

The Revealer

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EPA Auctions Rare Irish Coil

'PENCf'



and



'PENCf Corrected' Errors



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Writing this column is one of the few remaining duties before my term as president of EPA ends. I was reluctant to accept the position when it was offered: it was a responsibility I had not planned on. I was especially concerned about the amount of time I would have to devote to the position (time for a teacher is

always at a premium). However, it was time well spent because I met people whom I otherwise would not have met.

I regret that the modern postal history study unit is still not a fact. This is one area in which time just got away from me. The plans, however, are "still on the board" and I hope to have it operating "soon."

My appreciation to members who wrote making suggestions (apologies for the sometimes-slow replies). And, of course, my appreciation to the officers, staff, and directors of EPA for their help and guidance. These people devote a great deal of time and talent to making EPA a successful organization.

Good luck to all.

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.....

'PENCF' and 'PENCF Corrected' Errors

by William P. Fletcher FRPSL



'PENCF' Error



'PENCF' Error Corrected

The 'PENCF' error is found on the George V 1½d value stamp of Great Britain 1912-1922 and was first reported in the 'British Philatelist' in December 1919. In this error, the word 'HALFPENCE' has the final letter as an 'F' instead of an 'E'. This variety occurs on the twelfth stamp of the fifteenth row and is found in some sheets with control number L18, O19, Q21 and T22. The variety is found on two plates and these are referred to as plates 12 and 29. Plating of the GB stamps of this period is related to cuts and dots in the marginal rules (Jubilee Lines) particularly those in the margin of the bottom row of the sheet. These are detailed in Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Specialised Catalogue Volume 2. Plate 12 is found in two states: as Plate 12a on sheets with control L18 and O19; and plate 12b on control Q21 and T22. The identifying differences are in the cuts and dots in the marginal rule. These marginal marks were probably made by the printer intentionally to help differentiate plates.

Plates 12a and 12b both show two cuts in the marginal rule to the left of stamp 20/1, 5.5mm and 7mm up the marginal rule and a minute dot in the rule under 'F' of HALF on stamp 20/9. Plate 29 is recorded by Gibbons as only occurring on sheets with control Q21, but as we shall see, it must also have been used on sheets with control T22. Control blocks from plate 29 are difficult to plate as there are no flaws in the marginal rules in the control area, but plate 29 is identified by a dot in the rule to the right of stamp 20/12.

The variety was corrected on both plates 12b and 29, probably by hand. This correction has resulted in the final 'E' having an abnormally long lower serif with a 1/2mm extension and a marked upward tilt at the end. This tilt gives the variety 'PENCF error corrected'.

It has been suggested but not proved that this variety may exist on more than two plates. Some writers have suggested four different plates exist with the 'PENCF' error. This suggestion is usually discounted but must always be kept in mind when dealing with difficult items which do not comply with the two known plates. Only two plates have been identified on the stamps used for the Irish overprints.

As the variety occurred on more than one plate, it is reasonable to assume that the variety was first on the master plate and was transferred to (at least) two printing plates. It is the printing plates that were corrected to give the variety 'PENCF corrected'.

When the master plate was repaired, it would have been done by substitution of the faulty cliché rather than by hand repair and subsequent printing plates would have an 'E' that would not differ from other 'E's.

It must be remembered that the numbering of the plates and settings are entirely arbitrary and is those of philatelists and not the printers. They therefore only give a fair approximation of the order of printing.

Plate 12 or Plate 29.

On the Irish overprinted issues, plate 12b is found with control Q21 and T22 and plate 29 is only reported with Q21 but must have been used with T22. It is possible to differentiate marginal copies of both varieties 'PENCF' and 'PENCF corrected' from the two plates by reference to the marginal rule to the right of the variety stamp. On plate 12b this marginal rule is described as 'thin' [about .8mm] being thicker at the top and bottom and thinner in the middle. On plate 29 it is 'thick' [about 1.00mm] and appears ragged and has 'whiskers' on the outer side. These two marginal rules can be differentiated by their shape as can be seen in the illustrations.

Marginal Perforations.

Perforations of this GB issue were made by a vertical comb which could perforate the sheets both from left to right (type 2) and right to left (type 2A) as identified by Gibbons Specialised Great Britain Catalogue. If the sheets were fed into the machine left side first, it produced sheets with a bottom margin with a single perforation extension hole (i.e. Imperf Control Blocks) (type 2). The top and right margins were perforated completely through. On the other hand, if the sheets were fed into the machine right side first (type 2A), the machine produced sheets with bottom margins perforated completely through (i.e. Perforated Control Blocks). A single perforation extension hole would, this, appear in the top and left margins. Therefore, we know plates 12b and 29 exist with a particular 'control perf' we may conclude that the 'PENCF' variety must exist with perforated right margins, and vice versa.

Thom 5 Line in Black.

In this issue, the 'PENCF' variety is found on both plate 12b and plate 29. The vast majority of marginal pieces are identified as plate 29 and show the characteristics of overprint setting 2. The variety stamp [stamp 15/12] shows a large void top right of the '9' of 1922 and also the overprint alignment variety Ei/1. This has an imperforate right margin from sheets with control Q21 perf.

The 'PENCF' variety from plate 12b is rarely seen with the right margin imperforated from sheets with control number Q21. The overprint is setting 1 and the variety stamp has a nick half way down the right side of the '9' of 1922 but no variety Ei/1.

'PENCF corrected' is found in plate 12b with perforated right margins from Control Number Q21 Imperf; Q21 was the only control number used for settings 1 and 2 in the black overprint. This sheet was overprinted with setting 2 and shows the large void - top right of the '9' of 1922 - and was aligned Ei/1 on the variety stamp.

To help confirm the overprint setting of any piece with the Thom 5 line overprint, the occurrence of the alignment variety, Ei/1, in the various settings are given on the next page, in the proximity of the 'PENCF' and the 'PENCF Corrected' variety on stamp 15/12. These positions, of course, apply to both the

Thom black and blue black issues. The numbers refer to the overprint setting number.

	stamp 10	stamp 11	stamp 12
Row 13	4 7/8	4 7/8	4 7/8
Row 14	none	none	none
Row 15	3	2 3	2 3
Row 16	4 7/8 10	7/8 10	5 7/8 9
Row 17	none	none	none

Thom 5 Line Blue Black.

The 'PENCF' variety is not found on this or any of the later overprinted issues. The 'PENCF Corrected' is found on plate number 12b; sheets with control number T22; Perfs from both settings 3 and 9; and with imperf right margins. This issue is recorded as existing in plate 29; overprint setting 8; perforated right margin, and, presumably from sheets with control number T22 imperf.

Harrison 5 Line Rolls.

The corrected 'PENCF' is found in the horizontal coils. Only one such roll is thought to exist, and in view of the method of manufacture of these rolls, the error would appear throughout the roll every twelfth stamp. There is no reason why the error should not exist in the vertical rolls. It is obviously easier to spot the error in the horizontal format as the variety (being on the right marginal stamp) is found to the left of the horizontal coil-join. The left sheet margin was used to join the stamps from sheets to make coil rolls. Coil strips have an imperf left margin at the coil-joins and are therefore from sheets with perforated right margins. A stamp of this value is known with a portion of the T22 control on the bottom margin (in a vertical roll) and, therefore, the sheet used for this issue must be T22 imperf. It is not possible to identify the plate used as the right margin, hence, the right marginal rule was not used in making the coil-joins.

Thom Wide.

The corrected variety is found in plate 12b with imperf right margin and control number T22 Perf. Setting 1 - Setting 2 is not recorded as being found on Plate 12b, but, it may exist. Identification of settings 1 and 2 of the 'wide' is not always easy.

SAORSTAT.

Again, the corrected variety is on plate 12b with imperf right margin, and control number T22 Perf. This is found with overprint setting 1 and the variety stamp shows a missing bar to the 'E' of Eireann. The only other setting used to overprint this value, setting 2, does not exist on plate 12b.

The variety is rare on plate 29 with perforated right margin and overprint setting 1 on sheets with T22 Imperf.

Harrison 3 Line Rolls.

The possibility of the 'PENCF corrected' error on the SAORSTAT coil stamp should not be discounted. The genuine item has never been seen although a suspect example appeared in an auction some time ago. Until this is positively authenticated it is not included in the check list.

Discussion.

It may be possible to differentiate stamps with the corrected variety from the two plates, plates 12b and 29, as each printing plate was corrected by hand and the two varieties might reasonably be expected to show minute differences.

It may seem rather bewildering that the plates are not numbered consecutively, but the numbering is entirely arbitrary and by philatelists. Although the plates must have been made consecutively at the Royal Mint, they were not necessarily issued to the contractors consecutively or brought into use by the contractor in the same order as they were received.

To achieve plating of the GB stamps, copies of both varieties are best collected as marginal pieces. Non-marginal 'PENCF corrected' examples are difficult to authenticate unless they show the minor varieties of the overprint type.

'PENCF' ERROR.



Plate 29. Thick Rule.
THOM 5 Black
Setting 2.
Flaw in '9' of '1922'



Plate 12b. Thin Rule.
THOM 5 Black.
Setting 1.

'PENCF' ERROR CORRECTED.



Plate 12b. Thin Rule.
THOM 5 Blue Black.
Setting 9.



HARRISON Coil.
Horizontal.



Plate 12b. Thin Rule.
SAORSTAT.
Setting 1.
Flaw in 'E' of EIREANN

Flaws in the overprint and alignment can provide confirmatory evidence of stamps with the variety. All 'PENCF' errors from plate 29 and setting 2 which I have seen, show the large flaw on the '9' of date. All 'PENCF corrected' on the SAORSTAT issue seen, show the flaw on the 'E' of Eireann on the variety stamp. However, all stamps with the flaw on the 'E' of Eireann are not necessarily 'PENCF corrected'. As overprinting flaws are often progressive, these flaws may vary during the life of the overprinting plate.

Great care must be exercised in purchasing the corrected variety as the difference in the length of the lower bar is extremely small and it is possible to be mistaken over the identification of the genuine variety. I have had a 'PENCF corrected' marginal block rejected by a learned expert committee who eventually changed their decision after much protestation.

I should be grateful to hear from members who can add to my listing of this interesting variety.

CHECK LIST

I 1/2d. George V. 'PENCF' and 'PENCF corrected' Errors.
(Row 15/12)

Printing	GB Plates	Control	Right Margin	Settings Known	Possible Settings	Remarks
'PENCF' error.						
Thom 5 Black	12b 29	Q21 Perf Q21 Perf	Imperf Imperf	1 2	2 1	Rare. Nick in 9 Flaw on 9 of 1922
'PENCF Corrected' error.						
Thom 5 Black	12b	Q21 Imperf	Perf	2	1	Scarce
Thom 5 Blue Black	12b 29	T22 Perf T22 Imperf	Imperf Perf	3 and 9. 8		Scarce
Harrison Rolls ?		(T22 Imperf*)	(Perf)	Horizontal	Vertical	
Thom Wide	12b	T22 Perf	Imperf	1	Nil	
SAORSTAT	12b	T22 Perf	Imperf	1	Nil	Flaw on E of Eireann
	29	T22 Imp	Perf	1	Nil	Scarce Ditto

NOTE

* Harrison horizontal coil-joins show imperf left margin; therefore perf right margin and Imperf control. T22 reported.

Plate 12b Thin rule (about .8mm)



Irish Zeppelin-Flown Covers by the "Graf Zeppelin" LGZ-127:

1932	1933	1934
1. *	1.	1.
2. *	2. *	2. *
3.	3.	3. *
4. *	4.	4. *
5. *	5.	5. *
6. *	6.	6. *
7. *	7.	7. *
8. *	8. *	8. *
9.	9. Chicago Flight*	9. *
		10. *
		11. *
		12. *

"*" Indicates flight covers that are needed. If color copies can be obtained of these flights that would be ideal.

Peter Bugg
5 Forest St.
Franklin, Mass. 02038
USA



August 9, 1993

Dear Fellow Members,

This school year '93-'94, I will again be sponsoring and running the St. Leo Stamp Club.

Last year was very rewarding with 15 active members.

The excitement and joy of receiving stamps U.S. and foreign cannot be overstated.

David Brennan and his Club in New Jersey have been wonderful in providing Irish and multi-country stamps.

If there are other members willing to share their duplicate or multiples we would be so grateful for any donations of stamps and supplies. Please forward them to my attention, 112 Woodford Vlg. Dr., Versailles, KY 40383.

Sincerely,

Theresa Fitzgerald



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

15 June 1993

Dear Editor,

Could anybody out there help me in my latest venture? I am working on a booklet about the Irish Zeppelin-Flown Covers from 1932,33 and 34. If you have any of the flights with an asterisk and could send me a color photo-copy, it would be a great help. Thank you in advance for your help.

Literature

(Continued from page 28)

"NOT VALID FOR POSTAGE." This caption somewhat, spoils the appearance, and really, is it necessary? At £ 25, is anyone going to use the sheet for postage; and, if they did, would it matter any more to the treasury than any of the mint stamps in the book being used for postage? Each sheet bears the same serial number as the book it comes with. A total of 5500 copies were produced.

The two earlier issues may still be available from An Post.



The Beginner's Point of View

by Jim Magill

My question: what's the difference between Die I and Die II stamps, for example, Scott #26 and 26b? My correspondent: refer to page 16, bottom right column, 1991 MacDonnell-Whyte Handbook. The difference occurs in the British stamps, not in the over printing or in the color of the ink of the overprint. That's an easy one. Wait till you try to tell the difference between black and blue-black ink! It takes something like a 50x glass or microscope to do it properly! As for Die I and Die II, a magnifying glass will suffice or unusually keen eyesight. My comment: actually it was the bottom left column, but I was reminded that the M-W Handbook has tons of info, and I should study it more often than I do.

My question: I have an overprint in which the final letter of "Sealdac" is upside down. Could you comment? My correspondent: an interesting variety; While not listed in Meredith, it looks like item #40 in V.A. Linnell's study (see THE REVEALER, Jan 1975, pp. 968-70). My comment: how one thing leads to another! Now I must find out what "Meredith" refers to and also read the article in THE REVEALER.

My question: why don't I see a country name on the overprints? My correspondent: British stamps are the only ones in the world that do not have the country name on them. Britain was the first nation to adopt prepaid postage. That was in 1840 with the issuance of the Penny Black. Since so much of the world was then under British rule or domination, it was felt that there could be no doubt as to who issued the stamps. Even today, only the current monarch, not the country name, appears on British stamps. The colonies, however, must put their country name on their stamps. ♣

Irish Barred Numeral Cancellations

by Tom Current
Edited by Stan Challis

My simple exercise of recording reports of numeral cancels used in Ireland, 1844-1906, called "Doing the Numbers", has now led to a more comprehensive survey with significantly greater detail contemplated. S. D. (Stan) Challis has volunteered to coordinate the project and will supply the computer system to record the data (Roskelly, Brock Road, Saint Peter Port, Guernsey, CI).

Dr. Cyril I Dulin is associated with Stan in the project, bringing to it much expertise and one of the finest collections (4 Rue des Bugnons, 1217 Meyrin, Geneva, Switzerland).

The project is beyond my expertise and collection, so I am now just an interested spectator who will be trying to keep in touch only generally. Much planning has gone into the project already, however, and I will try to sketch highlights.

Preliminary.

1. Dublin will be omitted initially to limit the size of the project and book.

2. The resulting book will be published independently by the authors, rather than by one of the several societies that will be asked to help find data.

3. Postmarks will be listed in number order, rather than by county, with cross references as required.

4. Measurements will be ignored to avoid complications of imprecision among overinked, underinked, worn, etc. specimens. Although some overall measurements may be given as an indication, it is possible that the most meaningful measurement may be the inner height between the bottom upper bar and the top lower bar. In accordance with usual practise, such measurements will be given in millimetres.

5. Concentration will be on identification of basic types of cancels. Key Types will be difficult because many merge into one another, but an effort will be made. Subtypes will include close town dies and seriffed numbers, etc.

6. Valuations/rarity rating will be used rather than prices (which quickly date a publication). While the Parmenter books on English and Welsh numerals marks are judged to be too cumbersome, a similar value ratings listing will be used.

7. One principal difference from Parmenter will be that only the basic types will be illustrated rather than all types used in each town. In this manner, it is projected that the final publication will run 400-500 pages. This size precludes earlier thoughts about serializing in a society journal.

8. To avoid conflict between English and American style date formats, it is probable that the month will be shown in 2 letters each (JA, FE, etc.).

9. Participants will be primarily collectors with major collections. Whomever has data to supply, however, will be required to use an established format. The job of getting the large amount of data into a computer with comparability is a big task.

10. Dates will begin with the summer of 1844, of course, but the ending date is difficult to set. Most numeral cancellations were withdrawn in/about 1894 at most offices, but tentatively it is intended to use dates of latest known uses. It might turn out to be impractical to go beyond 1922, or even beyond an earlier date.

Prominent Features

It had been hoped that by now a definitive series of type numbers might have been developed, but this is still the subject of correspondence between Stan and Cyril. Other than overall shape, the key prominent features to be taken into consideration are:

1. Number of bars. This can vary enormously from three to eight above and below the numeral and also at the sides. The number of bars at top and bottom of the postmark is not always the same, and more rarely from side to side. Bars will be shown counting clockwise - thus 4343 refers to four bars at the top (North) three at the East, four at the bottom (South) and finally three at the West side adjoining the town die (in a Duplex). The big problem arises with dots or very short bars as there is little doubt that some of these either broke off or wore down with use over time. Equally, in some postmarks the bars thickened considerably with usage.

2. Style of figures. The basic plan is to differentiate between plain and seriffed figures. In a handful of cancellations, the numeral part is made up of part plain and part serif figures but this will be analysed by way of note. The other feature to watch for is 3s with a flat top (relatively scarce).

3. Town dies. These fall into two basic categories: firstly, the open dies with an arc at the base and no outer rim; and secondly, those with the town name enclosed by a circle. The second category can be subdivided into those with the town name around the upper rim, and those with the town name horizontal as was the practise with shorter names through much of the 1860s.

4. There are, inevitably, a few non-standard items, but these will be referred to by way of note and illustrated where necessary. By way of example, Stan has found one killer postmark of the 1880s with apparently vertical bars at the sides, of which more we hope in a later article. ♣

Recent Irish Philatelic Literature

by Joe Foley

There was quite a bit of good new philatelic literature at STAMPA '92. Following are reviews of the books Dave Brennan and I came across at the show.

Ireland's Transition. The Postal History of the Transitional Period, 1922-1925, by Dr. C. I. Dulin. Published by MacDonnell Whyte, Ltd., 102 Leinster Road, Dublin 6, Ireland, 1992. 408 A4 size pages, illustrated, hardbound, IR £ 34.95 + £ 5 postage to U.S.

Every so often a work appears in philately that overshadows others in its field. Clearly Cyril Dulin's latest effort does just that in Irish philately.

The book traces the development of the Irish Post Office from the Anglo-Irish Treaty of December 1921 through the Provisional Government and establishment of the Irish Free State as well as the tumultuous Civil War period that began in June, 1922.

The author has made a major advance in researching official archives in England as well as Ireland and has presented much information long lost to collectors. Throughout the text the results of this research are presented either by reference or quotation with attribution.

The book begins with a concise but comprehensive account of the history of the period. The overprinted issues of Ireland and the first definitives are treated with more than the customary emphasis on cause and effect, as well as a historical perspective. The author does not hesitate to question previous views and propose new hypotheses such as the possibility that the red overprinted low values attributed to Dollard may have been produced by Thom. This book is not, however, a work on the many interesting varieties of the overprinted stamps.

This section is followed by four chapters dealing with various aspects of the impact of transition, including the Civil War, on postal matters of Ireland. A considerable amount of archival material is presented here.

Postal Stationery is divided into two chapters. The first deals with the use of British stationery in Ireland until July 1924, followed by a chapter on the distinctive stationery issued by the Irish Free State Postal authorities. Again, new information is presented.

Additional chapters include: Parcels and the Customs Frontier; Postage Due; Official Paid Markings; Military Mail;

Airmail and Railway Posts plus other aspects of the postal history of the period. These chapters are followed by seven appendices containing much useful data such as rates and a recapitulation of the Steel Handstamp Registration Book. A good index, so helpful in a book of this nature, is also provided.

The illustrations, while not as crisp as might be desired, are, on the whole, adequate. While the author acknowledges his sources in the Forward, a bibliography would have enhanced the book. If indeed these are faults, they are minor, and pale in comparison to what the author has done in presenting the background and rationale of the postal history of the period. Indeed, he has made a major contribution for all those that share his interest in the stamps and postal history of Ireland.

Irish Crash Airmails, by Ronny Vogt. Published by the Irish Airmail Society, 42 Ballyfermot Parade, Dublin 10, Ireland. 67 pages (8 1/4 x 11 5/8"), soft cover. Price approximately \$15.00.

This book is one of the better examples of desk-top publishing that have made publications of relatively short runs available at reasonable cost. The type is clear, and while the illustrations appear to be photocopies, they are of sufficient quality to enhance the presentation. Pages are printed on one side only.

The book is divided into two main sections: Part 1 where Irish mails are known or quite certain; and Part 2 where there is a small possibility that some Irish mails may have been salvaged; but as yet are not known. Part 1 is further divided to sub-sections for A - crashes in Ireland with Irish or foreign mails; B - Crashes outside Ireland with Irish mails; C - crashes outside Ireland with foreign mails addressed to Ireland; D - crashes of Irish aircraft outside Ireland with foreign mails and E - crashes outside Ireland with foreign mails not addressed to Ireland from flights intended to an Irish destination which never reached their point of call in Ireland due to an interruption or crash well outside Ireland.

Each crash is recorded by its location, date and time of crash, description of the aircraft and airline, names of crew where known and number of passengers, circumstances of the crash, details of the mails including a description of any crash markings applied to covers, a catalog reference and in many cases illustrations of covers from the crash.

In presenting the data in Part 2, the author freely admits that "it is unlikely that Irish mails were carried, but where nevertheless a probability - although small - exists that such mails might have been salvaged." In compiling the listings that follow from various official and newspaper sources, an explanation has been provided for covers that may yet be discovered by collectors.

The book is straightforward, easy to follow, and provides some very useful background information for this type of material.

One Hundred and Fifty Years of Irish Railways, by Fergus Mulligan. Published by The Appletree Press Ltd., 7 James Street South, Belfast, soft cover, 192 pages, illustrated, IR £ 8.95.

This book, which has absolutely nothing at all to do with stamps, was "discovered" by Dave Brennan. As I recall, Dave purchased a copy at a bookstore on Grafton Street and on his recommendation, I went hunting and got my copy at Eason's.

This book is an excellent reference for anyone who has even a passing interest in Irish Railway Letter Stamps. Accounts are given of the rise and fall of numerous standard and narrow gauge railways, and even the monorail system of the Listowel and Ballybunion Railway.

There are maps and photos plus a good index and extensive bibliography. Even if you're not interested in the Railway Letter Stamps, you might still find this little book rather fascinating.

Postage Stamps of Ireland, 70 Years, 1922-1992. Based on the 1982 version of Liam Miller, updated by Stamps and Philately Section, An Post, with acknowledgment to Dr. Joseph Quigley for his advice on booklets & FDC's. Published by An Post, GPO, O'Connell Street, Dublin, 105 pages, illustrated, hardbound at IR £14.95 or softcover at IR £ 7.95.

The full color illustrations in this book are nothing less than outstanding. The sections on booklets and first day covers are quite good. The treatment of the overprints, at best, is cursory and uses the wrong overprint illustrations in a few places. No mention is made of watermarks in the sections on the definitive and postage due issues.

The redeeming feature of this book are the 70 pages devoted to the commemorative issues. For each set, or single stamp, there is a high quality color illustration, the date of issue, title of the commemorative, name of the designer, a concise description of the design and its purpose, denomination(s) and a brief comment on production.

This volume might be a book that could interest a new collector in the stamps of Ireland.

Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society "Aspects of Galway Postal History 1638-1984," by Jimmy O'Connor. Reprint, 75 pages, illustrated, soft cover, IR £ 7.95.

As I recall, both Michael Giffney and Ian Whyte had this reprint available at STAMPA. This book is primarily a history of the post, not postal history as we collectors know the term. However, it provides much useful background information and indeed an understanding of postal history. While basically concerned with postal matters in Galway, in many ways, it is a reflection of the entire country. The article includes quite a bit of tabular and statistical data. The sections on Packet Service and Special Airmail Service were particularly interesting.

The Irish Stamp Year Book, 1991-1992, by Pat Brennan. Published by An Post, G.P.O., O'Connell Street, Dublin, 48 pages, hardbound, IR £ 25 (standard edition - there is a "special edition" at £ 100).

As has been customary in recent years, An Post has given us another "coffee table" book on the year's crop of commemorative stamps with the actual stamps included. Each stamp or set is neatly mounted on a separate page with a very comprehensive article on what is being commemorated. The text is bi-lingual, Gaelic and English. The artwork and illustrations are of top quality. So far, each book has contained a "black print" of one of the stamps or set. This year it is the 32 & 44p Europa issue in miniature sheet format. An Post still considers it necessary to inscribe the sheet in large letters with

(See "Literature" on page 25)

More Philatelic Research Notes

by Karl Winkelmann, 1993

EDITOR'S NOTE: Reprinted with permission of the author.

Philately, we must remember, has changed somewhat in recent years from being just stamp collecting to a much broader based hobby. Those who collect covers, or even old or modern stamps on cover, often want to know more about rates or routes or other background information about the item in question. This point is where postal history and philatelic research come in.

Michael O'Conghaile wrote about places of research in his 'Philatelic Research Notes' in November '92 and February '93 in this column. His compositions prompted me to write more on the subject of philatelic research in general and to cite other places where we can find philatelic information.

Firstly, I believe we have to determine whether our subject has already been written about and only then can we decide where to start looking. Michael has already given us a good list, with details of what can be found, in some of the more well known places of storage of philatelic information.

It is often useful to have a sly, conniving mind, for this often leads us to where we want to get to quicker, rather than having to wade through much unneeded material. A case in point for me was when I was looking for some details of censorship of Irish mail during 1939-1945. I was looking through BPO files in the BPO Archives in London, because the Ministry of Information and War Office files are still closed. I found a single letter from the US Embassy in London to the British Foreign Office requesting their permission to revert back to delivering the Irish airmail directly to the Irish government at Foynes (as happened to British) so they could censor it; because The war in Europe was over.

Back door methods do work, if you are lucky. But, that find left me with more questions than answers. That result often occurs. It made me think about how we look at places where the philatelic information actually is.

The British Post Office Archives in London has so much Irish material it will be a long time before that source is exhausted, if ever. There is a full set of Irish Minute Books covering about a century, from about 1820 - 1922. Details of appointments, opening of post offices and a multitude of other information is in these handwritten tomes. Remember that even from before 1840 until 1922, all details contained in 'Post Office Guides' and 'Instructions to Postmasters' applied equally to Ireland and England. There are also individual files relating to Ireland and other files are indirectly related.

In London, The National Postal Museum and The British Museum both have fine collections of covers and stamps.

In Dublin, the new National Archives is currently gathering together files under The National Archives Act. Some government departments are, however, dilatory in their transfer of their over 30 year-old material.

The idea of an Irish Postal Museum, first suggested a long time ago, is still nowhere nearer reality. Since 1984, the Irish Post Office is no longer a government department, so they have no interest in spending money on non-profit activity. I heard of a suggestion that the Post Office would give its archives to the National Museum. When I mentioned this to the curator of Arts and Industries, he told me they had too few

staff to look after the material they had, much less take on any more. So, I expect, an Irish Postal Museum or Archives is a concept that may never come to fruition.

Closer to home, for most readers, is the New York Public Library where you will find several of the standard works together with microfilms of a number of Irish newspapers which can often be very useful. The following Irish Post Office Guides are available: 1935, 1936, 1938-40, 1950, 1953-55, 1959, 1964 (Pt. I), 1967 (Pt. II), 1969, 1972 and 1977 (Pt. II). The author listing is 'Ireland (Eire) Posts and Telegraphs Dept.'" Call number is TVE and these, plus some of the newspapers, are in the NYPL Annex at 521 West 43rd Street (between 10th and 11th Avenues). That address is about five minutes walk from the Jacob Javits Centre. Hint, hint, for those MegaShow and EPA AGM attendees.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park, New York, houses the papers of David Gray, the US Ambassador to Ireland during the World War II period, together with the Berle papers when he was Secretary of the State Dept. I saw them all in a day and was able to photocopy all I needed.

The National Archives in Washington D.C. is not as difficult as Michael O'Conghaile suggests, but he warned that you do need time to decide what to look at. The archives are divided into two sections: civil and military. The civil files are easy to get at, even though there is an enormous quantity of them.

Remember that papers from each government department are divided up separately, so you need to decide which departments' papers you want to see, which can be difficult, as sometimes no index exists. This is the case for most of the US Post Office files, and yet, looking at foreign airmail files can be rewarding for trans-Atlantic flight information. An archivist is assigned to you depending on what papers you are interested in and they request the papers for you. You cannot actually see what is on the shelves.

There seems to be very few military files on Ireland existing, but that needs further investigation by some devious and determined person. These files are stored at another location outside Washington, which is accessible by shuttle bus.

I ploughed my way through 120 archive boxes (each about 4" thick) in five days. Besides the photocopies of Irish interest, I came away with enough for a possible 80+ page book, on the workings of World War II British Censorship.

The Revealer, Irish Philately; the Irish Philatelic Study Circle's bulletin, *Die Harfe*; bulletin of the German-based Irish study group and O.E.78; and The Irish Airmail Society's bulletins are all useful for finding information that we may not already know about Irish philately. The long running bulletins of both the EPA and IPC are a mine of information that I note are sometimes neglected when articles are written, as a bibliography often has glaring omissions. Remember, others may have already written about your subject and may have left clues for you as to where you should look next.

Don't forget that your fellow collectors are frequently the best source of information and it is not always the older ones who may be the best help. They may have literature that you did not know about or they may have researched the same subject matter. Perhaps they have been collecting longer than you and have acquired magazines or books that you do not even know about. There are members of other philatelic

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

STAMPED TO ORDER

Dear Editor,

In Otto Jung's article on stamped to order postal stationery in *The Revealer*, Winter 1992 issue, he refers to a 26p postcard issue, to illustrate an article on the Uniform Foreign Airmail Rates 1951 - 1991. It was included for the very reason Mr. Jung wonders about the rate: 26p was the postcard rate from April 1, 1982 - February 24, 1985.

The postcard was cancelled in Dublin on October 7, 1983, the day Mr. Jung states to be the first day of use but I can confirm that I have seen some of these cards used after that date, as I have at least one in my own collection but cannot state whether they are commercial or philatelic uses, because I do not have access to that material at the moment.

The black 26p stamp on the postcard looks identical to that on the 1983 envelope that he talks about a little earlier, as having being ordered by the 'Irish Philatelic Society'. Perhaps there is some connection between these two items. They can all be regarded as difficult items to get either mint and especially used.

Regarding the 1988 Bord Fáilte (The Irish Tourist Board) leaflets, he mentions these being made up "twice within a large folded leaflet." Readers should note that these can be recognised easily because they have rouletting on either one of the left or right edges of the leaflet, but not on both sides. There also exists a version he does not mention, which came as a single item, being of the same individual size as the others but without rouletted edges.

POSTAL RATES

The same Revealer made reference, in a letter to the editor, to postal rates. I would point out that the article contains very full and detailed information about the Airmail Rates from 1951 - 1991. The study of airmail rates is of great concern to the Irish Airmail Society and we welcome any philatelists with a similar interest. If there is enough demand we might publish these rate tables on an easy to carry card.

Also note that the Irish Airmail Society has a new secretary: Mr. Ray How, 5 Dalys Road, Rochford, Essex SS4 1RA, England but U.S. mail will be dealt with by the editor: Mr. Karl Winkelmann, P.O. Box 437, Alpine, NJ 07620-0437. I will be glad to receive any articles or photocopies of airmail cover enquiries, which could be included with future issues.

Sincerely,
Karl Winkelmann



societies who may publish material of interest to you, even though you will not think of becoming a member of that organization.

Some places for source material are obvious and others are quite obscure. So look around and think a little bit like a thief, and good luck.



CHAPTER REPORTS

The Connecticut Chapter

by Richard J. McBride

The Connecticut Chapter of EPA celebrated its 10th Anniversary on March 7th with a luncheon. The chapter was organized on April 17, 1983 and has met regularly ever since at the same location, St. Andrews Church Parish House.



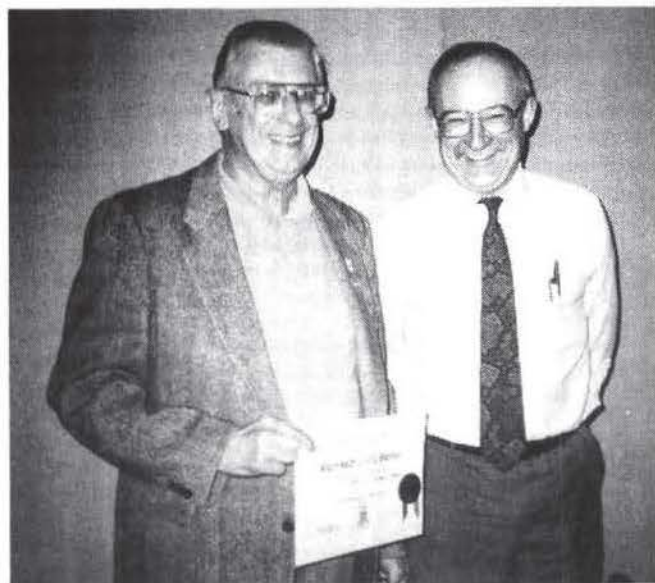
In attendance at the get-together were four charter members: Michael Conway, Ed Shanley, George Ryan and Dick McBride. Also in attendance were former EPA President Peter Bugg of Massachusetts, and Henry Bright and David Brennan from the John Barry Chapter of New Jersey, as well as other members, spouses and friends.

A display of over 100 pages of Irish Philately was enjoyed by all. A very enjoyable video was shown on Ireland and its music. Pictured below from left are Chapter Vice President and EPA Director George G. Ryan; President Ed Shanley; Chapter and EPA Secretary, Michael J. Conway; and Chapter Founder, EPA Director and Special Offers Manager Richard J. McBride. 



A gathering of distinguished philatelist, all EPA members and all Thomas E. Field Award recipients. Left to right: Dr. Cyril Dulin, the latest recipient; Bill Zellers; Michael Giffney; and William Kane, the first recipient.

The John J. Clark Award



The Clark Award for this year was presented to Richard McBride, Special Offers Manager, at the EPA Annual General Meeting held in New York on 8 May 1993. The award was presented by EPA President Robert Moskowitz.

The Thomas Field Award



The EPA Thomas E. Field Award was presented to Dr. Cyril I. Dulin by Michael Giffney on 14 May 1993, at the Irish Philatelic Circle Annual General Meeting, in London.

EPA Thomas E. Field Award 1993

by Bill Zellers

The Field Award Selection Committee, composed of Joseph Foley, Neal Stack and chaired by Bill Zellers, has selected Dr. Cyril I. Dulin to receive this year's Award.

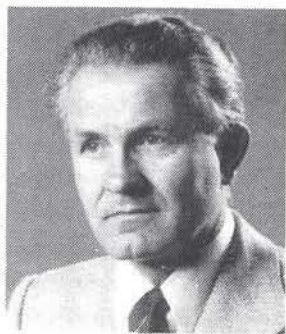
Dr. Dulin spent his early years in England and trained as a scientist, initially in the field of semi-conductors and then in the industrial and commercial application of plastics. He did post-graduate work at the University of Southern California. Cyril's position caused him to do extensive traveling through both eastern and western Europe. These travels gave him opportunities to go through the stocks of stamp shops and dealers from Finland to Italy and from Dublin to Ankara.

The lack of catalogues and information on Irish overprints proved a challenge to Dr. Dulin. He rose to the challenge and contributed his knowledge to all areas of Irish philately through *The Revealer*, the *Journal of Irish Philately* and various monographs, particularly the one published in 1992 on *The Irish Spoon*. His monumental work, *Ireland Transitions*, in October 1992, stands comparison with the finest books published on any philatelic subject. It was most appropriate that its publication should coincide with Cyril's election to Fellowship in The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Dr. Dulin is a long-time EPA member who won the 1992 Vincent Linnell Award. He now serves as President of the Irish Philatelic Circle. Since he is now retired, we can perhaps expect further fruits of his research to reveal more information and light on other areas of Irish philately. ♣

Vincent Linnell Award 1993

by Bill Zellers



The members, by their vote, have chosen the three-part article on Irish Stationery Stamped to Order by Otto Jung as the one which is to receive the Vincent Linnell Award. First Runner-up was *The Story of a Benz* by Canon Johnston and Second Runner-up was *Some Reflections On Some Irish FDC's* by Hans Moxter.

Mr. Jung will be presented a desk pen set with the EPA medal affixed. ♣

McBride Receives Clark Award

by Joe Foley

EPA president, Bob Moskowitz, presented the John J. Clark Memorial Award to Dick McBride at the Association's Annual General Meeting at the ASDA "Mega" show in New York City on May 8, 1993.

President Moskowitz read the following citation to the assembled group:

"Whereas Richard J. McBride has contributed to the success of the Éire Philatelic Association through his outstanding service as Special Offers Manager; made available to the members of the Association many items useful in enhancing their enjoyment of Irish philately; selected appropriate material for inventory and provided quality service in a friendly manner. Not only has this service been rendered in the current year, but it has been a sustained high level of service since 1985. The Award Committee has selected Richard J. McBride as the 1992 recipient of the John J. Clark Memorial Award."

In keeping with his tradition of service, McBride who was unaware of the fact that he was to receive the award, had a good supply of special offers material for members to examine at the meeting. Dick expressed his thanks to the group for the award. As is customary, Dick as the most recent recipient assumes the position of chairman of the Award Committee to select the next recipient. Other committee members are Joe Foley and William O'Connor. ♣

American Irish-Celtic USA Stamp Committee

by Thomas Culhane

I am taking this opportunity to explain a project which should be of interest to most Irish-Americans. My name is Tom Culhane and I own a coin store, so I am somewhat familiar with stamps.

Did you know that over the years dozens of foreign leaders have already been honored by being depicted on U.S. stamps, among them all of the following have appeared on one or more U.S. postage stamps: Jose San Martin, Hero of the Andes; Lajos Kossuth, Governor of Hungary; Simon Bolivar; TG Masorvk, Czechoslovakia's first president; Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Polish statesman; Gustaf Mannerueim of Finland; Ernst Reuter, Mayor of Berlin; Sun Yat-Sen; Mahatma Gandhi; and Churchill. Missing from the list of those honored, however, are two prominent Irish leaders who have important anniversaries fast approaching. In fact, the U.S. has never granted this honor on any Irish leader. I hope to change that and have submitted proposals to the Postal Officials to issue these two stamps:

(1) 1996 will mark the 150th anniversary of the birth of Charles Stewart Parnell (1846-1891), "The Uncrowned King of Ireland". Parnell's nonviolent strategy for land reform introduced the boycott for the first time - a method followed by countless others fighting injustice throughout the world. His leadership in the Home Rule Party, the National Land League and the freedom of the Irish people were certainly of global importance. Commemorative stamps are only issued on the anniversaries in multiples of fifty, so now is our chance.

(2) 1997 will mark the 150th anniversary of the death of Daniel O'Connell, the leader of Catholic emancipation. Incidentally, the anniversary of a death is rarely accepted as a year to use for a stamp, however, O'Connell accomplished

(See "Stamp Committee" on page 40)

Did Mermaids Have Feathers?

A postal historian's look into zoological problems.

by Hans G. Moxter

In 1808, French Emperor Napoleon I had occupied large parts of Europe and proclaimed the closing of the continental ports for British ships and their cargo. He invaded Spain and appointed José, one of his brothers, king of that country. This action, in turn, caused the Spaniards to invent and practice guerrilla warfare until some years later the invaders were driven out of the country. In 1812, with the help of British troops, the Iberian Peninsula was liberated. When, in 1815, Napoleon tried a comeback from exile in Elba, he met his final Waterloo near Brussels, a good example of Anglo-Irish (Wellington) and German (Blücher) cooperation.

Also in 1808, the postal system in Dublin received new datestamps which were to be struck on all letters passing through the GPO in Dublin. These handstamps appeared in three categories:

1. for normal unpaid letters
2. letters on which postage had already been paid
3. for free letters enjoying a privilege.



The frame around the date in the center came with a single line when the datestamp was used on the morning shift and with double lines on the afternoon shift. Paid letters showed PAID above the date and privileged ones had a crown above the date with FREE on it.

What makes these impressions of handstamps so outstanding from all others is the outer frame showing a mermaid. Most of us have seen mermaids on the bow of old sailing ships. Others have met them, carved in wood, on Irish harps or on old Irish coins. Tourists who have visited

Copenhagen will remember a sweet little girl with a fishtail sitting on a rock in the harbour. Hans Christian Andersen wrote a fairytale about her.

Centuries ago, mermaids were still well known in most seafaring nations. The coat of arms of Warsaw e.g. shows a mermaid. Nowadays, mermaids do not exist anymore and I believe they have been entered in the red list of extinct species. The same can happen to our Irish postal history covers from Dublin of the period 1808-1814, only decorated with those datestamps for less than a full seven years. Their mermaid impressions are known in yellow-ochre, orange, and bright red to dark-brown.

The inks of that time (180-185 years ago) have had ample time to convert their metallic components of chromium and iron into oxides, which usually appear in dark brown shades. A steady process of fading when exposed to light goes along with these inks. So it is no wonder when most impressions are now poor to very poor.

Nevertheless collectors find in these mermaids "a wonderful scope for study and specialisation" as David Feldman and Bill Kane already noted in 1975 when they gave the probably most extensive description of these handstamps in their *HANDBOOK OF IRISH POSTAL HISTORY TO 1840* on pages 13-17, 27-28 and 36.

In the description of the different types of mermaids Feldman and Kane speak of such details as feathers or feathering, the spine, the (fish-) tail, curl and stomach. Most parts sound acceptable for those poor little, now extinct, creatures. However, when it comes to feathers, I have my doubts. Skin and scales yes, but feathers?

I have the feeling that this attractive field of Irish postal history could really be a most rewarding subject for a collector who intends to do some further research and to write a small monography about Irish mermaids. There is no money to be made in this business. On the contrary, a few especially well-preserved mermaids might perhaps come to what a wife would cost to maintain.

But think of the laurels you may harvest as the man who, after 185 (or more) years, finally wrote the definitive book on mermaids from Ireland. Not to mention that feather on your hat, which brings us back to our headline. ♣

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

11 May, 1993

Dear Editor:

I recently came across this 10p value of The Racial Equality year stamp, with a very distinct "bullet hole" following the last "E" of "Eire", as shown in the enclosed photo copy.

I would like to know if any member has a similar copy.



EIRE° 10

Yours,

James E. Collins
6512 McNutt Way
Cypress, CA 90630-5363 ♣

SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

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

- #2388 William J. Fitzpatrick, Jr., 30 Chelsea St., Fairfield, CT 06430
- #2389 Hank Schumacher, 2 Albert Road, Amity Harbor, NY 11701-4014
- #2390 Sara M. Klopfer, 4409 Vassar St., Ventura, CA 93003
- #2391 Donald J. Wills, 400 W. Aurora Road, #43, Sagamore Hills, OH 44067
- #2392 John E. Jordan, 77 Howland Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5R 3B2
- #2393 Donald E. Sabo, PO Box 139, Prospect Heights, IL 60070-0139
- #2394 William T. Luther, 761 Revere Ave., Bronx, NY 10465

Reinstatements

- #0922 Peter L. Dexter, PO Box 21458, Albuquerque, NM 87154
- #1894 Jeff Schuster, PO Box 11579, El Paso, TX 79982
- #2242 Michael Jolly, PO Box 431, Saddle Brook, NJ 07662
- #2152 Christine Jolly, PO Box 431, Saddle Brook, NJ 07662

Deceased

- #0514 Joseph A. Quigley, MD, County Meath, Ireland
- #1240 J. E. Downey, 70 Coneygree, Peterborough, PE2 8JK, U.K.

Members Address Unknown:

- #0866 Patrick H. Murphy, Boulder, CO
- #2166 Sean Amiot, San Jose, CA

Change of Address

- #0746 Walter L. Highsmith, 25468 Barbara St., Arvin, CA 93203-9746
- #0868 John J. Kane, 1229 Terry Rd., Ronkonkoma, NY 11779-5947
- #2281 John G. O'Shea, 1770 Cambridge Drive, State College, PA 16803
- #1544 Edith B. Hillman, 876 Bullocks Point Ave., Riverside, RI 02915-0968
- #2206 Vincent J. Tracey, 18540 SW Honeywood St., Aloha, OR 97006-2915
- #2058 Raymond F. Dacey, 1964 Salt Myrtle Ln., Orange Park, FL 32073-7065
- #2348 Dr. Walter L. Wasserman, 8903 Glades Rd. #L9164, Boca Raton, FL 33434-4023
- #1858 William J. Holland, P.O. Box 251, Garrett Park, MD 20896-0251
- #2353 Daniel J. McAdam, 305 Madison Ave. #1166, New York, NY 10165-0006
- #1489 Johan Rehnberg, Sodra Vagen 20 41254, Goteborg, Sweden
- #1069 Henry W. Curran, Jr., 84 Kessel Ct., Madison, WI 53711-6200
- #1231 Vincent Zanata, 38 Amethyst Lane, Paterson, NJ 07501-3368
- #1355 Rev. James F. Barry, 49 W. North St., Clayton, NJ 08312
- #2212 Dennis L. Calkins, 6433 Lakeridge, Dr., New Market, MD 21774
- #0441 Charles E. McMahon, 29 Washington Sq., Salem, MA 01970-4056
- #0812 E. J. O'Donoghue, 1202 Peoria St., Aurora, CO 80011-6207
- #1514 William C. Slattery, 4751 State Rt. 157, Edwardsville, IL 62025
- #0596 David T. Gillen, 261-18 Langston Ave., 2nd Fl., Glen Oaks, NY 11004
- #0441 Charles E. McMahon, 29 Washington Sq., Salem, MA 01970-4056
- #1848 Norma Hawthorne, P.O. Box 15738, Sacramento, CA 95852-0738
- #2114 Cornelius P. Coffey, 10 Church St., Granite Springs, NY 10527

The following are new ZIP Code addresses for all our German members:

- #0728 Dziubnay, D-67663
- #1688 Grunz, D-67663
- #2181 Jarczyński, D-94501
- #1956 Kumpf, D-80797
- #L0412 Moxter, D-65527
- #0805 Salzmann, D-61206
- #2021 Stange, D-49191
- #1127 Frank, D-86609
- #L1667 Holzmüller, D-20146
- #1670 Jung, D-52355
- #2249 McGinley, D-81545
- #2185 Rupp, D-27632
- #0752 Seelemann, D-85540
- #1083 Weihmann, D-70372

All other information on the German members remains correct.

NOTICE: The EPA will print a new Membership Directory in the Spring or Summer of 1994. Any member who wishes his address to be deleted or not to appear should notify the Editor of The Revealer as soon as possible.

Membership Status

Membership as of May 28, 1993 654

New Members	7
Reinstatements	4
Deceased	2

Membership as of August 26, 1993 663



The Class of 1992

by Mike Conway

In 1992, the Éire Philatelic Association added 44 members, 18 more than the previous year.

The states of California and New York contributed five new members each while New Jersey and Pennsylvania four each. Two new members from each of the following: Kentucky, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Florida, Maryland, Virginia and Ireland. The following locales one each: Maine, Oklahoma, Illinois, Connecticut, Ohio, Missouri, Michigan, District of Columbia, Germany, Great Britain, Canada and Guernsey.

A review of the past five years indicates that 1992 was the best year the Association has experienced since 1987.

1987 54 new members

1988 39

1989 25

1990 30

1991 26

1992 44

Based on those who provided their age on the application form, it is worth noting that 13 of the new members were less than 40 years of age. An additional 19 were between 41 and 60 years of age. It is encouraging to see that more than a third of the new members were less than 40 years old.

A tip of the hat to all those who recruited during 1992. In particular, Joe Foley who recruited 6 members, Dick McBride, 4; Steve Spoerl, Peg Zellers and Bob Moskowitz 3 each; Bob and Belinda Kemper 2, and one each by Dave Brennan and Hugh McGoldrick.

You all realize the many benefits that accrue to members of the Association. Please take the time to recruit at least one new member before the year ends. If you have any questions please contact me.



The Rare Coil

by Joe Foley

The title of this little article is usually enough for most collectors of Ireland to know which stamp is being discussed. There's only one truly rare coil, the 2d Map Stamp definitive, on watermarked "se" paper, issued in coil form, perf. 15 horizontally, in 1935.

For the first time, we have one in the current EPA Postal Auction, lot 275. The actual stamp being offered is illustrated



in this article.

In the early days of the EPA, the stamp was treated with considerable skepticism by the Association and also by *Scott*. In fact, it wasn't until sometime in the mid 1950's that *Scott* actually listed the stamp as 68b. Prior to that, *Gibbons* was the only major catalog in general

use by Irish collectors that listed this coil as their #74b. The *Gibbons* number was frequently used in the title of early articles. The first article in *The Revealer* had a typo and in a "Q & A" article referred to it as 77b in the question and 74b in the answer. Unfortunately, "77b" was carried in our Index, and to compound it, the article that appeared on page 8 in the January, 1952 issue, was given the wrong year date of 1951.

While there are a number of good articles in back issues of *The Revealer*, the cover story "Chronological History of SC 68b / SG 74b" in the Summer 1984 issue by John Blessington gives an excellent account of the early history of the stamp. From a technical point of view, Russell Jackson had a well detailed article "The Irish 2d Coil of 1935" in the July 1968 issue. The Jackson article gave some very useful information on distinguishing genuine stamps from fakes and was reprinted in the special issue of the *American Philatelist* for the EPA's Silver Anniversary in April, 1975.

After this EPA auction, some lucky member will be the proud new owner of "the rare coil." ♣

Ireland's Transition Wins a Prix D'Honneur

by Charles J. G. Verge

Dr. Cyril I. Dulin's masterpiece and definitive work, *Ireland's Transition: The Postal History of the Transitional Period, 1922-1925* entered in Canada's Second National Philatelic Literature Exhibition (C2NPLe) by its publisher, MacDonnell Whyte Ltd of Dublin, Ireland, has won one of the four Prix d'Honneur at the exhibition.

The Grand Award winner, judged the best of the 238 entries of C2NPLe, was *British Letter Mail to Overseas Destinations, 1840-1875*. It was entered in the literature competition by The Royal Philatelic Society, London. The three other Prix d'Honneur winners, with the name of the submitter in parenthesis, were: *Stamping Around*, the weekly stamp column of *The Calgary Sun* (Peter Smith, columnist), *The Small Queens of Canada*, 2nd edition by John Hillson (James Bendon, Ltd, publisher) and *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* (Michel Forand, editor).

In awarding the Prix d'Honneur to *Ireland's Transition* -- which also received one of the six (6) gold medals awarded, the jury, composed of Charles Peterson (Chairman, representing the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie), Ralph Mitchener (Canada) and John Hotchner (U.S.A.), made the following comments:

"This new book is a remarkable treatment of one of the most interesting and complex aspects of Irish

postal history. A pioneer work in this field, it is at the same time a definitive one, and an admirable display of scholarship and writing skill."

Other entries in C2NPLe of Irish interest, the exhibitor and their awards were:

Silver:

Irish Post Offices/Irische Postämter Harald Frank, Germany

The Dublin Penny Post Manfred Dittmann, Germany

Silver-Bronze:

The Domestic Packets between Great Britain and Ireland, 1635-1840 George Henderson, England

The Dublin Spoon, 1855-1857 Dr. Cyril I. Dulin, Switzerland

The Post Offices and Datestamps of County Leitrim Richard McBride (EPA), U.S.A.

A Listing of Irish Postmarks in Gaelic Richard McBride (EPA), U.S.A.

Bronze:

Uniform Fourpenny Post in Ireland William Kane, Ireland

An Introduction to Irish Mileage Marks Richard McBride (EPA), U.S.A.

Canada's Second National Philatelic Literature Exhibition (C2NPLe) was a great success. It more than doubled its entries from its first attempt in 1991 (111 vs. 238 entries). In addition, it was one or two entries short of the total number entered in CAPEX 87, the last FIP-sponsored international exhibition held in Canada. Organisers for C2NPLe are looking forward to C3NPLe in 1995.

More information is available by contacting Charles J. G. Verge at P.O. Box 2788, Station 'D', Ottawa, CANADA K1P 5W8. ♣

In The Wilderness

by J. Doug Allen

In the Winter 1992 issue of *The Revealer* President Bob Moskowitz made mention of my membership in the James Hoban Chapter, causing me some unease as I wondered if my dues therein are paid to date. Yes, I live in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia far removed from JHC meetings and, for that matter, from EPA meetings. I have been an EPA member since 1978 and take an intense interest in the Association, albeit from afar.

It is lonely being an Irish collector here in Nova Scotia (See "Wilderness" on page 37)

That Was The Year That Was - 1992

(Continued from Last Issue)

by Brian Warren

FLIGHT COVERS

29 March (Sunday): First flight by Lufthansa - Cologne to Dublin. Special cancel used.

29 March (Sunday): First flight by Lufthansa - Dublin to Cologne. Special cancel used.

1 May: First flight by Birmingham European Airways - Dublin to Birmingham.

2 May: First flight by Aer Lingus - Shannon to Düsseldorf. Cachet sometimes used as a special postmark.

18 May: First flight by Lufthansa - Milan to Dublin (via Munich). Special cachet available. As some covers bear a philatelic bureau receiving CDS of 19 May, they appear to have been carried on the actual day unlike the return covers (see below).

18 May: First flight by Lufthansa - Dublin to Milan (via Munich). Special cancel used dated 18 May. Due to the postal dispute (see notes in Miscellaneous Section), the covers were not forwarded till 15 June. All covers seen bear the 18 May special cancel; some also bear an English/Irish cachet explaining delay (see also Other Special Postmarks section above).

10/11 August: Special Aer Lingus flight Barcelona to Dublin with returning members of Irish Olympic team including boxing medalists Michael Carruth (Gold) and Wayne McCullough (Silver). Forty covers flown bearing both Spanish and Irish stamps, cachet and colour photo of boxers on arrival in Dublin.

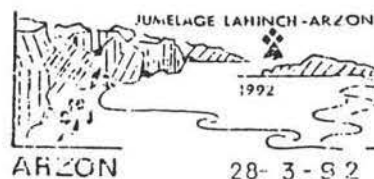
September: Special flights by visiting Lufthansa Junkers on Tour of Ireland (18 to 20 September). Cards flown on 18 September (ex. Dublin) and 19 September (ex. Shannon).

6 December (Sunday): First flight by Cityflyer Express - Dublin to London Gatwick. Covers cancelled 5 December.

FOREIGN STAMPS AND POSTMARKS WITH IRISH ASSOCIATIONS

As well as 1992 items, there are also two further 1991 issues (Isle of Man & Tanzania) not mentioned in my last article.

Bermuda: A six value set (SG673/8) issued on 12 November 1992 marked the seventh World Congress of Kennel Clubs. The 35c value (SG674) features an Irish setter. Not yet seen by the author.



France - Slogan Cancel: Lahinch, Co. Clare, was twinned with Arzon in Brittany, France, in October 1991 when a group of twenty-eight people from the North Clare resort visited West Brittany. This was followed up by the visit of a group of people from Brittany to Lahinch in April 1992. A slogan cancel was in use in Arzon (as illustrated); I'm not aware of the period of use.

Another French town, Plouzane, was twinned with the Clare town of Kilrush, in 1992. A French postbox was installed in Kilrush as part of the twinning celebrations. I'm not aware of any French postmark similar to the Arzon slogan.

Great Britain: The Castle high value designs were re-engraved and new security features were introduced during 1992. The new set was issued on 24 March. The £1 value continues to show Carrickfergus Castle, Co. Antrim. The Queen's portrait has been changed from a Machin head style to a silhouette as used on special issues and is printed in optically variable ink. This is the first time such an ink has been used in postage stamp printing. Another new security feature is the use of an elongated perforation on the left and right edges of each stamp - otherwise the stamp is perforated 15 x 14.



Germany - Postmarks: The German based Irish Study Group (FAI) produced a special cover for their 10th Anniversary for use with a special postmark on 19 September 1992 which was available at "Bavarica '92". A special postmark was also available for a Cologne - Dublin first flight as already referred to above - see "Other Special Postmarks".

Greece: A single stamp was issued by each E.C. member state in late 1992 to mark the commencement of the Single European Market on the following 1 January 1993. The Greek stamp (60dr) issued on 12 October (SG1923) includes a map of Europe and the flags of member states including Ireland.

Grenadines of Grenada: A twenty-seven value set issued on 13 February 1992 (SG 1441/67) featured "Great Railways of the World". The set was divided into three sheetlets of nine. The second sheetlet of \$1 values included the Kestrel, 1932 (Ireland) on one of the stamps (SG1453). Not yet seen by the author.

Isle of Man: A five-stamp set (SG478/82) was issued on 30 May 1991 to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the TT Mountain Course. The 37p value (SG482) features Joey Dunlop who was born in Northern Ireland. The design features him in action on an RVF 750 Honda at Ballaugh Bridge in 1985. In this TT, he completed a hat trick of wins in a week. He has won a total of 13 TT races. The set was also available in a miniature sheet (MS483). The miniature sheet was also overprinted for Philanippon (Japan).

Italy: The Italian Single European Market stamp (Lira 600) also featured the flags of member states including Ireland.

Maldiv Islands: An eleven-value set plus three miniature sheets on the Disney theme "Mickey's World Tour" was issued on 4 February 1992. One of the miniature sheets with a value of 25r. (SG MS1615a) features Donald Duck chasing a leprechaun in Ireland!

Sweden - Postmark: A special postmark was used in Brålanda on 23 May 1992 in connection with an Irish Music Festival.

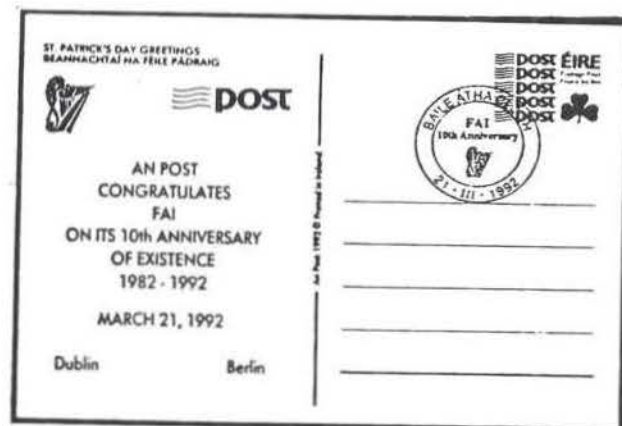


Tanzania: A sheetlet containing 16 different 50/- values, all featuring Horses and Ponies, was issued during 1991; one of the stamps features a Connemara Pony. Not yet seen by the author.

United Nations: The fourth set in its five-year series commemorating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was issued on 20 November 1992. Each of the six stamps in the 1992 set feature one of Articles 19 through to 24 from the Declaration. Various paintings to match the wording of the Articles are depicted on the stamps. The 29¢ value for the New York office features Article 19 which expresses the right to freedom of opinion and expression. The painting reproduced on the stamp is "Lady Writing a Letter with her Maid" by Johannes Vermeer (Netherlands). This painting was presented to the National Gallery of Ireland by the late Sir Alfred Beit. Sadly, the work was stolen from his former residence, Russborough House, Co. Wicklow, prior to its move to Dublin and has yet to be recovered. A complete sheet comprises 12 stamps plus 12 labels set out in four blocks of 3 stamps of the same value/design plus 3 labels; each label carries the wording of the Article in one of three languages (English, French and German).

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

21 March: The Germany-based Irish Study Group (FAI) overprinted the reverse side of the 1992 St. Patrick's Day cards in connection with their 10th Anniversary and their annual general meeting which was held in Berlin on the foregoing date. The cards were cancelled in green with the special Dublin postmark referred to in the Other Special Postmarks section.



April: Mail services were seriously disrupted during the period 27 April to 7 June (inclusive) due to a strike at the Central Sorting Office, Dublin. International mail (incl. GB) was suspended and after 7 to 10 days, deliveries virtually ceased in the Dublin area, apart from local mail within the same postal district. An emergency postal service was established by Ian Whyte (Dublin) and Peter McBride (Belfast), whereby a special courier took mail from Dublin to

EMERGENCY POSTAL SERVICE Dublin-Belfast

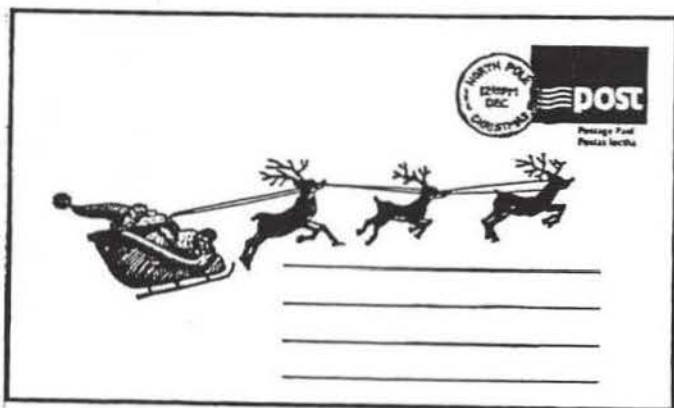


Belfast or Newry by train and then posted in the normal manner. A special self-adhesive label was affixed to each item of mail. The fee was IR£1. Labels were laser printed in black in sheets of 21 (7 rows of 3). The design incorporates an Irish Rail diesel locomotive. A rectangular boxed cachet was also applied to covers "Emergency Postal Service/Date/Dublin". Incoming covers via Belfast to Ian Whyte also exist.

15 October - Postage Stamps of Ireland: The second edition of this catalogue of Irish stamp issues published by An Post was released at Stampa '92. Cost IR£7.95 (hardback IR£14.95). This expanded edition includes details of booklets and official Post Office first day covers. Listings are fairly straight forward with all illustrations in color. The catalogue is aimed at the beginner rather than the advanced collector.

July (?): An Post has designated certain offices as "PostShops". At least two such offices (Westport and Wexford) are selling ordinary picture postcards with a "PostShop" logo on the reverse. The cards are numbered in the stamp space. Most cards are of general unnamed views. There are eight "PostShops" at present - Ballinasloe, Carlow, Cavan, Clonmel, Mullingar, Tuam, Westport, and Wexford. Cards with various numbers between 2 and 29 noted to date. Cards first seen in Westport in July.

November/December - An Post Christmas Cards: The general card design features three of the Christmas stamp designs (28p Annunciation, 32p & 52p) and makes-up to a four cornered lantern. In addition, deposit account holders with the philatelic bureau received a postcard which reproduced the 28p sheetlet stamp design in maximum card format. A Christmas greeting from the bureau was printed on the reverse side. Each card has the usual postage paid imprint cancelled with a small pre-printed pictorial postmark dated 26 November which is based on the FDI Christmas cancel. I believe that this is the first example of a printed cancellation apart from that used on the annual Santa Claus North Pole envelopes (see below). The same card with a different printed message was sent to all members of the Voyager Club.



December - Santa Christmas Envelope: The 1992 postage paid envelope design featured Santa in a sleigh pulled by three reindeers. The pre-printed "North Pole Christmas" postmark in red was the same as for 1991.

CONCLUSION

Once again, I wish to thank my many philatelic friends for their help in producing this article and, in particular, Maurice Barrett, Tony Cassidy, Jim Derwin, Tony Finn, Heinz Grunz, Otto Jung, John Lennon, Eugene Labiuk, Frank McDonald, John Mullen, Barra O'Keeffe, Finbar O'Mahony, Tony Quigley, David Turner, Gunter Vogt, Ronny Vogt, Ian Whyte and Bill Zellers, for their never-ending patience in answering my queries. 🍀

Wilderness

(Continued from page 34)

where, as far as I know, I am the only serious collector. I know there are no others here who belong to the EPA. Oh, yes organized philately is alive and well here. There are 189 members in the Nova Scotia Stamp Club which celebrated its 70th anniversary last year and of which I am a Past President. At every opportunity, I attempt to spread the gospel about Irish collecting and have mounted exhibits at several of our annual shows, but it is hard to convince die-hard collectors of Canadian & British stamps, who form the great majority here, of the pleasures to be derived from Irish stamps and postal history.

Ah yes, the Maytag repairman comes to mind at times as I soldier on sorting my Gerls, trying to differentiate between paper/gum combinations from A to D, wondering whether I should extend that frustration to the various CPP's of the Architecture and Treasures series. If only the Irish Philatelic Bureau would give me more details in their product listings, if only they would accept payment by credit card to eliminate the vacant looks I get from bank employees when I request drafts in Punts. When I wrote An Post regarding acceptance of credit cards, they did not even deign to reply. Later, when I mentioned this in a letter to Ian Whyte, he said An Post could not do this due to union problems. What a way to run a philatelic service in this enlightened age when sales to overseas collectors represent such a lucrative market. Maybe someone in An Post will read this and proffer a reasonable explanation. Maybe even change their policy... who knows?

In the meantime, I will continue to enjoy my modest Irish collection, search assiduously in dealers' stock books and auction catalogues for Irish diamonds and postal history items emanating from Co. Leix, and hope at least one other Irish collector will join me in Nova Scotia. There is one bright expectation on the horizon for me: maybe I will make my sixth visit to Ireland this fall and perhaps attend STAMPA '93. 🍀

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

16 July, 1993

Dear Editor,

We are pleased to send you a copy of our information leaflet detailing our extensive and varied Collections. This information may be of interest to your members, especially if visiting London. We will be pleased to send a copy of the leaflet to any interested person writing for a copy. Please have them write to: Philatelic Collections, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG.

Yours Sincerely,

D R Beech
Head of the Philatelic Collections 🍀



EPA Election Results

Office	Name	Votes
President	Charles J.G. Verge	82
V.P., N. Amer.	David Brennan	80
V.P., Europe	Tony Finn	79
Directors	Dick McBride	89
	Ian Whyte	83
	George Ryan	82
	Robert Joyce	78
	Otto Jung	71
	James Maher	61



The above elected officers have been certified to the President by Edward Shanley #1409, Anthony Finn #691 and Michael Conway #1757 as of 1 September 1993 for a period of two years.

OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES

Garvin Lohman	60
Steve Spoerl	29



Crossword A

by Bob Joyce

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P R E P A I D P A S T H G I L T R
I R S E S A E L E R O L O C L E C
I E R N K R O L A Y V D A A M A N
M B E U R T E F P A E N I M R O F
P M V J N C F L L F C C A E P V E
R E E O T I X U E E E R E P L Y A
I V R I C E E N L P G H H E A L E
N O O R P E A L S O S T C E T I R
T N E A P T A A R A K N R K E E H
I L C A I T M E T P C O A N V T I
A C E V I T A R O M E M M O C L S
D O E O S R C L U A H T C I A O Y
A S N I S J E S C T C S T T S N A
N S R N U J T L H S I A S A S D N
A H R A E Y N T A D O O R T E O N
C M A X I M U M I N P O I N T N T
O E N V E L O P E E D X F E T T A
U Y D D I K C N U M B E R S E S U
P A C K S S S T A T I O N E R Y A
O O B R K C I R T A P J H R E A C
N T R E J S D R A C T S O P O D Y

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AEROGRAMME	CHRISTMAS	COLOR	CANCELLATIONS
DAY	ENVELOPE	CARDS	DISCOVER
CAPEX	DISCOUNT	CHECKS	DEFINITIVES
COUPON	CANADA	CASSETTE	COMMEMORATIVE
FORM	ISSUE	JUNE	KEEP
FIRST	IRELAND	KIDDY	IMPRINT
LIGHTS	MONTH	NUMBERS	PLATE
LONDON	MARCH	PACKS	NOVEMBER
MAXIMUM	POSTAL	PREPAID	PATRICK
POSTCARDS	REPLY	SHEET	PRESENTATION
TOUCH	VALUE	REVERSE	STAMPA
TORONTO	RELEASE	SPECIAL	TRAFFIC
SELECTION	YEAR	STATIONERY	

Plus many other words of assorted shapes, sizes, and meanings.

• Source: Warren, Brian, "That Was The Year That Was - 1987", *The Revealer*, Fall 1988, Pgs 23-25.

(Answers in Next Issue)



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From the Desk of the Editor



I would like to cover two subjects this time: your mailing labels and Stampshow '93.

First, and most important to me, is your mailing label. Please, please, please check your mailing label for accuracy. It has a definite effect on the efficiency with which your Post Office

delivers your copy of *The Revealer*. Last month I asked you to let me know if there were any corrections and I received an excellent response. Also, please let me know of any change of address. It costs you 19¢ but it costs me 35¢ for a US address correction. Our overseas members are simply lost to us.

Stampshow '93 in Houston was a mixed bag for me. I went up to Houston with the idea of signing up all 6000 attendees but was a bit disappointed in the low attendance at our EPA meeting - just seven members and one ex-member. On the other hand, it was great to renew old acquaintances and hope that we may have recovered an old friend who had let his membership expire. Irish material was very expensive in general, but I had a grand time anyway.

Congratulations to all of our new officers. I wish them the best. Could everyone please remember the deadline for the Winter Issue is 1 December 1993. Let's settle down and write something to share with our fellow members.



Stamp Committee

(Continued from page 31)

some unparalleled civic feats in his last years; highlighted by the more than half million people who traveled to the Hill of Tara to hear him speak.

The Postal Officials in Washington have notified me that my proposals will be submitted before the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee as potential subjects for stamps. The committee is responsible to pass on acceptable ideas to the Postmaster General, who has the exclusive and final authority to accept or reject stamp designs.

You can aid this effort by informing the Postmaster General of your support in addition to your Congressman or woman. If you know of someone else who coincides with the view that America should finally honor an Irish leader, please encourage them to circulate a petition & forward the names to the Postmaster General. You can contact me at: 954-A Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, New Jersey 07083-6906. 

**Attention
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**Please Check the Accuracy
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Universal City, Texas
78148**

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 \$1.00 per item 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

Die Mielenstempel 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 Perfin — 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 catalogue. Only observed Perfin are catalogued. Also, 2 pages of suspected or previously reported designs. Price \$6.50

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 \$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

Uniform Fourpenny Post in Ireland — by William Kane. Produced by the Irish Philatelic Circle, 28 pages, softcover, illustrated, a fine postal history item. Price \$9.00.

The Maltese Cross in Ireland — by Hans G. Moxter 1988 Edition. Published by FAI, text of the 80 page book is in both German and English. This is probably the most comprehensive review of this postmark to date. Price \$7.50.

Undated Namestamps of Ireland 1823-1860 — by William 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 \$3.75

The Post Offices and Datestamps of the County of Leitrim — Original study of Dr. Brian de Burca, updated by James T. Howley. A very informative book showing 72 illustrations of handstamps, a map and descriptions of post office locations. A very useful item for postmark and postal history buffs. Published by EPA, 23 pages. Price \$6.00

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

STAMPS OF IRELAND 1991 Specialized Catalogue — by MacDonnell Whyte. Comprehensive listing of Irish Philately, a must for all collectors. Price \$13.00 bookrate or \$15.00 first class.

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 — by James T. Howley. 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.

THE REVEALER INDEX — by Patrick J. Ryan, Sr. A comprehensive index of all philatelic articles appearing in THE REVEALER from the first issue through the end of 1985. Articles are listed by subject matter. Cost: US & Canada \$8.75 others: \$10.00.

Addendum 1 to THE REVEALER Index — Same as above except it covers the years 1986 thru 1990. Price \$4.00. A complete index - Basic and addendum 1 - \$12.00.

An Introduction of Irish Mileage Marks — by W. E. Davey. Published by the EPA, 1989 Edition, 22 pages. An excellent book for the beginning collector of Irish Mileage Marks. Price \$5.00.

Introduction to Irish Post Offices of County Clare, Ireland — John Mackey & Tony Cassidy. Text in German & English. Published by FAI. A study developed from the postal archives of Dublin & London. A must for the student of Postal History. 94 pp Price \$8.00.

The Dublin Spoon — 1855-57, by Dr. C. I. Dulin, a comprehensive study that should be in every Philatelic Library. A must for postal history students. Softbound 48 pages \$6.00 prepaid.

John M. Synge Souvenir Card — issued by the James Hoban Chapter for World Stamp Expo '89. This very fine card honors J. M. Synge, Irish Playwright and Poet. It is black on cream with the J. M. Synge issue of 1971 printed on the card with a history of the subject and examples of his work on both sides. Only 300 were produced. Price \$1.25.