

The Revealer

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GEIMHREADH-Winter 1993

£1 Architecture Forgery



Padraig Pearse Essays

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I would like to take the opportunity of this first message to thank all of you who took the time to vote for me as your President. I hope that together we will work towards making our Association progressive and vibrant.

This vibrancy starts with all members and officers of the E.P.A. (all officers have been asked to remain in their positions). Our main role is to make the Association one which attracts and keeps new members; which provides services wanted and needed by the membership; which allows for growth and promotes innovation and which gives each of us a feeling of belonging. The recent election of new Presidents of the American Philatelic Society and The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada whose interest both lie in the grass roots of philately augurs well for the hobby in North America. This grass roots philosophy will also give the tone to my tenure as President of the E.P.A.

(Continued on next page)

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.....
The Association Secretary will write the appropriate coordinator when a new member joins the Association and provide the coordinator with the name and address of the new member. The role of the coordinator is to contact the new member, welcome the member to the Association and invite the member to join the local chapter.
.....

I believe that we must build our membership, make ourselves better known, support youth philately and increase the knowledge base of our members. Your board of Directors, your officers and I will try to develop and promote programmes towards this end. Your help is needed and your support appreciated. I would be pleased to receive your comments, beefs, complaints and kudos at anytime. In what direction do you wish your Association to go? What is important to you as a member, as a collector, as an exhibitor, etc? Please write to me -- my address is in the masthead. Your input is necessary for me to lead the E.P.A. I do not want to go blindly into directions which the members would not support.

The 1994 A.G.M. of the E.P.A. will be held in Rochester, New York at ROPEX '94, April 8-10. I hope to see many of you there. More information in the next issue of *The Revealer*. ♣

The John Blessington Memorial Library



Finally my new computer is up and running and the first major job on my list was the updated library directory. I am glad to be able to say that this task has been completed and the new directory will be available when you read this article. It is amazing what one can do with a computer, it

never ceases to amaze me. The major task was entering the information into the computer and from there on it was just a matter of moving this here and that there and within a few sessions everything was ready for printing. It actually is almost as simple as it sounds and I am only an amateur at this type of work.

To make all this work worthwhile it is up to each and everyone of you to use and support the library. Since I took over as librarian I have been very disappointed by the lack of use of this wonderful resource. I could count on one hand the number of people that request material. I can also count on one hand the number of people that donate material to the library. How about making a new year's resolution to use and support the library in 1994. As far as donating material you can write and ask me if we need specific items or you can donate them and we will either use it or auction it and purchase items with the proceeds.

I would like to thank Karl Winkelman for his donation of 'IRISH CRASH AIRMAIL' by Ronny Vogt, Robert Benninghoff for his color copy of his latest exhibit 'THE MAPS AND SYMBOLS OF IRELAND DEFINITIVE COILS 1925-1971' and Joe Foley for an original copy of 'LINN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS 1952, SPOTLIGHT IRISH PHILATELY', a photo-copy of 'AN ACT for the SETTLING of the POSTAGE of ENGLAND Scotland and Ireland 1657', Sept.-Oct. 1993 issue of 'THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST' which has an article written by Joe, 'WORLD'S FIRST STAMP COLLECTION' and finally an article from 'THE CINDERELLA PHILATELIST', 'Overprints on British Postal Orders'.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

New members are accepted subject to no objections received within 45 days of publication.

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- #2396 Thomas J. Lis, 6553 Overheart Lane, Columbia, MD 21045
- #2397 Miss Marie L. Rovere, 1435 Plymouth Ave., San Francisco, CA 94112-1242
- #2398 Frank J. Donahue, III, P.O. Box 833, Scituate, MA 02066
- #2399 David Laraway, 2070 N. Bechelli #30, Redding, CA 96002
- #2400 Edward J. Ross, P.O. Box 65, Granite Springs, NY 10527
- #2401 Eugene S. Krieg, 6190 Joaquin St., Chino, CA 91710
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- #2403 Lawrence L. Bowles, 901 N.E. 71st. Street, Miami, FL 33138
- #2404 Anthony J. Hughes, Comer House, Mulligar, Co. Westmeath, Ireland
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- #1966 RPM Tebarts, Coebelweg 25, 2324 KX Leiden, The Netherlands
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- #2320 Thomas M Stuhr, 12 Lordship Lane, Dover DE 19901

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- #0633 Preston A. Pope, 247 Rainier Ave., So. San Francisco, CA 94080

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- #1801 Walter R. Demler, 5400 S. Park, Hamburg, NY 14075
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Membership Status

Membership as of August 26, 1993	663
New Members	11
Reinstatements	1
Deceased	2
Resignations	11

Membership as of November 17, 1993 662

♣

Thank you to all the above for their donations during the past year. By the way I am still looking for back issues of *The Revealer* if you have any collecting dust on a shelf. I am looking forward to hearing from many of you this year so until then good collecting. ♣



éire philatelic association

(INTERNATIONAL)

THE EPA'S 1994 CONVENTION & EXHIBITION AT ROPEX '94

**April 8 - 10 , 1994
Rochester, New York**

All members of the EPA are cordially invited to join their fellow members, the Officers and the Board of Directors of their Association for the EPA's 1994 Convention and exhibition

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Saturday, April 9, 1994** 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Business Meeting of the Board of Directors and Officers of the Eire Philatelic Association
- 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Annual General Meeting of the EPA and Auction (tentative)
- 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon Presentation: "Tossed Salad: Shamrocks, Thistles and Leeks -
- A Basic Postal History Smorgasbord of Ireland, Scotland and Wales" or "Dublin Postal Markings, 1818-1916"
- 12 noon - 1:30 p.m. Group Lunch
- Sunday, April 10, 1994** 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Presentation: "Dublin Postal Markings, 1818-1916" or
"Tossed Salad: Shamrocks, Thistles and Leeks -- A Basic Postal History Smorgasbord of Ireland, Scotland and Wales"

EXHIBITION: Members interested in exhibiting may contact the President of the EPA or Mrs. Ada Prill, Exhibits Chairperson, ROPEX '94, 130 Trafalgar Street, Rochester NY 14619. Frames are limited, so please contact today.

SHOW HOTEL: The Holiday Inn Genessee Plaza, 120 Main Street East, Rochester, NY 14604. Tel. (716) 546-6400. Show rates will be available in January. Last year's rate was \$70/night (single or double).

GROUP LUNCH: To be held in the Hotel Restaurant. Dutch treat.

Come one. Come all. Let's have fun at the 1994 EPA convention.



STAMP SHOW

A Discovery: The Dollard Runnals Re-entry

by C.I. Dulin

Undoubtedly, one of the rarer re-entries on the Bradbury 10/- GB base plates used in the overprinting for Irish stamps is that first reported by Runnals (July/August 1952 Philatelic Adviser: 13th Supplement "British Postage Stamp Varieties" by R.C. Alcock and C.W. Meredith).

Initially discovered with a December 1922 Thom Saorstát overprint, a year later it was found in the unoverprinted state. Eventually, it was determined that it was from the Bradbury Plate 2A. Its position is R6/S1 and, nominally, it is similar to the Major re-entry in R1/S1 from GB Plate 5A (this is the one that also has the misnamed Major re-touch in R2/S1 and the Strokes over Ten in R4/S2). In fact, the Runnals is extensively re-entered far more than the Plate 5A example.

Very few examples of Runnals re-entry are known in conjunction with the overprints and, hitherto, they were found either with the December 3-line Thom Saorstát overprint or with the later Narrow setting. Probably, this was because most of the overprints were printed on Broken S in POSTAGE plates (such as Plate 5A). At one time, it was believed that Perfect S plates were only found with the December Thom and later printings (e.g. "Handbook of Irish Philately" by D. Feldman) and, even with these, examples are found less frequently than those from Broken S plates.

Although aware that Perfect S plate examples actually do exist with the Dollard and 4 line Thom overprints, I had never paid much attention to them except for hunting for pieces from the mixed Perfect S, Perfect P plate (found in a portion of the elusive Plate 7A). Even with examples of the O flaw on Perfect S base stamps from the 4 line Thom overprinting, I did not attach too much significance to them.

Recently, however, in response to a study being made on GB high value plates, I listed all my overprinted examples having marginal markings or which could be positively identified with a given plate because of associated characteristics. Defined re-entries would constitute a typical associated characteristic, but, also, the state of the S in POSTAGE (for the 10/- value) or the R in CROWN (for the 2/6 value) might also be helpful clues. It was only when I made the listing that I realised that one 10/- example which I had nominally described in my collection as the Dollard Major re-entry some time ago, was with Perfect S - an impossible combination. A re-examination showed that it was, in fact, the Runnals re-entry.

Thus far, it is the only recorded example, but I wonder how many others, like myself, have ostensibly "Plate 5A" Major re-entries in their collections and which are, in reality, Plate 2A Runnals. One reason could be because of the older conventional wisdom that the Dollard overprint on a Perfect S plate does not exist. Another may be that it is not generally known that the Runnals is, indeed, from a Perfect S plate. Happy hunting.

10s. Perfect "S" Plate.



Most sheets of this stamp prior to 1925 showed a break in the lower portion of the "S" of "POSTAGE". After this, the perfect "S" without a break was more common.

10s. Major Re-Entry.

Doubling of the horizontal lines of the shield and the bottom horizontal frame lines. Also the "G" of "SHILLINGS" and in "POSTAGE". Row 1, stamp 1. Plate 5A.



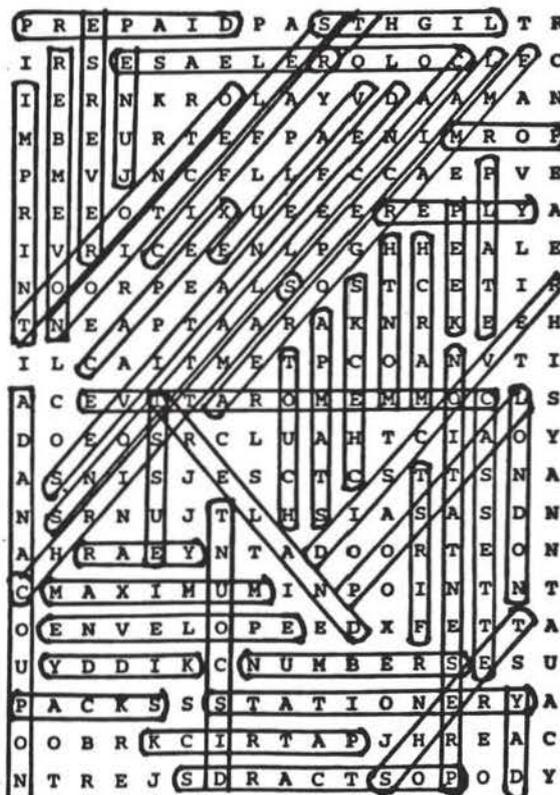
10s. Runnals Re-Entry.



Doubling of diagonal and horizontal lines of the shield, the shading of the white seahorse's neck and in the frame lines under "POSTAGE". Row 6 Stamp 1. Plate 2A. (Perfect "S" Plate).

Source: Buchalter, M. Don, ed. 'Hibernian Specialised Catalogue of Postage Stamps of Ireland 1922-1972', Dublin: Hibernian Stamp Company, 1972. ♣

Answers to Crossword A (Last Issue)



The Padraig Pearse Essays

by C.I. Dulin

A great deal has been written on the Republican stamp "issue" of 1922, the best being by Christopher R. Hilliard in Musson's Stamp Digest December 1947. Later, Leslie Fletcher (in Stamp Magazine May 1970) gave details of his investigations in identifying all the clichés used for the printing. However, extremely little exists on what was purported to be the initial design for these stamps.

Briefly, during the Civil War of 1922-23, the Irish Republican Army controlled most of the south of the country by the summer of 1922. So much so that apparently it was decided to run their own postal service and, of course, to have stamps to use on the mail. This borders on the nonsensical, and it is far more probable that the concept of issuing stamps as political labels is nearer the truth. After all, the political labels of 1908 and their re-issue in 1916 had proved enormously popular. Be this as it may, it is undoubted that "stamps" were printed by the Eagle Printing Co. in Cork. Somewhat less certain is the fate of most of the issue. Supposedly most were destroyed in a fire when National troops occupied Cork in August. That there were an enormous number of fires in the city at the time is well chronicled. By contrast, there is little authentic data on what happened to the stamps. The usual figures quoted for the amount surviving are highly suspect. Given the varieties that survived (the double, the treble, the inverted impressions) and the number of part sheets variously described since that time, the figures (250 each of the two 1/2d and 1d low values and about 1000 of the 6d) seem un-naturally low. Additionally, it seems quite a coincidence that among the survivors should be not only so many varieties, but also imperforate proofs and even two types of paper (on the 6d). But, irrespective of the accuracy of the details, these Republican stamps were printed in 1922.

More nebulous, however, is the origin of the Padraig Pearse essays. According to Hilliard, his background to the original printing of the Republican stamps was obtained from information from the National Museum in Dublin. It seems that when the concept of a Republican issue was initially mooted, the design was to be that of Padraig Pearse, the hero of the 1916 Uprising. Since local (i.e. Cork) printers were unable to produce a satisfactory stamp portrait, an agent was sent to London to have the work done there. Apparently, the fellow was arrested on his arrival and that was the end of the portrait proposal. Again, this account scarcely stands up to even casual scrutiny. Firstly, the British authorities would have had no right whatsoever to make such an arrest and secondly, even assuming that this preposterous suggestion was true, it would have been imbecilic for the Republicans to have sent a man who may have been wanted on other (unspecified) charges. Moreover, although stamp printing is by no means a simple job, lithographic reproductions - even if crude - would have been possible. After all, given the size and importance of Cork, it is unlikely that a printer could not be found. Possibly the lithographer at the Eagle Works might not have been able to produce an acceptable design, but why stay with the Eagle Printing Co?

Again, however, this is a comparative side issue. More important is that Pearse essays and proofs eventually came

onto the market. Exactly when this occurred is hazy. Fletcher, in his Stamp Magazine article, illustrated one of them and believed them to be "of recent manufacture" (this in 1970) and, rightly, viewed them with some suspicion until more information could be obtained. However, the time of their appearance appears to predate 1970 and, of itself, is no guarantee that they could not have been made much earlier. After all, if one considers the number of the Pictorial Printing Machine Co. essays that have appeared on the market in recent years, a similar claim could be made on their authenticity - especially since it is known that the plate for these is still in existence (or, at least, was until the late 1960s).

The case for authenticity of the Pearse essays may also be strengthened if the essays themselves are considered. Assuming that whoever printed them was taking advantage of the Hilliard account (i.e. that the initial design of the Republican issue was to be that of Pearse), then why bother to print proofs of 4 values rather than the obvious 3 of the Republican issue? It would have been more feasible, if deception was the aim, to stay with the 1d, 2d and 6d values rather than add a 1/2d to the series.

However, as with the majority of the political labels, it is doubtful if their true origins will ever be definitively derived and meanwhile we can merely describe them as best we may.



The Pearse essays may be found (with difficulty) as follows:

The four values in black on thick white paper and, with some presumption, might be the proofs of the essay (see illustration). Thereafter what could be described as imperforate mono-coloured trials are known (i.e. which I have seen and verified) on thin white board as:

1/2d: Red; Brown.

1d: Brown*.

2d: Brown; Green.

6d: Brown; Blue

Essays (all imperforate) are known on white or buff paper as:

White Paper	Buff Paper
1/2d Red*	Red
1d Brown*	Brown
2d Green	
6d Blue; Green; Red	

*Known in horizontal pairs. The 1d (but not the 1/2d) in this state is se-tenant with one impression being slightly larger

(by 1/2 mm) than the other.

Leslie Fletcher reported the essays 1/2 d in red; 1d in brown; 2d in red and blue; 6d blue, as well as the proofs of all values in black. Whether the essays were on thin white board or on paper was not noted. In any case, it extends the range of colours given for the 2d value above.

It would be interesting if members could add to the information printed here or to extend the listing. ♣

Frequency of Irish Commemoratives

by Richard O'Brien

Up to 1965, Ireland had a very conservative policy on the issuance of commemorative postage stamps. In the period 1929-1965, there were an average of 2.75 commemoratives issued per year. During this time, the range of new issues was from 0 to 7 stamps per year.

It appears that the Irish Post Office began to realize the financial potential of increased stamp sales after 1965, and, in the period 1966-1992, the annual number of commemoratives issued soared to an average of 19.4 issues per year. The range for this period was from 9 to 31 stamps per year.

This survey was based solely on the individual stamps issued and does not include multiples or souvenir sheets.

The accompanying graph illustrates the dramatic increase which occurred after 1965.

Ireland, it seems, has followed the world-wide trend of issuing as many stamps as it feels the philatelic community will buy. ♣

From the Desk of the Editor

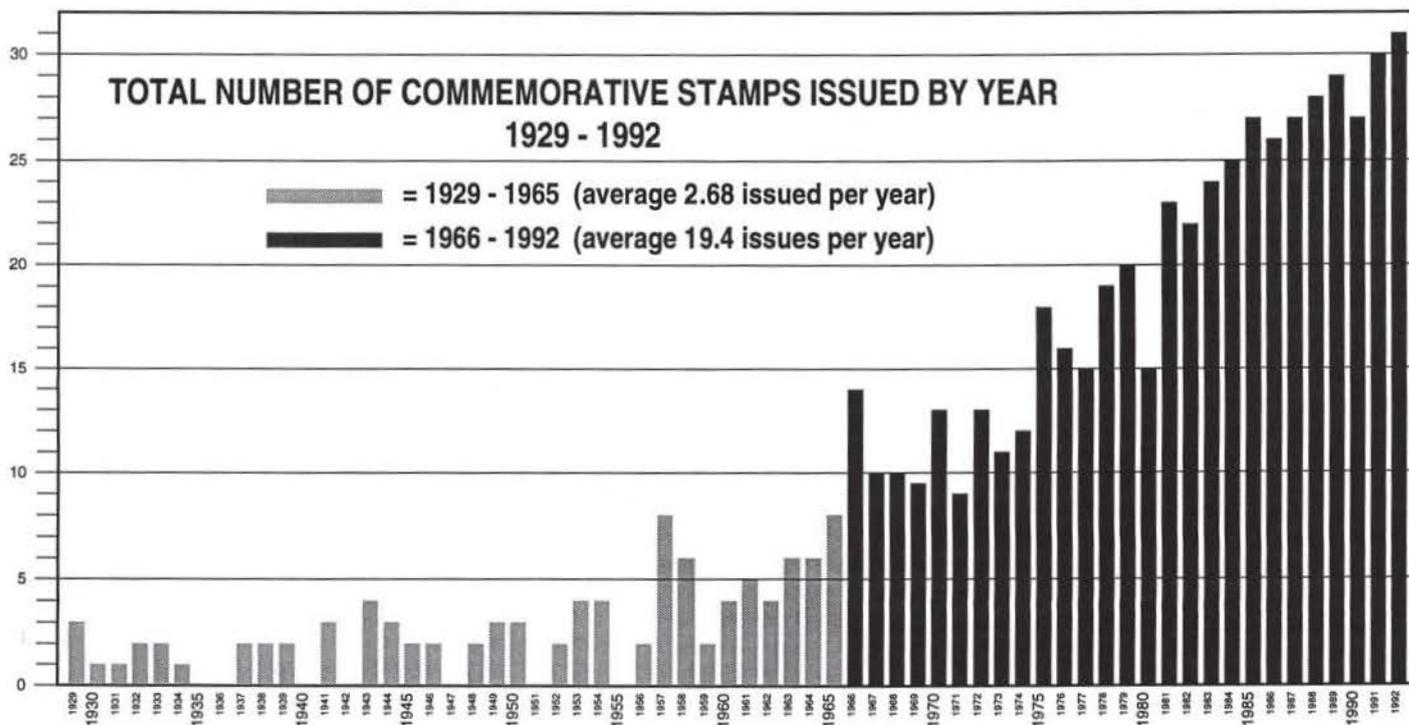


In the last two issues I have asked you to check your mailing labels to insure that they are accurate. Corrections and changes have been flowing in and I want to thank the members who have responded. It is getting more difficult for me to find errors but there are still a few more. Some of them just pop

right out there at you as I run through the list. Of particular note I notice two in England and Canada.

The deadline for the new 1994 Membership Directory is fast approaching (1 March 1994). I would dearly like to have the entire list cleaned up by then. Also, please remember that I do not wish to offend anyone by publishing their address. If you don't want your address to appear in the 1994 Membership Directory please write today and let me know. Else it will appear. I must receive your instructions prior to the 1 March deadline. I hope to have the new directory ready for the Summer Issue mailing of *The Revealer*.

As I write this editorial about a week before Thanksgiving (15 November), I am literally biting my nails as I have but 12 pages ready for publication and the deadline for this issue is a scant 15 days away. That point of desperation is not far off. I still have several regular reports to come in and I do have a small reserve of two articles from Hans Moxter that I was holding for the Spring issue. It seems that my authors have suddenly taken an extended vacation. Please if you haven't written in some time please put pen to paper and let us hear from you. If there is something you don't understand please send it in and we'll try and get you an answer. Remember, the deadline for the Spring issue is also 1 March. ♣



STAMPA 93 AWARDS

by A. F. Finn

Congratulations to the following EPA members who won awards in their respective categories at Stampa 93 - the Irish National Stamp Exhibition - held in Dublin 28-31 Oct. 1993:

Specialised Section

Robert Benninghoff - "*Irish Coils - the Maps and Symbols of Ireland*" - Vermeil
plus Irish Security Stamp Printing Trophy
Gary Ryan - "*Irish Revenue Stamps*" - Vermeil
John Lorenzen - "*Ireland - The Overprints 1922-37*" - Silver

Postal History

George Ithell - "*Ireland - Official Mail*" - Silver/Bronze

Literature Section

Dr. C. I. Dulin - "*Ireland's Transition 1922-25*" - Gold
Colm Murphy - "*Catalogue of Cricket Philately*" - Bronze

Thematic Section

Colm Murphy - "*The Ashes*" - Bronze

Special congratulations go to new member **Anthony Hughes**, whose exhibit of the postal history of his own county (Westmeath) won the overall award of the show - the David Feldman Trophy - together with a Gold medal, F.E. Dixon trophy, and also the E.P.A. medal for the best exhibit of Irish material shown at Stampa 93. ♣

Meet Charles

Our new President, Charles Joseph Gerald Verge was born in Montréal, Canada in 1947. He was educated at Collège Mont Saint-Louis (B.A.) and at the University of Ottawa (M.A.). Although collecting since the age of 7, he did not get involved in organized philately until 1978 when he became a member of the Éire Philatelic Association (E.P.A.) and many other philatelic societies such as The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (R.P.S.C.) and the American Philatelic Society (A.P.S.).

Charles' Irish philatelic interests lie principally in the postal history of Dublin, WWII censored mail and Irish airmails; but like any other Irish collector seems to keep everything he gets in that area. His other collecting interests are the postal history of Papineau County in Québec and philatelic literature. He is also known to dabble in thematics.

Since 1986, he has been involved in many positions with ORAPEX, Ottawa's National Philatelic Exhibition culminating in his chairing the Organizing Committee for four shows from 1988 to 1991 and the co-chairing of ROYAL * 1993 * ROYALE, the 65th convention of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. As well, he was a member of the Executive and Organizing Committees of CANADA 92, the 11th World Youth Philatelic Exhibition held in Montréal in March 1992 and was President of the Société de promotion des expositions

(Continued on page 55)

£1 Architecture Forgery

by William P. Fletcher FRPSL

Forgeries of the, then, current £1 Architecture definitive of Ireland (SG 550), which show Cahir Castle, were detected in the Autumn of 1984. To ease payment of telephone bills and annual TV license fees, special savings books were available from post offices. At that time, 50p and £1 postage stamps were valid for use on these savings stamps books to pay television licenses and phone bills. The forgery of the £1 postage stamp was detected when completed savings stamps books for the payment of telephone bills were checked in the Post Office accounts department.

An Post (The Irish Post Office) issued a statement on 15 November 1984 that they were prosecuting people in the Dublin area who presented forged stamps in savings stamps books. An Post pointed out that anyone passing off the forged stamps was easily traceable through the personal details on the savings stamps books and An Post would prosecute every case. There were severe penalties even for the possession of forged stamps.

Because of the forged stamps, An Post suspended the savings stamp scheme and placed large advertisements (fig. 1) in the National Press on 16 November 1984. All savings stamps books were to be taken to any Post Office by 1 December 1984. They would cease to be of any value after that date. Savings books would be inspected and the full value of valid stamps would be refunded to the saver within two weeks.

To coincide with this instruction, the £1 stamp was withdrawn from sale in all post offices, the Philatelic Bureau and Philatelic Agents overseas at the close of business on 14 November 1984. All remaining stocks were to be returned. The £1 stamp was replaced on 27 June 1985 with a stamp of a new design showing Killarney Cathedral (SG 550b).

The Forgery.

The forgery (fig 2.) shows the following characteristics.

Design size. The forgery is marginally wider; 37.0 x 21.0mm against 36.7 x 21.0mm in the genuine.

Paper and Gum. The forgery is printed on thin transparent paper which is cream in colour. The gum is clear and of a shiny appearance. The design can be seen from the back of the stamp due to the transparency of the paper. Three printings of the genuine stamp are recognised; on white paper with white gum; on white paper with off-white gum; and, a third printing, current at the time the forgery was being used, was on cream paper with cream gum. Both the genuine and the forgery are on paper with no watermark.

Perforation. The forgery is line perforated 14.75, whereas, the genuine is comb perforated 14.75 x 14. This is the easiest visible characteristic of the forgery.

Design. The sky, on the genuine, is made up of grey dots; in the forgery, this appears as a paler grey and lacks the detail of the genuine stamp. The foot of the '1' of £1 is rounded in the forgery and square on the genuine. In the genuine stamp, there is a weakness in the SW corner where the bottom frame joins the left vertical frame; whereas, in the forgery, there is break in the bottom frame at this point. The window in the top right of

(Continued on page 50)

Suspension of Savings Stamps Schemes

If you have a savings stamps book containing £1 or 50p postage or savings stamps, please bring it to any Post Office before 1st December. It will cease to have any value after that date.

The Post Office will give you an acknowledgment and send your saving stamps book for inspection. The full value of your stamps will be refunded to you directly by post within two weeks, provided the stamps are valid.

Stamps are no longer being accepted as payment of telephone accounts or television licences. Please use the Post Office Savings Bank deposit book service if you wish to save for these payments.

We are suspending telephone account and television licence savings stamp schemes because forged stamps have been used in savings books.



Genuine £1 Cahir Castle



Fig 2. £1 Cahir Castle forgery showing mark in left margin.



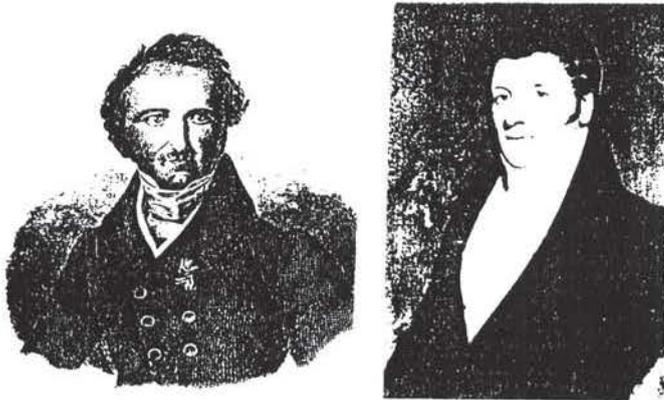
Fig 3. Block of 20 of the forgery, possible the sheet size, showing line perforation.

Fig 1. AN POST advertisement in Irish national press on 16 Nov 84 announcing the suspension of the Savings Stamps Schemes

Breakfast at the GPO

by H.G. Moxter

On August 11th, a Monday, 1828 Prince Hermann of Pückler-Muskau arrived in Dublin. Even today this nobleman from Saxony is considered to have been one of the most gifted landscape gardeners of all times. By mid-December 1828 he left Ireland to return home via England and France. The 18 weeks he spent on the Emerald Isle were used for a thorough inspection of the southern half of Ireland. His position as a member of Germany's high nobility certainly proved helpful when it came to opening the gates of those many castles occupied by the Anglo-Irish masters of the land. Wherever he



Fürst Hermann von Pückler-Muskau and Sir Edward S. Lees

went he was cordially welcomed and lavishly accommodated. This, however, did not keep him from traveling with open eyes for the needs of the Irish people and, in his correspondence with his wife, he repeatedly mentioned the disgraceful situation of the poor people in the country. At various times, the prince met Daniel O'Connell, and was his guest at Derrinane Abbey, Co. Kerry, and, also, at Dublin.

He was the guest of the Secretary of the Irish Post Office, Sir Edward Smith Lees, who invited him to breakfast at his office in the General Post Office in Dublin. What happened on that occasion we learn from a letter to his wife. The letter is dated December 7th, 1828.

"Dear Julie, The accounts of public dinners and of the foolish perfidity of Sir Charles M. are now over and I take you to a breakfast at the main post office, where we were welcomed by the chief, who had invited us, and a number of elegant ladies. Sir Edward Lees is a very cultivated and polite gentleman. He showed us around in the different offices, pour nous faire gagner de l'appétit (to give us some appetite). In one of the offices, which they call "dead letter office" a curious incident occurred during our presence.

All letters on which the address is completely unintelligible or where the addressee, to whom the letter is directed, can not be localized, go into this office, where they are opened after a period of two weeks and if they seem to contain nothing of importance, they are burnt. This to me seems to be quite a barbaric method, because a heart could be broken by what a post official considers to be of no importance. But this is the

way it goes and we found three persons busy in this office. Some of our party, out of curiosity, took one letter or the other of the condemned ones and inspected them, when the official nearest to me handled rather a heavy letter without any trace of an address but with a postmark of an Irish provincial town. How great was the astonishment of all present when, after opening, no written communication, but two thousands even hundred pound sterling in real banknotes were found. This appeared of great importance and immediate instructions were given to dispatch a message to the town of mailing asking for clarification of the matter"

These were the two gentlemen who on Sunday, December 7th, in 1828 had breakfast together at the GPO in Dublin.

The buying power of £ 2700 in 1828 would, today, correspond to approx. US \$ 220,000. No wonder that the prince was impressed by this performance, no matter whether it had been pre-arranged to display efficiency in the presence of a famous visitor, who was soon going to London, or, whether it was genuine. In any case, it really was a happening. ♣

£1 Forgery

(Continued from page 48)

the tower has a lintel above it which is slightly wider than the window in the genuine; in the forgery, this lintel is shorter and only appears above the right of the window.

The forgery is found in blocks of 20 (5 x 4) with margins to the left and right (fig 3.) with no marginal markings. This may be the full sheet. The single forgery in figure 2 shows a marginal line not seen on the block of 20. It is, therefore, possible that there is a second plate, or, that the sheet size is larger than 20. Alternatively, the line could be due to later damage to the printing plate. In the block of 20, the inking on the 4th vertical row is slightly darker than the pale appearance of vertical rows 1, 3 and 5. Vertical row 2 is considerably darker in shade.

No one has been found responsible for this fraud nor has anyone been convicted in relation to the use of the forged £1 stamps. An Post states that they have not detected any of the forged stamps being used for postal purposes. They estimate the loss of the fraud at IR£1000. The genuine £1 Cahir Castle stamp is no longer valid for postage.

This forgery is a postal forgery that is designed to defraud the postal authorities, and, different from a philatelic forgery intended to fool collectors. It has a similarity with the Great Britain Queen Victoria One Shilling Stock Exchange postal forgery which was used on Stock Exchange telegrams, in that, the fraudsters intended the forged £1 stamps to be used for fiscal purposes, on television licenses and telephone savings books, but not as postage stamps. Despite An Post's statement, it is possible the forged £1 stamps were used for postage and collectors should keep an eye out for used forged £1 Cahir Castle stamps. Needless to say they would be worth considerably more than the genuine. *(Continued on page 55)*

Stuff & Stings

by Bees

This is about stuff you may or may not want to know. The stings are just that.

I'm just full of stuff and stings. If you don't like it, tell the editor. I hope to remain unnamed or anonymous, even to the editor, as he might get stung.

A subject common to all collectors, is protection of what we accumulate. There is insurance. The APS has an excellent program for insurance for US collectors. I'm sure there is insurance protection in the other countries for stamp collectors and philatelist.

However, my stuff for this issue will deal with protection by STORAGE. I've read that the three most common enemies to our delicate "little pieces of paper", quoting my spouse, are No. 1, HEAT, No. 2, HUMIDITY, and No. 3, LIGHT.

Heat - As temperatures fluctuate things happen to your stamps. High temperatures will cause chemical responses that will shorten the life of the stamp. Just a few degrees rise in temperature doubles the rate of a chemical reaction.

Humidity - The level for safe storage I've been told is 30 to 50 percent. If humidity is too low it will dry out the stamp, if it is too high it is more susceptible to fungus.

Light - Constant light will cause stamps to lose their color, they fade and fade. When it comes to inside lighting, incandescent lights are better than fluorescent. Stamps should be kept in the dark unless they are being displayed or you are working with them.

More on protection next time.

EXHIBITS

Did you know - that there have been postage stamp shows in the United States for over 100 years? The first one was 11 March 1889, in New York City. It ran for a month in the Eden Musee, a lower Manhattan art museum. Members of three New York stamp clubs displayed their collections. Too bad it was before Irish stamps were available.

STINGS

Shame on you USPS. The USPS should have a swarm of African bees in the office that directed the move to eliminate the support to the Ben Franklin school stamp clubs. Most adult philatelists started as a child. When we were able we started being one of the buyers that mean so much to the Post Office in selling stamps that are never used. Where are the school children going now: street gangs? drugs? tagging? etc.

Another sting to our Irish An Post. How about using credit cards for your philatelic account members? It would keep a stipulated amount in the account at all times. The account holders would never worry about having sufficient funds in the account and missing issues. As each group of stamps is issued the credit card account would be used to collect for the stamps. The United Kingdom, Gernsey, U.S.A., etc., use this type of service. How about writing the An Post Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Dublin 1, Ireland. Tell them you would like them to establish a credit card system for new issues as well as ordering.

Also An Post, how about furnishing Postal Stationery new issue service each time there is a visible change to an item, not just when there is a major value or major new item.

I'll buzz off - The Bee! 

Crossword B

by Robert J. Joyce

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Y D N S L O G A N P Y L I M A F
E L K O A G A L W A Y A T D R I
A R L R I E Y T E I C O S E R L
R O S A O T S I A P M A T S E M
C W N S V C I R N E S S E U V K
E T Y O E I I B E A O R H E E C
R H Y A D R T L I V R O C R A S
I I H L R N G S E H O T A N L E
E R T O A E O N E T X C C R E D
T D R U C U I L O F A E S J R I
O S U T T R N I O C L L L J A U
I T O H S R E N V L I L I C F G
R A F F O C U S A W M O G H A E
I E X E P M A T S E E C O E P G
S Y A M E R I P E X R N E A A D
H C R A M O O G A C I H C P G I
L R I G N E D L O G C P A E E R
R E T S A F A I R T K J J R S B
    
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NEW	GIRL	IRISH	SLOGAN
GALWAY	FAR	YEAR	FOCUS
GUIDES	LONDON	DAY	CORK
PAGES	FAMILY	FILMS	WORLD
BRIDGE	POST	GOLDEN	FAIR
LOUTH	FASTER	COIN	YEATS
REUSED	EIRE	SLIGO	ANNUAL
STAMP	FOURTH	MARCH	STAMPA
ESSEN	CHEAPER	CONGRESS	EXHIBITION
SOCIETY	FESTIVAL	PHILATELIC	STAMPEX
LIMERICK	CACHETS	POSTCARD	CHICAGO
OVERSEAS	AMERIPEX	REVEALER	COLLECTORS
	THIRD	CANCELLATIONS	

Plus many other words of assorted shapes, sizes, and meanings.

Source: Warren, Brian, That Was The Year That Was - 1986, Part II; Vol 36, No 4, Pgs 36-40, *The Revealer*, Spring 87. 

(Answers in Next Issue)

Mail of Military Internees in Ireland During World War II

How long did a letter take from Germany to Ireland?

by Hans G. Moxter

The Republic of Ireland remained neutral during WWII or "The Emergency" as the Irish called it. Eamon de Valera and his government in Dublin did not see any reason to join the British in their fight against the Germans, nor did they have great sympathies for the German dictator and his allies. Neutrality seemed to be the right way to stay out of trouble, unless the British were willing to render those six countries they were still holding up in Ulster. For understandable reasons London did not wish to fulfill such a condition and thus Éire started its strict neutrality with - among other things - the introduction of censorship for foreign mail.

Surface mail between Germany and Ireland in the early days of WWII usually went via Belgium or Holland to the United Kingdom and on to Ireland. From May 1940 on, this route was blocked and mail now went via France-Spain-Portugal-England to Éire. This way was kept open till the end of WWII i.e. May 1945 for Europe. After the liberation of France letters went to Portugal in transit via Switzerland. A normal letter had to pass three examinations on its way: first, in the country of mailing (Éire or Germany); second, in transit in the UK (a procedure which was practically unavoidable); and, finally, again upon arrival at its destination. In all three censorships a letter would usually be opened, read and resealed.

By using airmail - and paying for it - the sender could sometimes speed up dispatch on part of the way, but never gain any time in censorship. For example, airmail letters between Innsbruck (Austria) and Dublin in 1941 and 1942 took about 17 to 27 days. This goes for normal civilian mail. When it came to mail to or from German Military Internees, i.e. mostly crew members of crashed airplanes or sailors of the navy, such mail received special attention i.e. an additional inspection by a member of the Irish military forces intelligence department at the camp. In 1941 such mail took about 30-40 days to reach its destination.

In 1943, a letter from Potsdam to Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare, needed 46 days (airmail!) and, at the end of 1943, an airmail letter mailed in Dublin on November 8th reached Madrid December 1st and Berlin December 29th, where it could not be delivered and consequently was returned to Madrid (25.1.44) and Dublin (? February 1944). It took this letter about 100 days for a round-trip Dublin - Berlin - Dublin.

But the situation was getting worse. On the 12th of December 1944, an airmail letter was mailed in Graz (Austria) and went via Switzerland-Portugal-London-Dublin to the Curragh Camp where it arrived after 101 days. The recipient of the letter and a comrade had meanwhile been given permission to leave the camp on parole and to rent a room in Dublin, so that they could attend lectures at the college there.

The Luftwaffe officers had already been interned in Éire for more than 45 months and the war situation made it very unlikely that they would try to escape anyhow.

So the letter was censored at the camp and, then, forwarded to their new address at 5 Upper Mount Street in Dublin. This



re-mailing to the new direction caused the P.O. at Curragh to apply its datestamp on 23rd March 1945, the same week the Yankee tanks of General Patton's 3rd Armoured Division crossed the Rhine River and headed for Frankfurt/Main. Only a few more weeks and Hitler would commit suicide in his bunker in Berlin.

But, when this letter reached Dublin, the Hitler stamp in the upper right corner caused some collector to ask Ltn. Fleischmann for the stamp and he tore it off the envelope. Many years later, the damaged envelope reached me from its recipient, who, meanwhile, had moved to Canada. I restored it as good as I could and it is now in my collection. Have a look at the illustration and see for yourself what a story even a torn cover can tell.

Coils on Cover

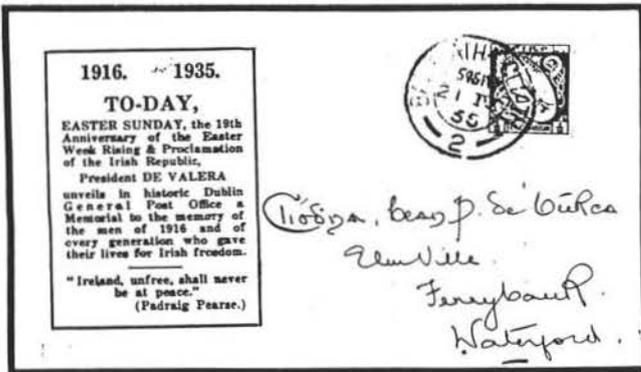
by C.I. Dulin

Among the definitive stamps of Ireland, the experimental coil stamps of the 1930s and 1940s are probably the most interesting, primarily for they were of compound perf and imperf combinations.

The 1930s group, issued in 1933-34, is the most curious having a 1/2d Imperf x Perf 14 (SG71a Scott 91); a 1d Perf 15 x Imperf (single perf near top SG72a Scott 87a); another 1d Perf 15 x Imperf (issued in 1935, this replaced the single perf 1d type SG72c Scott 87) and a 2d Imperf x Perf 14 (similar to the 1/2d, both having the SE watermark sideways SG74a Scott 92). I have omitted the more famous 2d Perf 15 x Imperf (SG 74b Scott 68b) for I am not certain as to whether this was an issued stamp or a contrived forgery. Of this, more in a future article.

All the experimental coils, especially the 1930s group, are rather scarce on cover, with the 1d single perf particularly difficult to find. I have never seen one, and it would be interesting to know if any member has such an example.

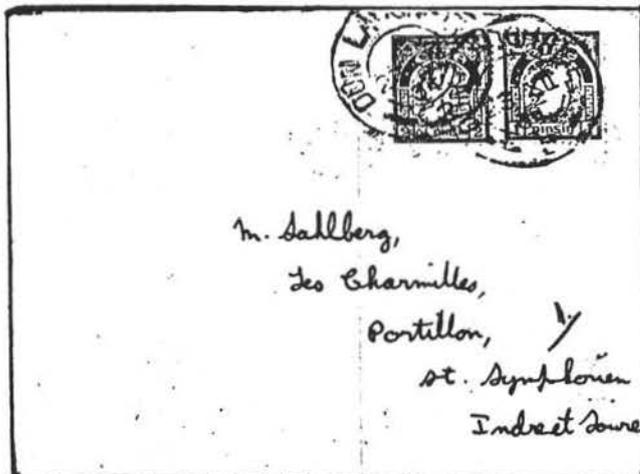
The 1/2d is usually found on the commemorative envelopes prepared to celebrate the 19th anniversary of the Easter uprising (and, incidentally, opening of the rebuilt GPO in Dublin). A copy is shown in the illustration. It is fairly scarce when used on ordinary commercial mail. Such mail would literally be commercial for 1/2d was the invoice and printed matter rate.



I have not seen the other 1d (no single perf) on a postcard - the logical use, since 1d was the rate for this class of mail at the time. It usually appears in pairs on envelopes to cater for the ordinary letter rate.

The letter rate 2d is, of course, found on envelopes, but I have yet to see it used on cover in multiples to pay for either other classes or mail or for excess weight on letter mail.

Use of the coil stamps was limited, primarily because they were indeed experimental and there were only a limited number of coil vending machines installed at the time. Little is known of these machines besides those at the G.P.O. in Dublin and any information on this would be most welcome. Most of the stamps that were used appear to have come from commercial organisations who bought them by the roll for their own stamp dispensing machines. Again, this would have been limited, for by this time any organisation of even moderate size was installing meter machines if the quantity of mail usage warranted it.



Mixed usage of coil stamps (or of coil stamps and ordinary definitives) must border on the rare. The only mail I have seen of this type is shown in the illustration. Rather non-descript in appearance, and not at all philatelic, it is addressed to Indre & Loire, a Department in France, posted from Dun Laoghaire on December 23, 1934. To pay for the correct Foreign rate of 3d, it bears two coil stamps - the 1d (not single perf) and the 2d.

The 1940s experimental coil stamps, with watermark E, are much commoner, although, again, found infrequently on cover. The first, issued in 1940, was Perf 14 x Imperf (SG

112a Scott 105a) and the second, of 1946, appeared with Perf 15 x Imperf (SG 112b Scott 105). The 1946 issue is also known with watermark inverted. In fact, the inverted watermark type seems to be marginally scarcer than the normal.

Fortunately, there is great deal in the archives on these 1940s coil stamps and this, too, will be treated in a future article. Thus far, I have not found any archive data on the earlier coils, although I am sure it must exist.

Although dates of issue for the 1930s issue are imprecise (earliest dates of appearance turn up periodically), those for the 1940s nominally appear to have been chronicled more fully - although how accurately is, for me, still questionable, for I have not been able to find copies of Iris an Phuist for the relevant periods. Thus the MacDonnell-Whyte catalogue gives issue dates of April 29, 1940 for the Perf 14 and March 20, 1946 for the Perf 15, Gibbons is more vague on the Perf 14 (September 1940), but agrees with the March 20, 1946 date for the Perf 15.

Even assuming that either catalogue is correct, it seems rather odd that the 1d Perf 14 was issued before the regular 1d Perf 15 x 14 (issued October 26, 1940). Of course, there was a change of watermark, from SE to E around this time and perhaps the regular definitive was not released until old stocks had been used up. Nevertheless this is a curiosity.

As usual, members views, comments and data are requested. ♣

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Literature Review

World's First Stamp Collection, by Joseph Foley appears in the Sept/Oct 1993 Issue of the *Collectors' Club Philatelist*, Vol 72, No 5, page 271 - 280. (Editor's Note: A copy of this article is available in the EPA Library.) This article flows from a trip Mr. Foley made to Ireland's 1991 STAMPA Exhibition. With the very able assistance of Michael Giffney, General Chairman of STAMPA and EPA member, Denis Cromie, of An Post, and Ms. Siobhan O'Rafferty, Acting Librarian of the Royal Irish Academy, access was achieved.

The article recounts a brief history of a very early Irish Revenue Collection formed by John Bourke in 1774. It, then, details the content of the collection almost page by page. There are 16 pages with examples of embossed revenue stamps from L6 to 1/2 d together with a summary of their usage. This is followed by several unnumbered pages illustrating impressions of the handstamp changemarks. The album even gives a complete list of prices for parchment, plain paper or printed paper upon which the embossed revenue stamp was to be placed - no free stationery here. A final entry appears detailing the salaries of the employees. Bourke prepared this collection "for use and presented it to...the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenues in Ireland".

We often forget that while postage stamps first appeared in England in 1840, this country had a long history of using stamps to collect the King's Revenue. Passage of the Stamp Act of 1765 by British Parliament led to a cry in the Colonies of 'Taxation without Representation' and ultimately led to the American Revolutionary War. It is a bit ironic, I think, that although Mr. Bourke prepared this First Stamp Collection using British Revenue Stamps, the Federation of International Philatelists (FIP) would not allow revenue stamps to be exhibited in their international shows until recently.

Patrick J. Ryan, Sr.

Postal Orders overprinted in a manner somewhat similar to postage stamps for use in Ireland in the 1920's. Both "Rialtas..." and "Saorstát..." overprints were used. The article notes and discusses differences in types. A xerox of the article has been placed in the EPA library.

Joseph Foley

Joe Foley is planning an update of his study of the bogus "Fenian Essays" that were produced by S. Allan Taylor. Foley's work appeared in the March, 1971 issue of the *American Philatelist* and was later released as a booklet, co-published by the EPA and APS. Joe would like to hear from anyone having any information on the subject. Contact him at Box 183, Riva, Maryland 21140-0183.

Joseph Foley ✚

CHAPTER REPORTS SoCal Chapter at SESCAL

by William O'Connor

The Southern California Chapter had its annual meeting at SESCAL in Los Angeles, October 10, 1993.

Peg and Bill Zellers had a prior engagement back East so the meeting was conducted by myself. Wayne Kingsbury, John Fluck, Bill Brewer and yours truly were present. A presentation on St. Patrick's Day cards and covers was held. One cover shown commemorated the St. Patrick's Day Flood of Johnstown, PA. in 1936. The oldest, officially sponsored commemoration of St. Patrick's Day was a post card from Shamrock, Oklahoma in 1934. I'm sure many older cards or covers exist.

Although the turn out was small, the meeting was most informative and all had a good time. ✚

Commodore John Barry Chapter

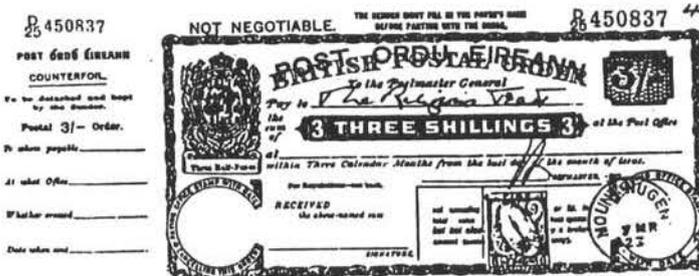
by Dave Brennan

The Winter Meeting of the Commodore John Barry Chapter will be held in conjunction with the BEPEX Show on Feb. 26, 1994. The location for the show and meeting is the Holiday Inn on Rt 17 in Hasbrouck Heights, N.J. This is located right off of Rt 80 across from the Teterboro Airport. A dutch treat luncheon will be available at the hotel for anyone wishing to join us in the grill room at noon. The meeting will be held at 1:30 P.M. in one of the conference rooms. The schedule of rooms has not been established as of yet, but more on the meeting will be forthcoming in January, 1994.

Bring a friend to the meeting and introduce him or her to the wonderful world of collecting Irish stamps and postal history. Guests are always welcome to our meetings.

We welcome Larry Brennan from Brooklyn who has joined our Chapter.

His main interests besides Ireland are New Zealand, Fiji, Hong Kong, and Oceania countries. ✚



The July, 1993 issue of *The Cinderella Philatelist* contained an interesting article by Richard Solly on British

£1 Forgery

(Continued from page 50)

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Correction

More Philatelic Research Notes

Through a misunderstanding of the author's letter accompanying this article, it was reprinted **without** permission. A written apology has been issued to the author together with this public apology.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

November 10, 1993

Dear Editor,

Concerning the article 'More Philatelic Research Notes' which appeared in the Fall 93 issue I have some things about the article that should be put straight:

1. The following two points, in particular could be made an addendum in the next issue: The first thing and most important thing to be pointed out is that the original articles, stated to have been printed in *this column*, by Michael O'Conghaile in November '92 and February '93 were published in 'The Emerald Postmark,' bulletin of the Commodore John Barry Chapter of the EPA, and not in *The Revealer*.
2. Next, the New York Public Library Annex is indeed near the Jacob Javits Centre, but this is of no use to MegaShow attendees as the one time use of the Jacob Javits Centre for the MegaShow has already been superseded by its return to Madison Square Gardens and the EPA AGM referred to was the 1993 AGM which is long over. It will be a long five minute walk from the next '94 AGM to the New York Public Library Annex, that I believe will be in Rochester, New York.
3. Upon closer reading of *The Revealer* I notice that the first paragraph of the piece in my letter on STAMPED TO ORDER had part of a sentence omitted and it makes it rather confusing. It should have read: *In Otto Jung's article on stamped to order postal stationery article in the Winter 1992 issue, he refers to a 26p postcard. One of these postcards was shown by Mr. Brian Warren in O.E.78., Bulletin of the Irish Airmail Society in the June 1991 issue, to illustrate an article on the Uniform*

Foreign Airmail Rates 1951 - 1991.

Regards.

Yours Sincerely,

Karl Winkelmann

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

11/11/93

Dear Editor,



I came across an interesting label. Can you give me any information on it? I have been a member since 1973 and don't remember it. Maybe one of our members at large would know.

Thank You,

Terry Fleshman #992

EDITOR'S NOTE: The label you sent (enclosed) was first mentioned in *The Revealer*, JUL/AUG, 1951, page 5 in an article entitled 'E.P.A. Label In Design' and again in an article in the SEP/OCT issue, 1951, page 3, 'E.P.A. Envelope Label'. These were Paper labels members could use on their correspondence that could be purchased from the Secretary, John J. Clark (now deceased) and place on their correspondence. This item has now been replaced for many years by the EPA rubber Stamp sold thru the Special Offers section of the EPA. It is interesting in that it sold for 300/\$1.00 or 100/40¢ at the time. If you need or would like more information on this item you can obtain it thru the EPA Library at a nominal cost. Should you wish to obtain a rubber stamp to use on your correspondence you should order it from Dick McBride (see a Special Offers ad on the back page of any issue).

Meet Charles

(Continued from page 48)

philatéliques, a managing firm responsible for putting on philatelic exhibitions including CANADA 92.

Charles has exhibited nationally and internationally and is an accredited national-level philatelic and literature judge. He is Second Vice-President of The R.P.S.C. and Chairman of its Judging Programme. He has written 2 books and numerous philatelic articles and is a member of over 20 philatelic organizations including the Irish Philatelic Circle, the F.A.I. and the A.P.S. Writers' Unit 30 of which he is a Director (1993-97).

Charles Verge is married to Alana Forrester and is the father of three daughters; one of whom, Charlotte, is a youth collector and exhibits internationally. Charles works for the Government of Canada at the Department of Transport as Director, Facility Management.

EPA AGM Set for '94

by Patrick J. Ryan, Sr.

Charles Verge, our new President, has announced that the 1994 Annual General Meeting of the Éire Philatelic Association will be held at 09:30 AM, Saturday, April 9th, 1994 as a scheduled event in conjunction with ROPEX Stamp Show. ROPEX will be held in Rochester NY, 8 - 10 April 1994 at the Holiday Inn on S Main St downtown. A Business meeting of the Board of Directors will convene at 8:00 AM followed by the AGM at 09:30. At 10:30 there will be a presentation of "Tossed Salids: Shamrocks, Thistles and Leeks". At noon there will be a group Dutch treat luncheon.

The EPA will have thirty frames reserved for Irish exhibits. Members wishing to exhibit at ROPEX may obtain a prospectus from Ms Ada M Prill, 130 Trafalgar St, Rochester NY 14619-1224, EPA Awards will be available in the show with our president making the presentations at the Awards Banquet.

Charles will also be a member of the Judging Panel for the show. I would encourage all members to support our new President in his efforts to make our 1994 AGM enjoyable, rewarding and a worthwhile event. ♣

**EPA
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY
1994**

Deadline: 1 March 1994
**Those who do not want
 their addresses to appear
 in the Directory must notify
 the Editor not later than
 the Deadline.**

E.P.A. SPECIAL OFFERS

The following items may be ordered from Richard J. McBride, 153 Orchid Road, Meriden, CT 06450 U.S.A. All prices include postage and handling. Overseas add \$1.00 per item for air mail. Make all cheques and money orders payable to Richard J. McBride.

Irish Overprint Identifier — A clear plastic overlay to help sort out your overprint issues. With it is a chart giving Scott and Gibbons numbers and an article on identifying the overprints. Price \$4.50

Die Mielenstempel Der Irischen Post — (The Mileage Marks of Ireland) 1808-1839 by Hans G. Moxter. 1985 Edition. 64pp. Text in German and English. Published by FAI, the Irish Philatelic Group in Germany. Most informative and well illustrated. A complete listing of all known Irish mileage marks. Price \$3.50

Ireland - Catalogue of Perfins — compiled and edited by Richard L. Mewhinney. Published by The Perfins Club - 1984. 34 pp. punched for 3 ring binder. The catalogue is designed for use as an album as well as catalogue. Only observed Perfins are catalogued. Also, 2 pages of suspected or previously reported designs. Price \$6.50

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