

BELGAPOST

Volume 7 No.1

MARCH, 1994

The Journal of the
Belgian Study Circle



FIRST WORLD WAR
1914-1918

BELGIAN STUDY CIRCLE

Founded 1947

To Promote the Study of the Postal History and Stamps of Belgium

CHAIRMAN 1992/93

A. D. GEAKE
Waterpark Holne
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ13 7SH
Tel. 03643 219

SECRETARY

A. G. WOOD
5 Sutherland Grove
London
SW18 5PS
Tel. 081 788 7098

TREASURER

R. T. HARRISON
53 Kingsdown Avenue
South Croydon
Surrey
CR2 6QJ
Tel. 081 660 2397

VICE CHAIRMAN

M. WILKINSON
14 Charnwood Close
London Road
Peterborough
PE2 9BZ
Tel. 0733 68145

PACKET SECRETARY

A. D. GEAKE
Waterpark Holne
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ13 7SH
Tel. 03643 219

'BELGAPOST' EDITOR

S. J. ANDREWS
37 Barton Lodge Road
Birmingham
B28 0RL
Tel. 021 744 7015

When writing to an officer of the Society, please do not mention the name of the Circle in the address. Requests for information should be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.



Albert II King of the Belgians





MARCH, 1994

The Journal of the Belgian Study Circle

C O N T E N T S

EDITORIAL	..	..	..	..	1
SECRETARY'S NOTES	..	..	..	..	1
CHAIRMAN'S NOTES	..	..	..	..	2
TREASURER'S NOTES	..	..	..	..	2
MEETING 11th DECEMBER, 1993	..	..	..	..	3
MEETING 29th JANUARY, 1994	..	..	..	..	3
SUMMER MEETING, PETERBOROUGH 1994	..	..	..	..	3
REVIEW OF BELGIAN JOURNALS	..	..	..	..	4
MEMBER NEWS	..	..	..	..	4
LIVERPOOL TO BRUSSELS 1902	..	..	..	..	4
LARGE BEARDS AGAIN, 1905 ISSUE	..	..	..	..	5
NEW MEMBER - LESLIE SACKSTEIN	..	..	..	..	5
PRINTERS OF THE 1915 ISSUES	..	..	..	..	6
NAMUR EXHIBITION 1914-1918	..	..	..	..	7
POSTMAN'S MARKS	..	..	..	..	8
BRUSSELS-AUSTRALIA BY AIR 1940	..	..	..	..	9
FORWARDING AGENTS	..	..	..	..	11
POSTAL HISTORY OF NAMUR PROVINCE	..	..	..	..	17
CANCELLATIONS ON LARGE BEARD 1905 (cont.)	..	..	..	..	32
DUTCH INTERNMENT CAMPS 1914-1918	..	..	..	..	38

MARCH, 1994

EDITORIAL

A new year has started and that signifies the start of Volume 7. Included is an article on "Forwarding Agents" – these marks are often overlooked, which this study should help to correct.

1994 also denotes that it is 80 years since the outbreak of World War 1 – hence the cover design of a wartime postman. It is intended, therefore, to include a number of articles this year on the 1914–1918 war starting with the Dutch Internment Camps.

This period of Military Postal History is gaining in popularity as time erases personal memories. I predict that material which is currently plentiful and relatively cheap will become scarce as more collectors appreciate the interest and merit of this facet of Belgian Postal History.

S. J. ANDREWS

SECRETARY'S NOTES

In letting members of the Circle obtain copies of "Benelux Catalogue" 4th edition at a reduced price, Stanley Gibbons stated that they had an ulterior motive. Namely that they were in the hope of suggestions to improve and amplify the catalogue. Personally I think this is a good idea and have several suggestions to make as regards dates of issue and printers' names. I would be glad to hear of suggestions from members.

Recently I was looking at my Postage Dues and it struck me that the 1916 and 1919 Issues printed by Waterlow and Sons Ltd. would repay a close study. I have too much on my plate to undertake anything else but would be happy to discuss this subject with anyone interested.

I have just heard that the AGM of the Waterlow Study Circle is on Saturday, 4th June, at 1.00 p.m. in the library of the YMCA, 11 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LR. (Tottenham Court Road Station on the Tube.) The WSC will be the guests of the New Zealand Society. I am a member, as is the Circle, and I intend to be there.

I've heard also that the Belgian Congo Study Circle arranged a meeting in Ostend from Friday, 16th September to Sunday, 18th September. They, of course, will be celebrating the Centenary of the Mols Issue. We are welcome to join in their celebrations but also to arrange meetings to discuss Belgian matters. I know that some of our members from the UK hope to attend as it will give us an opportunity of renewing acquaintances with some of our Belgian members.

This is a "warning order" – I will give further details when known.

GEOFFREY WOOD

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Another issue of Belgapost, thanks to the small team of members, and their helpers, who put a great deal of effort into providing us with a regular source of news and information.

The recent Belgapost issues illustrate what a wide variety of philatelic study is available from the stamps and postal history of Belgium. If articles on your particular area of interest have not appeared for a while, why not let me, or the Editor, know what you would like to see. Or, better still, put together an article for inclusion in a future issue on something you have found interesting. It does not have to be original study - re-presentation of existing information can be very worthwhile and entertaining.

Our two social gatherings of the year - the Circle Lunch and the Weekend Conference - provide an opportunity for wives/husbands to meet and have been very enjoyable occasions. Last year a spring holiday kept me away from the lunch, but this year I expect to be back in good time and I'm looking forward to meeting people then. Our conference is being organised by Maurice Wilkinson in Peterborough this July and we are hoping that the venue will be convenient for those living in the Midlands and east of the country. Next year we plan to return to Weston-super-Mare, which was so successful last year. Anyone who would like to attend a conference but finds these locations impossible - please let me know and we will consider it for a future year. If you have not been to a Circle Lunch or conference before, why not make this year your first visit?

I have been surprised recently by the huge interest in collecting the little 10 centimes green of the 1869 issue ("No. 30"), evidenced in particular by very good sales from booklets, containing nothing but this stamp, in the exchange packet. It has become quite a "cult stamp", with plenty of postmark interest, innumerable printing flaws and a wide variety of shades. And, as there were over half a billion stamps issued, there should be plenty to go round. I have been circulating these booklets to members known to be interested - not to the full packet circulation - but if any other members would like to see them, let me know.

On a personal note, in a day or two Coral and I are setting off for a holiday in New Zealand - first time south of the Equator - and our elder son has just become engaged to an Australian girl - so we shall be going in that direction again later in the year. This is going to mean not much time (or other necessary resources!) for working on the stamp collection this year, but you never know - there may be untapped supplies of Belgian material that have found their way to stamp dealers in the Southern Hemisphere.

TONY GEAKE

TREASURER'S NOTES

By the time you receive this journal, you should also have the list for the auction to be held on 23rd April, 1994. This will be held prior to the A.G.M. which, it is hoped, will be well attended. At that meeting, I will be presenting the Annual Report showing how our finances are progressing generally. As previously mentioned, the commission from the auctions contribute considerably to our budget and I hope, therefore, that members will bid well, especially as a number of lots are donations for Circle funds.

After the A.G.M. a subscription reminder will be sent to all members and prompt payment will be appreciated. I am grateful for your general co-operation on this matter and only a relatively few require constant reminders.

Production of Belgapost on a quarterly basis continues to be a challenge but hopefully the end product is appreciated by members - please let the Editor know if you have any comments or views on improvements that you would like to see.

R. T. HARRISON

MEETING 11th DECEMBER, 1993 - REGENT'S COLLEGE

The morning session was devoted to a display on Dutch Internee Camps 1914/1918, led by Iain Stevenson. This aspect of the First World War was last displayed in 1977. It is somewhat neglected, partly due to the scarcity of material and the fact that not taking place on Belgian soil is considered by many not to be part of Belgian Postal History. As it dealt with the internment of (mainly) Belgian soldiers, it is, however, extremely relevant and fortunately has an interest amongst our members. It is hoped to include articles on this topic in due course dealing with it in greater detail than can be achieved in this brief report.

In the afternoon, a stamp topic - namely, The 1869 10 Cent Green No.30 Roel Illustrated. This display was given by Peter Russell and showed a range of the varieties established on this stamp by M. Roel in his publication. It was based on a collection acquired by Peter, which he afterwards discovered belonged to M. Roel. It showed the wide range, but excluding the 'white spot' varieties which are equally spectacular and much sought after in Belgium but not considered by Roel to be valid although many are constant.

For the first time, part of the display was mounted on our new frames which are being built by John Connolly.

R. T. HARRISON

MEETING 29th JANUARY, 1994 - REGENT'S COLLEGE

The morning session was devoted to a display on the Postal History of Namur Province. Led by Reg Harrison, it covered the chequered history of the province which finally took its present shape in Napoleonic times. A full description of the display is given elsewhere in this issue but reference was made to the scarcity of material from the Dutch Period (1815-1830). Several members added to the show, which now forms an annual contribution to our programme.

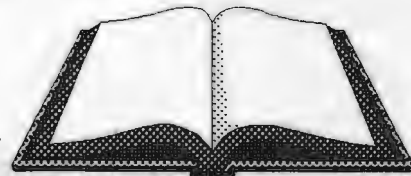
After some domestic announcements following the lunch break, we were treated to a fine display of Epauettes and Medallions by George Hollings. This display, which had been deferred from a previous occasion, contained much material not shown before to the Circle. Starting with the genesis of the designs, we were shown proofs, reprints and essays, together with details of the issued values. It finished with a display of covers bearing the 40Cent value, including a pair with the date on the corner. Many scarce items were on display and the Chairman, Tony Geake, thanked both speakers for their shows, especially George who has not been in the best of health and made a special effort to ensure that we could see his magnificent collection.

SUMMER MEETING - PETERBOROUGH 1994

This year's Summer Meeting will take place at the Swallow Hotel, Peterborough, between 15th and 17th July. The hotel has its own courtesy bus running to and from the town centre. A full programme is being arranged. Details can be obtained from Maurice Wilkinson, 14 Charnwood Close, London Road, Peterborough PE2 9BZ (tel. 0733 68145). All members are welcome even if only for part of the event and suggestions for topic sessions should be made to Maurice. Please try to attend this interesting meeting.

REVIEW OF BELGIAN JOURNALS

"L'AMICALE PHILATELIQUE"



September 1993 Issue No. 387 - a short article on the "Auto-Canons Militaire (ACM) in Russia" by Pierre Van Geel and "The Postal Boxes" by Albert Dumortier.

October 1993 Issue No. 388 - a four page article on "The Journals and Revues of the General Government of Belgium in 1914-1918" and "The Convention between Belgium and Holland of 21st March, 1865 for postal orders".

MEMBER NEWS

New Member - Leslie Sackstein
Bloemfontein, South Africa
Interested in 1919-1939 issues unmounted mint and on cover.

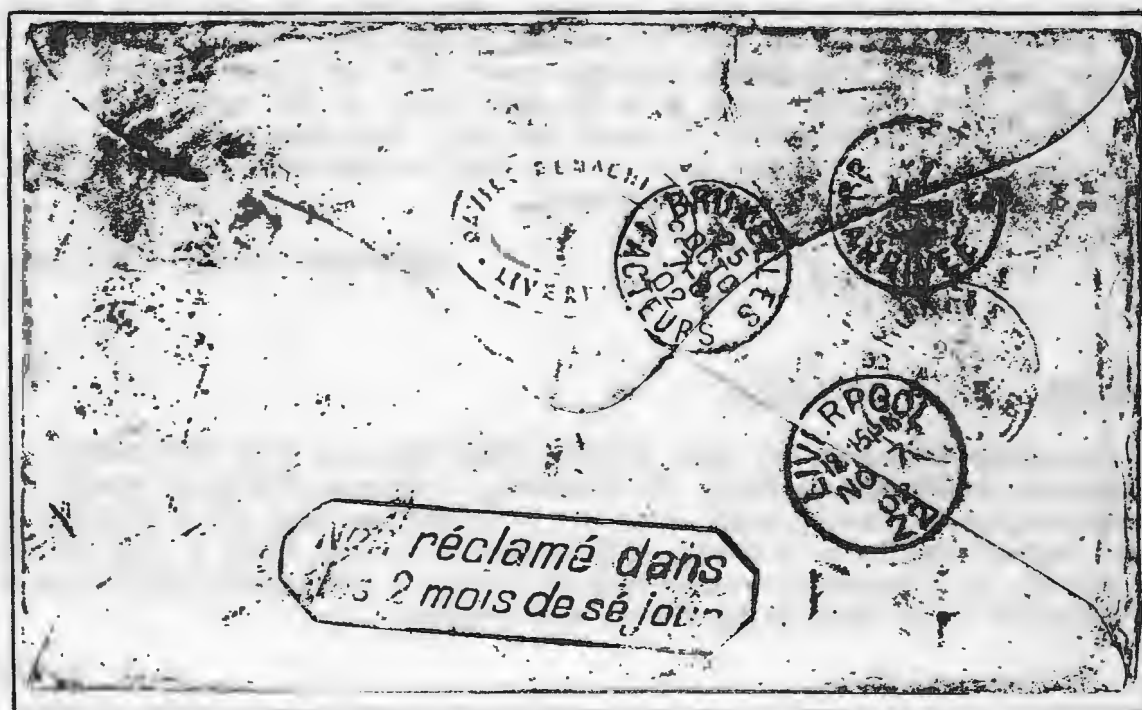
A warm welcome is extended. (See note on visit to London.)

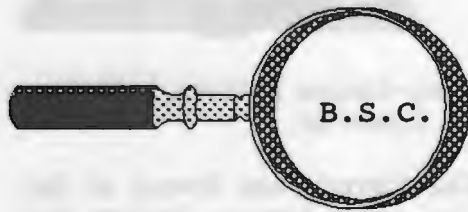
Members will be sorry to learn that Jack Gibbs is in hospital - the Circle is keeping in touch with him. Please do not send any correspondence to his listed address.

Albert de Lisle was awarded a Silver Medal for his display of the Single Circle Cancellations on No.30, the 10 centimes green of the 1869 Issue, in the American Exhibition. Hearty congratulations from us all. He will be sending over colour photographs of his display. I hope they will be received in time to show before we have our lunch on 12th March at Regent's College.

LIVERPOOL TO BRUSSELS, 1902

The letter, addressed "Poste Restante, Bruxelles" was not collected by the addressee. It was kept for two months after which it was returned, having received the "Non Reclame" handstamp.





THE LARGE BEARDS AGAIN - 1905 ISSUE

I'm afraid I have overlooked an important paragraph in the Deneumostier book on this Issue. On page 21 it says "The technical management also informs us that the printing of the 50c, 1fr. and 2fr. will be on small sheets of 100 stamps and printed on the Napier Double-Platen machine.

This confirms my supposition that the first printing of the 50 centimes stamps and the printings of the 1 franc and 2 franc stamps were in sheets of 100 stamps, two panes (I and IV) of 50.

There is a description of the Napier Double-Platen machine in F. J. Melville's "Postage Stamps in the Making". This machine produces 1,000 sheets in the hour with two workmen feeding it and can work at a higher rate. Two kinds of stamp can be printed at the same time.

A point was raised at the Circle Meeting on 6th November - Why is the King's head on the 25 centimes stamps of the 1905 and the 1912 Issues of Belgium larger than that of the head on the other values: the large head stamps for 10c, 20c and 40c were issued subsequently to the 25c. Was it because 25 centimes was the postage rate for overseas letters?

Also at this meeting, Tony Geake brought along a copy of the 25 cent 1905 (No. 76) with the "Atelier du Timbre" cachet in blue above the stamp. The cachet is not inverted as are the examples of this cachet above the 50 cent, 1fr. and 2fr. of this Issue. This stamp is on the very thin paper listed in the 1949 Balasse Catalogue under 76N6 and priced then at Bfr.500 mint and Bfr.300 used. As the cachet is in the same colour as the stamp, it must be assumed it is part of the printing base. I should add that I have been interested in these marginal markings since the 1950's and this is the first time I've seen such a thing: nor have I seen one illustrated in articles or auction catalogues.

GEOFFREY WOOD, F.R.P.S.(L)

NEW MEMBER - LESLIE SACKSTEIN

I had the opportunity of meeting our latest member, Leslie Sackstein, from Bloemfontein, at the 20th December Meeting of the Royal. He is starting a collection of Belgium between the Wars, unmounted mint and used postally on cover. He already has made such a collection of Austria and realises what he is up against. He is very anxious to obtain a 1949 Balasse Catalogue Part II. He is hoping to be in England for the Lords Test against South Africa in July so may be able to get along to the Peterborough weekend.

A. G. WOOD

THE PRINTERS OF THE 1915 ISSUES OF BELGIUM

Recently on checking the names of the printers of Belgian stamps in 1915, I find that both Stanley Gibbons and the Catalogue Officiel are at fault and there are also mistakes in the dates of issue. The four issues in question are:

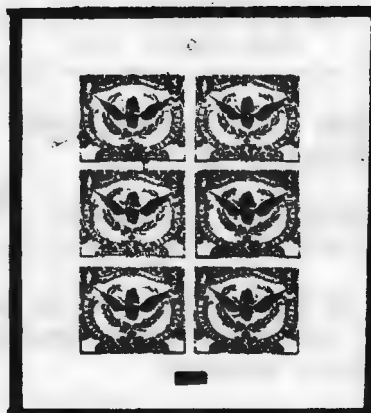
1915 Red Cross Issue of 2nd January, 1915;
 1915 Issue of 15th October, 1915;
 Parcel Post Issue of 20th December, 1915, and
 Parcel Post Issue of 1920 (date of issue not stated).

We know that the 1915 Issue of the 15th October, 1915 (not 1st October) was printed by Waterlow & Sons Ltd. from the letter from the Managing Director of Waterlow & Sons Ltd, reproduced in Record No. 9 on the 1915 Issue.

The Red Cross Issue of 2nd January, 1915 was lithographed by Waterlow Brothers & Layton Ltd. from the imprint found on the sheets of 100 (four panes of 25). As both issues of the Parcel Post stamps were lithographed in sheets of 100 (four panes of 25), they were probably printed by Waterlow Brothers & Layton Ltd. especially as the Managing Director of Waterlow & Sons Ltd. did not lay claim to the 1915 issue.



A Xerox copy of an auction lot is shown. This is Lot 1818 in M. Baeten & Co's Sale No.166 of June, 1987. It is of interest because it depicts a proof of a block of six (3 x 2) of the 1915 Parcel Post stamp with no value. This shows that in England they worked in half-dozens although they were building up a plate of 4 x 25 subjects. This is possibly the reason that there are six sub-types of the Die I of the 1915 Issue



GEOFFREY WOOD F.R.P.S.(L)

NAMUR EXHIBITION 1914-1918

The Circle Philatelique Gembloux is planning an exhibition on Postal History of Namur during the German Occupation 1914-1918. This will be held during 9th and 10th April, 1994, and a warm welcome is extended to any of our members who wish to attend. A wide range of exhibits is planned from noted collectors of this material so the quality is expected to be of a high standard.



The President of the Club, Willy Monfils, is also seeking a cover bearing the postmark:

2 BIG MACS FOR ONLY £2
WHEN YOU PRESENT THE POSTMARK ONLY AT McDONALDS STAFFORD M

It is understood that this was in use at Stafford between 1st and 29th October, 1993 only. If any member has a copy to spare, could you please send it on to me. I assume it's required for philatelic rather than culinary purposes!

R. T. HARRISON

POSTMAN'S MARKS

Recently I had an enquiry as to what these marks are. They do not seem to be mentioned by Hanciau. General Jean du Four illustrates them on page 56 of his "Les Marques Postales Belge de 1830-1914" but goes no further.

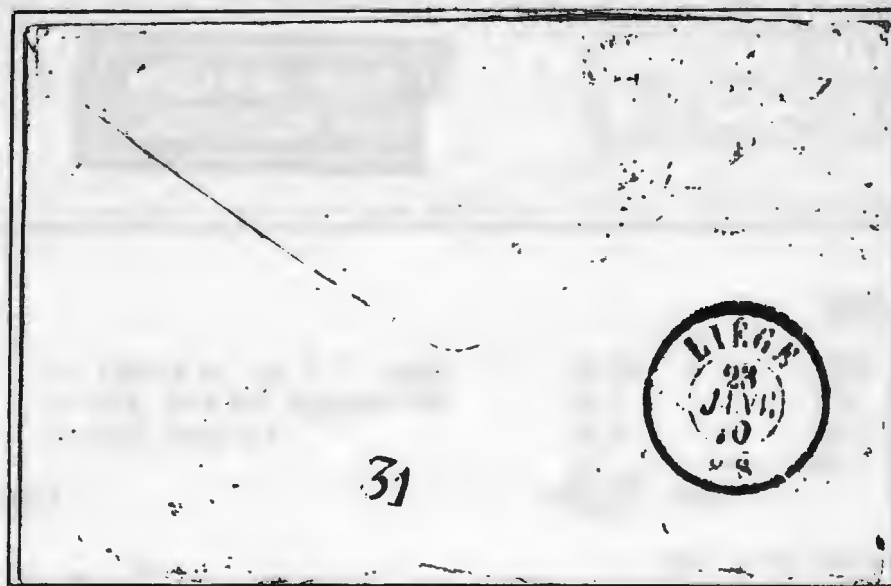
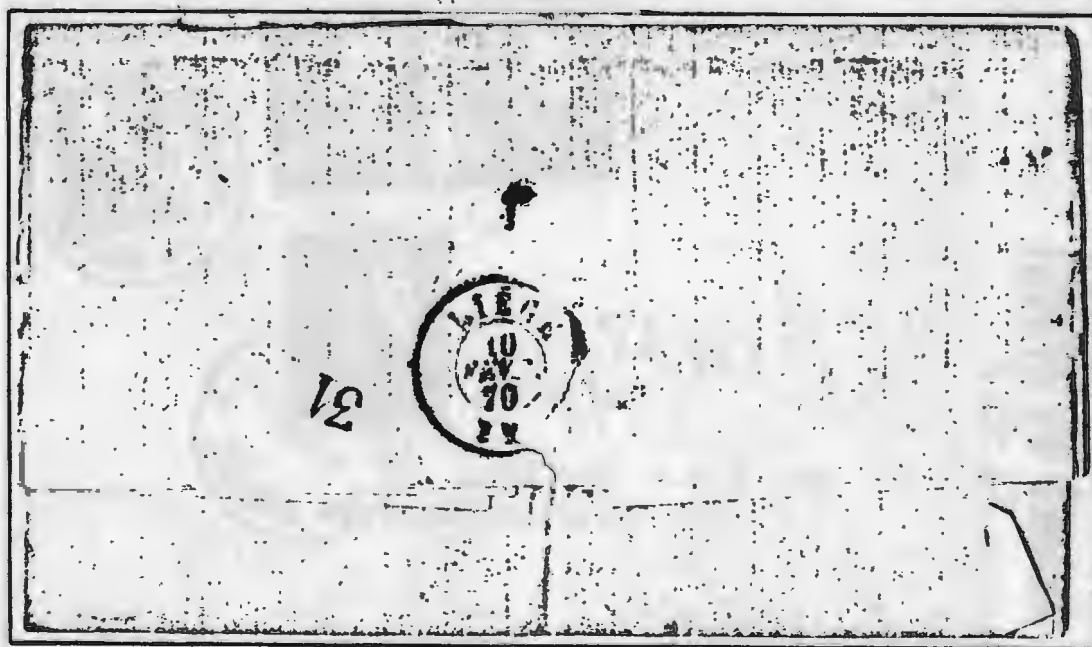
The earliest mention of them by the Deneumostiers is in their book of the 1865 Issue and they are illustrated in their book on the 1884 Issue.

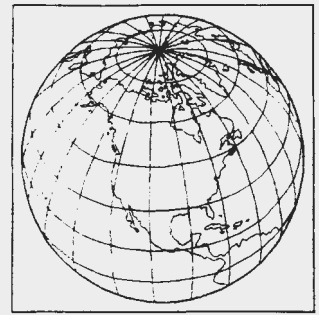
The purpose of these marks was to show which postman had delivered the postal document. Dr. Philip Holmes gave a very interesting short display on this subject some years ago.

The earliest examples I have of these marks are unframed numbers 31 and 32 on letters delivered in Liege in 1869 and 1870.

Does anyone know of any decree covering the introduction and use of these marks?

GEOFFREY WOOD F.R.P.S.(L)



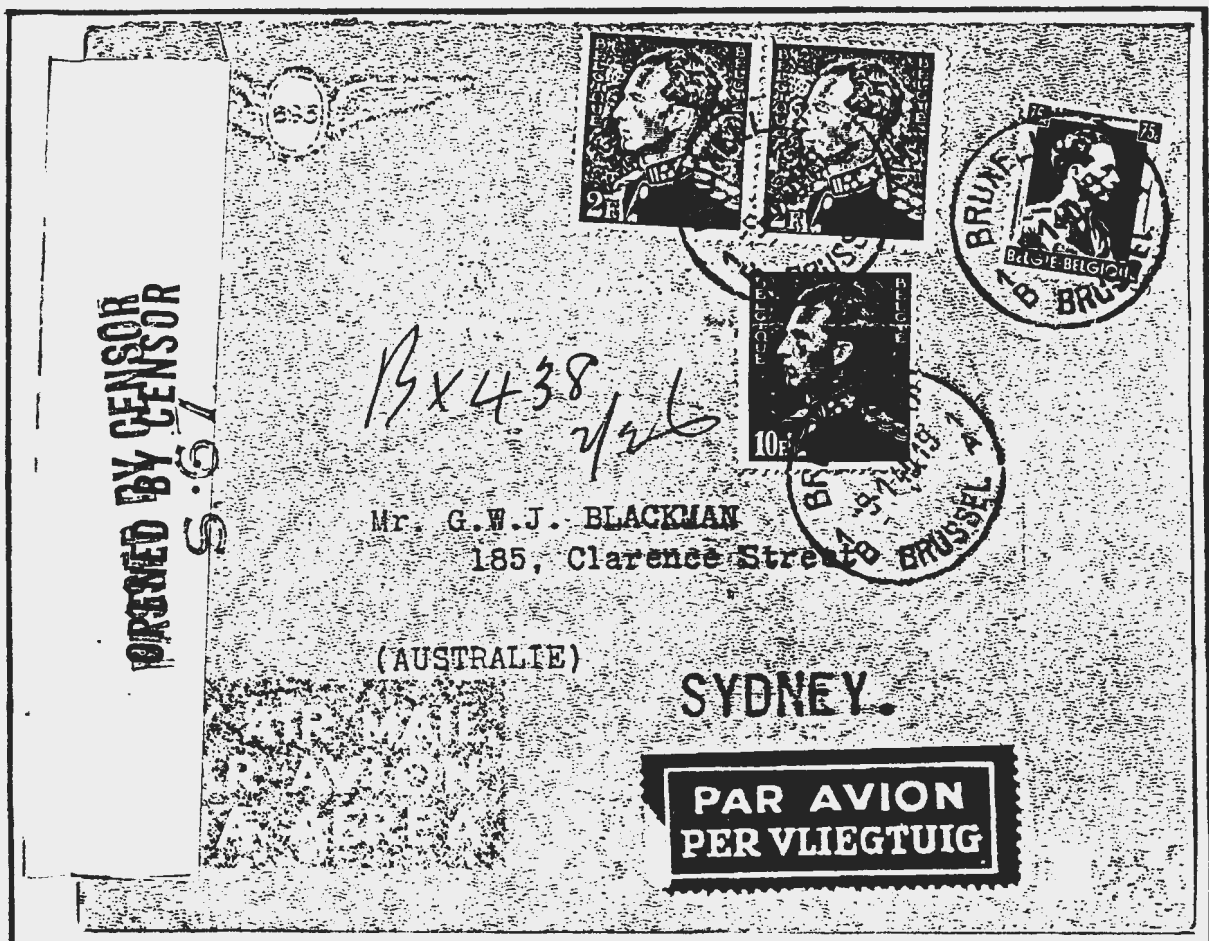
BRUSSELS - AUSTRALIA BY AIR 1940

Our Australian member, Michael Barden, sends details of several airmail covers in his collection as follows:

9th JANUARY, 1940

<u>Postage</u>	1 x 10Fr.	=	10.00	<u>Rates</u>	2 x 5gr. at 6.50Fr.	=	13.00
	2 x 2Fr.	=	4.00		International up to 20gr	=	<u>1.75</u>
	1 x 75c	=	.75				
	Total		<u>14.75Fr.</u>		Total		<u>14.75</u>

Weight of letter up to 20 gr.



17th JANUARY, 1940

<u>Postage</u>	4 x 10Fr.	=	40.00	<u>Rates</u>	7 x 5gr. at 6.50Fr.	=	45.50
	1 x 5Fr.	=	5.00		International for first 20gr.	=	1.75
	1 x 2.50	=	2.50		" for next 20gr.	=	<u>1.00</u>
	1 x .75c	=	.75				
	Total		<u>48.25Fr.</u>		Total		<u>48.25</u>

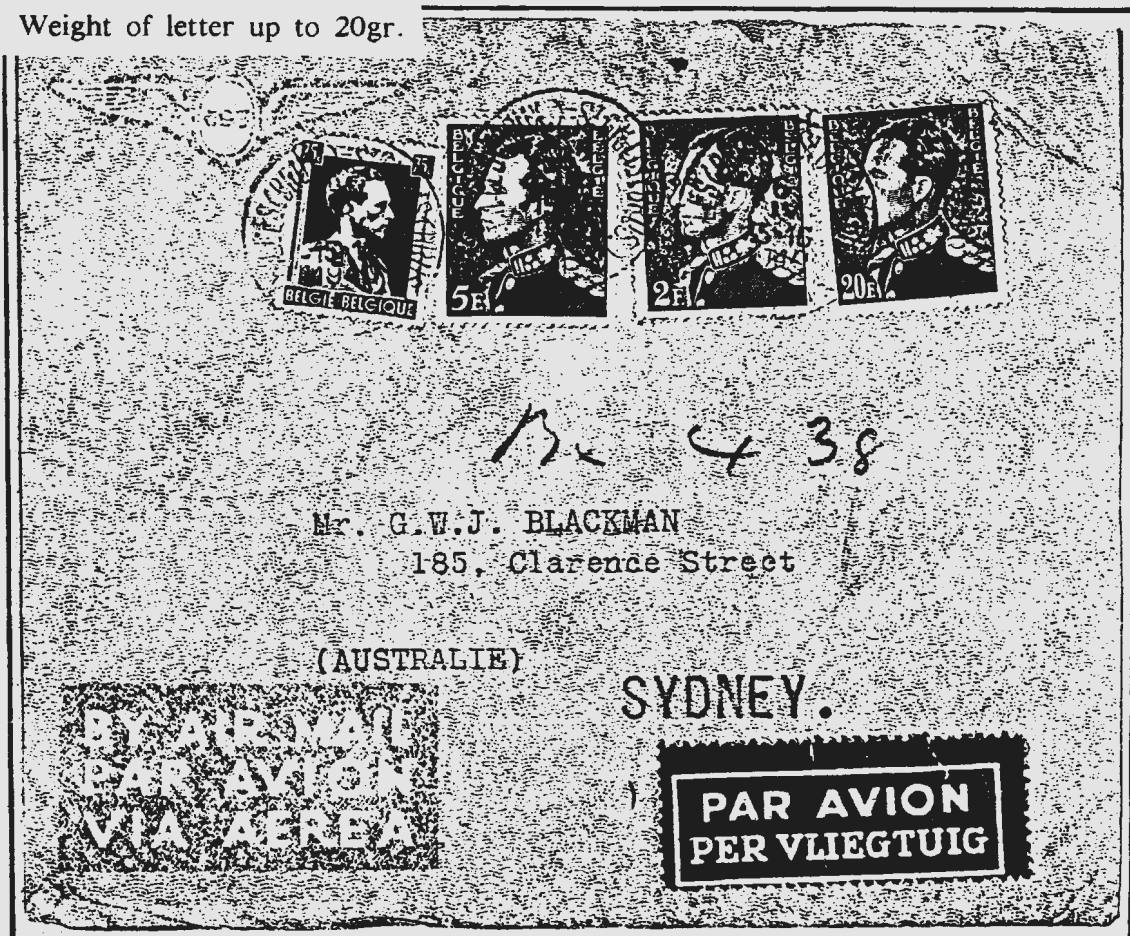
Weight of letter up to 35gr.



6th APRIL, 1940

<u>Postage</u>	1 x 20Fr.	=	20.00	<u>Rates</u> 4 x 5gr. at 6.50Fr.	=	26.00
	1 x 2Fr.	=	2.00	International up to 20gr.	=	1.75
	1 x 5Fr.	=	5.00			
	1 x 75c.	=	.75			
	Total		27.75Fr.		Total	27.75

Weight of letter up to 20gr.



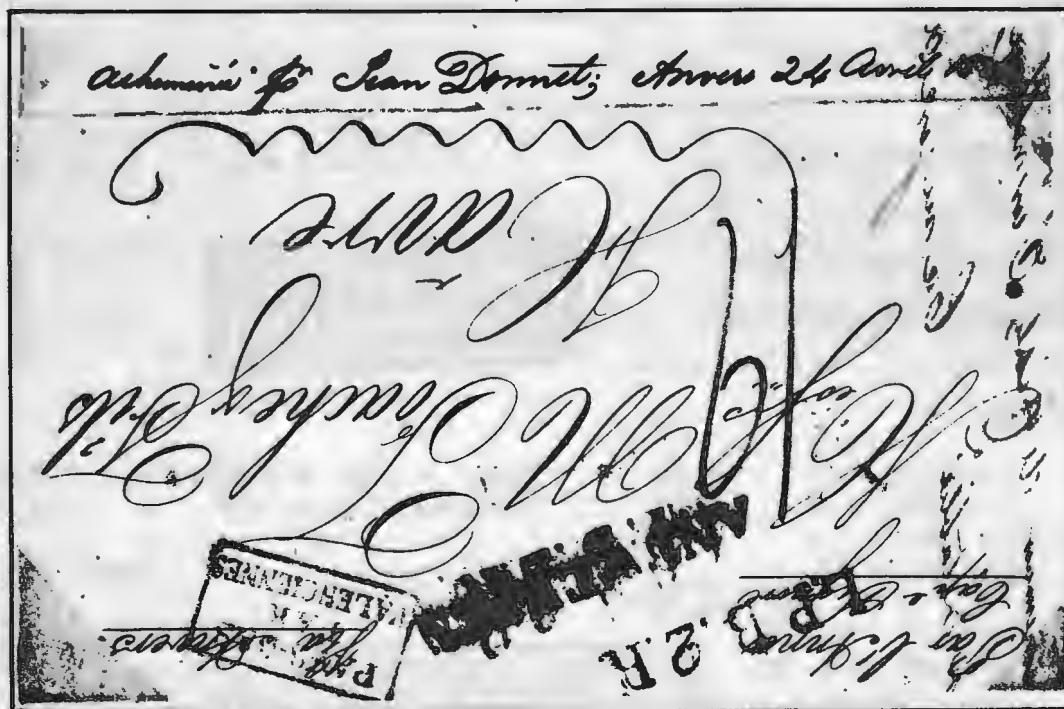
THE FORWARDING AGENTS(LES ACHEMINEURS)

A Forwarding Agent is

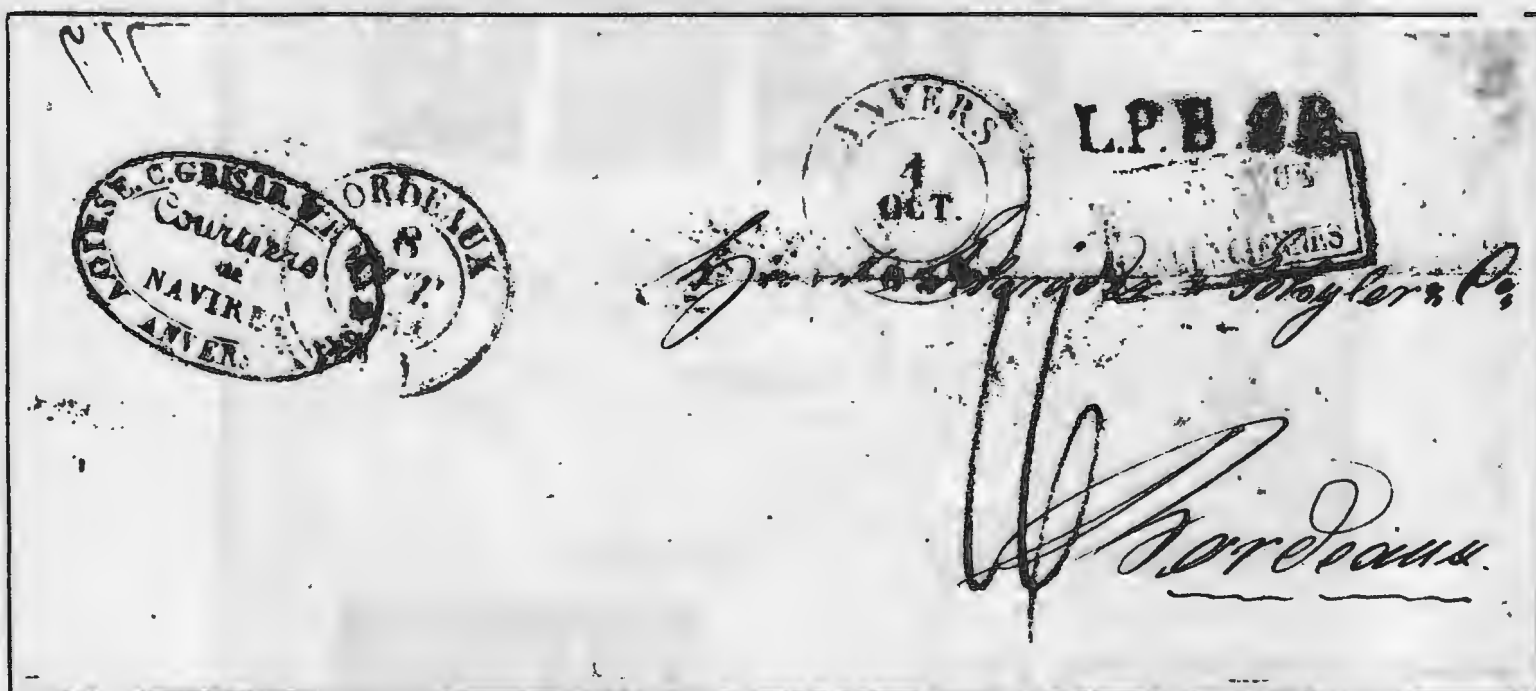
"A person, or firm, who undertakes to see that goods or correspondence of another are transported without himself as acting as the courier."

An important article on the Belgian Forwarding Agents on this subject were published recently (April, 1993) in "Posthistorama" (Belgian Postal History) and written by Cl.Delbeke (of the Academy of Belgian Philately). We are delighted to be able to present this in "Belgapost" with the permission of the author and the editor of "Posthistorama". Additional information was given in the December, 1993 issue which we also reproduce here.

S. J. ANDREWS



Manuscript "Acheminée Par" (Forwarded by) Jean Dormet, Anvers, 24 April 1826



Forwarding Agent's Cachet of Messrs. A. Giese, C. Grisar & W. J. Marsily of Antwerp

Les Achemineurs Belges

par ir. Cl. Delbeke

de l'Académie de Philatélie de Belgique

Comme nous l'avions annoncé dans notre précédent numéro veuillez trouver ci-joint la liste de tous les achemineurs belges connus à ce jour.

Au point de vue valorisation il faut savoir qu'une indication manuscrite vaut entre 1.500 et 3.000 FB et même plus pour les inscriptions antérieures à 1750. Une marque au tampon vaut entre 4 et 10.000 FB et un double acheminement entre 10 et 20.000 FB.

	Type	Dimension	Couleur	Date
Anvers				
Agie et Insinger	man.			1829 - 30
August Andre	Oval	34 x 26	Bl.	1857 - 64

(b)



P. Beullers	man.			1801
Jean Baptiste Boller	man.			1728
C. Brequigny	Rect.	34 x 18	N	1828
P. Bruynseraede	man.			1826
Jean Carolus	man.			1808
James Cligg & Brother	man.			1825
J. Cortt & Cie	Oval	32 x 19	R	1843
Daluratray & Cie	man.			1829
C. Dannet	man.			1820
J. Delrez	oval	38 x 20	Bl.	1847

(a)



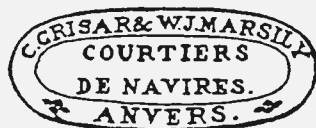
Jean Donnez	man.			1828
Duhring & Co	man.			1828
Chr. Grisar & W.J.Marsily	man.			1820 - 23
A. Giese. C.Grisar. W.L.Marsily	Oval	43 x 30	N	1826 - 29

(b)



C.Grisar & W.J.Marsily Oval 41 x 16 V 1848 - 49

(c)



G.C.H. Kreglinger	man.			1830
P. Lamfranchy	man.			1579
Chr. Layaerts	man.			1830
Jean Louis Lemmé	man.			1825 - 35
Notheboom frères	man.			1824
B. Oldenhove & Co	man.			1825 - 30
B. Oldenhove & Baffi & Co	man.			1830
Oldenhove Duppal	man.			1835
D. Parish, Agie & Co	man.			1818 - 22
Geronimo Perez	man.			1610
J.G. Reuter & Co	man.			1825
Saportas	man.			1826
C.J. Sasse	Rect.	34 x 17	Bl	1841
H. Serigiers & Winckelmann	man.			1827 - 30
Jacques Serruys	man.			1830
Thyssen & Potleux	man.			1807
Vandenbergh Fils	man.			1842
E. & A. Weher	Oval	35 x 17	Bl	1847
Winckelmann & Lulofs	Rect.	53 x 20	Bl	1836 - 57
C.H. Wouters	man.			1786

Bruges

E. Martel man. 1816

Bruxelles

P.J. Dammers man. 1787

De Bourse Oval 33 x 13 Bl 1844

Eupen

Jacob Breuls & Söhne man. 1789

Liège

H.J. Maquinay, D.H. Grisard	man.	1793
Jacques Speder	man.	1793 - 94

Ostende

Bach & Co	Oval	31 x 14	Bl	1847 - 48
Louis Bernaert	man.			1711
Cardon	man.			1711
J. de Vette	man.			1769
J. de Vleeschouwer	man.			1716
J.M.De Wael Veydt & Ravestyn & Co	man.			1784
Christ Dulith & Co	man.			1783
J. Herrewyn	man.			1820
J. Herrewyn (1)	Gr.Lin.	48 x 4	N	1821
J. Herrewyn - Ostende	Gr.Lin.	61 x 4	N	1821

(b) Ach par J. Herrewyn Ostende

V. Liebaert & fils, Derdeyn & Cie	man.	1792
George C. Matthiessen	man.	1784
Schultz Serruys Taimu & Co	man.	1782
J.P. Schwarts	man.	1793
A. & J. Van Isechem	Oval	33 x 14 Bl 1846

Abréviations : N : Noir - Bl. : Bleu - R : Rouge - V : Vert - man. manuscrit - Rect. : Rectangle - Gr. Lin. : Griffe linéaire.

Nous prions nos membres de bien vouloir compléter la présente liste par leurs propres découvertes en nous envoyant une photocopie de leurs pièces. Les améliorations de dates sont aussi les bienvenues.

Comme nous ne possédons pas toutes les marques renseignées n'hésitez pas à nous envoyer les illustrations des cachets au tampon que vous possédez : ils seront publiés dans un prochain numéro.

Nous attirons cependant l'attention sur les erreurs d'interprétation possibles :

1. Plusieurs firmes inscrivent au dos des lettres le nom de leur correspondant et la date d'arrivée des lettres : cela n'a rien à voir avec un acheminement quelconque.
2. Certains expéditeurs inscrivent leur nom, souvent au recto, sur leurs lettres. Certaines inscriptions se font même au tampon. Lorsqu'il s'agit d'un achemineur attiré qui expédie

1) Voir illustration au numéro 1 de 'Posthistorama BPH'

son propre courrier il utilise parfois son cachet avec l'inscription 'Forwarded' : il ne s'agit dans ce cas cependant pas d'une lettre acheminée.

En conclusion : lorsqu'un nom apparaît au dos d'une lettre (parfois au recto) sous forme manuscrite ou d'un cachet de firme il ne pourra s'agir éventuellement d'un achemineur que s'il diffère du nom de l'expéditeur ou du destinataire.



Ceci n'est pas une lettre acheminée.

Lettre écrite le 20 novembre 1874 par De Rham de New-York à son correspondant Nottebohm à Anvers. La marque 'Forwarded by De Rham' n'est utilisée ici que comme simple cachet commercial de firme.

Sources.

- *M. Amplatz* possède une lettre de Milan à Hodimont acheminée par Eupen
- *C. Delbeke* collection personnelle
- *P. Frost* 'The development of European Forwarding Agents' (Christie-Robson Lowe 1987)
- *L. Herlant* 'Les lettres acheminées ou Forwarded Letters' (Balasse Magazine n°198 et 199 de 1971)
- *K. Rowe* 'The Postal History of the Forwarding Agents' (Editions H. Hartman - 3^{me} édition 1984)
- *M. Van de Catsyne* possède une lettre acheminée de Bruges (voir p. 158)
- Catalogues de ventes Baeten & Jamet
- Illustrations (a) Baeten (b) Delbeke (c) Rowe

avril 1993

Les Achemineurs Belges.

C'est avec satisfaction que nous avons reçu les contributions suivantes :

M. A. Speeckaert : signale que l'achemineur anversois 'J.G.Reuter & Co' de 1825 que nous avions mentionné s'appelle en fait 'J.G. Rücker & Co'. Il nous montre, document de 1822 à l'appui, qu'il s'agit d'une succursale de A. Rücker de Riga. Dans notre inventaire (p.120) il faut donc remplacer 'J.G. Reuter & Co' par

J.G.Rücker & Co' man. 1822-25

M. M. Van de Catsyne : a trouvé un troisième type (chronologiquement le deuxième) de Giese, Grisar et Marsily, qui nous est aussi signalé par M.S.Andrews (voir ci-après). Donc ajouter p.120 :

A.Giese. C. Grisar. W.I. Marsily ovale 42 x 27 N 1834-36



M. S. Andrews, le rédacteur en chef de 'Belgapost', la très intéressante revue trimestrielle du 'Belgian Study Cercle' nous demande aimablement de pouvoir reproduire l'étude sur les acheminées et nous signale (avec photocopies) la même nouvelle marque signalée par M. M. Van de Catsyne (voir ci-dessus) ainsi qu'une correction de nom et amélioration de date pour un achemineur anversois (Donnet au lieu de Donnez).

Jean Donnet man 1826-28

A.K.S.P. : M. L. Janssen nous a transmis des photocopies de lettres présentées par ce cercle lors de l'exposition 'Antwerpen 93'. Cela nous permet d'ajouter à la liste d'achemineurs anversois :

G.Agie (2) man. 1835

Michiel Heyns (1) man. 1654

P.J. Vanderschrieck & Co (1) ovale 49 x 17 ? 1834



ainsi que les corrections de noms et améliorations de dates suivantes : au lieu de 'Chr.Layaerts' et de 'B.Oldenhove, Baffi & Co':

Chs. Loyaerts (3) man. 1823-30

B. Oldenhove, Buff & Co (1) man. 1830-36

Collections: (1) L. De Clercq (2) A. Luyts (3) B. Goofers

M. N. Vervaeet nous envoie une photocopie d'un achemineur anversois non répertorié:

J. Claessens man. 1833

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF NAMUR PROVINCE

INTRODUCTION

The now, annual Province Display session has come round again and it is the turn of Namur with its close French connections and history. Each year it seems to get more difficult to assemble postmark examples to illustrate the display, hence the appeal for members to bring items from their own collections to support my effort.

For my part, assembling my modest display is very time consuming as the subject material is spread over a wide range of collecting areas. A large number of files and folders have to be methodically checked through for province interest. Likewise, after the display, the same process is undertaken in reverse but I am sure some covers change folders in the process!

Provided my modest efforts achieve some result in extolling the interest to be gained from collecting by this system, it will be worth the time involved.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The area comprising the present day province is substantially based on the County of Namur, together with large tracts of the Principality of Liege. The known history is that it was occupied by the Aduatuci tribe at the time of Caesar and that Namur city was a Roman fortified camp (oppidum) which subsequently became a castle. It is during the Merovingian period (476-750 AD) that it first enters recorded history as Namurcum Castrum. It was mentioned by Sigebert de Gembloux in 689 AD but, in 899 AD it became a county in favour of Béranger de Lomme, who ruled it under the name of Pagus Lomacensis.

In 1189 it was a possession of the House of Hainaut and sold to the Count of Flanders in 1263. By 1421, it had been bought by Philip of Burgundy and remained as a Hapsburg possession until 1792. As will be seen by Map A and Map B, the original county only formed a relatively small area which was not large enough to stand alone as a département under French occupation. Therefore, parts of the Principality of Liege and the Duchy of Luxembourg were added to make up the Sambre et Meuse Département (see Map C) in 1795. However, during this period, the Philippeville corner was included in the French Département Ardennes No. 7. After the expulsion of the French in 1815, Philippeville was transferred back to Belgium, whilst those parts of Luxembourg added to the province in 1795 were returned to the Grand Duchy (see Map D). When, in 1830, independence was gained, the boundaries remained largely unchanged as seen on Map E. The large map shows the province as seen in 1914 and continues to this day.

SPANISH NETHERLANDS PERIOD (1621-1713)

Although parts of the present day province did not come under Spanish domination, for consistency I include it within this period for study purposes.

Only three towns - Dinant, Namur and Philippeville, have recorded markings of which Namur alone was under Spanish control. All three had manuscript markings but, in addition, Namur and Philippeville had straightline handstamps of various styles. Mail originating from other villages doubtless existed but would probably have been routed via these main towns.

AUSTRIAN NETHERLANDS PERIOD (1714-1794)

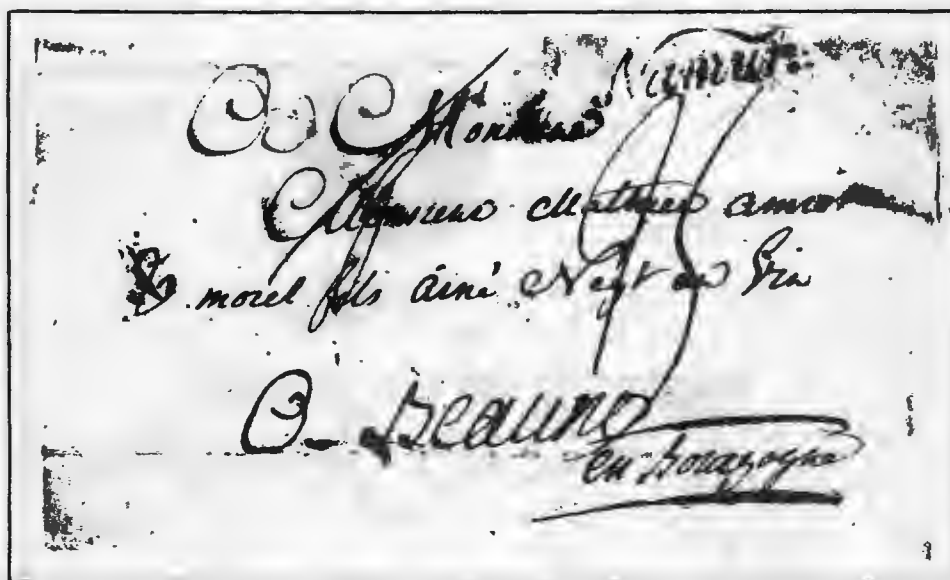
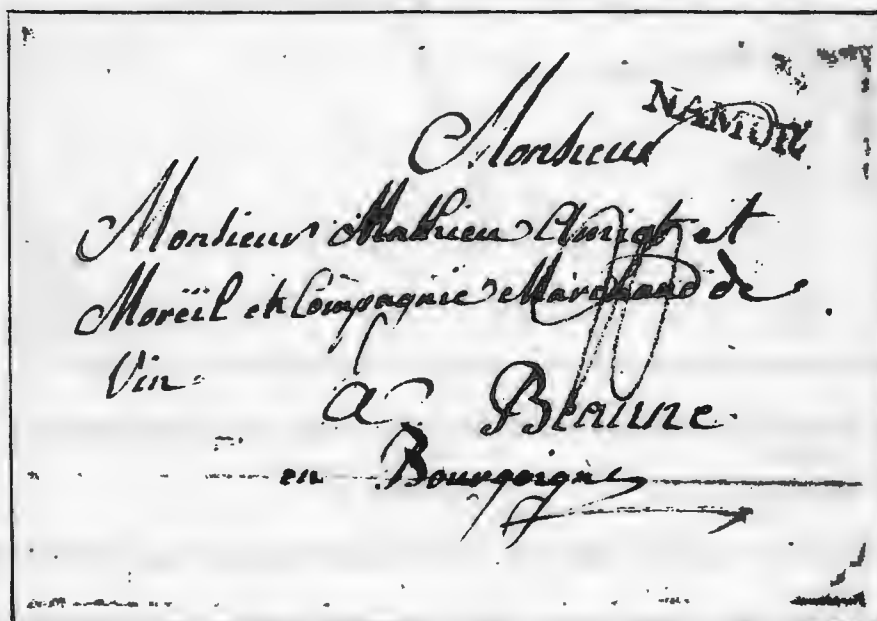
The principles outlined above still apply during this period whilst the outline of the province was evolving. In addition, to the towns listed above, postal status was given to three more

towns so that the list now reads:

CINEY
DINANT
EMPTINNE

NAMUR
PHILIPPEVILLE
SOMBREFFE

Of these new additions, Emptinne is recorded by a manuscript marking, whilst Ciney and Sombreffe used straightline handstamps which came into general use elsewhere in the Austrian Possessions as part of the Thurn and Taxis organisation.

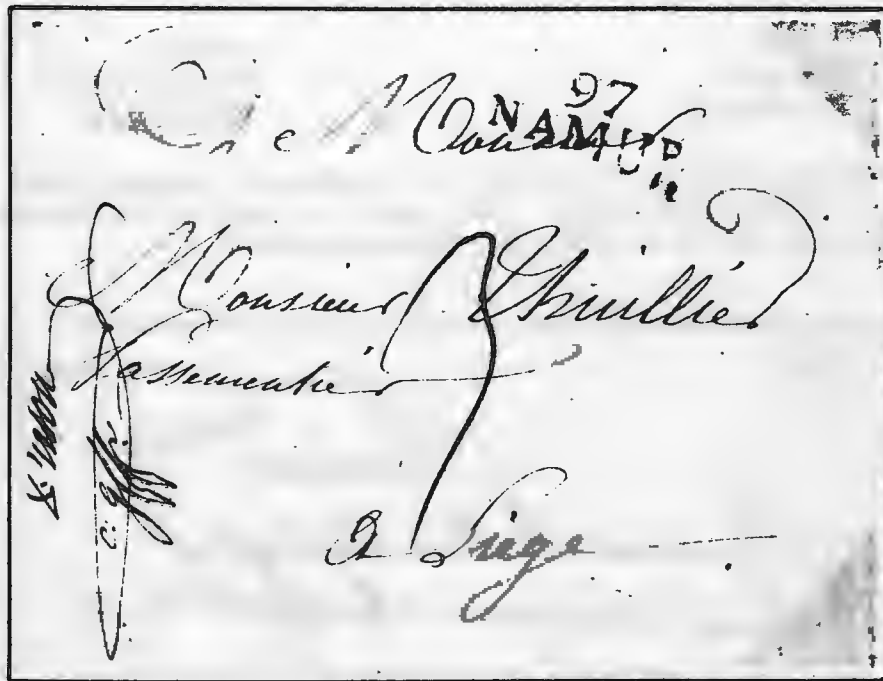


FRENCH OCCUPATION (1794-1814)

As explained in the historical introduction, the boundaries of today's province underwent considerable change during this period. The creation of the Departement of Sambre et Meuse was followed by the incorporation of French postal markings to match those of the French Empire. However, no additional towns gained postal status than those listed previously. The number 97 was allocated to this Departement and was placed above the town name e.g.

97
DINANT

97
SOMBREF



Letters which were prepaid received the additional P.P. either side of the name e.g.

P97P
DINANT

P97P
NAMUR

whilst Deboursé marks also complied with the French postal system e.g. DEB.NAMUR 97.

As the chief town, Namur was allocated administrative handstamps in a script style e.g.
DEPT. DE SAMBRE ET MEUSE and PREFET SAMBRE ET MEUSE.



Of special note are the postmarks of Philippeville which was originally linked with the Principality of Liege. From 1790, it was incorporated in the French Departement of the Ardennes No. 7 e.g:

7
PHILIPPEVILLE P7P
PHILIPPEVILLE

When in 1794 the town was renamed Vedette Republicaine, the postmarks accordingly changed e.g:

7
VEDETTE REPUBLICAINE

Also in Departement No. 7 at this period were Charlemont, Couvin and Mariembourg but postmarks only exist for the latter e.g.

7
MARIEMBOURG

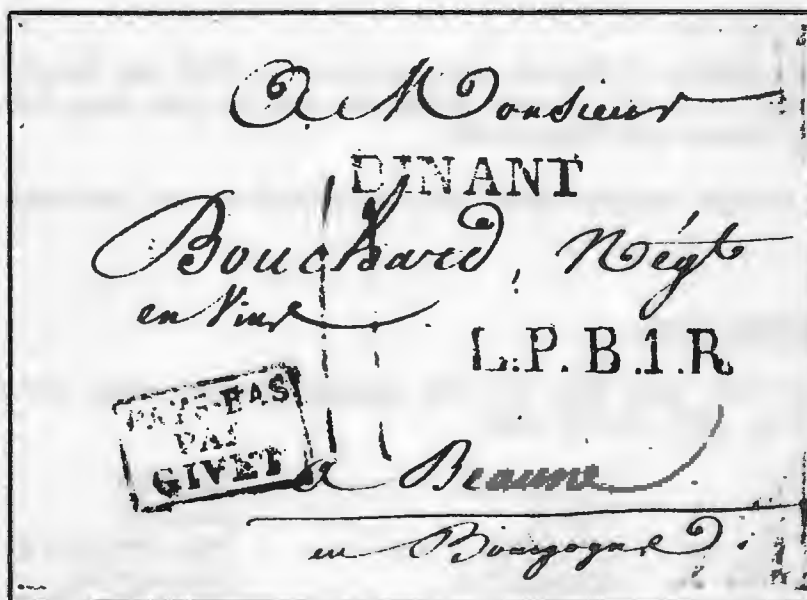
UNITED KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS (1815-1830)

The transfer of the eastern region to the Province of Luxembourg in 1815 was partly balanced by the addition of the Couvin, Mariembourg, Philippeville corner, whose postmarks now count as truly Belgian.

Two towns gained postal status – Rochefort and Walcourt, but only manuscript markings are known for them.

Originally, until new handstamps were produced, the old French handstamps were used but with the numbers erased e.g.

DINANT P P
DINANT

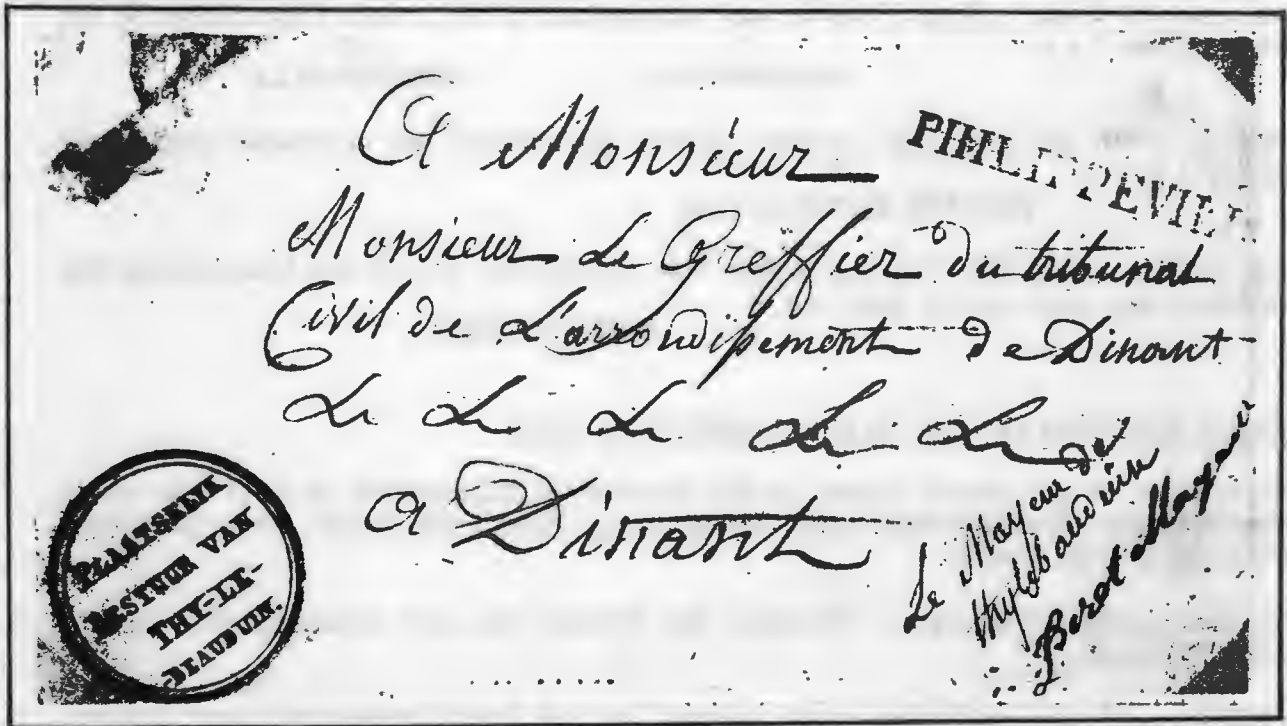


Letter Dinant to Beaune 1828

The implementation of Dutch spellings had little effect in this province but Namur became Namen and Philippeville became Philippestad. When the new handstamps appeared, the letters P.P. (Port Paye) became Franco e.g.

DINANT
FRANCO

but the word DEBOURSE or DEB. appeared to be steadfast.



Letter Philippeville to Dinant 1817

The first circular date stamps of Belgium were produced in 1829 just before Independence was achieved. A single circle (25-27 mm) in red ink with no year plug, but only used in Dinant, Mariembourg, Namur and Philippeville.

During this period, Foreign Sorting Marks were introduced but are described elsewhere in this article.

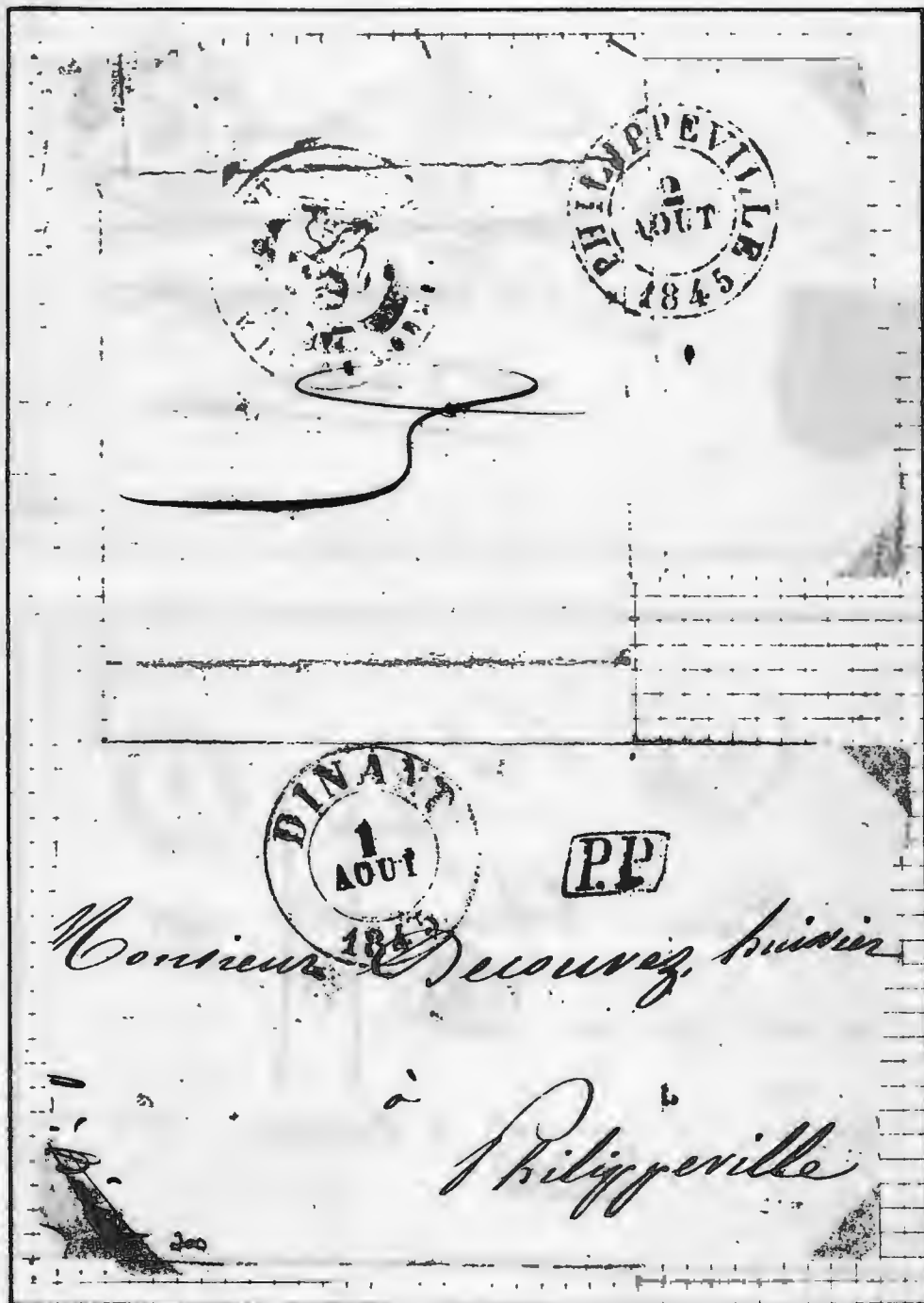
KINGDOM OF BELGIUM (1830)

No boundary changes took place but, with the passage of time, many new towns gained postal status so that by 1849 the list reads:

ANDENNES	FLORENNE	METTET
BEAURAING	FOSSE	NAMUR
CINEY	GEDINNE	PHILIPPEVILLE
COUVIN	GEMBLoux	ROCHEFORT
DINANT	HAVELANGE	SOMBREFFE
EGHEZEE	HEER	SPY
EMPTINNE	MARIEMBOURG	WALCOURT

Since then, others have been added with the population growth.

One of the first steps taken by the new Belgian Postal Administration in 1830 was the issue of a different style double circular date stamp with year plug to distinguish it from the Dutch version. Around 29-30 mm diameter, they sometimes contained two small 'pearls' and were struck only in red ink for this province. Only used in Dinant, Mariembourg, Namur and Philippeville.

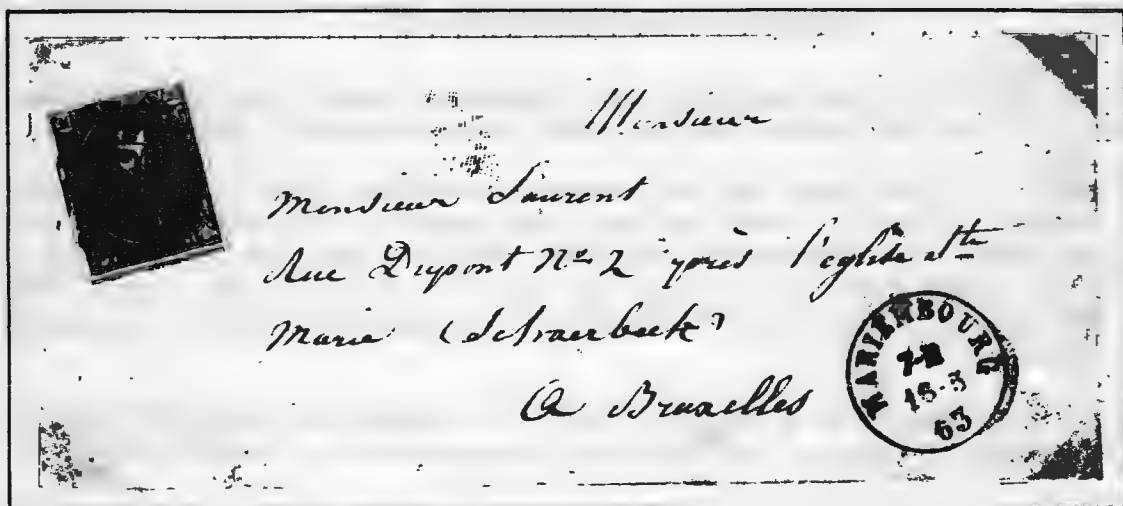
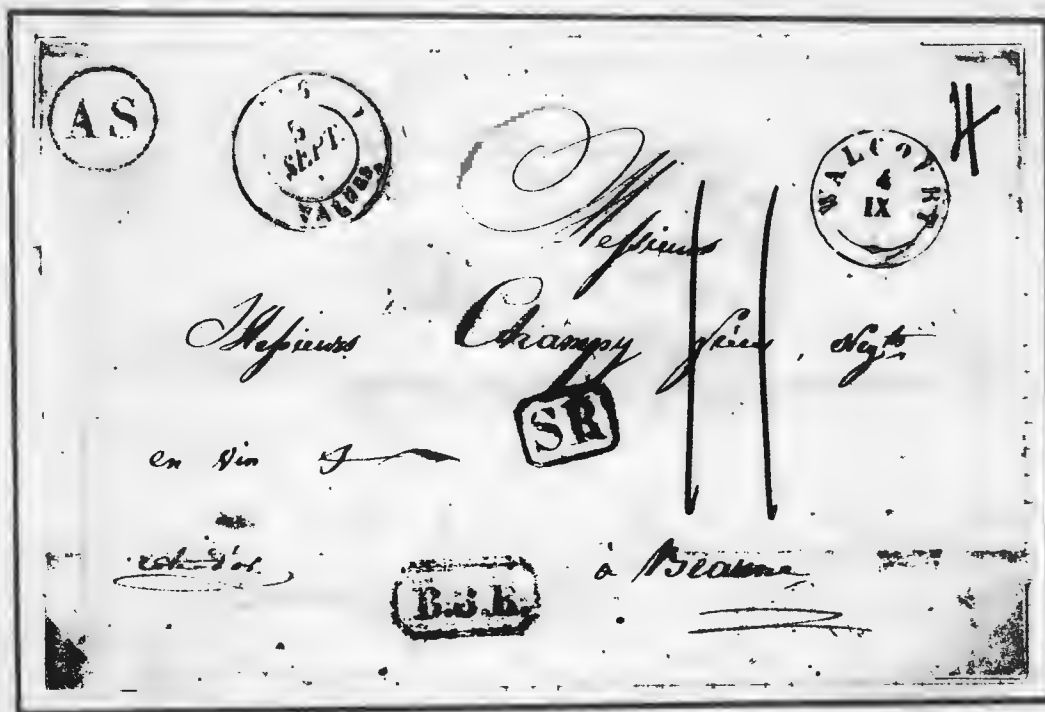
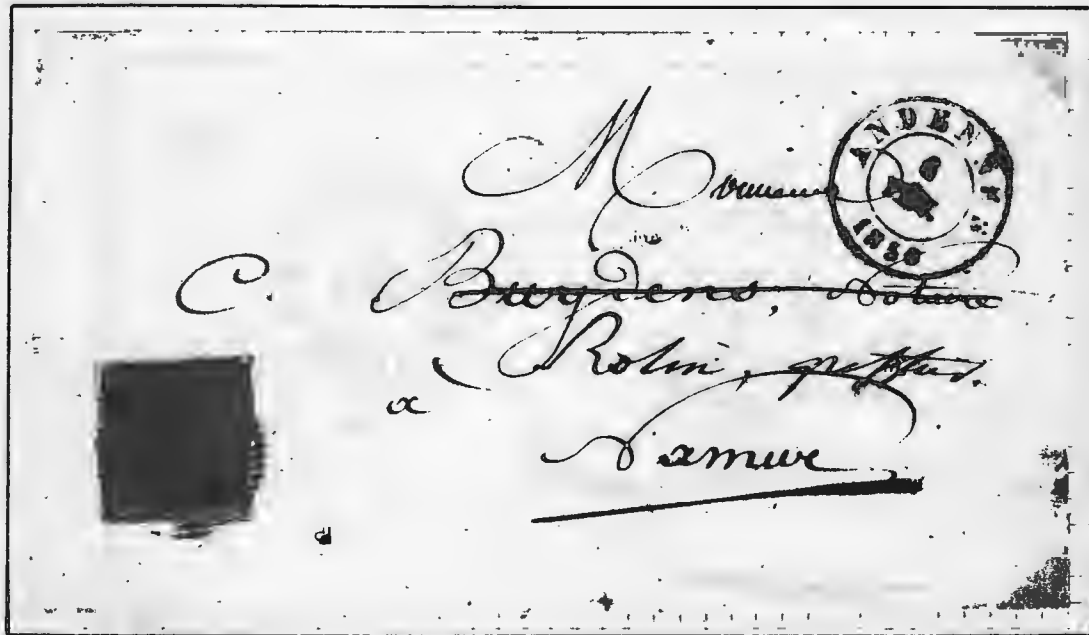


Wrapper Dinant to Philippeville 1845

From around 1838, these large handstamps were replaced by smaller types which continued to be struck in red ink until adhesive postage stamps were introduced in 1849.

The very small (c. 18 mm) single CDS with an arc at the bottom, which is scarce in other provinces, appears in Namur province to have been issued to 16 towns, perhaps as a receiving (perception) mark dependent on other main offices. It therefore appears in use at virtually all the towns listed above except the four that used the large double CDS. However, they are not that common and should not be passed by if offered at a sensible price on a cover.

The small double CDS continued in black ink until it was replaced by a single CDS type, of which a few examples are shown. Included is the bi-lingual style e.g. NAMUR-NAMEN.



SPECIAL MARKINGS

In common with other towns, deboursé marks enclosed in an ellipse were introduced around 1840 and examples are shown for Namur and Philippeville.

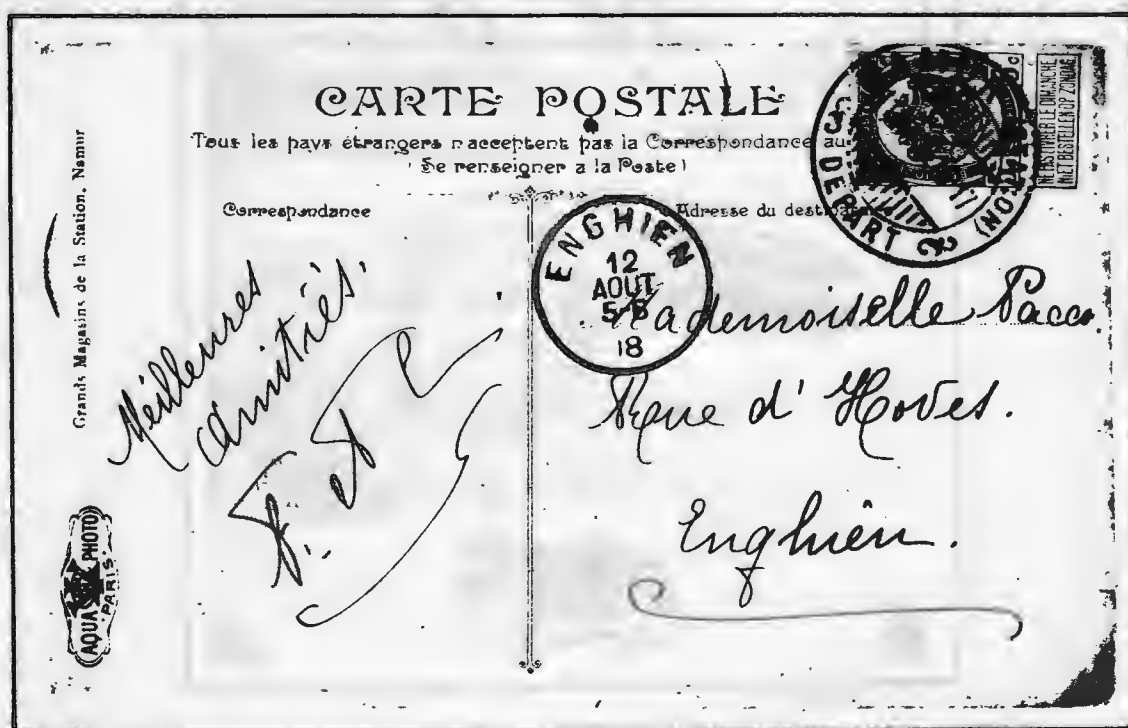


'Deboursé Philippeville' 1841

Boxed station marks for letters put direct onto the railways also existed and an example marked CINEY is shown. For normal mail posted at a railway station, a postmark e.g. NAMUR (STATION) was used and at one period (1906-1908), a large bridge-style canceller with fleurons and the legend 'NAMUR (STATION) DEPART' was in use. This style was shortly after imposed on Belgium by the German Occupation in 1914.



Boxed Station Mark 'Ciney' 1891



'Namur (Station) Depart' 1908

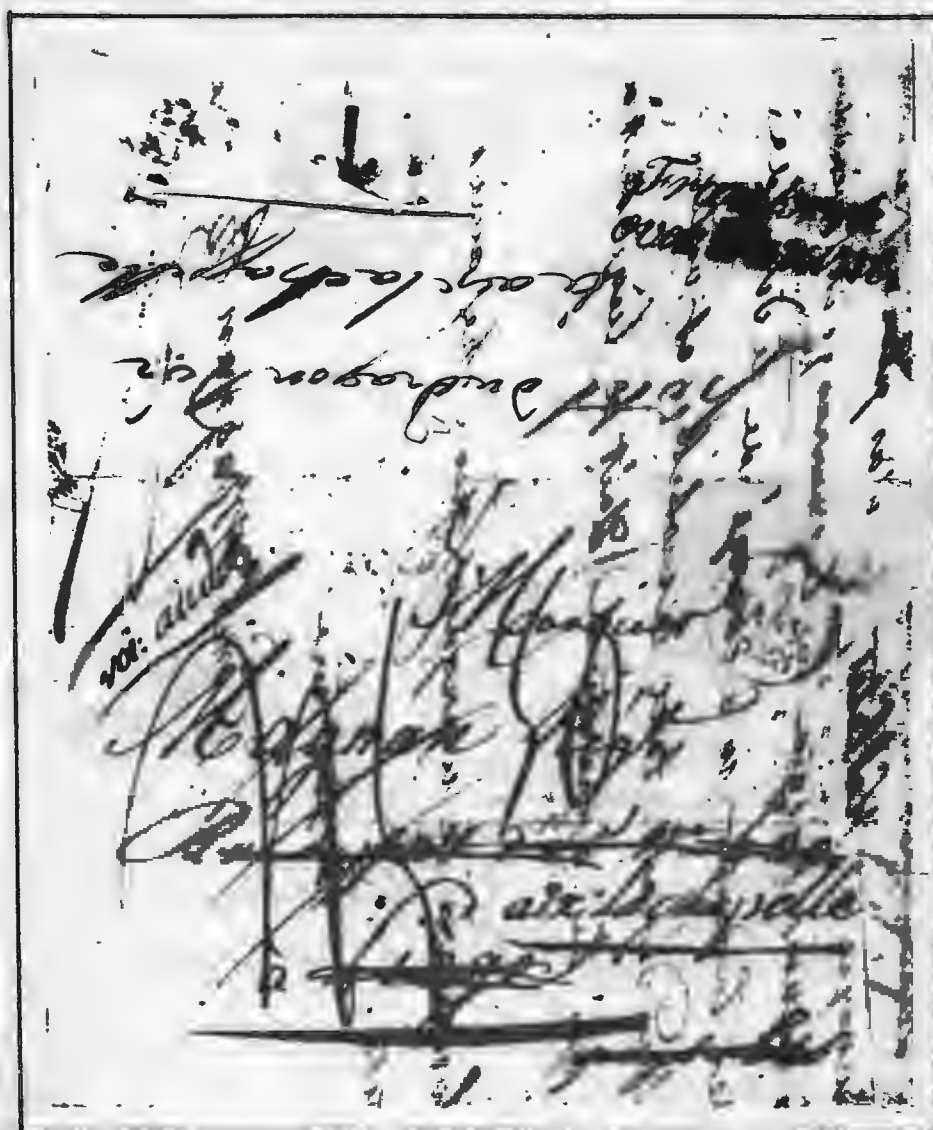
FOREIGN SORTING MARKS

The main foreign destination for this province was France and, during the Dutch Occupation, Dinant was created in 1818 a frontier bureau for the exchange of mails with Givet in France.

Two handstamps were used in black ink containing the words FRANKRYCK/OVER DINANT, one in capital letters, the other italic lettering. Following Independence, the wording was altered to FRANCE PAR DINANT which first appeared around 1833 as a two-line stamp boxed with chamfered corners in red ink. Subsequently, around 1840 this was replaced by a circular datestamp, first as a large size c. 30 mm diameter, then by a smaller version.



'FRANKRYCK OVER DINANT' 1819

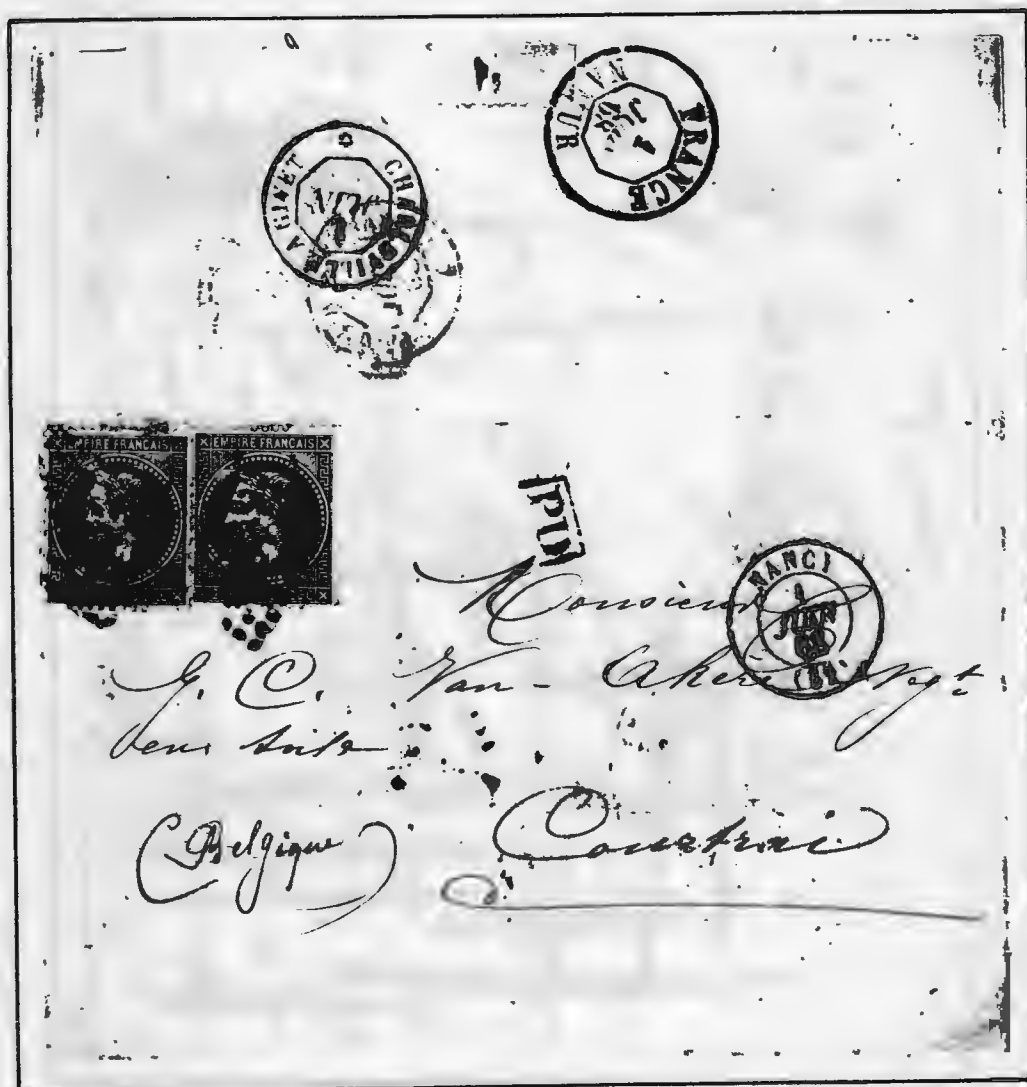


'Frankryck over Dinant' 1828



'France par Dinant' 1845

The only other marks I know within this province are those bearing the legend FRANCE-NAMUR. Set within a circle of c. 22 mm with the word France at the top and Namur at the bottom, two versions exist – one with an inner circle, the other with an inner octagon, possibly denoting night-time use as practised in France at that time.



'France Namur' 1868

TRAVELLING POST OFFICES

My previous account on Luxembourg Province describes the general arrangement of railway sorting offices. The development of railways was slow in Namur Province and Namur was the first town reached in 1843 - linked via Charleroi to Brussels. Namur became an important railway junction for the traffic crossing the province. It was midway between Liege and Erquelines for mail passing from Germany to Paris (Est 4 and 5) and likewise from 1858-59 on the Brussels-Namur-Arlon-Luxembourg link up (Brux-Arl). This provided for the first time a direct link with Brussels which was titled Midi 5 and Midi 6, although mail bearing these marks eludes me.

Finally, in 1863, a line running south via Dinant reached Givet, providing a direct route into France. Subsequently these lines were relabelled so that the town names appeared on the postmarks e.g. 'LIEGE-ERQUELINNES'.

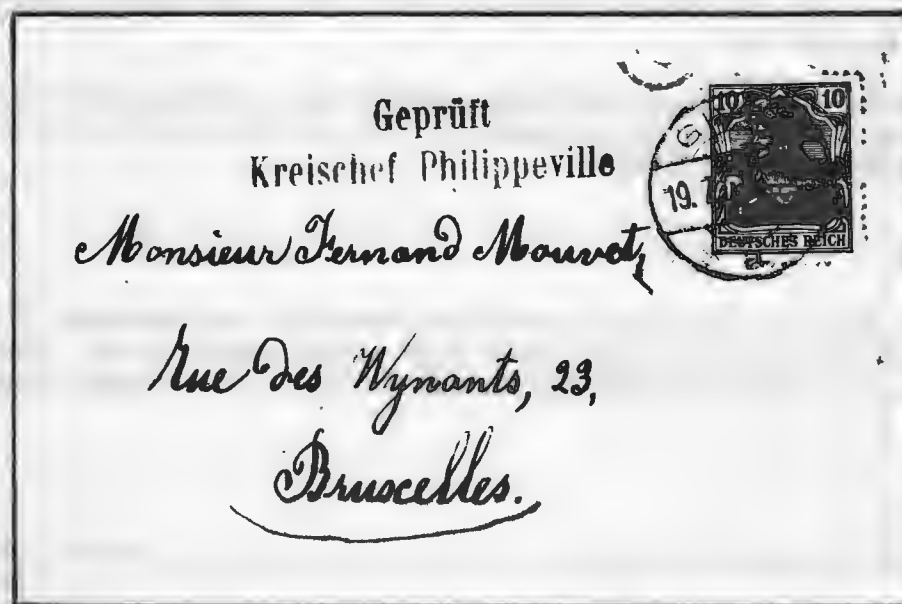
MISCELLANEOUS

Apart from a few postcards illustrating some of the towns and their postmarks, I jump to the First World War period to a topic which is of special interest to me. Namely the incorporation of part of northern France into the area controlled by the General Government of Belgium.



'Givet (Belgien)' 18th April 1915

In these areas the postal service was organised as for occupied Belgium itself, complete with overprinted 'Germania' stamps and bridge-style german cancellers. Within the Givet spur of French territory were five towns: Aubrives, Fumay, Givet, Haybes and Vireux-Molhain, which were issued with cancellers incorporating the word FRANKREICH e.g. HAYBES (FRANKREICH). Due to an error, the canceller issued to Givet read GIVET (BELGIEN) and was put into use between 15th January and 31st May, 1915. Following protests it was then withdrawn and replaced by 'GIVET * * *' and 'GIVET * a *', but the word FRANKREICH never appeared on a Givet canceller!



'Givet * a *' 19th July 1915



SUMMARY

As in the past, I acknowledge the information provided in Herlant's books in collating information on early markings.

I hope this broad attempt to illustrate the interest to be gained from collecting on a provincial basis will inspire others to pursue further with their philatelic studies from a postal history viewpoint.

R. T. HARRISON

MAPS SHOWING EVOLUTION OF NAMUR PROVINCE



Fig. A The Netherlands in 1609-48

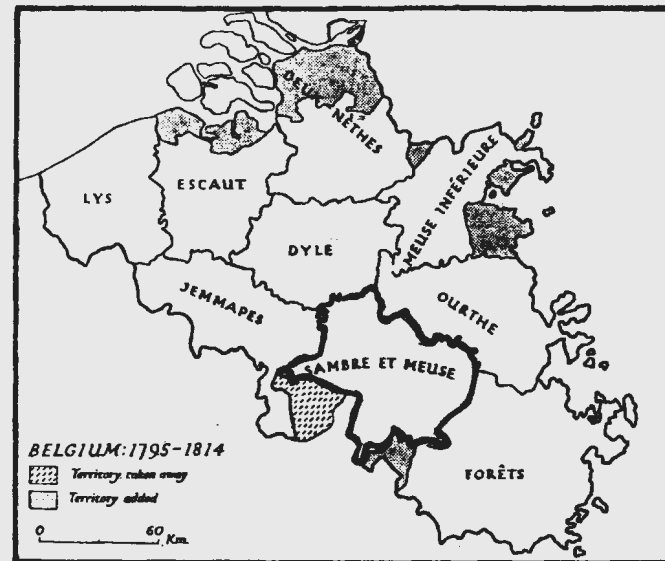


Fig. C Belgium under French domination

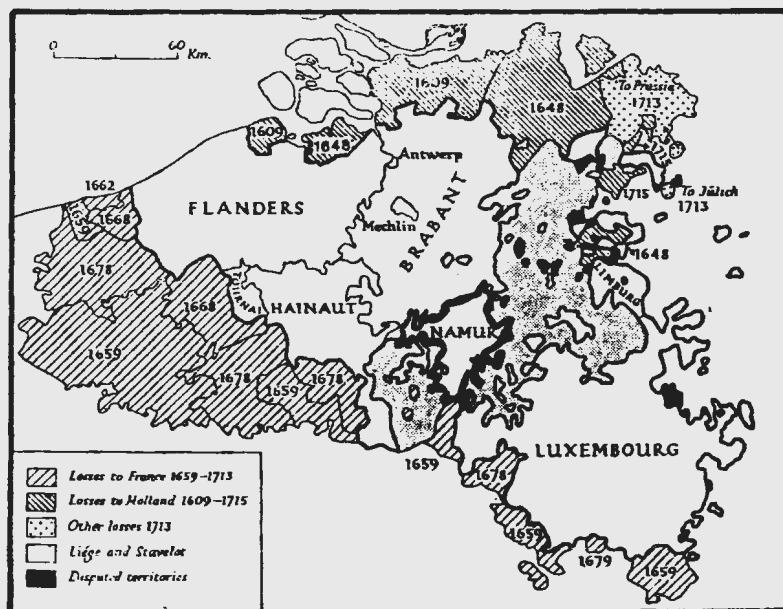


Fig. B The Spanish Netherlands, 1659-1715

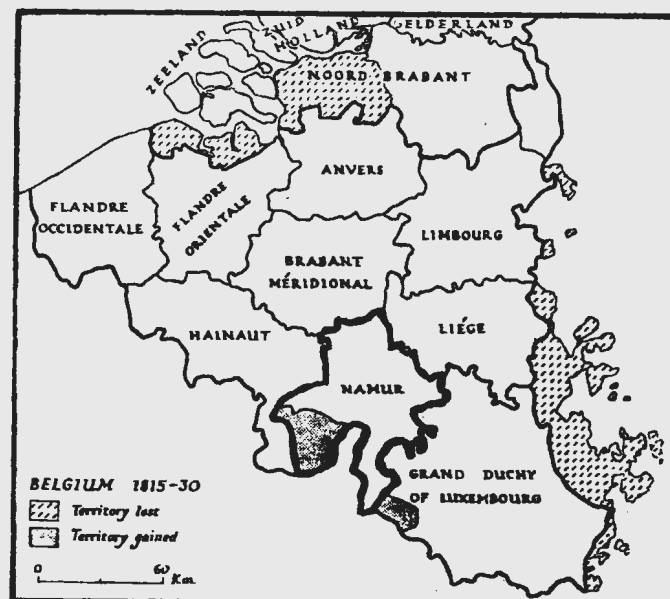


Fig. D Belgium in 1815-30

MAP SHOWING PROVINCE BOUNDARY IN 1914



[Copyright]

MAP OF NAMUR.

[Hutchinson & Co.]

The map gives a good impression of the situation of the town. To the south-west the rugged hill crowned by the Citadel drops steeply down to the two rivers; and on the other side the crowded little town runs more gently down from the farther crest to the water. The view of the town is relieved by the three churches and a few other of the larger buildings standing out from the mass.

CANCELLATIONS ON 10 CENTIME LARGE BEARD 1905J-C Ysebaert (cont.)

0 0 0	MELDEN	0	MOUSCRON
0 0 0	MELLE	0 0 0	MOUSTIER
0 0 0	MELLETT	0 0 0	MOUSTIER(HAINAUT)
0 0 0	MELLIER	0 0 0	NAAST
0 0 0	MELREUX-HOTTON	0 0 0	NALINNES
0 0 0	MELSELE	0 0 0	NAMECHE
0 0	MENIN	0	NAMUR
0 0 0	MERBES-LE-CHATEAU	0	NAMUR(RUE DE BAVIERE)
0 0 0	MERCHTEM	0	NAMUR(STATION)
0 0 0	MERCKEM	0 0 0	NANDRIN
0 0 0	MERXEM	0 0 0	NANINNE
0 0	MERXPLAS	0 0 0	NASSOGNE
0	MERXPLAS(COLONIE)	0 0 0	NATOYE
0 0 0	MESNIL-ST.BLAISE	0 0 0	NAZARETH
0 0 0	MESSANCY	0 0 0	NECHIN
0	MESSINES	0	NECKERSPOEL(MALINES)
0 0 0	METTET	0 0 0	NEDERBRAKEL
0 0 0	MEULEBEKE	0 0 0	NEDERHEIM
0 0 0	MEVERGNIES-ATTRE	0 0 0	NEDER-OVER-HEEMBEEK
0 0 0	MEYSSE	0 0 0	NEERLINTER
0 0 0	MICHEROUX	0 0 0	NEER-OETEREN
0 0 0	MIDDELKERKE	0 0 0	NEERPELT
0 0 0	MIGNAULT	0 0 0	NESSONVAUX
0 0 0	MILMORT	0 0 0	NEUPCHATEAU
0 0 0	MODAVE	0 0 0	NEUPVILLES
0 0 0	MOEN-HEESTERT	0	NEUVE- EGLISE
0 0 0	MOERBEKE	0	NEUVILLE-LEZ-MONTIGNIES-
0	MOERBEKE(WAAS)		SUR-SAMBRE
0 0 0	MOERKERKE	0 0 0	NEVELE
0 0 0	MOERZEKE	0 0 0	NIEL
0 0 0	MOHA	0	NIEUKERKE(WAAS)
0	MOLENBEEK(R.DE LA PRINCESSE)	0	NIEUPORT
0	MOLENBEEK(BOULEVARD	0	NIEUWKERKEN-LEZ-ALOST
	LEOPOLD II)	0 0 0	NIL-ST.VINCENT-ST.MARTIN
0	MOLENBEEK(BOUL.LEOPOLD II)	0 0 0	NIMY
0 0 0	MOLL	0 0 0	NINOVE
0 0 0	MOMALE	0 0 0	NISMES
0 0 0	MOMIGNIES	0 0	NIVELLES
0 0 0	MONCEAU-SUR-SAMBRE	0 0 0	NOIREFONTAINE-SENSEN RUTH
0	MONS	0 0 0	NOIRHAT
0	MONS(STATION)	0 0 0	NORDERWYCK-MORCKHOVEN
0 0	MONTAIGU	0 0 0	NOVILLE-LES-BOIS
0 0 0	MONT-A-LEUX	0 0 0	NOVILLE-TAVIERS
0 0 0	MONTAGNEE	0 0 0	OBAIX-BUZET
0 0 0	MONTIGNIES-LE-TILLEUL	0 0 0	OBourg
0 0 0	MONTIGNIES-SUR-SAMBRE	0 0 0	OCQUIER
0	MONT-ST-AMAND	0 0 0	OEDELEM
0 0 0	MONT-ST-GUIBERT	0 0 0	OETINGHEN
0 0 0	MONT-SUR-MARCHIENNE	0 0 0	OHAIN
0 0 0	MONTZEN	0 0 0	OHEY
0 0 0	MOORSEELE	0 0 0	OIGNIES
0 0 0	MOORSEL	0 0 0	OLLOY
0 0 0	MOORSLEDE	0 0 0	OLNE
0 0 0	MOORTZEELE	0 0 0	OLSENE
0 0 0	MORESNET(BELGE)	0 0 0	OOLEN
0 0 0	MORHET	0 0 0	OORDEGEM
0 0 0	MORIALME	0 0 0	OOSTACKER
0 0 0	MORLANWELZ	0 0 0	OOSTCAMP

0	OOSTDUNKERKE	0 0 0	QUIEVRAIN
0 0 0	OOSTERZEELE	0 0 0	RANCE
0 0 0	OOSTHAM	0 0 0	RANSART
0 0 0	OOSTMALLE	0 0 0	REBAIX
0 0 0	OOST-ROOSEBEKE	0 0 0	REBECQ
0 0 0	OOSTVLETEREN	0 0 0	RECKHEIM
0 0 0	OPWYCK	0	REGISSA
0 0 0	ORCHIMONT	0 0 0	REMICOURT
0	ORDANGE	0 0	RENAIX
0 0 0	OREYE	0 0 0	RESSAIX
0 0 0	ORMEIGNIES	0 0 0	RETHY
0 0 0	ORP	0 0 0	REVES
0	OSTENDE	0 0 0	RHISNE
0	OSTENDE(MARIAKERKE)	0 0	RHODE-ST.GENESE
0	OSTENDE(STATION)	0 0 0	RIXENSART
0 0 0	OTHEE	0 0 0	ROANNE-COO
0 0 0	OTTIGNIES	0 0 0	ROCHEFORT
0 0 0	UDENBURG	0	ROCLERGE
0 0 0	OUFFET	0 0 0	ROCOUR
0 0 0	OUGREE	0 0 0	ROEULX(LE)
0 0 0	OVERMEIRE	0 0 0	ROISIN
0 0 0	OVERPELT	0 0 0	RONQUIERES
0 0 0	OVERYSSCHE	0 0 0	ROOBORST
0	OYGHEN	0 0 0	ROOSBEEK
0 0 0	PALISEUL	0 0 0	ROSEE
0 0 0	PAMEL	0	ROSOUX-GOYER
0 0 0	PASSCHENDAELE	0 0 0	ROTUEUX-RIMIERE
0 0 0	PATURAGES	0 0	ROULERS
0 0 0	PECQ	0 0 0	ROUSBRUGGE-HARINGHE
0 0 0	PEER	0 0 0	ROUX
0 0 0	PEISSANT	0 0 0	RUDDERVOORDE
0 0 0	PEPINGHEN	0 0 0	RUMBEKE
0 0 0	PEPINSTER	0 0 0	RUMES
0 0 0	PERUWELZ	0 0 0	RUMPST
0 0 0	PERWEZ	0 0 0	RUPELMONDE
0	PETEGEM-LEZ-AUDENARDE	0 0 0	RUYEN
0 0 0	PETIT-FAYS	0 0 0	RUYSBROECK
0 0 0	PETIT-RECHAIN	0 0 0	RUYSSELEDE
0 0 0	PETIT-ROSIERE	0 0 0	RYCKEVORSEL
0 0 0	PHILIPPEVILLE	0 0 0	SAFFELAERE
0 0 0	PIETON	0	ST-AMAND
0 0 0	PIPAIX	0 0 0	ST-BERNARD
0	PIRONCHAMPS	0 0 0	STE CECILE
0 0 0	PITTHEM	0	STE CROIX
0 0 0	PLOEGSTEERT	0 0 0	ST DENIS-BOVESSE
0 0 0	POIX	0	ST DENIS-WESTREM
0 0 0	PONT-A-CELLES	0	ST GENOIS
0 0 0	POPERINGHE	0 0 0	ST GEORGES-SUR-MEUSE
0 0 0	POULSEUR	0 0 0	ST GERARD
0 0 0	PROFONDEVILLE	0 0 0	ST GHISLAIN
0 0 0	PUERS	0	ST GILLES-BRUX(CH.CHARLEROI)
0 0 0	PUTTE	0	ST GILLES(CH.DE CHARLEROY)
0 0 0	QUAREGNON	0	ST GILLES(Belles MONNAIE)
0 0 0	QUAREGNON-MONSVILLE	0	ST GILLES(HOTEL COMMUNAL)
0 0 0	QUATRECHT	0	ST GILLES(PLACE DU SUD)
0 0 0	QUENAST	0	ST GILLES-LEZ-TERMONDE
0 0 0	QUEVAUCAMPS	0	ST GILLES-WAES
0 0 0	QUEVY-LE-PETIT	0	ST HUBERT

0 0 0 ST JOSSE-TEN-NOODE(R.DU
 MERIDIEN)
 0 ST JOSSE-TEN-NOODE(CH.DE
 LOUVAIN)
 0 ST LAURENT
 0 0 0 ST LEGER
 0 ST LEONARD
 0 0 0 STE MARIABURG
 0 0 0 ST MEDARD
 0 0 ST NICOLAS
 0 0 0 ST NICOLAS(LIEGE)
 0 ST PAUL
 0 ST PIERRE-CAPELLE(HAINAUT)
 0 0 0 ST SAUVEUR
 0 0 0 ST SERVAIS
 0 ST TROND
 0 SAINTES
 0 SALZINNE(NAMUR)
 0 0 0 SANTBERGEN
 0 0 0 SANTHOVEN
 0 0 0 SANTVLIET
 0 0 0 SART-DAMES-AVELINNES
 0 0 0 SAUVENIERE
 0 0 0 SAVENTHEM
 0 0 SCHAERBEEK(R.ROYALE-STE-
 MARIE
 0 SCHAERBEEK(DEUX-PONTS)
 0 0 0 SCHELDEWINDEKE
 0 0 0 SCHELLEBELLE
 0 0 0 SCHEPDAEL
 0 0 0 SCHOONAARDE
 0 0 0 SCORISSE
 0 0 0 SCOOTEN
 0 0 0 SCHRIECK
 0 0 0 SCLAYN
 0 0 0 SCLESSIN
 0 0 0 SEILLES
 0 0 0 SELOIGNES
 0 0 0 SELAETE
 0 0 0 SENEFFE
 0 0 0 SENY
 0 0 0 SENZEILLES
 0 0 SERAING
 0 0 0 SIBRET
 0 SICHEM-LEZ-DIEST
 0 0 0 SIGNEULX
 0 0 0 SILENRIEUX
 0 0 0 SILLY
 0 SINAY
 0 0 0 SIRAUT
 0 0 0 SIVRY
 0 0 0 SLEYDINGE
 0 SOIGNIES
 0 0 0 SOLRE-ST.GERY
 0 0 0 SOLRE-SUR-SAMBRE
 0 0 0 SOMBREFFE
 0 0 0 SOMERGEM
 0 0 0 SOTTEGEM

0 0 0 SOUMAGNE
 0 0 0 SOUVRET
 0 0 0 SOY(LUXEMBOURG)
 0 0 0 SPA
 0 0 0 SPONTIN
 0 0 0 SPRIMONT
 0 0 0 SPY
 0 0 0 STABROECK
 0 0 0 STADEN
 0 STALHILLE
 0 0 0 STAMBRUGES
 0 0 0 STATTE(HUY)
 0 0 0 STAVE
 0 0 0 STAVELT
 0 0 0 STEENDORP
 0 0 0 STEKENE
 0 0 0 STEVOORT
 0 0 0 STOU MONT
 0 0 0 STREE
 0 0 0 SUGNY
 0 0 0 SURICE
 0 0 0 SWEVEGHEM
 0 0 0 SWEVEZEELE
 0 0 0 SYNGHEM
 0 0 0 TAILLIS-PRE
 0 TAINTEGNIES
 0 0 0 TAINTIGNIES
 0 0 0 TAMINES
 0 TAMISE
 0 0 0 TAVIGNY
 0 0 0 TELLIN
 0 0 0 TEMPLEUVE
 0 0 0 TERHAEGEN
 0 0 TERMONDE
 0 0 0 TERNATH
 0 0 0 TERTRE
 0 0 0 TERVUEREN
 0 0 0 TESSENDERLOO
 0 0 0 TESTELT
 0 TETE-DE-FLANDRE
 0 0 0 THEUX
 0 0 0 THIELEN
 0 0 0 THIELRODE
 0 0 0 THIELT
 0 0 0 THIEU
 0 0 0 THIMISTER-CLERMONT
 0 0 0 THOLLEMBEEK
 0 0 0 THOUROUT
 0 0 0 THUILLIES
 0 THUIN
 0 THUIN(OUEST)
 0 0 0 THULIN
 0 0 0 THY-LE-CHATEAU
 0 0 0 THIEGHEM
 0 0 0 TILFF
 0 0 0 TILLET
 0 0 0 TILLEUR
 0 0 0 TILLY

0 0 0	TINTIGNY	0 0 0	WACHTEBEKE
0	TIRLEMONT(CENTRE)	0 0 0	WACKEN
0	TIRLEMONT(STATION)	0 0 0	WAEREGHEM
0 0	TONGRES	0 0 0	WAERSCHOOT
0	TOURNAI	0 0 0	WAESMUNSTER
0	TOURNAI(STATION)	0 0 0	WALCOURT
0	TOURNEPPE	0 0 0	WALHAIN-ST-PAUL
0 0 0	TOURPES	0 0 0	WANDRE
0 0 0	TRAZEGNIES	0 0 0	WANFERCEE-BAULET
0 0 0	TREMBLEUR	0 0 0	WARCOING
0 0 0	TRIVIERES	0 0	WAREMME
0 0 0	TROIS-PONTS	0	WARNETON
0	TRONCHIENNES	0	WARQUIGNIES
0 0 0	TROOZ	0 0 0	WASMES
0 0 0	TUBIZE	0 0 0	WASSEIGES
0 0 0	TURNHOUT	0 0 0	WATERLOO
0	UCCLE	0 0 0	WATERMAEL
0 0 0	VAL-ST-LAMBERT	0	WATERMAEL-BOITSFORT
0 0 0	VAULX	0 0 0	WATERVLIET
0 0 0	VAUX-SOUS-CHEVREMONT	0 0 0	WATOU
0 0 0	VEDRIN	0 0 0	WAULSORT
0 0 0	VELAINES	0	WAUTHIER-BRAINE
0 0 0	VELAINE-SUR-SAMBRE	0 0 0	WAVRE
0 0 0	VELSIQUE-RUDDERSHOVE	0	WAVRE-NOTRE-DAME
0 0 0	VELTHEM	0	WAVRE-ST-CATHERINE
0 0 0	VELLAINE(LIEGE)	0 0 0	WEERDE
0 0 0	VERTRYCK	0 0 0	WEERT-ST GEORGES
0 0 0	VERVIERS	0 0 0	WELKENRAEDT
0	VERVIERS(EST)	0 0 0	WELLEN
0 0	VERVIERS(OUEST)	0 0 0	WELLIN
0 0 0	VEZIN	0 0 0	WENDUYNE
0 0 0	VICHTE	0 0 0	WEPION
0 0 0	VIELSALM	0 0 0	WERBOMONT
0 0 0	VIERSET	0 0 0	WERCHTER
0 0 0	VIERVES	0 0 0	WERVICQ
0 0 0	VIESVILLE	0 0 0	WESEMBECK-OPHEM
0	VIRUX-DIEU	0 0 0	WESPELAER
0	VIRUX-TURNHOUT	0 0 0	WESTCAPELLE
0 0 0	VILLE-POMEROUL	0 0 0	WESTERLOO
0	VILLERS-DEVANT-ORVAL	0 0 0	WEST-ROOSEBEKE
0 0 0	VILLERS-LA-VILLE	0 0 0	WETTEREN
0 0 0	VILLERS-LE-BOUILLET	0 0 0	WEVELGHEM
0 0 0	VILLERS-LE-GAMBON	0 0 0	WICHELEN
0 0 0	VILLERS-L'EVEQUE	0 0 0	WIDEMONT
0 0 0	VILLERS-SUR-LESSE-JAMBLINNE	0 0 0	WIELSBEKE
0 0	VILVORDE	0 0 0	WIERS
0 0 0	VIRGINAL	0 0 0	WIEZE
0 0 0	VIRTON	0	WILDERT(ESSCHEN)
0 0 0	VISE	0 0 0	WILLEBROECK
0 0 0	VIVEGNIS	0 0 0	WILRYCK
0	VIVIERS-D'OIE(UCCLE)	0 0 0	WINENNE
0 0 0	VLAMERTINGHE	0	WINGHE-ST GEORGES
0 0 0	VOLLEZEELE	0 0 0	WODECQ
0 0 0	VONECHE	0 0 0	WOLUWE-ST ETIENNE
0 0 0	VORSSELAER	0 0	WOLUWE-ST LAMBERT
0 0 0	VOTTEM	0 0 0	WOLVERTHEM
0 0 0	VRACENE	0 0 0	WONDELGEM
0 0 0	VRESSE	0 0 0	WUESTWEZEL

0 0 0 WULVERINGEM
 0 WYCHMAEL (BRABANT)
 0 WYCHMAEL (LIMBOURG)
 0 0 0 WYNEGHEM
 0 0 0 WYNGENE
 0 WYNKEL-STE CROIX
 0 WYTSCHAETE
 0 0 YPRES
 0 0 0 YVES-GOMEZBE
 0 0 0 YVOIR
 0 0 0 ZARREN
 0 0 0 ZEDELGHEM
 0 0 0 ZEE-BRUGGE
 0 0 0 ZEELHEM
 0 0 0 ZELE
 0 0 0 ZONNEBEKE
 0 0 0 ZULTE
 0 0 0 ZWYNAERDE
 0 0 0 ZWYNDRECHT



Bien avant l'O.S. du 19.10.1910 certains bureaux au type I utilisaient déjà le mois en chiffres romains. Voici ceux rencontrés:

- O AISEAU
- O AMAY
- O ANDERLECHT
- O BASECLES
- O BRASSCHAET
- O CASTERLE
- O COUILLET
- O BRASSCHAET
- O CASTERLE
- O COUILLET
- O DEURNE(SUD)
- O FARCIENNES
- O FAYT-LEZ-SENEFFE
- O FRAMERIES
- O GEDINNE
- O LOOZ
- O MOUSTIER
- O PERWEZ
- O VERVIER
- O VRESSE
- O WATERMAEL
- O WYNEGHEM



(TO BE CONTINUED)

FIRST WORLD WAR 1914-1918 DUTCH INTERNMENT CAMP MAIL

INTRODUCTION

At a recent meeting of the Belgian Study Circle held in London, a display on this topic was given by Iain Stevenson, supported by other members. It became obvious that although 80-years have passed since this event occurred, there is only a limited amount of literature on this subject, especially in the English language. This article is, therefore, an attempt to fill this gap so that members will at least know what to look for – but don't expect to find large numbers of covers in this country, especially of the smaller camps and depots. However, they do exist and may be found with a degree of patience.

PREVIOUS STUDIES

The two main studies that I am familiar with are themselves becoming scarce. The first – in Dutch by K. E. König, was a collection of articles which had appeared in the *Nederlandsch Maandblad Voor Philatelie* between 1947 and 1952. Published by the S.P.A. Amsterdam, it covers in 30+ pages a history and philatelic study of the camps in considerable detail.

This was followed in 1978 by a book by René Silverberg entitled "Le Courrier des Militaires Belges Internés aux Pays-Bas et en Suisse (1914-1918)". Obviously in French but concentrated on the Belgian Soldiers, whereas our interests also extend to the other nationalities who were interned. Silverberg extends the postmark and censor mark information and his book covers the internees in Switzerland as part of his study.

Within this country, Harry Green was interested in this topic as a "sideline" and he accumulated a small collection. However, lack of English literature hampered his progress until, in 1965, he re-established contact with an old friend, Frederick Wren, who was an antique dealer in Eastbourne. Over the next seven years or so, Mr. Wren, who was connected with the Netherlands & Colonies Study Circle, was able to provide sufficient information to write-up the various covers that Harry possessed. Mr. Wren obtained a Silver Medal for his display at Philympia 1970 and wrote a brief article in 1971 bringing our present knowledge up-to-date in English on this subject. His article formed the basis of a previous display given to our Circle on 24th September, 1977.

In compiling this article, therefore, I acknowledge the factual information provided by the sources referred to above which is used as a foundation. However, I intend to provide more illustrations to explain the type of markings, envelopes, cards, etc. existing and also to extend some sections e.g. temporary camps, working parties, which have only been lightly dwelt upon in previous literature. Likewise the non-Belgian internees and refugees who were present in Holland during the war.

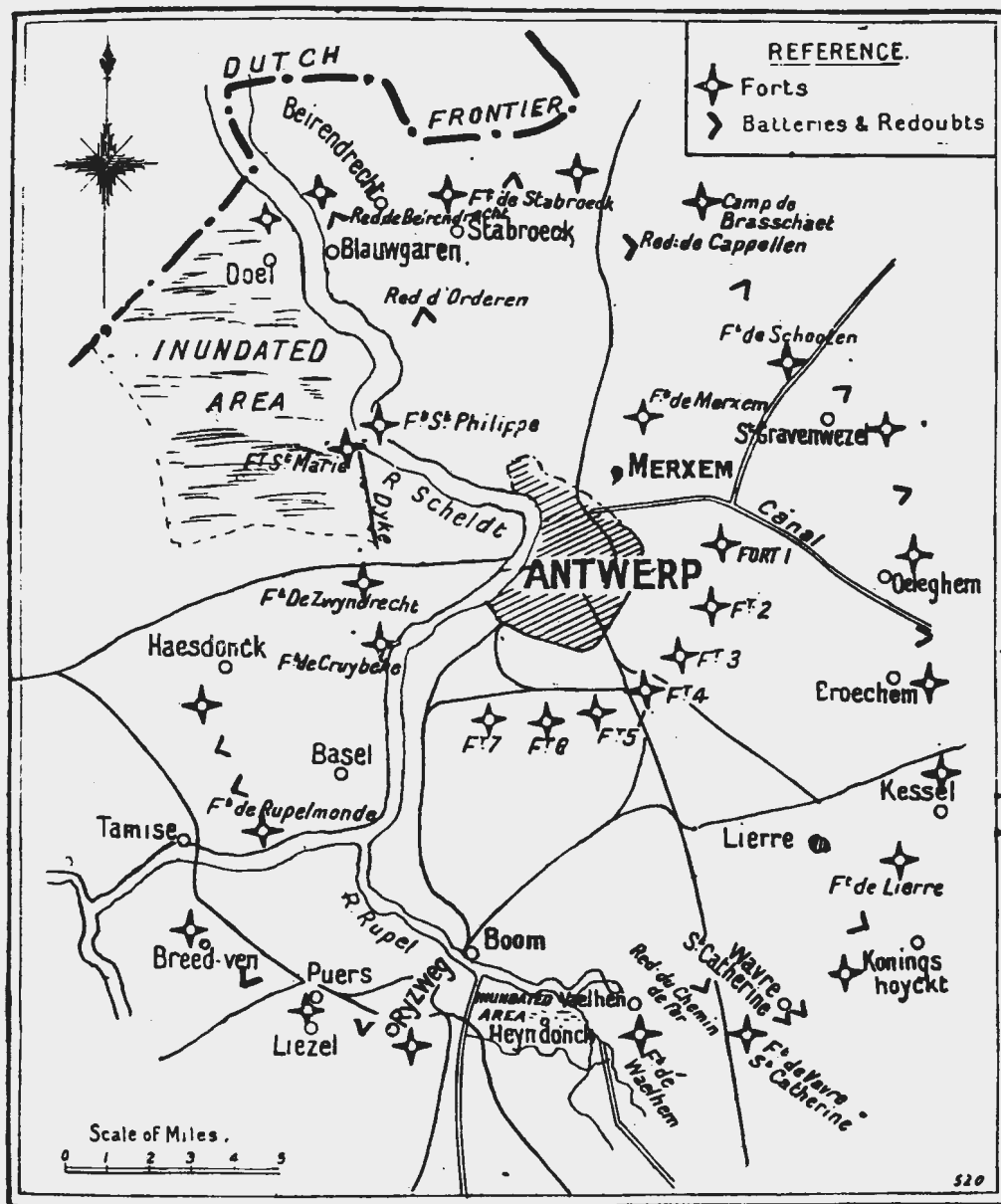
DEFINITION AND STATUS OF INTERNMENT

Before proceeding to the outbreak of war itself, a brief explanation of the legalities involved. In 1864, the Geneva Convention was signed by the Chief Nations of the World regulating the treatment of the wounded in war. It was later extended to cover the treatment of the sick, prisoners and the protection of civilians in wartime and a major revision was agreed in Rome in 1906. At that convention the position and non-abuse of the Red Cross protection was also clarified. Additionally, the Hague Convention of 1907 covered the prevention of war (armaments control) and regulations for exchange of correspondence in the event of war

occurring. This covered the establishment of agencies in various countries through which mail could be channelled. Sadly to say, within seven years these provisions became necessarily operational.

Internment, therefore, within a neutral country was only applicable to military personnel from the belligerent nations. Hence within Holland there were internees from Germany as well as Belgium and Great Britain. Under the regulations, military personnel were disarmed on arrival and were required to be interned for the duration of the war. This requirement

"stretched" the interpretation of the regulations, as will be explained later. I emphasise that an internee is not a prisoner of war and cannot be if within a neutral country. In the case of civilians who flee to another country - they receive the status of refugees. Some of the camps in Holland contained both internees and refugees during the war.



Defenses of Antwerp 1914

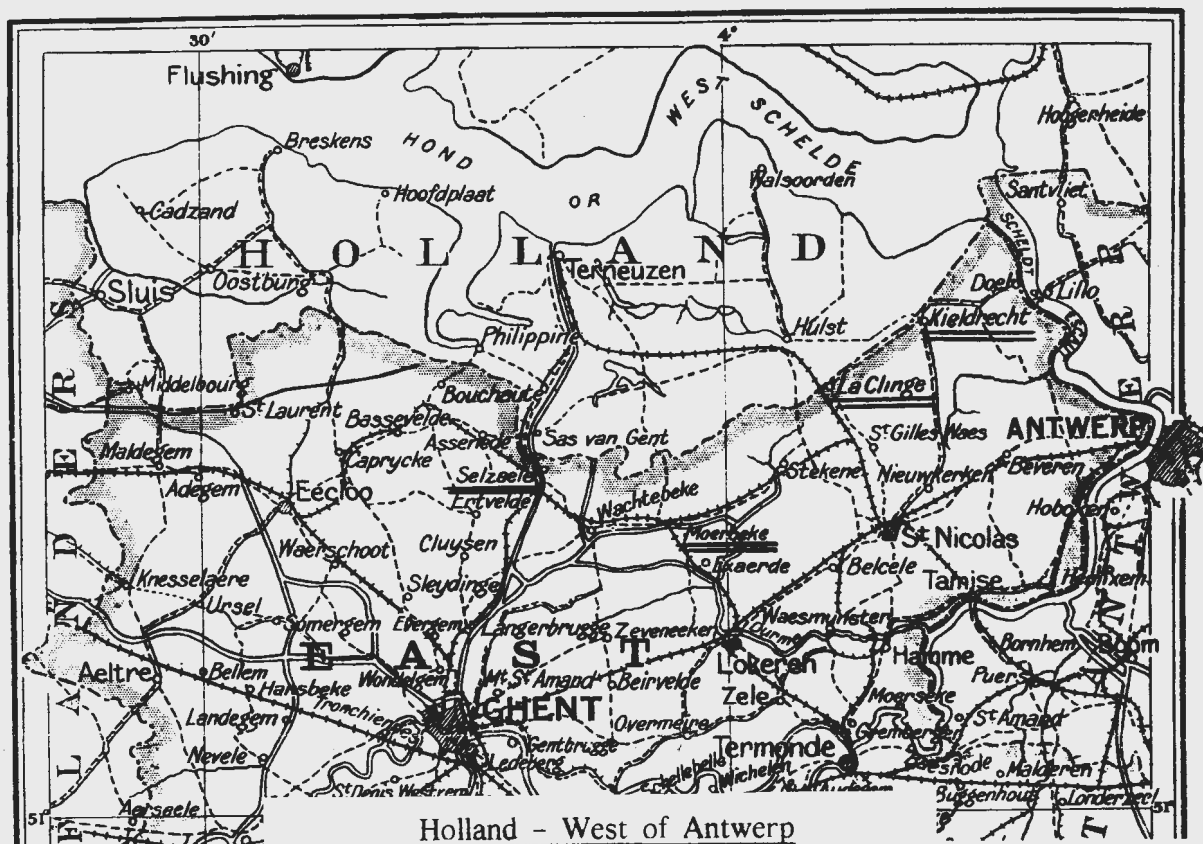
THE INVASION PERIOD

From the initial invasion of Belgium at Visé on 4th August, 1914, to the fall of Antwerp on 10th October, appears in retrospect to be a long period (although somewhat fast by contemporary standards). From the German viewpoint, it was frustratingly slow as the long rehearsed Schlieffen plan, first drawn up in 1905, was intended to speedily storm through a passive Belgium and encircle Paris. However, the heroic defence by the albeit small Belgian Army stalled the German progress and was to change the course of events. The defence of Liege and Antwerp resulted in the German Army pushing on towards the English Channel, leaving the Belgian Army confined to the strip of the country between Antwerp and Ostend.

Whilst half of the Army was defending the coastal section, the remainder was somewhat detached defending Antwerp. In company with around 2,200 members of the British Naval Division, sent on the orders of Winston Churchill (who had to be dissuaded by his colleagues from going himself), they were defending Antwerp with its carefully laid out series of forts and defenses (see illustration). These defenses were considered to be impregnable but unfortunately did not allow for the new generation of siege guns available and subsequently brought up by the German Army. Although Antwerp has direct access via the River Scheldt to the North Sea, it passes through Dutch territory. Without infringing Dutch neutrality, the river could not, therefore, be used to ferry supplies and reinforcements to the besieged city. It soon became obvious that Antwerp would be destroyed by the Germans if it did not surrender.

The Belgian Government, which had earlier transferred from Brussels to Antwerp because of its impregnability, had itself on 6th October departed for Le Havre – an understandable move but hardly likely to instil confidence in the remaining occupants of the city. Amazingly, a large part of the Belgian Army was able to quietly slip away and rejoin the Field Army around Ypres, together with King Albert, just before the city capitulated.

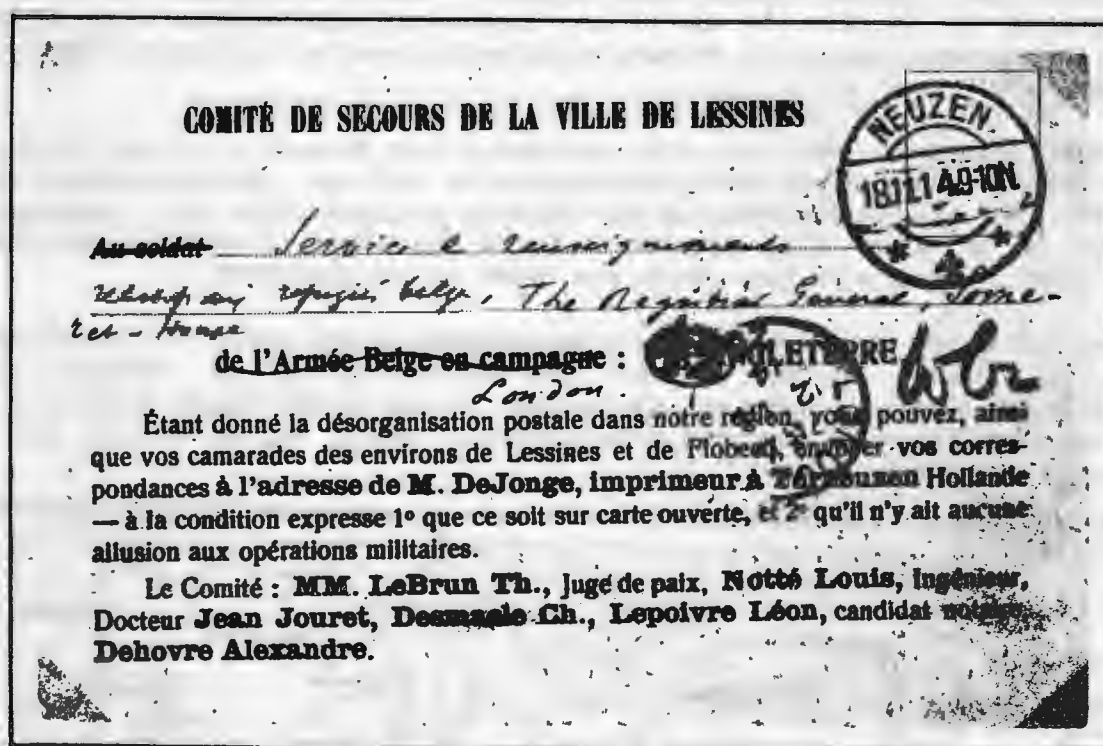
To enable this escape, it was necessary to retain defending troops against the German Army until the last moment. For these defenders there was only one way out – Holland – or be captured by the Germans. When the time arrived, around 33,000 Belgian Soldiers, 1,500 British and a few French were destined to be interned in Holland. Not all, however, survived the duration of the war.



CROSSING THE FRONTIER

When Antwerp fell, German troops had control of much of the river although many injured troops were evacuated by boat to the Rilland-Bath area. Those left were forced to move, therefore, either to the east or west of the city. To the west lies the Dutch district of Zeeuws-Flanders reached by the routes north via Kieldrecht, Die Klinge, Moerbeke and Zelzate. Escape westwards was blocked by the line of Gent-Terneuzen canal. From the east, the routes into the Dutch province of North-Brabant were crowded, especially in the Tilburg/Breda direction. This route also bore the brunt of the exodus of Belgian civilian refugees. Out of an estimated 1,000,000 who fled, 700,000 went into Holland. Contemporary accounts refer to the chaos, caused especially by the civilian carts, etc. bearing their meagre possessions, intermingled with armed military personnel but, above all, the pitiful scene of a fleeing population frightened by war.

To return to the title of this article - internees - we must ignore the civilian refugees and concentrate on the military personnel.



Official Card from Terneuzen 18th Nov. 1914

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

As a routine precaution, the Dutch Government had mobilised its troops and moved them up to the frontiers of both Belgium and Germany. Until war broke out, it was believed that Belgium would also retain its neutral status along with Holland as part of the agreement of the Great Powers, but Holland was taking no chances.

On crossing the frontier, the Allied troops were met by Dutch Army staff and relieved of their weapons before being directed to the nearest available place of internment. Some managed to bypass the Dutch military and were able to reach Vlissingen from whence a ferry boat would transfer them back to the unoccupied part of Belgium/France to rejoin their fighting colleagues.

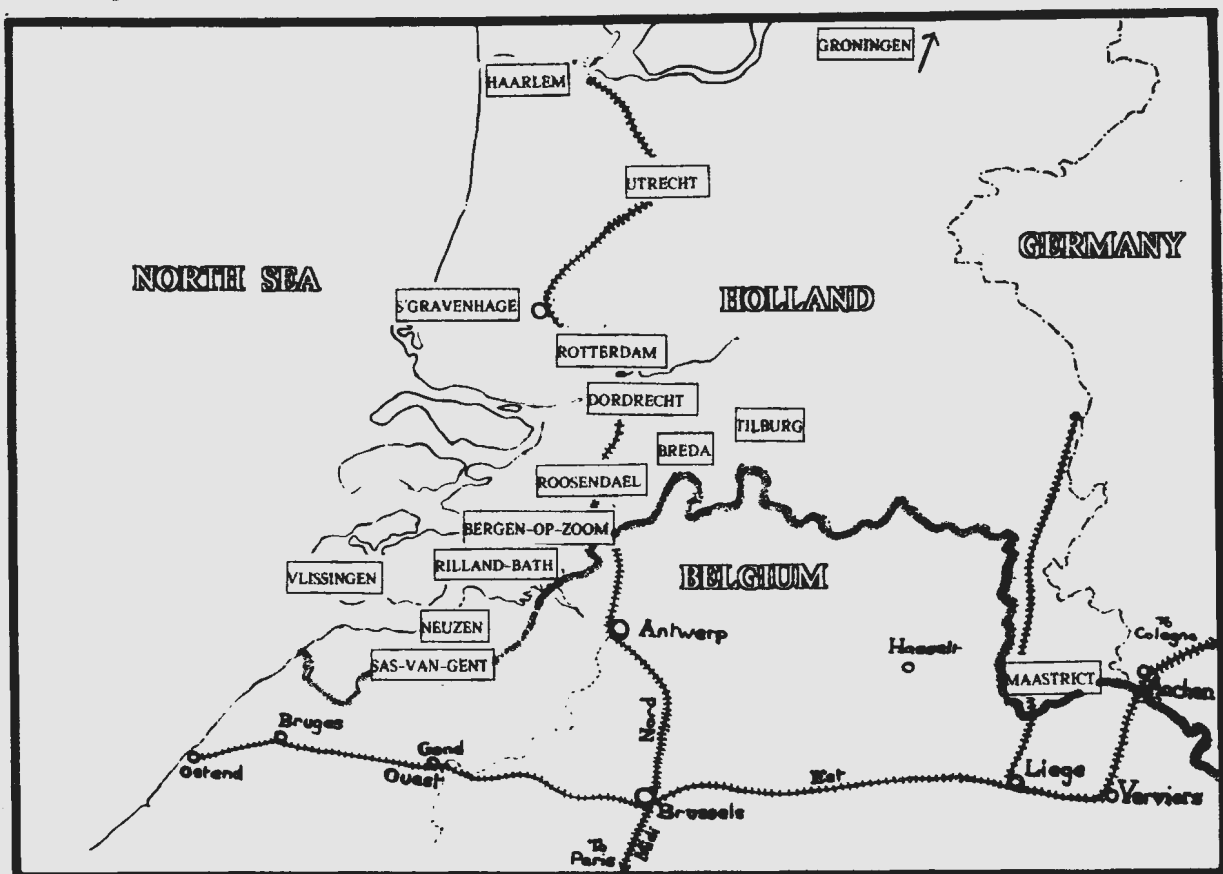
As a result of the Dutch Army being moved up to the frontier, their normal camps were part empty and therefore provided ample accommodation for the incoming internees. The major camps were opened from 10th October, 1914, and the estimated number of internees is as follows:

Amersfoort/Zeist	16,500
Harderwijk	8,000
Assen	2,500
Kampen	1,600
Zwolle	350
Loosduinen	1,450
Leeuwarden	1,550

It is stressed that these were temporary arrangements put into effect whilst more permanent plans were concluded, although some of these camps became permanent.

In addition, over 800 sick or wounded were placed in hospitals and clinics in the towns of Breda, Dordrecht, Roosendaal, Tilburg and Utrecht prior to their transfer to hospitals around Rotterdam. After recovery they were transferred back to internee camps. Some seriously ill were 'exchanged' to enable them to return to their home country. Included in this category were Germans as well as Allied personnel. By the end of the war over 450 had died during internment, 2,800 had escaped so that at the Armistice there were just under 30,000 Belgian soldiers still interned.

Many of the camps listed above were a good distance from the Belgian frontier and, therefore, transit camps were set up on an emergency basis whilst transfer arrangements were completed.



Transit Locations - Autumn 1914

Recording of these transit camps is somewhat incomplete but mail is known to have been posted from the following towns during 1914:

<u>POSTMARK</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>OTHER DETAILS</u>
Bergen-op-Zoom * 1 *	28.11.14	Committee Handstamp
Maastricht * 9 *	20.11.14	With Censor Label
Maastricht * 6 *	25.11.14	With Censor Label
Maastricht * 3 *	30.11.14	Censor Cachet
Neuzen * 4 *	18.11.14	Official Pink Card
Neuzen * 4 *	21.11.14	5c Card + Dutch Stamp
Neuzen * 3 *	19.11.14	5c Card + Dutch Stamps - Express
Sas-Van-Gent	19.11.14	Consulat Cachet
Sas-Van-Gent	23.11.14	Consulat Cachet
Vlissingen * 4 *	19.11.14	With Censor Label
Vlissingen * 4 *	27.11.1	
S. Gravenhage * 1 *	26.11.14	

geïnterneerd Militair in Nederland
Post-vrij
BRIEFKAART

aan an Registrar Somerset House
W. E.

(Desverkiezende in te vullen).
 Afzender : _____

Londen

Card sent from S'Gravenhage 26th Nov. 1914

(TO BE CONTINUED)