

4.1 POSTCARDS - INLAND AND FOREIGN - 1869-1945

4.1.1 Introduction

Postcards were introduced in Austria-Hungary on 01.10.1869 before any other postal authority. Initially, they could only be produced officially with a stamp imprint (*i.e.* are classed as postal stationery cards) and they were only valid for use within the Empire. The Hungarian postal authority did not permit the use of Austrian versions of the card [1]. Only slowly were bilateral agreements put in place permitting exchange of postcards with other countries, and then often at only the basic letter rate to those countries. Exchange with Germany came first, followed by other countries in Europe. The 1874 UPU convention resolutions do not mention postcards, and it appears that general acceptance of them by all UPU signatories did not occur until 1878.

The rules surrounding what constituted a postcard were quite strict, varied considerably, and readily broken by the public. Initially postcards could only be officially produced. The size was limited to 14 x 9 cm on stiff card. One side was entirely given over to the address, and the addition of anything on that side led to it being called a letter and subject to postage due. An address label could initially be glued onto the address side, but this was banned in 1881 in accordance with the 1879 Paris UPU agreement [2], which also banned any adhesion other than extra stamps. This requirement was lifted in 1883 [3], probably under pressure from businesses. It took until the 1891 Vienna UPU congress that any pictures ('engravings') could be placed on the reverse from 01.07.1892. In 1901, for internal and traffic with Austria and occupied provinces, there were relaxations on the maximum UPU-permitted size of address labels of 5 cm x 2.5 cm (**PTRT 67, 21.12.1901**). The adhesion of other 'thin paper' items such as labels, photographs or other decorative items, was permitted from 01.10.1907 (**PTRT 39, 14.09.1907**).

Printed text on the back, such as price lists or commercial offers, was permitted from early on, and printed (but not pasted on) images were formally permitted (if not containing indecency or insults!) from 1881 [4].

Reply-paid postcards were introduced in 1880, at first 2 *kr* + 2 *kr* cards for inland use and for traffic with Germany, and a little later 5 *kr* + 5 *kr* cards for foreign use, but these were not immediately accepted by all countries - see section on reply-paid cards.

Privately produced postcards were permitted from 01.01.1885 [5] but had to have a 2 *kr* postage stamp affixed (also on the reply section for a reply-paid card). These were for internal use or for traffic with Germany.

Pictures and advertising were first formally permitted on postcards in 1892 (aside from the early printing of simple forms or price lists), and the world of picture postcards exploded in the later 1890s. Some relaxations of the rules for advertising were permitted from 1903 [6].

Other factors that were not permitted and incurred extra charges, typically that the postcard was charged postage due as a letter or even a parcel, were:

- a) Inappropriate size. Cards significantly larger (**PTRT 38, 19.10.1899**) or significantly smaller than the prescribed size (postcards may not be smaller than 14 x 9 cm, see [7], but later reduced to 10 x 7 cm following the Rome UPU decisions (**PTRT 39, 14.09.1907**); **PTRT 52, 09.07.1923** advised postal officials to ignore size differences of 0.5 cm. The Austrian-Hungarian postal accord of December 1924 permitted postcards up to a maximum of 15 x 10.5 cm to be sent between parties (**PTRT 4, 23.01.1925**, clause 4) which, by the end of the year, had been implemented in the size of the green-coloured Hungarian non-denominated postal stationery cards.

- b) Prepared on stock that was significantly thinner or thicker than officially prepared postcards (e.g. **PTRT 15, 28.04.1899**).
- c) Attached items such as fake gemstones or glitter (classed as ‘adhesions’), or heavy embossing;
- d) Postcards that were not described as such in Hungarian, i.e. *Levelezőlap*, and for internal use, preferably with all other languages removed (requirement removed by **PTRT 39, 14.09.1907**).
- e) Postcards sent to other countries with no indication of *Carte Postale* in French (**PTRT 51, 16.11.1900**). The expression ‘Universal Postal Union’ is desirable, but not essential.
- f) Postcards with immoral or indecent images or text (reiterated in **PTRT 14, 14.04.1899**).
- g) Postcards with split address sides (i.e. only the right side used for the addressing) from other countries before Austria and Hungary decided to permit them (from 01.10.1907, **PTRT 39, 14.09.1907**).

Pressure to permit postcard shaped items to be sent as printed matter resulted in this being allowed in **PTRT 4, 25.01.1890** (reinforced in **PTRT 23, 27.04.1891**) provided that they did **not** have the heading *Levelezőlap*, and had appropriately printed text on the back, but they had to be of different colour to postal stationery cards (reinforced again in **PTRT 13, 04.04.1898**) and contain no personalised greeting. The terms and conditions were clarified in **PTRT 64, 01.12.1900**.

The advent of the picture postcard in the mid-1890s also led to calls to be allowed to send these with minimal greeting also as printed matter. Permission finally came into force in 1898 with a maximum of five words of greeting (**PTRT 41, 22.12.1898**) but at that time was of no financial advantage except for foreign sendings. See also Sections 4.4 and 5.1.

References:

[1] **PTRT 9, 27.05.1871**: Handling of correspondence cards and postal money orders with the stamp imprint of Austria. In accordance with the Holy Decree of January 21, 1871, Item 1284 (Ordinance Gazette No. 2, Page 7), the following is stipulated:

Correspondence cards bearing the imprint of the Austrian postal authority found in letter collection boxes are not to be sent, but, if the sender can be identified from the signature, are to be returned to the sender immediately with the appropriate explanation; otherwise, they are to be treated as undeliverable letters.

If correspondence cards bearing the imprint of the Austrian postal authority are presented for recommendation (registration), or similar postal money orders for posting, the sender is free to either take them back and replace them with others made out on forms valid in Hungary, or to send the cards bearing the imprint of the Austrian postal authority. The cards bearing the Austrian postal territory stamp must be fully franked in such a way that the reduced postage of 2 *nkr* and the recommendation amount for correspondence cards, and the full order fee for postal orders, are paid using stamps. In this case, the imprints of the Austrian postal territory must be covered with these stamps.

[2] **PTRT 5, 06.03.1881**: According to paragraph 5 of Article XV of the Implementing Regulations of the General Postal Union Treaty, concluded in Paris on June 1, 1878 (PRT 1879, page 115), as well as paragraph two of Article III of the Letter Post Tariff (page IV), it is prohibited to attach or adhere any items other than the necessary stamps to correspondence cards.

Accordingly, it is also prohibited to affix addresses written or printed on special strips of paper to correspondence cards.

The Royal Post Offices are instructed to return correspondence cards issued in violation of these regulations to the postal authorities, with reference to this regulation, and to treat those found in the letter collection boxes and those received from other post offices in the same way as other mail items.

[3] **PTRT 41, 30.08.1883**.

[4] **PTRT 22, 25.07.1881**.

[5] **PTRT 66, 28.12.1884:** From January 1, 1885, simple correspondence cards or with a reply card produced by private industry may also be accepted for mailing in Austro-Hungarian and in postal traffic with Germany under the following conditions.

1. Correspondence cards produced by private industry must be exactly the same size and thickness of paper as those issued by the authorities, and must also bear the printed or written Hungarian (in the Croatian-Slavonian region: Croatian) heading '*Levelezőlap*' on the front. It is up to the sender to add a designation in another national language in addition to this heading.
2. The colour of the paper is at the sender's discretion.
3. The correspondence cards must be franked with an affixed 2 *kreuzer* stamp. For correspondence cards with a reply, the postage for the reply card must also be paid in advance by affixing a 2 *kreuzer* stamp.
4. Unstamped or insufficiently stamped correspondence cards, *i.e.*, correspondence cards that differ in shape or size from the correspondence cards issued by the postal administration, are excluded from mailing.

If the defects or other irregularities described above are only discovered at the receiving or delivery post office, the correspondence cards in question must be returned to the post office of origin and returned to the originator or treated as returned mail.

Furthermore, the regulations that apply to correspondence cards issued by the postal administration also apply to correspondence cards produced by private individuals.

[6] **PTRT 44, 12.11.1903:** Markings, illustrations and advertisements that can be used on the cover of letter mail and on the address side of postcards. Closed postcards produced by private industry.

I bring into force the following resolutions on the markings that can be used on the cover of letter mail (envelope or address tape) and on the address side of postcards exchanged in domestic circulation:

1. The sender of the item may write, print or stamp his own name, occupation and address on the upper edge of the front or back of the cover (envelope or address tape).

In addition, other markings (not written) printed on the back of the envelope or address tape: illustrations, pictures and advertisements may also be used.

However, the advertisement (*réclame*) may only refer to one company, business or field of business on the same item, and the illustrations, pictures and the advertisement (*réclame*) may only occupy so much space on the back of the envelope or the address tape that the clarity of the address is not disturbed in any way and that there is sufficient space for the local stamp impressions, for recording any necessary service notes and for attaching notes indicating the reason for non-delivery.

Letters sent by post in a cover with illustrations, pictures taking up more space, and advertisements relating to more than one company, business or field of business, or with a note in the nature of personal correspondence, etc. they are not transported, but must be returned to the sender and, if this is not possible, they must be treated as returned consignments, or, if there is a case of excise duty violation, they must be subject to appropriate procedures.

2. Under the same conditions, illustrations, pictures and advertisements (*réclame*) for advertising purposes may be printed on the first address page of postcards exchanged in domestic circulation and abroad.

On this occasion, I would like to draw the attention of the Royal Post and Telegraph Offices to the following.

Recently, closed postcards produced by private industry have been put into circulation, which, depending on whether they are decorated with pictures on their back or produced without pictures, bear the inscription 'Enclosed postcard' or simply 'Closed postcard' and are identical in shape and method of closure to the closed postcards issued by the Royal Post.

Since, pursuant to Part I, Section 1, Section 5, Section 6 of the 'Postal Tariffs and Postal Business Regulations', closed postcards are subject to equal treatment with letters, closed postcards produced by private industry are not subject to any restrictions regarding the colour and quality of the paper, nor their shape, and are fully subject to the provisions of the rules applicable to letters regarding the addressing, the markings applicable to them, the weight, volume and remuneration. However, it is prohibited to provide closed postcards produced by private industry with the inscription 'Hungarian Royal Post' or with the Hungarian postal stamp. Postcards bearing such prohibited inscriptions or postal stamps, as well as those produced by private industry which are not applicable to envelopes pursuant to Section 1 of this Regulation, shall be subject to the provisions of the Royal Post. Post (and telegraph) offices should not forward or deliver it, but should return it to the sender or treat it as returned mail.

[7] **PTRT 14, 02.04.1903:** Handling of postcards produced by private industry.

It has repeatedly happened that some post (and telegraph) offices treated a postcard produced by private industry from abroad as an insufficiently prepaid letter and charged postage because the postcard was smaller than 14 x 9 centimetres.

The implementing regulations of the Universal Postal Convention only determine the maximum dimensions of postcards, so that our individual postal administrations can also issue postcards smaller than the maximum limit of 14 x 9 centimetres, as some administrations do.

As for postcards produced by private industry, the above-mentioned regulations also require that the size and strength of the paper of the postcards issued by the administration of the country of dispatch be the same.

The assessment of whether postcards produced by private industry are comparable to postcards issued by the post office whether they agree or not, first of all with regard to the post office of the country of dispatch, I call on the Royal Post (and Telegraph Offices) to charge postage on postcards produced by private industry arriving from abroad, which are smaller than 14 x 9 centimetres in size, if they otherwise comply with the rules applicable to postcards, only if they arrive with the 'T' mark from abroad. Postcards arriving from abroad without the 'T' mark, which are not noticeably larger than the regular sizes, must also be delivered without postage collection.

I also call on the Royal Post (and Telegraph Offices) to charge postage on postcards produced by private industry sent in the territory of the countries of the Hungarian Crown, due to their size, only if with the 'T' indicator, if they are really noticeably larger than the dimensions of postcards put into circulation by the Royal Mail or are smaller than 11½in length and 7½in width.

The Royal Mail (and Telegraph) Offices shall, pursuant to this Decree, record the following in the 'Postal Tariffs and Postal Business Regulations'. 1. In Part 1, Section I, Section 22, Point 2 (page 47), in the second line, after the word 'larger': 'or smaller than 11½ cm in length or 7½ cm in width'.

2. In Part III, Section I, Section 23, Point 5 (page 43), in the second line, after the word 'extent' the figure '2' shall be added, and at the bottom of the page: '2A. Postcards produced by private industry arriving from abroad, which if they are smaller than 14 x 9 centimetres, and therefore should only be treated as insufficiently prepaid letters if they arrive from abroad marked with the 'T' symbol. Postcards smaller than 14 x 9 centimetres, produced by private industry and addressed abroad from the territories of the Hungarian Crown, which otherwise comply with the rules, should only be marked with the 'T' symbol in addition to the missing postage if the postcard measures less than 11½ centimetres in length and 7½ centimetres in width.

4.1.2 Rate tables

Table 1: Postcards – Inland and foreign rates – 1869 - 1918

Date introduced	Inland	Foreign	PTRT
01.10.1869	2 <i>kr</i>	Internal only	PTRT 11, 10.09.1869
15.09.1870	2 <i>kr</i>	5 <i>nkr</i> [1]	PTRT 15, 15.09.1870
01.08.1871	2 <i>kr</i>	[2]	PTRT 14, 12.08.1871 and subsequent ones
01.07.1876 [3]	2 <i>kr</i>	10 <i>kr</i> to British and French colonies	PTRT 18, 29.06.1876
01.04.1879 [4] + B&H from 16.11.1879	2 <i>kr</i>	Group I, 5 <i>kr</i> Group II, 8 <i>kr</i>	PTRT 11, 28.03.1879 (Sea-Post surcharge imposed)
01.01.1892 [5]	2 <i>kr</i>	2 <i>kr</i> to AT, B&H, D, Serbia, Romania 4 <i>kr</i> to Montenegro 5 <i>kr</i> to UPU members 8 <i>kr</i> to UPU non-members	PTRT 75, 31.12.1891
01.07.1892	2 <i>kr</i>	2 <i>kr</i> to AT, B&H, D, Serbia, Romania, Montenegro 5 <i>kr</i> to other foreign lands	PTRT 34, 18.06.1892 (Sea-Post surcharge removed)
01.01.1900	4 <i>f</i>	10 <i>f</i> 5 <i>f</i> to Austria, Germany, B&H, Serbia, Montenegro	PTRT 45, 01.12.1899
11.01.1902	5 <i>f</i>	10 <i>f</i> 5 <i>f</i> to Austria, Germany, B&H, Serbia, Montenegro	PTRT 67, 21.12.1901 [6]
01.10.1916	10 <i>f</i> (8 <i>f</i> for postal stationery cards)	10 <i>f</i>	PTRT 124, 24.09.1916
15.06.1918	10 <i>f</i> [7]	10 <i>f</i>	PTRT 53, 29.05.1918

[1] **PTRT 15, 15.09.1870:** From now on, it is permitted to use correspondence cards to send written communications to the North German Confederation, Bavaria, Württemberg, Baden, and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The fee for correspondence cards to the aforementioned countries is 5 *Neukreuzer*.

Until the issue of separate cards bearing the corresponding postage stamps for traffic to the aforementioned countries, the correspondence cards printed for internal traffic must be used, and the additional postage must be paid by affixing a 3 *kr* stamp to the address side. Insufficiently stamped correspondence cards may not be sent.

Correspondence cards with written communications to foreign countries other than those mentioned above are not permitted and, if they are posted, should not be sent but treated as undeliverable.

In the direction of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, correspondence cards will initially arrive from the North German Confederation, and from Bavaria, Württemberg and Baden, which will be franked with stamps or postmarks of 1 silver *groschen* and 3 silver *kreuzer*, respectively.

[2] **PTRT 14, 12.08.1871:** From August 1, 1871, correspondence cards will be permitted for use between the Austro-Hungarian Empire on the one hand, and Belgium, Denmark, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal (via Germany), Sweden, Switzerland, Spain (via Germany), and the United States of America, on the other. The correspondence cards **are subject to the same postage as prepaid ordinary letters** to and from the countries concerned, and must always be franked by the sender.

For the time being, internal correspondence cards must be used for correspondence with these countries, and the additional postage must be paid by affixing stamps to the address side.

The registration of correspondence cards is permitted for the fee set for registered letters; the registration fee must also be paid by affixing stamps.

Insufficiently stamped correspondence cards will not be forwarded and must be returned to the sender, if the sender can be identified. Otherwise, they must be treated as undeliverable correspondence.

At exchange post offices that deliver correspondence cards directly to or receive them from foreign post offices, they must be treated in every respect in the same way as ordinary stamped letters.

The royal post offices must supplement the foreign letter postage rates accordingly.

PTRT 15, 03.09.1871: Postcard traffic with France permitted and **is subject to the same postage as prepaid ordinary letters.**

PTRT 18, 29.06.1872: Postcard rate to Germany reduced to 2 *kr* from 01.07.1872.

PTRT 19, 10.07.1872: Postcard rate to Luxemburg reduced to 2 *kr* with immediate effect.

PTRT 1, 03.01.1873: Postcard rate to Switzerland reduced to 4 *kr* from 01.01.1873.

PTRT 5, 31.01.1873: Postcards to Turkey permitted for the first time at 4 *kr* from 01.02.1873. Limited to places where there are Austro-Hungarian post offices.

PTRT 10, 03.03.1873: Under the German-Austro-Hungarian postal accord postcards to Germany are 3 *kr*.

PTRT 36, 16.10.1873: Postcard rate to Sweden via Germany announced as 13 *kr*, same as letter rate.

PTRT 41, 09.12.1873: Postcard rate to USA introduced at 5 *kr*, as from 01.12.1873.

PTRT 1, 10.01.1874: Postcard rate to Italy introduced at 15 *kr*, to Tunis and Tripolis, 23 *kr*, introduced as from 01.01.1874. From Austro-Hungarian PO's in Turkey to Italy, 23 *kr*, and to Tunis and Tripolis, 33 *kr*.

PTRT 9, 20.03.1874: Postcard traffic with Romania permitted at 4 *kr* from 15.03.1874.

PTRT 21, 07.11.1874: From now on, correspondence cards can be sent to Egypt against advance payment of the postage fee of 25 *kr* for a single franked letter. However, correspondence cards to Alexandria will continue to be subject to the reduced rate of 4 *kr* per item. In the German text of the letter postal rates for foreign correspondence (Africa) on page 69, under 'Egypt I. via Trieste b. Other places in Egypt' in column 11, the following note should be added: 'Correspondence cards must be franked and are subject to the rate for single franked letters.'

PTRT 23, 25.06.1875: Publication of the 1874 UPU resolutions.

PTRT 24, 30.06.1875: Appended is a large table of worldwide postage rates, but postcards are **not** mentioned.

PTRT 27, 25.07.1875: Postcards can now be sent to Montenegro; rate 4 *kr*.

PTRT 42, 28.12.1875: From 01.01.1876, the postcard rate to France is reduced to 5 *kr* following the 1874 UPU resolutions.

[3] **PTRT 18, 29.06.1876:** Following the 1874 UPU resolutions, this PRTT reads:

Overseas countries to which the Convention concluded in Bern on January 27, 1870, applies.

I. British India: Hindustan, British Burma, Aden. (extended to Zanzibar (**PTRT 26, 18.08.1876**)).

II. French colonies, namely: a) American: Martinique, Guadeloupe and its dependencies, French Guiana, St. Pierre and Miquelon; b) African: Senegambia and its dependencies, Gabon, Réunion, Mayotte and its dependencies, St. Marie de Madagascar; c) Asian: French settlements in India (Pondichery, Chaudernayor, Karikai, Malié and Janakpuri) and in Cochinchina; d) Australian: New Caledonia and its parts, the Marquesas Islands, Tahiti, and the archipelagos under the Protectorate of France.

For correspondence to and from the countries specified in the Annex to the Convention, the following postage rates shall be charged from July 1, 1876:

a) for franked letters, 20 *Nkr* for 15 grams each;

b) for unstamped letters, 30 *Nkr* for 15 grams each;

c) **for correspondence cards, 10 *Nkr* each;**

d) for newspapers, other printed matter under cover, shipments containing samples and business papers, 6 *Nkr* for 50 grams each;

e) for registered correspondence, a registration fee of 10 *Nkr*, and

f) for a return receipt, 10 *Nkr*.

PTRT 7, 31.03.1877: From Hungary to all British Colonies (list appended), the postcard rate is now 10 *kr*.

PTRT 10, 07.05.1877: Postcard rate to Tunis and Tripolis via Italy now 5 *kr*.

PTRT 20, 19.08.1877: Postcard rate to Persia, Argentina, Greenland and Danish Antilles now 10 *kr*.

PTRT 13, 17.05.1878: Postcard rate to Luxemburg now 5 *kr* (from 01.05.1878).

PTRT 16, 28.06.1878: Postcard rate to Canada now 10 *kr* (from 01.07.1878).

PTRT 24, 28.09.1878: Postcard rate to Peru now 10 *kr* (from 01.10.1878).

PTRT 34, 21.12.1878: Postcard rate to Newfoundland, British West African colonies, British Honduras and Falkland Islands now 10 *kr*.

[4] **PTRT 11, 28.03.1879:** The provisions of the UPU come into force on 01.04.1879 with the following fee structure:

Group I: All European countries; from Africa, Algeria (as belonging to France), Egypt, the Spanish settlements in Morocco, then Tunis and Tripoli; from America, the United States of America, Canada, and Newfoundland; from Asia, the possessions of Brazil and Turkey located there. The same rates apply to correspondence from or to those places in Turkey and the Levant where Imperial and Royal Post Offices are in operation, as well as to correspondence with Persia and China, which is mediated through Russia. For correspondence with Persia via Bombay and with China via Suez, the rates set for the second group apply. Exceptions:

a) correspondence to Germany and Heligoland, which is subject to the same rates as domestic correspondence, and therefore the maximum weight for letters and samples is 250 grams and for printed matter one kilogram, while business papers are not accepted at all; furthermore

b) correspondence to Serbia and Montenegro, whose current taxes remain in force, as do the taxes for

c) correspondence from the Hungarian border region, i.e., the Besztercze-Naszód County; furthermore, the area from the left bank of the Maros River down to the western border of the Hunyad County and to the Romanian border, finally the Szörény County, to Romania and *vice versa*.

Postcard rate 5 *kr*.

Group II: Argentina, Brazil, British India, the following British colonies: in Africa, Accra, the Gold Coast, Lagos, Senegambia, Mauritius, and the Seychelles Islands; in America, the Bermuda Islands, Guyana, British Honduras, the Falklands Islands, Jamaica, and Trinidad; in Asia, Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, and the British colonies in China and Anam; all overseas colonies of Denmark and Greenland; all French, Dutch, Portuguese and Spanish overseas colonies, the American Republics of Honduras, Liberia, Mexico and El Salvador, Japan, and Persia. Correspondence to Baghdad and Bussora via Bombay is subject to the same rates.

Postcard rate 8 *kr*. (Note: this is effectively with the Sea-Post Surcharge.)

Exceptions: The rate for correspondence to countries that have not joined the Universal Postal Union is composed as follows:

a) the Union rate up to the Universal Postal Union border, or from this border to the destination, and

b) the rate for transport within the foreign country.

PTRT 41, 13.11.1879: Postcard rate to Bosnia and Herzegovina 2 *kr* and to the Sandjak of Novibazar 5 *kr* from 16.11.1879.

PTRT 3, 14.02.1881: The following British possessions in the West Indies: Granada, Santa Lucia, Tobago, and the Turks and Caicos Islands, joined the General Postal Union on 01.02.1880, so the postcard rate becomes 8 *kr*.

PTRT 31, 14.09.1882: Postcards not accepted to Australia and New Zealand via Brindisi.

PTRT 30, 27.06.1884: Postcards to Italian PO in Assab (Red Sea coast) 8 *kr*.

PTRT 39, 23.08.1884: Postcards to the French PO in Obock, 8 *kr*.

[5] Appended to **PTRT 75, 31.12.1891:**

The price of the postcard is only 3 types, with a similar territorial division to that of letters:

2 *kr* (Inland, Austria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Germany, Serbia, Romania.),

5 *kr* (UPU members) and

8 *kr* (non-members of the UPU)

(4 *kr* to Montenegro; none outside the association).

The price of a reply postcard is always double that of a simple one.

[6] **PTRT 67, 21.12.1901:** New regulation of the price of postcards and money order forms.

Based on the resolution of the Council of Ministers, from 11 January 1902, the price of postcards in domestic circulation is set at 5 *f* per piece (10 *f* for reply cards), and the price of postal money order forms is set at 2 *f* per piece in both domestic and international circulation.

In comparison, instead of the current 4 *f* (8 for reply cards), new 5 *f* simple and 5 + 5 *f* reply postcards will be issued based on these (brown printing on yellow paper), as well as domestic (pink) and international (yellow) money order forms with a price indication of 2 *f* per piece.

The m. kir. State Printing Office and the National Post and Telegraph Office have issued to the Post and Telegraph Directorate's stock exchanges this month only a quantity of the old (4 *f*) postcards and the 1 *f* postal order forms, which will probably be sufficient to cover the needs that will arise until January 10, 1902. However, around the middle of this month, the Post and Telegraph Directorate's stock exchanges will receive the new postcards and the new order form for the period from January 11 to 31. The directorate's valuables warehouses shall also process

the monthly orders of the post (telegraph) offices in such a way that the offices shall have a sufficient stock of old postcards and vouchers by January 10, 1902, and that they may begin selling the new valuables on January 11. If the stock received is not sufficient, the valuables warehouses and post and telegraph offices shall place additional orders this month. The royal decree Post (telegraph) offices and valuables dealers shall cease the sale of old postcards and old postal order forms on the evening of January 10, 1902, and from January 11, 1902, only the new 2 *f* ones shall be sold from the order forms, and the new 5 *f* ones from the postcards shall be sold first. Of the old 4 *f* postcards, only the remains of the packages that have been started shall be sold, but these shall be additionally provided with a 1 *f* postage stamp before issue. The offices shall continue to accept old postal orders in the hands of the public for sending sums of money, as well as old postal orders, until the end of April 1902, if the sender affixes a 1 *f* postage stamp to both these and those to make up for the price difference. 4 *f* postcards sent without a surcharge after January 10, 1902, shall be charged a 2 *f* surcharge at the expense of the addressee.

From May 1, 1902, postal orders and postcards issued on the old form, even if they are provided with a surcharge, shall not be accepted by the offices for delivery, and such postcards shall be treated as if they were completely unstamped and shall be charged the regular (10 *f*) surcharge.

The old postal order forms withdrawn from circulation in this way (even if they are stamped with a postmark) as well as the old postcards (insofar as they do not fall under the concept of damaged valuables) will be exchanged by the post office for new valuables (2 old ones for one new order) at their full value by the end of May 1902.

[7] Note: The charge for postal stationery cards included 2 *f* war tax in addition to the 8 *f* postage from 15.06.1918, but picture postcards attracted no war tax.

Table 2: Postcards – Inland and foreign rates - 1918-1945

Date	Inland		Abroad	
	Local	Other places	Convention countries**	Other countries
15.06.1918	10 <i>f</i>	10 <i>f</i>	10 <i>f</i>	10 <i>f</i>
01.01.1920	40 <i>f</i>	40 <i>f</i>	40 <i>f</i>	40 <i>f</i>
01.06.1920	60 <i>f</i>	60 <i>f</i>	60 <i>f</i>	1 <i>K</i>
01.01.1922	1.50 <i>K</i>	1.50 <i>K</i>	3 <i>K</i>	4 <i>K</i>
01.08.1922	2 <i>K</i>	2 <i>K</i>	5 <i>K</i>	7 <i>K</i>
05.10.1922	2 <i>K</i>	2 <i>K</i>	22 <i>K</i>	30 <i>K</i>
01.11.1922	6 <i>K</i>	10 <i>K</i>	22 <i>K</i>	30 <i>K</i>
16.04.1923	10 <i>K</i>	20 <i>K</i>	45 <i>K</i>	60 <i>K</i>
01.07.1923	20 <i>K</i>	40 <i>K</i>	110 <i>K</i>	150 <i>K</i>
13.08.1923	50 <i>K</i>	100 <i>K</i>	220 <i>K</i>	300 <i>K</i>
01.10.1923	90 <i>K</i>	150 <i>K</i>	350 <i>K</i>	500 <i>K</i>
01.01.1924	200 <i>K</i>	300 <i>K</i>	600 <i>K</i>	800 <i>K</i>
21.02.1924	400 <i>K</i>	600 <i>K</i>	1,100 <i>K</i>	1,500 <i>K</i>
11.04.1924	600 <i>K</i>	1,000 <i>K</i>	1,800 <i>K</i>	2,400 <i>K</i>
01.06.1924	600 <i>K</i>	1,000 <i>K</i>	2,400 <i>K</i>	3,000 <i>K</i>
01.10.1925	600 <i>K</i>	1,000 <i>K</i>	2,000 <i>K</i>	2,500 <i>K</i>
01.04.1926	4 <i>f</i>	8 <i>f</i>	16 <i>f</i>	20 <i>f</i>
15.11.1930	6 <i>f</i>	10 <i>f</i>	16 <i>f</i>	20 <i>f</i>
13.02.1940	6 <i>f</i>	10 <i>f</i>	16 <i>f</i> [1]	20 <i>f</i>
15.09.1941	8 <i>f</i>	12 <i>f</i>	24 <i>f</i> [2]	30 <i>f</i>
01.09.1942	8 <i>f</i>	12 <i>f</i>	12 <i>f</i> , 24 <i>f</i> [3, 4]	
01.04.1943	8 <i>f</i>	12 <i>f</i>	12 <i>f</i> , 18 <i>f</i> [5]	30 <i>f</i>
01.07.1943	12 <i>f</i>	18 <i>f</i>	18 <i>f</i> [6]	30 <i>f</i>
01.05.1945	40 <i>f</i>	60 <i>f</i>	-	-

**** Convention countries with reduced rate and dates of applicability:**

Austria	01.01.1920 onwards
Bulgaria	01.10.1916 to 31. 12.1921
Czechoslovakia	01.01.1922 onwards
Germany	01.10.1916 onwards
Italy and Colonies	01.08.1922 onwards
Poland	01.01.1920 to 21.12.1921; 01.08.1922 onwards
Romania	01.01.1922 onwards
SHS Kingdom	01.01.1920 to 31.12.1921

4.1.3 Wartime changes, 1938-1945

Following the Austrian Anschluss, the break-up of Czechoslovakia and the subsequent outbreak of war, a number of changes of postal rate occurred. It remains a little unclear exactly how the extant Central European postal agreements withstood this as German control was extended. The following rates for postcards have been found:

- [1] Germany, Bohemia-Moravia Protectorate, Poland, Italy and Colonies, Slovakia, Vatican City (data from the *Monográfiája* IV, pp.537-8, not supported by formal text in a contemporary PTRT, but probably announced in **PTRT 7, 16.02.1940** as being in a new publicly available wall chart of rates not attached to the available on-line version.)
- [2] **PTRT 44, 09.09.1941:** As [1] but NDH Croatia added.
- [3] **PTRT 39, 22.08.1942:** Postal accord with Slovakia, postcard rate from 01.09.1942 is now 24 *f*. An attached public notice from September 1942 gives Germany, Bohemia-Moravia and occupied Poland, 12 *f*, Croatia, Italy and colonies, and Vatican City 24 *f*.
- [4] **PTRT 53, 20.11.1942:** Postal accord with Finland. From 01.12.1942 the postcard rate will be 12 *f*.
- [5] **PTRT 17, 26.03.1943:** European Postal and Telecommunications Union comes into force from 01.04.1943. The lower rate for Germany, Bohemia Moravia, occupied Poland and Finland, higher rate is for Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Italy and Colonies, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia.
- [6] **PTRT 32, 26.06.1943:** From 01.07.1943, the postcard rate to Germany, Bohemia-Moravia, occupied Poland and Finland is now 18 *f*.

4.1.4 Reply-paid postcards

These were introduced following the 1879 UPU Congress. In **PTRT 20, 17.07.1880** it was announced that from 01.08.1880 inland reply-paid cards would be available, and from 01.10.1880 international reply-paid cards would be available. The inland cards would also be used for traffic with the German Empire. At this time only a small number of UPU members would accept exchange of these cards, but the number grew substantially over the next five years as the number of UPU members increased. The following PTRTs document this expansion of use.

PTRT 4, 25.02.1881

Following the decrees of July 5, 1880, Item 16124 (P. R. T. 1880, page 81) and of January 6, 1881, Item 645 (P. R. T. 1881, page 9), the Royal Post Offices are hereby informed that the following countries and colonies are currently participating in the circulation of correspondence cards with paid reply:

Austro-Hungarian Empire, Argentine Republic, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Dutch Colonies in the Orient, Germany, Norway, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey.

In addition, the following countries and colonies accept and return paid reply cards, but have not yet issued paid reply cards themselves:

Republic of Honduras, Dutch colonies in Curacao and Suriname, Persia, Portuguese colonies, San Salvador.

PTRT 7, 26.03.1881: Cuba and Porto Rico accept reply-paid cards.

PTRT 17, 27.06.1881: Haiti, Paraguay and Columbia accept reply-paid cards.

PTRT 22, 25.07.1881: Guatemala accepts reply-paid cards. Serbia accepts 2 *kr* - 2 *kr* reply-paid cards.

PTRT 27, 29.08.1881: Liberia accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 34, 23.10.1881: Uruguay accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 41, 21.12.1881: Hawaii now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 2, 23.01.1882: Paraguay and Dominican Republic now accept reply-paid cards.
PTRT 9, 20.03.1882: Columbia now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 15, 27.04.1882: Nicaragua now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 19, 25.05.1882: Honduras now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 2, 17.01.1883: Costa Rica now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 4, 26.01.1883: Great Britain now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 15, 09.04.1883: Sweden now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 25, 26.05.1883: Barbados and Costa Rica now accept reply-paid cards.
PTRT 32, 26.06.1883: Denmark (including Iceland, the Faroe Islands, and its West Indian colonies), Uruguay, the Spanish colonies of Cuba and Puerto Rico, and the British colonies of Lagos and the Bahamas now accept reply-paid cards.
PTRT 39, 15.08.1883: Greece and Jamaica now accept reply-paid cards.
PTRT 42, 10.09.1883: Guatemala, Greenland and St Lucia now accept reply-paid cards.
PTRT 47, 16.10.1883: Hawaii and Senegambia now accept reply-paid cards.
PTRT 48, 26.10.1883: British Guiana and Tobago now accept reply-paid cards.
PTRT 49, 05.11.1883: Chile now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 58, 31.12.1883: British India now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 1, 09.01.1884: Haiti now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 2, 12.01.1884: San Salvador now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 10, 01.03.1884: Brazil now accepts reply-pai cards (from 01.03.1884)
PTRT 14, 10.03.1884: Bulgaria now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 17, 26.03.1884: Peru now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 21, 17.04.1884: Nicaragua now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 27, 30.05.1884: Japan now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 29, 13.06.1884: Ecuador now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 43, 12.09.1884: Egypt now accepts reply-paid cards.
PTRT 48, 06.10.1884: Summary listing of those countries then accepting reply-paid cards.

The Rome UPU congress of 1907 did not permit the reply half of a reply postcard to have registration to be pre-paid. (**PTRT 39, 14.09.1907**).