

# AUSTRIA

## Edited by Andy Taylor

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### **Meeting Dates for 2001:**

**December 7-10: APS: Vienna: "Wienfest2001"**

**December 12: London Local Group: Sekforde Arms:Auction**

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<sup>1</sup> Issue 135 falsely claimed to be "Autumn 2000" in this location ☹

## Editorial 136

By Andy Taylor

There's an interesting philatelic oddity produced by the Spelling Reform. The 14 Sch "Beautiful Austria" stamp of 1982 (ANK 1727) depicts Weißsee, which was written WEISZSEE on the stamp - to the disgust of orthographers. The 7 Sch of 2000 (ANK 2345, in the Naturschönheiten series) shows a different view of it, but calls it WEISSSEE.

A meticulous reader points out that my usage of the word Austria to mean both the country and this Journal can be confusing, and urges me to reinstate either quotation marks or small capitals for the Journal, ie 'Austria' or AUSTRIA. The first is easier to type, so I will endeavour to use it henceforth. (Hence, if the 14 Sch stamp above had been commemorating this Journal I would have had to write "Beautiful 'Austria' ")

In the centre of this issue you'll find the expanded index of the "notBooks" section of our library. For each, I have made a personal selection of those articles which seem to me most relevant. I have often retained the German words, because if the topic interests you you'll know it, and if I ignorantly mistranslate it you'll miss it! Many of the ArGe publications have such a wide range of small articles that if one covers your pet area you should join it - and then borrow and study the complete run. The numerous and excellent Festschriften they produce are listed with the regular journals.

I would encourage all members to use to the full both sections of our library. It encourages the Committee (and others) to seek out and make a case to our Treasurer for the acquisition of useful new publications, and it helps to justify to the spouses of the Librarians the retention in their otherwise-immaculate dwellings of large volumes of ancient paper! Suggestions for additions to (and corrections of) the index should be sent to me.

I reported Die Briefmarke's Aprilscherz of thematic gum in 'Austria' 134. Little did I know that the Great British Post Office is issuing a range of stamps with special inks "no more expensive than ordinary inks" including a scratch'n'sniff stamp containing eucalyptus oil. So if your postie explains that a delivery is late because she was attacked by Koala bears, it could be true... There is also a Hologram stamp, but at least they admit it is not the world's first.

The Hannes Margreiter design for the "carried by Tram" cover promised for Numiphil is ready, but its issue has been delayed until 30<sup>th</sup> March 2002. It's in aid of the Austrian Children's Cancer charity.

# WANTED

Indexer for 'Austria', to review the past and do the future. Apply to the Editor. Particular areas of the past which need revisiting are 1991 to date, and questions, letters etc. Also, any reader who feels that his pet topic is difficult to locate is invited to write and suggest improvements. It is not necessary to have a computer to be the Indexer.

## *Austrian Post Office publicity material*

The Library has a large (nay huge) pile of press releases; as Editor I receive more almost every week. As agreed at the AGM, the following will be done with them.

**A: Ortswerbestempel (or Ortswerbeflaggen) cancellations** (eg "23. Int. Puppentage Mistelbach 23-28 Oktober 2001"). These are cancellations with text and/or pictures which publicise a place or an event associated with it. They are usually adjacent to the date/time part, but sometimes are within or around it. They can be made by machine or by hand. These are in general not listed elsewhere so the papers will be retained. Die Briefmarke does have articles, spasmodically, but they tend to be for randomly-selected towns and are of course not indexed. Those for Salzburg are listed in Library item 1016 no 165A; for the Tirol in Library item 328.

**B: Special Cancels** (eg "40 Jahre BSV Neufeld"). These seem to be adequately listed in Wurth's supplements, Library item 20 (although the illustrations are deliberately bad). They also feature in Die Briefmarke. Those more recent than the latest Wurth supplement will be kept; for the rest "Plan B".

**C: Office closures.** A member used to keep a record of these - who? Stohl (Library item 313) will cover dates till 1996 (I have not checked his accuracy). "Plan B" for all pre-1996 sheets.

**D: Technical info on new stamps** (eg size, colours, perms, gum) This is adequately covered in the articles in 'Austria' that JFG/NH used to write. "Plan B" for all covered in 'Austria', ie up to 1999. Future articles will be assembled from the Auspost web site and the press releases.

**"Plan B" is to state in 'Austria' that we have this material and does any member want it for the cost of transport? If so good, if not then I'll recycle it. Please apply to the Editor no later than 31 December 2001.**

## **NOTES from publications en route to the Library.**

by Andy Taylor

### ***Die Briefmarke - articles including:***

**Issue 9/2001:** Goisern; Rankweil; forged "rotary" overprint; new types of "post office"; etc

**Issue 10/2001:** latest Schilling-Euro exchange rules; 3-Kings Christkindl cancel may be discontinued; postal history of Eschenau; postal and oenophilic history of Langenlois; the Euro-definitives; etc

### ***Arbeitsgemeinschaft Militaria Austriaca Philatelia.***

**Issue 194:** "Feldpost im Ausland" stamp etc; UN, KFOR forgeries; FPOs in 1918; how to read Austrian handwriting (with examples, which look like dropped knitting!); NATO News; etc

### ***Arbeitsgemeinschaft Feld- und Zensurpost 1914-18***

**Issue 66:** On Malaria-Marschkompanien; SW-Bataillonen; Knockaloe (IOM) & Stobs POW camps; Marinefeldpost forgeries; FPO 18 in 1918??; KuK Military Pigeon Post (6pp incl cachets); etc

### ***Arbeitsgemeinschaft Österreich e. V.***

**Issue 55:** cancels of the Austrian post offices in Syria; Krakow 1815-46; also book reviews and auction list

### ***Wiener Ganzsachen F u P-Verein.***

**Issue 3/2001:** Air mail to Egypt & Palestine 1946-48; a reply-paid telegramme of 1873.

### ***Czechout***

**Issue 3/2001:** Essays from 1919; TPOs and Pardubice; Sudetenland in 1938 (with office list); new issues; etc

### ***Südost-Philatelie***

**Issue 73/2001:** Post in northern Slovenia 1918-20; Bosnia-Herz. Military postcards; "Thielk II" reviewed; and much modern material from Kosovo, Montenegro etc.

## *Interessengemeinschaft Bosnien-Herzegowina*

Issue 92: (Delays due to illness); Postal Rates in B-H 1879-1918; Hadschi Loja; 'Turbe' censor mark; perfins on B-H stamps used on commercial letters.

## *Cinderella Philatelist*

Issue 40/4: Austria War Welfare Office letter seals

Issue 41/1: Fiume revenue stamps 1918-24

Issue 41/3: Hohe Rinne (Transylvania) locals; 1922 Vienna postwar charity labels; 1920 "lost Austrian territories" propaganda labels.

## *Stamps of Hungary*

Issue 146 (Sep 2001): APS (and others!) visit to Hungary; tax cards

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## **2002 APS Meetings**

**The Manchester Local Group** will meet in Cross Street Chapel at 2pm on Saturdays 10 November 2001; 12 Jan 2002; 9 Feb 2002; 13 April 2002; and 11 May 2002. There is no meeting in December because of the Vienna trip; the meeting in March is the joint meeting with and at London. The November meeting's speaker will be John Giblin and the subject "The Third Reich". The Group defrays its own costs and welcomes visitors.

**The London Local Group** will meet at 7.30pm in the Sekforde Arms, 34 Sekforde St, EC1 (near Farringdon Station; more info and directions from Geoff Richardson, 01293 772 847). Forthcoming meetings: 14 Nov (L Bosworth "Navy"); 12 Dec (Auction); 9 Jan (R Morrell "Bosnia"); 13 Feb (G Richardson "Day of the Stamp"); 2 Mar ['the Saturday of Stampex'] (Joint Meeting with Manchester Group; B Presland); 10 Apr (J Beech "Navy"); 8 May (AGM)

The "Heaton Royds Happening" is on 17 August 2002 - details from Andy Taylor

**The Fest** will again be at Canterbury, from **October 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>** 2002, with John Cottrell in charge.

## Questions, Answers, Letters...

### *Incoming WWII Air Mails*

Austria 135 pp 19-21 contained G A Roberts WWII covers from Argentina to Graz, with many unusual marks; he asked for comments. John Whiteside has kindly provided the following notes.

Firstly, **the endorsement "via Condor-Lati"**. This refers to two Companies that were responsible for carrying the covers. The air transport of mail from South America during the 1930s may be considered to be a matter of competition between France and Germany, the French carriers being Aeropostale/Air France and the German being Condor/Lufthansa (and the Zeppelins). Condor was the South American Air Company, based in Brazil, partly financed by the Germans, which thus acted as a German partner. Aeropostale was another South American Air Company, partly financed by the French. Condor operated feeder services from Argentina to Brazil. After the outbreak of the Second World War, the German service from Brazil to Europe was hastily taken over from Lufthansa by the Italian Company Lati, whose service lasted until some time in 1941. This is a very brief summary of a complex story, which would horrify many of my Aerophilatelist friends, but I hope it is sufficient for the purpose.

Secondly, a brief comment about **the charging system**. One is charged 1.45 pesos and the other, which is registered, is charged 2.90 pesos. The inference must be that the surface postage and the registration fee were the same and that a supplementary air fee was charged. This will have been per 5g, while the surface mail fee will have been per 20g. One possible postulation is that the surface mail and registration fee were 20c each, and that the air fee was 1.25 pesos per 5g. The 1.45 cover would be 20 + 1.25 and the 2.90 would be 20 + 20 + 2 x 1.25.

Thirdly, **the censorship in Germany**. Both are censored at Frankfurt am Main, which was the office responsible for most incoming airmail from Latin America. The second cover has closure tape with a letter "e" below the eagle, which was the code for Frankfurt and it is tied with a handstamped mark. The first cover bears a closure tape without an office letter, but it can be identified, according to the book by Riemer, as being applied at Frankfurt. The tail on the foot of the "t" is characteristic, for example. This label is tied by a mis-struck machine mark, traces of the 6 lines of which can be discerned at the left of the tape.

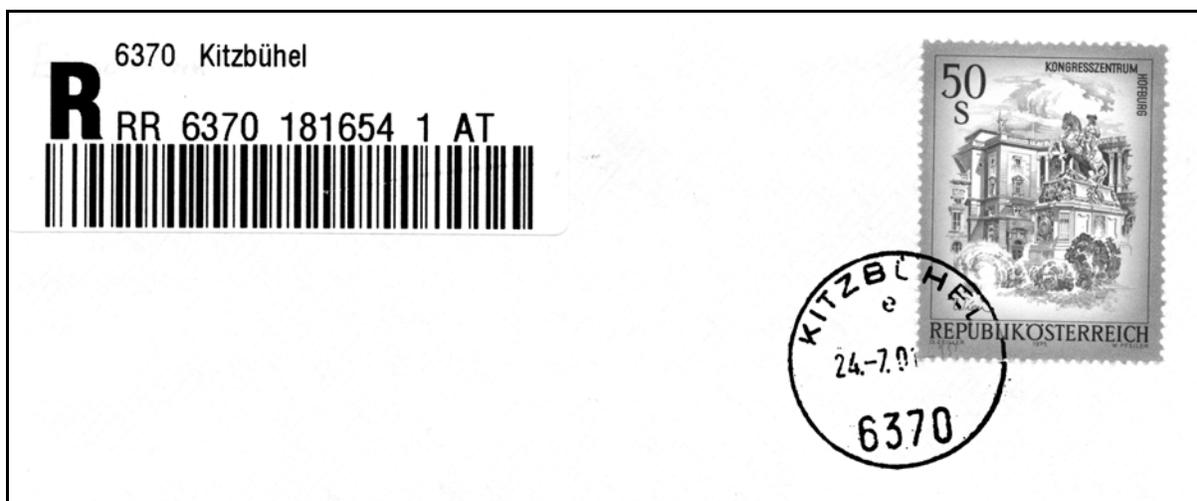
The three boxed numeral marks on the first cover are characteristic of those used by individual censors in Frankfurt until about the end of 1940, when they were replaced by unframed marks. It is worthy of note that the second cover

does not seem to bear any of the individual censor's handstamps. The pencilled numbers on the face of each cover at the lower left are also applied at the censor office in Frankfurt. As I understand it, each cover was "logged" in and out and these represent a code for where details may be found.

### *A curious cover*

This cover, shown in Austria 135 page 22, was cancelled at Vienna 9 on 29<sup>th</sup> March 1919, and arrived in Lausanne on 5 April 1919. It carried Registered and Express labels. The flap was sealed with a censor label. It carries a lonely 80 Heller stamp. The relevant postage rates on 29.3.1919 were the **foreign** ones of 25H post, 25H registered, 120H express. Inland rates (20, 25, 60 resp) only applied to Switzerland from April 1919. 'Express' did not include registration. What's going on?

The general view is that at least one of the labels has been applied as a decorative feature. There is nothing written on the cover about the method of sending, and neither label is 'tied'. The registration label is of the correct type for the period, according to Austria 131 page 52, and is from the same office as the cancellation. Best guess: the letter was sent registered, but overpaid because the recipient wanted a specimen of that stamp used on cover! The Express label was added on arrival.



Just to show that wilful philatelic overfranking is still with us, this exhibit from Kitzbühel only required 7Sch postage plus 28Sch registration, ie 35Sch total: but what else was a Kitzbühel collector to do with a mint 50Sch soon to become invalid? Perhaps in 50 years our successors will argue over it?

Mr Stiles has produced another example posted in April 1919 and overfranked by 5H for postage-plus-registration [the express fee would have been an extra

120H]. The express label has been applied **after** the cancellation but **before** the censoring! It is from one philatelist to another... **Does anyone know of a treatise on the types of express label that Austria used? Failing that, will somebody please write one!**



### *Some questions of detail*

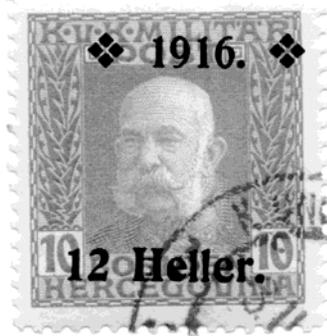
More than a year ago as you read this (*embarrassed editorial cringe!*) Mr Durston asked me three questions - can anyone help him?



In 1945, Hitler Heads were issued with Vienna-printed vertical barred overprints - ANK 668-673 (Mi 668-673 too!) I illustrate the 12Rpf because I have one, but the question concerns the 5Rpf stamp. On it, the overprinting of 21 June 1945 is found with 13, 14 and 15 lines. The 13-line version is reported to occur 5 times per sheet; the 15-line 14 times. The question is, do these occur at constant sheet positions, and if so which?

The other questions are on the charity-surcharged Bosnia-Herzegovina issues of 1915 & 1916 (ANK (and also Mi) 94 & 96). These are overprints of "\* 1915 \* / 12 Heller" and "\* 1916 \* / 12 Heller" on the 10 Heller issue. The

1915 one has 4 different versions, separated by the widths of the top and bottom overprint; the 1916 only 2 versions. The questions are:



On the 1915, a variety exists with the overprint some 3mm higher than normal; the diamonds-&-date part of the overprint having its top sliced off in a straight line; and the '1' of '12 Heller' so badly damaged as to be almost non-existent. On the 1916, a variety exists with the second 'e' in 'Heller' broken, forming what could be called a "CD sideways variety". Are either of these varieties constant? [In the illustration, which is of an undamaged specimen, I have darkened the overprint &

lightened the stamp; the off-centering is original.] As an aside, why was the overprint laid out in this way - it would seem more logical to have the diamonds obliterate the old value!

*Dear Sir,*

Some days ago I got a copy of issue 135 of 'Austria' to read. It's a very interesting magazine; but there is a mistake at the bottom of page 25: the limited edition of the Waldohreule card for the Bad Ischl Jamboree is of **100,000**.

*W-O Neubäck, Steirmärkische  
Pfadfinderbriefmarken Sammler*



*[Hannes Margreiter agrees with this correction]*

*Dear Editor,*

I think that your suggestion for Thematic articles in Austria is good but not to the exclusion of the more traditional article. If you can get the writers, perhaps one thematic article in alternate magazines. To start the ball rolling I am prepared to expand the write up of my Cantfest display on the Innsbruck Winter Olympics into a fuller item. Perhaps our Mr. Batts could do something on trains, since he is very quick to find fault on any item you write about them.

***Joyce Boyer.***

### ***Interesting Gedenkblatt***



The Austrian Post Office have produced this 'Gedenkblatt' featuring the Cat stamp FDC'd on 5th October set in a rich gold-coloured frame. The accompanying text adds that over 1 million cats have graciously condescended to live in Austria; to them the artist, Manfred Deix, offers this stamp as his humble and inescapably unworthy homage. This illustration fails to do justice to the majesty of the noble animal depicted therein.

***Dear Editor,***

I see that amongst your editorial musings in 'Austria' 135 you ask if readers like thematic articles. I feel that a few (perhaps 2-3 per year) would indeed be appropriate, and hope to assist this endeavour by writing one on a railway-related theme; but I've got to find a subject I can get to grips with. Following up topics is easier!

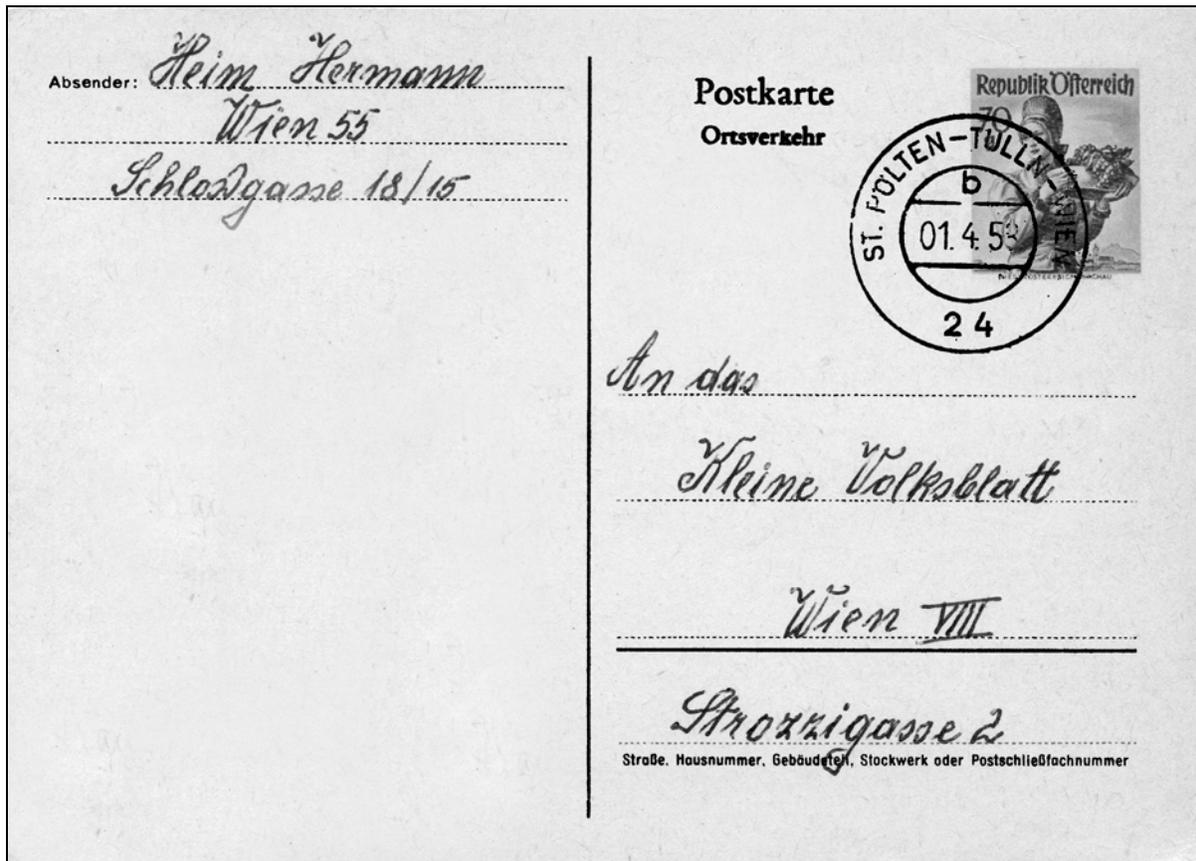
***John Batts***

## Two Odd Postcards

Dr A Goodbody has sent me two postcards with Austrian TPO postmarks which are alleged to be fakes, and asks for comments. Both cards are competition entries with newspaper cuttings stuck on the back. The first has a postmark "SIGMUNDSHERBERG - HADERSDORF - WIEN 22 / 06.12.55." but is not dated on the back.



The address of the sender of the first card, Langenlois, lies to the north of Krems and on the meandering railway route from Sigmundsherberg (a small town with a major railway junction) via Hadersdorf a. Kamp to Wien; the rate of 1Sch applied from 1.9.1951 to 31.12.1966; so it appears genuine.



The second has a postmark ST. PÖLTEN - TULLN - WIEN 24 dated 01.4.53 whereas the handwritten date on the back of the card is 1 XII 57, the message being the answers to a Christmas Quiz. The route is genuine. The rate is that for a local postcard, applying from 1.9.1951 to 31.1.1963.

BUT [i] the sender's address of "Wien 55" is Hundsturm, in Vienna's 5<sup>th</sup> district and nowhere near the railway from Tulln [ii] HGW points out that Postkarte/Ortsverkehr cards were not issued until 1955 [iii] the cancel is suspiciously well done. Maybe the card wasn't cancelled during its competition use; then disposed of by the newspaper (there's a ready market for such cards in bulk: indeed the APS often indulges), and the TPO cancellation added posthumously!

HGW adds that when we embarked on our Classification Scheme, we acquired 5 shoeboxes of modern plain PSCs (Costumes, Buildings, Scenic Austria and Stift issues). Amongst these were many anomalies - improbable TPOs such as those which Dr Goodbody has, cards used after a rate rise with a Postage Due 'T', and so on. These cards were mainly competition entries to TV & Newspaper offices in Vienna. Few were without cancels, but some do have spurious TPO cancels eg for trains which never went near Vienna, or were going away from, not towards, it! Why someone would forge a TPO cancel, then put the card into what is effectively kiloware, remains a mystery! MB observes that there seem to be a disproportionate number of TPO cancels on competition entry cards - was it, perhaps, a condition of entry?

### ***HP's Seasonal Quiz, to exercise your brain:***

1. Think about the large cities in the old Austrian Empire. Which two would be likely to be confused with each other?
2. The same question - the cities won't be as large - within the boundaries of present-day Austria?
3. Vienna - Wien in German - doesn't seem to be a name that would easily get confused with anything else. Actually I can remember seeing only one cover which went there when it should not have - what would you guess the correct destination was?
4. Which Austrian Office in the Levant would you guess to be a destination likely to be misunderstood?
5. If you were to look, say, in Klein's book on cancellations between 1867 and 1900, or the new Stohl, which town name do you think appears most often - so that mail might go to the wrong one?

For some thoughts on possible answers, read the article on "Missent Covers" by Henry Pollak which appears later.

### ***Vienna Pneumatic Post***

This was extensively described by A H Godden in 'Austria' 14, with an update in issue 58; further comments are in issues 104 & 105. The service is said to have continued until 1956; but the articles say nothing about the material posted after the mid-1930s. Does anyone have any material provably transmitted pneumatically after say 1930?

ADVERT: Henry White is willing to receive your wants lists for Postal Stationery Cards (Costumes, Buildings, Scenic Austria and Stift issues), town cancels, and TPOs. Price: 25p each plus £1 per order. Write direct to him at 2 Collinsfield, Greenhill, Evesham, Worcs, WR11 4NQ.
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## The Heaton Royds Happening

### Joint meeting of The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain with the Austrian Philatelic Society, the Hungarian PS of GB and the Society for Polish Philately in GB held at at Heaton Royds, Bradford, Saturday 18 August 2001

This was the fourth in an annual series of joint meetings between these four societies. Stephen and Judith Holder kindly hosted it again, at their cottage and barn near Bradford. Despite having her leg in plaster, Judith welcomed the twenty or so people as they arrived with coffee. The meeting started at 10.45, with a grand total of eight rounds of five frames. Each speaker was allowed just five minutes to present their display. A break was taken for buffet lunch, but unfortunately a few drops of rain forced many indoors – even so, several stayed out in the garden and didn't really get wet.

Alan Berrisford	<i>Poland without stamps, 1919–24</i>
John Whiteside	<i>Hungarian inflation: the four rate periods of May 1946</i>
Andy Taylor	<i>Hannes Margreiter, designing an Austrian stamp</i>
Tony Bosworth	<i>Sokol</i>
Brian Madeley	<i>Austrian fieldpost in Montenegro &amp; Serbia</i>
Reg Hounsell	<i>Karlsbad</i>
Rex Dixon	<i>WWII Hungarian occupation of Carpatho-Ukraine</i>
Veronica Matthews	<i>Overview of Carpatho-Ukraine</i>
Geoff Lowcock	<i>Heydrich: varieties in the full sheet of 100</i>
Bernard Lucas	<i>Telegram receipts</i>
Stephen Holder	<i>Austrian inflation of 1920–24, illustrated by postcards</i>
Martin Brumby	<i>K.u.K. base post offices in Poland</i>
Martin Brumby	<i>Revenues from Bosnia and Hungary</i>
Charles Grainger	<i>Forged overprints for Sudetenland</i>
Charles Grainger	<i>Polish cinderellas during WWII</i>
John Pitts	<i>The less common stationery ladies of Austria</i>
Lindy Bosworth	<i>WWI fieldpost cards</i>
Pat Rothnie	<i>Cieszyn and Bohemia &amp; Moravia</i>
Brian Madeley	<i>Hungarian philatelic exhibitions</i>
Reg Hounsell	<i>Czechoslovakian airmails</i>
Stephen Holder	<i>Polish regional issues from 1919 to the 1<sup>st</sup> national issue</i>
John Pitts	<i>Austrian postage due mail</i>
John Whiteside	<i>Czechoslovak railway freight consignment notes 1938–48</i>
Yvonne Wheatley	<i>Pre-stamp covers from Prague, etc</i>

For tea Yvonne Wheatley had been busy making cakes to Polish, Austrian and Hungarian recipes. There were well-deserved votes of thanks to Stephen Holder, for hosting the meeting; to Yvonne Wheatley, for organising and conducting the day, and for the cakes; and to Judith Holder, for keeping us fed and watered.

## The People on Austrian Stamps

### *Addendum 199: Böhm, Dr Karl*

**ANK2164; Mi2133; SG2380; 26 Aug 1994**

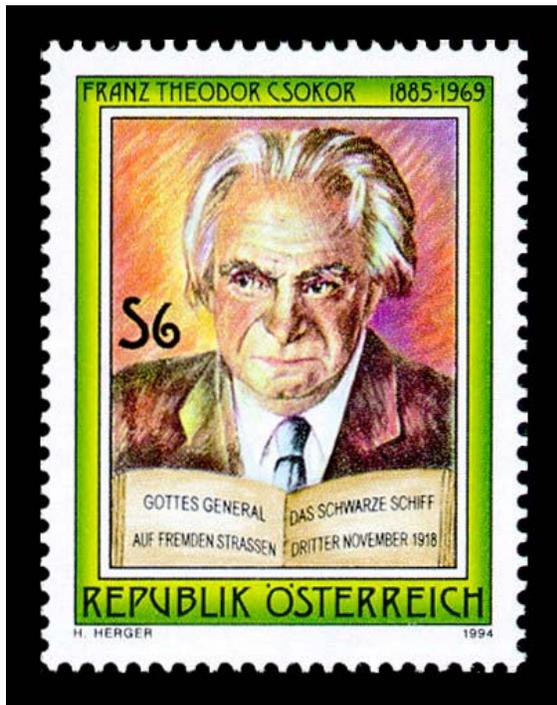


Karl Böhm was born on the 28<sup>th</sup> August 1894 in Graz, a son of Leopold Böhm a wealthy merchant and of the latter's wife Sophie from French Alsace. The boy was educated at the Graz Grammar School, taking his leaving certificate in 1913. He then spent a year at the Music Conservatory in Vienna, and also studied law at the University. He returned to Graz in July 1914, was conscripted that year, and served in the Supply Division in Graz. It was suspected in 1916 that he had TB, so he was demobilised and went to the Graz Opera as a conductor. He was also awarded a Doctorate in Law on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1918 at the Karl Franz University in

Graz. Dr Böhm then became, in 1920, the conductor of the city theatre in Graz. In 1921 he moved to the State Opera in Munich, in 1927 he was appointed as the General Music Director in Darmstadt, in 1931 he held the same position in Hamburg, and was then nominated as Director of the State Opera in Dresden. In 1927 Karl Böhm married Thea Linhard, a singer from Munich, and they had one child Karlheinz, born on 16th March 1928, who later became an actor in Dresden. Dr Böhm particularly promoted the music and operas of Richard Strauss, and in particular produced the first performance of "Die Schweigsame Frau" and "Daphne". From 1943 to 1954, he was in charge of the Vienna State Opera and of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra; although for two years after WWII he was interdicted by the allied forces and worked in Buenos Aires. Returning to Vienna, he directed a magnificent "Fidelio" in 1955 but resigned in 1956 to work as a guest conductor of all the important orchestras and opera houses. He especially devoted himself to the Salzburg Festival, and was appointed as an honorary conductor of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in 1967, becoming famous as an interpreter especially of Mozart and of Richard Strauss. He died on 14 August 1981 in Graz.

## *Addendum 200: Csokor, Franz Theodor*

ANK2166; Mi2136; SG2382; 9 Sep 1994



Franz Theodor Csokor was born on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1885 in Vienna. He was educated in that city and then studied art history at the University of Vienna. He earned a living as a writer, scenario editor and stage manager (régisseur) in St. Petersburg and Vienna. In WWI he served as an army officer between 1915 and 1918, but then returned to Vienna to work first at the Raimund-Theatre (1923-27) and later at the Deutscher Volkstheater. His first plays were concerned with humanity and war: "Die Sünde wider den Geist" (1918), "Die rote Strasse" (1918), and "Der Baum der Erkenntnis" (1919). His "Gesellschaft der Menschenrechte" (1929) is a play

about George Büchner (1813-37) whom he admired. His "Besetztes Gebiet" (1930) dealt with the French occupation of the Ruhr, whilst "3. November 1918" (1936) portrayed the dissolution of the Austrian army. In 1933 he had protested at the PEN Congress in Dubrovnik against Nazi burning of Jewish books, so that the Nazi invasion of Austria in 1938 drove him to Poland, Rumania and Yugoslavia. He was finally arrested on the island of Korčula, being interned and only finally released in 1945. After 1946 he lived in Vienna and was elected as President of the Austrian PEN club in 1947. Of his later works may be mentioned "Gottes General" (1939), the religious trilogy "Olympus und Golgotha" (1941, 1949, 1953) and the "Dramatischer Diptychon: Die Kaiser zwischen den Zeiten" (1965) dealing with Christianity under Diocletian and Constantine. He also wrote comedies such as "Die Weibermühle" (1932) and "Triebholz" (1959) as well as volumes of poems such as "Der Dolch um die Würde" (1918), "Das schwarze Schiff" (1944) and "Immer ist Anfang" (1952). His only novel "Das Reich der Schwärmer" (1933, 1955) was about the Anabaptist rising in Münster in 1534-5. Franz Theodor Csokor died in Vienna on 5<sup>th</sup> January 1969 and was buried in a tomb of honour in the Vienna central cemetery.

## *Addendum 201: Roth, Joseph*

ANK2167; Mi2137; SG2383; 9 Sep 1994

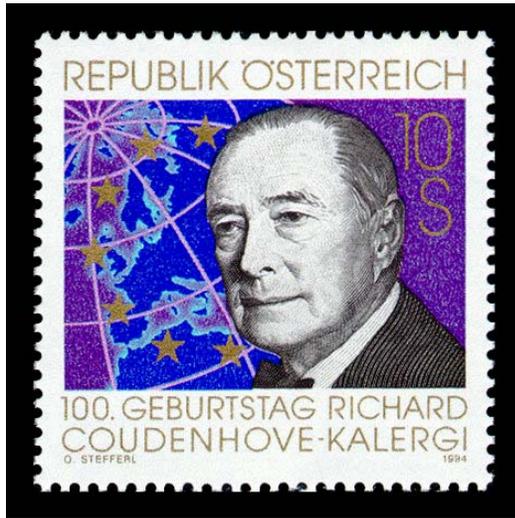


Joseph Roth was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1894 at Brody in Galicia. He was given an educational locally in the tradition of eastern Judaism that was strongly oriented towards Vienna and Western Europe. He then came to Vienna to study Germanic philology, after preliminary work in Lemberg, but was conscripted into the Austrian army in 1916 to serve as an officer. However he was taken prisoner by the Russians and only returned home in 1918. The Vienna of the Habsburg Monarchy had of course now vanished, and the novels that he now wrote were a reflection of a vanished world, both in Galicia and in Vienna. His most celebrated

novel was "Radetzkymarsch" of 1932 but he was also the author of "Das Spinnennetz" (The Spider's Web) of 1923; "Hiob" (= Job, of 1930); and "Die Kapuzinergruft" (the crypt of the Capuchin Church where the Habsburgs are buried) of 1938. During this period he earned his living by working as a journalist and correspondent for the "Frankfurter Zeitung" in Vienna and Berlin. This position involved a considerable amount of travelling, and after the Nazis came to power in Germany in 1933, Joseph Roth decided to leave Germany permanently and to settle in Paris. He was married but his wife was in a mental home. Indeed his own father had become insane before Roth's birth and had died in Russia in 1910. Thus his novels usually involve the family problems of relationship between father and son as in "Zipper und sein Vater" of 1928. In Paris, Joseph Roth drank excessively as a form of painless suicide, and he died in an asylum on 27<sup>th</sup> May 1939. He was buried according to the Catholic rite, having claimed to have been a convert, but only provisionally due to lack of evidence of either baptism or confirmation. His letters (Briefe 1911-39) were published in 1970 and his works in three volumes in 1956, both by Kesten of Nürnberg.

## *Addendum 202: Coudenhove-Kalergi, Richard Graf*

ANK2173; Mi2141; SG2387; 18 Nov 1994



Richard Graf Coudenhove-Kalergi was born on 16<sup>th</sup> November 1894 in Tokyo. His father, Graf Karl Maria, an Austro-Hungarian noble and diplomat, had married a Japanese lady there. The boy was educated at the Schottengymnasium in Vienna for service to the Habsburg Monarchy, and he saw service in the army during the first world war. However the defeat in 1918 led to his discovery of the pacifist ideal and in 1922 he developed his idea of "Pan-Europa" by publishing his manifesto "Paneuropa: ein Vorschlag". In

this document he proposed a union of continental Europe from Poland to Portugal and in the following year he founded the "PanEuropa Union" to further this idea. Indeed in 1925 the Austrian Chancellor, Dr Ignaz Seipel, provided him with official offices in the Vienna Hofburg. The idea attracted international statesmen such as Aristide Briand and Gustav Stresemann, but the rise of Adolf Hitler was to thwart all such proposals. In 1938, Coudenhove-Kalergi emigrated to the USA where in 1940 he became a professor at the University of New York. However he was to revive his concept in 1946, and he became a prime mover in the reconciliation between Germany under Konrad Adenauer and France under Charles de Gaulle. He became the President of the Pan-European Union and General Secretary of the European Parliamentary Union, and was present in 1962 at the formal meeting of reconciliation in Rheims. His fellow workers for a union that was more than merely an economic one were Aleide de Gasperi, Robert Schumann, and Paul Henri Spaak. Since Otto von Habsburg was able to continue the work in the Pan-European Union, Coudenhove-Kalergi felt able to return to Japan, the land of his mother, where he was received enthusiastically. He died in Tokyo on 27<sup>th</sup> July 1972.

**And so with Richard Graf Coudenhove-Kalergi we come to the end of John Giblin's regular addenda to "The People on Austrian Stamps", which first appeared in the third issue of 'Austria' with Maria Ebner von Eschenbach but really began in the old ASCGB Bulletin (from which addenda 1-13 were reprinted in later Austrias). If there is a reader with a flair for biography and a taste for scholarship, your editor awaits your call!**

## Allied Military Currency

By Richard A. Krueger

The Austrian Allied Military currency (*see Q&A, Austria 134 page 71*) was part of a series of similar paper money provided by the Allies, in Lire (for Italy), francs (for France), marks (for Germany), Schillings (for Austria), kroner (for Denmark) and yen (for Japan). It was printed in that order, under the military code name of Operation Ordain. The information provided here comes from research carried out by me at the US Library of Congress and also at the Library of American History at the Smithsonian.

Most of the printing was done in the US, but some was done in England, the Soviet Union and Japan. The Austrian currency was printed in three different places: in England; in the U.S. at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing; and contracted to the Forbes Lithograph Corporation, Chelsea, Massachusetts.

The paper used in the English printing was watermarked in all-over wavy lines either running horizontal or vertical on the notes. The U.S. printing was on paper with a single "Military Authority" watermark on each press sheet. It appears as if the original designs and lithographic masters were prepared at the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

The currency was issued to Allied Military personnel, but was civil legal tender throughout Austria. It was first issued from May through to 30<sup>th</sup> December 1945 and appears to have been re-issued after the currency reform in late December 1947.

In addition to the paper money, the British produced plastic tokens in 10 and 20 groschen denominations for use in their (NAAFI) stores in Austria. The tokens, which also made their way into Austrian civil use, were produced by Wollen and Company, Sheffield. The Soviets also produced some paper currency for use in their areas of occupation. They were denominated (as were their early stamps) in rpf and RM.

I don't know how long the Allied Military currency remained in circulation. It was apparently still in use in December 1947 when currency reform took place. A couple of references reported the Soviet 1 RM notes were issued on 20<sup>th</sup> December 1945. That would seem more like a withdrawal or demonetizing date, since the rpf and RM stamps were withdrawn then.

In the following table for Allied Military Currency Notes, the quantities for 5 Sch up are estimates; all are given in millions. Serial numbers on 25 & 1000 Sch are red, on all others black. The "Mil Auth" watermark is present on only a few notes per sheet.

Allied Military Currency					
Denom	Size mm	Colour	Printer	Watermark	Q'ty
50 gr	113 x 58	Red-brown	Forbes	Mil Auth	100
			England	Hor. waves	?
1 Sch	113 x 58	Blue on green	Forbes	Mil Auth	200
			England	Hor. waves	?
2 Sch	113 x 58	Blue	Forbes	Mil Auth	100
			England	Hor. waves	?
5 Sch	114 x 73	Lilac	England	Ver. waves	73?
10 Sch	114 x 73	Green	England	Ver. waves	61?
20 Sch	138 x 77	Blue on blue-violet	England	Ver. waves	52?
25 Sch	138 x 77	Brown on violet	England	Ver. waves	129?
50 Sch	138 x 77	Brown on yellow-brown	England	Ver. waves	33?
100 Sch	151 x 84	Green	England	Ver. waves	19?
1000 Sch	151 x 84	Blue on green & multi	England	Ver. waves	1?

Soviet Military Currency					
Denom	Size mm	Colour	Printer	Watermark	Q'ty
50 rpf	100 x 54	Brown on orange	Vienna?	none	Not issued
1 Rm	100 x 54	Green on manilla	Vienna?	none	?

British NAAFI Tokens					
Denom	Size mm	Colour	Printer	Material	Q'ty
10 gr	25mm hex	Yellow	Wollen	Plastic	?
20 gr	25mm hex	Red	Wollen	Plastic	?

## Cantfest Weekend 18-21 October 2001

### *At The Chaucer Hotel, Canterbury: Report by John Cottrell*

An excellent attendance virtually guaranteed a successful weekend. Moreover, the hotel was very comfortable, the food good and the location, being only a few minutes walk from the town centre, meant that the non-philatelist shoppers did not have far to go! Good for the convenience, if not the purse! It was also very pleasing to have attracted some members from nearby towns.

As always, Friday evening was a time for renewing acquaintances with other members and comparing activities, philatelic and non-philatelic, during the past twelve months. It was also a time for enjoying the camaraderie which has always characterised these annual get-togethers, ever since Nick Harty initiated them, back in 1991 at The Berghof in Todmorden.

Opening the proceedings in the very spacious Regency Room on Saturday morning, John Cottrell extended a warm welcome to everyone. He also expressed warm appreciation to Alan Berrisford for bringing the display stands down from Peterborough and to Andy Taylor for his helpful advice and opinions on the formulation of the programme. He went on to relate that only the previous week he had seen a notice in the Winter 1994 edition of 'Austria' appealing for a 'Volunteer Dictator' to run the 1995 event. On that occasion Joyce Boyer stepped forward and did a great job. This year, he said "I am the Dictator and my job is to keep the programme moving forward so as to encompass the whole agenda!" No-one objected!



The meeting was sad to hear of the recent illness of Gordon Rogers and the continuing illness of Susan Harty; suitable condolences would be sent to them and their spouses.

The morning passed swiftly as display succeeded display; subjects included the 1908 Jubilee, Krakau postmarks, Postcards from Bosnia & Herzegovina, Balloon Post pre-1914 and, separately, Christkindl Balloons. Also Bills of Exchange 1854 to 1918, Bosnia Covers, Military Mail WW1, Day of the Stamp, Winter Olympics 1964 & 1976, Illyria, Revenue Stamped Paper 1803-1817, WWI Covers, Newspaper stamps and more Krakau Covers. After lunch there were three long displays: Inflation Mail 1918-1926 by James Hooper (110 sheets); Naval Mail by Lindy Bosworth (90 sheets); & Travelling Post Offices by Alan Berrisford (90 sheets). These were very well presented and drew warm applause.

Then followed the first of the two weekend competitions, 'My Other Collection' (one sheet only) for which there were nine entries. Voting by members determined, by a comfortable margin, that the winner was Andy Taylor with 'Hamburg Tram Post'. His prize was an illustrated book on the County of Kent.

Two further 18 sheet displays by Colin Tobitt followed on the post-WWII Local Overprints and Vienna & Graz Overprints, after which general discussion and the Bourse completed the day's activities. Hopefully, overviews of all the displays will be made available to the Editor of 'Austria' for publication [*in the next issue: copy deadline 1 January 2002. Ed*].

Later everyone met in the bar, when the Chairman, Martin Brumby, and his wife Annette joined the Company for dinner, having returned that afternoon from two weeks holiday in Sicily. Thirty-two people sat down for dinner in the Regency room, which had been especially set up for the occasion. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal and Martin addressed the company, thanking everyone for attending and giving so many displays, which, he acknowledged, always required much preparation.



On Sunday morning the proceedings opened with the second competition 'T is for ?' - up to four sheets being allowed. Eleven entries generated much interest and the winner was Joyce Boyer with her Trans-Tirol-TPOs. She too received a prize of an illustrated book on the County of Kent. Further 18-sheet displays followed, namely Parcel Cards 1878-1891 and an Anschluß assortment.

At 10:45am the Annual General Meeting was opened with Martin Brumby in the chair. This was completed by 12:30 and will be reported separately elsewhere. The meeting decided that in 2002 the meeting should return to Canterbury over the weekend of **October 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>**, again at The Chaucer Hotel. The weekend's proceedings then came to a close with John Cottrell displaying and apologising for the fact that time had not been allowed for some to be presented, but, he said, they would have priority next year. John was in turn thanked by all for making the weekend a resounding success.



## Newspaper Postage Stamps

By A Taylor

### *Introduction*

Austria used special stamps for the postage of newspapers for over 70 years, from 1 January 1851 to 28 February 1922; they were always issued in connection with a definitive stamp series and thus follow the development of definitive stamps, both technically and in layout.



*Above is a FDC of the Automatenmarke issued during WIPA2000 with a special Tag der Briefmarke cancel showing the Mercury newspaper stamp!*

In 1850, there were 229 officially-registered newspapers being regularly printed in Austria-Hungary, including 102 "political" in 11 different languages, of which Vienna had 19 political and 22 others. By 1892 this had risen in Austria to 1,952 publications in 20 languages (the majority, 1259, were in German); Hungary had 791 publications in 10 languages, including one in Latin!

The postal reforms of 1849/50 required prepayment of postage: this was laid down for newspapers in a Postal Decree of 12 September 1850. The newspaper stamps provided a way for Austrian (and Hungarian) newspaper publishers (but not the general public) to pay a discounted postage rate for those newspapers, magazines, etc, which had been officially registered with the postal authorities. They were not valid for other postal matter (although rare uses are found!) and were sold exclusively to newspaper and journal publishers. The special rate was 60% of the full rate, and without weight limits; all the supplements so beloved by Austrian newspapers were included. The newspaper and any supplements had to be contained in a band (the Schleife) with the recipient's address and a newspaper stamp. All other mailings of newspapers had to carry normal postage stamps, and pay the full printed matter rate.

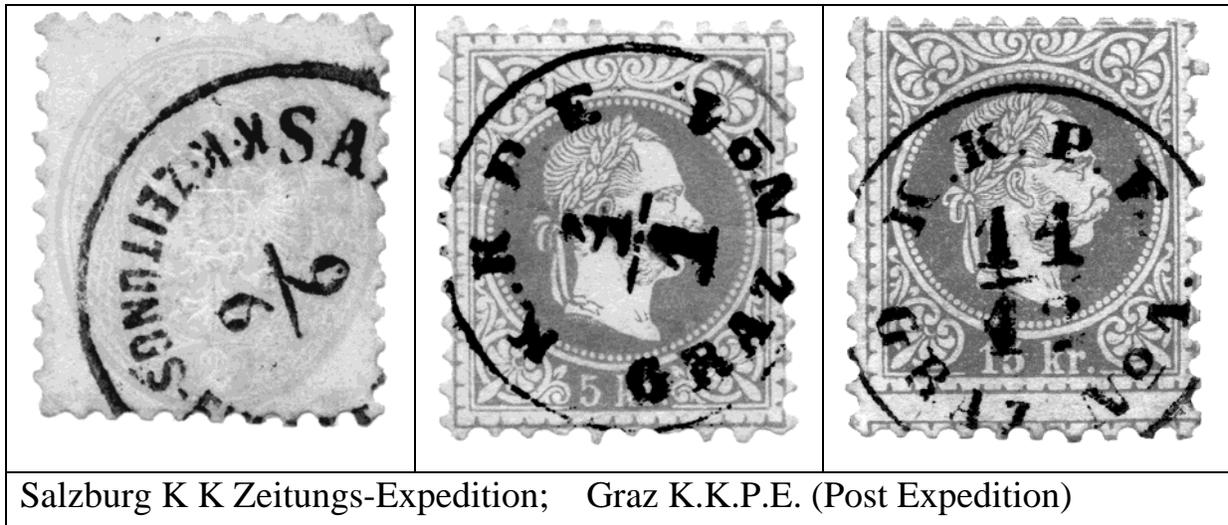
The postal authorities supplied the reduced rate newspaper stamps only to designated post offices, where newspaper publishers could obtain them: but only in whole sheets of 100; only for cash; and only at the post office where they posted their newspapers. Furthermore the newspapers had to be posted with all the newspapers addressed to a specific delivery post office in one bundle, with a paper wrapper bearing the name of the sending post office as well as the number of newspapers enclosed. Single newspapers could be handed in unwrapped, and had their newspaper stamp cancelled with the postmark of the originating post office. The wrapper of packaged newspapers received a cancellation next to the name of the sending post office; the cancellation of the newspaper stamps on the newspapers was done after the wrapper was opened at the delivery post office.

Another advantage of stamps without value indication appeared later: when the newspaper postage rates change, new stamps are not needed: the old stamps are simply sold at the new postage rate. Since the newspaper publishers obtained the stamps only at their designated post office, rate changes were simple; and devious exploitations of the Kreuzer-Lira currency difference were not possible.

Special regulations applied for the cancelling of newspaper stamps, as most of these stamps were not cancelled at the place of posting but on arrival because of the system of bulk posting of stamped newspapers in an outer wrapper. A considerable number of postmarks were used for that purpose which were not used to cancel postage stamps. Separate Newspaper Sections were attached to the post offices in the large towns, to facilitate the handling of newspapers and magazines, to accept subscriptions for such publications, and to sell the discounted stamps to publishers. They existed at more than thirty post offices of which about ten were in Lombardy-Venetia.

The Newspaper Sections had their own cancellers, used on documents and forms as well as on newspaper stamps. Those found on postage stamps probably originate from newspapers and magazines sent to foreign countries, which

required additional franking with normal postage stamps. In addition, the postmarks of newspaper sections were used regularly for cancelling the newspaper stamps on incoming newspapers and magazines. This explains why the rarity of specific postmarks on newspaper stamps [and newspaper tax stamps] has no relationship to their rarity on postage stamps.



Salzburg K K Zeitungs-Expedition; Graz K.K.P.E. (Post Expedition)

### *The issues.*

Issue name	Issue date	ANK	Valid till: (in Austria)	F2K page:
1851	1.1.1851	6-9	31.5.1864	285
1858	1.11.1858	16-17	31.5.1864	354
1861	21.12.1860	23	31.5.1864	377
1863	1.6.1863	29	31.8.1869	396
1867	1.6.1867	42	30.9.1900	467
1880	1.12.1880	43	31.12.1899	483
1899	20.12.1899	97-100 without, 101-4 with bars	31.12.1916	541
1908	During 1908	157-160	31.12.1916	564
1916	Oct 1916	212-215	31.10.1920	597
1919	Jan 1919	247-251	31.10.1920	
1920	1920-1	293-311	28.2.1922	
1921	1921-2	409-416	28.2.1922	

*Separate Newspaper postage stamps  
were abolished from 1 March 1922*

## *The 1851 Issue*

Mercury head in square, facing left, without denomination; imperforate.



Blue, yellow, and rose Mercuries were issued on January 1 1851, red on March 21 1856. Valid until 31 May 1864 (red until 31 December 1858).

The discounted rate required one special stamp per newspaper, taken from the sheet of 100 sold at 1 Guilder (they were not sold separately). Since the Guilder was divided into 60 Kreuzer, the new newspaper stamp had the nominal value of 0.6 Kreuzer. A printed sheet of 400 included four such sheets of 100 stamps, each arranged in 10 rows of 10.

The Blue Mercury was therefore designed and printed. The design, by the engraver Josef Axmann, used the head of the god Mercury, the inscription giving the purpose: "K. K. ZEITUNGS POST STÄMPEL". A wooden die that Axmann had produced was the original of the Mercury stamp, although it was heavily re-engraved. A recess matrix was prepared from this by the galvanic process from which in turn the necessary printing clichés were produced, first by the stereotype, later by the electrotype, method. The printing plates consisted of 400 clichés which were divided into four blocks of a hundred and arranged in 10 horizontal and vertical rows per block. The spaces between the stamps are narrow (horizontally 0.75 to 1mm, vertically 3.5mm; later horizontally 1.25 mm and vertically 3mm). The horizontal spacing of the block of a hundred was 5.5mm.

The production took place in typography. These printing sheets were divided horizontally in the State Printing Works into sheets of 2x100 and delivered thus to the Postal Administration. At first the printing was good; however, it soon lost its sharpness.

Shortly before the issue, however, it was decided to provide separate stamps for 10 newspapers in a common wrapper (or 'band' or 'bundle') and for packets of fifty newspapers (presumably to a newsagent etc). A Postal Decree of 3 December 1850 announced this. This posed few problems: since the newspaper stamps had no value indication, all that was required was a print run in the new colour. The postage for ten newspapers was 6 Kreuzer, for which yellow stamps were printed; for fifty the postage was 30 Kreuzer and the stamp was rose [it had been intended to be red]. The values differed therefore only in the colour.

Since the stamps had no value indication, they could be used also in Lombardy and Venice. They were valid as in Austria for one, ten or fifty newspapers and were sold at the corresponding exchange rate in Italian currency. There was therefore no need for a parallel issue with Centesimi-Lira currency as was required for the postage stamps.



However problems soon arose with the newspaper stamps. Because of the light colour of the yellow stamps, it was difficult to see them on the newspapers. The blue stamps could be (and were!) chemically treated so that they turned yellow. And the rose stamp was very little used: there were few packets with 50 copies, and the cost of 50 Guilders for a whole sheet of the rose stamp was very high for a newspaper publishing house. They thus often used multiple frankings of the smaller values, to the delight of modern collectors.

The rose newspaper stamp was thus withdrawn at the end of 1852 by a Postal Decree dated 9 October. The available stocks were all sold to a Viennese publisher at the price of a blue stamp for use on a single newspaper. The collector might wish to know whether a rose Mercury had been used as a 30Kr stamp for a packet or as an 0.6Kr single copy, which could be recognised by the cancel date being before or after the end of 1852. Unfortunately few copies of the rose Mercury are preserved, and dates before October 1852 are not known.

The yellow stamp was withdrawn in April 1856. Again all the available stocks were sold to a Viennese publisher at the nominal value of the blue. Like the rose Mercury, most known yellow stamps originate from this time.

To replace the yellow stamp, a red stamp for 10 copies was issued in mid-1856: the legendary "red Mercury" (also described as 'cinnabar'). It was only valid for two years. The particular rarity of the red Mercury comes from several elements. It was pasted on the wrapping of newspaper packets, so when a newsagent or stall-holder got the newspaper packet, he quickly tore it open, to get at the newspapers, and the packaging along with the stamps was discarded. The edition was not very high either: there was only one print run of 300 sheets ie four times 100 stamps: 120,000 in total. Maybe only a part of the edition was used; only about two dozen red Mercuries have survived. Almost certainly, a newly-discovered one will be either a reprint (there were 53,500!) or a forgery: both abound. The red newspaper stamp was invalidated from 31 December 1858. Reuse as a stamp for single newspapers like the yellow and rose stamps did not occur. The remainders were probably burnt with the remainders of the stamp issue of 1850.

The blue Mercury had an edition of about 136 million, of which only a small fraction remains. The stamps, which had been pasted on the newspaper wrappers, were mostly thrown away. Stamps pasted directly on the newspapers had a better chance of survival. A complete wrapper with a stamp is very popular with collectors. Again, maybe only a part of the issue was used up.

While the postage stamp issue of 1850 became invalid on 31 December 1858, the blue newspaper stamps were used until exhausted along with the newly issued newspaper stamps of 1858 at the new rate of 1.05Kr Austrian currency. They must have been sold out (at different dates in different offices) before the newspaper stamps of 1858 were used, since mixed frankings are not known. The rose and yellow newspaper stamps had been exhausted already. The blue, yellow and rose newspaper stamps of 1851 were formally invalidated from 31 May 1864.

In the sheets of the 1851 issue, the horizontal space between the stamps was substantially smaller ( $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mm) than the vertical space (3 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm). Therefore, most are found closely cut on the left and right, whereas on top and on bottom wide margins are usually present. Sheet and corner margin pieces are seldom found, because the edges of the sheets were cut off before they were sold; but a margin greater than 4mm is from an edge.

Mixed-subtype pairs are only known of the blue Mercury and are extremely rare. Horizontal gutter pairs (4 mm gutters for type I and 5.5 to 6 mm for types II and III) are extremely rare, especially cancelled. Vertical gutter pairs are unknown. Plate faults eg major (2 mm spots of white or colour) and minor (0.2 mm spots) exist but are rare. Papers come thick, thin & ribbed. The blue Mercury is known used as a normal postage stamp. Coloured cancels exist: expensive. Stamps used in L&V attract a premium. There are also many Friedl and other forgeries.

Official limited-edition Reprints were repeatedly manufactured by the Austrian State Printing Works, often using clichés of types which do not occur in the original printings. The inter-stamp spacing is wider than in the originals. See 'Austria' 135, which lists reprints of all four Mercuries in 1866, 1870, 1884, 1886, 1887, 1894, and 1904 twice! There were over 50,000 reprinted stamps of each colour.



More reprints were manufactured for "WIPA 1933", but the clichés were inscribed "WIPA" above, "1933" below. The stamps were printed in mini-sheets of 16 in nine different colours: yellow, orange, crimson, wine-red, olive-gold, blue-grey, dark blue, dark violet, dark green.

(The example has part of a special cancellation)

### The differences between the 3 types of the 1851 issue

In 1853, as a result of a new production process, a so-called working die was cast from the original die on which the design was re-engraved to enhance the stamp's appearance, particularly in the lettering. According to Müller, who Ferchenbauer follows, 3 main types, each with subtypes, can be identified. The Austrian Netto (ANK), SG, and the Michel catalogues, however, identify only two main types. A comparison of the mutually inconsistent nomenclature of the various catalogues follows.

Müller type	Müller subtypes	ANK, SG & Michel types
I	Ia	I
	Ib	
II	IIa	
	IIb	
	IIc	
III	IIIa	
	IIIb	II

**TYPE I**

The letters of the white inscription on the coloured background are damaged, and appear as grotesque lettering. The Z in ZEITUNGS is thin, the S and O are sanserif, and the right part of the top of the T is damaged. The top left corner rosette is regular. The two dots above the A of STÄMPEL are far apart and exactly symmetrical to the top of the Ä. The yellow and rose Mercury exist only in type Ib.

Type Ia: The crossbar of the Ä in STÄMPEL is distinct.

Type Ib: The crossbar of the Ä is missing. There is almost always a coloured dot on the chin and another on the bridge of the nose.

The top illustration on the next page shows a Type Ib. In 'ZEITUNGS', the Z, G and S have damaged serifs; the T and U are faulty. Mercury has no dot on his nose. In 'STÄMPEL' the Ä has the crossbar missing. There is also an enormous plate scratch passing through the Z of ZEITUNGS and the T of POST. And it's cancelled in Pavia, in Lombardy (Müller 180a)!

**TYPE II**

The type II originated in 1853, when the letter Ä in STÄMPEL was re-engraved. The other letters are as in type I except that the Z in ZEITUNGS is thick. The top left corner rosette is regular. All type II are blue Mercuries. Müller himself questioned whether his differentiation of subtypes IIa and IIb was justified! 

Type IIa: The dots above the Ä in STÄMPEL are of irregular size; one is appreciably bigger.

Type IIb: The dots above the Ä in STÄMPEL are visibly moved to the left.

Type IIc: The dots are as in type IIb, but the crossbar of the Ä is missing. There are also coloured dots on the bridge of the nose and on the chin as in type Ib.

**TYPE III**

Since the re-engraving did not result in any noticeable improvement, it was decided at the end of 1854 to remove and freshly engrave the entire wording. Instead of the grotesque lettering evident in types I and II, the word ZEITUNGS now has antique lettering, the letters G and S having distinct serifs.

Type IIIa: the top left corner rosette is normal (as in type I and II); the word ZEITUNGS shows no defects. This type exists only in the blue Mercury.

Type IIIb: The top left corner rosette is damaged. The G in ZEITUNGS has two coloured dots, and the U a gap in the lower right limb. Only the blue and red Mercury stamps exist in this type (in the red a further proof of authenticity is a widened S in STÄMPEL).



Type Ib



Type IIIb

The bottom illustration on the previous page is of a Type IIIb. The top left rosette is motheaten. In "ZEITUNGS" the E and T are damaged; the U has a break; the G has one dot and a large serif. The Ä of STÄMPEL is intact.

### *The 1858 issue*

1 Nov 1858 - 31 May 1864. F J head facing left; imperf



The change from "Conventions-money" ("CM") to "Austrian currency" ("Ö.W.") in 1858 required the issue of new postage stamps; a new newspaper stamp was also issued. The long-intended change of the stamp design was accomplished also, the simple coat of arms being replaced by Meissner's design of the embossed head of Franz Joseph facing left. The newspaper stamp used a style closely resembling the 3Kr value. The inscription had the K.K. placed at the top; on the left was written "STEMPEL" instead of STÄMPEL. Again the newspaper stamp displayed no value designation, and was imperf.

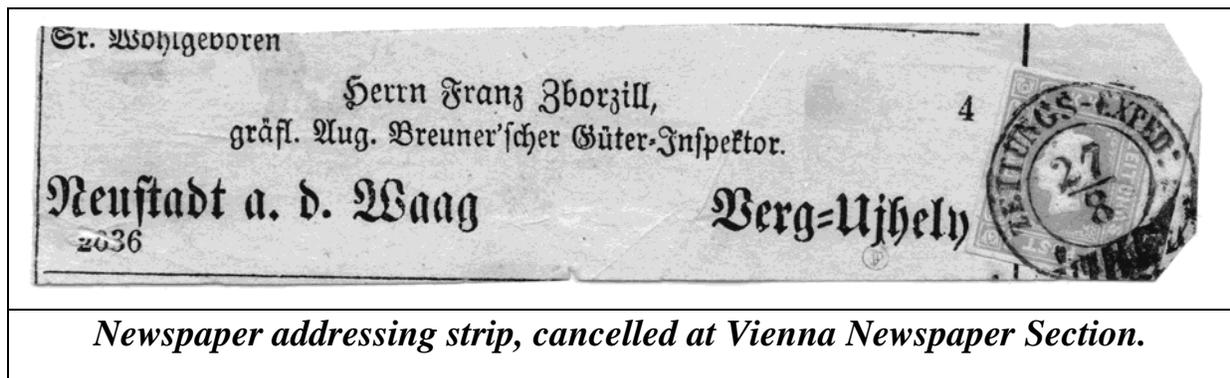
The only stamp issued was for individual newspapers, and it kept the familiar colour blue; so it could also be used in Lombardy-Venetia.

As before, the newspaper stamps were sold only to the newspaper publishing houses and only in whole sheets. The price in the new Austrian currency was 1 Guilder 5 Kreuzer O.W., so as 1 Guilder now contained 100 Kreuzers, a single stamp cost 1.05 Kreuzer.

The blue colour of the newspaper stamp was taken over from the preceding issue. However as the stamps had a similar design to normal postage stamps, it could easily be confused with the 15Kr blue stamp. This was often taken advantage of with deceitful intent. So the colour of the newspaper stamps was changed by the Postal Decree of 16 March 1859: from August 1859 the newspaper stamps were printed in lilac and issued after the blue ones ran out. The change was simultaneous with the colour change of the 3Kr stamp from black to green. The lilac colour of the newspaper stamps is very photosensitive and is also water-soluble, so that all possible lilac shades up to gray occur. The lilac colour for newspaper stamps remained for thirty years.

As for the 1851 issue, the printing was in sheets of 4 x 100, assembled from 10 x 10 rows of clichés. The horizontal spacing was 3.5mm with Type I and 4mm with Type II, and the vertical spacing 4mm. The vertical gutter was 23mm, later 8.75mm (the horizontal gutter is unknown). With Type I the sheet margins

display no characteristics; however, with Type II, above and below the quarter-sheet units, coloured bars are found.



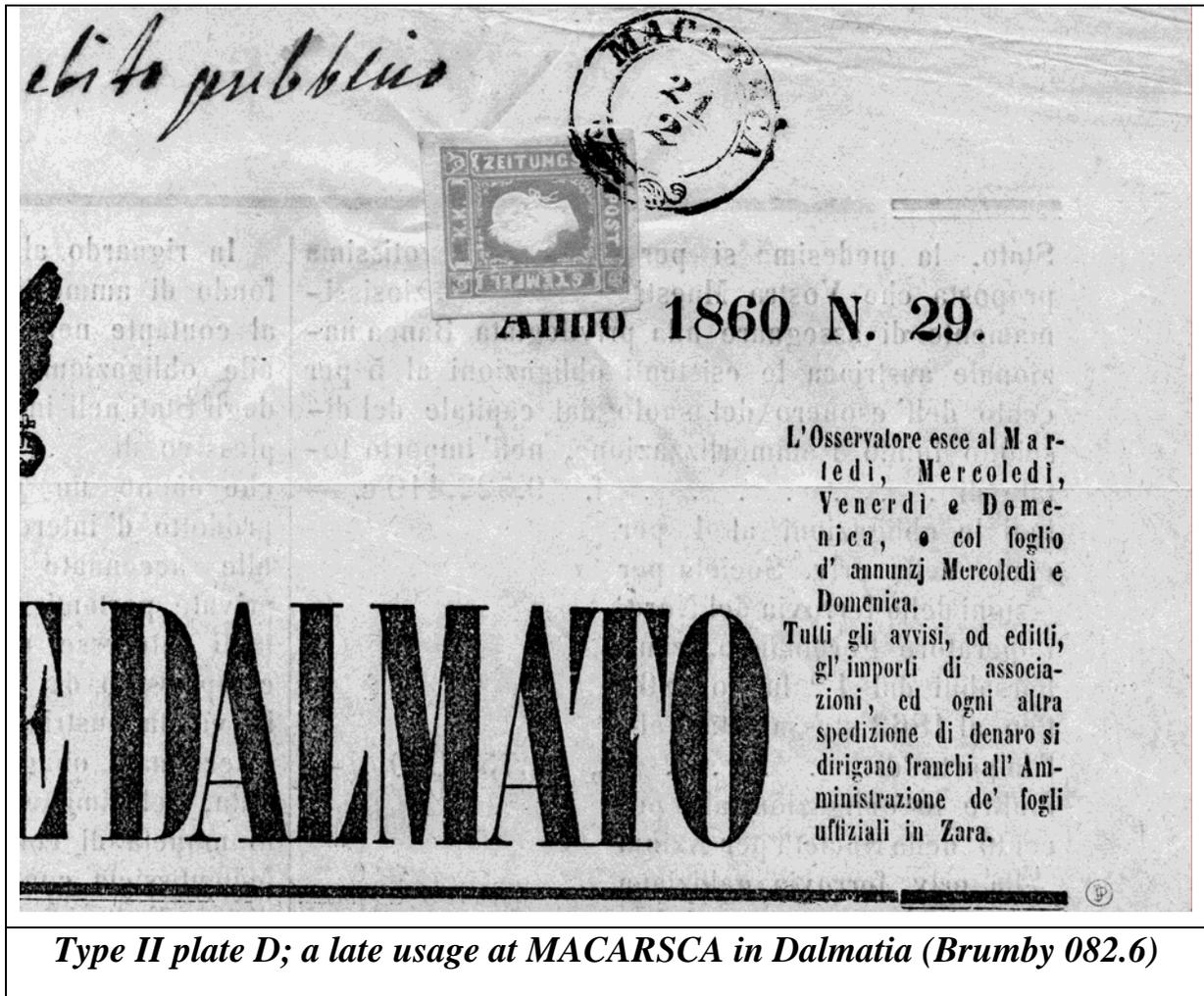
*Newspaper addressing strip, cancelled at Vienna Newspaper Section.*

The types are distinguishable mostly at the wreath tips and the wreath loop at the back of the head; other differences are the shape of the nose and the hair. On the original working die, the neck loop is incompletely engraved; its double bow is open and touches neither the head nor the end of the loop. Counter dies of types A and B exist. On the former the saddle of the nose is broken; on the latter it is uniformly and deeply bowed. Since the taking of the matrices took place twice from the original counter dies, we can speak of the Printing Plates A/I and B/I. The blue newspaper stamp occurs only in type I with dull wreath tips and open wreath loop

For the third printing plate, for the lilac stamps in 1859, new clichés were created from a re-worked working die. By strengthening the lines, the neck loop was closed and connected to the head. An undesired alteration occurred: the tassel of the right upper post horn was separated from the post horn and shows as a white point standing apart. The nose was re-engraved on the original counter die and received a “stub-nose” character similar to that of the definitive type C; the points of the leaves and the strands of hair were lengthened and formed with points. The colour of the stamps printed from the third plate of Type C/II was originally dark lilac, but as a result of this colour’s sensitivity to light, a very wide range of colour shades is found. Lilac stamps are found only in type II with strong wreath tips and closed wreath loop.

The fourth printing plate, assembled in 1860, was put together from printing dies of the third plate and altered counter dies. The embossed part of the nose was lengthened and made more pointed to correspond with Type D of the definitives. The colour of the Type D/II stamps printed from the fourth plate is likewise originally dark lilac, and later developed variations.

As with the 1851 issue, there are many reprints, often in types which do not occur in the originals. Marginal pieces, paper varieties etc exist. Plate errors also occur, predominately due to damage to individual printing or counter dies. The “Bulldog head” is a common plate error for many counter dies.



### *The 1861 issue*



Franz Joseph head, facing right, in ornate frame. Early 1861 to 31 May 1864. This is also referred to as the 1860 issue! In 1861 for the first time postal stationery envelopes were issued with a value impression, and their design was also immediately used for the postage stamps. It showed in pale embossing the head of the emperor Franz Joseph, facing right. The newspaper stamp corresponds to the style of this stamp issue. It shows the same emperor head, but the frame was designed specifically for the newspaper stamps. In the left hand edge inscription the old form "STÄMPEL" appears again. The colour

remained the same lilac as previously; it is just as photosensitive also, so shades are found. The price of 105 Kreuzers for the sheet of 100 remained constant. The validity period of this stamp was short, and the stamp is today quite rare.

The printing plates were again assembled from four units each of 100 clichés, spaced 4.5mm vertically and 3.75mm horizontally; the gutter was 22.25 mm. Two types of sheet marginal pieces were used, one consisting of a broad bar and one assembled from a strong outside piece adjoining 4 or 6 thinner pieces.

### *The 1863 issue*



Eagle in octagonal frame. 1861 to 31 Aug 1869. The issue of 1861 did not last long. As the German-Austrian Postal Union required uniform colours for the most important stamps, the colours of the existing 10Kr and 15Kr postage stamps would have had to be changed. Instead, a new series was issued, with the "coat of arms eagle" instead of the sovereign's head. The newspaper stamps changed to the new design, with the same eagle in an octagonal frame with larger inscription. The word "STÄMPEL" in the text is written with "Æ" - this is the

last time it occurs on newspaper stamps. For the first time newspaper stamps were printed on special paper with the watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN". One cliché was inverted for a while in the printing plate, producing Kehrdrucke (tete-beche) pairs: desirable and expensive. The inter-stamp spacing was 4.25mm horizontally and the gutters 24mm.

The sale price to the publishing houses was lowered to 1 Kreuzer from 1 Jan 1868. This affected however only the disposal of the remainders, for by then the 1867 issue was in use. Large stocks of remainders have come into collector's hands. Large blocks & pieces with marginal bars (4 types) are known. Red cancels exist at huge prices. There are the usual reprints.

### *The 1867 issue*

Mercury facing left, lilac. 1 June 1867 to 30 Sep 1900.

Following the Compromise with Hungary, new postage stamps had to be issued without inscription; and the newspaper stamps, which had even more wording, had to be changed also. As for the postage stamps, a circle was chosen as the main element of the design, containing instead of the emperor's head that of Mercury facing left and with a helmet. The design is simpler than those of the stamps, being basically a frame with 'greek-key' meanders.



The 1867 newspaper stamp began with a wooden die. From this a first matrix plate was prepared, and from this the working die, exactly the same as the wooden, by casting with letterpress metal. Since the lines in the design had not reproduced correctly, the working die was re-engraved; the second matrix plate was taken from this and the clichés prepared from the latter. The printing plate was assembled from 400 clichés in the grouping of four times one hundred pieces. With the type I, the space between the stamps is 3.0-3.75mm horizontally and 2.75-3.25mm vertically. With the later printing plates this spacing was 3.0 to 3.25 mm both horizontally and vertically.

The newspaper stamp of 1867 appeared simultaneously with the definitive issue on 1 June. It displays no inscription nor value and was thus useable also in Hungary. The sale price totaled 1 Guilder 5 Kreuzers for the sheet or 1.05 Kreuzers per piece. On 1 Jan 1868 the sale price was lowered to 1 Guilder per sheet, the single stamp now costing exactly 1 Kreuzer; the residual stock of the 1863 issue were also sold off at this price.

This stamp had a life of more than thirty years, and an estimated 2 million million were printed. In this time there were naturally some changes! The paper was changed repeatedly, the letters in the watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN" were replaced. Through different improvements in the printing process different types emerged - as with the stamps "coarse" and "fine" printings exist, their differences being clearest in the drawing of the head.

The colours vary greatly - this is the Austrian stamp with the most colour changes. As well as intentional changes in the printing, countless shades have emerged through fading and decomposition of the light-sensitive dyes. (And as the dyes are partly water-soluble, soaking-off is fraught!) To protect the clichés, the printing plates had edge bars above and below, of which one can distinguish ten different kinds.

In this issue, for the first time private perforations appear in large number. The newspaper publishing houses had the names of the subscribers printed on address labels in sheet form. These strips with the printed address of the subscriber were very narrow, having the height of the newspaper stamps. The sheets of newspaper stamps were cut into strips, and one strip pasted on an address label sheet; when it was cut up each address label then had a stamp. To be able to tear the strips of the newspaper stamps more easily from the full sheet, it was perforated vertically (sometimes also horizontally). The perforation varies from crude perforations with large punches up to very fine; sometimes one finds rouletted stamps. Stamps perforated on one side are edge pieces.

The stamp was withdrawn on 30 September 1900; the remnants (all type III) were sold at the Vienna philatelic counter until 1919!

### *Types of the 1867 stamp*

As the various catalogues use different and incompatible classifications, I'll follow Ferchenbauer 2000. There were three master dies during the 33 years of validity. Stamps of type I were issued on 1 June 1867; of type II in mid-1873; and of type III at end 1876. Type I were also issued in fine printing for a brief period around April 1876 (perhaps the type II clichés had been condemned and the type III master was being made?).

Types I and II come in both coarse and fine printing; type III only in fine. All types have subtypes - 6 for I, 2 for II, 2 for III. Plates of mixed subtypes are known, though not of mixed main types.

#### **Recognition of type I:**

- 1 Top border unbroken
- 2 Centre line of helmet brim dotted above eye
- 3 Helmet lines at front above eye dotted

- 4 Hair curls between eye & ear merge with shadows
- 5 Lines at root of wing clumped into 2 blocks

In the coarse printing (ie most of this type), the rear of the helmet, head & throat merge into the background. In the fine (April 1876 only), there is a sharp division.

The subtypes are distinguished by the presence or absence of dots, meander ends etc; and by printing type and shades.

Type Ia: break on the right of the bottom meander; break in the frame line at bottom left; right meander extended at top and the bend before it is sloping.

Type Ib: colored dots between meander-frame and inner design at top right; the bottom end of the right meander is extended; right meander extended at top and the bend before it is sloping.

Type Ic: small dot at bottom left corner; broader interval between center and frames; right meander extended at top and the bend before it is flat.

Type Id: right meander top does not extend above the bend before it; that bend has flat top; left edge of the throat shadow is bordered with a slanting line of points.

Type Ie: break in the second-left bend of the lower meander; right meander extended at top and the bend before it is flat.

Type If: exists only in fine print; break on right end of bottom meander; right meander extended at top and the bend before it is flat.

### **Recognition of type II:**

- 1 Top border unbroken
- 2 Centre line of helmet brim dotted above eye
- 3 Helmet lines at front above eye slightly dotted
- 4 Hair curls between eye & ear do not merge with shadows
- 5 Lines at root of wing separated
- 6 Wing rear has white rear edge
- 7 Outer shading line of chin is parallel to chin edge

Type IIa comes in coarse & fine. Subtype IIb comes in fine print only, and is the same as II apart from having a break in the bottom right frame.

### **Recognition of type III**

- 1 Top border broken
- 2 Centre line of helmet brim missing
- 3 Helmet lines at front above eye continuous

- 4 Hair curls between eye & ear do not merge with shadows
- 5 Lines at root of wing separated
- 6 Top & bottom edge of side meanders do not extend past adjacent bend

In subtype IIIa the top border is not broken. [Note that Ferchenbauer classes the 'normal' as III and the first variation as IIIa, not the IIIa and IIIb that you might expect from his treatment of types I and II.]

Some clues for type sorting:

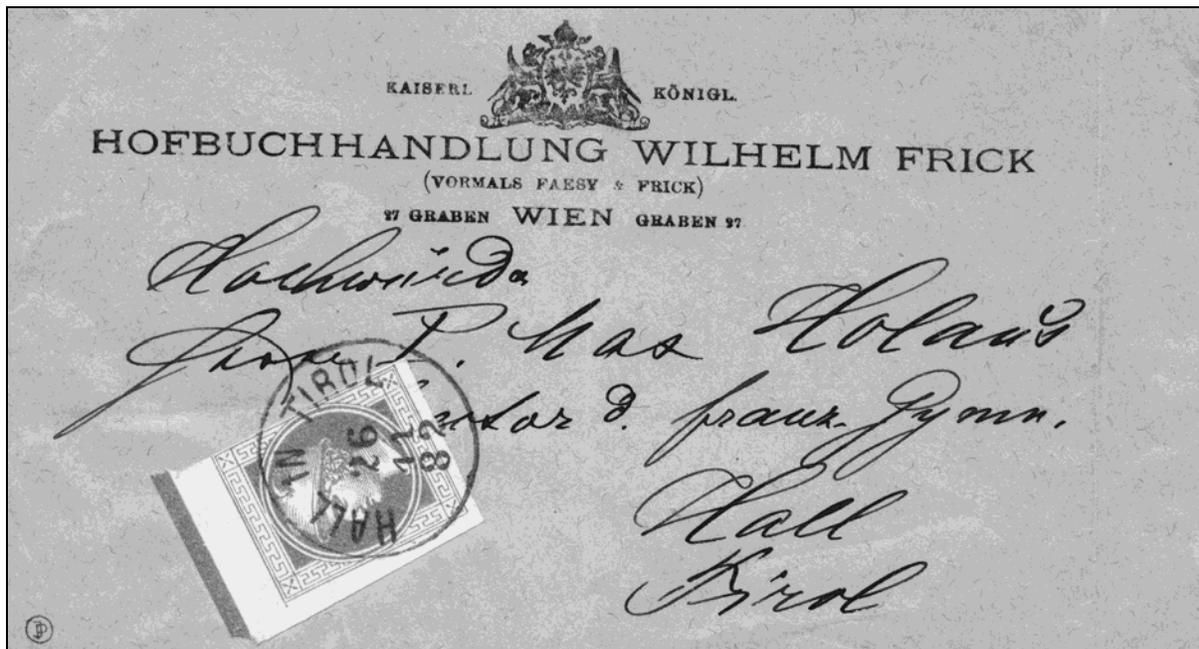
If posted from Hungary, must be type I and before 1 July 1871.

Check the cancel date (as the stamp was usually cancelled on arrival, a Hungarian date with the year first is possible on an Austrian newspaper). If it's before mid-1873 it must be type I; before end 1876 cannot be type III.

If the top border is broken it must be type III

If the print is coarse, it cannot be type III or IIIa

If the print is fine, it's most unlikely to be type I.



1867 type III cancelled HALL IN TIROL



This is an 1867 Type Ic. The filled-in triangles join at the centre (just!); the helmet above the eye is dotted; there are clumps of hair at the root of the wing on the helmet; the hair above the ear merges together; the hair at the back of the head and neck is a diffuse jumble; and there is a dot at the bottom of the left margin. The top right meander extends above the bend, which is flat.



Newspaper sent from Vienna to DITTERSBACH b. FRIEDLAND in 1897



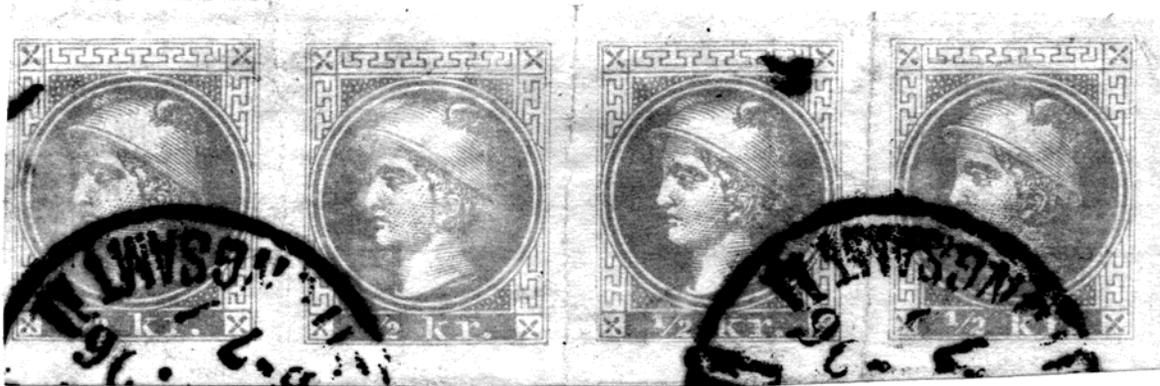
1867 issue: strip of 3 type III cancelled FRANCO



Block of 20 type III!

## *The 1880 issue*

Mercury facing left, green. 1 Dec 1880 to 31 Dec 1899



The newspaper tariff of 1 Kreuzer was composed of two parts:  $\frac{1}{2}$  Kreuzer for the carriage to the delivery post office and  $\frac{1}{2}$  Kreuzer for the delivery. If the newspaper was collected by the subscriber from the destination post office or was for an address in the delivery district of the office where it was posted, only half the fee had to be paid. This regulation applied from 1 Jan 1851, but how the half-payment was made is unclear. As the system was designed for postal subscription and not casual purchasing, presumably the addressee declared his requirements when placing the order.

The light green 1880 newspaper stamps had the same design as the 1867 lilac newspaper stamps, which continued in use when full payment was required. In place of the lower meander is the value " $\frac{1}{2}$  kr". The technical details of this stamp are the same as for its lilac sister. Ferchenbauer identifies and illustrates 5 shades (matt-blue-green; gold-green; olive-green; emerald-green; and grey-green) but as the dyes are photo-sensitive and water-soluble, reality is even more complex! There are different papers too - but no coarse vs fine printing.

Private perforations, which increasingly appeared from 1888, are also found on this stamp. Since the green stamp was used however only at the large post offices and by the large publishing houses, the diversity of the perforations is not so great. Private rouletting is also found.

The stamps were made from an 1867 Type III die as master. All are type IIIb apart from a very rare Type IIIa variety. The illustration above shows an unusual strip of 4.

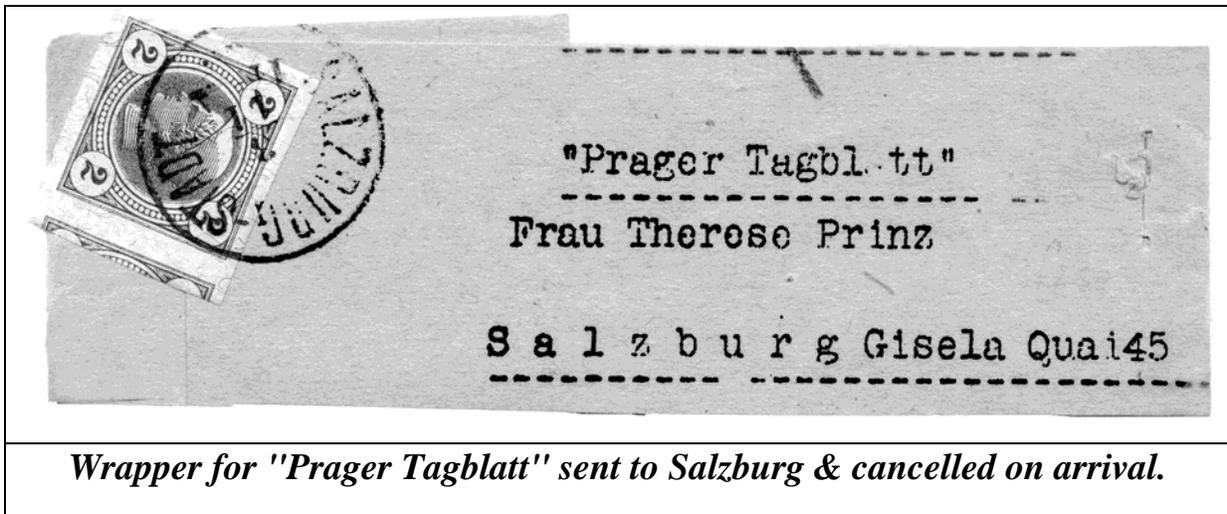
## *The 1899 issue*



Mercury looking left with value figure in all 4 corners. 20 Dec 1899 to 31 Dec 1916. With the introduction to the Postal Service of the new "1 Krone of 100 Heller" currency, new newspaper stamps were issued on 20 December 1899. They had a new design, with the familiar mercury head, somewhat modernized, set in a square but very simple frame. There was no inscription. . As in 1851, there were 2H blue, 6H orange, 10H brown and 20H rose stamps for one, three, five or

ten newspapers. The value was shown in large circles in all four corners. The old tradition of the blue stamp for a single newspaper had thus been revived.

The paper was not the stamp paper with "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN" watermark, but the hard fibre paper used for the new postage stamps. In 1901, the paper was given slanting varnish stripes to protect against reuse, and the newspaper stamps were also printed on this paper, although this was not really necessary. When the varnish bars were discontinued in 1905, the newspaper stamps reverted to ordinary paper. The newspaper publishing houses often perforated the stamps.



*Wrapper for "Prager Tagblatt" sent to Salzburg & cancelled on arrival.*

The blue stamp was used unusually frequently; more than a billion were printed. The other stamps were used comparatively very little, and the higher values are very rare on whole pieces, since they were pasted on the packaging which was discarded. This issue is also found on postal stationery, especially on wrappers printed to private order. The colour was changed however, the 2H value to light green instead of blue.

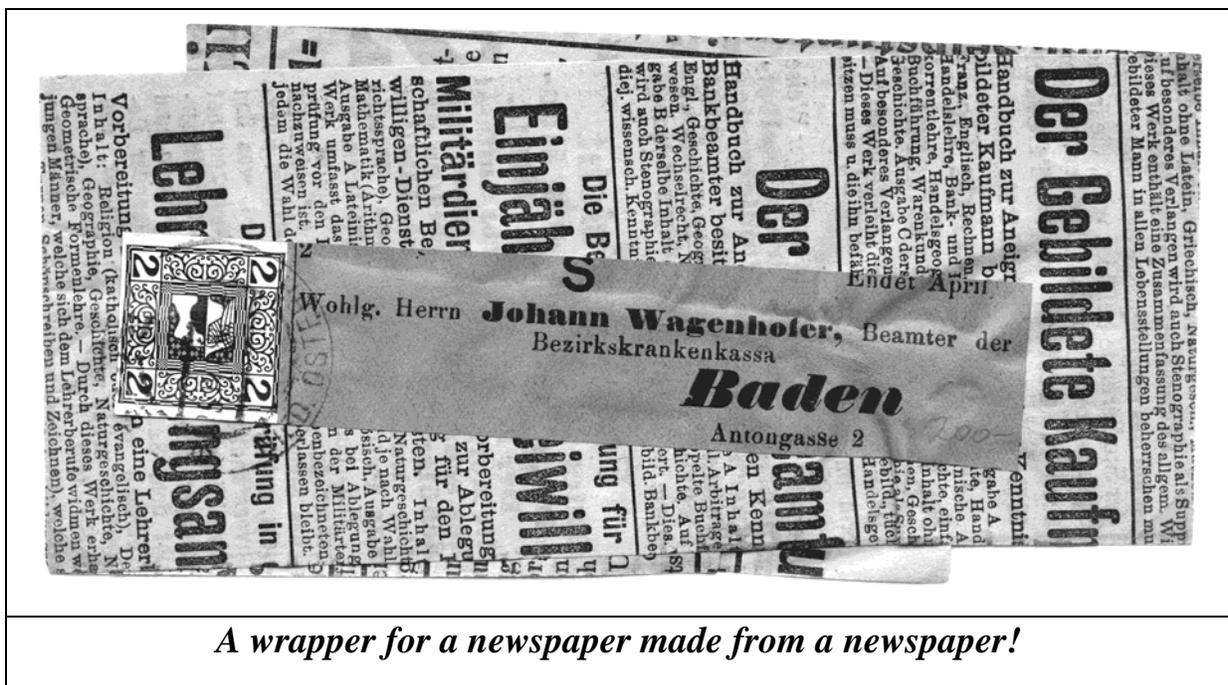
## The 1908 issue

Mercury looking right: 1908 to 31 Dec 1916. The 1908 stamp issue, commemorating the 60th anniversary of Emperor Franz Joseph, was the first issue which was consciously conceived as a work of art. The renowned artist Professor Koloman Moser designed postage stamps and newspaper stamps after the same concept; later also the birthday issue of 1910 and the war charity stamps.



The newspaper stamps show on one hand the formal language of Moser in the "Jugendstil" (*Art Nouveau as realised in Austria*), on the other hand the current features of the newspaper stamps: Mercury head, no inscription, large value numerals, no perforation. There were 2H blue, 6H orange, 10H red & 20H brown. Again the blue stamp was intended for a single newspaper.

Initially the newspaper stamps were printed on the same gleaming chalk paper as the stamps. Later a very thin, hard, translucent paper was used, and finally an ordinary, dull paper. From this issue there is a whole series of varieties, like double-sided prints, offset prints, *tete-beche* and so on: however they may all be printer's waste.



*A wrapper for a newspaper made from a newspaper!*

Also with this issue the newspaper stamps were used as value impressions for private printings. Again the colour was changed: 2 heller green instead of blue, 6 heller brownish lilac instead of orange. There are also private wrappers with several identical or different impressions, and "Newspaper Address Labels" with 2H imprints in sheets of 30.



## *The 1916 issue*

Oct 1916 to 31 Oct 1920



The stamp issue of 1916 was produced mainly to raise funds for the war. It used a new drawing by Dr Rudolf Junk. Besides the new postage stamps, newspaper stamps etc were issued. They are all in uniform design, which features a long inscription "KAISERLICHE KÖNIGLICHE ÖSTERREICHISCHE POST" (Imperial Royal Austrian Post) around the drawing. The newspaper stamps had of course the mercury head as motive.

The rates remained the same, but five values were issued: 2H brown, 4H green, 6H blue, 10H orange, and 30H maroon. The stamps were issued in the usual 100-stamp sheets; gutter pairs are known from uncut printed sheets. Cliche-protecting edge bars produce pieces with marginal bars.

Numerous private perforations are to be found. The perforations are sometimes very sloppy, and double perforating frequently occurs. Stamps perforated on all

four sides but also cut on two sides arise when a strip of privately-perforated stamps is stuck on an address label sheet which is then cut up. Private printings occur: the 2H stamp is red instead of brown.

These stamps are the last newspaper stamp issue of the monarchy. In contrast to the events at the end of the Second World War, the end of the war and the dissolution of the monarchy brought no great interruptions in the postal system. The organization remained intact, the instructions remained unchanged initially, and the available stamps went on sale again. There are thus also newspaper stamps with cancellation dates after the 11 November 1918.

### *"Deutschösterreich" overprints*

From December 1918 the 1916 newspaper stamps were issued with the imprint "Deutschösterreich" (German Austria). The newspaper stamps without the imprint remained valid until 31 October 1920.

Interesting marks occur in the marginal bars of the overprinted stamps: here are two examples.



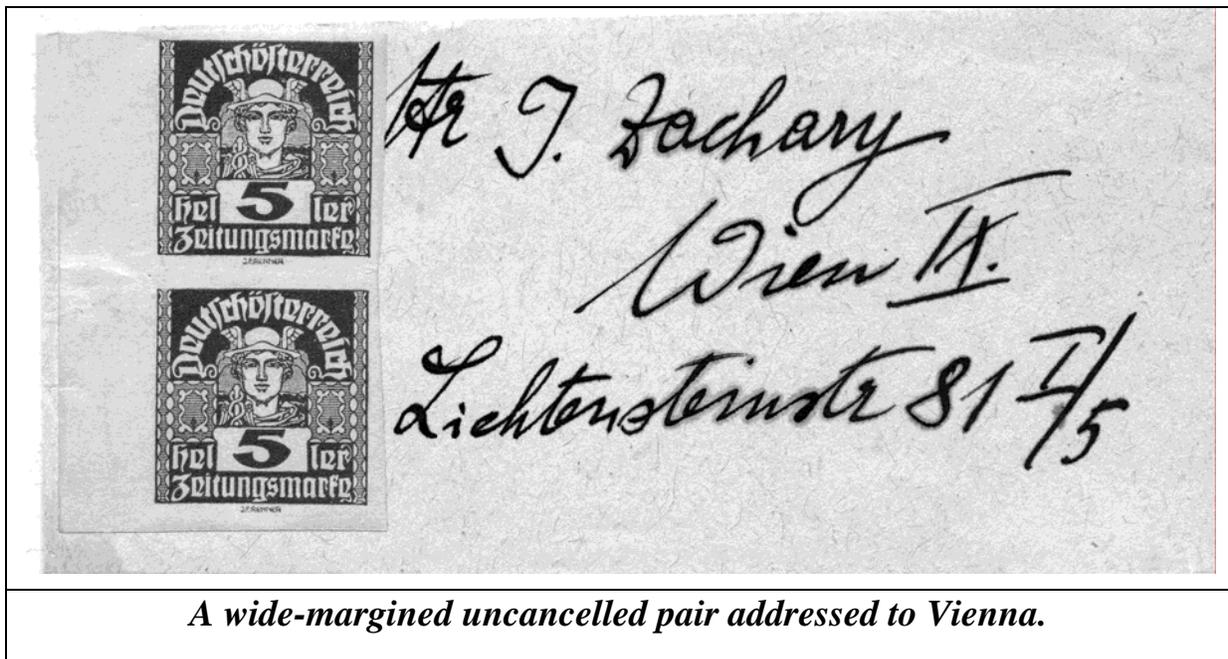
### *The "Renner" issue of 1920*



When the postage rates increased on 15 Jan 1920, newspaper stamps in new values were required. This gave the opportunity to get away from the newspaper stamps of the monarchy and to adjust the newspaper stamps to the style of the other stamps. The "Renner-issue" showed Mercury full-face surmounted with the inscription "Deutschösterreich". [They are named after the designer J F Renner, not the politician Karl!] At first the values 2, 4, 8, 12, 20 and 60 Heller were issued, followed on 31 March by 5, 6 and 10.

On 1 July 1920 a new Postal Ordinance came into effect. For registered publishers only, the rates for newspapers and magazines depended on how often they were printed (daily, weekly etc) and on the total weight (including all supplements) for the year. The "basis weight rate" was 2 Kronen per kilogram per year, which was increased to 3 Kr on 1 April 1921, 6 Kr on 1 October 1921, and 14 Kr on 1 January 1922. There were also minimum rates per issue: printing on tissue paper would have been fruitless!

On 1 March 1921, further values of 9, 15, 30 & 45 Heller were issued; and on 1 October 1921 18, 72, 90 Heller and 1.2, 2.4 & 3 Kr. There was never a time when all 19 values were simultaneously available at the post office counters, since the low values were withdrawn or exhausted.



The printing was on ordinary, white paper. The 15H, 18H, 20H, 30H, 60H, 90H & 3Kr values were printed also on a thick, grey paper. Edge bars occur. Evidently due to the complicated drawing, there is for this issue an immense number of plate errors. Many perforation errors exist, including pairs with imperf middle, double perforations etc. Private perforations were not so diverse as formerly. Various values of this issue were used also for private impressions, which were specifically announced in the Postal Ordinances; the colours of the imprints were the same as for the stamps

## *The "Dachauer" issue of 1921-22*



The treaty of St Germain forbade the use of "Deutschösterreich", and all stamp issues had to be changed. Professor Dachauer produced a unified design for everything, including the newspaper stamps. These were produced in values corresponding to the required postage rates. 45 Heller, 2.25 & 7.50 Kronen were issued at the end of December 1921; and 75 H, 1.5, 1.8, 3 7 6 Kr in January 1922. The previous issue of newspaper stamps remained valid until sold out, so there are no exact First Days. There were less private perfs than previously.

Since the Dachauer issue was distributed for use after the remainders of the previous issue, it had an extremely short life. It is thus unremarkable that used pieces are expensive: especially the imprinted items and the high values.

### *The end*

The Dachauer issue is the last newspaper postage issue of Austria. Quite suddenly, the postal ordinance of 18 February 1922 withdrew newspaper stamps from 1 March 1922.

Newspapers, of course, continued to be posted - but were franked with normal stamps. An outline of the wondrously complex rates charged from 1918 till 1925 is in 'Austria' issue 130 pp 52-56.

### *Further reading*

#### **In English:**

Müller's Handbook of cancellations: the introduction passim [APS Library 76].

"Austria" 66/20, 67/15, 68/41, 70/8 & 72/20, which are translations from the 1970 Wiener Briefmarken Spiegel articles, themselves translating "A Magyar Belyegek Monografiaja" from Hungarian into German. [See 71/10 and 72/9 for a comment on a misprint in the W.B.S.] These articles cover details of papers and watermarks; the definitions of the subtypes may not be those used here.

Klein: "The regular postmarks..." Vol 1: introduction; Vol 2: section 14 [APS Library 31A, B].

"Austria" 135 pp 33ff "Official Reprints".

**In German:**

Die Briefmarke 4/1997 pp 33-40 [APS Library 1006].

"Ferchenbauer 2000" - Österreich 1850-1918 [APS Library 41].

Wurth's Postal History vol XIV (1991) especially pp 64-97 [APS Library 249].

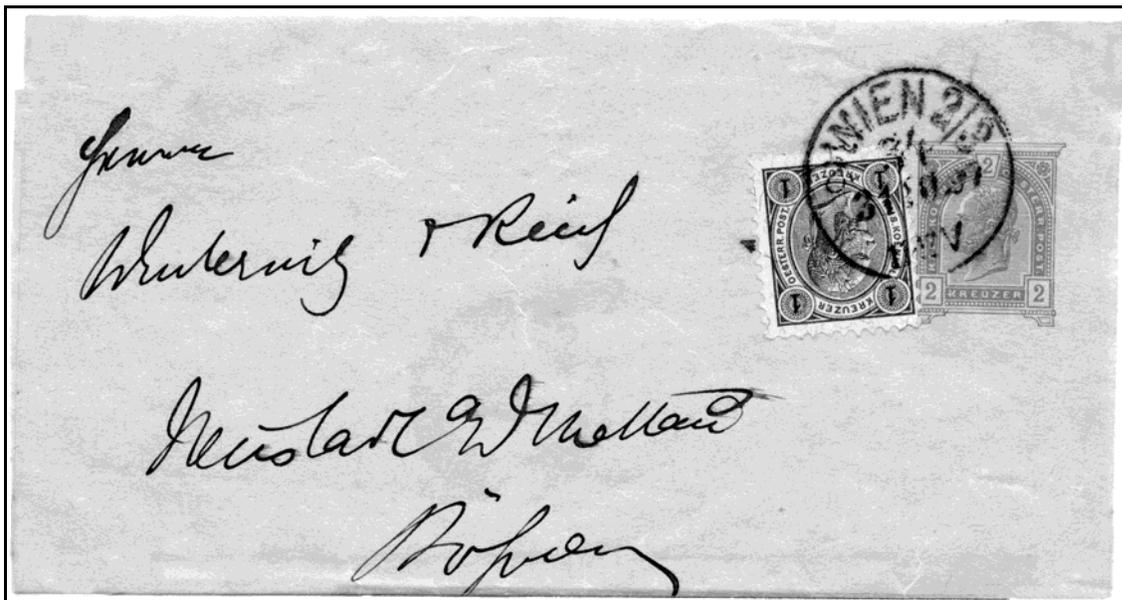
Dr J Gatterer "der Zeitungsverstand während der Inflationszeit" in "110 Jahre Vindobona"

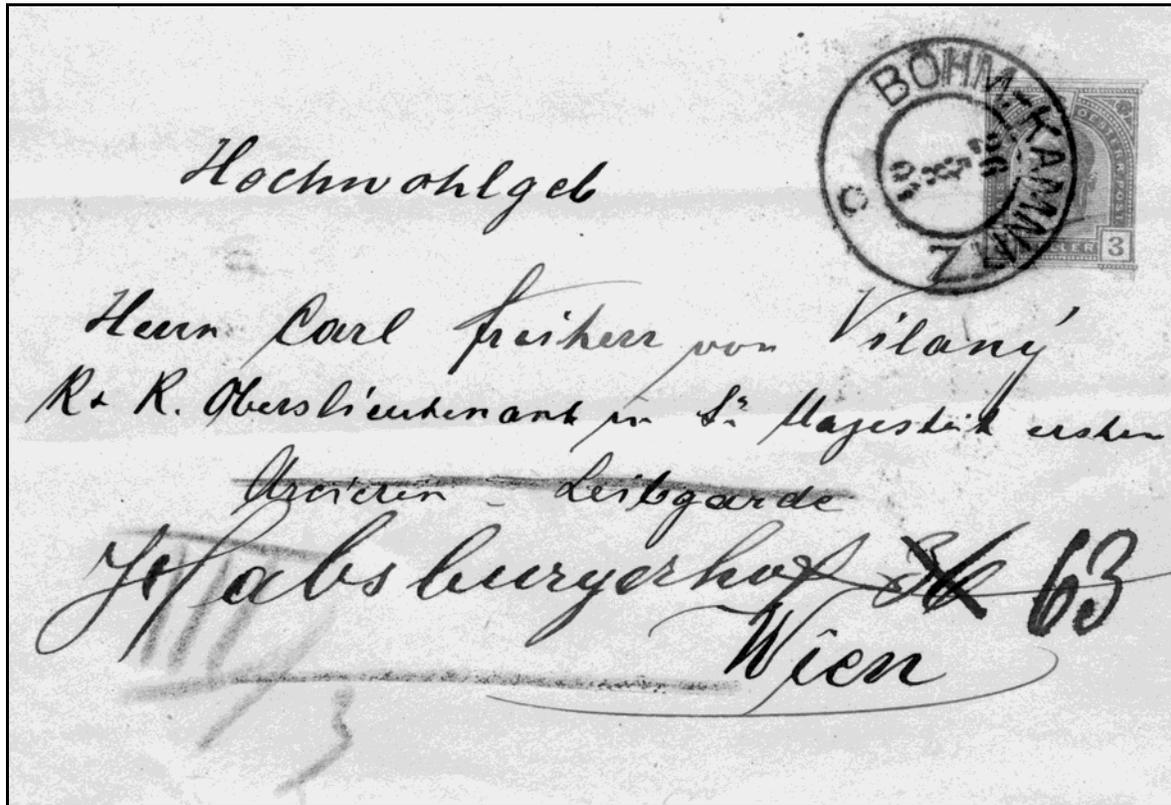
Rieger: 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of Klein Vol 1 (with Klein's original introduction translated into German!).

**Wanted! I would like to have an article on Newspaper Post from 1922 onwards. Will anyone with material which I can borrow for illustrations, especially pre-1945, please make themselves known!**

*App. 1 - Streifband*

A 'Streifband' is a wrapper with a stamp imprint for posting a newspaper. The first was issued on 1 October 1872 and bore the same design as the 1869 2Kr postcard. They were sold to the public at 11Kr for 5, ie at a premium over the postal value: a concept that continues with postal stationery envelopes in 2001! Newspaper publishers could buy them in packs of 50 for 110Kr. For heavy items or foreign mail, additional stamps had to be affixed. A separate article could be written on these wrappers....





### **App. 2 - the Zeitungs-Anweisung form**

Summary: from 1905 you could order Austrian papers via the post office: you went there; they filled in a special money-order form for which you paid 10 Heller irrespective of how many issues or copies you wanted (plus of course the cost of the newspaper!); they then sent the LHS of the form to the newspaper publishers who posted the paper to you. From 1906 you could also get foreign papers this way BUT it cost you 10H per copy.

In the P.u.T.-Vbl. No. 102 of 17/10/1904 the postal administration announced a new customer service, namely “ordering through the Post Office of newspapers and magazines produced in Austria”. It began in 1905, and post offices accepted orders for transmission to the newspaper offices, for domestic newspapers and magazines to be posted to the subscriber. For this, separate newspaper money-order forms with a preprinted postage-due stamp of 10 Heller were issued in 8 languages. This amount of 10H, which was to be paid when placing the order, represents the Post Office’s commission. These money orders could be bought of course at the post offices, but the completion and the entire processing was done by the post office, not by the subscriber.

The newspaper subscriber received a receipt as confirmation; the newspaper administration received the left part of the money order; but the main part remained at the post office. If a subscriber ordered at one time several copies of the same newspaper or magazine for one period, the commission was to be paid

only once. In the year 1906 appeared a changed form with a preprinted 10H postage due stamp, which however was issued only in the German language.

By a further ordinance of 19/11/1904 (PuTVBl 107/1904), foreign newspapers and magazines could be ordered in the same way, but a special agency fee of 10H was levied for each copy ordered. This fee was to be paid with postage stamps, which were to be affixed on the order form and were to be cancelled. The arrangement existed in this form only for a relatively short time, so there was only one issue of these money orders.

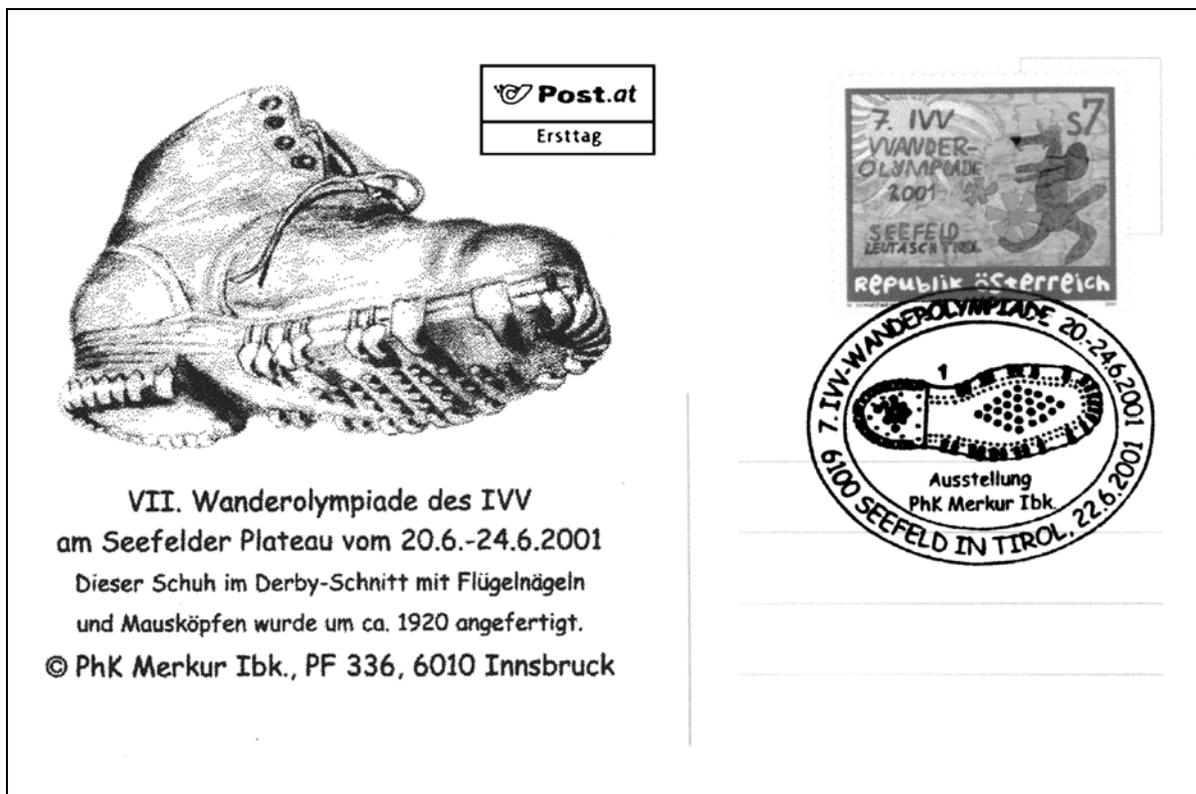
As only the text in the left hand part (which was detached and sent to the newspaper) is in the second language, the main form being solely in German, it is not possible to be certain which language version a used form is. All one can do is decipher the cancellation, then expect that the version with the languages of the place was used. According to Ferchenbauer2000 (p.1012), complete used copies are rare in German and German-Polish-Ruthenian; and unknown in the other 6 language variations.

Konf. M } Cis. konsig. } Lauf. M } Cis. běžné } Stempel des Einzahlungs- Bezugs Razitko postovného štachu peníze příslušného	<b>Postvornerk</b> Auszahl.-Stempel	Tages-Bezugs. M	Konf. M ..... Lauf. M .....	
Angewiesener Betrag Poukázany obnos <b>K h</b>	 <b>Beitungs-Anweisung</b> auf ..... <b>K h</b> in Worten 10 h <b>K h</b>			
für die Administration der Zeitung: pro administraci listu:	An das <b>k. k. Postamt</b>			
in .....				
<b>Postzeitungsfiste I M</b> .....				
<b>Postvornerk</b>	Annahme M	Einzahlungstag	Bezirks-Stempel	Unterschrift des Postbeamten
(Deutsch-Böhm.)				

## Seefeld, the Wanderolympiade, and the launch of a new stamp

By Joyce Boyer

Before visiting Austria for my holiday this year I contacted Dr. Hans Moser of Innsbruck Stamp Club, who sent details of their new venue together with information regarding the launch of the IVV stamp on 22 June 2001. The stamp was designed by 7 year old Michelle Schneeweiss of Seefeld and shows her impression of the event mascot, a marmot wearing a rucksack walking through the fields. The special First Day cancellation used at the Post Office set up in the WeltMeisterschaft Halle included the sole of a walking shoe.



The IVV or Internationale Volkssportverband was originally concerned with hiking in the form of “Time Trials” where an individual could obtain a certificate and medal for completing a set course within a maximum time. Tony and I first heard of these walks in 1979 when one was held in Sautens whilst we were on holiday: we still have the medals to prove we walked the 20 km route!

The “7th IVV Wanderolympiade” which was held in Seefeld from 20th to 24th June 2001 included walking, cycling and swimming. An individual could take part in one or more disciplines and at different levels. Throughout the five days of the event Seefeld and the neighbouring areas were awash with entrants from all over the world with French, Italian, German, Dutch and American accents to

be heard. The central organisation was based in the WM Halle, a large building which forms part of the Casino complex, with the secretariat, desks issuing registration papers, checking completed way cards, selling the medals etc, refreshment facilities and the usual assortment of traders selling related merchandise.

The Presentation of the Special Stamp had an equally special Programme, complete with Post Office attribution.



<p><b>Österreichische Post AG., Philatelistenklub Merkur und Internationaler Volkssportverband IVV</b></p> <p>laden zur <b>Präsentation der Sondermarke</b> der gegenwärtig am Seefeldler Plateau stattfindenden</p> <p><b>„7. IVV - Wanderolympiade“</b></p> <p>und zur Eröffnung einer damit im Zusammenhang stehenden</p> <p><b>Ausstellung</b></p> <p>am Donnerstag, dem 21.6.2001 um 18.00 Uhr in die WM – Halle Seefeld recht herzlich ein.</p> <p><b>Ausstellungsthemen:</b></p> <p>Philatelistische Sammlungen (PHK Merkur): Olympische Winterspiele Innsbruck 1976; Tiere der Alpen; Auf Schusters Rappen durch die nördlichen Kalkalpen Tirols und Vorarlbergs; Die Alpen; Der Hausgarten; Die Karwendelbahn; Philatelistische Besonderheiten von Seefeld und Umgebung Die Entwicklung von Seefeld seit ca. 100 Jahren (Hr. Strasser) Alte Prospekte Seefeldler Hotels (Dipl. Ing. Voelk) Alte und moderne Berg- und Wanderschuhe (Fa. Staudinger, Ibk)</p> <p><b>Wir freuen uns auf Ihr Kommen.</b></p> <p>Die Ausstellung ist am 22.6. und 23.6. von 9-18 Uhr, am 24.6. von 9-12 Uhr bei freiem Eintritt geöffnet.</p>	<p><b>Festprogramm am 21.6.2001 WM Halle Seefeld</b></p> <p><b>Beginn: 18.00 Uhr</b> <b>Ansprachen</b> Bürgermeister Erwin Seelos – Seefeld Erich Oberlechner Leiter Briefmarke Wien Dr. Hans Moser, PHK Merkur Odd Ivar Ruud IVV - Präsident Hannes Schneeweiss, Marschleiter der IVV-Wanderolympiade</p> <p><b>Musikalische Umrahmung:</b> Prof. P. Reitmeier (Harfe), Obmann des Tiroler Volksmusikvereins</p> <p>Im Anschluss: <b>Buffet</b> für geladene Gäste.</p> <p><b>Ehrengäste:</b> Amtsführender Präsident des Landesschulrates für Tirol, Dipl.-VW Mag. Sebastian Mitterer Das gesamte IVV Präsidium Die Landespräsidenten der Mitgliedsländer Lothar Novak, Österreichische Staatsdruckerei Die 5 Bürgermeister der ausrichtenden Gemeinden Die 5 Direktoren der Tourismusverbände Direktoren der Volks- und Hauptschule Seefeld Michelle Schneeweiss: Markenentwurf Präsentatoren der Ausstellungsobjekte</p> <p><b>Das Sonderpostamt in der WM-Halle ist nur am 22.6.,</b> von 9-13 und 14-18 Uhr geöffnet. Es führt Abstempelungen der IVV-Marke mit Ersttag- und Sonderstempel durch.</p> <p>Gestempelte Festbelege können auch später, während der Ausstellung am Schalter des PHK Merkur erworben werden.</p>
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In part of one hall was what I was heading for – a display staged by the Innsbruck Stamp Club. As will be seen from the following description of the displays they were of a high quality and were connected either with the area or the reason for being there. The displays were designed to encourage people to start collecting and covered most aspects of philately. The simplest were two thematic displays by Dr. Moser's daughters. The younger filled one frame on the "House Garden" showing flowers and fruit, whilst the elder one had two frames on "Wild life in the Alps." Whilst both were simply written up they showed promise and anyone wishing to enter thematic competitions could learn how to prepare an entry – opening page etc.

A number of school classes visited the exhibition and received a ten-minute tour of the displays concentrating mainly on these two as an introduction to philately. They could then win ATS 500 for the class cash-box by completing a one-page questionnaire. The Organisers felt it a pity that of the 54 classes taking part in the Wanderolympiade only four took the opportunity to do this. These two displays were also used as examples of basic collecting for any adults showing special attention to the exhibition but who were novices to philately. It was with some regret that Dr. Moser admitted that both girls had now lost interest in the hobby but he hoped they would return to it at a later date.”



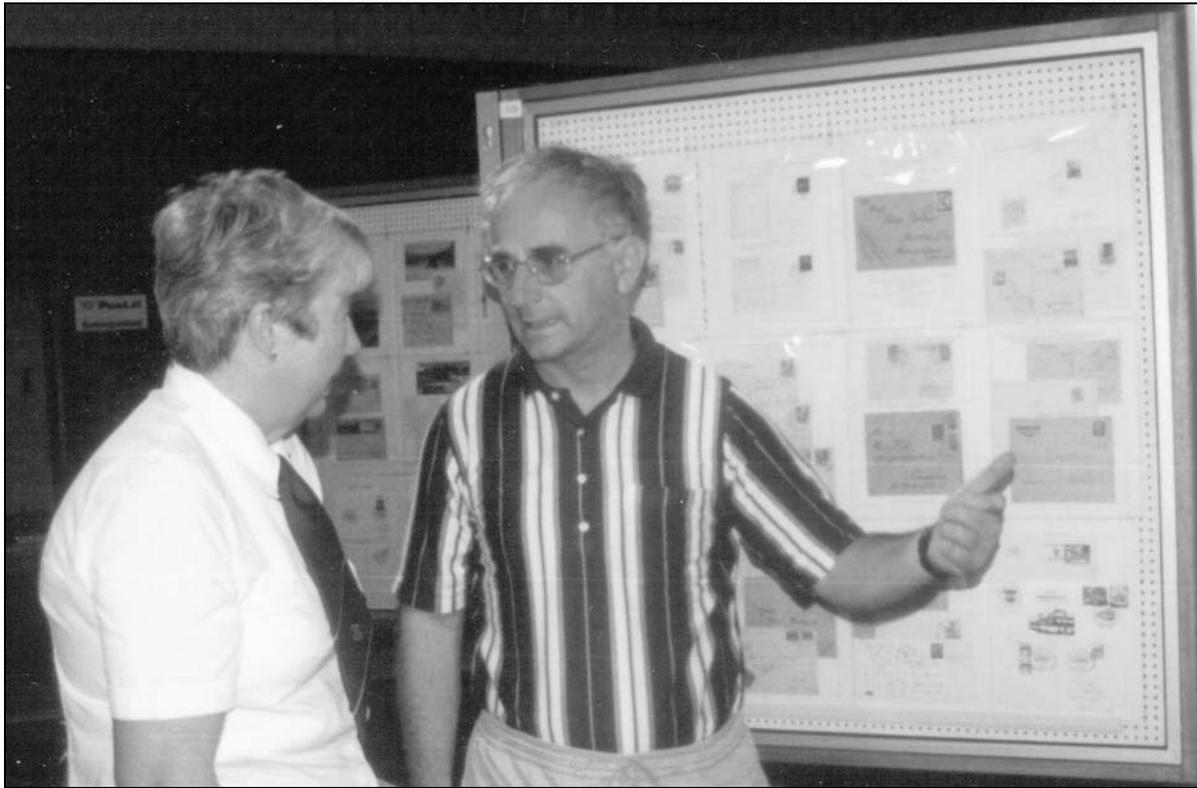
There were two other thematic displays. One covering six frames was entitled “The Alps” and included a variety of philatelic material from a number of countries. After the opening page there were sections on the landscape; flora and fauna; farming and other industries; resources including hydro-electricity; costumes and customs; recreation (including sports and walking); Postablagens; flights over the mountains; Alpine Gasthöfen (including stamps and cachets) and Werbstempels. The display was very comprehensive, showing how wide a thematic collection can range. [The illustration is the First Day Sheet for the joint Swiss-Austrian "Protect the Alps" issue of 1992.]

The second thematic display “Winter Olympic Games 1976” is a "finite collection" of particular interest to me

(I showed this topic at Cantfest). This again covered six frames and mainly demonstrated the large number of different cancellations that were applied to items by the Austrian Post Office, although there were some examples from other countries. The special cancellations were from the location of various events and some depicted the event(s) held, for example ski jumping at the Berg Isel, biathlon at Seefeld, skiing at Igls. This display ended with the set of 16 postal stationary cards issued in connection with the event, each of which had a view either of an event, a location or an important Innsbruck site.

[A finite collection is one with a limited amount of material to which new items cannot be added. In this case the material was issued between 28 March 1973 when Innsbruck agreed to host the 1976 Winter Olympic Games and the closing ceremony on 15 February 1976. However if stamps are included in such a collection the last possible stamps were issued later with details of winners.]

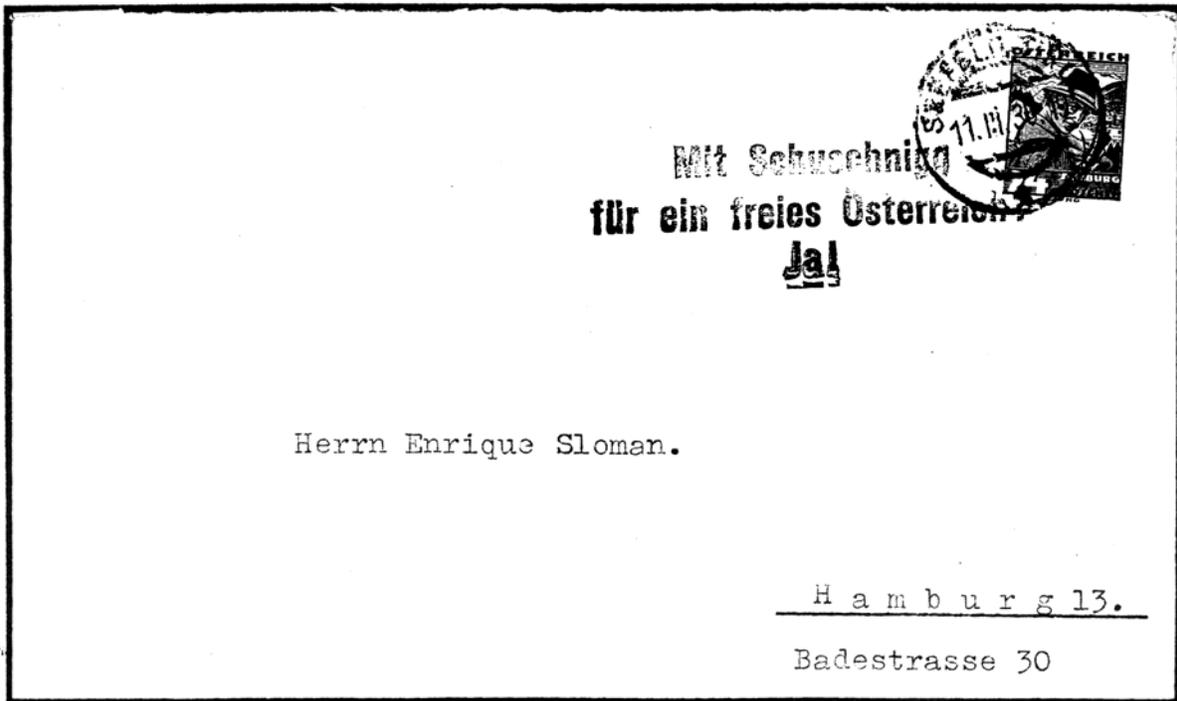
### *Postal History of Seefeld and the surrounding area*



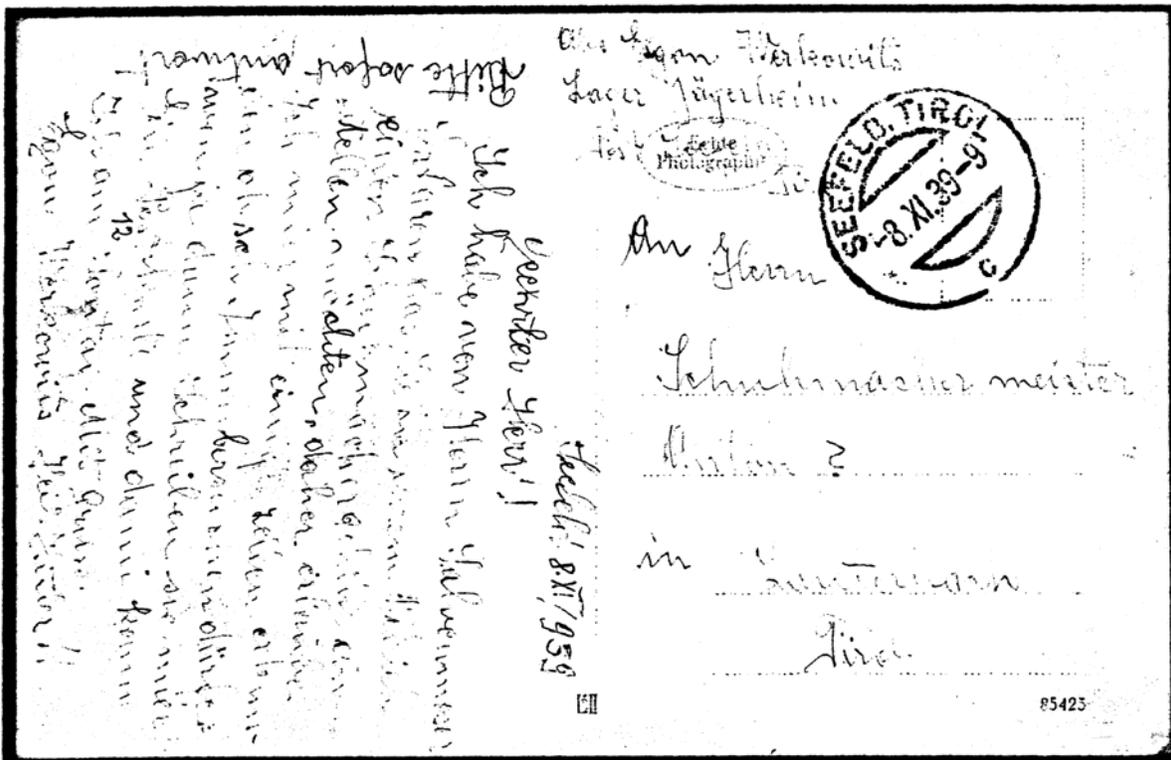
The photo above shows Dr. Hans Moser (Innsbruck Stamp Club) and Joyce Boyer (APS Treasurer) discussing the 3-frame display of **the Postal History of Seefeld and surrounding area**. This opened with a late use of the Bavarian period “SEEFELDT R 4” cancellation on an entire dated 1845 (tracing follows:)

**SEEFELDT R. 4.**

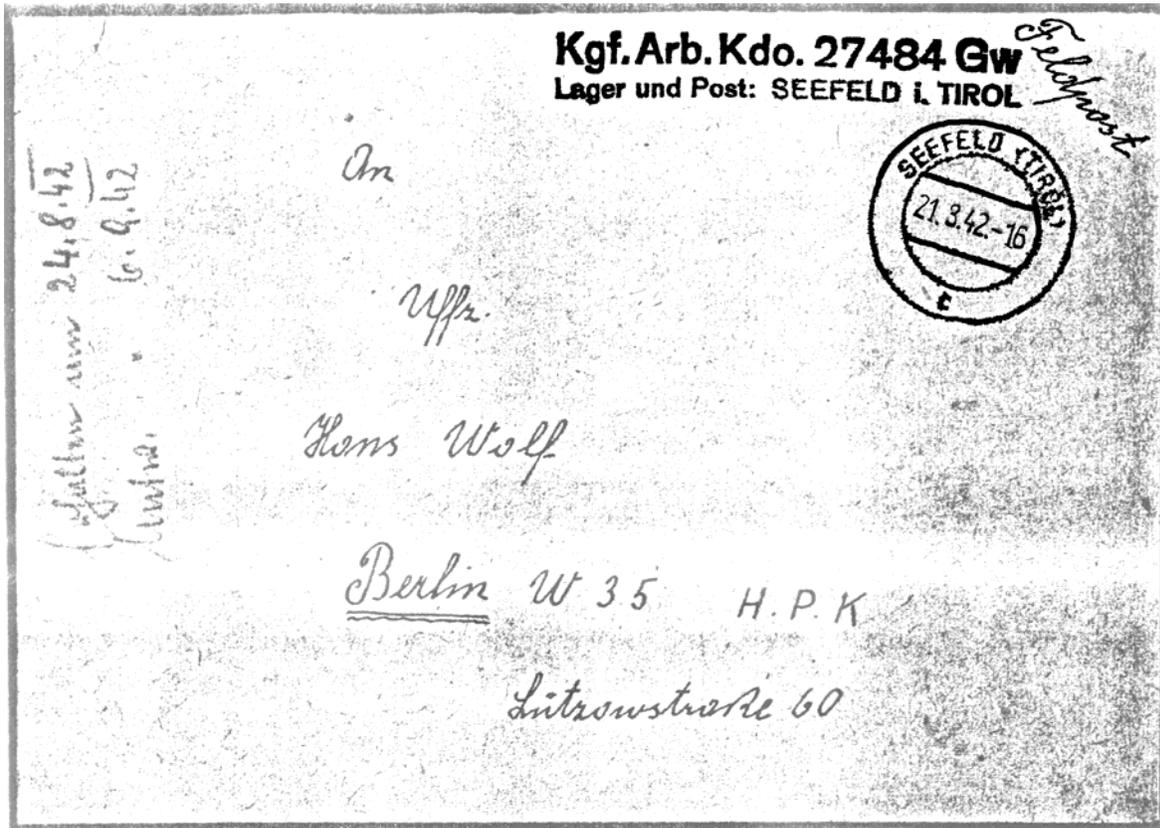
Among the interesting Postablagens were examples from Mösern, Karwendelhaus and Reith bei Seefeld; the latter followed by the cancellation used when it was upgraded to a full post office. There was a selection of material covering both World Wars [see illustrations below] and some censored mail which indicated that several departments from the University of Innsbruck Hospital were removed to Seefeld during both conflicts – an approximate translation from one card read “... we can hear the bombardment from here ...”.



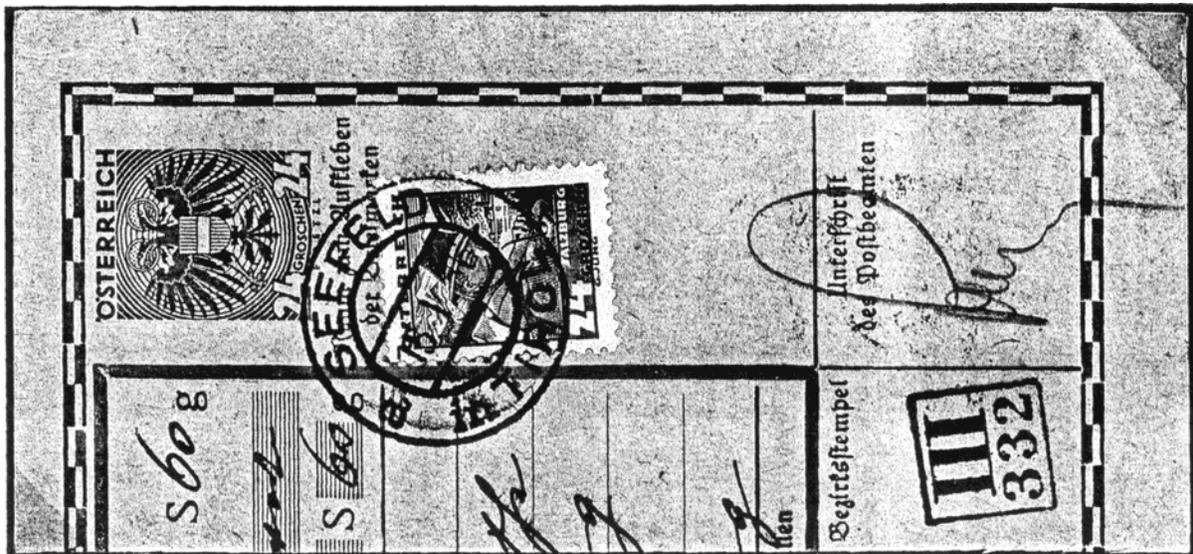
The propaganda slogan was probably added by Austrian postal workers, not necessarily at Seefeld.



This 1939 card appears to have been sent from a Camp: written above the cancel is "Lager Jägerheim" (probably the name of the guesthouse) and the message suggests it was "Lager RAD". What's that? Why post-free?

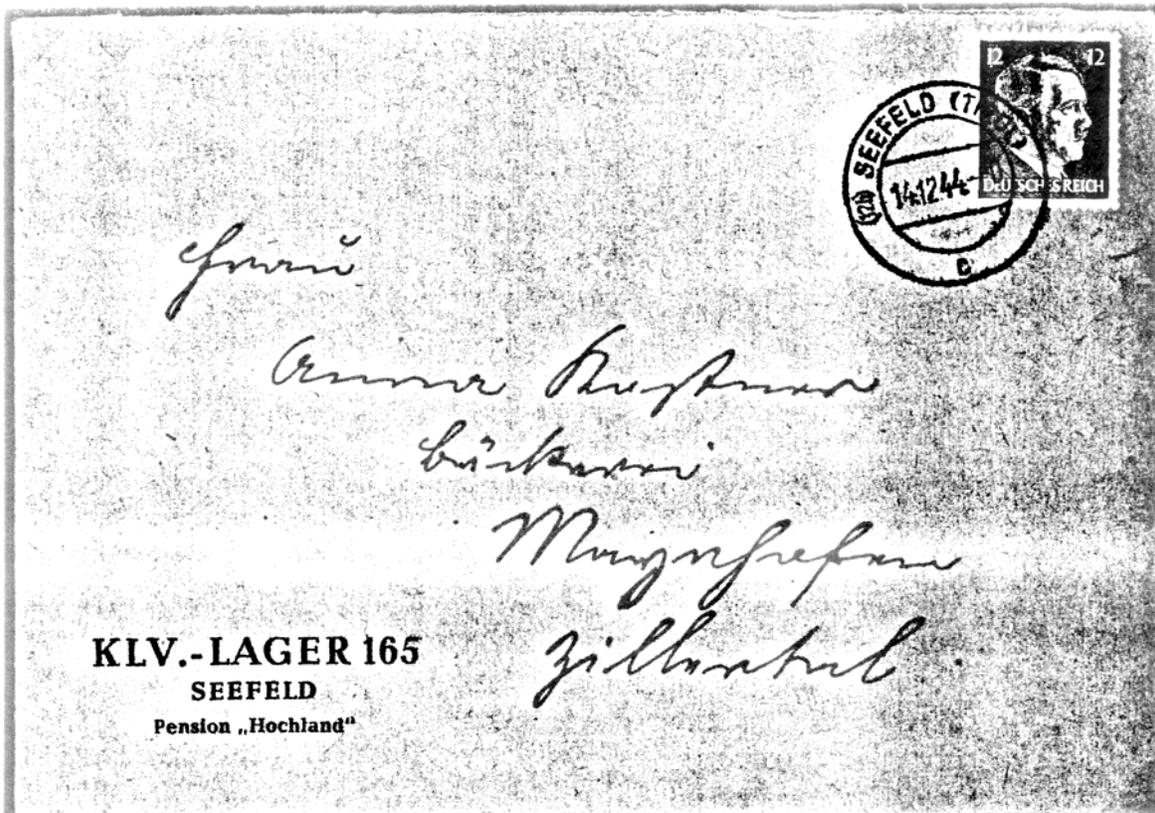
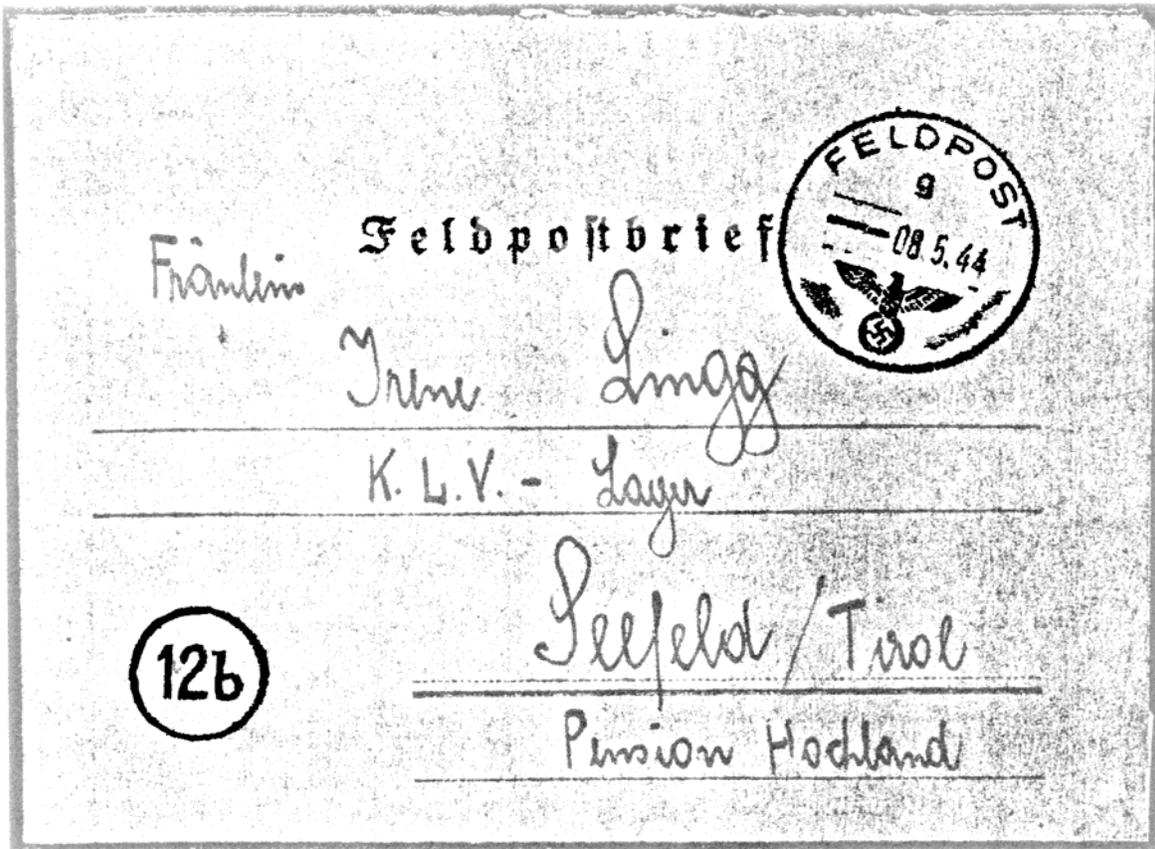


The cover above is dated 21.8.1942 and addressed to an Underofficer in Berlin. It carries the cachet “**Lager und Post: Seefeld i. Tirol**” as well as **Kgf. Arb. Kdo. 27484 Gw** which is a working party of POWs (the letter will be from a guard, not a POW). Extensive local enquiries have failed to discover any details of either camp. If any APS member can throw any light on this matter, please write to me and it will be passed on to the owner of the display.



The above is a cutting from a Money Order card of 15.1.1936; the III/332 is the Bezirksstempel of Seefeld. On the reverse is a 20gro due for the card's delivery.

A number of KLV - Hostels for children initially evacuated from Northern Germany but later from Innsbruck – were situated in Seefeld.



Following the excellent articles in 'Austria' earlier this year it was interesting to see a number of registration labels including a 12b on a French-censored letter of November 1946. If the cachet at top left is the same as the one on the back, it is "Ouvert par les Autorités de controle \* / IKA-1"



A second Postal History display, in three frames, was of more interest to Tony since it was based on the Karwendelbahn or Mittenwaldbahn. This very scenic railway line runs from Innsbruck, through a number of galleries and tunnels to Seefeld, and on to the border at Scharnitz before going on to Mittenwald and Garmish-Partenkirchen. From here a connection may be taken to Reutte (for Fussen), Murnau (branch line to Oberammergau) and points north, or the Zugspitz. The display contained examples of TPO and station cancels and the history of the line.

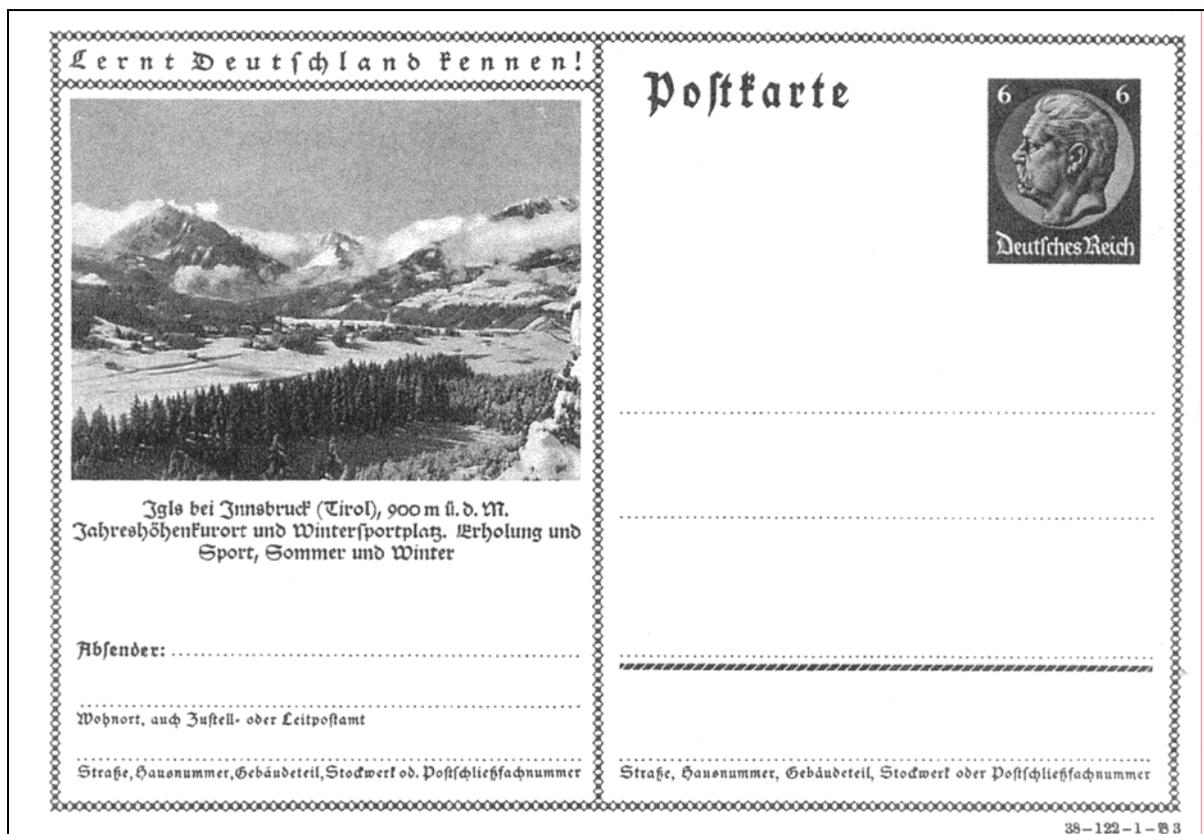
The final display of four frames was a journey along the northern Kalkalpen in Tirol and Vorarlberg. In addition to stamps and relevant postmarks it included maps of the various sections of the walk, and postcards of the areas and huts visited. It was an extremely interesting display that would appear in the Open Class of an International exhibition and was possibly a guide to what can be included in the new British Social Philately Class.

Although this was a relatively small exhibition the material on show was of an extremely high quality and I was very pleased to have seen it and hope that it may have encouraged a few new collectors.

## The Anschluß Era "Tourist View" postal cards of Austrian sites

By Salvatore J. Rizza

Austria's loss of national independence to Germany in March 1938 also meant the loss of its identity; it was renamed the "Ostmark," or the Eastern Province. The two provincial states of Upper and Lower Austria were renamed Upper and Lower Danube - Oberdonau and Niederdonau. Austria, for all intents and purposes, no longer existed. It did not take the German Third Reich Postal Service long after the Anschluß to start including views of Austrian tourist sites in its "Bildpostkarten" series of postal cards. The 6 Pfennig Hindenburg postal card (Michel P236) was utilised for this purpose. The first Austrian scene to appear was included in the 19th series of cards, in its 38-122-1 set of views. The chosen location was Igls bei Innsbruck (38-122-1-B-3). Thereafter, in the 20th series, two cards came out honouring Steyr, with similar views of the city.



The legend is "Igls bei Innsbruck (Tirol), 900m above sea level. All-year high-level spa and winter sports resort. Recuperation and sport, summer and winter".

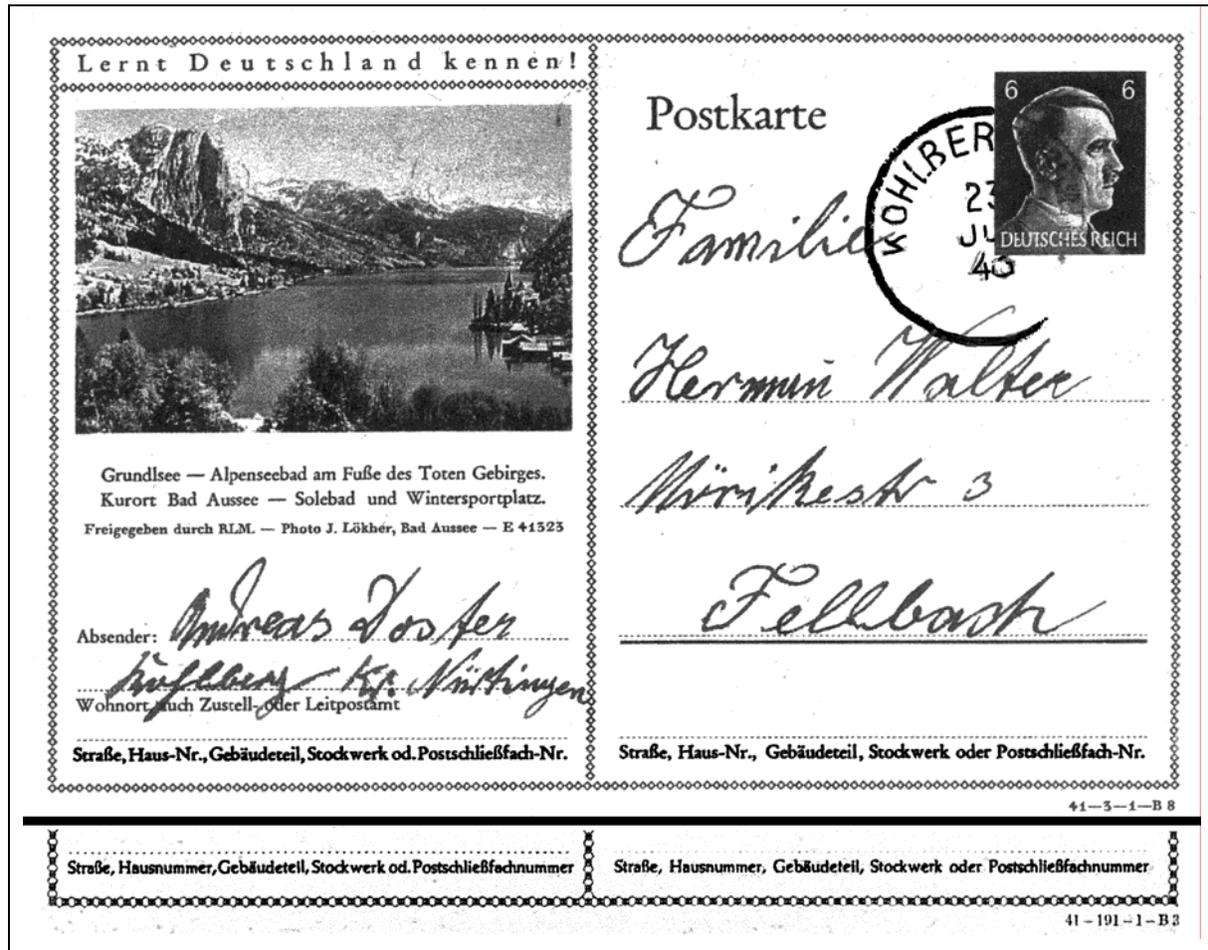


The legend states "Steyr. The old iron town at the confluence of the Enns and Steyr rivers in Oberdonau. A treasure-filled town for Gothic, Baroque, and Renaissance structures. Adolf Hitler went to school here from September 1904 to July 1905". Note for philatelic tourists: the town is well worth a visit, and Christkindl is a suburb.

These were followed by single cards for Gallspach, Oberdonau, and Velden am Woerthersee. A total of 10 view cards were issued in 1938; 9 for 1939; 22 for 1940; and 10 for 1941. All used the 6 Pf. Hindenburg imprinted postal card; were printed in Berlin; and have 'gothic' script. All Berlin printed cards have the words "Hausnummer" and "Postschließfach-nummer" written in full. These Berlin-printed Hindenburg cards are identified as No P236 in the Michel Bildpostkarten-Katalog Deutschland (1985 edition).

Commencing in 1941, Adolf Hitler's portrait was imprinted on the postal cards [Michel P 304], with the postal rate remaining at 6 Pfennig. The printing took place in Berlin, as with the previous items. The script is seriffed roman. 18 Austrian views were printed and issued in this set of cards.

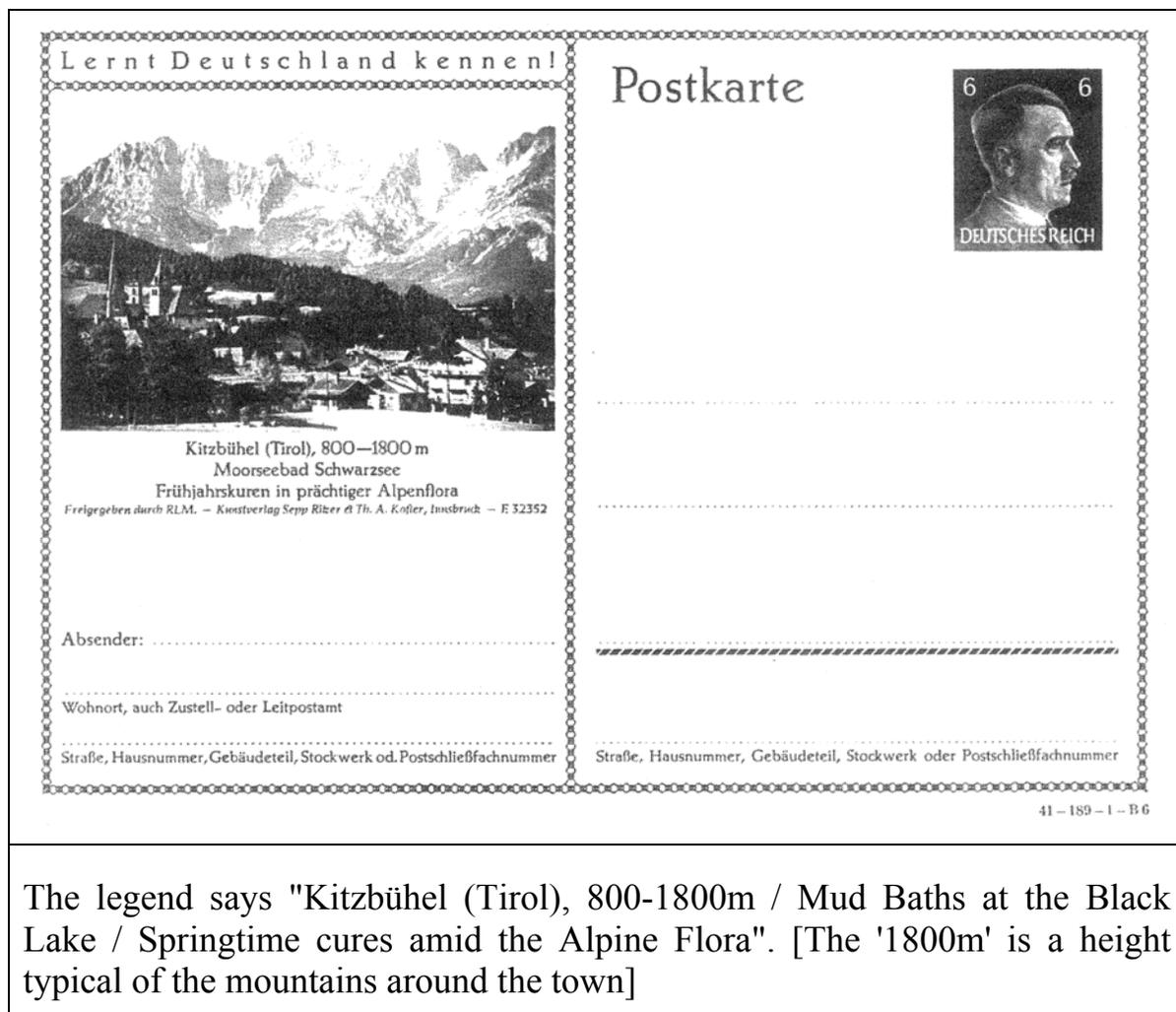
The printing process was shifted to Vienna thereafter, still early in 1941, and remained there until the liberation of Austria. The new cards [Michel No. P 305] were similar to the previous ones, except that all Vienna-printed cards have the abbreviated words "Haus Nr." and Postschließfach-Nr." in the address text. An inferior type of light cardboard material was used. Twenty-four Austrian tourist views were printed in 1941 in this series.



The complete card is a Vienna-printed Hitler-head with the words "Hausnummer" and "Postschließfach-nummer" abbreviated to "Haus Nr." and Postschließfach-Nr." in the address text. Underneath it is the bottom of a Berlin-printed Hitler-head card with them written in full. The top card shows "Grundlsee - Alpine swimming lake at the foot of the Totengebirge mountains [with] Bad Aussee, a salt water spa and winter sports area". It was postmarked at Kohlberg (in Germany?) on 23 June 1943 and is addressed to Fellbach which is near Stuttgart.

Thereafter, the rest of these tourist view cards that were issued from 1942 to 1944 [Michel P 305 & P 307] carried only the 1942 date of issue on the card. During the period of production of these Austrian tourist views, 227 cards were issued. There were 51 Austrian sites pictured on these postal cards, with 69 picture-different views appearing on the cards - see appendix.

The City of Vienna did not appear on any of the view cards, possibly reflecting Hitler's hatred for the former Austrian capital (where he had lived as a young man for a few years mired in deep poverty), as well as a profound animosity for the city's inhabitants. Linz, a city that the German leader called his hometown, also did not fare any better, as no view of that city appeared either. The closest city to Linz that did make the list was Wels (approximately 25 miles away), and the wording on the 12 cards issued proclaimed that Wels was "in the Fuehrer's Home Province." Kitzbühel did not make the list until 1941, appearing on both the Hindenburg and the Hitler series in that year.



During the period 1943 to 1944, most of the postal card series sent to subscribers were lost in the mail; the cards now available to collectors were sold over the counter at the post offices. No further view cards were issued after 1944. Unused cards with these Austrian views are somewhat rare, but rarer still are these cards used in Austria or elsewhere during the Anschluss period, and they are seldom found.



The legend says "Altmunster am Traunsee, 422m above sea level - Salzkammergut. Ideal for summer and winter sports: the Feuerkogel (1625m), part of the Höllengebirge (1860m) is conveniently nearby" Postmarked with a Leipzig-Hamburg TPO cancellation dated 4 March 1939 and addressed to Worms am Rhein.

## *Appendix*

### **Sites and numbers of cards issued, in alphabetical order**

Altaussee im Salzkammergut: 3 cards, 1 view

Altmünster am Traunsee: 1 card, 1 view

Bad Gleichenberg in der Steiermark: 7 cards, 2 different views

Bad Hall bei Linz, OberDonau: 8 cards, 4 different views

Bad Hofgastein im Land Salzburg: 36 cards, 6 different views

Bad Vöslau in NiederDonau: 8 cards, 2 different views

Baden bei Wien: 8 cards, 1 view

Badgastein in den Tauern: 12 cards, 3 different views

Bludenz: 1 card, 1 view

Braunau am Inn: 6 cards, 1 view

Bregenz am Bodensee: 4 cards, 4 views

Brixlegg in Tirol: 1 card, 1 view

Dornbirn in Vorarlberg: 5 cards, 1 view

Ehrwald in Tirol: 4 cards, 1 view

Enns bei Linz, OberDonau: 3 cards, 1 view

Flattnitz in Kärnten: 1 card, 1 view

Gallspach in OberDonau: 1 card, 1 view

Galtur in Tirol: 2 cards, 1 view

Gmunden am Traunsee, OberDonau: 3 cards, 1 view

Grundlsee an Toten Gebirge: 3 cards 1 view

Hall in Tirol: 6 cards, 1 view

Hieflau im Gesäuse, Steiermark: 3 cards, 1 view

Igls in Tirol: 5 cards, 2 views

Innsbruck: 1 card, 1 view

Innsbrucker Nordkettenbahn: 7 cards, 1 view

Jenbach in Tirol: 3 cards, 1 view

Kirchbichel in Tirol: 3 cards, 1 view

Kitzbühel in Tirol: 2 cards, 1 view  
Klagenfurt: 6 cards, 1 view  
Kufstein in Tirol: 1 card, 1 view  
Landeck in Tirol: 1 card, 1 view  
Lienz in Osttirol: 7 cards, 1 view  
Mariazell in der Steirmark: 1 card, 1 view  
Mauthen im Gailtal: 3 cards, 1 view  
Markt Pongau an der Salzach: 2 cards, 1 view  
Mayrhofen in Zillertal: 8 cards, 2 views  
Millstatt am See, Kaerten: 6 cards, 1 view  
Ötz in Tirol: 1 card, 1 view  
Patscherkofel (berg) in Tirol: 4 cards, 1 view  
Pörtschach am Wörthersee: 1 card, 1 view  
Saalfelden am Steinernen Meer: 1 card, 1 view  
Salzburg: 5 cards, 1 view  
Sauerbrunn im Burgenland: 6 cards, 1 view  
Seefeld in Tirol: 1 card, 1 view  
Steyr in OberDonau: 2 cards, 1 view  
St. Anton am Arlberg: 1 card, 1 view  
St. Lambrecht in der Steirmark: 3 cards, 1 view  
St. Wolfgang am Wolfgang see: 1 card, 1 view  
Velden am Wörthersee: 1 card, 1 view  
Wels in OberDonau: 12 cards, 2 views  
Wörthersee: 6 cards, 1 view  
**Totals: sites: 51; cards 227; views: 69**

## Austrian Pre-Franked (Postal Stationery) Postcards: Chapter 1

By Henry White

Advances in materials for correspondence only came slowly in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Thus the commercial introduction of envelopes instead of carefully folded sheets and heavy wax seals, with transportation charged by the sheet, only started around 1845, though I have two handmade examples from 1773. The development of envelopes was facilitated by the use of adhesive stamps from 1850 onwards, but it was some time (1861) before the idea of pre-franked envelopes was put into effect in Austria. The introduction of pre-franked postcards (also known as Postal Stationery Cards; they will be referred to in this article by the initials PSCs) took another eight years. Dr Emmanuel Herrmann of Austria is widely credited with this development, though in fact the idea was expounded earlier in 1865 by Dr Heinrich von Stefan, a postal official of the North German Confederation and later the principal founder of the U.P.U. He proposed to the Austro-German postal conference the introduction of an open "Post-Blatt" with the dimensions of an envelope and made of stiff paper. This was rejected mainly on the grounds that the German postal administration lacked the organization to implement it!

Dr Hermann outlined a similar idea for a "Post Karte" on 28<sup>th</sup> January 1869, and the Austrian Post Office accepted it in full; the first PSC was put on sale on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1869. Great Britain followed suit a year later, on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1870 after much wrangling between the Post Office and the Inland Revenue.

The new card was off-white, 122 by 85 mm, with a heading "Correspondenz-Karte" and lines for the address prefixed by "An". It had a 2 Kreuzer yellow Franz Josef head of the 1867 issue impressed at the top right of the front. The 2Kr charge had been set at a discount from the minimum 3Kr for a letter. On the reverse there was a line of text at the top to indicate where the sender's message was to be written: **Raum für schriftliche Mitteilungen** and at the bottom a disclaimer by the Post Office of any liability for the contents: **Die Postanstalt übernimmt keine Verantwortlichkeit für den Inhalt der Mitteilungen.**

Early used examples are somewhat hard to find and Schneiderbauer claims premiums of 2500% and 500% over run-of-the-mill valuations for items used in October and November 1869. The various printings can be identified by the details of the dots & dashes of the inner border.

Illustration 1 shows an example of the first issue of PSCs. It was sent from Sechshaus bei Wien to Ollmutz on 17 <sup>th</sup> November 1869.
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Illustration 1



Illustration 2

Over the next six years, as the innovation took hold, various changes followed. In July 1871, only a date for the sender remained on the back, at top left; by November it had moved to top right; and finally in 1872 the back was left blank. To accommodate the multiplicity of languages within the Austrian Empire, (we ignore Hungary here; it had its own card right from the start) a second heading in a second language was put under "Correspondenz-Karte", creating a bilingual or later even trilingual heading; this was also done for the small-type instructions regarding the placing of the despatch address.

Illustration 2 is an 1876 issue card. 2Kr brown, Franz Josef 1867 issue. Bilingual German-Italian. Sent from Lienz, Tirol to Frankfurt am Main on 18<sup>th</sup> February 1878.

This multilingual feature persisted virtually until the end of the monarchy in 1918, when of course most of the second language territories were shorn away. The second language headings and their variations over the years are tabulated below.

<b>Languages</b>	<b>Abbv n A</b>	<b>Abbv n B</b>	<b>Abbv n C</b>
German-Bohemian	Böhm	Deutsch-Böhm	d.b.
German-Illyrian	Illir		
German-Italian	Ital	Deutsch-Ital	d.i.
German-Polish	Poln	Deutsch-Poln	d.p.
German-Romanian	Rum	Deutsch-Rum	
German-Ruthenian	Ruth	Deutsch-Ruth	
German-Slovenian	Slov	Deutsch-Slov	d.s
German-Illyrian-Italian		Deutsch-Illir-Ital	
German-Polish-Ruthenian		Deutsch-Poln-Ruth	d.p.r
German-Romanian-Ruthenian		Deutsch-Rum-Ruth	d.r.r
German-Serbocroat-Italian			d.sk.i

Abbreviation A was used on issues 1872 to 1890, Abbreviation B was used on issues 1897 to 1906, and Abbreviation C was used on the 1907 issue. A blank means the card was not issued during that period

<b>2nd Language</b>	<b>Text</b>
Bohemian	Korešpondenční lístek

<b>2nd Language</b>	<b>Text</b>
Illyrian	Karta-dopisnica or Dopisnica
Italian	Carta di Corrispondenza or Cartolina di Corrispondenza
Polish	Karta korespondencyjna
Romanian	KARTA KORESPONDENCYJNA
	Carte postală
Ruthenian	Карта кореспондєицїиая
	Переписний листок
Slovenian	Listnica or Dopisnica

Because the population, literacy and commercial development of these areas varied widely, the numbers of these multilingual cards actually used also varied considerably, and only a few (eg German-Bohemian) are common used. Conversely, rarely utilised examples are more often found mint from remainders. Also because of the diverse nature of the second language, a form of political correctness probably had to be accommodated. Thus initially (1871-1872) the second third and fourth versions of the 2Kr yellow card only used the second language in full in the heading. Its fifth and last version had an abbreviation (eg "Bohm.") added in small type at bottom right on the face (abbreviation A). Later, in 1897, abbreviation B was used there, incorporating both or all three languages. Then in 1906 it was shortened to abbreviation C i.e. lower case letters separated by dots.

By 1876 the popularity of these cards had become sufficient for improvements to be made. The size was increased to 140 by 85 mm and the printing on the front reduced to the Imperial Arms, Correspondenz-Karte, & the 2Kr imprinted stamp; all in chestnut-brown on a buff card. The stamp remained the Franz Josef head of the 1867 definitives.

With the change of definitives in 1883 to the double eagle with the value figure in the shield, only the heading and stamp remained: the Arms were dropped.

Illustration 3 is an 1883 issue card. 2Kr double eagle. Bilingual German-Bohemian heading. Sent from Haida, Bohemia to Rattenberg, Tirol on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1884.

This design was then improved in 1890 by the addition of a Greek-style border and a further increase in size to 140 by 90 mm. Almost simultaneously a change of thinking occurred, and the imprinted stamp no longer coincided with the current adhesives (which had become Franz Josef's head in an oval with the

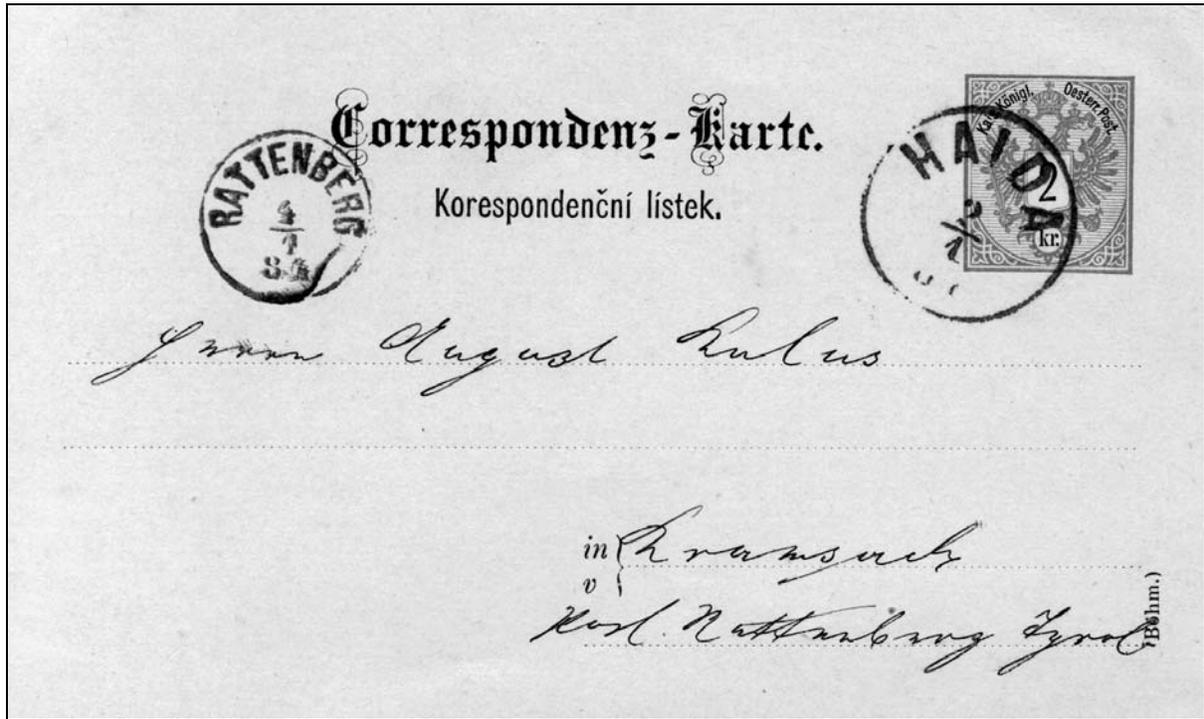


Illustration 3



Illustration 4

value figure in all four corners). Instead the head was now placed in an arch with three value tablets, still 2Kr, placed at the top of the arch and at the bottom corners. This sudden change makes the earlier 1890 issues more difficult to find used.

Illustration 4 shows an early 1890 card from Lienz to Leipzig (in Germany, so at internal rate).

Initially these "Correspondenz-Karten" were intended for internal use only (similarly in Great Britain). The rate was 2Kr while the full letter rate was 5Kr. This gave rise to a well-known error in 1873. One 5Kr cliché was accidentally used when a chase was being filled to make a forme of 2Kr for a printing run, and thus some cards were printed with a 5Kr impression but still in yellow. A few of such errors were actually used (now worth over £500) but the majority had a 2Kr yellow adhesive stuck over the incorrect impression and were issued thus (value £25). A similar error exists in the 1890 issue, 5Kr brown instead of 2Kr (see illustration of this in Ferchenbauer-2000 page 828).

### ***U.P.U. Treaty of 1875***

With the unification of international mail by the U.P.U. treaty of 1875, the use of these PSCs became possible for 'Ausland' mail (as opposed to 'Inland' which was to Austria-Hungary and Germany). The rate was 5Kr, achieved initially by adding the relevant 3Kr green adhesive, and simplified by the introduction in 1876 of a 5Kr red version with German-French headings WELTPOST-VEREIN (UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE)

Illustration 5 shows an 1876-82 5Kr U.P.U. card sent from Weissgärber, Wien to London on 29<sup>th</sup> August 1882

When the stamp was changed from the 1867 Franz Josef head to the double eagle in 1883 and again to Franz Josef in an arch in 1890, these 5Kr cards were part of each series.

About the same time as the U.P.U. cards appeared, another innovation was made: the "Reply Card" i.e. a double card folded with an imprinted stamp (2Kr or 5Kr as appropriate) on each half, the second half to be used for a reply to the outward message on the top half. Used examples are usually found with the top outward portion addressed and postmarked and message on the back; the reply half is often unused or has the original sender's address added as a convenience (or perhaps as a deterrent against misuse!).

Illustration 6 shows an outgoing U.P.U. Reply card, from Brünn to Lisbon.

Illustration 7 shows the unused reply side of a U.P.U. Reply card



Illustration 5



Illustration 6

Used reply halves are less common, and in the case of the U.P.U. half returning from abroad raises a question to which the writer has no answer: did the foreign country accept the Austrian 5Kr imprint as postage paid for the return, or did one of its stamps have to be affixed? Logic would suggest the former, but who knows? Ferchenbauer has just one illustration (page 834) of a normal U.P.U. reply card, in this case from Zurich, with a Swiss stamp added but for a registration fee. So: what was the system for reply from abroad? **Answers on a postcard, please!**

In 1897 an element of political or calligraphic correctness was introduced when the 'short s' in Correspondenz-Karte was changed to the 'long s' common in Gothic typography. The initial 'C' instead of 'K' remained until much later.




This is from an 1890 card - short 's'.

This is from an 1897 card - long 's'.

### ***The 5Kr carmine U.P.U. cards***

There are three points of difference in the black printing of the 1883, 1890, 1897 and 1900 cards.

Firstly: The third line of the heading "ADMINISTRATION D'AUTRICHE" is either 47mm long with a 'G' for the seventh letter of D'AUTRIGHE or 51mm long with a 'C' for the seventh letter of D'AUTRICHE This variation occurs on all four issues.

Secondly: The height of the word 'An' over the first line of dots for the address is either 3mm or 5mm. This variation also occurs on all four issues.

Thirdly: The bottom line of dots for the address extends at the left to be under the word 'in' on the 1883 and 1890 issues but doesn't on the 1897 and 1900 issues.

### ***The 1900 currency change***

In 1900, Austrian currency was changed from Kreuzer (Kr) to Heller (H) (1Kr = 2H), which caused a small increase in the inland postage rate for postcards to 5 Heller (i.e. 2½Kr). The external rate was kept at the same level, becoming 10 Heller. To signal the change of currency, the colour of the borders and imprinted stamp of the internal cards was changed to blue-green instead of brown; the U.P.U. cards remained unchanged with carmine stamp and border and black lettering.

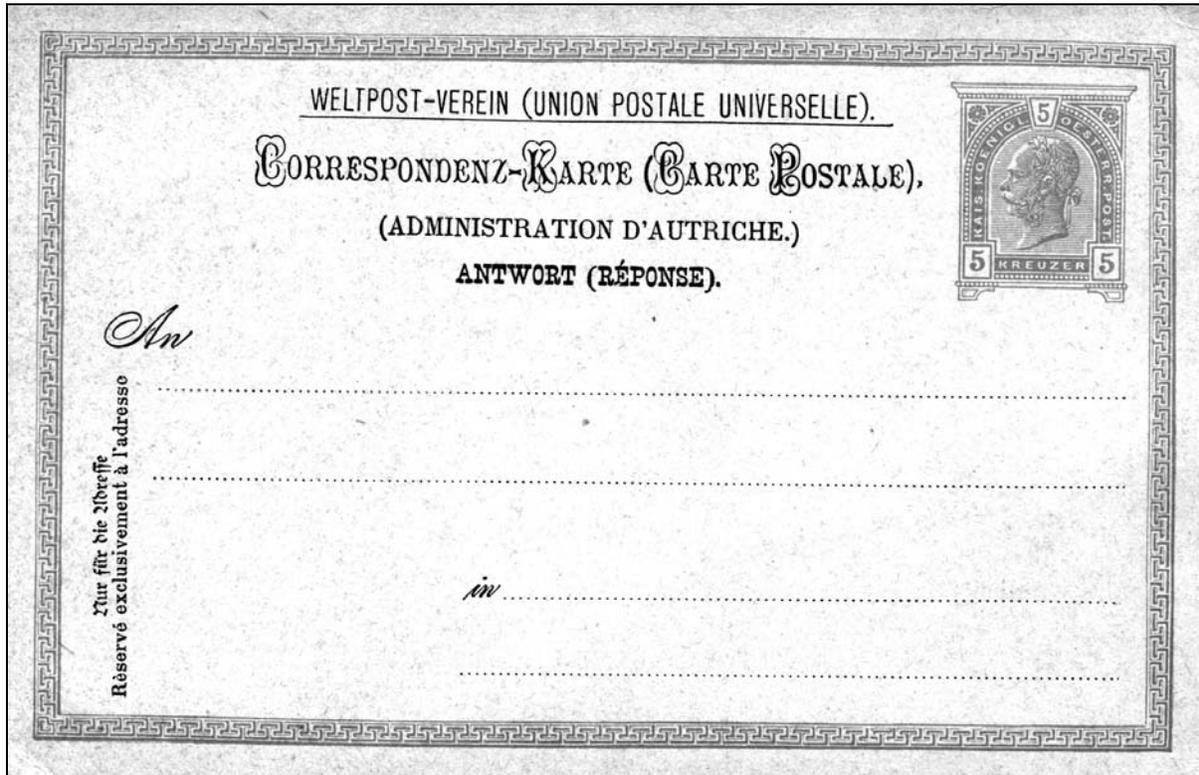


Illustration 7

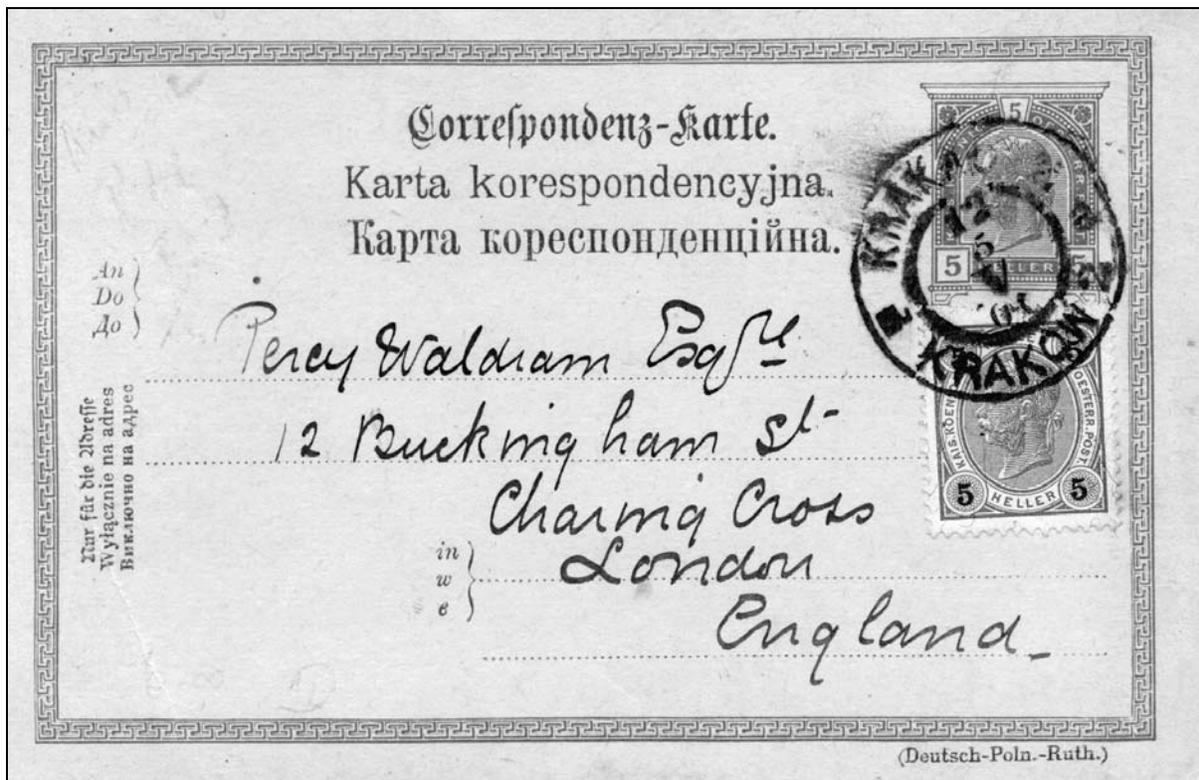


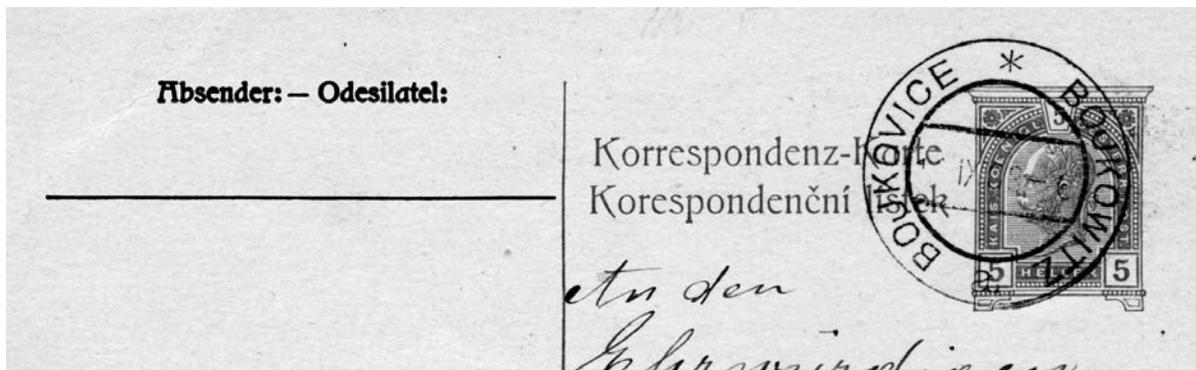
Illustration 8

Illustration 8 is of a 1900 issue with 5H blue-green with added 5H adhesive for use abroad; with German, Polish and Ruthenian headings. Sent from Krakow to London on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1901

Further simplification of designs began in 1904. The borders and Gothic lettering were dropped and the heading switched to a Roman style with the initial 'C' becoming a 'K'. The top left corner on the front was marked off diagonally for the sender's address. In 1906 the blue-green was changed to grass-green in line with that of the 5H definitive.

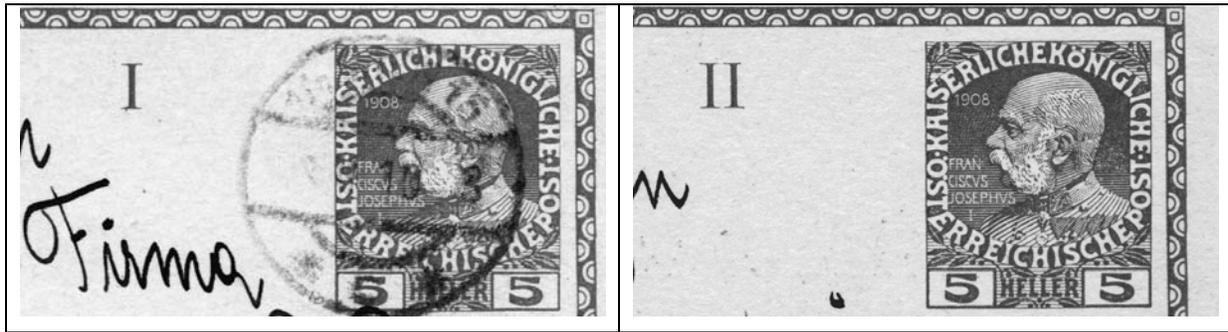


A final simplification came in 1908 when this space for the addressee was confined to the left half of the front over a horizontal line, leaving the other half and the whole of the (blank) back for communication.



### ***Franz Josef's 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee***

The celebration of Franz Josef's 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee started with a change to a card with no headings, a narrow border frame and a 5H imprinted stamp of Franz Josef, the same as the definitive of the Jubilee series. Only the double reply card had any lettering, a I on the outward half and a II on the reply half. The corresponding 10H carmine U.P.U. card, however, had the full German-French headings.



The major commemoration of the Jubilee was the issue of similar cards with "JUBILÄUMS-KORRESPONDENZ-KARTE" headings, on the front a 5H green imprint of Franz Josef as a young man in 1848 similar to the 30H definitive, and on the reverse a contemporary portrait of Franz Josef in black, flanked by views of Schonbrunn and the Hofburg.

Illustration 9A & 9B show the 1908 Franz Josef Jubilee celebration card, mint, Deutsch-Romanian-Ruthenian version.

This series of cards reverted to multilingual tradition with 8 versions; they also come with large ornate red first day cancels 2/1908/XII from 14 of the provincial capitals. At the same time, a Jubilee Exhibition in Prague was commemorated by a similar card which had views of Burg Karlstein and Hradschin on the back and on the front the stamp in the centre flanked by "JUBILÄUMS AUSTELLUNG / PRAG 1908 /



KORRESPONDENZKARTE" in both Bohemian and German.



The onset of WWI produced many further changes in postal stationery, beginning in 1914 with the issue of the eight Franz Josef Jubilee cards with the addition at the left of a black and yellow imprint of the Imperial Crown surrounded by "VIRIBUS UNITIS / 1914".

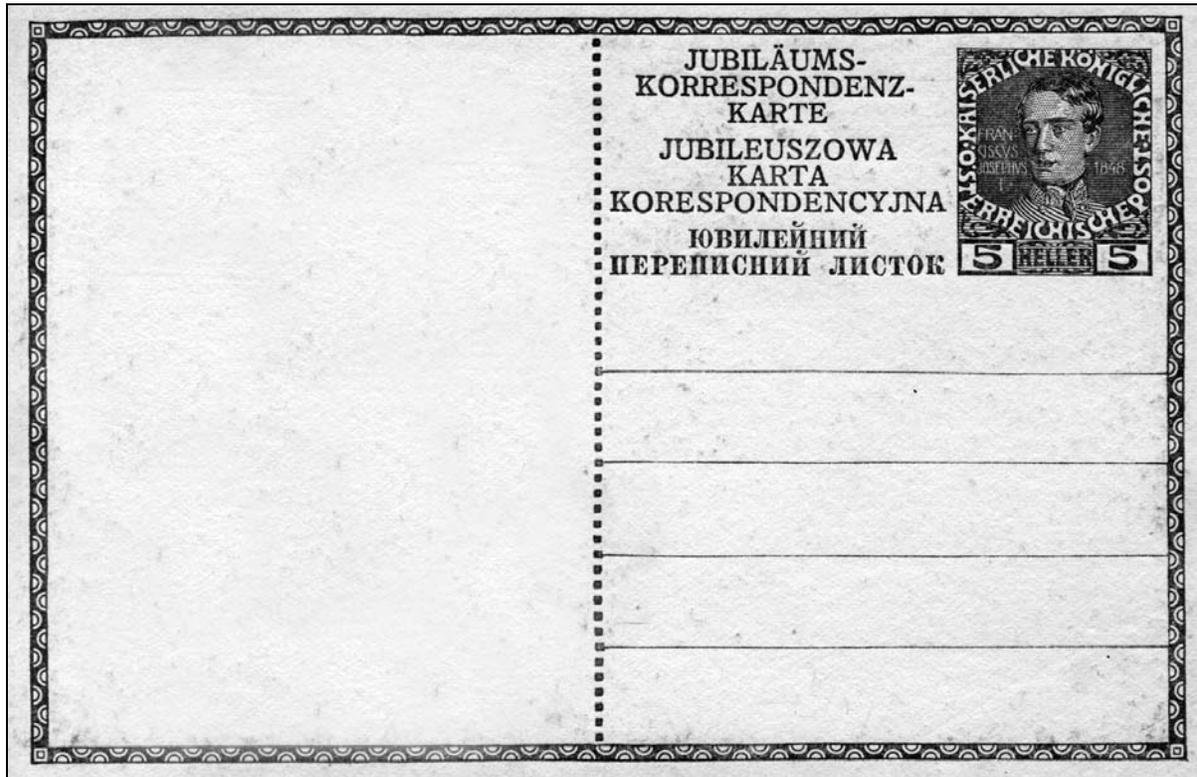


Illustration 9A

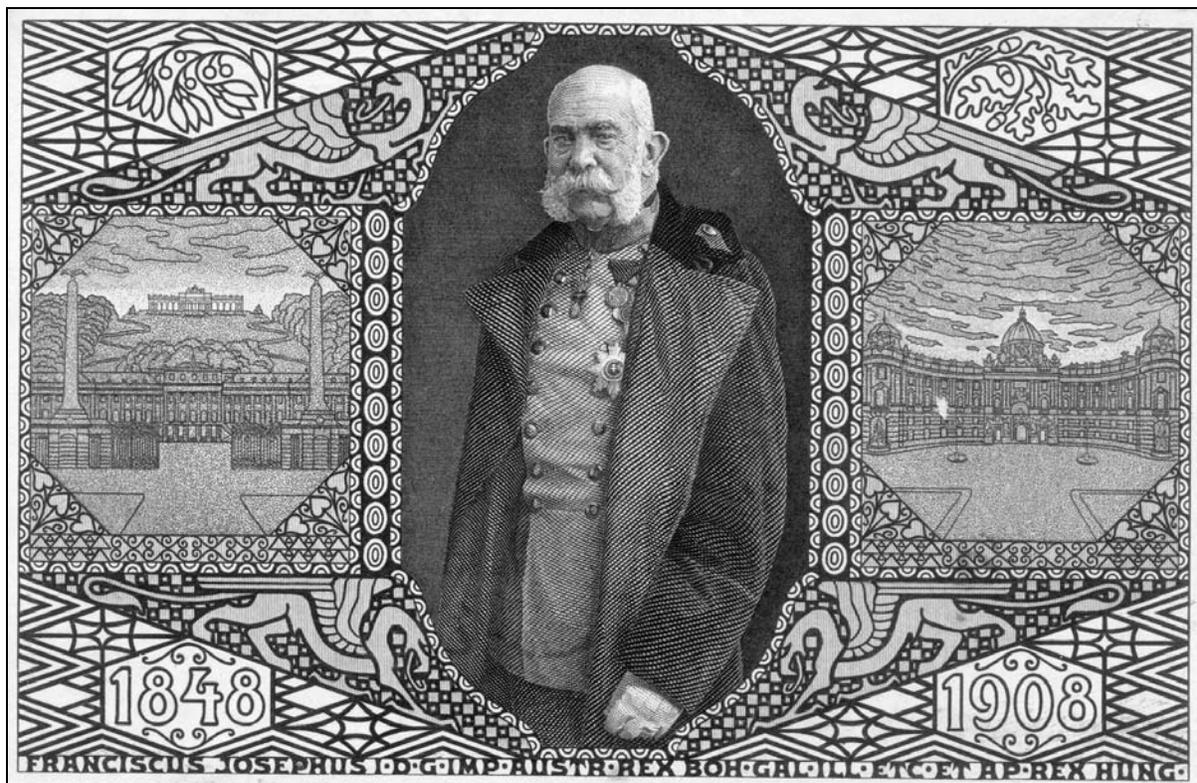


Illustration 9B

In 1916 the inland postal rate for postal stationery cards was increased to 8H, achieved initially by adding 3H adhesives to the 5H 1908 card, and then a new version of 8H in dark green using the last Franz Josef portrait from the 15H and 25H definitives of 1916. Although the external rate remained at 10H, the U.P.U. card was changed to maroon with the 10H Imperial Crown design of the 1916 series.

## *Karl I*

The death of Franz Josef in 1917 and the accession of Karl I required a change to the portrait on the 8H card. A further rate change to 10H on 1<sup>st</sup> Sep 1918 saw the return to the very plain 1908 issue with only the 10H crown stamp and vertical dividing line.

To update residual 8H cards in the absence of a 2H definitive stamp, 2H triangular or rectangular express stamps were officially resurrected. Such augmented cards are most frequently used after the collapse of the monarchy and the creation of the Democratic first republic "Deutsch-Österreich" on 12<sup>th</sup> November 1918.



Dated 5.5.1917; from Tetschen to Zurich



Dated 16.10.1919; Wien local usage.



← Dated 21.10.1918; used in Bohemia. The message is that the railways will only accept freight as express parcels, and what should he do with the pig bristles?

## *Privately produced PSCs*

This then was the end of the official pre-franked postcards of the monarchy; but as far back as 1892 there had been a succession of privately produced postcards with the appropriate imprinted stamps.

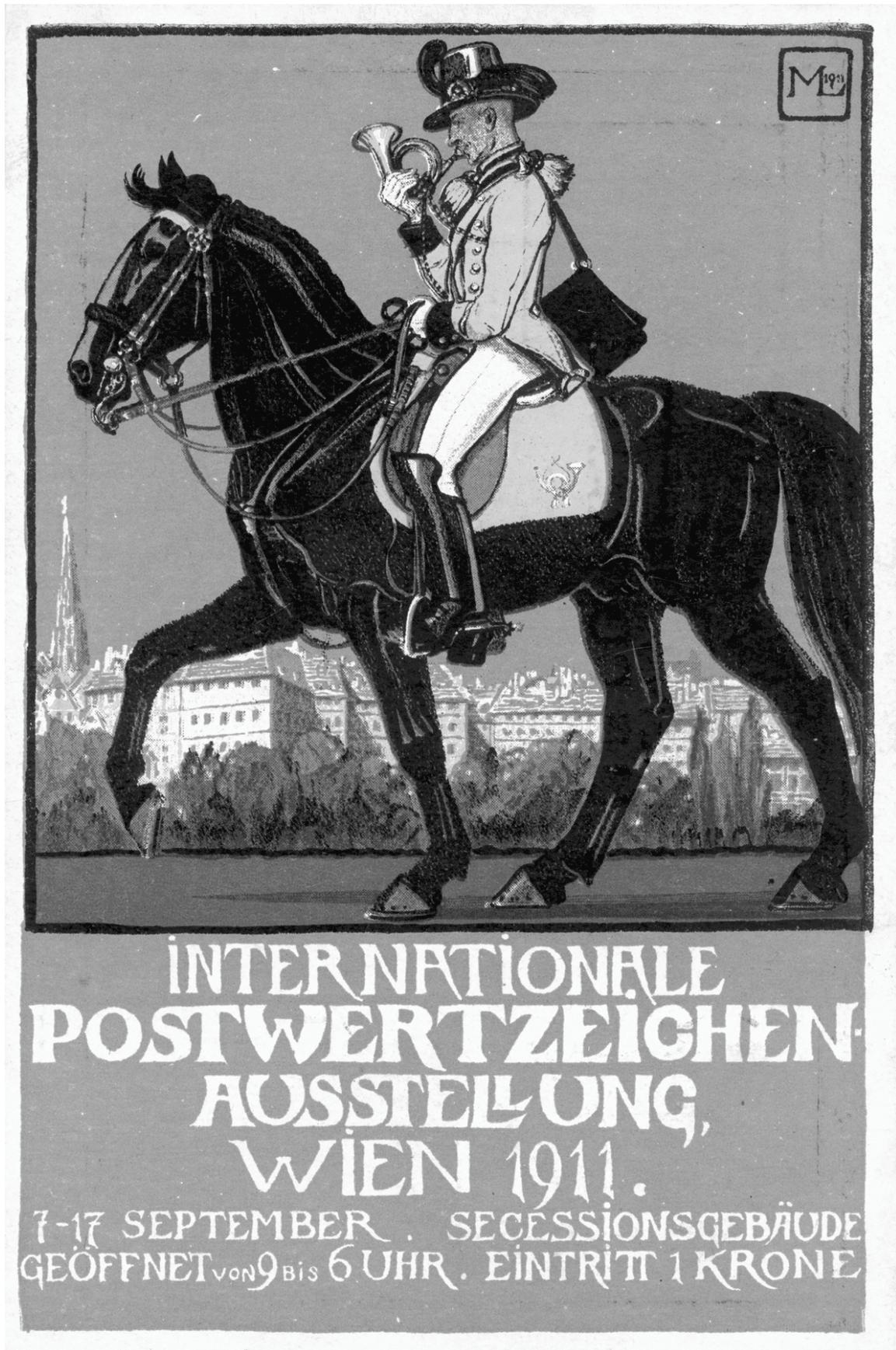


Illustration 10A



Illustration 10B

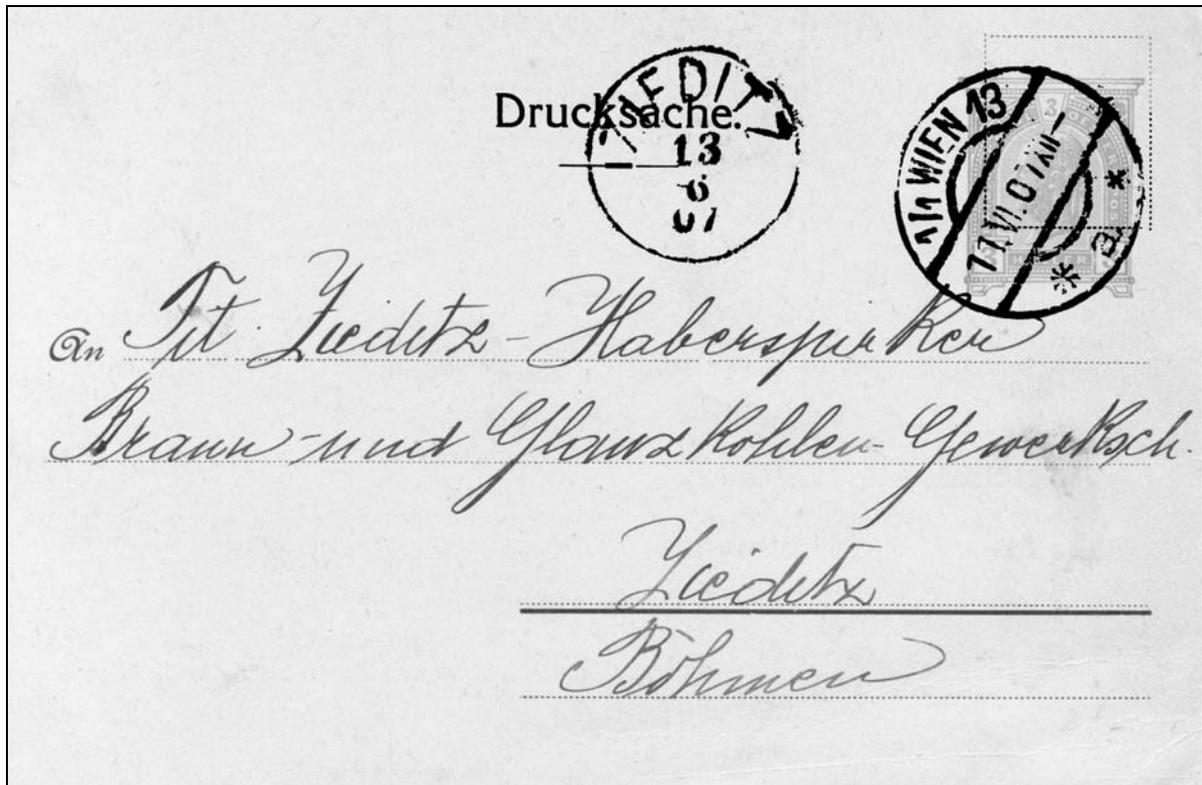


Illustration 11

In 1892 there was an International Music and Theatre Exhibition in Vienna for which a series of 2Kr cards were produced with the F.J. head brown imprint plus "Correspondenz-Karte" in black on the front, and small pictures from the Exhibition at the top of the back. In 1909, a 3H violet card for the 21<sup>st</sup> Philatelic Day Exhibition in Karlsbad; in 1910 a 5H green card for the International Hunting Exhibition in Vienna with pictures of Franz Josef deer-hunting on the back; in 1911 a 10H card for the **International Postwertzeichen Ausstellung** in Vienna and the Adria exhibition of 1917, all with special first day cancels.

Illustration 10A is the picture side of the International Postwertzeichen Ausstellung Wien card; illustration 10B shows the extra souvenir label and special cancel.

As well as issuing the pre-franked postcards at a discount to the letter rates in 1869, from 1900 (after the currency change to Heller) printed matter up to 50 gram could be sent at 3H and thus it became cheaper to use postcards imprinted at 3H for this purpose. Such cards were made to order privately and so the scope is very large. One example follows.

Illustration 11 is a circular for a union of insurers for industrialists, franked with a standard 3H brown F J in an arch, sent from WIEN 13 to ZIEDITZ in Bohemia on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1907. The reverse carries a printed message.

The question arises: what was the sequence of production? The card is pinker than Post Office cards. The message is dated 1 June 1907 and in both black and red; the front of the card (including the dotted frame for the stamp) is black; and the stamp is brown. Which was printed first? At what stage was the handwritten address added? Was the whole thing prepared in the insurance office, then taken to the Post Office for the imprint, like today's meter franking? Or were prestamped blank cards purchased - hopefully with a system for refunds on spoilt specimens!

### ***Further Reading***

1. Schneiderbauer....
2. 'Austria' 135 "Reprints" warns that there was extensive official reprinting of most items of postal stationery.
3. Pneumatic mail and its stationery - see article by Arthur Godden in 'Austria' 14 with corrections & references to later work in 'Austria' 58.
4. 'Austria' 111 "Postcard Rates"
5. "The First Postcard" by Vitězslav Houška in FILATELIE 7/1989 pp 209-210, translated in 'Czechout' 4/1990 & 1/1991

## Missent covers

By Henry Pollak

In the United States, we call them “missent” covers; a German name is “Irrläufer”. They are covers which, for one reason or another, went to a wrong address. Why? An obvious possible reason is that the address on the envelope was, for one reason or another, incomplete or incorrect. Another is that it was misread, or misunderstood, or misdirected, by a postal official. It is this latter kind which will be the subject of the present note.

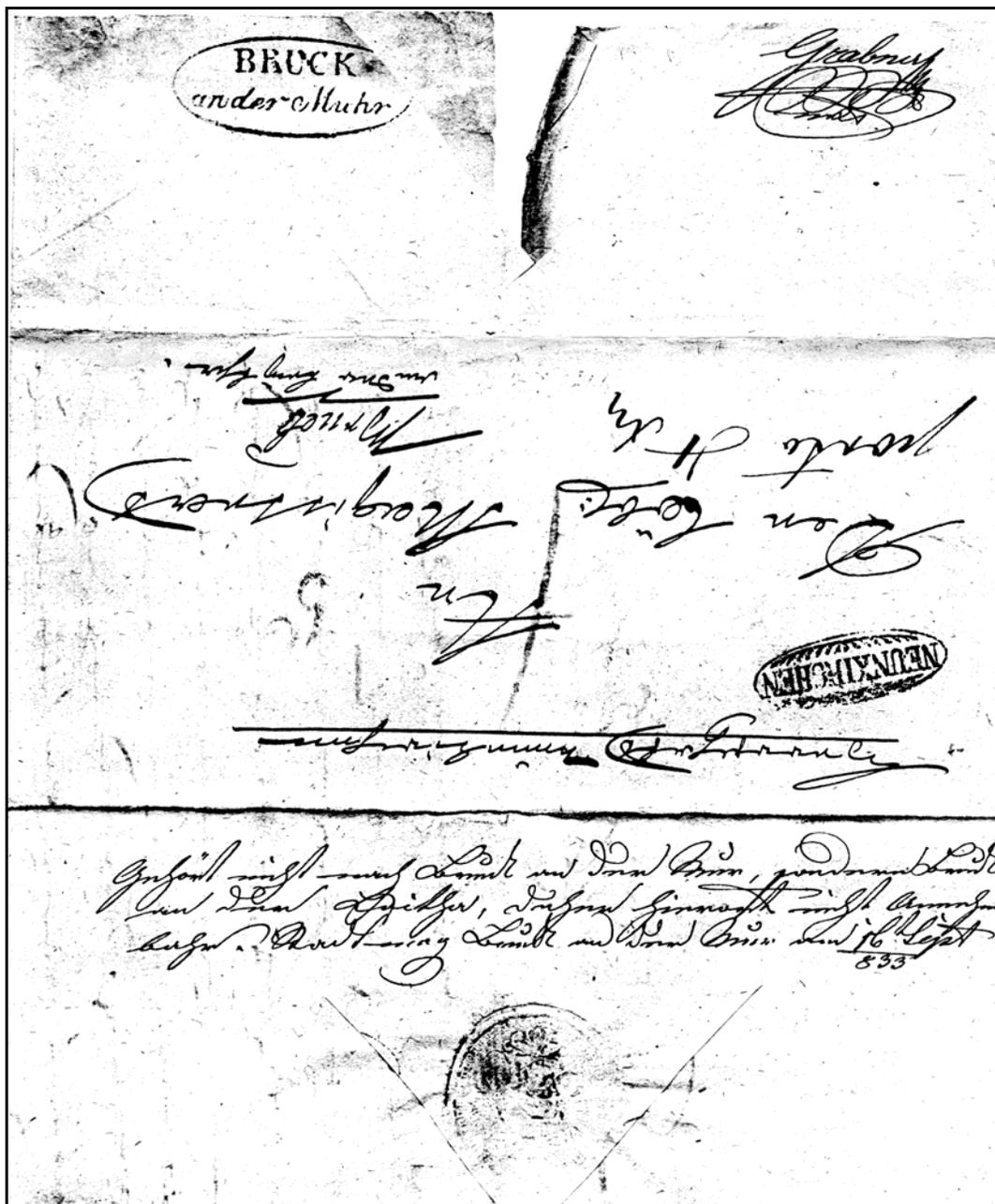
OK, why was it misdirected? Again, there are two obvious reasons. One is that there are two towns of the same name, perhaps in different countries, and the letter went to the wrong one. The other is that there are two towns with very similar names, and a postal official picked the wrong one. In collecting Austrian covers, which confusions of names would you particularly expect? Here are some opinions on each of the questions asked earlier.

**The two large cities in the old Austrian Empire most likely to get confused with each other** - poor handwriting will do it - are Triest and Trient. See Figure 1 (below), a postcard from Athens from 1898. It was addressed from Greece to Trient, and also says Südtirol on the bottom left. Nevertheless, delivery in Triest was tried first. (It probably went by ship to Triest anyway.) There are both main PO and Barriere Vecchia cancels from Triest. Then someone has underlined Trient and Südtirol, and added the Italian “Trento” in the same blue pencil for good measure. There is, finally, a bilingual backstamp Trient/Trento.



There are of course many other possibilities, e.g. Eger was the name of a town in Bohemia and also the Hungarian name of the German-named Erlau in Hungary. Both were large towns. And there's Teschen and Tetschen, and....

**Which two cities within the boundaries of present-day Austria would be likely to be confused with each other?** I vote for Bruck an der Mur and Bruck an der Leitha, or for Waidhofen an der Ybbs and Waidhofen an der Thaya. See Figure 2 (below) for a pre-stamp cover with the Bruck problem! This is a pre-stamp cover from 1833, from Neunkirchen, addressed to the magistrate in Bruck an der Leytha (I think pretty clearly). But it is nevertheless backstamped in Bruck an der Mur, and carries a handwritten notation which translates as follows: "Doesn't belong to Bruck an der Mur, but to Bruck an der Leitha, hence not acceptable here. City magistrate, Bruck an der Mur, 16 Sept. 1833."

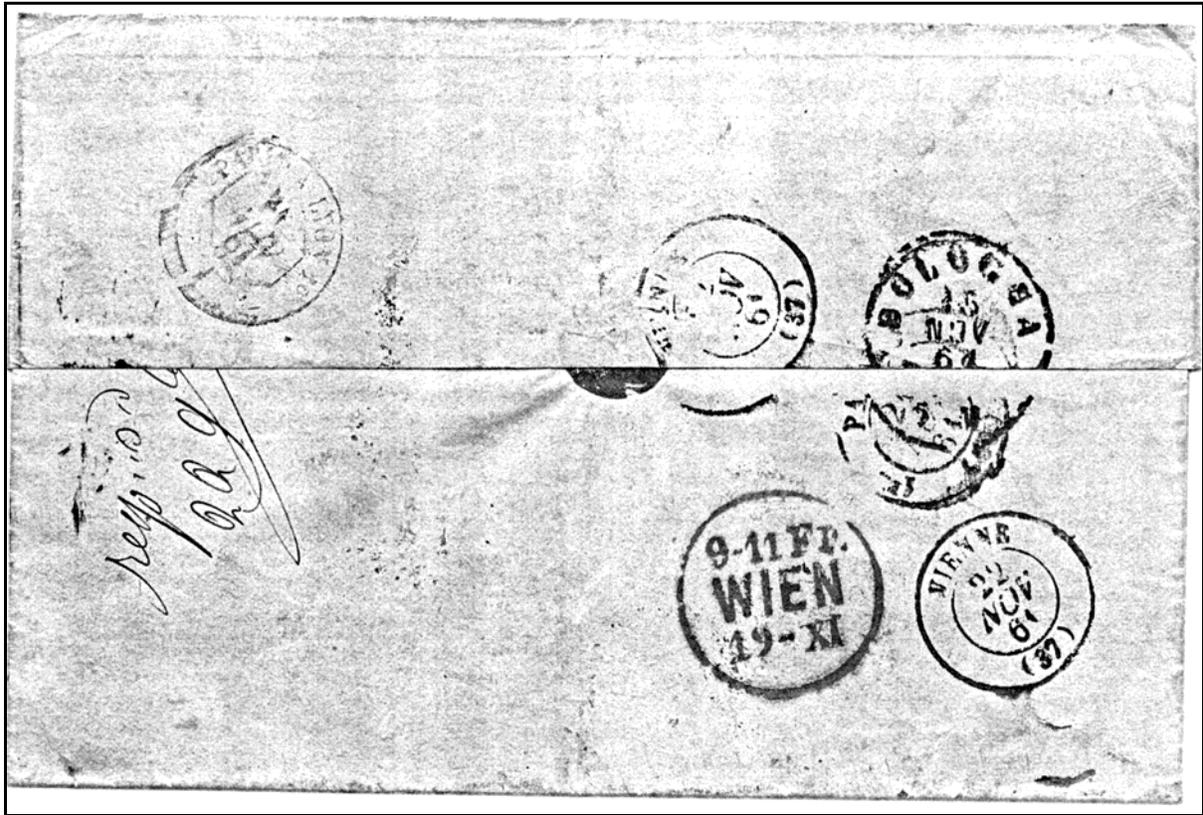


**Vienna - Wien in German - doesn't seem to be a name that would easily get confused with anything else.** Nevertheless, the French name for Vienna in Austria is Vienne, which is also the name of a large town south of Lyon in France. (Famous for a superb restaurant, Les Pyramides.) A cover from a third country addressed to Vienne in France, with the destination country name either hard to see or missing entirely, might end up in Austria first and France second. Figures 3a (below) & 3b (next page) show such a cover from Tuscany. It was mailed in Livorno on 13 Nov. 1861, and addressed to Vienne. In very small letters in the bottom right-hand corner, it says "Isère, France". This was apparently overlooked, and the cover is stamped in transit Bologna, 15 NOV, and backstamped in Wien in red on November 19. In blue pencil, someone has written "France" under Vienne on the front. It then has a French "From Austria" transit marking from Strasbourg on 21 Nov., and an arrival marking in the correct Vienne on 22 Nov.



**Which Austrian Office in the Levant would you guess to be a destination likely to be misunderstood?** Figure 4 (next page) shows a card addressed to Tripolis in Syria, which went by mistake first to Tripolis in Libya. It is cancelled in Vienna on 14 Sept. 1906, and addressed to Tripoli, Turkey in Asia. Nevertheless, it went to the Italian Post Office in Tripoli di Barbera, where it is backstamped 27 Sept. 1906. It then has the receiving cancel of the Austrian Office Tripolis(Syrien), 11 Oct. 1906. Unfortunately, there is no notation forwarding the card from Libya to Syria. It would appear that the sender, a Viennese factory for collars and cuffs, might have exhibited in London at the

Austrian Exhibition in 1906, for there is an advertising label for the exhibition on the front.



Above: Fig 3b; below: fig 4



If you were to look, say, in Klein's book on cancellations between 1867 and 1900, or the new Stohl, which town name do you think appears most often - so that mail might go to the wrong one? This fooled me! In the Stohl book on cancels since 1900 of present-day Austria, the name with the most entries seems to be St. Georgen, with 14 separate communities with that name and with post offices. In Klein, there are 19 St. Georgens. Next most common in Stohl are St. Johann and St. Martin, with 9 each, and St. Peter and Kirchberg with 8.

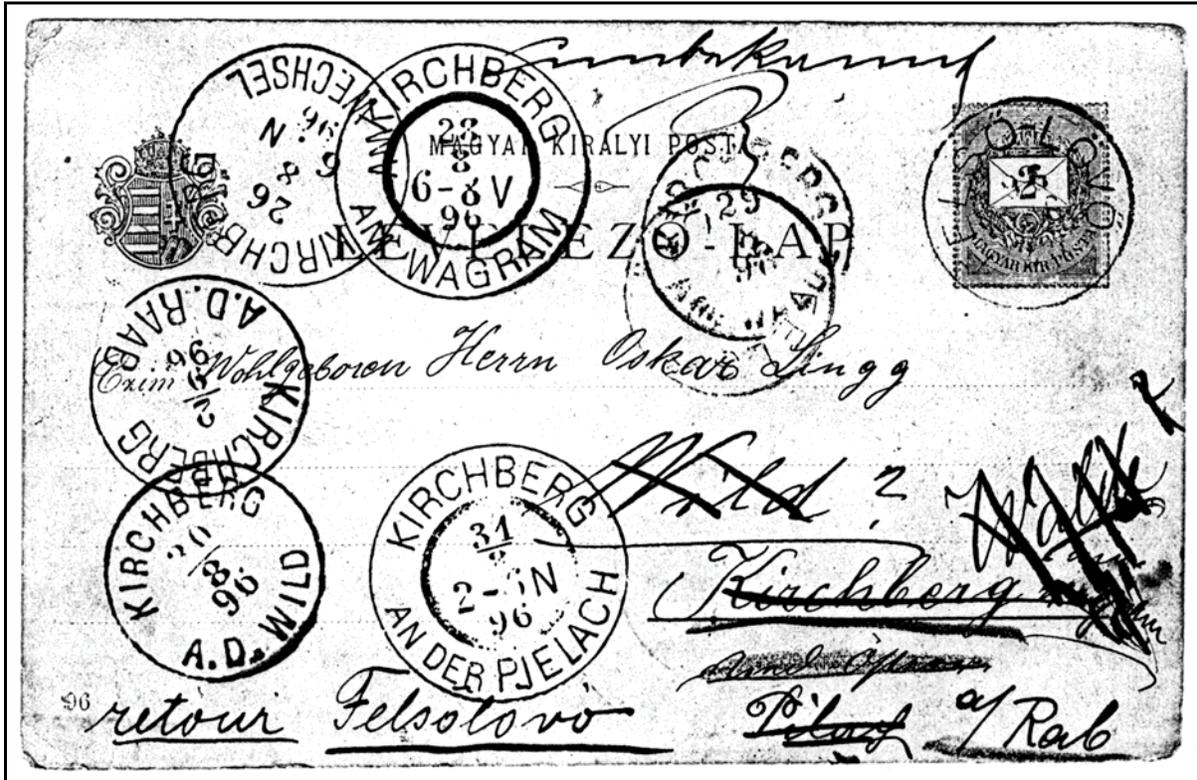
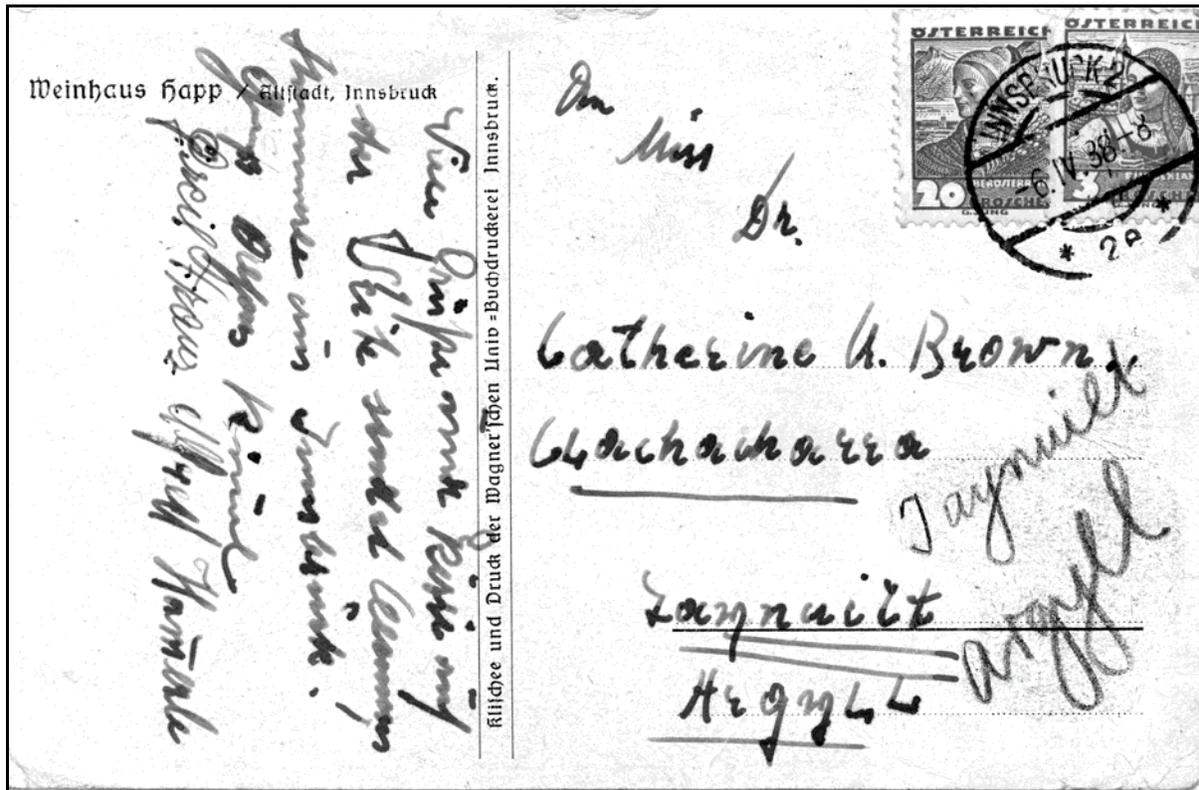


Figure 5 above shows a card addressed to "Kirchberg" which made the rounds of six of the Kirchbergs before they gave up: Kirchberg am Wagram, am Walde, am Wechsel, an der Pielach, a.d.Raab, and an der Wild. Does anyone have a piece addressed to one of the saints with a similar Odyssey?



The Editor adds: I have a card which is cancelled at Innsbruck 2 on 6 May 1938 and addressed to Argyllshire in S W Scotland but sent to Alexandria in Egypt! This is a tracing of the Alexandria cancel on the picture side. Illustration 6a (below) shows the card addressed by the senders, with "Taynuilt Argyll" rewritten in a different, careful hand in blue pencil. Illustration 6b is the picture, which shows the Weinhaus Happ in Innsbruck's Altstadt in which people seem to have been instructed to drink red

wine and enjoy themselves. The franking of 23 groschen equates to 15 Rpf, the foreign rate from 4 April 1938; certain Austrian stamps were still valid. Incidentally, there is no sign that the card ever arrived in Scotland!



## Where should I put this cover?

By Andy Taylor

This cover surfaced during a recent tidy-up - but I couldn't decide where to put it! Does anyone else have these problems?



The sealing tape on the left says "Auf Grund der Verordnung vom 15. November 1918 (Reichsgesetzblatt S. 1324) geöffnet" - ie, opened under the regulations of 15 Nov 1918. These were apparently for Currency Control, designed to prevent people putting money (or indeed stamps!) in outgoing letters, and still in operation on 30 September 1920, the date of the cancellation. One for the Censorship box? Or the "Politics reflected in Philately" talk?

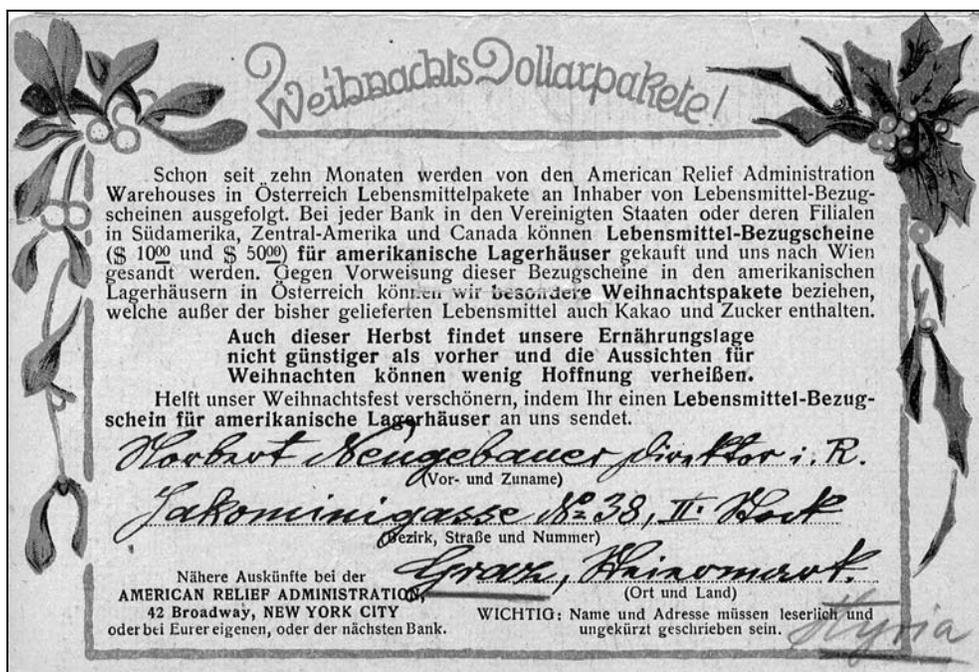
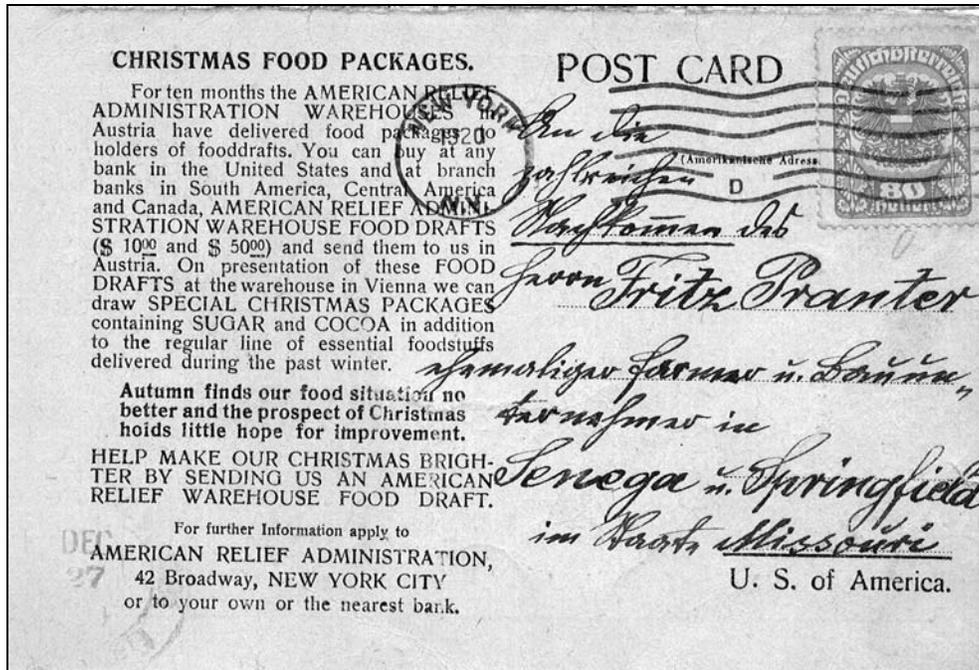
The stamp was issued in May 1920 (according to Michel; ANK is coy), so it's not a FDC! However it is a perfin, being punched W.B.V. - so do I start a perfins collection?

What's the rate? 80 Heller - which was the inland letter rate, at that date. However Germany counted as inland until 1938. I hadn't planned on a letter rates collection!



Why the **48**? Ah yes, that's the delivery postman's walk number in Mainz. But I don't plan to collect Germany; and my need for "strange marks on covers" is more than adequately met by the British Post Office.

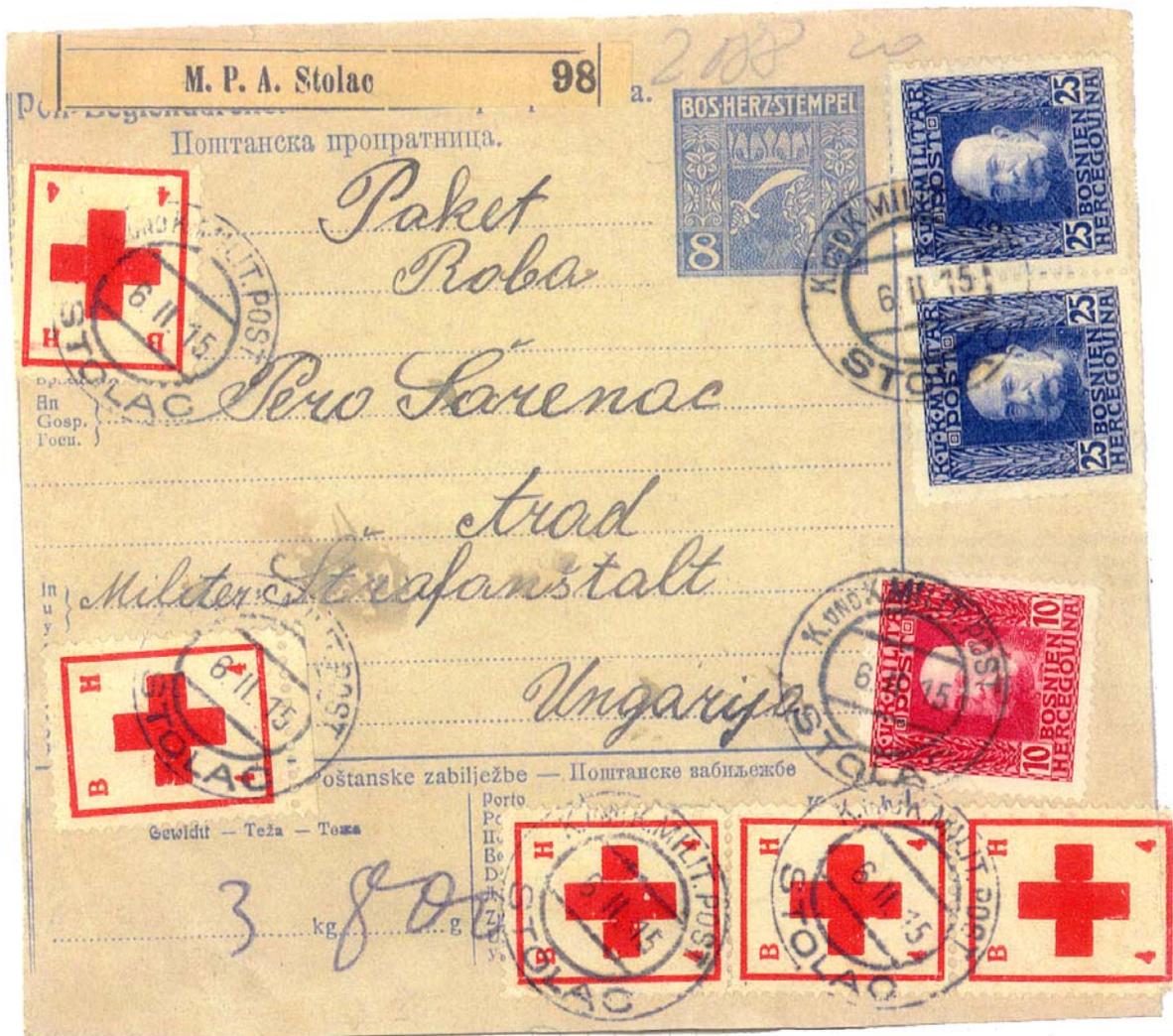
But look at the cancellation. Continuous roller with bridge, from 1/1 WIEN 1. The slogan is alternately bilingual "HELFT / ÖSTERREICHS KINDERN / AMERIK. KINDERHILFSAKTION / WIEN 1, / ELIZABETHSTR. 9" - "HELP / AUSTRIA'S CHILDREN / A.R.A. EUROPEAN FUND / 115 somewhere". Definitely one for the Politics box, joining the "Send a food voucher" lettercard.



## Cantfest Queries

### *Bosnia-Herzegowina Parcel Card with Red Cross Seals*

This example of JLW's carries 60 Heller in postage stamps plus five 4-heller Bosnia-Herzegowina Red Cross charity seals. It contained 3.8Kg of 'Roba' (clothes?) and was sent on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 1915 from the Military Post Office at Stolac to a military prison at Arad in Hungary, arriving on the 12<sup>th</sup> and being collected on the 15<sup>th</sup> as shown by the backstamps.

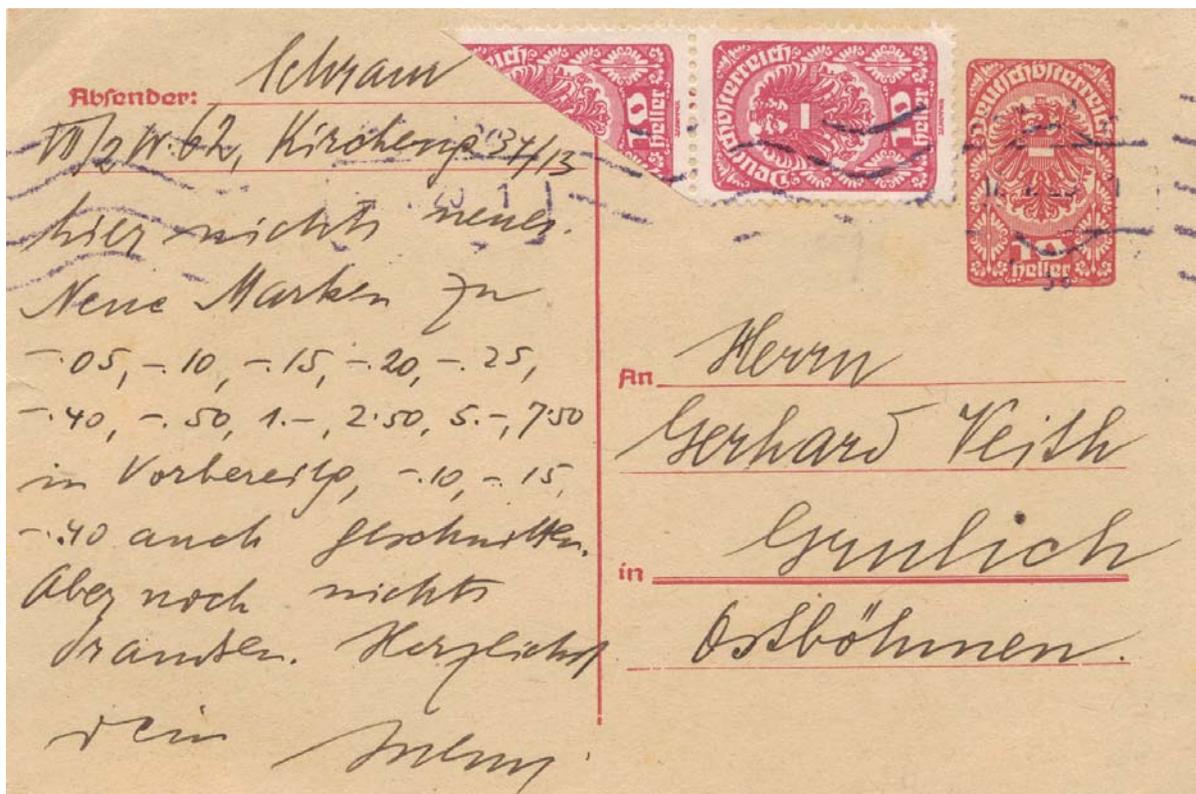


The rate for such parcels is given in Ferchenbauer (p968-9) as 80H [except that JLW has 2 examples sent from Bosnia-Herzegowina to "Croatia administered by Hungary" uncomplainingly franked with 60H]. Arad is in Hungary proper. It seems, therefore, that the Red Cross seals were being used to pay for postage; whether to divert funds to charity, to defraud the system, or because of a shortage of 10H stamps we will probably never know. As part of other displays,

HGW had two examples of these seals used as the only item of franking, while LB had a card where the seal was clearly in addition to the postage.

### *10 Heller Bisect*

This 10H Postal Stationery card was sent from Wien 62 to Grulich, E Bohemia. It is franked with an extra 10H and half of a 10H stamp to make 25H. It was written on 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 1920 and postmarked on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>, which was the day before the new inflation period II rate of 25H is stated to have started (Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 1920). Why?



The message is about stocks of new stamps, which it said were not yet available. The rate for 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 1920 was 10H. General opinion was that the sender was "trying it on" in an attempt to get a postally used bisect, and was foiled by the postbox being cleared on the Saturday; the additional franking of 10H and a cut-in-half 10H being unnecessary and ignored.

## From the Officers

### *From the Treasurer*

The Society's audited accounts for the year to 31 March 2001 were presented to the members attending the AGM and approved. These show that the Society is financially sound although a small loss was shown for this year due to having purchased a new supply of ties and binders and having obtained further copies of early editions of 'Austria'. Any member wanting a copy of the accounts should send an SAE to the treasurer, whose address is shown at the front of the magazine.

### *From the Librarian*

In order to avoid the problems of the Christmas post, no books will be sent out between 12 December and 4 January. Anyone wishing to borrow a book for that period should contact me as soon as possible and the borrowing period will be extended as necessary.

### *From the Membership Secretary*

I hope to contact most of you who indicated that you were possibly interested in a local group in the near future. Those living within the areas of the existing groups will be sent more details of their programmes and details of how to find them. The only other area where a new group may be possible is the Midlands.

At the AGM the members approved the appointment of two new Hon. Life Members, previously HLM's of the London Group - D. P. Brooker (536) and W.Green (1160). We welcome them and other new members:

1163 A. Hickey, Kent; 1164 J.Allen Lovell, USA; 1165 Lt.Col. Dr K.J. Radley, Canada; 1166 Dr. I Kuzych, USA; 1167 D. Waugh, Gateshead; 1168 G.A. Veitch, Dumbartonshire; 1169 P.S. Barb, France; 1170 L.H. Barnes, Kent; 1171 G. Newey, Surrey.

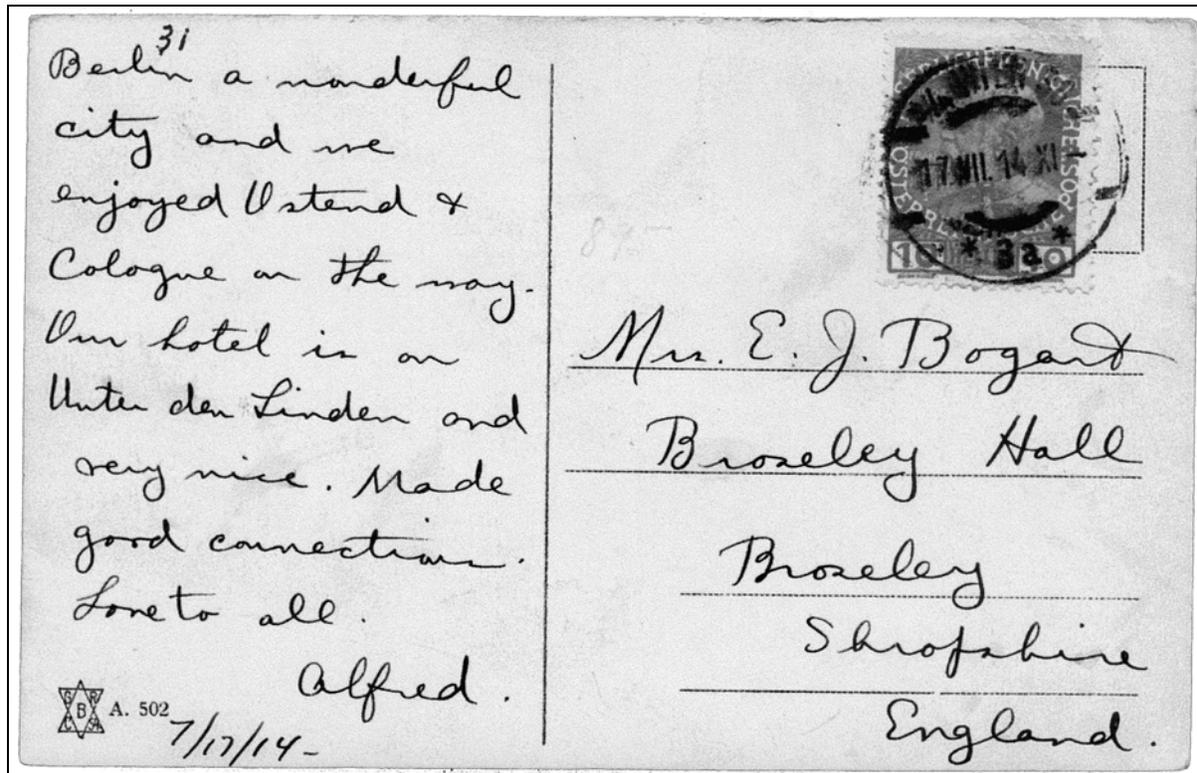
We have sadly recorded the deaths of Prof. Dr. G.P. Felzer, R.L. Monk, Dr. W.G. Barb and O. Cumming.

The following have written to resign from the Society for various reasons - H.E. Newton, B. Babister, G. Swale, R.F. Gee and R. Rumball.

## History on Postcards?

By Sal Rizza

The first postcard could be entitled "Vacationing Dangerously". It was sent by a British tourist from Vienna on 17<sup>th</sup> July 1914! Franz Ferdinand and his wife had been assassinated in Sarajevo on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1914, two weeks earlier.



Alfred, the writer of this card, seems to have been oblivious of the political upheavals blowing about in the air. He had enjoyed his stay in Germany and was now in Vienna having a good time (and writing his 31<sup>st</sup> postcard home!). As Austria declared war on Serbia on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1914, and Great

Britain declared war on Austria-Hungary on 13<sup>th</sup> August 1914, one hopes that Alfred did not linger long.

This mourning postcard was mailed from Vienna to Portland, Oregon, on 14 September 1898, just four days after the assassination of Empress Elizabeth. The message reads: "The old Viennese people salute their beloved Empress."



## Book Review.

by Andy Taylor

### *110 Jahre Österreichischer Philatelistenclub Vindobona Wien 1880-1990*

This is, I think, a Festschrift produced to accompany a celebratory exhibition; the list of the 125 frames is an appendix. It is 8" wide x 9" high, with a glossy black thin-card cover; the paper is glossy too and the black/white illustrations are of high quality. It is, of course, in German; the contents list, approximately translated, follows. It looks as if each Eminent Member has written up his pet topic. [There is no copy of this work in the APS Library]

On the 110 years of Vindobona history (Dr Bernadini)

Speech by Anton Kumpf-Mikuli [given at a celebratory event held in the Strauß-Lanner-Saal of the Vienna Rathaus]

Survey of early postal history (H Schmirler)

Austrian post in the "Forelands" [Austrian Switzerland] (Dr H Kühn)

Vienna local post (Dr W Tettinek)

The 1850 issue (F Puschmann)

Cash-paid inland letters 1850-1900ish (R Huber)

Why attractive covers are rare (Dir G Wessely)

Development of foreign mail around 1867 (W Schindler)

Austrian post in Egypt (K Wolfsbauer)

San Giovanni die Medua (F Hochleutner)

Hungarian post in Old Romania 1867-9 (Dr med. F Nagy)

Postage dues (Dr E Bernadini)

Olmuetz role in the Wien-Krakau-Lemberg flights (F Puschmann)

Newspaper post during the inflation period (Dip Ing Dr J Gatterer)

1945-6 postal history matters (Dr C Kainz)

On the expertising of stamps (Dr U Ferchenbauer)

Guide to the Exhibition

## A Visit to Innsbruck Stamp Club

By Joyce Boyer

Like most Austrian Stamp Clubs, meetings at Innsbruck are normally made up of members with items available for sale or those wishing to buy. Prices vary from cheap to rather expensive and it is necessary to be careful as some may be priced in Dmarks. However the meeting on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2001 was to be different and Tony and I were invited to attend for the whole day.

The normal meeting closed at 11.00 am and members were invited to move to another room to listen to Udo Nagiller talking about his research into the Postal History of Zirl, a small town near Innsbruck. This resulted in the publication of his book 'Alte Briefe und die Post in Zirl' in 1999 as part of the town's 1200 year celebrations (*If you would be interested in obtaining a copy please contact Joyce Boyer, address on inside front cover*). Many of the items used in his research or for illustrations in the book were shown. One cover was of special interest since it showed the canceller used for a very short period following a disastrous fire in the town. In concluding his talk Udo mentioned that he was still trying to obtain information in respect of the various troops passing through the town in 1945/46. If anyone had any information about these and especially examples of the cancellations used he would like it. After the talk it was possible to take a closer look at the display before adjourning to a local hotel for an excellent lunch.



Over lunch Udo told me that a party of British troops were in Zirl in May/August 1945. A British Army Office was installed for this period in Gasthof Lamm. They were the 8th Leave Party but he has no other details. The information he would like is the regiment(s) that formed the party, how long they stayed, the route(s) for any mail sent from Zirl and anything else that is known about them. If anyone can help please write direct to me and I will pass it on. Should you have examples of this mail please let me have copies, or should it be available for sale details of the price you want. I understand that the Americans were also in Zirl for a short time although it was in the French zone. I believe examples of any material from this period would be welcome.

The first part of the afternoon was a formal meeting of representatives of Stamp Clubs in the Tirol and Vorarlberg, the Western Section of VÖPh chaired by Dr. Pflanz. The reports caused much discussion and indicated that there was much



**And Finally..**



**May the Festive Season and the following year  
be twice as good as you expect, and half as  
good as you deserve!**