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Belgian Study Circle

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The Journal of the
Belgian Study CircleAPRIL 1992CONTENTS

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SECRETARY'S NOTES

The first meeting of 1992 was on 25th January when we held a short and successful auction; there was also a working discussion on the rates and routes operating at the outbreak of the French Revolution, when we were joined by Stan Bidmead of the France & Colonies Society. It was realised that a lot of work has to be done. Owing to sickness, George Hollings could not give his display of the Classic Stamps of Belgium - we must await that pleasure next season. I am glad to say that he is now in better health.

The Circle Lunch

Seventeen members and friends sat down to a very enjoyable lunch on the 14th March, in the Senior Common Room at Regent's College. It was very pleasing that some of our newer members were on parade and we were all delighted to welcome Doris and Rosemary Green.

After lunch, our Chairman put on a very good display of Railway Postmarks up to 1900. As we were pressed for time, we could not enjoy it to the full. We hope to see this display again in the coming season when we can give it the attention it deserves.

The menu photograph was a photo of a portrait of Leopold the First, King of the Belgians, painted by Sir William Ross, engraved by J. H. Robinson. It forms a pair with the 1991 menu photograph. Copies of these photographs may be obtained at £2 each or £3 the pair.

During the afternoon, the competition for the Churchill Crown took place. There were six entries and it was won by Bernard Berkinshaw Smith, on the toss of a coin, with a document of 1795 showing the first mention of Belgium as an entity.

The other entries were:-

- 1) 2 Fr. Tin Hat with a coloured postmark.
- 2) Kitchener Card with a Military Postmark.
- 3) An Express Stamp on Telephone Form with Bruxelles 14 postmark enclosing a Bruxelles Exhibition 1897 Telegraph Form.
- 4) 20 c. Pellens Large Head no name created from the top of a 20c Large Head with name on the 20 c. 1893 Sunday Label.

It would make things easier on the day if members would say why they like the item, whatever the reason.

Joint Meeting

The Joint Meeting with the Congo Circle will be held the weekend of 12th/13th September and not 5th/6th September as previously stated. It will be discussed at the AGM and members who wish to attend will be circularised later. Please let me know if you are interested.

April, 1992

GEOFFREY WOOD

TREASURER'S NOTES

As part of the Annual General Meeting, a separate report will appear showing in detail the financial accounts of the Circle. Recent increases in printing, postage and room hire costs use up our subscription monies and our funds are "topped up" by income from auction commission, packet commission and bank interest. If the annual subscription is to be kept down, these sources of income will need to be encouraged and increased. Members who have suitable packet material surplus to their needs should contact the Packet Secretary, Tony Geake. For material more suitable for auction, contact either Geoffrey Wood or myself. As recent sales indicate, there is a strong demand for maps, books and other literature, as well as stamps and covers.

If sufficient material is offered, it is planned to hold the next auction in the autumn - start sorting now! Lists of previous auction results appear in this edition and will be continued in the future.

Finally, a decision on next year's subscription rate will be made at the A.G.M. and notified in due course - please help me and the Circle by prompt payment when notified. There are still a few members who have not paid (in part or in full) their 1991/92 dues. Would they please pay urgently if they wish to continue receiving the benefits of Circle membership.

April, 1992.

REG HARRISON

MEMBER NEWS

THE CIRCLE EXTENDS A WARM WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:-

- K. Carpenter Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.
Early issue and Railway Postal Service. Both cancels
and parcel stamps.
- M. Allbrook Cranleigh, Surrey.
1893 Small Beards.
- W. W. Moss Rangeworthy, Bristol.
Postmarks.

TO REPORT WITH REGRET THE DEATH OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:-

- Arnold Cuigniez February 1992
(see obituary in this issue)
- Jack McGilloway December 1991

BOOK REVIEW

"BRITISH POSTAL RATES TO EUROPE, 1836-1876" by G. F. Oxley, FRPS,L,
published by the Postal History Society, c/o George Henderson,
CBD Research Ltd, 15 Wickham Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 2JS.
A4 illustrated laminated covers, 130 pages, £30. 15BN 0-85377-023-9.

This is a very well produced and useful book for all those who collect
postal history of Great Britain but all who are in any way interested
in any European country.

The Postal Conventions - The Anglo/French 1836, and of 1843, the
Anglo/Prussian of 1846 are given in great detail and much information
to the various European countries, and including Registration, Newspaper
and other Printed Papers, Postcards and Armed Forces Privilege Rates
of Postage.

All those who know the author will appreciate the great amount of
research that he has done to present this volume for the many friends
and others who will enjoy his fine work.

S.J.A.

RESULTS OF SALE HELD 25th JANUARY, 1992

1	0.50	13	6.00	25	7.00	37	1.00	49	1.00	61	5.00
2	--	14	--	26	3.00	38	6.00	50	--	62	--
3	4.00	15	6.50	27	4.00	39	18.00	51	9.00	63	--
4	3.00	16	8.00	28	2.50	40	5.00	52	12.00	64	--
5	5.00	17	6.50	29	5.50	41	--	53	--	65	7.00
6	6.00	18	5.50	30	9.00	42	--	54	15.00	66	--
7	7.00	19	5.00	31	2.50	43	5.00	55	3.50	67	--
8	5.50	20	6.00	32	27.00	44	--	56	7.00	68	8.00
9	7.00	21	13.00	33	4.00	45	--	57	13.00	69	--
10	3.50	22	10.00	34	--	46	5.00	58	20.00	70	--
11	8.00	23	7.00	35	8.50	47	7.00	59	4.00	71	--
12	9.00	24	4.00	36	5.50	48	6.00	60	--		

RESULTS OF SALE HELD 5th OCTOBER, 1991

1	12.50	27	6.50	53	4.00	79	--	105	10.00	131	7.00
2	7.50	28	3.00	54	3.50	80	2.50	106	8.00	132	--
3	6.00	29	6.00	55	--	81	--	107	8.00	133	--
4	7.50	30	--	56	6.50	82	7.50	108	8.00	134	--
5	6.50	31	4.50	57	6.00	83	--	109	--	135	1.50
6	8.00	32	15.00	58	--	84	22.50	110	3.00	136	2.00
7	12.50	33	150.00	59	21.00	85	3.00	111	4.00	137	1.00
8	10.50	34	75.00	60	3.00	86	--	112	--	138	1.00
9	--	35	--	61	5.50	87	6.50	113	--	139	1.50
10	4.00	36	--	62	12.50	88	3.00	114	--	140	2.00
11	8.00	37	3.00	63	10.50	89	--	115	--	141	1.00
12	10.00	38	8.00	64	3.50	90	20.00	116	--	142	1.00
13	5.00	39	3.50	65	3.50	91	3.50	117	--	143	2.00
14	8.00	40	--	66	2.50	92	3.00	118	--	144	3.00
15	--	41	--	67	10.00	93	3.00	119	--	145	4.00
16	12.50	42	--	68	--	94	1.50	120	--	146	1.00
17	10.00	43	--	69	4.50	95	22.00	121	--	147	1.00
18	5.00	44	--	70	27.00	96	15.00	122	--	148	--
19	4.50	45	--	71	5.50	97	6.50	123	--	149	--
20	--	46	2.50	72	5.50	98	6.50	124	4.50	150	3.50
21	4.00	47	3.00	73	20.00	99	--	125	--	151	2.00
22	--	48	4.00	74	5.50	100	40.00	126	--	152	2.50
23	9.00	49	--	75	5.00	101	9.50	127	--	153	9.00
24	3.00	50	--	76	--	102	--	128	1.50	154	1.50
25	--	51	--	77	5.00	103	5.00	129	2.00		
26	60.00	52	--	78	--	104	4.50	130	1.00		

OBITUARY

ARNOLD CUIGNIEZ, HONORARY LIFE MEMBER
OF THE BELGIAN STUDY CIRCLE

I regret to report the death of Arnold Cuigniez on 6th February, not long after the death of his wife, Kay.

Arnold joined the Circle in December, 1947, shortly after its foundation. He was the doyen of the Circle, being over 91.

In the early years, he translated most of the magazine Revue du Specialiste, which ran from January, 1948 to December, 1950, for the benefit of those members who could not tackle French.

Arnold will always be associated with the "Auto Canons" and the history of the Belgian Armoured Car Unit on the Russian front and its return to Europe via the U.S.A. Arnold also aroused our interests in Box 506 Lisbon and the Belgian Post Offices in France during World War II.

Arnold was a regular attendant at our meetings and he and Kay were keen supporters of our Annual Lunches. Also, Arnold was only too ready to assist fellow members with their researches by the loan of his material.

I will always remember the tale he told of his uncle in Warcoing at the turn of the century urging Arnold's parents to write to him once a day so that the postal business at Warcoing Post Office would warrant it being upgraded!

Thank you, Arnold, for all you did for the Belgian Study Circle.



Geoffrey Wood.

THE BRUSSELS-LONDON 1920 AIR SERVICE

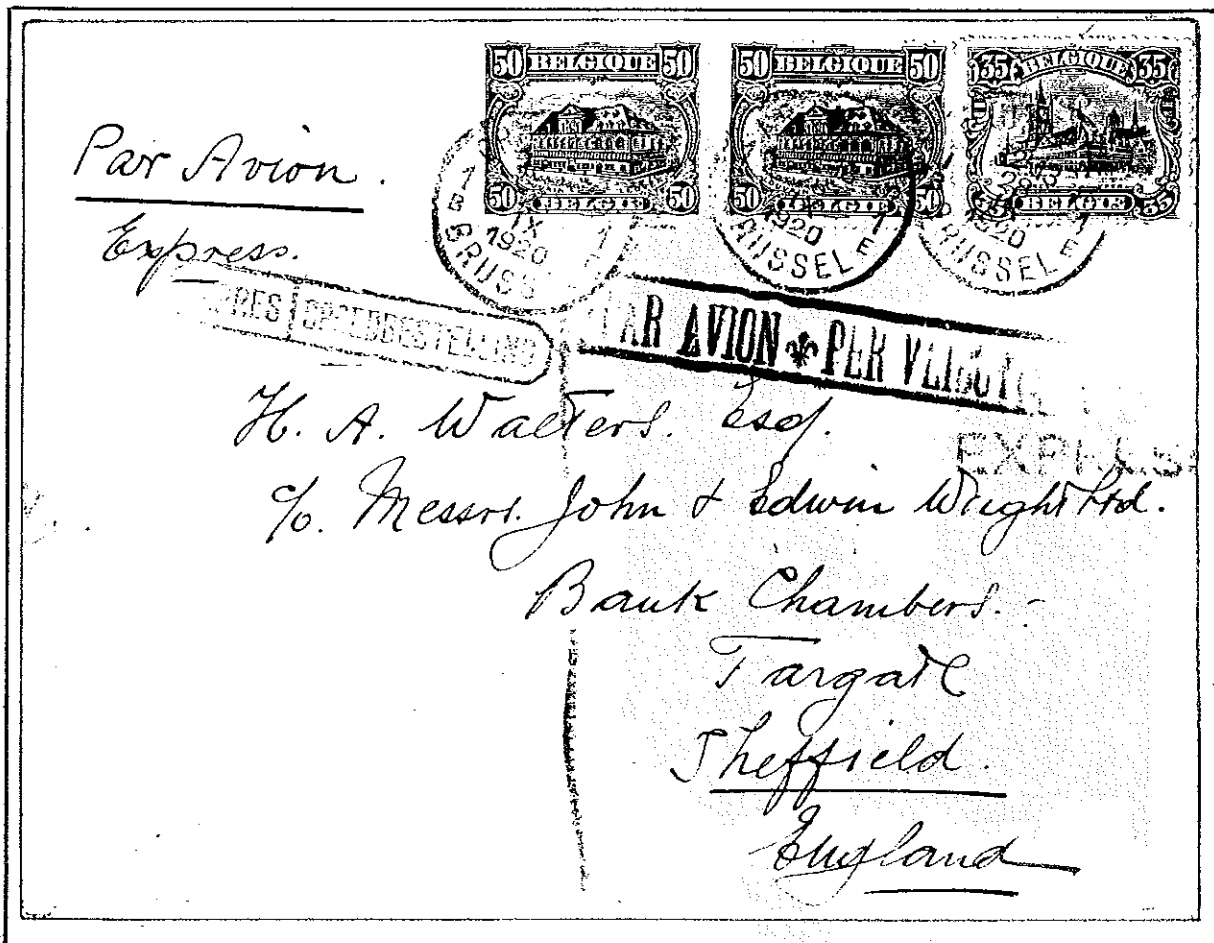
The history of Belgian airlines dates from 1919 when, at the instigation of King Albert, a corporation entitled "SYNDICAT NATIONALE POUR L'ETUDE DES TRANSPORTS AÉRIENS" was formed, and known as "SNETA". The airline commenced operations in 1920 and regular services to Paris and London started in July, 1920.

For many years it has been considered that the service to London began on 19th July but in the Christies Robson Lowe Auction Sale Catalogue of 21st February, 1991, Lot 418, there is an official crested cover with a similar enclosed letter sheet from the Belgian Postmaster General. It is dated from Brussels 20 July 1920. It shows the "Service des Postes" cachet and the boxed cachet "PAR AVION PER VLIETIUG".

The London date stamp arrival of the same date, the letter is endorsed by Illingworth, "By first airplane post from Brussels July 20, 1920 A.H.I."

On the basis of this letter between the respective Postmasters, it would appear that it took place on 20 July, some mail being accepted and date stamped in Brussels on the previous day.

We give a letter dated 28 September 1920, showing the boxed cachet shown for these early flights.



THE RAILWAY PARCELS POST CANCELLATIONS
HEXAGON CANCELLATIONS

by A. D. GEAKE

The listing of hexagon cancellations in the late Tom Jones' "The Railway Parcels Post Cancellations of Belgium" totals 292 cancellations. Many more cancellations have come to light since this listing was published in 1974, and with the aim of building up as complete a listing as possible, all cancellations from the 1974 Jones list plus those I have seen which were not in that list, are set out below. I would be very glad to have details of other hexagon cancellations which members may have in their collection, and also confirmation of those listed by Jones which I have not yet been able to confirm (I am doubtful about the listings of Audenarde - I have Audenaerde, and Bruxelles on its own; also in several cases I have seen octagonal telegraph cancellations but not hexagonal railway cancellations - it is easy to confuse these).

I think it will also be of interest to attempt to extend the listing of dates given by Jones, so I should be glad to have a note of any earlier or later than those in his list, or in the case of new cancellations, any dates seen.

At this stage, I am not attempting to list minor differences for the same station, such as size of lettering, make-up of the time/date section, etc. If several collectors are interested, this could form an extension of the listing at a later date. I have followed Jones in listing varieties of punctuation by the same station e.g. Anvers-Est is listed as well as Anvers (Est). On this basis, I have collected 270 cancellations and confirmed the existence of a further 67 in exhibitions, other collections, etc. To this may be added perhaps 82 of the 84 further cancellations listed by Jones but not yet confirmed, giving a total of 419. I would not be surprised if this total exceeds 500 once contributions from other members have been included.

One other aspect which should be covered is the identification of cancellations used on the private lines. These are generally slightly larger, and in the case of the stations on the Hasselt-Maeseyck and Termonde-St. Nicolas lines, there is an ornament at the base of the hexagon (Jones, Fig.6). Those on the Malines-Terneuzen line have a distinctive larger type-face for the year. The cancellations of Iseghem (of which there are at least three types) have the lettering with serifs and include three ornaments (Jones, Fig.5); this may be a private line cancellation for the Flanders Occidentale line. The 419 total cancellations include 13 likely to have been used on private lines:

Flanders Occidentale	:	Iseghem
Hasselt-Maeseyck	:	Eelen, Genck, Maeseyck
Malines-Terneuzen	:	Bornhem, Hulst, St. Nicolas M.T, Tamise
Termonde-St. Nicolas	:	Belgele, Gremb-Moerzeke, Hamme, St.
Nicolas (Ouest), Waesmunster	:	

It would be of great interest to learn of any other hexagon cancellations which can be assigned to private lines.

Key to abbreviations:

P = used on postage stamp
 T = used on telegraph stamp
 M-T = Malines-Terneuzen private line
 H-M = Hasselt-Maeseyck private line (Jones Fig.6)
 T-StN = Termonde-St. Nicolas private line (Jones Fig.6)
 ?FO = possibly Flanders Occidentale private line (Jones Fig.5)
 ? = possible deletion from Jones list

	OFFICE	CONFIRMED		LISTED BY JONES BUT NOT CONFIRMED	ADDITIONAL TO JONES LIST
		PERSONALLY SEEN	ADDITIONAL REPORTINGS		
	Acoz			x	
	Acren	x			
	Adinkerke			x	
	Aeltre	x			
	Alost	x			
	Alost (centre)	x			
	Alost-Est			x	
	Amougies			x	
	Ans			x	
	Anseghem		x		
	Antoing	x			
	Anvaing			x	
	Anvers-Boulevard-Leopold	x			
	Anvers-Est			x	
	Anvers (Est)	x			
	Anvers (Place Verte)	x			
	Anvers-Sud	x			
	Anvers (Sud)	x			x
	Anvers Sud Quais (Transit)No.1	x			
	Anvers (Transit) No.1			x	
	Arlon	x			
	Arlon-Quai	x			x
	Assenede		x		x
	Assesse			x	
	Ath	x			
	Athus		x		x
	Aubel	x			
	Audenaerde	x			x
?	Audenaerde			x	
	Auvelais			x	
	Aveighem	x			
	Avennes			x	
	Baelen-sur-Nethe		x		x
	Barry-Maulde	x			
	Basecles (station)			x	
P	Bassily	x			x
	Bastogne	x			x
	Baudour	x			
	Beaumont	x			
T-StN	Belcele	x			
	Beloeil	x			
	Bellem	x			x
	Berchem (Anvers)			x	
P	Berchem-lez-Audenaerde	x			x
	Bernissart			x	
	Beyne	x			x
	Bierghes			x	
	Biesme		x		

	OFFICE	CONFIRMED		LISTED BY JONES BUT NOT CONFIRMED	ADDITIONAL TO JONES LIST
		PERSONALLY SEEN	ADDITIONAL REPORTINGS		
	Binche	x			
	Blandain		x		
	Blankenberghe			x	
	Blaton	x			x
	Bleyberg	x			
	Boesinghe			x	
	Boitsfort			x	
	Boom	x			
	Borgerhout	x			
M-T	Bornhem	x			
	Boughaute		x		x
	Bourg-Leopold	x			
	Boussu		x		x
	Bracquegnies	x			
	Braine le Chateau		x		x
	Braine-le-Comte		x		
	Braives	x			
	Brugellette	x			
	Bruges (Bassin)	x			x
	Bruges (Bassins)	x			
	Bruges (Station)	x			
	Bruges - St.on	x			
?	Bruxelles			x	
	Bruxelles (Astronomie)	x			
	Bruxelles (A.V.)	x			
	Bruxelles A.V.	x			
	Bruxelles (Chartreux)	x			
	Bruxelles-Chartreux	x			
	Bruxelles (Duquesnoy)	x			
	Bruxelles-Duquesnoy	x			
	Bruxelles (Entrepot)	x			
	Bruxelles (Ixelles)	x			
	Bruxelles (Midi)	x			
	Bruxelles (Molenbeek)	x			
	Bruxelles (Nord)	x			
	Bruxelles-Nord	x			
	Bruxelles (Ouest)	x			
	Bruxelles (Place de la Chapelle)			x	
	Bruxelles (Pce Chapelle)	x			
	Bruxelles Pce Chapelle			x	
	Bruxelles (Porte de Flandre)	x			
	Bruxelles-Port de Flandre			x	
	Bruxelles Port de Flandre	x			
	Bruxelles (Q.L.)	x			
	Bruxelles-Q.L.	x			
	Bruxelles (St.Gilles)	x			
	Bruxelles St.Josse-ten-Noode	x			
	Buggenhout		x		x
	Callenelle			x	
	Capryke		x		
	Chapelle a Wattines	x			
	Charleroi	x			x
	Charleroy	x			
	Chatelineau-Chatelet	x			
	Chenee		x		
	Chievres			x	
	Chimay	x			
	Ciney	x			
	Clabecq	x			x
	Comines			x	

	OFFICE	CONFIRMED		LISTED BY JONES BUT NOT CONFIRMED	ADDITIONAL TO JONES LIST
		PERSONALLY SEEN	ADDITIONAL REPORTINGS		
	Contich (Est)			x	
	Contich (Ouest)	x			
	Cortemarck			x	
	Couillet	x			
	Couillet-Montigny		x		x
	Courtrai	x			
	Court St. Etienne	x			x
	Cureghem	x			
	Deynze	x			
	Dieghem		x		x
	Diest	x			x
	Diest-Etat	x			
P	Dilbeek	x			x
	Dison	x			
	Dixmude	x			
	Dolhain	x			
	Dottignies-St. Leger			x	
	Dour		x		x
	Dudzeel			x	
	Ecaussines (Nord)	x			
	Ecaussines (Sud)	x			x
	Eske-Nazareth			x	
H-M	Eelen			x	
	Eghezee		x		x
	Elouges		x		
	Enghien	x			
	Ensival	x			
	Erembodegem	x			
	Erpe-Maire			x	
	Erquelinnes	x			
	Erwetegem	x			x
	Esschen	x			
	Essen			x	
	Estinnes			x	
	Feluy-Arquennes		x		x
	Fexhe le Haut Cloche		x		x
	Fleny (Produits)	x			
	Fleron	x			x
	Fleurus (Etat)			x	
	Flobecq	x			
	Florenville	x			
	Fontaine l'evêque	x			
	Forest (Midi)			x	
	Fosses	x			
	Frameries	x			
T	Frasnes-lez-Buissenal	x			x
	Frasnes-lez-Gosselies			x	
	Frizet		x		x
	Furnes	x			
	Gand (Central)	x			
	Gand (Eecloo)			x	
	Gand (Entrepot)	x			
	Gand (Palais de Jce.)	x			
	Gand (P.J.)	x			
	Gand (Station)			x	
	Gand-Sud	x			
	Gand (Sud)	x			
	Gedinne			x	
	Geet-Betz		x		x

	OFFICE	CONFIRMED		LISTED BY JONES BUT NOT CONFIRMED	ADDITIONAL TO JONES LIST
		PERSONALLY SEEN	ADDITIONAL REPORTINGS		
	Gembloux	x			x
	Genappe			x	
H-M	Genck	x			
	Gentbrugge-Nord	x			
	Genvai			x	
	Ghislenghien	x			
	Ghistelles	x			x
	Gilly-Sart-Allet		x		
	Gingelom		x		x
	Gosselies-Courcelles		x		
	Gosselies (Ville)	x			
	Gouvy	x			
	Graide-Bievre	x			
	Grammont	x			
	Grand-Reng	x			x
T-StN	Gremb-Moerzeke	x			x
	Groenendael			x	
	Grupont	x			
	Haecht		x		x
	Haeren			x	
	Haine-St. Pierre			x	
	Hal	x			
	Halte de Ledeborg		x		x
	Halte des Pierres	x			x
T-StN	Hamme	x			x
	Hamoir	x			
	Handzame			x	
	Harlebeke	x			
	Haut-Pre	x			
	Havelange	x			
	Havannes			x	
	Havre-Ville	x			
	Herbesthal (Welkenraedt)		x		x
	Herenthals	x			
	Herve			x	
	Hoboken	x			x
	Hollain			x	
	Houdeng-Goegnies		x		
	Hougaerde		x		x
M-T	Hulet	x			
	Huy (Sud)	x			
	Ichtegem	x			x
	Ingelmunster	x			
?FO	Iseghem (with ornaments)	x			
	Ixelles	x			
	Jauche	x			x
	Jemappes	x			
	Jemeppe-sur-Sambre			x	
	Jodoigne	x			x
	Jumet			x	
	Jumet-Brulotte	x			
	Koekelberg		x		x
	La Clinge			x	
	La Deuze	x			x
	Laeken	x			
	La Louviere	x			

OFFICE	CONFIRMED		LISTED BY JONES BUT NOT CONFIRMED	ADDITIONAL TO JONES LIST
	PERSONALLY SEEN	ADDITIONAL REPORTINGS		
Lamorteau			X	
Landen		X		X
La Pinte	X			X
Lavaux	X			X
Le Campinaire		X		X
Lede			X	
Lembeke-lez-Becloo		X		X
Lessines	X			
Leuze	X			
Le Vieux Campinaire			X	
Ligne	X			X
Lightervelde			X	
Lierre	X			
Liege (Guill)	X			
Liege (Guillemins)	X			
Liege-Jonfosse	X			
Liege (meuse)	X			
Liege (Palais)	X			
Liege (Sirene)	X			
Liege-Vivegnis	X			
Liege (Vivegnis)	X			
Lisseweghe			X	
Lokeren	X			
Londerzeel		X		X
Longlier	X			
Looz	X			X
Louvain	X			
Louvain (Central)			X	
Louvain (Station)	X			
Luttre		X		X
Machelen		X		X
H-M Maeseyck	X			
Maffle			X	
Malderen		X		
Malines	X			
Manze	X			X
Marbehan	X			
Marche	X			
Marchiennes	X			X
Marchienne-au-Pont	X			
Marchienne-Est	X			X
Mariemont	X			
Marloie	X			
Maubray			X	
Mazy		X		X
Melle		X		X
Melreux	X			
Melreux-Hotton	X			
Merelbeke		X		X
Mignault			X	
Moen-Heestert	X			X
Moerbeke	X			X
Moere	X			X
Moll		X		
Mons	X			
Mons-Central	X			

OFFICE	CONFIRMED		LISTED BY JONES BUT NOT CONFIRMED	ADDITIONAL TO JONES LIST
	PERSONALLY SEEN	ADDITIONAL REPORTINGS		
Mons (Central)	X			
Montzen-Moresnet		X		X
Mouscron	X			
Moustier	X			
Namur	X			
Namur (Central)	X			
Nechin	X			X
Neerlinter		X		X
Nessonvaux-Fraipont		X		X
Niel	X			X
Nieuport (Bains)	X			X
Nieuport (Ville)	X			X
Nimy	X			
Ninove			X	
Nivelles Est			X	
Nivelles (Nord)	X			
Noville-Taviers			X	
Nylen	X			X
Obourg	X			
Okegem	X			
Oostkerke		X		X
Oostroosebeke	X			X
Opoeteren			X	
Oppuers	X			X
P Orroir	X			X
Ostende	X			
Ostende (Bassins)	X			
Ottignies			X	
Palisseul	X			X
Palissoles			X	
Pannenhuis	X			X
Pepinster	X			
Peruwelz	X			
Pervyse		X		X
Perwez	X			X
Petegem	X			
Pitthem	X			X
Poix	X			X
Poncelles	X			X
Pont-a-Celles		X		X
Puers	X			X
Quaregnon-Wasmuel		X		X
Quatrecht	X			X
Quenast		X		X
Quievrain	X			
Ransart	X			X
Remicourt		X		
Renaix	X			
Rocheafort	X			
Roelux	X			X
Roisin			X	
Ronquieres			X	
Roux		X		
Ruette	X			
Rumbeke			X	
Ruyen			X	

	OFFICE	CONFIRMED		LISTED BY JONES BUT NOT CONFIRMED	ADDITIONAL TO JONES LIST
		PERSONALLY SEEN	ADDITIONAL REPORTINGS		
	St. Amand-lez-Puers	x			
	St. Gerard	x			x
	St. Ghislain	x			
	St. Gilles (Waes)		x		x
	St. Medard			x	
M-T	St. Nicolas M.T.	x			
T-StN	St. Nicolas (Ouest)	x			
	St. Trond	x			
P	Sart-lez-Spa	x			x
P	Sauvegarde	x			x
	Saventhem	x			
	Schaerbeek			x	
	Schaerbeek (Central)	x			
	Schellebelle	x			x
	Selzaete		x		
	Seneffe	x			
	Silly	x			
	Sirault		x		x
	Soignies	x			
	Sotteghem	x			
	Spa	x			
	Staden	x			
	Statte	x			
	Stavelot	x			x
	Steken		x		x
	Swevelghem			x	
	Synghem	x			x
	Tamines	x			
M-T	Tamise	x			
	Templeuve			x	
	Termonde	x			
	Tertre-lez-Baudour		x		x
	Terveuren			x	
	Tessengerloo		x		x
	Theux	x			
	Thielt	x			
	Thourout	x			
P	Thuillies	x			x
	Thuin (Ouest)			x	
	Tirlemont	x			
	Tongres	x			
	Tournai	x			
	Tournai (Central)	x			
	Tournay	x			
	Trois Ponts	x			x
	Trooz	x			
	Tubize		x		
	Turnhout	x			
	Vaudignies-Neufmaisons		x		x
	Verviers	x			
	Verviers (Central)	x			
	Verviers (Est)			x	
	Verviers (Recollets)	x			
	Vielsalm		x		
	Vieux-Dieu	x			x
	Ville-Pommeroeul	x			

	OFFICE	CONFIRMED		LISTED BY JONES BUT NOT CONFIRMED	ADDITIONAL TO JONES LIST
		PERSONALLY SEEN	ADDITIONAL REPORTINGS		
	Villers-sur-Lesse	x			x
	Vilvorde	x			
	Virton			x	
	Virton St. Mard	x			x
	Virton (Ville)	x			x
	Vive St. Eloi		x		x
	Wachtebeke	x			
P	Waeregem	x			x
T-StN	Waesmunster	x			
	Wamont			x	
	Wareme		x		x
	Wasmes	x			x
	Watermael	x			x
	Wauthier-Braine		x		x
T	Wavre Ste. Catherine	x			x
	Wavre (Etat)	x			
	Weerde		x		x
	Wesembeek	x			x
	Wettegem	x			x
	Wetteren		x		x
	Wichelen			x	
	Wideumont	x			
	Wielsbeke		x		x
	Willebroeck	x			x
	Wilryck			x	
	Woluwe	x			x
	Wychnael	x			
	Wynendaele	x			x
	Ypres	x			
	Zelzaete			x	



Par Estafette

Following the article on this subject given in "Belgapost" (Vol.4 No.2) we must say that the use of estafettes for the speedy transport of mails existed as early as in the Spanish Occupation.

Documents bearing manuscript notations such as "par estafette" or "par express" can be found and we give here some idea of the procedure given. One such emanated from the delegate at Lille of the Quartermaster General in Flanders of the armies of the King of France. It orders the transportation of a package by mounted rider for a Mon. de Sechelle at Ghent.

The rider in charge of the package obtained a declaration on his sheet of the time of his arrival and departure in each relay. At Ghent, learning that Mon. de Sechelle, the addressee, had left for Brussels, he set out again on his route and via Alost, arrived at night in Brussels and obtained a receipt for the package -

"By order of the King:

Jean Moreau, Knight, Lord of Sechelle, Counsellor of State, Quartermaster in Flanders and of the armies of the King. The Master of the Horse Posts of Lille is ordered to despatch at once, a postillion mounted on regulation horse, to carry with all speed, a package addressed to the Administrator of the Quartermaster Staff at Ghent. The said rider shall be relayed by the ordnances established at Menin, Courtray and Peteghem. At the end of this present instruction, shall be noted the hour at which the package shall have been handed over to each official. Drawn by us, Commissioner for war and first secretary of the Quartermaster Staff.

At Lille, the 25th February, 1745, at half past one of the afternoon.

Laurent."

"The rider arrived at three o'clock and left then with package.
Menin, 25 February 1746 - Keel."

"Arrived at Courtrai at four o'clock in the afternoon with a package and left at once.

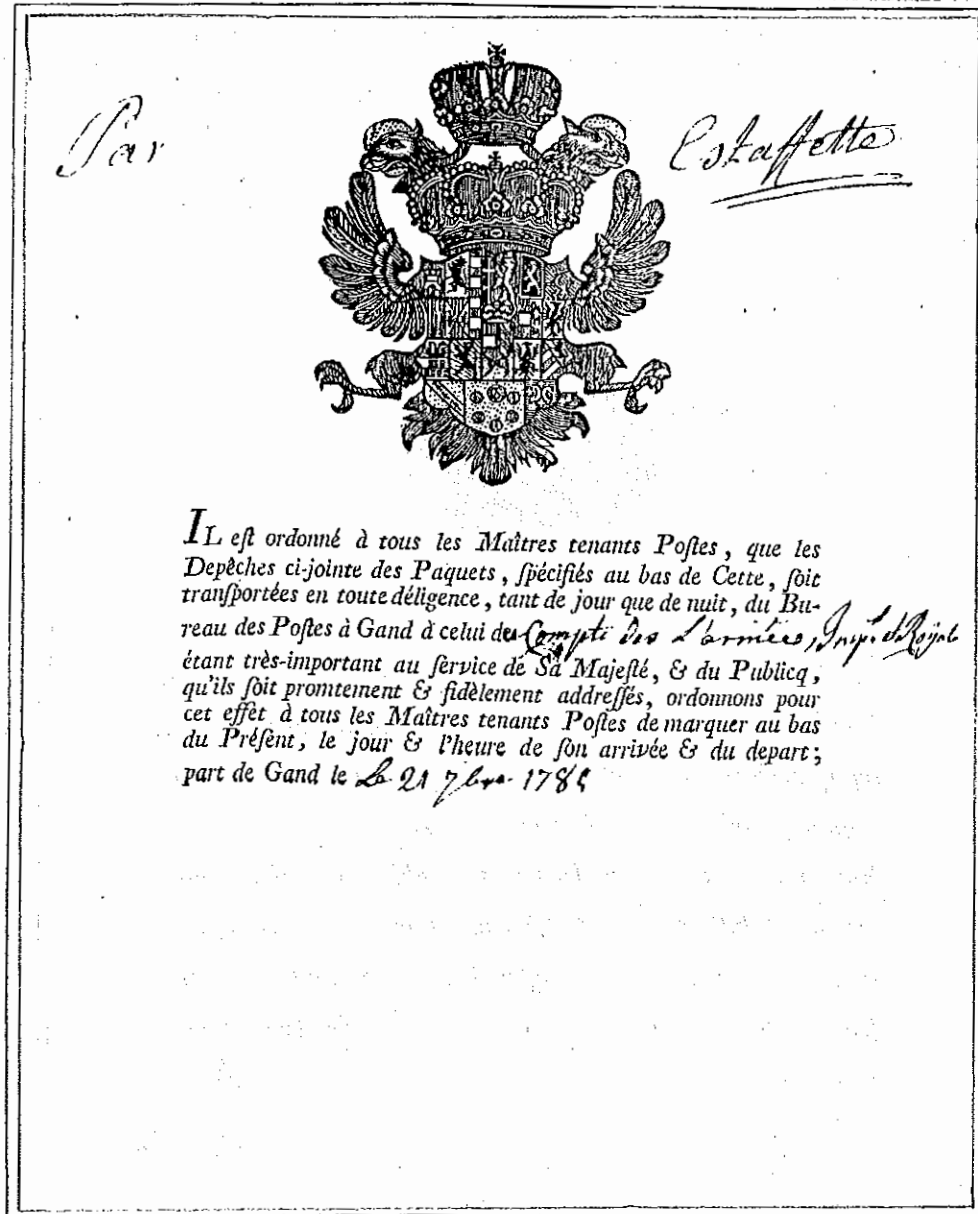
Ludovicus de Weert."

"Arrived at Péteghem at a quarter to seven and left then.
Octeghem."

"Arrived at Ghent at nine o'clock and left then.
Jan Vandevoorde."

"Arrived at Alost the 25 February 1746 with the above mentioned package at twelve midnight and left then for Brussels.
Bundele."

"Received package from Mon. Laurent this night at Brussels, the 25 February 1746,
de Sechelle."



Another document mentioned is a printed form as follows:

"We Anselme Francois, Prince of Tour, Tassis and of the Holy Empire, Count de Valsassine, Baron of Impden, Hereditary General of the Posts of the said Empire and of the Austrian Low Countries, etc.


"Command to all our Masters and Tenants of our Posts that the attached Dispatch as specified at the foot hereof, be carried by estafette with all speed, by day as well as by night from the General office of the Posts at this town of Brussels to the one of, being most important for the service of His Majesty and for the public, that it be promptly and faithfully addressed, order for this reason to all our said Masters and Tenants of the Posts, to mark at the foot of this order, the days and hour of its arrival and departure.

"Part of Brussels the

A. F. Prince de la Tour and Tassis."

These documents are called "Parts" and article 360 of the General Instruction of 1808 defines them as follows:-

"The 'Part' is a marching order which couriers and pedestrians carry. It is intended to verify the number and type of dispatches of which the courier or pedestrian has charge, his name, the days and hours of his departure and arrival, as well as his passing through the various offices of the route destined to mark his sheet."

PAR ESTAFETTE		DU BUREAU
DES POSTES		A GAND.

Il est ordonné à tous les Maîtres tenants Postes, que les
 Dépêches ci-jointes des Paquets, spécifiés au bas de Cette, soit
 transportées en toute diligence, tant de jour que de nuit, du Bu-
 reau des Postes à Gand à celui de *Locheren*
 étant très-important au service du Public, qu'il soit promp-
 tement & fidèlement adressés, ordonnons pour cet effet à
 tous les Maîtres tenants Postes de marquer au bas du Pré-
 sent, le jour & l'heure de son arrivée & du depart; part
 de Gand le 21 *gbr* 1790, part à 12 heures et demi après midi
Charge d'un paquet pour Locheren
A d'un gros paquet pour Teymonde
et d'un petit pour Rupelmonde
J. Mahieu
 arrivé à *Locheren* à 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ heures part à 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ heures
J. J. Piteghem
 arrivé à *Rupelmonde* le 21 *gbr* 1790 à 4 heures et $\frac{1}{2}$
De la prairie
J. J. Piteghem

"Par Estafette" - Ghent 21 November 1790 - Austrian Low Countries.

This article is translated from the French, from "La Poste Aux Letters et Les Marques Postales" by Lucien Herlant, pub. Bruges 1946 and the illustrations from "Les Marques Postales de la Flandre Orientale" 2nd edition, 1972, by the same author.

BELGIAN POSTAL RATES - JANUARY, 1990 (1)

SERVICE INTERIEUR

LO	envois normalisés	14.-
	autres envois : jusqu'à 50 gr	27.-
	100 gr	34.-
	250 gr	46.-
	500 gr	81.-
	1.000 gr	136.-
	2.000 gr	171.-
CP		14.-
CI	5 mots maximum	10.-
	tarif réduit du 15.12.1989 au 14.01.1990	9.-
CA		10.-
IM	envois normalisés	10.-
	autres envois : jusqu'à 50 gr	11.-
	100 gr	12.-
	250 gr	15.-
	500 gr	31.-
	1.000 gr	41.-
	par échelon supplémentaire de 1.000 gr	+ 30.-
JP	paraissant au moins une fois par trimestre et déposés au guichet d'un bureau de poste par l'éditeur :	
	jusqu'à 75 gr	4.-
	125 gr	5.50
	175 gr	7.-
	225 gr	8.-
	275 gr	9.50
	325 gr	11.-
	375 gr	12.50
	425 gr	13.50
	500 gr	16.-
	par échelon supplémentaire de 100 gr	+ 2.50
PQ	jusqu'à 500 gr	31.-
	1.000 gr	41.-
	par échelon supplémentaire de 1.000 gr	+ 30.-

1.

RC	droit fixe de	90.-
	dépôt de correspondances recommandées en dehors des heures normales d'ouverture des guichets	+ 14.-
EX	taxe fixe de	100.-
LV	port LO	
	taxe RC	90.-
	taxe assurance : par 1.000 Fr ou fraction de 1.000 Fr avec un minimum de	15.- 150.-
--	Demande de retrait ou modification d'adresse	55.-
--	Constitution de dossier de réexpédition de courrier	230.-
--	Postogram	55.-
--	Postpac : boîtes modèle A	20.-
	modèle B	20.-
	modèle C	30.-
	modèle D	40.-
	enveloppes modèle E	15.-
	modèle F	20.-
	modèle G	15.-
MP	taxe d'émission par titre montant maximum : 50.000 Fr	40.-
CR	dépôt des cartes-récépissés à l'encaissement	28.-

SERVICE INTERNATIONAL

LO	envois normalisés (y compris C-L, CP et CI)	25.-
	autres envois : jusqu'à 50 gr	43.-
	100 gr	59.-
	250 gr	116.-
	500 gr	221.-
	1.000 gr	386.-
	2.000 gr	621.-
LO	pour LUXEMBOURG et PAYS-BAS :	
	envois normalisés	14.-
	autres envois jusqu'à 50 gr	27.-
	100 gr	34.-
	250 gr	46.-
	500 gr	86.-

11.

BELGIAN POSTAL RATES - JANUARY, 1990 (2)

1.000 gr	171.-
2.000 gr	341.-

LO pour R.F. ALLEMAGNE, ANDORRE, DANEMARK, ESPAGNE, FRANCE et les départements d'outre-mer (Guadeloupe, Guyane française, Martinique, Réunion, St-Pierre et Miquelon), GRECE, IRLANDE, ITALIE, PORTUGAL, MONACO, St-MARIN, ROYAUME-UNI et VATICAN :

envois normalisés	14.-
envois non normalisés jusqu'à 20 gr	27.-
au-dessus de 20 gr : tarif international	

CP et C-L (pour Communauté européenne) 14.-

CI avec 5 mots maximum (pour Communauté européenne) 13.-
toute correspondance (" " ") 14.-

CP et CI (autres pays) 25.-

RC droit fixe de 90.-

AR 26.-

EX taxe fixe de 100.-

IM envois normalisés (carte postale) 13.-
autres envois : jusqu'à 50 gr 19.-
100 gr 26.-
250 gr 46.-
500 gr 86.-
1.000 gr 146.-
2.000 gr 201.-
par échelon supplémentaire de 1.000 gr + 100.-

JP envois normalisés 6.50
autres envois : jusqu'à 50 gr 9.50
100 gr 15.50
250 gr 30.50
500 gr 50.50
1.000 gr 100.50
2.000 gr 150.50

Livres, brochures, papiers de musique, cartes géographiques ne contenant aucune publicité

envois normalisés 10.-
autres envois : jusqu'à 50 gr 14.-
100 gr 16.-

III.

250 gr	31.-
500 gr	51.-
1.000 gr	101.-
2.000 gr	151.-

PQ jusqu'à 100 gr 31.-
250 gr 46.-
500 gr 86.-
1.000 gr 146.-
2.000 gr 201.-

CO 45.-

LV port LO
droit fixe RC 90.-
assurance : par tranche de 1.000 Fr 15.-
avec un minimum de 150.-

DD taxe de présentation à la douane ; par objet 50.-
taxe NON perçue pour les marchandises originaires d'un pays membre de la Communauté européenne.

IO 55.-

POSTE AERIENNE

Seules les modifications suivantes sont apportées aux tarifs en vigueur depuis 1986 :

aérogramme 25.-
surtaxe applicable par 5 gr pour LC
20 gr pour AO

Iles Carolines 6.-
Cayman 3.-
Ile Guam 6.-
Iles Mariannes 6.-
Iles Marshall 6.-
Iles Samoa (ramené à 3 Fr par voie des U.S.A.) 6.-

REMARQUE :

Les nouveaux tarifs relatifs aux lettres ordinaires (service intérieur et international) sont seulement en application à partir du 16 janvier 1990).

IV.

BELGIAN POSTAL RATES - JANUARY, 1991

Principales modifications des tarifs postaux :

A. SERVICE INTERIEUR

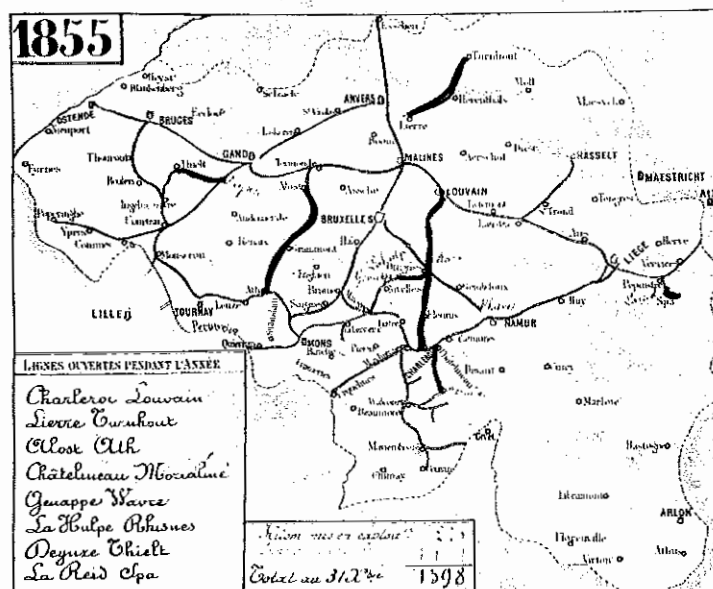
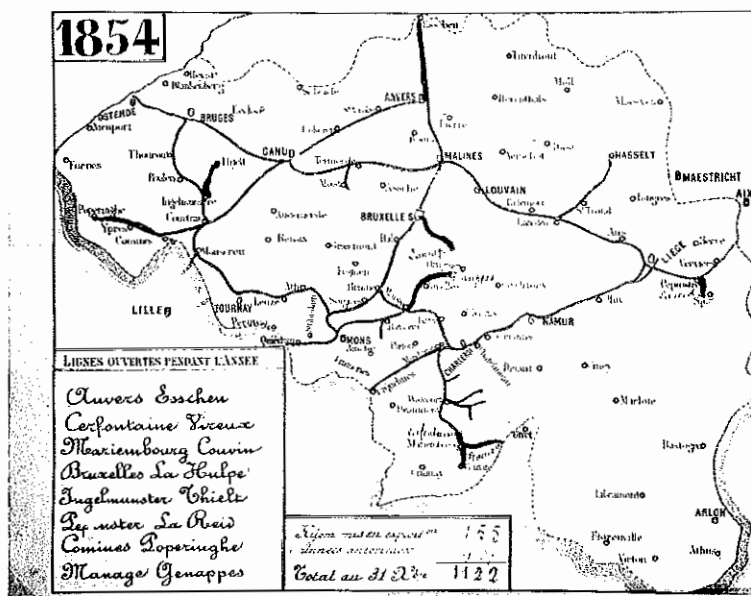
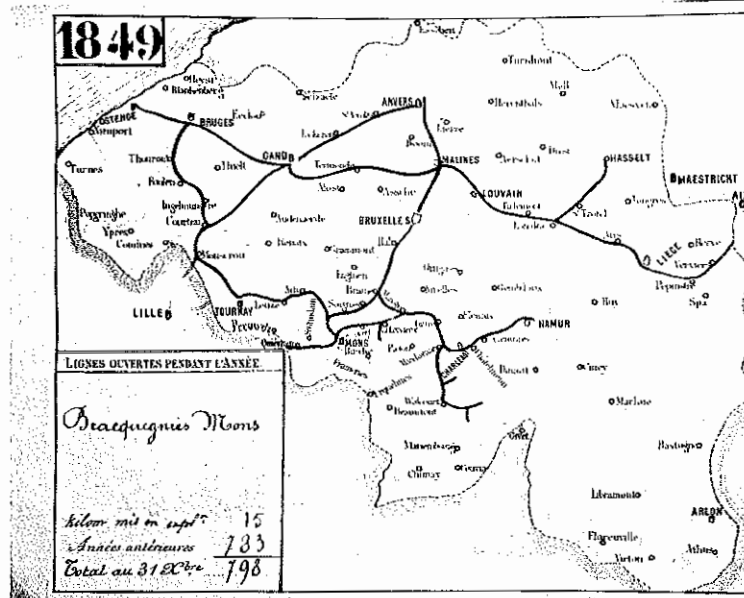
CI	cartes de voeux (du 15.12 au 14.01)	10.
IM	envois normalisés	10.
	autres envois : jusqu'à 50 gr	12.
	100 gr	13.
	250 gr	18.
	500 gr	35.
	1.000 gr	45.
	2.000 gr	80.
	3.000 gr	110.
	par échelon supplémentaire de 1.000 gr	+ 40.
JP	paraissant au moins une fois par trimestre et déposés au guichet d'un bureau de poste par l'éditeur	
	jusqu'à 75 gr	4.50
	125 gr	6.
	175 gr	7.50
	225 gr	8.50
	275 gr	10.
	325 gr	11.50
	375 gr	13.
	425 gr	14.
	500 gr	16.50
	par échelon supplémentaire de 100 gr	+ 2.50
PQ	jusqu'à 500 gr	35.
	1.000 gr	45.
	2.000 gr	80.
	3.000 gr	110.
	4.000 gr	150.
	5.000 gr	190.
RC	droit fixe de	100.
--	constitution d'un dossier de réexpédition de courrier	250.

TX	correspondances non ou insuffisamment affranchies : taxe égale à l'absence ou l'insuffisance augmentée d'une taxe de traitement de	15.
PR	location d'une boîte par trimestre	250.
--	procuration : taxe annuelle par mandataire	250.
--	Postpac : ajouter enveloppe modèle H	10.
EC	taxe de présentation à l'acceptation	50.

B. SERVICE INTERNATIONAL

IM	envois normalisés	13.
	autres envois : jusqu'à 50 gr	19.
	100 gr	26.
	250 gr	50.
	500 gr	90.
	1.000 gr	165.
	2.000 gr	230.
	par échelon supplémentaire de 1.000 gr	+ 100.
JP	envois normalisés	7.
	autres envois : jusqu'à 50 gr	10.
	100 gr	16.
	250 gr	31.
	500 gr	51.
	1.000 gr	101.
	2.000 gr	151.
PQ	jusqu'à 250 gr	50.
	500 gr	90.
	1.000 gr	165.
	2.000 gr	230.
RC	droit fixe de	100.
TX	comme service intérieur	15.
POSTE AERIENNE :	Mayotte	3.
	Yémen (un seul pays)	3.

NETWORK DEVELOPMENT MAPS





A map of Hainault as it was about 1590 by Abraham Ortelius (1527-98) of Antwerp. You will note how this area has changed over the years - see the article of the postal history by R. Harrison.

Also, at a recent Book Fair in Solihull, I came across a mere few pages of a book published about 1695, the pages being given - the Hainault area which again, very well fits into this article. The Mons and Ath plans show very well the fortifications built by Vauban under the French King Louis XIV. We also show a letter (9th July 1698) from Mons to Antwerp about the time of the book.

The County or Earldom of HAINAULT, Hannonia.

THIS Province derives its Name from the River *Haine*, which passeth through the midst of it, called also *Haingow* and *Henegow* by the Germans, and is bounded on the North by *Brabant*, and part of *Flanders*, on the South by *Cambresis*, *Picardy* and *Champagne*, on the East by part of *Brabant* and the County of *Namur*, and on the West by the River *Scheld*, that separates it from *Artois* and part of *Flanders*. It is extended from North to South about 50 miles, and about the same from East to West. The Air is exceeding temperate and healthful, and the

Soil Fertile, and watered with the *Scheld*, *Sambre*, *Haine*, *Dender* and divers other Rivers. Here are also found many Lakes and Ponds; Woods, some Mines of Iron and Lead, and Quarries of Marble and Touchstone.

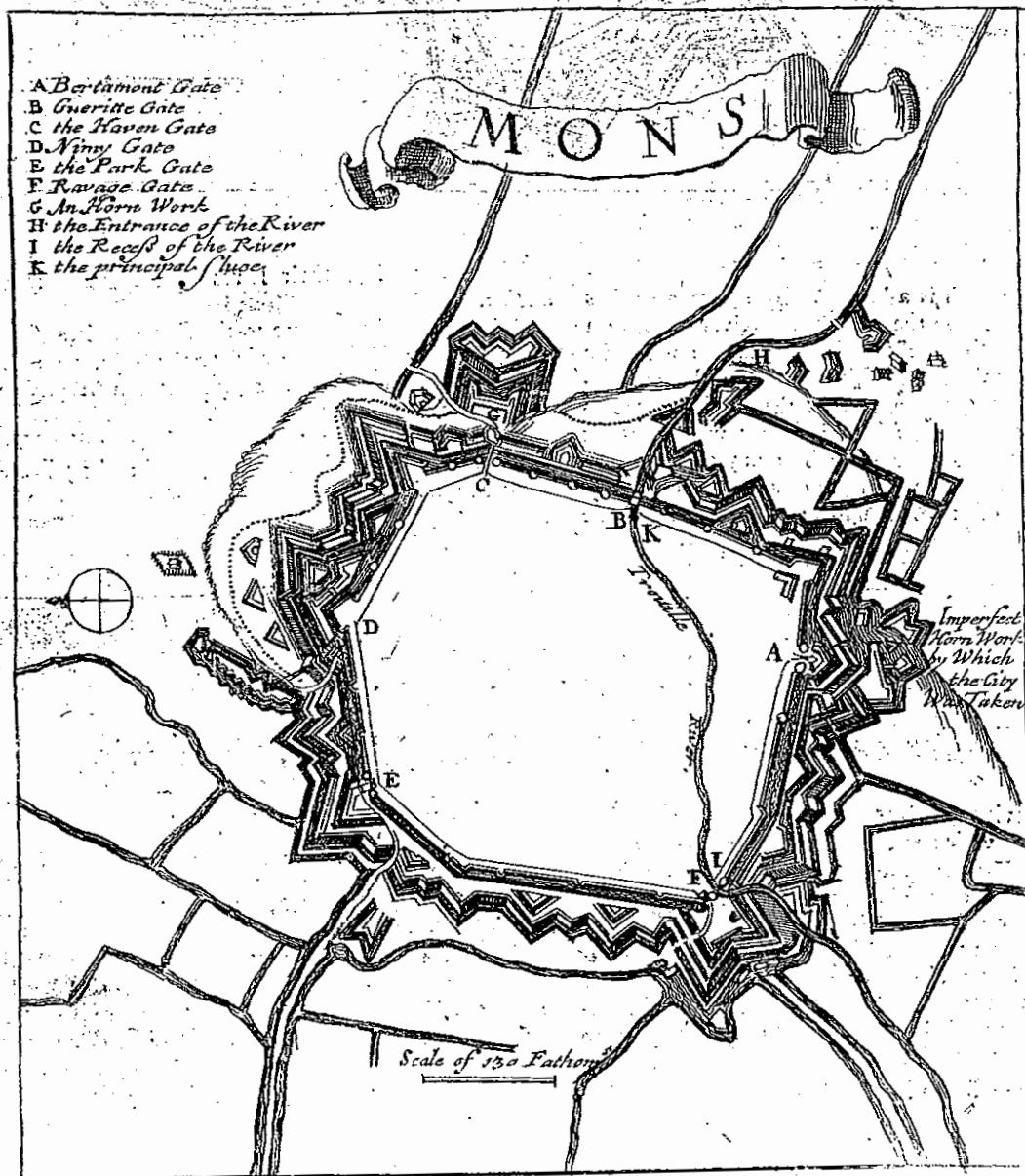
Within this Province are comprised 24 Wall'd Towns, 950 Burroughs or Villages and several Castles; also three Principalities, 10 Earldoms, 12 Peerages, 22 Baronies and 26 Abbies, not to mention divers hereditary Offices appertaining to that Prince's Court, viz. those of a Marshal, Seneschal, grand Hunter, U
Cham-

Chamberlain, &c. The French at present possess the greater part of *Hainault*, and the rest remains under the Dominion of the *Spaniards*, as it is represented in the ensuing Table.

Appertaining to the French.	{ Valenciennes, Bouchain, Conde, Bavay, Maubeuge Mons, Capit.	{ le Quesnoy, Avesnes, Landrecy, Philipville, Marienburg.
To the Spaniards.	{ Aeth, Brain le Comte, S. Ghillain, Enguicn, Binche,	{ Halle, Leffines, Roeles, Soigny, Beaumont, &c.

Mons, *Montel*, and *Montes Hannone*, the Capital City of *Hainault*, call'd *Bergben* in *Flemish*, is seated on an Hill of easie Ascent, near the Banks of the River *Frull*, and a little below falls into that of the *Haine*, almost in the midst between *Namur* to the East, and *Doway* to the West, at the distance of 35 miles from both, as also 16 from *Valenciennes* to the North east, 26 from *Bruxels* to the South-west, and

26 from *Tournay* to the South-east. It is a large City and well fortified, with a Stone-Wall, firm Ramparts, 3 large Trenches and an old Castle. The Buildings are beautiful, the Streets large and the Market-place spacious: The publick Edifices are also very magnificent, and among others the Palace, wherein is convened the general Council of the Province, and Religious Houses, of which the College of Canonesses, founded by S. Gualtrude Princess of *Lorraine*, is more especially remarkable; the whole Society consists only of Ladies of great Quality and high Birth, who are obliged to assist at Mass in the Morning, clothed in the Habit of Nuns, but have liberty to wear all manner of sumptuous Apparel in the Afternoon, and even to spend the rest of the Day in Dancing, Singing and other Exercises of a free Conversation. And are also permitted to abandon the Abby, or to marry whensoever they please. The Earls of *Hainault* had formerly the Title of Earls of *Mons*, and with the possession of the County received the Investiture of the Dignity of an Abbot, and other Perquisites holden in Fee of the Church, from the Hands of the Lady Abbess of the said College. *Mons* is a place of good Trade for divers Commodities, especially Woollen Stuffs, whereof they make great quantities. It was surpriz'd in 1572. by Count *Lewis of Nassau* by a Stratagem, for 12 Sol-



diers,

diers, in Habit of Merchants, obtaining Leave to have Gates opened for them earlier than ordinary, kill'd the Porter and let in the Count with the Soldiers he brought for that purpose, who took Possession of the Town without Opposition: But the same year the Duke D'Alva, Besieg'd and recover'd it; from which time it quietly remain'd under the Spaniard, till 1678, that the French invested and had much distressed it; when the Prince of Orange his present Majesty, came to its Relief, and gain'd a Signal Victory over the D. of Luxemburg, upon which the Peace was immediately Concluded. In this present War, viz. The 8th. of April 1691, the French took this Town, and are still Masters of it.

Valenciennes, Valenciana, aut Valencena, is situated on the Confines of the Country of Ostrevant on the River Scheld, which there receives the Rouel that divides it into two parts, and by several Channels passes through most of its Streets; distant 15 miles from Tournay to the South, and lying also in the middle between Mons to the South-west, and Cambray to the North-east: It was Founded (as is generally believ'd) by the Roman Emperor Valentinian, and is at present a very large, fair and rich Town, strongly Fortified. The Church of our Lady is an ancient but stately Building, having Pillars of Marble and Porphyry, to support its Arches of Stone. The Church of St. Peter is very curiously Carved, as is also the Front of the Town-house adjoining. The Hospital for the maintaining and educating of poor Orphans, is well Endowed. Over the Scheld are built 10 Bridges, on which stand many fair and large Houses. The Trade of the Town consists in Linnen Cloth, Mohairs and Tabbies, to which is now added the Staple for French Wines. It was Besieged by the French King in the year 1677, and taken by Storm; but upon the Inhabitants agreeing to pay 400 thousand Crowns for the building of a Citadel, it escaped being Sacked. It was granted to the French at the Treaty of Nimeguen, and hath been ever since possessed by them.

Bouchain, a small but strong Town, seated on the River Scheld, 10 miles above Valenciennes, and near as many from Cambray to the North: It is of service for the Communication of those two Places in time of War, and therefore Besieg'd by the French in 1676, to whom it was Surrender'd after one Assault, tho' an Army was Marching to its Relief.

Quesnoy, though a small Town, hath a good Trade in its Manufacture of Linnens and Stuffs, and is reasonably well Fortified. It stands about 15 miles from Bouchain to the East.

Landrecy is a very strong Town, seated on the Sambre, near the Borders of Cambray, and not above 6 miles from the Frontiers of Picardy, about 10 from Quesnoy, and 20 from Valenciennes to the North-west.

It was formerly subject to the Duke of Arschot; under whom it held out against a long and furious Siege by the Emperor Charles V. in 1543. and the year following was Surrender'd to him, together with Avesnes, a small Town 8 or 9 miles East from Landrecy. All these three were taken by the French, and granted to them by the Pyrenean Peace in 1659.

Mabenge stands upon the Sambre, in the mid-way between Avesnes and Mons, about 12 miles from each, and is a place of good Trade for Woollen Cloth.

Bavay, call'd Bavay Wallon, to distinguish it from Bavais in Picardy, stands 8 miles West from Mabenge, and 6 North-east from Quesnoy. It is thought by some to have been formerly a great City, nam'd Belgium, from whence the Country had its Name, but is at present but a small Place. These were both granted to the French by the Nimeguen Treaty.

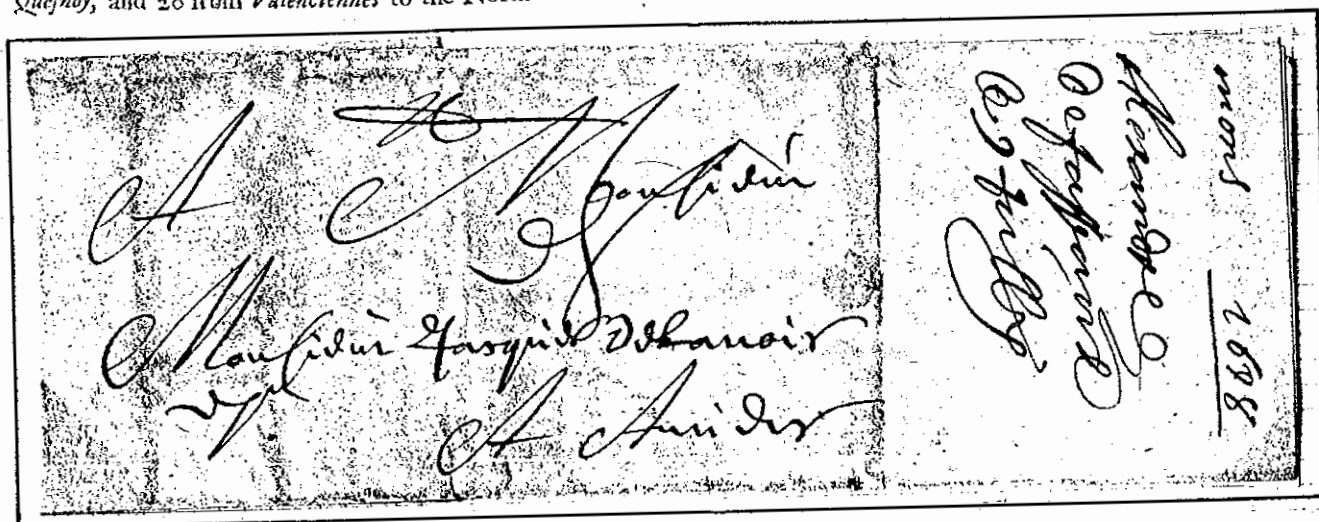
Conde, or Condet, a small Town with a Castle, stands upon the Schelde, about 15 miles North-west from Bavay.

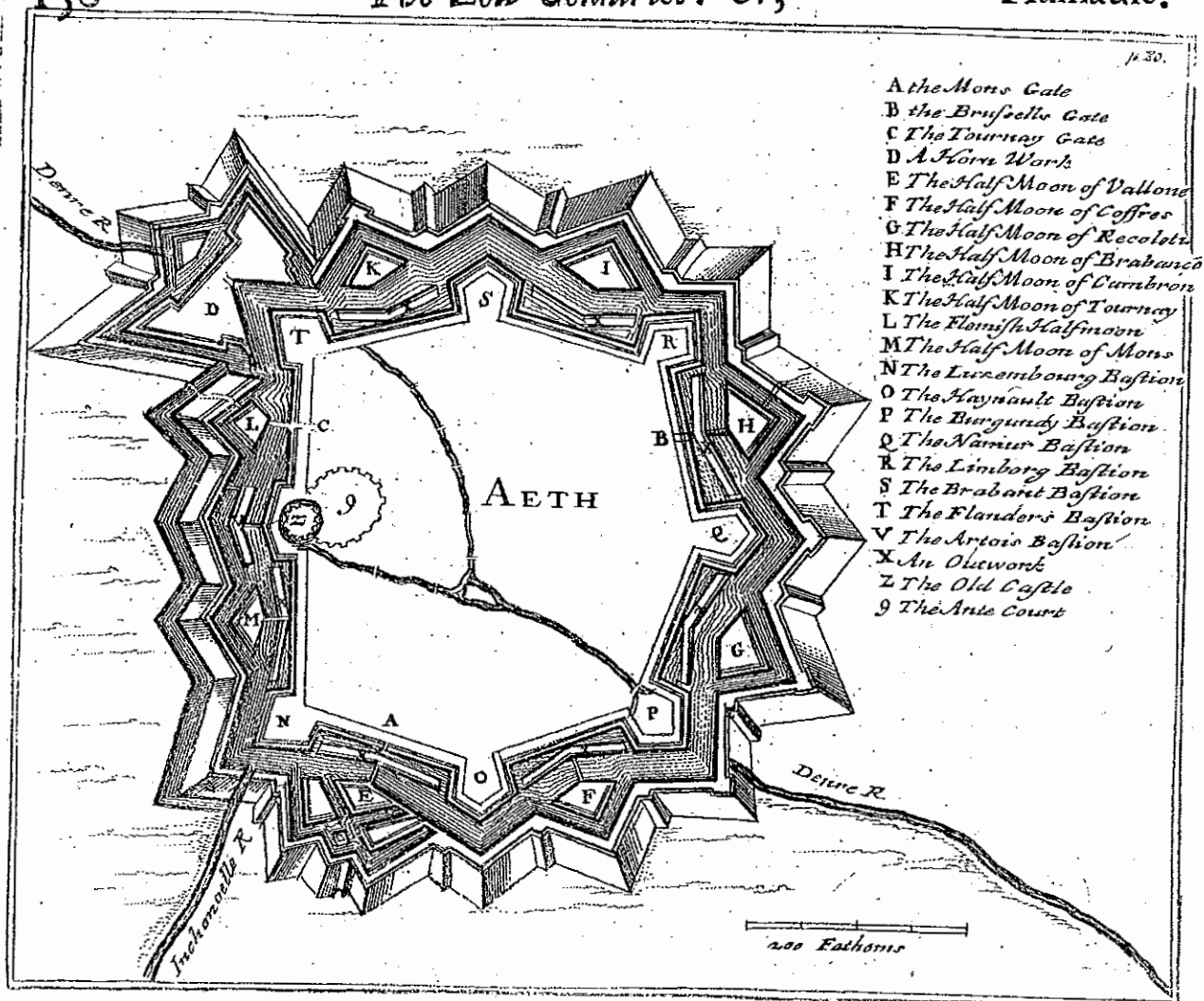
Marienburg, Founded by Mary of Austria Queen of Hungary, and Governess of the Low Countries, in 1542, and Fortified with a very strong Wall and good Out-works, stands on the Borders of the Bishoprick of Liege, about 6 miles from the River Maes to the West, 10 from the Frontiers of Picardy to the North, and 30 from Landrecies to the East.

Philipville stands about 4 miles North from Marienburg, and is reckon'd part of the Province of Hainault. It was built soon after Marienburg, and nam'd from Philip II. King of Spain, who Fortified it with five Royal Bastions, and other strong Works, these two making a Frontier against France on that side; but they have been both taken by that King, and granted to him by the Pyrenean Treaty.

Spanish HAINAULT.

AETH, a small Town seated on the River Denender, 14 miles North from Mons, as many South from Oudenard, and about 20 South-west from Bruffels, is a place of good Trade for Linnen, and by reason of its situation near the Borders of these three Provinces of Hainault, Flanders and Brabant, hath been at several times well Fortified, especially by the French, after they had taken it in 1667; for being granted to them by the Treaty of Aix la Chappelle, Vanban was set to work, and great Cost was bestow'd in strengthening this most advanc'd Frontier; but they were oblig'd to restore it at the Peace of Nimeguen, and it still remains subject to the King of Spain.





Lessen, or *Lessines*, is a small Wall'd Town seated also on the *Dendre*, about 4 miles North from *Aeth*.

Engbien, or *Anguien*, stands about 4 miles West from *Aeth*, and hath had the Title of a Dutchy.

Halle is seated on the very Borders of this Province, within 8 miles of *Brussels*, and near 20 from *Mons* to the North. It stands in a very pleasant Country, and is water'd by the River *Simme*. It is not large nor very well built, and is chiefly noted for the famous Chappel of the Virgin Mary, whose Statue in it is cover'd with Gold, and is much resorted to by multitudes of Votaries, who annually make rich Offerings to it. It is Wall'd, but not being strong enough to endure a Siege, was quitted to the French in April 1690, but since they left it, it hath been made stronger, and well Garison'd for the security of *Brussels*.

Braine le Comte, on the Frontiers of *Brabant*, about 8 miles South from *Halle*.

Soigny about 3 or 4 miles South-west from it; and

Roeles, or *Reux*, 4 miles from *Soigny* to the South, are all three Wall'd Towns.

On the Borders of *Hainault*, and Frontiers of *Brabant*, about 3 miles North-east from *Soigny*, as many South-west from *Halle*, and about the like distance from *Engbien* to the East, stands the Village of *Steenkirk*, upon the Rivulet *Senneque*; a small place and not at all considerable, but for a Battle fought near it on the 24th. of July, 1692, between the Confederates and the French.

Binche, stands upon a little branch of the *Haine*, 7 or 8 miles South-east from *Mons*; it was formerly a populous Place, and made a Seat of Pleasure by Mary Queen of Hungary, when she was Governess of these Countries, who had a fine Palace here; but it hath suffer'd much by the Wars, particularly in 1544 it was burnt by the French: And since that the French took it; but finding they must part with it Demolished the Fortifications before they Surrender'd it according to the Treaty of *Aix la Chapelle*, in 1668.

S. Gbislain stands about 8 miles West from *Mons*, it is also a wall'd Town, but not remarkably strong: As is also

Beaumont, which stands 12 miles South from *Binche*, and 10 East from *Mabeuge*. It is a pleasant Town seated upon a Hill, as its name implies, and was anciently an Earldom belonging to the second Son of the Earl of *Hainault*. It was taken by the French, and granted to them by the Truce in 1684, as was also *Chimay* 14 miles South from it.

BELGIUM STUDY CIRCLE

DISPLAY GIVEN BY R. T. HARRISON - 7th DECEMBER 1991

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF HAINAUT PROVINCE

Introduction

Once more, the time has come round for another Province to form the subject of the now annual display. Where possible, I have followed the format previously adopted with slight variations. My apologies in advance for some repetition of explanations in the text - but this is essential if each article is to be capable of standing alone without reference back to previous articles.

Historical Background

For years a site of many battles, the first official reference was around 720 when the name HAONAUNO appeared on a document. The first Comte de Hainaut is recorded in 916. Various territories were acquired and added to its boundaries and its rulers served in various crusades to the Holy Lands.

By the time of the Spanish Occupation, the territory of Hainaut included parts of modern day France (Fig. A). During the second half of the 17th Century, numerous battles and treaties ceded lands to France, effectively reducing the size of Hainaut (Fig. B).

When France declared war on Austria in 1792, the battle of JEMAPPES saw the defeat of the Austrians. It was not surprising, therefore, that in March 1793, a new Departement of France No. 86 was created and titled Jemappes. A French defeat in March 1793, however, restored the Austrians before the French proposals could be put into place. However, just over one year later, in May 1794, the French re-invasion was successful and the occupation, which was to last for 20 years, commenced. Boundary changes added TOURNAI which, together with other modifications, formed the Departement of Jemappes as shown in Fig. C.

After the fall of Napoleon, the Province of Hainaut was reinstated, first under the Dutch and finally as part of the Independent Kingdom of Belgium, with the same boundaries (Fig. D).

These boundaries (shown on large map) remained unchanged until the early 1960's when provincial adjustments were made to take into account the language problem. As a result, the MOUSCRON corner, plus the area around WARNETON, were transferred from West Flanders to Hainaut Province. For the purposes of the display, these areas, therefore, are included within Hainaut Province.

Spanish Netherlands (1621-1713)

As with other provinces, only a limited number of towns possessed postal status during this period, namely:-

ATH	THUIN
CHARLEROI	TOURNAI
MONS	WARNETON
SOIGNIES	

Markings seen are mainly manuscript but additionally Charleroi, Mons and Tournai also used straight line handstamps.

Possibly other towns passed mail but this can only be proved if markings are found.

Detournay

de Mons

TOURNAY

Austrian Netherlands (1714-1794)

This period saw a rapid expansion in towns with postal status. In addition to those listed above, the following are added:-

BARBENÇON	ENGHIEN
BEAUMONT	FONTAINE L'EVEQUE
BINCHE	GOSSELIES
BRAINE-LE-COMTE	LA BUISSIÈRE
CHIMAY	RANCE

Manuscript markings only exist for La Buissière and Rance. For Barbençon, Binche, Braine-le-Comte and Soignies only straight-line handstamps have been seen. All the other towns have both.

For Mons, a black rectangle within which the letters MONS appear uninked in relief exists (2 types).

At Tournai, the letter T in a circle was used (2 types).

No markings for Thuin during this period have been seen to date. The end of this period also marks the end of the THURN or TAXIS posts in Belgium.

Charleroy

TRNAY

MONS



French Occupation (1794-1814)

In 1792, French troop under DUMOURIEZ invaded and beat the Austrians at the battle of Jemappes on 6th November, 1792. The occupied territory was proposed for absorption into France as Departement 86 under the name Departement of Jemappes in March 1793. However, this occupation was to be delayed as mentioned earlier until the following year. The French occupation saw the implementation of the postal arrangements for France being extended to this Departement Conquis. All town handstamps consisted of a straight-line with the Departement number -86- placed above e.g. P86P
MONS

Debourse marks were also introduced e.g. DEB MONS, ^{DEBOURSE}ATH but for most towns were still applied in manuscript form.

Special administrative marks were in use at the capital town Mons e.g. "Prefet Dept. de Jemmappe" (italic style) and also at Charleroi.

As would be expected during this period, the language used was French and the Republican Calendar was used for dating documents.

86
TOURNAY

86
ATH

P86P
CHIMAY

DÉB MONS.

*Prefet
Dept. de Jemmappe*

United Kingdom of the Netherlands (1815-1830)

The French evacuation in 1814 led to the Dutch dominated period as part of the United Netherlands. As with the French occupation, very few towns changed postal status but the following towns gained that status:-

FLEURUS, LESSINES, LEUZE, PERUWELZ

One immediate change was the reversion where possible to the Dutch language instead of French e.g. BERGEN (for Mons), DOORNIK (for Tournai) and FRANKRYK (for France).

Initially, the previous French handstamps were used with the number erased e.g. P ~~P~~ to be replaced by ^{BERGEN}MONS to avoid the PORT PAYÉ (P.P.)
FRANCO

French lettering.

In 1829, the first circular date stamps were issued. They consisted of a single outer circle (c. 25-27 mm diameter) with a mark at the base. They were to replace the straight-line type but had a short life before independence occurred.

During the Dutch period, Foreign Sorting Marks were introduced as mentioned later.

P P
MONS



BERGEN
FRANCO

Kingdom of Belgium (1830)

As with other provinces, the increasing population saw many new towns gaining postal status.

The reinstatement of the French language was one of the first moves and to distinguish the Belgian markings from the Dutch, a new large double circle datestamp was introduced. Slightly larger (c.29-30 mm) than the Dutch single circle, it also bore the year in the bottom arc of the circle - normally struck in red ink. Sometimes 2 small "pearls" appear for no obvious reason on the sides.

A smaller diameter version was to replace these large C.D.S. from around 1838 onwards - initially struck in red ink, then finally in black.

Worth seeking are the very small C.D.S. (c.18 mm) with an arc at the bottom. These have been seen for ANTOING, BASÈCLES, DOUR, FAYT, FLEURUS, FONTAINE L'EVEQUE, FRASNES, GIVRY, LENS, PECQ, RANCE, ST. GHISLAIN, SOLRE-SUR-SAMBRE.

To finish this section, mention must be made of the boxed station marks e.g. MONS BASECLES and the very large ornamental bridge-type canceller e.g. MONS (STATION) DEPART



Foreign Sorting Marks

It was during the Dutch Occupation that the Frontier Bureaux were set up for this province in direct correspondence with France and onwards.

The first 2 towns were Mons and Tournai and the first markings seen in 1818 were ^{FRANKRYK}OVER BERGEN and ^{FRANKRYK}OVER DOORNIK (2 types).

Subsequently after independence, Mouscron, Charleroi and Quievrain became Frontier Bureaux. The French language came back into use and small boxed marks with chamfered corners appeared e.g. ^{FRANCE}PAR MONS (black and red ink), ^{FRANCE}PAR TOURNAY (blue and red).

FRANKRYK
OVERBERGEN

*Frankrijk
Over Doornik*



These were superseded by double circular type marks similar to town handstamps e.g. FRANCE PAR TOURNAY of both large and small diameters. Marks of this type seen include CHARLEROI, MONS, MOUSCRON, TOURNAI and QUIEVRAIN. The ink colours seen are black, red and green (used on railway T.P.O's) of both large and small diameter. A selection of these marks is displayed.

Later marks were single circle without the word PAR e.g. 'FRANCE CHARLEROI', 'FRANCE TOURNAI'.

For mail destined for England but routed for speed via Calais, the Mouscron railway was used and a single circle mark "ANGLETERRE PAR MOUSCRON" was utilised.



The Role of Quievrain

I have kept as a separate section the marks used on mail passing through this town - the vital link for mail from Brussels to Paris.

Created a Frontier Bureaux in 1836, the first 2 marks were PAR ^{FRANCE} QUIEVRAIN in an oval (1836) then a double circular "FRANCE PAR QUIEVRAIN BRUXELLES" in blue ink. This latter mark came in two sizes 30 mm diameter (1837) and 28 mm diameter (1839?).

Around 1842, the railway link up to the French frontier was completed, speeding up the Brussels-Paris mail which was heavy in volume.

By 1838, the hand stamp in use was a large double C.D.S. FRANCE PAR QUIEVRAIN (30 mm) initially in red ink (1838) then blue (1842). This was to finally appear in green ink (c. 1843) - green being the colour reserved for the railway sorting carriages.

Meanwhile, the large C.D.S. had been superseded by a smaller type with the same legend but no year plug - red ink (1842), green (1844).

A small green C.D.S. "FRANCE PAR QUIEVRAIN CHEMIN DE FER" appeared in 1843, which is the scarcest of these circular date stamps.

When the railway T.P.O. became well organised, it settled for the use of two stamps numbered No. 1 and No. 2 according to the postal gang involved. Initially in green ink (1846/47), then finally in black ink (1849) to conform with other foreign sorting marks. Variations in these stamps occur.



Although the bulk of the mail was destined for France, some mail was intended for a further destination and was marked accordingly when sorted. Examples shown include "SUISSE PAR QUIEVRAIN" and "SARDAIGNE PAR QUIEVRAIN".

Travelling Post Offices

Whilst the marks covered so far were applied at the Frontier Bureaux or Exchange Offices, during the early railway period they could sometimes be applied on the trains for which purpose green ink was allocated. The establishment of a proper railway network led to the organisation of Railway Travelling Sorting Offices on a formal basis.

All routes were given a compass direction e.g. Nord, Midi, Est or Ouest, instead of a town name. As far as this province is concerned, there were 3 routes into France:-

BRUSSEL-MONS-QUIEVRAIN - MIDI 1, MIDI 2, MIDI 3

BRUSSELS-TOURNAI-MOUSCRON - MIDI 4

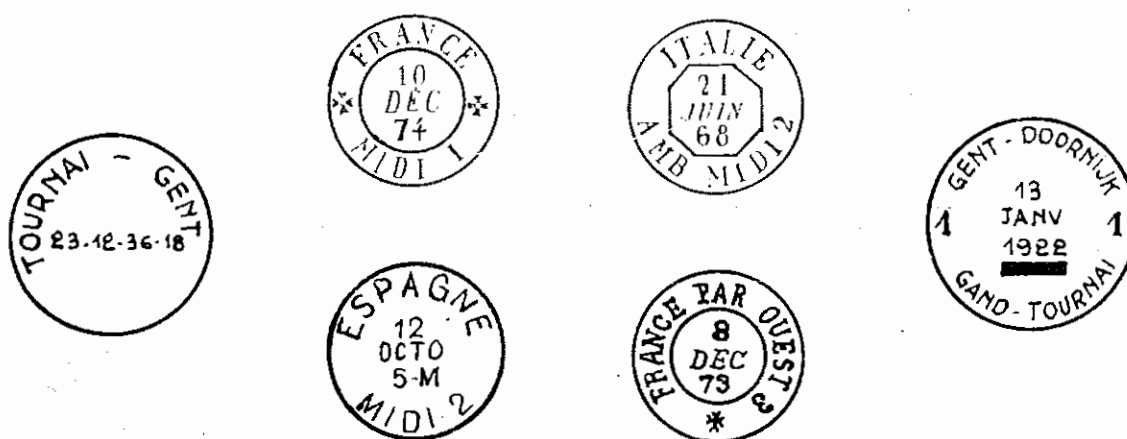
GHENT-COURTRAI-MOUSCRON - OUEST 3



When used for inland mail the same compass directions were used with the foreign destination omitted e.g. "MIDI 1".

There was an inconsistency in the style of number used e.g. "MIDI 4" or "MIDI IV".

Some of the foreign postmarks utilised used on these routes are shown
e.g. "FRANCE MIDI 1", "ESPAGNE MIDI 2", "ANGLETERRE OUEST 3".



Previously these routes bore the town names and a few examples are shown
e.g. AMB. MOUSCRON No. 1".

Foreign sorting marks were withdrawn in 1880 but the Inland marks continued.
They subsequently reverted to bearing the town names e.g. "TOURNAI-GAND 2"
and also became bi-lingual e.g. "TOURNAI-GAND/DOORNIJK-GENT" when appropriate.



Conclusion

Again, a brief display covering a survey of the philatelic interest
in Hainault Province. I hope this will serve to foster an interest
in a form of collecting which enables a restricted area to be studied
in greater depth.

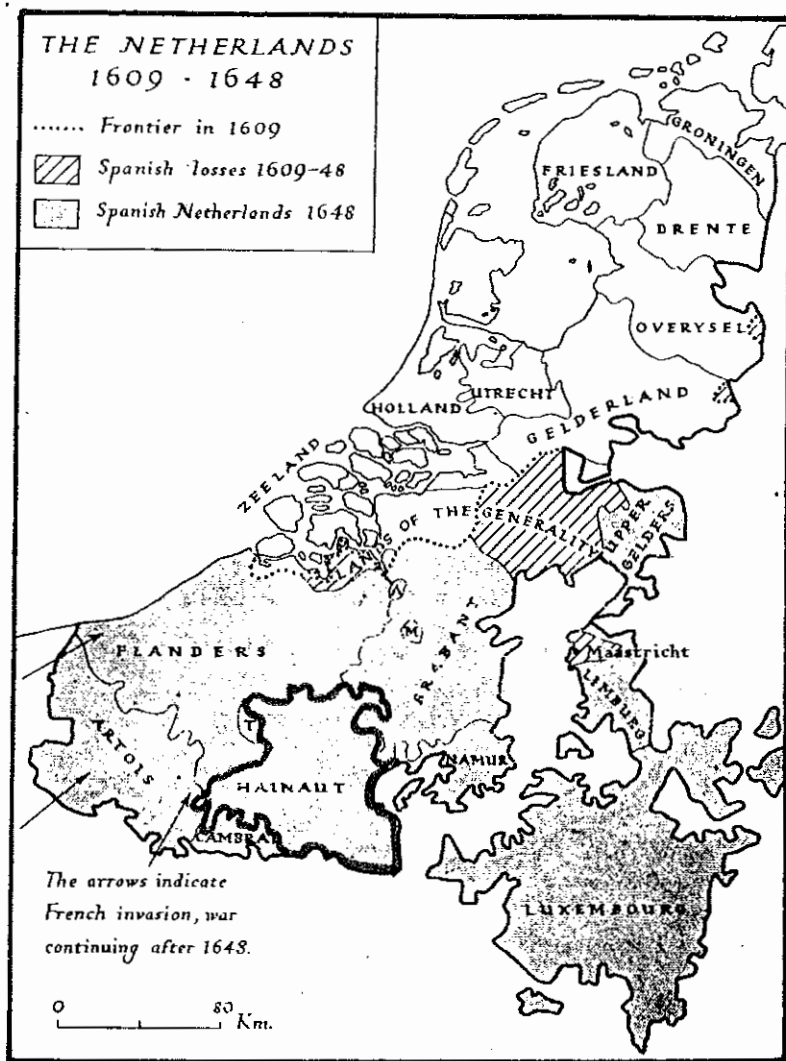


Fig. A The Netherlands in 1609-48

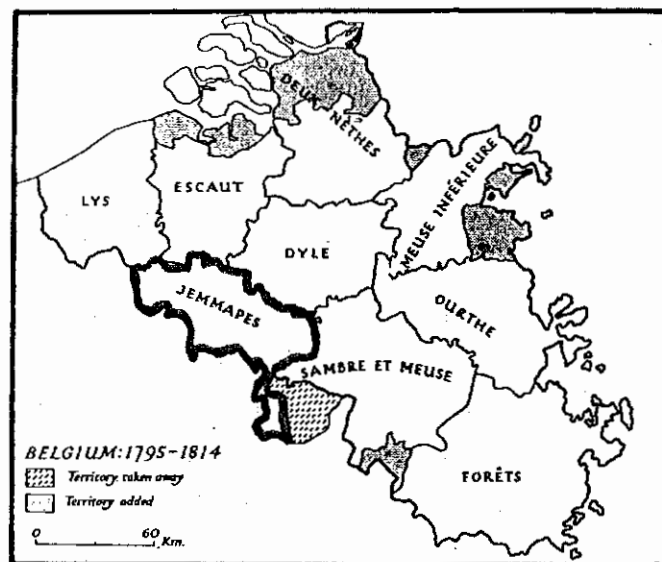


Fig. C Belgium under French domination

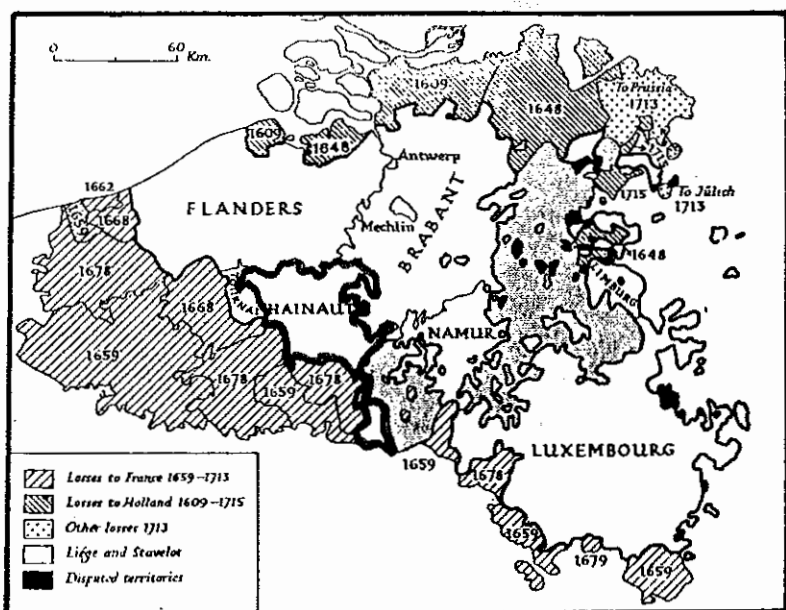


Fig. B The Spanish Netherlands, 1659-1715

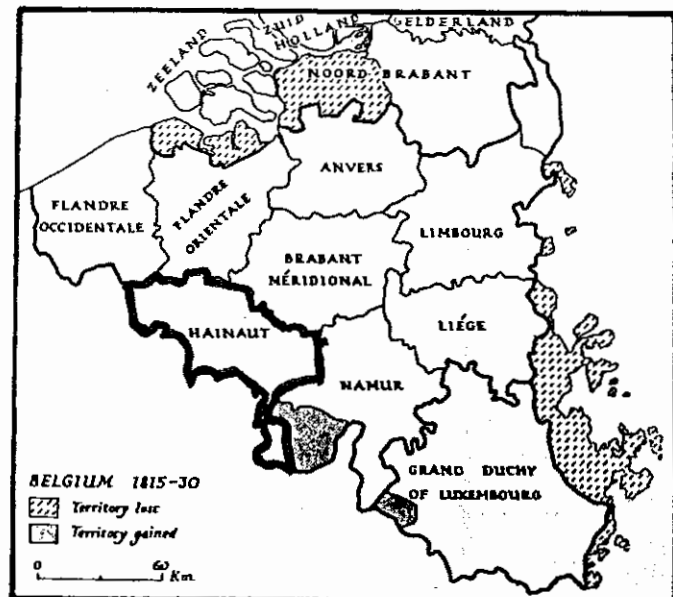
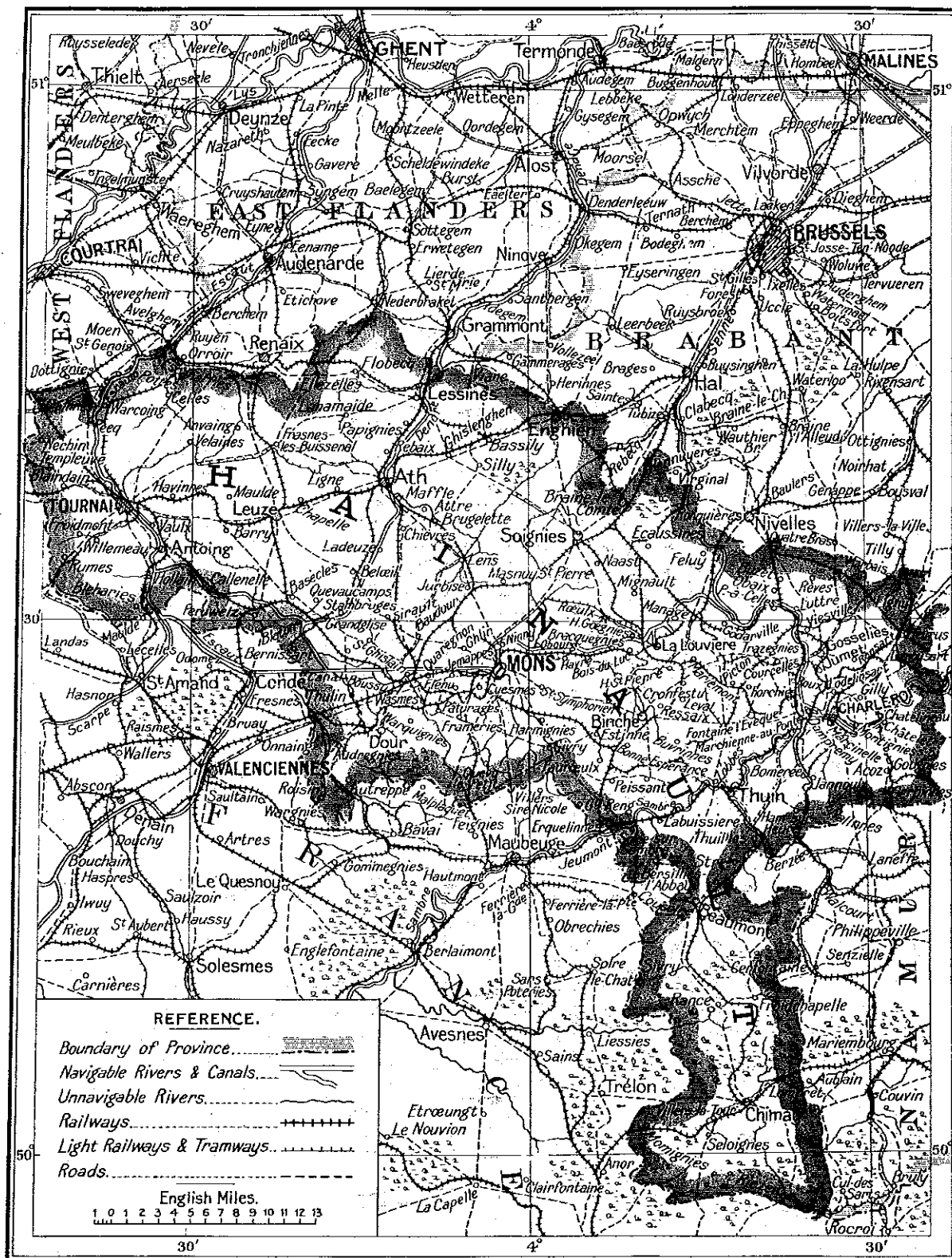


Fig. D Belgium in 1815-30



Copyright

MAP OF HAINAULT.

[Hutchinson & Co.

Hainault, of which Mons is the capital, comprises the southern part of central and western Belgium, and includes substantially the whole of the coal and iron mines of the country. In early times the county of Hainault was separate from the rest of the Netherlands, being at one time part of the Kingdom of Metz and later of the Duchy of Lorraine. Since the middle of the sixteenth century, however, it has shared the uneasy history of the rest of the country

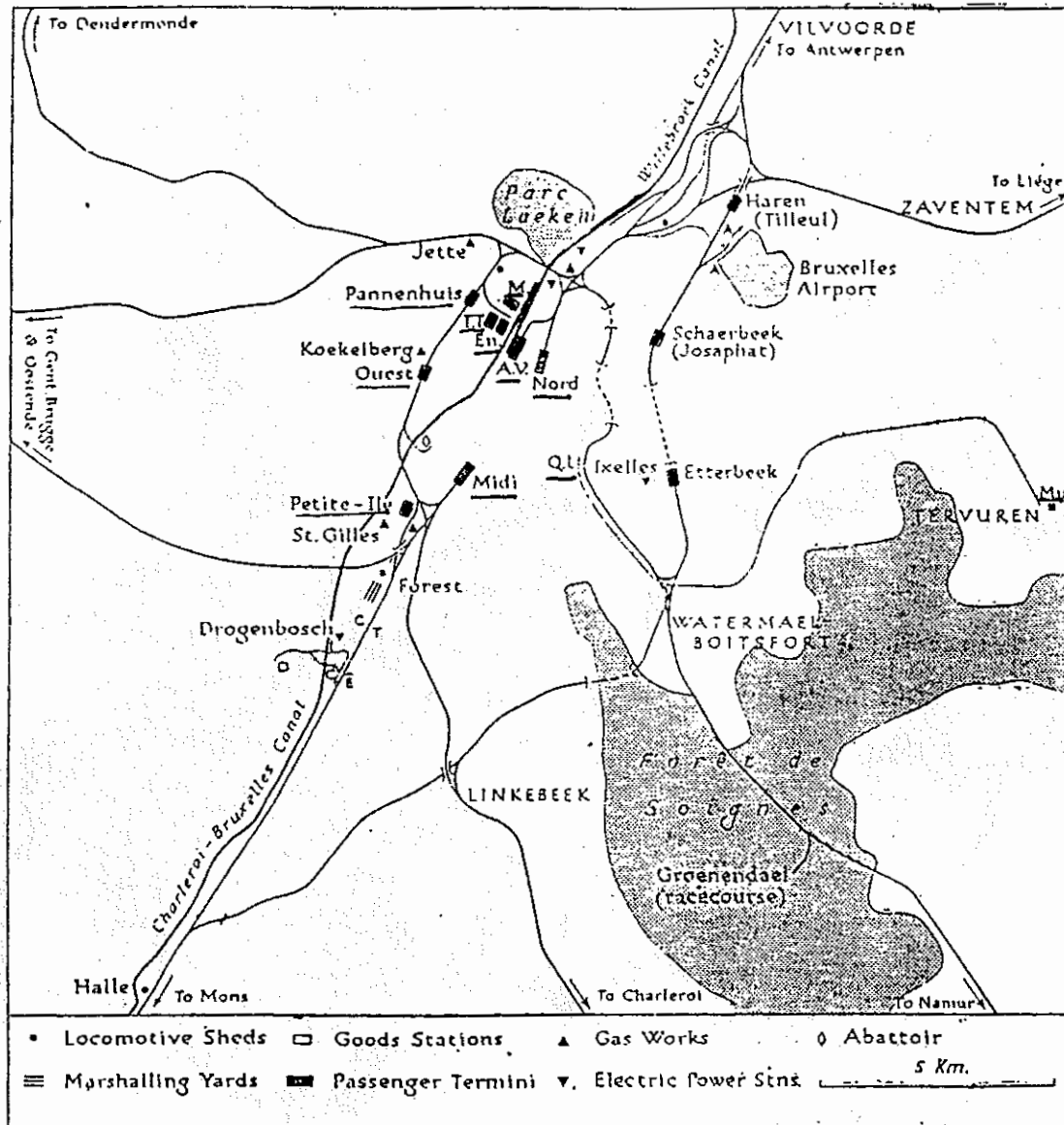


Fig. 118. The railways of Bruxelles, 1939

Based on official sources.

The location of locomotive sheds, marshalling yards, power stations and gas works, and certain rail-connected factories are shown. The Schaerbeek marshalling yards, which are the largest in Belgium, are represented by the network of lines in the north of the map, between Haren and the Willebroek Canal.

Key to abbreviations: AV. Allée Verte; En. Entrepôt; TT. Tour et Taxis; M. Marchandise; QL. Quartier-Léopold; Mu. Musée du Congo. Factories are shown by letters as follows: A. Aircraft; C. Chemicals; D. Distillery; E. Engineering; T. Textiles.

1882-1894 RAILWAY PARCELS ISSUE

"USED" COPIES OF REPRINTS

The majority of unused copies of the 1882-1894 railway parcels issue seen in old collections or dealers' stocks are likely to be reprints, which are found both imperforate and in a variety of perforations (15x14 $\frac{3}{4}$, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x14, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x14) and are usually on a very white unwatermarked paper. The reprints come in various shades, some of which match the originals quite closely. The originals, however, are perforated 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ x14 $\frac{1}{2}$, and from the 1883 printings onwards, many bear part of a very large watermark, which covered most of a sheet; this helps to establish them as originals rather than reprints.

In the course of the last few years, I have encountered a number of apparently used stamps of this issue, which I am now convinced are reprints to which false cancellations have been applied, or perhaps unauthorised use of genuine cancellers may have occurred.

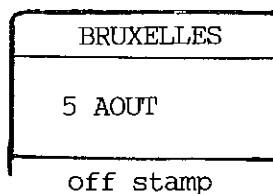
The stamps in question are perforated 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x14 or 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x14 and most are on very white paper. The quality of printing of the 10c and 80c is poor and the colour of the 2 franc is pale orange, compared with the buff colour of the original, and the pale orange-buff shade of "unused" reprints I have seen. The 15c, 25c and 50c, however, can easily be mistaken for originals.

THE CANCELLATIONS

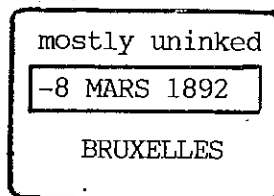
I have so far identified nine different cancellers, used on a total of 26 stamps, details of which are:

Hexagon cancellers:	AELTRE	9	on 50c rose
		AOUT	(4 copies)
		1893	
	BRUXELLES (M1D1)	26	on 15c (1 copy)
		JUIN	25c emerald green
		1891	(3 copies)
			2Fr orange
			(3 copies)
	BRUXELLES NORD	2	on 80c lemon
		SEPT	(2 copies)
		????	(year not on stamp)
	BRUXELLES (St. Gilles)	17	on 10c (1)] part cancels
		NOVE	15c (1)] only without
		1891] St. Gilles
			50c rose (1)
	JUMET	11	on 50c rose (4)
		MAI	80c bistre (1)
		1894	

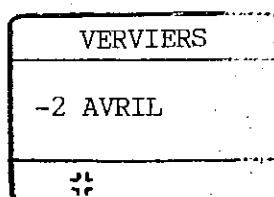
Rectangular cancellers:



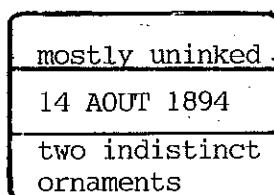
on 15c (1)



on 15c (1)



on 50c rose (2)



on 80c yellow (1)

The most interesting of these cancellations are those dated 1891 and 1892 on the 15c and 2Fr values, neither of which were issued until February, 1894! It is, incidentally, the 15c and 2Fr which are the scarcest values in the issued set (SG cat £7 and £35 respectively, used). The 50c, on the other hand, is extremely common (SG cat 20p) and one wonders why someone went to the trouble of applying false cancellations to the reprint, particularly as the unused original catalogues £32.

Does any member have further examples of these or similar cancellations?

