

AUSTRIA

Edited by Andy Taylor

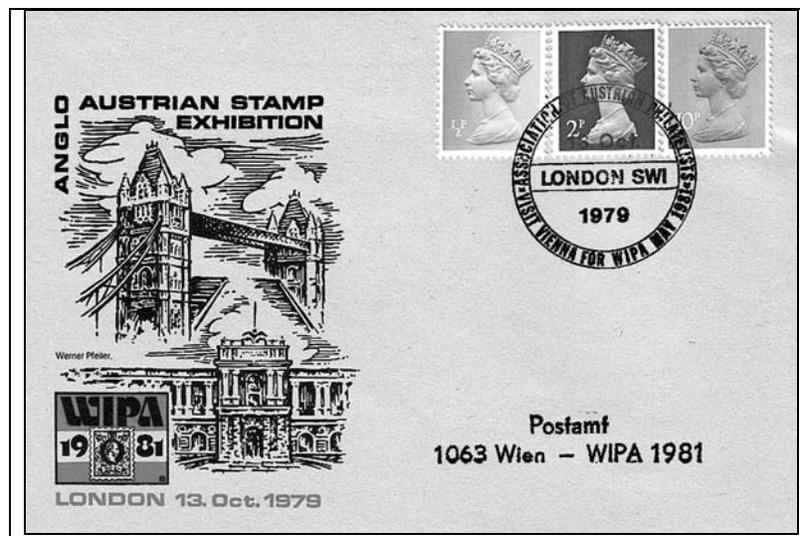
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Martin Brumby, the Sheriff of York and the President of the APS, invites members and friends to a meeting in the Mansion House of York at 2pm on Saturday 17 May, where he will present a display. **R.S.V.P.**

[Directions available from him or the Editor; note that the venue is in practice inaccessible by private car, parking is tedious, and travel by train is easiest.]

*A trip down
Memory Lane..*



Editorial 141

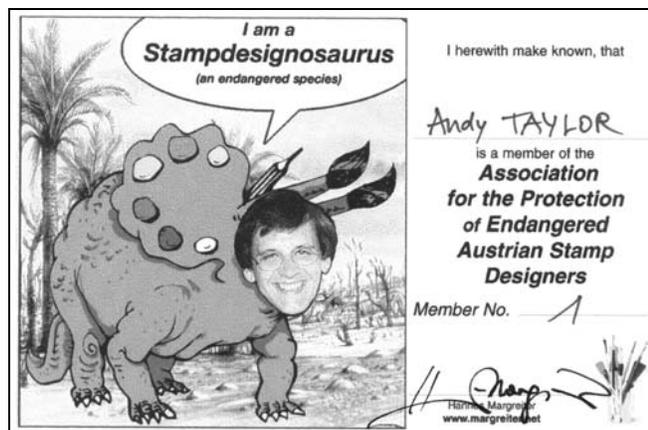
By Andy Taylor

Ho-hum! Back from Vienna to scruffy reality. From the depths of the sewers to the heights of Kahlenberg, from Maria Vetsera's tomb to the Rathaus Market, from the Börse to the Griechenbeisl with J's Pyrotechnic Pudding - the coldness of the weather was exceeded only by the friendliness and warmth of the welcomes we received. Even the hotel had a philatelic connection: it is visible in the 23 Oct 1992 "Kloster des Deutschen Ordens" stamp, ANK2111, and there was a sheet of the stamp plus a greatly-enlarged copy displayed in the entrance hall! The effects of Euroinflation were noticeable: the Glüwein mugs at Schonbrunn held 0.2 litres last year and 0.25 this time ☺

Most of the Numiphiliacs unearthed numerous treasures at reasonable prices; your Editor had more success in the "Business Information Centre of Öst. Post AG" (Dr Kainz former department) where with her invaluable assistance he resolved several puzzling aspects of the Vienna Pneumatic Post and became aware of many more! He was intrigued to be able to study maps of 19th century Vienna, then walk along the Vienna River to Schonbrunn on a sunny Sunday morning to see the result of the changes - and the Jugendstil architecture of Linke Wienzeile may well inspire a thematic piece!

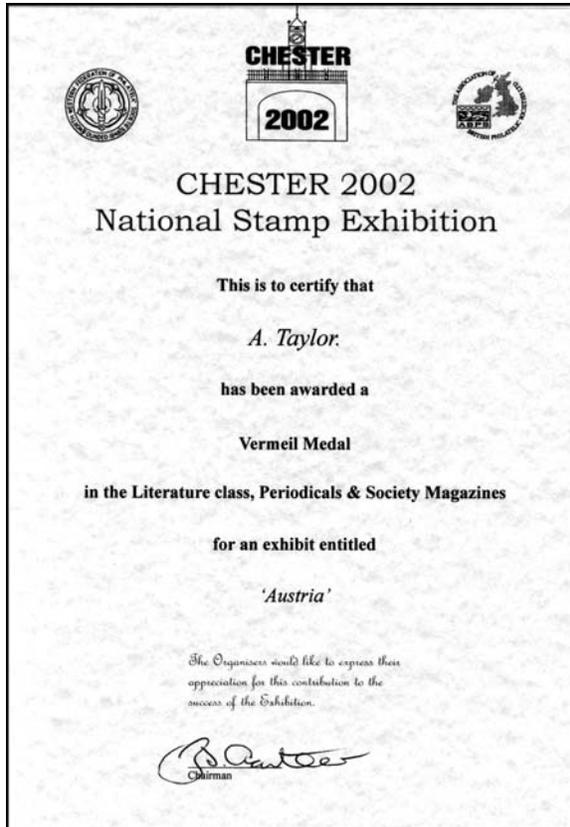
We also heard a rumour that Österreichisches Post AG is to be bought by Deutsche Post; and complaints that in spite of valiant efforts Austrian Youth resolutely declines to choose Philately as a hobby and also casts a coldly critical eye over adult activities. Why, asked one Youth at a top-level seminar, are the "Philis" issues - designed especially to attract Youth - priced at 58 cents (non-standard-size inland letter up to 50 gram) and not 51 cents (inland and foreign letter, postcard etc: ie what they'd be writing). Answer came there none...

Hannes Margreiter invited the party to his Atelier near the Westbahnhof for industrial quantities of excellent home-made Strudel & Punch, and presented the members of the Association for the Protection of Endangered Austrian Stamp Designers with new membership cards; several more members were recruited.

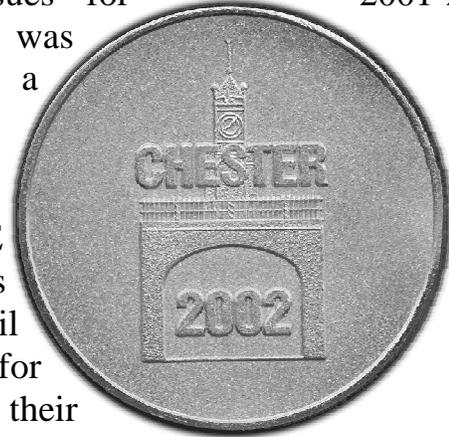


The APS achieved some successes at "Chester 2002"! For the East Midlands and East Anglia Philatelic Federation, Alan Berrisford received a Vermeil for his "Poland: Krakow Provisional Postal Stationary 1919" and Joyce Boyer

received a Vermeil for "Austria Airmails 1918 - 1938". The Inter Federation Competition was won by the Hampshire Federation, whose Airmail entry was supplied by Brian Presland; he earned a (small) Vermeil. Unfortunately the entries in the Inter-Federation Competition at Chester did not include the exhibitor's name, so it is unclear if any other members received awards.



In the literature:books section our partners the Philatelistenklub Merkur, Innsbruck received a Silver-Bronze for Karl Ploner's handbook "Tiroler Werbstempel" (APS library no 328) and a Silver for their Festschrift "100 Jahre Innsbrucker Philatelistische Vereine" edited by Dr. Hans Moser (APS library no 344). The two copies of each book submitted to Chester have been returned to our Treasurer; if anyone is interested in acquiring one please contact her. In the literature:magazines section Andy Taylor as Editor of "Austria" entered the eight issues for 2001-2 and was awarded a Vermeil.



Calling serious Fieldpost collectors! The latest ARGE Mil Phil information has a page from Hans Riedel "FP-Datei der ARGE Mil Aus Phil Allgemeine Bemerkungen" and a sample table for FPA 11. He is asking collectors to share their thoughts and information on Field Post Offices, so that collectors worldwide can have access to it and avoid wasting time reinventing the wheel. Co-operation is invited - contact your Editor for more details.

Our congratulations to the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, whose 50th Anniversary is this year. See details of the Anniversary Exhibition on page 48 below.

International Bureaucracy: (1) I bought a 0,51€ stamp in Vienna and got a receipt 6" long (2) admission to the UK National Railway Museum is free but you get a sales receipt also 6" long for your payment of zero, with 17½% VAT added (3) in a large bookshop in York, books on Austria are dispersed among "General European", which I suppose is reasonable...

From The Officers

From the Membership Secretary

We welcome the following new Members:

1190 D A Aston, Vienna	1191 Philatelic Research Library, USA;
1192 S R Stover, USA	1193 C R Carlson, USA
1194 A G Zulueta Jr., Canada	1195 J P Hargrave, Herts
1196 M Whitehorn, Surrey	1197 K. Brandon, North Yorkshire

Mrs. D Collyer of Somerset has retired. Following the application of Rule 8, four names were removed from the membership list as not having paid for the year 2002/03.

From the Librarian

The Library will be **CLOSED** for borrowing and returning books from 8th February until 20th March 2003. During that time, a new edition of the 'books' section of the Library List will be prepared and issued to all members, including all works received by the Librarian up to 31st January 2003.

The 5th up-date to the Christkindl Handbook (library item 270) has been received. Several amendments have been made to the entries for earlier years and new pages giving details of the cancellations for 2000/2002 have been added. The value of the cancellations has been up-dated and is now stated in € There has been quite an increase in the value of some early items. If anyone has an out of date copy of the Handbook I can provide details of the source and cost of up-dates. Any member wanting a copy of the new valuations should send two 2nd class stamps to the Librarian for a copy of the relevant pages.

spacer page

New Time-Zone cancellations

By H G White

In 'Austria' 104 pages 13-14, I described the odd-shaped cancellations of Vienna with fixed type for the despatch time (the 'expedition') and varying shapes further to distinguish these times of despatch. They were in use as cancellations on outgoing mail from Vienna from 1850 until the late 1860s, and as receiving marks from 1850 till 1880.



But the use of fixed time slugs did not end with the distinctive frames, for they were replaced by plain circles with WIEN at the top, day over month in changeable figures, and with the fixed time period at the bottom. Initially the time periods were of two hours, eg 3-5, over a 14-hour working day; to differentiate between 7-9 am and 7-9 pm, the morning was in Roman figures ie VII-IX.

As well as the Head Office usage, a corresponding set of cancellers was produced for the sub-office WIEN FILIALE with the FILIALE placed at the bottom of the circle. Such simple types were in use from the mid 1860s, and can be found on the 1863 Arms issue and the 1867 'FJ coarse beard' issue.



However in 1870 two changes were introduced: firstly figures to show the year (eg 70, 73) placed below the time (and in the case of the WIEN FILIALE version, above FILIALE); secondly the division of the day into 1-hour periods, adding V (Vormittag = morning), M (Mittag = mid-day); N (Nachmittag = afternoon) and A (Abends = evening). In a few examples (such as here!) this letter is absent.

The loss of the distinctiveness of the odd shapes was replaced by another in that the predominant colour of the cancellations was blue. This varied in its brightness, and some strikes are verging on black; but a true black is also encountered, identifiable by the brownish undertone characteristic of the lamp black pigment then used to make a truly black ink. [*The Editor regrets that, for the illustrations to be readable, they must all be reproduced in common-or-garden black.*] With the addition of the year figure, we can see that this type of canceller remained in use only to the 1870s; my latest example is dated 1873.

Although the concept of the simple circle with town name, moveable date, and fixed time period over a short period of use would presume only a small number

of types (2 per office), in fact several minor alterations were made, eg large or small letters, serif or sanserif type, different diameter circles, and the inclusion of the year figures: so that for the two offices together I have so far found the following nine types:

Klein code	Letter size ($\pm 0.2\text{mm}$)	Circle diam	WIEN	WIEN FILIALE
Date and time only; 2-hour periods				
gEe	3mm	23mm	1	6
gEe	5mm	23mm	2	
aEe	5mm	23mm	3	
Date, year and time; 1-hour periods				
gEje	3mm	23mm	4	
gEje	2.5mm	23mm		7
gEje	3mm	25mm		8
aEje	3mm	25mm	5	
agEje	3mm	25mm		9

A number in the right-hand two columns means that this combination is known, and is illustrated in the figure with the corresponding number [*except for items 3 and 5: I cannot reproduce a blue cancel on a blue stamp! Ed*]. All the examples have blue cancellations, apart from 6 which is 'true black'.

Certain time periods could have had less mail, whilst one of the WIEN types, aEje, is relatively rare judging from its single appearance in my collection [which is listed in Appendix 1]. However there is no reason to believe that all time periods were not present, and **readers are invited to report the existence of examples in their collections.**

This is but an early stage in the development of including a time of despatch into the canceller, which continues to the present day in most mail handling offices. In the original article, I pointed out that these fixed-time slugs were not specific to WIEN, and several other offices had similar cancellers, for example LINZ, PRAG and NEUBAU-WIEN.

Incidentally, I reported in 'Austria' 123 p17 two unrecorded additions to the list given in 'Austria' 104. Professor Zimmerl kindly translated this report and published it in Die Briefmarke, but neither request for corroboration has produced any response. One begins to doubt the authenticity of my three examples.

Examples

		
1	2	4
		
6 (note the brown fringe!)		7
		
8	9	

Henry's Timezone accumulation: WIEN - Klein 5737

Klein	5737d	5737d	5737b	5737j2	5737x
Klein's illustration	232	232	233	370	406
Letters	g; 3mm	g; 5mm	a; 5mm	gj; 3mm	aj; 5mm
Circle	23mm	23mm	23mm	23mm	23mm
Illustrated:	1	2	(3)	4	(5)
7-8					
XII-IX	U				
8-9V					
9-10V					
9-11		S, U			
10-11V					
11-12M					
11-1		U	U		
12-1M					
1-2N					
1-3					
2-3N					
3-4N					
3-5		S, U			
4-5A				U	U
5-6A				<u>U</u>	U
5-7	U	S, U			
6-7A				U	U

Klein	5737d	5737d	5737b	5737j2	5737x
7-8A					U
7-9	U	U			
8-9A					

Henry's Timezone accumulation: WIEN FILIALE - Klein 5844

Klein	5844a	5844b	5844b	5844c
Klein's illustration	232a	370	370	416
Letters	g; 2.5mm	gj; 3mm	gj; 5mm	agj; 3mm
Circle	23mm	23mm	25mm	23mm
Illustrated	6	7	8	9
7-8				
XII-IX	S			
8-9V			U	
9-10V		U	U	
9-11	U			
10-11V				
11-12M				S, U
11-1	<u>S</u> , U			
12-1M				U
1-2N		<u>U</u>		U
1-3	U			
2-3N				U
3-4N		U	U	
3-5	U			

Klein	5844a	5844b	5844b	5844c
4-5A		U		
5-6A		U		S
5-7	S, U			
6-7A		U	U	S
7-8A		U		U
7-9	S, U			
8-9A				

In the above table, 'S' means Schwarz, ie black; 'U' means Ultramarin, ie blue [actually the pigment is probably Prussian Blue]. The two underlined specimens are on complete letters, the remainder on stamps or pieces. As Klein does not distinguish between circle sizes over 20mm, his 5357d and 5844b both occur twice in the above tables.

As stated above, readers are invited to report the existence of examples in their collections.

One oddity is that there seems to be a dearth of midday cancels in the Wien Head Office. Did the despatch office close for lunch?

A final speculation: it seems unlikely that a large and busy office would operate a system whereby the day and month had to be reset from moveable type at the beginning of each day, and the despatch time period every hour. Would it not be probable that they had a set of 12-14 cancellers with fixed times, altering the dates on all of them as a new working day began?

Stamp issues for 2001

by Andy Taylor

Introduction

These notes are taken from the Austrian Post Office Press Releases for the technical details & dates, and from their website, supplemented by Die Briefmarke, for the notes on the design. The order of the ANK (Netto) catalogue is followed. Considerable longer essays on the design's background, in German, are on the Blackprints: consult the Editor! All the stamps are printed by the ÖSD on the standard "white stamp paper" and comb-perfed. The counter sheets contain 50 stamps.

Hunting and Environment: Protection of wet biotopes for the sake of aquatic game

Issued 16.2.2001. ANK 2370: 7 Sch



Colours: photo: turquoise-blue, lemon-yellow, crimson, grey-black, yellow-brown, black. Perf 14x14 Issue 4,000,000. Design Mag. Valentin Wurnitsch.

In the past, wet biotopes were drained for use by agriculture. Nowadays hunters and some interested landowners try very hard, not only to ensure conservation of those wet biotopes which still exist and to enhance their quality by creating ponds and planting appropriate woods, but also to create new wet biotopes in the interest of many animals like frogs, all kinds of ducks, and rare aquatic birds such as night-herons, cormorants etc. Hunting associations spend considerable sums on conservation of areas important for aquatic game. An example is the Grabensee project near Marchegg, where we find the biggest duck, stork, and heron colonies in Austria including the most important central European natural breeding colony of storks which still build their nests in trees.

100th Anniversary of Zillertal Railway

Issued 30.3.2001. ANK 2371: 7 Sch



Colours: photo: turquoise-blue, lemon-yellow, crimson, grey, blue-black, brown-red, pale-brown; intaglio: black. Perf $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$ Issue 2,700,000. Design Marianne Siegl. Engraving Gerhart SchmirL.

The stamp shows steam engine number 3. This single-track 760 mm narrow-gauge railway runs 32km from Jenbach to Mayrhofen in the Tirol, only a 97m difference in altitude. It

was planned for tourism also, connects villages, and is heavily used even in this motorised era. A hundred years ago the railway had 118,000 passengers, last year some two million. Short distance regular traffic is provided by railcars (and buses: shh!), excursion traffic mostly by one of the six steam locomotives, pulling nostalgic passenger coaches. Regular traffic runs at 50 km/h; tourist trains with up to 26 coaches run at 35km/h to let the passengers have a good look at the beautiful countryside. Hobby drivers can hire a special steam locomotive: top speed 25km/h. Parties can hire a social coach decorated with 62,000 Swarovski crystals, a buffet coach, an open sight-seeing car, a beer wagon, and even a "Wild West" train. This small railway has a considerable freight traffic: 450,000 tons last year, of which 300,000 tons was wood forwarded to two processing plants. This was the largest freight volume ever transported on this railroad. A special postmark showing a small steam locomotive was used on the first day of validity of the stamp.

Austrian Soccer Champions: Sports Club Wüstenrot Salzburg

Issued 30.3.2001. ANK 2372: 7 Sch



Colours: photo: turquoise-blue, lemon-yellow, pale-purple-red, violet, black. Perf $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$ Issue 2,600,000 Design Hannes Margreiter.

The former soccer clubs "FC Hertha" and "FC Rapid" merged in 1933 to become "SV Austria Salzburg" bearing purple-white colours. The name was changed into "SV Casino Salzburg" in 1978, and finally in 1997, "SV Wüstenrot Salzburg" after its

major sponsor (Wüstenrot is a financial organisation similar to a building society). Salzburg first came to the national division A in 1953, and after a very difficult period re-entered the first national division in 1989. In 1992 the club was second in the Austrian championship, and in 1993, 1994, and 1997 Austrian champion. In 1993 and 1994 the Salzburg soccer club also won the Austrian super-cup. In 1994 the team was the first Austrian representative in the Champions League in which it also participated in 1995 and 1997. In 1997 the club took part in the UEFA cup. [See 'Austria' 135 for an article illustrated in colour on the design process of this stamp.]

National Customs and Folklore Treasures: The Boat Mill at Mureck

Issued 30.3.2001. ANK 2373: 8 Sch



Colours: photo: turquoise-blue, yellow, crimson, ochre-yellow, grey-black; intaglio: dark-violet-brown. Perf 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ Issue 2,000,000. Design Maria Schulz. Engraving Prof Wolfgang Seidel.

A description of a water mill resembling those still in use in the Austrian countryside was written in 25BC. Some five hundred years later, when the water supply to Rome had been destroyed by the Ostrogoths, Romans used wheeled boats stationed in the Tiber to scoop up water.

Boat mills were later common on the Danube, the Rhine, the Drau and other rivers. 150 years ago there were still 43 such boat mills on the Mur in the Radkersburg region, but they all fell into decay. Societies developed in many places to restore old mills or to build new ones based on ancient plans, like the one in Mureck. Today this mill treats and sells organically grown wheat, common spelt, and rye. Customers may even taste Styrian specialities in the adjacent farmhouse.

75th Anniversary of Salzburg Airport

Issued 20.4.2001. ANK 2374: 14 Sch

Colours: photo: blue, scarlet, sepia; intaglio: dark-red-brown. Perf 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ x13 $\frac{1}{2}$ Issue 1,600,000. Design



Peter Konkolits. Engraving Robert Trsek.

Salzburg airport was first opened on 22 May 1926, and the traffic steadily increased until WWII. In 1944 the USAF bombed it (but missed); they took it over in 1945. After the war, traffic was slowly re-established, and following long discussions an expansion plan was started in 1959, involving new runways, rebuilt autobahns etc. to take larger aeroplanes bringing the rapidly-expanding tourist traffic. Further expansion followed of runway and buildings; in 2000 the "Salzburg Airport W A Mozart" handled 1,265,000 passengers including your Editor. The stamp shows the first airport building.

Rolf Rüdiger



Issued 20.4.2001. ANK 2375: 7 Sch

Colours: photo: yellow-orange, red, turquoise-blue, dark-blue-grey, black. Perf 13¾x13¾ Issue 2,700,000. Design Elisabeth Pirker, Peter Widmann.

The stamp shows Rolf Rüdiger, a character from the children's TV series Confetti-TiVi. Extract from script: "*Rolf, what do you think of your stamp? Very tasty! Yes... apart from that? Well, I can send my love letters with my own stamp on them, which is more than the President of Austria can!*"

Natural Beauties in Austria: Bärenschützklamm in Styria

Issued 4.5.2001. ANK 2376:

7 Sch

Colours: photo: turquoise-blue, lemon-yellow, purple-red-lilac, blue-green; intaglio violet-black. Perf 13¾x13¾ Issue 2,700,000. Design Peter Sinaweil. Engraving Kurt Leitgeb.

A water-carrying gorge is one of the most beautiful things nature has to offer. The stamp shows the exceptional impression made by



such a natural monument, 1300 metres long and made accessible by 164 bridges and 51 ladders. Because one becomes tired and hungry when climbing 2500 steps in 2 hours, an inn with the name "The Good Shepherd" offers refreshments at the end of the hike. Nature offers everything that can be expected: a 50 meter high roaring waterfall, numerous cascades, bizarre rock formations, niches, grooves, a rock cathedral called in the vernacular "Gigeritzkirchen", a genuine bear cave in the neighbourhood, and views of 400 million years of nature. In former times the gorge was accessible only to experienced climbers, but since 1901, when the Graz Alpine Club built a path, it can be hiked through with normal equipment. Today, the Austrian Alpine Association is responsible for the maintenance of this path, which proves very costly as its repeated destruction by floods is practically unavoidable.

Popular Customs and Folklore Treasures: Lent Cloth from Eastern Tirol

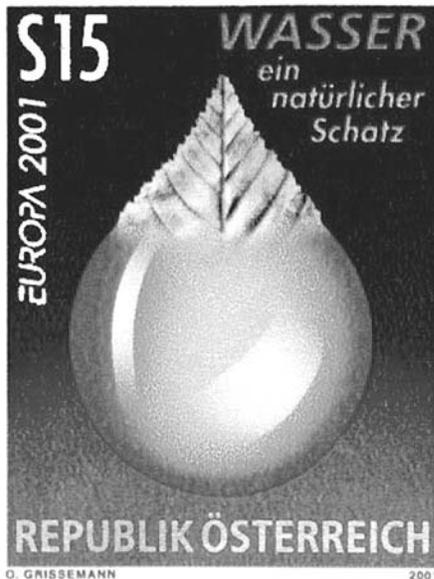
Issued 4.5.2001. ANK 2377: 7 Sch

Colours: photo: grey-black, lemon-yellow, crimson, brown-ochre, reddish-ochre, turquoise-blue; intaglio dark-violet-brown. Perf 13¾x13¾ Issue 2,700,000 Design Maria Schulz. Engraving Prof Wolfgang Seidel.



So-called Lent Cloths are to veil the altar during Lent, as according to medieval belief the penitent human is not worthy to look at God. The custom started in the 10th century, was further spread in the late middle ages, then cut back by the Reformation and by Joseph II's policies, and has nowadays been revived. While the cloths were originally plain, they were later embroidered or painted. A particularly beautifully painted, 32 square meters large cloth from 1640, restored only recently by the

federal department for monuments, can be found in the folklore museum at Laudongasse, 1080 Vienna. In a 'picture bible' of 36 fields, it shows the whole Salvation History including Ascension Day and the Coronation of Maria. Naturally it is not possible to illustrate the whole cloth on one postage stamp. Maria Schulz, the stamp designer, has chosen the Annunciation with the archangel Gabriel and Maria in the centre and surrounded them with other 18 smaller pictures from the creation of mankind to the entombment of Christ.



Europe 2001

Issued 18.5.2001. ANK 2378: 15 Sch

Colours: photo: blue, turquoise-blue, yellow, light-violet-blue, blue-black, silver. Perf 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x13 $\frac{3}{4}$ Issue 1,500,000. Design Mag Otmar Grissemann.

The specific topic of 'Posteurop' for 2001 was "Water". Only 3% of the water available on earth is fresh water of which only 1/10th is usable. The annual water requirement of Austria is approximately 2.6 billion m³, with the supply being 84 billion m³. With a need of 3% of the total water resource, Austria is a country rich in water. The European Parliament and the Council has been dealing with the problem of a common water policy for 3 years. In 2000, an agreement regarding "water overall guidelines" was reached, with sustainable water utilisation having highest priority. A high level in water management is to be achieved with new quality and monitoring standards. The principal objectives are among other things (a) extension of water protection on all waters including coastal (b) reaching and preservation of a high quality (c) a strong integration of the population in planning and decision making processes (d) a gradual reduction of discharges of dangerous materials. Although in Austria many of these aims are already common practice, due to the federal structure and the fact that property owners are also the owner of the underlying groundwater, much improvement remains to be accomplished.

Day of the postage stamp

Issued 18.5.2001. ANK 2379: 20 + 10 Sch



K.K. FAHRENDES
POSTAMT № 2

Colours: photo: yellow-green, dark-blue-green, green-blue, brown-orange, ochre-yellow, olive-green; intaglio: black. Perf $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$ Issue 1,100,000 Design Marianne Siegl. Engraving Gerhart Schmirl.

After 10 years of combining two letters of the two words "Philatelie" and "Briefmarke" on a postage stamp, it was generally desired to bring the topic of the "Day of the Postage Stamp" issue closer to the subject of philately. Therefore Erich Bober, President of the VOePh, had the agreement of all other members when he suggested the use of TPOs (post office railway cars) from various times. Similar to the "On the way to WIPA" mini-sheets, TPOs from the monarchy and the first & second republics will be presented on three new postage stamps. TPOs will in any case soon cease to exist, as the time a train now stops in a station is too short for the interchange of mail, and as large stationary sorting machines generally replace the hand sorting of letter post. The artist Marianne Siegl created the postage stamp following a model from the Viennese Technical Museum. The first Austrian TPO operated between Vienna and Oderberg in 1843. As it needed more space than the usual four-wheel cars, two were coupled together, the adjacent walls removed and the sides connected with leather bellows. The postage stamp is printed in small sheets with 10 fields with every second field (left and right alternately) being an ornamental field displaying old TPO cancels. The blackprint has a 3-page essay by C Kainz on the history of the TPO.

100 years of Austrian Aero Club



Issued 8.6.2001. ANK 2380: 7 Sch

Colours: photo: turquoise-blue, scarlet, blue, light-violet, ultramarine-grey, sienna, gold; intaglio: black. Perf $13\frac{3}{4} \times 14$. Issue 2,700,000. Design Auguste Böcskör Engraving Maria Laurent.

The two free balloons "Jupiter" and "Saturn" marked the beginning of the 100 year old history of the Club. In 1901 approximately 50 members made 20 balloon flights. In 1903 one balloon flew 6,810 meters high and in 1906 the Club participated in a sporting balloon competition in Berlin. Between 1910 and 1914 "motor-flying" developed rapidly. After WWI the association lost both its aircraft and its fortune. After WWII, flying was generally forbidden; only in 1949 was "glider sport" approved by the Allies. Today the Aero Club is a federation with 550

Associations and 17,000 members. It is active in the sports of amateur built aircraft, ballooning, parachuting, hang-gliding, aeromodelling, power flying, paragliding, gliding, microlight, and in the organisation of the civil airfields. The Austrian Aero Club is a non-profit organisation within the Worldwide "Federation Aeronautique International" and regards it as its function to promote general aviation as well as the sport of flying, and to ensure a free air space. It organizes technical and aeronautic training courses as well as aviation meetings and events up to world championship.

50 years UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Issued 8.6.2001. ANK 2381: 21 Sch

Colours: photo: violet-blue, dark-pink-lilac, silver; intaglio: black. Perf 14x13¾
Issue 1,500,000. Design Prof Otto Stefferl. Engraving Prof Werner Pfeiler.

The office of the United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR for



short) has existed since 1951 and has its seat in Geneva. Forerunners of the UNHCR were a refugee organisation of the "League of Nations", and an international UN refugees organisation which existed from 1946 to 1951. The role of the UNHCR is to guarantee that states adhere to

conventions on which they have agreed, that the rights of refugees are respected, and that refugees are not sent back to countries where they are exposed to danger. The organisation has about 5000 employees, & supplies the refugees with basic necessities and medical care. In 1954 and 1981 the UNHCR received the Nobel Peace Prize for its activities. The magnitude of the problem is enormous: worldwide 50 million humans are affected with 1.8 millions being Kurds, 3.5 millions Yugoslavs, 2.7 millions Afghans, 1 million from the Kosovo, 2 millions from Rwanda, etc. Austria's refugee problem is modest in comparison, with about 3,000 to 10,000 "general" refugees per year. Moreover it cares for 280,000 ethnic German, 200,000 Hungarians (from the rebellion in 1956) 162,000 Czechs and Slovaks (at the end of the "Prague spring"), 33,000 Poles (imposition of martial law in 1981). The numbers change constantly but during the last conflict in the Balkans, Austria had to take in at least 60,000.

Semmering Railway

Issued 8.6.2001. ANK 2382: 35 Sch

Colours: photo: ultramarine, lemon-yellow, cream, rose, ultramarine-grey; intaglio: dark-black-brown. Perf $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$ Issue 1,500,000. Design Peter Sinawehl. Engraving Prof Wolfgang Seidel.

REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH



SEMNERINGBAHN
WELTKULTURERBE · UNESCO
P. SINAWEHL 2001 W. SEIDEL

The stamp shows the "Kalte Rinne" viaduct. The route of the railway over the Semmering pass is so outstanding that even today it still earns admiration. Rarely have nature and technique been linked in such a perfect way. While Carl Ritter von Ghega used all the technical possibilities available at that time to build the first mountain railway, he also achieved

an integration of the railway into the landscape. The often-changing views make the traveller regret that the travel time has been reduced from 2 hours to only 43 minutes since the railway operation started in 1854. Today the 41km mountainous route covers a height difference of 460 meters and crosses 16 viaducts and 15 tunnels at a speed of 58 kilometres per hour, instead of the 23kph achieved in 1854. The Semmering railway line provides ideal test conditions for all new rolling stock: people living near the railway are able to admire the newest designs a long time before their official use.

7th IVV Hiking Olympics

Issued 22.6.2001. ANK 2383: 7 Sch

Colours: photo: dark-yellow-green, green, yellow, crimson, ultramarine, black. Perf $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$ Issue 2,500,000. Design Michelle Schneeweiß.

Public running competitions with



M. SCHNEEWEISS

2001

untrained runners attempting winning times can result in heart attacks and even death. This led to the conviction that hiking without any time pressure would be much healthier than competitive running. In 1968 associations from Germany, Switzerland, Liechtenstein and Austria founded the "International folk-sport-association" (IVV in German: short for Internationaler Volkssport-Verband). As they failed to link with other sports associations, a separate organisation was built up, now including associations from twenty countries. The idea was very successful of taking part in hiking, biking and skiing competitions following the Olympic thought "it's taking part that counts" without any pressure to win. In the year 2000, 5,200 member associations brought more than 15 million people to hiking in 7,850 competitions following I.V.V. guidelines. There are no time limits and no time checks; only control points to be passed. In June 20-24 2001 the public Olympics in Seefeld offered 10, 20 and 42km hiking routes, one children's hiking route, one mountainous route, 25 and 50 km biking routes and 500 and 1000 metres swimming routes. The postage stamp "Seppl, the hiking marmot" was designed by the then 7 year old Michelle Schneeweiß. The special cancel shows the mark of an old hiking boot. [See 'Austria' 136 pages 53-60]

Military post service in foreign countries

Issued 22.6.2001. ANK 2384: 7 Sch

Colours: photo: blue, turquoise-blue, lemon-yellow, crimson, black. Perf 13¾x13¾ Issue 2,500,000. Design Marianne Siegl.



The stamp shows the old Field Post Office at Famagusta. One can confidently agree with the statement that a military unit is as reliable as its postal service home. The charter of the United Nations states among other things: "We, the members of the United Nations, determined to protect the next generation from the

scourge of war, have decided to unite our efforts to achieve these intentions." Austria, a member of the UN since December 14, 1955, has fulfilled several obligations including the taking of measures in cases of threats to peace. Compared to its size, Austria has taken part in a disproportionately large number of peace-keeping operations.

Popular traditions and folklore: Preberschiessen, Salzburg

Issued 24.8.2001. ANK 2385: 7Sch



Colours: photo: grey-black, lemon-yellow, turquoise-blue, crimson; intaglio: dark-crimson-brown. Perf 13¾x13¾ Issue 2,000,000. Design Maria Schulz. Engraving Prof Wolfgang Seidel.

The Preber is a 2741m high mountain near Tamsweg in the Lungau, with a small lake, the Prebersee, at its base which is popular in summer for bathing. Several times in the year there is a special activity: shooting at water disks. The shooters aim at the reflection of 6 targets on the water surface. The projectiles touch the

surface, change direction and meet, if everything goes well, the actual disks, set up at a distance of 120 m. At the shooting range, the result of the shots is shown on six elevated disks between three disks at the water's edge on the left and three on the right. The origin of the unique tradition of "water disk shooting" is not well-known, the only authentic knowledge being that it has been operated since 1832. The postage stamp is designed by Maria Schulz, and engraved by Professor Wolfgang Seidl.

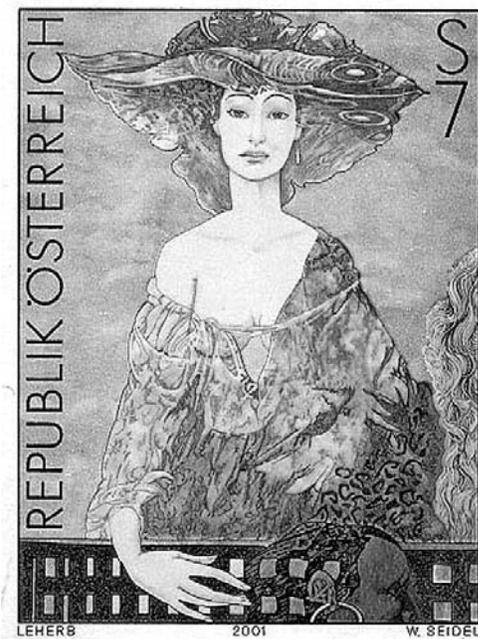
Four-tracking of the railway line from Vienna westwards

Issued 31.8.2001. ANK2386: 7Sch

Colours: photo: chamois, cobalt, grey-black, red, silver, brown, yellow; intaglio: black. Perf 13¾x13¾ Issue 1,500,000. Design Peter Sinawehl. Engraving Kurt Leitgeb.



The renewal of the railway system is highly necessary after more than one century of neglect and the ever more successful competition from road traffic. Due to topographic conditions and population density, not high speed lines but high capacity railways are constructed, which allow not only long-distance traffic with a speed of 200km/h and more, but regional traffic as well. During construction and operation, a main consideration is the disturbance to those living nearby, as well as to nature. Therefore many kilometres of noise abatement walls and in certain cases noise abatement windows and ventilators are planned. The postage stamp will be issued at the same time as the opening of the line between St. Peter - Seitenstetten and Haag - St. Valentin. 43km of new construction between St. Pölten and Ybbs are already in operation. A total of 80km of high capacity network are already finished. By the end of 2010 the four-tracking of the railway line between Vienna and Linz should be completed. The postal stamp showing a new section of the line as well as a "Taurus" engine was designed by Peter Sinaweil, engraved by Kurt Leitgeb.



Modern Art in Austria - Leherb

Issued 14.9.2001. ANK 2387: 7Sch

Colours: photo: ultramarine, yellow-brown, ochre-yellow, chamois, crimson; intaglio: dark-red-brown. Perf 13¾x13¾ Issue 1,500,000. Design Helmut Leherb. Engraving Prof Wolfgang Seidel.

The stamp shows the symbolic figure of modern Australia, a part of the cycle "The Continents". The surrealist artist Helmut Leherb (born Leherbauer on 14 March 1933, died 28 June 1997) created this gigantic, 380sqm work of art in faience technique in

the Great Hall of the Viennese University of Economics. The incredible work of art consists of 3500 ceramic tiles, in the faience technique further developed by Leherb; at the same time the artist brought the almost-forgotten technique of multi-layered glazes once again to life. In order to achieve the desired effects, the artist had to overcome many difficulties of a very complicated production, including illness and a 2 year interruption caused by the dust from the materials he used.

200. Birthday of Johann Nestroy



**Issued 14.9.2001. ANK2388:
7Sch**

Colours: photo: turquoise-blue, yellow; lilac-pink, dark-blue-grey, brownish-red, cobalt, gold; intaglio: black-brown. Perf 13½x14¼ Issue 2,000,000. Design Prof Otto Stefferl. Engraving Prof Werner Pfeiler.

20 year old Johann Nepomuk Eduard Ambrosius Nestroy, born in Vienna December 7, 1801, came to the theatre after studying law, first as an

opera singer, then as actor and singer. He wrote 80 stage plays with effective songs, which are still performed now. His break-through to success came in 1832 at the Theater an der Wien with the farce "The bad spirit Lumpazivagabundus (Der böse Geist Lumpazivagabundus)" written in a style reminiscent of Ferdinand Raimund. Between 1838 and 1844 he inspired with many contemporary plays such as "The Talisman (Der Talisman)" and "The girl from the suburb (Das Mädchen aus der Vorstadt)". In 1854 he became director of the Leopoldstädter Theater. In 1860 he withdrew to Graz, where he died on May 25, 1862. He perfected the type of the "Viennese folks theatre", was a master of dialect and high-level language, enjoyably using malicious satire with earthy comedy to denounce the weaknesses of the society of his time - but he did not forget conciliatory humour. The critic Karl Krauss (1874-1936), a recognized moralist of his time, stated that Nestroy's plays, although written for the popular theatre, had much higher quality than required - leading to a rediscovery of Nestroy's plays in the 20th Century. Probably his plays should be more performed today: or do we simply need another Nestroy?

125th Death Anniversary of the painter and draughtsman Joseph Ritter von Führich

Issued 14.9.2001. ANK 2389: 8Sch

Colours: photo: light-greenish-blue; intaglio: blue-green. Perf 14x13¾ Issue 1,900,000. Design Mag Michael Fuchs. Engraving Prof Wolfgang Seidel.

Joseph Ritter von Führich, born in Kratzau in 1800 (today Chrastava in Northern Bohemia) inherited the talent from his father, also a painter. Two of Führich's own paintings met with such approval that he was admitted to the Prague Academy in 1819.



Finally his works were recognized by a group of aristocrats, including Prince Metternich. This enabled Führich to start further training in Italy in 1826; in this time of classicism a stay in Rome was an uppermost interest for a young artist. There he met prominent

German romantics such as Koch, Schnorr von Carolsfeld and Overbeck; the latter arranged for Führich to decorate a room designed by Overbeck in the Massimi mansion. The fresco cycle developed there is one of the highlights of romantic painting. In 1829 Führich returned to Prague, in 1834 he became curator of the academic picture gallery in Vienna, and in 1840 he started teaching as professor for history painting at the Viennese academy of arts. Three of his most well-known works are the Stations of the Cross frescoes in the Johann Nepomuk church in Vienna, a cycle from the "First Day of Creation" up to "Judgement Day" in the new building of the Altlerchenfelderkirche, and finally the cycle "the lost son", a detail of which served as the model for the new postage stamp.



Old arts and crafts - Pluviale

Issued 14.9.2001. ANK 2390: 10Sch

Colours: photo: sulphur-yellow, crimson, turquoise-blue, dark-blue-grey; intaglio: black. Perf 13¾x13¾ Issue 1,500,000. Design and engraving Prof Werner Pfeiler.

Pluvialis, the latin word for rain, refers to a coat, which, like all other Catholic liturgical garb has its origin in the Roman Mediterranean area. Originally the Pluviale was used as a customary article of clothing, but later on it became

a floor length attire for festivities. The Pluviale was made of a semicircular piece of cloth mostly of silk, which was put over the shoulders and held together on the chest with a clasp. On the back the cloth originally formed a hood, which later became a decoration adorned with tassels. The liturgical garment illustrated on the postal stamp is in the cathedral of Feldkirch. A Pluviale is also called a Vesper- or Smoke-coat, because it is worn by priests at processions and religious celebrations using incense. Generally the Pluviale is worn over an Alb, a floor length, white underdress, or sometimes over a Rochett, a white shirt. Both are usually plentifully adorned at the sleeves and at the hems. Church clothes, as all other clothes, are subject to fashion with the art of the time being expressed in the style. Therefore, Pluviales are found in roman, gothic, baroque and modern styles and cuts, most of the time decorated with embroideries or in recent time coloured in batik technique.

Turkish Vestment

Issued 5.10.2001. ANK 2391: 7Sch



Colours: photo: yellow, brown-orange, blue-grey, cornflower-blue, red; intaglio: black. Perf 13¾x13¾ Issue 1,500,000. Design and engraving Prof Werner Pfeiler.

At the Carmelite monastery in the Silbergasse in Vienna can be found this Dalmatik (the liturgical garb of a deacon); it is mentioned in the chronicles of the district of Doebbling and is said to be made from the material of the tent of the Turkish Grand Vizier Kara Mustafa, captured at the relief of Vienna in 1683. This story is only partially true because the tent had been brought to Poland by the Polish king Sobieski. On the other

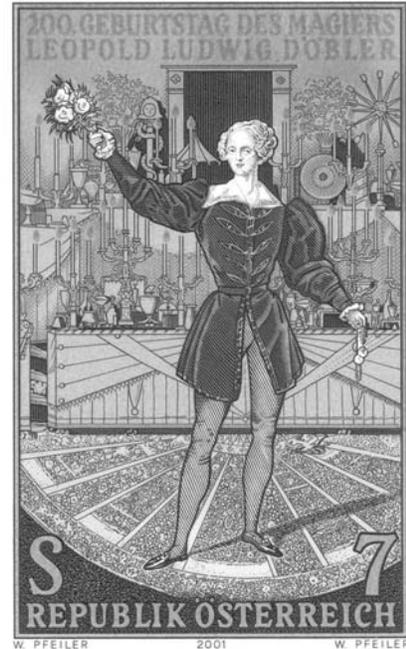
hand, several more tents of the Turkish supreme command existed. It is said that the Carmelites had received the vestment from a member of the house of Liechtenstein. There, the tent material, a material with an eastern floral embroidery, had been adorned with baroque decor and the coat of arms of the house of Liechtenstein. A Dalmatik originates (as the name implies) from Dalmatia; it refers to a tunic worn by men and women in the Roman empire. Nowadays it refers to a deacons outer garment.

200. Birthday of the Magician Leopold Ludwig Döbler

Issued 5.10.2001. ANK 2392: 7Sch

Colours: photo: purple-red-lilac, crimson-pink, cornflower-blue, yellow, dark-blue-grey, gold [*which do not reproduce well in black/white! Ed*]; intaglio: black. Perf 13¾x14 Issue 2,000,000. Design and engraving Prof Werner Pfeiler.

Exactly 200 years before the stamp's day of issue, Döbler was born as the son of a goldsmith from Gmünd and a Viennese woman, in the Viennese suburb of Schottenfeld. He became an engraver, but soon earned his living as a magician in secondary restaurants in the Jägerzeile. At the age of 25 the emperor Franz acknowledged his large talent and unusual technical skill. From 1831 he demonstrated his arts in Germany and later all over Europe. Wherever he came, the theatres were sold out for weeks. Döbler used his knowledge also for lectures in experimental physics, and worked as an inventor. His moving images made a special impression; they can be viewed as forerunners of films, without electrical light. In 1840 he held 61 magic performances within 10 weeks in the Viennese Josefstadt theatre, which were all sold out. His main attraction was small bouquets wrapped in white lace paper, which he conjured from an battered top hat and then threw in large numbers with a flattering verse to his audience. From 1850 he was mayor of Eschenau, later buying a castle and entertaining European aristocracy. He died on 17 April 1864



150 years of the Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics



Issued 5.10.2001. ANK 2393: 12Sch

Colours: photo: ultramarine, lemon-yellow, crimson, gold; intaglio: red-brown. Perf 14x13¾ Issue 1,200,000. Design and engraving Prof Werner Pfeiler.

Since the beginning of the 16th century the weather has been regularly monitored in Austria. From 1654 onwards, regular instrumental

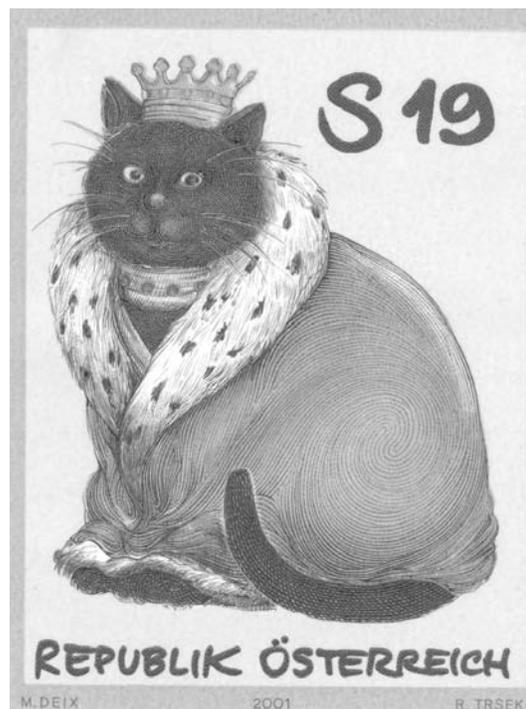
meteorological observations have been made in Innsbruck; in 1763 the Benedictine monastery in Kremsmünster started an uninterrupted series of meteorological observations; and in 1848 the Imperial Academy of Sciences began to set up a network of meteorological stations. Since their establishment in 1851 the field of activities of the "Hohe Warte" have enormously extended to the following departments: Weather: Short-and-medium-range forecasts, storm and smog warnings, satellite meteorology, analysis and interpretation of numerical weather forecast products. Climatology: Development and application of models, climate variability, bio-climatology, climatological survey of Austria, agro-, hydro-climatology and glaciology. Environment: Pollutant spreading, precautions against and counselling in crises. Geophysics: Earthquakes, magnetism and ground examinations, seismology, earth magnetism, geophysical survey of Austria, engineering and environmental geophysics. They also give consultant and advisory assistance in diverse areas, eg for the energy sector, the building trade, law and insurance issues etc - the economic return from of the modern weather station is many times higher than its budget.

Domestic animal: cat

Issued 5.10.2001. ANK 2394: 19Sch

Colours: photo: crimson, chamois, grey-black, gold; intaglio: violet-black. Perf 13¾x13¾ Issue 1,2000,000. Design Manfred Deix. Engraving Robert Trsek.

Our domestic cat probably originates from Egypt, from where it spread due to the trade in the Mediterranean area. Throughout the centuries it has lived with humans to mutual benefit, as the cat was able to protect against the ever increasing number of rats and mice. In the Middle Ages the cat was regarded as a creature of the devil, and therefore tortured and brutally killed. Today cats live not only on farms in the countryside and follow their "traditional occupation" of mouse-catching, but also live in cities, where they are welcomed because of their cleanliness and their fondness for playing. The "cat king" stamp was designed by the caricaturist Manfred Deix, who was born in St. Pölten



on 22 Feb 1949 and moved to Vienna in 1970. In 1986 he wrote in the book "My Diary" about his 39 cats; today about 100 condescend to live with him. [See also the Special Sheet in 'Austria' 136 page 10.]

The Austrian world of work: Public Service

Issued 16.10.2001. ANK 2395: 7Sch



Colours: photo: turquoise-blue, sulphur-yellow, crimson, sepia, scarlet, gold; intaglio: black. Perf 14x13¾ Issue 1,500,000. Design Stephanie Guberner. Engraving Gerhart Schmir.

The expression "public service" includes all persons employed to

guarantee the citizens security, education, social and health services. Austria's administration is often characterised as ever more complicated, and the need for reforms reiterated - but when compared with other countries it scores highly in the areas of security, law, health infrastructure, and quality of life. The stamp design shows various public servants, with in the background a representation of an old school class.

Christmas 2001

Issued 30.11.2001. ANK 2396: 7Sch

Colours: photo: chamois, yellow, crimson, turquoise-blue, gold; intaglio: dark-violet-brown. Perf 14x14 Issue 10,000,000. Design Christine Buchner. Engraving Prof Wolfgang Seidel.

Filzmoos is situated to the east of Bischofshofen in a small valley. Once a very poor small village, it nowadays has about 1200 inhabitants and welcomes half a million visitors each year. In the small Gothic church dating from 1474 are interesting frescoes (from about 1515), and a newly designed high altar was installed in 1960. In front of a stained glass window with a modern depiction of the Holy Ghost is a hanging glass shrine, which contains a clothed figurine more than 90cm high that represents the infant Jesus. It dates from the 14th century and has a small bell in its right hand and a globe in its left hand, surrounded by a nimbus. According to legend this figurine stood on a tree trunk "where it attracted devout shepherds with the lovely sound of the small bell".



They brought the figure to the local parson who in those days was to be found in Altenmarkt; but the next day it was again found on the tree trunk at Filzmoos, whereupon it was taken to the Saints Peter and Paul church there, where it is to be found to this day. Karl Neuhofer from Salzburg drew the special first-day cover postmark of Filzmoos, namely the "Filzmooser Kindl", the infant Jesus figurine, which is also integrated into the local coat of arms with the church and the characteristic "bishop's mitre" mountain as a background. [This is shown on ANK1587, the 3S value of the Landscapes series, issued on 22 Mar 1974.]



NOTES from publications en route to the Library.

by Andy Taylor

Library Index

A revised edition of the complete Books Library List is in preparation, and if all goes to plan will be issued in April 2003. It will replace the "yellow booklet" (which is out of print anyway) and its assorted widely-scattered amendments and supplements.

Die Briefmarke:

Issue 11/2002: 1858 issue types (colour illustrations!); Franz Stelzhamer's 200th anniversary; postal history of Pramet; new Vienna Briefzentrum opens; etc

Issue 12/2002: 50 years of Die Briefmarke (!); dates in 2003 which look like postcodes; 2002 Christmas cancels in Austria & stamps worldwide; slogan cancels of Knittelfeld; postage dues for unfranked mail to Germany in 1946; 1858 issue types (cont); Liechtenstein; etc

Issue 1/2003: Post-WWII pneumatic mail in Vienna; the Generaldirektor of Oesterreichischen Post AG interviewed; Burgenland registration labels; slogan cancels of Schoerfling am Attersee & Langenlois; postal history of Altheim; VOePh Open Day; stamp-like labels & pseudo-cancels; ANK, Michel catalogue reviews; etc

Every issue contains details of new Austrian cancellations & issues; philatelic meetings, events & displays; reports from UNO, Switzerland & Germany; European new issues; brief news items etc etc.

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Militaria Austriaca Philatelia

Issue 203: AGM Reports; a plethora of short reports & notices on WWI, WWII and subsequent topics; and Herr Riedel's appeal for assistance (see Editorial)

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Feld- und Zensurpost 1914-18

Issue 71: AGM & meeting reports; Qs&As; the Viribus Unitis; WWI censorship of picture-postcards sent abroad; FPO378 in Warsaw; Przemysl Regulations; book reviews & special offers; etc

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Österreich e.V.

Issue 60: reports; new issues; Qs&As; assorted modern oddities; lists of Silesian Offices; snippets from 'Die Briefmarke'; etc

Wiener Ganzsachen F u P-Verein.

Issue 4/2002: Iraq; Airmail rates to China 1946-48 (by Henry Pollak); the Salzburg balloon post forgeries.

Czechout

Issue 4/2002: Meetings; letters; notes-from-pubs; Czech POW mail to/from Italy in 1917-19; Q&A; much of later Czech & Slovak interest and on Czechoslovak Legions in WWI; many coloured illustrations.

Austrian Philatelic Society (US) - Journal

Vol 3 No 1: the Ergänzungsmarke; the Spital 'stamp'; Revenue stamps used for Postage and conversely (a translation of Ferch2K pp263-273); Austrian offices in Neum.

Stamps of Hungary

Issue 151 December 2002: New Editor wanted; many articles on post-WWI periods.

Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale

Issue 120: (i) Association news; (ii) A postal history of the Papal States, Part III, by Thomas Matha (iii) The German postal services in the theatre of operations in the Adriatic Littoral (Kuestenland), Deutsche Dienstpost Adria, by Bruno Bellotti [*this is from 1943 to 1945. See also Merkur Innsbruck series vol 2 for Deutsche Dienstpost Alpenvorland.*] (iv) Catalogue of Republic of Venice handstamps, by Paolo Vollmeier [*lavishly b/w illustrated!*]

Issue 121: (i) Association news; (ii) A remarkable postal event and a great discovery: first-day use of the (Austrian) 10 centesimi in Lombardy-Venetia (1 June 1850), by Carlo Vicario [*An interesting account of a newly-discovered first day cover of Lombardy-Venetia bearing the wrong stamps on the wrong side and wrongly handled by the post office - a typical first-day event!*] (iii) Update on certain postmarks of the Republic of Venice considered forged, on ship mail,

by Adriano Cattani [*The argument whether the "ship letter" marks appearing on late 18th century Venetian mail are forgeries or perhaps disinfection charge marks continues to run*]. (iv) Military mail handled by Italian civil post offices, by Walter Menegon (v) Trieste after 8 September 1943, by Michele Amorosi [*German mail following the occupation of Trieste in 1943.*]; (vi) Italian postcards of the First World War, by Luigi Weiss (vii) Author and article index 1998-2002 (viii) A 19th century passport by Nello Bagni (ix) Updates to the "List of Italian TPO cancellations (Rail, Lake and Sea) 1851-1890 by Adriano Cattani (x) Recent publications [*Includes a reference to "Austrias" Nos. 138 and 139*] (xi) Miscellaneous

Cinderella Philatelist

Vol 43 no 1: Library list; 1918(?) League of Germans in Lower Austria; 1913-14 Fundraising labels for Infantry Regiment No 42; Rodella-Haus labels with the Postablage cancel (Kühnel 2247); Hungarian occupation overprints 1918-21 (8pp article); etc etc

Germania

November 2002 vol 38 no 4. History of Moresnet; Zeppelin mail to Hermann Stolz; reports from regional groups; Q&A; new issues etc.

New Library Books

"Austria Netto Katalog - Briefmarken - Oesterreich Spezialkatalog 2002/3" [APS Lib 342]

This is the Euro Edition! Coverage is the same as the 2001/2. Prices have been reviewed to incorporate market reality and the demand for higher quality. A few spot checks: 1Kr FDC was 69,000Eu, now 80,000Eu; Red Mercury (used) was 69,000Eu now 70,000Eu; 1910 80th birthday set with red special cancel was 2,180Eu now 2,200Eu; Renner Blocks with special cancel were 10,901Eu now 11,000Eu; 4X-Blackprint of 30th May 2000 "150 years" stamp (available only in the Festschrift) was 145Eu now 190Eu. Your Editor continues to regard this as "*The* catalogue to use".

"Über alte Tiroler Briefe" by Hubert Jungwirth [APS Lib 352]

This comb-bound 70pp A5 booklet gives an overview of postal arrangements in the Tirol from 1489 to 1842. It covers postal rates; weight, distance & currency units; postal routes; mail to from and through the Tirol. Lists of cancellations are given. There are many colour illustrations; the text is in German. Copies may be obtained from Tyrolphila in Innsbruck [see Advert, p.36] for 15 Euro plus postage.

"Postgeschichte des Burgenlands" Vol 2 [APS Lib 353] & Vol 3 [APS Lib 354]

See notes below on the "Postgeschichte des Burgenlands" project.

"Michel Ganzsachen-Katalog Europa West 2000/01" from Schwanenberger Verlag. [APS Lib 355]

This covers the whole of Western Europe (and Turkey, Cyprus & UNO Vienna & Geneva; but Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia are absent). It has been purchased for the Austria section, which occupies pages 538 to 614, with an index on pages 890 to 893. Unusually, the material is listed in the order of the imprinted design, so that for example Pneumatic Post Cards are in five different places. The depth of coverage seems similar to Schneiderbauer. The main advantage of this volume is that the coverage is complete to about 1999, while Schneiderbauer's second edition stops at 1980.

A further clarification on "books by Rainer".

There are TWO Rainers in the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Feld- und Zensurpost 1914-18, Herwig and Norbert. Dipl Ing Herwig Rainer lives in Graz & is President and Librarian, while Herr Norbert Rainer lives in Vienna & is Editor. The APS Editor apologises to both the Rainers. The APS Library contains the following works:

Item 301: "Stempel-Handbuch der k.u.k. Feldpost in Österreich-Ungarn 1914-1918" which is by Herwig Rainer; an update is believed to be planned for 2003.

Item 314: "Die Zensur in Osterreich nach dem Ersten Weltkrieg" by Norbert Rainer

Item 347: "Paketpost 1914-1918" by Norbert Rainer.

Postgeschichte des Burgenlands

Library items 196, 353 and 354 are volumes 1, 2 and 3 of "Postgeschichte des Burgenlands"- the Postal History of Burgenland. This is planned as an 11-volume compendium, and is masterminded by OStR. Professor Mag. Walter Bruckner, who is now at work on volume 8 covering Registration Labels. It has already been mentioned in 'Austria' in issue 124.

Volume 1 appeared in September 1987 with about 240 pages; several authors discuss aspects of the postal history of Pinkafeld, including the Freedom issues of the Austrians and the Hungarians.

Volume 2 appeared in November 1991 as a Festschrift celebrating 20 years of the Briefmarken-Sammlervereins Pinkafeld. Three weighty articles with extensive tables: "Cancels of today's Burgenland from pre-philatelic times to 1867" 119pp by J Wenzl; "Railway Post in today's Burgenland up to 1921" 74pp by W Bruckner; "POW & Internment camps in Burgenland during WWI" 140pp by W Bruckner. In German; published in 1991. (Guide AbbF)

Volume 3 appeared in September 1996 as a Festschrift celebrating 25 years of the BSV Pinkafeld! Describes in detail the Hungarian period, 1867-1921. All aspects of postal operation are covered. An illustrated listing of all cancels occupies 205 pages! There are town lists in German & Hungarian. In German, by W A Bruckner.

Volume 4 appeared in 1999, and deals with the period 1921-1938 with a catalogue of the Austrian postmarks in Burgenland in the first republic.

Volume 5 is in preparation, and will cover the 1938-1945 period.

Volume 8 is also in preparation, and will provide a comprehensive overview of the different types of registration cancel and label, and a list of all post offices at which they have been used. Before 1867, registration was done in the German language; but after the settlement with Hungary in 1867 (the Ausgleich) the Hungarian language was used. In 1890 Hungarian registration labels were introduced, which carried beside the large letter "R" the note "Ajänlott". After Burgenland's acquisition by Austria in 1921, blank labels were used first of all, as they were in use by the Austrian Bahnpost. The final registration labels with printed town names were only gradually issued. From 1938 to 1945, German registration labels were used. After the end of the war in 1945 the provisional registration labels of the Soviet zone of occupation as well as old and new Bahnpost registration labels were used first of all. An increasing variety of registration labels came into use, which can be distinguished by colour, format, shape of 'R', font etc.

spacer page

Maria Schulz

By Andy Taylor

Maria Schulz always works with great feeling, and does not need long to immerse herself in a theme. If then a thought hardens, it is captured, but again and again changed, improved, rejected. Ultimately a form crystallises which meets the high standards of the artist. Now the draft is refined and perfected technically. Only then is the master content. Collages and paintings of Nature are the art with which she communicates. In these she shows her particular love of nature and of detail. She cuts, pastes, paints and sprays. From leaves, grass, adhesive, silk and paint emerge atmospheric landscapes, exotic blossoms and imaginative compositions. Her hands give



form to her thoughts and her pictures reflect her feelings. Her themes are found in nature, in mythology, religion and mysticism. Be it acrylic, aquarelle (watercolour), airbrush, crayon, watercolour, varnish - she is familiar with each technique. And she is always learning more, for each new technology gives her new modes of expression. [R.Z.]

Maria Schulz was born in 1950 in Vienna, and learnt the profession of Lithographer in the stamp workshop of the Austrian State Printing Works. She added to her knowledge and experience through education at specialised Graphics institutes and from the diversity of her areas of interest. She still prefers to work by hand, with pencil, brushes and drawing pen.

Her first contacts with the Austrian Post and with foreign postal administrations developed during her time in the Austrian State Printing Works. Her first stamp was a "Weihnachtstryptichon" (Christmas Triptych) in 1986 for San Marino, which she followed by a long series of stamps for Cape Verde. Since 1990 she has designed Austrian commemorative stamps. Especially worth mentioning is the always-popular series "Volksbrauchtum und volkskundliche Kostbarkeiten" (Folk Customs & Art) which she has produced with enthusiasm in each odd-numbered year from 1991. In the annual vote for "the most beautiful Austrian stamp", three of her stamps have been chosen by philatelists.

In 1992, she realized her dream of becoming an independent graphic artist, under the motto "**Design rund um die Philatelie**". Numerous first-day, special and airmail cancellations as well as special issues, decorated covers, and commemorative sheets for philatelic associations are amongst her creative output. For particular occasions her well-known limited-edition Art-Card series is very popular and much sought after. Collages, illustrations and portraits are further facets of her artistry.



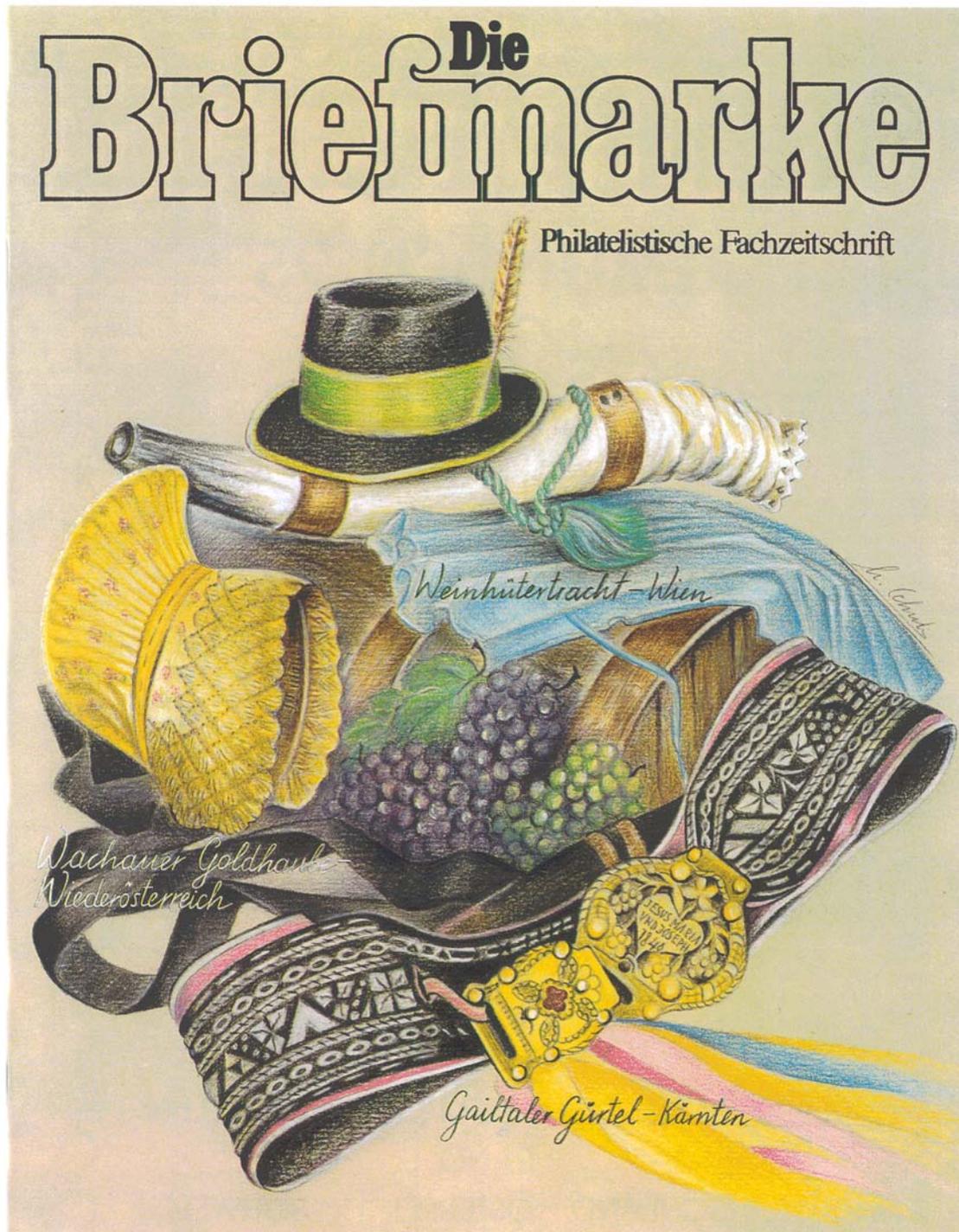
"**Design rund um die Philatelie**" is Maria Schulz' term for a synthesis of the design of the stamp, special cancellation, and card or envelope, so as to create an artistic entity which is visually satisfying, uniting its elements in the service of a greater whole. Examples are in the "**colour supplement**", which shows (1) designs for the 125th Birthday of Hans Kudlich stamp; (2) the Die Briefmarke cover for March 1995, which is a composite of the three Folk Customs stamps of that year: illustrated at the bottom of this page; (3) the Pummerin bell in Vienna, part of her Millennium Portfolio; (4) an Art-Card for 1999 and the original artwork for the "Internationale Gartenschau" stamp of 2000. Some typical Maria Schulz cancellation designs are below.

The author thanks Maria Schulz for her friendly co-operation and for supplying the artwork shown here; and Veronica Tobitt for artistic advice.





Maria Schulz designs for the "175th Birthday of Hans Kudlich" stamp



Maria Schulz cover for Die Briefmarke, March 1995, which is a composite of the three Folk Customs stamps of that year.



„wiederhergestellt unter Kardinal Dr. Theodor Innitzer,
über Bemühung von Heinrich Gleißner,
durch den Werkmeister Karl Geisz;

„geossen bin ich aus der Beute der Türken,
als die ausgeblutete Stadt nach tapferer Überwindung
der Feindlichen macht Jubilierke. 1711.“



„geborschten bin ich in der Blut des Brandes,
ich stürzte aus dem veräuselten Turm,
als die Stadt unter Krieg und Ängsten seufzte. 1945.“

„geweiht der Königin von Österreich,
damit durch ihre mächtige Fürbitte
Friede sei in Freiheit.“ 1951.“



The Pummerin bell in Vienna, part of Maria Schulz Millennium Portfolio



An Art-Card for 1999 and Maria Schulz original artwork for the "Internationale Gartenschau - Graz" stamp of 2000.



Some Austrian special cancellations designed by Maria Schulz

Austrian stamps designed by Maria Schulz

Year	ATS	Motiv ¹	'Austria':
1990	5	750 Jahre Oberdrauburg	124/75
1991	5	1200 Jahre Tulln	126/42
	5	Ruder-WM und Kanu-Junioren-WM Wien	129/11
	4,5	VVK: Almabtrieb, Tirol	129/13
	5	VVK: Winzerkrone, Wien	129/13
	7	VVK: Ernte-Monstranz, Steiermark	129/13
1992	5,5	100 Jahre Gewerkschaft der Privatangestellten	99/4
	5	8 Weltmeisterschaft im Rodeln auf Naturbahnen -Bad Goisern	99/4
1993	5	VVK: Fronleichnamspzession, OberÖsterreich	102/5
	5,5	VVK: Blochziehen, Burgenland	102/5
	7	VVK: Aperschnalzen, Salzburg	102/5
1994	20	300. Geburtstag des Barockmalers Daniel Gran	107/8
1995	5,5	VVK: Gailtaler Gürtel, Kärnten	111/10
	6	VVK: Weinhütertracht, Wien	111/10
	7	VVK: Wachauer Goldhaube, NiederÖsterreich	111/10
1996	6	250 Jahre Theresianische Akademie	115/4
	6	800 Jahre Klagenfurt	116/5
1997	7	VVK: Sternsinger, Burgenland	119/6
	6,5	VVK: Blasmusikkapelle, Tirol	119/9
	6,5	VVK: Turmblasen, OberÖsterreich	119/9
1998	6,5	125. Geburtstag von Hans Kudlich	124/9
1999	6,5	VVK: Fußwallfahrt auf der Via Sacra - Station Hafnerberg, NiederÖsterreich	126/4
	8	VVK: Kürbisfest im Retzer Land, NiederÖsterreich	128/8
	7	VVK: Neujahrsläuten der Pummerin, Wien	128/8
2000	7	Internationale Gartenschau - 2000 Graz	138/31
2001	8	VVK: Murecker Schiffmühle, Steiermark	141/14
	7	VVK: Fastentuch, Tirol	141/16
	7	VVK: Preber Wasserscheibenschießen, Salzburg	141/22
2002	0,51€	Caritas	142?

¹ "VVK" marks a stamp in the "Folk Customs & Art" series.

OBITUARY**Dennis Pritchard Brooker 1923 - 2002**

The APS Secretary and the Auctioneer, who are also members of the London Group, attended the Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium on 16th December. The Chairman and Treasurer, and one other from the London Group, were in attendance plus a member from Acton Stamp Club - where Dennis was a member for 20 years.

Dennis started collecting stamps from the age of 13. He joined the ASCGB in about 1954. After being enlisted into the Army in 1942, he served his Country in occupied Austria, stationed at Sachsenburg (Kärnten), arriving there via the Italian campaign and Graz - where the Russians were reluctant to relinquish the town in favour of the British. He was later transferred to Germany. It was during his time in Austria that he fell in love with the people and their Country. While away he made contact with other philatelists to further his collections.

On returning to Civvy street he was employed at 'Chambon Ltd.' as a draftsman and drawing office librarian. It was while there that he was able to reproduce the watermarks on stamps - to be visible for displaying.

Dennis soon became involved with the ASCGB in the printing of the bulletin. It was during the rift within the committee in the 1960/61 season that some of the London and Home County members formed their own group 'Association of Austrian Philatelists' (see Austria 36) of which Dennis was a founder member. He rejoined the ASCGB in 1969 (No. 536). He was Packet Secretary from 1966, and later took over as the Auctioneer - both of which he relinquished a few years ago due to declining health. In 1994 he accepted the great honour and was made a HLM.

Primarily a stamp and postmark collector, and later delving into Postal History, members benefited from his long involvement with Austrian Philately and eminent collectors he had known. He was always encouraging and could usually supply an answer to queries. With his many volumes of material he could be called upon at short notice to give another different display. With his membership of the Acton Club he would go on club visits to promote Austrian Philately.

Our condolences go out to his wife Jean and their daughter, three sons and eight grandchildren.

Proposed Stamp Issues in 2003

The Sammler-Service of Österreichische Post AG issued the following list on 9th December. Changes are traditional; and judging by the ongoing row on postal rates, inevitable!

Subject	Face, cents	FDC date
Austrians Living Abroad (Billy Wilder)	58	March
Graz - World Culture Capital	58	14 Mar
Wedding	58	21 Mar
Series "Design Austria", 3rd value: Lobmeyer	138	April
Series "Confetti", 4th value: Kasperl?		11 Apr
Commem - Easter (year of the bible)?		11 Apr
1000 years of St Georgen Monastery, Längsee		25 Apr
Europe 2003 "Poster-Art"		9 May
Day of Postage Stamp 2003 (as Minisheet)	? + ?	23 May
Series "Railways", 2nd value: OeBB Series 5045		June
100 years Oberndorf/Laufen Bridge		12 June
Series "Cars", 2 nd value		July
UNESCO World Heritage "Neusiedlersee"		July
175 Years of Bösendorfer Pianos		25 July
Series: Famous Paintings of Austrian Collections, 1 st value		Sept
Youth Welfare		Sept
Austrian Post		Sept
Environmental Protection		9 Sept
50 Years Austrian Municipality Day		19 Sept
Exhibition Youth Philatelic 2003 in Graz		25 Sept
Series "Philis", 4th issue		26 Sept
Thank You		Oct
Series "Design Austria", 4 th value		Oct
Invitation		Oct
Modern Art in Austria, 29 th value: Kiki Kogelnik		Oct

Domestic Animals, 3rd value		3 Oct
100 th Anniversary of Prof. Konrad Lorenz		7 Nov
100 Years Wiener Werkstätte		?
Series "Motorcycles", 2 nd value		?
Austrian Mail Order Commerce		?
Motor Sport		?
Christmas 2003		28 Nov
Postcard "Myth of the Horse / Piber - Styrian Regional Exhibit		April
Postcard "Anniversary of Postal Stationery"		May
Envelope "1100 Years Pram"		16 May
Maximum card "Modern Art in Austria"		Oct

Österreichische Post AG applies for new rates...

On 27th December last year, Österreichische Post AG applied to the Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology for "*the first change of standard rates since 1997*" [in order to] "*maintain universal service ... While the rates for domestic letters in Austria have risen by an average 4% since 1998, the consumer price index has increased by 9%.*" The changes are extensive; some rates go up, some down. The Austrian Postal Services Act provides that "reserved service" (letters up to 100g, as of January 2003) shall be approved by the regulatory authority and that notification shall be given of all "universal service" (letters up to 2kg and parcel up to 20kg) changes.

The scheduled rate of € 55 for a standard letter corresponds to that charged by Deutsche Post; Switzerland and Italy charge € 62. For higher weight domestic letters, ÖPost continues to be one of the best-priced European postal services even after May 2003. For a letter weighing 2000 g, which will cost € 3.75 in Austria as of 1 May 2003, you would have to pay, for instance, € 10.70 in Great Britain or € 8.06 in Italy. The maximum dimensions for standard rate International items will be 235x120mm (currently 235x162mm). As of 1 May 2003, a Europe Priority Standard item will cost € 55 instead of 51. Other services will change, eg Registered mail from € 2.03 to € 2.10; and "Poste Restante" currently free of charge, becomes € 1.00

But... no decision taken by price commission..

In January 2003, Österreichische Post AG stated "Today's meeting of the price control commission has, once again, not reached a decision on the proposal for rate modifications ... some issues in the proposal ... still need to be clarified" As ÖPost had intended to implement all the rate changes at the same time, ie those subject to approval by the price control commission as well as the rest, there will be no adjustments in the rates for letter mail items for the time being (the planned implementation date was 1 January 2003). Öpost rejected allegations that the proposal for rate adjustment was linked to the problems of starting-up the newly built Vienna Letter Center; and deplored that questions related to its long-term business development had now been turned into election campaign issues.

Watch this space...



The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of GB

The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of GB celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Although there was an exchange club before the Second World War, it was in 1953 that the Society came to be in its present form. The Society now has 190 members, their collecting interests covering all aspects of the philately of the Czech and Slovak lands.

To celebrate this event, The Ambassadors of the Czech and Slovak Republics have agreed to host an exhibition of postage stamps at the Embassy of the Czech Republic, 26 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QY. The exhibition will be open to the public from 22nd to 24th May 2003, the opening times being 10am - 8pm on Thursday 22nd May and 10am - 4pm on the Friday and Saturday. Entry to the exhibition is free.

Around thirty members have put together a display that includes forerunners to 1918, Scout issues, stamps and covers of the 1st Republic, Airmails, 1953 currency reforms, provisional postal practices, and overprints and cancellations of the 1945 Liberation. Also included are Sudetenland, Siberia, Carpatho-Ukraine, Bohemia & Moravia, Slovakia and Czech forces abroad. Modern issues are represented by, among others, the break up of Czechoslovakia in 1993 and the Praga 78 International Stamp Exhibition. This display, wide ranging though it is, only scratches the surface of the collecting opportunities of this philatelically rich territory

Questions, Answers, Letters...

Some of these have been "pending" for some months... Ed

A new cancellation from IMST



Joyce Boyer recently acquired two cards from Imst (in Tirol) with cancels as shown. The top one is listed in Stohl's book [APS Lib 313] as A0837c, but the bottom one is **not** listed! So she wrote to Herr Stohl, who replied: *Dear Mrs. Joyce Boyer, I was surprised to receive a letter from England! I am happy to see the rare first type from railway station-letterbox-cancellation 5a2, which was unknown until today. Concerning your co-operation I want to thank you very much.*

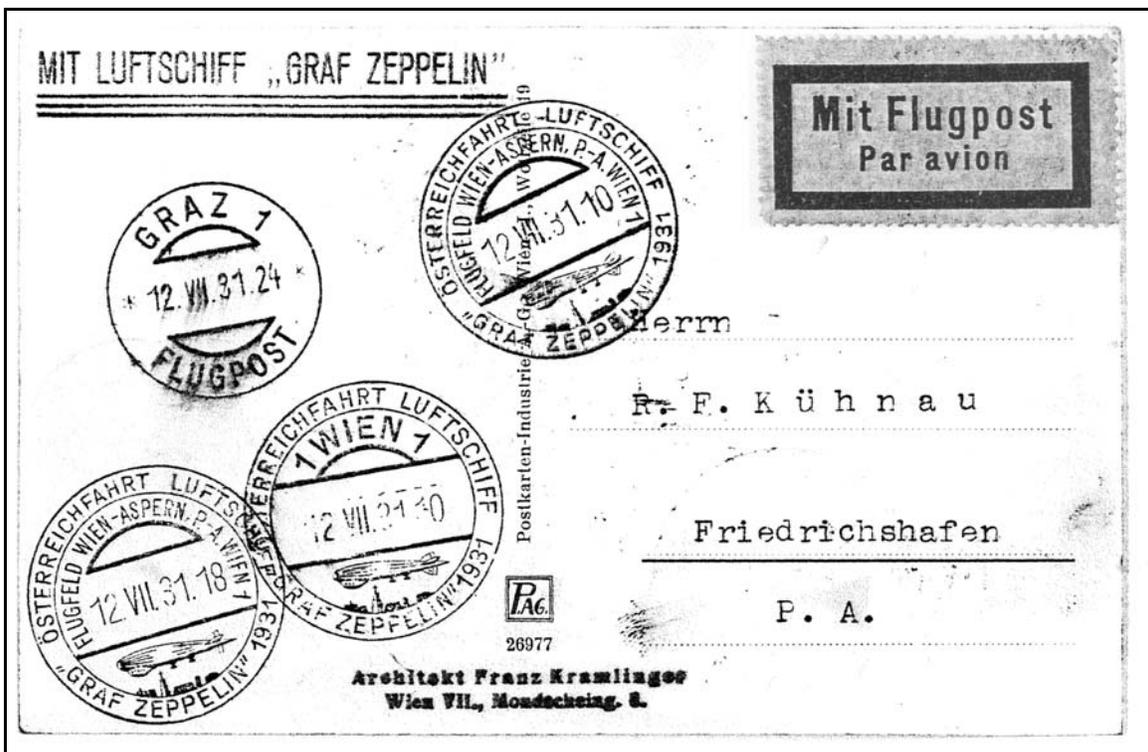
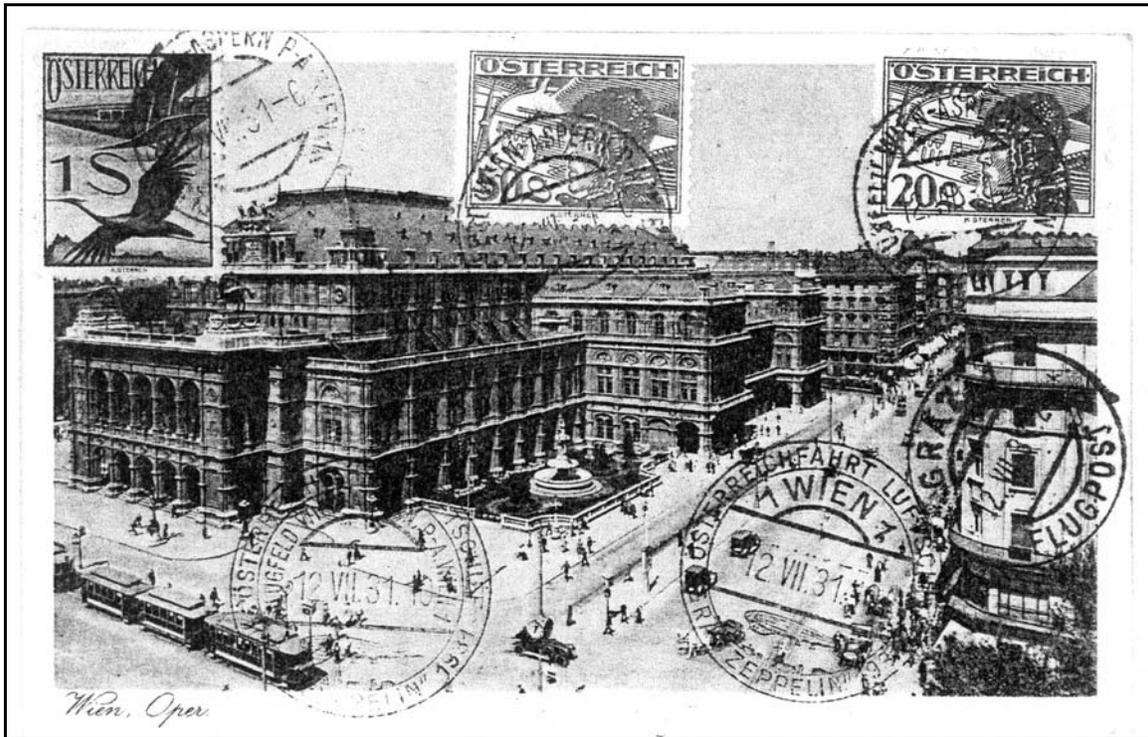
Yours sincerely, Hans Stohl

P.S.: in the near future the next volume will be released

Two unusual postcards

These belong to Geoff Reynolds, who would be interested in any comments! The first card is a ppc carried on the circular flight during the visit of the Graf Zeppelin to Vienna. The stamps were placed on the picture side of the card and cancelled with a FLUGFELD WIEN-ASPERN P-A WIEN 1 double bridge canceller on 12 VII 31-6. It then received the special Graf Zeppelin cancels for 1 WIEN 1 and FLUGFELD WIEN-ASPERN P-A WIEN 1 both timed at 10:00 hrs (although the Graf took off at 09:26!). There is also a Graz arrival mark indicating that this card was part of the mail which was dropped at Graz during the circular flight. The Graz arrival mark is timed at 24:00 hrs; according to Roland Kohl's Austrian airmail catalogue the Graz arrival mark is found with a time of 12:00 hrs or 24:00 hrs.

On the card, the special Graf Zeppelin cancels are repeated on the back, with an additional special cancel timed at 18:00 hrs. The people in Graz also obliged by striking the arrival mark on both sides of the card.



The cards carried on the circular flight Vienna-Vienna (09:26 to 18:20 hrs) normally only have Wien or Wien-Aspern special cancels, not both. Maybe the 18:00hrs cancel has been used as an arrival mark at the end of the circular flight. But the card was dropped at Graz during the circular flight and didn't return to Vienna - or did it?

The difference in the two times on the Graz mail arrival cancel is intriguing. How could somebody, who habitually used the 24 hour clock, mistake 12:00 hrs for 24:00 hrs? Was some of the mail destined for Graz mistakenly not dropped during the circular flight, so that it had to be dropped later in the day when the Graf returned to Friedrichshafen (leaving Vienna at 18:40 hrs)?



The second card is a postal stationery card with an imprinted 5pf Germania definitive and also a 5h Frank Josef definitive. The two 'stamps' are arranged tete-beche and the address side of the card has two decorative address spaces, one associated with each stamp. Along the margin on the card are the words 'Deutsch-Oesterreich Verbrüderungs Postkarte'.



The picture (see below) features the Schneekoppe, the highest peak in the Riesengebirge, which at the time of the card separated Prussian Silesia in the North from Bohemia in the South. The Schneekoppe is on the border between these two countries; hence the two-country franking. The picture also features the arms of Germany and Austria (and the Old Man of ~~Whitby~~ the Mountains!). GR has seen an illustration of a card like this one with the German stamp cancelled 'Schneekoppe-Preussen' and the Austrian cancelled 'Schneekoppe-Boehmen' - are they post-boxes on the Schneekoppe? [Not in Kühnel. Ed] - and another illustration of a card like this one in all respects except without the lettering 'Deutsch- Oesterreich....'. The cards were published by Paul Froehlich

of Liegnitz, who also produced PPCs for the flights of the Sachsen airship at the time this card was used.



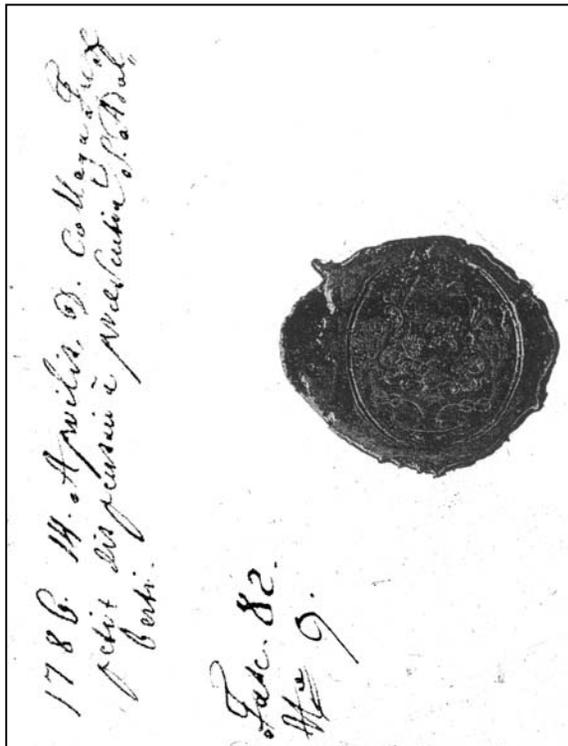
GR's reason for buying the card was because of the special cancellation on the Germania stamp. This postmark in violet is a private cancel produced for the HAPAG bureau in Liegnitz and was used to cancel privately produced Zeppelin stamps, which were used on cards carried on the 'Sachsen' when it visited Liegnitz in early November 1913. It was not used other than on the special stamps. It looks as though the flugpost cancel was applied by favour and the card was sent to Bohemia (Petzer) under cover, because the card shows a 'blind' impression of a continuous canceller. It was posted back to Liegnitz from Petzer (just south of the Schneekoppe in Bohemia) on 11 IX 13.

A Hungarian Ecclesiastical Letter

G A Roberts writes, Schoolboy Latin can come in handy at times. Latin was the official language of Hungary until the middle of the 19th century. This letter of 1786 from Waitzen is a typical example of the flowery and all-inclusive method of address used by the Church. It is addressed in Latin to Tyrnaviae (also Tyrnau, also Nagy-Szombat) which later became Trnava in Czechoslovakia and is about 100km from Waitzen.

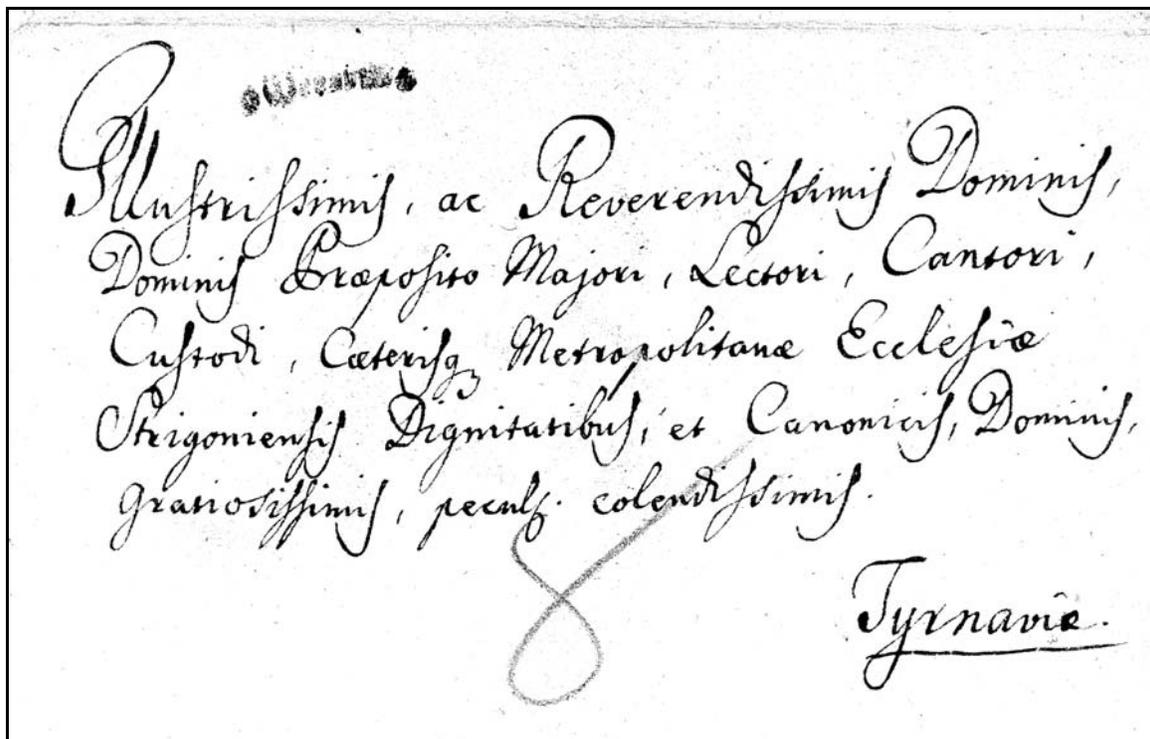
The envelope bears a handstamp, probably an early wooden one, in black and almost certainly '**v.Waitzen**'. This mark apparently was only known in red previously (¹). The letter is from the see of a Catholic Bishop; it has a wax seal with the Cappa Magna with 12 tassels, and is probably from the see of the Bishop of Waitzen, or Vacia, to his fellow suffragan of Tyrnau.

¹ According to "pre-stamp Mueller", the straight-line unboxed cancel "v. Waitzen" is recorded in 'Old English' type from 1784 in red; and in 'Roman' from 1809 in black.



The rate is indicated in red and was the normal for that time of 8 kreuzer. The address reads "Illustrissimis ac Reverendissimis Dominis, Dominis Praeposito Majori, Lectori, Cantori, Custodi, caeterisque Metropolitanae Ecclesiae Strigoniensis Dignitatibus, et Canonicis Dominis, gratiosissimis, pecul. colendissimis Tyrnaviae"

Which translates somewhat as follows: "To the most illustrious and most reverend Lords, the Chief Officers, Readers, Cantors and the other dignitaries of the Metropolitan Church of Strigonium, and the Canons, most especially dear and most gracious Lords in Tyrnau"

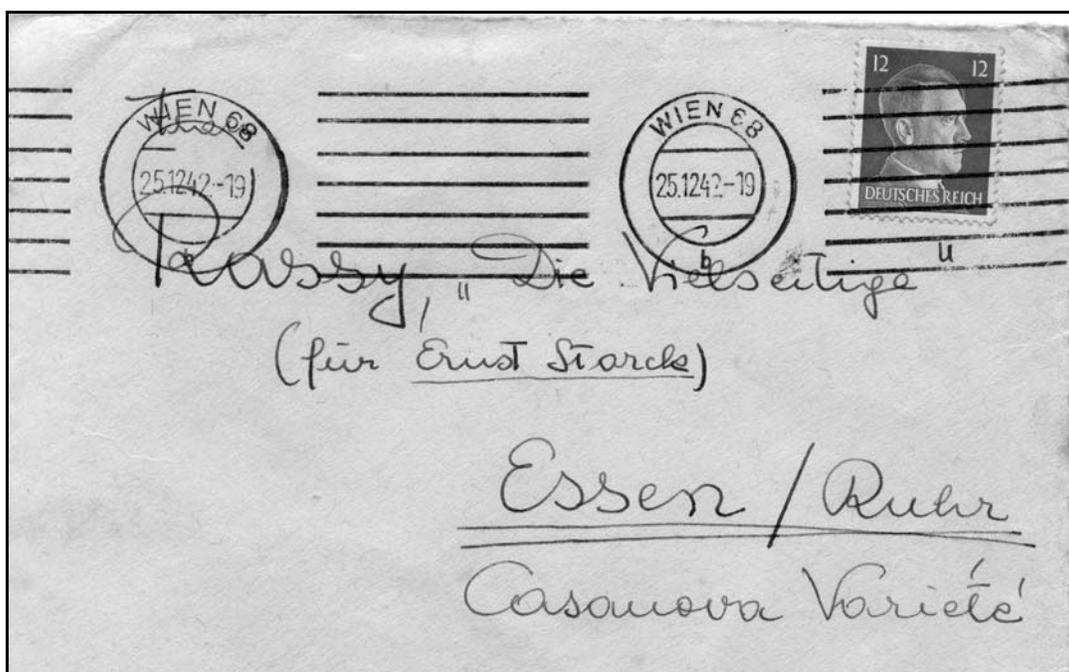
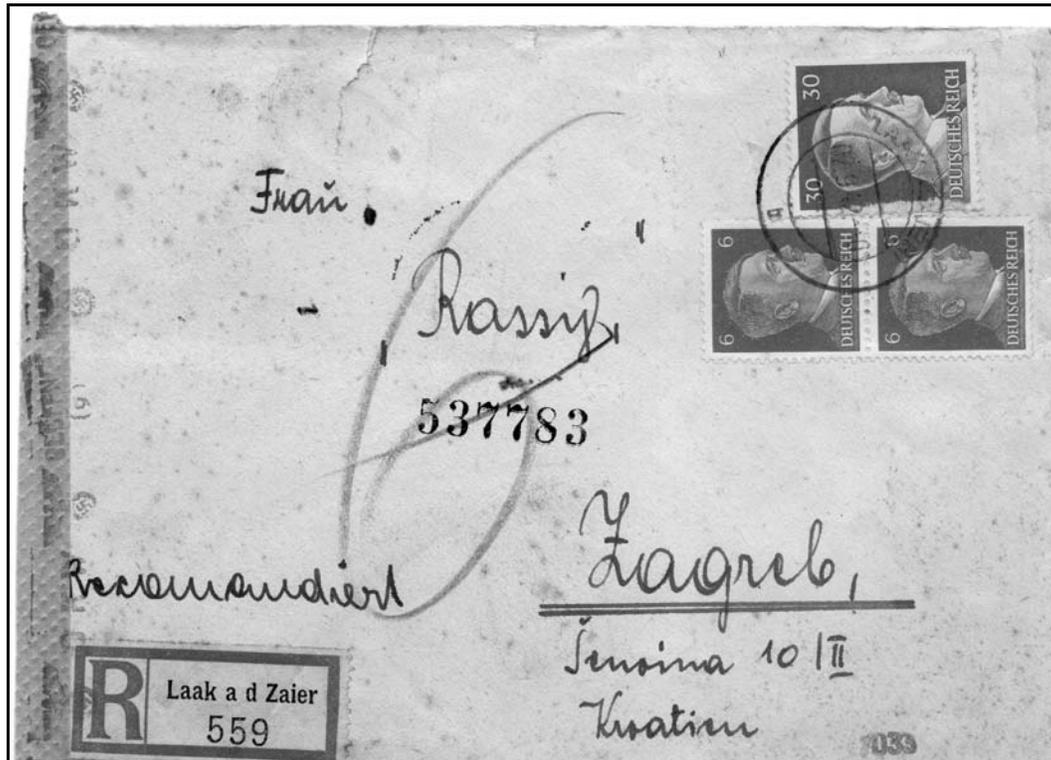


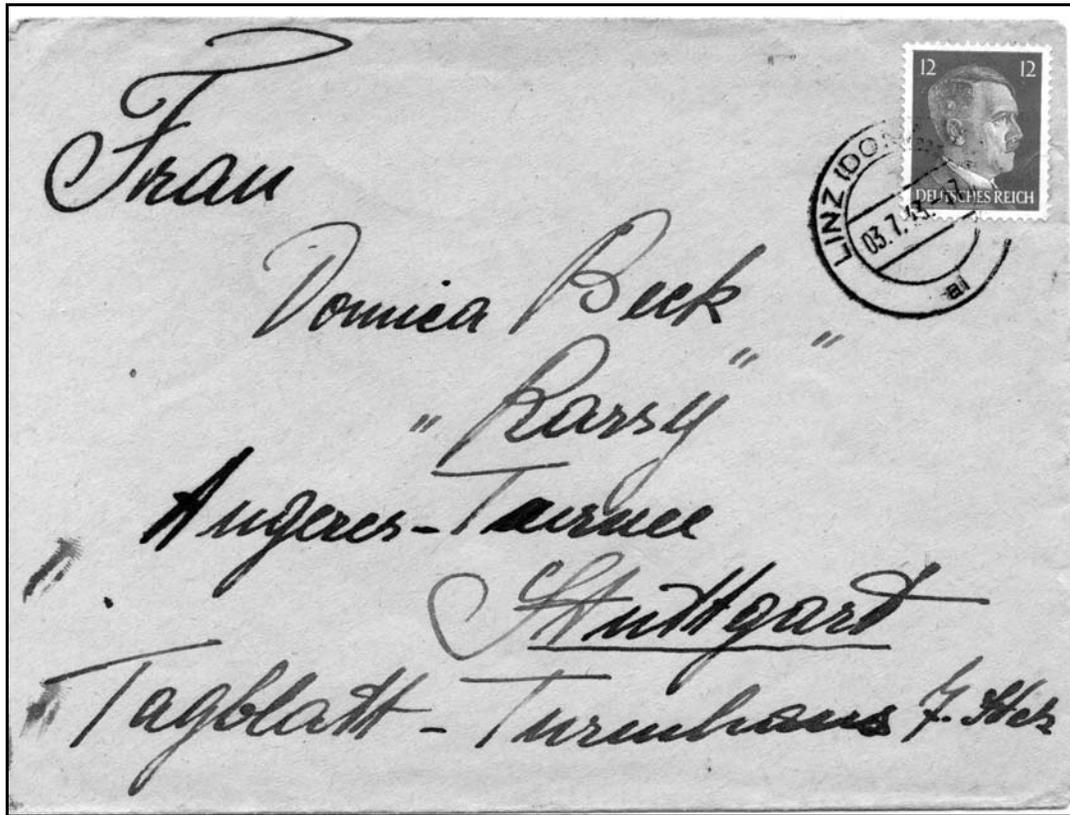
WAITZEN (also Vacz) is 21km north of Pesh, on the Danube. TYRNAU is about the same distance NE of Pressburg. Both Bishops would have been suffragans of the Archbishop of Gran (which is Strigonium in Latin).

G.A.R. would welcome any comments on or emendations of the above!

Cherchez la Femme?

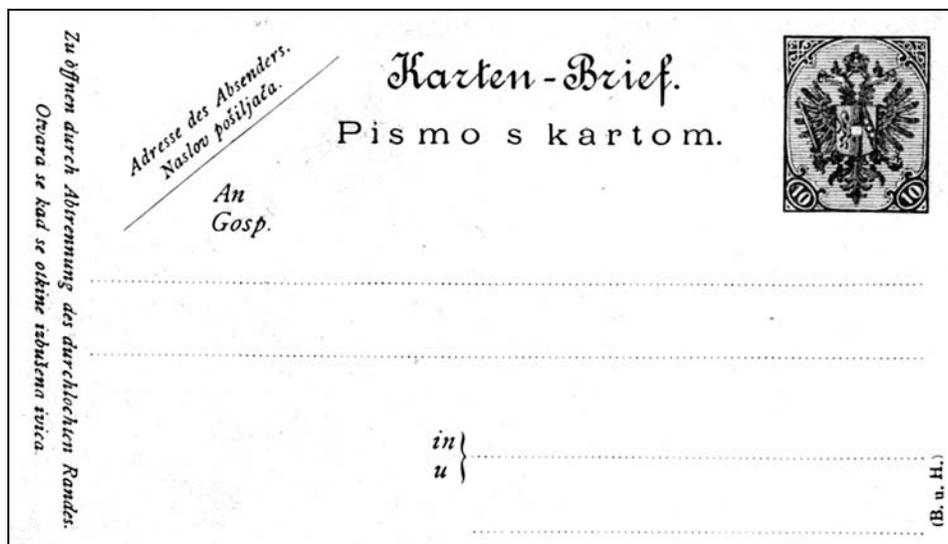
Walter Green enquires (platonically) if anybody knows anything about a lady called Frau Rassy, alias Beck, She was perhaps an actress or entertainer, and well-travelled with many friends: he has letters addressed to her in Zagreb in September 1942, Essen in the Ruhr in December 1942, and Stuttgart in July 1943; she was in Solbad Hall by 1944! Any ideas?

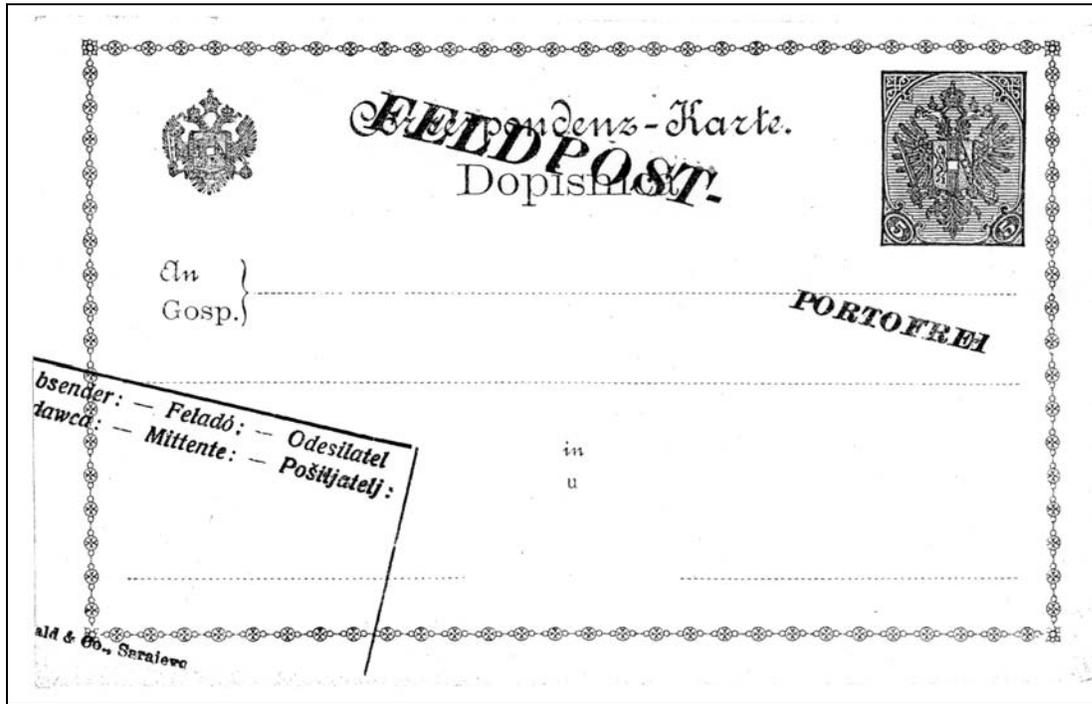




Bosnia-Herzegovina oddities

From Barry Durston come a couple of Bosnia-Herzegovina oddities. The first is a letter card, Higgins and Gage No 8 but imperforate. H&G list a rare imperf variety for No 7 - has anyone seen an imperf No 8 before?





The second item is a FPO overprint - probably printer's waste; any other ideas?

Christkindl bargains in Oregon!



Sal Rizza writes, extolling the benefits of visiting stamp dealers Bourses. The above item is an 1955 envelope from Salzburg to Salzburg via Christkindl. It

has a 1 Schilling postage stamp, the rate for local mail [non-local was 1½ Sch], but the cover left the city and was carried to Christkindl and returned to Salzburg. The postal clerk at some point wrote down a blue "T" next to the postage stamp and then crossed it out. What was the correct postage for this cover: 1 Schilling or 1½ Schillings? Should the letter have been charged an extra 1 Schilling postage due, at the then rate of "double the deficiency, minimum 40Gro"? The cover cost Sal a dollar; the 2002 Netto values the "Über



Christkindl" label at 650 Sch, and the Christkindl postmark at 475 Sch. The 1 Schilling postage stamp only has a 10 Sch catalog value. A good purchase!

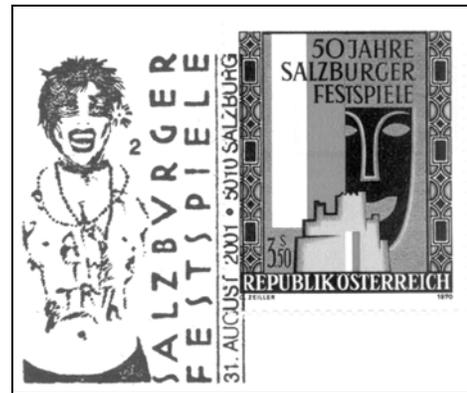
At another bourse, he found a half-envelope with a Christkindl date stamp of 13 December 1954, with the Netto Über Christkindl label No. LZ1, with perforations on three sides only. Evidently it was the last label on a roll. [Piece illustrated] Netto 2002 prices this label used at 805 Sch; the cancel is 475 Sch. For this Sal paid 25 cents...

Those elusive Salzburg cards..

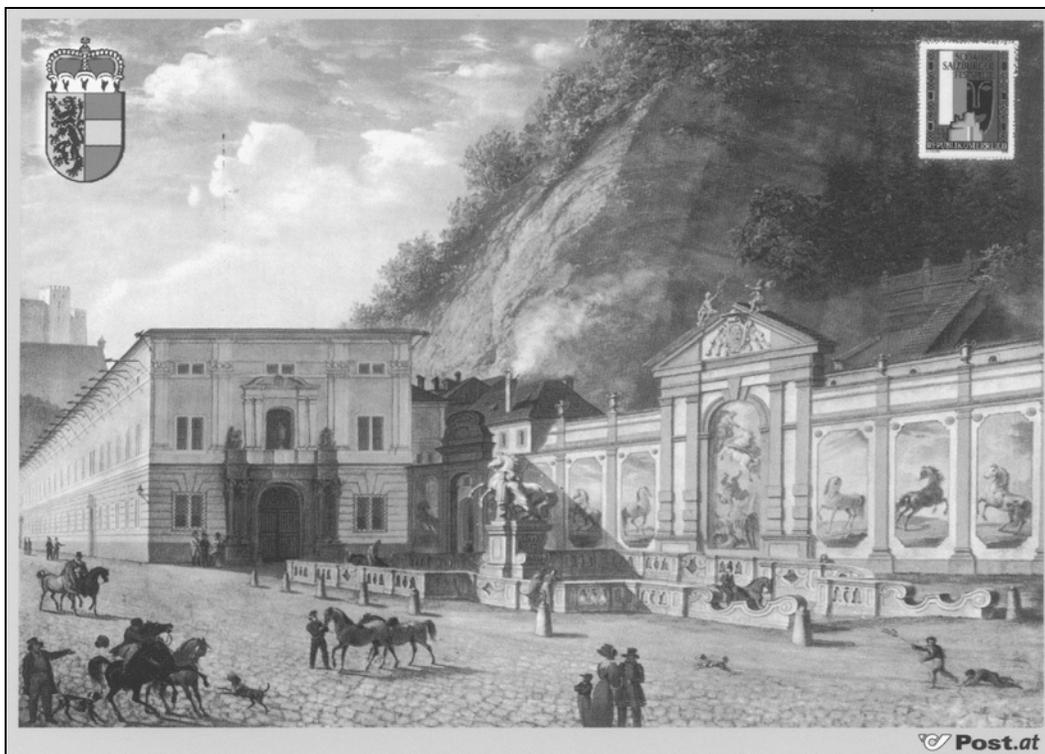
For some time now your Editor has been asserting that the Salzburg Postal Directorate issued official post cards... the good news is that he now has proof that they exist. The bad news is that there seemed to be only one set in Vienna (at Briefmarken Gilg); now there are no sets in Vienna and one on his desk. All the other dealers said "Only in Salzburg... too expensive to stock... there weren't many issued... not invented here...". They are (semi??) official postcards with the **Post.at** logo in the bottom right corner, with an adhesive stamp on the non-picture side and a special cancel. They do NOT have an imprinted stamp. Thus, they are different from the Sissi cards which did have an imprint. They were described in Die Briefmarke 8/2001: "The Postal authorities in Salzburg have issued three cards for the Sonderpostamt at the Salzburg Festspiel, franked with appropriate adhesives cancelled with the Festival's Special Cancellation. They

are serially numbered [*the design, not each card*]; the series is planned to be continued in future years."

Card 1 shows an 1829 painting by Johann Michael Sattler of the Hofmarstall and Pferdeschwemme [where the Monchsberg tunnel reaches the old town]; Card 2 is a [rather dark] view of the same scene today; the former Hofmarstall is now the Festspielhaus. Card 3 is a night-time photo of the glitterati outside the Festspielhaus in the interval of a performance. On each card is the Salzburg coat-of-arms and a reduced-size reproduction



of the "50 Jahre Salzburger Festspiele" Festival stamp [ANK 1365]; the issue was 1500 sets, sold at 18 ATS from Post Offices 5010, 5020 & 5024 in Salzburg and at the "Salzburger Festspiele 2001" Sonderpostamt. The Special Cancel is the cover picture of the 2001 Salzburg festival programme, and shows a masked young man inviting you to the first Festival of the new Millennium.





Euro - what Euro?

John Batts has sent me this postcard, franked with 7 Schillings and cancelled at Seefeld on 27 December 2002 repeat two! Not a bleat from the Post Office!



1908 stationery cards - Martin Brumby writes:

I've been debating with Octavian Tabacaru as to the designer of the 1908 stationery cards, which he had suggested was Hesshaimer. I said I thought Moser had designed both stamps and card, but Octavian pointed out that the card is illustrated on page 64 of "*Ludwig Hesshaimer, Miniaturen aus der Monarchie: Ein k.u.k. Offizier erzählt mit der Zeichenstift*" by Okky Offerhaus, Kremayr & Scheriau Schweizer Verlagshaus (1992). I'd not noticed the illustration in the Hesshaimer book, but I have a book "*Koloman Moser - Gemälde Graphiken Briefmarken*" published by the "*Österreichischer Bundesverlag für Unterricht Wissenschaft und Kunst, Wien*" (1964) which illustrates Moser's stamp designs and includes an illustration of the 1908 card (but the Prague version!) and indeed reproduces Moser's original artwork for the two little pictures of the Burg Karlstein & Prag Hradshin. I can find nothing in the text of either this book or the one on Hesshaimer which helps. Stylistically, the design of the card seems to be Moser's (who also did the stamps, of course.) But perhaps Hesshaimer did the vignettes on the 'normal' Jubilee card, or maybe the portrait of the Emperor? Certainly the latter looks more like Hesshaimer's work than Moser's!

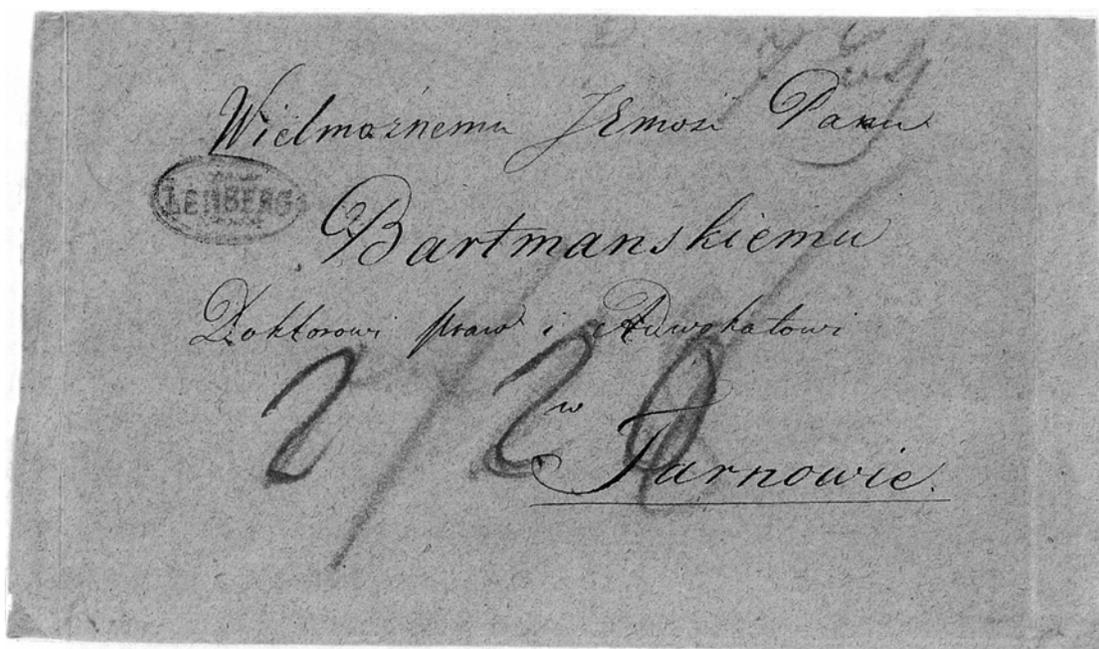
This, adds Martin, is just the kind of rather annoying question where (he's sure) everyone thinks they know the answer, but proving it is another matter. Comments?

[Asher, Schneiderbauer etc don't give designers. Ed]

"Questions 1 - 4" ...

The "Questions 1-4" in 'Austria' 140 produced several responses; my thanks to HP CKK JLW and others, especially to those whose writings I mislaid ☹ To make this section complete, I have reprinted the illustrations.

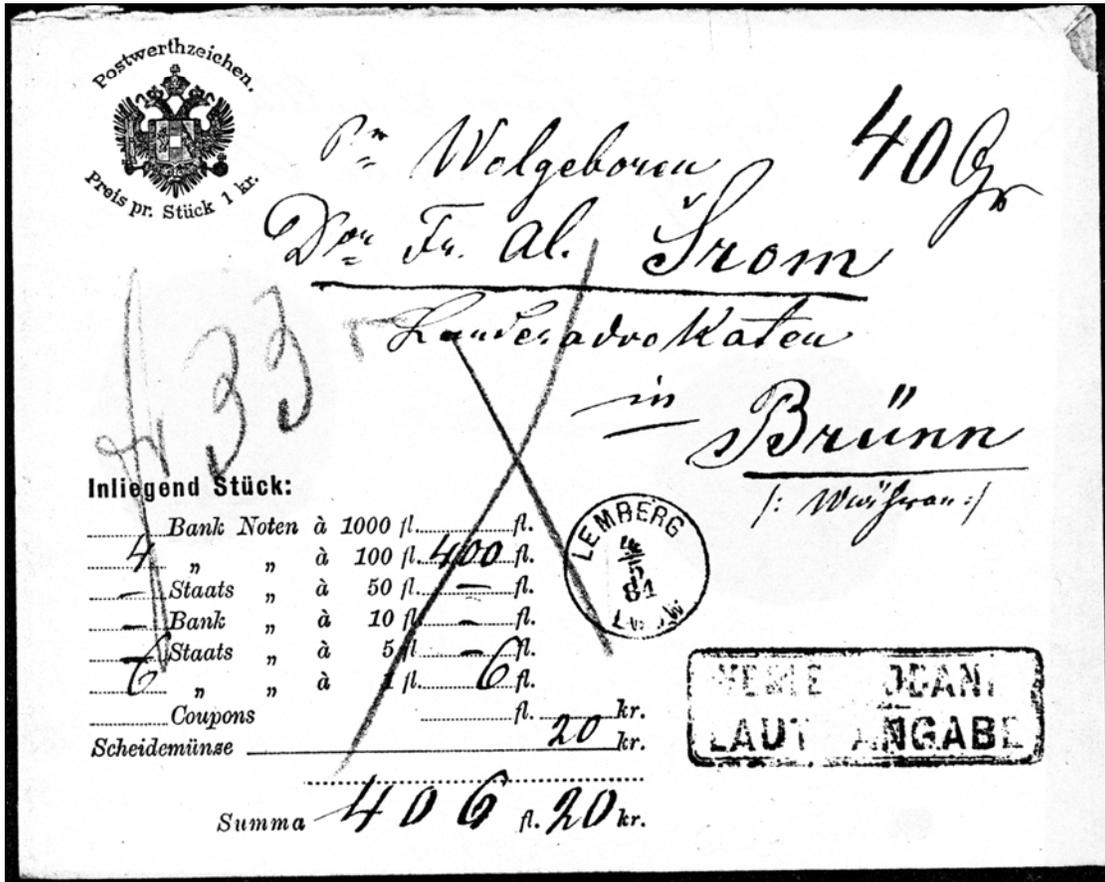
Q1: ... letter sent unpaid to Tarnow.... At top right is a reddish-brown weight indication of 7 (Loth)... The oval Lemberg cancel was used between 1818 and 1829. On the back is a red wax seal and in small ink handwriting 2675. In the centre of the envelope is 2/20 in reddish-brown. Presumably this is the postage... but what currency is it and how is it worked out?



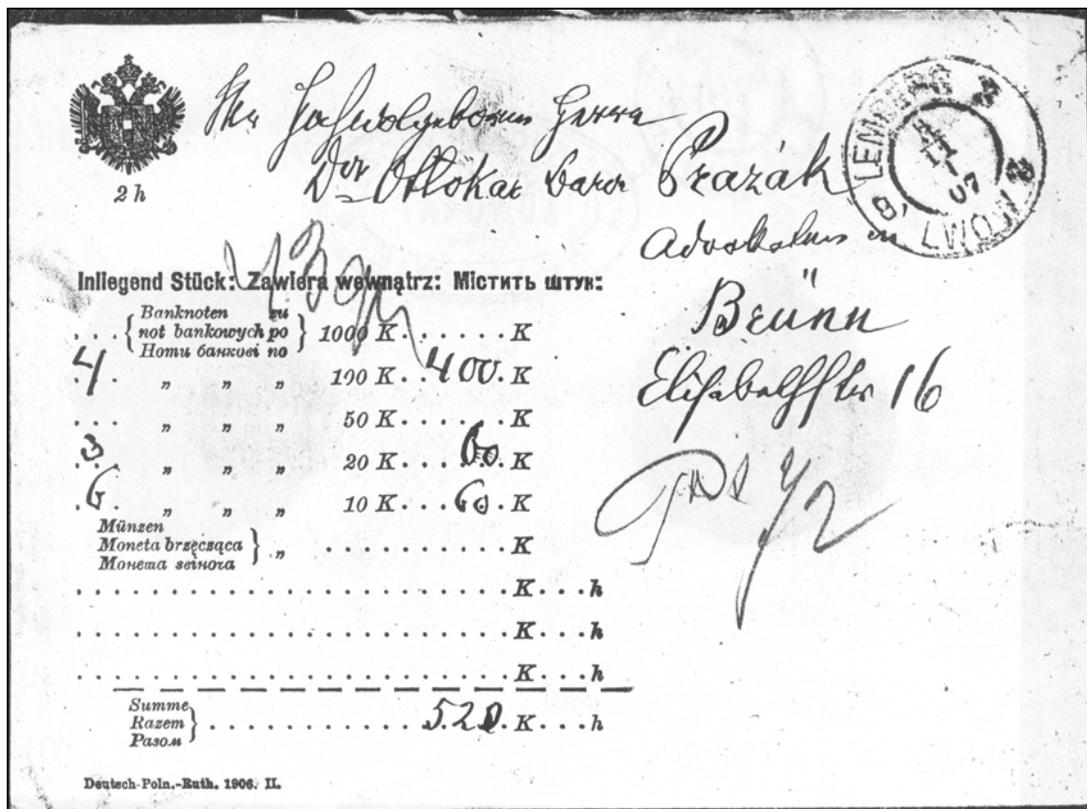
Lemberg to Tarnow is 15 Postal Stations (these were 1½-2 Meilen [German Miles] apart) and the rate for journeys of 12 to 15 Postal Stations was 10K_r per weight unit of ½ Loth. 7 Loth was 14 weight units so cost 14 times 10K_r, ie 140K_r, ie 2 Gulden 20 in CM, there being 60 K_r to the CM Gulden.

Q2 & Q3: What are the rules for the rates on money letters?

Most of this information, for Austrian rates at least, is in the APS Library! The best source for old rates is Kainbacher's "Handbuch der Brief und Fahrpost in Österreich-Ungarn 1588-1918" (APS Lib Item 326); see also Ferchenbauer-2000 (APS Lib Item 41B). "Die Amtlichen Geldbriefumschläge der Österreichischen Post" by Hochleutner and Pollak (APS Lib Item 279) is a dissertation on the envelopes themselves. Privately-printed envelopes were introduced in 1868, official ones from 1874.



Illustrations of "Q2" (above) and "Q3" (below)



A crucial change in the rates occurred on 1.9.1890: before then payment was in cash, by sender or recipient; after then payment was by the sender affixing postage stamps, failing which the recipient had to pay, and was surcharged 6H/12Kr.

Ferchenbauer-2000 money letter inland rates [pp958-9] ²

1.9.1890-31.12.1899: Currency 100 Kreuzer = 1 Gulden alias Florin. 250 grams max. Postage: 12Kr up to 10 Meilen (ie Zone I on the map; =75Km), greater distances 24Kr. Insurance: value up to 50Gu - 3Kr; for higher value 3Kr per 150Gu or part thereof but min charge 6Kr.

1.1.1900 - 30.9.1916: Currency 100 Heller = 1 Krone. 250 grams max: Postage: 24H up to 10 Meilen, further 48H. Insurance: value up to 100K - 6H; for higher value 6H per 300Kr or part thereof but min charge 12H.

1.10.1916-31.8.1918: Currency 100 Heller = 1 Krone. 250 grams max: Postage: "same as a registered letter of the same weight". Insurance: Per 300Kr or part thereof: 5H; min 10H charge; min 60H total charges.

1.9.1918-11.11.1918: Currency 100 Heller = 1 Krone. 250 grams max: Postage: "same as a registered letter of the same weight". Insurance: Per 300Kr or part thereof: 10H; min 60H total charges.

Kainbacher confirms the above, and extends the rate data back in time; the further back one goes the more complex the rate calculations are and the more unreadable the reproduced source documents! From 15 March 1867, the postage and the insurance for 'Geldsendungen' are given in a large table (p442). Taking the 'Q2' envelope as an example, it travelled 75 Meilen (so in 70-80 range) and contained 406Gu20 (so in 300-450 range); so assuming it didn't weigh over 500 grams it would have cost 60Kr. The rates given above by Ferchenbauer for "1.9.1890-31.12.1899" applied from 1 Nov 1878 (apart from the non-payment surcharge). Kainbacher vol 2 pp282-295 reproduces the immensely detailed instructions for applying seals to valuable letters.

The Q2 example was dated 4/5/1881 from Lemberg to Brünn, which are 75 Meilen apart (562Km); contained 406Gu20Kr [currency 100 Kreuzer = 1 Gulden alias Florin]. Large X; unusual "Laut Angabe" marking in German & Polish. Marked "**fr 33**".

² Envelopes exist which were presented to the Post Office unsealed, containing private sendings of paper money. Higher insurance rates were charged for these - however specimens are exceedingly rare and correspondingly expensive.

In 1881 the total charge for an inland "money letter" was made up of two components: postage, and insurance. There was a weight limit of 250 grams. For a distance up to 10 Meilen [=75Km] the postage was 12Kr; for greater distances 24Kr. The big "X" means Franco ie the post was prepaid. Insurance was separately charged: up to 50 Gulden in value cost 3Kr, then 3Kr per 150Gu but minimum of 6Kr. Q2 contained 406Gu20, in the 300/450 bracket, so 9Kr insurance charge plus 24Kr postage makes 33Kr. The marking "fr 33" means "Franco 33 Kr", ie 33 Kreuzer was pre-paid as postage.

The Q3 example was dated 11/1/1907 from Lemberg to Brünn; & contained 520Kr [currency 100 Heller = 1 Krone].

In 1907 the total charge for an inland "money letter" was made up of two components: postage, and insurance. There was a weight limit of 250 grams. For a distance up to 10 Meilen [=75Km] the postage was 24H; for greater distances 48H. There is no "X" so postage wasn't prepaid and a further 12H was levied. Insurance was separately charged: up to 100Kr in value cost 6H, higher values cost 6H per 300Kr but minimum of 12H. Q3 contained 520Kr so is in the 300/600Kr bracket so 12H insurance charge plus 48H postage plus 12H not-prepaid makes 72H, as marked.

Q4: ... an official folded letter sent from Lemberg on 5 Feb 1833. On the back are a transit mark from PLESS on 10th Feb and a mark N16/2I, and a record of arrival on the 25th. On the front are 1¹/₈ in black; 32 underlined, in faded reddish-brown; 36,276 in manuscript; an arched LEMBERG with under it 5 FEB 833; and a large reddish-brown marking.....

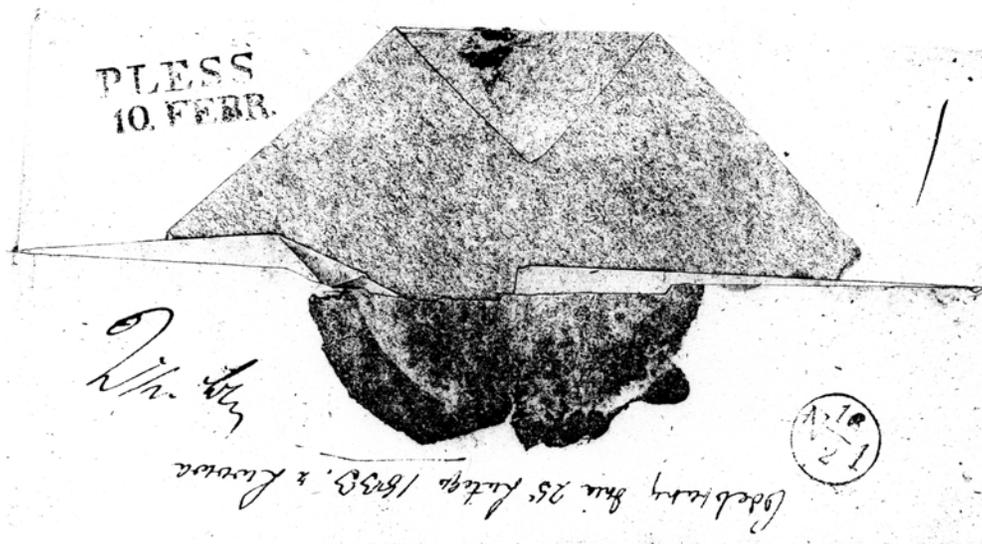
This is an Official Letter so was post-free to the borders of Austrian Poland. It was sent from Lemberg to the Justiciary in Pryzborów (Pryzborówko on a modern map), which is 15km ESE of Gnesen/Gniezno (between it and Poznan) in the Grand Duchy (magno ducatu) of Poznan, part of Prussia; the last word in the address is Borussia (³). The Lemberg cancel is "pre-stamp Müller" 762b; he says this cancel included the year despite its resemblance to a philatelist's stencil set! The letter went via Pless (⁴), receiving a Prussian cancellation on the back.

³ The address is in Latin, and BORUSSIA is the Latin form of one of the oldest names for the Warmia-Mazuria region between the Vistula & Memel, once the state of the Teutonic Knight Order, then The Dukedom of Prussia and Warmia, later on called Prussia and East Prussia. (See free.ngo.pl/borussia/englvers.html)

⁴ - now Pszczyna, half-way between Katyowice and Bielsko-Biała - and not the apparently direct route through Krakau: in 1833 Krakau was independent, and not part of Austria-Hungary! The Congress of Vienna in 1815 had separated Krakau from Poland, and made it independent, "under the protection of Austria, Russia, and Prussia". In 1846 it was finally incorporated into Galicia. Even worse, an "as the crow flies" route would have gone through Russian Poland.



Written upside-down on the back is "Odebrano dnia 25 lutego 1833 z Lwowa" which means "received on 25 Feb 1833 from Lemberg". The circled N¹⁶/₂I is a Prussian arrival or distribution mark for 16 Feb (these marks didn't give the year); perhaps the Pryzborówko clerk is noting that wherever it was between the 16th & the 25th, *he* hadn't received it!



The 36,276 is probably a reference to whatever legal process caused the letter to be sent. The 1¹/₈ is the weight, in (probably Prussian) Loth. The rate in Prussia then for this journey of between 30 & 40 German miles was 6 Silbergroschen per ³/₄ Loth; 1-1¹/₂ Loth was charged at double rate. So a weight of 1¹/₈ Loth would pay 12 Silbergroschen, as may be shown by the large reddish-brown marking. The underlined 32 is not the weight in grams, as this letter would have been weighed in either Wiener-Pfund (in which case 1¹/₈ Loth = 19.69 gram) or more likely Polish-Pfund (making 16.45 gram); it could be the rate expressed in Polish Groschen but really the most probable conclusion is that it is a mystery!

Just for fun?

What's a 50kr revenue stamp doing on a 1883 postcard? All the components are plausible; it's the combination that jars. Best guess so far is "someone messing about" - any better explanation?

Mrs Paula Rimmer, John Giblin's sister, has written to our Hon Secretary:

Thank you for sending the donation in memory of John to the National Trust. My sister Dorothea and myself appreciate the gesture and hope you will pass on our thanks to the members of the Austrian Philatelic Society.'

The Postal Communications between Imperial Austria and the Kingdom of Sardinia between 1 January 1854 and 30 September 1867. (part 2 of 5)

By Mario Cedolini; Translated by Salvatore J. Rizza

Third period, from 15 September 1859 to 14 May 1862 (2 years and 8 months)

The Convention remained suspended, but on 15 September the postal communications were restarted, "solely for letter mail" (Bulletin of 15 September from the K.k. Post Direction L.V.). The correspondence was exchanged at new border points subject to franking by the sender to the border, while the amount due from the border to the destination was payable by the addressee. For printed matter and newspapers, the arrangements laid down by the Convention were restated, but were often disregarded by the Austrian offices.

During this time, the "small tax handstamps" made their appearance on the correspondence coming from Sardinia; they were provided by the Austrian Administration to expedite the work of its employees (Figures 7 and 8).



FIGURE 7: 26 September 1859 - From Milan to Verona. Communications had been resumed for about 10 days. The letter, which had been franked only to the border, was taxed for 5 Soldi at the point of exchange with a handwritten indication.



FIGURE 8: 5 October 1859 - From Milan to Verona. Ten days after the letter at Figure 7, but this letter was taxed in the amount of 5 Soldi, at the exchange point, by means of the handstamp



FIGURE 9: 13 September 1861 - From Ferrara to Venice, franked to the border. At the point of exchange (Ponte S. Maddalena), it was taxed 5 Soldi.

Del Bianco observes that the Austrian system prescribed that the imposition of fees would not be the duty of the destination office, as foreseen by the Sardinian system, but would instead be the duty of the office that took charge of the posted item in the first place. Often, the examination and the identification of these handstamps is of great assistance in establishing the route taken by the letter. It is also interesting to note how the imposition of the postal fees can vary, given the place of destination, and in relation to the diverse distance from the border. I have come to this conclusion, having come across numerous examples of this type which I had originally classified as occasional taxation errors. (Figs 9 & 10)

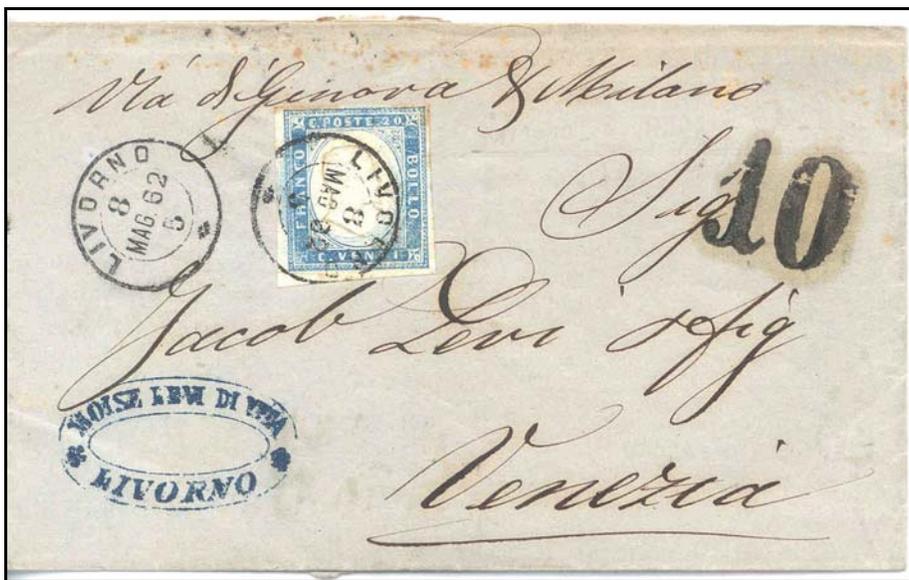


FIGURE 10: 8 May 1862 - From Livorno to Venice, franked up to the border. At the point of exchange (Peschiera?) it was taxed 10 Soldi, because this letter, compared to that of Figure 9, was more than 10 leagues (75 km) farther from Venice.

With regard to the correspondence emanating from Austria and destined for Lombardy, Mentaschi explains how during all of 1859 the Sardinian Administration applied the taxation in Soldi, with a manuscript indication or, much rarer, with a canceller (Figures 11 and 12).



FIGURE 11; 12 November 1859 - From Treviso to Milan. First Class registered letter, franked to the border in the sum of 10 Soldi (on the reverse, "10 Soldi" for the registration). Taxed upon arrival in the sum of 24 Soldi (60 Italian Centesimi), 20 Centesimi plus 40 Centesimi for registration.



FIGURE 12: 1859 - Via Lloyd, from Trieste to Milan. A First Class Letter, franked to the border in the sum of 15 Soldi; taxed upon arrival in the sum of 8 Soldi (20 Centesimi).

Mentaschi believes, moreover, that he can place the first letters taxed in Centesimi around the first ten days of January 1860 (after the coming into force of the Vigliani decree of 1 January 1860). In reality, in a later article on this subject, Sanson has published an article illustrating a registered item from Mantua of 30 December 1859, addressed moreover to Carpi, taxed in Centesimi.

Of particular interest in this period are the letters that carry diverse fees for the two Administrations, due to the different weight used for the single tariff (10 grams for Sardinia and 17.5 grams for Austria (Figures 13, 14, and 15).



FIGURE 13: 19 April 1861 - From Venice to Milan. Registered Letter, simple transport, franked to the border. The addressee has paid 60 Italian Centesimi in fees (20 for the transport of the letter and 40 for the registration).



FIGURE 14 (above): 21 December 1861 - From Venice to Milan. Registered Letter, simple transport carrying charge for Austria and double for Sardinia, franked to the border. The addressee has paid 80 Italian Centesimi in fees (40 for the double transport of the letter and 40 for the registration).



FIGURE 15: 20 November 1861 - From Venice to Milan. Registered Letter with double transport fee for Austria and triple for Sardinia, franked to the border. The addressee has paid 100 Italian Centesimi in fees (60 for the triple transport fees and 40 for registration).

Upon the express request of the sender, it remained possible, moreover, for the posted item to be routed via Switzerland, either with or without payment in advance. In fact, from 1 November, a change in arrangements allowed for the franking of an item completely to its destination, at least for the letters originating in Sardinia. Even the letters with insufficient franking to the frontier were normally permitted to be transmitted in this manner, and this was the only type that allowed the two administrations to recover the shortage in the franking (Figures 16, 17, and 18).



FIGURE 16: 25 February 1862 - Letter from Turin to Verona, routed via Switzerland and not franked on despatch. The addressee has paid 35 Soldi in fees.

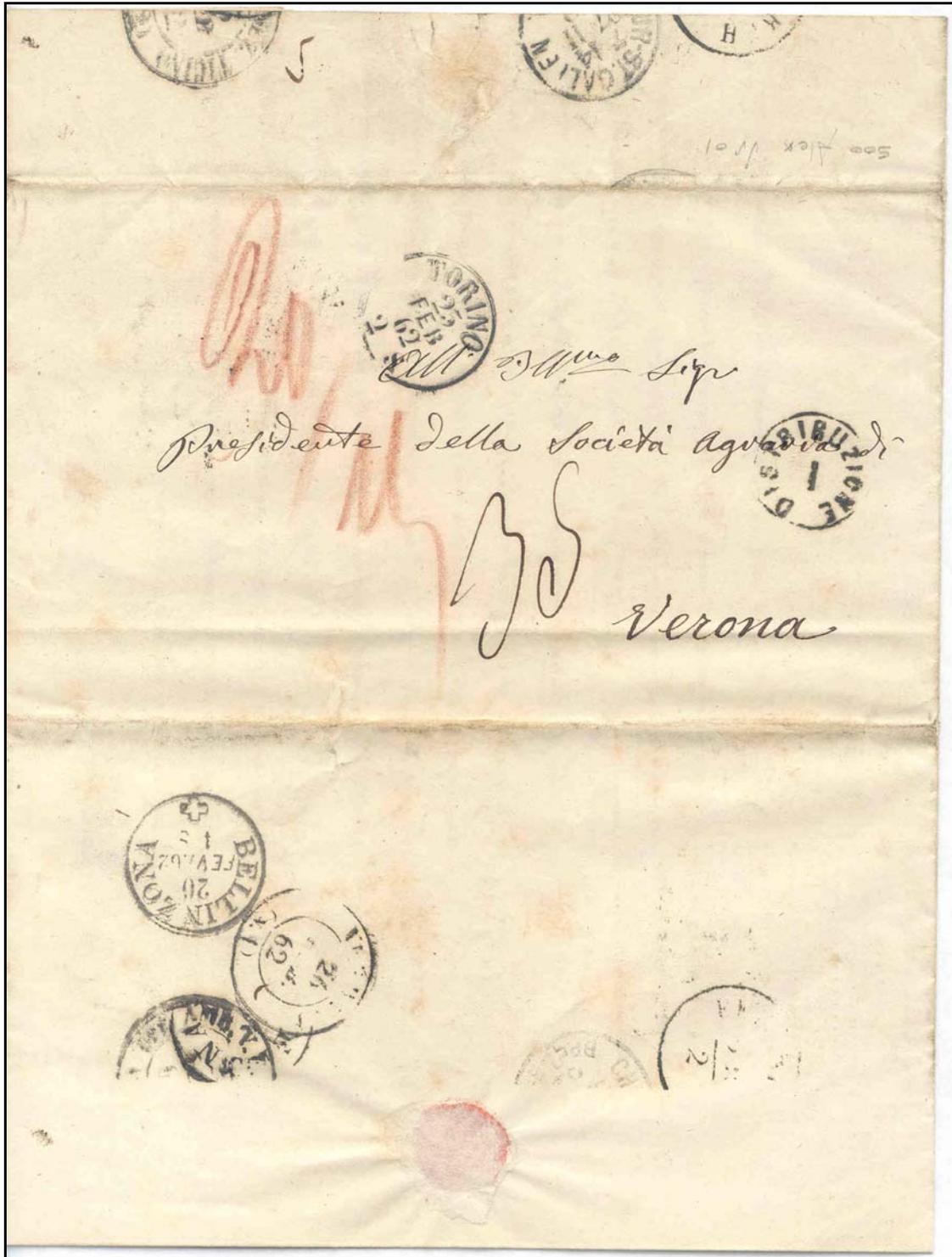


FIGURE 17: 7 February 1861 - a letter with double transport fees from Milan to Udine, routed via Switzerland. As it had insufficient franking upon departure, the addressee has paid 70 Soldi in fees, as if the letter had not been franked.



FIGURE 18: 11 April 1861 - Simple Letter from Modena to Udine, routed via Switzerland. As the letter was not franked on despatch, the addressee has paid 35 Soldi in fees (it is not clear what is the significance of the "PD" and the indication of "Soldi 37" on the reverse).

4th Period, from 15 May to 30th September 1862 (4½ months):

Following difficult negotiations, and after redefining the respective sections with reference to the new borders (Figure 19), the Convention was reactivated with an official declaration on 15 May 1862, extending the treaty's validity also to the territories of Lombardy, Parma, Modena, Romagna, Umbria, the Marches, Naples and Sicily. Strangely, Tuscany is missing in the text of the declaration (Figure 20)!

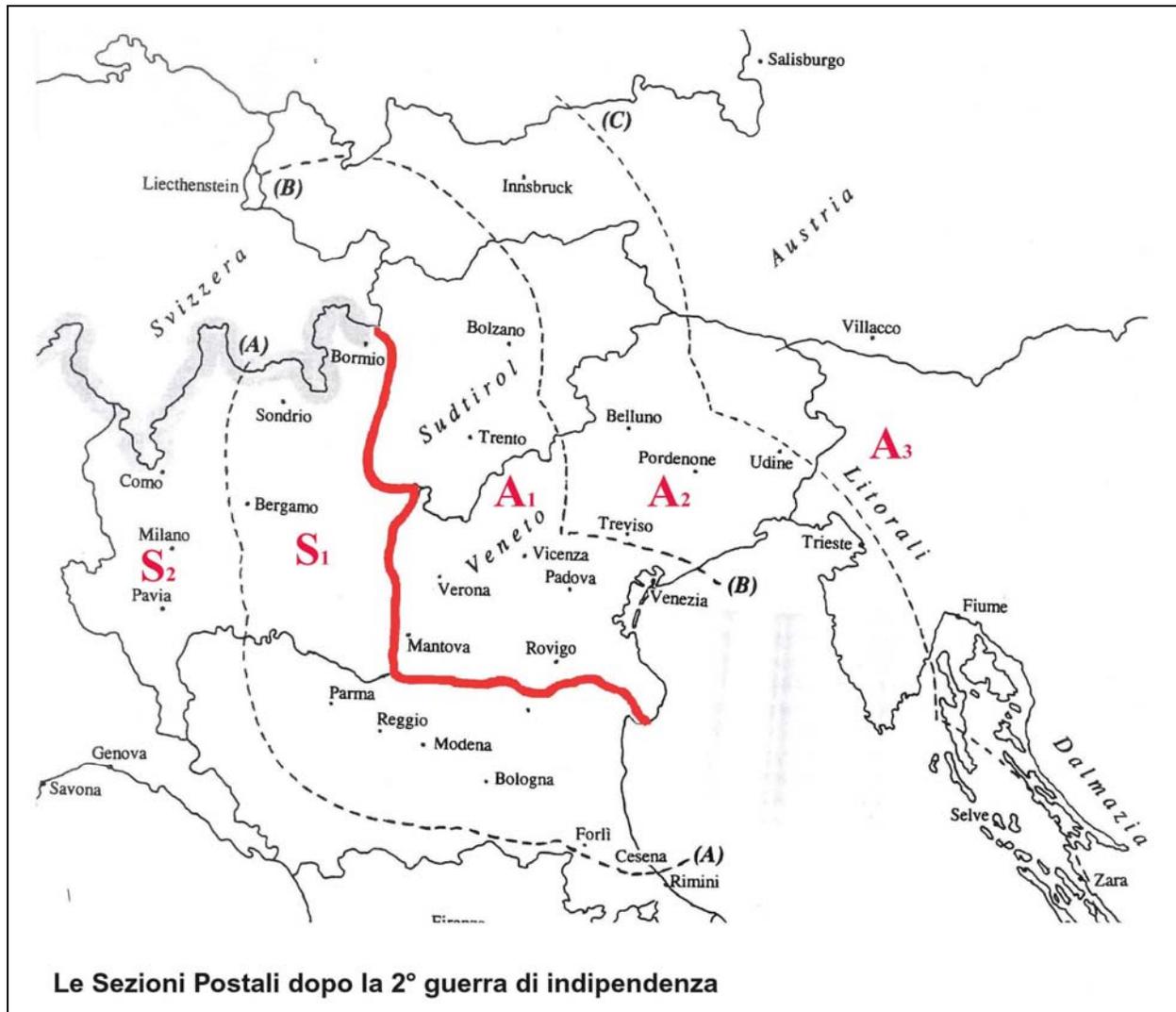


fig. 19

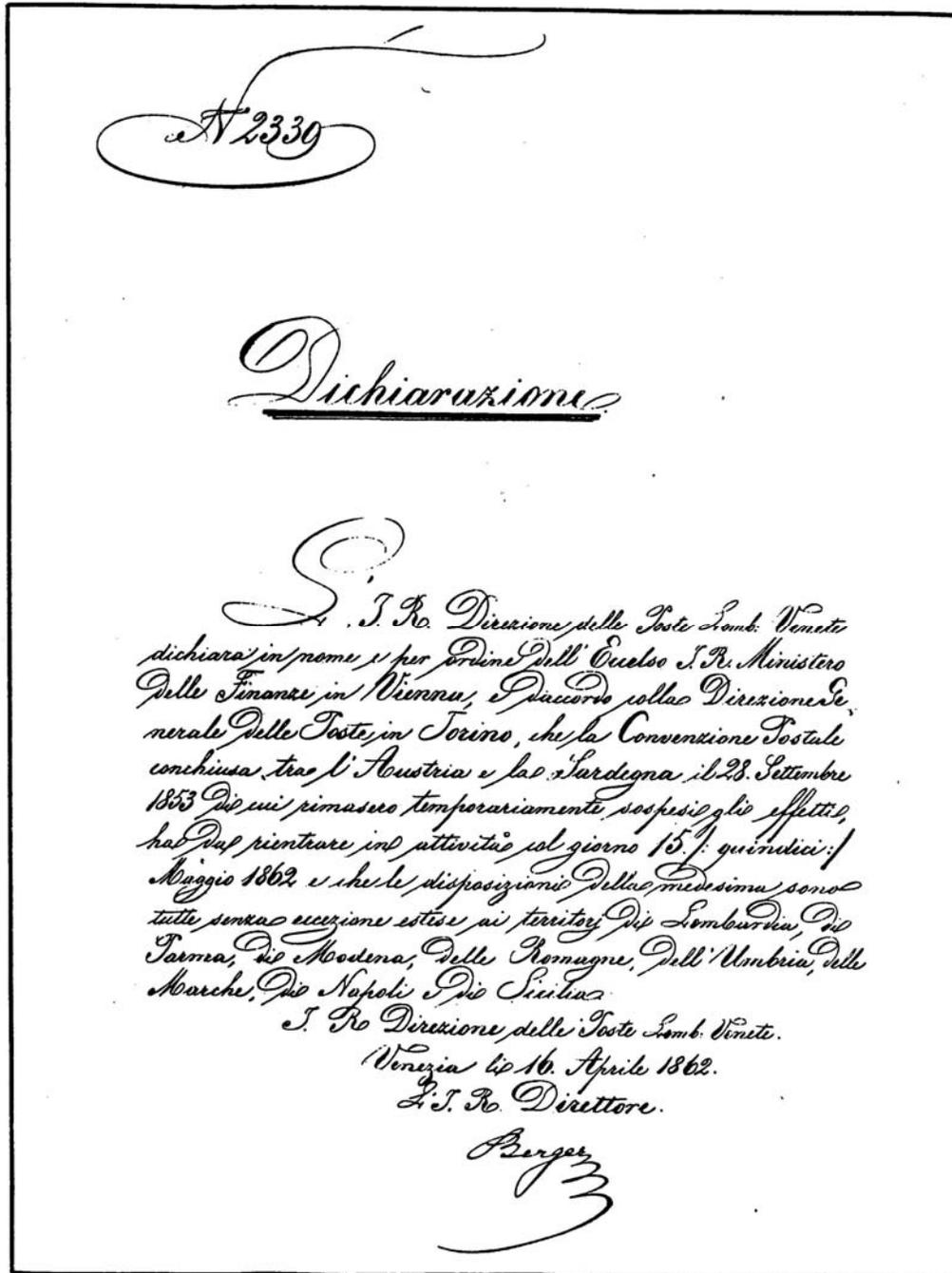


fig. 20

Letters with insufficient postage, as established by the Convention, are again to be handled as not being franked and taxed for the entire amount of postage. It therefore follows that letters franked to the border, as was the usage in the preceding period, would have to pay the entire tax (Figures 21 to 24)



FIGURE 21 - 22 June 1862. Simple letter from Torino (S2) to Trento (A1), insufficiently franked. The addressee has paid 16 Soldi tax just as if the letter had not been franked.



FIGURE 22 - 25 August 1862. Simple letter from ? (A3) to Florence (S2), insufficiently franked. The addressee has paid 65 Centesimi tax, as if the letter had not been franked.

