The Fraktur

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PASSPORT TO FAIRYLAND

Time to check the passport - is it current? Travelers checks, in Swiss francs, German deutsche Mark and U.S. $; camera, film. Bags packed, prescriptions sufficient. And oh yes, a plane ticket to Frankfurt/Main.

We have read our travel guides and have a general idea of our destination. After all, we like to think that half the fun of travel is in the planning.

At Frankfurt's Rhein-Main airport we rent a car for our two-week journey and head out Highway 43 for Hanau, up the Main River about 20 miles.

In THE FRAKTUR, December 1988, we mentioned Hanau and the Grimm brothers. The town was a center for goldsmiths and is famous for leather products.

The Rathaus was severely damaged during World War II, just a shell standing when I lived there in 1961. But even then, standing guard in front, was the statue depicting Jacob Ludwig Carl (1785-1863) and Wilhelm Carl (1786-1859) Grimm, born in Hanau.

And here begins the theme of our Fairyland travel.

In the August 25, 1993, issue of "The Milwaukee Sentinel," Betty Lowry described sights and sounds on the Deutsche Maerchenstrasse, (Maerchen, fairy tale). She explained that the road is marked from Hanau to Bremen, though the number on the road may change occasionally.

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MONTHLY NOTGELD QUOTE. . .



Kahla
Aug. 15, 1921 25 Pfennig
L-650d

Should someone break
all your dishes
Kahla offers you new ones.



Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm exchange places on the stroke of midnight on their statue in Hanau. 10 Pfennig, Aug. 12, 1920 P-S 931c

Perhaps you will think it a bit frivolous to follow children's unlikely tales. But note: in USA Today, August 27, 1993, page 9A, Miss Susan Ohanian, a teacher from Schenectady, N.Y., submitted an essay.

Her home town had sought criteria in a search for a school superintendent. Her suggestion: ask what books the candidate had read. Not glanced at the cover dribble. Not the condensed versions, but cover to cover.

She even had the temerity to advocate the standard be added in the search for public servants, politicians, even, horrors, teachers.

A point system was suggested: 1 point for Erma Bombeck's writings; 5 points for Ann Tyler, Jan Gould, Tobias Wolff; 10 points, Stephan Jay Gould or Gore Vidal; 15 points for a book written in another language (a German dictionary, cover to cover?) and the same value for books on physics and math.

And she gave strong encouragement to books on poetry and children's stories, suggesting Dr. Suess' "The Cat in the Hat," "Grimm's Fairy Tales," and the tale of "The Pied Piper."

Miss Ohanian was somewhat tongue-in-cheek about her remarks, and so are we. But we combine the thoughts of Miss Ohanian and Miss Lowry to take you on this journey.

Before we leave Hanau and the statue of the Grimm Brothers, we are reminded that Hanau was the setting of the tale of the Frog King who hopped after the princess' golden ball.

It is not too difficult to follow the signs on the "Deutsche Maerchenstrasse," indicated on our maps. We looked



Dr. Eisenbarth prided himself on state-of-the art techiques in medicine and dentistry. A touch of opium, hands tied behind the chair, his right foot in the stomach of the patient and he is ready for the extraction with his sanitary pliers. Both sides of the 2-Mark note of Hannoverisch-Muenden, undated, are shown. (L-560)

at German highway maps 30 years old, and found few theme roads indicated. Maps 50 years old showed even fewer. But apparently, the names are popular, and at times parallel one another, or cross.

These include Gruene Kuntenstrasse; Bramgau Route; Deutsche Ferienstrasse Alpen-Ostsee; Deutsche Alpenstrasse; Romantische Strasse, and Strasse der 1,000 Oldtimer (there has to be a story there!).

In Germany, the capital letter E before a highway number indicates the autobahn. We travel from Hanau back to Frankfurt on E3, and continue to Giessen on E5. We pause in front of an elementary school which has a statue of a rooster on the back of a cat on the back of a dog on the back of a donkey, the Bremen city musicians. More about them when we arrive in Bremen.





The statue of the Bremen city musicians, near the Bremen city hall, appears at left. At right, they are shown performing, enoungh to scare even hardened robbers away! (50-Pfennig, Undated, L-172)

The roadmaps direct you to the next stop on our tour: Marburg on the Lahn River, on Highway 3. The Grimm brothers each studied at Philipps University in Marburg, the oldest Protestant university in Germany.

Visiting the Elizabeth church, the oldest Protestant church in Germany, were Friedrich the Great, Friedrich Wilhelm I and von Hindenburg. The steeple tilts. The legend told in Marburg is that when a virgin is married in the church, the steeple will straighten. Few marriages take place there.

From Marburg we continue our journey north. We are reminded, as we have breakfast in a local Gasthaus in Marburg, that it was in the woods just west of Marburg where Hansel and Grethel played.

In the region of Steinau, up E66, we find the locale of Rapunzel, who, confined to the castle tower, let her tresses down to allow the prince to climb up to her.

Near Wetter, a side-trip north of Marburg on Hwy 252, in the Wetterau, the valley of the Wetschaft River, Ronneburg Castle was the setting for Cinderella and her pumpkin ride.

Along the Schwalm River, north of Marburg on Hwy 3, near Alsfeld, two tales are told, of Snow White and Little Red-Cap, or Riding Hood. Some logic to the tale appears when we learn that in this region, young unmarried women, at one time, wore red caps, a signal to the local swains that they did not desire a life of maidenhood.

On up E5 to Kassel, we find the Wilhelmshoehe just outside of town, now a museum, where Baron Karl Friedrich Hieronymus von Munchehusen served as curator of the coin cabinet, until it was discovered that some pieces were sticking to his fingers. Today it is a repository of works of the Grimm brothers, their 108 tales translated into 51 languages.

Up the twisting Highway 3 from Kassel to Hannoverisch-Muenden, now called just "Muenden," we find the home of that famous physician, Dr. Eisenbart, who put the capital Q in quack. Muenden is the location of the confluence of the Fulda and Werra rivers, as they form the Weser River.

Lurking in the area of Hoexter, north of Muenden on Hwy 80, we find the reclining Sleeping Beauty. In the area are two castle hotels, Trendelburg, where a female giant lived, and Sababurg, where Sleeping Beauty's favorite tower room is found.

Further north, from Hoexter to Bodenwerder on Hwy. 83, we find the home of Munchhausen, just south of Hameln on the Weser River.

And speaking of Hameln, as we continue on Hwy. 3, we cannot pass the area where the Pied Piper chased away the rats. Failure of the city fathers to pay him the agreed amount for ridding the city of rats led the Pied Piper to abscond with the children of the city on June 26, 1284, leading them into a nearby mountain, to be lost forever.

We drop into the Rattenfangerhaus (Rat Catcher House) on Burgelosenstrasse for some souvenirs. One with which we returned to the United States was made of bread, formed as a rat, with raisin eyes, straw for hair out of the nose, with two baby rats curled up on her back. The lacquered items held together for a decade. Lindman sets L-549 a, b and d tell the tale of the Pied Piper.





The Pied Piper leads the rats out of Hameln, shown on a 50-Pfennig note of Hameln, Sept. 1, 1921, above left, L-549b; at right, on a 50-Pfennig note, April 1, 1922, the Pied Piper leads the children of the city. (L-549-d)





To enter a besieged city, Baron Muenchausen rides a cannon ball over the parapets. Finding a rude welcome, he quickly rode it out again. (Rinteln/Weser, 50 Pfennig, L-1095). And to free his horse from a mud hole, the baron merely lifts the tail of his periwig and away they go! (Rinteln, 1 Mark, L-1095)

We cannot leave Hameln without stopping at the back of the Stifts church, where tablets tell of Thiele Romer's wife Anna Breyers who gave birth to septuplets in 1600, two sons and five daughters. (L-549c)

Perhaps one of the favorite Grimm tales involves the worn-out animals who encounter one another on the road, a cat, a hound, a rooster and a mule, who formed that famous band, the Bremen city musicians. And in Bremen, just around the corner from the city hall, the Rathaus, is found the statue mentioned earlier, similar to the one which depicts them in Giessen.

Other Notgeld of Bremen depicts the U-Boat "Deutschland," which visited in Baltimore before the U.S. entered World War I. The vessel was constructed in Bremen.

We can continue north on Hwy. 83 to Rinteln/Weser, where a series of Notgeld, L-1095, depicts some of the Munchhausen-related tales.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

GERMAN METAL NOTGELD bought and sold. Sell municipal, private, POW, transportation, encased postage, beer tokens and some French. Also sell related literature. T. J. Orlik, P.O. Box 947, Lewiston, N.Y. 14092.

* * *

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 MIR 5C8

FROM GERMANY, reader Wilhelm Eglseer, Bonn, takes umbrage with author John Glynn, who contributed the August and September features on Polish officers in German POW camps.

Eglseer writes, "Glynn says, 'On April 28, 1945, all the prisoners were forced to march across Germany,' leaving Murnau.

"Actually, on April 28, there was not much left of unoccupied areas in Germany. I do not know whereto they were marching, but under the situation in the last week of the war, there was not much chance to march longer distances.

"I feel that it's a funny remark when he says 'the allied powers agreed in 1945 to RETURN to Poland the German territory east of the Oder and Neisse Rivers.'

"These areas have been German populated and under German rule for more than 700 years! What does it mean 'return?' I do not think the government of the United States is ever going to 'return' the states west of the Mississippi to the native Americans from whom the U.S. took these areas 150 to 200 years ago.

"Similar situations are building in Bosnia. After 1945 we thought we were going to build a better world... No Chance!"

NOW RETIRED, a reader writes, "My Notgeld collecting began with the publication of THE FRAKTUR.

"By this time, Austrian and German notes number over 8,600 from more than 1,400 localities. Each note is housed in its own labeled nonvinyl currency holder.

"This collecting endeavor was an add-on to established collections of stamps and coins so that retirement has become catch-up time with many deferred hobby projects."

SCHNAITTACH, 25 kilometers northeast of Nuernberg, Germany, issued a 100 Milliarden Mark Notgeld issue-dated Nov. 20, 1923. One must remember inflation was ended in Germany on Nov. 19, 1923, with introduction of the Rentenmark. It is suggested that holders of "A Guide and Checklist of World Notgeld 1914-1923" pencil in the addition.

AUSTRIAN collectors of Notgeld will welcome the new book that Rudolf Richter has prepared, "Notgeld Oesterrich mit Nachfolgestanten und Nebengebieten ab 1918," to retail for $30. We understand that copies are now en route to us.

CONCENTRATION AND DISPLACED PERSONS CAMP monies are described in a revised edition of "Das Lagergeld der Konzentrationslager und D.P. Lager 1933-1945, by Albert Pick and the late Carl Siemsen. The volume should retail for about $35 when available.

Glauchau/Sachsen 1921 3 Mark L-421 $1.50*
Haarbruck Nov. 5, 1921 1 Mark L-482 $.65*
Hachenberg June 1, 1921 10 (2), 25 (2), 50 (3) Pf L-483 $4.50*
Hagenow Oct 1, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf L-485 $1.75*
Hainholz ND 25, 50 (2), 75 (2) Pf L-487 $3.25
Halberstadt April 27, 1921 25, 50 Pf L-489 $2.25*
Halle/Saale May 1, 1920 50 Pf P-S 857e $.60*
Halle/Saale Nov. 6-13, 1921 50 (9) Pf Notgeld show L-491 $7*
Halle/Saale ND 10 (2), 20 (5) Pf L-493 $4.25*
Halstenbek ND 25 Pf L-497 $1.75*
Haltern June 1, 1921 1 Mark L-498 $.65
(all Hamborn notes listed here from Thyssen foundry)
Hamborn Aug. 1, 1923 1 Million Mark K-2106i foundry $3.25
Hamborn Aug. 5, 1923 5 Millionen Mark K-2106i $3
Hamborn Aug. 15, 1923 10 Millionen Mark K-2106 Mine head $3.25
Hamborn Sept. 1, 1923 5 Millionen Mark K-2106L $3
Hamborn Sept. 1, 1923 100 Millionen Mark K-2106L $3
Hamborn Sept. 1, 1923 500 Millionen Mark K-2106L $3
Hamborn Sept. 15, 1923 1 Milliarde Mark K-2106m $3
Hamburg June 1, 1920 50 Pf P-S 871b $.65* specify A or B
Hamburg-St. Pauli ND 20, 30 Pf Alte Diele L-499c $2.50*
Hamburg Nt 15m 1921 40 Pf "Der Traber" Purple cont Nr. L-508 $10*
Hamburg July 1, 1921 50, 75 Pf, 1 Mark Hamburger Warte L-515 $1.75*
Hamburg Aug. 12-24, 1921 50 (3), 75 (2) Pf, 1 Mark (6) Kultur Sport Woche L-522 $7.50*
Hamburg ND 50 Pf, 1 Mark L-526 $8*
Hamburg Oct. 1, 1922 1 Mark Rathsweinkeller L-531 $2.50*
Hamburg ND 50 (2) Pf, 1 Mark L-542 $4*
Hamburg ND 50 (4) Pf Zoo L-546 $5*
Hamburg Aug. 10, 1923 1 Million Mark K-2109b $3
Hamburg Aug. 28, 1923 5 Millionen Mark K-2109k $3
Hamburg Oct. 12, 1923 1 Milliarde Mark K-2109o $3
Hamburger Hallie ND 50 Pf, 1 Mark L-547 II $5.50*
Hameln June 1, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1 Mark L-549a $2.50*
Hameln Sept. 1, 1921 50 (6) Pf without printer name L-549b $12*
Hameln Sept. 1, 1921 75 (6) Pf L-549c $8*
Hammelburg March 10, 1918 10, 50 Pf P-S 930 $12.50*
Hanau June 1, 1917 10 Pf P-S 931 severe folds $.50
Hanau Aug. 12, 1920 10 (Grimm Bros.), 25 Pf P-S 931 $3
Hannover Mar. 15, 1917 25 Pf green P-S 933a $1.25
Hannover Oct. 1, 1917 25 Pf brown P-S 933b $1.25
Hannover March 1, 1920 50 Pf P-S 933g $.65
Hannover Feb. 1, 1922 2, 3, 5, 10, 20 Mark L-522 $10
Hannover Aug. 15, 1923 1/2, 1 Millionen Mark K-2169 $8
Hannoverisch-Muenden July 1, 1921 10, 25, 50 Pf L-559 $1.75*
Hannoverisch-Muenden ND 75 Pf, 1, 1.25, 2 Mark L-560 $2.75*
Harburg/Elbe ND 25, 50 Pf P-S 944 worn $1
Harburg/Elbe Sept. 15, 1921 50 (4) Pf L-562 $2.75*
Harzburg, Bad July 1921 10, 20, 50, 75 Pf L-563 $2.50*

Harzgeroda July 7, 1921 50 (2), 75 (2) Pf L-564a $2.50*
Harzgerode July 7, 1921 25, 50 (2), 75 (2) Pf L-564b $3*
Harzgerode July 7, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf L-564c $1.75*
Hasloh ND 25, 50 (2), 75 Pf L-566 $7.25*
Hausberge/Weser Jan. 1921 50 Pf L-567 $2.50*
Haseluenne Oct. 1, 1921 1 Mark L-565b $3.25*
Heessen bei Bad Eilsen Jan. 1, 1921 25 (R, U, V, W);
50 (Q,R, S) Pf; 1 Mark (O, R, S, T, U, W) $6*
Heiligenhafen March 1, 1922 2 Mark L-573 edge tear $2.50
Heiligenstadt & Worbis July 1, 1919 25, 50 Pf Heinz Schiestl
P-S 968 $20*
Heiligenhafen ND 25, 50 Pf L-574 $2.50*
Heisterbach Nov. 11, 1921 50 (3), 75 (3) Pf L-575 $10*
Heide ND 20, 50, 100 Pf L-570 $1.75*
Heidgraben ND 25 (2) Pf L-571 $3*
Helgoland Oct. 1919 20, 50 Pf P-S 974 $2*
Helgoland Dec. 1920 1 Mark Heinz Schiestl L-577a $1.75*
Helgoland April 1921 20 (2), 25 (3), 50 (2) Pf HS L-577a $9
Helgoland Oct. 1921 20 Pf L-577c $1.75*
Helmarshausen May 15, 1921 50 Pf, 1, 2 Mark L-578 $4*
Helmstedt Dec. 24, 1921 50 Pf, 1, 1.50, 2 Mark L-579 $9.25*
Hemdingen ND 25 (2), 50 (2), 75 Pf black cont. Nr. L-581 $10*
Herford March 4, 1920 10 Pf P-S 980d $1.25*
Hermsdorf May 1, 1921 75 Pf L-583 $.60
Herne/Westfalen July 1, 1921 50 (10) Pf L-584 $7.50*
Herrnstadt/Schlesien ND 25 Pf P-S 985b $2*
Herstelle Nov. 1, 1921 50 Pf, 1, 2 Mark L-586 $1.75*
Herzberg/Elster ND 10 Pf P-S 988 $.75
Hessische-Oldendorf Oct. 1, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1 Mark L-588
$3*
Heydekrug/Memel May 28, 1921 25, 50 Pf L-589 $6.50*
Hildburghausen ND 25 (2), 50 (2) Pf L-590 $3*
Hirschberg/Schlesien ND 10 Pf P-S 999 $1.50*
Hoechst/Main June 1, 1917 25 Pf P-S 1002a worn $.75
Hoehschied Aug. 11, 1917 25 Pf P-S 1003a $.75
Hoehscheid July 1, 1920 50 Pf P-S 1003e $.75*
Hoexter May 1, 1921 10, 25, 50 (3) Pf L-600 $3*
Hofgeismar ND 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1, 1.50 Mark L-601a $6.50*
Hofgeismar ND 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1, 1.50 Mark L-601b $3.25*
Hofgeismar ND 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1, 1.50 Mark L-601c all with
control Nr. 01326 $7*
Hofheim ND 20 Pf P-S 1006a $.75*
Hohen Neuendorf/Brandenburg ND 20 Pf P-S 1009b $2*
Hohenwestedt July 3, 1921 25, 50 Pf, 1 Mark L-604 $4*
Hohndorf/Chemnitz Sept. 30, 1921 50 (6) Pf L-605 $4*
Holnis March 14, 1920 1 Mark (2) L-606 $2.50*
Honnef, Bad/Rhein Oct. 1, 1921 50 (4), 99 (4) Pf L-609 $10*
Horb/M Dec. 1918 50 Pf P-S 1016 $.50
Horn/Lippe June 1921 50 (3) Pf L-610 $1.75*
Horn/Lippe Nov. 1, 1921 50 (2) Pf L-611c $3

*Uncirculated
K-Keller Catalogs; L-Lindman Serienscheine; P-S Pick-Siemsen

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