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IRISH-AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR IRISH INDEPENDENCE

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President's Message

by William O'Connor

I would like to thank the many people who contacted me with their lists of St. Patrick's Day Navel cancellations. We have identified well over 60 different covers and years, and/or ship cancellations. Additionally, I would like to thank all members who are sending in their articles, letters, and comments to *The Revealer*. Please continue the good work.

One area of Irish collecting that has intrigued me for quite some time has been the postmarks used during the British period, up to 1922. I have found many of these postmarks in general Great British collections. To find a beautiful diamond numeral cancellation, or an Irish town name on a British stamp of this period is a great treat. The most recent example for me came from such a collection. It is a newspaper wrapper cut square with a Dublin, Too late cancellation of 22 March 1897. It was offered to me for gratis, but I did prevail on the person to accept a payment of less than a dollar. The cancellation is one of the nicest that I have seen, and due to the nature of the cut square, the entire cancellation is included. To find a complete wrapper or envelope with such a fine postmark is usually beyond the capability of most of us. Look at those British collections, and one may be pleasantly surprised.

The plans for the annual meeting in Chicago are moving along.

(continued on page 19)

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Summer - 1 June · Fall - 1 September · Winter - 1 December · Spring - 1 March

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Irish Revenue Stamps

by Peter Mansfield

During 2003, Mr. Declan O'Connor helped me with material for a booklet, "Court Circulars: A New Perspective on Irish Petty Sessions" (period 1858-1922), which was published in December 2003 by the (British) Revenue Society, and which will be exhibited at next October's CHICAGOPEX. My interests where Ireland is concerned are boringly restricted to the surface-printed issues of the British-Irish period, but the period does have its own mysteries, and there are three in particular which fascinate and puzzle me, so I wonder if I could take a leap in the dark and ask if anyone can shed any light on them. They are as follows:

1. Can you tell me anything about the Irish Petty Sessions 6d blue? I bring this up in my booklet, but so far have not been able to determine *when it was originally printed* (beyond the obvious conclusion that this date must lie between 1859 and 1880: perf 15 1/2 x 15, no watermark) and *what its purpose was*? The nearest I've come to an explanation lies in a handstamp which I have now seen on two copies of this stamp: the handstamp reads PUBLIC / V.B. FORBES / PROSECUTION, which may or may not indicate a subtle distinction between the "private prosecution" that required a green stamp, and the "police or military prosecution" which required a red stamp. As my text states, by the time the "Guide to Clerks of Petty Sessions" was published in 1899, no mention was considered necessary of the 6d blue, though the uses of the 6d green and 6d red are discussed at length.
2. The stamps of the older Irish courts of Admiralty and Chancery were replaced in 1878, we are told, by the Judicature Ireland series: in any case, before 1881. At the same time, the English printers De La Rue, who were in charge of all Revenue stamp printing until 1910, did not introduce paper with the 2 Orbs watermark un-

til 1881. So how can we explain a reprint of all six values of the Theed head blue-opt-lilac design of Admiralty Court Ireland, with 2 Orbs paper replacing the earlier Scales, conventionally dated to 1881? Were these stamps intended for use (and I do indeed have one used copy, franked with the "five-at-dice" punched holes, though one mostly sees SPECIMENS) in the Admiralty Division of the new High Court? Or were they an early, pre-1878 De La Rue experiment with the new paper? The single Orb appears, after all, for the first time in 1876, on the Postage 21/2d rosy-mauve.

3. In Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), De La Rue lost the stamp-printing contract in 1911 to a combination of Harrisons and the Inland Revenue's own Stamping Department's Printing Office at Somerset House; but *did the same happen in Ireland? Did De La Rue have a Dublin operation? Or did the Dublin branch of the Stamp Office take over the printing of Irish Revenue stamps? We are also told that while the first Saorstát Éireann overprints were made in London, the final issues were made in Dublin. By whom?*

If by any chance anyone can supply any information about the points I've raised, I'd be very happy to hear from you at some time. Please contact me at 10 Oakwood Court, Oakwood Close, Chandlers Ford, EASTLEIGH, SO53 5NX, United Kingdom / England. ♣

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 18)

The dates once again are November 19-21, the Sheraton Chicago Northwest, within one half-hour of O'Hare International Airport. It looks like it will be a great meeting, and the enjoyment will proceed well beyond the joy of stamp collecting. Please plan to attend, get those exhibits ready to show your fellow collectors, and prepare to have a good time. ♣

Philately Meets Politics

by Otto Jung

In January 2004, I got a call from an official of the European Community in Luxembourg who asked me to put a stamp exhibit of Irish material at the European Community's disposal. The reason was: Éire had taken over the European Presidency for the next six months. He knew my name from my Luxembourg postal stationery exhibit at the Luxembourg National Exhibition some years ago and asked me as FAI President. He wanted an extensive exhibit of ten (!) frames comprising all aspects of the postal activities in Ireland during the last two centuries. As I was sure that an exhibit of this kind did not exist anywhere, and nobody would be willing to establish it in the very short time of two months, I decided to do the job myself.

So I worked about eight weeks on it, and in early March the exhibit was completed. It stretches from about 1830 to 2000, displays both Mulready values postmarked in Ireland (Belfast and Dublin), shows British stamps used in Ireland and items which were used during the transition period, all overprinted stamps specialized up to the scarcest ones, the first Se watermarked definitive series including all FDCs, the e watermark series with a lot of booklet panes and many coil stamps including leaders and ends, also strips of the rare booklet coil. It has an extensive number of all Gerl definitive series, the air letter stamps, a broad variety of the due stamps, the Culture and Heritage series in cylinder blocks, a selection of the commemorative stamps (restricted to the animal series and to famous Irish because of their great number) and all Irish Europe stamps, partially in mini sheets. On the last pages there are International Reply Coupons and Postal Orders, Postal Stationery (envelopes, postcards and registered envelopes), an air graph and some specialties.

Thus nearly all facets of Irish philately are to be seen. This was the condition: a

lot for collectors and more for the eyes of non-collecting visitors such as school classes, etc.

It is understandable that this exhibit does not fit into any exhibition rules. Even with ten frames you cannot go into the depth of philatelic research, since the exhibit covers so many areas. It cannot be assigned to any exhibition class or category. It has a bit of postal history as well as traditional philately and social philately. So there will probably be little chance of showing it anywhere else, although I intensively worked on it eight weeks and had some cost.

The opening of the little exhibition – there were two more small exhibits on The European Community and Adenauer – took place in the European Court of Justice building. Among the judges and other officials, Mrs. Fidelma O'Kelly Macken, the Irish judge at the European Court of Justice, had come as the Irish representative. She took great interest in the exhibit, and I explained the sections to her. She especially liked the Mulreadies and the definitive stamps which she remembered from her own letters. Also the postal orders, although being so rare, were well known to her because she had often used them. She acknowledged that a lot of work had been done, and my answer to her question why I built up this exhibit was: It is the contribution of a philatelic society to a special aspect of Ireland.

After some weeks the exhibit was brought to the European Commission building where it remained for ten days.

The political meaning of the exhibit causes some interest in Germany. But I think it should mainly be of interest in Ireland how a philatelic society like FAI portrays the activities of the Irish Post Office. I am pleased to learn from the STAMPA organizer Kevin Drury that the exhibit will be shown in the non-competition class of STAMPA 2004. ♣

The Rare 1934 2d Coil Stamp – Forgery

by Bill Fletcher

Since 2003, a range of modern forgeries of scarce stamps is being offered at auction by Roger West of Phoenix International. Roger is a noted collector and has had an interest in forgeries. He is the editor of "Madame Joseph Forged Postmarks" by Derek Warboys.

Among the "Maryland" forgeries, named presumably after Maryland in the USA, are forgeries of the rare coil stamp; the 1934 2d grey green Map stamp wmk "SE", perforation 15 x imperf. [S.G. 74b]

The forgeries are on white ungummed paper and the perforation is 10.75 x imperf. The forgery is paler than the genuine and the print course. The stamp size is 18.0mm x 22.5mm for the forgery whereas the genuine is 18.5mm x 22.0mm. The forgery seen has a large FORGERY in an enclosed oval hand stamped in green on the reverse. ♣



STAMPA 2004 – October 1-3, 2004

32nd Irish National Stamp Exposition

More information as it becomes available.

King George V - Solid Shading to Left of HALFPENNY

by Bill Fletcher

John Mullen draws attention (*Irish Philately*, March 2004) to this variety which occurs on the overprinted 1/2d value Row 20 stamp 1 (not row 10 as mentioned by Mullen).

This variety cannot be the variety catalogued in the Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Specialised Catalogue (Volume 2 – The Four Kings) and listed by Gibbons as:

1/2d Green. Cat no. N14n 'Solid Shading to left of HALFPENNY'

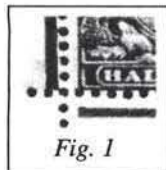


Fig. 1

Gibbons states this variety occurs on Plate 36b which was used with controls I16 and J17. It is currently priced at £40. There are no records of sheets of GB stamps with such early control numbers being used for overprinting for use in Ireland 1922-23 so the variety he shows cannot be the same as the SG catalogued variety.

A similar variety (Fig. 1) to that listed in the SG catalogue occurs on the stamps overprinted and I have examples in control blocks of 6 of the following:

- Thom 5 line Control T22 Overprint settings 8 and 9
- Thom 3 line Control T22 Overprint setting 5
- Control U22 Overprint setting not know (Mullen)
- Control U23 Overprint setting 3 and 5

On the unoverprinted GB stamps it also occurs on V23. I have not seen this variety on the Dollards or Thom wide issues. I have unsuccessfully tried to state on which plate this variety occurs on the overprinted stamps. This variety warrants catalogue status.

Plating the base GB stamps is not easy and the SG Specialised catalogue is the best guide. The printer inserted cuts and marks in the marginal rules (Jubilee lines) mostly in the control block area of the plates and these are listed in this catalogue which gives the plates used with the control numbers used. However, my control blocks with the error show no cuts or marks in the control block

(Fig. 2) so, by a process of elimination, the plate might be plate 70 as this plate has no cuts in the margins of the control piece. However, our listing is not complete. Fig. 3 shows a strip of 1/2d control T22 (identical to Fig. 2) unoverprinted with this variety on R20/1 and with a 'cut' in the marginal rule on Row 20/5, but this area is not covered by the SG catalogue. This may help us to plate this vari-

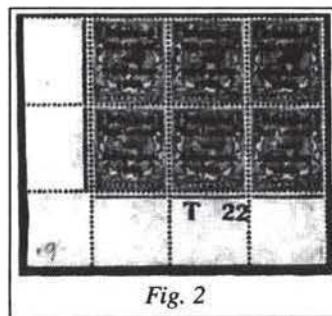


Fig. 2

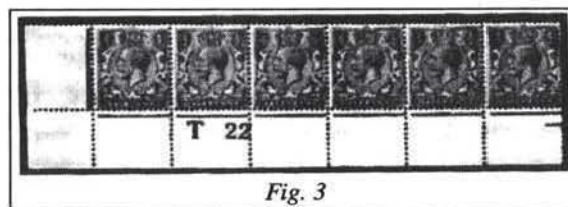


Fig. 3

ety; can any collector help with similar blocks with the variety?

The SG listing is not 100% correct and the numbering of the plates are those given by philatelists and not the printer!

Another similar variety also occurs in the same position (R20/1) on the 11/2d value. I have this on the Thom 3 line on control U22, but the error is not so pronounced. My example cannot be plated. Why this variety should occur in the same position is not known. Examples of over inking on R20/1 are often seen.

Stanley Gibbons recommends the KGV plate markings are best collected in bottom row strips of 12 or larger! An impossible task but no doubt they are right! ♣

Bill Kane – A Personal Tribute

by M.P. Giffney



I first met Bill Kane when I was a teenager in 1947 and was privileged to have known him right up to his 95th year.

He was a musician, an animal lover, a philatelist, and last but by no means least, a devoted and loving husband to Posie. They were blessed with four sons. Sadly, Frank is the last survivor of his wonderful family, though there are grandchildren.

He received numerous philatelic honors in his lifetime. He was noted for his openness in sharing his knowledge with collectors and wrote many articles and studies. I published his work on the Postmarks of Dublin in 1981 and feel sure in the years to come many more of Bill's studies will see the light of day.

He will be sadly missed by all who were privileged, as I was, to have known him. ♣

A Surprising Find

by Michael Priestley

I was recently examining the catalogue of David Feldman's sale of Dr. Cyril Dulin's splendid collection of Irish stamps held in Geneva on May 7, 2004. Imagine my astonishment to find that Lot 20123 was a cover addressed by my grandmother in Ireland to my mother in London!

I have no idea how the cover came to be a philatelic item, estimated in the sale to fetch 400 Swiss Francs, and which actually realized 800 SF. I wonder what my grandmother would have said had she known that her envelope would become so expensive! ♣



Irish-American Support for Irish Independence in the early 1900s

by George Nicholson

By the early 1900s, the Irish were becoming assimilated into the mainstream of American society. However, despite their new status, they continued to maintain a strong interest in Irish affairs particularly in the Home Rule and Independence movements. Some surviving postal items show aspects of this and since the period included the heyday of the postcard, several examples of that are included.

United Irish League cover - Boston, 1902

The United Irish League¹ had been formed in Co. Mayo by William O'Brien in 1898 to agitate for the redistribution of land in Ireland. An American branch was provisionally established by its President, John Redmond, in New York on December 24, 1901 and was ratified at the first National Convention held in Boston on October 20-21, 1902. Some of the League's goals were met by Wyndham's 1903 Land Act and it lost further support when Redmond supported Ireland's involvement in World War I. It declined sharply after 1916 and its Dublin offices closed in 1920.



The cover, postmarked Boston, Oct. 13, 1902, was mailed just one week before the National Convention referred to above and may well have been a reminder of the importance of attending.

Nationalist cover - Chanute, Kansas, 1916



This cover, mailed on June 27, 1916 from a small Kansas town, was almost certainly some form of protest regarding the aftermath of the Easter Rebellion in April. The execution of the leaders in particular was the cause of much anger. The following aspects suggest that it is from someone supporting Irish Nationalism.

- The stamps are inverted. This was a common form of protest in Ireland where stamps showing the monarch's head were

routinely applied upside down, and the practice appears to have been carried over to the U.S., at least in this example. There is little doubt the application is deliberate as all three stamps are neatly added - straight up and down.

- It is addressed solely to the queen of Ireland, Dublin, with a small "q" The address resulted in an "Insufficiently Addressed" handstamp being applied in Dublin. Queen Victoria had actually died fifteen years earlier, so the sender either did not know or deliberately addressed it incorrectly; "Her Majesty" is misspelled, underlined and in brackets, maybe deliberately.

The cover received an Emergency Handstamp in Dublin on July 14, and presumably due to the inadequate address, was sent to the Dead Letter Office. However, despite being sent in the middle of World War I and soon after the Easter Rebellion, it shows no signs of having been censored.

War of Independence cover - Austin, Minnesota, 1921

This cover, mailed in Austin, Minnesota shows a green label tied by a March 27 1921 cancellation, with "Freedom for Ireland" and "With God's Help And Yours" above and below a harp. The cover and an enlarged version of the label are shown below.



This cover was mailed during what became known as the Irish War of Independence, and was presumably from an Irish member of the Sisters of St. Francis in Austin to someone in Winton, California. Undoubtedly the label was produced by Irish-American supporters of the Independence movement. An article in the Spring 1996 issue of the Revealer², from a member in Chicago, and the closeness of Chicago to Austin, suggest that it may have originated there, but that is speculation.

Poster Stamp - San Francisco, 1917

This poster stamp, produced in San Francisco in 1917 by Father Paul Anderson, provides a quotation from then President Woodrow Wilson, 28th President of the United States (1913 to 1921). The design features an American eagle in front of an American pennant and an Irish flag above a quotation from Wilson's speech on April 2, 1917 when he asked Congress to declare war on Germany.





The two key figures involved in this poster stamp both had Irish connections. Wilson's grandfather, James Wilson, came from Dergalt, Co. Tyrone (near Strabane). He emigrated from Londonderry to Philadelphia in 1807. The ancestral home is now a tourist attraction.

Father Paul Anderson³, the publisher of the stamp, was a priest in the Archdiocese of San Francisco from 1909 to 1926. During that time, he served in the nearby parish communities of Oakland, Tracy and Morgan Hill. In 1917, when the stamp design was copyrighted, he was Assistant Pastor in St. Patrick's Church in San Francisco. In 1926, Father Anderson returned to his native Indiana where he served as a priest for another twenty years.

Irish-American Friendship cards - Boston, 1907



The postcard flourished as a means of communication, especially between 1900 and the beginning of World War I. At that time, it was the equivalent of the telephone - as speedy and reliable postal delivery allowed it to be - used to keep in touch and, sometimes, to even make appointments on the evening which it was sent.

Understandably, the picture-side of postcards was used for all sorts of promotions and the Irish-American connection was one of these. Postcard publishers found a ready market amongst the Irish-American community for cards expressing the close association between Ireland and the U.S.A. These are best referred to as Irish-American Friendship Cards, and the American and Irish flags were common inclusions.

This example was mailed in Boston by "Bridget" on Feb. 9, 1907 to a friend in Walpole, Massachusetts.

St. Patrick's Day postcard - Detroit, 1909

St. Patrick's Day greeting cards were popular and often featured humor and Nationalist aspects. The example shown below, published by Fred C. Lounsbury, an American publisher, shows a humorous version of Ireland being separated



from the British mainland and being sailed towards America. This card was mailed in Detroit on March 17, 1909 to someone in Trenton, Michigan.

The above items provide insights into Irish-American life a century ago. Although they are likely only a small part of surviving material, they do show the involvement of the Irish-American community in the Independence movement that was underway in the early 1900s.

Endnotes

1. Information on the United Irish League came from www.bklyn-genealogy-info.com/Society/UnitedIrish.html and from S.J. Connolly (ed.), *The Oxford Companion to Irish History*, Oxford University Press, 1998.
2. Richard T. Crowe, "Three Irish Republican Mysteries", *The Revealer*. No. 202, Spring 1996, p. 74.
3. Information on Father Anderson was obtained from the San Francisco Archdiocese Church Archives and the History Centre of the San Francisco Public Library. ♣

Irish First Day Covers: Chapter Two - Shannon to GAA

by Paddy Lineen

In the first chapter we saw the extent of material available to form an interesting collection of FDCs from the O'Connell issue only. Now we will look at the issues that followed in the next few years, in less depth, but bearing in mind that they also provide a wealth of other opportunities for expansion into other avenues.



Fig. 1

The Irish Post Office, or Department of Posts and Telegraphs as it then was, had a very conservative attitude to the issuing of new stamps in the first half of the twentieth century. In the first thirty years of its existence as an independent state Ireland issued only twenty-one new stamps, less than one issue per annum. This made it easy for collectors to keep up to date and acquire new

stamps at a very reasonable cost, but it did not stimulate a lot of interest and resulted in a general apathy towards the hobby. So there are not a large number of the earlier issues to be found on FDC. It is likely that most issues up to the GAA of 1934 would have only two to three hundred FDC copies extant. This of course means that they are relatively scarce, and so expensive (Fig. 1).

This is especially true of the Shannon issue of 1930. The earlier O'Connell issue of 1929 stimulated a lot of interest. Its theme was popular, nationalistic in the new State, and the design was fairly normal and acceptable for the day. The Shannon stamp was rather different. It marks the development of hydroelectric power from the Ardnacrusha generating plant, an unusual event to appear on a stamp; it was printed in a single value in a dull brown color and the design is not overly attractive. But the main cause of its scarcity is the confusion over the date of issue. Nowadays, this is unquestionably accepted as the 15th of October, but for a number of years, there was considerable confusion. A notice had appeared in the newspapers announcing the new issue for the 16th Oct, and it appears that this may have been the intention of the Postal authorities. However, supplies had been sent to many Offices for the 15th and they were sold by many offices on that day and collectors had bought and mailed them as FDCs. Later it was listed in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue as having been issued on the 17th Oct, which further added to the confusion. The number of covers cancelled on the 15th eventually led to acceptance of this date as the genuine date, whether intended as such by the Post Office or not. The copy illustrated here was cancelled on that date, and is generally regarded as a "proper" FDC. Yet I feel a collection is not quite complete without a cover dated 16th (Fig. 2), which is also shown with a postcard (Fig. 3) from the series showing the construction of the generating plant. A set of these, or other similar cards, adds depth to the collection. It would be nice to find a set of the cards used with the stamps on FDI, but I have not yet seen such an item.

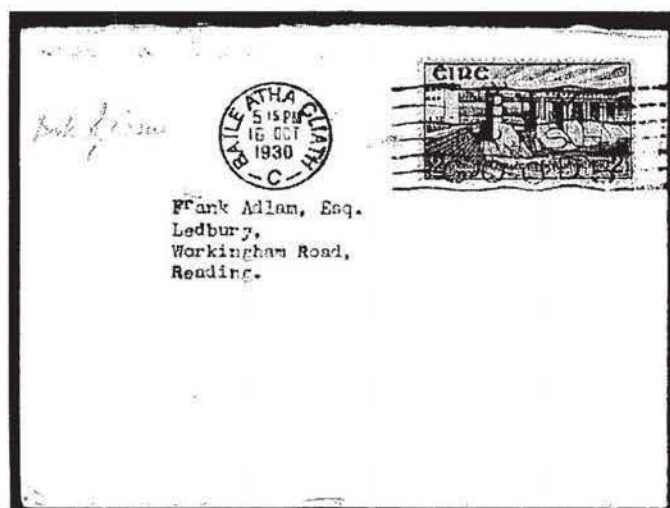


Fig. 2

Most of the FDCs of this issue have been cancelled in Dublin. It was considered that possibly the stamps had only been circulated to the Dublin Offices for the 15th, but at least one example is known of the cover cancelled in Port Laoighse on the 15th. Also most collectors and dealers of the 1920s and 30s were in the capital. The

cover cancelled in Port Laoighse was by the dealer G. Jessop.

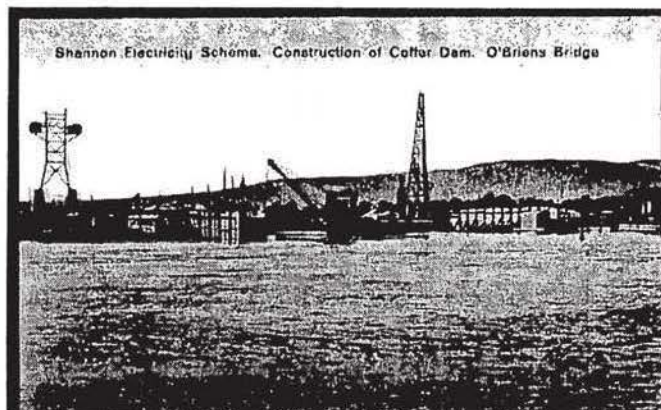


Fig. 3

1931 saw the printing of a single 2d stamp commemorating the Royal Dublin Society's bicentenary. It was printed in blue to honor the Society whose flag is blue. This design by George Atkinson depicts a scytheman and reflects the original aim of the society for "the improvement of husbandry and other useful arts". Two examples are illustrated here, the first (Fig. 4),



Fig. 4

a cover bearing a single 2d stamp mailed to the United States and clearly cancelled in Dublin. It also bears the slogan "Ireland for Holidays". The second cover has a corner block of six stamps on a registered cover cancelled at Droichead na Dothra or in English BALLSBRIDGE, the locale of the headquarters of the RDS. The reverse of this cover has both single and double ring cancels. (Fig. 5, 6)

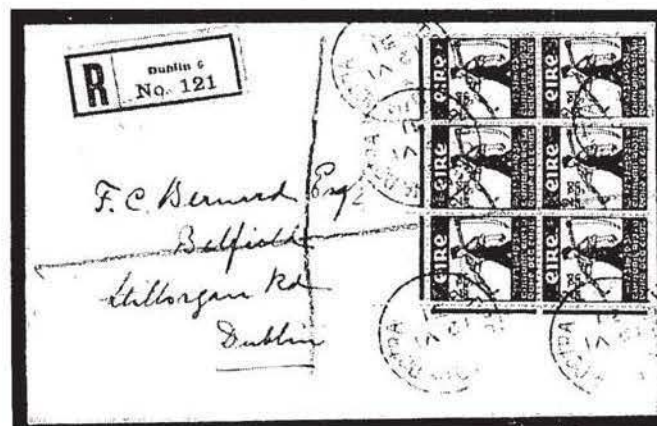


Fig. 5

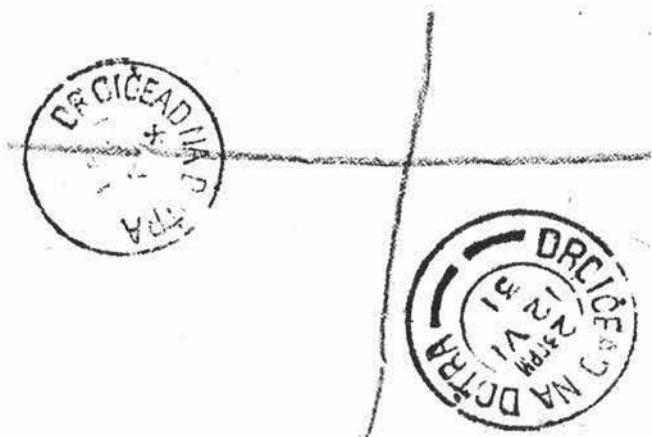


Fig. 6

The International Eucharistic Congress held in Dublin in 1932 was the occasion for the next issue. Geo Atkinson was again the designer, and the pair of cards shown here with a single stamp on each have been signed by the designer. On the reverse of these cards are some interesting (and rather disparaging) remarks about George. (Fig. 7,8)



Fig. 7

A cover with blocks of four and a typed address (Fig. 9) has a rather unclear cancel on FDI despite the pencilled instruction to "Kindly cancel without smudging", and each block has been struck four times. The Post Office clerk seems to have been enthusiastic!!

The blocks of four Holy Year stamps (Fig. 10) on the registered cover to North Wales in 1933 was treated much more kindly with a single strike on the 3d and two strikes on the 2d. An advantage of the Registration is the absolutely perfectly clear strike of the DOI on the reverse (Fig. 11)

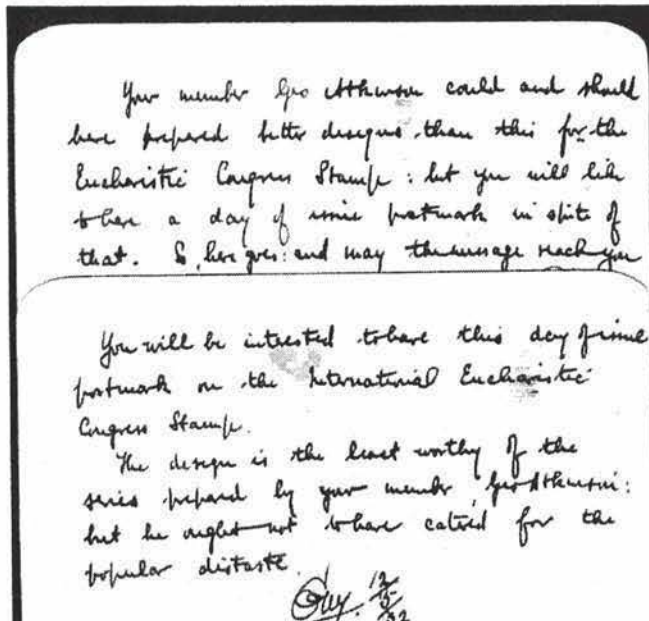


Fig. 8

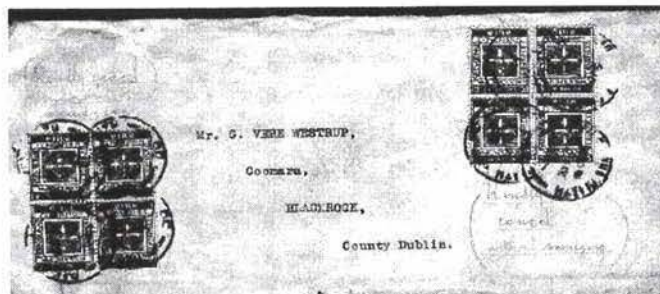


Fig. 9



Fig. 10

A second interesting cover is that airmailed by Charles Bourke (of whom more later) to Rome. This is an early example of an Irish Airmail, posted at Waterford (Port Lairige) on 18th September, arriving in Berlin on the 20th and Rome and Vatican City on 21st (Fig. 12).

The final cover to be looked at in this chapter is the GAA issue of 1934. This issue is at a watershed of FDC production in Ireland. It is the first Commemorative for which an illustrated cover

was produced. The cover in question was prepared by Charles Bourke of Waterford, one of whose covers we have already seen. The "Cachet" or Illustration is a simple inscription on the left lower corner of the envelope, printed in green ink. Such covers are sometimes described as "semi display", a term which sounds somewhat inadequate. It is meant to convey that the cachet applied contains text only, and no picture

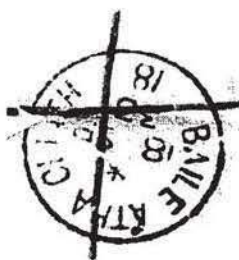


Fig. 11



Fig. 12

or illustration (Fig. 13). Bourke was the first person to make such covers for Irish commemoratives, and these early ones are much sought after. A second example of the same cover was posted at sea on the day of issue, but the cancel applied was next day at Holyhead as the mailboat did not dock until after midnight (Fig. 14). Such a cover may be unique.

The final illustration in this chapter is of a piece bearing three

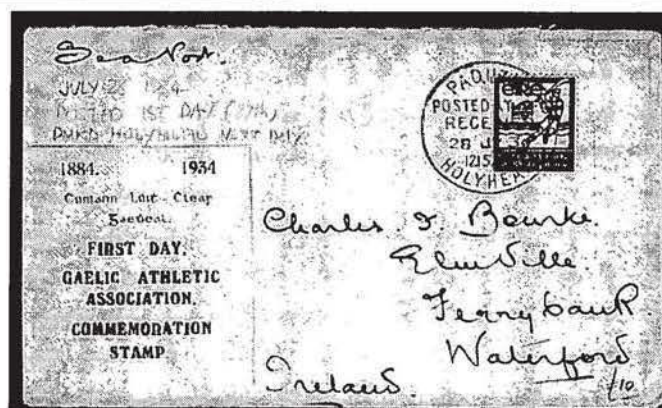


Fig. 14

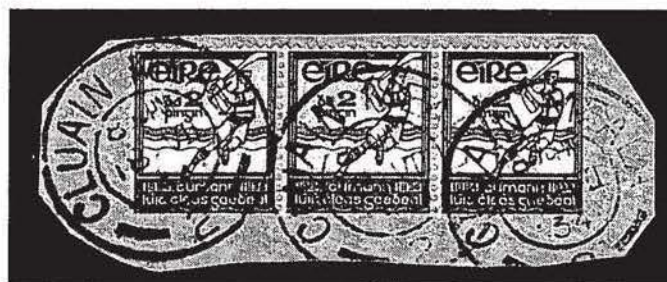


Fig. 15

The first six issues of Irish Commemoratives are sometimes criticized for lack of imagination and flair. They are the product of a country still in recuperation from a war of independence and a bitter Civil War. It was trying to establish a National Identity, an independence in economic affairs and to hold on to its roots in a world from which it was largely isolated, both geographically and economically. The outside world was changing rapidly and the new small state found it difficult to keep up. The stamps issued in these years convey a sense of introverted Nationality and self-consciousness. They are a micro picture of a small country struggling to modernize and yet striving to retain its inherent Irishness and Catholicity.

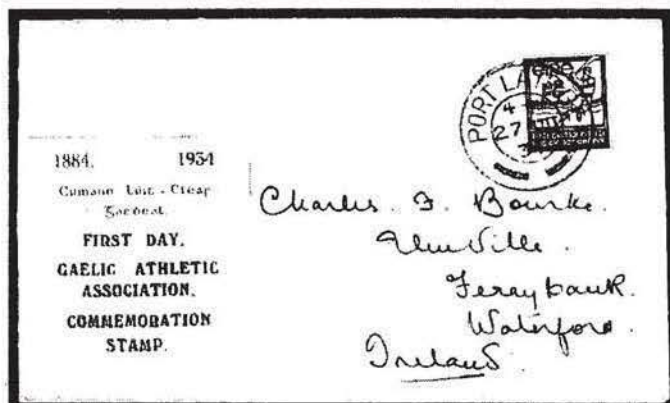


Fig. 13

GAA stamps cancelled at Clonmel on the 18th of July, nine days before the official date of issue (Fig. 15). This was presented as a pre-issue cancel. However it is much more likely that the error was in failure to change the date slug, or insertion of the wrong slug in the Clonmel office on or after the date of issue. It is unlikely that they could have had a stock of the stamps as early as the 18th of July. This, of course, is speculation and would be practically impossible to verify.

Dues are overdue.

If you haven't paid your
2004-2005 dues, they are
now overdue
(as of 31 August 2004).

Send them to:

Barney Clancey

P.O. Box 3036

Seminole, FL 33775-3036

Irish Newspaper Wrappers

by William O'Connor

In over thirty years of collecting Irish philatelic material, I have acquired only three complete privately printed newspaper wrappers. I have a few of the early cut squares of the 1920s through 1950s with the pre-printed harp firmly imprinted: the paper being very thin and very fragile, and easily damaged. In addition, I have a couple of complete Queen Victoria types with nice Londonderry and Dublin postmarks.

The Irish wrappers in my collection all have the one penny red map of Ireland stamp, dated in the 1930s, and all sent to the United States of America. The first item (Fig. 1) comes from *The Western People*, Ballina, Co. Mayo, Eire. This newspaper began in 1883, and from my accounts, it is still published.

The second wrapper (Fig. 2) is from *The Irish Press*, Ireland's Greatest Newspaper, Burgh Quay, Dublin. Began in 1931, this paper was a major player in the newspaper business in Ireland. Over 100,000 copies of this paper were printed in the late 1930s. *The Sunday Press*, and the *Evening Press* were spin-offs of the original newspaper. The whole group of newspapers went into liquidation in September of 1995. Like many parts of the world, fewer and fewer newspapers are available in our cities and towns today.

The last wrapper (Fig. 3) is from the *Irish Independent*, Ireland's National Newspaper. This Dublin-based paper was founded in the last decade of the 19th century as the *Daily Irish Independent*. It was re-launched a decade or so later with its current name. I found the *Sunday Independent* on line and it appears to be a very vibrant paper today. One interesting aspect of this wrapper is the listing of the winter address of the Ringling Brothers' Circus in Sarasota, Florida in the 1930's.

I would hope many more of these kinds of newspaper wrappers are available. If families are like mine, however, most of the daily mail does not get saved, and very few items are saved for posterity. ♣

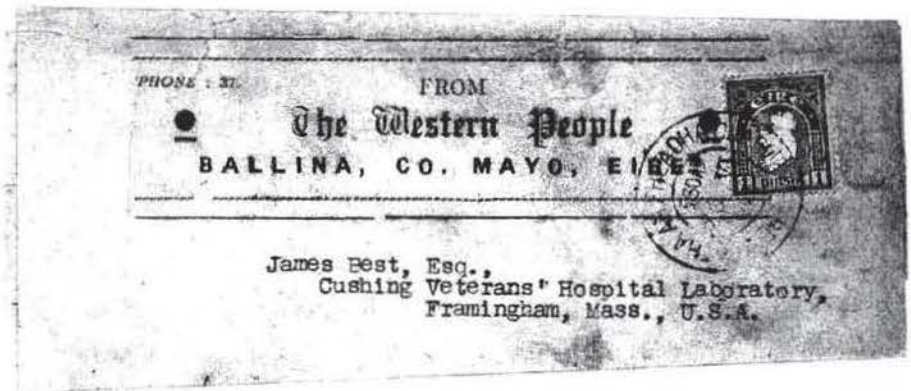


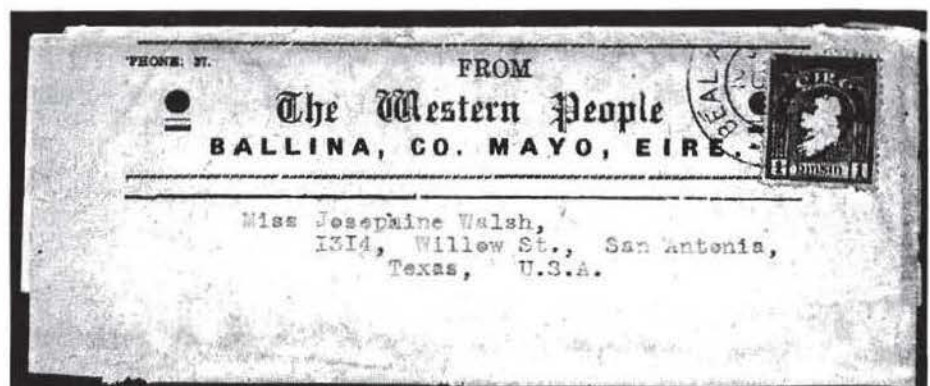
Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



From the collection of Patrick J. Ryan, Sr.

Project Exhibit Ireland

by Patrick J. Ryan, Sr.

As I was editing this issue of *The Revealer*, I thought that it might be a good time to provide a boost to help some of our members to consider exhibiting their Irish stamps, Postal History and Stationery. Many of us have trouble setting up or organizing an exhibit. I am sure that at least some of you have thought about displaying your treasures, but have not taken the plunge for lack of knowledge of how to present it.

One of the solutions to the problem is to give you some ideas on how to approach this problem. Therefore, I have asked some known exhibitors to send me their First Pages and Synopsis Pages for publication. I will print them as space permits in future issues.

In the meantime, here are some preliminary entries. Please feel free to write to me and ask your questions. Those of you who might have something to contribute, please send them to me.

The Railway Letter Stamps of Ireland

by Dave Brennan

This exhibit covers all of the railways in Ireland that issued stamps for conveyance of letters during the period of 1890 through 1920.

Some of the material is extremely scarce since some of the railways considered this aspect of their revenue so minute that records of stamp inventory and activity is difficult – sometimes, no records exist.

If it were not for the ambitious stamp dealer Herbert La Estrate Ewen of London, much of the information we have today would not have existed at all. He died in 1916, and twenty-nine years later, Sydney Turner and A.J. Ecclestone continued his studies.

The only railway not shown in this exhibit is the Kanturk and Newmarket Railway which was in operation for a period of one year – 1891. A few bogus stamps were printed for Ewen at that time. Currently, I am participating in research at the British Library from their Philatelic Collection section on this area. No know covers have shown up at auctions in the last forty or fifty years.

Since my last exhibit in Dublin, I have obtained substantial material from the Ivan Edmundson's gold award-winning exhibit, which went to auction at Cavandish in London this past year.

Last item not all of the printings of the various lithographers have been shown since in most cases the same tablets and shade of ink were used in the different printings. Showing all the printings would make the exhibit quite redundant.

Attached is a map of the Great Southern & Western Railway with its links for your use in reviewing my exhibit. I did not include this in the exhibit as it would take up a page which I felt could be used more effectively in my display of important material.

Sample of Exhibit First Page

IRISH POSTAL STATIONERY STAMPED TO ORDER

Introductory Remarks

Description of this Field of Collecting

Literature Used and Other Help

Page 1

Page 1

Structure of the Exhibit

1 Commercial Post of Companies

1.1 With Imprinted Address

1.2 With Imprinted Sender

1.2.1 Issues of Firms and Companies

1.2.2 Without Address and Sender

1.2.3 With British Stamps

1.2.4 Newspaper Wrappers

Pages 2 - 17

Pages 2 - 5

Pages 6 - 17

Pages 6 - 14

Page 15

Pages 16 - 17

2 Commercial Post of Supply Companies

2.1 Issues of the Cork Gas Company

2.2 Issues of the Electricity Supply Board

2.2.1 Meter Reading

2.2.2 Installation and Reparation of Meters within Dublin

2.2.3 Installation and Reparation of Meters outside Dublin

2.2.4 Temporary Disconnection of Electricity Supply

2.2.5 Internal ESB Envelopes

Pages 18 - 37

Pages 18 - 21

Pages 22 - 37

Pages 22 - 30

Pages 31 - 32

Pages 32 - 34

Page 34

Pages 35 - 37

3 Proxy Forms

Pages 38 - 42

4 Philatelic Influenced Issues

4.1 Ordered by Philatelic Societies

4.2 Ordered by Individuals

Pages 43 - 46

Pages 43 - 44

Pages 45 - 46

5 Privately Ordered Issues with AN POST Logo

Pages 47 - 48

Sample of Synopsis Page from an exhibit by Otto Jung.

Postal Issues in Ireland

	PAGE
1 Issues before Ireland became politically independent	3
1.1 Before stamps were issued (up to 1840)	3
1.2 British issues cancelled in Ireland (up to 1922)	4
2 The Transition Period (1702 - 31/03/1922)	4
2.1 The provisional issues (overprinted stamps)	5
2.2 The overprinted stamps by DeLall	5
2.3 The overprinted stamps by Thoms and other printing houses	6
4 The first definitive series (1922 - 1968)	7
4.1 The series watermarked SE (1922 - 1940)	7
4.2 The series watermarked B (1940 - 1968)	10
5 Airmail stamps (1948 - 1965)	12
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11.4 Registered envelopes	59
12 Some special items	60

Another Synopsis Page from an exhibit by Otto Jung.