

# THE COLLECTION OF POSTAGE DUE FEES IN IRELAND 1914 to 1925

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The exhibit shows the use of labels and stamps to collect additional monies due to the Post Office and customs for the delivery of Postcards, Letters and Parcels and the collection of Customs fees on Parcels from abroad.

Postage due labels were issued in the British Isles on April 20, 1914 and were used in Ireland until 1925 when Irish postage due labels were introduced. The Irish post office continued to use the British Labels after 1925 because they did not show the British Crown or Indicate that they were from Great Britain. Several Irish Post Offices continued to use the British labels until stocks ran out in the late 1920's.

## **The Three principal reasons for postage due are shown:**

- (a) Items mailed without prepaid postage;
- (b) Items mailed with underpaid (Insufficient) postage on postcards and letters, and Special Service fees such as Returned to Sender and Registered Mail posted outside a post office;
- (c) Postage due labels used to collect Custom Duties and Delivery fees charged on parcels from abroad after Irish Independence in 1921.

***The exhibit is shown on 8 double pages.*** Each Page shows a different aspect of Postage Due use in Ireland

The first *four* pages show the different reasons for Postage Due use on mail within Ireland or coming to Ireland from abroad, as well as the use of labels to Collect Custom Fees. The *next two* pages show the use of Postage Due labels during the Transition from English to Irish Post Office Administrations in 1922; and during the Irish Civil War and Post Office Strike. The Last Page shows the transition from British to Irish Postage Due Labels in 1925.

The exhibit shows several scarce combined uses of British and Irish Postage Due labels including a cover where an Irish 1/2d definitive stamp was used for postage due in combination with a 1d British Label.

The first page shows a cover mailed without postage on April 20, 1914 with a 2d postage due label cancelled the *Second Day of Issue*, April 21, 1914; a commercial postcard mailed on 21 April 1914 with 1/2d postage due *Special Service Fee charged for Returned to Sender;* and an unpaid. postcard from a Soldier in France during August 1914, mailed home to Ireland after the start of World War I.

The second page highlights a Registered Railway Cover with the *2d Special Service Fee* that was charged for posting a registered cover outside a post office. Postage due labels were used to collect this fee from the receiver. The cover is an unusual combination of Registration, TPO and Special Service Fee.

The exhibit shows several covers with postage due labels used during the *Transition Period* from British to Irish Post Office control, including an unpaid postcard from the 1922 Irish Civil War and an unpaid cover from the 1922 Irish Post Office Strike (September 1922), *both mailed when no stamps were available.*

Parcels from Great Britain and other countries were liable to custom fees, from May 1st 1922. *These custom fees were collected using Postage Due Labels until November 1925 when Regular stamps were used.* Beginning September 1 1924 all incoming parcels were also subject to a 6d delivery fee and postage due labels were also used to collect these fees. Several items used by *C.I. Dulin* in his book, *Ireland's Transition* are shown in the exhibit to illustrate the *collection of custom fees and parcel delivery fees.*

The Exhibit concludes with the issue of Irish Postage Labels in February, 1925 and shows a *very scarce combination* of ten, 6d Irish Postage Due labels used with two British labels to collect custom fees. The 6d labels were only used to collect Custom fees from Feb. to Nov. 1925 after which Postage Stamps were used to collect these fees.

## Bibliography

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You can see a copy of this Exhibit on the Eire Philatelic Association (EPA) Web Site

Go to: <http://eirephilatelicassoc.org/>

On the opening page select EPA RESOURCES >> Go down the list and select EXHIBITS

This is a new feature of the web site and currently contains copies of four of my single frame exhibits