

The Revealers

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE EIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION



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Whole No. 163

Summer 1986



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THE REVEALER

Whole No. 163

Summer 1986

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Secretary's Report

NEW MEMBERS

New members accepted subject to no objections received within a 45 day period after this publication.

- #2058 Raymond F. Daley, 4352 Walnut Bend, Jacksonville, FL 32217
- #2059 Gustaf E. Johnson, 69 Kingman St, Lakeville, MA 02347
- #2060 Vincent D. Williams, Box 1197, Sna Antonio, TX 78294
- #2061 Jack L. Trammell, Box 12667, Dallas, TX 75225
- #2062 Brian D. Meadows, Box 6403, APO New York 09633
- #2063 Ralph Mulkins, 537 Humble Drive, Columbia, SC 29223
- #2064 Raymond L. Buse, Jr., Box 709, Covington, KY 41012
- #2065 Virginia Hall, 3404 Exposition, Austin, TX 78703
- #2066 Frederick D. Schiffman, 2907 Morgan Ave. N, Minneapolis, MN 55411
- #2067 Roger K. Anderson, 2100 Colfax, Benton Harbor, MI 49022
- #2068 Joseph M. Curtis, 17472 Norton Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107
- #2069 Patrick J. Lawler, 7209 Idylwood Ct, Falls Church, VA 22043
- #2070 Edward O'Brien, 2667 Coffeytown Rd, Cottage Grove, WI 53527
- #2071 B. Bruce Wasz, 12560 Armada Pl, Woodbridge, VA 22192
- #2072 John R. Donahue, 21 Kitcher Ct, Trumbull, CT 06611
- #2073 David M. Carney, Box 1122, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
- #2074 V.J. Rerrucha, 902 Bexley Dr, Perrysburg, OH 43551
- #2075 Brian Gordon, Philatelic Marketing, R.2-232 GPO, Dublin, Ireland
- #2076 John Pedneault, 800 Blair St, Bohemia, NY 11716
- #2077 Marcus Orsi, CP81, 1213 Onex, Geneva, Switzerland
- #2078 Richard H. Boyle, 463 Connecticut S.E., Salem, OR 97301
- #2079 William Campbell Jr, 237-39 93rd Ave, Bellerose Ave, NY 11426
- #2080 Frank L. Byrne, 5800 Horning Rd, Kent, OH 44240
- #2081 Clancy Malloy, 6813 Harvest Ave, Woodedge, IL 60517
- #2082 Raymond L. Buse Jr, 2685 Grandin Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45208
- #2083 Edward T. Diaz, Box 786, Golden Meadow, LA 70357
- #2084 Arthur Zeff, 24 Clay Circle, Brick, NJ 08724
- #2085 Jean Marie Altman, 1742 W. 95th Pl, Chicago, IL 60643
- #2086 James J. Murphy, 1053 Valley Stream Dr, Wheeling, IL 60090
- #2087 Michael F. Heneghan, 4400 W. 87th St, Chicago, IL 69652
- #2088 James A. Mitchell, 11093 Firethorne Dr, Cupertino, CA 95014
- #2089 Denis J. Donohue, 43-12 56th St, Woodside, NY 11377
- #2090 Walter Bileski, 149 Helmsdale Ave, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2K 0V8, Canada
- #2091 Ralph King, 47 Humbert St, Meriden, CT 06450
- #2092 Garry Bermingham, 42, Stephens Rd, Inchicore, Dublin 8, Ireland
- #2093 John M. Kean, 805 Emerson, Madison, WI 53715
- #2094 Frances Rice, 1410 Terrace Dr. #107, Roseville, MN 55113
- #2095 Victor B. Drozd, Box 3925, Bryan, TX 77805
- #2096 Julia Constantine, 400 Washington St Apt D7, Middletown, CT 06457
- #2097 Lisa M. Banks, 13813 Briarwood Dr Apt 1333, Laurel, MD 20708
- #2098 Donal M. Walsh Jr, 3 Barnes Rd, Tarrytown, NY 10591
- #2099 Jane H. Ehemann, RD6, Box 314A, Shippenburg, PA 17257
- #2100 James R. Sullivan, 419 Burnt Mills Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20901
- #2101 Paul K. Martin, 1824 Harvard St N.W., Washington, DC 20009

RESIGNED

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 733 H.R. Chantler | 1788 Charles M. Lindsey |
| 1347 William J. Walsh, Jr. | 1807 Mary M. Thompson |
| 1513 Brian P. Cashman | 1862 Lois L. Corbin |
| 1566 Robert G. McConnell | 1875 Leslie Kirk Wright |
| 1571 Richard J. Fennessy | 1911 Jerry Bell |
| 1587 Wolfgang Grohn | 1928 John M. Sproule |
| 1640 Charles T. Mooney | 1972 John M. Bigley |
| 1705 Carl F. Troy | |

Dropped, non-payment of 1986 dues:

1424 Ahern, W.T.	1794 Hills, R.A.	576 O'Brien, R.J.
1902 Ball, B.	1948 Hoye, V.	1917 O'Reilly, J.J.
1894 Boeshaar, D.	1791 Jenkinson, J.J.	1560 O'Shea, B.
1771 Briggs, D.	1926 Jones, K.	1827 Petrone, G.
1361 Brosnan, J.	1918 Joy, J.N.	1733 Ramirez, H.
1160 Burke, E.	1547 King, J.N.	307 Reddin, T.F.
	1452 Klein, J.	1588 Richards, G.K.
1938 Byrd, J.	1760 Knox, C.B.	1296 Riggs, N.
1255 Casserly, M.	692 Kuist, C.	896 Robleske, L.M.
1955 Clark, B.	1017 Lawless, J.G.	1621 Rottenberg, S.N.
1934 Cohen, S.	1116 Malloy, P.W. Jr.	1575 Serilla, S.D.
678 Collins, F.	1561 Maloney III, J.D.	1541 Smith, J.
1598 Collins, J.W.	1904 Martinez, R.C.	1993 Sullivan, D.F.
1749 Cottay, E.M.	643 McBrien, J.	1922 Tilley, E.C.
1557 Cummings, P.	1826 McCaffrey, W.H.	1912 Toomay, R.H.
1671 Dowd, C.	1485 McDermott, J.H.	1957 Towery, J.E.
915 Dundon, J.B.	794 McLaughlin, J.E.	1954 Treacy, D.
1754 Dwyer, P.	1101 McMullen, M.L.	1944 Trenwith, W.J.
1780 Eddy, J.P.	1804 Mealy, F.	1920 Urko, W.
1908 Flynn, L.	1645 Mhurchu, D.M.	1772 Walker, K.
1913 Gardan, C.	1835 Mitchell, P.J.	1734 Walker, R.
1750 Gerard, K.	867 Molitor, H.	1650 Wartlieb, J.
477 Gillespie, A.R.	1643 Moore, W.C.	1846 Whelton, M.
1696 Goldberg, A.H.	782 Moran, J.J.	582 White, L.D.
1689 Goodwin, P.P.	1582 Mulholland, J.	1994 Woytowich, W.W.
1699 Gorn, M.H.	1294 Noonan, D.	1979 Zucchi, E.R.
1137 Hearn, J.F.	1584 O'Brien, I.P.	
1946 Hegarty, F.		

DECEASED:

834 James J. Meehan	1650 William J. Burns
852 William G. Bogg	1710 Edward A. Coyne, MD
1372 John M. Hill	

REINSTATED:

#571 Joseph S. Colello	#1075 Robert E. Dillon	#1183 Tom R. Laughery
#1267 John D. Melaniff	#1098 Lawrence E. Freeman	

Change of Address:

#1958 Dennis Brady, 724 Howard Rd., Ridgewood N.J. 07450-2004
#1352 Catherine T. Underdown, 3348 Newton St. Torrence, CA 90505-6612
#1090 Daniel C. Warren, c/o Chris Warren, 1305 Axcot Ln, Blacksburg VA 24060
#1600 Gerand P. Morgan, 4910 Ascot Lane #3, Madison WI 53711-1262
#1578 Karen Fraser, 1928 Leucadia Scenic Ct, Leucadia, CA 92024-1138
#1583 Carl L. Mickelson, Box 941 Durham, NC 27702-0941
#1835 Patrick J. Mitchell, 1609 Virginia Ave, Redwood City, CA 94061
#1863 Vincent Parisi, 2190 Broadbridge Ave, Stratford, CT 06497
#1913 Carsten Garden, 362 Sunset Rd, Schwenksville, PA 19473
#0868 John J. Kane, 1965 Cadillac, Pomona CA 91767

RECRUITING HONOR ROLL:

Dick McBride, Joe Foley, Gene Labiuk, Mike Giffney, Peter Bugg, Bill McCaw, Garvin Lohman, Pat Walker, Jim Lavelle, Dan Gillan, Bill Doe, Doug McCurdy, Bob Moskowitz, Bob Jones

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Membership as of March 31, 1986: 820

New Members	53
Reinstatements	7
Resignations	15
Deceased	5

Membership as of August 31, 1986: 778

President's Message

The philatelic event for 1986 in North America has come and gone. I must say, I was impressed. The people, exhibits and the dealers. Just amazing.

Irish philately was well represented, the Irish Post Office was present as well as Irish dealer MacDonnell Whyte. The E.P.A. had a booth and the first ever Annual Meeting. Six exhibits of Ireland were on display and each being superb.

I was rather suprised by the number of E.P.A. members who stopped by to chat, gossip, and offer assistance at the booth. E.P.A.'ers came from Ireland, from the Atlantic coast through to the Pacific coast of the U.S., from the south of Texas to the Canadians in the north. We had approximately 70 members sign in at the booth and nearly 40 in attendance at our Annual General Meeting. Twenty-two new members signed up with five renewals. All this taking place with the absence of a Revealer. It shows that Irish collecting is still strong and the interest is there.

I would like to thank those who gave up some of their time to attend the booth; Ester Labiuk, Bill and Peg Zellers, Jim Doheney, Phillip Tully, Tom Polick, Garvin Lohman, Gordon Hott, Pat Walker, Caroline Stilwell, Doug McCurdy, Bill McCaw, Ed Sullivan, Joe Foley and Jackie Adkins. If I forgot your name, kindly accept my apologies. With many people there it was hard to remember everyone. Jim Doheney was our liasion man in Chicago who did an outstanding job in organizing things for us.

A meeting of the Board of Directors also took place, with six of the thirteen Board members present.

A library is being started again and it will be a lending library. Jim LaVelle is the librarian and should have things ready to move very shortly. The library is made up with your dues money, so you might as well make use of it.

Also, discussion had taken place in regards to handbooks and more up-to-date slide programs. These things are now in the works and hopefully in the near future you'll be able to read one of our own published handbooks.

Jim Lawless has resigned as Vice Presiden, North America and will be replaced by Peter Bugg. I would like to thank Jim for his services rendered.

Tim O'Shea has resinged as Auction Manager and Joe Foley will be replacing him. I would like to thank Tim for the excellent job he has done for us. He will continue to run the next couple of auctions which he has started, any new material should be sent to Joe Foley. Joe is the original Auction Manager which started way back in ? . (Many years ago.)

DUBLIN NEWSLETTER by Eddie Fitzgerald

For many reasons I have been out of touch with philatelic happenings for quite some time and am now catching up on so many things that I missed out on, thanks to friends like Brian Warren, Tony Quigley and many others.

I had been putting together many pieces of Irish Philatelic History (as opposed to Postal History) in some form of chronological order, pieces gleaned from reliable sources, and I now feel that the time is ripe to pass on to readers of *The Revealer* what I have learned.

To digress shortly, I want to stress the relationship between "postage" and "revenue" in past times. Taxation on many matters of a Revenue nature was gathered by impressed stamping of legal documents to the sum required. When this country was under British jurisdiction there was but one Revenue Stamping Branch in Ireland which was located in the Customs House Dublin. But revenue matters of petty cost nature such as receipts for sales valued at £2 or over and also items such as insurance policies were handled by the use of stamps affixed (not impressed) to the documents and canceled by the signature of the person who wrote the receipt/policy. This is why the 6d stamp - essentially a revenue stamp - was printed with a fugitive ink on British stamps for many years and on Irish stamps up to 1968.

The staff of the Revenue Stamping Branch at various levels were recruited by the British Civil Service Commission following open competitive examinations - an impartial system. Where practical, the Commissioners tried to facilitate an appointee's preference to stay in his own part of the United Kingdom as then defined; hence there was a considerable Irish element in the Stamping Branch at the Customs House. One of the products of this recruitment system was a boy of 15 years who passed the Post Office entrance examinations and left his West Cork home in July 1906 to take up a position of Temporary Boy Clerk in the Post Office at West Kensington London. Fifteen years later this person would have a direct involvement in an incident at the Customs House of major historical proportions, which ended the days of the Stamping Branch within the Customs House. His name was Michael Collins.

This digression leads me to May 25th, 1921, when the Customs House was set on fire, or at least the records contained there, by forces of the Republic proclaimed by the vast majority of elected candidates following the General Elections of 1918. In the bitter armed strife that followed the declaration of the Irish Republic, Collins played a leading part and devised the policy of defeating the British Government by destroying all means of British Intelligence gathering and records - persons and paper as well as other policies.

In the Customs House was stored the Income Tax records for Ireland and other important Local Government and Revenue records. This single action is reckoned by many to have been the killer punch to British Government rule in what is now the Republic of Ireland. It also left the Stamping Branch without a home. Soon after this incident, soundings were taken on a possible Treaty and negotiations began which ended in the Irish Free State, i.e. the Provinces of Leinster, Munster and Connaught as well as three of the nine counties of Ulster - a total of twenty-six counties.

Meanwhile, the Revenue Stamping Branch moved upriver to the Four Courts with salvaged equipment. With the signing of the Anglo Irish Treaty, the Provisional Government asked many Civil Servants - experienced in administration - to form the nucleus of an Irish Civil Service. Many accepted, and thus was formed the Stamping Branch of the Irish Revenue Commissioners. As the Stamping Branch was the sector most experienced in Security, it was a logical decision that in due course the production of Postage Stamps and other security printing for various Government departments would be undertaken by the Stamping Branch. In an earlier Newsletter I described the help given by the British Government in teaching stamp printing techniques to Irish staff but I am getting ahead of myself, as they say.

The next part of the story is painful for me to think about as it concerns so many sincere Irish people who differed on the acceptance of the Treaty - the Pro-Treaty (I.F.S.) adherents and the Republicans. In a surprise move, Republicans occupied the Four Courts on April 14th, 1922 and proceeded to fortify the buildings. The Stamping Branch were evicted and had to find a new home, permanent or temporary, while the two sides faced one another awaiting the inevitable confrontation, which started on June 28th, 1922. Meanwhile the Stamping Branch had "set up shop" in the old Jurys Hotel, about 1 km away from the Four Courts. The outcome of the confrontation was inevitable, even before a shot was fired. The Free State had the field guns, the numbers and the organization.

What follows next reads like sheer melodrama but is true nevertheless. Can you imagine a situation with a battle taking place not so far away where pragmatic executives of the Stamping Branch sat down to decide on a permanent secure home for themselves and their operations when the firing had stopped? It was at this time and in these circumstances that the decision makers decided that Dublin Castle was the ideal place for safety and security. Dublin Castle is in fact a walled area, approximately half a square kilometer, containing many buildings; the building decided upon to house the Stamping Branch is right in the middle of the complex - considered the safest and most secure. To this day the Stamping Branch of the Revenue Commissioners are in these premises as they did move when the firing stopped.

I have much more to say about the early decades of the Stamping Branch in Dublin Castle; the obsession with security and a gem relating to their thinking about philatelists at that time, but I am running out of space.

I know that I started off these ramblings by saying that I have been out of touch. Not completely, as a choice "variety" was pointed out to me on the 28p B.+1. Ferry stamp. This "variety" takes the form of a large red "lifebelt" at the front of the Ferry. It is on R2/4 of the 1B sheets and is best collected in the two top rows of the 1B sheets - a total of ten stamps. This "variety" has appeared on very many of the 1B sheets, but not all. Strictly speaking, this is a "ring-flaw" peculiar to litho printings caused by

dust lodging on a litho plate for a while. By and large, I ignore ring-flaws, but this one is a very good example. Keep an eye out for this flaw in your mail or in kiloware. I am looking for a genuine postally used cover with this flaw but with no success so far. I live in hope.



AMERIPEX

By Pat Walker and Joe Foley

The exhibits of Ireland shown at AMERIPEX constituted what was probably the largest display of Irish material ever shown in an international philatelic exhibition. With a gold, three large vermeil, a vermeil and a silver, it was also the strongest showing.

Ed Sullivan received a Large Vermeil for his six frames of postal history. The first frame was a study of the Bishop Mark with the star item a 1675 letter from Londonderry to "Ballysboagh in ye Kings County". The second frame concentrated on the "Free" system; noteworthy were a superb oval "Above/ Number/ Privileged" and inspector's crown and a rectangle "Above Weight". The exhibit concluded with a showing of the Maltese Cross cancels, with repairs and recuts emphasized. Along the way one noted a beautiful copy of a newspaper stamp of the early 1800s and a script "Missent to/Dublin".

Pat Walker received a Gold for her eight frames of "Ireland: Postal History: 1661 to 1899". Noteworthy in the pre-stamp section were a 1661 manuscript "post paid to Dublin 4d", 1700 CASHEL town name, a "horseshoe" shaped RECHARGED/1 stamp on a 1746 entire, and two "Window Man" receipts. In the post 1840 section, what catches the eye is a superb 1852 cover from Drogheda to the USA paying the 6 times rate, franked with 7 of the brown embossed 10d (ex. Field). Also interesting are the "special" marks: a "Received Open/and Resealed at/ DERRY" stamp, accompanied with a red wax seal and the postmaster's initials(1893). The exhibit concludes with the scarce "MISSSENT/to/Hd & Kn PACKET" from 1861.

Cyril I. Dublin received a vermeil for an excellent showing of the overprints which were made all the more interesting through the use of color photographs (highly enlarged) of portions of the stamp noting varieties. Of particular interest were: two copies of the inverted overprint on the Thom 2d die I in blue black ink. The exhibit noted that in January 1926, at British Post Office insistence, the overprint plates were sent to London being from the London printing as was the 51 with diagonal notch in position R 3/3. An article on these London printings would be welcome in the Revealer.



A large vermeil went to James Maher, in addition to showing most of the overprint varieties in mint forms, Jim displayed some fine covers, including a number of first day markings, a 1d Dollard invert on piece, 2½d Saorstat with missing accent on cover, and Harrison overprints on cover. A very unusual item was the 1½d GB letter card with a five line overprint and an additional ½d adhesive. This is considered to be an essay and very few are recorded. The Wexford regums were shown on piece, as well as forgeries on cover, IRA censor markings and various combinations and improper use of overprinted stamps used outside of Ireland and on overprinted stamps within, some with postage due charged, others not.

Jean L. MacDonald had a very nice display of the overprints which earned a silver medal. The presentation was tastefully done. Included in her exhibit were many of the varieties. The more difficult high value Seahorses were well represented. Of particular interest was the Thom 2d die II black inverted overprint on cover. Some of the coils were shown in large strips noting the spacing of the past-up joins. The exhibit also included a circumflex accent on the 216 on cover.

Johan Rehnberg received a large vermeil for his exhibit which included some political labels that preceeded the overprints as well as the overprinted issues. A very interesting cover included a tete beche pair of Sinn Fein harp design on the obverse of a cover and tied to GB KE V11 stamps, used in the U.S. in 1908. A nice range of political labels were shown as well as early IRA censored mail. The exhibit included the important reentries on the high values, as well as overprint varieties and large multiples. The transition period was well represented with covers including pre and post boundry commission covers which could be the basis of a Revealer article in itself.

An unusual and interesting feature was a booklet prepared by the exhibitor explaining the display in greater detail and conveniently attached to the frame by a string.

All told there were 39 frames (624 pages) of excellent Irish material on display. Let's hope we have a good showing at CAPEX and it's not too early to be thinking about London in 1990.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY COVERS AN UPDATE

By William O'Connor

St. Patrick day covers have been an interest of mine ever since I acquired a set of John Clark's in the mid 1970's. The late John Blessington's article in the January 1979 issue has been a most useful guide for the collecting of this material. In addition, the comments by F.E. Dixon, Bill Stilwell, and Charles F. Bourke in the October issue of the same year increased my knowledge.

What follows is an attempt to update Blessington's list. Although this will still be far from complete, the listing might spark some interest to fill in the gaps:

Charles F. Bourke Cachets

Year	Description	Cancel
1935	Map of Ireland/Anniversary	Waterford
1936	Line drawing of St. Patrick	Waterford
1937	Line drawing of St. Patrick	Waterford
1938	Line drawing of St. Patrick	Waterford
1939	Line drawing of St. Patrick	Waterford
1946	Line drawing of St. Patrick	Dublin
1947	Line drawing of St. Patrick	Waterford
1948	Photo of De Valera	Waterford
1949	Line drawing of St. Patrick	Dublin
1950	Three Shamrocks on one stem	Waterford
1951	Photo of Blarney Castle	Dublin
1951	Photo of Blarney Castle	Waterford
1953	Large shamrock/scene in petals	Dublin

(All above cachets printed in green)

John J. Clark Cachets

1953	Blarney Castle	Blarney
1953	Lismore Castle	Lismore
1954	Lismore Castle	Lismore
1954	Ross Castle	Kilarny
1955	Kilkenny Castle	Kilkenny
1956	Ferrycarrig Castle	Wexford
1957	Donegal Castle	Donegal
1958	Rathmacknee Castle	Wexford
1959	Cahir Castle	Cahir
1960	Bunratty Castle	Bunratty
1961	Clara Castle	Clifden
1962	Donoghue Castle	StMargrets
1963	Derryhivenny Castle	Ballycrisane
1964	Trim Castle	Trim
1965	Ballinlough Castle	Cionmellon
1966	Birr Castle	Birr
1967	Dromoland Castle	Newmarket
1968	Dunsany Castle	Dunsany
1969	King John's Castle	Limerick
1970	Burt Castle	Donegal
1971	Kilkea Castle	Kildare

(All above cachets printed in two colors)

Franklin Mint

1974	Destruction of pagan idol	Calhan
1977	Founding of church	Monaghan
1978	Death of St. Patrick	Dundalk

Miscellaneous Cachets

1967	Harp and Shamrock (Special INTERPEX Flight)	Dublin
1974	St. Patrick and Shamrock Art Craft	Ardpatrick
1975	St. Patrick drives out snakes Art Craft	Cork
1976	St. Patrick/Legend of the Reek Art Craft	Clew Bay
1977	St. Patrick buried	Dublin
1977	Mission in Wicklow	Cil Mhanta
1977	Diocese at Armagh	Monaghan
1978	McNamara's Band	Tralle
**(above four by Fleetwood)		
1961	Views of Ireland	Shannon
	Similar to Bourke's	Airport
	1953 cover/sent by T. Rosenbrand	

Notes:

*Charles Bourke in his article indicated he resumed the St. Patrick day cards in 1947. It seems it must have been 1946. The cover I have is a little larger than the others but the design is the same as the previous issues and comes with the same unique hand writing.

**The Franklin Mint's issue of 1978 was its last. As mentioned by Mr. Dixon, these covers came with silver medals. As the 1977 and 1978 issues that I have were birthday gifts from my mother, I do not look at them with quite that same view as indicated by Mr. Dixon.

***The St. Patrick day post cards issued by the Irish postal service in 1984, 1985, and 1986 seem not to carry any official March 17 cancellation; the ones I have are cancelled at an earlier time. Has any one organized any special March 17 cancellations for these cards?

IRELAND

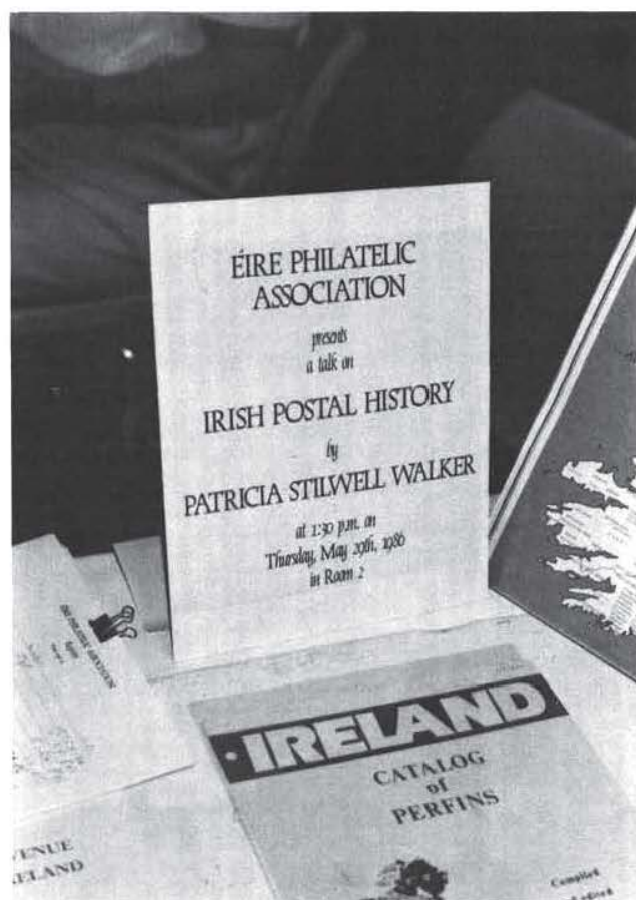
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EPA booth with Peg Zellers and Jim Doheny



EPA President, Gene Labiuk



Peg Zellers, Garvin Lohman, and
Mike Giffney



Frank Mcguire and Tom Current at
the Annual Meeting

GENERAL MEETING NOTICE EIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION General Meeting

To the Members of the Eire Philatelic Association:

A General Meeting of the Eire Philatelic Association will be held in conjunction with the CAPEX show to be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

The Meeting is scheduled for June 20, 1987 from 2-4 p.m.

The General Meeting will be an open session in which you may discuss Irish stamps, tell your philatelic stories, bring along your old items, meet fellow members, even talk and show off your new rare find.

Eugene M. Labiuk,
President

NOTE:

An error resulted in the printing of the dues renewal envelopes, in which the address of the Treasurer was deleted. Kindly send dues to:

Bill O'Connor
P.O. Box 271368
Escondido, California
U.S.A. 92029

OVERPRINT UPDATE By Dr. Max Harrow

In the Winter, 1984, Revealer, I pointed to a flaw noticed on the 10/10 position of the S over E variety of a Thom Saorstat printing which I suspected could be used as an identifying characteristic for the 10/10 position versus the 7/10 position. Verification was asked of the members. The flaw was a nick of varying size in the top left of the first 2 of date.

Michael Hogan pointed out that he had a single 10/10 position which did not have the flawed 2. He also apprised me that an earlier study indicated that the 7/10 position was identifiable by a slice out of the left side of the first E in Eireann. I have since seen approximately forty specimens (most from James Howley) of the S/E amount which were items not having a damaged E or 2.

Close inspection reveals another identifier, the second S in Saorstat. It is normal in the 10/10 position, while in the 7/10 position the lower left curve of the S is pointed and with a mere trace of a seriph at top. This has been previously recorded by Meredith. Thus the 7/10 position has the defective S, and usually, but not always, a sliced E. The 10/10 position has a normal S and, frequently but not always, a nicked 2.

We believe this will prove to be the definitive identifier of the two positions.

Random Notes by Fred Dixon

Label

There was an envelope sticker commemorating "Aer Lingus SERVING Ireland 50 years". The only example I have seen was on an envelope posted at the Aer Lingus stand in Dublin Horse Show August 5th-9th, bearing the 28p commemorative and cancelled by the RDS BALLSBRIDGE skeleton datestamp.

The charity GORTA has been using labels commemorating that it has now been active for 21 years, and incorporating its slogan "farming against famine".

Sinn Fein

I have received by post an envelope bearing, in place of a stamp, a round sticker, possibly a flag-day emblem inscribed "Sinn Fein Election Fund", and cancelled by a Dublin machine on 10th September. It contained a photocopy of a newspaper article about the prospects of a general election and of Sinn Fein's participation - but I've no idea who sent it, or why no postage was charged!

Slogan

Dun Laoghaire in September was advertising its 40th Bridge Congress.

Bianconi & Mulready Stamps

Something other than the well known aquatints should have been used for Bianconi, especially when one was used for 1979 Europa: there are plenty of engravings - even photographs - and a portrait should have been included.

The idea of the Mulready design was good, but some details are wrong. I don't believe an 1840 studio would have wall-to-wall carpet: the paper on the drawing board is too small and must have had pins to hold it in place.

"Maximum" Cards

Although so described in the publicity and on the address side of the postcards, they only become maximum cards when the stamp is added on the picture side and cancelled with a relevant cancellation. And the space for the stamp is on the address side!

Misinformation

There are several slips in the Bulletin announcing the stamps and cards. At the changeover of 1831, the only Irish PMG was Lord Rosse (with an e). It is infuriating to find it stated yet again that Trollope is credited with inventing the pillar-box. It is misleading to refer to Bianconi coaches: most of his vehicles were uncovered cars, as depicted on the stamps.

Registration Label

I was surprised to find a registered letter with the label reading "Sraid Mor an Cinn Thuaidh". That means North Main Street, and there are offices of that name in both Cork and Wexford. The cancellation establishes it as from Wexford.

Official Slogans

The Department of the Environment now has on its metermark the slogan "Wear your Seat Belt every time!".

Cut-Price Postcards

The postcards due to be offered in mid-July have been delayed by production difficulties.

Stamp Issues (8th July)

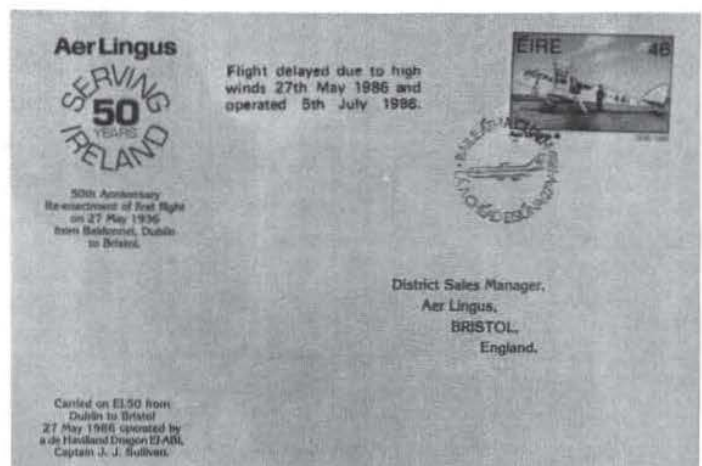
The B & I sesquicentennial issue is excellent and the lighthouses are reasonably well designed, but why not use the design to fill the area? The blank margins detract from the effectiveness. The B & I had a special postcard printed, with a view of the LEINSTER passing Howth Head, similar to that used for the 28p stamp but not identical. It was not publicised: I learned of it a month later.

Stamp Issues (21st AUGUST)

Far too many for one day, and poor designs. For the international year of peace it would have been better to use only the international device on a larger scale. The Trade Unions design is meaningless without the information that the standing figure is J. P. Nannetti, first President of the Dublin Trades Council. What is wrong with the "Women in Society" design is the title, what is commemorated is: Women in Engineering. To justify the title there should be depiction of several women - bus driver, police woman, soldier, and bank manager, as well as engineer. Arthur Griffith is long overdue for commemoration, but there should be more than a portrait: the background could have been a copy of "Sinn Fein".

Aer Lingus Commemorative Flight

The special covers were eventually flown on 5th July. A handstamp mentions the first delay due to high winds, but not the second caused by fog. A peculiar slip on the liner to the special envelope is referring to World War 11 instead of II!



Aer Lingus Press Office
Dublin Airport
28 July 1986



The "IOLAR" mails are handed over at Bristol by John Molloy of Aer Lingus (left) and Captain J.J. Sullivan who piloted the plane on its re-enactment of the first Aer Lingus flight.

"e" Watermark

It is generally accepted that in the stamps the change from "se" to "e" watermark occurred in 1940. A student of postal orders has reported finding a postal order issued in September 1939 with the "e" watermark.

Returned Letter

The datestamps and cachets of the Dublin Returned Letter Branch, Section or Office have been mostly in English. I have now seen a large rectangular handstamp using Irish and French reading:

OIFIG NA LEITREACHA FAIN, BUREAU DE REBUTS.
--

It is on an envelope of November 1960 from France, returned as undeliverable, the addressee having gone away. Was this Irish plus French version reserved for foreign mail?

Cancellations

A local letter, not registered, posted on 23 August was not delivered until 30th. The stamps were cancelled by the oval Dublin DEIMHNITHE handstamp no. 10. The explanation may lie in there being a strike in the Rathmines sorting office at the weekend.

Erratic Names

Enfield (Co Meath) was among the places to have its Irish name change in 1977 - from Bothar Buidhe to An Bothar Bui, but a registered envelope of 1986 still has the old spelling in its cancellation although the registration label is correct. In that label (ef) is added below the name, presumably a reminder that the popular name is still Enfield.

Datestamps in Blue

A batch of dockets of the Business Reply system included one datestamped in blue instead of the usual black, because it is the carbon copy, supplied by mistake.

Postal Stationery

The new 28p envelope, issued 8th July, has the same feeble stamp as the 26p. The envelope is grossly overpriced at 4p above the face value: good quality commercial envelopes can be bought for under 2p each. Packet wrappers were not available on the issue day: they were being withheld because they showed the wrong price.

Correction

In I P June 1986 and Revealer Winter 1985 I mentioned the mileage stamp of Ballinamore as unrecorded. This was careless: An earlier example (1829) is listed by Hans Moxter in No. 5 of the FAI booklets.

Slogan Cancellations

Fine used Irish stamps are hard to find because of the clumsy design of the modern slogans. October saw a new and hideous advertisement for the Golden Pages which obliterates the stamp even worse than COLLECT POSTAGE STAMPS. Philatelists should campaign for a new design, such as having the name and date and slogan to the left of the stamp with two concentric circles as the cancellation.

Inverted Year

It seems a long time since I last found an inverted year. The error has turned up with the Dun Laoghaire Bridge Congress slogan of 22 and 23 September 1986.

Aldborough House

The building which may be considered ideal for the long promised postal museum, for many years the Post Office Stores, has been vacated but the present owners, Telecom Eireann, have not yet revealed what they plan to do there.

Label

Another propaganda label advertised NATIONAL FIRE SAFETY WEEK, October 6-13 1986. My example is on correspondence from an insurance company.

FIRE!

On 5th October the Galway-Dublin T P O was destroyed by fire. I do not think any mail was salvaged, and the datestamp was destroyed, being replaced by a skeleton type still in use on 23rd. On October 16th mail was destroyed in a pillarbox fire in South George's St. Dublin. Some letters were salvaged, but I have not yet seen what cachet was applied to them.

Slogan

9th October was again celebrated by a one-day slogan on the machines, but the wording was changed to read WORLD POST DAY. Used for a time on the 10th.

Calumny

Linn's Stamp News of 22 September illustrated the stamp commemorating Arthur Griffith, but the associated text concentrates on one unrepresentative aspect of the man - his anti-Semitism.

Robbery

On 3rd October another mailvan was attacked and stolen near Portlaoise. Some of the mailbags were recovered near Sandyford and some items, including electricity bills, were delivered on 13th October with a large handstamped cachet: We Regret Delay Due to mail Robbery An Post "10". Tony Quigley has ascertained that the "10" indicates the tenth such mail robbery since An Post took over.

STAMPA 86'

The standard of the exhibits was at least as high as formerly, and the new display frames are excellent. The Irish entry I liked most was Mr. Labiuk's "G.B. used in Ireland 1840-1901".

New Catalogue

Another edition of the "Feldman" catalogue was launched during STAMPA. Its layout is improved; there are more illustrations and those of varieties are more accurate. I do not notice any exceptional price changes, and the increases are no more than due to inflation. There is separate pricing for used postal stationery, and additional pages explain the watermarks and perforations: there is even a perforation gauge - a standard type covering from 7 to 16½, rather more than needed with Irish stamps!

Auction

Many of the lots at the sale of 8th November were sold at near or above the estimates. Notable was the 1s green stamped telegram form, valued at £500 - realised £1050. Other postal stationery sold well, and five lots of Parcel Post labels averaged over £4 a label.

Official Metermarks

Philip Quigley reports that many of the principal Customs and Excise offices (Cork, Limerick, Waterford, etc.) are now incorporating the name and address with their metermarking.

Discoveries

Thanks to Miss Norah Wright, I have been privileged to inspect a remarkable accumulation of 18th and 19th century material, likely to be auctioned next year - Dublin Penny Post covers (including the horseshoe type) mileage stamps, Receiving House marks, H & K datestamps (including sideways H). Unrecorded Receiving House are BRANTRY/CALEDON, FURTY, KINNOCH and ROBINSTOWN. A delightful series is from LISRYAN. In 1849 the N was broken off and for a time the sub-postmaster laboriously wrote in the name before a replacement was obtained. There is a good range of "spoons" with the very rare Dalkey among them, and in the same period are the "signet-ring" datestamp of Dublin, Kingstown, and Newtownards.

Correction

In my list of Penny Posts I attributed Derry No 1 to Muff. Rev. E. Davey has found evidence that Muff was No. 5. A long time ago, I also reported canceller numbered 446 as used at Delgany 1854-59 although the lists assign it 171. David MacDonnell has found a better example, in which the number is quite clearly 448, not 446. It is 1862 and, more surprisingly another envelope from Delgany in 1863 is clearly 488. A headache for Co Wicklow collectors.

Dublin Roller Cancellation

One of the few omissions from S D Challis's excellent classification of handstamps is that applied by a roller, giving repeated impressions of the name-and-date circle, separated by six parallel wavy bars. The first, introduced 1966, had no number but a later series had a number, 1 to 8, after the date. The original die has been replaced, the successor having smaller letters and BAILE ATHA CLIATH occupies only half the circle whereas the original spread round about 220°. I have only found it recently but it was in use by November 1985.

WINDOW MAN RECEIPT

by Pat Walker

I have recently obtained a beautiful copy of a "Window Man" receipt from the Dublin Post Office of the late 1820s and early 1830s. It was acquired from a non-Irish collector who recognized what he had when he attended a small local club gathering and heard my slide presentation of Irish Postal History. According to him it was included in a lot of entires which were not Irish. That is all we know of its provenance. This is highly unfortunate as there are some unusual aspects to this copy.

First some background. The Window Man receipt is listed in Feldman/ Kane's Irish Postal History to 1840 as No. 237 (should be 236). There are perhaps a dozen or so known copies. They are presumed to have been used as receipts to individuals who made transactions for multiple mailings, such as a large number of letters for the Penny Post. James Mackay in Registered Mail of the British Isles mentions these receipts and the possibility that they may have been registered letter receipts.

Even with such a small number of examples known, there are three printing varieties: 1. year in full, 4 inches by 2 and 1/2; 2. year in full, 3 and 3/4ths by 3 inches; 3. Three figure year, blank for final digit, 3 by 3 inches. All sizes are approximate. The receipts were bound into a small "booklet" an torn out when used. Most show a ragged left edge for this reason. [I own another copy which has been "carefully" trimmed, presumably to improve the appearance, eliminating the tears.] All reported copies are signed with the initials "A.B." which are presumed to stand for Arthur Baker who was a clerk of the Post Office, being appointed in 1819. The Superintendent of the "Alphabet and Window" in Dublin was Anthony Lyster from 1823 to 1830.

The second unusual aspect is that it has been carefully "unbound" from its booklet. You can clearly see the holes on the left margin, and also the edge of the impression from the die used in the printing process.

Any and all comments are welcome.

+++++

WANTED

INFORMATION REGARDING THE NUMERAL IN A
NUMERAL CANCEL OF DUBLIN

The numeral in a numeral cancellation of Dublin first appeared during the 1870's for use as a newspaper cancel. Then later appeared during the 1890's on registered mail.



I am currently attempting a study of this cancel mainly to find what numbers were in use and in what time period. Also, any other information which might be brought out. I am asking the members of the EPA to send information which they might have in regards to usage, dates, stamps on which they appear. In regards to covers or wrappers, if you could give all dates and any other cancel or postal marking found on such covers. The main purpose of this study is to find the earliest and latest dates in which usage occurred for both time periods (1870's and 1890's). The results of this study will be reported in the Revealer. Please send information to:

Eugene M. Labiuk
PO Box 1193
Postal Station B
Mississauga, Ontario
Canada L4Y 3W5

In the event that this survey or study proves successful we will attempt it with another type of cancel or marking.



This new copy is "type 3" having three digits of the year printed. It is dated 15 December 1830 which puts it into the correct period of known use. The first unusual aspect is how it is signed. The initials are "G.C. or C.L." or something of that nature. Tracings of the known "A.B." and this are included for comparison. As far as I know, this the only one known with these initials.

29 December 1986

Dear Editor:

In a letter to hand recently from Fred E. Dixon, that doyen of Irish Postal Historians, he wrote, concerning the Uniform Fourpenny Post handstamps in use 5 December 1839 to 9 January 1840, "I do not think anyone has been able to assemble enough data to determine the relative rarity of the "4" handstamp. Even Dublin is rare but much less so than provincial examples."

According to Feldman and Kane's "Handbook of Irish Postal History" examples have been found, in various shapes and colours from Dublin, Armagh, Roscrea, Ballymena, Enniskillen, Dundalk, Galway (two types), Belfast, Derry, Drogheda, and Newry. "Irish philately" December 1981 added Dungannon to the list. It is possible that this handstamp has also been used at other towns.

I am making an attempt to list the known copies of these handstamps and would be most grateful if owners of such would let me have full details of places, dates, and colour, preferably a photocopy with all relevant markings, so that they could be tabulated. Reports of the use of manuscript "4" of the period are also needed to confirm the "absence" of this handstamp at many major offices. If the response warrants it, a detailed analysis will be submitted to the Editor in due course. Please write to me at: 2 Garfield Villas, High Street, Tisbury, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP3 6LA, U.K.

Sincerely,

W. Edwin Davey,
President, Irish Philatelic Circle

175
Derry
Penny Post
James A. Smith, Esq.
20 Whitechapel
London

There will be **NO DELIVERY** of letters or parcels on Christmas Day or on 26th December.

To secure delivery before Christmas Day you are requested to post as early as possible, but not later than mail time on

TUESDAY, 21st DECEMBER, FOR PARCELS. **WEDNESDAY, 22nd DECEMBER, FOR LETTERS.**

(See official notices for further information).

W/L 2573-1,500,000-10/X -P.P.D.

ΜΙ ΔΕΑΝΤΑΙ ΔΟΝ ΛΕΙΤΗΡΕΪΝΑ ΝΑ ΒΕΒΛΪΣΙΝ ΤΟ
 ΨΕΥΔΟΝ ΤΑ ΠΟΤΕΛΑ ΝΑ ΑΝ ΤΕΛΕΤΑ ΜΙ ΝΑ ΠΟΤΕΛΑ.

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DÉ MÁIRT 21^{AO} MÍ NA NOBLAS ^{ASUR} 1 SCÓIR BEARTÁN	DÉ CÉADAOIN 22^{AO} MÍ NA NOBLAS 1 SCÓIR LEITREACÁ
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(ΤΑ θυμίζει εορταστικό φαΐ, αλλά εστιατόριο οριστικό).

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

5 September 1986

Dear Editor:

The only mystery of your "Mystery Stamp" in Revealer No. 161 just received, is why the WT did not register on the white surround. There is little doubt of how it happened: I've ruined many stamps by careless soaking when some of the stamps were on pieces from envelopes with printed security lining.

If the lining is in fugitive ink and comes into contact with the face of a stamp in the soaking water the stamp acquires an offset from the lining. As W and T are both symmetrical letters the reversal of the printing makes no difference.

About two years ago I complained to the envelope makers (Wiggins Teape) and suggested that philatelists would prefer less fugitive ink. My letter was not acknowledged, but tests with some recent envelopes suggest that there has been a change.

However, as indicated above, I do not understand why the WT did not extend beyond the edge of the design.

Regarding illustrations A and C, there was a wide range of shades of the background of this and also the 11p value (Sc394), so that both are probably normal stamps, although judging by your photo the background of C is exceptionally pale.

Yours Sincerely,
Fred E. Dixon

5/9/1986

Dear Editor:

I was amazed and disappointed that a respected journal such as Revealer should give such prominence and - to a certain extent credence - to the 1976 Europa "freak" featured on the front cover of the "Winter 1985" edition.

I had the opportunity to examine these items at AMERIPEX and I told the owner exactly what they were - freak changelings. The "WT" pattern is the trademark of Wiggins Teape, envelope manufacturers. The ink used on the 9p value is fugitive and tends to change color if washed in very warm water or is left soaking for long periods. The stamp obviously came into contact with a piece of envelope bearing the "WT" symbol while soaking and the printed portion reacted with it. The unprinted portion would not of course react.

My main concern is that by giving prominence and seeming credence to such freaks unscrupulous people may pass them off as rarities to ignorant collectors.

Yours sincerely,
Ian W. Whyte.

August 27, 1986

Dear Editor:

In regard to the stamp Scott 393 with the reversed WT markings you mention in the Winter 1985 Revealer, I have a theory that might explain it. It is a chemical reaction between the ink on the security liner and that of the stamp. I suspect the security ink is slightly soluble in water or any other material present in the washing solution.

If we posit that the stamp was wetted extravagantly when placed on the envelope, it might have wetted through to the security ink. Some small portion dissolved and reached through the gum of the stamp and its paper to cause a slight reaction with the ink. This might not have been visible. But when the stamp was soaked to remove the envelope paper, the whole stamp was bathed in the soluble security ink. As in the same principle applying to the chemistry of developing a photographic negative or print, where some chemical action had already occurred, new chemical action would occur faster. Thus the WT markings would "Develop" out clearly while the rest of the stamp would turn to plum. Since there is no stamp ink in the borders. No reaction occurred there, and when thoroughly washed the excess would wash mostly away. The final grey background may be slightly bluish from the security ink.

That you cannot tell which color is on top is due to the fact that they are on the same level.

Sincerely,
Dr. Max Harrow

T.E. FIELD AWARD

Mr. Frank Holzmüller of West Germany has been selected as the 1986 recipient of the T. E. Field Award as presented by the E.P.A.

The award is presented annually to any person who has made an outstanding contribution to Irish philately.

The T. E. Field Award Committee has made the following statements in regards to Mr. Holzmüller's achievements:

"We consider that he has made an outstanding contribution to the field of Irish philately in Germany, successfully founding the Forschungs-Und Arbeitsgemeinschaft Ireland E.V., the F.A.I. succeeded in the bringing together those in Germany who collect the postage stamps and postal history and all other items relating to the hobby. He was also, by his enthusiasm, the person who did so much to ensure the success of the F.A.I. journal "Die Harfe". He organizes visits to the various exhibitions etc., with the aim of publicising "Ireland" and encouraging the members to enter competitions thus ensuring that Irish material is given the publicity it deserves."

Mr. Holzmüller will receive the T. E. Field Award Certificate, the E.P.A. Medal and life membership in the E.P.A.

REVIEW OF IRISH PHILATELIC LITERATURE BY BILL ZELLERS

World Postal Booklet Catalogue, Ireland. A chronology of stamp booklets issued by Ireland. By Editors Jean Duson, Wulf Horst, Walter de Rooy and John Hali. Published in October 1985 by Kontaktgroep, Saffierstraat 139-2403 XP Alphen a/d Rijn, The Netherlands. Soft bound, stapled, without cover 8½ inches by 10½ inches, offset 24 pages, covers of booklets illustrated. Available from Almar, Route 390, PO Box 503, Canadensis, PA 18325. \$6.00 post paid.

The editors devoted the first three pages to make-up of the booklets, watermarks, perforations, etc. A full page lists the catalogues which have been quoted. The remainder, all but the last page, is a catalogue of 24 Irish Booklets. The last page is a quick reference table.

The catalogue includes serial numbers, catalogue numbers from the most used catalogues, coverside advertisements, interleaf advertisements, the number of booklets issued, stitching, color of thread, type of gum, face value, value and number of stamps per pane, watermarks and catalogue values.

There are a few typing errors. It is slightly expensive when compared with other catalogues. The catalogue prices are, for the most part fairly accurate at present, except for the first four booklets. They appear to be from \$500 to \$750 overpriced from what I have been finding. Also the major constant varieties found in the Gerl definitive panes are not noted. But a handy item for the Irish booklet collector to have in his library.

REPUBLICAN CHRISTMAS SEALS By John A. Fingleton

Recently I have seen a number of Christmas seals which were produced by Provisional Sinn Féin for use on Christmas mail, sometime during the early 1970's.

The sheets of 20 seals (5x4) were sold in packets of 100, and priced at 50p. All the outer edges of the sheet are imperf, while the inner seals are perf 12x18, made by what appears to be a roulette machine (i.e. small cuts). Each label measures approximately 27mm x 38mm. The process used for printing may have been photogravure, and the gum is of a very matte finish. Background color is orange, with a green map of Ireland. The candle is white entwined with black barbed wire, the text is also in black.

The word "SAOIRSE" (Freedom) on top is translated into both English and French, on the bottom. Packaging is also bilingual (i.e. Gaelic and English slogan: "Use Saoise Seals, on all correspondence, 100 for 50p."

A Christmas card, of a very similar design was also produced at the same time (twist or barbed wire differs).

One constant variety appears on all the sheets I have seen; a blackening on part of the county of Mayo, running approximately from Portacloy in the north, to Newport in the south. This variation only shows on R2 Sl.

It may be unlikely that examples exist tied to covers, as the main use of the labels was propaganda, and were probably fixed to the bottom corner, or reverse sides of envelopes. Perhaps some member may be able to improve on this data.

I enclose a copy of the Christmas card and one complete sheet, the latter showing the "Mayo" variety.

E.P.A. SPECIAL OFFERS

The following items may be ordered from Richard J. McBride, 153 Orchid Rd., Meriden, CT 06450 U.S.A. All prices include postage and handling. Make all checks and money orders payable to Richard J. McBride.

IRISH OVERPRINT IDENTIFIER - A clear plastic overlay to help sort out your overprint issues. With it is a chart giving Scott and Gibbons numbers and an article on identifying the overprints. Price to members \$4.50, Non-members \$5.50.

CATALOG 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! Members \$3.00, Non-members \$4.00.

DIE MEILENSTEMPEL DER IRISCHEN POST - (The Mileage Marks of Ireland) 1808-1839 by Hans G. Moxter. 1985 Edition. 64 pp. Text in German and English. Published by FAI, the Irish Philatelic Group in Germany. Most informative and well illustrated. A complete listing of all known Irish mileage marks. Members \$3.50, Non-members \$4.50 by surface mail.

IRELAND - CATALOGUE OF PERFINs - compiled and edited by Richard L. Mewhinney. Published by The Perfin Club - 1984. 34 pp. punched for 3 ring binder. The Catalogue is designed for use as an album as well as a catalogue. Only observed Perfin are catalogued. Also, 2 pages of suspected or previously reported designs. Price to Members \$5.50, Non-members \$6.50.

"DIE GANZSACHEN IRLANDS" (The Postal Stationery of Ireland) by Otto Jung. 1984 Edition, 64 pp. Text in German & English. Published by FAI, the Irish Philatelic Group in Germany. The most specialized and complete listing of Irish postal stationery available. Well illustrated. Prices for mint and used in DM, Ir £ & US \$. Members \$4.50, Non-members \$5.50 by surface mail.

ALL PRICES POSTPAID - Overseas add 50¢ for air mail.