

5.5. NEWSPAPERS (*Hirlap*)

5.5.1 Newspaper Tax

The posting of newspapers, magazines, *etc.*, to individual subscribers involved both a newspaper tax and a postage charge, which should not be confused. The newspaper tax was introduced in 01.07.1789, initially set at $\frac{1}{2}$ *kr* (*Conventionsmünze*) and 1 *kr* for pamphlets but varied with time and the size of the printed sheet. It was abolished on 01.11.1850 for national papers and set at 2 *kr* for foreign (non-German Postal Union) imported political newspapers. Initially, evidence that the tax had been paid was via a tax insignia stamped onto the paper. The first adhesive tax stamps for imported newspapers were issued on 01.03.1853, and a second issue was made on 01.11.1858 when the currency change occurred. Then, the internal newspaper tax was rounded up to 2 *Neukreuzer* and the imported foreign newspaper tax was rounded up to 4 *Neukreuzer*. On 01.01.1859 the tax rate was halved to 1 *nkr* and 2 *nkr* respectively. Newspaper tax was abolished in Austria from 01.01.1900, and presumably also in Hungary from the same date. See ¹ for more details.

It should be noted that not all newspapers and magazines were subject to the tax. In 1882 the Austrian Post Office produced *Postverordnungsblatt (PuTVB)* 26, 30.03.1882 ², entitled ‘Compilation of regulations governing the operation of the postal newspaper service’ which applied to the entire Austro-Hungarian Empire. In opening paragraph 5, it states that:

‘Official Austrian newspapers and those dedicated to discussing purely scientific, artistic, technical, or other specialised subjects (specialised journals) are not subject to stamp duty. However, Austrian newspapers whose announcements are not limited to their subject matter or which contain recreational reading are subject to stamp duty.

‘The decision as to whether a periodical, as a specialised journal, should be exempt from stamp duty rests with the Imperial and Royal Ministry of the Interior, in consultation with the Imperial and Royal Ministry of Finance, and must be obtained by the relevant editorial staff. Therefore, with the exception of official Austrian newspapers, all newspapers that appear at least four times a month and whose recognition as specialised journals has not yet been obtained from the aforementioned ministries are to be considered and treated as subject to stamp duty.

‘All domestic and foreign, or Hungarian, newspapers recognised as specialised journals are included in the newspaper price list and designated with an F (specialised journal) along with the corresponding number of the Financial Ordinance Gazette or the reference number of the Imperial and Royal Ministry of Finance.’

5.5.2 Inland newspaper postage

In Austria-Hungary newspaper postage was cheaper than that of any other form of mail. According to *Monográfia* Vol. II, special stamps were introduced on 1 January 1851 of value 0.6 *kr* (for single newspapers), 6 *kr* (for bundles of 10 newspapers), and 30 *kr* (for bundles of 50 newspapers), irrespective of delivery distance. From 01.11.1858 a new design had a value 1.05 *Nkr* to reflect the currency change from old *Kreuzer* to *Neukreuzer*. From 01.06.1867, a new Mercury design with a value initially of 1.05 *kr* was issued in parallel with the new letter-post stamps following the State Compromise (**PTRT 3, 01.06.1867**), but were reduced in price to 1 *kr* from 01.01.1868 (**PTRT 20, 28.12.1867**). From then on, the rate of 1 *kr* for single newspapers did not change until 1900.

The *Monográfia* Vol. III gives the validity of use of the 1 *kr* Hungarian inland rate up to 1874 as follows (taken from **PTRT 20, 28.12.1867**):

¹ See <https://www.austrianphilately.com/npprtax/austrian-nppr-tax.pdf> for more information.

² See <http://www.kitzbuhel.co.uk/library2/1882%20PVOB026%20The%20Newspaper%20Duty.pdf>

For single newspapers released daily or several times per week:	1 <i>kr</i>
For newspapers of periodicals issued once per week or several times per month, per 5 <i>Zoll-Loth</i> :	1 <i>kr</i>
For periodicals issued once per month, per 2.5 <i>Zoll-Loth</i>	1 <i>kr</i>

From 1874 the metric weight system was introduced, and the rates changed as follows (**PTRT 34, 09.10.1874**):

For newspapers or periodicals published once a week or at least fortnightly, per 250 g:	1 <i>kr</i>
For weights above this, per 100 g:	1 <i>kr</i>
For periodicals issued once per month or at least quarterly, per 100 g	1 <i>kr</i>
For periodicals whose weight exceeded 500 g, the <i>Fahrpost</i> had to be used.	
For periodicals issued less than quarterly, or being sent outside the Empire, letter rate postage applied.	

From 01.01.1900, the currency change meant that the newspaper rate was now 2 *fillér* instead of 1 *kr*.

5.5.3 Postal subscription to newspapers and magazines

The postal subscribing to newspapers and magazines had to be made through the Post Office and was limited to Imperial Government approved titles. These included both national and foreign titles. There were many excluded titles, mostly for political reasons, and the list of acceptable titles which was published in each December for the following calendar year changed from year to year. It was illegal to attempt to acquire any excluded titles. The subscriber paid for the required period of issues, typically quarterly or even annually, the cost including postage. Typically, for a political newspaper the postage element was an additional 25% of the newspaper selling price, higher for non-political newspapers and magazines. The subscription was arranged by the post office with the registered publisher. Individual editions then had the newspaper postage stamps applied either to individual copies or to bundles of copies and sent through the post to the subscriber's post office, from which the subscriber would collect their copy. If home delivery was required, initially that was subject to an arrangement between the subscriber and his local post office, which from 01.01.1868 was consolidated into a ½ *kr* delivery fee which had to be paid in cash in advance for the next month, rounded up to the next whole *kr* (**PTRT 20, 28.12.1867**). (For Austrian territories, a ½ *kr* newspaper stamp was issued on 01.12.1880 for this purpose, but Hungary did not issue such a stamp value.)

5.5.4 Foreign newspaper rates

Printed matter rates were normally employed for newspapers, but may vary after the Bern Postal Union convention of 1875. **PTRT 23, 25.06.1875** has appended a large table of rates to different countries, and subsequent PRTs contain information on additional countries as they joined the Union. The London UPU meeting of 1929 agreed to conditions for discounted foreign newspaper rates, which was formally implemented in Hungary in 1930. Hungary had already instituted discounted rates internally for political newspapers in 1920 (**PTRT 15, 02.03.1920**). (Note of caution: Prior to this the term 'discounted' probably referred to the fact that normal newspaper rates were less than the standard printed paper rates.)

5.5.5 Translations of some relevant Hungarian PTRTs:

PTRT 3, 01.06.1867: Ordering foreign newspapers

The Royal Post Office instructs that from now on, orders for newspapers published abroad, *i.e.* outside the borders of Austria, should be placed exclusively through the postal newspaper publishing offices in Pest and Pozsony (Bratislava), which are authorised for direct foreign newspaper circulation.

PTRT 7, 13.07.1867: Circular on the delivery of newspapers

After it became public knowledge, and even obvious complaints were raised, that some rural post offices are providing delivery of newspapers by letter carriers for a fee of one *kreuzer* per issue, and are refusing to issue newspapers free of charge to parties who wish to have their papers collected from the post office by their servants, — in view of the sensitive burden placed on the reading public by this, and especially the irregularity of such an arbitrary procedure — all *m. kir.* post offices are to strictly and precisely observe the regulation No. G. 1590 of 1850 (under item 53 of the regulation of 19 September of that year), according to which the subscribers themselves take care of the delivery of foreign and official newspapers, as well as domestic newspapers that arrive at the post office with a postal stamp; delivery by mail carrier is permitted only at the express request of the addressee — according to the latest regulation issued on 2 October 1858 under No. 2912, for a fee of one *kreuzer* per issue. Those who violate this regulation in force are subject to severe punishment.

PTRT 8, 24.07.1867: Stamping with newspaper stamps

In order to prevent abuses, it is necessary that the post offices receiving newspaper parcels affix each newspaper stamp individually and accurately on the newspaper copies contained in the parcels, as was ordered by the Royal Ministry of Commerce under point i) of the regulation issued on September 12, 1850 under number 1590/c (on page 97 of the 1850 regulation list, volume III).

The Royal Post Offices therefore hereby strongly remind you of the exact fulfilment of this duty.

The Royal Post Offices are instructed to strictly punish any negligence noticed in this regard.

Dated in Pest on July 20, 1867.

PTRT 20, 28.12.1867: Amendment of the resolutions on the domestic distribution fees for newspapers

As a result of the agreement concluded with the **Imperial Ministry of Commerce**, the following resolutions will come into force from the beginning of 1868 with regard to the distribution fees for newspapers and periodicals.

1. The price of newspaper stamps will be reduced from 1 *Forint* 5 *kreuzers* per hundred copies to 1 *Forint*.
2. Newspapers and periodicals published several times a week will, as before, be distributed with a newspaper stamp per copy, regardless of weight.

Periodicals that appear only once a week, but several times a month, must be provided with a newspaper stamp per copy per 5 *Zoll-Loth*, and monthly magazines per 2½ *Zoll-Loth*.

The special discount that some periodicals of this type have enjoyed so far will cease at the end of December of the current year.

Those periodicals that are not published at least twelve times a year will be sent as ordinary printed matter (cross-bound shipments).

3. The rules for packaging newspapers will remain unaffected.
4. In the case of late subscriptions, *i.e.* if several additional issues of the newspaper are sent to the subscriber at the same time, each issue must be provided with the appropriate newspaper cover.

Such serial numbers (serial novels) that do not belong to the newspaper issues sent earlier but are sent separately afterwards, are subject to the ordinary charge for printed matter (cross-bound shipments).

5. If the supplements of newspapers are distributed simultaneously with the main paper, no separate fee is paid, even if the supplement can be subscribed to separately from the main paper.
6. Special supplements (newspapers, pictures, calendars, *etc.*), which the editorial office provides to all or individual subscribers under certain conditions on the basis of the published programme or subscription invitation, may be distributed free of charge along with the newspaper if they can be sent by letter post due to their shape or content. The same applies to subscription invitations that are attached to their own pages.

A fee of 40 *Nkr* is payable for each sheet or part of a sheet and for every hundred copies printed for private advertisements sent along with the pages.

Any other special supplements of newspapers, whether from the editorial office or from other distributors, are subject to the same fees as ordinary printed matter (cross-bound shipments).

7. The delivery fee for newspapers will in future be charged at $\frac{1}{2}$ *Nkr* for each delivery of the newspaper, regardless of whether it is whether the delivery contains one or more copies or issues of the magazine in question, if it does not exceed 15 *Loth* in weight.

Newspaper packages of greater weight cannot be delivered, but must be collected from the post office.

The above delivery fee, as before, must be paid at least one month in advance, and fractions of 0.5 *kr* resulting from the calculation of the monthly fee must be calculated in whole *kr*.

Post offices will apply themselves strictly to this regulation in the future.

PTRT 15, 01.12.1869: Procedure for ordering foreign newspapers

The following procedure shall be followed for ordering foreign newspapers:

1. Each post office shall keep a so-called 'Subscription Journal' of the foreign newspapers ordered from it, the columns of which shall be as follows:
 - a) serial number;
 - b) name and place of residence of the subscriber;
 - c) address and place of publication of the ordered newspaper;
 - d) the time for which the subscription is made;
 - e) the subscription amount paid, with separate sub-columns for the amounts paid in silver and banknotes;
 - f) an entry of whether the subscriber wishes to have the ordered newspaper sent to his home or to collect it from the post office himself;
 - g) the date and at which post office newspaper department the newspaper in question was ordered and the subscription amount due was sent;
 - h) remark.

2. The subscription is immediately recorded in the subscription log, and the party is given a receipt containing the amount paid and the data listed under b), c), d) and e).

The newspaper to which the subscription was made is ordered from one of the newspaper departments of the Pest, Pozsony, Sopron, Nagy Szeben or Fiume post offices, depending on the geographical location of the ordering post office. For example: the Kolosvár post office should order the Paris or Berlin newspaper not from the Nagy Szeben, but from the Pest post office's newspaper department.

3. The order is made in writing, with the subscription price sent at the same time, in summary, without stating the subscriber's address. For example:

1870. For the 1st quarter: 3 copies of the Berlin 'Bazar' *Frt ...kr....* in silver, or *Frt ...kr....* in banknotes.

2 copies of the Leipzig "Gartenlaube" in *Frt ...kr....* in silver, or *Frt ...kr....* in banknotes.

1870. I. and II. quarters: 1 copy of the Berlin 'Bazar' *Frt ...kr....* in silver, or *Frt ...kr....* in banknotes

A total of 6 copies: *Frt ...kr....* in silver, or *Frt ...kr....* in banknotes.

The ordered newspapers are sent to the post offices in a similar way, *i.e.* without an address, according to the number of copies.

When the newspapers arrive, the relevant post office first of all checks whether the number of copies of the ordered newspapers is available, and if it notices a shortage, it immediately notifies a claims for it, otherwise the missing issue will be sent at the expense of the post office that claims late. If more copies are received than the number ordered, the excess, together with a short note of the fact and also an offer, shall be returned to the newspaper department of the post office that sent it.

4. If a foreign newspaper is ordered at a post office under the condition that it will be delivered by another post office, for example, someone orders the foreign newspaper at the post office in Kolosvár for a subscriber in Bánfi-Hunyad, the latter post office will record the subscription made with the appropriate receipt in its own subscription log, but will process the order at the newspaper department of the post office in question with an addition that the ordered copy is to be sent to Bánfi-Hunyad, and will also inform the post office in his home town. The Bánfi-Hunyad post office records the received notification in its subscription log, and in the column intended for the subscription price, it notes that the copy was originally ordered at the Kolosvár post office; taking care to ensure that the copy arrives exactly on time, otherwise it will claim it early. A similar procedure must be followed if a subscriber wishes to have the ordered newspaper delivered to him/her in the meantime through another post office. The communications exchanged in this regard shall be serially numbered and shall be kept together as documents of the subscription journal.
5. The newspaper departments of the post offices — with regard to which the existing rules shall continue to apply — shall be obliged to process incoming orders in a timely manner and in such a way that subscribers

may receive their ordered newspapers without delay. The order documents sent by the individual post offices shall be serially numbered and shall be kept in bundles as documents belonging to the newspaper journal.

If certain post offices order foreign newspapers whose copies would reach the addressee with a loss of time through the newspaper department where the order was placed, compared to the geographical location of the ordering post office, the order, together with the subscription amount, should be transferred to the newspaper department of the post office that can deliver it in a shorter time and more advantageously.

6. In all other respects, post offices are instructed to strictly adhere to the newspaper handling rules published at the beginning of the 'Newspaper Address and Price List'.

PTRT 16, 17.12.1869: Procedure for ordering, delivering and handling complaints about domestic newspapers

In view of the numerous complaints that the irregular distribution of newspapers gives rise to, the Royal Post Offices are obliged to strictly observe the following resolutions;

1. The collection of subscriptions by post offices and officials for one or more newspapers in order to save on postage, as well as the deduction of collection commission from subscription money, is hereby reiterated and most strictly prohibited.

The subscription money, just like all other money letters or money orders, must always be sent to the appropriate post office, and the retention of it, the deduction of the collection commission, or the misappropriation of the postage paid will be considered a breach of duty coupled with a breach of the official oath, and the post office in question will exclude you from the service without any mercy.

2. It is also common to complain that at the roadside transfer and delivery post offices, the newspapers are opened, read by the post office staff themselves, and even have others read them before being forwarded or delivered, as a result of which some issues are lost or reach the addressee late and in a damaged state; in this regard, the post office is liable. Post offices repeatedly warn that newspapers, like any other postal item, are property entrusted to the postal service for delivery, and that the person concerned commits an offence by using them illegally. While the opening and unauthorized reading of newspapers is strictly prohibited at roadside or delivery post offices, post offices are also obliged to first notify the post office in whose package such newspapers were contained of such cases, stating the newspaper, its number, and the date of the package in question; in repeated cases, they must report to the postal administration, which will punish the offending post office with a fine for the first time, and in the case of repetition, will apply exclusion from service.

The punctual arrival of newspapers must be ensured. In the event of any irregularities, the sending post office shall, without waiting for the parties to complain, first notify the receiving post office, and if this is unsuccessful, report it to the relevant postal administration.

Newspaper publishers are instructed to mark the number of copies contained in each newspaper package addressed to a post office on the address label of the top copy. If this is not done, or if fewer copies than noted are found in the package, the receiving post office shall be notified immediately.

3. In order to eliminate unverified complaints and to keep a record of verified ones, it has been ordered that the parties shall not address complaints directly to the newspaper publisher, but to the post office to which the newspaper issue complained of should have been delivered.

A form according to the following model will be issued, a copy of which will be given to the party as proof that the complaint has been made in fact and on time; the complaint itself, signed by the post office and registered in the letterhead in the manner of inquiries, will be sent by the first postal service to the relevant receiving post office for processing, which will arrange for the delivery of the complained-about issue by the relevant newspaper publisher.

The complaint will be processed free of charge and postage-free if, in the case of daily or weekly newspapers, it is made within five days from the time when the missed issue should have arrived. In the case of weekly or longer periodical newspapers, the three-day deadline is calculated from the day when the next issue of the complained-about newspaper arrived. For subscribers who do not live at the seat of the post office, this deadline is set at five days.

Subsequent complaints or complaints regarding issues that the party has already received — which latter circumstance must be noted on the complaint — shall only be processed for payment of the transfer fee and the acquisition price, the latter being sent by postal order to the newspaper publisher in question via the receiving post office.

The receiving post office keeps a record of the complaints received; and the postal administrations should keep a watchful eye on those post offices and postal agencies at which many complaints are received.

PTRT 9, 04.06.1870: Postmarking of postage stamps

Despite strict regulations, many post offices do not datestamp the postage stamps already applied upon receipt or before delivery, thereby giving rise to abuses that reduce excise duty, as several cases have come to light, according to which several, especially rural, newspaper publishers use postage stamps taken from already used newspaper strips and not stamped by the delivering post office for the postage of certain issues.

Since the postmarking of letter stamps is the duty of the receiving office, and of newspaper stamps of the delivering post offices, failure to do so will henceforth be considered gross negligence; and a fine of 50 *kr* for each unstamped postage stamp will be imposed on the first conviction, and 1 *Ft* for repeated cases.

The Royal Postal administrations should be strictly vigilant in this regard and act without leniency in applying the penalty now imposed; and the Royal Postal Inspectors should apply the imposed fine on their own initiative in the first case of such omissions noticed during their rounds and inspections, and in repeated cases they should report to the relevant postal administration.

PTRT 10, 23.06.1870: Accurate handling of domestic and foreign newspapers

Complaints about the irregular handling of domestic and foreign newspapers, despite the strict measures taken, are still a daily occurrence, and investigations into the cause have revealed that certain post offices do not pay attention to the existing regulations, namely the regulations published on November 15, 1869, No. 20804/4090, in the 15th issue of the Regulations of that year, regarding the handling of foreign newspapers, and on December 11, 1869, No. 23846/4600, in the 16th issue of the Regulations of the previous year, regarding the handling of domestic newspapers, and, according to the evidence of the completely opposite procedure, they do not even know them.

The regular delivery of foreign newspapers is particularly hindered by the fact that several post offices have been found not to keep the 'Prepayment Journal' prescribed in point 1 of the first-mentioned regulation, and in the absence of such, they cannot distribute to subscribers the orders and issues sent in summary form for delivery by the departments directly ordering and handling foreign newspapers; and complaints about individual issues that have not been received are not made in a separate request letter with the offer, as prescribed in point 3 of the same regulation, but on forms printed for advertising domestic newspapers; — finally, some roadside and forwarding post offices open and read domestic newspapers, despite the strict prohibition, which naturally results in the destruction or loss of the issue in question.

These and other inaccuracies and abuses, provoking the deserved indignation of the public, I once again and strictly warn all post offices to study the two regulations cited above and, in general, the rules for handling newspapers set out at the beginning of the number and order list of the Newspapers and to implement them precisely.

Such irregularities in the postal service cannot be tolerated, the Royal Postal Directorates apply the fines prescribed in this regard to negligent post office employees, and in case of necessity, exclusion from service, without leniency and under the burden of responsibility; and the postal inspectors should strictly control the procedures of the post offices during their rounds.

PTRT 20, 05.12.1870: Handling of bonus supplements of newspapers in exchange with the German states

Based on the agreement concluded between the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and the postal administrations of the German states, in exchange with these states, supplements (bonus items) given to subscribers by newspaper publishers at a discount, such as pictures and other works of art, books and the like, are to be treated as newspaper supplements by the postal institutions concerned only if the price of such supplements is included in the subscription price of the newspaper, and the issuer therefore distributes the supplements without a separate charge.

If the bonus items, due to their nature, can be sent attached to newspapers, or at least can be included in the newspaper package without difficulty, they are to be delivered in this way without any additional delivery charges being charged to the subscriber.

However, if the supplements cannot be transported in the above-mentioned manner, but must be sent separately, for example, rolled up or enclosed in a separate container, such supplements shall be considered as items for carriage mail and shall be sent to the ordering post office, with postage paid, the postage due being collected from the subscriber upon delivery. If several copies of a supplement of a newspaper are sent to the same ordering post office, the copies may be packed together, in which case the postage shall be divided proportionally among the subscribers.

In the case of newspapers published in states in foreign trade relations, it may be required that the packaging of supplements to be sent by carriage mail be at the expense of the publishers.

Foreign newspapers may be delivered in a common container to the postal institution that ordered them abroad, and it is the duty of the latter postal institution to have the supplements received in one container individually packaged and delivered to the individual postal institutions concerned.

However, the cost incurred for this shall be charged to the subscriber and collected on delivery of the supplements on delivery. The postage costs incurred for the transport of the bonus item from the place of publication to the aforementioned postal institution, as well as any customs duties that may be charged on bonus items arriving from abroad, shall be collected in the same manner. Such costs shall be charged in equal parts for each supplement. The relevant invoice shall be sent free of charge and shall be marked as follows: 'costs paid for packaging, postage, customs, *etc.*' — so that only the ordinary parcel postage shall be collected for the shipment.

In the case of transactions with the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the above resolutions are only valid to the extent that the distribution of supplements can be done by letter.

PTRT 36, 21.12.1872: New regulations for trade with Germany and Luxembourg

From January 1, 1873, the following new regulations will apply to trade with Germany.

3. Newspaper supplements. Separately, a fee of 2 *Neukreuzer* (1/12 silver *groschen* or 7/24 South German *kr.*) is charged for newspaper supplements. Each postal administration retains the undivided fee for newspaper supplements originating in its area.

PTRT 10, 02.03.1873: Postal Treaty between Germany and the Austro-Hungarian Empire

Article 25. Newspaper fee and order fee.

The fee for the distribution of newspapers and magazines is 25 percent of the price at which the sending postal service receives the newspaper from the publisher (net purchase price). For newspapers published less than four times a month, the newspaper fee is reduced to 12.5 percent of the net purchase price. In all cases, however, a minimum of 4 silver *groschen* or 14 *kreuzer* or 20 *neukreuzer* must be charged annually for each newspaper or magazine.

The fee for delivering newspapers is set by the postal administration of the destination area.

PTRT 10, 27.03.1874: Amendment of the rules on the import of letter bundles and the posting and forwarding of domestic newspapers ordered by subscription, stamped with newspaper stamps

In order to facilitate the letter mail service and accelerate the forwarding of mail, as well as to achieve the correct management of letters and newspapers, the following resolutions shall enter into force regarding the preparation and forwarding of letter mail bundles:

As of 1st April of the current year, both fixed and mobile post offices are required to prepare letter mail bundles when exchanging mail with other fixed or mobile post offices.

Letter bundles shall be prepared if a post office has a large number of letters, postcards, cross-bound items, samples of goods and other items belonging to letter mail addressed to a post office located beyond the destination of the letter mail and to be forwarded in the same bundle.

Only those letter mail items addressed to the destination of the letter mail to be prepared, i.e. those that can be delivered by the post office to which the letter mail is to be sent, shall be included in the letter mail bundle.

In addition to those letter mail items that are to be sent only for the purpose of transfer, letter mail items that are still subject to a fee and are not exempted from the fee to the post office at the destination of the letter mail bundle, as well as registered and express letters, as well as domestic newspapers prepaid with newspaper stamps, and finally all letters and samples of goods that are not suitable for inclusion in the letter mail bundle due to their unusual or large size shall be excluded from inclusion in the letter mail bundle.

The letter-post bundles to be sent to mobile post offices shall contain all those letter-post bundles or individual letters which cannot be included in letter-post bundles which are sent to post offices on the line of the mobile post office in question or which fall beyond this line.

Separate letter-post bundles may be prepared for a mobile post office travelling on a line beyond a mobile post office travelling on its own line if the head of the mobile office in question wishes and finds it necessary to prepare such letter-post bundles.

A letter-post bundle to be sent to a mobile post office travelling beyond an intermediate mobile post office shall normally contain letter-post bundles and individual letters addressed to post offices which fall in the direction of the line in question but beyond the point where the letter-post bundle in question meets the mobile post office to which it is directed.

In order to prevent the letters and letter mail bundles sent to mobile post offices for transfer to post offices that are directly affected by the mobile post office after its departure from being delivered, it is intended that such letter mail bundles and letters, in addition to the prescribed address, be packed separately in a bundle clearly

marked with: '*Innenső*'. Thus, letters or letter mail bundles addressed to post offices Kőbánya, Vecsés, Üllő, Monor, Gomba, Tápiósáp, Pilis, Tápió-Szt.-Márton, Tápióbicske and Alberti-Irsa should be delivered by mobile post offices Nos. I and II of Budapest and Vienna-Budapest in separate bundles marked with '*Innenső*' to mobile post offices Nos. III and IV of Budapest-Bazsiás. The head of the mobile post office concerned shall also designate the places to which he finds it necessary and wishes letters and letter-post bundles to be included in the latter bundle.

For those mobile offices which are in direct correspondence with foreign post offices, other mobile and fixed post offices may also prepare special letter bundles which contain exclusively letters addressed to the foreign post offices concerned or to foreign postal areas, *e.g.* Budapest-Bazsiás Mobile Post Office No. III. letters addressed to Serbia and to Turkey and Greece during the passage of the Danube steamers.

From the date on which the above regulations come into effect (01.04.1874), the following changes shall also apply to the provisions governing the posting and dispatch of domestic periodicals ordered by pre-numbering, franked with newspaper stamps, and sent by mail:

The newspaper bundles to be formed by individual newspaper publishers from now on may only include those newspaper copies that are addressed to the destination of the newspaper bundle, *i.e.* those that are to be ordered from the post office to which the newspaper bundle is addressed.

Newspaper copies that would otherwise be sent to the post office to which the newspaper bundle is addressed solely for the purpose of re-posting may no longer be included in the bundle. Instead, separate newspaper bundles addressed to the ordering post office must be created from copies from which no separate newspaper bundle has previously been created, provided that several of these exist for one and the same location. If this cannot be done, such copies must be mailed individually.

Those newspaper copies that are intended for locations where no post office is located must be included in the newspaper bundle of the post office to whose ordering district the location in question belongs.

If there are more than twenty-five copies of larger magazines for one and the same postal location, or at least forty copies of smaller magazines, which would have to be included in a newspaper bundle, the newspaper dispatchers (publishers) must mail these copies in a completely closed package addressed to the ordering post office instead of in a bundle.

The title of the magazine and the number of copies contained in the package must always be indicated on the addresses of newspaper packages and newspaper bundles.

There is no objection to copies of different magazines published by the same newspaper publisher being included in a closed newspaper package.

The posting post office must agree with the respective publisher which postal locations are to be used for closed newspaper packages.

The agreement reached in this matter may not be changed arbitrarily.

If an agreement cannot be reached between the dispatching post office and the newspaper publisher, the matter must be brought to the attention of the postal administration, which, taking into account the prevailing circumstances, will then make the final decision.

The sealed packages of newspapers delivered by the publishers must be listed in the dispatch documents in summary form, but with the destination address clearly indicated.

The newspaper bundles previously formed by newspaper publishers at mobile offices must be eliminated in the future; the newspaper copies previously included in these bundles, if several of them exist for one and the same location, must be combined into a separate bundle to be sent to the ordering post office; individual copies must be delivered individually to the posting post office.

The stamps on newspaper copies sent individually for posting must be cancelled by the posting post offices, and those copies sent in bundles and closed newspaper packages must be cancelled by the dispatching (ordering) post office.

Etc., etc.

PTRT 23, 25.06.1875: Bern Postal Treaty transcript

Clause 4: For the carriage of official documents and samples of goods, as well as newspapers, books, pamphlets, musical notes, visitor's cards, lists of objects and names, plans, various announcements and notices, whether produced by press, lithograph, engraving or autograph, and photographs, the general fee of the Union is set at 7 *centimes* for each simple consignment. However, as a temporary measure, it is reserved for each country that, in view of its financial and other circumstances, it may charge a higher or lower fee than the one mentioned, but this shall not be more than 11 *centimes* or less than 5 *centimes*.

(Detail concerning definition of newspapers:)

XI. Newspapers and Printed Matter. Provisions regarding their form.

1. In order to qualify for the postage reduction granted to them by Article 4 of the Treaty, books, newspapers, printed matter, and other similar items must be bound or placed in an open envelope, or simply folded in such a way that their contents can be easily inspected. Except for the following exceptions, they may not contain any handwritten markings, numbers, or symbols.
2. Proof sheets of printed matter or music may only contain handwritten corrections that relate exclusively to the text or the production of the work. Manuscripts may be enclosed with them.
3. Circulars, advertisements, etc., may bear the signature of the person sending them, specifying their identity, and may include the place of posting and the date of mailing.
4. Books may be accompanied by a handwritten dedication or dedication from the publisher.
5. It is permitted to mark with lines those passages to which attention is to be drawn.
6. On printed, lithographed, or autographed price lists and price lists of stock exchanges and markets, prices may be indicated by handwriting or printing.
7. Other handwritten additions are not permitted, including those made using typographical characters, if this would detract from the general character of the printed matter.
8. The above-mentioned mailings that do not comply with the conditions set forth herein shall be treated and assessed as unstamped letters, with the exception of newspapers and printed matter, circulars, advertisements, *etc.*, which in this case shall not be sent at all.

(This PTRT then contains a long table of foreign newspaper and printed matter rates.)

PTRT 34, 24.12.1876: Determination of postal delivery and specialist fees

5. Newspapers and magazines franked with newspaper stamps, as well as those pre-numbered through the post office, are not as a rule delivered to the home; post offices are obligated to deliver them free of charge to the addressees who appear at the post office for collection or to their designated recipients immediately after processing the received mail.

If a subscriber wishes their newspaper to be delivered to their home, the post office is entitled to collect the following fees in advance:

- a) If the newspaper is published at least four times a week, 10 *kr* per month; if the separately published evening paper is to be delivered separately, 20 *kr* per month;
- b) If the newspaper is published less than four times a week, but at least once, 5 *kr* per month;
- c) If it is not published weekly, 1 *kr* per item, the latter fee being payable upon delivery.

PTRT 11, 23.02.1890: Extension of the newspaper stamp discount to periodicals with free advertisements

In order to promote the possible distribution of the products of the domestic press, industry, *etc.*, the claim for the newspaper stamp discount is hereby extended to advertisements printed by individual booksellers, craftsmen, traders, manufacturers, *etc.*, either solely for their own business or for entire business groups, and distributed for the most part without subscription, free of charge, if:

- a) these press products are published at regular intervals in the territory of the Holy Crown of Hungary or in Austria, or are sent by post and are addressed to Hungary or Austria, and if:
- b) they have assumed the character of a periodical by means of an appropriate title and the indication of the responsible editor on each copy.

The rules regarding obtaining a newspaper stamp permit and the methods of postage with a postal stamp remain unchanged for this type of press product.

The Royal Post Offices should include these press products in the quarterly newspaper statistics, classifying them as specialist newspapers.

PTRT 3, 04.02.1898: Publication of the (newspaper) price list for the year 1898

When the price list for the year 1898 has been prepared, each post office will receive a copy of it from the price list department of the Budapest General Post Office (Budapest, V., Akadémia-utca 12. no.).

Private parties can order this new price list for thirty (30) *krajczár* either from the National Post and Telecommunications Economic Office or from the Budapest price list department.

The prices and conditions in this price list have been compiled on the basis of the latest data, so orders should be placed according to this price list.

However, given that changes often occur in the prices and subscription conditions of individual newspapers and magazines even during the year, the above-mentioned newspaper department communicates these changes to the relevant ordering post and telegraph office and notifies it of the difference to be collected or returned.

Regarding the handling, the royal post and telegraph offices should first of all attend to the 'instructions' at the beginning of this newspaper price list, and also to the regulations on newspaper service in **PTRT 70 and 75 (76?) of 1892**, and in **PTRT 80, 12.12.1892** and **PTRT 1, 05.01.1893**.

It has been experienced that some post and telegraph offices do not process newspaper orders in the proper manner. The most common errors are as follows:

1. When calculating the newspaper price premium (*agio*), the offices do not proceed according to point 5 of the newspaper price list 'Instructions', but consider the *agio* published monthly in the PTRT, *e.g.* 21%, as a constant amount in *kreuzer* and simply add 21 *kr* to the purchase price stated in gold, whereas *e.g.* 21% means that for every 100 *kreuzer* of gold value, 21 *kr* is due as a premium, *i.e.* 21 *kr* must be collected as many times as the purchase price is in *forint*; *e.g.* if the purchase price is 2 *Ft*, then 42 *kr* is due as *agio*, if the purchase price is 2 *Ft* 70 *kr*, the *agio* premium is 57 *kr*, *etc.*
2. Some offices send the money collected for the subscription under an envelope attached to the order, or send the official order under an envelope; although according to the existing rules (1. newspaper price list 'Instructions' p.7) the money must be sent at the same time as the order, but with an official order, postage free, the order must be sent in the usual way, *i.e.* not in an envelope.
3. In the case of complaints regarding foreign newspapers, some offices turn directly to the foreign post office; although according to the rules (1. instructions p.8) all such complaints must be sent to the Budapest newspaper department.
4. It has happened that some offices did not accept two or one-month subscriptions to political newspapers published in Germany, England, Italy and Russia, even if this subscription ended with the calendar quarter; and in such a case the subscription must be accepted (1. instruction 9. p.).

I warn the royal post and telegraph offices to proceed with newspaper subscriptions in a regular manner and with the greatest care, to pay special attention to the correct issuance of official money orders for subscription money and not to fail to note the receipt number of the money order on the order and to write this number on the money order coupon, and to apply a clear local and dated stamp impression to both the money order and the coupon.

PTRT 4, 03.02.1899: Checking the correct postage of newspaper or magazine items with newspaper stamps

In order to dispel any doubts that may have arisen, I declare that newspaper publishing offices may only include copies of one type of newspaper or magazine under one address tape, *i.e.* in one newspaper or magazine item, but they may not pack two or more newspaper or magazine copies together under one address tape, because otherwise they will not be eligible for postage exemption with newspaper stamps.

Newspaper inserts or side pages sent by post with the main page are not considered to be copies of other types of newspapers or magazines.

This packaging should not be confused with the newspaper bundles that newspaper publishing offices are required to prepare for the purpose of easier and faster handling of periodicals, and in which several newspaper or magazine items with address labels can be placed.

In order to check the correct postage of newspaper or magazine items, I instruct the postal (telegraph) offices that deliver them to check, if possible, always, but at least periodically, whether the individual newspaper or magazine items, especially those of larger size and those arriving from Austria, and primarily those that combine several newspapers (magazines) in a package addressed to an individual without an address label, are correctly postage paid according to their content or not.

If the postage is incomplete, the office should submit the cover (tape) along with a report to its previous directorate, which will collect the missing postage fee from the newspaper publishing office afterwards and, in the event of a repeat, report it to me for possible withdrawal of the discounted postal delivery.

PTRT 48, 18.12.1899: Calculation of the value of the *Korona* in the postal, telegraph and telephone service

The old money order forms used for sending subscription money to newspaper publishing offices will be accepted until the end of January 1900, provided that the amount of money was written out in numbers and letters in the value of the *Korona* and the value indication of the *Forint* and *krajczár* in the text of the form was adjusted to the value of the *Korona* and *fillér*.

5.5.6 Rate tables

Table 1: Newspapers (individual) - Inland and foreign rates - 1900-1918

Date	Inland	To Austria, B&H, Germany	Other foreign	PTRT
01.01.1900	2 <i>f</i> up to 250 g	2 <i>f</i> up to 250 g	~10 <i>f</i> per 50 g	
26.01.1916	[1]			PTRT 13, 26.01.1916
01.01.1917	2 <i>f</i> up to 250 g	3 <i>f</i> per 150 g [2]	?	PTRT 136, 09.10.1916
15.06.1918	[3]			PTRT 53, 29.05.1918

[1] **PTRT 13, 26.01.1916** allows free postage to troops serving in occupied Poland and Russia, extended to occupied Serbia by **PTRT 51, 17.04.1916**.

[2] **PTRT 136, 09.10.1916**: ‘This preferential rate applies only to those newspaper copies exchanged with Austria and Bosnia-Herzegovina for which the subscriber has not paid for the subscription directly at the newspaper publisher, but through the post office. The publisher shall send newspaper copies subscribed directly to the newspaper publisher as printed matter, postage-free, according to the printed matter rates valid with Austria and Bosnia-Herzegovina, to its subscriber residing in Austria or Bosnia-Herzegovina.’

[3] Newspaper rates did not appear to be subject to War Tax when this was introduced on 15.06.1918.

Table 2: Newspapers (individual) - Inland rates – First inflation period – 1918-1945

Note: these rates apply to newspapers which are published at least quarterly and which are posted at designated post offices by the publisher. Other newspapers and periodicals are sent at the printed paper rate, as are all to foreign addresses (except Austria and Poland).

Date	Up to 50 g	Up to 100 g	Up to 250 g	Up to 500 g
01.01.1920 [1]	-	-	10 <i>f</i>	20 <i>f</i>
01.01.1922 [2]	-	20 <i>f</i>	30 <i>f</i>	60 <i>f</i>
01.08.1922 [3]	-	30 <i>f</i>	50 <i>f</i>	1 k
01.11.1922 [4]	-	60 <i>f</i>	1 K	2 K
16.04.1923 [5]	1 K	2 K	3 K	5 K
01.07.1923 [6]	3 K	5 K	10 K	15 K
13.08.1923 [7]	10 K	20 K	30 K	50 K
01.10.1923 [8]	25 K	50 K	75 K	150 K
01.02.1924 [9]	50 K	100 K	150 K	300 K
01.04.1924 [10]	100 K	200 K	300 K	400 K
01.05.1924 [11]	200 K	300 K	400 K	500 K
01.07.1924 [12]	300 K	400 K	500 K	600 K
01.01.1925	-	-	-	-
01.10.1925 [13]	300 K	400 K	500 K	600 K
01.01.1927 [14]	-	-	2 <i>f</i>	3 <i>f</i>
01.07.1943 [15]	-	2 <i>f</i>	3 <i>f</i>	4 <i>f</i>
02.07.1945 [16]	-	20 <i>f</i>	30 <i>f</i>	40 <i>f</i>
15.09.1945 [17]	-	60 <i>f</i>	80 <i>f</i>	1 P
01.11.1945 [18]	-	3 P	6 P	9 P
16.11.1945 [19]	-	6 P	12 P	18 P

[1] In **MPHL (formerly PTRT) 76, 22.12.1919** and **PTRT 43, 28.05.1920**, the inland rates also apply to Austria and those territories of former Hungary now occupied by the SHS. From **PTRT 15, 02.03.1920**: ‘For the time being, until further notice, **political newspapers** will receive a discount of 50% of the fee for copies

sent to subscribers under a title in cash, as set out in Section 9, Section 1, published in **MPHL 76, 22.12.1919**, in the case of cash payment, which amount will be deducted from the fees due.'

- [2] The fee for newspaper supplements is 4 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy.
- [3] The fee for newspaper supplements is 10 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy. The maximum weight of a newspaper and a supplement is 1 kg.
- [4] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 100 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy (Austria, Poland and Germany).
- [5] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 300 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy.
- [6] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 1,000 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy.
- [7] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 2,000 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy.
- [8] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 3,000 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy.
- [9] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 5,000 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy. Also, this change is one month later than other rate changes – see **PTRT 89, 27.12.1923**.
- [10] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 10,000 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy. Also, this change is later than other rate changes – see **PTRT 15, 16.02.1924**.
- [11] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 15,000 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy. Also, this change is three weeks later than other rate changes – see **PTRT 29, 07.04.1924**.
- [12] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 18,000 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy. Also, this change is one month later than other rate changes – see **PTRT 38, 28.05.1924**.
- [13] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 14,000 K per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy. See **PTRT 56, 28.09.1925**.
- [14] Also for Austria and Poland. The fee for newspaper supplements is 1 P 10 f per 100 pieces for every 25 g of each copy. "The maximum permitted weight of a newspaper or magazine (including any free supplement) is 500 g, and Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and New Year issues alone or with any supplements may be sent in domestic circulation up to a weight of 1000 g. In this case, the weight up to 500 g must be paid according to the regular newspaper rate, and the weight over 500 g must be paid according to the rate for newspaper supplements." "The 50% discount on charges granted to **political newspapers** in point IV of Decree No. 5,028, dated 26 February 1920 and published in PRTT 15, 02.03.1920 shall cease to be valid as of 31.12.1926." See **PTRT 64, 29.12.1926**. However, this may have been short-lived - see separate article at the end of this section.
- [15] Newspaper supplements subject to a fee: for every 25 g of each copy and per 100 pieces, 2 P.
- [16] Newspaper supplements subject to a fee: for every 25 g of each copy and per 100 pieces, 10 P.
- [17] Newspaper supplements subject to a fee: for every 25 g of each copy and per 100 pieces, 20 P.
- [18] Newspaper supplements subject to a fee: for every 25 g of each copy and per 100 pieces, 120 P.
- [19] Newspaper supplements subject to a fee: for every 25 g of each copy and per 100 pieces, 240 P.

Note: Regarding [16 - 19], according to Robert Morgan's Hyperinflation book, it is believed that individual newspapers are sent at the general printed paper rate during 1945/6. Bulk sendings, e.g. from publishers or back from re-sellers, may have attracted reduced rates but no hard information is available beyond that listed above or in the following table concerning bulk sendings.

Table 3: Newspapers - Inland - Single newspapers - 01.08.1946 onwards (Prices in Ft)

Date	Weight steps		
	100g	250 g	500 g
01.08.1946	0.05	0.07	0.10

Source: *Postatarifák Adók Illetékek Közlekedési Menetrendek*, vol.41, no.2, 05.04.1948. Unchanged through to 1951. Also became valid for Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria (*Postatarifák Adók Illetékek Közlekedési Menetrendek*, vol.43, no.4, 05.10.1950).

Foreign newspaper rates were the same as for printed papers (*Postatarifák Adók Illetékek Közlekedési Menetrendek*, vol.42, no.2, 18.05.1949).

No information has been found for the period between 1950 and 1987.

Table 4: Periodicals/newspapers – Foreign rates – 1987 - 1999

Date	100 g		250 g		500 g		1000 g		2000 g	
	Eur	RoW	Eur	RoW	Eur	RoW	Eur	RoW	Eur	RoW
15.06.1987 [1]	8 Ft		16 Ft		30 Ft		50 Ft		80 Ft	
01.02.1989 [1]	10 Ft		20 Ft		40 Ft		60 Ft		100 Ft	
08.01.1990 [2]	15 Ft		26 Ft		54 Ft		80 Ft		130 Ft	
14.01.1991 [2]	22 Ft		45 Ft		90 Ft		140 Ft		220 Ft	
01.02.1992 [3]	30 Ft		70 Ft		150 Ft		225 Ft		400 Ft	
01.01.1993 [4]	40 Ft		80 Ft		160 Ft		300 Ft		500 Ft	
01.01.1994 [5]	48 Ft		96 Ft		192 Ft		360 Ft		600 Ft	
01.01.1995 [5]	60 Ft		120 Ft		240 Ft		440 Ft		720 Ft	
01.01.1996 [6]	76 Ft	78 Ft	152 Ft	156 Ft	300 Ft	312 Ft	550 Ft	572 Ft	900 Ft	936 Ft
01.01.1997 [6]	92 Ft	94 Ft	182 Ft	188 Ft	360 Ft	374 Ft	660 Ft	686 Ft	1,080 Ft	1,123 Ft
01.01.1998 [6]	110 Ft	115 Ft	220 Ft	230 Ft	440 Ft	460 Ft	800 Ft	840 Ft	1,310 Ft	1,377 Ft
01.01.1999	Same as printed matter rates									

Source: Magyar Posta public postal rate sheets.

[1] The domestic printed matter and periodical rates apply to all mail going the Czechoslovakia.

[2] The domestic distance printed matter and periodical rates apply to all mail going the Czechoslovakia.

[3] Rates are now uniform for all foreign countries.

[4] Rate to neighbouring countries of Austria, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Croatia, Yugoslavia, Romania, Slovenia and the Ukraine are reduced by 50 % of the European rate.

[5] Rates split between Europe (lower rate) and rest of the world (higher rate). Rates to neighbouring countries reduced by 50%, now excluding Czech Republic.

[6] Rates split between Europe (lower rate) and rest of the world (higher rate). Local rate to neighbouring countries same as European rate is at 50 % of European rate.

5.5.7 Bundles for re-sellers

Table 5: Newspapers- Inland - Bundles for re-sellers – Inland - 1916-1946

Note: these rates apply to newspapers which are published at least quarterly and which are posted at designated post offices by the publisher.

Date	to 100 g	to 250 g	to 500 g	to 1 kg	to 2 kg	to 3 kg	to 4 kg	to 5 kg
01.01.1920 [1]			60 <i>f</i>	1 K 20 <i>f</i>	2K 40 <i>f</i>	3 K 60 <i>f</i>	4 K 80 <i>f</i>	6 K
01.06.1920	10 <i>f</i>	20 <i>f</i>	40 <i>f</i>	80 <i>f</i>	1 K 60 <i>f</i>	2 K 40 <i>f</i>	3 K 20 <i>f</i>	4 K
01.01.1922	30 <i>f</i>	50 <i>f</i>	1 K	2 K	4 K	6 K	8 K	10 K
01.08.1922	50 <i>f</i>	1 K	1 K 50 <i>f</i>	3 K	6 K	9 K	12 K	15 K
01.11.1922	1 K	2 K	3 K	6 K	12 K	18 K	24 K	30 K
16.04.1923	2 K	4 K	6 K	12 K	24 K	36 K	48 K	60 K
01.07.1923	5 K	10 K	15 K	30 K	60 K	90 K	120 K	150 K
13.08.1923	20 K	40 K	60 K	100 K	200 K	300 K	400 K	500 K
01.10.1923	50 K	100 K	150 K	200 K	400 K	600 K	800 K	1,000 K
01.02.1924 [2]	100 K	200 K	300 K	400 K	800 K	1,200 K	1,600 K	2,000 K
01.05.1924 [3]	200 K	400 K	600 K	800 K	1,600 K	2,400 K	3,200 K	4,000 K
01.07.1924	500 K	1,000 K	1,500 K	2,000 K	4,000 K	6,000 K	8,000 K	10,000 K
01.01.1925	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
01.10.1925	500 K	1,000 K	1,500 K	2,000 K	4,000 K	6,000 K	8,000 K	10,000 K
01.01.1927	4 <i>f</i>	8 <i>f</i>	12 <i>f</i>	16 <i>f</i>	32 <i>f</i>	48 <i>f</i>	64 <i>f</i>	80 <i>f</i>
01.07.1943 [4]	5 <i>f</i> (7 <i>f</i>)	10 <i>f</i> (14 <i>f</i>)	15 <i>f</i> (20 <i>f</i>)	20 <i>f</i> (25 <i>f</i>)	40 <i>f</i> (50 <i>f</i>)	60 <i>f</i> (75 <i>f</i>)	80 <i>f</i> (100 <i>f</i>)	100 <i>f</i> (125 <i>f</i>)
02.07.1945 [5]	40 <i>f</i>	80 <i>f</i>	1.20 P	1.60 P	3.20 P	4.80 P	6.40 P	8 P
15.09.1945 [6]	80 <i>f</i>	1.60 P	2.40 P	3.20 P	6.40 P	9.60 P	12.80 P	16.00 P
01.11.1945 [7]	4 P	8 P	12 P	16 P	32 P	48 P	64 P	80 P
16.11.1945 [8]	8 P	16 P	24 P	32 P	64 P	96 P	128 P	160 P

[1] Franked with normal postage stamps according to **PTRT 76, 22.12.1919**.

[2] Delayed by 1 month compared with other postal rates changes – see **PTRT 89, 27.12.1923**.

[3] Delayed three weeks compared with other postal rate changes.

[4] Rates given in **PTRT 32, 26.06.1943** are for daily newspapers. Rates in (..) are for other discounted press products. Rate for returns from resellers to publisher 3 *f*/kg.

[5] Rates for returns from resellers to publisher given in **PTRT 6, 28.06.1945**: 20 *f*/kg up to 5 kg.

[6] Rates for returns from resellers to publisher given in **PTRT 21, 15.09.1945**: 60 *f*/kg up to 5 kg.

[7] Rates for returns from resellers to publisher given in **PTRT 33, 30.10.1945**: 4 P/kg up to 5 kg.

[8] Rates for returns from resellers to publisher given in **PTRT 41, 15.11.1945**: 8 P/kg up to 5 kg.

No further data for the inflation period are available on-line, and none in Morgan on this topic.

PTRT 55, 26.07.1922: Settlement of the postage fee in cash for newspapers and magazines subject to postage exemption according to the domestic tariff, as well as for newspaper bundles sent domestically to resellers.

1. As of July 31 of the current year, I am abolishing the postage with newspaper labels or postage stamps for newspapers and magazines subject to postage exemption according to the domestic tariff, currently intended for

Hungary, Austria and Poland, and for newspaper bundles sent domestically to resellers, and I am ordering the mandatory deduction and settlement of the postage fee for these items in cash starting from August 1 of the current year.

From the indicated date onwards, post offices should not deliver newspaper stamps to those entitled to use them, and rather, at the request of the issuing offices, any newspaper stamp stock in their possession should be withdrawn in exchange for the delivery of other circulation stamps of the same total value, and these should be sent to the directorate cash office (central valuables warehouse) together with the stock at the post offices against a receipt and counter-receipt. The value of the newspaper stamps sent should be recorded as an expense on the basis of the receipt in the turnover IV/26 'Advances for other items' column of the management statement, debited to the income column 2. The directorate cash offices (central valuables warehouse) should also deliver their newspaper stamp stock to the national royal postage stamp sales office in the same manner as above, and on the basis of the receipt received from there, they should be recorded as an expense as material in their valuables accounting. I hereby cease the production of newspaper stamps.

Newspaper companies and publishing houses that have been authorized to issue postage stamps are still authorized to issue postage stamps in cash according to the newspaper rate without any special measures.

However, in the future, post and telegraph directorates should grant permission to newly applying claimants to issue postage stamps according to the newspaper rate, not with a letter stamp, and should also determine, by considering the possible wishes of the applicants, which stable, mobile, or courier post office the newspaper (periodical) should be posted at.

2. Publishers of newspapers and magazines who request a discount on postage according to the newspaper rate must in future undertake in their application to pay the postage fees in cash within the established deadline or immediately upon posting and to post the newspaper (magazine) copies in a properly prepared and bundled manner ('P. and T, Sz. Gy.' III. 184. f. Decree No. 2861).

The rules for the deduction and settlement of fees and for the control are set out in Decree No. 5028 published in the 'P. T. R. T.' No. 15 of 1920. If the debt is not settled by the 8th of the month following the month of posting by those newspapers that do not have to pay the postage fees immediately upon posting, the receiving post office shall notify the publishing office of this by telephone, or in the absence thereof in writing or orally.

In the event of failure, the post office shall report to the superior postal directorate, which, if its proceedings are also unsuccessful, shall take measures to withdraw the discount and then the newspapers in question may only be sent postage-free according to the tariff rates established for printed matter until further permission is granted. Newspapers and magazines that are published less frequently than once a quarter, 2. which are not addressed to the countries mentioned in the first point and 3. whose senders have not obtained permission from the competent postal administration to pay postage according to the newspaper tariff are also subject to the printed matter tariff.

3. Post offices shall also proceed in the same manner as above when deducting and settling the postage charges in cash for newspaper bundles sent domestically to resellers. However, the weight of each newspaper bundle must also be entered in the list to be submitted to the post office by the publishing offices on a case-by-case basis.

These newspaper bundles should be stamped with the words 'Cash-paid' by those post offices that have a stamp, and those that do not have such a stamp should be stamped with the stamp of their local and local post office, and the latter should write the remark 'Cash-paid' in handwriting and ink.

On the other hand, on newspapers and magazines sent directly to the addressees under an address label (on some copies), cash-paid postage will no longer be indicated, and therefore these items are to be considered as duly paid postage even without newspaper stamps in the aforementioned circulation.

4. Post offices entrusted with the receipt of newspapers and magazines and newspaper bundles should strictly ensure that such items to be paid for in cash are not processed for postal handling without charging a postage fee.

Newspapers and magazines sent via the letterbox without any postage paid must be treated as returned. Those found in the letterbox may only be forwarded if it is clear that they have already been processed by post and were only placed in the letterbox for forwarding or return to the addressee. On newspapers and magazines prepaid in cash, which are sent to a country for which they are to be prepaid according to the form rate, the forwarding post office must record the fee charged in cash with the remark 'Taxe percue' and then, next to the stamp 'T', the single amount of the difference to be collected from the addressee at the new destination.

5. Publishers of official newspapers will continue to charge the postage paid for their sent official papers with official postage stamps.

PTRT 72, 12.09.1922: Omission of stamping of newspaper packages sent domestically to resellers, prepaid with cash.

Decree 2885 published in the 5th issue of the current year's 'P. T. R. T.' The provision in point 3 of Decree No. 101/2001, according to which bundles of newspapers sent domestically to retailers with cash postage paid to those

post offices that are marked with the text ‘Cash postage paid’, and which are not marked with such a letter, must be marked with the local stamp in addition to the handwritten indication of the above texts, has made it impossible for certain post offices to forward the bundles according to the schedule.

Therefore, so that the installation of newspaper bundles in the aforementioned manner does not cause them to be left behind, I order that, starting from the receipt of this decree, it is no longer necessary to indicate the payment in cash on newspaper bundles sent to resellers domestically, either by stamp or by hand, or to provide them with a stamp of the place and date.

In addition, newspaper bundles sent domestically by the sellers should be certified as required, even if they do not have any markings relating to certification, or if the local and foreign letters are not printed on them. The postal offices authorized to receive newspaper parcels are obliged to check in an appropriate manner that the newspaper parcels are not subject to the charge for cashing and that the fee is correctly added to the postal administration.

The regulation on newspaper parcels to be delivered in Budapest shall enter into force on 16 September of the current year.

No data are available for the Hyperinflation period.

Table 6: Newspapers - Inland - Bundles for re-sellers - 01.08.1946 onwards (Prices in Ft)

Date	Weight steps							
	100 g	250 g	500 g	1 kg	2 kg	3 kg	4 kg	5 kg
01.08.1946	0.12	0.24	0.36	0.50	1.00	1.50	2.00	2.50

Source: *Postatarifák Adók Illetékek Közlekedési Menetrendek*, vol.41, no.2, 05.04.1948.

Supplements fees: 5 Ft per 100 pieces for every 25 g of attachment

Re-sellers return copies fee: 0.10 Ft per kg (and if the post office certifies the number of copies returned in the bundle, it is 60 fillér per kg - *Postatarifák Adók Illetékek Közlekedési Menetrendek*, vol.43, no.4, 0.5.10.1950).

5.5.8 Newspapers/periodicals – Foreign rates - Discounted rates – 1930-1945

While discounted rates for regular newspapers are mentioned well beforehand, the London UPU Congress of 1929 agreed the following in Article 33, paragraph 3:

‘Each Administration has the right, in its relations with those Administrations which have so agreed, to allow a reduction of 50 % of the ordinary rate for printed papers to newspapers and periodicals posted directly by the publishers or their agents; but commercial printed papers such as catalogues, prospectuses, price lists, *etc.*, however regularly they are issued, are excluded from this reduction.

Administrations may, in relation to the same Administrations, allow a similar reduction to books including pamphlets or sheets of music, no matter who is the sender, provided they contain no publicity matter or advertisements other than that appearing on the cover or the fly leaves.’

In **PTRT 27, 17.06.1930**, the consequent permitted changes in Hungary were given as follows:

Printed matter

4. §. In relations with the countries listed in the postal rates, anyone can now send books, pamphlets (excluding advertising publications) and musical works by post at a 50% discount on the regular printed matter rates.

This discount does not apply to books, pamphlets and musical works that contain any kind of advertisement, excluding advertisements on the envelopes and protective (covering) pages of the works. For example, if there is an advertisement in the text, even if it is not printed on a separate page but on the text pages, the discount cannot be used.

The previous discount for scientific and literary publications has now become irrelevant.

The 50% discount allowed for newspapers and magazines will now be enjoyed not only by newspapers that are sent by publishers by post, but also by those that are sent by publishers’ agents (printers, bookbinders).

§ 5. Impressions of stamps consisting of solid or collapsible letters may not be sent as printed matter.

§ 6. From now on, the following notes are also permitted on printed matter:

- a) in general for all printed matter: only the serial or index number relating to the consignment;
- b) on order forms and signatures relating to book publishing works, books, newspapers, engravings, musical works: the payment methods (cash on delivery, in instalments, *etc.*), the name of the author and publisher, the edition number, the serial number of the price list and the words: *fűzve* (stitched), *kartonba* (cardboard) or *kötve* (tied) and whether in Hungarian or a foreign language.

(Editorial note: It is recognised that neither § 5 nor § 6 make a deal of sense in translation, and do not relate to any specific clauses in the detailed regulations in articles 16 to 19 from the 1929 London UPU Convention, pp.347-9. See:

[https://www.gbpa.org.uk/information/sources/treaties/upu-conventions/1929%20London%20UPU%20Convention%20\(FR+EN\).pdf](https://www.gbpa.org.uk/information/sources/treaties/upu-conventions/1929%20London%20UPU%20Convention%20(FR+EN).pdf))

Other PTRTs concerning reduced rates:

PTRT 27, 28.06.1940: From 01.07.1940 the 50% discount rate for books and printed booklets also applies to maps.

PTRT 29, 26.06.1942: From 01.07.1942, the 50% discount rate will be 4 *fillér* per 50 grams. However, in accordance with the last paragraph of Article 2 of the Agreement, from 751 to 1000 grams the fee is 60 *fillér*.

The discounted rate for newspaper publishers may still have been in existence during the Hyperinflation period, according to Morgan, but little detail is known.