Regno d'Italia
Venezia Giulia
3. XI. 18.

Autographed by

EMERGENCY MAIL SERVICE,
VIA AIRPLANE, FROM:
Barrow, to Point Hope,
Alaska.

AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

Lobl:
Kurhaus
Gmünden

A selection
of the items
discussed in
this issue.

Neues Wiener
Tagblatt.
Demokratisches Organ.

Neues Wiener
Abendblatt.

AUSTRIA 194 – Summer 2016 – Contents:

Edited by Andy Taylor

If this journal is undeliverable, please return it to the Editor

The Society's web site on http://www.austrianphilately.com is regularly updated and enhanced.

AUSTRIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
HONORARY OFFICERS

AIDE MEMOIRE

A word from the President

Perhaps you have noticed that we are having fewer meetings for Members than we used to. We're trying to make them bigger and better though, and to tie them into Stamp Fairs when we can. Our meetings in London, York and Lincoln are now well-established, but your Committee is keen to provide venues outside the "A1 corridor" for Members living elsewhere. Last year we held our first meeting in Worcester (on the occasion of WORPEX). Seven people attended, which is a good start but we need a few more for this to be viable, so I hope more Members in the Midlands, Wales and the West Country will come along this year.

We have a successful meeting at the York Stamp Fair every January, and this year we will also be holding one at the July Fair. Our regular programme of Meetings in London continues, and the programme for the 1916/17 season will be in the next Newsletter. Finally, we still have places at this year's Fest Weekend meeting in Peterborough, and you are very welcome to come along to all or part of it.

I do realise that some Members are not sufficiently mobile to come to our meetings, but hopefully more of you can attend, if only to say "Hello". Any of our overseas Members who can time their visits to Britain to coincide with one of our meetings will be especially welcome.

Keith

Editorial 194

It must be catching … I see that the Editor of Czechout, the journal of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, has announced his resignation as from the end of this year. And I overheard at Spring Stampex that in another society "*it would be difficult to be less active than the average member*". I don't want to sound like Project Fear, but there comes a time even for Austrian philatelists when their sticky corners lose their stick and they quietly fall off their frames.

Talking of Stampex, congratulations to our member Carsten Mintert who obtained 96 points and a Large Gold with "*Das Zeitungsstempelwesen Osterreichs 1789-1899* (Newspaper Tax Stamps of Austria 1789-1899)".

I've been asked about the APS's Social Media Presence. Easy: we do not have one. Our sole on-line existence is the web site www.austrianphilately.com and we have in the past advertised things on Ebay. If you come across anything else on Facebook, Twitter and the like, it's bogus, and I'd like to hear about it.

The "let's not talk about the war" project is looking promising. A dozen topics have been identified, and more usefully a list of possible authors. We hope to publish an authoritative survey, based on a 50-sheet display by an eminent Austrian of "covers from 20 territories".

Our Honorary Auditor, John May, retires at the next AGM after {cough} years of service and a replacement must be elected. See the newsletter for more information.

Last but decidedly not least: our Despatcher, Mrs Carol Ralph, is emigrating to Slovakia. Her unseen but invaluable role is to put this Journal and the Auction List into envelopes, apply address labels and postage stamps, and entrust the result to Royal Mail. **A UK-resident replacement is urgently needed**: more details in the Newsletter or from me. We wish Carol all the best in her new life.

Andy Taylor

The Europa Issues of Austria

By Herr Breitmaul Frosch [1]

Introduction

EUROPA stamps are an annual joint issue of stamps with a common design or theme by postal administrations of members of the European Communities (1956 to 1959), the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) from 1960 to 1992, and the PostEurop Association since 1993. See the website http://www.posteurop.org/EUROPA%20Stamps. These stamps underline the cooperation in the postal domain, and the promotion of philately. They also build awareness of the common roots, culture and history of Europe and its common goals. As such, EUROPA stamp issues are among the most collected and most popular stamps in the world. Since the first issue on 15 September 1956, EUROPA stamps have been a tangible symbol of Europe's desire for closer integration and cooperation.

The CEPT logo was displayed on the stamps from 1960. There was a common design from 1958 to 1973; thereafter CEPT allowed countries to issue stamps with different designs based on a common theme – and not all on the same day, nor restricted to a single stamp. After 1967 the date of issue was changed to the first week in May; not all countries adhere to this but the Europa stamps are usually issued between the end of April and the beginning of June. The first Europa stamps were issued on 15th September 1956. Austria issued its first Europa stamp in 1959, but instead of using the common design produced its own.

In 1993 the CEPT decided to focus on telecommunications, and PostEurop took over the management of the Europa issues, as well as the responsibility for perpetuating the tradition of the EUROPA stamps and ensuring its evolution. A PostEurop committee now selects the annual theme. The CEPT logo was replaced by the PostEurop official logo (and trademark), the word *EUROPA* in italicised sanserif with some segments missing.

Austria's EUROPA stamp issues

Year	SG	dd.mm	ANK	Year	SG	dd.mm	ANK	Year	SG	dd.mm	ANK
1959	1335	9.3	1076	1986	2093	2.5	1878	2003	2674	9.5	2447
1960	1359	29.8	1123	1987	2119	6.4	1907	2004	2720	4.6	2520
1964	1437	14.9	1203	1988	2163	13.5	1953	2005	2766	28.5	2567
1969	1550	28.4	1321	1989	2196	5.5	1987	2006	2804	3.3	2607
1973	1661	9.7	1446	1990	2226	4.5	2020	2006	2822	1.7	2632
1974	1703	8.5	1472	1991	2260	3.5	2056	2007	2852	22.2	NO!
1975	1736	27.5	1506	1992	2296	8.5	2094	2007	2874	16.6	2698
1976	1763	13.8	1534	1993	2345	16.4	2124	2008	2933	6.6	2780
1977	1787	10.6	1566	1994	2372	27.5	2157	2009	2984	5.6	2842
1978	1807	3.5	1605	1995	2400	19.5	2187	2010	3036	11.6	2901
1979	1839	4.5	1640	1996	2429	17.5	2218	2011	3112	8.9	2982
1980	1881	25.8	1684	1997	2477	23.5	2252	2012	3154	11.5	3024
1981	1899	22.5	1702	1998	2507	15.5	2285	2013	3219	6.5	3099
1982	1937	30.7	1744	1999	2538	18.6	2319	2014	3278	6.5	3163
1983	1966	24.6	1774	2000	2558	9.5	2344	2015		7.5	
1984	2015	4.5	1802	2001	2588	18.5	2378				
1985	2051	3.5	1842	2002	2638	3.5	2410				

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[1] Some of the information comes from earlier articles by John Giblin, some from the Austrian Post web site, and some from Posteuropa.

Description and illustrations of the Austrian Europa issues [2]

1959	1960	1964	1969	1973

1959, 9 March. Austria's first Europa issue was designed by Oskar Spitzer to depict a part of the globe, showing a map of Europe, with a modern building in the shape of an "E" adorned with Europa flags. The words "Für Europa" appear rather inconspiciously in the bottom right hand corner.

1960, 29 August. Austria's specially-designed second Europa issue has a classical Ionic column with EUROPA above, to symbolise the concept that European civilisation is based upon the ideals of Greece and Rome

1964, 14 September. The third Austrian Europa issue marked the CEPT's 5th anniversary. By this date it had 22 member countries, hence the stylised marguerite design by Georges Betembs, of France, which has 22 petals around a CEPT emblem above the words "5e Anniversaire".

1969, 28 April. Again there was a gap of 5 years until Austria next issued a Europa stamp, commemorating the 10th anniversary of CEPT. The common theme, of a temple-like building constructed from the words EUROPA and CEPT, was produced by two Italians; Luigi Gasbarra and Giorgio Belli.

1973, July 9. A change of policy obviously occurred in the Austrian Post Office regarding the issuing of "Europa" stamps since now there began a continuous series of annual issues. The official blackprint text clearly stated that this new policy was to demonstrate the Austrian integration into Europe. The Austrian Posthorn design incorporates a telephone dialling device within its coil.

1974	1975	1976	1977	1978

1974, 8 May. In this year CEPT changed from a common design to a common theme. In the Hofkirche of Innsbruck stands the "Monument of the Emperor Maximilian I" who is represented in a kneeling posture, in bronze, on a massive marble sarcophagus, surrounded by 28 bronze statues of his contemporaries and ancestors. Presumably because the statues symbolise the whole of the history and civilisation of Europe, the Austrian Post Office selected one of the finest, that of King Arthur by Peter Vischer of Nuremberg, as their design.

1975, 27 May. The theme was "Painting", so Austria chose a part of the altar painting by Michael Pacher (a native of Bruneck in the Pustertal) entitled the "Vermählung Marians". This painting, originally produced in 1497 for the Parish Church of Salzburg, is now in Vienna. St. Joseph and Our Lady clasp hands underneath the hand of the High Priest raised in benediction. It is this High Priest who is portrayed on the stamp.

1976, 13 August. In 1976 "Hand created works of art" was selected and Austria chose the famous "Tassilo Cup" from the Abbey of Kremsmunster in Upper Austria. This abbey was founded in 777 by Duke Tassilo III

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[2] The issue dates given are those of first postal validity, the "FDC date", not the date a few days earlier when the stamps went on sale so that FDCs could be prepared.

of Bavaria and in that year he presented the Benedictine monks with this magnificient cup or chalice which is 158mm in diameter and 255mm high.

1977, 10 June. The 1977 theme was "Landscape", and Austria chose Attersee in Upper Austria with the illustration dominated by the parish church of "Maria Attersee" with the beautiful lake in the background. The summer resort of Attersee lies on the north-western shore. To the south-east of this lake is the mighty mountain range of the Höllengebirg with its peak in the Höllkogel (1862 m).

1978, 3 May. The 1978 theme was "Buildings and monuments" and Austria selected the magnificient fortress of the Hiegersburg in Styria. This dates in its present form from 1597-1613 and it resisted all attempts by the Turks to take it. In 1822 it was purchased by Prince Johann Josef von und zu Liechtenstein who restored it to its former glory. The House of Liechtenstein again repaired the castle after the heavy war damage of 1945.

1979	1980	1981	1982	1983

1979, 4 May. For the 1979 theme of "The History of Posts and Telecommunications", Austria selected a portrait of the pioneer of the postage stamp, Laurenz Koschier (1804-1879), whose death centenary it was.

1980, 25 August. "Famous people" was illustrated by Robert Stolz, composer of the Philatelists Waltz and much, much else. Born Graz 25/8/1880 (so the FDC date was the centenary); died Berlin 27/6/1975. The score is "The lemon trees bloom in the Prater".

1981, 22 May. The theme of "Folklore" was exemplified by a Maypole.

1982, 30 July. "Historic events" showed a passenger coach on the Linz - Freistadt - Budweis horse-drawn railway opened in 1832.

1983, 24 June. "Inventions" were commemorated on the centenary of the birth of the Nobel Prize winning Austrian physicist, Viktor Franz Hess.

1984	1985	1986	1987	1988

1984, 4 May. The 25th anniversary of the foundation of CEPT was marked with a Common Design depicting the abstract concept of a bridge over water.

1985, 3 May. Since 1985 was designated the "European Year of Music" the annual Europa-CEPT 1985 stamp also commemorates the 325th anniversary of the composer Johann Joseph Fux [1660-1741].

1986, 2 May. The 18th Europa stamp on the theme of Nature Conservation depicts the 'Large Pasque Flower' [Grosse Küchenschelle].

1987, 6 April. The annual Europa issue on "Modern architecture" was combined with a "Europalia 1987 Austria" Belgium Festival theme and shows the Hundertwasser House in Vienna.

1988, 13 May. The international theme for the 1988 'Europa' stamp was "Telecommunications". The Austrian stamp depicted the dish aerials of the 'Erdefunkstelle' in the Hochschwab Alps at Alflenz in Styria.

1989	1990	1991	1992

1989, 5 May. The annual Europa issue, with its theme of "Children's Toys", was marked by a stamp showing a wooden barge made as a children's toy in the Viechtau in the Salzkammergut.

1990, 4 May. The general theme for the 1990 "Europa" issues was 'Post Office Buildings', so the 22nd issue depicted the Ebene Reichenau post office in Carinthia.

1991, 3 May. Using the theme "Europe in Space", this stamp shows the "ERS 1 European Remote Sensing Satellite" which was launched in April 1991 on an Ariane 4 rocket from Kouron in French Guyana, and placed at a height of 785km to observe changes in the ocean and polar regions.

1992, 8 May. The theme for 1992 is "The 500th Anniversary of the Discovery of the American Continent" and the stamp depicts a map of the Americas.

In 1993, PostEuropa changed from "Common-design" issues to "Common-theme".

1993	1994	1995	1996	1997

1993, 16 April. A stamp depicting the work "The Flying Harlequin" by Paul Flora is the 24th annual "Europa" issue. Paul Flora, born in the South Tirolean village of Glum, is from the Venetian impressionist school of art.

1994, 27 May. The 1994 theme is "Discoveries" so the Austrian stamp commemorates the "Teleki-Höhnel Expendition". In 1886 Admiral Ludwig Höhnel and Count Telcki made an expedition to East Africa during which they discovered and named Lakes Rudolf and Stefanie.

1995, 19 May. The theme in 1995 was "Peace and Freedom. The design depicts a liberated prisoner-of-war in camp uniform escaping from the top of a skull surrounded by a crown of barbed wire.

1996, 17 May. Austria's "Famous Woman" was Paula von Preradović [1887-1951] with a quotation, "Land of Mountains; Land of Rivers". She was born on 12 October 1887 in Vienna and died there on 25 May 1951. She grew up in Istria, and is known for her wide contribution to poetry, including the text of the 1947 Austrian Federal Hymn.

1997, 23 May. The "Tales and legends" stamp shows two children with a donkey, a dog, a cat, and a hen, from the well known Grimm's fairy tale "The Town Musicians of Bremen" (*Die Bremer Stadtmusikanten*).

1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
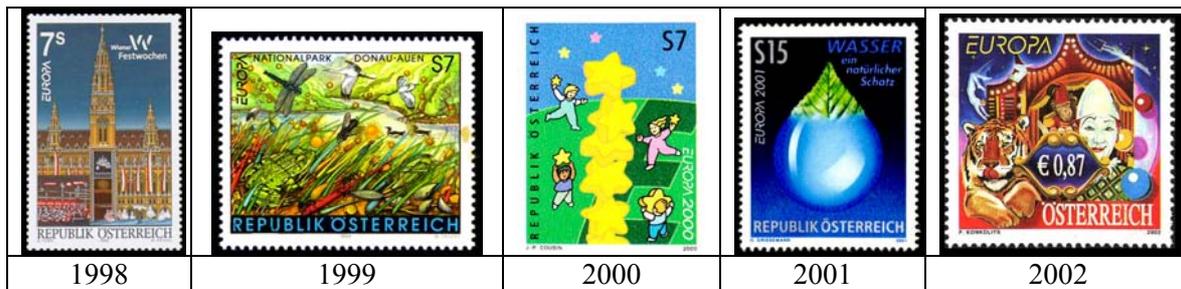
1998, 15 May. For "Festivals and National Celebrations" a stamp shows the opening ceremony of the 'Viennese Festive Week' held in front of the Town Hall in Vienna in May each year. The Viennese festive week was founded in 1951 to demonstrate to people all over the world that it was possible to organise cultural activities in a city only a short while after the war.

1999, 18 June. This year's theme concentrates on maintaining Nature's natural resources and shows the animal world of the national park Donau-auen (the waterside of the Danube downstream of Vienna).

2000, 9 May. Europa stamps in a common design conceived by Jean-Paul Cousin of France were issued in all participating European countries. The stamps commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Schuman Declaration, which formed a crucial element of post-1945 European integration. As French Foreign Minister from 1948 to1953, Schuman was particularly involved in improving French-German relations. In addition to promoting commerce, the goal of this Plan was to encourage European unification. The plan was integrated into a formal agreement implemented in 1952 that brought to life the European Coal and Steel Community (which constituted a first step towards the European Union). The stars symbolise the countries of the European Union, and the column of stars reaches out into a blue sky reminiscent of Europe's flag. Children of different nationalities bring even more stars from different origins in an effort to form a larger Europe.

2001, 18 May. 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. Austria however needs only 3% of its total water resource.

2002, 3 May. This year, PostEurop chose "The Circus".

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007

2003, 9 May. Soon after 1450 the first posters developed from handbills. Senefelder's invention of lithography had a dramatic effect on posters. The Europa issue's motif was created by Cordula Alessandri-Design for the "100 posters from Vienna" exhibition in the Ginza Graphic Gallery, Tokyo.

2004, 4 June. "Holidays": the Austrian contribution, "Field of flowers" was created by the artist Eva Fuchs, who remarked "Lying on a warm summer's day in a fragrant field of wild flowers, eyes closed and simply listening to the singing of the birds and the buzzing of the insects - that, too, is a holiday."

2005, 28 May. Austria and the coffee-house – the one is inconceivable without the other. In 1683, the Turks fleeing from their unsuccesful siege of Vienna left sacks of green beans (as well as a bakery product in the form of a crescent moon, later to become the croissant, always curved never straight). Herr Kolschitzky opened the first Vienna coffee-house, later inventing the Viennese "melange".

2006, 3 March. For "50 years of Europa – CEPT" the porescribed theme was "Integration through the eyes of Young People".

2007, 16 June. Scouts, whose centenary it was, are the largest movement for children and young people in the world. 38 million members in over 200 countries of the world have a single aim: helping children and young people to become committed and critical adults. The organisation welcomes people of all skin colours and all religious communities with a peaceful philosophy.

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
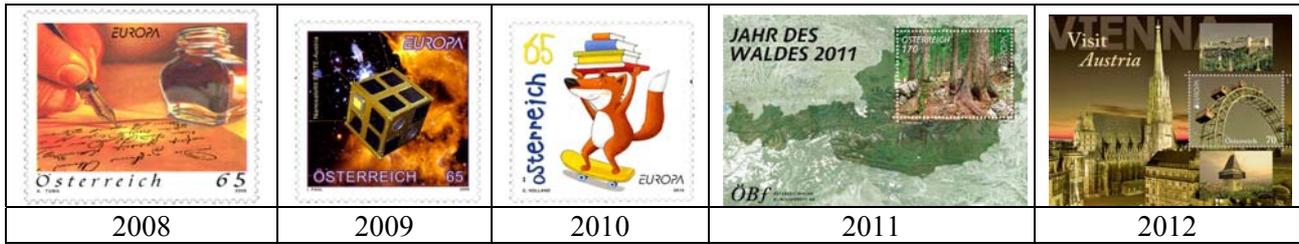
2008, 6 June. The oldest surviving letters date from ancient Egypt and Babylon, written on papyrus or clay tablets. The Greeks and Romans scratched their letters into wooden tablets covered with wax, while the Indians and the Chinese used palm leaves from a very early stage. In the Middle Ages in Europe, parchment was used at first, then paper.

2009, 5 June. Under the direction of the Technical University of Graz, experts from Austrian universities have constructed the first Austrian satellite, TUGSAT-1, which is equipped with telescope, computer, mass memory and memory controls, thermal controls, power supply and data transmission; it will weigh only around 6 kg. An astronomical camera on board opens up new possibilities for exploring the stars.

2010, 11 June. The theme was "Children's books"; the motif for the Austrian stamp was created by Carola Holland and shows the "Post Office Fox" Fridolin, whose exciting adventures have been related in a number of children's books over the last few years. The merry fox, skateboarding and balancing five books on his head, displays the charming cheerfulness that is often inherent in this topic.

2011, 8 September. The prescribed theme was "Forests", it being the International year thereof. Around 48% of the Austrian national territory is forest! The stamp block is far more than just a stamp - it contains a specially selected mixture of seeds from Austrian spruce trees from four Länder.

2012, 11 May. This year's topic is "Visit". The Austrian Post has chosen a block which shows probably the most famous sight in Austria, St Stephen's Cathedral in the heart of Vienna, as a large background image. Superimposed are the impressive fortress of Hohensalzburg and the Graz clock tower, with the popular Ferris wheel in Vienna's Prater as the motif of the actual stamp. Opost add "It is interesting that visitors to the cities usually stay for a significantly shorter time than in tourism resorts in the country, but spend considerably more per day on average than other visitors to Austria". The author has noticed this…

2013	2014	2015	2016

2013, 6 May. To celebrate PostEurop's 20th anniversary, "Postal vehicles" was the theme. The issue shows the first (1913) and the latest (2013) electric powered vehicle used by Austrian Post for mail and parcel delivery - 100 years of e-mobility. The yellow van is removeable from the background, and it is the stamp.

2014, 9 May. Austria's choice for "national musical instruments" was the "Alpine Concert Zither". Schönberg allegedly said that great music is music that still sounds great even if played on a zither. Devotees of "The Third Man" or Heurigers will recognise how unfair that is!

2015, 6 May. The theme of "Old toys" was shown on a stamp depicting Matador construction sets, enjoyed by children for over 100 years.

It has been suggested that the 2016 theme should be "We're all in it together", and a design proposal has appeared.

A PERPLEXING PERIPATETIC COVER - SOLVED

by Ingert Kuzych

A letter sent from Vienna to Point Hope on Alaska's northeast coast – well north of the Arctic Circle and just 100 miles east of the International Date Line and Russian waters – would in itself be interesting and unusual. Such a letter dispatched in 1950 at the height of the Cold War makes for an even more exciting collectible and such a letter is what I found at a local stamp show in a dealer's box of covers. It took a while – and lots of email messages – but here is a summary of the detective "journey" involved in clarifying this unconventional missive.

Preliminary Letter Description

Right from the start it is obvious that the sender, a Herr Johann Bachlmair living at Franzensbrückenstrasse 9 in the second district of Vienna, wanted to create something special. He affixed a pair of the attractive 1-schilling Austrian Postage Stamp Centennial stamps issued a few weeks earlier on 20 May 1950 along with a 20-groschen value from the then current Folk Costume definitives to make up the 2.20 schilling international air mail printed matter rate to the United States[1]. He had the stamps cancelled at the Vienna Main Post Office (Wien 1) with a special Centennial commemorative marking dated 10 June 1950.

The letter was addressed to a Mr. J. Bachlmair c/o Mr. Karl Wulff living in Dayton, Ohio. How this Bachlmair is related to the sender is unclear, but I suspect it is the sender transmitting the letter to himself by sending it to a friend with a message inside asking that the unique envelope be retained.

Since Vienna (and all of Austria) was still occupied at this time by the Four Powers (and would be for another five years) all foreign mail required censoring.[ii] A violet circular censor mark on the reverse displays the number 334 with circumference wording "Österreichische Zensurstelle" (Austrian Censor Office) No. 334 and "Z. 1." (Zone 1) at the base.[iii] The letter was resealed with a brown strip of tape after it had been inspected. A violet lower-case letter "g" supplemental censor mark appears upside-down in the center of the obverse side.[iv]

The letter's trip to Dayton would have required at least four airplane flight legs. The first would have been from the Austrian capital west to the European coast (a site in France or the United Kingdom). To cross the North Atlantic in 1950, stops were then usually made in Shannon, Ireland and/or Gander, Newfoundland. After arriving at an eastern US city (usually New York), another flight would have carried the letter to its Ohio destination. The letter presumably arrived in Dayton in the latter half of June. *Then, apparently, nothing happened for six months.*

It was not until December of 1950 that the letter continued on its transcontinental journey. That is when a 15-year old 3-cent US stamp[v] honouring the Centennial of Michigan Statehood in 1935 was affixed to the upper right corner of the envelope to pay the US domestic letter rate. A violet cancellation tied the stamp, but the circular cancel color so closely matches that of the stamp that it is not possible to discern all of the cancel details. I was, however, able to make out what looked like the name "Dayton" and the month of "Dec[ember]".

The letter then again travelled on a journey, this time covering at least six flight legs: one to the west coast of the US (probably Seattle), then north to Juneau, Alaska, then to Fairbanks, then to some intermediate point, possibly Nome, and from there to Barrow, and finally to Point Hope.

How Did it Get There?...Some Speculations

There is, however, no Alaska address on the envelope. How did the post office know where to deliver the letter? It could be that this letter was placed inside another envelope with the Alaska designation – perhaps the postmaster in Barrow, Alaska – indicated on it. (There is a major horizontal crease about 30mm from the bottom of the envelope, which *might* have indicated that the airmail cover was inserted into a narrow US No.10 size envelope for forwarding.) But then, why the cancelled US stamp on the envelope?

It could be that the sender enclosed not just the cover in question into another envelope, but also a letter to the postmaster requesting that he forward it to some colleague of the sender's in Point Hope. The postmaster indicated his assistance with an autograph in the upper left, but also with a dispatch label in the lower left. The "uncovered" US stamp on the envelope would then have paid for the final stretch of the journey: Barrow to Point Hope.

It is also possible that Herr Bachlmair knew that he would be making a journey to Alaska in the second half of 1950. He may have sent the cover to his friend, Karl Wolff, asking the gentleman to hold onto it for him until he arrived. Upon arrival in Dayton, Herr Bachlmair may have had the Michigan stamp favor cancelled and then carried the cover with him (folded and packed amongst his belongings) on the journey to Alaska. Arriving at Barrow, he could have made the acquaintance of the postmaster who then applied the various markings.

That is as far as I got in figuring out this cover, but I realized that there could well be several alternative scenarios explaining the US half of the journey that I had not thought of. So, I sent the above text (along with scans of the cover) to Terry Shaw, president of the Alaska Collectors Club who graciously provided me with information that clarified a great deal. Much of the text in the paragraphs below is drawn from a lengthy email received from Mr. Shaw.

What Likely Really Happened

In the late 1940s and early 1950s there were several articles in the philatelic literature about how to get covers serviced by the Alaska Emergency Mail Service. These articles told folks to send their covers enclosed in a separate envelope to the postmaster in the Alaskan city, town, or village of interest and ask the postmaster to send it on a particular Emergency Mail route. Herr Bachlmair likely selected the Barrow post office since that town is the northernmost in the United States.

David Brower was the postmaster in Barrow in 1950 and signed this cover. *The cover was likely sent directly to him in another envelope from Austria; he then signed the cover, cancelled it "Barrow", and sent it on to Ohio.*

Yes, you read correctly, the cancellation almost certainly reads "Barrow", **not** "Dayton". After Mr. Shaw informed me that the Barrow post office sometimes used a purple ink for their cancels, I went back and reexamined the cancellation. Both locale names have six letters in them and I was only able to clearly make out the 2nd and 5th, which are "A" and "O" in both. I could also make out the bottom of the first letter, which I at first thought was "D", but which I'm now pretty sure is a "B".

The lack of any other Alaskan postmarks suggests that the item was never actually carried anywhere in Alaska under the Emergency Mail authority. The six-month time delay between the date of the Barrow cancel and the one in Austria was not that unusual for covers that went through Alaska at that time. Also, Brower likely affixed the 3-cent stamp to the cover as a courtesy.[vi] It was not that unusual for stamps of this vintage to still be used in 1950 in remote areas of Alaska, whereas use of this stamp in Ohio at this time would be rather uncommon.

The Emergency Mail authorization allowed any postmaster in Alaska to declare an "Emergency" for mail service owing to the lack of reliable and timely ground service. This declaration allowed the mail to be flown within Alaska at the standard mail rate, 3 cents at this time, rather than the more expensive airmail rate. Thousands of collector-created covers exist from the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s, often with colourful cachets that were carried under this service.

In general postmasters were very accommodating of collectors and did send their covers on the desired route, with appropriate cancels and backstamps, and sometimes with signatures.

So, even though I did not initially get the route exactly right, this cover did travel a ***considerable*** distance. Here's how I reconstruct the route westward (and northward): Vienna to a city in western Europe – then to Shannon, Ireland and/or Gander, Newfoundland – New York – Seattle – Juneau – Fairbanks – Nome – Barrow (the flight to Point Hope likely did not occur).[vii] That is at least eight flights with a distance flown of about 9,300 miles.[viii]

There would have been at least five return flights: Barrow to Nome to Fairbanks to Juneau to Seattle, and then to the address in Dayton. That's another 4,550 miles. But did the journey end there? It could well be that Mr. Wulff then returned the cover to his Austrian friend adding another 4,850 miles logged by this well-traveled item!

My sincerest thanks to Charles "Terry" Shaw, Alaska Collectors Club President, for his generous assistance in elucidating this unique cover. Thanks also to Colin Tobitt, who provided much of the censor mark information, and to Keith Brandon, Martin Brumby, and Andy Taylor who all provided useful commentary.

* * * * * * *

A couple of comments from Martin Brumby:

Glad that the Alaska specialists were able to enlighten and that the purple cancel shows the cover was actually in Alaska. That will make a huge difference to the cover's credibility (and value!)

Only other thought is that I would guess that Wulff stuck on the stamp before sending it to Brower. Not many postmasters would pay for a stamp in such circumstances and one might hope that (if paid for by Wulff with a cheque or dollar bill) he might have chosen a stamp in a contrasting colour! Merely speculation, I know. Doesn't make much difference who actually did the lickin' and stickin'! But we shouldn't forget that it is only thanks to this kind of philatelic activity, that some postal markings and practice are known of today.

Notes:

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[i] From 1.1.1950 postage for letters to USA was 170g for 20 grams plus airmail at 150g per 5 grams. The postage for Drucksachen (printed matter) was 70g + 150g = 220g = 2.20Sch. It was permitted to send printed matter in an air mail envelope.

[ii] Foreign mail censorship in occupied Austria began on 2 January 1946 and ended 13 August 1953.

[iii] This censor mark was used at the Vienna Main Post Office (Wien 1) from September 1947 to January 1952.

[iv] This type of supplemental censor mark was in use between November 1949 and February 1951, and then intermittently to the end of censorship in August 1953.

[v] The cost for a US first-class letter remained steady at 3 cents for twenty five years, from 1933 to 1958.

[vi] My guess is that this was done because the letter arrived from abroad and from a sender who did not have ready access to US stamps. The postmaster scrounged up an old stamp that he found lying about and used it. He might not have undertaken this polite procedure for typical requests coming from US destinations, which over time could have become an expensive practice.

[vii] Mr. Shaw also informed me of two (less likely) alternative air routes to Barrow at this time that went through Anchorage: Minneapolis to Anchorage and then to Fairbanks and onto Barrow, or Seattle to Anchorage and then to Fairbanks and onto Barrow. Regardless of the route to Fairbanks, flights from that town would almost certainly have stopped over at some waylay point like Nome because of the distance and winter darkness (Barrow is completely dark for several months in the winter). Mr. Shaw also pointed out to me the difficulty of wintertime travel in Alaska. It is very unlikely that Mr. Bachlmair would have travelled to remote and hard-to-reach Barrow, Alaska in the dead of winter with sub-zero temperatures, total darkness, and generally nasty weather.

[viii] I am assuming that the letter went via air mail since it is a red-stripe edged air mail envelope (and is European size not American) and is franked for the correct air mail amount to the United States. However, there is a chance that when first dispatched inside another letter from Austria, it could have been sent via surface mail.

THE FRENCH OCCUPATIONS OF SALZBURG

These articles have been adapted by Andy Taylor from part of Johannes Haslauer's prize-winning display on the political and postal history of Salzburg from 1500 to 1858. We thank him for the permission, and the scans.

At 1800, the Archbishopric of Salzburg was an independent prince-bishopric and a State of the Holy Roman Empire. The Archbishop had both ecclesiastical and temporal power.

The first French occupation: 15 Dec 1800 – 11 Feb 1801

In the Battle of Walserfeld (12-14 Dec 1800) the Coalition Army under Archduke John was severely beaten by the French Army of the Rhine led by Jean-Victor Moreau. The French Army occupied the St Peter's Abbey quarter of Salzburg city and imposed a levy of 2¾ million Gulden. The war was officially ended by the Peace of Luneville on 9 Feb 1801, although the French troops took a month to leave Salzburg.
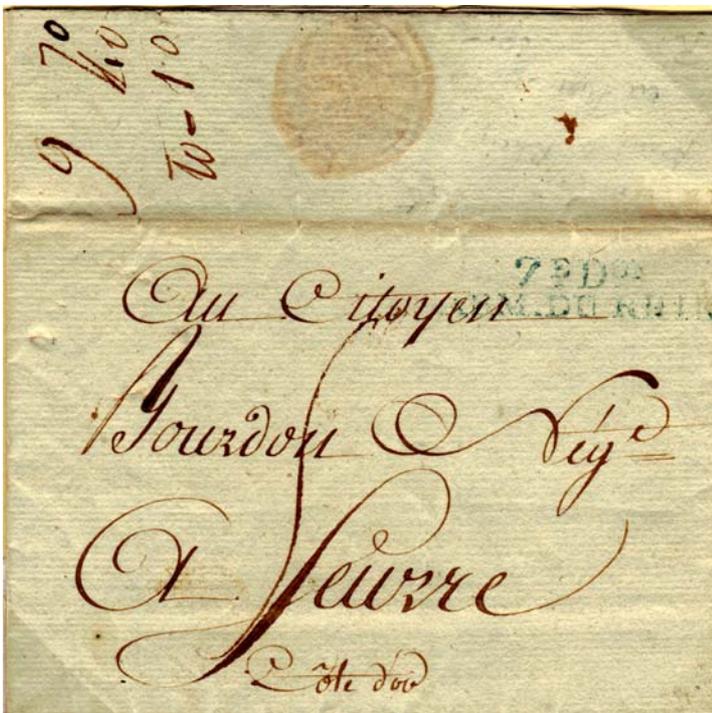
Soldier's letter dated "9 Ventose 9", which is 28 Feb 1801 [**]. Sent to Seurre Cote-d'Or (in Burgundy). Blue cachet 7^E D^{ON} ARM. DU RHIN. The recipient (his brother) didn't qualify for free postage, so had to pay 6 Decimes to the French Post Office. This is the only non-official letter to a non-official person known from this period.

**Revolutionary-to-Julian conversions can vary by a day depending on the tables used.

Letter from the Commander of the 4th Army of the Rhine to Nice (Alpes Maritimes). Dated "16 Ventose 9" = 7 March 1801. The commander is writing to his uncle, who has to pay 8 Decimes for the letter. They are about to leave for France, and expect to arrive in 40 days. Red cachet 4^E D^{ON} ARM. DU RHIN.

Another letter to the Nice uncle, dated "1 Germinal 9" = 22 March 1801. Again, 8 Decimes to pay. They now know their route, which is long and costly. Red cachet 4^E D^{ON} ARM. DU RHIN. The sender has family concerns: "It was good of you to think of my father, but you must send the money to Henriette NOT to him".

In 1803, Salzburg was secularised as the Electorate of Salzburg to provide a job for the former Grand Duke Ferdinand III of Tuscany (brother of Emperor Francis II), who had lost that throne. Hieronymus von Colloredo remained as the last prince-archbishop until his death in 1812, but lost temporal power at the secularization.

The second French occupation: 30 Oct 1805 – 1 Feb 1806

Following the Austrian defeat at Austerlitz in 1805, Salzburg was annexed by Austria as compensation for the loss of Tirol to the Kingdom of Bavaria, and Ferdinand was transferred to the Grand Duchy of Würzburg.
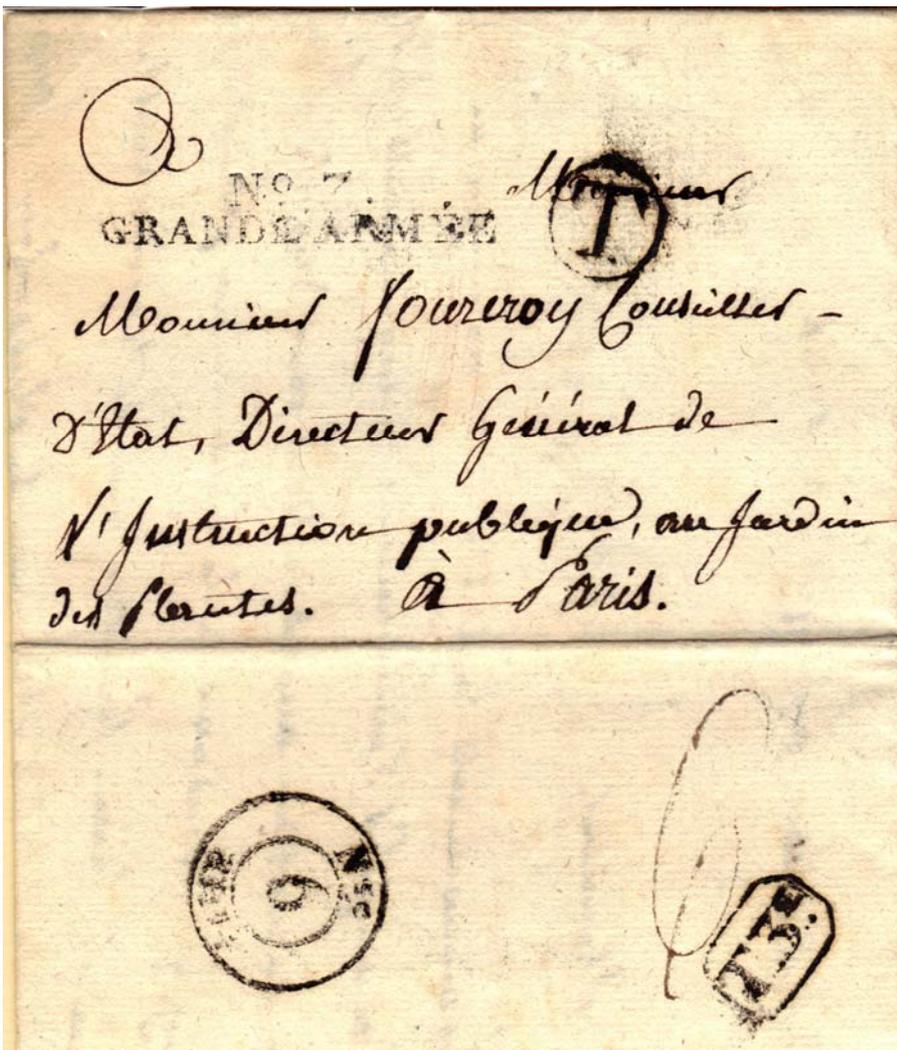
Private letter from the Military Doctor of the 6th Corps of the Grand Army to Paris. Dated 19. Frimaire 14 (10 Dec 1805), 8 days after Austerlitz. Black cachet N° 7 GRANDE ARMÉE. The sender paid 6 kr and the recipient 3 centimes.
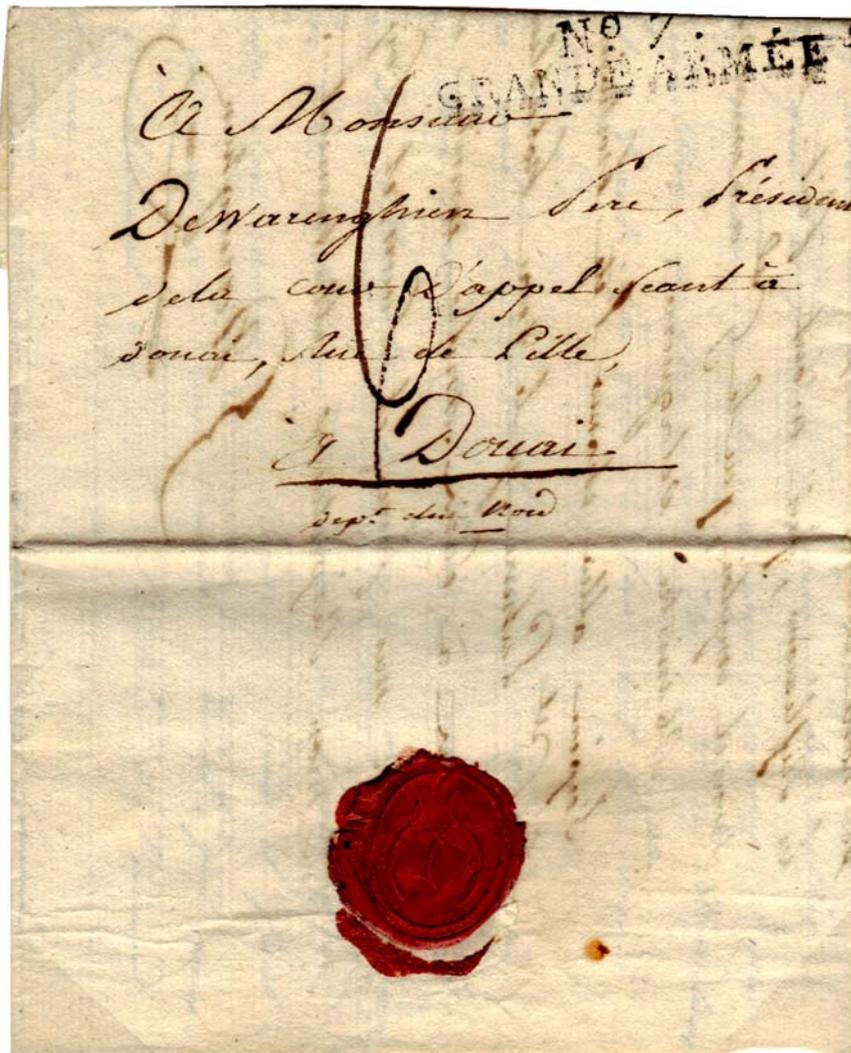
Private letter from Adrien Lamoral Warenghien (later a Brigade-General) to his father in Douai. He's on his way to winter quarters in Klagenfurt. Dated 27. Frimaire 14 (18 Dec 1805), a fortnight after Austerlitz. Black cachet N^O 7 GRANDE ARMÉE. The recipient paid 6 centimes.

Private letter from a Flemish soldier serving with the Napoleonic Army to his brother in Malines. Dated 1 Feb 1806, the last day of the French occupation. Black cachet N^O 7 GRANDE ARMÉE. Tax mark for 7 Sols.

The third French occupation: 29 April 1809 – 29 Sept 1810

After Napoleon yet again defeated Austria at Wagram and Znaim in July 1809, the Treaty of Schönbrunn handed Salzburg over to Bavaria. However the French remained in possession until 29 Sept 1810).

French Army letter to M. Gaudin, Garder Magasin des Vires pain á Wels. Dated 20 Jan 1810. Austrian tax mark for 12 kr.

The message is "Send bread and flour!"

Private letter from a Belgian soldier, Jean Pierre Baivy, to his parents. He is with the 4th Company of the 85th Regiment of the 3rd Division of the Army, and is stationed in Neumarkt bei Salzburg. The letter was posted on 25 Jan 1810 and arrived in Maredret on 23 February. Blue cachet N^O 26 ARM. D'ALLEMAGNE. Tax mark '7'.
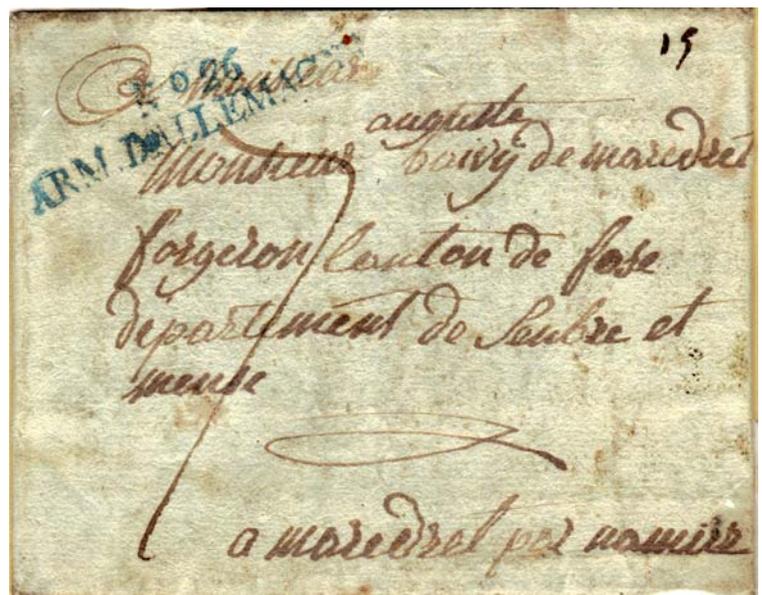
THE BAVARIAN OCCUPATION OF SALZBURG

The Bavarian occupation: 30 Sept 1810 – 30 April 1816

Once the French had left and the Bavarians were in possession, they closed the University of Salzburg, banned monasteries from accepting novices, and banned pilgrimages and processions. They also changed the postal system over to the Bavarian. This divided the territory into Rayons; Salzburg was the fourth, as shown by an R4 on the cancels.
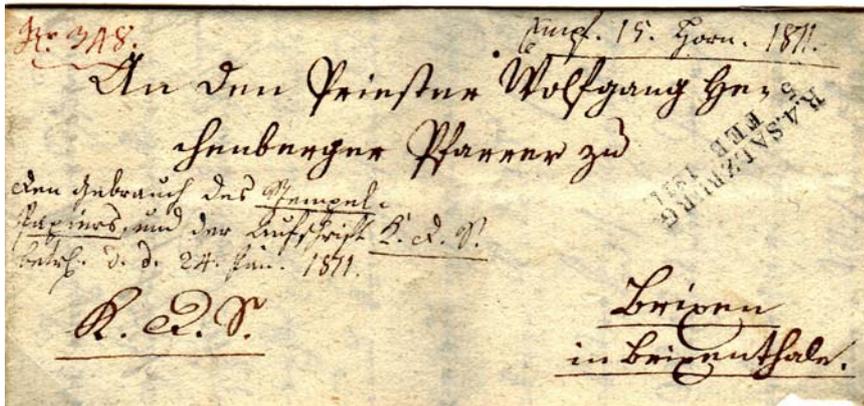
This letter was sent to the Rev. Wolfgang Hechtenberger, Priest at Brixen in Brixenthal. The cancel (unfortunately upside-down) is **R.4. SALZBURG 5.FEB.1811** and the handwritten K.D.S. meaning königliche Dienstsache (that's the King of Bavaria) allows free post. It's from the Salzburg Archbishop's Consistory.

This is an inland letter sent from Salzburg to the parish office at Kallham über Lammbach in the Innviertel. The cancel is **R.4. SALZBURG 26.DEC.1811.** It is a double-weight "Parteisache": while the sending Consistory had the free-post privilege the recipient did not – so he had to pay the full postage of 6 kr rh for 1 Lot travelling up to 12 (German) Miles.

The Bavarian inland letter rates from 1 Dec 1810 to 7 Oct 1816 were (in rhenish kreuzer):

Straight-line distance Meilen (7.5km)	Up to ½ Lot	1 Lot	1½ Lot	2 Lot
Up to 6	3x	4x	6x	7x
Up to 12	4x	6x	8x	10x
Up to 18	6x	9x	12x	15x
Up to 24	8x	12x	16x	20x
Up to 30	10x	15x	20x	25x
Up to 36	12x	18x	24x	30x

Inland letter from Salzburg to the Royal Bavarian Land Court at Kitzbühel. Addressed to the Royal Bavarian District Inspection Dept for monasteries and abbeys in Salzburg. Blue R.4. SALZBURG 5.JUN.1812 cancel.

Post-free (K.D.S. as before) and express ('dringend'); both sender and receiver enjoyed free post.

The route would have been Reichenhall-Lofer-St Johann-Kitzbühel.

Registered letter from Salzburg to Ober Vellach in Oberkärnten. **R.4.SALZBURG. 18 NOV 1814** cancel. Unusual *CHARGE* mark.

Official letter (K.D.S.) from Radstadt to the Royal General-Commissariat in Salzburg. Unique **R.4.RADSTADT** cancel. Dated internally as 1 July 1812. Contained a report on the numbers of police available for duty!

Under the Bavarian administration, many offices had their status reduced from Post Office to Postexpedition (collecting office), such as Hallein, St Johann, Lend, Badgastein, St Gilgen and Neumarkt.

Official letter (K.D.S.) from Hallein to the Royal Bavarian General Commissariat in Salzburg, 27 March 1815.
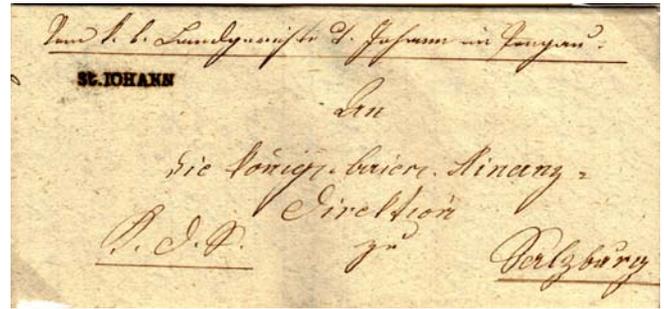
Official letter (K.D.S.) from St Johann (in Pongau), 5 Dec 1811. From the Royal Bavarian Land Court in St Johann to the Royal Bavarian Finance Direction in Salzburg.

Official letter (K.D.S.) from Hofgastein, 17 Jan 1812. From the Royal Bavarian Land Court in Gastein to the Royal Bavarian General Commissariat in Salzburg. Cancel **R.4.HOFGASTEIN**

Private letter from Hof (**R 4 HOF** - rare!) to Aussee, 12 Sep 1812
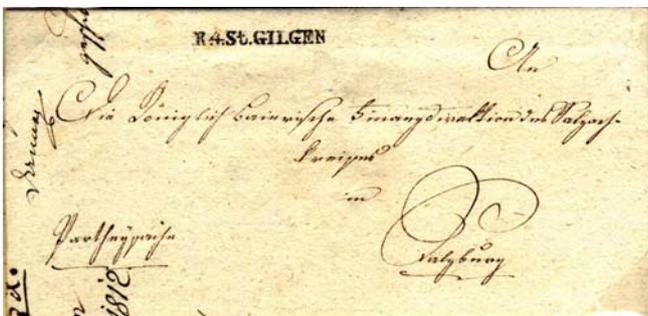
Parteisache from St Gilgen (**R.4.St.GILGEN**) dated 4.12.1812 to the Royal Bavarian Finance Direction in Salzburg. The sender would have paid.

Private letter from Neumarkt (**R 4 NEUMARKT**) to the Royal Bavarian General Commissariat in Salzburg

Letter dated 19 Nov 1814 from Bolzano in the Tirol, recaptured by Austria on 10 Oct 1813, to Salzburg, still under Bavarian occupation. Marked

(a) '2' in red at top left: this is 2 Decimi, the Italian rate to the border, paid by the sender;

(b) '10x rh' in faded-to-brown ink at bottom right: this is 10 kr rhenish, the Bavarian rate from the border, paid by the receiver. The Italian tarifs remained in force until 31 May 1814: see the following tables.

Italian inland letter rates, 25 May 1811 to 31 May 1814:

Distance:	Up to 6 grams	Up to 8 grams	Up to 11 grams	Up to 15 grams
Up to 50 km	2 Decimi	3 Decimi	4 Decimi	5 Decimi
Up to 100 km	3 Decimi	4 Decimi	5 Decimi	6 Decimi

Bavarian rates for incoming foreign letters, 1 Nov 1811 to 31 Aug 1814 (in rhenish kreuzer):

Straight-line distance, Meilen (7.5km)	Up to ½ Lot	1 Lot	1½ Lot	2 Lot
Up to 18	6x	9x	12x	15x
Up to 24	8x	12x	16x	20x
Up to 30	10x	15x	20x	25x
Up to 36	12x	18x	24x	30x

And later?

After the defeat of Napoleon in 1816 the Congress of Vienna returned Salzburg to Austria, perhaps better put as "to the Habsburgs". The Salzburger Land was administered from Linz, the capital of Upper Austria.

From 1816, the currency used in former Bavarian areas progressively reverted to Austrian. See "A letter from Brixen to Kufstein in 1816" in Austria 151 pp18ff for a discussion of the complexities.

In 1818 the archdiocese was re-established as the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Salzburg but without temporal power.

In 1849 the Duchy of Salzburg was established as a crown land of the Austrian Empire and, after 1866, Austria-Hungary.

And today it is a Land of the Republic of Austria.

PRINCESS GERTA OF SACHSEN-WEIMAR-EISENACH

Adapted from notes by Peter Cybaniak.

Or, treasures from the APS Auction! Princess Gerta of Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenach (1863-1945) was an unusually unfortunate member of German royalty, born Princess Gerta of Ysenburg and Büdingen in Wächtersbach. She married Prince Wilhelm Karl Bernhard Hermann of Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenach in 1885. Prince Wilhelm had a bad reputation: he had fled to the U.S.A. in his youth, even working as a restaurant waiter in New York, before returning to Germany and marrying his second cousin. The happy couple lived in Heidelberg, which was both cheaper and less restricting that the court at Weimar, and had three children. She died on 27 November 1945 at age 82 at Baden-Baden, Germany.

Prince Hermann Karl (b. 14 Feb 1886, d. 6 Jun 1964), who married Warda Paola Lottero, an Italian actress, in London in 1909. As punishment he was stripped of his royal status, becoming Count Ostheim instead.

Prince Albrecht Wilhelm (b. 23 Dec 1886, d. 9 Sep 1918), who was killed in action in WWI.

Princess Sophia (in full, Sophie Augustine Ida Karoline Pauline Agnes Elisabeth Ernestine; b.25 Jul 1888, d.18 Sep 1913). She fell in love with Baron Hans von Bleichröder, the son of a rich and recently ennobled Jewish banker. In 1913 she was refused permission to marry him, and committed suicide. She was not allowed to be buried but had to be cremated, to the shame of her family. She was the first European female royal not to be buried. Her father barred the Baron from the funeral, stating that "all the money in the world would never suffice to bridge over the gulf between a Princess of Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenach and a mere Baron who worked for his living in the banking trade." The Baron died in action in August 1915, fighting near Warsaw.

Princess Sophia had mixed with the titled elite students at the University of Heidelberg. Here there was a Jewish professor (of German language and literature), Max Freiherr von Waldberg. Max Waldberg wrote to Princess Gerta on 11.3.1915 from the Carpathian mountains (then in Austria-Hungary) where he was with the German South Army. As he was not the member of any German unit, he used a special red Feldpost label to obtain free army postage to Princess Gerta in Heidelberg.

> *Your Highness,*
>
> *I allow myself to humbly send you a picture postcard from Mukachiv (Munkács) with a symbol of our culture (the castle). In the Carpathian village of Volovets (Volovec), which we are going to visit tomorrow, even this will probably be missing. These shortcomings are excused by the colourful folk life. Though they should be more clean! I ask you to kindly pass my most obedient compliments to His Highness the Prince. I lowly kiss your hand Your Highness, with thanks, your humble Max Waldberg.*

Interestingly, after the lst World War Max Waldberg had as one of his students Joseph Goebbels, the future Nazi propaganda minister. Despite this, because of his Jewish ancestry he was forcibly retired in 1933; he died in 1938.

RETURN OF U-BOAT U4 DIVE BELL TO AUSTRIA

By David Bravery

While being a fairly keen collector of Austrian Hungarian Empire stamps for almost 50 years, I have also dabbled in several more specialist areas including, but not limited to, Austrian stamps used in Hungary; the Salzkammergut; the first 4 issues of Hungary; and almost all "back of the book" material up to 1921. However for the past 5 years – since visiting Dubrovnik and Kotor (formerly Cattaro) – I have become quite fixated with almost any material to do with the Bay of Cattaro prior to 1918, whether it be stamps, postcards, general covers, ship's letters, maps, etc. Whilst this remote southernmost area of the old Austria province of Dalmatia (now part of Montenegro) is almost unknown in the UK, it was of course a major base for the Austro-Hungarian navy right up to the end of the first world war. The "Bocche di Cattarro" as it was known to the Austrians at that time comprises three distinct bays with interlinking narrow passages and as such was practically impregnable to enemy forces. From its entrance off the Adriatic Sea it extends some 28 kms to the town of Cattaro (Kotor) and has a coastline of over 100kms. It was defined as "Kriegshafen Castelnuovo" (Castelnuovo War Harbour) as early as 1850 when the Austrian navy was in its infancy. In WW1 it became a vital harbour for the Austrian navy, particularly so for both Austrian and German submarines, providing easy access to southern Adriatic and the Mediterranean (via the Strait of Otranto) where they attacked enemy shipping throughout the war.

Kriegshafen Castelnuovo

The Austrian submarines at the beginning of WW1 were quite primitive and deemed even hazardous to operate, as their engine's exhaust fumes poisoned the crew to the point of dementia . The crews of German U-Boats arriving in Cattaro in 1915 marvelled that they even put to sea ! Be that as it may, their commanders and sailors were well trained and seemingly fearless and succeeded in sinking or severely damaging significant numbers of Italian, French and British vessels, both warships and merchant ships alike. By far the most famous and

successful submarine was the U5 commanded by Georg von Trapp (later of "Sound of Music" fame!) albeit not very far behind, success-wise, was the U4 commanded by Rudolf (von) Singule.

Having become "hooked" on the role of the submarines operating out of the Bay of Cattaro, I started looking for any correspondence from their officers and crews blithely thinking that "there must be plenty around"! Correspondence from the huge dreadnoughts and other large warships with crews upwards of 900 sailors is still relatively easy to find – as they were confined to port for most of the war as part of the very effective Austrian strategy of maintaining "a fleet in being". However, mail from smaller craft such as torpedo boats and especially submarines, with very small crews and almost continuous active service, is far more difficult to find. The situation is further complicated because the Austrian submarines also operated from their northern Adriatic base at Pola, and letters and cards emanating from Pola seem to appear more often than from their southern base at Cattaro. Correspondence from Austrian submarines seems mostly to have been written whilst they were undergoing repairs and refitting at their base in the Bay of Cattaro at the small harbour of Gjenovic on the north shore near the town of Zelenika. In addition, and importantly for collectors of "limited means", letters, picture postcards and Feldpost from submarines are relatively expensive – in the UK at least. Undaunted by this, and with considerable luck, I have over several years managed to obtain some interesting U-Boot correspondence emanating from or related to the Bay of Cattaro. Truth be known, it has become a bit of an obsession !

Ppc of Dubrovnik with red cachet "K.u.K Ubootsstationskommando Golf von Cattaro". Rare U-boat to U-boat correspondence. From U40 at Gjenovic to U23 in Pola via cruiser "SMS Kaiser Franz Joseph 1"

So can you imagine how happy and excited I was when in 2014 I managed to get my hands on the original brass dive-bell from the Austrian submarine U4 (SM U4). What is more the beautiful little bell was given to me as a gift AND it came with a good provenance. How this bell ended up in a Surrey village is a wonderful story.

The U4 survived the war and after the Treaty of St. Germain (the Austrian version of The Versailles Treaty whereby Austria became land-locked) it was awarded to France together with other warships as part of the war reparations. However by this time it was totally obsolete, and it was sold to the Italians in 1920, towed to Trieste and scrapped. This is where an English intelligence officer, one William J Brunell, appears to have "liberated" the U4's dive bell as a souvenir and brought it back to England. Brunell later became well known by winning the Monte Carlo motor rally in 1926, the first in a British car (he completed this rally seven times!) and had a long and successful career as a freelance photographer, including working for postcard and calendar publishers. His comprehensive collection of motor car photographs is still housed at the Beaulieu National Motor Museum. Some time after WW2 he and his wife came to live in the Surrey village of Brockham and the bell was used as a door bell. Brunell died in 1969 and his widow, knowing how much the local children loved the bell, passed it to her neighbours Mr & Mrs John Burden who mounted it alongside their house door and continued to use it not only as a door bell but also for summoning their children home from the cricket pitch some distance from their home.

I had seen this bell many times over the past ten years when visiting my good friend John as we were both committee members of the Bookham Stamp Club. His wife Hilda had always told me that it came from the WW1 GERMAN submarine U4. However one day while talking about Cattaro and my interest in the correspondence from the Austro-Hungarian U-boats which operated from there she mentioned that "her" U-boat had been responsible for the sinking of the Italian armoured cruiser "Giuseppe Garibaldi". She also produced a substantial newspaper article and photograph with the title "Bell from a German U-Boat" published by the Paignton Observer on 30th November 1943. Th article showed Brunell with the U4 dive bell and went on to make mention of the U4's sinking of the "Giuseppe Garibaldi". This provided an excellent provenance. It was at this moment that I realised the dive-bell was in fact from the AUSTRIAN-HUNGARIAN U-boat U4 (SM U4) and not the GERMAN U4. When John died in June 2014 his widow, knowing my great interest in the U4 and its history generously gave me the bell to add to my collection. I was "over the moon" !

Austrian propaganda PC: artist's impression of the sinking of the "Giuseppe Garibaldi" by the U-boat U4 on 18th July 1915]

In December 2014, while in Vienna for the NUMIPHIL stamp fair, I briefly visited the Army Museum (Heeresgeschichtliches Museum) at the Arsenal specifically to view their Austro-Hungarian navy section. The Museum is first class in every respect and is well worth a visit by anyone visiting this wonderful city. (Tram "D", Quartier Belvedere stop). Staff were most friendly and knowledgeable and the exhibits, which include the conning tower from the Austrian U-Boat U20 salvaged in 1962, were of great interest. They also have a

wonderful bookshop where one is seriously tempted ! I came away very satisfied with my purchases and mentally noting that a second and longer visit would be more than worthwhile.

Back in England I thought about the museum and how my recently acquired dive-bell would have fitted in so well with the museum's other artefacts. An old Austrian refugee friend had recently donated a wonderful Hans Canon oil painting to the Wien Museum as she thought that the picture would not be properly appreciated in England and that it should "go home"! This got me thinking about what a nice gesture this was and after just a little deliberation I wrote to the Army Museum offering them the U4 dive-bell as a further exhibit for their collection.


The bell is handed over

As a consequence on the 3rd December 2015, Director Christian Ortner and Major Hans Broedl together with their staff met me and my wife at the Army Museum, Vienna. The bell was officially and ceremoniously handed over to Director Ortner and placed in a specially prepared cabinet for display to the public. An oil painting of the U4's commander, Rudolf (von) Singule, was brought specially for the occasion from the Vienna Art museum and presided over the event. Champagne flowed and I was presented with a special personal plaque to commemorate the occasion with the promise of a comprehensive book on the torpedo boats of the Austro-Hungarian Kriegsmarine to follow when this becomes available. It would appear that this is the only such dive-bell from an Austro-Hungarian U-3 class submarine in existence ! After a space of 97 years the U4 dive-bell is "back home in Austria"and I am sure it is now in its rightful place.

In the meantime my search for Feldpost correspondence from the U4's time in the Bay of Cattaro continues. I am hoping that the APS auction will continue to "come up with the goods" !

card from U4 (cachet enhanced)
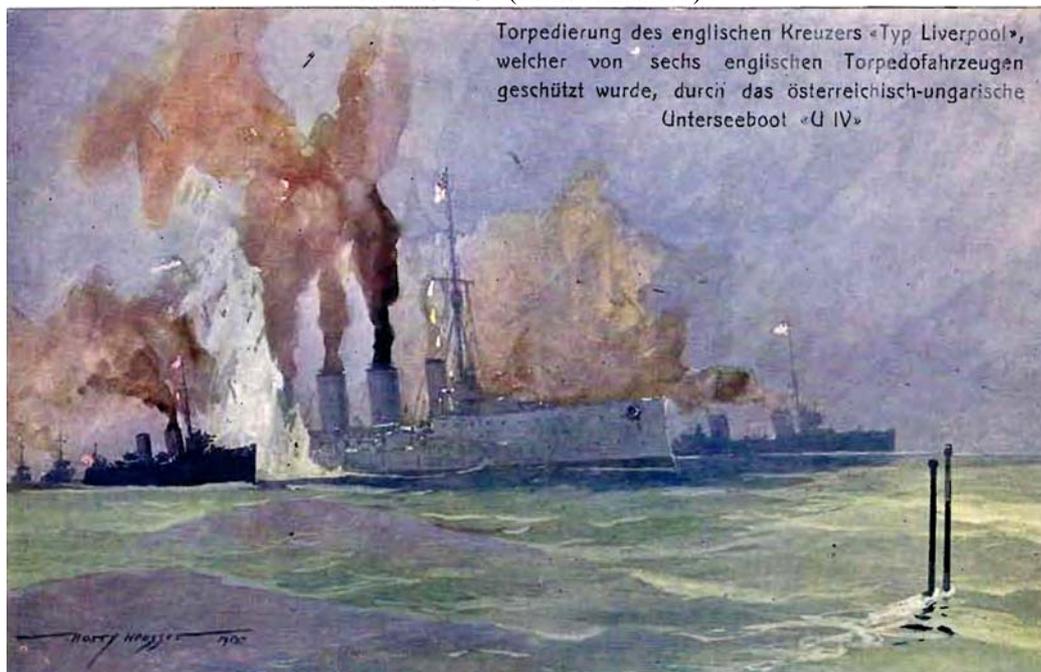
Torpedierung des englischen Kreuzers «Typ Liverpool», welcher von sechs englischen Torpedofahrzeugen geschützt wurde, durch das österreichisch-ungarische Unterseeboot «U IV»

From the Aichelburg/Register I see this picture shows the action on 9 June 1915 when the U4 sent 2 torpedoes against the cruiser HMS DUBLIN which was protected by 6 destroyers. One hit and the cruiser reached Brindisi under its own steam losing 13 men. Its greatest success was of course sinking the Italian cruiser GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI on 18 July 1915 with 2 torpedoes. 525 men were rescued and 53 died but this was the last time the Italian navy threatened the Austrian coast

J Beech's notes:

U4 29 Aug 1909
17 Oct 1914 in action against French squadron attacking the Bocche. Sank Albanian sailing ship Fiore del Mare 28 Nov 1914.
Completed major reconstruction on 26 Apr 1915. 09 Jun 1915 torpedoed and seriously damaged British cruiser Dublin. 28 Jun 1915 found downed flying boat L43 and towed her to the Bocche. 18 Jul 1915 torpedoed and sank Italian armoured cruiser Giuseppe Garibaldi.
02 Aug 1916 unsuccessfully attacked French-Italian destroyer group. 14 Aug 1916 torpedoed Italian Q-ship Pantelleria south of Taranto. 30 May 1917 torpedoed French auxiliary cruiser Italia 30 nm off Taranto.
To France; b/u.

REGNO D'ITALIA FORGERIES

Adapted by Andy Taylor from material lent by John Pitts.

Austrian territories acquired by Italy

As the First World War reached its final phases, Italy occupied South Tirol up to the Brenner Pass and also the Triest-Goriza-Istria region. Both were formally awarded to Italy by the Treaty of St Germain, 10 September 1919.

For the South Tirol, Italy issued on 11 November 1918 Austrian stamps from the 1916-1918 series overprinted with "Regno d'Italia / Trentino / 3 nov 1918". On 14 November 1918 the Triest etc region received the same stamps overprinted with "Regno d'Italia / Venezia Giulia / 3. XI. 18."

Because of the post-WWI enthusiasm for wartime issues, forgery started almost at once. Examples were reported in the *Rivista Filatelica d'Italia* as early as 15 March 1919.

Venezia Giulia

We will call the overprinted "Regno d'Italia" line 1; the "Venezia Giulia" line 2; and the "3. XI. 18." line 3.

Original. Line 1 19½mm; line 2 20mm; line 3 13½mm. In line 1 the distance between the left of **R** and left of **d** is exactly 10mm. This provides a rapid check. A vertical line dropped so as to touch the right of the **I** of **Italia** and the left of the **1** of **18** just touches the right of the **G** of **Giulia**. Similarly a vertical touching the left side of **3** and left side of **n** of **Venezia** passes just to the left of the **g** of **Regno**. The apostrophe after **d** starts with a small square; its tail comes to a point. Note the thickness of the **X** in **XI** and the shape of the serif of the **1** in **18** and the dot above the letters **i**, which is often square. The top of the **t** in **Italia** slopes and the cross-bar is well defined.

Forgery. Line 1 20½mm; line 2 21mm; line 3 14mm. The distance between the left of the **R** and the left of the **d** is clearly more than 10 mm. The vertical lines cut the letter **g** and pass to the right of **1**. The apostrophe is less clear; the top is often round, not square; the end of the tail is thick. The **X** is thicker than in the original and the letters are generally less well defined; note the vertical of the **G**. The various dots are seldom square and are usually not well defined. The top of the **t** in **Italia** is not well defined.

Trentino

| Original | Forgery |

Most forgeries may be identified by differences in the horizontal positioning of the three overprint lines with respect to each other. Also, letters are generally not as clean cut and the serifs lack the sharpness of the originals, especially at the foot of the letter **T** and the top of the letter **t** in Italia. The subject should be studied under magnification. Originals meet **all** the following three reference criteria:

❏ A line touching the left of **o** in **nov** and passing through the centre of the base of **r** in **Trentino** touches the left side of the **o** in **Regno**.

❏ A line through the **stop** after **nov** and passing through the left foot of **n** in **Trentino** passes just to the left of **d** in **d'Italia**.

❏ A line touching the right of the second **1** in **1918** and the right side of **o** in **Trentino** just touches the tail of the first **a** in **Italia**.

50 YEARS OF AUSTRIAN POSTCODES

Andy Taylor

Austria introduced 4-digit postcodes on 1 January 1966, and they have remained in use ever since. [*A form of postcode was introduced in the Third Reich period, but as an eminent Austrian almost said, "Whereof one may not speak, thereof one must be silent."*.] The event was marked by a commemmorative stamp with FDI, and special cancels from all the Länder capitals plus four offices in Vienna (1, 9, 15 and 101).

Considerable effort was expended in explaining the new system. Indexes of all post offices, street lists for the major cities, booklets, even a large map appeared.
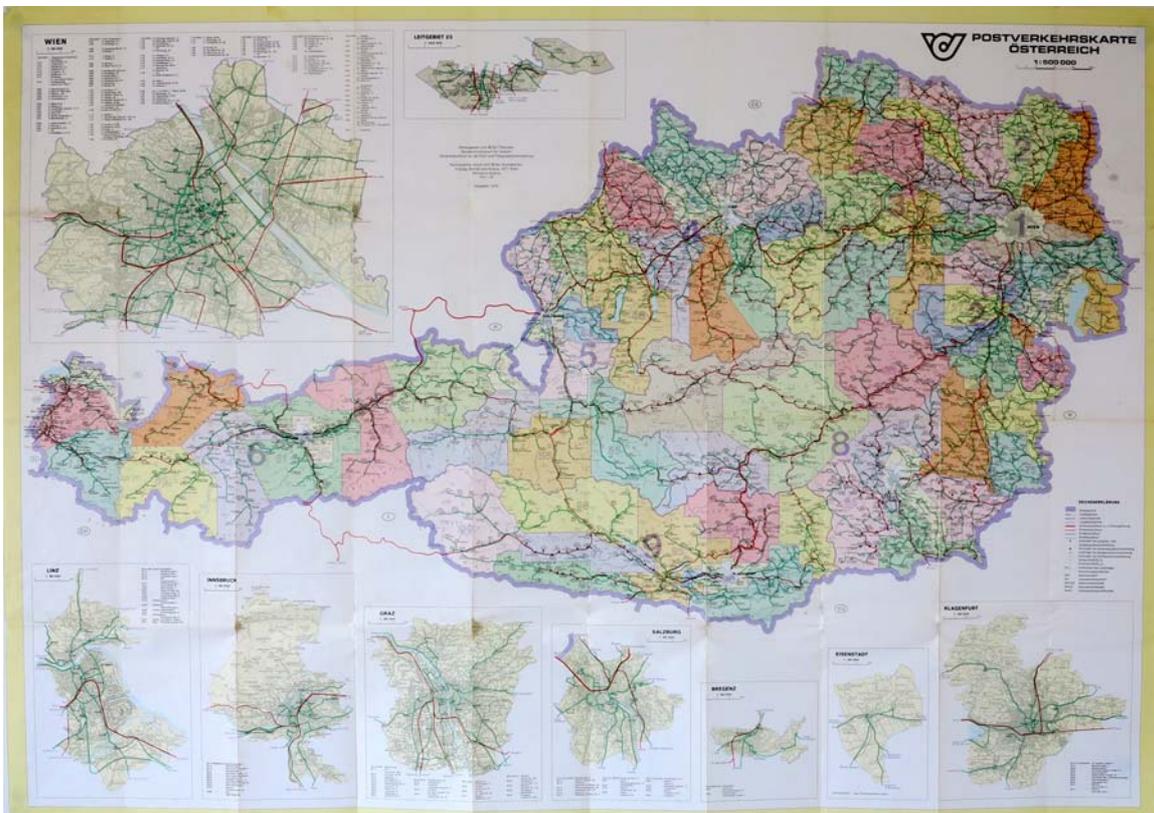
The coding works thus: the country is divided into 9 Leitzones, roughly but not exactly following the Land boundaries. Within these are Leitgebiet, within them Leitstrecke, and finally Leitort, the post office from which the delivery would be made.

The Blackprint gives an example:

4   Leitzone 4 (Oberösterreich)
 8   Leitgebiet 48, managed by the Attnang-Puchheim office
 3   Leitstrecke 483, the Attnang-Puchheim to Stainach-Irdning TPO
 1   Leitort
4831   Postcode of PostOffice Obertraun

Careful instructions were provided for determining ones postcode – and for avoiding confusion with West Germany, Switzerland, Liechtenstein and France which also used 4-digit postcodes. Rented P O Boxes would have the code of the office where they were located; householders however used the code of their delivery office. The confused could consult the Lexicon, or ask the counter staff at any Post Office.

A few post offices were assigned postcodes where the first digit was not that for the Land in which they were located – usually because a mountain blocked access. St Wolfgang is in Upper Austria (local wars have been fought over that!) but sends its mail via Salzburg. To console residents of places thus afflicted, "two tiny triangles" are added to their cancllations.

The introduction of the postcode system required the production of brand-new cancellers – about 10,000 were needed. None of the wide variety of old cancels could be modified – the Post Office had to invest capital! In addition, several offices had to be renamed – eg "Graz 121 (Andritz)" became "Graz-Andritz". The money-order service's octagonal cancellations were abolished. The basic cancellers were supplied by Braungard & Sons at Munich, because no Austrian firm could produce hardwearing cancellers. The office-specific engraving was split between four Austrian firms. The changeover to the new cancellers went surprisingly smoothly!

The special cancels are all of the same form.

THE APS BOOKSHOP

To purchase any of these items, contact the <u>Librarian</u>. If paying by Paypal remember to add **their 4.5% fee.** NOTE: If you pay by credit card, it will appear as "Modelmania" on your card statement.

CDs:

❖ *All CDs cost £10 or €15 including postage to anywhere in the world.*

❖ "**The History of Austrian Revenue Stamps**" by Dr. Stephan Koczynski. Enhanced and published on CD in fully-text-searchable form. It is ISBN 978-0-900118-07-4.

❖ **1910 Post Office Index.** This is the "*Verzeichnis der Post- und Telegraphen-Ämter in Österreich, Ungarn und in Bosnien-Hercegovina sowie der österreichischen Postanstalten im Fürstentum Liechtenstein und in der Levante*", published in Vienna in 19.10. It lists all the Austrian post offices open anywhere at that date; with symbols indicating the facilities available at each. The CD contains pictures of the original pages, not text. It is ISBN 978-0-900118-08-1.

❖ **The Early Austrian Post Offices in the Ottoman Empire –** Hans Smith's Presidential Display to the Society of Postal Historians on 10 April 2010.

❖ **"Rohrpost" – the pneumatic post in Vienna**. Second completely revised edition, now in web-site format in full colour with numerous added appendices. ISBN 978-0-900118-10-4.

Books:

❖ "**The Austrian Post Offices in the Levant**: Tchilinghirian and Stephen Revisited". by Hans Smith. Written in English and in full colour throughout, with over 200 A4 pages of text and illustrations and a comprehensive listing of all known postmarks of the consular offices. Price £50**.** ISBN 978-0-900118-09-8

❖ "**A Celebration of Austrian Philately**": the APS 60th anniversary 'Festschrift'. viii+162 pp A4 in full colour. ISBN 978-0-900118-05-0. Price **£15.**

❖ **German/English Philatelic Dictionary**, published by the Germany Philatelic Society in the USA. This is the 2005 edition, 298 sides of A5, spiral bound, with appendix of abbreviations. Copies cost **£19.95.**

❖ *To all these add P&P: Levant £5, all other books £3 to GB; everything at cost to other destinations.*

Other items:

❖ **Back numbers** of "Austria" are £1 each to members (£5 to non-members), subject to us having stock. Some may be facsimiles or second-hand originals. Postage extra at cost.

❖ **Ties** are available in blue from the Librarian: ties £6.75; **cravats (the last one!) also £6.75.**

❖ **The few remaining green binders for A5 issues of 'Austria' now only £2 each plus P&P.**

We have been informed by Paypal that the introductory £1 transaction fee that we used to enjoy has now been replaced by a fee of 4.5%

2016 NEW ISSUES (first instalment)

by Andy Taylor

The information given here is face value ('c' is Euro-cents); issue date (first-valid, not the earlier on-sale); quantity printed; printing method; designer; printer; and sometimes details on the design. Many issues are also available in mini-sheets, blackprints, 'Buntdrucke' (ie printed in different colours from those issued) and so on.

200 years of the Austrian National Bank. 1€, 18.01.2016; 170,000; offset with applied gold foil; Herbert Wähner; ÖSD.

120 years of ÖAMTC (Austrian Automobile, Motorbike and Touring Club). 68c; 20.01.2016; 250,000; offset; Cornelia Seirer/David Wuchte; Enschedé.

Photographic art in Austria; 68c; 28.01.2016; 250,000; offset; Dorothee Golz; Enschedé

Faktor Zukunft ("*The future has not yet been written. It is what we make it!*"); 80c; 28.01.2016; 350,004 in blocks of 6; offset with blind embossing; Atelier Liska Wesle; Enschedé.

The Viennese trumpet; 160c; 28.01.2016;180,000; offset with varnish; Maria Schulz; ÖSD.

UNICEF: a Fair Chance for Every Child; 68c+2€32 surcharge; 18.02.2016; 250,000; offset; Karin Klier; Enschedé

Fritzelack ("a spectacular fall": classic trademarks series); 1€, 18.02.2016; 170,000; offset; Dieter Kraus; Enschedé

Josef Ressel, inventor of the propeller; 80c; 19.02.2016; 470,000 in blocks of 10; offset; David Gruber; Enschedé.
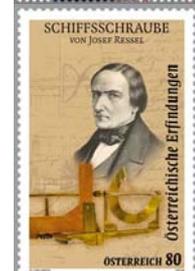
4 centuries of the Austrian Archducal Crown. 1€50; 04.03.2016; 170,000; offset; Gustav Assem; Enschedé.

Centenary of death of Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach. 1€60; 05.03.2016; 180,000; combination-printing; David Gruber; ÖSD.

125 years of the Kunsthistorisches Museum. 1€, 08.03.2016; 170,000; offset; Anita Kern; Enschedé.

Young art in Austria. 80c; 16.03.2016; 250,000; offset; Esther Stocker/ Dieter Kraus; Enschedé.
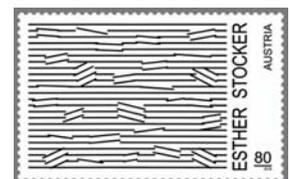
From the **Martha Jungwirth "Fundraising"** series; 1€, 16.03.2016; 170,000; offset; Regina Simon; Enschedé.

The Melk Cross; 1€70; 17.03.2016; 180,000; combination-print; Peter Sinawehl; ÖSD.

NOTES FROM OTHER JOURNALS

Note that the items below the asterisks are not retained long-term by the Society, although copies may be available for a short period.

Die Briefmarke

2016/01: 50 years of postcodes; annotations on letters; details and backgrounds for new issues; 'The Little Prince'; the post in Kleinwalsertal and Jungholz, 1945-1950; readers' letters; society reports; and much else.

2016/02: postcoaches; thematic: carnival; 80 years of Tag der Briefmarke; the Marshall Plan and post-WWII reconstruction; first day of mail-carrying by Austrian Lloyd; thematic: laurel wreaths to crowns; thematic: royalty; Postbüchel exhibition; and an extended society- and catalogue-report section.

2016/03: Melk; the earliest registration cancels; thematic: motor racing; the river Mur; etc etc.

Germania

Vol 52 Nr 1: gothic/fraktur part 4; and as always many other articles, immaculately produced, albeit of strictly Germany interest.

Jugopošta

Nr 117 March 2016: postal history of Macedonia up to 1914; simultaneous Austrian and Bulgarian cancels of Novi Pazar in WWI; parcel post in the SHS; etc.

Stamps of Hungary

No 204 March 2016: Aspects of the postal history of the occupation of Bačka by Hungary in World War II; Censorship of civilian mail in WWI, Part 5: Transylvania; More on József's Sanatorium, Gyula.

ArGe Österreich

2016/1 Nr 113: philatelic aspects of the Schleicherlaufen in Telfs (by Hans Moser); Austrian Levant post in Albania (ii); express rates at 1.9.1918; etc.

Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storia Postale

Issue 188: articles (all in Italian) include Il servizio postale militare in Piemonte al tempo di Vittorio Amedeo II; La Guerra di successione spagnola (1700-1714); La lettera "prime giorno" del Lloyd Austriaco: Con l'*"Arciduca Ludovico"* inizia il trasporto della posta verso il Levante con il Lloyd Austriaco; Un approfondimento sulle tariffe napoleoniche delle lettere dagli *"Stati Romani"* alle *"Marche"* e viceversa dalla seconda occupazione francese all'occupazione Murat (seconda parte); Le lettere di parte nel periodo napoleonico; Notizie dal bellunese: la nascita del servizio postale pubblico a Belluno; L'insetto colerico napoletano.

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ArGe Feldpost Öst.-Ung

2016 March Nr 124: news;Q&A; "Austria-Hungary's Last War": April-June 1916; strategic railways on the N.W. front, 1914 (long article with excellent maps); the Italian declaration of war and the Kriegsmarine; etc.

Czechout

See **www.czechout.org** where you can read (but not print unless you are a CPSGB member) every issue including the latest. The March issue included Typographic stamps from the First Republic printed by the Czech Graphics Union; Airmail from Bohemia & Moravia and the Slovak State; the České Budějovice liberation overprints, The Danish society; as well as News & Notices, Book Reviews, Correspondence, Library Additions and New Issues of the Czech Republic.

Czechout book reviews

Ring of Steel, by Alexander Watson, published in hardback by Allen Lane, 2014; but Penguin Books edition 2015, ISBN 978-0-141-04203-9, soft-bound, RRP in the UK £12.99. Also available as a Kindle edition.

Most English-language histories of WWI take an Anglo-centric view, and tend to focus on the Western Front, with very little written about the other fronts in which British forces were involved. On my Christmas wish list this year was a new book which takes a different stance; this historical review is unusual in that it takes the viewpoint of how the Central Powers reacted to their predicament, both in the run-up to the declaration of war, and thereafter. For those wanting to learn more about Austrian-Hungary's and Germany's positions in WWI this makes a good read.

The book describes the feeling that the Central Powers were surrounded by the Entente Powers intent on restraining expansionist ambitions that could only be 'sorted out' by having a classic war, for which the Sarajevo assassinations were a good excuse, even if the victims were actually not much liked. It shows how some of the political whispering to ambassadors can be taken incorrectly, how some politicians suddenly get cold feet, and how sabrerattling can do a lot of damage. It describes how the Dual Monarchy was in a state of steep decline with many separatist movements politically active (not just the Czechs), but was still just about held together by the longevity of the Emperor's presence, and a certain allegiance the population felt towards him (a kind of democratic cult of personality). It shows how easily politicians manipulated the somewhat diverse and fractious populace to support the war effort. All the plans were for a short and sharp shock attack on Serbia, but this didn't happen. The speed and intensity of Russian involvement was completely underestimated and resulted in more than four years of painful decline for both Empires.

Now, I have to admit that I haven't read it all yet – it's too soon after Christmas and the book has 780-odd pages – but if you want to learn more about the drivers for the war and the way the populations reacted to it, this book will provide you with the detail. It has already been highly awarded with Winner of the 2014 Wolfson History Prize, the 2014 Guggenheim-Lehrman Prize in Military History, the Society for Military History's 2015 Distinguished Book Award, and the 2015 British Army Military Book of the Year. So it can't be bad!

Roger Morrell

The Czechoslovak Army in Ukraine 1914-1920: Book 2, by Roman Dubyniak and Peter Cybaniak. 140 pages, colour illustrations.

It is now 5 years since the publication of Book 1 in this series which contained much historical background information on the political reasons behind the formation of the Czech Legions and their role on the Russian front. That volume concentrated on Field Post Offices 12 and 14 and the postal history of units formed and based in what is termed Carpatho-Ukraine.

The publication of Book 2 seems most appropriate as it is coincidental with the current splitting of the Ukrainian nation by Russia. Book 2 specifically covers the history of Polni Pošta units 22, 35, 38, 44, and 46, and a small section describes the Czechoslovak Navy's occupation of Pola (later given to Italy at the end of WW1). Like Book 1, there are maps plus many examples of used postcards, all excellently reproduced in full colour, many showing both sides, with the historical connections of the picture side explained. The authors have managed to obtain examples of full and clearly struck postmarks with Regimental hand stamps.

What I particularly like about both books are their opening section. These give the history of Czechs in Ukraine, how they came to be there, the 19th century occupation by Russia, and tri-lingual postal information in Czech, English, and Cyrillic. Included are many messages translated into English, some with information about the struggles. One example is on page 81, where a view card of the main street in Košice posted to PRAH 1 is illustrated and the address side shows a Polni Pošta 46 CDS. and the two line handstamp of Infantry Regiment No. 28's third field company. It is dated 30 March 1919, a year after the peace treaty of Berestia-Lytovske split

the Ukrainian territory between four neighbouring countries: Czechoslovakia, Russia, Hungary, and Rumania. The main Czech Army had left the Ukraine for Russia, leaving behind most Ukrainian Czechs.

The message reads: *Dear Mother! First please accept my heartfelt greetings and kisses. Here I send you a view of the most easterly town of Slovakia. Its style is Hungarian but the majority of its population is Slovak. It is interesting to see its order and cleanliness. The situation at the Front is tense. Daily there are conflicts and life is therefore not serene as the Hungarians are very close to us. Once again my heartfelt greeting. Pepa* [Josef].

The only criticism I have is that like Book 1, although the pages are numbered, there is no index to help with quick navigation to relevant pages/sections. This perhaps would be a small project for an enthusiast to produce? If you are only interested in the historical and postal aspects covered in Book 2, this book may stand alone as an excellent reference source of Polni Pošta information. But I strongly recommend the purchase of Book 2 as a complement to Book 1, which is a must-have reference to the histories of this much troubled land. I look forward to Book 3, which will cover Field Post Office No. 75. The book is available from The Roman Dubyniak Ukrainian Museum Foundation, 16 Bexley Avenue, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS8 5LU, England at a cost of £15.

Reg Hounsell

War Hospitals in Brünn During the Great War, by Hans van Dooremalen, Monograph no. 29, 2015, CPSGB, ISBN 978-0-9553682-7-1. A4 format, soft-bound, colour illustrations.

This Monograph represents an in-depth review of one of the lesser studied aspects of WWI, that of the treatment of the wounded and their convalescence. It focuses on how the military garrison of Brünn/Brno created a whole series of additional hospitals in public buildings during the course of the war as the casualties at the various fronts mounted up because the main city garrison hospital and the ordinary city hospitals could not cope. These 'war' hospitals treated mainly members of the city garrison, who were returned home from the front to recover, if that was possible.

Hans's study covers not only the Garnisonsspital (garrison hospital) and its seven temporary branches, but also the three reserve hospitals and their branches, the Landwehr (territorial army) hospital, an Infektionsspital (isolation hospital), the hospitals of the Red Cross with their specialist units such as orthopaedics, the Moravian Provincial Hospital and its units, hospitals of religious orders, and seven convalescent homes. He provides the locations of all these using a contemporary city map, as well as examples of free-post mail sent from them with their different hand-stamped cachets (which also acted as censor marks). There are many illustrations of the hospitals, their staff, and inmates, taken mainly from postcard pictures.

The Monograph is supplemented by several appendices on Moravian place-names and Brünn street-names in the German and Czech languages, on the translation of German military terms, on an abridged history of the involvement of Austria-Hungary in WWI, and on some contemporary newspaper articles reporting on the development of the hospital system in the city. Hans is to be congratulated for his hard work in not only finding such postal and illustrative material, but in identifying it and piecing together the complete story. The display version of his material was presented to the Society in November 2015, and was greatly admired by Society members. The Monograph that he has painstakingly put together provides not only a record of his hard work, but an example to others of (a) what to look out for, and (b) what can be achieved in what might appear at first sight to be quite a narrow subject. It also reflects a rather painful episode of history that was probably repeated in all major cities of the crumbling Empire.

Roger Morrell

Amtliche Adresszettelbogen

By Andy Taylor, with major contributions from Gerry Trumper and Dorli Haslauer.

Amtliche Adresszettelbogen are address labels officially printed with a newspaper postage stamp imprint in sheets of 30 and sold to publishers, beginning in 1904, to send authorised newspapers to subscribers. They are found in two colours, green and buff (the second colour is also referred to as 'light yellow'). **Why?**

Neues Wiener Tagblatt sent with green '1904 imprint' label to Nagy-Atád in Hungary. Frau Nöthig's subscription expires on 15 April 1905.	Neues Wiener Tagblatt sent with buff '1908 imprint' label to FPA 37 which was probably with 35 ID in the Carpathians. Subscription expires on 28 February 1915.

Contents

- ❖ Laws and regulations
- ❖ What the handbooks say
- ❖ The Neues Wiener Tagblatt
- ❖ Unused sheets and used labels
- ❖ Conclusions

Laws and regulations

1899 RGB231 "new inland POSTORDNUNG"

On 25 November 1899, a new Posttaxordnung was announced in Reichgesetzblatt Nr 231; it came into effect on 1 January 1900. Section 4 covers posting inland newspapers. The typically-complex tariff can be rewritten as:

- ❑ Is the item a registered newspaper ordered from an accredited publisher by an inland subscriber? If not, it is treated as whatever class of post it qualifies for (typically Printed Matter) and charged accordingly.

- ❑ Is the newspaper published more than once per week (subsequently clarified to mean "more than 52 times per year")? If so, the rate is 2 heller per copy irrespective of its weight.

- ❑ If not, is the newspaper published at least twice per month AND does each copy weigh not more than 250 grams? If so, the rate is 2 heller per copy.

- ❑ For newspapers that do not fall into any of the above weight and frequency categories, the rate is 2 heller per 100 grams or part thereof.

- ❑ "Beilage" (eligibility was carefully specified) and evening editions wrapped and posted with the next morning edition were treated as if part of the morning paper (so for a daily paper were post-free).

The newspaper publishers were constantly pushing for changes and innovations that would make their work easier. From 1 April 1903 one could commission privately-printed (*actually, printed by ÖSD but paid for by whoever ordered them*) address labels for printed matter. Judged by the quantities in philatelic hands, this was a success, so an extension to newspaper post would be sensible.

1904 PuTVB Nr 25 "Einführung von Addresszettelbogen mit aufgedruckten Zeitungsfrankomarken"

Post- und Telegraphen-Verordnungsblatt dated 8 March 1904: Address List sheets with 30 newspaper postage stamp 2h imprints will be introduced. They are issued in light yellow and light green; the latter are for use by publishers who post a morning and a separate evening edition each day**. They are obtainable by publishers from their assigned Post office, 8 days after ordering, at the price of the

imprinted stamps (ie 60h). Unused complete sheets may be returned for a refund (less the customary 2h handling fee).

** The decree says *Die grünen Adresszettel sind zur gesonderten Versendung der Morgen- und der Abendblätter bei zweimal täglich erscheinenden Zeitungen bestimmt*. Nearly everybody says this means that if you published a morning and also an afternoon edition per day then you posted all of them with green labels; if you published only once per day then you used buff labels. The alternative view is that it means that morning editions used one colour and afternoon editions the other. We'll examine the evidence later! The Post- und Telegraphen-Verordnungsblatts are rather inaccessible but can be obtained from the Editor.

1906 RGB251 "new inland POSTTAXORDNUNG"

On 22 December 1906, a new Posttaxordnung was announced in Reichgesetzblatt Nr 251 (repeated as was customary as Post- und Telegraphenordnungsblatt 114/06). It came into effect on 16 January 1907, and repealed its predecessor RGB 1899/231. Sections 5 and 6 cover the posting of inland newspapers. The newspaper tariff in 1906 followed the same complex rules as in 1899. The texts of the 1899 Postordnung and 1906 Posttaxordnung are virtually identical.

When the design of postage stamps changed in 1908, the newspaper labels were altered to suit.

1908 PuTVB Nr 27 "Änderung in der Ausstatung der Adreßzettelbogen".

Post- und Telegraphen-Verordnungsblatt dated 28 Feb 1908: When the sheets with the 1904 imprint have run out, they will be replaced by sheets having the 1908 imprint.

What the handbooks say

Ferchenbauer, Schneiderbauer, and ANK describe the Address Sheets in similar terms (my paraphrasing)

Ferchenbauer 2008 vol III page 85:

"By the (*PuTVB*) decree of 8 March 1904, Address List sheets were launched by the postal administration. They were provided with imprints of the 2h newspaper stamp to produce address labels for newspapers. Each sheet in light yellow or light green color, size 45x30cm, contained 30 address labels with a total of 30 imprints. The newspaper editors cut this Address List sheet into single address labels. The sheet cost the face value of the imprinted stamps, ie 60h, and were issued (*only*) to the authorized newspaper offices. The green address label were destined for the separate dispatch of morning and evening editions of newspapers appearing twice daily. [Ferchenbauer says: Die grünen Adresszettel waren für die gesonderte Versendung der Morgen- und Abendblätter bei zweimal täglich erscheinenden Zeitungen bestimmt.]

"[*Catalogue description*] **1904** end of March / early April, Address List sheet, paper light yellow or light green, sheet format ca. 45x30cm, 30 (2x15) stamp impressions 2h blue in the design of the 1899 newspaper stamp issue, for 30 address labels, imperforated and ungummed, valid until used up.

"**1908** In early March … 2h dark blue in the design of the 1908 newspaper stamp issue …"

Schneiderbauer page 272: Adreßzettel

"In 1904, the Austrian Post management decided to issue alongside the wrappers official imprinted Address Labels. These were produced in sheets of 30 pieces (2x15) – sheet size ca. 45x30cm - and sold only to the newspaper administrations. They printed (or, rarely, handwrote) addresses on them, cut them up, and glued them to the newspapers for mailing. The despatching office normally did not cancel the imprint; the delivery office did. Used labels are also frequently encountered uncancelled (*which is*) against the regulations. It is also noteworthy that the light yellow or light green paper is not by chance but was expressly provided for separate dispatch of morning and evening papers. [… daß die grünen Adreßzettel zur gesonderten Versendung der Morgen- und Abendblätter bei zweimal täglich erschienenden Zeitungen bestimmt sind.] However, the official Adreßzettel is unlikely to have corresponded to the various needs of the sender, and the small format of 150x27mm may not have helped. Anyway, there was only one more issue, in 1908; this type of postal stationery was not subsequently produced by the Post Office."

ANK Ganzsachen page 96: Amtliche Adresszettel

"Address Labels were produced in sheets of 30 pieces (2x15) - sheet size 45x30cm - and sold only to the newspaper administrations. They printed (or, rarely, handwrote) addresses on them, and stuck them on the newspapers. Cancellation was to be by the delivery Post Office, but sometimes this didn't happen. The differing paper colours were for the different newspaper editions: those issued twice a day (morning and evening) were to use green labels. [Grüne Adresszettel für zweimal täglich erscheinende Zeitungen (Morgen- und Abendblätter).] These official Address Labels were little used and soon withdrawn."

The Neues Wiener Tagblatt

Let's pick February 1905, and study the Neues Wiener Tagblatt because all the legibly-dated used official labels we have seen are from that paper. The Austrian National Library maintains (and expands) an archive of Austrian newspapers, and makes it accessible on-line at no cost. So we go to their home page http://anno.onb.ac.at/ and select "*Jahresübersicht der Zeitungen (1568-1945)*". A table of years appears; select 1905. In the calender select 1 February; you see all the papers published on that date.


Tagesübersicht: 1. Februar 1905

[and so on]

Find the Neues Wiener Tagblatt, click the image and see every page of the 1 Feb issue; click a page image to see it full-size. At top right is a box with << 1.FEBRUAR 1905 >>; click the >> to reach Thurs 2 February; and so on.

The small print at left and right of both morning and evening mastheads tells you that if you lived in Vienna you could have morning and evening editions posted to you each day in the same wrapper for 3Kr20 per month, or in separate wrappers ("Mit täglich zweimal Postversendung") for 3Kr50 per month. Similarly, in the rest of Austria-Hungary combined daily posting was 3Kr60 and separate posting 4Kr40. (It would probably have been the evening edition of the previous day plus today's morning edition; such a combined posting needed only one newspaper postage stamp according to the regulations.) For foreign countries, only once-a-day posting was offered. The mastheads for the Morgenblatt of 1 February 1905 and the Abendblatt of 31 January 1905 follow.
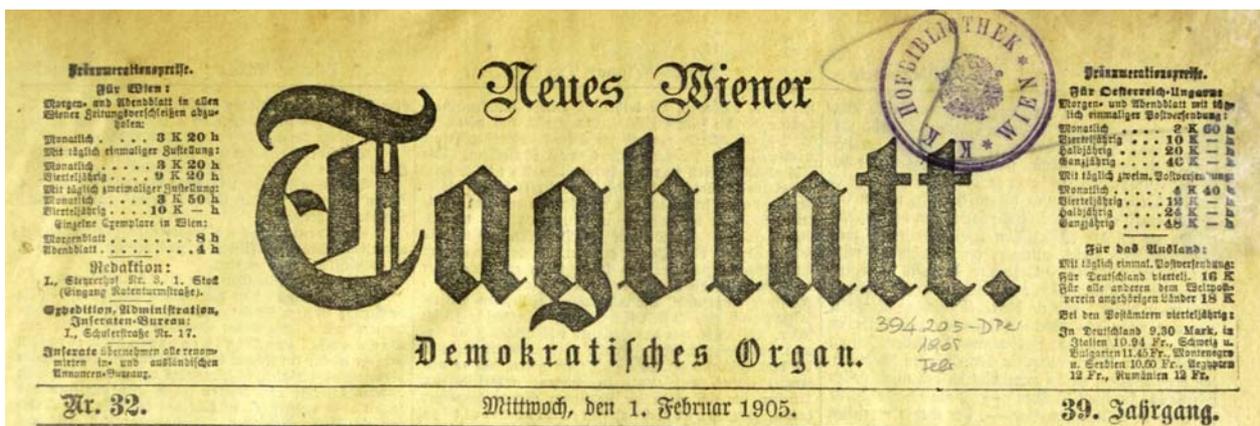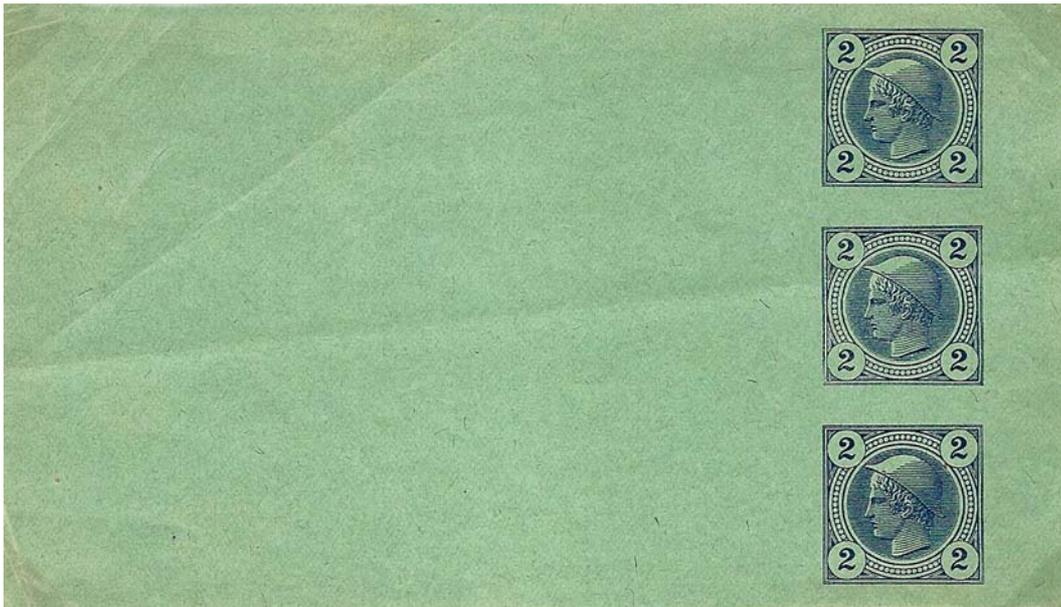
Unused sheets and used labels

Examples of unused sheets (1904 design)


This is on BUFF paper.

And this is on GREEN paper…

Examples of used labels

Uncancelled used labels are relatively common, either loose or on a newspaper wrapper – see for example the two on this article's first page!


Both were posted by the Neues Wiener Tagblatt. That on the left has a green '1904 imprint' label; on the right a buff '1908 imprint' label. However all we can tell about their date is when their subscription expires (15 April 1905 and 28 February 1915) – and subscriptions could be for a year, or a month. We can't say if there were one or two editions on the day they were posted.
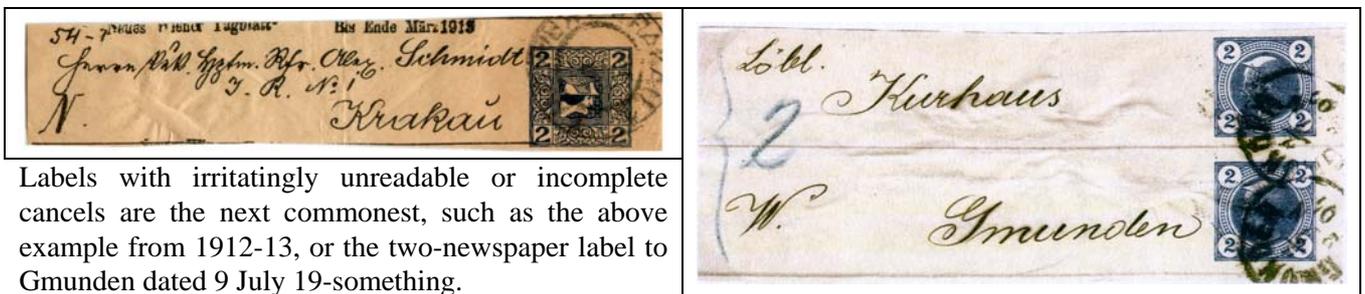
Labels with irritatingly unreadable or incomplete cancels are the next commonest, such as the above example from 1912-13, or the two-newspaper label to Gmunden dated 9 July 19-something.

Here, however, is the philatelist's dream: a buff wrapper from the Neues Wiener Tagblatt with a cancel dated 3 March 1905. Morgenblatts were published on 2 and 3 March, and Abendblatts were published on 1, 2 and 3 March.
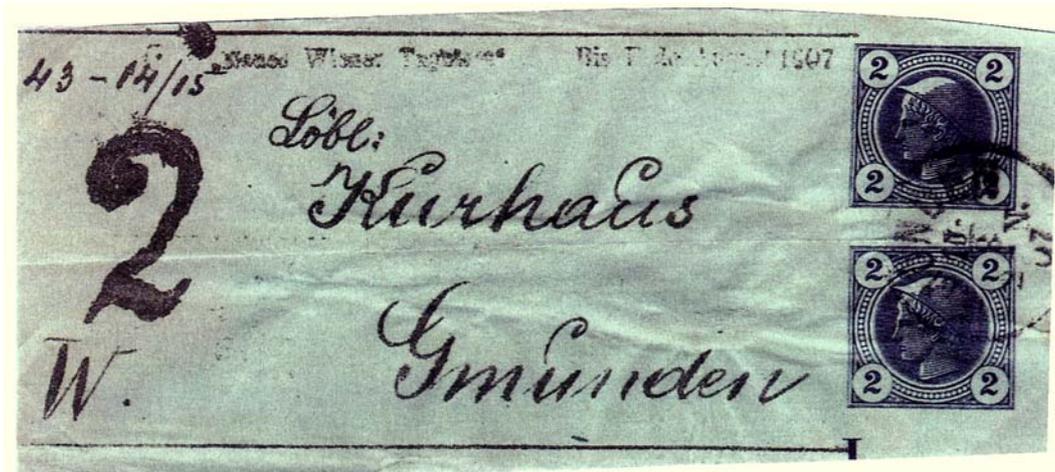
And here is a green wrapper from the Neues Wiener Tagblatt containing two copies with a cancel dated 10 August 1907; there were Abendblatts on 8, 9 and 10 August.

Much time spent trawling stamp fairs in Britain, Germany and Austria has produced no more examples.

Author's Conclusions

1.　　It's unclear WHY the two-colour system was introduced. There's no evidence that it helped the Post Office, nor that the newspaper publishers found it useful. It could simply be a piece of Habsburgian bureaucracy! Private printings, introduced in 1900, are only found on buff paper.

2.　　The Neues Wiener Tagblatt published twice on nearly all days in 1905, and it used green and also buff labels.

3.　　Under the postal regulations, a morning paper could be accompanied by **the previous day's** evening paper without additional postage.

4.　　We cannot tell from the labels if they contained a morning, an evening, or an evening-morning pair of newspapers.

5.　　This doesn't prove with certainty that they consistently sent morning with buff and evening with green (or evening with buff and morning with green); but does suggest that either they did, or they used the two colours randomly.

6.　　Despite being a "twice a day" publisher they did NOT send everything with one label-colour.

7.　　An idea! Could they have used the green and buff labels to indicate to the people who wrapped the newspapers what to put inside - eg if green send morning and evening paper, if buff only the latest edition?