



The Revealer



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EIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
(INTERNATIONAL)

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Neil Stack, Editor

COUNTY TYRONE



County Courthouse, Omagh.

By Neil Stack
Editor of The Revealer

The County of Tyrone has an appeal all of its own. Its people are a friendly people, kind and unspoiled by the influences of the cities. In its countryside there is a charm that makes one feel that he is in the very heart of Ulster. One is always cognizant of its hills, its dales, its moorlands, its comfortable looking farms, and its stones that reek with history.

The modern County of Tyrone is not particularly well wooded but in the old kingdom of Tir-Eoghain, which forms the central part of the county,

there were very extensive forests until the beginning of the 17th century, now well-cultivated arable land. The Kingdom of Tir-Eoghain was, for that reason principally, the strongest of the native territories which did not recognize the conquest by Henry II of England until the reign of Henry VIII. The Irish Parliaments met but did not pretend to legislate for these kingdoms. The High Court was set up in Dublin in the 12th century but the king's writ did not run in these kingdoms; most striking proof of all of their independence, the kings claimed and exercised to the full, the right to carry on war against each other. Until The O'Neill of Tir-Eoghain surrendered his sovereignty in 1542 for the position of Earl, took his seat in Parliament, and accepted English law for the old Brehon law, his authority was almost analogous to that of the Amir of Afganistan.

KINGDOM OF TIR-EOGHAIN DIVIDED INTO THREE COUNTIES

It was this kingdom which was cut up into three Counties of Armagh in the south, Coleraine (afterwards Londonderry) in the north, leaving the middle slice to form the

IRISH AMONG THE WORLD'S BEST-FED
NEW YORK, N.Y.--The Irish are one of the 13 best-fed nations in the world, according to the 1953 United Nations' Statistical Year Book just published.

The average Irish person's daily diet contains 3,000 calories, states the Year Book, and so Ireland ranks with the United States, Canada, Sweden and Switzerland.

Other nations further down the list--from 2,800 to 2,400 calories a day--include Britain, the Netherlands, Germany, France and Austria.

County of Tyrone. On the northern side are the Sperrin Mountains, the highest peak (Sawel, 2,240 feet) being on the boundry of Tyrone and Londonderry. The moorland in a southernly direction divides Tyrone into two parts which were, at one time, actually regarded as separate counties. While along the south, from east to west, is the fertile district commonly described as the Clogher Valley. It was formerly in the Kingdom of Oriel.

POINTS OF INTEREST IN TYRONE

We now begin our tour in the county of the O'Neills, and will start at the eastern end. (Page 176, please)

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COUNTY TYRONE

(Contae Tír Eoghain)

(Continued from page 175)

COOKSTOWN

(Cosa Críche: Boundary Stretches)

Cookstown, founded in 1619, and named after Allan Cook, has the longest and widest street in the county. It is a clean and nicely laid out town. Nearby is Killymoon Castle, built by John Nash, the architect of Regent Street, at a cost of £80,000. Not long ago the property brought £100 at sale.

Loughry House is about 2½ miles from Cookstown and is now the Government's residential Dairy School for farmers' daughters. It was here that Dean Swift, a friend of the former owner, penned his satirical attacks on what ever aroused his displeasure.

DUNGANNON

(Dún Feanann: Gannon's Fort)

Dungannon is a compactly built town and laid around the dun (fort) from which it takes its name. The tourist will find the streets very steep here; this was used as a means of defense in the days before artillery. It was the capital of Tir-Eoghain and on the top of the hill was the Castle of The O'Neill. Today nothing remains but the name "Castle Hill."

TOWN HISTORICALLY IMPORTANT

The Presbyterian Church on Scotch Street has historical interest as being the place where the Irish Volunteers met in June 1782 and September 1783 to demand independence of the Irish Parliament. Dungannon was created a borough by James I for his first Parliament after the Plantation, but it was disfranchised by the Redistribution Act of 1885. Being the capital, it became the Assize town, when the judges first went on circuit in Tyrone to administer English Law. Subsequently Omagh took its place.

CENTER OF EDUCATION

Due to its prominence in the early part of the 17th century, Dungannon is strong educationally. One of the Royal Schools founded by James I was erected here. The Education Endowments Commission of 1881 divided the revenue it enjoyed from the liberal grant of lands with the Roman Catholic Board of Education, which has an Academy in Dungannon. There is also a High School for girls, managed by the local education authority, for which a new school has been erected, and the Technical School, which has outgrown its present building, is to have a new one.

TOWN STILL INDUSTRIALLY IMPORTANT

Dungannon has more than held its own--industrially. Its factories have been enlarged in recent years. The business of the town has improved considerably in the last decade. Excellent bus service to surrounding areas has contributed to the flourishing market.

County Tyrone has a plenitude of little towns and villages--Tyrone folk mostly call them towns today. For the most part each has some distinctive characteristic which will be of interest to the tourist. Coalisland tells its own story. It has its old-world canal and canal boats, and its glazed earthen crockery furnaces give an air of prosperous industry.

The little hamlet of Tullyhogue is only a short distance away. Here, prior to 1607, the kings of Ulster were crowned in ceremony under a sacred tree.

DONAGHMORE AND CASTLECAULFIELD

The industrial villages of Donaghmore and Castlecaulfield are a couple of miles from Dungannon. The former produces linen while the latter manufactures soap and candles. Donaghmore has a good example of a Celtic Cross which can be seen from the highway. At Caulfield is the well-preserved remains of the castle of Sir Toby Caulfield (the first Lord Charlemont)--an example of the architecture of James I.

A little town south of Dungannon is known as "The Moy". Before the days of the automobile it was a busy mart for the export of horses to all parts of the globe.

BENBURB

An industrial village, Benburb lies six miles south of Dungannon, off the Calendon road. Many skirmishes have taken place here, up and down the river, between the Irish and Scotch armies in the civil war. At Battleford Bridge, in 1646, a Scottish Army under General Robert Munroe was totally defeated by Owen Roe O'Neill.

A little to the north is Pomeroy, known as the highest town in Tyrone.

Towards the southern end of the county is

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COUNTY TYRONE

(Continued from page 176)

the pastoral country of the Clogher Valley, with its attractive little towns--Clogher, Augher, Ballygawley, Caledon, Fivemiletown. The last named is teeming with ecclesiastical history. William Carleton, the novelist, was born at Prillisk near Clogher in 1794. The residence of the Earl of Caledon adjoins the village of that name. It was here that **Viscount Alexander**, the British Field-Marshal, was born in 1891.

THE HILL ROAD TO FINTONA

We may now elect to go north towards the town of Omagh by several routes, but we want to go over the hill road from Fivemiletown to Fintona. The lure of this route is through a delightful piece of heatherland and over a gradual rising road which brings one to one of the best general views in the county. A delectable vista embraces at least nine counties. To the southwest are the precipitous sides of sturdy Benbulbin beyond Bundoran. Then to the northwest--believe it or not--the ages-old promontory of Slieve League, where it dips into the Atlantic can be seen in southwest Donegal. But one can't remain on the hilltop, and there is the inevitable valley in front of us as the car slips down the road to Fintona, famous for its cattle fairs and its horse car (horse tram).

If you are driving a car be careful not to drive through an animal fair. You will find that neither animal nor man will get out of your way and you will have spent considerable time trying to extricate yourself.

We could have reached the more agriculturally prosperous North Tyrone via Seskinore--famous for its branches of the Ulster Farmers' Union and the Young Farmers' Club, but we chose the hill route of extreme beauty.

OMAGH

(An Ógma's: *The Sacred Plain*)

Omagh, the county town, is on the River Strule and is famous for its pearls and its salmon. The town itself is commercially a prosperous one and makes a good base of operation for exploring the outlying places of interest. It has good hotels and restaurants and is an important junction of the Great Northern Railway for travelers to Enniskillen and Lough Erne.

Visitors to Omagh always find their way to Gortin Gap, nestled in heather-clad hills, with blue lakes.

STRABANE

(An Srae Bán: *The Fair River-Meadow*)

Another important town in Tyrone is Strabane. Perhaps of all the larger towns it has the most friendly atmosphere. Numerous
(Page 179, please)

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ESSAYS FOR THE DEFINITIVE ISSUE

By MALCOLM G. O'REILLY
(E.P.A. PRESIDENT)

To continue with the essays prepared by Messrs Dollard and Co.--The other design that was submitted by Dollard was based on the 2 centavo value of the 1915 issue of Chile which portrayed De Valdivia. It is from this portrait that the essays get their name-- the "Valdivia's".

THE VALDIVIA ESSAYS

The essay was lithographed, whereas the the stamp from which it was copied was typographed. There are many differences between the Chilean stamp and the Dollard Essay: On the latter the stars in the upper corner are larger, De Valdivia looks sleepier, the background lines are wider and less sharp. Other than the figure--"2"---(as required) the essay is devoid of inscription. Blank spaces have been left where "Chile Correos", "Valdivia", and "centavos" had been on the original stamp.

The essays were printed in sheets of 24 with white gum. All values exist, both imperf and line perforated. The perforation measures 11 to 11 $\frac{1}{4}$. This method of perforation
(Page 178, please)



Mr. Michael Giffney, 22 East Road, Dublin, European Director of the Irish Philatelic Association, who bought 8,000 of the new Marian Year commemorative stamps in the G.P.O.,

E.P.A. REPRESENTATIVE BUYS FIRST STAMPS

Dublin--First in line at the G.P.O. in Dublin, to purchase the Marian Year commemorative, was our European Representative and Director, Michael Giffney.

STAMP IN DEMAND

The demand for both denominations--the 3d. blue and the 5d. green--started early in the morning and in the St. Andrews Street Post Office as well as the G.P.O., a steady line of stamp collectors handed in covers for the first-day cancellation mark.

Postal workers also had to cope with many orders from abroad. The job was made easier this time, however, by a specially engraved die which marked the envelope "FIRST DAY of Issue" and cancelled the stamps in the same operation.

C.W. MORTIMER MAILED "FIRST DAY" CARDS

Mr. T.W. Mortimer, secretary of the Dublin Stamp Society, mailed color post cards in commemoration of the Marian Year. Each card bore a reproduction of Fra Fillippo Lippi's "Adoration" and franked "First Day of Issue".

LIMERICK WHOLESALE SENDS OUT CARDS

Limerick--Mr. Alf McGann, Irish wholesale dealer, mailed out First Day of Issue cards to his many friends and clients. Each card bore the picture of Our Lady of Fatima, and beneath it was "Marian Year". On either side of the picture was shown the Papal Coats of Arms. Each bore a hand-stamped cancellation of the Limerick postmark and the wording--"First Day of Issue".

NEW MINISTER FOR POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

E.P.A. congratulates the new Minister for Posts and Telegraphs--Mr. Michael J. Keyes.



(enlarged).

De Valdivia Essay

whereas the regular definitive series did not appear in completion until the end of October 1923.

I have seen numerous color varieties for all values, especially of the 1, 2, 3, and 10. Additional varieties may exist but the above listed are in the collection of the writer and many are of previous record.

GROWING U.S. INTEREST IN IRISH EXPORTS

New York--Mr. Donal Scully, Irish Trade Consul in New York, reports an increasing demand for merchandise in the United States.

While raw wool and horses represent the most important export items, there is much interest being evidenced in Irish sisal carpets, Waterford glass, tweeds, meats and jams.

Last year representatives of more than 30 Irish firms visited this country in search of new markets.

Saar Marian Year Issue Reproduces Raphael's Sistine Madonna



The Saar series will be the third to honor the Marian Year. Ireland came first with the two Della Robbia Madonna. Then Vatican City followed with the six stamps portraying Popes Pius IX and XII. The 10 franc stamp of the Saar is taken from the painting of Raphael's Sistine Madonna.

Two other noted Madonnas painted in the early sixteenth century will form the designs for the 5fr and 15fr stamps in the set.

U.S. COFFEE PRICES 3Sh 4d OVER IRISH

New York--New Yorkers are paying 9Sh.4d. per pound for coffee (\$1.31) while the Irish are reported as paying 6Sh. (\$.84). Even with the high prices for this commodity in Ireland, Americans would consider it a bargain.



THINK FIRST SAFETY FIRST



LATEST POSTAL SLOGAN CANCELLATION

COUNTY TYRONE

(Continued from page 177)

new residences have been erected here but they have not taken away that somewhat attractive old world air of the place. If Strabane is noted for one particular thing, it is the outstanding quality of friendship that enters into the make-up of its people. Much of the town's history has been recorded in recent years; it had a strong appeal for the American soldiers during World War II. It was Strabane that in bygone days sent America so many of its sons that rose to fame. Here in the 18th century printing shop on Main St. President Wilson's grandfather learned the art of printing. It was John Dunlap, a Strabane man, who printed the first copies of the Declaration of Independence and gave America its first daily newspaper.

SHIRT FACTORIES, THE BASIC INDUSTRY

Although not of spectacular dimensions, busy shirt factories here continue to be very prosperous. Strabane has good salmon fishing and anglers swap good salmon stories.

The slopes of Knockavoe Hill rising about the town provide a magnificent vista of a thriving countryside stretching away into the land of Tirconnail.

THE MODEL VILLAGE OF SION MILLS

To the south of Strabane are the busy spinning mills of the well-kept model village of Sion Mills, the home of a contented people, and captained by proprietors who give unlimited service in public welfare.

BARONSCOURT

Traveling north towards Newtown Stewart, we find ourselves at Baronscourt with its enchanting lake and forest land. This is the estate of the Duke of Abercorn. At present the castle is occupied by the Marquis and Marchioness of Hamilton, who take much interest in the people in this part of Tyrone. A Crannog (Island McHugh) on one of the lakes recently under excavation was found to be one of the very oldest in the British Isles.

NEWTOWNSTEWART

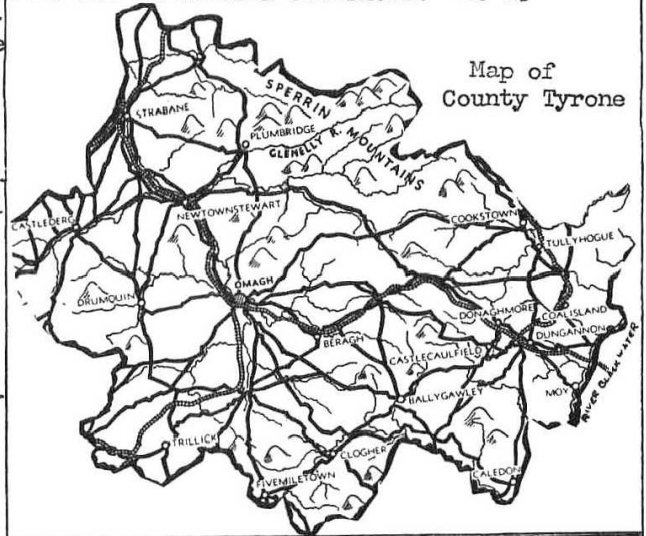
Our next point of interest is Newtown Stewart, on the main line of the Great Northern Railway. With its four rivers, it is most



SION MILLS

popular with the fishermen during the summer. The heathery moors provide good shooting for the hunter while the golfer will find a very fine course.

Nowhere on the Great Northern Railway line is there such a beautiful stretch of river as there is between Newtown Stewart and Victoria Bridge stations. This town, in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, was not without its dramatic thriller. The District-Inspector of Police, in June 1871 murdered the local bank cashier, and then proceeded to investigate the tragedy. The story has been the subject of a mystery thriller and broadcast over BBC on several occasions. ❀ ❀



Map of County Tyrone

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BUY E.P.A. SEALS AND GAELIC-ENG. P.O. LISTING

IRISH COMMEMORATIVE FIRST DAYS OF ISSUE

A Complete Listing Through 1953

By Perry Adams, E.P.A. #84

Since appearance in the March-April issue of THE REVEALER of the Permanent Issue first dates of issue, members have been asking for a similar list to embrace all Commemoratives. Most of this material has appeared piecemeal in THE REVEALER, yet there are advantages to a summary, which becomes a handy check list. Perhaps most of all, it has time-saving properties when going over accumulations of covers, in the never-ending search for "First Day Entries". In point of time, this listing carries from 1929, when the O'Connells appeared, through the 1953's Emmets.

<u>Scott Numbers</u>	<u>Face Values</u>	<u>To Commemorate</u>	<u>First Day of Issue</u>
80,81,82	2d,3d,9d	CENTENARY--CATHOLIC EMANCIPATION (O'Connell)	22 June 1929
83	2d	COMPLETION--SHANNON HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME (Shannon Dam)	15 Oct. 1930
84	2d	200th ANNIVERSARY--ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY (Farmer with Sythe)	12 June 1931
85,86	2d,3d	INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS (Cross of Cong)	12 May 1932
88,89	2d,3d	H O L Y Y E A R 1 9 3 3 (Adoration of the Cross)	18 Sept. 1933
90	2d	GOLDEN JUBILEE--GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (Hurley Player)	27 July 1934
99,100	2d,3d	CONSTITUTION DAY (Allegory--Ireland and Constitution)	29 Dec. 1937
101,102	2d,3d	CENTENARY--TEMPERANCE CRUSADE (Father Theobald Mathew)	1 July 1938
103,104	2d,3d	150th ANNIVERSARY--U.S. CONSTITUTION (Washington--Eagle--Harp)	1 Mar. 1939
118,119	2d,3d	(Provisional Issue) 25th ANNIVERSARY 1916 EASTER RISING. (Special colors, regular issue overprinted in green and violet.)	12 Apr. 1941
120	2½d	(Definitive Issue) 25th ANNIVERSARY 1916 EASTER RISING. Volunteer Sol- dier before Dublin G.P.O.)	27 Oct. 1941
124,125	½d,2½d	50th ANNIVERSARY--GAELIC LEAGUE (Dr. Douglas Hyde)	31 July 1943
126,127	½d,2½d	CENTENARY--DISCOVERY OF QUATERINONS FORMULA (Sir Rowan Hamilton)	13 Nov. 1943
128,129	½d,1Sh	TERCENTENARY--DEATH OF MICHAEL O'CLERY (O'Clery, the historian at work)	30 June 1944
130	2½d	CENTENARY--DEATH OF EDMUND IGNATIUS RICE (Brother Rice founded the Irish Christian Brothers)	29 Aug. 1944
131,132	2½d,6d	CENTENARY--DEATH OF THOMAS DAVIS, a founder of the Young Irelanders (Youth Sowing Seeds of Freedom)	15 Sept. 1945
133,134	2½d,3d	CENTENARY--BIRTHS OF CHARLES STEWART PARNELL AND MICHAEL DAVITT--Fighters for Land Reform.	16 Sept. 1946
135,136	2½d,3d	150th ANNIVERSARY--RISING OF 1798 (Theobald Wolfe-Tone--Leader)	19 Nov. 1948
139,140	2½,3d	RECOGNITION OF IRISH REPUBLIC (Leinster House--Dublin)	21 Nov. 1949

IRISH COMMEMORATIVE FIRST DAYS OF ISSUE
(Continued from Page 180)

Scott Numbers	Face Values	To Commemorate	First Day of Issue
141	1d	CENTENARY--DEATH OF JAMES CLARENCE MANGAN (Mangan--Irish Poet)	5 Dec. 1949
142,143,144	2½d,3d,9d	H O L Y Y E A R 1 9 5 0 (Statue of St. Peter)	11 Sept. 1950
145,146	2½d,3½d	CENTENARY--DEATH OF THOMAS MOORE (Musician and National Poet)	10 Nov. 1952
147,148	2½d,1Sh4d	AN TÓSTAL--"IRELAND AT HOME" To publicize festival Apr. 5-26 (Symbolic Irish Harp)	9 Feb. 1953
149,150	2½d.1Sh3d	150th ANNIVERSARY--DEATH OF ROBERT EMMET (Irish Patriot)	21 Sept. 1953
END OF LISTING			

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CORRECTION IN LISTING

TRIANGULAR POSTMARKS OF IRELAND

Michael Leonard requests that the following corrections be made in his reported list of Irish Triangular Postmarks--See page 152, January-February 1954 issue of The Revealer.

ALT - Athlone-----Office not shown
ALV - Athy-----Not ALT as shown
KY - Killarney-----Not KOY as shown

O'REILLY APPOINTED TO EXPERT GROUP

The Philatelic Foundation of New York has announced the appointment of Malcolm O'Reilly E.P.A. President, as permanent member of its Expert Committee.

Mr. O'Reilly, who has been collecting for more than 20 years, specializes in the postal history and stamps of Ireland, the Netherlands and Dutch Colonies. He is a member of the Collectors Club, New York and the Royal Philatelic Society, London. In private life Mr. O'Reilly is a research associate with Lever Brothers, and is a member of the American Chemical Society.

BRING IN A NEW E.P.A. MEMBER THIS YEAR

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Finn Mac Coul
(the Irish Giant)

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Plan now to visit Ireland in the Fall...

September is a beautiful month in the Emerald Isle. See your Travel Agent for full information and write Dept. R for colorful literature.

Irish

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IRELAND'S
COMMERATIVES

By Neil Stack
Editor of The Revealer



MARIAN YEAR
1953 - 1954



To commemorate the Marian Year, declared by Pope Pius XII, the Department of Posts and Telegraphs issued a special postage stamp on May 24th.

The main feature of the design is a pictorial reproduction of a Della Robbia Madonna and Child in the crypt of San Gaetano, Florence, Italy.

The name of the state "Eire" (Ireland) is shown at the foot of the stamp and the words "Annus Marianus 1953-1954" appear at the top.

The stamp was issued in two denominations, a 3d Blue and a 5d Green. Printing was done by the engraving process, on paper watermarked "E", by Messrs. De La Rue at the Clonskeagh plant, Dublin.

The stamps, perforated 15 x 15, were printed in sheets of 240, divided into 4 panes of 60 stamps each. Each pane contained 12 stamps across by 5 down.

Both machine and hand-stamps were employed in cancelling First Day Covers.

IRELAND TO ISSUE NEWMAN STAMP JULY 19th
(Special to The Revealer)

Dublin---The Dept. of Posts and Telegraphs announces a special stamp to commemorate the centenary of the opening of the Catholic University under the Rectorship of Dr. John Henry Newman, later Cardinal Newman.

The stamp design shows a reproduction of a bust of the Cardinal by Sir Thomas Farrell.

The issue will be released in two denominations: 2d Roman Purple and 1Sh 3d Deer Blue.

NEXT E.P.A. MEETING IN SEPTEMBER

The next meeting of the New York City E.P.A. group will be held at 8 pm, Sept. 21st at the Collectors Club.

RENEW YOUR DUES PROMPTLY

Do to increased costs, U.S. and Canadian dues have been raised to \$3.00.

* BUY AND USE E. P. A. LABELS * 182