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IN THIS ISSUE

- 46 President's Message
- 48 Spotlight on Postage Dues
- 49 Annual General Meeting Notes
- 51 Association Awards
- 52 Article on Exhibiting
- 55 Jack White Stamp Update
- 59 Special Offers

Happy New Year!



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Since you have received your Autumn issue much has happened within the ÉPA. Our Annual Meeting was held at Sescal in Los Angeles; the Stampa show was in Dublin; Annual EPA awards were issued, and continuing finds of the infamous Capt. Jack White stamp are circulating. In this Winter issue you will see reports on all of these activities and more.

For the Annual Meeting, two particular individuals, Bill O'Connor and Darryl Templer served as our local organizing committee and did a tremendous job with the hospitality and keeping the rest of us on task. Both Bill and Darryl represented the EPA at its best and deserve our heartfelt thanks. Thank you!

In addition to Stampa, two other major shows ASDA Winter show in New York and Chicagopex were held. At the ASDA two members exhibited Irish material.

CHAPTER COORDINATORS

The Association Secretary provides Coordinators with names and addresses of new members. Coordinators welcome new members and invite them to join the local Chapter.

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Coordinator: William A. O'Connor,
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Quarter Page	3.625 X 4.875	\$50	\$180
Eighth Page	3.625 X 2.50	\$30	\$105

CAMERA READY COPY REQUIRED**Contact Richard Kelly at kellyrd@sbcglobal.net**

Spotlight on Postage Dues

Submitted by Liam Malone



This mourning cover was a featured item in the MacDonnell-Whyte Summer auction. The 1922 cover from Canada to Dublin was prepaid with 3c stamp, which was the Canadian domestic rate. Thus a surcharge was added and is shown by three markings: the circular blue T2, the circular black T 30, meaning 30 gold centimes, equal to 1 1/2d, also the 1 1/2d TO PAY 186—186 being the Dublin number. What makes the cover extraordinary is the combination of the British 1d stamp that was used during the Transition period until the Irish post office printed their own postage due labels in 1925 along with a 1/2d 1922 Dollard overprint. Both labels are tied by a Rathfarnham, County Dublin postmark on March 20, 1922. This is an unusual and perhaps a unique extant use of the 1/2d used as a postage due during a time when the actual 1/2d postage due labels were in short supply.

This cover was postmarked July 1, 1956, in Dun Laoghaire, Ireland using a 2 1/2d Queen Elizabeth II stamp. An Irish postal clerk caught the illegal use of this British stamp on Irish mail and instead of letting it pass through the mail and cancelling the stamp, the clerk circled the stamp and hand stuck the framed 6D/ TO PAY/ 289-289 was the code of Kingstown of old, which became Dun Laoghaire after independence. In England postal authorities added two British postage due labels to collect the fee presumably from the Lancashire resident H. W. Lee. But it appears the postal carrier could not deliver or collect the fee and wrote in pink ink No Ans, for 'no answer' and then his or her initials under.



This postcard mailed to a Dublin hotel by a Chris, who is telling Miss McCurdy of a safe arrival at his or her destination, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan. Chris must be a tourist in Northern Ireland because the scene is of a street in Navan. There or nearby he purchased British stamps and then crossed into the Republic and used the stamp in Ireland. The Irish post office noticed the illegal use of the stamp and affixed two postage due labels to collect the fee. The circular post mark is in the Irish language.

2014 Annual General Meeting of the Éire Philatelic Association

The 2014 AGM of the ÉPA was held in Los Angeles, California in conjunction with the 70th Annual Stamp Exhibition of Southern California (SESCAL), October 17-19.

The ÉPA had its Board meeting on October 16th, and its AGM on October 18th. Approximately 20 ÉPA members attended the meeting. Our next AGM will be at Chicagopex 2015 I Itasca IL, November 20-22.

Board matters included a report on the new website, the results of the recent election, use (or non- use) of the John Blessington Memorial Library, the need to increase membership and solicit new articles for the Revealer.

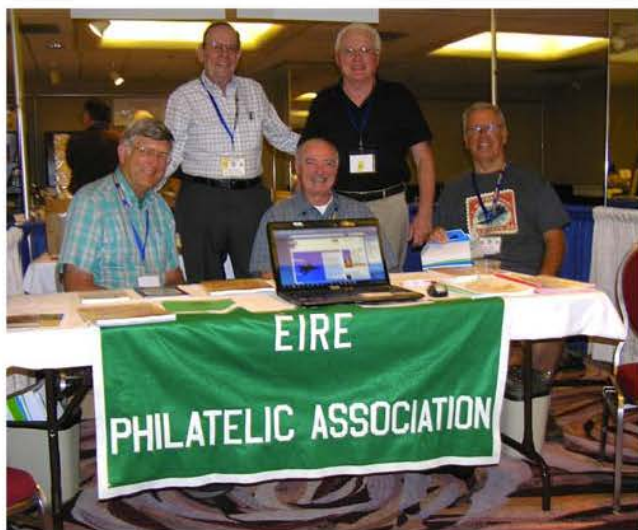
Special thanks go to Bill O'Connor and Daryl Templer of the Southern California Chapter of the ÉPA (SOCAL) for their wonderful hospitality suite, which had a different food theme each evening. On Friday members gathered at the Chalet Edelweiss Restaurant and Bar for the traditional dinner.

On Saturday, members had time to view the numerous exhibits, which included four exhibits on Irish material. Bill O'Connor had an interesting three-frame postcard exhibit on "A Visit to Ireland and The International Exhibition, Dublin, 1907 as Seen Through the Picture Postcards of the Time." Bill also participated in a one-frame exhibit in the exhibition area on Irish Numerical Cancells. Ray Murphy had a one-frame exhibit on "Official Mail of the Irish Provisional Government and the Irish Free State."

Our AGM was brought to order by President Rich Kelly with a moment of silence for two deceased members, Alf Berz-tiss (2691) and Charles McGuire (2825). The membership is relatively constant, which perhaps is a good sign in view of decreasing membership in other societies. As membership initiatives, we will be our best revealer article to the APS "Articles of Distinction" program and also be entering our new website in the APS Web Site Competition. Our Treasurer reported that dues are not covering the cost of the four Revealers, due to increases printing and postage costs. The fun part of the meeting was the presentation of the ÉPA Service Awards, which will be reported by Ray Murphy, our Awards Chairman. Director Bill O'Connor gave a well-illustrated presentation on "The Numerical Cancells of Ireland, 1855-1892." Numerical cancells were used to identify towns throughout Ireland, much as we use zip codes today. Bill displayed a fine assortment of reference books that he uses in his research.

The ÉPA had a full table at the SESCAL banquet on Saturday evening, where the Palmares were distributed. The accompanying photos will give you a flavor for this fine meeting.

John B. Sharkey
ÉPA Secretary



PHILATELIC AWARDS

by Raymond Murphy

The philatelic jury at the SESCAL show presented the following awards for competitors:

VERMEIL: "Official Mail of the Irish Provisional Government and The Irish Free State" by Ray Murphy

SILVER BRONZE: "A Visit to Ireland and The Irish International Exhibition, Dublin, 1907, as seen through picture postcards of the time" by Bill O'Connor

In addition, the jury selected Ray Murphy's "Official Mail of the Irish Provisional Government and The Irish Free State" as the Best Irish Single Frame exhibit.

THE MERCER BRISTOW AWARDS for new exhibits and the most improved exhibits were to Bill O'Connor and Ray Murphy..

EPA SERVICE AWARDS

by Raymond H. Murphy

The Annual General Meeting of the EPA provided the opportunity for the group to recognize members for their contributions to the society. This year two service awards and one award for the Most popular *Revealer* article were presented by Awards Chairman Ray Murphy.

THE THOMAS EDWIN FIELD AWARD is presented to a person who has made an outstanding philatelic contribution to the area of Irish philately. This award was presented to Paul Bento. Paul is our current librarian and historian, and is working on a solution as to how our archives may be preserved. He has served both as President and Vice-President. He has written *Revealer* articles and exhibits Irish perfins. He also collects advertising stamps of the Dublin Horse Show.

THE JOHN J. CLARK AWARD is presented to an EPA member who has done outstanding service for the Association. A member may win this award only once. Our current secretary, John Sharkey, was presented this award for his work on developing specifications for a new web site, developing the project with the contractor, and training area managers in its use.

THE VINCENT A. LINNELL AWARD is presented for the best article in a single volume of the official journal, *The Revealer*, as determined by a vote of the membership. This year's award was to Bob Benninghoff for his article "*Father Matthias Bodkin and the 2d Vertical Coil (Scott 686) Used at Naas: A Second Look*".



Left: Awards Chair Ray Murphy and president Rich Kelly accept the Vincent A. Linnell Award for Bob Benninghoff.

Right: President Rich Kelly presents the John J. Clark Award for outstanding service to John Sharkey



THE REITERATIVE PROCESS OF EXHIBITING IRISH MATERIAL

by Raymond Murphy

Developing an exhibit is a challenge. In starting, let me say I am ***NOT*** an expert on exhibiting, but I have sufficient experience on how not to do it. I'd like to share some thoughts in order to encourage others to exhibit. There are several steps, but the first, and most important is considering what to show and how to effectively do it. What is the goal? Do I want to show all of the overprint errors or just those on the 2d stamp? Do I want to do a topical, such as the Viking influence on Ireland? Perhaps postal history, postcards, or aerophilately? Or something else?

A significant and important task is to read the APS Judges Manual for that particular genre of exhibit. It is available free on the web at WWW.Stamps.org. I usually print out what I need since it contains many useful guidelines.

My next step is to obtain the best appropriate material in the best condition possible. Do I have ALL the overprint errors? Or just a lot?? Are there enough items connecting the Vikings to Ireland or is it necessary to alter my goal? This most likely will cause me to review my exhibit goal, and maybe revise it.

From here on out, I have found that things become reiterative, that is, I have to go back and review my previous decisions, and possibly change them when I am selecting material or writing it up. Does the picture of a Norse longboat really belong there?

Now to make an outline. This helps me to find out what goes where, or importantly, what belongs elsewhere! This organization is important - it helps you and it helps your audience understand what you are attempting to do.

The physical development of the exhibit is also a reiterative process. I have often found I couldn't get everything on a page where it belonged. What is important? Can I cut the words? The Irish are infamous for being loquacious. Can my audience read all that, or could it be condensed into a short sentence? If in doubt, cut it, then condense it! Brevity is very important, otherwise you will lose the reader's attention.

The title page is the most important page in the exhibit. (Figure 1) Here is where I tell what I am doing in a short concise wording, and tell my reader how I am reaching that goal. There are numerous books and article in the philatelic press on how to prepare the title page. Some are useful, others less so. I have found articles in the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) magazine *Philatelic Exhibitor*, and Randy Neil's book The Philatelic Exhibitor's Handbook to be useful. A membership in AAPE is a worthwhile investment

Notice that the type size runs from the largest (the title) to the smallest (the caption on the cover). For the most part, these are done in a serif font (I prefer Garamond, although Times Roman works). I usually make a style guide (Figure 2) for my use so I can remember what to use where. The title page also has an outline, a purpose statement, and notes that are useful to the reader, such as the items matted in green are significant. I've used italic type on words in Irish, and made note of the reasons for missing source info and varied spellings. My goal is to reduce the number of questions being asked.

Is this all there is - NO - it's really only the beginning. There is much to go. As any experienced Irish collector can tell you, things are done differently in Ireland! Why? Because Ireland is different than Britain, the USA, or Europe. *Vive la Difference!* In some cases it becomes important to explain why things are different. For example, Since most industry was concentrated in Dublin, Belfast, or Cork, shipping on the railways in Ireland was mostly outbound produce or cattle while in England, with widely dispersed industries, the flow was different.

A concurrent task is to prepare a synopsis. (Figure 3) This is seen only by the judges, and gives me the chance to point out what is significant, what is different, and why something considered commonplace elsewhere is a rarity in Ireland. I have a chance to highlight what is significant. It also gives me a chance to give my opinions on what should be read (or avoided) in educating the judge on my topic. The sections correspond with the sections of the Uniform Exhibit Evaluation Form which is used to rate the exhibit and give the judge what I consider significant in those areas

One problem that many people create for themselves is waiting until the exhibit is "perfect" before exhibiting it. Actually, they are denying themselves the advice of judges and others who can help you make your exhibit better. It also signals dealers as to what kind of material you are seeking. You may also find contact information regarding other people exhibiting the same or similar subject. Bottom line: show it early, listen to the judge's comments, then go to the frames with them to clearly understand what is meant. This is a reiterative process.

Finally, have I told you everything you need to know? Of course not! You can read all about bicycle riding, but when one first does it, it becomes a rapid physical learning process. Like bicycling, it becomes necessary to pick up and try again when you fall. Only by repetition and reiteration will an exhibit develop into something you can be proud of.

Official Mail of the Provisional Government and the Irish Free State 1922—1937

The transition from a province to a country is not orderly; however, the government must operate during and after the transition. Ireland had a Post Office, but the stamps, and designs came from England. The priority was to have Irish stamps and stationery, or, at least, remove the Crown. This exhibit shows the transition from a provisional government to the Irish Free State as seen on official mail. The two important points of official mail, the national identification and the logo, had to be changed. The national identity, which was printed, was easily changed with rubber stamps. The logo, which had a drawing of the Irish Harp of Tara, and lettering showing mail was official and paid, was delayed by the Civil War, thus no logos appeared during the ten months of Provisional Government. The first, in August 1923, was on covers of the Irish Free State.

There is no documentation in either the Post Office archives or the National Archives about the development of designs, dates, or volume. It is thought most early stationery was printed in Dublin Castle - budget estimates show fewer than 40,000 envelopes a year were funded before 1930 for the entire government. Logo identification is based on physical characteristics. A logic chart was created to provide a method to distinguish between types. All known types are shown. The time period is from the 1922 Provisional government until the declaration of The Irish Republic in 1937.

Rialtas Sealdac Na hÉireann = Provisional Government 1922
Saorstát Éireann = Free State of Ireland 1922 - 1937

OUTLINE OF EXHIBIT

Title Page	1
National Identification	4
The Logos	
Broad Harp	9
Narrow Harp	2

SIGNIFICANT ITEMS MATTED IN GREEN

NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION

THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND ‡ RIALTAS SEALADACH NA HEIREANN



Earliest known usage of a printed Provisional Government envelope, 6 February 1922. Cancel is the English Official Paid machine cancel in use before the change to Irish language cancels after turnover to the Irish on 1 April 1922..

USAGE	TYPEFACE	SIZE
Title	Garamond bold	23
Subtitle	Times New Roman bold	15
Lead Paragraph	Garamond	13
Outline	Garamond	11
Text	Garamond	12
Significant Items	Arial - 30% green background	10
Main Section Head	Arial Black	14
Captions	Garamond	10
Major Heading Box	Arial - red type, 40% green background	14
Minor Heading Box	Calibri - Black type, 50% orange background	10

Figure 2. Type usage list showing size, typeface, and color details for various usages.

SYNOPSIS

Official Mail of the Irish Provisional Government and the Irish Free State 1921-1937

This single frame exhibit shows all known designs of Irish Official mail printed between 1922 and 1937, although some examples of the designs were used as late as the 1950's. The treaty of December 1921, that ended the War of Independence, created an interim government to facilitate the transfer of functions from the British. The Post Office was one of the later transfers, occurring on 31 March 1922, rapidly followed by the start of the Civil War on April 15. The loss of senior British managers did not greatly hamper day-to-day operations, but did delay functions such as printing new documents, stamps, and envelopes for the Irish Free State.

Envelopes for official mail were not a priority item since there were large quantities of British OHMS material, which, for the most part, was only seen by a small fraction of the public. The largest user was the Post Office itself, followed by Revenue and the Irish Land Commission. Print quantities for official mail were small - quantities of less than 40,000 envelopes per year for the entire government were normal for the early years. Although some data remains in budgetary documents, information for amounts and printers are generally missing from the Irish National Archives - most were recycled during WWII.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Official mail marked the first official manifestation of the establishment an Irish government for the first time in 700 years in February 1922. While of little interest to the collectors of the period, it was a utilitarian necessity, not a highly visible and collectable entity like the overprinted British stamps of 1922 and later, or the well publicized "Map and Sword of Light" Irish definitive stamps of 1923.

SYNOPSIS CONTINUED:

SCOPE:

The exhibit shows all known designs used on official mail from the Provisional Government (1921-1922) and the Irish Free State (1922-1937). These were the formative years of what became the Republic of Ireland.

ORGANIZATION AND TREATMENT:

The layout is basically chronological - the Provisional government (national identification) followed by the Free State identification, then logos; Broad harps followed by the Narrow harps. Within the harp categories, the sequence is by difference in various parameters. Logos were not created until after the formation of the Free State in 1923.

CHALLENGE FACTOR:

Irish official mail is difficult to find, since without stamps, it has been of little interest to collectors. To exacerbate the situation, non-essential paper was recycled during WWII since little paper was received from Canada. This paper shortage is also attributable to the missing printing warrants and other source documents from the Irish National Archives for the period before 1945. This is a small country with a population of less than 5 million in the 1920's, and before 1980 was among the poorest in Europe.

There are no catalogs for this material, and few references. Dulin provides helpful information on the transition period. Kane & Dixon's article of 1968, Sword's articles of 1982-3 and my article of 2006 in *The Revealer* are the most useful. MacKay's book intermixes English and Irish material and does not provide identity characteristics of the material. A book on all Irish Official Mail 1922-1984 is in preparation.

IDENTIFICATION:

In order to identify the different types of logos, it was necessary to identify unique characteristics, thus I developed a method to do so (described in the American Philatelist article) and created a logic tree to categorize each type. The perspective view of the harp, number and type of harp strings and shape of letters were only a few of the characteristics studied.

MATERIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

- Earliest known official mail of the Provisional government
- Usage of *Rialtas* (Provisional government) overprint on OHMS cover
- Double overprint, *Rialtas* and *Saorstat*, (Free State of Ireland) on British official cover
- Oldest known usage of a printed Irish Official logo 15 August 1923
- Official mourning cover

REFERENCES:

Dulin, Dr. C.I., Ireland - Transition, The Postal History of the Transitional Period 1922-1925, MacDonnell-Whyte Ltd, Dublin, 1992. Chapter 12 contains the best summary available of the Transition Period.

Kane, William & Dixon, Fred, "Official Envelopes & Government Franks", *The Revealer*, Supplement 79, April 1968, p162-5. (Not on web site)

MacKay, James A., Official Mail of the British Isles, published by author, 1983.

Update on Withdrawn Citizen Army Stamp Submitted by Liam Malone



Michael Burzan's article in the *Philatelic Exporter* reported that in Ireland some of the now famous Withdrawn Citizen Army stamps were sold in post offices on the day of issue. Some stamps were used in Cork to pay for bills. At the end of January 2014 one full sheet was sold to Raven Stamps for 3,000 Euros.

Some are calling out for An Post to inform the public of how many stamps were actually sold of the 136,000 printed. David MacDonnell estimates that 100-200 were sold.

The GPO started selling the stamps at 8:30 am and other post offices at 9:00 am. Full sheets were sold in Dublin, Smithborough, Dundalk, Moate, Westport, and Cork. Then at 9:10 am an order was sent via email to discontinue the sale of the stamps and return any unsold to Dublin.

It is now believed that the forefront image thought to be Captain Jack is actually that of Vincent Poole, GPO Garrison Irish Citizen Army member who was awarded a medal in 1916 and another during the Civil War.

One extremely lucky EPA member in Florida recently bought some kiloware and discovered the used stamp shown above!

There were two stamps listed on eBay in Fall 2014. One MNH copy sold on November 18 for 676.67 Euros about \$844 with 31 bids. This upper left stamp included the 1B plate numbers in the margin and part of the sheet header. Then much to my surprise a MNH copy with left side margin was listed at 850 Euros and did not sell! This is the first known copy not to have sold.

The 2015 Scott catalog has assigned Scott number 2021 to this stamp. But it does not provide a value.

A recent issue of Linn's included a story about this stamp mentioning yours truly and the *Revealer*. It would be interesting to know where the stamps are. If you have one would please email the editor, you will be kept anonymous and used for statistics to share with members.

Regarding the ad below, Frank Geiger previously wrote to some members announcing his stock of this stamp. The editor has no affiliation with Frank, but suggested running this ad.

IRELAND'S WITHDRAWN JACK WHITE RARITY

The 2014 Citizen Army stamp (Scott 2021) is in stock for immediate delivery. We have Never Hinged (unmounted mint) single stamps, stamps with sheet margins, the top inscription block of 6 and the imprint block of 4 available.

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ASDA

STAMPA 2014 – AWARDS LIST**TRADITIONAL**

1. Bosnia & Herzegovina: The 1906 Definitive Issue	Mike Burrington	Vermeil and Whyte's Trophy
2. Government Life Insurance Stamps	John Greer	Vermeil
3. Flights of Angels	Pat Lynch	Silver

POSTAL HISTORY

4. Germany 1923 Hyperinflation to Revaluation	"PC 49"	Vermeil
5. The Kingdom of Italy and the Great War	David Sweeney	Gold, David Feldman Trophy and F.E. Dixon Shield
6. French Censorship during World War II	Karl Winkelmann	Silver

THEMATIC

7. Marie Curie's Life and Legacy	Brian Callan	Silver
8. Bridging the Divide	Brian Harmon	Vermeil and Charles O'Neill Memorial Trophy

AEROPHILATELY

9. Czechoslovakian Civil Aviation 1923-73	Gerry Byrne	Silver
10. Overprinted Seahorses Used for Airmail Services	Ronny Vogt	Vermeil, W.E. Kane Trophy, Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited Trophy and Joseph E Foley Memorial Medal (Éire Philatelic Association Medal).

OPEN PHILATELY

11. HMAV Bounty	Alan Farrell	Silver
12. Shipping and Cruising in the Caribbean	Norman Finnie	Silver
13. A Celebration of Christmas Traditions	John Fitzsimons	Vermeil and Michael Giffney Salver
14. Elizabeth Regina II	Pat Casey	Vermeil
15. Sarawak	Brian O'Connell	Certificate of Participation

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ONE FRAME

Traditional

16. "Ireland" on the Stamps of Éire

"Peter L. Joseph"

Bronze

17. Italy: Michetti's 1905 Design and its uses

David Sweeney

Silver

18. ½p Machin - Complete Life¹

Christopher Phillips

Bronze

Aerophilately

19. Graf Zeppelin 127 - On Board Mail

Brian Callan

Gold and Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland Trophy.

Open Philately

20. Shanes Park Camp Randalstown World War I

James M. Rankin

21. Aviatix 1909 - 1945²

"Meklin"

Silver

Postal History

22. Irish Tax Marks

Rod Greer

Vermeil and Éire Philatelic Association Certificate

23. Triangular Marks of Ireland

John Lorenzen

Silver

Postal Stationery

24. The Story of Craigie

Robert Dubrowski

Silver and Éire Philatelic Association Certificate

Thematic

25. Dublin UNESCO City of Culture

Peter O'Reilly

Bronze

LITERATURE

26. "Irish Philately"

Stan Challis

Vermeil

27. "Ireland's Permanent Definitive
Stamps & Essays 1922-1937"

Barry Cousins

Silver

28. "The GPO - Two Hundred Years of History"

Stephen Ferguson

Gold

29. "Irish Postal Rates - 1839 to 2014"

Joachim Schaaf and Brian Warren

Gold

NOVICE

30. Ireland: Aviation and Aviators 1785-1921

"Mick Maddock"

Certificate of Participation

¹ Late entry - not listed in catalogue.² Transferred by judges from Thematic to Open Philately (One Frame).

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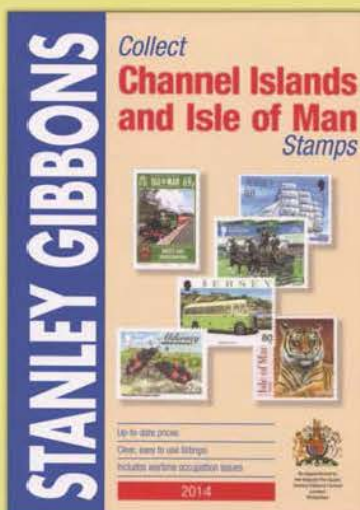
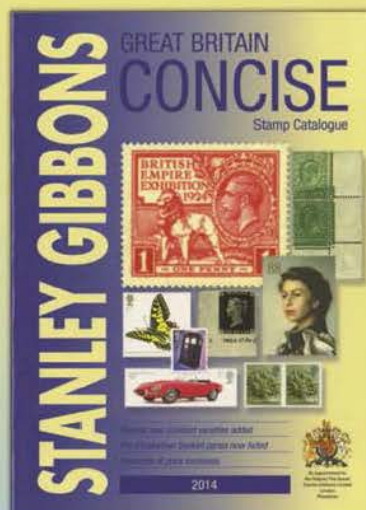
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