



The Revealer



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EIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
(International)

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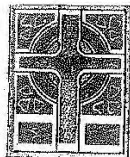
Whole No. 80

Issued Quarterly

John J. Walsh, Editor

Easter 1916

By
THE EDITOR



The Dublin barred postmark



On Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916, a detachment of the Irish Volunteers seized control of the General Post Office in Dublin and the leaders of the Insurrection issued a proclamation, the opening sentence of which appears on the commemorative stamp for the twenty-fifth anniversary in 1941.

The fighting was sporadic throughout the day on Monday but by Tuesday, British artillery from Athlone arrived on the scene and opened fire and the British forces were able to divide the Volunteer Army into two groups and cut their communications.

On Wednesday, April 26th, artillery fire destroyed the upper part of the GPO and that same evening, two British infantry brigades arrived at Dun Laoghaire (then known as Kingstown) and moved into the city.

The fighting continued throughout Thursday and by Friday morning, the G. P.O. was on fire and had to be evacuated. On Saturday morning, a decision was made that further resistance was futile and Patrick Pearse, the head of the Provisional Government surrendered at 3:45 P.M.

The seizure of the GPO disrupted postal services during this week and philatelic material is interesting but scarce. Postal service did not resume before Tuesday, May 1st, 1916. Censored and other covers are known postmarked on and after May 1st.

The so-called Dublin "barred" postmark which is really a parcel post cancel is the most commonly found item. It is also claimed that a limited number of letters franked with the Celtic Cross label and the tricolour label of the Manchester Martyrs were actually conveyed by the Republican Army Post during this week and were duly postmarked at the GPO while it was in the hands of the Volunteers. This is highly questionable.

Our own President, Mr. Fred E. Dixon in *Philately* for July-August, 1957 reports that contrary to the belief that the ordinary Dublin date stamps were all destroyed in the GPO fire, that, "At least two survived and were kept as souvenirs. They have been employed to fake covers bearing the Sinn Fein labels.

"One of these two date-stamps is the common double-circle type in its later and smaller form, 23½ mm. diameter: the number at foot appears to be 17.

(continued on page 594)

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(INTERNATIONAL)



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TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Income:

Dues.....	\$ 405.72
Sale of Revealers.....	13.98
Interest on Bank Account..	22.94
Gratuities.....	11.00

Total Income..... \$ 453.64

Expenses:

Postage.....	\$ 70.50
Printing of Revealer.....	333.77
Miscellaneous.....	12.80
Profit for Year.....	36.57

Total Expense & Profit.... \$ 453.64

EDITORIAL

The above financial report submitted by your Secretary-Treasurer is most revealing and should be of interest to our members. It demonstrates clearly the close margin upon which E.P.A. operates and the necessity for both the prompt payment of dues and the obtaining of new members to replace those lost each year. It also reveals the greatly increased cost of producing the Revealer and of postage. It is our hope to produce the very best of information for the Revealer and this brings me to a very serious situation which not only persists but has become increasingly acute. There was just not enough information supplied to your editor to print the usual 12 pages this issue, and I decline to use non-philatelic matter. Please help us to continue to produce a worthwhile publication by sending in material for inclusion. The cost of printing the Revealer has almost doubled in the last few years, without any increase in dues.

UNIPEX - 1965

UTICA MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM, UTICA, N.Y.

A very extensive philatelic exhibition, called UNIPEX 1965 is planned for Utica, New York in October, 1965. We should like to have some outstanding exhibits of Irish Postage Stamps for this show. In fact, the planning committee has requested E.P.A. to consider holding a regional meeting in connection with this exhibition. Any members wishing to take part in this meeting should contact the editor.

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES PROMPTLY.

RANDOM NOTES

BY F. E. DIXON

REGISTRATION ENVELOPES: The 1/1 size F envelope differed from its predecessor by the absence of brackets around "This space.....Label" and "REGISTERED LETTER." What has drawn my attention to this is that the same modification has now been made on the G size envelope as well. Inspection of what I thought were duplicates reveals that the modified G appeared as long ago as March 1963. The situation regarding the K size is just the reverse. The first of the K 1/1 had the brackets but they reappear on one used in the spring of 1964. Regarding the fourth size, H, I have seen very few, none of which has the brackets.

N. Langton gets the credit for spotting the appearance of a new issue of registration envelopes with embossed 1/5 green stamp. Sizes F and G have been seen so far, both with the old letterpress, amended only by a rectangular handstamp reading "THE MINIMUM REGISTRATION FEE IS NOW 1/- S." It is not clear what the final S signifies. And the price of the envelopes has been increased by 1/2d, so that the inclusive price is 1/7 for size F and 1/7½ for size G.

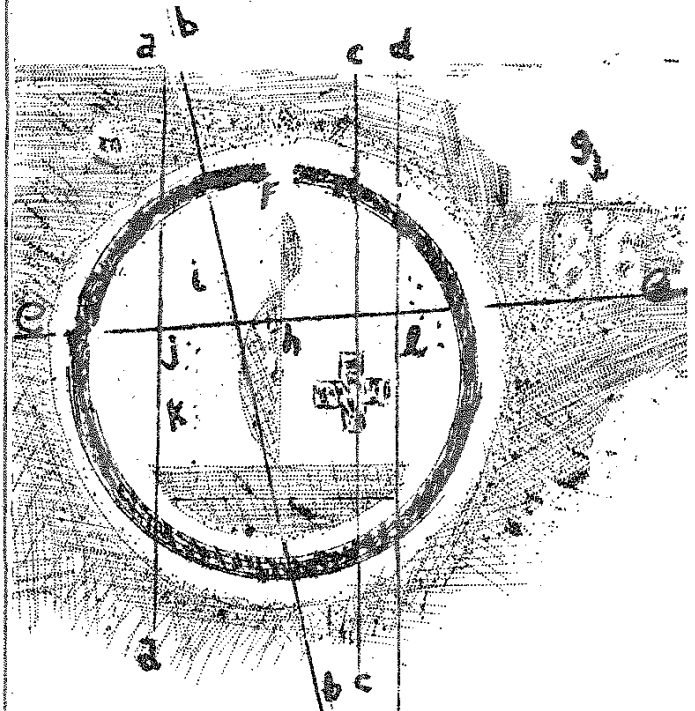
NEW BOOKLET: A new issue has appeared (about 18 September) as expected, but the make-up disappoints. Your 3/- buys six at 4d and 12 at 1d. The surprise is the front cover, printed in red on yellow, with the inscription "STAMPAI 3/-" with no other indication of the contents, and with no serial or date number. Stitching is white.

5d NEW YORK FAIR COMMEMORATIVE: I do not enthuse about varieties due to faulty registration of the different colours, but have seen one such worthy of mention. Upward displacement of the purple causes a pale purple patch on the lower left corner of the building. Another result is that the design is 21 3/4 mm tall instead of about 21 3/8 mm.

I have since found that at least one of them (lower pane, row VIII) occurs also on the 1/5, inter-

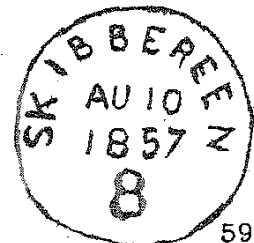
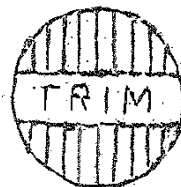
esting evidence that the same cylinder was used for the two values, or else that the lines developed in a master copy from which reproductions were made.

SOME OF THE RECURRENT VARIETIES ON THE 4d RED CROSS:



- (a) Red line continuing on to stamp below where it appears a little further right.
- (b)(c)(d) and (e) red lines. (e) is on Row 12, No. 5 and continues into No. 4.
- (f) Weak spot in circle.
- (g) White dot above 86
- (h) White dots on lamp. Row 12, No. 6
- (i) Line of double red dots.
- (j) Two red dots with grey accompaniments.
- (k) Dotted red line. Row 20, No. 3
- (l) Red dots.
- (m) Weakening of grey background.

TRIM PARCEL CANCEL: We continually find more surprising cases of the persistence of English or anglicised forms of Irish town names in cancellations. The latest is a parcel type of Trim (Irish name Baile Atha Truim) still used 1964.



SKIBBEREEN: The before sketch shows an unusual early skeleton owned by A.T. Sedgely. The 8 is probably the identifier of the particular set of movable letters. I have a similar 7 in a Lismore skeleton of 1861.

DAY OF ISSUE CACHET: O. M. Richards draws attention to a new version of the La a Chead Eisiuna / First Day of Issue" on some of the Wolfe Tone first day covers. The lettering is sans-serif and the height 12 mm.

SHANNON AIRPORT SILVER JUBILEE: Something went wrong in that the slogan introduced 8th August was withdrawn. The slogan reappeared in Dublin 4th September, and was simultaneously introduced in Ennis. Limerick (still using SEP for the month) followed the next day.

CONGRESS OF AVIATION AND SPACE MEDICINE: Covers posted at the Congress, 14th to 18th September, bore a rubber-stamped cachet 74 x 28 mm, and a circular rubber-stamped cancellation -28mm diameter, both specifying XIII INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF AVIATION AND SPACE MEDICINE DUBLIN. The cachet repeats the DUBLIN and adds IRELAND, above and below the caduceus symbol. Both are in purple.

INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS - COUPON RESPONSE INTERNATIONAL

How many different issues have there been for "Southern Ireland"? I have the following:

1. Oct. 1931. Old style (legless female flying from old world to new). Etat Libre d'Irlande - Saorstát Eireann. Languages Irish, French, German, English, Spanish, Italian. Cost 4d.

2. Dec. 1931. New style. Same names of state. Same languages, but six-months validity omitted. Cost 4d.

3. 1946. Same as #2 except that the country is "IRLANDE. EIRE" and price increased to 6d.

4. 1949. As #3 but languages Irish, French, English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, Russian.

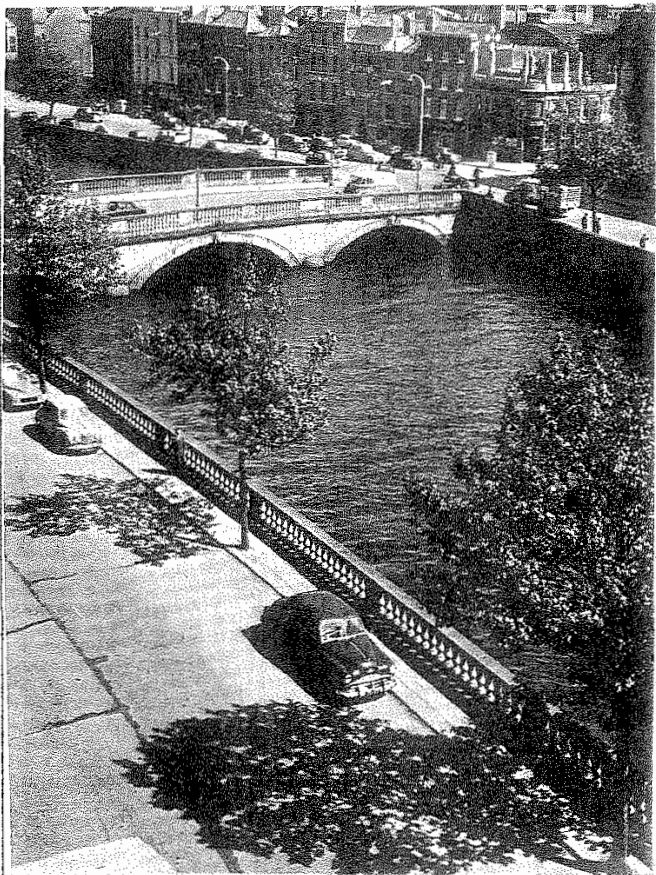
5. 1951 (?). Same as #4, but price amended by pen to 8d.

6. 1952 (?). Same as #4, but price now printed as 8d.

7. 1958 (?). Similar but coupon has "Formule C 22" at top right. Languages Irish, French, German, English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and Russian. Wording at lower left "Timbre du Bureau D'Emission"; lower center, "IRLANDE. EIRE" and at lower right, "Timbre du Bureau D'Echange". Cost printed 9d.

8. 1963. Similar but change in wording at lower left, "Empreinte de control du Pays d'origine (date facultative)" instead of the "Timbre du Bureau d'Origine". Price 1s.

All have the imprint of Benziger & Cie S.A. Einsiedeln.



River Liffey from the Quays, Dublin

(continued from front page)

The other seems to be an Express type but all of the half-dozen copies I have seen have been struck in such a way that most of the upper word is missing and in no case is more than the final ESS legible.

PLEASE PAY DUES PROMPTLY



Notes on the "Saorstat" Issues of the Irish Free State.



OVERPRINTS OF 1922-23

Supplement No. 19

ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

December, 1964

Delays in the preparation of the plates for the definitive series, necessitated another overprinting of the British stamps for use by the Irish Free State Government which came into existence on December 7th, 1922.

Between December 11th, 1922 (2d value) and January 16th, 1923 (4d value), the "SAORSTAT EIREANN 1922" complete series of overprinted stamps made their appearance.

They were prepared by Messrs. Alex Thom in all values with the three line overprint. Five plates were used for overprinting the low value typographed stamps.

PLATES

Plate 1. This was the earliest one apparently in use and all of the values except the 5d were at one time or another overprinted with this setting. It was also the most interesting, because the early printings from this plate disclosed that subject 180 the 12th stamp of the 15th row of the sheet of 240 stamps; that is, the right marginal stamp of the fifth row of the bottom pane was defective in

that there was no acute accent over the second "a" of the word "Saorstat". A large number of sheets of stamps of various values were accordingly returned to the printer for the missing accent to be inserted by hand. An undisclosed number of sheets with the missing accent had been sold before the error was discovered.

Many of the sheets returned were corrected by the insertion of a hand-stamped accent. The size of the handstamped accent is 1 3/4mm in length, whereas the normal printed accent is just over 1 mm in length. The handstamped accent is in black while the printed accent is in blue-black. Some clever forgers have pencilled over the printed accent on a normal stamp to give it the appearance of the handstamp, so care should be observed in this respect. Since the handstamp was applied manually, it varies in size and appearance - high, low, left, right, and even double and triple as well as inverted.

The number of sheets thus handstamped has been given as follows: 1/2d. 3,867 sheets; 1d. 3,041 sheets; 6d. 623 sheets; and 1/- 489 sheets. The error was apparently corrected upon discovery because later printings do not show the error. In fact, the 1 1/2d and 2d values overprinted from this plate do not show the error.

Accent Inserted by hand



Variety - Missing Accent and t



Although the number of corrected sheets is believed to be accurate, there is no known estimate of uncorrected stamps in existence. Of the low values, the 1d appears extremely scarce and the 1/- and 1/2d. are not too plentiful. The 4d, 2 1/2d, 9d and 3d in the same order are the most commonly found. North-Bomford in Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal, November 1926 reported that particularly in the smaller postoffices of the west of Ireland, these uncorrected errors were sold across the counter, giving legitimacy to what otherwise might be considered "printer's waste obtained by favor". He reports that he purchased five copies of the 1/2d in the west of Ireland at a small postoffice and that a small boy purchased the missing "t" on the 1d in Galway

The missing accent and final "t" variety (see illustration on previous page and the used copy to the right) has been the source of considerable speculation whether this is a further development of the missing accent error on the one stamp caused by plate wear or a separate variety in another location on the same plate, or on a different printing plate. Through the efforts of our own member, Mr. Thomas E. Field, the Stanley Gibbons catalogue now reflects the separate missing "t" variety.



At our request, Mr. Field studied the question of the possible location and the plate of the missing "t" variety by reference to his own extensive collection of the overprints. He found the following items:

S.G. No. 53aa (missing accent only). A complete mint sheet of 240, with accent missing on the second a of Saorstat on row 15 number 12, stamp 180 in the sheet, and a used single. The control of the sheet is T 22 with imperforate sheet margin.

S.G. No. 53a (missing accent and t). A vertical mint block of 6 with the variety on the middle of the three at right, but without margin - and a used single. The mint example in the block does not, therefore, "prove itself" as being either row 15 or stamp 12; but the stamp immediately above it has precisely the same defective 19 in 1922, as has row 14 number 12 in the mint sheet already mentioned.

S.G. No. 53b (accent inserted by hand). Here I have the following, all in mint blocks with side and base margins, all 7 vertically, by 2 or 3 horizontally, and all therefore demonstrating the position as row 15 stamp 12. T 22 imperforate and perforated margins at base, U 22 imperforate and perforated. All these show the same defective 19 in 1922 in row 14, stamp 12. I do just notice (and wonder whether there is any significance) that in the two imperforate pieces the inserted accent, although in not quite the right position relative to the A, and in the case of T 22 reversed (with the thick end to the southwest instead of the northeast) is what postal historians would call a "clear strike"; whereas in the two perforated pieces the inserted accent is much less clearly defined, and almost "blurred".

S.G. No. 53c (accent and final t inserted by hand). Here again in a "positional piece" T 22 perforated, but once more there is the defective 19 in 1922 on row 14 stamp 12. I find also mint blocks of four and 16, and a used single. Again the blocks have side margins only but again there is the defective date in the stamp above.

CONCLUSIONS. "From the foregoing it does seem that all these varieties developed in the one plate (Plate 1 according to Meredith) although clearly
Page 78 (H-2)

both T 22 and U 22 printings were involved. Personally I should not attach very much significance to that. I am unable to put my hand on anything showing the exact dates in 1922 when these printings were made but under G.B. Gibbons list the 1d S-22, T-22, and U-22, indicating 3 printings within the space of 1922, and as Thom was evidently operating before and for some little time after December 1922 (with the Saorstat overprint) I see no reason why he should not have stocks on hand simultaneously of the two later controls, and even use them indiscriminately - although I do notice that S.G.'s valuations for the two forms of C 78 are appreciably more than those of C 67, suggesting greater scarcity of the later control - although perhaps scarcity is hardly the word - one might say "less common". Of course they even used U 23 (S.G. C 84 - much more highly catalogued) - which suggests more limited usage, and possibly that overprinting continued concurrently with the appearance of the definitive, or limited printings before 23rd February 1923, the day of issue of S.G. 72. Here one would need to know not only when the British U 23 came out in the U.K., but when a consignment went to Dublin for overprintings."



OVERPRINTS WITH "ACCENT HANDSTAMPED"

← (normal)

(inverted) →

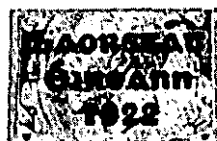


Plate 2. This plate was likewise used to overprint all values, except the 2 1/2d and 4d, both in red. An interesting variety appeared on this plate due to a shifting of the overprint. The S of Saorstat appears directly over the E of Eireann on the 10th stamp of the 7th and 10th rows of the sheet. These appeared on the early printings, but the shift on the 7th row was quickly corrected on later printings.

except on this

SAORSTAT
ÉIREANN
1922

Plate 3. This plate was used to overprint all values, except the 1 1/2d, 2d, and 3d. The overprints from this plate appear heavier and thicker than on the earlier plates.

SAORSTAT
ÉIREANN
1922

Plate 4. This plate was used only to overprint the 1/2d, 6d and 1/- values and has no distinguishing features, except that the second stamp of the 20th row has a large first "t" in Saorstat.

SAORSTAT
ÉIREANN
1922

Plate 5. This plate was used only to overprint the 1/2d, 5d and 6d values and its only distinguishing feature is that the second stamp of the 20th row has a normal first "t" in Saorstat, but it is generally split.

SAORSTAT
ÉIREANN
1922

VARIETIES IN THE SAORSTAT LOW VALUES

*Setting of Low Value
two S over E.*

1. Missing Accent and Missing Accent and Final "t" (Plate 1)
 - 1/2d. Scott 44a Stanley Gibbons 52a Meredith V-35
 - 1d. Scott 45a Stanley Gibbons 53a Meredith V-36 (missing accent)
 - 1d. Scott 45c Stanley Gibbons 53aa Meredith V-37 (missing t)
 - 2 1/2d. Scott 48a Stanley Gibbons 56a Meredith V-38
 - 3d. Scott 49a Stanley Gibbons 57a Meredith V-39
 - 4d. Scott 50a Stahley Gibbons 58a Meredith V-40
 - 9d. Scott 53a Stanley Gibbons 61a Meredith V-41
 - 1/-. Scott 55a Stanley Gibbons 63a Meredith V-42

2. Handstamped Accent & Handstamped Accent and Final "t" (Plate 1)
 - 1/2d. Scott 44b Stanley Gibbons 52b Meredith V-46
 - 1d. Scott 45b Stanley Gibbons 53b Meredith V-47 (missing accent)
 - 1d. Scott 45d Stanley Gibbons 53c Meredith V-50
 - 6d. Scott 52a Stanley Gibbons 60a Meredith V-48
 - 1/- . Scott 55b Stanley Gibbons 63b Meredith V-49
3. S over E. (Plate 2). See separate listings below.
4. Line Over Saorstat.

This consists of a bar line over the word Saorstat which shows on the stamp and occurred on some sheets of the 1/2d, 1d, 9d values, and possibly on the 2 1/2d. (see listings below).

5. Blanket Prints of Overprint on Back of Stamp.

Some sheets of stamps with the overprint on the back of the stamp in addition to the regular overprint on the front. This is believed to have been caused in the printing. The overprint was impressed from the type while the sheet rested upon a pad or blanket in the press. It is presumed that the type was allowed in some cases to be impressed on the pad or blanket without the intervention of a sheet of stamps. In such case, the pad would receive an inking and if not cleaned off, the next sheet of stamps would receive an impression on both sides.

6. Guide Blocks.

Occasionally, guide blocks between the type would work their way up to the line of the type and receiving ink left an impression on the stamp.

- 1/2d. In front of Saorstat 5th row, 12th stamp.
- In front of Eireann 2nd row, 11th stamp.
- 1d. In front of Saorstat 19th row, 1st stamp. (Plate 1)
- After 1922 2nd row, 1st stamp
- In front of 1922 20th row, 1st stamp.
- 1 1/2d. After 1922 1st row, 8th stamp. (Plate 1)
- 2 1/2d. After Saorstat 7th row, 11th stamp.

Meredith Listings

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1/2d	V-55	V-104	V-415	V-448	V-436	V-460	V-472
1d.	V-56	V-105	V-416	V-449	V-437	V-461	V-473
1 1/2d.		V-106	V-417	V-450*		V-462	V-474
2d.		V-107	V-418	V-451		V-463	V-475
2 1/2d.	V-57		V-419	V-452	V-438	V-464	V-476
3d.		V-108	V-420	V-453		V-465	V-477
4d.			V-421	V-454*	V-439	V-466	V-478
5d.		V-109	V-422	V-455	V-440	V-467	
6d.		V-110	V-423	V-456	V-441	V-468	V-479
9d.	V-58	V-111	V-424	V-457	V-442	V-469	V-480
10d.		V-112	V-425	V-458	V-443	V-470	V-481
1/-		V-113	V-426	V-459	V-444	V-471	V-482

* 7 x 10 on the 1 1/2d. ; 12 x 12 on the 4d.

- A-Line Over Saorstat Plate 1.
- B-S over E 10th stamp, 7th and 10th rows. Plate 2.
- C-SACRASTAT 10th stamp 2nd row
- D-EIRCANN 7th stamp 11th row. Plate 1.
- E- SAORST_AT 4th stamp, 2nd. row; 8th stamp. 8th and 12th rows. Plate 3.
- F- No serif to 1 in 1922. 3rd stamp, 15th row. Plate 1.
- G- Short 1 and Dropped Second 2 in 1922. 1st stamp, , 20th. row. Plate 1.