

***THE NEWS OF
HUNGARIAN PHILATELY***

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October-December 2002

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SOCIETY FOR HUNGARIAN PHILATELY
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SOCIETY FOR HUNGARIAN PHILATELY

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Established 1969

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APS Affiliate 34  
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The Society for Hungarian Philately (SHP) is a non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the State of Connecticut and is devoted to the study of every aspect of Hungarian philately. SHP publishes a quarterly newsletter in March, June, September, and December. Manuscripts for publication may be sent to the Society's address listed above. The articles published herein represent the opinions of the individual authors and the content is not to be construed as official policy of this Society or any of its officers. All publication rights reserved for SHP. Articles from this journal may be reprinted with the written permission of the Editor and the authors only. Back issues of the newsletter may be purchased for \$3.00, postpaid, (when available).

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Annual membership dues are **\$15** for members whose addresses are in the United States and Canada and **\$20** for all other, overseas members. Dues are payable in January in advance for the calendar year. Payment of dues entitles members to receive the newsletter, to participate in the sales circuit and the quarterly auctions, and to exercise voting rights. Send dues payments to: The Treasurer, 1005 Franklin St., Santa Monica, CA 90403-2321 USA.

This issue closed on 1 November 2002
The next issue will close on 1 February 2003

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by H. Alan Hoover

Our next show, STAMPSHOW in August 2003 in Columbus OH, is now but eight months away, but recruiting has begun for it. I have three committed exhibits already. Please consider exhibiting and attending. Recall that STAMPSHOW is one of the larger annual shows that rotates throughout the US, and it is in easy driving distance for our members within the Midwest. We hope to see many members at the show. More details will follow in the next issue.

The Executive Board has been busy serving you our membership. We had no new nominations of members wishing to run for office. A ballot is enclosed for the election of the Society officers. An article from the editor regarding the balloting can also be found in this issue. Please support your Society by voting. The proposed bylaw change as recommended by the Board regarding Officer terms has been approved and the bylaws will be updated accordingly.

Our membership continues to grow. The last quarter added a significant number of new members, and we welcome them all. Let us know how to better serve you.

If you haven't seen the new format of our website yet, take a look at the beautiful layout of our electronic presence at <http://www.hungarianphilately.org>. Our member, the Reverend John Tolan from Australia, totally reworked it and significantly improved it. Congratulations, John! Well done! In addition, John has volunteered to be the Society's new webmaster. He has lots of site improvement ideas that the Executive Board will be taking under advisement. With the help of Mr. Richard Simpson, John also developed a new BASIC Hungarian page, that will become a growing web of information on Hungarian philately, history, etc. We can use your inputs, whatever you can offer. Please take a look at it and see what you can offer to expand it. Thank you, Richard, for your guidance on this. We hope that this will offer lots more information on Hungarian philately to stamp collectors worldwide.

I am also proud to announce the appointment of Dr. Andrew Munster as our Chairperson dedicated to the WASHINGTON 2006 FIP show. Andrew will be asking for additional support in establishing all the fine-line details for the show as we approach it. Dr. Paul Szilagyi has volunteered to coordinate the many extra activities at this FIP show. Paul has already made extensive suggestions and began work on the items. Thank you, Paul, for your efforts and beginning the early planning for this much anticipated show in 2006.

Our article regarding the Bound Editions has one minor correction to it. All shipments, even those within the USA, will include shipping fees to the purchaser. I am happy to report that we have just about sold out of the first printing but the 2nd printing has arrived, and we will be happy to accept all orders. With Christmas but a few weeks away, why not buy a set for your philatelist friend and present them with our society journal?

Until next issue, I wish you the best in your philatelic activities and keep stampin'!



KUDOS AND WELCOME

Congratulations to the continuing success of our members on the exhibition circuit: Mr. **Alfred F. Kugel** received a gold medal at Okpex with *The Expansion of Greece, 1897-1922*; also a vermeil at Aripex with *German World War II Occupation Mail*. Mr. Kugel also won a gold medal at StampShow 2002 with *Postal History of the American Forces in China 1900-41* and three gold medals with the single-frame exhibits titled *Half Dollar Postage Stamps of the United States & its Possessions 1893-1939*; *One Dollar Postage Stamps of the United States & its Possessions 1893-1939*; and *\$2.00 to \$5.00 Postage Stamps of the United States & its Possessions 1893-1938*. At the Plymouth Show, Mr. Kugel won a vermeil with *Postal History of Montenegro 1874-1922*. At the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show Mr. Kugel received a gold and the Denver Stamp Club's Samuel Schlesinger award for *The Expansion of Serbia 1876-1921*. At the Minnesota Stamp Expo, Mr. Kugel received a gold and the APS 1900-40 medal for *The Philatelic History of Albania, 1900-1935*.

Congratulations to Dr. **Andrew Munster** for his successful showing of *Rates of the Roman States – The Bajocchi Period, 1852-67* at Balpex. Dr. Munster received a gold medal, the American Philatelic Congress award for write-up, the Postal history Society pre-1900 award, and the Baltimore Philatelic Society medal for his first-time effort!

Congratulations to **Robert B. Morgan** and **Csaba L. Kohalmi** for receiving the gold pin award from the Hungarian Stamp Collectors National Association, Mabéosz. The award was bestowed on about two dozen members for their service benefiting Hungarian philately in honor of the 80th anniversary of Mabéosz.

Welcome to our new members: Mr. **Morrison R. Burns** of Huntsville, AL; Mr. **Lyman R. Caswell** of Seattle, WA; Mr. **Jerry Corsi** of Denville, NJ; Mr. **Tibor Kardos** of San Gabriel, CA; Mr. **Mike Klopfler** of L'le Bizard, PQ Canada; Dr. **Pál Lippai** of Szeged, Hungary; Mr. **Nicolas Petryuk** of Annonay, France; Mr. **Charles Sandberg** of Lakewood, CO; Mr. **László Vidra** of Chatsworth, CA; and a special warm welcome to Miss **Justine Feitelson** of San Diego, CA, who became our first junior member!



SOCIETY BUSINESS

Happy Holidays and the very best wishes for the New Year 2003 to all of our members from the SHP Board of Directors and the Editor!

According to the bylaws of the Society, the Nominating Committee polled the membership for nominations to fill the officers' positions for the years 2003 to 2004. The incumbent officers agreed to serve for this term and no additional nominations were received. The Committee, therefore, places before the membership for vote the following list of candidates for office:

President:	H. Alan Hover
Vice President:	Andrew M. Munster
Secretary:	Robert B. Morgan
Treasurer:	Ted Johnson
Member-at-Large:	Stephan I. Frater
Member-at-Large:	Thomas Phillips

- **Election of Officers**

Members are requested to mark the enclosed ballot and return it (in the same envelope with the 2003 dues payment) to the Treasurer, Ted Johnson, by the close of business, 31 December 2002. The elected candidates will take office as of 1 January 2003.

- **Membership Dues for 2003**

The Executive Board voted to maintain the dues for 2003 at their current levels. Even though the cost of publishing the newsletter increased in 2002 due to the format change and the postal rate increase, the Society's financial situation is on sound footing. Therefore, the dues will remain at \$15 for US and Canadian members and \$20 for all other, overseas members.

Please use the enclosed return envelope and send your 2003 dues payments in US funds to our **Treasurer, Ted Johnson, 1005 Franklin St., Santa Monica, CA 90403-2321 USA**. The deadline for payments is 31 January 2003. Thank you for your continued support!

- **Change in the Bylaws – Term of Office**

The Executive Board did not receive any objections to the proposed change to Article IV of the bylaws. Effective for the election of 2004, the term of office for the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members-at-Large will be FOUR years. The President will still be limited to serving no more than three consecutive terms.



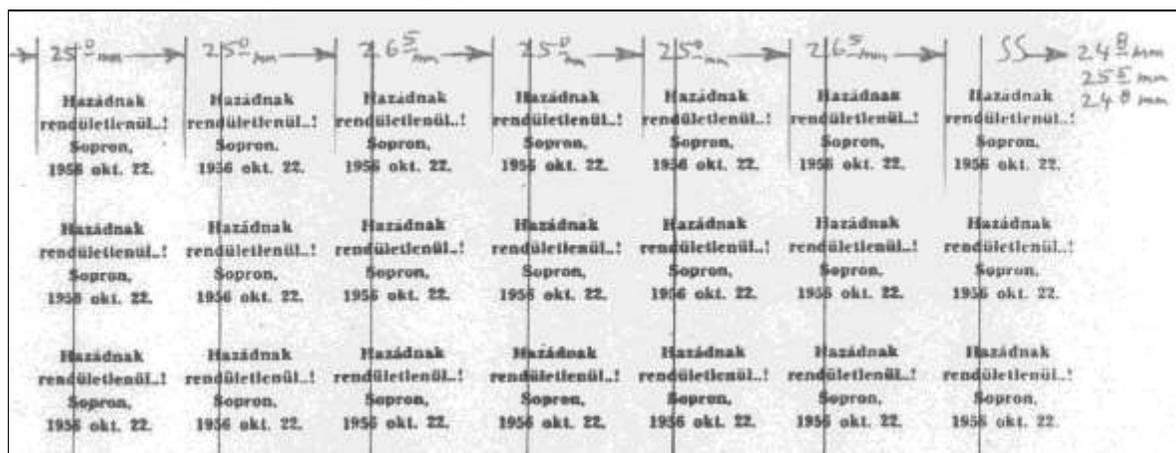
PLATING THE HAZÁDNAK RENDÜLETLENÜL 1956 SOPRON OVERPRINT

by Csaba L. Kohalmi

The alignment, with respect to each other, of the four lines of the small-format 1956 Sopron overprint has fascinated me for quite some time. By searching through countless stamps from the short set of seven values, I was able to make a rudimentary identification of at least five constant variety types. The Sopron issue was marketed abroad exclusively by Philatelia Hungarica. Consequently, 99% of the available sets were made up of single stamps. In all my years of looking, I've encountered blocks of four offered for sale only once. During my visit in Hungary last May, I asked for help. As a result, a set of photographic enlargements from each position of the overprint and a photocopy (unfortunately only seven columns wide) of the trial printing made from the original plate were made available to me. This, coupled with a fortunate and timely auction purchase of large multiples of two of the stamps, enabled me to put together this article. (From the auction lots I was able to reconstruct pseudo-sheets of 68 positions from the 1Ft stamp and 55 positions from the 60f stamp.)

Studying the 70-subject photocopy was not quite as useful as looking at the actual stamps, but I was able to ascertain that the relationship between the four lines of the overprint with respect to each line is constant column by column. (This is almost true; however, there are two exceptions in positions 19 and 20). The photographic enlargements were extremely valuable for providing positional characteristics as well as for the verification of the alignment of the lines by column. Having two different stamps in a large quantity was an indispensable help in sorting through the vagaries of the inconsistent overprint-flaws created by paper curling. The overprint done in black was much easier to study than the one in red. (I also noticed on other values of the set what I thought could be plate wear or ink accumulation, which affected the sharpness of the overprint, especially for the ones overprinted in red. But, not knowing the actual sequence of how stamps were overprinted, this is just a supposition on my part. It does, however, identify another opportunity for further study.)

The 100-subject plate used to overprint the Buildings stamps exhibits irregular spacing between the columns. When measured from the left-side edge of the first letter 'r' in 'rendületlenül' to the next 'r,' the spacing varies between 24.8 to 26.5mm. Since the overall spread from the first 'r' to the last '!' is 228.5mm, the theoretical average spacing should have been 25.38mm. (I used the second line for comparison because it's the longest line. The measurements based on any other line would result in different data. The crux of the matter is that the spacing of the columns is different. Therefore, the overprint will not fall uniformly on the same area of every stamp in a sheet. This is useful to know when authenticating stamps overprinted in small quantities, such as the two sheets of 'Millions' stamps overprinted through private initiative.)



Photocopy of the Printing Proof of the Small Subject Sopron Overprint, Columns 1 through 7, Rows 1, 2, and 3. The longer hand-drawn vertical lines show the uniformity of the alignment of the overprint, column by column. The shorter drawn lines mark the points for measuring spacing differences between the columns. The measurements for the three rightmost (missing) columns were made for an actual overprinted sheet.

In order to align the lines of the overprint for study purposes, I drew a vertical line through the middle of the letter 'S' in the word 'Sopron.' While such bisecting a letter is subject to the tolerances of the 'line' thickness, it did reveal nicely the typesetting differences, line by line, in the 10 columns. Starting with the first column on the left, I assigned letter designators to the varieties. The first three columns became Type a, b, and c, respectively. For all practical purposes, the next four columns in the overprint repeat the same alignment: a, b, c, a. (By the expression 'for all practical purposes' I mean that, in my opinion, even under strong magnification, there is no appreciable or measurable difference in the alignment of the lines between columns 1, 4 and 7, for example.) The typesetting, namely Types d, e, and f in the last three columns, is significantly different from the first three. Therefore, I was able to identify six notably different overprint typesettings, which show consistency throughout their entire respective columns.



Strip of Five 1 Ft Sopron Overprints from Columns 1 through 5.

Column Number / Overprint Type: 1 / a, 2 / b, 3 / c, 4 / a, 5 / b

(Note the position of the exclamation point '!' on the right side of the stamp. The displacement is caused by the differences in spacing between the columns of the overprint in the sheet.)



Strip of Five 1 Ft Sopron Overprints from Columns 6 through 10.

Column Number / Overprint Type: 6 / c, 7 / a, 8 / d, 9 / e, 10 / f

The following illustrations are enlargements of the six different typesettings of the overprint along with a brief description of the alignment of the four lines with respect to the centerline through the letter 'S' in Sopron.



Type a Overprint, Columns 1, 4, and 7: the middle of the 'S' lines up with the inside right stem of the letter 'H,' the right outside edge of the letter 'd,' and the left outside edge of the numeral '6.'



Type b Overprint, Columns 2 and 5: the middle of the 'S' lines up with the right outside edge of the letter 'H,' the middle of the letter 'd' and the middle of the numeral '5.'



Type c Overprint, Columns 3 and 6: the middle of the 'S' lines up with the inside edge of the right stem of the letter 'H,' the center of the right side of the letter 'd,' and the left edge of the numeral '6.'



Type d Overprint, Column 8: the middle of the 'S' bisects the letter 'a' in the first line and lines up with the right outside of the letter 'd' and the numeral '5.'

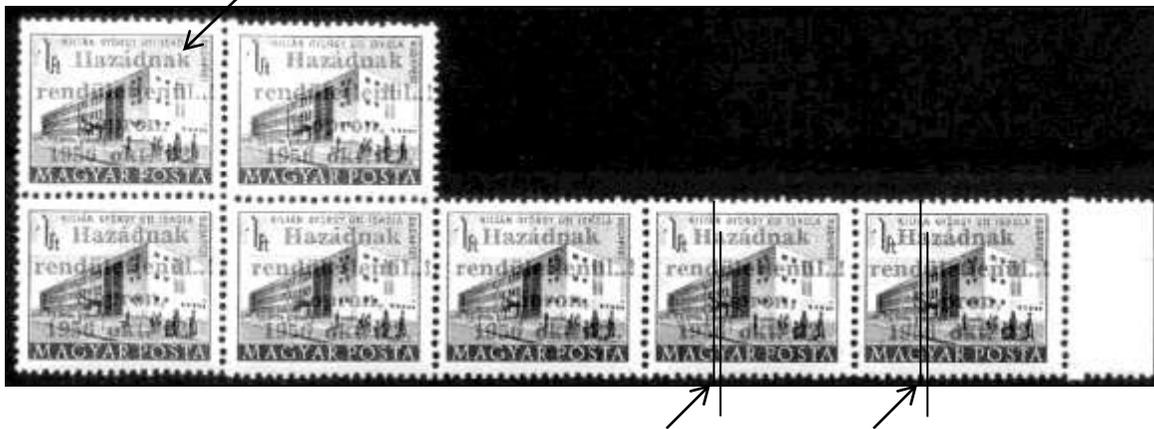


Type e Overprint, Column 9: the middle of the 'S' lines up with the right inside edge of the letter 'a,' runs in between the letters 'dű' and bisects the numeral '6.'



Type f Overprint, Column 10: the middle of the 'S' lines up with the right outside edge of the letter 'a,' and the left outside edges of the letter 'ü' and the numeral '6.'

Of course, there is always an exception or two. In the second row of stamps, sheet positions 19 and 20 show similarity to the Type e and the Type f overprints in their respective columns; but the line 'Sopron,' of the overprint is spaced differently. It is shifted about 1mm to the left. I assigned sub-type numbers to these two stamps, Types e₁ and f₁. Unfortunately, my multiple showing the two sub-varieties was missing an attached 'normal' stamp.



1Ft Multiple from Sheet Positions 6, 7, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20.

Arrow points to the displaced centerline of the letter 'S' that is unique to positions 19 and 20. Second line to the right indicates the normal centerline of the 'S.' Note the bold arrow pointing to the letter 'k' with a short stem on the stamp in position 6.

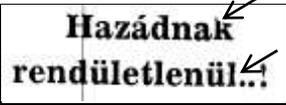
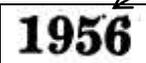
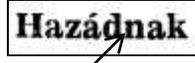
The following table illustrates the relative abundance (or scarcity) of the various types in the overprint typesettings and provides a possible value-multiplier based on availability.

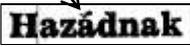
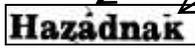
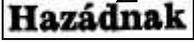
Frequency of Occurrence of the Typesetting Varieties in a Sheet of 100

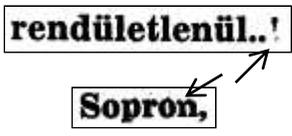
Overprint Type	Sheet Columns	Number of Stamps Per Sheet of 100	Value Modifier
a	1, 4, 7	30	1x
b	2, 5	20	1.6x
c	3, 6	20	1.6x
d	8	10	3x
e	9	9	3x
e ₁	part of 9	1	30x
f	10	9	3x
f ₁	part of 10	1	30x

I also examined the 100 photographic enlargements, one for each position in the sheet, that I received in Hungary (see the Acknowledgements at the end of the article). The subsequent table lists the identifiable peculiarities of 36 positions. Some of these overprint characteristics are minor specks or plate flaws; a few include deformed letters that indicate more significant, collectible varieties. Please note that I added the vertical lines in the photographic enlargements for the alignment study, and they are not a flaw or a part of the overprint. Also, the photographs exhibit occasional specs, dots, and lines. These aberrations are due to contamination of the negatives or the enlarger lens by particles of lint or dust and contribute to the difficulty of identifying true plate characteristics.

Table of Errors and Flaws in the Overprint Plate

Position	Description of the flaws in the overprint	Photographic enlargement	Notes
6	Deformed letters 'k' (short stem) in 'Hazádnak' and 'l' (indentation) in 'rendületlenül..!'		
10	Small wedge-shaped deformation in the letter 'z' of 'Hazádnak'		Deformation of the diagonal line of the letter 'z' is much more noticeable on a stamp
11	Small dot-like deformation on third letter 'a' in 'Hazádnak'		
13	Flaw in first period after 'rendületlenül..!' (incomplete circle)		
14	Deformed letters 't' and 'l' in 'rendületlenül..!'		On one 60f stamp, the 'l' is completely broken in the middle
20	Ink-filled 'fat hook' on the letter 'á' in 'Hazádnak'		
21	Dot between the top of the numerals '5' and '6'		
26	Thickening on the left outside of the letter 'n' in 'Hazádnak'		
29	Short stroke on the comma after the word 'Sopron,'		
31	Faint sloping line over the third letter 'e' in 'rendületlenül..!'		Fairly faint, best viewed on stamps overprinted in black
34	Two tiny breaks in the upward curl of the first letter 'e' in 'rendületlenül..!'		
36	Deformed periods and dot portion of the exclamation point after 'rendületlenül..!'		
43	Deformation in the dot portion of the exclamation point after 'rendületlenül..!'		
46	Deformed periods and dot portion of the exclamation point after 'rendületlenül..!'		

50	Foreign matter fill in the bottom portion of the numeral '9' in '1956'		
51	Deformed accent mark over the letter 'á' in the word 'Hazádnak'		
55	Slight indentation on the letter 'p' of the word 'Sopron,'		
56	Deformed periods and dot portion of the exclamation point after 'rendületlenül..!'		
62	Deformed accent mark over the letter 'á' and broken stem of the letter 'k' in 'Hazádnak'		
63	Damaged top portion of the letter 'H' and deformed accent mark over the letter 'á' in 'Hazádnak'		
65	Foreign matter between the accent dot and the letter 'ü' in 'rendületlenül..!'		
70	Slight deformation in the first letter 'ü' in 'rendületlenül..!' and a small inclusion in the top portion of the second numeral '2' in the date '22.'		
71	Deformed top portion of the letter 'd' in the word 'Hazádnak'		
75	Small inclusions in the bottom portion on the numeral '5' and the letter 'k' in the date '1956 okt. 22.'		
76	Deformed period before the exclamation point in 'rendületlenül..!'		
77	Deformed accent dot in the first letter 'ü' in 'rendületlenül..!'		
81	Small bump on the first letter 'a' of 'Hazádnak'		
85	Extended curl on the tail of the second numeral '2' in the date '22.'		
86	Broken bottom left serif on last letter 'l' in 'rendületlenül..!'		
88	Small line above the letter 't' in 'okt.'		
90	Indentation on the top serif of the letter 'S' in 'Sopron,'		
91	Speck in front of the date '1956'		

93	Dot portion of the exclamation point and the left top serif of the letter 'n' in 'Sopron,' is deformed		
97	Small wedge-shaped indentation on the right inside of the letter 'd' in 'Hazádnak'		
98	Small wedge-shaped indentations on the left inside of the letter 'd' in 'Hazádnak'		
100	Spot on the bottom serif of the letter 'k' in 'Hazádnak'		

Since I did not have access to a stamp from every position of the sheet, other constant flaws may still be identifiable. Also, there are open topics that need to be researched, such as the technical details about how the typesetting was done, answering the questions as to why the columns are (nearly) identical, the order of overprinting of the stamps, identifying plate wear, and so forth.

Acknowledgements:

I am deeply grateful for the encouragement and the technical support provided for this study by **Gábor Visnyovszki**, the President of MAFITT, who made available the photocopy and photo enlargements of the trial impression of the overprint for this issue. The overprint-reconstruction documentation came from the estates of **Péter Néma** and **Gábor Rátai**, who, unfortunately, passed away before being able to publish their findings.

I would also like to thank **László Filep** of Profila for clueing me in on and showing me the 'must have' auction lots during my last visit to Budapest.



EXHIBITING

by Robert B. Jensen

You have some favorite stamps and covers and friends are encouraging you to exhibit them. This is a great idea, but you worry about what it will cost. Exhibiting is only for the wealthy collector. Wrong! It is also for you and me.

First of all, make sure that you have enough material on hand to show your friends and exhibit attendees. How much is enough? The minimum exhibit is one frame, but what is a frame? The frame is supplied by the stamp show organizers and looks like a window and sash on a tripod. A frame holds 16 standard 8½ x 11 inch pages. So, the minimum exhibit consists of 16 pages. Of course, you can exhibit more; no one wants to hold you back.

So we start with a standard page. On it you mount the first of your stamps or covers. If you are computer oriented, go with it. The show judges love this kind of exhibit, as you can do wonders with a computer in arrangement and printing. So we have identified the first cost, the price of the paper pages to mount the material. Standard medium weight for exhibiting, no 3-ring type, suitable for your computer printer will run about \$0.15 per page. Add to this the cost of stamp hinges, mounts, and jumbo corner mounts for covers.

After you have finished with the pages, what next? Guard your new treasures with great care and insert each page into a Mylar sleeve, an exhibition page protector. Each sleeve will cost about \$1.00. They are a must and will protect the finished page from dirt and damage. The total cost of each page, for the material alone, will be about \$1.25. Therefore, the cost of a single frame will be about \$20.00. If you exhibit more than one frame, multiply the number by \$20.00 to get to the total cost of material. One reason for the higher cost is that all must be archival-suitable.

Before putting each page in its Mylar sleeve, mark your name and position of that page in the exhibit on the back. For example, frame one, page one; frame one, page two; etc. This makes it easy for the person mounting the pages in a frame if that person is not you.

In the first frame, page one is the title page and it lists your exhibit material in historical or chronological order. Its purpose is to guide the viewer through your exhibit. Page two is the synopsis page and lists the highlights or good points about your material that the viewer might not know about. So, frame one will have two written pages and 14 pages of material. Frame two could have 16 pages of material.

The next step is getting your feet wet and actually exhibiting. Start small, or slowly. If your local stamps club has a stamp show and bourse, this would be where you begin. Get an application, fill it out, pay your fee – usually \$5 per frame – and send it in. Early on the first day of the show, take your exhibit to it and put it in the designated frame or frames. Show personnel are universally helpful, so you will have no problem. On the last day of the show, take your frame down, collect your prize and take the accolade that you've earned with your exhibit.

Now, wasn't that easy?

*/Mr. Jensen also sent along several clippings. One was from the **American Philatelist** titled 'Exhibiting' by Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz, who discussed in greater detail the format and contents of the title and synopsis pages. This author referenced **The Philatelic Exhibitor's Handbook, Second Edition** (The Traditions Press, Shawnee-Mission, KS, 1995) by Randy L. Neil. In the other clippings, Publisher John F. Dunn discussed the value and importance of exhibiting in his 'From the Publisher's Desk' columns in the April 20, 2001 and May 4, 2001 editions of **Meekel's & Stamps Magazine**. Ed./*



THE TECHNIQUE OF EXHIBITING

by Andrew M. Munster, M.D.

This is the last of a short series intended to encourage exhibiting. I am going to throw away the book, specifically the **Manual of Philatelic Judging**, and the ever-valuable resource, **The New Philatelic Exhibitors' Handbook** by Randy Neil. Although both are worth reading, I am writing from personal experience as a veteran of national and international exhibitions. (I am not a judge.)

In reality, there are only three or four things that matter.

- (1) Look at other exhibits and make notes, including the level of the award. What do *you* think the exhibitor has done well or poorly, and what have you learnt?
- (2) Simplicity and readability is a must. They don't tell you this, but you must assume that the judges don't actually know everything (or maybe even anything) about your area; that they have not read around it; that they have not read any articles (even if they are yours) you may have had the audacity to send them before the show; and may have not even read your synopsis page. (More on this later, just in case they do read it.) Therefore, you have to explain your exhibit as you would to an interested member of the public; and, since most of the judges are old and don't see well, everything has to be readable. E.g., fictional illustration:

Illustration 1:

On May 1, 1945, a new system of postal rates, using the Pengö, was introduced into Hungarian usage. Postal regulations came into being which were extremely complex and published in the P.R.T., or Postai Rendeletek Tárja, or Compendium of Postal Regulations, which in turn was dictated on a near-daily or daily basis by the Treasury and the Office of the Prime Minister. There were problems with the supply of adequate quality paper for the printing of stamps, and a private press was commissioned

in addition to the Government printing office. The period just preceding May 1, 1945 after the end of World War Two and the progressive east to west occupation of Hungary by Allied forces was largely unregulated, and several local Postmasters issued provisional stamps and cancels to expedite mail. Their inclusion or exclusion from an exhibit of the postwar Inflation Era is quite controversial, some experts regarding them as “forerunners” and some as legitimate components leading up to this era... (*Yawn...*)

Illustration 2:

On May 1, 1945, new postal rates were published which over the next fifteen months became the subject of an accelerated inflation, reflected in the postal rates. Rates changed a total of 27 times between 1 May 1945 and 31 July 1946, the end of the inflation era, when the *Pengö* was replaced by the new currency, the *Forint*. By June and July 1946, inflation had become so rampant that some of the rates only lasted three days before being replaced... (*Mmmm... this could be interesting, let's see the material.*)

Illustration 3:

POSTAL HISTORY OF THE WORST INFLATION EVER KNOWN (GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS, 1999). This unparalleled period began on 1 May 1945 and ended on 31 July 1946. An item costing 1 Pengö (P) at the beginning, cost 4.7×10^{29} P or 4,700,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 P at the end... (*Wow – this sounds like fun!*)

(I am cheating... One of these is real, the other two are fictional. Can you guess which is which?)

- (3) Your story and the Title Page. There *must* be a simple, logical story, which aims to fascinate and unfolds on your title page. It helps to direct attention at section or frame numbers where certain material is located. I don't think that it matters how much you do it. I personally don't have enough patience to read documents which sound like legal contracts (“Section 1.1(a) subsection b shows the original design or plate proofs.” I prefer “Frames 1-2 show the original designs, etc.”) Keep it relevant and short. If you outline a story on the title page and it becomes hard to follow in the exhibit, the judges became annoyed, because it costs them time. I have never understood why judges only have four seconds or whatever to assess each frame, maybe they should start earlier or finish later, but there we are.
- (4) The Page Layout. This is critical because it must as perfect as you can make it. A lot of lip service is paid to research, originality, rarity of material, but we all have a budget to work with, and we can't all be original researchers. What we can all do, however, is to present a perfect page. By this I mean a computer-generated write-up or at least a gorgeous handwritten or typed write-up with no spelling or grammatical errors (you'd be surprised!), everything symmetrical, the same approach to each page. If you put a little write-up on each page, don't put it on to top one and the bottom for another. I have always found “embellishments” dangerous. Matting may be imperfect, material may slip from computer created frames, showing “important” material in a different way may lead to the question: why is this more important than the rest, and why are you showing the rest anyway? Simplest is the safest. However, that is certainly a matter of taste.
- (5) The Synopsis Page. This is the page that goes to the jury, unless you want to include it to follow the Title page. This is where you blow your horn, tell them the research you have done, how difficult it was, where the stuff is that you *really* want them to see. Philatelic references can be put either here or on the title page. Do the judges read the synopsis? You bet! The

more rarefied your exhibit is, and the less the judges are to be familiar with it, the more important the synopsis becomes.

Enjoy, don't be afraid!

The following very experienced members of our Society have very kindly offered to **review and critique** fledging (or experienced) exhibits. I am most grateful to them. They are

- Dr. Stephan I. Frater, 195 George Street, Providence, RI 02906-2043. Dr. Frater is a winner of many prestigious awards including International Gold.
- Kalman V. Illyefalvi, 8207 Darren Court, Baltimore, MD 21208-2211. Kal Illyefalvi is an accredited Judge and collector.

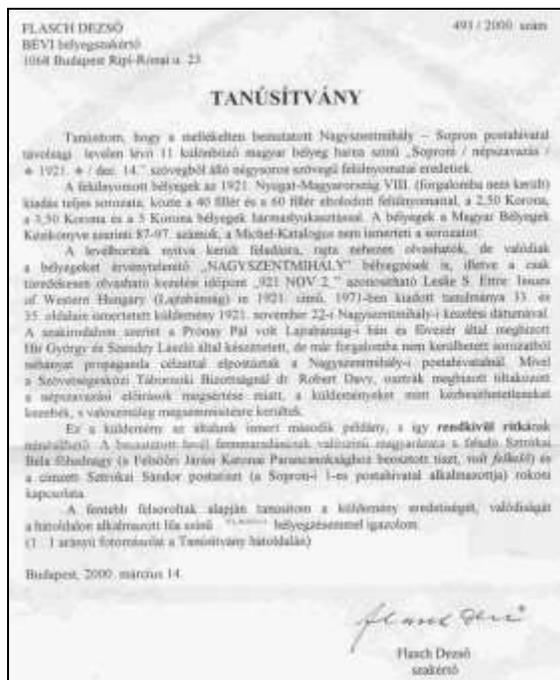


THE SOPRON PLEBISCITE ISSUE ON COVER

by László Filep

The overprinted set of stamps commemorating the Sopron Plebiscite were prepared by György Hír, economic councilor in the Government of Western Hungary, and László Szendey, the Director of Posts, based on instructions received from Pál Prónay, the Commander-in-Chief and *Bán* of Western Hungary. The four-line text *Soproni / népszavazás / ♦1921.♦ / dec. 14.* was applied in brown color to eleven different values of the Harvesters and Parliament-design stamps. By the time the production of the series was completed, Lajtabánság ceased to exist as an independent country, and the issuance of the stamps was prohibited by Directive 34.112/921 from the Executive Director of the Royal Hungarian Post and Telegraph.





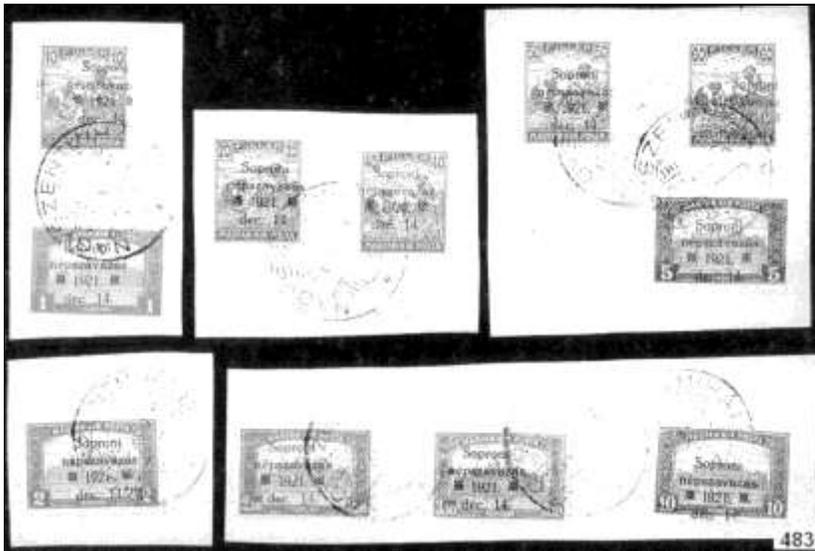
The illustrated cover is from the collection of Gábor Beszédes. It was cancelled at Nagyszentmihály and sent to Sopron and bears a complete set of overprints (1921 Western Hungary Series VIII., unissued) including two values (40f and 60f) with shifted overprint, and three values (2,50K, 3,50K, 5K) with triangular punched holes. The **Handbook of Hungarian Stamps** assigns catalog numbers 87-97 to this series; the Michel catalog does not list it.

The letter was posted with the reverse flap unsealed. The cancellation on the stamps is poor and the date is hard to read, but it is an authentic Nagyszentmihály cds, 2_ November 1921. It compares favorably with the cover described on pp. 33 and 35 of Leslie S. Etre's book, **Issues of Western Hungary (Lajtabánság) in 1921**. The date on that cover from Nagyszentmihály is purported to be 22 November 1921.

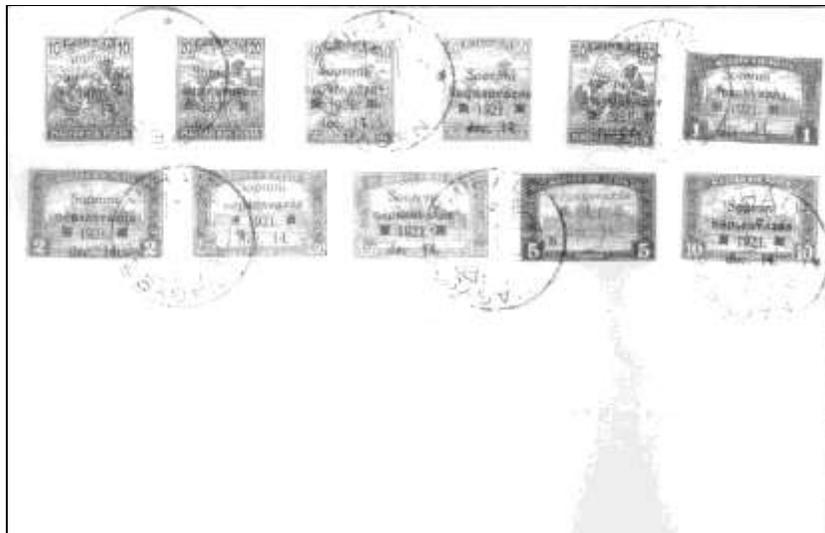
Flasch Letter of Authentication Dated 14 March 2000.

Philatelic literature acknowledges the fact that a few covers were posted in Nagyszentmihály for propaganda purposes franked with the unissued stamps. At this time, the insurgents had evacuated Lajtabánság, and the Committee of Entente Generals, headquartered in Sopron, was responsible for the territory's oversight. Military security was the responsibility of the Hungarian Army under the command of Infantry General Pál Nagy. Despite these arrangements, it is likely that insurgents remained in the territory quasi-illegally or, in the area around Fertőd, legally. This last group, most of whom were refugees from Transylvania or other parts of Hungary given to the Successor States, was under the command of Miklós Budaházy and József Szabó. In addition, *former insurgents*, those who surrendered before the deadline established by Horthy-Prónay agreement, remained behind and were re-activated as members of the Hungarian Army or of the Reserve Battalion of the Hungarian Gendarmerie. It is conceivable that one of these persons was responsible for posting the letter bearing the Sopron Plebiscite stamps. The selected post office of Nagyszentmihály (today: Grosspetersdorf) was fairly distant from the area already occupied by the Austrian authorities. The Austrian 4th Brigade arrived in the town, which was fairly small with a population of about 2,000, in November 28th, six days after the letters were posted. In the interim, it was unlikely that the Hungarian authorities with limited resources would have dispatched any military or gendarme units to this small community. The local gendarme detachment may have been left without personnel or the personnel's sympathies could have been on the side of the insurgency, so there were no impediments to posting the letters with the forbidden overprinted stamps. Dr. Robert Davy, the Austrian Government's designated representative, filed a protest before the Committee of Entente Generals about the use of the stamps, which violated the provisions of the plebiscite agreement. Consequently, the letters were judged to be undeliverable and, most probably, were destroyed. This cover, which is extraordinarily rare, is the second example to have survived, the other being the one illustrated by Dr. Etre.

The survival of this cover probably can be traced to the family relationship between the sender and the addressee. The sender was Lieutenant Béla Sztrókai, former insurgent assigned to the Military Command of the Felsőőr District (who received his assignment due to aforementioned agreement between Hungarian Regent Horthy and Lajtabánság Commander Prónay). The intended recipient was Sándor Sztrókai, a postal employee with the Sopron 1 Post Office. (The missing accent mark on the letter 'o' of the recipient's name can be explained by the fact that different branches of a family elected different spellings of the family name, e.g., Széchenyi – Széchenyi.)



/ The 42nd Profila auction contained Lot #4838 of the Sopron Plebiscite issue cancelled at Nagyszentmihály on five pieces. See the illustration from the auction catalog on the left. Several stamps have the same characteristic shift in the overprint as the Beszédes cover. Sorry about the poor quality, but the halftone picture scanned poorly. Ed./



Sopron Plebiscite Issue on Cancelled-to-order, Un-addressed Cover, Nagyszentmihály, 27 November 1921. /This cover is from the collection of Dr. Paul J. Szilagyi. Note that the shifting characteristics in the overprints on the stamps are very similar to the two other examples presented. Ed./

Acknowledgements:

The first illustrated cover is from the collection of Gábor Beszédes along with the letter of authenticity written by Dezső Flasch. The 42nd Profila auction was held on 12 September 2002. The second cover is from the collection of Dr. Paul J. Szilagyi.

Bibliography:

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Ormos, Mária, **Padovától Trianonig**, Budapest, 1983.
Prónay, Pál, **A határban a halál kaszál**, Budapest, 1963.
Zsiga, Tibor, **Horthy ellen, a királyért**, Budapest, 1989.

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APARTMENT PETITION FEE REVENUE STAMPS

by László Gulyás

In recent years, the stamp catalog titled **Magyar Posta- és Illetékbélyeg Katalógus**, published annually by the Philatelia Hungarica company, continuously expanded its listing of revenue stamps. This had fostered renewed interest amongst collectors for the long overlooked revenue stamps since their purpose was entirely different from postage stamps, yet the characteristics of manufacture, such as printing, paper, watermark, perforations, were very similar to those of postage stamps. At the same time, new research opportunities had opened up to discover startling differences. I hope to elaborate on these topics in a future article.

Presently, I would like to focus attention on the first three issues of the apartment petition fee stamps. These were prepared by overprinting various Budapest municipal revenue stamps. The three issues are easily distinguishable by the basic stamps used and the differences in the overprinted text.

Unfortunately, the collectors are at a disadvantage because the current catalog still does not list the various local revenue stamps issued by Hungarian municipalities, headed up by the prolific issues from the capital city of Budapest. A casual collector can easily miss out on varieties because of this. To what am I referring? For the aforementioned series, the catalog does not provide a separate illustration for the third issue, but footnotes the statement that the 10K and 20K values are not known to exist without the overprint. I had to calm down many excited collectors who presented their supposedly un-overprinted copies to me as discoveries of great rarities. Actually, they were partially correct because what they had in their possession were basic stamps used for the first and second series. These municipal revenues exist in great numbers. The answer lies in a more thorough scrutinization of the stamps and an understanding of what is meant by the introductory sentence at the beginning of the listings in the catalog.

According to that sentence, the inscription contained in the oval banner surrounding the central design on the basic, Budapest municipal 10K and 20K stamps (as well as on the 1K value with which we're not concerned right now) used for the first and second issue reads:

BUDAPEST SZÉKESFŐVÁROS TÖRVÉNYHATÓSÁGA

The inscription found on the basic Budapest municipal revenue stamps used to create the third issue reads differently:

BUDAPEST FŐVÁROS TÖRVÉNYHATÓSÁGA

In other words, the 10K and 20K stamps bearing this inscription are not known to exist without the overprint. Thus, the two series can be differentiated by the versions of the text. /**FŐVÁROS** means *Capital City*, while more archaic **SZÉKESFŐVÁROS** means *Seat of the Capital City*. **TÖRVÉNYHATÓSÁGA** = *MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY*. Ed./



First Issue Overprinted 'Lakástügyi miniszteri biztos' on 'Budapest Székesfőváros Törvényhatósága' Revenues.



Second Issue Overprinted 'Lakások miniszteri biztosa' on 'Budapest Székesfőváros Törvényhatósága' Revenues. /Both versions of the overprinted text mean Ministerial Commissioner for Residence Permits./

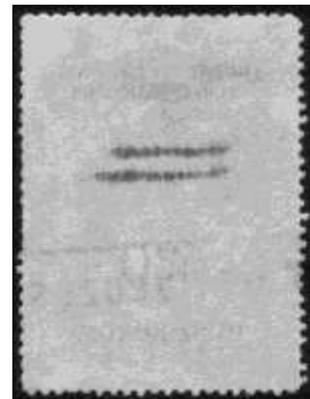
The Flóderer specialty catalog for revenue stamps contributed to the confusion by illustrating a single stamp with the FÖVÁROS inscription alongside the listing for the first issue. No illustrations were published alongside the second and third issues. However, the annotation for the third issue correctly notes that the 10K and 20K values are not known without the overprint. As a cross-reference, the listing of the basic stamps in the Budapest municipal issues section reserves catalog numbers for these stamps (#40, 41), but notes that all copies have the overprint *Lakások miniszteri biztosa*. The confusion continues in the Budapest municipals section by the lack of illustrations or even a clear explanation for the change in the text from SZÉKESFÖVÁROS (1904 issue) to FÖVÁROS (1919 issue) and then back to SZÉKESFÖVÁROS (1919-1924 issue).



Third Issue Overprinted 'Lakások miniszteri biztosa' on 'Budapest Főváros Törvényhatósága' Revenues.



Apartment Petition Fee Revenue Stamps Used by other Municipal Departments. Overprint is crossed out with red ink, which is visible through the reverse side of the stamp.



It is interesting to note that remainders of these issues were used in other departments of the municipal authority. These examples can be identified by the fact that the overprint was crossed out with a pen using red ink. These alternate usages deserve a place in collections, especially when they are on entire documents. Soaked copies also can be differentiated through the fact that the apartment permits office used a circular rubber canceller with purple ink while other offices used a large rectangular (in most instances, made of steel) canceller and black ink.

A probable reason for the lack of any un-overprinted 10K and 20K stamps from the third series comes to mind. Theoretically, it is possible that the 'overprint' on these two values was printed by modifying one of the two printing plate at the time of production. For each stamps, the color of the 'overprint' appears to be the same shade as the color of the numeral of value. Having examined many copies of this issue, I could not identify any differences in the color shades between the text and the numerals. Given the technologically simple method of mixing printing inks at the time, it would have been difficult to achieve such a harmony of color shades, especially if two separate operations (printing and overprinting) were involved. Further research could prove this theory, especially if copies of these stamps were found with radical shifting between the design and the numerals/overprints.

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- Newsletters of the Revenue Stamp Collectors' Section of MABÉOSz
- Zalavári, István, et al., **Magyar Posta- és Illetékbélyeg Kalókus**, Philatelia Hungarica, annual issues



FURTHER INFORMATION ON EARLY AIRMAILS FROM HUNGARY TO AUSTRALIA

by **Judy Kennett**

In **The News of Hungarian Philately**, Vol. 33, No. 1, Jan-Mar 2002, I asked for information about airmail rates to Australia in the mid-to late 1930s. At that time, I speculated that direct airmail services from Hungary to Australia had commenced during July 1938, when KLM flights from Europe to the Netherlands East Indies (now Indonesia), which had previously terminated in Batavia (now Jakarta), were allowed to continue to Sydney.

Since I sent my note to the Editor, I have found another cover, illustrated here, whose dates have shown my theory to be suspect. The cover illustrated was posted at Budapest 508 on 23 July 1937. There is another cancel in the top left-hand corner of the envelope, applied some hours later at another Budapest 2? post office. Unfortunately, the second digit fell on the dark border around the window and is illegible.

The franking of 9 pengös seems very high. It has been suggested that it was to pay for carriage by Imperial Airways flying boat service. This would have necessitated a flight from Athens to Alexandria (Egypt) to join the aircraft on its way to Australia. As there were no direct KLM flights to Sydney at that time, the Imperial Airways service may have been the only flight available. However, to go back to the high franking, I do wonder if the sender, who may have just wanted the recipient to have used copies of the high denomination stamps from the 1936 air set, ignored the fact that the letter was grossly overfranked.

The airmail machine cancel on the back of the envelope shows that the article arrived in Sydney early on 3 August 1937. I'm now on the lookout for more airmail covers from the same period and, possibly, even earlier. Any readers of this note who have further information on these early airmails and the applicable rates can contact either the Editor or myself on jkennett@tpg.com.au.



A superb, five-color franking airmail cover, posted at the Budapest 508 Post Office on 23 July 1937 with arrival at the Air Mail Section G.P.O. in Sydney on 3 August 1937 as indicated by the machine cancel on the back. The postage paid totaled 9P. The breakdown of this rate is a mystery.



COLD WAR HUNGARICA COVERS FROM OREGON

translated by Csaba L. Kohalmi

At 1800 hours on 19 November 1951, an American C-47 aircraft made a forced landing near Pápa in the western part of Hungary. Initially, the aircraft, flying at an altitude of 3,000m, crossed into Hungarian airspace coming from Yugoslavia over the Somogy region of southern Hungary, but then it turned and proceeded to fly a southeasterly route into Rumanian airspace. Two hours later, the aircraft violated Hungarian airspace again by flying a route from Arad over Békéscsaba, Sztálinváros and Veszprém. The last two towns had significant industrial plants. One can only surmise the purpose of the flight: was the American aircraft lost or was it on a surveillance (spying?) mission? The contemporary press reports about the incident do not reveal this, nor do the recently declassified documents from the Moscow archives.

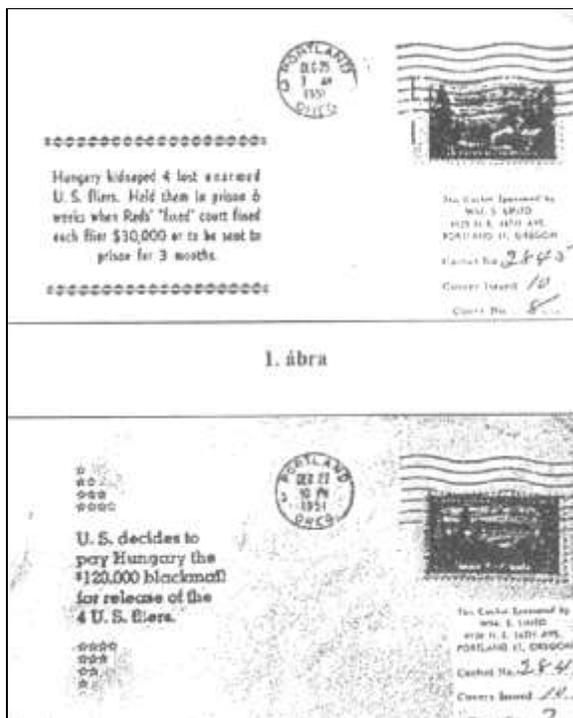
The aircraft was able to penetrate the airspace of the three countries unperturbed because none of them operated anti-aircraft batteries capable of hitting such a high-flying (at that time) airplane. It was not for the lack of trying because, evidently, the aircraft was fired upon during this mission. Finally, the Hungarian authorities requested help from the Soviet troops stationed in Hungary. The Soviets scrambled MIG jet fighters, which caught up with the American plane as it was making its way to Austrian airspace and forced it to land. The crew, consisting of two US Air Force captains and two sergeants, was turned over to Hungarian authorities.

In 1951, the Iron Curtain already had split Europe into two cold warring camps, while a hot war raged on the other side of the globe in Korea. Surprisingly, the Hungarian authorities did not charge the Americans with spying. After being held for six weeks, they were brought before the People's Army's Military Tribunal and sentenced to three years' imprisonment for illegally crossing the

country's borders. In lieu of the prison sentence, the Tribunal offered to release them upon payment of a \$30,000 per person fine. The Communist Party's organ, **Szabad Nép**, editorialized in its December 25th edition that fine of (now exaggerated) \$360,000 was justified for the blatantly guilty Americans. The State Department paid the 'ransom' and the flyers were release three days later. The C-47 aircraft was confiscated and put into service with the Hungarian Air force, which already operated several such World War II-era aircraft acquired from the Soviet Union. In 1957, the C-47 military planes were re-engined and put into service with Malév, the Hungarian airline. The original 'spy' plane's end came in 1961, when it crashed during a routine flight and was totally destroyed.

Mr. William S. Linto of Portland, Oregon, provided the philatelic links to this event. The well-known entrepreneur was a prolific creator of patriotic cachets during World War II. On 25 December 1951, he prepared ten covers with the text *Hungary kidnapped 4 lost unarmed / U.S. fliers. Held them in prison 6 / weeks when Reds "fixed" court fined each flier \$30,000 or to be sent to / prison for 3 months*. Mr. Linto numbered each of his cachets, and this was #2845 in a long series. Two days, later he issued #2846, which read *U.S. decides to / pay Hungary the / \$120,000 blackmail / for release of the / 4 U.S. fliers*. Both covers illustrated in the article were postmarked in Portland.

Copies of Mr. Linto's cacheted *Hungarica* covers came into the possession of a Hungarian collector, who was curious about the motivation behind the cachet. The author of the article in **Bélyegvilág** posed a series of questions which were sent by the editor to the webmaster (H. Alan Hoover) of our Society's website. The author was fascinated by the cachet and wanted to know the purpose, the originator, the reasons for the small quantity made as well as whether any official permission was required. My research of a couple articles from **Linn's Stamp News** and the e-Bay on-line auctions revealed a bit of information about Mr. Linto, who created lots of patriotic slogan-cachets. In the 1950s, he was probably nearing the end of his career (I have an illustration of a cover #4108 he made for the 1956 Hungarian Uprising in November 1956). In the McCarty-era, he used this 'pulpit' to fight Communism. No permission needed in this side of the Atlantic for that! Mr. Linto probably was a pressman or had access to a printing press. He made ten covers of each design, which is probably all the market would bear for resale. In all likelihood, these covers were 'favor cancelled' at the Portland, Oregon post office and handed back to Mr. Linto. There was nothing unusual in this practice, since the covers bore the proper 3¢ first class postage. His World War II patriotics were probably marketed as unstamped envelopes, since the examples I saw on e-Bay were cancelled in various cities and towns across the entire United States.



The illustration of the two Linto-cachets is reproduced from the **Bélyegvilág** article. The half-tone picture was blurry to begin with and scanned poorly.

/ The above material was based on the article '(H)idegháborús boríték Hungarika Oregomból' written by 'S.B' published in the September 2002 issue of **Bélyegvilág**. Mr. Csaba Rigóczyki, the newly appointed editor of **Bélyegvilág**, contacted my with the questions posed by the author and published my subsequent response. See p. 23 for another example of a Linto 'Hungarica' cachet I found on e-Bay. Ed./

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EDITOR'S NOTES

by Csaba L. Kohalmi

The July-August 2002 issue of **Bélyegvilág** contained many articles of interest to the members of our Society. SHP member and MAFITT President **Gábor Visnyovszki** was pictured speaking to the national convention of Mabéosz held last May. SHP member **Edward Wittenberg** from Australia visited Budapest, also in May. A reception was held in his honor during which he accepted the Gervay-award from Sándor Kurdics, the President of Mabéosz, for his successful exhibition of classical Hungarian material. In a separate article, Gábor Visnyovszki detailed Mr. Wittenberg's phenomenal achievements in amassing the unique, multiple gold medal winning collection. Mr. Wittenberg, who left Hungary in the late-1940s, acquired a large part of Gary Ryan's collection, which also garnered 14 large gold medals before being auctioned off in the mid-1990s. Finally, Gábor Visnyovszki synopsisized my MAFITT presentation on the subject of the philatelic connections of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution.



SHP-Member Mr. Wittenberg Receiving the Gervay-Award from Sándor Kurdics, the President of the Hungarian National Stamp Collectors' Association.



Two Inverted Madonnas from the Peter Balner Collection Auctioned by the Shreves Philatelic Galleries

This issue of **Bélyegvilág** featured the front and back covers in full color as well as four pages inside. The production improvement was due to grants Mabéosz received from the Hungarian Ministry of National Cultural Heritage and the National Cultural Fund. I applaud such support shown for Hungarian Philately!

On September 14, 2002, the Shreves Philatelic Galleries auctioned off the Peter Balner Collection of Inverted Centers of the World. The sale featured two copies of the famous Inverted Madonna from Hungary, Scott Catalog #386a, one in mint NH and one in used condition. The Scott catalog value of the stamps is \$11,000 in mint and \$6,000 in used condition. The inverts sold for \$5,000 and \$4,500, respectively, plus 10% buyer's commission. Of the original sheet of 100 with the inverted center, 80 copies were sold before the error was discovered, so I assume that there are more used copies in existence than mint ones.

I am happy to note that the personal contacts I made in Hungary during my May visit already have achieved results. My article on plating the 1956 Sopron overprint is a direct result of the research help that I received. In addition, Andor Hoboday sent me photocopies of two pieces of returned mail addressed to a Hungarian refugee in Camp Kilmer, the significance of which he concluded from my presentation. I am illustrating one of the covers on the next page. It was unclaimed by the intended recipient and returned to the sender in Budapest. Hungarian refugees usually received quick resettlement and did not spend much time in the camp (in my case, only five days).



Airmail letter posted 27 February 1957 from Budapest to Camp Kilmer, New Jersey. Marked 'Return to Writer / unclaimed' and backstamped New Brunswick, 19 March 1957.

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HUNGARICA PRIMER: HUNGARIANS ON STAMPS

by Zsigmond Csicsery

The Hungarian flag can be found on the National Flag series issued by the United Nations in 1980. Other countries have shown the Hungarian flag (grouped with the flags of other nations) as well: Czechoslovakia (Scott # 2503-2504), Poland (Scott #2096), Soviet Union (Scott #s 5347, 5367) and Switzerland (Carl Lutz stamp issued in 1999). The Sovereign Military Order of the Knights of Malta pictured the current Hungarian coat-of-arms on a 1990 stamp issue. The 1957 version of the coat-of-arms with the red star was reproduced on a stamp issued by Vietnam in 1975 (Scott #785).

The Vatican issued stamps depicting the image of **St. Stephen** from the Coronation Robe and the Madonna, the **Patroness of Hungary** (Scott #s 513-4). In a joint issue with Hungary, Belgium issues a beautiful series showing the portraits of **King Matthias**, Queen Beatrix and a reproduction of a page from the Corvin Codex in 1993 (Scott #s 1473-6).

Several Hungarians are depicted on stamps issued by Poland in 1995 and 1996: **King Louis the Great** (ruled 1342-1382), his daughter **St. Hedvig** (also known as Jadwiga, lived 1373-1399), **King Wladislaw I** (ruled 1440-44 and died in the Battle of Varna), and **István Báthory** (Prince of Transylvania, 1571-1576, King of Poland, 1576-1586). The image of St. Hedvig can be found on other Polish stamps (Scott #s 322, 339, 1223, and 3176) and on a Vatican issue (Scott # 436). István Báthory is also depicted on other Polish stamps (Scott #s 325, 750, and 2322).

In addition to St. Stephen and St. Hedvig, other Hungarian saints have appeared on stamps. The 1000th anniversary in 1997 of the death of **St. Adalbert** was commemorated by joint issues from Hungary (Scott #3569), Germany (Scott #1964), Poland (Scott #3337), Czech Republic (Scott #3012) and the Vatican (Scott #1040). **St. Elizabeth** of Hungary (lived 1207-1231) is depicted on stamps from Austria (Scott # B144), Monaco (Scott #721), and Colombia (Scott #s 667, C286). St. Elizabeth is the patroness of Bogota.

The portrait of **János Hunyadi**, military leader and Regent of Hungary, is shown on stamps from Bulgaria (Scott #281) and Rumania (Scott #1121). The other values of the set from Bulgaria (Scott #s 281-285) were issued for the anniversary of the Battle of Varna and also depict King Wladislaw and the monument commemorating the battle.

Another famous Hungarian military leader was **László Bercsényi** (lived 1689-1778), who organized the French cavalry and became a Marshall of France. He is depicted on France, Scott # B514. The lower left hand corner of this stamp depicts a saddlebag with the inscription *Vivat Hussar*.

Several countries issued stamps honoring the heroes of the 1848-48 War of Independence. Italy remembered the 100th anniversary of the death of **Lajos Kossuth** with a stamp issue (Scott #1978). Kossuth appeared on two US Champion of Liberty stamps in 1958 (Scott #s 1117-8). Poet **Sándor Petöfi**'s portrait appeared on stamps from the Soviet Union (Scott #2268) and Rumania (Scott #s 858, B411). Poland pictured Generals **József Bem** and **Henryk Dembinsky** on several stamps (Scott #s 256, 430, 489, and 3190).

The 1956 Hungarian Revolution prompted several stamp issues. Most notable is the set from Greece depicting the martyred Prime Minister **Imre Nagy** (Scott #s 664-5). Relief funds for the Hungarian refugees were collected through semi-postal stamps issued by Austria (Scott # B298), Denmark (Scott # B24), the Dominican Republic (Scott # B1-5, CB1-3). The plight of Hungary's children was highlighted by stamps from Spain (Scott #s 857-62). The Marshall Islands' Millennium stamp issue depicted street fighting in Budapest (Scott #702). This is the only philatelic remembrance of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution among the hundreds of stamps issued in 1999 and 2000 for the events of the last Millennium!

There is a wealth of philatelic material honoring Hungarian scientists. **Robert Bárány** (winner of the Nobel Prize in Medicine, 1914) appeared on an Austrian stamp (Scott #1031); mathematician **János Bolyai** was honored by Rumania (Scott #1354); physicist **Theodore von Kármán** is pictured on stamps from the US (issued in 1992) and Micronesia (Scott #178); botanist and chemist **Pál Kitaibel**, who discovered telluride, was honored by Austria (Scott #1562); Doctor **Ignác Semmelweis** is shown on stamps from Austria (Scott #746), Transkei (Scott #268), and Germany (B350-3); chemist **Richard Zsigmondy** (winner of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, 1925) is shown on a stamp from Austria (Scott #1133); civil engineer **István Türr** designed the Corinth Canal in 1893. The canal is depicted on several stamps from Greece (Scott #s 321, 326-7, 364).

The topical area of fine and performing arts is also represented well by Hungarians on stamps. Pianist and composer **Ferenc Liszt** is honored on numerous stamps from Austria (Scott #s 674, 1371), the German Democratic Republic (Scott #s 570-3), Germany (Scott # 1464), the Soviet Union (Scott #2536), and Poland (Scott # B106). Conductors **Jenő Ormándy** (1898-1985) and **György Széll** (1897-1970) were honored by stamps from the US in 1997. Actor **Béla Lugosi** (1882-1956), whose trademark was the personification of Dracula, was shown on a US stamp series honoring 'Movie Monsters' in 1997. Acrobat and escape artist **Harry Houdini** (1874-1926), who was born Erik Weiss in Budapest, was pictured on a stamp issued by the US this year. Works by **Victor Vasarely**, the father of op(tical)-art, are reproduced on stamps from France (Scott #1519, 1709), Cuba (Scott #1261), and Yugoslavia (Scott #1830). In 1970 his artistic representation of learning was chosen as the logo for the UN International Year of Education. It was reproduced on stamps from Argentina (Scott # C129), Cyprus (Scott #346), Greece (Scott #998) and many other countries. In 1990, the UN reproduced a painting titled 'In Front of the Judge' by **Sándor Bihari** (1855-1906) (Zumstein #s 111-2). **Amrita Sher-Gil** (1913-1941), who is India's most significant 20th century artist, claims partial Hungarian ancestry. Her painting titled 'Hill Women' was reproduced on the 2-rupee value of the Modern Indian Artists series (Scott #795). Mexican painter **Frida Kahlo** (1907-1954) is also of Hungarian descent. Her father was born in the village of Kálló, Tolna County. Frida was born in Coyoacan, Mexico, and is pictured on a US stamp issued this year. Hungarian-born photographer **André Kertész** (1894-1985) was also honored by the US recently. His photograph of New York was part of the Masters of Photography set issued on June 13, 2002. Correspondent and newspaper published **József Pulitzer** (1847-1911) was born in Makó, Hungary. He is shown on a US stamp (Scott #946). Painter **Mihály Munkácsy**'s works appeared on stamps from Luxembourg (Scott #s 942-3). Composer **Béla Bartók** was honored by Slovakia (Scott #210).

Hungarian-related stamps appeared from **Estonia** in 1998 and 2000 commemorating the Finno-Ugric linguistic conferences. Hungarian graphic artists designed countless stamps for other countries. **Imre von Mosdóssy** worked for the post offices of Colombia and Canada. **Anikó Szabó**'s stamp design was used by Argentina. **Gyula Vásárhelyi** was a prolific artist who designed stamps for Chad, Congo, Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Niger and others.

Hungarian sportsmen appeared on foreign stamps, too. Pentathlete **András Balczó** is depicted on Mongolia (Scott #702) while boxer **László Papp** is pictured on Mongolia Scott #518.

Political personages, too, have been honored. Hungarian President **Géza Losoncy** is pictured on Peru, Scott # C459, while the notorious **Béla Kun** is shown on Soviet Union, Scott #5431.

The countries bordering Hungary (Austria, Czechoslovakia, Croatia, Jugoslavia, Rumania, Serbia, Slovenia, Slovakia, and the Ukraine) issued many stamps that depict Hungarian architecture, folk costumes and folk crafts in addition to scenes of towns and countryside that were once a part of historical Hungary.

Finally, some other interesting issues exist. Tanzania (Scott #1119) shows a Disney character dressed up as a Hungarian cowboy (*csikós*). A souvenir sheet from Ras-al-Khaima (Minkus #741) reproduces the Castle of **Vajdahunyad**, which itself is a reproduction of the original in Transylvania, from Budapest's City Park.

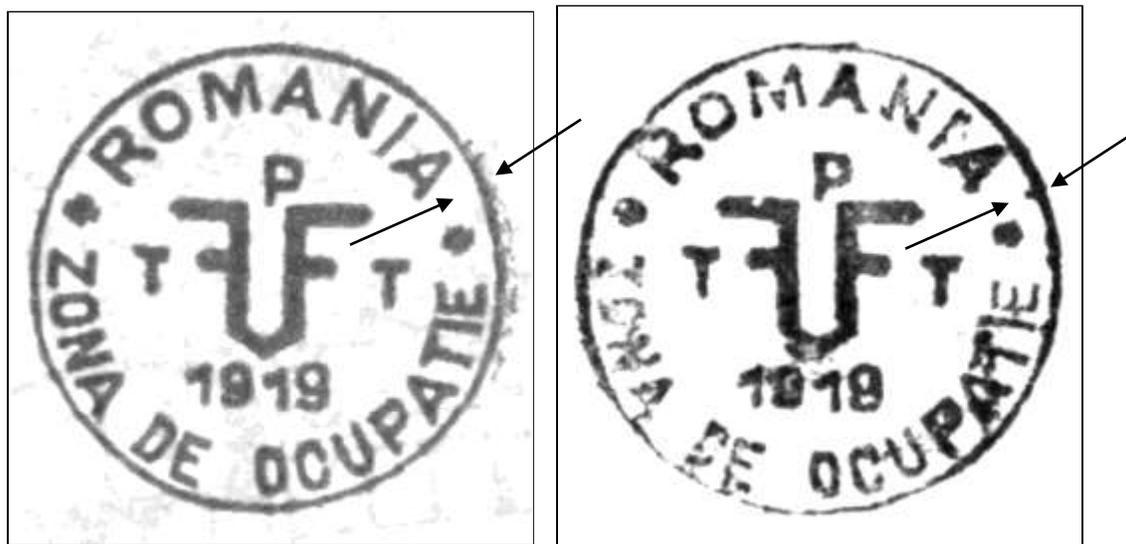
This list is nowhere near all encompassing. It's just a primer of what *Hungarica* issues exist for the inquisitive philatelist and student of Hungarian history.

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NOTES ON THE SECOND DEBRECEN ISSUE OVERPRINT CHARACTERISTICS

by Csaba L. Kohalmi

According to information disseminated through an auction lot on e-Bay and attributed to **Chris Brainard**, our noted expert on occupation overprints, there is a characteristic flaw in the second Debrecen overprint that is useful in authenticating genuine stamps. While we are all aware that the symbols on either side of the word *ROMANIA* are actually small Maltese crosses, this is not always a mark of authenticity. On bogus overprints, the crosses can be quite clear; and on authentic overprints, they can be blurred into shapeless blobs. Chris has identified a small aberration, a blip on the inside of the outer circle in the overprint die in the space between the last A of *ROMANIA* and the right Maltese cross. I made the following scans of each variety, fake and genuine, with most of the stamp design washed out in order to illustrate this fact. The arrows point to the area to be observed approximately at the 2 o'clock position.



The overprint on the left is quite clear and distinctly good-looking, but it lacks the blip inside the outer circle and, therefore, is a fake. The overprint on the right is blurry and appears to have multiple flaws, but the blip in the area between the last A of ROMANIA and the Maltese cross is distinctly visible. Consequently, the one on the right is genuine.

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SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN UPCOMING STAMP SHOWS

The Society for Hungarian Philately will be participating in the following national stamps shows. Coincidentally with each event, the Society will be conducting its annual exhibit and general meeting. Please keep these shows in mind when planning your exhibits and watch for detailed information to be published in future issues of **The News**.

- 7-10 August 2003 STAMPSHOW, Columbus Ohio
- 2004 SESCAL, Los Angeles, California
- July 2005 INDYPEX, Indianapolis, Indiana
- 2006 WASHINGTON 2006 FIP, Washington, DC
- 2007 WESTPEX, San Francisco, California

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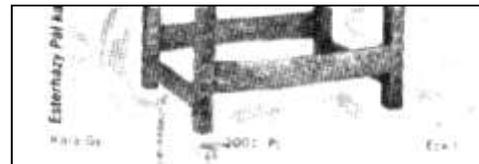
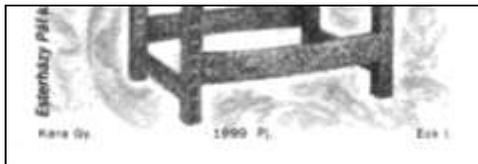
2001 NEW ISSUES

No official issue date.

Antique Furniture Definitives Reprinted

Face value: HUF 10, 20, 50, 100.

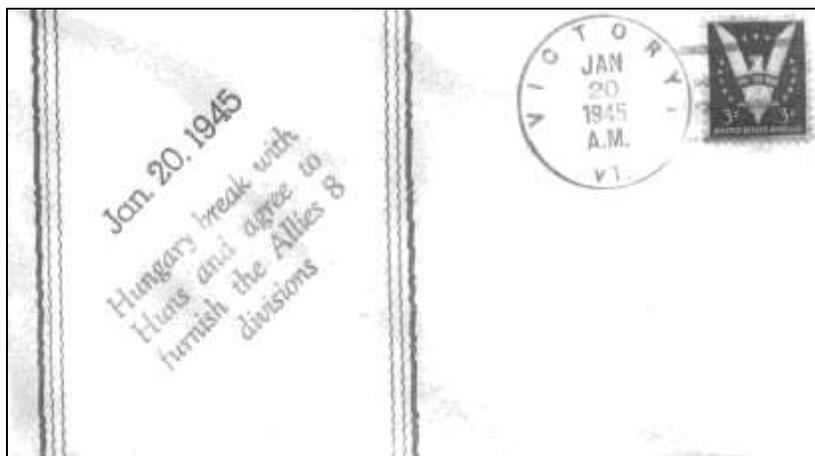
Technical data: same as issued in 1999. These four stamps bear a small imprint of the date '2001 Pj.' indicating that they were reprinted in 2001. This information was not announced in the philatelic press. Our member Miklos Tecszy reported the issue after studying the Schaubek Hungary 2001 album supplement, which included spaces for these stamps. The HUF 70 stamp, which was issued as part of the 1999 release, was not reprinted with the new date.



HUF 50 Antique Furniture stamps issued in 1999 and reprinted in 2001.

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ANOTHER WWII WILLIAM S. LINTO HUNGARICA CACHET



*Jan. 20, 1945 Hungary break (sic) with Huns and agree to furnish the Allies 8 divisions
William S. Linto Patriotic Cachet Cancelled Victory, VT, January 20, 1945.*

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Re: The Bound Volumes of *The News of Hungarian Philately*

Although an APS Life Member, I am one of the most recent members of the Society for Hungarian Philately. I joined the Society mainly because of my intense interest in Hungarian Occupation issues and associated overprinted issues of short-lived post-World War I political entities such as Fiume. My very first act of participation in the Society was to purchase a complete set of bound volumes of **The News of Hungarian Philately**.

As a long-time student of worldwide forgeries, I believe the money spent for this set will pay for itself many times over in savings on future purchases, now that Scott Catalogue has raised its prices significantly in line with the Brainard book. Previously, I had searched the American Philatelic Research Library catalogue online and found that it contained very few obvious titles that would aid my research. However, in perusing some of the earlier volumes of **The News**, I immediately came across two articles that made me confident of what I already ascertained after much diligent research. I will cite just a few examples in the following paragraphs. In the world of geologic research, it is a popular saying that: "the best kept secrets are those that have been published." Furthermore, the first article that I examined showed that my own research had merely "rediscovered the wheel."

An article in Vol. 6, No. 4 by L. S. Etre mentioned the existence of backstamps that most people equate with expert guarantees. In my collection, I had already found the boxed Miertl backstamp as well as the script Miertl backstamp to exist only on genuine stamps. Perhaps there are forged script Miertl backstamps but I have not yet acquired any.

In the same article, the existence of forged E. TAUSIG backstamps is mentioned. I had already learned by comparing genuine and obviously forged overprints to distinguish the difference between the genuine and the forged backstamp by the position of the "E."

Similarly on my own, I had learned to distinguish the PAPE backstamps at the lower left of genuine stamps from the sloppy backstamps at the lower right of forgeries. I also learned that a clear PAPE backstamp at the bottom center or lower right had also been applied to many genuine stamps.

In the continuing article by Etre, the existence of a Sekula backstamp over a PAPE backstamp is mentioned. I had not encountered this, but I do have a number of genuine Arad stamps that contain an apparent script Senf over a lower-left clear PAPE backstamp.

Most of my observations are obviously "old hat" to long-time SHP members or to recognized experts of these issues, such as Chris Brainard. My point is simply that there is so much of obvious value to be learned from older issues of **The News**. The old scientific axiom that there is no need to reference articles more than ten years old simply is not true.

With modern computer technology, philatelic researchers should now be able to scan and publish accurate color pictures of genuine and forged overprints. For my own use at stamp bourses and club meetings, I have already started to scan at 500% images of genuine and forged Hungarian Occupation overprints and assemble them for easy comparison on a single page using the insert command in a word-processing program such as MS Word.

Returning to the main point of this letter, for my own use I intend to compile on index cards with annotations, as a starter, all the articles that have been published on Hungarian Occupation issues and their forgeries in **The News of Hungarian Philately**. Eventually, these references can be entered into a word program or a spreadsheet. To continue my research would be impossible without owning the complete set of volumes. I strongly recommend the investment in a set of bound volumes for your own use or for donation to a philatelic or public library. I hope that someday my heirs will make such a donation to the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library here in Denver.

Charles A. Sandberg

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SALES CIRCUIT MATERIAL WANTED: The *Society for Hungarian Philately* operates a sales circuit of Hungarian philatelic material for its members residing in the United States. SHP members can participate in the sales circuit at no additional charges as a buyer, seller, or both. The circuit is looking for all kinds of Hungarian stamps, covers, and postal stationery to offer to prospective buyers. **Enhance your collection - Sell your surplus items!** For information on how to submit material as a seller or how to become a buyer, contact:

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