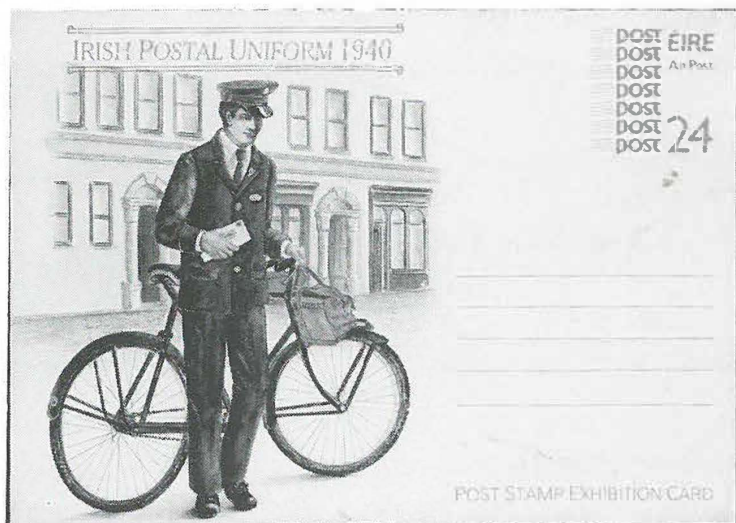


ISSN 0332-317X

IRISH (STAMP) NEWS

No. 26. Autumn 1987



90p

Auction of Postage Stamps & Postal History

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FRONT COVER: *One of the An Post Exhibition postal cards to be launched at STAMPA 87.*

EDITORIAL

STAMPA '87, the Sixteenth National Stamp Exhibition opens on October 15 next. The fact that this is the sixteenth consecutive annual exhibition is something of an achievement in itself considering the precarious finances of the first few shows.

However, a recent report on the national stamp exhibition in Liechtenstein rather dissipates any complacency one may have regarding the success of STAMPA. The little principality with a population of only 30,000 put on an exhibition comprising 550 frames, compared to only 70 odd frames displayed at STAMPA.

Liechtenstein has obvious advantages in its location, bordering Switzerland, Austria and Germany, countries noted for the highest concentration of philatelists in the world. But it does make one think.

Compared to most 'nationals' held around the world STAMPA is really only a provincial fair. Unless STAMPA gets more resources however, that is the way it will remain. For instance 500 frames would cost £25,000 to purchase and about £5,000 per annum to store. STAMPA's total budget is about £10,000 per annum so one can see that it will be many decades before it can truly compare with Liechtenstein!

There are other problems inhibiting STAMPA's development, for instance the VAT at point of entry system. This procedure requires foreign dealers, even those from within the European Community, to lodge, in cash, 25% of the value of their stocks with Customs against any VAT due on Sales in the State. A dealer selling £10,000 of which VAT would amount to £2,000, would normally take £100,000 worth of stock with him on which he would pay Customs a deposit of £25,000. The balance would be refunded but delays of up to three or four months are commonplace. This iniquitous system has deprived STAMPA of many overseas dealers' stands and therefore income.

An Post is supporting STAMPA both with financial and professional assistance, but as can be seen there are larger problems, only one of which is outlined here. Perhaps STAMPA's problems are symptomatic of the country's?

I. W. Whyte, Editor

IRISH STAMP NEWS No. 27 Winter 1987 will be published in December. Copy Date: November 13.

An Post introduces its new Exhibition Cards at Stampa '87



These cards based on Irish Postal Uniforms throughout the years coincide with the introduction by An Post of the new uniforms and highlights an interesting aspect of Irish postal history.

The cards cost 30p each, including postage, and are available in a set of four.

Special pictorial daily cancellations are available.

 **post**

NEWSBEAT

STAMPA '87 OPENS OCTOBER 15

STAMPA '87 will open on Thursday October 15 at the RDS, Dublin. It is the sixteenth national stamp exhibition and the philatelic high point of the year in Ireland.

Over two million pounds worth of stamps and postal history will be on show in the form of exhibits and dealers' stocks. An Post will have a special exhibit on the work of Charles Rycraft, designer of the popular 1984 Railways, 1986 STAMPA postcards, and 1986 Trains sets. Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd will exhibit some of its recent work including progressive proofs, and issues produced for overseas countries by its subsidiary BDT Ltd.

Postal History is evidently the flavour of this exhibition with nine exhibits in this class, eight specialised and only two thematic. There are, disappointingly, only two novice competitors. The awards will be announced at the exhibition on the opening day and a full report will be carried in IRISH STAMP NEWS 27.

An Post will launch their four "Exhibition Cards" at STAMPA '87. These cards are intended for use at exhibitions, starting with the National here and may be overprinted for overseas exhibitions as happened with the STAMPA '86 cards at CAPEX '87 (see *Recent Releases*). The four cards feature postal uniforms and are designed by Mel Cameron. They sell at £1.20 per set of four.

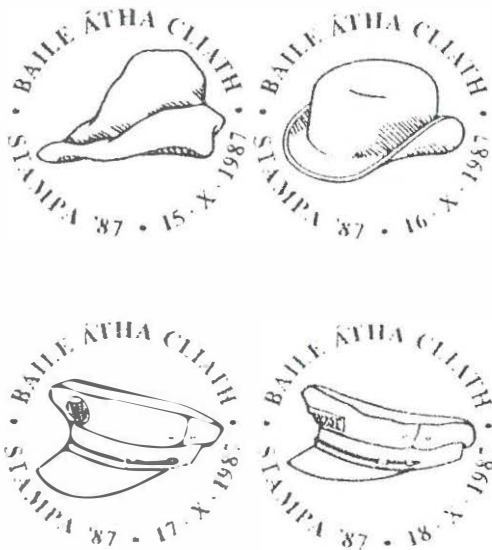
Four different postmarks will be used on mail posted at STAMPA '87. They feature postmen's hats to complement the 'uniforms' theme of the special postcards.

A children's art competition, sponsored by An Post, will be run at the show. Blank 'stamp' frames will be provided for the children to design a stamp in and crayons will be provided. The best designs daily will be exhibited and prizes awarded.

Sixteen dealers will have trade stands at STAMPA '87: Wolfango de Souza, London; Charlie O'Neill, Dundalk; MacDonnell Whyte Ltd, Dublin; Lindner Publications, Germany; Declan O'Kelly, Dublin; Royale Stamp Company, London; Robert Brophy, Dublin; Jim's Stamp Shop, Dun Laoghaire; Raven Stamps, Cork; Stamps, Albums & Accessories, Dublin; S&H Stamps, Newtownards; Phillips, Son & Neale, London; Sanu Stamps, Cork; M. P.

Giffney, Dublin; The Stamp Shop, Belfast; A.C.E. Stamps, Dublin; "Stamps" magazine, London.

An Post will provide a full Philatelic Bureau at which its range of stamps, booklets, stationery and publications, including albums, will be available. Some special offers, exclusive to STAMPA '87 visitors, will be available there.



The four special cancels for STAMPA '87 to complement the "Uniforms" postcards.

STAMPA '87 will run until October 18 and is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, October 15 and 16, and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday October 17 and 18. Admission is £1.50, or 80p for children, students and pensioners. A season ticket costs £3 as does a family ticket (2 adults and up to four children).

The entrance to the show is in Anglesea Road, Ballsbridge, and is signposted by the Automobile Association from the city centre.

STAMPA '87 promises to be an exciting event. We will have a full report in the next IRISH STAMP NEWS.



Phillips

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They will also be prepared to travel to examine valuable or bulky collections.

On the Phillips Exhibition stand there will be a full range of stamp auction catalogues and full details of our services.

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IRELAND AT CAPEX '87, TORONTO



An Post's North American agent, Interpost of New York's attractive stand.

CAPEX '87, the World Philatelic Exhibition took place at Toronto, Canada from June 13 to 21 last. Attendance was much lower than at AMERIPEX in Chicago last year — some say as low as only 30,000, a fifth of the AMERIPEX total. Certainly the show did not seem to be as well promoted as the American exhibition to which it is inevitably compared. There was a lot less razzmatazz about CAPEX '87, probably due to the more reserved Britishness of the organisers.

Free passes, a major influence in the attendance in Chicago, were practically non-existent. This appeared to be deliberate policy on the part of the organisers, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, who appeared to only want the converted and this was to the detriment of the sponsors, Canada Post, whose sales must have suffered from lack of people.

However business was good for most of the dealers in attendance, particularly those appealing to the serious specialist and many claimed better sales than at AMERIPEX which goes to show that you don't need crowds to sell good material, just the *right* crowd!

MacDonnell Whyte Ltd were the only Irish dealers to take a stand at the show and they reported a good demand for Irish material especially covers and postal history. Almost 95% of their business however was with customers from the United States — the border is less than an



Gene and Ester Labiuk barely standing after a hectic week on the EPA stand.

hour's drive from Toronto — with little local demand. All the other dealers reported the same phenomenon.

Only two collectors from Ireland had exhibits at the show and both won medals. Dr R. P. Towers won a Large Vermeil (just below gold) medal for his "Grenada 1784-1891" and Dr Peter Smith-Keary won a Bronze-Silver for his "Australia: halfpenny and onepenny 'Head' 1914-



Ken Magee, who won Large Silver and Silver medals at CAPEX, chats to David MacDonnell.

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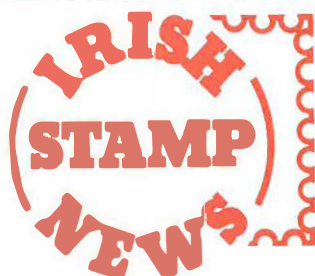
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11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.



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*A message to our Irish friends from the Australian
stamp magazine that's read in more than sixty countries . . .*

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Since 1954, "Stamp News" has built up a worldwide reputation for delivering hard philatelic news and for providing its readers with the best in writing about stamps and stamp collecting.

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The EPA souvenir card with 1967 Ireland issue for Canadian Confederation tied by EPA 'cancel'.

37". Curiously all the exhibits of Irish material were from non-Irish exhibitors. The highest award for Irish stamps went to Jim Maher of the USA for his "Ireland: The Overprinted Stamps of Great Britain 1922-37" which got a Large Vermeil. Patricia Stilwell-Walker also of the USA



John Pedneault (left) in good humour and red braces with Ian Whyte.

won a Vermeil for her "Irish Postal History 1663-1840" which was two steps below the gold she won at AMERIPEX '86 and AUSIPEX '84. This latter award typified the general downgrading of postal history at CAPEX '87 much to the dismay and, in some cases, anger of the exhibitors.

The other exhibits of Irish material all won awards, as follows: Ken Magee, Canada, "Ireland: 1840-1900", Large Silver and "The Irish

Mails 1663-1840", Silver; Joseph Foley, USA, "Ireland: Postal History and Postal Markings from the 17th Century", Large Silver; Bill Zellers, USA, "Ireland: Railway Philately", Silver; Garvin Lohman, USA, "Ireland: Postal History 1672-1900", Silver.

In the literature section MacDonnell Whyte Ltd were awarded a Bronze-Silver for "Stamps of Ireland Specialised Catalogue 1987" and Mairead Reynolds, Dublin, a Bronze medal for "A History of the Irish Post Office".



A frontal assault on the MacDonnell Whyte stand by some of the Chicago 'A-Team' including Duane Larsen and Jim Czul (another member, George Fabian took the photo).

Free Price Lists Available:

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One of the North of Ireland PS souvenir postcards.

NORTH OF IRELAND PS 80th ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR

The North of Ireland Philatelic Society celebrated its 80th birthday earlier this year with an exhibition in Belfast. The Society has also produced two commemorative postcards showing 19th century postmarks of Northern Ireland. The cards are available at 10p each (plus 20p postage and packing per order) from the Hon. Secretary of the NIPS, Mr Norman Scott, 49 Kingsdale Park, Belfast BT5 7BZ.

1988 SPECIAL STAMPS PROGRAMME

Further details of the 1988 Special Stamps programme have been released by An Post. Dates and denominations are provisional and may be subject to alteration.

On January 20 five stamps will be issued: "Love," 24p and 28p; 25th Anniversary of the death of U.S. President John F. Kennedy, 46p; Statesmen of Ireland (W. T. Cosgrave), 28p; Centenary of the birth of actor Barry Fitzgerald, 30p.

March 1 sees the release of a 28p marking the Dublin Millennium and 24p and 46p stamps in a new series "Impact of the Irish abroad". The latter's theme this year is Australia which celebrates its 200th Anniversary of First Settlement.

On April 8 four stamps will be issued: Olympic Games, 28p and 39p; 50th Anniversary of the Order of Malta Corps in Ireland, 30p; and Centenary of the Chartered Accountants in Ireland, 24p.

May 12 is the issue date of four stamps: Europa, whose theme will be 'Transport and Communications' 28p and 39p; 150th Anniversary of the first scheduled Transatlantic Crossing (the 'Sirius'), 24p; and 50th Anniversary of the first commercial crossing of the Atlantic by flying boat, 30p.

The 'Ireland' series this year features the security forces of the State including the Army, Naval Service, Garda Síochána and Prison Service — 24p, 28p, 30p and 46p, to be released on July 7.

Endangered species of vegetation are the subject of this year's 'Fauna and Flora' set which comprises three values, 24p, 28p and 39p, to be issued on September 7.

Finally, two Christmas stamps, 24p and 28p, will appear on November 15 and a discount sheetlet will probably also be released on the same date.

The total face value of the stamps announced, excluding any miniature sheets or sheetlets, is £7.67 compared to £7.91 in 1987, a slight reduction to be welcomed by collectors.

FORTHCOMING WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS

Forthcoming International Exhibitions are PRAGA '88 in Czechoslovakia and PARIS '89. Prospective exhibitors may obtain details from the Hon. Joint Secretary, Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland, 'D' House, Cathal Brugha Barracks, Dublin 6.

DIARY

'IPS': Irish Philatelic Society meeting, usually followed by an auction of members' material, commencing at 7.45 p.m., held at the Clarence Hotel, Wellington Quay, Dublin 2.

'DSS': Dublin Stamp Society meeting, usually followed by an auction of members' material, commencing at 7.45 p.m., held at Buswell's Hotel, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2.

Non-members are welcome at most meetings of either the IPS or DSS.

OCTOBER

15-18: STAMPA '87, RDS, Dublin (11 a.m. — 8 p.m., 15 & 16, 11 a.m. — 6 p.m. 17 & 18).

15: Issue of An Post Exhibition Cards (4 at 30p)

15: IPS. West Germany, K. Fuchsbauer.

21: DSS. Postal Museum, B. Hurley & Club Bourse.

27-30: Auction Viewing at MacDonnell Whyte 9.30 a.m. — 5.30 p.m. (7.30 p.m. on Friday October 30).

29: IPS. Design Errors, D. Buchalter.

31: Auction. 1 p.m., Buswells Hotel. MacDonnell Whyte Ltd. (Viewing 9.30 a.m. — 12.30 p.m.).

NOVEMBER

4: DSS. Madonnas — A. Langenbach.

12: IPS. From Stampa 87.

17: Stamp Issue: Christmas 24p and 28p (and sheetlet?).

18: DSS. Israel — J. O'Neill.

26: Irish Mail Transport — A. Finn.

DECEMBER

2: DSS. Papal Visits, J. Hickey.

10: IPS. Social Evening (venue: 1 Leeson Park; members only).

16: DSS. Members' Mart.

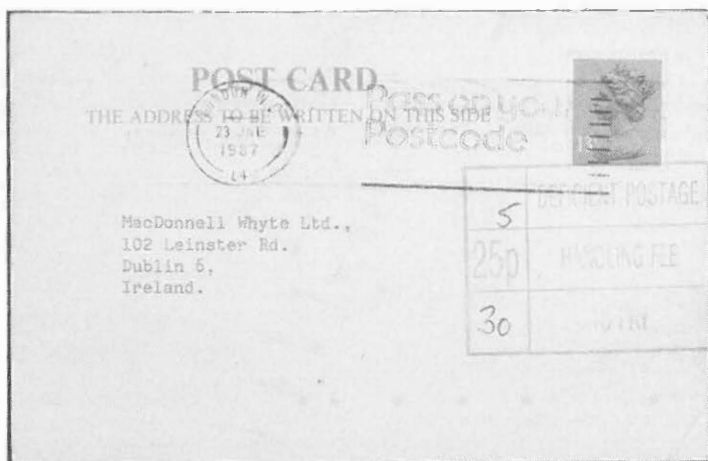
30: DSS. The President Entertains.

IRELAND TREATED AS 'FOREIGN' BY UK PO

Earlier in the year the British Post Office decided to remove the 'inland' status accorded to the Republic of Ireland and to apply the same rates of postage to mail addressed there as other members of the European Community. This change affects all rates except the first step of First Class Mail (20 grams; which covers most single sheet letters) which remains at 18p. The reduced rate for second class mail no longer applies for instance though most people in the UK seem unaware of this as is evidenced by the amount of underpaid mail coming into Ireland.

The British PO is raising postage due on most of the vast amount of underpaid mail to addresses in the Republic but An Post seems to be ignoring these markings and IRISH STAMP NEWS has yet to see Irish postage due collected by means of labels on any such mail. Perhaps our readers have some examples?

An Post is still regarding mail addressed to the UK as 'inland' and how long this will last is not known. It makes another interesting chapter for the modern postal historian who will be looking out for not only surcharged mail but the acceptance by some UK post offices of registered mail for the Republic despite the fact that this service is no longer supposed to be available.



An item of second class mail now restricted to the UK and Isle of Man surcharged by British PO, but not collected by An Post.

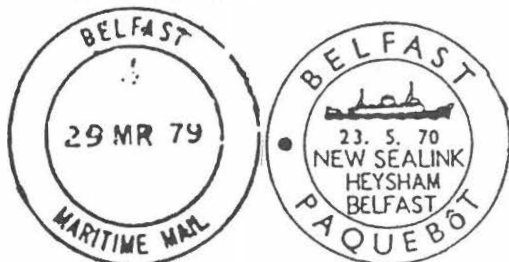
BOOK REVIEW

The Maritime Postmarks of Ireland (Part I) by Bernt Dienelt, 52pp, A5 pub. FAI, West Germany (price £3.50 plus 80p postage from MacDonnell Whyte Ltd, 102 Leinster Road, Dublin 6; add £2 for airmail overseas).

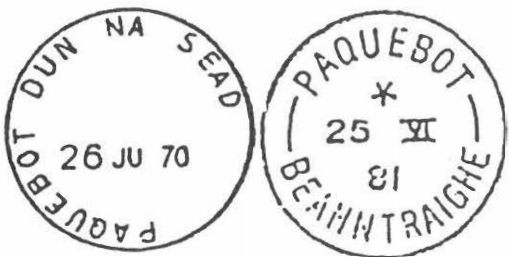
This is the first of three volumes dealing with the maritime postal markings of Ireland. It is a most useful little book, with well documented and illustrated listings of all the Paquebôt cancels and markings used in Ireland.

There are many markings listed that are new to me and I am sure to many collectors. Mr Dienelt is suspicious of the large number of skeleton 'Paquebôt' cancels used in various small ports around the country from about 1955 to 1970. It is possible, as he suggests, that some were philatelically contrived, and he points to the absence of non-philatelic mail with these markings.

My experience of these cancels however suggests that they were mostly used in connection with cruise ships and any examples I have seen have been on picture postcards posted by passengers. The visits of cruise liners to Ireland diminished by the end of the 1960's as did the issue and use of these postmarks at places such as Baltimore, Ballina, Castletown Berehaven, Fenit, Foynes, Glengarriff etc.



DROICHEAD ATHA
PAQUEBOT
63° 43 N - 06° 21 W



Paquebôt cancels used at ports in Donegal relate to the Scottish passenger services operated during the potato harvest when a large number of workers migrate to Scotland and some of the smaller harbours on the east coast such as Arklow, Drogheda and Dundalk would have had justification for Paquebôt cancels on crew and passengers mail posted on the coasters plying these ports; indeed regular passenger services existed between these ports and Britain at various times over the past forty years.

As the instigator of one of the skeleton cancels listed — Corcaigh in 1969 — I cannot dismiss the likelihood of philatelic motive for some of them. However there was a genuine need for a Cork 'Paquebôt' postmark to use on the Cork-Swansea ferry which commenced operation that year. The skeleton was subsequently replaced by a regular Paquebôt circular date stamp.

Mr Dienelt also is quite right in suggesting that some collectors have managed to get mail which never saw a ship cancelled as if it had been posted at sea. In the last ten years the willingness of postal officials to comply with such requests has coincided with the demise of the proper use of 'Paquebôt' cancels particularly on the Irish Sea routes.

For instance the use of special posting boxes on board car ferries has been discontinued 'for security reasons' and as most pursers regard the acceptance of mail on board ship as a nuisance it is increasingly difficult to obtain genuine 'posted at sea' mail. Usually any letters or cards posted on board ship are 'dumped' into the nearest postbox on arrival at port and the normal postmark applied regardless of the nationality of the stamps affixed.

The book also lists and illustrates some of the commemorative covers produced over the years including, I am gratified to note, some in which I had a hand. Whether these should be included in a serious work such as this is a moot point. The list is by no means complete, as the author correctly states, so the numbering of them is not really a good idea.

If the other two parts of this work are as good as the first, collectors of Irish maritime markings have a treat in store.

J.W.W.

Checklist of Scout, Guide & Brigade Stamps of the world 1988 issue: Tenth Edition, 90pp A5 price £3.75 incl. postage to GB & Ireland from J. D. F. McKee, 3 South Park Drive, Dublin 18.

This handy checklist is as far as we are aware the most comprehensive in existence. It contains references to over 1,000 stamp issues from 246 countries involving 3,170 stamps, 464 miniature and souvenir sheets, 969 varieties and 49 postal stationery items and a lot of other related material such as local carriage labels and overprints on scouting issues etc.

AUCTION REPORT

MacDonnell Whyte's May 30 auction was well attended with about sixty active room bidders and three hundred postal buyers. Of a total of 1250 lots 700 were of Irish interest.

As usual there was a strong postal history section of which the highlights were: 1789 EL from Barbados to Scotland with CORK/SHIPLETTER and faint Scots IRELAND which fetched £100 (est. £85); 1826 EL to Dublin with fine boxed BALLYMONEY/118 and distinctive small POST-PAID which realised £64 (est. £50); 1922 (April 4) cover with GB 2d not accepted and Britain 2d due pair tied James St. DO Dublin cds, sold for £270 (est. £250) and a similar cover, April 10, with 4d due, which fetched £230 (est. £225); 1943-45 range of censored covers including scarce 'Exempt from Censorship' on cover to Bishop of Meath, which sold for £50 (est. £30); 7 lots of covers from Irish UN forces in the Congo with a total estimate of £155 fetched £210.

Great Britain used in Ireland included a few very nice pieces with two 1840 Mulready advertisers — A. Cuddy "Flute Players" and "Laurie & Knight's Post Office letter paper" — which fetched £525 (est. £500), 1841 1d red on cover with clear Hollymount Maltese Cross, which sold for £230 (est. £200), and 1872 6d plate 11 part reconstructed pane of 14 stamps with Clones cds which realised £340 (est. £325).

In the Overprints section only the really fine or really scarce attracted any attention with much ordinary material going very cheap to the delight of the purchasers. It is certainly a buyers market



1872 6d plate 11 part reconstructed pane of 14 used at Clones which sold for £340.

at the moment but one feels that this cannot last forever. Some of the more interesting realisations were 1922 Dollard proof red overprint on halfpenny green block of six with variety "1922 at top" at £410 (est. £500); 1922 Thom 'Rialtas' 2/6, 5/- and 10/- used, slight faults, at £410 (est. £500) and a 10/- mint at £500 (est. £600); used pairs of the set sold for £1,300 after the auction.

In the Definitives the scarce 1935 2d perf. 15 x imperf. coil with slight faults used fetched £420 (est. £480). One viewer said that under high mag-



1922 Transition Cover showing pair 2d GB dues for illegal use of GB stamps, which realised £270.

nification the postmark date looked like 1940 which is a very late usage of this stamp. Sheets of 40 of the 1940-68 2/6, 5/- and 10/- on white paper made £300 (est. £250).

Early commemorative first day covers, in sharp contrast to more recent issues, are still popular as is shown by prices of £160 for 1932 Eucharistic Congress (est. £140) and the same price for a damaged 1930 Shannon, and £85 for 1944 O'Clery.



1870 'Ballon Monté' to Carrickmacross which fetched £525.

Airmail covers are also much in vogue with a collection of attractive but not extraordinary items fetching £180 against an estimate of £120 and an 1870 Ballon Monté Paris to Carrickmacross realising £525 (est. £400). A small piece of linen from Alcock & Brown's aeroplane and a signed photograph estimated at £40 opened in the room at £80 and after a spirited tussle between the book and a room bidder went for £120 to the postal buyer. The 1938 Dublin to Douglas Isle of Man is a very scarce flight and a fine example fetched £240 (est. £190).

Postal Stationery is still hot and a 1923 5d GV olive green registered envelope size F, code HR unused fetched £200 (est. £170), and the controversial "American edition" 1985 S. Patrick's Day cards issued by An Post, unused set of 10 sold for £120 (est. £90). The most remarkable realisation of the sale was £260 paid for an accumulation of over 200 telegraph forms 1890-1950, mainly postmarked at Roscrea, and estimated at only £40.

£100,000+ STAMP AUCTION ON OCTOBER 31

MacDonnell Whyte will hold a 1500 lot auction of stamps and postal history material in Buswell's Hotel on Saturday October 31 next. The sale has

a good 'all-world' section in it with plenty of variety and lots estimated to fetch from £10 to £2,000.

A British Commonwealth collection with a catalogue value of £16,500 Sterling will attract considerable interest particularly as it is expected to start in the room at only £950. This is due to the mixed condition of the stamps but it is still a very worthwhile lot. Other collections vary from about £25 to a few hundred pounds.

Amongst some of the better single items are: Canada 1893 50cents blue unused block 4 of original gum, estimated at £300; Cyprus 1924 £1 purple and black on red, expected to fetch £150-£200; France 1936 50 francs airmail superb unmounted mint, estimated at £200; Great Britain 1840 Hume caricature of Mulready envelope featuring an elephant in a kilt, used in Scotland, estimated at £300; GB 1840 2d blue on cover from Edinburgh, valued £130-150; Mauritius 1854-57 Post Paid 1d vermilion used, estimated at £400; New Brunswick 1851 3d red on 1856 cover, estimate £180; 1954 envelope salvaged from the wreck at Singapore of BOAC constellation aircraft named 'Belfast' curiously addressed from Australia to Belfast, with burn marks and Post Office 'Salvaged mail' marking, estimated at a mere £25.

A recently discovered correspondence from a missionary in China to relations in the USA has yielded a host of interesting envelopes and stamps for collectors and about 160 covers from the hoard, dated 1904-38 is offered in this auction with an estimate of £450.



1922 Pictorial Printing Machine Company 1d carmine essay block 4.

A collection of registered mail 1831-1922 which has won awards at exhibitions is being sold intact, with an estimate of £2,000 — £2,500. The collection starts with the 'money letters' of the 1830's and finishes with the first specially made registered envelopes of the Free State.

There are over 500 lots of Irish interest in the sale including: 1884 £1 Great Britain with Straffan Station postmark, estimated at £350; unused block of 4 Ulster Volunteer Force 'stamps' of 1912, estimated at £200; 1922 twopenny 'Rialtas' overprint inverted error, two blocks of 4 unused, estimated at £325 and £350 respectively; three examples of the rare Alex Thom 'Rialtas' overprint on Great Britain tenshilling, unused and estimated at £300 to £800 depending on condition; two examples of the rare halfpenny 'Saorstát' overprint with the error 'accent missing on last a' in used condition, estimate £375-450 each; a set of 'composite pairs' overprints of 1927 on half-crown, five shillings and ten shillings, unused, estimated at £550 and a ten shilling pair on its own estimated at £475; 1922 Pictorial Printing Machine Company one penny carmine essay in block of four, estimated at £600; 1935 twopenny perforation 15 by imperforate used at Naas, the rare experimental coil stamp, also estimated at £600; 1954 envelope with marking 'Salvaged from KLM Crash at Shannon' estimated at £100; 1946 two shilling stamp booklet intact mint, estimate £250.



There is also a good range of Irish collections ranging from about £25 to £1,250.

The auction commences at 1 p.m. with viewing at the hotel from 9.30 p.m. to 12.30 p.m. or at MacDonnell Whyte's offices in 102 Leinster Road, Dublin 6 from October 27, 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. (7.30 p.m. on Friday October 30). The fully illustrated catalogue is only £1 post paid from MacDonnell Whyte.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

In reply to Dr Furst's query (I.S.N. No. 23) here is what information I have on the "Official Paid — Dublin" cds (Kane No. 135).

My earliest example is November 10th 1859. It shows a break in the 20mm circle under I of Dublin and a few other imperfections which suggest it had been in use for a while. (The latest Crown/Paid/Dublin I have is April 21st 1858). The example illustrated by Bill Kane is the latest known and by October 25th 1860 a new 21mm cds, with smaller (2mm) letter, was in use.

Yours etc.,

J. G. Lennon,
Dublin 14.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the item relating to the Pillar Box in the concourse of the railway station in Cork by Brian Warren, 'Irish Stamp News', No. 25, Summer 1987 issue, page 24.

I myself had understood this particular Pillar Box to be an example of the economy version of the London Ornate type. The latter was cast by Smith & Hawkes of Birmingham between 1857 and 1859. The 'Economy version' of this very ornate Box was cast by Cochrane & Company of Dudley for use in country towns during the same years as the aforementioned. A similar Box to the one in Cork Railway Station stood near the Northgate Bridge with yet another at the Custom's House which was removed in 1966.

It is interesting to consider that the public reaction to the use of these roadside Pillar Boxes was somewhat sceptical initially. The Postmaster-General in a report to Parliament in 1861 noted this, believing the reason to be one of insecurity, that is the possibility of loss or damage to letters posted in these newly introduced Boxes. Pillar Boxes were cast in Dublin at this time by W. Turner of Dublin (1856/57 to be exact) with another foundry in Cork, in what was then King Street, H. & C. Smith casting wall boxes (1859/61).

Yours etc.,

C. T. Hinneburg-Murphy.

COLLECTORS ADVERTISEMENTS

IRELAND—Competitively priced new issue service: mint, FDC plus inexpensive worldwide used approvals from D.S. Dubhgain, "Dower", Boreenmanna Road, Cork.

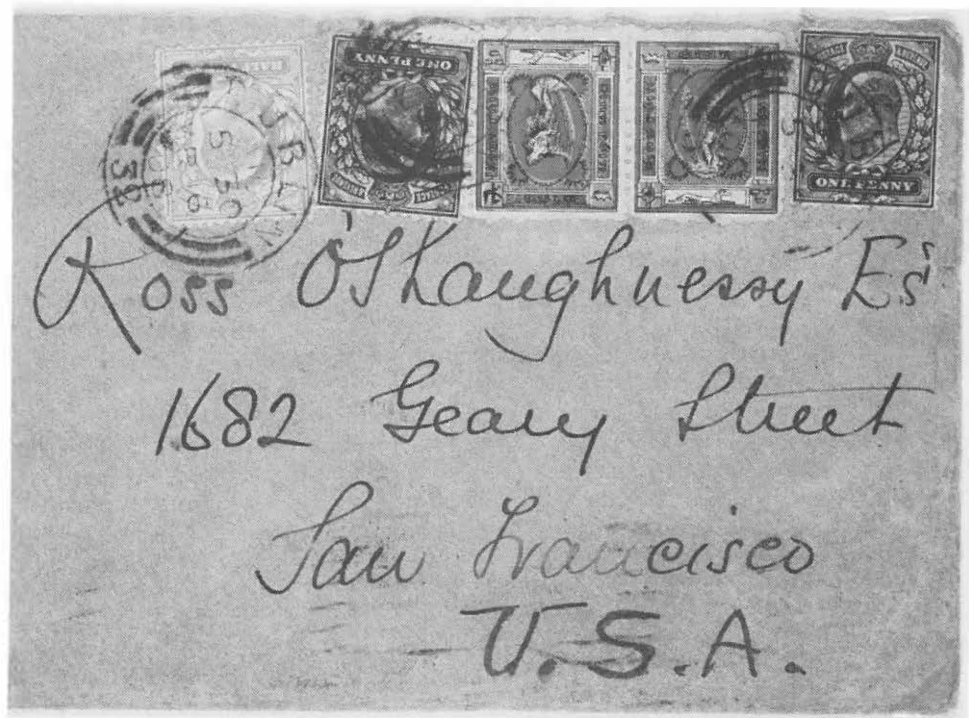
The “Troubles” and their Philatelic Consequences

by
Johan Rehnberg

Editor's Note: Johan Rehnberg, of Sweden, who has won Large Vermeil for his superb Irish collection at World Philatelic Exhibitions in the past few years, gives here a short account of the philatelic impact of the events in Irish history from 1907 to 1923. It gives a fascinating view of how others perceive that troubled period in our history which no doubt some of our readers may wish to comment on.

There are two central events in Ireland's struggle for independence: the Easter rebellion of 1916, which almost united the entire country in active resistance against the British, and the revolution of 1919, which resulted in the foundation of the Irish Free State.

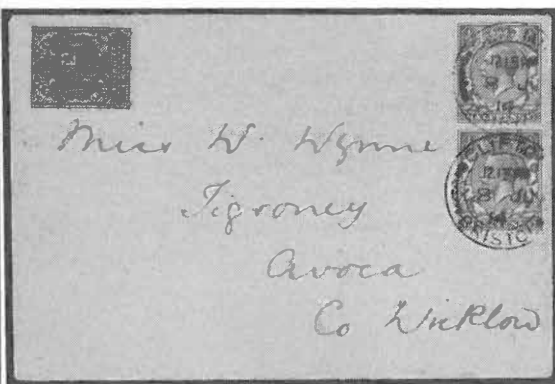
In London, Asquith's Liberal government had relied on Redmond's Irish party for survival. Redmond insisted that a Home Rule bill be passed in the House of Lords. An Irish Parliament, responsible for internal affairs, should be founded while Westminster remained in charge of military, naval and foreign affairs. The King of England was to remain the King of Ireland.



1908 cover with tête-bêche pair tied Dublin cds.

In 1910, two general elections were held in England. After the first one, Asquith needed all the support he could get from the Labour Party and from Ireland against the Unionists. In August 1911 the Home Rule Bill was passed but the same year Redmond and his Nationalist Party helped the government to pass a bill which stated that Members of Parliament, themselves included, would be paid by the Crown.

This was too much for the more orthodox Irish nationalist and led to a strengthening of the Sinn Fein Party at the expense of the Nationalist Party. Sinn Fein (founded in 1902) was not originally a republican movement. Founded by Arthur Griffith, a journalist, it was a constitutional but anti-parliamentary movement, which later became a political party.



Left: Anti-Home Rule label featuring Sir Edward Carson.

Top: UVF label on Bristol to Wicklow cover of 1914.

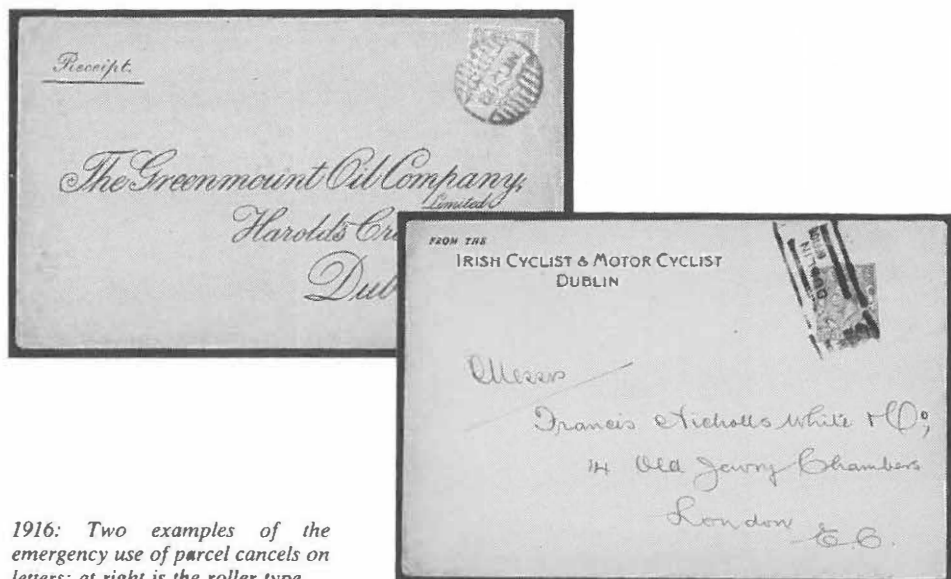
Among those opposed to Home Rule was Sir Edward Carson whose principal interest was to preserve the Union. In 1912 a pogrom against the Roman Catholic citizens of Ulster was carried out. An extremist anti Home Rule military organisation was founded: the Ulster Volunteer Force.

In the beginning of 1908 the Sinn Fein Propaganda labels were printed by James Walker & Co., Dublin. They were printed in sheets of 50 (10 x 5) and were intended to strengthen support for Sinn Fein and to promote the idea of Home Rule for Ireland. The labels were intended to be stuck to correspondence sent to supporters or party offices. Only those letters with labels were to be answered. Not long after they had been issued in 1908 they were banned by the British Post Office. They were, however, still stuck to the back of letters in order to escape detection. During the rebellion of Easter 1916 the labels were reissued.

On the 24th of April 1916 the Rising broke out and, since it was a bank holiday many people witnessed the Volunteers and the Citizens' Army occupy strategic points in Dublin. Fourteen important buildings and some of the railway stations were taken.

It was announced that a temporary government was to be formed for the new Irish Republic. The British forces in Dublin at this time consisted of 2,500 men from the Sixth Reserve Cavalry, the Third Royal Irish Regiment (North Tipperary Militia), the Tenth Service Battalion of the Dublin Fusiliers (Reserve Battalion) and the Third Irish Rifles (Royal Antrim Militia). The British were taken completely by surprise and had no idea of the size and scope of the Rebellion.

Reinforcements were sent for from military camps nearby and appeals for further reinforcements were sent to London. After one week of hard battle, the rebellion leaders surrendered and all those who had signed the Proclamation concerning the Irish Republic were executed. Initially, the rebels were treated with derision but the executions swung public opinion in their favour.



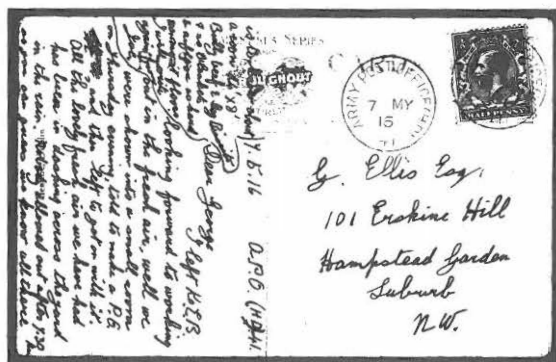
1916: Two examples of the emergency use of parcel cancels on letters; at right is the roller type.

As the General Post Office was one of those buildings occupied by the rebels, normal postal services were not possible the week of the Rising. As most of the G.P.O. was burnt down and all rubber stamps were destroyed, parcel post cancellation or the like had to be used to keep the postal service going. As mentioned earlier, the Rising resulted in the arrival of reinforcements in Dublin. Two battalions from the 178th Brigade landed in Ireland the day after the rebellion began and they were followed by the rest of the 59th Division. With the 59th Division, Home Defence Army Post Offices D14, D40 and D41 arrived and a post office was opened on the 4th May 1916. It closed, however, as early as the 16th August of the same year.

In 1917 and 1918 meetings were arranged in Dublin (the Irish Convention) in order to discuss the possibility of future political progress. In January 1919, Sinn Féin established its parliament ("An Dáil") in Dublin in order to proclaim independence, and later that same year and the following, the IRA intensified its campaign. This resulted in the so-called "War of Independence" which was to last for two years. When a truce was finally declared in July 1921 it was only a matter of months before most of Ireland would become the Irish Free State.

In December 1920 the Home Rule Bill had been passed by the British Parliament and separate parliaments were established for Northern and Southern Ireland, as well as a council for the purpose of unity in mutual concerns. This treaty was accepted in Ulster but was not accepted in Southern Ireland. During this month a state of siege was declared in certain areas. In the summer of 1921 negotiations began between the Government and the leaders of the Sinn Fein Party. In December of that year the Irish representatives signed a treaty with the British government, giving Ireland dominion status under the name of the Irish Free State, but separating from Northern Ireland. A provisional government was formed.

In March 1922, Eamonn de Valera, leader of the Sinn Fein Party, organised a republican army for the fight against the Provisional Government in a civil war. The Civil War ended in 1923 after the Irish Free State had already been officially proclaimed in December 1922 and the last British troops had left the country. During this period British troops were still stationed in Ireland to maintain law and order until the provisional government could handle the situation.



1916 British soldier's postcard with APO41 (HD) cds.

Several Field Post Offices were in operation in both Northern and Southern Ireland between December 1920 and March 1923. From March 1st 1921 only official mail was handled while the personal correspondence of the soldiers was taken care of by the Post Office. Between 1921 and 1923 the post offices in Southern Ireland were robbed, burnt down or destroyed almost daily by the IRA as part of their guerilla campaign. Some parts of the country were completely in their control. Sometimes the stamps were stolen, which meant that the post offices had to use British postage due stamps temporarily. These could not be purchased by the general public, but were put on the letters as a token of the postage paid. Soon the post offices ran out of these as well and simply bundled many letters with the same destination together, put a high-value stamp on the uppermost one and sent them to their destination. The addressees then had to fetch their letters and parcels from the local post office.

As mentioned earlier, a compromise agreement was made between the British Government and the Nationalist leaders on December 6th, 1921. This meant that Southern Ireland would be a self-governed dominion within the British

Commonwealth. The name of this dominion was the Irish Free State. The British Post Officer, however, was still responsible for the distribution of mail in Ireland. This arrangement was to continue until 1st April 1922, the end of the financial year.



1920 cover with Post Office seal "Stolen and opened by raiders"

J. J. Walsh was appointed Postmaster General and his first commission was to provide the Free State with stamps of its own. This task was impossible before April 1st, and it was decided that the ordinary British George V stamps were to be overprinted. From May 1840 until April 1922, ordinary British stamps (everything from the Penny Black to George V) had been used.



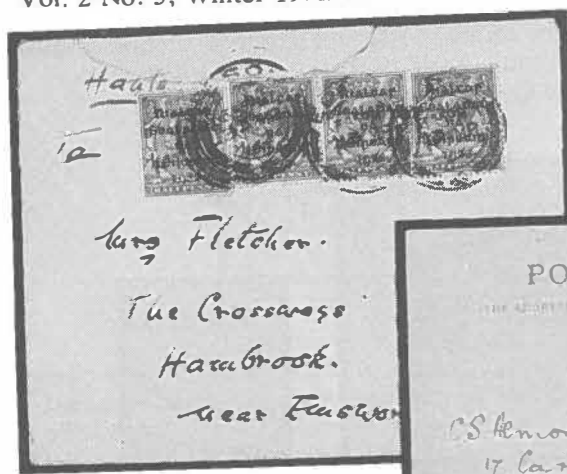
The first overprints: "Rialtas Sealadach na hEireann" (Provisional Government of Ireland).

The stamps overprinted and issued on the 17th of February 1922 were therefore, as far as low value stamps were concerned, those with the portrait of George V printed on paper with the watermark "G v R" with a crown. They were printed by Harrison & Son in London, with the exception of the 6d stamp, which was printed on chalk-surfaced paper by Somerset House, London. The high-value stamps with the "Britannia" motif were engraved and printed by Bradbury & Wilkinson, London. Another measure was the introduction of Gaelic in the local postmarks wherever possible.



"No stamps available" cover from Charleville, August 1922, during IRA occupation. British dues were used up to 1925.

There were also the slogans, the first of which appeared in May 1922 and read: "Learn Irish". Mailboxes were to be repainted green and labelled "an Post". The mailvans were also painted green and labelled "Post Saorstat Eireann". This short period, commonly referred to as the Transition Period, has already been well documented by Erik Kuylenstjerna in D.F. Newsletter Vol. 2 No. 5, Winter 1971/72.



Irish overprints used in England which was legal up to March 31, 1922.

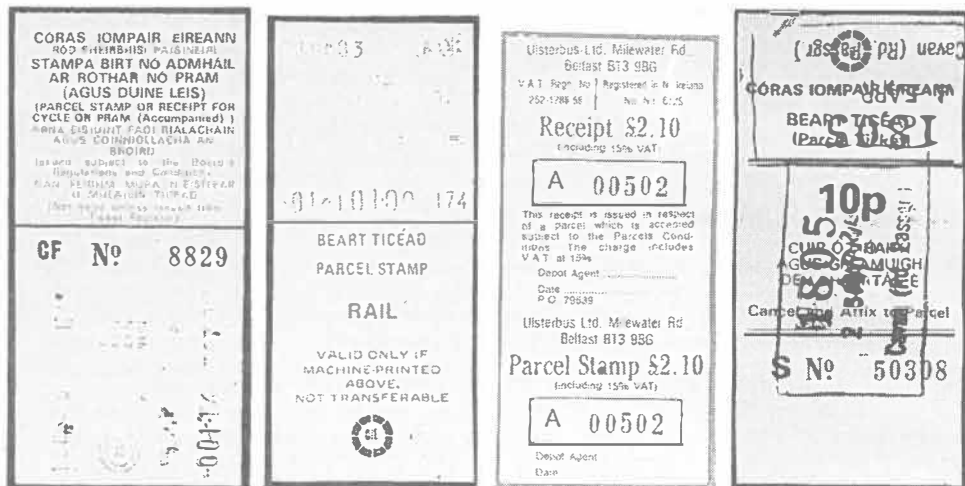


Combined use of G.B. overprinted and unoverprinted on February 17, 1922, first day of issue of the overprints.

I only wish to make a brief summary of the contents of Kuylenstjerna's article:

George V stamps which were not overprinted were valid until March 31st 1922. That is, letters could be stamped with these stamps alone or together with overprinted stamps. These George V stamps which were of course valid in the entire British Commonwealth but **only** until March 31st 1922 outside Ireland.

Irish Railway & Bus Stamps — News by John Holman



Railway Letter Service

Mention was made in my last article (ISN No. 21) of the £1 on 20p surcharges issued by the Railway Preservation Society of Ireland on 1 September 1984. These stamps had a relatively short life; new stamps for use on railway letters carried both in Northern Ireland and the Republic were issued in May 1985.

Eight new 20p stamps — printed in a se-tenant sheet were released on 10 May, four similar £1.23 stamps for use in the Republic were issued the following day. All twelve stamps — which feature preserved locomotives hauling trains — have been attractively produced, designed by McCorkell, Kitts and McBride and printed by 'TANAMAC INT'L/DOLLOCO PRINTING/CANADIAN BANK NOTE' — such an imprint appears in the bottom sheet margin.

Covers were carried on the days of issue, posted on special railtour trains. The 20p stamps were cancelled 'RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF IRELAND/10th May, 1985/ FIRST DAY OF ISSUE/POSTED ON TRAIN/BELFAST' in black. The postage stamp was cancelled with the Belfast Philatelic Counter handstamp. On the reverse of the covers were impressed the standard 'WHITEHEAD/STATION/B & N.C.R.Y.' handstamp and a circular stamp worded 'RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF IRELAND/T.P.O./10 MAY 1985/FEE PAID' — its raison d'être being unknown to me.

The covers for the £1.23 stamps have a similar cancellation to the 20p covers but with 11 May date and inscribed 'DUBLIN' instead of 'BELFAST' (cancels seen in black and violet). Although the covers were endorsed 'Poste Restante Belfast' they have the Irish postage stamps cancelled in Dublin. There are no markings on the reverse of the covers.

During the summer of 1985 the RPSI operated various tours, I have covers carried on some of these special trains. The first was carried on the 'Portrush Flyer' on 5 August. It had one of the original 20p stamps cancelled with the standard Whitehead handstamp in red and a cachet worded 'RPSI/PORTRUSH FLYER' beneath, also in

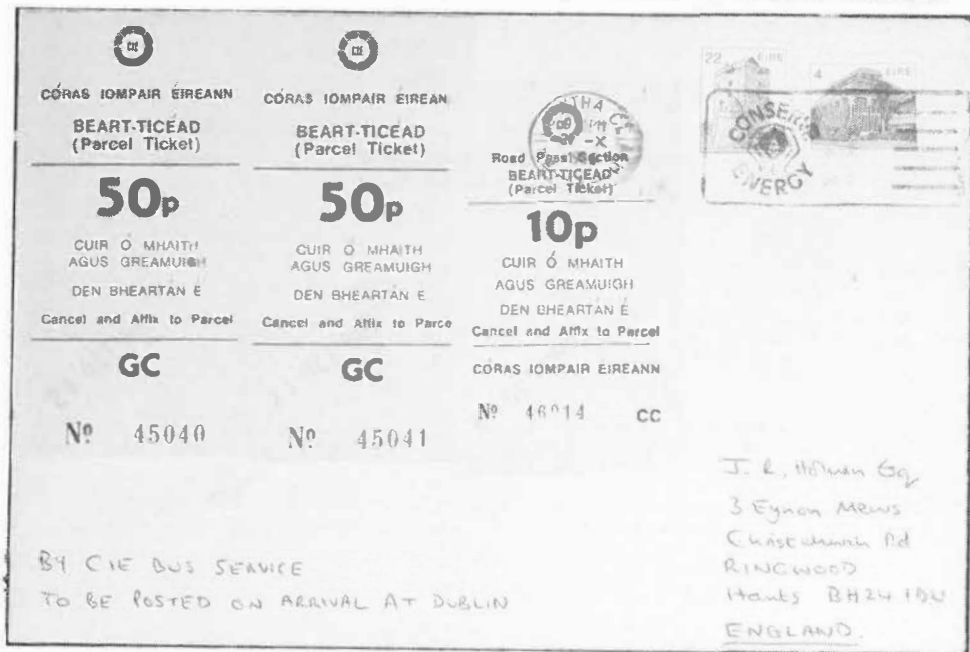


RPSI cover carried an 'Portrush Flyer', 17 August 1985.

red. The 'I' of 'RPSI' was in fact a figure '1', the 'E' of 'FLYER' was reversed.

That carried on the 'Flyer' on 17 August was franked with one of the new 20p stamps cancelled with the Whitehead handstamp (red); the cachet had been amended so the 'I' of 'RPSI' was in fact an inverted '1', the 'O' of 'PORTRUSH' was missing. Both were posted on arrival at Portrush, Co. Antrim.

The third cover was carried on the 'Steam Enterprise' on 2 September. It bore one of the 22p 'Steam Enterprise' stamps (issued 4 September 1982) cancelled Whitehead



CIE Cover carried Ballyshannon - Dublin bearing 2 x 50p Type 12 and 1 x 10p Type 11 parcel stamps, 21 October 1985.

and although endorsed 'BY STEAM ENTERPRISE BELFAST-DUBLIN' was in fact posted and postmarked at Belfast. Another cover was intended for despatch in the opposite direction (i.e. Dublin-Belfast), it was franked with one of the £1.23 stamps and a 26p Irish definitive — respectively cancelled Whitehead and postmarked Dublin, 8 September. I shall be interested to see how covers carried on railtour trains during the summer of 1986 are dealt with.

Bus Parcel Stamps

Details of ten types of stamps were given in ISN Nos. 11 and an eleventh type was added in ISN No. 14. Details can now be given of Type 12 — this is similar to Type 9 having the CIE logo at top above 'CORAS IOMPAIR ÉIREANN' but with dividing lines below 'BEART TICEAD/(Parcel Ticket)' and above the serial number. Stamps from this printing are longer than all previous issues. At the time of writing three stamps are known from this printing — 50p red on white (first seen May 1985), £2.80 and £3.25 issued late 1982 and April 1983; the last two were wrongly ascribed to Type 11 in ISN No. 16. The £3.50, £5.00 and £6.00 stamps mentioned in ISN No. 18 are Type 9.

One entirely new stamp to report — 5p black on pink, Type 9; first seen used from Sligo in August 1985. This brings the total of Type 9 stamps to seven — the 30p and 50p date from 1980, the 1p from 1982, the high values of this Type are mentioned above.

In 1984 the Irish Government decided to restructure the existing Coras Iompair Éireann organisation into three operating companies under the control of a holding company. The objective of this reorganisation was stated to be: 'To provide a safe, reliable, cost effective and customer orientated transportation service of the highest standard possible, in accordance with market demands and conditions and legislative requirements, within the financial support limits defined by Government, and where appropriate, at a competitive return on resources consumed.'

With effect from 2 February 1987 the three new organisations came into being: Iarnród Éireann (Irish Rail), Bus Éireann and Dublin Bus.

All three remain part of the holding company, CIE. At the time of writing (June) no new parcel stamps have been issued bearing the new titles.



The new Bus Éireann parcel stamp.

To date only one stamp bearing the Bus Éireann title has been issued — a 50p value printed in red on white paper. It is similar to earlier CIE issues but bears the BE 'dog' logo in place of the CIE 'wheel' emblem. It was first reported in July.

A VARIETY OF DOLLARD 5-LINE OVERPRINT

by F. E. Dixon



Sorting through a deceased collector's debris I found a creased pair of 1d with very heavy impression and with several minor flaws. The most prominent is the) at lower left, but also the R has a piece chipped off; there is a dot in the S; first A of SEALADAC is broken, and the n of nA is broken at foot. In addition there are several smudges. The stamp is from the left margin. Can anyone state which row?

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RECENT RELEASES

by Brian Warren



Date of Issue	Description	Sold For	Plate Numbers
31/5/87	Louth Philatelic Society Exhibition	£1.50	Booklet
3/6/87	Discover Ireland postcard	30p	
13/6/87	Stampa '86 cards overprinted for CAPEX	£1.20	per set of three
2/7/87	Fauna & Flora (Cattle) — Kerry	24p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
	— Friesian	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
	— Hereford	30p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
	— Shorthorn	39p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
-/7/87	Selection Pack F	£2.20	
8/7/87	Aerogramme form — new printing	—	
13/7/87	'Keep in Touch' discount postcard	24p	see below
27/8/87	Festivals of Ireland — Ennis	24p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
	— Tralee	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
	— Wexford	30p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
	— Ballinasloe	46p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
	— Maximum cards	16p	per card
31/8/87	'Kiddy' colour postcards (4)	15p	each
13/9/87	6th Collectors Festival	£5.00	Booklet

SPECIAL ISSUES



Both issues were printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited on cream CCP1 paper. No plate number variations noted. The Festivals of Ireland set included matching maximum cards. The cards are an improvement on the previous set as the design fills the full card and the perforations have been deleted. However the figures of value and "Eire" should be deleted for the cards to come within the FIP definition for a maximum card. A new selection pack entitled "Nostalgic Transport" was released at the beginning of July. The pack includes the Bianconi and Tram sets (face value £1.95). The special pictorial first day postmark was available at each of the four locations featured on the Festivals set.

ARCHITECTURE DEFINITIVES

There have been a large number of new printings since my last report. In particular there has been the re-introduction of the white CCP1 paper.

CCP1 printings — white paper/dextrin gum:

2p: Plate 2A/2B, perforation type G4;

24p: Plate 3A/3B, perforation type G4;

46p: Plates 1A1A/1B1B, perforation type G4.

All the above were first noted in September 1987.

CCP3 printings — cream paper/cream PVA gum:

1p: Plate 2A/2B, perforation type G4 (September);

5p: Plate 1B, perforation type G4 (August) — plate 1A not yet noted;

12p: Plate 1B, perforation type G3 (May) — plate 1A not yet noted;

28p: Plate 5A/5B, perforation type G4 (June);

50p: Plates 3A2A/3B2B, perforation type G4 (August);

£1: Plates 1A1A/1B1B, perforation type G4 (August) — previously G3;

£5: Plates 2B1B, perforation type G4 (August) — plates 2A1A not yet noted.

A number of collectors have enquired as to whether variations in gum colour on both CCP1 and CCP3 papers are worthy of separate listing. Differences in the colour of the gum have been noted since the first releases in 1982. On the CCP1 paper, the colour varies from a distinct blue-green tint to a near off-white

colour. I would consider the gum to be PVA dextrin as it is very similar to the gum seen on British stamps. On the cream CCP3 paper, the gum varies from a pale cream through to a distinct yellow-cream. There is no constant trend and my enquiries with the printers has confirmed that such variations appear within the same batch of paper. It is not for me to dictate what *you* should collect — I will not be attempting to sub-divide the three main paper/gum types. A sample of some of the colour variations is certainly worthy of inclusion in a collection. I should add it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep track of all new printings. If you spot something which I do not list in a subsequent Recent Releases, please contact me via the Editor, Irish Stamp News, 102 Leinster Road, Dublin 6.



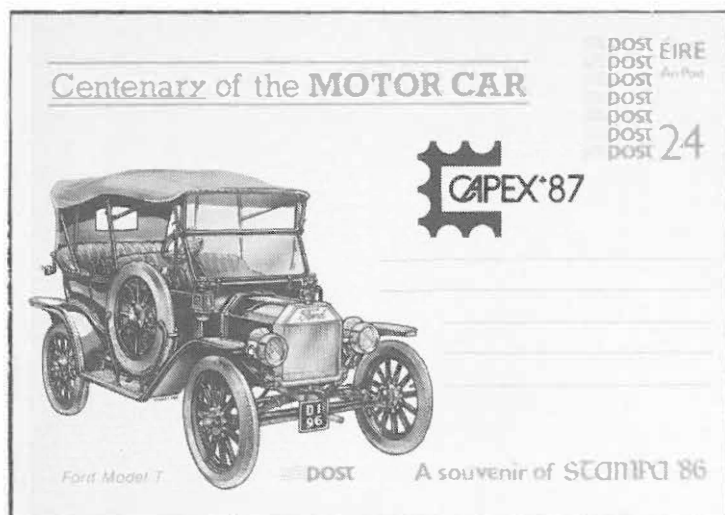
5p CCP3 plate 1B perf. G4 and 28p CCP3 plate 5A perf. G4.

POSTAL STATIONERY

The introduction of new items by An Post continues unabated. The "Discover Ireland" postcard was issued in connection with the annual campaign by Bord Fáilte (Irish Tourist Board). The cards bear the usual postage paid imprint as seen on the St. Patrick's Day cards which covers airmail postage worldwide. Sheets of 75 labels (15 rows of 5) similar to air mail etiquettes were made available free of charge at all post offices with the slogan "Discover Ireland in '87". A similarly worded slogan die was in use nationwide during the months of June, July and August.

The Post Office gave their North American philatelic agents permission to overprint the 1986 Stampa cards with the Capex '87 logo in black. A similarly designed cachet was also available at the exhibition. The special discount packs of postcards were finally issued in July. These packs were first announced last year. The postcards are sold in packs 15 (£3.50), 50 (£11.00) and 100 (£20.00). Individual cards are available from the philatelic bureau at 24p each. The cards are unillustrated but do include the words "Keep in Touch" within a green frame line on the reverse of the card. The usual 24p An Post stamp is slightly smaller than the stamp on the first 24p card issued in 1986 and on the Stampa '86 cards but matches the impression on the giveaway card issued last May. The wrappers are in an attractive four colour design with the "Keep in Touch" postbox etc.

Four Kiddy Colour Cards were launched on 31 August. Their purpose is to instil letter-writing confidence among children. The front of the cards feature outline drawings which can be coloured by children before posting. The four

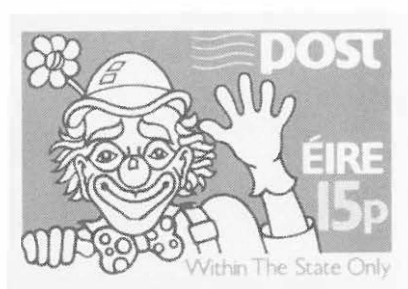


The CAPEX exhibition overprinted card and the special discount postcard.

designs are (1) BMX bikes; (2) "Happy Birthday" party scene; (3) "Thank You" with a selection of toys; and (4) country scene featuring two children with a rabbit. A special 15p stamp illustrating a clown is printed on the address side with the inscription "Within The State Only". If the cards are sent outside the Republic of Ireland additional stamps need to be affixed to make up the normal postage. Happy colouring!

The standard aerogramme was replaced by a reprinted version of 8 July. This, non prepaid item, is now printed on a better quality heavier paper than the previous version. There were some complaints that the writing could be seen on the older previous printings when the form was held up to the light. Since the present form first appeared in 1986 there have been four identifiable printings as follows:-

1. Light blue paper with pale green frame etc. and thin lettering (September '86);
2. Light blue paper with dark green frame etc. and thicker bolder lettering most noticeable in the word "Aerogramme" (September '86);
3. Deeper sky blue paper with pale green frame etc. and thin lettering. The four green lines under the heading "Sender's name and address" are missing on this printing (1987); and
4. Light blue paper with pale green frame etc. and thin lettering — paper heavier and not as transparent as first printing above (8 July 1987).



The 'Pro Am' cancel and the Kiddy Colour Card imprinted stamp.

SOUVENIRS AND SPECIAL POSTMARKS

The Louth booklet contained the 1987 Europa set (200 copies). The 6th Collectors Festival booklet contained the 1968 James Connolly and Countess Markievicz sets (250 copies). Four special postmarks were available in recent months as follows:-

1. Carrolls Pro-Am tournament at Portmarnock Golf Club on 1 July 1987: This postmark was not announced in advance and is inscribed in English;
2. Carrolls Irish Open Port Mearnog: In use from 2nd to 5th July 1987. The postmark was somewhat different from previous years as it also referred to 25 years sponsoring international golf;
3. Drogheda, Co. Louth 30 August 1987 (Sunday): 12th World Conference of the International Conference for Catholics in Scouting; and
4. Mitchelstown, Co. Cork 9 September 1987: The postmark commemorates the centenary of the Mitchelstown Massacre during the Fenian plan of campaign in 1887.

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