The Fraktur

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NOMADIC NOTGELD NOTATIONS

The Nomadic Notgeld Caravan, consisting of two bags and an old man, returned to Iola May 18 after a 21-day expedition to the Land of Notgeld.

Highlights of the trip will be reviewed in coming issues of The Fraktur. We do not wish to dissuade the potential traveler, but to be realistic, not everything planned pans out. Let me cite some examples.

A visit to the museum of the Bundesbank in Frankfurt/Main was cancelled on account of asbestos removal.

A meeting with officers of the Finance Office of the Bundesbank in Bonn was called on account of "out of town."

A visit to the Sinzig archives was cancelled - still closed for remodeling.

And along the way, some hoped-for reunions failed to materialize.

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MONTHLY NOTGELD QUOTE. . .





Zu wissen sei en jedem,
der's begehrt:
Der Zettel hier ist 75 Pf
...wert.

Let everyone know who
wants to know
This piece of paper is
75 Pfennig's worth.

Tiefurt
75 Pfennig L-1291

Such disappointments can be experienced on any trip, and can be overcome with unexpected pluses one can encounter.

Friendly, knowledgeable guides in an area can point out items of local interest, and often tie them into your hobby.

Also, they can lead you to Notgeld collectors even if they do not share that interest.

On the visit, I did have the opportunity to see in the home of Notgeld collectors as complete a set of notes designed by Heinz Schiestl as is possible, and in another home, notes of area towns, which is the collecting arena of many German collectors.

And then there was the petite German lady who presides over 69,000 pieces of German Notgeld, in a Berlin museum.

One collector had an album a foot thick, filled with Austrian paper Notgeld.

Less metal Notgeld seems to be collected, but was seen at coin shows. I attended shows in Berlin, Hannover and Speyer. It was interesting to compare offerings at the three shows.

Yet only six years out of the DDR (German Democratic Republic), dealer tables in Berlin were filled with Russian-type badges, military medals and decorations. Also, books of Russian medals and coins could be seen. There was a dealer from Moscow and collectors and authors from other former eastern-bloc countries.

Telephone cards were everywhere, actively traded. But in Hannover there was less of the Soviet numismatic presence noted, and hardly any telephone cards.

Incidentally, I attended the second annual coin show in Hannover in May 1965.

In Speyer hardly any Soviet material was to be seen, and only one dealer had telephone cards, almost hidden.

Paper Notgeld universally begins at one Deutsche Mark, and at the time of the visit, that was 73 cents. Readers buying from The Fraktur have enjoyed a bargain! As a lot of perhaps 1,300 notes may be offered, one might pick them up for 900 DM.

We heard that German dealers were prowling the bourse of the Chicago paper money show in February, trying to purchase German Notgeld.

And what sells at coin shows in Germany? A friend had a table of German coins, early 17th century to date, including commemoratives and small denominations. What sold first? Paper Notgeld. What produced most in DM sales? Paper Notgeld. "A very good day," he stated and smiled.

Enough of generalities. Let's take a peek into the homes of some of these collectors.

In Berlin, it was several floors up in a large apartment building. In the home were two bedrooms (well, one bedroom and one coin room), kitchen, bath, and a large living/dining room.

Retired, he has been a collector over 20 years. A wooden cabinet held shelves of books and trays of coins and medals. Opposite this were more book shelves, including a row three feet long of numismatic issues of DDR coin clubs. He was preparing, with a friend, a book due out this summer illustrating and describing the medals of H. Koenig.

We now step into the home of Kai Lindman, meeting him and a covey of 10 avid Notgeld collectors and writers. It is mayhem. Whatever the subject, Lindman opens a book to the questioned references.

As he completes the publication of one book, two more are in progress, each prodigious. There are Notgeld items and Notgeld-like items almost unknown to most collectors, until his books are released.

And when a new subject is broached by a new Lindman book, collectors write about additional information, soon forcing a new edition of the book.

Lindman said that despite the size of the Keller works on inflation money, it is Lindman's opinion that Keller was only two-thirds complete. However, it appears that no one dares to revise the inflation books, so extensive is the project, too expensive to produce.

We saw Lindman's master copy of the "Serienscheine" book, as notations are added for revision. He sees a new edition in about two years, he said.

Typical of the problems encountered by an author are the issues of the town of Koenigswinter/Rhine, L-709, as cited by Lindman. Dr. Keller had indicated that almost 1,000 varieties exist. Lindman listed only those he had or knew about, in his first edition (the red cover edition is the second edition).

So much mail came to Lindman from collectors concerning the Koenigswinter varieties that he now lists almost all those indicated by Keller.

Next stop is the home of a retired banker. His basement is his numismatic castle. He has albums of paper notgeld but also other coins. Main stay of the furniture is a wooden chest offering a large expanse of flat working surface, and inside, room for coins and paper money books. The chest I gave to him 30 years ago.

We visit another home, that of a retired man and wife, collectors for over 35 years. Their interest is in world type coins and certain types of medals.

Again, in the other, current, capital of Germany, Bonn, is another small bedroom dedicated to numismatics. The owner, retired from the government economic development branch, again lines the walls with books and coin cabinets.

His notgeld includes paper and metal. He has been a collector for over 40 years and has numismatic journals from other countries. This collector attends the local numismatic society meetings regularly, as well as other societies in the area.

Perhaps the next home is a true numismatic house, from attic to basement. It cannot be overdescribed.

The patient Hausfrau accepts it all. Where shall we start? Basement? Full. He was kind enough to leave room for her washing machine.

The main coin room is packed with information on coins the world over. Correspondence is carried on to all corners of the world. Overflow seeps into the upper rooms.

I must comment that he showed me the only bound volumes of The Fraktur which I have seen.

This man is employed, and I will make a comment here, not unkind. Coin rooms of the retired collectors generally are neater than those who work and have limited time for their hobby.

If this collector had to choose between his coins and books, he would probably take his books.

And then there was the teacher-writer-collector who told me 50 books a week are an average for additions to his book shelves.

SINZIG, FATHER RHINE AND THE HEXENS

The town of Sinzig, just a few miles upstream from Remagen on the Rhine River, was in the area occupied by Allied troops at the end of World War I.

A set of Notgeld in values of 25-, 50-, 75-Pfennig and one Mark, L-1199, was issue-dated Aug. 1, 1921. Research to date has been limited since the archives of the city have been closed, due to renovation.

A perusal of newspaper accounts from the Kreis seat, in Ahrweiler, failed to provide mention of city council action in issuing the Notgeld. One source mentioned that this might have been done in January 1922.

It was explained to me that among the Allied soldiers were negroes from Africa, a race not familiar to the Germans, and in which a certain amount of fear of them had been instilled.

We must mention this to set the stage for the theme of the Sinzig Notgeld, and their scarcity.

We will relate the tale as told on the notes, beginning with the 25-Pfennig value and continuing upward in values.





Saten asks, "What about doing our jolly travel this night up the Rhine?"

The Hexen reply, "Under no circumstances, because people say there are blacks as soldiers."



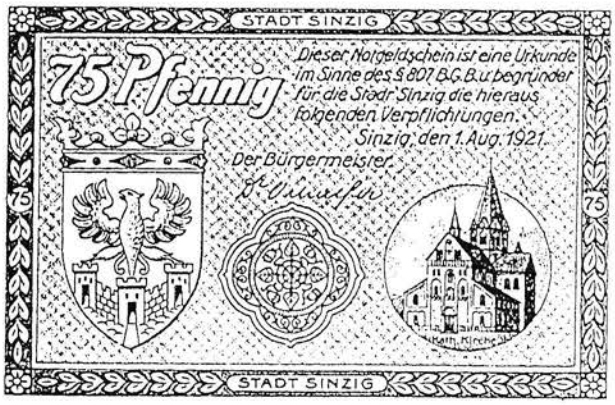


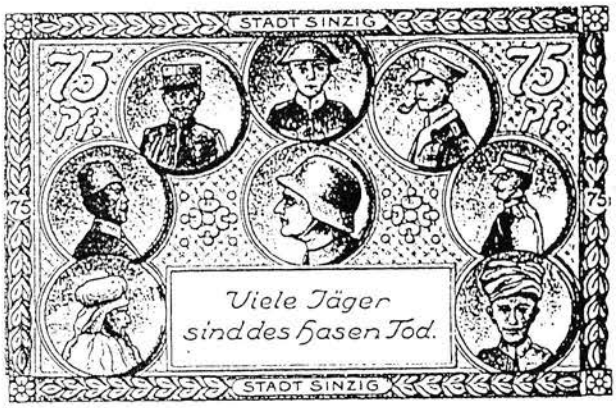
On the 50-Pfennig note is an oblique reference to the tale from "Die Kraniche des Ibykos," by Schiller, about Ibykos, a 6th Century B.C. Greek poet on the way to a sporting event, who was laid upon by two robbers, and killed.

Ibykos called upon a swoop of cranes passing overhead to witness his murder. The local people found him, prompting the remark, "Who counts the tribes who call the names of all the people who came together here?"

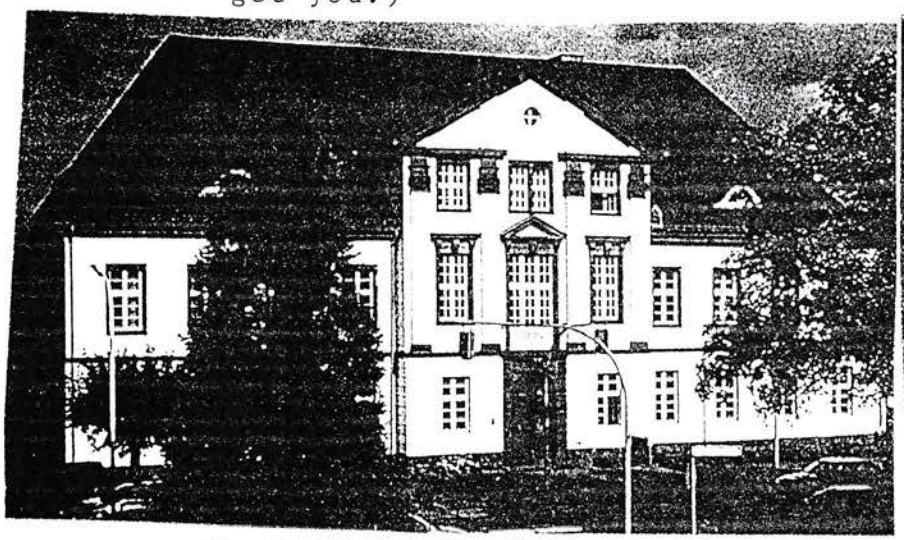
Suddenly the swoop of cranes fly over and a robber says, "Look, the cranes of Ibikos," and laughs. The people say, "What about Ibikos?" The robber confesses before the court and is sentenced to die, a revenge by the "Buergerliches Cranes."

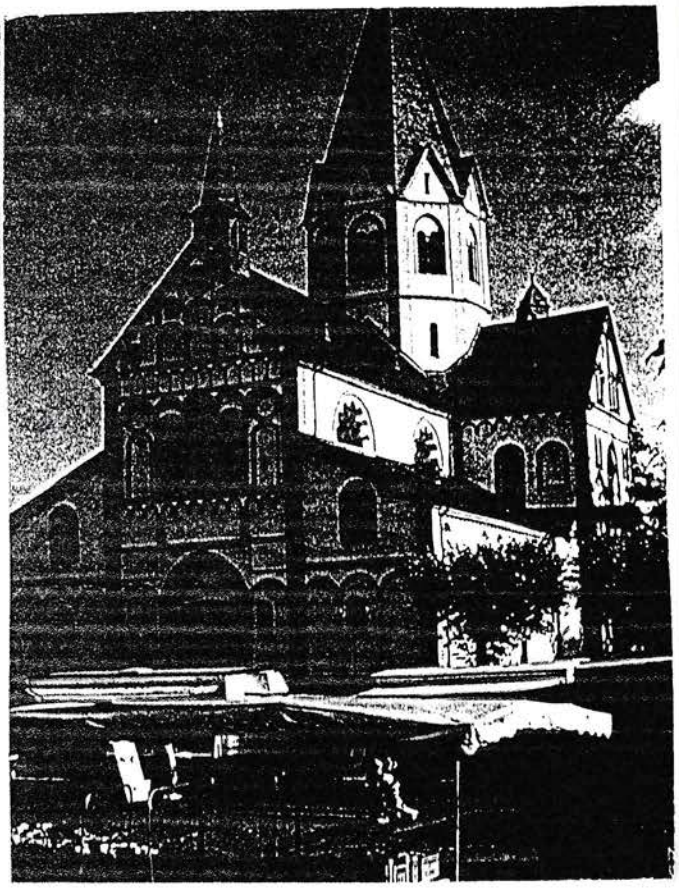
On the face of all the notes is reference to the Law 807 which states that if somebody is issuing cards, tokens or similar instruments in which there is not mentioned who is the issuer, issued under circumstances out of which it is clear that the issuer will pay, then the regulations laid down in Laws numbered 793, 794, 796 and 797 are to be in these cases as well.





On the 75-Pfennig note, a German soldier replaces, in the center of the back, the Scot shown on the 50-Pfennig note. Reference is made to a German proverb, "many hunters are the death of a hare." (If many are after you, they will get you.)"





At right is the Catholic church in Sinzig as it appears today, shown on the face of the 75-Pfennig note. The Rathaus, above, appears on the face of the Mark piece. (Wilhelm Eglseer photo)





The seven hills across the Rhine from Sinzig are behind Father Rhine on the Mark note. He wears a laurel wreath and holds his trident. Nixens, female-like denizens of rivers, are around him as he says "Why do you want to swim to The Netherlands?'

They reply, "We are afraid of the black soldiers."

The reply of the Hexens possibly was offensive to the Allied Command, causing the series to be withdrawn.

We understand that this set was sold at auction a few years ago in Germany.

NOMADIC NOTGELD NOTATIONS (Concluded)

How could I describe the Notgeld room as the typical one of those seen on the trip? Usually kept by a specialist, there are shelves, sometimes lining four walls, of books pertinent to the collection.

The notes may be in the old style albums, dating back to the early 1920s, or in modern plastic albums or in single plastic holders in a box.

Stacks of correspondence may be on a table top. Some books may span the gamut of the collection, including local history books. Other volumes may deal with just the area from which he collects, such as by artist, the home town area, or a topic, perhaps windmills or ships.

Prepare for further in-depth Notgeld tales from these homes in coming issues!

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WANTED; World paper, Notgeld depicting bridges. Please send photocopy and price to: Mohamad Hussein, 6295 River Run Place, Orlando, Fl. 32807, U.S.A.

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GERMAN-FRENCH world paper Notgeld. Over 10,000 pieces in stock! Large free lists. Ian A. Marshall, Parkway Mall Box 62509, 85 Ellesmere Road, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada M1R 5G8.

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Schleiz 50 Pfennig to 20 Mark, 6 pieces, red	$110
Schleiz 50 Pfennig to 20 Mark, 6 pieces, white	$147.50

Metal

Funk/ Frenzel		
4.2/2 Adelsheim 10 Pfennig ND Zinc	VF	$11
19.7a/7.1 Arnsberg 50 Pfennig 1919 Iron	EF	$31
121.3/3 Eschwege 25 Pfennig ND Zinc	EF	$40
176.6/6 Gruenberg 10 Pfennig 1919 Iron	EF	$18.50
258.4b/4.2 Koschmin 5 Pfennig 1918 Iron	EF	$55
263.1/1.1. Kuenzelsau 5 Pfennig 1917 Zinc	EF	$9
351.3b/3.2 Muensterberg 50 Pfennig 1918 Iron	EF	$25
416.1/1 Ottmachau 10 Pfennig 1920 Iron	EF	$30
494.2/2 Seitenberg 10 Pfennig 1919 Iron	EF	$35
632.3/3 Zwiesel 20 Pfennig 1917 Zinc	EF	$18

Gelsenkirchen July 21, 1923 5, 10 (2), 50 Millionen Mark K-1710a $12
Gelsenkirchen Aug. 9, 1923 1 Millionen Mark K-1710m tear $2
Gelsenkirchen Aug. 9, 1923 5 Millionen Mark K-1710m $2.75
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Gelsenkirchen Aug. 22, 1923 2 Millionen Mark Landkreis K-1710r $2.75
Gelsenkirchen Oct. 6, 1923 500 Millionen Mark K-1710dd $2.75
Gelsenkirchen/Bergwerks Aug. 10, 1923 10 Millionen Mark K-1711a $3
Gelsenkirchen/Orange ND 50 Millionen Mark K-1712 $3
Gelsenkirchen/Orange ND 100 Millionen Mark K-1712 $3
Genthin July 1, 1921 25, 50 Pf, 1, 2, 5 Mark L-405a $3.25*
Genthin July 1, 1921 25, 50 Pf, 1, 2, 5 Mark L-405b $3.25*
Gera ND (to Feb. 1, 1919) 5, 10, 20 Mark L-158 $9
Gera May 1, 1921 25, 50 Pf, 1, 2 Mark L-406a $12*
Gerbstedt ND (1918) 10 Pf Kreuz Drogerie P-S 710 $5
Germany (Berlin Reichsbahn) Sept. 2, 1923 10 Millionen Mark P-S 1014 $3.75*
Germany (Berlin Reichsbahn) Sept. 25, 1923 10 Millionen Mark P-S 1017 $3
Germany (Berlin Reichsbahn) Oct. 18, 1923 20 Millionen Mark P-S 1022 $2.50
Gernrode/Harz May 9, 1921 50 Pf L-409a $.65*
Gernrode/Harz May 9, 1921 25 (2), 50 (2), 75 (2) Pf L-409b $3.25*
Gernrode/Harz Oct. 21, 1921 50 (6), 75 (6) Pf L-409c $7.50*
Gerolstein/Eifel Dec.5, 1921 50 (6) Pf L-410 $45*
Gerthe/Westfalen Aug. 20, 1923 10 Millionen Mark K-1754 $3.75
Giessen Nov. 1, 1918 5, 10, 50 Mark K-168 punch-cancelled $8
Gifhorn June 1, 1921 5, 10, 25 Pf L-414 $4*
Gilgenburg/Ostpreussen Oct. 10, 1920 25 Pf L-415 $1.25
Glashuette Aug. 1, 1921 25 (5), 50 (5) Pf, 1 Mark (2) L-416 $14
Glatz/Schlesien Oct. 9, 1918 50 Pf P-S730a $2.25
Glatz/Schlesien Oct, 6, 1921 25 (4), 50 (4), 75 (2), 100 (2) Pf L-418 $15*
Glauchau ND 25, 50 Pf, 1, 2, 3, 3, 5 Mark L-419 $15*
Glauchau May 1, 1921 50 (6) Pf L-422a $4*

Glauchau May 1, 1921 75 (6) Pf L-422b $4*
Glauchau July 1, 1921 1/2 Mark (6) L-422c $4*
Glehn Aug. 1, 1923 100,000 Mark K-1828i $3
Gleiwitz/Oberschlesien ND 50, 75 Pf, 1, 2, 5 Mark Schecks L-423 $7*
Glogau/Schlesien ND (1919) 1 Pf P-S 741e $1*
Glogau/Schlesien ND (1920) 10, 25 Pf P-S 741h $2*
Glogau/Schlesien ND 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1, 1.5, 2 Mark Schecks L-424 $7*
Glogau/Schlesien Dec. 1, 1920 10, 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1 Mark $3*
Glogau/Schlesien ND 25, 50, 75 Pf 1, 2 Mark L-426 Schecks $6*
Glucksburg June 17, 1920; 1920 1 Mark L-427 $4*
Gnarrenburg ND 50 Pf L-429 $1.25*
Goch Jan. 1, 1921 10, 25, 50 Pf L-431a $4*
Goch June 1, 1921 10, 50 Pf L-431b $1.25*
Goch Jan. 1, 1922 50 (2), 75 (4) Pf L-431c$4*
Godelheim May 10, 1921 1 Mark L-432 II $1.75*
Godesberg, Bad Oct. 25, 1920 50 Pf P-S 744 $.60*
Godesberg, Bad Aug. 16, 1923 100,000, 500,000 Mark K-1817e $10
Godesberg Aug. 16, 1923 1, 5, 10 Millionen Mark K-1817e $15
Godesberg, Bad Sept. 13,1923 50 Millionen Mark K-1817h $4
Goeppingen Aug. 16, 1923 1/2 Millionen Mark K-1829i $3
Goettingen Nov. 19, 1920 25, 50 Pf P-S 751e $1.25
Goldap/Ostpreussen ND 25, 50 75, 100 Pf L-437 $3.50*
Gollnow/Pommen Jan. 31, 1921 25 Pf red L-439b $1.75*
Gollnow Aug. 3, 1921 50 (4) Pf L-439e $10*
Gonsenheim/Main Aug. 17, 1923 500,000 Mark K-1850 $5.50*
Goslar/Harz June 1920 10, 25, 50 Pf L-441a $2.25*
Goslar/Harz July 2, 1922 2 Mark (5) L-441b* $3.75*
Gotha ND 1 Mark Wareinkaufsverein 1 Mark P-S 769 $2.65
Gotha ND 50 (2) Pf L-443 tears $2
Gotha Feb. 8, 1923 1,000, 5,000 Mark K-230f $5
Gottesberg/Schlesien 1921 10, 25, 50 Pf L-444 $1.75*
Grabow ND 50 Pf L-446a $.75*
Grabow ND 25, 50, 75 Pf L-446b Moonfaces $1.75*
Graefenthal 1921 10, 50 Pf L-449a IV sun, rays $13*
Graefenthal Oct. 1921 50 (2) Pf L-449b $4*
Gransee ND 50, 75, 125, 175 Pf L-451 Schecks $3*
Greiffenberg/Schlesien ND 60 Pf, 1 Mark Schecks L-456b $1.25
Gross-Wirschleben/Anhalt Sept. 1, 1921 50 Pf L-472 $.70
Gransee/Mark ND 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1.25, 1.75 Mark L-451 $7.50*
Greifenstein ND 50 (6 different colors) L-455 $12.50*
Greiffenberg/Schlesien April 19, 1920 10, 25, 50 Pf L-456a $2*
Greiffenberg/Schlesien ND 30, 60 Pf, 1, 3, 5 Mark L-456b $3.50*
Greiz Nov. 1, 1918 5 Mark K-184a $2,50
Greiz Nov. 2, 1918 1 Mark K-184b $2.50*
Greiz Sept. 5, 1921 25, 50, 75, 90 Pf L-457 $3*
Greiz Oct. 15, 1923 500 Millionen Mark K-1887o $3.50

Uncirculated
K-Keller catalogs; L-Lindman, Serienscheine; P-S Pick-Siemsen

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