The Fraktur

September 1988

Just across the Rhine from Duesseldorf lies Neuss, once a Roman fortress, called Novae Sium. The patron saint of the town was a Roman soldier who was converted to Christianity, named Quirinus. A local church is named for him.

The church was started in 1209; east and west towers of the structure were destroyed by different fires, and each later restored. The Erft canal connects Neuss with the Rhine River.

The town was sacked by Attila in 451 A.D. It joined the Hanseatic League in 1254.

Municipal and private paper money was issued by Neuss, as well as prisoner of war, private metal, gas tokens and issues in the World War II period. The earliest notgeld from Neuss was released in 1914, in values of 25 and 50 pfennig and one mark. In 1922 inflation issues by International Harvester were dated Sept. 7, Sept. 14 and Oct. 5, in values from 100 to 3,000 mark.

To the south of Duesseldorf, on the same side of the river, the right bank, lies Benrath, now, for all practical purposes, a part of the metropolitan area.

Perhaps its claim to fame is Schloss Benrath, built in rococo style between 1756 and 1771 by the Elector Palatine Charles Theodore.

The Schloss, or castle, appears on the back of inflation issues of Benrath and Land Duesseldorf.





The five-note set of Zons/Rhein, dated Oct. 1, 1921, shows arms of the city on the face; the wall surrounding the fortified town on the back.

Continuing up river we come to Zons, called by the Romans Sontium, later a medieval fortified town. It is on the left bank of the Rhine.

Dated Oct. 1, 1921, was a five-note set of 50 pfennig values issued by Zons.

Before arriving in the Koeln (Cologne) area we will pass two villages back from the Rhine, Monheim on the right bank and Dormagen on the left.

On Aug. 10, 1923, the Mineraloelwerke Rhenania A.G. of Monheim issued a million mark note, without a control number.

Dormagen, the Roman Durnomagnus, was the home of a sugar factory, Rhein. Actien-Verein fuer Zuckerfabrikation, which released 1923 paper money on Aug. 9, Aug. 11 and Aug. 22, and Sept. 8, in values from 100,000 mark to 20 million mark.

And now, stand by for a flood of emergency issues from the Cologne area, our next stop!

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A question has arisen concerning cleaning metal notgeld. Of course, the standard reply is, "Don't."

But for the collector with a bag full of zinc pieces turning white and chalky and iron ones pitted and rusty, that is hardly a satisfactory answer.

Germans are great for going to a pharmacy and buying an item called "Kupferdreh," a powder something like Comet. We have heard of a similar item they use for other metals. Also available is a bundle of fiberglass rods used by jewelers, called a "Glaspinsel." It will leave scratches, as will the harsher "Messingbuerster," a brass brush.

But the person stuck with this corroding, rusting mess has to do something. Using a cloth, rubbing with the fingers, whatever, after it is clean, one wants to keep it that way. One method is to spray a light clear lacquer over the coins, to keep oxidation and rust away.

For an immediate solution, to stop further damage, I have even immersed them in a solution of vegetable oil, pouring the coins and oil in a large glass container. The air and moisture are kept out; further damage is stopped, though one does come upon a messy problem when they need cleaning.

How do our readers handle problems of rust and corrosion on metal notgeld?

THE Notgeld CORNER

Inquiries continue to come about THE FRAKTUR, with new friends added to the membership rolls. It is heartening to read the diversified points of interest within the Notgeld community. We try to answer questions within our capabilities. Some take time, so be patient with us.

It has seemed strange to us that since THE FRAKTUR started, we have had three or four inquiries about naval tokens, those canteen tokens usually struck in brass and naming German ships of the line.

We should mention that these tokens were in use prior to World War I. Also, the same name might have been applied to three or four vessels between WWI and the end of WWII.

Jerry F. Schimmel has reprinted "German Naval Tokens" (Das Deutsche Flottengeld) by Peter-Hannes Lehman, plus adding some information of his own. It includes an abbreviated listing of German Naval Tokens. The 40-page book is available for $5 from Schimmel at P.O. Box 40888, San Francisco, Calif. 94140.

Another reader would like to acquire a volume of Dr. Arnold Keller's book, "Das deutsche Notgeld, Katalog Kleingeldscheine 1916-1922, I-III Teil: Verkehrsausgaben notes which saw circulation, reprinted by Battenberg in 1979. THE FRAKTUR will pass the information on to our reader.

In the "Good Old Days" numismatics took a holiday in the summer. In May dealers would advertise that they would be gone until September. The only notable summer event was the convention of the American Numismatic Association.

Now, dealers and publications wish to keep the pot boiling through the summer. Whichever your persuasion, September is the official time to renew/continue your hobby, take inventory of the collection, establish goals, vow to obtain certain books or notes, take a deep breath and get back into the swing of things.



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

LARGE STOCK Serienscheine in sets. I also work with topical collectors and publish topical check lists. Occasionally issue a "Notgeld Newsletter." Write Dwight L. Musser, Box 905, Lacoochee, Fl. 33537.

The Fraktur Pricelist
September 1988

Germany

Bielefeld 25 Mark July 15, 1921 Silk Keller Notgeld Besonderer Art, pg. 38. $10*

Greiz & Zeulenroda 5 mark Nov. 1, 1918 Keller 185c $2.75*

Marienburg/West Preussen 50 pfennig July 1, 1920 Keller 694a Plebiscite; bells 75 cents*

Seehausen/Altmark 50 pfennig June 10, 1917 Keller 2350 c.II.B 50 cents*

Stadtlengsfeld 5, 10 pfennig July 1, 1917 Keller 2405 $3*

Steinfeld 75 pfennig To Nov. 30, 1921 Keller 1044F2 Plebiscite $1*

Stolberg/Harz 25, 50, 75, 75 Pfennig No date Keller 1056b $4.50*

Stolzenau 25, 50, 50, 75 pfennig April 30, 1921 Keller 1058a Wilhelm Busch $1.75*

Westerland/Sylt 5 mark no date Keller 510 $4.50*

Zweibruecken 5, 20 mark SOct. 25, 1918 Keller 542 $5*

Denmark

Apenrade (Aabenraa) 50 pfennig 1920 75 cents*

Augustenburg (Augustenborg) 1 Mark April 8, 1920 Keller 43a $3*

Auenbuell (Aunboel) 1 Mark Feb. 10, 1920 Plebiscite Keller 153 $.75*

Brunde 1 Mark April 1920 Plebiscite Keller 153

Christiansfeld (Kristiansfelt) 50 pfennig March 1920 Keller 185 Plebiscite $1*

Daler (Dabler) 25, 30 pfennig April 10, 1920 Keller 208 Plebiscite $2.50*

Duenth (Dynt) 50 pfennig 1919 Keller 238 Plebiscite $.75*

Dybboel (Dueppel) 25 ore April 18, 1920 Keller 239 Plebiscite $.75*

Hadersleben (Haderslev) 10, 50 pfennig March 1920 Plebiscite $1.75

Hoyer (Hoejer) 25, 50 Pfennig; 1 Mark April 10, 1920 Keller 497 Plebiscite $3.

Luegumkloster (Loegumkloster) 25 Pf., Jan. 10, 1920; 50 Pf. Feb. 10, 1920 Keller 673 Plebiscite. $2*

Moegel-Tondern (Moegeltoender) 50 Pfennig 1920 Keller 712 Plebiscite $1*

We will repeat some terms of THE FRAKTUR pricelist. Postage is extra on orders under $10. Please do not send money with your order; many times items are sold out. The asterisk following price indicates uncirculated; otherwise, price of the note considers condition. Returns are accepted for 10 days.

Memory Lane

Arrival in Wiesbaden, West Germany, was a confusing event; a new job, a new culture; a new language to hear. It was late June 1960, and the army civilian was ready for the day off on July 4. American holidays celebrated in Germany were nice, because it was a work day for the Germans, and this was Monday.

So I gingerly stepped out of the hotel, constantly looking back for landmarks so I could find my way to the hotel. I went down Berlinerstrasse to Wilhelmstrasse, past the Kurpark and into the Stadt Centrum, the Rathaus, main churches, but not knowing what I was hunting..

Beyond the Rathaus the streets were twisted and narrow. I came to a building triangularly shaped, due to the converging streets, where pink corsets were featured in a display window. The display was not changed when I left a year later.

But just around the corner was an antique store, and a handful of Roman coins appeared in the front window display., There were just enough to entice a numismatist inside.

Herr Rinnelt and his wife ran the place. They didn't know much about the Roman coins, nor were the coins especially interesting. While talking another American showed up.

Simpson George Salter had a bloodhound's nose for coins and opportunities. He was a staff sergeant stationed at Wiesbaden Air Force Base, in aircraft records maintenance. Buying and selling from Germans to Americans and vice versa was his game. "Is there a coin club here?" I asked. "None," he replied.

By November the Wiesbaden Coin Collectors were organized, composed of Germans, Americans, children, and according to the by-laws, the president alternately German, then American. Let's leave the club for a later discussion, and go back to Rinnelts.

There was a bag of metal notgeld (in those days, numismatist meant coins, paper was verboten, a sad theory followed until my departure five years later). Half a mark each was the standard price which could not be reduced for the goodies in the bag. (This was a large bag!)

So it became custom that each Saturday morning Coffing, Salter and Co. would meet at the shop, Coffing getting about 10 deutschemark in metal notgeld. During the week they would be put into envelopes. Finally, in desperation, I took a handful of small envelopes in, and sorted the darn bunch alphabetically, so I wouldn't be sorting over the same stuff. Rinnelt didn't mind.

After I left Wiesbaden, after a year in town, I heard the entire bag was sold, but did not learn the circumstances.

Notgeld Glossary (Continued)

missing	Fehlend
money reform	Waehrungsreform
money	Geld
necessity money	Notgeld
new	Neu
no date	ohne Datum; ohne Jahr
nominal value (face)	Nennwert
note	Banknote; Geldschein
number	Zahl Nummer; Ziffer
numeral	Ziffer; Zahlzeichen (Roman numerals)
obsolete	Ungueltig (no longer of value)
obverse	Vorderseite; avers
octagonal	Achteckig
official issue	Amtliche Ausgabe
overprint	Ueberdruck
overseas	Uebersee
overstamped	Ueberstempelt
paper money	Papiergeld
pattern	Muster
payment	Zahlung
printing firm	Druckfirma
pin holes	Nadelloecher
plate	Druckplatte
plebiscite	Volksabstimmung
portrait	Portraet, Bildnis
postage	Porto
post paid	Porto Bezahlt
prefix	Verzeichen
preservation	Erhalten
price	Preis
pricelist	Preisliste
printing error	Druckfehler
Prisoner of war money	Kriegsgefangenenlagergeld
private issue	Privatausgabe
propaganda issue	Propaganda Ausgabe
rare	Selten
recalled	eingezogen, zurueckgerufen
reckoning note	Verrechnungsschein
red	Roth, Rot
redeem	einloesen, eingeloest
redemption date	einloesungsdatum
row, series	Rheie
reissue	Neuausgabe
release	ausgabe
remainder	Restposten
replica	Kopie, Replik
reproduction	Wiedergabe, Reproduktion
revaluation	Neubewertung
reverse	Rueckseite
sample	muster
save, collection	Sammeln
serial letter	Kontrollzahl (KZ)
series (Note set)	Serien
shade	Farbton