straight flap, this issue has a convex flap.

Issue of November, 1937

In 1937, the 2d deep green was embossed on "Dean Swift" cream paper of the uniform size. This can be distinguished by the fact that unlike the 1930-33 issues which have pointed ends to the flap, this issue has a rounded point.

TYPOGRAPHED STAMPS

Up to 1940, the stamped envelopes were embossed. Thereafter they were typographed.

Issue of 1940

In 1940, the government issued the 2d deep green on cream paper, watermark-
(con't on page 362)

POSTAL STATIONERY (from page 361)
"Dean Swift", size 4 3/4" x 3 3/4"
gummed flap. While the envelope is
similar in all respects to the Nov. 37
issue, the typographed stamp distin-
guishes this issue.

Postal Rate Increase

On 1, June 1941, the postal rate on
envelopes was increased to 2½d so ad-
ditional postage was necessary.

Issue of April, 1942

In April 1942, the postal author-
ities issued the 2½d brown stamped en-
velope on the "Dean Swift" cream paper
size 4 3/4" x 3 3/4" gummed flap.

While this issue can be distinguish-
ed by the value alone, care must be
observed in distinguishing three later
issues of the same value.

Issue of 1945-47

In 1945-47, the 2½d value appeared
on paper similar to the 1942 issue ex-
cept that this issue is on various
tints of buff paper (rather than cream
paper). Also the stamp color appears
in many shades of brown.

Issue of September, 1949

In 1949, another issue of the 2½d
value appeared in deep brown on cream
by "Dean Swift". This issue can be
distinguished by a brown circular gu-
ide dot at the top of the left hand
side-flap.

Issue of 1950

Finally, in 1950, the 2½d value
appeared in various shades of brown on
cream paper by "Dean Swift". This can
be distinguished by the fact that the
flap is narrower than previously and
there is an indentation at the over-
flap.

Issue of 25th August, 1953

Because of an increase in postal
rates to 3d, a provisional printing
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was made of the issue of 1950. To the
2½d brown stamp on cream paper was ad-
ded the ½d green stamp horizontally.

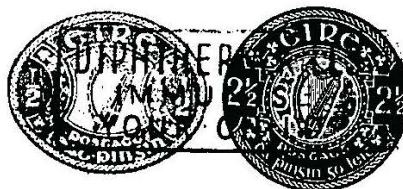
Issue of 1954

Finally, in 1954, the 3d value in
blue was issued.

Type III



Type III & IV



SPECIAL IMPRESSED ENVELOPES

Pursuant to Eolai an Phoist (Post
Office Guide) envelopes can, on certain
conditions, be impressed with postage
stamps, if presented at the Stamping
Department, Office of the Revenue Com-
missioners, Dublin Castle. These so-
called "window envelopes" with ½d, 1d,
1½d and 2d stamps are impressed for
use by firms sending out invoices, etc.
The stamps are the same type as the
current stamp on the regular postal en-
velopes.

(To be continued in next issue-
"Official Envelopes & Franks")

CHECK LIST ENVELOPES STAMPED TO ORDER AT CASTLE

½d	green
1d	red
1½d	purple
2d	green

SUPPORT THE ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCI- ATION - RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER

FLAWS AND VARIETIES

O'CONNELL ISSUE

Mr. Thomas E. Field writes in reference to the "bullet hole" on the O'Connell issue that he has three example copies in his collection and the bullet hole is not in exactly the same spot or position on the forehead, in relation (for example) to the first letter of the last word in the upper half of the oval frame. This suggests slight shifting and may serve to confirm the theory advanced that it was caused by a foreign object on the plate. Mr. Field is also able to narrow the possible location of the variety. He writes: "As my blocks of this have the side margin, I can say that the variety occurs on stamp 11 of the row (number 12 being normal) but I cannot say which row, more accurately than somewhere between 2 and 19 inclusive. In two of my blocks the variety appears in the lower horizontal pair with a normal pair above, so the row containing the variety cannot be number 1; another block has a pair of normals below the pair containing the variety, so it cannot be in row 20." We are deeply grateful for this information.

Gaelic Athletic Association

Issue of 27 July 1934 to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the Gaelic Athletic Association which was founded in 1884 for the fostering of National Games. The design by R.J.King has a hurler in action as its center with wavy lines in the background.

In addition to reported color shades, one can find a wealth of variation in the wavy lines behind the figure of the Hurler. These are all the result of plate wear during printing. The normal stamp shows five thin wavy lines above a heavy line across the middle of the stamp.

As the plates became worn by use, the thin lines began to blend. At first, the top two lines begin to blend and the bottom three do the same. Progressively, the top two and the bottom three lines finally blend into two thick lines

In the very late printings, all five lines blend into a single heavy line.

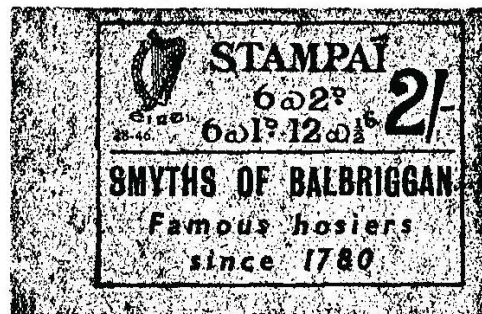
A report has also been made to the effect that ~~as~~ the plate began to wear and the lines began to grow together, a club foot developed on the player. We have not seen this variety.

IRELAND PLANNING NEW COMMEMORATIVES

Many rumors are coming out of Ireland as to new commemorative issues for 1958. The first to be received were to the effect that Countess Markievicz and Kevin Barry were to be honored. Our correspondent Michael Giffney in February reported to THE REVEALER that the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs informed the Cork Old Fianna Assoc. to the effect that Tom Clarke, an Irish leader of 1916 would be honored this year on the occasion of the centenary of his birth.

The "Universe", a Catholic Weekly published in England on January 17th reported that the first Irish postage stamp to honor a woman would be issued this year. The woman is Mother Mary Aikenhead, foundress of the Irish Sisters of Charity, who died 100 years ago. She died in Dublin July 22nd, 1858.

BOOKLET # 28-46 REISSUE SHOWN



(please refer to page 364)

IRISH BOOKLETS AND THEIR PANES

The Member Response to Recent Articles

By Perry Adams, E.P.A. #84

In 1957, thanks to much magnificent assistance from members, THE REVEALER published four ad interim articles about Irish Booklets and their panes. From these, there developed a considerable correspondence with another group of members not previously heard from. To a slim extent, further information was then forthcoming upon reissue variations (meaning, cases of Booklets reissued without change of serial number) which show changes of the advertising on covers and interleaves, as well as the frequent dropping of interleaves. We had asked readers to note these changes and advise us, and we are hoping that still further variations may be discovered in collections and such information then be sent to the writer.

1d DEMIPANE

From the first, however, a lively interest has been shown in a collateral direction. As a result of the pane-chart in the first article in the April-June issue, it became clear that the 1d Demipane of 3 stamps and 3 labels (Scott #66b, with the original SE watermark), had also been issued on paper with the later E watermark. Scott does not list this later Demipane printing on E stock; its absence from the catalogue undoubtedly explains why so many collectors appear surprised that it exists.

To go back, the Demipane on SE stock appeared in the first 21 Booklet issues of numerical record, or through Booklet #21-40, and presumably was included also in any reissues without change of cover-number, up to this point. Then, in the second of three recorded Booklet printings of the war year 1940, numbered 22-40, the 1d Demipane was found to have been produced upon the currently new stock watermarked E - even though the other panes bound with it were still upon SE paper. To that extent,

the booklet was therefore unique. For with the third change of Booklet in 1940 to #23-40, all panes of whatever value were upon E stock, including the Demipane. Barring possible reissues under #23-40, this also marked the final appearance of the Demipane in any Booklet.

It will today thus be realized, that whole or unexploded Booklets 22-40 and 23-40 are excessively rare, primarily due to the differing manner in which the E-watermarked Demipane appeared in them, with relation to the other panes involved. And just as obviously, the limited production of the Demipane upon E stock in only two Booklets of record, renders the isolated pane even more of a collector's item than the earlier Demipanes printed on the original SE paper. For in that form the item appeared in as many as 21 Booklets, not counting the many suspected reissues within the group, as yet not brought to light.

CHANGE IN BOOKLET # 28-46

More recent member reports on reissues unfortunately duplicate again and again. Typical is a change on Booklet #28-46. As we published it, advertising on back of rear cover was for Shamrock Underwear; the alteration so often reported, indicating Booklet reissue, shows copy on back of rear cover as advertising Round Tower Products. Again, several members kindly reported the third interleaf missing in a reissue of Booklet #31-48, but this was as footnoted in the magazine. For Booklet #36-53, we footnoted that several reissues were known, without giving detail. One reader was good enough to specify that one of the reissues omitted the fourth interleaf, thus cutting out a Table of Postal Rates.

We shall be most grateful for further reports of variations, for it is in this way alone that the final record can be completed.

BOOKLET #28-46 REISSUE SHOWN ON
Page 363

ARE IRISH STAMPS UNPOPULAR?

By the Editor

In the February 18th issue of the Western Stamp Collector, our good member, A.L. Taylor of Vancouver, B.C. in a letter to the editor raised some interesting questions regarding Irish stamps. Mr. Taylor's questions are, Why is Ireland never mentioned in the philatelic press, aside from new issue reports? Why are Irish stamps not offered for sale or at auction? Why do dealers turn up their noses when offered Irish material? Why is Ireland "obviously unpopular"?

Western Stamp Collector's editor answered by suggesting (a) the country offers no varieties since the overprint issues; (b) prices were forced up by specialists to the level where buyer resistance was encountered; and (c) Ireland's neutrality during World War II makes the country unpopular.

Mr. Lorin L. Kay, E.P.A.#7 and our Association attorney took time to consider both the letter and reply, and we are pleased to present some of his comments and suggestions in this issue.

"It seems to me that both letter and answer merit serious consideration by EPA," writes Mr. Kay, "for however one may disagree, nevertheless, a positive challenge is offered, which can be taken advantage of, to the benefit of the Society and our specialty.

Philatelic Press

"We all know the American philatelic press, like all mass media, is a slave to numbers. U.S. and British Empire, topical collections, and currently 'hot' countries as reflected in advertised offers reaches most readers, and pleases most advertisers. All other subjects interest relatively minute minorities, of no readership or financial consequence."

Mr. Kay's solution is to increase mention of Ireland in the mass publications by reprinting material from the REVEALER; more frequent sponsorship of special editions; encouragement of our students of Irish philately to contribute to the SPA and APS journals; an annual award for exceptional work published.

Sales and Auctions

Mr. Kay feels that there is little slighting of Ireland in auction sales

As for retail sales, "An American retail dealer could hardly specialize in Ireland, for its new issues are few, and of low value. Volume is required for specialization, and if none comes as new issues, and old issues are snapped up by collectors willing to outbid the dealers, that volume is simply out of the question. That happens to be the case with Ireland; the supply is such that retail prices across the board would have to run to a very small discount off of catalogue for the specializing dealer, and dealers quickly find that run-of-the-mine collectors are not willing to pay such a high percentage of catalogue for obsolete and older issues. So, no stocks, no advertised offerings."

Mr. Kay's solution to this problem is (a) Provide a market place for dealers and collectors in THE REVEALER, as a public service; (b) Increase the sales department of EPA; (c) Tie in sources of supply with specialized articles in our publication so as not to repel the collectors by the "unattainable"; (d) the compilation by the membership talent available to EPA of the available data on the overprints, culminating in an ordered and intelligent checklist closed with authority. Such an approach "would immediately quintuple the catalogued varieties, remove the mystery from the overprints, and give the dealers a guide for buying and selling they now sorely lack."

Do Dealers Refuse Irish Material?

Mr. Kay suggests that many dealers have no standard guide to overprint identification or values and have no information as to the relative worth of specialized material offered.

Is Ireland Unpopular?

Finally, Mr. Kay observes that if the current "hooraw over Israel, UN and Vatican City is a yardstick, Ireland is definitely not popular. This sort of popularity is a fake and passing affair The collection of Ireland is classic, not faddist." As for Ireland's so-called "neutrality" Mr. Kay denies that this has anything to do with its stamps

THE REVEALER will be pleased to publish reader comment on this question.

IRISH TRANSATLANTIC AIR SERVICE

First Flight Covers

The Transatlantic service of the Irish airline, Aerlínte Éireann, began on the 28th April, 1958 with a flight from Dublin via Shannon to New York. Air mail correspondence conveyed on the flight was impressed with a special commemorative cachet embodying a shamrock design with the legend: "Commemorating the inauguration of transatlantic service between Ireland and the U.S.A. by Irish Air Lines".

The Irish Department of Posts and Telegraphs cooperated with the United States Post Office Department in handling philatelic mail. First flight covers, fully addressed and accompanied by a remittance to cover the postage received not later than the 26th April were serviced by the Philatelic Section, General Post Office, Dublin and by the Postmaster, Limerick. The postage rate for letters on the Transatlantic air service from Ireland is 20 cents for the first half-ounce and 15 cents for each additional half-ounce.

In the United States, self-addressed and franked envelopes, bearing the 15¢ United States Air Mail stamp received not later than April 28th were serviced by the Post Office Department, Flushing, New York for the return trip from New York via Shannon to Dublin on April 30th.

In addition, American philatelists were offered First Day Covers for the flight in either direction, or both, at a cost of \$.50 per cover by the Irish Air Lines, 33 East 50 Street, New York 22, New York on orders received by April 14, 1958 and European collectors were afforded the same opportunity at the Dublin office of Irish Air Lines.

The flight was made with Lockheed 1049H Super Constellation aircraft leased from Seaboard & Western Airlines.

The New York-Shannon segment of the route will be operated by Irish Airlines - Aerlínte Éireann - the corporate name of the Irish transatlantic airline. Under an arrangement with Aer Lingus, a sister company, transatlantic aircraft will continue through to Dublin, thereby feeding into the Aer Lingus system which operates regular services to Great Britain and the continent. The schedule will provide 10½ hour non-stop service between New York and Shannon. The Shannon-Dublin schedule is 50 minutes. Aircraft will carry 95 passengers. The aircraft will carry Irish markings but will be flown by Seaboard & Western flight crews. Cabin attendants will be Irish Airlines hostesses.

Aer Lingus has operated services between Dublin, the United Kingdom and the European continent since 1936. Irish Airlines - Aerlínte Éireann was founded in 1947 to operate a transatlantic service between Ireland and the United States. The company purchased a fleet of Constellations, operated a series of proving flights and completed arrangements to inaugurate service on St. Patrick's Day, 1948. In the interim a change of government brought with it a change in policy. As a result, these plans were cancelled and the aircraft were sold.

The proposed schedule provides for three flights per week to May 31; daily service thereafter.

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