

The Revealer

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION



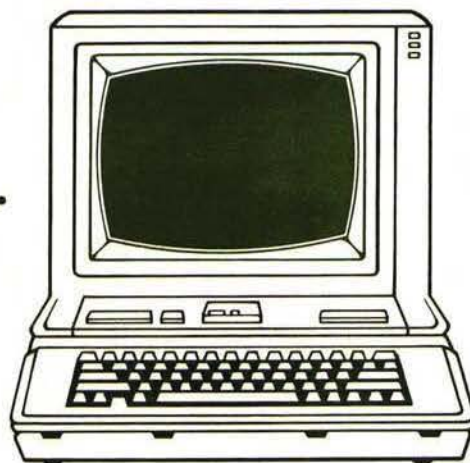
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EARRACH - Spring 1996

EPA GOES HIGH TECH If you SURF THE NET, SEE PAGE 64.



That Was The Year That Was – 1995

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Address Changes: Send address changes to the Publisher, Patrick J. Ryan, Sr. P.O. Box 2757, Universal City, TX, USA 78148

STAFF

Editor/Publisher/Distributor: Patrick J. Ryan, Sr.
P.O. Box 2757, Universal City, TX, USA 78148
(210) 658-9235

Assistant Editor: Robert J. Joyce
14302 Oak Shadow, San Antonio, TX, USA 78232

Associate Editor: Anthony Finn
19 Kennington Rd., Templeogue, Dublin 6W, Ireland

Advertising Manager: John L. McManus
100 Pamola Park, Millinocket, ME, USA 04462

THE REVEALER Back Issues: Patrick McNally
P.O. Box 12143, Alcott Sta., Denver, CO, USA 80212

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**Officers**

President: Charles J. G. Verge
P.O. Box 2788, Postal Station 'D', Ottawa,
Ontario, Canada K1P 5W8

Vice President, North America: David J. Brennan
221 Claremont Rd., Bernardsville, NJ, USA 07924

Vice President, Europe: Anthony Finn
19 Kennington Rd., Templeogue, Dublin 6W, Ireland

Secretary/Chapter Coordinator: Michael J. Conway
74 Woodside Circle, Fairfield, CT, USA 06430

Treasurer: William A. O'Connor
P.O. Box 1437, Fallbrook, CA, USA 92088

Immediate Past President: Robert E. Moskowitz
1634 East Baltimore St., Baltimore, MD, USA 21231

Editor/Publisher/Distributor: THE REVEALER:
Patrick J. Ryan, Sr., P.O. Box 2757, Universal City,
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Librarian: Peter E. Bugg
5 Forest St., Franklin, MA, USA 02038

Historian: Garvin F. Lohman
1543 Sacramento St. Apt #3, San Francisco, CA, USA 94109

Publicity:

Youth/School Program Manager:

APS Representative: Joseph E. Foley
P.O. Box 183, Riva, MD, USA 21140-0183

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In the last issue in my report on Singapore '95, I forgot to mention another Irish presence at the show. Peter McBride of Northern Ireland was there. Although having no Irish material per se, he did a roaring business in Great Britain regional issues. It seems the British Post Office forgot to send some of these to their Asian agent. Peter coincidentally had several hundred sheets of the regional issues and took up the slack.

Here is a second request to send a supporting letter for the issuance of a Canadian set of stamps for the **150th anniversary of the arrival of the Irish in Canada** during the Famine. Please see details on page 53 of the Winter issue of *The Revealer*. We have had a change in government ministers recently. Please address your letters to The Honourable Diane Marleau, P.C., M.P. rather than her predecessor, David Dingwall. Please spend a few minutes. It's important, and don't forget to send me a copy of your letter.

(Continued on next page)

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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.

Perhaps the same edition of *The Revealer* could have been renamed the *Cyril I. Dulin Irish Newsletter*. Dr. Dulin seems to have written most of the substantive philatelic items in that issue. Thanks to William Fletcher for his excellent article on coils, covering another substantive area of Irish philately in the same issue. I encourage you to send articles to our Editor. They don't need to be long.

There is a subject which needs to be covered more in depth in *The Revealer* than it is and that is modern postal history. It is now more important than ever to insure that your fellow members are apprised of this type of information since the sad news out of Ireland of the temporary **demise of Irish Stamp News**. Although many consider it to be the house organ of Ian Whyte (Ireland), Ltd., it was more than that. Ian Whyte explains that the decision to "temporarily suspend publication was made based on a number of factors, including the large cost of subsidising the publication, and the amount of time involved in producing it". I'm sorry to see it go because of the information relating to current philatelic events in Ireland, the in-depth articles about stamp designers, etc. It will be missed. We, and our sister societies, must pick up that slack.

Irish Philatelic Literature. In the previous two issues I kept you informed on my quest to complete the library's holdings of *Dixon's Irish Philatelic News / Random Notes*. Once again, I feel that you should know that the project is well on its way to a successful conclusion. I have a few sources still to tap, but I wish to ask members once again to help. We are still missing numbers 1 and 2. (Although unnumbered they should be dated prior to January 31, 1958. We also need numbers 62, 63, 64, 65 and 76.)

CAPEX '96 - I. Don't forget we meet at CAPEX '96, the World Philatelic Exhibition, in Toronto on June 16, 1996 at 11 a.m. in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. We have two spectacular **guest speakers**. Come and meet Pat Carolan, An Post's Manager of Philatelic Services, who will entertain you on the vagaries of Irish philatelic marketing, and Pat Stilwell-Walker, North America's foremost Irish postal historian, who will give you a slide show you will not forget. I can guarantee it will be loaded with tons of information on her favourite subject.

If you need more information about CAPEX '96 (incl. accommodation) contact Andrew Parr, General Manager, CAPEX '96, P.O. Box 204, Station 'Q', Toronto, ON M4T 2M1 or by FAX at (416) 482-8182.

CAPEX '96 - II. The E.P.A. will also have a **lounge** at CAPEX '96. You are most welcome to come and visit us, sign the register, and promote your society by sitting at the table and answering questions from visitors as you catch up on your Irish philatelic friendships. See you in Toronto in June. ♣

Éire Philatelic Association Balance Sheet

September 1, 1994 - August 31, 1995

Assets:
Merrill Lynch Accounts \$ 27,383.13

Assets (Cont):	
Inland Empire National Bank	13,726.73
Bank of Ireland IRL 528.45 @ 1.57	829.67 *
EPA Auction	70.25
EPA Special Offers - Cash on Hand	569.21
EPA Special Offers - Inventory	5419.25**
Library - Inventory	2286.00
Library - Cash on Hand	36.00
Back Issues No Report	- 0 -
Total Assets	\$50,320.24

Liabilities:	
Reserve Accounts	
Trust for 55 Life Members	9,625.00
Trust for Revealer	8,000.00
Trust for BALPEX CAPEX @\$500 each	1,000.00
Dues paid in August 95 for 95/96	2,846.00
Prepaid dues	164.00
Total Liabilities	\$21,635.00
Members' Equity	\$28,685.24
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$50,320.24

Reconciliation for 1994/95	
Income:	
U.S.A. Funds	\$13,333.14
Irish/English @ 1.57	462.16
Expenses:	8,173.29
Prepaid in August 95 for 96	2,846.00
Income over Expenses	2,776.01

* As of 10 October 1994

** At Retail



Éire Philatelic Association Income & Expense Statement - 1994-1995

August 31, 1995

INCOME:	
Dues/Donations	\$ 10,991.56 *
Interest	257.52
Dividends	1463.38
Auction	453.70
Advertising	120.00
Refund/Editor	46.98
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 13,333.14

EXPENSES:	
Revealer Expenses:	
Typesetting/Printing	4623.25
Postage/Editor	1571.26
President	619.18
Secretary	645.00
Treasurer	371.11

(Continued on page 76)

A Book Review

by Charles J. G. Verge

Uwe Netzsch, *Irische Slogan Stempel/Irish Slogan Postmarks, 1918-1994*, Forschungs- und Arbeitsgemeinschaft Irland e. V. (FAI), Charleville, 1995, ill., 120pp. (No ISBN #) Available through the FAI - Klaus Stange, Wittelkindsweg 59a, D-49191 Belm - Vehrte, Germany. Free to members of the FAI.

Editor's Note: This publication is currently available through Special Offers for \$17.50 pp. See the last page of this issue.

In the Winter 1990 edition of *The Revealer* (Vol. 40, No. 3, Whole No. 181), I wrote a lengthy article on James Mackay's excellent study: *Irish Slogan Postmarks* (1987 edition). Then, I made many suggestions and listed many new slogans or unreported towns, dates or Dublin machines for others. I also bemoaned the fact that Mr. Mackay had decided to lay down his pen and no longer write on Irish Postal History and, by extension, there would be no other edition of his *Irish Slogan Postmarks*.

I am now very pleased to see that Uwe Netzsch of Charleville, Co. Cork and the FAI, have picked up the challenge and just published a new, bilingual, version of this very popular handbook.

Mackay and his wife will always receive the credit for doing the original research on Irish slogans. Mr. Netzsch recognizes this fact in his Preface. To Uwe Netzsch goes the credit for taking the original work and making it highly useable by keeping some better features of the Mackay system, and adding some well-thought out indexes. New slogans up to 1995 (36), new discoveries of prior year usages or town dies, and the addition of the two circular rubber hand stamp slogans (28, 1930 and 40, 1933) comprise the additional new information found in this edition.

Uwe Netzsch has changed the numbering system to fit these two new entries and 11 other discoveries before 1986. Some readers will find this annoying because it means they will have to redo their inventory, but it should be a minor irritation in exchange for a new edition of this work. This affects nearly all numbers. Very early on, Mackay's # 5 is Netzsch's # 6 and # 49 in the 1987 is # 54 in this edition. When a printed matter/bulk mail triangular hub is known used with the slogan, the author lists it. I am glad to see that this has been added, because in my article, I suggested that we needed to see this feature in a subsequent edition. He has retained Mackay's back of the book listing of the slogan illustrations, found in the 1987 edition. Netzsch, as well, has returned each individual illustration to its number within the body of the work like Mackay had done in the 1983 edition. I believe this to be a major enhancement to the book.

The author provides a number of very useful cross-reference indexes. One is a listing of the slogans by towns. A new feature is the inclusion of some die and variety listings for some slogans – at least three at a quick glance. However, the author does not identify what year the dies or varieties appeared or, for that matter, where they can be found in the towns he lists using the slogans. Another new feature is the listing of the "Pink Period" of Dublin in 1978. In fact, the ink applied was red. It was the ink normally reserved for official

mail cancels. The pink/red ink was used during a strike of postal employees and technicians who repaired the cancellation machines.

You may recall that in my critique of Mackay's second edition, I had some pet peeves. Let us see what the author of the third edition has done with them. The most irritating one was the ubiquitous (2) after the Dublin dater die indication in the listing. Nowhere in the Mackay book did I find an explanation for this. At the time I figured, rightly or wrongly, that it probably meant that the dater die takes two different formats – single and double rings being the most frequent difference. Mr. Netzsch's edition is more than silent on this. He compounds the problem by adding (2)s to other towns as well, without explanation. Nor does he respond to my request that we needed a note to explain that slogan markings can be found on the right or the left of the dater die and why this happens.

My second major problem was that certain slogans were not illustrated by Mackay. I am pleased that they are in this edition. Thirdly, the author did not try, in this revised edition, to treat the machines used to imprint these slogans. Besides the Kraggs and the Hey-Dolphin machines, there were other machines used and reading how these machines worked would be interesting. I suggested at the time that this could be combined with the study of the dater dies. Finally, I wrote that I would like to see more information about periods of use. This again was not looked at. Nor was my suggestion to incorporate into the slogan catalogue Official Paid Slogan Dies.

Although I really like the publication, I am concerned that the author seems to not have read existing literature and printed updates to the list since 1986. Accompanying my review of the Mackay 1987 edition, was a listing of 34 additions, 10 of which Uwe Netzsch does not list in this third edition. The author might also have benefited from contacting major holders of slogans to ask them for input. Mr. Netzsch only acknowledges two people for this purpose in his preface. It is too bad because he could have had more entries and validated information for this good addition to the philatelic literature of Ireland.

Contrary to James Mackay, this author gives valuation ranges for prices for the slogans he lists. Although this is an improvement on the fixed prices of Mr. Mackay, it does not really answer the question whether all towns and years listed under a slogan are worth the same. My personal view would be that some early slogans, used in provincial machines, are far more valuable than a Dublin usage.

Production-wise, the presentation is excellent, the illustrations mostly clear and crisp and the front used is very readable. This edition might have benefitted from a thorough proofreading effort. For example, the postal codes for Mr. Stange are different in the inside front cover and on page 97. The cover says the book covers the period 1918-1994. The author shows some entries for 1995. Another example is slogan 326 shown as being first used in 1995 on p. 93 and in 1994 on p. 91. These, and some other proofreading glitches, do not detract from the overall publication, but need to be corrected in a subsequent edition. Lastly, but importantly, the FAI might wish to look at what publishing information is required to ensure proper recording of its publication. The least of which is to obtain an ISBN number. ♣

Mileage Marks: A Critical Review

Part IV

by C. I. Dulin

In continuing the analysis of differences between directory mileages marks in terms of rates, the next change in postal charges was contained in the extremely important Act of August 3, 1814 (54 George III, c119). This Act was notable primarily because it did away with the precept of rate charges based on distances from Dublin and, instead, based them on the total distance between the office of posting and that of receipt. What is still not unequivocal, however, is whether the total distance was predicated on how a crow would have flown or whether it was road distance. Once more, this complication is avoided for mileage marks for which the distance was still based on that from Dublin.

The Act (which was to last until 1826) also further multiplied the rate-distance categories so that a table for a single letter would have been:

Distance	Rate (Single Letter)
Up to 7 miles	2d
7 to 15 miles	3d
15 to 25 miles	4d
25 to 35 miles	5d
35 to 45 miles	6d
45 to 55 miles	7d
55 to 65 miles	8d
65 to 95 miles	9d
95 to 120 miles	10d
120 to 150 miles	11d
150 to 200 miles	12d
200 to 250 miles	13d
250 to 300 miles	14d
Over 300 miles	15d

Obviously for mileages to and from Dublin, many of the higher distance brackets were academic. The furthest from Dublin at this time was Milltown Co. Kerry at 169 miles.

1814-1826.

By this period, all of the Acts and most of the directories had recognised that the rate categories were on the basis of from x plus and not exceeding y. Or, as the Acts put it:

"For the Port and Conveyance of every Single Letter or Pieces of Paper, where the Distance of the Post Town to or from which such Letter or Piece of Paper shall be sent, shall not exceed Seven Miles *Irish Measure* from the Post Office in Dublin, the Sum of Two-pence; where such Distance shall exceed Seven Miles, and not exceed Fifteen Miles, the Sum of Three-Pence"

While still not crystal clear for the "border" mileages, for convenience only, the rate for which the mileage should correspond to "up to and not including" is involved has been included. Only the initial year of introduction has been considered in the tabulation, although any significant changes in immediate later years are noted.

Since the period under review is fairly lengthy, it is not too surprising that there were changes in mileages in both Directories and hand-stamps. Accordingly, although the listings below showing rate anomalies are correct for the early part of the period, they may become normal towards the 1826

end of the time span. To avoid continuous commentary, indication of mileage changes are given under Notes. In the majority of cases it is obvious that many of the initial anomalies had been rectified.

"Border" Mileages Charge Table As Per Part III

	Dir	MM	Rate	Up To Rate	Notes
Rathcoole	7	8	3d	2d	
Balbriggan	15	15	4d	3d	MM = 15 from 1816
Kildare	25	24	4d	5d	MM = 24 from 1818
Ardee	35	35	5d	6d	
Castlecomer	45	55	8d	7d	MM = 55 in 1820 & from 1824
Leighlinbridge	45	45	6d	7d	
Castlewellan	65	65	8d	9d	
Freshford	65	64	8d	9d	
Inistiogue	65	64	8d	9d	

As may be seen, where the mileage marks are known, they tend to be marginally more accurate (in terms of rate) than the directory in that Rathcoole, Freshford and Inistiogue would be correct, but are as apparently anomalous as the directory for Ardee and Leighlinbridge. In later years, the changed Ardee mileage mark of 34 would show the correct rate, but the Balbriggan mileage mark of 15 (known after 1816) would remain anomalous. Similarly, the first known Kildare mileage mark of 24 (1818) would be correct, as would the first known Castlecomer (55 in 1820). The mileage marks of Castlewellan and Leighlinbridge, however, remained unchanged (and equally anomalous) for many more years. For all of these towns, the directory mileages (and rates) remained unchanged for a very long period.

Mileage Rate Exceptions

Up to 7 miles. Rate should be 2d. No exceptions noted

7 to 15 miles. Rate should be 3d.

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Swords	7	7	2	MM = 7 from 1823

15 to 25 miles. Rate should be 4d.

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Naas	15	16	3	
Slane	24	30	5	Dir & MM = 30 from 1818

25 to 35 miles. Rate should be 5d

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Athy	32	41, 32	6	Confusion on British / Irish miles
Baltinglass	29	40	6	Dir & MM = 40 from 1822
Castletown	34	39	6	Dir = 39 from 1822
Delvin				
Hacketstown	33	47	7	Dir = 47 from 1822, MM = 47 1825
Kildare	25	24	4	MM = 24 from 1818

35 to 45 miles. Rate should be 6d

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Ardee	35	35	5	Dir = 34 from 1822, MM = 34 1815

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Castlepollard	42	47	7	Dir = 49 from 1822
Phillipstown	39	?	7	Dir = 47 from 1822
Tullow	38	46	7	Dir = 46 from 1822

45 to 55 miles. Rate should be 7d

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Ballymore	50	56	8	Dir = 57 from 1822, MM = 56 in 1818
Ballyragget	50	53	8	Dir = 60 from 1822 MM = 53 from 1823
Castlecomer	45	55	8	Dir = 55 from 1822 MM = 55 from 1824
Granard	52	?	8	Dir = 59 from 1822
Leighlinbridge	45	45	6	
Myshall	54	56	8	Dir = 63 from 1823 MM = 56 in 1823
Newtownbarry	47	55	8	Dir = 56 from 1822 MM = 55 from 1821
Rostrevor*	53	58	8	Dir = 58 from 1822 MM = 57 from 1822

*Mileage marks of 57 and 58 are known for the period 1822 to 1824

55 to 65 miles. Rate should be 8d.

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Arva	62	?	9	Dir = 68 from 1822
Broadway	57	80	9	Dir = 81 from 1822
Johnstown	60	63	9	Dir = 63 from 1822 MM = 63 from 1821
Richhill	62	?	9	Dir = 64 from 1822
Shinrone	64	?	9	

65 to 95 miles. Rate should be 9d.

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Ballaghaderreen	89	92	10	Dir = 97 from 1822 MM = ? after 1822
Ballyglass	77	116	10	Dir = 116 from 1822 MM = 116 from 1823
Ballyhaunis	92	98	10	Dir = 97 from 1822
Ballymena	93	101	10	Dir = 104 from 1822 MM = 101 from 1818
Cashel*	77	94,96,79	10	Dir = 79 from 1822
Castlewellan	65	65	8	
Cloughjordan	70	72	6	Dir = 71 from 1822 MM = 72 from 1819
Crossdoney	66	?	8	Dir 54 1821 58 from 1822 MM = 58 1823
Donaghadee	94	94	10	Dir = 96 from 1822 MM = 94 to 1818
Dunmore	91	110	10	Dir = 106 from 1822 MM = 110 1816-22
Freshford	65	64	8	Dir = 69 from 1822
Golden	80	80	10	Dir = 83 from 1822 MM = 80 1814-17
Inistiogue	65	64	8	Dir = 63 from 1822
Manorhamilton**	94	91,102,114	10	Dir = 114 from 1822
Monivea	89	?	10	Dir = 100 from 1822
Newtownstewart	83	94	10	Dir = 99 from 1822 MM = 94 from 1820
Portaferry	81	101	10	Dir = 101 from 1822
Randalstown	88	97	10	Dir = 96 from 1822 MM = 97 from 1821
Tipperary	86	100	10	MM = 100 from 1822

Tuam 93 93,103,98,10 Dir = 103 from 1822
MM = 99 from 1821

*Mileage marks for Cashel during this period are known as 94 in 1816, 96 1817 to 1821 and 79 from 1819

**Mileage marks for Manorhamilton are known as 91 to 1817; 102 from 1819 to 1821; and 114 from 1821

95 to 120 miles. Rate should be 10d.

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Ballinrobe ¹	108	140	11	Dir = 116 from 1822 MM = 140 from 1823
Ballycastle ²	113	140	11	Dir = 142 from 1822 MM = 140 from 1818
Ballyvary	119	?	11	Dir = 131 from 1822
Buttevant ³	113	122	11	Dir = 126 from 1822 MM = 122 from 1822
Cappoquin ⁴	98	122,126	11	Dir = 103 from 1822 MM = 126 from 1822-23
Castlebar	113	125	11	Dir = 125 from 1822 MM = 125 from 1816
Castlemartyr	119	126	11	Dir = 129 from 1822
Clare	103	117	11	Dir = 117 from 1822 MM = 117 1814-16
Cloyne	115	126	11	Dir = 146 from 1822
Coleraine	109	121,124	11	Dir = 126 from 1822 MM = 121 1816 & 1820-23
Doneraile	112	122,124	11	Dir = 123 from 1822 MM = 122 from 1821
Dungarvan	117	96,124	9	Dir = 96 from 1822 MM = 96 from 1821
Dungiven	99	139	11	Dir = 144 from 1822 MM = 139 from 1816
Ennistimon	118	127	11	Dir = 128 from 1822
Foxford	113	?	11	Dir = 116 from 1822
Innishannon ⁵	113	?	11	Dir = 153 to 1814 and 113 from 1818
Kildorrery	107	?	11	Dir = 121 from 1822
Mallow	117	130	11	Dir = 128 from 1822
Newtown	106	137	11	Dir = 136 from 1822
Limavady				MM = 137 from 1820
Sixmilebridge	102	102	9	MM = 102 from 1818
Swinford	103	127	11	Dir = 139 from 1822 MM = 127 1824 only
Youghal	104	124,128	11	Dir = 121 from 1822 MM = 124 from 1824

¹A reported mileage mark of 120 in 1821 appears to be in error²A reported mileage mark for 114 in 1814 appears to be in error. No marks known for 1815-1817 period³Reported mileages of 132 from 1822 to 1824 and a single dubious mark of 135 in 1824 are also known⁴Mileage mark of 126 known to 1815, none between 1816 and 1822. 122 for 1823 to 1824 only⁵1815-1817 Directory entries given (in error) as 13 thus exact date switch to lower mileage unknown

120 to 150 miles. Rate should be 11d.

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Castleisland	133	?	12	Dir = 155 from 1822
Crossmolina	135	?	12	Dir = 151 from 1822
Deel Castle	134	?	12	Dir = 148 from 1822
Killala	127	?	12	Dir = 151 from 1822
Killarney	144	176	12	Dir = 176 from 1822 MM = 176 from 1824

TOWN	Dir	MM	Rate	Notes
Knock	135	?	10	Dir = 132 from 1822
Millstreet	134	?	12	Dir = 160 from 1822
Rathlacken	132	161	12	Dir = 156 from 1822 MM = 161 1824 only

150 to 200 miles. Rate should be 12d. No exceptions noted.

There two immediate inferences that may be made from the tables given above. Firstly, the Directories were either in error or there had been re-measurements made during the 1814-1826 period. Of the two, it seems more than likely that the Directories were in error for a number of years and that a fairly full scale correction was made in 1822. Supposedly, the data for the Directories came from Post Office sources. While there have been the odd transcription error, it would seem that it was the Post Office that had not bothered to up-date their mileages and the Directories merely copied the mileages available to them. This, as has been noted earlier, certainly occurred with the London Post Office Directory. It is notable that in 1822, no less than 308 entries show mileages changes; that is approximately 75% of the entire listing of Post Towns. Additionally, there were, in this year, 30 new entries for offices that had opened in the 1821-1822 period.

The other inference is that apparently, the mileage marks were a much more reliable indication of distance than the Directory data, especially for the 1814-1822 period. After this date, the mileages in The Directories and the hand-stamps are considerably closer and, if not exactly the same, show but minor deviation.

If, then, it is assumed that the Directory mileages were in error for the earlier part of the period under consideration (1814-1826) and that they were substantially correct post-1822, then the number of apparent anomalies in rate shrink to just two dozen. However, another factor that reduces the anomalies still further, is the correction of rates in the directories. In the early part of the period, there were few Directory rate revisions; there were quite a number in 1822, many, but not all, moving in parallel with the revised mileages. Those that continue to show anomalous rates for either the directory or mileage mark hand-stamp are:

Town	Range	Anomaly in	
		Directory	Mileage Mark
Swords	7-15	Yes	Yes
Kildare	25-35	Yes	No
Ballyragget	45-55	No	Yes
Leighlinbridge	45-55	Yes	Yes
Newtownbarry	45-55	No	Yes
Ballaghaderreen	65-95	No	Yes
Cashel*	65-95	Yes	(No)
Newtownstewart	65-95	No	Yes
Ballinrobe	95-120	Yes	No
Cappoquin	95-120	No	Yes
Foxford	95-120	Yes	?

* Of the three known mileage marks, two show no anomaly, but the third, 96 in use 1817-1820, does.

Thus, by 1822, the Directories show just 6 anomalies, while the mileage marks show 7 - a couple of which are the same as the Directory errors. Since the mileage mark hand-

stamps would normally not be changed very often, it might have been expected that they would show rather more anomalies unless they were approximately correct in the first place. A feature of those offices that issued multiple hand-stamps is that very few were changed because they may have given rise to an anomalous rate.

Of course, most of the data and analyses presented thus far has been largely academic. The acid test of whether the Directories or the hand-stamps were anomalous ultimately depends of what were the actual rates as recorded on the mail passing through the post. In my own collection, I have extremely few that are of relevance in this respect. Accordingly, I would be very grateful for any information on rates that have been noted on the apparently anomalous mileage Offices.

Many readers have already written to me about mileage marks, but I am especially indebted to Harald Frank who noted some county errors in my earlier listings. These are for Muff which is in Co.Derry, not Co.Donegal; Rathmullen in Co.Donegal, not Co.Sligo; Rutland in Co.Donegal, not Co.Down. Additionally, and a very interesting addition it is too, is that Ballymullet and Belmullet are one and the same place. Mr. Frank established this via the Ordnance Survey Office in Dublin who confirmed that the earlier Ballymullet corresponds to today's Belmullet which is in Co.Mayo. In terms of Post Town Directory data, Ballymullet appears (under Co.Antrim) between 1882 and 1830, while Belmullet (under Co.Mayo) is listed between 1830 and 1833.

Finally, I am very grateful to our good friend Bill Kane who has brought to my attention an outstanding article on Mileage Marks written by Edith H. Doane. This appeared in the 1975 American Philatelic Congress Book and gives a wonderful account of the marks of Great Britain and Ireland 1784-1839. Highly recommended. ♣

That Was The Year That Was - 1994 - An Update

by Brian Warren

Prior Year Exhibition Cachets: In my 1994 article I referred to possible cachets for overseas shows at Philakorea '94 (16 to 25 August, 1994), Philatelia '94 (7 to 9 October, 1994), FEPA Post (15 to 24 October) and Copenhagen (10 to 13 November, 1994). I can now confirm that there were cachets available for Philakorea '94, Philatelia '94 and FEPA Post. Finally, I have



THE IRISH POST OFFICE



Philakorea 1994 World Stamp Exhibition

also established that no cachet was available at the Copenhagen show held in November 1994 (nor in 1995). Many thanks to Bernard Donohoe, Heinz Grunz, John Lorenzen and Peter McBride for their help in providing the necessary information. Particular thanks to Peter, Bernard and Heinz who between them provided the Philakorea and FEPA Post illustrations.

Irish in Britain: I omitted to give the perforation size for this Walsall printed set. The perforation for both 32p and 52p values is 14 x 13³/₄.

Stampa Souvenirs: Revised figures are now available for the Stampa '94 souvenirs. The membership souvenir total was 343 and the public souvenir sales total was 760. The general public souvenir cost £2.50 and not as stated.

IPTA/Collectors' Road Show, Galway: The souvenir for this show was an overprint on pane 4 from the Nobel Prizewinners Prestige Booklet. Pane 2 was utilised for the 1995 Kilkenny Show as stated in my 1995 article. 

EPA On The Internet

by M. Connolly

The EPA now has an unofficial presence on the Internet. Michael Connolly has established a homepage on the World-Wide Web, a part of the Internet. He has set up a series of linked 'pages' dealing with philately and, in particular, Irish philately.

The page listing Irish collector societies links to a page devoted to the EPA and, from there one that lists the contents of the latest issue of *The Revealer*. The Irish society page also links to a page displaying some of the latest issues emanating from AnPost, and allows the reader to link to other related Web pages, including AnPost's.

Access to the information requires Internet access and a Web-browser such as Netscape Navigator or Mosaic.

The addresses or URLs for the pages are:

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/aranman/philatel.html> (Philately page)
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/aranman/irsociet.html> (Irish page)
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/aranman/epa.html> (EPA page)
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/aranman/revealer.html> (REVEALER page)
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/aranman/irissues.html> (Issues page)

<illustrate PHILATEL and IRSOCIET>
 <illustrate EPA>
 <illustrate IRISSUES> 

SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

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

#2480 Brian G. Kestner, 218 Taylor Blvd, Millbrae, CA 94030
 #2481 Uwe Netzsch, Tullylease House, Tullylease, Charleville, Co. Cork, Ireland
 #2482 Joseph P. Sullivan, 346 South Ave., Weston, MA 02193
 #2483 Albert T. O'Connell, Box 170, Rural Route #1, Brattleboro, VT 05301
 #2484 James F. Ronan, 4259 CR 136, Wildwood, FL 34785
 #2485 Joseph E. Landry, Jr., 18 Lakeview Gardens #805, Natick, MA 01760
 #2486 Russell N. Silverstein, 215 Blauvelt Ave., Hohokus, NJ 07423

Reinstatements

#2259 Maurice Barrett, R.R. 1, Box 172, Pacific Junction, IA 51561
 #2018 Nyle C. Monday, P.O. Box 14664, Santa Barbara, CA
 #1305 Peter McBride, Drunconvis House, Coagh, Co. Tyrone N. Ireland

Resignations

#2332 Robert Hardiman
 #2408 John T. Harrison, Jr.

Deceased

#1422 George E. Ithell, Middleses, England
 #1419 Angus C. Parker, London, England
 #1152 William J. Pavey, Illinois
 #0558 James T. Howley, Toronto, Canada

Changes of Address

#2139 Larry A. Campbell, 319 David Dr., Fairview Hgts, IL 62208-3714

#0676 Finbarr Collins, Barleymount East, Aghadoe, Killarney, Co Kerry, Ireland
 #2384 Andres Estrada, 10302 Sageelm Ln. Houston, TX 77089-3731
 #2166 Sean Amoiti, 1412 Foothill Meadows Ct., San Jose, CA 95131-3000
 #0665 William F. Aretz, 1305 Rachel St., Johnstown PA 15904-3148
 #0907 Jean Talman, 91 Stafford St., Toronto ON Canada M6J 3R1
 #1040 Joan M. Gallagher, 6727 Sewanee St., Houston, TX 77005-3751
 #2394 William T. Luther, 2705 24th Ave., #2FL, Astoria NY 11102-1901
 #2386 Timothy Sharon, P.O. Box 2301, Carlsbad, CA 92018-2301

Dropped, Non-Payment of Dues

#0586 Baldwin, Fred; #2215 Berger, Daniel; #0471 Brennan, Tom; #2438, Brown, Stephen; #0881 Byrne, Michael; #1991 Condon, Carolyn; #0425 Cunnane, Seamus; #2058, Dacey, Raymond; #1830 Duggan, Brendan; #1924 Farrell, James; #2186 Flaherty, John; #2340 Frein, Donald; #0584 Giittis, Richard; #1612 Greenwood, John; #2202 Hourican, Clement; #0936 Komers, Frank; #2447 Kuhn, Christopher; #0376 Losco, George; #2349 Lyons, Charles; #2365 Madigan, Michael; #2451 Marlow, Lorraine; #2057 McCauley, Patrick; #2412 Miller, Charles; #1729 Miller, Thomas; #2366 Mishkel, Maurice; #2362 Monaghan, Owen; #2310 Mullaney, James; #2436 Mullen, John; #2370 Neblock, Charles; #1228 O'Brien, William; #1960 O'Malley, John; #2411 Owsen, Daniel; #2449 Pallares, Julian; #2457 Ritzer, Roland; 0113 Rose Leon; #2393 Sabo, Donald; #2432 Sawicki, John; #1514 Slattery, William; #2314 Smith, Lawrence; #1883 Soeder, Frank; #2261 Warrick, Nancy; #2308 Webb, Benjamin and #1433 Wilson, Patrick.

Membership Status

Membership as of November 25, 1995	624
New Members	7
Reinstatements	3
Resignations	2
Deceased	4
Dropped NPD	43
Membership as of February 25, 1996	585



Athy - A Mileage Myth Exploded

by C. I. Dulin

In the recent series of articles on Mileage Marks, an attempt was made to point out the disparity between Directory mileages and Mileage marks. In particular, the suggestion was made that perhaps there were other Post Towns besides the generally accepted Athy that showed British miles on one hand and Irish miles on the other. It may be recalled that originally it was Dr. Stafford Johnson who had formed the thesis for Athy, primarily on the basis that the ratio of the earlier Directory mileage (41) to Mileage mark (32) was virtually the same as that for Irish miles to British miles (1.27). By a similar line of reasoning, other possible candidates that showed this ratio were noted in the articles.

One result of these articles was a number of letters on the subject. Some of these have already been referred to. However, a letter from Anthony C. Booth-Jones from South Africa was particularly interesting, for he had a copy of the very extensive Post Office Commission report of 1828 (Nineteenth Report of Commissioners of Revenue Inquiry). The only other report I had seen was that of the more widely known volume for 1838. Obviously, these reports were, and are, the nearest one can get to absolutely correct official data. It was by the use of this report that, a few years ago, he solved the "T.Off" marking mystery.

These reports were meticulously compiled and contain masses of useful statistics. He very kindly volunteered to send me photocopies of whatever I would like from his 1828 copy. Accordingly, I asked for Appendices 85 and 86. Appendix 85 deals with the Post Towns of Ireland on the basis of how much revenue was then currently collected, and how much would accrue when a proposed change in postage charges came into effect in 1828. Essentially, this 1828 Act (which will be dealt with in the next "regular" installment of Mileage Marks - An Analysis) was intended to change the basis of postal charges from Irish miles to British miles. Appendix 86 was a return showing what was termed the direct Lines and the Mail route for each Post Town from Dublin and the rates of postage for each.

On inspection of these fascinating tables came the revelation which we all seem to have missed. That is, the differences between the Directories and the Mileage marks were not due to British and Irish miles, but to the actual distances and how they were defined. All were expressed in Irish miles, but it was the choice of routing that made the difference. Thus, for Athy, there are two entries. One is for 33 miles and 3 furlongs (slightly different from the 1808 Mileage mark of 32) and the other is for 41 miles and 1 furlong. More importantly, the entries show that the shorter distance was for the Morning Mail, and the longer for the Evening Mail. A glance at a map will show the shorter routing (to Dublin) was almost certainly via Kilcullen and Naas, while the longer was probably by way of Kildare and the Naas. It is even possible that the longer route was by way of Carlow. The exact routings should be found by study of the relevant mail coach routes, but thus far it has not been possible to do this. Hopefully, this will be made in the near future.

Of course, it has long been suspected that mileages were based on actual road distances (at least until 1838 when map

radii from Dublin came into operation on the basis of as the crow flies - save for the immediate area, the 3d area, around the city itself), but it has not been suggested before that differences existed because of different mail routings to a given town.

In previous articles, the existence of other "British" mile Post Towns were considered on the basis of the magic 1.27 ratio. Sure enough, those suggested are among those which are shown in the tables as having different mileages depending on the routing of the Morning or Evening Mail. The complete listing is as follows:

Post Town	Morning Mail		Evening Mail	
	Miles	Furlongs	Miles	Furlongs
Abbeyleix	49	2	47	3
Athy	33	3	41	1
Caher	90	2	87	4
Cashel	78	7	97	1
Durrow	54	2	54	1
Johnstown	61	7	70	7
Littleton	70	4	79	-
Stradbally	40	-	45	2

Additionally, there is the entry for Cork which reads "by Cashel 126 miles 1 furlong and by Clonmel 125 miles 7 furlongs", an insignificant difference in mileage, but highly indicative that routing was paramount.

By no means does this table alone explain all the differences noted previously for various Post Towns, but it must be remembered that this was the situation in 1827. In earlier years, both the exact routing and the exact mileages (as measured for those years) have to be established. The main point is that now, the approach has changed from one of hypothesis to one of certain explanation.

Apart from mail routing Morning and Evening Differences, there is also the difference between actual and mail routing.

Appendix 86 (which is far too lengthy to quote in its entirety here) is even more illuminating. This contains (among other data) a table of each and every Post Town (in 1827) and the difference in mileage between the direct distance from Dublin and the distance of the actual mail route. Well over half show differences, the highest being Millstreet at 47 miles 6 furlongs. Other large differences are for Dungiven at 39m 7f and Swinford at 36m 6f; several between 20 and 30 miles (including Ballycastle; Castle Island; Kenmare; Kildorrery; Killarney; Newtown Limavady and Portaferry); and very many between 10 and 20 miles.

While some differences are small on an absolute basis, they can be quite large on a percentage basis. For example, Tullow, had an actual distance from Dublin of 38 miles. Its mail route distance was 8 1/2 miles longer or well over 20%. Hopefully, in the next installment of Mileage Marks, the analysis of this data and the Directory and Mileage Mark data will be compared.

Among this new wealth of information, there are also some items which lay the basis of a systematic approach. For example, the confirmation that the starting point of measured mileages was from the GPO in Dublin. Also, "that the number of miles therein stated are computed according to Irish measure": and, most importantly, "in every instance where the distances differ from the actual route, they are taken from Taylor & Skinner's Map of the Roads of Ireland". An amusing addition reads "It is right, however, to add, that the Postmaster

(See 'Exploded' on page 76)

That Was The Year That Was - 1995

by Brian Warren

Once again, there was no general increase in postal rates (except SDS rates including parcels) during 1995. The rates have remained unaltered since 2 April 1991. However, the annual cost to collectors keeps on rising, particularly in the case of sheetlets. Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited commenced production of self-adhesive stamps and there were two joint/co-operative issues during the year. Joint issues are becoming an annual event along with the issue of a miniature sheet to mark the Chinese New Year. Bar coding technology was introduced in the registration service which, as a result, saw the demise of the individual office label.



SPECIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES

The 1995 programme, comprising 34 sheet stamps, 6 self-adhesive stamps, 3 miniature sheets (including the special "Year of the Pig" miniature sheet) and 3 booklets, was issued over 10 release dates at a cost of IR£27.64. Nine of the sheet stamps, including the se-tenant strip of four stamps featuring Reptiles and Amphibians, were issued in sheetlet form with a total cost of IR£24.48 for 6 sheetlets. The 1994 totals were 31 sheet stamps, one self-adhesive strip of 4 stamps, 3 miniature sheets (including the special Hong Kong '94 sheet) and 3 booklets at a cost of IR£25.04 (and not as stated last year); 5 of the sheet stamps including the 2 se-tenant World Cup stamps were issued in sheetlet form with a total cost of IR£13.52 for 4 sheetlets.

Date of Issue	Description	Value	Plate Numbers and Notes	Paper & Gum
24 Jan	Love Stamp (11th Issue)	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
24 Jan	Greetings Booklet (4th Issue)	IRE£2.56	Two panes - (8 x 32p)	CCP3
24 Jan	Year of the Pig - Miniature Sheet	96p	3 x 32p Greetings	CCP3
28 Feb	Transport in Ireland - West Clare Railway (5th Issue - Narrow Gauge Railways)	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- Cork and Muskerry Railway	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- Cavan and Leitrim Railway	38p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- Miniature Sheet	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
6 Apr	Europa (35th Issue - City and Dove Peace & Freedom)	IRE£1.50	one of each value	CCP3
	Map of Europe	32p	Sheetlets of ten	CCP3
	- self adhesive 2 x 32p	44p	Sheetlets of ten	CCP3
6 Apr	Rugby World Cup - Ireland v. England	64p	Same designs - IRE£32 per box	CCP3
	- Ireland v. Australia	32p	1A1A1A1A/1C1C1C1C/1D1D1D1D	CCP3
	- Miniature Sheet	52p	1B1B1B1B	CCP3
		IRE£1.00	32p extended design	CCP3

Date of Issue	Description	Value	Plate Numbers and Notes	Paper & Gum
15 May	Battle of Fontenoy - 250th - Celtic Anniversary (Joint Issue Cross with Belgium)	32p	1111/2222	FCP/PVAD
15 May	Ireland Series - Irish Brigade, French Army 1740	IRE£2.50	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	(16th Issue - Tercio Irlanda, Army of Flanders 1605)	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- Military Uniforms) - Royal Dublin Fusiliers 1914	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- St. Patrick's Battalion, Papal Army 1860	38p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- The Fighting 69th, Army of Potomac 1861	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- The Wild Geese Prestige Booklet	IRE£4.80	Four panes	CCP3
8 June	Centenary of Radio/Guglielmo Marconi se-tenant	2 x 32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
27 July	Rotunda Hospital - 250th Anniversary	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	St. Patrick's College, Maynooth Bicentenary	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	Ending of the War in Europe	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	The Geological Survey of Ireland - 150th Anniversary	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
1 Sept	Fauna and Flora - Natterjack Toad (18th Issue - Common Lizard)	32p	Sheetlet of sixteen set	CCP3
	- Reptiles and - Smooth Newt	32p	out in four	CCP3
	- Amphibians) - Common Frog	32p	se-tenant strips	CCP3
	- Self adhesive	4 x 32p	Same designs - IRE£32 per box	CCP3
9 Oct	National Botanic Gardens - Bicentenary	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- Natal Lily	38p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- Hybrid Pitcher Plant	44p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- Potato Vine	IRE£2.60	Two panes	CCP3
19 Oct	United Nations - U.N. Soldier and Logo	32p	Sheetlets of ten	CCP3
	(50th Anniversary) - U.N. Insignia	52p	Sheetlets of ten	CCP3
16 Nov	Christmas (25th Issue)	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	Illustrations from the Evangelary of Santa Justina-Padua	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	by Benedetto Bardone	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3
	- Sheetlet (The Adoration of the Magi)	IRE£3.36	one stamp free	CCP3
		28p x 13		

All stamps were litho printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited (ISSP) and perforated 14 x 14³/₄ (vertical format) or 14³/₄ x 14 (horizontal format) unless otherwise stated. Except as indicated below, all full sized sheets contain 50 stamps in the usual 10 x 5 or 5 x 10 format with plate numbers at top left ("A" or "B"), colour checks at top right and imprint at bottom left.

Love Stamp and Greetings Booklet: There was only one "Love" stamp, a 32p value featuring a tree laden with red love hearts. A new innovation for the Greetings set was the inclusion of the Love stamp in the booklet. The two-pane booklet contains eight 32p stamps in se-tenant strips of four designs. The stamps show (I) a teddy bear; (II) a clown; (III) a tree laden with red love hearts - i.e. the "Love" stamp; and (IV) a bunch of flowers. Each stamp has two greetings labels attached top and bottom and the outer edges of the pane are imperforate. One stamp in each pane has an imperforate edge giving a total of five new stamps in addition to the sheet issue. The make-up of each pane is as follows:-

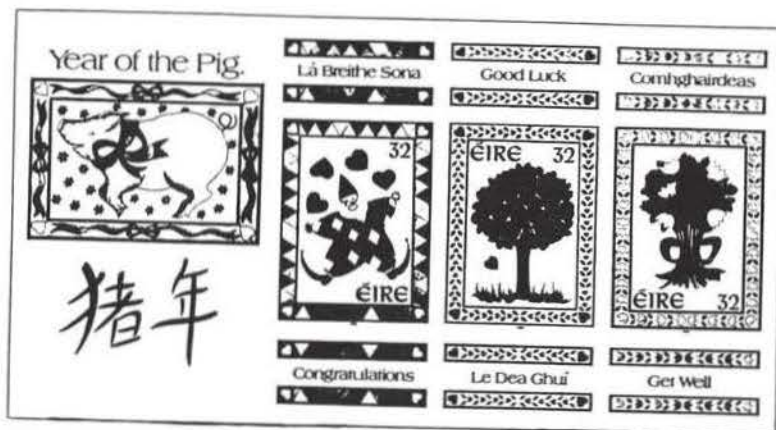
Pane 1: 32p I; 32p II, 32p III and 32p IV (right margin imperforate);

Pane 2: 32p III; 32p IV; 32p I and 32p II (right margin imperforate).

Each pane is rouletted in the left binding margin and stitched into the covers. Three of the designs are included in the "Year of the Pig" miniature sheet referred to below.

The sheet and booklet versions of the "Love" stamp can be distinguished easily; the sheet stamp has a black outline around the falling heart, whereas the booklet version has no such outline.

left" etc. label, the label replaces the Map plus Dove design. The rolls are reeled sideways with right hand delivery beginning and ending with the Map plus Dove design. The bilingual box illustrates both designs, and is similar in format with tear off tab etc. as previous issues.



"Year of the Pig" - Miniature Sheet: A special miniature sheet to mark the Chinese New Year was issued on the same day as the "Love" stamp and Greetings booklet. The sheet is similar in layout as the Hong Kong '94 sheet issued last year. The sheet contains three of the Greetings stamps - 32p II, 32p III and 32p IV (right margin imperforate), and the same Greetings labels. The left hand panel shows a pig within a frame. Unlike the Hong Kong '94 sheet, the 1995 issue does not give rise to any further imperforate combination.

Transport in Ireland - Miniature Sheet: The attractive miniature sheet contains one of each value in two separate vertical pairs 28p/38p and 32p/52p, and incorporates a border design featuring the viaduct at Ballydehob on the former Schull and Skibbereen Railway.

End of Roll

£32 Europa: Self-Adhesive



M = Map plus Dove design C = City plus Dove design
L = Label - "Only 10 Stamps Left! Order Now"

Europa: The sheet stamps were printed in the usual sheetlet format comprising ten stamps with illustrated side panels. The side panels are imperforate; all other margins are perforated. Sheetlets have an imprint and colour controls, but no plate numbers. This issue was also available in self-adhesive format with the two designs reproduced as alternate 32p denominations in boxed rolls of 100 i.e. 50 of each design (plus 2 labels). Pairs of stamps were available from the philatelic bureau. The self-adhesive stamps were litho-printed by Printset-Cambec, Australia. The overall size was smaller than the sheet stamps - 37.5mm x 26mm and there is no year imprint. Perf. 11 3/4 (die-cut). Both the stamps and the backing paper have a bright UV reaction. The rolls are made up of five strips of twenty stamps in the same manner as the Moths issue of last year. As usual, there are reminder labels located 20 stamps (before the join i.e. at end of strip 4) and 10 stamps from the end of the roll. In the case of the "only 10 stamps

Rugby World Cup (South Africa): The stamps were litho-printed by Walsall. The sheet format and layout is similar to ISSP issues with the plate numbers at top left and colour controls at top right. However, the imprint in the bottom margin is situated under stamp three i.e. in the middle of the margin. In addition, the Walsall logo is in the equivalent position in the top margin. The additional markings/gutter included on the previous Walsall printed special issue "Irish in Britain" was thankfully not repeated this time. Both values were printed in one master sheet of 200 stamps which was split into four post office sheets of 50. Sheets "A", "C" and "D" contained the 32p value whereas the 52p value was allocated sheet "B". As a result, the 52p value only appeared with plate numbers 1B1B1B1B whereas the 32p value appears with either "A", "C" or "D" numbers. The IR£1 miniature sheet contains an extended design of the 32p value. This is the first time that a miniature sheet contains a stamp of different value from the equivalent sheet/booklet stamp. Both sheet stamps and miniature sheets are perf. 13 3/4 x 14. There is no year imprint on the individual stamps. Ireland did not advance beyond the initial group matches. South Africa beat New Zealand in the final.

Battle of Fontenoy: This was a joint issue with the Belgium Post Office which issued a 16 B.Fr. stamp in the same design on the same date. Both stamps were photogravure printed by the Mechelen Printing Works in Belgium. The English information leaflet prepared by the Belgium Post Office states that this was the first time that a foreign postage stamp was printed in Belgium. The Irish stamps were distributed in sheets of 30 (6 rows of 5 stamps) with the cylinder numbers (1111 or 2222) in the right margin between rows 3 and 4. The cylinder numbers indicate two panes as there are matching colour check triangles and black bars in the left margin of sheets with numbers 1111 and in the right margin of sheets with numbers 2222. In the bottom margin there is a printing date (16.II.95 or 17.II.95) under stamp 1, and a sheet number under stamps 3 and 4. The inclusion of a printing date is another first for Irish stamps. Has anybody seen any dates other than 16 or 17 February? Curiously sheets examined by me with the 16

February date have higher sheet numbers. Finally, in the top margin, there is a colour register cross above stamp 3. The stamp measures 27.5mm x 40.5mm. Perf. 11½. The individual stamps of both countries have no year imprint. The paper has a phosphor type reaction with a yellow after glow from the printed area presumably to meet with Belgium technical requirements. However, the same paper was used for the Irish stamps and thus, in effect, they are Ireland's first phosphor postage stamps! Further details about the Belgium stamp are set out in the section "Foreign Stamps and Postmarks with Irish Associations". A special Belgium souvenir card was also available bearing both stamps - see also the section headed "First Day Covers, Cancellations, Souvenir and Maximum Cards".



Ireland Series (Military Uniforms) - Sheet Stamps: The 32p stamp featuring the Royal Dublin Fusiliers was a late addition to the set as apparently the Government were lobbied about the lack of an Irish regimental uniform of the British Army in the set. An Post managed, within the space of few weeks - to their credit - to produce a 32p stamp featuring the uniform of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers to be included in the set which came out on the scheduled release date. The stamp is slightly different in design when compared with the rest of the set. The other four stamps are coloured line drawings while the illustrations on the additional stamp seem to be reproductions of a different style. Unlike the other stamps, the additional design does not incorporate a battle flag or emblem; also, the lettering "Royal Dublin Fusiliers - 1914" is in a different typeface to the inscriptions on the rest of the set. No credit is given as to who designed the additional stamp.

Ireland Series (Military Uniforms) - Prestige Booklet: The additional 32p stamp featuring the Royal Dublin Fusiliers is not included within the Prestige Booklet entitled "The Wild Geese". There are four illustrated panes of stamps and eight pages of bilingual text; the text also extends to inside the front and back covers. The panes contain a total of fourteen stamps made-up as follows:

- Pane 1: 28p, 32p (imperf. right), 32p and 28p (imperf. right) in a block of four;
- Pane 2: 28p, 32p (imperf. right), 38p and 52p (imperf. right) in a block of four;
- Pane 3: 28p, 32p and 38p in a strip of three; and
- Pane 4: 32p, 28p and 52p in a strip of three.

As a result there are three new singles - 28p, 32p and 52p - all imperf at right. This was the first Prestige Booklet since the Maritime Fishing Fleet issue in 1991 which contained stamps with one side imperforate. All stamps are the same perforation and paper/gum (CCP3) as the sheet stamps. All panes are rouletted in the margin.

Centenary of Radio - Guglielmo Marconi: The stamps measure 44.5mm x 28mm and were issued in sheets of 40 in se-tenant format both horizontally and vertically throughout the sheet. The sheets are set out in 8 rows of 5 stamps with a

gutter between rows 4 and 5. Perf. 13½. This issue was a cooperative effort between Ireland, Germany, Italy, San Marino and Vatican City who issued stamp(s) of similar design on the same day. However, the foreign stamps were not available from An Post. Details of the stamps issued by the other four administrations are set out in the Section "Foreign Stamps and Postmarks with Irish Associations".

Anniversary Issues (27 July): All four stamps were issued in sheets of 50 with no gutters and with the usual sheet markings. The Rotunda Hospital (41mm x 30mm, perf. 14¾ x 14) and the St. Patrick's College, Maynooth (28mm x 44.5mm, perf. 14¼ x 14½) stamps were printed by the House of Questa. ISSP was responsible for the printing of the Ending of the War in Europe (41mm x 30mm, perf. 14¾ x 14) and Geological Survey (36mm x 36mm, perf. 13¼) stamps.



initial design

issued design

Ending of the War in Europe: The 32p stamp was not included in the original schedule of issues for 1995. However, due to Government pressure, an additional 32p stamp was added to the programme. That the twenty-six counties were neutral and that the war was always officially referred to as "The Emergency" did not deter the inclusion of an inscription "Deireadh an Chogaidh 1939-45" (End of the War 1939-45). The original design featured a symbolic Laurel Wreath and a piper from the Royal Irish Rifles set against a backdrop of a

map of Europe and was depicted in the advance publicity from An Post. Protests were made to An Post and the Government, firstly over the issue of a stamp at all, but more forcefully, over the choice of regiment. The Royal Irish Rifles was one of the regiments used to quell the 1916 Rising. The stamp scheduled for release on 6 July, was eventually released on 27 July, but the Royal Irish Rifleman had disappeared from the design!

Fauna and Flora - Reptiles and Amphibians: The sheet stamps were printed by ISSP in sheetlets of sixteen stamps made up of four se-tenant strips each containing one of each design. All sheetlets were perforated through all four margins and have an imprint and colour controls but no plate numbers. Cumulative row totals appear in the right margin (bottom to top - £1.28 to £5.12). I believe that this is a first as I cannot recall row totals on my previous issue.

£32 Reptiles and Amphibians : Self-Adhesive

End of Roll

Toad	Liz.	Newt	Frog	Toad	Liz.	Newt	Frog	Toad	Liz.	L	Newt	Frog	Toad	Liz.	Newt	Frog	Toad	Liz.	Newt	Frog
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	---	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

↑
Join

The self-adhesive set was also litho printed by ISSP. As usual, the overall size was smaller than the sheet stamps 37.5mm x 26mm and are perf. 8³/₄ x 9. Produced in boxed rolls of 100 stamps plus 2 labels. The roll of 102 stamps/labels is split into six strips of seventeen. The rolls are reeled sideways with left-hand delivery commencing with the Natterjack Toad design. The two bi-coloured reminder labels are the same as used in 32p definitive rolls produced by ISSP, referred to below, except that the numerals (10 and 20) are in a darker shade of green. The reminder labels do not interrupt the four stamps sequence and thus there are twenty-five stamps of each design in a roll. The coil join every seventeenth stamp/label gives four roll join combinations: -

- Join 1 Natterjack Toad and Common Lizard;
Join 2 Common Lizard and Smooth Newt;
Join 3 Smooth Newt and Common Frog;
Joins 4 & 5: Common Frog and Natterjack Toad.



Joins 4 and 5 have the same combination due to the insertion of the "Only 20 Stamps Left" label. They are the first self-adhesive stamps to have a year imprint at the foot of each stamp.

National Botanic Gardens Bicentenary - Booklet: The two pane booklet contains seven separately identifiable stamps as follows:

- Pane 1: 32p imperf. top, 38p imperf. top and right, 44p imperf. bottom and 32p imperf. right and bottom;
Pane 2: 32p imperf. bottom, 38p imperf. bottom and 44p imperf. right and bottom.

Each pane is stitched into the covers, but unlike prior issues, there is no rouletting in the left binding margin.

United Nations - 50th Anniversary: The sheetlets of ten stamps plus illustrated side panels were litho printed by Enschedé on paper similar to CCP3, perf. 131/4 x 131/2. The side panels are imperforate, all other margins are perforated. Sheetlets have colour controls but no plate numbers. The printer's name is within the side panel. Individual stamps contain a year imprint, the first time for non-ISSP issues.

L = Label - "Only 10 Stamps Left... Order Now"

Christmas - Sheetlet: The 13 stamps plus 2 labels are set out in five rows of three stamps/labels. Sheetlets have an imprint, but no plate numbers or colour controls, and are perforated through all four margins. The stamps were only sold in complete sheetlets.

DEFINITIVES

Sheet Issues (ISSP): The only new sheet printing produced by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited was in respect of the 38p value. The stamp was printed on CCP1 paper - first noted in May 1995 - plates 1A1A/1B1B.



Colour Control



Imprint

Sheet Issues (Enschedé): In a press release issued in late November subsequent to distribution of the stamps, An Post announced that they had contracted Enschedé of The Netherlands to print six values of the current Heritage and Treasures definitives - 20p, 28p, 52p, IR£1, IR£2, IR£5. The stamps were released from stores on 15 November, but it was unlikely that they were on sale at any post office before 16 November. However, stocks of the 28p were pre-released and I have noted use of the 28p in Dublin on 11 November. Although the press release stated that there were no changes in the technical specifications the sheet markings differ and even

individual stamps can be identified.

All six stamps were litho printed with the same perforation as the same values printed by ISSP - 14 x 14³/₄ (20p and IR£5); 14³/₄ x 14 (28p, 52p, IR£1 and IR£2). The paper is similar to CCP3 in that it gives a dark UV reaction, but it appears to have a more shiny appearance. The background graduation on all values differs from those printed by ISSP, and in particular, the background colour and/or the black on each value are of a darker shade thus enabling identification of individual stamps. The most noticeable shade difference is the orange/red of the 28p value. Under high magnification, the density of the screen is higher than on the ISSP definitives. Although the typeface remains the same (Palatino), the £ symbol on the three high values differs in appearance and is slightly smaller. The tail of the silver wire chain attached to the Tara Brooch featured on the IR£2 value extends slightly further at the foot of the stamp. All six values are double-pane printings with both "A" and "B" sheets as before. The low values (20p, 28p and 52p) are distributed in sheets of 200 (as before), but there are no gutters and are set out in 20 rows of 10 stamps (20p) or 10 rows of 20 stamps (28p and 52p). The three high values are distributed in sheets of 100 (10 x 10). All sheets with the exception of the 52p are perforated through all four margins. In the case of plate 1A1A sheets of the 52p, the right margin is imperforate with no single pin extension. The 1B1B sheets are fully perforated on all four sides and not with imperforate left margin as would be expected given the perforation of the "A" sheets.

The positioning of the sheet markings differ from ISSP printings. The plate numbers ("A" or "B") are situated in the top margin above row 1, stamp 1 and the lettering is in a different and slightly larger typeface. The three line imprint which reads "Joh. Enschedé/Security Printing B.V./-Holland-" is situated in the bottom margin below row 10, stamps 1 and 2 (28p, 52p, and IR£5), row 10, stamp 1 (IR£1 and IR£2) or row 20, stamps 1 and 2 (20p). The colour controls are in the form of small circles and are in the same position on both "A" and "B" sheets - in the top margin above row 1, stamp 10 (20p, IR£1, IR£2 and IR£5) or row 1, stamp 20 (28p and 52p). As a result of the imperforate right margin on 1A1A sheets of the 52p value, the colour control block exists with imperforate right margin (ex 1A1A sheets) or perforated (ex 1B1B sheets).

28 February - IR£1 Booklet (Walsall): The sixth booklet in the Heritage & Treasures series has an orange-coloured cover illustrating the Gleninsheen Gold Collar which is utilised on the 34p, 37p, 38p and 40p values. The booklet was once again



£1 (Walsall) booklet with complete vertical row of perforations

litho-printed by Walsalls, and the content (1 x 4p plus 4 x 32p) and layout is the same as the previous booklet produced by the company and issued last year. Paper CCP3.

A constant perforation variety has been noted on all three Walsall booklets (Nos. 4, 5 & 6 in the series). Most booklets have a complete row of vertical perforations between the selvedge and the adjoining stamps. However, on some booklets the top perforation hole is missing in similar manner to the middle row of vertical perforations. This can only be conclusively proved by obtaining a pane which is off-centre (downwards) as illustrated. When found in examples obtained from machines, it is normal for several booklets in sequence to have the variety. This might indicate that panes from the top row of the master sheet all have the variety. No examples have been found with the pin missing at the foot of the same vertical row of perforations.

16 November - IR£1 Booklet (ISSP): The seventh booklet in the Heritage and Treasures series has a bright violet cover illustrating the Brighter Collar (as per 32p value). The booklet was litho printed by ISSP. The only previous booklet in the series printed by ISSP was the first edition featuring the Tara Brooch on the cover and issued in 1990. The pane layout was altered with the 4p now at bottom left and, in addition to the normal binding margin at left, there is a narrow selvedge at right. The stamps are on CCP1 paper, perf. 14 x 14³/₄ (32p) or 14³/₄ x 14 (4p). The perforation size differs from the previous litho panes printed by Walsall. There are three new identifiable stamps - 4p imperf. left, 32p imperf. top and 32p imperf. bottom. The 4p imperf. left appeared in the first IR£1 booklet referred to above but was on CCP3 paper.

£32 Brighter Collar Definitive:
Self-Adhesive (ISSP)

End of Roll



£1 (Walsall) booklet with missing perforation hole at top left (arrowed)

L:20 32p 32p 32p 32p 32p 32p 32p 32p 32p L:10 32p 32p 32p 32p 32p 32p 32p 32p

↑
Join

L:20 = Label - "Only 20 Stamps Left..."

L:10 = Label - "Only 10 Stamps Left... Order Now"

8 June - 32p Self-Adhesive: A new litho printing of the self-adhesive was produced by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited. They were the first self-adhesive stamps produced by ISSP for An Post. The rolls of 100 stamps differ from the

previous Australian printings. The individual stamps have a different die-cut perforation (which measures $9\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{3}{4}$ as compared to the previous $11\frac{1}{4}$) and have a "comb" type rather than a "line" type appearance as per previous issues. The green colour is of a lighter shade and the shading of the Broighter Collar is also lighter with more white areas. The complete rolls are reeled sideways as usual, but with left hand delivery (previously right hand delivery) and the coil joins are every 20th stamp (previously the roll was split 25/25/26/24 plus 2 labels). The backing paper is slightly larger in height by approx. 0.5mm. The reminder labels are now bi-coloured with the numerals 20 and 10 in green with the remainder of the text in the usual back. The "Only 20 Stamps Left..." label is positioned before the last join. The UV reaction is dark for both the stamp and the backing paper. The boxes are similar to recent issues except for the reference to ISSP and some additional use of the green and black colours. The illustrations of the stamps on the box also highlight some of the individual stamp differences referred to above. Sold by the philatelic bureau in strips of three.

FIRST DAY COVERS, CANCELLATIONS, SOUVENIR AND MAXIMUM CARDS

First Day Covers: FDC's cost 18p. Special covers were available for all special and commemorative issues except for the four individual stamps released on 27 July. The general purpose FDC was used for the latter issue. All FDC's continue to be printed by ISSP, even for issues produced by other printers.

Pictorial cancels were available for all issues. The same first day cancel (and FDC) was used for the individual "Love" stamp, the Greetings booklet panes, and the "Year of the Pig" miniature sheet. The Narrow Gauge Railways set was issued on the opening day of Stampex (London) and a special first day cachet was available at the exhibition. This set also saw the introduction of a better quality first day postmark in larger format for special and commemorative issues. The Fauna and Flora set (Reptiles and Amphibians) was released during the Singapore '95 exhibition which was attended by an agent for An Post. A special first day cachet was available.

Battle of Fontenoy: In accordance with normal Belgium practice, both stamps were placed on advance sale at the Civic Offices in Limerick on 12 May (13 May in Belgium at various locations). Two advance sale cancellations were available in Limerick, both oval in shape, and incorporating the Celtic Cross of Fontenoy - Luimneach 12/V 1995 and Fontenoy 13/V 1995. FDC's bearing either the Irish stamp or both stamps were postmarked with the Luimneach cancellation - another first viz. Irish special cancellation on both an Irish and foreign stamp. Such covers also received a boxed cachet which reads "Réamh Dhíol - Luimneach" ("Advance Sale - Limerick"). The Fontenoy cancel was available on covers with either the Belgium stamp or both stamps. A special Belgium souvenir card was also available bearing both stamps - the Irish stamp with the Luimneach cancel and the Belgium stamp with the Fontenoy cancel. This was the only way you could obtain the two different cancels on the same item. The card was only sold in this form and I understand that 5,000 cards were produced. Initially advertised at IR£1.50, the card cost IR£2.50 (120 B.Fr). It was not possible to have both an Irish and a Belgium cancel on the same FDC.



RÉAMH DHÍOL - LUIMNEACH



On 15 May the usual first day facilities were available. The Irish postmarks were of the same design and included a Luimneach cancel of 15/V 1995. The philatelic bureau in Dublin also made available one of two first day postmarks of 15/V 1995 available in Brussels, but only applied it to covers bearing the Belgium stamp. However, the Belgium Post Office applied it to covers bearing both stamps.

Further details of the Belgium Post office postmarks including a further "Limerick" cancel are set out in the section "Foreign Stamps and Postmarks with Irish Associations".

Maximum Cards: Sets of four maximum cards (17p each) were available for the Narrow Gauge Railways and the Fauna and Flora (Reptiles and Amphibians) issues. The Narrow Gauge Railway cards were printed by Euroscreen Limited.

BOOKS, PRESENTATION PACKS AND FOLDERS

28 February - Transport in Ireland: A special Presentation Pack Folder was available containing a miniature sheet, a serviced first day cover and a set of mint maximum cards. Cost: IR£4.50.

1 September - Living Earth Book: The book is a co-operative production between the Post Offices of Ireland, Australia, Canada, Singapore, Sweden, Great Britain and the United Nations featuring the Fauna and Flora of each participating country. The 20 page book with multilingual text (Chinese, English, French, German and Swedish) was produced by Sprintpak of Australia. The book contains stamps from all seven countries - four each from Canada, Ireland, Singapore, Sweden, United Nations (US\$ issue), Australia (Australian Antarctic Territory issue) and five from Great Britain. In addition, An Post provided collectors with a copy of the Moths miniature sheet issued in 1994 as an added incentive to purchase the book. Reply paid cards with special offers were also included for each of the seven postal administrations. Cost: IR£8.90.

28 September - 1994/95 Year Book: Each book contains all special and commemorative issues from the Moths set issued on 12 July 1994 to the Centenary of Radio/Marconi set issued on 8 June 1995, a total of 41 stamps (incl. Belgium 16 B.Fr. - Battle of Fontenoy), 4 miniature sheets (Moths, "Year of the Pig", Railways and Rugby World Cup) and 1 Greetings booklet pane - total face value of IR£20.95. Both the sheet set and the self-adhesives are included for the Moths and Europa issues. A numbered black print of the Centenary of Radio/Marconi set is included in each book. Total printing of 4,000 standard copies (as per 1994) - Cost: IR£25 and 150 leather bound editions (50 less than last year) - Cost: IR£100.

16 November - 1995 Year Pack: The Year Pack contains one each of the special and commemorative stamps issued during the year, including the Belgium Fontenoy stamp, the 28p Christmas sheetlet stamp and both the sheet set and self-adhesives for the Europa and Reptiles and Amphibians issues, but excludes the Greetings booklet panes and all miniature sheets - a total of 41 stamps. Sold at face value - IR£14.55.

POSTAL STATIONERY AND GREETING CARDS

18 February - St. Patrick's Day Cards: Four postcards were available featuring (1) Dog in shoe; (2) Gleninsheen Gold Collar and Poul nabrone Dolmen; (3) Large Shamrock; and (4) Child with balloons - Cost 36p per card. The Dog in Shoe design was previously used on one of the 1993 greeting cards and the shamrock design with slightly different wording and colouring was used on one of the first postcards issued in 1984. There was an unexpected change to the postage paid imprint. Instead of the usual shamrock imprint, there was an



adapted version of the R.J. King design for the high value definitives first issued in 1937 featuring St. Patrick and the Paschal Fire. Printed in green and in slightly smaller size (20.5mm x 35mm) with the value tablet altered to read "Postas loítha"; in addition, the words "Postage Paid" appear below the main design giving an overall size of 20.5mm x 37mm.

The card featuring the Gleninsheen Gold Collar and the Poul nabrone Dolmen was privately overprinted by the Stampa Council with a combined greetings and thank you message. One card was sent through the post to each member cancelled with a Dublin double ring CDS - Baile Átha Cliath 5 of 12 III 95. This cancel is in use at the Dublin Mails Centre.

Five greetings cards complete with prepaid envelope bearing the same R.J. King design in slightly larger format (overall size 20.5mm x 39mm) were also available - Cost 60p each. The cards featured (1) Lakeshore flora in Springtime; (2) Quill and ink pot; (3) Prayer; (4) Dove and Peace; and (5) Croagh Patrick. Four of the designs were previously used on postcards - Lakeshore flora in 1986 (large card), Quill and inkpot in 1993, Dove and Peace in 1986, and Croagh Patrick in 1990. The usual green first day of issue cancel was available from the philatelic bureau for use on both cards and envelopes.

March 1995 - Passport Office Envelope: In March 1995, An Post in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs, introduced a new Passport Express service. Passport application forms are now available at a large number of post offices nationwide which are listed in a special leaflet giving details of the service. You also receive a special plastic envelope complete with Ceadúnas imprint with preprinted address for forwarding your application to the Passport Office in Dublin. Although given the absence of a stamp imprint it is not a true stationery item, the interesting aspect for collectors is the inclusion of a preprinted Swiftpost label on the envelope. Unfortunately, it is also the first use of the dreaded plastic for a stationery type item. There is no charge for the envelope, but when posting your application, you must pay a fee of IR£3 plus the passport fee direct to An Post at one of the designated offices. The service guarantees a turn-around of ten working days. In addition, there is a similar but smaller Swiftpost envelope (plastic) which is used by the Passport Office for returning the passport, but this is only available in used form by obtaining a passport. Finally, there is a small paper Freepost envelope (not Swiftpost) with preprinted Passport Office address which is sent to applicants for replies to any queries arising from applications. Again, this is not generally available.

Swiftpost Labels: Revised Swiftpost labels were introduced

on Monday 17 July 1995. The two-part label and receipt now incorporates a barcode strip. The label element is now much reduced in size (25mm x 40mm) and is attached to a larger barcode strip (101mm. x 57mm.). The all-in-one self-adhesive label/barcode strip is attached so that the label element is at the top centre of the cover with the barcode on the reverse. As for the previous versions the inland label (cost: IR£1) incorporates a map of Ireland in the design, while the international (cost: IR£2) label bears a globe. Given the small size and similar colours of the label element, the inland and international versions can be easily confused and it may well be that a further revision of design will be necessary.

August (?) - 'A' Envelope: The large sized envelope which was first issued in March 1994 has been reprinted. First noted in August 1995, the new printing of the envelope has a plain dark blue inner lining as compared to the 'Glenmalure' pattern of the first printing. Can anybody confirm an earlier date? Cost: 36p.

September (?) - Cassette Post Envelope: I first noted in September a new printing of the Cassette Post envelope. There are two identifiable features - a small black rectangular mark on the front of the envelope at top left, and secondly, on the reverse side, hidden by the flap, is a repeating message printed in red "Self-seal tape - best before February 1995". Given this date, the envelopes were probably first distributed in 1994. Can anybody confirm or know of any other "best before" dates? Such envelopes were originally issued in 1987. Cost: IR£2.25.

October (?) - "G" Registered Envelope: I first noted in October 1995 a new printing of this envelope on white paper as compared to the cream paper of previous stocks. The envelope is otherwise as before, complete with space for old style registration label. No doubt the envelope will be revised in due course given the introduction of the new bar coded registration labels. Can anybody confirm earlier use? Cost: IR£1.50.



23 October - Bar Coded Registration Labels: New bar coded labels, blue in colour, were introduced on Monday, 23 October 1995. The two-part label and receipt is similar to the Swiftpost labels introduced in July and incorporate a barcode strip. The labels exist on both shiny and dull paper, and the size of the typeface for the preprinted numbers can either be small or large. The same label is used for both inland and foreign registered mail. The foreign service for higher value

items is no longer called the Insurance service. All individual office labels were withdrawn. The receipt element of the label must be completed in advance by the sender. There is no charge for the label as the registration fee is still paid by affixing stamps to the letter or packet. Initially, one of the two-part labels was also attached to all incoming registered mail arriving from abroad. However, a new bar code only label was introduced in February 1996 for this purpose.

Large mail users were given advance notice of the change in the system by way of a letter distributed in mid-October. A stock of the new labels was forwarded with the letter. Many post offices also gave out labels in advance. As a result, registered letters are known to exist with the new labels attached prior to 23 October. However, such items also bear the old style office registration label, and unless tied by way of a postmark, the new label could easily be attached at a later date.

The change in both the Swiftpost and Registration labels was to facilitate the introduction of a "Track and Trace" system for both services.

31 October - Illustrated Aerogrammes (Flowers): A new pack of five illustrated aerogrammes featuring flowers has replaced the previous single design pack. The main design area on each aerogramme illustrate Meadow Flowers, Brilliance of Spring Yellows, Honey Suckle, Poppies and Yellow Iris. The postage paid imprint is larger than that used on the Views of Ireland aerogramme first released in 1990 and incorporates five An Post logos as compared to four on the previous issue. Printed by Colorprint of Chapelizod, Dublin. Sold in packs of five for IR£2.20 with card wrapper which features the Poppies design.

3 November - Oireachtas Postcard: The 1995 Oireachtas was held in Dublin (3-12 November). The undenominated card differs from earlier years with its striking modern design and incorporates an illustration of the Halfpenny Bridge, Dublin. No charge.

Undenominated Items etc: The undenominated items referred to above are not stationery items within the FIP definition of the term because they do not bear any stamp imprint. All such items are included above as they were produced by An Post. There was no Bureau de Change postcard issued during 1995.

(Continued in Next Issue)

Irish Specimen Overprints

by Otto Jung

In 1994, unknown "SPECIMEN" overprints came onto the market. For decades, three other groups of such overprints had been known: the low values of the definitive stamps; the four air mail stamps issued in 1948/49; and some early commemorative stamps. But, where did the 1994 group come from? I asked some dealers selling them, and they told me this story: In 1994 a man died who had worked for De la Rue, uncertain whether in Dublin or London. His widow gave a lot of things, mainly ephemera, found in his attic to an auction



house. Stamp dealers bought the material they were interested in, and, so these SPECIMEN overprinted stamps from Ireland, also from Nigeria and St. Lucia, were sold to collectors. Here is a list of the stamps which were offered:

- 1952: Thomas Moore: 2½d (black overprint); 3½d (red overprint)
 1953: Robert Emmet: 3d (red overprint); S1/3 (black overprint)
 1954: Marian Year: 3d and 5d (both black overprinted)

(See 'SPECIMEN' on page 76)

Three Irish Republican Mysteries

by Richard T. Crowe

As a collector of Irish Cinderella, postal history, and ephemera relating to the ongoing freedom struggle, I recently purchased three new-to-me items at the same stamp show.



The two political labels were from a dealer who acquired them from the same old collection. The harp label is in green and the crossed flags label is mostly green, but with orange, red and blue as well, to correctly portray the flags.

I have never seen anything like them in over twenty years of collecting in this area. Jim Czul, veteran Cinderella collector and contributor to LINN'S, was stumped by them, also. They do seem to be American in origin and may have

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been issued from the same source. They could be 1916 era, but I suspect more likely the early '20s during the Irish War of Independence.

My Irish luck was still with me as I found another dealer that day with a New York City 1924 cover with an "Irish Republican Headquarters" corner card. Of special interest is the union label prominent beneath the address. As the Irish Civil War was already over by this point in time, I wonder which Irish Republicans were involved with this organization?

This writer would be pleased to hear from anyone with information on the above items.

Please write to me, 10628 S. Laramie Ave., Oak Lawn, IL 60453.



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invite you to attend

CAPEX '96 and the EPA meeting
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Speakers will be **Pat Stilwell-Walker**, gold medal winning exhibitor of Irish Postal History,
and **Pat Carolan**, Manager of Philatelic Services, **An Post** (The Irish Post Office).

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**THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAN ANTONIO
PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION AND TEXAS
PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION**



Exploded

(Continued from page 65)

General are (sic) not prepared to say that all these roads are now in a fit state to be travelled on".

Obviously, the starting point for study of the earlier years (from 1808) would be immeasurably aided by Commissioner reports from that period. A hunt is now on to find them. Meanwhile, our very many grateful thanks to Tony Booth-Jones who has allowed us access to the 1828 report. ❀

Specimen

(Continued from page 74)

1964: New York S1/5 (dull black overprint)
World's Fair:

Illustration 2: The seven commemorative stamps described beneath with overprint "SPECIMEN" ❀

Treasurer's Report

(Continued from page 59)

EXPENSES (Cont):

Special Offers	63.60
Awards/Postage	69.93
Overseas Postage	157.17
Bank Charges	36.79
APS Insurance	11.00
CA Secretary of State	5.00
Total Expenses	\$ 8,173.29

*Dues income includes \$2,846 as paid for 1995/96.

Foreign Transactions	
Dues/Irish English Checks	IRL 294.37
Expenses/Postage/Fees	80.46

❀

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Die Mielenstempel 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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