

the Revealer

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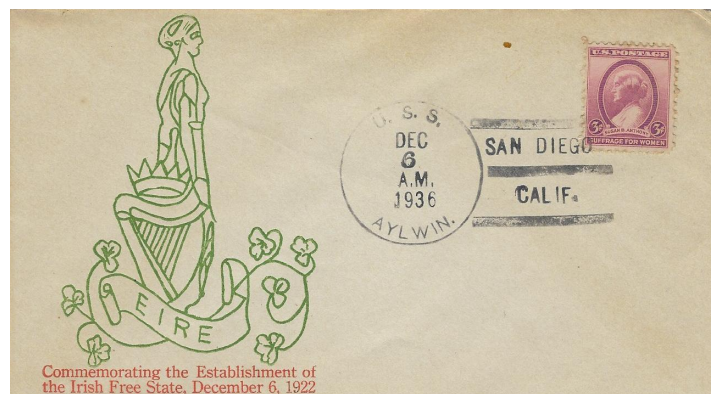
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**Summer: June 7; Fall: Sep 7; Winter: Dec 15;
Spring: March 7**

Each Issue published about a month after above dates

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Quarter-Page	3.6 X 4.8	\$50	\$180
Eighth-Page	3.6 X 2.5	\$30	\$105

Camera ready copy required – Contact Richard Kelly at kellyrd@sbcglobal.net

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	Annual Sep-Aug	Life
Membership		
Electronic version only- worldwide	\$20.-	\$400.-
Printed copy with electronic – U.S. only	\$30.-	\$600.-
Printed copy with electronic – outside US.	\$35.-	\$700.-
Family memberships are the same as single		

Address and email address changes should be sent to the Treasurer Robert Benninghoff at eparmb@gmail.com



Due to continuing delays in postal deliveries, increases in postal rates and printing costs, and the need to upgrade our web site, the Board of the ÉPA will be offering members two options in their membership rates and the delivery of our quarterly journal, *The Revealer*.

Starting with the Winter 2021-22 issue of *The Revealer*, members can have *The Revealer* delivered by two different methods, a hard copy or an electronic copy. Those that choose the hard copy option will continue to receive *The Revealer* as they do now, through the U.S. Postal Service. You will also receive the electronic version at no extra cost. Members who choose the electronic-only version will receive *The Revealer* on their computer via WeTransfer. On your computer, WeTransfer will provide a link (or a file folder) that will allow you to access *The Revealer*, and allow you to read it, save it or print out a hard copy. You must have a registered email address to receive the electronic version for either option. **This does not affect life members.**

The new dues structure will be:

Electronic version World-wide.....	\$20
Printed copy with electronic (US Only).....	\$30
Printed copy with electronic (Outside US).....	\$35

You may change your membership option when you pay your annual dues which are due on September 1. Thank you for your continued support of our wonderful association.

ÉPA 2022 Annual General Meeting at NOJEX & ASDA Show

The 2022 Annual General Meeting of the ÉPA will be held at the NOJEX & ASDA 2022 Stamp Show, October 14-16, 2022. The location is the Meadowlands Hilton Hotel, 2 Meadowlands Plaza, East Rutherford, NJ. The AGM will be held on Saturday, October 16th and will both in-person and via Zoom. The AGM will include a presentation “Telling History Through Philately” by award winning exhibitor Robert Benninghoff. Check the ÉPA website and also the websites of NOJEX and ASDA for further details.

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50th Anniversary



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South Circular Road, Dublin 8
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Friday & Saturday 11am to 5pm - Sunday 11am to 4pm

See www.stampa.ie for membership details

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Irish First Day covers

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Phone: 098 45284;

email: lineensachill@hotmail.com

Liam Malone asks readers if anyone has the Mary Aikenhead stamps with dot on the cross and hairline varieties. Please send scans to liammalonedc@gmail.com. This is for a future article for The Revealer.

Remembering The Irish Civil War – Battle for the Four Courts Dublin June 28 to 30 1922

by Robert Benninghoff



The Irish Civil War Stamp issued by *An Post*. The Postcard & Cancel were both designed by Brian Warren. The cancel date is 28 June 2022 marking the 100th Anniversary of the official start of the Civil War, when the National Army opened fire with artillery on the IRA holding the Four Courts.

The Four Courts in June 1922 held the Public Records office with Land & Legal documents going back 700 years to the Norman Invasion of Ireland. The records office was destroyed in the fighting.

The Irish Civil War began as the signatures were drying on the Anglo-Irish Treaty, signed by Michael Collins and Arthur Griffith on 6 December, 1921. Sinn Féin and the IRA had been fighting Britain for an Independent Irish Republic for almost 5 years. What the Treaty offered was a *Partitioned Ireland* with semi-independence for 26 counties of Southern Ireland. During the next 6 months animosities and open warfare began between the Pro and Anti Treaty members of both Sinn Féin and the IRA.

On April 14 1922, Rory O'Connor and 200 Anti Treaty IRA members took over the Four Courts in Dublin as a show of defiance to the Michael Collins led National Government and the British Army Troops still remaining in Dublin. However, both the British and Irish National Government largely ignored the IRA in the Four Courts for the next 2 months until June 22 when thing quickly spiraled out of control.

June 22 1922, Sir Henry Wilson was assassinated in London by two IRA members. Wilson was a personal friend of Winston Churchill and the British Prime Minister, Lloyd George. Both blamed the IRA who were holding the Four Courts. Michael Collins was given an ultimatum to remove the garrison from the Four Courts or Lloyd George would send British Troops to do the task. *And the British would provide the National Army with artillery to pound the buildings.*

The Treasury of the Public Records Office, where archives and ancient records that had been collected from all parts of Ireland were stored, was turned into a munitions factory, where hand grenades and land-mines were being manufactured and filled with explosives. This photograph of the Treasury was taken in 1912.

Ernie O'Malley wrote, in *The Singing Flame*, of seeing 'a jumble of lathes, moulds and mine cases; hand grenade bodies lay in heaps; electric detonators, electric wires and explosives were piled between the racks which held the records...'

The Public Records Office was mainly garrisoned by former members of Fianna Éireann, most of them still in their teens.

Iompaíodh an Taisce d'Oifig na dTaifead Poiblí, ina raibh cartlanna agus taifid ársa á stóráil a bailíodh ó gach cearn d'Éirinn, ina monarcha arm, inar déantúsaíodh gránáidí agus mianaigh talún agus inar líonadh iad le pléascáin. Tógadh an pictiúr seo den Taisce i 1912.

Scríobh Ernie O'Malley, in *The Singing Flame*, go bhfaca sé 'carnán deileanna, múnlaí agus cásanna mianaigh; gránáidí láimhe i gcarnáin; maidhmitheoirí leictreacha, sreanga leictreacha, pléascáin carntha idir na racaí a raibh na taifid orthu...'

Seanbhaill d'Fhianna Éireann a bhí ar post in Oifig na dTaifead den chuid is mó, a bhformhór ina ndéagóirí.



Photograph taken from a display in the Four Courts Dublin, June 28 1922. The Public Records Office shown in the photo was used by the IRA to make & store munitions. It was completely destroyed by an explosion on June 30 1922. Most of the documents were also destroyed.

The Four Courts Before and After – Documenting History



PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

The Four Courts – 1922, before and after

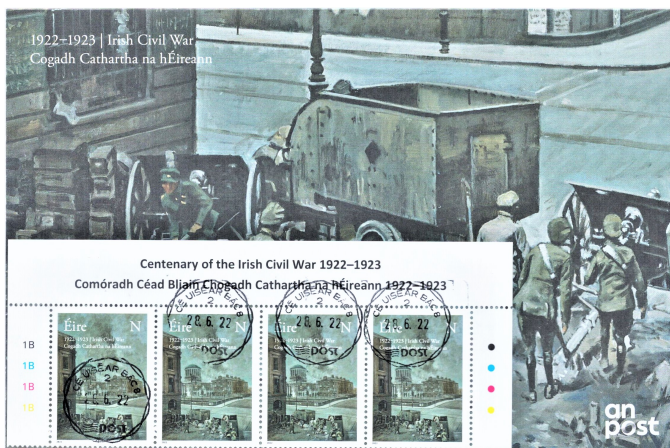
Commemorating the people, the buildings and their story



Photograph of the Four Courts Burning (National Archives) 30 June 1922 and a view taken on 30 June 2022.



Witness To Fighting: Postcards from my Exhibit "The Irish Civil War". Cards mailed by a British Soldier stationed in Phoenix Park & who witnessed the fighting & the explosion at the Four Courts. The British Army provided the National Government with arms & ammunition but otherwise stayed out of the



An Post issued stamp & Cover for the Civil War Centenary. Cover cancelled 28 June 2022 at Usher Quay Post office across the Liffey from the Four Courts. Photo Brian Warren with the author a few meters from the PO.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT - Autumn 2022**New Members**

3022 Patrick O’Riordan , County Cork, Ireland
 3023 Michael J. Hennessy, Chicago, IL
 3024 Dr. Bart A. Fletcher, Lynchburg, VA

Change of Address

1278 Leon Stadtherr, Winthrop, MN
 2217 John McInerney, Sarasota, FL
 2717 Joseph Kelley, Pittsburgh, PA
 2737 Doug Moss, Athens, TX
 2889 Joseph Healy, Kingsville, MD
 2921 Jim Lawler, Fairland, IN

New Email Address

1894 Jeff Schuster, jdschuster@aol.com
 2671 William Terry billisterry@icloud.com
 2990 William Medlin, quakerbillmed@aol.com
 3022 Patrick O’Riordan, porgreenmount999@gmail.com
 3023 Michael J. Hennessy, hennessy@txstate.edu
 3024 Dr. Bart A. Fletcher, revbafletcher@mac.com

Reinstatements

2836 Charles E. Nelson, Moosup, CT

Resignations

2909 David Belesky, Morgantown, WV
 2978 John Doris, North Ferriby, UK
 3003 John Rochelle, Gray, TN
 3008 Roger Noffhe, Blanford, MA

Deaths

0710 W. J. O’Donnell Jr., Dallas, TX
 0928 John Brinckloe, Kennebunk, ME
 2176 Tom O’Hagan, Lewes, DE
 2232 Bill Tatham, Santa Rosa, CA
 2606 Kevin Drury, Dublin, Ireland
 2719 John Huffman, Cullowhee, NC

Unable to Locate

0701 Michael E. Hager, Winchester, MA
 2616 Michael Doherty, Bowling Green, OH

Membership Status

Membership as of June 1, 2022	275	
New members		3
Lost members		10
Life members		42
Complimentary mailings		12
Membership as of September 15, 2022	268	

JBS, 08 24 22

“Fuel Problem” At Shannon IAP During Training of Braniff Pilots on the Air France Concorde

by Raymond Murphy



The French-British Concorde airliner was a unique airplane, transporting passengers at up to Mach 2.2 (2.2 times the speed of sound) at altitudes up to 60,000 feet. The airframes were built by British Aviation Corporation (now BAE Systems) and Sud Aviation (now Airbus). An American carrier, Braniff International Airlines, sought to enter the “supersonic” market.

In 1978, a unique interchange agreement was developed to allow the Concorde to carry passengers between Dallas-Fort Worth, Washington and Paris or London. Normally, foreign carriers can only transport passengers between an American airport and overseas. This restriction also applies to ships, and known as the Cabotage Law. Under this agreement, French and British Concordes were manned with American crews for the US portion, and were exchanged with French or British crews at Washington. The aircraft itself had temporary Braniff registration numbers affixed to the fuselage, which were changed in Washington. Thus, Concorde 209 had a US registration of N94FC while operating in the US, but a French registration F-BVFC while operating between Washington and Paris with an Air France crew. British Concorde’s followed the same procedure from London.

Training for the Braniff crews was to be run from Shannon since it was the closest airport to the unrestricted airspace over the North Atlantic where noise was not a factor. This program lasted only one day, supposedly due to fuel problems.

Normally, aircraft on international flights are exempt from most taxes. However, since these flights were to takeoff and return to Ireland without an international stop, they were domestic flights and subject to all Irish taxes. On an aircraft with a fuel load of about 25,000 gallons, this becomes a significant amount. After the initial flight, it was decided to return the training to France where some taxes were waived by the French government. The problem wasn’t the fuel at Shannon, but rather the taxes on the fuel. The interchange ended on June 1, 1980.

Reference: Wikipedia, Concorde Aircraft Histories.

(The author is a retired USAF Senior Petroleum Logistics Officer)

Charles F. Bourke St. Patrick Day Covers, 1935-1961

By Bill O'Connor

I recently came across John Bessington's article from the January, 1979 *Revealer* concerning Charles F. Bourke's St. Patrick's Day covers. He listed 1935 as the first year of Bourke St. Patrick's Day covers, and ending with the 1953 example. I have a late example from 1961 that seems to fit the designs of the St. Patrick's Day envelopes use by Bourke.

What follows are examples of the Bourke covers in my collection from 1936 to 1961. I have not seen any covers from 1940-1945. A possible reason for this gap may be that Mr. Bourke was in the Irish military; I have covers addressed by him using his military rank during this time.

The three designs mentioned, by Blessington correspond with what I have in my collection. The designs indicate a drawing of St. Patrick, from 1935 to 1950. The Eamon de Valera picture is on a 1948 and 1953 cover. The single picture of Blarney Castle is on a 1951 cover, and finally three pictures encased in a shamrock design on 1951-52, and 1961 is showing views of Dublin, Blarney Castle, and Killarney Lakes.

My first Bourke St. Patrick's Day cover of 1936 depicts a line drawing of St. Patrick and is the basic design for the duration of the series. The initials J.D. B refers to a relative of Bourke, and the color of the printing is always in green.



The next example of 1937 uses a commemorative stamp from the Holy Year series of 1933. Most of the covers seem to be sent to clients in America, and the names are listed in English and Irish. The post card size insert found in many of the covers shows a St. Patrick's Day greetings and Bourke's address in Waterford.



The 1938 greeting mentions shamrocks inside. You may still find a package of shamrocks in these old covers. The lower value of the new Constitution stamp is used for paying the postage.



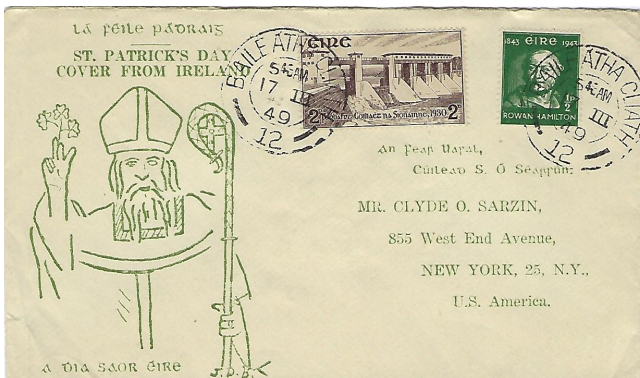
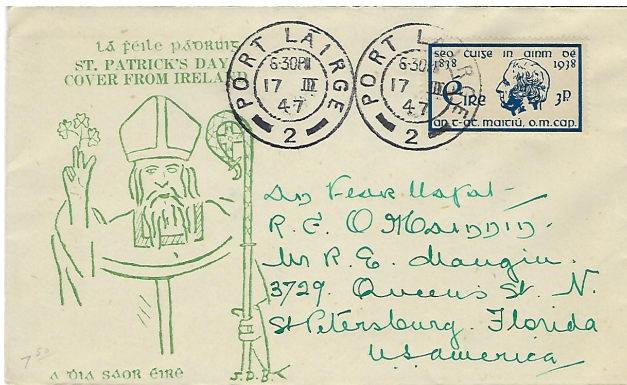
My 1939 cover has the low value of the Irish U.S. Constitution anniversary and includes a package of shamrocks, plus a price list for the Trans-Atlantic airmail cover from Ireland; the price was 60 cents, no stamps or coins accepted.

The first cover after the end of the Second World War, 1946, is a larger format envelope. The same design minus the shamrock on each side of St. Patrick's Day. The Easter Uprising Anniversary stamp would have been the correct postage to America at the preferential rate of 2 ½ d. from 1941 to March of 1951. This is the first cover that has a Dublin cancellation rather than a Waterford postmark.



The 1947 cover has eliminated a line in the design separating the English/Irish names for St. Patrick's Day. The use of the 1938 Father Mathew 3d blue stamp is an over payment of the postage required. The additional post mark in Gallic for Waterford is a beautiful clear impression.

Eamon de Valera is the cachet for the 1948 example. The correct postage was applied for this cover. This 1949 cover goes back to the earlier design of St. Patrick, but has the address pre-printed. The name Clyde O. Sarzin is found on the internet, but it may be his son is the well-known American cachet maker.



The 1950 cachet of St. Patrick is the final one in my collection that has the simple line drawing of St. Patrick. The low value of the Republic of Ireland stamp shows Leinster House and the arms of the four provinces of Ireland. Northern Ireland is still not part of the Republic but remains associated with the United Kingdom.



I have two covers for 1951. One from Waterford with a Blarney Castle cachet and using an airmail stamp as part of the postage. Regular postage to America was increased to 3 ½ d. during this time. The second cover has the shamrock design with the three views of Ireland and with a Dublin cancellation. This cover uses the complete set of the 1929 Daniel O'Connell, Catholic Emancipation Centenary stamps and the lower value of the provisional issue of the 25th Anniversary of the Easter Uprising. This cachet cover uses the correct rate for airmail at this time, 1 shilling 4 pence.

The example for 1952, cancelled in Dublin, has the shamrock and images of Ireland for the cachet. One of the Holy Year stamps, depicting St. Peter and the low value of the O'Cleirigh stamp of 1944 make for the correct postage to America.

My 1953 example, acquired just recently, has the Eamon de Valera cachet without his name inscribed as seen before. The complete 1950 Holy Year set and a 1½ d. definitive stamp make for the correct airmail rate to America.



The final example for this presentation shows once again the shamrock and views of Ireland. The views are difficult to see clearly but this time a description is provided. The date is 1961 with the correct reduced rate for airmail, 1 shilling and 3 d. to America. This time the postmark is from Shannon, Limerick. All the stamps used are green, although the rubber stamp to indicate airmail, both in English and Irish, is purple.



These early cachets from Ireland seem somewhat primitive compared with the Staehle designs of the castles of Ireland issued from 1953-1971. These cachet St. Patrick covers can be seen fairly often compared to the Bourke cachet covers that are not seen all that frequently. The wonderful hand writing of the addresses on the Bourke covers are unique and have a charm of their own.

I have not seen any of these Bourke covers sent within Ireland. I would assume that these covers would have been sent to other places. I have a number of Bourke First Day Covers that were sent to Ireland and America. I do know that Charles Bourke was a member of the American Philatelic Society and issued numerous price sheets for Irish stamps and covers to his American clients. If any of our members have more information concerning Bourke and his St. Patrick's Day cachet covers, please let us know.

Notes

The Revealer is always a good source of information concerning all aspects of Irish philately.

I have a number of covers from a Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Bourke sent to California in the 1980s. The Address is San Pietro, Limerick. Could this be Charles F. Bourke, noted philatelist, dealer, and cachet maker?

(Scans reduced in size)

A Scientific Approach to Identification: XRF (X Ray Fluorescence)

by Raymond Murphy

There many different approaches to solving philatelic problems by scientific methods - from mathematics to chemistry and physics. This article is not intended to make you an expert, but rather to make you aware of some of the on-going work in the application of science to philately. In short, it is removing some of the guess-work.

There are many different types of analyses possible. Unfortunately, many of them are destructive. These are of little use to the collector. This article is about non-destructive analysis, and specifically about one of the procedures used: X Ray fluorescence and an example of how it is used.

Most collectors are familiar with ultra-violet light which causes certain compounds to emit visible light. What is happening is that the energy from the ultra-violet light causes electrons to move out of their normal orbits to different, unstable, orbits around the nucleus. When the electron returns to its regular orbit, energy is emitted in the form of visible light. (Fig. 1.) Only a limited number of compounds fluoresce with UV light.

If we use X-Rays instead of UV light, we get different and better results. It is the same mechanism. The specific instrument is a Bruker Tracer II-SD XRF.(Fig. 2) Think of it as a special flashlight sending out energy in the form of X-Rays. Now, many more atoms react, although we can't see it as visible light as happens with the UV light. The useful part is that each element has a unique signature.

Energy coming from a mercury atom will have different wavelengths than from an iron atom since there are a different number of electrons and their arrangement of electron orbits is different. Sensors pick up these emissions, and measure amounts and wavelengths. A computer does the hard work of sorting the data and presenting it in formats meaningful to humans. Typical plot of what energy is absorbed. With some mathematical juggling we could show this in terms of peaks instead of valleys.

The English (and Irish) Penny Red is well known. (Fig. 3 is seen here with a Dublin cancel). 157 plates were engraved and millions of stamps printed from 1864 to 1879. Some are rarer than others since some plates became damaged or cracked. In particular, plate 77 is the rarest since only test printings were made from it, and it was not put into production. Or was it? But then, used copies are known. A block of penny reds were used on Guernsey; the owner wanted to prove they are not fakes. Many fakers excised the "7" from one stamp and put it in place of the second number, for example plate 73. (Fig.4.). Although quite small, these can be easily identified with modern microscopes. Yet, these stamps showed no disturbance.

X-Ray fluorescence was done on the first number "7". The chart (Fig.5.) shows the presence of Zinc, Calcium, Potassium, Sulfur, Aluminum, Lead, Iron, and Silicon. The Calcium and Potassium are from the filler material used in making the paper as is some of the Sulphur. The Iron and Silicon are most likely from the water source used in making the paper. The Zinc is from Zinc Oxide which was a whitener used in paper manufacturing. Mercury, Lead and Sulfur make up the ink.

When the same test was run on the second "7", and the spectra superimposed in blue on that of the first "7" in red, most of the spectra remains the same,(Fig. 6). The peak in the middle shows less Zinc. Looking at an enlargement of the bottom portion of the same graph, (Fig.6A.) we see there are smaller amounts of Silicon, Barium, and Chromium while more Zinc, Aluminum and Magnesium appear.

Does this mean it is a fake? Not necessarily. Microphotographs show the ink is not homogeneously distributed on the stamp. It may simply mean that the ink pot wasn't properly stirred. The basic red ink is mercury sulfide (HgS) and red lead (Pb_2O_3). The chromium was determined to be lead chromate, an orange pigment, and may also be related to the plates, which were chrome-plated. Barium, in the form of barite (Ba_2SO_4), was also used as paper sizing. The result of this and numerous other tests is that the stamps are genuine plate 77 copies.

X-Ray fluorescence is useful in identifying elements Calcium and above on the periodic table. It does not work for Carbon compounds which comprise most of the synthetic dyes and inks used since the 1950's.

The Bottom Line. What we know is that there are tools developed for other uses that can be used with philately. Many of them are expensive, but may drop in prices as other uses are found. The XRF instrument shown has found a use in art museums. Should your Michelangelo painting have traces of Titanium in the white areas, then what you have is a fake since Titanium wasn't used in paint before 1946! We may eventually find these appearing as add-on's to our PC's in the future. The biggest problem is to define WHAT we need to know in terms of what the instruments can do for us.

Illustrations:



1. Visual light on edge of stamp phosphor during excitement by ultraviolet light.



2. Bruker Tracer II-SD XRF

3.



9. Penny Red with Irish cancel from plate 73 with Dublin 186 cancel.



Enlargement of plate number 73 (view of right-h

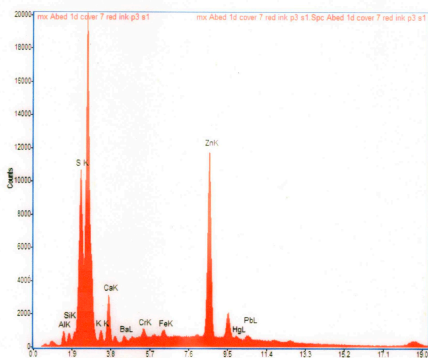


Figure 5. Chart of the first "7" on the stamp.

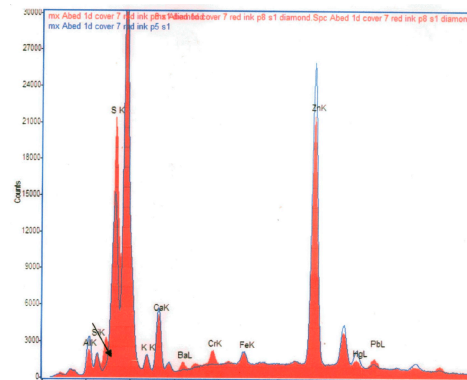


Figure 6. Chart of the second "7" on the stamp (in blue) super-imposed on chart of first "7" (in red). Note increases in zinc (Zn), in tall peak. See chart 6A for enlargement of lower portion of chart.

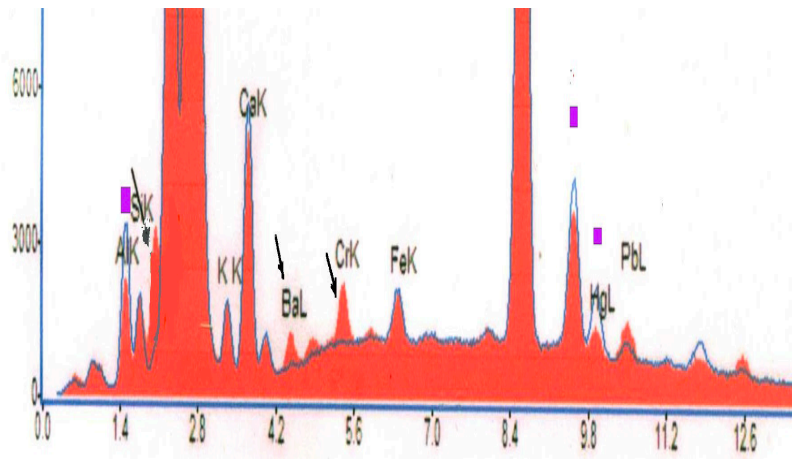


Fig.6A. Black arrows note loss of Silicon, Barium, and Chromium. Purple squares denote increase in Zinc, Aluminum, and Magnesium scan of second “7”.



An Irish Connection: U.S. Naval Cancellations in the 1930s

By Bill O'Connor

The United States Naval Postal Service produced numerous interesting cancels for various events particularly during the 1930s: Commissioning Day, Mother's Day, Navy Day, Memorial Day, and various special birthdays and the like.

The largest collection of covers with respect to an Irish connection, that I have seen refers to the many St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, cancellations and the special cachet-covers that one encounters in some dealer's boxes and more recently on the world wide web.

This article looks at some of the more interesting references to Ireland and also shows some St. Patrick's Day material from the 1930s.

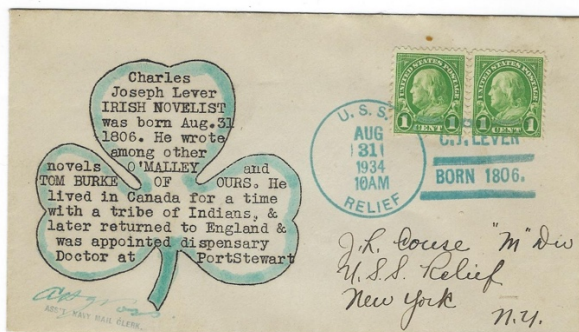


Figure 1

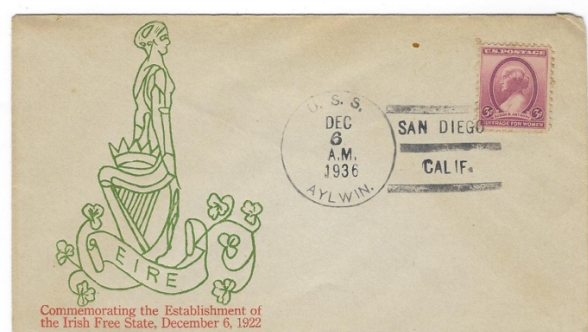


Figure 2

The first cover from 1934, figure 1, acknowledges the Irish birthday of a noted novelist, Charles Joseph Lever. I had not heard of this author but he is mentioned in the Cambridge Biographical Encyclopedia. One can find many of his works on EBAY and other sites. He had a very interesting life and served as the British consul in Trieste in 1867.

The U.S.S. Relief was a hospital ship (AH-1), 1917-1948, evacuated some 10,000 “fighting men” from many of the Pacific theater campaigns of World War II. It seems to me more information and knowledge of the dedication and sacrifice of the men and women who served in support roles in the military ought to be part of our study of history.

The next cover, figure 2, commemorates the Establishment of the Irish Free State, December 6, 1922. I just received this cover in January, 2022, and it is unique to my collection. The Free State was ended in 1937 with the establishment of Eire, Ireland, but the island as a single political unit is still in flux and more action would be needed to work out the political niceties for the future.

The U.S.S. Aylwin, (DD-355) was a Farragut class destroyer launched in 1934. James Farley’s, Postmaster General, Irish-American, Knight of Malta, daughter was the sponsor for this ship. I do not think this connection had anything to do with the Irish reference in the cachet, but it is interesting to speculate. This ship was very active in the Pacific during WWII; rescued downed pilots, screened for battleships and aircraft carriers, and escorted former American liners when used as troop carriers. 13 battle stars were earned by this ship which was delisted by the end of 1945.



Figure 3

The U.S. Frigate Constitution, Old Ironsides, is still the oldest ship in the navy, its history goes back to 1797. This ship was involved in a national and international tour in 1933/34. The March 17, 1934 cancellation, figure 3, is to me a St. Patrick commemoration. The use of green shamrocks and harps in the design is evidence of a deliberate commemoration of St. Patrick. This is one of my prized San Diego cancellations.

The next three covers, figures 4-6, relate to the shakedown cruise of the U.S.S. Monaghan (DD-354). I understand that these sorts of cruises were to check to make sure the ship was ready for duty in the navy. In looking at the cachet of the first two covers it appears the ports of call were Amsterdam, Plymouth, Glasgow, Belfast, Cork, St. Pierre and Miquelon, and back to Boston.

Wanted:

Ireland slogan cancels and Paid slogan franks prior to 1938
Please contact Steven Friedenthal stevefr1@telus.net



Figure 4



Figure 5

The covers all bear an October, 1935 cancel. Belfast and Cork are the two cities mentioned in the covers. The cachet for the first two covers, indicate the planned trip for this event, and shows the details of the trip. A depiction of the ship and the names of the commander and executive Officer seem standard for these commemorations.

The third cover is cancelled on Navy Day, 1936. This is naturally a very common cancellation for an American ship. The U.S.S. Monaghan played an active role during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. It sank one of the miniature submarines in the harbor entrance. Unfortunately, this ship was sunk by a typhoon in December, 1944.

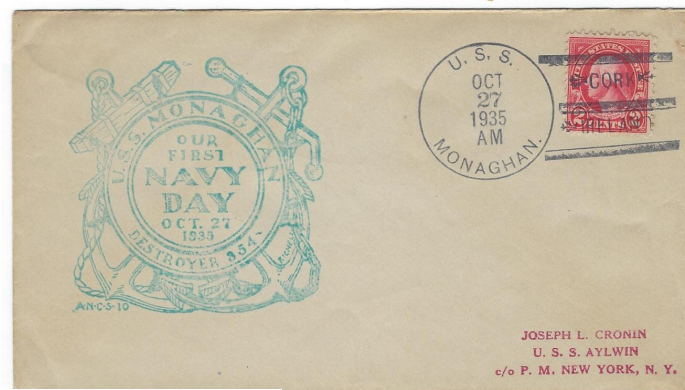


Figure 6



Figure 7

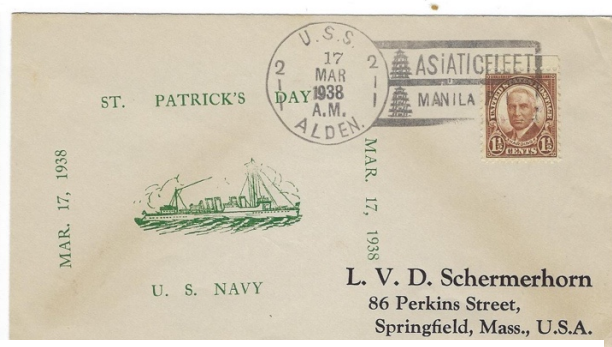


Figure 8

The seventh cover, figure 7, is from the U.S.S. Ranger, (CV-4), the only ship of its class. This relatively small aircraft carrier, a treaty ship built after WWI, was involved in many training and active-duty assignments. It was involved in Operation Touch, helping to sink a French battleship, and destroying much military equipment on land. Active in the waters off Norway and in the delivery of whole squadrons of military planes has insured an illustrative record for the ages.

The St. Patrick Day cachet of 1935 with the ERIN GO BRAGH, (Ireland Forever), adds a Gaelic touch to the festivities. This cover was also acquired this year and is the only U.S.S. Ranger cover in my collection. This next cover, U.S.S. Alden, (DD-211), figure 8, was a Clemson-class destroyer, launched in 1919. After visiting the Adriatic and Eastern Mediterranean to show the American flag, the ship went through the Suez Canal to ports in the Philippines, Java, Japan, China, and Russia. During WWII this older ship worked with the British and Dutch fleets, ending her days protecting convoys in the Atlantic Ocean.

This is not the prettiest St. Patrick's Day cover, but the Asiatic Fleet, Manila cancel adds that Eastern touch to a rather drab cover. The design showing the four boilers of the U.S.S. Alden is indicative of the outdated design of this older destroyer used during WWII.

The final cover in this main presentation is a wonderful St Patrick's Day cancel by the U.S.S. Honolulu, (CL-48). This Brooklyn-class light cruiser was launched in 1937. The ship suffered only minor damage during the attack on Pearl harbor. Her shakedown cruise visited England, but according to my source via the Universal Ship Cancel Society, the ship did not visit Galway. Nonetheless, this is a great St. Patrick's Day cancel with All the Way to Galway.

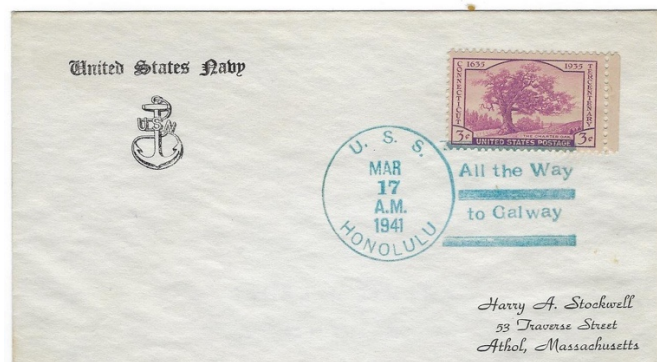


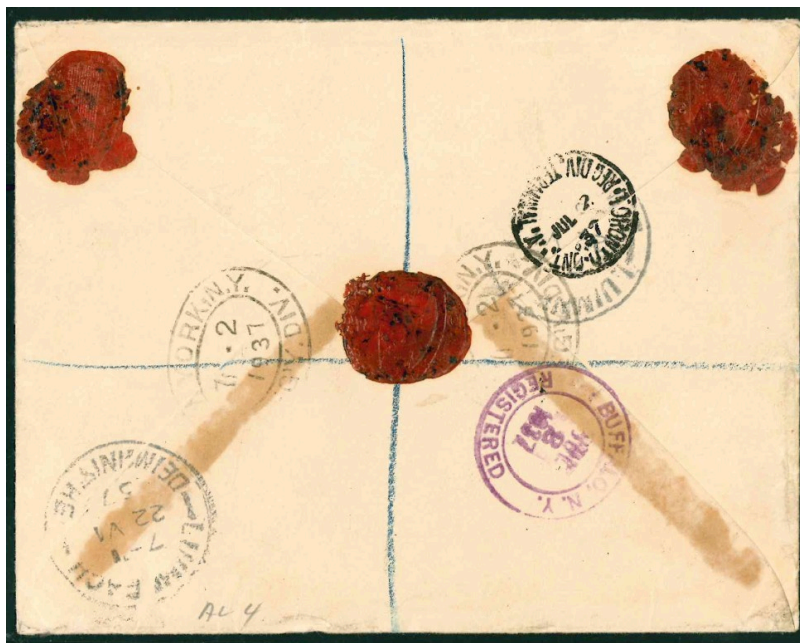
Figure 9

The U.S.S. Honolulu suffered only minor damage during the attack on Pearl Harbor. She was hit by a torpedo just before the Battle of Leyte Gulf and taken out of action.

Notes;

1. The Cambridge Biographical Encyclopedia by David Crystal, Cambridge University Press, 1994. This is still a useful one volume tomb; anything printed does seem to be outdated by the internet. I might add that we had an electrical outage yesterday and it was a little comforting to have a book with the information provided.
2. A couple of acronyms are found on navel cachets during the 1930s. The most common appear to be ANCS-American Naval Cancellation Society, and USCS-Universal Ship Cancellation Society.
3. Attached is a page from an exhibit that I did way back in 2004. A picture of the ship, U.S.S. Arizona and a 1938 St. Patrick's Day cancellation. The cachet appears to be hand done.

Favourite Cover



This cover is mailed with a two-pence Map of Ireland booklet pane and a one shilling Sword of Light single.

It was mailed from Limerick where it was registered as #325. Transported to Dublin, it was flown to New York City thence to Buffalo, New York where it was transferred to the Canadian Postal system and delivered in Toronto.

The registration fee was 6 pence. That would appear to make the air mail rate to North America 1shilling and 6p. There is no notation of insurance fees. Can anyone confirm this and other airmail rates to the editor?

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