

colony and therefore the actual "first day of use" can be months, even years after the "first day of issue" in the motherland. But as the stamps bought at the agency in the motherland can be sent to the colony by philatelists and then used there on philatelic mail — although there are cases known where the colonial postal authorities did not recognize such stamps which had not been available at the post offices in the colony — the actual dates of first issue and first use are beclouded in such cases and can only be clarified by intricate philatelic research. In a number of cases, colonial stamps or stationery "issued" in the motherland, did not reach the colony at all except in the above-mentioned philatelic way. As they were not issued at the post offices in the colony they have to be considered unissued stamps even when they exist used on philatelic mail and were accepted for payment of postage. They should be marked as such in the catalogs.

EUROPEAN CLASSICS

IV. BADEN*

Baden, during its stamp-issuing period of twenty years, was a member of the German Confederation, in which it held seventh rank. Its territory stretched along the Rhine, which formed the western and southern border of the country, easterly to Lake Constance. It covered a little more than 5800 sq. mi. and had in 1871 a population of about 1,460,000. The capital *Carlsruhe* (now Karlsruhe), founded in 1715, had at the same time about 36,000 inhabitants, but the largest town was *Mannheim* with a population of about 50,000.

As a political entity, Baden is quite a young state. The *Alemanni*, who are the ancestors of the population, settled there in the third century A.D. The territory fell to the Franks under Pepin the Little in 748. In the 11th century members of the house of *Zaehringen* ruled parts of the country and later took the title of Margraves of Baden. But the territory was for centuries a conglomeration of petty margravates and ecclesiastic property belonging to the bishoprics of Constance, Mainz, Speyer and Strasbourg. The Breisgau belonged as "Vorderoesterreich" to the family of Habsburg, the Mannheim-Heidelberg area to the Rhenish Palatinate. Only after the margravates of Baden-Baden and Baden-Durlach were

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Collecting "birthday documents" of stamps and stationery — first day cancellations and covers, as well as earliest known dates of use — is an interesting type of philatelic activity although not an easy one when extended to 19th century issues. But even early 20th century items of this kind are not easy to obtain and only material post-dating the First World War is more plentiful. Now great quantities of "first day covers," with special "first day cancellations," cachets and other sensational but unphilatelic features, are manufactured of every new stamp or stationery item and have robbed the collecting of these items of much of its romantic lure. The unforgettable thrill of finding in commercial covers of thirty and more years ago a cover of the first day of issue or a dated copy of a simple stamp, which advances the earliest known date of use, is unknown to the collectors of modern first day covers, who simply order them from the philatelic agency or a new issues dealer.

joined in 1771 under Margrave Karl Friedrich of *Zaehringen*, did the contours of a state become visible. Raised to the rank of elector in 1803, Margrave Karl Friedrich joined in 1806 the pro-French *Confederation of the Rhine* and was rewarded by Napoleon I with additional territory which eventually quadrupled the size of his possessions and was highlighted by his elevation to *Grand Duke*. The new Grand Duchy had attained in this way its definite borders which were recognized, when, after the battle of Leipzig, Baden seceded from the Confederation of the Rhine and, in 1815 at the Congress of Vienna, joined the *German Confederation*. In 1818 the charter for a constitution was granted which was improved by Ludwig I, who succeeded Karl Friedrich in 1825. The next ruler was Leopold I, under whose rule the revolution of 1848 shook the foundations of the state. It was suppressed only with the help of Prussian troops. From 1852, Ludwig II was Grand Duke under a regency and was succeeded in 1856 by Friedrich I, who ruled well into the 20th century. In the Prusso-Austrian war of 1866, Baden sided with defeated Austria and had to pay a heavy indemnity. In 1871, it became as a Grand Duchy a part of the German Empire, to which, as a federal state, it still belongs.

Baden's *postal history* really starts in 1718, when a treaty was signed which incorporated

the territory, except the Breisgau which had Austrian mail service, into the postal organization of the Taxis family, the "Reichspost". For almost a century the postal affairs of the country were in the hands of the "Reichspost" until the establishment of a united state in the years 1803 to 1809 led to a movement to nationalize the postal administration. After the Government of Baden had taken over the postal service in the Breisgau and had achieved in 1807 some influence in the domestic postal affairs of the "Reichspost", it ended the treaty with the "Reichspost." On August 1, 1811, Baden took the postal administration in its own hands, terminating the influence of the family of Thurn and Taxis in the postal organization of the country. On Dec. 14, 1801, a treaty between the "Reichspost" and the French postal administration, which divided the territory of the "Reichspost" into "Zones" ("Rayons"), had become valid also for the territory of Baden, which belonged mainly to the Zones 1 and 2, a small part to Zone 3. The severance of the close relations between Baden and the "Reichspost" did not change the "Zone" system, as Baden continued the postal treaty with France and kept the "Zone" system until 1815. On May 1, 1851, Baden became a member of the German-Austrian Postal Union which had been founded one year earlier. After the dissolution of this Union, Baden on Nov. 23, 1867 concluded a postal treaty binding its postal system closely to that of the North German Confederation. At the end of 1871, Baden lost its postal independence completely. Beginning January 1, 1872, its postal administration was taken over by the "Reichspost," the postal organization of the new German Empire.

Baden used the currency which was standard in the other southern states of Germany, namely 1 gulden, divided into 60 kreuzer. The unit of weight was the pound divided into 30 loths (1 loth equivalent to about 1/2 ounce). In 1868, the metric system was introduced. Distances were measured in "postal miles" (about 7 1/2 km).

Baden was the fifth of the Old German States to issue postal stamps. The treaty establishing the German-Austrian Postal Union, signed on April 6, 1850, between Prussia and Austria, provided in article 18 that each member should introduce postage stamps for payment of the postal fees as soon as possible. Baden which became a member on May 1,

1851, issued its first postage stamps on that same day. Only one other kind of adhesives were issued by the country, namely postage due stamps for the rural mail service, on Oct. 1, 1862. Of postal stationery, only envelopes had imprinted stamps; they were first issued on Oct. 1, 1858. There existed, from 1870, also official postal cards and money order cards, but they were only forms without imprinted stamps. They were sold at the post offices partly with pasted-on stamps and therefore deserve some attention.

The first postage stamps showed a numeral design for which the first stamps of Bavaria were used as a model. The change to the arms design, coinciding with the introduction of the perforation, was made because it was felt that this design would be better suited for perforated stamps. The idea of using the arms as a design was taken from the second Wurttemberg issue. Later changes in the design were only improvements of it—removal of the lines of the background to make the arms more outstanding—or made necessary by changing conditions, particularly the dissolution of the German-Austrian Postal Union, which made the inscription "Postverein" obsolete and called for a change, which was also used to make the value indication more distinct. The rural postage due stamps had a numeral design of rather independent features. The stamps on the envelopes showed the head of Grand Duke Friedrich I to the right and were almost an exact copy of the stamps on the contemporary envelopes of Prussia. The arms type was, according to the files, designed by C. A. Weber, the head on the envelope stamps being taken from a coin.

The original dies for all issues were cut in steel or copper. For the 1851 issue of postage stamps, one die was made for the frame, which was partly type-set, and then the centers for each of the four values, 1kr, 3kr, 6kr, 9kr, for which separate dies were made, were inserted in working dies. For the arms issue of 1860 the original die was complete except for the figure of value which was inserted for each value, again 1kr, 3kr, 6kr, 9kr, in working dies. For the change of design in each of the four working dies the horizontal lines of the background were removed — incomplete by the way as they were left untouched in the small spot above the front legs of the lion at the left —, without any other change. For the new values of 18kr and 30kr, two new working dies

were made, the indication "KREUZER" removed and "18 KREUZER" and "30 KREUZER" respectively inserted. For the 1868 issue, an entirely new original die was engraved, again without figure of value, which was inserted for the three values, 1kr, 3kr, 7kr, in working dies. For the rural postage due stamps, the design was type-set only once, without the value indication. The figures "1," "3" and "12" were alternately inserted — in the last case, the inscription "LAND-POST," which was curved for the two other values was conveniently straightened — and a stereotype cast for each value which now served as die. For the envelope stamps, the center with the head was cut in steel and then five working dies taken from it. The oval frames with the guilloches, value indications and figures of value were then cut into these working dies for each value, 3kr, 6kr, 9kr, 12kr and 18kr, separately.

Baden was, by the way, one of the few countries which really used "secret marks" on its first stamps. They were little notches cut in the original die for each value and therefore visible on all issued stamps. This small notch can be found in the border of the circular center design with the numeral and is for the 1kr at left of the foot of the "1," for the 3kr above the "3" and for the 6kr and 9kr at right below the dot after the figure. These "secret marks" were applied purposely and kept strictly secret; they were known only to a few high officials of the postal administration. We do not believe that they would have prevented the use of postal forgeries if such attempt had been made, which, as far as we know, was not the case.

The *printing material* for the adhesives consisted in all cases of single electrotypes which were assembled in various settings. After each printing, the settings were taken apart, the electrotypes cleaned and stored away, to be used for a new setting when need arose. Replacements of defective electrotypes by new ones also took place from time to time. The first settings of the 1851 issue consisted, according to the files, of 90 electrotypes (9 rows of 10), except for the 1 kr, of which the setting contained only 45 electrotypes (9 rows of 5). The second and subsequent settings consisted of 100 electrotypes (10 rows of 10). The 1kr was first again an exception, as the setting consisted only of 50 electrotypes (10 rows of 5), but in August 1853 fifty additional electrotypes were obtained and the conse-

quent settings of the 1kr were made up like those of the other values. The settings of 100 must have, at least partly, consisted of two panes side by side, of 50 (10 rows of 5) each, as multiples showing the vertical gutter between panes are known of the later printings of the 3kr on yellow and 6kr on green. All settings of the stamps in the arms designs as well as of the rural postage due stamps contained 100 electrotypes (10 rows of 10) each. The stamps on the envelopes were printed from single dies, of which there were originally two (3kr three) for each value. The printing material for the first issue of postage stamps was manufactured by C. Naumann's Printing Works of Frankfurt a.M., for the stamps in arms type by the engraver Louis Kurz of Frankfurt a.M. and for the 1868 issue by the engraver Maier of Karlsruhe. The clichés for the rural postage due stamps were probably made by the Wilhelm Hasper's Printing Works of Karlsruhe, which in several cases also supplied electrotypes taken from the working dies of the various values. The dies for the envelope stamps were made at the Prussian State Printing Works of Berlin, presumably by the famous engraver Schilling.

All adhesive stamps of Baden were *typographed* and printed on the *letter press* by Wilhelm Hasper's Printing Works of Karlsruhe. The envelope stamps were *typographed* combined with *embossing*. They were first manufactured by the Prussian State Printing Works of Berlin, from September 1866 by the printer Max Eberle of Karlsruhe. The size of all paper used for the printing of the stamps was intended for sheets of 400. As the settings consisted of only 100 (90) or 50 (45) stamps, either the paper had to be divided four or eight times, or the settings were printed two, four or eight times on the sheet. It is evident that, as long as there were settings of only 45 or 50 of the 1kr in numeral design, at least for some printings the latter method was used. While for the 1kr on buff both printings seem to have been upright, for the 1kr on white, the sheets must have been turned around for the second print and the two printings on the sheet were in *tete-beche* position.

The electrotypes were very narrowly *spaced* in the settings and occasionally not properly aligned. For the numeral issue, the space between vertical columns was originally only 1/2mm. to barely 1mm., between horizontal

rows 1mm. to 1½mm. The last printings, probably due to the intended introduction of perforation, had somewhat wider spacing, 1½ mm., to 2mm. The known gutters are 7mm., on the 3kr on yellow as well as on the 6kr on green. The arms issues are equally closely spaced (1¼mm. to 2mm.), leaving barely space for the perforation holes. The rural postage due stamps were spaced somewhat wider apart, about 2mm. to 3mm. All sheets were issued with rather wide sheet margins of about 17½mm., which were without any printing, except for single needle dots, in the center at top and bottom.

The paper used for the first stamps in numeral design was colored. It is remarkable that of the four Old German States which preceded Baden in issuing postage stamps (Bavaria, Prussia, Saxony and Hanover) only Bavaria did not issue stamps printed in black on various colored papers. Baden followed the example of the majority and used colored paper, but the color scheme was individual, namely light brown, yellow, green and rose. In 1853, the color scheme was changed for quite odd reasons. A year earlier, Wurttemberg had issued its first stamps and had not only quite closely copied the design of the first Baden stamps but had also adopted the same color scheme. This led, as is claimed in the official documents, to cases where Wurttemberg stamps were mistaken for Baden stamps and vice-versa and the Baden Postal Administration decided to change the colors of its stamps. Only the 9kr was left unchanged and the new scheme became white, green, yellow and rose. In 1858, a further change took place, for rather trivial reasons. According to the official files the green paper was unsuitable for proper gumming and was changed to a more adaptable blue paper. The colored papers were, at least partly, machine-made — stitch watermarks are known on the 3kr green, 3kr blue and 9kr rose of the numeral issue — and manufactured by the paper mill of Franz Buhl, Sr., of Ettlingen. From November 1858 other paper mills delivered the paper, also for the later issues on white paper and the yellow paper of the rural postage due stamps, but most paper was manufactured by another paper mill of Ettlingen, Buhl Brothers. The paper was originally thin and became thicker in the fall of 1852 and for subsequent printings.

When the change to colored printings on white paper took place the color scale was

originally kept the same as the last one for the stamps on colored paper, namely black, blue, yellow and rose. In 1862 a change to a new color scheme, proposed in March 1861 by the Prussian Postal Administration and accepted by most members of the German-Austrian Postal Union, was decided upon. This affected only three values, the 3kr, 6kr and 9kr, which changed their colors to rose, blue and brown. For the new values of 18kr and 30kr, the colors green and orange were chosen. In 1868, the color scheme of the North German Confederation, green, rose and blue, was adopted, and this changed the color of the 1kr to green and made the new 7kr value blue. The stamps imprinted on the envelopes were printed in the same colors as the contemporary adhesives. For the first issue the colors blue, yellow and rose were used for the 3kr, 6kr and 9kr, brown and brick red for 12kr and 18kr. In 1862, the same change of colors as for the adhesives also took place for the envelope stamps, which then became rose for 3kr, blue for 6kr and brown for 9kr. The printing inks used for the Baden stamps were probably procured in small quantities and therefore show quite distinct shades, providing practically each printing with its special characteristics. Especially blue, with shades from prussian blue to ultramarine, yellow, which shows more or less distinct orange derivations, and brown, which comes in various shades from reddish brown to yellowish brown, are remarkable in this respect. Overinked prints can be found equally as frequently as insufficiently inked prints. For many of the pale colors the latter occurrence is responsible, especially the so-called "silver grey" shades which are simply black stamps printed from insufficiently inked plates, but not real color varieties. Also for so-called oily prints the glycerin content of the gum was responsible rather than the inks.

The gum used for the stamps in numeral design was an animal glue. For the first printing of the perforated stamps in arms type according to the files an experiment was made, by using for half of the printing an animal glue of Austrian origin and for the other half a vegetable glue ("arabic gum" with added glycerin) procured from Saxony. It is claimed that a reddish gum found on the values of 1kr and 3kr of this first printing was used to distinguish the two kinds of gum and in this way to control their performance. Incidentally, the vegetable glue was even-

tually selected for further use. The gum on the flaps of the envelopes was first short (20mm. to 30mm.) covering only the tip of the upper flap, from the beginning of 1863 long (85mm. to 95mm.), extending to a large part of the flap.

The numeral stamps were issued *imperforate* only. The stamps in the arms type were issued *perforated*, the change of design coinciding with the introduction of the perforation. The perforating devices were purchased in Austria by the Hasper Printing Works and were used concurrently for the stamps of Baden as well as the stamps of Wurttemberg. They were the first perforated Old German States stamps. At the end of Aug. 1865, Baden took over the devices for its sole use. The perforation was a harrow perforation 13½ (16x16 perfs.), perforating sheets of 100 in one operation. This first device worked unsatisfactorily and a general repair in the spring of 1862 changed it to a wider perforation, harrow perforation 10 (12x12 perfs.). The perf. 13½ was solely used for the stamps in the original arms design and in the original colors, only of the 3kr the first printing on white background and in changed color was also perf. 13½. Perf. 10 was used for all other stamps in changed color and on white background, as well as the rural postage due stamps. Of perforation varieties, some freak perforations, with the perforation running through the center of the design, are known, also a few double perforations of perf. 10.

Special features of the envelopes were different sizes, a *colorless seal* on the upper flap on the back and an *overprint* applied obliquely across the corner with the imprinted stamp. Two sizes were used for the envelopes, namely a "small" size, 147mm.x84mm., and a "large" size, 148mm.x115mm. Small and large size were used for the envelopes manufactured in Berlin, while the Carlsruhe printings come only in the small size. The seals on the flap, two different ones, both colorless, were previously in use for envelopes of Prussia. Now one, with 16mm. diameter, was used for the small size envelopes, the other, of 18mm. diameter, for the large size, but the small size envelopes come almost equally frequently also with the 18mm. seal. For the envelopes in changed colors (1862) and all following printings another seal was used, also of 16mm. diameter, but with a different design, showing a star in its center. All

envelopes received an *overprint* in orange yellow, consisting of two continuous lines in diamond type, applied by a separate cylinder which had the inscription cut in two lines, reading "GROSSH. BADISCHES FRANCO-COUVERT (value) KREUZER." This overprint was applied on the first issue, which had the stamp imprinted in the top left corner across that corner, continuing on the top and left flap on the back. The issue in changed colors (1862) had the stamp imprinted in the top right corner and the overprint was accordingly placed across that corner and the top and right flap on the back. The full overprint first measured 44mm. to 45mm., from the second half of 1862 on 3kr, 6kr and 9kr 42mm. and from 1869 on the 3kr up to 46½mm.

The *rural postage due stamps* were only used by the rural mail service for unfranked mail, either originating in the rural service and delivered through it, or to collect the special rural and other fees for mail which came from outside to the rural mail service for delivery. They were pasted on the covers by the delivering post office or sub-office, possibly even by the rural mail carriers, and were not sold to the public.

Only four major Baden varieties are known which are due to faulty manufacture. One of them is a real error, the 9kr of 1851 on green instead of rose paper. It is generally assumed that one or more sheets of 9kr were printed by mistake on the paper of the 6kr stamp. But we believe that it is no less probable that by error a cliché of the 9kr slipped into the first setting of the 6kr and remained undetected for a short period.** Three genuine copies, all on the thin bluish green paper of the first printing of the 6kr, are known, one on piece and two on entires. This error is one of the great world rarities. A 6kr on green, with a 9kr printed on back, which was offered in recent years at several auctions has been proved to be faked.

The second major variety is the 3kr on blue of the numeral issue, printed on both sides, of which one copy has been recently found and is now in a New York collection. It has the cancellation "31" (Eberbach) and shows the print on back inverted and rather weak (Fig. 12). As far as we could ascertain, this rare variety has not been reported previously.

**See the note on page 140 of this issue.



Fig. 12



Fig. 13

The third variety is of similar nature, namely 9kr of the 1862-64 issue (on white ground), perf. 10, printed on both sides (inverted on back). At least four copies of this variety are known, all with numeral cancellation "8" (Baden).

The last in the group is the 3kr of the same issue, imperforate (Fig. 13). About a dozen copies, all used, but only one of them on cover (front only) are known, all cancelled at Stockach between December 24 and 29 (year unknown). About twenty years ago, two more imperforate copies, both in a different shade and cancelled in August (year unknown) at Karlsruhe, have been reported, but we have never seen them. All the imperforate copies must come from a few sheets which slipped through, entirely or partly imperforate.

The first issues of the postage stamps, rural postage due stamps and envelopes, were issued on fixed dates and *first day entires* may exist, although we know them only of the postage stamps. All other issues were either issued without fixing a specific date as first day of issue or they were only issued after using up of the same denominations of the previous issue. *Earliest dates of use* for these issues are the best we can hope for.

All Baden stamps and envelopes remained generally *valid* after they had been replaced by new issues; they were not withdrawn and could be used up concurrently with the new stamps. Exceptions are the 18kr stamp of 1862-64 which was withdrawn by a decree of Sept. 22, 1868 and the 12kr and 18kr envelopes, which were withdrawn by a decree of Nov. 4, 1862. The remainders of the 18kr stamps were destroyed, while the remainders of the envelopes seem to have been sold to philatelists, partly after pen cancelling the envelope stamp. Mixed frankings are common between the various consecutive perforated issues, but rather scarce between imperforate and perforated stamps. All Baden stamps and envelopes were *demonetized* on Dec. 31, 1871; on the following day, the stamps of the

German Empire were issued in Baden as was the case in the other parts of the Empire (except Bavaria and Wurtemberg). No recognized mixed frankings with the stamps of the German Empire can be found, as the change from the Baden stamps to the stamps of Germany took place without both kinds of stamps being concurrently valid.

The *postal service* was conducted during the stamp period by the "Badische Direction der Posten und Eisenbahnen," later called "Direction der Grossherzoglichen Verkehrsanstalten," which was a branch of the Ministry of Commerce. There were several *main post offices* which supervised a number of *post offices*. These in turn directed from May 1, 1859 *sub-post offices*, the so-called "Postablagen," which were established at that time in connection with the introduction of the *rural mail service*. *Mail boxes* had been partly in use before the introduction of postage stamps and their number now increased greatly, their collection being the duty of post offices and sub-post offices. Post offices on *railroad trains* existed from April 1, 1848.

The *postal rates* for domestic mail were quite uncomplicated during the period of use of adhesives. For each loth, letters paid 3kr to 10 mi., 6kr from 10 to 20 mi. and 9kr over 30 mi. distance. From Oct. 1, 1858, the 9kr rate was abolished and all letters over 10 mi. paid 6kr. On May 1, 1859, a reduced rate of 1kr for letters to 3 mi. was introduced. On Oct. 1, 1862, a new uniform rate of 3kr, without regard to the distance, was established. On July 1, 1864, the rate for city letters was lowered to 1kr. From Jan. 1, 1868, when the metric weight was introduced, letters to 15 grams paid 3kr, heavier letters 7kr. The rate for printed matter, samples, etc., was 1kr for each loth, later for 2½ loth and, from 1868, for each 40 grams. The registration fee was 6kr, from 1868 7kr. Mail had to be picked up at the post office; if delivered, a delivery fee was collected from the addressee. From May 1, 1851, the fee — 1kr — could be paid by the sender by pasting a 1kr stamp on the back of the letter. In the majority of cases this regulation was disregarded and the stamp for the delivery fee pasted with the other stamps on the face of the cover. The delivery fee was abolished on Sept. 30, 1862. The C.O.D. fee was 1kr for every gulden or fraction thereof. Postal cards, which were introduced in 1870, paid 2kr.

The fees for *foreign mail* were rather complicated except to the countries of the German-Austrian Postal Union and, from 1868, to the North German Confederation, for which the same fees as for domestic mail were generally collected. To other countries, the fees were gradually reduced and made uniform. For a number of countries, a uniform letter fee of 7kr was introduced in 1868.

The use of stamps was *obligatory* for domestic mail and mail to the countries of the German-Austrian Postal Union from the beginning. Unfranked letters paid additional 3kr as postage due. To other countries, the use of postage stamps was not permitted and only gradually introduced beginning 1856.

Special fees had to be paid for use of the *rural mail service*, in addition to the regular postal fees, namely 1kr for letters and letter packages up to 16 loth, 2kr for money letters and parcels. From Oct. 1, 1862, the special fees were abolished and mail carried by the rural mail service paid the same fees as other mail. Only for parcels, a special 3kr fee was charged.

With the exception of those values, of which large quantities of *remainders* were sold — 1862-64, 6kr, 9kr, 30kr, 1868, 1kr, 3kr, 7kr, all three rural postage due stamps and the last envelope issue — almost all Baden stamps and envelopes are considerably rarer *unused* than used. The remainders of the above postage stamps and envelopes — 100,000 of each stamp and 5000 of each envelope — were sold in 1878 to the dealer Bredemeyer of Hamburg, the remainders of the "Landpost" stamps — 160,000 complete sets and additional quantities of 1kr and 3kr — were sold in 1873 to the dealer Julius Goldner of Hamburg. There were also small remainders of the 9kr of 1851, of the 1860 and 1862 issue and of some older envelopes, which were sold in 1873 to Senf Brothers of Leipzig. But the quantities were relatively small — 1500 copies and slightly more of each — and have almost vanished from the market. Of all values of the numeral issue, there were never any remainders, except of the 9kr. They are very rare in unused condition with gum as is the 3kr rose, perf. I3½, which was also completely used up. Of the first 3kr envelope in the small size only a few unused copies are known. Very rare are also the 12kr and 18kr envelopes in large size as only 2000 and 2200 copies respectively were printed of them and distributed to 13

post offices. Only a few stamps and envelopes are considerably rarer *used* than unused, namely the 30kr stamp, all three rural postage due stamps — especially the used 12kr, which is not only the rarest Baden stamp, but also the rarest used stamp of all Old German States, only about 70 used copies being known — as well as the 12kr and 18kr envelopes in both sizes, which are used great rarities — we have never seen the 18kr large size used — and in that condition still much rarer than the very rare unused copies.

As the denominations of the stamps were only the values regularly needed on mail, all values up to 9kr are not rare on *entires*. The 1kr value, used alone on cover, can be found less frequently than the other values. The high values, 18kr and 30kr are scarce on covers, the latter being considerably rarer than the former. They can be found mainly on letters to overseas countries. Of the rural postage due stamps, the 12kr, used itself a rarity, is very rare on cover and probably less than two dozen covers with this stamp are known to exist, mostly official C.O.D. letters, one of which is franked with no less than 6 copies. The rural postage due stamps should according to the regulations have been pasted on the back of the covers, but frequently can be found on the face.

There exist practically no *emergency frankings*, as in a small country such as Baden all post offices were obviously at all times sufficiently supplied with stamps. The few known cases of the use of splits, envelope cut squares or postage stamps instead of rural postage due stamps and vice-versa are due rather to misunderstanding of the regulations, ignorance or a desire to dispose of otherwise little needed stamps. The latter is especially true of the *bisected 12kr "Landpost,"* which comes either horizontally or diagonally divided and used as 6kr rural postage due stamp. Although there are fewer known bisected copies of the stamp than whole ones — there may be about 30 in existence, on covers or pieces of cover — the market price for the bisected 12kr is, due to the smaller market for bisects, considerably lower than that of the undivided 12kr on cover or piece. There are also two diagonally *quartered* copies of the 12kr known, used on covers in Steinen as 3kr rural postage due stamps. The *use of postage stamps for rural postage due*, sometimes in mixed frankings with regular rural postage due stamps, is known and a



Fig. 14

rare exception, probably also a product of misunderstandings or ignorance. The use of rural postage due stamps for postage has been reported but we have not seen any examples. The use of *envelope cut squares* for postage was not permitted but in a few cases obviously tolerated, until a special decree, of Sept. 23, 1863, expressly forbade their use. We know only the 3kr rose in such condition on cover, but other values may also exist. They are all extremely rare.

Unused multiples can be easily found of those values of which large remainders came on the market and full sheets of 100 are known of all these stamps. Earlier issues are scarce to rare in blocks. The stamps in the numeral design until about thirty years ago were partly unknown in mint blocks; then a small find of parts of sheets of the first printing provided a few large collections with mint blocks. But we still do not know of any mint block of the first 1kr stamp and some other values of later issues, especially the 3kr rose, perf. $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Of *used multiples*, pairs and strips of 3 are rather common of all 1kr stamps, but strips of three are scarce of the higher values. Generally, vertical strips are less rare than horizontal ones. A few strips of ten — width or height of the sheet — are known. Of the 12kr "Landpost," no other multiples than one defective pair seem to exist. Used blocks are generally rare and neither known of all values of the imperforate issue, nor of the 18kr and 30kr and, of course, the 12kr "Landpost." Especially sought for are gutter pairs of the 1851-58 issue, 1kr on buff, of which one gutter pair, spaced 21mm., is known, as well as the *tete beche* 1kr on white (Fig. 14), of which three pairs, spaced about $11\frac{1}{2}$ mm., are recorded. Regular gutter pairs, from the settings in two panes, are known about a dozen of the 3kr on yellow, including one block of four, and two of the 6kr on green.

The *philatelic history* of Baden starts with the postal treaty of 1718 by which the

"Reichspost" took over the postal service in the territory. It seems that soon afterwards the first *postmarks* made their appearance. The earliest examples are known of 1730 but probably they were introduced several years before, possibly as early as 1720. The pre-stamp postmarks can be divided into three main groups, the 18th century postmarks, the "Rayon" postmarks — both originating during the administration by the "Reichspost" — and the postmarks after 1814, when Baden itself took over the postal administration.

The *18th century postmarks* are all straight lines without date, with the French "DE" before the town name which means "From." Later, the French "De" was replaced by the German "Von" or abbreviated "V.", in a few cases even entirely abolished. These types of postmarks remained the only ones during the 18th century. About 30 post offices existed before 1800. The postal treaty of 1801 with France was responsible for the introduction of special zone postmarks, the so-called "*Rayon*" postmarks, also straight lines, without a date or with one in a second line, with "R.1," "R.2" or "R.3" before or after the town name. The territorial gains during that period increased the number of post offices to more than 100, all of which used "Rayon" postmarks, replacing the old 18th century postmarks. When the zone system was abolished in 1815, the zone postmarks continued in use and some of them survived the pre-stamp period and are known used after 1851, a few even after 1872. The establishment of a separate Baden postal administration brought in its wake the general introduction of *centrally manufactured postmarks*, but only as replacement of worn postmarks or at newly established post offices. First straight lines, showing the town name, with or, now less frequent, without date, were delivered to the post offices. In many cases the date indication originally included also the year, but this was generally abolished after a few

years. In 1830, a new type of postmark, town name and date in a rectangular frame, was introduced. The date line also usually included the number of the mailing or the hour; in those cases, where a year date was included, this was abolished after a few years. A new type of postmark started to appear in 1834, double circles with the date including year in the center. First large types, very similar to those used at the same time in Switzerland and France, were manufactured, but soon a specific small type, with "G.B." (which means "Grossherzogtum Baden") at bottom, made its appearance. Eventually, in 1844, a small type of double circles, with the name of the month in italics, in a number of cases with a small ornament at the bottom, became the new standard type. The year date on all double circle postmarks, although space was provided for it, very frequently was omitted after a few years.

The first *travelling post office* on a railroad train was established on April 1, 1848; the travelling post offices used postmarks in rectangular frame, inscribed "E.B." (abbreviation for "Eisenbahn" which means "Railroad"), date and train number. For *registered letters*, probably from 1801, special "Chargé" postmarks were used, from 1819 a marking "Brieflade" for letters mailed in *mail boxes*. The first *field postmarks* appeared in 1815. There were various markings, including *origin markings* for letters to and from foreign countries.

The *ink* used for the pre-stamp postmarks in the 18th century was predominantly red, less frequently black. The "Rayon" postmarks and the later postmarks came equally frequently in black and red, also blue and occasionally green or brown.

At the end of the pre-stamp period, on April 30, 1851, there were 163 post offices. They used all kinds of postmarks, beginning from the "Rayon" postmarks to the double circles, including a few out-of-line types, as ovals, single circles, etc. But none of these postmarks were used, at least for the time being, as cancellers of the postage stamps. Baden followed the example of Bavaria and Prussia by introducing *special cancellers*, on the same day on which the first postage stamps were issued, on May 1, 1851. They were numerals in the center of five circles, quite similar to the four-circle numeral cancellers of Prussia, but smaller. All 163 post offices, operating on May 1, 1851, in alphabetical order were numbered from 1 to 163

and received uniform cancellers with the number assigned to them. In the following years, newly established post offices received the consecutive numbers in order of their establishment, the last number assigned was 177, in 1857. Except for the numbers 165 and 177, all new post offices received the appropriate five-circle numeral cancellers. The above named two numbers received exclusively and several others in addition to the regular five-circle cancellers, special types of numeral cancellers, namely single circles (164 and 165), single circles plus an additional wavy line circle on the outside (164 and 177) and four-circles with an additional wavy line circle on the outside (24 and 87). The numeral cancellers of closed post offices were transferred to newly opened post offices, the last such case is known from June 1863. There were rather frequent changes in the status of a number of post offices, some sub-post offices were elevated to the rank of full post offices. In other cases, post offices and sub-post offices were abolished and replaced by simple mail boxes and vice-versa. The study of these changes as shown in the postmarks and cancellations, is quite a rewarding field for the specialist.

The regulations for the *cancelling*, which came into force simultaneously with the introduction of postage stamps, provided, that every stamp was to be cancelled with a separate strike of the numeral canceller and that the town postmark was to be struck on the letter, near the stamp or stamps. These provisions were generally very strictly enforced and town cancellations on the imperforate stamps are rare to very rare and also scarce on the first perforated stamps (perf. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$). About eighty different town postmarks are known on the imperforate stamps, most of them singular cases originating through error or due to late use, after 1863. In the second half of 1863, the regulations must have changed although no official decree has been found concerning it. The post offices at that time started to abolish the use of the numeral cancellers and to use their town postmarks as cancellers. It took more than five years before the change was completed. On the first stamps in perf. 10, on lined background, numeral and town cancellations are about equally numerous, on the 1862-64 issue with white background town cancellations predominate and the 1868 issue comes practically only with town cancellations. On this last issue, only one numeral

canceller (No. 175) has been found; the use of it was probably also abolished before the end of 1868. From then on, all post offices used the regular town postmarks as cancellers. Until then mostly postmarks introduced before 1851 — practically all types except the 18th century markings — had been used but now quite a number of new postmarks, mostly double circles but also some straight lines, were distributed to the post offices. From 1867, a new official type, single circles which up to then had been used only sporadically, was introduced generally for replacements and new postmarks. The post offices, more than 50 in number, which were opened after the distribution of numeral cancellers had ceased and therefore used only their town postmarks as cancellers are called "late post offices" by the Baden specialists. They receive special attention because some of their cancellations are rare, being used only for a few weeks before the postal service was merged with that of the "Reichspost."

When the Baden postal service passed into the hands of the German Reichspost on January 1, 1872, there were about 230 post offices operating in the country. They used all types of town postmarks, from the old "Rayon" postmarks to the single-circle postmarks of recent manufacture. Their use first continued on stamps of the German Empire, until they were gradually replaced by the generally used German single circle type.

Numeral cancellers and town postmarks were not the only devices which were regularly used in Baden for cancelling postage stamps. On May 1, 1859, the introduction of the rural mail service brought with it the appearance of the so-called *mail box cancellers*. These were special cancellers, showing a numeral in a small cogwheel circle, which were used for mail collected by the rural mail carriers from the mail boxes. The mail boxes were numbered, starting with "1" for each post office. The cancelling devices, attached to them by a string, showed the corresponding number. All numbers from 1 to 50, with the addition of "2a" and "12a," are known, the numbers over 42 as well as "2a" and "12a" being rare, the lower ones mostly quite common, but some of them also scarce. These mail box cancellers were intended to be stamped on the letters collected from each mail box; as cancellers they seem to have been used originally only when the mail did not leave the rural district and was

delivered by the same mail carrier on the continuation of his delivery trip. From 1863 the mail box cancellers started to be used generally as cancellers for mail found in the mail boxes and they now come more frequently. They are known on all Baden stamps except the 30kr. The cogwheel numeral cancellers are most frequently found on the stamps with lined background (perf. 13½ and perf. 10), and are somewhat scarcer on the stamps on white background. They are quite rare on the imperforate stamps and very rare on the 1868 issue. Their use was discontinued in 1872, but seems to have been occasionally extended to the end of the century as they can be found in scattered cases on covers with stamps of Germany, including the 1889 issue, up to 1895.

On January 1, 1864, another type of special postmark made its appearance. These postmarks were used at the sub-post offices, the so-called "*Postablagen*." Uniform oval markings, with the word "POSTABL." in center, the name of the supervising post office at top and of the sub-post office at bottom, were introduced. They were generally used as cancellers but also frequently come on letters alongside of the stamps, which were cancelled by the supervising post office. About 400 different "Postablage" postmarks are known, of which about 200 are more or less common, the balance being scarce to very rare. They are great rarities on the imperforate stamps, of which use only a few examples are known. Their use was discontinued when the German "Reichspost" took over in 1872 and the last use of such postmarks as cancellers seems to have occurred in 1873.

There can be found a few other kinds of markings used as cancellers, mainly the postmarks of the *travelling railroad post offices*, which were used as cancellers from 1863. They were the rectangular markings introduced first in 1848 and gradually replaced from 1864 by double circle markings with indication of the terminals. Similar single circle cancellations were introduced after 1867 and are not common. For mail service on minor rail lines, straight line postmarks, with town name, date and "ZUG" in three lines, were used and also are scarce. Some *railroad stations* used their rectangular markings, showing town name — frequently abbreviated — and date, regularly employed on railroad documents only, also as cancellers on mail. The post office at the "Badische Bahnhof"

of Basel (Switzerland), just across the border, used a double circle postmark BASEL BADISCH. BAHNHOF. *Fieldpost markings*, during the war of 1870-71, can be found usually on stampless mail; they are extremely rare used as cancellers. Other occasional cancellations, for example with the "Chargé" markings used for registered letters, are also rare.

The regular *ink* used for Baden cancellations was black but colored cancellations are widespread, because a decree of July 1, 1852, permitted the use of colored ink, which permission was rescinded only in June 1856. Colored cancellations were nevertheless used also not infrequently before 1852 and after 1856. Almost half of the numeral cancellers also exist in red, more than half in blue and a few in green or violet. On the imperforate stamps, red cancellations are more frequent than blue ones, but red is scarce on the 1kr on white and 3kr on blue. Frequently the town postmarks struck on the cover had other colors than the numeral cancellers and all possible combinations are known. After 1856, red ink vanished almost completely. Of numeral cancellations, the last in red is known of 1857 (No. 115); a few red town cancellations are also known on the imperforate stamps. No numeral cancellations and only very few town cancellations are known in red on perforated stamps; the latter are great rarities. Blue ink continued to be used quite frequently up to 1872, but the last numeral cancellations in blue (No. 20) are known of 1863. The cogwheel mail box and the "Postablage" postmarks most frequently come in black. They are considerably scarcer in blue and rare in green, violet or brown, in which colors they are found occasionally. Neither of these types of postmarks is known in red.

For the cancellation of the *rural postage due stamps* no special regulations existed, but as these stamps were not sold to the public, their cancellation does not seem to have been important, because the public could not make any use of such stamps which came into its hands uncanceled. Therefore we find the rural postage due stamps regularly cancelled as were the postage stamps, with town postmarks or, somewhat scarcer, numeral cancellers, but frequently cancelled by pen or pencil strokes — possibly in those cases where they were pasted on by mail carriers during their trips — or even not cancelled at all on the letters.

For the *envelopes*, special regulations existed in regard to cancelling. When envelopes were introduced it was ordered, following the example of Prussia, that the envelope stamps were to be cancelled in their bottom part by a blue pen stroke and the town postmark placed somewhere else on the envelopes. This regulation was quite generally obeyed and cancellations of envelope stamps with numeral or town postmarks are rare exceptions. With the decree of Sept. 23, 1863, the post offices were authorized to abolish the cancellation of envelope stamps, as envelopes could not be used a second time anyway; from then on, the envelope stamps were usually left uncanceled. In this regard, the Baden postal administration was again following the Prussian example, as a similar regulation had been adopted in Prussia in March 1859.

Although there are practically no fancy types, Baden cancellations are quite a diversified lot. If we disregard colors, there may be about 1200 different cancellations, a figure which may be doubled if we distinguish colors. With the many rare cancellations, Baden offers a rather attractive field for the ambitious collector of cancellations.

Of postage stamps as well as envelopes of Baden *re-issues* have been officially made. Originally this was done for official exchange purposes, to provide other postal administrations with samples of obsolete Baden stamps and envelopes, but of the postage stamps obviously larger quantities were printed so that sale to collectors and dealers must have been anticipated from the start. All values of the numeral issue of the postage stamps — except the 9kr — and all five values of the first envelope issue were printed for this purpose; there exist no re-issues or reprints of later issues. It is known that the envelope re-issues were printed in 1864 (all five values in small size, 12kr and 18kr also in large size, 100 copies of each) and 1865 (12kr and 18kr in small size only, 500 copies of each). Of the postage stamps (1kr, 3kr and 6kr, changed colors 1kr, both 3kr and 6kr) no exact date of manufacture is known, but they were first reported early in 1867 in the philatelic press; therefore, must have been printed in 1866 or even earlier. All re-issues, as far as they were not given away to foreign postal administrations were sold to collectors and dealers at face value, but we believe that this concerned mainly the postage stamps, as the printings of the envelopes were so small that

they were mostly used up for official exchange purposes. The re-issues were valid for postage until Dec. 31, 1871, but we know of no example of actual postal use. Possibly one or the other used re-issue reposes unrecognized in a general collection. The re-issues of the postage stamps, probably about 5000 of each value, were printed from new settings of 20 (4 rows of 5), formed by electrotypes preserved from the original settings. It seems that there were several settings of the same value which would indicate that more than one printing was made. The spacing is rather wide (1mm. to $1\frac{3}{4}$ mm.). They have somewhat heavier print and thicker paper than the originals, except the 6kr which has thinner paper. The gum is mostly colorless and thin, but also comes yellowish and brownish, therefore is not of much use as a distinguishing mark. In ultraviolet light some re-issues are quite easily distinguishable by the different fluorescence of the papers or inks used for them. The re-issues of the envelopes were printed on envelopes prepared for the second envelope issue (in changed colors). They have, therefore, all features of this second issue ("long" gum, seal with star in center, partly also the "shorter" overprint). The envelope stamps are imprinted at the left and in colors similar to the first issue. The second re-issue of the 12kr and 18kr has the same features as the first re-issue, except that the colors are somewhat lighter. While the re-issues of the adhesives are not rare, the envelope re-issues, due to the small printings and distribution to postal administrations, are very rare; of the 9kr, only a few copies are known.

Forgeries and *fakes* are quite numerous among Baden stamps and envelopes, but except for some faked cancellations are not very dangerous. Of the forgeries, only the 18kr of 1862 may deceive, while the forgeries of other values and of the rural postage due stamps can easily be spotted when originals of cheap values are on hand for comparison. More dangerous are fakes, of the 1kr on buff, made by coloring the white paper of the stamp of 1853, and of rare varieties, especially the error 9kr green, obtained by bleaching the paper of the common 9kr, which in this way becomes white, and re-coloring it appropriately. But nobody would buy such a rarity without a certificate of an expert committee anyway. The most dangerous are faked cancellations on the 30kr as well as all three

values of the rural postage due stamps, of course, mainly the 12kr. Nobody should buy these stamps used except from reputable sources and expertized, the 12kr with certificate of an expert committee only. Rare cancellations have also been faked and such items on stamps which are unused inexpensive should be bought only with great caution.

Baden offers a challenge to the *condition-conscious collector*. The imperforate stamps with their narrow spacing are rather hard to find in full-margined copies, as about 98% of all copies are more or less cut into the design. Copies with satisfactory margins all around are worth a premium, for the cheaper values up to three to five times catalog value. The perforated stamps are also difficult because the perforation devices did not work too well and the paper, especially of the rural postage due stamps, was rather brittle and tended to tear. Due to the small spacing between the stamps even on perfectly centered stamps, the perforation — except on the somewhat wider spaced rural postage due stamps — touches the design on all four sides and the smallest deviation cuts the design on one or two sides making stamps which are only slightly off center, look much worse. The rural postage due stamps are also scarce in well centered condition because the perforation device did not fit the setting properly and even in the most favorable cases only a few stamps in a sheet were well centered. The imperfections of the perforating device, especially perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$, led to many short perforations and rounded corners. Therefore, perfectly centered undamaged stamps, with all perforations intact, are extremely difficult to find and deserve a considerable premium although this is not always appreciated in the price a collector is willing to pay for such items, because he is not aware of the rarity of such perfect copies, especially in used condition.

The *literature* concerned with Baden's philatelic features is quite extensive but practically in its entirety written in *German*. The two monographs by Carl Lindenberg, which were published 57 years ago ("Die Briefmarken von Baden" and "Die Briefumschlaege von Baden," both 1894) have been and are still the basis for all publications in the field and very little new research has been added. An attempt by S. Simon to create a "Baden-Handbuch" remained unfinished, as Volume III, which should have dealt with

the stamps and stationery, was not published. But Volumes I and II, which deal with the pre-stamp postmarks and cancellations are despite some inconsistencies and a marked unevenness in the listings a usable basis for studying and collecting postmarks and cancellations. For catalogs, Michel's specialized Catalog of Germany may be of some help, while the Baden part of the Kohl Handbook — six pages plus six pages supplement — is quite disappointing and will not satisfy a more advanced collector. Other literature, although numerous, is either outdated or based on the above books and contains very little additional information. A booklet in French compiling the known facts about Baden stamps, stationery and cancellations, just published by André de Cock, will be especially helpful for those who understand French, but due to the instructive pictures will be appreciated also by those who are not familiar with that language. In English, only Fred J. Melville's "Baden" booklet exists, but it is inadequate and outdated. Therefore the collector who does not read German or French, will be almost on his own, a fact which may encourage ambitious collectors to enter the field.

Baden is *not an expensive country* to collect if one is satisfied with unused and used stamps mixed. In this way, all 30 main numbers listed by Scott, are priced together at a little over \$110, and therefore may be available in fine condition for about \$60 to \$70. The highest priced stamp is the 18kr of 1862-64, at \$30. Of the 30 stamps no less than 26 catalog less than \$5 each, two of them are even priced at 10c each, providing ideal material for specializing. If a collector wants only used stamps, the collecting of Baden becomes more expensive, because the used 30kr is listed at \$50 and the rarity 12kr "Landpost" is estimated at \$500. The collector who collects unused only will have to dig even deeper into his pocket, especially if he wants mint copies, as a number of stamps are extremely rare in this condition, especially the imperforate and some later stamps, such as the 3kr rose, perf. 13½. The collector of postal stationery will also have some trouble, as the 12kr and 18kr envelopes are rarities, unused and even more so, used. But the cheap Baden stamps and envelopes provide so much material, that the specialist will have no trouble in finding a suitable field, in the stamps or stationery, or in the diversified can-

cancellations. The philatelic student can also find sufficient work, for example, in the reconstruction of the various settings which may be a very difficult but not impossible task. The establishment of the earliest dates of use could be also made the object of a rewarding study, which would solve many problems. The lack of dated copies — the Baden postmarks practically all have no year date — will not make such an undertaking too easy. In the field of cancellations, much progress has been made in the last decades, but yet some new facts may still be discovered. In any case, Baden is a quite fertile field for specialists and students alike and the collector who dedicates his collecting activities to this field will have quite a satisfactory and rewarding job on his hands.

(Next: *V. Bavaria*)

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

● *The next issue of the MERCURY STAMP JOURNAL is scheduled for September 1951.*

● *Our office will be closed for vacations from July 14 through August 5, 1951. No mail can be answered during that period. From June 1 until Labor Day our office will also be closed on Saturdays, except Saturdays before an auction week.*

● *The Friedl Expert Committee will hold its last meeting before the summer recess on July 11, 1951. Last day for acceptance of material is July 3. The first meeting of the new 1951-52 season will be held on September 5 and every Wednesday thereafter. The committee usually needs one to two weeks for stamps which are to be signed only; when certificates are requested, it takes one week more. Foreign stamps only are expertized. Expertizing terms are sent free upon request.*

● *The CAPEX, the First Canadian International Philatelic Exhibition, scheduled for Toronto from Sept. 21 to 29, 1951, is making good progress in its preparations. Miss Therese Reiter, who held a prominent position in the preparation of last year's London Exhibition has been appointed Executive Secretary which guarantees expert handling of all matters. Interest in the exhibition is, as we can see from many letters, very great in all countries of the free world. Our editor will attend the show and stay in Toronto for the duration of the exhibition, together with Mr. Otto W. Friedl, also a partner in our*