

NUMBER 214

SEPTEMBER 2018

STAMPS OF HUNGARY



**THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF
THE HUNGARIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

LIST OF OFFICERS

Patron	Géza Homonnay	
President:	Larry Peer 65 Stubbington Lane Stubbington Hants PO14 2PG	01329 665996 email: l.peer@ntlworld.com
Vice-President:	Martin Brumby 2 Darfield Close Strensall York, YO32 5PH	01904 491066 email : martin@mhkbrumby.uk
Technical Editor:	Roger Morrell 39 Claremont Road Teddington Middlesex TW11 8DH	020 8287 0828 email: roger.morrell@blueyonder.co.uk
Secretary:	Martin Weise 70a Princess Road Kilburn London, NW6 5QX	0207 372 1303 email: mweise@talktalk.net
Treasurer:	Larry Peer (Address as above)	01329 665996 email: l.peer@ntlworld.com
Membership and Subscription Secretary	David Williams 46 Collum End Rise Cheltenham Glos GL53 0PB	01242 241018 email: david.collumend@btinternet.com
Publicity Officer:	Mervyn Benford Cloudhill Cottage High Street, Shutford, Banbury, Oxon, OX15 6HE	01295 780225 email: mervyn@mervynbenford.com
Auction list compiler and postal bid agent:	Chris. C. Thornburn 49 Allman Road, Birmingham B24 9DZ	0121 350 5174 ChrisThornburn1@BTInternet.com (note spelling!)
Exchange Packet Secretary:	Ken Dyke 30 Milner Road Nottingham NG5 2ES	0115 960 6019 email: kendyke@phonecoop.coop
Librarian:	Vacant	

Website: www.hpsgb.com

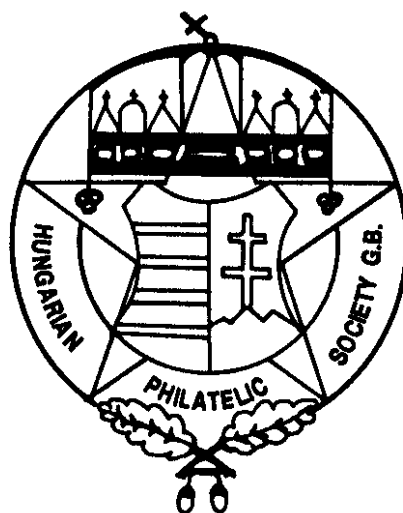
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS (Due 1 January each year)

All members, worldwide - £17 or currency equivalent (Euro, US\$) from January 2015
except OAPs and Juniors - £15

Deduct £2 if paid before 31 January of the subscription year.

New: PayPal account (add 4% transaction charge) to **david.collumend@btinternet.com**

**Note: UK banks impose a charge for foreign cheques. Please add £5 or equivalent to your cheque,
or send sterling cheque, international money order or sterling notes.**



STAMPS OF HUNGARY

Journal of the Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain

ISSN 0307-4323

CONTENTS

	Page
Editor's corner, Membership news, Auction news, Meeting News	2
Meeting reports: The Bradford Joint Societies meeting	2
Seen in print	5
THE FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT ISSUE OF 1947, by Roger Morrell	7
CIRKVENICA – CRIKVENICA? by Alan Soble	15
PORTO PROVISIONALS – MORE FROM READERS	22
COMMENT – JÁNOS KASS	29
PENALISED FOR A RIVET by Mervyn Benford and Roger Morrell	30
New issues	31

Front cover:

New issue showing showboard header from the 1896 Millennium Exhibition Post Office stand

Back Cover:

New issue miniature sheet commemorating the centenary of the sinking of the SMS 'Szent Istvan'

At a glance – dates for your diary:

12-15 September 2018	Autumn Stampex , Business Design Centre Islington, London
20 October 2018	HPSGB Display and Auction , Mill Arts Centre, Banbury, Oxon
24 March 2019	HPSGB AGM and Auction (date to be confirmed)

EDITOR'S CORNER

The rain has finally come after a summer of attempting to water my allotment by hand – I seem to have spent hours pumping up groundwater to very little avail – so finally I can turn my attention to the next issue of *SoH*.

This time we report on the excellent Bradford Joint Societies meeting organised by Yvonne Wheatley, and we have articles on the Roosevelt issue of 1947, on Cirkvenica (or is it Crikvenica, or even Crkvenica...?), more from members on the provisional 'Porto' handstamps, and some interesting new issues from Magyar Posta that will liven up your collections. I hope you'll enjoy a good read.

SOCIETY NEWS

MEMBERSHIP

Beryl and Trevor Fletcher, whose deaths were reported in the last issue, were for a long time stalwarts of the Committee, with Beryl being a Past Secretary and eventually Chairman. They attended many meetings and Trevor was a regular contributor to the magazine, specialising in postmarks. Beryl was a keen Airmail collector and had acquired most of the late John Latham's collection. It appears that they sold their main collections in America long before they passed away. The Society is helping their son to dispose of the remainder, and will be lotted up for our March 1919 auction. Although we have not found any airmail covers there will be some good airmail stamps for sale, together with some scarce sets and postage dues.

DATA PROTECTION FORMS

Thanks to all members, whose addresses we know, who have returned their Data Protection Agreement Forms.

SOCIETY AUCTION

With this magazine comes the October auction catalogue. There is a less-usual distribution of material this time, with strength in imperforate stamps, a sizeable literature from the Library sifting, plus some good pre-stamp mail and hyperinflation covers. If you are unable to attend the auction, but want to bid for any items, please make sure you send your bids to Chris Thornburn by 13 October at the very latest.

MEETING NEWS

HPSGB Open Meeting, Mill Arts Centre, Banbury, Saturday 20 October 2018

In addition to the auction, Martin Weise will undertake a reprise of his Autumn Stampex 2017 display on the lottery stamps of Hungary. His first attempt to show it to the Society last March suffered at the hands of the 'Beast from the East', when only a few members were able to get to Thame. If you didn't get to Stampex, you will be surprised at the enormous range of the State sponsored lotteries and how they were sold to the public. Martin has gone into some depth on this topic and has accumulated a remarkable quantity of material, including publicity posters. Do try to come and see it.

MEETING REPORTS

Joint Societies Meeting, Bradford, Saturday 4 August 2018

Another very engaging cross-theme meeting demonstrated yet again how interlinked the interests of all the Societies involved (Austrian, Czechoslovak, Hungarian, Polish and Yugoslavian) can be and what a useful networking event it is. Many thanks to Yvonne Wheatley's organisation of the day, including a fine lunch with refreshments on tap. Powered by this we covered about five rounds of short displays on a huge variety of topics; in order of play:

- Nick Coverdale Yugoslavia: the varied use of King Peter definitives during WWII, including many of the overprinted issues under foreign occupations.
- Peter Chadwick Upper Silesia: the lead up to the post-WWI split between Germany and Poland, including the Plebiscite and local issues.
- Derek Baron Czechoslovakia: mail from one family sent to/from persons displaced into work camps following the German occupation, plus an invalid stamp postage due query.
- Martin Brumby Austrian Netherlands: documentary papers with imprinted tax signets from the 1700s (part of the extended Habsburg Empire lost to Napoleon in the early 1800s).
- Alan Berrisford Poland: telegram payment receipt forms, from overprinted Austrian types through inflation and to modern times.
- Mervyn Benford Hungary: new currency issues from 1926-36, examples of the huge variety of postage rates and uses from this period.
- Malcolm Stockhill Poland: the Gdynia-America Shipping Line from between the wars; postcards, mail and memorabilia from the ships.
- Roman Dubnyiak &
Peter Cybaniak Austria: 'God Punish England' and 'God Punish Italy' cachets, labels and censor marks from WWI. Presented in two parts.
- Edmund &
Richard Jagielski Poland: Polish seapost in WWII: the story of Polish vessels made over to Britain just before the outbreak of war with covers used from various ships including submarines.
- Keith Brandon Austria: forerunners of pictorial postal stationery cards, including commercial and decorative printing on the backs of cards.
- John Colton Germany: 'mourning stamps' for the loss of colonies in WWI, including sheets and part sheets
- Joyce Boyer Austria: mail from Kleinwalsertal, the Austrian enclave with road access only through Germany, and the complications that this caused with postal rates.
- Andy Taylor Austria: 'Tramway day' covers sold by the Social Club of the Viennese Transport Workers.
- Roger Morrell Austria-Hungary: contributions to public displays covering Hungarians, Czechs, and Slovaks in World War I.
- Nick Coverdale Czechoslovakia: 'the life and times of Walter Stein', the story through mail of a Jewish druggist who lost his business and managed to escape to the UK at the start of WWII.
- Andy Taylor Austria: modern self-devised stamps valid for postage.

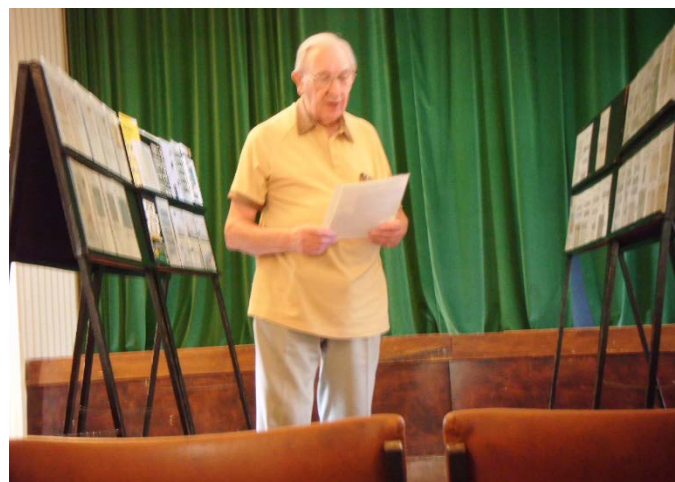
- John Colton Romania: German occupation during WWI, including postage and fiscal stamps.
- Alan Berrisford Czechoslovakia: TPO marks in use in Slovak lands between the wars.
- Malcolm Stockhill Poland: stamps of the Polish inflation period 1920-1924.
- Andy Taylor Austria: currency changes as evidenced by stamps issues.
Austria: miniature sheets, including those celebration 1000 years of 'Austria'.
Austria: the postmarks of Hall in Tirol.
- Roger Morrell Hungary: pictorial postal stationery cards from the 1930s.
Austria-Hungary: how sending money by telegram works.
- Alan Berrisford Poland: provisional postmarks of 1946-8 after liberation.

Yvonne closed proceedings (later than usual) thanking everyone for coming and taking part, especially the contributions to the food, and on behalf of all attendees Peter Chadwick proposed a vote of thanks to Yvonne and Richard (helping despite an eye operation the previous day). Hopefully, there'll be another event next year.

Roger Morrell



Displays at the Latvian Club



*Top: networking during viewing;
centre left: Peter Cybaniak and others study Hungary 1926-36;
centre right: John Colton presents;
left: Andy Taylor reads about WWI in Hungary.*

SEEN IN PRINT

Austria, magazine of the Austrian Philatelic Society of GB, No. 203, Summer 2018.

Taylor, A., Morrell, R., Clark, B., 'The Austrian telegraph service', pp. 1-48. (Several individual articles covering the development of the service, the sending and receiving forms, sending receipts, rates, telegraph stamps, and the use of the telegraph during WWI.)

‘Czechout’, magazine of the Czechoslovak PS of GB, **Vol.36/2, No.171, June 2018:**

Kierstan, W., ‘Forgeries of the Czech Scout issue’, pp. 11-12.

Soble, A., ‘Removal of Czech markings from postal cancellers in the Slovak State’, pp.13-24.

‘Jugopošta’, magazine of the Yugoslav Study Group, **No. 126, June 2018:**

Radovanović, M., ‘The Wounded Allies Relief Committee with Serbs in the Great War, part 2’, pp. 22-4.

Whittaker, M., ‘Macedonia postal history, Part 3’, pp. 26-32. (Covering the period from the late 1930s to modern day.)

‘Philatelica’, magazine of MAFITT, **No. 18-1** (in English, available on-line – see <http://www.mafitt.hu/kepek/philatelica/18-1en.pdf>)

Czirok, D., ‘The types of the blue coloured Hungarian money order forms issued in 1868’, pp. 1-12.

Nagy, F., ‘The 1918-1920 postal history of the south region as reflected in the first Temesvar local issue stamps’, pp. 13-38.

‘Rundbrief’, journal of the *ARGE Feldpost Österreich-Ungarn* (in German), **No. 133, July 2018**

Penz, G., Kustan, A., ‘*Von Fischamend nach Schweden*’, pp. 15-18. (From Fischamend to Sweden – the story of military balloon flights.)

Schilling, O., ‘*Kundmachung*’, pp. 19-20. (‘Announcement’ – details of the conditions for sending money orders from occupied Italian territory to Italian workers in Germany.)

Bliersbach, A., ‘*Literarische Spuren ehemaliger Kriegsgefangener aus Russland*’, pp. 21-31. (‘Literary traces of former prisoners of war from Russia’ – via a POW card, how a medical doctors, themselves prisoners, helped organise not only the health, but the receipt of finance for traumatised Austro-Hungarian captives.)

Pöcher, H., ‘*Die Heimat möchte ich wiedersehen*’, pp. 33-65. (‘I would like to see my homeland again’ – re-publication of an article on being a prisoner of war in China after the sinking of the S.M.S ‘Kaiserin Elisabeth’, followed by examples of mail from a wide range of camps in China and Japan.)

Schilling, O., ‘*Auch eine Adresse kann interessant sein*’, pp 66-7. (‘An address can also be interesting’ – two letters to an address in Chur, Switzerland.)

Schilling, O., ‘*Briefmarkeneinfuhr in das Deutsche Reich verboten*’, p. 68. (‘Stamps, the entry of which into Germany was forbidden’ – concerning mail from Liechtenstein via Austria to Bavarian addresses which have been returned as not permitted.)

Scaiceanu, C., ‘*Korrespondenz österreichisch-ungarischer in Russland in den Jahren 1915 bis 1916. Postweg über Rumänien und Rolle des Roten Kreuzes in Bukarest*’, pp. 69-73. (‘Austro-Hungarian correspondence into Russia – the route through Romania and the role of the Red Cross in Bucharest’.)

Schilling, O., ‘*Überfrankierung verboten*’, p. 74. (‘Overfranking forbidden’ – April 1919 registered postcard from Vienna to Stuttgart returned because of an excessive number of stamps.)

Kobelbauer, H., ‘*Spätverwendungen der Feldpostkorrespondenzkarte ‘Clement::A1’*’, p75. (‘Late use of fieldpost card type Clement A1’ – in 1918.)

Dorr, U. & E., ‘*Der Kampf um den Sinai 1916/17 unter Beteiligung ungarischer k.u.k.-Truppen*’, pp. 77-82. (The war around the Sinai and the participation of Hungarian k.u.k. troops – fieldpost cards sent back from Turkish occupied lands in the Middle East.)

‘The Sub-Carpathian Messenger’, *Newsletter of the Study Circle for the Postal History of the Carpatho-Ukraine*, **No. 48**, August 2018.

Kobelbauer, H., ‘Another bluish-green double circle stamp from Ungvár’, p. 5.

Kobelbauer, H., ‘A letter from Rawa Ruska to Beregszász’, p.6.

Nagy, G., ‘Once again about the Huculs’, pp. 7-9. (A family correspondence during WWI.)

Kobelbauer, H. ‘Ukrainian map of the ‘Zakarpatska Oblast’ from 1993’, pp. 10-24.

Introduction

Despite having suffered a paralysing illness in 1921 that confined him to a wheelchair, Franklin D Roosevelt became president of the USA in 1932 in a landslide victory against President Herbert Hoover. The USA was in the depths of the Great Depression, and it needed a reformer and visionary to pull the country's economy onto an even keel, and to end the suffering of the poorer people. He was re-elected again in 1936, 1940 and 1944. He took the USA into WWII at the end of 1941, shortly after the Pearl Harbour attack, and was immediately visited by the British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in order to foster the relationship that exists (Trump willing) to this day. However the pressures of dealing with the war exhausted him, and he died shortly before victory was declared in Europe, on 12 April 1945. His place was taken by Harry S Truman, to whom fell the task of the negotiations with Stalin about the future of Europe.

What is less well-known is that he was an ardent stamp collector, and anything philatelically interesting coming into the Presidential circle was hoarded ¹.



This fact appears to have been well-known outside Washington circles as well, because an enterprising stamp dealer in Detroit called Albert C Butzen created an advertising hoarding to boost his trade.

¹ I have some envelope cuttings from Bulgaria in 1935/6 addressed to the then Secretary of State (which would have been Cordell Hull) that have been later stamped on the back by H R Harmers as being from the Roosevelt collection.



From an article in *Linn's Stamp News*, 2015: <https://www.linns.com/news/us-stamps-postal-history/2015/september/did-stamp-dealer-al-butzen-create-the-first-philatelic-billboard.html>

Philatelic commemoration

When Roosevelt died, the first country to provide a commemoration was Greece (1945), followed shortly after by Monaco (1946), but in 1947, Monaco prepared a stamp based on the photograph of him examining a stamp. Note that the books on the shelf behind are more artistically arranged, and there is some angling of the stack of albums. Unfortunately, the engraver mistook the President's left shirt cuff for a finger, giving him five fingers and thumb to hold up the stamp he is examining.



Hungary's issue

Hungary's Roosevelt commemoration was issued on 11 June 1947.

The issue consisted of eight stamps for intended for postage with denominations of 8 + 8 *f*, 12 + 12 *f*, 20 + 20 *f*, and 30 + 30 *f*, and for airmail with denominations of 10 + 10 *f*, 20 + 20 *f*, 50 + 50 *f* and 70 + 70 *f*. The surcharge appears to be for the Postman's Hospital (according to the 'Black Book' – ref. 1). The numbers issued in sheets of 25 were 100,000 each.



The Roosevelt 'postage' issue has titles between the portrait and 'Magyar Posta' reading 'Freedom of speech', 'Freedom of religion', 'Freedom from want' and 'Freedom from fear'.

At some point in time, each value was issued in smaller miniature sheets of four with the wording 'IN MEMORIAM - F. D. ROOSEVELT' above the stamps and 'F. D. ROOSEVELT - EMLEKÉRE' below. These were then followed by similar miniature sheets with the two left-hand values upside down relative to the English text in the postage series and the right-hand pair upside down in the airmail series, thus creating *tête-bêche* pairs. The Hungarian wording was also inverted relative to the English. This was clearly becoming a foreign currency generation exercise!

On 21 July 1947, these stamps were re-issued in miniature sheet form, one containing the four postage stamps and one containing the four airmail stamps, and each has a decorative frame around the stamps with the wording 'F.D. ROOSEVELT - EMLEKÉRE' above and 'MEMORIAL SOUVENIR SHEET' below. The issued numbers were 30,000 of each. All these sheetlets were perforated the same as the sheet stamps, but they also exist imperforate. It is believed that the smaller sheets also exist imperforate (not mentioned by Michel, but noted in ref. 2.).



The Roosevelt 'airmail' issue has titles reading 'Casablanca', 'Teheran', 'Yalta' and 'Hyde Park' (New York State), being the locations of the Two- and Three-Power talks during WW2, respectively on 14.1–24.1.1943, 28.11 – 2.12.1943, 4.2 – 11.2.1945 and 19.6 – 25.6.1942.

Collectors sticking doggedly to Gibbons catalogue might miss the stamps completely, or think of them as a set of cinderella labels, because the editors dismiss them in small print as not being a 'proper' issue, not having been sold to the public over post office counters, but sold principally to collectors abroad. Nevertheless, Michel lists this issue without this comment, and even prices used stamps and First Day Covers. They were apparently valid until 30 November 1947, and were re-validated for use from 1 September 1971. They are also listed in the Scott catalogue. So who is right? The 'Black Book' (ref. 1) has a footnote which explains that the small sheetlets of four were only sold abroad. The Hungarian public could only initially buy stamps from the sheets of 25, and could only obtain the sheetlets via importation. The decorative miniature sheets issued later were available within Hungary, and the 'Black Book' lists them on First Day Covers. So Gibbons is wrong about the basic issue, and has been for many years.



Postage and airmail miniature sheetlets of four.



Postage and airmail tête-bêche miniature sheets of four.



Postage and airmail miniature sheetlets with decorative borders. These are imperforate examples.

It is likely that such a commemoration as this was not looked upon favourably by Stalin's government in Moscow, which at that time was in the run-up to new elections in Hungary. Stalin was applying strong pressures to the existing, but fragmenting, post-war coalition government to distance itself from Western democracies, and not to take part in any post-war European planning, such as the Marshall Plan. This issue came out just before that election which saw the Communist takeover of Hungary.

In my 1998 Michel Ost-Europa catalogue they were priced at 100 DM (50 €) for the basic set of eight stamps, 500 DM (250 €) for the two decorative miniature sheets, 750 DM (375 €) for the smaller miniature sheets, and 800 DM (400 €) for the *tête-bêche* miniature sheets. Judging by recent Darabanth auction realisations, these issues remain very popular with collectors and prices are

consistently high, but are nowhere near the old catalogue levels. A pair of the decorative sheetlets achieved about 45 € and individual smaller *tête-bêche* sheetlets achieved about 20 € each. On the Delampe website, a complete unmounted set of the smaller *tête-bêche* minisheets is available for about £220 at the time of writing. An official first day cover of the set of stamps sent to a stamp dealer in the USA is offered at £44. In Gaertner's June 2018 auction no. 40, lot 16413, the decorative pair of sheetlets both perforated and imperforate were offered at 300 € but remained unsold.

The Eleanor Roosevelt issue of 1964

They say that behind every great man is an even greater woman. The President's wife was also honoured by a stamp issue in Hungary, in the form of a sheet stamp and miniature sheet issued in 1964. For the reasoning behind this one only has to turn to a paragraph within her entry in Wikipedia, which reads:

Following her husband's death in 1945, Roosevelt remained active in politics for the remaining 17 years of her life. She pressed the United States to join and support the United Nations and became its first delegate. She served as the first chair of the UN Commission on Human Rights and oversaw the drafting of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Later she chaired the John F. Kennedy administration's Presidential Commission on the Status of Women. By the time of her death, Roosevelt was regarded as "one of the most esteemed women in the world"; she was called "the object of almost universal respect" in her New York Times obituary. In 1999, she was ranked ninth in the top ten of Gallup's List of Most Widely Admired People of the 20th Century.

Clearly good enough reasons for commemorating her.



The Eleanor Roosevelt single stamp from a sheet and the miniature sheet, issued in 1964. These are listed by Gibbons (SG 1998, and MS1998a)!

References

1. A *Magyar Bélyegek Kézikönyve*, (the 'Black Book'), Gondolat, Budapest, 1986, p. 313.
2. M. Burzan, *Philatelic Exporter*, September 2017, pp. 17-18.

CIRKVENICA – CRIKVENICA?

by Alan Soble

The postcard in *Figure 1* has, for several years, bothered me. I was annoyed that it was cancelled without any Hungarian or SHS postage. Maybe the stamp(s) fell off during the trip from Crikvenica (on the Adriatic coast of Croatia)¹ to Moravská Ostrava (Moravia, Czechoslovakia); or maybe the post office had no stamps to sell; or the sender could not afford to buy stamps and the card was sent, in effect, COD. Regardless, the absence of postage irked me, *qua* postal historian. True, the survivor cancellation ‘Crikvenica’, dated 4 JUL 1919 in post-World War I Croatia, pleased me, as did the use of two Porto stamps issued by the new Czechoslovak state, from which I lifted the partial ‘SKÁ OSTRAVA 1’ cancel (*Figure 2*, bottom). But the discrepancy between ‘Crikvenica’ in the cancel and the 1914-imprint ‘Cirkvenica’ ate away at my orthographic soul. Really, misspellings and misprints make no one dance for joy.

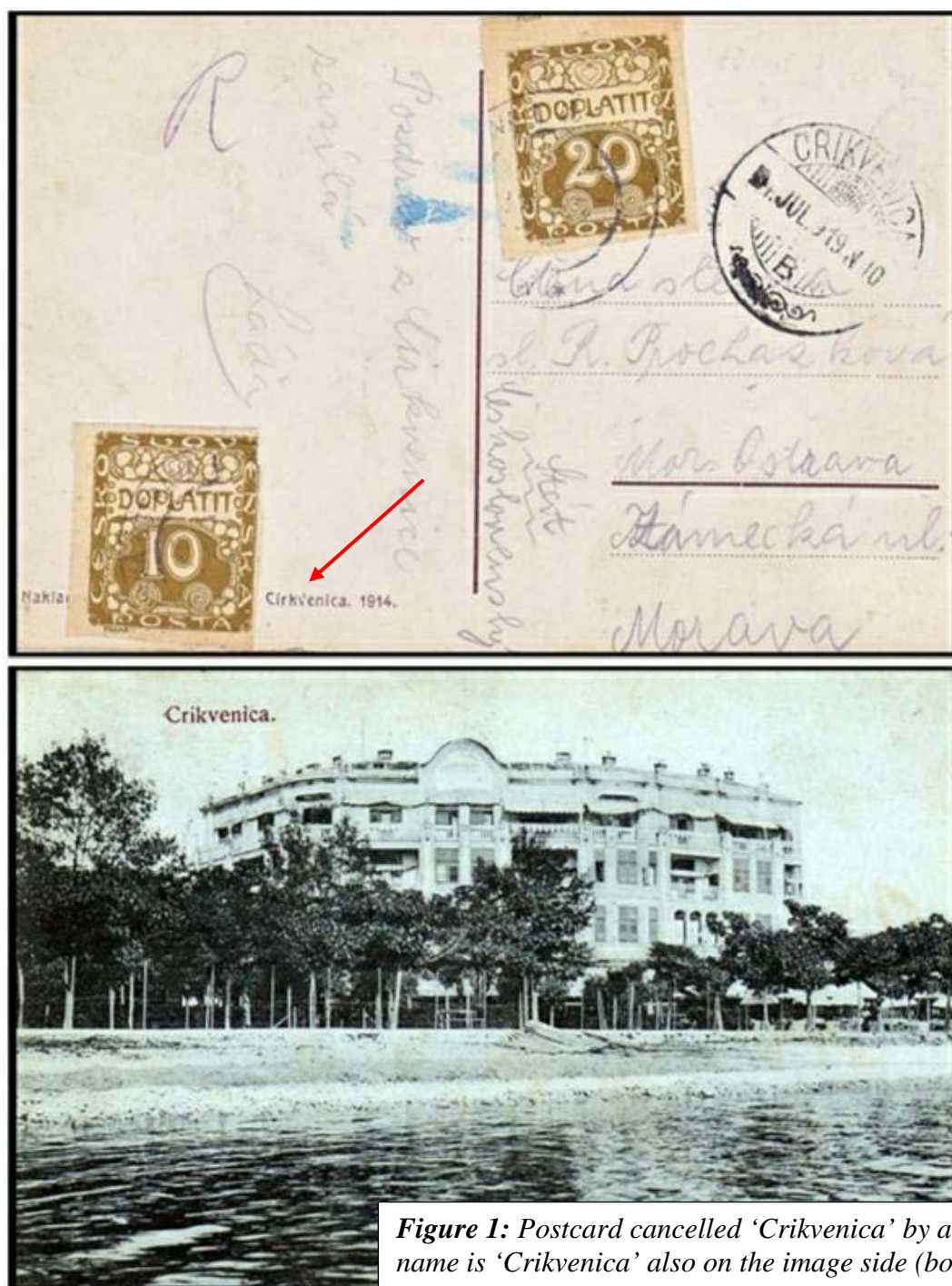


Figure 1: Postcard cancelled ‘Crikvenica’ by a survivor (top). The name is ‘Crikvenica’ also on the image side (bottom). It is spelled ‘Cirkvenica’ on the address side (top), to the right of the lower Porto.

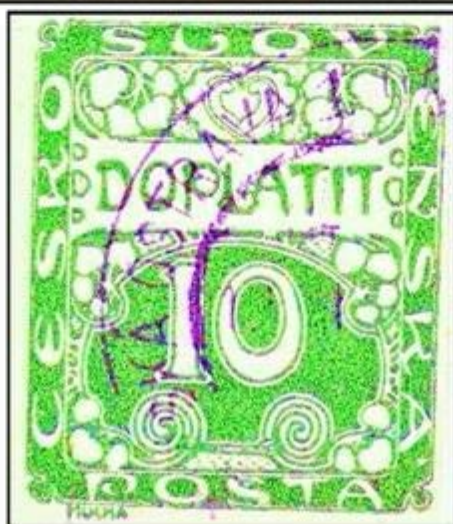
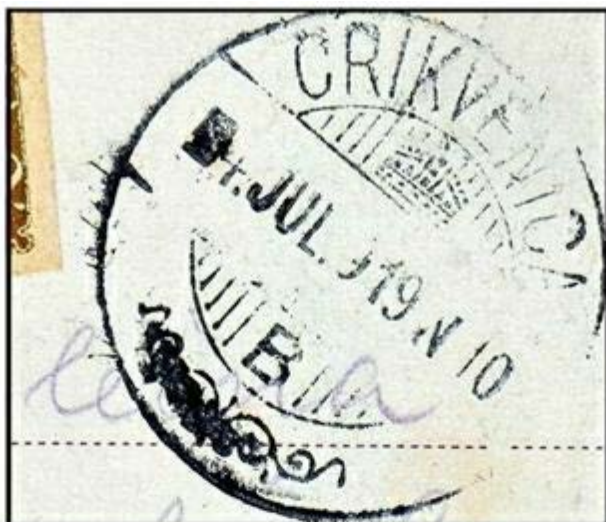


Figure 2: Top: Crikvenica-B, K-style cancellation, 4.JUL.919 N 10.
 Centre: Inscription, 'Cirkvenica. 1914.'
 Bottom: Same stamp, colour-manipulated image, exposing 'SKÁ OSTRAVA 1'.

However, we are not faced with a misspelling – that’s a relief. The name of the town is spelled ‘Cirkvenica’ in Hungarian, or ‘Czirkvenicza’, while in Croatian it is spelled ‘Crikvenica’ and, sometimes, depending exquisitely on Balkan politics between 1918 and 1991, rendered in Cyrillic as ‘Цриквеница’. I have no doubt that what I just asserted, that ‘Crik’ is Croatian and ‘Cirk’ is Hungarian, is only a convenient simplification of the historico-linguistic facts ². By the way, all the ‘C’s (4) in ‘Cirkvenica’ and ‘Crikvenica’ are pronounced as the ‘cz’ is pronounced in the names ‘Debreczen’ and ‘Miskolcz,’ which makes ‘Crik’ more difficult (for me, a speaker of English) than ‘Cirk.’ But, hey, I used to have trouble with ‘Brčko.’ Where does the vowel go?

To prevent a misunderstanding: if ‘Crikvenica’ is the Croatian spelling of the town name, what is it doing on a Hungarian postal canceller? Actually, it was not unusual in the Délvidék (in contrast to the Felvidék) for Hungarian postal cancellers to bear the local town-name spelling, or even the local name, the endonym, when that differed from the Hungarian name. Figure 3 is an example: ‘Karlovac’ is Croatian; the Hungarian name or spelling is ‘Károlyváros,’ which can be found on other cancellers and cancellations³. See Figure 4 for an earlier Hungarian-language cancel and Figure 5 for a later Croatian-language cancel.



Figure 3 (left): ‘Karlovac’ K-style Croatian-language cancellation, dated 914 AUG 12, on a 5 fillér green Crown of St. Stephen postal stationery

Figure 4 (below): Hungarian “Cirkvenica” F-style cancellation, dated 16/4 (16 April), 1897, on a 5 kr black-numeral ‘Boríték’; the year is supplied by the bilingual Zágráb M.Á.P.U./Zagreb DRŽ. KOL arriving backstamp.



Figure 5: Croatian World War II-era cancellation, dated 26 XII [19]42. Note the absence of a Cyrillic transliteration across the (empty) bottom arc of the cancel, at a time when Croatia was independent of Yugoslavia (Serbia).⁴

Uncovering the fact that both spellings of the town name on my postcard were correct alleviated one pain, but eventually caused me to experience a much worse alternative headache. Another Crikvenica survivor cancellation, with smudged ink on a Slovenian-SHS emission, is shown in *Figure 6*. The details of *Figure 7* emphasize that the first four letters are ‘CRIK’. There is a reason for going through this exercise.



Figure 6: Left: Hungarian survivor “Crikvenica” K-style cancellation, dated 919 DEC 1, on a King Peter Slovenia-SHS 5k stamp. Right: The colour has been removed from the image to display the cancellation. (Stamps issued for Slovenia after the War were frequently used in Croatia, Bosnia, and elsewhere.)⁵



Figure 7: Part of the cancellation in *Figure 6*, colour-manipulated. The point: the letters are not ‘CRK’.

My alternative headache, which inexplicably took nearly forever to descend upon me, is that the town-name cancel ‘Crikvenica’ (pre-Armistice or as a survivor) is not to be found in **Volume VI** of the Magyar **Monográfiája** (Kostyán Ákos), a reference work in which the content and forms of Hungarian postal cancellers and cancellations are given. The F-style canceller bears ‘Cirkvenica’ (p. 91); the three J-styles are also ‘Cirkvenica’ (p. 243); three of the six K-style cancellers proclaim ‘Cirkvenica’ (p. 313). My two survivor cancels are, however, the unmentioned ‘Crikvenica’ ⁶. The remaining three K-style cancellers (p. 313) are, reports Kostyán, the astounding ‘CRKVENICA’. This explains why the task of *Figure 7* was to prove that the smudge did not conceal ‘CRK’.

To observe that the ‘Crikvenica’ canceller is missing from the **Monograph**, replaced by some other name, ‘Crkvenica’, is of course not to say that there was no such thing as a ‘Crkvenica’ canceller. The town-name spelling ‘Crkvenica’ (pronounced “Cirk”) was surely in circulation; see *Figures 8* and *9*. The task, my European colleagues, is to find one *bona fide* ‘CRK...’ K-style cancel.

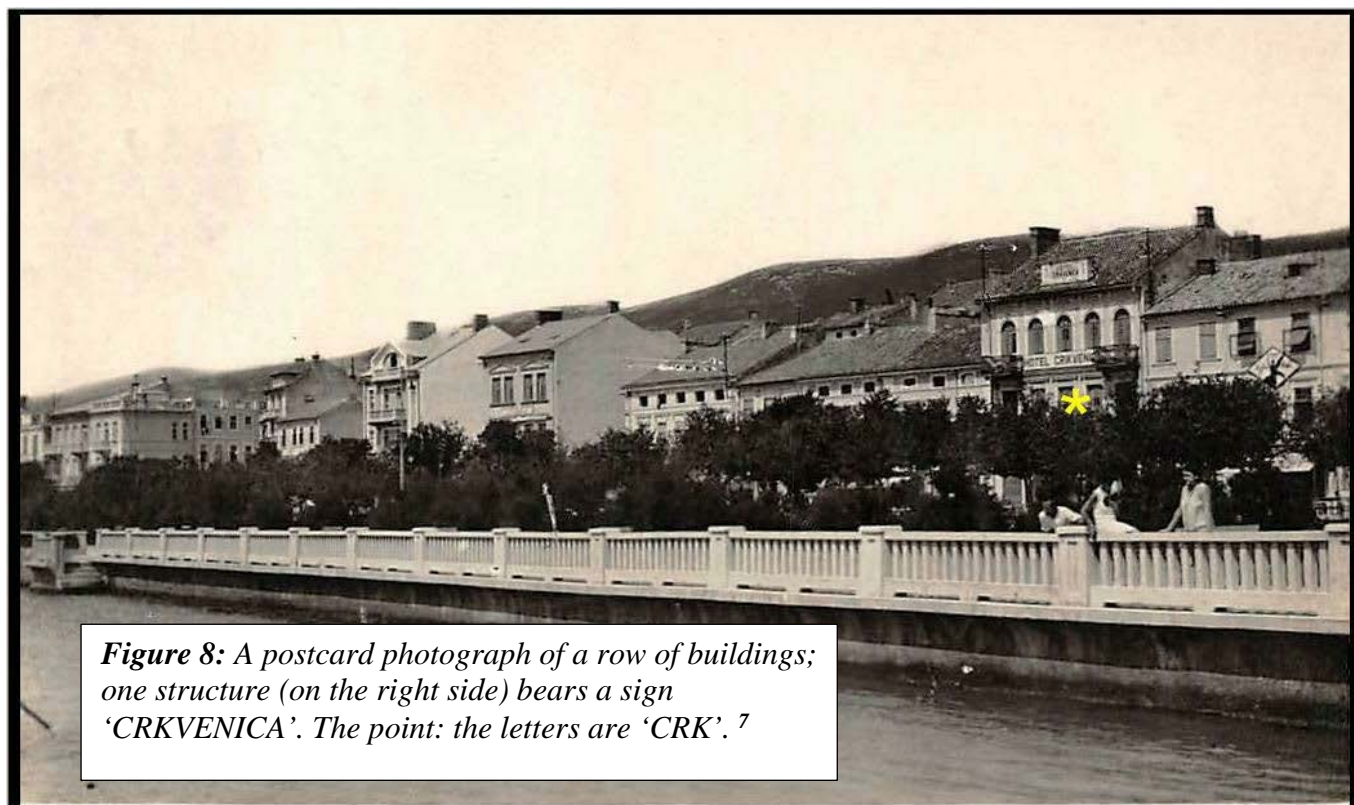


Figure 8: A postcard photograph of a row of buildings; one structure (on the right side) bears a sign ‘CRKVENICA’. The point: the letters are ‘CRK’. ⁷



Figure 9: A close-up of the right side of the card in Figure 8. (The card was posted in 1932; see the left image in Note 4.)

Notes

1. The location of Cirkvenica/Crikvenica. The borders are contemporary.



2. The name-entry 'Cirqveniza, Cirkvenica = Czirquenitza', without an identifying number, is squeezed in between '421. Cilli' and '422. Cittanova' in Edwin Mueller's *Handbuch*. The 1816 names/spellings in Térfi Béla, *Bélyeg Előtti Levelek és Azok Lebetűzései* [ca. 'Magyar pre-stamp cancellations'] are Cirkvenica, Crikvenica, Cirquenitza, Czirquenitza, Cirqveniza (p. 260, entry 642).
3. Here is a relevant 1894 bilingual cancellation (from the collection of Csaba Kohalmi):

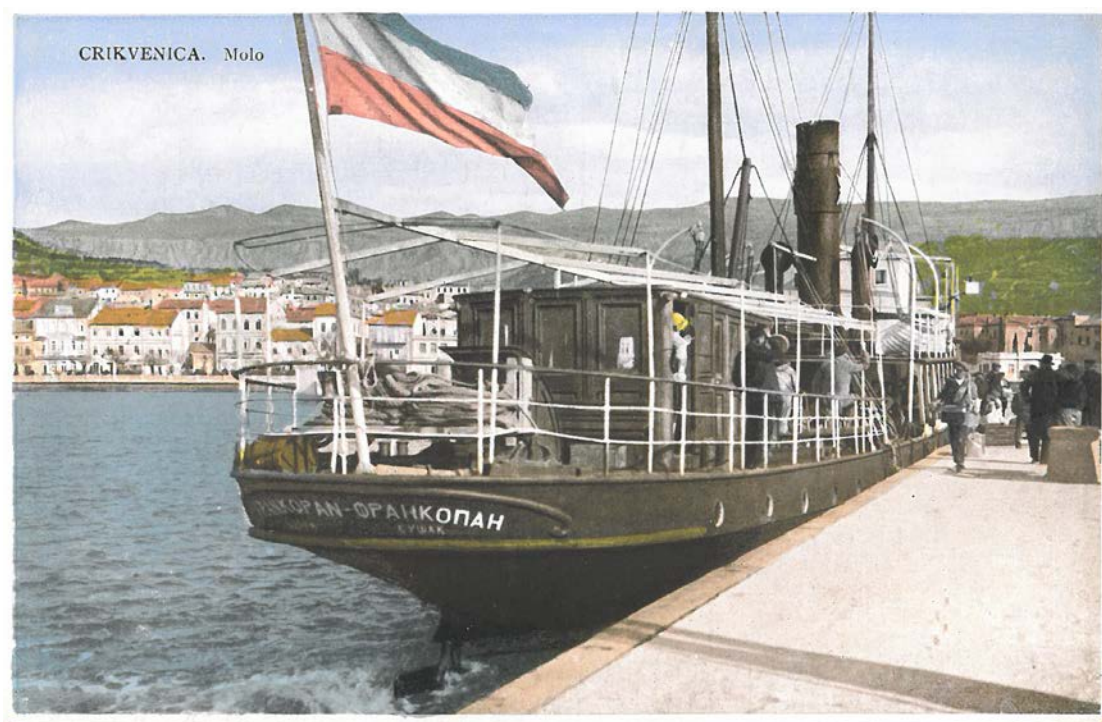


4. The following two cancellations, from periods during which Croatia was part of Yugoslavia (1932 and 1954), include 'Crikvenica' in both Latin and Cyrillic:



5. Consult my two-part essay on postal arrangements and phenomena in post-Armistice Délvidék, in *The News of Hungarian Philately* 48:2 (Apr.–June, 2017), pp. 11–26, and *The News* (Oct.–Dec., 2017), pp. 16–26.
6. To be precise, the destined-to-be-a-survivor canceller with the name ‘Crikvenica’ does not appear in **Volume VI** of the **Monograph**; the name, however, does appear in **Volume II**, among those recognized by the Austrian (in contrast to the Hungarian) postal administration. These names are supplied: Cirkvenica, Cirqueniza, Crkvenica, Crikvenica, Cirkveniza, and Czirquenitza (p. 364). Compare with the list of ‘pre-stamp’ cancels (above, Note 2).
7. A travel blogger tells us: “... [W]hen I travel, I always bump into some weirdos that . . . don’t even know where they are. They were even questioning if the city that we were heading to was called Crikvenica or Crkvenica, which we found hilarious. . . . [T]he right way is Crikvenica, not Crkvenica” (<http://www.matijagluhinc.com/crikvenica-or-crkvenica/>). I think my brief essay has sufficiently undermined the idea of ‘the right way’. It also carves out real space for ‘CRK’.

Ed: And here is a pretty picture to fill the rest of the space on this page – the steamer ‘Frankopan’ registered in Sušak on the ‘molo’ (quay) of ‘Crikvenica’. It was requisitioned into the Austro-Hungarian Navy during WWI as a troop carrier. The flag has been coloured upside down if it is supposed to be Hungarian.



PORTO PROVISIONALS – MORE FROM READERS

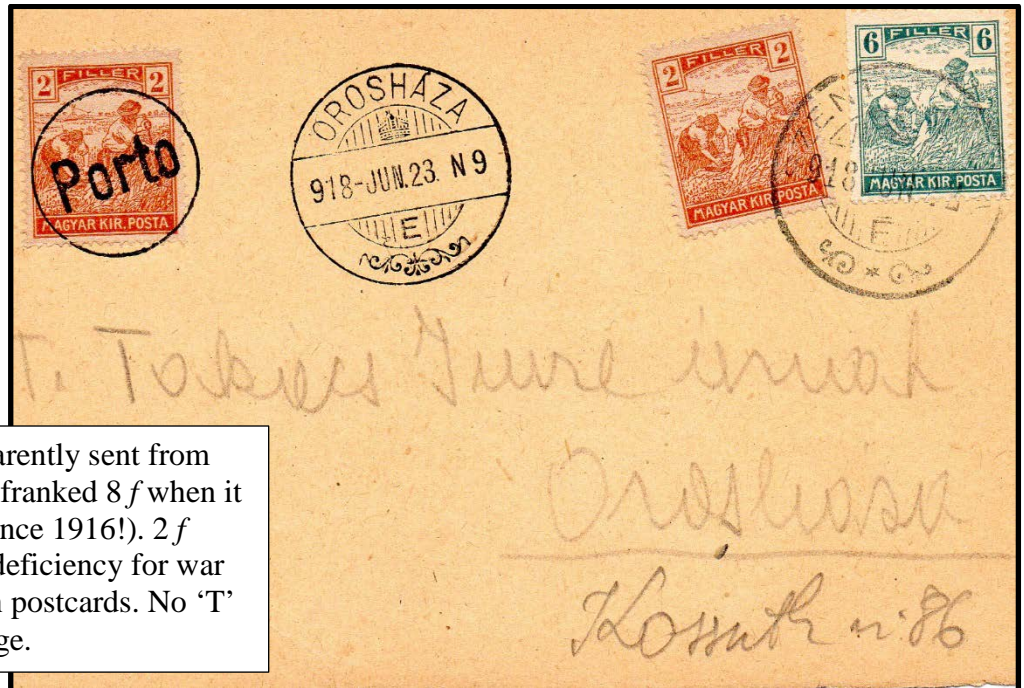
Following from David William's three-part article on the Porto provisionals in *SoH* 211, 212 and 213, readers have dug into their collections and provided some more examples.

T Florent sent in the following:

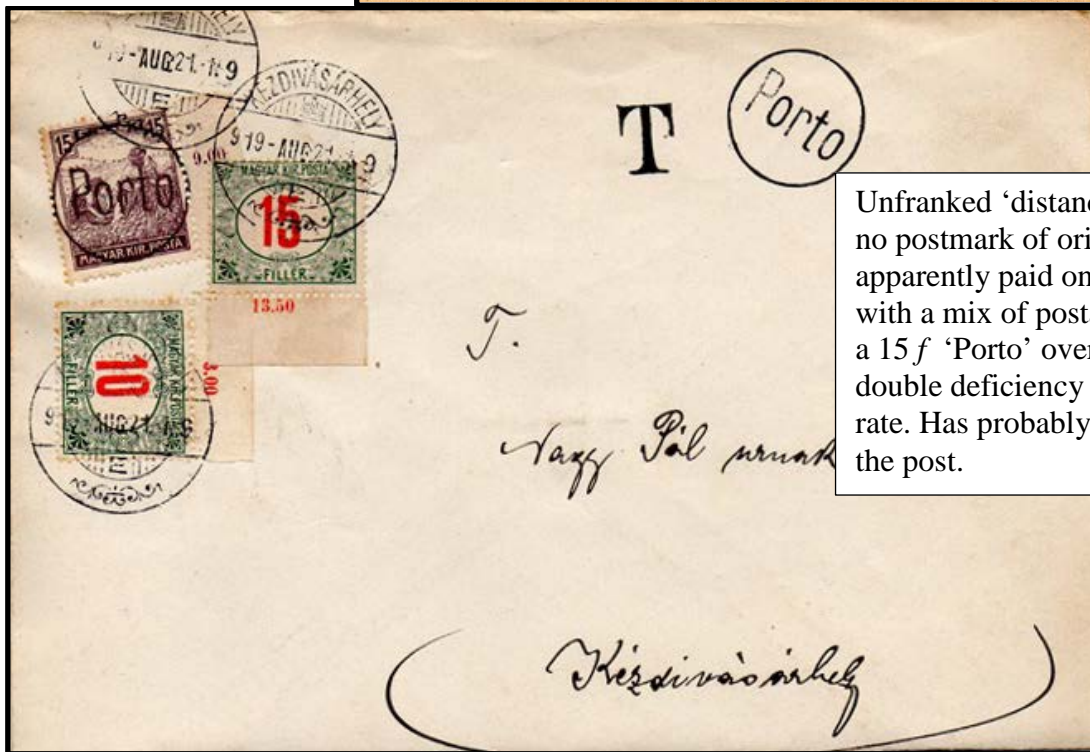


This hyperinflation cover posted on 11 June 1946 from Budapest 62 to Szolnok is franked at 400 *milpengő*, the day when the rate rose to 4000 *milpengő*, a factor of ten up. Allowing for the 'days of grace' when single deficiency was charged, the shortfall was strictly 3600 *milpengő*, but the manuscript mark is charging only '3.000'. The postage due stamp is a conventional 3000 *milpengő* stamp with a 'T' handstamp – another late usage. (Someone seems to have marked the back of the cover with the correct sum.)

Judy Kennett sent scans of a variety of covers which all appear to be examples of contrivances. Notes on why appear with each example:



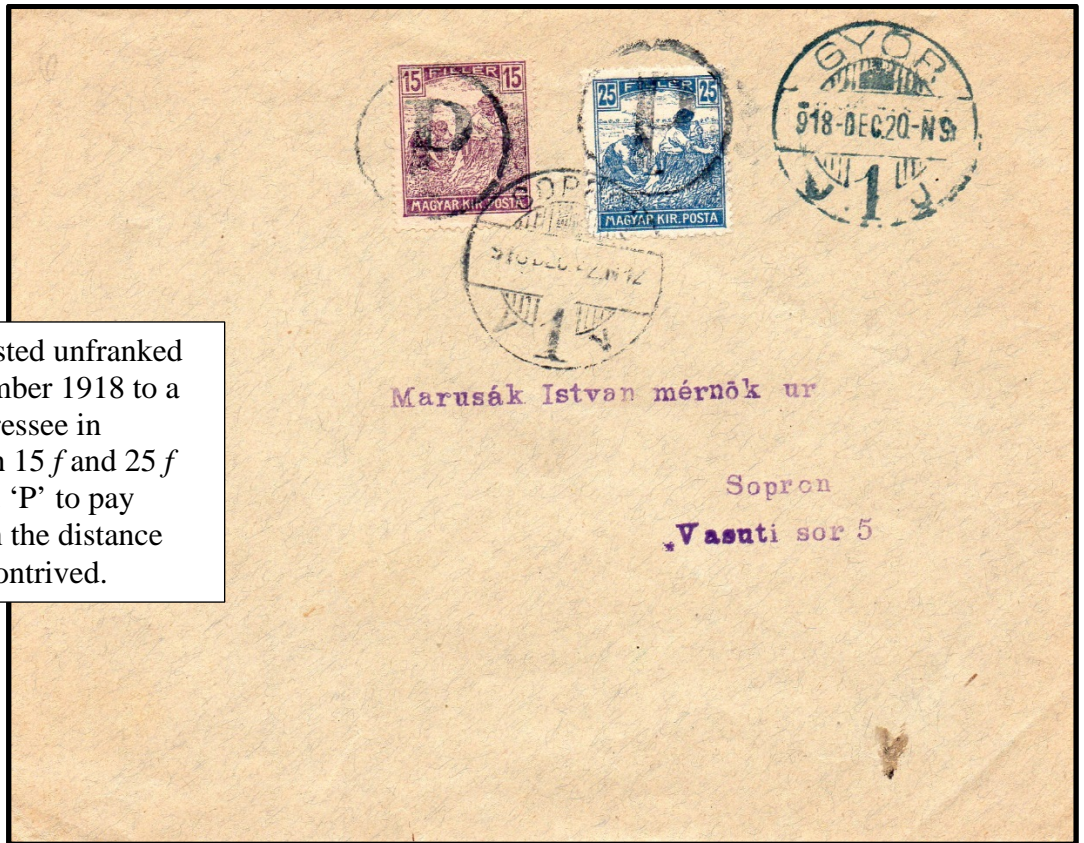
1918, 23 June. Card apparently sent from Szentendre to Orosháza, franked 8 f when it should have been 10 f (since 1916!). 2 f 'Porto' applied – single deficiency for war surcharge not charged on postcards. No 'T' mark or manuscript charge.



Unfranked 'distance' rate cover with no postmark of origin. Postage due apparently paid on 21 August 1918 with a mix of postage due stamps and a 15 f 'Porto' overprint to make double deficiency on the 20 f letter rate. Has probably not been through the post.

Unfranked letter with no originating office postmark, no 'T' or manuscript marks, charged 30 f postage due including 2 x 6 f with a 'Porto 12' handstamp, to make double deficiency for the local letter rate. Appears to be postmarked November 1918. Probably not been through the post.





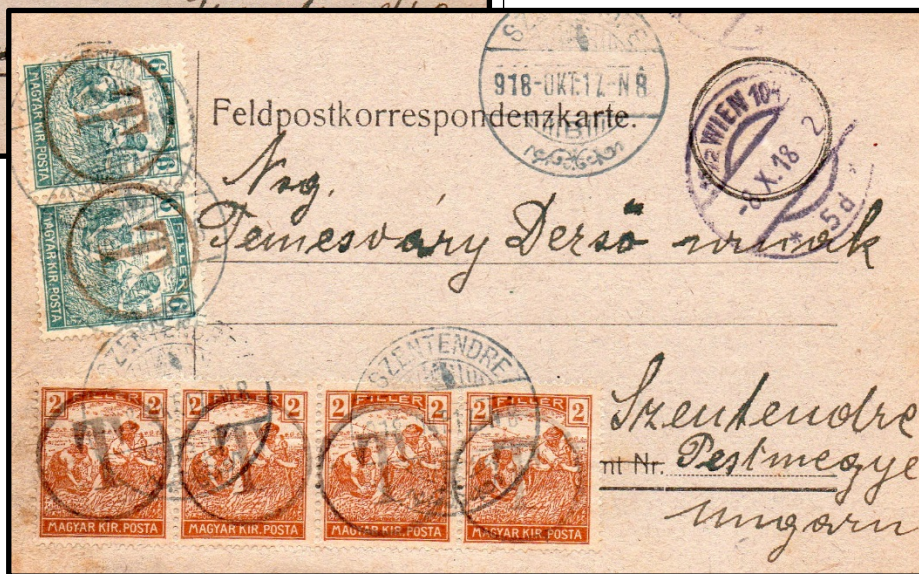
Letter apparently posted unfranked in Győr on 20 December 1918 to a commonly seen addressee in Sopron, franked with 15 f and 25 f stamps handstamped 'P' to pay double deficiency on the distance letter rate of 20 f. Contrived.



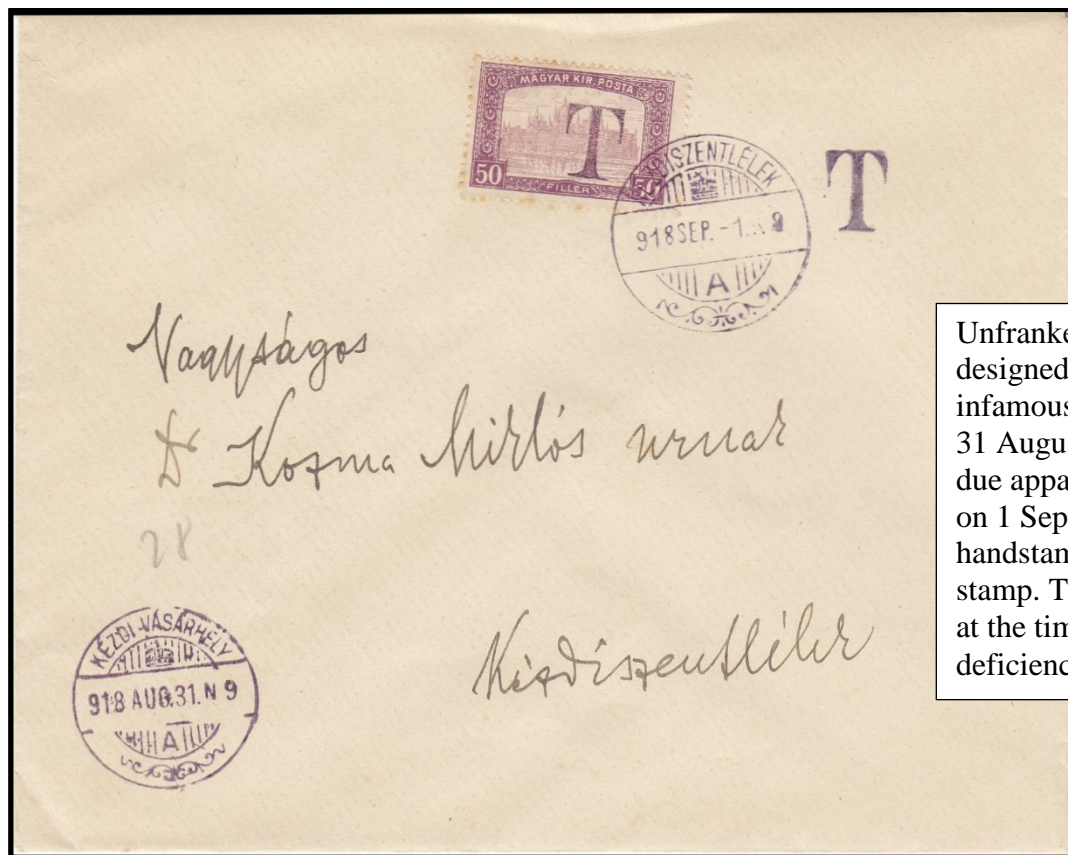
Letter to Szentendre with 25 f + 40 f 'T' handstamped postage due provisionals postmarked on 17 October 1918. The charge makes no sense whatsoever. The partial postmark at the top right does not help. Contrived and incorrect.



Two unfranked cards, apparently from different Vienna offices on 3 and 8 October 1918, to the same addressee in Szentendre 'decorated' with multiple 'T' handstamped postage dues to create double deficiency on the 10 f rate. Both 'created' on 17 October with different Szentendre datestamps.



Paul de Leeuw van Weenen sent in images of four more Porto provisional letters to Sopron as Judy's above, but with different frankings. He also sent in some more interesting examples:



Unfranked local letter designed to be read as from the infamous Kézdivásárhely on 31 August 1918, with postage due apparently charged at 50 f on 1 September using a 'T' handstamped 50 f Parliament stamp. There was no 25 f rate at the time for charging double deficiency of 50 f. Fabrication.

Letter from Ilosva to Budapest sent on 12 December 1918 franked with a 15 f stamp, the local letter rate, with 10 f postage due charge as double deficiency on the full rate of 20 f, using a 10 f Harvester tied with a 'Porto 10' handstamp. No 'T' or manuscript marks, and no Budapest arrival datestamp. Nice but suspect.



....AND ON THE 1916 POSTAGE RATE RISE

Paul also sent in some items related to the 1916 postage rate rise discussed in *SoH* 213.



Postcard sent from Temesvár to Orosháza on 19 October 1916 franked with 8 f, the sender presumably confusing the postal stationery rate rise with the picture postcard rate rise. Charged 4 f postage due, double deficiency on the 10 f rate.

Postcard sent locally within Budapest on 3 October 1916 franked with 7f only, and charged 6f postage due as double deficiency.



Postcard written on 1 October 1916 and sent locally within Kecskemet at the 5f rate, attracting 10f postage due for double deficiency on the new rate.

A 10f postal stationery lettercard from Zsombolya posted on 12 October 1916 to Nagyatád, marked '10' in pencil but crossed out and replaced with a blue crayon '5' correctly reflecting the period of grace for postal stationery. A nice, third example of this concession!



And finally, in answer to the Editor's question about whether registered official mail marked *Portokoteles* (recipient to pay) or similar was charged just for the postage, and not for the registration fee, Paul sent along the attached scans of two registered official mail items. The first is marked *Postadíjmentes* and sent within Budapest in November 1918 when the local postage rate was 15 f. Only 15 f was charged. The second was sent in February 1917 from a military unit in Miskolc to Ferdinand Hölbling of Osijek, the printer of military stationery. Although it is marked *Portofrei* in manuscript, it was charged 15 f postage due, being the distance letter rate at the time.

It is looking increasingly likely that not charging for registration was indeed the rule. Can any other readers add to this story?



COMMENT – JÁNOS KASS

Readers may recall that in the ‘New Issues’ section of *SoH* 213 was one which commemorated centenary of the first performance of the composer Bartok’s ‘Bluebear’s Castle’. **Paul de Leeuw van Weenen** has sent some images of a framed print and a postcard (since framed) by the Kossuth-Prize-winning graphic artist János Kass that, coincidentally, he bought at the Budapest Opera some years ago. The print is numbered 99 out of a run of 100, signed by Kass and dated April 1981. The postcard was bought in 2016.



The print and the postcard have pride of place in Paul’s hallway.



The sharp-eyed among you will notice that the horizontal white bars that appear on the 250 *ft* stamp are missing from the print, and presumably must either have been added to the stamp adaptation later, or the artist re-issued the design with the added bars.

(Ed.: see https://www.kollergaleria.hu/art/a_kekszakallu_herceg_vara-2529-hu, and a Google image search will show that that these are two of a whole series of similar illustrations for Bluebeard’s Castle).

PENALISING A RIVET

by Mervyn Benford and Roger Morrell

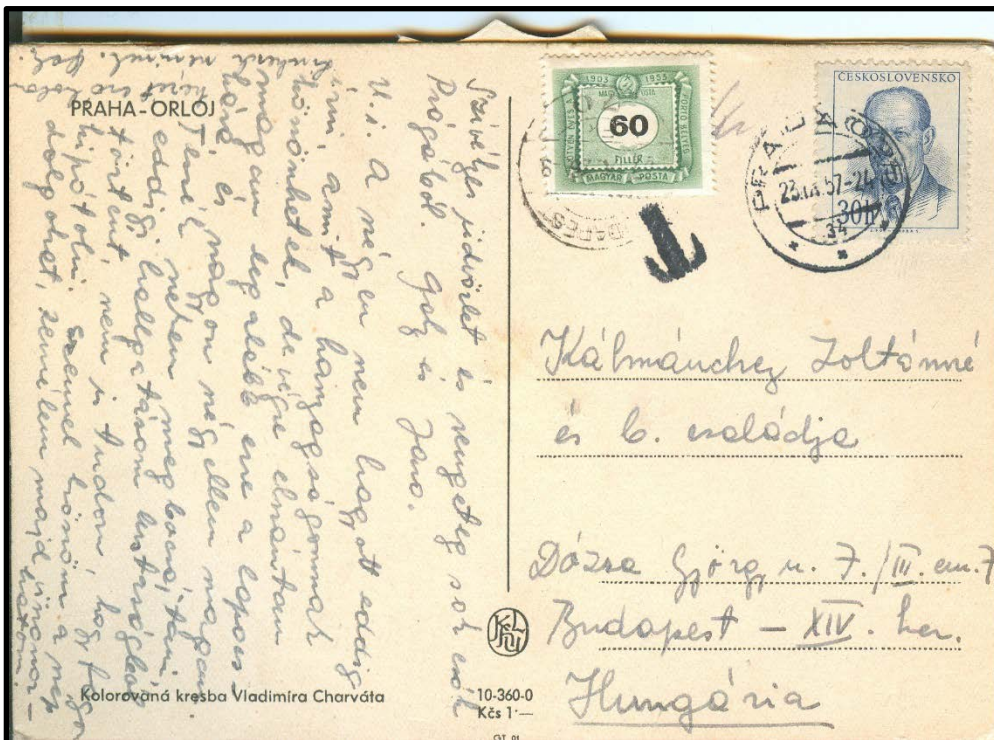


Those of you who have visited Prague will instantly recognise the world-famous astronomical clock, the Orloj, shown on this postcard, which is mounted on the southern wall of Old Town Hall in the Old Town Square. This 1957 hand-drawn image fronts a mechanical postcard whereby on turning the thumbwheel on the right side, one can change who or what appears in the two small windows at the top, either a pair of the Twelve Apostles or a cross-hatched patch, just as happens every hour when the clock strikes. Quite clever.... What is not quite so clever is the use of a large brass rivet to hold the thumbwheel in place, which must have caught the eye of the Hungarian authorities when the card arrived in Budapest. They decided it was a letter because of its thickness, and charged it 60 f postage due.

The Czech concessionary foreign postcard rate was 35 h (the 30 h stamp paid the inland rate), and the equivalent rate in Hungary was 40 f, while the letter rates were 60 h and

60 f respectively. So the card was deemed to be 30 h underpaid, and so it was charged 60 h for double deficiency.

One of the convenient cases of equivalent numerical values for sorting out foreign postage due charges without resorting to calculations involving the gold franc!



NEW ISSUES

Postal History II (2 May 2018)

A second set in this series has been issued. The 20 Ft stamp shows a non-standard postbox, which was made to an individual design for the post office that opened in the building of the House of Parliament in 1902. The display boards of the Hungarian Royal Post made for the 1896 millennium exhibition hall were unified by the carved and painted decorative crest, which is the main motif of the 40 Ft stamp. The posthorn is supplemented by a bundle of cables in reference to electronic communication, the telegraph and the telephone. The 50 Ft stamp depicts the collar and a button from the uniform of postal and telegraph clerks made of dark blue cloth in 1896.



The 60 Ft stamp shows a pair of two-armed letter scales used by the Hungarian Royal Post for treasury post offices. The 50 cm tall scales with copper pans could weigh letter mail up to a weight limit of 2 kg in grams using copper weights. On 19 November 1900, 21 three-wheeled motorised vehicles were introduced to aid letter collection. The 90 Ft stamp shows a 1:10 scale model of a motorised tricycle equipped with a carburettor and designed by János Csonka. The Hungarian Royal Post put another eight motorised postal vehicles into operation on 15 January 1906 to aid letter transport and forwarding between large post offices and railway stations in the capital. The aforementioned postal car features on the 500 Ft stamp.

This issue was designed by Barnabás Baticz and printed by Pátria Nyomda Zrt. on matt eco self-adhesive paper, 50 stamps per sheet.

Centenary of the sinking of the SMS 'Szent Istvan' (29 June 2018)

This was the last of the Austro-Hungarian battleships to be laid down, in 1912, in the Ganz Danubius ship factory in Fiume (today Rijeka). Because of its size (150 metres long and a displacement of 20,000 tonnes) it took two and a half years to complete, and spent most of the rest of WWI in Pola harbour performing mainly anti-aircraft duties. In a bid to break the Allies' Otranto blockade, the ship joined the fleet sailing southward out of Pola on the night of 9 June 1918. Because of delays for technical reasons, the fleet was spotted before dawn the following day by two Italian motor torpedo boats who got close enough to the dreadnought to fire two torpedoes which struck home. The ship eventually capsized after an hour (it had a top heavy design), and sank shortly afterwards. Remarkably, the event was filmed from an aeroplane, and can be viewed online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5pSiCjfhUUw>. Of the crew of 1,087 persons, only 85 sailors and 4 officers lost their lives, the rest being rescued by other ships of the fleet. This failure destroyed the last and largest planned Austro-Hungarian naval operation, and the monarchy's fleet did not put to sea again.

A miniature sheet has been issued to commemorate the tragic event (see back cover). It was designed by Imre Benedek, has dimensions of 100 mm x 70 mm, and is printed on gummed postage stamp paper by ANY Biztonsági Nyomda Nyrt. The stamps shows a still photograph from the film of the sinking.

Bicentenary of the birth of Ignác Semmelweis (30 June 2018)



Ignác Semmelweis (1818–1865), obstetrician and gynaecologist, professor and one of the best known figures of Hungarian medicine, is often referred to as the 'saviour of mothers'. Born in Buda, he attended university in Pest and Vienna, graduating as a medical doctor and then qualifying in surgery and obstetrics in Vienna. He began his career there, making clinical and pathological observations which led him, at the age of 29, to discover not only the cause of puerperal fever and but also the method to prevent it. He was the first to realise that infection caused puerperal fever and this infection was transmitted by doctors. So he proposed and then insisted that the doctors under him washed their hands with a solution of chlorinated lime before examining patients, and as a result puerperal fever all but disappeared.

Despite the impressive results at the clinic, where mortality fell to a tenth of its previous level, his discovery and measures provoked heated debates and serious conflicts. In 1850 Semmelweis returned to Hungary and took on the position of unpaid head physician at the Saint Roch Hospital in Pest, where due to his endeavours the mortality rate of mothers from childbed fever dropped from between 25 and 30% to under 1%. In 1855 he became the professor of obstetrics at the university in Pest. Due to his declining mental health, he was placed in an insane asylum in Vienna in the summer of 1865, where he died soon after in unclear circumstances. His autopsy records were published in 1977.

His teaching was forgotten and it was only after the emergence of Louis Pasteur and Joseph Lister that it was realised that Semmelweis had advocated and practised the principles of sterilisation beforehand. His achievements were only recognised by posterity, the Budapest University of

Medicine adopting the name of its former professor, Ignác Semmelweis, in 1969. A collection of printed materials on his discoveries on puerperal fever published between 1847 and 1861 was entered in UNESCO's Memory of the World register in 2013.

The 415 Ft stamp intended for a domestic priority letter up to 250 g or a Europe priority postcard or standard letter up to 20 g was designed by András Szunyoghy Jr., and is printed on gummed postage stamp paper by ANY Biztonsági Nyomda Nyrt.

Celebrating 150 years of Hungarian State Railways (6 July 2018)

On 1 July 1868 the Hungarian government purchased the Hungarian Northern Railway operating the Pest–Salgótarján line, which had gone bankrupt. In 1869 the Ministry of Public Works and Transport ordered that the 'Hungarian Royal Railways' should be the name of this railway, and other railway lines to be opened in the future, administered by the State Treasury. This was the predecessor of today's MÁV. From then on, the role of the state strengthened, and private railways that got into financial difficulties were helped or purchased by the state. Their lines and rolling stock were taken over by the Hungarian Royal Railways and a network began to develop. This network – a unity of railway vehicles, the staff, the service buildings and continuous innovation – has become an inseparable part of the country over the last one hundred and fifty years, which have often brought radical changes and difficult challenges also affecting the railway.

The main elements of the design are an early locomotive and two modern trains. The two stamps show a train from the company's modern FLIRT multiple unit series, one in the red livery introduced in April 2007 and the other in the traditional blue design, which entered service in October 2014. The top of the sheetlet shows the 500 class IIIe steam locomotive number 2535 made by the Hungarian Royal State Iron, Steel and Machine Works (MÁVAG), which entered service on 31 May 1893.

The miniature sheet comes perforated with black serial numbers of imperforate with red serial numbers. It was designed by György Kara, and printed on gummed postage stamp paper by ANY Biztonsági Nyomda Nyrt.

All New Issues can be purchased on-line by visiting Magyar Posta's website: www.posta.hu/ .



The Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain

Display and Auction: Banbury

Mill Arts Centre, Banbury, OX9 3DP

Saturday, 20 October 2018

Display followed by the Auction

Schedule:

- | | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 10.00 | Auction material viewing |
| 11.00 | Display: Martin Weise: Lottery stamps |
| 12.15 | Lunch break |
| 13.00 | Auction starts |
| 15.30 | Close |

We look forward to seeing you there – do try to come!

