



# GERMANY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

## 1945-1948 LOCALS

### STUDY AND RESEARCH GROUP

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**Gebühr  
bezahlt**

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#### TREASURER'S REPORT

First, if a check appears here \_\_\_ you have not paid your 1972 dues of \$2.- and there is a 50-50 chance you will receive no more bulletins. If a check also appears here \_\_\_ you did not pay your 1971 dues either, and there is a 100% chance this is the last bulletin you receive unless the \$2.- is paid.

1971			
INCOME		EXPENSES	
Dues	58.-	Electric Stencils	9.-
Back Issues	12.-	Repair mimeo	1.-
Donations	<u>1.-</u>	Paper + stencils	18.65
Total	\$ 71.-	Ink	2.50
		envelopes + postage	<u>28.95</u>
		total	\$ 60.10
1970 carry over	7.91		
1970 balance	<u>10.90</u>		
	18.81		
1972 dues paid	<u>30.-</u>		
Cash on hand	\$ 48.81		

This sounds good until you remember we had only 3 bulletins last year. Mailing a few more issues would have killed us. This is why no dues, no bulletins.



## The Postmaster Provisionals of BAD NAUHEIM/HESSE

by Paul Rossbach-Emden Jr.

translated by Al Geisser

Reprinted from the German Locals Group "Rundbrief" #3 - Aug. 1970

When driving from Frankfurt/Main in the direction of Kassel-Hamburg, one reaches Bad Nauheim after traveling about 30Km. (19Miles). According to the official brochure the spa is located on the side of one of the wooded TAUNUS Mountains, and therefore protected from the rough winds.

The city is world renowned for the health restoring natural wells located there. It is questionable if any of those seeking relief there are aware of the interesting points in the cities postal history. But without question, for the collector interested in postal history, many facts are known. However, recent, specific Post War occurrences have brought about divided opinions among these postal historians.

Is it really so hard to expose what happened and express it in an impartial manner?

Forgotten are the expensive luxuries today offered the paying guest. Taking a look at the statistics as recorded in "Das Kaserliche Postamt of Bad Nauheim" we read: Kurfuerst William I supported until 1807 (translator's note: most likely 1806) post offices in Kassel and Hanau, and opened way stations in Marburg and Bad Nauheim on this route. In Bad Nauheim 20-30 horses were boarded. They, however, served a dual purpose. The erstwhile Postmaster, Herr Voerishofer, was responsible for mail and horses. After the battle at Jena, when the Kurfuerst had to flee, the Postoffice at Bad Nauheim closed. The newly opened Postoffice at Friedberg handled postal matters. From there a courier, paid by the Bad Nauheim populace, made the pickup's. Not until April 22, 1845 was a new post expedition reestablished. Pharmacist Kranz took on the responsibility as a sideline. After his death, Geometer Schneider was chosen. He in turn resigned in 1871 for health reasons. The records show, that even at the beginning of the postal service, great care was given to every detail. The Chronic also lists the duration of each individual's time in office. Here is that listing:

from			
4.24.1845	Kranz	Pharmacist	
10.16.1868	Schneider	Postexpedient	
7.08.1871	Foucar	Postmaster	
4.01.1899	Muenich	Postdirector	
4.01.1903	Jaeger	"	
10.01.1908	Flaschentraeger	"	
11.01.1913	Zimmer	"	
5.01.1924	Rheinwald	"	
10.01.1933	Herrmann	Postamtman	
2.01.1939	Leinweber	"	approx. until 5.25.45
?	Feudner	"	until 2.29.52
5.01.1952	Schade	"	
2.01.1958	Heutzeroder	"	
6.01.1966	Heun	"	



The chronic also lists the following information which may be of special interest to locals collectors:

- March 29 1945 Occupation by U.S. troops with tanks, Post Office closes 5 P.M.
- March 30 1945 Post office ordered closed by military decree, and all adhesives in stock to be turned over to the military authorities at Freiberg.
- July 9 1945 Reopening of postal service for local mail only. In the absence of stamps, a cancelling device received from the OPD Frankfurt was to be used.
- August 9 1945 Post office taken over, and the business transferred to a house on Hauptstrasse 27.
- 1946 ? Reestablishing a post office on Alicenstr. 13-15.
- August 15 1947 Postal service moves to a back room in the post office again.
- 1950 ? Window section of P.O. opened to the public.
- Nov. 11 1953 All of the Post Office Building under control of postal authorities.

Looking at the important items contained in the post chronic, it is noteworthy that no mention has been made of any labels being made up and used. The question: Are the Bad Nauheim labels of doubtful character has been under heated discussion for some time. What in philately is acceptable without question as a postage stamp? This has been under critical study by Dr. Ing. Arno Alexander Schulze Dirks and Kurt Zirkenbach. With the latter's permission we quote from the eminent German Philatelic theorist Edwin Mueller Vienna, now New York, in his book published in Vienna in 1938 "Die Grundbegriffe der Philatelie" (basic understanding of philately). Postage stamps are adhesives, indicating payment of prescribed postal rates, issued by a postal installation or used by the same. For normal times this rule was sufficient, but for the hectic period which we study some changes have to be made. Postage stamps should be available at the Post office, so anyone can purchase them. For this reason, philatelic requirements for an issue to be fully recognized, the following standards should be applied:

1. Was it really necessary to make up these stamps instead of using the customary cash payment method?
2. Was at any time other methods of prepayment (especially stamps) available?
3. Was the issue of sufficient quantity to meet the daily requirements of the public, or were they just sold to make the issue look official?
4. Was the majority available for sale at the postal windows or did 50-90% disappear to satisfy the needs of those who created them?
5. Who ordered the printing and paid for it, the post office or some outside firm or some individuals? How and where is the printing listed?



- 4.
6. Were the stamps in use for daily postal service or did they serve to satisfy only the purpose of collectors and dealers? In other words are there any legitimate Bedarfsbrief with these stamps in existence?
  7. Late acknowledgement of any issue, stemming from outside postal sources, does not mean the true philatelist will elevate the issue to a higher rating. The post office has the right to it's judgement, however, the collectors will not be influenced to change their own assessment.
  8. Many times imperforated issues have been perforated or rouletted by Postmasters and private interests. For the collector these may be interesting, especially if used postaly. They do not justify the high prices usually demanded for them when in mint condition.
  9. This also applies to stamps derived from waste, but which were by some dishonest means channeled into the market. Included in this category are: double prints, misperforations and color changes, as they too are mostly overpriced.

It is with due consideration the writer has put the postwar issues into 4 categories, as has been the custom of all leading catalogs. Following are the groupings:

- I. Stamps, issued normally, running numbers with regular lettering.
- III. Stamps that meet very few of the requirements to be officially recognized. Special numbering in small letters.  
(sorry I got III out of order - ed.)
- II. Stamps issued officially by permission that do not fully meet all requirements. Running numbers small lettering.
- IV. Stamps issued by special interests and therefore cannot be recognized and cannot be cataloged, in spite of the fact that they were cancelled, either through error or by bribe.

Above is the opinions of prominent Philatelists given unabridged as printed in 1949. This study, called the Hallensia norm, was well received by all knowledgeable collectors in Germany and overseas.

To get to the bottom of things concerning Bad Nauheim took special efforts. The findings: It could not be determined by whom the opening of the postal service was ordered. No official record could be located. Nor could it be ascertained in what manner the opening was made known to the public. As already noted in the chronic, on 9 July 1945 limited local service was established. In the beginning a cancelling device received from Frankfurt/Main was available. In early August the occupation forces took over the Post Office which made it necessary to improvise in a new location on Hauptstrasse 27, where operation began on 9 August. Then in the spring of 1946, another move, this to Alicenstrasse 13-15, a former factory. Finally on 15 August 1947 a back room in the Post Office Building was made available again. Peter Feudner was put in charge of the P.O. He had 4 or 5 supposedly experienced employees under him. Whether "Gebuhr bezahlt" cash payment was made use of could not be determined. This should not have been necessary, since the canceller was available from the beginning. At what time postal service was extended betond the local



limits is not known either. It is assumed that only a modest amount was handled. Whether the mail boxes were used from the beginning, or only from a later date is still up in the air.

Concerning the use of the labels, research had the following results: It is beyond comprehension why the provisionals were needed when a canceller was on hand. Then there is the question: Why the fore-runners on brown paper, as this was in short supply. Then one is further confronted with the many varieties on postal seals. With this the last glimmer of respect for these highly priced pieces fades.

Where did the emergency labels come from? Without question the labels with "Gebuhr bezahlt" and value on postal seals are made from stocks on hand. However, this is not the case of the similar labels with colored coat of arms imprint. The printing was done by Lipsky in Bad Nauheim, located on the corner of Haupt- and Schulstrasse, in the same square where the Post Office was then located. The printing was ordered by the Postoffice where Amtmann Feudner had to give his O.K., but who ordered this is not known. The klischees of the coat of arms of the city were available, and today are in possession of a private citizen. When the usage of labels ended, and by whom it was so ordered, is not known. A cover from May 16, 1946 is known, which seems to be a relatively late date. It may be astounding that regular postage was available at that time, as is proved by partial frankings with the same.

With all these facts on hand a need for the Bad Nauheim provisionals has to be negated for the following:

1. Since the canceller was on hand.
2. So too a supply of postage stamps, even though they were of the lower denominations.

Exact details covering the different emissions do not exist. So far no real commercial cover has turned up, with the exception reported by one collector friend. He however claims the canceler would have done just as well. What the cost of printing the labels was is not known, but we assume it was paid by the Bad Nauheim Post Office. No recognition from the OPD Frankfurt was received. A letter from the OPD dated 2 July 1946 states "No city or other special issues of stamps were issued in Frankfurt district". A further communication states: "The Post Office of Bad Nauheim, OPD Frankfurt, had, as reported by the Frankfurt office, due to shortage of high value stamps, labels overprinted as follows: 80, 84, 104, 108, and 140Rpf. Total emission 3000 sets.". A still later answer by OPD Frankfurt, dated 19 July 1946, numbered IAI-1240, states: "The Post Office of Bad Nauheim has at the beginning, due to shortage of high value postage stamps, made into provisional postage stamps seals usually used to close other postal matters by having them overprinted with the coat of arms of the city and Gebuhr bezahlt in various colors and denominations. They are as follows: 80Rpf black, 84Rpf lilac, 104Rpf blue, 108Rpf green, and 140Rpf brown. A total of 3000 sets was given.".

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Editors note: I should have brought this out sooner. The device called a "canceler" herein is "Freistempler". Al states this is a machine much like our postage meter. It imprints the postage notation and carries a total of value imprinted.



Regarding the labels printed and the total thereof: In an open meeting of the Bad Nauheim collectors club in 1958, those present accounted for a combined total of over 1000 sets of the second issue. If the need was great enough to have 3000 sets printed it is hard to understand the large numbers of unused labels still in existence. Furthermore, after passing on in 1968 it was found a former employee had several sets among his effects. The printer too had several hundred which were purchased by a Frankfurt dealer. It is not known if any of the labels were recalled and supposedly destroyed.

As to the paper variations it is thought these are not speculative, but rather occurred by using whatever paper happened to be available. Regarding the 40 red and 60 brown, etc. - the so called experimental prints - nothing could be discovered. They were most likely not usable.

As far as could be ascertained the labels were also supplied to the Post Office in Steinfurth. Cancellations from there are known to exist.

According to the Hallensia norm the Bad Nauheim provisionals will be placed in group III. Is this valuation right?

There are still many things to be clarified, so to all friends of the hobby goes a plea of cooperation to help clear up the still unanswered questions. All information should go to Herrn Manfred Heber, 322 Alfred, Hoersumer-Tor 25, West Germany, who will evaluate the material and report the findings in a later bulletin.

The following is worth mentioning. The Freistempler used in preparing the Bad Nauheim forerunners and Intermediates was later changed somewhat and kept in use. The reprints for the Naubria Exhibition 1961 were made from the original klischee which was still in the possession of the printer. All this paraphernalia has now been turned over to Herr Dr. Best by the president of the Bad Nauheim collectors club.

end

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MEMBER'S CORNER

New member Bob Juceam

106 Hemlock Rd.

Manhasset N.Y. 11030

has asked about buying the following. Anyone who can help him please drop him a line.

Muhlberg #2, 11 mint Lubbenau # 1P, 7P, 7K, 13K (GPS expertised)

Cottbus 33 mint Lohne 1 or 2 on cover

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Next issue: Mr. Heber's findings on Bad Nauheim and Rossbach-Emden's response to that.

Upcoming: information on Saulgau, Strausberg, and Meissen (the first two based on official documentation).