



# GERMANY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

## 1945-1948 LOCALS

### STUDY AND RESEARCH GROUP

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CENSORSHIP NOTES  
by Donald Slawson

I. FRENCH ZONE

As noted by Steve Esrati in his "Censorship Notes" in the March Specialist, French Zone censorship strikes are harder to find than either British or American. In the last few years I have managed to pick up an even dozen.

In addition to the fact these are relatively uncommon, not too much seems to be known about them (or else I've just not run across the proper source of information). The only works on censorship with which I'm familiar are Curt Paul's "Zensurstempel, -streifen und -zettel in Deutschland und Österreich ab 1945", which I believe was printed in the late '40's or early '50's, and Wolter's "Die Postzensur", printed in the mid '60's. Even my few covers have a strike not reported in these works, and have many varieties not noted.

I think it would be interesting if we could gather the information we know on these markings. However, I don't especially want to do this myself. Therefore: who is willing to act as a contact point on a program of gathering information on these French Zone markings?

In the meantime, what I've found:

The strike shown as figure 1 seems to be the most common, and is shown by both Paul and Wolter with numerous initials in the center. Paul lists letters GBC, GBH, GCA, GCD and GCE, while Wolter adds to this list GBA, GBD, GBE, GBI and GCF. I have found a GBB. All this seems to indicate to me is that the letters GB and GC indicate Germany, and a third letter is appended starting with A and going to some upper limit. Thus among others I would certainly expect GBE and GBF to exist, they are just not reported yet.



Figure 2a

Figure 1



Figure 3



406

417

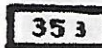


Figure 2b

Figure 2c





An interesting thing about this strike is that no two dies seem to be the same. Although the general size is the same, the words "Ouvert" and "Autorites" seem to start in different relative positions in the die. In addition (unreported by either source) there are two distinctly different types of this die. The one drawn seems the most common, which I call the "narrow" type, because of the initials in the center. The "wide" type has wider initials (shown above figure 1) and is also higher (or deeper), although the length is about the same.

The dies shown as figure 2 are unmentioned by Paul, and Wolter lists only a GC4 whose size indicates it is what I call figure 2c. Again here, an interesting fact seems to be that the same basic die comes in different sizes, and even dies with exactly the same figures in them (figure 2b and 2c) come in different sizes. Again, with this oval die I see no reason to suspect that the numbers 3 and 4 are the only ones which exist. Perhaps we will find others.

The last noteworthy thing I noticed about my covers is that a majority (7 out of 12) had some kind of "number" stamped onto them, shown in figure 3. Since this is fairly unusual, I suspect that this was also applied by the French censor authorities. As a matter of fact, I suspect this is the number of the censor, similar to the number contained in our "Eagle" type dies. But then why do not all covers have this? Perhaps these questions can be answered by our research.

So there's a start. Who's willing to take on the project of accumulating data on this subject?

## II. RUSSIAN ZONE

The subject of Russian Zone censorship was also raised by Steve in the March Specialist.

The standard method of resealing an envelope opened by the Russian censor authorities was merely glueing the opened end back together. This is found on all covers bearing the Russian censorship die (usually it is the right side of the envelope which was opened).

As noted by Steve, not all Russian censored mail bears the censors cachet (or die or whatever we decide to call these strikes). However, Steve seems to imply that this may have something to do with the destination of the letter. All the evidence I have found indicates this is solely a function of the date. Initially no cachet or rubber stamp was applied in the Russian Zone, the letter was merely opened, censored, replaced, the envelope sealed, and it went on it's way. This practice was followed until the summer of 1947, at which time the Soviet censors began using the cachet to show external evidence of censorship.

I base this both on my own covers, and a note I found in the records of our CCD Group A in Munich which stated on 31 Aug 1947 "There is evidence of censorship treatment on mail arriving from the Russian Zone and some bear the NEW (my emphasis-ed.) censorship stamp". In my collection the earliest Russian censorship stamp is 10 June 1947, which indicates that the note of Group A was when they noticed this, not when it actually began. The latest cover I have which is merely resealed with no cachet added is 29 Oct 1947--which indicates to me that the distribution of the cachets was gradual; there was an overlapping period when some letters



were having the cachet applied, while others were not.

Incidentally, I feel that Russian censorship is not especially scarce, it's just that nobody finds it. The censorship cachet is always applied to the back of the envelope, and if you watch people digging through boxes of covers at shows about 9 out of 10 look only at the face of the cover. In the last about 1½ years I have dug out 10 of the "slit-and-glued" covers (before the middle of 1947) and 25 examples of the Russian censor die. So the material is certainly not rare, scarce at the most, but I believe concentrated digging will certainly yield examples of this.

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### THE HALLENSIA NORMS

by Alfred Heinz

Within the last few weeks considerable dust was raised in Germany's philatelic press over a questionable stamp issue which one of the contestors wishes to cloak with a mantle of fraud while his opponent recommends a halo of legitimacy. It seems that the controversy was initiated in 1969 at Germanex. Herr Rossbach of Mannheim, Germany had come over for the event and desired to exhibit his "Meissen" collection. I strongly advised against it, since I considered Meissen material highly questionable and still do. On my advice, Herr Rossbach exhibited other material he had brought along and, if my memory serves me correctly, was awarded a silver medal for his "Ersatz" exhibit. I'm positive that his Meissen material would not have been so honored; for I had full knowledge of the opinions of the jury on the subject of Meissen. They were unfavourable.

Just recently several Meissen items appeared on the scene and were classified as fraudulent by Herr Rossbach. I fully concur with his views. In discussing the items, in the Rundbrief of the Lokalausgaben ARGE, Rossbach related his experiences at Germanex, and that is how several GPS'ers were drawn into the controversy. Although it involves much correspondence, I thoroughly enjoy it, for there is nothing like a lively debate to pinpoint weak points and to resolve a problem. Debate is a powerful tool as long as it remains impersonal and is carried on in the spirit of collaboration.

The famous "Hallensia Norms" have entered the debate. One side supports the Norms; the other is critical. It occurred to me that some of our members may not be acquainted with the Norms and may benefit from a study of them. The following will be a bird's-eye view of the Norms based upon a liberal translation of the Hallensia publication<sup>1</sup>.

The Hallensia Norms are a set of standards, developed back in 1949, by the famous Hallensia Club, for classifying the many stamp issues of

1. "Was Versteht Man Heute unter einer Philatelistisch Einwandfreier Briefmarke? Dargelegt an den Deutschen Briefmarken ab Mai, 1945" by Dr. Ing. Arno Alexander Schulze-Dirks and Kurt Zirkenbach, Hallensia-Bericht July, 1949



Germany's immediate postwar era. The Norms represent a sincere attempt to bring order into a very complex pattern of stamp emissions that range from large printings, authorized by functionally responsible postal- or military authorities to very small ones released by postmasters acting on their own authority. They also range from legitimate issues to fraudulent ones.

To develop these standards, Dr Schulze-Dirks and Kurt Zirkenback, the famous and internationally respected members of the Hallensia Club, established a series of nine (9) qualifications which a given stamp issue had to meet in order to be considered for a top rating. The qualifications included the following:

1. In the light of existing regulations permitting cash franking, did a real need for the issue actually exist?
2. Did the postal agency in question have other possibilities at its disposal, such as valid postage stamps?
3. Was the issue sufficiently large to be available at all postal windows during normal business hours or did only a token sale take place to legitimize the issue?
4. Was a large part of the issue actually sold at postal counters or did 50-90% of it land in the hands of "interested parties"?
5. Who initiated the printing and who paid for it; the post office, an outsider or a private person? How were printing costs recorded at the post office?
6. Were the stamps used for franking normal mail or were they largely used on collector or dealer mail specifically prepared for this purpose? Do bonafide commercial covers-Bedarfsbrief-franked with these stamps actually exist?
7. Subsequent or later recognition by postal authorities of a given stamp issue that had been initiated by "operators" outside of the postal system cannot force the family of philatelists to accept it as valid. Although postal authorities can interpret regulations to suit a specific stamp issue, collectors do not have to go along with these interpretations. They should form their own opinions.
8. In many cases imperforate printings supplied to post offices were perforated or rouletted by postmasters or private individuals. These may be of interest to specialists, particularly if they were used for franking normal, nonphilatelic mail-Bedarfsbrief. However, the abnormally high prices usually demanded, particularly for mint items, are absolutely unwarranted.
9. The same reasoning (#8) also applies to material legally or illegally removed from printer's waste. Printer's waste items do not qualify as stamps, as they were disposed of or stolen prior to normal accounting. Usually the items are elaborately advertised as rarities (rare colors, perforations, double prints, etc). Here too we warn against excessive expenditures.

Using the foregoing nine yardsticks (actually there are only six; #7-9 are policy statements), the Hallensia team reviewed the many stamp issues and grouped them in accordance with the following:



Group I Legitimate stamp issues, authorized by functionally responsible authorities, and available throughout an entire postal district or occupation zone.

Group II Almost-legitimate stamp issues, properly authorized, but not satisfying all nine stipulated conditions.

Group III Stamp issues that meet only a few of the nine yardsticks.

Group IV Stamp issues that cannot be recognized since they were inspired or manipulated by "interested parties".

In short, group I is restricted to legitimate issues that were properly authorized and available throughout a region in sufficient quantities to meet demand.

For all practical purposes, group II differs from group I only with respect to the restricted domain within which they were available to the public.

Group IV is reserved for fraudulent or philatelic issues and group III constitutes the gray area between groups II and IV.

From the above it is quite obvious that local issues do not qualify for group I. The best they can obtain is a group II rating.

The foregoing represents the essence of the Hallensia Norms. They have been challenged by many philatelists<sup>2</sup>, including myself, because of a few inconsistencies which are indeed present. They have also been challenged by "operators" whose primary interest is money. It is the latter group which has campaigned vigorously for an upgrading of a number of questionable issues without contributing to the necessary research.

Kurt Zirkenback was a very good friend of mine for many years, and the Hallensia Norms figured prominently in our correspondence before and after they were published. I was always impressed with Zirkenbach's honesty and his search for truth. In spite of this close relationship, I personally checked the status of several issues during my extended vacation in Germany, back in 1952. After all, I have spent a lifetime in industrial research; and a true researcher verifies claims before he accepts them. What I found then strengthened my faith in the Norms, in spite of a few weaknesses; and that is the reason why the "Locals Study Group" has accepted the Hallensia Norms as valid until documentary evidence or material is presented to prove otherwise. It is also the reason why we have not included group IV issues in our study programs, and why the Group's GPS-Expertiser will not accept such material for expertising.

To avoid confusion let me emphasize that the GPS Expertization Service, operated by Dr. Bohne is not involved. It provides service to collectors of all types of German material and takes full advantage of the many talents (Bundesprüfer) available in Germany. Some of the Bundesprüfers may indeed process group IV material which we reject.

The foregoing is not meant to suggest an inflexible attitude on the part of the Locals Study Group. Quite the contrary. We do fully

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2. "Die Deutschen Lokalausgaben 1945/46 und Ihre Philatelstische Bedeutung" by Dr. Heinrich Wittmann; Deutschland Sammler, Aug, 1963



appreciate that the Norms are based on information available at the time of their publication; 1949. In the interim period much more data has become available that may justify reclassification of some issues or perhaps the entire family of them. Such reclassifications may be a splendid long-range project for the two study groups, here and in Germany, to undertake. Perhaps the two groups can join forces and review the Hallensia Norms in the light of all information now available and recommend whatever changes appear necessary, keeping in mind the lofty objectives of the originators, Schulze-Dirks and Zirkenbach.

Based on information that has come to my attention, I doubt that drastic changes are in the picture. To be sure, there are a few inconsistencies. For example, the local issues of Goerlitz and Niesky have a group I classification which is incorrect for local issues. A Group II rating would have been more appropriate. Another example are the corkmarks of OPD-Chemnitz and -Dresden which are erroneously listed in group IV. Although they are not clearly identified as corkmarks in the Hallensia Norms, it must be assumed that the listing "Overprint on Hitler head stamps" (Local Issues) applies. If so, corkmarks in general have a group IV classification. They deserve a better rating.

Before delving further into the subject of corkmarks, let me highlight a significant difference in terminology here and in Germany. Obliterations of Hitler's face on Hitler head stamps are collectively called Schwärzungen in Germany, irrespective of the type of obliteration. In the U.S. we differentiate. Obliterations made with pen, crayon, cork, etc. are called cork marks whereas those carrying a distinctive overprint, like those of Glauchau, Netzschkau, Meissen, etc. are referred to as "Hitler Provisionals".

There is absolutely no question about proper authorization of corkmarks. Furthermore, they were available for several months at post offices throughout OPD-Chemnitz and -Dresden in sufficient quantities to meet demand. In addition, many letters, package cards and money orders attest to the philatelically clean nature of corkmarks. Hence a Group I or II classification appears in order.

This cannot be claimed for most, but not all, Hitler provisionals. It is true that the initial authorization did not differentiate between types of obliteration, and therefore applies to all. However, it is a matter of fact that Hitler Provisionals were generally issued in complete sets, including Mark values. That fact alone strongly suggests manipulation. The theory has been advanced that Hitler Provisionals were issued by forward-looking postmasters in anticipation of an expansion of postal service. Such an explanation would require more than the few stamp values that were needed for the very limited postal services then permitted. This theory does not ring true. Neither does the story that the objectionable overprint texts of the Meissen and Mühlberg issues were inspired by overzealous occupation commanders anxious to please party officials. The "Deutschlands Verderber" (Germany's destroyer) overprint on the Meissen issue is highly suspect and that of the Mühlberg issue even more so. The fact that to this day no letter, package card, money order or other postal matter that could possibly be classified as a bonafide postal entire has come to my personal attention or that of my collaborators suggests manipulation. What does show up with disgusting regularity is strictly philatelic mail and that fact combined with the foregoing reservations makes



a Group IV classification mandatory for both the handoverprinted Meissen and the Mühlberg issues. Both deserve the group IV rating assigned to them and should continue in that category until the foregoing reservations are resolved, not with rhetoric but with factual data.

In conclusion let me emphasize that the foregoing is not an attempt to discourage collecting of Group IV material but an honest attempt to highlight its true nature. After all, Group IV material is no worse than the blocked values of the DDR, the flashy emissions of Arabian Shiekdoms or all other emissions released for the sole purpose of fleecing the collector. Let each collector pursue his hobby as he desires; but let him be informed.

Also, let it be said that the Hallensia Norms are nothing more than an early, but perhaps more detailed, version of the "black blot" system now employed by international stamp societies to identify questionable issues. As you know, black blot material cannot be shown in international exhibitions. My disposition in connection with Herr Rossbach's attempt to exhibit Meissen material at Germanex-1969 was therefore quite in keeping with the philosophies now governing international shows.

Finally, if your collection includes mail franked with the hand-overprinted Meissen stamps, I would appreciate hearing from you.

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#### ANOTHER CURRENCY CENSOR LABEL REPORTED

Member Al Hecker of New York City has sent in a further example of the postwar use of the prewar currency censor label. Interestingly, this example was used in the DDR, and at a later date than anything reported so far, namely September, 1954. Whereas both the cover Dr. Manchester reported in the Aug., '73 Specialist and my cover reported in our Bulletin Vol 6 Nr 1 have the envelope slit and resealed with a strip of 4 labels, this does not appear to be the case here. Evidently the cover was opened at the flap, then resealed. Only two censor labels were applied, one on each side of the flap. Each is tied with the cachet of the "Amt für Zoll und Kontrolle des W????verkehrs". As previously, these are type I labels.

Since these labels contain no Nazi nor war-glorifying inscription, I see no reason to be surprised at their postwar usage. I suspect that remaining supplies were used up, and see no reason why, when new supplies were needed, that the same label would not be reprinted. I suspect that the only reason why postwar usages of the prewar label seem scarce, is that postwar use of any label seem scarce. Has anybody found usage of a different label?

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#### AN EMERGENCY CANCEL?

I (Slawson) was handed one of the OPD Berlin stamps which contained a beautiful strike of the mark I'm (2) Lobeofsund attempting to reproduce on the right (I'm going to draw this directly on the stencil rather than get an electric stencil cut--I hope it works). Anyway, I was asked if this was an overprint of some sort. Since this town exists in postal district 2, I assumed it was an emergency cancel, and so informed the owner. Can anyone confirm or deny this?



"THE FEE LABELS of ALTDÖBERN

by Bundes Expertiser Helmut Weigelt, 7261 Neuhengstett  
(reprinted from the ARGE Lokalausgaben Rundbrief 2/1971)

Translated by Inge Fisher

I.

General Information - Reports - Truth - Conclusions

During the past years much has been written, in the East as well as in the West, in general as well as in detail, about the fee labels, also called Local Issues.

About 25 years after the use of the Altdöbern fee labels, approximately 15 years of research and registration work make it possible to give this report. The impetus to start this research was given at a small stamp show for the Day of the Stamp 1954 in Brieske-Ost, a mining community in the soft coal district of Senftenberg in the district of Niederlausitz. During the show, a page among others was exhibited, which showed one cover and two single labels of Altdöbern. Herr Walter Conrad of Cottbus, the exhibitor, wrote: "What collector researches this provisional issue and reports about it?". This genuinely used cover and the mint label were to initiate such research.

It was the very first time that the author saw these fee labels in the original, after the catalog "Berlin" of 1948, which listed the German district and town issues after 8 May, 1945, also had mentioned these fee labels. At that time "Zumstein" listed Altdöbern among the fee labels with the remark "private manufacture". Much more about this issue was at that time (1954) not to be found. The search and research began.

But let us first take a look at the community itself. Altdöbern is situated on the railroad route Caulau-Senftenberg, now in the district of Cottbus, and 15km south of the district capital Calau N/L. Today the inhabitants probably count 2000 (exact figures are not available). The community survived the terror of the last days of WW II fairly well, large destruction did not take place. The daily life went on according to the situation, even after the Red Army occupation (18/19 April 1945).

Already before the start of the official reopening of the general mail and postal money order service for the SBZ on 22 Sept. 1945, the Altdöbern postoffice serviced the local area. Through local postal history study it is known that on 20 June 1945 the first mail service took place through relays, i.e. from Calau past Altdöbern, to Grossräschen and on to Senftenberg. This relay mail service, mostly on foot and partly under disagreeable circumstances, can be attributed to the Landrat Hauschild of Calau and the Postamtman Lehnick-Emden, a veteran of WW I. To him, as head of the then district postoffice Calau, was given the task on 5 June 1945 to reopen all postoffices, branch offices and postal stations I within the district of Calau.

By the end of June 1945 Hoyerswerde, past Senftenberg is already being serviced and by early July Dresden. On 4 July 1945 the then director of the Province Brandenburg, Department of Posts in Potsdam, issued the directive to reestablish the postal service. However at that time, the postal service in the Calau district was already working, even though at



times with difficulty. Up to this time, all mail consignments were dispatched free of charge, especially the only mail of the newly established city hall departments (Bürgermeisterämter) and the Landrat departments; now once again mail service for official as well as private use had to be franked as of 5 July, 1945, and this according to former rates.

The payment of postage fees was in cash at the postoffice counter at Altdöbern, and a one-line "Gebühr bezahlt" stamp proved the consignment as franked. At some instances the postage fee was also applied by hand. All this was quite ordinary, since these measures were taken due to the absence of postage stamps.

On 19 Sept. 1945 the railroad postoffices once again took over their duty and the dispatch of mail on foot, by horse drawn buggy, etc., i.e. the relay mail service, ceased, as far as the out of town service was concerned. During the week, the trains Nr. 935 from Kamens-Senftenberg past Altdöbern to Calau and further to Lübbenau, and Nr. 938 in the opposite direction were running daily. Thus once again mail service to other distribution centers was also possible.

Within the closer and also more extended vicinity of Altdöbern are the communities of Grossräschen, Spremberg and Finsterwalde, all of which became known through their respective local issues. It may be a mute point, if the postoffice of Altdöbern was stimulated due to the "issue eagerness" of the Grossräschen postoffice especially. One could almost come to this assumption, however it is also possible that the issuance of the fee labels was due to other reasons in Altdöbern. This shall be discussed further on.

Since the author himself did reside in Calau N/L until 1961, he oftentimes visited the Altdöbern postoffice and tried to find out if it was possible to learn anything about these interesting fee labels from the population of Altdöbern. Thus and with the help of the director of the postoffice Calau it was found, that the Altdöbern postmaster, in office from 1945 to 1947, was named Christ and had settled here after his arrival from the Eastern districts of Europe (Ostgebiete). At that time he was already an elderly gentleman and was supposed to have left for Bavaria during 1947-48.

Different informations about his family have been given, which informations the author received after questioning different Altdöbern inhabitants. The point was to find out if Christ himself was a collector or if he knew anything about philately. In the following are listed some of the remarks of the inhabitants of Altdöbern, who resided there for many years and consciously observed the times of 1945:

Frau P., owner of a hotel-restaurant: Herr Christ ate here at my hotel. He must have left Altdöbern around 1947. His wife was living in Bavaria.

Frau Sch., former postal employee: I know Herr Christ, and his daughter also, but I don't know what happened to them.

Herr P., where Herr Christ lived: Christ never had two daughters. The two girls with him were not his daughters. They came with Christ and both of them worked at the Altdöbern postoffice. He was an elderly gentleman and all three lived at the same place. His wife lived in a rectory working for a preacher somewhere near Munich. Christ was retired in the



middle of 1947 and left for Bavaria sometime in 1948 to join his wife. However, I do know that Christ was a stamp collector and had some stamp albums, "that thick" (with the appropriate hand movement).

Herr K., postal employee: In 1945 Christ was already an elderly gentleman and left later for the West. His manipulations were somewhat clouded. About the two girls, I know nothing.

Council of the community Altdöbern, reply to an inquiry: The postal employee Christ left here after 1945 and went to Bavaria, his address is not known. His daughter is supposed to be married. Name and address is also unknown. signed Neumann

Finally the author found the married daughter of another postal employee, named Salomo, who had died in Altdöbern on 17 Feb. 1946. This Mrs. M. could however add nothing more, but she did have 4 fee labels in the kitchen cupboard.

For each remark, several were always of the same opinion, thus the fact remains, that nothing but these vague and opposite opinions could be reached about the creator of the postmaster issues of Altdöbern.

But why mention all this here? It appears trivial. But nothing should have been left undone, to find a trace which would lead to postmaster Christ, since only he himself could clear through his explanations some of the vague points, which are mentioned further on.

Therefore, only the archives were left. An inquiry at the district center for Post and Telecommunications Affairs in Potsdam was answered on 12 Jan. 1956 as follows:

"According to our files the Altdöbern postoffice requested on 5 Jan. 1946 from the then OPD Potsdam the permission to sell provisional postage stamps of 6, 10 and 12 Pf. which they made themselves. The OPD denied this request with the reason, that upon application by the postoffice, postage stamps of the STADT BERLIN were available in sufficient amounts and therefore the issue of local stamps was not necessary. However, several sets of the fee stamps made by the Altdöbern postoffice were sold there over the counter ahead of time without permission. The provisional postage stamps are not officially recognized stamps.  
for.... signed Diettrich"

This may be so, but the Altdöbern fee labels do exist and were used before as well as after the date of the mentioned application for use.

Only in 1960 was it possible for the author to see the documents in the Archives of the district center for Post and Telecommunications Affairs in Potsdam, Archive Nr. 1282. This took place at the main post-office of Calau, to where the documents had been sent in an official manner. Upon the sight of this, oh so sparse official folder, the author was disappointed and came at once to the conclusion, that this folder, sent for inspection and consisting of only 5 pages, could only be an incomplete and probably hurriedly assembled folder. Neither did this folder carry the already mentioned archive Nr. 1282, and thus only contributed to the impression of incompleteness. But despite all efforts nothing else was received.

Page 1 of this strange archive folder was the original request of the Altdöbern postoffice of 5 January 1946, whose exact text shall follow:



26.

"Postamt

Altdöbern, January 5, 1946

Re: Provisional Postage Stamps for the  
Rural Population

3 Postage Stamps

During the month of December 1945 the postoffice once again did not receive any postage stamps. The rural population has to cover several kilometers to Altdöbern, in order to buy postage stamps for its use. Due to lack of postage stamps they have to return home without these and at times make the same trip once again in order to have their mail cancelled. To save the rural population these duplicate trips and to show the willingness of the postoffice, the postoffice started to make 3 stamps on its own, a 6, 10 and 12 Pf. value, which are most frequently used. These are available for sale to the rural population as well as to the population of a housing development, situated quite far from the postoffice.

For these stamps gummed sheets, which are available here in large amounts, are being used and they are made by the postmaster himself. So far, 200 of each value have been made.

The three values are enclosed and permission for making the provisional stamps is requested.

signed Christ"

This request for permission, which illustrates the signs of the times and was written on some sort of type form, has the arrival date stamp 15 Jan. 1946 of the OPD Potsdam. The three stamps are affixed to the left margin with their upper edge. All these stamps are of the further on described Type I.

To this request the following can be added: The postage stamps of the OPD Berlin were issued on 9 June 1945 in Berlin, i.e. only in the East sector of Greater Berlin. Only beginning August 1945 were they also being used in the district of the OPD Potsdam, however with considerable limitations, so far as these postage stamps were available to the postoffices. This, in reality, was rarely the case. The postoffices Calau, Vetschau, Altdöbern and others, all situated in the Calau district, again and again had to supplement with the "Gebühr bezahlt" stamp. This is proven through many pieces of mail, which originated at this time and which are for instance in the Postal History Collection Calau of the author, as well as in other collections.

The statement of postmaster Christ in his request, that the introduction of the provisional issue was for the benefit of the rural population, may seem farfetched. This has to be considered a pretext. Also, to speak of the 10 Pf. value as a frequently used value does not seem quite proper, when one considers the then valid postage rates.

The opinion of Herr Iglisch, published in "Sammler-Lupe" Nr. 21/1958 page 472, that the 10 Pf. value was "frequently used" for registered mail, may be questioned. First, the rate for a registered letter was then 42 Pf., thus could have been franked with 3 times 10 Pf and one time 12 Pf.. However, the author has never in the past years seen such a franking of a genuinely used letter. Thus one cannot speak of a frequent use of the 10 Pf value, even considering the further described type of postseals (Postverschlusszettel = mail closure labels of the post).



As expected, page 2 of the archive folder contained the written reply of the OPD Potsdam. Since this was the original draft, and it contains many changed and words crossed out, it shall be repeated here, first as draft and second as final version, which was sent to the Altdöbern post-office.

Oberpostdirektion  
I A 2/IB2

Potsdam, 22 Jan. 1946

1 Enclosure

TO the Altdöbern Postoffice  
re: Request of 5 Jan 1946  
Postage Stamps

A motive for the issuance of provisional stamps by the Altdöbern post-office cannot be recognized. It does mean a certain relief for the rural population to frank consignments with provisional stamps. But upon request, the post office has the availability of the postage stamps of the STADT BERLIN in sufficient amounts, so that the issue of its own stamps will not be necessary. In special cases accounting in cash can be done at the postoffice window, as has been done before the introduction of stamps.

The amount taken in is to be entered in the ledger for special postage fees.

The fact of the low security of the proposed design suggested by the postoffice is also a point against the issuance of provisional stamps. Through the use of a simple rubber stamp, dishonest elements could manufacture stamps in large amounts and thus cause considerable loss to the Deutsche Post. The sale of the provisional stamps made by the postoffice is not to take place under any circumstances. It is to be safeguarded, that the total amount made does not reach third persons, but is instead to be dispatched at once to the OPD office IA2 as insured letter. The rubber stamp used for the manufacture of these stamps is to be included in this consignment. The stamps are definitely not recognized.

i.V. signed"

The final version of this draft was finished by 23 Jan. under the file mark "Pr" and had the following text:

Heading and marking same as before

"The postoffice, upon request, has available postage stamps of the STADT BERLIN in sufficient amounts, so that the issue of its own postage stamps is unnecessary. In special cases the consignments have to be taken in at the postoffice counter, as has been done before the introduction of stamps. The amount taken in is to be accounted for in the ledger for special postage fees.

The sale of provisional postage stamps made by the postoffice is not to take place under any circumstances. It is to be safeguarded that the total amount made does not reach third persons but is sent at once to the OPD office IA2 as registered letter. The rubber stamp used in the manufacture of the stamps is to be enclosed in this consignment. The stamps shall not be recognized.

i.V. signed"



28.

This final version was according to a note on the draft mailed to the Altdöbern postoffice on 25 Jan. 1946 under the file mark "And.". With this notification the fate of the fee label of the Altdöbern postoffice was officially closed.

Page 3 of the archive file contains the reaction of the Altdöbern postoffice in the shape of the following letter:

"Postamt Altdöbern, 30 Jan. 1946

Re: IA2/IB2 of 22 Jan. 1946  
Fee labels 209 specimen  
1 Rubber stamp Altdöbern

With the enclosure the postoffice hands over the home made fee stamps of 6 Pf. in the total amount of 12 RM and 54 Rpf. along with the rubber stamp used for the manufacture thereof. signed Christ"

On this letter the following is noted:

"OPD Potsdam, 14 Febr. 1946  
IB2  
(2 Encl., 1 rubber stamp  
209 provisional stamps)

According to Vf IB2 of 22 Jan. 1946 the Altdöbern postoffice has sent to us the provisional stamps made there, along with the rubber stamp. The issuance of these stamps did not take place.

Nothing further is therefore to be undertaken.

Therefore: To the files i. V. signed  
(probably "Helm" or "Holm")

In considering the request for permission something else has to be mentioned to the writing of the Altdöbern postoffice and to the file notation below it. In the request, next to the last paragraph, it is stated, that "200 stamps of each kind were made". According to the letter of 30 Jan. 1946, however, "209" stamps of the 6 Pf. value were handed over, therefore none of the 10 and 12 Pf. values. However more of the 6 Pf value than originally stated by Postmaster Christ in his request for permission. From this one could conclude, that the 10 and 12 Pf values of 200 each were already sold out by 30 Jan. 46. This could make sense, but it is highly improbable, for the 10 Pf value. Of the 6 Pf value on the other hand more had probably been made. The whole situation is wrong. The OPD Potsdam also must have recognized this fully, for despite the "z.d.A." (to the files) notation, page 4 of the archive folder contains the following letter of the Altdöbern postoffice:

"Postamt Altdöbern, 16 March 1946

Report  
to directive of 7 March 46, IA2

Postage stamps were never made by any private printing company. The rubber stamp Altdöbern, used for the manufacture of stamps and the remaining small stock of 6 Pf stamps were sent to the OPD on 29 Jan. 46 according to the OPD directive 22 Jan. 46 IA2/IB2."



This letter has the arrival stamp of 26 March 1946 IA2 of the OPD Potsdam. Considering the action viewed through the files, one does find a contradiction. The expressed opinion of postal employee K., given to the author "his manipulations were somewhat clouded", does gain some importance here. Also the incompleteness of the archive file is proven.

However one fact is certain: The fee labels of Altdöbern are known, were postally used and consignments with these fee labels were not charged with postage due. The examples in the request for permission are not the only specimen, there are other types in the same values, as shall be discussed further on. Documented times of use are from before the request for permission until long after the surrender of the 209 6 Pf values. It does not seem plausible that the large amount of labels used after 30 Jan. 1946 were all from the possession of the "rural population", as can be seen from the return addresses of the covers. Conclusion: Christ must really have manipulated.

Page 5 of the archive file with its handwritten notation shows, that finally doubts did arise about the Altdöbern fee labels:

"Oberpostdirektion  
IB1 - 2040

Potsdam, 1 Nov.1946

(Enclosure 2 ledgers  
1 postage free envelope)

1) Office: on reverse of the enclosed GRVf of the ZV of 26.10 III 2040-1

Returned to ZV Post (the word Post is then crossed out by hand)

Berlin W 66

Final version: Bg 2.11

Compared: Rd 3.11

Sent: Bg 4.11

To II 2040-1 of 26.10

The Central Administration has been informed by a report from 2 April 46 under Nr. 9 to directive II 2040-0 of 27 Febr. 1946 "Manufacture of Postage Stamps", that the Altdöbern postoffice planned to make provisional stamps. At the same time "some sets" consisting of the 6, 10 and 12 Pf value of the fee stamps, made by the postmaster himself, were sold prior by the now deceased postal clerk PB ass. Salomo to the public over the counter. This conclusion was reached after an inquiry of 28 May 1946 by the Stamp Collector's Club "Hallensia" in Halle a.d.Saale to the OPD Potsdam. The occurrences are included.

The postoffice had reported on 13 March 46 that neither by the postoffice nor by the Altdöbern community postage stamps had been issued. Since the official recognition of the fee labels did not take place, a reply to the 5 questions in the enclosed letter by Ernst Müller is superfluous.

Writer: Ragozy 1/11

Referent: Böhme 1/11 "

signed:

From all these statements and documents one can only conclude, that Christ followed strange practises with the Altdöbern fee labels. The contradictions could arise from the fact, that Christ might have been



well meaning to begin with, since the insufficient delivery of OPD issues has been proven. By making the fee labels, he without a doubt did simplify his office task. He also might have been aware of the fact that at other postoffices similar emergency measures were taken. Why should Altdöbern not do likewise? Maybe his single big mistake was asking for official permission. With the refusal of it, entanglements and complications arose. Backed into a corner, he might have blamed the deceased Salomo with the sale of the fee labels, made as "samples". After all, nothing could be done to Salomo anymore.

As already reported, the postal employee Salomo passed away on Feb. 17, 1946 in Altdöbern, thus at a most opportune moment for Christ. But the OPD Potsdam could not know at that time that at least 16 letters (all seen by the author) were posted after the death of Salomo, all franked with Altdöbern fee labels and cancelled during March and April. These are all facts which do not fit and nothing can make them fit. Each new explanation only creates new questions.

As can be seen, the study of the totally incomplete archiv file was however most interesting and the before mentioned statements of several people were repeated here for a reason. However, what does a philatelist say, considering the already above drawn conclusions? How does this secret issue compare with other issues of the times? Does not in many ways a similarity exist with the research results of other local issues?

Under consideration of the situation and the conditions, the author reaches the conclusions, that the fee labels of Altdöbern could have been created due to the inspiration of Grossräschen, however with a substantial difference: In the case of Altdöbern no collectors or dealers influenced the postoffice and had nothing to do with it. We know innumerable so-called covers and manufactured collector covers with the Grossräschen issues and from many other communities. From Altdöbern however no such manufactures exist, except for a few blocks of 4 (Postverschlusszettel = postseals), which now show their origins. A Senftenberg collector had received early knowledge of these issues through his daughter, who was employed by the local Krankenkasse of Senftenberg and who took letters, franked with the Altdöbern fee labels home to her father. He made a trip to Altdöbern and bought there a few pieces and had them cancelled there. Other favor cancellations and collector products have thus far not become known and probably will not show up.

Otherwise, the issues of Grossräschen were at that time, beginning Jan 1946, so well known to collectors that they overshadowed the Altdöbern issue. And no dealer (!) publicizing the Altdöbern issue existed. Thus maybe Christ did not reach the anticipated success and the Altdöbern fee labels remained for many years unknown to large circles of collectors. Therefore the remark, in the Zumstein catalog at that time is today understandable, but false.

All this does however recommend the Altdöbern fee labels today. They never became an object of speculation and therefore are worthy of consideration. They are truly a document of the times, officially recognized or not, maybe planned with speculation in mind or not, they show in large part the difficult beginning of a postal service after a destructive war.



Finally it has to be mentioned here, that the Michel Deutschland Special information, whereas according to the statement of 5 June, 1947 the Altdöbern postoffice sold approximately 50 pieces of each value, is very questionable. The statement of the Altdöbern postoffice, probably given by Christ himself, lacks any basis and is false. The catalog publishers then add to this, that the issue was probably larger than stated by the postoffice.

## II.

### The Fee Labels

Now let us consider the fee labels themselves. In simplicity the Altdöbern postoffice local issue does not distinguish itself from those of Grossräschen, Fredersdorf, Bad Nauheim, Eckhartsberga and others.

Grayish to white, smooth to rough machine paper, with white to yellowish gum, was divided with a colored or copy pencil into approx. 25x25 mm squares. Accordingly we find variations in the length and width, and upright or sideways rectangles exist. Unfortunately the origin of the paper is unknown, as well as how many stamps were contained in one sheet. In the above mentioned request for permission Christ speaks of "gummed sheets, available here in large amounts". The largest single block in existence so far is a vertical strip of 4, from which nothing can be gained.

The sheets were cut apart with scissors along pencil marked lines.

On the other hand, aside from those just mentioned labels on neutral paper, others were made from postseals (Postverschlusszettel) of the postal agency (Poststelle II) Wormlage, a neighboring community of Altdöbern. These seals were quartered with colored pencil, then cut apart with scissors. Since the seals however did come in rolls and are perforated on 2 sides, each stamp made from these seals has to show a perforation on one side.

The individual squares, either made from normal paper or from the postseals then received a diagonal rubber stamped imprint of the name Altdöbern, which appears in two different positions:

- a) lower left to upper right ) German
- b) upper left to lower right ) letters (Franktur)

The color of the stamped name Altdöbern is usually violett, however differences exist, see following listing (on later pages).

The value denomination also was done with a rubberstamp, but does exist in handwriting.

Thus we find the following types:

- Type I: Size of rubberstamped value imprint: 4mm Numeral: gothic
- Type II: Size of rubberstamped value imprint: 5mm Numeral: latin
- Type III: Value handwritten
- Type IV: Size of rubberstamped value imprint: 6mm Numeral: latin  
Rubberstamped imprint of the name Altdöbern now 38mm long, size approx. 30x36mm (stamps of type IV became known only during the 60's).



In types I, II and IV the value denomination is applied twice according to the position of the name Altdöbern:

- a) upper left and lower right
- b) lower left and upper right

In type III normally the value appears only once, but can exist twice. All varieties can be seen in the following table (below).

The value numeral in types I, II and IV can appear as follows (X = is used in place of the numeral):

X      X-      -X      -X-

However, the two horizontal lines above each other as well as following each other in front or following the value numeral have been seen. From this can be deduced, that the denomination was applied with a regular date stamp, as can be found in any office. Sometimes a dot can also be found following the numeral.

The proceedings may have taken place as follows: A date stamp was set for instance to "6", all other rubber bands of the date stamp were set to blank space or line. At the start, the first prints will appear clear, i.e. only the "6". During a rush or a minor tilt, other parts of the rubber stamp can appear, etc. This seems to be the most logical explanation. One can try it and come to the same conclusion.

The value usually is violett in the 6 Pf value, dull red in the 12 Pf value. However variations do exist, see table.

In some cases the fee label has handwritten "bez.", meaning "bezahlt" (paid) is applied. Covers became known where this notation extends over onto the cover.

#### TABLE

"A" and "B" mean:

A = normal paper

B = Postseals (Postverschlusszettel)

Succ. Nrs.	Value Pfg.	Position of "Altdöbern"	Color of "Altdöbern"	Position of Numeral	Color of value
<u>Type IA</u>					
1a	6	a	violett	upper left, lower right	violett
1b	6	b	violett	lower left, upper right	violett
2	10	a	violett	upper left, lower right	violett
3a	12	a	violett	upper left, lower right	dull red
3aI	12	a	violett	upper left, lower right	
				however, up side down	dull red
3b	12	b	violett	lower left, upper right	dull red
<u>Type IB</u>					
4	12	a	violett	upper left, lower right	dull red



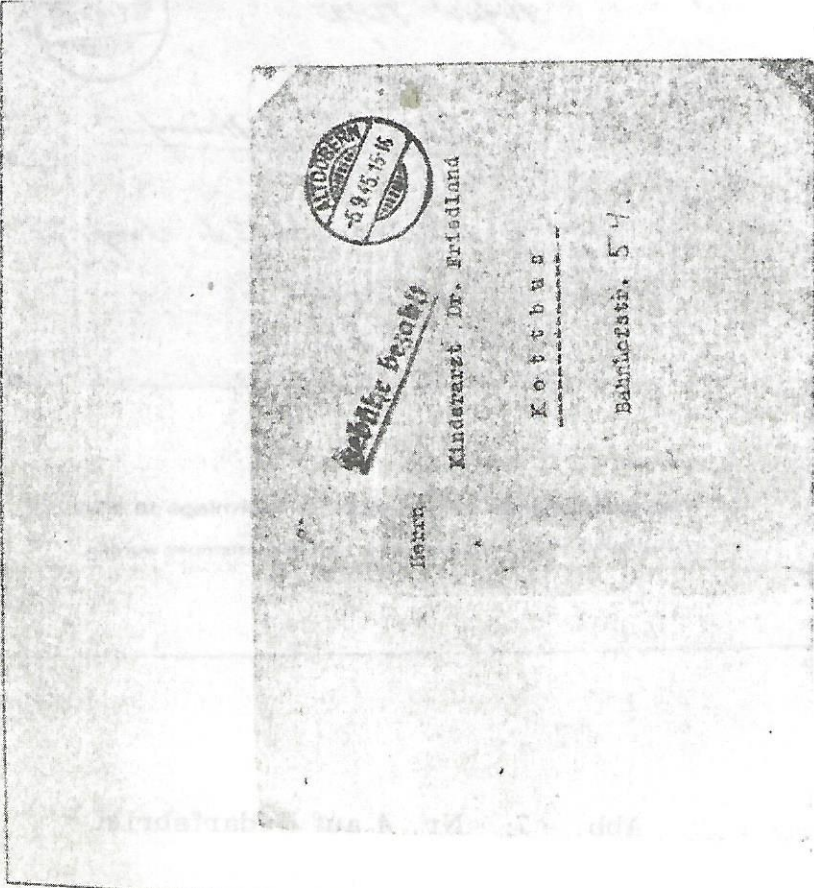


Abb. 1: Gebühr-bezahlt-Stempel vom September 1945 (vgl. S. 45).

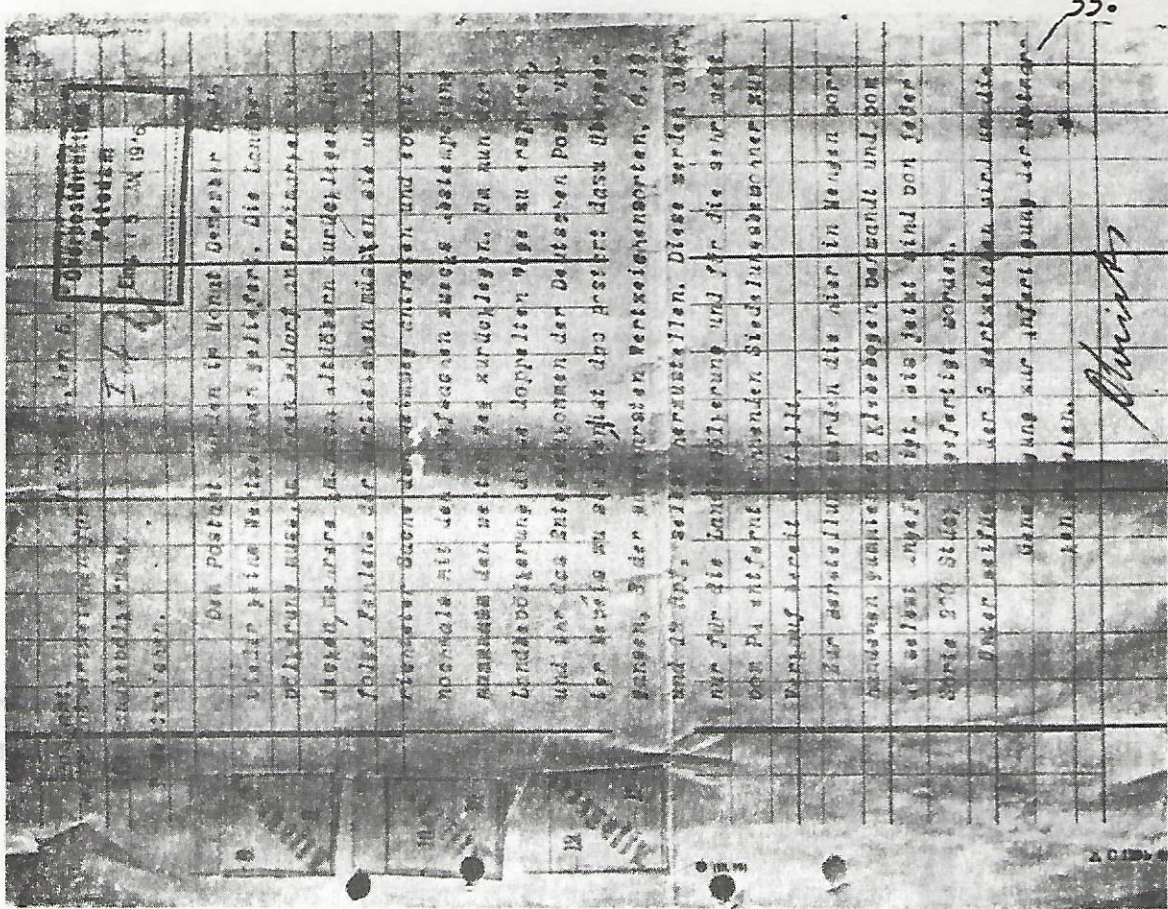


Abb. 2: Genehmigungsantrag vom 5. Januar 1946 (vgl. S. 46). Der hier abgebildete Wert zu 10 Pf. ist bisher einzige bekannte Wert der Nr. 2.





Abb. 3: Nr. 1a

**RIEDEL & SOHN**  
 Spiritus-Raffinerie · Essigspritfabrik  
 Likör-Fabrik und Weinhandlung  
 Altdöbern N.-L.  
 Bahnstation Alt-Neu-Döbern  
 Postscheckkonto Berlin Nr. 44194  
 Fernsprecher 206  
 RB.-Nr. 0/0153/5003

Postkarte



Chem. Dabrik Dr. Benöhr & Co.

H a m b u r g 1

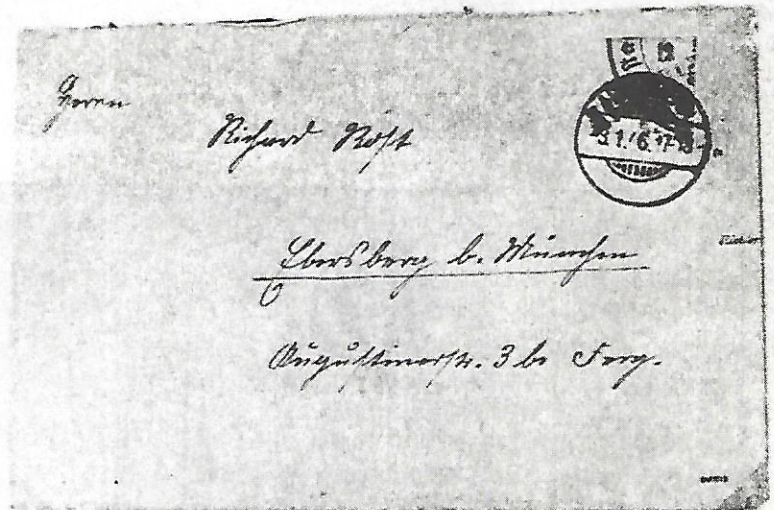
Glockengiesserwall 1



484

STURM

Abb. 5: Nr. 3a



Postverschlusßzettel der Postagentur Wormlage 12 (Pfg)  
 Bedarfsbrief dessen rote Wertziffern klein aufgestempelt wurden.



Abb. 6: Nr. 3b

Abb. 7: Nr. 4 auf Bedarfsbrief



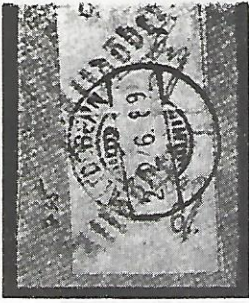


Abb. 8: Nr. 5



Abb. 10: Nr. 7



Abb. 11: Nr. 8

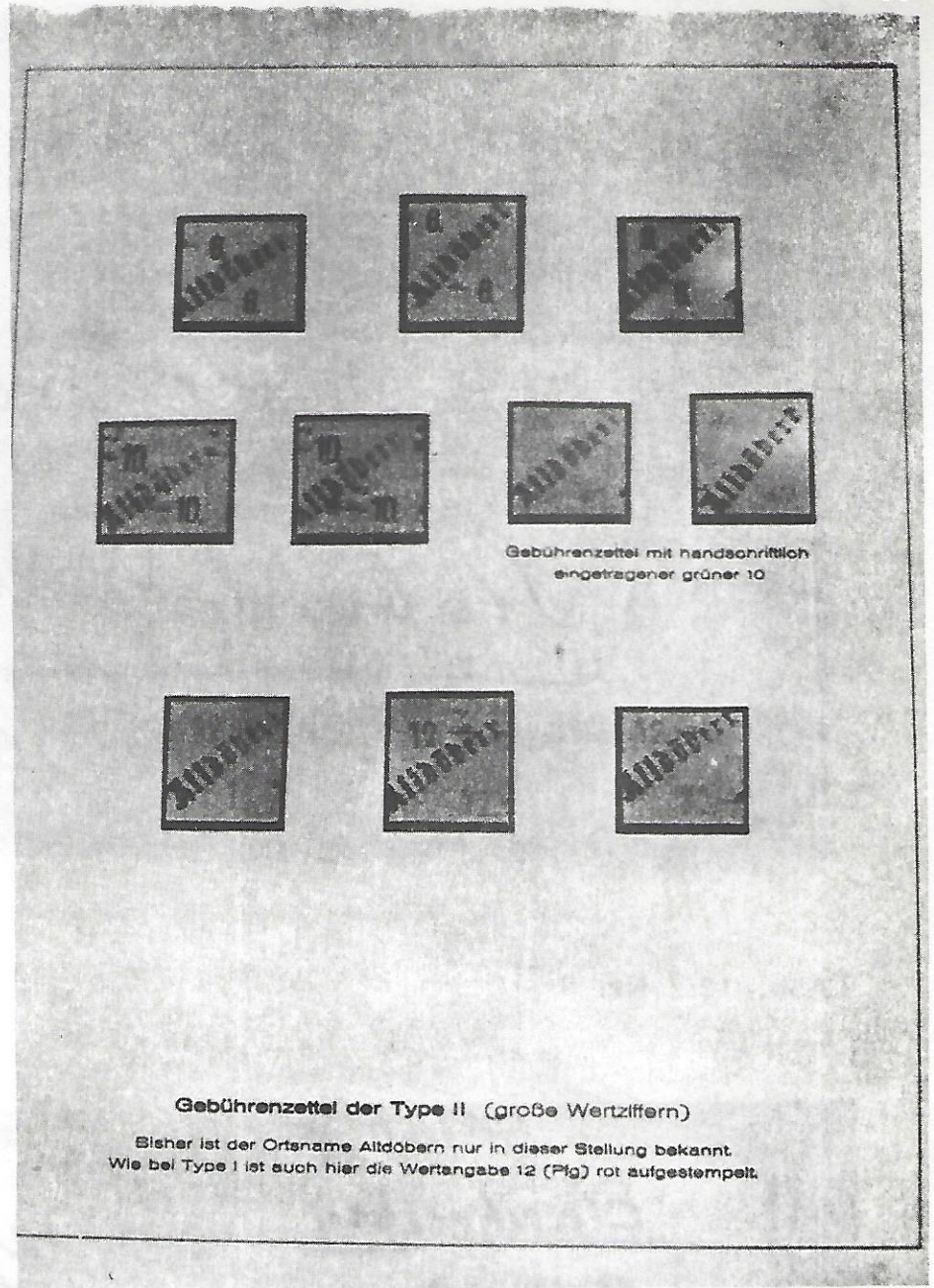


Abb. 9: 1. Reihe: Nr. 5; 2. Reihe: die beiden linken Werte Nr. 6, die beiden rechten Werte Nr. 8; 3. Reihe: Nr. 7.



Abb. 15: Nr. 12



Abb. 16: Nr. 13



Abb. 13: Nr. 10



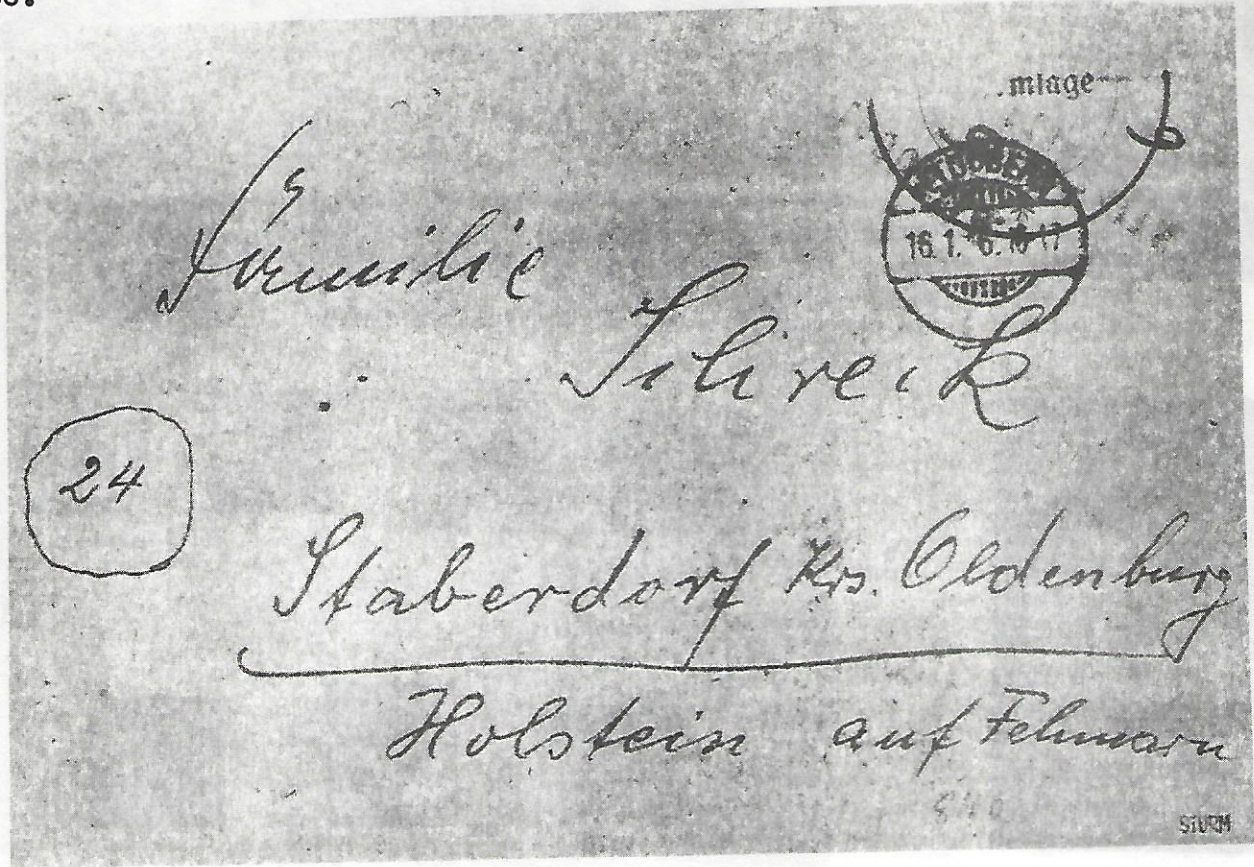
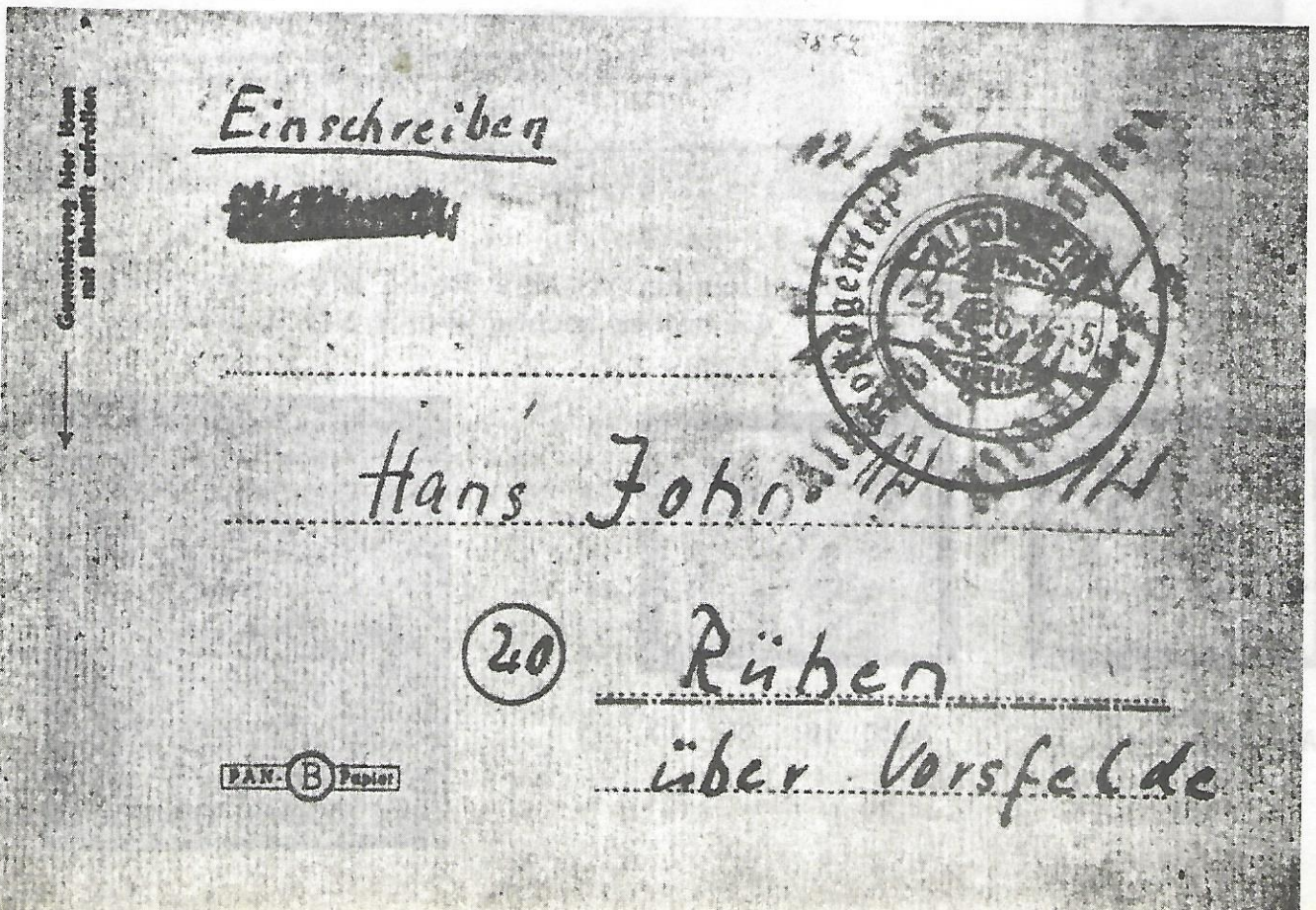


Abb. 12: Nr. 9

Abb. 14: Nr. 11 I





Type IIA

5	6	a	violett	upper left, lower right	violett
5I	6	a	black	upper left, lower right	violett
5II	6	a	black	upper left, lower right	black
6	10	a	violett	upper left, lower right	violett
7	12	a	violett	upper left, lower right	dull red
7I	12	a	violett	upper left, lower right	violett

Type IIIA

8	10	a	violett	upper left, lower right	green
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Type IIIB

9	6	a	violett	lower right	blue
10	10	a	violett	lower right	green
11	12	a	violett	lower right	red
11I	12	a	violett	upper left, lower right	red

Type IVA

12	6	a	violett	upper left, lower right	violett
13	8	a	violett	upper left, lower right	violett

Note: Color variations, especially in the value numeral, exist. A different position of the imprint toward the overprinted "Altdöbern" and value numerals can be observed with the Postseals.

A surprise was the reporting of Nr. 9, a pair on cover, cancelled 16.1.46 and a cancelled pair, off paper, without recognizable date, that was offered in an auction.

A total of approximately 200 pieces were up to now registered and grouped by the author and it is no secret that the 10 Pf values hold a special rank. For instance, only one item is known to exist of Nr. 2, this, the sample enclosed with the permission request of 5 Jan. 1946. Of Nr. 6, only mint stamps are known. While 2 used items are known of Nr. 8, about 2 dozen are known of Nr. 10. Where does that leave the already mentioned "frequently used" 10 Pf values for registration? It should come as no surprise if at some future date a cover might be reported, this however would not prove the frequent use. The 10 Pf values do remain the jewels of this complicated issue, if one excludes varieties.

Now a word about the duration of use. Type I without doubt was the first issue, easily proved through the samples included with the permission request. Type I cancelled (off paper and on cover, card, etc.) exist from 27.12.45 - 25.2.46.

Type II is known with cancellation dates from 19.1.46 to 31.4.46. One single item of Nr. 5 is known to exist, with the date 31.4.46. This should be unique.

Type III was found used from 2.1.46 to 22.2.46. Here once again we have to return once more to the permission request of 5.1.46 and prove,



that Christ worded his request falsely. On 5 Jan 46 he spoke of provisional stamps, made from "in large amounts available gummed sheets", which are seen in the enclosed samples, and yet already on 2 Jan 46 he sold fee labels which were made from Postseals. How many questions arise once more? They cannot be answered anymore.

All this shows, how important research is and how important it is, that all collectors and happy owners of these fee labels, after reading this article, contact the author with reports and submit items, if they have not done so already.

At the end of 1960 8,10,12,15,20 and 30 Pfg values of the fee labels appeared with Altdöbern printed in black and the value numerals also mostly printed in black. These were described as trial printings. The author considers these, now as then, as manufactured. But they indicate that something was tried and did not work.

What can make a research report more thrilling and interesting than the reporting of all the data with documented samples and spiced with a bit of uncertainty in the hopes, of having as a whole brought some light into the postmaster issues of Altdöbern.

Expressed here are many thanks to the collectors who welped to see the task through and will help to complete it in the future.

\* \* \* \* \*

ALPHABETICAL LISTING of D.P. CAMPS in POST WW II GERMANY

Reprinted from the BULLETIN of the Lithuanian Philatelic Society of New York numbers 86 and 87 (Dec 1973 and Feb 1974)

(Continued from last issue)

ITZEHOE - (50km. NW Hamburg) - Schleswig, British Zone

OELIXDORFERSTRASSE BARRACKS - UNRRA Team #289 - #1209C AC

216 (K) Det. Mil. Gov. BAOR

A few lithuanian families were repatriated here in 1941 from the Klaipeda District so that over 300 Lithuanian DP's were quartered here when the Lithuanian DP Camp was set up in August 1945. A subsequent transfer of 240 from HAFFENKRUG DP CAMP raised the total to 597, most of whom were quartered in the Barracks.

ITZEHOE DP Camp had a joint administration with GLUCKSTADT DP Camp in dealing with UNRRA and the British Military Administration. The camp had a Kindergarten, "VARGO" (Hardship) Elementary School, Scout Troops, Mixed Choir, and First Aid Station.

Up to the end of 1946, only 1 Lithuanian out of 677 chose to repatriate back to Soviet Lithuania. In April 1947, there was a registry of all single persons without children who would be eligible for emigration

(continued following the next article)



"Gebühr bezahlt's"

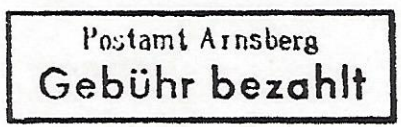
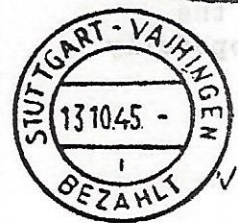
As I mentioned in our last bulletin, the German ARGE "Lokalausgaben" has been doing quite a bit of work on Gebühr bezahlt markings. This will be reproduced in our bulletin, unless we are able to update their work, in which case we will come out not only with what they had (or "are having" may be more accurate, as it is a continuing project with them)

Group 1

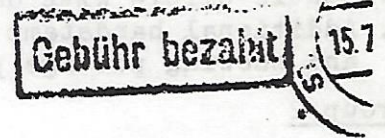


Group 3

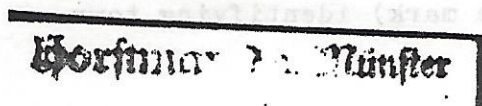
Gebühr bezahlt Gebühr bezahlt



Group 5

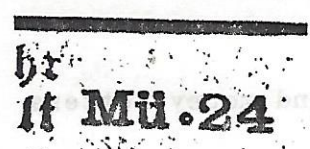


Group 2

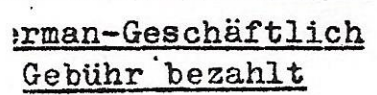


but with our additions. In any case, all you Gebühr bezahlt fans be patient, because I promise in at least the issue after next you will be receiving some information.

Group 5



Herrn ... in Langgraben (Pfalz)



12 Rpfr

7M 0,06 Pfg  
Wachst. in Leipzig W33  
Finances Party  
R. Ry

T. P. 75 Rpfr  
hume P. H. H.

The German group has begun a coordinated drive to try to determine the existing marks, even going as far as trying to determine the relative scarcity of each. To accomplish this they have divided the markings into 5 groups, and are asking their members (although I'm sure they will not refuse our help) to submit a list of their holdings of each group to a "coordinator" for that group of mark-



ings. With 5 persons working on this it seems they have a good chance of some real progress in this area.

O.K.--how about pitching in? I have illustrated and will describe the 5 general groups they have formed. Can you prepare a list of your holdings of each group (I realize this will be a chore for those of you holding 1000 covers) on a separate sheet of paper, and forward these to Harry Meier, 4 Lawn Terrace, Cranford N.J. 07016? He will make Xerox copies of these and forward a copy of all he gets to the appropriate person in Germany, retaining a copy for use by our "Gebühr bezahlt" subgroup.

I hope you all will participate in this--I know many have responded to previous appeals and have seen little result from this, but I guarantee you this will bring results and information to you in the bulletin--definitely at least what the Germans are doing, and hopefully information from our own subgroup.

Now the types:

#### Group 1

1. Double oval with date bridge
2. Double circle with date bridge and "Gebühr bezahlt" in lower half
3. Double circle with date bridge and "Bezahlt" in lower half
4. Additional handstamp (in addition to town mark) identifying town and showing postage paid legend

#### Group 2

5. Emergency handstamp employed as townmark
6. Reactivated old townmarks
7. Railroad handstamp used as townmark

#### Group 3

8. "Gebühr bezahlt" without frame, two lines, without abbreviations or addition of numbers or letters

#### Group 4

9. Postmaster issues
- 10.a. Use of several cost-franking notations
- 10.b. Notations, additions by typewriter
11. Emergency townmarks used on registered letters and money letters
12. Use of unusual texts
13. Written "cash received" notations
14. Handwritten notations in a foreign language
15. Currency reform items
16. Postal-war items

#### Group 5

17. 2 line "Gebühr bezahlt" in rectangular box
18. Same as 17, but single line

So that's it. Send in your reports.



(DP Camps - cont'd from page 38)

to England. Of 94% of its eligible residents, 64% emigrated with the first transport on May 3, 1947.

This Lithuanian DP Camp was shut down in Summer 1948 and the remaining DP's were transferred to ELSHORN & RENDSBURG DP Camps.

KARLSRUHE - (70km NNW Stuttgart) - Baden-Baden, American Zone

The Lithuanian Postmens Assn records that 50 Lithuanian DP's resided in this area with private German families.

KASSEL - (140km. NNE Frankfurt) - Hesse, American Zone

LITHUANIAN DP CAMP "MATTEMBERG" #540 - UNRRA Team #77 - IRO #1025

"MATTEMBERG" lithuanian DP Camp was set up here in May 1945 with 200 Lithuanian DP's in a mixed DP Camp which had later Lithuanian additions from WIESBADEN in 1946 and from FULDA in 1947. The other ethnic groups were transferred out making room for some eventual 2800 Lithuanian DP's in this camp.

The Camp had schools for children and Adult Training Courses in Nursing, Radio, Weaving, Tailoring, Music, etc. The Camp Library had over 2200 volumes. "AISTIJA" Book Publishers and "GIEDRA" which moved here in 1947 from WIESBADEN were both here.

Cultural activities included a Drama Studio, Ballet, Sports Clubs in Basketball, Soccer and Tennis. Emigration to England and Belgium started in 1948.

The camp was shut down in June 1949 and its residents transferred to SCHWABISCH-GMUND and elsewhere.

The Camp Lithuanian Camp Post Office in MATTEMBERG was operated by the Lithuanian War Invalids from Nov 8, 1948.

KAUFBEUREN - (75km. WSW Munich) - Bavaria, American Zone

A DP Camp was set up here on June 5, 1945 with 200 Lithuanian DP's in residence at the start. Some lived in the local Motel while others lived in the village.

When the Camp was shut down in 1946, the remaining 150 DP's were transferred to AUGSBURG, KEMPTEN, MEMMINGEN and elsewhere.

KEMPTEN - (100km. WSW Munich) - Bavaria, American Zone

SCHLOSS KASERNE - DP CAMP - UNRRA Team #76 - PO Box 229

The first Lithuanian refugees were in this area in the summer of 1944 and more than 300 Lithuanians were registered in the town when the US Army occupied it on April 27, 1945. Over 2000 Lithuanians were living in the surrounding areas DP Camps.

REALINEJE SCHOOL quartered 551; others were in ILLER HOSTEL, PARK SCHULE and later in the large barracks dubbed "VYTAUTO" Hotel (Address



PO Box 229). On August 30, 1946, when the US Army took over these quarters, the DP Camp was transferred to the SCHLOSS KASERNE.

The camp had a Kindergarten, VINCO KUDIRKO Elementary School, and a Folk University. Adult training courses included English, French, Book-keeping, Radio, etc. Cultural activities included Chorus and Folk dance units. Sports teams existed for basketball, Soccer, etc.

An Arts and Crafts festival was held here July 26/30, 1947 and the US ZONE SPORTS GAMES were held here Feb 2/3, 1946.

The population diminished rapidly in 1948-9 thru emigration to the US, Australia and South America.

The KEMPTEN Camp had a Lithuanian DP Camp post office from January 1, 1946 which was located about a half kilometer from the German Post-office.

KIEL - (80km. N Hamburg) - Schleswig, British Zone

STUDENTS HOSTEL at WIK - FRIEDRICHSORT

WIK, a suburb of Kiel, is the site of a students hostel. Over 200 Lithuanian DP's lived here, at the hostel and with private German families in the suburbs of FRIEDRICHSORT and Moltenort.

The DP Camp was closed in July 1949 and the residents transferred to LUBECK.

KIRCHHEIM - (20km. SE Stuttgart) - Baden-Baden, American Zone

D.P. CAMP # 655

Since 1946 the Pope's Lithuanian National Mission's Delegate was headquartered here. There were about 150 Lithuanian DP's, most living privately.

This Holy Apostolic Delegation published some 23 non-periodical publications in addition to the "AUKA" journal for priests.

In 1949 the remaining DP's were transferred to SCHWABISCH-GMUND.

KLEIN BULTEN - (140km. S Hamburg) - Hannover, British Zone

Covers indicate Lithuanian DP's living in the area in 1947.

KLEIN KOTZ (bei Gunzburg) - (100km. WNW Munich) - Bavaria, Am. Zone

BALTIC DP CAMP - UNRRA Team #165 - LITHUANIAN DP CAMP

The KLEIN KOTZ BALTIC DP CAMP was set up here - 5 km. from GUNZBURG - in August 1945 when about 160 Lithuanian DP's were transferred here from LUDWIGSBURG (near Neu Ulm), BIBERACH, and other nearby places. The population grew to over 200.

The camp had a kindergarten and elementary school, and adult training courses in Chauffering, etc. The Lithuanian Red Cross had a chapter here.

In October 1946 the remaining population was transferred to DILLINGEN.

(to be continued)



## REORGINIZATION PLANS - THE SUBGROUPS

by Don Slawson

The concept of subgroups seems to have been received fairly well, about half of those paying dues saying it sounds good, and none saying it sounded bad. However, one potential leader did bring up the fairly pertinent question "O.K. - how does it work? How do we contact each other". As the old cliché goes--I'm glad you asked that.

With the next issue I will publish a membership list containing the interests (as best I know them) of the members. If you have not yet paid your dues (see front page), please do so, so you will appear on the list. So far, only about 30 persons are paid.

The next thing I need from you: Please inform me if you're willing to become "leader" of a subgroup (either one of the groups defined last issue, or any other area you are interested in). Also inform me if you wish to be placed in contact with a particular subgroup(s) as a member--of course, here you're taking a chance on becoming the leader if noone volunteers for leader.

It is mainly the leader who has a definite function, in that it will be to him that all information concerning that field should be sent. For example, anyone in the Locals group (or entire GPS for that matter) who comes up with an item (either question or information) concerning censorship would write to the leader of the censorship subgroup. It is then up to the leader of the group to collate this for the bulletin. Of course this does not preclude anybody writing stories or articles on any field they choose; it mainly provides a collecting point for small bits and pieces of information which may or may not eventually fit into a story. Once these subgroups are fairly well defined, I'm sure we can get George to publish a list in the Specialist.

If the leader of the subgroup wishes to maintain a close contact with the other members who are interested in the field, fine; although such contact is not absolutely necessary for the operation of the subgroups as I envision it. In other words, a subgroup can be as active or inactive amongst themselves as they wish.

With the next issue I will also publish a list of subgroups with their leaders and others who are interested in being "members" of the subgroup--although as I implied above, everyone would in effect be a member of each subgroup, but perhaps some will be more active than others within the subgroup.

If more than one person should volunteer as leader of a particular subgroup, I will merely report this, and let the principals involved work it out.

Now for the leaders: Task Number 1!

When a person writes seeking information on the Locals group, it would be handy if we could give him a quick general idea of exactly the kind of material our group is working with. To this end I have envisioned a one page "summary" for each of our subgroup areas, explaining very briefly the type of material concerned. With 15 or so such sheets, a person should very quickly have a solid grasp on exactly the type of



material we are working with. As a sample of what I have in mind, I have prepared such a sheet for "Displaced Persons" Mail, which follows this page. How does this idea grab you?

Last, let me say that everything here is strictly my ideas. To include them in this bulletin I have not been able to check them with anybody. They can (and may) be modified.

\* \* \* \* \*

MORE APPEALS

The group has, as usual, the need for several things, one of which is money.

You may have noticed in the organizational structure shown last issue the "Zirkenbach-Paul" Medal committee, which meant nothing to you. Background (as best I know it): We are attempting to establish, in conjunction with the German group (it was their idea), A Zirkenbach-Paul commorative medal to be awarded at irregular intervals to outstanding persons (either here or in Germany) in the field of Postwar German Philatelic effort. This medal will be struck in gold, so it can be awarded at International level shows. The cost of the die is something like \$450, and the cost of each medal around \$200 (at the most 1 medal per year will be awarded, and this level will probably diminish rapidly after the first few years). The recipient of the medal will be chosen by a panel of 6 judges, 3 persons from each country. Our share of the costs is 1/2. The treasury is not in shape to support any effort of this magnatitude. I can appreciate the fact that this project is important, mainly from the point of establishing a joint project between the 2 groups, so if you can possibly afford to kick in a few extra bucks for this, it would certainly be appreciated (and someday you may receive one of the medals). Please send any donations directly to Al Heinz, who is acting as contact point on this project.

Concerning the treasury: Only about 30 people have paid dues so far, but response has been good with about \$150 coming in. However, the 1st bulletin cost \$30, and this one will run about \$70 by the time I mail it (of course I do have a few supplies on hand). We'll never make 4 more issues on what is left. Hopefully a few more people will be joining up.

One of my biggest expenses is electric stencils for the pages with illustrations (\$3 each). Does anyone have an "in" where they can get these made for the cost of the stencil? If so, please let me know.

That's it. Hope we get going on many things.