

2.2 LETTERS - INLAND - 1918-1944

Table 1: First inflation period - 1918-1926

Date commenced	Rate period	Local			Other places		
		Up to 20 g	+ each 20 g	Official [1], each 100 g	Up to 20 g	+ each 20 g	Official [1], each 100 g
01-10-1916		10 <i>f</i>	5 <i>f</i>	-	15 <i>f</i>	5 <i>f</i>	-
15-06-1918		15 <i>f</i>	5 <i>f</i>	-	20 <i>f</i>	5 <i>f</i>	-
01-01-1920	1	60 <i>f</i>	20 <i>f</i>	-	60 <i>f</i>	20 <i>f</i>	-
01-06-1920	2	1 <i>K</i>	20 <i>f</i>	-	1 <i>K</i>	20 <i>f</i>	-
01-07-1921	2	1 <i>K</i>	20 <i>f</i>	1 <i>K</i>	1 <i>K</i>	20 <i>f</i>	1 <i>K</i>
01-01-1922	3	2 <i>K</i>	50 <i>f</i>	2 <i>K</i>	2.50 <i>K</i>	50 <i>f</i>	2.50 <i>K</i>
01-08-1922	4	4 <i>K</i>	1 <i>K</i>	4 <i>K</i>	5 <i>K</i>	1 <i>K</i>	5 <i>K</i>
05.10.1922	5	4 <i>K</i>	1 <i>K</i>	4 <i>K</i>	5 <i>K</i>	1 <i>K</i>	5 <i>K</i>
01-11-1922	6	15 <i>K</i>	10 <i>K</i>	15 <i>K</i>	25 <i>K</i>	10 <i>K</i>	25 <i>K</i>
16-04-1923	7	25 <i>K</i>	15 <i>K</i>	25 <i>K</i>	40 <i>K</i>	15 <i>K</i>	40 <i>K</i>
01-07-1923	8	40 <i>K</i>	40 <i>K</i>	40 <i>K</i>	80 <i>K</i>	40 <i>K</i>	80 <i>K</i>
13-08-1923	9	100 <i>K</i>	100 <i>K</i>	100 <i>K</i>	200 <i>K</i>	100 <i>K</i>	200 <i>K</i>
01-10-1923	10	150 <i>K</i>	150 <i>K</i>	150 <i>K</i>	350 <i>K</i>	150 <i>K</i>	350 <i>K</i>
01-01-1924	11	300 <i>K</i>	250 <i>K</i>	300 <i>K</i>	500 <i>K</i>	250 <i>K</i>	500 <i>K</i>
21-02-1924	12	600 <i>K</i>	500 <i>K</i>	600 <i>K</i>	1,000 <i>K</i>	600 <i>K</i>	1,000 <i>K</i>
11-04-1924	13	1,000 <i>K</i>	500 <i>K</i>	1,000 <i>K</i>	1,500 <i>K</i>	500 <i>K</i>	1,500 <i>K</i>
01-06-1924	14	1,000 <i>K</i>	500 <i>K</i>	1,000 <i>K</i>	1,800 <i>K</i>	1,000 <i>K</i>	1,800 <i>K</i>
01-01-1925	15	1,000 <i>K</i>	500 <i>K</i>	-	2,000 <i>K</i>	1,000 <i>K</i>	-

[1] Notes on official mail:

Previously unstamped official letters and cards to official bodies (marked (*Hivatalból* or similar) and to unofficial bodies (marked *Hivatalból Portóköteles*) had to be prepaid in official stamps during the period 01.07.1921 until 30.06.1924. The rules for starting and ceasing this three-year operation are shown below.

PTRT 47, 28.06.1921: Systematisation of ‘official’ postage stamps with the abolition of postage exemption.

Instruction

Act XXI of 1921 on the abolition of postal exemption (postage exemption) on the subject of the implementation of the article of the law and the systematisation of “official” postage stamps.

1. § General provisions.

Based on the authorisation received in the XXI. Act of 1921 regarding the abolition of postal exemption (postage exemption), I, in agreement with the Minister of Finance, definitively abolish postal exemption (postage exemption) as of July 1, 1921. Therefore, starting from the indicated time, with the exception of postal, telegraph and telephone service items listed in the law, prisoner of war items, and postal items declared free of charge in international treaties, not only can postal items not be sent free of charge, but all the benefits that the authorities, offices and official bodies previously exempted from postage from the Royal Post Office on this subject will also be definitively abolished (*e.g.* free authorisation, free post office box, postage-free postcard, official (parcel) delivery note, *etc.*).

Therefore, from July 1, 1921, authorities, offices and official bodies are subject to the same treatment as private parties in terms of the use of the Royal Mail, *i.e.* they must reimburse the post office for all postal services they

use according to the provisions of the general postal tariff in force. The only exception is the postage fee established for official letters in domestic circulation (L. 5. §-t.).

For the postage of official postal items of authorities, offices and official bodies in domestic circulation, the 'official' postage stamps established for this purpose are used, which can also be used to deduct fees that private parties pay in cash.

'Official' postage stamps cannot be used for postage of postal items sent abroad.

Therefore, postage of such items is carried out according to the rules that have been in force so far. Authorities, offices and official bodies can now use all postal services that were not available to them free of charge; thus, they can send not only letters, parcels, postal orders, etc., but also any postal item and provide them with additional operations (*e.g.* cash on delivery, express, payment notification, *etc.*).

All postal items with official postage stamps must be delivered to the home address where and for which they are provided. However, authorities, offices and official bodies may request in a written request addressed to the delivering post office that they may collect the postal items received by them at the post office with their own agent or proxy at any time during official hours and may rent a post office box (warehouse) for this purpose. In this case, however, the maintenance of the post office box or the lease of the warehouse and the authorisation given to the agent by the authority, office or official body to collect the postal items shall also be subject to the normal rates.

Post offices at whose headquarters the delivery of official postal items to homes is likely to cause difficulties should effectively recommend the advantages of post office box (or warehouse) rental to the attention of authorities and offices and should strive to maintain the current method of delivery.

The following are authorised to use official postage stamps: the Head of State, the Prime Minister, all ministers and the President of the Supreme Audit Office of the Republic of Hungary, in addition, all ministers and the President of the Supreme Audit Office of the Republic of Hungary shall determine within their own competence and, with the prior consent of the Minister of Finance, shall communicate to the Minister of Commerce which of their subordinate authorities, offices and official bodies are authorised to purchase official postage stamps. The guiding principle is that only official mail items sent in the strict interest of the state may be stamped with official postage stamps. Supervision in this regard is the responsibility of the minister to whom the authority, office or official body authorised to use official postage stamps belongs, and of the authorities, offices and official bodies that, or who, as addressees, receive mail stamped with official postage stamps. If the post office detects misuse of official postage stamps, it shall also provide assistance in eliminating the misuse (see Section 9). Post offices may only issue official postage stamps to those authorities, offices and official bodies that are included in the list of names to be published in the "Post and Telegraph Regulations" as those authorised to use official postage stamps. Until this publication is made, official postage stamps may be provided to state, municipal (county and city) authorities, offices and agencies of authorities and offices with independent operational scope (delegated, delegated), municipalities (towns with a council), ecclesiastical authorities and offices, and chambers of commerce and industry against cash payment. State railway bodies will be provided with official postage stamps by their own authorities. It is prohibited to provide official postage stamps to private parties or anyone else under penalty of disciplinary punishment.

Etc., etc....

PTRT 44, 16.06.1924: Termination of the use of official postage stamps. Flat-rate postage for official correspondence of state and local authorities.

I have decided to regulate the deduction of postage due on domestic letter-post items sent by state bodies and the method of deduction, and for this purpose, in agreement with the Minister of Finance, I am terminating the use of the currently prescribed official postage stamps and at the same time, I am implementing the flat-rate system on an experimental basis.

In comparison, Decree-Law 17.551/1921, issued on the subject of the implementation of Act XXI of 1921 on the abolition of postal exemption, K. M. (published in P. T. R. T. No. 17 of 1921), and all subsequent regulations published in connection with this, except for the provisions relating to postal, telegraph and telephone service items, I hereby repeal and order the following with regard to the implementation of the aforementioned law:

1. §.

Scope of the flat-rate payment of postal charges, determination of the flat-rate amount and its payment.

From the date of entry into force of this regulation, the authorities, command posts, offices, bodies, municipal authorities and their delegates listed in a separate regulation shall be charged the postal charges due on their ordinary and registered letter-post items to be sent to the country not with an official postage stamp, but in a flat-rate amount to be determined and paid in the manner set out below. However, these items may also be sent with the deduction of the tariff-based postal charges.

The flat rate applies to ordinary and registered letter mail items of the authorities, *etc.* listed above and to the special postal services listed in § 2. Letter mail items sent abroad are excluded from the flat rate, which must always be stamped with postage stamps corresponding to the amount set out in the valid postal tariff by all bodies paying the flat rate.

The Royal Hungarian Postal Administration determines, based on the statistical data at its disposal and the tariff valid on the 1st of the month, the monthly flat rate paid by the individual state offices and bodies that settle accounts independently within each ministry, reserving the right, however, to increase or reduce the flat rate for the following month proportionately in the event of a tariff change during the month. When determining the flat rate, the current tariff rate for the services mentioned in § 2 shall be used as the basis, and for the weight of letter mail items, the average rate, regardless of the type of item, shall be the rate for a 40-gram letter exchanged in domestic long-distance traffic.

The interested parties shall be obliged to pay the amount thus determined and communicated immediately, but no later than the middle of the relevant month, to the account of the Royal Hungarian Post Office at the Postal Savings Bank.

The type of items and special postal services subject to flat rate, the volume and weight limit of the items.

1. The following items may be sent under the flat rate system:

- a) letters,
- b) simple and reply postcards,
- c) forms (cross-bound items) and various open declaration and notification sheets,
- d) official papers.
- e) samples of goods, if they serve an official purpose and are sent to the same by the bodies participating in the flat rate and finally
- f) business papers, with the restrictions stated under point e).

Other types of items than those listed under points a)–f) above may not be sent against the flat rate.

2. The following are included in the flat rate for special postal services:

- a) registered mail,
- b) return receipt,
- c) information on items subject to flat rate,
- d) instructions for the return or change of address of such items by post,
- e) official written notices used by the bodies participating in the flat rate system on postal savings bank payment slips,
- f) correspondence posted at Budapest Post Office No. 4 for those renting a letter post box there (local exchange of letters),
- g) the box rental,
- h) the parcel warehouse rental,
- i) the locked bag transfer,
- j) the fee for the delivery of letter post items received by the body participating in the flat rate at rural post offices on Sundays and holidays, and finally
- k) the fee for the registration of postal authorisations.

The fee for all other types of mail and services shall be paid with regular postage stamps or in cash upon posting or use, in accordance with the rules in force.

The post office shall issue a separate receipt for the fees paid for special services on request, even if this is not generally required.

If a flat-rate mail item is not posted with the stipulation of a flat-rate special service (*e.g.* express, urgent treatment), only the fee for the special service (*i.e.* express, urgent) shall be paid upon posting, or it shall be paid with regular postage stamps.

3. The general guidelines set out in the ‘Postal Tariffs and Postal Business Regulations’ shall apply to these types of mail items with regard to the volume and weight of letters, postcards, forms, official papers, product samples and business papers that may be posted with a flat-rate.

Etc. etc.

PTRT 47, 26.06.1924: Supplement to the Decree (No. 14,880) on the flat rate of postal fees and the list of beneficiaries.

I. In connection with my Decree No. 14,880 dated June 13 of the current year and published in the 44th issue of the PRT of the current year, I hereby inform the post offices of the list of those authorities, offices, etc. that may post their official correspondence at the flat rate.

LIST

of those authorities, offices, *etc.* that are authorised to post their official correspondence at the flat rate. (Followed by a list of more than 700 organisations....)

Table 2: *Pengõ* period – 1926-1944

Date	Local					Other places				
	20 g	40 g	250 g	500 g	Official	20 g	40 g	250 g	500 g	Official
01-04-1926	8 <i>f</i>	12 <i>f</i>	16 <i>f</i>	24 <i>f</i>	-	16 <i>f</i>	24 <i>f</i>	28 <i>f</i>	40 <i>f</i>	-
15-11-1930	10 <i>f</i>	14 <i>f</i>	18 <i>f</i>	26 <i>f</i>	-	20 <i>f</i>	28 <i>f</i>	36 <i>f</i>	50 <i>f</i>	-
15-09-1941	12 <i>f</i>	16 <i>f</i>	20 <i>f</i>	30 <i>f</i>	-	20 <i>f</i>	28 <i>f</i>	36 <i>f</i>	50 <i>f</i>	-
01-03-1943	12 <i>f</i>		20 <i>f</i>	30 <i>f</i>	-	20 <i>f</i>		36 <i>f</i>	60 <i>f</i>	-
01-07-1943	20 <i>f</i>		36 <i>f</i>	50 <i>f</i>	-	30 <i>f</i>		60 <i>f</i>	80 <i>f</i>	-