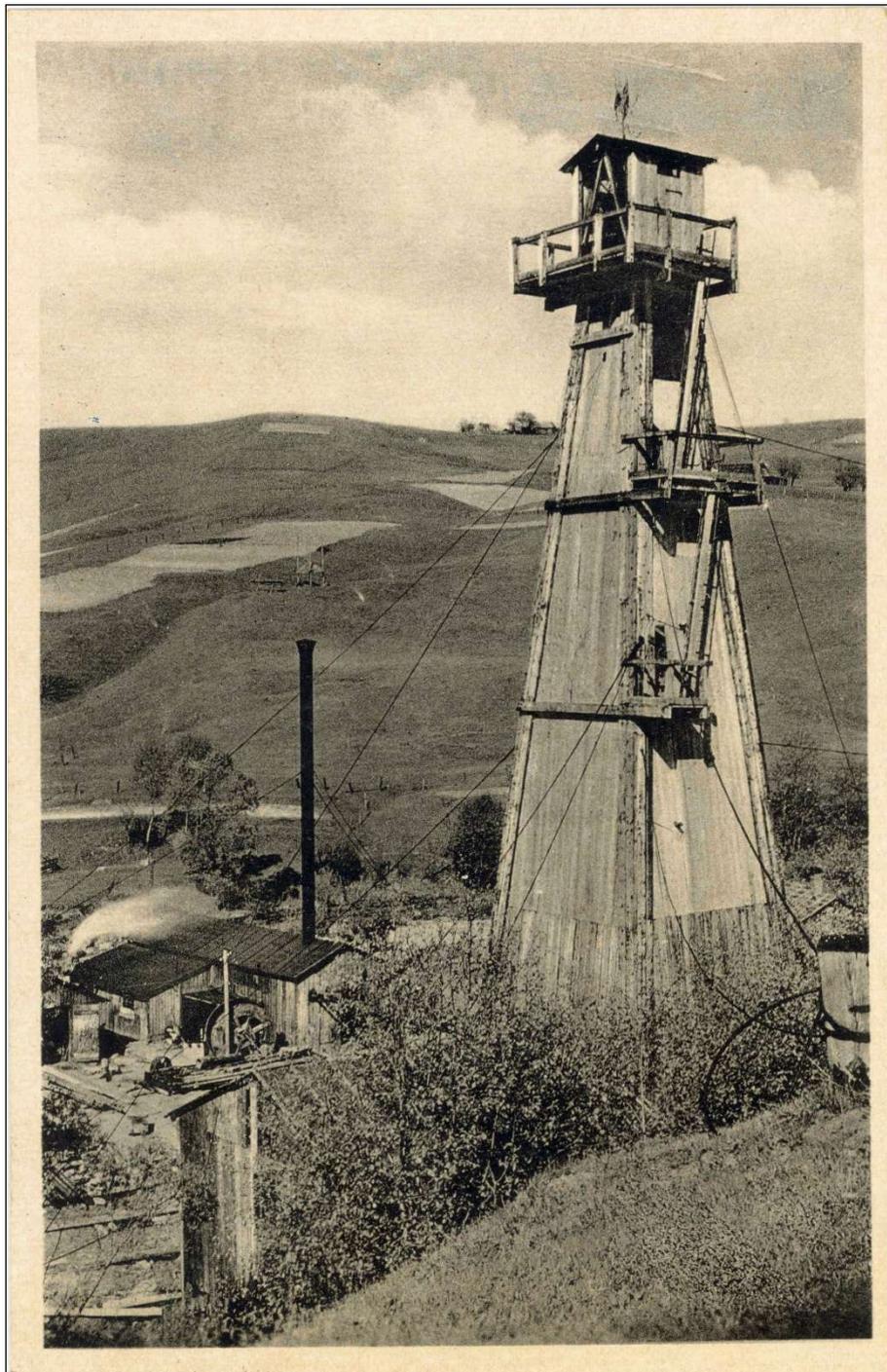


# The Sub-Carpathian Messenger

Newsletter of the Study Circle  
for the Postal History of the Carpatho-Ukraine

Number 46 - February 2018



Oil works tower near Stebna (about 1940)

## About us and the Newsletter

The Study Circle is a loose group of persons who are interested in the postal (and general) history of the area known as Kárpátalja in Hungarian, as Podkarpatská Rus during the First Czechoslovak Republic, which had a short day of independence as Carpatho Ukraine, and later was integrated into the Ukrainian SSR in the Soviet Union as the 'Zakarpatskaja Oblast'. Since 1991 it is ЗАКАРПАТТЯ, the westernmost administrative district in the now independent Ukraine.

The Newsletter came out of a meeting of a few collectors during the PRAHA 2008, its first number appeared in November 2008. In the last years we have always produced at least four issues per year but may not be able to keep this high level due to a substantial lack of contributions. On the other hand, as we can see from the access counts at the public web site, this Newsletter is read by hundreds of people.

This imbalance between supporters and consumers-only has finally brought the editor to the decision that he will stop editing this magazine after ten years, i. e., with the issue of November 2018. If someone wants to take over, he (or she) is very welcome.

We send our regards and best wishes to all members of the Study Circle.

### Distribution method

All issues of the »Sub-Carpathian Messenger« can be browsed at and downloaded from the Internet address

<http://www.slideshare.net/subcarpathian>

For those who have no Internet access and/or no e-mail, the distribution method is still the same: you will receive a colour print-out by air/surface mail as you did in the past.

Everybody can freely access the uploaded numbers of the Newsletter but the notification service for new numbers is limited to the actual members of the Study Circle.

### Rules and Regulations

All articles in the Newsletter carrying the name of an author are the sole responsibility of this author and should not be taken to represent the common opinion of the Study Circle. Such articles are, if not marked otherwise, copyrighted by the respective author. Free use within the Study Circle is granted. We thank our authors for their much appreciated work and contribution.

Participation in the Study Circle is not bound to a formal membership and does not include the duty to pay a membership fee. There is a moral obligation to support the Newsletter from time to time by sending some article, some interesting piece of information, some question, some answer or whatever, although a number of 'members' has chosen to disrespect even this minimal request for support.

We will "print" everything even only loosely connected with our subject of interest so any contribution is certainly welcome. Please send it (as Word 2003, 2007 or 2010 document, graphical elements in JPEG, 300 dpi or better) to the editor's e-mail address ([kb@aatc.at](mailto:kb@aatc.at)). His traditional postal address, if you would need it, is:

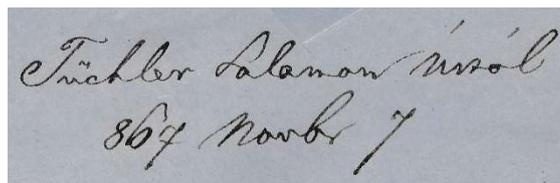
Helmut Kobelbauer, Untergrossau 81, A-8261 Sinabelkirchen, Austria / Europe

Helmut Kobelbauer  
Auction News

The 47<sup>th</sup> PAC auction (October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017) in Prague gave us - celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of Hungarian stamps - a very nice registered letter from Ungvár to Debreczen:



Registered letter, with framed postmark UNGHVÁR, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 1867, to Debreczin.



Sender Salamon Tüchler and date of letter.

The tariff is the so-called unified letter rate of 5 kr plus the registration fee (10 kr), franked as 3 x 5 kr on the front side of the letter. The rectangle black AJÁNLOT(T) and the registration number (377) make the item complete. On the reverse we have a transit mark of Kassa and the arrival postmark from Debreczen. The letter's content is also present.

Starting at CZK 3.000, the letter was sold for CZK 4.160 (approx. EUR 181,53, including buyer's commission). Given the apparent quality, this is really priceworthy.

In the 28<sup>th</sup> Darabanth International Auction (November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017) a cover from Tisza Ujlak with the 5 kr lithography issue from the year 1871 was offered at a starting price of 15.000 HUF. The final price of this (obviously unrecognized) rarity was just HUF 22.000 (not including buyer's commission).



Lot 669 from the 28<sup>th</sup> Darabanth International Auction.

The next page shows another example of such letters with an 1871 lithography stamp. They are less frequent than one might expect.



Malomrét, Zsornava, Zhornava; vasútállomás katonákkal / Bahnhof / railway station with soldiers. photo

28<sup>th</sup> Darabanth International Auction: Lot 21459 - final price 55.000 HUF.

Picture postcards of railway stations from the Kárpátalja are also not very frequent, especially when not counting the “large” stations like Csap or Királyhaza ...

Helmut Kobelbauer

## An 1871 Letter with a 5 kr Lithography Stamp

Covers (and letters) with the lithography issue of 1871 from the area of the Kárpátalja are not frequent (although loose stamps with corresponding postmarks can be found with some patience).

Earlier collectors and specialists considered this issue the first “truly Hungarian” issue although nowadays most consider the 1867 issue as a Hungarian issue and the first one produced by the Austrian State Printery for the now independent Hungarian Postal Administration.



Cover from N[agy] Szöllös, 3 / 6 [18]71, to Nagy Palád, with 5 kr stamp in lithography.

Not being an expert in Hungarian stamps, I had asked the late Karl Endrödi for his opinion, and he confirmed that the stamp was a genuine one printed in lithography. (He also told me the detailed type and sheet position.)

Such covers or letters with 1871 lithography stamps from the Kárpátalja region do exist; I know of maybe a handful and have heard of maybe ten items altogether. (The major exhibits have one such letter each.)

Karl Endrödi said that probably quite a number of such stamps with postmarks from our area of interest exist as unrecognized pieces; especially the 5 kr value (for domestic letters) was very common. On the other hand, he had never seen or heard of the higher values (15 kr and more) from this area.

So be on the look-out ...



Helmut Kobelbauer

## Excerpt from the Béla Simády Collection and Exhibit

Finally, near the planned end of my editorship for this Newsletter, I find time (and space) to show some important pieces from the Béla Simády collection.

Mr. Simády showed seven frames (with 16 sheets each) at the Poznań World Philatelic Exhibition in 1993 (May 7<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>) and was awarded a Gold medal. I still possess the original plastic protection covers from this exhibition as he had sent there and the original sheets. A (small) number of items have been removed before the collection came into my hands (and I have preserved it as-is). The texts on the sheets are those of Mr. Simády.

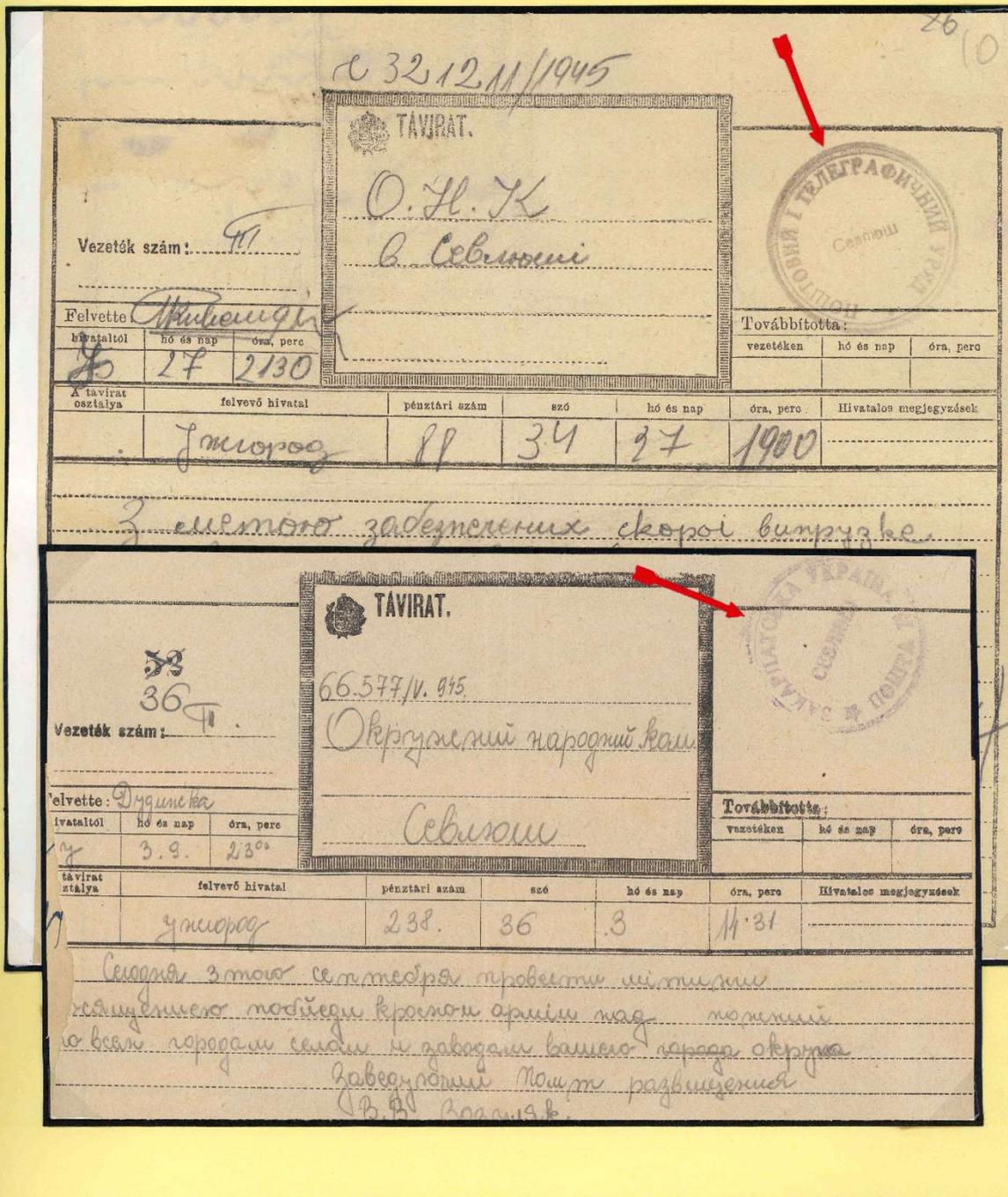
ŚWIATOWA WYSTAWA FILATELISTYCZNA WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION POZNAŃ 1993.05.07—16		Nr ekspozycji No of the exhibition
TADEUSZA KOŚCIUSZKI 77, Box 19 60-940 POZNAŃ, POLAND TEL./FAX (48) (61) 530250		Klasa: Class:
118-133		Liczba ekspanatów Number of exhibits
Nazwisko: Surname:	Dr. SIMÁDY	Numer ekspozycji Number of exhibition
Imię: Forenames:	Béla	PLAN ROK MOUNTING
Adres: Address:	Budapest Vörösmarty Str. 65	124
Kraj: Country:	HUNGARY	128
Kod pocztowy: Postcode:	4-1387	132
Telefon/fax: Phone + fax:	FAX: 36 1 530 250 NABECSZ	136
Tytuł ekspozycji: Title of the exhibit:	Postal history of Sub-Carpathia 1786-1992	MONTAŻ MOUNTING
Zawartość: karty nr od ..... do ..... ekran nr .....		dzień/day
Contents: sheets from No ..... to No ..... of frame No .....		DEMONTAŻ DISMOUNTING
Uwaga: Note:	Ekspонат zostanie zwrócony tą samą drogą, którą został dostarczony. At the end of the exhibition, packets should be sent by the same means used to enter country. Każda karta musi być umieszczona w przezroczystej koszulce i ponumerowana w lewym dolnym rogu. Each sheet must be placed in a transparent protective cover and	dzień/day

One of the protection covers.

On the next 16 pages I will show the first of the frames for the 1945 period (the second frame will follow in one of the next issues). The material shown is really incredible, bringing postmarks from the smallest villages. It is also “Bedarfspost” in the truest sense, consisting in many cases of official letters from one of the many local committees and rather commonly censored.

20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

In contradiction of the first ordinance /3rd January/, the Sevlush /Nagyszöllős/ post office used the "Postal and Telegraph Office" cancelling /27th March/, which was regulating in the later time



Sheet 108.

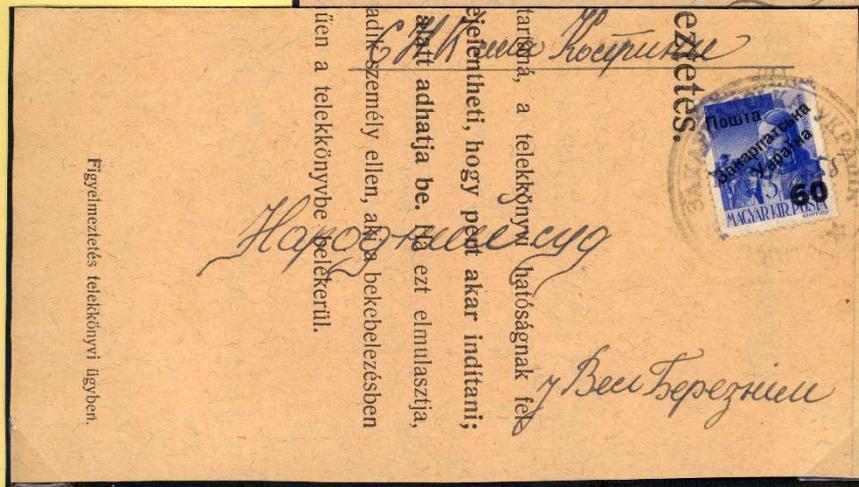
The Sevlush post office used its official stamp instead of its CDS to “cancel” these telegrams, one of March 9<sup>th</sup>, the other of March 27<sup>th</sup>, 1945. Both come from Užgorod and go to the district’s national committee in Sevlush.

Such telegrams can only come from some state archive in the Zakarpatská, now dissolved and/or plundered.

20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

Postmarked in Rakhiv  
/Rahó/, 27th October  
Stamp: 2nd issue

Postmarked in Kostrzyn  
/Csontos/; 2nd issue



Veliky Beresny /Nagyberezna/; stamps: 2nd issue



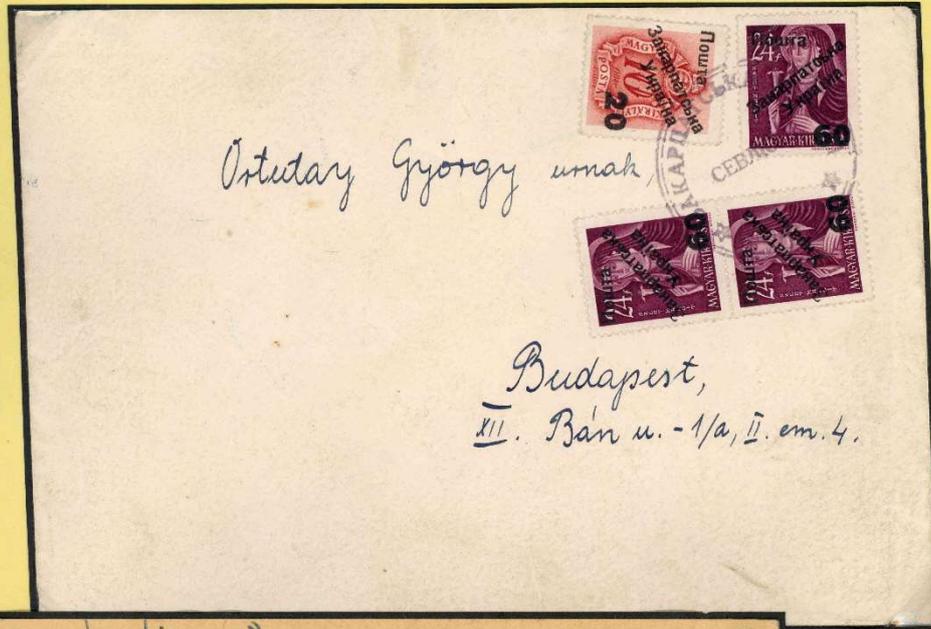
Sheet 109.

From this sheet we learn that the fee for a domestic letter was 60 fillér. The last letter goes to Kiskunfélegyháza in Hungary and is overfranked at 2.40 Pengő; the actual fee was 2.00 Pengő. Presumably the sender had no stamp with 20 fillér at hand and did not care for the extra payment.

20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

Postmarked in Sevlush /Nagyszöllös/

Stamps:  
2nd issue - 1st issue: Id  
1st issue: IV - IV



Postmarked in Sevlush /Nagyszöllös/ on 18th April

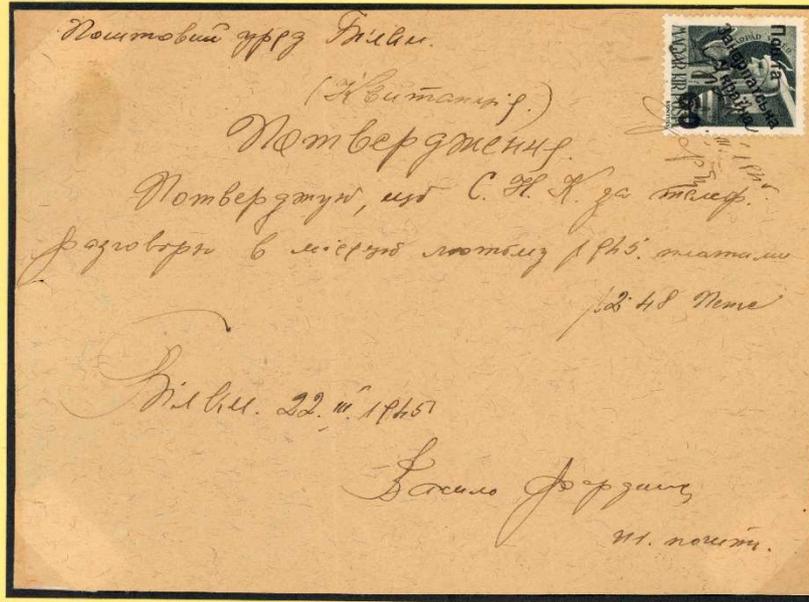
Postcard issued in Uzhgorod /Ungvár/ in February 1945

Sheet 110.

The first letter to Budapest, i.e. also going abroad, now carries the correct franking of 2.00 Pengő. The second piece, an 18f postcard with Užgorod overprint of 40 (filler), comes from the State Notarius in Sevluš. The fee for such a domestic postcard was 40 fillér.

20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

Receipt of charge for call, Bilky /Bilke/, 2nd March  
Cancelled by handscript - Stamp: 2nd issue



Postmarked in Pidroriany /Podhering/, 25th May  
Stamps: 1st issues: IV - IV; 2nd issues



Sheet 111.

The first item is a receipt for a telephone call from the post office in Bilky (have you ever seen such a thing from this period and area ?) with hand-written cancellation on a 60 fillér stamp. The second piece is some 2.00 Pengö letter to Hungary, cancelled May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1945. (The censorship mark is on the reverse of the letter.) We know that the border was closed for goods or persons but mail traffic was obviously possible.





20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

Postmarked in Chornogolva /Sónát/, 14th August



Budapest - Chornogolova /Sónát/ - Budapest; July 1945

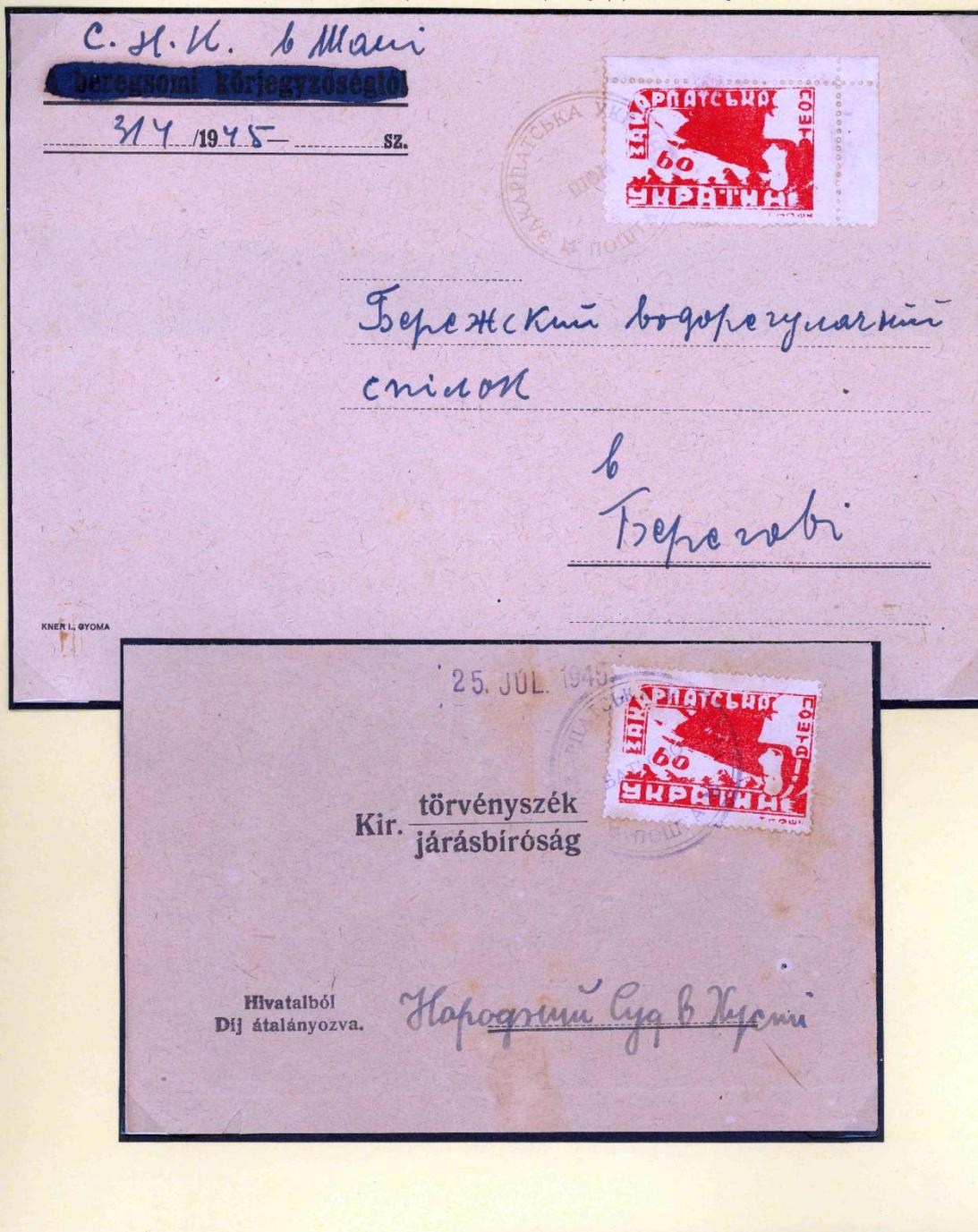


Sheet 114.

The first piece shown is a domestic letter, franked with 60 (fillér) of August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1945, stamped with a clear imprint of the Čornogolova postmark. The second piece is a cover sent from Budapest on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1945 to the same village but with an insufficient address, so was re-franked with 60 (filler) and returned to the sender on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1945. The fee for such returned letter is unclear - the 60 fillér would have covered a domestic letter but not a letter abroad.

20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

Šom /Beregsom/ - Batovo /Bátyu/, 25th July



Sheet 115.

Two domestic letters with 60 (filler) each, one from Šom and the other from Bat'ovo. The covers used originate from the Hungarian period and were sometimes (but not always) adapted by overprinting the Hungarian text(s).

20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

Paid R-letter & overprinted R-label; Khust /Huszt/, 25th June



Postmarked in Khust /Huszt/, 13th July - Mixed franking



Sheet 116.

The first item is a letter from Khust (with an adapted Hungarian CDS) to Mukačevo, paid in cash with 60 (filler). Whether the registration label really belongs onto the piece is rather doubtful - certainly the letter was not treated as registered. The second item is a letter from Khust to Budapest, correctly franked with 2.00 Pengö and cancelled July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1945.

20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

Paid letter /0,40 P/ postmarked in Kostriny /Csontos/, 23rd May



Postmarked in Kostriny /Csontos/, 30th June



Sheet 117.

Two postal items from Kostrinyj, one from May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1945 to Vel. Bereznij, the other from June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1945 to Užgorod. The first is, although a letter, taxed with only 0.40 Pengö (instead of 0.60) - this is one of the questionable cases. Since Kostrinyj and Vel. Bereznij are quite near to each other, the 40 fillér may be something like a fee for "local" letters.

20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

Postmarked in Chop /Csap/, 9th June



Postmarked in Beregovo /Beregszász/, 11th June



Sheet 118.

This sheet shows two letters to Hungary, one from Čop (June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1945) and the other from Beregovo (June 11<sup>th</sup>, 1945). Both are correctly franked with 2.00 Pengő. (The censorship mark for the first piece is on the reverse of the letter.)

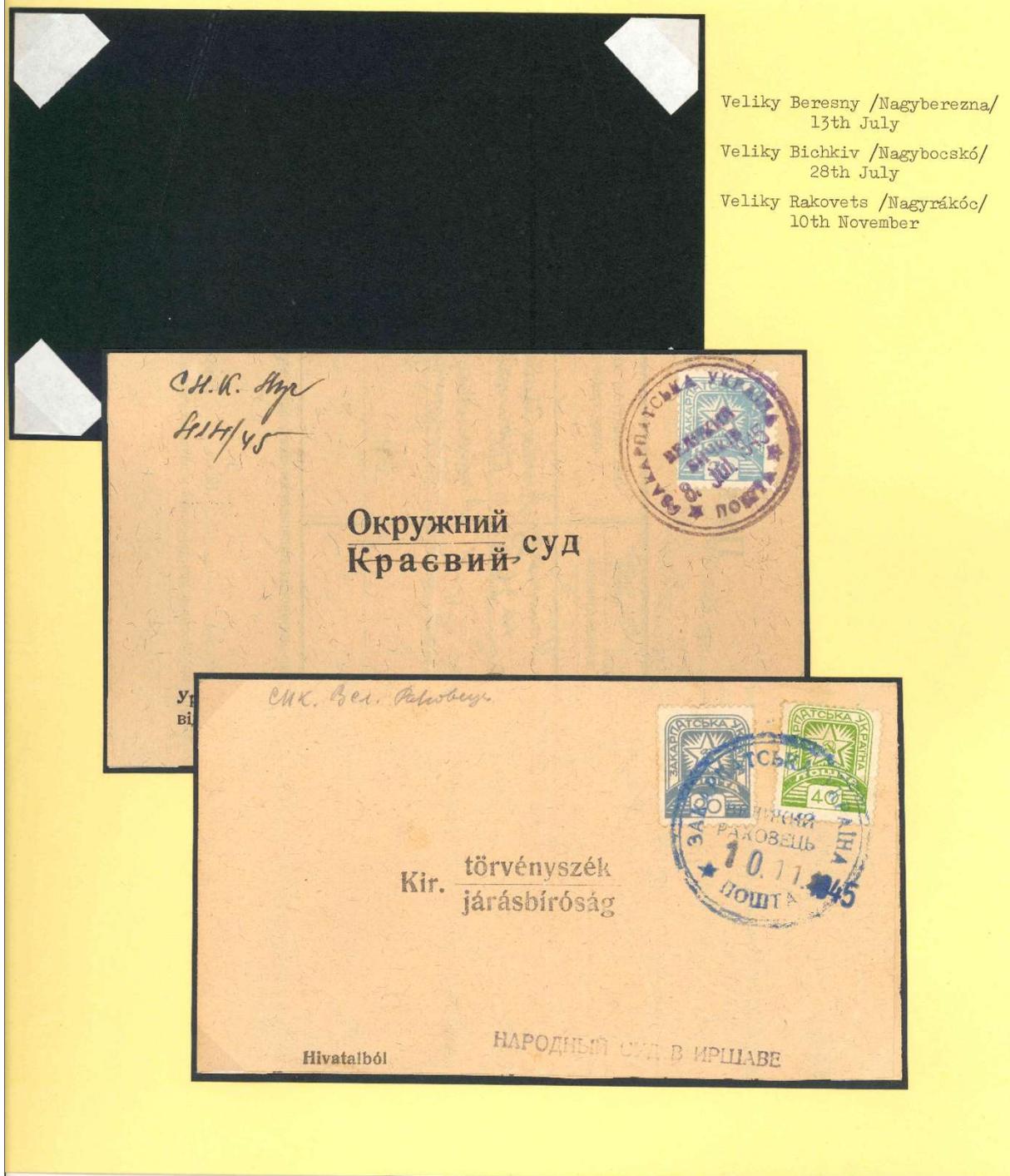
20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

Muzhiovo /Nagymuzsaly/, 16th July - Tarnovtsy /Ungtarnóc/, 6th July



Sheet 119.

And finally two letters abroad with the 200 (fillér) stamp of the first definitive NRZU issue.



Sheet 120.

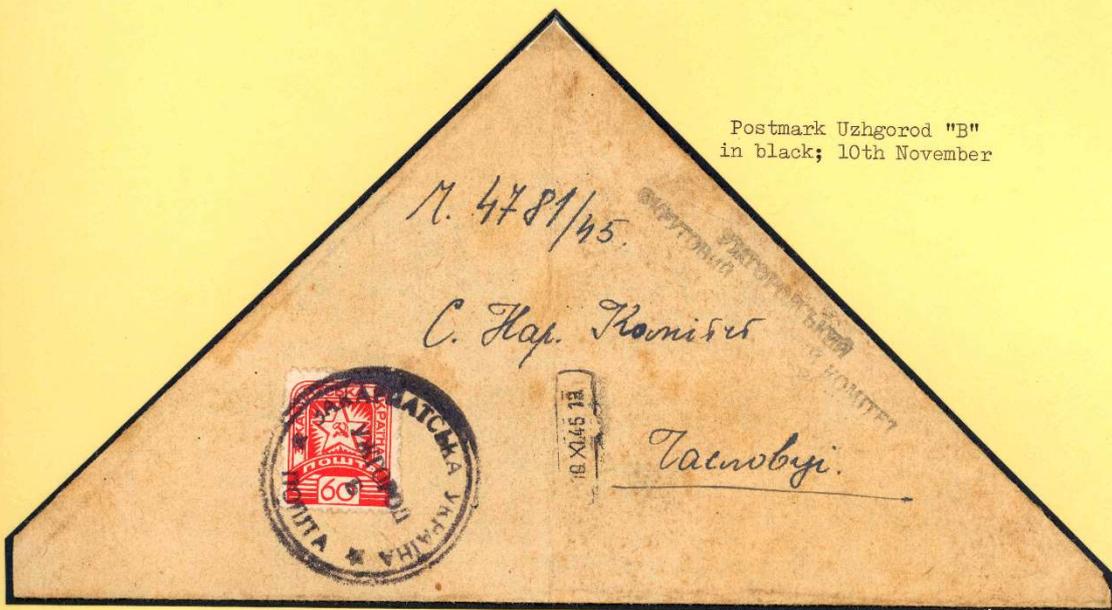
This sheet shows some letters franked with the second definitive NRZU issue. The first piece is missing; the second a letter from Vel. Bičkiv to Rakhiv (only 20 fillér) and the third from Veliky Rakovec to Iršava (60 fillér).

Jay Carrigan had the 20 fillér fee for “court letters” but the second and third items both go to some court and are franked differently. Another riddle ...

20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945



Postmark Uzhgorod "B"  
in lilac; 5th November



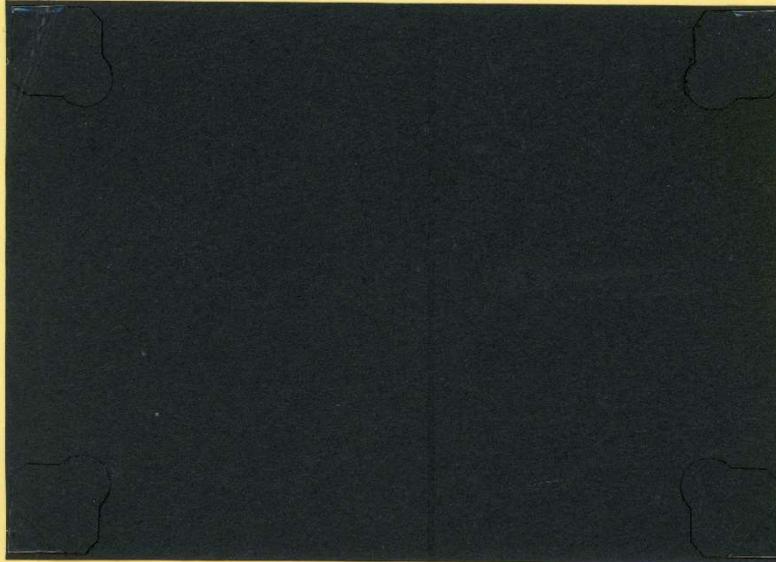
Postmark Uzhgorod "B"  
in black; 10th November

Sheet 121.

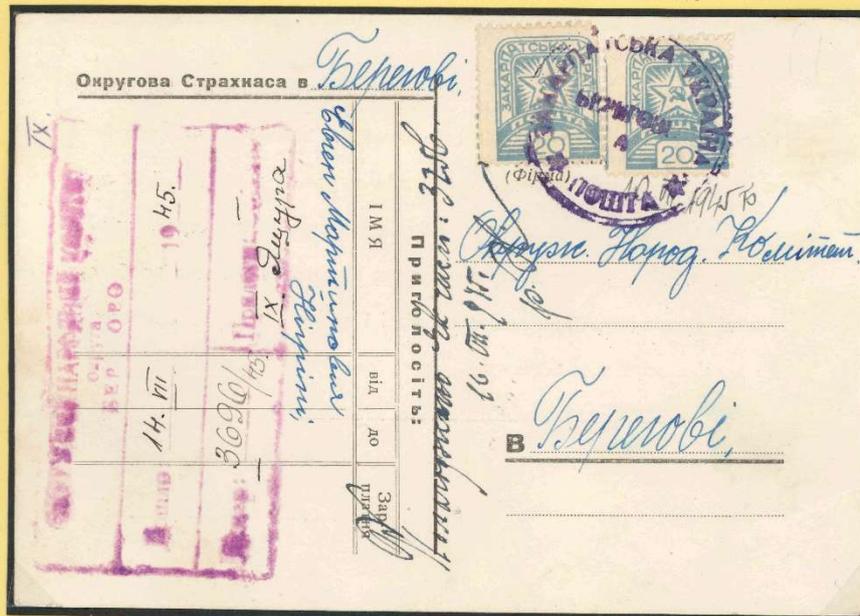
Triangular letters are typical for soldier's mail but in this case both are used for letters to the national committee of some location, originating from Užgorod and cancelled with the "B" CDS of that town. Both are franked with 60 (filler) for a domestic letter and are from November 1945. On November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1945, the validity of the NRZU stamps officially ended and Soviet stamps had to be used instead.

20. Carpatho-Ukrainian Postal Administration, 1945

Postmarked in Mukachevo /Munkács/, 10th August



Postmarked in Beregovo /Beregszász/, 10th July



Sheet 122.

The first item is missing; the second is a card used from Užgorod to Beregovo (July 10<sup>th</sup>, 1945). Again we find the 40 fillér for a domestic card. In this case the item was cancelled with the “A” CDS.

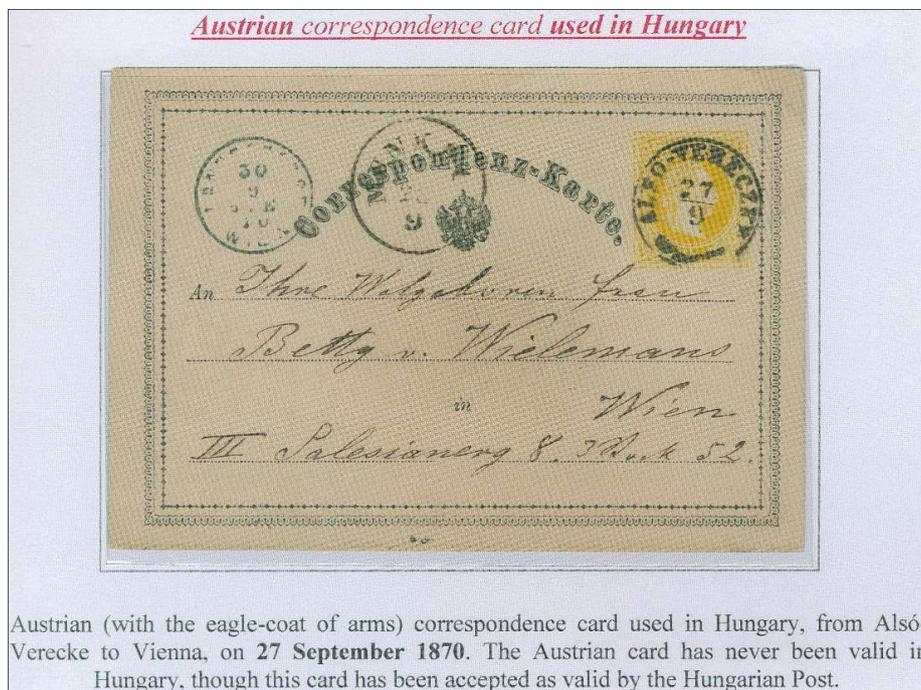


Helmut Kobelbauer  
From the »*Edition d'Or*«

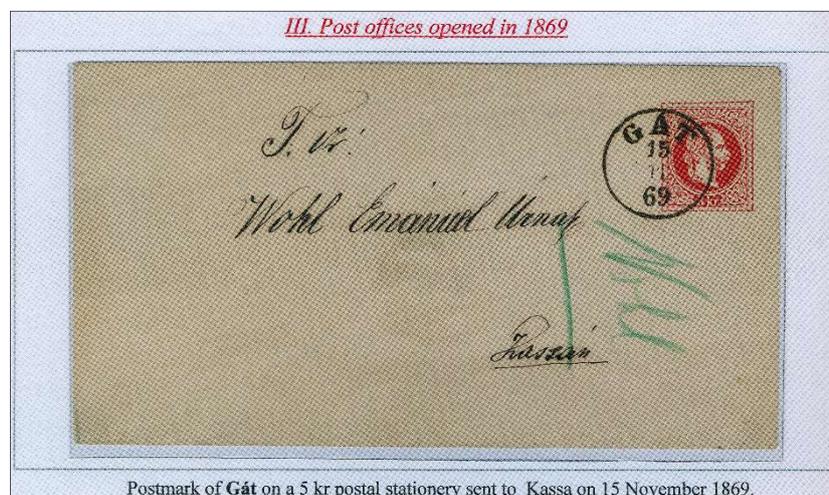
Corinphila Auctions from Switzerland is one of the truly international auction houses. In their "Global Philatelic Network" they have founded the "*Edition d'Or*" series, making "the largest stamp collections of our time accessible to future generations of collectors".

In 2015 they published vol. XLIV (= 44) of this series, i.e. Géza Homonnay's "Postal History of Hungary 1867-1871". A wonderful and much recommended tome, perfectly fitting the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of the issue of Hungarian stamps in 1867 in the current year. On the 166 pages with hundreds of items I have found three (!) items from the Kárpátalja - a strong proof how rare such items from our area of interest are.

As a reference to this prominent collector I am showing the three items with his original text:



From page 37



From page 162

Underfranked registered long-distance letter – fee 15 kr



Registered letter from Bustyaháza to Kassa on **3 February 1871**, franked as a local registered letter, with 8 kr. Maybe it was intended as a local letter, but posted in Bustyaháza instead of Kassa. On the back (above the KASSA arrival postmark) a manuscript note that the missing fee will be collected from the recipient. The rare postmark of Bustyaháza is otherwise unknown in blue.

From page 50

One can only congratulate Géza Homonnay (who is also current president of the MAFITT) to the collection shown in the mentioned book.

It is really a pity that the celebrations of the first “independent” Hungarian stamp issue could not be better coordinated between Austria and Hungary - there were two completely independent series of events. (The activities of your editor or of Herbert Kotal to act as a go-between were largely ignored.) Sometimes I feel that a majority of Hungarian collectors is not unhappy with the “splendid isolation” idea. (Géza Homonnay is one of few exceptions.)