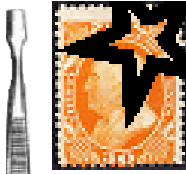


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Stamp



and



Tong

Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society
2nd & 4th (7:30pm) Wednesday's

Edgemere Retirement Center
8523 Thackrey
Dallas, TX

Volume 54

MAR 2015

German Empire

Germania Wartime Issues - 1914-1918



The German Empire Germania issues, printed between 1914 and the beginning of 1919, are referred to as the **"Wartime Printings"**. In the Wartime Printings, the paper is of poorer quality, sometimes with a grayish or yellowish tint, the colors are duller and darker, and the fine details of the vignette are coarse and a little smudgy. This is especially evident in the bi-colored stamps, where the vignette is printed in black. The fine detail in the crown, in Germania's hair, and in the leaves on the sprig Germania is holding, is almost gone and is now coarse and smudgy. The Mark values have darker colors and the details in the vignettes are not as fine as on the earlier printings. The watermarks

are also less distinct on these issues, than on those of the Peacetime Printings. The Mark denominations of these issues also exist with two different types of perforations, Type A having 26 x 17 holes and type B having 25 x 16 holes. Type Bis the most common.



In 1915, there were two spectacular production errors that accidentally occurred. Through the use of the wrong type of watermarked paper, a number of the **5 Pf.** postage stamps, were printed on paper with the **Cross and Circles watermark**. This watermark was commonly used by the Kingdom of Württemberg on their official stamp issues, but it was NEVER used for German Empire postage stamps. The Cross and Circles watermark (on a Württemberg stamp) is shown at the left. Likewise, a few of the **3 Mk.** denomination stamps were printed on paper that was **watermarked circles**. This type of paper was used for revenue stamps but never for postage stamp printing. Both of these production errors are VERY RARE.



Between 1916 and the beginning of 1919, seven new postage stamps of the Germania series were issued, as shown above. All but the 75 Pf. Denomination now have a white field behind Germania.

In 1919, following the end of World War I and the Versailles Treaty, the Weimar Republic was declared, and the German Empire came to an end.

A POSTMARK MYSTERY



T04 through T06

I have searched various resources: handbooks, journals, and various specialists for information about this postmark and have found very little information. This postmark is very scarce on stamps, uncommon on postal stationery, and very rare or none existent on cover.

Literature:

In *The Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Volume 1*, it is illustrated along with the comment: "Traveling Post Office?"

Explanations for this Postmark have been handled conservatively by specialists, each proposing a theory of the postmark's function, but cautioning that their ideas are inconclusive and not based on any certain evidence.

In their handbook, *The Postmarks of Great Britain and Ireland*, Alcock and Holland propose the following: "The resemblance [of this postmark] to the "1844" English provincial series of numbered obliteratedors will be noticed at once. There is another variety with horizontal bars also forming an upright oval. These numbered "T.O." stamps probably belong to the group which Hendy says were impressed at the inland section of the London G.P.O. on letters sent to the Traveling Post Offices which could not be included in the regular mail bags, owing to the late hour at which they were posted." They word to focus on here is "probably." The connection of this postmark with the TPO based upon the "TO" has since fallen out of favor.

In H.C. Westley's detailed study, *The Postal Cancellations of London 1840-1890*, the postmark is placed in the chapter on the Foreign Branch cancellations. He explains: "On 30 April 1860, six stamps were issued showing T.O.1 to T.O.6. These are frequently found on W.H. Smith & Son's wrappers, but I have not succeeded in finding out anything concerning there use."

I also found a Journal article which I have sadly lost track of which proposed that the postmarks "were issued on 30 April 1860 for use in the Foreign Branch of the Circulation Department at St. Martin's le Grand. They were possibly used for ship or naval letters, or both, passing through the Circulation Department. All Royal Navy letters went to St. Martin's le Grand for redirection." I regret that I have lost the original source but had carefully recorded the comments.

Wrappers: I must agree with Westley's observation that many of the examples of these postmarks appear on stationery. Most of my own examples exist on wrapper cut squares with W.H. Smith & Sons advertisement collars. I have examples of "T.O.2" and "T.O.6" on the twopence embossed wrapper in blue with collars stating "W.H. Smith & Sons, 186, Strand, London." For obvious reasons, a great many of the wrappers are canceled with the "pre-cancels of Smith, Elder & Co., Henry S. King & Co., and William Dawson & Sons. The fact that they appear with some regularity on the wrappers along with the pre-cancels would lead one to the possible idea that they were used somehow as a substitute pre-cancel for any of the above firms or perhaps for a firm which remains unrecorded. I reproduce the pre-cancels below:



T01-T06 Series



W.H. Smith & Sons



Henry S King & Co.



W.H. Smith & Sons

Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., Rod Gabel presiding. 18 Members were present

Officer Reports

- Secretary's report – minutes of previous meeting accepted without being read.
- Program VP's report – tonight's program is "The Story Behind The Stamp"; Feb 27-Mar 1 is TEXPEX; on March 11 members will discuss their TEXPEX displays; March 25 will be the Spring Cleaning Bourse.

Announcements

- Paul Witthoef announced that the TEXPEX displays have been mailed.

New Business

- Joe Baker asked if there is a formal bad weather policy. Rod stated there is not but he and Geoff Owens had discussed a contingency plan for tonight if needed.

Trivia / Show & Tell

- Stuart Barzune showed some Cinderellas from German Colonies lost in World War I.
- George Clayton raised the USPS policy on living people on stamps and said three people have been featured: Bill Gates, Bob Dylan and Lady Gaga. (This will be shown to be an urban legend at the next meeting.)
- Geoff Owens detailed the constituent parts of French Southern and Antarctic Lands.

Door Prizes/Album Drawing

- Door prizes donated by Sam, Chris and Stuart. The album drawing was held.

Program

- George Clayton, Jack Urish, Paul Witthoef and Geoff Owens showed items and told the stories behind them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

March 11, 2015

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

Officer Reports

- Secretary's report – minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.
- Treasurer's report – \$12,735.20 in the club accounts.
- Program VP's report – Tonight, members were to discuss their TEXPEX page displays. A spring cleaning bourse is planned for March 25th; No program is planned yet for April 8, but there will be a board meeting on that date. A TSDA bourse is

planned for April 10-11 in Richardson.

- Editor's report – Rick Houghland reported that the next newsletter will be ready by the next meeting.
- Membership report- no news today.

Announcements

- Paul noted that the club received a Certificate of Participation for the Texas Shoot-Out exhibit at TEXPEX. The Oklahoma City club received first prize and the Mid-Cities club honorable mention. Joe & Stan's exhibits are being submitted for publication in the club newsletter.
- Rick Houghland has PNC covers, US Envelopes and Postal Cards for sale.

Trivia/Show & Tell

- Stuart Barzune brought a 1972 Bangladesh stamp which appeared to illustrate the NY World Trade Towers before they were built. George Clayton suggested there were no living persons depicted on US stamps, which prompted a discussion. Jack Urish showed Germania stamps, indicating the difference between inks used before WWI and during the war.

Door Prizes/Album Drawing

- Chris Sortwell, Sam Phillippi and Jack Urish graciously donated door prizes for the membership. The album drawing was held.

Program

- Due to the perceived lateness of the hour, the member discussion of their TEXPEX pages was deferred to later date(s). The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 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	Rod Gabel
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Secretary	Stan Bartnikowski
Treasurer	Jack Urish
Directors	Jon Cagley
	Sam Phillippi
	Perry Denton

Membership is \$12 available to anyone of good character interested in philately. Membership applications at: www.dpcps2010.webs.com