



and

**T**ongues

**Edgemere Retirement Center**  
**8523 Thackrey**  
**Dallas, TX**

## German Empire *Germania Issue – 1900*



The 5 Mark comes in two major types and in two minor types. Type 1 is shown above (surcharged in Turkish currency), on the left, and Type 2 is shown above, on the right. The two major types are easy to tell apart! On Type 1, the man at the far right side of the vignette has part of his head cut off by the inner frame, and as a result, his ear is not showing. The numeral "5" is also thicker than Type 2. On Type 2, the man at the right edge of the vignette has more of his head AND HIS EAR showing. The numeral "5" is thinner than on the Type 1 stamps.

There are two minor varieties, which the Scott Catalog lists as sub-varieties of Type 1. Michel lists the same two varieties as Type 3 and Type 4. They all have the major characteristics of Type 1 stamps. Sometimes, during the printings, the vignette and the frame did not perfectly align with each other. In the third type, red and white paint was used to retouch the vignette and / or inner frame line, and in the fourth type, white paint only was used to retouch the inner frame line. The Type 1 retouched stamps are about the same price as the Type 2 stamps, whereas the non-retouched Type 1 stamps are worth about five times more than a Type 2 stamp.







Shown above are a set of modern reprints of the Mark values. Aside from the word "nachdruck" printed on the back, the quality of the reprints is very poor, when compared with the original German Empire 1900 printings.



Shown above is a "black-print" PROOF of the 1900 1 Mark value. These were part of a modern commemorative booklet issued by the German Democratic Republic.

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In 1901, a very rare bisected / surcharged provisional version of the 5 Pf. Definitive stamp came into being. The German cruiser "Vineta" was docked in New Orleans, and the crew members wished to mail copies of U.S. newspapers reporting celebrations of the Kaiser's birthday home to their relatives. The purser, with the ship commander's approval, bisected 300 5 Pf. stamps and hand surcharged them with "3PF", so the ship's post office could meet the need for a 3 Pf. printed matter rate. It would be safe to assume that any off-cover copies of these stamps are probably forgeries. All purchased examples of these bisects, both on and off cover, require certification, due to their rarity and very high prices.

I would advise against EVER buying an unused example of this bisect. Anyone with a mint 5 Pf. stamp, a mount cutter, a rubber stamp making kit, and an ink pad with dark blue ink can make one of these in about five minutes. That's probably how the ship's purser made them for mailing the newspapers, as well. I know this, because I MADE ONE for the stamp shop owner I worked for back in the 1980's, so she would have an example to put in her Scott Germany Album!



## German Empire Germania Peacetime Issue - 1905-1913



The German Empire, at the beginning of 1905, began using a security paper that was watermarked with lozenges. The lozenge watermark is shown in the scan at the left. The rationale of the German Empire for using watermarked paper, as with many other countries, was to discourage the making of postal forgeries. There are postal forgeries of some of the Germania postage stamps, but they are very few, and all of them are very rare.



The 1905 set is shown above, minus the 3 Mk. and 5 Mk. denominations. All of the Germania postage stamps printed between 1905 and 1913 are referred to as the "**Peacetime Printings**".

In the Peacetime Printings, the lines behind Germania's head are all clear and separated. The details in Germania's armor, hair, and crown, as well as the branch she is holding, are all clear and distinct. Her breastplate has almost a "shiny" appearance. On the Mark values, the colors are bright, and the details in the frames and the vignettes are all clear and detailed.

As described in the page on the 1902 issue, the Mark denominations of this series also have two different types of perforations, Type A having 26 x 17 holes and type B having 25 x 16 holes. On the 1905 series, the Type A hole examples are much scarcer.



To facilitate sales of postage stamps to the public, the German Empire post office began selling booklets of stamps. Even though there were very few years left in the Empire, at this point, many different types of booklets were printed, containing various denominations of stamps arranged in panes of six. Up to the end of 1918, there are 25 different configurations of Germania booklet panes listed in the Michel Catalog. Some of the booklets contained advertising labels, integrated into the panes, and there are many different varieties of those as well.

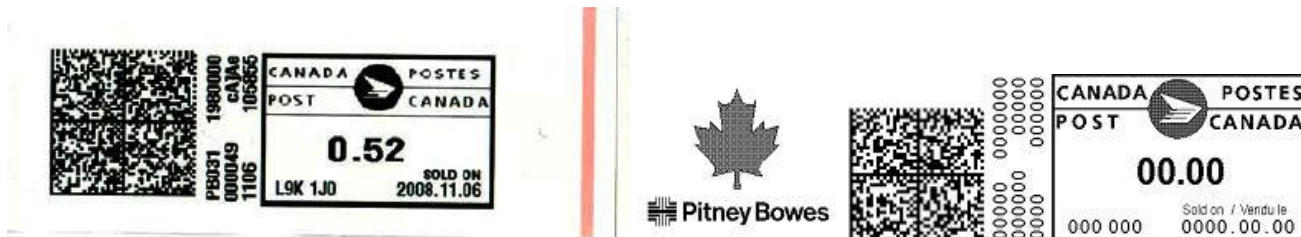
This is a very popular collecting area with German specialists, almost a specialty in itself! Specialists collect complete booklets, booklet panes, booklet covers, setenant combinations of the different denomination stamps contained in booklet panes, etc.

The stamps to be used in booklets were printed in large sheets, containing multiple panes separated by perforated gutters which were usually cut off when the panes were separated for inclusion in booklets. This also offers the opportunity of collecting panes with gutters and cross-gutter multiple stamp combinations.

Stamp-Collecting-World.com (To be Continued)

## Pitney Bowes Kiosk Canadian Test

Pitney Bowes tested their Kiosk, the same one discussed several notes below this, at six locations around Toronto. The tests ran from September 2008 to January 2009. The kiosks were removed and there is no indication that they will be used anywhere else. This test was first published in the BNAPS, British North America Philatelic Society, journal Topics Vol 66, number 2, April-June 2009. As with the US kiosk, the printed stamp was in black ink on a peelable label that has a pink phosphorescent bar on the right.



Essay of Future Stamp provided by PB in 2007.



## Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., Rod Gabel presiding. 20 Members and 1 guest were present.

### Officer Reports

- Secretary's report – minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.
- Program VP's report – Rod extended a welcome to our new VP, Geoff Owens, returning after an assignment since July in Tasmania. Geoff first talked about his trip home from Tasmania via Singapore, Istanbul, Madrid and London. Each stop included a visit to a philatelic museum and/or store and/or post office.

An auction is planned for tonight's meeting. Geoff Owens will be presenting "Tasmania: Sailors & Stamps" on February 11<sup>th</sup>. On February 25<sup>th</sup> "The story behind the stamp

- Editor's report – Rick Houghland reported that the January newsletter was sent out yesterday.

### Announcements

- Gene Gaddy was reinstated, this time as a Life Member, after sending a \$50 check to Paul Witthoef.
- Paul discussed the club frame for the upcoming TEXPEX show. As of this meeting, the member pages have all been submitted to him. He will add a cover page and send it for exhibit at TEXPEX.
- David Kaiser is in Grace Presbyterian Health Care for about a month.

### Old Business

- Ivan Zuniga's application for membership was accepted unanimously.

### New Business

- None.

### Trivia/Show & Tell

- Stuart Barzune showed an example of the new \$5.00 Canadian bill. It was made of mylar.

### Door Prizes/Album Drawing

- Chris Sortwell, Mike Smith and Geoff Owens graciously donated door prizes for the membership.
- Jack announced a new policy for paying for items from the albums: those with exact change or checks will proceed to the head of the line. His album drawing was subsequently held.

### Program

- Tom Siegel, Perry Denton and Jack Urish conducted an auction of their items.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28p.m.

February 11, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., Rod Gabel presiding 19 Members present, and 4 guests  
Officer Reports

Secretary's report – minutes of previous meeting accepted without being read.

Treasurer's report – distributed separately.

Program VP's report – tonight's program is "Tasmania: Sailors and Stamps"; Feb 25 will be four members telling "The Story Behind the Stamp"; Feb 27-Mar 1 is TEXPEX.

Membership report – Keith Johnson submitted his application tonight.

### Announcements

Paul Whitthoef advised that the club frame exhibit is ready to be sent to TEXPEX.

### Old Business-New Business

None.

### Trivia / Show & Tell

Jack Urish discussed Reunion as a Portuguese way station; Keith Johnson described visiting Pitcairn which only gets/sends mail every three months; Geoff Owens showed Singapore stamps with an orchid design security feature on the face.

### Door Prizes/Album Drawing

Sam Phillippi and the Coin and Stamp Place (Hobart, Tasmania) donated door prizes. The album drawing was held.

### Program

- Geoff Owens gave a presentation on stamps of and about Tasmania.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

## Stamp & Tongs

### APS GOLD AWARD

#### Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society Newsletter

**Rick Houghland, Editor**

Stamp & Tongs is published monthly. Material in this newsletter may be reproduced in other philatelic publications if the sources are acknowledged.

2015 DPCPS OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	<b>Rod Gabel</b>
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Membership is \$12 available to anyone of good character interested in philately. Membership applications at: [www.dpcps2010.webs.com](http://www.dpcps2010.webs.com)