

The Revealer



QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

VOL. XXVI NO. 4

APRIL, 1977

WHOLE NO 126



THE REVEALER

Published quarterly by the Eire Philatelic Association at \$5.00 per year, which includes membership and all the privileges of the association.

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(Affiliate No. 21 — The American Philatelic Society)

WHOLE NO. 126

APRIL, 1977

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REVEALER ADVERTISING

All advertising should be sent to the Editor along with a check payable to the Eire Philatelic Association at least 6 weeks prior to the next issue.

ADVERTISING RATES

Size of Ad	One Insertion	Yearly Rate (4)
Full Page	\$40.00	\$140.00
Half Page	30.00	100.00
Quarter Page	20.00	70.00
Eighth Page	10.00	35.00

Secretary's Report Feb. 28, 1977

On March 1st, 1971, I took on the duties of Secretary of the E.P.A. at the urging of the late Gil Roberts. About a year later, because of Gil's deteriorating health, I added the duties of Treasurer. I accepted the appointments with the understanding that they were to be only "temporary." Now, six years later, I am relinquishing my "temporary" positions . . . not without some regrets. It has been a rewarding experience. Much has happened. The Association has grown and prospered. I have made many fine friends working for the EPA. It's hard to realize but we have darn near doubled in size since March, 1971.

I would like to thank the very many members who took the time to drop me a line of encouragement over the years. Although I may not have answered all of them, they were all deeply appreciated. Mike Lenane is taking on the duties of Secretary-Treasurer, aided and abetted by Mike Giffney overseas. I urge you to give Mike the fine support that you gave to me.

JOHN J. BLESSINGTON

NEW MEMBERS

- 1230 THEODORE P. McNULTY, 9 Marion Road, Princeton, N.J. 08540
1231 VINCENT ZANATA, 36 Magnolia Ave., Dumont, N.J. 07628
1232 T. DAVID McCULLOUGH, 220 W. Seminole Dr., Phoenix, Ariz. 85023
1233 RUDOLPH J. DEL GRANDE, 3961 Portola Dr., Santa Cruz, Ca. 95062
1234 ELAINE B. PROKESCH, 30 Admiral Dr., New London, Conn. 06320
1235 DANIEL E. BROWN, 4511 Fenwick Court, Charlotte, N.C. 28209
1236 DAVID ADAM, P.O. Box 195, 4 Dusseldorf-Oberkassel, W. Germany
1237 WILLIAM STEVENS, 6 Northumberland Rd., Gravesend, Kent DA13 9JP, U.K.
1238 ALFRED ALLSHIRE, Nirvana, Fennels Bay, Myrreville, Co. Cork, Ireland
1239 PATRICK BROWNE, 20 Slashdub Estate, Glasheen Rd., Cork, Ireland
1240 J. E. DOWNEY, 70 Coneygree Road, Peterborough PE2 8JK, U.K.
1241 EDWARD FITZGERALD, 1 Willow Park Drive, Glasnevin Nth, Dublin 11, Ireland
1242 JAMES HAMILL, Ferbane, Offaly, Ireland
1243 JOSEPH A. MCCARTHY, 92 Mayorstone Dr., Limerick, Ireland
1244 JAMES KINSELLA, C/O L.O.F.S., Sheriff St., Dublin, Ireland
1245 GARRY LEONARD, 43 Blackcastle, Navan, Co. Meath, Ireland
1246 CHRIS MOEYART, Hoge Weg 335, B8200 Brugg 2, Belgium
1247 EILEEN MORRISSEY, 11 Stella Road, Umina Beach, 2257 N.S.W., Australia
1248 MYRON E. EGERTON, 56 Dominick St., Galway, Ireland
1249 JOHN O'LEARY, 3 Carrigdhoun, Mardyke, Cork, Ireland
1250 RICHARD L. MEWHINNEY, 4 John Glenn Rd., Morristown, N.J. 07960
1251 STAN KLUGIEWICZ, 1500 W. Dundee Road, Arlington Heights, Ill. 60004

REINSTATED

- LM6 Dr. THOMAS F. ARMSTRONG Jr., 210 Southview Dr., Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034
423 DAVID FELDMAN, 102, Leinster Road, Dublin 6, Ireland
692 NORBERT FRIELING, 4401 Albachten, Hohe Geist 14, W. Germany
749 SHIELA M. PFAFFLIN, 173 Gates Ave., Gillette, N.J. 07933
786 IAN WHYTE, Silverspring, Breffni Rd., Sandycove, Co. Dublin, Ireland

DECEASED

Percy Murray, Clarence J. O'Brien and Pat Sullivan

RESIGNED

Denis J. Behen, James J. Etherton, Patrick M. Lynch, Daniel C. Murphy, William J. O'Toole, Ralph A. Weil

DROPPED: NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| G. T. Banner | John M. Karnauskas | Greg Schroeder |
| John C. Bates | John W. Kastner | Jay J. Singer |
| Edward J. Benchik | Travis Lafferty | Catherine L. Stewart |
| Jean S. Boatright | Carl Edgar Law | Daniel Sullivan |
| Frank J. Broderick | Jessica Loso | Susan Swift |
| John F. Burns | Michael McCarthy | George Warnock |
| Ralph W. Clark | Donal J. McClure | Jay G. Duncan |
| Edouard Cointreau | Duane Matteson | Nina Woessner |
| Frank F. Conley | John J. Meehan | Van Ness Philip |
| Robert E. Conophy | John J. Murphy | |
| Gerald D. Cooley | Rev. Geo. L. O'Brien | |
| David J. Deorio | Rev. Garner Scott Odell | |
| Arthur Dove | Walter E. O'Hara | |
| Harry Florence | Keith E. Passino | |
| John L. Geddes | Walter H. Ponishtera | |
| David K. Hagens | Marie Riordan | |
| Kathleen Hans | Linda K. Ryan | |
| Richard V. Hunt | Thomas M. Ryder | |

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Members as of Nov. 30, 1976	572
New members	22
Reinstated	5
Deceased	3
Resigned	6
Dropped	45
Members as of Feb. 28, 1977	545

Treasurer's Annual Report

August 31, 1976

INCOME

Dues		\$1,893.40
Sales: Special Revealer	\$775.00	
Westpex Card	205.53	
Misc.	108.65	1,089.18
Auctions		310.55
Interest		79.45
Advertising		340.19
Gratuities		215.69
TOTAL		\$3,928.46

EXPENSES

Postage	\$155.60
Revealer Printing	2,987.84
Publication Expense	100.22
Misc. Exp. (Printing, Stationery)	193.26
Sales Exp.	102.21
Income over expense	389.33
TOTAL	\$3,928.46

Editorial

After four years as editor of *The Revealer*, I have decided to turn over the editorship to John Blessington. Outside business activities have all but eliminated the free time I used to devote to my philatelic interests. To insure a continued journal of high calibre, I felt it best if I stepped down as editor.

These past years have been very rewarding for me. Not only has *The Revealer* won numerous awards at both national and international literature competitions, but the many new friends I've made through our publication have been payment enough. It is a very difficult job to try to please over 500 members with varying interests in Irish philately. I've tried my best to see that every issue would hold something of important interest to everyone.

The hardest part of my job was the transition period from the old I.P.C.-E.P.A. "Journal of Irish Philately" back to our own separate journal. Once a suitable printer was found, and all the requirements for printing, editing, and posting each issue were ironed out, the job became a matter of routine. But as with everything else, change is needed from time to time to stimulate new ideas and improvements. I am sure my most capable successor, John Blessington, will further improve upon our publication.

In closing, I would like to extend my very personal thanks to my staff, namely Joseph Foley, John McManus, and John Keough, for all their assistance in making each issue possible. Thanks must also be extended to Fred Dixon, Bruce Weinman, Bill Kane, Michael Priestly, Pdraig O Mathuna, and all the others whose articles and information have made each issue complete and informative.

I intend to continue writing, concentrating on updating my Irish Aerophilately and Irish Revenue studies for future *Revealer* issues. I hope that our members will give our new editor all the support that they have given to me in the past. Naturally, I will assist John Blessington in every way I can and I want to wish him success in his future as our editor.

James Brady
April, 1977

Election Of Officers

President Preston Pope has appointed a nominating committee consisting of J. E. Foley, chairman, E. J. Ryan and J. J. Blessington.

In addition to nominations made by the Committee, in accordance with Article IV, Section 3 of the E.P.A. Constitution, nominations may be made by five (5) or more members in writing provided they are filed with the Secretary not later than June 15, 1977.

Although not required by the Constitution, it would be desirable for members contemplating making nominations to first secure the agreement of the potential nominee to serve in the position being considered, and to advise the editor of the *Revealer* as well as the Secretary by June 1, 1977, to insure that their candidates are suitably noted in our journal.

The report of the nominating committee will be published in the July, 1977, issue of *The Revealer* and ballots will be mailed with that issue.

Numeral Cancellations

by J. E. Foley

This is really more of an appeal to those of you who may be interested in these postal markings than an exposition on the subject.

In the Sept.-Oct., 1961, issue of *The Revealer*, Dr. Brian de Burca made mention of the Record Books of the obliterations on file in London. G. Brumell in the preface to his outstanding work, *British Post Office Numbers, 1844-1906*, also refers to the Proof Books of the Post Office Record Department. Dr. de Burca also made it possible for samples from the Proof Book to be illustrated in the "Postmarks" Supplement (No. 26, Jan., 1966) of *The Revealer*.

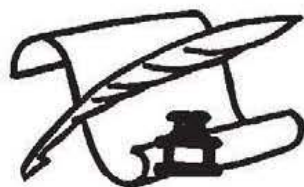
These records are apparently still in existence in London. Several years ago, I inquired about the possibility of obtaining copies. At that time only photostats were available and the cost was prohibitive. However, the concept of obtaining copies might now be economically feasible for two reasons: 1.) Less expensive methods such as Xerox directly or indirectly from microfilm are now available, and 2.) It appears that there are more collectors today who are interested in this type of material. Thus the initial cost would be spread over a larger base.

It should be noted that these records include some strikes of obliterations that apparently were never put to use and, of course, excludes obliterations that might have been manufactured in Ireland. In the latter case, it is suspected that the Irish records were destroyed in 1916.

A few of us have discussed this and feel that if the cost of a set of copies of the Proof Books could be kept to under \$50, the project could be undertaken. What is needed is the service of a member who resides near London and has the time and interest to make the arrangements with the British Post Office Record Department and who could insure that the master copies were complete and of proper quality. Multiple copies could then be made from these masters using one of the relatively inexpensive dry copying methods.

I hope that this article will bring forth a volunteer from the London area. Also, I would like to hear from all members who would be interested in purchasing a set of copies. The exact number of pages is unknown, but it is expected to be several hundred. When writing to express your interest, please bear in mind that the cost could run as high as \$50. This will be a non-profit venture and the subscription for the sets of copies will be at actual cost, with an accounting of these costs to accompany each set.

Please let me hear from you at the earliest possible date.



Random Notes

by F. E. Dixon

MACHINE CANCELLATION DATES

A batch of envelopes posted in November, 1976, revealed that Bandon still had its year line blank; Clonakilty had a long dash; Fermoy was still using 1975!

Another envelope was from Thurles, with slogan POST EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS, but clearly dated 16.1 — an error for 16. XII.

CHRISTMAS STAMPS SHADES

Some of the apparent shade variations result from colour shifts, notably of the red. The red was included as part of the dark brown, but when displaced even ½mm shows up strongly as an independent colour.

EXPRESS

More use is being made in Ireland of the "Express" service in attempts to reduce delays in delivery. Has any Irish office used a distinctive canceller for Express mail? A recent letter expressed from Cork had a parcels post handstamped cancellation, and on reverse had a registered (CLARAITHE) date-stamp as well — neither correct.

Could it be that there is no Irish word for "Express"?

CHRISTMAS STAMPS DESIGN

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs 1976 Christmas Card reproduced the painting used for the stamp design, thereby revealing a typical designer's stupidity! At the upper left the picture shows the angel appearing to the shepherds with their sheep. But the stamps include only the lower half of one shepherd and the sheep are not recognizable as such. If the cut had been made at the other side only a piece of Joseph's robe would have been lost.

POSTAL HISTORY

The second installment of "The Irish Post Office 1784-1830" appeared in the Jan.-Feb. issue of the Bulletin of the P.H.S. One peculiar mistake in it sites the old Dublin GPO in Suffolk St. The back entrance was there: the front was on College Green.

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY

This year the "RDS" added to its programme of Christmas holiday events for children a day on collecting. The morning concerned coins and the afternoon stamps. I showed slides and talked about the development of philately, and was followed by Seamus Kearns on what to collect and how to collect. There was an associated trade show, at which samples of albums, catalogues and accessories were shown by Nummus Ltd. It had been intended for teenagers but of about 150 boys and girls who came most were 10 to 12 year-olds. However, they formed a receptive audience and asked many sensible questions.

WEXFORD MALTESE CROSS

When I was redistributing to the appropriate files and albums the material loaned to the Wexford Festival it caught my eye that the "Maltese Cross" on a piece of 1842 had a distinctive feature. The central diamond is not symmetrical, the angle at one point being appreciably larger than that opposite.

DUBLIN DATE STAMPS

Hitherto I have been sceptical about the existence of octagonal stamps made by filing down the "mermaid" design. Now my attitude is changed by my having what seems to be an example, in orange-red, dated 15 Jan. 1813 on a letter forwarded

to Dublin. There is on it also a black mermaid of four days earlier when the letter passed through Dublin on the outward journey.

"POSTAGE PAID"

Most "postage paid" markings relate to prepayment of postage. A cover just bought is different. It had been posted unpaid from Dublin to Delgany. The 3d was paid there — with a neat manuscript endorsement — but it was readdressed to Dublin, with a further 3d due.

BALLYCASTLE C.D.S. CANCELLATION

In 1844 Ballycastle, Co. Antrim, was allotted number 37, and for some years its canceller was the rhomboid with that number. By the 1890s it had a duplex type, numbered 41. When did the number change? How long was it without a number?

Evidence suggesting a part answer to the second question is supplied by envelopes in 1867 and 1870 bearing 1d reds cancelled with Ballycastle's circular date stamp. In each case the stamp is impressed on the reverse of the envelope.

Pagust

The Christmas 1976 issue of the Irish Post Office staff magazine is an excellent number. It is, however, ironic that the T in its title signifies "Telegraphs" whereas the dominant theme of the magazine is the development of the telephone service! An item of great interest to postal historians is a pair of photographs of a Letter Carrier of 1860. For other philatelists the only feature is the list of special issues for 1977.

1976 CHRISTMAS STAMPS

The most remarkable feature of this issue is the wide range of variation of colour, between different sheets and between different stamps on the same sheet. For example, note the first two stamps on the top row of any value!

Enough Is Enough

by J. E. Foley

Or perhaps just a bit too much. For the past five years there has been a national Stamp Exhibition in Dublin, STAMPA. The concept has merit and has always had the support of several philatelic groups including the endorsement of the E.P.A. However, I for one, have strong reservations about the overprinting of the souvenir sheet issued originally for the U.S. Bicentennial for the show. The overprinting was limited to the selvedge or margin on the sheet and carried the inscription: "Stampa '76 Dublin November 11-14 1976 — Irish National Stamp Exhibition — Taispeantas Naisiunta Stampai" and apparently they were serially numbered. It has been reported that the overprinting was done privately and condoned, permitted, or at least not objected to by the Irish Post Office. It's been further stated that only slightly less than 3,000 were issued and available only to visitors to the show. To me this is mere gimmickry! It is tampering with a legitimate postage stamp by other than a postal agency and as such reflects poorly on both the Irish Post Office and the organizing committee of Stampa.

To rub salt in the wound, an Irish dealer recently ran a quarter page ad in Linn's offering a "limited" supply of 200 folders each containing three of these sheets (one each; mint, used and FDC) for \$30. If the issue was so restricted, how did one dealer manage to corner 20 per cent of the available supply?

I for one can do very nicely without this item in my collection and question how any exhibit containing this dubious "issue" would fair under F.I.P. rules.

EPA AUCTION NO. 39

CLOSING DATE — JUNE 15, 1977

SEND BIDS TO: Bruce C. Weinman, P.O. Box 274, Cedar Grove, New Jersey 07009

Lot No.	Description	Reserve
1.	Sc 1-4, Dollards, mint LH-H, F-VF	1.00
2.	Sc 1-2, 1/2d & 1d Dollards, 5 good-fine used pairs (10 stamps)	0.25
3.	Sc 16b, 2d Thom die I, S22 imperf control single, mint H, Fine	0.50
4.	Sc 33, 9d Thom green, mint H, F-VF	1.00
5.	Sc 1 var, 1/2d Dollard, 2 singles with op shifted to the right and left so that some letters are missing, mint LH-H, VF	2.00
6.	Political Label, circa 1912, "Ireland A Nation," see Revealer No. 115 page 931-932, creased SE copy with full og gum	2.50
7.	Political Label on cover, Sinn Fein perf 11 on interesting cover, cachet showing "Badge of the United Irishmen," not cancelled, VF	4.00
8.	Sc 45 var, 1d Saorstat, 3 stamps each with type flaw, NH, VF	2.50
9.	Sc 16 (x3), 16b(x4), 2d Thoms, all with 3-22 — 5-22 cancellations	0.75
10.	Sc 9-11, Red Dollards, mint very LH, VF	5.00
11.	Sc GB 3, 1d red lettered se on piece and tied with black MC, has Dublin Diamond datestamp	1.00
12.	as above, "gh" but not tied	1.00
13.	Political Labels, Sinn Fein & Female and Harp, 2 items, fair copies	3.00
14.	Sc 46 var, pr one with broken "1" in date other than dropped 2, mint F	2.00
15.	Sc 2 var, 1d Dollard margin blk of 12 with off-set on rev, mint are NH, has small margin tear, VF	6.00
16.	Sc 51 var, 5d Saorstat, off-set on rev, mint LH, VF	1.00
17.	2d Thom 5-line op, 3 used copies with few letters missing	1.50
18.	Sc 256, 6d, PVA gum, mint NH, VF	0.60
19.	Sc 259, 9d, PVA gum, mint NH, VF	0.60
20.	Sc 261, 1s, PVA gum, mint NH, VF	1.10
21.	Sc J12 var, 8d due, wmk inverted, mint LH, VF	5.50
22.	Sc 107a, 1d map pane, mint NH, VF	1.00
23.	Sc 111a, 3d cross pane, mint NH, VF	1.50
24.	as above, except wmk inv and Fine	1.70
25.	Sc 128, O'Clery pane, mint NH, VF	3.00
26.	as above	3.00
27.	Sc 256a, 6p pane, mint NH, VF	4.00
28.	as above but Fine	3.70
29.	1956 Irish Unity Seals, Hib L38-45, full sheet with margins, NH, VF	2.00
30.	Sc 107, 110, 111, Defins with inv wmk, Fine, used	1.50
31.	Sc 214 var, Casement with diagonal line flaw, Fine, used	2.00
32.	Sc 167-68, Aikenhead, Fine, used	1.25
33.	Sc 101-2, Father Mathew, 3d poor, 2d fine; Sc 144 St. Peter, 4 copies of the 9d value, Fine, (6 items) used	5.00
The following 20 lots are Postal Stationery, all in VF mint condition, numbers refer to David Feldman's Handbook.		
34.	Wrapper, PSW 12, 1957, 2d green	0.90
35.	as above	0.90
36.	Postcard, PSPC 9, 1951, 2d green on off white paper	0.90
37.	as above	0.90
38.	Postcard, PSPC 9, 1951, 2d green on white paper	0.90
39.	as above	0.90
40.	Postcard, PSPC 7, 1947, 1/2d purple on off white paper	11.00
41.	as above	11.00
42.	Postcard, PSPC 12, 1971, 2/2p brown on white	2.95
43.	Lettercard, PSLC 9, 1958, 3d blue	3.50
44.	as above	3.50
45.	Envelope, PSE 16, 1953 provisional, 1/2d green & 2/2d brown	12.00
46.	as above	12.00
47.	Envelope, PSE 17, 1954-55, 3d blue	1.35
48.	as above	1.35
49.	Envelope, PSE 18, 1962, 4d blue	1.35
50.	as above	1.35
51.	Reg Env, PSRE 36, 1/1 blue, size F	3.75
52.	Reg Env, PSRE 42, 14p green with incorrect text, size G	1.00
53.	as above	1.00
54.	Sc 194-195 var, "Tower Flaw" in superb mint NH margin blocks of 10, DF C88a - C89a	40.00
55.	Sc 121-123 var, DF D30A-32A, high vals on cream paper, NH, VF	20.00
56.	Sc 145 var on cover, 2/2d Moore showing "Thomas Moore" Re-entry, Hib C39a, a VF item	6.00
57.	Sc 147 var on cover, 2/2d An Tostal, showing missing dot over "p" of "2/2p", Hib C41a, VF	3.00
58.	Sc 147 var on cover, 2/2d An Tostal, showing malformed "5" in "1953" VF	1.50

59.	Sc 145 on cover and cancelled with boxed wavy bar cancel without slogan interesting and VF	1.00
60.	Sc 79b variety, wide date from broken "s" plate, 10/- showing early stage of the flat accent variety, LH, VF mint	75.00
61.	Sc 77b-78b, 2/6 & 5/- wide date, both are VF and LH mint, 2 6 shows minor crease visible from back	25.00
62.	Lot of 53 Irish covers containing slogans, coil stamps, high values, officials, meters, etc. Mostly modern but some earlier material, interesting	5.00
63.	Two stampless covers, Waterford to Cork, both with Waterford datestamp and rate markings, one 1838 rate, and the other at the 1840 1d. rate	6.00
64.	1866 Legal Declaration for Immigration to the USA from County Kerry, bears two 6p. green Petty Session revenue stamps, all handwritten it is an extremely interesting and unusual piece, very good condition	10.00
65.	1937 Postcard from Tipperary to London at old 1/2d. rate marked in black 1d. postage due handstamp and GB postage due stamp attached	1.00
66.	1954 Marian Year first day cover with the very rare slogan cancel "La a Chead Elsiuna First day of issue," Hibernian Cat. No. SP86, cat. value 18.00	6.00
67.	First flight covers, 1945 Limerick to New York on flagship London, 1974 TWA flight Dublin to New York, 1974 flight by Aer Lingus Dublin to Geneva and return, and cover from 1972 Balloon Championships of Ireland meet	6.00
68.	1912 Imperial Union Label, Hib. 13a, dull yellow green, no gum, sm. thin	6.00
69.	Sc. 1, 3, 4 (2), 7-9, 10 (2), 11, mint Dollards, unused, hinged	10.00
70.	Sc. 28, mint LH, dull violet shade, unusual, tiny thin	1.00
71.	Sc. 52 (2), 54, 55, all used, sm. faults	2.00
72.	Sc. 65-76, Definitive set, mint, VF LH	16.00
73.	Sc. 76 (2) both mint VF LH, two different shades	15.00
74.	Sc. 98 (2) both used with parcel cancels	5.00
75.	Sc. 106-117, 137-8, Definitive set, mint VF LH	15.00
76.	Sc. 117, 1 - Definitive, mint VF LH	12.00
77.	Sc. 120, 4 stamps, mint, used, and broken pillar and statue varieties	1.00
78.	Sc. 172, 174, 176, 178, used commemorative high values	2.00
79.	Sc. J3, Postage due stamp with watermark inverted, used	2.00

Postal Rate Increases

The following item was printed in the January 1977 Irish press concerning an increase in postal rates to begin on April 1.

The cost of posting a letter will go up by a penny to 10p, and postcards by a similar amount to 8p. The smallest parcel will cost 5p more at 40p. Letters and postcards sent abroad go up by a penny to 12p and 9p respectively.

Printed papers and samples, and newspapers will also cost more to post and charges will increase pro rata with the weight.

Also up are airmail charges, registered letters, insurance, cash on delivery charges, customs clearance and express delivery. Charges from postal orders, money orders, bulk post and "accelerated" surface mail will also be increased.

Show And Area News

NOJEX — Our report on the NOJEX '76 Exhibition Award in the last issue should also have included the small silver medal awarded John Keough for his "Voice of Ireland-Flight Cover" display. Our apologies to Jack.

ED SULLIVAN — The North Shore Philatelic Society of Chicago, Ill., had Ed Sullivan as their guest speaker on Jan. 24, 1977. Ed gave an informative lecture on Irish postal history.

FELDMAN ZURICH AUCTION — David Feldman will hold another auction in Zurich in June, 1977. There will be a very extensive Irish section including many items not seen on the philatelic market for many years. Catalogues are available from David Feldman Ltd., 102 Leinster Road, Dublin 6, Ireland, at \$2.00 surface and \$5.00 air mail.

PRICED REALIZED — SALE NO. 37

NS — Not Sold		WD — Withdrawn	
Lot	Price	Lot	Price
1.	1.20	29.	7.50
2.	1.00	30.	6.25
3.	0.75	31.	8.25
4.	1.00	32.	NS
5.	3.50	33.	10.00
6.	4.00	34.	15.00
7.	6.25	35.	4.50
8.	25.00	36.	1.10
9.	1.10	37.	4.50
10.	6.25	38.	NS
11.	3.50	39.	NS
12.	7.75	40.	2.25
13.	4.00	41.	9.25
14.	NS	42.	5.50
15.	7.25	43.	3.00
16.	16.50	44.	8.50
17.	33.00	45.	5.50
18.	1.35	46.	4.00
19.	3.00	47.	NS
20.	1.55	48.	12.00
21.	2.10	49.	2.75
22.	18.00	50.	2.50
23.	WD	51.	10.00
24.	1.25	52.	6.25
25.	3.50	53.	1.30
26.	3.25	54.	5.25
27.	3.50	55.	66.00
28.	1.45	56.	25.00
		57.	18.00
		58.	0.50
		59.	NS
		60.	12.50
		61.	15.50
		62.	36.00
		63.	5.00
		64.	NS
		65.	NS
		66.	NS
		67.	3.00
		68.	NS
		69.	8.00
		70.	1.50
		71.	3.00
		72.	5.00
		73.	5.00
		74.	0.95
		75.	2.00
		76.	0.75
		77.	7.50
		78.	3.75
		79.	1.90
		80.	5.25
		81.	4.25
		82.	3.25
		83.	NS
		84.	30.00
		85.	15.50
		86.	0.50
		87.	13.00
		88.	10.50
		89.	5.25
		90.	4.25
		91.	12.50
		92.	15.00
		93.	13.00
		94.	9.25
		95.	21.00
		96.	4.25
		97.	5.25
		98.	6.25
		99.	7.25
		100.	6.25
		101.	7.25
		102.	4.25
		103.	NS
		104.	30.00
		105.	NS
		106.	NS
		107.	4.00
		108.	2.50
		109.	2.75
		110.	7.25
		111.	4.00
		112.	6.75



The second variety occurs on the 5p. value, row 9 stamp 5, of both the watermarked and unwatermarked series. A large size bulb appears on the tail of the number 5.

New Issues

DEFINITIVE STAMP ROLL AND STAMP BOOK

The Post Office will issue a new stamp roll and a new stamp book in the current definitive designs on Monday 21st March, 1977.

The new roll will be made up of 10p coils, each coil containing 1 stamp at 5p, 2 stamps at 2p and 1 stamp at 1p. The complete roll will contain 3,000 stamps and will cost £75.

The new book will cost 50p and will contain 5 stamps at 7p, 5 stamps at 2p and 5 stamps at 1p.

Orders for the new roll, new book and coils from the new roll may be sent to: The Controller, Philatelic Section, G.P.O., Dublin 1, Ireland. A first day of issue service will not be available.

Recent Definitive Varieties

by John Lyall, EPA No. 1150

Two recent varieties I discovered on Irish definitive issues I felt might be of some interest to our members.



On the 1½p. value from the 5p. coil I found a pronounced break in the top of the spiral on the dog's shoulder. The variety occurs at regular intervals on the coil strips, but since the local P.O. never seems to have sufficient supplies of the coils on hand, I have not been able to find out the exact distance between the varieties.

E.P.A. SPECIAL OFFERS

The following items may be ordered from Edward J. Ryan, 19 Ruth Place, Glen Head, N.Y. 11545, U.S.A. All prices include postage and handling. Make all checks and money orders payable to E. J. Ryan.

THE "TAYLOR-MADE" FENIAN ESSAYS — J. E. Foley's study of the origin of the Fenian labels that appeared in *The American Philatelist*, has been reprinted as a booklet through a joint venture of the E.P.A. and the A.P.S. The 24-page booklet contains 25 illustrations and 80 footnotes. The origin is traced not to the Fenian Brotherhood, but to the notorious 19th century producer of bogus philatelic material S. Allan Taylor. Price \$1.25 each.

E.P.A. SEAL RUBBER STAMP — The official seal of the Eire Philatelic Association, as seen on the front cover and all official E.P.A. letterheads, has been reproduced into a rubber stamp available to our members. Dress up your envelopes and letters by using the official seal. Price \$2.75 each.

THE ADHESIVE REVENUE STAMPS OF IRELAND: 1858-1925 — James J. Brady's detailed study of Irish revenue stamps as reprinted from *The American Philatelist*. All the revenues from this period have been placed into easy-to-follow catalog form with many interesting details related to these issues. The booklet begins with the pre-Victorian revenues and ends with the Provisional Government Overprints of 1925. The 20-page booklet contains over 85 illustrations and is a must for the Irish collector. Price \$1.75 each to members and \$2.00 each to non-members.

Chile: The Dollard "Valdivia Heads"

By A. R. Dublet, F.R.P.S.L.

The following article is reprinted from *The Mainsheet*, Vol. 4, No. 15, March-August 1976 with the permission of both the author and editor.

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There has always been a mystery surrounding these so-called "essays." Even the article which appeared in the PJGB of July-Sept. 1959, reproduced with permission in the David Feldman Newsletter, Vol. 2, No. 13, does not really solve the mystery. The conclusion reached was . . . "It would appear, therefore, that these "Valdivia" labels . . . are specimens of the quality of printing which Messrs. Dollards could produce." The question, "Why was the Chilean design chosen for this purpose?" was answered by the comment, "No one seems to know . . ." What does now seem evident, is that there was no "pirating" of an American Bank Note Company stamp.

In what appears to be a significant step forward in solving this mystery, it must be explained that the contract for the supply of postage and fiscal stamps, made between the Chilean Government and the American Bank Note Co. of New York, was due to expire in 1915. This included, inter alia, the production of the "Presidential" series. Some three years earlier, in 1912, the Chilean Government, through their Minister for Foreign Affairs, approached their Minister in London, Agustin Edwards, with the object of studying the possibility of installing in Chile an establishment for the production of postage and fiscal stamps and related material. Edwards, of British descent, was undoubtedly the prime mover in these events. Negotiations were subsequently entered into with Thomas Macdonald of London, owner of a firm of printers and engravers, to whom the contract was eventually given. A large amount of sub-contracting had to be arranged, machinery to Hoe and Co. and to Messrs. Waste and Saville, paper to Samuel Jones & Co., ink to B. Winstone & Sons. Other firms were also involved.

At the time all this was being arranged, Edwards thought the American Bank Note Co. would be ready to hand over to the Chilean Government the various plates used to produce the first "Presidential" issue (as it was intended to carry on with this particular set) with a substantial saving in overall cost, but he appeared to be ignorant of the fact that the internal regulations of the American company prohibited the transfer of any such material to outside sources, in spite of the fact that customers had paid for all such work in their original contracts. In the circumstances, Macdonald was instructed to arrange for the engraving of dies and plates for stamps identical to those in current use. Many of the frames, as well as the vignettes, were accordingly prepared in London, the engraving of the effigies being done by John Augustus Charles Harrison, former engraver to Waterlow Bros. & Layton, but at that time employed by Macdonald.

The first plates from which the Chilean Post Office printed its own stamps were sent out in late 1914 and early 1915 and consisted of the 1 centavo and 2 centavo (bust of Valdivia) values, respectively nos. 157/8 in Stanley Gibbons Overseas Catalogue, Part I. The impressions were not very good and both values were the subject of re-engraved plates, the 1 centavo in 1920 and the 2 centavos some little time before. It is this re-engraved 2 centavos, minus all the words, which is similar in all respects to the so-called "Valdivia" essay. At the moment, Gibbons only refer to the re-engraved 1 centavo (no. 157a) but it is expected that the re-engraved 2 centavos will also receive recognition in the next edition of their catalogue. Mr. A. L.

Michael, Chairman of Stanley Gibbons Ltd., was kind enough to let me look through a book which his firm has acquired containing many of the proofs, including the re-engraved 2 centavos, prepared by Macdonald; on the page relative to that value is what appears to be a progress proof with all the words blocked out, and corresponding exactly to the "Valdivia" essay. Mr. Schooley West, Keeper of the Philatelic Section of the British Library, was equally kind to let me see similar proofs in the possession of the Library. Proofs I have subsequently acquired myself confirm the facts. Incidentally, among all the very many proofs I have seen, this is the only stamp with all the words blocked out: this could be a coincidence or perhaps it could mean that this die might have been adapted specially for Dollards' use.

It seems clear, therefore, that there must have been some arrangement between Dollards and Macdonald whereby the latter prepared a small plate (4 x 6) from a progress die of the 2 centavos re-engraved Chilean stamp, or maybe from a die with all the words cut away, and then sheets were printed in some nine colours which Dollards presented to the G.P.O. Dublin as evidence of the standard they were able to produce. Presumably, had Dollards secured the printing contract, the work would have been sub-contracted to Macdonald, at least so far as the preparation of the plates was concerned.

It is to be assumed that the Chilean Government was not aware of these moves on the part of Macdonald (probably because only three parties were involved) and it does seem very strange that the G.P.O. Dublin did not express more surprise at the use of a Spanish conquistador to illustrate a sample of Dollard's printing ability. It would be interesting to know how many sheets were printed from the small plate and whether, in fact, these were printed by Dollards or Macdonald. My own leaning is towards Macdonald, who printed a number of colour trials for an unissued Chilean stamp (the 4 centavos with bust of Balmaceda). Perhaps someone else may be able to add to and complete the story.

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+ + +

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INTERESTED in buying Irish Postal Stationery including Envelopes, Wrappers, Telegram and Air Letter Forms, Etiquettes etc. W. J. O'Donnell, East Fox Chase Road, Chester, New Jersey 07930

WANTED: Irish overprints, coils, booklet panes, mint and used. Have U.S., Canada, British & Foreign to trade. David A. Scribner, Box 103, E. Dixfield, Maine 04227

EXCHANGE: I am interested in exchanging my award winning Irish Revenue collection for better U.S.A. and Canadian mint stamps. I am not interested in common material, only better items or sets. Will also consider buy offers. James Brady, 55 Lockwood Street, Newark, N.J. 07105, U.S.A.

TRANSLATIONS FROM KOHL'S HANDBOOK *By Dr. Herbert Munk*

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Irish Free State

Translated by H. G. Zervas

In a listing by Stafford Johnson (St. Coll. XIC page 603) the 6d. value is also included as occurring without accent, however, this is probably a case of a weakly impressed accent, as they have also been observed in others of the typographed values, and in the engraved values (see under these). For this reason the variety "missing accent" is preferably collected in pairs or blocks with the right hand margin attached.

Although blue-black ink was used in the early printings in which the variety "missing accent" occurred, the subsequent correction of this variety was made with dull black ink. The added accent may, therefore, be recognized by the variation of its color from the remainder of the overprint. Because of the manual application of the added accents, their appearance and form vary considerably in that they appear now long and thin, or short and thick, often small, but also much too large. For the same reason their position varies often being too high or too low, sometimes placed between the a and the t, or even over the t. Finally, because of the manner of application we find the accents printed double, ½ and 1d.; or even triple ½d.; also inverted, that is with the point toward the upper right instead of the lower left, and lastly double or triple, one impression inverted, ½d.

At first the 1d. showed the accent missing only in subject 180 as in the other values. It was not until one of the later printings of this value that the final t also disappeared. This development is explained in this manner by the fact that this variety occurs in none of the other values, and also by means of the Controls for these two 1d. varieties. Sheets of the 1d. with missing accent bore the Control T 22, see above, whereas sheets showing missing accent and t had the later Control U 22. In the missing t variety the right lower portion of the preceding a is also missing. There appear to have been instances in which, beside the t, the preceding a has also been corrected manually, resulting in a double impression of the a, see Lot 189 of Harmer's Catalogue of the Agnew Collection.

Both the 1d. varieties 45a and 45c are reckoned among the greatest rarities of the Irish Free State, the missing accent being even rarer than the accent and t missing. The Agnew Collection contained a whole sheet of 240 stamps showing the variety missing accent. A block of this variety with Control T 22 was sold at a London Auction in 1932 for £65. The Vesey Collection contained a block of 21 stamps with Control U 22 showing the variety missing accent and t, which realized £67.10d. in Nov. 1933 at the sale of this collection.

The variety S over 3, instead of Sa over e, does not occur in this plate.

The following, apparently constant, varieties do occur in

this plate:

- Row 11, subject 7 — e of (Eir)e(ann) like a c,
- Row 15, subject 3 — 1 of 1922 lacks upper serif,
- Row 20, subject 1 — last 2 of 1922 too low.

At times the 1 of 1922 is somewhat too small, compare this position with the same position in Plate II. The variety (Sa)c(rstat), o broken at right, seems to have occurred in this plate also. The first line is sometimes found with a fine line printing over Saorstat (scarce), as follows:

- ½d. Row 7 subject 10,
- Row 17 subject 3,
- 1 d. Row 16 subject 12,
- 2½d. Row 6 subject 10,
- 9 d. Row 2 subject 5,
- Row 7 subject 2.

Plate II

The most important variety of Plate II is the incorrect setting S(aorstat) over E(ireann) instead of Sa over e, which occurred in two positions, namely:

- Row 7 subject 10; Row 10 subject 10.

In the first mentioned position the variety was corrected after a short time, whereas in the other position it recurred in later printings. As this variety does not occur in the other four plates of A7, it is relatively scarce, and commands a corresponding premium, in fact in the 10d. it commands a considerable premium.

The variety is preferably collected as a vertical strip with gutter margins attached.

As a further variety may be mentioned the raised last 2 of 1922 of the stamp row 20 subject 1. Compare same position in Plate I.

Plate III

Plate III was generally distinguished by the noticeably heavier impressions of the overprint. Its most noticeable variety is a raised a in (Saorst)a(t) which occurs in no less than three positions, namely:

- Row 4 subject 4; Row 8 subject 2; Row 12 subject 2.

Plates IV and V

The last two plates are distinguished from plates I, II and III in that they show none of the varieties mentioned for those plates. They are best distinguished, one from the other, in that in row 20 subject 2, directly over the Control, the first t in Saorstat is too large in plate IV, whereas in plate V in the position the t is normal size but generally split.

Other printing varieties of A7 are the occasional appearance of a guide block (trans. slug) which may be found printing

before or after any of the lines of the overprint.

Offsets on back are known of all the typographed values with the exception of the 2 and 3d.

In the British stamps, on sheets of 1d. bearing the Control T 22 perf. in row 15 subject 9, the variety O in One like Q again appears, a variety already mentioned in connection with No. 24 bearing the same Control. Also in sheets of the 1sh. Control T 22 imperf. we have a recurrence of the variety — mutilated lower bar of E in ONE in row 15 subject 9. Further in a few sheets of the 9d. a left marginal stamp showed a Q like O in Postage. At least one sheet of the 6d. was used for the A7 overprint having the watermark inverted and reversed, Control U 22 imperf.

OVERPRINTING PLATE FOR THE ENGRAVED VALUES

Missing Accent and Accent Grave Instead of Acute

Apparently there was only one plate used for the overprint A7 on the engraved values, which however, as in the case of plate I of the typographed stamps, is found in two different conditions. In a part of the earliest overprinting of all three values, the accent over the second a of Saorstát is missing in subjects 10 and 30, and in subject 28 it appears inverted and reversed, similar to an accent grave instead of acute. Inasmuch as the larger English stamp firms obtained their supplies in entire sheets of 40, these varieties and their locations were known in the early days of January, 1923. Sheets obtained in the later part of January, however, showed that the errors in the three positions had already been corrected (compare report of Whitefield King in St. Coll. of Feb. 3, 1923).

In the high values the missing accent was not subsequently added by hand. Due to the fact that in some of the later printings of the engraved stamps other positions showed the accents so weakly impressed as to show only faint traces of the accent and appear as if the accent were missing, which is no doubt due to the fact that the engraved portions of the stamp design present an uneven surface to the typographed overprint, the variety — "Missing Accent" is preferably collected in horizontal pairs with left hand margin attached, the right hand stamp showing the variety. The variety — accent grave is preferably collected in horizontal pairs with right hand margin attached, the right hand stamp showing the variety.

Sometime later in 1923 it seems that on a few sheets of the 10sh. the accent did not print on the 40th stamp, namely on the lower right hand corner of the sheet, and for this reason was removed from some of the sheets before distribution, whereas in some of the sheets it was added in bluish ink, see St. Coll. XXI page 261. Further details regarding this happening are not known to us, but the Agnew Collection contained a complete sheet of 40 of the 10sh. in which the 40th stamp had the accent supplied in blue ink.

A further variety is found on subject 34 showing the wrong setting S over e instead of Sa over e, which is preferably collected in vertical pairs, with lower margins attached, the top stamp showing the variety. This variety seems never to have been corrected. The misplacement of the lines causing this variety is not as pronounced in the engraved stamps as in the case of the typographed stamps. It is best recognized in that the right down-stroke of the last n of Eireann does not appear to be so far to the left, in reference to the a above it, as in the case of the typographed stamps. Premium 50 per cent.

Minor but constant overprinting varieties are: (Sa)c(rstat), o broken out at right, subject 20, and final a of Saorstát raised in subject 2. Occasionally on the 2sh.6d. and 5sh. values, subject 38, a square printer's slug will be found printing. The 5sh. is known with offset of overprint on back.

THE DOUBLE ENTRY ON THE 2SH.6D.

The only variety in the original stamps is the double entry of

the 2sh.6d. stamp, which occurred in one of the plates used for this value in the first half of 1923, was first discovered in a sheet bearing the Irish overprint A7 (see St. Coll. July 7, 1923 "The Current 2sh.6d. Great Britain" by Stafford). As has already been described elsewhere this double entry shows not only the horizontal and diagonal lines of the shield of Britannia doubled, but many of the lines of Britannia and Trident doubled. (Ed. Note: Other varieties of the high values have been documented, refer to Feldman or Hibernian catalogs.)

According to McLoughlin⁽²³⁾ the double entry of subject 2 is found with normal overprint as well as with overprint showing the raised a in Saorstát, whereas the overprint with raised a is found on subject 2 with, as well as without, the double entry. Accordingly McLoughlin identifies three printings, or part printings, of the original 2sh.6d. value, which vary in the color of the original stamp or in the overprints appearing on them.

Besides the real double entry on subject 2, the original 2sh.6d. stamps of this issue show many other slight doublings, for example: the frame lines slightly doubled or thicker. Such traces of doubling, for example, were found in various subjects of the sheet of the 2sh.6d. in which Johnson (McLoughlin?) first discovered the double entry on subject 2. It is possible that in most cases these slight doublings are not traces of double entries at all but simply double impressions or similar. (Trans. caused by a slight shifting of the sheet when placing it on the plate?)

SECOND OVERPRINT ISSUE OF THE IRISH FREE STATE

March 7, 1923

Typographed stamps ½, 1, 1½ and 2d. (Great Britain Kohl Nos. 148, 149, 150 and 151 II) with three line overprint A8 of Harrison & Sons, London. Color of overprint — first printings dull black, later printings glossy blue-black. Issued as coils only. (S — vertical coils, W — horizontal coils.)



Correction to the Oct. 1976 installment of the Kohl Handbook

In the table in the left hand column of page 1105, the designation for horizontal paste up pairs was incorrectly noted. Basically the table should read as follows (correction in italics):

22	s	10.00
	w	22.50
22a	s	12.00
	w	15.00

+ + +

(23) C. F. McLoughlin: Simple Studies in Irish Stamps, High Values Saorstát Overprints, Ph. J. Gr. Br. Apr. 1928.

Scott		Unused	Used	Long 1(922)*	
				Unused Pair with Join	Used Single
59	1/2d. green	.40	.70	S 1.25 W 1.25	S 3.00 W 3.00
60	1d. scarlet	.70	1.20	S 2.00 W 2.00	S 15.00 W 15.00
61	1 1/2d. red brown	2.25	3.75	S 6.50 W 6.50	S 27.50 W 27.50
62	2d. H orange	.65	.90	S 5.00 W 2.00	S 5.50 W 5.50

*This variety is the "a" variety of Scott and "FI" variety of Munk.

In the overprint A8 Harrison & Sons copied the Thom overprint A7 so precisely that they are identified only by means already mentioned, namely, second e of Eireann is raised, the foot of the 1 of date is slightly rounded and the 9 of date is round instead of oval. This applies especially to the glossy blue-black overprints, which even as to color, are very similar to the Thom overprints. In contrast to the glossy blue-black used by Harrison for the overprint A4, they first used a dull black for overprint A8, and later, about Fall of 1923, used the glossy bright blue-black ink.

According to W. Ward (St. Coll. June 23, 1923) Harrison had delivered up to the middle of 1923 the following quantities of Nos. 59-26; — 1/2d. 552 coils, 1d 300 coils, 1 1/2d. 48 coils and 3d. 300 coils. These are quite revealing in their relation one to the other, but they tell little as to the actual numbers of stamps printed, inasmuch as coils of the definite stamp series did not appear until November 1924, and Harrison must have continued to deliver coils into the second half of 1924.

The manufacture of the coils from groups of 120 stamps joined together, the various categories or kinds of coils, their identification by means of code letters and the tabs used to seal the coils, on which appeared the letters E, G, L, N, etc. up to T, has been amply covered in connection with Nos. 19-22, see Oct. '76 *Revealer*, page 1105.

For the overprint A8 Harrison produced only the following types of coils:

Official Type	Value	No. in Coil	Kind of Coil
(E)	1d.	500	Vert. top end first.
(G)	1/2d.	500	Vert. top end first.
(L)	1 1/2d.	500	Vert. top end first.
(N)	1 1/2d.	480	Horizontal.
(O)	1d.	480	Horizontal.
(P)	1/2d.	480	Horizontal.
(R)	2d.	500	Vert. top end first.
(T)	2d.	480	Horizontal.

In this issue also, preference is given to collecting in vertical or horizontal pairs showing the last stamp of a strip of 10 or 12 and the first stamp of the next following strip with paste-up between. See check list for prices. More desirable still are the last (first?) stamps of a coil with tab attached. There is a considerable premium.

All of the above mentioned coil types contain the variety FI — long 1 in 1922 — the 1 extending considerably below the base line of 1922, and widening out toward the foot. This variety is also chiefly collected in vertical or horizontal pairs showing a normal copy attached. See check list for prices.

This variety was discovered in the first deliveries of coils, early in March 1923, and according to its discoverer, a member of the Irish Philatelic Club, it occurred in the horizontal coils on the 6th stamp of a strip of 12, and in the vertical coils on the 5th stamp in a strip of 10, (see also Club notice in St. Coll. of March

31, 1923). McLoughlin (24) was later able to determine that the variety FI also occurred twice in the strips of ten of the vertical coils, on every 5th and 10th stamp, and twice in the strips of 12 in the horizontal coils, on every 5th and 11th stamp.

Another variety is the so-called accent over the S of Saorstat, which, according to McLoughlin, occurred in the first stamp of a strip of 12 in the horizontal coil and in the second stamp of a strip of 10 in the vertical coils. Further typical and constant varieties of overprint are described in detail in McLoughlin's study, see footnote (24).

The 1/2d. No. 59 is known with watermark inverted and also inverted and reversed.

Whereas the overprinting of the English typographed values was discontinued as the corresponding values of the definite series were ready for issuing, the high values, using the English engraved series, continued to be overprinted as heretofore. (25) During 1925, however, the contract for this overprinting was let to another firm or firms, resulting in new overprint issues of the high values.

THE DEFINITIVE ISSUE

(Editor's Note) Since the original publication of these translations, considerable new information has come to light concerning the definitive issues and their associated essays. Therefore, this section of the *Kohl Handbook* is not being reprinted. Readers are referred to previous issues of *The Revealer*, the

Feldman and Hibernian Catalogues and for the essays, Robson Lowe's 1922 Ireland 1972. A Xerox copy of the complete *Kohl Translations* is on file in the E.P.A. library.

NEW OVERPRINT ISSUE OF THE HIGH VALUES

August 1925 — latter part of 1927

Engraved British stamps (Kohl Nos. 172-174), printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. as before. At first, August 1925, with changed three line Gaelic overprint "Irish Free State 1922" type A9 (with 1922 narrow instead of wide spaced as before), group I; later (May-June 1927) with overprinting plates showing combination of type A9 (1922 narrow) and type A7 (1922 wide) mixed, Group II; finally (from about end of 1927 on) only with

(24) C. F. McLoughlin: *Simple Studies in Irish Stamps, The Second Harrison Overprint*, Ph. J. Gr. Br. Dec. 1927.

the original wide 1922, Group III. Overprints at first, and perhaps throughout, produced by the Irish Government Printing Plant Dublin Castle, although the combination plates supposedly made up with old type A7 material of Alex. Thom. Color of overprint grey to deep black. (Ed. — see footnote 25)



I. Overprint A9 (narrow 1922, about Aug. 1925)

Scott		Unused	Used
77	2sh.6d. brown (shades)	12.00	18.00
78	5sh. rose	13.00	18.75
79	10sh. gray blue	30.00	50.00
II. Overprint A9+A7 (narrow 1922+wide 1922, May-June 1927)			
Prices are for pairs showing both types.			
77a	2sh.6d. brown (End of June 1927)	40.00	—
78a	5sh. rose (Beginning of June 1927)	90.00	—
79a	10sh. gray blue (Middle of May 1927)	215.00	—
III. Overprint A7 (wide 1922, about end of 1927)			
—	2sh.6d. brown (shades, End of 1927)	8.75	8.75
—	5sh. rose (End of 1927)	17.50	16.75
—	10sh. gray blue	42.50	42.50

Inasmuch as in the ensuing years the 1922 plan of producing engraved stamps of special design (Trans. for the three high values) had still not been carried out, the Irish Postal Authorities also transferred the contract for overprinting the engraved British stamps to the Government Printing Plant in Dublin Castle, who, in June 1922, made a new overprinting plate A9 for this purpose. This plate differed from the overprinting plate A7 used by Thom for the high values solely in that the line "1922" was much more closely spaced than in A7 (I). The high values were issued with this new overprint during August 1922.

In March 1927 Irish newspapers reported that in a few months a definite issue for the high values would finally be issued, and, in fact, in the previously accepted designs for these values. However, from May 1927 on, and in rapid succession, there were suddenly issued, and shortly thereafter appeared in the trade, sheets of all three values on which the overprints were part A9, narrow 1922, and part A7, wide 1922. The 10sh. was the first to appear with the mixed overprint A9+A7, a few sheets appearing as early as the middle of May 1927. The 5sh. followed in the first part of June, and toward the end of June the 2sh.6d. also appeared with the mixed overprint.

The use of subjects of distinctly different setting in the same overprinting plate, together with the poor makeup and poor condition of its subjects, many of which showed broken or defective letters, as well as the noticeably poor printing of the "mixed" overprints, led to the immediate supposition that its makeup was either makeshift or provisional. As a matter of fact, towards the end of 1927 sheets of the 2sh.6d. and 5sh. again

appeared showing the old wide 1922 setting throughout, setting A7.

The reason why the overprinting plate A9, which was still in excellent condition, was suddenly replaced by an inferior "mixed" plate in the Spring of 1927 has never been made known. It is not even certain whether the mixed overprints were produced in the Government Printing Plant or in some other Irish printing plant. In any case, it appears that some of the older printing material of Thom was actually included in the making up of the "mixed" plate, inasmuch as in some of its subjects definite type defects of the old Thom overprints Nos. 56-58 are said to recur.

As it is hardly possible to distinguish single overprints A9 of this mixed plate II from those of plate I, and whereas single overprints A7, disregarding certain differences in the shade of the overprinting ink, may readily be mistaken for Nos. 56-58, Nos. 75a-77a are generally collected in pairs, A7+A9, or vice versa, for which the above prices obtain.

Toward the end of 1927, with the return to the old overprinting type A7, with the wide set date, a definite overprint issue III came into use, being reissued as required up to the present time. (Trans. time of writing probably 1934-35). Inasmuch as these overprints again have the same setting as the

former Thom A7 overprints, they are distinguishable from these generally only by means of the ink of the overprint or their impression. The color of the overprints III, from the end of 1927 on is a deep black. Their impression also is much heavier and more sharply outlined than Nos. 56-58 so that the overprints actually appear relief-like on the reverse side of the stamps.

According to newspaper reports the Irish Post Office Department has now definitely decided to abandon the issue of the high values in the 1922 accepted designs and proposes instead, in cooperation with its Art Committee, to obtain new designs.

Nos. 75-77

The overprinting plate A9 of the Government Printing Plant contained no actual errors, but did show, during the course of its use, in different values, definite recurring irregularities in certain of its subjects. In certain positions, mostly marginal or sheet corner stamps, the accents, particularly, printed so weakly, or so small, that they seemed to be missing completely. Broken letters are also found, for example: the o in (Sa)o(rstat) broken at right, the e in (Eir)e(ann) broken, appearing like a c.

Among the sheets of the 2sh.6d. used for No. 75 some showed the outer frame lines slightly doubled in subject 7, similar traces of doubling apparently occur in other sheet positions of this value.

Nos. 75a-77a

The "Mixed" plate for the 5 and 10sh. values was made up in a different arrangement than that for the 2sh.6d. value. (26) The following diagrams show the location in the sheets of 40 stamps of the overprints A7 and A9 in the 5 and 10sh. plate, and in the 2sh.6d. plate (7 — A7, 9 — A9):

(25) Trans. — The Irish Govt. did not issue its own series of corresponding high values until 1937. Ed. — The Hibernian Catalogue notes on page 11 that all but one of these sets may have actually been overprinted by the British Stamping Department, Somerset House, London.

7	7	9	9	7	9	9	9	9
7	7	9	9	7	9	9	9	9
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
9	7	9	7	7	9	7	9	9
9	7	9	7	7	9	7	9	9
7	7	9	9	7	7	9	9	9
7	7	9	9	7	7	9	9	9
7	7	9	7	7	9	9	9	9
7	7	9	7	7	9	9	9	9
7	7	9	7	7	9	9	9	9
7	7	9	7	7	9	9	9	9

2½ SH.

5+10 SH.

Accordingly sheets of No. 75a, 2sh.6d., contained 26 overprints A7 and only 14 overprints A9; whereas sheets of Nos. 76a and 77a, 5 and 10sh., contained only 12 overprints A7 and 28 overprints A9. The number of pairs of A7+A9 was greater in the sheets of the 2sh.6d. than in the sheets of the 5 and 10sh.

As a result of their poor condition, and in spite of the short time of their use, the "mixed" plates showed numerous recurring subject irregularities, among which the stamps with scarcely visible accents have the greatest desirability among collectors. In subject 22 of the 2sh.6d. sheets the S of Saorstát printed so weakly at times (scarcely visible) that in some sheets it was retraced manually with ink before distribution. In other subjects the date line almost appears as (1)0(99). Traces of light doubling of the frame lines also seem to occur in the 2sh.6d. No. 75a.

Nos. 75b-77b

In the new plate or plates, from the end of 1927 on, showing the old A7 setting, various irregularities occur also, which in part repeat in the same positions in all of the three values, and again chiefly concern the accents, which in certain positions are hardly visible. Sheets of all three values have been preserved showing the accent on subject 34 as a "circumflex," the result of a mutilation.

This concludes the E.P.A.'s reprint of the Collectors Club translation of the *Kohl Handbook*. We have deleted the section on the early commemoratives and postage dues. The Waterlow overprints (Scott 93-5) appeared after the publication of the *Kohl Handbook* which explains their absence. Once again, our sincere appreciation to the Collectors Club of New York for their permission to reprint these translations.

(26) Ed. — Another arrangement of the 2sh.6d. is known from small multiple pieces that do not conform to that shown for either the 2sh.6d. or the other two values.

Literature Notes

by J. E. Foley

The Overprinted Stamps of Ireland, by James A. Hill, Harry Hayes Philatelic Study No. 27, 36 pages, soft cover, published by Harry Hayes, 48-50 Trafalgar Street, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 7HA, United Kingdom. \$3.80 by surface mail, \$4.60 air.

The publishing house of Harry Hayes enjoys a good reputation for philatelic literature. It's indeed unfortunate that it has to be this piece of Irish Literature that's the proverbial "exception that proves the rule."

The first thing that we noticed was the exceptionally poor quality of the illustrations. The sketches of the Gaelic overprints and varieties of the British stamps are so gross that they are in places confusing. For example, the sketch of Feldman variety T36a (PQSTAGE) completely ignores the notch in the frame line that accompanies this variety. The discussion of the black and

blue-black Thom 5 line overprints leaves much to be desired. The illustration of the "ONF SHILLING" variety is so exaggerated that any collector not familiar with the true variety would pass it by. Coming after the publication of the Meredith, Kohl, Feldman and Hibernian catalogues, this publication is a giant leap backward. Frankly, we think of no plausible excuse for such a shoddy publication. The *Feldman Stamps of Ireland Illustrated Catalogue* reviewed in our Oct. '76 column is far superior at a shade more than half the price.

+ + +

Winter Offers, 1976, Hibernian Stamp Co., Ltd., 11 Harrington St., Dublin 8, Ireland. 24 pp. soft cover, no charge.

It might seem a bit unusual to include a dealer's price list in this column, but frequently these publications have something of permanent reference value. A bit of news, the firm announces that a new edition of the *Hibernian Specialised Catalogue* is being prepared for publication in October or November of this year. (Hope the delays that accompanied the first edition are well behind us!) In addition to the normal material one would expect to find in such a list is a good range of material for the specialist including a number of overprint varieties, political labels, essays, flight covers and a rather unusual collection of revenues. Unfortunately, the page of illustrations is not too clear.

+ + +

Ireland Pricelist — November, 1976, Owl Stamp Studio, Box 1998, Studio City, CA. 91604. 8 pp, mimeographed, no stated charge.

Another comprehensive price list that in addition to the usual material includes FDC's, postal history, first flights, postal stationery and overprint varieties. There is also a special listing of "Christmas Gift Suggestions" which contains a number of better and interesting items.

+ + +

It should be noted that by the time a review of a dealer's price list appears in this column, a few months have gone by since its publication. Thus it's reasonable to expect that items have been sold. However, the value in bringing these to your attention is to enable you to obtain the next issue from the dealer if you are interested.

+ + +

D. F. Newsletter, Dublin, David Feldman, Ltd., Autumn & Winter 1976, Vol. 2, Nos. 24 & 25.

The lead article in the Autumn issue is on the Dublin Spoons by Bill Kane. The "PAID" inscription in the date stamp continues to be a source of mystery, however, the author has come up with an example, on cover, of an unrecorded marking that is about identical to the date stamp only (no obliterator) with the "PAID", used on an official cover from the Dead Letter Office. There is considerable detail in this article and it is of reference value to any interested in the subject. The next article, also by Bill Kane, concerns the scroll handstamps. Some interesting letters to the editor, concerning postal markings conclude the issue.

Postal stationery gets the prime position in the winter issue. Two articles by Bill Kane on the envelopes of Great Britain up to 1922 and of Ireland from 1924 are presented as "check lists." Unfortunately, they are of such a cursory nature that their usefulness is severely limited. For Great Britain, the collector is better advised to refer to either the Higgins & Gage or the Huggins publication. The article on the Irish envelopes suffers from the same shortcomings. There is no attempt to provide catalog numbers, relative value or prices. The knives or dies of the envelopes are given brief, inadequate descriptions with no illustrations. New information reported in *The Revealer* and other journals is ignored, such as watermark differences (e.g. Rev. No. E10, no watermark; the 4p with "Dean Swift" as well

as "Glencamac" watermark). The issue also contains J. David McKee's study on varieties that is running in *The Revealer*, and will be continued. An excerpt is given of a portion of the Irish section of R.G. Booth's new catalog of the Adhesive Revenue Stamps of U.K., the islands, & Ireland. It does whet the appetite.

Sinn Fein Christmas Postal Service 1975 - A Preliminary Report

by Pdraig O Mathuna

The Sinn Fein organization in Derry operated a postal service from December 15th until 8 PM December 23rd. "By buying a two penny Republican stamp the public can post Christmas greetings within the city to be delivered by volunteer workers," declared the official announcement.

From THE IRISH PRESS, December 13, 1975

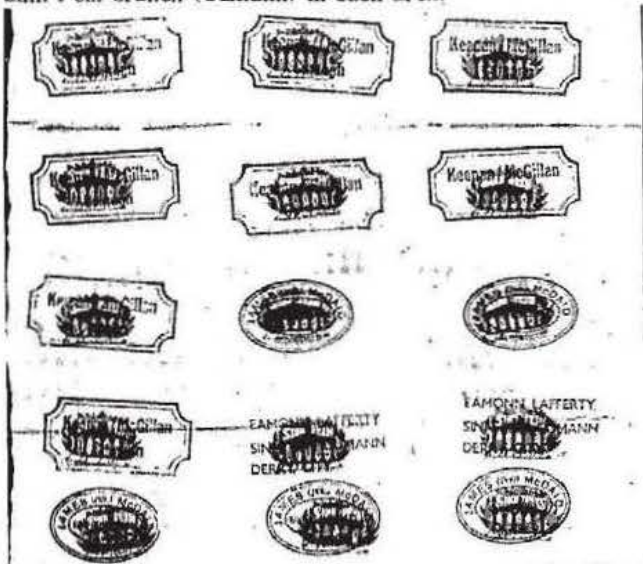
S. F. WILL RUN POSTAL SERVICE

"Provisional Sinn Fein in Derry will operate their own Christmas postal service from Monday. For 2p — 4½p cheaper than the normal GPO second-class post — cards can be left at any of the five Sinn Fein advice centres in the city, with a guarantee that the Christmas cards will be delivered the next day.

"Anyone leaving their cards at the advice centres in the Bogside, Creggan Estate, Brandywell, Rosemount and Shantallow areas will have them stamped with a 'republican stamp.'

"Profits made on the postal service, if any, will be donated to the Prisoners' Dependents Fund for their Christmas dinners in the prison camps. Cards will be accepted for posting up to 8 p.m. on December 23."

The 5 Sinn Fein offices in the Bogside, Creggan Estates, Brandywell, Rosemount, and Shantallow, for this occasion were converted into post offices selling stamps for 2p. each (the cheapest postal rate in the English post offices in the city were 6½p.), franking, sorting, and dispatching mail for street delivery by courier postmen. The cancellations did not bear dates and consisted of rubber stamps bearing the name of the Sinn Fein branch (Cumann) in each area.



Trial cancellations on piece

The cancellations used read:

- 1) Lynch, Moyre, McDaid Sinn Fein Cumann, Derry in 4 lines
- 2) Keenan/McGillan Cumann in 2 lines with frame
- 3) J. Starrs Cumann Derry 1975 in 2 lines
- 4) Eamonn Lafferty Sinn Fein Cumann, Derry City in 3 lines
- 5) James (Jnr.) McDaid, Sinn Fein Cumann, Bloomfield in 3 lines with oval frame

The cancellations were all made in Derry. The Post Offices were all open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday. It was intended that profits were to be given to the Prisoners' Dependents Fund. It was highly successful and 50,000 pieces were accepted and delivered. Although it was originally intended to operate only within the city limits, letters were delivered to Bready and Ballykelly.

AN PHOBLACHT, EANAIR 16, 1976.

50,000 DELIVERIES

"If any postman deserved a good Christmas box, it was the Provo Postmen of Derry. Sinn Fein organized a highly effective postal service, where for 2p, a person could buy a Republican stamp and be certain their parcel or letter would be delivered anywhere in Derry, usually the same day. Five Sinn Fein centres were turned into post offices for the 10 days preceding Christmas, and in the last days before Christmas, letters were going through the Bogside Centre at the rate of over 1,000 per day. Making an early estimate from receipts, nearly 50,000 cards and parcels were delivered by Derry Sinn Fein. Although the service was designed to operate only in the Free Derry area, the entire city was served. Post was delivered as far afield as Bready (12 miles out in the country) and to Ballykelly!

"One woman brought in a parcel costing 34p to post in the British post to deliver within the city. She got the present hand-delivered for 2p the same day by a conscientious Sinn Fein member.

"The Post Office in Derry reported a drop of 30 in Christmas postings this year. We can tell the post office: 'You needn't look any further to find the reason for this: just think of all the smart Derry ones who supported Sinn Fein's postal service. They spent 2p against the 8½p they'd have spent in the GPO.'

"Who can argue with money facts like that?

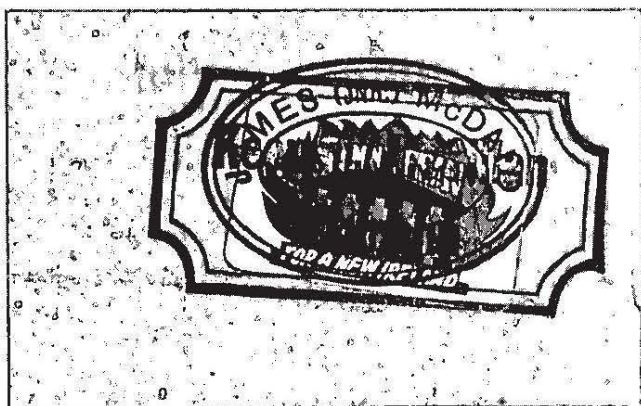
"Each cumann cancelled the Republican stamps with its own rubber stamp bearing the name of the cumann — giving a more personal touch to the service.

"All money will be contributed to the PDF."

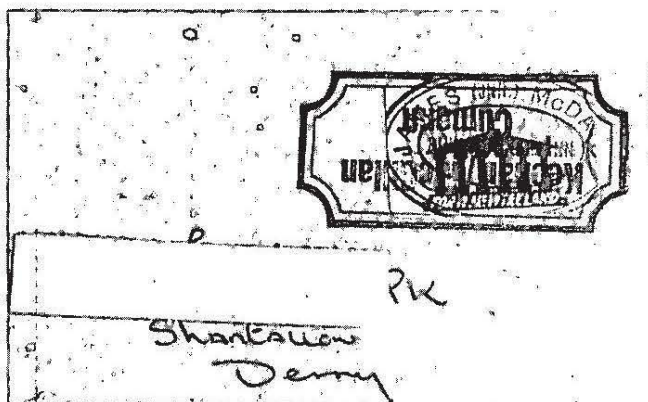
Regarding the handling procedures, it appears that when mail was accepted from the receiving-sorting office by the distribution office, it was center-cancelled with the offices' canceller. This is obvious in the illustrations of the covers:



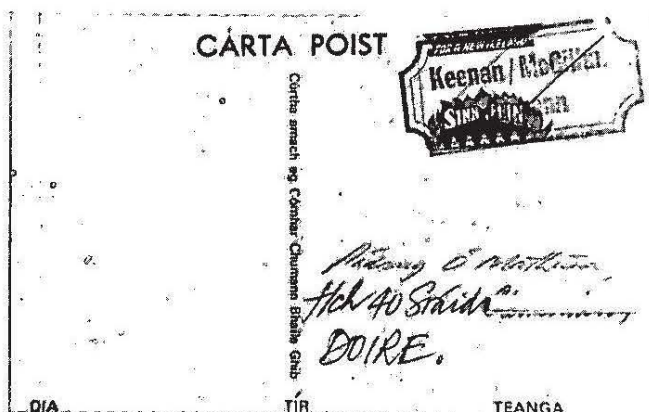
1. Posted in the Damonn Lafferty office and cancelled again on receipt in the James McDaid office prior to local delivery.



2. James McDaid countercancelled Keenhan McGillan. In this case the stamp was cancelled on the sheet before affixing it to the cover.



3. The same as last but cancelled on cover.



4. Posted in Keenan-McGillan office and countercancelled with two strokes of ball-point pen. Location of the second office is unknown.

The first stamps used were in sheets of 20 (5 x 4) and overall dimensions were 32mm. by 22mm. Apparently demand exceeded expectations, so a second printing was supplied in sheets of 36 (6 x 6). These were larger in paper size and measured 38mm. by 26mm.

The stamps were printed in Dublin, and the design is the same on both sizes. These stamps pictured the G.P.O. in flames (Orange) with the words "Sinn Fein" in white. The message is continued in white letters within a green panel which forms the base of the building and reads "For a New Ireland."

AN PHOBLACHT, NOLLAIG 19, 1975 THE PROVIE POSTMAN

"Derry Sinn Fein have hit on a novel way of combating inflation and helping the P.D.F. fund this Christmas.

"They intend to put into operation the Provisional Postal Service, if only for the Christmas period, but then one never knows!!!

"In a statement released by the Comhairle Ceanntair they stated that Christmas cards will be accepted for posting from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday, at each of the Sinn Fein advice and complaint centers in the city. These are located in the Brandywell opposite Our Lady of Lourdes Hall, Lecky Road; in Creggan at the shops; Central Drive; in the Bogside at 15 Capel St.; in Rosemount at 1a Upper Nassau Street; in Shantallow in the caravan at Shantallow shops.

"People wishing to take advantage of this service can come along to the centres during the hours stated and buy a Republican stamp for 2p, and be assured of delivery of their cards throughout the city.

"Republican Christmas cards will be on sale at Siopa an Phobail in Rossville St. but no posting will be done from the shop.

Sinn Fein service

"Provisional Sinn Fein is operating this postal service with voluntary labour in order to provide the people of Derry with a badly needed service this Christmas. With postal costs so high, many people would be unable to send their usual Christmas greetings without a service of this kind.

"We hope Derry people will support this community postal service. Profits made from the postal service, if any, will be donated to the Prisoners' Dependents' Fund for their Christmas dinner in the prison camps.

Late postage

"Cards will be accepted for posting at the centres up till 8 p.m. December 23, and the last delivery will be made by noon on Christmas Eve."

This report is in the nature of a preliminary report, and I am still trying to obtain more detailed information from Derry. Complete documentation is necessary on this most interesting Republican Postal Service. It differs from the previous Sinn Fein overprints on English stamps in that it offered, with the stamps, a complete and effective postal service. As further details come to light, they will be printed in *The Revealer*.

Postal Stationery Notes

by J. E. Foley

This month we have a bit of a departure from the usual content of this column. John Blessington published the following article on the SESCAL exhibition catalog. The United Postal Stationery Society held its annual convention in conjunction with SESCAL '76, so postal stationery was predominant. John's study is an excellent introduction to Irish post cards.

IRELAND FOR THE POSTAL CARD COLLECTOR

BY John J. Blessington

Ireland became a political entity in 1922 and issued her first

stamps, the "overprints" in February of that year. It wasn't until 1924 that the first postal stationery was issued. Prior to 1922 Ireland was part of the "Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland" and as such used British postal stationery. Used examples bearing identifiable Irish postmarks are legitimate Irish stationery and should be a part of an Irish collection.

Great Britain issued its first postal card October 1st, 1870, just one year after Austria issued the world's first postal card. From then until the first issue of Ireland in 1924, 78 different postal cards were issued. All of them, conceivably, can be found with Irish cancels. In 1879 the British created quite a stir in Ireland with their first Universal Postal Union card to bear the name of the country. It was issued with the name as "GREAT BRITAIN (GRANDE BRETAGNE)." The Irish took this as a national insult. As a result the card was reissued, immediately, with a new heading reading "GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND." All UPU cards from that date forward to 1922 carried this heading. At that time, Ireland was dropped out. After the formation of the provisional Government of Ireland in 1922 until 1924 when the first Irish card was issued it is possible to find correct usage of mixed Irish and British franking. The postal card rate was raised to 1½D in June 1921 but there were a lot of 1D cards on hand so these were used up with the addition of a ½D stamp of the Irish overprints.

All issues of Irish postal cards are the same size, 14 x 9 cm and all stamps were added by typography. The design of each value differs although each contains a harp in the center. The Post & Telegraph Dept. only issues cards for domestic rate. Additional postage must be added for overseas use. The first issue of Ireland was 13 Sept. 1922. In the heading, between the words "Carta" and "Puisi" was the monogram SE. This stood for "Saorstát Éireann," translated to "The Irish Free State." All issues until 1942 carried this monogram. In 1937 a new constitution was enacted changing the name of the country to "Eire." It wasn't until 1942 that a postal card was issued moving the SE monogram. Ireland only issued cards when they ran out of stock or for a rate change. In 1949 a rate change took place. Since there was a large stock of cards on hand it was decided to add a second imprint to them to make up the new rate.

Usage of cards was small, the card stock, particularly of the early issues, was not very good. In fact, some cards acted like a blotter, absorbing ink. Gradually the stock improved until in 1951 the Dept. of Posts & Telegraph started adding whiteners to the stock. This effort can be traced through the use of an ultraviolet lamp. The 2D green issue of 1951, which contains a spelling change from "Puisi" to "Poist," is an interesting issue for study. There are two recognized stock varieties, an off white and a white. Under examination with ultraviolet light these two stocks show no fluorescence, however, a third variety shows up, one that has medium fluorescence. In examining the dates of usage these medium fluorescent cards all appear in the 1960s . . . perhaps there was a reprinting of the 1951 card?

NORCAL Notes

by James Lawless

FILATELIC FIESTA (Co-sponsored by the NORCAL chapter of the EPA) 1977 — A major west coast Irish exhibition was held on the west coast in conjunction with this show on February 12 and 13 at the LeBaron Hotel, San Jose. Over 325 pages of Irish philatelic material was displayed by the following EPA members: J. Blessington, Postal History; J. Lawless, Embossed Revenues; G. Lohman, Meter Mail; P. Pope, Great Britain use in Ireland; E. Sullivan, Prestamp Covers; R. Sullivan, The Overprint Coils; and R. Swords, The Overprints. Five awards were garnered: J. Blessington, Gold; P. Pope and R. Sullivan, Vermeil; and J. Lawless and E. Sullivan, Silver.

Meetings were held both days of the show with John Blessington discussing overprint varieties on Saturday and on Sunday there was a tour of the exhibits with comments by the exhibitors. The highlight of the weekend, however, was the first presentation of the Annual Gil Roberts Memorial Award. More than twenty EPA members, spouses and friends attended the banquet dinner at the Moffett Field Officers Club. We were honored to have Margaret Roberts at the dinner to present the award to John Blessington for his Gold winning exhibit of Irish Postal History. Next year's competition for the Gil Roberts Memorial Award will be at FRESPEX in March, 1978, so start getting your exhibit ready now.

Our next NORCAL meeting will be at WESTPEX on Sunday, May 1, at 1:00 in the Jack Tar Hotel, San Francisco. Hope to see you there.

Irish High Value Definitive Varieties

by Padraig O Mathuna

ST. PATRICK 2/6 VALUE — Wmk. e



Until January, 1968, copies of the 2/6 St. Patrick definitive had a white spot at the 10 o'clock position of the 'e' in 'Eire' with a bulge of color into the white area on Row 1 stamp 7. This would suggest that the plate was struck with a point that distorted the metal.

(Continued on Page 1146)

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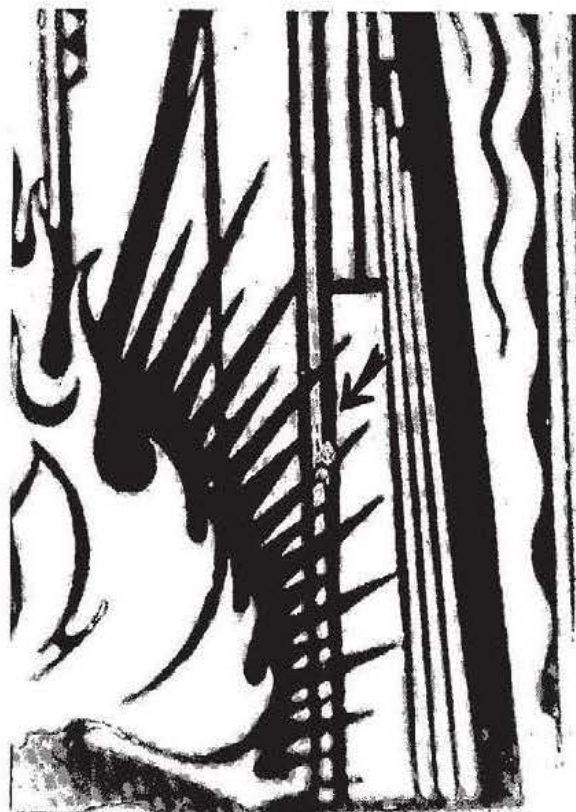


However, on the pale green printing which appeared around March-April, 1968, the clear white spot was absent. In its place was a dark oval of color with a pale center. It would appear that a punch was used to close the hole, thus increasing the distortion of the metal and causing a bulge of color into the letter 'e'. In addition, the adjoining letter 'i' appears with a small notch at the left top as seen in the photo.

ST. PATRICK 5/- VALUE — Wmk. e

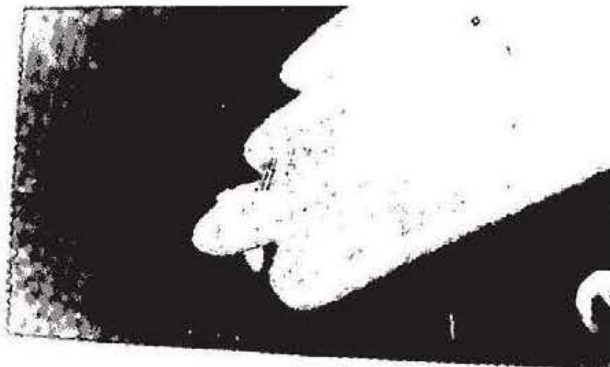


The line flaw on Row 3/stamp 7, illustrated above, is well-documented, but another variety exists on the same stamp.



To the right of the fire, the shaft of a cross held by a cleric ascends. At the point indicated by the arrow, plate damage is visible at the intersection. This consists of two areas that are printed white. My copies are on creme paper, and anyone who might have this variety and knows the date of purchase can help me establish when this variety first occurred.

EAGLE ONE POUND VALUE — No Wmk.



At the end of the long tailfeather, there is a fault in the blue color cylinder which allows a white projection to show underneath on all sheets. The variety occurs on Row 8/stamp 2, and with good register, a thinner white area shows on top of the feathers.