

The Revealer

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AN POST ATTENDS

IRISH POSTAL UNIFORM 1580



POST ÉIRE
POST An Post
POST
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POST 24

POST STAMP EXHIBITION CARD

INTERPEX '89

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is hard to believe that two years have gone by since I became president. It must be true what they say "time flies when you are having fun"!!! I feel proud to have had the honor to serve as your president for the past two years. I will not say that it has all been easy but what worthwhile job is. What have we accomplished during this time?

I have to start with The Revealer, how sweet it is to have it on track. We all know that it is the heartbeat of the association, thanks Pat. I hope we will be able to fund a larger issue in the near future.

Thanks to Gene Labiuk we have produced Jim Howleys book on the post office names, Robert Cullens booklet on the Gerl Definitives and Otto Jungs booklet on Airlatter Forms. Gene is now working with Mr. Davey on his Mileage Marks handbook which will be complete within a few months, thanks Gene.

The new directory was published thanks to the efforts of Bob Jones and Bob Moskowitz.

What a great job Jim Lavelle has done with the library. His listing of the material and supplement are invaluable to our members, thanks Jim. I would also like to thank those people who have sent photocopies of their collections to the library they will not only be a lasting record of these holdings but also a helpful tool for others to learn from.

Richard McBride has been run off his feet with the special offer department.

Sales are booming and Richard takes advantage of shows and meetings he attends to sell his stock, thanks Dick.

I don't know where Joe Foley gets the time to run the auction but he has put some good ones together for us in the last two years. He must have a secret source for some of that good material, thanks Joe.

I have to thank Pat McNally for his work as back issue manager, Preston Pope for publicity, Robert Moskowitz as advertising manager and to all other officers and staff who have helped to make the past two years so productive.

Before I finish I have to mention Lindley Higgins and the other members of the newly formed Mid-Atlantic Chapter. Bob Jones and I had the honor of being at the first meeting of this chapter and also at the BEPEX show in March, if the level of enthusiasm is kept up we will see great things from this group in the future. I also have to mention Douglas McCurdy and the James Hoban Chapter for the work on the frame of Irish philatelic material for display at World Stamp Expo '89. On very short notice I asked them to take on the task and they came through for all of us.

Thanks again to the Texas Chapter for the super job at TEXPEX last year. A lot of effort went into that show and it was a huge success for the EPA.

Last but not least my thanks goes to our vice-president in Ireland Tony Finn for his efforts on behalf of the EPA at last year's STAMPA in Dublin.

Please vote in this year's election. The only way to get things done is to get involved in the process. If you do not feel represented by this year's candidates be sure to work on getting someone involved for the next election. I hope you all have a good summer, until next time good collecting.



MORE ON THE FAI AGM

by Michael Rupp



It started on Friday, February 17, 1989 with a review from Mr. Otto Jung about "Irish Private Stationery". At the same time the exhibition, BAVARICA '89 was opened. This exhibition stood under the protection of the Munich Lord Mayor, Mr. Georg Kronawitter. In this exhibition 17 Irish Collections were shown - the best material ever shown on the continent - 7 Gold, 2 Vermill and 2 Silver (For myself a second Gold). It demonstrates the success of the FAI. The exhibition took place in the new Culture Center Gusteig. On Saturday we had our auction and AGM in the Hofbraukeller - nearly 50 members from all parts of Germany attended. Mr. Frank Holzmüller received the FAI Award. A new book, "The Maltese Cross", by Mr. Moxter was released. Mr. Harald Frank and Mr. Klaus Stange announced that they were working on a computer list of all Irish Post Offices from the beginning til present time with all of their opening and closing dates and all cancellation types. Also a member is working on a list of Irish Postal Rates since 1922, especially Air Mail. I hope you can see that the FAI is very busy.

EPA FINANCIAL MYSTERY HOW DO I PAY MY DUES ON TIME

by William O'Connor
Treasurer, EPA

Each year a number of questions are asked by members concerning dues and renewal information. What follows is an attempt to answer some of these inquiries.

Our financial year begins September 1 of each year and dues for the coming year are to be paid by that date. We much prefer checks to be written in US, Irish or English funds. Three banking accounts are maintained in the funds mentioned in order to assist our members and in helping the association pay obligations in the various currencies most used.

Our dues are now \$10 a year plus a small excess for members outside the United States. Most members pay one year at a time but we do accept payment for multiple years; if more than one year is being advanced, make sure it is clearly stated as any excess amount is considered a donation. Many members do indeed include additional funds which are tax deductible to our American members due to our tax exempt status. Donations can also be given to the library and material offered for auction which can also be tax deductible.

Our books are checked each year by a certified public accountant and a financial statement is issued each year and is published in THE REVEALER. Questions concerning membership and forgotten membership numbers are best directed to and answered by the Secretary or look at the latest directory published last in October of 1988. Change of address notices if sent with the yearly dues in August or September can be processed fairly quickly; a separate notice to the publisher would also be helpful particularly if the change is after September.

If you ever have questions concerning your dues, please drop a line to the Treasurer. Lastly, I would like to thank all members who quickly pay their dues and a special thanks to those members who add a little extra for Irish philately.

THE FIRST FLIGHT THAT WASN'T

by William J. Murphy

In the early 1970's, a series of eight articles entitled "The Aerophilately of Ireland" by James J. Brady were published in the Revealer. These articles presented a chronological development of Airmail in Ireland.

In Part Seven of this series (January 1975), the following flight was reported:

"1968 (May 25) First Flight Dublin to Dusseldorf by BEA



British European Airlines began jet service between Shannon and Dusseldorf, Germany, on May 25, 1968. Covers were posted at Shannon Airport and bear no company cachets. All of the covers I have seen are not backstamped."

This flight is also reported in the current MacDonnell Whyte catalogue as:

AC64 May 25 (1968) Dublin to Dusseldorf by BEA

The article by Brady was rather confusing in that the title mentions a first flight from Dublin to Dusseldorf and in the short paragraph about the flight, a jet service between Shannon and Dusseldorf is stated. In addition, there is no airline with the name British European Airlines as is typed on the cover. It is British European Airways. Also, why is the cover, posted at Shannon Airport on May 25th, addressed c/o Aer Lingus in Dusseldorf?

It appears that Brady probably wrote his description of this flight using only the information that appears on this particular cover and that MacDonnell Whyte picked up their record of the flight from Brady's article in the Revealer.

If it is assumed that the originator of these covers meant British European Airways and not British European Airlines as is typed on the cover, then after further investigation the following facts have been gathered.

1. There was no direct air service by BEA (British European Airways) from either Shannon or Dublin to Dusseldorf on May 25, 1968.
2. There was no direct air service by BEA from either Shannon or Dublin to Dusseldorf at any time during 1968.
3. Aer Lingus did initiate air service between Shannon and Dusseldorf on May 25, 1968.
4. To the extent that can be determined, no official mail was carried on the Aer Lingus first flight from Shannon to Dusseldorf.
5. At least one cover was carried on the Aer Lingus first flight from Shannon to Dusseldorf by a member of the crew and was posted on arrival in Dusseldorf.

What conclusions can be drawn about the covers reported in Brady's article? Were they flown from Shannon or Dublin to Dusseldorf? And if so, how?

(Continued on page 18)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Hans Moxter in Germany has responded to a copy of my article "Irish mail in World War II - British Censor Labels" with considerable additional information. He proposes that we co-author an expanded version of the subject as a FAI booklet. I accept his offer and am already incorporating his info on his 300 covers.

I bring this to your attention so that some sort of editorial preface could be added to the article in the second part to be published in THE REVEALER indicating that the article was not the be-all end-all on the subject.

As gremlins always creep in, I have noted a small error in the article: in Table I, in the fifth column, titled "Opened By" size mm, Type IIA should be 78.5 x 8.5 not 73.5 x 8.5.

Sincerely,

Paul Wittreich

BOOK REVIEW

by Patrick J. Ryan, Sr.

The Maltese Cross in Ireland, by Hans G. Moxter. Published at the end of 1988, *The Maltese Cross in Ireland* has plugged a hole in the Philatelic Dike. In 80 pages divided evenly between German and English, this work brings together many facets and tidbits of knowledge and lays it bare for the student of Irish Postmarks.

Timing is another consideration by the author. As we approach 1990 the author is quick to remind the stamp collecting public that it (1990) is the Sesquicentennial of the World's First Postage stamp. While we all immediately associate this event with England we are reminded by this publication that it happened in Ireland also and that 150 years ago Ireland was part of the United Kingdom and therefore has an equal claim to this honor. The first Stamp, the Maltese Cross canceler and the subsequent diamonds or rhomboids are as much apart of the history of Ireland as it is of England. It is the author's desire that by this work he might begin to stimulate interest in this subject. FAI has already gone on record with An Post in support of Ireland producing Philatelic Products to commemorate the event. Could it be possible for Ireland and England to get together to produce a joint issue for the benefit of both nations?

The author has produced some interesting statistics, periods of use and indepth measurements with a chart detailing its use by the Post Offices. It discusses inks used, where and when, specific types unique to Ireland and is otherwise profusely illustrated. All in all a most complete discourse on the subject.

This reference work is a must for the Great Britain Used-in-Ireland student/collector.

You may obtain your copy by sending \$8.00 US (\$10.00 US for return Registration) by Registered Mail to UDO JARCZYNSKI, RITTER-TUSCHL-STRASSE 29, D-8359 ALDESBACH, WEST GERMANY. If you are reluctant to send cash by Registered Mail you must include an additional 13DM or about \$7.50 US for German Bank charges on your check. Your editor has done business in this way in the past (Cash by Registered Mail) and it works out just fine for small amounts such as this.



Irish Mail in World War II BRITISH CENSOR LABELS

by Paul E. Wittreich

(CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE)

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ON THIS SUBJECT

Please refer to the Letter to the Editor on this page.

Illustration of all subtypes are shown following the tables.

The five major types have been quantified in Tables I and II.

In Table I, label and lettering size, letter thickness and type font, and characteristics of individual letters ("O", "N" and "M") are shown for each type. The label and lettering size can vary up to 2mm, so the dimensions given in the charts should not be taken as absolutes but as approximations. For example, the length of "OPENED BY" can vary by the slight variance of the width of the space between the two words. These variations are not significant enough to further subclassify into distinct subtypes as had been done previously in aforementioned published article. For Type IVB the repeat distance along the tape can be anywhere between 37 and 39.5mm.

The type font noted in Table I is a simplification and can be defined further. The Gothic font in the common Type IIA can be described as Bold Condensed, while the font for Type IIG (oval "O") could be called a Demi-Bold. The Roman font is actually closely akin to a Venetian, Cloister, Perfected Roman typography, while the Modern font is close to being a Bodoni Black. Type IJJ, although seemingly Gothic, is similar in many respects to a Futura Bold Expanded. Type IID has an "N" with pointed joints, which possibly can be explained by the typesetter turning a "Z" 90 degrees. Also in this Type, and in Types IIE and IIID, the sloping legs of the "M" could have been the result of turning a "W" upside down. The asterisk in Table I over the "G" for the Gothic "EXAMINER" is for "R" having a serif on the terminal curve of the letter in Types IIC, F, G and IIIC. The only other variation noted is the middle of the "M" being extended in a number of subtypes.

In regard to type font for "P.C.90", it is interesting that Types IIIA.3, IIIA.4 and IIIB have Roman style for the designate even though "OPENED BY EXAMINER" is Gothic. In addition Type IIIA.3 has square stops after the "P" and "C" rather than the round stops the other subtypes have.

Type IIC is unique in that it is the only subtype which inserts a comma after the first digit of a four digit individual censor's number.

Table II shows that there were at least eleven different printers of labels. It is assumed that some of these printers were also the printers for the Type II subtypes. Obviously a few of the printers had more than one contract with the government to print labels.

Type IIIA.6 is the only subtype not to use the "51" in the code and Type IIIC.1 not to have the printers' initials following a code. It is assumed that D.P.Ltd. was the printer for the latter subtype since Type IIIC.2 is identical but includes these printers' initials.

Included in Table II are the periods of use of the subtypes. As can be seen Type II subtypes use extended into 1944 while Types III and IV use went right to the end of the war. The range of individual censor numbers roughly corresponds to these periods, i.e. Types II going from one or three digits to usually a number in the 5000's (although a "9000" exists), while Type III goes from 3000's to 9000's. Type IVB covers the whole range of numbers from 169 to 9675, the latter being the highest number so it is assumed that this was the approximate number of censors employed by the U.K. in WWII.

Individual censors appear to have used more than one subtype, as there is a duplication of numbers involving different subtypes. This happens in 11 censor numbers and in all but one case does the date of the older subtype not be earlier than the newer subtype. An example of one of the ten cases: #3775, Type IIA, April 21, 1942 reappears on Type IIID, January 29, 1943.

Type IJJ is the only subtype to have a handwritten censor number

(Continued on page 8)

BRITISH CENSOR LABELS ON IRISH MAIL IN WWII		LABELS SHOWN 3/4 SIZE CODE & INITIALS 1.5 X	
TYPE IIIA.2.2 P.C.90 51-2103 --G.W.D. 51-2103 --G.W.D. OPENED BY EXAMINER 7389	P.C. 90	TYPE IIIA.2.3 P.C.90 51-2116 --G.W.D. 51-2116 --G.W.D. OPENED BY EXAMINER 9025	P.C. 90
(TYPE IIIA.2.4 51-1071 --G.W.D. NOT RECORDED IRISH MAIL)			
TYPE IIIA.3.1 P.C.90 51-1166 H & S 51-1166 H & S OPENED BY EXAMINER 6411	P.C. 90	TYPE IIIA.3.2 P.C.90 51-1436 H & S 51-1436 H & S OPENED BY EXAMINER 7323	P.C. 90
TYPE IIIA.4.1 P.C.90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 7097 51/2191. D.P. 51/2191. D.P.	P.C. 90	TYPE IIIA.5.1 P.C.90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 4420 S. & Co. 51-1524 S. & Co. 51-1524	P.C. 90
TYPE IIIA.6.1 P.C.90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 4346 37887 W.P. Ltd. 37887 W.P. Ltd.	P.C. 90	TYPE IIIA.6.2 P.C.90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 6798 41462 W.P. Ltd. 41462 W.P. Ltd. NOT RECORDED IRISH MAIL	P.C. 90

BRITISH CENSOR LABELS
ON IRISH MAIL IN WWII

LABELS SHOWN 3/4 SIZE

CODE & INITIALS 1.5 X

TYPE IIIB.1

P.C.90

P.C.90

**OPENED BY
EXAMINER 5631**

51-316 W.H.H., Ltd.

CODE PLUS PRINTERS'
INITIALS--BOTTOM LEFT

51-316 W.H.H., Ltd.

ROUND "O"
THINNER LETTERS--"EXAMINER"
VERTICAL LEGS "M"

TYPE IIIB.2

P.C.90

P.C. 90

**OPENED BY
EXAMINER 4177**

51-8959-W.H.H.Ltd.



51-8959-W.H.H.Ltd.

TYPE IIIC.1

P.C.90

P.C.90

**OPENED BY
EXAMINER 5411**

51-8589

SAME AS TYPE IIC BUT HAS
IN ADDITION: CODE
(NO PRINTERS' INITIALS)

51-8589

(TYPE IIIC.2 51-8710 D.P.LTD. NOT RECORDED IRISH MAIL)

TYPE IIID

P.C.90

P.C. 90

**OPENED BY
EXAMINER 7410**

51-851-W.H.H. Ltd.

SAME AS TYPE IIE BUT HAS
IN ADDITION: CODE PLUS
PRINTERS' INITIALS

51-851-W.H.H. Ltd.

TYPE IIIE

P.C.90

51-400. L.B. (A-u-L) Ltd.

51-400. L.B. (A-u-L) Ltd.

P.C. 90

**OPENED BY
EXAMINER 2622**SAME AS TYPE IIH BUT HAS
IN ADDITION: CODE PLUS
PRINTERS' INITIALS

TYPE IIIF

P.C.90

P.C. 90

**OPENED BY
EXAMINER 5948**

51-9912-G.W.D.

SAME AS TYPE II I, BUT HAS
IN ADDITION: CODE PLUS
PRINTERS' INITIALS

51-9912-G.W.D.

TYPE IIIA.8.1

P.C.90

P.C. 90

**OPENED BY
EXAMINER 2105**

51/9911. H.B.

NOT RECORDED IRISH MAIL

51/9911. H.B.

TYPE IVA
P.C.90

PC 90

51-1564



564

PC 90

51-1564

PC 90

EXAMINER
3778OPENED BY
EXAMINER
3778OPENED BY
EXAMINER
3778LABEL IS A CONTINUOUS TAPE
CHARACTERIZED BY THE
CROWN OVER "OPENED BY
EXAMINER" AND CODE 51-1564

BRITISH CENSOR LABELS ON IRISH MAIL IN WWII		LABELS SHOWN 3/4 SIZE CODE & INITIALS 1.5 X	
TYPE IIG P.C.90	P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 3970 OVAL "O" THINNER LETTERS "OPENED BY" 71 X 11 MM	TYPE IIH P.C.90	P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 4649 ROUND "O" "OPENED BY" SAME AS TYPE IIE "EXAMINER" DIFFERENT TYPEFACE
TYPE II I P.C.90	P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 5955 "OPENED BY" AND "EXAMINER" <u>DIFFERENT</u> <u>TYPEFACE</u>	TYPE IIJ P.C.90	OPENED BY EXAMINER 1873 ROUND "O" THINNER LETTERS "OPENED BY" 76 X 9 MM "EXAMINER" 64 X 9 MM "M" VERTICAL LEGS <u>CENSOR'S # HANDWRITTEN</u>
TYPE IIIA P.C.90 SAME AS TYPE IIA BUT HAS IN ADDITION: CODE PLUS PRINTERS INITIALS	TYPE IIIA.1.1 P.C.90 51-2108. G. & F. Ltd. 51-2108. G. & F. Ltd.	P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 2622	
TYPE IIIA.1.2 P.C.90 51-2117. G. & F. Ltd. 51-2117. G. & F. Ltd.	P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 4846	TYPE IIIA.2.1 P.C.90 51-1473—G.W.D. 51-1473—G.W.D.	P.C. 90 OPENED BY EXAMINER 1035

BRITISH CENSOR LABELS
ON IRISH MAIL IN WWII

LABELS SHOWN 3/4 SIZE

Type IVB
P.C.90

**OPENED BY
EXAMINER**
9369

P.C.90


**OPENED BY
EXAMINER**
9369

P.C.90

OPE:
EX,
C

P.C.90

LABEL IS A CONTINUOUS TAPE
CHARACTERIZED BY THE
CROWN OVER "OPENED BY
EXAMINER"

Type V
P.C.90BRITISH COMMONWEALTH P.C.90's
PRINTED AND APPLIED OUTSIDE
THE U.K.

P.C.90

OPENED BY EXAMINER

BERMUDA

C/8105

(P.C.--90.

OPENED BY EXAMINER**D.D.A. / 119**

NEW ZEALAND

TABLE III
BRITISH CENSOR LABELS
ON IRISH MAIL IN WWII

RARITY BASED ON FREQUENCY OF
APPEARANCE IN THIS COLLECTION

TYPE	NUMBER	PERCENT	TYPE	NUMBER	PERCENT
IIA	95	28.6%	IIIB.1	2	0.6%
IVB	56	17.0	IIIF	2	0.6
IIG	33	10.0	V N.Z.	2	0.6
IIID	29	8.7	IB	1	0.3
IID	18	5.4	II F	1	0.3
IIC	13	3.9	II I	1	0.3
IIIA.2.3	10	3.0	IIJ	1	0.3
IIIC.1	10	3.0	IIIA.1.2	1	0.3
IIE	7	2.1	IIIA.2.1	1	0.3
IIIA.3.1	6	1.8	IIIA.6.1	1	0.3
IIIA.4.1	6	1.8	IIIE	1	0.3
IIIB.2	6	1.8	IVA	1	0.3
IIIA.5.1	5	1.8	V BERMUDA	1	0.3
IA	4	1.2	IIIA.6.2	0 (1)	0
IIB	4	1.2	IIIA.7.1	0	0
IIH	2	0.6	IIIC.2	0	0
IIIA.1.1	2	0.6	IIIG	0	0
IIIA.3.2	2	0.6	NON-CLASSIFIABLE		
			2		0.6

BRITISH CENSOR LABELS

(Continued from page 4)

and also features not having the designate, "P.C.90".

Also noted in Table II, for Type IV, the designate, "P.C.90", appears in a different position than that of the upper right in Types II and III.

Table III gives some idea of the relative occurrence of various subtypes. Three subtypes account for 56.6% of all of the labels in the collection (Types IIA, IVB and IIG), while there is only one example each recorded on Irish mail for nine subtypes. The latter subtypes certainly must be considered the rarer of the 36 different subtypes.

It is believed that British censorship on Irish mail ended in July 1945 (July 11, 1945 is the last date recorded in this collection as is a July date in the aforementioned article), thus an important part of Irish postal history came to a close.



PROVISIONAL ISSUES

(continued)

by Max Harrow

CORRECTION

Through a filing error, the following article was printed out of sequence. Your editor has discussed this situation with the author and we have decided to print the unprinted portion with this explanation to aid the reader. To properly understand the subject the reader needs to read the article, Provisional Issues, in the Fall issue, Whole Number 172; then read this article; then return to the Winter issue, Whole Number 173 for the end of the subject. Your editor regrets the inconvenience.

The next step in the production of overprints is the making of the plate. The stereos are gathered together and mounted on a board. In the Dollard overprints, which were carefully calculated from start to finish, the plate was made from sixteen cloned stereos, each consisting of fifteen clichés. Thom took a different tack in that the stereos were of a size not easily mounted in multiples to obtain the required plate. Many of the Thom settings give an indication of 3x4 and 4x4 stereos. Whether the 3x4 stereos were deliberately made or cut down from 4x4 stereos is not known. According to Michael Priestley, setting 5 of the Thom three-line overprint seems to consist of 6x10 stereos used for the main body of each pane. The remaining spaces were filled in by cut-offs from other 6x10 stereos. Other printings do not show so well defined a construction. There are many areas in which glaring line or letter shifts appear in one area of the sheet which are not repeated anywhere else on the sheet. Since, according to previous conjecture, line shifts cannot occur after the stereo is cast, one can only conclude that the entire plate is one stereo, or, at most, two stereos, one for the upper pane and a different stereo for the lower pane.

The mounted stereos had to be fitted into a frame to hold them together. This required filling of the sides to fit snugly into the frame and to allow proper alignment of one stereo to another. Tapping with a mallet helped drive the stereos together and into the confines of the frame. Slugs of metal were driven between stereos to tighten the assembly. Probably in some cases holes were drilled through stereo bases and screws placed through the holes into the backing board to hold the assembly down. All these procedures could produce unexpected varieties. The stereos are frequently not perfectly aligned, resulting in out of alignment pairs. A study of the location of these pairs will reveal the outline of the border between stereos. The malleting can cause damage to letters. These damaged letters will be constant throughout the printing made with that plate. The screws and slugs may loosen and leave an imprint on the sheet. These are the screw-mark and guide block errors and are not constant.

With the frame surrounding the stereos and with everything snug, we have the last stage of the setting--the plate.

This is the object from which the imprints are made. To outline the steps used for imprinting the stamps we will describe the old screw press. The actual press used works on the same principle, but is more highly mechanized.

At its bottom the press has a sliding bed onto which the plate is fixed, face up. Above this is a hinged frame into which the sheet is placed, face down. Above the sheet frame is another frame containing a parchment sheet. This is the frisket. Above the frisket is a heavy metal flat plate which exerts pressure. This is the platen. On the contacting side of the platen is a cushion-like object which absorbs the pressure of the platen on the plate, and distributes the pressure fairly evenly. With the plate inked and the sheet in place, the platen is moved down to exert pressure through the cushion and frisket onto the paper against the plate.

One of the difficulties in making a plate is to get the type faces of all the letters on one level. There are disparities here and the platen cushion compensates for some of these. But frequently this is not enough, and the resulting imprint will show patterns of light imprint and darker imprint

on the same sheet. This must be corrected, and, in order not to use valuable stamps during correction procedures, ordinary paper is used. This paper is fitted into the paper frame, the plate is inked, and the platen is brought down. The imprint is carefully examined and a pattern, cut out of tissue paper, is made of the area which is too light. This pattern is attached to the frisket in such a manner that it will produce extra pressure in the light areas. This is repeated as many times as necessary, using ordinary paper, until an even imprint over the entire sheet is obtained.

The ordinary paper imprints are usually destroyed, but it seems that some were released to the public, and are now considered proofs. There is apparently no consensus on these proofs; my own feeling is that the only true proofs are the 1/2d Dollard overprinted in red. I have seen a pair of these "proofs" on ordinary paper of which one is an R/Se with raised c which is characteristic of the Dollard settings 2 and 3.

It seems to me that a true proof would be from the first setting. Perhaps we should call the overprints on ordinary paper, "trials." But this may be just a matter of semantics.

The final process yields a multiplicity of varieties. Incorrect sheet feed leads to inversions and shifts in any direction. Folds in stamp sheets can cause interesting abnormalities. These should be destroyed by the printer, but some get out to the public. Type faces with air bubbles just below the surface can break in these weakened areas during trials or at first stamp imprint. These become a constant characteristic of the setting. If the break occurs later, it is not constant. Unfortunately, it is not possible to say a variety is truly constant as no one has seen every sheet of any setting. One can only say that a variety is likely to be constant.

(to be continued)

QUESTION CORNER

Dear Editor:

Of late, I have received parcels from Ireland which no longer have postage stamps or meters, nor the usual Customs Form on the package. This label is all that appears on the package.



I am curious to find out exactly what arrangements AN Post has made with US Customs and the US Post Office. There is no declaration of value on these packages.

Dear Editor:

Here pictured is a copy of a strip of three from the first Dollard printing, Row 14/8-10, plate 2. Stamp 9 is showing a damaged 'c' in 'Sealadac' but also a large white area above the front of the ear.



Does any member know if this is a constant variety (Printing) -this white area?

Responses to these questions may be sent directly to James Collins, 6512 McNutt Way, Cypress, CA 90630.

GETTING YOUR IRISH UP

by
Mary Lou Foster
and
Caxton Foster

Eventually there comes a time when you would like to know what stamps you have. It is no longer enough just to paste them in an album. You may want to identify a stamp because you have a sneaking hope that it is rare and valuable (don't we all) or you may just want to know what you have so you can order some more stamps to fill some of the blank spots in your album.

Whatever the reason, if you are serious about it, you go out and buy a catalog and spend hours pouring over its pages trying to pin down the catalog numbers of the stamps you have. On the fourteenth pass through the country in question the pages of the catalog are falling out and your inability to identify what appears to be a perfectly ordinary stamp leads you to curse the catalog designer, the printers, the post office, the country that published this device of the devil, and perhaps the entire hobby.

"There must be a better way," you sob in despair. Indeed there is, and this article is a modest introduction to that better way.

When you look at a stamp, what do you see? Do you see the catalog number Mr. Scott and his helpers have assigned to that stamp? Not too likely! Do you see the year the stamp was issued? Sometimes you are lucky and can infer that. If a stamp celebrates some event such as the "37th anniversary of the invention of sliced bread - 1803-1840", you might guess that the stamp was printed in the latter year.

What you do see is a small piece of paper with a denomination on it, and perhaps a picture or design of some sort in one or more colors. The denomination is usually written clearly so the postal clerks can determine rapidly if the sender has put enough postage on the letter; and the colors are usually distinctive (again for the clerk's benefit) even though the catalog designers delight in esoteric color names such as "lake" and "carmine" and "claret" to name but a few.

Why not arrange an index of stamps by the obvious features that can be observed when looking at a stamp. Then we could look up a stamp on the basis of its appearance and in short order discover its catalog number. What features should be used to organize this index?

After some thought, we have come up with a set of "overt" characteristics that enable one to narrow down which stamp one is looking at to only a few alternatives. All of these characteristics are readily observable with the naked eye without taking any measurements. For example, we did not include watermarks or perforation count. Once you find a stamp in the index, there will, in general, be two or three possible candidates enumerated. At this point, you will have to go to the catalog (and perhaps more esoteric sources) to discover the remaining characteristics that distinguish these face-similar stamps.

The characteristics we have chosen are:

DENOMINATION

COLOR - don't try to decide if it is sepia, burnt umber or chocolate. Call it brown.

SUBJECT - What is on the stamp? A building? A man? You probably don't know offhand that the man was Ethelred the Unready or that the building is the Post and Telegraph headquarters of Upper Newton Lowlands MA. It's just a man or a building. Any writing is included in the subject with Gaelic letters being replaced by the Roman letters they most resemble.

SIZE - S - small and approximately square

V - vertical

H - horizontal

L - large and more or less square

LV - large vertical

LH - large horizontal

OVERPRINT

OP1 - "Rialtar Sealadoc na hEireann 1922"

OP2 - "Saorstát Eireann 1922"

Ireland
P - pence or pinson
Sh - shilling
£ - pound

1P	Red	Man - facing his right OP-2	S	45,60
	Green	Dog	S	251
		Man - facing his left Mangan	S	141
1-1/2P	Red	Map of Ireland	S	67,108
	Brown	Man - facing his right OP-1	S	15,21,25,41
		Man - facing his right OP-2	S	46,61
2P	Red	Man, bird, harp	H	103
	Orange	Man - facing his right OP-1	S	16,22,26,42
		Man - facing his right OP-2	S	47,62
		Map of Ireland; OP-Itcuimne	S	118
	Brown	Dam - Forbairt Comact 1930	H	83
		Dog	S	252
		Man - right; SeoCurse 1938	H	101
	Green	Cross, Internationalis Cong	S	85
		Cross, Annus Sanctus 1933-4	S	88
		Map of Ireland	S	42,68,109
		Man 1829-1929	S	80
		Sportsman 1884 Cumann 1934	S	90
	Blue	Man with Scythe 1731-1931	S	84
	Purple	Man, Cardinal Newman	S	153
		Man - right, O'Criontam	S	159
		Woman and constitution	H	99
2-1/2P	Red	Houses, man plowing	H	133
	Brown	Building, 4 shields	H	139
		Man, Rowan Hamilton	S	127
		Shield	S	69,110
	Green	Harp An Tostal Ireland	V	147
	Blue	Man sowing grain 1845-1945	S	131
		Man - right OP-1	S	3,9,27
		Man - right OP-2	S	48
	Purple	Man, Rowan Hamilton	S	125
		Man, rifle, building	H	120
		Man - right - Thomas Moore	V	145
		Man - right - 1798-1948	H	135
		Man - seated, Annus sanctus	V	142
	Slate	Man - right - Edmund Rice 1844	S	130
3P	Red	Man - left - Arthur Guinness	V	171
		Two men - J.O'Donovan, E.O'Curry	H	182
	Brown	Woman, constitution	H	169
	Green	Man, Thomas Clarke	H	207
		Man, Thomas Clarke 1858-1958	S	165
		Man - right - Robert Emmet	V	149
	Blue	Bars, UFT, 1865-1965	H	198
		Cross	S	70,111,225
		Cross:OP:1941itcuimneaiseirte	S	119
		Cross Annus sanctus 1933-34	S	89
		Crossinternationalis congressus	S	86
		Dog	S	253
		Building, 4 shields, Rep. Ire.	H	140
		Houses, Man plowing	H	134
		Man 1829-1929	S	81
		Man, bird, harp	H	104
		Man - left-1777-1857, Wm.Brown	S	161
		Man - left - John Redmond	S	157
		Man - left - Wadding 1657-1957	S	163
		Man - right - James Connelly	H	206
		Man - right Seo curse in ainm	H	102
		Man - seated, S.Patricivs	V	179
		Man - seated, Annus sanctus MCML	V	143
		Woman - left - Mother Aikenhead	S	167
		Woman - right - constitution	H	100
	Blue	Woman & child, Annus Marianus	V	151
		Wreath, hands shaking, 1965	H	202
	Purple	Donkey, Mary, Joseph	H	173
		Man, anchor, John Barry	V	155
		Man - left - Swift 1667-1745	V	240
		Man - right - OP-1	S	4,28
		Man - right - OP-2	S	49
		Man - right 1798-1948	H	136
		Woman - right - 1868-1927	H	246
3-1/2P	Green	Man - right - Thomas Moore	V	146
4P	Red	Dog	S	254
	Green	Man - right - OP-1	S	5,29
1/2P	Green	Man - Rowan Hamilton	S	126
		Man - Do cum gloire...	S	128
		Man - facing his right	S	124
		Man - facing his right OP-1	S	1,19,23,39,44
		Man - facing his right OP-2	S	59
		Sword	S	65,91,106
	Orange	Dog	S	250
1P	Red	Map of Ireland	S	66,87,105,107
		Man - facing his right OP-1	S	2,20,24,40

4P	Green	Man - right - OP-1 red	S	10,10A	1sh	Brown	Man - right - OP-2	S	55
		Man - right - OP-2	S	50		Green	Man, James Connolly	V	249
	Purple	Globe, wheat ears	H	186		Blue	Sword	S	76,117
	Black	Man - left - Wolfe Tone	H	192		Black	Church, Ballintubber Abbey	H	219
	Gray	Red cross & flame	H	190		Multi	Madonna, Mainne Jellett	V	283
		Shield	S	71,112			Church window, Eton Chapel	LV	274
	Multi	Boats, Luam Chlub 1720-1970	H	282	1sh2P	Blue	Man, Kevin Barry 1902-20	H	289
5P	Brown	Church, Ballintubber Abbey	H	218	1sh3P	Red	Globe, wheat ears	H	187
		Man, William Butler Yeats	V	200			Man - left - William Brown	S	162
		Man - right - OP-1	S	6,30			Man - left - John Redmond	S	158
		Man - right - OP-2	S	51			Man - right - Robert Emmet	V	150
	Green	Abstract, Eiriamachna Casea	H	209			Woman - left - Mother Aikenhead	S	168
		Dog	S	255		Brown	Donkey, Mary, Joseph, 1960	H	174
		Man, P.H.Pearse	H	208			Man, Tom Clarke 1858-1958	S	166
		Stamp, The Fenians, 1867-1967	V	238			Man - left - Wadding 1657-1957	S	164
		Woman and child 1953-4	V	152		Green	Airplanes	H	178
		Woman - seated, constitution	H	170			Europa CEPT, leaves	H	185
	Blue	Church, Ardteumrall Muire	H	244			Man, seated, S.Patricivs	V	181
	Purple	Man - right - O'Criomtam	S	160			Red cross, flame 1863-1963	H	191
		Sword	S	72,113,226		Blue	Europa links	H	189
	Black	Flame, wreath, Idrnaisunta	V	266			Man, Cardinal Newman	S	154
		Man - left - Roger Casement	V	214			Man, statue, John Barry	V	156
	Multi	Building Irish Pavilion	H	194			Man - left - Arthur Guinness	V	172
		Leaves, Canada Aontas	H	234			Man - left - Wolfe Tone	H	193
6P	Red	Chain links, Europa	H	188		Purple	Europa, wheel	H	176
		Tree leaves, Europa CEPT	H	184			Men, O'Donovan & O'Curry	H	183
	Brown	Dog	S	256	1sh4P	Blue	Harp, AnTostal Ireland...	V	148
		Wheel, Europa	H	175	1sh5P	Red	Gears, cogwheels, Europa	V	233
		Man, James Connolly	V	248		Brown	Daisy Europa CEPT	V	197
		Bird, Blain Chaomhantais	H	277		Green	Man, Joseph Plunkett	H	213
	Green	Man, Kevin Barry 1902-20	H	288			Man, William Butler Yeats	V	201
		Man - left - MahatmaGandhi	H	275		Blue	Key, Europa CEPT	H	243
		Meeting 21-1-1919	LH	268			Leaves, fruit, Europa	H	205
	Blue	Airplanes	H	177			Man, Thomas MacDonagh	H	212
	Purple	Woven threads, Europa	H	279			Man - left - Swift 1667-1745	V	241
		Man - right - OP-1	S	17,31			Women - right - 1868-1927	H	247
		Man - right - OP-2	S	52		Gray	Europa, boat, CEPT	V	217
		Man sowing grain, 1845-1945	S	132		Multi	Building, Irish Pavilion	H	195
	Violet	Sword	S	73,114			Leaves, Canada Aontas	H	235
	Gray	Hands, wrenchs, 1919-69	V	272	1sh9P	Red	Europa CEPT 1959-69	H	271
7P	Red	Key, Europa	H	242		Yellow	Man - left - Mahatma Gandhi	H	276
	Brown	Flame, wreath, Blain Idirnais	V	267		Blue	Deer, stag	S	262
	Orange	Boat, Europa CEPT	V	216		Gray	Woven threads, Europa	H	281
		Man, Eamonn Ceannt	H	210	2sh6P	Orange	Winged ox	H	263
	Yellow	Deer, stag	S	257		Brown	Man, horse, woman OP-1	H	12,36
	Brown	Castle, Blain Chairdis	H	236			Man, horse, woman OP-2	H	56,77,93
	Green	Gears, Europa CEPT	V	232		Green	Angel and fire	V	96,121
		Sean MacDiarmada	H	211	2sh9P	Blue	Man - left - Thomas Curtain	V	286
8P	Red	Leaves & fruit, Europa	H	204			Man - right - Terrence MacSwiney	V	287
		Sword	S	137	5sh	Red	Man, horses, woman OP-1	H	13,37
	Orange	Deer, stag	S	258		Green	Man, horses, woman OP-2	H	57,78,94
	Green	Daisy, Europa CEPT	V	196		Purple	Winged ox	H	264
	Purple	Man seated, S.Patricivs	V	180			Angel and fire	V	97,122
	Black	Bars, circle, UIT Ant Aontas	H	199	10sh	Brown	Bird	H	265
9P	Gray	Meeting 21-1-1919	LH	269		Blue	Angel and fire	V	98,123
	Yellow	Hands, arms, wrenches	V	273			Man, horses, woman OP-1	H	14,38
		Woven threads, Europa	H	280			Man, horses, woman OP-2	H	58,79,95
	Brown	Man - right - OP-1	S	7,11	Decimal Coinage: 100p=£1 (no P on stamps)				
		Man - right - OP-1 red	S	32	1/2	Green	dog	S	290,343
		Man Annus sanctus MCML	V	144	1	Blue	dog	S	291,344
							building	S	537
	Green	Man - right - OP-1	S	33	1-1/2	Red	dog	S	293
		Man - right - OP-2	S	53	2	Green	dog	S	293,345
		Deer, stag	S	259			building	S	538
	Blue	Europa CEPT 1959-69	H	270	2-1/2	Yellow	heart-do chroi do shlaite	H	314
	Purple	Bird, Blain Chaomhantais	H	278		Brown	dog	S	294
		Man, 1829-1929	S	82		Green	woman and child	V	312
		Man - left - Thomas MacCurtain	V	284		Multi	woman and child-book of Kells	V	323
		Man - right - Terrence MacSwiney	V	285	3	Yellow	horseman - olympic rings	V	321
		Shield	S	74,115		Orange	dog	S	295
10P	Brown	Cross	S	75,116		Brown	dog	S	346
		Wreath, handshake, Blain...	H	203		Black	building	S	539
	Green	Church, Ardteumrall Muire	H	245		Multi	landscape-Gerard Dillon	H	320
	Blue	Castle, Blain Chairdis	H	237					
		Man - right - OP-1	S	8,34					
		Man - right - OP-2	S	54					
	Purple	Deer, stag	S	260					
11P	Red	Cross	S	138					
1sh	Red	Stamp: The Fenians	V	239					
	Brown	Deer, stag	S	261					
		Man - left - Roger Casement	V	215					
		Man - left Do cum gloire	S	129					
		Man - right - OP-1	S	18,35,43					

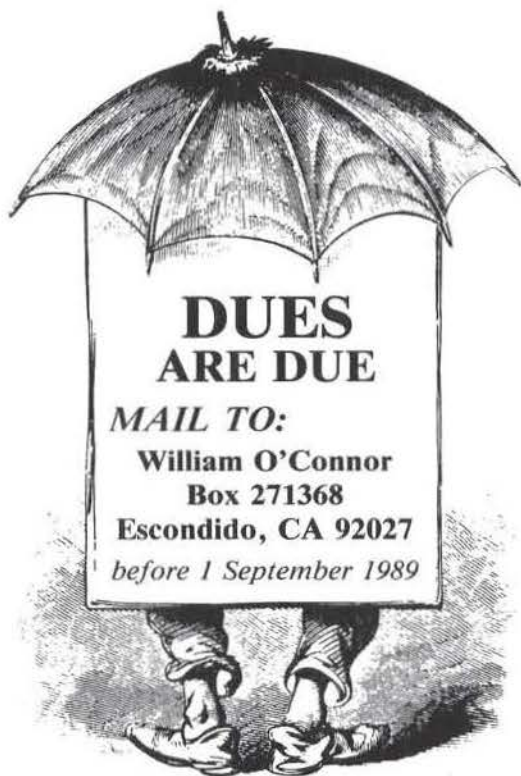
3-1/2	Orange	dog	S	296,347	10	Green	fish on coin-monaiocht na hEireann	LH	437
	Yellow	man-book-Oliver Goldsmith	LV	341			madonna and child Nollaig 1978	LV	441
	Green	rugby players-IRFU	LH	361		Blue	words-Na chiad diorthghchain	LV	446
	Multi	donkey, Mary, Joseph-Nollaig 1973	V	336			airplane-first east west transatl	LV	426
		map	LV	332			deer/stag	S	398
4	Red	building	S	540		Brown	gateway-Europa Conolly folly	LH	443
		diamond sparkles-Europa	H	316		Black	building	S	544
		Yin-Yang wreath	V	310			old man-Cumann Bealoideas	LV	418
	Green	chain - Europa 1971	H	305		Red	Yin-yang wreath-Blain	V	311
	Blue	bird - circle	V	318		Multi	dog	S	399
		spiral arrows - Europa	H	329			bird-lunadan podiceps cristatus	LH	450
	Purple	dog	S	297			child's drawing	LH	453
	Gray	man facing right - J.M.Synge	V	307			electrical plant-BSL 1927-1977 ESB	LH	420
	Multi	woman and child - book of Kells	V	324			flowers-arbutus unedo	LV	429
5	Brown	church steeple and clock	LV	376			holy family-Nollaig 1977	LV	424
		building	S	541			landscape-CEPT Europa	LV	413
	Green	deer/stag	S	298,298A			madonna and child-Nollaig 1975	V	384
		dog	S	348			nun-Catherine McAuley	LV	432
		postmark UPU 1874-1974	S	363			oilwell-gas aiceanta 1978	LV	435
	Blue	man - Europa CEPT	LV	339			rock-National museum	LH	412
		abstract - William Scott	LH	331			winged ox	H	302,355
		woman Nano Nagle by C.Turner	LV	374	11	Red	deer/stag	S	400
	Multi	boats	LH	338		Brown	chickens on coin-monaiocht na nEir	LH	438
		kitchen table - N.McGuinness	LV	360			man facing right-James Larkin	LV	386
		madonna and child Nollaig 1974	LV	365		Green	building-Europa CEPT belvedere	LH	444
		madonna and child Nollaig 1975	V	382		Purple	words-na chiad diorthghchain	LV	447
		tractor and birds	LH	334		Multi	bird-ge fhiann anser	LH	451
6	Red	horseman/olympic rings	V	322			child's drawing of a girl	LV	454
	Green	bird/circle	V	319			dish-Irish Delft	LH	394
	Blue	building	S	542			doctor/nurse/patient	LH	433
		chain - Europa 1971	H	306			flowers-pinguicula grandiflora	LV	430
		diamond sparkles - Europa	H	317			globe/radio tower	LV	407
		woman and child	V	313	12	Green	deer/stag	S	401
	Black	spiral arrows - Europa	H	330			dog	S	466
	Gray	deer/stag	S	299,349			man facing left-Oliver Goldsmith	LV	342
		dog	S	350		Red	building	S	545
		stamp/man/1922-72	V	326		Gray	heart-do chroí do shainte	H	315
	Multi	church steeple and clock	LV	377		Black	man facing left-eriugena	LH	419
		golf players	LH	371		Multi	bulls and rings-cairde thaimhaíoch	LH	421
		heads	H	327			child's drawing-Nollaig 1980	LV	489
		man/sea/Jack B. Yeats	V	309			donkey/man/woman-Nollaig 1973	V	337
7	Brown	woman/Nano Nagle by C.Turner	LV	375			heads	LH	328
	Green	building	S	543			landscape-CEPT Europa	LV	414
		deer/stag	S	299A,351			madonna and child-Book of Kells	V	325
		dog	S	352			map	LV	333
		man-Europa CEPT	LV	340			man facing left-George B. Shaw	V	478
	Blue	church-architectural heritage	LV	378			man facing left-ord de la Salle in	LV	477
		postmark UPU 1874-1974	LV	364			man facing left-Seán O'Casey	LV	487
		stars and stripes US flag	LH	389			man facing right-Boyle air pump	LV	492
	Black	horses hunting - R.Healy	LH	369			man/woman-Pádraig macPiarais	LH	460
		man facing right/Oliver Plunkett	LV	380			pope-an papa eoin Pól II	LH	456
	Gray	man facing right/James Larkin	LV	385			sports-IRFU 1874-1974	LH	362
	Multi	holy family/Nollaig	LH	408			stage coach-Europa CEPT	LH	463
		madonna and child/Nollaig	V	383			two men playing-ceol agus rince	LV	484
		tractor and birds	LH	335			weasel-easog	LV	480
							winged ox	H	302A
7-1/2	Purple	deer/stag	S	300	13	Brown	deer/stag	S	467
8	Brown	deer/stag	S	353		Multi	man facing left-Oscar Wilde Europa	LV	479
		dog	S	395			ship-transatlantic cable	LH	464
	Blue	stars and stripes US flag	LH	390	15	Red	man facing right-S.Oliver Plunkett	LV	381
	Purple	bird/hands	LV	367			man/stamp	LH	392
	Green	coin/bird monaiocht na hEireann	LH	436		Yellow	man/sea/fisherman-1876 - 1958	H	405
		madonna and child Nollaig 1978	LV	440		Brown	bird-Oisín Kelly	LH	373
	Multi	bird-frogodytes troglodytes	LH	449		Blue	bird-hands	LV	368
		flowers-Gentiana verna	LV	428			dog	S	468
		girl scout	LH	416		Green	building	S	546
		holy family Nollaig 1977	LV	423		Multi	bicycles on road-an oige 1931-1981	LV	498
		manuscript National library	LH	411			child's drawing-Nollaig 1980	LV	490
		runners-World cross country	LH	445			holy family-Nollaig 1976	LH	410
9	Green	deer/stag	S	301,354			madonna and child-Nollaig 1974	LV	366
		dog	S	396			man facing right-Ferguson tractor	LV	493
		horses hunting-R.Healy	LH	370			man facing right/telephone	LV	388
	Blue	radio waves	LV	406			man/map-Dáirmuid O'Donnabhain Rosa	LV	502
		man/stamp	LH	391			man playing bagpipes-ceol agus rin	LV	485
	Gray	ceramic barrel Europa	LH	393			rabbit-glorria	LV	481
	Multi	church-architectural heritage	LV	379			winged ox	H	356
		golf sports	LH	372	16	Green	deer/stag	S	469
		holy family - Nollaig 1976	LH	409		Multi	fox-vulpes vulpes	LV	482
		man facing right/telephone	LV	387			man-Parsons turbine	LV	494
9-1/2	Red	dog	S	397	17	Green	madonna and child-Nollaig 1978	LV	442
		priest and child-Hospitaler order	LH	457		Brown	airplane-first east west trans	LV	427
	Multi	bronze relief Nollaig 1979	LV	461		Blue	star-Nollaig 1984	LH	603
10	Orange	man facing right-J.M.Synge	V	308		Multi	horse on coin-monaiocht na hEire	LH	439
							abstract face-Louis de Brocquy	LV	415

17	Multi	bird-seabhaic seilge falco child's drawing of ducks dog racing-1927 - 1977 flowers-daboecia contabrica holy family-Nollaig 1977 man in hat-Sir William Orpen man-Sir Roland Hill boy scout winged ox	LH 452 LH 455 LH 422 LV 431 LV 425 LV 434 LV 448 LH 417 H 402	26	Multi	butterfly-Red Admiral dog-cu faoil dog-spainear uisce fish-brandon salmo salar holy family-Nollaig 1983 lake/boat-corcaigh madonna and child-Nollaig 1984 man-J.S.Bach man-Europa Charles V.Stamford man-Eamon deValera man facing right-Padraig O'Siochth man weaving basket-lamhcheirdeanna nurse/patient-St. Vincent's people-blain idirnaís saint and children-Soc. of St. Vin scooner-Asgard II sketch of face-James Joyce sportsmen-cumann luthchleas Gael train-Great Southern tree/leaves-taxus baccata	LV 613 LH 564 LH 565 LH 527 LV 580 LH 609 LV 605 LV 620 LH 616 LV 534 LV 559 LV 576 LH 589 LV 625 LV 571 LH 531 LV 522 LV 599 LH 582 LH 586
18	Red Multi	dog barn/policeman/men-land law holy family-Nollaig 1981 horse-Arkle horse-Boomerang lake/mountains-Pair Naisiunta man/coast-an oige 1931-1981 man/white house-James Hoban rooster-CEPT Europa bealoideas	S 470 LV 513 LH 510 LH 505 LH 506 LH 515 LH 499 H 504 LV 496	28	Multi	butterfly-Brimstone	LV 614
19	Green Multi	dog four persons-an oige 1931-1981 scales of justice-CEPT Europa	S 471 LH 500 LV 497	29	Green Blue Purple Multi	bridge-Europa building runner-olympic rings dog boy-Boy's Brigade crawfish-cloichean dog-madra gearr equations-quaternions by Hamilton man/music-John Field microwave dish-an bhlean chumar people-teaching Christianity sailboat-17 bhinn eadain train-Great northern tree/leaves-salix hibernica woman crocheting-lamh cheirdeanna	LH 593 S 551 LH 597 S 475 LV 560 LH 528 LH 566 LH 562 LV 523 LV 574 H 520 LV 532 LH 583 LH 587 LV 577
20	Green Multi	building bronze relief-Nollaig 1979 statue of man-F.E.McWilliam winged ox	S 547 LV 462 LH 459 H 303,357	30	Black Multi	building fence/tracks-W.J.Leech rock climber-an oige 1931-1981	S 552 LH 503 LV 501
22	Blue Green Purple Black Multi	building glass-Dublin chamber of commerce dog hammer throw/olympic rings madonna and child-Nollaig 1982 building-Dunsink observatory abstract-Royal Dublin Society animal heads-I.S.P.C.A. balloon and clouds-love butterfly-common blue dog-brocaire gorm holy family-Nollaig 1981 holy family-Nollaig 1983 horse-King of Diamonds madonna and child-Nollaig 1984 man facing left-Padraig O'Conaire man-Dominico Scarlatti man-G.F.Handel man-John McCormack man-Sean MacDiarmada meeting-Grattan's parliament monks and angel-St. Francis oyster-oisre ostrea edulis people-blain idirnaís postman with bicycle-an bhlian chu rowboat-curragh sailboat-gleoitog shark-craosaire lamma nasus soldiers-first Irish U.N. peace sportsmen-cumann luthchleas Gael tree and leaves-sorbus hibernica woman weaving-lamhcheirdeanna	S 548 LV 557 S 472 LH 595 LV 535 LV 608 LH 514 LH 569 LH 606 LV 612 LH 563 LH 511 LV 579 LH 507 LV 604 LV 521 LV 618 LV 619 LV 594 LV 568 LV 533 LV 517 LH 526 LH 624 LV 573 LH 530 LV 529 LH 525 LH 621 LH 598 LH 585 LV 575	36	Multi	holy family-Nollaig 1981 horse-Coosheen Finn lake/mountains-pairc naisiunta	LH 512 LH 509 LH 516
23	Green Multi	building old train-Dublin and Kingstown	S 549 LH 581	37	Multi	building man-Europa Turlough O'Carolan	LV 610 LH 617
24	Brown Multi	dog minister/church-Francis Makemie horse-Ballymoss	S 473 LH 518 LH 508	44	Gray Black Multi	man-Andrew Jackson building balloon/crowd-first flight building-Royal College of Surgeons butterfly-marsh fritillary dogs-setair electric train-coras iompair man facing right-George Berkley man facing right-Charles Kickham man making harp-lamhcheir deanna saint writing-Raonih Breandan tree/leaves-betula pubessens	LV 572 S 553 LV 611 LH 590 LV 615 LH 567 LH 584 LV 623 LV 524 LV 578 LH 601 LH 588
25	Multi	abstract-Patrick Scott child's drawing-Nollaig 1980 deer-an fiarua girl dancing man in submarine-Holland	LV 488 LV 491 LV 483 LV 486 LV 495	50	Multi Blue	bird building	H 304,358 H 554
26	Red Blue Green Gray Brown Black Multi	Mayor's badge bridge-Europa hurdles-olympic rings man facing right-Padraig O'Siochth dog hand with letter-MY 14 1784 1984 man facing right-Thomas Ashe madonna and child-Nollaig 1982 swirls woman and child-an gorta mor building abstract-Industrial Credit Co. ballot box-na dara diorthoghchain bouquet of hearts-love building-Bank of Ireland centenary	LV 600 LH 592 LH 596 LV 559 S 474 LH 602 LV 622 LV 536 V 519 S 550 LH 571 LH 591 LV 607 LH 558	£1	Brown Multi	building bird	H 555 H 359
				£5	Red	building	H 556

1989 PROGRAMME CHANGES

Customers should note that the 1989 philatelic new issue programme has been amended and is now as follows:—

15th June:	Franconian Apostles (Joint Irish German Issue)
27th July:	Bicentenary of the Mail Coach Statesmen of Ireland (ST O Kelly) Centenary of birth of Nehru Centenary of birth of Margaret Burke Sheridan 150th Anniversary of the Royal Institute of Architects.
7th September:	First phase of new definitive series.
5th October:	Fauna & Flora (Game Birds)
14th November:	Christmas Issue.



IRISH PHILATELY RUNS DEEP

by Richard J. Swords

My interest in Ireland's stamps began in 1947. I had been out of the Navy just a year and had joined a local stamp club. Since I had been a general collector for many years, I now decided to specialize. My father, being of Irish heritage, whose forefathers settled in Quebec Province, Canada during colonial times, now began to influence me and peaked my interest in Ireland. I scanned through the Scott Catalogue and saw that Ireland would be an easy country to collect (only 134 issues then). At this time there was not very much information on Irish adhesives - no specialized catalogues or such. I was living in Vallejo, California at the time about 35 miles north of San Francisco. Whenever I had the opportunity to be in San Francisco, I would make the rounds of the many stamp stores but found very little Irish. I came across one Jack O'Brien on Golden Gate Ave near Market St. He was a collector-dealer who had more Irish than most dealers at the time. So it was his stock that got me off the ground floor.

The most memorable purchase from Jack was four overprint coil strips with control numbers. As an example, one was a strip of 13 stamps (Position 12/13 being the paste-up) at \$7.50; the other strips were cheaper. In those days Ireland could be bought very cheaply. Although I had started, I really didn't have all that many stamps.

It was in 1950 I found out about the EPA so I became a member (my number is 67). Through the EPA and the early REVEALER's I enhanced my interests and knowledge of Irish philately by corresponding with such men as John Ullman (EPA #51), and Perry Adams (EPA #84). Both of these men were free-lance dealers who were instrumental in building my

collection and my interest. Through Jack, John and Perry, I began to amass a rather respectable collection. As time went on Perry became my sole supplier and informant.

As I mentioned before, information was scarce. I would go to the San Francisco Library and read from the Robsen Lowe Encyclopedia. I also found out in the Gibbon's catalogue, 1954 about Control Numbers and other items not listed in Scott. It was like starting another collection all over again. Prices were still reasonable like a Sc 68b I bought from Perry for \$42.50 and Mollisen Air Mail for £11 or \$33.00 (US) from Shannahan auctions. In 1954 I participated in my first area exhibit. It wasn't very impressive and Ireland was rarely seen. One Sunday I was invited to attend a philatelic party at Gil Robert's (EPA #34) home in Stockton, California. A guest speaker was present whose subject was 'Exhibiting'. I was impressed and through his helpful hints I began to make my own exhibit pages. I showed Ireland at WESTPEX '60, that first annual exhibit, and won a First Award Gold Medal. Since then I have exhibited in many western areas winning many awards. As time passed the awards became few and far apart - about the same time that Postal History began to get popular. 'No use fighting it - join 'em' which led me to start collecting Postal Stationery of Ireland. About this same time Ireland was beginning to get popular and prices were escalating.

In the meantime the EPA was growing. THE REVEALER became more informative - Supplements were issued for awhile. I still have an original book of EPA By-Laws listing 176 members. As time passed I was invited to give many speeches to various local clubs in San Francisco, San Pablo, Napa, Vallejo, etc. areas. Of course the subject was always Ireland. I was collecting about everything Irish and attending many shows. The EPA roster was growing which gave me an opportunity to meet new members. Eventually the Northern California (NORCAL) Chapter of the EPA was formed in the San Francisco area. My very good friends G Lohman, P Pope, Murphy, Sullivan, J Lawless, F McGuire as well as those from Southern California like J Blessington, B Zellers and B Kemper always provided a good time and the trade of valuable information.

My collection continued to grow to 18 volumes comprising nearly 800 pages that included Postal History, Overprints, Forerunners, Overprint errors (Major and Minor), G. B. Used in Ireland, Control Numbers, Overprints (FDC a few), Essays, Definitives (1, 2, 3 printings including FDC), all Commemoratives including FDC (all but 2), Commemorative Flaws, Postage Dues and flaws, Airmail and First Flight Covers, All of the Gerls except plates, Postal Etiquettes, Revenues, G. B. Official Stamps Used in Ireland, Postal Stationery (nearly Complete) and my last interest Official Postal Stationery of Ireland, for which I received the Vincent Linnell Award for my article in THE REVEALER. Now, I notice, this last subject has developed a very loyal following among collectors. Also I see offers appearing in auctions for this material.

The nearly 800 pages in my collection and the knowledge I possess I owe to the assistance of my many friends I have mentioned and the knowledgeable authors writing for THE REVEALER. Also, participating in auctions and attending stamp exhibits has been invaluable to me. Although I have never held any office in the EPA other than Western Director, I hope I have made a positive contribution toward the advancement of Irish Philately.

Three years ago a crisis occurred in my life which forced the sale of my collection. I am certain that my material has found a home in many collections both to their satisfaction and mine. I remained a member of EPA - just couldn't desert the hobby that for so many years provided me with personal enjoyment and satisfaction. But I have never collected Railroad Letter Fee Stamps of Ireland and it is this subject I have recently taken an interest. I have started collecting again and now have a good start towards exhibiting once more.

I just want to thank all of the wonderful friends and members of the EPA I have met through the years. It's great to be back in action.



DIAMONDS, AND OTHER OLD IRISH GEMS

By Tom Polick

One area of Irish philately that really appeals to me is collecting the numbered diamond shape cancels, called rhomboids. They were introduced in June of 1844, and their rhomboid shape of horizontal bars or lines identified the cancel as Irish. The same bars forming an oval shape was reserved for the postal cancellations of offices on the larger island to the east.

They replaced the maltese cross cancellation and served as both a cancel and a postmark. The heavy distinctive grid of ink applied to the postage stamp so effectively discouraged any thought of reuse that they were referred to as, "obliterators" and, "killers". They were a terrible development for the stamp collectors of the time who were collecting the different corner letters and other varieties that required a clean, lightly cancelled copy. The new obliterator cancelled like the track of a modern day truck tire with a number in the middle of the design.

The famous Penny Black, you'll recall had been replaced by the red-brown color to prevent the recycling of postage stamps but a heavier cancel was needed to stop what was apparently a widespread practice. And, the numbered killer did a bang-up job.

In the center of each diamond was a space which held a number denoting the place where the stamp was cancelled—an identifying postmark.

The numbers assigned to post offices in Ireland and contained within the diamond design ran from one to 564. Some numbers were shifted between different towns, never assigned, added, discontinued and again resumed. I have an excellent, well designed and researched list of these numbers with the changes and dates. David MacDonnell gave me the list and I'm sure if O.K. with him would be appropriate to publish in a future REVEALER or as a special offer if there's sufficient demand.

These cancellations were an outstanding success with the post office as attested by their long record of use....well over sixty years! They paralleled the Victorian Age (1837-1901) when the postal service had to keep pace with the tremendous growth in the systems of government and empire. As a result, there is a good amount of material available so that any collector, whatever his price range might pursue an interest in the numbered diamonds. Anywhere the British empire extended, correspondence might have been saved and accumulations of old covers might bear the familiar rhomboids.

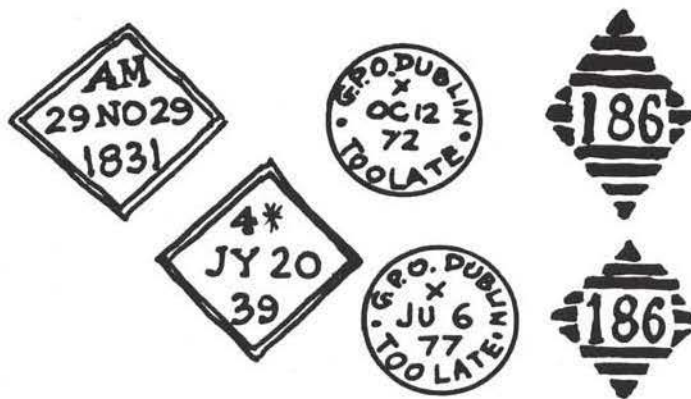
They were the workhorses of the postal system and are found right up to the formation of the Free State. Thumbing through old REVEALERS, a number were reported on the overprints; ASKEATON (24), BALIEBOROUGH (26) BALLYGLASS (42), BRAY (72), CARLOW (97) and about a dozen others. One E.P.A. member, Arthur Stokes, submitted a copy of a 1/2p O'Leary struck with the DUN LAOGHAIRE (289). Fred Dixon explained occasional use when incoming letters escaped cancellation, on newspaper wrappers and during peak mail periods when automatic equipment was already fully engaged. The latest use he had seen was in 1960, a CARLOW (97).

These numbered rascals were around for a long time and there is a wealth of varieties of slightly different shapes, sizes, bar thicknesses, color inks,....used alone or in a duplex with a circular postmark. The diamonds were used experimentally in the "spoon cancels" in thirty-three Irish towns....and then there are some numbers which are very scarce. All kinds of interesting stuff for a collector to get into.

Bill Kane has done some fine studies with the Dublin cancels and E.P.A. member, Tom Current ran a project through the REVEALER, called DOING THE NUMBERS.

Tom's search and strict rules established which numbers were confirmed on cover and the list of the "missing ones" was trimmed down considerably. In his final report, he presented a marvelous table which provide some insights into why some numbers were so rare. (Small, impoverished populations hit hard by the Famine didn't leave many letters, etc.)

So, there's a goldmine of interest,....or better yet diamond mine where all of the gems are unique and to be treasured.



F. R. A. MCCORMICK

by Richard J. McBride

Little has been written in recent years about F. R. A. McCormick, who was one of three persons responsible for the planting of the seeds from which grew the Eire Philatelic Association. McCormick was an engineer, a resident of Dublin and an ardent philatelist.

He was an author of postal history and in 1948 began writing a weekly column for Linn's Stamp News on Irish philately. Several of his readers, among them Bill Hickey and Neil Stack wrote to him and suggested that an Irish Club be organized. With McCormick's encouragement the rest is history.

Day of Issue



F. R. A. MCCORMICK,
ARDYNE, MOUNT EDEN ROAD,
DUBLIN.

F. R. A. was assigned EPA membership #3, unfortunately he passed on early in 1952 when the Eire Philatelic Association was only several years old. His generosity extended to EPA in the form of making available his collection which was to be sold to EPA members at an auction. This was made possible by Neil Stack who acquired the collection and donated it to EPA. The proceeds of this sale (some \$450.00) gave the new and struggling Eire Philatelic Association its first financial base and enabled the Revealer to be published for many years.

The cover illustrated in this edition was probably from that auction and has found its way into my overprint exhibit. The cover carries a Scott #1 Dollard overprint and a Scott #15 Thom overprint and is cancelled February 17, 1922 which was the first day of issue. It was cancelled at Ballsbridge B. O. (branch office) Dublin. Close examination of the two light cancels at the right reveal that they were struck at 1:45 P. M. McCormick may have been unhappy with the lack of clarity of the original cancels and returned to have the bold left hand strike applied at 4:15 P. M. Only a serious philatelist would have given such attention to this level of detail.

We are eternally grateful to F. R. A. McCormick for his efforts in encouraging Bill Hickey (EPA #1) and Neil Stack (EPA #2) to organize the Eire Philatelic Association, which has brought to hundreds of collectors of Irish philately much knowledge and enjoyment over these past thirty-nine years.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

May 1, 1989

Dear Editor,

I have a few comments on Otto Jung's column about EPA Souvenirs.

First, he is perhaps unaware of the John McCormack Chapter, in Massachusetts. The Chapter adopted the name after being given a large poster of the Irish John McCormack stamp by the USPS at the joint first day ceremony (but had been in existence for a while before that).

Regarding the ARIPEX 81 souvenirs: I was Managing Director of Philatelic Consultants, which was the agent for the Irish Post Office (later An Post) from the day the contract was signed - the day before the strike in 1979-until we sold the business in 1986. The ARIPEX souvenirs were caused by an impromptu meeting of EPA members - I remember Joe Foley, Jim Lawless, Bill Zellers, and Garvin Lohman, Pat Stillwell and her then fiancé, Dan Walker, Bob Corless, and possibly Preston Pope. Bob had the ARIPEX perfin machine, some one asked me to bring my stock book of definitives, and some of Mr. Jamieson's fine product helped keep us going smoothly. Every one impressed whatever stamps he fancied, paid for whatever he had taken, and the GPO didn't care, as it was a few more stamps sold. Then those present learned that I was to be in Dublin the next week, so another round of stamp selection, impressing, and refreshments were in order, covers were prepared, and I took them with me. If you have a cover that arrived from Ireland, smell it. I had placed them carefully in my tote bag, along with a bottle of tax-free vodka I was bringing my host, and when I unpacked, found that the two had mixed a bit!

Regarding Jung's numbers 1985,2 and 3: The Interpex cachet was applied at our stand. From time to time we would ask the Post Office to send us the rubber cuts for cachets to use at our stand. We would affix them to our self-inking stamper, and usually leave it on the counter (tied down!). Customers were free to use it themselves - we learned that if the customer isn't happy with our affixing the cachet there was no end to the complaints, but if they did it themselves, we saved ourselves a lot of grief. Several cards, souvenirs, and matter of all descriptions must have had this cachet affixed. Sometimes it would be added to a FDC, or the customer would buy a current stamp and affix it to his own envelope or card. I'm sure that wasn't the only cachet we used over the years.

I was looking for my RIPEX '85 - WESTPEX '85 booklet to find the price, but can't locate it at present. However, I found a cover 1985,4a & 4b. The covers were printed for use at two shows, WESTPEX '85 (San Francisco) and RIPEX '85 (Providence). My cover has the green cachet, and the Rhode Island Philatelic Society Exhibition Station cancel was placed just touching the U.S. McCormack stamp. Below that stamp is a 2' Freedom to Speak Out stamp, to make up the additional postage required. Squeezed between the large cancel (2" x 1 1/2") (approx. 5cm x 3 3/4 cm) & the cachet is an Irish McCormack stamp with the same cachet as 1985,2 and 3, used as a cancel.

My compliments to Otto on a fine article, especially since English is not his first language.

Sincerely,

Edith B. Hillman #1544

CORRECTION

EXCLUSIVE PERIODS OF USE:
GREEN, RED AND BLACK INK
FOR WWII IRISH CENSOR CANCEL

The Editor was informed by the author too late to correct a misspelling in the fifth line of his article. The word printed as "SAOTA" should be "SAORTA".



CHRISTMAS SLOGANS Christmas 1988 brought the novelty of not one but two new Christmas slogans. For the first time, the "An Post" logo appeared with the traditional postal Christmas message when "Post early for Christmas = Post" appeared nationwide early in December.

However, the real surprise was the "Happy Christmas = Post" slogan which superseded it from around 16th. December, and which was still in use in the Dublin "C." machine at least on Dec. 28th!

BONUS SHEETLET The Christmas Bonus sheetlet issued on Nov. 24th again produced two perforation types. The first, perforated through both side margins, was the only type stocked at the Philatelic Counter in the GPO on issue day, but when a call there was made on Dec. 15th, sheets on sale were perforated through the right margins only.

LABELS A recent discovery shows that National Fire Safety Week in 1987 (Oct. 5-12) had an attractive advertising label similar to that used in the preceding year (Oct. 6-13) with just the dates appropriately amended.

STAMPA EXHIBITION CARDS Competition was keen to obtain appropriate cancellations on the four Exhibition cards featuring Dublin Post Office Buildings issued at "Stampa 88". Congratulations go to Karl Winklemann for obtaining (and recording for the first time) a "Foreign Parcel Post - Dublin" cds (in purple) on his card depicting the Amiens St. Parcel Office, where the cancel is in use.

CHRISTMAS SLOGAN An Post continued to wish its customers a Happy Christmas via the Dublin "F" machine on January 3rd!

AIRMAIL SLOGAN Airmail collectors will wish to obtain a copy of the pictorial Ryanair slogan promoting the Waterford-London air route, first placed in use in early December, and scheduled to continue until 23rd February, at Waterford.

MISSING DATESTAMP Colleague Michael McNamara reports a recent edition of Iris an Phoist, the internal Post Office circular, advising a datestamp of the Dublin - Galway TPO service is missing, presumably stolen. We do not know if this is a delayed or incorrect report referring to the datestamp actually destroyed in a carriage fire some time ago, or whether ill fate has in fact again struck this service, and all railway/postmark collectors should watch out for any temporary or permanent replacement stamp.

CARS ISSUE The Cars issue and booklet (scheduled for March 2nd) will again be the work of the technical designer, Mr. Charles Rycraft, who already has the "Trams" and 1984 "Railways" issues amongst others to his credit.

EXPRESS LABELS A brief survey identifies three distinctive types of P.O. Express label (Form MP 459) as having seen consecutive or concurrent use at offices during 1986-88. All versions are printed in black on red paper, and the most recent printing indicates that it incorporates Form L.9, the express form for parcels.

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE CACHET Covers sent to New Ross, Co. Wexford, for cancellation on the day of issue of the J.F. Kennedy commemorative received, in addition to the town handstamp, the now seldom seen 2-line "First Day of Issue" cachet, but unusually struck in purple. A covering note sent to the P.O. there was returned with the office receipt stamp, a boxed "New Ross" in English, struck in the same colour.

SLOGAN DIES An often lamented feature of Irish slogan cancellations is the poor impression on envelopes which the cancelling machines give. This compares very unfavourably with other countries, for instance France, although in America, stamps often appear to escape cancellation altogether! A recent example here is of four items sent especially to a provincial town with a request for a clear (philatelic) slogan cancellation. One cover received a double i.e. superimposed impression, one a poor (incomplete) impression, in one the slogan and dater dies were transposed in such a way that the slogan portion may well have been applied by hand (!), and only one cover left could be regarded as collectable as it bore a 90% impression of the slogan.

NEXT DAY DELIVERY? An Post has recently (Jan. 89) taken advertising space in the daily newspapers, amid controversy over the efficiency of its letter delivery service, to claim that upwards of 80% of letters are delivered the next working day after posting.

However, one of tabloid newspapers has posted a sample of 200 letters for local delivery, and it claims only 32% were delivered on day 1, 44% on day 2, 9% on day 3, with none being delivered on day 4, and 15% awaited still on Day 5. The newspaper published its findings (even if unscientific) under a heading, in its edition of Jan. 12th, "Post now for Christmas".

SLOGANS IN 1988 One of the early year features of meetings of the Irish Philatelic Society is the meeting at which members are asked to display items of interest acquired during the preceding twelve months.

Featured at the display in January '89 was a display by John Lennon which featured the unexpectedly high number of unannounced slogan dies used countrywide during 1988 - 15 altogether. A discovery on an existing slogan was the use, from early in the year, of a recut version of the illustrated die "A Full Address Speeds Delivery" seen only used at Limerick.

POSTAL SORTING/DECENTRALISATION IN DUBLIN On the subject of machine cancellations, collectors should be aware that, with effect from Sept. '88, machine cancellation for the Dublin postal area is no longer solely carried out at the Central Sorting Office in Sheriff St. Dublin. The policy of "Decentralisation", much favoured by Government Departments in the past, has now been adopted by An Post to the extent that six of the district sorting offices, three north, three south, have been issued with their own machines, all however, with the date die of "Baile Atha Cliath" - nevertheless the machines location can be conveniently identified by the alphabetical letter shown at the foot.

Although intended as a move to speed mail deliveries, it most recently appears that due to union resistance and management difficulties, both in the offices affected and also centrally, this policy is now cited as a cause of deterioration in the service, (although not the only one), and only time will show if the difficulties evident at this time can be, if one may use the expression, "sorted out".

CARS ISSUE - 2 The New Issues programme, when announced, is always provisional. News from a friend in the Philatelic Section has just confirmed a deferral of the above issue - from Mar. 2nd to April 11th, the date originally intended for the "Ireland" series.

DELIVERY FEE LABELS James Mackay, whose serialisation of the story of British Postal Labels has been appearing each month in Gibbons Stamp Monthly, has now very clearly and succinctly dealt with the Irish 6d. To Pay Label in the magazine's February 1989 edition. He outlines the background to the introduction of the Label (Form OE 133) following the separation of the Customs in Ireland, both North and South, from Great Britain and the Isle of Man on 1 May 1922, which led to the use of the label in Southern Ireland (printed in green on white paper) from 1923 onwards, and as well as giving brief details of the different types known, he also describes and illustrates its British counterpart (Form OE 114) covering handling charges for Customs clearance on parcels sent in the opposite direction i.e. Ireland to the U.K.

To complete this aspect, it should be noted that another Form (O.E. 84) headed "Tailee/(Charge)" was also used on incoming parcel post to the Free State in cases where Customs Duty was actually levied, and here the Post Office fee for Customs clearance was printed separately on the Form.

LETTER BOX MOVES In the current edition of the Letter Box Study Group Newsletter, reference is made to the usage to date of the American style letter box which An Post acquired in 1987. The box was originally placed outside the P.O. situated at Carrolls Irish Open Golf Tournament 1-5 July 1987, then was installed inside one of the entrances to the ILAC Shopping Centre in Dublin. Following its subsequent disappearance from that location, many thought the box (whose markings confirm its American origins) might have been repatriated - however, it made one more appearance in postal service, again at the Irish Open, in 1988, although this time inside the temporary office! The most recent sighting of the box was not so glamorous; although now inside the GPO itself in O'Connell St. Dublin, it was acting as a temporary receptacle for entries invited in connection with a competition to find an alternative landmark to Nelson Pillar!

ARCHITECTURE DEFINITIVES With the imminent demise of the series, now that the first phase of the new definitives has been announced (five values are tentatively scheduled for issue on July 20th, although this awaits confirmation), collectors now have their last chance to complete any gaps in their collection. The series has seen a prolific amount of paper and plate changes, apart altogether from the production of additional values up to the £2 denomination to meet postal rate increases; was the first Irish definitive series to attract the attention of forgers; and finally was the first definitive series to have a design reproduced on a postal stationary item. It remains to be seen if any changes in printing method or production will be introduced with the new series - however, reports indicate that An Post are not likely to adopt the recent British example of returning to the recess printing process, even if solely for the higher values.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Re: ASDA overprints on current postcards

April 10, 1989



Dear Editor,

At the request of the year end review writers, I visited the Interpost booth while at Interpex in New York City last weekend.

The senior representative of Interpost, a Michael Butler, affirmed that An Post had given Interpost a one-time permission in 1988 to add a triangular ASDA logo to one set of postcards. The total quantity so overprinted in 1988 was 1,000. No other overprints are contemplated. The overprints will be sold at the Interpost booths at ASDA shows until the stocks are exhausted. No special printings are made for any one show.

He also confirmed that An Post permitted Interpost to overprint the CAPEX logo as earlier mentioned in the review column in a total of 2,000 copies.

Very truly yours,

DONAL M. Walsh, Jr.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the EPA will take place in Washington D.C. during World Stamp Expo '89. The Business Meeting will be held at breakfast from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Saturday the 18th at the Sheraton. The General Meeting will be from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. that afternoon at the Convention Center. We hope to see a lot of members at the meeting.

THE FIRST FLIGHT THAT WASN'T

(Continued from page 3)

First - They were not carried on a British European Airways flight.
Second - After being posted at Shannon, the covers were probably sent to Dublin, and carried on the next Aer Lingus flight from Dublin to Dusseldorf. Aer Lingus had been conducting jet passenger and mail service between Dublin and Dusseldorf since June 1965. The covers would not have been backstamped if carried this way. (It is the opinion of this writer that this is the manner in which the covers reached Dusseldorf.)

Third - They could have been flown on the Aer Lingus first flight of May 25th, 1968 from Shannon to Dusseldorf, even though no official mail was presumably carried on this flight.

This article should serve as a caution that sometimes even when an item has been reported in the philatelic press, it is well to check the authenticity of that item. The fact that there was no mention of a British European Airways first flight from either Shannon or Dublin in May of 1968 in the Aero Field, is the prime reason that this writer carried out the investigation reported here.

Note: The Aero Field is an aerophilatelic journal published by Francis J. Field Ltd. of England. This journal regularly published a list of all of the mail carrying flights of the British Isles including Ireland.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

New members are accepted subject to no objections received within 45 days of publication.

#2208 John M. Sweeney, 241 6th Ave., New York, NY 10014
#2209 Thomas J. Durkin, 24 Conwell Dr., Maple Glen, PA 19002
#2210 Donald H. Schodrof, Box 610, Sheriden, IL 60551
#2211 William J. Morse, 85-36 88th St., Woodhaven, NY 11421
#2212 Dennis L. Calkins, 7041 Sagebrush, 29 Palms, CA 92278
#2213 Brian MacKenzie, 281 Gainsborough Rd., Toronto, Ont., Canada M4L 3C8
#2214 Eugene A. Prindle, 916 Long Meadow Dr., Schaumburg, IL 60193
#2215 Daniel P. Berger, 622 Laurie Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95054
#2216 Thomas J. Greal, 139 Mansfield St., Sharon, MA 02067

Reinstatements

#1866 Joanne E. Swarsbrink, 17 Pettee Ave., North Haledon, NJ 07508

New Members Honor Roll

Richard J. McBride (3), Harold Hayward (1), Preston Pope (2), William T. McCaw (2), Belinda Kemper (3), Patricia Walker (1), Michael Giffney (1), Robert Jones (2), and Frank J. Buono (1).

Membership Status

Membership as of March 1, 1989

New Members	9
Reinstatements	1

Membership as of June 1, 1989



FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR



First, I would like to thank all of you who participated in another very fine year for The Revealer. With this issue we embark on yet another. So keep sending those articles and let's try and make this publication the very best it can be. Where are all of the Postal Historians????

Second, an apology to Mike PRIESTLEY and Ian WHYTE for misspelling their names in the last issue. It was inadvertent and unintentional.

Third, just a reminder that the Fall issue of The Revealer will be delayed from its normal publication run to accommodate the results of our election. It should be only a matter of about two weeks or so. Please vote if only to let the people running know that you support what they are doing. Besides, those who count the ballots like to receive mail because they are stamp collectors.

In an effort to keep the membership informed on upcoming events, I have just had the privilege of reviewing a first draft of William J. Murphy's pamphlet on First Flight Covers. It is an exciting, masterful work that will shed new light and proclaim new information in this area of Irish Philately. I am certain that when published this work will awaken new interest in this subject. We all should be looking forward to it.

Elsewhere in this issue you will note an announcement of the EPA Annual Membership Meeting for 1988 to be held in conjunction with the World Expo in Washington DC. While I don't want to take any of the luster off this important meeting, I would like to remind the membership that it is not too early to start preparing for the ARIPEX '90 show April 20-22, 1990 which will host the APS Spring meeting and the EPA General Membership Meeting for those not attending the London '90 show. Bob Corless is the EPA representative for ARIPEX '90 and exhibitors can obtain a show prospectus from him now at 1826 W Indianola Ave, Phoenix AZ 85015. He has 80 frames available for Irish Exhibits.

Our thanks to Tony Finn for taking up the gauntlet and volunteering to provide this publication with up-to-date Irish Philatelic happenings. For now the author requests that any correspondence concerning this column be sent to the editor.

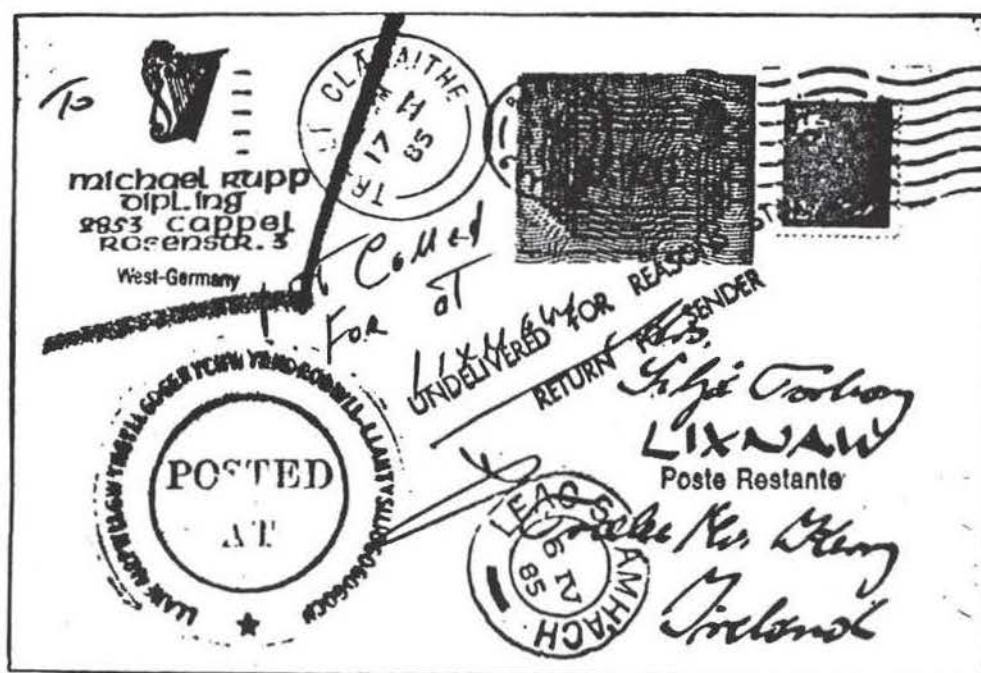
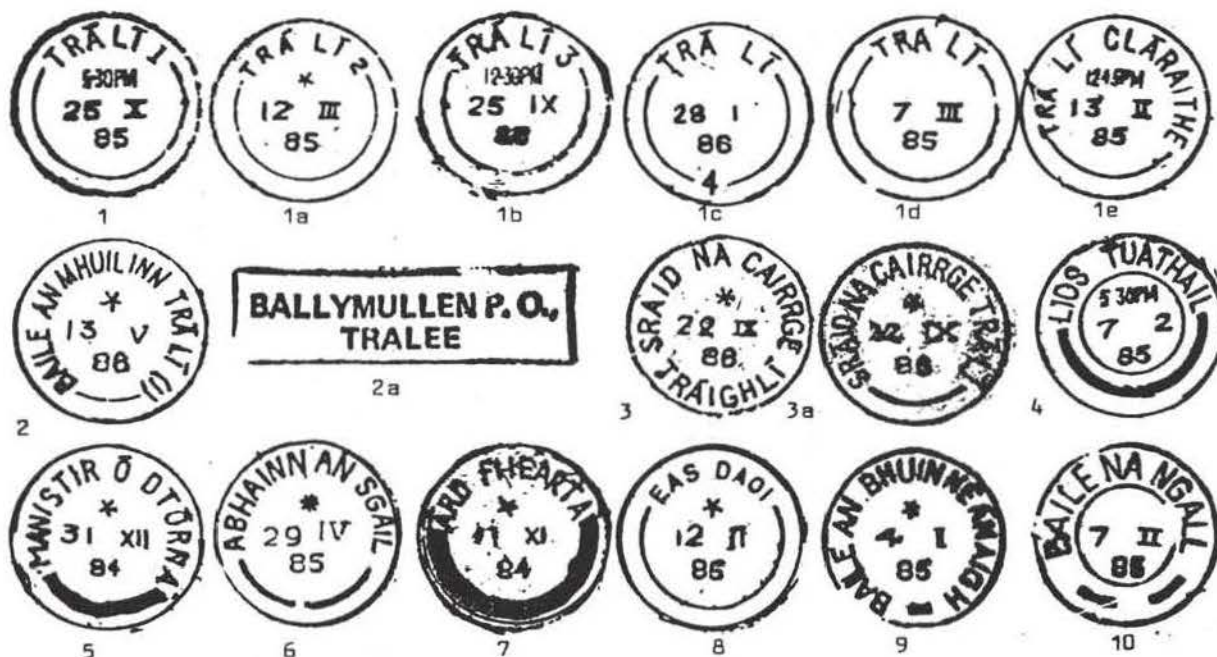
Deadline for the Fall issue is 1 September 1989.

HEADPOST OFFICE DISTRICT TRALEE

by Michael Rupp

- 1 - 1e Datestamps in Tralee Headpost Office No. 1 + 1b for use in Sorting Office. All the other in use on counter.
- 2 Ballymullen Town Sub Office
- 2a Ballymullen Stamp for internal post
- 3 Rock Street Town sub Office-Old inscription "Traighli"
- 3a Rock Street Town sub Office-New inscription "Trali"
- 4 Listowel -Lios Tuathail- District Office
- 5 Abbeydorney -Manistir O Dtoirna-
- 6 Annascaul -Abhainn an Sgail
- 7 Ardferf -Ard Fhearta-
- 8 Asdee -Eas Daoi-
- 9 Ballybunion -Baile an Bhuinne Anaigh-
- 10 Ballydavid -Baile na nGall

2. Headpost Office District Tralee



Letter from Wales (Placename is the World largest) to Lixnaw

EPA at APS, STaMpsHOW 89

The Eire Philatelic Association will be having a Meeting/Seminar sponsored by the SoCal Chapter at APS, STaMpsHOW 89, at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California. STaMpsHOW and the 103rd Annual Convention of the APS will be held August 24-27, 1989. Our meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 26, from 1:00 to 3:00. A program for the Meeting/Seminar is not yet firm, but rest assured it will be one of great interest to all EPA members and to those who collect Irish philatelic material.

STaMpsHOW 89 will be held in the hub of the Southern California tourist industry. Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, Movieland Wax Museum, the Queen Mary/Spruce Goose and the Crystal Cathedral are nearby and geared for kids of all ages. A combined family vacation/visit to STaMpsHOW 89 would be enjoyed by all philatelic families. Philatelic offerings at the show approach Disneyland proportions. An over 100 dealer bourse, a large auction, 30 entries in the World Series of Philately competition, a large Open Exhibition, dozens of seminars and meetings, in addition to the EPA's. A Junior Program to keep the youngsters occupied is offered. Plan to be there! Come early, stay late but join us at the prime time EPA meeting, Saturday, August 26, 1989 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

To enhance EPA visibility in this show "The Revealer" will be a participant in the Literature Competition.

Pat Walker will be our guest speaker and will present a slide show about Irish Postal History from Postal Reform to 1900. A social will follow.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

March 2, 1989

Dear Sir,

With regard to the British Airgraph Service (Revealer Winter 1988) it should be noted that Francis J. Field was not the sole originator of Airgraphs sent on March 1, 1943, the first day of service from Eire (all of which, incidentally, were date stamped March 2, 1943 and carry censor markings). Additionally other destinations other than those listed are known.

For example, I have an item (ex T.E.Field) which was sent from Dun Laoghaire to Colombo, Ceylon and is from a private individual rather than a stamp dealer.

Irish acceptances are also known for the first British Christmas and New Year Greetings Airgraphs which appeared in 1944. The example I have is from Dublin to Canada and dated December 27, 1944. It did not originate from Francis J. Field.

A 1944 Xmas airgraph made by a member of the North Irish Horse (Tank Corps) incorporating the regimental coat of arms, harp, Erin etc. also exists. My example was sent from Italy to Portadown, N. Ireland.

Yours faithfully,

C. I. Dulin

E.P.A. SPECIAL OFFERS

The following items may be ordered from Richard J. McBride, 153 Orchid Road, Meriden, CT 06450 U.S.A. All prices include postage and handling. Overseas add 50¢ for air mail. Make all cheques 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 \$4.50

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. Price \$3.00

Die Meilenstempel Der Irischen Post — (The Mileage Marks of Ireland) 1808-1839 by Hans G. Moxter. 1985 Edition. 64pp. 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. Price \$3.50

Ireland - Catalogue of Perforations — compiled and edited by Richard L. Mewhinney. Published by The Perforations Club - 1984. 34 pp. punched for 3 ring binder. The catalogue is designed for use as an album as well as catalogue. Only observed Perforations are catalogued. Also, 2 pages of suspected or previously reported designs. Price \$5.50, Supplement \$1.00

The Adhesive Revenue Stamps of Ireland: 1858-1925 — James J. Brady's detailed study of the Irish Revenue Stamps. All are in easy-to-follow catalog form with many details. A must for the Auction. Price to members \$2.25

E.P.A. Rubber Stamp — The Official Seal of the Association as seen on the front of all official Society papers has been made into a rubber stamp available to our members. Dress up your envelopes and correspondence. Sold only to members at \$6.00

E.P.A. CAPEX Souvenir Card — The counterpart to the AMERIPEX card. Produced for sale at the CAPEX show in Toronto. Price \$1.00

James Hoban Chapter Booklet — Produced to commemorate AMERIPEX, STAMPEX and VAPEX '86. Buff cover with the EPA seal on the front and the White House on the back in green. Contains a pair of the Eire 1985 Love stamps. Production Limit 300. Price \$2.25

E.P.A. - AMERIPEX Souvenir Cards — Souvenir cards sold at the International Exhibition in Chicago in 1986. These handsome cards are slightly different than those distributed with The REVEALER. These cards have an E.P.A. logo centered in black with Eire Philatelic Association printed in green on the top and Ameripex with dates in blue at the bottom. Cards are numbered, with a total printing of 390. Cards available from No. 230. Price \$1.00

Undated Namestamps of Ireland 1823-1860 — by Bill Kane. This booklet has been produced by FAI of West Germany. In English and German and records the colours, periods of usage on the various types of undated namestamps. Price to members \$3.75

"Die Ganzsachen Irlands" — (The Postal Stationery of Ireland) by Otto Jung. 1987 Edition. Text in German & English. Published by FAI, the Irish Philatelic Group in Germany. This new edition is by far the most specialized and authoritative and gives a very complete listing of Irish postal stationery available. Well illustrated. Prices for mint and used in DM, IR£ & US\$. Price \$8.50

The Post Office Guide of 1923 — This is a reprint by FAI of the Irish Free States first guide. A must for postmark students. Price \$5.00

Irish Postal Rates Before 1840 — by F.E. Dixon. Produced by FAI it is in German and English. This publication lists the Irish Postal Rates from 1657 to 1840. A superb guide for Postal Historians. Price \$4.00

The Maritime Postmarks of Ireland — by Bernt Dienelt. Published by FAI it is the first of three booklets on the subject. An excellent reference for collectors of Paquebot and Maritime Postmarks. Printed in German and English. Price \$4.50

E.P.A. Official Pin — A handsome metal pin replica of the E.P.A. logo. Available to members only at \$1.25 each.

A Listing of Irish Postmarks in Gaelic from 1922 — Produced by the E.P.A., Irish Postmarks are listed alphabetically in Gaelic with their English translations. It is a most comprehensive Guide to postmarks available. 82pps \$6.00.