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The Society for Hungarian Philately (SHP) is a non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the State of Connecticut and is devoted to the study of every aspect of Hungarian philately. SHP publishes a quarterly newsletter in March, June, September, and December. Manuscripts for publication may be sent to the Society’s address listed above. The articles published herein represent the opinions of the individual authors and the content is not to be construed as official policy of this Society or any of its officers. All publication rights reserved for SHP. Articles from this journal may be reprinted with the written permission of the Editor and the authors only. Back issues of the newsletter may be purchased for $3.00, postpaid, (when available).

Annual membership dues are $18 ($19 if paid by Paypal) for members whose addresses are in the United States. For members residing in all other countries, the dues are $25 ($26 if paid by Paypal). Dues are payable in January in advance for the calendar year. Payment of dues entitles members to receive the newsletter, to participate in the sales circuit and the quarterly auctions, and to exercise voting rights. Send dues payments to: The Treasurer, P.O. Box 802, Powell, WY 82435-0802 USA. Paypal payment may be made to treasurership@tctwest.net

* This issue closed on 1 May 2014
The next issue will close 1 August 2014
*
THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER
by Lyman R. Caswell

Mark your calendars. The venues for the next two annual meetings of the Society for Hungarian Philately were selected at our recent meeting at ARIPEX. In 2015, we will meet at AmeriStampExpo, which will be February 13-15 in Riverside, California, at the Convention Center. Our 2016 meeting will be held at New York 2016, the international show at the Jacob Javitts Convention Center, May 28-June 4. Watch future issues of The News for announcements of planned activities of the Society at these meetings. Plan to attend the meetings, renew old friendships and make new ones, discuss Hungarian philately, and enhance your collections at the bourses. I look forward to meeting you at these shows.

Viszontlátásra! This is my last “President’s Corner.” For personal reasons, I have resigned from the office of President of the Society, effective May 31 of this year. Vice President Alan Bauer will take over as President on June 1. I will continue to serve the Society as a member of the Board of Directors, and I look forward to continued participation in the activities and meetings of the Society. Goodbye, but not farewell.

☼

THE INCOMING PRESIDENT’S CORNER
by Alan Bauer

Szia!! We all want to thank Lyman for his excellent service to our Society. He has led us well and we are all sorry to lose his services as President, but we do look forward to continuing to work with him on the Board. I am excited to serve our Society and look forward to an exciting future, with many new members and lots of opportunities to work with and hopefully meet many of our existing members at the upcoming shows. My father, Bela Bauer, was one of the earliest members of the Society in the 1970’s and I think he would be proud to see me in this position now. One of my goals is to see the Society take advantage of the many new opportunities offered by social media to grow our membership and expand our reach. So let’s all work together and be part of a great Society. More to come in the future…

*KUDOS

Congratulations to our exhibitors: Lyman R. Caswell won a gold and the APS Medal of Excellence at ARIPEX for the exhibit titled The First Postage Dues of Hungary, 1903-1922. Robert Morgan received a gold, the Grand Award, and the Postal History Society Medal at the same show with the exhibit Hungary: The Hyperinflation 1945-1946.

Congratulations to our Patron, Bob Morgan on the occasion of his 90th birthday (celebrated last March). Many happy returns, Bob!

Congratulations, also, to our new life members, Kiyoshi Kashiwagi #438 of California and Dr. Andrew E. Lorincz #442 of Florida, who joined our Society in 1984. Thank you for your continuous 30-year support.


Our next general meeting will be held during APS AmeriStamp Expo at Riverside, California. Plan to meet your fellow Society members there. There is no substitute for meeting old and new friends in person. We’ll have more detailed program information soon.

☼
SUMMARY OF BOARD MEETING: COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION

by Greg Gessell, SHP Secretary

I. Call to Order - The Executive Board Meeting was called to order on the 22nd of February 2014 at approximately 1015hrs. Attendees of the meeting signed in as Lyman Caswell, Wes Learned, Bob Morgan, Ted Johnson, and Greg Gessell.

II. Opening Traditions – Everyone was asked to say the pledge of allegiance to themselves.

III. Reading the Minutes - A copy of the minutes of the last board meeting was printed and presented to the Board President by Greg Gessell.

IV. Board Reports:

• From Wes Learned, the Treasurer:
  The 2013 financial report for the Society will be published in the News. The SHP remains healthy financially. Earlier in the year an electronic vote was accomplished holding the dues schedule steady with no increase which was reconfirmed at today’s meeting.

  We will continue the dues payment option of "Pay Three Years" which offers a slight discount for the convenience of the membership. This program has worked well for the past several years with many members choosing to do so.

• From Csaba Kohalmi, the Editor:
  Need a new Editor soon – please help look for volunteer(s).

• From H. Alan Hoover, the Webmaster:
  Nothing submitted. Mr. Bob Morgan will be contacting Mr. H. Alan Hoover about any need for additional help keeping the website up-to-date.

V. Unfinished business – From the 20 Jan, 2013 meeting it was brought up by Wes Learned that the upcoming meeting locations needs to be revisited. Although in 2015, Chicagopex was the location, due to the possible inclement weather in November in Chicago, Ameristamp in Riverside, California was proposed. Healthy debate brought up pros and cons but the end result was Board Member attendance. Ameristamp 2015 was agreed upon. In 2016, the New York International was approved with Mr. Bob Morgan and possibly Mr. Alan Bauer reserving us a table.

VI. New business -

• A motion was made and seconded to change Article 5: Executive Board under Section 1. Change “two” Directors-at-Large to “three” Directors-at-Large since that is what we have currently. After discussion, a vote was conducted and passed.

• A motion was made and seconded to change Article 5: Executive Board under Section 4. Change “meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at least “twice” a year” to “meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at least “once” a year since that is what we plan/accomplish currently. After discussion, a vote was conducted and passed.

• A motion was made and seconded to add Article 3: Membership under Section 7: Any person who has remained a member in good standing in the Society for the past 30 consecutive years shall be granted “Life Membership” status. As a token of appreciation for the many years of service and support, Life Members are no longer required to pay annual dues or fees to the Society. After discussion, a vote was conducted and passed.

• Discussion has been entered regarding membership/recruitment. Mr. Bob Morgan spoke to the Board about the need as membership shrinks and offered to help a “Membership Coordinator” if anyone offered to fill the position.

• A motion was made and seconded to give Mr. Bob Morgan the Society of Hungarian Philately “Patron Honor.” After discussion, a vote was conducted and passed. The Board Secretary will get in contact with Mr. H. Alan Hoover about previous utilization of certificates.

• A motion was made and seconded to modify Article 3 Membership under Section 3: “Persons becoming members after July 1st of any fiscal year will be charged only fifty percent (50%) of one year’s dues for the balance of that fiscal year” CHANGE TO: “Persons becoming members during the first 3 quarters of a calendar year shall be considered a member for that calendar year upon payment of the current annual dues. All issues of the news for that year shall be sent by the Secretary. A new member joining in the 4th quarter of a year will be assessed a full years dues and will be shown as paid through the following calendar year. The Secretary will send out a
complimentary copy of the most recent newsletter.” After discussion, a vote was conducted and passed.

- A motion was made and seconded to change Article 4 Officers, under Section 5: “The Secretary shall attend to all correspondence of the Society including the annual incorporation filing” DELETE but ADD: Under Article 4 Officers under Section 6 the following under Treasurer: “…and other necessary expenses, including the annual electronic filing and fees payment due to the State of Connecticut”. After discussion, a vote was conducted and passed.

- Recognition to: NEW LIFE MEMBERS – both joined in 1984!
  - Kiyoshi Kashiwagi #438 of California and Dr. Andrew E. Lorincz #442 of Florida

- Discussion was started about the need for another Bound Volume – both for uniformity of collections and to possibly raise funds for the Society. The Secretary will email Mr. H. Alan Hoover about next steps in the process since he bound the current volumes in the past.

- Under Article 10 Elections, Section 5 a vacancy was announced. The President, Mr. Lyman Caswell decided he would be resigning in office, midterm, on May 30, 2014. Mr. Alan Bauer, current Society Vice President, would be appointed by the Executive Board beginning May 31, 2014 to fulfill the remaining term of office vacated by Mr. Lyman Caswell. After discussion, a vote was conducted and passed. The Board thanked Mr. Lyman Caswell for his time in office, taking over the responsibilities of office so quickly after the previous President resigned so abruptly.

**Adjournment:** Motion was made to adjourn by the President and seconded on February 22, 2014.

*PHOTOS FROM ARIPEX, FEBRUARY 2014*

SHP table, front, left to right: Greg Gessell, Barbara and Ted Johnson; back, Randy Frank, Wes Learned, Bob Morgan.

Bob Morgan in front of his award winning 1945-1946 Hyperinflation exhibit.

SHP dinner gathering: clockwise, left to right: Jazz Morgan (Gary’s wife), Ruth and Lyman Caswell, Barbara and Ted Johnson, Linda and Wes Learned, Bob Morgan, Gary Morgan (Bob’s son).

Bob Morgan receiving the kachina doll grand award from chief judge, Jay Stotts. John Wynns, awards chairman, is on Bob’s left.
THE DIFFERENT PAPER TYPES OF THE 1871 ENGRAVED ISSUE

by Robert Lauer

In his year-end sale offerings, my local stamp dealer had a number of nice copies of all of the denominations of the 1871 Engraved Issue, which got me looking again at the catalogue listings for, and ultimately my own collection of, these stamps.

Unlike Scott and Michel, both Stanley Gibbons and the Catalogue of the Postage and Revenue Stamps of the Hungary (MBK) distinguish between two types of paper for the 1871 Engraved Issue: 1) a thick paper, which is the same as the paper used for the 1871 lithographed stamps, and 2) a thinner paper used from 1873. Neither makes any distinctions with respect to the catalogue value for these two types of paper. Both catalogues generally agree as to the colour shades to be found on each type of paper with two exceptions: MBK has the 3kr green occurring on both paper types, whereas Stanley Gibbons has it only occurring on thick paper; and MBK also has the carmine shade of the 5kr occurring on both paper types, whereas Stanley Gibbons has it only occurring on the thinner paper type. The table below sets out the main colour shades to be found in each paper type as per Stanley Gibbons and MBK. Where the two catalogues do not agree, I have indicated the colour shade in italics with catalogue in brackets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Denomination</th>
<th>Thick Paper</th>
<th>Thinner Paper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2kr</td>
<td>Orange-yellow</td>
<td>Orange-yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Green(MBK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Blue-green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5kr</td>
<td>Rose-red</td>
<td>Rose-red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3kr</td>
<td>Carmine(MBK)</td>
<td>Carmine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brick-red</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10kr</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Light grey-blue</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15kr</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Black-brown</td>
<td>Yellow-brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Copper-red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25kr</td>
<td>Grey-violet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Red-violet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In terms of distinguishing between the two types of paper, the catalogue listings are only helpful if one has copies of shades that were only printed on one type of paper, otherwise, how much thinner is ‘thinner’?

I stumbled upon a copy of a type-written monograph from the library collection of the Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain by Alain Gibbs entitled “Hungary – The Three Papers of the 1871-1875 Engraved Issue” dated the 14th of October 1971, which Charlotte Standing at the HPSGB had been so good as to send me a copy of in PDF. There is no indication on the copy that I have whether it was ever published.

Gibbs describes the first paper as being the same as that used for the printing of the 1867 issue and 1871 lithographed stamps. “[T]his paper is quite opaque, slightly uneven in appearance and sturdy to the touch”, and “between .050 and .045 in thickness” (no indication of the scale used is given). “The second type of paper is slightly more callendered and noticeably thinner, measuring between .045 and .038. Although this paper would seem to be merely a continuation of the previous paper – it is different and did not appear until 1873.” Gibbs notes that all denominations are found on this second type of paper, except the 25kr, which is only found on the first paper type.

“The last paper, and incidentally the rarest of the three, is so completely different that a comparative newcomer to the hobby would have no difficulty in its identification. By far the thinnest
of the three, it is highly callendered with most of the design visible from the reverse. In thickness it measures only .030 to .035, practically half that of the first paper. It is generally agreed, even by the Monográfiaja, that this paper appeared in 1874 and was used for the 5kr (two different shades) and the 15kr in a yellow brown shade.”

Gibbs indicates that he had also found a copy of the 2kr in a deep orange-yellow shade printed on this 3rd type of paper. All of which had me going back to take another look at all of the copies of this issue that I own.

The first thing that quickly becomes very clear when looking at stamps from this issue, and something also remarked on by Gibbs, is that date and paper are not necessarily correlated – there are lots of this issue with clear 1874 post-marks that are without a doubt on the first type of paper. However, it is a useful starting point for reference.

The first interesting discovery in my own collection was that one of the 5kr, a nice bright carmine shade with a 74 AUG 27 Budapest Főposta Type G cancel (Figure 1), which I had always assumed was printed on the second paper type, is actually printed on the third type of paper – the paper is thin enough for the design to be clearly visible through the back of the stamp (Figure 2).

The second item of interest that I noticed in my collection was a 25kr (Figure 3) on paper which is noticeably thinner and smoother than the first paper type and in a shade of pale grey-blue/azure (according to the Stanley Gibbons colour guide) that is very different from the shades of violet of the other 25kr stamps that I own. This has me pondering the consensus that the 25kr was only printed in the first type of paper. If anyone else has a stamp that fits this description, or any thoughts on the above, I would be most interested (please e-mail me at robertlauer59@gmail.com).

Figure 1.  
Figure 2.  
Figure 3.

References:
The Catalogue of the Postage and Revenue Stamps of Hungary. (Philatelia Hungarica, 2009)

HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE PRIMER
contributed by Rahel Emőke Soble

Alan Soble and I have been exchanging email messages concerning the longest word in the Hungarian language. Alan’s daughter Rahel contributed the following as the most famous and longest word in Hungarian: megszentségteleníthetetlenágésedéseitekért (= due to your [plural] continued behavior as if you could not be desecrated). She admitted that it is never, ever actually used, but offered to learn to say it really fast the next time she visited Alan. This tops the word legeslegmegelégedhetetlenek (= to the most unsatisfiable ones) that I used to consider the longest (usable) word in the Magyar language. Rahel felt that my ‘longest’ word was harder to pronounce than hers. Ed./
Hungarian is an agglutinative language. The language does not have a "longest word" due to its agglutinating nature. It is always possible to construct a longer one with enough creativity.

Megszentségétlenítethetlenségeskedéseitekért, with 44 letters is one example of a long word in the Hungarian language and means something like "for your [plural] continued behaviour as if you could not be desecrated."

The longest dictionary form word is the word in use (although it is constructed from the word: szent meaning: "saint"), megszentségétlenítethetlen, with 25 characters, and means "something that cannot be desecrated." (Desecrate = treat a sacred place of thing with violent disrespect.)

Another word that conforms to Hungarian orthography: legeslegtöredezett-ségmentesítetlenbeskedéseitekért can be translated to something like "because of your highest unfragmentationability factor."

megszentségteleníthetetlenségeskedéseitekért partition to root and suffixes with explanations:

meg- verb prefix; in this case, it means "completed"
szent holy (the word root)
-ség like English "-ness", as in "holiness"
-t(e)len variant of "-tlen", noun suffix expressing the lack of something; like English "-less", as in "useless"
-it constitutes a transitive verb from an adjective
-het expresses possibility; somewhat similar to the English modal verbs "may" or "can"
-(e)tlen another variant of "-tlen"
-ség (see above)
-es constitutes an adjective from a noun; like English "-y" as in "witty"
-ked attached to an adjective (e.g. "strong"), produces the verb "to pretend to be (strong)"
-és constitutes a noun from a verb; there are various ways this is done in English, e.g. "-ance" in "acceptance"
-eitek plural possessive suffix, second-person plural (e.g. "apple" → "your apples", where "your" refers to multiple people)
-ért approximately translates to "because of", or in this case simply "for"

Translation: "for your [plural] repeated pretending to be indesecrable"

The above word is often considered to be the longest word in Hungarian, although there are longer words like: legeslegmegszentségétlenítethetlenebbjeitekként "like those of you that are the very least possible to get desecrated"

These words are not used in practice, but when spoken they are easily understood by natives. They were invented to show, in a somewhat facetious way, the ability of the agglutinative language to form long words. They are not compound words - they are formed by adding a series of one and two-syllable suffixes (and a few prefixes) to a simple root ("szent" = saint). There is virtually no limit for the length of words, but when too many suffixes are added, the meaning of the word becomes less clear, and the word becomes hard to understand, and will work like a riddle even for native speakers.

/Is there any wonder that Google translations of Hungarian text into English result in jibberish much to the annoyance of philatelists?!! The nuances of the language lend themselves to further exploration of place names as they relate to postal markings. The longest name of a settlement that I found in the current listing of Hungarian Postal Code numbers was for Reformáltuskovácház (postal code: 5800). The name of this small settlement in southeastern Hungary near Battonya contains 20 characters [19 letters of the Hungarian alphabet because "cs" is a digraph = two characters but only one letter of the Hungarian alphabet]. The name is a compound word made from 'Reformed' [i.e., as in Protestant], 'blacksmith' and 'house [or home].' I did locate a couple of long names in postal cancellers illustrated in Vol. VI of the Monográfia. Both are from the pre-1945 era: 17 characters in Pestszentenzébet [Pest+Saint+Elisabeth] and 24 characters in Balatonszabadifürdőtelep [Balatonszabadi+bathing+resort]. Alan Soble provided a couple of more
The News of Hungarian Philately

examples: Gyergyószentmiklós [18 characters] and Legenyealsómihály [17 characters] that provided quite a challenge for the cancelling device fabrication to be able to squeeze the name into the top arc. These four are illustrated below. Any similar contributions from members are welcome! Ed./

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Csaba,

In the October-December 2013 issue of The News of Hungarian Philately you wrote an article about confusing Hungarian canceling devices. I like to react on that article.

For many years I was puzzled about the differences between the H, J, K, L and M types of cancelers. Only after a decade or so did I begin to understand it.

- The H type has 8 wheels: two for the year, one for the month, two for the date, one for N or É, two for the hours. That there are wheels can you see by the white space above and under the year-date.
- The Hx type is the same as H but without St.Stephan’s crown (in Vol. VI of the Monográfiája on pages 207-211)
- The J type has no wheels, but inserts for the year, month and date. The letters are bigger and there is less white space above and under the year-date.
- The Jx type is the same as J but without St.Stephan’s crown (in Vol. VI of the Monográfiája on pages 301-302)
- The K type has 9 wheels: three for the year, one for the month, two for the date, one for N or É, two for the hours.
- The Kx type is the same as K but without St.Stephan’s crown (in Vol. VI of the Monográfiája on pages 362-365)
- The L type has only 6 wheels: three for the year, one for the month, two for the date.
- The M type has 8 wheels: three for the year, one for the month, two for the date, two for the hours (no N or É marking)
- The Mx type is the same as M but without St.Stephan’s crown (in Vol. VI of the Monográfiája on page 374)

I hope this will give some help in sorting out the cancellations.

With kindest regards,

Paul de Leeuv van Weenen

Hi Csaba,

Congratulations on another fine issue of The News and your translation of Gábor Voloncs’s article about the youth balloon post (The First Hungarian Youth Balloon Post, October-December 2013).

What fascinated me in particular was the role of Rikárd Kozma, whose photo jumped out at me when I opened The News. I had no idea that he was such an engaged philatelist already in his teens. After 1989, when people in the East could safely correspond with those of us at Radio Free Europe (where I worked as a political analyst in Munich and then Prague from 1977-2008), he and I established contact through the German philatelic society specializing in railway topicals. We exchanged railway-related materials for many years. I then met him and his gracious wife on a trip to
Budapest in 1999. We spent a pleasant several hours discussing stamps and the effects on the hobby of the division of Europe after 1945. I have not heard from him for about 10 years or so, but I still remember him fondly. During my years with RFE in Prague, several Czech collectors told me that they knew of him. Philately is a small world, indeed.

Thanks and best regards,

Patrick Moore

Hi Csaba,

I hope this finds you in a nice and warm place (I can’t even imagine the cold you have outside). For the first time in more than eight-nine months I was able to read the News (I’ll have to go back and catch up with the back issues). I want to congratulate you with this issue. It is very-interesting with different topics. My first choice of interest was Judy Kennett’s Hungarian Crash covers article. It is well researched and very interestingly written to keep your attention. Top postal history documentation. Excellent all around!

My second choice of interest was your primer on Hungarian cancels. Although I have the Monográfiája Vol. VI, I was never able to master it (confession: I have no patience for it). Your article gives a glance of the complexities. I hope you will follow it up with more on the subject.

Of course, Gábor Volonc’s article is very interesting. He always has well written interesting subjects! A special thanks for Miklos Tecs for his Catalog Numbers work. I hope our members appreciate the time and effort that goes into such a project.

Regards,

Bob Morgan

*PHILATELIC CHRONOLOGY OF HUNGARY*

by Lyman R. Caswell

Philatelic events are given in italics.

Numbers in parentheses are Scott Catalogue numbers / Illustrations provided by the Editor

1804. August 11. Holy Roman Emperor Francis II declares himself Emperor Francis I (Austria 116a) of Austria. The Austrian Empire is formed from the lands under direct rule of the House of Hapsburg. Hungary is the largest province of the Austrian Empire. The capital of Hungary is Pozsony (in German, Pressburg; now Bratislava in Slovakia.)


Austrian stamp picturing Emperor Franz I (Austria Scott no. 116).


Left to right: Count István Széchenyi, founder of the Royal Hungarian Academy of Science (Scott 574); Széchenyi Lánchíd (Scott 862); Kossuth’s oratory in the Hungarian Parliament (Scott 623)
1848-1849. Revolution of 1848, led by poet and orator Sándor Petőfi (199, 823, 848-850, 867-869, 991, 2206-2208, B72-B76). Hungary is an independent republic for several months. Journalist Lajos Kossuth (621-624, 821, 990, 1016-1018, 3424, 3785, United States 1117, 1118) is Regent-President. First Hungarian postage stamp, designed by Mór Than. It was not used.

Left to right: Lajos Kossuth Champion of Liberty stamp issued by the United States (Scott 1118); Sándor Petőfi reciting the National Song on the steps of the Hungarian National Museum (Scott B76); reproduction of Mór Than’s stamp design (Scott 2607).

1848. Capital of Hungary moved to Pesth.

Left to right: General József Bem (Scott 992); Petőfi’s death at the Battle of Segesvár (Scott B75); 100th anniversary of the death of Jozef Bem in 1850 (Poland Scott 489).

1850. June 1. First Austrian stamps issued. Austrian stamps with socked-on-the-nose postmarks of Hungarian towns are collectable items of Hungarian philately.
1851. January 1. First Austrian newspaper stamps issued and used in Hungary.
1854. November 1. First Austrian revenue stamps used in Hungary.
1861. First Austrian postal stationery issued and used in Hungary.

Left to right: Austrian stamps used in Hungary (Scott 1, Oedenburg /Sopron/; Scott 1, Pesth; P1, Kalocsa; 2 florin ‘convention münze’ documentary revenue stamp, Pest)

1867. Currency: 100 krajcár = 1 Forint at par with Austrian 100 kreuzer = 1 Gulden.

Left: 5kr stamped envelope from 1863 used in Ofen /Buda/. Right: 20 krajcár coin minted by Hungary in 1868.

Clockwise, left to right: Hungarian documentary revenue stamp (printed in Vienna); the first domestically printed postage stamp used in Pest in 1873 (Scott 1, footnote); 5kr lithographed stamp used in Pest, June 1871 (Scott 2) /the same indictment was used on postal stationery items printed during this time/; the first postage stamp picturing a Hungarian national symbol: the Holy Crown (Scott P1); stamp issued to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first postal card (Scott 2004), an innovation introduced by Austria and Hungary in 1869.
1868. Nagodba. Establishment of the “Kingdom of Croatia-Slavonia in personal union with Hungary.” The King of Hungary was the King of Croatia since 1102.

1868. June 20. First Hungarian revenue stamps (Illetékbélyegek) issued.


1871. May 1. First postage stamps, newspaper stamps (Hírlapbélyegek), and stamped envelopes printed domestically are issued.

1872. Budapest established as a new city and capital of Hungary by combining the cities of Óbuda, Buda, and Pest.

Three stamps celebrating the centennial of Budapest (Scott 2179, 2181, 2183).

1873. August 1. First telegraph stamps (Távirdabélyegek) issued.

1873. August 8. Military Frontier abolished; transferred from Austrian to Hungarian administration. Abolition of the privileges of the Serbian population of the Military Frontier.

Left: Lithographed 1 forint telegraph stamp issued in 1873.
Right: Hungarian documentary revenue stamp overprinted with the imperial eagle emblem for use in the Military Frontier District.

1874. October 1. Stamps and postal stationery with “Magyar Kir. Posta” (Hungarian Royal Post) inscription (13-17, 2281).

1879. February 28. Telegraph stamps replaced by stamped telegraph forms.


Left to right: Envelope-design stamp with Hungarian inscription and the Holy Crown issued in 1874 (Scott 15); the envelope-design indicium was also used on postal stationery items such as the illustrated telegraph card from 1888; bilingual [Hungarian-Croatian] postal card from 1881.
1884. First Hungarian Philatelic Exhibition.
1896. Millennium of the Hungarian Kingdom. Commemorative postal cards issued, but no commemorative stamps.

Commemorative illustrated postal card issued for the 1896 Millennium Exhibition. The front side of the card bears the number ‘96’ in the lower left corner. The reverse side of the cards showed 32 different views.

1900. January 1. Currency: 100 fillér = 1 Korona at par with Austrian 100 heller = 1 Krone. 2 Korona = 1 Forint of the old currency. 1 Korona = US $ 0.20 until 1914. First “Turul” definitive stamps issued (47-62).
1903. November 1. First Hungarian postage due stamps (Portóbélyegek) issued.
1913. November 20. First Hungarian semi-postal stamps issued. The surtax was for aid to flood victims.

Left to right: 1 korona coin minted in 1892; 2f Turul stamp (Scott 48); 1f postage due stamp (Scott J1); 5+2f flood relief semipostal (Scott B5)

1915. May 1. First red numeral postage due stamps issued (J28-J40).
1916. December 30. First Hungarian commemorative stamps (104, 105), issued for the coronation of King Károly IV (Charles IV) and Queen Zita.
Clockwise left to right: 5 korona coin minted in 1907 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the coronation of King Ferenc József; 20f postage due in Hungary’s national colors of red-white-green (Scott J27); express stamp (Scott E1); 10f white numeral Harvesters stamp (Scott 106); 2f colored numeral Harvesters stamp (Scott 108); 10K Parliament stamp (Scott 126).

Top left: Stamps issued for the coronation of King Károly IV and Queen Zita (Scott 104-5); Bottom left: Airmail overprint (Scott C1);
Above, right: Philatelically inspired unfranked card mailed from Vienna taxed with provisional postage due stamps in Szentendre

1918. October 30. Slovakia (“Upper Hungary”) secedes from Hungary, joins with Bohemia and Moravia to form Czechoslovakia.
1918. November 4. Austria-Hungary signs armistice with Allied powers in Padua, Italy.

Left to right: Admiral Horthy (Scott 448) pictured on a stamp commemorating the 10th anniversary of his election as Regent of Hungary; the last stamp depicting King Károly (Scott 130); Prime Minister Mihály Károlyi (Scott 2348).

1918. November 23. Definitive stamps overprinted “Köztársaság” (Republic) (153-173). Inverted overprints have been counterfeited. Stamps depicting the King and Queen invalidated.

1918. December 1. Transylvania secedes from Hungary; occupied by Romania.


1919. February 28. Postage due stamps overprinted “Köztársaság” issued (J44-J50). Inverted overprints have been counterfeited.


1919. May. Ruthenia (Carpatho-Ukraine) annexed by Czechoslovakia.


Drága Csaba!

Thank you for your efforts in putting out yet another gem of The News of Hungarian Philately (45:1, January–March, 2014). What you have contributed to the Society over all these years can not be meaningfully measured; even if it could, the total would run right off the end of the scale and disappear. This judgment is not merely subjective. Nor is it hyperbolic.
An astute reader might think that after having written, and published in the pages of this journal, a comprehensive article on Ikarusz in Hungarian philately, plus an “Addendum” to that article, plus another page and endnote on Ikarusz smuggled into an essay on Hungarian philatelic orthography, I would have thought and written quite enough about Ikarusz, and if that astute reader was not himself altogether sick and tired of the topic, I surely am. That sentence contains a great deal of truth, yet I must blame you, our gentle editor, for compelling (or cajoling) me to [re]visit Ikarusz one more time, in this letter to you. I do not mean only the two perspicacious remarks you made about Ikarusz in “The Editor’s Notes” (p. 21), one astronomical, the other historical. The optimism I expressed when writing at the beginning of endnote 9 (p. 17), “Before leaving Ikarusz forever,” has been dashed by one of your own engaging philatelic explorations, “Paquebot.” In this illuminating classically philatelic composition, you had good reason to quote, paradoxically, a long passage from the book The Pioneer Period of Hungarian Airmail (p. 20).

Before proceeding to the main issue, I must mention that the volume you cited is not the edition that I own and will be citing. You borrowed the passage from an elaborated, embellished edition of the book published in 1996 by the American Air Mail Society. My version, written by a fellow who identifies himself on the blue cover as “VICTOR GY. BERECZ,” was published by the Society for Hungarian Philately (Monograph Series, Number 1, 1970) and doesn’t include the fetching, romantic story about “Captain Crunch” and his philatelic selfies (i.e., covers mailed to himself). Regardless of the existence of these two editions, your repeating Vic Berecz’s fine phrase “Pioneer Period” hit me like a smack on the head of the sort Tony gets from Gibbs on NCIS — because the Ikarusz stamps and one of my main illustrations of the complexities of Hungarian philatelic orthography belong squarely, it finally occurred to me, within that “Pioneer Period” (ca. 1915–1925) and therefore I had more than enough reason to investigate what Berecz had written about Ikarusz; indeed, this research is something I should have done many months ago, when planning my first article on Ikarusz.

I must, before showing you what I found in Berecz’s book, share with you some recent Ikarusz sightings on eBay as well as some information and images provided by another book, Hungarian Airmail and Flights 1896–1976 (more inclusive than the “Pioneer Period,” though that fact will be false in another 100 or so years), written by John J. Latham and published by the “Magyar Philatelic Society of Great Britain.” I could not find the publication date in this paper bound book; Google Books gives it as “198?” but “197?” seems more likely. In its own words, the book is “an Airmail catalogue of Hungary, unpriced.” It contains over fifty illustrations of airmail cards and covers that accompany a listing of 843 items. The two images on page 15 of the book and two entries on page 14 (see Figure 1 for all these) are Ikarusz items that correspond to my Figure 4 and Figure 5 (p. 10). The picture sides are the same. But there are two differences on the franked sides. One is that my card displays a boxed Budapest cancel; this is missing from Latham’s card. Second, my card displays the “Sun barbecuing Ikarusz” postmark. Berecz (pp. 39-40) explains that my type of card was flown from Budapest to Esztergom, while the variety without the sun and box was flown in the other direction. Further, Berecz makes sure we do not overlook (which I had glossed over) that these Budapest ↔ Esztergom cards were simultaneously “First Flight” cards and cards celebrating the First Hungarian Philatelic Day (Első Magyar Filatelista Nap; see Pioneer Period, p. 39).

Post cards like these, franked with the Ikarusz issue and flown between Budapest and Esztergom in late September, 1924, go for about $20–$30 on eBay. The card shown (both sides) in Figure 2 I obtained for $20 from the seller “trentonstampsandcoinsco.” The franked side is not as resplendent as the card that I originally displayed (45:1, Figure 4), because (as does Latham’s) it lacks the sun postmark and the boxed Budapest cancel. I’m feeling very happy about my more decorated Budapest-to-Esztergom card.

But the pictorial side of the “Trenton” card is an outstanding variant. First, it is a beautiful red-scale card (instead of my blue-scale). Second, the frame of the pictured stamp, a Parliament, serves also as a window, which nicely emphasizes the scene or panorama. OK, I judge it to be an aesthetic achievement: it’s attractive, creative, a work about which the designer can be justifiably proud. The illusion of depth is visually powerful. Third, the imprinted date on the card, part of the design, is “SZEPT. 20–24,” which pleases me more than the analogous feature on my original card.
(see 45:1, the caption to Figure 5, p. 10). On that card, the imprinted date is “SZEPT. 20.–24.” – which is a date format that I find busy and crowded.

Figure 1. Illustrations and entries from John Latham’s catalogue of Hungarian airmail covers.

Figure 2. Another combined BP-Esztergom FF and "I. Magyar Filatelista Nap" card.

I am otherwise tickled pink that my original card is from a Budapest-to-Esztergom flight. The box Budapest cancel that it contains abbreviates the month as “Szept.” (See Figure 18, p. 12.) Indeed, one of the few illustrations in my 1970 edition of Berecz’s Pioneer Period is a drawing of the sun postmark and the box Budapest cancel with the “Szept.” abbreviation. (See Figure 3, which reproduces Figure 7.6 on p. 40 in the 1970 edition.) The interesting difference between Berecz’s illustration of the box cancel and the box cancel on my original card (Figure 18, p. 12) is that on my card the date number “23” is upside down. Another reason to be happy.

Figure 3. Berecz’s drawings of the Budapest-to-Esztergom postmarks.

Best wishes as always,
Alan Soble
P.S. By the way, I think your analogy between Ikarusz and the comet ISON (p. 21) is exactly right. The link is strong, between ISON's destruction during its trip around the Sun and Ikarusz’s being barbecued by the sun postmark on first flight cards from Budapest to Esztergom.

P.P.S. While I was filing the FF cards in my Ikarusz album, I noticed a small but curious orthographic difference between them, shown in the image nearby. The inscribed date from my original blue card is on the top; the inscribed date from my new red card is on the bottom. The “Zee” or “Zed” on the bottom has a distinct even if short fat horizontal line across the diagonal strike. For an analogy, think of the European “7” with a small horizontal line through the diagonal. Is this cross in the Zee/Zed common in Hungarian orthography?

NOTES

1. Yes, spelled with all upper case letters on the cover. The name introduces three orthographic topics that I had briefly dealt with or mentioned in “Hungarian Philatelic Orthography, Part I.” First, the abbreviation of the middle name (I presume it is “György”) is an example of the abbreviation of a digraph (see endnote 11, p. 19). You strongly prefer “Gy” to “GY” as the abbreviation of György, but I am pulled toward “GY” because the pair of marks is only a pair of characters and constitutes one single letter in the Hungarian alphabet (bottom, p. 10). The proper unit of abbreviation (e.g., “Szt.” for “Szent” [István], instead of, as in English, “St.”) and acronyms (Fidesz) is not a character but the letter.

Second, the “Cz” at the end of “Berecz” will stimulate us to recall the transition from “Cz” to “C” (as in, for example, the town name “Debreczen/Debrecen” and the word “Czím/Cím”). Third, the name “Victor” reminds us of the transition from “October” to “Október.” Consider the difference in spelling, from among our (near) contemporaries, of Orbán Viktor (perpetual politician), Nagy Viktor (water polo player), Kovats Victor (wingsuit flyer), and Victor Vasarely (artist, who was originally named Vásárhelyi Győző). Is “Victor” today a sign of the deep hold of tradition (“October” long preceded “Október”), or is it the vanguard in 21st-Century Hungarian baby boy names? (On the second and third topics, see endnote 14, p. 19, 45:1.)

2. You guess that the name is “Captain Commandu,” and seem to assume it is a person’s genuine surname. I grant, on the basis of the appearance of the handwritten name, that “Commandu” is an excellent guess. But I’m not yet convinced. The Captain is clearly having some philatelic fun. He takes the franked envelopes to a postal clerk to be (favor) cancelled and then handed back to him over the counter. Because the covers are not meant to travel more than a distance of four feet (to the clerk and back), surely not to Essex from the Suez, the name of the addressee is totally irrelevant; it makes no difference to the fate of the cover. When I posted, years ago in my philatelic salad days, address-impossible franked envelopes to Japan and Germany, hoping they would eventually be returned to the sender’s (my) address in the USA with intriguing postal markings, I used addressee names such as “Herr Professor Noschutzup.” So let’s posit that the fun-seeking Paquebot collector had the cleverness to create an appropriate fake addressee name, i.e., “Captain Command You.” The guy was anticipating by more than a half-century the text-messaging inter-replaceability of “u” and “you.” Gaining access to the 1930s “Fellow” lists of the Royal Philatelic Society (names and addresses) should decide this issue for us.

3. By contrast, other early airmail covers can, of course, be expensive. You mention the cover franked with Scott Hungary C4 for which the eBay dealer “varisell” is asking $100 (p. 20). On the next page is a cover also from 1924 (May 1, not September 20-25), airmail and registered, Budapest to Vienna, for which “easteuropeclassic” (a branch of Darabanth) is asking $300 (on sale!). I have nothing like this cover in my collection. Neither Latham nor Berecz (1970) show an image of anything resembling this boring cover.
FORGERY OF THE 65 Ft POSTMAN BÁLINT STAMP TO DEFRAUD THE POST OFFICE

by Gábor Voloncs

Usually, the average stamp collector encounters stamp forgeries intended to defraud the post office only in catalogs. The collector seldom sees such stamps and perhaps wouldn’t even recognize them for lack of pertinent information.

In Hungary, the first attempt to forge stamps to defraud the post office occurred in 1927 (see the July-September 2013 issue of The News). The next attempt was in 1996 with the forgery of the 50Ft stamp issued for the Atlanta Olympic Games see (see the January-March 2006 issue of The News). The perpetrators of both forgeries were apprehended and prosecuted. The people behind the Postman Bálint forgery were never found.

In 1998 the post office decided to abandon its raven symbol in favor of a more popular mascot figure, Postman Bálint (Hungarian for Valentine). Despite a heavy advertising campaign, the red-hatted figurine never became popular with the general public and was eventually abandoned. Four stamps showing the mascot appeared during the initial period of publicity (MBÁ 4432-36, Scott nos. 3593-96).

The four different face value stamps (23, 24, 30, and 65Ft) were printed in various shades of green and red color. The simplicity of the design lent itself to easy reproduction. The original stamps were produced by the Banknote Printers using a four-color offset method. A small part of the design was printed in the sheet margins in order to compensate for possible shifting during the perforation of the sheets.

We know very little about the postal forgery of the 65Ft Postman Bálint stamp. The philatelic publications have not paid much attention to this. The first contemporary report surfaced in November of 2000. Vilmos Keszhelyi, who directed the internal security department of the post office, wrote the following in the 2 November 2000 issue of A Figyelő: Our group has been investigating the background of the forgeries for months now. Reproductions of the stamps showing the Postman Bálint figure surfaced along the Balaton shore and on Castle Hill in Buda and were distributed by unknown subjects in 1998. These were used mainly on picture post cards and letters. Postal officials confiscated the remainders and calculated the value of the fraud to be around 250
From this we can determine that roughly 38,500 copies of the stamp were seized. The question remains unanswered as to how many thousand copies were actually used. Inasmuch as the 65Ft stamp was intended to pay the postage on mail sent abroad, it is most likely that these forgeries would be found on greeting cards sent by tourists to countries in Europe. Similarly to the 50Ft Atlanta Olympic Games forgery, one should look for forgeries on mail sent out of the country.

The characteristics of the genuine 65Ft Postman Bálint stamp are as follows:

- Printed using four-color offset. Using microscopic examination, one can see the offset raster marks clearly. The white areas of the design are pure white with no evidence of any inking.
- The comb perforation of the stamp measures $11\frac{1}{2}:12$.
- Sihl paper was used for the printing. The paper is not fluorescent but contains embedded fluorescent fibers.

The characteristics of the forged 65Ft Postman Bálint stamp are listed below:

- The design was printed using an inkjet printer. Microscopic examination reveals that the picture was ‘built up’ using colored ink dots. The white areas of the design contain a multitude of tiny, faint specks of red and blue ink.
- The stamps were line perforated with the gauge of $12\frac{1}{2}$.
- The paper is ordinary fluorescent printer paper.

A few copies are known to have been posted from Budapest and cancelled with the machine bearing the code BUDAPEST k k 8 Ky (illustrated on the right). Owing to the small number of counterfeits discovered so far, it is impossible to determine the actual geographical extent of their usage.
Greeting card sent from Budapest to Germany in 1999 franked with a forged 65Ft Postman Bálint stamp.

A RARE BACKWATER

by Johan Sevenhuijsen

It is a well-known fact that after the end of WW I a large part of Hungary became the Slovak part of the new Czecho-Slovak state. Less well known is that a year later a few slivers of this former Hungarian land went to Poland. Two small border regions in Slovakia (Orava and Spiš) were included in the planned Eastern Silesia referendum (SO 1920).

The referendum never took place, but the powers that be in the Spa Ambassadors conference on July 28th, 1920 gave 28 municipalities from these regions to Poland, including the places with post offices listed in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Orava region</th>
<th>Spiš region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alsólipnicza (Cs: Dolná Lipnica, Pol: Lipnica Wielka)</td>
<td>Frigyesvágása (Cs: Fridman, Pol: Frydman)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chizsne (Cs: Chyžné, Pol: Chyžne)</td>
<td>Nedecz Szepes (Cs: Nedecsa, Pol: Niedzica)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felsőzubricza (Cs: Vyšná Zubrica, Pol: Zubryzyca Dolne)</td>
<td>Ujtéres (Cs: Tribš, Pol: Trybes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jablonka (Pol: Jabłonka)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podvilk (Cs: Podvilk, Pol: Podwilk)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The News of Hungarian Philately

So, all in all there are 8 post offices that went from Hungary to Poland. Finding the cancels used in these offices is a challenge. Here are four examples, two on Hungarian and two on Czechoslovak stamps:

Cancels from Chizsne (1919), Jablonka (1897), Podvilk (1910 & 1919).

Even more of a challenge is it to find a card or letter from these places. I was lucky enough to find a card that went between two of the three towns in the Spiš region in May 1919, in the short period both places belonged to Czechoslovakia:


Both cancels are extra special in that they were nationalized for use in the Czechoslovak state. The typical Hungarian date order of year – month – day was altered to day – month – year. In the Ujterebes cancel moreover the space for the Hungarian N or É (for day, night) was left empty.

The Czechoslovak literature suggests that for all eight places the Hungarian cancel was replaced with a Czechoslovak one before the transfer of power to the Polish authorities. So, presumably, there was no use of the Hungarian cancels on Polish stamps.

Reference literature: Oldřich Tovačovský, Monografie Československých Známek, 5. díl, Praha, 1988

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THE EDITOR’S NOTES
by Csaba L. Kohalmi

As requested, Lyman Caswell provided two examples of the 1951 provisional postage due overprints (Scott nos. J95-97) used on covers. These stamps were valid for less than one month (8-31 January 1951); and, as the scarcity of proper postal usage proves, were made for the ‘packet’ trade in
order to use up the stock of Hungarian National Bank stamps printed in December 1945 while trying to control the currency supply during the hyperinflation.

Lyman described the items as follows: The first item [card on the left] is a field post correspondence card with two of the printed inscriptions blacked out. The postage due of 40 filler is correct for an unfranked local post card of the time. [That is twice the 20f rate for a local postcard.] It is postmarked at Budapest 62 on 6 January 1951 and the postage dues are postmarked at the same office on the same date. The date of the postmarks is two days before the official issue date of the stamps! The only address of the addressee is the same as the post office, Budapest 62. I regard this as a bit of philatelic skulduggery.

The second item [shown on the right] is a cover, franked with a pair of 8 filler stamps from the first five-year plan issue (Scott 871) and posted at Budapest 72 on 28 January 1951. The cover is addressed to Pestszentimre, where the full set of MNB dues was applied and canceled on 29 January 1951, for a postage due of 30 filler. I found the assessed postage due, 30 filler, puzzling. Since this appeared to be inter-city mail, I calculated the missing postage at 44 filler. The correctly assessed postage due should have been 88 filler. For a local letter, the missing postage would have been 14 filler. The correctly assessed postage due in this case would have been 28 filler. I could not find “Pestszentimre” on any map. [Pestszentimre /renamed Pestimre by the communist regime to secularize it by removing ’szent=saint’ from the name/ was incorporated into the 18th district of Budapest on 1 January 1950, so the cover was handled as a local letter.] That would explain the ‘T 30 f’ approximation for a local letter postage due. Is this a legitimate (i.e., non-philatelic) postage due cover? [Probably not since the 8 filler denomination stamp was available and should have been used alongside two 10 filler stamps to pay the exact postage due. Change was also available since 2 filler coins were in use at the time. Most likely, the addressee wanted a full set of stamps on cover and the postal clerk was willing to oblige. And yes, there is a street named after Ady Endre in Pestimre today, so the address was legitimate.] [Editor’s comments are inside the brackets.]

Richard Rucklin sent scans of a complete set of Arad Occupation Française overprints printed in gold color with the query as to whether I considered them genuine. Purportedly, 25 sets of these stamps were prepared at the request of the Rumanian Crown Prince Carol, who was 26 years old at the time and was an avid philatelist. From a technological perspective, I recall two different stamps overprinted in gold color in Rumania from that timeframe. One was the 20f King Károly stamp overprinted in Kolozsvár (Scott no. 5N20a); the other, the semi-privately produced Ziaristi/Ujságírók overprints on King Ferdinand stamps. Due to limited printing technology, both of these overprints were produced using normal, black ink. The sheets of overprinted stamps were then sprinkled with gold dust that adhered to the wet ink. The excess gold particles were shaken off resulting in a (somewhat) gold colored impression. The stamps in Richard’s color illustration were uniformly deep
gold in color. Looking at the formation of the letters ‘f,’ ‘r,’ and ‘n’ (best seen on the postage due stamps illustrated below) from the word ‘française,’ I concluded unequivocally that the stamps were bogus. The tops of the ‘f’ and the ‘r’ should have finely formed curves and the ‘n’ should have solid serifs and not flare open at the bottom. Interesting forgeries that someone had jazzed up with a royal connection.

Chris Brainard sent in the following comment about the stamps: *I have never seen gold French Occupation overprints mentioned in the texts I’ve read on the subject. This story could be true, but it would be news to me. As far as being able to tell anything from the scans, the Arad overprints are just too hard to identify correctly unless you have really high resolution scans. The only way I can identify genuine [gold] Kolozsvár overprints is to hold them up to the light. I could be wrong, but my guess these gold Arad overprints are the result of someone’s vivid imagination.*

Bob Morgan forwarded a page from the April 2014 issue of the *American Philatelist* that discussed the popularity of various countries as reflected by purchases from the APS Sales Circuit. Almost 50% of Hungarian stamps found buyers from the books. When adding the sale of clearance books, the percentage jumps to over 65% proving the popularity of Hungarian stamps.

Frank Semmler forwarded a .pdf file of the No. 2/2013 publication of the Arge Ungarn group from Germany. He posted a question about the suspended mail service to Hungary cancellation found on letters sent from Germany during the 1956 Hungarian revolution and freedom fight. He wanted to confirm that these markings were applied by the German post office prior to the letters leaving the country. While I have one example of such a cover and have seen pictures of others, I could only surmise that the cachet was applied in Germany. Mail would have had to travel through Austria to reach Hungary. The Austrian post office in Vienna created a special label, shown on cover on the next page, advising the sender why the mail could not be forwarded to Hungary. If the Austrian post were in charge of returning letters due to service suspension; then, I assume, that it would have used the same special label.

The cachet *Zurück / z. Z. kein Postverkehr / mit Ungarn* applied to mail in Germany came in two formats: a three-line text as shown above and a single line version with a slightly different wording *z. Zt. kein Postverkehr mit Ungarn ZURÜCK* as shown on the next page.
Left: A single line typesetting version of the ‘service suspended to Hungary’ cachet from Germany.
Right: Austrian Post’s label explaining the impossibility of sending mail to Hungary.

Left: The three-line typesetting version of the ‘service suspended to Hungary’ cachet from Germany.
Right: Swiss Post’s bilingual return cachet advising of suspended service to Hungary in December 1956.

In order to celebrate its 50th anniversary, the Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain ordered personalized stamps reproducing the society’s logo (a composite design made up of Hungarian watermarks). The stamps were used to mail out the society’s March 2014 newsletter.

On the left are a couple of late finds. Alan Soble contributed the Borsodnádasdi Lemezgyár / (Metal) Plate Factory of Borsodnádasd, two words consisting of 22 characters squeezed into the top arc from 1932. I found a nice strike of Szentkirályszabda, one word, cancellation from 1941. Nineteen characters were squeezed into the top arc of the cancelling device surpassing the 18 shown on the top of page 7.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War I, a war that was supposed to end all wars and to make the world safe for democracy. Contemporary postage stamps were not issued to ‘celebrate’ this event; however, by 1915 charity stamps came into use to raise funds for the widows, orphans, and mutilated veterans that resulted from the carnage on the battlefields. My personal awareness of the conflict is through stories I heard from relatives. My maternal great-grandfather perished on the Russian front in 1915 leaving behind his widow with four
sons, the oldest of whom was 15. That same son, my grandfather, was drafted in 1918 at the age of 18 and saw action on the Italian front. He walked home from Italy in the winter of 1918. My paternal grandfather was inducted in the spring of 1915. He left behind a pregnant wife and an infant son, who would become my father. He was wounded during his first firefight on the Russian front in present day Poland. He would recuperate and would see more action and become wounded two more times. After Russia pulled out of the war 1917, his unit was sent to the Italian front. During his convalescences, he was given leave to spend time with his family. I have several versions of his autobiography. In each version, he details his initial experiences in the army in great detail. His descriptions of the later years become blurry and inconsistent. The nationalistic euphoria that was manifest at the beginning of the conflict lost its charm in the face of reality: endless deprivation and mud, blood and death.

On a happier note, last but not least, I’d like to commemorate granddaughter Madeline’s second birthday, a bit late, since it was in middle of February during one of the most miserable winters we’ve experienced in the Midwest. Happy belated birthday, Maddie, from Editor Grandpa!

In conclusion, the Society is still desperately seeking a volunteer to take over editing the newsletter. After over 24 years, I’m looking forward to retiring from this job and am counting down to doing only three more issues after this one. PLEASE HELP!

☼

2014 NEW ISSUES

Issue date: 6 January 2014

Year of the Horse

Face value: 4 x HUF 110. Stamp size: 30.4 x 50mm. Sheet size: 100 x 150mm.
Designer: Xu Beihong. The designs reproduce four different sketches of horses.
Technical details: Printed in offset by the ANY Security Printers in an edition of 80,000 small sheets.

Issue date: 4 February 2014

25th Anniversary of the Hungarian Maltese Charitable Service

Face value: HUF 300. Stamp size: 30 x 30mm.
Designer: György Kara. The design shows the organization Maltese Cross emblem.
Technical details: Printed in offset by the Banknote Printers in quantities required by postal demand.

Issue date: 25 February 2014

Blessed and Sainted Hungarians

Face value: 3 x HUF 400. Stamp size: 30 x 45mm. Sheet size: 110 x 70mm.
Designer: György Kara. The stamps show portraits of Blessed Zoltán Lajos Meszlényi, Blessed István Sándor, and Blessed Szilárd Bogdánffy. All three were victims of communism in the 1950s.
Technical details: Printed by the Banknote Printers. 30,000 sheets were printed in offset; 10,000 special sheets were printed in offset enhanced by foil and embossed printing; and 10,000 sheets that are not valid for postage were printed in a single color blue.
The News Of Hungarian Philately

Left: Year of the Horse miniature sheet.
Right: Blessed Hungarians miniature sheet.

Issue date: 4 March 2014

Baby Animals

Face value: 12 x HUF 115. Stamp size: 30 x 40mm. Sheet size: 202 x 100mm.
Designer: Tibor Zoltán Petényi. The designs show closeups of twelve different young animals.
Technical details: Printed by the Banknote Printers in an edition of 80,000 small sheets of 12.

Issue date: 5 March 2014

100th Anniversary of the Birth of Performers Klári Tólnay and Annie Fischer

Face value: HUF 260, 285. Tólnay stamp size: 30 x 40mm. Sheet size: 150 x 70mm. Fischer stamp size: 30 x 45mm. Sheet size: 154 x 79mm.
Designers: /Tólnay stamp/ Glória Hefelle based on a photo by Tibor Inkey; /Fischer stamp/ Péter Nagy based on a photo by G. MacDomonic. The designs show a portrait of Klári Tólnay and a view of Annie Fischer playing the piano.
Technical details: Printed in offset by the Banknote Printers in an edition of 80,000 small sheets of 4 of each design.

Easter 2014

Face value: HUF 115. Stamp size: 30 x 40mm.
Designer: Eszter Domé based on a photo by József Hajdú.
The design reproduces Erzséber Udvardy’s painting Recognition.
Technical details: Printed by the Banknote Printers in an edition of 400,000 stamps with possible reprinting as needed by postal demand.

The Way of the Cross

Face value: 15 x HUF 90. Stamp size: 35 x 35mm. Sheet size: 1125 x 215mm.
Designer: Eszter Domé based on photos by József Hajdú. The designs reproduce the station of the cross paintings by Erzsébert Udvardy found in the Holy Cross Church of Fertőd.
Technical details: Printed by the Banknote Printers in an edition of 30,000 sheets.
/For the illustration of the sheet, please see the back cover/

Issue date: 28 March 2014

100th Anniversary of the Birth of Architect Miklós Ybl

Face value: HUF 1000. Stamp size: 30 x 40mm. Souvenir sheet size: 90 x 65mm.
Designer: Gusztáv Ferenc based on a photo by József Hajdú. The design shows the Wenckheim Mansion of Szabadkígyós.
Technical details: Printed using four-color offset by the Banknote Printers in an edition of 70,000 souvenir sheets.

Issue date: 4 April 2014

April – June 2014
Issue date: 25 April 2014

87th Stamp Day, Debrecen

Face value: HUF 115, 145 (stamps); HUF 600 + 200 (souvenir sheet). Stamp size:
Designer: Barnabás Baticz based on photos by József Hajdú. The designs show the Reformed Small Church, the Kölcsey Center, and the Reformed Large Church of Debrecen.
Technical details: Printed by the ANY Security Printers in an edition of 300,000 sets of stamps and 30,000 souvenir sheets. An additional 5,000 special souvenir sheets were printed. The special sheets have embedded polished crystals and bear a red serial number.

Top left: The Wenckheim Mansion sheet honoring Architect Miklós Ybl.
Top right: View of the Reformed Large Church of Debrecen.
Left: The Kölcsey Center and the Reformed Small Church of Debrecen.

Pro Juventute: 450th Anniversary of the Birth of William Shakespeare

Face value: 2 x HUF 200 + 50. Stamp size: 30.7 x 45mm. Souvenir sheet size: 116 x 84mm.
Designer: György Kara based on photos by József Hajdú. The designs reproduce two of János Kass’s illustrations from Hamlet: The Queen and The Skull.
Technical details: Printed using four-color offset by the ANY Security Printers in an edition of 80,000 sheets. The surtax supports your philately.
WANTED. Postage due cover with the 1903 12-fillér postage due stamp (Scott J6, Michel 6), postage due cover with the 1922 red-numeral 2-Korona postage due stamp (Scott J41, Michel 79), and postage due cover with first inflation provisional 2½ Korona /10 fillér stamp (Scott J78, Michel 70). Lyman Caswell, ruthandlyman@nventure.com.

WANTED: Consignment material for SHP auctions.
Please submit your surplus philatelic items, stamps, covers, and literature to our auction chairperson, Jim Gaul: 1920 Fawn Lane, Hellertown, PA 18055-2117 USA, email: terrynjim@verizon.net. You can set your starting price or consult with Jim to establish the same. You can help de-clutter your collection, support your Society and provide a source of new acquisitions for your fellow members all at the same time.

FOR SALE: BOUND VOLUMES OF THE NEWS OF HUNGARIAN PHILATELY

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Each book No. 1 thru 11 individually is priced at $30.00 or purchase the entire set of the first 11 books for $320.00. * Book No. 12 costs $50 each. Freight fees will be added to all orders. Orders and inquiries should be sent to:
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2014 Easter

The Way of the Cross miniature sheet