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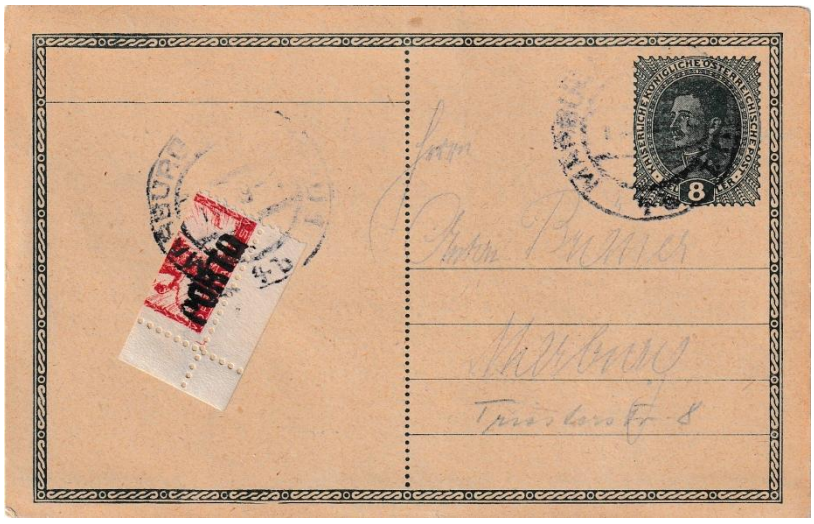
YSG

Jugopošta

Journal of

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Number 134 **June 2020**

The Yugoslavia Study Group

Founded in 1984 to promote the study of the stamps and postal history of Yugoslavia, its predecessor and successor states

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Additional copies of Jugopošta are available as shown on the back cover and a priced list of YSG publications is also located on the back cover.

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Jugopošta





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From the President

We are all suffering from the effects of the pandemic; but the good part is we can catch up on the philatelic jobs and gardening and house repairs that we have been meaning to do for ages. The downside however is that there are no philatelic club meetings or stamp fairs to go to; and sadly I have just seen a press release that Autumn Stampex has been postponed (until when is not known) therefore the YSG will not be able to have its annual meeting there. In terms of the Society we still need an Auction Manager. If someone out there would consider taking this job over it would be a great benefit to the Society. Meanwhile I hope you are all healthy and well and remain that way.

A J Bosworth FRPSL

From the Editor

Firstly, I would like to thank those of you that responded to my plea for more articles in the last edition. The cupboard was absolutely bare. The response was enough to cover this edition and also leave some material for the September edition. If your submitted article hasn't appeared here then it certainly will next time. Please keep the articles coming though, it is surprising how quickly I can go from feast to famine.

In this edition we have the third part of Henk Buitenkamp's series on the postage dues of the 1918 – 1921 period. We also have two articles from new member Robert Lauer on the Serbian occupation of the Banat region in 1918 – 19. I've also included some information from Boštjan Petauer on his exhibiting successes during 2019 and I would be happy to publish similar information from any more of our members.

I had an email from Yvonne Wheatley the other day regarding the Joint Societies' Meeting planned for 8 August in Leeds. She says that the meeting is still planned but she is unable to confirm yet whether it will actually happen. Once the location (the Brown Cow) reopens, Yvonne will see what is possible and hopes to be able to email everyone fairly early in July.

For a variety of reasons, I found myself looking at the first ever edition of Jugopošta (September 1984), which was edited by David Kerr. In his first editorial, he said that it seemed from the interest expressed on the application forms of the first members that World War II and the SHS period seemed to be among the most popular aspects of Yugoslav philately. I think he may still be correct, though it seems to be the early SHS period that is one of the most popular items of all. Over the years there has also been a steady interest in World War I aspects. On the other hand, certainly in the period I have been editing (from JP101 onwards), subjects such as Montenegro, Macedonia and post-WWII Yugoslavia and its constituent parts from the 1990s onwards have been fairly lacking. Bosnia has also not been covered very much but, of course, this is also an area of interest to philatelists with a focal point of Austria and Austria-Hungary. So it seems things haven't changed much over the years. However, articles on some of the less common subjects would still be most welcome.

Some snippets from Dave Foster, YSG Treasurer and Membership Secretary

The Postal System in Bosnia-Herzegovina 1878-1919.

One of our members, Bill Maddox from the USA, has a superb collection of The Postal System in Bosnia-Herzegovina 1878 – 1919. Fortunately, we don't have to travel too far to see it as it is available for viewing on-line from your favourite armchair. Simply go to CollectorsClubChicago.org, then follow the link to Exhibits. Scroll down to Bosnia-Herzegovina and click the link to view the exhibit.

I think that you'll agree with me that Bill's presentation skills are absolutely superb! So, not only do we have wonderful material from this interesting period, but the way he has laid out his sheets and explained what we are seeing sets a standard that I'm sure we'd all like to achieve.

Bill, thank you so much for sharing your collection with us!

Do any members know of other websites where collectors of stamps from our area of interest have their collections displayed? If so, then please drop a line to the Editor giving the details so that we all have an opportunity to view their collections.

New members

I'm delighted to welcome three new members to our Group who have joined us this year:

- Eddie Janusz from the USA. Eddie collects *"Yugoslavia and its befores and afters."*
- Haris Chrysostomou from New York. Haris has a special interest in the postal history of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.
- Robert Lauer from Canada, who describes himself as *"a fairly fanatical collector of the stamps. Postal stationery and postal history of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the SHS kingdom and Hungary."* Being fairly fanatical myself I know exactly what you mean!

We welcome you all and hope that you will enjoy your membership.

The Jugopošta Index

There are many resources on the web to aid us all in our research and the writing-up of our collections. I sometimes think that one of the best of these is right under our noses, but often overlooked. I'm referring, of course, to the Jugopošta index that can be found on our YSG website. Derek Brinkley has done an excellent job of updating this index to all the contents of Jugopošta from Issue 1 back in September 1984 right through to Issue 131 of September 2019. Whatever your interest, be it Slovenian Revenue stamps, Yugoslavian pre-WWII slogan cancels, the partisan posts in Croatia, or anything else, you'll find references to articles that have appeared in Jugopošta in this index.

If you have been a member for many years, then you will probably have many of the issues of Jugopošta to hand. But, if you find that there are articles that are of interest to you in JPs, then all

is not lost. The Yugoslavia Study Group has past issues available on CDs, right from the early, non-colour, issues. The complete run of JP1-70 is available as pdf files on CD for £20 + p&p. Similarly, JP71-100, again are available as pdf files on CD for a further £20 + p&p. Finally, if you are wanting just an odd one of the more recent issues from JP101 onwards, then these are available at £3 + p&p per issue. You'll find details of how to order on the back outside cover of this Journal.

1921 Alexander/Petar issue on Sokol "port-timbres"

by Nick Coverdale





A couple of years ago I decided to process and mount for the first time my collection of Kingdom of the SHS stamps. Some of the more unusual items were a selection of the 1921 issue on "port-timbres". A "port-timbre" is defined as "a label with a blank space, usually in the middle, where a postage stamp can be applied. The combined label and stamp are then stuck on an envelope where the stamp is supposed to go." (source unknown)

These port-timbres are advertising a Sokol provincial event in Osijek on Vidovdan 1921. Vidovdan is St Vitus's day, 28 June. This was an important day in some ways – it was the day of the Battle of Kosovo in 1389, it was the anniversary of the day in 1914 when Franz Ferdinand was assassinated in 1914 and the day in 1921 when the new country's constitution was proclaimed (*Vidovanski ustav*, Vidovdan Constitution).

Postage due stamps used in times of turmoil and building a nation, SHS 1918 – 1921: Part 3

by Henk Buitenkamp, AEP

Firstly, I must rectify two mistakes.

The section heading in JP133 should be: 1.3.Postal Cheques and not 1.2.

In Figure 3 in JP132 the wrong period 1-5-1921//1-10-1922 is given. The correct period is 16-4-1920//1-5-1921.

This letter shows a very rare franking. On 16-4-1921 all the regional stamps lost their validity with the exception of the postage due stamps of Slovenia in Para and Dinar (valid till 2-11-1921. Circ. 6321 dd.22-10-1921). But the rate period ended 30-4-1921. So there are only 14 days that the rate period 16-4-1920//1-5-1921 was in use and nearby all regional stamps were out of validity. Franking in that period a letter with a regional stamp was only possible with a postage due stamp, but normal franking with postage due stamps was not allowed. Regular use of a postage due stamp for franking was only possible if an official letter was sent without pre-paying and the addressee had to pay the fee. This fee is not an additional postage, but a normal franking of the single postage by the addressee (even a registration or express fee has not been paid).

1.4.Not/partial franked mail

In this part I will handle the postcards and the letters. In the SHS the pre-paying of cards and letters was normally compulsory. But of course there were exceptions:

- official mail, franked afterwards -- see part 1 (1.1)
- some organisations were free of pre-payment but the addressee had to pay -- see part 1 (1.2)

Postage was free for:

- post of military organisations
- post of official organisations
- official post



Figure 21 (reduced): Postcard sent from the Ustaška Infantry Regiment



Figure 22: Postcard sent by the "Episcopal marriage court of justice". Free for the basic postage (registering and express had to be paid) = Prosto od poštarine.

If one wished to send a card or letter by registration or express, the letter was handed in at the post office. The postal officer weighed the letter and franked the postal piece for the weight tariff combined with the fee for registration and/or express. Of course, mistakes were possible but were rare. So, extra tax for a deficit is very uncommon. I have seen some letters with a wrong rate for express. In these cases, there is no extra tax but the letter was delivered normally without express!

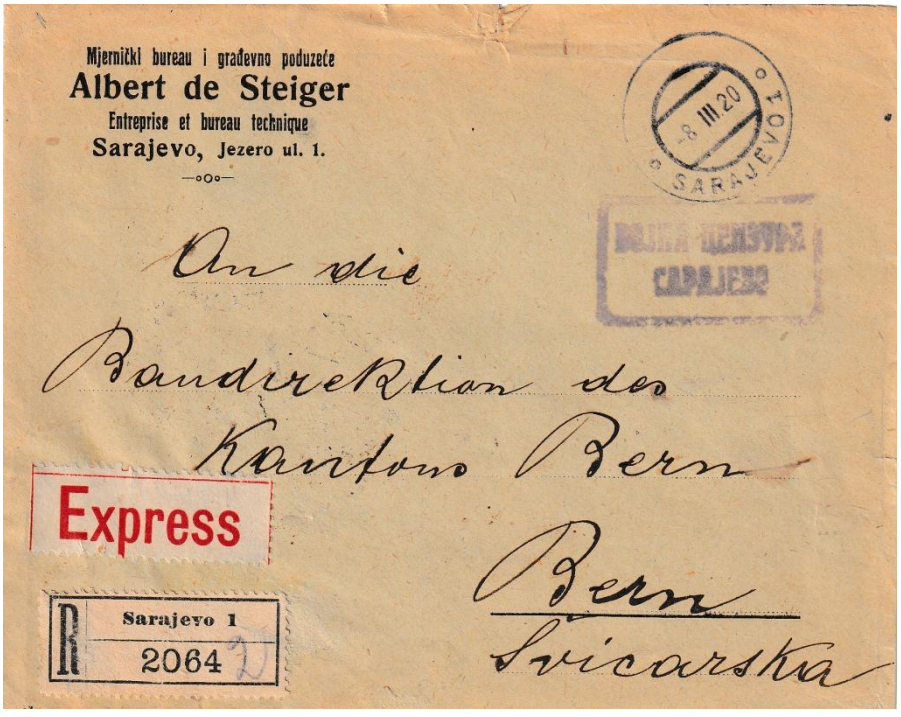


Figure 23a: letter to Switzerland with registration and express. Tariff – letter 75 + registration 75 + express 100 = 250 Helera. Franked with 190 Hel. Also deficit 60 Hel. As a result, the letter was not delivered by express. See the 2 Bern cancellations shown on the reverse (Figure 23b).



Figure 23b: Reverse of the letter shown in Figure 23a.

Why are some cards and letters not pre-paid correctly?

- They are posted in the letter-box and heavier than one has thought
- A new rate period has started and the mail is franked according to the former rates
- Post from abroad is franked according to the special rates of convention countries but the convention has finished (for Czechoslovakia on 1-6-1920, and for Austria and Hungary on 31-1-1921)
- The post office is closed and you don't have a stamp
- Sometimes children think that parents know the rates better than the children do
- A mistake is made
- Philatelic motives but in many cases not recognisable. Mail to a collector franked incorrectly may be intended.

The extra tax – twice the deficit – had to be justified by postage due stamps and rounded off on 5. Sometimes the post officer was creative and used bisected postage due stamps or emergency postage due stamps.

From 16-5-1920 the rates changed. The old currency had now the value of a quarter of the new value in Para/Dinar. Strange amounts of extra tax could now sometimes be solved by using old and new postage due stamps in combination.

This chapter is divided into:

1.4.1 Postcards

1.4.2 Letters

1.4.3 Post from other countries

List 3.The rates for postcards and letters in Slovenia, Croatia, Vojvodina, Syrmia, Bosnia-Herzegovina

period	29-10-1918//1-7-1919	1-7-1919//16-5-1920	16-5-1920//1-5-1921
postcards	10	15	15
letters up to 20 gr.	20	30	25
+ per 20 gr.	5	30	15
	in Vinar/Filira/Helera	‖	in Para

In Croatia, a local tariff was valid for letters until 1-6-1919: 15 Fil, for a letter up to 20 grams.

1.4.1. Postcards

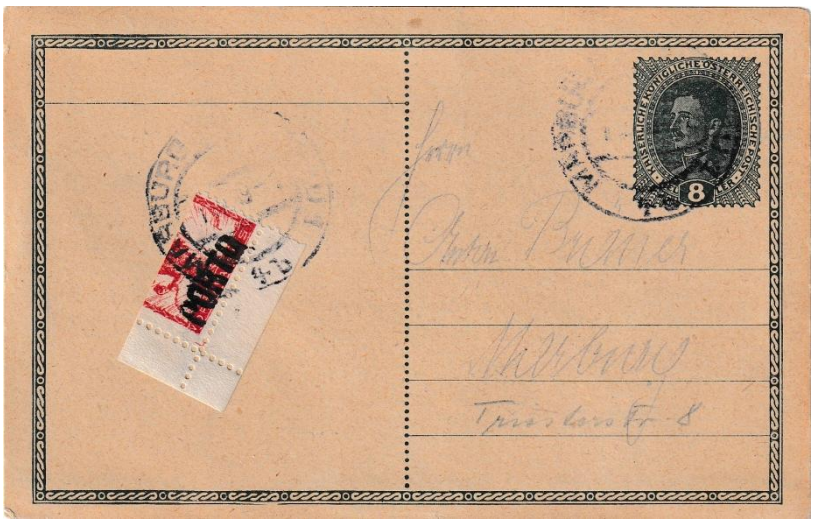


Figure 24: Maribor 1-4-1919 local. An old Austrian postcard of 8 Heller has been used. The rate was now 10 Vinar. Deficit 2 Vinar; to pay 2x2=4 Vinar. Must be rounded up to 5 Vinar. Here, a bisected 10 Vinar emergency postage due stamp of Maribor has been used = 5 Vinar.

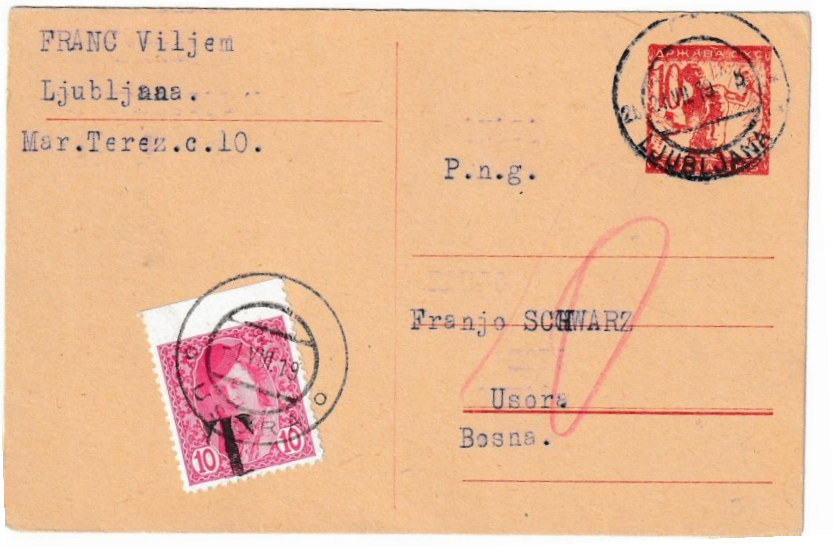


Figure 25: Ljubljana 27-8-1919 to Usora. On 1-7-1919 the rate was raised to 15 Vinar. Here, the changing of the rates was probably the reason for the incorrect franking. The rate was 15 Vinar. Deficit 5 Vinar. To pay: 2x5=10 Helera. In Usora an emergency postage due stamp of 10 Hel was used. Up to now only 2 cards with this emergency postage due stamp have been recorded.



Figure 26: Zagreb19-8-1919 to Krapina. The rate at this time was 15 Filira. The card (picture card) was not sent pre-paid. Maybe no stamp was available, the post office was closed……? Deficit 15 Filira. To pay: 2x15=30 Filira. Here, it has been franked with 2 Hungarian postage due stamps of 12 Fil. + 3 emergency postage due stamps of Krapina of 2 Fil. These emergency postage due stamps (regular Croatian stamps with "T") were used in the middle of the year 1919 and were the result of the lack of original postage due stamps. These used emergency postage due stamps are very rare. At the end of 1919, the same hand stamp "T" was used on the regular stamps of Slovenia; these are speculative issues.





Figures 27a and b (27a is reduced): Zagreb 10-12-1920 to Zemun. The rate was now 15 Para. The card is franked with 35 Vinar (= Filira) = 35/4 = 8.75 Para. Deficit: 15 – 8.75 = 6.25 Para. To pay: 2x6.25 = 12.5 Para. Normally this would have been rounded up to 15 Para but the post officer was creative. 12.5 Para is 50 Vinar (12.5x4). He used a 50 Vinar postage due stamp and the addressee did not have to pay 2.5 Para extra.

1.4.2. Letters

Figure 28(reduced) (below): Zagreb 1 4-3-1919 local. Local rate was 15 Fil. To pay: 2x15=30 Fil. As the letter was sent with pre-paying, the emergency postage due stamps of Zagreb 2 have been used; only that counter used these on 2, 3 and 5 March 1919. This is the only known block of 10 of these stamps. Up to now, no second letter with a 5 March cancellation has been recorded.



Figures 29a and b (reduced) (below): Banja Luka 22-10-1919 to Dobrlin. Tariff was 25 Para for a letter up to 20g. The sender pre-paid with 25 but not in Para. 25 Vinar is 25/4=6.25 Para. Deficit 25 – 6.25 = 37.5 Para. Normally this should have been rounded to 40 Para but the postal officer was creative. He used postage due stamps with the value of 35 Para, leaving a deficit of 2.5 Para = 10 Vinar. This was paid by two 5 Vinar postage due stamps.







Figure 30 (reduced): Train Usora-Pribinca 10-9-1920 to Lukavac. Tariff 25 Para. Franked with 15 Para + 15 Vinar = 15/4 = 3.75 Para; total 18.75 Para. Deficit 6.25 Para. To pay 2x6.25 = 12.5 Para, rounded up to nearest 5 (hence 15 Para). But the post officer had another idea – 2x5 Para + bisected 5 Para. This form of postage due stamps was not allowed officially. To date, four letters with a bisected 5 Vinar postage due stamp have been recorded.

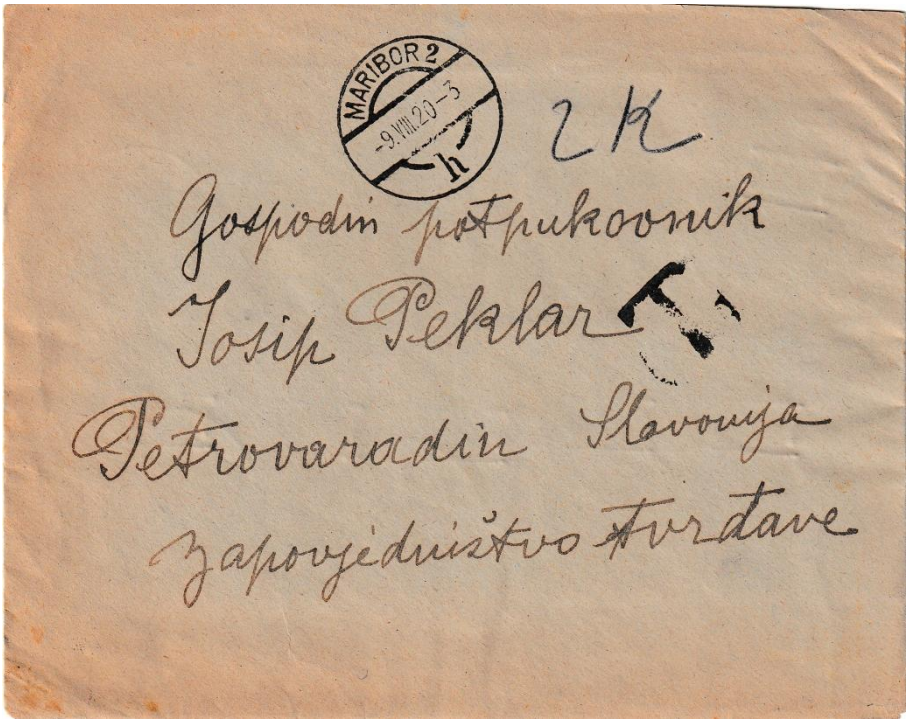


Figure 31a: Maribor 9-8-1920 to Petrovaradin. The letter was not sent pre-paid. Tariff 25 Para. In Petrovaradin, the addressee had to pay 50 Para = 200 Filira. There was a scarcity of postage due stamps in Petrovaradin (see also Figure 4, JP132) so emergency postage due stamps were used (see Figure 31b). A combination of a Slovenian postage due stamp of 20 Vinar with 180 Fil. in emergency postage due stamps has been used. A big problem with these emergency postage due stamps is that collectors in Petrovaradin created a lot of philatelic letters and cards, nearly all as local mail. I know of three letters which are, I think, not philatelic. This letter to Lieutenant-Colonel J. Peklar, commandant of the fortress of Petrovaradin, is not philatelic.



Figure 31b: reverse of cover in Figure 31a



Figure 32: Brod 8-12-1919, local. Letter is to J. Kappon, a stamp dealer. Only this date 8-12-1919 has been recorded up to now. And such a nice PORTO hand stamp. When was it made? This is without any doubt a philatelic letter. The letter is proved and is authentic.

1.4.3 Letters from abroad

Hungary

List 4. The rates of mail from Hungary to the SHS in Filler

period	15-6-1918//1-1-1920	1-1-1920//1-6-1920	1-6-1920//31-1-1921	31-1-1921//1-1-1922
postcards	10	40	60	100
letter up to 20 gr.	20	60	100	250
+ per 20 gr.	5	20	20	150



Figure 33 (reduced): Kiskőszeg 27-11-1920 to Apatin. The rate for a letter up to 20g was100 Filler. Deficit 15 Fil. To pay 2x15 = 30 Fil. Two emergency postage due stamps of 15 Vinar have been used here. To date, this is the only recorded letter with these emergency postage due stamps of Apatin. They are also unknown in the manual of Čičerov.



Figure 34a: Budapest 9-3-1921 to Begafő. On 1-2-1921, the special rate to the SHS came to an end. The sender has not noted that and has franked with 1 Kor. Instead of 2.50 Kor. Deficit 1.5 Kor. The addressee had to pay 2x1.5 = 3 Kr. (= 75 Para). But the addressee was not found (nem keresko). The extra tax could not be collected and the postage due stamps on the front were crossed out. The letter was returned to sender (natrag).



Figure 34b: reverse of cover in Figure 34a.

Austria

List 5.The rates of mail from Austria to the SHS in Heller

period	1-9-1918//15-1-1920	15-1-1920//15-4-1920	15-4-1920//31-1-1921	31-1-1921//1-1-1922
postcards	till 18-1-1920 10	from 18-1-1920 25	50	100
letters to 20 gr.	20	40	80	150
+ per 20 gr.	5	10	20	50



Figure 35: Vienna 1-1919 to Zagreb. The letter is franked for a weight of 20g but the letter weight was 22g. The deficit was therefore 5 Hel. The addressee had to pay 2x5 = 10 Fil. A Croatian postage due stamp issued 18-11-1918 has been used.

Meetings

2 – 9 May: London 2020 – postponed until February 2022

July: York Stamp Fair – cancelled

8 August: Joint Societies Meeting, Leeds – planned to go ahead at the moment. Contact Yvonne Wheatley at whyareuu@outlook.com. Yvonne says that she hopes to be able to confirm in July whether or not it is on.

30 September to 3 October: Stampex – cancelled therefore no YSG meeting but the Stampex website refers to a virtual Stampex and says watch this space!

The Temesvár Postage Stamp Issues Under Serbian Occupation, 1919

by Robert Lauer

Temesvár and the surrounding Bánát region was the only area of the Kingdom of Hungary to be occupied by both Serbian and Romanian forces in succession and, as such, is almost a microcosm of the foreign occupations of the country at the end of the First World War. The result is an extremely interesting philatelic legacy.



Figure 1: the four counties of the Temesvár Postal Directorate in 1918.

The Temesvár Postal Directorate was made up of four counties: Bács-Bodrog, Krassó-Szörény, Temes and Torontál, as illustrated in the map in Figure 1. In the wake of the signing of the Belgrade Military Convention between Hungary and the Entente, which ended the First World War on the Balkan Front on November 13, 1918, most of the area comprising the Temesvár Postal Directorate was occupied by the Serbian army. The armistice line in the Belgrade Military Convention is denoted by the dotted line on the map in Figure 1. However, the Serbian Army extended its occupation well beyond this line, as far east as the town of Lugos. The Belgrade Military Convention specified, though, that Hungarian civil administration was to remain in effect in areas occupied by Entente forces pending the final disposition of these areas through the peace treaties to formally end the War. Serbian forces occupied the area around Temesvár until their withdrawal on July 27, 1919. During this period of Serbian occupation, the Temesvár Postal Directorate issued two series of stamps, the first in May 1919 and the second on July 1, 1919. After the Serbian withdrawal, there was a short interregnum during which the "Bánát Bácska 1919" overprints were issued. The Romanian forces occupied Temesvár on August 3, 1919 and the rest of the area around the city by August 20, 1919. The Temesvár Postal Directorate then issued another series of stamps for the area later on in the month of August 1919. Under the Treaty of Trianon, Temesvár (renamed Timişoara) and the eastern part of the Bánát went to Romania, with the western portion going to the S.H.S. Kingdom. The final international frontiers in the area are illustrated by the shaded line on the map in Figure 1. This article will focus on the two series of postage stamps issued by the Temesvár Postal Directorate during the period of Serbian occupation.

Both of the series issued under Serbian Occupation remained valid for postage in the area of the Temesvár Postal Directorate until March 15, 1920, well after the Serbian withdrawal from the area around Temesvár at the end of July 1919. None of the stamps from these two issues are particularly expensive; the catalogue value of a complete set of the two issues is less than US$20 in Chris Brainard's *Catalog of Hungarian Occupation Issues 1918-1921*. In the 2002, 6th Edition of the Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue, Part 2, Austria & Hungary, the set has a catalogue value of less than £8. As with all of the sections on the Hungarian occupation issues, the Scott 2015 Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps & Covers contains a warning with respect to forgeries of the Temesvár issues under Serbian occupation. Here it notes that "[f]orgeries exist of the inverted and color error surcharges". As will be demonstrated later in this article, more than just the inverted and colour error surcharges have been forged. However, unlike many of the occupation issues that received the attention of Mr. Pape and his associates, the genuine copies of these issues on the market may, in fact, outnumber the forgeries.

The First Temesvár Issue under Serbian Occupation – May 1919

The first Temesvár issue under Serbian occupation consisted of two stamps: the 2f Harvester from the 1916 issue surcharged "10 fillér" and the 10 fillér +2 fillér stamp from the 1916 War Charity issue surcharged "45 fillér". Both of these stamps are illustrated in Figure 2.



Figure 2: the first Temesvár issue under Serbian occupation.

The 10 fillér stamp, which corresponded to the then current Hungarian postcard rate was issued on May 15, 1919. The 45 fillér stamp, which corresponded to the cost of a registered inland letter in Hungary, was issued later in the month; both Stanley Gibbons and the *Magyar posta-és illetékbélyeg katalógus* (MBK) suggest that this date was May 25, 1919. The Belgrade Military Convention stipulated that the Serbian occupation forces would not interfere with Hungary's public administration in the occupied areas and, as a result, Hungarian postal tariffs remained in effect.

A million copies of the 10 fillér and 500,000 of the 45 fillér were printed, making these stamps the most common of all of the Temesvár occupation issues. The 10 fillér surcharge also exists in black through an error on the part of the printer; only 20,000 were printed in black, making them

relatively scarce. These stamps were issued and used on regular mail only in Bács-Bodrog, Krassó-Szörény, Temes and Torontál counties, the four counties that made up the Temesvár Postal Directorate. Covers and cards franked with these stamps are very scarce. MBK suggests that used stamps should have a catalogue value of at least double that of mint copies, something which is not reflected in any of the Scott, Stanley Gibbons or Michel catalogues.

MBK indicates that two different fonts were used for the "10" in the "10 fillér" surcharge, a large font and a small font, with the large numerals having a value of twice that of the small numerals. These two fonts are illustrated in Figure 3. The small "1" has quite pronounced serifs, with "feet" on each side of the base of the numeral. The serifs on the large "1" are much less pronounced.



Figure 3: the two fonts of the 10 fillér overprint – large numerals on the left, small numerals on the right.

From the comment in MBK on the difference in the value of the large numerals vs the small numerals, one would expect a sheet of these stamps to be composed of one third large numerals and two thirds small numerals, though this is not quite the case. With the assistance of a scan of a full sheet of these stamps from Chris Brainard, a fellow member of the Society for Hungarian Philately, and an almost complete sheet in blocks from a bunch of Hungarian odds and ends I purchased at an Ottawa Philatelic Society auction, I constructed the plate map for this denomination illustrated in Figure 4.

Serbian Occupation of Temesvar: 10f on 2f Harvester Plate Map

	.20	.40	.60	.80	1.00	1.20	1.40	1.60	1.80	2.00	
.20				4							2.00
.40											1.80
.60	21		23	24			27				1.60
.80											1.40
1.00		M			45	46					1.20
1.20			53	54			57				1.00
1.40	M							68			.80
1.60	M					76					.60
1.80											.40
2.00				94							.20
	2.00	1.80	1.60	1.40	1.20	1.00	.80	.60	.40	.20	

	Small numerals	=	56
	Large numerals	=	41
M	Small 1, large 0	=	3

Numbers indicate an obvious constant plate flaw.

Figure 4

This indicates that there are 56 positions on the plate with small numerals, 41 positions with large numerals, as well as three positions with a small "1" and a large zero. This last combination of numerals is illustrated in Figure 5. In the process of reassembling the blocks into an almost complete sheet, Chris and I noticed a number of fairly obvious constant plate flaws in the surcharge. These are indicated by the position numbers in the sheet on the plate map in Figure 4 and are illustrated in Figure 6 through Figure 8 on the next page.



Figure 5: mixed numerals (position 42).

These constant plate flaws are:

position 4 - the top of the "f" is mutilated;

position 21 - there is a gap in the middle of the “i”;

position 23 - the bottom of the zero is dented;

position 24 - there are no serifs on the “1”;

position 45 - the crossbar on the right side of the “f” is missing;

position 46 - the left foot of the “1” is missing;

position 53 - the “1” looks like a capital “I”;

position 54 - there is a gap in the right side of the bottom of the zero;

position 57 - the top of the crossbar of the “e” is dented;

position 68 - the underside of the bottom loop of the “e” is dented and the top loop is partially filled-in;

position 76 - there is a gap in the right side of the bottom loop of the “e”; and

position 94 - there is a large gap in the bottom of the zero.



Figure 6: plate flaws for positions 4, 21, 23 and 24.



Figure 7: plate flaws for positions 45 and 46, 53 and 54.



Figure 8: plate flaws for positions 57, 68, 76 and 94.

The surcharges for this issue were printed by typography, which means that the surcharge appears to be raised through the back of the stamp and the individual numerals and letters exhibit a “squeeze” of ink towards the edges creating a slightly darker outline to each numeral and letter. The numerals and letters are generally crisp and well defined. In my experience, the genuine stamps of this issue do outnumber the forgeries; counterfeits definitely exist, but they have a tendency to be relatively crude imitations. In Figure 9, below, there are two genuine copies of the 10 fillér (on the left) and 3 counterfeit copies from my collection of fakes (on the right).



Figure 9: 10 fillér genuine (left) vs counterfeit (right).

The first of the three forgeries is not a bad piece of work, but the font of the "1" is not consistent with either the large or the small numerals on the genuine and the accent is all wrong; the accent on the "e" in fillér in the genuine stamps is always more or less wedge-shaped and right above the "e". The last two of the three fakes look like they were done by the same incompetent counterfeiter; they don't even look close to the genuine item.

The Second Temesvár Issue under Serbian Occupation – July 1919

The second issue of stamps under Serbian occupation was also composed of a series of surcharges on existing Hungarian stamps from the 1916-18 period: a 30 fillér on the 2 fillér Harvester, a 50 fillér on the 20 fillér Károly and a 1 Korona 50 fillér on the 15 fillér Harvester, as well as three postage due stamps surcharged on the 2 fillér red numeral postage due stamp from 1915 - a 40 fillér, a 60 fillér and a 100 fillér. These are illustrated in Figure 10 below.



Figure 10: the second Temesvár issue under Serbian occupation.

All these stamps were issued on July 1, 1919 to correspond to the new postal tariffs which were also announced on the same day by the Temesvár Postal Directorate for the area under its control. These new tariffs raised the rates for printed matter to 10 fillér, postcards to 30 fillér, letters to 50 fillér, registration to 1 Korona and the Express fee to 2 Korona.

Four hundred thousand of the 30 fillér on 2 fillér Harvester were printed, 600,000 of the 50 fillér on 20 fillér Károly and 200,000 of the 1 Korona 50 fillér on 15 fillér Harvester, two thirds of this last denomination was printed with a black surcharge and one third with a red surcharge. Fifty thousand of each denomination of the postage due stamps were printed. Most of cards and covers franked with these stamps are philatelic, use on regular mail was rare.

All of the surcharges were printed by lithography, meaning that the surcharge is not raised on the back of the stamp and there is no "squeeze" of ink to the edges of the lettering.

The forgeries of the regular postage stamps are usually rather crude and therefore relatively easy to distinguish from the genuine. Figure 11 illustrates a genuine 30 fillér on 2 fillér Harvester on the left and a counterfeit stamp on the right.



Figure 11: 30 fillér on 2 fillér Harvester genuine (left) vs counterfeit (right).

In the genuine stamp at left, the "shadows" cast by the main parts of the numerals and letters of the "30 fill." surcharge are formed by double lines. Even though the stamp at left is over-inked, the fact that these "shadows" are composed of two lines is relatively clear. In the counterfeit at right, these shadow lines are almost always single lines. There are a few other clues (other than the Budapest cancel under the surcharge): the shadow line inside the zero is connected to the zero at the top, the shadow line to the right of the top of the "3" does not cross through into the bottom loop of the "3" and the period after "fill" and the underline are connected to the last "l" in "fill".

The forgeries of the postage due stamps are a little less obvious. Figure 12 illustrates a genuine 60 fillér on 2 fillér postage due on the left and a counterfeit version of the right.



Figure 12: 60 fillér on 2 fillér postage due genuine (left) vs counterfeit (right).

In the genuine postage due stamps, the scroll work beneath the line under "fillér" is fairly delicately done with individual "leaves", "dots" and "stems" along the fine curved lines. There is also a short vertical line with three strokes through it underneath the split of the lines, with two small curved lines beneath that. In the counterfeit at right, the scroll work and the detail along it all runs together. It is also missing the detail under the split in the lines and the two dots to the left of the underline.



Figure 13 (reduced): a registered cover from Pancsova in the Serbian occupation zone to Usora in the S.H.S. Kingdom cancelled December 22, 1919 (from the collection of Csaba L. Kohalmi).

The cover illustrated in Figure 13 is correctly franked for the rates in the Serbian Occupation Zone (5 fillér over) using both the 10 fillér from the first Temesvár issue under Serbian occupation and the 30 fillér from the second issue. The other interesting thing about this cover is the Hungarian stamps overprinted "KÖZTÁRSASÁG" that make up the balance of the franking were issued on November 23, 1918, a week after the occupation of the Bánát by Serbian forces. This would seem to indicate that some supplies of new postage stamps did make it through to Temesvár from Budapest after the Serbian occupation.

For those interested in the actual use of these stamps, there is an absolutely wonderful article in issue 18-1 of *Philatelica* by Dr. Nagy Ferenc entitled "The 1918-1920 Postal History of the South Region as Reflected in the First Temesvár Local Issue Stamps", which looks at the postal history of this area during the occupations through cards and covers using the stamps of the first Temesvár issue under Serbian occupation. Ably translated by Csaba L. Kohalmi, it is available in English on the MAFITT website www.mafitt.hu and well worth a read.

Post-script: The 'Bánát Bácska 1919' Issue – July 28, 1919

In the interregnum between the Serbian withdrawal from Temesvár and the subsequent Romanian occupation of the area, the Temesvár Postal Directorate issued a series of stamps overprinted "Bánát Bácska 1919", largely to pay the salaries of postal workers who then sold the stamps to collectors and stamp dealers. As part of this issue, both the stamps from the first Temesvár issue under Serbian occupation and the 1 Korona 50 fillér on 15 fillér Harvester from

the second issue were further overprinted "Bánát Bácska 1919". The 10 fillér on the 2 fillér Harvester from the first issue is illustrated in Figure 14.



Figure 14: the 10 fillér from the first Temesvár issue under Serbian occupation further overprinted "Bánát Bácska 1919".

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The Use of Hungarian Stamps and Postal Stationery in the Serbian Occupied Bánát, 1918-1919

by Robert Lauer

The armistice that ended the First World War on the southern "Balkan" front, the Belgrade Military Convention between the new Hungarian government of Count Mihaly Karolyi and the leader of the Entente Armée d'Orient, the French General Franchet d'Esperey, was signed on November 13, 1918. The agreement stipulated that Hungarian forces were to withdraw back to the solid green line in Figure 1. Before the ink was dry on the agreement, the Serbian Army crossed the Danube and Dráva rivers and marched north to occupy the cities of Szabadka in the Bácska on November 13th, Pécs in Baranya on November 15th, and as well as Temesvár in the

Bánát on November 17th. The Serbian advance carried its forces as far as Lugos, which is just to the east of Temesvár.



Figure 1: the military situation in the Kingdom of Hungary, October 1918-April 1919.

However, the Belgrade Military Convention also specified that the Entente forces would not interfere with Hungarian civil administration in the occupied areas pending the negotiation of the peace treaties to formally end the war. As a result, Hungarian postal administration was to remain in place in these regions. This was in fact what happened in the Bánát, at least mostly.

At first glance, the covers illustrated in Figures 2 and 3 look like two utterly unremarkable pieces of Hungarian correspondence from the 1916-1918 period, and in some senses they are, but they were both posted from the Serbian occupied Bánát in 1919 and are a testament to the continued functioning of the Hungarian postal system in this region under the Serbian occupation.



Figure 2: letter from Temesvár 2 to Schüttenhofen, Czechoslovakia cancelled January 12, 1919.



Figure 3: letter from Lugos to Bern, Switzerland cancelled January 2, 1919.

Figure 2 is a letter posted from Temesvár 2 to Schüttenhofen, in newly created Czechoslovakia cancelled January 12, 1919, almost 2 months after the Serbian occupation of the Bánát. The two 10 fillér stamps bearing the likeness of King Károly paid the standard 20 fillér Hungarian rate for an inland letter, which still applied to mail posted to the lands of the former Habsburg Empire.

Figure 3 is a letter posted from Lugos to Bern, Switzerland cancelled January 2, 1919, six and a half weeks after the Serbian occupation of the area. The 5 fillér Harvester and 20 fillér King Károly stamps paid the standard 25 fillér Hungarian rate for an international letter.

While the tarifs paid on these letters are correct, the 10 fillér Károly stamps on the cover in Figure 2 and 20 fillér Károly stamp on the cover in Figure 3 had both ceased to be valid for postage in un-occupied Hungary on November 23, 1918. The difficulty in getting new stock of postage stamps from Budapest, once the Serbian Army had occupied Temesvár and most of the Bánát, was already, in January 1919, leading to a shortage of some of the most commonly used denominations and to the continued use of existing stocks of stamps that were no longer valid for postage in the rest of Hungary.

The registered postal stationery letter card in Figure 4 was in a lot of some three dozen pieces of Hungarian postal stationery that I purchased from a buddy who lives out in the east-end of Ottawa, Canada. I didn't think anything of this card at the time of purchase, just looked like a registered letter card from the 1900-1916 era. However, later I noticed that the date in the cancel had been rearranged from the normal Hungarian format of Year-Month-Day, which convinced me that this item was worthy of closer inspection.



Figure 4: a registered postal stationery letter card from Plosicz to Vienna, Austria cancelled December 25, 1918.

The date in the cancellation is DEC 25 18; the date line format in the canceller having been rearranged to Month-Day-Year from the original Hungarian format, probably by an over-zealous postal employee of Serbian extraction. This date is almost 6 weeks after the signing of the Belgrade Military Convention on November 13, 1918 and the town of Plosicz (now Pločica in Serbia) is located just north of the Danube on a bend in the river across from Smederevo in Serbia, roughly 23 km west and on a latitude just south of Belgrade. Its location put it well south of the demarcation line for the area occupied by Serbian forces under the Belgrade Military Convention and squarely inside the territory of what was to become the new S.H.S. Kingdom. The town was in the southern tip of Temes Vármegye in the Bánát. It was so small, though, that

it does not even appear on the old 1910 maps of Hungarian counties (see Figure 5). Even today, the town only has a population of 2,000.

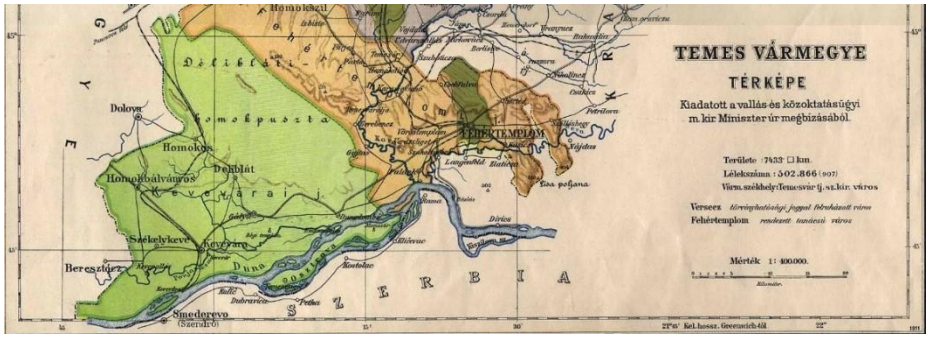


Figure 5: 1910 map of the southern portion of Temes county.

The card is under-franked, but with no sign of any postage due being charged. The current Hungarian rate for a postal stationery letter card was the same as for a standard letter - 20 fillér. This card was probably processed as a postal stationery card, as the then current Hungarian post card rate was 10 fillér. The registration fee of 25 fillér is correct for the date, but, again, the 25 fillér Turul design stamp that paid the registration fee was not valid for postage in un-occupied Hungary, and had not been valid since December 31, 1917. If the Temesvár Postal Directorate had trouble getting new stock from Budapest, I suspect that the difficulties in getting any stock from Temesvár to the outlying areas of the Bánát during the Serbian occupation were even worse, leading to a general shortage of postage stamps at these remote post offices and to the use of any postage stamps at hand, regardless of whether they had been long invalidated or not.

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- "The First Hungarian Republic", *www.theorangefiles.hu*
- Lajos Horvath "The General Use of Postage Stamps Issued for Slovenia as a Result of Serbian Distribution in Southern Hungary in 1919-1921", *Philatelica*, 17/I.

NDH parcel cards

In the last edition of Jugopošta I summarised what has been previously published in Jugopošta in relation to NDH parcel cards and I included a summary of the rates for parcels. I was hoping to encourage contributions from other readers. I am grateful to Bernard Sharp for some information that he has provided me with but if anyone else is willing to contribute information that would be a bonus.

I have also established that there appears to be no single definitive work on NDH parcel cards in any language. I hope to be able to do some work on this for the September or December editions of Jugopošta.

Boštjan Petauer

Tony Bosworth has often encouraged members to let us know of their experience of exhibiting and the rewards earned. Boštjan Petauer contacted us and told us of his exhibiting in 2019. He exhibited in Slovenia and also in Hungary, Portugal, Luxembourg and China. His rewards were impressive – three gold medals (and two Special Prizes), three large vermeil and one each of vermeil, large silver and silver.

Boštjan tells us that he has 12 competitive exhibits (with another one in preparation) and these range across the FIP classes. Three of these are five frames, the remainder being one frame. The subjects covered are Maximaphily (3 exhibits) and Australian kangaroos, the rest being Yugoslavia (mainly Austrian Bosnia).

It was good to hear of Boštjan's successes and it would be good to hear of similar news from the rest of our members. I've included some of Boštjan's certificates below.







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