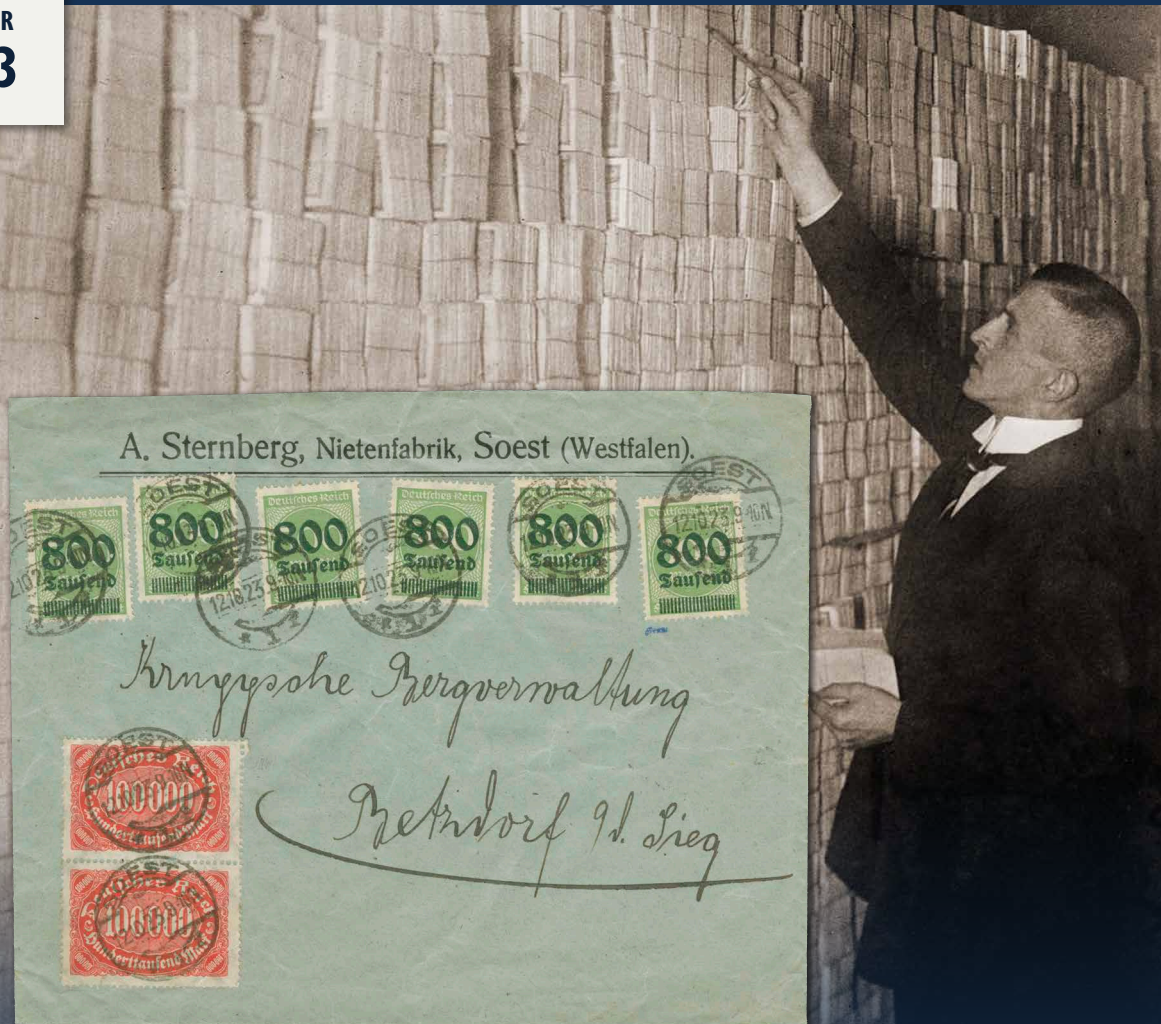


PRINTED MATTERS

THE PHILATELIC MAGAZINE



SPECIAL EDITION FOR
IBRA 2023



100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HYPERINFLATION

EXCLUSIVE GROUNDBREAKING INNOVATION – PROFI: EXPERTISE IN SECONDS

WELL WORTH SEEING THE WORLD'S MOST EXCEPTIONAL RARITIES – THE TREASURY AT IBRA 2023

PROFILES IN PHILATELY ALFRED SCHMIDT, CHAIRMAN OF IBRA 2023



HEINRICH KÖHLER

Germany's Oldest Stamp Auction House

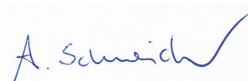
Dear Readers,

the countdown is on, with just a few weeks remaining before the IBRA International Stamp Fair in Essen, Germany opens its doors to collectors from around the world from 25 to 28 May 2023. IBRA 2023 is the world championship of philately, where a great many exhibitors from all around the globe come to present their outstanding material. The last exhibition of this type in Germany took place in Nuremberg in 1999. Before that there was IBRA 1973 in Munich. It seems to be only every 25 years or so that Germany has the opportunity to host a top-calibre philatelic exhibition. So it goes without saying that Heinrich Köhler is one of the main sponsors of IBRA 2023, and we have dedicated this special edition of Printed Matters to this outstanding event and exhibition. In addition, Germany's oldest stamp auction house will be presenting the literature and reading area at the event, as well as the IBRA lecture forum (see 'Well worth hearing', p. 19). You will not want to miss this exceptional celebration of philately. There will also be a number of exciting special exhibitions on topics such as 'Jewels of German philately' and 'The 100th anniversary of German hyperinflation in 1923' (see the cover story, pp. 3–6), as well as the Treasury containing some of the world's most exceptional philatelic rarities (see: 'A special item', pp. 14–15, 'Well worth seeing', pp. 16–18 and 'Famous stamps',

p. 20–21). I would also recommend taking a close look at Heinrich Köhler's special auction at IBRA, where a broad range of rare items from the ERIVAN collection dating from the founding of the German Empire will go up for auction (see 'On location', p. 12–13). We look forward to welcoming you to our stand at IBRA 2023, where you will also have the opportunity to test our innovative new ProvenanceFinder (see 'Exclusive', p. 7–10).

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of Printed Matters!

Kind regards,



André Schneider,
Head of Marketing,
Global Philatelic Network



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LEGAL NOTICE

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100th anniversary of hyperinflation



By the end of 1923, paper money had become so worthless in Germany that people were burning it to heat their homes.

100 BILLION MARKS

FOR A LETTER

From World War I into the 1920s, inflation in Germany resulted in the most extreme currency devaluation that has ever occurred in a large industrialised nation. The German Reich had accrued more than 150 billion marks in debt by November 1918, much of which was in the form of war bonds purchased by the public. Just five years later, in December 1923, postage for a long-distance letter weighing up to 20 grams cost an eye-watering 100 billion marks. And the highest face value of a stamp totalled 50 billion marks – that was the price for sending a local letter in December 1923. So, what happened?

"The unprecedented inflation in the German Reich from 1914 to 1923 affected the Deutschmark, which had been a stable currency from its introduction in 1875 until the beginning of World War I on 28 July 1914," says Cliff Schön, Philatelist at Heinrich Köhler. "One reason for its stability was the fact that it was pegged to the gold standard. This meant that the Reichsbank had to be capable of exchanging paper currency for its equivalent value in coins or gold at all times." When World War I started, the Reichsbank was relieved of this obligation. Many war bonds were subsequently issued, which were purchased by the public. After the German Reich won the war, the losing side would pay off these bonds – or that was the government's plan, anyway. Ultimately, this strategy set the country on the course for future inflation. From mid-1916 onwards, the German Reich printed significantly more money to finance the war than the population provided. And thus began one of the most difficult periods in the history of the German people. Prices rose to unimaginable levels, and unemployment increased drastically. People were prepared to accept higher and higher prices in order to acquire increasingly scarce goods, but the majority of the population descended into poverty and went hungry. "On 1 August 1916, the government of the Reich enacted an 'Ausserordentliche Reichsabgabe' (special postal tax) that was intended to refill the Reich's coffers. Strictly speaking, it was a type of war tax levied on postal customers" says Cliff Schön. In early August 1916, postage rates for local letters increased from 5 to 7.5 pfennigs, and for long-distance letters from 10 to 15 pfennigs – a 50 per cent increase in price. Today, such a price hike would risk invoking the ire of consumers, but compared to the hyperinflation Germany would soon face, this increase was a mere drop in the ocean. Nevertheless, philatelists consider 1 August 1916 as the beginning of the 'German Inflation' field of collecting; the introduction of the Rentenmark in November 1923 helped to stem hyperinflation, and the end of that year also marks the end of this philatelic period.

Losing the war triggered hyperinflation

By the time the German Reich lost the First World War, it had accumulated a

This phenomenal long-distance letter bears six of the rare '800 thousand/500 mark number in circle, yellowish-green' stamps in a mixed franking with two 100,000-mark stamps. A large franking of the '800 thousand/500 mark number in circle, yellowish-green' is very rare; it has only appeared on a handful of known items and is among the philatelic legends of the inflation era.



The development of postage rates during the inflation era demonstrates the drastic devaluation of the currency.

Postage period	Start	Postage for long-distance letter up to 20 g (in marks)	Equivalent value in gold marks	Duration in days
1	01.07.1906	0,10		3.684
2	01.08.1916	0,15	0,10350	791
3	01.10.1918	0,15	0,09675	365
4	01.10.1919	0,20	0,03320	218
5	06.05.1920	0,40	0,03144	330
6	01.04.1921	0,60	0,04344	275
7	01.01.1922	2	0,05040	181
8	01.07.1922	3	0,02850	92
9	01.10.1922	6	0,01278	45
10	15.11.1922	12	0,00815	30
11	15.12.1922	25	0,01545	31
12	15.01.1923	50	0,01610	45
13	01.03.1923	100	0,01950	122
14	01.07.1923	300	0,00861	31
15	01.08.1923	1.000	0,00398	23
16	24.08.1923	20.000	0,01580	8
17	01.09.1923	75.000	0,02715	19
18	20.09.1923	250.000	0,00718	11
19	01.10.1923	2.000.000	0,02700	9
20	10.10.1923	5.000.000	0,00705	10
21	20.10.1923	10.000.000	0,00124	12
22	01.11.1923	100.000.000	0,00153	4
23	05.11.1923	1.000.000.000	0,00885	7
24	12.11.1923	10.000.000.000	0,05270	8
25	20.11.1923	20.000.000.000	0,02000	6
26	26.11.1923	80.000.000.000	0,08000	5
27a	01.12.1923	100.000.000.000	0,10000	31
27b	01.12.1923	0,10	0,10000	

mountain of debt so massive that it was impossible to repay. In addition to the war bonds, the government also had to pay pensions to widows and orphans. "What's more, the Treaty of Versailles required Germany to make enormous reparation payments totalling more than 130 billion marks," Cliff Schön explains. "In order to fulfil these payment obligations,

the German government ramped up its money printing presses once again and drastically increased the amount of cash in circulation." The German Reich had decided to accept the reparation demands, but hoped to be able to prove to the victorious powers that the reparations were simply unaffordable and had to be revised. "These policies caused an



This cover was franked with a 50-billion-mark stamp, the highest face value during the inflation era. The stamp at the upper right is an example of the rare "Rouletted with a 'flaw in the basket lid'" version. A flawless franking of this type is rare.

permitted to exchange strictly limited sums, as the stated goal was to significantly reduce the amount of money in circulation and, consequently, make it more valuable. The plan was a success, and the 'Miracle of the Rentenmark' took its course.

In November 1923, postage rates increased massively every five to six days

With inflation soaring, the Reichspost naturally had difficulty producing the right postage stamps to keep up with the steadily climbing rates. Postage rates increased only once in 1920. In 1922, there were five price hikes. The situation continued to escalate until, in November 1923, postage rates were increasing massively every five to six days, to the point at which they were essentially unaffordable. The volume of mail decreased accordingly, declining by approximately half between 1914 and 1923. "The increase in postage for a simple long-distance, city-to-city letter of up to 20 grams clearly highlights how extreme these developments were," Cliff Schön explains. "In October 1919, it cost 20 pfennigs. But starting from 1 January 1922, customers had to pay two marks. On 1 March 1923, the price was 100 marks, and by 1 August 1923, it had gone up to 1,000 marks. And that was →



The highest denomination stamp from the era of German inflation was 50 billion marks. This letter bears a horizontal block of eight stamps, of impeccable quality, from December 1923. Correct frankings with this issue, especially in larger multiples, are among the top rarities of an inflation-era collection.

enormous loss of trust in the mark. Foreign loans were cancelled, and investments practically came to a standstill," says Cliff Schön. The banknote presses were running hot. In 1922, the Reichsbank was producing up to three billion banknotes every day, of increasingly higher denominations – inflation was reaching its dramatic climax and ultimately developed into hyperinflation. "A worker who received his wages in the morning often couldn't afford to buy anything with them by the evening," says Cliff Schön. "We've all seen the images – people pushing wheelbarrows full of practically worthless banknotes to the shops. And they were lucky if they found anything on the shelves in those shops. The cost of living absolutely exploded."

The Rentenmark was a lifeline

Here's one example of the exploding prices: in August 1923, a tram ride in Dresden already cost 15,000 marks. Just two months later, in October 1923, the price had spiked to a staggering twelve

million marks, and only four weeks after that, a passenger would have to fork out an eye-watering ten billion marks for the same journey. And if these prices seem unbelievable, the cost of food in November 1923 will be truly shocking: one litre of milk cost 350 billion marks, a single egg cost 320 billion and a kilogram of potatoes was 'just' 90 billion. "All the economic experts realised that the only way to salvage the situation was to return to a currency pegged to the gold standard," Michael Hilbertz explains. "An administrative order enacted on 15 October 1923 ultimately established the German Rentenbank. Its initial capital was financed by mortgages on agricultural, industrial and commercial real estate totalling 3.2 billion gold marks." Of course, this was at a time when the value of a single gold mark was equivalent to ten billion paper marks. When the first Rentenmark banknotes went into circulation in mid-November 1923, however, the exchange rate was actually 1:1 trillion! And people were only



Employees of a major bank use large leather sacks to collect high-value notes from the Reichsbank, guarded by police officers, in July 1923.

the point at which prices really began to skyrocket. Just two months later, on 1 October 1923, customers had to pay two million marks, and then an incredible one billion marks on 1 November 1923. Finally, on 1 December 1923, a simple long-distance letter cost a shocking 100 billion marks to send." By August 1923, even the Reichsdruckerei – the well-equipped official government printer – was no longer able to handle the exponentially increasing demand for printed stamps; it commissioned private print shops and the Oberpostdirektion (Postal Directorate) to assist with the production of postage stamps. To accelerate the production process, they opted for emergency overprint issues and standard designs. However, some stamps were still issued too late, and not many of them were used. This resulted in some extremely rare postmarks that are still highly sought-after today. "At the same time, the German Reichspost simplified the production process to an enormous degree, resulting in frequent errors and misprints," Cliff Schön says. "In that sense, the stamps from the inflation era in Germany provide a rich field for specialised collectors to explore." The emergency overprint issues, with their many different types and versions, are particularly exciting. And the wide varieties of inflation franking are even more fascinating. For example, low-value stamps continued to be franked as long as they were valid. This resulted in what is known as

'roof tile franking' – many stamps affixed on top of one another in a staggered fashion and in multiple layers – or the highly sought-after mass postmarks, in which several hundred postage stamps were franked. The first stamps with the new Rentenmark face value were finally issued on 1 December 1923. "All inflation stamps from a face value of 1 million upwards remained valid until the end of December 1923, however, so fascinating mixed franking occurred during that month," Cliff Schön adds.

A unique testament to historic hyperinflation

Large numbers of unused or never-hinged inflation stamps have survived until today and can be acquired very cheaply. On the other hand, stamps that have actually been cancelled, or used inflation stamps on postal covers are very rare. "This is generally due to the short validity of certain stamps or the rarity of the version in question," Cliff Schön explains. "Certain inflation postmarks from November and December 1923, in particular, are very rare and correspondingly sought-after and valuable." But be careful: rare items in philately have always been targets for forgers. Valuable used inflation stamps and covers are a unique testament to the most extreme period of hyperinflation in German history, and as such, they should only be purchased if they have been recently verified.

Children play with worthless Reichsmark notes.



SPECIAL EXHIBITION AT IBRA

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HYPERINFLATION IN GERMANY 1923

The unparalleled nature of German inflation has been immortalised in philately and postal history. During the final phase of inflation, postal rates were only valid for a few days – until the next price hike. This makes inflation one of the most fascinating fields of collection in German philately. IBRA 2023 in Essen will pay tribute to the 100-year anniversary of hyperinflation with an exciting special exhibition.



This Reichsbanknote from 1 November 1923 has a face value of five trillion marks.



Banknotes were also overprinted in the era of German inflation: this thousand-mark note from 15 December 1922 was overprinted with 'One Billion Marks' in 1923.

SPECIAL AUCTION

Heinrich Köhler's special auction at IBRA in Essen will be an exciting event, as all of the rare inflation-era pieces from the ERIVAN collection depicted in this article will be going under the hammer (see also: pp. 12/13).

The ProvenanceFinder – expertise in seconds – presented to
a live audience for the first time at IBRA 2023

Groundbreaking innovation in philately

“Without a doubt, this is the greatest innovation in the world of philately since the introduction of live online bidding in the early 2000s,” says Karl Louis, Managing Director at Heinrich Köhler. He is referring to a digital technology that is the first of its kind in the world, dreamt up by Germany’s oldest stamp auction house, Heinrich Köhler. Known as ProFi, the ‘ProvenanceFinder’ delivers philatelic expertise in seconds. The database was compiled with academic rigour and contains globally available information about individual items in digital form. You can experience ProFi by Heinrich Köhler live at the Global Philatelic Network’s booth at IBRA 2023.

“All collectors who buy or sell items through an auction house in the Global Philatelic Network benefit from ProFi – it’s a global exclusive,” explains Tobias Huylmans, Managing Director of Heinrich Köhler, who is primarily responsible for ProFi. “If Heinrich Köhler or another auction house in the Global Philatelic Network is entrusted with a consignment, our philatelic experts search the digital philatelic archive for those items; the database currently contains approximately one million entries.” The search results provide information about the history and value of a philatelic item: Who were the previous owners? How far back does its heritage go? How rare is the item? How much did it sell for at past auctions? Heinrich Köhler is constantly expanding the database and working to refine ProFi, which also involves using artificial intelligence. “We expect that by the time IBRA rolls around, we will already be able to access 1.5 million datasets with ProFi, and by the end of 2024, we will have digitised more than four million entries,” Tobias Huylmans predicts.



In 2006, Heinrich Köhler was the first German stamp auction house to begin offering live online bidding. With its ‘ProvenanceFinder’, Heinrich Köhler is now launching yet another groundbreaking innovation.

Data collected globally

Globally available data about single stamp lots was and will continue to be collected and amalgamated from a broad range of sources, such as the information from many international auction

catalogues. This is how the centrepiece of ProFi, the unique digital philatelic archive (DipA), was created. “Artificial intelligence makes ProFi capable of learning; with every new entry, →

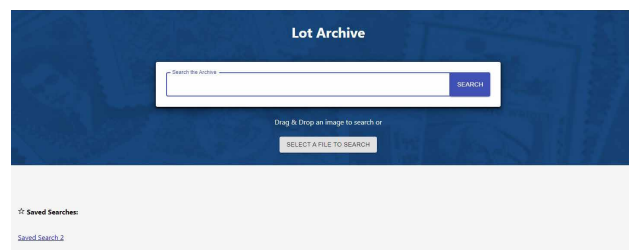
the system can create further links,” Tobias Huylmans says. “It was Tobias’s idea; he brought the project to life and has taken a leading role in the development of this groundbreaking innovation,” Karl Louis says. The philatelists from the auction houses in the Global Philatelic Network now have quick and easy access to a wealth of data with every query, including meticulously collected images, descriptions, starting prices and bids, as well as the entire auction history of stamps and covers from the Old German states for over 100 years. The information is available via search queries, keyword searches or image recognition. ProFi then analyses DipA and delivers results in seconds – or more specifically, in two seconds for keyword searches and 2.5 seconds for image recognition.

Heritage enhances value, even for lower- and mid-range items

“Possible search results from ProFi include when and where the single lot has previously been offered for sale, and which collections it was a part of,” Tobias Huylmans explains. “With the results from the database, we can derive information such as the fact that only three other covers with a particular stamp are recorded, or that a given item is the largest multiple of a stamp. The amalgamated data also produces provenances and heritage that allow us to determine with certainty that the item in question is a particularly sought-after collector’s item.” While the provenances list the previous owners, the heritage picks up on this information and enriches it with additional facts such as previous auction offers and bids for these items. “This means valuable heritage information can be displayed even for stamp lots in the lower or medium price ranges,” says Tobias Huylmans, explaining one of the benefits of this innovative technology that should not be underestimated. In future, criteria that were formerly reserved for more valuable items can be applied to a much wider range of unique philatelic items, adding significant value to these items.

The greatest possible certainty regarding the value of philatelic items


ProFi is exclusively available to philatelists at auction houses in the Global Philatelic Network. “However, in the best interests of the philatelic world, Heinrich Köhler has also opened its database to academic researchers,” Tobias Huylmans says. “Philatelic researchers can make an appointment at Heinrich Köhler in Wiesbaden to browse ProFi themselves.” In that sense, Heinrich Köhler also provides collectors with the greatest possible certainty regarding the value and quality of their items – and that applies to sellers and buyers alike. They benefit from the philatelic expertise on special items delivered by ProFi and carefully cultivated by Heinrich Köhler and the other auction houses in the Global Philatelic Network. “If you would like to have a item from your collection analysed with ProFi, simply bring it with you to IBRA 2023 in Essen and pay us a visit at our booth,” Tobias Huylmans says. “We look forward to seeing you there!”



The ProFi homepage is user-friendly, with highly intuitive text- and image-search functions.

☐
Heinrich Köhler > 348 / März 2012 - ASTRUL > 20

2012 3 Silbergroschen rotorange, voll- bis meist breitrandig und sehr schön farbtfrisch mit Fremdentwertung durch glasklar aufgesetzten preußischen Nummernstempel "1103" auf Briefhülle mit nebengesetztem Ra2 "OSCHERSLEBEN 25/7" (Oschersleben lag an der Bahnlinie Jenheim-Oschersleben-Magdeburg) an die braunschweigische "Hofjägermeisterin von Feldheim" in München (poste restante) mit rücksseitigem Ankunftsstempel; obwohl neben der Marke handschriftlich "gilt nicht" notiert war, wurde der Brief in München ohne Nachporto zugestellt. Ein sehr attraktiver und interessanter Brief der 1. Ausgabe, es ist kein weiteres Ganzstück mit dieser Fremdentwertung bekannt geworden; sign. Grobe mit Attest Provenienz: 209. Köhler-Auktion (1973)




CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME	CONDITION	FORMATS
Braunschweig Marken	Michel: 3	ASTRUL			
25					

Starting bid: 2,000 EUR
22,000 EUR

☐
Heinrich Köhler > 263 / November 1988 John R. Boker > 134

1988 1 Silbergroschen schwarz auf sämisch, allseits breitrandig, entwertet mit zentrisch aufgesetztem preußischem Ringstempel »1103« der preußischen Bahnstation Oschersleben (Mi.Nr. 6a) 950, —

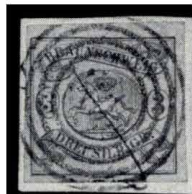


CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME	CONDITION	FORMATS
Braunschweig Marken	Michel: 6a	John R. Boker Jr.			

Starting bid: 250 EUR

☐
Heinrich Köhler > 252 / Oktober 1986 > 241

1985 - 1986 3 Sgr. orangefarbt, entwertet mit blauem Federzug und preußischem Nr.-Stpl. „1103“ von Oschers- leben (Grenzverkehrsentswertung) auf Briefstück, Kabinett




CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME	CONDITION	FORMATS
Braunschweig Marken	Michel: 3	Main Catalog, Dr. Walter Marx			

Starting bid: 450 - 1,000 EUR

☐
Heinrich Köhler > 248 / Dezember 1985 John R. Boker > 39

1985 1 Silbergroschen lilafarbig, allseits sehr breitrandig, entwertet mit preußischem Ringstempel „1103“ von OSCHERSLEBEN auf kleinem Briefstück in feinsten Erhaltung. Signiert Asinelli, Torino. Der Brief zu dem dieses Briefstück gehörte, wurde im preußischen Oschersleben (Bahnlinie Jenheim-Oschersleben-Magdeburg) aufgegeben und dort mit dem Ringstempel entwertet. (Der einzige existierende Ganzbrief mit dieser Entwertung wurde anlässlich der 209. Köhler-Versteigerung 1973 verkauft) Liebhaberstück (Mi.Nr. 1) 2000 —



CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME	CONDITION	FORMATS
Braunschweig Marken	Michel: 1	John R. Boker Jr.			

Starting bid: 2,000 EUR

Here is an example of a text search query for the Prussian '1103' numeral cancellation on Braunschweig stamps. The results indicate how rare it is: There is one cover and three individual stamps.

1



Less similar
More similar
20

1 results

Heinrich Köhler > 341 / September 2010 > 2729

2010 20 K. mit kopfstehendem Aufdruck. Auflage nur 100 Stück, postfrisch, Kabinett, Fotoattest Krišchke

CATEGORIES CATALOGS CATALOGPART ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME CONDITION FORMATS

Litauen - Landespost Michel 13K Main Catalog

595

Starting bid: 200 EUR

190 EUR

3



Less similar
More similar
10

Heinrich Köhler > 341 / September 2010 > 2729

2010 20 K. mit kopfstehendem Aufdruck. Auflage nur 100 Stück, postfrisch, Kabinett, Fotoattest Krišchke

CATEGORIES CATALOGS CATALOGPART ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME CONDITION FORMATS


Litauen - Landespost Michel 13K Main Catalog

595

Starting bid: 200 EUR

190 EUR

2



Less similar
More similar
10

2 results

Heinrich Köhler > 341 / September 2010 > 2729

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CATEGORIES CATALOGS CATALOGPART ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME CONDITION FORMATS

Litauen - Landespost Michel 13K Main Catalog

595

Starting bid: 200 EUR

190 EUR

Heinrich Köhler > 366 / März 2018 > 6990

2011 - 2018 20K. with inverted overprint, mint never hinged, fine, signed Liubinskas and certificate Klein (2011)

CATEGORIES CATALOGS CATALOGPART ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME CONDITION FORMATS

Litauen - Landespost Litauen Michel 13K Dr. Matteo Lucibello, Main Catalog

595

Starting bid: 100 - 120 EUR

100 - 170 EUR

Heinrich Köhler > 366 / März 2018 > 6990

SEEN 2X TIMES

2011 - 2018 20K. with inverted overprint, mint never hinged, fine, signed Liubinskas and certificate Klein (2011)

CATEGORIES CATALOGS CATALOGPART ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME CONDITION FORMATS

Litauen - Landespost Litauen Michel 13K Dr. Matteo Lucibello, Main Catalog

595

Starting bid: 100 - 120 EUR

100 - 170 EUR

Heinrich Köhler > 349 / März 2012 - Rainer Bender > 1307

2012 20 K. mit rechtem Seitenrand und kopfstehendem Aufdruck postfrisch, Kabinett, sign. Keller BPP und Fotoattest Krišchke BPP

CATEGORIES CATALOGS CATALOGPART ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME CONDITION FORMATS

Litauen - Landespost Litauen Michel 13K Rainer Bender

595

Starting bid: 100 EUR

150 EUR

Heinrich Köhler > 365 / September 2017 > 7501

2017 20 Kopaken mit kopfstehendem Aufdruck, postfrisch, tadello, u.a. signiert Krišchke BPP

CATEGORIES CATALOGS CATALOGPART ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME CONDITION FORMATS

Litauen - Landespost Litauen Michel 13K Main Catalog

595

Starting bid: 100 EUR

120 EUR

Heinrich Köhler > 367 / September 2018 > 6518

SEEN 2X TIMES

1993 - 2018 20 Kopaken mit kopfstehendem Aufdruck, postfrisch, tadello, u.a. sign. Keller

CATEGORIES CATALOGS CATALOGPART ORIGINAL CATALOG PART NAME CONDITION FORMATS

Litauen - Lokalausgaben Litauen - Landespost Litauen Michel 13K Richard J. Stark, Main Catalog

595

Starting bid: 100 - 300 EUR

120 EUR

This example of an image search using artificial intelligence displays the results that are a good (1), medium (2) and low (3) match. ProFi finds items from around the world. The results can be used to make reliable predictions of how the value will develop, allowing a sensible starting price to be set. It is even possible to indicate provenances for lower- and mid-range items.

1

2020 Heinrich Köhler > 375 / November 2020 > 144
11/16/2020 - 11/21/2020

1857, Glatter Grund 2 Silbergroschen blau senkrecht halbiert im Paar mit ganzer Marke, farbfrisch und voll- bis sehr breitrandig mit zweimal sauber aufgesetztem kleinen Doppelkreisstempel "STRALSUND 12.1" auf Briefvorderseite nach Berlin, verwendet als portogerechte 3 Silbergroschen-Frankatur. Die Marken ganz geringe Spuren des Unterdruckes, ansonsten in tadelloser, ursprünglicher und sehr frischer Erhaltung. Die hier angebotene Halbierung zählt zu den großen Preußen-Seltenheiten, von der Ausgabe "Glatter Grund" ist keine weitere bekannt. Ein außerordentlich attraktives Stück. Fotocastet Waseil BPP (2020) Provenienz: Sammlung Rothschild (Harmers-Auktion 1937, hier angeboten als 'ex Ferrari'), John Boker Jr. (1992)



CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	CONDITION	FORMATS
Preussen Marken Preussen	Michel: 7aH, 7a	ERIVAN	∞	∞

Starting bid: 30,000 EUR
80,000 EUR

1992 Heinrich Köhler > 276 / März 1992 John R. Boker > 164
03/01/1992 - 03/07/1992

2 Silbergroschen blau, waagerechtes Paar, dabei die rechte Marke halbiert, als portogerechte 3 Silbergroschen-Frankatur, entwertet mit Doppelkreisstempel "STRALSUND 12.1" auf Brief vorderseite nach Berlin. Berühmteste Preußen-Halbierung und sicherlich die dekorativste; ein absolutes Spitzenstück aus den Sammlungen Ferrari und Rothschild (M.Nr. 7a + 7aH)



CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	CONDITION	FORMATS
Preussen Marken	Michel: 7a+7aH	John R. Boker Jr.	∞	∞

Starting bid: 60,000 DM

1939 Harmers of London > 1145 / October 1939 - Rothschild > 346
10/24/1939 - 10/24/1939

— 25gr. pale blue, one-and-a-half copies, unsevered and used as 5gr. on cover-front to Berlin, lightly cancelled and tied with clear post mark "STRALSUND." Ex Ferrari and probably unique (see photo, plate X)



CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	CONDITION	FORMATS
Preussen Marken		Rothschild	∞	∞

Starting bid: 0 USD

2

2009 Heinrich Köhler > 338 / September 2009 - Fritz Kirchner > 223
09/19/2009 - 09/19/2009

3 Pfennige braunrot im 4er-Block der Platte I, Felder 9-10, 14-15, phantastisch frische Farbe und allseits voll- bis überandig, rechts mit 7.5 mm Bogenrand, ungebraucht mit frischem Originalgummi mit leichten Falzspuren bzw. -resten. Es handelt sich hier um eine der größten und prominentesten Aldeutschesland-Seltenheiten; neben dem legendären Ferrari-Bogen und dem im Postmuseum befindlichen 6er-Block ist nur ein weiterer ungebraucher 4er-Block dieser Marke (ex Boker) bekannt; ein Spitzenstück der klassischen Philatelie in absolut phantastischer Erhaltung. Fotoatteste Georg Buhler (1967) und Rimondo BPP Provenienz: Alfred Caspary (1956) Josiah K. Lilly (1967)



CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	CONDITION	FORMATS
Sachsen Marken S	Michel: 1c	Fritz Kirchner	*	∞

Starting bid: 80,000 EUR
82,000 EUR

1967 Robert Siegel > 318 / Josiah K. Lilly June 1967 > 471
06/08/1967 - 06/09/1967

1850, 3pf Dark Red (a), R. Sheet Margin Block of the Scarce Brown Red Shade, Brilliant Color & Impression, Fresh o. g., Clear to Enormous Margins, faint thin spots in left Pair, L. R. stamp Pinhole, still a Wonderful Showpiece of Great Rarity. One of the Most Outstanding Pieces in the Collection, signed Thier, Colson (Michel DM 46,000.00+). Ex-Caspary... (Photo)



CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	CONDITION	FORMATS
Sachsen Marken	Scott: 1a	Josiah K. Lilly	*	∞

Starting bid: 6,000 USD

1956 Harmers of New York > 1007 - April 1956 - Alfred H. Caspary > 733
04/25/1956 - 04/25/1956

3pf dark red, MARGINAL BLOCK OF FOUR, Brilliant fresh, full o. g. and of beautiful deep brown red color. Sheet margin at right, very large margins top and bottom, margin a trifle irregular but clear at left. Lefthand pair slightly thinned and tiny pin hole in bottom right stamp. Still a magnificent block of the greatest rarity, unusually attractive and one of the great show pieces of the collection. Signed by W. H. C. (Colson) and Thier. Priced by Scott at \$4,000 and Michel #1c Mik. 24,000 as four singles...



CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	CONDITION	FORMATS
Sachsen Marken	Scott: 1a	Alfred H. Caspary	*	∞

Starting bid: 4,000 USD

3

2009 Heinrich Köhler > 337 / September 2009 > 809
09/15/2009 - 09/18/2009

Carlier 10 pence bright blue, horizontal strip of three, good to wide margins all around and nice colour, tied by Hamilton date stamp and red "PKT. LETTER PAID LIVERPOOL OC 2 '58" to large piece; the strip had been lifted, interior repair to central stamp, still fine and attractive; a rarity!



CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	CONDITION	FORMATS
Canada 2040	SG: 20	ASTRUL	Δ	∞ ∞ ∞

Starting bid: 800 EUR
1,400 EUR

1971 Heinrich Köhler > 201 / September 1971 > 1334
09/15/1971 - 09/18/1971

1855, Carlier 10 C blau, waager. Prachtstückerstreffen a. Briefstück, zusätzlich mit rotem Paid Liverpool getroffen, äußerst seltenes u. dekoratives Liebhaberstück (SG Nr. 20)



CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	CONDITION	FORMATS
Canada	SG: Nr.20	Main Catalog	Δ	∞ ∞

Starting bid: 2,000 DM

1970 Harmers of New York > 1936 / Januar 1970 - Louise Boyd Dale and Alfred F. Lichtenstein - Part 7 > 881
01/29/1970 - 01/29/1970

10p bright blue on medium pair, HORIZ. STRIP OF THREE, faults, incl. interior repair of center stamp; margins all round, hinged on piece to which it is tied by red Liverpool Pkt. Letter "tombstone". Hamilton Sept 20 '58 also on piece. A spectacular piece (7)



CATEGORIES	CATALOGS	CATALOGPART	CONDITION	FORMATS
Canada	Scott: 7	Louise Boyd Dale and Alfred F. Lichtenstein	*	∞ ∞ ∞

Starting bid: 0 USD



ProFi at a glance

✓ The largest available database for determining the value of consignments entrusted to Heinrich Köhler or other auction houses in the Global Philatelic Network

✓ Digital philatelic archive with globally available information about single stamp lots in stamp auctions

✓ Digital ProvenanceFinder for exclusive expertise in seconds

✓ Lot descriptions based on a database with information about provenance, heritage, rarity, price development, changes and potential forgeries

✓ Determination of the rarity of a piece and, consequently, its importance

✓ Classification and comparison with other pieces to assess the beauty and quality

Here are three examples of how the provenance is depicted for the legendary Stralsund cover (1) from the Kingdom of Prussia (see also: 'Profiles in philately', pp.24–26), the famous block of four of the 'Saxony strip of three' (2) and a rare item from Canada in the mid-range price bracket (3).

Test the VSC 8000 at Heinrich Köhler's booth at IBRA 2023



Tobias Huylmans uses the spectral analysis function of the VSC 8000 to present an authentic China handstamp (right) and a forged one (left).



The stamp on the right with the China handstamp is real, as the glow of the 'Hammer' cancellation stamp ink shows. The stamp on the left was falsely applied using cancellation stamp ink with a different consistency.

The gold standard for quality testing

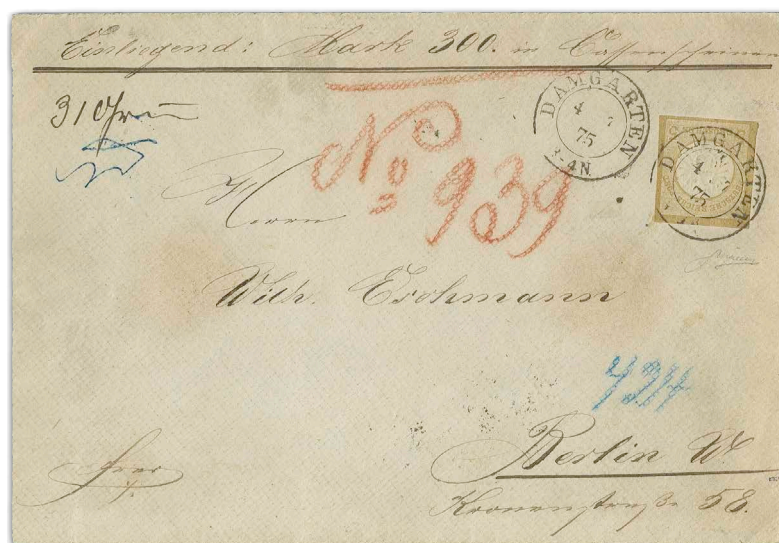
Stamp auctioneers Heinrich Köhler will present the gold standard for authentication at IBRA 2023 in Essen. "The cutting-edge VSC 8000 combines complex digital image capture with multi-wavelength LED technology for document inspection," says Tobias Huylmans, Managing Director at Heinrich Köhler. "VSC stands for 'Video Spectral Comparator'." The highly scientific system is also used by criminal investigators, for instance. You can also take advantage of the opportunity to have one of your philatelic treasures examined live in Essen.

The multispectral light sources of the VSC 8000, which range from UV to the visible spectrum to infrared, make details visible that would otherwise be imperceptible to the naked eye. Cross-validation with comparable pieces can verify whether surcharges or overprints are a geographic match, for instance. 3D analysis is another useful option offered by the VSC 8000. The 3D software utilises a photometric stereo process and captures images generated using three different illumination angles. A subsequent analysis of the three images reveals topographic details on the surface. "The process creates a 3D model image, like a topographical map of the stamp," Huylmans explains. This means 3D analysis can quickly verify the authenticity of an embossment. "There's no question – we are always happiest when the analysis verifies the authenticity of a piece. After all, the analyses we conduct with the VSC 8000 are primarily intended to confirm the quality of valuable stamps and letters," Huylmans says.

Live on location to help collectors

Of course, the VSC 8000 also occasionally helps the experts detect forgeries. "Let's take a look at these two stamps with China handstamps, for example," says Tobias Huylmans. "An ink known as Hammer cancellation stamp ink was used for the China handstamp overprint, as well as for postal cancellations of the time. The special consistency of this ink means that it glows in a spectral analysis conducted at the corresponding nanometre range. So as we can see, the piece on the right is genuine, while the one on the left unfortunately isn't." Heinrich Köhler already gave visitors to its booth at the Internationale Briefmarkenbörse (International Stamp Exchange) in Ulm in October 2022 the opportunity to experience the VSC 8000 live on location. "Many collectors were impressed with the results. We are very much looking forward to making the VSC 8000 available to visitors once again, this time at IBRA in Essen".

The IBRA special auction presents: 'Germany from 1872 onwards – the ERIVAN collection'



This exceptional cover with the 'Damgarten-Provisorium' is a one-of-a-kind, world-class item and a highlight of German philately. Before the cover came into the possession of Erivan Haub in 2010, it was part of the collections of other great philatelists like Fritz Kirchner, Rolf Rohlfis and Karl Ströher.

Importance, quality and rarity

During the international stamp exhibition IBRA 2023 in Essen, Germany, Heinrich Köhler invites visitors to a very special auction on Saturday, 27 May 2023, starting at 11:00 a.m. In the 'Ruhr' room on the first floor of the Messe Essen exhibition centre, Heinrich Köhler will present 'Germany from 1872 onwards – the ERIVAN collection' – approximately 200 lots from Germany spanning the ages from the founding of the German Empire to the present day. Erivan Haub compiled the collection. Naturally, the special items in this collection are fully in keeping with his approach to philately: importance, quality and rarity.

"The items in the IBRA special auction cover Germany starting from the founding of the German Reich," says Cliff Schön, philatelist at Heinrich Köhler. "Erivan Haub was a particularly passionate collector of the 'Embossed Eagle' issues on cover and the German colonies. The colonies include a number of outstanding items. In all areas of collecting, he usually selected the exceptional items that were of high quality, particular importance and great rarity." The collection includes major and minor rarities from Germany – from the eagle stamps and Germania to inflation and the occupation issues from the First World War, and even military mail from the Second World War and Germany after 1945. Today, we would like to present you with an exclusive preview of a few of these rare items.

The absolute highlight of the embossed eagle stamps

We will start with the 'Damgarten-Provisorium' – one of the

absolute highlights of the embossed eagle stamps. It is an imperforate 5-groschen ochre 'large shield' stamp. Imperforate eagle stamps are among the top philatelic rarities from the early German Empire. A total of 57 imperforate eagle stamps have been recorded to date. "These cancelled items include 39 individual stamps and pieces, three covers, six pairs and – the largest multiple – a strip of three of the 1/3 groschen green 'small shield'," Cliff Schön explains. Additionally, we can see that many imperforate eagle stamps were used in the same places within a relatively short period of time. This is true about the small town of Ribnitz-Damgarten. When it comes to the imperforate 5-groschen ochre 'large shield', two cancelled stamps, one piece and just one cover are recorded as coming from the post office there. "The cover with the 'Damgarten-Provisorium' is undoubtedly one of the top world-class rarities of the German Reich and will be up for sale at the IBRA special auction," Cliff Schön says.



This cover includes four of the rare Qingdao provisional issues with the '5 Pf.' letterpress overprint. An even rarer item is the Qingdao provisional issue with the additional larger '5 Pf.' handstamped overprint (above, second stamp from left). The combination of these unique items makes this cover a superb rarity from the German colonies and one of the top items in German philately.



The dream of flying has always inspired humanity, and the history of airmail is closely tied to that dream. Among the rarest treasures in this field of collecting is this airmail postcard with three 'Gelber Hund' airmail stamps, each of which has a double surcharge – one stamp is on the front, and two are on the back. One of the stamps on the back also has the overprint error 'Huna' (see excerpt). This card, with its combination of rare varieties, is one of a kind.



A world-class field-post rarity: this cover features a horizontal pair of the Rhodes Christmas stamp, type IV and III, in combination with a rouletted Leros on an airmail cover, addressed to Schönow bei Berlin. This combination franking is unique, and this is one of just two known covers featuring the rare type IV with mixed franking.

An exceptionally rare item from the German colonies

The next top rarity comes from the 'German colonies' field of collecting and arose due to a shortage of the usual stamps. The Chinese post office in Qingdao ran out of 5-pfennig stamps in May and July 1900. Officials summarily overprinted their available 10-pfennig stamps with '5 Pfg.', changing the face value to 5 pfennigs – known today as the first Qingdao provisional issue. The same thing happened again on 19 July 1900; the Qingdao post office ran out of 5-pfennig stamps again. And for a second time, 10-pfennig stamps were overprinted by letterpress. These stamps are known as the second Qingdao provisional issue and can be identified by the overprint '5 Pf.' (no g). However, this issue also had a number of imperfections caused by production, just as the previous issue had. On some of the stamps, the overprint slipped into the 'China' print, and the face value was no longer easily legible. These items were overprinted with a '5' using a handstamp. However, officials quickly realised that the number was too small, so they hastily made a larger '5 Pf.' handstamp and used it for a second overprint. "The cover from Erivan Haub's collection has both versions of the second Qingdao provisional issue as a vertical se-tenant pair at the upper left – both the stamp with the ordinary '5 Pf.' overprint and the stamp with the additional larger '5 Pf.' handstamp overprint," Cliff Schön explains. "It also has an ordinary stamp and three further Qingdao provisional issues with a simple '5 Pf.' overprint. Consequently, this cover is undoubtedly one of the rarest items from the German colonies."

An exceptional airmail rarity

The next item from Erivan Haub's collection is an exceptional rarity of German airmail. "Even before establishing an official state airmail service, Germany already had a number of temporary individual airmail routes operated by private organisations," Cliff Schön explains. "Mail that was transported in those aeroplanes had to be franked with the ordinary government postage stamps." In addition, this special form of transport was subject to additional private fees in the form of special stamps on the items of mail. "Among the most famous of these stamps is the June 1912 issue for the airmail service operating from 13 to 23 June in the Rhine and Main region." Because these stamps were also sold at post office counters – three stamps with the values 10 pfennigs, 20 pfennigs and 30 pfennigs – they are considered semi-official issues. The 10-pfennig stamp had the overprint '1 M – Gelber Hund' (yellow dog), in honour of the Euler biplane of the same name, which got its nickname from its yellow covering. "There were a number of errors and varieties among the overprints, including a unique double surcharge, first in yellow, then in blue," Cliff Schön says. "This double surcharge is extremely rare and is valued very highly. One of the best-preserved items will also be up for sale at the IBRA special auction."

The legendary Hiroshima cover will be exhibited at IBRA 2023 and is looking for a new owner

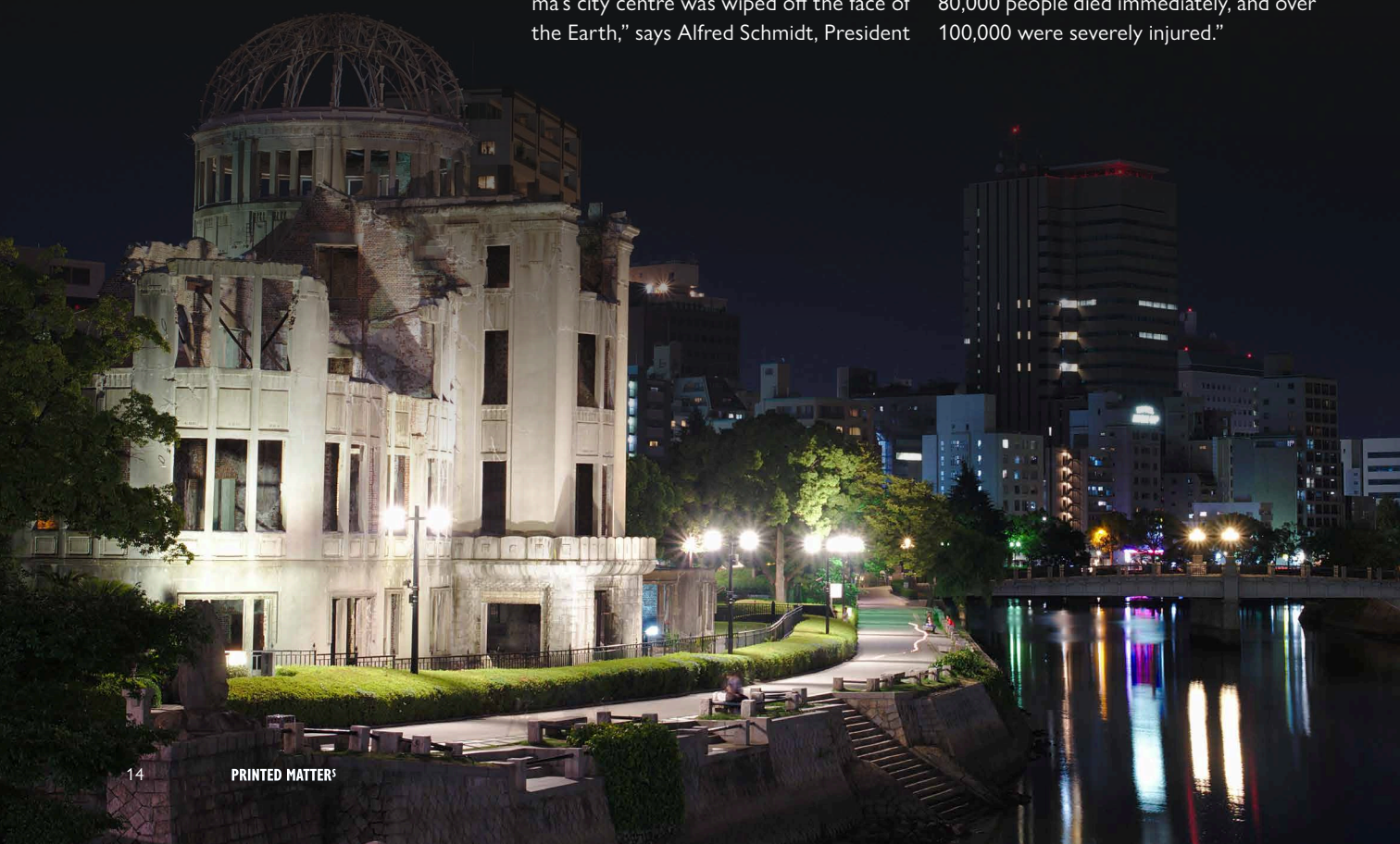
A reminder of the importance of peace

The legendary Hiroshima cover that survived the first detonation of an atomic bomb during a war is a powerful reminder of the importance of peace. This unique philatelic testament to the most fateful, painful act of war in human history is held in the collection of the Bund Deutscher Philatelisten (German Philatelists' Association, BDPh), and the original will be exhibited in the Treasury at IBRA 2023. This piece is also looking for a new home. Heinrich Köhler will be offering the cover up for bids in a special auction at IBRA in Essen.

The Genbaku Dome was the only building to survive the most destructive explosion in Hiroshima, when the atomic bomb 'Little Boy' was dropped on the city on 6 August 1945.

On 6 August 1945 at 8:16 a.m., death arrived in the skies over Hiroshima. American forces dropped an atomic bomb bearing the ironic nickname 'Little Boy' on the Japanese city in order to force Japan to capitulate in World War II. "When the bomb detonated, a huge swath of Hiroshima's city centre was wiped off the face of the Earth," says Alfred Schmidt, President

of the BDPh (see also: p. 24–26). "Eighty per cent of the buildings were badly damaged or completely obliterated. The shock wave and thermal radiation triggered by the blast destroyed buildings, facilities and trees within a radius of up to ten kilometres. The worst part was that more than 80,000 people died immediately, and over 100,000 were severely injured."

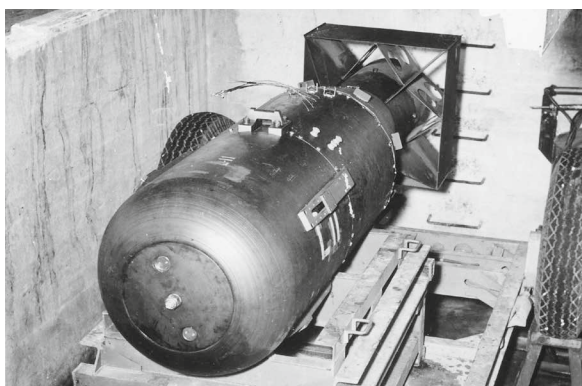


Heat wave with temperatures of more than 1,000 degrees Celsius

The bomb was detonated over the city of Hiroshima at a height of approximately 600 metres, and a shock wave of unparalleled intensity caused buildings, facilities and trees to cave in and collapse. Objects flew through the air with tremendous force. A heat wave with temperatures of over 1,000 degrees Celsius sparked widespread fires that caused further devastating damage. "A little earlier, several American B29 bombers had penetrated the airspace over Hiroshima," Alfred Schmidt says. "One of those aeroplanes, the 'Enola Gay', dropped this 'innovative bomb', as the Imperial Japanese leadership referred to it." But the Japanese were unaware of the full scope of the bomb's effects at the time. The radiation produced in the nuclear fission process caused the most lasting damage to living organisms. "Hundreds of thousands of survivors of the nuclear blast in Hiroshima had to deal with the long-term effects caused by the radiation. Illnesses that can be directly linked to the radiation include various cancers and deformities in newborns," Alfred Schmidt explains.

Significantly more than 200,000 people died of the after-effects

In Japan, the survivors and people who suffered the after-effects of the atomic bomb are known as 'Hibakusha'. As officially recognised victims of the bombing, they are eligible for free medical treatment. Significantly more than 200,000 others died due to the after-effects of the radiation. Hiroshima has since been largely reconstructed, but the ruins of one building have been left as a memorial: "The Genbaku Dome, as it's known, is the only building that remained standing in the area hit by the first atomic bomb on 6 August 1945," Alfred Schmidt explains. "It took the efforts of many people to keep the dome in the same state as it was directly after the bombing. Not only is it a powerful symbol of the most destructive power humanity has ever created, it also represents hope for world peace and the ultimate abolition of all nuclear weapons." Every year on the anniversary of the day the first nuclear weapon was used, Hiroshima holds a memorial service at the Genbaku Dome for the victims of the bombing.



The first tactical atomic bomb, 'Little Boy', measured 3.05 metres in length; it is shown here on a safety rack before it was loaded into the missile bay of the American military bomber 'Enola Gay'.

One of the highlights of Heinrich Köhler's special auction at IBRA

"The Hiroshima cover was discovered in the ruins of a bank near the city's railway station during clean-up efforts," Alfred Schmidt explains. "The bank was about two kilometres from ground zero." In military terminology, ground zero refers to the point on the Earth's surface located directly below the explosion site of a nuclear bomb or missile. "The cover has hardly any external damage, but it is still slightly radioactive, even today," Schmidt continues. "An official measurement indicated a dose rate of 0.05 milliroentgens per hour. That is completely harmless." By way of comparison, a flight from Frankfurt to New York and back produces an average effective dose of radiation of approximately 10 milliroentgens. However, the cover was still placed in a lead sleeve and covered with bullet-proof glass decades ago, just to be on the safe side. After World War II, this registered letter arrived in Germany via the United States, and it is currently owned by the BDPh. It will be exhibited at IBRA 2023 in Essen as a reminder of the importance of peace and a warning against the unlimited use of weapons of war. "This cover is an extremely important historical document, and as such, we would like to return it to the cycle of

the philatelic world. That's why we have entrusted it to stamp auctioneers Heinrich Köhler, to be presented as one of the highlights of the special auction at IBRA," says BDPh President Alfred Schmidt.



The Hiroshima cover was the only postal item to survive the first bombing with a nuclear weapon in August 1945 in the Japanese city of Hiroshima, and it is still slightly radioactive today.

The Treasury at IBRA 2023

This watercolour from 1897 depicts three officials from the Royal Saxony Post in uniforms from the 1860s.



The world's most exceptional philatelic rarities

The Treasury at IBRA 2023 will doubtless be one of the biggest draws of the exhibition, which takes place from 25 to 28 May at the Messe Essen exhibition centre. This is where the world's most exceptional philatelic rarities will be on display. The exhibition will include philatelic highlights that have thrilled philatelists and aficionados of culture, art and history alike for generations. Visitors will have the opportunity to admire the crown jewel of philately, three true legends of old German states collecting and the most notable philatelic rarity of the modern German era.

It is the most famous stamp in the world – the legendary Blue “Post Office” Mauritius. And its sister stamp, the Red Mauritius, is just as important to the world of philately. They are often referred to as the ‘dream girls’ of the stamp collecting world: the orange-red one penny and the blue two pence, which were the first postage stamps issued by the British Empire outside Great Britain on 21 September 1847. Twelve blue and 15 red stamps have survived to the present day. So while the fabled Blue and Red Mauritius stamps may be legendary, they are not unique. But there is a unique cover known as the ‘crown jewel of philately’ that is the only one of its kind to include both a red one penny and a blue two pence Mauritius stamp – the famous Bordeaux cover. Probably the most valuable item in the world of philately, the Bordeaux cover is named after its destination. Renowned philatelist Hiroyuki Kanai purchased it for one million dollars in 1971. It was auctioned once again in 1988, selling for 3.8 million dollars, then again in 1993 for 6.125 million Swiss francs. It has been held in a private collection since then, and the original will be on display in the Treasury at IBRA 2023.

Unique specimen of inestimable historic importance

Speaking of unique items: the cover with the 1-kreuzer black, the first German postage stamp, is also a one-of-a-kind item of inestimable historic importance. It is one of three true legends of Old Germany philately that will be presented in the Treasury at IBRA 2023, brokered by stamp auctioneers Heinrich Köhler. It is the only remaining cover that was posted on the first day that the 1-kreuzer black stamp (Schwarzer Einser in German) was used, on 1 November 1849. The recipient of the letter – Josef Salegg is the correct spelling of his name – maintained business relationships in many of the German states at the time, and so he naturally received mail from those places. He stored these items of mail in a trunk, which is where the 1-Kreuzer black stamp first day cover was also kept. At some point in the 1920s, the materials were sold. This one-of-a-kind cover was rediscovered around 40 years ago. The current owner’s father had purchased the first-day cover as part of

a larger collection – without being aware of what he had at first. When he took a closer look at the cover in the 1980s, however, he finally realised what it was – an exceptionally rare item of major historical importance.

At home in the collections of famous philatelists

The second legendary stamp from Old Germany is doubtless one of the most famous items in the world of philatelic rarities. We are, of course, referring to the sensational original sheet of the Saxony strip of three. The Kingdom of Saxony was the second Old German state to issue stamps. Its first stamp – the red 3-pfennig – was issued on 1 July 1850. The printed sheet of the Saxony strip of three contained four horizontal rows of five stamps each. The incredible thing is that only one sheet remains intact today. Experts unanimously believe that the following story of its discovery is the most plausible version: the sheet was found sometime between 1871 and 1875 on a wooden column at an inn in the town of Eibenstock in Saxony. This building is believed to be a former post office. But only one thing is

certain: even when it was first discovered in 1875, the sheet was in very poor condition. Consequently, the theory that it was adhered to something is likely to be correct. And there is another aspect that supports the story of the wooden column: an official from the former Eibenstock post office offered the sheet for sale to Leipzig-based stamp dealers at the time. The sheet was restored, then Maurice Burrus had it returned to its damaged state, and it was subsequently restored once again. Heinrich Köhler auctioned off the Saxony strip of three sheet in late January 1999, and it went to a private buyer for 920,000 deutschmarks. Joseph Hackmey, the most successful exhibition collector of all time, purchased the Saxony sheet a few years later; the sale was brokered by Heinrich Köhler. The sheet still graces his impressive stamp collection today. What would this one-of-a-kind philatelic treasure be worth to a collector were it to go up for sale tomorrow?

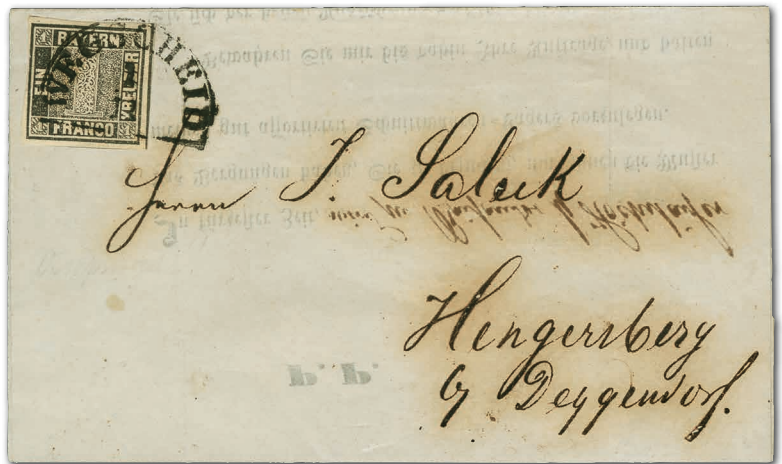
Sensational first issue

Another incredible rarity of international renown is the legendary 9-kreuzer blue-green error from the Grand Duchy →



The unique Saxony strip of three sheet was formerly part of the collections of famous philatelists such as Baron Philipp von Ferrary and Maurice Burrus.

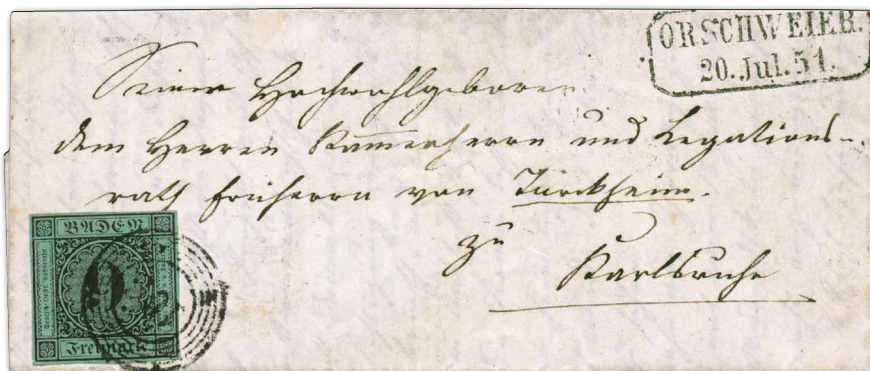
of Baden. Only three cancelled stamps of this type are known to exist today, two of which are on cover. "1.26 million euros going once, going twice...sold!" said the auctioneer at Heinrich Köhler in Wiesbaden on 8 June 2019. With this record-breaking bid, the Baden error cover from the collection of famous philatelist Erivan Haub was sold to a collector. However, this particular legend of Old German philately will not be on exhibit at the IBRA Treasury. But there's no need to be disappointed: you will still have the chance to admire an original Baden error at the exhibition. The second legendary cover with the 9-kreuzer blue-green cover will be coming all the way from Berlin just for IBRA. It is part of the collection owned by the Museumsstiftung Post und Telekommunikation (Post and Telecommunications Museum Foundation) and is normally kept at the Berlin Museum of Communication. And no international stamp collecting exhibition in Germany would be complete without this rare, sensational item from the first issue of Grand Duchy of Baden stamps. This error was the result of a production defect. It appears as though, instead of being printed on the correct pink-purple paper, the 9-kreuzer plate was accidentally used on the green paper intended for the 6-kreuzer stamp. At this particular rate of postage, it seems as though the errors went unnoticed, and the stamps were used; the mistake wasn't discovered until the late 19th century.



This exceptional first day cover of the 1-kreuzer black stamp is a one-of-a-kind, world-class item, and it is the most important historical documentation of the beginning of the postage stamp era in Germany.



The crown jewel of philately – the Bordeaux cover features the world's most famous stamps, the Blue and Red "Post Office" Mauritius, and is considered the most valuable cover in the world.



The incredible 9-kreuzer blue-green Baden error was not discovered until 43 years after it had been used – shown here is the cover owned by the Museumsstiftung Post und Telekommunikation. The second known cover with the Baden error has been considered the most valuable item in German philately since it was purchased at a Heinrich Köhler auction in 2019 with a record-breaking bid of 1.26 million euros.



Two items from the 'Hepburn finds' and the world-famous Hiroshima letter will also be on display at the IBRA Treasury for visitors to admire. This edition of the magazine features a special report on the Hiroshima letter on pages 14 and 15.



Forum Philately invites you to a wealth of fascinating talks

Attractive variety of topics

The IBRA 2023 International Stamp Exhibition in Essen on 25–28 May offers a great opportunity to attend many philatelic presentations by excellent philatelists. The Consilium Philatelicum, the “council of the wise” that advises the collectors’ association Bund Deutscher Philatelisten, is the body responsible for this Forum Philately. The 20 fascinating lectures are presented by the Heinrich Köhler stamp auctioneers. It is a matter of honour that the auction house’s managing directors Karl Louis and Dieter Michelson are among the speakers.

Karl Louis will be speaking on the topic “From the steam engine to global power via the postage stamp – Great Britain’s Rise in the 19th Century”.



Dieter Michelson’s lecture explores the postal history of Ireland.

The postal reform of 1840 and the introduction of the stamp are always predominantly associated with Great Britain. Ireland also belonged to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland at the time. Dieter Michelson’s talk “Ireland and the Postal Reform” provides insights into how postal reform was implemented in Ireland – the emerald isle on the western edge of Europe. But Ireland also has far more to offer in terms of postal history. The talk begins with the introduction of the first datestamp in 1660 and covers developments leading up to the introduction of the Penny Post. The main part of the lecture is then dedicated to exploring the first stamps, the first postal stationery and the Maltese Cross cancellation for these revolutionary forms of

“fee receipts”. Michelson concludes with a look at subsequent developments in postal communication over the world’s oceans.

The beginning of a long success story

Karl Louis’s talk “From the steam engine to global power via the postage stamp – Great Britain’s Rise in the 19th Century” connects social and economic history to the introduction of the stamp. The weaknesses of the outdated and expensive British postal system had already been identified in the early 1830s. Then, in January 1837, a teacher by the name of Rowland Hill published a privately printed pamphlet “Post Office Reform – its Importance and Practicability”. This set in motion developments that led to far-reaching reform that would go down

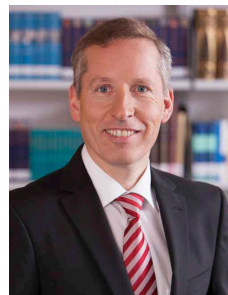
in the history of communication by letter as the “new Penny Post System”. The most famous part of this history is the invention of the stamp. 68 million Penny Black stamps were printed and sold in the first 10 months, from May 1840 to February 1841. This was the beginning of a long success story, and it represented the foundation of Great Britain’s rise to global power. Karl Louis takes his audience on a journey back to the mid-19th century.

You’ll find the full programme of expert talks at IBRA 2023 at <https://ibra2023.de/programm/pro-gramm-cph-forum/>. Or simply scan this QR code.



Unique rarities on display in a fascinating special exhibition at the Treasury at IBRA 2023.

Germania – myth and mail



Dr Andreas Hahn has been Director of the Museum Foundation of Post and Telecommunication's Archive for Philately in Bonn since 1998. As an art historian, he is excited about the art- and cultural-historical significance of the items in the collection, as well as their philatelic importance.

One of the highlights of the IBRA Treasury is the exhibition “Germania – myth and mail”, which is dedicated to a famous series of German stamps: the Germania issues. The key exhibits include the unique designs, essays, samples and trial prints from the Museum Foundation of Post and Telecommunication's Archive for Philately. These document how a portrait of Emperor Wilhelm II was also considered as the motif for the series, which were in use from 1900 to 1922.

The Germania stamp series made headlines even before the first stamps were sold. “Newspapers were already reporting on plans for new postage stamps in February 1899,” says Dr Andreas Hahn, Head of the Museum Foundation for Post and Telecommunication's Archive for Philately, who is curating the “Germania – myth and mail” exhibition. “Postal customers were demanding new stamps that made it easier to frank mail, so that they could prepay a letter with only one postage stamp, for example.” The first stamps from the Germania series reached post office counters on 1 January 1900. “Between then and 1 March 1922 – the period of high inflation – a total of 79 Germania stamps were issued,” explains Dr Hahn. And other values were also issued for the German colonies. “Over a period of 22 years, this motif, which appeared on the letters and postcards of everyday correspondence, shaped the image of the German Reich both domestically and abroad. The stamp endured beyond the First World War and thereby also the end of the German Empire.”

Chosen by the “highest art connoisseur”

The final design for the stamp motif was the work of the artist Paul Eduard Waldraff of the Reich Press in Berlin. He

was there personally when Emperor Wilhelm II made his decision: “Starting from the door, the highest art connoisseur, followed by his adjutant, walked along the row of easels, barely slowing his pace. Having again reached the door, the Emperor turned, headed straight down the hall towards Germania and, his finger briefly pointing to her, utters a single, decisive word – ‘Her’. And he was gone.” The Emperor had thereby chosen a universally recognised symbol of the German Reich, one comparable to Helvetia for Switzerland or Britannia for the British Empire. Paul Eduard Waldraff's design featured a portrait of the actress Anna Fühling, who shaped the image of this symbolic figure as a crowned Valkyrie in theatres. However, the series could have featured very different motifs. At the exhibition in the IBRA Treasury, you



A draft sketch for the Germania series, drawn by Albert Krüger (1858 to circa 1910), and the final “5-pfennig Reichspost” from the Germania issue of January 1900.

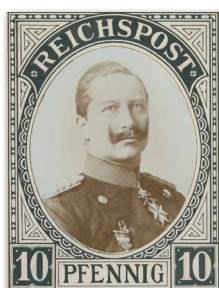
can view some of these designs, essays, samples and trial prints documenting the long road from the initial ideas and sketches to the final issue. “Besides philatelic exhibits that illustrate the Germania myth on the basis of precursors to the original stamps, the exhibition also features presentation boards with overprints of Germania stamps, some of which were never issued,” explains Dr Hahn. “As a result, this exhibition provides fascinating insights into the origins of this legendary stamp issue, and all its varieties, that was so defining for Germany – it was the country’s only stamp series for an entire generation.”

The Emperor decided against having his portrait on the new stamps

Designs featuring the Emperor’s portrait are included in the exhibition. The drawing is reminiscent of the first stamps from the Kingdom of Prussia because they show the monarch in profile. The Emperor chose the Germania motif because Prussia’s supremacy in the German Reich was not uncontroversial. Just as politically correct are the national symbols on the first large- and vertical-format stamps in the Germania



The designers of the draft versions for the Germania series were more than happy to experiment. One essay was given a hexagonal trial perforation and printed in a number of different colour variants.



This competing design for the later 5-pfennig Germania features a portrait of Emperor Wilhelm II.



The motif is based on a painting by the artist Hermann Knackfuss “Völker Europas, wahrt eure heiligsten Güter” – “Peoples of Europe, Guard your Dearest Goods”. Knackfuss modelled the painting on a design created by Kaiser Wilhelm II himself. The painting was unfortunately lost in World War II.

series, which came out on 1 April 1900. The 1-Mark value features the Reichspostmuseum in Berlin and the 2-Mark stamp shows a detail from the painting “Nord und Süd” by the artist Anton von Werner. The 3-Mark stamps commemorate the unveiling of the Emperor Wilhelm I memorial in Berlin in 1897, and the highest value, known as the “5-Mark Reichspost” presents a scene from the foundation ceremony of the German Reich in the White Hall in Berlin Palace. “A design featuring Adolph von Menzel’s picture ‘King Frederick II’s Round Table’ was also submitted for the 1-Mark value,” explains Dr Andreas Hahn. “However, this image was also regarded as being too Prussian and unsuitable for the political landscape of the time.” Talking of politics: one very surprising suggestion for the 1-Mark stamp shows Germania with six other female figures – which are clearly personifications of other European states. These figures are all standing under a cross, where an angel is pointing its flaming sword towards a fire in the distance. “The design interprets

the German Reich as part of a united and Christian Europe in the battle against foreign cultures,” says Dr Hahn.

Many colour variants and various levels of quality

The exhibition also presents essays in many designs that – in the original size of the stamp that might later be issued and complete with perforation – were intended to convey a realistic overall impression of the postage stamp. Among the undisputed highlights are the hexagonal trial perforations in the correspondingly unconventional stamp shape. The Germania series’ many colour variants and various levels of quality are also fascinating. A distinction is made between the “peacetime printings” of 1905/1906, which feature a clean, sharp printed image, and the “wartime printings” from 1915/1916, on which the drawing is coarser. “Presentation boards on these issues show the range of colour variants the Reich Press made available to the Reich Postal Ministry to select from,” adds Dr Andreas Hahn.

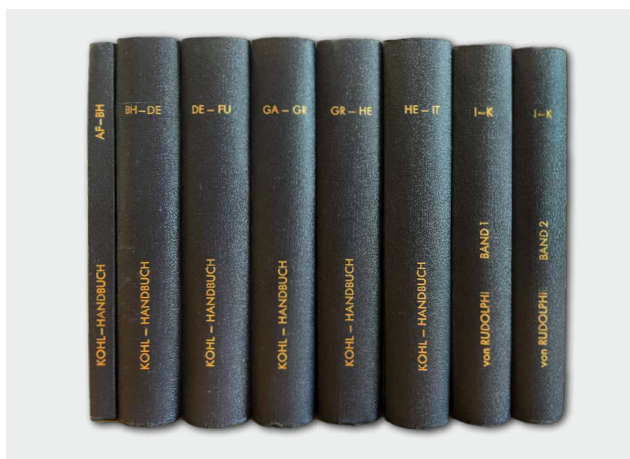


Dr Andreas Hahn will be giving a talk on the exhibition “Germania – myth and mail” on the IBRA Stage in the Foyer of Messe Essen from 1:00 to 1:45 p.m. on Thursday, 25 May 2023. The book of the same name, which is published by Heinrich Köhler Auctions in partnership with the Museumsstiftung Post und Telekommunikation (Post and Telecommunications Museum Foundation) and which Dr Andreas Hahn will be happy to sign after his lecture, provides a comprehensive documentation of the Archive for Philately’s spectacular Germania inventory.

The origins and importance of specialist philatelic literature

Knowledge makes experts and connoisseurs

When it comes down to it, it is knowledge that makes experts and connoisseurs. The publications of passionate and experienced philatelists present useful and informative expertise, and often represent a permanent record of a philatelic life's work. The Heinrich Köhler stamp auction house is sponsoring the literature and reading area at IBRA 2023 in Essen and will be presenting the latest issues of the renowned EDITION D'OR and EDITION SPECIALE there.



The Kohl-Handbuch is an encyclopaedia of the specialist knowledge of philatelic experts from the 1920s and 1930s. It has lost nothing of its exceptional significance in the intervening years.

The history of specialist philatelic literature is only around 20 years younger than the postage stamp itself. In England, Monthly Intelligencer magazine began publishing articles about stamps in September 1862, and the Monthly Advertiser followed suit in December of the same year. "The Monthly Advertiser in particular can be regarded as the first specialist philatelic journal, because from Issue 2 in January 1863, it bore the title Stamp Collector's Monthly Advertiser," explains Karl Louis, Managing Director at Heinrich Köhler. "One of the specialist authors was Frederick William Booty. In April 1862, Booty had published his catalogue 'Aids to Stamp Collectors: being a List of English and Foreign Postage Stamps in Circulation since 1840'." However, Booty was not the first catalogue publisher. The French philatelist Oscar Berger-Levrault published the first stamp catalogue on 17 September 1861, followed by his compatriot Alfred Poutiquet's "Catalogue des timbres-poste créés dans les divers états du globe" on 21 December 1861. By the end of 1862, the

"Dürsche Handbuch für Briefmarken-Sammler" was available in Germany, providing an overview of all the postage stamps that had been issued up to that time, as well as guidance on the "most practical approach to establishing a stamp collection". "In comparison to later handbooks, this publication's name is certainly a little exaggerated, but a start had been made with regard to the editorial creation and organisation of knowledge," says Karl Louis.

The revision of the legendary Kohl-Handbuch began 100 years ago

"That aspiration was fulfilled by a work that was published exactly 100 years ago," continues Karl Louis. He's talking about the phenomenal 11th edition of the Kohl-Handbuch, which included a whole series of monographs about the stamps issued by the various postal authorities around the globe. The revision of the "Great Catalogue and Stamp Handbook" of the expert philatelist and stamp dealer Paul Kohl began in 1923. The 10th edition was around 2,200 pages in length, divided into two volumes. "The 11th edition aimed, incredibly, to be even more comprehensive," says Karl Louis. One of Germany's leading philatelists was recruited to edit this monumental work: Dr Herbert Munk was financially independent and could therefore apply all his creative energy to the service of this "New Kohl Handbook", which became his life's work. In 1925, the "Verein der Freunde des Kohl-Briefmarkenhandbuches" (Friends Association of the Kohl Stamp Handbook) was established and took on the role of publisher. "The founding members included the most renowned philatelists of the time – Dr Franz Kalckhoff, Ernst Stock, Consul Alfred A. Weinberger, the Berliner Philatelisten-Klub von 1888, Alfred F. Lichtenstein and, of course, Heinrich Köhler," explains Karl Louis. The material basis and, most importantly, the content of the Kohl-Handbuch was thereby settled. By 1935, Dr Herbert Munk had produced five volumes totalling 5,335 pages. The revised edition ranged from Afghanistan to Italy. In 1936, three years after the National Socialists seized power, Dr Munk – who



The British philatelist Fredrick William Booty began publishing his stamp catalogue in 1862. It's interesting to note that he was not familiar with the now-legendary first stamps issued in Mauritius – the 1-penny and the 2-pence “Post Office” stamps – at the time. But it's no surprise considering that the “dream girls” of philately only became known in the collecting world from the mid-1860s onwards.

was Jewish – moved from Berlin to Lugano, bringing his outstanding work on the Kohl-Handbuch to an end. “Hans von Rudolphi later took over as editor but made only little progress, and a new start after the Second World War remained fragmentary and never quite reached the high standards set by Herbert Munk,” says Karl Louis.

The first-class collections of outstanding philatelists

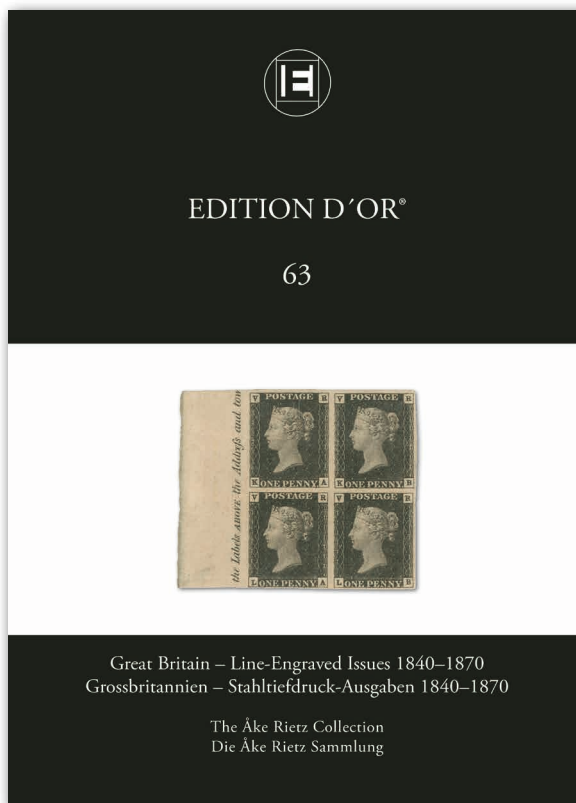
“In the Kohl-Handbuch, the excellent summaries of certain collecting areas were based on the unique collections of the great philatelists of the time. The fantastic Great Britain section, for example, is based on J. B. Seymour’s first-class collection, and the Canada section on Alfred. F. Lichtenstein’s amazing material,” explains Karl Louis. However, it wasn’t the content and images from these specific collections that was presented, but rather the postage stamps issued by the individual countries more generally. So although the philatelic life’s work of certain individuals formed the basis of parts of the Kohl-Handbuch, they weren’t really documented there fully for posterity. “But with our EDITION D’OR, that’s exactly what we’re doing,” says Karl Louis. “Since 2006, this handbook series has been covering first-class collections by exceptional philatelists, while also presenting the respective collecting areas with great insight and depth.” More than 60 EDITION D’OR and 20 EDITION SPECIALE volumes have been published so far. The Heinrich Köhler and Corinphila auction houses will be showing the latest issues in the literature and reading area at IBRA 2023 in Essen.

BOOK PRESENTATION

New editions

EDITION D’OR & EDITION SPÉCIALE

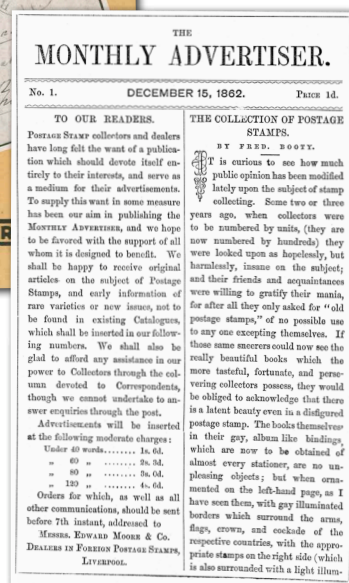
25. May | 16:00 | IBRA Stage in the Foyer of Messe Essen



Volume 63 of EDITION D’OR about Åke Rietz’s phenomenal collection on the intaglio-printed issues in Great Britain from 1840 to 1870 was published recently. The unique collection will be going under the hammer at the Corinphila auction house in Zürich in June this year.



Heinrich Köhler published eleven issues of his Philatelistisches Magazin between 1925 and 1936. The cover of the first issue featured an amazing rarity from the USA, a cover with the 5-cent postmaster stamp from Brattleboro.



The Monthly Advertiser was the world’s first philatelic journal. The first issue was published on 15 December 1862.

Alfred Schmidt, President of the BDPH and philatelist par excellence



Schmidt has been President of the German collectors' association Bund Deutscher Philatelisten since 2016, and is the head of the IBRA 2023 organising committee.

European champion, world champion, head organiser

“As a teenager, my greatest wish was to be allowed to organise a world stamp exhibition one day,” says Alfred Schmidt. That dream is now coming true: the likeable 56-year-old is President of the German collectors' association Bund Deutscher Philatelisten (BDPh) and Chairman of the organising committee of the IBRA 2023 International Stamp Exhibition in Essen. But, more than that, he is one of the greatest philatelists of our time. He is just as passionate about classic stamps as he is about thematic collecting. Alfred Schmidt began collecting stamps at the age of seven and his passion for philately has grown continuously ever since.

Like many others, Schmidt began collecting stamps as a child, but his philatelic journey is very special in other ways. Born in Haldensleben in Saxony-Anhalt on 1 June 1966, he joined the philately club at his school when he was just eleven years old, and he received a brilliant introduction to the subject from the group's leader Klaus Hirschfeld. “Right from the beginning he taught us to aim towards exhibiting our collections at some point in the future,” says Schmidt. “From a very early stage it was about much more than a regular collection of individual stamps from certain countries. In addition to condition and rarity, there was also a focus on the quality and the various forms of a postage stamp, such as essays and proofs, varieties, postal stationery and larger units. We gained an understanding of the various printing methods and how to identify them.” A knowledge of the entire philatelic chronology was required – from the

time before stamps to the present day. “It just seemed logical to study the various historical postal usage types directly too,” says Alfred Schmidt. “And from postal history, it was just a small step to the first country collection and the first thematic collection.”

A philatelic juror for 40 years

Alfred Schmidt presented his first exhibit in 1980 at the tender age of 14, on the theme “Leipziger Messe” (Leipzig Trade Fair). He soon won gold medals at national youth exhibitions with his exhibits “Rolande” and “The postal history of Neu-Haldensleben”. From the late 1990s onwards, there followed Gold and Large Gold awards at national and international exhibitions. His well-grounded philatelic training and his ever-growing knowledge in the field led to him being appointed as a juror for thematic collecting in Tier 3, i.e. the regional level, in 1982. “As a 16-year-old, I was

asked to judge the collections of adults, initially in the thematic area, then later also in the traditional classes,” explains the pharmacist. “So I've now been a philatelic juror for 40 years.” Just as an exhibitor and their exhibit must first prove themselves on the regional level and then on the national stage before reaching international stamp exhibitions, Alfred Schmidt worked his way through the ranks as a juror. He has been judging at Tier 2 events since 1991, and at Tier 1 exhibitions since 2007. In 2013, he was finally appointed juror with the FIP, the world federation of national philatelic associations. Incidentally, Schmidt is himself a European champion in philately. He won the title for best exhibit at the European Championship of Thematic Philately in 2008, organised by Professor Dr Damian Läge. Like the renowned philatelist and general expert Rolf-Dieter Jaretsky, and Klaus Hirschfeld many years ago, Professor Läge was also



Stamp auctioneers Heinrich Köhler are one of IBRA 2023's main sponsors. The photo shows Managing Director Tobias Huylmans signing the sponsorship contract (front right). Also pictured (left to right): BDPH Managing Director Reinhard Küchler, BDPH President Alfred Schmidt and BDPH Treasurer Walter Bernatek.

one of Alfred Schmidt's philatelic mentors. Schmidt finally received the highest honour late last year at the Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition 2022. There, his "Prussia – the first three issues 1850–1859" exhibit, which had already won many Large Golds, was awarded the coveted Grand Prix. After his European success in 2008, Schmidt had now won the ultimate distinction at a "world championship of philately" and claimed his rightful place on the top step of the winner's podium. "And that was richly deserved," says Dieter Michelson, Managing Director at Heinrich Köhler. "Alfred Schmidt is a first-class philatelist with outstanding knowledge. His collection of the first three issues of the Kingdom of Prussia is the ne plus ultra from the beginning of this field of Old German States. It includes 90 per cent of the classic Prussian rarities from this period." By the way: Alfred Schmidt is very precise in his approach to collecting. These days, he collects with a strict focus on one philatelic exhibit. "Should it become apparent that an item I have acquired does not fit 100 per cent into my exhibition collection, I will part with it again," he explains.

BDPh President since 2016

Alfred Schmidt cultivated strong connections with organised philately from an early stage. He joined the Young Philatelists Club of Haldensleben in 1977. And

immediately after German unification in 1990, he and 18 friends formed the Stamp Collecting Association of Haldensleben and District when he was still a student. Schmidt is also a member of the philatelic working groups on Prussia, German Unification, the GDR and the postmark guild. He also belongs to the Royal Philatelic Society London and the Deutsche Altbriefsammlerverein (Association of German Collectors of Old Letters). Many specialist philatelic articles earned him membership of the AIJP, the international association of philatelic journalists and authors. From 2013 to 2015, Schmidt was Vice-President of the German collectors' association BDPH, and he has been that organisation's President since 2016. "When I travel to philatelic events," smiles the BDPH boss, "my wife often says, only half joking: 'Have fun with your family!'"

Record numbers for IBRA 2023

Alfred Schmidt also has a long track record of organising philatelic exhibitions. "In 2008 I was lucky enough to be able to help organise a Tier 3 exhibition and again the following year," he explains. "A Tier 2 event followed in 2012, and a Tier 1 exhibition with the 'Multilaterals' in 2014." Schmidt then had a "home game" in 2020: he was one of the leading organisers of the NAPOSTA national postage stamp exhibition in Haldensleben – an impressive stamp fair with outstanding results in

the exhibition area. 209 exhibits – plus 88 literary exhibits in a special reading area – were shown in more than 800 frames, and these were awarded many Large Gold, Gold, Large Vermeil, Vermeil, Large Silver and Silver medals. In addition to fascinating talks on postal history, there was also an opportunity one evening to listen to a musical performance by a young piano virtuoso. The artist's name was Alfred Schmidt – the 18-year-old son of the BDPH President, with whom he shares his name. "In a way, NAPOSTA 2020 was my trial by fire for IBRA 2023," says Alfred Schmidt. "But of course, this one is of a different calibre." He goes on: "The whole organising team is extremely committed and is delighted that more than 750 philatelists from all over the world have already submitted exhibits for around 3,350 exhibition frames." IBRA 2023 can also boast another exhibition record. "Over an area of almost 4,000 square meters, more than 100 dealers, auctioneers and postal authorities will be offering their philatelic treasures for sale," says an excited Schmidt.



Alfred Schmidt is always excited about working as a philatelic juror – he is seen here at the prestigious exhibition event "Postgeschichte live" at the International Stamp Exchange in Ulm in late October 2022.



Another unique specimen, and thereby a world rarity of Old German philately: this phenomenal first day cover with the 3-silver-groschen stamp from the first stamp issue of the Kingdom of Prussia is also part of Alfred Schmidt's Prussia collection.

Profiles in philately 26 The "Stralsund Cover" is without doubt one of the most beautiful bisects from the old German states, and the unique item is among the top rarities from Alfred Schmidt's Prussia collection. The bisect is the right stamp of a pair of 2-silver-groschen values from the second Prussia issue of 1857 on a smooth background. Its extraordinary importance led to the Stralsund Cover being chosen as the motif featured on the new German stamp issued to mark this year's "Day of the Stamp".



A seven strip of the 1-silver-groschen stamp of 1850 decorates this cover sent from Prussia to Great Britain. This strip, the largest and only one of its kind on a cover, make the item another top rarity in Alfred Schmidt's Prussia exhibit.

This wonderful printed matter is another philatelic treasure owned by Alfred Schmidt. It is one of the earliest known postal items to have arrived in Neuhaldensleben, with a postage stamp from an old German state. And that stamp is nothing less than the first stamp from the Kingdom of Saxony – the famous Sachsen 3 Pfennige red or the "Sachsen-Dreier"! This stamp piece is the jewel in the crown of Alfred Schmidt's thematic collection on "The postal history of Neuhaldensleben".



All of the Global Philatelic Network's activities at a glance



IBRA 2023

As the oldest stamp auction house in Germany, Heinrich Köhler is one of the main sponsors of the IBRA 2023 International Stamp Exhibition in Essen. "It was a top priority for us," says Dieter Michelson, Managing Director at Heinrich Köhler. "We will also offer a comprehensive range of talks and other events, such as the IBRA special auction, at the exhibition in Essen." An overview of all the Global Philatelic Network's activities at IBRA is presented here so you won't miss a single important event.

25 – 28 May	HEINRICH KÖHLER & THE GLOBAL PHILATELIC NETWORK STAND (Heinrich Köhler, Corinphila, H.R. Harmer and John Bull)	Hall 8, Stand No. 27
	PRESENTATION OF ProFi — expertise in seconds	
	VIEWING OF AUCTION LOTS (Heinrich Köhler & Corinphila)	
	DEMONSTRATION OF THE VSC8000	
	MEET & GREET	
	FREE APPRAISAL	
	FORUM PHILATELY — presented by Consilium Philatelicum, Sponsor: Heinrich Köhler	Room F
	IBRA READING ROOM — presented by the Global Philatelic Network; sale of EDITION D'OR and EDITION SPÉCIALE	Hall 7
	IBRA TREASURY with legends of the Old German states and the Hiroshima letter	Hall 7
25 May	THURSDAY	
1:00 – 1:45 p.m.	TALK: DR ANDREAS HAHN: MYTHOS GERMANIA with book presentation	IBRA Stage, glass foyer in front of entrance to Hall 8
2:00 – 2:45 p.m.	TALK: TOBIAS HUYLMANS: EXPERTISATION — Why throw money at an expertiser?	IBRA Stage, glass foyer in front of entrance to Hall 8
3:00 – 3:45 p.m.	TALK: KARL LOUIS: FROM THE STEAM ENGINE TO GLOBAL POWER VIA THE POSTAGE STAMP — Great Britain's rise in the 19th century	Forum Philately, Room F
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.	BOOK PRESENTATION: EDITION D'OR AND EDITION SPÉCIALE by Dieter Michelson and Karl Louis	IBRA Stage, glass foyer in front of entrance to Hall 8
26 MAY	FRIDAY	
12:00 – 12:45 p.m.	TALK: DIETER MICHELSON: AUCTIONS — making successful bids and consignments	IBRA Stage, glass foyer in front of entrance to Hall 8
2:00 – 2:45 p.m.	TALK: MICHAEL HILBERTZ: AUCTIONS Dividing up an important collection for auction, as illustrated by the ERIVAN collection	IBRA Stage, glass foyer in front of entrance to Hall 8
3:00 – 3:45 p.m.	TALK: KARL LOUIS: STAMPS — an alternative investment?	IBRA Stage, glass foyer in front of entrance to Hall 8
3:00 – 3:45 p.m.	TALK: DIETER MICHELSON: IRELAND AND THE POSTAL REFORM OF 1840	Forum Philately, Room F
27 MAY	SATURDAY	
11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	IBRA SPECIAL AUCTION: 'GERMANY FROM 1872 ONWARD – THE ERIVAN COLLECTION' AND THE HIROSHIMA LETTER	Conference centre, 1st floor, Ruhr room
Starting at 7:00 p.m.	IBRA 2023 PALMARÉS	Conference centre, Essen room
28 MAY	SUNDAY	
12:00 – 12:45 p.m.	TALK: KARL LOUIS: PROVENANCE AND REGISTRIES — added value or a gimmick?	IBRA Stage, glass foyer in front of entrance to Hall 8



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IBRA Essen
May 25–28, 2023
**Heinrich Köhler and the
Global Philatelic Network**
Stand number 27



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