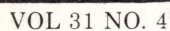


QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE EIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION



WHOLE NO. 146

SPRING 1982

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THE REVEALER

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Half Page	45.00	135.00
Quarter Page	25.00	75.00
Eighth Page	15.00	45.00

SECRETARY'S REPORT

NEW MEMBERS

The following individuals have been accepted into membership subject to no objections being received by the secretary within a 45 day period following this publication.

1612 John Shannon Greenwood, 202 River Rd., Winthrop, MA 02152
1613 Edward V. Higgins, 971 Bayless Ave., St. Paul, MN 55114
1614 Edward A. Stadtman, 201 Warren St., Watertown, MA 02172
1615 John Whitty, 1815 Cypress Dr., Coos Bay, OR 97420
1616 Rolland McKenzie, 3320 Scatterfield Rd., Anderson, IN 46011
1616 Klaus-Dieter Weinacht, Buchenstr. 8, D-6700 Ludwigshafen, West Germany

1618 James H. Stuart, Jr., SHAPE/SACEUR, APO, N.Y. 09055
1619 Michael V. McCarthy, 11436 S. Campbell Ave., Chicago, IL 60655
1620 Ed Hendrix, 1524 Notre Dame Dr., Davis, CA 95616
1621 Seymour N. Rottenberg, 12611 Davan Dr., Silver Springs, MD 20904

1622 Rev. John B. Kenny, 724 E. Bonita Ave., San Dimas, CA 91773
1623 Peter James Wood (Address withheld) England
1624 Declan O'Connor, 33 Greenfield Dr., Maynooth, Co. Kildare, Ireland

1625 Malcolm A. Pacey, 51 Elgin St., N., Port Hope, Ont., Canada L1A 2L8

1626 Dana Morris, 555 Richmond St., El Cerrito, CA 94530
1627 Bernard J. Dillon, 745 Maple Lane, Crown Point, IN 46307
1628 Stuart E. Libby, Morgan St., Ext., Bennington, VT 05201
1629 Jack Busack, 4314 W. 79th St., Indianapolis, IN 46268
1630 Bill McCallum, 1503 Oxmoor Rd., Birmingham, AL 35209
1631 Paul T. Givens, 2707 Fairmount Ave., Atlantic City, NJ 08401
1632 Frank Linington, Income Tax Dept., Box 30742, Nairobi, Kenya
1633 Nicholas Furlong, Drinagh Lodge, Wexford, Ireland

REINSTATED

760 Werner O. Schmid, Holzhauser Strasse 18, 7000 Stuttgart 80, West Germany
1018 C. Douglas McCurdy, 1651B N. Van Dorn St., Alexandria, VA 22304
1448 Milton E. Levinson, Box 22568, Sacramento, CA 95822

RESIGNATIONS

714 J.P.R. Holt,
1310 R.M. Kitchingham
1504 John J. Devlin
1556 H.E. Staal

Mail returned, present address unknown. Please help
1331 J. J. Sullivan

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Members as of September 15, 1981	583
New Members	22
Re-instatements	3
Resignations, no address	(5)
	<u>20</u>
	603

PUBLICITY

Stories about the EPA in the philatelic press provide most of the new members to the Association. Preston A. Pope, Publicity Director, does a fine job getting those stories published but he needs material for the releases. If you are planning a local meeting or any newsworthy event involving the EPA send Preston the details and he'll do the rest. Publication depends on the timely arrival of the release at the paper. The press needs the release about six weeks before publication date and Preston needs time to prepare it. So you can see that you must send our Publicity Director the information for publication about two months before the event will take place.

Remember, the EPA has prepared a new brochure describing the Association which has a membership application form included. Get a quantity of them from the Secretary to have for your event. **HELP US RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS.**

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

I want to thank the many members who wrote to congratulate me on my election to the EPA presidency. Your best wishes are greatly appreciated. I'll be calling on all the members for ideas, comments and support. You have elected a fine group to continue the EPA on its path to promote Irish philately. In addition to those officers and directors announced in the Fall Revealer, Michael Priestley will be serving as European Representative. As many of you know **The Revealers** are sent in bulk to Michael in Scotland and Vincent Kelly in Ireland. They are re-posted to members. Vicent does those for Ireland and Michael does the rest of Europe.

As required by the constitution, I am appointing Ed Sullivan, Immediate Past President, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Serving on the committee with him will be Robert Jones of Brockton, Mass., Michael Priestley of Edinburgh, Scotland, and James Lawless of California. Joseph Foley, Jr. as Secretary/Treasurer is an ex officio member. One election is just over and now we're talking about the next in 1983. But it's never too early to begin looking for members that you would like to have represent you on the board of directors or be one of your association officers.

The Thomas E. Field Award is made by the EPA to persons who have made an outstanding contribution to Irish philately. It may be awarded annually if qualified recipients are found. The committee to determine and choose a recipient of the 1982 award is as follows: Joseph E. Foley, Jr., Chairman, Frederick Dixon of Ireland and Michael Leonard of England. If you are to nominate someone for this award, please communicate with a member of the committee. Their addresses are in our membership list.

The EPA is making a new award this year. This one, the John J. Clark Award, will be given to an EPA member who has made an outstanding service contribution to the Association. Chairing this selection committee is William McCaw of Newburgh, N. Y. and on the committee with him will be William Stilwell of Pennsylvania and Neil Stack of Texas. This award group also would like your suggestions and nominations. The committee's addresses are in the membership list. We will be announcing the two awards in the 1982 Fall **Revealer** so don't wait, write to them now, since the deadline for that issue is September 1, 1982.

In the Summer **Revealer** we mentioned the EPA is planning a major Mid-West area meeting in October 1982 in conjunction with the Chicago Philatelic Society Show. Now it can be announced that Ed Sullivan is to be chairman to plan our part of the meeting. You'll be hearing from him regarding EPA meetings, seminars, exhibits, and special EPA awards at this show... start making your plans now!

Other events in the future to look for are EPA activities at the APS Spring Show in Portland, Oregon in May 1983 and the 1986 International Exhibition, AMERIPEX, in Chicago. Then there's the EPA 35th Anniversary at WESTPEX, April 1985, too. We'll continue to remind the members of these events and keep you up to date on the planning.

The Sales Circuit is not ready to go at this time. We'll have to table that until some future date.

Those of you who live in the northeastern part of U.S. have no doubt been contacted by Robert C. Jones. He's doing a great job, and it is a job, to get the members there out to area meetings and form chapters. I'm sure he'd be helpful with suggestions to those in other areas of the country who would like to meet and talk Irish philately. As he said, only four showed up at one meeting but it was very fruitful and informative. He saw a range of Irish material that was more than one could absorb. "These gatherings serve to stimulate a continuing interest in Irish material and, I trust, will serve to make the EPA more known and appreciated." Here I quote Jones, and he certainly is right.

Is there anyone in the New York area who would like to take the initiative to start meetings in that section? Joe Foley tells me they used to have good sessions at ASDA, INTERPEX, and NOJEX every year. Anyone care to step forward?

In regard to the 1986 International Exhibition in Chicago, are there members who would volunteer to be on our committee to prepare the EPA's part in AMERIPEX? We'll need to get going on it as soon as possible so as to be ready with ideas and suggestions when their organizing committee asks us. Yes, I know the old expression, "Never Volunteer" but that's usually applied in the military and the EPA is not military. It's impossible for your officers and directors to know all of you and your talents so we must ask you to tell us that you can help and we do need some new names and faces to be doers.

Preston Pope will continue as Publicity Chairman for the Association. Please furnish him, well in advance, with any information regarding exhibits, awards, meetings, Chapter formations, etc. He needs about a six week lead time to get an article into the press. He has been keeping the EPA in the forefront in the philatelic press.

I have received some queries from members stating they had never received **The Revealer** No. 138. There was no issue actually numbered 138. January, 1980 issue was No. 137 and the April 1980 issue was also given the number 137. The volume number of this issue was also incorrect being given the Volume number XXXIX when it should have been XXIX. All was put back on track with the Summer 1980 issue. It was given No. 139 and correctly notes as Vol. XXX No. 1. To those of you who wrote me, check and see if that is the case with your "missing" number of **The Revealer**.

A suggestion has been sent that we publish more articles for the neophytes in Irish stamp collecting. Here is an opportunity for the neophytes among us to furnish the material for their own article. I'd like to hear from all novice EPA members telling which of the Irish stamps issued in 1981 you think best, prettiest, worst, whatever. Surely you have some preferences so tell us about them. Also, while you're thinking about it, perhaps you'd like to tell us, too, how you came to collect Irish philately, your speciality or your particular area of interest, if any. Send your contributions to me, my address is on the masthead or in your membership list.

Bill Greeley, our **Revealer** Back Issue Manager, has been ill. If you have written to him and the response to your request was delayed, that's the reason. We all wish Bill well and send our hopes for a speedy recovery.

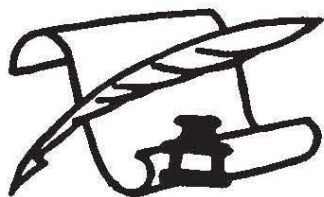
Bill Zellers, President



1982 STAMP PROGRAM

1. Europe (Historic Events)
2. The centenary of the Birth of Eamon de Valera
3. The tercentenary of the ordination of Francis Makemie
4. The centenary of the birth of James Joyce.
5. The 50th anniversary of the establishment of Killarney National Park.
6. The centenary of the birth of Padraic O Conaire
7. Fauna and Flora (fish)
8. The 800th anniversary of the birth of St. Francis of Assisi
9. The centenary of the death of Charles Kickham
10. Irish boats
11. The bicentenary of Grattan's Parliament.
12. The bicentenary of the birth of John Field
13. Christmas

Dates of issue and denominations will be announced later.



RANDOM NOTES

By F. E. Dixon

17TH CENTURY ROADS

In earlier notes I mentioned a 1690 printed sheet with details of the roads through Ireland. M. Dittman, Ziegeleiweg 14, 5000 Koln 90, West Germany, has produced an accurate photocopy which he can supply for 30p (or equivalent) + postage. It is strongly recommended that you accept this generous offer.

HOBAN & WHITE HOUSE STAMPS

After all the build-up, the stamp design is very disappointing. The portrait is far too stiff and the area devoted to the building much too small. And why a white sky? A blue sky with a few small clouds would have emphasized the whiteness of the White House.

1861 POSTMARKS

Not many year inversions have been noted in machine cancellations this year. However, one batch of covers I was sorting had examples from Dublin, Donegal and Kilmallock.

RDS

The official Philatelic kiosk, opened for the Spring Show and Horse Show, was manned again for The Good Life Exhibition 6-11 October 1981 and the same skeleton datestamps (SHOW R D S, BALLSBRIDGE) was available, but little used.

MAIL ROBBERY

John Lennon reports an envelope, posted in Kilkenny on 1st October. When delivered in Dublin on the 7th it bore a hand-struck, "Delayed Due to Mail Robbery" in green. So far no mention of the robbery has been seen in newspapers.

EXPRESS

That 6-Days transmission time was not excessive by modern standards. Increasing use is being made of the Express facility for important mail. Most offices are using the red labels to indicate the payment of the fee but two handstamps have been noticed: Roscrea has EXPRESS in red and Cork the same word in an oval frame, struck in purple. The odd thing about the Cork usage is that the cancelling datestamps is that of the Parcel Post section.

MILEAGE MARKS

A MacDonnell Whyte list adds two hitherto unrecorded. ATHLEAGUE in black, 1836 and KILLBOUGH in red, 1826

79

79

DEFINITIVES

How many examples of the 19p definitive have you seen in normal use? It will be extremely rare unless the next increase in rates brings it back into the picture. The 18p has been the commonest value in 1981 and is worth watching for shades. There is a deep shade which seems to be fairly scarce.

UNANNOUNCED SLOGAN

On 28th September Limerick introduced a slogan cancellation announcing "9th October—UPU DAY" with the UPU emblem. Cork and Dundalk had the same slogan on 9th October only. Dublin and Galway used it on 9th and 10th.

HIBERNIAN CATALOGUE 1982

The main feature of the new edition is the inclusion of a "Part 2: Specialized" which will satisfy very few collectors and annoy most of us. There is an attempt to list the gum and paper variations of modern definitives and a stupid section of watermark varieties introducing what is allegedly "sideways and inverted." Three pages are devoted to gutter pairs, and four pages to plating the miniature sheets, but nowhere are the standard varieties such as the O'Connell retouch or the Rugby 3½d re-entry. The dark printing of the Rugby stamps is in the gutter pairs, but not the main catalogue. An innovation is, for issues before 1961, pricing FDC for single values. According to these new prices the O'Connell set on three covers cost £325, compared with £300 for the three on one cover! The catalogue is a very poor value for £2.50.

1922 FISCALS

It is well known that when the Dublin Customs House was destroyed in May 1921 the work of revenue stamping was transferred to England for a time. At first, the British dies were used in their normal colours, but later green was adopted for the stamping of Irish items. I had thought the change to green was early in 1922, but have now seen cheques with the 2d blue stamps as late as 30 March 1922. My earliest green is 24 May. Can anyone help to fix the date of change more closely?

DUBLIN LATE FEE

I have suggested earlier that, although only in the printed regulations from 1831, there had probably been an earlier non-official system. This is now confirmed. An 1836 Report of the 1831 reforms discloses that officials' perquisites had included what they received for accepting letters after the normal time. Under the new regime, all monies so received had to be paid into the Post Office revenue.



EIRE COILS, IMPERF & PERF

by Michael Leonard

During the last 45 years I have noted the following business envelopes bearing the above stamps.

½d W. D. & H. O. Wills, Dublin (Tobacco)

Carton Bros, Ltd, Dublin (Food)

Rowans, Dublin (Seeds)

2d W. D. & H. O. Willis, Dublin (Tobacco)

Carton Bros Ltd., Dublin (Food)

If any readers care to add to this short listing I shall be grateful for a report.

Furnished as a supplement with this **Revealer** is a handy reference chart which I made up for the Gerl Definitives. It will show at a glance what is in each printing. This chart is based on the book "The Gerl Definitives" by Brian Warren and Edward Fitzgerald.



LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life memberships in the Association have again been authorized by the Board of Directors. The fees are:

Members resident in the U.S.A. \$140.00

Members resident in Canada or Mexico 170.00

Members resident in rest of world 200.00

Any member who has already paid his dues for the current year may make take a credit against the life membership fee for the amount of dues paid. Payment may be made in 3 monthly installments. Application for life membership should be by letter to the Secretary accompanied by the appropriate fee.

DUBLIN NEWSLETTER

by Eddie Fitzgerald

At STAMPA '81 we had an opportunity to inspect the uncut Primary Sheet of the James Hoban stamp that was on display. As we expected, the Primary Sheet consists of two counter sheets of 100 stamps each (1A and 1B) and separated by a wide vertical gutter margin and in turn, the counter sheets have a horizontal gutter margin as is the usual practice. The actual stamp is exactly twice the size of a low value definitive stamp. This information is useful as we now know that A and B counter sheets of lithographic definitives are printed side by side.

There are two constant varieties present on the Hoban sheets which merit special attention.



The first variety, "Spotmark On Collar", is a large black spot on Hoban's collar. It is positioned at R8/3 on sheet 1B.



The second, "Crack Over Window", is a straight line crack running upwards and slantwards from the third window in from the left, from the lintel to the frieze. It is positioned at R18/2 on sheet 1A.

There is always something new to be found with the current Gerl Definitives. Brian Warren and I expect to have our **1981 Review** ready in time for the Spring issue of *The Revealer* and we will include the latest news in our listings. In our last **Review** we reported that 3 of the 70p booklets had been found in Dublin with the slogan missing from the inside cover which would indicate a total of 42 of these booklets or else a multiple of 42. To our knowledge, no more of these 70p "missing slogan" booklets have surfaced here at home but we believe that some may have been found in overseas stocks. We would be glad to hear reports of findings so as to establish exactly how many Primary Cover Cards passed through the production system with this error.

Booklets and Booklet panes issued since Decimal Day are of exceptional interest, provided that they are collected properly. In the catalogues, we read descriptions of panes having the watermark "sideways" or "sideways inverted" as the case may be, but strictly speaking, this is incorrect. The watermark is always upright; it is the pane designs that are sideways or sideways inverted. This statement is not a question of splitting hairs, when it is the first step in building up a specialist collection of these booklets and panes. The second step is to take out your own booklets and panes and look carefully at the narrow length of the exposed border (not the two long lengths). Holding the pane so

that the stamp designs are upright observe the continuous vertical perforation; on some panes you will see that the perforations continue through, leaving a half circle indent in the top border; on other panes you will observe that this perforation hole at the border is missing. These small differences are not accidental and they are important.

A Primary Sheet of booklet panes as printed, consists of 44 panes in the shape of 4 panes across by 11 panes down. For convenience sake we refer to the 4 across as Column A, B, C, and D. The panes are printed sideways and in every Row each pane is inverted in relation to the adjacent pane. There is a blank gutter margin between Columns A and B and again between Columns C and D. With this layout fixed in your mind, consider the horizontal perforations running from the outer edge on one side to the outer edge on the other side. There is only a narrow margin between Columns C and D and here the central perforating pin is removed as it serves no useful purpose.

The significance of this horizontal perforating method becomes apparent in the finished booklet. It means that panes having the half circle indent must be from either Column A or D while the panes without the half circle indent are inner panes, either Column B or C. It is impossible for any booklet to have a mixture of outer and inner panes, they must all be one or the other. The purpose of the blank gutter margins is to provide binding selvage for the booklets. When the perforated Primary Sheets are assembled between Card Covers, two parallel lines of stitching are run up the length of each gutter margin and guillotined between the lines. A further vertical guillotine cut is made between Columns B and C. The finished booklet is produced by a cross cutting operation.

Having separated your panes into outer and inner types, the final step is to lay out your panes with the watermark upwards. Everything falls into place and you can automatically allocate any pane to the correct column without reference to any chart or book. A short reflection by serious collectors should convince them that the logical way to collect and display decimal booklets panes is by the four column method and not by the superficial "watermark inverted or sideways inverted" method.

Nothing is perfect in this world and it sometimes happened that the guillotine was slightly out of alignment during the cutting operations, leaving panes that are slightly short. Such panes may cause problems for newcomers to this concept of collecting and the only advice that I can offer is to search for full size panes which are beyond doubt. Thankfully, "good" panes far outnumber "bad" panes. In any booklet, it frequently happens that one particular panes is inverted in relation to the other panes in the booklet. There is a good explanation for this happening which I will explain some other time in more detail. Due to the unique layout of the panes, the Primary Sheet "reads" the same upright or inverted, therefore in any booklet with mixed panes, the mixture can only be of A and D columns or else B and C columns.

The Primary Card Cover is also printed in the same manner as the panes and again the information "reads" the same whether the full card is held upright or inverted. From time to time collectors may have come across booklets where the back cover has the appearance of being miscut along a long border and the matching pane margins having a slightly "tatty" appearance, not in keeping with the tidy appearance of the majority of booklets. These "tatty" booklets come from either the first or last (eleventh) row and is caused by trying to keep all the components in perfect position and under constant equal pressure during stitching operations. If you look more closely at such booklets, you will notice that the binding threads extend about 2mm beyond the top or bottom of the booklet. This trailing thread clue is a dead giveaway for the identification of booklets at the beginning or end of a stitching run. You may now view these

particular booklets in a new light as it can be seen that it is possible to automatically plate the first and last rows.

My main object in writing these notes on Decimal Booklets is to give an example of the vast scope that is open to collectors with the current definitive series. It may be queried that the 7p unwatermarked booklet pane cannot be allocated to the correct column but this is not so; the direction of print is as good as any watermark and the answer is to follow the direction upwards. In fact, all 41 issued position of the 7p panels have been plated by some Irish philatelists (3 of the 50p booklets with 7p panes were

never issued due to flaws) and this reconstruction can be used to plate other pane values in turn, right back to the ½d pane.

Only yesterday I was noting the very high prices paid for certain items of Postal History and some Overprints. At one time these items could have been obtained for face value, but age and scarcity have now sanctified them. Collectors can walk into the Philatelic Bureau in Dublin and purchase the 40p and 70p booklets for face value if they so wish, so long as there are stocks available. This will not be the case for ever and there is no need for me to dwell any longer on the potential of these booklets.



RECENT ISSUES

Since the last issue of **The Revealer** the Irish Post Office has issued stamps for Christmas and two special issues. This completes the 1981 program. Preliminary listing of the 1982 program will be found on page 35 of this issue.



CHRISTMAS 1981

On 19th November the Irish Post Office issued the eleventh stamp in the Christmas series. The stamp was issued in three denominations, 18p (8,000,000), 22p (8,000,000) and 36p (2,000,000). All denominations feature "Nativity" by Frederico Barocci, an Italian painter of the 16th/17th century.

The painting was reproduced by kind permission of Museo del Prado, Madrid. Peter Wildbur designed the stamp and printing was in Lithography by Irish Security Stamp Printing, Ltd. Perforations are 14 × 15.

On December the Irish Post Office issued two stamps. There were two denominations and separate designs. The 18p (2,000,000) commemorates the Centenary of the Land Law (Ireland) Act 1881. The 22p (2,000,000) commemorates the 250th Anniversary of the Royal Dublin Society.



CENTENARY OF THE LAND LAW (IRELAND) ACT, 1881

The first Land Reform Act, the Land Law (Ireland) Act was passed in 1881. This Act resulted from agitation on behalf of the impoverished tenants by the Land League founded in 1879 with Michael Davitt and Charles Stewart Parnell at its head. It conceded for the first time the rights of free sale, fixity of tenure and fair rent. The Land Commission was established in the same year to carry the provisions of the Act into effect.

The stamps feature a drawing of an eviction scene based on a photograph from the Lawrence Collection which is now in the National Library of Ireland.

The stamp was designed by Ron Mercer and printed in lithography by the Irish Security Stamps Printing Ltd. Perforations are 14 × 15.

250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY

The Royal Dublin Society was formed in 1731 as "The Dublin Society" for the advancement of agriculture, industry, art and science. It received a Royal Charter in 1750. In its 250 years of existence the Society has made important contributions to the life of the nation and the community. Many national institutions such as The National Library, The National Museum, The National Art Gallery, The Veterinary College, The College of Science and The Botanic Gardens were instituted by the Society and later passed to the care of the state.

Shows are an annual feature of the Society's work and reflect various aspects of Irish life. The Society's Ballsbridge headquarters is the venue for the Spring Agricultural Show and Industries Fair and the world-famous Dublin Horse Show. Its exhibition halls at Ballsbridge are used throughout the year for national and international exhibitions and conferences. The Society has a wide and varied programme for the advancement of science. To further the development of the Fine Arts it arranges music recitals and lectures. The Society also has an extensive library which houses many literary treasures.

The stamp features an abstract design by Peter Wilbur and was printed in lithography by Irish Security Stamp Printing, Ltd. perforations are 14 × 15.

THE IMPRESSED STAMP DUTIES ON CIVIL BILLS IN IRELAND 1851 - 1924

by Declan O'Connor

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The Courts of Justice Act, 1924 (No. 10 of 1924) was passed on the 12th April, 1924. The Act was passed in order to establish Courts of Justice, pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution, as provided by the Constitution of the Irish Free State (Saorstát Éireann) Act, 1922 (No. 1 of 1922). The County Courts, Recorders Courts and Courts of Quarter Sessions ceased to exist and the jurisdiction vested in them at the commencement of the Act was transferred to the Circuit Court with the exception of matters previously excepted by the Act, and also such jurisdiction of Justices at or of Courts of Quarter Sessions as was transferred by Part 3 of the Act to the District Court.

The Circuit Court which was the subject of Part 2 of the Act was the central feature of the whole scheme. These Courts, eight in number, sitting almost continuously, were bestowed with a jurisdiction vastly more extensive than the County Courts. The civil jurisdiction comprised actions in contract and tort where the claim did not exceed £300; Probate suits and Administration actions where the value of the personality did not exceed £1,000, and the annual value of the land did not exceed £60; and by consent, any action taken without regard to those limits.

The District Court comprising thirty three justices took over the minor jurisdiction of the County Courts and the judicial functions of the former Magistrates and Justices of the Peace. In contract cases the Court has jurisdiction to deal with claims not exceeding £25, and in some cases of tort not exceeding £10; in Ejectments for overholding and non-payment of rent where the Rent did not exceed £26 per annum. Part 3 of the Act which dealt with the District Court was brought into operation on the 16th August, 1924 by the Courts of Justice Act, 1924 (Commencement (No. 4), Order, 1924, (No. 10 of 1924), dated the 9th August, 1924.

The Courts of Justice Act, 1924 (Commencement) (No. 2) Order, 1924 (No. 6 of 1924) dated the 11th June, 1924 fixed that date as the day on which Part 2 of the Act (establishing the Circuit Court) should come into operation in Dublin City and County, while on the 2nd August, 1924 another Order, The Courts of Justice Act, 1924 (Commencement) (No. 3) Order (No. 9 of 1924) brought the Circuit Court into operation from the 6th August, 1924 elsewhere. Civil Bills which were pending before the old County Courts or which had been issued for hearing on the dates that were fixed for the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions and Civil Bill Courts were now to be heard by the Circuit Courts.

The Civil Bill jurisdiction was a very old one and it corresponded with the plaint in the English County Courts. The jurisdiction was originally assumed by the going Judge of Assize and was established by the Statute 2 Geo.1.c.11 (1r.). In 1796 (36 Geo.111.c.25) the hearing of civil bills was transferred from the judges to the "assistant barristers" while County Courts were formally instituted. Act of the United Parliament in 1816, 1844, 1851, 1865, 1880 and 1882 further extended the jurisdiction. The origin and jurisdiction of the Borough Court of Dublin which was presided over by the Recorder to 1924 is peculiar. The charters of the city gave extremely wide jurisdiction to the Lord Mayor and Recorder. Every dispute between citizens was made triable in the Borough Court. The Borough Court was the replica of the Lord Mayor's Court which was the principal city court for many centuries, and which passed into disuse because no modern rules of procedure were ever made although a number of statutes

gave liberty to do so. The Municipal Corporation Reforms Act vested all power of the Lord Mayor in the Recorder. Long before 1796 the civil bill jurisdiction, both in the city and the Kilmainham Sessions, was conferred by statute of the Irish Parliament on both courts—city and county—at the same time practically as it was given to the judges and commissioners of assize.

The origin of civil bill duties is contained in Section 62 of the 1851 Act (14 & 15 Vict.c.57) which was entitled "An Act to amend the Laws relating to Civil Bills." The section provided: 'And whereas under the provisions of the Act divers sums of money will become annually charged upon and payable out of the consolidated fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for additional salaries to the Assistant Barristers, in lieu of the fees heretofore payable to them by the suitors upon Civil—bill proceedings which fees henceforth will cease to be payable, and it is reasonable, in order to meet the said charges, that certain duties of stamps hereinafter specified should be granted to be made payable upon certain of the Civil—bill forms and proceedings herein specified: Be it therefore enacted, that the forms next hereinafter mentioned, hereby provided to be used shall be severally subject to the following stamp duties payable to Her Majesty; that is to say,

	s.	d.
Every original Civil - bill Ejectment Process	2	6
Every Civil - bill for Redemption	2	6
Every original Civil - bill Process in Replevin	2	6
Every original Process for the recovery of any legacy or distributive share of assests	2	6
Every other original Civil - bill	0	6
Every copy thereof served	0	6
Every Notice of Renewal	0	6
Every copy thereof served	0	6
Every Recognizance of Appeal	1	0

And in the event of the plaintiff's obtaining a decree, the amount of such stamps shall be charged against the defendant or defendants as part of the costs of his proceeding; and printed forms, with such stamp on each as aforesaid, shall be issued from the office of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to the several distributors of stamps in Ireland, under such regulations as the said Commissioners shall make for the sale of the same by the several sub-distributors of stamps, or by any other persons; and any such sub-distributor of stamps, or other person, who shall, without express authority from the said Commissioners for such purpose, demand or receive for any one of such forms, from any person whatever, any greater sum of money than the amount of the stamp duty on such form, or who shall in any other way offend against such regulations as aforesaid, or against any other regulations made or to be made by the said Commissioners, and which shall be from time to time in force as to any other stamps, shall be liable to the same forfeitures and punishments as are by any Act or Acts provided for any like offense in respect to any other stamps issued by the said Commissioners: Provided always, that if it shall appear to the Court upon the hearing of any Civil-bill process or Notice of Renewal, or any copy thereof, served upon any defendant, shall not have been duly stamped, or had been previously used as a Process, Notice, or a copy thereof in any other suit, the several and respective Assistant Barristers are hereby required forthwith to dismiss the said Civil-bill, and to order and direct that the original Process, Notice, or copy thereof so wanting the said stamp required by this Act, shall be held and impounded by the Clerk of the Peace.'

Section 64 provided: - The said stamp duties by this Act imposed and granted shall be denominated and deemed to be stamp duties and shall be under the care and management of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue for the time being; and all the

powers, provisions, clauses, regulation and directions, fines, forfeitures, pains and penalties, contained in or imposed by the several Acts of Parliament relating to any duties of the same kind or description in Great Britain and Ireland respectively, and in force at the time of the passing of this Act shall respectively be of full force and effect with respect to the stamp duties by this Act granted or imposed, as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes as if the same had been herein repeated and specifically enacted with references to the said stamp duties by this Act granted or imposed.'

The resultant Civil Bill Duty dies were registered in Somerset House, London on the 21st August 1851.

The 6d. and 2/6 dies had each die letters A and B, while the 1/- die had a die letter A.

In December 1859 date plug holes were drilled in each of the three dies.

THE 6d DIE

The Modified A die was recorded for use in the die box in Dublin on 8th December, 1859, and re-registered at Somerset House on 26th February, 1864.

The modified B die was registered at Somerset House on 15th December, 1859, recorded for use in the die box in Dublin on 16th December, 1859 and defaced on 18th January, 1869.

A C die was registered at Somerset House on 2nd March, 1864, and recorded for use in the die box in Dublin on 4th March, 1864. A D die was registered at Somerset House on 10th December 1868, and recorded for use in the die box in Dublin on 11th December 1868.

An E die was registered at Somerset House on 18th January, 1869, and recorded for use in the die box in Dublin on 20th January, 1869.

THE 1/- DIE

The Modified A die was registered at Somerset House on 15th December, 1859, and recorded for use in the die box in Dublin on 16th December, 1859.

A B die was registered at Somerset House on 7th December, 1859, and recorded for use in the die box in Dublin on 8th December, 1859.

THE 2/6 DIE

The modified A die was recorded for use in the die box in Dublin on 8th December, 1859, and re-registered at Somerset House on 26th February, 1864.

The Modified B die was registered at Somerset House on 15th December, 1859, and recorded for use in the die box in Dublin on 16th December, 1859.

Section 23 of the County Officers and Courts Act, 1877 (40 & 41 Vict.c.57) dealt with the fixing and collection of fees and stamp duties in the County Courts. This section provided: - 'The Lord Chancellor, with the concurrence of the chairman, or any five of them, to be selected or nominated as here-before provided, or the major part of such five, and with the consent of the Treasury, may by order, fix the fees to be taken in the Civil Bill Courts in respect of any business under this and any other Acts in force for the time being in such courts, and may, with the like concurrence and consent, alter the fees and stamp duties at present taken in those courts and substitute other fees for the same, and where no fees or stamp duties are at present imposed, he may, with the like concurrence and consent, declare and fix whether any and what fees shall be taken, and may from time to time alter, reduce, or increase any fees so fixed or substituted: Provided always, that, in fixing and substituting fees as aforesaid, regard shall be had, where practicable, to the ad valorem principle.

From and after the commencement of this Act all such fees shall be payable (save as otherwise directed by this Act and by such order as aforesaid) into the receipt of Her Majesty's Ex-

chequer, and with respect thereto the following rules shall be observed:

- (1) The fees shall, save as otherwise directed by such order be taken by stamps, and if not taken by stamps shall be taken applied, accounted for, and paid over in such manner as may be prescribed by the order;
- (2) Such stamps shall be impressed or adhesive, as the Treasury may from time to time direct;
- (3) The Treasury, with the concurrence of the Lord Chancellor, may from time to time make such rules as may seem fit for publishing the amount of the fees and regulating the use of such stamps and for prescribing the application thereof to documents from time to time in use or required to be used in the Civil Bill Courts, and for insuring the proper cancellation of adhesive stamps and for keeping accounts of such stamps;
- (4) Any document which ought to bear a stamp under this or any other Act, or under any such order, shall not be received, admitted or used without being properly stamped, the court may, if it shall think fit, order that the same be properly stamped, and on such document being stamped accordingly the same and every preceeding relating thereto shall be as valid as if such document had been properly stamped in the first instance, provided that no document shall be stamped as aforesaid contrary to the provisions of any other Act or Parliament for the time being in force, not without payment of any penalty prescribed by an Act. . . Subject to the provisions of any other order to be made as here-before provided, the existing fees and stamp duties shall, save so far as it is by this Act otherwise expressly provided, continue to be taken, applied, and accounted for as if this Act had not been passed; When and so soon as the said fees shall have been fixed as herein-before provided, all provisions contained in the Civil Bill Courts (Ireland) Act, 1851, and the Acts altering, amending, or affecting the same in reference to the stamps and fees thereby imposed and authorized to be taken, shall so far as the same may be applicable, extend and be applied to the fees and stamp duties fixed as herein-before provided.'

The first order under the section was made on 11th March, 1878, and provided, inter alia,:

1. That on and after the 1st day of April, 1878, the scale of fees set forth in the annexed Schedule, and made and fixed with our consent by Order of 26th February, 1878, as published in the Dublin Gazette of 1st of this month, shall be collected by means of stamps, and that the stamps used for denoting the said fees shall, in all cases, as far as shall be compatible with the convenient transaction of business in the Civil-bill Courts in Ireland, be denoted by means of impressed stamps, but that in any case where the use of impressed stamps would cause delay, or be an impediment to business, or in cases where the scale of fees are on the ad valorem principle, adhesive stamps may, until further notice, be used.
2. That the stamps to be used for collecting the fees in the several Civil Bill Courts shall be impressed or affixed, at the expense of the parties liable to pay such fees, on or to the vellum, parchment, or paper on which the proceedings in respect whereof such fees are payable shall be written or printed, or which may be otherwise used in reference to such proceedings.
3. That all stamps, whether impressed or adhesive, shall be effectually obliterated or cancelled by the proper officer of the Civil-bill Court, either by obliterating the same in writing, by hand stamp, by cancellation, by means of perforation, or by such other means or in such other manner as the Commissioners of Inland Revenue shall from time to time direct.
5. That until appropriated dies and stamps specially applicable to the purposes of "The County Officers and Courts (Ireland) Act, 1857," shall have been provided, the impressed stamps to be used may be denoted by the Civil-bill dies or general duty dies in the possession of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue impressed on the document, parchment, form or

paper used in connection with the proceedings on which the fee is payable, and that the adhesive stamps shall be the ordinary unappropriated fee stamps in the possession of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue made available to the uses of "The County Officers and Courts (Ireland)."

In the case of an ordinary Civil-bill sixpence (6d) duty was imposed where the amount sued for did not exceed £5 and stamp duty of a shilling (1/-) where the amount sued for exceeded £5. There was no alteration in the stamp duty of two shilling and sixpence (2/6) imposed by the 1851 Act in ejectment civil bill proceedings. The order created a new scale of duties for Equity Civil Bills. The duty payable depended on the value of the subject matter of the suit.

	s.	d.
Not exceeding £50	1	0
Exceeding £50, not exceeding £100	1	6
Exceeding £100, not exceeding £200	2	0
Exceeding £200, not exceeding £300	3	0
Exceeding £300, not exceeding £400	5	0
If the sum shall exceed £400	7	6

On the 19th February, 1879 a further Treasury order made a very significant amendment to the previous Treasury Order. (a) After reciting that the Order dated 11th March, 1878 provided that the stamps to be used should, until further notice, be either impressed or adhesive, the amending Order provided:

"... And whereas it is expedient in certain cases to make the use of impressed stamps imperative:

Now we, the undersigned, being two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, do with the concurrence of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, hereby give notice, and order and direct: - That on and after the 1st day of April, 1879, the fees payable under the said Act in respect of all ordinary civil bill processes, ejectment processes, and processes for the recovery of rent, shall be denoted by impressed stamps only, and that, in so far as those particular documents are concerned, adhesive stamps for denoting the said fees shall not be admissible, anything in the Order of the 11th March, 1878 to the contrary notwithstanding..."

There is no record of the new appropriated dies, which were provided for in Article 5 of the Treasury Order of 11th March, 1878, as having been registered for use or impressed on any documents. Instead the Civil Bill Duty sixpence (6d) dies C and D die letters, and the two shilling and sixpence (2/6) die with B die letter, were re-registered at Dublin on 21st June, 1881. It is submitted that such re-registration is coincidental for the reason that only three dies were re-registered, while the other Civil Bill Duty dies, with the exception of the original sixpence (6d) dies, (die letters, A, C, D and E) continued in use to 1921.

The sixpence (6d) dies were replaced in 1910 by two smaller dies of similar style, but which omitted 'Ireland' and also transferred the position of the special duty inscription. These dies were registered in Somerset House on 7th April 1910. One die was distinguished by the use of two shamrocks, while the other employed one shamrock coupled with the letter A.

The transition from the use of colourless to vermilion coloured impressions occurred between 1879 and 1885.

(a) Published in the Dublin Gazette of 28th February, 1879, and is to be found in the Statutory Rules and Orders Revised, 1904, Vol. 111, p. 625. It is not to be found in Carleton's "County Courts" 2nd Ed. (1880), or in Osborne's "County Court Practice in Equity," 2nd Ed. (1890).

The Treasury Order of 11th March, 1878, is to be found in both books. Both orders were in force on 31st December, 1919: Index to the Statutory Rules and Orders, 9th Ed. This is the last edition of that Index dealing with the Irish Free State.

(to be continued)

MY COLLECTION OF IRISH STAMPS

by Bob Gray

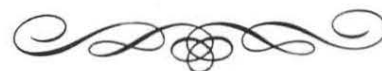
Beginning in 1935 I have built two collections of Irish stamps, unused and used. I early discovered that few dealers in this country carried Irish overprints, due to the lack of information necessary to identify them. Consequently I purchased almost every available stamp and eventually completed an unused collection. That collection has now been sold.

My collection of used stamps is now complete, with the exception of two, the 1922 Thom Rialtas five and ten shilling values. It includes a number of varieties, such as the O'Clery missing cheekbone, showing the gradual disappearance. Among the more interesting items is the Dollard high values with the short third line, which require some care in differentiating them from the Thom Rialtas issue. I also have four of the Gaelic Athletic Association of 1934 showing the effect of plate wear. The St. Patrick with the "e" watermark shows several varieties of paper, also of colors. I found in mission mixtures very fine copies of the plate varieties of the 2/6 and 5/-. I have, too, the se-tenant Rising Anniversary of 1966 in pairs, the MacCurtain and MacSwiney in blocks, and the recent se-tenant coils in strips. They are not easy to obtain in fine used condition, but are necessary to show plate layout.

My collection consists, in every case, of used stamps cancelled as lightly as possible so as not to obscure the design. The one cover which I cherish bears a December, 1922 dated cancellation, showing that the two pence map stamp is from the original printing placed on sale December 6, 1922, the first anniversary of Irish self government.

In the actual handling of the stamps, my greatest satisfaction is derived from sorting and checking mission mixtures, and in laying out an album page and writing a caption which adequately identifies and describes the stamps. **The Revealer**, and the Feldman and Buchalter catalogues have been of great help in both activities.

I have also gained both pleasure and knowledge from attending E.P.A. meetings held at various stamp shows. Due to the extreme difficulty, mentioned in the first paragraph, of obtaining information as well as locating sources of the stamps, I have always had a deep appreciation for the people who founded and have been responsible for the growth of the association, making it possible for the **Revealer** to print the knowledge gained from research by members. And the friendly association with many of them which I have enjoyed has provided at least equal pleasure to that derived from acquisition of the stamps.



IRELAND

WANT LISTS FILLED FROM STOCK
(MINT ONLY)
MOST
ISSUES
AVAILABLE

EPA

APS

Paul D. Frank

P.O. BOX 100 WEST DANBURY, NEW YORK 14896

THE FIRST DEFINITIVE ISSUE

by John J. Blessington

Recently, Jim Brady, former Editor of **THE REVEALER**, sent in five sheets that he had acquired some time ago in a philatelic literature auction. These sheets contained photographs of the essays of the four designs used for the first definitive issue along with photographs of the accepted designs and a write up describing the differences. Jim suggested they might be used as the basis for an article.

In researching what has been written previously on the subject it was found that these essays had not been written about in **The Revealer** before, although the stamps themselves had been covered. In publications other than **The Revealer**, it was found that H. G. Leslie Fletcher (1964) had written an article on the Irish essays which had included these designs. On comparing the illustrations in the Fletcher article with the Brady photographs it became apparent that they were identical. The photo's must have been used as the source for the illustrations. At the close of his article Fletcher extends thanks to T. E. Fields for the loan of material on which the article was based. The Brady sheets may well be ex-Field's collection.

Shortly after the ratification of the Anglo-Irish Treaty on December 6, 1921 the Provisional Government of Ireland commenced business. On February 1st Postmaster General J. J. Walsh invited designs for stamps offering a payment of £25 for every design accepted. The following official invitation was issued as a Public Notice in the Irish Press (New Stamps For Ireland).

ARD-OIFIG AN PHUIST, ATH-CLIATH
The Postmaster-General of the Irish Free State invites

DESIGNS FOR STAMPS

To supersede those now issued. All designs submitted should be of symbolic character, and may not embrace any representations of a personal nature. Inscriptions must be shown in Gaelic characters. A payment of £25 will be made for each successful design. Any design so accepted will be the property of the Government, which will be free to make use of it with any firm of Contractors who may be selected to produce the stamps.

Specimens of the stamps now issued can be inspected and full information obtained from the Secretary, General Post Office, 16 Upper O'Connell, Dublin.

1st February 1922

BY ORDER
K.A.A.

The response was tremendous, over 800 sketches and essays were submitted, of which 130 received careful study by an adjudicating committee presided over by President Arthur Griffith. This was reduced eventually to eight from which the final four designs were approved for the low values, ½d through 1sh. (*Irish Free State*).

The first of the accepted designs, Map of Ireland, appeared in the 2d value on December 6th 1922. It was designed by J. Ingram and shows an outline map of the whole of Ireland, including the six counties forming Northern Ireland, surrounded by an ornamental border.



UNFINISHED DESIGN

1. No value expressed
2. No accent on 'E' of 'Eire'
3. No dots before or after 'Eire'
4. Map large and no outer frame
5. Background lines heavy & broken



DESIGN AS ISSUED

1. Value added
2. Accent on 'E' of 'Eire'
3. Dots before and after 'Eire'
4. Map smaller, thin outer frame lines
5. Background lines thin and continuous

The design has been much refined and cleaned up in the issued stamps and was used for the following values.

1 1d carmine	Issued	February 23, 1923
1½d claret	Issued	February 2, 1923
2d gray green	Issued	December 6, 1922

The Celtic Cross design was the next to appear. This was designed by Miss Lucy Williams and shows a celtic cross with the word 'Eire' on it, with ornamentation around.



UNFINISHED DESIGN

1. Value expressed as 'Pingine'
2. 3's very large
3. 'R' in 'Eire' lower case
4. Scanty shading dots in cross
5. Cable pattern appears flat



DESIGN AS ISSUED

1. Value shown as 'Tri Pingine'
2. 3's smaller
3. 'R' in 'Eire' upper case
4. Heavy dotted shading in cross
5. Cable appears rounded

The 3d was intended to appear on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, but since this was a public holiday, the stamp was issued on March 16th. The entire first printing was sold out by the afternoon of that day and new supplies ordered. (*Irish Free State*). The Celtic Cross design was used for the following designs.

3d ultramarine	Issued	March 6, 1923
10d brown	Issued	May 7, 1923
11d cerise	Issued	September 12, 1949

Chronologically, the next design to appear was the Sword of Light designed by J. J. O'Reilly. It shows a sword held by a hand in a blaze of light, in an oval shield and was taken from the Book of Kells. At the top of the shield is the name, in Gaelic, 'An Claidheam Solus.' Surrounding the shield is a celtic ornamentation of a dragon representing evil. The Sword is an emblem of progress and learning.



UNFINISHED DESIGN

1. Small accent on 'Eire'
2. Thin letters in 'Eire'
3. Blade of sword narrow in center
4. Hand is small
5. Value expressed as 'Pigne'



DESIGN AS ISSUED

1. Larger accent on 'Eire'
2. Thicker letters in 'Eire'
3. Blade of sword wider in center
4. Hand is larger
5. Value expressed as 'Pigin'

Generally, the whole design has been redrawn to refine it, lettering changes, shading improved, etc. This design was used for the following values.

1/2d bright green	Issued	April 20, 1923
5d bright violet	Issued	May 11, 1923
6d claret	Issued	May 11, 1923
8d bright red	Issued	September 12, 1949
1/- light blue	Issued	June 16, 1923

The final design to appear was the Arms of Four Provinces design which includes a harp for Leinster, a divided eagle for Connaught, three crowns for Munster and a red hand for Ulster. Designed by Miss M. Girling, the four different arms are shown in a central shield with shamrocks all around.



UNFINISHED DESIGN

1. No value expressed
2. Left hand shown for Ulster
3. No dots in corners
4. Lines in cross
5. Eagle has bent arm, short sword
6. Thick parallel lines behind harp



ALTERED DESIGN

1. Value 2 pingin large letters
2. Right hand shown for Ulster
3. No dots in corners
4. No lines in cross
5. Separate feathers, medium sword
6. Thick parallel lines behind harp



FURTHER ALTERATION

1. Value 2 pingin, smaller letters
2. No hand, solid shield for Ulster
3. No dots in corners
4. Lines in cross
5. Bent arm, short sword
6. Light parallel lines behind harp



DESIGN AS ISSUED

1. 2½ value
2. Solid hand, clear shield
3. Dots in corners
4. No lines in cross
5. Redrawn, medium sword
6. Light diagonal lines behind harp

The design shows much refinement through its evolution. It would seem to have been the most difficult to complete. It was used for the following values.

2½d red brown	Issued	September 7, 1923
4d slate blue	Issued	September 28, 1923
9d violet	Issued	December 21, 1923

PRINTING DATA

This first definitive issue was typographed by the Government Printing Works, Dublin and was perforated 15 × 14. The issue was printed in sheets of 240, 2 panes, 12 × 10, with a gutter between. The paper was watermarked 'SE' multiple.

The approval of the Irish Constitution in 1937 necessitated a change of watermark. During 1940 our definitives began their appearance on paper watermarked multiple 'E', creating what philatelists call the "2nd Definitive Issue."

In 1949 two new values, 8d and 11d, were added and in 1966-67 and 3d and 5d were printed in photogravure. This proved to be the end of the four designs that had served Ireland so well and so long for from then on they were phased out with the new Gerl definitive issue replacing them starting in October 1968.



Some further points of interest about our designs are that they are known to exist overprinted 'SPECIMEN' (Dublin 1978) and the 2d gray green was reproduced as a 'stamp on stamp' design on the 50th anniversary of its original issue, December 6, 1972. It also was issued in a miniature sheet of 4, Ireland's first.

THE DESIGNERS

For a set that was in use for so many years little has been recorded about the designers. We find that JAMES INGRAM (Map Design) was from Glasnevin, Dublin but know nothing about him or his background. MISS LILY WILLIAMS (Celtic Cross) was born in Dublin and studied art at the Royal Hibernian Academy. She was well known for her portraits, particularly of the Irish Patriots of 1916. She was the designer of the Sinn Féin label, which since 1908, had been associated with the aims of the new Irish Government. President Arthur Griffith requested that her design be included in the new stamp issue. JOHN J. O'REILLY (Sword of Light) was born in Dublin in 1879. He was renowned as a lithographic artist and designer on Westmoreland Street, Dublin. He was famous for his illuminations and designed many of the Irish bill dies (Revenues). MISS GRACE GIRLING (Coat of Arms) was born June 23, 1901, thus being less than 21 years of age when her design was accepted. She was a ceramic and stained glass artist from Waterford and was a teacher of design at the Metropolitan School of Art in Dublin.

STATUS OF ESSAYS

At the time Postmaster General Walsh opened the competition to the public asking for designs several printing houses were also asked to submit samples, which they did. Proofs and reprints of these got into the hands of collectors and are available today. These unadopted essays were first recorded in *The Revealer* (O'Reilly 1954, a), then in *Stamp Magazine* (Fletcher 1954) and subsequently listed in the specialized Ireland catalogs.

It has been stated that after dies of the winning essays were prepared, proof pulls were taken for presentation to State Officials and Irish leaders. The number of sets pulled is not known except that there were more than three. All were larger than the regular stamps and no value was shown. All types differed from the issued stamps (O'Reilly 1954, b). Information of the existence and location of any of these would be appreciated.

It is unknown, by the author, if these essays are among those in

the Post Office archives. It is unknown who took the photographs used in this article nor is it known when they were taken. Obviously the originals were available at that time. It is assumed that the unaccepted designs shown herein are those supplied by the artists. The answers to these questions or any additional information will be appreciated.

THE FIRST FIRST DAY

December 6th 1922 was the date established for the new constitution at which time the Provisional Government would terminate and the Irish Free State come into existence. It was planned to have the new definitive stamps issued on December 6th but many difficulties combined to thwart these plans.

The designs had to be selected, a special paper with the 'SE' watermark had to be produced and new printing presses had to be purchased and installed at the Government Works at Dublin Castle. On top of that, Spring and Summer 1922 were times of great trouble for the post office. The I.R.A. controlled most of the south of Ireland and was disrupting the mail service by raids on Post Offices and mail trains. Dublin was in a state of great civil unrest. It was at the end of July of 1922 that the Battle of the Four Courts took place. In November 1922, the temporary G.P.O. in the Rotunda, Dublin was set on fire by armed raiders. So the Post Office had its hands full and it became apparent that they would be unable to release the 12 stamps as planned for December 6th.

Work, therefore, was concentrated on the 2d map stamp since this was the inland letter rate. Although there is some differences of opinion as to the details of the printing of this stamp it would seem to be the consensus that it was printed in London at Somerset House on 'SE' watermarked paper made in Ireland. A quantity of stamps (and the printing plates) arrived in Dublin in time for the December 6th release.

Despite the Civil War in progress the day was one of the quietest for some time. The stamp created a great deal of interest and the lines were long at the post offices which had them, for not all got them. The limited quantity available were sold out quickly. The 2d map stamps didn't reappear until late in December after having finally been printed in Dublin. In the meantime the 'Saorstát' overprints were introduced, the 2d being the first on December 11th.

It is possible to tell these two first printings apart (O'Reilly 1954, b). The London printing is a beautiful sea green and gives the appearance of being printed on chalky or coated paper. All First day covers and those from the early part of December are identifiable as coming from this first printing. The Dublin printing of late December is a blue-green with a strong bluish tint when held to the sunlight. Used stamps, if soaked, lose the green appearance and tend toward a blue. Subsequent printings were made using an ink of greater color stability. While shades exist the color is not fugitive.

Because of the two separate identifiable printings of this stamp O'Reilly makes the case that they should be identified as two separate issues . . . the London printing should be identified as Ireland's first commemorative since it was issued on the first anniversary of the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty and the Dublin printing should be the first printing as a definitive. He probably has a good point but the catalogs being what they are the two issues will continue to be listed as one.

Ireland's first issue is truly remarkable. It continued in use for over 45 years, including the war years of World War II, with no major errors or problems . . . a tribute to Irish workmanship.

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IRISH "CONNECTIONS TO CHINESE POSTAL HISTORY

by Karl Kilgas

The first connection was Robert Hart (later Sir Robert Hart), an Irishman, who had the sole responsibility of running, for over 45 years, the Chinese Maritime Customs Service, as Inspector General, for the Imperial Chinese Government. This organization was the principal source of revenue for the ruling Ch'ing Dynasty. He was an excellent organizer, extraordinary diplomat, and, not only established navigational lighthouses along the entire China coast, but the Imperial Chinese National Post Office, in 1896, as well.

Hart's residence in Peking paralleled that of the much dreaded yet misunderstood, Empress Dowager, T'zu Hsi. He represented the constructive side of the unequal foreign settlement Treaties forced upon the Chinese by the Major Foreign Powers.

He was born February 20, 1835, in the town of Portadown, County Armagh, Ireland. After distinguishing himself scholarly at Queen's College, Belfast, he decided to enter Governmental Service, because it had given him "the opportunity to get an education." He was fortunate the Earl of Clarendon, British Minister of Foreign Affairs, who had been Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, decided to build a strong Consular force in China and Japan. He sponsored a competitive examination at Queen's College to seek qualified applicants for the Service. Although over three dozen names were submitted, when the name of Robert Hart was noticed, the examination was cancelled and Robert Hart found himself in Hong Kong in 1854.

After serving in Ningpo and Canton, he entered the Chinese Custom Service as a Deputy Commissioner. His intense respect for Chinese tradition and culture, plus his unselfish efforts to improve China's well-being, progress and development, led to much sought after Imperial recognition and acceptance. This resulted in his appointment as Inspector-General of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Service—the important revenue raising service for the Imperial Government—on November 15, 1863, an appointment that lasted 45 years!

He was an ardent supporter of prepayment of postage by stamps, having suggested the idea as early as 1863 to a very disinterested imperial Government. He continued to promote the idea every chance he had, until the Government finally agreed to issue a set of stamps in 1878, but only as an experiment in the Northern China Ports. An experiment that lasted almost 20 years!

It is unknown if Sir Robert Hart corresponded with relatives and friends in Ireland, at any rate, no letters have been found to date although they may exist.

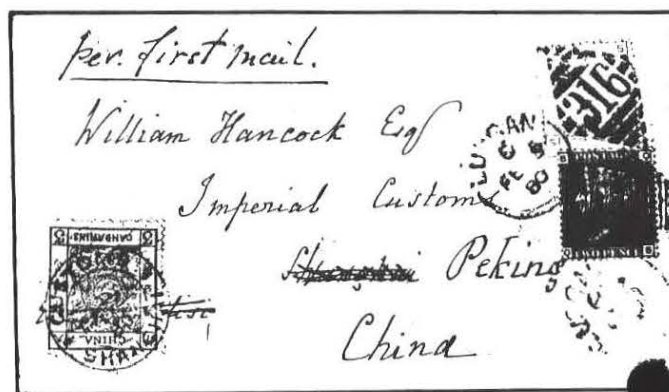
Now to the second "connection." During the 20 year "experiment" the Chinese Government had no "National" Post Office...there was too much competition! The government was completely satisfied with the ancient "Official Courier" System (I Chan), which had served them well, even prior to 1000 BC. The natives had their own "private letter companies" that numbered in the hundreds for several hundreds of years...at least since the Trade Guilds were organized in the 15th century. The foreigners in China, the major powers, each had their own post office in their respective "Settlements in each Treaty Port." So why, argued the Government, was there a need for still another Post Office.

The British were the first to establish a recognized Foreign Post Office within China. By 1878, eight were operating and were well established in the principal Treaty Ports. Mail to and from Britain was handled through these post offices operating at or near the British Consular Offices.

In 1878, China was not a member of the Universal Postal Union, although they had been invited to join. Actually, China did not become a member until 1914. During this early period, to carry a letter out of China to some foreign destination, it was necessary to pay postage on it within China to the port of departure, usually Shanghai, and then pay an additional amount

for stamps of a U.P.U. member country to carry it from China to the foreign destination. That is why the "outward" mail covers have both Chinese stamps and those from one of the foreign post offices in China. Although such covers are scarce they are seen from time to time.

The reverse was true for mail coming into China, a fact almost overlooked for years, probably because so few came to the attention of collectors. Stamps from the country of origin, delivered the mail to the port of arrival in China. It was necessary to add Chinese stamps to carry it to its destination within China. Webb in his authoritative book "Hong Kong & the Treaty Ports of China and Japan" states "...very few of these have survived and we have recorded only half a dozen. Most of these are from Lurgan, Ireland, to a Mr. Hancock of the Consular Service in Peking." Every cover is addressed in the same handwriting.



Lurgan, February 5, 1880, via Brindisi to Hong Kong (backstamped March 16th), to Shanghai, Where the 3 candarins stamp was affixed March 21st, forwarded to Peking, arriving on the 27th.

An exhaustive review of auction catalogues and philatelic writings indicates only two more "Lurgan" covers can be added to Webb's figure, making a total of eight covers known. One of the two found is in the author's collection and was posted on February 5, 1880, it is the only one forwarded to Hancock from Shanghai to Peking. The other appeared in a June 1981 Corinphila auction and is dated February 19, 1880.

RECORDED "LURGAN" COVERS

POSTMARK DATE	DESTINATION	BRITISH STAMPS	CHINESE STAMPS
1. December 19, 1879	Shanghai	4d	Two 3 Candarins
2. February 5, 1880	Shanghai then Peking	4d & 1/2d	One 3 Candarins
3. February 19, 1880	Peking	Pair 2 1/2d	Two 3 Candarins
4. March 4, 1880	Peking	Pair 2 1/2d	Two 3 Candarins
5. March 17, 1880	Peking	Pair 2 1/2d	One 3 Candarins
6. April 22, 1880	Peking	3 1d & 3d	One 3 Candarins
7. August 26, 1880	Peking	Pair 2 1/2d	One 3 Candarins
8. December 30, 1880	Peking	2 pr 2 1/2d 6d	One 1 Candarin & One 5 Candarins

William Hancock, our second Irish "connection" entered the Consular Service in 1874. He served in Ningpo, Kiungchow, Shanghai, Peking and later in Tamsui in Formosa. He was assigned to Shanghai October 1, 1879, a couple of months before these covers were recorded and, apparently, sent to Peking early in 1880. We are indeed thankful these few covers were saved. "Lurgan" has a very special meaning to China specialists.

Editors Note:

Eight covers from Lurgan, mailed in the course of a year, have survived out of what seems to have been a steady correspondence. What ever happened to Hancock's answers—do any exist?

WORLD WAR I ADDENDA

by John J. Blessington

Further information concerning the involvement of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) in Ireland during World War I has been received from two different sources. Immediately after the issue of the Summer **Revealer**, the **War Cover Club Bulletin** published an article which sheds more light, and somewhat later, a letter was received from James N. Boyden of Citrus Heights, California, an AEF specialist in answer to one of mine. Below are extracts from the **War Cover Club Bulletin** article entitled, "United States Air Force Post Office" by D.D. Howell (June-July 1981) and Jim Boyden's letter in full.

Report Upon Development of Post Office Department of American Air Service in Great Britain and Ireland Under the Personnel Officer - O.A.O. B.S.3, S.O.S., A.E.F.

EARLY PLAN

During the latter months of 1917, when the Army Personnel in Great Britain and Ireland was small, no organization existed for the express purpose of handling incoming and outgoing mail, this function being performed by clerks at Base Section Headquarters in conjunction with their duties.

DEVELOPMENT

Concurrent with the opening of a separate Aviation Headquarters at 35 Eaton Place during the first of January, necessitated as a result of signing an agreement in December 1917 whereby thousands of aviation mechanics were to be trained in Great Britain and Ireland, a separate Post Office Department was established for the handling of Air Service mail. Immediately plans were evolved for the expeditious handling of mail through means of internal organization and system modelled after that in use in the United States Postal Department. Card Indexes were maintained on all organizations and individuals which were corrected and kept up to date by means of weekly station, squadron and alphabetical rosters of personnel issued by Aviation Headquarters. Two separated departments were operated to care for letters and parcels.

ADDENDA

Censorship of mail (from U.S.) for France was performed by the Air Service Office. Both the British censor stamps and the American organizational censor stamp may be found on mail from Army division personnel and from U.S. Air Service personnel training in England, the censoring performed by Americans.

THE A.E.F. IN IRELAND

by J. N. Boyden

I most gratefully received your letter of October 7 and the accompanying edition of "**The Revealer**". I first want to say that the Eire Philatelic Association publishes a most excellent journal. It is one of the best I have seen.

Your own article on "Irish Philately in World War I" was of prime interest to me. More specifically, the cover from Tallaght, County Dublin, was of special interest. I knew that AEF covers from USAS units in Ireland had to be around but yours is the first I have seen. I would like to offer some background information regarding that cover and other matters in your article.

USAS squadrons began to arrive in the British Isles in late 1917 but did not reach large numbers until the late Spring and Summer of 1918. Under the Agreement of December 1917, the U.S. was to send 15,000 airplane mechanics to the British Isles to train and work on British aircraft and to simultaneously release RAF mechanics vitally needed in France. The American mechanics arrived as personnel assigned to regular USAS

squadrons. Upon arrival of a squadron in England, the flying personnel were detached and sent to British flying schools for advanced flight training. If normal practice were followed, the squadron, now composed of only non-flying personnel, was divided into flights (identified as A, B, C, and D) which were then sent separately to various RAF airfields throughout the British Isles. These flights were commanded by officers (non-flying). There were some exceptions to this practice where squadrons retained their integrity and were not divided into flights and sent to separate airfields, but the general practice was to form the separate flights. A flight probably consisted of around 40-60 persons. It was these squadrons and flights that were the source of the 15,000 mechanics required by the December 1917 agreement. The further intended policy was to later reform the dispersed squadrons, reassign flying personnel to them, and transfer them to the AEF. However, this happened to only a few squadrons before the Armistice. The flights were supposed to be periodically rotated among RAF airfields but this practice was not fully followed. USAS headquarters in the British Isles was the Office of the Aviation Officer (OAO), Base Section No. 3, and was located at 35 Eaton Place, London S.W.1. The OAO divided the United Kingdom into five areas. One of those areas encompassed Ireland and the flights of mechanics were sent to RAF airfields in that country. I do not know when the first USAS flights were sent to Ireland but it was probably not until the Summer of 1918. Because the use of Irish airfields took place so late in the war, I suspect that not too many squadrons had the opportunity to serve in that area.

To the best of my research, there were only four RAF airfields in Ireland to which the individual USAS flights were sent. Since there were only four stations, it is most likely that one squadron provided the flights to each of the fields at the same time. The four identified airfields were located at:

- Baldonnel, County Dublin (now called Casement Airfield, to the west of Dublin)
- Tallaght, County Dublin
- Gormanston, County Meath
- Collinstown, County Westmeath

From the above information, it can be seen that the Tallaght cover originated with a USAS flight sent to the RAF field at that location. All of the four Irish airfields were classified as bombardment stations, meaning that either bombardment squadrons of the RAF were stationed there or that they were used to train personnel for assignment to bombardment squadrons. The assigned USAS personnel would have been working on the RAF aircraft used at those fields. I do not know the identity of the parent squadron of the writer of your Tallaght cover as my own research has not extended that far and I do not have the sources available to allow such an identification. I can conclude that the writer was probably the officer-in-charge of the flight at Tallaght and that the other three flights of the same squadron were probably stationed at the other three Irish fields. There is a slight possibility that the writer was not assigned to a flight but was at Tallaght as a pilot to receive advanced flight training. You will recall that I mentioned that the flying personnel of a squadron were sent to RAF fields for that purpose. However, I have not seen any evidence that the Irish fields provided such training to any American pilots. It must be considered as a possibility.

The use of "London S.W.1." in the return address can also be explained. Because the USAS flights were periodically rotated and because the personnel were so widely dispersed throughout the U.K., all mail was addressed to USAS members in the British Isles care of the OAO at 35 Eaton Place, London S.W.1. It is rather common to find USAS personnel using the London address as a return address on their envelopes even though they were stationed in a place far removed from London. Mail sent to USAS personnel was received at the USAS postal facility in

London referred to in the **War Cover Club Bulletin**. However, rest assured that facility was not an official APO but was merely a distribution point for incoming mail. From London, the mail was sent by courier or other means to the dispersed American personnel. As exemplified by the Tallaght cover, outgoing mail from the U.K. was dropped into the British civil post. Censorship was usually either performed at the squadron level (in rare cases) or at the Base Censor office in Liverpool. Your cover in the article is easily identified as having originated at Tallaght but such is not always the case. Many RAF fields were located by small villages and the post offices of those villages could not handle the volume of mail generated by the military installation. If that were the case, then the mail was sent to the nearest post office that could process and cancel the military mail. In such cases, the cancellation would be from a locality different than that in which the writer was stationed. This could be true with some of the Irish airfields. I suspect that Baldonnel may not have had its own postmark and that mail was cancelled at another location (Dublin?). Thus mail from USAS personnel at the other airfields might bear postmarks of larger towns in the immediate vicinity. This procedure was very common at the RAF fields in England and Scotland.

I do not have any confirmation that any other U.S. Army personnel were stationed in Ireland during World War I, except that there was, reportedly, a small Army Transportation Service office in Belfast that administered cargo coming in through that port. Your article covered the U.S. Navy presence in Ireland very thoroughly.

Your article also makes reference to the 16th "Irish" Division and as a sidelight, it might be of interest that the 16th Division had contact with other AEF units in France. The 16th Division was one of 9 British divisions that were reduced to a cadre status as a result of the German offenses in March-April 1918. Several of those cadre divisions, to include the 16th, were assigned to help train the ten American divisions that were sent to the BEF area of France for combat training. From May 18 to June 10, 1918, the 16th Division was affiliated with the American 4th Division in the Samer Training Area (southeast of Boulogne). When the 4th Division was suddenly called back to the AEF area, the 16th Division was then attached to the American 80th Division which had just arrived in the same area. That affiliation lasted until only June 18, when the 16th Division was returned to the United Kingdom to be reconstituted with replacements that had finally become available. While in the BEF area, the American units had to use the British field post and could not use American APO markings. The 80th Division was assigned its own BEF postal markings but for some reason, the 4th Division was not assigned any. It would not be unexpected to find mail from 4th Division personnel, and also from 80th Division personnel, that was postmarked with markings used in that period by the 16th "Irish" Division (APO R.16, FPO D.X., FPO T.X., FPO 16, FPO 17, FPO 18). I have no personal knowledge of such useage of those numbers but personnel of other American divisions in the BEF area often used the postal facilities of the affiliated British cadre division and there are many examples of such covers.

I would appreciate any information you might obtain or examples of covers you might find showing useage of the Irish postmarks by American military and naval personnel in World War I.

REVEALER DEADLINES

In order to insure that your material reaches the Editor in time for insertion in the next current issue of **The Revealer** be sure to submit your copy to meet the closing dates listed below:

Spring Issue	March 1st
Summer Issue	June 1st
Fall Issue	September 1st
Winter Issue	December 1st



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LIMBURG POW CAMP

The Revealer, number 143, was especially interesting to members in this country (W. Germany), as it featured a postcard sent out of Germany during W. W. I. I note that the EPA now has nine Germans on the membership list, which is quite good. To go such a long way for a membership in a philatelic study group and to cross a language barrier in addition you must already have quite some interest in the matter.

Returning to the Irish prisoners in Limburg. I have observed this complex for some time, but, so far, have not been able to secure any such pieces of mail. Last week I saw a similar card from Limburg, also bilingual, but German/French, with the destination as France, printed. The censor's marking was the same as on the Irish card on **The Revealer**, but the regular LIMBURG datestamp had an "a" as distinguishing letter compared with the "d" on the card to Ireland, which indicates that probably four datestamps were in use at the Limburg P.O. at that time. Not only Irishmen were located at Limburg in those days, but also Frenchmen and Russians, probably other nationalities too.

In this connection it is interesting to quote from the local school chronicle at Oberjosbach, where I live (about 30 miles south of Limburg) where the school teacher in 1915 wrote: "With the harvesting we had the help of ten Irish prisoners of war, who in that way contributed themselves to fight the British starvation plans for our country." Later on he writes: "... in late autumn 1915 the Irishmen were exchanged for ten Russians, who mostly worked in the woods."

I shall try to find out more about the whole thing but it is difficult. Only very old people might remember something but they are dying off now. If enough comes out of it, some day I shall prepare a story for **The Revealer**, but that is in the stars, so far.

W. GERMANY

Hans G. Moxter

A PLACE FOR YOUR DUPLICATES

Our St. Leo Stamp Club, 25 members in grade school, meet once a month. Several years ago one of the EPA officers, on request, sent a complimentary selection of many current Irish definitives and commemoratives.

Do you have some to spare or any of your colleagues? I should love to distribute them. Thank you and good wishes.

VERSAILLES, KY

Theresa Fitzgerald

EDITORS NOTE

Here's a chance to get some collectors of the future interested in Irish stamps. If you have duplicates that you can spare send them to: Mrs. Thomas F. Fitzgerald, 112 Woodford Village, Versailles, KY 40383.

**HELP THE EPA -
SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER TODAY**