

# The Revealer

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE EIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION



VOL. XXVII, NO. 4

WHOLE NO. 130

APRIL, 1978

## THE Postage Stamps of Ireland 1922 – 1927.

FOURTH EDITION.  
ILLUSTRATED.

By  
W. G. MEREDITH.

The standard catalogue of Irish stamps,  
listing and pricing over 1,000 different items,  
with full descriptive matter of all the plates  
and settings used for the overprints.

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## THE REVEALER

WHOLE NO. 130

APRIL, 1978

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

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| Quarter Page | 20.00         | 70.00           |
| Eighth Page  | 10.00         | 35.00           |

## President's Notes:

**AUCTIONS** — The quarterly E.P.A. Auctions play a very important part of our overall activities, as well as provide some financial assistance to E.P.A. You are strongly urged to support the auctions by participating, either as a seller or buyer, or both. Our new Auction Manager, Bill Zellers, is a very competent auctioneer and he eagerly awaits your participation.

**CAPEX** — Please note that the E.P.A. - CAPEX meeting date has been rescheduled to Saturday, June 17th, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Eugene Labiuk has graciously provided us with a meeting location at his place of work, Rous & Mann Printing Co. The meeting place is located two blocks west of the Sheraton Center Hotel at 172 Simcoe Street.

One of the highlights planned for the E.P.A. - CAPEX meeting will be the presentation of an excellent slide program. In addition to the slide program, members are requested to bring along a philatelic item or two of interest which they can present and share with the members.

**CHAPTER** — I am pleased to announce that Ed Sullivan has been successful in forming an E.P.A. Chapter in the Chicago area. Ed informs me that he has met with much enthusiasm on the forming of the Chapter. The kickoff meeting will be held at COMPEX. Congratulations to you, Ed, and we wish you much success.

The formation of new E.P.A. Chapters in all geographic areas is strongly encouraged. I will be most happy to assist anyone in the forming of an E.P.A. Chapter.

**DEALER COMPLAINTS** — The Board of Directors have expressed interest in dealer complaints by members. Members are asked to step forward with any legitimate complaints against dealers in order that all complaints may be cleared up as soon as possible.

**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE** — One of the most important aspects in philately is the sharing of information and enjoyment with other enthusiasts. Members of our Association should take an active role in aiding new collectors and in suggesting membership in our Association as a method for enhancing the enjoyment of our hobby. Membership brochures and applications area available from our Secretary.

GARVIN F. LOHMAN

## Secretaty's Report Feb. 28, 1978

This is a sad time of the year for the Association. We are dropping 55 members this month for non-payment of dues and shall drop probably 30 more members next month. The largest cost in our organization is for publishing and distributing the award-winning *Revealer*. Obviously, the larger the press run the per copy cost becomes less expensive. We are in a never ending battle to keep the dues as low as possible, thus, our reason for promoting our growth in membership. Please help us replace the members we have had to drop.

This might be the time to state our policy on re-instatement. We do require a \$1.00 charge to reinstate a member who has been previously dropped for non-payment of dues. In addition the reinstated member must reimburse the Association for any copies of *The Revealer* received in the membership year that dues were not paid. We have been very benevolent in our policy of carrying members for six months into the new year before dropping them. Beginning September 1, 1978, our grace period will be curtailed. Those not paying their dues by November 30, 1978, will be dropped from membership. This should not be of any concern to the vast majority of our members who renew their membership in August and September each year. Our sincere thanks go out to those members.

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**RESIGNED**

Norman N. Kohn, Helen Biggane

**DECEASED**

Michael Cogan, William E. Gallagher, Francis A. Murphy, A. T. Sedgley

**MEMBERSHIP STATUS**

|                                 |    |     |
|---------------------------------|----|-----|
| Members as of November 30, 1977 |    | 610 |
| New Members                     | 28 |     |
| Resigned                        | 2  |     |
| Deceased                        | 4  |     |
| Dropped                         | 55 | -33 |
| Members as of February 28, 1978 |    | 577 |

## From the Editor's Desk

The Treasures of Ireland are in San Francisco! The exhibition of masterpieces of early Irish art that is presently on display at the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, is by far the most important group of objects that has ever left Ireland. This extraordinary exhibition consists of some 59 metal objects, processional crosses, gold torques, chalices, reliquaries, brooches, bell shrines and pins, plus a group of monastic books representing the period from 1500 B.C. to 1500 A.D. It is not a large exhibit, as exhibits go, but includes nearly all the major pieces left to Ireland after centuries of war, burning and pillage. The exhibit comes from the collections of Ireland's National Museum, The Royal Irish Academy and Trinity College, Dublin.

Among the many exquisite metal objects on display are the silver Ardagh chalice with its magnificent inlaying, chasing and enameling and the Tara brooch. This masterpiece, from about A.D. 700, embodies an amazing assembly of materials and complex techniques — gold, silver, copper, amber, glass, enameling, filigree, wirebeading, granulation, inlaying and soldering. As wonderful as the metal objects are, they are, I believe, overshadowed by the manuscripts, particularly the famous illuminated manuscript, the Book of Kells. Its workmanship is so intricate and delicate and the colors so beautiful

that it is a delight to see. The Book of Kells is and probably always will be the most sophisticated work of the decorative arts in the history of painting.

All members are urged to see the exhibition if possible. It will be in San Francisco until May 14th, then go to Pittsburgh, Boston and Philadelphia. It is scheduled to return to Ireland in May, 1979.

+ + +

Associate Editor Joe Foley's transfer to New Jersey lasted for a grand total of three weeks. He is now back in Colorado and his new address is to be found in the masthead.

+ + +

We are particularly pleased to present the E.P.A.'s revision of W. G. Meredith's *The Postal Stamps of Ireland* in this issue, which will be continued until complete. In addition to being the most comprehensive listing of the minor overprint varieties, Meredith used Gaelic type which was broken as appropriate to match the variety, to illustrate his work. Our printer, working with a copy of the original book, has been able to duplicate this style of presentation. This series will be of lasting value to our members.

+ + +

From Vince Linnell a note, concerning A. T. Sedgley's death, which arrived too late for the January Revealer. "Sedgley" was in his second year as President of the Irish Philatelic Circle. Prior to that he had run their auction for many years. His main philatelic interest was Irish Postal History with emphasis on Ireland's Armed Forces. He had retired last year and moved to Lincoln where he and his wife, Molly, planned to spend their retirement. Many of us in this country got to know him through correspondence. He was always gracious and willing to pass on his knowledge. He will be sorely missed. Our condolences to his family.

+ + +

E.P.A. members continue to do well exhibiting. President Garvin Lohman won a silver for his Irish Meter Mail at the Collectors' Club show in San Francisco. Vice President Mike Priestley took the "Trotter Cup" at the Scottish Philatelic Society's annual competition in Edinburgh in December with his display of the Harrison 5 line overprints. On January 24th the Society invited him to show his Irish overprint collection which was well received, one Scot commenting that he had had his eyes opened to the possibilities of an apparently dull issue! Mike will be exhibiting his Thom 5 lines at the annual Federation of Scottish Philatelic Societies competition. We wish him well.

+ + +

We welcome another new author to the fold. In this issue Jim Howley of Toronto, Canada, presents the introduction to what will be a series of articles covering the Postmarks of Ireland from 1922 up to the present. I hope you find it as delightful as I did.

+ + +

Speaking of postmarks . . . The Irish Philatelic Information Service issued a bulletin in November stating that new date-stamps will be gradually introduced for the many towns whose Irish-language name forms have been changed by the Placenames Commission. Peter B. Hynes, a new advertiser in this issue, sent along a copy of the list of new Irish names for the Library. It is available for loan.

+ + +

Despite all the trials and tribulations of the weather in the mid-west where *The Revealer* is printed, the January issue of the Revealer managed to reach most members without being too late. Because auctioneer Bill Zellers was scheduled to leave for a trip to Ireland, however, the closing date of Auction Sale No. 42 had to be February 28th. That made it very tight for bidding. Even so, all but about 30 lots were sold. To be fair to the vendors, we will offer these lots again in this sale. We will extend the closing date until June 30th. Don't forget, send your bids to the Editor. Also, vendors send me lots for the July sale.



David Feldman Ltd  
Postage Stamp Dealers

The Editor,  
The Revealer

Dear Sir,

I found Dr. Dulin's letter of November 12th (*Revealer*, January issue) interesting. However, I would not agree with his views in comparing the Feldman auction in Zurich (June, 1977) with the Robson Lowe "Palmer" Sale (October, 1977).

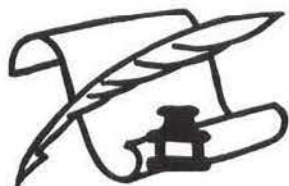
The two sales were remarkably similar in their content of overprinted material and I made the following comparisons: The "Palmer" overprints numbered 88 lots and fetched £10,300, 27 lots were described with faults; The Feldman overprints were 94 lots and fetched £11,600, 36 were described with faults. Blunt perforations were the order of the day for both Sales (as is normal for Irish seahorses) so no account for this has been taken.

For this reason I would hesitate to describe the "Palmer" Sale as infinitely superior — I rather suspect Dr. Dulin enjoyed this sale from the aspect of profiting from the auctioneers' incorrect descriptions.

Aside from all this, the next Feldman Auction takes place in Zurich June 27-30 and has £70,000 (\$150,000) catalogue value of Ireland, mostly overprints with rarities not seen for years. If any of the readers of *The Revealer* would like to have an Auction catalogue we will be only too happy to send it free of charge.

Regarding Fred Dixon's note on the imperforate Hely essay, I have seen examples so badly misperforated (as with Dollard) that making an "imperforate" would be quite easy. The perforations allowed for a 3.4 mm margin on two sides between the design and the teeth. Any "imperforates" would have to have wide margins on all four sides to be convincing.

Yours sincerely,  
David MacDonnell



## Random Notes by F.E. Dixon

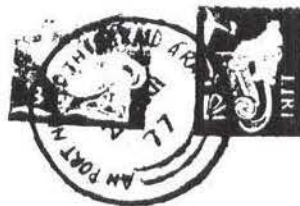


In English Trim equals neat, an adjective quite inappropriate for the cancellation sketched here-with, 47mm across. It was the cancellation on a parcel sent to Fr. Brennan in June, 1975. Of course, it should be in Irish, BAILE ATHA TROIM — Ford of the Elder Trees.

### OFFICE NAME CHANGES

From 1st December many small offices change their names and postmark collectors will have more headaches trying to

locate and understand such monstrosities as ARD O BH-FICHEALLAIGH, formerly ARD AN PHUILL, and to most people still ARDFIELD in Co. Cork. Some of the revisions will be more welcome: Ballina will be BEAL AN ATHA instead of BEAL ATHA AN FHEADHA. A neat simplification is SUI LU instead of SAIL-MHAGH, for SELLOO, Co. Monaghan. The first change I have seen is in the machine cancellation of Longford, now AN LONGFORT instead of LONGPHORT. And the next is a handstamp of a new style with thick rim, small lettering and two concentric arcs at foot. It is from Newport in County Tipperary but under Limerick, and formerly TULACH SHEASTA.



### OBITUARY

The death has occurred of Fr. Donal O'Sullivan, SJ, for long a prominent figure in the Art world and from the start chairman of the Stamp Design Advisory Committee.

### POSTAL HISTORY

The concluding installment of the account of the Irish Post Office, 1784-1830, appeared in the Bulletin of the Postal History Society for Nov.-Dec., 1977.

### DUBLIN AUCTION

The much publicized auction of 2nd December was not well run, and inevitably there were comparisons between it and the series run by Dr. Paul Singer and Shanahans' 20 years ago. The most highly valued lots were all knocked down at prices higher than any of the dealers or collectors present thought reasonable. But other lots were bought in the room relatively cheaply.

### POSTAGE DUE MARKINGS

It is hard to find examples of any modern postage due markings — and even harder to find used postage due stamps. In the case of the markings, there is a new series, necessitated by the decimalization of weights. The only one I have seen so far was applied in Cork, but similar rubber handstamps were probably issued to many offices.

|     |          |
|-----|----------|
| TO  | UNPAID   |
| PAY | OVER GRM |
| P   | INITIALS |

The sketch shows layout only and is not to scale.

### NEW SLOGAN

Almost every year something new is sneaked out in the pre-Christmas period and collectors are caught unawares. In 1977 it was a slogan for "CLONAKILTY BEACH CENTRE WEST CORK," earliest date so far seen being 17 December. And the Irish name has been made more complicated — CLOICH NA COILLTE, not one of the changes listed as due 1st December.

### THE IRISH IN WORLD WAR II

A recent find is part of an envelope with a rubber-stamped cachet on the flap showing a cross and "HOSPITAL de la CROIX ROUGE IRLANDAIS a St. Lô. Normandie." When was this hospital established and what range of patients did it succor

## POST OFFICE GUIDE

Last year's Christmas surprise was the publication without any advance notification of both parts of "Eolai an Phoist, 1977," at the ridiculously low price of 10p per volume. Most philatelists will be content with Volume 1 (Inland Services and General Information) with its complete listing of the English and Irish names of the post offices in all 32 Irish counties. The Irish forms seem to be the newest modifications.

## STRIKE

I was among the many sufferers through the postmen's strike which stopped postal deliveries in the Dublin 6 area from 24 December to 4 January. And we suspect that some mail "disappeared." So if you wrote me and did not get an answer, please write again.

## MISSING YEARS

As usual, several post offices began the year with no new year plug for their cancelling machines. Those noted so far are Enniscorthy, Galway, Killarney, Mullingar, Navan, Thurles, Tralee and Youghal.

## BROADCAST

On 1st February Radio Eirann released a 45 minute radio documentary, "Stamp Collecting in Ireland," produced by Cathal O Griofa, an active enthusiast, and compiled from recorded interviews with several philatelists, Ian Whyte, Seamus X. Kearns, Alice Forgarty, David Rose, etc., and myself. I was unable to hear it but received favorable reports from those who could.

## MILEAGE MARKS

Ian Whyte has allowed me to inspect a quantity of covers of the Georgian period which yielded a remarkable number of unrecorded mileage marks:

ARDGLASS 80 — 1826 red  
 BYBORO 43 — 1816 black  
 BANTRY 176 — 1823 red  
 BELTURBET 61 — 1817 black  
 CASHCARRIGAN 90 — 1813 black (now Keshcarrigan)  
 CLBAR 122 — 1813 black  
 CLARE 117 — 1814-15 black (later Claremorris)  
 CLONEGAL 51 — 1813 black  
 KILMALLOCK 110 — 1832 red  
 LOUGHBRICKLAND 58 — 1815 red  
 MARKETHILL 61 — 1822 red  
 OLD CL 46 — 1814 black  
 RATHFRILAND 57 — 1813 black  
 TRALEE 151 — 1813 black

## PENNY POSTS

There were no unrecorded Penny Posts, but three letters were headed from Maguiresbridge, and had LISNAKEA PENNY POST with su-office number 1, confirming that attribution.

John R. Smallman P. Eng.  
 Baddeck, Nova Scotia  
 Canada B0E-1B0  
 Tel. (902) 295-3044



FINE STAMPS OF IRELAND,  
 CANADA AND PROVINCES  
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 Canadian Stamp Dealers Association

Comprehensive Price List free to E.P.A. Members

## LITERATURE NOTES: by J. E. Foley

Stamps of Ireland, Specialised Catalogue, David Feldman, Ltd., 102 Leinstr Road, Dublin 6, Ireland. 92 pp., £ 1.50

The catalog made its appearance in late 1977 and was available at the ASDA show. In past reviews we have stressed that this little publication is much more than a dealer's price list and the latest edition is no exception. At such a modest price, this is something no collector of Ireland should do without. A new feature this year is a section on Great Britain used in Ireland. It lists the basic British stamps of the first two reigns and quotes a price for an Irish cancellation. While some might dispute this rather simplified treatment, let's remember that this is the only (to my knowledge) priced listing of this type of material, and a comprehensive listing of the combinations of the appropriate British stamps (say per Gibbons) times the great number of Irish cancellations would result in a book of probably several hundred pages. This listing of political labels has been expanded and now includes the large format Home Rule and Anti Home Rule labels of 1914. The overprints are now priced in never hinged as well as unused, hinged condition. A little more attention is given to minor overprint varieties. Another new section is Airmail Flight Covers which is quite well done. The Postal Stationery listings have been expanded from the previous edition, but the Registered Letter Envelopes could stand a little more improvement. The illustrations, which were good in the previous editions, have been further improved. Perhaps Scott should use Feldman's printer! All in all, this is an outstanding reference work.

+ + +  
 Irish Philately, U.K., Irish Philatelic Circle, Volume 1977, September, 1977, No. 3

O. M. Richards leads off the issue with a well-illustrated article on the datestamps of Ireland from 1894 with this section on the rubber stamps. This is followed by listing by B. Warren on the coils and booklets of the decimal watermarked issue showing the layout and makeup of these items. Norah Wright's perfin catalogue is continued. Another article by R. French on designing cachets is included. F. E. Dixon's "Random Notes" concludes the issue.

+ + +  
 D. F. Newsletter, Dublin, David Feldman, Ltd., Summer and Autumn 1977, Vol. 2, Nos. 28 and 29.

The Autumn issue begins with another excerpt of R. G. Booth's Revenue catalog followed by another installment of British postal stationery listings, both unpriced. A tabulation of the various unwatermarked definitives noting their dates of issue is included. David MacDonald reports on Feldman's June auction in Zurich. There are five pages of letters to the editor, which are interesting. A checklist of the 1971-74 watermarked animal definitives concludes the issue.

The Winter number has a further excerpt of the Booth catalogue. William Kane has a very interesting article on the 1962 Postal Workers Strike, well worth reading. Again there are letters to the editor. Bill Kane reports on some auction realizations but from 1936!

## POSTAL STATIONERY NOTES:

by J. E. Foley

We now have an illustration of the envelope with inverted die reported by Mike Giffney in the January issue.



It's always nice to know someone reads this column, and we were pleased to receive a letter that Brian Warren sent to the editor, part of which follows:

"The main reason for writing is re. your excellent reg. envelope listing. You will be aware that the 37p in Size K has been recently issued. (late 1977). Also, a couple of months ago the G size 37p appeared on the old scrim lined stock with 12p fee mentioned on the back. It has now reverted to the new duplex manila paper, i.e. No. 45.

"I can also add that the first of the duplex envelopes, the 25p size K, was indeed issued in 1975 (Nov-Dec). So you can remove the question mark.

"I have seen the manuscript alterations as per 37 in your list but as such alterations can be applied by anybody, I personally would discount same.

"Note the foreign compensation limit is £7.20 since 1-4-77. This means all current envelopes which have £6.35 could alter like the 14p issues of 1971-3."

One comment on the letter in regard to No. 37. Brian Warren is correct that anyone could add the manuscript alteration, but of those that I have examined, fewer appear to exist without the alteration which is why No. 36 was priced slightly higher.

## Auction Sale No. 43

CLOSING DATE . . . JUNE 30th, 1978

Send Bids To: John J. Blessington, 4302 St. Clair Ave., Studio City, CA 91604

### Lot Description

| Lot Description                                         | Reserve |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Sc 142-144 Holy year, used C.V. 12.60                | 3.50    |
| 2. Sc 145-146, Thomas Moore, mint LH, CV 1.90           | 1.40    |
| 3. Sc 147-148, An Tostal, used, cds, CV 9.45            | 3.50    |
| 4. Sc 149-150, Robert Emmett, used, 150 crease CV 10.50 | 3.50    |
| 5. Sc 151-152, Marian Year, mint LH CV 5.70             | 3.50    |

|                                                                                             |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 6. Sc 153-154, Newman, 153 NG, 154 mint NH CV 7.50                                          | 2.50  |
| 7. Sc 155-156, Barry, Mint, NH gum creases CV 6.30                                          | 3.25  |
| 8. Sc 157-158, Redmond, mint LH CV 7.50                                                     | 4.00  |
| 9. Sc 159-160, O'Crohan, used, CV 4.70                                                      | 2.25  |
| 10. Sc 161-162, W. Brown, used, CV 13.10                                                    | 4.50  |
| 11. Sc 163-164, Wadding, mint LH, CV 5.70                                                   | 4.00  |
| 12. Sc 165-166, Clark, mint LH CV 5.80                                                      | 3.20  |
| 13. Sc 169-170, Constitution, mint LH, CV 2.60                                              | 2.00  |
| 14. Sc 171-172, Guinness, used, CV 7.35                                                     | 2.25  |
| 15. Sc 173-174, Refugee Year, used, CV 2.20                                                 | 1.25  |
| 16. Sc 175-176, Europa 1960, mint LH, CV 8.40                                               | 5.30  |
| 17. Sc 177-178, Aer Lingus, mint LH, CV 2.60                                                | 1.60  |
| 18. Sc 179-181, St. Patrick, mint LH, CV 4.70                                               | 2.75  |
| 19. Sc 182-183, O'Donovan, mint LH, CV 3.55                                                 | 1.65  |
| 20. Sc 184-185, Europa 1962, mint LH, CV 1.80                                               | 1.00  |
| 21. Sc 186-187, Freedom From Hunger, mint LH CV 2.10                                        | 1.10  |
| 22. Sc 188-189, Europa 1963, mint LH, CV 4.20                                               | 2.20  |
| 23. Sc 190-191, Red Cross, mint LH, CV 1.05                                                 | .70   |
| 24. Sc 192-193, Wolf Tone, used, CV 4.60                                                    | 1.75  |
| 25. Sc 194-195, Worlds Fair, mint LH, CV 5.25                                               | 2.65  |
| 26. Sc 196-197, Europa 1964, mint LH, CV 4.20                                               | 2.00  |
| 27. Sc 198-199, I.T.U. mint LH, CV 2.10                                                     | 1.25  |
| 28. Sc 200-201, Yeats, used, CV 3.65                                                        | 1.50  |
| 29. Sc 202-203, I.C.Y., mint LH, CV 4.20                                                    | 2.50  |
| 30. Sc 204-205, Europa 1965, mint LH, CV 3.15                                               | 1.60  |
| 31. Sc 210-213, Easter Rising se-tenant pairs mint LH, CV 3.50                              | 2.20  |
| 32. Sc 214-215, Casement, mint LH, CV 1.40                                                  | .70   |
| 33. Sc 216-217, Europa 1966, mint LH, CV 1.05                                               | .65   |
| 34. Sc 218-219, Ballintubber, mint LH, CV .85                                               | .60   |
| 35. Sc 225, 227, 232-241 (12) Europa, Fenian, Canada Tourist, Swift, mint LH CV 5.80        | 2.00  |
| 36. Sc 244-249 and 266-267, St. Mary's, Markievicz, Connely, Human Rights, mint LH, CV 3.05 | 1.60  |
| 37. Sc 252, 258, 263, (3) '69 Defin, mint LH, CV 2.80                                       | 1.30  |
| 38. Sc 265 10 Defin, mint LH, CV 10.50                                                      | 4.00  |
| 39. Sc J12, Postage Due, used, CV 4.20                                                      | 2.00  |
| 40. Sc 40, 2 6, used, thin, parcel post cancel                                              | 4.00  |
| 41. Sc 106-117, wmk E Defins complete, used                                                 | 2.00  |
| 42. Sc 21, Horiz coil pair, mint NH, F                                                      | 6.00  |
| 43. Sc 61, Vert coil pair, mint NH, F                                                       | 6.00  |
| 44. Sc 62, horiz coil pair, mint NH, F                                                      | 1.50  |
| 45. Sc 7, 9d Dollard, mint LH                                                               | 3.00  |
| 46. Sc 10, 4d Dollard Red, mint LH, corner crease                                           | 1.25  |
| 47. Sc 10, 4d Dollard Red, mint LH, R SE variety                                            | 2.00  |
| 48. Sc 12, 2/6 Dollard, mint H                                                              | 8.50  |
| 49. Sc 16, 2d Thom, mint LH, R S variety                                                    | 2.25  |
| 50. Sc 19 & 21, 8d & 1 1/2d coils, mint H                                                   | 2.25  |
| 51. Sc 27, 2 1/2 Thom Red, mint H                                                           | 1.50  |
| 52. Sc 61, 1 1/2 vert "paste-up" coil pair, mint NH, VF                                     | 11.00 |
| 53. Sc 85-86, Eucharist Congress, mint NH                                                   | 2.00  |
| 54. Sc 93, 2/6 Waterlow, mint LH                                                            | 9.50  |
| 55. Sc 98, 10/ St. Patrick Mint LH                                                          | 11.00 |
| 56. Sc 107, 1d coil, vert "paste-up" pair, mint NH                                          | 1.00  |
| 57. Sc 107, 1d coil, vert "paste-up" pair, mint NH                                          | 1.00  |
| 58. Sc 107a, 1d booklet pane, wmk up, mint NH                                               | 1.00  |
| 59. Sc 107a, 1d booklet pane, wmk up, mint NH                                               | 1.00  |
| 60. Sc 118-119, Easter Rising, mint LH                                                      | 8.00  |
| 61. Sc 128a, 1/2d book, pane wmk side, inv., mint NH                                        | 5.00  |
| 62. Sc 142-144, Holy Year, mint N.H.                                                        | 8.50  |
| 63. Sc 186-187, Freedom from Hunger, mint NH                                                | 1.00  |
| 64. Sc 194-195, World's Fair, mint NH                                                       | 2.50  |
| 65. Sc 272-273, I.L.O., gutter pairs, mint NH                                               | 1.25  |
| 66. Sc 274, Irish Art, spot on window var, mint NH                                          | 1.00  |
| 67. Sc C1-7, Airmails, mint NH                                                              | 8.00  |
| 68. Sc J1, Postage Due, mint LH                                                             | 4.00  |
| 69. Sc J3, Postage Due, mint H                                                              | 4.50  |
| 70. Hib. 11B, 2/6 Red cover booklet                                                         | 5.00  |
| 71. Hib. 12B, 2/6 Blue cover booklet                                                        | 5.00  |
| 72. Hib. 15B, 30p Booklet (1971)                                                            | 2.75  |
| 73. Sc J3, Post. Due, used, "Aspirate missing" var.                                         | 4.00  |
| 74. Sc 78, 5/ Castle, used, parcel cancel                                                   | 7.50  |
| 75. Sc between 128/333 (21) used commems                                                    | 1.25  |
| 76. Sc C1-7, Airmails, used                                                                 | 2.75  |
| 77. Sc 99-100, Constitution F.D.C. no cachet 2 covers                                       | 3.00  |
| 78. Sc 103-104, U.S. Constitution FDC rubber stamp cachet                                   | 4.00  |
| 79. Sc 135-136, Insurrection, FDC, Shannon cancel                                           | 3.00  |
| 80. Sc 141, Mangin, FDC, 3 stamps Shannon cancel                                            | 3.00  |
| 81. Sc 145-146, Moore, FDC, no cachet                                                       | 2.50  |
| 82. Sc 149-150, Emmett, FDC, no cachet                                                      | 4.00  |
| 83. Sc 151-152, Marian Year FDC no cachet, 2 sets                                           | 2.50  |
| 84. Sc 153-154, Newman FDC no cachet                                                        | 3.00  |
| 85. Sc 155-156, Barry, FDC, no cachet, toning                                               | 2.50  |
| 86. Sc 157, Redmond low value FDC, no cachet                                                | 1.00  |
| 87. Sc 167, Aikenhead low value, FDC, no cachet                                             | 1.00  |
| 88. Over 50 used, at least 20 diff, commems & defin                                         | Open  |

**THE FOLLOWING LOTS ARE THE CARRYOVERS FROM THE LAST SALE**

|                                                                                                       |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 89. Sc 139-40, Leinster House, used F                                                                 | 1.00  |
| 90. Sc 145-6, Thomas Moore used F                                                                     | 1.00  |
| 91. Sc 214-15, Roger Casement, used F                                                                 | .40   |
| 92. Sc 118-19, used, 119 upper right perf missing                                                     | 3.50  |
| 93. Sc 84, 90, 103-4, used                                                                            | 5.00  |
| 94. Sc 128-34, 139-40, 149-50, used                                                                   | 4.75  |
| 95. Sc 161-6, used                                                                                    | 4.00  |
| 96. Sc 167-74, used                                                                                   | 4.50  |
| 97. Sc 163-4, Fr. Wadding, used                                                                       | 1.25  |
| 98. Sc 121-23, used, 122 stained                                                                      | 1.50  |
| 99. Sc 142-4, Holy Year 1950, mint, VF                                                                | 7.25  |
| 100. Sc 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 172, 175 & 176 high value commems used | 30.00 |
| 101. Sc 99-100, Constitution, mint LH                                                                 | 1.50  |
| 102. Sc 118-19, Rising (overprint) mint LH                                                            | 8.50  |
| 103. Sc 142-4, Holy Year, mint LH                                                                     | 7.25  |
| 104. Sc 147-8, An Tostal, mint LH                                                                     | 4.50  |
| 105. Sc 133-4, Plowman, used                                                                          | .80   |
| 106. Sc 139-40, Leinster House, used                                                                  | .90   |
| 107. Sc 142-4, Holy Year, used                                                                        | 3.25  |
| 108. Sc 545-6, Moore, used                                                                            | .80   |
| 109. Sc 149-50, Emmett, used                                                                          | 2.25  |
| 110. Sc 151-2, Marian Year used                                                                       | 2.95  |
| 111. Sc 153-4, Newman, used                                                                           | 2.00  |
| 112. Sc 155-6, Barry, used                                                                            | 1.40  |
| 113. Sc 161-2, Brown, used                                                                            | 3.60  |
| 114. Sc 167-8, Aikenhead, used                                                                        | 2.10  |
| 115. Sc 171-2, Guinness, used                                                                         | 2.25  |
| 116. Sc 177-78, Aer Lingus, used                                                                      | 1.15  |
| 117. Sc 204-5, prs, 204 V with bottom selvage, 205H gutter at top                                     | 2.80  |
| 118. Between Sc 88 & 285, 60 used commems off paper 40 diff                                           | Open  |

Send all Bids To: John J. Blessington, 4302 St. Clair Ave., Studio City, Calif. 91604. The E.P.A. wishes to thank all those who donated lots.

**E.P.A. SPECIAL OFFERS**

The following items may be ordered from Edward J. Ryan, 4A Churchwood, 91 Riverview Rd., Niantic, CT 06357, U.S.A. All prices include postage and handling. Make all checks and money orders payable to E. J. Ryan.

**IRISH OVERPRINT IDENTIFIER** — A clear plastic overlay to help sort out your overprint issues. With it is a chart giving Scott and Gibbons numbers and an article on identifying the overprints. Price: \$3.25 to members, \$5.25 to non-members.

**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 \$3.00 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 \$2.00 each to members and \$2.25 each to non-members.

**E.P.A. NAME BADGES** — "EIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION" engraved on top line with member's name below — E.P.A. logo to left — white lettering on green background — 7/8" x 3" with safety pin on back. Specify name desired — Allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery. \$2.00 postpaid.

**HIBERNIAN "SIMPLIFIED CATALOG" 1922-1975** — The soft cover edition of 1976. \$1.50 postpaid.

## Irish Forces With The U.N.

by John J. Blessington

Several lots of "Irish Forces with the U.N." covers in a recent I.P.C. auction made me realize that here was an area of Irish Philately that was happening in our time, postal history in

the making, yet not too many collectors of Ireland were aware of it. In the not too distant future many of these covers will be sought-after rarities. That doesn't mean that they are plentiful now, for they aren't easy to find, but they make an interesting and rewarding side line collection.

Some of our members have been collecting these covers since the beginning and have put together comprehensive collections. The late A. T. Sedgley was one of these and I am indebted to him for the information concerning the extent of the involvement of Irish forces with the U.N. shown later. Although my knowledge of this field is not extensive, I'll share what I know with the hope that one or more of our readers will enlarge on the subject so that eventually we can record the complete picture. As you will see, there is much data needed.

From the newspapers and the television we know that for many years the United Nations has furnished troops as peace making or peace keeping forces in several disputes around the world. What is not so well known is the extent of the involvement of Irish forces in these missions. Since 1958 more than 16,000 Irish soldiers have served with the U.N. forces in the following missions: (Mission, Country, Acronym, Dates)

U.N. Observer Group in Lebanon, Lebanon, UNOGIL, 1958  
U.N. Truce Supervision Organization, Middle East, UNTSO, 1958-continuing

Organization des Nations Unie au Congo, Congo, ONUC, 1960-1964

U.N. Temporary Executive Authority, New Guinea, UNTEA, 1961

U.N. Forces in Cyprus, Cyprus, UNFICYP, 1964-continuing  
U.N. India-Pakistan Observer Mission, India-Pakistan, UNIPOM, 1965-1966

U.N. Disengagement Observer Force, Golan Heights, UNDOF, 1974-continuing

U.N. Force, Sinai Desert, UNEF, 1973-1974

From a philatelic point of view there is much that we should learn about these Irish troops. First, we need to learn something about the troops themselves, and second, we need to learn about the means of postal communication that were available to them.

Depending on requests from the U.N., Ireland furnished different types and quantities of men for different missions. The size and designations of the units, the dates of service under U.N. command, the places they were stationed and the dates stationed at each place and the rotation policy back to Ireland should all be determined. Acquisition of this data would create a listing of possible covers to look for and help establish a rarity factor, one against another.

There are three postal systems that could have been used by Irish personnel. It is possible that any one or all three might have been available to them. It must be determined what was available for each mission.

**U.N. Postal System:** The U.N. usually had its own Postal Service which delivered mail free to the members' home countries. Cost of this was absorbed by the U.N. The U.N. command issued limited quantities (usually five per week) of special U.N. Military Aerogrammes to its personnel for this service. In the return address corner card, space was furnished to identify the sender. Space was also furnished for serial number and unit designation. There is no imprinted stamp nor is there need for one . . . these are "Free Franks." There were several different printings of these aerogrammes during the time span we are interested in, yet they never seemed to have enough to go around. In many cases civilian aerogrammes were used. In Lebanon it was necessary to print 10,000 of the military type locally. Mint or used, these are now rare and if someone finds one of these used by a member of the Irish contingent it will be a REAL rarity.

**Irish Postal System:** Some U.N. troops may have had the facilities of their home country available. For instance, it appears likely that the governments of the Scandinavian countries

furnishing troops may have paid the postal fees of their own troops and transported their own mail. Whether or not Ireland did this in any instance is not known.

**Civilian Postal System:** The third postal system which may have been used by members of an Irish contingent is that of the host country. In this case the Postal Regulations of the host country would apply and the Irish personnel would have to pay all fees involved. This would, obviously, be the most costly system available to them.

What are the sources of this information that we need to complete the picture? The first two should be, logically, the U.N. itself and the Irish government. But past experiences dealing with these bodies haven't been too successful. For instance, E.P.A. members researching Irish World War II censor covers found that the Irish government still maintained a "Secret" classification on much of this data. What they would do if approached on U.N. involvement is a matter of conjecture. One source that should prove fruitful would be a file of "The Irish Defence Journal" from 1958 to date, if someone has access to one and has the time to go through them. In the long run, the primary source will probably prove to be the covers themselves. I suppose this is as it should be, for after all, isn't this what philately is all about . . . the study of postal material?

While putting this article together I went through a small collection of covers of Irish forces in the Congo. For the first time I really studied them and it is amazing the wealth of information that can be gleaned from these few covers.

**First the Military data:** There are covers from the 32nd Irish Infantry Battalion, the 33rd, the 35th, the 36th and the 37th. From the text of one aerogramme we learn that the 32nd had arrived in the Congo on the 26-27 July 1961, the 33rd on the 15-16 August and that the 34th was due to arrive on the 12-13 January 1962. This shows that the 32nd was in the Congo about six months this trip. It wasn't their first tour of duty for there also is a cover from them dated Nov. 1960. From another letter we learn that Lt. Gen. Sean McKeown of Ireland was the Commander, U.N. Forces in the Congo.

For the record: Troop movements of U.N. Forces has never been "classified" information nor, to my knowledge, has there ever been censorship of U.N. forces mail.

**Now to the Postal information:** There are covers that used two of the three possible postal system. Seven covers went through the U.N. Postal System and five were mailed in the civilian postal service. Six of the seven using the U.N. system were aerogrammes, yet only two were the special U.N. military type. In fact, a note in one, dated Sept. '63, indicated the military type was not available then. Four of the aerogrammes went to Ireland, were "free frank" and bear the circular cachet of the "Organisation des Nations Unies au Congo" shown below.



Strikes are in red, violet and black. There are no Irish arrival marks. The other three going through the U.N. are addressed to the U.S. or Canada, bear U.N. stamps and are postmarked at the U.N. in New York. Where were the U.N. stamps applied? . . . N.Y.? . . . did they have U.N. stamps in the Congo? Were these "Diplomatic Pouch" mail? Of the five covers going through the civilian post, three bear stamps of the State of

Katanga, one being cancelled at Albertsville, one at Elizabethville, and the last at Kamina Base. The last two bear Congo stamps, one being cancelled at Leopoldville and the other at Kinoute (?) (faint postmark). While a military return address was not necessary for this civilian mail, fortunately, most of the soldiers included it so that the covers are identifiable as Irish origin as well as Irish destination.

This concludes what I have to offer on covers used by the Irish Forces in the U.N., and I've only scratched the surface. I couldn't do much with rates on the civilian mail; no two covers had the same rate. I've only discussed mail FROM the Irish forces . . . what about mail TO them? Was there Registry service? How were parcels handled?, etc., and the Congo was only one of seven missions. Of course, not all missions had the volume of mail that the Congo mission had. As you can see, it is a broad and interesting field and much needs to be learned and documented. Who can add to our knowledge?

#### JOHN J. CLARK E.P.A. SECRETARY

1951 - 1961

It is with sorrow that we report the death of our good friend and fellow member, John J. Clark, who left us on Dec. 19, 1977.

John became our first Secretary, succeeding Bill Hickey, Acting Secretary, during E.P.A. formation. E.P.A. is deeply indebted to John for the unstinting time he devoted to our association. He will be remembered by many members in a world wide circle who corresponded with him and came to know him.

Founding Irish Cachet Covers in 1952, he embarked on a career as a dealer in first day covers and Irish stamps. In supplying collectors of Ireland he never forgot E.P.A. and brought many new members into our fold.

## 1977 Stamp Issues In Retrospect

by John J. Blessington

During 1977 Ireland gave us seven new commemorative issues totaling 15 stamps and three new unwatermarked definitives for a grand total of 18 stamps. The designs were, I think, not distinguished, probably no better nor worse than previous years. For the record and to help those who write up their stamps, we show each of the issues with the appropriate technical information and a few facts about each.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND  
THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF IRELAND



Issued May 9th, in a quantity of 4,000,000. Printed in sheets of 100 by photogravure at the Revenue Stamping Branch. Perf. 15 x 14½

DESIGNER: Patrick Hickey

The National Library was founded in 1877, based on collections acquired from the Royal Dublin Society and is the recognized Irish Bibliographical center. The stamp design shows an extract from a 16th century vellum manuscript in the Irish language containing tales of mythological heroes of Irish antiquity and other matters.

The National Museum, which also traces its origins to the Royal Dublin Society, was constituted by an Act of Parliament in 1877. It houses an impressive collection of antiquities, art and natural history, mainly, relating to Ireland's past. The stamp design shows a prehistoric stone bearing geometric motifs. It is typical of many from a series of passage-graves of the period 3,000 to 2,500 B.C. About 300 such are known.

#### ADDITIONS TO THE DEFINITIVE SERIES



Issued June 8th, the 10p and 12p printed in sheets of 200, the 17p in sheets of 100 by photogravure by the Revenue Stamping Branch. Perf. 15

DESIGNER: Heinrich Gerl

The 10p Dog design is taken from a decoration on an ancient Irish brooch from Killarney, Co. Kilkenny.

The 12p Elk design was inspired by an Irish art decoration which can be traced to a suspended bowl from Lullingstone Kent.

The 17p Winged Ox design, symbol of St. Luke the Evangelist, is based on an illustration in the gospel book of Lichfield.

#### EUROPA 1977



Issued June 27th, 10p in quantity of 4,000,000 and 12p in 2,000,000. Printed in sheets of 100 by lithography at the Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd. Perf. 15

DESIGNER: Erik Van der Grijn

The 10p features a view of Ballynahinch (Co. Galway) which takes its name from a small castle-crowned island in Ballynahinch Lake. Photograph by Pat O'Dea of the Irish Tourist Board.

The 12p features Lough Tay (Lugalla Lake) located in Co. Wicklow which is known as the garden of Ireland because of its spectacular beauty. Photograph by Brian Lynch of the Irish Tourist Board.

#### CONTEMPORARY IRISH ART



Issued August 8th in a quantity of 2,000,000. Printed in sheets of 100 by lithography at the Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd. Perf. 14

DESIGNER: Louis le Brocquy

The stamp design is from a painting entitled "Head" by Louis le Brocquy in 1973 and now in a private collection in Turin, Italy. He is an artist of international stature whose paintings have been shown in many international exhibits and are found in many of the great galleries of the world.

#### SCOUTING AND GUIDING



Issued August 22nd in a quantity of 4,000,000 for the 8p and 2,000,000 for the 17p. Printed in sheets of 100 by photogravure at the Revenue Stamping Branch. Perf. 15 x 14½

DESIGNER: Robert Ballagh

The stamp designs depict figures in silhouette with typical scouting and guiding scenes. Ireland hosted the European Scout and Guide Conference in 1977.

#### FOLKLORE OF IRELAND SOCIETY SCOTTUS ERINGENA, IRISH PHILOSOPHER



Issued September 12th in a quantity of 4,000,000 (10p) and 2,000,000 (12p). Printed in sheets of 100 by lithography at the Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd. Perf. 14

DESIGNER: 10p Liam Miller

DESIGNER: 12p Robert Ballagh

The Folklore Society was founded in 1927. It endeavors to preserve the richness of Ireland's oral tradition and fosters a love of Irish folklore. The stamp design is based on a print of the Jack B. Yeats line drawing "The Shanachie." Johannes Scottus Erigena was an Irishman of the 9th century. He had a unique and powerful mind and is considered to be the most important philosopher in Latin Christendom between Augustine and Aquinas. The stamp design features a stylized portrait of him based on the George Peattie drawing of the bust at Brasenose College, Oxford.

**ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD  
AGRICULTURE CREDIT CORPORATION  
GREYHOUND TRACK RACING IN IRELAND**



Issued October 10th in a quantity of 4,000,000 (10p), 2,000,000 (12p and 17p). Printed in sheets of 100 by lithography (10p and 17p) at the Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd. and by photogravure (12p) at the Revenue Stamping Branch. Perf. 14

DESIGNER: 10p Robert Ballagh

DESIGNER: 12p Patrick Hickey

DESIGNER: 17p Basil Blackshaw

The Electricity Supply Board was established by the Irish Government in 1927. From the first generating station at the River Shannon the system now extends to 28 stations. The stamp design features a detail from a mural executed by Robert Ballagh for the Electricity Supply Board.

The Agriculture Credit Corporation was founded to provide a service whereby farmers could borrow long term credit at reasonable rates. The stamp design bull motif is taken from an Irish coin in current use to symbolize the money backing agriculture.

Greyhound Track Racing, as known today, was introduced to Ireland in 1927 with meets at Celtic Park, Belfast, and at Shelbourne Park, Dublin. Irish greyhounds are famous the world over, some 7,000 being exported yearly. The stamp design shows a track greyhound at full speed.

**CHRISTMAS 1977**



Issued Nov. 3rd in a quantity of 10,000,000 (8p and 10p) and 2,000,000 (17p). Printed in sheets of 100 by photogravure at the Revenue Stamping Branch. Perf. 14½ x 15.

DESIGNER: Raymond McGrath

The stamp design was adapted from the painting "The Holy Family" by Giorgione, an Italian painter of the late 15th, early 16th century. He is regarded as one of the founders of modern painting. He developed a new, free style of painting. His works were imbued with strong poetic feeling, with great beauty and richness of coloring.

## Treasurer's Annual Report

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS  
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1977**

| RECEIPTS                            |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Dues                                | \$2,495 |
| Auctions                            | 558     |
| Donations                           | 234     |
| Interest                            | 85      |
| Books                               | 74      |
| Advertising                         | 65      |
| Total Receipts                      | \$3,511 |
| DISBURSEMENTS                       |         |
| Revealer printing and distribution  | \$2,433 |
| Other printing and supplies         | 498     |
| Items for resale                    | 480     |
| Postage and misc.                   | 156     |
| Total Disbursements                 | \$3,567 |
| Disbursements in excess of receipts | \$ 56   |

## Irish Postmarks from 1922 Onwards

by J. T. Howley

### INTRODUCTION

Are you looking for a fascinating sideline in Irish philately? Consider the possibilities of a Postmark collection.

This bug bit me ten years ago!

It happens to most philatelists. I found it increasingly difficult, and more expensive, to add to my collection. It became imperative to find a new area of interest.

I don't know the Gaelic. In my collection of Ireland there were a number of stamps with postmarks that meant nothing to me. So I started a small campaign to determine the English, or common, names of these places with the strange Irish names. That did it!

At first I merely tried to identify the offices of which I owned examples. Then, God help me, I decided to try to get a specimen from each possible different place. To do this, I first needed a list of offices; and to simplify the work, I determined to arrange my list county by county, on a geographical basis. The reason for this will appear later.

In compiling my lists, I have had valuable assistance from Harald Frank, EPA member in Germany. We took the listing in "Eolai an Phoist" (1) and tailored it to suit. The resulting lists will be published in future articles. Some such basic reference is mandatory for anyone who wishes to study Irish postmarks.

Such a study can be absorbing and reveals a wealth of very fascinating data. Modern machine cancels are becoming widespread in larger towns, and together with the 'Slogans' that often form part of them, offer an interesting field of specialization. But the real ore can be mined from a study of the handstamps. A couple of examples illustrate this.

A place called BAILE NA LORGAN (Figure 1) did not, and does not exist. But for almost three years a cancel with that name was applied to mail from Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan. How come? There's something I consider typically Irish in the explanation which can be found in Dr. de Burca's articles (2). For some obscure reason the G.P.O. sent a new datestamp inscribed BAILE NA LORGAN to Castleblayney Post Office in 1960, and it was duly put to use. In 1962, a corrected stamp, worded CAISLEÁN MATHGHAMNACH (Figure 2) was provided, and BAILE NA LORGAN quietly disappeared back into the mists of obscurity!



FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2

Killeagar (CHILLE GHEARRA) is shown, both by "Eolia an Phoist" and by its postal handstamp, as being in Co. Cavan. Leckaun (LEACAIN) is similarly suggested to be in Co. Sligo. Both in fact are in Co. Leitrim. There are numerous other similar examples of apparent geographic mistakes. These occur because many small offices are served by District or Sorting Offices "over the border" in neighboring counties. Sorting these out was the biggest headache, and the most fun, that Harald Frank and I encountered, and it could be that we have not yet got them all correct. Readers may find errors in the lists when they are subsequently published, and we shall welcome

corrections that are provable.

In our lists are included only place-names of the period from 1922 onwards. Mainly because this is a relatively unexplored field, but also because philatelists more competent than I have studied pre-1922 postmarks in depth: pre-stamp markings, the 'diamond' cancels, the 'duplexes' and 'spoons' and the like. Because the field is so wide, I have restricted my studies mainly to markings for postal use only. Such other interesting studies as Registration, Parcel Post, Official cancels, and the like, I leave for other enthusiasts.

In 1922, and for some years thereafter, postmarks in English continued to be used in many smaller offices. In the transitional period before cancels in Gaelic replaced those in English, many offices used temporary handstamps. After Gaelic became generally used there were many changes in the format of the canceller, sometimes with 'skeleton' handstamps. I am still continuing a study of enormous complexity aimed at determining WHEN each of the various cancels was in use, both initially and finally.

This latter study may never get completed — certainly not without considerable input from others, whose collaboration is invited. But it is fun working at it. Moreover, it is not too expensive for ordinary mortals. I get endless enjoyment sorting through 'kiloware' and 'Mission Mixtures', invariably finding new information in each batch, and once in a while running across real 'finds' and varieties.

This article is introductory to a proposed series. Future articles will include some Historical Notes, Illustrations of Types of Postmarks (both in English and Gaelic), Transitional Types, Lists of Offices. Hopefully this series will infect a few other zealots with an enthusiasm similar to my own.

To conclude my introduction, I wish to thank those who have personally assisted me: Harald Frank, Padraig O Mathuna, O. M. Richards, Eugen Labiuk, F. E. Dixon, Noel J. Langton, Brian de Burca and Arthur L. Stokes.

The following sources are referred to in the text:

- (1) "Eolia an Phoist," a booklet issued periodically by the Post Office of Ireland, listing current offices.
- (2) "The Postal Handstamps of Monaghan," by Brian de Burca (Articles in *The Revealer*, Oct. 1965 and later).

Other sources from which I have culled valuable data include:

- "Dublin Postal Handstamps" by Noel J. Langton
- "The Post Offices of Cavan" by J. J. Walsh (*The Revealer*)
- "The Post Offices and Date Stamps of the County of Leitrim" by Brian de Burca (Published by the Irish Philatelic Circle).

### LIST OF OFFICES PART I

These county lists will be presented alphabetically over the next several issues. They have been prepared and rearranged several times over. As new data comes to light, they require continual updating. We decided to publish them in their present state only to fix a starting point; otherwise they might never get past the "in progress" stage. They are valid to the end of 1976, but are admittedly already out of date, mostly because of the changes proposed by the Placenames Commission of Ireland. I do, however, feel they can now be used as basic data, and any user can readily treat them as such, keeping them up to date in whatever fashion suits him.

The arrangement of names is set up alphabetically in Gaelic. I find this is the best way to facilitate identification, since the inscriptions on the postmarks are in Gaelic. It was found necessary to identify many smaller offices by what I call "District Office," since many names are duplicated. My definition of District Office, which may offend the purist, is simply that it is the major office which serves the particular branch office, and which (particularly on earlier postmarks) is part of the canceller.

## Irish Postmarks from 1922 Onwards

### LIST OF OFFICES

| COUNTY CARLOW                                                                                                                                |                  |                       |                                    |                    |                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Gaelic Name                                                                                                                                  | English Name     | District Office       |                                    |                    |                     |
| AN URNAIDHE                                                                                                                                  | Nurney           | Muine Bheag           | BEAL TAIRBEART                     | Belturbet          |                     |
| ARD AITINN                                                                                                                                   | Ardattin         | Tullow                | CABHAN                             | Cavan              |                     |
| ATH NA GRAIN-SIGHE (1)                                                                                                                       | Grangeford       | Tullow                | CAIRGIN                            | Carrigan           | Cavan               |
| BAILE AN DROICHID                                                                                                                            | Hackettstown     |                       | CAISLEAN RATHAIN                   |                    |                     |
| BAILE GOBHANN                                                                                                                                | Milford          | Leighlinbridge        | (obs. '69)                         | Castleraghan       | Ballyjamesduff      |
| BAILE TOIBN (1)                                                                                                                              | Tobinstown       | Tullow                | CARRAIG AN TOBAIR                  | Crosskeys          | Cavan               |
| BAILE UI MHUR-CHADHA                                                                                                                         | Ballymurphy      | Borris                | CARRAIG ATHA                       |                    |                     |
| BALLAN                                                                                                                                       | Ballon           |                       | BUIDHE                             | Carrickaboy        | Cavan               |
| BEANN AN CHAIR-THÉ*                                                                                                                          | Bennekerry       | Carlow                | CILL                               | Kill               | Cootehill           |
| BILE BO*                                                                                                                                     | Bilboa           | Crettyard, Leix       | CILL CHATHLAIGH                    | Bailieborough      |                     |
| BUIRGHAES O nDRONA                                                                                                                           | Borris           | Kilkenny              | CILL CHOIGIDH                      | Kilcogy            | Granard, Long       |
| CEATHARLACH                                                                                                                                  | Carlow           |                       | CILLIN CIAR                        | Killinkere         | Virginia            |
| CEATHRAMHA MHOR                                                                                                                              | Corrie's Cross   | Muine Bheag           | CILL NA LEAC                       | Kilnaleck          | Ballyjamesduff      |
| CILL BHRIGHDE                                                                                                                                | Kilbride         | Tullow                | CILL NA SEANRATHA                  | Killeshandra       |                     |
| CILL DAMHAIN                                                                                                                                 | Kildavin         | Ferns, Wex            | CLAS NA mBRADAN                    | Northlands         | Carrickmacross, Mon |
| CILL EAMOINN (obs. '69)                                                                                                                      | Killedmond       |                       | CLAITH FEARNÁ                      | Cliffena           | Cavan               |
| CILL FHEARGAN                                                                                                                                | Killierig Cross  | Tullow                | CNOCRUADH                          | Redhills           | Cavan               |
| CLUAIN MOR                                                                                                                                   |                  |                       | COILL DORCHA                       | Kildoroug          | Ballyjamesduff      |
| * MAODHOG                                                                                                                                    | Clonmore         | Hackettstown          | COR A BHILE (1)                    | Corravilla         |                     |
| CLUAIN NA nGALL                                                                                                                              | Clonegal         | Ferns Wex             | COR AN AODHAIRE                    | Corraneary         | Cootehill           |
| CNOCARDA (obs. '69)                                                                                                                          | Palatine         | Carlow                | COR LIOS MOR                       | Corlesmore         | Cava                |
| CUIL AN CHUILLIN                                                                                                                             | Coolcullen       | Muine Bheag           | CORR LOCH                          | Corlough           | Belturbet           |
| CUIL CHEANNAIGH                                                                                                                              | Coolkenno        |                       | COR NA FEINNE                      | Cornafean          | Cavan               |
| FIODHNACH                                                                                                                                    | Fenagh           | Muine Bheag           | CROS-AR-LOCH                       | Crosserlough       |                     |
| GARB-CHOILL (1)                                                                                                                              | Garryhill        | Muine Bheag           | CROS DOMHNAIGH                     | Crossdoney         | Cavan               |
| CRAIG CUILLIN                                                                                                                                | Craigecullen     | Carlow                | CROS LIS GROIGHE                   | Lisgray Crossroads | Virginia            |
| LEITHGHILINN AN DROICHID                                                                                                                     | Leighlinbridge   | Muine Bheag           | CROS NA nDROMANN                   | New Inn            | Ballyjamesduff      |
| MIDHISEAL                                                                                                                                    | Myshall          | Muine Bheag           | CROS RIABACH                       | Crossreagh         |                     |
| MUINE BHEAG                                                                                                                                  | Muine Bheag (2)  |                       | CUIL NO gCORR                      |                    |                     |
| RATH BHILE                                                                                                                                   | Rathvilly        |                       | (obs. '71)                         | Ricehill           | Cavan               |
| RATH TUAGH                                                                                                                                   | Rathoe           | Tullow                | DARTRAIGHE                         |                    |                     |
| SEAN-LEITHGHILINN                                                                                                                            | Old Leighlin     | Leighlinbridge        | COININSE                           | Dartrey            | Cootehill           |
| SRAID NA TULCHA                                                                                                                              | Tullow St.       | Carlow                | DOIRE LEATHAN                      | Derrylane          | Killeshandra        |
| STRAISIUN                                                                                                                                    |                  |                       | DOIRE NA CRAOIBHE                  | Dernacrieve        | Belturbet           |
| CHEATHARLACH                                                                                                                                 | Carlow Stn.      |                       | DROICHEAD AN BHUILEARAIGH          | Butler's Bridge    | Cavan               |
| STRAISIUN MUINE BHEAG                                                                                                                        | Muine Bheag Stn. |                       | DROICHEAD BHILE                    |                    |                     |
| TIGH MOLING                                                                                                                                  | St. Mullins      | Craiguenamanach, Kilk | EASA                               | Bilis Bridge       | Virginia            |
| TULACH O n hFEIDHLIM                                                                                                                         | Tullow           |                       | DROICHEAD UI                       |                    |                     |
| (1) No Postal Business?                                                                                                                      |                  |                       | DHALAIGH                           | Mount Nugent       | Kells, Meath        |
| (2) Formerly Bagenalstown                                                                                                                    |                  |                       | DRONG                              | Drung              | Cavan               |
| * Offices thus marked transacted postal business in the 20's (and some later). It is doubtful if they still do so, though listed in 'Eolai'. |                  |                       | DRUIM AN EASBUIG                   | Drumanespic        | Bailieborough       |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | DRUIM CASAIDE                      | Cloverhill         | Cavan               |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | DRUIM CASC (obs. '73)              | Drumcask           | Belturbet           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | DRUIM EAGA                         | Drumeague          | Bailieborough       |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | DUBHGHARRDHA                       | Doogarry           | Cavan               |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | FORMAOIL                           | Mountain Lodge     | Cootehill           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | GLAS LEAC                          | Glassleck          |                     |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | GLEANN GAIBHLE                     | Glangevlin         | C.D.R., Leit        |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | GOBH AN MHIANAIGH                  | Gubaveeny          | Blacklion           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | GORT AN CHUILL                     |                    |                     |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | (obs. '69)                         | Gortahill          | Blacklion           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | GREACH UI GIBNE                    | Grousehall         | Bailieborough       |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | IOCHTAR                            | Eighter            | Virginia            |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | LEARGA                             | Blacklion          |                     |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | LIOS BO DUIBHE                     | Lisboduff          | Cootehill           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | LIOS DUBH                          | Lisduff            | Kells, Meath        |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | LIOS NA gCAOR                      | Lisnager           | Cootehill           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | LOCH DUBH                          | Loughduff          | Cavan               |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | LOCH GAMHNA                        | Loch Gowna         |                     |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | LOSAD                              | Losset             | Cavan               |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | MAIDE BAN                          | Madabawn           | Cootehill           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | MUILLEAN IARRAIN                   | Swanlibar          | Belturbet           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | MUINCHILLE                         | Cootehill          |                     |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | MUINE NA gCAISEAL                  | Moneygashel        | Blacklion           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | MULLACH                            |                    |                     |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | LAOIGHILL                          | Mullagh            | Kells, Meath        |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | POLLAI                             | Poles              | Cavan               |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | SEARCOG                            | Sherock            | (2)                 |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | SRAID MAC PHIAIRIS                 | Pearse St.         | Cavan               |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | SRATH DOMHAIN                      | Stradone           | Cavan               |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | TAMHNACH DUBH                      | Tunnyduff          | Bailieborough       |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | TEARMONN                           | Termon             | Virginia            |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | TULACH CUACH                       | Tullyco            | Cootehill           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | TULACH MHAOIN                      | Tullyvin           | Cootehill           |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | (1) Office opened in 1973          |                    |                     |
|                                                                                                                                              |                  |                       | (2) D.O. Carrickmacross until 1931 |                    |                     |

Continued in the next issue.

# THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF IRELAND

## 1922 - 1927

By  
**W. G. Meredith**  
 as revised by J. E. Foley

### EDITOR'S PREFACE

There are relatively few philatelic publications that are still actively sought 50 years after their publication. W. G. Meredith's *The Postage Stamps of Ireland* belongs in this select group. The treatment of the overprint varieties is the most comprehensive available. However, the original publication is difficult to obtain and the prices are obviously out of date. In recent years, some catalogs have noted some, but not all, the varieties. In these publications the price is usually indicated as "3 X normal" etc. The inference being that the variety is worth a multiple of the price of the basic stamp. The chief problem with this approach is that the variety usually appears on several denominations and the basic stamps differ considerably in value. As the price of the basic stamp increases, the effect of the added value of the variety is usually diminished. This was reflected in Meredith's discrete prices for each denomination on which the variety was known. In revising the 1927 prices for the varieties, the relationship between each denomination of the variety and Meredith's contemporary price for the normal stamp was considered in conjunction with a similar exercise on those varieties individually priced in David Feldman's March 1969 price list (the last edition to individually price minor varieties). Second consideration was given to the "multipliers" noted in the *Hibernian Catalogue* and the *Feldman 1978 price list*. Since 1927 the value of used stamps vis-a-vis mint has increased and this has been reflected in the revised prices. However, if one were to attempt to form a comprehensive collection of used overprint varieties, the task would be considerably more difficult than the relative prices would indicate. Also, by used we mean those stamps cancelled within a reasonable period of time after their issue. The final step in arriving at the revised prices for the varieties was to apply the relationships mentioned earlier to current prices for the basic stamp as reflected in the 1978 *Scott Catalogue* and the current price lists of *Feldman*, *Smallman* and the *Owl Stamp Studio*. The prices should be considered as retail and not "catalog prices" subject to discount. At the time this revision was prepared, the Canadian dollar was valued at \$.90 U.S., and the pound sterling \$1.83 U.S. a dash next to a variety in the price field indicates that we were unable to arrive at a current evaluation.

The fourth edition, published in 1927, is the basis for this revision. Certain sections of the Meredith catalogue are not being reprinted because of the close similarity to other material recently published in *The Revealer*, or contained in other publications readily available. The pages excluded are: pp. 1-14, 33, 37-38 and 64-68. The complete catalogue is available from the E.P.A. library. It should also be noted that the last issues of the overprinted high-values appeared after the original publication and are not included in this revision.

William G. Meredith is a life member of the Eire Philatelic Association and a recipient of the E.P.A.'s Thomas Edwin Field Award. He prepared the new forward for this revision. The Eire Philatelic Association is honored and pleased to present *The Postage Stamps of Ireland, 1922-1927*.

J. E. Foley

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### FOREWORD

I have been asked to give permission for reprinting in *The Revealer* portions of the fourth edition of *The Postage Stamps of Ireland, 1922-1927*, and I gladly do so. It seems that very few

copies remain of the 1,000 which were originally printed and consequently many recent collectors of Irish stamps have not all the information which it contains. The constant varieties on the overprints make an interesting study, but collectors today will find some of the items are very elusive. It is worth a look through your collection to see if you have some so far undiscovered by you. Prices of some of the rarer items have escalated very considerably — for instance the 1/- Saorstát without accent was priced at 30 pounds in 1927 and recently fetched 400 pounds in auction (1975), even though the stamp itself was slightly creased.

W. G. MEREDITH

16 Gallwey Avenue  
 Birchington, Kent, England  
 19 July 1975

### DOLLARD OVERPRINTS.

This overprint was the work of Messrs. Dollard, Printing House, Dublin, Ltd., and was first put on sale on February 17th, 1922, simultaneously in all the post offices of the Irish Free State.

Dawson Wharfedale machines were used for the overprint, which was, at first, in process black ink on the following values: — $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 9d., 10d., 2/6, 5/-, and 10/-. On all the values to 10d., the wording *Rialtas Sealada na hEireann 1922*, meaning "Provisional Government of Ireland 1922," appeared in five lines; the 2/6, 5/-, and 10/- had the overprint in four lines. After the type was set up, proofs were pulled on coloured and white paper, before the overprinting of the stamps was begun. Both black and vermilion inks were used for the proofs, and later the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. English stamp appeared with a proof overprint in vermilion, Control S 22 imperf. All the genuine copies of the former bear a rubber stamp at the back reading as follows: "Original Dollard proof, 17.2.22. B.J.B." the initials being those of Mr. B. J. Brennan, Manager of the Dollard Printing House. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps in vermilion are found with and without this mark.<sup>1</sup> The distinctive mark of the Dollard overprints to 10d. value is the date, which is in antique type without a

<sup>1</sup> For additional information refer to Supplement No. 12 to the July 1963 *Revealer*, "Printing of the Irish Provisionals" by H. G. Leslie Fletcher.

full stop, and is thus easily distinguished from all other overprints. The 2/6, 5/-, and 10/- values are not easy to distinguish from the Thom printings, but the Dollard overprints are always in dull black and the h and é of hÉireann are wide apart.

It was decided to discontinue printing the 2½d., 4d., and 9d. values with the black overprint on and from April 1st, 1922, and thereafter these values were overprinted in red. The reason for the change was that the black overprint was unsuitable on the dark colours of these stamps. It was originally intended to overprint the ½d. and 10/- values in red, but nothing definite was decided and no alteration was made.

There are three settings of the low value overprint, which are easily distinguished in blocks. In each case the type was originally set up on a monotype machine in five rows of three overprints. The matrix was then made, and a number of stereos taken. Sixteen of these, in four rows of four, were tacked on to a wooden board to make the plate. In some cases they shifted slightly during the process, and the result was that some sections were out of register. A simple calculation will show that the maximum number of "out of alignment" pairs which can occur on a Dollard sheet is sixty, and that the number occurring must be in multiples of five.

From time to time, when the plates became worn or damaged, the sections concerned were removed and fresh ones inserted. Dollard varieties in most cases, therefore, cannot be said to be constant in the sense that some of the Thoms are.

In the first setting, and the one which was earliest in use, the type was set up very accurately and there was practically no difference between the overprints. The t of *Seataobac* is vertically above the n of *na*.

In the second setting, the third stamp in the first row of the section has the é at the end of *Seataobac* slightly raised. R over Se (*i.e.* with the long stroke of the r in *Riatar* almost vertically over the top of the a below) occurs in the second stamp of the second and fourth rows, and in the third stamp of the third, fourth, and fifth rows. t over na occurs in the third stamp of the first row; in the second stamp of the first and second rows; in each stamp of the third row and in the third stamp of the fourth and fifth rows. In the third stamp of the second row, the r of date is vertically under the i of hÉireann.

In the third setting, the third stamp in the first row has the é at the end of *Seataobac* raised and rather more so than in the second setting. R over Se occurs in the three stamps of the first row, in the second stamp of the second row, in the second and third stamps of the fourth row, and in the first and third stamps of the fifth row. t over na occurs in the three stamps of the first row, in the second stamp of the second row, in the first stamp of the third row, in the third stamp of the fourth row, and in the first and third stamps of the fifth row. In the third stamp of the second row, the r of date is vertically under the é of hÉireann.<sup>2</sup>

Some sheets of the values with red overprint, including the 2½d. with Control S 22 imperf., have been found with settings one and three placed alternately.

There is only one setting of the overprint for the 2/6, 5/-, and 10/- values. They were printed from a plate made up of two sections of twenty overprints, each prepared in the same way as the low values.

½d. value.—The chief error in this value is the inverted overprint. Two sheets probably exist. Other errors include date omitted, date at top, and *Riatar* at foot. On one sheet the printing was so misplaced that the overprint was missing from the first row of each pane. In addition, practically all the usual Dollard varieties are found. The total number of sheets printed was 43,000, the first printing consisting of 20,000 sheets. The controls are:—R 21, S 21, and S 22, and all exist with perforate and imperforate margins. S 21 perf. is the scarcest.

1d. value.—Two sheets of this value are known to have been genuinely issued with inverted overprint. They were issued in June, 1922, at an office in County Dublin. This is the only Dollard value known with watermark inverted. Practically the same varieties occur as on the ½d. value. 112,000 sheets were printed, of which 50,000 were available on the first day of issue. Controls are:—S 21, S 22, and T 22, all being found perf. and imperf. S 21 perf. and T 22 imperf. are rare, the latter especially so.

2½d. value.—The black overprint on this value was superseded after 43 days of issue by a vermilion overprint. In common with the other values on which the colour of the overprint was changed, it was not withdrawn from sale, and, owing to its being little required, stocks were actually available at the post offices until the middle of May. No important varieties occur. 1,502 sheets were overprinted in black, the first printing consisting of 1,000. The control is S 21, with perf. and imperf. margins.

1,298 sheets were printed in vermilion, a smaller amount than the black issue, although the black seems harder to obtain. The controls are S 21 and S 22, both perf. and imperf. S 21 perf. is a scarce item.

3d. value.—There are no important varieties to record in this value.

6,500 sheets were overprinted, the February printing comprising 2,000 sheets. The controls are S 21 and S 22 perf. and imperf.; S 21 imperf. and S 22 perf. are both scarce. Mint copies of this stamp, especially blocks, are much scarcer than any other value in this printing.

4d. value.—1,702 sheets were overprinted in black and 1,798 in red, the latter total including both vermilion and carmine. The first black printing consisted of 1,000 sheets. The carmine shade on this and the 9d. value appears to have been a late experiment. It was probably actually printed about the middle of June, but its existence was unknown until July or August, 1922. The black controls are R 21 imperf., S 21 imperf. and perf., and S 22 perf. S 21 is the variety most often encountered. R 21 imperf. and perf. and S 21 imperf. are the vermilion controls; R 21 perf. is rare, and S 21 is also scarce, since the majority of sheets with this control were overprinted in black. All the S 22 controls, both imperf. and perf., with red overprint seem to be carmine, not vermilion.

5d. value.—The February overprint of this value comprised, according to the figures available, the major portion of the total number printed, being 2,000 out of 2,100 sheets. No important varieties occur. The controls are S 21 imperf. and perf. and S 22 imperf.

9d. value.—2,398 sheets were overprinted in black and 2,602 in vermilion or carmine. The February issue in black consisted of 2,000 sheets. In the black overprint, the chief variety shows the date at top: this seems to be very scarce. The controls are S 21 imperf. and perf. and S 22 perf. The latter is perhaps the rarest of the Irish controls, and the known copies could be counted on the fingers of one

<sup>2</sup> See "Dollard Overprints on Low Values" by Hans G. Zervas, Supplement No. 21 to the June 1965 Revealer.

hand. The red controls are S21 and S22 perf. and imperf. Both the imperf. controls are rare. S22 perf. is the carmine control.<sup>3</sup>

**10d. value.**—Only 900 sheets were overprinted, of which 500 were ready by February 17th. A notable variety, which only occurs on two other values, is the 1 practically omitted in 1922. It is found on the seventh stamp of the seventeenth row. I have seen several examples, all from Control S22 perf., setting 2. The controls are Q21 perf., S21 imperf. and perf., and S22 perf. S22 imperf. does not appear to exist. Considering the small number printed, this value is much more frequently met with than might be expected.

**2/6, 5/-, and 10/- values.**—The number of sheets of forty overprinted were 1,000, 650, and 500 respectively. 500 sheets of each were available on February 17th. There is a variety in which the third line measures 21 mm. instead of 21½ mm. It is distinct from the Thom overprint, which also has this measurement, in that *Ραλταρ* measures 12½ mm. against the Thom 12 mm., and *Σεαλασαδ* 15 mm. against the Thom 14½ mm. It occurs on the following positions of the sheet:—1×4, 2×4, 6×4, 7×4, and 9×1.

### THOM FIVE LINE OVERPRINTS.

The 1½d., 2d., 6d., and 1/- values have never been overprinted by Messrs. Dollard. They first appeared with black overprint simultaneously with the Dollard values on February 17th, 1922, and were the work of Messrs. Alex. Thom & Co., Ltd. The first printing of these four values probably totalled £73,000 in all. The overprint differs from the Dollard in that the date is in block type with full stop and the measurement is slightly different. The ½d., 1d., and 3d. values appeared in black during July, pending the general use of the blue-black ink, with which all values, except the 2½d., 4d., and 9d. values, were eventually overprinted. The 10d. and 5/- values have also been found with black overprint, but owing to the colour of the background it is difficult to distinguish. These seem to have been proof sheets, afterwards put into circulation. In their endeavours to obtain a suitable ink, an experimental shade of blue-black was tried on the ½d., 2d., and 3d. values during July. It is thinner than the normal blue-black, in a medium tone between black and blue-black. The 2/6, 5/-, and 10/- values appeared with blue-black overprint about October 17th, 1922. The *η* and *ε* of *ηέπειαν* are close together. During September, the English 9d. agate had been superseded by a 9d. in sage-green, and this new colour first appeared with the Thom red overprint on November 6th.<sup>4</sup>

Towards the end of November, stocks of some values apparently ran low and, no doubt because the normal plates were worn out, the ½d., 1d., and 2d. values were overprinted from new plates, the lettering on which was wider spaced out than hitherto. This was on November 21st, 1922, and on December 4th a number of sheets of the 1½d. and 1/- values were overprinted in like manner, all with blue-black overprint. The ½d. value is also found in jet black. In both cases the stamps were not on sale until about one week after the overprinting was done. There are practically no varieties.

Ten distinct plates were used by Messrs. Thom, and details are given below by means of which control blocks or strips may be differentiated. The measurements are taken (1) from the left-hand side of the upright stroke of the *Ρ* in *Ραλταρ* on the first stamp of the row to the same part of the *Ρ* on the second stamp, (2) then on from this point to the same part of the *Ρ* on the third stamp, (3) from the same part of the *Ρ* on the first stamp to the extreme right-hand side of the long stroke of the *ρ* on the third stamp. All measurements are in millimetres.

**Plate 1.**—The measurements for row 19 are (1) 20, (2) 20, (3) 51.8, and for row 20 are (1) 20, (2) 20, (3) 51.6. In all overprints the 1 of the date is very slightly to the left of the *ι* in *ηέπειαν*. In 19×3 the *ε* of *Σεαλασαδ* has usually a chip out of the top right-hand corner. In 20×3 the stop after the date is slightly dropped. Other varieties on the sheet are:—dropped *ε* in *Σεαλασαδ* on 9×12 and 11×12; large stop on 8×3; damaged *α* in *Σεαλασαδ* on 18×1. Overprints 1 to 4 in rows 8 to 20 are raised. There are, therefore, thirteen out of alignment pairs to be found on each sheet overprinted from this plate. The type runs down to the right.

**Plate 2.**—The measurements for row 19 are (1) 20.2, (2) 20.5, (3) 52.3, and for row 20 are (1) 20.2, (2) 20.4, (3) 52. In 19×3 and 20×3 the overprints are in much heavier type than the first two vertical rows. In all overprints the 1 of date is almost vertically under the *ι* of *ηέπειαν*. The stop after the date in 20×2 is usually damaged and sometimes triangular. Other varieties on the sheet are:—*Ρ* over *Σ* on 17×4, 17×5, and 17×6. *Ρ* over *Se* on 12×1, 12×2, 12×3, 12×4, 12×5, 12×6, and 17×3. *ι* over *na* on first six stamps in row 12 and 17×3. *α* over *na* on 17×4, 17×5, and 17×6. *ε* over 1 on 12×7, 12×10, 12×11, 12×12, 15×11, 15×12, 19×5, 19×6, 19×10, 19×11, and 19×12. *ε* over 19 on 12×4, 12×5, and 12×6. Broken *ι* in *Ραλταρ* on 8×4. There are no out of alignment pairs.

**Plate 3.**—The measurements for row 19 are (1) 20, (2) 20.2, (3) 51.7, and for row 20 are (1) 20, (2) 20, (3) 51.6. The setting is similar to Plate 2, except that in 19×2 the *ι* of *Σεαλασαδ* is more to the right of the *η* in *na*. In 20×1 the *η* of *ηέπειαν* is broken and in 20×2 the 1 of date is short. Other varieties on the sheet are:—*Ρ* over *S* on 17×5 and 17×6. *Ρ* over *Se* on 12×5, 12×6, 17×3, and 17×4. *ι* over *na* on 12×5, 12×6, 17×3, and 17×4. *α* over *na* on 17×5 and 17×6. *ε* over 1 on 12×7, 12×10, 12×11, 12×12, 15×10, 15×11, 15×12, 19×5, 19×6, 19×10, 19×11, and 19×12. *ε* over 19 on 12×5 and 12×6. Wide *α* on 17×4. Damaged *α* in *Σεαλασαδ* on 8×1 and 12×4. Overprints 9 to 12 in rows 1 to 4 are dropped, and in rows 11 to 14 are raised. There are, therefore, eight out of alignment pairs. The type runs down to the right.

**Plate 4.**—The measurements for row 19 are (1) 20, (2) 20, (3) 51.5, and for row 20 are (1) 20, (2) 19.9, (3) 51.5. In 19×1 and 19×2 the 1 of date is under *ε* of *ηέπειαν*. As regards the 1d. value, the measurements from 19×10 to 19×12 for row 19 are (1) 20, (2) 20.5, (3) 52.5, and for row 20 are (1) 19.9, (2) 20.5, (3) 52.5, and the 1 of date is under *ε* of *ηέπειαν* in 19×10. Other varieties on the sheet are:—*ε* over 1 on 2×3, 2×4, 2×7, 2×8, 3×10, 3×11, 3×12, 5×10, 5×11, 6×2, 6×3, 6×4, 8×2, 8×3, 8×4, 9×5, 9×6, 9×10, 9×11, 9×12, 12×7, 12×8, 13×2, 13×3, 13×4, 13×10, 13×11, 13×12, 16×9, 16×10, 19×1, 19×2, 19×9, and 19×10. Overprints 5 to 8 in rows 11 to 14 are slightly raised. There are, therefore, eight out of alignment pairs. The type runs down to the right.

<sup>3</sup> Considerable doubt now exists on the 9d carmine. See "The Dollard Carmine (?)," *The Revealer*, July, 1974, p. 933.

<sup>4</sup> Distinguishing between black and blue-black ink is discussed in the 1978 edition of the E.P.A.'s Overprint Identifier text.

**Plate 5.**—The measurements for row 19 are (1) 20.7, (2) 20.7, (3) 52.2, and for row 20 are the same. In 19×2 and 19×3 the 1 of date is under  $\epsilon_1$  of  $\eta\epsilon\pi\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta$ . In 20×1 there is a small dot on right down stroke of first  $\alpha$  of  $\sigma\epsilon\alpha\tau\alpha\delta\alpha\epsilon$ . As regards the 1d. value, the measurements for row 19 are (1) 20.5, (2) 20.3, (3) 52, and for row 20 are the same, and the 1 of date is under  $\epsilon_1$  of  $\eta\epsilon\pi\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta$  in 19×11 and 19×12. The type runs down to the right. Other varieties on the sheet are:—R over Se on 6×1, 6×2, 6×3, 6×4, 9×5, and 9×6.  $\iota$  over na occurs in the same positions.  $\epsilon_1$  over 1 in 6×4, 6×7, 6×8, 6×10, 6×11, 6×12, 9×7, 16×2, 16×3, 16×4, 16×5, 16×6, 16×12, 19×2, 19×3, 19×4, 19×6, 19×7, 19×8, 19×11, and 19×12.  $\epsilon_1$  over 19 in 9×5 and 9×6. Broken  $\iota$  in  $\eta\epsilon\pi\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta$  on 8×5. Split  $r$  in  $\rho\iota\alpha\lambda\tau\alpha\rho$  in 20×4. Broken  $\eta$  in  $\eta\epsilon\pi\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta$  in 9×9 in late printings. There are no out of alignment pairs.

**Plate 6.**—The measurements for row 19 are (1) 20.6, (2) 20.6, (3) 52.2, and for row 20 are (1) 20.5, (2) 20.5, (3) 52.2. It is similar to the preceding plate except that there is no dot in the  $\alpha$  of  $\sigma\epsilon\alpha\tau\alpha\delta\alpha\epsilon$ . As regards the 1d. value, the measurements are the same, but the type runs straight. Other varieties on the sheet are:— $\epsilon_1$  over 1 on 5×8, 6×3, 6×4, 6×10, 6×11, 8×11, 8×12, 9×3, 9×4, 9×7, 9×8, 12×7, 12×8, 12×11, 12×12, 15×4, 16×8, 19×6, 19×7, 19×11, and 19×12. Broken  $\iota$  in  $\rho\iota\alpha\lambda\tau\alpha\rho$  on 15×7. There are no out of alignment pairs.

**Plate 7.**—The measurements for row 19 are (1) 19.9, (2) 19.8, (3) 51.5, and for row 20 are (1) 20, (2) 19.8, (3) 51.5. In 20×1 there is a small white line through the top of the S of  $\sigma\epsilon\alpha\tau\alpha\delta\alpha\epsilon$ . As regards the 1d. value, the measurements for row 19 are (1) 20, (2) 20, (3) 51.5, and for row 20 are the same, and the 1 of date is under  $\epsilon_1$  of  $\eta\epsilon\pi\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta$  in 19×10, 19×11, and 19×12. Other varieties on the sheet are:—R over Se on 1×7, 1×8, 1×10, 1×11, and 1×12.  $\epsilon_1$  over 1 on 3×2, 3×3, 3×4, 7×10, 7×11, 7×12, 13×3, 13×4, 13×10, 13×11, 13×12, 16×1, 16×2, 16×6, 16×7, 16×8, 16×10, 16×11, 16×12, 19×10, 19×11, and 19×12.  $\iota$  over na on 1×7, 1×8, 1×11, and 1×12. Wide  $\alpha\epsilon$  in 1×8 and 1×12. Split  $r$  in  $\rho\iota\alpha\lambda\tau\alpha\rho$  in 17×8 and 17×12. In the latter the bottom half of the  $r$  is sometimes missing altogether. Overprints 5 to 8 in rows 1 to 4 and 11 to 14 are raised. There are, therefore, sixteen out of alignment pairs.

**Plate 8.**—The measurements are similar to Plate 7. In 20×1 there is a small white line through the S of  $\sigma\epsilon\alpha\tau\alpha\delta\alpha\epsilon$  and also a damaged 9 in 1922. The same varieties occur as on Plate 7. Overprints 9 to 12 in rows 1 to 14 and overprints 5 to 8 in rows 15 to 17 are dropped. There are, therefore, twenty out of alignment pairs. Another sheet, however, has been seen on which the register is quite different.

**Plate 9.**—The measurements for row 19 are (1) 20.5, (2) 20.3, (3) 52, and for row 20 are (1) 20.5, (2) 20.4, (3) 52. In 19×2 there is a small hole in the top of the  $\mu$  of  $\eta\epsilon\pi\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta$ . In 19×3 the  $\nu$  of  $\sigma\epsilon\alpha\tau\alpha\delta\alpha\epsilon$  is broken and there is a hair line through the  $\iota$  of  $\eta\epsilon\pi\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta$ . In 20×1 there is a nick out of top of R of  $\rho\iota\alpha\lambda\tau\alpha\rho$ . As regards the 1d. value, the measurements for row 19 are (1) 20.1, (2) 20.8, (3) 52.2, and for row 20 are (1) 20, (2) 20.5, (3) 52.2, and the 1 of date is under  $\epsilon_1$  of  $\eta\epsilon\pi\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta$  in 19×12. Other varieties on the sheet are:— $\iota$  over na on 9×9, 9×10, and 9×11.  $\epsilon_1$  over 1 on 2×1, 2×4, 5×8, 6×4, 6×12, 8×10, 8×11, 8×12, 9×2, 9×3, 9×4, 12×3, 12×4, 12×9, 12×12, 16×4, 16×12, 18×8, and 19×12. Short 1 in 1922 in 20×5. Colon for  $\iota$  in  $\rho\iota\alpha\lambda\tau\alpha\rho$  in 11×9. Split  $r$  in 10×4. Overprints 6 to 8 in

rows 1 to 4 are raised and overprints 5 to 8 in rows 15 to 17 are dropped. There are, therefore, fourteen out of alignment pairs. The type runs down to the right.

**Plate 10.**—The measurements for both rows 19 and 20 are (1) 19.8, (2) 20.2, (3) 52. In 19×3 the 1 of date is under  $\epsilon_1$  of  $\eta\epsilon\pi\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta$ . In 20×2, there is a small bulge out of the right downstroke of the first  $\alpha$  of  $\sigma\epsilon\alpha\tau\alpha\delta\alpha\epsilon$ . In the 1d. value, the measurements for row 19 are (1) 20, (2) 19.8, (3) 51.2, and for row 20 are (1) 19.9, (2) 19.7, (3) 51.2, and in 19×10 and 19×11 the 1 of date is under  $\epsilon_1$  of  $\eta\epsilon\pi\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta$ . In 19×10, the R of  $\rho\iota\alpha\lambda\tau\alpha\rho$  is usually broken and the e of  $\sigma\epsilon\alpha\tau\alpha\delta\alpha\epsilon$  appears as c. Other varieties on the sheet are:— $\epsilon_1$  over 1 in 2×3, 2×4, 2×5, 2×8, 6×2, 6×3, 6×8, 6×11, 6×12, 8×8, 8×12, 9×3, 9×4, 12×7, 12×8, 15×7, 15×8, 16×3, 16×4, 16×10, 16×11, 18×8, 19×3, 19×4, 19×10, and 19×11. There are no out of alignment pairs.

There appears to have been only one plate used for the 2/6, 5/-, and 10/- values, and R over Se is found in the following positions:—1×3, 2×3, 3×2, 3×3, 4×3, 7×3, 8×1, 9×1, 9×2, 9×3, 10×2, and 10×4.

### "WIDE OVERPRINT."

**Plate 1.**—The measurements for strips of three are 20½ mm. and 40½ mm. In 20×1, the  $\epsilon$  of  $\sigma\epsilon\alpha\tau\alpha\delta\alpha\epsilon$  has a flat bottom and long pointed end. As regards the 1d. value, the measurements are the same, and in 20×10 and 20×12 the left-hand side of the base of the second 2 in 1922 is broken.

**Plate 2.**—The measurements for strips of three are 20½ mm. and 41 mm. In 20×1 the  $\epsilon$  is normal. As regards the 1d. value, the measurements are 20½ mm. and 41 mm., and the 2's are perfect.

**1d. value.**—This value was overprinted from Plates 5 and 7 in black and from Plates 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 in blue-black. The chief varieties are R over Se and short 1 in 1922. R over S is not found. The control for both black and blue-black overprints is T 22 imperf. and perf. The wide control is U 22 imperf. and perf., the former being found with watermarks 2 and 3. It first appeared in black at the end of July, in blue-black on August 23rd, and with wide overprint on November 21st.

**1d. value.**—Plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 10 were used for overprinting this value in blue-black. Blue-black controls are S 22 and T 22, and both are found imperf. and perf. T 22 imperf. is the only control that has been found with overprint in black. The same varieties occur as for the 1d. value, with the addition of the variety ONE PENNY, found on the ninth stamp of fifteenth row, Control T 22 perf. The wide controls are T 22 and U 22, the former only being known imperf. U 22 imperf. is found with watermarks 2 and 3. It first appeared in black and blue-black on July 20th, and with wide overprint on November 21st.

**1d. value** was overprinted in black from Plates 1, 2, 3, and 9, and in blue-black from Plates 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9. The chief variety is PENC F for PENCE in the value tablet, occurring on the last stamp of the fifteenth row, Control Q 21 perf. It is only found with black overprint. The recut PENC F variety, in which there is a long lower bar to the second E, is found on all printings, except that in black, with Control T 22 perf. Other varieties include date at top and date omitted. The controls are Q 20, Q 21, imperf. and perf., and T 22 perf. on the black overprint and T 22 imperf. and perf. on the blue-black and wide overprints. It first appeared in black on February 17th, in blue-black

on August 21st, and with wide overprint on December 4th.

**2d. value.**—Dies I and II black were both overprinted from Plates 1, 2, and 3; Die I blue-black was from Plates 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7; and Die II blue-black from all the plates except Plate 1. The chief variety is inverted overprint, which is found on both dies and with both inks. Four sheets of Die I black were purchased in Cork. The control of one is S 22 imperf., and the overprint is a very shiny black, like the Harrison. The overprint on another sheet is considerably off centre. One sheet of Die II black appears to have been broken up and distributed to small offices in Co. Wexford. Used copies are known postmarked Enniscorthy. Two sheets of 2d. blue-black, one in each die, have been reported from Dublin. With regard to the 2d. Die II blue-black inverted, the majority of these were sold by a London stamp dealer of undoubted repute, who has stated that:—"I . . . purchased last August (1923) a pane and a half of a pane of the 2d. with inverted overprint, blue-black. The lower half with control I sold entire, and the rest I split up. These were originally purchased at a post office in Dublin." On being shown a statement that it was printer's waste, he wrote: "My opinion regarding this . . . is just as it was; that is, it is a genuine, legitimate error, and I do not think that people who make statements to the contrary know anything about it." Other varieties include watermark inverted and date omitted. The controls are as follows:—Die I black—S 21, S 22, and T 22; Die II black—S 22 and T 22; Dies I and II blue-black—S 22 and T 22. All occur imperf. and perf. None of the S 22 controls in blue-black are easy to obtain. The wide control is T 22 imperf. and perf., and is rare in the former state. It first appeared in black on February 17th, in blue-black on July 7th, and with wide overprint on November 21st.

**2½d. value** was overprinted in red from Plates 8 and 9. This value is not found with the R over S variety, since it was only printed from later plates. The control is T 22, which occurs imperf. and perf. It first appeared on October 23rd, and now turns out to be a very scarce stamp.

**3d. value** was overprinted in black from Plates 2, 3, and 4, and in blue-black from all plates except 1 and 7. The chief varieties are watermark inverted and reversed, R over S, and short 1 in 1922. The control, both black and blue-black, is T 22 imperf. and perf. It first appeared in black and blue-black on July 11th.

**4d. value** was overprinted in red from Plates 8 and 9. R over S is not found, and there are no outstanding varieties except R over Se and short 1 in 1922. The controls are S 22 and T 22. The former is only found imperf., and is one of the chief rarities. It first appeared on September 8th.

**5d. value** was overprinted in blue-black from Plates 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10. This value is fairly free from the usual minor varieties, and no important errors, except R over Se, are found. The control is T 22 and it only occurs imperf. It first appeared on August 11th.

**6d. value** was overprinted in black from Plates 1, 2, and 3, and in blue-black from all plates except 1 and 7. R over S and short 1 in 1922. are the only varieties of note. The controls are S 21 and T 22 in black, and T 22 and U 22 in blue-black, none of which occurs perf. S 21 is found with watermarks 2 and 3, and is exceedingly rare with the former. It first appeared in black on February 17th, and in blue-black on August 21st.

**9d. value** in agate was overprinted from Plates 4 and 8. On a small number of sheets the overprint was considerably misplaced, and some of the stamps show the greater part of

the date at the top. R over S does not occur. The control is S 22, both imperf. and perf., the latter being very rare. It first appeared on August 11th.

This value was first issued in sage-green on November 6th. The control is T 22, both imperf. and perf., from Plate 9.

**10d. value** was overprinted in blue-black from Plates 5, 7, and 9. It is also found in a jet black ink, which is difficult to distinguish owing to the colour of the background. R over Se and short 1 in 1922. are the most important varieties. The control is S 22, which occurs imperf. and perf. It first appeared on August 24th, and only a very small quantity seems to have been printed. The available stock of the 10d. Dollard was absorbed very slowly, and consequently only a few 10d. Thoms were needed.

**1/- value** was overprinted in black from Plates 1, 2, and 3, and in blue-black from Plates 2, 5, 6, 8, and 9. The chief varieties are R over S, short 1 in 1922., and watermark Type 2 instead of Type 3. The controls are R 21, S 21, and S 22, all imperf. and perf., in black; S 22 and T 22, imperf. and perf., in blue-black; and T 22, imperf. and perf., with the wide overprint. It first appeared in black on February 17th, in blue-black on August 21st, and with wide overprint on December 4th.

**2/6, 5/-, and 10/-** were all overprinted in blue-black, apparently from one plate only. The 5/- is also found with process black overprint. The only variety is R over Se. The earliest known date is October 17th for the 2/6 value, and October 25th for the other values. There is an interesting variety in which the third line of overprint measures 20½ mm. instead of 21 mm.

### THOM THREE LINE OVERPRINTS.

The first stamp with the overprint in three lines, the 2d. value, was sprung as a surprise on December 11th, 1922, five days after the appearance of the definite 2d. in the Map of Ireland design. It proved to be the forerunner of a complete series with the new overprint, which was finally completed by the issue of the 4d. value on January 16th, 1923. The overprint, which reads SAORSTÁT ÉIREANN 1922, means "Irish Free State 1922."

Five different plates were used for the overprinting, and details are given below by means of which control blocks or strips may be identified. In the case of all values except the 1d., the measurements are taken from the left-hand side of the 1 in 1922 on 20×1 to the same position on 20×2, and then on to the same position on 20×3. In the case of the 1d. value, the measurements are taken from the upper part of the lower serif of the S in SAORSTÁT on 20×10 to the same position on 20×11, and then on to the same position on 20×12.

**Plate 1.**—The measurements are 20½ mm. and 40½ mm. In 20×1, the final 2 of the date is dropped, and in some printings there is also a small 1. In 20×2, there is sometimes a chip out of the first t in SAORSTÁT. As regards the 1d. value, the measurements are 20½ mm. and 40½ mm. The varieties include, in some printings, no accent or accent inserted on Á of SAORSTÁT on 15×12.

**Plate 2.**—The measurements are 20½ mm. and 41 mm. In 20×1, the final 2 of date is raised. In the 1d. value the measurements are 20½ mm. and 41 mm. The varieties include S over É on 7×10 and 10×10 on some printings. The former was quickly corrected.

**Plate 3.**—The measurements are 20½ mm. and 42½ mm. In 20×1 there is a small hole in final 2 of date. In the 1d. value the measurements are 20½ mm. and 40½ mm. The overprints are usually thicker than on the earlier plates.

**Plate 4.**—The measurements are 20 mm. and 42 mm. In 20×2 the first  $\tau$  of  $\text{Saorst  t}$  is larger than the normal. The 1d. value is not found from this plate.

**Plate 5.**—The measurements are 20 mm. and 43 mm. In 20×2 the first  $\tau$  of  $\text{Saorst  t}$  is usually split. The 1d. value is not found from this plate.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. value was overprinted from all five plates in blue-black, and is also found in black. The more important varieties include S over   , accent omitted, accent inserted by hand, and line over  $\text{Saorst  t}$ . The controls are T 22, U 22, and U 23, all imperf. and perf. It first appeared on December 18th, 1922.

1d. value was overprinted from Plates 1, 2, and 3 in blue-black, and is also found in black. The errors are the same as for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value. The controls are T 22, U 22, and U 23, all imperf. and perf. U 23 imperf. is scarce. It first appeared on December 18th, 1922.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ d. value was overprinted from Plates 1 and 2 in blue-black. It is not found with jet black overprint. The chief varieties are recut PENCEF error and S over   . The controls are T 22 and U 22 imperf. and perf. T 22 imperf. is rare. It first appeared on December 21st, 1922.

2d. value, Die II only, was overprinted from Plates 1 and 2 in blue-black. It is also found in black, but is rare thus. S over    is the outstanding variety, and the control is T 22 both imperf. and perf. It first appeared on December 11th, 1922.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ d. value was overprinted from Plates 1 and 3 in red, the chief variety shows accent omitted on  $\text{Saorst  t}$ . S over    is not found. The controls are T 22 and U 23 imperf. and perf. T 22 perf. is very rare. It first appeared on January 6th, 1923.

3d. value was overprinted from Plates 1 and 2 in blue-black and is also found in black. The varieties include accent omitted and S over   . The control is U 22 imperf. and perf. It first appeared on January 6th, 1923.

4d. value was overprinted from Plates 1 and 3 in red. The chief variety is missing accent; S over    is not found. The controls are U 22 imperf., U 23 imperf., and V 23 perf. It first appeared on January 16th, 1923.

5d. value was overprinted from Plates 2, 3, and 5 in blue-black. The chief variety is S over   . The controls are T 22 and U 23, the latter not being found perf. It first appeared on December 29th, 1922.

6d. value was overprinted from all five plates in blue-black, and is also found in black. The varieties include inserted accent and S over   . The controls are U.22, V.23, and W.23, all imperf. It first appeared on December 28th, 1922.

9d. value was overprinted from Plates 1, 2, and 3 in red. The most important varieties are missing accent, S over   , and line over  $\text{Saorst  t}$ . The controls are T 22 and U 23 imperf. and perf. It first appeared on December 28th, 1922.

10d. value was overprinted from Plates 1, 2, and 3 in blue-black. S over    is the chief variety. The control is T 22 imperf. and perf., the former being very scarce. It first appeared on January 13th, 1923.

1/- value was overprinted from Plates 1, 2, 3, and 4 in blue-black. The varieties include missing accent, inserted accent, S over   , and ONF SHILLING. The controls are T 22, U 22, and U 23, all imperf. and perf., except T 22 perf. which is not found. It first appeared on December 21st, 1922.

2/6, 5/-, and 10/- values.—The 2/6 first appeared on December 21st, and the 5/- and 10/- on December 28th, 1922. The most prominent varieties are accent omitted, accent reversed, and S over   . The latter, especially on the 2/6 value, is not so pronounced as on the lower values. Early printings were in blue-black, and later printings in black.

## HARRISON OVERPRINTS.

The Harrison overprints were confined to those values which were issued in rolls, namely, the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 2d. values. The five line overprint is always found with the R over Se variety and is longer and broader than the Thom overprint. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and 2d. (Die I) values were issued in this form on June 19th, 1922. The  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. value appeared on June 21st, and the 2d. (Die II) value probably some time in August. The ink used was a shiny black. All are found in horizontal rolls of 480 stamps and vertical rolls of 500. The 2d. was also issued in vertical rolls of 1,000; it is scarce thus. The only varieties of note are joined pairs of the 2d. value, of which one stamp is Die I and the other Die II, and the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. value with recut PENCEF.

The Harrison three line overprints appeared on March 7th, 1923, in the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 2d. (Die II) values. At first the ink used was dull black, but later printings were in blue-black, which makes them difficult to tell from the Thom. This type may be distinguished from the corresponding Thom overprint by the fact that the small e in  $\text{  neann}$  is raised in pronounced fashion. In the Harrison overprint, the loop of the 9 of date is practically round, and in the Thom printing it is oval. The perforations on one or more edges will often be found trimmed. The chief variety is long 1 in 1922.

## HARRISON END TABS.

The following chart gives a list of all the Harrison control letters which appear at one end of each roll.

| Value.            | Rialcar                    |                               | Saorst  t   |           |             |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                   | Vertical, Attached to top. | Vertical, Attached to bottom. | Horizontal. | Vertical. | Horizontal. |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ d.  | G                          | D                             | P           | G         | P           |
| 1d.               | E                          | B                             | O           | E         | O           |
| $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. | L                          | —                             | N           | —         | —           |
| 2d. Die I         | R                          | Q                             | T           | —         | —           |
| 2d. Die II        | R                          | Q                             | T           | R         | T           |
| 2d. Dies I & II   | R                          | —                             | —           | —         | —           |

The continuation of  
THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF IRELAND  
will resume in the next issue of The Revealer.

## EXCHANGE ANYONE ?

Very often we get letters asking for stamps of Ireland or requests to exchange stamps. We don't usually pass them on to the members but do write the person a letter to try and qualify his or her intent. But this one comes from so far away we decided to print it. A collector in Nepal is interested in exchanging stamps of India-Nepal-Bhutan for stamps of Ireland!! He secured our name from the American Library in Kathmandu, Nepal. It is amazing how far the word has spread concerning the E.P.A.

Vinod Kumar Jain  
Post Box 581  
Kathmandu, Nepal

He writes in English. Write first and establish mutually agreeable terms before sending stamps of any value. The E.P.A. cannot accept responsibility for any dealings members may have with this collector.

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by Patrick H. Murphy

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# Peter Hynes

Member EPA, IPS, IPC, WPS

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## The 1978 Stamp Program

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs has announced the following Special and Commemorative issues for 1978:

**Undated** — 50th Anniversary of Irish Currency of 1928. 8p, 10p, 12p, 17p denominations. The first Irish currency notes since Independence were issued on 10th September 1928 and the first Irish coins on 12th December 1928.

**April 13** — 50th Anniversary of the First East-West Transatlantic flight. 10p and 17p denominations. On 13th April 1928 Commandant James Fitzmaurice of the Irish Army and the German aviators, Captain Herman Koel and Baron von Huenefeld, made the first east to west crossing of the Atlantic by aeroplane in 37 hours, flying from Ireland to Canada.

**May 15** — a) **Europa**. 10p and 11p. Europa stamps have been issued since 1960 by most member countries of the Conference of European Postal and Telecommunications Administrations. (CEPT). b) **First Direct Elections to the European Parliament**. 8p. Direct elections to the European Parliament, proposed for May or June 1978, will be a significant step forward in the development of the European Community.

(Dates of issue of the following stamps will be announced later.)

**July** — **Fauna and Flora**. 8p, 10p, 11p and 17p denominations. This is the first issue in a new series of stamps depicting the fauna and flora of Ireland.

**September** — a) **Contemporary Irish Art**. 17p. Special stamps have been issued in this series since 1969. The stamps which are usually issued in one denomination feature the work of noted Irish artists. b) **Bicentenary of the Birth of Catherine McAuley, Foundress of the Mercy Order of Nuns**. 10p. The Mercy Order of Nuns are engaged in education, nursing and social work in many countries throughout the world. c) **Global Eradication of Smallpox**. 11p. The World Health Organisation has requested the issue of a stamp to mark the expected eradication in 1978 of smallpox, the most destructive disease known to mankind.

**November** — **Christmas**. 8p, 10p, 17p. Christmas stamps have been issued by the Post Office since 1971.

**Uncertain** — **Natural Gas — Arrival Onshore**. 10p. The stamp will mark the important economic development of the first delivery onshore of the natural gas discovered off Kinsale. (All dates of issue and denominations are provisional.)