



The Revealer



Vol. XIV No. V

ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
(International)

July-September, 1964

Whole No. 79

Issued Quarterly

John J. Walsh, Editor



THOM HALF CROWN STAMP S.G. 44 Scott 36

*Rialtas 12.4 mm. / na hÉireann
Sealadaic 15.1 mm. 21.4 mm.*

Rev. John Brennan C.C.

Recently my good friend, Bill Kane sent me a stamp (photo above) for my observations. The stamp belongs to a Swedish collector who is interested in Irish stamps. He purchased this stamp in an Irish collection, and was attracted to this stamp by its deep shade, so much so he sent it to Bill Kane for an opinion, and Bill sent it to me.

This overprint resembles the Thom (five-line) S.G. 44 which were the Bradbury Wilkinson and the stamp was a grey-brown shade. The stamp sent for my inspection was a deep brown shade, De La Rue printing. The printing of the De La Rue Half Crown stamps ceased in 1918, four years before the overprints were first issued. After my examination I made the following notes:

Rialtas

"R" with narrow turned up tail, should have a squat tail.

"t" with open and narrow end to tail, point jutting out, should be a squat end.

COMPARISON OF LETTERING

BOGUS

THOM PRINTING

R ← t ←

R t

e l o

e l o

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POSTAL STATIONERY PACKET WRAPPERS

by F. E. Dixon

Most items of postal stationery are sold in packets, contained in wrappers, specially printed. Increases in price have sometimes been shown by overprinting and during the paper shortage of World War II some wrappers were defaced and then reprinted with different details on the reverse of the paper.

Below are listed some of the prices charged, and it will be seen that the prices have gone up by rather more than the increase in postage, especially in the case of registration envelopes.

1. Envelopes

Size A	1927	11 for 2s.
	1936	11 for 1s.10d
	1940	11 for 2s.
	1942	10 for 2s.3½d
	1946	12 for 3s.
	1953	12 for 3s.6d.
	1962	12 for 4s.6d.
Size C (2d)	1927	14 for 2s.6d.
	1936	" "
Size C (½d)	1927	18 for 1s.

2. Registration Letters

	Size F	Size G
1927	12 for 5s.9d.	12 for 6s.
1942	12 for 6s.6d.	12 for 6s.9d.
1944	12 for 6s.6d.	
1949	12 for 8s.	12 for 8s.6d.
1954	12 for 10s.6d.	12 for 11s.
1958	12 for 13s.6d.	12 for 14s.
1962	12 for 14s.6d.	12 for 15s.
	Size H	Size K
1927	12 for 6s.6d.	6 for 3s.9d.
1942	12 for 7s.	6 for 4s.1½d.
1944	12 for 7s.3d.	6 for 4s.9d.
1949	12 for 9s.	6 for 5s.3d.
1954	12 for 11s.6d.	6 for 6s.6d.
1958	12 for 15s.6d.	6 for 8s.9d.
1962	12 for 16s.6d.	6 for 9s.3d.

3. Postcards

1924	(1½d)	?
1925	(1d)	10 for 1ld.
1942	(1½d)	10 for 1s.5d.
1949	(2d)	10 for 1s.10d.
1956	(2d)	10 for 2s.1d.

(continued on page 589)

Sealadac

"E" with tail jutting out past the eye, should be stumpy and in line with the point of the eye.

"l" has the round of the tail too narrow, should be more open.

"b" top of the d too long, should be more squat.

hEireann

BOGUS
h é i r e a n n
Small e

THOM PRINTING.

hÉ i r e a n n

"h" is too long in the legs. "E" is too small, should be in capital type, the top of the E should be the same height as the h. Accent over the first "E", too short and stumpy. "e" has a pointed tail, should be squat. "r" with the tail turned up at its end should be straight down. "n" too long, and wrong shape - they have rounded feet, The Thom printing has flat feet.

1922

BOGUS

1922

THOM

1922

"9" leg slightly short and open. "2" with button tops, which should be slender and pointed. Foot of the "2" s are pointing up straight, they should be slanted.

It would be most interesting to have members opinions on the above, and perhaps an examination of all the Thom Half-Crown stamps in the members collections, may throw more light on this subject.

Bill Kane has prepared the rough sketches of the faulty and genuine letters of the overprint to help in the comparison. These sketches are not to scale.



O'Loughlin, Murphy and Boland essays

By F. E. DIXON



The Design Committee recently established by the Irish Post Office has led to increased interest in the many designs for definitives submitted in 1922.

Of exceptional interest are the series prepared by the firm of O'Loughlin, Murphy and Boland, at the request of Mr. J. J. Walsh, Minister for Posts & Telegraphs in the first Provisional Government. He had obtained the designs for 1d, 3d, 5d and 7d from an artist whose name has not survived. Designs for 1/2d, 2d, 1/- and 10/- were prepared by William MacBride, well known as a portrait artist and stained-glass worker. He was responsible for many of the Irish revenue stamp designs.

The initial sketches were about 10 x 7" and from them zinc plates were photo-engraved. Stereo moulds were made from these plates and a number of plates (eight in the case of the 1/2d etc.) were cast from each mould. These were then assembled in sufficient number to complete the printing plate which was completed by the same stereo process. The complete plates comprised 32 (4 x 8) impressions for the 1/2d, 2d and 1/-; 18 (3 x 6) for the 7d; and 12 (2 x 6) for the 10/-. We do not know the arrangement of the 1d, 3d and 5d. If any examples survive they are in the archives of Dublin G.P.O. The 1d, 3d and 5d which have been circulating in recent years date only from 1943 when they were produced in sheets of 12 and singly as "die proofs" on a white paper quite different from that of the 1922 printings.

The 1922 paper was thin wove, unwatermarked, 125 x 189 mm. Most of the essays extant are imperforate, but others were roughly line-perf. 11 1/2.

At least five different inks were tried. 1/2d, 2d, 7d and 10/- are all found in two yellows, which I class as "yellow" and "lemon". The lemon does not seem to have been used for the 1/- but the yellow of that value is darker for the top two rows than for the remainder of the sheet. Green (myrtle?) was used for 1/2d, 2d, 7d and 1/-. Carmine-red describes an ink of the 1/2d, 7d, 1/- and 10/-. For the 2d there was instead a chestnut not found with any other value.

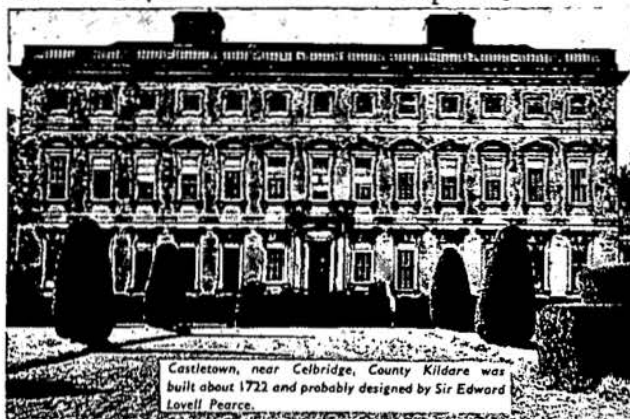
For much of the information we are indebted to Colm O'Loughlin, D.Litt., the renowned Irish scholar. He was secretary to the firm in 1922. He later established the Three Candles Press, specialising in high-class book production. There he has been associated with essays for several commemorative stamps, and assisted the artists with the Irish inscriptions, e.g. 1944 "Four Masters" 1/2d and 1/- which were made definitives.

The O'Loughlin, Murphy & Boland essays of 1922 are missing from many otherwise comprehensive Irish collections. None were included in the Marquess of Bute's sale; none in that of J.K. Preston.

The above article was prepared for describing the essays which were contained in the June 1964 Postal Auction No. 2 of the Irish Philatelic Circle and is reprinted for the information of our members. The lots of essays offered in that sale are given herewith since they are the most comprehensive offering in many years.

O'LOUGHLIN, MURPHY & BOLAND ESSAYS in POSTAL AUCTIONS No. 2

Lot No.	Value, etc.			Quantity	Reserves	
					Piece	Singles
1	1/2d	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8	L 18	
2	1/2d	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (crease)	L 16	
3	1/2d	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (stain)	L 15	10/-
4	1/2d	yellow	perf.	4 x 7 (defects)	L 14	12/6
5	1/2d	lemon	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (2 defective)	L 15	
6	1/2d	lemon	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (2 defective)	L 15	
7	1/2d	lemon	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (5 defective)	L 13	10/-
8	1/2d	lemon	perf.	4 x 6	L 13	12/6
9	1/2d	green	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (3 defective)	L 15	12/6
10	1/2d	green	perf.	4 x 5	L 14	15/-
11	1/2d	red	imperf.	4 x 7 (1 defective)	L 20	15/-
12	2d	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8	L 18	
13	2d	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (crease)	L 15	
14	2d	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (crease)	L 15	10/-
15	2d	yellow	perf.	4 x 6	L 16	15/-
16	2d	lemon	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8	L 16	
17	2d	lemon	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (defects)	L 15	
18	2d	lemon	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (defects)	L 15	10/-
19	2d	green	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (crease)	L 16	12/6
20	2d	green	perf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (stains)	L 20	
21	2d	green	perf.	Block of 19		15/-
22	2d	chestnut	imperf.	4 x 7	L 50	L 2
23	7d	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 3 x 6	L 14	
24	7d	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 3 x 6 (crease)	L 13	
25	7d	yellow	imperf.	3 x 3	L 7	15/-
26	7d	lemon	imperf.	Sheet 3 x 6	L 13 1/2	
27	7d	lemon	imperf.	3 x 5 (soiled)	L 11	15/-
28	7d	red	imperf.	3 x 3	L 9	L 1
29	1/-	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8	L 24	
30	1/-	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8	L 24	
31	1/-	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 4 x 8 (crease)	L 22	
32	1/-	yellow	imperf.	4 x 7 (crease)	L 21	15/-
33	1/-	green	imperf.	4 x 5	L 20	L 1
34	1/-	red	imperf.	4 x 4	L 16	L 1
35	10/-	yellow	imperf.	Sheet 2 x 6	L 12	
36	10/-	yellow	imperf.	2 x 5	L 10	L 1
37	10/-	lemon	imperf.	Sheet 2 x 6	L 12	
38	10/-	lemon	imperf.	Sheet 2 x 6 (soiled)	L 10	
39	10/-	lemon	imperf.	2 x 4	L 8	L 1
40	10/-	red	imperf.	Sheet 2 x 6	L 15	
41	10/-	red	imperf.	2 x 2		25/-



Castletown, near Celbridge, County Kildare was built about 1722 and probably designed by Sir Edward Lovell Pearce.



Leinster House — now the seat of the Irish Parliament was built by Cassels, an architect of German origin who designed some of the finest eighteenth century stone-built private residences.



Dublin 1959
A modern Gaelic alphabet, designed and cut by Michael Biggs.

THE GAELIC ALPHABET

In the production of its postage stamps both the overprints and the definitives, Ireland has used the Gaelic language.

Gaelic speech is an evidence of a polished, cultured and musical nation. It is the purpose of this article to give the basic information on the Gaelic alphabet which will assist the average collector to enjoy more fully the overprints and the commemoratives of Ireland.

The Gaelic alphabet contains seventeen letters. The letter "h" is an additional one added frequently for grammatical reasons before vowels and in foreign names and expressions.

The alphabet is divided into vowels and consonants. The vowels are A, E, I, O, U and the consonants: B, C, D, F, G, L, M, N, P, R, S, and T.

The vowels may be either a "long sound" or a "short sound". If short, there is no accent; if long, an accent mark or short stroke will be placed over such vowel.

	Short		Long
A	"fat"	Á	"awl"
E	"pet"	É	"there"
I	"pit"	Í	"theme"
O	"pot"	Ó	"score"
U	"put"	Ú	"rule"

The consonants are subject to two types of modification: aspiration or eclipse. Occasionally for the sake of harmony and beauty of sound, certain consonants in relation to vowels would sound harsh and displeasing to the ear. They are modified

by placing a dot above the consonant. This changes the sound into a different sound produced by the same organ of speech. These aspirated consonants are B, C, D, F, G, M, P, S and T.

Euphony or sweetness of sound may also cause certain consonants to be modified in Gaelic by the addition before the first letter consonant another consonant formed by the same organ of speech. This is called an eclipse or a blotting out of the sound. The original consonant remains in the word but its sound is changed to that of the eclipsing letter placed before it. Seven consonants can be eclipsed as follows: the brackets indicate the added consonant [M] B, [G] C, [N] D, [B] F, [N] G, [B] P, [D] T.

A book, "Irish Without Worry For Everyone" by Rev. Father Collier, O.M.I., House of Retreat, Inchicore, Dublin and printed by O'Gorman Ltd of Galway is an excellent one on Gaelic.



POSTAL STATIONERY PACKETS (continued)

4. Lettercards
 1924 (2d) 10 for 2s.
 1942 (2½d) 12 for 3s.3d.
 1953 (3d) 12 for 3s.9d.
 1959 (3d) 12 for 4s.

5. Wrappers

- 1924 (½d) 21 for 1s.
 1924 (1d) 22 for 2s.
 1950 (1½d) 22 for 3s.2½d. (sur-
 charged on "3/-")
 1954 (1½d) 24 for 3s.6d.
 1957 (2d) 24 for 5s.

6. Telegram Forms

Sold in pads of 20 at price of stamps, with 3d added for plain inter-leaving.

N.B. Above prices are based partly on packet wrappings and partly on prices stated in Post Office Guides.

POSTAL STATIONERY STAMPED-TO-ORDER

All types of postal stationery can be stamped for payment of a small fee, under certain conditions, and this has been arranged by many Irish firms. The printing has always been done in the same colour as the post office issues of the time, but not always by the same process. Our knowledge of what has been issued is scanty, and the list below does not claim to be complete and no attempt is made to assign dates.

1. Envelopes. ½d (I), 1d (VII), 1½d (VI), 2d (II) all embossed.
2. Postcards, including those for Printed Paper rate.
 - ½d (I) embossed and (IV) typographed.
 - 1d (VII) and 1½d (VI) both embossed and typographed.
 - 2d (II) embossed
 - 4d (II) blue-green embossed
 - ½d (I) plus 1½d (VI) reply paid both embossed.
 - 1½d (VI) plus 2d (II) reply paid both embossed.
3. Wrappers
 - ½d (I) embossed and (IV) typographed
 - 1d (VII) embossed.
 - 1½d (VI) typographed.
4. Parcels Labels for parcels of literature for the blind.
 - 1d (VII) embossed

RANDOM NOTES BY F. E. DIXON

O'Loughlin, Murphy & Boland Essays

When I wrote the account of the Essays to accompany the details of the second of Mr. Kane's Postal Auctions I really thought I'd put together all the basic facts. Alas (or should be "Oh Joy.") three days later Dr. O'Loughlin presented me some of William MacBride's first sketches, notably one for a 9d value which they did not proceed with. They are scribbled on the back of drawings for a motor car that he and Colm O'Loughlin built to take an engine they had acquired. Further examination discloses that the 9d design is that modified into the ½d the emblems used being round tower and harp and wolfhound and horizon sun.

Locals

Has any of our readers an early run of the "Stamp Collectors Fortnightly"? I would like to see the article in No. 483 (1911?) by F.W. Edwards, listed as "Dublin: Stamps and Tokens".

New Postal Rates

The increased impositions of 1st June cause many moans. An interesting feature of the new rates is the reappearance of the odd ½d, e.g. the internal rate for Printed Papers, etc. is 1½d per 2 oz., with minimum 3d.

Special Postmark

Yet again a special cancellation has been used without any warning to the collectors. Fortunately Mr. Keenan did hear about it, and thanks to him I can illustrate the skeleton handstamp of the International Railway Convention held in Dublin last month, from 8th-11th June.



Booklets

Booklet 44-63 is sold out in some post offices and it is likely that the next issue will have a different make-up, with 5d included. A few panes of the 4d with inverted watermark might be a good investment.

NEW ISSUE NOTES AND NEWS.



The special postage stamps to commemorate Ireland's participation in the New York World's Fair were issued on 20th July, 1964.

The stamp which is in two denominations, 5d. (17½ million) and 1s. 5d. (1¼ million) made up in sheets of 120 stamps features the Irish Pavilion at the Fair.



It bears the inscription "Irish Pavilion - New York World's Fair 1964-5", as well as the name of the State "Eire" and the denomination. Printing was by the photogravure process in multicolour on paper watermarked with the letter "e". Perforations 15 x 15.

First Day covers received the special first day of issue mark at the Philatelic Section, General Post Office, Dublin 1 and at Cork, Dún Laoghaire, Galway, Limerick, Waterford and Wexford.

As we go to press, information has been received that a special Europa postage stamp sponsored by the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) will be issued by member countries, including Ireland, on September 14th, 1964. The stamp commemorates the fifth anniversary of the founding of CEPT.

The Irish stamp is in two denominations, 8d. (2,500,000) and 1s. 5d. (2,500,000) and is made up in sheets of 120. The basic design is by the French artist, Georges Bétemps and represents the 22 member countries of CEPT in the form of a flower encircling the CEPT monogram. The stamp bears an indication that it commemorates the fifth anniversary of the founding of CEPT and will include the word "Europa", the name of the State and the denomination. Printing is by photogravure in multicolour on paper watermarked with the letter "e". Perforations 15 x 15.

Conditions for servicing first day covers and purchasing instructions are as follows:

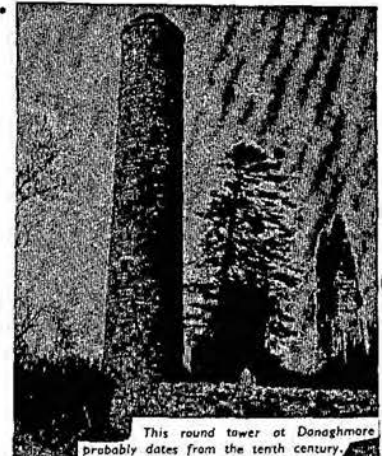
- (1) First day covers, if received fully addressed and accompanied by a remittance to cover the value of the stamps required, will be serviced by the Controller, Philatelic Section, General Post Office, Dublin 1, and by the Postmasters of Cork, Dún Laoghaire, Galway, Limerick, Waterford and Wexford provided they are received not later than the 5th September. A special first day of issue mark will be impressed on first day covers posted at the offices mentioned.
- (2) Official first day covers are not supplied.
- (3) Stamps will be cancelled only when they are affixed to items for transmission through the post.
- (4) Payment may be made by Bank Draft or Money Order; stamps are not accepted in payment. The cost of Postage and registration or insurance on packets of stamps will be deducted from the remittance received.
- (5) Orders are not sent cash on delivery.



Blarney Castle, County Cork. A few miles outside Cork City, Blarney Castle is known throughout the world for its reputed power to confer the gift of eloquence on those who kiss the famous stone on its battlements.



Trim Castle, County Meath, is the largest Anglo-Norman fortress in Ireland. The moat which could be filled from the River Boyne surrounded the two-acre structure and completed its protection.



This round tower at Donaghmore probably dates from the tenth century.

IRISH FREE STATE.

HARRISON COIL STAMP ISSUES

SUPPLEMENT No. 18

EIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

July, 1964

The Irish Free State awarded the overprinting of the British stamps for use in coil machines to Messrs. Harrison & Sons Ltd. of St. Martin's Lane, London.

These interesting stamps have for a long time been neglected by Irish collectors, the result doubtlessly of a lack of information about them, their relative scarcity and the presumed difficulty in distinguishing them from the corresponding Thom issues.

There were two separate issues of the overprinted coil stamps by Messrs. Harrison - (a) The Rialtas, and (b) The Saorstat.

(a) THE RIALTAS

Unlike the Dollard or Thom overprints which were printed from type or stereo, it is thought that the Harrison overprint was from an electro-type plate made by Messrs. Harrison, who were also the printers of the British stamps.

The Rialtas issue was in four values. The 1/2d, 1d and 2d (Die I) were issued June 19th 1922. The 1 1/2d value appeared on June 21st and the 2d (Die II) probably in August. The ink used in the overprint is a shiny black ink.

One constant characteristic of the Harrison "Rialtas" overprint is that the R of Rialtas always appears over the Se of Sealadac. In the Thom overprint, the R over Se is a variety which is eagerly sought out by the specialist, and occasionally the Harrison is mistaken for the Thom variety. The late Perry Adams in 1953 in THE REVEALER (page 144) discussed this item:

"By the time Harrison & Sons were approached with a view to printing over a special issue for use in rolls or coils, the firm of Alex Thom and Co. Ltd., were in sole charge of the rest of the overprinting. Harrison asked Thom for 'working examples' of the current overprints. By pure chance, the samples given Harrison were R over Se. Hence this type-shift peculiarity became constant in the Harrison cliché. Their copy was clear and faithful, though generally in a bolder black than the Thom's, while the individual letters were ever so slightly taller. The one real yet happy mystery about the Harrison emission, a mystery at least, to this writer - - is how the long i got in there between the R and the a of Rialtas. It stands out like a sore thumb; and as noted in the overprint table, becomes the easy, immediate way of telling the Harrisons from the Thom's without resort to measurement of the overprint."

As pointed out by Perry Adams, the chief characteristic of the Harrison Rialtas type which distinguishes it from the Thom is the long, perpendicular shaft of the letter "i" in Rialtas. This descends well below the level of the "R" and the other letters and even a casual study of this will serve as an immediate test of the Harrison coil.

All four values were prepared in horizontal rolls of 480 stamps and vertical rolls of 500 stamps. The 2d value was also issued in vertical rolls of 1,000 (scarce).

The Harrison overprints were applied to sub-sheets of 240, and went to the manual operators in panes of 120, 12 across by 10 down, and were first torn or separated either into 12 strips of 10 vertical or 10 strips of 12 horizontal. The stamps were then joined by a portion of the end paper beyond the perfs; the process resulting in what are called "paste-ups".

In Stamp Collecting, June 23rd, 1923, Mr. William Ward described the method of preparing the British rolls (probably also used for the Irish rolls): "First of all the machine takes in a strip of pink- or magenta-coloured paper (perforated like the stamps), on which the maker-up signs his initials and the date in figures. Thus, when the roll has 'started', if some error or damage happens, the 'evidence' is right inside the centre of the roll, and there can be no dispute as to the workman's identity. The final strip is an imperforate piece of emerald-green paper, which is finally bound in a khaki cartridge paper, the whole being tied up with a narrow holland tape and sealed with a lead 'coin' + + + "

The number of printed rolls of the Harrison "Rialtas" coils was reported both by Mr. Ward in Stamp Collecting, June 23rd, 1923 (page 323) and Meredith's 4th edition as: [Combined Horizontal and Vertical Rolls]

1/2d	492 rolls	2d (Die I)	672 rolls
1d	1,454 rolls	2d (Die II)	820 rolls
1 1/2d	118 rolls	Total 2d.	1,492 rolls

The scarcity of the 1 1/2d was due to the lack of demand. Mr. Ward says: "Other than those sold to stamp dealers, the large proportion of this value was used about the end of August or the beginning of September, 1922 on some bulky publication."

VARIETIES

1. The 1 1/2d value can be found with the plate error on the Basic British stamp "PENCE" recut to correct the error. It will be recalled that the "PENCE" error can be found on the Thom black overprint of February 1922, Control Q 21 perf. and that the "PENCE" error corrected can also be found on the contemporary Thom blue-black overprint of July-November 1922.

THREE HALFPENCE



Original Error.

THREE HALFPENCE



The Error Corrected.

2. There are collectible varieties of pairs showing the paste-up join between the two strips, which occur 39 times in the horizontal rolls of 480 and 49 times in the vertical rolls.

3. Joined pairs of the 2d value, one stamp being Die I and the other Die II, done in the makeup of rolls. Found on some of the rolls, vertical attached at top, Control R.



4. There are also the beginning and finishing strips of the rolls. The End tabs of the rolls bore a Harrison Control Letter (not to be confused with the Sheet Controls which were usually removed from the selvage before paste-up, since only a small fraction of the selvage was left for joining. Rarely did a portion of the sheet control appear in the paste-up. See Malcolm O'Reilly's excellent article on these in the July-August 1963 REVEALER issue.

The Harrison Roll Tab Control Letters were:

Value	Vertical Attached to Top	Vertical Attached to Bottom	Horizontal
1/2d	G	D	P
1d	E	B	O
1 1/2d	L	-	N
2d (Die I)	R	Q	T
2d (Die II)	R	Q	T

(b) THE SAORSTAT ISSUE

The second Harrison coil stamp overprint was likewise prepared from electro-type plate. According to the Stamp Collecting (July 28, 1923, page 413) Harrison made electros in blocks of 30 from a Thom overprint supplied to them.

The Saorstat issue was in four values. All of the values - 1/2d, 1d, 1 1/2d and 2d (Die II) appeared on March 7th, 1923. Two different inks were used for this issue. The earliest appeared in dull black ink. The ordinary ink employed for this issue showed a clear blue-black of a glossy appearance. A special highly glazed surface is also found on each of the values overprinted.

The Harrison "Saorstats" are really easy to distinguish from their contemporaries- the Thom's. The most reliable test, if not the only one is the loop of the 9 of the date. In the Harrison overprint, the loop of the 9 is practically round, while the loop of the 9 in the Thom is oval.

The test most often applied to the Harrison coil is the examination of the word, "Eireann". In the Harrison, unlike the Thom generally, the small "e" of "Eireann" is raised prominently, giving a distinct curved appearance to the second line of the overprint. The Harrison also has a rounded foot in the "1" of the date.

As Perry Adams pointed out in his article in 1953 (REVEALER, page 146), you should not rely solely on the raised "e" and rounded "1" to distinguish the Harrison but should double check by examination of the rounded "9". He wrote: "one of the Thom plates has practically the identical characteristics --rounded foot of 1 in the date and raised second "e". This plate was used, not only in printing the four values which coincide with the four Harrison coils, but for several other Thom Saorstats as well. ++ knowing the difference between those two "9's" serves an indispensable purpose."

The rolls were prepared in a similar manner to the first or Rialtas issue

The number of printed rolls of the Harrison "Saorstat" coils was reported by Mr. Ward in Stamp Collecting, June 23rd, 1923 (page 324): (Combined Horizontal and Vertical Rolls):

1/2d	552 rolls	1 1/2d	48 rolls
1d	300 rolls	2d (Die II)	300 rolls

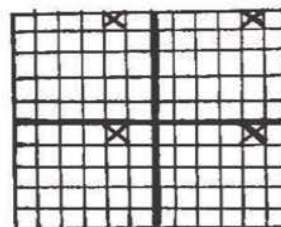
Note again the scarcity of the 1 1/2d value.

VARIETIES

1. The chief variety is the long "1" in 1922 (all values). How this variety appeared is a mystery. Students say that it is found always on the fifth and eleventh stamps, counting left to right of the unbroken dozens constituting the horizontal strips, when separated from the sheets. It is also found on the fifth and tenth stamps, counting upwards from the join of the vertical strips.

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Your editor's theory is that when Harrison originally set up its type, a single defective "1" was used for the date of the fifth overprint of the top row (assuming that the electro plate consisted of 30 subjects, arranged 6 x 5 - four electros thus arranged in a block of four would make up the half sheet of 120 subjects). If we plot the 120 subject sheet, as we have done on the right, the defective "1" appears in its proper location, both horizontally and vertically.



If this theory is correct, then there would be eight tall "1's" to a full sheet of 240 subjects or approximately 16 only in a roll of 480 stamps. Assuming the correctness of the number of rolls prepared, there would be approximately 8,832 (1/2d), 4,800 (1d), 768 (1 1/2d) and 4,800 (2d).

2. Meredith's 4th edition lists the 1/2d Harrison Saorstat with watermark inverted and reversed.

3. End Tab Controls:	1/2d	1d	1 1/2d	2d (Die II)
Horizontal	P	O	N	T
Vertical	G	E	L	R

4. Capital S of Saorstat accented. Mr. C.F. McLoughlin, in Philatelic Journal of Great Britain for December 1927, pages 201-4, "The Second Harrison Overprint" discussed a number of major and minor varieties of the issue. He listed as a major variety on all values, and occurring always on the first stamp to the right of the join in the horizontal, and on the second stamp counting upwards from the join in the vertical series. This flaw was caused by a small piece of the top of the S breaking away and slowly forming into what is almost a perfect accent. This is found in various stages. The flaw is even found degenerated into a dot corresponding to the aspirate.

5. There also also a number of minor variations listed both by Meredith and Mr. McLoughlin which would be of interest only to the specialist.

