

## 5.7 BRAILLE LITERATURE FOR THE BLIND

Special cheap rates for Braille literature came into existence only in 1907. The following tables have been prepared from PTRT information and from Morgan's book during the Hyperinflation period.

**Table 1: Braille literature for the blind – Inland and foreign rates – 1907-1943**

| Date             | Inland and Convention countries |              |                              |              |               | Foreign                |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------|
|                  | Up to 50 g                      | Up to 100 g  | Up to 1000 g                 | Up to 2000 g | Up to 3000 g  | Weight rate, per 500 g |
| 14.09.1907[1,2]  | 3 <i>f</i>                      | 5 <i>f</i>   | 30 <i>f</i>                  | -            | -             | -                      |
| ?07.1920 [3]     | 10 <i>f</i>                     | 20 <i>f</i>  | 50 <i>f</i>                  | 75 <i>f</i>  | 1 <i>K</i>    | -                      |
| 01.01.1922 [4,5] | -                               | 20 <i>f</i>  | 50 <i>f</i>                  | 1 <i>K</i>   | 1.50 <i>K</i> | 50 <i>f</i>            |
| 01.08.1922 [6]   | -                               | 50 <i>f</i>  | 1 <i>K</i>                   | 2 <i>K</i>   | 3 <i>K</i>    | 1 <i>K</i>             |
| 05.10.1922 [7]   | -                               | -            | -                            | -            | -             | 5 <i>K</i>             |
| 01.11.1922[8]    | -                               | 1 <i>K</i>   | 2 <i>K</i>                   | 4 <i>K</i>   | 6 <i>K</i>    | -                      |
| 16.04.1923 [9]   | -                               | 1 <i>K</i>   | 2 <i>K</i>                   | 4 <i>K</i>   | 6 <i>K</i>    | 10 <i>K</i>            |
| 01.07.1923 [10]  | -                               | 2 <i>K</i>   | 5 <i>K</i>                   | 10 <i>K</i>  | 15 <i>K</i>   | 25 <i>K</i>            |
| 13.08.1923 [11]  | -                               | 5 <i>K</i>   | 10 <i>K</i>                  | 20 <i>K</i>  | 30 <i>K</i>   | 50 <i>K</i>            |
| 01.10.1923 [12]  | -                               | 10 <i>K</i>  | 20 <i>K</i>                  | 40 <i>K</i>  | 60 <i>K</i>   | 80 <i>K</i>            |
| 01.01.1924 [13]  | -                               | 20 <i>K</i>  | 50 <i>K</i>                  | 100 <i>K</i> | 150 <i>K</i>  | 150 <i>K</i>           |
| 21.02.1924 [14]  | -                               | 40 <i>K</i>  | 100 <i>K</i>                 | 200 <i>K</i> | 300 <i>K</i>  | 250 <i>K</i>           |
| 11.04.1924 [15]  | -                               | 100 <i>K</i> | 200 <i>K</i>                 | 400 <i>K</i> | 600 <i>K</i>  | 400 <i>K</i>           |
| 01.10.1925 [16]  | -                               | -            | 100 <i>K</i>                 | 200 <i>K</i> | 300 <i>K</i>  | 800 <i>K</i> per kg    |
| 01.01.1927 [17]  | -                               | -            | 1 <i>f</i> per kg up to 3 kg |              |               | 6 <i>f</i> per kg      |
| 01.07.1930 [18]  | -                               | -            | 1 <i>f</i> per kg up to 5 kg |              |               | 6 <i>f</i> per kg      |
| 01.07.1940 [19]  |                                 |              | 1 <i>f</i> per kg up to 7 kg |              |               | 4 <i>f</i> per kg      |

[1] **PTRT 39, 14.09.1907**: 'From now on papers intended for the use of the blind may be treated as printed matter not only if they are marked with raised dots, but also if they show raised letters.'

[2] **PTRT 38, 20.08.1908**: Warning regarding the fees for papers issued for the blind or by them with raised dots or protruding letters and posted open.

According to the 'Postal Tariffs' and 'Postal Business Regulations' I. W z, Section I. 7. §, point 1, and the regulation of 1907 no. 703. year IV. 20. paragraph (**PTRT 39, 14.09.1907**), papers intended for the use of the blind or issued by them and with raised dots or protruding letters can also be sent as printed matter. However, from one case that occurred, I learned that some Royal Postal (and telegraph) offices treat such papers, regardless of whether they are mechanically reproduced or not, furthermore, whether their content has the nature of personal correspondence — if they are posted as printed matter, *i.e.*, open — as printed matter for the purpose of payment.

I therefore warn the postal (and telegraph) offices of the Hungarian Royal Mail; that the main requirement of printed matter is that **they are not only mechanically reproduced, but that their content does not have the nature of personal correspondence**. Therefore, papers posted open for the blind, with raised dots or protruding letters, if they have the nature of a letter, are subject to (normal) postal duty.

If, despite this, they are posted together with other printed matter, this must be considered an excise duty and must be dealt with accordingly. If, on the other hand, the paper in question is not packaged with the printed matter, it

shall be considered a letter, even if it is posted open; and if the postage stamp on it does not correspond to the weight or destination of the letter, it shall be charged in the same way as insufficiently prepaid letters.

[3] **PTRT 54, 06.07.1920:** Weight limit raised to 3000 g for inland. Start of a separate rate.

[4] **PTRT 101, 21.12.1921:** Inland rates also apply to convention countries Austria, Czechoslovakia, Germany.

[5] **PTRT 37, 01.06.1922:** Hungarian-Polish postal agreement - internal rates now apply to Poland.

[6] **PTRT 56, 28.07.1922:** Convention rates now apply to Romania.

[7] **PTRT 77, 02.10.1922:** Foreign, but non-convention country, charges raised.

[8] **PTRT 83, 27.10.1922:**

[9] **PTRT 27, 13.04.1923:** Convention rate also applies to Poland; other foreign 10 K per 500 g.

[10] **PTRT 48, 27.06.1923:**

[11] **PTRT 60, 09.08.1923:**

[12] **PTRT 70, 27.09.1923:**

[13] **PTRT 89, 27.12.1923:**

[14] **PTRT 15, 16.02.1924:**

[15] **PTRT 29, 07.04.1924:**

[16] **PTRT 56, 26.09.1925:**

[17] **PTRT 61, 18.12.1926:** Currency change.

[18] **PTRT 27, 17.06.1930:** New pro-rata weight steps for 4 kg and 5 kg for both inland/convention countries and other foreign countries.

[19] **PTRT 27, 28.06.1940:** Changes in max weight of Braille literature from 5 kg to 7 kg: for domestic purposes, to Germany, to the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, to Poland, to Italy and its colonies, to Slovakia, and to the Vatican City State: 6 kg = 6 f, 7 kg = 7 f. For other foreign 6 kg = 24 f, 7 kg = 28 f.

Other relevant items:

**PTRT 97, 21.12.1922:** All embossed mail for the blind is now subject these charges, whatever its nature, cancelling the 1908 restrictions on personal letters.

**PTRT 4, 23.01.1925:** Under the Porto Rose agreement, there will be no reduction in printed paper or blind literature rates with Austria.

**PTRT 43, 29.07.1925:** As a result of the Stockholm UPU agreement, literature for the blind may not be sent with other printed matter or with samples or business papers.

**PTRT 10, 08.03.1939:** Rate to Danzig now 1 f per kg.

**PTRT 24, 24.05.1941:** Postal agreement with ND Croatia, rate 3 f per kg.

**PTRT 39, 22.08.1942:** Postal agreement with Slovakia, rate 1 f per kg.

**PTRT 40, 06.08.1943:** Posting of embossed magazines for the blind. Magazines for the blind, printed in relief, and intended for domestic use and subject to the preferential rate established for these items (1 *fillér* per kilogram) may be posted in the same way as newspapers posted at the newspaper rate in the case of group posting. In such a case, the fee for these items must be paid in cash, but they do not need to be stamped to indicate postage.

**Table 2: Braille literature for the blind – Inland and foreign rates – 1945-1946**

Source: R.B. Morgan

| Start date                      | Rate period | Internal cost per 7 kg | Foreign cost per kg |
|---------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 01.07.1945                      | 2           | 0.40 <i>P</i>          | -                   |
| 16.09.1945                      | 3           | 0.40 <i>P</i>          | 4 <i>P</i>          |
| 01.11.1945                      | 4           | 1 <i>P</i>             | 24 <i>P</i>         |
| 16.11.1945                      | 5           | 1 <i>P</i>             | 50 <i>P</i> g       |
| 14.01.1946                      | 6           | 10 <i>P</i>            | 300 <i>P</i>        |
| 01.02.1946                      | 7           | 20 <i>P</i>            | 1,500 <i>P</i>      |
| 01.03.1946                      | 8           | 100 <i>P</i>           | 8,000 <i>P</i>      |
| 16.03.1946                      | 9           | 200 <i>P</i>           | 16,000 <i>P</i>     |
| 26.03.1946                      | 10          | 300 <i>P</i>           | 24,000 <i>P</i>     |
| 01.04.1946                      | 11          | 400 <i>P</i>           | 32,000 <i>P</i>     |
| 11.04.1946                      | 12          | 800 <i>P</i>           | 64,000 <i>P</i>     |
| 23.04.1946                      | 13          | 2,500 <i>P</i>         | 200,000 <i>P</i>    |
| 01.05.1946                      | 14          | 10,000 <i>P</i>        | 800,000 <i>P</i>    |
| 10.05.1946                      | 15          | 50,000 <i>P</i>        | 4 <i>mP</i>         |
| 20.05.1946                      | 16          | 200,000 <i>P</i>       | 16 <i>mP</i>        |
| 27.05.1946                      | 17          | 600,000 <i>P</i>       | 48 <i>mP</i>        |
| 01.06.1946                      | 18          | 2 <i>mP</i>            | 160 <i>mP</i>       |
| 11.06.1946                      | 19          | 20 <i>mP</i>           | 1,600 <i>mP</i>     |
| 17.06.1946                      | 20          | 1,000 <i>mP</i>        | 8,000 <i>mP</i>     |
| 24.06.1946                      | 21          | 20 <i>mdP</i>          | 160 <i>mdP</i>      |
| 01.07.1946                      | 22          | 40 <i>mdP</i>          | 16,000 <i>mdP</i>   |
| 04.07.1946                      | 23          | 4 <i>bP</i>            | 800 <i>bP</i>       |
| 08.07.1946                      | 24          | 5,000 <i>bP</i>        | 200,000 <i>bP</i>   |
| 12.07.1946                      | 25          | 1,000 <i>AP</i>        | 10,000 <i>AP</i>    |
| 18.07.1946                      | 26          | 5,000 <i>AP</i>        | 50,000 <i>AP</i>    |
| 24-07-1946                      | 27          | 20,000 <i>AP</i>       | 200,000 <i>AP</i>   |
| 01.08.1946 * to<br>14.12.1953** | -           | 10 <i>f</i>            | 10 <i>f</i>         |

\* Source *Postatarifák Adók Illetékek Közlekedési Menetrendek* no. 42, 18.01.1949.

\*\* Post-free (no charge) from 15.12.1953 (unconfirmed).