

AUSTRIA

Newspaper Tax and Newspaper Stamps

The purpose of this exhibit is to display the Newspaper Revenue stamps as well as Newspaper stamps that were introduced in Austria from 1851 with the last issued in 1922.

The **Newspaper Revenue** stamps was again introduced in 1853 and lasted for only 47 years until 1900. They were launched as a tax on imported printed material on foreign newspapers not ordered by Postal Union subscriptions. The regulation was that all the stamps were to be attached to the individual newspaper and not onto the wrapper. In this manner the tax authorities could see easily if the tax was applied or not, although many was fixed onto the wrapper.

Austria was the first country in 1851 to introduce **Newspaper Stamps**. A newspaper stamp is a special type of postage stamp used to pay the cost of mailing newspapers and periodicals.

Although many types were issued in the 19th century, typical representing rates reduced from regular mail, they generally fell out of use in the mid-20th century.

The exact use of these stamps varied with small denomination value stamps were generally intended to be affixed to newspaper wrappers while the higher values were used on bundles of newspapers and later on receipts.

Express stamps was introduced in 1916 with the Postordnung (RGB317) law for the express delivery of printed matter but lasted for a very short period until 1921.

All stamps printed by the State Printing Works in Vienna.

Mint and used stamps are presented in this exhibit chronological for the periods as mentioned above.

Where possible, their use is shown on newspapers, wrappers and letters.

Plan	
	Page
Introduction	1
Newspaper Tax Stamps	1-3
Newspaper Stamp Issues:	
1851 - 1861	4
1863 - 1880	5
1899 -1908	6-7
1916	8
Express Mail	9 - 10
1919: Military	11
Deutschösterreich	12
1920-1921	13-14
1921: Express surcharge	15
1921-1922	16



2kr Bluish Green



2kr Yellowish Green



2kr Green

The **Newspaper Tax stamps** of March 1853 were imperforated and showed the large crown with flowers in the stamp corners, as motif. The first stamps are shown here.

Paying tax on all foreign newspapers not ordered by Postal Union subscriptions.

From November 1858 to 1859 another set of revenue stamps was issued with motif also a large crown but with arrows in the outer corners of the imperforated stamps. Local papers was now also taxed at 1kr for an individual item as shown below on scarce newspapers. The low value "Blue" stamps for individual papers. The higher values for use on bundles of 10 or 50 newspapers. Examples are scarce as they were often discarded.



Blue : Type I and Type II
I: Banderol on crown of left eagle touches the beak of the eagle.
II: Does not touch

Beamtenu - V

nothdürftig von dem ih
oder Gnadenwege aus
Ernährer es unterlassen
sicherungsabtheilung de
Sorge zu tragen; für m
liche Wohlthat, wenn
wissenheit hätten, alle Leb
billiger beziehen zu könn
Beamtenu - Consum - Ver
Fall ist.

Wöchte also jene
Beamtenuwelt dem Unt
entgegengebracht hat,
und zu einem regeren
Assoziation aneifern, de
her erzielt hat, können
Es bestehen gegenwärt
Lokalausschüsse, welche



2Kr Brown



2Kr Red-Brown
Type II ('59)
Verona Pmk



4kr Brown
Type I

Above are two Newspapers with the top showing the 1858 1Kr stamp and the bottom the 1878 1Kr stamp.



Light/Dark Blue



Ultramarine



Reddish Brown

Above the 3 newspaper revenue stamps of June 1878. Once again imperforated but now with a much smaller crown.

In early June 1890 a new design newspaper revenue imperforated stamps was issued showing the design within a circle.



Yellowish Brown



Yellowish Green



The last newspaper revenue stamp of 25 kreuzer in Carmine Rose was issued in June 1890. It was Perforated 13 with a new design showing value on top of crown.

Below showing a scarce payment of 2 Kr foreign newspaper tax on 15 July 1863 by impression/cancellation of a black signet no 129 (regular newspaper) showing double eagle. Stamps and/or signets could be used for the tax payment. **Das Ausland** was a regional newspaper from Stuttgart.

Ausland.

Wochenschrift

für

das sittlichen Lebens der Völker.



Augsburg, 15 Juli 1863.

genauere
Ch. N.
hischen
de und
i Lauf
einen
besten
en des
ch das
gegen

parteiisch zwischen Wald und Savane getheilt. Wie man sich denken kann findet sich auf der letztern eine nahrhafte Weide, daher denn auch die Eingebornen dort ansehnliche Heerden von Kindern und Pferden züchten. Da das Savanengras auf einem schwarzen, silzigen, torfähnlichen Boden wächst, so sind diese Steppen sehr feucht und in der Regenzeit füllen sich alle Löcher und Vertiefungen brusttief mit stehendem Wasser. Feucht und sumpfig ist ganz besonders der Landstrich bei Cap Gracias a Dios (Gott sey Dank), dennoch werden gerade dort stattliche Rinder gezüchtet, die feist werden wie bei Stallfütterung, obgleich sie den ganzen Tag knietief im Wasser stehen und nur des Nachts sich auf die Erdhügel zurückziehen wo

Signet's was introduced on 1 January 1858 :

- i) Black signet for regular newspaper editions.
- ii) **Red** signet for evening newspapers.
- iii) **Blue** signet for extra editions (very seldom).

Newspaper Tax was abolished on 1 January 1900 which came into effect immediately!

The first **Newspaper Stamps** were introduced in January 1851.

The imperforated stamp showed Mercurius head and the design was done by Josef Axmann. The postal rate for the first issues was sold at 1 Gulden (Conventions Money or "CM") per sheet of 100. The Gulden was divided into 60 Kreuzer so the value of each stamp was 0,6 Kr



Scans from
stamps
below



Specimen with Black Handstamp



Blue 0,6 kreuzer stamps
Type I Type II
I: The "G" of "Zeitungs" does
not have a crossbar.
II: Has crossbar on the "G".
: 135,79 Million Printed

Blue
Reprint

Yellowish 6,0 Kr
Reprint
: 720 T printed

Rose 30 Kr
Reprint
: 240T printed

The 1856 Mercurius head stamp was designed by the Emperor Franz Josef I. Imperforated 6 Kr with colour, Cinnabar



120T printed



Reprint



Blue : 12 M printed



Purple: 80 M printed

In 1858 two imperforated 1,05 Kr stamps showing Emperor Franz Josef I. His hair is now tied at the back.

Austria also changed the currency from CM to the Austrian currency (öW) and thus had to issue new stamps. The price of a sheet was now 1 Gulden 5 kreuzer öW. As 1 Gulden öW = 100 Kr the value of a single stamp came to 1.05 kreuzer.

The 1861 Greyish Purple imperforated 1,05 Kr shows Emperor Franz Josef I as motif. Here he is looking to his left : 90,37M printed.
These stamps were photosensitive.



In 1863 an un-watermarked 1kr gray-lilac stamp was issued. : 181M printed
 After June 1864 the same stamp was printed on watermarked paper with watermark:
 "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN" in double-lined capitals across the sheet.



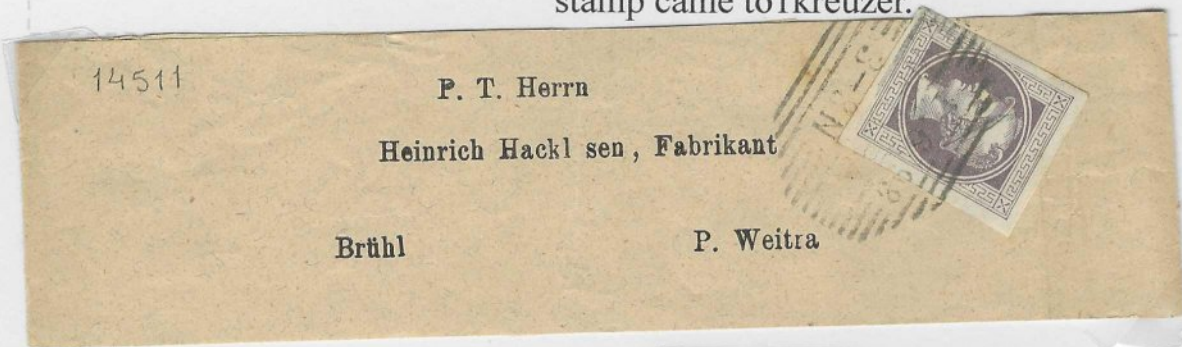
First printing on left showing sharp edges of embossed stamp.
 Re-print on the right shows flat edges and smoother print.



In June 1867 Mercurius 1K imperf Newspaper Stamp was introduced in violet but in 2 prints as shown below. Can also be found perforated. Show Type I on wrapper below.
 Total print came to 2 070 M stamps!

The god Mercury is seen by the Roman and Greek mythology as the god of trade, profit, message and travel!

The price per sheet of 100 stamps was decreased on 1 January 1863 so the value per stamp came to 1kreuzer.



Offset



Course Print Type I: 1867



Fine Print Type I: 1874

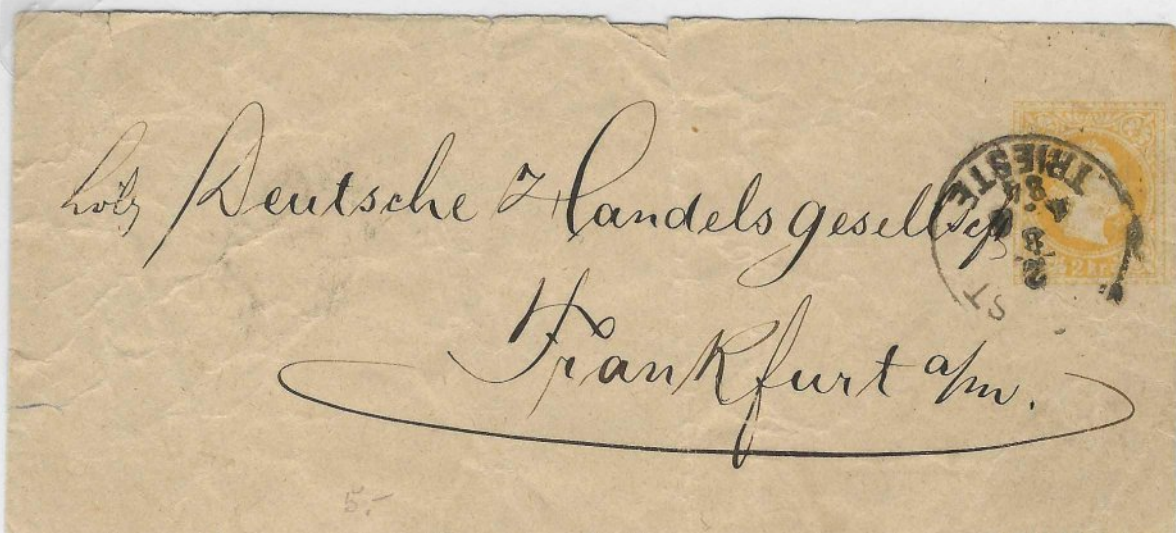


Fine Print Type II: 1874



Later in December 1880 a 1/2 kreuzer in Green was issued to add to the current rate when papers were for **home delivery**. Was imperforated but some was perforated privately. :131M printed
 Here the back is shown with the capital "A" of the watermark as mentioned above.

A newspaper wrapper with imprinted 2K stamp cancelled:
 "Trieste" dated 1884.



Below are two very similar issues:
Top is the 20 December 1899 set of 4 printed on Granite Paper.

The 4 values are in Dark Blue, Orange, Yellowish Brown and in Carmine Red and they were respectively for 1, 3, 5 or 10 newspapers.



Austria 1899 2Kr newspaper stamp on lettersheet LIBAN to Tieschnowitz dated 15 September 1908.



The next one, the 1901 issue, also on Granite Paper but now with a diagonal "security band" done with a varnish. This band is found up to 1905 on certain stamps.

Koloman Moser did the 1908-10 design of 4 imperforated right facing stamps



Cobalt Blue



Reddish Orange



Purple Red



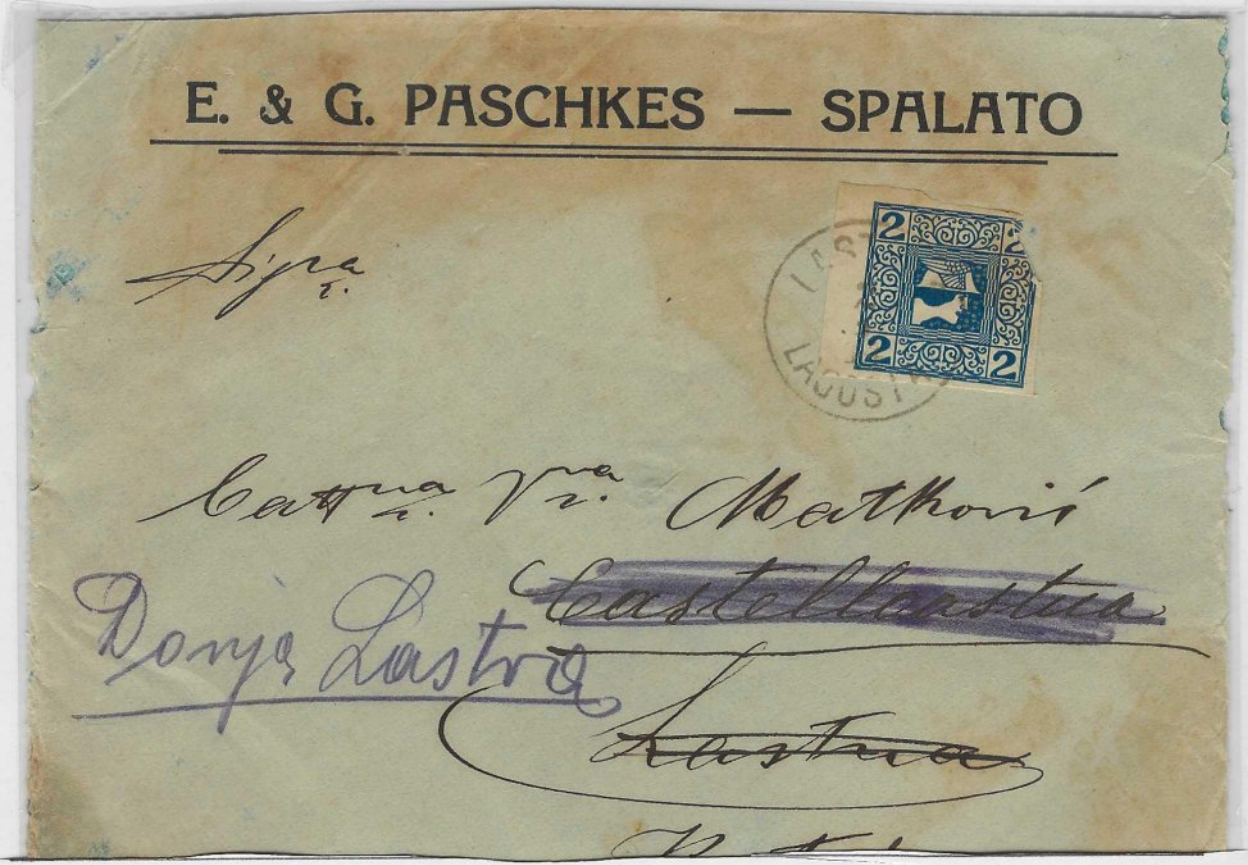
Brownish



This 2H green is a cutout from a wrapper.
Wrappers with imprinted stamps was permitted from 10 April 1905.



A newspaper wrapper with imprinted 3H stamp dated 30 October 1907.



A 2 Kr 1908 newspaper stamp used for internal mail on a re-directed cover.

A new design by Rudolf Junk was issued on 1st October 1916 again imperforated stamps.
The main reason for this issue was to raise funds for the war effort.



Brownish



Green



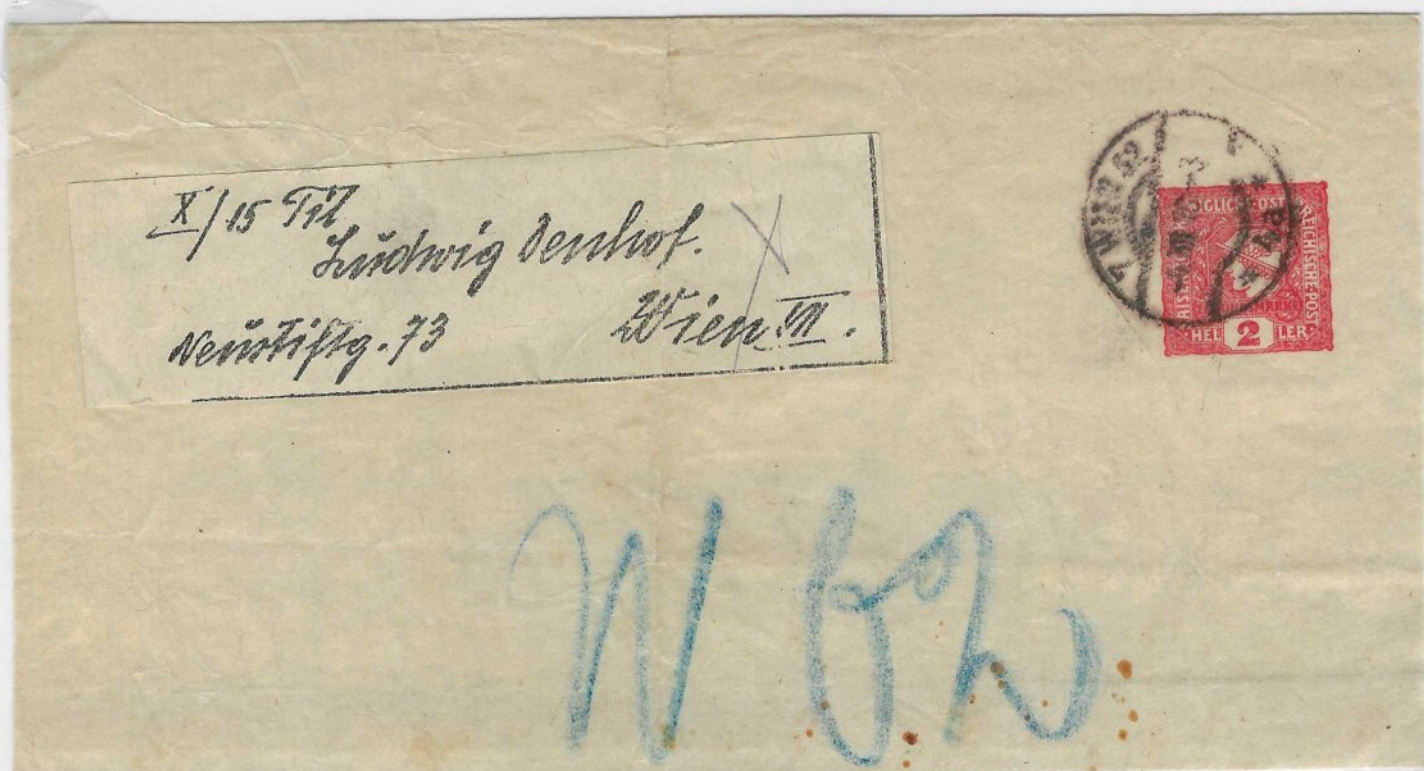
Ultramarine



Reddish Orange



Red



A Vienna postal stationery newspaper wrapper with imprinted 2 Kr locally used
dated 4 December 1916.

A new service was introduced with the 1916 Postordnung (RGB 317) proclamation of an **Express** delivery service for printed material. The item had to be flat (not rolled), fully franked and sent to an inland address.

A surcharged of **2H**, irrespective of the weight, with payment of a red triangular stamp. For items up to 50g the normal postage was 3H so a green **5H** was introduced to pay both charges.



The above service came into effect on 1st October 1916 and the two adhesives are shown. The designer was Alfred Crossmann and his name can be seen below the value digit as shown on scan in the centre above. The stamps are now perforated 12.



Burkhardtsdorf
(Ergeb.)
Deutschland.

Examples of the Express stamps on printed matter with a 5 Heller letter dated 1 October 1917 and a 2 Heller reply envelope dated 20/09/18

The triangular stamps were not well received, Crossmann designed a rectangular stamp which was issued in May 1917 with Perforation 12½.
The lower value 2H in Red and the top value 5H in Emerald Green.



A postal stationery card updated to reflect the cost of sending mail through the Vienna **pneumatic mail** pipe system just after WWI dated 14 Oct 1919. A red 2 heller Express stamp was added. Was send from pneumatic office 130 to office 129 on Adalbert Stifterstrasse (marked in blue crayon) as well as on the receiving cancellation bottom left.



A green 5 heller Express stamp included to an item above 50 gram weight.

Austria had a large empire and even the military made use these stamps on printed matter.
Below are the four Heller stamps used by them in 1916.



The 4 KUK Feldpost stamps was overprinted "Centesimi" in 1918 for use in the north eastern border regions of Italy during the war and also in Dalmatia on the eastern shores of the Adriatic sea.



The military introduced two Speedpost or Express Post (Eilmarke) stamps to handle urgent mail as can be seen from the above used in Italy also in 1918.

*Above show variety:
Overprint transferred on
rear of stamp.*

In January 1919 the imperforated stamps of 1916 was overprinted “**Deutschösterreich**” in respect of the First Republic of German Austria.
The five overprinted stamps are shown below.



Above is a wrapper dated 14 Oct 1919 with overprint on postage stamps for use as newspaper stamps. Newspaper sent to hotel “Metropole” in Munchen, Germany.



The two Express stamps of 1917 was also overprinted.

These overprinted stamps was discontinued on the 1 January 1922 following the Treaty of St Germain.

The 1920's was the high inflation period.
 During 1920-'21 an imperforated set of 19 stamps was issued on **thin white paper**
 The designer was J F Renner.
 The newspaper rate changed on 1 July from the 2H to 6H for a 35gr gram flat item and
 from 10H for a 50gr item if flat and rolled to 15H.



Bluish Violet



Yellow Brown



Greyish Green



Greenish Blue



Yellow Green



Red



Blue



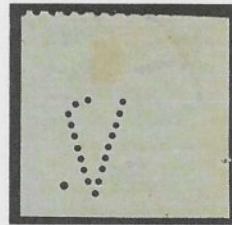
Greyish Purple



Orange



Purple Carmine



Scan

Above a perforated 2 Heller stamp from the publisher, Jos R Vilimek v Praze of the newspaper, "Nakladatelstvi". *Scan of the rear of the stamp show details of the perforin.*



An imprinted 5H newspaper wrapper dated 15 January 1919.

The rest of the set was issued in 1921 as shown below.



Ochre



Bluish Green



Brown Orange



Green



Brownish



Bluish Violet



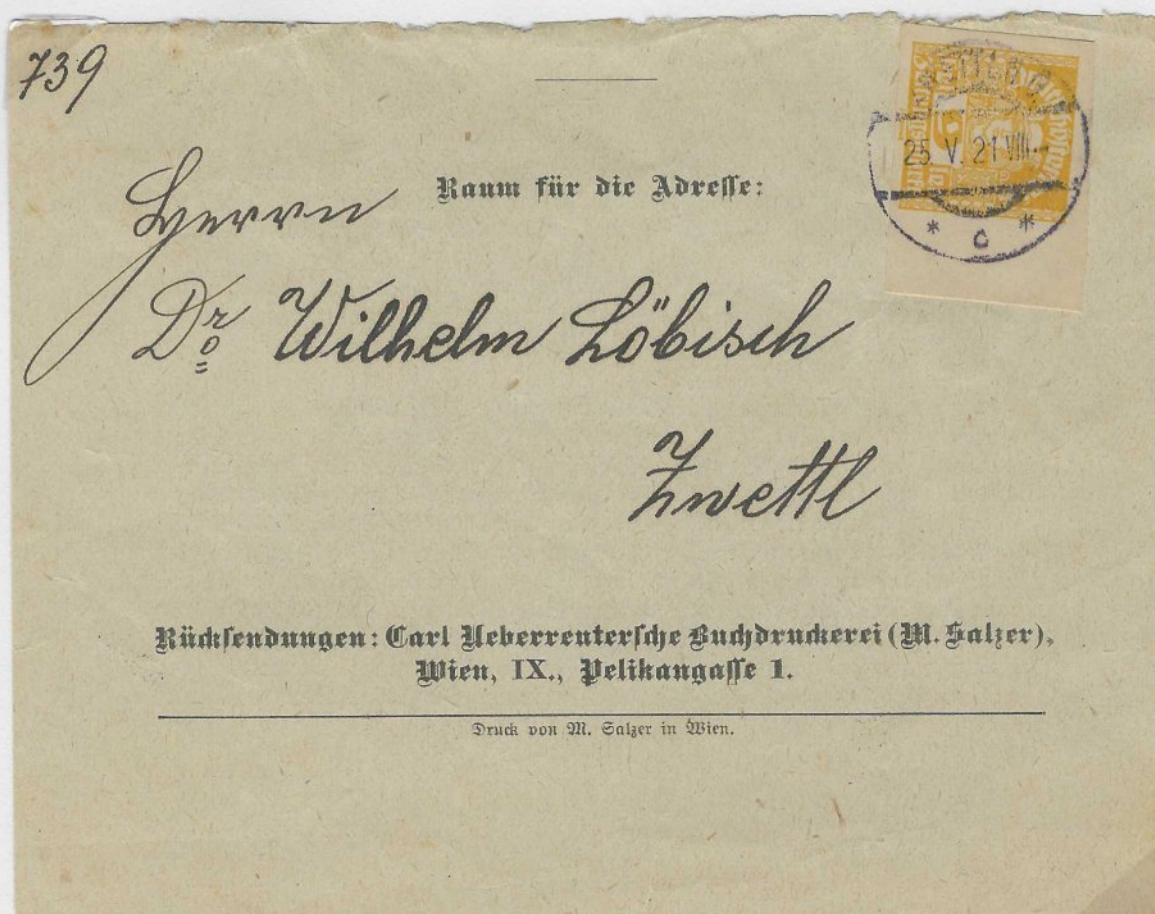
Red



Yellow Green



Greenish Grey



The 9 Heller Ochre stamp dated 25 May 1921 on a wrapper of a local newspaper issued in Vienna.

Seven stamps of the same set was reprinted but now on **Thick Greyish Paper** also during 1920 -'21



Greyish Purple



Bluish Green



Orange



Brown Orange



Purple Carmine



Bluish Violet



Greenish Grey

In December 1921 the overprinted 2H Express stamp of 1919 was surcharged 50H. Perforation 12½

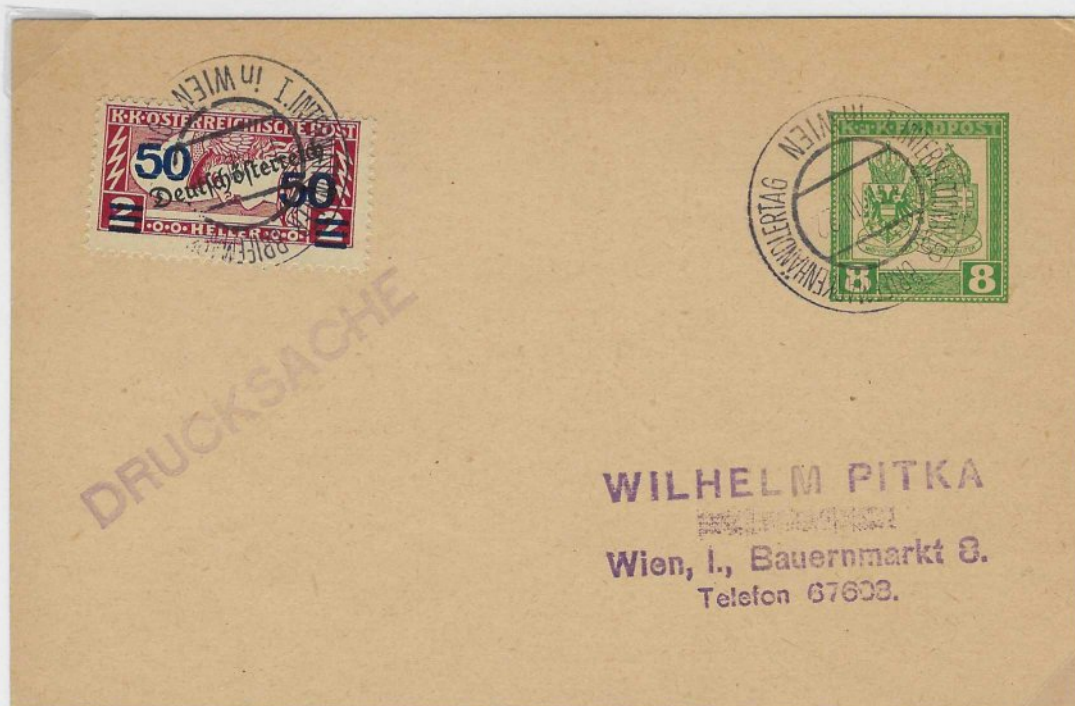


Red Carmine



Violet

In late December 1921 a 50H Express stamp was printed with perforation 12½ to replace the overprinted stamp.



Bosnia Hertzegovina postal card dated 17 March 1922 with the Austrian 50H Express overprinted stamp for items below a 20gr weight and send to an inland address. Shows handstamp in purple "DRUCKSACHE" as printed at reduced paper rate.

During 1921-'22 another imperforated set of 8 stamps was issued for the last time.
The designer was Dachauer



Greenish Grey



Reddish Brown



Brownish Yellow



Br. Red: 1922



Olive Brown: 1922



Violet Blue: 1922



Emerald Gr.: 1922



Br. Purple: 1922



Two Austrian Newspaper stamps used on this cover from Frankfurt to England dated 1 July 1933.

It must be philatelic as the stamps were not valid anymore but was cancelled by the postal authority.



Some of the stamps were privately perforated



There were two rate changes during 1921
-1 April: 15H for a 50gr flat postal item
-1 October: 30H for a 50gr flat postal item & 18H for a 35gr item

The end came very soon as the **Postal Decree of 18 February 1922** withdraw the separate Newspaper Stamps which came into effect immediately.