



Irish Philately

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Several of our Philatelic Entrepreneurs take the time and effort to make sure the stamps are carefully cancelled - Page 2

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We have recently passed the **one-year anniversary** of various **Governments mandated Two Week shut Down**. Jean and I hope that everyone and their families are safe and well and enjoying a robust period of Philately. Jean and I received our vaccinations in early March and we promptly took off for a 10 day holiday in Costa Rica. Cost Rica has been open for visitors since November and we were frequently told that they miss their Canadian and European friends. Interestingly, however, many Americans that we met were happily spending President Biden's economic **Stimulus Check** on their Holiday in Costa Rica.

My rather dim view of Governments and their interference in our lives is shown in my rather cheeky article on **Voter Registration -- Political Smear Campaigns – Disputed Elections and Government Control of the Media**.

I would like to thank all our members who contributed to this issue of Irish Philately, and please keep the articles coming. I particularly need 1 to 4 page articles for the August **IP** which always help to balance the longer philatelic studies (in this issue we have five, 1 page articles by 5 different authors).

Please keep the **Letters to the Editor** coming with your thoughts, comments, updates and corrections on any topic related to material in this **IP** or previous issues. In this issue I am happy to show a very robust discussion on Ian Enlander's December dissertation on the two Muffs and Frank Walton's report on Perkins Bacon Paper Duty Labels.

I would like to thank Karl Winkelmann (*"Insufficiently Paid" Markings on Irish Airmails*), Brian Callan (*Cork Philatelic Society 1968 to 1921*), and Anders Jorgensen (*English Military Presence in Ireland 1922 to 1938*) for their well written articles which will form the backbone of our August **IP** issue.

We sent out our first **Irish Philately Newsletter** via email this February, featuring Barry Cousins Covid Philatelic Challenge. **Make Sure that Brian Warren has your email address for upcoming Irish Philately News Letters**. Email Brian at brian.warren2@upcmail.ie.

I would very **much Like to thank** David MacDonnell and the various elves at MacDonnell Whyte Ltd for their most bodacious use of Commemorative Stamps on the envelopes used to mail philatelic materials, (shown below). The Elves always make sure that the stamps are carefully postmarked. *Starting a new trend in Postal History*.



I hope to start featuring our various Philatelic Entrepreneurs (Stamp Dealers) in the June Newsletter and August **IP**. **Let me wish everyone a safe, happy and prosperous springtime and I hope to see everyone at Stampa 2021 (see IPC NEWS for latest information).**

From the Associate Editor

Brexit and the Philatelist. An overview for collectors & exhibitors (PART 1)

With the curtain finally coming down in 2021 for the UK, stamp collectors who had and still are, buying philatelic material from the UK, will be liable for VAT at point of entry into the UK and Ireland.

Postage or revenue Stamps, Stamp-postmarks, first day covers, postal stationery (Stamped paper) and the like, used or unused are liable for 20% VAT if the buyer is based in the UK and the seller is based in Europe or 23% if the buyer is based in Ireland.

The Tariff code which determines the duty and VAT rate is **97040000** This HS code is for Stamps that are no longer valid for postage (Mint stamps)

However, if you are buying unused postage, revenue, or similar stamps of current or new issue in the country in which they have, or will have, a recognised face value; stamp-impressed paper the tariff code to declare will be **49070000**. The Import rate of VAT will still be 20% - UK Imports or 23% - Ireland.

Two different HS codes. You have to declare either one when you are posting these at the local post office or sending them via DHL, UPS, DPD etc as these are required for customs clearance.

Currently EU and non-EU sellers selling goods online to EU consumers can import the goods into the EU, directly to the consumer, import VAT-free if the consignment of good(s) is valued at €22 or below. This ends **1 July 2021** and all imports will be subject to EU VAT.

What this effectively means is that if the negligible value including postage costs, handling fees and cost of goods was under €22.00 no VAT or customs formalities was paid or required but from the 1st July VAT will be due on a stamp valued at €5.00. eBay may include the VAT due when you go to check out so beware of this.

The full details on how this is done are via this link:

<https://www.revenue.ie/en/customs-traders-and-agents/documents/guide-to-importing-goods-through-the-post.pdf>

Please note that this is purely for awareness and for specific details on how to import or export philatelic material, consult a professional advisor or qualified accountant.

In the next IPC Newsletter, I will be explaining what you need to do when you are attending a Stamp exhibition with a display and how to export this and then Import it back into Ireland without payment of VAT or Duty

Philip Kane

Assistant Editor Irish Philatelic Circle.

Letters to the Editor

From John Gilpin

I am writing in response to Ian Enlander's very interesting article (in IP) on the Mail Coach Station, near Eglinton and the Receiving Houses of Derry. I can't offer any further information on the Mail Coach Station; however, on the Receiving Houses, Fred Dixon, in his 'Irish Provincial Penny Posts' (1984), lists 11 of these for Derry, the two additional to the nine listed by Ian being Bready and Spenag (both opened in 1837). I assume that these two offices are Bready, Co. Tyrone (north of Strabane) and Speenoge, Co. Donegal (northwest of Derry).

Eleven Receiving Houses linked to one town/city is quite a high number, though Fred also lists 11 for Omagh and for Tralee. Interestingly, of the Derry RHs, several are listed as being RHs linked to other towns (as well as Derry):

- Ballykelly - DERRY 1833, NEWTOWN LIMAVADY 1837
- Bready - DERRY 1837, STRABANE 1837
- Clady - DERRY 1832, DUNGIVEN 1834 (I assume that Clady is Claudy, Co. Londonderry)
- Muff - DERRY 1832, MOVILLE 1834 (Ian's clarifications about the two Muffs help to suggest that this is Muff-don)
- Quigley's Point - DERRY 1835, MOVILLE 1835, CARN 1835

Regarding the Derry RH numbers, Fred's booklet lists Muff as No. 1 (the only allocation he gives for the Derry-linked offices). I think this must be the Co. Londonderry Muff, as I believe it's now reasonably well established that the Co. Donegal Muff was RH No. 5. No. 5 is most often encountered on items from the Cochrane/Doherty/Dougherty correspondence (families from East Inishowen, particularly Redcastle). Two examples of No. 5, from the internet:

- <https://three-centuries.co.uk/buy?id=121> (1839)
- <https://www.stampcircuit.com/stamp-Auction/corbitts/7365405/lot-1896-1840-penny-black-corbitts-sale-154> (1841)

The Derry Journal included an article on the renaming of Muff to Eglinton – **“How Muff Village became Eglinton | Derry Journal | Feb 2019”** - confirming that the name change took place in 1858. Ian mentions that the local railway station was named Muff. ‘The literature’ tell us that the station opened in 1853 as Willsborough, was renamed to Muff in 1853 and renamed to Eglinton in 1854.

There's probably no (known) postal connection but linking Eglinton railway station and an old coach are two postcard illustrations - see attachments. Eglinton station was about two miles from the centre of the village so I imagine a bus service linking the two would have been useful. We could speculate (wildly) that perhaps the bus operator and his vehicle have some connection with the mystery Mail Coach Station!

It's good that Ian has given us some insight to distinguishing between Muff, Co. Londonderry and Muff, Co. Donegal. There's undoubtedly room for confusion. A quick internet search revealed other Muffs (in Ireland) in Counties Cavan, Louth, Meath, Monaghan and Roscommon!

From Roger Dedman

Many thanks for the Dec issue of the journal which arrived yesterday and especially for Ian Enlander's article. I have a cover (Entire) from Londonderry to Edinburgh via Belfast of 1819. (see below) and I was encouraged to discover that Ian had found the same 1819 info as I had. It is wonderful what is available on the internet these days. It was good to get the 1895 date and also the date of the railway which ended the mail coach run.



From David MacDonnell

December Irish Philately, page 71 shows a very blurred copy of the Derry Receiving Houses Map of 1838. I imagine the author was trying to show the two locations of Muff and Muff-don. As the image in IP does not make this obvious, you may like to use the attached clearer Map extract. It is from the original supplied with the Third Report on Postage.



From Frank Walton

Thank you for forwarding David's comments. One of these came up in David MacDonnell's auction a few years ago: I thought that there was only one known example, so perhaps this is the one. It is a super item. I'm glad it wasn't printed by Perkins Bacon – it means I won't have to try and find one!



From David MacDonnell

Your article in December Irish Philately on Paper Duty refers to the **Perkins Bacon** types of Paper Duty. Many readers will not have seen the earlier type of **Paper Duty** for wallpaper. I have attached a picture of the distinctive Irish printing (green and black compound plate) for the ten and a half pounds (weight) of “**First Class Paper**”, charged on 6 October 1830 in respect of the first quarter of 1831. The “**DEPARTURE STAMP**” space at left is cancelled by an Inland Revenue date stamp 6 10 1830. The Crowned stamp at right reads **PAPER DUTY CHARGED ON MAKER**, officer number 27.

I have also attached a picture of the 1815 Act of Parliament setting out the financial penalties for not remitting the correct chargeable Duty.



The Mystery of the ERIE Post Labels Deepens

by Robert Benninghoff

The origins of this imperforated sheet of 8 political labels still remain a mystery. The consensus is they were printed in ERIE Pennsylvania during Éamon de Valera's tour of the USA in 1919 & 1920. The labels show de Valera, 6 of the 16 executed 1916 Rebellion Leaders, the Harp of Ireland. The images appear to have come from Irish photos published in June 1916. There is no evidence that they sold as fundraisers in the USA or Ireland and they were not known to be used or used on Cover **Until Now**



I recently acquired a complete set, individually used, on 8 covers with Dublin postmarks from January 29 1922 (de Valera) to February 19 1922. The covers are all addressed in the same handwriting to Mr. J Brakin 4 Upper Kevin Street, City (Dublin). The 4 covers used before Feb 17 have British stamps and the 4 after have overprinted stamps. The stamps and Labels are all tied to the covers by Wavy Line 10 pm Dublin postmarks, the exception is the Éamon Ceannt cover with a 10 am Dublin 2 cancel. The covers all came from an old estate and appear to have been stapled together as shown by staple holes in the lower left. The covers all have the correct 2d postage except the Cornelius Colbert cover with 1 1/2d 5 line Thom overprint stamp, mailed without a 1d postage due surcharge. It appears great care was taken to prepare and mail these **Historical Philatelic** covers and to make sure the postmarks tied the stamps and labels. I wonder if only one set was prepared and mailed?



Pádraig Pearse Label with 1d and 1/2d stamps all tied by Dublin 10 pm 12 FE 22 cancels



Éamon Ceannt label with 9 FE 22 Dublin 2 cancel. **The four 1/2d stamps overlap the label & are on top of two 1/2d & a 1d stamps with Dublin cancel. The first stamps did not tie the Label to the cover**



To the best of my knowledge these are the only known examples of the ERIE Post Labels used or on cover. We now know that these Labels were available for sale in Ireland in the 1921 & 1922 period and it will be interesting to hear from members if they have other used copies hidden away. I will also be grateful for any information on Mr. J Brakin .

Cornelius Colbert Label tied to the cover with a Dublin Wavy Line cancel 10 pm Feb 19 1922

The focus of this article is to examine the various issues of high value GB stamps, commonly known as Seahorses, which were overprinted for use in Ireland during its transition, from the Provisional Government period onto its recognition as the Irish Free State and beyond.

The main use of high value stamps can be summarised as follows - 2/6 & 5s. airmail packets, customs duties, parcel post and the 10s. for telegraph fees. Whereas with low value stamps from ½d. to 1s. Ireland released dedicated definitive stamps, on diverse dates from December 1922 through to December 1923, due to a low demand high value overprinted Seahorse stamps remained in use in Ireland until September 1937.

The objective of this first article is to enable Philatelists, who are collectors of Irish material, to distinguish the various issues, in terms of the basic stamp and the overprint characteristics and to gain basic background information.

PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OVERPRINT ISSUES 3T & 7T

GB 2/6, 5s. & 10s. high value stamps were printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Sons in sheets of 40 stamps.

ISSUE 3T

Date of release 1922 (February 17)

Four line overprint with black ink by the Dollard Printing House using a 4 x 5 stereo setting, which required two press passes to overprint a full 4 x 10 pane.



T12

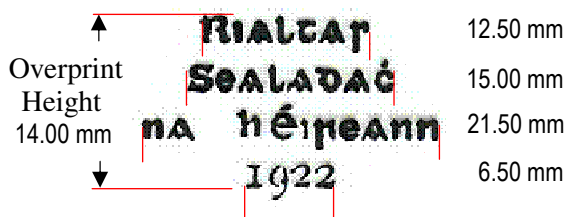


T13



T14

Overprint Dimensions



Overprint by Dollard Printing House

Overprint Reference	Stamp Value	Basic Stamp Colour	Sheets Printed (est)
T12	2/6	Sepia - brown	1,000
		Reddish - brown	
T13	5s.	Rose - carmine	650
T14	10s.	Dull grey - blue	500

Features - wide setting of 'h' and é of 'héireann'.

- T12 panel frame line above 'AL' of 'HALF' worn.

ISSUE 7T

Date of release 1922 (October 17 - 25)

Four line overprint with shiny blue-black ink by Alex. Thom & Co. using an integral 4 x 10 stereo, enabling a full sheet to be printed with one press pass. Thom overprint bolder & sharper compared with Issue 3T.



T39



T40



T41

Overprint Dimensions



Overprint by Alex. Thom

Overprint Reference	Stamp Value	Basic Stamp Colour	Sheets Printed (est)
T39	2/6	Sepia - brown	125
T40	5s.	Rose - carmine	125
T41	10s.	Dull grey - blue	100

Features - close setting of 'h' and é of 'héireann'.

- T39 panel frame line above 'AL' of 'HALF' worn.

After twelve months the 26 counties in Ireland, under the terms of the independence treaty, were duly recognised as forming the Irish Free State. To reflect its change of status the overprint was reworded to read “Free State Ireland 1922”, a translation from the Gaelic “Saorstát Éireann 1922”. Both low value and high value stamps were released with the new three line overprint from December 1922 to January 1923.

IRISH FREE STATE OVERPRINT ISSUES 9T, 11T, 12T, 13T

GB 2/6, 5s. & 10s. high value stamps were printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Sons in sheets of 40 stamps.

ISSUE 9T

Date of release 1922 (December 21 & 28)

Three line overprint with shiny blue-black ink by Alex. Thom & Co. using an integral 4 x 10 stereo.



T59



T60



T61

Overprint Dimensions

Overprint	SAORSTÁT	15.00 mm
Height	ÉIREANN	12.50 mm
8.50 mm	1922	6.00 mm

Overprint by Alex. Thom

Overprint Reference	Stamp Value	Basic Stamp Colour	Sheets Printed (est)
T59	2/6	Chocolate - brown	Total number of sheets overprinted for this Issue 8,840
		Pale Brown	
T60	5s.	Rose - carmine	
T61	10s.	Dull grey - blue	

Features - all values display a squared foot to the ‘1’ and with a more rounded top to the ‘9’ of ‘1922’.

- T59 panel frame line above the ‘AL’ of ‘HALF’ worn.
- T60 the helmet visor occurs with and without a break.
- T61 the ‘S’ in ‘POSTAGE’ occurs, both in a broken and perfect state.

ISSUE 11T

Date of release 1925 (August 25), with take up by Somerset House in 1926 (February)

Three line narrow overprint setting with glossy black ink initially undertaken by the Government Printing House at Dublin Castle, onto the Inland Revenue Stamping Department at Somerset House, London, at the insistence of the British Government. Stereo setting made up of 20 clichés arranged in five alternate rows, therefore to overprint a full sheet of 40 stamps, two press passes were necessary.



T66



T67



T68

Overprint Dimensions

Overprint	SAORSTÁT	15.00 mm
Height	ÉIREANN	12.50 mm
8.50 mm	1922	5.00 mm

Overprints by Dublin Castle & the Inland Revenue Stamping Department, Somerset House

Overprint Reference	Stamp Value	Basic Stamp Colour	Sheets Printed (est)
T66	2/6	Chocolate - brown	Sheets overprinted by the Government Printing House 3,325 & I.R.S. Dept.14,233*
T67	5s.	Rose - carmine	
T68	10s.	Dull grey - blue	
* Includes repaired settings from 'Composite Sheets' from Issue 12T			

Features - foot of ‘1’ in ‘1922’ rounded.

- alternate rows commonly display light dull and more intense glossy ink overprint impressions.
- T66 occurs with panel frame line above ‘AL’ of ‘HALF’ worn and repaired.
- T66 occurs with a broken & perfect ‘R’ in ‘CROWN’.
- T68 occurs with a broken & perfect ‘S’ in ‘POSTAGE’.

ISSUE 12T

Date of release 1927 (May & June)

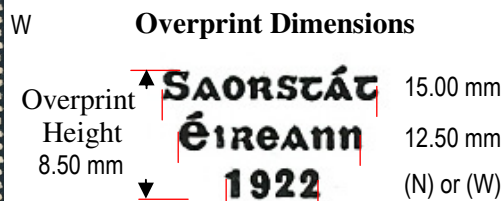
Three line 'Composite' overprint using black ink by Somerset House.

Stereo setting made up of 20 clichés arranged in five alternate rows, requiring two press passes to overprint a full sheet of 40 stamps, were in use with normal composite settings. However in the case of abnormal stereo settings it is promulgated that Somerset House undertook a few trial printings, adopting the use of a 40 cliché stereo, which was to be adopted for Issues 13T & 14T - hence the non repetitive occurrence of wide and narrow date clichés on alternate rows.

This issue is referred to as 'Composite' as it is made up of both wide and narrow date clichés. The reason for this being that initially the setting was all 5.00 mm narrow date clichés, as in use with Issue 11T. However due to wear Somerset House replaced worn clichés, but were inadvertently supplied with wide date (6 mm) clichés from Issue 9T, by the Government Printing Works. Composite settings are known to exist in what is termed a normal setting and for the 2/6 & 5s. values, with scarce abnormal settings, see detail below.



T69/VP Vertical Composite Pair



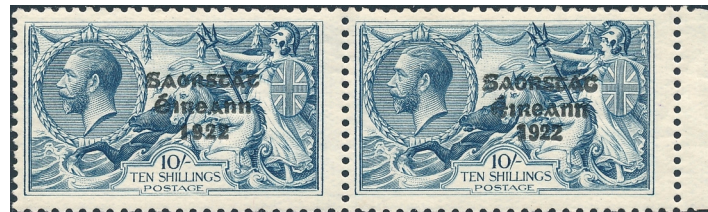
(N) Narrow Date 5.00 mm (ex Issue 11T)
(W) Wide Date 6.00 mm (ex Issue 9T)



T70/VP Vertical Composite Pair

Features

- T69 frame over 'AL' of 'HALF' repaired.
- T69 broken 'R' in 'CROWN'.
- T71 broken 'S' in 'POSTAGE'.



T71/HP Horizontal Composite Pair

Overprint by the Inland Revenue Stamping Department, Somerset House

Overprint Reference	Combination Wide & Narrow	Overprint Reference	Combination Wide & Narrow	Stamp Value	Basic Stamp Colour	Sheets Printed (est)
T69/VP	Vertical Pair	T69/HP	Horizontal Pair	2/6	Chocolate - brown	Sheets overprinted by Somerset House circa 3,000
T70/VP	Vertical Pair	T70/HP	Horizontal Pair	5s.	Rose - carmine	
T71/VP	Vertical Pair	T71/HP	Horizontal Pair	10s.	Dull grey - blue	

Normal Composite Settings

2/6 - T69 NORMAL COMPOSITE OVERPRINT SETTING				5s. - T70 & 10s. - T71 NORMAL COMPOSITE OVERPRINT SETTING			
W	W	N	N	N	N	N	N
W	W	N	N	N	N	N	N
W	W	W	W	W	W	W	N
W	W	W	W	W	W	W	N
N	W	N	W	N	W	N	N
N	W	N	W	N	W	N	N
W	W	N	N	W	W	N	N
W	W	N	N	W	W	N	N
W	W	N	W	N	N	N	N
W	W	N	W	N	N	N	N

Abnormal Composite Settings

2/6 - T69 ABNORMAL OVERPRINT SETTING				2/6 - T69 ABNORMAL OVERPRINT SETTING				5s. - T70 ABNORMAL OVERPRINT SETTING			
N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
W	W	N	N	W	W	N	N	N	N	N	N
N	N	N	N	W	W	W	N	N	N	N	N
W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	N
N	N	N	N	N	W	N	N	N	N	N	N
N	W	N	W	N	W	N	W	N	W	N	N
N	N	N	N	W	W	N	N	N	N	N	N
W	W	N	N	W	W	N	N	W	W	N	N
N	N	N	N	N	N	N	W	N	N	N	N
W	W	N	W	W	W	N	W	N	N	N	N

ISSUE 13T

Date of release 1927 (December) to 1928 (February)

Three line overprint, with black ink by Somerset House, using an integral 4 x 10 stereo made up of 40 wide date clichés, enabling a full sheet to be printed with one press pass.

This issue was introduced as the composite overprint stereotypes from Issue 12T were damaged and worn beyond repair.



T72



T73



T74

Overprint Dimensions

Overprint	SAORSTÁT	15.00 mm
Height	ÉIREANN	12.50 mm
8.50 mm	1922	6.00 mm

Overprint by Inland Revenue Stamping Department, Somerset House

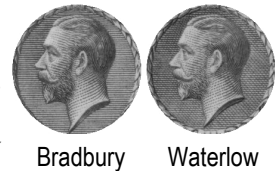
Overprint Reference	Stamp Value	Basic Stamp Colour	Sheets Printed (est)
T72	2/6	Chocolate - brown	Sheets overprinted by I.R.S. Department 50,280
T73	5s.	Rose - carmine	
T74	10s.	Dull grey - blue	

Features - overprint impression frequently more intense than earlier issues.

- frequent occurrence of a small ink dot between the 'S' and 'a' of 'Saorstát'.
- T72 frame over 'AL' of 'HALF' repaired.
- T72 occurs with a broken & perfect 'R' in 'CROWN'.
- T74 occurs with a broken & perfect 'S' in 'POSTAGE'.

IRISH FREE STATE HIGH VALUE ISSUE 14T

GB 2/6, 5s. & 10s. high value stamps were printed by Waterlow & Sons in sheets of 40 stamps. These printings are easily distinguished from the previous Bradbury series by the background behind the King's portrait. With the Waterlow printings, which are termed 're-engraved' the lines behind the King's portrait consist of cross-hashed horizontal and diagonal lines, whereas the Bradbury printings display only horizontal lines.



Bradbury

Waterlow

ISSUE 14T

Date of release 1935 (March)

Three line overprint, with black ink initially undertaken by Harrison & Sons until July, followed by Somerset House from 1935 (August) until 1937. Stereo & cliché arrangement as per Issue 13T.



T75



T76



T77

Overprint Dimensions

Overprint	SAORSTÁT	15.00 mm
Height	ÉIREANN	12.50 mm
8.50 mm	1922	6.00 mm

Overprint by Harrison & Somerset House (SH)

Overprint Reference	Stamp Value	Basic Stamp Colour	Sheets Printed (est)	
			Harrison	SH
T75	2/6	Chocolate - brown	4,250	6,045
T76	5s.	Bright rose - red	2,375	3,790
T77	10s.	Indigo	1,375	2,189

Feature - frequent occurrence of a small ink dot between the 'S' and 'a' of 'Saorstát'.

EXPLANATORY NOTES - OVERPRINTED 'SEAHORSE' HIGH VALUE STAMPS

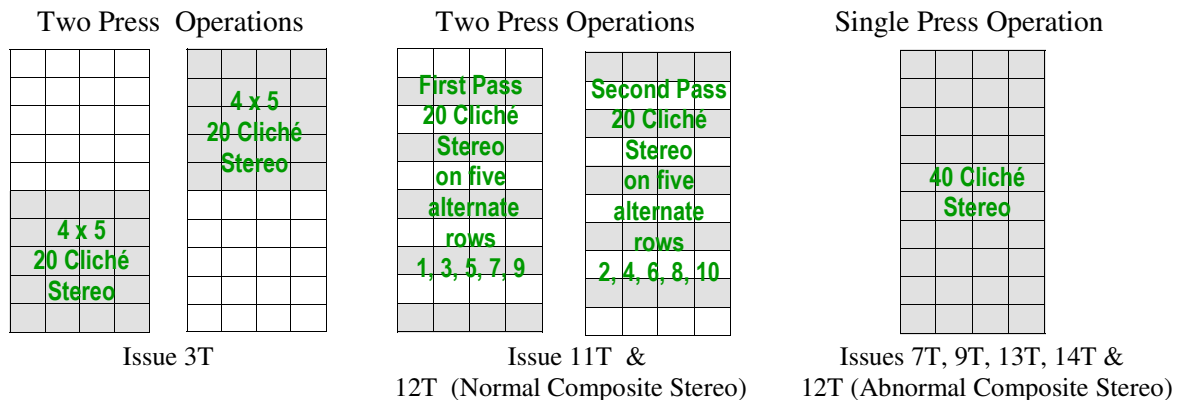
a) In this article the author uses the term issue. Issue numbers are not sequential as low value overprinted stamps were released at different time intervals and follow the same numbering process.

For 'Seahorse' overprints seven issues are examined - being 3T, 7T which are applicable to the Provisional Government period and 9T,11T,12T,13T,14T, which apply to the Irish Free State. Issue numbers follow the Set numbers introduced by David Feldman.

b) Individual stamp 'T' references follow the Feldman allocations, which are now commonly used by Irish philatelists and in the renowned 'Hibernian' Handbook and Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Ireland.

c) In the main text the term stereo and cliché is widely used. For those with little knowledge of these terms, what follows may help explain meanings, in connection with the overprinting high value sheets, using the letterpress printing process.

Overprint Stereo & Cliché Arrangements



Each cliché displays an overprint inscription in relief, which is either 'Rialtas Sealadac na hÉireann 1922' (for Issues 3T, 7T) or 'Saorstát Éireann 1922' (for Issues 9T,11T,12T,13T,14T).

For issue 3T the first press operation applies overprints to rows 6 to 10 and the second press operation overprints to rows 1 to 5. As a result if overprint variants occur, they will be replicated in the same position in each 4 x 5 stereo. In the case of issue 11T including the normal composite settings from issue 12T, when overprint variants occur they will be replicated on vertically adjacent overprints from alternate rows.

For issues 7T,9T,13T,14T and abnormal overprints from issue 12T, overprint variants, if they occur, will be attributable to specific clichés in a stereo without vertical repetition.

d) For each issue 'Features' are highlighted as they apply to either the stamps or the overprints in a sheet. In the case of stamp features, in most cases, they arise from the use of different printers plates, with a particular value. Printers plates and their individual characteristics, will be set out in a future article.

e) The design of the Seahorse engraved stamps originated from Sir Bertram Mackennal.

Sheets of 40 high value stamps were recess printed in a two pane format, whereby the paper is pressed into the engraved recesses of the printing plates containing the ink.

Bradbury, Wilkinson & Sons used rotary presses to accommodate their curved printers plates which were made from roller dies, which were from the Royal Mint engravers.

Waterlow & Sons for the re-engraved issue 14T, whilst adopting the recess printing process used flat plates, which were also produced from Royal Mint roller dies.

Due to the use of curved and flat plates it is worthy of note that the Bradbury printings display a stamp image which is taller in height 22.6 - 23.1 mm versus that of Waterlow which is shorter, being 22.1 mm. However with Waterlow printings the gutter margin between stamps measures 4.9 mm versus that of Bradbury, which measures 3.9 - 4.2 mm.

All stamps covered in this article display a single cypher watermark, Stanley Gibbons reference W17.

After printing the 4x10 sheets were perforated 11x12, for Post Office counter use, using Grover comb perforating machines.

Note - In this article some explanations reflect the author's opinion, if readers have differing viewpoints they will be welcomed and given mention in future articles.

Acknowledgements - Andy Ballard & Roy Hamilton-Bowen for their valued input.

Focus on Exhibiting: A Judge's Perspective on *Treatment*

Yamil H. Kouri, Jr.

Philatelic exhibits can be boiled down to two basic elements: ***the material*** and ***what is done with it***. The three criteria used to evaluate the material ***are rarity, condition and importance***. These are intrinsic characteristics that the material either has or lacks. Several decades ago, before the adoption of a formal scoring system, the material carried most of the weight of an exhibit. That is no longer the case. I have seen a number of exhibits with poorly treated gold-level material receiving lower medal levels than they should have obtained. Currently, the material adds up to only 40 out of 100 total points that can be awarded to an exhibit. (See *Exhibit Evaluation Form (EEF)* at the end of this article, Editor)

What the exhibitor ***does with the material*** accounts for 60 of the total 100 exhibit points and therefore much more work is required beyond the "fixed" components of an exhibit. These important variables include ***treatment***, knowledge, research and presentation. ***Treatment*** represents 20 of the 100 points, the second highest category along with rarity.

The five main components that are taken into account as part of the treatment are the *Title; Plan; Development; Balance; and Comprehensiveness*. In other words, ***treatment refers to how an exhibit is organized, including the selection of the items that are shown or deliberately left out.***

The first part of the treatment is choosing the ***proper Title for the exhibit***. In many cases this can be straight forward: "The First Postal Issue of ...," or "The Postal History of the First Postal Issue of ...". For other exhibits, particularly in the

Postal History class, too often one sees a time period in the title that is chosen somewhat arbitrarily, based on the earliest cover shown in the exhibit and not in a logical or coherent postal period. In the latter cases I urge the exhibitors to refrain from using a specific starting date for the title and instead select something like: "Postal History of so and so until the U.P.U.," or "Postal History of so and so in the 18th Century." Titles that are too general will need some clarification in the title page such as: "U.S. Postal Rates to 1845." Does this refer to ordinary mail or printed matter as well? Is it domestic mail, foreign destinations or incoming foreign mail? Failure to do so will affect the completeness of an exhibit.

The next part, although accounting for a very small percentage of what is shown, is one of the most crucial pieces of the exhibit: ***the title page with the plan***. It is not uncommon to find a lot of information about the background and history of what is being shown, but what must be present is a description of what is being shown, or not, and the order in which it is being presented. I find outlines to be very helpful. One can be as specific as possible: "this Postal History exhibit shows all the known uses of ...". ***Whatever you decide, make sure you include in the exhibit everything you say you are going to do in the plan.***

The plan is developed throughout the exhibit. Pages should have running headers with sections and subsections, which allow the viewer to find out what part of the exhibit one is looking at in relation to the outline.

Two different perspectives of *Treatment* using the Same Cover in two different Exhibits

Illustration 1

In a **Traditional** exhibit of the First Postal Issues of Spanish Antilles:



Half Real stamp of 1855 on bluish paper with loops watermark paying the single-weight internal rate within the island. Letter sent in 1857 from Manzanillo to Apalachicola, Florida by way of Havana and by an American steamer to Savannah, Georgia.

Illustration 2

In a **Postal History** exhibit of Contract Steamship Mail between The U.S.A. and Cuba:



1857. Single-weight letter from Manzanillo, Cuba to Apalachicola, Florida. The half real stamp only paid the internal rate to Havana. From there it was carried on the steamer *Isabel* to Savannah, where it received cds of February 28, the small straight-line HAVANA (one of 20 known) and was rated ten cents postage due, the flat rate for incoming steamship mail. Sent overland to Florida.

Balance refers to the amount of material devoted to a particular section. This doesn't mean that, if for instance, a 40-year period is being covered, half of the items should be from the first 20 years and the other half from the last 20 years, if there is a clear distinction between these two periods. Sometimes things were pretty uniform for a long period of time but then changed often in a relatively short period. In this example, it does not make any sense to devote to much space for the first period if most of the rare or interesting material exists during the second one. An exhibit has to be presented in a manner that gives the impression of a smooth flow. Showing too much duplicate of redundant material is detrimental.

Comprehensiveness is essential to the optimal outcome of an exhibit. No particular period or relevant items should be arbitrarily left out. There are, of course, major rarities that are out of reach to most collectors, but an attempt should be made to represent every relevant aspect of the theme one chooses to exhibit. On the other hand, including rare material that does not quite fit properly within the subject being shown will be penalised.

The correct treatment of the material varies according to the different exhibit categories. For instance, the description of a cover with a stamp in a Traditional exhibit should first focus on the stamp's characteristics, such as its denomination, color or any important variety or relevant features that are worth pointing out. Other information could then follow, such as the rate it is paying, the markings, route or destination. If the same cover is shown in a Postal History exhibit, the emphasis should be on the topic(s) discussed in the exhibit, be it markings, rates or routes. Giving additional details about the stamp in the postal history class may not be pertinent and could potentially detract from the exhibit. If the same cover is shown in the Aerophilately class, the description should

focus on the cachet, route or rate that is being shown. In the Thematic class the same cover would be shown to fulfill a much different function, but including some basic information about it reflects philatelic knowledge.

Lastly, philatelic judges try to help collectors improve their exhibits, but they may have their own biased opinions. Do not be too quick to completely rearrange your exhibit following a single advice from a well-intentioned judge. ***It is not unusual to receive contradictory suggestions from different judges. If the message from several juries at different shows is consistent, it then makes sense to implement those changes.***

I have known Yamil for over 10 years and he has helped me improve several of my exhibits.

Yamil has been a collector since childhood, and he is a frequent exhibitor at national and international exhibitions, author of numerous articles and books on a variety of subjects, particularly maritime and military mail, national chief judge and international FIP judge in the postal history class and belongs to more than 20 philatelic societies in the US, Latin America and Europe.

He is past vice president of the APS and current vice president of the Inter American Federation of Philately. He is the chairman of the board of the Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History in Weston, (near Boston) Massachusetts, and organizer of the Spellman's annual postal history symposium, now in its ninth year.
info@spellman.org.

The museum is the repository of the Eire Philatelic Association's library of books and papers and is well worth a visit.

One final note: Yamil holds the unique distinction of winning both the American Philatelic Society Multi Frame Champion of Champion and the Literature Competition in the same year in 2019.

American Philatelic Society World Series of Philately

Exhibit Evaluation Form (EEF)

This page shows my score sheet from 2019 ARIPEX (Mesa Arizona) stamp show. The Exhibit received a Vermeil and 77 out of 100 points. However, the same exhibit received a gold and 88 points at previous show in January and 92 points at the international show SAVPEX in the Summer. Therefore, it is better to receive juries' comments from 3 to 4 shows before making major changes to your exhibit **The Editor**

**APS World Series of Philately
Exhibit Evaluation Form**

Reference: *Manual of Philatelic Judging, 7th ed., Ch. 5*

Show ARIPEX 2020 Date 2/14-16/2020 Frame Nos. 211

Exhibit Title Creation of the Border Between Two Irelands 1914-1925

For the Jury Ross Towle Award ✓

E-mail rosstowle@yahoo.com Chief Judge Mark Banchik Reviewed 

Primary Contact/First Responder

Treatment: Title, plan, development, balance, comprehensiveness maximum 20 pts. 14

Importance: Subject importance, philatelic importance maximum 10 pts. 7

Not a 1-frame exhibit. Consequently crams too much in the space. A barely trends any 1 subject. Eg: Easter rising is 1 item and buried.

1/4 of exhibit is pre 1913

HAVING SOME DATES ON HEADINGS WOULD HELP

Philatelic/Subject Knowledge: Selection, correctness maximum 25 pts* 28

Personal Study and Research: Analysis, evaluation, study, research maximum 10 pts* 28

*For Thematic exhibits, thematic philatelic knowledge/study/research have equal weight, the two areas total maximum 35 pts.

Rarity: Challenge, difficulty of acquisition maximum 20 pts 16

Condition: Physical condition and appearance in light of quality obtainable maximum 10 pts 8

Presentation: General layout, free from distractions maximum 5 pts 4

Other Comments (use reverse as necessary)

The subject info gets swamped by other data. Eg 1848 cover
What does 1928 currency have to do with "IFS border
towns suffer economically"?

TALKED WITH EXHIBITOR

Point Ranges: Large Gold 90-100; Gold 85-89; Large Vermeil 80-84; Vermeil 75-79; Large Silver 70-74; Silver 65-69; Silver Bronze 60-64; Bronze 55-59; Certificate <55.

Total points 77
Revised August 2016

What Stories This Envelope Can Tell

Iben Olsen



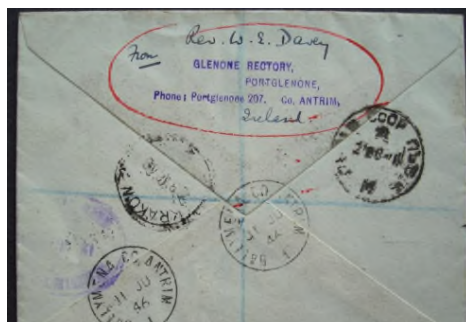
I have had this envelope from Belfast 1946 to Poland for a long time and I always find it interesting to write an article “**What can this envelope tell?**” especially based on the postal travel history in a troublesome place and time.

After some research on the web I found an interesting site **One Irish Rover** at: www.oneirishrover.com

The site focuses on the history and the people Northern Ireland, notably, the area around Portglenone, Kilrea, Maghera, Bellaghy, Innisrush and Tamlaght in Counties Derry and Antrim. **One Irish Rover** also provides a free newsletter.

The back of my envelope shows that the sender was The Rev. W.E. Davey, Glenone Rectory, Portglenone (**Figure 1**). I made contact with the editor of **One Irish Rover**, William and presented him my envelope. William showed great interest in the envelope as he was very familiar with Portglenone and Davey and took up the challenge to find out more of the story behind the mailing.

Figure
Back
envelope
showing
stamps
transit marks



My input was that the **Registered** envelope was mailed on the 11th June 1946 from Ballymena, Co Antrim, 3d paid the foreign postage and 3d paid the Registration Fee. The mail was sent by The Reverend W. E. Davey, (Glenone Rectory, Portglenone, Co. Antrim), to Andrzej Semkowicz, Baclawicka 10, LWOW, in Poland.

The letter never reached Andrzej Semkowicz and was returned to the sender after a journey via CCCP (Russia), Zone Post Office 21 (in June 1946), then onto a sorting office at Krakow 28 (also during June 1946), and then returned to Ballymena. **See Below**



With the knowledge that we have today of the sad post war history of the area around Lwow (now Lviv – Lemberg), we can also imagine that the envelope may indicate a sad story for the family Semkowicz. – **OR**--perhaps it was just indicative of the normal difficulty in delivering mail in the area after the Second World War.

The following information is with thanks to William and his research:

Some Background on Reverend Davey

William Edwin Davey preached in Tamlaght Lower (Innisrush) church between 1944 and 1948. He was installed at the church in March 1944. Many fellow clergymen from various parts of County Derry and neighbouring parishes, attended a large inauguration service on Friday 31st March 1944, in the church at Innisrush.

He spent just over four years at Innisrush and preached his final service on Sunday 31st May 1948. He took up a new appointment as rector of Culmore and Muff.

The more I thought about the returned letter (note, we don't have the letter itself, merely the envelope), the more questions Iben and myself came up with.

- What prompted the Reverend Davey to write to this person in Poland via Registered mail?
- Where did he get the person's name and address?
- Was this a one-off letter, or one letter in an ongoing dialog with this Polish man?
- Was it part of a post-war Church of Ireland venture?
- Perhaps this was a personal project of the Reverend Davey.
- Once returned to sender, how did the envelope make its way into the public domain again?

Given how long ago this was, and the fact that everyone is now long since dead, we can only speculate as to the answers to these questions.

Lwow Bombed - It was announced in Moscow last night that Russian aircraft raided Lwow (Poland) railway junction on Sunday night. Many fires were started and explosions seen. All the aircraft returned. Reuters."
Belfast News Letter, 12th April 1944

Polish population transfers (1944–1946)

The Reverend Davey, like everyone else, would have been aware via the newspapers of the day, of the terrible events in the aftermath of the war (*At the end of the Second World War, and in subsequent years, there was much ongoing turmoil, especially across Eastern Europe*).

There were large transfers of Polish people between 1944 and 1946, from the eastern part, of what had been pre-war Poland. Poles were expelled from their homes, villages and towns. This forced migration was brought on by Russian policy, and was agreed to by the Allies.

More than one million Polish people were forced to move. They were moved in stages out of the Polish areas that had been annexed by the Russian army.

The Polish forced migrations were among the biggest of several post World War Two expulsions in Central and Eastern Europe. In total some 20 million people were displaced during this period.

A clue about the addressee is perhaps in the recipient's name.

Andreyej Semkowiez - Andreyej is a male Christian name. It has Greek and Polish origins. In the west, it is the equivalent of Andrew. In Poland and Greece, the name means 'man' or 'warrior'. The name is used mostly in Polish speaking countries.

Semkowiez - the surname is not so common. I couldn't find anything directly on the name. It seems linked to other similar names like Semkow and Senkowitz, and appears in Poland, as well as in the Eastern part of Germany. It is most likely a Jewish name.

Conclusions

(1) From the newspapers of the time, we see that the churches across Britain and Ireland were well aware of the terrible suffering in Poland both during, and after, the Second World War. They had been doing their best to send aid to those in need.

(2) The Protestant churches across Britain, and Northern Ireland, had a joint aid program to help the Poles. The Catholic churches across Ireland had their own independent aid program. Poland is predominantly a Catholic country (93% of the population in 2015 were Catholic).

(3) There were Jewish societies across the UK during the war. Indeed, the Church of Ireland (which was Mr. Davey's religious denomination) had their own society.

Here's an advertisement I discovered from 1946, promoting a meeting in Belfast. You will note that the speaker at the meeting is a Polish Jewish Reverend.

“CHURCH OF IRELAND JEWS’ SOCIETY.

Down & Connor & Dromore Auxiliary.

ANNUAL MEETING. 3-30 p.m.,
MONDAY. May 13th, 1946

CLARENCE PLACE MINOR HALL.

Speaker — Rev. Dr. J. Joz, D.Ph. (formerly Poland).

In the Chair, The Lord Bishop of Connor.
Special Offerings: Tea.”

Source: *Belfast News Letter*, Saturday 11th May 1946

Questions

The Reverend Davey was familiar with going to events in Belfast. I wonder if he personally attended this and similar meetings?

Was the Vicar's letter to Andreyej Semkowiez, in the summer of 1946, part of the church's campaign to help the persecuted and fleeing Polish Jews in Lwow?

Did the church get the address from one of these Jewish Society talks?

Was this particular correspondence, between the Reverend Davey and Andreyej Semkowiez, part of an ongoing dialog?

The Mail was sent via **Registered** post. Did this mean that money was included in the envelope, and if so, was the money returned to The Reverend Davey in the envelope?

We will never know.

One would fairly presume that Andreyej was some type of representative in the area. We will never know exactly why it was undeliverable - had the mail service broken down by this point, or perhaps Andreyej was already gone from the address.

UNADOPTED DESIGNS FOR THE THIRD DEFINITIVE SERIES

Brian Warren



In the late 1970s, two frames of unadopted designs for the third definitive series introduced in 1968¹ were placed on display in the philatelic bureau in Dublin. At the time the bureau had a separate public office in the GPO Arcade. The Arcade is located behind the GPO between Henry Street and Princes Street, Dublin 1. The office had the space for such displays. As far as I can recall, there was no advance notice of this display and it was only on view for a short period.

Imagine my surprise when one lunchtime I popped in to the bureau to find the exhibits out of the frames and a photographer present. On enquiry, I discovered that a Dublin based collector (since deceased) had obtained permission from the Department of Posts & Telegraphs to employ a professional photographer to take photos of the unadopted designs. Unfortunately, I was a “philatelic greenhorn” at the time and should have made notes about the various designs etc. No

smartphones in those days to take my own photos!

I never saw these photos on public/private display at the time but some years later a number of photo lots came up at one of the Dublin based philatelic auction houses. I recognised them as being some of the photos of the unadopted designs in the philatelic bureau display. I was lucky to acquire one lot of three photos which I illustrate above. There was no information with the photos. You will note that the ½d and 6d are variations on the same design. I also illustrate some of the real stamps for comparison purposes. What do you think? Does anybody out there recognise the source of any of the three designs?

Also has anybody out there have some of the other photos in their collection? There was more than one lot on offer and, in addition, perhaps others exist following the distribution of the deceased collector’s estate. If so please contact myself or the editor.

¹ This was the series of Early Irish Art stamps which became known as “*The Gerl Definitives*” after the German designer Heinrich Gerl.

Great Britain's Greatest Irish Polar Expeditioner – Part Two

Hal Vogel

I hope everyone enjoyed part one of this very informative series on “Irish Polar Expeditioning” and philately. This section deals with Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton’s best and least known Antarctic Expeditions

Shackleton’s most famous is his Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition (1914-17). The one that often flies under the radar is the Shackleton-Rowett (Antarctic) Expedition (1921-22).

The 1914-17 Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition (often called the “*Endurance* Expedition” after its primary ship) had 56 men on two ships. Some were scientists, though their work would be incidental to the main goal. The principal party of 28 would leave from England aboard *Endurance* for the Weddell Sea coast of Antarctica. There a smaller group would attempt to cross the entire length of the continent.

The same number of individuals would leave later aboard another vessel (*Aurora*) for the opposite side of Antarctica. From a McMurdo Sound base they would lay depots to provide logistical assistance to the main party approaching from the “South American” side. This trans-Antarctic (ground level) crossing never had been done before (and would not be again for another 40 years).

Shackleton got some government support. The bulk, however, came from private sources. He was famous and charismatic. Some gave very large sums and many smaller amounts to fund his endeavor.

Planning and provisioning already were underway on 3 April 1914, when **Figure 1** was mailed to an expedition supplier in Manchester. It was received the same day as shown receipt-stamped on expedition official stationery (**Figure 2**). Being stationers and engravers, this might have been the source for the expedition’s imprinted stationery.

Figure 3 shows a 1 July 1914-dated £10 check (with a 1d embossed tax stamp) written from the expedition to the Yost Typewriter Company. Shackleton signed in the lower right,

and the expedition secretary, (Fred F.W. White) countersigned it below. Above Shackleton’s signature is the expedition rubberstamp.

It was written a month before *Endurance* departed (1 August 1914) for Antarctica.

Figure 4 shows a one guinea donation check (12 June 1914) to the expedition from Yost, which may have been the expedition’s incentive to purchase from the typewriter company. The expedition’s rubberstamp and Shackleton’s endorsement signature are shown on the back of the check in **Figure 5**

Endurance landed at Antarctic South Georgia Island on 5 November 1914, where the crew would rest for a month before continuing into the Weddell Sea. Mail was sent from the isolated island’s little-used post office. South Georgia mail then mostly was from transient whalers. There are few known pieces of expedition mail from South Georgia and most are seen cancelled on their day of departure (5 December 1914).

Shackleton used part of his time there to write appreciations to donors on expedition printed stationery (**Figures 6 and 7**).

Figures 8 and 9 show an example of a farewell posting by expedition geologist James Wordie to his sister in Scotland. **Wordie uses an A. E. Young real photo postcard of *Endurance*, showing the vessel before it left Great Britain.** It is franked at the correct 1d rate when postcards were charged the same as letters.

Seaman Thomas Frank McLeod apparently wrote to a friend at Port Isaac, North Cornwall, UK, from South Georgia during the expedition’s month’s stay. That is how his “friend” knew where to write back to McLeod on 16 August 1915. The mail was returned to Cornwall because the expedition had left 9 months earlier (**Figure 10**)

This returned mail was receipted at Plymouth, England, 16 August 1916, following a year in transit. **Coincidentally, that was just about the time when the *Endurance* crew was being rescued hundreds of miles from the Island of South Georgia**



Figures 1 and 2
Mail to supplier on expedition envelope



Figure 3: £10 Check with 1d embossed tax stamp to Yost Type Writer Company signed by Shackleton and Fred White, expedition Sec.



Figures 4 and 5
Donation check and with Shackleton's endorsement



Figure 6
Expedition mail posted DE 5 14
Date of departure to Antarctica



Figures 8 and 9
Postcard showing the Endurance and mailed on DE 5 14 from South Georgia. Mail from Geologist Wordie to his Sister in Scotland

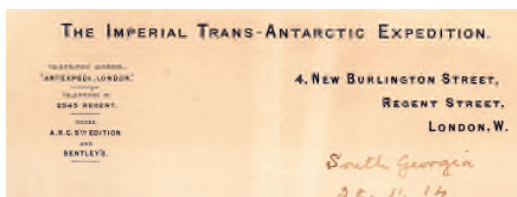


Figure 7
Letter on Expedition stationary
28-11-14

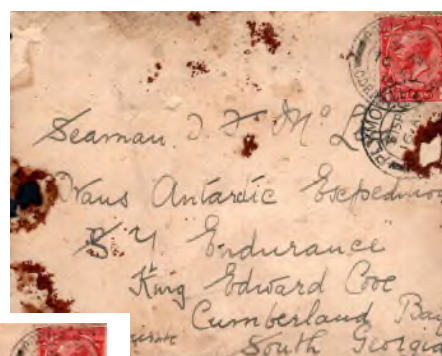


Figure 10
Mail from a friend of Seaman McLeod mailed from Cornwall to him on 16 August 1915 and returned to Plymouth arriving 1 year later 16 Aug 1916



Leaving South Georgia, *Endurance* had quickly become beset in the frozen Weddell Sea. It was crushed 18 January 1915 and finally sank on 21 November. After camping on the ice and arduously, though vainly, trekking toward Paulet Island (where there was a known food cache), the stranded crew eventually took to their boats. They made remote Elephant Island, Antarctica, in mid-April 1916 after five, miserable days of small boat sailing.

Everyone knew there was little chance of being discovered on their out-of-the-way island. They had no wireless capable of calling for any distant help. Shackleton and five others made their epic and heroic, though almost impossible, open boat (20-ft. lifeboat), 15-day sea journey, miraculously hitting a needle in a haystack, **South Georgia Island**

This did not end the sailors' travail. They had landed on the **uninhabited side** of the island. Shackleton and two others had to scale a mountain taking over 36-hours to get to the inhabited side (by whalers). Now early May 1916, it would take several failed international efforts before finally a Chilean ship brought Shackleton back to Elephant Island to rescue all hands alive on 30 August 1916 (*late winter in the Antarctic*).

Meanwhile, the other, supporting part of this complex expedition was not doing any better. The "Ross Sea shore party," as it was called, was having trouble with its ship and personnel, as well as money woes.

Yet the expedition still managed to get to Cape Evans, Antarctica, in McMurdo Sound, by 16 January 1915. However, while trying to edge itself into a winter berth, *Aurora* was blown out to sea on 16 May 1915. Encroaching winter ice prevented the ships return to the coast and it was sent packing with stores yet to be unloaded for the party already ashore and working. Unfortunately, the *Aurora's* captain was left behind with the shore party!

Aurora limped to New Zealand (arriving 2 April 1916) for a refit and later return to extricate the shore party. Those left behind from this party in Antarctica were suffering in great deprivation. Three also died in the useless depot laying effort.

Acting Captain Joseph R. Stenhouse (formerly, First Officer) writes on ship's stationary (**Figure 11**) to Australia from aboard

Aurora at Dunedin, New Zealand. Cancelled 20 September 1916, nearing the end of the ship's refit (**Figure 12**).

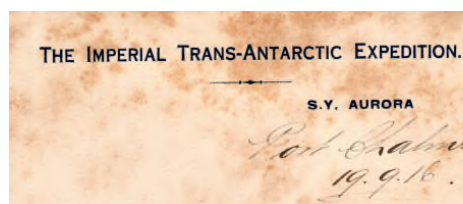


Figure 11
Expedition
Stationary
from the
Aurora
dated 19.9.16



Figure 12
Mail from the
Aurora from
Dunedin, NZ to
Australia from
Acting Captain
Stenhouse dated
20 SP 16

Both ships parties on the **Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition** had their specific stationery. That used with the *Endurance* group is noted by the absence of that ship's name. Both types of stationery are rarely seen, especially the *Aurora's*.

Four attempts were needed for Shackleton to rescue those on Elephant Island, (on 30 August 1916) with Chile's *Yelcho* finally to making it through nearly impenetrable ice.

Shackleton then returned to New Zealand to accompany *Aurora* for its rescue on 10 January 1917, of the survivors of the Ross Sea contingent.

Shackleton then gave paid lectures along the way of his long trip back to Great Britain.

Figure 13 was mailed 6 April 1917 to a possible ticket purchaser in San Francisco.

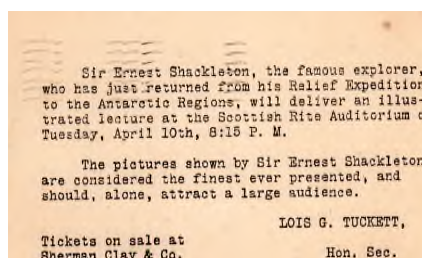


Figure 13 front &
back

There were other opportunities for Shackleton to lecture as he crossed the USA on the Way to England. He gave an illustrated talk in Aeolin Hall in New York City on 17 May 1917. (**Figure 14**)

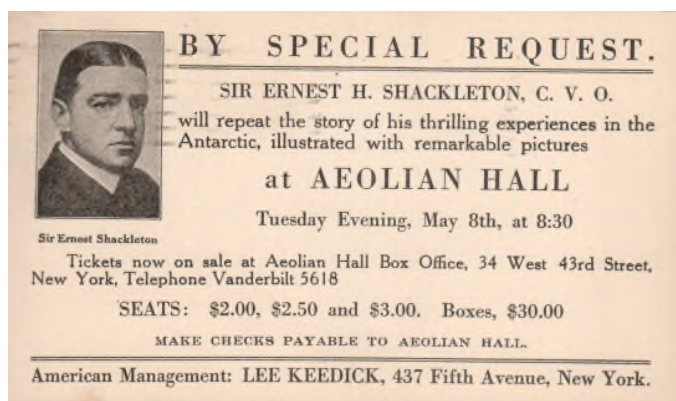


Figure 14 Advertising card for Shackleton's Lecture in New York City on 17 May 1917

Shackleton continued on the lecture circuit into 1920 (except for an interlude we later will discuss). However, he tired of performing. Yearning to get back on the ice, he eventually was able to do so with financial support from a former school chum and successful businessman (John Quiller Rowett).

The Shackleton-Rowett (S-R) Expedition (1921-22) to Antarctica had an expansive scientific and exploratory program. This eventually was limited because of its decrepit ship (*SY Quest*) and the loss of a key member. ***The Antarctic expedition left London, England, 17 September 1921, only to have its leader die as it entered Antarctic waters. Sir Ernest Shackleton succumbed to a heart attack on 5 January 1922, while Quest was recently anchored at South Georgia island.***

This is the least productive and least known of Shackleton's polar expeditions. In contrast, its postal related material, though quite scarce, is among the more intriguing.

Before leaving the United Kingdom, Shackleton had leveraged his popularity to persuade the UK Post Office to provide the expedition with a postmarker and three boxed cachets (Figure 14).

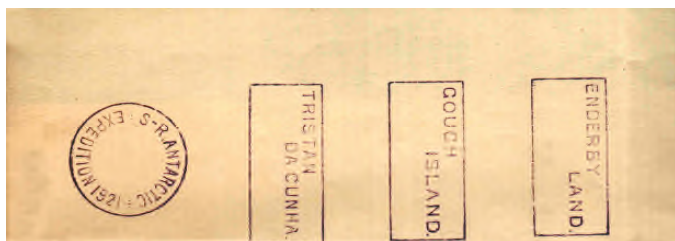


Figure 14 One of two known proof sheets of the four metal stampers. The boxed textual cachets were for use on mail from three sites the

expedition planned to visit:

Isolated Tristan da Cunha in the South Atlantic, Subantarctic Gough Island, and a coastal area of Antarctica called "Enderby Land."

The metal **postmarker's** dial accommodated removable date plugs, even though the expedition only would set it once. Shackleton also was *not* appointed "Postmaster." Instead, he was made an "unpaid" agent of the Postmaster General.

The UK Post Office did not agree to issue the expedition a stamp, as earlier had been done by New Zealand for the (1907-09) "*Nimrod Expedition*." Neither did it want the three boxed cachets misused as to produce stamp overprints. So they purposely were made too large to accommodate a single stamp. The clever expeditioners, however, saw that the oversize cachet stampers could fit comfortably over two side-by-side stamps. This is how they usually were used, probably to the dismay of the Post Office (**Figure 15**)



Figure 15 shows an example of a pair of 6d definitives from the two sheets of 6d stamps in the expedition's postal kit and overstruck with the "Gough Island" cachet. It is cancelled to order with the expedition's (never changed) 25 May 1922-dated *postmarker*.

Much of the postal material from S-R consists of souvenir "overprinted" stamp-pairs (usually on piece) prepared by the expedition aboard *Quest*. They had £135.00 of mixed denomination consignment postage for their use. (1)

Second-in-command Frank Wild tried to carry on after Shackleton's death. However, when he returned to England on 16 September 1922, a year after Shackleton's death, there was little to show for all their time in Antarctica

Quest had to return to South Georgia after three months from its first period of Antarctic cruising for repairs and a sad duty. Lady Shackleton requested that her husband be buried at South Georgia.

Figure 16 The cover shown below was cancelled at South Georgia, on 5 May 1922, three days before *Quest* departed for the second phase of its Antarctic geographic and scientific exploring. It had been there since 6 April. The onboard post office was yet to be opened. George Hubert Wilkins (later Sir Hubert) sent this mail to the island's "Police Constable." South Georgia was an active whaling base. **This is one of the few examples on mail of the ship's cachet.**



Earlier the expedition had neared "Enderby Land" without being able to land. No "Enderby Land" cancelled mail is known to mark that offshore encounter. Some "Enderby Land" impressions are known on piece.

The expedition also had explored the previously impenetrable Weddell Sea and stopped at *Elephant Island* before making that second layover at South Georgia.

The *Quest* then headed for Tristan da Cunha, followed by Gough Island. Each would be postally important. At Tristan they took on islander mail. The expedition's "post office" canceller was set (25 May 1922) on the last day of their 3-day stay to service this mailing.

Tristan mail then traditionally was "compassionately" handled in the international mail system. The islanders had neither money nor stamps. So, their occasional postings (picked up by visiting ships) usually were not penalty surcharged or double-taxed postage due.

Figure 17 shows an unfranked islander cover to Kent, UK, bearing 1-1/2d postage due stamps cancelled by Rochester & Chatham TPO (11 July 1922). It is struck with both the S-R cancellation and one of only two known uses of

the newly arrived Tristan **Type III** circular cachet on expedition-cancelled mail.



Figure 17 Mail from Tristan da Cunha to England with S-R Expedition Cancel dated MY 25 22. The letter rate was 1 1/2d in 1922 hence no surcharge was applied to the mail

The expedition post office had lots of stamps to accommodate Islander mail. However, probably no expedition postage was used on islander mail, because the expedition was accountable for the consigned postage. The islanders did not use money, so none had any to pay for expedition postage. However, their mail was cancelled, and sent on *Postage Due* with the first name/date postmark ever applied at Tristan da Cunha.

Figure 18 also is unfranked Tristan da Cunha mail cancelled at the S-R post office. It is quite different, though, from **Figure 17** servicing. The Tristan circular mail cachet is the older (soon to be replaced) Type II. It is paquebot struck at Cape Town, probably because it came from a foreign vessel, even though not franked.



Figure 18 This is the only known paquebot-marked mail and only mail to the United States from the S-R post office.

Quest's last research stop was uninhabited Subantarctic Gough Island (27 May-3 June 1922). Among those going ashore was Wilkins, serving as naturalist. He also used his stay to send at least one letter to someone in South Africa using the Gough Island cachet (**Figure 19**).

Only two S-R postings are known on cover using the Gough Island cachet (others are known on piece, see **Figure 15**).



Figure 19

The mail is properly franked for the expiring (29 May 1922) commonwealth rate of 2d. The “Gough Island” cachet is nearly correctly employed. It only barely overprints the stamps.

*Sir Ernest Shackleton was involved with one Arctic expedition when he was a member of the British Army in World War I. He was sent to Murmansk, Russia as part of the **North Russia Expeditionary Force** in 1918. More will be written about his role in this expedition in the next issue of IP*

End Note

(1) George Crabb nicely details the postal arrangements and activities of S-R in his 1980 study *The History and Postal History of Tristan da Cunha* on pages 167-75.

Ireland Registration of Deeds Revenue Stamps

By Frank Walton RDP FRPSL

From 1707 it was not necessary to register the primary title to a property in Ireland. If the title itself was not registered, then deeds or mortgages related to the property could be registered instead. Such a registration was important for the resolution of any subsequent disputes. The fee could be paid by either embossed stamps or by adhesive labels, or by a combination of both. An analysis of the Inland Revenue archive (IR79/79) held at Kew in London shows that one plate was made for each of the denominations. These were registered on 14 Dec 1864 (1s, 2s, 2s6d, 8s & 10s), 20 Dec 1864 (3d & 6d) or 28 Mar 1865 (4d & £1); they were all put to press the same day as they were registered. **All of these stamps were printed by Perkins Bacon in London.**

The earliest confirmed usage of the Ireland Registration of Deeds adhesives is 27 Oct 1865. The information gleaned from the archive, in combination with the earliest recorded use, suggests that these stamps were certainly not issued in 1861 as reported in the standard catalogues.



Figure 1.

Proof and issued
copy of the

Eight shillings
Registration of
Deeds Revenue
value.

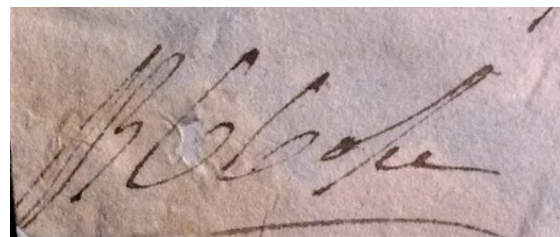
A proof printed in black and a used example of the first imperforate printing are shown in **Figure 1**.

The **Proof** was acquired some years ago, but it has taken me several years to find an example of this 8s stamp. Finally, a copy has come my way, and I was both astonished and delighted to discover that the stamp is from the same sheet position as the **Proof** as both demonstrate a very strong and distinctive burr rub outside the right-hand margin (**Figure 2**).



Witness to History by Rodney Greer

1801 Mail Sent Postage FREE: TANDRAGEE Northern Ireland to SUFFOLK England signed by R.C.COPE



Signature of RC Cope: Based on his signature, the mail was sent **Postage Free** because he was a *Member of Parliament*

I purchased this scruffy front some time ago most probably from an English dealer's £1 box. It has a Northern Irish mileage mark of "TANDRAGEE 63" barely decipherable but also a readable signature "R C Cope". At the time, I established that the Right Honourable Robert Camden Cope had been one of two Members of the Westminster Parliament elected in 1799 for Co Armagh. He was a local land owner with his family residence at LOUGHGALL Manor. However, he "made no mark" according to parliamentary commentary at the time and did not contest the 1802 election. He died in 1818 at the age of 47 and is buried in Weymouth (?) *Wikipedia. search*

Given the current "lockdown" restrictive measures, I have been sorting through my peripheral philatelic interests with a view to some rationalisation and/or disposal. Regarding this front I thought it deserved another look. As Mr. Cope lived in Loughgall at the end of the 18th century, this placed him very close to the site of a sectarian skirmish in 1795 namely The Battle of The Diamond of Orange Order fame. South Antrim and North Armagh was, in that era, the centre of the Irish Linen industry with a mainly Protestant workforce. (Linen was introduced by Huguenots fleeing religious persecution in 16th century France).

The demand for more linen workers resulted in agricultural labourers, the majority being Catholic, competing for that employment. This led to a series of sectarian confrontations from 1784 onwards.

The following two events, referring to R C Cope, are from on-line Military History websites.

In the days prior to 21st September 1795, a group of Catholics (Defenders) faced a group of Protestants (Peep O'Day Boys) close to Loughgall. The local magistrate summonsed the help of Mr Cope along with other local landowners and religious leaders in order to negotiate a peaceful settlement. Unfortunately, they failed and the skirmish took place. The Catholic Defenders were defeated. The victors retired to James Sloan's Inn in Loughgall (where else!!!) and resolved to form a defensive organisation. Initially called the Orange Boys it subsequently became the Orange Order. The skirmish was later upgraded, by the Orange Order, to "The Battle of the Diamond"

Investigating further, ***R C Cope is listed as being a Lieutenant Colonel in the Armagh Militia from 1795.*** The militia was summonsed to Dublin following the United Irishmen's uprising in Co Wexford during May/June 1798. It became part of a 400 strong military detachment, commanded by a Colonel Walpole that was despatched to assist crown forces under General Loftus in County Wicklow. The rebels were believed to be located at Ballymore Hill, south of Gorey, making ready to storm the town and garrison. Walpole in defiance of Loftus's instructions advanced on the rebel position and was ambushed in a narrow defile at Tubberneering (Modern townland Toberanierin). Walpole and an estimated 100 soldiers were killed. The crown forces fled with Lt Colonel Cope among the survivors. (Other Ref. "The Year of Liberty" by Thomas Pakenham Pub Hodder & Stoughton 1969)

I have not been able to make any connect between Cope and the front's addressee Thomas Maynard, Hoxne Hall, Eye, Suffolk. However, ***Given the history I think this may be one philatelic item to be put back in the collection.***

Voter Registration – Political Smear Campaigns – Disputed Elections – Government Control of the Media

Robert Benninghoff

Much has been written this year and last about “Electioneering” and the consequences of voting. This article is another collaborative effort by members of the Irish Philatelic Circle and looks at various aspects of Irish elections, politics and control of the media.

Voter Registration

The cover below shows the involvement of the Irish Post Office in the Registration of Voters.

This slogan cancel was used by the Irish Government to let people know that it was time to register to vote or update their registration and the cancellation was used from 1980 to 1986. People could check their registration status at their local Post Office, Garda Station and County Council Offices. ***They could also be nose y and check the status of their neighbors or political rivals.*** The role of the Post Office in maintaining voter registration lists ended in the late 1990s when online registration began.



Elections in Ireland are not restricted to only Irish Citizens and people legally resident in Ireland can vote in various elections. European Union Citizens can vote in local Irish elections and European Union Elections. Irish Citizens can vote in all elections, while United Kingdom Citizens can vote in local, National and until recently European Elections (1)

Voter registration is first compiled as a **Draft** with updated forms delivered by the post office to every Irish resident. This occurs every 4 to 5

years and recently ended on 25 Nov.2020 and allows time to update personal information ***or dispute other residents' legal status*** (2)

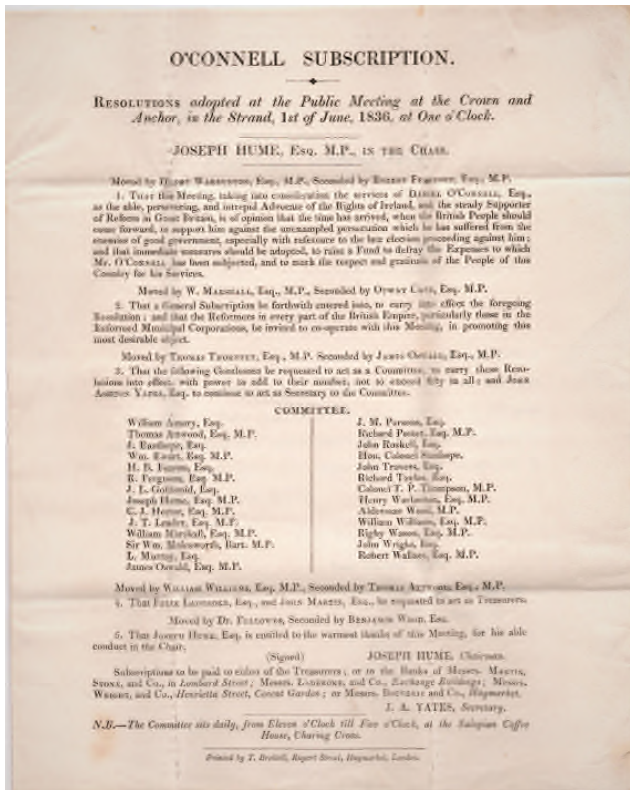
Political Smear Campaigns

History, particularly *Irish History* hails Daniel O'Connell (Aug 1775 to May 1847) as *The Liberator*, and the acknowledged political leader of Ireland's Roman Catholic majority in the first half of the 19th century. O'Connell was born to a wealthy Catholic family in County Kerry that managed to keep their land during the Penal Laws of the 1700s. He studied law and built a very successful practice, but turned his interests to political reform in the 1820s in an effort to repeal the remaining Anti Catholic Penal Laws (including the laws that banned Catholics from sitting in Parliament).

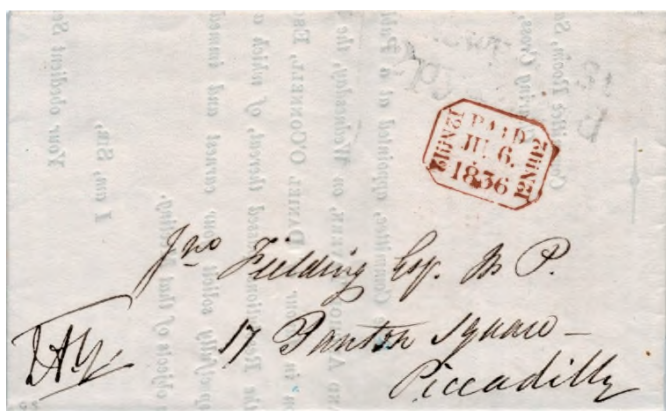
O'Connell ***transformed the political scene*** in 1823 by establishing the Catholic Association, bringing large numbers of people into active politics for the first time. He could draw crowds of 15,000 to 30,000 to his rallies, supporting his run for Parliament (Clare) in 1828. The ***Ultimate Outsider***, O'Connell's election forced the government to change the law (Catholic Relief Act) and allow him and other Catholics to sit in Parliament (the First Catholics since 1688).

Long an advocate for peaceful political reform, O'Connell stated: "*No political change*", *is worth the shedding of a single drop of human blood*"(3). His opponents however, saw in his ability to mobilise the Irish masses as an intimation to violence and a warning -- if the British establishment did not reform the governance of Ireland, Irishmen would start to listen to the "*counsels of violent men*" (3)

O'Connell's opponents in Parliament as well as wealthy land owners in Ireland **mounted vicious media and political campaigns against him and his reform policies** resulting in many costly legal battles. The following folded letter shows a subscription effort (Go Fund Me Page of the time) created by several of his colleagues **in London** during June 1836 to assist with his legal costs.



Folded "O'Connell Subscription" letter postmarked, London June 6 1836 and addressed to a potential financial supporter in London.



Daniel O'Connell, was married in 1802 and he and his wife Mary had four girls and four boys. All four sons followed their father into the Family Business of Politics as MPs.

Disputed Elections

Éamon de Valera (Oct 1882 to Aug 1975) was born in New York City. His mother was Irish American and his Father was Spanish. de Valera was a dominant figure in Irish Politics from 1916 to 1973 and much of his early career was spent **Disputing the Outcome of Elections in Ireland**



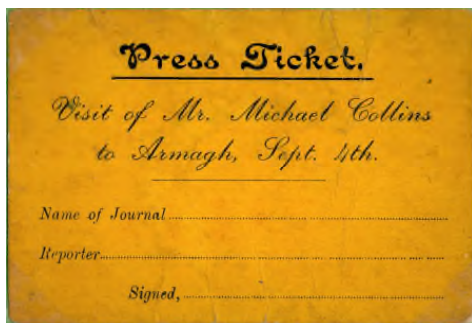
FDC with Dublin Postmark 24 X 1982 Commemorates 100 Anniv of his Birth

de Valera was Commandant at Boland's Mill during the 1916 Easter Rebellion and escaped execution because of his American Birth. Jailed in England instead, he joined **a radicalized** Sinn Féin upon his release in May 1917 and was elected President of Sinn Féin the same year. Sinn Féin candidates ran for the Irish seats in the British Parliament 1918 General election and they won 73 out of 105 Irish seats. Sinn Féin did not dispute the election results, **they ignored the results**, refusing to take their seats in London and formed their own independent Irish Parliament, *Dáil Éireann* (Assembly of Ireland) which met for the first time on 21 January 1919 at the Mansion House.

The postcard below (in Irish) was produced by Sinn Féin from a photo taken of the 27 members who were able to attend. Éamon de Valera is seated in the center of the first row, Arthur Griffith is to his left and Michael Collins is 3rd from his left.



The British declared the Dáil illegal in Sept 1919 and tensions escalated between the two governments in to a brutal War of Independence. In the British elections of May 1921, all Sinn Féin members in Southern Ireland were returned unopposed, with Sinn Féin securing seats in Northern Ireland (Michael Collins). Again, Sinn Féin refused to take their seats in London and a new approach to the **Irish Problem** was tried in July 1921 with a Truce declared to the hostilities and a visit to London by Éamon de Valera to see Lloyd George.



Michael Collins won a seat in Parliament in May 1921, although his first visit was in Sept. 1921 after the Truce. Signed press card for the event.



Election campaign pin for de Valera's 1918 run for MP from East Clare. He was first elected to the seat in a 1917 by-election. He represented the same district until 1959 when he became President of Ireland

Little became of the talks between the two politicians because de Valera wanted an Independent Irish Republic and Lloyd George was only offering a divided Ireland based upon the 1920 British Parliament passed *Government of Ireland Act*. ***This act created the two Irelands that still exist today and passed without any input from Sinn Féin who had boycotted Parliament.***

Lloyd George threatened de Valera with renewed and **Massive Hostilities** unless he sent delegates to negotiate a peaceful solution. Unable to find an acceptable solution de Valera

sent Michael Collins, Arthur Griffith and two other delegates to reach the best deal possible which was the same that Lloyd George had offered de Valera in the Summer.



A clipping from an Italian newspaper showing meeting between de Valera and Lloyd George in July 1921

The Treaty signed by the delegation on December 6 1921 with the British Government created an Irish Free State in the 26 counties of Southern Ireland. Northern Ireland was created for 6 of the 9 counties of Ulster and would remain part of Great Britain. The Irish Free State would be part of the British Commonwealth of nations and members of the Irish Parliament (The Dáil) would have to swear an oath of allegiance to King George V.

Éamon de Valera, president of Dáil Éireann was not consulted before the treaty was signed and he balked at the terms. He resigned as President in January 1921 when the Dáil ratified the Treaty and left the Dáil with a large number Sinn Féin TDs. The Stage was set for the Irish Civil War.



Recently discovered envelope showing the de Valera ERIE post label used on cover dated Jan 29 1929.

This is the only known example of this label on cover

The Irish people were given a chance in June to approve the treaty. De Valera embarked on a controversial pre-election speaking tour of Ireland “If the Treaty were accepted (by the electorate,) the Irish people would have to wade through the blood of Irish soldiers of the Irish Government to get their Freedom” (4) Quotes Combined from two speeches.

Government Control of the Media

A morse code transmission on 24 April 1916 from the General Post Office in Dublin by the rebels during the Easter Rising is considered the first broadcast in Ireland (5). Regular radio broadcasting in Ireland began with 2RN's test transmissions in 1925 which became *the state owned and operated RTÉ Radio 1* in 1926.

Radio Licenses or fees were mandated in Southern Ireland for all radio (AKA "Wireless") owners by the *Wireless Telegraphy Act of 1926* when the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs was empowered to *prosecute* those without a license. The Irish Post Office was charged with not only collecting the fees but also *searching for and prosecuting those without a license*. This continued until repeal of the law in 1972(6). Much of the lost revenue had been replaced by the introduction of Television License fees in 1962. For decades the programs, news and political information for much of Ireland was regulated and controlled by the Irish Government through the broadcast media until the digital age of the late 1980s (7).

The two covers below show the *License Your Radio Promptly* cancel used in Ireland during the 1950s (8)



Airmail cover from Limerick to Midlothian, Illinois, USA
Postmarked
7 APR 1953.
The 1s 4d paid the airmail rate

Airmail cover from Dun Laoghaire to Kamloops, Canada

Postmarked
12 Mar 1959

The 1s 3d paid the airmail rate which was 1d less in 1959



It appears that during much of the 20th century that the Irish Post Office kept records of people with radios as well as registered voters. They keep records of TV owners to this day (9)

(1) Many thanks to Brian Warren who provided me with the Voter Registration information for this section. The last known use of this slogan was in 1986

(2) To see the voter Registration forms go to http://www.checktheregister.ie/appforms/RF_A_English_Form.pdf

(3) Boylan, Henry (1998): A dictionary of Irish Biographies, 3rd Ed.: Gilland MacMillan, Dublin Page 306

(4) O'Kelly, JJ: A Treaty of Martyrs: Irish Book Bureau Dublin pages 66 to 68. Starting on 17 March 1922, de Valera made these controversial speeches at Carrick on Suir, Lismore, Dungarvan and Waterford. He was also paid for these speeches, and when challenged by the *Irish Independent* newspaper about their inflammatory nature, he attested to the accuracy but deplored the paper for publishing them

(5) <http://www.rte.ie/radio1/bowmansundaymorning/> Bowman Show, RTÉ Radio 1, 20 May 2012

(6) radio stations, programming and radio ownership in Ireland was governed by the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1926, (Act No 45 of 1926), (as amended)

(7) Thanks to Michael McNamara (MM) for reminding me that most Radios (Wireless) could pick up foreign stations the Medium Width (MW) band and to quote Michael: "Listening to high power /clear channel East Coast US, Canada and Brazil MW stations used to be relatively easy during our long winter nights but that was before the days of TV. I remember hearing about the Northeast blackout of 1965 before it hit the news here" (In Ireland).

(8) The slogan was first used in 1951 in Cork, Limerick and Waterford and was last used in Dundalk in 1971 (Email correspondence from Brian Warren). There was also the Irish version *FAIGH CEADUNAS DOD RADIO* - Get a License for your Radio - in the fifties per MM.

AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY COVERS - II

Stan Challis



2 GIBRALTAR – Skibbereen to Cameroon, MISSENT to GIBRALTAR

Gibraltar had been a British possession since 1713. As the gateway to the Mediterranean, it soon became a key strategic naval port. After much activity in World War II, operations began to be wound down in the 1960s, Gibraltar to this day remaining a British Overseas Territory.

But the above item should never have gone anywhere near 'The Rock'. Addressed to the Republic of Cameroons and posted at Skibbereen, Co Cork on 16 December 1965, the item has been stamped at the Irish internal rate of 5d. Correct postage, the overseas surface letter rate was 8d. Hence, a 'T' (for Taxe) mark has been applied at Dublin, in transit, 25c being noted against that mark. The 25c, more strictly 25 gold centimes, was, in a currency used only by the Bank of International Settlements, in the New Hebrides (an Anglo-French Condominium) and the Universal Postal Union for fixing postage due charges. This translated to 3d sterling, the amount of the short payment. This charge should have been collected at double rate on delivery in Cameroon, as the country is usually known.

So how did it get to Gibraltar? It is unlikely that sufficient mail would have originated in Ireland at that time to merit a separate bag being made up for Cameroon, so it should have gone to London which served and still does as a general 'Entrepôt' for miscellaneous mail. But Gibraltar was reached on 19 December, European mail going 'All Up', which

suggests that a separate mail bag was made up for Gibraltar in Dublin and the item is likely to have been mis-sorted at that office.

On receipt in Gibraltar, the Colonial Post Office was a bit too keen. Before checking as to whom/ where the item was addressed, Postage Due stamps to the value of 6d were applied - 6d because it represented double the 3d (25c) underpayment. Poste haste, those stamps were annulled, a MISSENT to GIBRALTAR mark was applied and our item would have been back to London on the next flight before finally arriving at the Elders and Fyffes depot at Likomba, Cameroon on 26 January. However, Mr Mahony, the addressee, a crew member on the SS *Chicanoa*, had now moved on and he was en route to the depot at Garston, Liverpool reached by the letter on 1 February.

Elders and Fyffes Line operated a number of 'Banana Boats'. *Chicanoa* had been built in 1958 specifically for the Cameroon trade operating in and out of the small port of Tiko in the former British Cameroons. Too small for other services, she was sold to United Brands of Honduras in 1970. To this day Fyffes remain a major banana importer and although Japanese owned, the head office is still in North Anne Street, Dublin.