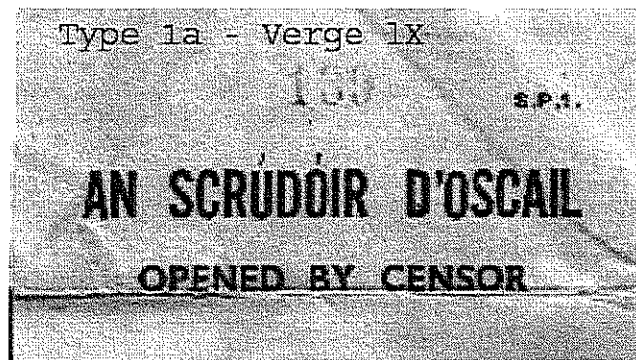


## More on Irish Censor Labels – pink

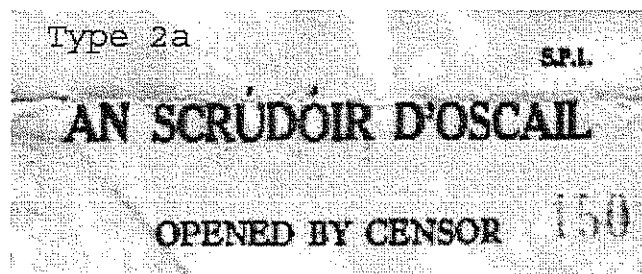
Since I last listed the number of different types of pink censor labels used by the Irish authorities during the Second World War (1939 – 1945), back in the December issue of the Journal, 2005. I am pleased to tell you that I have obtained a few variants on the 17 different types, which I listed at that time.

Generally the pink censor labels come in 2 distinct categories either with a hand stamped number, which is added by the individual censor at the time of censorship or the number is incorporated within the original printing of the pink label. These start from number 1 and generally end at number 200, with the exceptions occurring above this number when the hand stamp is used.



Category 1.

With category 1, the hand stamp appears to be of the variety with 5 separate wheels; having a -, then 0 through to the number 9 on each of the wheels. Charles J. G. Verge in his listings of 1988 produces a list of 1 through to 200 and then the odd number up to 0750, which if one has a copy of this the odd “-“ can be seen as part of the sequence forming the whole number. Above is the first type of pink label which was issued.



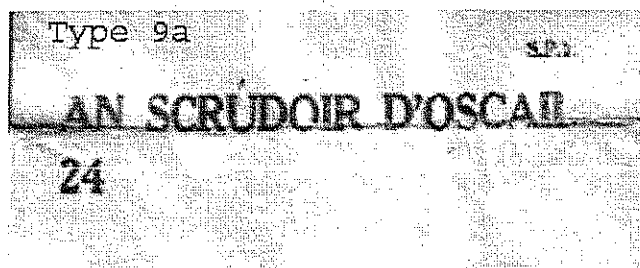
Category 1.

It can clearly be seen the difference in the print size and font, even though the hand stamp is still applied by hand anywhere on the label and not in a fixed position.

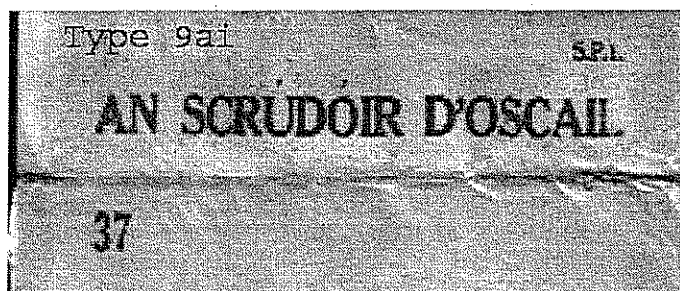
At this moment in time I am not sure which way these labels were printed, either they were printed in either landscape or portrait on a roll and then maybe guillotined or cut by scissors from the roll. I am certain that they were not printed in sheets.

The second category is printed with the number incorporated as shown in the following examples. Note both the print size and font, as well as the fixed position of the number, on each variety of the pink label.

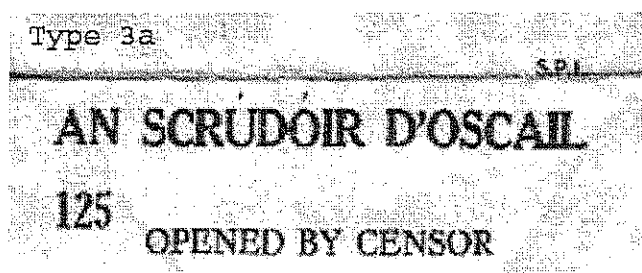
Added to which of course whether the pink censor label has the English "Opened by Censor" printed on it as well.



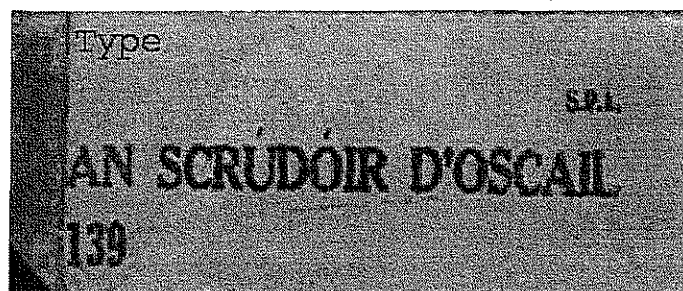
Category 2.



Category 2.

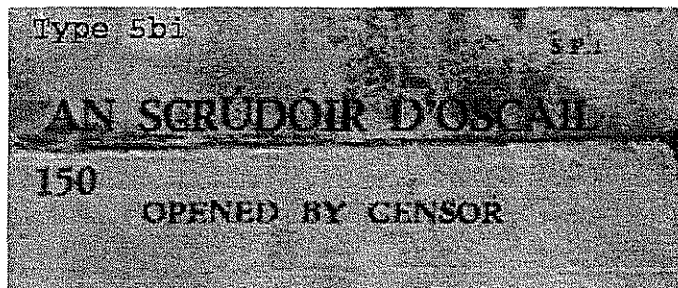


Category 2.

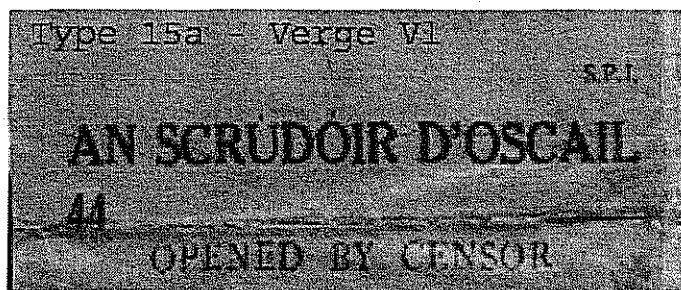


Category 2.

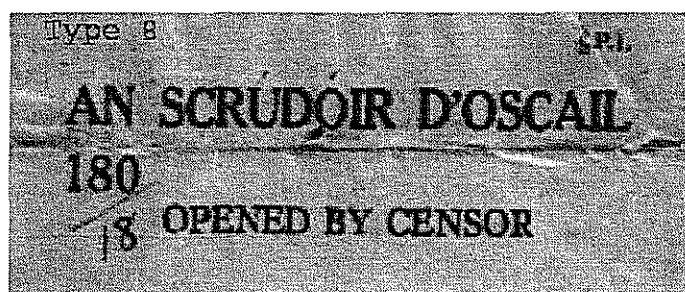
All of the examples shown here are very easy to see the difference in layout, size of print and font and I hope to be of a guide to those of you, who are interested in this area. Also as mentioned some only have Gaelic on them adding to the distinction.



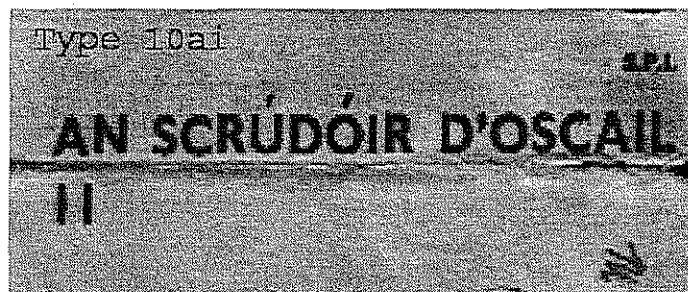
Category 2.



Category 2.

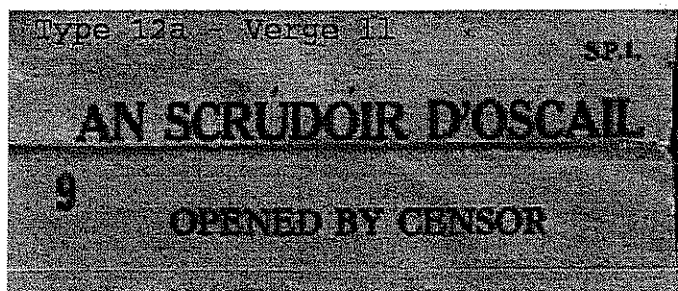


Category 2, note the manuscript.



Category 2.

All of the second category pink labels that I have seen so far have the number printed on the right-hand side of the label. I have only shown part of the variants above but enough I hope for you to be able to see the difference – without the aid of a magnifying glass or similar.



Category 2.

Very recently I bought what appeared to be the second of those categories, noted above but on close examination this particular pink label has no number on it at all thus making it a candidate for the first category. Obviously I checked to see if part of the label was missing, or part of the print was missing but in both cases this was not the case.

On further examination with the use of 4 acetate overlay sheets – 3 of my own and the 1 from Charles J. G. Verge's listings, which have a total of 30 different styles and layouts of the censor print, I found that none of these align with the example I have. Hence yet another example, which raises the question.

Why was this pink censor label printed with no number on it? The original censor labels, being the first category, generally which have the hand stamp added are distinctive in print size and font and tend to be from the early days of the start of the war. This particular example falls within what is of the first category of pink labels but used in May 1941, almost 2 years after the start of the censor period and with the sort of standard size and font used around this period – which automatically had the number included. Remembering that the Second World War (1939 – 1945) started on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939.

Maybe I am just lucky enough to have an example of 1 pink censor label without a number – that may have “escaped through the net”, to use a euphemism. Other than that I will continue to search and collect these labels but do not expect to get every number; even though I have managed to get obtain the majority of the first 200 numbers in one form or another over the years (and can attribute the blame for my starting to collect these to a certain member of the IPC – for imparting part of his knowledge on this subject). Which is the reason for this article!

At some time in the future I shall pursue this further and create some more acetate overlays with all the examples I have and of course pass on any new information on this subject. Should any member wish to contact me about their own material which they might think is different, please do so.

Eddy DALTON