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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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Jugopošta



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From the President

Once again, there is nothing to report: like all societies we are unable to get out and about to stamp fairs or club meetings because of the pandemic, which seems to be hanging on. I, as most of you will be doing, am “perfecting my collections” and having a massive clear out of unnecessary paperwork.

Our worthy Editor has arranged Zoom meetings, which is happening a great deal during the lockdown; and may possibly become a feature of philately in the future, because already one of my local clubs has decided to experiment with one of their monthly meetings being staged on Zoom.

Our Society is still looking for an Auction Manager, an important post for the benefit of members. If you are interested, please contact any member of the Committee.

Meanwhile, stay safe and healthy and obey the rules to keep Covid at bay.

A J Bosworth, FRPSL

From the Editor

I think that all of us in the UK had been hoping that we would be able to get back to some face-to-face meetings from the 21 June but now we are hoping for the same thing from the 19 July. In the last year, Zoom meetings have become something of a frequent occurrence and I have been hosting meetings for 3 societies (one being my local society). I have also attended online meetings of other societies, including the RPSL. My thoughts are that this has definitely changed the way many of us think about things. Most Zoom meetings I have been to either involve a few short presentations, perhaps each lasting 5 to 10 minutes, or a single presentation of say 45 minutes. I see the future as being a mixture of these online presentations and the more sociable face-to-face meetings.

The two Zoom meetings held so far by YSG have been attended by some of our members from outside the UK and it has been really nice to see their faces and speak to them and to receive presentations from them. For me, I think it is essential to continue to have such meetings from time to time. At the last meeting, members of the German society ArGe-Ju were also invited to attend and around 9 of them did, giving us an overall attendance of 27, which is pretty good for a society of about 60 members.

You will find an advert for the next YSG Zoom meeting on 29 July elsewhere in this edition.

Yvonne Wheatley has recently been in touch and she has organised a Joint Societies Meeting for Saturday 14 August in Leeds (details elsewhere in this edition). Note that this is a new location. Yvonne’s contact details are in the advert. I advise contacting her quickly as numbers will be limited based on the continuing need, as things stand, for social distancing.

Continued on page 31

Postage due stamps used in time of turmoil and building a nation, SHS 1918 – 1921, Part 7

by Henk Buitenkamp, AEP

2.2 Postage due stamps used as regular stamps without any indication

We can distinguish two reasons for the use of postage due stamps as regular stamps:

- There was a lack of regular stamps
- An office had too many postage due stamps and tried to use them up

Sometimes we find that postage due stamps were used in SHS occupied areas: perhaps this was a protest against the occupier?

Most postal items with postage due stamps used as regular stamps we find were used in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The problems in this area were large: sometimes there were too few postage due stamps and then regular stamps were used as postage due stamps, and sometimes there were too few regular stamps and then postage due stamps were used.

In Part 6, I have already written about the use of postage due stamps with FRANCO/FRANKO but the use of postage due stamps without FRANCO was much greater! In Slovenia and Croatia, postage due stamps were mostly used as regular stamps if there were not enough regular stamps available. In Bosnia-Herzegovina, the using up of postage due stamps in a lot of post offices was quite normal.

2.2.1 Slovenia and Carinthia



Figure 7: Landstrass (= Kostanjevica) 16-1-1919. The sender and addressee both have freedom of franking: only registration had to be paid in such cases and was 25 Vinar. There was a lack of regular stamps in this small town and so 2 Austrian stamps of 3 Hel. (together used as 5) and an Austrian postage due stamp.



Figure 68: Celje 26-7-1919. Business post between two lawyers. Postcard 15 Vinar. Card and postage due stamp have the perfin D^r.F.Z. = Dr. Fritz Zangger. The only known postage due stamp originally used with a perfin. I know of three postcards with a perfin.



Figure 69: Sankt Paul 25-6-1919 in Lavantthal – part of Carinthia. This post office was opened by the SHS 2-6-1919 / 1-8-1919, so only for 2 months. Rate: weight 420 + cash-on-delivery 10 = 430 Vinar. Of course, Slovenia wished here to use Slovenian stamps. The area did not like the occupation and wished to be part of Austria. The use of an Austrian stamp may have been due to the lack of regular stamps, but it is also possible that it was a protest against the occupation. Less than 5 imprints of this town are known from this period. I have never seen another complete card of this town.

2.2.2 Croatia and Dalmatia

The Hungarian part had the Hungarian rates; Dalmatia had the Austrian (= Slovenian) rates in the first period (29-10-1918//1-7-1919). Zagreb overprinted the old Hungarian stamps with

HRVATSKA/SHS but some (small) towns sometimes had old Hungarian stamps in stock. They used them up. Moreover, not all towns had enough regular stamps.



Figures 70a and b: Pisarovina 5-3-1919. Telephone card: basic 20 + 5 minutes speaking time 50 = 70 Fil. The use of old Hungarian postage due stamps was without problems on an internal form. Moreover, here a savings bank which has no validity as a postage stamp has been used. The non-philatelic use of such a stamp is extremely rare.



Figure 71: Dubica 17-1-1919. Postcard 10 Filira. Here, two old Hungarian postage due stamps have been used.



Figure 72 (reduced): Virovitica 19-9-1919. Rate: weight 450 + cash-on-delivery 20 + delivery at home 100. Total 570 Filira. Here, Slovenian postage due stamps have been used as regular stamps.



Figure 73: Budva 25-8-1919 Dalmatia. Here, an old Austrian postcard has been used. To come to a tariff of 10 F. for printed matter an Austrian express stamp has been glued. (Mostly this was done by the post office for upgrading a card of 8 H. to 10 H. Then the cards were sold at the post office for 10 H. In such a case it was an emergency issue.) Here, a Slovenian postage due stamp has been used to arrive at the new rate of 15 F. (Note: Dalmatia was a "Kronland" of Austria and used Austrian stamps and postal stationery.)

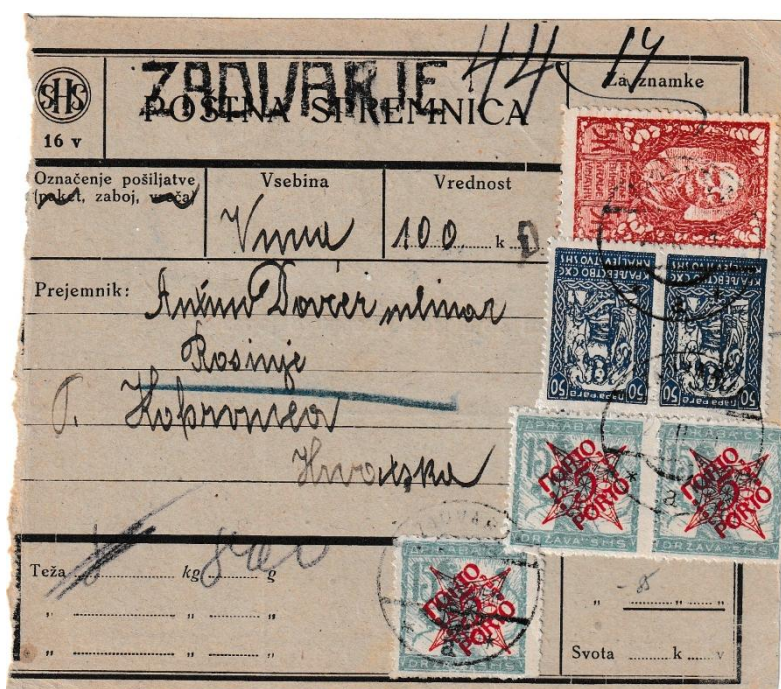


Figure 74: Zadvarje 27-2-1921 Dalmatia. Rate: weight 150 + value 30 + delivery at home 60. Total 240 Para. Franking: 5 Kr. = 500:4 = 125 Para + 2 x 50 Para + postage due stamps of Slovenia 3 x 5 Para.

The first joint issue of stamps of the old Yugoslavia

by Boštjan Petauer FRPSL

This year marks 100 years since the first joint issue of stamps of pre-war Yugoslavia was issued, before that various provincial issues were used in individual parts of the country (Chainbreakers, Hungarian and Bosnian stamps with overprints, Serbian stamps.)

The former manager of the Ljubljana Postal Directorate, Dr Janko Tavzes (1893 – 1959), remembered the issue of these stamps as follows:

“Towards the end of 1920 our country organised a tender to print stamps, common to the whole country. All European countries responded to the tender and sent at least 20 offers. These written offers were written in Belgrade, but the tender was also attended by some interested parties, in addition to the offer, also in person. These included the director of the Jugoslovanska tiskarna in Ljubljana (the Yugoslav Printing House), which at the time already had considerable experience in printing stamps. Prior to the auction, the manager turned to the then Slovenian minister with a request as to whether he could recommend that the printing be assigned to the Yugoslav Printing House. The minister, however, only asked him if he had brought enough bribe in foreign currency with him in his knapsack. When opening the bids, they read primarily American, Swiss and Czechoslovak, which were all 200 – 300% higher than the Yugoslav Printing House bid. The manager was already afraid that he had made a too low bid; then they read the Austrian bid that was some 10% higher than the offer of the Yugoslav Printing House and then the manager of Jugoslovanska tiskarna was calmed. While reading the offers, it was interesting that some foreign countries directly promised a bribe to the control authorities and all sorts of other goods (especially Switzerland). The offer of America’s highest bidder was accepted. The public secret was that at the time of the auction, the stamps in America were already printed and even ready to go. So, the whole procedure was a fake.

The American stamps were certainly beautiful, but the cases with Ljubljana stamps were very expensive. Not only do we have to consider the cost of recess printing, but also the packaging for the shipping overseas. Each sheet was lined with an equal size sheet of smooth waxed paper so that the delicate stamps might not stick. Each 1000 sheets of such carefully secured stamps were placed in a strong tin box, and each such box in a strong wooden box lined with iron strips. As we have already said, these first American stamps were taken over again by the Ljubljana Postal Directorate because its structure was the most suitable for distribution.”

Corruption is therefore not an invention of today.

Issued stamps

As early as April 1919, the Ministry of the Post announced a competition for drafts of new joint stamps; it received about 30 entries, but none of them was considered satisfactory, so the work was entrusted directly to the printing house. Details of this competition can be found in the Priručnik.

The stamps were issued on 16 January, 1921 on the basis of the decision of the Minister of Post No. 42849 of 26 December, 1920. On the lower values, the profile portrait of Alexander the regent was displayed and, on the dinar values, also in profile, the portrait of King Peter I was displayed. The draft and recess printing were the work of the American Bank Note Company of New York. The stamps are printed on plain paper, the gum is yellow and the perforation is 12 (see Figure 1). Print runs of individual stamps ranged between 200 million (25 para) and 2 million (10 din) stamps.



Figure 1: a complete set of the issued stamps

The printing sheet consisted of four sales sheets each of $10 \times 10 = 100$ pieces, that is a total of 400 copies.

The franking validity of these stamps was until 31 October 1928, when the name of the country changed in 1929. The Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (other nations were not recognised) was renamed the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

Various varieties

There are imperforate stamps with glue. The *Priručnik* (as well as other Yugoslav catalogues) does not recognise them, but states that the warehouse received another 10000 imperforate and gum-free sets (see Figure 2) and 5000 perforate and gum-free sets. These were not used but were, together with unused stocks of stamps, sold at auction in 1930 for a total of 72000 dinars, in accordance with the decision of the Minister of Post No. 48663 of 11 July, 1930.

There are also stamps with the Specimen overprint (see Figure 2). Normally, such stamps were intended for the Universal Postal Union (UPU) for distribution to the Member States but this time this was clearly not the case. This issue is not mentioned in the book on specimens (see list of references). From the correspondence with the author of this book, however, it follows that it deals only with specimens that have been submitted to the UPU. In this case, therefore, it is clearly a speculative edition of the printing house which is, nevertheless, quite rare and correspondingly expensive.

There are varieties in printing, perforation and gum. Some of them are shown in the Figures. Also, similar to the Chainbreakers, some post offices used bisected stamps and, in addition, there

are known examples of the use of these stamps as postage due stamps; the latter were overprinted with a capital P or Porto (see Figure 5).



Figure 2: last 2 values imperforate (above) and last 5 values perforated and overprinted 'Specimen' (below)



Figure 3: Two instances of irregular perforation as a result of folded paper



Figure 4 (reduced): examples of shifted perforations (first two columns), paper fold (third column) and horizontally imperforate stamps (last two columns)



Figure 5: stamp of 5 para with Porto overprint, used in Veliki Bečkerek (today Zrenjanin)

Overprinted stamps

On 18 February 1924, the stamp of 60 para was overprinted with a new value. There are different features of overprinting (double and inverted.)



Figure 6: plain overprint (left) and two types of double overprint (right)

Mourning stamps

The previously mentioned Dr Janko Tavzes writes about this:

“When King Peter I died, the Postal Ministry ordered the Ljubljana Postal Directorate to prepare the American postage stamps for reprinting as mourning stamps with a picture of King Peter I. Professor Ivan Vavpotić again hurried and made several very tasty and decorative drafts. The Postal Directorate ordered clichés and had various overprints printed in black on the American stamps in the Yugoslav printing house. Everything was done with the utmost haste and sent to Belgrade, from where the directorate allegedly did not even receive a response regarding these stamps.”

Many of these drafts are housed in the Postal Museum in Polhov Gradec; see Figure 7 (next page).

Postal documents

The stamps of this issue were able to be used for some time with previous issues, which caused the creation of beautiful mixed frankings. The Postage Dues of Chainbreaker stamps could be used even until 1922 (!) Most of this material is known on parcel cards, an example of which is shown in Figure 9.

These stamps were also used during the Sokol Reunion in Osijek. See December 2020 issue of Jugopošta.



Figure 7 (reduced): drafts for mourning stamps at the death of King Peter



Figure 8 (reduced): Letter from (Sremska) Mitrovica to Lassnitzhöhe in Graz, franked with Joint and para Chainbreaker issue



Figure 9: parcel card from Osijek to Ruma, franked with Joint as well as vinar and crown Chainbreakers (this one could still be used) issue

Conclusion

“When the Slovene stamps lost their franking validity on 2 November 1921 and were taken from circulation in spite of large stocks, mixed franking disappeared from postal items. Due to the American beauties all other previous stamps not only from Ljubljana, but also from all other directorates in the country, had to be withdrawn and sent to Belgrade. In addition to Slovene stamps, Austrian and Hungarian stamps also made pilgrimages from Ljubljana, among the latter some from Prekmurje, from Beltinci and Dobrovnik. Many types of stamps were gathered in Belgrade, including the then unnoticed turquoise Postage Dues Chainbreaker Provisionals and other rarities. All this was bought by an enterprising philatelic shop for 0.2%, that is, for two-thousandths of the face value. Since this company was wanting to make a big profit, it wanted to put together, for example, the entire set of the Ljubljana para – dinar issue. Since it was not complete, they had the missing 20 para printed in Brussels (known as the Brussels counterfeit, called B.P.), although we call such privately printed stamps a forgery. In all this, it is interesting that no one was prosecuted for this,” writes Dr Janko Tavzes.

References

1. Priručnik maraca jugoslavenskih zemalja, Volume 9, Philatelic Union of Croatia, Zagreb 1951
2. Tavzes J, History of the Slovenian Postage Stamp, Philatelic Proceedings of FD Ljubljana XXVII, Ljubljana 2017
3. Bendon J, UPU Specimen Stamps, Oxford Press Projects, Oxford 2015
4. Museum of Post and Telecommunications, Polhov Gradec
5. Private collection

The first issue of the new postage due stamps of the NDH, 1941

by Hans-Dieter Engel, Forch near Zurich

In September 1941, the new postage due stamps came to the post counters (Michel No P 6 – 10). The series was designed by Prof. Oto Antonini and published by Tipografija d. d. printed in Zagreb.



Figure 1: the complete series was printed in the colour carmine-lilac

Although the postage due stamps were actually only issued for tax notices and the receipt of parcels, they were occasionally used as a substitute for postage when there were shortages.



Figure 2: Letter with correct postage to Germany, censored in Vienna by the Wehrmacht High Command, cancelled CRIKVENICA – 1. III. 43

Most collectors of Croatian stamps will know that this postage due series is also available as an imperforate edition from the Ministerial Album. A separate Ministerial Album was not created

Partial perforations are often found as well as printer's waste.



Very few collectors, however, will know that this series was also made with mirror printing on the same paper with gum.



Figure 6: imperforate mirror print in non-issued colour: carmine brown



Figure 7: these imperforate mirror prints have been printed in the form of a sheetlet, size 8 x 10.3 cm

Favourite items from my collection: Bánát parcel and money order cards

by Robert Lauer

At the Yugoslavia Study Group Zoom meeting in April, Vid Ziberna from Slovenia asked me if I had any complete parcel cards or postal money order cards from the Bánát during the SHS period. Having made scans of these items from my collection to send to Vid, I realised that they made a nice illustration of the gradual ‘nationalisation’ of the various aspects of the postal system during the transition of the area from being the Serbian-occupied Bánát to the Serbian Vojvodina in the first years of the SHS Kingdom.

Figyelmeztetés: Feladó az utalványt a rendeltetési ország pénznemében köteles kiállítani, helyen arabs számokkal, a bevezetett sorban pedig a főösszeget betűkkel, a váltópénz összegét kiténni. A külföldi pénzürtékeket és azok rövidített jelzéseit lásd a táblázatban. — Magyar postaigazgatás. — Administration des Postes de Hongrie.

Nemzetközi postautalvány.
Mandat de poste international.

Azaz
Bon pour

la somme de **1000 Kr**
soit **Eintausend Kronen**

Czím:
Payable à: **Herrn Hermann Janke**

Rendeltetési hely:
Lieu de destination: **Freidland**

A címzett lakása:
Adresse du destinataire: **Csehszlovákia**

Rendeltetési ország:
Pays de destination: **Csehszlovákia**

Azaz
Bon pour

vagyis
Soit

1000 K
Cour (En monnaie de Hongrie.)

(A rendeltetési ország pénzürtékében.) (Magyarország pénzürtékében.)

Feltevő hivatal száma és feltevő asztal betűje
Index du bureau

Befizetés napja, illetve helye
Date d'émission

Bevételi szám
No d'émission

A feltevő postaalkalmazott aláírása
Signature de l'agent qui a dressé le mandat

Postai előjegyzések
Indications de service

819a.

VERSECZ

20 FILLER

20 FILLER

Figure 1

Figure 1 is a money order for 1000 Korona sent from Versecz on 17 January 1919 to Freidland in the former Austrian Silesia which was now part of Czechoslovakia. The form, the stamps and the cancellation are all Hungarian. The only give-away that Versecz is not in Hungary proper is the 20 fillér Karolyi stamp, which was no longer valid for postage in Hungary proper, but was still widely used in the areas of the old Kingdom of Hungary occupied by Czechoslovakia, Romania and the SHS Kingdom.

Figure 2 (see next page) is a parcel card sent from Petrovaradin on 21 February 1920 to Karlovac. The stamps are now Slovenian Chainbreakers denominated in vinar and Krona, the

form is SHS, but the cancellation is still Hungarian, though the date format has been rearranged from the Hungarian 'year-month-day' to 'day-month-year'.

Označenje pošiljatve (paket, zabo, vreća)	Vsebina	Vrednost
Paket	solari	300. k

Prejemnik: Rudolf Gyongyevits
 4 eltoi regnatski botolok
 5 pesacki pruk 1157 II
 Karlovac.

Teža: 200 g

Za znamke: 5.40

4.50
 1.50
 1.50
 5.40

Figure 2

Označenje pošiljatve (paket, zabo, vreća)	Vsebina	Vrednost
Paket	solari	20. k

Prejemnik: Versecz
 4 eltoi regnatski botolok
 5 pesacki pruk 1157 II
 Karlovac.

Teža: 200 g

Za znamke: 5.40

4.50
 1.50
 1.50
 5.40

Figure 3

Figure 3 is part of a money order sent from Nagybecskerek on 1 September 1920 to Versecz.

The old Hungarian money order form has been overprinted for the SHS Kingdom, the stamps are Slovenian Chainbreakers denominated in vinar, but the cancellation is still Hungarian, though the Crown of St Stephen has been excised from the upper part of the canceller.

SHS Суботица | T **UTÁNVÉTEL REMBOURSEMENT** **EMNICA**

16.v 2819

Subotica | Povzetek 725~ k v

Sodam podvadenjet k v

Označenje pošiljave (paket, zaboj, vreča)	Vsebina	Vrednost
7.	<i>Salame</i>	k v

Prejemnik *Gosp.*

Mihail Freudonfeld

Beograd

Kara - Duvanova ulica 17

Teža 10 kg g

SHS **DRŽAVA SHS**

Povzetek 1840 k v

Pristojbine 1140 k v

Svota k v

Figure 4

Figure 4 is a parcel card for a parcel sent from Subotica (Szabadka) on 2 March 1921 to Beograd. The stamps are Slovenian Chainbreakers, now denominated in a mix of vinar/Krona and para/Dinar with the new town name in Cyrillic on the top and Latin letters on the bottom. The only clue that Subotica might have been at one time part of the old Kingdom of Hungary is the red UTÁNVÉTEL REMBOURSEMENT sticker.

The postal history of the Banat following the invasion of Yugoslavia in World War II: Part I - 1941

by Nick Coverdale

This subject was covered in part in the YSG Monograph No 4 by the late Tønnes Ore, published in March 2006, and entitled 'Banat and Bačka' (Ref. 1). In that publication, Tønnes devoted 4 pages to the Banat including a map and he illustrated 10 covers or postal forms. These were all in black and white in the days before Jugopošta was published in colour. The Monograph also includes a reference list of post offices, including those in the Banat. I was later able to purchase his collection of Bačka, Banat and Srem covering the occupation period of 1941 – 45. This included the material from that period used in the Monograph but also a great deal more. I would now like to revisit the postal history of the Banat during that period. I have used the information that Tønnes Ore wrote up but in most cases I have expanded on that. As always, some of you reading this article will already be familiar with the postal history of this area and I would welcome any corrections, comments or enhancements on what I have written.

This article covers the period from the invasion in April 1941 to the end of 1941 and I hope to provide future articles on the following years.

Background

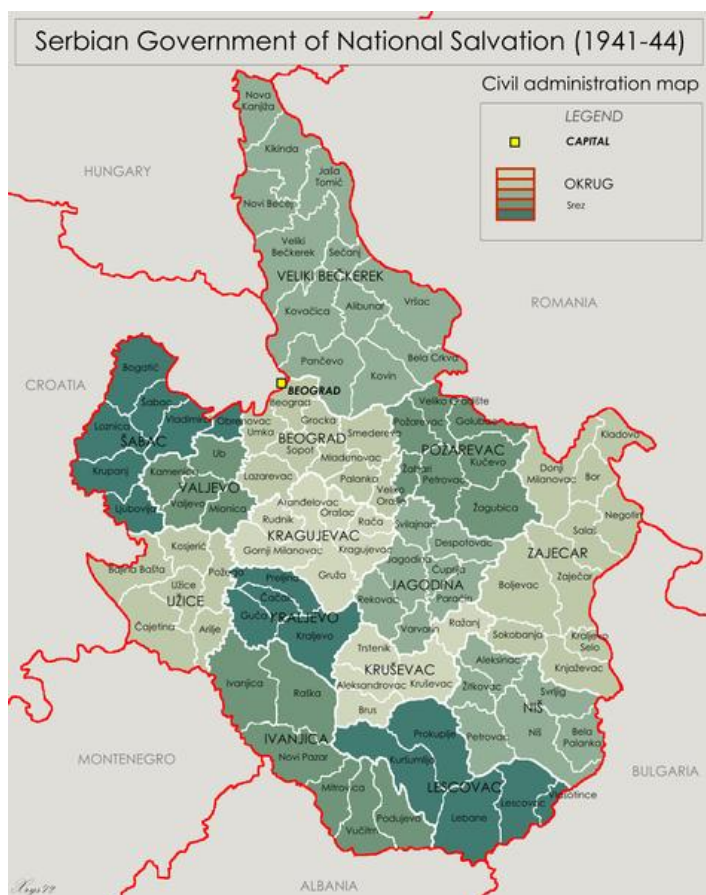


Figure 1: map of Serbian administration areas 1941 – 45. The Banat is the greyish-green area at the top of the map.

From 6 April 1941, the Axis forces invaded Yugoslavia. Serbia effectively became under German military occupation and a puppet Serbian Government led by General Milan Nedić was set up. The western (ie Serbian) part of the Banat (see Figure 1) was declared to be part of Serbia but was given a special status under the local administration of the significant population of ethnic Germans. As far as I am aware, the postal service in the Banat was the same as that of German-occupied Serbia.

According to Wikipedia, the Banat in total is geographically bounded by the Rivers Danube to the south, Tisa to the west and Mureş to the north, and by the Carpathian Mountains to the east. It has a total surface area of around 28000 sq km. Nowadays, and in 1941, the eastern part of the Banat lay in Romania (including the city of Timișoara) and the western part lies in the Serbian province of Vojvodina. A small area of the Banat lies within Hungary.

The history of the Banat is complex and need not concern us here too much but some background will help to explain the situation in 1941. After 1720, the Governor of the Banat (of Temeswar) encouraged the colonisation of the area by German artisans and farmers. Later, Maria Theresia encouraged further colonisation of the area by German settlers from Swabia, Alsace and Bavaria. The ethnic Germans in the Banat became known as the Danube Swabians (or Donauschwaben).

There was much coming and going at the end of WW1 but in 1919, the Banat was divided between Romania and the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (SHS) with a small area assigned to Hungary. In 1929, most of the Serbian Banat was incorporated into the Danube Banovina, a province of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, while the city of Pančevo became part of the Belgrade District. In 1931, Wikipedia states that the Serbian Banat had a population which was 45% Serb, 21% German and 16% Hungarian.

In April 1941 following the invasion, as described above, the western Banat was formally under the control of the puppet Nedić government but in practice was administered by the ethnic German population.

The Banat before 6 April 1941



Figure 2 (reduced): registered cover from Vrsac to Petrograd, dated 18 June 1940. Total franking of 6 dinar made up of 2 dinar for an inland letter 20 – 50g and registration fee of 4 dinar. Mixture of first and second King Peter definitives. Petrograd arrival cancel of 19 June on the reverse. The letter is from one advocate Bogdan Stojanović to another Miloš Nikolić

Figure 2 shows a typical cover from before the invasion, going between two towns within the Banat (Vršač to Petrovgrad).

The Banat from 6 April to 31 December 1941

Barling (Ref. 2) lists the postal rates for this period. He states that there was no postal service due to the upheaval and occupation until 29 May 1941. From that date, Barling lists:

Internal

Letter to 20g: 3 dinar

Letter 20 – 250g: 5 dinar

Postcard: 1 dinar

Registration not quoted (but evidence from covers suggests 4 dinar)

External

Letter to 20g: 4 dinar (Germany 3 dinar)

Postcard: 2 dinar (Germany 1 dinar)

Figures 3 to 13 illustrate a variety of covers and cards from this period.



Figure 3: postcard from Budapest, addressed to Tiszaszentmiklós (Ostrojičevo) dated 5 May 1941. Cachet 'Vissza! Forgalom szünetel' = Return, service suspended. The card was not returned until 10 March 1942 (Budapest postmark)



Figure 4: cover from Pančevo to Zemun, dated 9 July 1941. At the time Zemun was in the NDH and therefore counted as being abroad. The postage should have been 4 dinar but this cover is only franked with a 2 dinar stamp of the 1st overprinted King Peter issue. There is however no indication of any postage due being charged. Belgrade censorship cachet – Landsmann (Ref. 3) No SSP1.1.1 (numbers with serifs).



Figure 5 (reduced): registered cover from Kovin to the District Court at Bela Crkva. Inland letter postage of 3 din and registration 4 din. Franked with 1 din + 3 x 2 din of the 1st overprinted King Peter issue. Belgrade censorship cachet – Landsmann No SSP1.1.1 and bilingual 'OBERZENSUR BELGRAD' sealing tape. Bela Crkva arrival postmark 23 IX 1941 on the reverse and District Court cachet (shown here)





Figure 6 (reduced): picture postcard of 'King Peter Square Veliki-Bečerek' from Petrovgrad to Kovin, dated 4 August 1941. Arrival postmark Kovin 5 VIII 41. Inland postcard rate of 1 din – franked with 1 din of 1st overprinted King Peter issue. Grossbetscherek (Petrovgrad) censor cachet – Landsmann SSP5.1.

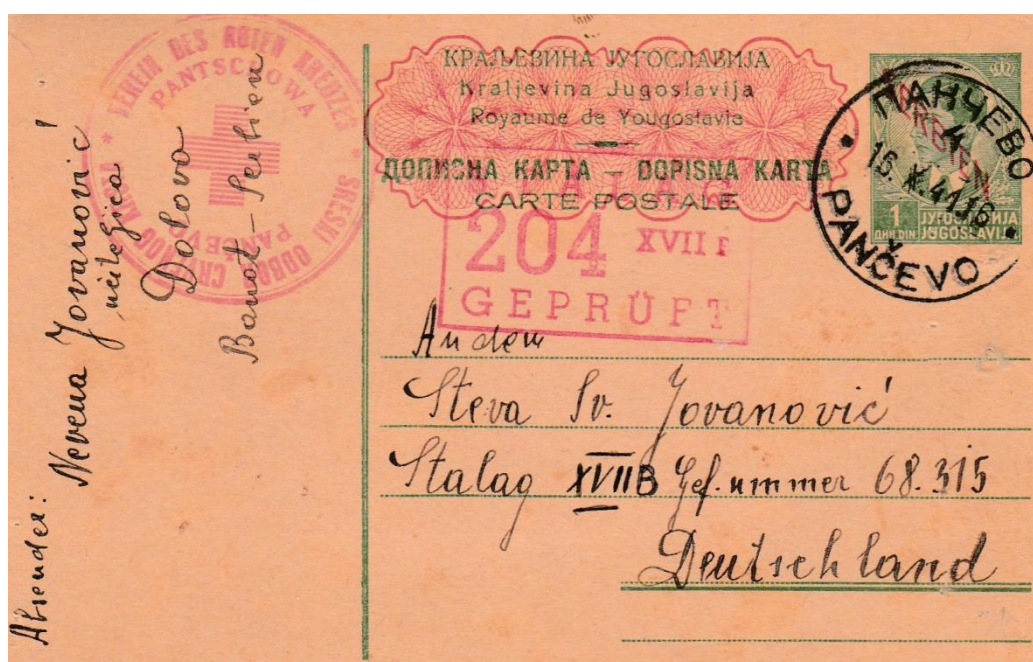


Figure 7: PC from Nevena Jovanović in Dolovo (a large village in the Pančevo municipality) with a Pančevo cancellation dated 16 October 1941. Sent to Steva Sv Jovanović in POW camp Stalag XVIIIB (prisoner number 68315), situated near Krems in Austria. The card has a 1 din King Peter imprint (the rate for a postcard to Germany) overprinted with red SERBIEN and the Yugoslav header has been obliterated by a red pattern (Michel Type P2). Rectangular censor cachet in red from Stalag XVIIIB and also red circular bilingual cachet (Serbian/German) 'SRESKI ODBOR CRVENOG KRSTA / PANČEVO' = District Board of the Red Cross. The card is written in Serbian but using Latin script, presumably to make it easier to get past the censor.

Note on Stalag XVIIIB: it was the largest POW camp in Austria and the second largest of all German POW camps. Serbian POWs began to arrive there after the invasion of Yugoslavia

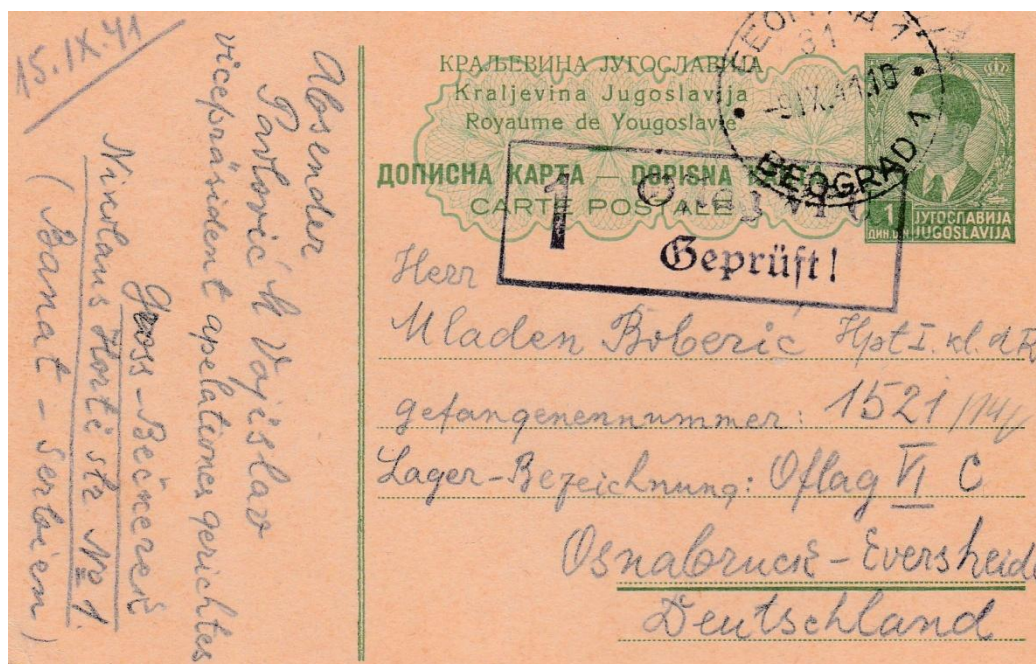


Figure 8: PC written in Gross Bečkerek (dated 7 IX 1941) but posted in Belgrade (9 IX 1941) to POW camp Oflag VIc. Sent to POW No 1521 Mladen Boberić. The card has an unoverprinted 1 dinar King Peter imprint with the Yugoslav header obliterated by a green pattern (Michel Type P1) paying the inland postcard rate. Rectangular camp censor cachet in black. There is a handwritten 15 IX 41 which was presumably added on the day of arrival. The sender is Vojislav Pavlović.

The card in Figure 8 is written in German and says

"Dear Mladen. Your has got Aunt Karina over Dušan. Desa and I are also here now, and we are together with Aunt Karina very often. Don't worry about Aunt Karina because she is good and everything is in order. Many greetings from Voja, Desa and Aunt Karina.

Note on Oflag VIc: In April 1941, large numbers of men from the Yugoslav army were sent to POW camps, including Oflag VIc, which was situated near Osnabrück in Germany. According to the available information, the Yugoslav officers in this camp were treated very badly. There is a significant Serbian Orthodox community in Osnabrück from POWs who settled there after the war. In and around the church of St Michael are the graves of 116 Yugoslav officers who died in an air raid in 1944.

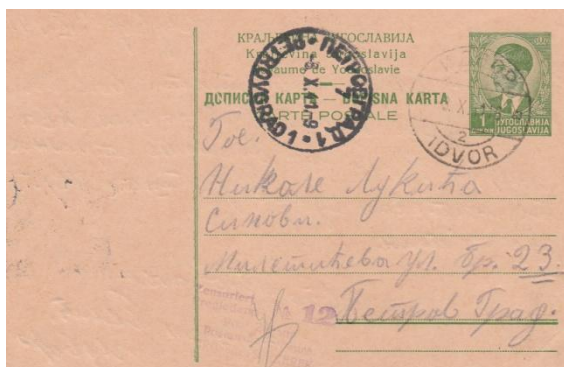


Figure 9 (reduced): PC Idvor to Petrovgrad dated 3 October 1941 covering the internal rate for a postcard. However, the Yugoslav header has not been obliterated (see Figures 7 and 8 for cards with obliterations which were first issued in August 1941 or earlier) but it seems to have been accepted in the post. Gross Betschkerek censor cachet (Landsmann Type SSP5.1) and Petrovgrad arrival postmark 8 X 41.



Figure 10a (reduced): reverse (front shown in Figure 10b below) of registered cover from Melenci to Vršac, 19 November 1941. Franked with 4 dinar and 3 dinar stamps of the 1st and 2nd King Peter overprinted issues to cover 4 dinar for registration and 3 dinar for an inland letter. Transit Petrovgrad postmark (19 XI 41) and Vršac arrival postmark (20 XI 41). Grossbetschkerek (Petrovgrad) censorship cachets and Belgrade-marked sealing tape.

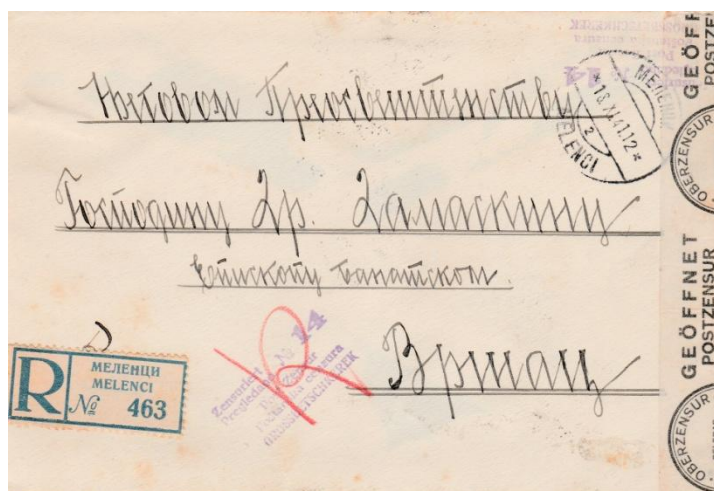


Figure 10b (further reduced) showing the front of the cover in Figure 10a.



Figure 11(reduced): registered cover from Pančevo to Berlin, 10 XI 41. Postal rate was 6 din registration + 3 din for letter to Germany. Stamps from the 1st King Peter overprinted issue. Provisional Pančevo registration label. Arrival postmark on the reverse BERLIN SW 17.11.41. Sent to a Trickfilm (cartoon) Atelier. Passed by censor in Vienna (Ag – probably Landsmann Type GPS2.3in violet with plain GV6.4 sealing paper.)



Figure 12: registered cover (front only) from Alibunar to Vrsac, 20 November 1941. Franked with 1 dinar (June 1941 provisional issue) and 2 x 4 dinar (September 1941 provisional issue) making 9 dinar – 4 dinar registration and 5 dinar for 2nd weight letter (20 – 250g). Grossbetschkerek censor cachet (Landsmann Type SSP5.1). Letter is from the ‘Association of Craftsmen for the Alibunar District’ to ‘District Board of Craft Associations’.



Figure 13a (reduced): front of PC from Petrovgrad to POW camp Stalag VIa, dated on the message part of the card 2 XI 41. Serbian provisional card of 1 dinar, Michel Type P2. Addressed to POW Branislav Vorgić (?), No 9930. Rectangular ‘Retour’ cachet on the front and on the reverse ‘civilna posta zabranjena’ (civil mail prohibited) and hand written ‘Pišite samo na odretene formulare’ (use prescribed form only). 2 dinar stamp added and cancelled Petrovgrad 21 V 42 – presumably a second attempt to send the card. German Vienna Ag censor cachet.

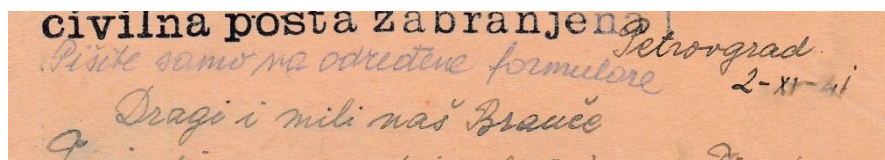


Figure 13b (reduced): top part of the reverse of Figure 13a

Note on Stalag VIa: this POW camp was at Hemer in Germany. In 1939, the camp was under construction for the Wehrmacht, but somewhere was needed to house a large number of Polish POWs, and so it was redesignated as a POW camp. Most of the POWs were used as forced labour and were based in accommodation close to their work place (the camp was near the industry of the Ruhrgebiet). Many nationalities passed through this camp. According to website stalag-via.de almost 200000 POWs had been enrolled in the camp by the end of the war and it is believed that up to 9000 POWs (mostly Russian) died there.

References

1. Øre, Tonnes. Yugoslavia Study Group Monograph No. 4 “Banat and Bačka”. March 2006.
2. Barling, G. Yugoslavia Study Group Monograph No. 3 “The Postal Rates of the Yugoslav Territories, 2nd Edition”. November 2008.
3. Landsmann, Horst. Die Zensur von Zivilpost in Deutschland im 2. Weltkrieg. January 2008.

JOINT SOCIETIES MEETING

Saturday 14 August 2021

First floor, Brown Cow, Selby Road, Leeds, LS15 7AY

Coffee and tea 10 am, displays from 10.30 am

Cost: £12 per person

Details/payments: Yvonne Wheatley, Weltevreden, 7 Manor Croft, Leeds, LS15 9BW

Tel: 0113 260 1978 Email: whyareuu@outlook.com

YSG Zoom meeting

17:00 (UK time) on Thursday 29 July

Please email Nick Coverdale on nick@rhubarb1.ndonet.com for details

Presentations of up to 10 minutes needed

Report of a YSG meeting held using Zoom on 14 April 2021

by Nick Coverdale

Following on from the first Zoom meeting held on 23 February, a second meeting was held. There were 27 in attendance, which was made up of about two-thirds YSG members and the remainder from our sister society in Germany, ArGe-Ju.

As at the first meeting, there were 6 presentations:

1. Roger Morrell – ‘Researching the sender of an interesting letter’
2. Keith Brandon – ‘Napoleonic Dalmatia’
3. Rex Dixon – ‘The dismemberment of Yugoslavia part 2’
4. Richard Stevens – ‘Montenegro first design revenue stamps’
5. Nick Coverdale – ‘The first stamps of Serbia, 1866’
6. Robert Lauer – ‘Postage rates in Serbian-occupied Banat, 1919 – 20’

The presentations were well-received, generating some good discussion with the questions raised. The presentations ranged right across the bounds of Yugoslav philately and included some of the less well-known subject areas. The crossover into the philately of Austria, Hungary and other neighbouring countries was evident. It was also evident that five of the six speakers also delivered presentations at our first meeting and it is hoped that the successes so far will persuade others to give it a go.

There is clearly a continuing demand for such meetings in the future and you will find an advertisement for a further meeting elsewhere in this edition of Jugopošta.

SOCIETY FOR HUNGARIAN PHILATELY

If you are a collector of Hungarian stamps or postal history, interested in the period after the First World War, when Yugoslav and Hungarian philately overlap, or the earlier shared postal history of Croatia, Syrmia and the Banat, consider joining the Society for Hungarian Philately (SHP). Annual membership includes four issues of The News of Hungarian Philately, access to the members' sections of the website, where all back issues of The News are available, and participation in the quarterly auction. Annual dues are \$25 for North America, \$30 for the rest of the world and \$20 for just an electronic, rather than a paper, copy of The News. You can join by following the link on the homepage of the SHP website, www.hungarianphilately.org, using PayPal (add \$1 to any level of dues) or by cheque to the Treasurer, Wes Learned, P.O. Box 802, Powell, WY 82435-0802, U.S.A.

From the Editor continued from page 4

In this edition of Jugopošta you will find a good range of articles. Postal historians should enjoy a further part of Henk Buitenkamp's series on postage due stamps in the SHS, 1981 – 21, some favourite items from Robert Lauer's collection, and the postal history of the Serbian Banat in 1941 (by the Editor). Stamps are well catered for by articles covering the first joint issue of

stamps in 1921 for the SHS Kingdom (Boštjan Petauer) and the first issue of new postage stamps in the NDH in 1941 (Hans-Dieter Engel).

As always, I need you to keep sending articles please. I have one or two promised articles but there is always room for more.

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2. *Catalogue of the Perfin of Yugoslavia* (JP75)
3. *The Postal Rates of the Yugoslav Territories (2nd Ed)* (JP70A)
4. *Banat and Bačka* (JP77) (CD and print)
5. *Srem Postal History to late 1944* (JP81)
6. *The Postal Rates of the Independent State of Croatia 1941 – 1945* (JP85)
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