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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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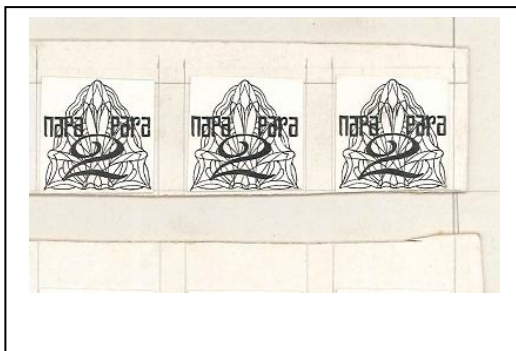
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Jugopošta



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From the President

Sadly there is little to report as we are still in the depths of a "lockdown"; but I am sure you are all catching up with the projects on your collections that you have neglected for so long.

The Society is still looking for a Postal Auction Manager. The auction would provide an opportunity to either pass on your surplus material or indeed enhance your collection. This is an important post and would provide a vital service to members.

Meanwhile I wish you all good health, and let us stick to the rules to keep the pandemic at bay.

A J Bosworth FRPSL

From the Editor

In this edition of Jugopošta there are 4 main articles. There is part 6 of Henk Buitenkamp's series on postage dues and a short article from Henk updating one of his previous articles. In addition, Boštjan Petauer has written about some of the philatelic rarities in the Slovenian Museum of Post and Telecommunications. Finally, Milan Radovanović has written about a new Serbian military card from the Great War.

Vladimir Zahorec contacted me to suggest that I ask members to contribute short articles on their favourite stamps and/or covers. He provided me with a copy of his own such article in another philatelic journal and you can read that in this edition. I thought that was a good idea and invite similar articles from members of 2 to 3 pages, so don't be shy!

That brings me to a common theme in this column. As of now, I have no articles other than some promised with which to fill the next edition. I am most grateful to those of you that regularly contribute but I need more articles please!

As some of you will be aware, we held our first online meeting on 23 February using Zoom. Those present agreed that they had enjoyed the meeting and the 6 presentations that were given, with 17 members in attendance. As a result there will be a further meeting on Zoom on Wednesday 14 April at 5 pm UK time. I'll send details round by email and hope to receive plenty of offers of presentations. You will find a report of the first meeting in this edition.

Also, at the request of one of our members, I've written a short note on the number of members that we have and the number of different countries that our members live in.

Finally, our Membership Secretary and Treasurer would appreciate it if any of you that have not paid your subscription for 2021 could do so as soon as possible please. Those of you in that situation will have received a letter with this edition or an email to that effect.

Postage due stamps used in time of turmoil and building a nation, SHS 1918 – 1921, Part 6

by Henk Buitenkamp, AEP

PART 2: Postage due stamps used for regular pre-paying

Sometimes, post offices did not have enough postage due stamps and they then used regular stamps with or without P(ORTO). In the preceding parts, I have shown this use. Conversely, some post offices had a lack of regular stamps of a special value and thus used bisected stamps or postage due stamps with or without FRANCO. In a Decree of 6-8-1919 it is written that regular stamps with FRANCO were allowed for pre-paying. The use of postage due stamps without FRANCO was not correct, but a lot of post offices did not have a handstamp with FRANCO. Such a handstamp had to be ordered and paid for by the post offices themselves; they were not supplied by the postal directorates.

2.1 Postage due stamps with the indication FRANCO or FRANKO

Stanislav Čičerov has made a stock-taking of which post offices in the SHS used Slovenian postage due stamps with FRANCO/FRANKO. He makes a difference between the first Slovenian postage due stamps issue (the cipher issue) in Vinar and Kron, and the second issue in Para and Dinar.

List 11. Number of post offices which have used Slovenian postage due stamps with FRANCO/FRANKO (according to Čičerov: “Slovenija Portovne Znamke 1919 – 1921. Ljubljana 2008.)

	Cipher issue Vinar/Kron	Issue Para/Dinar
Slovenia	4	-
Croatia – Hungarian	2	-
Croatia – Dalmatia	6	5
Bosnia-Herzegovina	12	8

In the Priručnik we find a list of Bosnia-Herzegovina towns which used Bosnian postage due stamps with FRANCO/FRANKO as regular stamps (sometimes FRANCO is written on a postage due stamp.)

Two sets of postage due stamps were issued in Bosnia-Herzegovina. For the first issue we find that there were 43 towns which used FRANCO on these postage due stamps (Priručnik lists 41 towns.). For the second issue Priručnik lists 12 towns.

I am sure that there are many more towns in Bosnia-Herzegovina which have used postage due stamps with FRANCO. Maybe a project for the future?

Even Bosnian postage due stamps from the Austrian period are surcharged!

A stock-taking list for Hungarian postage due stamps with FRANCO/FRANKO is not available at the moment. Not one town is listed in the Priručnik. It is also very remarkable that a lot of towns in Bosnia-Herzegovina used postage due stamps with FRANCO.

Slovenia produced most of the stamps in the SHS period. The regions of Croatia (with Dalmatia) and Bosnia-Herzegovina used the Slovenian regular and postage due stamps too. Of course, it is logical that in Slovenia most of the post offices usually had enough regular stamps. Bosnia-Herzegovina was the least developed area in the period soon after the First World War. Moreover, it was the region with the longest distance to Ljubljana and hence to the supplier of stamps. At first Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina used up their own produced stamps; after that they used Slovenian stamps.

Nearly all the surcharges in Slovenia are FRANCO with a C. Only in Bled was FRANCO and FRANKO used. Bled 1 used FRANCO with a C and Bled 2 used FRANKO with a K. Maybe they wanted to know which counter had cancelled.

In Bosnia-Herzegovina Pazarić used FRANKO with a K and, as far as I know, all other post offices used FRANCO with a C.

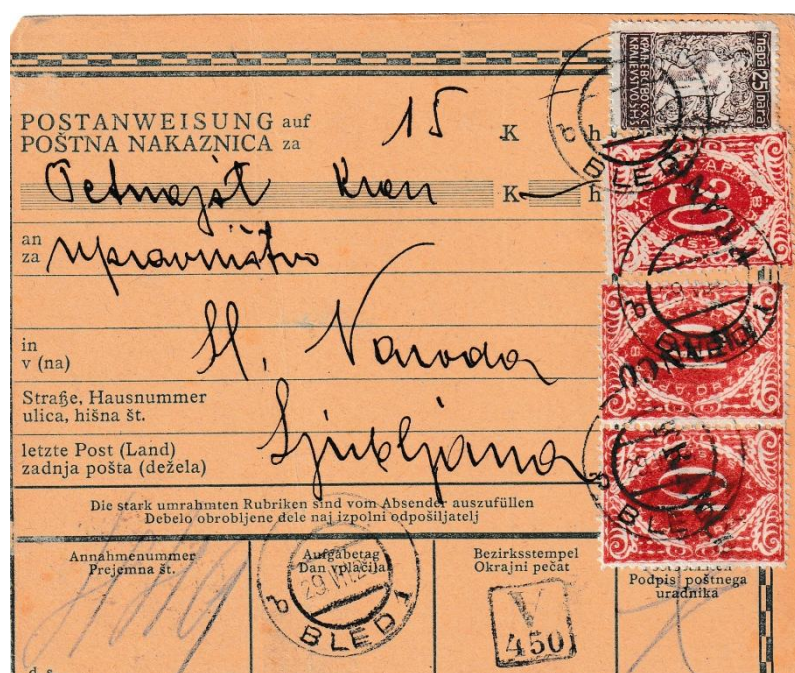


Figure 58: Slovenia Bled 1 dd.29-7-1920 with C. Post office order of 15 K (= 3¼ Dinar) = 25 Para + payout costs 10 = 35 Para. Franked with regular stamps of 25 Para and 40 Vinar in postage due stamps with FRANCO = 10 Para; total 35 Para.

The use of Krone postage due stamps with FRANCO/FRANKO is very rare. To date, only one 1 Krone stamp has been recorded; only one used item of the 5 Krone has been recorded (1 Krone in Slovenia and 5 Krone in Bosnia-Herzegovina.)



Figure 59: Slovenia Bled 2 dd.8-8-1920 FRANKO with K. Postcard 15 + registering 20 = 35 Para = 140 Vinar. Franked with postage due stamps with FRANKO. Here the 1 Krone is used. Bled 2 was the only town in Slovenia where the use of FRANKO with a K was recorded.

In Bosnia-Herzegovina not only Bosnian SHS postage due stamps with FRANCO/FRANKO were used but even old postage due stamps were used.



Figure 60: Čapljina 28-8-1919 with used old Bosnian postage due stamp with FRANKO! Parcel weight 150 + value 50 + cash-on-delivery 20 + delivery at home 100 = 320 Helera. I have not seen any more postal items with old Bosnian postage due stamps with FRANKO.



Figure 61 (reduced): Trebinje 5-9-1919. Postcard 15 Helera; 5 Hel. with FRANCO; 5 Hel. in Priručnik is not listed for Trebinje.



Figure 62 (reduced): Zenica 7-9-1919. Parcel weight 150 + value 50 + cash-on-delivery 20 + delivery at home = 320 Helera. The 3 Kr. with FRANCO is not listed in the Priručnik for Zenica.



Figure 63 (reduced): Pazarić 2-10-1919. Postcard to Czechoslovakia had the inland tariff until 1-6-1920. Postcard 15 + registering 60 = 75 Helera. The handstamp FRANKO with a K has been used here. This value is not listed in the Priručnik for Pazarić.



Figure 64 (reduced): Donji Vakuf 12-9-1919. Post office order 90 + pay-out costs 10 = 100 Helera. The 10 Hel. with FRANCO is not listed in the Priručnik.

We can see that the FRANCO handstamps are very different from each other. The reason is, of course, that every post office had to order and pay for the handstamp themselves. The list in the Priručnik is far from complete for Bosnia-Herzegovina. Making a new list is a challenge for the future.

It is remarkable that the second postage due issue of Slovenia with FRANCO was not used as much as the first Slovenian issue (the cipher issue) as regular stamps.



Figure 65 (reduced): Pločice 12-2-1921. Post office order 25 + pay-out costs 10 = 35 Para. This postage due stamp was used in Pločice for three days: 8 and 12 December 1920 and 12 February 1921

On 16-1-1921 the first national regular postage stamps were issued. The national postage due stamps were issued 9-4-1921. Even then, there were not always enough regular stamps available in Bosnia-Herzegovina.



Figure 66: Ljubljana 3-6-1921. Two postage due stamps of 10 Para with hand-written Franco have been used. Parcel weight 500 + value 100 + message of arrival of a parcel 20 = 620 Para

Membership

by The Editor

I thought that it might be useful to provide some information about the membership of YSG. At the end of 2020 we had around 60 members of whom 23 were “electronic” members, choosing to take Jugopošta by email. Somewhat worryingly, to date, around 27 of the membership have not yet renewed their subscriptions this year though some have remained active within the society and, for example, attending the first Zoom meeting.

A quick analysis reveals that around 25 members live in 12 different countries as well as the UK – these countries are USA, Canada, Australia, Argentina, Germany, Austria, Hungary, France, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Slovenia and Serbia. We therefore have a very diverse membership.

I hope that if you have not yet renewed your subscription for 2021 you will be able to do that soon.

Chainbreaker treasures from the Museum of Post and Telecommunications in Polhov Gradec, Slovenia

by Boštjan Petauer

Some time ago I visited the Museum of Post and Telecommunications (hereinafter MPT). There are interesting exhibits from the history of post and telecommunications on our soil, but I was surprised by the fact that almost nothing is dedicated to postage stamps, which for 170 years (the first postage stamps in our territory, then in the time of Austria, appeared on 1 June 1850) played an important role in postal traffic in our country as well.

When I told my concerns to the Curator, Mrs Ajda Kozjek, she quickly “comforted” me that they also have stamps, but they are not exhibited as yet. She then took me to her office and showed me quite a few albums and folders. As a collector of “chainbreakers” i.e. the first Slovenian stamps that were issued immediately after the end of the First World War and were used almost to the end of 1921, I was of course interested if they had anything to do with this issue. In response, she placed in front of me a large folder bearing the stamp of the former PTT Philatelic Society; as I later found out, this folder probably represents a (small) part of the collection of the former Postal Directorate in Ljubljana, most of which has been “lost” over the years. It is true, however, that I cannot prove this claim.

When I opened the folder in front of me a real treasure of experimental (pre) publications and essays appeared, which I had only read about in the specialist literature but had never seen before. So, these are very rare things, most probably unique.

That day there was no real opportunity to study things thoroughly so, a month or so later, I visited MPT again, this time together with my colleague Bojan Kranjec, whom I also thank for reviewing this article and for useful additions to it.

In the following text, I will give a systematic overview of the material, the digital images of which were kindly provided to me by the already mentioned curator, for which I would like to thank her.

The material is divided into the following groups:

- Postage stamps and
- Postal stationery

Postage stamps are further divided into

- Regular stamps
- Newspaper stamps
- Postage due stamps

Regular postage stamps are further divided into those in the crown vinar and dinar para issues.

Regular stamps

Crown vinar issues

A. Lithography

20 vinar

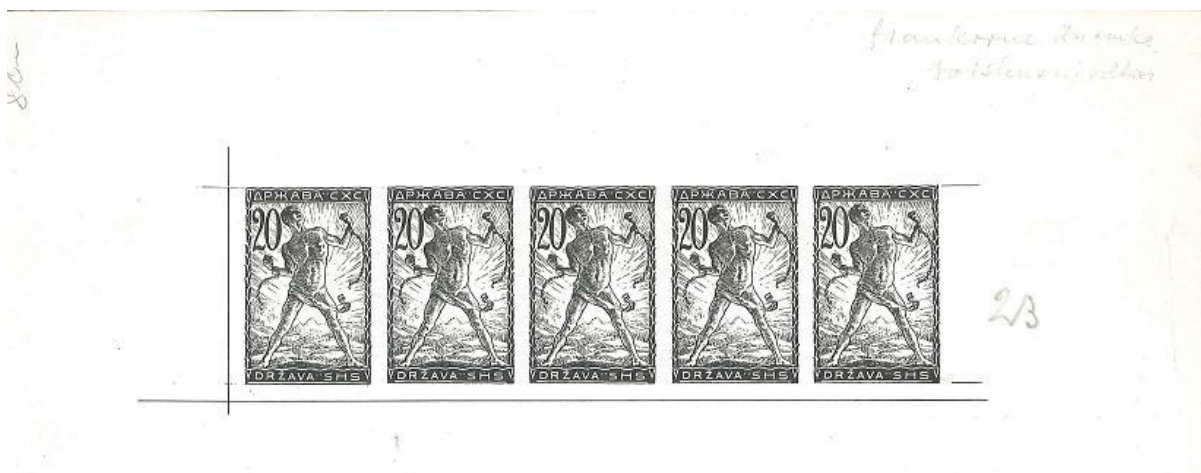


Figure 1

Figure 1 shows the essay or preparation for printing a stamp of 20 vinar (lithography) in a set of 5 stamps, in black with border markings and in the size of the issued stamp. It is mentioned in the “Manual” on page 33. (*Editor’s note: the “Manual” throughout this article refers to No. 1 in the Literature at the end of the article i.e. the Priručnik.*)

15 and 20 crowns



Figure 2

What exactly Figure 2 shows is not entirely clear.

A speculative print (or waste paper) of a stamp of 15 kronor in green (below) can be seen in two rows, six and a half stamps in each row, as well as a trial print of the stamp of 20 kronor

in red (above); also, in this case in two rows of six and a half stamps, both on an already published newspaper, indicating a serious shortage of paper at the time. The print is the size of the stamp issued. These are not the only stamps whose trial printing exists on an already published newspaper: for example, the stamp of 2 dinars is one such. This experimental print in the “Manual” is not known and is probably unique.

Another possibility is that they only covered the printing plate with a newspaper, or more likely with several newspapers, and part of the prints remained on paper. At least another imprint of an individual stamp on newsprint is known. In both cases, they are printing plates from which, depending on the colour of both brands, test prints were probably printed.

B. Typography

2 crowns



Figure 3



Figure 4

Figure 3 shows an essay of the stamp of 2 crowns in black on white cardboard paper measuring 42 x 65 mm. It is mentioned in the “Manual” on page 35.

Figure 4 shows an essay of the stamps of 60 vinar and 5 crowns, both on black cardboard in size 42 x 65 mm. The “Manual” mentions these on pages 34 (60 vinar) and 35 (5 crowns) but nowhere does it mention that the stamps are printed together.

Dinar para issues

10 para



Figure 5

25 para

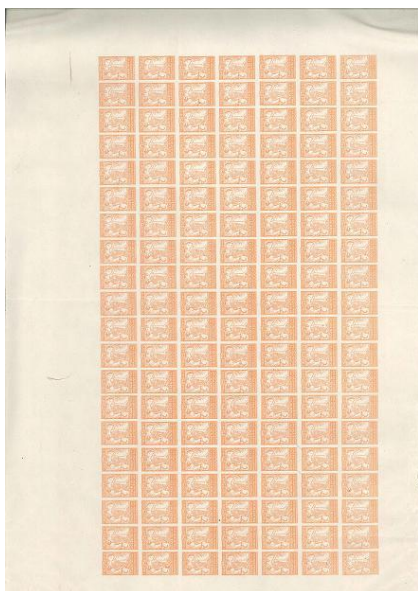


Figure 6



Figure 6a

Figure 6 shows an experimental print of a sheet of stamps of 25 para (20 x 7) in orange-yellow colour, while Figure 6a shows an individual stamp from this sheet. See the “Manual” page 548.



Figure 7



Figure 7a

Figure 7 shows an experimental print of a sheet of stamps of 25 para (20 x 7) in grey-green colour, printed on white paper while Figure 7a is an individual stamp from this sheet. See the “Manual” on page 548



Figure 8



Figure 9

45 para

Figure 8 shows an essay of the stamp of 45 para in black on white chalk paper measuring 23 x 16 mm with the signature of the author of the stamp, Ivan Vavpotić. It is listed on page 547 in the “Manual” but Vavpotić’s signature is not mentioned.

60 para

Figure 9 shows an essay of the stamp of 60 para in black on white chalk paper measuring 23.5 x 16 mm, this time without the signature of the author of the stamp, Ivan Vavpotić. See the “Manual” page 547.

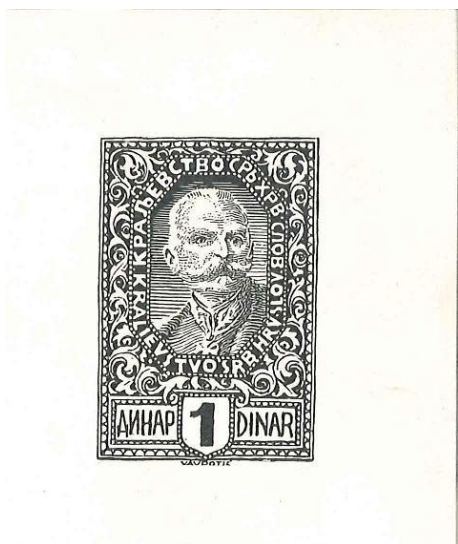


Figure 10



Figure 11

1 dinar

Figure 10 shows an essay of the stamp of 1 din in black on cardboard paper and size 28 x 43 mm. See the “Manual” on page 547.

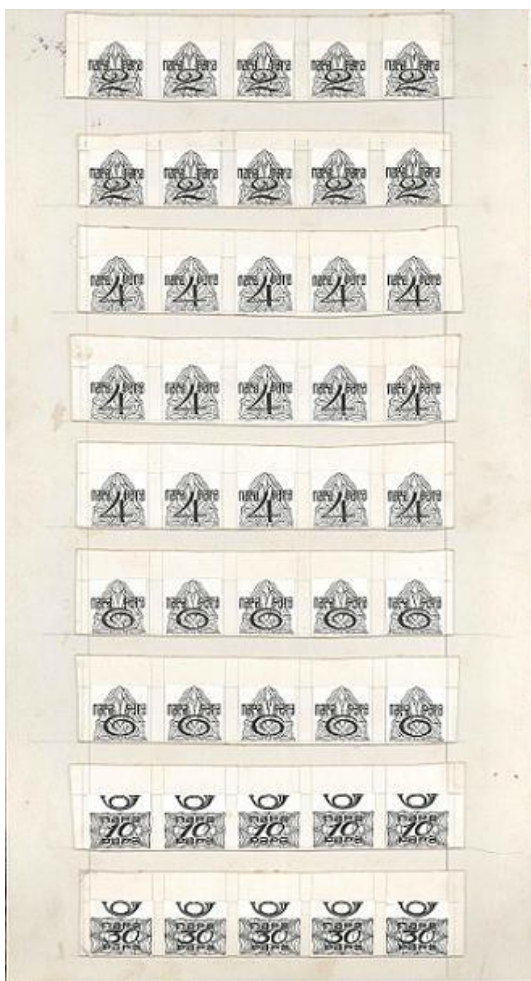
4 dinar

Figure 11 shows the essay of the stamp of 4 din in black on cardboard paper and size 28 x 43 mm. See the “Manual” on page 547.

Newspaper stamps

Figure 12 (overleaf) shows the reconstruction of the print as shown on the basis of the footprint of one cliché of each value. When enlarging the image, it can be seen that the prints of each overprint are on separate sheets, which are glued to strips of cardboard, and all together then to a sheet of paper as is visible in Figure 12a. The values of 2, 4, 6 and 10 paras are type B (right half of the overprinted field) and the 30 paras are type A (left half of the overprinted field).

It is mentioned on page 621 of the “Manual”.



Figures 12 and 12a

Postage due stamps



Figure 13

Figure 13 shows draft overprints for surcharge stamps on cardboard with Vavpotić's signature. The upper 2 overprints are listed in the "Manual" (without mentioning Vavpotić's signature) on page 736 and displayed on pages 772 and 774, while the lower hand-drawn overprint is unknown in the literature. This is also true of "Čičerov", where the upper overprints are also mentioned (p. 196) and the lower is unknown; a similar hand-drawn overprint is shown in this book on page 193.

It is interesting to note that Vavpotić obviously did not know Cyrillic well, as the Cyrillic “I” is misspelled in the overprint. The same error is also found in the stamp of 1 din (see Figure 10), while for the stamp of 4 din (see Figure 11) the mentioned letter is shown correctly.



Figure 14

Figure 14 shows a draft overprint for 5 para. It is mentioned in the “Manual” on page 736.

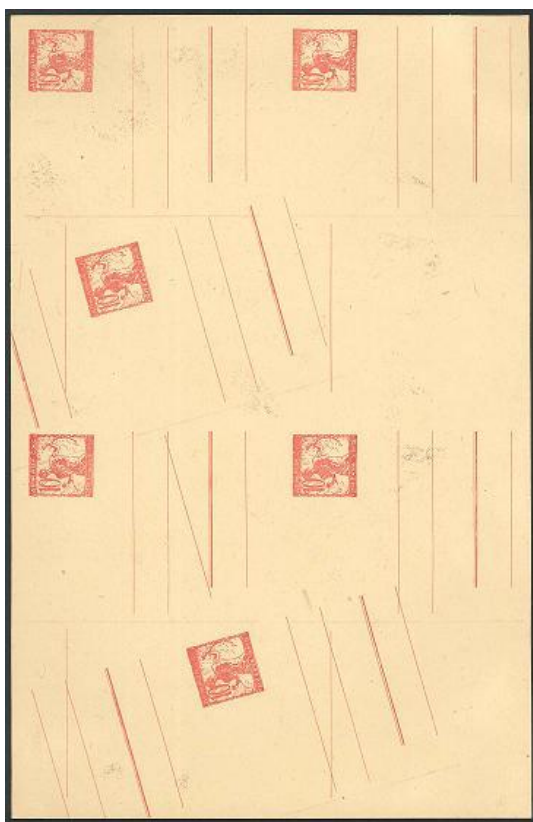


Figure 15 shows the printing sheet: $2 \times 2 = 4$ postcards from waste (double overprint, once oblique), which was probably created from the start of the machine. Colour: lilac to lilac-carmine. Types according to Mortensen nr. VIII, III, VII and IV. In terms of colour and type, this is one of the latest releases. There is another similar piece only in brick red and with types according to Mortensen nr. II, V, VI and I from the first issue.

Figure 15

The document is important as it suggests that probably all the printing sheets were 2 x 2 in size.

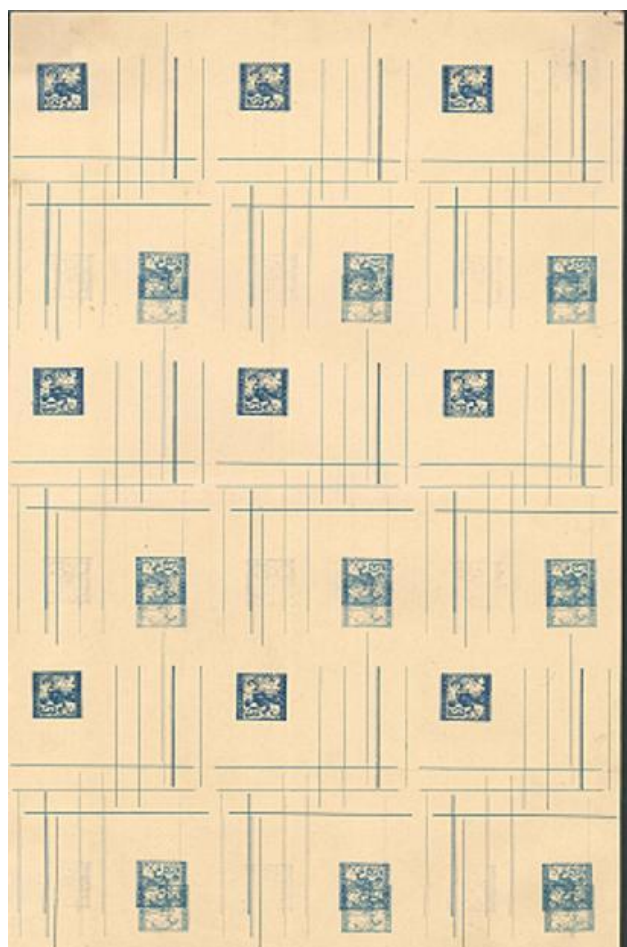


Figure 16

Figure 16 shows a printing sheet 3 x 3 = 9 postcards from waste paper (at least a triple overprint). In this case too probably the imprint is created during the start-up of the machine at the beginning of the printing. These postcards were printed in 1920, apparently on a larger machine than postcards of 10 vinar. Impressions of securities are different (9 different), but the type of securities has not yet been fully researched, or the results of research have not yet been published.

Literature

1. Handbook (Priručnik) of stamps of the Yugoslav countries, HFS, Zagreb.
2. Čičerov S; Slovenia 1919 – 1921 Masta trade, doo Ljubljana 2008

Favourite items from my collection

Editor's note

Following my usual request for articles in the last issue, I had a note from our member Vladimir Zahorec, who drew my attention to a feature in the ArGe Hungary Newsletter which offered the opportunity for their members to submit a short article presenting favourite items from their collections. He suggested that such a feature in Jugopošta might provide a series of articles. I therefore invite the members of YSG to send me articles of 2 - 3 pages which describe and illustrate your favourite covers or stamps or both and perhaps also describes the range of your collecting interests.

To start the ball rolling, Vladimir has sent me his contribution as originally published in the ArGe Hungary Newsletter of March 2020 in the German language and now translated to English. This is the article reproduced in full in translation:

From the collections of our members by Vladimir Zahorec

With this new feature, the workgroup offers its members the possibility of presenting their favourite contributions. You, as a member, can show what is of interest to you and possibly find new contacts. Vladimir Zahorec, who joined the workgroup in 2018, here presents a small selection of his covers concerning Vojvodina.

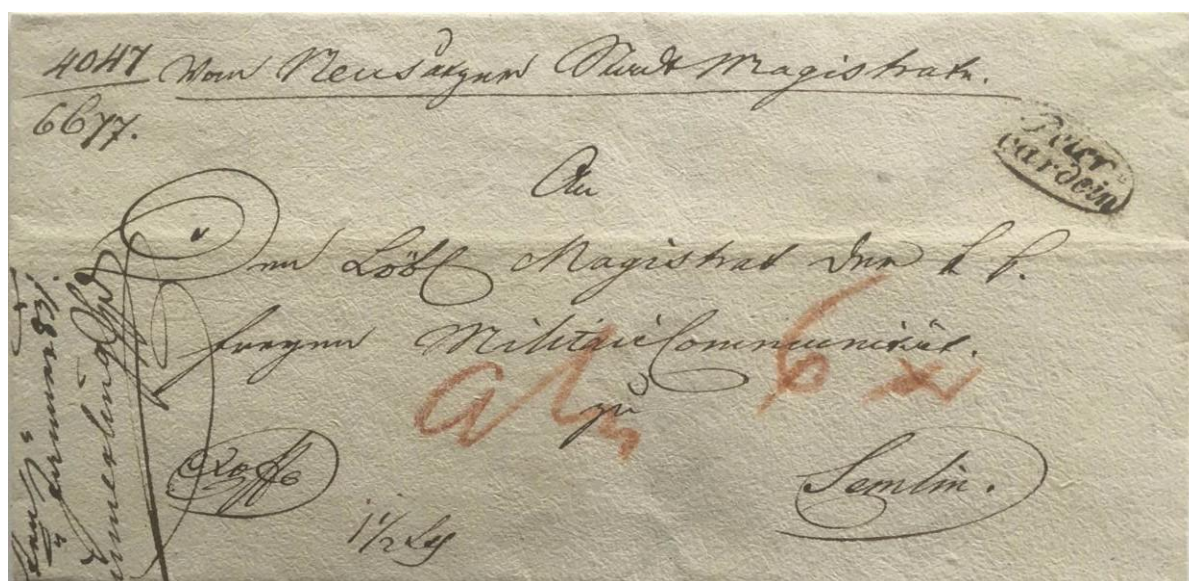


Figure 1: An ex offo cover from the year 1831 to Semlin. It has the two-lined oval stamp in use in Peter / vardein from 1820

The “ex offo” letters, as seen in Figure 1, were sent from one postage free authority to another – free of charge. The magistrates of Petervardein and Semlin had the privilege of this free of charge despatch. It is interesting to note that the letter shown in Figure 1 has nevertheless been taxed and is in the weight category of 1.5 Loth and for the distance of three postal stations it was charged 6 crowns (see the red lettering).

The parish offices also profited from these remissions in the postal service.

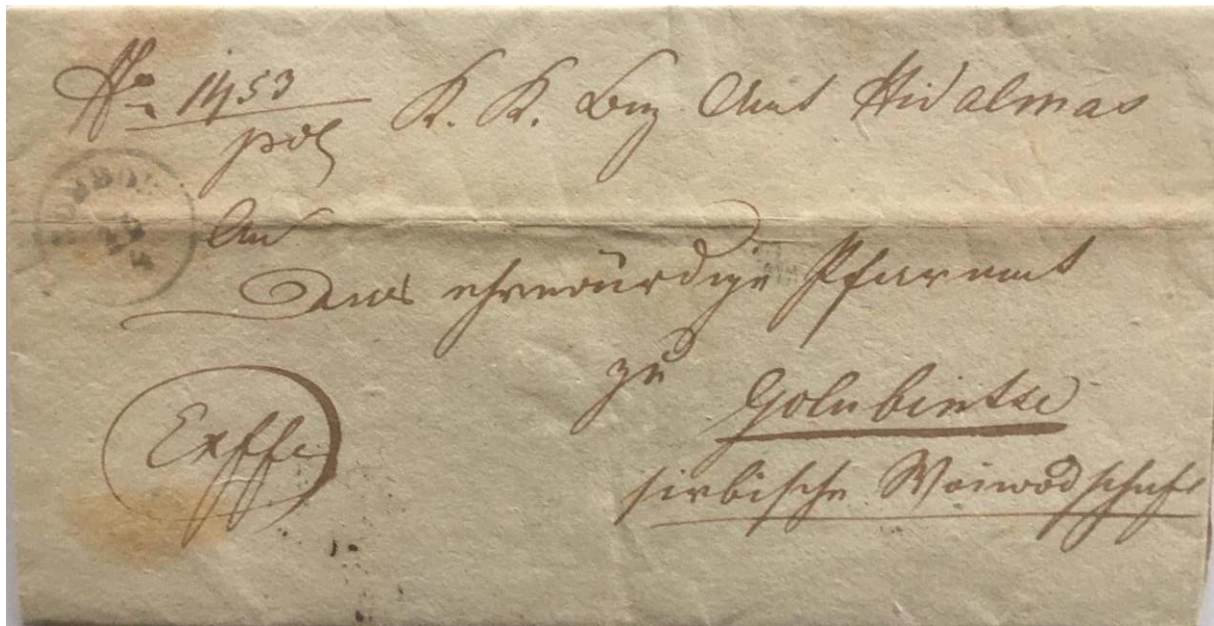


Figure 2: cover showing front and reverse

The letter shown in Figure 2 from the year 1857 originated in Hivalmas, which did not have a post office of its own in those days and was posted in Sombor on 26 April and sent to the parish office in Golubinci. The reverse side shows very well what the various locations on the way to the destination were: through Siebenbürgen to Vojvodina: Klausenburg (27.04), Temesvar (30.04) and Alt Pazua (01.05). At the destination, no arrival stamp was affixed, since the letter was forwarded before the opening of the local post office in 1884.

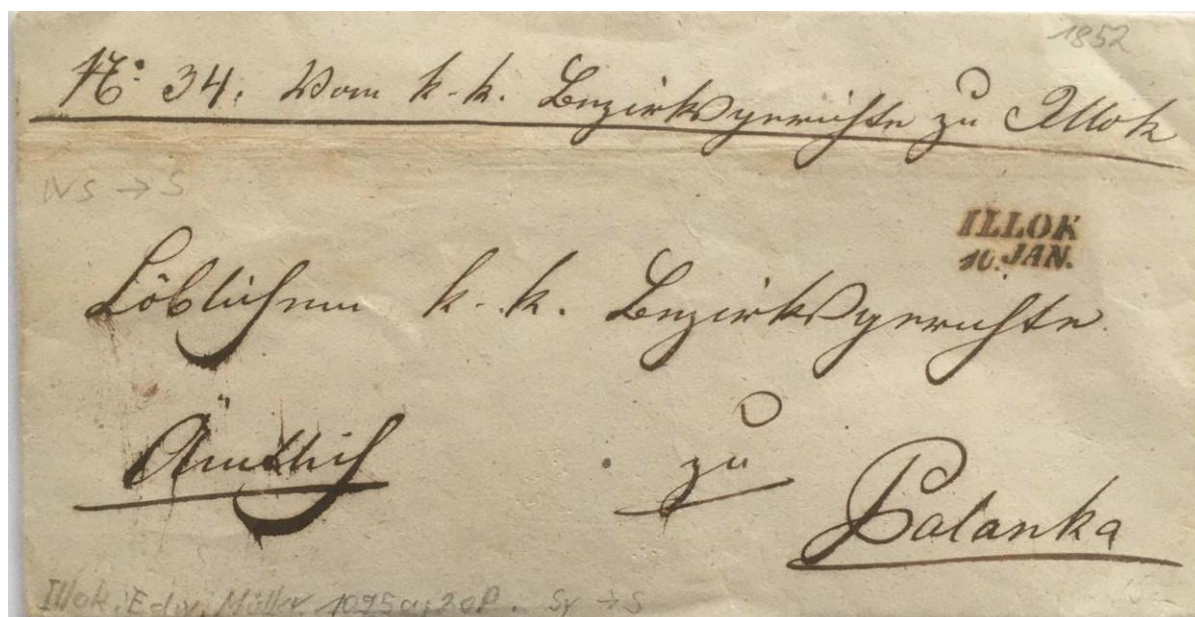


Figure 3



This letter from Illok (Figure 3) carries the notation “official” at the bottom right as confirmation of exemption from duty. It is interesting that the arrival point stamp on the reverse side UJPALANKA b: ILLOK is featured with the place name running from right to left beneath the date – the norm was to have it run from left to right, above the date.

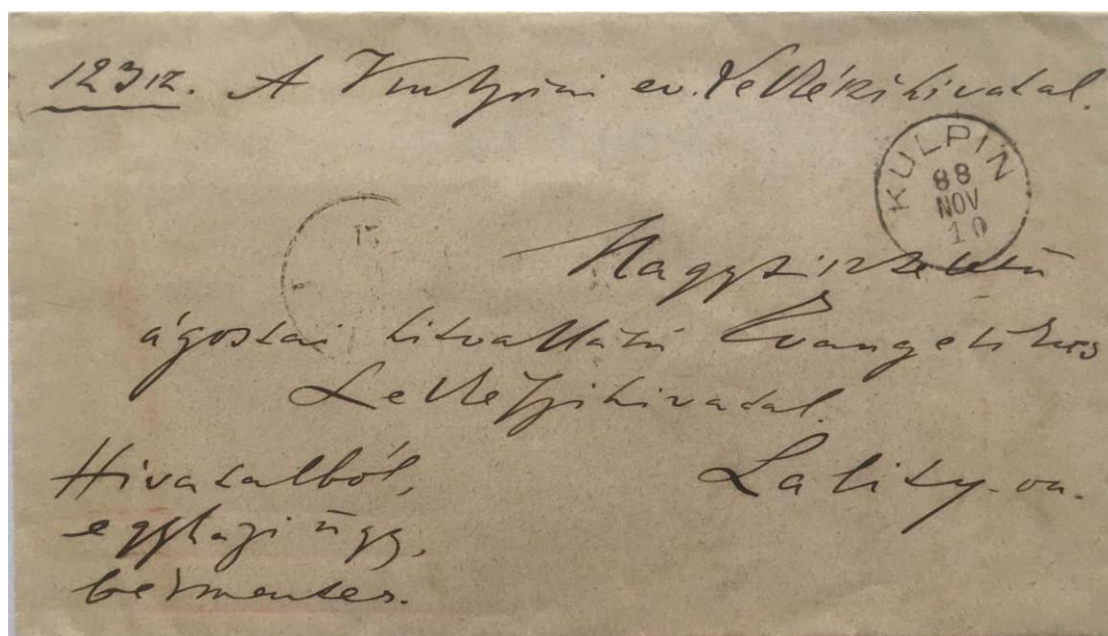


Figure 4

It is understood that in the years following, the ex offio annotations were in Hungarian, as shown on the letter (Figure 4) originating in Kulpin and destined for Lalic, from the year 1888.

YSG meeting held using Zoom on 23rd February 2021

by Nick Coverdale

This was the first ever YSG meeting held online and was hosted by myself. Seventeen members were present – 11 from the UK, 2 each from the USA and Canada, 1 each from Switzerland and France.

There were six presentations, which followed a welcome from Tony Bosworth and a few words from myself about how the meeting was to be conducted and from David Studholme about the YSG website.

The presentations were:

Rex Dixon: The dismemberment of Yugoslavia, Part 1

Jérôme Bourguignat: The French troops in support of Serbia, Autumn 1915

Richard Stevens: An ugly duckling cover from the Austrian Post Office in Belgrad

Keith Brandon: Forwarded mail between Bosnia-Hercegovina and the Austrian Empire

Nick Coverdale: NDH – some aspects of the postal history of Srem

Roger Morrell: Happy New Year from the postman

Some quotes received after the meeting:

‘I was very happy to participate in the recent YSG Zoom meeting and to just learn about things I didn’t know much.’

‘Thank you for arranging a very successful meeting. I look forward to the next one.’

‘I greatly enjoyed the quality and variety of the displays.’

‘This was a unique opportunity for me to join the team.’

‘ it’s just the beginning.’

‘ thoroughly enjoyed it and hope we have another before Easter.’

There will be another meeting at 5 pm UK time (British Summer Time) on Wednesday 14th April.

Please offer presentations – I know some of you are not in a position to do that but these meetings can only be successful with a good variety of presentations and presenters.

The Orient Express 1883 – 1914

Our member Chris Elliott thought that some members of YSG might be interested in the book

The Orient Express 1883 – 1914 by Ute Dorr, FRPSL ISBN: 978-973-0-31371-0

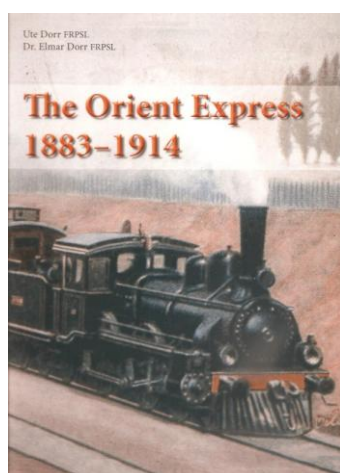
Contact Chris Elliott at Elliott.chris@gmx.com. Price 39 euros + 14 euros postage.

The following review was first published in the Amis des Wagons-Lits Newsletter No. 7 September 2020.

This book is an important addition to the history of the CIWL and the Orient Express. Unlike many others that gloss over the subtleties of the various routes of the train, this book provides empirical proof of the dates and routes taken. This is done by providing maps, timetables and postal calendars that prove the link and allow the reader to discover the exact route taken by the train on any day of the week at that time. What few readers will know is that first and foremost the postal services were not railway mails but sent from the various post offices based largely in Constantinople (Istanbul). So it was not just the Ottoman Empire post offices that provided the services but the post offices of all who had substantial premises in the Galata part of Constantinople as well as Thomas Cook and the Pera Palace Hotel established by CIWL. So if you were Austrian, German, French or British, you went to the post office of your country and posted your letter there.

The book has some very interesting envelopes, postcards not only showing all of the dates but by using the calendar author Ute Dorr has been able to state the exact day of the week and route taken by your letter and the train. It also sets down the various pre-empire railway companies and the critical role played by CFR, the Romanian Railway Company. As the base for most of these postal services in Constantinople, the book really does emphasise the role played in the life of the Orient Express by the Balkans and so we consider the book a ‘must’.

Very lavishly illustrated with letters and stamps and various Orient Express Vignettes and post marks, there are maps to illustrate the various routes taken by the train at this time. We have included the Wikipedia maps in the ‘Introduction to the Balkans’ article.



Answer to a query from David Foster



In JP136, David Foster asked for information regarding this card from his collection.

This answer comes via a member from Patrick Moore in Bonn. If anyone has further questions regarding this for Patrick, please contact the Editor.

The postcard, non-stamp label and commemorative cancellation shown on page 31 all refer to the same thing: “The First All-Sokol Gathering of Sokols of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, Belgrade 1930.” The cap and sword on the postcard are typical of the regalia used in the 19th and 20th centuries (at least) by gymnastic and student fraternity organisations in Central Europe, usually with a nationalistic or patriotic hue. The Sokols (Falcons) were part of this trend and were particularly strong in what became Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, where a pan-Slavic ideology was part of the mix. The coat-of-arms on the postcard is that of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia and incorporates the national emblems of Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia. The flag is also that of royal Yugoslavia.

The postcard is written in Czech, possibly by a visiting Czech Sokol enthusiast, and sent to an address at the main railway station in the chiefly German-speaking mining town of Brux in north-western Bohemia, Czechoslovakia. Czechoslovak Railways (CSD) was used by the state, particularly in ethnic German and Hungarian areas, to bring Czech- and Slovak-speaking officials into areas where few Czechs and Slovaks lived. In the case of CSD employees, they were often given special new housing near the stations, hence, I venture to guess, the address on the postcard. The pencil writing on the postcard was difficult to read, but perhaps on closer examination it could provide more information about the sender or his addressee. The Germans were deported from Brux after World War II. The traditionally German mining profession was meanwhile given over to young Czechs, and the town is now known by its Czech name, Most.

Unknown Serbian Military Correspondence Card from the Great War

by Prof. Dr. Milan Radovanović

As is well known, in the period from 1912 to 1915, the Kingdom of Serbia issued 4 military correspondence cards defined according to Vuković as numbers 5, 6, 7 and 8. These are shown in the following 4 Figures.



Figures 1 and 2: Vucković types 5 and 6



Figures 3 and 4: Vucković types 7 and 8

The newly found military correspondence card is shown in Figure 5.

This unknown card was sent from the battlefield “on September 1, 1915” (from the back of the card – see Figure 6) to Požarevac with handwritten censorship “SEEN BY SERGEANT MIHAILO NAKENOVIC’ (?)” (“видео наредник Михаило Накеновић”). The card also shows the administrative stamp of the military unit (I COMPANY, 2nd BATTALION OF THE VIII INFANTRY REGIMENT / “PRINCE ALEXANDER / No.”



Figure 5

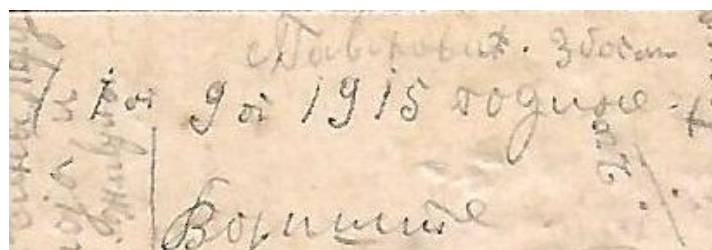


Figure 6

The general assessment is that this card is poorly printed in red, especially if we compare it with the cards in Figures 1 and 2. The card shown in Figure 5 is partially processed taking into account the criteria of light and contrast to be better readable. As can be seen from Figure 5, on the card, next to the text “MILITARY / CORRESPONDENCE CARD” (“ВОЈНИЧКА ДОПИСНА КАРТА”), there is also the Coat of Arms of the Kingdom of Serbia (on the left side of the card) and the text “Kingdom of Serbia” (on the right side), both at the top of the cards.

Comparing this card with several postal and patriotic Serbian cards issued privately in this time period, a significant difference in relation to those can be seen. The coat of arms of the Kingdom of Serbia is not on any of the aforementioned cards of the private editions, as well as the text “Kingdom of Serbia”. Due to the suspicion that this is an unknown issue of a military card, a more detailed analysis was most likely performed just before the withdrawal through Albania and Montenegro. Observing the coat of arms of the Kingdom of Serbia on this card, it can be seen at first glance that it looks like the same as on the Military Correspondence Card shown in Figure 1. In more detail, in Figure 7 both coats of arms are shown in parallel: on the left hand side the coat of arms from the Military Correspondence Card No. 5 according to Vuković and on the right hand side the coat of arms from this card (see Figure 7 on the next page.)



Figure 7

As can be easily seen, both prints of the coat of arms of the Kingdom of Serbia are identical to each other. This eliminates the need for further research by comparison with other cards (see Figures 2, 3 and 4). The text “Kingdom of Serbia” is dislocated on the right hand side of this card (above) in relation to the same text that is next to the coat of arms in other cards. The text “MILITARY / CORRESPONDENCE CARD” in all military postcards is the same as on this card, with a similar geometric relationship. The dimensions, however, vary. In the cards shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, the corresponding dimensions are 22/55 mm, while in the considered map they are 28/60 mm (see Figure 8.)



Figure 8: detail of the text from the middle of the map with the weak red text “MILITARY / CORRESPONDENCE CARD” (“ВОЈНИЧКА ДОПИСНА КАРТА”)

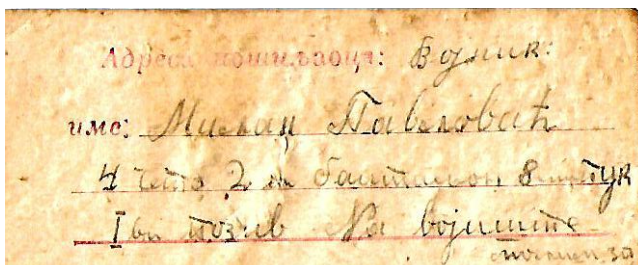


Figure 9: section of the left side of the card in Figure 5



Figure 10

Finally, this military postcard is shown in Figure 10 without the administrative stamp of the military unit “I COMPANY, 2nd BATTALION OF THE VIII INFANTRY REGIMENT / PRINCE ALEXANDER / No.”

Conclusion

After all that has been said, it can be concluded that this “Military Correspondence Card” was issued probably just before the attack of the joint forces of Austria-Hungary, Germany and Bulgaria in early October 1915, when there was no time or funds (paper, paint etc) for better print quality of this map. The same can be concluded, if the above assumption is correct, as to why there were no more copies in the optics, so it could not be described in the professional philatelic literature. Privately printed correspondence cards were probably not allowed to use the coat of arms and the text “Kingdom of Serbia.”

Literature: Vuković RM, Catalogue of Whole Yugoslav Countries, Volume I/1, Serbia 1873-1921, Belgrade, 2000

The 40 Vinar lithography. Reconstruction of a printing sheet. An update

by Henk Buitenkamp, AEP

In JugopoštaNo. 133 (March 2020), I wrote that the sheet reconstruction of the 40 Vinar in the Priručnik is a theoretical one. I got a reaction from Helmut Kobelbauer in which he wrote that the reconstruction in the Priručnik did not exist. The late specialist of the Verigarji (ed. Chainbreakers), Miran Vardjan has said to Helmut that this reconstruction is wrong. Also August Jug wrote in his book only of counter sheets of 10 x 10 and 5 x 10 stamps.

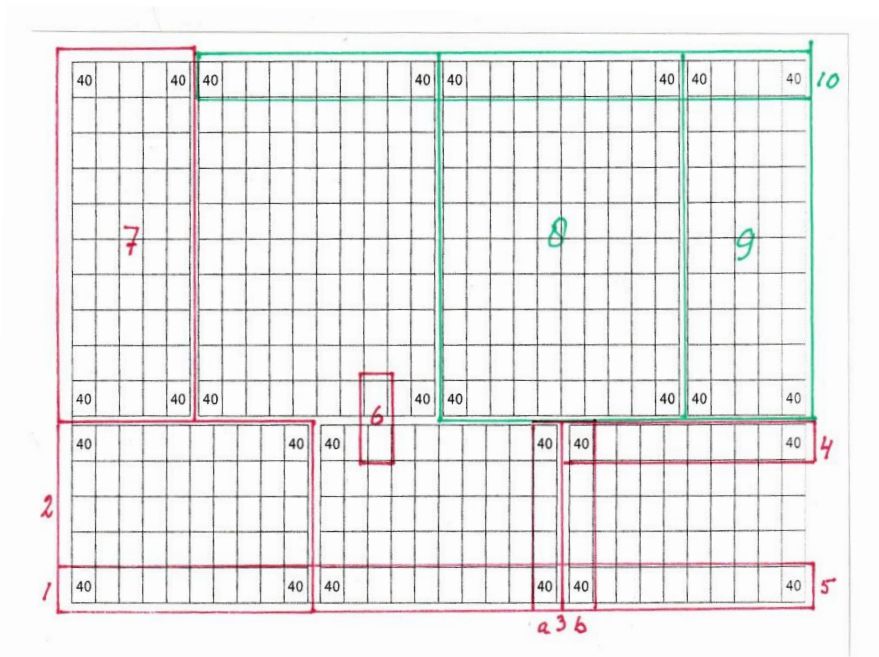


Figure 1: What is recorded and what is not of the Priručnik reconstruction

Not recorded up to now (as far as I know) are:

1. Left counter sheet of 5 x 10 stamps
2. Counter sheet of 10 x 5 stamps
3. a and b. Strip of 5 stamps
4. Strip of 10 stamps
5. Strip of the bottom side (or the upper side)
6. Vertical gutter pair
7. Strip of 5 stamps

If someone has any proof of the existence of any of numbers 1 – 7, please contact me.

These must exist:

8. Counter sheet of 10 x 10 stamps (I have never seen one, but such sheets must have existed.)
9. Right counter sheet of 10 x 10 stamps (Barac and Pervan auction 54/2019)
10. A strip of the upper part of the (printing) sheet. See Figure 2 in Jugopošta No. 133.

It is a pity that in the book of Gorš/Kajtna the reconstruction of the Priručnik is represented without the working up of the information in the book of August Jug.

The only possible conclusion at the moment is that the reconstruction in the Priručnik (and by Gorš/Kajtna) does not exist and is therefore wrong.

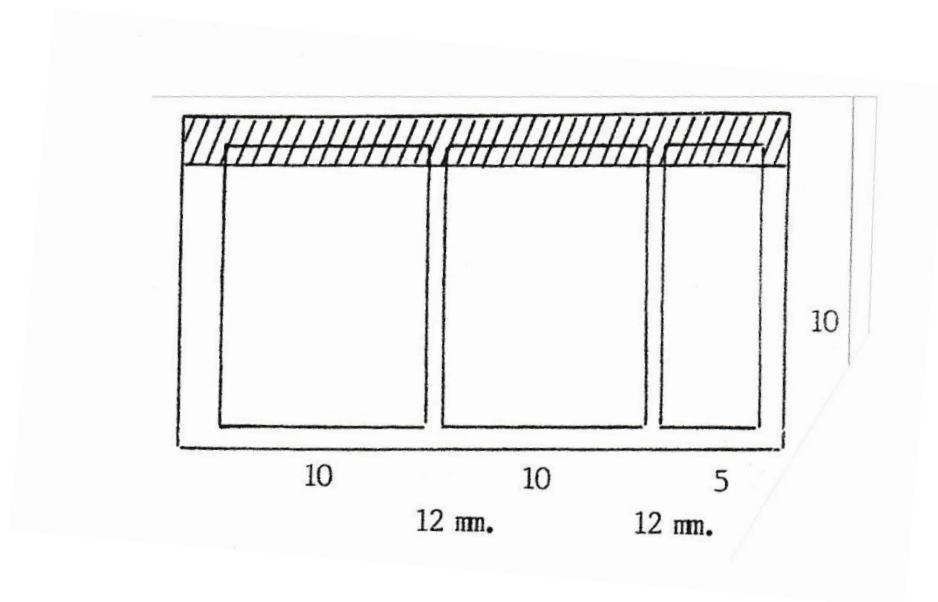


Figure 2: a correct reconstruction on the basis of the strip on the upper side of the printing sheet

In Figure 2 of Jugopošta No. 133 I showed a strip of the upper side of a printing sheet. We can see here that counter sheets of 10 x 10 and 5 x 10 must exist – that is also what Jug wrote. The printing sheet is probably 41 x 70 cm.

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