

9.5 PARCELS - INLAND - HYPERINFLATION PERIOD

9.5.1 Introduction

After WWII parcel post did not recommence until 02.07.1945, and then only tentatively because of the nature of the Russian Army occupation and the lawlessness that followed the chaos of the German retreat. Inflationary rises in postal fees had already taken place, and these also affected the parcel service. Initially the pre-war distance zones were used to set fees, but from inflation period 7 (commencing 01.02.1946) these were dropped to simplify the charges.

Prior to and during WWI, the fiscal charge for parcels had been 10 *fillér*, but on recommencement in inflation period 2 this was raised to 20 *fillér*, then to 1 *P* on 16.09.1945, then to 10 *P* on 13.11.1945. In order to attempt to maintain its tax income, on 01.01.1946 the Government introduced the *adópengő* or tax *pengő*, which initially was equal to the conventional *pengő*, but as the latter lost its value with time, the conversion rate increased. From 01.02.1946, the fiscal charge for parcels was set at 100 *adópengő* and later raised to 500 *adópengő* from 01.06.1946, requiring fiscal stamps to be the correct amount to applied to parcels cards as well as postage stamps to pay the usual postal charges. If either type of stamp was unavailable, then parcel cards were marked as having been paid in cash.

9.5.2 Tables

The following tables of postage data for inland parcels are taken from Morgan's book.

Table 1: Parcels – Inland – Hyperinflation period - Period 2, 02.07.1945 - 15.09.1945

Start date	Distance zone	Up to the following weight*, <i>pengő</i> :											
		1 kg	5 kg	10 kg	15 kg	20 kg	25 kg	30 kg	35 kg	40 kg	45 kg	50 kg	55 kg
02.07.1945 (PTRT 6, 28.06.1945) Period 2	I, II	6	8	10	15	20	22	25	26	28	30	32	35
	III	8	10	15	20	25	28	31	34	38	42	46	50
	IV	10	14	20	25	30	34	38	42	46	50	55	60
	V	12P	18	25	30	40	45	50P	56	62	68	74	80

* Figure in italics for official parcels only as specified in the Post Office Business Regulations.

Weight limit: for non-official parcels at time of notice, 5 kg; from 30.07.1945, 10 kg; from 20.09.1945, 20 kg.

Bulky/fragile parcels: 50% more, rounded up.

Home delivery fee: Budapest, 1 kg, 2 *P*; 10 kg, 3 *P*; 20 kg, 4 *P*; 55 kg, 5 *P*; elsewhere: 1 kg, 1 *P*; 10 kg, 2 *P*; 20 kg, 3 *P*; 55 kg, 4 *P*. Delivery in some rural areas may be restricted by lack of transport, so only a notification of arrival will be sent, with customers having to make their own arrangements to collect the parcel.

Value declared: Initially, value could not be declared – but this was withdrawn from 01.08.1945 (PTRT 11, 26.07.1945). Value declared fees: each 4000 *P*, 20 *P*. This fee is doubled if over 5000 *P* in value and posted open for inspection. At the same time, *Értékdoz* (valuable boxes - see separate section) could start to be sent between post offices on a list attached to the PTRT. Extensive guidance is given about transport of such items due to the poor security situation. For value boxes an addition to the registration fee, a weight fee was 3 *P* for every 50 g, minimum 10 *P*. was charged.

Surcharge for not pre-paid parcels: 2 *P*.

(Daily) storage fee: 1 *P*.

Storage rental: Budapest, monthly, 200 *P*; elsewhere, monthly, 50 *P*.

Receipt: 2 *P*.

Return receipt: 5 *P*.

Repackaging fee: 5 *P*.

Restrictions: No live animals (except leeches) and alcohol-containing products. No personal notes or letters. No responsibility for late delivery and any resulting spoilage. COD not allowed. Restrictions to post office staff parcels. Customers expected to know what goods have restricted movement, must seek permits and present permits on submitting the parcel. No compensation for seized parcels owing to improper goods, imports or documentation. Parcels will be accepted only at listed offices.

Table 2: Parcels – Inland – Hyperinflation period - Period 3, 16.09.1945 - 31.10.1945

Start date	Distance zone	Up to the following weight*, <i>pengő</i> :										
		5 kg	10 kg	15 kg	20 kg	25 kg	30 kg	35 kg	40 kg	45 kg	50 kg	55 kg
16.09.1945 (PTRT 21, 15.09.1945) Period 3	I, II	20	30	40	50	<i>60</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>120</i>
	III	30	60	80	100	<i>120</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>220</i>	<i>240</i>
	IV	30	60	90	120	<i>150</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>210</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>270</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>330</i>
	V	30	60	100	140	<i>180</i>	<i>220</i>	<i>260</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>340</i>	<i>380</i>	<i>420</i>

* Figure in italics for official parcels only as specified in the Post Office Business Regulations.

Weight limit: for non-official parcels from 30.07.1945, 10 kg; from 20.09.1945, 20 kg.

Bulky/fragile parcels: 50% more, rounded up.

Surcharge for parcels not pre-paid, 2 *P*?

Home delivery fee: 10 kg, 10 *P*; 20 kg, 15 *P*; 55 kg, 20 *P* (no distinction between Budapest and elsewhere).

(Daily) storage fee: 3 *P*.

Storage rental: Budapest, monthly, 700 *P*; elsewhere, monthly, 400 *P*.

Return fee: 20 *P*.

Repackaging fee: 20 *P* minimum.

PTRT 28, 11.10.1945: Post offices which previously could not handle parcels are now allowed to accept them up to 2 kg.

Table 3: Parcels – Inland – Hyperinflation period - Period 4, 01.11.1945 - 15.11.1945

Start date	Distance zone	Up to the following weight*, <i>pengő</i> :										
		5 kg	10 kg	15 kg	20 kg	25 kg	30 kg	35 kg	40 kg	45 kg	50 kg	55 kg
01.11.1945 (PTRT 33, 30.10.1945) Period 4	I, II	200	300	400	500	<i>600</i>	<i>700</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>900</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,100</i>	<i>1,200</i>
	III	300	600	800	1,000	<i>1,200</i>	<i>1,400</i>	<i>1,600</i>	<i>1,800</i>	<i>2,000</i>	<i>2,200</i>	<i>2,400</i>
	IV	300	600	900	1,200	<i>1,500</i>	<i>1,800</i>	<i>2,100</i>	<i>2,400</i>	<i>2,700</i>	<i>3,000</i>	<i>3,300</i>
	V	300	600	1000	1,400	<i>1,800</i>	<i>2,200</i>	<i>2,600</i>	<i>3,000</i>	<i>3,400</i>	<i>3,800</i>	<i>4,200</i>

* Figure in italics for official parcels only as specified in the Post Office Business Regulations.

Bulky/fragile parcels: 50% more, rounded up.

Home delivery fee: 200 *P* (no distinction by weight or between Budapest and elsewhere).

(Daily) storage fee: 20 *P*.

PTRT 39, 13.11.1945: From 01.11.1946, parcel card tax 10 *P*. Full charges to be paid up front (no *porto* allowed).

Table 4: Parcels – Inland – Hyperinflation period - Period 5, 16.11.1945 - 13.01.1946

Start date	Distance zone	Up to the following weight*, <i>pengő</i> :										
		5 kg	10 kg	15 kg	20 kg	25 kg	30 kg	35 kg	40 kg	45 kg	50 kg	55 kg
16.11.1945 (PTRT 41, 15.11.1945) Period 5	I, II	400	600	800	1,000	<i>1,200</i>	<i>1,400</i>	<i>1,600</i>	<i>1,800</i>	<i>2,000</i>	<i>2,200</i>	<i>2,400</i>
	III	600	1,200	1,600	2,000	<i>2,400</i>	<i>2,800</i>	<i>3,200</i>	<i>3,600</i>	<i>4,000</i>	<i>4,400</i>	<i>4,800</i>
	IV	600	1,200	1,800	2,400	<i>3,000</i>	<i>3,600</i>	<i>4,200</i>	<i>4,800</i>	<i>5,400</i>	<i>6,000</i>	<i>6,600</i>
	V	600	1,200	2,000	2,800	<i>3,600</i>	<i>4,400</i>	<i>5,200</i>	<i>6,000</i>	<i>6,800</i>	<i>7,600</i>	<i>8,400</i>

* Figure in italics for official parcels only as specified in the Post Office Business Regulations.

Bulky/fragile parcels: 50% more, rounded up.

Home delivery fee: 400 *P*.

(Daily) storage fee: 40 *P*.

Unpaid parcel surcharge: equal to COD fee.

Repacking cost: equals registry(?) fee, but if higher, actual amount.

PTRT 44, 24.11.1945: Except within Budapest, COD parcel service can begin.

Table 5: Parcels – Inland – Hyperinflation period - Period 6, 14.01.1946 - 31.01.1946

Start date	Distance zone	Up to the following weight*, <i>pengő</i> :										
		5 kg	10 kg	15 kg	20 kg	25 kg	30 kg	35 kg	40 kg	45 kg	50 kg	55 kg
14.01.1946 (PTRT 4, 14.01.1946) Period 6	I, II	3,000	6,000	7,000	8,000	9,000	10,000	11,000	12,000	13,000	14,000	15,000
	III	3,000	6,000	8,000	10,000	12,000	14,000	16,000	18,000	20,000	22,000	24,000
	IV	3,000	6,000	9,000	12,000	15,000	18,000	21,000	24,000	27,000	30,000	33,000
	V	3,000	6,000	10,000	14,000	18,000	22,000	26,000	30,000	34,000	38,000	42,000

Parcel card tax: now 100 *P* (PTRT 6, 16.01.1946)

Home delivery fee: 2000 *P*

Storage fee: 200 *P* per day

PTRT 7, 26.01.1946: From 26.01.1946. all post offices use the parcel service from 17.01.1946. Parcel weight limit 10 kg, but temporarily to listed offices only 2 kg. Senders can now send more than one parcel per day.

Table 6: Parcels - Inland - Hyperinflation period - Periods 7 to 27, 01.02.1946-31.07.1946.

Start date	Period	Up to the following weight*, <i>pengő</i> :					PTRT
		5 kg	10 kg	15 kg	20 kg	>20 kg *	
01.02.1946	7	10,000	15,000	20,000	25,000	5,000 per 5 kg extra	PRT 9, 01.02.1946
01.03.1946	8	50,000	80,000	100,000	130,000		PRT 14, 28.02.1946
16.03.1946	9	100,000	160,000	200,000	260,000		PRT 15, 09.03.1946
26.03.1946	10	150,000	240,000	300,000	390,000		PRT 19, 29.03.1946
01.04.1946	11	200,000	320,000	400,000	520,000		PRT 21, 06.04.1946
11.04.1946	12	400,000	640,000	800,000	1,040,000		PRT 22, 10.04.1946
23.04.1946	13	1.25 <i>m</i>	2 <i>m</i>	2.5 <i>m</i>	3.25 <i>m</i>		PRT 24, 24.04.1946
01.05.1946	14	6 <i>m</i>	8 <i>m</i>	12 <i>m</i>	16 <i>m</i>	4 <i>m</i> per 5 kg extra	PRT 26, 30.04.1946
10.05.1946	15	30 <i>m</i>	40 <i>m</i>	62 <i>m</i>	80 <i>m</i>		PRT 29, 10.05.1946
20.05.1945	16	120 <i>m</i>	160 <i>m</i>	240 <i>m</i>	320 <i>m</i>		PRT 31, 20.05.1946
27.05.1946	17	360 <i>m</i>	480 <i>m</i>	720 <i>m</i>	960 <i>m</i>		PRT 33, 27.05.1946
01.06.1946	18	1.2 <i>md</i>	1.6 <i>md</i>	2.4 <i>md</i>	3.2 <i>md</i>		PRT 35, 01.06.1946
11.06.1946	19	12 <i>md</i>	16 <i>md</i>	24 <i>md</i>	32 <i>md</i>		PRT 37, 14.06.1946
17.06.1946	20	60 <i>md</i>	80 <i>md</i>	120 <i>md</i>	160 <i>md</i>		PRT 38, 19.06.1946
24.06.1946	21	1.2 <i>b</i>	1.6 <i>b</i>	2.4 <i>b</i>	3.2 <i>b</i>		PRT 40, 26.06.1946
01.07.1946	22	120 <i>b</i>	160 <i>b</i>	240 <i>b</i>	320 <i>b</i>		PRT 41, 04.07.1946
04.07.1946	23	6000 <i>b</i>	8000 <i>b</i>	12,000 <i>b</i>	16,000 <i>b</i>		PRT 42, 09.07.1946
08.07.1946	24	300,000 <i>b</i>	400,000 <i>b</i>	600,000 <i>b</i>	800,000 <i>b</i>		PRT 42, 09.07.1946
12.07.1946	25	60,000 <i>a</i>	80,000 <i>a</i>	120,000 <i>a</i>	160,000 <i>a</i>	40,000 <i>a</i> per 5 kg extra	PRT 43, 12.07.1946
18.07.1946	26	300,000 <i>a</i>	400,000 <i>a</i>	600,000 <i>a</i>	800,000 <i>a</i>		PRT 44, 19.07.1946
24.07.1946	27	1.2 <i>ma</i>	1.6 <i>ma</i>	2.4 <i>ma</i>	3 <i>ma</i>		PRT 45, 26.07.1946

Key: *m* = million, *md* = 1000 million, *b* = 1 million million, *a* = *adó* = tax. * Official parcels only, rates scaling with public parcel rates.

Note: on 01.08.1946 the currency was change to the new stabilised *Forint/filler* basis.

9.5.3 Additional fees

Period 7:

Home delivery: up to 5 kg, 5,000 *P*, over 5 kg, 10,000 *P*.

Period 8: A new 'base' rate schedule with fees in *pengő*, with later period rates adjusted by a factor.

Unpaid parcel fee: = only at central office Budapest, but in **PTRT 15, 09.03.1946** is extended to all offices in Budapest.

Home delivery: up to 5 kg, 20,000 *P*, over 5 kg, 50,000 *P*.

Storage fee: = 5,000 *P* per day.

Period 9: Period 8 fees multiplied by **2**.

Fiscal stamps in *adópengő* currency issued for use on parcel cards (**PTRT 17, 22.03.1946**)

Period 10: Period 8 fees multiplied by **3**.

Period 11: Period 8 fees multiplied by **4**.

Parcel weight limit raised to 20 kg, but only at offices previously permitted to deal with parcels up to 10 kg (**PTRT 21, 06.04.1946**). Postal employee's food parcels weight limit increased to 30 kg, but for potatoes only 25 kg. Offices previously limited to handling 2kg or 10 kg parcels, but with improved handling facilities can now handle parcels up to 20 kg.

Period 12: Period 8 fees multiplied by **8**.

Express parcel service extended to insured parcels (value declared) and can be sent throughout the country, not just Budapest.

Period 13: Period 8 fees multiplied by **25**

Period 14: New 'base' rate schedule with fees in *pengő*, with later period rates adjusted by a factor.

Unpaid parcel fee: = local postcard rate.

COD parcel: 500,000 *P*.

Express fee: local 5,000,000 *P*, rural (farms, camps, etc.) 15,000,000 *P*.

Value declared fee: 150,000 *P* per 50,000,000 *P* value.

Re-packaging fee: = domestic registration fee.

Home delivery: up to 5 kg, 2,000,000 *P*, over 5 kg, 5,000,000 *P*

Storage fee: = local postcard rate per day.

Period 15: Period 14 fees multiplied by **5**

Period 16: Period 14 fees multiplied by **20**

Period 17: Period 14 fees multiplied by **60**

Period 18: Period 14 fees multiplied by **200**

Period 19: Period 14 fees multiplied by **2,000**

Period 20: Period 14 fees multiplied by **10,000**

Period 21: Period 14 fees multiplied by **200,000**

Period 22: Period 14 fees multiplied by **20,000,000**

Period 23: Period 14 fees multiplied by **1,000,000,000**

Period 24: Period 14 fees multiplied by **50,000,000,000**

Period 25: New 'base' rate schedule with fees in *adópengő*, with later period rates adjusted by a factor.

Unpaid parcel fee: = local postcard rate.

COD parcel: 10,000 *aP*.

Express fee: local 50,000 *aP*, rural 150,000 *aP*.

Value declared fee: 10,000 *aP* per 50,000,000 *aP* value.

Re-packaging fee: = domestic registration fee.

Home delivery: up to 5 kg, 20,000 *aP*, over 5 kg, 50,000 *aP*

Storage fee: = local postcard rate per day.

Period 26: Period 25 fees multiplied by **5**.

Period 27: Period 25 fees multiplied by **20**.

9.5.4 Parcel cards and parcel tax - Hyperinflation period – 1945-1946

Throughout this period the wartime cards with a 10 *f* imprint for the tax due were used, and even untaxed fieldpost parcel cards were brought into use. The tax progressively increased, requiring additional fiscal stamps (occasionally postage stamps would be used). The printing cost for the card also increased. The timing of these cost changes did not necessarily coincide with the ‘periods’ of postage rate steps.

Table 7: Parcel card and parcel tax costs - Hyperinflation period

Start date	Period	Parcel card charge		Multiparcel form charge	Parcel card tax, (all types)	PTRT
		Ordinary	CoD			
25.06.1945	1	50 <i>f</i>	70 <i>f</i>	1.10 <i>P</i>	20 <i>f</i>	PRT 4, 22.06.1945
01.07.1945	2	1.50 <i>P</i> *	1.70 <i>P</i> *	2.10 <i>P</i> *	1 <i>P</i>	PRT 6, 28.06.1945
16.09.1945	3	1.50 <i>P</i> *	1.70 <i>P</i> *	2.10 <i>P</i> *	1 <i>P</i>	PRT 21, 15.09.1945
01.11.1945	4	10 <i>P</i>	20 <i>P</i>	20 <i>P</i> **	10 <i>P</i>	PRT 39, 13.11.1945
18.11.1945	5	20 <i>P</i>	40 <i>P</i>	40 <i>P</i> **	10 <i>P</i>	PRT 44, 24.11.1945
14.01.1946	6	100 <i>P</i>	200 <i>P</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	PRT 6, 14.01.1946
01.02.1946	7	300 <i>P</i>	600 <i>P</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	
01.03.1946	8	5,000 <i>P</i>	10,000 <i>P</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	PRT 14, 28.02.1946
16.03.1945	9	10,000 <i>P</i>	20,000 <i>P</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	
26.03.1946	10	15,000 <i>P</i>	30,000 <i>P</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	
01.04.1946	11	20,000 <i>P</i>	40,000 <i>P</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	
11.04.1945	12	40,000 <i>P</i>	80,000 <i>P</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	
23.04.1945	13	125,000 <i>P</i>	250,000 <i>P</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	
01.05.1946	14	300,000 <i>P</i>	500,000 <i>P</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	PRT 26, 30.04.1946
10.05.1945	15	1.5 <i>mP</i>	2.5 <i>mP</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	
20.05.1946	16	6 <i>mP</i>	10 <i>mP</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	
27.05.1945	17	18 <i>mP</i>	30 <i>mP</i>	-	100 <i>aP</i>	
01.06.1946	18	60 <i>mP</i>	100 <i>mP</i>	-	500 <i>aP</i>	
11.06.1946	19	600 <i>mP</i>	1000 <i>mP</i>	-	500 <i>aP</i>	
17.06.1946	20	3000 <i>mP</i>	5000 <i>mP</i>	-	500 <i>aP</i>	
24.06.1946	21	60 <i>mdP</i>	100 <i>mdP</i>	-	500 <i>aP</i>	
01.07.1946	22	6 <i>bP</i>	10 <i>bP</i>	-	500 <i>aP</i>	
04.07.1945	23	300 <i>bP</i>	500 <i>bP</i>	-	500 <i>aP</i>	
08.07.1946	24	15,000 <i>bP</i> ?	25,000 <i>bP</i> ?		500 <i>aP</i>	
12.07.1946	25	5,000 <i>aP</i>	10,000 <i>aP</i>	-	500 <i>aP</i>	PRT 43, 12.07.1946
18.07.1946	26	25,000 <i>aP</i>	50,000 <i>aP</i>	-	500 <i>aP</i>	PRT 44, 19.07.1946
24.07.1946	27	100,000 <i>aP</i>	200,000 <i>aP</i>		500 <i>aP</i>	PRT 45, 26.07.1946

* With additional fiscal stamp. ** Without cost of fiscal stamp.