

The Revealer

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION



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Whole Number 200

FOMHAR - Fall 1995

New Discoveries

Postage
Q
Variety



1929 1/6 Stock Exchange Telegram Form

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 (See Notice at back)
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Fuir i gceir Telegrafo laire curtha amach ó Oifigí Mairtín Sme anáin.
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First of all, let me apologize to our excellent editor and to you, the members, for having delayed writing my *President's Message* to the point where Pat Ryan could not publish it in its normal place in *The Revealer*. I am most appreciative that he was able, and willing, to provide it to you as an insert to the last issue of our journal.



Follow-ups to my preceding *President's Message*.

1. I cannot comply with my promise to give you more details about our 1995/96 recruitment campaign. I have been unable to complete the details in time for this issue.
2. I reported in the last issue that an interim organizing committee had been struck to prepare for our 50th anniversary celebrations under the interim chairmanship of David Brennan. In a recent letter from David, he spells out a detailed plan for discussion purposes. The organizing committee will be having their first meeting on November

(Continued on page 23)

CHAPTER COORDINATORS

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No Coordinator, write to Mr. Conway

Southern California Chapter (SOCAL)
Members reside in Southern CA
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PO Box 1437, Fallbrook, CA 92088

The Association Secretary will write the appropriate coordinator when a new member joins the Association and provide the coordinator with the name and address of the new member. The role of the coordinator is to contact the new member, welcome the member to the Association and invite the member to join the local chapter.

4th, 1995 at the Javits Center during the Postage Stamp Mega-Event Show. If you have any ideas or would like to help, please contact David at P.O. Box 704, Bernardsville, NJ 07924-0704. I'm sure the committee would appreciate it.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

On the philatelic literature front. I recently purchased a lot of Irish literature through auction. In it were many years of *The Revealer* but also some EPA newsletters. Two issues are entitled *Newsletter* and are undated although by reading them they can be attributed to 1972. The titles of the other four are Éire Philatelic Association Notes. Three are dated June 1970, September 1970 and July 1971. One is undated and is presumed to be August 1971. As there are many collectors of Irish philatelic literature amongst our members I wonder if any of them could enlighten me/us on the extent, frequency and number of these EPA newsletters. Perhaps our librarian has an answer.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Meet me in St-Louis, Louie. Meet me at the fair (StaMpsHOW). By the time you read this, the APS's 1995 convention will be history. We will have had an EPA meeting and I will be reporting on it and other events at the show in the next *President's Message*. The same goes for SINGAPORE '95 which I am attending. It is my first World Philatelic Exhibition outside North America. What I wouldn't do to meet our European Director, Ian Whyte, who is also expected to attend. More about that show as well in the Fall.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

On the philatelic literature beat. Here is another puzzle for our literature aficionados. I would like to know more about the "Ireland" Study Circle who published Study Books (they were really papers) during their 1938-39 sessions. I have photocopies of three of them as follows:

Study Book No. 1	Subject No. 1.	General Scheme of Classification of the Handstruck Postage Stamps of Ireland.
Study Book No. 1	Subject No. 2.	The Colours of Postmarks.
Study Book No. 1	Subject No. 3.	A note on the Penny Posts.

I would like more information on the Study Circle or any information on their publications. Number of books. Number of issues, etc. Although they are not in depth papers, they make for interesting reading. ♣

SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

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

- #2467 William E. Bishop, 5356 Hickory Trail Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45242
- #2468 Eugene B. White, 20 Marianne Road, Darien, CT 06820
- #2469 Paul Baines, 4 Hawthorne Close, Nether Poppleton, York, England YO2 6HP

Reinstatements

- #2187 Edward Klimeck, 75 High St., Waterbury, CT 06704
- #2389 Hank Schumacher, 385 Cypress St., Massapequa Park, NY 11762

Deceased

- #0409 Dr. Edward T. Donnelly, Leominster, MA 01453
- #2368 Charles D. Haggin, Kent WA 98031

Lost Members

Address on the EPA Mailing list is no longer valid. The Revealer is being returned address unknown at a cost of over \$1.00 per issue. Please notify the Distributor of a new address immediately.

- #2353 Daniel J. McAdams, New York NY 10165

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- #1063 William E Brewer, 18 Pheasant Rdg, Paradise CA 95969
- #0461 Charles E Murphy, 50 Lacey Rd Ste D228, Whiting NJ 08759-2961
- #2275 William P Shea, 50 Goodman Dr, Middletown CT 06457-1954
- #2310 James P Mullaney, 1482 Samuel Dr, Wall Township NJ 07719
- #2452 Christopher Link, 89 MacDonald Rd., Coventry, England CV2 5FE
- #2377 Joseph Bowler, 322 Third Ave NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413
- #1895 Alan A. MacGregor, 3321 N Camino Los Brazos, Tucson AZ 85750
- #1634 Kathleen G. Elam, 514 Gaston Dr., Spartanburg, SC 29307
- #0992 Terry Fleshman, 713 S. Mallard St., Las Vegas, NV 89107
- #2386 Timothy Sharon, P.O. Box 765, La Cañada, CA 91012-0765
- #2246 J.P. Robertson, 12 Lisa Ct., Downsland Rd., Basingsyoke, Hants, England RG21 8TU
- #1106 William V. Donlon, 541 Surrey Close, Palm Harbor, FL 34683
- #2143 E. A. Nixon, 51 McBain Ave., Toronto, ON, Canada M4P 2S6

Resignations

- #2431 Anastassios Anastahas
- #2327 Richard D. Armor, Lompac, CA 93436
- #2029 Lawrence B. Flanagan, Wilmington, DE 19808
- #1182 David Proctor, San Diego, CA 92115
- #2414 Allan Sachs
- #2336 Mary Summerville
- #0813 Brian B. Thomson, Stirling, Scotland

Membership Status

Membership as of May 27, 1995 630

New Members	3
Reinstatements	2
Deceased	2
Resignations	7

Membership as of August 26, 1995 626 ♣

Treasurer's Update on Dues

This report is dues received thru August 27, 1995.

I would like to thank many of you for your quick responses to the 1995/96 dues notices. Dues are past due now, so please forward your payment right away. In addition the following members have included a contribution with their payments, which is most appreciated by your association:

William F. Aretz, Lawrence J. Barrett, Lawrence L. Bowles, Henry E. Bright, William W. Burnham, Maurice M. Bursey, John J. Byrnes Jr., C. Kevin Carroll, Ralph Chaiet, Norman Cobert, Robert F. Cochrane, Terence A. G. Dendy, William V. Donlon, Dennis J. Donohue, Kathleen Elam, George Etoe, Richard C. Fitzpatrick, J. Brendan Fleming, John G. Fluck, Joseph V. Gallagher, Doris L. Gardemal, David T. Gillen, James L. Hall, Robert A. Haslewood, Daniel F. Hayes, Harold W. Hurlbutt, Patrick E. Kennedy, Roger E. Kennedy, James V. Larkin, Tom R. Laughery, Garvin & Janice Lohman, Emmett G. Marsh, William T. McCaw, Robert P. McCullagh.

(see "Report" on page 27)

Mileage Marks: A Critical Review Part II

by C. I. Dulin

In Part I of this critical review on mileage marks, the anomalies and leads to "missing" marks were examined. In this part, it is intended to dwell in some depth on the marks that are known and, in particular, to see how they varied. The variations are not those of spelling or contractions, for which the reader is directed to Moxter's booklet (*"Die Meilenstempel der Irischen Post 1808-1839"*, 2nd edition, published by the FAI 1984), but rather the actual mileages indicated.

As before, this analysis is based on the accumulation of data from the author's collection, Moxter's listings and other sundry, but confirmed, data. Also, as previously noted, much of Moxter's data is still subject to confirmation in terms of mileage marks noted for specific years. For the purpose of this exercise, it is taken as correct and, of course, is subject to revision. The anomalies in the data do not generally affect the overall conclusions drawn although they should not be taken as absolute.

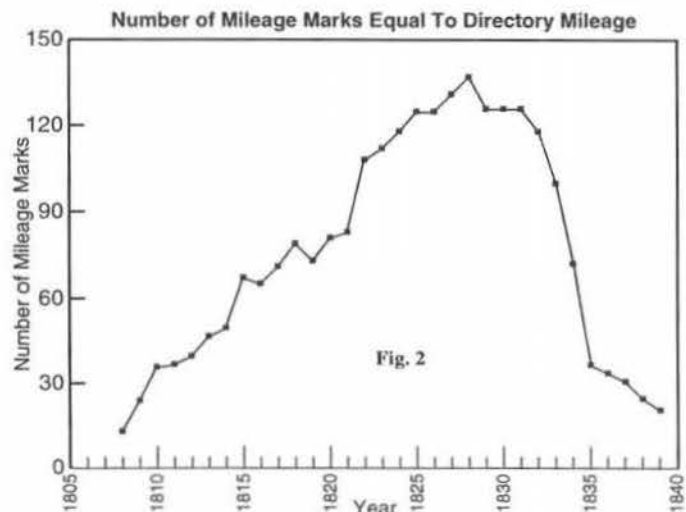
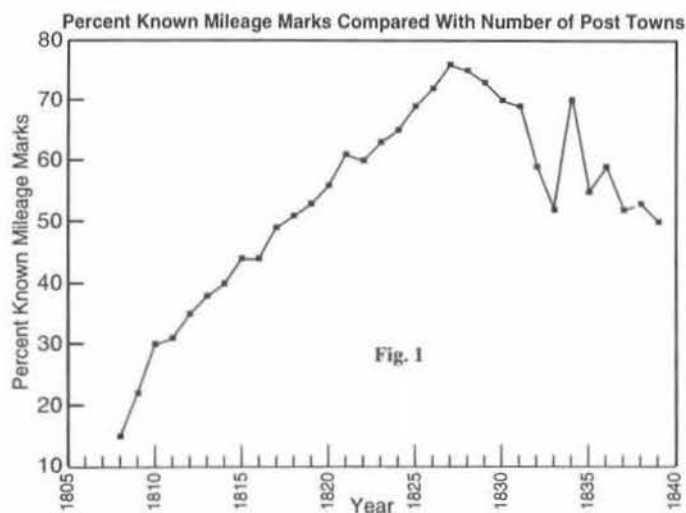
Known Markings:

Firstly, it is interesting to examine the known mileage marks and get an indication of data still lacking. For this purpose, the number of known mileage marks was analysed on a yearly basis (1808 to 1839) compared with the existence of the post towns each of which should have been issued with a mileage hand-stamp. The overall picture is given in Fig. 1 where the percent of known mileage marks is compared with the number of post towns.

As may be seen, there is a steady growth of known markings up to the end of 1828 and thereafter a decline in the 1830s. Thus in the first of year of issue, 1808, it may be seen that the percentage was around 15%, rising to about 75% in 1828 and then falling to around 50% by the end of the 1830s. In other words, while only about 1 in 6 of the possible mileage marks are known for the post towns that existed in 1808, a good three-quarters are known for the late 1820s period. However, it is necessary to show some caution in interpreting these results. They can be due to the scarcity of data for the early period or simply that all the post towns had not been issued with hand-stamps. In all probability, for the earlier period, the low percentage might be attributed to a combination of the two factors. That is, not all the post towns were issued with hand-stamps immediately, with their introduction spread over a period of a few years and that, undoubtedly, the earlier the period, the greater the scarcity factor. For the late 1820s period, however, it would seem that by that time all offices should have been issued with hand-stamps, and that although three-quarters are known for each year, most of the "missing" quarter could be expected to exist. After 1831, of course, the data tends to lose its meaning since the mileage mark, as such, was no longer strictly necessary and what appears is simply the continued use of a hand-stamp for convenience rather than meaning. A separate study of the hand-stamps replacements is under way, but much more data is required before it can be meaningfully dove-tailed with the mileage marks. Also, as was noted in the previous article,

many offices were relegated to sub-office status but nevertheless continued to use their old hand-stamp.

For the collector, the data would seem to indicate that early (say pre-1815) markings are probably of more significance than those for the later period and, of course, that much more scarcer to find. However, there also seems to be plenty of scope in the 1820s period where specific year mileage marks for 1 in 4 post towns are still not recorded. This, of course, is apart from the "missing" markings that were indicated in the first part of this article.



Indicated Mileages:

An aspect of mileage marks that proved fascinating to collectors is the difference between the mileage indicated in the hand-stamp and that indicated in the directories. Although it has been known for a very long time that differences have existed between the two, until now, this has been only superficially examined. Given in Fig. 2 is the number of mileage marks that agree with the directories for the 1808 to 1839 period. It is also necessary to explain the basis of the data selected for this exercise. Essentially, the directories gave only a single mileage for a given year. By contrast, there could be

more than one hand-stamp in apparent use. That is, for a given year more than one mileage mark could exist for a given office. The greatest number seen (for a given year at a given office) is three, although usually one was the norm. This variation still cannot be defined with any exactitude with the data accumulated thus far. For the purpose of the graph, which is only indicative and certainly not definitive, if one of a given number of mileages from different hand-stamps was equal to that given in the directories, then it was included in the base data. Also, for this purpose, agreement was defined as literally absolute agreement and not within a mile or two.

As may be seen, the number of mileages that showed equality with the directories was quite low for the early period rising to about 145 for 1828. Nominally, this seems to indicate that initially there were relatively few mileage marks that equated their mileages to the directory mileage, but by the late 1820s, the number had increased considerably. Again, caution is necessary in interpretation, for as seen from Fig. 1, the number of mileage marks known for the earlier period is low. What is needed is a combination of the two and this is shown in Fig. 3 where the percentage of known markings showing equality with the directories is given. Thus in real terms, equality is about 1 in 3 for the early period and rises to about 1 in 2 for the late 1820s. Apparently then, there appears to be a conscious effort to equate the mileage marks to the directory entries up to about 1831. After this date, the percentage equality dives, but by then, the mileage marks, per se, had ceased to have their earlier significance.

while there were four offices showing four different mileages (Cashel, Dungannon, Tuam and Waterford). That there were nearly two-thirds that showed but an invariable single mileage seems to suggest that the actual mileage indicated was not overly important to the majority of offices. As will be shown in the next installment, this was certainly true as far as postal rates were concerned. On the other hand, over a third did deem it necessary to effect some change. Why this should have been is largely conjectural, but certainly it raises the question of whether English or Irish miles were part of the story. This, of course, is quite apart from the changes in the roads and their routings.

Irish and English Miles:

While of some intrinsic interest, the statistics presented thus far are not terribly philatelically significant other than in an overall descriptive sense. Of more import is whether the mileages indicated in the hand-stamps were in Irish or English miles. Here the directories are unequivocal, for they invariably indicated what the standard units were. For the mileage marks, it often appears as a question of how long is a piece of string.

In this connection, it is also necessary to try to define what is meant by a mile - English or Irish. Confining the context to the 18th and 19th centuries, the English mile was moderately constant in being defined as $69\frac{1}{2}$ miles to a degree although much later this was refined to 69.157 statute miles to a degree. This type of definition derived from the early map makers who had divided the world into 360 degree for cartographical purposes. The French, after the Revolution, were much sophisticated in defining their metre although based on a similar approach. The key problem was, of course, in attempting to measure the circumference of the world. As these measurements were refined, so was the accuracy of the computation in defining a standard unit of length.

The Irish mile was based on local units and related to the English mile. This relationship showed enormous variation according to its source. Thus the definition may be found in equivalent English miles to the degrees as 50 (1700); 50 (1712); $54\frac{1}{2} + 14$ holes (1777); $54\frac{1}{2} + 34$ holes (1793); 54 miles, 4 furlongs and 189 yards (1815); 54.32 (1832) and $54\frac{1}{2}$ (1840). Sometimes when an Irish mile was given without a reference (that is not calculated from a degree) there were even greater variations. In the same year, 1814, two "standard" references gave the Irish mile as 3038 English yards (Barlow) and 2200 English yards (Watkins Cyclopaedia). Continental map makers were little better. For example, French early 19th century 11/14 English equals one Irish (2223 yards); Italian c. 1795 4% of a Grado (2536 English yards).

For computational purposes in what follows, the ratio of an English to an Irish mile has been taken as an approximate 1.27. Since mileages in both the directories and the hand-stamps were rounded up to integers (the only exception is the 1799 directory where distances were given to the nearest $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, but that date is, in any case, outside the scope of mileage marks) it is felt that this is fairly reasonable.

In examining the data to hand, the ratio of directory mileage to mileage mark mileage (where known) was calculated for each year. Up to 1825, the Watson directories were in Irish miles, and in English miles from 1826 to 1830 reverting to Irish miles again in 1831. The Irish directories (from 1832) were in Irish miles except for 1834 where both Irish and English miles were given. For computational

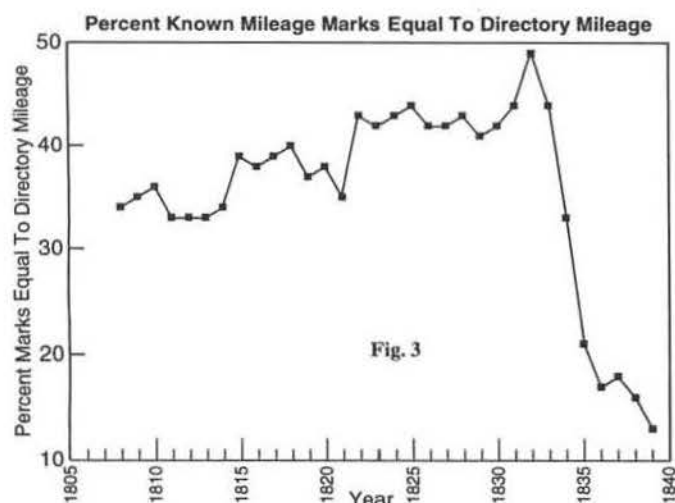


Fig. 3

Mileage Mark Hand-stamp Variations:

An adjunct to mileage mark equality to directory mileages is the variation in the different mileages in the hand-stamps of a given office during the 1808 to 1839 period. In terms of what has been recorded, these are (at least to the author) somewhat surprising.

Percentage of hand-stamps with different mileages:

Number	Percentage
1	62%
2	28%
3	9%
4	1%
5	1 only

The office showing the greatest number of mileage mark hand-stamp variations (5) during the period was Londonderry,

convenience, all were converted to Irish miles.

If the ratio of mileage mark to directory mileage was 1 (or reasonably close to it) then it could be reasonably inferred that the hand-stamp was in Irish miles. If, however, the ratio was in the region of 1.27, then it was possible (but not conclusive) that the hand-stamp was in English miles.

If all the known mileage marks are compared with the directory entries, then an interesting pattern emerges. Between 1808 and 1821, the mileage mark ratio averaged 1.04 (the only exception was in 1808 where the ratio was 1.06). After 1821, that is between 1821 and 1839, the ratio was invariably .99 or 1.00. In other words, up to 1821 the mileage marks, on average, were around 5% higher than the directory indication while after that date, the mileage mark and the directories were virtually the same. However, while this is of some note, the real value of the ratio test is in trying to determine whether some mileage marks were in English or Irish miles.

In earlier studies (principally by Dr. Stafford Johnson in articles appearing in the *Philatelic Adviser* 1938) the conclusion had been reached that of all the mileage marks known, only Athy differed in showing English miles rather than Irish in its hand-stamp. Certainly there is much to support this view, for after a few years, the mileage in the hand-stamp was changed so that the mileage mark and directory miles were the same (from 41 to 32). The question to be answered was if Athy was unique in this respect or were there other cases. Again there were surprises.

Athy:

Had a ratio of 1.28 from 1808 to 1816 and thereafter was 1.00. Thus, there is a strong indication that the mileage mark in earlier years was probably in English miles. This post town is also easier than most to examine in that, for the entire 1808 to 1839 period the directory mileage was a constant 32, while between 1808 and 1814, there was a single mileage mark (41) and after 1816, again only a single hand-stamp was used (32). For the 1814-1816 period, both mileage marks were in use.

Cashel:

While more complicated than Athy, there are also strong indications that this post town also had mileage marks that, for a period, were English rather than Irish. The directory mileages were 77 (1808-1821); 79 until 1831; 85 between 1832 and 1838 reverting to 79 in 1832. Mileage marks recorded are 98 between 1808 and 1813; unknown for 1814-15; a single 94 for 1816; 96 for 1817-1821; and an overlapping 79 between 1819 and 1832. No mileage mark is recorded after this time. In essence, there is a ratio of 1.27 between 1808 and 1813; unknown for 1814-15; 1.22 for the solitary 1815; 1.25 for 1817-21; and virtually 1.00 thereafter. The implication is that certainly between 1808 and 1813, the mileage mark was English and possibly this extended up to 1821. The solitary marking noted for 1816 (94 according to Moxter) may also be in error.

Portaferry:

This was a major surprise. There never has been a suggestion previously that the mileage mark of this post town was in English miles, but all the evidence seems

to clearly point to that conclusion. The directory mileage of 81 was maintained from 1808 to 1821, and from then on, was 101 until 1830 and 102 to 1939. Only one mileage mark, 101, has been recorded and this covers the span from 1812 until 1839. Thus, with a ratio 1.25 from known markings spanning the period 1812 until 1821, and then with a ratio of 1.00 or 0.99 after this, it is comparable to Athy for unambiguity.

Tipperary:

An even greater possible revelation was Tipperary. Although not as clear cut as the others, with a ratio of 1.26 from 1808 to 1815 (directory mileage 86) and just a single mileage mark (of 108), it is a likely candidate. Somewhat surprisingly, no mileage has been recorded for this sizeable post town for the years 1816 to 1821. Mitigating against a wholesome acceptance as an English mile candidate is the odd ratio of 1.16 for the 1822 to 1826 period when its other mileage mark of 100 was in vogue. Thereafter, it shows a ratio of 1.00 for 1826-27, but, again oddly, no mileage mark has been recorded after these years.

There are two other possible post towns which may show English miles in their marks, but thus far there is not really enough data to be at all positive.

Cappoquin:

This may be a candidate, having a ratio of 1.30 or 1.29 for the 1810 to 1815 period (directory 97 or 98, mileage mark 126). No markings are known after that date until 1823 and 1824 when the ratio appears to have been 1.18. There is a gap of known markings until 1831, but after that, the ratio was 1.00. However, with the directories having four different mileages and the existence of three known mileage marks, more data is required for confirmation.

Slane:

Here there is a dearth of data for the critical early period. No mileage mark is known until 1817 although the office was open from 1808. However, for the 1818 to 1821 period, the ratio is about right at 1.25 (24 directory and 30 mileage mark) and then a ratio of 1.00 until 1831. No mileage mark is known after that year.

Ratio Variation:

It would be quite wrong to leave the impression that all the ratios fall into neatly categorised groupings. While over 95% of the post towns show a variation of less than plus or minus 10% compared with the ideal ratio 1.00 for the whole 1808 to 1839 period, there are about 20 which do not. In general, there are few which show a ratio of less than 1.00 (the lowest is 0.89 for Roscommon) and of the others, most lie in the 1.10 to 1.20 region. These deviations cannot be reasonably explained by the assumption of English instead of Irish miles in the hand-stamps. Some are due to change of hand-stamp mileage at about the same time as directory mileage change, but even here, there appears little to satisfactorily solve the problem as to why the deviations were, relatively, so great.

There are only two offices which lie beyond the English mile ratio (range 1.25 to 1.30). These are Broadway and Dungiven, both of which have a 1.40 ratio for an appreciable

period (1811 to 1821 and 1816 to 1821 respectively). Both revert to "normal" ratios after 1821 (1.00 and .96). In the case of Broadway, the directory entry is constant at 57 between 1808 and 1821, and then leaps to 81 or 80 after this. This strongly suggests that the directory entry was initially incorrect and should have been 75 not 57. Why, if this assumption is correct, the error was perpetuated for so many years is difficult to understand although when rates and mileages are examined in the next installment some excuse may be found.

For Dungiven there can be no such possibility. For the 1808 to 1821 period, its directory mileage was 99 before settling down at 144 (followed by other mileages 145, 138 and 129) which roughly corresponds to the mileage mark. Not only may the possibility of figure reversal be discounted, but also the possibility that it may have been confused with Dungarvan (at 117).

For many of the errant ratios, it is probable they were due to the different routes and changes of routing taking place. For much of the early period, there were three main roads leading to Dublin. When changes were made to the roads, if a given section had its mileage changed, theoretically, there should have been a domino effect, so that all mileages further along the route would have to be revised. In practice, it is doubtful if this occurred on a regular basis. However, by examining the data, there is no doubt whatsoever that a really major revision of mileage reporting did occur between 1821 and 1822.

There are abundant files in the archives relating to the road works that took place in Ireland during the mileage mark period. However, extracting the data and relating it to published mileages or mile marks would be a fairly colossal undertaking. Whether it is worth doing is debatable, for at this stage, much more data is needed on the mileage marks themselves, especially for specific years and periods. This data can only come from collectors.

In the next part, the more important task of relating rates and mileage marks will be considered. After all, this is the crux of the mileage mark investigation. ♣

EPA AT STAMPA '95

by Patrick J. Ryan, Sr.

Call them what you will, the EPA's very own Pilgrims/Nomads of the Irish Philatelic world will be venturing out to establish a presence at STAMPA '95 in Dublin.

Attention all Irish Collectors who will be attending the affair - member or not! Joe Foley and David Brennan will be hosting an EPA luncheon at 12 noon, October 21st in the Riverside Center Pub. No mistake - I said Pub! All are welcome to swap tall tails, renew old friendships and, maybe, even strike up some new ones. Ah! How I wish I could be there with you. But, I'll be there in spirit so have a grand time.

Attention Non-Members: Please do not worry - You can attend with confidence. You will be welcome and you can rest assured that Joe and David will have an application form for you or they will give you the address of our secretary, Mike Conway, who, incidentally, collects Irish stamps also. ♣

A Plea for Help

Missing Random Notes by Fred Dixon

by Charles J. G. Verge

I borrowed Fred Dixon's Random Notes from the EPA's John Blessington Memorial Library. I expected that the holdings would be missing a few issues and I was right. To my dismay, a number of issues had illustrations cut out from them; mainly postmarks. With some deduction, I figured that this set of Random Notes had belonged to John Blessington himself and I believe he may have been the culprit who used the scissors. Having said that, I am seeking the membership's help in reconstructing the missing illustrations and providing for the missing issues.

If you own a complete or partial set of Random Notes -- and yes, I know there are very elusive, please check them and, if possible, donate clear photocopies of the missing issues to the library. If the cost of photocopies is prohibitive for you, the EPA will reimburse you. Please send me the invoice along with the photocopies.

The first 26 issues are unnumbered. The numbering started at issue 27 in November 1959. If you are uncertain of the number of any of the first 26, please send what you have and we can compare with the library's holdings.

The missing issues are: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 19, 20, 21, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 and 80.

The cut out issues are: Nos. 40, 43, 44, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 70, 76, 90, 93, 97, 105 and 138.

Please help; others will appreciate it. ♣

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

July 4, 1995

Dear Editor,

For information:

At the Swiss National Exhibition, Basler Taube '95, my entry "Ireland: The Overprints" awarded a Gold medal. Book, "Ireland's Transition", in the Literature section was awarded a Large Gold and a Prix d'Honneur.

Very best regards,

Cyril I. Dulin ♣

Report

(continued from page 23)

John J. McDevitt, Hugh McGoldrick, Paul G. Murphy, Austin O'Leary, William F. Oakes, George Pojer, George J. Reynolds, Joseph P. Robertson, William F. Smith, Ronny Vogt, T. Vrijdag, Dwight A. Wahr, Patricia S. Walker, Brian S. Wallas, Donald J. Willis, and George W. Workman. ♣

Stamped Telegram Forms in Ireland Since 1870

by Hans Bergdolt

FAI - Study and Research Group of Ireland, Germany; 1994

Part IV: Stamped Telegram forms issued by authority of the Irish General Office

When Ireland became independent, British postal stationery continued to be used. Only new stamped telegram forms and registered envelopes appeared provisionally in 1922. The imprinted stamps were showing KGV, but now in green colour. From 1924 onwards, the Irish General Post Office issued inland and stock exchange telegram forms with its Irish stamp, including the harp instead of British King's head. Stamped forms for international telegrams have no longer been produced.

1922, KGV, 1 sh green, provisional printings

Fig. 21

EDITOR'S NOTE: Fig's 19 appear in the last issue page 5.

The British form, on sale since 1920 (fig. 19), was replaced in Ireland by changing the KGV stamp to green colour. This form with printer's date 7/20 (fig. 21) gives its quantity printed of 150,000 sheets (in blocks of 20 each). Telegram forms were however, printed at various times with different stamps. According to Huggins, forms of the 1920 edition exist as telegram forms with olivebrown (for UK and Ireland, since 1922 for UK and Northern Ireland) as well as with a green stamp (for the Irish Free State), and have an identical printer's mark (150 000 Sheets. 7/20). Considering the rarity of the green stamped forms, one can presume that only a small part of the printing was produced. Due to the fact that Ireland and GB collectors are interested in this issue, there is a great demand for it.

1924, Harp, 1 sh blue

Fig. 22

In 1924, the Irish Free State replaced its former British stamped stationery and the issues with green KGV stamp, by Irish stationery with a harp in the stamp's design. Fig. 22 shows Ireland's first stamped telegram form with a 1 sh stamp in blue and a bilingual text in Irish and English, both printings in black. For the Irish text, as was the practice for all stationeries in those days, Irish letters were used.

The front of this form in its basic arrangement, position of the stamp and position of lines to be filled in, are showing only minor changes.

1927, Harp, 1 sh blue

Fig. 23

Writing Irish letters caused problems for the public, even in Ireland as well as abroad, and the GPO decided to use so-called "Latin" lettering on its stationery. Fig. 23 shows the new version. Text and stamp are now printed in blue. On the left hand, the perforation of the staples are noticeable. The paper is so transparent that the printing on the back is shining through.

1929, Harp, 1/6 sh brown, inland form

The minimum charge for an inland telegram was one shilling between 1920 and 1928. This charge covered the first

Fig. 24

12 words. For this purpose, forms were sold with a stamp of 1 sh. In 1928, the GPO increased the charges: Minimum fee, still for the first 12 words, went up to 1/6 sh. This raise caused the introduction of a new stamped telegram form issued in 1929 (fig. 24). The stamp remained unchanged, except for the new value. The design also does not differ from earlier issues; only the colour changed to brown.

Stamped telegram forms were delivered again in blocks of 20 sheets, with a plain sheet between each form. Forms with a 1 sh stamp continued to be sold, and the missing difference was covered by adding postage stamps.

1929, Harp, 1/6 sh brown, stock exchange form

Fig. 25

In 1929, a new stamped telegram form for use at the stock exchange P.O.s appeared (fig. 25). Stock exchange forms were only on sale at P.O.s in Dublin and Cork, but they could also be ordered at any other P.O., and would be delivered within a few days. This stock exchange form corresponds to the design of earlier issues; text and stamp were printed in brown.

According to the Post Office Guide regulations, stamped telegram forms should only be sold in complete blocks of 20 sheets at Ir£ 1/10/- for a block of 1/6 sh forms (resp. Ir£ 1/- for a block of 1 sh forms). This might be a reason for their relative scarcity. Collectors were not used to buying a complete block of 20 when they needed just one copy.

1929, Cover of a block of stock exchange forms at 1/6 sh

Fig. 26

Stamped telegram forms had a margin on which they were stapled (fig. 23 and 25). Fig. 26 shows a cover of a block of stock exchange form at 1/6 sh. Size of the original block is 173 x 211 mm. It contained 20 sheets. This corresponded to a total charge of Ir£ 1/10/-. In addition, a fee of 3d was charged per block as is mentioned on the cover sheet. Unfortunately, the cover sheet shows no printing marks. (Notes by Fred Dixon indicate that this item came into his possession about 1947.)

1947(?), Harp, 1 sh blue

During the 40s, the scale of charges was changed. The minimum charge for a telegram was still 1 sh, but now for 9 words only. This charge suited the customers because short

telegrams became cheaper. From this time, there was once more a demand for a 1 sh form. In the late 40s, a new printing of the 1 sh forms was issued (fig. 27). Otto Jung gives in his handbook the first year of sale as 1947 and this date has been generally accepted.

This stamped telegram form matches with the 1927 issue (fig. 23). Text and stamp are light blue; however, design and text are now arranged in a somewhat different way. For dating these forms in the late 40s, Otto Jung refers to the development of the Irish language since the 20s of this century. Since the differences between the forms of 1927 and those of 1947 are few and not remarkable, collectors may confuse the two. Unfortunately, Irish stamped telegram forms have no printer's marks, so that we have no information about their quantity, the date of printing and the printers.

Fig. 27

The reverse of stamped telegram forms since 1922

The reverse of the telegram form of 1922 with the stamp of King George V. corresponded, of course, in language and design to earlier forms. Changes occurred only after the Irish GPO issued its own forms. These were, in view of the revival of the Irish/Celtic language and in consideration of international communication, bilingual: Celtic and English. On

the first form of 1924 Celtic letters, since 1927 so-called Roman letters were used. There were no other changes. Reverses of 1927 and 1929 are identical, while the upper part of the reverse of the stock exchange form of 1929 was not printed. Minor changes can be noted with the telegram form of 1947. Fig. 28 shows the reverse of telegram forms of 1922, 1924 and 1927 (from top to the bottom).

The end of the stamped telegram forms in Ireland

After 1947, no telegram forms with imprinted stamps were issued in Ireland. Their sale was discontinued in the early 50s. Only unstamped forms were available to the public free of charge. Postage stamps had to be affixed to the unstamped form (A-form) on which the client had written his message. Cut-out stamps from stamped telegram forms or other stationeries remained valid for payment of postage. The United Kingdom also did not issue any stamped telegram forms after 1951. It seems that customers were unwilling to buy the expensive forms and to keep them in stock for future use. The question of whether a customer or a clerk at the P.O. counters had to affix a postage stamp to the A-form did not make great difference. So, telegram forms with imprinted stamps were no longer needed, and their sale ended after using up stocks.

During the following decades telephone, telefax and other modern ways of telecommunication were introduced. Telegraphic services in Ireland, as well as all over the globe, lost their importance. When the telecommunication service of the GPO were separated and privatized again, the telegraphic service were suspended at January 1st, 1984.

Conclusion

Stamped telegram forms were rather expensive, if one considers the average wages and "buying power" in those days. So these forms at 1 sh and 1/6 sh were not kept in stock by the public or collected in large numbers by philatelists. Available forms were mostly hidden in files, archives, etc. and are mostly creased and often worn. Some stamped telegram forms of the issues before 1922 are quite rare, especially the 9d with the additional 3d (fig. 18); the 1 sh olivebrown (figs. 19 and 20); and forms for international telegrams. Stamped telegram forms issued by the Irish GPO (1922 and onwards) can be classified as great rarities of Irish philately.

Further interesting details like the design and valuation of stamped telegram forms of the Republic of Ireland (1922 and later) can be found in Otto Jung's standard handbook and catalogue "Postal Stationery of Ireland", 5th edition 1994, Volume 16 of the FAI-publications of the Study and Research Group Ireland, Germany (Text in English and German).

Final Remarks

When the author started to investigate Irish telegram forms, it was his intention to get himself better informed with these rare items. He felt fascinated by the topic - probably due to a certain connection with his professional work. His interest grew for more information and in earlier forms which had seen use in Ireland. Two very specialized dealers were able to offer many of the earlier issues. This article gives a view of the whole range of telegram forms, covering especially rarer

Fig. 28

items. Nevertheless, there remains a lot of work to be done with this collection. Correspondence on the subject is always welcome.

My sincere thanks go to those friends, who helped me with their knowledge and encouragement, especially Messrs. Jung, Frank and Grunz and to Hans G. Moxter who took care of the translation.

Literature:

Huggins, British Postal Stationery; Jung, Postal Stationery of Ireland;
Post Office Guides of Ireland

Hans Bergdolt, Study and Research Group of Ireland, Munich/Germany; 1994

STAMPA '95 Set for October in Dublin

DUBLIN: -

Stampa '95, the 24th Irish National Stamp Exhibition, will take place on October 20 to 22, 1995 at the Riverside Exhibition Centre, Dublin 2. The show will open from 11am to 8pm on Friday October 20, and 11am to 6pm on Saturday and Sunday, October 21 and 22.

This show is Ireland's premier philatelic event, attended by thousands of collectors from all over Ireland, as well as visitors from the UK, USA and Western Europe. The venue is the most up-to-date in Dublin, fully carpeted and well furnished, with a very convivial in-house "pub" and café. The friendly atmosphere of this small but busy show has enticed many collectors from outside Ireland to come back every year. The show is supported by the Irish Post Office, the Irish Philatelic Traders Association and the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland.

Collectors from outside Ireland are very welcome to enter exhibits in the national competitions held at the show. There are trophies for best overall exhibit, best exhibit of Irish material, postal history, thematics, aerophilately, environmental theme, best exhibit of non-Irish material, as well as gold, vermeil, silver-bronze and bronze medals. There is a competition for novice exhibitors and an "open class" competition. There are no customs formalities for collectors from the European Union countries.

Good hotels near the venue cost from £29 per person, and inclusive weekend flight and hotel packages cost from £120 from the UK, US\$400 from the USA, and similar deals are available from many other countries. Full details of inclusive travel packages may be obtained from Aer Lingus, RyanAir, or Irish Tourist Board Offices.

Collectors wishing to combine a visit to *Stampa* with a holiday are well catered for, as Dublin is an excellent venue for an autumn break, with its attractive and historic buildings, interesting shops and markets, hundreds of pubs, superb golf courses, etc. The famous Wexford Opera Festival is on at around the same time as *Stampa* - Wexford is only two hours drive from Dublin.

Collectors are invited to become members of *Stampa*. The

Stamps on Telegraph Forms used in Ireland

Annex to "Stamped Telegraph Forms in Ireland since 1870"
by Hans Bergdolt, FAI, 1994

Change of rates	Monarch/ Emblem	First year of issue of corresponding telegram form(s)		
		Inland	Stock Exchange	International
1870	QV	1870: 1 Sh		
	QV ¹⁾	1875: 1 Sh	1876: 1 Sh	
1885	QV	1885: 6 d	1886: 6 d	1889: 10 d, 1 ¹⁾ blue ²⁾
	QV			1892: 10 d, brown
	KEVII	1902: 6 d	1902: 6 d	1903: 10 d, brown
	KGVI	1915: 6 d		
1915	KGVI	1915: 9 d	1915: 9 d	
1920	KGVI	1920: 9 + 3 d	1920: 9 + 3 d	
	KGVI	1920: 1 Sh	1920: 1 Sh	
	KGVI ³⁾	1922: 1 Sh gn	1922: 1 Sh gn	
	Harp	1922: 1 Sh		
	Harp	1927: 1 Sh		
1929	Harp	1929: 1/6 Sh	1929: 1/6 Sh	
1947(?)	Harp	1947(?) : 1 Sh		

¹⁾ With "TELEGRAPHS" in stamp

²⁾ Also stock exchange international

³⁾ Provisional for Republic of Ireland

benefits of membership include a free season ticket to *Stampa*, a free catalogue of the show, an *exclusive* philatelic souvenir in the form of an overprinted An Post miniature sheet, reduced entry fees and more. Membership costs only IR£12.50 (GB£12.50, DM30, US\$20).

Membership application forms and the exhibitors' prospectus are available from the Secretary, *Stampa '95*, PO Box 2723, Phibsborough, Dublin 7.

STAMPA '95 - DUBLIN

The Irish National Stamp Exhibition

will be held at

THE RIVERSIDE EXHIBITION
CENTRE
SIR JOHN ROGERSON'S QUAY,
DUBLIN 2.

Thursday 19th
to
Sunday 22nd October '95

A Possible New "Q" Variety

by Bill McCaw & Joe Foley

John Lorenzen from Denmark recently submitted a Dollard 9d with red overprint to the Committee on Forged & Bogus Material. The stamp had a spur (actually two) on the "O" in "POSTAGE" that resembled a "Q." We examined the stamp and found that while it was not the generally recognized "PQSTAGE" variety, it might well be a new variety.

The stamp does have a flaw in the "O" of "POSTAGE" that resembles a "Q." However, we do not believe it is the "PQSTAGE" flaw, i.e. MacDonnell Whyte #T11a.

In the Lorenzen stamp, the projection at the base of the "O" is at the "5 o'clock" position, with a lesser projection at "1 o'clock." There are also some small irregularities in the white line beneath "POSTAGE."

MacDonnell Whyte shows the projection on the "O" at the "7 o'clock" position accompanied with a notch in the outer frame line. This is illustrated on page 14 of the 1991 *Stamps of Ireland Specialised Handbook*. The second edition of the *Hibernian Specialised Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Ireland 1922-1978* illustrates the variety on page 10 and refers to it as a compound line flaw consisting of a "cut in the outer frame line beside the 'O' in 'POSTAGE' and a downward stroke from the 'O' making it appear as a reversed 'Q'." Note that in the Lorenzen stamp the variety appears as a normal, not a reversed, "Q."

The illustration and description of the flaw on the basic stamp is also given in 9th edition of Stanley Gibbons *Great Britain Specialised Stamp Catalogue, Volume 2, King Edward VII to King George VI* on page 209.

The position given in more recent references for the "PQSTAGE" variety is Row 3, stamp 1, although earlier references (both Fellowman and Hibernian) had cited Row 9, stamp 1. Dulin & Williams in their article "Overprinted Proof Sheets in the London Postal Museum Archives" published in the January, 1979 *Revealer* note that the R9/1 reference is erroneous. Row 3, stamp one position in setting 1 (actually composite) and setting 2 have overprint position characteristics not found in the Lorenzen stamp.

There is no doubt that the Lorenzen stamp is a variety even though it is not what we have to date referred to as the "Q" variety. What remains, is to determine if it is a constant variety and for this we need to find others. It would also be helpful to be able to place its position on the sheet. We suspect it may be from setting 2 or 3 and one of the positions without distinguishing characteristics [i.e., setting 2: cliché R1/1, R2/1, R5/1 or 2; Setting 3: R2/1 or 3, R5/2]. (Reference *Revealer* Supplement No. 21.)

Our thanks to Melanie Behrens for taking the photographs of this stamp. We would like to hear of any other examples of this variety.



T11A



Otto Jung Receives Field Award

The Thomas Edwin Field Memorial Award Committee, consisting of COL B. B. Zellers and Joseph E. Foley, both recipients of the Award in previous years, have announced that Otto Jung of Dueren, Germany is the 1994 recipient of the Éire Philatelic Association's *Thomas Edwin Field Memorial Award*.



Otto Jung receives Field Award from Manfred Schollmayer, President of FAI.

Named in honor of the late Thomas E. Field of Skelmanthorpe, England, this award was originated in 1968. Field had done extensive research in Irish philately which contributed greatly to its advancement. The award is presented annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to Irish philately in the tradition established by T. E. Field.

Otto Jung was the unanimous choice for this year's award. For many years he has studied the postal stationery of Ireland and authored an outstanding handbook on the subject which has grown over the years from a small monograph to the current edition, published in 1994, of 270 pages. It has become the accepted standard on the subject. The 1994 edition carries a listing of stamped to order stationery - something never before attempted for Ireland.

Included with the award is the EPA medal and life membership in the Association.

In presenting the award, it was noted that in sharing the results of his research with his fellow collectors Otto Jung has embodied the tradition established by Thomas Edwin Field. ♣

Finlandia '95 Results

GOLD

Finbar O'Mahony (Ireland) The Franking Privilege, 1655-1840

LARGE VERMEIL

G. Wikstrom (Sweden) Irish Postal History
P. Wood (Great Britain) Ireland, 1900-1930 - Troubles and Transition.

VERMEIL

Jacques Renollaud (France) La poste entre l'Irlande et la Grande-Bretagne, 1600-1925 'Across The Irish Sea'.

LARGE SILVER

Heinz-Jurgen Kumpf (Germany) Irish Censor Mail WWII
Anthony Hughes (Ireland) Ireland - Westmeath Postal History, 1700-1922
Cyril I. Dulin Irish Transitional Postal Stationery

SILVER

Norah Wright (Ireland) Handstamps and Cancellations of Ireland, 1669-1899

SILVER-BRONZE

Frank McDonald (Ireland) Postal Cancellations and Markings of London, 1857-1910.

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

D. Rose (Ireland) Ireland - Reply Paid Post Cards

EPA AGM WestPex '95



The Recently Discovered Telegram Form

by Otto Jung

On front:

A I $\frac{S}{E}$

Tel TB 4b

Fuirm i gcóir Telegrama
(Form of Inland Te

TB 4bI

A I $\frac{S}{E}$

Te

Fuirm i gcóir Telegrama Intire
(Form of Inland Teleg

1. A in A I S/E without upstroke on type I, with upstroke in type II.

Nuair a bhíonn roimh-
le déanamh ar fhreagra
scriobh na focail
"Freagra Roimiochta"
sa spás seo thíos.
When a reply is to be
prepaid, write the words
"Reply Paid" in the
space below.

Do {
(TO)

TB 4b

Nuair a bhíonn foimh-loc le
déanamh ar fhreagra, scriobh
an comhartha—"RP"—san
spás roimh an seála.

When a reply is to be pre-
paid, write the indication
—"RP"—in the space before
the address.

Do
(TO)

TB 4bI

2. Large "Do" on type I, normal size of "Do" on type II.
3. "Freagra Roimiochta" and "Reply Paid" in full words on type I, abbreviated "RP" in both languages on type II.

the other TB 4bII, respectively.

Why do I think the recently discovered copy the first print? A linguistic comparison was not successful. As Irish friends told me, they cannot take a decision because old and new spellings are used on both forms ("the spelling of the reverse contradicts that of the front"). So for me, the new setting is

Feic an Fagra ar Dhráim seo.
(See Notice at back)

A I $\frac{S}{E}$ **Telegrafa an Phuist** Uimh na Telegrama

Fuirm i gcóir Telegrama Intire curtha amach ó Oifigí Malartán Stoc amháin.
(Form of Inland Telegram forwarded from Stock Exchange Office only)

Beimír	Focal	Seála
	Taila	Seála
Cód		

Óráig Taiscailte ag: Treoraíochtaí.

Do {
(TO)

Monn séalú na h-ádhúil seo le focail "RP" nó "Reply Paid" sa spás seo thíos.
(The name and address of the sender, if not to be telegraphed, should be written in the space overhead.)

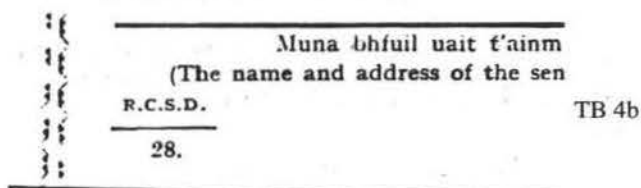
R.C.S.D.

TB 4bI, 1/6 Stock Exchange Telegram Form recently discovered by Dr. Alan Huggins

EDITOR'S NOTE: You may find a description of the basic form (TB 4b) on page 29, fig. 25 of this issue. I have substituted the Jung #'s in this article to improve clarity & understanding.

In late 1994, Dr. Alan Huggins, the "Great Old Man" of British postal stationery, sent me a letter containing sensational information. When writing a review on the 1994 edition of my postal stationery catalog for "The London Philatelist" he realised in the telegram section that his copy of the S1/6 stock exchange form was different from the item illustrated in the book. So he sent me a description and a photocopy of front and reverse; and he owns an obviously differing print.

At first glance, you see the large "Do" in the addressee space. Another difference to be seen at once is a code at bottom left whereas this is missing on the known copies. When comparing the text, you find many different spellings, abbreviations, phrasing on front as well as on reverse. In the following, I shall show comparing illustrations. As I am of the opinion - I shall try later to explain why - that the recently discovered item is the prior print I call this one TB 4bI and



decisive:

- The unnecessarily large "Do" was reduced to normal size.
- The text on front middle was reset to make it flush left and right.
- Brackets were completed where one was missing (front, fifth line; reverse last line).

From The Desk Of The Editor

Well, It has been awhile since I have written this column but I felt that I needed to share some of my concerns with you. Naturally, It is one of those things that I can't do anything about – so why worry? Well, I do!

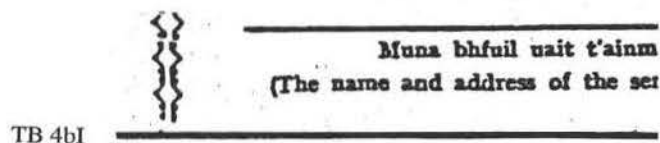
I have just put down a copy of Linn's Stamp News dated September 18, 1995 in which an article by Ken Lawrence entitled "New Rates for Non-Profit and Priority Mail" appears. He outlines a new Non-Profit rate increase effective 1 October 1995. This is the third of a scheduled six "annual" (?) increases to come. Actually perhaps I should be thankful as rates were increased on 27 August. If I delay mailing the Fall issue I can miss that increase altogether. Far be it for me to miss anything so monumental as a rate increase. This issue will be mailed before the 1st of the month.

We experienced an increase in domestic postal rates on 1 January 1995. This was followed by an increase in overseas rates in July and another increase in August. We have the October 1995 and October 1996 increases to look forward to.

I would like to make this point to you. Generally speaking, the rates themselves are not as much of a problem as the allied services increases which are not as well publicized as the general increases. In fact, these might be termed insidious creeping secret increases that you do not run into every day. If you look at the return address element on your envelope for this issue you will notice two comments: (1) Address Correction Requested; and, (2) Forwarding and Return Postage Guaranteed. These two comments act as a double whammy on me as the mailer. If you (USA only) file a change of address (COA) with your Post Office for any period of time (this is not a HOLD, which is different) the price for a correction went from 35¢ in July. If that filing expires, the mail is returned to me at the first class rate plus 50¢ for a COA. The total cost for one issue can exceed \$1.90 each.

The average American – indeed, I would venture to say anyone in the world – has a great regard for his/her Postman. The Post is the last really good deal left in the world because we feel that we are getting something for nothing. Most of us receive more mail than we actually mail ourselves. Accordingly, we feel that we are getting a lot for a little. It's only when you have a distribution job like mine where you are trying to maintain costs that the serpent raises its head and strikes. When you are not involved in a function you tend to take actions for granted. Furthermore, although any one action may be limited to 50¢ or a dollar, five or ten lumped together each quarter add up quickly.

I would like to remind the membership that as you read this I am hard at work on the Winter Issue (Deadline 1 December 1995). Why not set aside those things of Summer. Spend a little time with your Irish collections and write an article. I really can use the copy. Happy Collecting.



- Code "R.C.S.D./28" at bottom left on type I, no code on type II.

On reverse:

FÓGRA DO SHEOLTÓIR AN TELEGRAMA SO.

Glacfar leis an telegram so do chur amach do vóir na n-Achtanna um Thelegrafa agus na Rialacha ghabhann leo.

Ní bheidh an t-Aire Puist agus Telegrafa freagrach i n-aon chailliúint ná damáiste tharlóidh de dheascaibh no mar gheall ar aon dearmhad no faillí maidir le Telegram do chur amach no ar sheachada Telegrama.

Ní mór gach iarratas i dtaobh an telegrama so do dhéanamh laistigh de thrí mhí ó dháta a thar-churtha.

TB 4b

FÓGRA DO SHEOLTÓIR AN TELEGRAMA SO.

Glacfar leis an telegram so chun é do chur amach fa vóir na n-Achtanna um Thelegrafa agus na Rialachán a ghabhann leo.

Ní bheidh an t-Aire Puist agus Telegrafa freagrach i n-aon chailliúint ná damáiste tharlóidh de dheascaibh no i dtaobh aon dearmhaid no faillí maidir le Telegram do chur amach no do sheachada.

Ní mór gach iarratas i dtaobh an telegrama so do dhéanamh laistigh de thrí mhí ó dháta a churtha amach.

TB 4bI

- Different spellings are found in the lines 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12.

STAMPA

Irish National Stamp Exhibition Ltd.

Thursday 19th
to
Sunday 22nd October '95

*For full details of Stamps '95 membership
and for Trader's Prospectus, please write to:*

STAMPA, P.O. BOX 2723, DUBLIN 7

EPA '95 Election Results

Charles J.G. Verge has been reelected to a second term by a vote of 63 members. The other officers to be certified by the Secretary, Mike Conway, are as follows:

OFFICERS:

David Brennan, V.P. North America	64
Tony Finn, V.P. Europe	60

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Dick McBride	58
Ian Whyte	57
Otto Jung	55
George Ryan	52
James Maher	45
Robert Joyce	39

Garvin Lohman received 35 votes and Steve Spoerl received 25.

Of a company of 629 members, only 64 participated in this election, or slightly over 10%. 

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 Mienstempel Der Irischen Post — (The Mileage Marks of Ireland) 1808-1839 by Hans G. Moxter. 1994 Edition. 57pp. 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 \$6.50

Ireland - Catalogue of Perforations — compiled and edited by Richard L. Mewhinney. Published by The Perforations Club - 1994. 38 pp. punched for 3 ring binder. The catalogue is designed for use as an album as well as catalogue. Only observed Perforations are catalogued. Price \$9.00

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 \$2.25

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