

The Revealer

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION



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FOMHAR - Fall 1997

The DUBLIN JOURNAL

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THE CHIEF ACCOUNTANT,
ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD,
27 IR. FITZWILLIAM ST.,
DUBLIN



Postal Stationery Catalogue (94) Update

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Affiliate No. 21 -- The American Philatelic Society • Affiliate -- Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland
Member -- Council of Philatelic Organizations

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



GOODBYE PART TWO

And now for the good news.



First and foremost, the Board of Directors of the EPA. They have been very helpful in supporting me during the last four years. Some individuals more than others. I wish to mention two in particular: Dave Brennan our Vice-President, America, and Joe Foley, our Auction and Trading Post

Manager, APS Representative and Past President.

Dave has held the EPA together for many months while I was in

the middle of a few family crises. He unstintingly gave of himself, took on jobs without being asked and generally ran the EPA very efficiently. Joe, as one of the elder statesmen of the EPA, has always been there when I needed counsel and help. His ideas, his knowledge and his recommendations were always welcome.

Two more stalwarts of the Association need to be mentioned. I already thanked Bill O'Connor last issue for his help in maintaining the finances of the EPA. The other is the person I refer to as our Maytag repairman: Peter Bugg. Why Maytag repairman? Well, that's how Peter must feel when he looks at the EPA library that virtually no one uses. He keeps it up to date, well stocked and provides us every two years with an updated list of what is available. Peter, also a Past President, was good enough to take on the Special

(Continued on next page)

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ISSUE DEADLINES

Summer - 1 June

Fall - 1 September

Winter - 1 December

Spring - 1 March

CHAPTER COORDINATORS

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Members reside in NJ, NY, PA

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PO Box 1437, Fallbrook, CA 92088

Philadelphia Area Chapter

Members reside in Greater Philadelphia area

Coordinator: Richard O'Brien,

26 Nine Gates Road, Chadds Ford, PA 19317

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.

Offers as well. He must have a very patient spouse to let him keep all these materials in his house.

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣

I am also very pleased that the EPA has once again started publishing Irish philatelic literature. I am also pleased that the state of health of our Finances has allowed us to provide the members with some free publications. Bill Murphy of California is specifically to be thanked for providing the manuscripts for this resurgence and for coming up with the idea of short pamphlets. Hopefully, others will have the opportunity to provide short illustrated texts as Bill did so that we can venture in other fields of Irish philately in addition to aerophilately.

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣

Finally, a tip of the hat for the devotion, long hours, hard work and many years of toil to Pat Ryan our Editor. He is probably the EPA's most visible officer. The Revealers is the glue which links us together, keeps us informed and even in the lean issues, provides hours of good, interesting and informative reading.

In conclusion, thanks to all those who supported me and helped me during the last four years. It is greatly appreciated.

♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣

A piece of unfinished business. Some two years ago I sought your help to complete the library's set of Fred Dixon's Random Notes. Well the task is finally complete. Help in accomplishing the work came from Bill Kane, Karl Winklemann, Otto Hellwig and others; but special thanks our due to the President of the Irish Philatelic Circle, Keith Jamieson, who came up with the last elusive missing numbers. ♣

SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

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

- #2512 Tom Mahon, MD, 1705 Bushwell Ave., S. Pasadena, CA 91030.
- #2513 Margaret Marron, 161 Pacific Ave., Pacifica, CA 94044.
- #2514 Robert R. Michalik, 31370 Baffin, Franklin, MI 48025.
- #2515 F. Lawrence Taylor, Jr., P.O. Box 141301, Spokane, WA 99214.
- #2516 John M. Wiesner, 3458 Paisley Circle, Orlando, FL 32817.
- #2517 Joseph L. Kelley, 1201 Beechwood Blvd., Pittsburg, PA 15206.
- #2518 Steve Sirianni, 7895 80th Place S.E., Mercer Island, WA 98040.
- #2519 Robert J. Hoffman, 106 Laurel Lane, Pass Christian, MS 39560.

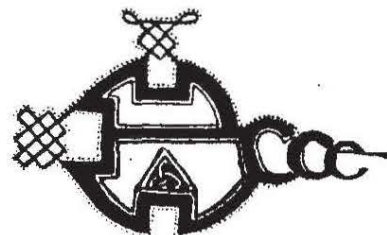
Lost Members

These members have had their *Revealers* returned to the Editor for leaving no forwarding address. If anyone knows these people please contact them and have them update their address or let me know directly so that I can forward their journals.

- #2192 Thomas O'Callaghan, Chicago, IL 60626.
- #2118 Brian Hamilton, Randolph, NJ 07869.
- #2488 Patrick Frost, London, England.

Reinstatements

- #2446 Michael Kelly, 7 Boulevard South, Bayside Sutton, Dublin 13, Ireland.



*Barney Clancy,
Treasurer, EPA*

*Business Correspondence
involving the Treasurer
should be sent to:*

**P.O. Box 76560
Washington, DC 20013**

#0700 W. C. McCaw, 100 Eaglemere Dr., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2k 4K5.

#2212 Dennis L. Calkins, 411 Quarters, Quantico, VA 22134-1773.

Resigned

#2269 Lawrence F. Ledebur, Virginia.

Changes of Address

- #1296 Norman T. Riggs, P.O. Box 12965, Berkeley, CA 94712-3965.
- #0561 Terry D. Canning, 4680 Fairways Ct., Marion, IA 52302-9156.
- #1916 William S. Shields, 4214 Longshore Ave., Apt. 212, Philadelphia, PA 19135-2140.
- #1949 Duane A. Larson, 208 Centre St., Park Forest, IL 60466-2063.
- #1017 James G. Lawless, P.O. Box 527, Groveland, CA 95321.
- #2403 Lawrence L. Bowles, 2701 Homestead Rd., #810, Chapel Hill, NC 27516.
- #2312 Bradley McInnes, 1724 The Chase TH #39, Mississauga ON Canada L5M 4P2.
- #1700 John E. Gaughran, 7 Wakefield Ave., Coram, NY 11727-1737.
- #2351 Charles Hendricks, 3515 S Gold Leaf Ln., Tucson, AZ 85735.
- #2012 Dennis J. Mullins, 132 Mulberry Rd., Ramsey, NJ 07446.
- #2335 Gordon D. Kerns, 123-C Adler Pl., Monroe, NJ 08831.
- #1802 Charles Wolf, 460 Mulberry Dr., Walled Lake, MI 48390.

Membership Status

Membership as of May 17, 1997 576

New Members 8

Reinstated 3

Resignations 2

Membership as of August 22, 1997 585 ♣



(continued from previous issue)

NEW DEFINITIVES - BIRDS 2

On Mar. 6th, new additions took place to the "Birds" definitives, with the issue of Self Adhesive and Booklet stamps.

The Self Adhesive 32p. stamps (issued in boxes of 100 @ £32) feature not only the Robin design (already available in sheet form) but also a so-far unissued design, the Peregrine Falcon. In addition, it has now emerged that the stamps have been printed in both Ireland (by Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd.) and Australia (Sprintpak - SNP). So far, only the ISSP printing (i.e. with selvage intact) have been seen. Finally, the self adhesive stamps are larger (25mm X 30mm) than their sheet counterparts.



The £1 booklet (featuring the Robin design on its cover, and 3 x 32p. Robin definitives inside), has overcome the lack of a 4p. "Birds" design by including a 4p. Treasures definitive in the same pane. In this case, however, so that they can be accommodated in a booklet which will fit the current stamp vending machines, the 32p. values are smaller (20mm X 25mm) than their sheet issued equivalents. (Fig. 4)

NEW DEFINITIVES - BIRDS 3

Why differing 32p. self adhesive designs? And why the necessity (see above) for the large number of designs apparently prepared?

An answer has now emerged from unofficial An Post sources. These say that the 32p. value (the standard minimum inland and European Union letter rate) is intended to be a "revolving design" which will be reviewed and replaced on an annual basis.

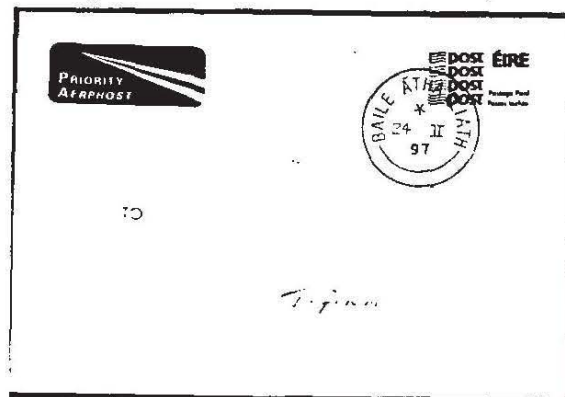
As the first phase of the new series had intended to be issued last year, it had been hoped to replace the "Robin" design with that of the "Peregrine Falcon" during 1997. Apparently, this plan has now been scrapped, with the "Falcon" appearing in self-adhesive form only. However, based on this plan, it appears that collectors can look forward (or alternatively, dread) the annual replacement of perhaps not only the 32p., but perhaps other commonly used values as wells during the life of this series.

AIRMAIL LABELS 2

As predicted, the demise has taken place of the blue airmail label "Par Avion Aerphost - OE78".

From Monday Feb. 24th, blue self-adhesive stickers (3.9mm X 16mm) inscribed "Priority/Aerphost" became available at Head Post Offices, and some branch P.O.s. Printed in sheets of 48 (3 X

16), the backing paper is individually rouletted around each label to facilitate separation. Major postal users and business houses were circulated with details and samples of the new labels by An Post. Further, notices have appeared in Post Offices emphasizing that the new labels must be applied to all overseas mail to ensure that these letters receive priority/airmail treatment, and thus will not enter the second class letter stream of the destination country on its arrival.



Finally, for those who might query the fate of "O.E.7" – the parcel post equivalent of "O.E.78" – the demise of this label had already taken place when An Post introduced its SDS (or Special Delivery Services) system for parcels some years ago. (Fig. 5)

STAMP STATISTICS

Postnews – the house journal of An Post – quotes some interesting facts and statistics in its current (March) edition. Philatelic business in An Post presently brings in £2 million per year in revenue. The Philatelic Unit, including the Bureau itself which handles the processing of mail orders from collectors, as well as the counter area in the G.P.O., employs a total of 32 staff, and presently has about 9,000 standing order customers. Of the 32 million commemorative stamps produced each year, about 3.3 million, or just over 10%, are used by the philatelic services.

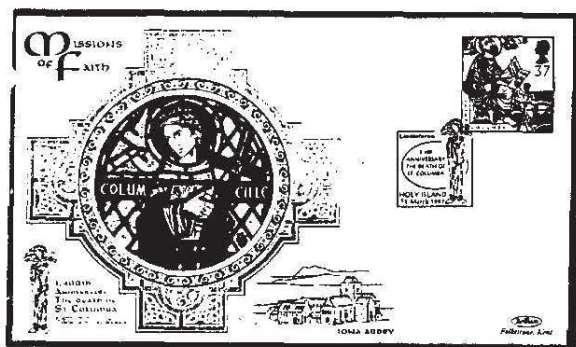
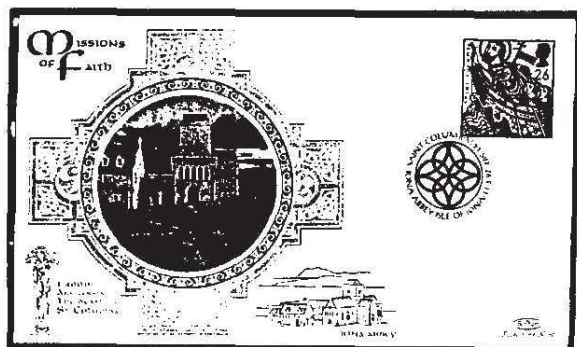
The Bureau has achieved notable success with its promotion of stamp collecting among juniors. Philatelic Unit's Voyager Club (set up in 1991) provides a wide range of products for young philatelists, is a regular standholder at "Stampa" and provincial fairs, and now has in excess of 12,500 members.

JOINT ISSUE(S) - AN OPPORTUNITY MISSED?

As our members will be aware, an extensive New Issues program has been announced up to the end of this year. A number of issues will be accompanied by additional products, to include maxi-cards, prestige or souvenir booklets, and in one case (Millennium of Irish Coin), a coin letter (PNC) and even a replica coin. Four separate issues will commemorate the State's 75th Anniversary, and finally the second installment of the new "Birds" definitives is scheduled for Aug. 27th.

Accordingly, it is perhaps not surprising that no "joint issue" is scheduled for 1997, although no fewer than two U.K. issues this year would have been candidates in this regard. On Mar. 11th, in its "Missions of Faith" set, two values (26p and 37p)

issued by Britain marked the 1,400th death anniversary of the Irish saint Columba (known in Ireland as Columcille). He founded the abbey which later gave rise to the city of Derry (Londonderry) – in Irish known as Doire Colum Chille – and later settled on the remote Scottish island of Iona, from there to spread the Christian message throughout all of western Scotland.



6 FDC's of U.K. St. Columba (Columcille) issue 11-3-97, showing different first day postmarks (Iona and Lindisfarne)

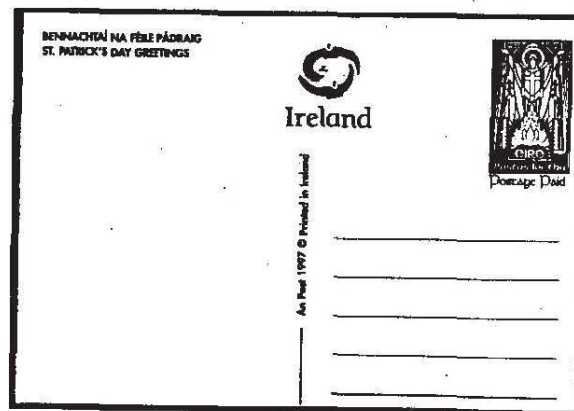
A second U.K. issue, due for release on May 13th, entitled "Tales of Horror", commemorates the bi-centenary of the birth of Mary Shelley (author of *Frankenstein*), whilst the 26p value of the set commemorates the centenary of the first publication of Clontarf, Dublin-born Bram Stoker's "*Dracula*", as well as coincidentally marking the 150th Anniversary of the Irish writer's birth.

Interestingly, although joint issues (in which two or more countries issue commemorative stamps in an identical or similar design) have taken place between Ireland and U.S., Germany, the Vatican, San Marino, and even the Isle of Man, no joint issue with mainland U.K. has yet taken place. (A report on an intended but unsuccessful joint issue venture with France appeared in my Summer 1996 article in *The Revealer* Vol. 46 No.1). (Fig. 6)

1997 ST PATRICK'S DAY CARDS.

The 1997 issue of post and greetings cards for St. Patrick's Day follows the format of previous years, although the designs featured do not appear to have received the same public favor, if judged by writers to the letters columns of the newspapers.

As in previous years, the postcards and envelopes accompa-



7 & 8 Front and reverse of card No. 1 of 1997 St. Patrick's Day set, with error of spelling on reverse – "Bennachtai"

nying the greetings cards carry the imprinted "St. Patrick" design, originally designed by R. J. King. However, on the postcards, the "Postage Paid" wording appears in altered lettering, whilst on the envelopes, the imprinted stamp appears in a much darker green than its 1996 predecessor.

Finally, with every postcard comes a free error! An elementary slip (immediately apparent to every schoolboy studying Irish!) has resulted in the incorrect spelling "Bennachtaí" appearing on the back of each postcard, whilst the same word (Beannachtaí) is actually spelled correctly on the front of one of the designs! Unlike a similar occasion some years ago, I understand that no corrected version of the cards is to be produced. (Figs. 7 & 8)

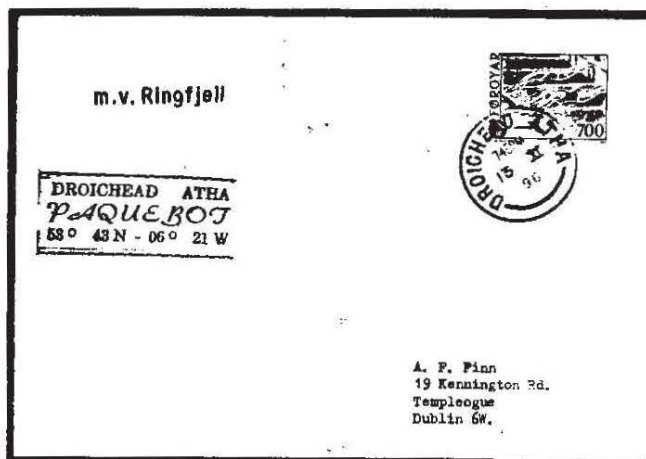
DESIGN/SUBJECT REPETITION

A closer look at the 1997 New Issues program referred to above shows that at least two of the topics included have already been featured on stamps in recent years.

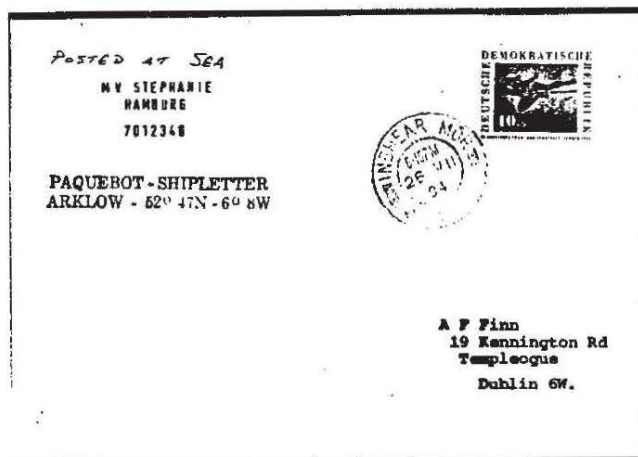
On May 4, 1982, one of the values (26p) issued in the annual Europa series on the subject that year of Historical Events commemorated the Great Famine of 1845-1850. On July 10, 1986, as part of the Maritime Anniversaries issue, two values (24p and 30p) depicted the Kish and Fastnet Lighthouses respectively. The comparable issues for 1997 (Transport in Ireland featuring Lighthouses) and An Gorta Mor (The Great Famine) were scheduled for issue on July 1st, and May 14th respectively.

PAQUEBOT/MARITIME CACHETS

A number of the larger Irish ports have permanent "Paquebot" handstamps in use – Dublin, Cork, Cobh, and Galway being the principal examples in the South, as well as Belfast and Derry (Londonderry) in Northern Ireland.



9 Paquebot Drogheda (Drogheda cds 13-11-96)



10 Paquebot Arklow (Arklow cds 26-7-94)

Smaller ports are recorded as making up temporary "Paquebot" cancellations on an "ad hoc" basis when the necessity arises, whereas others again merely cancel the stamps (Irish or foreign) with their ordinary operational canceller.

In the latter category, are the two small east coast ports of Drogheda (Co. Louth) and Arklow (Co. Wicklow) – exceptionally, though, the post offices in both these towns also utilize a separate two- or three-line cachet, inscribed "ShipLetter" or

"Paquebot", indicating the geographical position (latitude and longitude) of the town, which is generally struck in blue on the left hand side of the envelope. (Figs. 9 & 10)

ISSUE FOR ST. COLUMCILLE

Since the above (Joint Issues...) was written, and full details of the 1997 new issues schedule published, a public outcry has taken place, and widespread pressure increased for an Irish stamp to commemorate St. Columcille's anniversary. Public opinion was particularly outraged by the inclusion of a "Dracula" (Bram Stoker) commemorative set (due Oct. 1st), while it was perceived that the missionary monks anniversary was being ignored "for commercial reasons" by An Post.

Accordingly, just today (Apr. 10), and in advance of a pre-general election visit by An Taoiseach to Co. Donegal (location of the saint's birthplace at Garton), Alan Dukes, Minister for Transport, Energy, and Communications, has announced that he has requested An Post, in response to submissions made to him, to have a special stamp design prepared, with the commemorative stamp to be issued (probably in conjunction with other Anniversaries issues) later this year. ♣

Pacific'97 Report

by David J. Brennan

The Board of Directors of the Éire Philatelic Association met on Sunday, June 1st at 9 a.m. in the Moscone Center. David J. Brennan chaired the meeting in the absence of Charles Verge, the president (Charles served on the jury so could not attend the meetings). In addition to the vice president, the following were present: William A. O'Connor, Treasurer; Ian Whyte, Director; James Maher, Director; Bernard C. Clancy, Treasurer Designate; Joseph E. Foley, Auction Manager & APS Representative. Foley was appointed secretary *pro tempore*.

The vice president noted the death of nine members during the past year and called for a moment of silence in their memory. He then paid special tribute to Peg Zellers, who will be greatly missed by all. Our condolences to Bill Zellers, honorary chairman of the Board of Directors. Bill was not able to attend the meetings, but sent his best wishes.

Reports of the various committees were read and any comments were noted in the records for follow-up before the next meeting. The site for the future AGMs was read: Chicago 1998, Philadelphia 1999, and Boxborough (Boston) 2000. No definite site was selected for the year 2001; it was suggested San Diego, CA, Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, MD. The chair tabled the suggestions until we could get a better feel from the members who would like to host the meeting. All requests will be reviewed and answered by the board.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the same date at 2 p.m. at the same location. In addition to those previously mentioned at the board meeting, were: Margaret Marron (new member), Mike Tuohy, Norman Riggs, Garvin Lohman, John Madigan, Bernard Burry, David MacDonnell, Richard Boyle, Larry Taylor (new member).

EPA
ACTION
CENTRAL!

Appreciation was noted to Bill Murphy and Garvin Lohman for arranging the group dinner the previous evening. The thanks of the Association were also extended to those who had staffed the EPA society table: Bill Murphy, Mrs. Bob Benninghoff, Padraig O'Shea, Jim Maher, Barney Clancy, Bill O'Connor, Ian Whyte, John Madigan, Joe Foley, Garvin Lohman and Dave Brennan.

There being no advance announcement of the recipients of the annual awards, there were astonished looks on the recipients' faces when their names were announced by Joe Foley. The Thomas Edwin Field Award (*Outstanding Irish Philatelist Award*) was presented to David MacDonnell and Ian Whyte. The Vincent Linnell Award (*"The Revealer" Best Article Award*) went to Patrick Ryan, our editor of *The Revealer*, for his fine article on "Irish Maritime Covers". The runner-up for that award was Anthony Hughes for his article on "Postmarks of County Westmeath II - 1839-1860". "Himself" Dave Brennan was totally caught off guard in receiving The John J. Clark Award (*EPA Annual Service Award*); I thought this year we probably didn't have a recipient and Joe Foley didn't concur or refute same. Following the award presentations, Certificates of Appreciation for Long & Honorable Service to the Association were presented to the members who had 25 and 30 years active membership in the Association. Those not present had their certificates mailed to them. Our thanks to Joe Foley for the composition and printing of the certificates at no costs to the Association.

Probably the most significant sector of Pacific'97 were the many great exhibits. It took four trips around the North and South Halls just to casually take in some of the exhibits. The EPA medal was awarded to Brian Warren for his exhibit *"The Architecture Definitives"*, a particularly "in depth" treatment of the architecture definitives that included a very clear exposition of the forgeries of the £1 value. Kenneth Magee received a certificate for *"Ireland 1840-1901"*, an interesting approach featuring Victorian stamps used in Ireland. There were many scarce and valuable stamps such as the £5 orange as well as an excellent representation of the more difficult to find Irish postmarks. Also, Ken received a Large Vermeil (Traditional Class). Finbar O'Mahony received his certificate for *"The Franking Privilege 1652-1840"*, fascinating exposition of the UK franking privilege from 1652 to 1840 which was composed of many Irish items. Finbar also received a Large Vermeil (Postal History Class). Garvin Lohman also received recognition for his exhibit on *"Irish Revenues"*. Many of us thought we had a preview of this exhibit at BALPEX. However, the entire exhibit had been completely remounted and many items added. This exceptional revenue exhibit included proofs and many examples of usages. It was somewhat underrated by the jury. Pat Walker gave a fine presentation on Saturday, June 7th, titled *"Postal History of Ireland - 1660 to 1840, The Start of Postal Reform"*. This was the grand finale for the EPA activities at PACIFIC'97. A great show in a great city. ♣

Stampa '97 Set For November In Dublin

Stampa '97, the 26th Irish National Stamp Exhibition, will take place on November 7 to 9 next at the Royal Dublin Society

International Exhibition Centre,

Dublin 2. The show will open

from 11am to 6pm each day.

This being the 75th Anniversary of Independence, and therefore also

of the first Irish postage stamps, there will be an extra impetus to the show, which also marks the 25th Anniversary of the first *Stampa*.

Stampa is Ireland's premier philatelic event, attended by thousands of collectors from all over Ireland, and visitors from the UK, USA and Western Europe. 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, best exhibit of non-Irish material, as well as gold, vermeil, silver, silver-bronze and bronze medals.

Good hotels near the venue cost from £30 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 cared for. Dublin is an excellent venue for an autumn break, with its attractive and historic buildings, interesting shops and markets, famous theatres, hundreds of sociable pubs, superb golf courses, and many other attractions. Collectors are invited to become members of *Stampa*. The benefits of membership include a free season ticket to *Stampa*, a free catalogue of the show, an attractive set of four official Irish miniature sheets available only to members, reduced entry fees and more. Membership costs only IR£15 (GB£14), to Europe or US\$25 elsewhere by airmail.

Membership application forms and the exhibitors' prospectus are available from the Secretary, *Stampa '97*, PO Box 2723, Dublin 1, Ireland. Telephone: (+3531) 874 6161. Fax: (+3531) 874 6020. ♣

CORRECTION

In the Summer 1997 Issue, page 16, there appeared an editorial comment in William Smith's Letter to the Editor that would lead the reader to conclude that P.J. McGowan was not an EPA member when, in fact, he holds membership number 0481 and has been a member in good standing for many decades. Your editor begs Mr. McGowan's pardon and sincerely regrets the error.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

May 26, 1997

RE: Dealers of the 1960's

Dear Editor,

With reference to our President's (Charles Verge's) inquiry (*Letters to the Editor* - Vol. 46 No. 4, Spring 1997), the following information may assist.

1. Price & Co, Kilmacud Rd. Mt. Merrion, Dublin.

This firm is still in existence, trading as Liam Price, PO Box 5, Blackrock, Co. Dublin. (Tel. 2889269). Advertises regularly in the UK stamp magazines, and a full page advertisement in *Stamp Magazine* (May '97 edition) states:

"Liam Price - Ireland's oldest Stamp Firm ... started as a family business by John Gill-Price in 1910 ... philatelic business specialising in stamps of Ireland established in Bridge St. Dublin in 1937" and claims 59 (sic) years of continuous trading.

2. Gus Cribben, Clonsough, Raheny, Dublin 5

Best remembered as a wholesaler, and agent in Ireland in the late 1960's for the fine Philart range of First Day Covers. These covers are to be found in many collections today, as this period pre-dated the introduction of official Post Office covers in the early 1970's.

3. The Shamrock Stamp Service, 22 Rathfarnham Park, Dublin 14.

Predecessor of David Feldman (Irl.) Ltd., 102 Leinster Rd, Dublin 6, whose publications (*Handbook of Irish Philately* (DF), *Handbook of Irish Postal History* (in collaboration with Bill Kane)) as well as their regular Newsletter and related activities greatly raised the profile of serious Irish philately during the 1970's. David Feldman today operates as major international auctioneers of stamp rarities from Geneva, Switzerland, and achieved headlines internationally for their recent record sale of the Swedish 3s. error of colour variety.

4. P.J. McGowan, Woodlands Ave. Stillorgan, Dublin.

Still involved in the wholesale end of the business, our member P.J. McGowan is now at 3 Upper Kilmacud Rd., Stillorgan, Dublin.

Space does not permit more than a mention of other dealers of the mid 1960's - early 1970's — The Mint Stamp Co, 3a Upper Fownes St., Dublin; George Popp at Wellington Quay; and the original Hibernian Stamp Co, 11 Harrington St., Dublin 2, which published the landmark *Specialised Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Ireland* in 1972 under the editorship of M. Don Buchalter; all of these having retail premises.

Outside Dublin., the Erin Stamp Service operated from Ballingeary, Co. Cork, and the Cork Stamp & Coin Centre from 27 Cook St, Cork City, the latter under the irascible management of its owner, Malcolm Moss!

Today's collector continues to be well served philatelically, and in the field of collectables generally. Whyte's (formerly Ian Whyte) now operate a separate stamp shop opposite their Marlborough St. auction house, whilst another personality of the 1960's (and indeed earlier!), Michael Giffney, has his collectors

centre open adjacent to the Ha'penny Bridge in Dublin City Centre, whilst Eoin Boyle operates Rathgar Stamps & Postal Auctions at 165 Rathgar Rd. Dublin 6 (rear entrance).

In the "southern capital," Raven Stamps and Collectors Centre maintains the traditions of its predecessors at 12C Washington St. W., Cork, with a retail shop and regular auctions.

In general, with regular stamp and collectors fairs, collectors road-shows sponsored or supported by An Post, and of course the major annual "Stampa" exhibition, philately could be said to be more vibrant and indeed visible today in Ireland than even in the preceding decades, a situation which, let us hope, will continue long into the new millennium!

Philatelically,

Tony Finn



Unusual Watermarks on Irish Stamps

by Otto Jung

On the same day when the Spring 1997 issue of *The Revealer* with my article on unusual watermarks on Irish stamps arrived, I received another letter which urges me to write a supplement to



this listing. The offer I got on that day was an item not mentioned ever before, the 1/2d of the Hamilton series of 1943 with inverted watermark. The dealer spoke of three copies known, but all my research did not prove that anybody had seen a copy before. It was not mentioned in any catalog. I was

lucky enough to buy the stamp at an acceptable price. It is in very fine condition, and the watermark is clearly to be seen inverted. I have made a photocopy showing from reverse, and as the front is shining through the transparent paper, one can see the abnormal watermark. The German catalog *Michel* will list the item in its next issue; I hope Ian Whyte will do so in his *Stamps of Ireland*.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

July 5, 1997

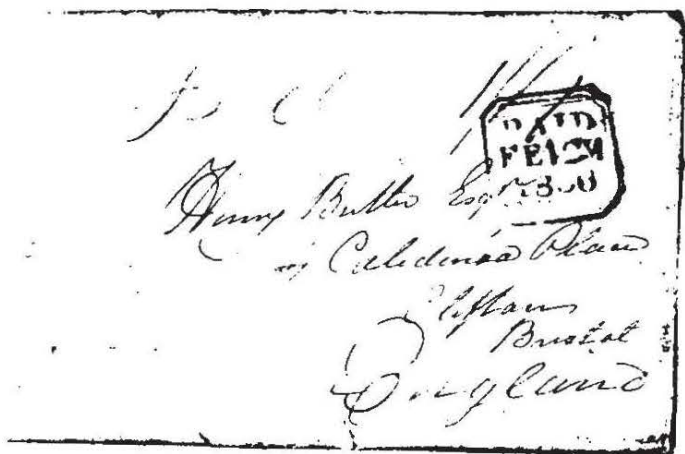
Dear Mr. Ryan:

I read your piece in the recent *Revealer* on the death of Rev. W. E. Davey. I am a member of the Percy French Society which is based in Belfast and I enclose a copy of their Spring 1997 newsletter *The Jarvey* which has a mention, though not many details, of his passing.

"The reader is struck by a similarity in word and sentiment with those lines written by W.P.F. in the visitors' book at Glenveagh Castle in 1909:

*Remember me is all I ask - and yet
If the remembrance prove a task - Forget.*

Together the writings enable us to reflect on members, friends and relatives who have left us over the years and most recently a Friend of the Society who, through correspondence only, had become a delightful acquaintance of the editor of *The Jarvey*, Rev. W.E. Davey, priest, philatelist and 'francophile,'



SIX MILE BRIDGE, Co. Clare, Ireland.

But it is 7-1/2 miles from Limerick from which place the measurements were taken! But that was in the early 1800's when distances were in Irish miles (2200 yards, not 1760).



TWO MILE BORRIS
Buirgheas Liath

The modern SIX MILE BRIDGE postmark — Droichead Abhann Uí Chearnaigh



TWO MILE HOUSE
Tigh an Dá Mhíle

FIVEMILEBOURNE
Cartrón Máiteoige



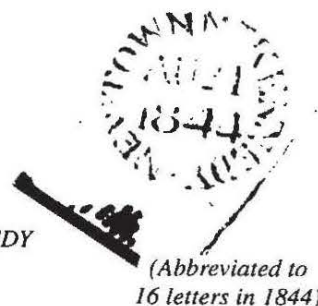
The Longest Postal Name



KLEINFELTERSVILLE, Pennsylvania
(USA, 17 letters)



NEWTOWNMOUNTKENNEDY
(ÉIRE, 19 letters)



(Abbreviated to
16 letters in 1844)

The shortest name is "A" in Norway.

The longest name is in Wales, a mere 58 letters.

LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLLGOGERYCH-
WYRNDROBWLILLANTYSILILOGOGOGOGCH

It is also abbreviated LLANFAIR PWGL.

whose ministry had led him to England where he retired in 1980, died in January. The order for the service of thanksgiving for his life ended appropriately with W.P.F.'s above-quoted words."

Until I received this newsletter I didn't know he was a fan of Percy French. However, when we were in Dublin in July 1992, my husband (Toronto stamp dealer John H. Talman) purchased some of Rev. Davey's material at Ian Whyte's auction, and when I looked at it recently, I can see that he shared Percy French's feel for Irish placenames! (See attached copies.)

Keep up the good work with the E.P.A. - I really enjoy the *Revealer* - though unfortunately I don't find as much time as I would like to spend on my collection. I work at the Celtic Studies Programme at the University of Toronto and am on committees of various Irish groups in Toronto - it's a fulltime job just being Irish!

Sincerely,

Jean Talman





Election Results

Office	Name	Votes
President	David J Brennan	72
V.P., N. America	Joe Foley	71
V.P., Eurorpe	Ian Whyte	71
Directors	Anthony J. Hughes	74
	Dr. Joachim Schaaf	72
	Robert Joyce	73
	Peter Bugg	73
	William O'Connor	73
	Peter J. Foote, Jr.	73



The above elected officers have been certified to the President by Henry E. Bright #0675, Otto Jung #1670 and Michael Conway #1757 as of 1 September 1997 for a period of two years.

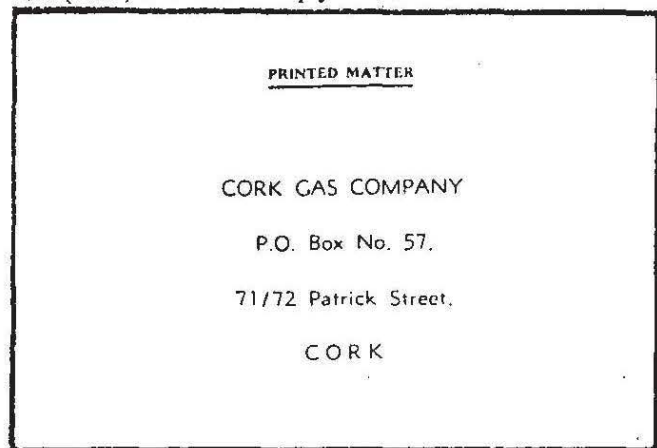
Postal Stationery Catalogue (94) Update

by Otto Jung

When, in 1994, the FAI Postal Stationery Catalogue appeared in its fifth edition, listing for the first time, items stamped-to-order (STO), it was very unclear to what extent copies STO had been recorded. As a typical reaction, when such a book is published, everybody tried his stock and sorted it after the new numbering system. This was to be followed by a lot of letters which reached me, and several new variations were discovered. Very few new main numbers or unknown companies were recorded. This article enumerates what has come to light since 1994: In the first chapter, I shall give supplements to the catalogue; the second chapter shows issues of companies which have not yet been named in the catalogue. Really new copies were mainly sold at auctions. Gradually the very rarities of which one or few copies are known fetch the price they deserve. At auctions, they have left the catalogue prices of 1994 far behind, whereas the more common material stagnates.

Supplements to the catalogue:

Page 151: (Brooks, Thomas & Co., Ltd): The reply card 1/2d + 1 1/2d (1946) is a "tear off reply card", i.e. it is rouletted.



(Ill 1)

Pages 161/162: (Cork Gas Company): The cards exist in four versions: a. with harp stamp, b. with harp stamp + free, c. some only with free, d. without any stamp (Illustration 1); the reverse is as with nos. 6 - 9.

(Ill 2a)

(Ill 2b)

Page 171: (Electricity Supply Board): There are obviously two types of no. 2 (1d): a card differing somewhat in the front text comparing with the illustration in the catalogue; front and reverse are illustrated (Illustration 2a and 2b); the reverse of the card in the catalogue is not known to me.

(Ill 3a)

(III 3b)

Page 172: (Electricity Supply Board): The letter sheet no. 3b is incompletely illustrated in the catalogue because I had no better illustration; now I can show both front and reverse as it is really (*Illustration 3a and 3b*).

(III 4)

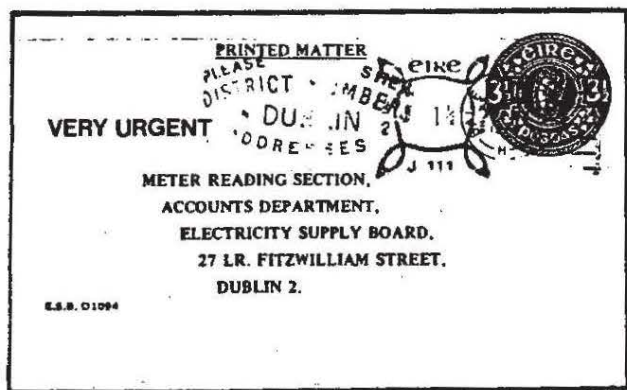
Page 173: (Electricity Supply Board): The letter sheet no. 4e exists also in the Irish language; it was sold as lot 992 in Ian Whyte's auction of July 9, 1994 to a Dublin collector who is, although I asked him many times, not willing to give a photocopy for common use; as a temporary solution, I illustrate the part shown in the auction catalogue (*Illustration 4*).

(III 5a)

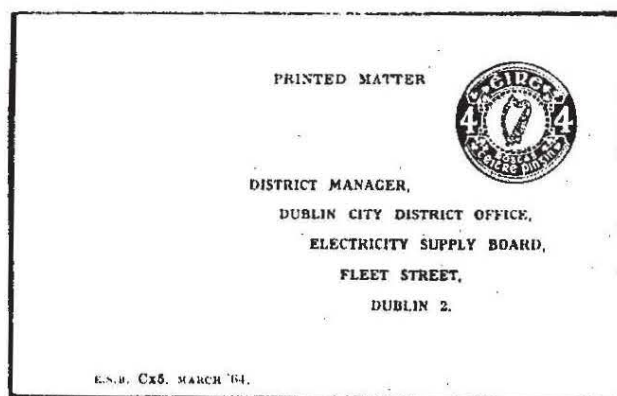
(III 5b)

Page 173: (Electricity Supply Board): A fifth type of no. 4 (2d) with different front and reverse was discovered (*Illustration 5a and 5b*).

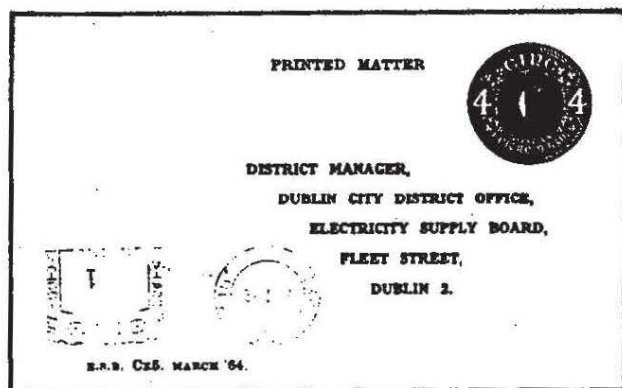
Page 184: (Electricity Supply Board): No. 13a, too, was found with additional free of 1 1/2d (*Illustration 6*).



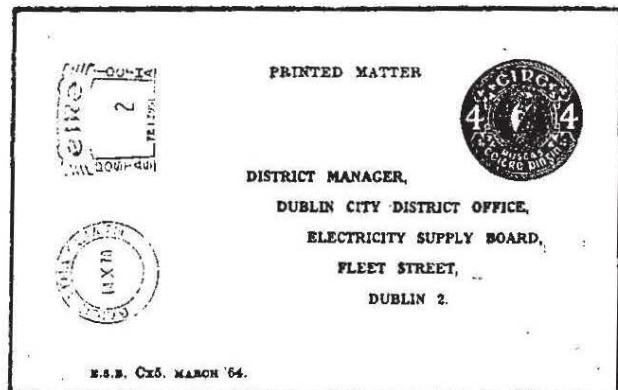
(Ill 6)



(Ill 7a)



(Ill 7b)



(Ill 7c)

IMPORTANT

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD,
FLEET STREET. Phone 772981

Name: _____ Date: 19-10-70

Address: 69 Seaford Drive D3

An E.S.B. official called to-day but could not gain access. Please use this card to make appointment for further call between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday to Thursday only. Not Friday or Saturday (except for emergency repairs).

APPOINTMENT: Date: 19/10/70 Between 10 a.m. and 12 a.m.

Please give two day's notice

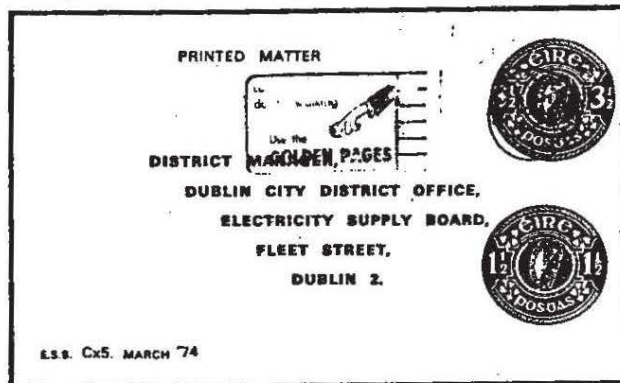
Thank you, *Keogh* for R. A. H. JACKSON, District Manager

Where premises are vacant, you may wish to advise: ☒ KEY AT

Index: 432228

(Ill 7d)

Page 189: (Electricity Supply Board): As I assumed, a card of 4d exists and was recorded in three types: with harp stamp, with harp stamp + 1d free, with harp stamp + 2d free (Illustration 7a, 7b, 7c and 7d).



(Ill 8)

Page 191: (Electricity Supply Board): No. 7b was recorded with stamps in two lines instead of alongside (Illustration 8).

Page 196: (Electricity Supply Board): In his auction of June 8, 1996, Ian Whyte sold, in the lot 866, a card of 12p which was unknown up to that time; it is to be added as no. 8 at this page; I do not yet have an illustration.

EPA On The Internet

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)

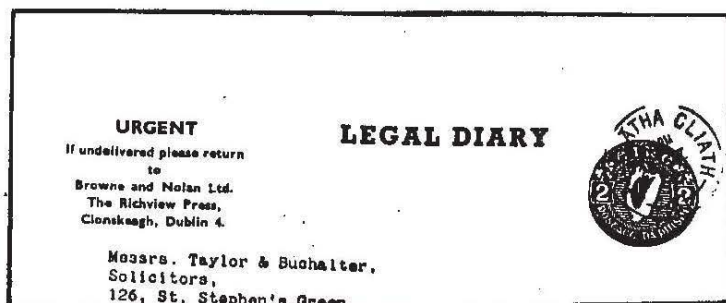
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/aranman/irsociet.html> (Irish page)

<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)

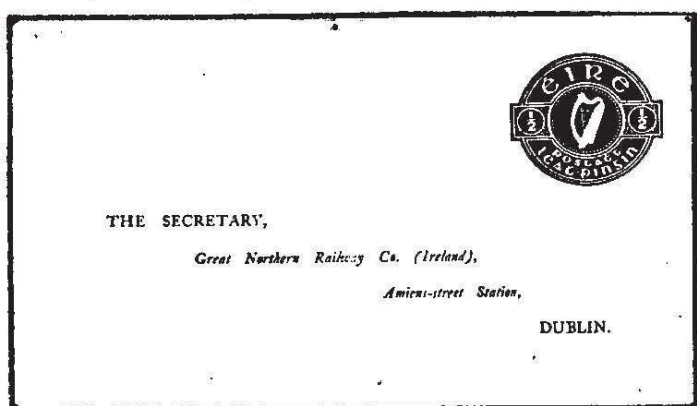
Page 206: (Ferrier, Pollock & Co., Ltd, Dublin): An envelope of 2d from 1925 colourlessly embossed on reverse in the same manner as shown in the catalogue was discovered on creme paper watermarked "Ballyclare Co Antrim", but the format is smaller (83 x 141 mm).



(Ill 9)

Page 207: (The Leagal Diary): Another item of the same make was recorded, but on white paper and changed address (*Illustration 9*).

Page 209: (Great Northern Railway Co.): A fourth type of the envelope of 1/2d was discovered to be added to the three varieties known (*Illustration 10*).



(Ill 10)

(continued in next issue)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

27 April 1997

Dear Editor,

Under the title "The Ubiquitous 2d Map Stamp" (*Revealer* Spring 1997), Mr. Foley severely castigates a John M. Hotcher, author of an article appearing in *U.S. Stamp News*. It would seem the criticism is based, correctly but pedantically, on the definition of what constitutes Ulster.

Unfortunately, Mr. Foley then goes on to advise Mr. Hotcher to check his facts concerning the early production of the stamp and, in particular, quotes another article (M.G. O'Reilly) in asserting that the "initial production was done in England by the British Government at Somerset House." This, I submit, is surely a case of the biter bit.

Had Mr. Foley checked *his* facts he may have learned that Somerset House (let alone the British Government) had nothing whatsoever to do with the production of the definitive.

Unless he has verifiable information to the contrary, the
(see "LETTER" on next page)

NO MAIL FROM NICO?

by Hans G. Moxter

The story told here is true and documented by correspondence in The National Library in Dublin where our friend and former FAI-president Heinz Jürgen KUMPF recently found it. After half a century, it illustrates a curious tale of a man who was interned in Éire during World War II and who, by the end of August 1944, was accused of not writing home and claimed he received no mail from his family between January and August 1944 ... even though he did confirm in a statement that, during this period, he had sent about 50 to 60 letters to Germany and received approximately 100 letters from home. Postal historians will note with interest that official correspondence between Berlin and Dublin in 1944 took three months. In the case of German navy internees in Éire, between January 1944 and August 1945, the average of pieces of mail seems to come near 125 letters to Germany and about 200 letters from Germany.

However, we cannot just start multiplying 164 seamen by roughly 560 days of internment to arrive at the volume of mail during that period. The 164 men originated from the German destroyer Z27 (68), torpedoboats T26 (90) and T25 (6), while later on, in March 1945, the complete crew of submarine U260 (48) was interned. Looking at the geographical origin of the internees we find that 119 men (56.1%) came from parts of Germany later occupied by the three western powers, i.e. Great Britain, France and the USA; 43 men (20.3%) originated from Soviet occupied Germany; while 42 (19.8%) had their homes in regions lost to eastern neighboring countries; and, 8 (3.8%) were Austrians. This shows that many of the internees had no opportunity to write to their family in regions already overrun by enemies, unless they knew where their loved ones had been evacuated.

Let us concentrate now on the problems experienced by father Karl Mayer of Neunkirchen/Saar when he learned that a naval action had taken place in the Biscaya in which torpedoboat T26, on which his son Nico was serving, had been involved. Many years later, Nico's widow told me that the family had heard the news on British radio transmissions for Germany. But in those days, listening to enemy broadcasts was severely punished. The questions remained: Had Nico survived; was he safe now and in good health; and what was his postal address? An inquiry was started through the German Post Ministry on behalf of Nico's silence, who, it was claimed, had not received any mail from home between December 1943 (he arrived on Irish soil on the first day of January 1944) and May 1944. A communication from Berlin to Dublin, dated 11th August 1944, which arrived at its destination on 22nd November, also mentioned that mail to Nico is airmailed regularly via Lisbon.

Only five days after arrival of the inquiry from Berlin the Irish Army's G2 Branch i.e. here the military censor at Curragh Camp, Headquarters, Curragh Command, presented under Ref. S/108/P, a statement signed by internee O.Gefr.Nico Mayer in which the situation of mail delivery is cleared up. A day earlier he confirmed that he had received about 100 letters from Germany and had written between 50 and 60 letters to Germany. An official answer (F20346/39) went to Berlin giving the necessary details, proving how concerned the Irish reacted.

P.S. In connection with this matter, some helpful data.

- 27-28 Dec. 1943 While trying to escort home, to a French port, the German blockade runner ALSTERUFER, in the Biskaya, a battle ensued between 11 German destroyers and torpedoboats and two British cruisers (HMS GLASGOW and HMS ENTERPRISE). 3 German boats (Z27, T26 and T25) were lost.
- 29 Dec. 1943 The Irish MV KERLOGUE, on its way from Portugal to Éire, engages in a ten-hour rescue operation and saves 164 German shipwrecked seamen who, on 1 Jan. 1944, are landed at Cork and transferred to Collins Barracks there. During the first days of their internment, these men wrote 322 letters home.
- 15-21 Jan. 1944 Next of kin in Germany are officially advised about rescue and internment in Éire of members of the Kriegsmarine.
- 25 Jan. 1944 Internees arrive at Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare.
- 28 Jan. - 7 Feb. 1944 Identification cards with photographs are issued to German navy internees.
- 18 Mar. 1944 The Chief of Staff with the 2nd Admiral Baltic Region, Captain Gruber, advises next of kin of Camp Curragh address and mailing procedures for correspondence.
- ca. 22 Mar. 1944 First (navy) letters from Curragh Camp reach families in Germany.
- 13 Aug. 1945 After almost 20 months of internment in Éire for most of them, 212 German seamen leave Curragh Camp for repatriation to their country via England and Belgium.

Official inquiry from the German P&T administration on postcard to Dublin. Postmarked BERLIN SW11 / 25.8.44 and arrived in Dublin 22.XI.44. With translation.

Translation of Reverse.

Min-A r 2299-6

DER REICHSPOSTMINISTER
BERLIN W 66.

11 August, 1944.
(postmark 25.8)

Seaman Niko Mayer, II A German Internment Camp, Curragh Camp, complains that from the end of December, 1943, up to the beginning of May, 1944, he has received no news from his relatives in Germany. Letters addressed to him have been regularly forwarded by Air Mail via Lisbon. It is added also that his relatives have received no news from him since the beginning of May, 1944.

I should be thankful for early information regarding the irregularities.

By Order:
DR REISS.

Written declaration and translation about volume of correspondence mailed and received by internee Nico Mayer.

____ Branch,
Headquarters,
Curragh Command.
27th November 1944

The Post Master
Curragh Post Office.

Internee Ob.Gerfr. Nico Mayer.

A Chara,

I am in receipt of your letter with reference to the alleged non-receipt of letters by the a/n and his relatives in Germany and I attach herewith a statement from Nico Mayer with translation which proves that there could not be complaints from him on the score of his not receiving letters from his relatives. He arrived here on Jan. 25th last and letters from Germany to this country take over three months to come. (Note date on the Reichpostminister's letter with reference to this complaint.) This probably accounts for the non-receipt of letters up to the beginning of May. Since then he has forwarded about 50 or 60 letters to Germany and he has received about 100 letters from Germany. In any case neither the Post Office nor Censorship in this country is responsible for undue delays.

TRANSLATION

Curragh 26th/11/44.

I have written between 50 - 60 letters to Germany during my internment here (This is an approximate figure). I have received about 100 letters from Germany since May of this year.

Obr. Gefr. N. Mayer



LETTER

(continued from previous page)

facts (as opposed to opinions) are that:

1. The plates were made at the Royal Mint in London.
2. Initially the paper was of British manufacture.
3. The printing was made in Dublin.

Later, there were complications concerning both the paper and perforating, but at no time (for this definitive issue or any other) was Somerset House involved in any phase of production. The only, tenuous, connection between Somerset House and the issue was the presence of A.S. Roberts, who supervised the printing operations in Dublin. He was previously at Somerset House, but then became an employee of the Irish Post Office at the time (and for a considerable period later).

Cyril I. Dulin



**DUES WERE DUE
1 SEPTEMBER 1997.
DID YOU PAY YOURS?**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

July 15, 1997

Dear Sir:

My name is Wendy Griffin, and I have recently started collecting stamps, as part of a skill, to achieve my Gaisce Award (Ireland's President's Award). I am making a study of stamps relating to "Wildlife and Nature", and am gathering together all the stamps I can find, along with information and postal items featuring Wildlife.

I was wondering if you could help me to get some American stamps based on this topic, as I would really like to add these to my collection. I would be very grateful to you if you could post me some stamps or other information related to Wildlife & Nature. Please find enclosed a stamp addressed envelope, in which you could send me anything which you think may be helpful to me. If there is any cost involved, then I would be grateful if you could let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Griffin

An Tulach	Coolkenno
Ceatharlach	Tullow
Eíre	Co. Carlow
	Ireland

(EDITOR NOTE: Your Editor has responded and sent a package of stamps and some additional information about topical collecting and where to obtain information. How about you? Will you help this young lass?) ♣

E.P.A. SPECIAL OFFERS

The following items may be ordered from Peter Bugg, 5 Forest St., Franklin, MA 02038 U.S.A. All prices include postage and handling (except as noted below). Overseas add \$1.00 per item for air mail. Make all cheques and money orders payable to Peter Bugg.

Irish Overprint Identifier — A clear plastic overlay to help sort out your overprint issues. With it is a chart giving Scott and Gibbons numbers and an article on identifying the overprints. Price \$4.50

Die Mielenstempel Der Irischen Post — (The Mileage Marks of Ireland) 1808-1839 by Hans G. Moxter. 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 Perfins — compiled and edited by Richard L. Mewhinney. Published by The Perfins Club - 1994. 38 pp. punched for 3 ring binder. The catalogue is designed for use as an album as well as catalogue. Only observed Perfins 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

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

The Maltese Cross in Ireland — by Hans G. Moxter 1988 Edition. Published by FAI, text of the 80 page book is in both German and English. This is probably the most comprehensive review of this postmark to date. Price \$9.00.

Undated Namestamps of Ireland 1823-1860 — by William Kane. This booklet has been produced by FAI of West Germany. In English and German and records the colours, periods of usage on the various types of undated namestamps. Price \$7.00

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

Irish Postal Rates Before 1840 — by F.E. Dixon. Produced by FAI it is in German and English. This publication lists the Irish Postal Rates from 1657 to 1840. A superb guide for Postal Historians. Price \$6.00

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

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

THE REVEALER INDEX and Addendum 1 — by Patrick J. Ryan, Sr. A comprehensive index of all philatelic articles appearing in THE REVEALER from the first issue through the end of 1990. Articles are listed by subject matter. Cost: \$12.00.

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

Introduction to The Post Offices of County Clare, Ireland — John Mackey & Tony Cassidy. Text in German & English. Published by FAI. A study developed from the postal archives of Dublin & London. A must for the student of Postal History. 94 pp Price \$9.00.

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

"Die Ganzsachen Irlands" (The Postal Stationery of Ireland) — by Otto Jung. 1994 Edition. Text in German & English. Published by FAI, the Irish Philatelic Group in Germany. This latest edition is by far the most specialized and authoritative and gives a very complete listing of Irish postal stationery available. Well illustrated. Prices for mint and used in DM. Price \$14.00 postpaid.

Irish Slogan Postmarks 1918-1994 — by Uwe Netzs, published by FAI of Germany. 116 pages. Text in both German and English. Over 300 illustrations by County, dies and type. Cost \$17.50 postpaid.

Irish Airmail 1919-1990 — by Bill Murphy. Joint publication by the EPA and the Irish Airmail Society. This book covers all known mail-carrying flights to and from Ireland since the first successful non-stop trans-Atlantic flight of Alcock and Brown in 1919. Each listing includes information on date of flight, the itinerary, the airline, and, if available, a 50% reduced illustration. Price US \$15, plus \$1.25 postage.

The Rare Coil — by Joe Foley. This publication brings together several articles and correspondence and documents from the archives of the Irish Post Office, pertaining to the 2d vertical coil issue of 1935. Price US \$12.