

## EUROPEAN CLASSICS

### XX. HUNGARY\*

The Kingdom of *Hungary* — Magyarorszag in the Magyar language — was during the philatelic period first a province of Austria. In 1867, it became an equal partner in the newly established Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. It had an area of 124,500 square miles and a population of 15½ million in 1874. It bordered on the Austrian half of the monarchy at the north (provinces of Bucovina, Galicia, Silesia and Moravia), at the west (Lower Austria, Styria, Carniola and Coastal Province) and at the south (Dalmatia). At the southwest, Hungary had an outlet to the Adriatic Sea. At the south, Hungary bordered also on the province of Bosnia of the Turkish Empire, as well as on Serbia and Romania. The capital was *Pesth*, which was combined in 1872 with *Ofen* (Buda) under the name of *Budapest*, with a population of 256,000, which, partly by incorporation of suburbs, rose to 350,000 by 1874.

The territory of the Kingdom of Hungary comprised aside from *Hungary* proper also the Kingdom of *Transylvania*, the Kingdom of *Croatia-Slavonia* and the *Military Border District*; Dalmatia also was claimed to belong to the crown of Hungary, but this was never recognized by Austria. Under Austrian rule, Hungary had a varying degree of autonomy, but it was always ruled from Vienna and its claims for Transylvania and Croatia-Slavonia were consistently disputed. The Military Border District was under Austrian military rule. The Magyars were a majority only in the central portion of the country, while in the border regions the non-Magyar population was predominant, namely Germans in the west and in enclaves all over the country, Slovaks in the northwest, Ukrainians (officially called "Ruthenians")

\*For facts to which we refer but which were not published previously, see "The London Philatelist", May and June 1958, where we are publishing a study under the title "Dies and Printing Material of the 1871 Issue of Hungary". New facts about the relationship between the adhesives and the stamps on stationery, the discovery that the envelope stamps were printed by two different printing methods as well as that different types exist of several denominations of the stamps on stationery, are disclosed there for the first time.

in the northeast, Romanians in the east and southeast, and Serbians in the South. A large part of the population of Transylvania consisted of Romanians and Germans, while in Croatia-Slavonia Croats and Serbs were a definite majority; in the coastal regions, the so-called "Littorale", lived a considerable number of Italians.

Hungary, during the philatelic period, shared as a province the *history* of Austria until 1867, except for a brief period in 1848-49 when a wave of revolutions struck all countries of Europe. First a separate government was appointed for Hungary, to which measure the Emperor reluctantly gave his consent. But the attempt of the nationalistic circles to impose the Magyar language on the other races, led to difficulties, especially in Croatia-Slavonia, until the revolution in Vienna gave Hungary a free hand. Under the leadership of Lajos Kossuth, on April 19, 1849, Hungary was proclaimed an independent state. But Austria, with the help of Russian troops, crushed the rebellion soon afterwards and Hungary again became an Austrian province. It lost some of its influence in the affairs of Transylvania and Croatia-Slavonia — the latter having stayed faithfully by Austria — and even part of its territory in the south, by creation of two new administrative units, the Temes District and the Voivodina. After the Austrian-Prussian war of 1866, in which Austria was defeated, the national aspirations of the Magyars again became apparent and led in 1867 to a compromise solution, by which a dual monarchy was created, in which Hungary became an equal partner. The two countries were to be united in the future only by the common dynasty and by three common Ministries, which were to be held alternately by Austrians and Hungarians, namely the ministries of Foreign Affairs, War and Finance. In all other matters, both countries were independent. The separation of the two parts of the new dual monarchy was to be achieved gradually. For Hungary proper (including the Temes District and the Voivodina) and Transylvania, this took place immediately after signing of the compromise treaty; Croatia-Slavonia (including the part of the Voivodina which was south of the Drave) joined the Hungarian

state in 1868 and the Military Border District in 1871. Dalmatia, although claimed by Hungary, remained Austrian.

The *postal history* of Hungary until 1867 was identical with that of Austria. During the rebellion of 1848-49, an independent postal administration was created, but it was of short duration and its power was restricted to relatively small parts of Hungary proper. When the dual monarchy was created in 1867, the new Hungarian Ministry for Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, which supervised the postal service, took over the postal service in Hungary proper (including the Mur Island which until then belonged to Croatia-Slavonia), in Transylvania, the Temes District and in the Voivodina (north of the Drave only), on May 1, 1867. This included a little over 1000 post offices, which were supervised by seven postal directorates (Pest, Sopron, Pozsony, Kassa, Nagy Varad, Temesvar and Nagy Szeben). Croatia-Slavonia (incl. the southern part of the Voivodina), with about 90 post offices, and the Military Border District, with about 100 post offices, remained temporarily under Austrian postal administration, supervised by a postal directorate at Agram (Zagreb). On April 1, 1868, Hungary took over the postal administration in Croatia-Slavonia, which now had almost 100 post offices. For the Military Border District, a common Austro-Hungarian military postal administration was created, which was directed by a supervising post office at Semlin. Eventually, Hungary also took over, on Jan. 1, 1871, the postal administration of the now 130 post offices in the Military Border District, incorporating them into the postal directorates of Temesvar and Agram respectively. On the same date, the port city of Fiume was separated from Croatia-Slavonia and came under direct Hungarian administration. At the beginning of 1871, Hungary had about 1700 post offices, which number grew to the end of the classic stamp period in 1874 to well over 2000.

Hungary also had several *travelling post offices* on the railroads. The earliest ones, between Wien and Pest, existed already under Austrian rule. They were taken over by Hungary, as No. 1 and No. 2, on Febr. 15, 1868. Additional ones were established in later years; in 1871 there existed ten such travelling post offices. There were no travelling post offices on Hungarian ships during the classic stamp period.

When the separation between the Austrian and Hungarian postal administration took place in 1867, Hungary also got its share of the *post offices abroad*, on Turkish or former Turkish territory. In this way, six post offices in Romania came on May 1, 1867 under Hungarian administration, namely Bukarest, Giurgevo, Ibraila and Plojestic in Walachia as well as Foksehan and Galatz in Moldavia. But a postal treaty with Romania led to the closing of all these post offices on March 31, 1869 and with it ended the Hungarian postal service abroad. The Austrian post office at Belgrad (Beograd) in Serbia, just across the border opposite Semlin in the Military Border District, remained under Austrian Administration until its closing on Sept. 30, 1869.

The *Danube Steam Navigation Company*, which served the countries on the lower Danube, had a number of agencies in Hungarian towns on the Danube and its tributaries, but they were not permitted to accept or deliver mail. They worked as places of landing for mail from the ports on the lower Danube as well as for ship mail. Cancellations of these agencies in Hungary on postage stamps of the Danube Steam Navigation Company either originate from letters delivered uncanceled to these agencies by ships or they come from mail posted against regulations at such agencies for forwarding to Danube ports in Romania, Serbia or Turkey.

Hungary used the same *currency* as Austria but with Magyar names, 100 krajczar (kr) were 1 forint(ft). For the post offices abroad, a silver currency, 1 fiorino(fo) equivalent to 100 soldi(sld), was in use. In regard to *weights* and *distances*, the Austrian measurements were used; on July 1, 1873, the metric system was introduced into the postal service.

For the purpose of this monograph, we terminate the *classic period* of Hungarian stamps with the issuance of the first stamps in the so-called letter design, on Oct. 1, 1874. Therefore, only postal stamps and postal stationery of the common Austro-Hungarian issue of 1867 as well as in the first design for Hungary only, showing the head of the Emperor-King to the right, are considered, together with the newspaper tax stamps, telegraph stamps and telegraph stationery used before Oct. 1, 1874.

Regarding the *introduction of Postal*

*Stamps and Postal Stationery*, there were two stages in the process of separation of the Hungarian postal service from that of Austria. In the first stage, both postal administrations used the same stamps and stationery, first the 1863-64 issue of Austria, then the common issue, of which *Postage Stamps, Newspaper Stamps and Postal Envelopes* were introduced in Hungary on *June 1, 1867*. All further issues were specially made for Hungary, namely *Postal Cards*, introduced on *Oct. 1, 1869*, still with stamps of the common issue printed on them. In the second stage, separate stamps and stationery were issued for Hungary only, first *Postal Cards*, on *Feb. 15, 1871* and, on the same day, also *Money Order Cards*; forms without imprinted stamps of the latter were used before, first Austrian, then from *June 1, 1867*, special Hungarian ones. *Postage Stamps, Newspaper Stamps and Postal Envelopes* were issued on *May 1, 1871*, *C. O. D. Money Order Cards* on *Dec. 15, 1871* and *Postal Wrappers* on *Oct. 1, 1872*. Of the *Newspaper Tax Stamps*, first the Austrian stamps were continued, until on *June 20, 1868* special Hungarian stamps were issued. *Telegraph Stamps* were issued on *Aug. 1, 1873*, *Telegraph Cards* as well as *Telegraph Receipts* on the same day.

The special conditions in Croatia-Slavonia and in the Military Border District led to some changes in these data for the above territories. In *Croatia-Slavonia*, the Austria issue 1863-64 was used up and *Postage stamps, Newspaper Stamps and Postal Envelopes* only replaced by the common issue of 1867 on *April 1, 1868*. In the *Military Border District*, the Austria issue 1863-64 of adhesives and envelopes also was used up and the common issue of 1867 came in use only after this using up, but not later than *Sept. 1, 1869*. Of the *Postal Cards*, first the regular Austrian card were introduced on *Oct. 1, 1869*, which were replaced on *Jan. 1, 1871* by the cards with the Hungarian coat of arms. Of the *Money Order Cards*, first the Austrian forms without imprinted stamps, then, from *May 1, 1870*, with imprinted stamps of the 1867 issue, and only from *Jan. 1, 1871* the Hungarian forms without imprinted stamps, were used. Special conditions existed in the Military Border District for the *Newspaper Tax Stamps*. First the Austrian Stamps of this kind were used, but on *October 20, 1868* a special

issue of these stamps for the Military Border District was introduced which was the only special postal item for the territory\*\*.

At the *Hungarian post offices in Romania*, *Postage Stamps and Postal Envelopes* of Austria, 1863-64 issue in Soldi currency, were continued until they were replaced by postage stamps and postal envelopes of the 1867 issue in Soldi currency, *early in June 1867*. They were the only kinds of postal items used there.

The agreement which separated the Hungarian from the Austrian Postal Administration provided, that Hungary should charge the same *postal rates* as were effective in Austria at that time and that changes should be negotiated and agreed on by both postal administrations. In accordance, the Hungarian postal rates during the classic stamp period were identical with those of Austria. In the domestic service of the monarchy, letters paid 5kr per loth without regard to the distance; city letters paid a reduced rate of 3kr per loth, printed matter and samples were charged with 2kr for each 2½ loth. Newspapers, mailed by the publishers, had to be franked with the special newspaper stamps, which cost 1ft5kr for a sheet of 100, from *Jan. 1, 1868* 1ft per sheet of 100. For each issue of a newspaper and for each supplement which was mailed with it one stamp was to be used. The registration fee was 10kr, for city mail 5kr. The basic telegraph fee was 50kr for 20 words. When on *July 1, 1873* the metric system was introduced in the postal service, a reduction for heavier letters took place; letters up to 15 grams now were charged

\*\*Theoretically, the special newspaper tax stamps for the Military Border District should not be listed under Hungary but under a separate country name of **Austria-Hungary**, because they were issued by the Austro-Hungarian military postal administration of the territory. Possibly the creation of such a "new" country in the catalog would be not a bad idea at all, as it could take care also of the other Austro-Hungarian military postal service, which existed in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1878 to 1918, and of the Austro-Hungarian military stamps, issued during World War I, which are now listed under Austria, where they do not belong. They are actually Austro-Hungarian occupation stamps issued for the occupied parts of Russia (Poland) and, partly with special overprints, for Serbia, Montenegro, Romania, Albania and Italy. They all could be listed under the common heading of "**Austria-Hungary, Military Postal Service**".

5kr, city letters 3kr, while for letters over 15 grams up to 250 grams a uniform rate of 10kr, city letters 6kr, were to be paid. A similar reduction took place for printed matter on July 1, 1875, which now paid 2kr up to 50 grams, 5kr over 50 to 250 grams, 10kr over 250 to 500 grams and 15kr over 500 up to 1000 grams. For money orders, the maximum amount was first 25ft, for which the fee was 10kr; only large post offices were permitted to accept and pay money orders for higher amounts, up to 1000ft. From Jan. 1, 1868, all post offices were permitted to accept money orders up to 50ft and for the main post office at Pest the maximum amount was increased to 5000 ft. From May 1, 1870, on, all post offices could accept money orders up to 100ft and the 25 most important post offices up to 5000ft. The fees were 5kr up to 10ft, 10kr over 10ft up to 50ft, 15kr over 50ft up to 100ft, 30kr over 100ft up to 500ft, 60kr over 500ft up to 1000ft and then 30kr for each additional 1000ft., so that the maximum fee was 1ft80kr. In the C. O. D. money order service which was introduced on Dec. 15, 1871, a commission of 3kr for each 5ft was charged up to 50ft and of 2kr for each 5ft over 50ft, with a minimum fee of 6kr, in addition to the money order fee. In regard to taxes, no complete conformity between Austria and Hungary existed. On May 1, 1867, the newspaper tax was 1kr for domestic newspapers and those from Germany, 2kr for other foreign newspapers. But while Austria continued the newspaper tax on domestic and foreign newspapers up to Dec. 31, 1899, Hungary abolished the tax for domestic newspapers on Dec. 31, 1869. Therefore, henceforth newspaper tax was collected in Hungary from the addressee only on newspapers arriving from foreign countries, including Germany, until this also was abolished on May 31, 1900.

Mail to *foreign countries* was subject to a great variety of rates, but generally the rates went down steadily, until on July 1, 1875, the uniform rates of the Universal Postal Union — of which the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy was a founding member — became effective. In 1867, the single letter rate to Germany was 15kr, to Lombardy-Venetia 15kr, to other parts of Italy 21kr and 26kr, to Switzerland, France and Great Britain 25kr, to the United States 33kr. In 1874, for letters to Germany the domestic

rate of 5kr was charged, letters to Switzerland cost 10kr, to Great Britain 13kr, to France 15kr and to the United States also only 15kr. Postal Cards to almost all of Europe cost 4kr and the registration fee was 10kr.

From June 1, 1867 to April 30, 1871 the Austrian Postal Administration and the newly created Hungarian Postal Administration were supplied with postal stamps and stationery on equal terms by the Austrian State Printing Works. For adhesives, for example, the price was 4kr per sheet. From April 1, 1868, when the Austro-Hungarian War Ministry took over the postal service in the Military Border District, the same arrangements became effective for the separate postal administration established there, until it ceased to function on Dec. 31, 1870. Therefore, it would be incorrect to consider the 1867 issue Austrian stamps used also by the Hungarian postal administration, as they were just as well Hungarian stamps, also used by the Austrian postal administration. They are, as far as we know, the only case of the classic stamp period, where two independent postal administrations agreed to use the same postal stamps. Theoretically, they should be listed in the catalogs under both countries.

When the common 1867 issue was introduced, the same *denominations* as for the preceding Austria issue of 1863-64 were chosen, namely *postage stamps* of 2kr, 3kr, 5kr, 10kr and 15kr, *newspaper stamps* of 1kr, as well as *envelopes* of 3kr, 5kr, 10kr, 15kr and 25kr. On *Sept. 1, 1867*, new values of the postage stamps, 25kr and 50kr, were introduced, which from 1870 on were mainly used on money orders. When the specific Hungarian stamps were issued in 1871, the 50kr postage stamps and the 25kr envelopes were abolished. Of *postal cards*, *postal wrappers*, *money order cards* and *C. O. D. money order cards* only one denomination each was issued, 2kr for the first two, 5kr for the third and 10kr for the last. Of the *newspaper tax stamps*, the same denominations as used before the separation from Austria, 1kr and 2kr, remained in use. The *telegraph stamps* were issued in eight denominations, 5kr, 10kr, 20kr, 25kr, 40kr, 50kr, 1ft and 2ft; the *telegraph cards* were 50kr and the *telegraph receipts* 5kr. — The special *newspaper tax stamp* for the *Military Border District* was an 1kr.; an intended 2kr value never

was issued. — At the Hungarian *post offices in Romania*, the common 1867 issue which was also used at the Austrian post offices in the Levant, consisted of postage stamps of 2s, 3s, 5s, 10s and 15s as well as postal envelopes of 3s, 5s, 10s, 15s and 25s. On *Sept. 1, 1867*, additional postage stamps of 25s and 50s were introduced.

The use of stamps on all letters, post cards, printed matter and samples was obligatory, in the domestic as well as in the foreign mail service. For newspapers, printed matter and samples, as well as registered mail all fees had to be prepaid, while for other mail a surcharge of 5kr was charged for unpaid or partly paid mail. For money letters and parcels the use of stamps was not permitted and all fees had to be prepaid in cash. For money order cards, the fee for the low amount money orders — 25ft to Dec. 31, 1867 and 50ft to April 30, 1870 — was to be paid in stamps, while for the higher money orders the fees had to be paid in cash. Only from May 1, 1870, the fees on all money orders had to be paid in stamps.

All stamps and stationery of Hungary were *demonetized* soon after they were replaced by a new issue. The Austrian 1863-64 issue (postage stamps, newspaper stamps and postal envelopes) were withdrawn in Hungary on May 31, 1867 and demonetized on *June 15, 1867*. Of the common 1867 issue, the postage stamps, newspaper stamps and postal envelopes were gradually withdrawn after May 1, 1871 and demonetized on *July 31, 1871*, the postal cards withdrawn after Feb. 15, 1871 and demonetized on *May 31, 1871*. The first *specifically Hungarian issue of 1871*, postage stamps, newspaper stamps and postal stationery were used up and demonetized only on *Dec. 31, 1876*. An exception was made for the 2kr wrappers, which remained valid because large quantities were available. New wrappers with stamps of the 1874 issue were issued only in 1880, but we do not know, whether and when the 1871 wrappers ever were demonetized. Of the *newspaper tax stamps*, the Austrian 1859 issue was withdrawn on Aug. 1, 1868 and demonetized on *Sept. 30, 1868*. The specific Hungarian issue of 1868 was used up and demonetized only on *May 31, 1900*, when the newspaper tax was abolished. The *telegraph stamps and telegraph cards* were demonetized on *Febr.*

*28, 1879*, when the further use of telegraph stamps ceased, while the *telegraph receipts* were used up completely and, as it seems, never were demonetized.

*Croatia-Slavonia* differed from the above solely by using up the Austria 1863-64 issue and demonetizing it only on *March 31, 1868*. Larger were the differences in the *Military Border District*. There the stamps and stationery of the Austria 1863-64 issue were used up and demonetized as in Austria, on *Aug. 31, 1869*; the Austrian issues of postal cards and money order cards were withdrawn and demonetized on *Dec. 31, 1870*. The Austrian *newspaper tax stamps* were withdrawn and demonetized after *October 20, 1868*. The special kind of this stamps for the Military Border District was withdrawn on Dec. 31, 1870 but demonetized only on *March 31, 1873*.

At the *Hungarian post offices in Romania*, the Austria 1863-64 issue was officially demonetized on *June 15, 1867*, but obviously tolerated sometime thereafter, due to late arrival of the stamps of the 1867 issue. The latter became obsolete and were demonetized on *March 31, 1869*, when the Hungarian post offices in Romania were closed.

The *linguistic problems* posed by the co-existence of non-Magyar races in Hungary never seem to have bothered the Hungarian postal authorities inasfar as the postage stamps were concerned. The first specifically Hungarian postage stamps had only the value indication, again abbreviated "kr", and no other inscriptions. The newspaper stamps had no inscriptions at all. The newspaper tax stamps had the value indication with abbreviated "kr", but Magyar inscriptions. The telegraph stamps had the complete value indication KRAJCZAR or FORINT and Magyar inscriptions. Therefore, only the Magyar language was used on the stamps. On the stationery, some concessions to the other languages were made, but except for German — and that only in the earliest period after the separation — only in Croatia-Slavonia. The envelopes and wrappers had no text. The first postal cards of 1869 showed the Hungarian coat of arms but either Magyar or German text; from 1871 the text was Magyar, with German in the second place. The money order cards for Hungary proper first were Magyar or German, from 1871 Magyar and German, from 1873 Magyar only. The money order

cards for Croatia-Slavonia were from 1872 Magyar-Croatian and for Fiume and the Littorale Magyar-Italian. Of the C. O. D. money order cards, the same three kinds of bilingual forms were used. There were no cards only in Magyar, but the Magyar-German cards had the German text within brackets. The Telegraph Cards existed only with Magyar text, while of the Telegraph Receipts existed Magyar ones and such with bilingual Magyar-Croatian text. In regard to the postmarks, the change to Magyar names for the towns started immediately after May 1, 1867 and most of the postmarks which had a town name in German were replaced either by purely Magyar postmarks or by bilingual Magyar-German ones. The latter, which were mostly used in western Hungary, were replaced after a few years by purely Magyar ones. There existed also one trilingual postmark, Magyar-German-Serbian. In Croatia-Slavonia from 1868 and in the Military Border Region south of the Drave from 1871 bilingual Croatian-German or Serbian-German and a few Croatian-Italian postmarks were introduced, but also some purely Croatian or Serbian ones. The postmarks with German town names were tolerated here much longer. Only German, Croatian, Serbian and Italian, never any other language, appeared alongside Magyar on any Hungarian postmark of the classic stamps period.

The *design* of the common Austro-Hungarian stamps of 1867 was indicated by political necessities. The head of the Emperor-King, facing to the right on the postage stamps, was suitable for both countries, as was the value indication which read "kr" and was the abbreviation for "kreuzer" as well as "krajczar". There were no other inscriptions and the newspaper stamps showed only the head of Mercury to the left, without any inscriptions at all. These designs were inoffensive to both parts of the dual monarchy and therefore could be used in Austria as well as Hungary. The stamps for the offices abroad had the same design, only with the value indication "sld." instead of "kr.". The 50kr and 50sld stamps were of larger, more ornamented design, with the figure of value repeated in the top corners. This design was not entirely "neutral" as the Austrian crown was included in the design at top. When the first stamps

solely for Hungary were introduced, the considerations which led to the "neutral" design of 1867 were not valid any more, but nevertheless the first postage stamps retained the omission of any inscription except the value indication, again using the abbreviation "kr.". The head of the Emperor-King on the postage stamps is now at the top, again facing to the right, but smaller as on the 1867 issue. The Hungarian coat of arms, with the St. Stephen's crown above, is displayed equally prominently at the bottom, giving the only indication of the Hungarian character of these stamps. The newspaper stamps showed the St. Stephen's crown and a posthorn in a circle of pearls, a favorite frame for the center of stamps of that period. This design was heraldically incorrect, because the cross on the crown was tilted to the right instead of to the left. This must have been the reason that after a few months new newspaper stamps were issued which showed the design completely reversed, so that the cross on the crown was correct. The square design of the newspaper tax stamps was a different numeral design for each of the two values. Both had the value indication in the center, but the 1kr had the Hungarian coat of arms at top, the 2kr at bottom. Again the cross on the crown of both values is incorrectly tilted to the right instead of to the left. The frames were differently ornamented, with the inscription MAGY. KIR. HIRLAP BELYEG (meaning "Royal Hungarian Newspaper Tax Stamp") between circles. The 1kr had in each of the four corners a ribbon inscribed EGY KRAJCZAR (meaning "one krajczar"); the inscription in the bottom right corner had the wrong spelling KRAICZAR. For the telegraph stamps, two designs were used, one for the krajczar values, the other for the forint values. Both had the inscription MAGYAR KIR. TAVIRDA (meaning "Royal Hungarian Telegraph"). The design of the krajczar values showed a large numeral in the center, on a background of an asterisk formed by twenty words KRAJCZAR, and the inscription MAGYAR KIR. TAVIRDA in an oval frame, which was surrounded by thunderbolts. The St. Stephen's crown was at top and KRAJCZAR at bottom. The crown here was again heraldically incorrect, as the cross was tilted to the right, an error



Fig. 101

Fig. 102

Fig. 107

which was never corrected. The design of the forint values was larger, showing the figure of value in the center, the St. Stephen's crown — having the cross correctly tilted to the left — and FORINT in a tablet below. At the left and right of the center, two heraldic figures are holding a ribbon with the inscription MAGYAR KIR. TAVIRDA. Thunderbolts are at bottom, below the design. The newspaper tax stamps for the Military Border District also had a square design, similar to that of the newspaper tax stamps for Hungary proper. They also have the inscription MAGY. KIR. HIRLAP BELYEG, around the center with the value indication, but the Hungarian arms are larger and the cross on the crown is correct; on the 1kr the arms are at bottom, on the 2kr at top. The central design is superimposed on the Austrian coat of arms, the double-headed eagle, of which only the two heads and fangs remain visible in the corners (Fig. 101, 102). The design of the stamps in Soldi currency for the post offices in Romania was the same as that of the stamps of the 1867 issue, but "sld." replacing "kr." as currency indication.

It is unknown who designed the 1867 issue; the designs of the postage and newspaper stamps were probably hurriedly made by an artist in the employ of the State Printing Works at Vienna. The designs of all other classic stamps of Hungary were the work of Hungarian artists. The 1871 postage stamps were designed by Janos Unrein and for the newspaper stamp of the same issue Istvan Kovatsek was responsible. For the design of the newspaper tax stamps of 1868 for Hungary proper and possibly also those for the Military Border District, J. Bayer is named, and the telegraph stamps were designed by S. Kraumann.

The common issue of 1867 — postage stamps, newspaper stamps, postal envelopes and postal cards — was *typographed* and

printed by the *Austrian State Printing Works* at Vienna. The first special issue for Hungary — postage stamps, newspaper stamps, postal envelopes, postal cards, postal wrappers, postal money order cards and C. O. D. money order cards — were manufactured by the newly established *Hungarian State Printing Works* at Buda, undoubtedly with the help of the Austrian sister institution which must have made some of the dies and printing material. The postage stamps first were *lithographed*, because the presses for recess-printing were not available in time, but after only a month — the earliest known copies are used middle of June 1871 — the *recess-printed* stamps were issued. The newspaper stamps were all *typographed* and letter-press printed, as were stamps on all postal stationery except the earliest envelopes, which were *lithographed*. All newspaper tax stamps were *typographed* and printed by the Austrian State Printing Works at Vienna. The supply printed there before 1871 was so large that it lasted until 1889 when the first such stamps were printed in Budapest. The telegraph stamps and telegraph stationery were manufactured by the Hungarian State Printing Works at Budapest. First the stamps were *lithographed* and only more than a year later a *recess-printed* issue appeared; the first copies are known from the second half of 1874. The telegraph stamps on stationery were *typographed* and letter-press printed together with the text.

The *dies* for the postage stamps were engraved or cut in metal, while those for the newspaper stamps, newspaper tax stamps and for the typographed telegraph stamps were woodcuts. For the common issue of 1867, which was manufactured at Vienna, two master dies without value indication were cut in steel, one for the denominations of 2kr (sld) to 25kr (sld) of the postage stamps and one with the figure of value but without currency indication for the 50kr (sld). For the newspaper stamp, a die was cut in wood. For the newspaper tax stamps of 1868, those for Hungary proper as well as those for the Military Border District, which were all manufactured at Vienna, a woodcut was made for each value. For the 1871 issue of postage stamps, which was printed in Buda, a master die without value indication was engraved in steel,

while for the newspaper stamp a woodcut was made. A new woodcut was made for the latter, when the design was reversed later in 1871. We believe that these dies were all manufactured at Vienna. For the telegraph stamps of 1873, two master dies, without figure of value, one for the krajczar denominations and one for the forint denominations were engraved in steel in Hungary and woodcuts for the typographed 5kr and 50kr telegraph stamps also were made there. There were two woodcuts for the 5kr stamp and the two resulting types are easily distinguishable by the size of the figure "5" in the center, which is  $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm wide on the first die and only 3mm wide on the second one; there are many smaller differences between the two dies and between these dies and that of the 50kr which prove that each of them was cut separately.

To obtain the dies for the postage and telegraph stamps, a *secondary die* was made for each denomination. This die of each denomination was used for the manufacture of all printing material for that denomination regardless of the printing method, therefore all stamps of a denomination, regardless whether they were lithographed or recess-printed, have exactly the same design, when we disregard accidental flaws which occurred in the manufacture of the dies or the printing material. An exception were only the typographed 5kr and 50kr telegraph stamps on stationery, because new dies were made for them independently.

To obtain the secondary dies for each value of the 1867 postage stamps, three electrotypes were taken from the typographed master die of the low denominations and the value indications "2kr.", "3kr." and "5kr." cut into them at bottom. On nine more electrotypes, the small ornaments at left and right at bottom were removed to create a larger space and then the value indications "10kr.", "15kr." and "25kr." cut in, for the stamps in soldi currency "2sld.", "3sld.", "5sld.", "10sld.", "15sld." and "25sld." From the die of the highest denomination, two electrotypes were taken and "kr." or "sld." respectively cut into them. For the 1871 postage stamps, six electrotypes were taken from the engraved master die, in each of them the currency indication "kr." engraved in the right circle at bottom and the figure of value, "2", "3", "5", "10", "15" and "25"

respectively, engraved in the circle at left. The background for these inscriptions was formed by horizontal lines, only the 2kr has in the left circle six concentric circles and solely the small central part filled with horizontal lines. It seems very probable, that all these secondary dies were manufactured in Vienna. For the telegraph stamps, six electrotypes of the engraved die of the krajczar denominations and two electrotypes of the die of the forint denominations were made and the figures of value "5", "10", "20", "25", "40", "50" and "1", "2" respectively engraved into them. These were in all probability made in Buda. No secondary dies were made for the newspaper stamps, newspaper tax stamps and typographed 5kr and 50kr telegraph stamps, the original dies being used directly for the manufacture of the printing material.

Of the 1867 issue, only the first die of the 5kr (Type I, with the sub-types Ia and Ib) and of the newspaper stamp (Type I, with the sub-types Ia, Ib and Ic) were used for the stamps issued in Hungary.

For the 1871 postage stamps it was necessary to obtain typographed dies for the printing of the stamps on stationery. Therefore it was necessary to convert engraved dies into typographed ones, a rather unusual task which, we are sure, could not have been accomplished in Hungary. The Vienna State Printing Works had experience in this respect, by using for that purpose the so-called "gold process", which about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years later was used to obtain the dies for the first Montenegro issue†). For the first five denominations of the postage stamps such typographed dies were made, none for the 25kr which was not needed. The process was a difficult one and the result seems not to have been satisfactory, so that some reengraving took place, especially on the shading of the head and the base of the neck.

No special dies were needed to make the dies usable for lithography, as either engraved or typographed dies could be used for the transfer to a stone and there is no doubt that the lithographic transfers were

†) See Edwin Mueller: Montenegro, the Establishment of the Postal Service and the First Issue of Postage Stamps, "The Collectors Club Philatelist" 1951. No. 5, page 277.

taken from the engraved dies of all six values of the recess-printed 1871 stamps.

When the design of each value was transferred to a stone, many of the fine details of the recess-printed stamps vanished, among them also the fine lines forming the base of the neck. The base now shows as a solid thick line and only faint traces of the former lines are sometimes visible. A break in the bottom line of the engraved stamps is now a distinct indentation in the solid line forming the base of the neck and this can be considered the distinctive mark of all six denominations of lithographed 1871 postage stamps. The process which lead from the engraved dies to typographed dies also involved a coarsening of all details. There can be also no doubt that some reengraving was done on the typographed dies. This is especially apparent in the design of the head. While on the recess-printed stamps as well as on the lithographed stamps this design consists of lines only — which are more or less blurred on the latter — the design of the head of the typographed stamps is formed mainly of dots and small blotches of color. The whole face and neck of the head are more or less covered by small dots (Type I); these dots were to a large part removed when a reengraving of the typographed dies of the low denominations took place in 1872 and they now appear only sporadically (Type II). The "dotted" appearance of the design is one of the main characteristics of the typographed stamps and it alone will suffice in most cases for correct classification. The base of the neck also was reengraved so that it now formed a solid line, without any indentation at bottom, which is the second main distinguishing mark of the original typographed stamps (Type I). The second reengraving of typographed dies of the low denominations (2kr, 3kr and 5kr) extended also to the base of the neck. On the 2kr and 5kr the base is now formed by a thin line between two thicker lines, on the 3kr by two thicker lines only, all without any indentation at bottom (Type II). In addition to these general differences between lithographed and typographed designs and the two types, there are also other specific differences for the various denominations. Combined with the general characteristics of typographed stamps — they often show

the outlines of the edges of the electrotypes as additional "second" frame line or the corners elongated to form a kind of spikes — these specific differences eliminate any difficulty which may exist in correctly classifying these stamps.

As far as we could ascertain from the limited material of stationery available to us, only of the 5kr, 10kr and 15kr envelopes was the first printing made in lithography, the later ones in typography. The change from lithographed to typographed envelope stamps seems to have been made simultaneously with the change from lithography to recess-printing for the adhesive postage stamps. Envelopes with lithographed stamps printed on are much scarcer than those with typographed ones, especially the 5kr and 10kr, while the 15kr seems to come a bit more frequently. All 3kr envelopes which we have seen were typographed, but the existence of lithographed 3kr envelopes seems a likely probability. Later printings of the 5kr, 10kr and 15kr envelopes, all postal cards, wrappers, money order cards and C. O. D. money order cards have typographed stamps printed on. The typographed 3kr and 5kr envelopes first had stamps in Type I, then stamps in Type II; the 2kr postal cards first came with stamps in Type I (in yellow and brownish yellow), later in Type II (in orange only); the 2kr wrappers came only with stamps in Type II (orange only); the 5kr money order cards first had stamps in Type I (Hungarian-German cards only), later in Type II. Generally, where two types exist, Type I is scarcer than Type II, especially for the envelopes.

For the stamps printed in *typography*, the same methods for the manufacture of the printing material seem to have been used in Vienna and in Buda. From the typographed dies, matrices were made by embossing, and single clichés (electrotypes) manufactured with the help of these matrices. Settings of 100 (10x10) clichés (1867 issue, postage stamps, 2kr to 25kr, 2s to 25s; 1871 issue, 1kr newspaper stamp in both designs; 1868 newspaper tax stamps, 1kr and 2kr, issues for Hungary and for the Military Border District) or 80 (8x10) clichés (1867 issue, 50kr and 50s) were made for the adhesives. Four such panes of one value were combined to a printing form, which therefore consisted of 400 or 320 clichés respec-

tively, except for the 1871 newspaper stamps in both designs, for which pane and printing form seem to have consisted identically of 100 clichés. Of the newspaper stamps in the second design, two settings can be distinguished, one with  $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and one with  $3\frac{1}{4}$ mm. spacing. For the stamps on stationery, small settings were used for the imprinting of the stamps. These settings consisted of 9 clichés for the envelopes and 32 clichés for the postal cards. The stamps on the wrappers were printed together with the colored borders in settings of 6. The money order cards and the C. O. D. money order cards probably were printed from forms of 8 clichés. We do not know the size of the setting of the telegraph stationery. Except for the postal cards and for the money order cards, the stamps were printed together with the text of the stationery.

For the stamps printed in *lithography* the engraved dies were used as basis. For each value a number of prints on lithographic transfer paper were made and the designs transferred to a small intermediary stone. From this transfer stone, again prints on lithographic transfer paper were made and the transfer effected of as many designs to a larger stone, the printing stone, as were needed to complete this stone. The number of designs on the transfer stones seems not to have been the same for each denomination. Hugo Griebert in 1924 was the first one who tried to distinguish between the transfer types of the different denominations of the 1871 adhesives. In the meantime other students have worked in this field and have established the number of transfer types for each of the six denominations. It seems to be a fact, that the designs on the transfer stones were arranged in horizontal rows, although complete proof for this theory is lacking because there exist not enough strips and blocks. The most practical way to assemble a stone of 100 (10x10) designs would have been in the present case by way of a transfer stone of 10 in a horizontal row; by transferring such row ten times, one below the other, a printing stone could have been made without much difficulty. For reasons unknown, this method seems to have been used only for one value, the 10kr, with the result, that each horizontal row of this stamp contains ten different transfer types, while

every column consists of stamps of the same transfer type. For the 15kr and 25kr, also transfer strips of 10 seem to have been made, but they were not used in a regular way, because the ten transfer types do not come evenly distributed on the stone, five types of the 15kr and one of the 25kr being less frequently found than the others. For the 2kr a transfer strip of 9 was made and the last design in each row filled with one of the nine transfer types, so that they are almost equally frequent. Of the 5kr, also 9 transfer types exist — of Griebert's ten types two are identical — but only eight seems to have formed the transfer strip while the ninth seems to have been used only for replacement of unsatisfactory transfers and is much rarer than the others. For the 3kr, for which the least material is available, a transfer strip of only six is claimed and one of these transfer types somewhat scarcer than the others. But students in the field assure us that the study of this value is not completed and that at least a seventh transfer type exists; we would not be surprised when eventually also a strip of 9 or 10 transfer types would be established.

We have no factual information how the stones looked which printed the lithographed stamps on envelopes. It may have been that they were not for printing sheets of 9 envelopes but were of smaller size and printed the stamps on 4 or 6 envelopes only. From the relatively few examples we could consult we came to the conclusion that these stones were made up with the same transfer stones which were used to build the stones for the adhesives. But it seems quite possible that some closer relationship exists between the use of the transfer types for the stones of the adhesives and those of the envelopes. It seems possible that some transfer types are scarcer for the stamps because they were mostly used for the envelope stones or that one or the other transfer type was used exclusively for the envelope stones. Considering this, it may have been possible that the transfer stones of all denominations consisted of ten designs, but not all of them were used for the stones of the adhesives. The material on lithographed envelopes is too scarce to answer these questions, but it seems very probable that a close relationship between the lithographed adhesives and the lithographed

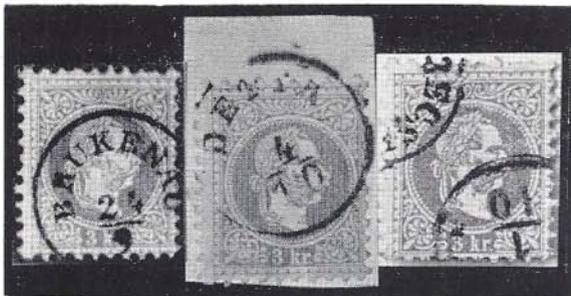


Fig. 106

Fig. 103, 104, 105

envelope stamps exists, which will have to be investigated further.

For the *recess-printed* postage stamps of 1871, of the secondary dies, with the value indication included, one hundred electrotyped matrices were made of each denomination and soldered together to a so-called "mother plate". Electrotyped copper copies of this plate were used for the printing, after they had received an electroplating of steel. A similar method was used for the recess-printed telegraph stamps of 1874, of which the *krajczar* denominations were printed from plates of 100 (10x10), the forint denominations from plates of 50 (10x5).

The plates of the adhesives of the 1867 issue and the 1868 newspaper tax stamps, which were all printed in Vienna, had *border lines* at top and bottom, as it was customary at the Austrian State Printing Works for all postal stamps printed there from 1860 on. This lines consisted generally of a thick bar or a thick bar and several thin lines. As the margins of the perforated sheets were removed before their issue, we do not know much about the border lines of the postage stamps, but the newspaper stamps and the newspaper tax stamps can be found with different kinds of such border lines. No other print can be found on the sheet margins. The adhesives of the 1871 issue and the 1873 telegraph stamps, as far as they were perforated, also were issued only without sheet margins and we do not know positively whether there was any margin print. But judging from the newspaper stamps and from proof sheets of the postage stamps which have no margin print at all, we can assume that the Hungarian State Printing Works refrained from putting any printing on the sheet margins.

In the settings of typographed stamps, namely the 1867 postage stamps and the 1868 newspaper stamps, both printed at

Vienna, two major *plate errors* occurred, both probably in 1868. The first concerns the 5kr postage stamp, of which one setting must have contained for a short period a cliché of the 3kr denomination. The sheets printed from that setting therefore included an *error of color*, 3kr red instead of green and they seem to have been all distributed to post offices in Southern Hungary, in the district of Temesvar. Only single used copies are known of the error, no unused copies and no pairs 3kr+5kr. The copies we have seen — less than ten — were cancelled at N(AGY) BECSKEREK, DETTA and BRUKENAU (Fig. 103, 104, 105). The error is the rarest stamp of Hungary and one of the rarest errors of Europe. The second setting error occurred for the 1kr newspaper tax stamp, where in one setting one cliché was inserted sideways. As the newspaper tax stamps were almost always used singly, only two pairs, showing one stamp sideways, are known, one unused and one used, the latter having been in the Ferrari collection (Fig. 106). On both pairs, the stamp placed sideways has a pen cross, which would indicate that the error was detected and the sheets containing it withdrawn. The used pair has an indistinct cancellation of the newspaper section of the Budapest main post office. It seems unlikely that it was actually used and it is possible that this cancelled copy comes from the files where it was cancelled to prevent further use.

The *printing* of the stamps was rather carefully done and only of the typographed stamps on stationery we can find rather bad prints, often due to overinking, and the details of the design hardly discernible. Of major printing varieties, a used copy of the lithographed 3kr of 1871 is reported *printed on both sides*, but we have never seen it. A used lithographed 15kr, printed on both sides, was in the Ferrari collection,

but it seems to be equally doubtful and in need of thorough examination, especially in view of the faked 1867 stamps printed on both sides. The recess-printed 1871 adhesives rather often come with more or less distinct doubling of the whole design, which varieties generally are called "double prints". They actually did not occur by running a sheet twice through the printing press but resulted from a shift of the paper during the printing process. Therefore they are actually only shifts, although they often show distinctly two complete designs. The 25kr is the scarcest of these "double prints", the 2kr also rather scarce, while the other denominations can be found more frequently. Of the 1871 newspaper stamp in the second design several used copies, *printed on both sides*, are known.

The *paper* of all adhesives was machine-made wove paper, which was for the 1867 issue supplied by the Austrian Schlögmühl factory as has been the case for earlier issues of Austria stamps. It had the same watermarks as the 1863-64 issue. The 1871 issue was printed on wove paper without watermark, manufactured in Hungary. It was first rather thick and opaque and all lithographed adhesives are on such paper as well as the first printings of the recess-printed ones. In 1873, a distinctly thinner paper came into use and was continued for all following printings, but the recess-printed 25kr does not exist on this thinner paper. Some shades — for example the brick red 5kr and the black brown 15kr — came only on the thick paper, while the "copper red" 15kr can be found only on thin paper. The 1kr newspaper stamp of 1871 in the first design exists only on thick paper while the stamp in the second design can be found on both kinds of paper, the thicker one in one printing with a slight bluish tint. Of the telegraph stamps, all lithographed and the first printing of the recess-printed stamps were on the thicker and later printings of the recess-printed stamps on the thinner paper, as was the case for the contemporary postage stamps. The paper of all 2ft telegraph stamps was toned brownish yellowish by a kind of underprint, for easier distinction from the 1ft stamp. The postal stationery was printed on paper or thin card of various colors, except the envelopes which were printed on white paper, which is thinner and

smoother than that of the adhesives and of inferior quality. For the last printings of the 5kr envelopes a paper with watermark was used, showing a large MAGYAR KIR. POSTA in interlaced script letters, once diagonally on each envelope. The paper or thin card of the postal cards, postal wrappers and telegraph receipts was buff in considerable shades, that of the money order cards and C. O. D. money order cards green, also with considerable shades, from yellowish to bluish green, and that of the telegraph cards bluish.

The *gum* of the 1867 issue was the same animal glue as used for previous issues of Austria. It tended to crack and stamps without gum cracks are scarce exceptions. The same impractical yellowish gum was also used for the lithographed 1871 issue and the early recess-printed stamps, while later printings of the recess-printed stamps show a more white gum which is thinner and less cracky. The newspaper, newspaper tax and telegraph stamps had the same kind of gum as the contemporary postage stamps.

The *color scheme* for the adhesives was for the 1867 issue the same as for the Austria issue of 1863-64, the new denominations of 25kr and 50kr being lilac — as the 25kr envelope stamps had been since 1863 — and rose brown. The 1871 issue used for the *postage stamps* the same color scheme, *yellow* for the 2kr, *green* for the 3kr, *rose* for the 5kr, *blue* for the 10kr, *brown* for the 15kr and *lilac* for the 25kr, but for the *newspaper stamps* red instead of lilac was chosen. For the *newspaper tax stamps* also the same colors as for the same denominations of the Austria stamps were used, *blue* for the 1kr and *brown* for the 2kr. For the *krajczar* denominations of the telegraph stamps, a dark blue color was selected, while the forint denominations were printed in *black*. The stamps on stationery were printed in the same colors as the adhesives, except for the 10kr on C. O. D. money orders cards, which were printed in *black* with the text.

All stamps come in an unusual number of *shades*, some of which are scarce. The 1867 issue is in this respect much richer than any of the previous issues of Austria, except possibly the 1850 issue. There seems to have been at that time in Vienna no intention to print the stamps always in the same shades and this habit seems to have influ-

enced the early printings of the Hungarian State Printing Works. Of the 1867 issue, the yellow runs all shades from lemon yellow to deep orange, sometimes with a brownish tint, the green from yellow green to bluish green and emerald, the red from rose to carmine and lilac red, the blue from pale to blackish, the brown from light to reddish and blackish, the lilac of the 25kr from gray to brown violet, in numerous variations, and the brown of the 50kr from brownish rose to pale brown and dark brown. The lilac of the newspaper stamps was even more subjected to shades; it was first gray brown, then pure gray, and only later shows all possible shades of lilac and violet. On the lithographed stamps of 1871 the colors are more even, but obviously only because few printings were made. Only the 2kr and 5kr show stronger shades — the former from yellow orange to deep orange, the latter from brick red to carmine red — while the other denominations vary only between lighter and darker colors. The recess-printed adhesives show a larger number and considerably more pronounced shades. The 2kr can be found in many variations from dark orange to lemon yellow, the latter one being scarce, the 3kr comes in all shades from yellowish to bluish green, the 5kr runs from brick red to carmine, while the 15kr has the most shades, from yellowish brown, with a scarce to dark black brown. The scarcest shade is a peculiar reddish brown, not very appropriately called "copper red", which must have come from one of the later printings. The rare shade is always on white paper, but often stamps on yellowish paper, which gives the color a reddish tint, are offered as the rare shade, which is quite unmistakable when a real copy of it is available for comparison. The other denominations come only in lighter and dark shades, the newspaper stamp sometimes also with a brownish tint; the latter exists also in rather oily prints. Of the newspaper tax stamps, the 1kr shows few shades, while the 2kr aside from brown and reddish brown comes also in a distinct red brown shade which is considerably scarcer. Not much variety can be found for the telegraph stamps, only the black of the recess-printed 1ft and 2ft often has a distinct greenish tint. Of the stamps on stationery, especially the 2kr on postal cards varies, from lemon

yellow and yellow of the early printings to brown orange of the last ones. The red of the 5kr stamps on stationery also varies considerably.

The lilac color used for these stamps (25kr of 1867 and 1871, newspaper stamp of 1867) was very sensitive and changed under the influence of light or warm water as well as of accidental or purposely applied chemicals. Such discolored stamps run all colors from gray to blue, green and rose, depending on the cause of the discoloration.

Except for the newspaper stamps and newspaper tax stamps, all adhesives were *perforated*. For the postage stamps of 1867, harrow perforating devices were used for the 2kr to 25kr denominations, which applied a perforation  $9\frac{1}{2}$  (10x12 perfs.). For the large size 50kr, a line perforation 12 was in use. Three of the harrow perforating machines were acquired by the Hungarian State Printing Works in 1870 and used to perforate the 1871 issue, which therefore has the same perforation as the 1867 issue. But the inexperience in the manufacture of adhesives led to the failure to adjust the printing stones and plates, when they were laid down, to the exact size of the perforation applied by the perforating devices and therefore practically all adhesives of the 1871 issue are more or less off center, almost centered stamps being scarce and perfectly centered ones very rare. The perforating devices, sold by the Austrian State Printing Works to its Hungarian sister institution, seem to have been the oldest types and not in the best condition, with the perforation needles partly blunt, providing a "rough" perforation, and the holes often out of line. This led to uneven perforations including many shortened teeth, so that stamps which are completely satisfactory in regard to perforation are almost nonexistent of the 1871 issue. The lithographed krajczar denominations of the telegraph stamps first were perforated with the same harrow perforating device  $9\frac{1}{2}$  as the postage stamps. But as this proved unsatisfactory due to the large number of badly off-center stamps, a line perforation  $9\frac{1}{2}$  was introduced for later printings of the lithographed stamps. The recess-printed krajczar denominations were line perforated 13, which varies from  $12\frac{1}{2}$  to  $13\frac{1}{2}$ . For the forint denominations, only line perforation could be used due to their

larger size. For the lithographed 1ft and 2ft, as well as and for the first printing of the recess-printed ones, line perforation  $9\frac{1}{2}$  was used, which is rare on the recess-printed 1ft; for later printings of the recess-printed 1ft and 2ft line perforation 13 was used. No major perforation varieties have been found, except for the lithographed 2ft telegraph stamp, of which unused *horizontal pairs*, *imperforate between*, are known. Both kinds of postage stamps of the 1871 issue are also known *imperforate*. The lithographed stamps of this kind come from un gummed proof sheets found in 1883 and cut up; they are on the paper of the issued stamps, but their colors vary, especially for the 10kr, which is ultramarine. The recess-printed 1871 issue is also known *imperforate* on the thicker paper, without gum, probably also from proof sheets.

(To be concluded)

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

● The next issue of the *MERCURY STAMP JOURNAL* is scheduled for September, 1958.

● Herbert J. Bloch's becoming a partner of the Mercury Stamp Company has brought so many congratulations and good wishes to all partners that it is impossible to answer them all directly. The senders may be assured that their kind gestures and encouragement are appreciated and that he partners want to thank everyone for the friendly sentiments expressed in these letters.

● Our editor's sojourn in Europe is scheduled as follows: May 21 to 29: London (Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly); May 29 to June 1: Brussels; June 1 to 3: Hamburg; June 3, 4: Hanover; June 4 to 8: Frankfurt a. M. (side trips to Wiesbaden and Heidelberg); June 8 to 10: Munich; June 10 to 24: Vienna (Hotel Regina, IX., Waehringstr. 1); June 24 to 29: Zurich (side trips to Basel and Bern); June 29 to July 6: Paris (Hotel Commodore, Boulevard Haussmann); July 6 to 9: London (Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly). Return to New York: July 16. Communications should be sent in time to any of the above hotel addresses; important mail sent to our New York office also will be forwarded.

● Winthrop S. Boggs, the director of the Philatelic Foundation, is this year's recipient of the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial

Award. The award was made on April 16 in a ceremony at the Collectors Club of New York. Mr. Boggs has written the standard book about Canada and has worked successfully in many other philatelic fields, therefore, the award seems well deserved.

● International Philatelic Exhibitions, sponsored by the *Fédération Internationale de Philatélie*, are scheduled for 1959 at Hamburg and Palermo, celebrating the centenary of the first stamps of Hamburg and Sicily. Aside from the London exhibition, for 1960 a show in Warsaw, celebrating the centenary of the first stamp of Poland, is in preparation. No recognized international exhibition will be held this year in Europe, as the planned Brussels exhibition did not materialize, due to the failure of the exhibition committee to secure the support of the Belgian Government, in issuing special stamps for the show.

● Our office will again remain open all summer with a skeleton staff, which will only be able to handle really urgent matters. Of course, shipments of auction material will be accepted and acknowledged. It is advisable to send material for the early fall sales not later than July 20, but only after making sure first, by sending a detailed description of the material, whether it is suitable for our auctions. It is always desirable to have enough time for working up a collection without haste. Office hours during the summer are from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., Monday through Friday; our office will be closed on all Saturdays from May 17 until after Labor Day. Out-of-town visitors who want to speak to one of our partners, should make appointments by phone to make certain that he is available when they will visit our office.

● The Friedl Expert Committee will take a summer recess from May 12 to July 19; the last meeting of the season will be held on May 9. Material received after that date will be held for the first meeting of the new season, on July 21.

## the philatelic AUCTIONEER

● Our auction season is nearing its end with a three-day public sale on May 12, 13 and 14, containing important material of United States and Foreign, unused, used

MERCURY STAMP JOURNAL

## EUROPEAN CLASSICS

### XX. HUNGARY\*

The *postal stationery* had special features. The *envelopes* had a size of 154x84mm. and except for the stamps in the top right corner and position dots in one or two corners (to facilitate the folding), no other colored printing. Of the 1871 issue, several denominations are known with the stamp printed inverted in the bottom left corner. A colorless seal was embossed on the top flap of both issues. This exists in six varieties on the 1867 issue. On the 1871 issue, only two of these varieties can be found, in very shallow embossing, probably because they were embossed without counter die. The seal is sometimes so weak that it can be easily flattened out, but it seems that at least the 5kr of 1871 exists also without seal. For the 1867 issue, between 1867 and 1871 two different envelope cuts were used and a device for one of them obtained by the Hungarian State Printing Works, so that the cut of the 1871 envelopes is identical with one of the two cuts used for the 1867 issue.

The *postal cards* had a size of 122x85mm. The 1867 issue was similar to the cards used in Austria but with the Hungarian coat of arms replacing the Austrian. On the cards in the Magyar language — which were issued in November 1869 only — all text was in Magyar. The cards had the stamp in the top right corner, in a black ornamented frame with address lines and text. These features were continued on the 1871 issue, but the ornamented frame consists of different typeset ornaments and they have no print on the reverse side. They are Magyar-German, the latter language in distinctly smaller type. There were several printings which can be distinguished by various sizes of the frame (103½ to 106mm. wide) and the position of the text. Of the Hungarian card of

\*Continued and concluded from page 234. — On page 229 we wrote in respect to the 1871 envelopes: "All 3kr envelopes which we have seen were *typographed*, but the existence of *lithographed* 3kr envelopes seems a likely probability". Now Mr. T. H. W. Levay of Greenwich, Conn., submitted to us an unused 3kr envelope, on which the stamp undoubtedly is *lithographed*. Therefore, our conjecture that all four denominations of the envelopes first were printed with *lithographed* stamps has been confirmed.

1867 exists a *setting error* in the bottom line on the reverse side, "dostaintézet" instead of "postaintézet".

The *wrappers*, 420x55mm., gummed either at right or left, had a border of five thin lines, of which the outer four usually show as a thick bar; these lines were printed together with the stamp. The *money order cards* had a size of 234x190mm., with strong variations. The first cards, without stamps, issued by the Austrian Postal Administration on March 1, 1867 and first continued under Hungarian Administration, were on chamois card and for Hungary proper had Magyar text, while in the other parts cards with German text were used. From 1869 on, the cards were printed in Hungary; they now showed the Hungarian coat of arms and were printed on green card. Such cards existed with Magyar as well with German text. The money order cards, issued from 1871 on, were all on green card and had a 5kr 1871 imprinted on the coupon at right. The first cards had Magyar-German text and the Hungarian coat of arms. The forms were changed later in 1871 and again in 1873; the latter have the text only in Magyar and the coat of arms is now omitted. Two more changes of the text of these cards occurred in 1874 and 1875; both now were in smaller size, about 185x125mm. For Croatia-Slavonia, cards with Magyar-Croatian text and the Hungarian coat of arms were issued in 1872 and in 1873, in the smaller size, with some changes, now without coat of arms. In 1873, also cards with Magyar-Italian text in the smaller size were issued.

The *C. O. D. money order cards* had a size of about 235x190mm., with strong variations. The stamp was printed with the text, on the coupon at right. They come in Magyar-German — with the German text within brackets —, Magyar-Croatian and Magyar-Italian.

The *Telegraph cards* were 149x86mm. and had the stamp printed with the text at top left. The *telegraph receipts* had a size of 120x68mm. with variations. The cards with Magyar text had the stamp at right, those with Magyar-Croatian text in the center. Both kinds exist with both types of the typographed 5kr telegraph stamp.

After demonetization, the 1867 issue was withdrawn, but the *remainders* were returned to Austria and used up there. There were also no remainders of the lithographed postage stamps and envelopes, as well as of the newspaper stamps in the first design; they were completely used up. Of the recess-printed postage stamps and of the second newspaper stamp, as well as of most of the last printings of all postal stationery, considerable remainders were left, which were sold in 1878 to a Hungarian stamp dealer, Karl Stoll. They included no less than 12,000 complete sets of the recess-printed 1871 postage stamps, but of some values up to 180,000 surplus copies. Of the envelopes, more than 180,000 copies were left over. Of the newspaper tax stamps, small remainders were left, which eventually came into philatelic hands; there were, of course, no remainders of the newspaper tax stamps for the Military Border District. Of the telegraph stamps, no remainders existed of the lithographed stamps which were used up. Of the recess-printed adhesives and of the telegraph stationery, considerable quantities remained when the use of telegraph stamps was discontinued in 1879. They were later sold to a stamp dealer.

In accordance with the above facts, the 1871 lithographed stamps and envelopes are scarce in *unused* condition, as are the lithographed telegraph stamps. More easily available are the newspaper stamps in both designs — those in the first design obviously for the reason, that small quantities were found among the remainders of the newspaper stamps in the second design —, the recess-printed postage stamps and the newspaper tax stamps. The newspaper tax stamp for the Military Border District is unused even rarer than used and we guess that less than half a dozen copies are known. Rather common are the envelopes with typographed stamps and almost all other stationery items as well as the recess-printed telegraph stamps.

In respect to *unused multiples*, of the lithographed stamps only the 2kr, 5kr and 25kr are known in blocks, while of the 3kr and 15kr pairs are the largest known multiples and of the 10kr no multiples at all seem to have survived. Of the recess-printed stamps, blocks are known of all values, although those of the 10kr and 15kr are very rare and only a few seem to have

been preserved. Of the 2kr and 3kr, half sheets of 50 are known as the largest existing multiples of the recess-printed stamps. Of the newspaper stamps, blocks are not rare and of the stamps in the second design, a few full sheets exist. The newspaper tax stamps are rather easy to obtain in blocks, even the scarce 2kr red brown, of which a full sheet of 100 also exists. We know of no multiple of the newspaper tax stamps for the Military Border District. We have never seen blocks of the lithographed telegraph stamps and, if they exist at all, they must be very rare.

In *used* condition, all adhesives are more common than unused ones, with the exception of the recess-printed telegraph stamps, which are scarcer used. The stamps of the 1867 issue can only be recognized as Hungarian stamps in used condition; they are all considerably scarcer with Hungarian cancellations than with Austrian ones, although certain early shades can be found more frequently used in Hungary than in Austria. Especially the 25kr and 50kr used in Hungary are scarce, because until the end of April 1870 they were used on letters only; the use on money order cards started on May 1, 1870. The error 3kr red is only known used in Hungary and no unused copy seems to have survived. Of the 1871 postal stationery, the 3kr, 10kr and 15kr envelopes, lithographed as well as typographed, are rare in used condition and the 2kr wrapper, the 10kr C. O. D. money order card with Magyar-Italian text, as well as all telegraph stationery are scarcer or much scarcer used than unused. The other postal cards, money order cards and C. O. D. money order cards are used more common than unused. Some of the rare shades of the adhesives seem to exist used only, especially the "copper red" 15kr, of which no mint copy is known.

As far as *used multiples* are concerned, blocks of the 1867 issue, used in Hungary, are considerably rarer than such blocks used in Austria and we doubt that all values actually exist, as we do not remember having seen blocks of the 25kr and 50kr with Hungarian cancellation. The Error 3kr red is only known singly and not in a multiple with 5kr stamps. Blocks are known of all values of the lithographed 1871 stamps, the rarest being the 3kr, followed (in order of rarity) by 15kr, 2kr, 10kr, 25kr and, the

least rare, 5kr. Multiples of the newspaper stamp in the first design are scarcer than could be expected and considerably more valuable than unused ones, especially blocks, which are rare. Of the newspaper stamp in the second design multiples are more frequent, but still considerably scarcer than unused ones. Of the newspaper tax stamps, no used multiples can exist of the 2kr and only pairs of the 1kr. Of the newspaper tax stamps for the Military Border District only singles seem to exist and certainly less than a dozen used copies are known (Fig. 107). Of the telegraph stamps, used multiples seem to be scarcer of the lithographed ones and also not frequent of the recess-printed issue, but we have no detailed information in this field.

On *entires*, the 1867 issue used in Hungary comes much less frequently than used in Austria. Of the low values, the 3kr is the least common, while the 25kr is rare and the 50kr a distinct cover rarity. From May 1, 1870, the latter two values were mostly used on money order cards and they are much easier available in that latter condition. The error 3kr red is not known on entire. Of the lithographed 1871 issue, the 25kr is a cover rarity, while the other values on cover do not deserve a considerable premium. The recess-printed 1871 issue is on *entires* rather easy to find, except the 25kr, which is rare but much more frequent than the lithographed one. All newspaper stamps are scarcer on wrappers and the newspaper tax stamps on *entires* also are not plentiful. They are much scarcer than the contemporary Austrian stamps of this kind, because from Jan. 1, 1870, they were used only on foreign newspapers, 1kr from Germany and 2kr from other countries. No entire is known with the newspaper tax stamp for the Military Border District. The telegraph stamps can be found occasionally on telegraph forms, but they are uncommon, especially the lithographed ones.

On *registered letters*, the stamps, covering the registration fee (5kr on local mail, 10kr on other) often can be found on the reverse side of the letters. This is in accordance with an Austrian regulation, which came into force on June 1, 1850, but which was abolished on Dec. 31, 1865, because of the uniform 5kr postage rate which was introduced on Jan. 1, 1866. Nevertheless, the postmasters and the public were so

used to paste the stamps for the registration fee on the reverse side, that they continued to do so for many years thereafter. Therefore, we have here the curious fact, that under Hungarian postal rule a regulation which was originally put into force by another postal administration but abolished several years ago still was practised under the new regime, by some post offices even to the end of the classic stamp period.

The collectors of *First Day Covers* have a difficult time with Hungary. Of the 1867 issue, they may be able to secure an example of first day use, June 1, 1867, although such items are very rare and only a few known. But of the specific Hungarian issue of 1871, they will have great difficulty, as it seems obvious that the Hungarian Postal Administration actually did not issue the stamps on the dates stated as "first day of issue", but considerably later. Of the 1871 adhesives, the earliest known date of use of the lithographed stamps, which were supposedly issued on May 1, 1871, is May 12, 1871 for the 5kr, while none of the other values is known used before the second half of June 1871, the 2kr and 25kr even only early in July 1871. The engraved stamps were issued without fixed date, after using up of the lithographed stamps; the first value (5kr) is known of June 15, 1871, the other values from middle of July 1871, only the 25kr not earlier than middle of October. It was similar with the other adhesives and stationery. Therefore, the collector will have to be content with collecting earliest dates of use and should forget trying to obtain first day copies or covers of the early issues.

There is not too much to report in regard to *emergency frankings*, but the few known cases are interesting ones. They were all not in accordance with postal regulations, but obviously at least tolerated, some of them certainly employed by post offices. The most prominent of such cases are *splits*, namely *bisects*, which are known of the 1867 issue and the recess-printed 1871 stamps. Of the 1867 stamps, two values were involved, the 2kr and the 10kr. Both are known bisected in Hungary only, to cover the 5kr letter rate, the bisected 10kr alone (Fig. 108), the bisected 2kr together with two whole stamps. Of the engraved 1871 issue, also the 2kr and the 10kr are known bisected. Again the bisected 10kr was used for the 5kr letter rate, but the bisected

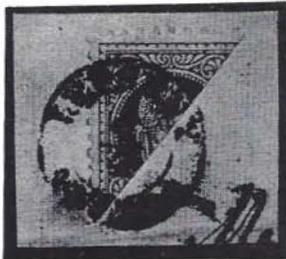


Fig. 108

2kr, together with one whole 2kr, covered the 3kr local letter rate. They are all rare to very rare. More frequent was the use for postage of *cut squares* from stationery, which was strictly forbidden but rather often slipped through. Rather frequently the 5kr envelope cut square of the 1867 issue can be found, while other values (known are 3kr and 15kr) are rare exceptions, as are 2kr cut squares from postal cards used for postage. The postmaster of Szigethvar in Southern Hungary circumvented the decree forbidding the use of cut squares by perforating 5kr cut squares and using them on letters. These "*Szigethvar Provisionals*", 5kr envelope cut squares in Type 1a, line perforated  $9\frac{1}{2}$ , are known used on covers and belong to the most interesting Hungary varieties. All used copies are from December 1869 and January 1870. Of the 1871 issue, only cut squares of the 5kr envelopes are known used for postage. All such emergency frankings with cut squares are scarce to rare.

There exist 1871 envelopes *overpasted* with 5kr 1874 stamps and used after the former were demonetized. This was not an official measure and such items usually are philatelically inspired.

*Mixed Frankings* exist between the Austria issue of 1863-64 and the 1867 issue; they are very rare, as the former were valid in Hungary only until June 15, 1867, therefore such frankings were possible in Hungary only for fifteen days. Mixed frankings between the 1867 issue and the 1871 issue also are rare, as they were possible only until

July 31, 1871, therefore for a period of about fifty days. They are known with all six values of the lithographed stamps, the combinations 3kr 1867 plus 2kr 1871, 2kr 1867 plus 3kr 1871 and 10kr 1867 plus 5kr 1871 being the least rare ones (Fig. 109). Combinations between 1867 stamps and recess-printed 1871 stamps were possible for only six weeks (5kr 1871) or two weeks (other 1871 denominations); they are rare to very rare. The recess-printed 25kr is not known in combination with 1867 stamps as it was issued only in October 1871. Mixed frankings between lithographed and recess-printed stamps can be found rather frequently; they deserve only a small premium. This is also true for mixed frankings between the 1871 stamps and the 1874 issue (Fig. 110), but the few known frankings of this kind with lithographed 1871 stamps are, of course, very rare. — Mixed frankings with stamps of other countries can be found occasionally, especially on mail arriving from Turkey and other countries of the lower Danube region. Such mail could only be franked with the foreign stamps to the border and Hungarian stamps had to be affixed in addition, to pay for the domestic rate. Such combinations are known between Turkey and Hungary as well as Serbia and Hungary. Mixed frankings between stamps of the Danube Steam Navigation Company and those of Hungary exist for similar reasons, as the stamps of the former were valid only to the Hungarian border, usually Orsova, and Hungarian stamps had to be added for the domestic postage.

A fact which makes collecting Hungary stamps very difficult for the discriminating collector is their generally poor *condition*. While the 1867 issue, manufactured in Vienna, is still reasonably well centered and has the perforations more or less intact, this changed for the 1871 issue. The Hungarian State Printing Works had obtained some older type Austrian perforating devices, but had no experience in adjusting

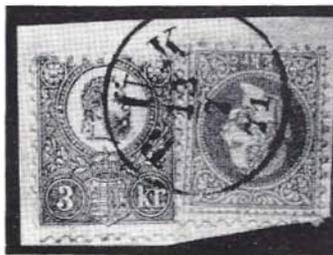


Fig. 109



Fig. 110

correctly the printing stones and plates to these devices, as would have been necessary. The result was, that centered stamps are rare exceptions and that many teeth appear shortened, due to imperfections of the perforating devices. Of the lithographed stamps, perfect and perfectly centered mint copies are practically non-existent and the collector who wants to have them in such condition can give up his efforts to secure them all. Perfect used copies are somewhat easier to obtain, but a discriminating collector may find one satisfactory copy among 500. A little bit better is the condition of the recess-printed stamps although the percentage of perfect stamps also is very small. In any case, perfectly centered faultless copies of the recess-printed stamps and still more of the lithographed stamps sell for several times catalog and are still not easy to find at such prices.

There exist *Reprints* of various stamps and stationery items, all made officially to satisfy philatelic demand. The recess-printed 1871 issue was reprinted in rather large quantities in 1883, on contemporary paper, watermarked "kr" in circles, and line perforated 11½. The 1871 newspaper stamp in the second design was reprinted in small quantity in 1896, on the same watermarked paper. Another reprint of the recess-printed postage stamps was made in 1946, on thick paper similar to that of the originals, but these reprints were not distributed, except clandestinely (see under "Fakes"). Of postal stationery, all four denominations of the 1871 envelopes plus a never issued 25kr were reprinted in 1896, on contemporary envelopes with watermark M. K. POSTA in italics. The stamps on these reprints are typographed, 3kr and 5kr in Type II; for the 25kr a new cliché was made for this purpose, by a photographic reproduction of a lithographed 25kr stamp. Only a very small quantity of these reprints was made, they are much rarer than the originals. Several postal cards also were reprinted, supposedly in 1878, namely both 1869 cards, with German and Magyar text, as well as the 2kr 1871 card. It seems that the 1869 postal cards, with imprinted stamps of the 1867 issue, were ordered from the State Printing Works at Vienna and printed there. The frames were from new settings, the inscription on the German card is 59mm. wide instead of 57mm. and on the Magyar card

52mm. wide instead of 50mm; they are on dark buff card. The 2kr 1871 postal card was reprinted with typographed stamp in Budapest, but it seems that no 2kr cliché was available at that time and therefore a cliché of the 5kr, Type II, was taken, the "5" replaced by a "2" and some other retouches made; for example, the base of the neck now shows 5 lines. This is the only 2kr cliché which shows the value indication on lined ground as do the other denominations. In 1896, another reprint was made of the 2kr 1871 postal card, this time with the proper cliché, in Type II, showing the value indication on a ground of concentric circles, but on a new-set form, which has the word CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE 34 mm. instead of 31mm. long. All reprints of the postal cards are scarcer than the originals.

Rather diversified are *forgeries and fakes* of the early Hungary issues. *Forgeries* exist of the 1867 error 3kr red, but they cannot deceive even a less experienced collector. More dangerous are forgeries of the lithographed 1871 stamps, of which several exist of all values, among them also products of Jean de Sperati. Numerous are *fakes*. Again the 3kr error is prominent, made by changing the figure of value of regular 5kr stamps; in a few such cases, the fakers were so badly informed that they used for their products a wrong type of the 5kr. The lithographed 1871 stamps were faked in large quantities by putting a faked perforation on cut squares of envelopes (3kr, 5kr, 10kr and 15kr) or wrappers (2kr). In most cases, typographed envelopes were used for these fakes which fact makes them easy to detect. They come unused as well as used, in the latter case often with faked cancellation, due to the rarity of used envelopes of 3kr, 10kr and 15kr. Faked cancellations, partly with the help of discarded old postmarks, can be found also on entireties of these envelopes as well as on the recess-printed telegraph stamps. The rare perforation 9½ of the recess-printed 1ft telegraph stamp is also faked by re-perforating the common stamp with perf. 13. The recess-printed 1871 postage stamps only recently were faked by putting faked perforations and gum on the imperforate 1946 reprints. They come even in blocks and are conspicuous by their bright colors as well as the centered and regular perforation.

The history of the Hungarian *postmarks* was until May 1, 1867 identical with that of the Austrian ones. Hungary was treated as an Austrian province and the same types of postmarks as in the other provinces were introduced. Some postmasters in Hungarian towns created their own types of postmarks, but aside from that the postmarks used in Hungary generally had the same distinctive features as those in other Austrian provinces.

When the Hungarian Postal Administration started to function on May 1, 1867, a large majority of the subordinated post offices had in use single circle postmarks, of about 23mm. diameter, showing the town name with the date (day and month). There was still a liberal sprinkling of older types, mostly of prestamp origin, mainly double or single circles with ornaments at bottom, straight lines (mostly in Roman capitals) and a number of postmarks with rectangular or oval frame. In Hungary proper, postmarks with German town names, especially in the large towns, were speedily replaced. A new distinctive Hungarian type of postmarks was created, larger size single circles of 26 to 32mm. diameter, showing the town name and the date (day, month and the last two figures of the year). Two engravers, by name of Diera and Dice, of whom no more information is available, produced these rather crude new postmarks, of which the first ones came into use in Hungary proper as early as middle of May 1867 — the earliest example we know is from Nagy-Varad, May 17, 1867 — and which showed either only the Magyar town names or the Magyar plus German ones. One postmark, that of Eger (German "Erlau"), had the additional inscription MAGYAR ORSZAG. Gradually, the old postmarks were replaced by the new type, but only few new bilingual Magyar-German postmarks were introduced. In Western Hungary, for a number of post offices a special oval type was created, showing the Magyar name at top, the German at bottom and the date (year at left, day and month at right) in the center. No other language than Magyar or German can be found on the postmarks for Hungary proper, the only exception being a spectacular trilingual postmark — Magyar-German-Serbian — which was used for a few years and which is the only trilingual postmark of Hungary (Fig. 111). In 1869, the size



Fig. 111

of the new single circle postmarks became more uniform; their diameter now was 24mm. This was still more so when, in 1872, the Budapest firm of A. Klassohn took over the manufacture of the postmarks and remained in charge until long after the end of the classic stamp period. Their postmarks were of the same single circle type, but more accurately made and often showing the name of the district (Magyar "megye"), for example "Szabolcs M." or "Pest Megye", at bottom. The bilingual postmarks were withdrawn one after the other — or the German name removed — so that after a few years only Magyar names appeared on the postmarks. In 1873, a new type of small circular postmarks of about 20mm. diameter were introduced at large post offices. They had the date horizontally in one line, year first then month and day, often also the hour. A semi-circular ornament, consisting of vertical lines, was above and below the date. These new postmarks had the date indications on wheels which were turned to obtain the proper date; they were based on a Hungarian patent and belong to the oldest postmarks with mechanical date indication. They constituted quite a technical progress, as most other countries introduced such postmarks — which today are the generally used kind — only many years later, for example Austria in the Eighteen-nineties. At the end of the classic stamp period, only a few of the old Austrian postmarks were in use, some of them altered, by adding the year date or having the date in Hungarian fashion, with the year first, then the month and eventually the day. The great majority of all postmarks were new ones, made after May 1, 1867, almost exclusively with Magyar town names only.

In Croatia-Slavonia until April 1, 1868, when Hungary took over the postal adminis-

tration of this territory, the old Austrian postmarks remained in use. From then on, changes occurred, but much slower than in Hungary proper. The earliest new postmarks were similar to those introduced in Hungary in 1867, single circles of 28 to 31mm. diameter, but with the town name in Croatian and the date — day, month and full year — in the center; a number of postmarks were bilingual Croatian-German, a few, in the "Littorale", Croatian-Italian. In 1870, the type of postmarks was adjusted to the type introduced in 1869 in Hungary proper; the new postmarks were probably manufactured in Budapest and now show only the last two figures of the year. At the end of the classic stamp period, the Magyar language started to replace German as the second language and some bilingual Croatian-Hungarian postmarks started to appear as well as the first Hungarian-Croatian ones, which after 1874 became the dominant type.

In the Military Border District, Austrian type postmarks were in use as long as this territory was under Austrian or military Austro-Hungarian postal rule. Postmarks with German town names remained in use and new ones with German names, as far as such names existed, were introduced. From 1868, all new postmarks had the year date included and were of small diameter, 16mm. to 18mm., as exception up to 21mm. when the inscription was too long for the small size. These so-called thimble cancellations are, aside from a few "home-made" postmarks supplied by the postmasters themselves, the only thimble postmarks used on Hungarian territory during the classic stamp period. They are known from 40 post offices in the Military Border District and are, with a few exceptions, all scarce or rare. When on Jan. 1, 1871 Hungary took over the postal administration of the territory, the postmarks with German town names were replaced gradually. But some of the thimble postmarks remained in use, even after the end of the classic stamp period, and several of the new Hungarian-type postmarks had for a short period HATER-ORVIDEK or NEMET BANSAG, in a few cases even the German name MILIT. GRENZE, added to the town name.

Although many of the post offices in Hungary, in Croatia-Slavonia and in the Military Border District continued to use the old Austrian postmarks for quite some time,

no replacement parts seem to have been available for them. Figures of the date indication which were damaged or lost had to be substituted with figures taken from other postmarks or by home-made new figures. In respect to the year dates, this became obvious through the fact that some post offices, when they did not have the proper year date, continued to use the old date. This is rather frequently found for the old Austrian money order cancellations and such occurrences have led to erroneous claims that the 1871 issue already was issued in 1870. But it can be proven that in fact all such stamps with an "1870" year date actually were used in 1871; it was similar in other cases of wrong date indication, for example "1871" used in 1872.

The travelling post offices on railroads first used the old Austrian postmarks, until 1868; then, straight lines with Magyar inscription, for example "2 SZ. M. K. MOZGO POSTAHIVATAL", were introduced, which were used only for the offices numbered 1 and 2. In 1869, uniform double circles, with the number in the center, MOZGO POSTA at top, and the route, for example ARAD-PEST, at bottom, came into use. No postmarks were used on ships, but a few origin postmarks were used in ports of the "Littorale", namely in Fiume and Segna.

Of special services, at various larger post offices the newspaper sections and money order sections used separate postmarks. At the former, first the Austrian postmarks, inscribed additionally ZEITUNGS-EXPEDITION, later new Hungarian types, with the inscription M. K. POSTA HIRLAP KIADOHIVATAL or similar, were used, almost exclusively on newspaper stamps. For money orders, from May 1, 1870, special postmarks were used to cancel the stamps. Only in Croatia-Slavonia and the Military Border District Austrian type postmarks of this kind were used, double circles with GELDANWSNG at top, the town name at bottom and the date (day, month and year) in the center. In Hungary proper, no Austrian types of this kind were introduced; single circle Hungarian types, inscribed PENZUTALVANY at top, town name at bottom, were used for this purpose and similar types were introduced in Croatia-Slavonia and the Military Border District after 1871. Fiume had a postmark with the Italian inscription ASSEGNO POSTALE.

Of *additional postal markings*, the use of the RECOMANDIRT markings for registered letters was inherited from the Austrian period, but soon was replaced by Magyar AJANLOTT markings. The combined town and registration postmarks, which existed at about twenty larger post offices in Hungary and which had the inscription RECOMANDIRT were continued for a short period only, when they were withdrawn or replaced by postmarks inscribed AJANLOTT. But only half a dozen post offices had town postmarks of the latter kind, as such special postmarks were discontinued soon thereafter by the Hungarian postal service. Other special markings, like POSTA INDULAS UTAN for late fee letters and similar markings were only placed alongside the stamps and, used as cancellers, they are rare exceptions.

At the Hungarian *post offices in Romania* the old Austrian postmarks remained in use after May 1, 1867, with one exception, at Galatz, where a Hungarian type postmark was introduced in 1868.

The *ink* used for the postmarks was generally black. Before 1871 a small percentage of post offices used blue ink and a few even employed red ink, the latter being a rare exception. The registration postmarks of Kassa (Kaschau) and Nyiregyhaza were used regularly in red during the first months after May 1, 1867. From 1871 on, colored postmarks disappeared gradually, blue ones becoming scarce and red ones very rare. At the end of the classic stamp period, practically for all postmarks black ink only was used.

When we survey the use of postmarks on the various issues and on the different kinds of stamps, we find, that on the 1867 issue of postage stamps, the old Austrian type postmarks are in a small majority, but new Hungarian postmarks are almost as common, especially due to the large post offices, where they predominate. The two highest denominations, 25kr and 50kr, can be found mostly with the special postmarks used for money orders. On the 1871 lithographed issue, Austrian type postmarks are still rather frequent from the small post offices while the large offices almost exclusively used new Hungarian-type ones. The 25kr denomination almost always has money order cancellation and is much scarcer with others. On the recess-printed 1871

issue, Hungarian-type postmarks dominate but there were still a sizable number of Austrian type postmarks in use. The 25kr again has practically always money order cancellation and is scarce with any other. Colored cancellations are considerable scarcer than black ones. Red is always rare, on the 1867 issue and especially on the lithographed 1871 issue. We do not remember having seen red cancellations on the recess-printed 1871 issue. Blue is not scarce on the 1867 issue but becomes scarcer on the lithographed and still more on the recess-printed 1871 issue.

The stamps on postal stationery were cancelled in the same way as the adhesives.

The newspaper stamps generally were cancelled on arrival and therefore can be found with a number of postmarks, which do not come used on postage stamps, often old retired postmarks from the Austrian period. Furthermore, as the newspaper stamps also were valid on newspapers to Austria, they can be found frequently with the cancellations of Austrian post offices, which is a regular occurrence and does not constitute a reason for a premium.

The newspaper tax stamps can be found with the regular postmarks, but often also those of the newspaper sections of the large post offices. Until Dec. 31, 1868, when newspaper tax stamps also were used on domestic newspapers, they frequently received a fiscal cancellation and a large number of the stamps was precancelled by overprinting them with newspaper text. The newspaper tax stamp for the Military Border District is only known precancelled by newspaper text and no postmarked copy seems to exist.

The telegraph stamps first were cancelled by pen crosses, only from 1875, after the end of the classic stamp period, they were cancelled with special town postmarks of the telegraph offices.

In respect to *philatelic literature*, Hungary is rather poorly covered. The standard monograph, in German, by Béla Payer, published in 1920, is not only entirely inadequate but contains a number of misleading statements and erroneous information. All other literature of any importance is written in Magyar which makes it useless for most collectors. In any case, no exhaustive monograph exists also in Magyar, only handbooks, of which that by E. J. Jaszai, published in 1927, gives the most extensive information;

but its statements are in quite a number of cases unproven and subject to serious doubts. The last and best handbook was published in 1957 by Gyula Madarasz, but it concentrates on the transfer types of the lithographed 1871 stamps and is otherwise not more than a specialized catalog. A useful specialized catalog was published a few years ago by the philatelic service of the Hungarian Postal Administration, of which also an English edition exists. Altogether, the collector who does not read Magyar will have a hard time to find even the basic information for specializing Hungary and he will be mostly on his own.

The *Scott Catalog* lists of the classic issues of Hungary 12 postage stamps, 2 newspaper stamps and 2 newspaper tax stamps, plus the newspaper tax stamp for the Military Border District, which by strict standards does not belong to Hungary. When we exclude this latter stamp which lists \$350 unused and \$200 used, the catalog value of the remaining 16 stamps is about \$650 unused and \$150 used. All stamps, except one (the 2kr newspaper tax stamp, which is listed at the same price unused and used), are used cheaper than unused. The highest priced stamps are among the lithographed 1871 issue; unused the 15kr and 25kr are listed \$135 each, used the 3kr is priced at \$60. The cheapest stamps list unused \$1.25 (1kr newspaper tax stamp) and used 15c (1871, 5kr recess-printed). Seven unused stamps list \$10 or less; used twelve stamps are priced \$10 or lower and four are in the price range of \$1 or lower.

As can be seen, Hungary is a rather low cost field of collecting, but this is only true when a collector is satisfied with average condition, in which case a complete collection of the 16 classic Hungary stamps may cost him not much more than \$25. In such average condition, which is generally poor for the postage stamps, classic Hungary is a distinctively unpopular country and easy to obtain complete. But this picture changes completely, if a collector wants to put the same standard of condition on Hungary stamps as he is used from other fields. If

he wants the postage stamps faultless, perfectly centered and with all perforations intact, he will have quite a job to get the twelve postage stamps together in used condition. When he is trying to obtain mint copies, he will soon find out, that some stamps, especially the lithographed ones, seem not to exist in such condition and he will have to lower his requirements, otherwise he will have blank spaces in his album even among the basic stamps. If the collector tries to specialize classic Hungary he will have to forget that he likes centered and well perforated stamps, otherwise his efforts to build a collection will prove futile. For all these reasons and for the lack of adequate literature, Hungary is specialized almost entirely in Hungary or, outside the country, by collectors of Magyar descent. The highly developed Magyar nationalism also may have something to do with the fact that the people who specialize in Hungary believe that it is the most interesting country in the world, while the average collector will consider classic Hungary among the least desirable ones. As is usual in such cases, both sides overstretch their point. If intelligently done and with an open mind, the collecting of the classic stamps of Hungary in the widest sense, including cancellations, will provide as many pleasures as does similar collecting in any other field. The challenge of condition may especially attract a collector who loves to attack at the "point of hardest resistance", although the condition difficulty makes it almost impossible to present a Hungary collection attractively to the uninitiated collector who does not know that one cannot do better in this field. If you want to specialize in Hungary, you will have the advantage that you will be able to acquire a large percentage of the material at low prices and only the top pieces will require a larger cash outlay. This makes Hungary an ideal country for the collector of limited means; if he is aiming more for his own satisfaction rather than for the admiration of his fellow collectors he will find this one of the most rewarding philatelic fields.

(Next: XXI. Iceland)

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