

Name, Wohnort und Wohnung des Absenders  
 Naam en woonplaats van den afzender  
 Nom et domicile de l'envoyeur

*Joseph Doerchamps*  
*4 Rue St. Nicolas*  
*Namur*

**Nachnahme**  
 Tegen terugbetaling  
 Remboursement

**Nachnahme**

von — van — de *254* Mark *90* Pf.

*Deux Cent Cinquante* Mark *90* Pf.

die Mark in Buchstaben — de Marken in letters — les marks en lettres

Postvermerk  
 Bestelbericht  
 Constatations du facteur

An  
 Aan  
 A

*Madame la Marquise de Crazeville*

in  
 in  
 à

*Corroy-le-Château*

Wohnung (Straße u. Nr.)  
 Adres (straat en n°)  
 Adresse (rue n°)

Stift verlangt  
 Verlangd uistel  
 Demandé délai

Verweigert  
 Geweigerd  
 Refuse

Gembloers  
 27.5.18.94

Belgien 10 Cent DEUTSCHES REICH

Belgien 10 Cent DEUTSCHES REICH

Deutsche Postverwaltung in Belgien.  
 Deutsch Bestuur der Posten in België. — Administration des Postes Allemandes en Belgique.

**Paketka** Antwerpen 2  
 038 (Pakzaml)

let in d'expédition.

Anbei  
 Hierbij  
 Ci-joint

*1500*

Recommandé

An  
 Aan  
 A

*M<sup>rs</sup> Dequinze Detry*

Bestimmungsort  
 Plaats van bestemming  
 Lieu de destination

*Namur*

Wohnung (Straße u. Nr.)  
 Adres (straat en n°)  
 Adresse (rue et n°)

*Avenue de Salzinne*

Postgewicht  
 Gewicht  
 Poids

*5* kg *500*

\* Im innerbelgischen Verkehr nicht erforderlich.  
 In het binnenlandsch verkeer niet noodig.  
 Pas nécessaire dans le service intérieur belge.

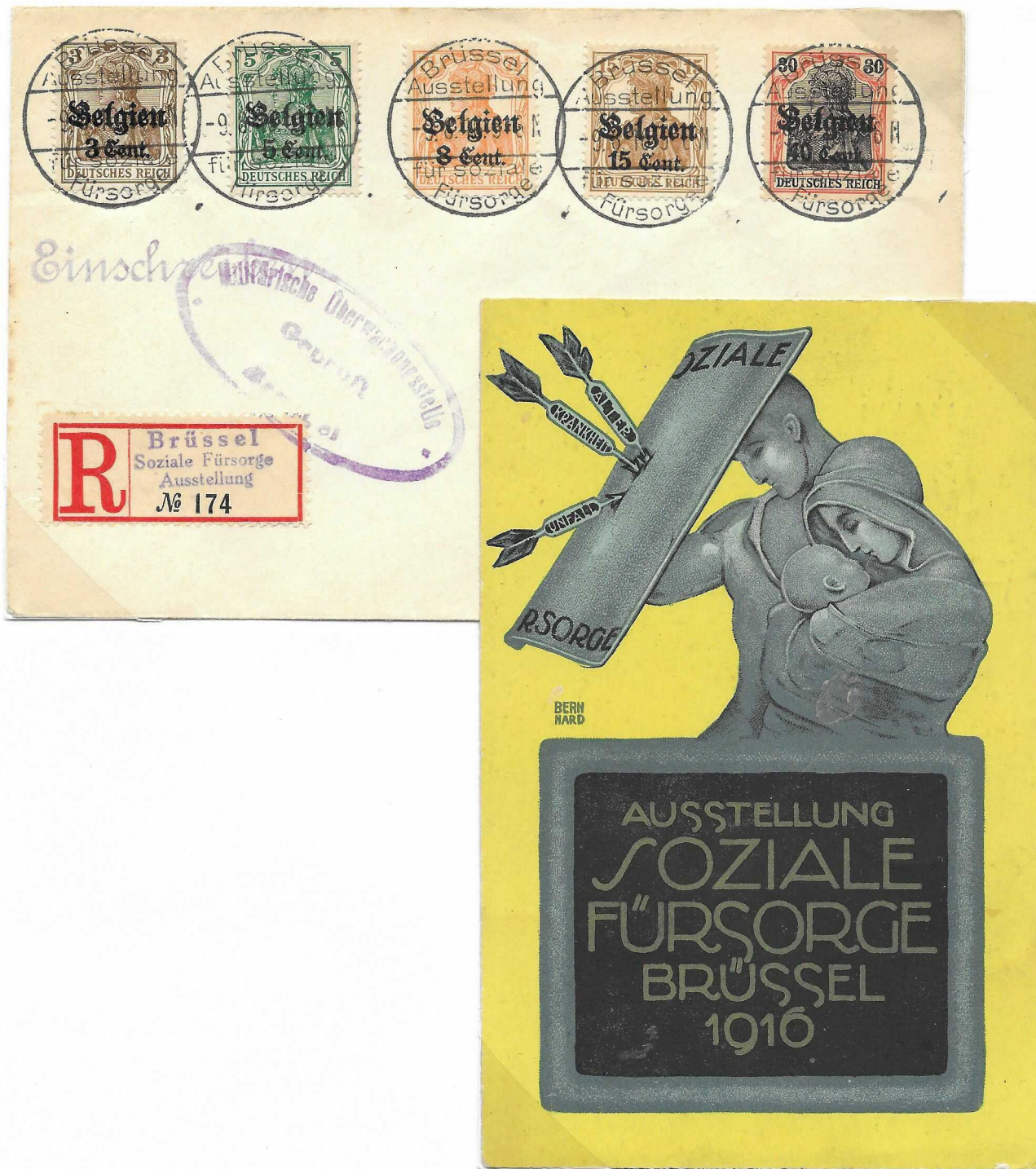
Freimarken.  
 Postzegels.  
 Timbres-postes.

Belgien 60 DEUTSCHES REICH

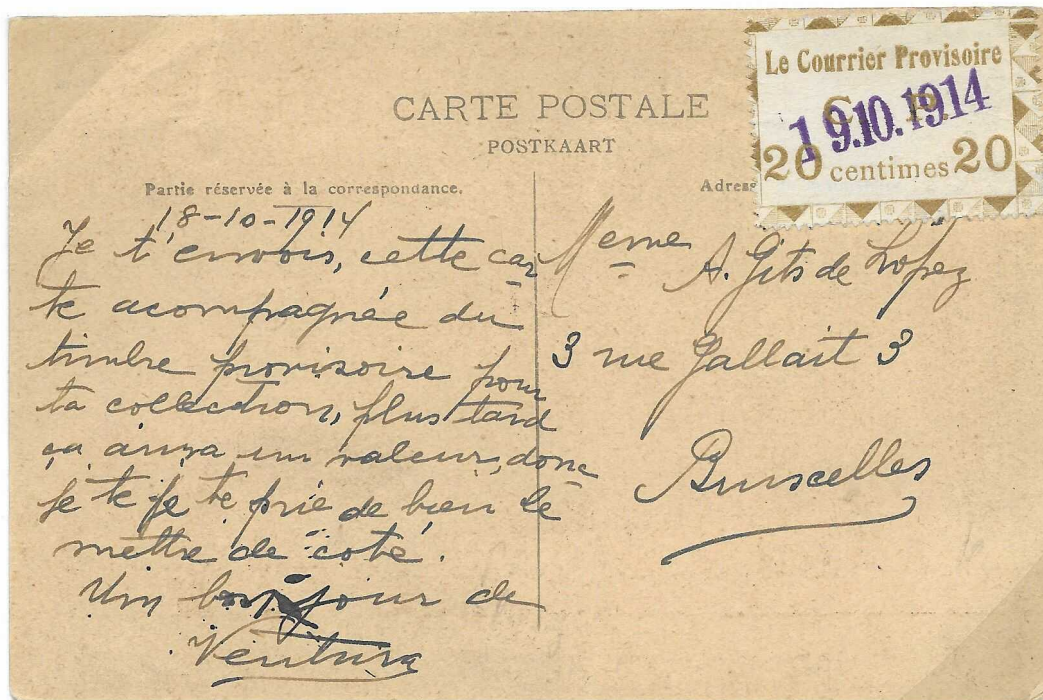
Belgien 75 Centimes DEUTSCHES REICH

A 20 Belgien (1. 16)

The Reichspost had printed special postal documents for Belgium. These were printed in German, Flemish and French. Above examples are cards used for the mailing of C.O.D. mail and parcel post.



In 1916, the Germans permitted a Social Welfare Exhibition (against aging, sickness and accidents) to be organized in Brussels. This event provided the opportunity for the only commemorative postmark to be used in all of the World War I occupation areas. There was also a special postcard issued for the occasion. That shown above was sent on 21 September 1916 as a fieldpost card from Brussels to Frankfurt am Main.



In the very early days of the occupation, a Messieur Armand Berhaut organized a private delivery service in Brussels, even printing a "stamp" to pay the 20 centimes delivery charge. This enterprise functioned from 15 to 21 October 1914, when it was suppressed by the German authorities, who imprisoned M. Berhaut on the charge of defrauding the Reichspost.



# BELGIUM

## Postage Stamps Trial Overprints

In summer 1917, the German authorities devised a plan to create separate administrative areas for Flemings and Walloons to gain support among ethnic activists. This program went so far as to have the Reichsdruckerei in Berlin produce some trial overprints reading "Flanders" and "Wallonia" in early 1918. The plan was not implemented (probably due to the realization that most Belgians would resent partition of the country) but did result in a handful of philatelic souvenirs.



Grobe reports that two sets of the Flanders overprints exist in private hands in addition to one in the Postal Museum. No Wallonia stamps have been reported.

BELGIUM

Postal Stationery  
Trial Overprints

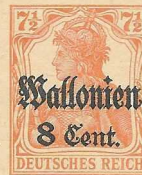
Postkarte  
mit Antwortkarte



Postkarte mit Antwortkarte  
Carte postale avec réponse payée



Postkarte  
mit Antwortkarte



Postkarte mit Antwortkarte  
Carte postale avec réponse payée



Mustersamml. — Abt. III.

Mustersamml. — Abt. III.

A few copies of the trial overprints for Flanders and Wallonia have been found on postal cards in the archives.

## FRANCE

Although the Germans were able to sweep through Belgium and into Northern France, a decisive victory eluded them. Due to overoptimism about their early successes, they weakened the key right wing by shifting divisions to besiege several resisting fortresses and to counter the Russian thrust into East Prussia. In addition, the Germans wheeled their forces eastward above Paris rather than including the capital in the encirclement as called for in the Schlieffen plan. This exposed the German right to an eventual French counterattack from Paris, which ended in the defeat at the Marne. As a result, the campaign in France turned into a bloody four-year stalemate, with the Germans continuing to occupy areas in the north but unable to break through the Allied lines.



Lille  
St. Quentin



Although fieldpost cards and letters back to Germany were free of postage, items mailed to other destinations required payment. In the early days of the occupation, German (and Bavarian) stamps were used, as in the case of the items above sent to Belgium and Switzerland.

FRANCE

Aubrives  
Fumay  
Givet

RECOMMANDÉE

**R** Givet  
N° 237



53

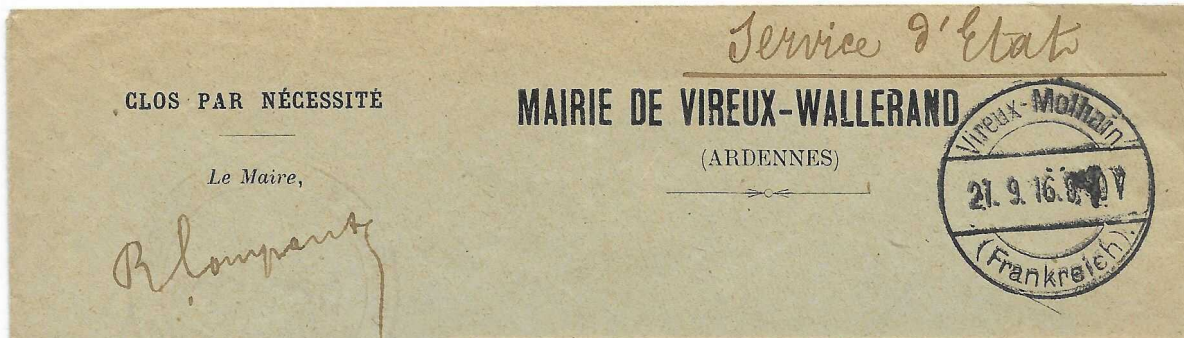


Occupation post offices were established in only eight towns in France, the first at Givet on 13 January 1915. Maubeuge and Fumay opened on 1 June and 30 June 1915, respectively, and the others in the following year. The postmarks of most of these offices had the name of the town at the top and "Frankreich (France)" at the bottom of the cds. These postmarks are found primarily on philatelic, fieldpost or official mail as the French civilians made little use of the service and didn't wish to use the German stamps in any event.



FRANCE

Haybes  
Maubeuge  
Vireux-Molhain



All of the occupation post offices in France were closed on 31 January 1918, with the exception of Hautmont, Jeumont and Maubeuge, which ceased operations in October 1916. Covers from Vireux-Molhain are considered particularly elusive, with only about a dozen examples recorded.







FRANCE

Maubeuge  
Roubaix  
St. Quentin

No. 78

~~Carte Postale~~  
Feldpostkarte

Correspondance

Maubeuge 19. Jan 1915

Mein lieber Vater!

Graf v. Rhoden geht  
waggen zu einem  
aktiven Regiment.  
Seine Abreise werden wir  
ihn noch einen Abschied  
brief schreiben. Hoff  
nicht Daniel. Viel von  
Gaipe u. Kiff  
Dein Vater

Address

201  
No. 43

KAISERL. DEUTSCHES KÖNIGS-REGIMENTANTUR  
Belgien  
5 Centimes  
DEUTSCHES REICH

MAUBEUGE

Elsa Teuffert

Hamburg 24

Carte Postale

Partie réservée à la correspondance

Wirtschaftsausschuss der Et. Insp. 6.  
Zweigstelle Roubaix  
21. 8. 15

DER 6. ARMEE

M

Stahlberg  
Oberpostmeister  
Hauptquartier  
Gelbbrücken 34. I. D.

An Das

Der Kommandant von  
St. Quentin

Internationale Comite  
von Rothen Kreuz  
Ermittlungsbureau für Kriegsgefangene  
in Genf. Schweiz.

FELD-POSTSTATION  
16 12  
No. 32





Stamps overprinted for Belgium were used in Northern France from December 1914 until 15 December 1916 as the Germans did not issue special stamps for occupied France until 1 December 1916. Even then, the 12-value set of overprints was "generic" in that they merely expressed the value in French currency without any country identification. In any case, there was little use of civil mail, and essentially no usage of the higher values, which are only found infrequently on philatelic covers.



Germania postal stationery was also overprinted and issued in Northern France on 1 December 1916. These included a 15 centimes letter card as well as 8 and 10 centimes single and double postal cards.



# EMIL LUDIN

Öffentlich bestellter und vereidigter Sachverständiger bei der Industrie- und Handelskammer Mittlerer Oberrhein Karlsruhe

Experte der AIEP

D-7518 Bretten, Postfach 1325, Tel. 07252/2234

ATTEST AA 167 - 15.12.1986

13 Werte-Landespost Belgien der Wertstufen 3 Centimes -  
80 Centimes, 1,25 F, 2,50 F, 6,25 F,  
(Grundwerte-Pos. Mi. 11/14,16,18,19/25) ungebr.  
o.G.

jedoch mit der Inschrift FLANDERN statt: BELGIEN ,  
sind nach meiner Erkenntnis authentisch und echt.

Es handelt sich um die extrem seltenen Vorlagegedrucke  
gem. Aktenvermerk: H 5940 17 v.27.12.1918, die Her-  
stellung ist fraglos in das Jahr 1917 zu datieren.  
Die Emission war für die für die im Sommer 1917 ge-  
schaffenen Verwaltungsgebiete Flandern und Wallonien  
vorgesehen. Sicherlich erfolgte der Aufdruck in der  
K.D. Reichsdruckerei Berlin.

Bislang wurde von dieser Ausgabe in Sammlerbesitz m.W.  
nur dieser eine Satz bekannt, der keinen Gummi trägt,  
da man die Marken vom Vorlagekarton ablöste. Die noch  
vorhandenen beiden Kartons für Flandern und Wallonien  
sind deutscher Musealbesitz.

Diese Vorlagebogen für die PROBEDRUCKE weisen kein  
eingesetztes Datum für die genehmigte Drucklegung  
auf, die offenbar im Frühjahr 1918 nicht mehr erteilt  
worden war.

Die Erhaltung ist im Ganzen einwandfrei, der Wert zu  
75 Cent/60 Pf. zeigt li. unten stumpfe Eckzählung,  
der Wert zu 2,50 F/ 2Mark re. oben Zahnfehler, denen  
gegenüber der extremen Seltenheit keine reduzierende  
Wirkung zukommen könnte.

Anhänge-Reproduktionen sind Bestandteil dieses  
Attestes!

