



The Revealer



Vol. XV No. 3

ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
(International)

April-June, 1965

Whole No. 81

Issued Quarterly

John J. Walsh, Editor

DOES THE IRISH DOUBLE OVERPRINT ON THE WATERLOW 10/- OF 1935 EXIST ?

by B. de Burca, M.B.E.

This postage stamp is catalogued by Stanley Gibbons under Ireland as number 101a. Its status has been questioned by Irish collectors for some years, and to clarify the position two copies in the collection of the late Thomas E. Field have been examined. Both copies have certificates of genuineness, numbers 44,196 and 57,607, issued by the Royal Philatelic Society. In addition, number 44,196 issued in 1957, was resubmitted to this Society in 1964, and the opinion that it was genuine was again expressed.

After a detailed examination and consideration of all the facts a very different opinion was formed. In giving our reasons for this decision, for purposes of description, the two overprints will be described as D.O. 1 [44,196] and D.O. 2 [57,607].

Overprints had been applied to British postage stamps used in Éire from 1922 to 1935, and it seems strange that the last stamp overprinted should be the first to receive a double overprint. It is also a nice coincidence that the colour of the stamp on which it occurred should be indigo, the most difficult colour on which to view a blue-black overprint.

The ink used in the second overprint is a much lighter blue-black than the original overprint on both the stamps. With the aid of a blue colour filter the second overprint can be made very faint, while the original overprint remains relatively unchanged. This demonstrates clearly that two very different inks were used.

In examining the individual letters of the light coloured overprint it becomes apparent that there are two different light coloured overprints, and that the double overprint on D.O. 2 appears to be a recut on that on D.O. 1. In making this recut the initial "S" of Saorstát had the top curve of the 'S' sliced off, and the base of the first '2' of 1922 was thinned at an angle, giving this numeral a sloping appearance. In some respects all the letters and figures of the light overprint differ from those of the dark type. Some typical letters from the dark and light overprints on D.O. 2 are reproduced, and all at the same scale from an enlargement.

ENLARGED LETTERS FROM THE FIRST OVERPRINT (Genuine) on D.O. 2 :

S Á n

(Please turn to page 601)

Fire Philatelic Association

(INTERNATIONAL)

PRESIDENT - - - Fred E. Dixon
15 Terenure Road, East
Rathgar, Dublin 6, Ireland



VICE PRESIDENT - Joseph E. Foley
1825 Cromwell Road, Baltimore 34, Md.

SECRETARY TREASURER - Gil P. Roberts,
1716 West Alpine, Stockton, Calif.

EDITOR OF REVEALER - John J. Walsh,
4 Ferris Avenue, Utica, New York

ASSOCIATE EDITOR - Rev. Eugene Doherty
330 No. Westmore, Villa Park, Illin.

ASSOCIATION ATTORNEY - Lorin L. Kay
Box 489 Richland Centre, Wisconsin

E.P.A. EUROPEAN DIRECTOR - M.J. Giffney
22 East Road, Dublin 3, Ireland

PUBLIC RELATIONS - Mr. William Hickey,
96 Georgia Ave., Providence, Rh. Isl.

FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS AND BACK COPIES OF
THE REVEALER. Write to Mr. Wm. Hickey
at the above address. Price of back
copies 35¢ each.

SECRETARY'S QUARTERLY REPORT

New Member: Hans G. Moxter
Corregidora 16-5
Tlacopac, Mexico 20, D.F.

Change of Address:

Willis A. McDonnell
P.O. Box 3150
St. Paul, Minn. 55101

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S SPINDLE

Joe Foley is in the process of preparing an article on the barred diamond cancellations. He has requested the assistance of the membership in compiling data on the subject. Anyone interested in working with Joe should contact him at 1825 Cromwell Road,

The UNIPEX 1965 to be held at the Municipal Auditorium, Utica, New York on October 15-16-17, 1965 is rapidly taking shape. Since this is a state-wide exhibition, any members wishing to take part in this show should contact the editor. The exhibition fee is \$2.00 per frame (of six album pages) with a limit of 10 frames.

How about a mail auction for EPA? There must be a lot of dormant surplus

SUPPORT THE E.P.A. PUBLICATION

material in the member's hands which could be put into circulation. The Irish Philatelic Circle is finding the surplus auction material is producing astonishing prices. Our Vice President, Joseph Foley is willing to handle this feature if there is sufficient interest shown.

R A N D O M N O T E S

by Fred Dixon

EUROPA 1964. W. Kane has reported some discoveries in the 1/5 Europa, of which there are apparently four panes. One has hair lines down the fourth column and the stamps in the right end column of this pane have spots across the flower.

The Stamp Magazine reports an extra leaf flaw on the 5d Europa 1964. I have seen nothing quite worthy of this description. I have seen two minor projections from the stem, the upper on right pane, Row 1, No. 4, and the lower on the same row No. 7.



4d ENVELOPE. The latest, and presumably last printing of the envelope with 4d impressed stamp has the stamp in an even deeper shade than earlier printings, being nearer black than the former blue-green.

OVERPRINTED FISCALS. Hitherto unrecorded, I think, is the 1/- LAND REGISTRY OF IRELAND overprinted SAORSTAT EIREANN

JUDICATURE-SOUTHERN IRELAND. Recently we announced the discovery of a Judicature embossed stamp of 1921 overprinted by handstamp "Southern Ireland". The corresponding adhesives were the Geo. V key-plate designs with JUDICATURE IRELAND in red on the panel at foot. During 1922 and 1923, these were overprinted with RIALTAS...or SAORSTAT...overprints, like the postal overprints but without the "1922". These were succeeded by the EIRE key-plate series.

Now I am startled to find that there were also adhesives printed from the pre-1922 plates but with the inscriptions JUDICATURE SOUTHERN IRELAND in black. Values seen are 4d, 1/-, 1/6, and 10/- so it seems that the whole range of values to £ 1 appeared.

The second (forged) overprint on D.O. 2 enlarged to the same scale:

S Á n n

The cancellation on D.O. 1 is of some interest and was at one time suspect. It is No. 2 of a series of handstamps reading "P.O. na dTelegraf a Cliath" intended for cancelling the stamps affixed to telegrams. These were, however, used as general counter stamps on some occasions. For example, F. E. Dixon has S.G. 101 on an Express cover posted on St. Patricks Day 1936, the cancellation being "P.O. na dTelegraf a Cliat No.1".

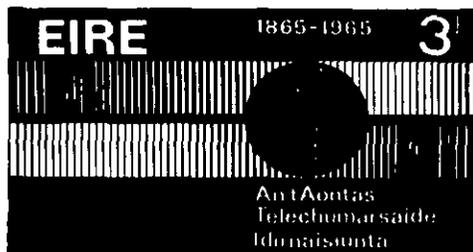
The similar cancellation on D.O. 1 does not therefore necessarily indicate telegraphic use. In fact such use is unlikely in that it has long been the Irish Post Office practice to deface the stamps on telegrams with heavy bars before sending them for pulping. There is evidence that there have been departures from this practice, and telegraphically used stamps have appeared on the market. It is possible that D.O. 1 in its original single overprint state, is genuinely postally used, possibly from a first day cover.

It is believed that there are six other copies of this double overprint known, and I would very much appreciate information on any of the other copies.

I have to thank Leslie Fletcher for the loan of material, and Fred Dixon for information on the Telegraph cancelling date stamps.

NEW COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE - IRELAND

Ireland will join with other members of the International Telecommunications Union in the issue, on 17th May, 1965, of special stamps to make the centenary of the founding of the Union. The Irish stamp will be in two denominations, 3d. colours blue and green [20,000,000] and 8d. colours black and green [2,500,000] and will be made up in sheets of 120. The design by Peter Wildbur, of Signa Limited, Design Consultants, Dublin, incorporates the symbol of the Union together with a globe. "An tAontas Telechumarsaide



"Idirnaisiunta" is the title of the Union in Irish. Photogravure. Perf. 15 x 15.

A FEW NOTES ON IRISH PHILATELY

by J. E. Foley, E.P.A.

PICTORIAL MACHINE CO, ESSAY: In a very fine article on the essays-the definitive series, in the January-February 1961 issue of the "Revealer", the late Thomas E. Field mentioned the existence of an imperforate single of the Pictorial Machine Co. essay in sepia-brown. I recently purchased at auction, a block of ten [5 x 2] of this item in the same color. The block appears to be cut from the middle of the sheet with a margin of 4 1/2" on the left side and 1/4" on the right. The block is imperforate.

(continued on the next page)

DOLLARD GRAY BLACK OVERPRINTS: Scott, Gibbons, and Lowe all list the Dollard overprints as known in gray black as well as the usual black. Scott states "black or gray black overprint", Gibbons lists only the 9d in "Faint gray-black" and Lowe states "all values [except 4d] are known in greyish-black(N)" (The "N" indicates no increase in value). Meredith also lists the gray black shades. About the best explanation for the gray-black shade was advanced to me some time ago by Hans Zervas. He proposed that it was entirely possible that a different ink was not used but that it came about accidentally. Dollard was not a Bank Note printing company such as some of the usual stamp printing houses and consequently, probably did not work to their very meticulous standards. Periodically the plates must have needed cleaning, and a solvent was probably used for this job. If all of the solvent, used for cleaning, was not removed, it could have diluted the black ink resulting in a "Gray-black" shade.

IRISH POSTAL RATES: The student of postal history often finds much valuable information about a cover from the prevailing postal rates. To the best of my knowledge, no one has ever compiled a complete listing of the postal rates of Ireland. I think it would be an excellent project and would be published in the "Revealer" if some member or group of members would undertake the task of compiling the data. Robson Lowe gives some information on rates in the 1952 edition of his Encyclopedia [Vol. 1]. However, it is rather sketchy. I think that the pre 1922 rates should be the same as Great Britain except for the period 1784 to 1831 when the Irish Post Office was self governing. What I would like to see would be a tabulation of the rates to include all classes of mail, registry, air, sea, and local rates from the stampless era down to the present date. A tall order indeed! Maybe some member residing in Ireland with access to the GPO records might be willing to work on this.

DOLLARD PROOFS: The existence of the Thom proofs backstamped "Original Proof Supplied by Thom to Dollard 17.2.22" or handwritten on the reverse "Original Proof received from Thom by Dollard B.J.B." was discussed in the March-April 1955 issue of the "Revealer" by the late Perry Adams. Mr. Adams offered some very excellent comments on the possible reasons for proofs of the Thom overprint to be in the hands of Dollard. However I have one of my own that I would like to add to the list. In April 1922, the Mint Stamp Company, Dublin published a handbook by F.F. Freeman and T.T. Stubbs entitled, "Handbook, Provisional Issue, Irish Free State Stamps". Considering the early publication date, the book is remarkable in its detail. It contains full page illustrations showing the settings of both the Thom and Dollard overprints in actual size. The authors acknowledge their indebtedness to Mr. B.J. Brennan, the manager of Dollard and Mr. Robertson, managing director of Thom. The handbook was printed by Dollard Printinghouse Ltd., Dublin. Now then, wouldn't it simplify the task of Dollard in preparing the plates for the illustrations of the Thom overprint to have some "proofs" of the actual Thom overprint? If you have any opinion pro or con and can give us some more information on this subject, please get in touch with the editor.

THE REVEALER: I'm sure many of us were disappointed to find only 8 pages in the October-December 64 issue of the "Revealer". I think it's time the membership did something about it. Like sending an article or two to the editor. I have had the pleasure of meeting and corresponding with many EPA members and know that there is a vast storehouse of philatelic knowledge in the membership. The potential subject matter is great. Perhaps two or more members could collaborate in the preparation of an article.

E.P.A. NEEDS THE SUPPORT OF EVERY MEMBER - ARE YOUR DUES PAID?