The Fraktur

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Drink
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ENCASED POSTAGE STAMPS
Stamps circulating as Money

It was 1840 when the first postage stamp was issued, the penny black of Great Britain.

Twenty-two years later, the United States was at war with itself. There never had been a sufficiency of small coinage produced for the expanding nation, and when the jitters of war hit the buying public, the observations of Copernicus (1473-1543) in his Essay on Coinage, "bad money drives good money out of circulation," went into effect. Later the "bad money" theory was incorrectly attributed to Sir Thomas Gresham.

How to make change in a store when the merchant is handed five cents and there is a four cent purchase? He runs down to the postoffice, buys a few one cent stamps, offers one to the customer in change, and he has a happy camper.

Today, let us take that one cent stamp on a commercial voyage in your town, starting at the fast food place when you buy your morning coffee. You are given a one cent postage stamp in change. You buy a newspaper, and add the stamp to your payment. The merchant passes it out in change.

What does that stamp look like at the end of the day? Hardly collectible, by any measure, and hardly recognizable as a one cent stamp.

So the next day it is put in a paper holder, with a small area cut or punched, so the denomination of the stamp is recognizable. This was actually done in the early Civil War days.

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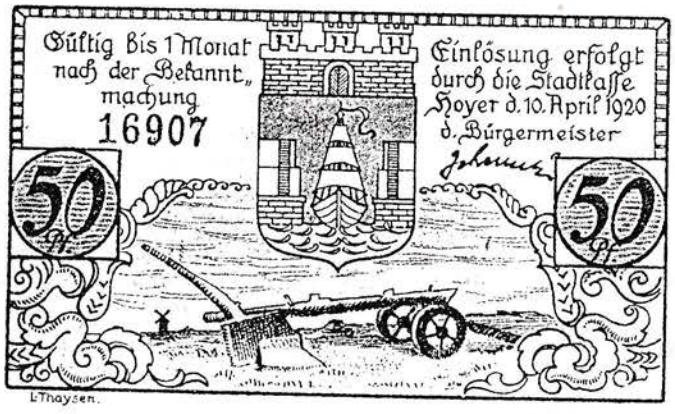
MONTHLY NOTGELD QUOTE. . .

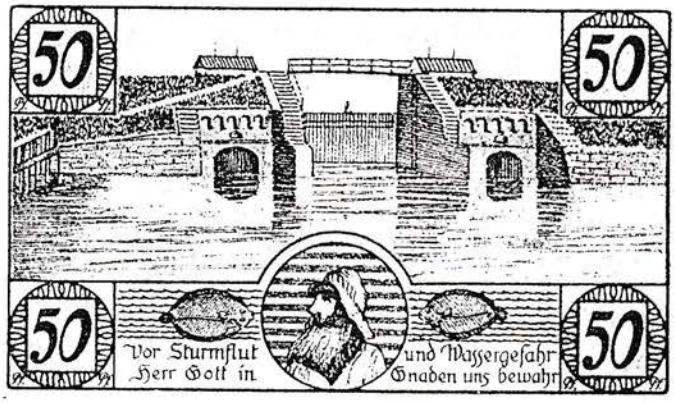
Hoyer (Hoejer) Denmark

50 Pfennig April 10, 1920

L-615

From storm's flood and
water danger
The Lord's grace will
protect us.















Then the enterprising printer down the street printed an advertising message on the holder, perhaps "Jones Meat Market," sold a hundred to Jones, and every time the cent holder is passed, the fact that Jones sells meat is brought to the attention of those passing the change.

"We need something better," thought John Gault, Boston, Mass.,

He devised a round metal holder, printed the name of a merchant on one side, placed stamps of various denominations on the inside, covered it with celluloid to protect it from dirt and moisture, and went into business selling the holders to businesses. He even patented his holder. "I could have been a millionaire had I been able to get enough stamps," he later commented.

The highest denomination he used, and the most scarce today, was the 90-cent stamp.

This hardly looks like an emergency money story, yet it is. Let us fast forward to World War I in Europe. Merchants there went through the chaos of change shortage. And stamps proved to be a viable remedy. Also, they were placed into or onto paper holders.

Then I. M. Bouchaud in France patented the idea, despite the presence of a U.S. patent. Also, in Germany, Italy and Austria, M. Bouchaud attempted to patent the same encasement idea, but the fact of the U.S. patent did not allow it. There is a certain amount of civility between nations, even when at war.

The collectibility of encased postage stamps, Kapsulmarken in German, should primarily be in the domain of the philatelists, that odd breed that collects postage and revenue stamps.

But since they represent money, a coin substitute, numismatists hanker for them also, with demands from the two fields raising the price.

But before you run down to your favorite coin shop to buy a catalog of these world encasements, don't; I'll save you the trouble. I have never seen one. Over 30 years ago I published a catalog over a couple years, listing those world encasements I could account for. In the last two decades a hobby publishing firm has contacted various persons trying to get such a catalog published.

In January 1997 *THE FRAKTUR* published a special pricelist offering 19 Austrian encasements. Like a mayfly hovering over a bubbling brook, taken by a hungry bass, the entire lot was sold.

The timing of this feature coincides with an offering at auction of encased postage stamps by Coin Galleries, 123 West 57th Street, New York, N.Y., in July 1998. (No consignments are from *THE FRAKTUR).*

Perhaps the American collector is not aware of the extent of the number of countries which issued one or more examples of encased postage stamps. We begin with Argentina, where in 1856 a one real stamp was issued in a holder.













In 1975 Peter Flensborg, Copenhagen professional numismatist, reported finding in the archives of the Danish National Bank uncut sheets of 10- and 25-ore cardboard money printed in different colors, similar to 10- and 25-ore coins current in Denmark in 1914. The printing was in response to the hoarding of silver coins in Denmark; the cardboard pieces were not put into circulation.

Over time, especially in wartime, some 20 countries have used stamps as money, not always in a holder. Since January this year, I have been involved in a program where close to 100 typed pages have been used to list worldwide encasements. No single volume has been a sole source for any of the countries listed.



To work with generalities, the country with the greatest variety of encasements has been Germany, both from the number of issuing towns and the number of issues. Austria probably is next.

It is apparent in some issues of paper, metal or stamp Notgeld, that at times a denomination is issued to fit a particular use. One can think of the Nuernberg 20-Pfennig aluminum pieces, intended for streetcar fares; privately issued paper chits good for a certain amount of bread or milk; or Austrian stamp encasements good for a newspaper.

In the German series, by far the one business named by more cities than any other is the local Opel dealership. It is obvious that where one firm issued a single stamp denomination with their name inscribed was probably a matter of vanity, to see the owner's name in print.

Some 40 pages were required to list the German encasements, double columned.

In 1993, Peter Menzel, Radebeul, Germany, produced a two-volume work listing metal Notgeld, public and private, plus prisoner of war issues, some porcelain, encased postage, beer and food tokens, issued in Germany from 1840 to 1990. For the encasements, he also listed the name of the maker.













For a maker in the town of Elberfeld, it is not difficult to understand the number of merchants who used the encasements from the local maker. Few are found from the city of Nuernberg; none from Mannheim.

Materials used as backing for the German encasements included aluminum, plastic, zinc, iron and paper, probably equated in cost in the same order.

Menzel emphasizes the inside color of the encasement, on which the stamp lies. Other catalogers use colors of the stamps or a stamp catalog number.

Two countries not yet mentioned which issued encased postage stamps between the wars were China and Spain. In each country, the encasements were paper. In Spain, a decree dated Feb. 24, 1938, authorized release of round cardboard discs bearing revenue stamps in 10- and










15-centimos denominations, and postage stamps of 5- and 25-centimos. The Bank of Spain distributed the issues. Later the use of a 10-centimos postage stamp was authorized. The stamp money was recalled just a week later, on Feb. 28, 1938. Most of the emergency money issues of Spain were used in the eastern part of the country.

Numismatists have estimated that about 4,000 different forms of paper exist with stamps affixed, not encased.










Deutschland Zentraler Notgeld Verschleiss

(Central Depot of emergency-Money)

Köln-Deutz, Alsenstrasse 2 - Tel. Rhld. 549.

Agent for America, England and Japan:

J. Lieban. Haagsche straat 5, Den Haag

Telefoon 50899.

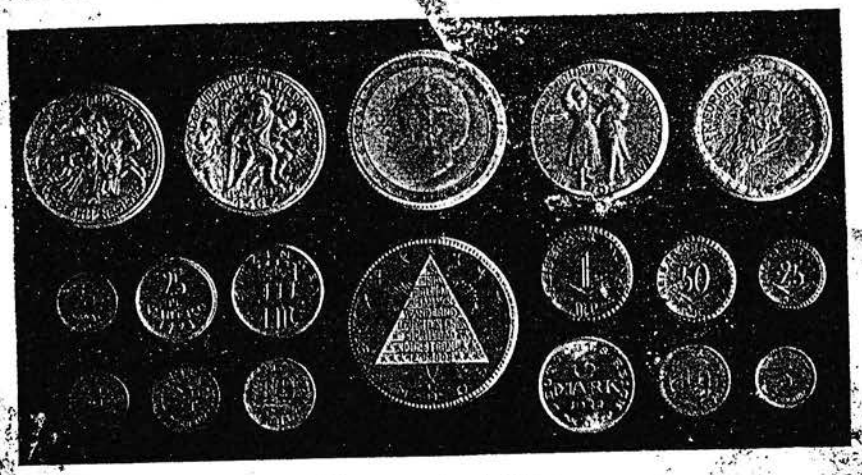
SUBJECT

MONEY-CURIOSITIES.

THE HAGUE, July 1928.

Dear Sir,

In Germany and in Austria there was during and after the war a complete shortage of gold and silver money; the result being that all towns were compelled to have recourse at the so-called „emergency-money", instead making use of the ordinary coinage. An entirely new department of industry came in existence. Towns with big aluminium factories produced coins made of this metal. Large wood-districts produced wooden coins. Saxony fabricated beautiful china coins after the design of great artists.



Money made of China.

After a time German emergency-money gradually disappeared owing to the running down of the valuta, and now 4 years ago the fabrication of this kind of money was entirely stopped.

During the last years (1914—1924) we stored the different sorts of emergency-money and now put it to market, enclosed in a very fine album; a collection, consisting in 700 different species, all

Lofty ambitions were expressed in 1928, when J. Lieban, Haagsche straat 5, den Haag, The Netherlands, organized the Central Depot of emergency-Money, headquartered in Koeln-Deutz, Germany.

Besides offering emergency money, the firm offered, for $10, large albums for storing the notes. In August 1928, the flyer was mailed to "Messrs. V. Baldwin Motor Co., Los Angeles, Cal. USA" - no other address. The overseas mailing required a 3-cent stamp of The Netherlands. The Baldwins noted that they ordered on Sept. 25, 1928.

The pricelist was submitted by Hans and Beate Rauch, P.O. Box 81917. Las Vegas, Nev. 89180-1917

Letter to the Fraktur :-

I have been a collector of German Notgeld for many years now but until recently, my collection has been placed on the 'back burner' as it were. Mainly a numismatist, the Notgeld was a kind of sideline. However, in the last year or so my interest in this money has now gained momentum once again. Here in Australia it is not that easy to obtain a decent collection of Notgeld but through the Fraktur I have been able to gather a decent collection of this fascinating material. The articles published in the Fraktur give readers a good insight into life and times in the 1920's when this money was issued. The stories behind the notes are most enlightening and I am sure many, like myself, look forward each month to receiving this publication.

Colin G.F.Thomas

For the 11th time, we begin a new year with *THE FRAKTUR*.. With the help of subscribers we have broadened the scope to truly embrace as many facets of emergency money as is possible. We hope to demonstrate this with our July issue, covering emergency money of World War I from a country whose issues have been ignored, so far, in this country. Also, we hope to include an updated version of the Notgeld Glossary and submit for your reading pleasure a current book list.

We have mailed out to several readers the new volume *Deutsche Serienscheine von 1918-1922*, by Manfred Mehl. On 536 pages, Mehl lists Notgeld from 1,479 issuing entities, with estimated prices in German deutsche Mark. Color illustrations, face and back, appear on almost every page. The text appears in the German language. We offer the book to readers for $30 postpaid.

About half of our readers will find a note with this issue reminding them dues are due for the year July 1998 to July 1999. We hope to have all of you with us for the coming year.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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 5G8.

Erbach/Odenwalde November 1918 50 Pf, 1 Mark P-S 557a $2.25*
Erfde ND 50 Pf, 1 Mark L-327 $2.75
Erfurt April 7, 1921 50 (4) Pf L-331b $2.50*
Erfurt April 7, 1921 50 (4) Pf L-331c $2.50*
Erfurt April 7, 1921 50 Pf L-331d $.65*
Erfurt April 7, 1921 10, 20, 25 Pf; April 9, 1921, 50, 75 Pf L-331e $3.25*
Erfurt Aug. 1, 1923 500,000 Mark K-1377a $2.25
Erkelenz Nov. 12, 1918 5 Mark K-125 $3.25
Erkelenz July 1, 1921 10 Pf L-334 $2*
Erlangen Oct. 29-31, 1918 10 Pf P-S 571h $2*
Eschershausen/Braunschweig June 1, 1921 10, 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1, 2 Mark L-337 $4*
Eschwege ND 50 Pf L-338a $1
Eschwege 1919 5, 10 Pf P-S 578e $4*
Eschwege 1920 5, 10 Pf P-S 578f $2.50*
Eschweiler Dec. 1, 1918 25 Pf P-S 579c $1
Esens/Ostfriesland ND (1920) 10, 25, 50 Pf P-S 580 $7*
Esingen ND 25 (2), 50 (2). 75 (2) Pf L-339 $11*
Essen July 10, 1023 100,000 Mark K-1429b $2.25
Essen Aug. 3, 1923 500,000 Mark K-1415b $2.25
Essen Aug. 12, 1923 1 Million Mark K-1415c $2.25
Essen Aug. 14, 1923 10 Million Mark K-1429m Fried. Krupp $2.75
Essen ND (1923) 100,000,000 Ruhrtaler Propaganda note $10
Esslingen Aug. 27, 1923 500,000 Mark K-1441a $4.50*
Esslingen Sept. 28, 1923 10 Milliarden Mark K-1441e $4.50*
Ettal ND - to Dec. 31, 1917 5, 25 Pf P-S 585a $3
Ettal ND - to Dec. 31, 1917 1, 2, 5, 25 Pf P-S 585k cancelled $7.50
Ettenheim March 1, 1922 50 (4) Pf L-340 $2.50*
Ettlingen/Baden Oct. 27, 1923 50 Milliarden Mark K-1456a $3.50*
Eutin June 20, 1921 50 Pf L-342 Landeskirche $.65*
Eutin ND 50, 100 Pf L-344 Land $2.50*
Eutin December 1920 25, 50, 100 Pf L-345 $2.50*
Fallersleben Oct. 1, 1920 10, 25, 50 Pf L-346 $2*
Finsterwalde July 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf L-348 $2*
Flensburg Aug. 1, 1919 50 Pf P-S 605 I $2.50*
Flensburg Jan. 16, 1920 25, 50 Pf L-355a $1.50
Flensburg Jan. 16, 1920 25 Pf L-355b tug of war (plebiscite) $.65*
Flensburg Jan. 16, 1920 50 Pf L-355c border marker ((plebiscite) $2.50*
Flensburg March 14, 1921 50 f L-355d $.65*
Forst/Lausitz 1918 1 Pf P-S 615e $2.25*
Forst/Lausitz July 1, 1921 10, 20, 25, 50 Pf L-357 $3*
Forst/Lausitz Aug. 17, 1923 100,000 Mark K-1507d $3
Frankenhausen/Kyff. June 19, 19212 50 (6) Pf L-359a $7.50*
Frankenhausen/Kyff. September 1921 50 (6) Pf L-359b $4.25*
Frankenstein/Schlesien Dec. 10, 1920 10, 25, 50 Pf P-S 621b $3.50*
Frankfurt/Main May 1, 1917 50 Pf P-S 622a $1*
Frankfurt/Main Nov. 1, 1919 25 Pf P-S 622b $1*
Frankfurt/Main Oct. 15, 1918 5, 10, 20 Mark K-137a $6
Frankfurt/Main Aug. 1, 1923 500,000 Mark K-1522a $3.25
Frankfurt/Main Oct. 22, 1923 500 Milliarden Mark K-1555d $2.50

Frankfurt/Oder Nov. 8, 1919 50 Pf P-S 626c $1
Frankfurt/Oder 1921 10, 25, 50, 100 Pf L-363 $3
Fraenkisch-Crumbach/Hesse April 1, 1921-1922 10, 25, 50 Pf, 1 Mark (2) $3.75*
Franzberg Nd 20, 25, 50 Pf L-363 $13*
Fraustadt/deutsch Posen (Wschowa) ND 10 Pf P-S 629b $5*
Freiburg/Breisgau March 30, 1920 50 Pf P-S 636d $4*
Freiburg/Sachsen ND - to Dec. 31, 1918 5, 10 Pf P-S 631d $2*
Freiburg/Sachsen ND - to June 30, 1921 1, 2 Pf P-S 631g $2*
Freiburg/Sachsen ND - to Dec. 31, 1920 10 Pf P-S 631h $.65*
Freiburg/Sachsen ND - to Sept. 30, 1921 5, 10 Pf P-S 631i $2*
Freiburg/Sachsen Nov. 15, 1918 5 Mark K-144 $3.25*
Freiburg/Schlesien June 15, 1919 25 Pf P-S 637c $2*
Freiburg/Schlesien August 1921 10, 25 (5), 50 (4) Pf L-369 $18*
Freienwalde/Pommern November 1920 5, 25 Pf L-371a $2.50*
Freienwalde/Pommern 1920 5, 10, 25, 50, 75 Pf L-371b $3.50*
Freienwalde/Pommern 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf L-371c $4*
Freienwalde November 1920 25 (2), 50 (4) Pf L-371d $8*
Freyburg/Unstrut May 15, 1920 5, 50 Pf P-S 639a $1.75
Freyburg/Unstrut Sept. 12, 1921 50 (5) Pf L-376 $3.75*
Friedrichsbrunn/Harz Oct. 15, 1921 25 (2), 50 (2), 75 (2) Pf L-380c $4*
Friedrichshafen Nov. 1, 1918 5, 20, 50 Mark K-149 $9
Friedrichroda/Thuer. ND 10 (5), 30 (5), 50 (5) Pf L-379 $10*
Friedrichstadt Aug. 27-28, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf L-381 $2*
Friesack/Mark November 1921 25 (3), 50 (3), 75 (3) Pf L-382 $5.50*
Frohse May 1, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf L-383 $2*
Frose/Anhalt ND 10 Pf; March 15, 1921 25, 50 (4) Pf L-384a $4*
Frose/Anhalt June 27, 1921 25, 50 (3), 75 Pf L-384b $4*
Frose/Anhalt ND 75 Pf L-384c Loesungsschein $3.25*
Fruecht/Ems Jan. 1, 1922 25, 50, 75 Pf L-385a Dieser Schein gilt... $5*
Fruecht/Ems Jan. 1, 1922 25, 50, 75 Pf L-385b Dieser Schein verliert... $2*
Fuerstenau/Hannover Dec. 6, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf, 1 Mark L-386 $2.50*
Fuerstenberg/Weser Dec. 1, 1921 2 Mark L-387 $3.25*
Fuerstenberg/Meckl. Aug. 1, 1921 10 (2), 25 (2), 50 (2),75 (3) Pf, 1 Mark (4) L-388a $8.50*
Fuerstenberg/Meck. Aug. 1, 1921 10, 25, 50, 75 (2), Pf, 1 Mark (3) L-388b $5.75*
Fuerstenwalde/Spree 1921 20 (3), 25 (3), 50 (3), 75 (3) Pf, 1 Mark (3) L-389 $10*
Fuerth/Bayern Aug. 14, 1923 50,000 Mark K-1654a $2.50
Fuerth/Bayern Aug. 29, 1923 2,000,000 Mark K-1654f $2.50
Furth/Wald Sept. 10, 1923 10 Millionen Mark K-1663m $3.25
Fuessen April 1, 1918 50 (2) Pf P-S 683 $2.50*

Special Offering

Liebstadt/Ostpreussen (1914) 10 Pf hand-written serial number; 2 rubber stamp signatures K1914-202c $27.50

Wildenstein/Oberelsass (1914) 50 Pf Rubber stamp of city, handwritten signature, serial number K1914-4431A white paper glued on cloth $27.50

Ujest/Schlesien 700 Mark, May 27, 1923, marking 700-year fair of founding of city; overprinted Aug. 22, 1923, 500,000 Mark K1923 -5278. $27.50

*Uncirculated

K-Keller catalogs; L-Lindman Serienscheine; P-S Pick-Siemsen Circulated issues

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