

The Revealer

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION



Volume 33 No. 1

Whole No. 151

Summer 1983

IRISH "PAID" HANDSTAMPS

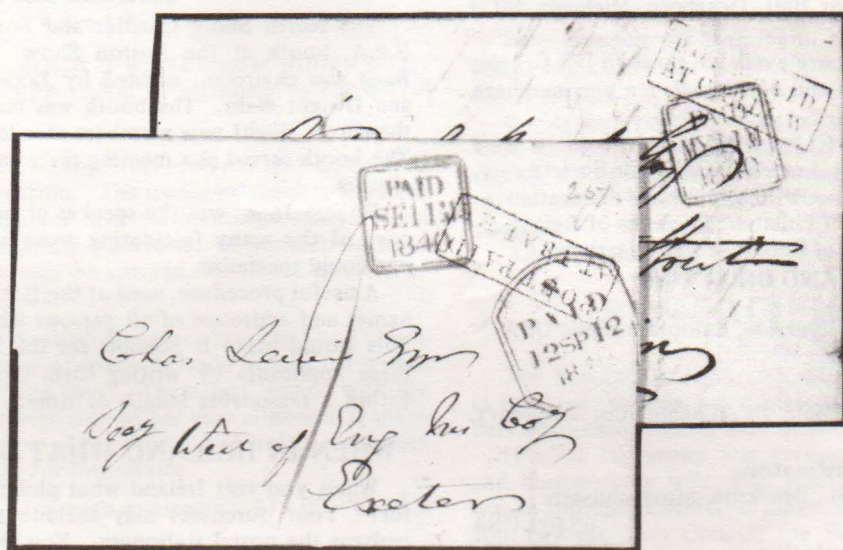


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Random Notes	4	Recent Issues	12
Dublin Newsletter	5	Irish Forces in the United Nations	13
Provisional Paid Handstamps	6	Irish Booklets, How Printed	14

THE REVEALER

Whole No. 150

Spring 1983

Published quarterly by the Eire Philatelic Association at \$7.00 U.S., \$8.50 Canada & Mexico, and \$10.00 all other countries per year, which includes membership and all privileges of the association. Information from Secretary.

STAFF

Editor:

John J. Blessington, 4302 St. Clair Ave., Studio City, CA 91604 USA

Associate Editor:

E. FitzGerald, 1 Willow Park Drive, Dublin 11, Ireland

Publisher/Distributor

Robert D. Corless, 1826 W. Indianola Ave. Phoenix Arizona 85015 USA

Advertising Manager:

Robert E. Moskowitz, 3313 Southern Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21214 USA

Revealer Back Issues:

William E. Greeley, P.O. Box 1091, Dearborn, Michigan 48121 USA

Back issues of **The Revealer** are available through Bill Greeley at \$1.00 each for members and \$1.25 each for non-members, plus postage and handling.

EIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

Affiliate No. 21 — The American Philatelic Society
Affiliated Member — The British Philatelic Federation
Affiliate — Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland
Member — Council of Philatelic Organizations

— OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS —

President:

Bill Zellers, P.O. Box 1381, Riverside, California 92502 USA

Vice Presidents:

Padraig O'Mathuna, 98-99 Main St., Cashel, Co. Tipperary, Ireland

Secretary - Chapter Coordinator:

Robert C. Jones, 8 Beach St., Brockton, Massachusetts 02402 USA

Treasurer - APS Representative

Joseph E. Foley, P.O. Box 2352, Denver, Colorado 80201 USA

Directors:

Michael Phelan, At-Large
Patricia W. Stillwell Walker, Eastern No. America
Michael M. Lenane, Central No. America
Richard J. Swords, Western No. America
Michael Giffney, Europe

Immediate Past President

Edward T. Sullivan

Historian

Garvin F. Lohman, 1543 Sacramento #3, San Francisco, CA 94109, USA

Auction & Trading Post Manager:

Timothy O'Shea, 46 Coolidge Rd., Chicopee, Massachusetts 01013 USA

REVEALER ADVERTISING

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.

ADVERTISING RATES

Size of Ad	One Insertion	Yearly Rate (4)
Full Page	\$80.00	\$240.00
Half Page	45.00	135.00
Quarter Page	25.00	75.00
Eighth Page	15.00	45.00

SECRETARY'S REPORT

RECRUITING HONOR ROLL

The E.P.A. depends on members to recommend the Association to friends and acquaintances who are interested in Irish philately. During the past year, the members listed below were successful in recruiting at least one member each. Others may have proposed new members but unless you sign your name on the line following, "Proposed By" we have no way to record your efforts on behalf of the E.P.A. The Officers and Board of Directors extend their thanks to all who proposed new members.

Walter E. Mack, Edward FitzGerald, Brian Warren, Carl Arnett, John Blessington, Bill Zellers, Dwight Wahr, Robert Jones, Charles West, James O'Connell, James Sweet, David Scribner, Robert Cadigan, John McLaughlin, Richard T. Crowe, Edward Ryan, Michael Hogan, Joan Moody, J.B. Koestner, John Smallman, Norman Boot, Jim Lawless, Joe Foley, Edward Sullivan, Henry Bright, Robert Maciel, Frank Buono, Patricia Walker, George Ginovsky and Preston Pope.

CHAPTER REPORT

The North Shore Chapter and South Shore Chapter had an E.P.A. booth at the Boston Show, May 13-15, 1983. Peter Bugg was chairman, assisted by James O'Connell, Charles West and Dwight Wahr. The booth was manned for all three days of the show. Eight new members enrolled during these three days. The booth served as a meeting place for the E.P.A. members and visitors.

Robert Jones was the speaker at noon on Saturday. His talk covered the many fascinating areas of Irish philately in which one could specialize.

A useful procedure, used at the E.P.A. booth, was securing the names and addresses of all persons who took application forms. This would make it possible for the Secretary to follow-up on these applicants by writing them if no response was received within a reasonable length of time.

WHEN IN IRELAND WHAT DO YOU COLLECT?

When you visit Ireland what philatelic material do you look for? Your purchases may include the current adhesives and perhaps the postal stationery. You may buy the revenues available. At a dealer you might even find a choice or needed item to bring home.

But, there is more to Irish postal material than these. Some is available at no cost and which would greatly enhance your collection. This material includes such items as: customs forms, insured and registered letter forms, postal rate forms, change of address forms and any others. All these are ignored now but fifty years from now they will be postal history which you will be wise enough to have accumulated. How many collections have you seen that includes such material?

At a cost of £1, The Eolai an Phoist, Post Office Guide, is available from the Government Publications Sales Office in the G.P.O., Arcade, Dublin. It lists all the active post offices with the town names in Gaelic and English. With this in hand you can begin to collect the town cancels of your County.

One way to see Dublin would be to attempt getting a cancel from all 129 Dublin post offices! If this is a bit too much try Cork with 84 offices, or Ballymena with 3, Dun Loaghaire with 8, Limerick with 15, Galway with 8. A postal card mailed from the towns you visit, to yourself would be an interesting reminder of your tour for your collection. One collector with imagination has a snapshot of the post office of every town in the County his family came from, to go with the cancel.

Other items to keep in mind are the International Reply Coupons and the postal money orders (a minimal amount and unredeemed of course) to add to your albums. How many collections included these postal items? Incidentally, these make unusual gifts to bring home for your collector friends.

(continued bottom of page 3)

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

On page 13 appears the first of a two part article on mail to and from members of the Irish Armed Forces serving with the U.N. This expands on a previous article on the subject in *The Revealer* of April 1978 (Vol. XXVII No. 4). UN Military mail is an area of modern postal history that still needs much clarification, particularly concerning Ireland. Is there someone, perhaps in Ireland, with an interest in and contacts with the Military who might be able to locate further information? We sorely need a replacement for the late A. T. "Sedge" Sedgeley who did so much to save this type of material for collectors.

Stephen F. Cohen, author of this article, is Vice-President of The U.N. Philatelists Inc., a group which caters to all areas of UN philately and whose membership is worldwide. They publish an informative Journal and occasional handbooks. Their auctions include a wide variety of material, forerunners, stamps, covers, cancels etc. Anyone wanting further information about the UNPI please contact the editor.

From mail recently received it would appear worthwhile to review the services the EPA offers to members to dispose of Irish philatelic material.

QUARTERLY AUCTION — Any Irish material may be entered by any member in the auction. The owner establishes a reserve and writes the description for each lot before submittal. Lots should be a minimum of \$2.00. There are no restrictions as to the number of lots that may be entered nor in the number of auctions entered. Charge is 15%.

TRADING POST — The Auction Manager also runs The Trading Post in which members may advertise to trade or may list wants. No Items may be offered "For Sale". These 'ads' appear with the Auction. Members are allowed one ad per year although, if space allows and at the discretion of the Auction Manager, more may be run. There is no charge for this service.

PAID ADVERTISING — 1/8 page minimum — \$15.00. "Camera Ready" copy is requested.

PRIVATE TREATY — Collections and/or major items may be offered by "Private Treaty". The owner sets a price and an ad is placed in *The Revealer* or Auction Sheet. EPA handles all details of the sale and remits the proceeds to the vendor. Charge is 10%.

ESTATE EVALUATION/SALE — EPA will work with heirs of deceased members to dispose of Irish collections when the EPA has been designated to do so or when *no* instructions were left for disposal but the heirs request our help. The EPA will evaluate the material and recommend the best means of disposing of it. There will be no charge for this. Should it be decided to dispose of the collection through the EPA, the charges shall be as specified above.



(continued from page 2)

The Post Office Guide (p. 41), states "Packets containing literature and articles specially adapted for the use of the blind, are transmissible free of charge." This includes letters to or from blind persons. Here is an almost untouched area of Irish Philately. Does anyone have such covers or postal markings.

The Guide offers many forms, postal and revenue. Upon arrival get one and then see what you can gather. You may end up with a fascinating and unique collection of Irish postal material.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

This is my swan song as your president. I want to thank all of the members for making my presidential years fruitful ones. Everyone who was asked to perform a task responded promptly and when volunteers were requested, several always came forth. Special words of appreciation go to the officers and directors who served with me, for their cooperation and support. Not all our goals were attained but the unattained ones I bequeath to my successor, to whom I wish good luck and good stamping.

It gives me great pleasure to announce the two annual awards made by the EPA. The 1983 Thomas E. Field Award to the person who has made an outstanding contribution to Irish philately goes to John J. Blessington, *The Revealer* editor. The 1983 John C. Clark Award, presented to an association member who has made an outstanding service to the EPA this past year, goes to Robert C. Jones, EPA Secretary and Chapter Coordinator. Dates and places for presentation of these awards, as well as citations to accompany them, will be in the Fall *Revealer*.

We have had a busy Spring, having a table at SANDICAL in San Diego, attending the NORCAL Chapter meeting at WESTPEX, and manning another table at Pan Pacific in Portland.

New chapters are forming in many areas of the U.S. Think about organizing one in your area or attending the ones already meeting there.

It was with regret I accepted the resignation of Joe Foley as EPA treasurer. He has done a momentous job keeping our accounts, budgeting, and maximizing the association's funds. Emery Megel of Walnut Creek, CA has volunteered to assume the position.

Again, thanks and best wishes to all.

President Bill Zellers

PAN-PACIFIC EXPO '83

by Ed Sullivan

The Pan-Pacific Expo '83 show, which was held May 20-22 in Portland, Oregon was a great success for all the E.P.A. members who exhibited and were in attendance at the E.P.A. meeting.

Heading the group was President Bill Zellers and his lovely and hardworking wife, Peg, John Blessington, Pat Walker, who was an apprentice literature judge, her husband Dan, also a judge, Jim Lawless, Bob Corless, Joe Foley, Bill Kemp, John Shawcraft and of course, myself.

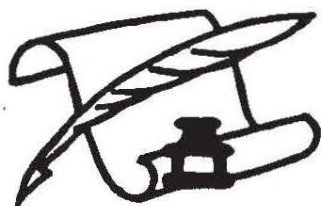
The exhibitors and their awards were Wm. Pavey (Bronze), Joe Foley (Vermeil), John Blessington (vermeil), Geo. E. R. Ithell (Bronze), Jim Maher (Silver) and Bill Zellers (Silver).

To add to the show awards was the E.P.A. award for the Best Irish Exhibit. This was a framed early map of Ireland and was awarded to Joe Foley for his exhibit, "Irish Overprints, 1922- 23."

Both Pat Walker and myself had the privilege of having our Postal History exhibits placed in the Court of Honor.



BILL KEMP, JOHN BLESSINGTON, JOHN SHAWCRAFT, BILL ZELLERS, PAT WALKER, ED SULLIVAN, JOE FOLEY AND BOB CORLESS.



RANDOM NOTES

By F. E. Dixon

FREE?

When I first came across a prepaid letter to Dublin bearing the FREE datestamp I thought it was an accidental error, the sorter having picked up the wrong handstamp. I recently saw several more examples, all of around 1820, with the crowned spade-shaped FREE marking, and I now think that this usage was deliberate — and quite reasonable. The word "Free" indicates that no further postage charges can be raised, and it was quite justifiable for a postal official to apply the stamp to incoming mail fully prepaid.

MILEAGE MARKS

On my check list there are still some post towns from which no markings have yet been recorded. One recently deleted from that category is Kildysart, Co. Clare. A mileage stamp for it has turned up for 1817, with mileage 126.

RECEIVING HOUSES

The same material included a new Receiving House in the italic type, Doolin/Ennistimon. And it is on an interesting letter of 1849 in which the PMG Lord Clanricarde's Private Secretary explains that reductions are planned in the Department and he is thus unable to provide the job of clerkship as requested.

POST PAID

Some time ago I reported finding a POST PAID of Limerick, 1810, much earlier than reported hitherto. Now a letter of 1821 has turned up, also POST PAID in Limerick, but with a different handstamp.

IPC AGM

To me the highlights of the AGM Dublin gathering were provided by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. On the Friday some of us were given the freedom of the Central Sorting Office, where we salvaged many items from the rubbish, obtained answers to most of our questions, and inspected a great variety of handstamps. Beware of exceptional items dated 20 May 83!! And on Sunday afternoon Con Buckley nobly sacrificed his free time to display obsolete cancelling devices and an array of display pages prepared for the still hoped-for postal museum.

1826 CHANGE OF RATES

One of the covers recently acquired is a delightful demonstration of the changes associated with the substitution of British for Irish miles and currency on 5th January 1826. The letter was written on 4th January and correctly charged double the 11d rate, 1/10. When the letter reached Dublin on 6th an inspector applied his crown to cancel the 1/10 and amended the charge to 1/8 (= 2 x 10d). One major problem is why the charges were reduced. In this case the strict application of the conversions would have been to convert the 126 Irish miles to 158 statute: that meant an increase to 12 Irish, equivalent to 11d sterling. So the reduction to 10d was illegal — but continued in use for over a year.

AND THE 1827 CHANGE

In 1827 the Irish P.O. reintroduced the pre-1826 scale based on Irish miles but, as the currency altered, this meant a net increase of about 18%. For some time I have been wondering when in 1827 the change was made. I have now established that it was in July, between 5th and 24th. Has anyone covers from between those dates which will help to determine the change more precisely?

G?

In the Dublin octagonal paid datestamps, single and double frame, current 1813 to 1832, I have seen letters A, B, C, D, E, F, and H above PAID. It seems likely that G was also used. Can anyone confirm its existence?

DUBLIN ADDITIONAL HALFPENNY

In the first comprehensive account of the handstruck marks for the Scottish Additional 1/2d (Postal History Soc. Bulletin No. 33, 1945) Sidebotham illustrated the Dublin stamp, the special features being the long bar between 1 and 2 and the large loop of the 2. I have seen two examples in which the left end of the bar is broken so that it ends below the right foot of the A.

MISSING YEARS

The failure to obtain fresh number plugs for the new year is not peculiar to modern times. I have found a cover of 1847, datestamped in Dublin on 8 January, with the year shown as 184. Oddly enough when the letter reached London next day it was datestamped Jan 6, the day having been inserted wrong way up. However, the error was noted, the wrong stamp neatly cancelled with the appropriate zigzag and another, corrected, impression applied.

ANOTHER IRISH EXHIBITION CANCELLATION

G.E.R. Ithell reports another discovery by Michael Goodman, a Parcel Post label of Gratton Road, Brook Green, Hammer-smith, London W, with a skeleton datestamp IRISH EXHIBITION/W OC 6 88. I have no knowledge of this exhibition, but surmise that it was a project of the first Irish Industries Association, inaugurated at a Garden Party in the Viceregal Lodge, guests being asked to attend attired in costume of Irish material. In Lady Aberdeen's account of this she mentions that the movement was the outcome of an Irish Industries Exhibit in Edinburgh.

INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS

Changed regulations in 1922 were first shown by overprinting the back of the coupon, but I am puzzled by the reaction of the Irish Post Office. An instruction to postmasters in "Iris an Phuist" No. 5 26 April 1922 ordered that, although a 3d stamp should be given for each overprinted coupon, an unoverprinted coupon should be exchanged for only a 1½d stamp. It was envisaged that customers would protest and so "In the event of any difficulty arising with the public concerning coupons without the instructions printed in red on the back, a postage stamp of the value of 1½d should be given provisionally and instructions sought from the Accountant."

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

E.P.A. AUCTION

Bid early to insure getting those lots you want. Overseas members use Air Mail. Remember, all checks for all lots are to be made payable to the auction manager. Now's the time to send in your lots for the next auction.

DUBLIN NEWSLETTER

by Eddie Fitzgerald

"The general opinion of specialist collectors in Ireland is that there are interesting days ahead with these new definitive stamps. As these definitives will be litho printings we can anticipate frequent changes of plates and consequent plate numbers in the next decade. Other possibilities include changes in perforator, paper, tagging, inks . . . nothing can be taken for granted. It is an ideal time for a general collector of Ireland to get in on the ground floor and to really concentrate at minimum expense."

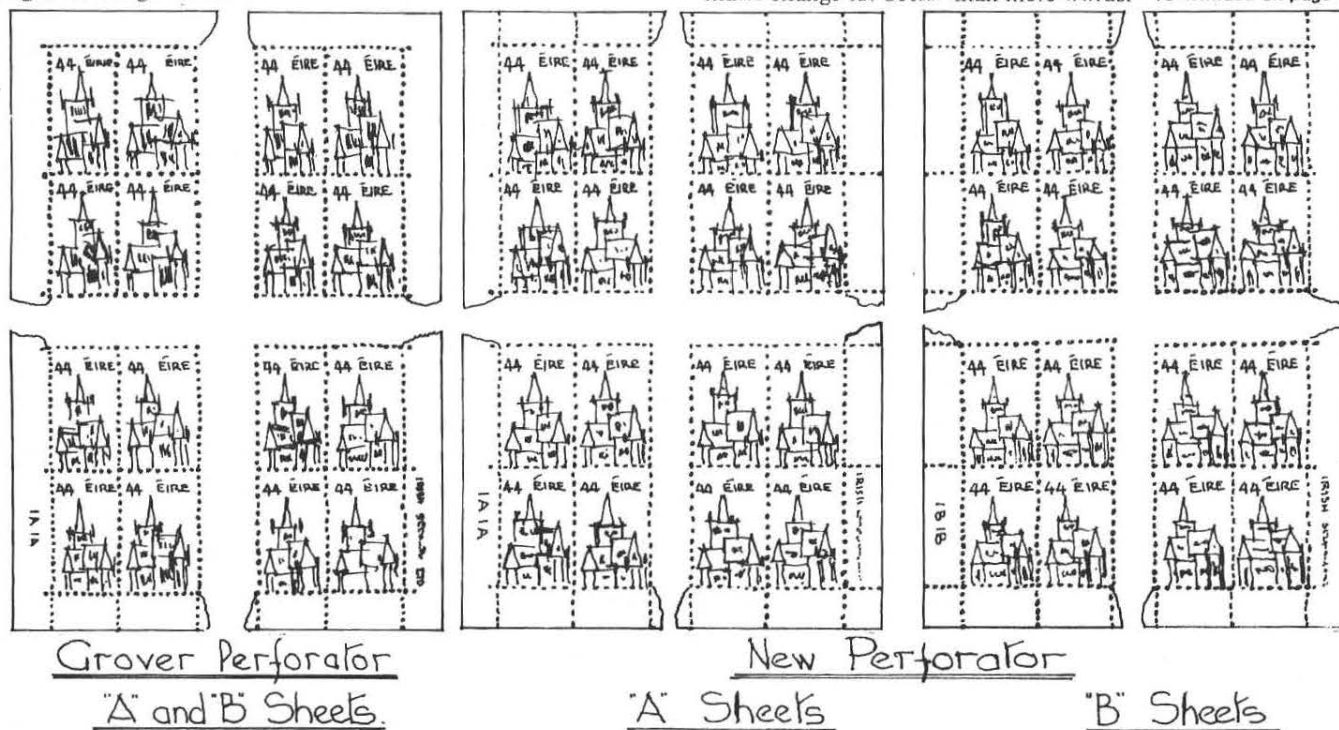
Most readers will feel that they have read these comments before and they will be right, because this was the second paragraph of "The Dublin Newsletter" in the Winter 1982 issue of *The Revealer*. My purpose in repeating this paragraph is to highlight a major perforation change in sheets of the 44p value, at least, which was discovered in late May 1983 and the probability that this perforation change will occur on sheets of all other values in due course.

When I was writing the Winter 1982 Newsletter, my comments on the sheet markings were based on information from an official source to a Dublin philatelist. This information was somewhat inaccurate and as sheets of stamps had not been on display, it was not possible to check the total accuracy. The following account is an accurate description of post office sheets of all values issued to date. The series may be divided into two categories; A) low values, i.e. up to 30p; B) high values, i.e. 44p to £5. The low values are single colour and the high values are bi-coloured. There are no colour check squares as such; the plate number and sheet designations serve this purpose, thus on the high values the markings are 1A 1A or 1B 1B. There are some notable differences between sheets of low values and high values; the low value sheets consist of 200 stamps, separated into two panes of 100 stamps by a gutter margin. Another feature is the presence of marginal rules in the longer margins which are repeated in the gutter. The high values are exactly twice the size of the low value stamps and sheets of the high values consist of 100 stamps with no gutter margins or marginal rules.

As the designs of the high and low values may be of a horizontal format, e.g. Dr. Steevens Hospital, Cahir Castle or a vertical format, e.g. Aughnacore Castle, Killarney Cathedral, it is important to avoid confusion when referring to positions of markings and perforations. For the purposes of this Newsletter at least, the design orientation is ignored and the plate number is always located in the lower left hand corner block — towards the end of the left hand vertical margin. With this orientation fixed in mind, the marginal rules on the low values appear in the upper and lower horizontal margins and also the gutter margin; which is also horizontal. The printer's imprint is always located in the lower right hand corner block — towards the end of the right hand vertical margin. There are no markings whatever in either of the two upper corner blocks.

Now to the really important subject of perforations. The standard method of perforations (so far) is the Grover style of perforation; the upper horizontal margin is imperforate and the lower horizontal margin is perforated. On the left and right hand vertical margin there is an extension hole at each stamp row. This description holds good for all values and formats according to my orientation system, and indicates that the A and B sheets, which were printed together side by side, were guillotined first into post office size sheets and subsequently perforated.

Towards the end of May, my philatelic colleague Brian Warren, purchased some blocks of current stamps for research purposes and when he examined his purchase later on in detail, quickly noted a major perforation change on the 44p value. As we have now seen all four corner blocks of both A and B sheets with this major perforation change, the following is an accurate description. On A sheets, the upper and lower margins are perforated; the left hand vertical margin is imperforate except for the normal extension hole at every row, while the right hand vertical margin is perforated at every row. On B sheets, the upper and lower margins are again perforated; the left hand vertical margin is perforated while the right hand vertical margin is imperforate except for the normal extension hole at every row. The illustration may demonstrate this dramatic change far better than mere words. (Continued on page 16)



Grover Perforator

"A" and "B" Sheets

New Perforator

"A" Sheets

"B" Sheets

PROVINCIAL PAID HANDSTAMPS OF IRELAND

By Patricia Stilwell Walker

The Irish postal system was established in 1656 when an Act of the English Parliament created the position of Postmaster of Dublin and set the first rates. Rates were based on number of sheets in the letter and the distance traveled. Within Ireland, distances were measured from Dublin. The Irish postal system developed in parallel with the English system, sometimes a part of it, sometimes independent. Rates, at least, were different until 1827 when the Irish postal system was permanently integrated into the British system. Even so, the handstamps used for marking the mail were not supplied by London until the first Maltese cross obliterations were issued in 1840.

The cost of mailing a letter, prior to the Uniform Penny Postage (UPP) reform of 1840, was high; consequently many letters dealt with extremely important matters: such as money! In the first 150 years of the Irish postal system, most letters were sent unpaid. Postal charges were collected from the recipient. This ensured speedy delivery of the letter and some measure of protection against loss. One important category of mail had to be at least partially prepaid. If a letter was leaving the British postal system (to France, for example), it had to be prepaid to the port of departure. There were no treaties, at this time, to guarantee collection of the postal fees from the foreign country.

In the early 1800's prepaid letters became more common; this was due in part to the improved reliability of the mails, but also to the increased volume of business type mail which the sender could not afford to have the recipient refuse. After the Uniform Penny Postage (UPP) reform of 1840, prepayment was required; however adhesive stamps were optional. Until 1851, postal fees could be paid in advance with cash (or upon receipt with a penalty of double the fee).

Special handstamps were used to distinguish prepaid letters. Because these handstamps were made locally, considerable differences of style, as well as sizes of similar styles, exist. Such variety offers a rich field of study. Irish paid marks have, in the past, been divided into three somewhat arbitrary categories:

1. Marks used in Dublin.
2. Marks used in provincial towns prior to UPP, and after UPP if in the same style.
3. Provincial town marks introduced especially for UPP letters with postage prepaid in cash. Most incorporate a numeral "1" of some sort.

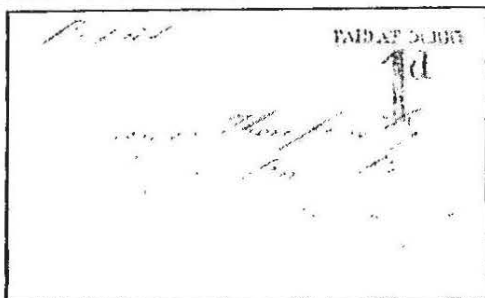


Figure 1: Category 3, Typical handstamp of this group shown on a wrapper from Derry to Ballymoney, MY 7 1841. (red)

Category 1 is arbitrary since Dublin marks can clearly be divided into pre and post UPP types. The earliest Dublin mark was introduced in 1763 and is pictured in Figure 2. The distinction between category 2 and category 3 is arbitrary also. A number of paid marks, included in category 2 because of similarity of style to earlier marks, were only used in 1840 or later, having been introduced as a result of UPP. The basic references of Irish postal history of this period: Feldman/Kane's *Handbook of Irish Postal History to 1840* and Alcock and Holland's *The Postmarks of Great Britain and Ireland* perpetuate this distinction. Therefore, at least for now, we will not attempt to change the past classification system. This article is concerned only with the handstamps in category 2 (the provincial paid handstamps of pre UPP style).



Figure 2: August 4, 1768 Dublin to Cognac, France. POST/D/PAID is earliest Dublin paid mark. POST/PAID in circle applied in London. 6d Dublin to London rate (purple-red)

In 1966 Fred Dixon published a listing of the paid marks entitled: *Postmarks: Irish Provincial Post Office Stamps on Prepaid Letters* in Supplement #27 to the *Revealer*. His listing has been used as a basis for this research, as it was the most comprehensive available. Not unsurprisingly, the data has changed significantly since Fred's article was written:

7 new types have been noted.

18 new towns have been added.

33 new entries are listed for towns in Fred's list.

Besides these additions, of the towns in the 1966 list over 40% of the entries have had their date ranges extended and over 15% of the entries have had new colors noted. These include brown and gray, even though these colors are probably shades of oxidized red or black, respectively. Finally, about 15 corrections of size, date, etc. were made.

The types numbers used in this article and in the master listing are taken from Fred Dixon's Supplement #27. New types are noted with the letter A. The master list is cross referenced with F/K numbers where possible.

The basic analysis of the new master list reveals that 136 provincial towns used a paid marking of some sort. Ninety-two towns used only one mark; one town, Belfast, used as many as ten. Figure 3 shows Belfast Type 24 and Type 29. See Tables 1 and 2 for statistics on types and towns.



Figure 3: Top letter is to Canada in 1843 showing Type 24. Bottom undated entire Type 29. (both red)

TABLE 1
DISTRIBUTION BY TOWNS.

Number of types used	Number of towns	Towns
1	92	
2	28	
3	5	Ballymoney, Hollywood, Mullingar, Templemore, Tullamoore
4	5	Kells, Navan, Ross, Sligo, Strabane
5	1	
6	2	Clonmel, Waterford
7	—	
8	2	Coleraine, Newry
9	—	
10	1	Belfast

TABLE 2:
POPULARITY OF TYPES.

Type #	Used by # towns
26	80
14	40
1	19
16	14
5	5
10	4
8	2
12	2
13	2
15	2
18	2
20	2
21	2
32	2

All other types used in one town only.

Total number of towns using PAID mark of some sort: 136.

Paid marks can be divided into two basic groups: those that use the town name in the handstamp, and those that do not use the town name in the handstamp. Of the mute (unnamed) group, the most popular style of marking was an unframed straight line "POST PAID" in serified capitals (Type 14). The earliest usage of this type of mark was Limerick in 1804 (Figure 4).



Figure 4: June 16, 1804 entire to Ayr in Scotland from Limerick. Circular mark is a later Dublin style. Note split rate. (red)

They ranged in size from 53 x 5 (mm) at Dungarvan down to 35 x 3.5 (mm) used at Newtownmountkennedy. One Type 14

has been noted for which the town of origin cannot be determined. Its dimensions do not match any previously recorded. It appears on a wrapper that is part of the "Masonic correspondence" addressed to "John Foweller, Esq." in Dublin. There is a pencil notation on the cover of "Loughbrickland or Tanderagee". Generally the pencil notations on this correspondence can be accepted as accurate and might have been in this case, except the cover is rated "7" and in 1827, the date of this wrapper, the rate for either of the noted towns would have been 8d. It appears in the master listing as "unknown".

The "town name" group includes the most widely used (by far) style of paid mark: a rectangular boxed "PAID AT/..." in two lines of serified capitals (Type 26). Size, in the case of Type 26, is mostly dependent on the length of the town name. Interestingly, this style of mark did not appear until 1834. By 1851, when paid marks became obsolete, eighty towns were using Type 26. In fact, thirty-five towns had introduced it by 1836, more than the number that put it into use after UPP (thirty-two). Perhaps this style was encouraged; possibly by a manufacturer? Even so, the decision on style of handstamp remained the responsibility of the local postmaster. A typical Type 26 mark on a letter to an atypical destination, Calcutta, is shown in Figure 5. Eleven towns used both Type 14 and Type 26 but no other type.



Figure 5: 1837 letter from Limerick to Calcutta showing very popular Type 26, PAID AT/LIMERICK. "Tombstone" PAID was applied in London.. (black)

In the mute group, rectangular frames are also found. Type 6, used at Belfast, is a boxed "P. PAID", and Type 17, used at Newtownards (Figure 6), is boxed "POST PAID", both in serified capitals. Still within the same group, basic frame types, besides the rectangle, were circles or "scrolls". Figure 7 illustrates a circular framed mark for Stewartstown, which is both a new town entry and a new type (Type 11A). Ballymoney used two scroll types in addition to Type 26. These are shown in Figure 8; the fancier "double tailed" one is a new type (Type 23A). In general, the fancier types seemed to be used in the earlier period when the volume of mail to be stamped was quite low, thus reducing the problem of the handstamp wearing out. One for which this was not true is Type 30, a "PAID at DUNGAN-NON" used from 1835 to 1843. It has an elaborate looped-line frame and two decorative marks beside the "at", see Figure 9.

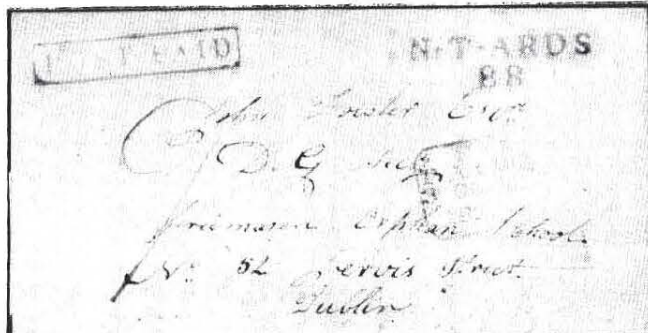


Figure 6: 1827 letter wrapper from Newtownards to Dublin, showing Type 17, used only in Newtownards from 1827-43. (red)

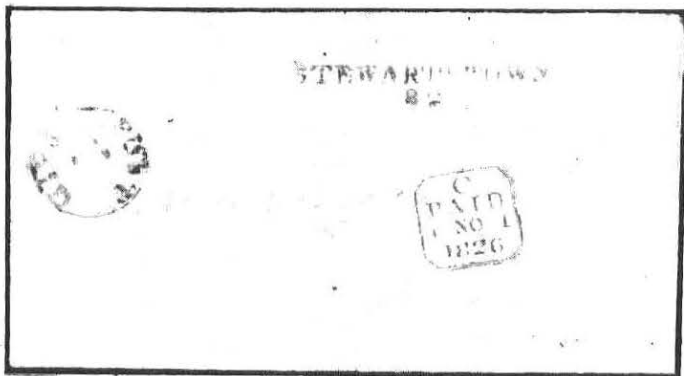


Figure 7: 1826 letter to Dublin with new circular type 11A of Stewartstown. Ink is a muddy green/black.

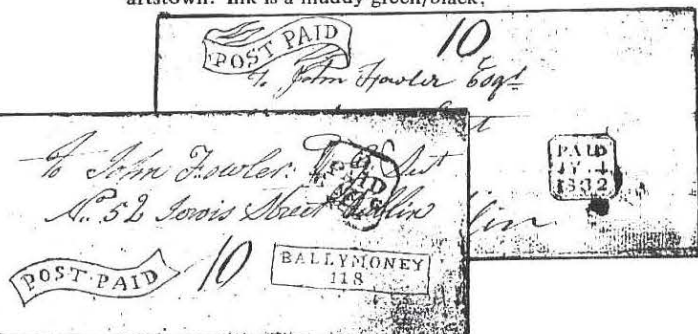


Figure 8: Two covers from Ballymoney to Dublin. Top cover dated Jy 4 1832 with fancy double tailed scroll Type 23A. 1828 wrapper on bottom shows scroll Type 21. (both red)



Figure 9: Fancy framed PAID/at/DUNGANNON, Type 30, used 1835 to 1843. (black)

Of the seven new types noted since the 1966 list was created, none are significantly different from existing types. Type 20A may be an incomplete mark, but it is described as seen in the only recorded copy. Figures 10 through 12 show new types 7A, 15A, and 22A.

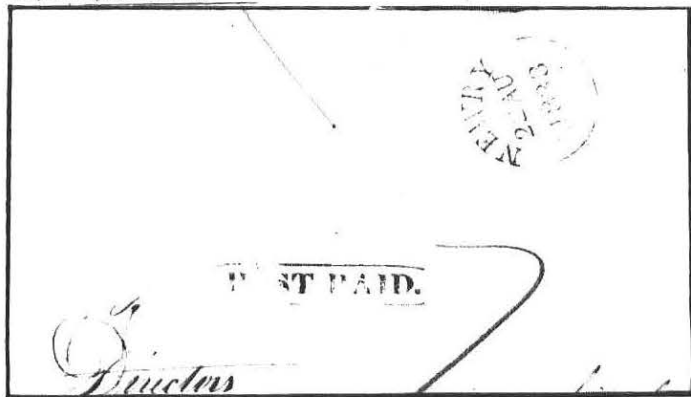


Figure 10: Piece showing Newry CDS, Dublin small octagonal PAID (faint) and Type 7A. (black)

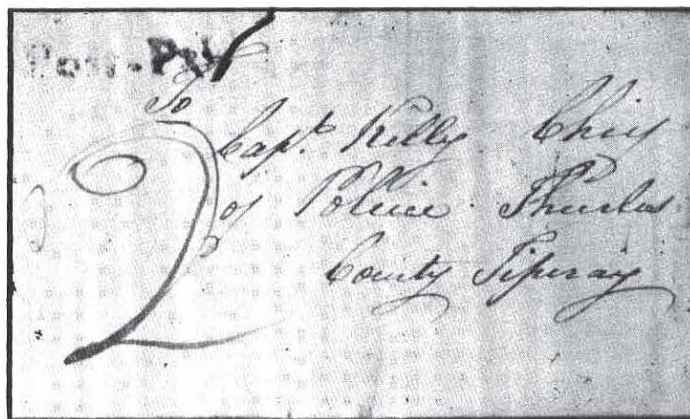


Figure 11: 1833 letter from Templemore to "County Tipperary" with Type 15A, Post Paid. (black)

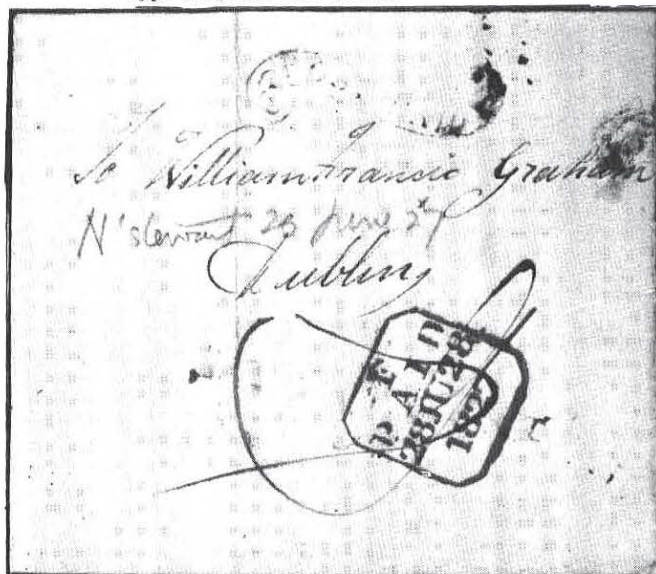


Figure 12: 1827 letter wrapper from Newtownstewart to Dublin with Type 22A scroll -POST PAID-. (blue)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Several fellow collectors have most kindly reviewed drafts of the new master list and provided significant input. I would like to thank Brian Wallas, Fred Dixon, Bill Kane, and Malcolm O'Reilly for their time, patience, and cooperation with my efforts.

The Master List will appear in the next issue of **The Revealer**.

NOTE: on dimensions of scrolls a box method of measurement, see Figure 13, has been used by this author. Not all the scroll dimensions have been personally verified; the table is annotated with a "V" where it has been done. Changes in dimensions for the scroll framed marks from those used in the 1966 list are a result of using this method.



Figure 13: Type 22A

TYPES

Feldman/Kane nos. in parthesis-drawings not to scale.

PAID

1 (285)

PAID

2 (293)

PAID

3 (300)

P. Paid

4 (290)

P. PAID

5 (280)

P. PAID

6 (296)

P::PAID

7 (297)

POST PAID.

7A

P. PAID ~

8 (298)

PAID

9 (295)

POST
PAID

10 (283)

POST
PAID

11 (299)

POST
PAID

11A

POST
*
PAID

12 (301)

POST PAID

Irish

British

13 (291)

POST PAID

14 (282)

Post Paid

15 (302)

Post - Paid

15A

POST • PAID

16 (284)

POST PAID

17 (304)

POST PAID

18 (286)

POST - P^d

19 (292)

POST PAID

20 (281)

POST PAID

20A

POST • PAID

21 (287?)

POST • PAID

21A

POST PAID

22 (309)

~ POST PAID ~

22A

POST PAID

23 (394)

POST PAID

23A

BELFAST
PAID

24 (311)

P. D
C • RAINE

25 (312)

PAID AT
ARKLOW

26 (288)

PAID AT
KELLS

27 (313)

PAID AT
WATERFORD

28 (310)

PAID
— AT —
BELFAST

29 (303)

PAID
226
DUNGANNON

30 (307)

PAID
AT
CORK

31 (305)

POST PAID
AT CARLOW

32 (289)

*Paid at
Enniskillen*

33 (308)

PAID
"((az))"
OMAGH

34 (306)

RANGE OF USAGE

Type	Description	Types/ towns	Date ranges	Remarks
1	PAID,SL,SC,UF	23/19	1801	Belfast
2	PAID,A,SC,ScF	1	1816-47 1818-31	2: 1840+ Coleraine
3	PAID,A,SC,UF	1	1832	Letterkenny
4	P. Paid,SL,SCL,UF	1	1788-99	Belfast
5	P.PAID,SL,SC,UF	5	1797-99 1815-50	Belfast
6	P.PAID,SL,SC,RF	1	1824-32	Belfast
7	P.PAID,SL,SC,D,SpF, lines over and under	1	1826-33	Maryborough
7A	POST PAID.,SL,SC,SpF, lines over and under	1	1833	Newry
8	P.PAID,SL,SC,D,UF, followed by fancy dash	2	1826-44	Antrim, Castledawson
9	PAID,SL,SC,CF	1	1822-39	Rathangan
10	POST/PAID,SL,SC,CF	6/5	1800-33	
11	POST/PAID,A,SC,D,CF	1	1826-24	Dunleer
11A	POST/PAID,A,SC,CF, two vertical dots in center	1	1826	Stewartstown
12	POST/PAID,A,SC,CF, center *	2	1828-35	Tullamore Stewartstown
13	POST PAID/Irish.../British...,SL,SCL,UF	2	1804-6 1820	Belfast Waterford
14	POST PAID,SL,SC,UF	43/40	1804 1822-49	Limerick 2: 1840+
15	Post Paid,SL,IL,UF	2	1812-20 1832-36	Waterford Templemore
15A	Post Paid,SL,SCL,D,UF	1	1833	Templemore
16	POST PAID,SL,SC,D,UF	18/14	1816-41	4 used at Clonmel
17	POST PAID,SL,SC,RF	1	1827-43	Newtownards
18	POST PAID,A,SC,UF	2	1824-26 1834-45	Wexford Portaferry
19	POST-PD,Ars,SC,UF	1	1813-16	Ross
20	POST PAID,As,SC,ScF	2	1802-23 1835-38	Belfast Strabane
20A	POST PAID,Ars?,SC,Spf, lower frame line only	1	1809	Newry, complete?

Type	Description	Types/ towns	Date ranges	Remarks
21	POST·PAID,Ars,SC̄,D,ScF	2	1822-40	1825 Lismore may not be framed
21A	POST·PAID,Ars,SC,D,SpF,double line top and bottom	1	1840	Ashbourne
22	POST PAID,Ars,SC,SctF	1	1827-33	Enniskillen
22A	POST PAID,Ars,SC,SctF, with dashes	1	1826-31	Newtownstewart
23	POST PAID,As,SC,SctF, with dashes	1	1821-25	Newry
23A	POST PAID,As,SC,SctF, double tail	1	1832-33	Ballymoney
24	BELFAST/PAID,A/SL,SC,SpF, double arc	1	1838-43	Belfast
25	P. D/C·RAINE,SL,SC,D,UF	1	1845-48	Coleraine
26	PAID AT/...,SL,SC,RF	88/80	1834-51	34: 1840+
27	PAID AT/KELLS,SL,SC,SpF, diamond shaped	1	1846-50	Kells
28	PAID AT/WATERFORD,SL,SC,UF	1	1839-40	Waterford
29	PAID/-at-/BELFAST,SL,SCl,SpF, octagonal	1	1832-46	Belfast
30	PAID/at/DUNGANNON,SL/A,SCl,SpF,looped line, rect.	1	1835-43	Dungannon
31	PAID/AT/CORK,SL,SC,RF (square)	1	1833-40	Cork
32	POST PAID/AT...,SL,SC,RF	2	1834-41	Carlow, Tralee
33	Paid at/Enniskillen,SL,Il,SpF, oval	1	1835-43	Enniskillen
34	PAID/at/OMAGH,SL,SCl,SpF,dashed line, octagonal	1	1833-45	Omagh

Letters

SC - serified capitals
 SCl - serified letters, capitals and lower case
 Il - Italic, capital and lower case
 D - dot between letters

Shapes (a / indicates multiple lines)

SL - straight line
 A - simple arc
 As - "S" arc
 Ars- reverse "S" arc

Frames

RF - rectangular frame
 ScF - scroll frame
 SctF - scroll frame, with "tails"
 CF - circular frame
 SpF - special frame, description
 UF - unframed

RECENT ISSUES



EUROPA 1983

On 4 May, 1983 the Irish Post Office issued its 23rd annual Europa set, the theme "Great Works of the Human Genius." There were two denominations and designs.

The 26p (2,000,000) features a drawing by Louis le Brocquy of neolithic patterns which are incised on stone at Newgrange. Layout and graphics were by Peter Wilbur.

The 29p (1,000,000), designed by Peter Wildbur, depicts the key formulae involved in the multiplication of quaternions as recorded in his pocket book by Sir William Rowen Hamilton.

NEWGRANGE – WINTER SOLSTICE

The National Monument of Newgrange is one of the finest surviving examples of the type of pre-historic burial tomb known as a passage grave. The tomb, which dates from around 3,000 B.C. consists of a huge man-made mound with a narrow passage of orthostats leading to an inner cruciform chamber. The monument boasts of many richly decorated stones, the most famous of which is located at the entrance of the tomb. An interesting feature of Newgrange is the roof-box, or opening, located above the entrance. This structure is constructed so that for a few minutes at dawn during the Winter Solstice (21 December - the shortest day of the year) the rays of the rising sun penetrate along the passage to spectacularly illuminate the burial chamber deep inside the mound.

In his description of the stamp design the artist, Louis le Brocquy, states "The design embodies one of several drawings I made just forty years ago at the megalithic 'passage grave' at Newgrange, then little known and structurally intact. In these free drawings I remember trying to retrace, to rediscover some hint of the autonomous logic of these neolithic patterns incised on stone, within which our pre-Celtic ancestors some four or five thousand years ago incorporated their mysteriously related understanding of the sun and of the elements of life."

Newgrange is maintained by the National Parks and Monuments Branch of the Office of Public Works.

QUATERNIONS DISCOVERY BY HAMILTON 1843

William Rowan Hamilton (1805-1865), mathematician and physicist was one of the outstanding scientists of his time. Born in Dublin, he attended his uncle's school in Trim, Co. Meath, where he displayed a precocious talent in languages and the classics. But by the time he entered Trinity College, Dublin in 1823, he had discovered his vocation in mathematics. His extraordinary gifts were recognized, and at the improbable young age of 21 he was appointed Astronomer Royal of Ireland, the post he would hold for the rest of his life.

Hamilton's earliest work was in optics, and he achieved international recognition for his prediction of the phenomenon known as Conical Refraction, subsequently observed by his Trinity colleague Humphrey Lloyd. This led to a Knighthood in 1835. He then switched to dynamics and developed a theoretical approach which is an essential basis for modern theoretical physics.

From the mid-1830s onwards Hamilton's efforts were focused on algebraic problems. In particular he sought to generalize the concept of complex numbers. These may be represented by pairs of real numbers and the aim was to extend this idea to triplets. The great difficulty was to define a multiplication law for such triplets. Hamilton grappled with this for many years and the solution eventually came to him as he was walking into

town to attend a meeting of the Royal Irish Academy. In his own words, "I then and there felt the galvanic circuit of thought close; and the sparks which fell from it were the fundamental equations between i, j, k; ... I felt a problem to have been at that moment solved - an intellectual want relieved - which had haunted me for at least fifteen years before". Hamilton straight-away recorded these equations, which give the multiplication law for his so-called quaternions, in his pocket book. "Nor could I resist", he wrote the impulse - unphilosophical as it may have been - to cut with a knife on a stone of Brougham Bridge, as we passed it, the fundamental formula."

The issue was printed in lithography by Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd. and perforated 14 x 15.



FAUNA AND FLORA 1983

On 23 June 1983 the Irish Post Office issued the sixth set in this series devoted to dogs associated with Ireland. There were four denominations and five designs, 22p (2,000,000) Brocaire gorm, 26p + 26p (1,000,000 + 1,000,000) Cu faoil + Spinnin' uisce, 29p (500,000) Madra gearr, and 44p (500,000) Sotair. A miniature sheet containing one of each stamp was issued (not to exceed 500,000).

THE KERRY BLUE TERRIER – Brocaire gorm

For generations the Kerry Blue Terrier was bred as a fighting dog and enjoyed immense popularity in his native Kerry. Generally born black he should have his true blue colour by eighteen months of age. Today he is one of the most popular Show terriers around the world. The characteristics of the Kerry Blue are a soft distinctive blue coloured coat, an average height of eighteen inches and an average weight of thirty five pounds.

THE IRISH WOLFHOUND – Cu Faoil

The Irish Wolfhound is the king of the canine world. A sight hound, his great size was developed to hunt the elk in ancient Ireland. Widely sought by Kings and rulers the world over, the export of the Irish Wolfhound was forbidden in the seventeenth century. The hound is coloured grey, black, wheaten, white and red. Other characteristics are an average height of thirty four inches and an average weight of one hundred and fifty pounds.

(Continued on page 16)

IRISH FORCES IN THE UNITED NATIONS

by Stephen F. Cohen

Co-Chairman, UN Philatelists Military Mail Study Group
Military Editor, Gaines U.N. Catalog

The United Nations (UN) provides a means for member nations to settle disputes. The UN establishes a Truce Supervisory Organization as Headquarters to handle the dispute. This group sends out UN Military Observers (UNMOs) to oversee the truce, pending arrival of UN Police Forces. Once UN Police Forces reach the area the UNMOs are attached to the Police Forces. Ireland has furnished troops to both Observer Groups and Police Forces. Since this is the 25th Anniversary of Irish Involvement I'll detail the information available on that involvement.

UNITED NATION MILITARY OBSERVERS (UNMO)

UNMO missions are formed after a flair up between two countries along international borders or between two groups within a country. The countries involved, if members of the UN, approach the UN Security Council, which handles peacekeeping matters, with the purpose of telling their sides of the dispute in the hope that a peaceful solution can be found. The Security Council works out a truce formula and a truce supervisory force is formed and UNMOs assigned. This force is small in numbers, all Officers, a few from each of several contributing countries. These Officers bear no arms and have no set length of service, although most Officers serve for a year. They are detached from their own countries' service and assigned to the UN. Their duty is to supervise the truce which the Security Council negotiated with a secondary function, to handle internal affairs when need be and when requested by a host country.

IRELAND'S PARTICIPATION IN UNMO

Ireland was admitted to the UN on 14 December 1955 and only two and a quarter years later, July 1958, provided personnel for the UN Observer Group in Lebanon (UNOGIL) . . . fifty officers with the rank of Captain or above. They became part of a 500 man group which served for six months. Their duties were to cool the relations between Christians and Moslems and to . . . "Allow the country (Lebanon) to revert to its normal way of life". (1)

The Irish contingent was headquartered in the Riviera Hotel in Beirut. Personal mail from and to them was through the Lebanese Post Office in Beirut. Ireland had no Field Post Office nor was there a UN Base Post Office in Lebanon. Official mail was handled through the UN Truce Supervisory Organization (UNTSO) stationed at Government House, in Jerusalem, Israel. At UNTSO stamps were added onto the mail going to Ireland or other countries, mail to the UN needed no stamps. Postage was paid by the UN. The mail was then taken by diplomatic pouch to N.Y. where it was placed in the U.S. mails for delivery. Official mail to the Irish contingent went by courier to Jerusalem.

To date I have seen no mail from the Irish Force members of UNOGIL, although some must exist. A UN aerogram for UNOGIL member use was printed locally (10,000 copies). Very few seem to have been saved. Those known are all from Canadian forces. They are blue and the return address includes the word UNOGIL and are very rare, commanding a good price if found.

The second UNMO with Irish participation was UN Truce Supervisory Organization (UNTSO). They sent observers to this group in December 1958. UNTSO has been in force from the birth of Israel in 1948 and is still in place today. This mission supervises the boundaries between Israel and her Arab neighbors.

Personal mail was sent through the local post office and official mail through the pouch. At times, when attached to a large UN Police Force, the base post office was used. For example, Irish UNTSO forces since 1978, are attached to UNIFIL in Lebanon and use the UNIFIL base post office. This will be covered under "UN Police Forces."

The third UNMO mission for Ireland was in August 1962 when two officers were sent to New Guinea to what was later called the UN Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA). Capt. G. M. Kelly, from County Cork and Comdt. J. Crowe were sent from the UN Police Force (ONUC) in the Congo (to be covered later). To quote Capt. Kelly:

"Our job was to supervise the initial stage of a (truce) agreement which had been reached between the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and the Republic of Indonesia (which had opposing forces there) . . . it was agreed that the hostilities should cease on 10 August and the administration of the territory of West New Guinea (a series of Islands in the West Pacific) was to be transferred to UNTEA. In May 1962 it was transferred to Indonesia." (1)

As you can see they were in operation a very short time. Comdt. Crowe was in charge of the communications centre on Biak (later HQ of UNTEA) and Capt. Kelly was PSO (?) to the Chief Observer-OP (Observer Post) Hollandia, capitol of New Guinea.

Both sent mail through the local postal system using New Guinea stamps before they were overprinted UNTEA. I have seen a photograph of a cover with "Capt. Kelly - UNMO, New Guinea" as a corner card but have never seen a cover.

The fourth UNMO mission was in September 1965, to the UN India-Pakistan Observation Group Mission (UNIPOM). This lasted for a short time, until March 1966. The mission was to patrol 1,000 miles of border between Kashmir and Pakistan.

Mail could be sent through the local post of both India and Pakistan but the facilities were seldom used because the mail was censored. The UN pouch could be used as well as the Field Post Office of the Canadian contingent. How the Irish mail was sent is unknown since no Irish covers have been found.



UNIPOM envelope corner card; 1966.

Shown above is a corner of a specially printed piece of stationery for this mission. If they were used locally, India or Pakistan, stamps would have to be added. Covers with this UNIPOM corner card are about twice the price of a cover with handwritten return address.

This completes the listing of UNMO missions in which Ireland participated. I'll cover the United Nations Police Forces in another issue of **The Revealer**.

Covers from all these units are scarce. Up until 1967, members of UNTSO, if married, could bring their families with them which would lessen their reasons for writing home, this might account for some of the scarcity. I would like to hear from anyone who has any of these covers or can add to the information. Contact me through the editor.

Reference:

(1) *The Irish Defense Journal, an Cosantoir*, Vol. XXX No. 9, September 1970.

IRISH BOOKLETS, HOW PRINTED

A Second Interim Report

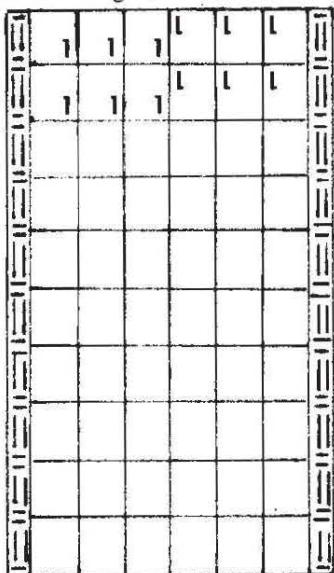
by: John J. Blessington

In the November 1958 *Revealer* (Vol. IX No. 2, pp 388-89) the late Perry Adams wrote an article headed with the above title . . . his sub-title was "A Supplementary Ad Interim Report." In the intervening twenty five years nothing has been written to add to or detract from that report. In recent years enough new information has come to light to warrant another interim report reviewing the position taken in that article.

WHAT WAS ASSUMED THEN

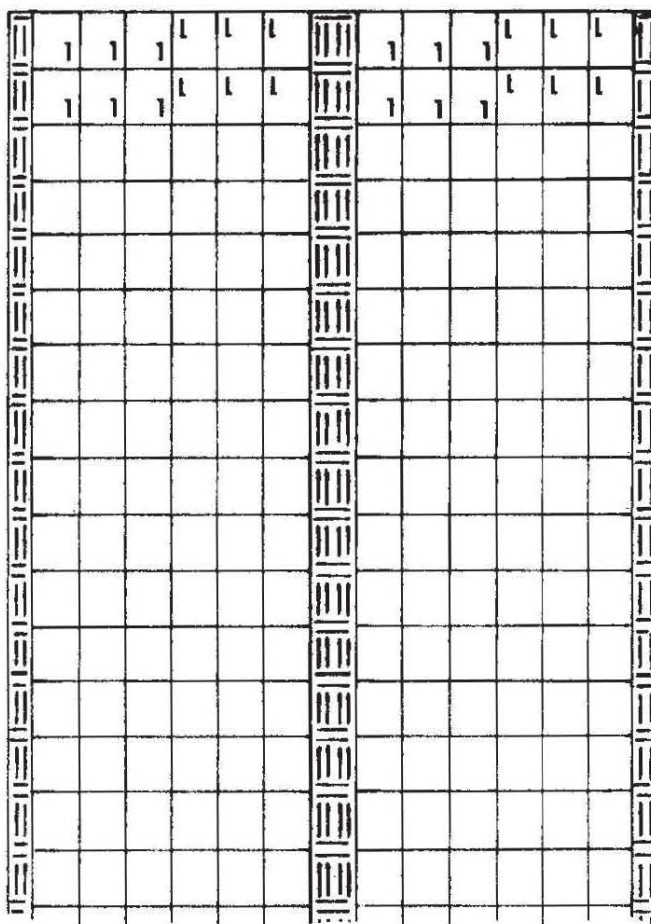
It must be understood that absolutely no official information was available to Adams in 1958. In his article he stated; "The Department of Posts & Telegraphs in Dublin explained that not they, but the Revenue Commissioners, were responsible for the preparation and printing of all stamp booklets. Questioned, the Commissioners maintained a discreet silence."

Some time in 1957, EPA member Malcolm G. O'Reilly furnished Adams with a diagram that he had acquired some ten years earlier, believed to represent Irish booklet sheet layout. The diagram was composed of 60 stamp images, 6 across by 10 down. The left half had the stamp images upright with binding margin to the left. The right half had the stamp images inverted, the binding margins to the right.



Adams believed this was the key he was looking for. His reasoning was that the Irish Post Office, because of long association with its British counterpart, would have been influenced, inevitably, by the British methods of producing stamp booklets. Thus, if he could prove that the diagram followed the British pattern, it might be reasonably fair to assume that this Irish diagram was substantially correct. Adams submitted the diagram to a well known philatelist, a member of the Royal Philatelic Society, London. This gentleman, although disclaiming any knowledge of Irish booklets, was able to confirm that the diagram was, basically, a counterpart of a quarter sheet of British design. Unlike Irish collectors British collectors knew what their booklet pane sheets looked like. Through a mix-up, a quantity of full sheets of the George V 1½d red brown booklet pane (Sc #189-SG 420) had been sold as regular sheets at Post Offices.

On the strength of this, and with the support of other Irish specialists, Adams accepted this layout as the likely layout of Irish booklet pane sheets. In November 1976 *The Revealer Supplement No. 24* entitled "Stamp Booklets" was issued in which appeared a drawing of the assumed layout showing a sheet of 240 stamps, 12 x 20.



WHAT HAS BEEN LEARNED SINCE

In the Fall 1971 *Revealer* (Vol XXII No 1 Pg 792) an article was written giving the quantities printed of Irish booklets from the first through serial no. 38-56. This information was furnished by Fred J. Gomme (since deceased) which he had extracted, with permission, from "British Empire - Postage Stamp Booklets", 2d edition, edited and published by H. R. Work, October 1959. Work attributed the source of his information as the Irish Department of Posts and Telegraphs. Although this adds nothing to our knowledge of the pane sheet layout it does tell us that the Post Office did have information available in the 1958-59 period. It is just that they were willing to furnish it to Work but not to Adams.

In the April 1975 *Revealer* (Vol. XXIV No. 4 pp1001-02) Padraig O Mathuna reported his famous find of the "booklet coils", the typographed 3d of 1969. In 1970 he had found a 3d coil strip with 14 stamps from the join to the end tab. Since the normal vertical coil made from sheet stamps is 10 stamps between joins he realized he had something special. His subsequent research proved that there were 22 stamps between joins, except the end strip of 14, and that the coils must have been produced from sheets made for booklet panes. The interest in the discovery of the coils caused the import of the 22 stamps between joins to be overlooked. Padraig's find meant that the sheet must have been 12 x 22, or 264 stamps. The first evidence to refute the earlier assumption of a 240 stamp sheet had surfaced. At least this one issue, the 3d typographed of 1969, had been printed in a 264 stamp sheet.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COMMENTS ON REVEALER No. 149.

1. I'm sorry to see the misspelling of Grattan on p. 36 and p. 43.
2. Addenda to R. J. Swords article pp 44-46:
 - TYPE BD latest July 1924
 - TYPE ID latest Oct. 1924, but a 1945 usage also, with the OFFICIAL PAID circle deleted by two rows of typed Xs.
 - TYPE III dates 1947 to 1963
 - Circular datestamps
 - TYPE I Earliest Dec. 1922. All numbers used up to 10.
 - TYPE II (not reserved for registered mail) Earliest 1950. Latest 1959. All numbers 1 to 7
 - TYPE III Number 1 also seen.
 - TYPE IV Although used on official mail both these are intended & VI for ordinary items prepaid in cash.

DUBLIN, IRELAND

FRED E. DIXON



RECENT ISSUES (continued)

THE IRISH WATER SPANIEL — Spainnear uisce

A unique canine breed, the Irish Water Spaniel was bred and developed as a retrieving gundog. A writer in 1600 described the breed as "dogs that hunt by scent, water dogs that pursue water-fowl". The appearance of the Irish Water Spaniel is unusual; he has tight ringlets of puce liver, waterproof coat, smooth face, topknot and "rat-tail". Other characteristics are an average height of twenty two inches and an average weight of seventy pounds.

THE IRISH TERRIER — Madra gearr

Bred originally for his gameness and working qualities, the Irish Terrier is instinctively a vermin killer. Formerly known as "The Red Terrier" he has been described as "the poor man's sentinel, the farmer's friend and the gentleman's favorite". The characteristics of the Irish Terrier are a hard wiry coat, an average height of eighteen inches and an average weight of twenty-six pounds.

DUBLIN NEWSLETTER (continued)

So far, collectors here are unaware of the cause and the reason for this perforation change. It is my understanding that the Philatelic Service were unaware of this perforation change, until they were told so by a collector. Brian Warren and I suspect the installation of new perforation equipment and believe that the A and B sheets are perforated together and subsequently guillotined into post office sheets. I have heard an unconfirmed report that this new perforation style has been found on some sheets of the 26p value and will not be surprised if this report is correct. The crunch question that collectors will ask is will there be a scarcity of either perforation type. I am not able to answer this question with certainty, but instinctively, I feel that the new perforation style is here to stay, hence corner blocks of the earlier Grover style will be in demand. Collectors who intend to follow this new definitive series in detail are strongly advised to get all four corner blocks of A and B sheets in each perforation style as soon as possible. If the face value of such an undertaking sounds expensive, consider what the market value of a complete collection of these definitives will be in 1993 or 2003. Apart from cost and the possible capital appreciation, it is the sense of achievement which is the primary motivating factor.

Brian Warren has chided me for being rather vague in the Winter issue when describing the 18p dog design "on white paper" as it is referred to here by collectors. On re-reading what I wrote, I find that Brian is perfectly correct as I did not make it clear that when viewed from the back the gum is brilliant white as opposed to the blue-green/off white colour of the earlier litho definitive releases. When viewed from the front it should be emphasized that the difference is marginal, but under a U V lamp, this white paper resembles O C P of the photogravure issues. This clarification does not take away from the main thrust of my comments — that corner blocks of the 18p "white paper" in perfect condition are very scarce. These blocks are so scarce that some dealers have paid as much as £10.50 for a plate block alone in recent times and considering that the stamps have a face value of just 75 pence this represents a 1100% gain in less than 18 months for somebody. Nice pickings in anybody's language.



THE IRISH SETTERS — Sotair

Ireland's most popular native breed, the Irish Red Setter and the Irish Red and White Setter, is one of the most efficient "Stop Dogs" in the gundog breeds. It is generally thought that they evolved from varieties of Spaniels and that the "Red-and-White" were the forerunners of the "Red", judicious breeding being used to breed out white. However, some are of the opinion that they both existed. Characteristics of the breed are a colour as in a freshly opened chestnut, an average height of twenty-six inches and an average weight of sixty-five pounds.

The following items may be ordered from Edward J. Ryan, 4A Churchwood, 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 identifying the overprints. Prices \$3.50 to members, \$5.50 to non-members. Postpaid. Invaluable!

CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF DUBLIN C. 1840-1922 — Soft cover booklet by William Kane. A most informative and detailed publication for the collector of this phase of Irish Philately. A must! Limited quantity. \$3.00 postpaid to members. Overseas please add 50¢ for air mail.

"BRITISH STAMPS OVERPRINTED BY THE IRISH REPUBLICAN PHILATELIC OFFICE" by Joseph E. Foley. This intriguing monograph details and illustrates the unauthorized overprinting of British stamps by the Irish Republican Philatelic Office for propaganda purposes in Northern Ireland. Plasti-Sheen cover. Limited quantity. \$1.75 postpaid.

THE ADHESIVE REVENUE STAMPS OF IRELAND: 1858-1925 — James J. Brady's detailed study of Irish Revenue Stamps... A must for the Auction. \$2.25 to members \$2.50 to non-members.

E.P.A. RUBBER STAMP — The official seal of the E.P.A. has been reproduced into a rubber stamp. Identify yourself as an E.P.A. member when corresponding. \$4.50. ppd.