

The Fraktur

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MARCH 1990

NOTGELD COUNTRY...REVISITED

The Danish Border

By Hermann Krause

Let us imagine a wall-sized map of pre-war Germany where all the places that ever issued series Notgeld are marked with pins. The resulting pattern is an interesting one.

The pins are scattered rather unevenly all over the map but two areas of dense pin concentration stand out strikingly: First the province of Schleswig-Holstein, including a strip of southern Denmark, and secondly, the State of Thuringen (Thuringia) in central Germany.

Schloss Gluecksburg, just outside of Flensburg, was built between 1583-1587 by Johann the Younger. The One Mark note was issued in 1920, printed by Aug. Westphalen, Flensburg.



In the summer of 1989 some family business called for a journey to the Old Country. It was a fortunate coincidence that we (my wife, Gretchen and I) were to visit these exact two areas. The first is in West Germany and southern Denmark; the second in East Germany.

I decided to combine business with pleasure and follow an old dream, that is, to see if any of those castles, churches, gates and bridges and other prominent structures still existed. Also, I wanted to see if they still looked the same as on the Notgeld notes of nearly 70 years ago.

Time and other circumstances did not permit any detours, at least not any extended ones, from the predestined route. This is the story of our trip.

Passing over all nonnotgeld related events, my report begins with our arrival in the northernmost German city of Flensburg, where my sister and her husband welcomed us into

their home. We know of a number of Flensburg Notgeld issues, official and private ones, but not many structures are illustrated on them. One exception is the vertical 50-Pfennig note, dated March 14, 1920, which pictured the St. Nikolai Church.

Collectors of metal Notgeld are aware of the 1917 zinc and iron coins of one, five and 10-Pfennig, all octagon, which were issued by the city of Flensburg. Also, there are tokens for electricity and gas in brass, nickel-plated iron and iron which also circulated as money.

It was the first morning after our arrival that the four of us drove out to Gluecksburg Castle, just a few kilometers outside of Flensburg. And there it was, exactly as pictured on the 25-Pfennig and one Mark notes of 1920. The white walls and red roofs of the edifice were reflected in the still waters of the surrounding lake. It remains a vision a beauty. Don't miss this one whenever you plan your visit to Germany.

Driving on in a southeasterly direction from Gluecksburg we were suddenly in the very heart of a Notgeld landscape. The road signs read like a Notgeld catalog: Grundhof, Lutzhoeft, Quern, Satrup, Soerup. But we did not have the time for sidetrips because we were on our way to meet a friend in Suederbrarup.

Yet, when we pass through Husby we make a detour of two short blocks because I wanted to see the "Bahnhof." Yes, the railway station looks just as it does on Husby's 75-Pfennig note and I was satisfied.

Suederbrarup is one of those towns with a record number of different notgeld issues though few of the notes show architectural highlights. Perhaps, in the case of Suederbrarup this is because there are few notable structures. But still recognizable was the church from the town view on the 50-Pfennig note of 1920. The windmill from the same picture no longer existed, or so it seemed.

Early one morning we began with a shopping trip into Denmark. We were in zone one of the 1920 plebiscite, when after the vote, the German territory reverted to Denmark.

Both German and Danish custom officials waved us through the checkpoints and did not bother to see our passports.

Shortly, into Denmark, I noticed a road sign "Grasten" (German: Gravenstein) and my travel companions magnanimously granted me the side-trip for which I asked. About 15 minutes later we stepped through a park gate and gazed at the palace-like castle framed by old trees and surrounded with colorful carpets of flowers.

All three of the February 1920 notes show the castle as it appears today.

Further to the east on the same road, like pearls on a string, are the towns of Broacker (Broager), Dueppel (Dybbol), Sonderburg and Augustenburg. Every name is familiar because of my Notgeld knowledge, but east is not our direction.

We returned to Highway 170 and followed it northward. We passed Apenrade (Apenra) and another Notgeld issue came to mind. The merchant Carl E. Hoffgaard of Apenrade issued

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PRICELIST March 1990

Kloster Zinna Sept. 7, 1920 25, 50 Pf K-557 L-688 \$1*
 Koelln-Reisiek ND 50, 75 Pf K-563 L-695 Designer, Konrad Hanf
 \$3.50
 Kneitlingen July 1, 1921 50 (2), 75 (3) Pf; 1 Mark (2)
 L-690 Eulenspiegel Guenther Clausen, artist \$4*
 Koenigshuette March 20, 1921 25 Pf K-573 L-706 Plebiscite
 \$.50*
 Koenigsberg/Franken (Saxe-Coburg) Nov. 1918 50 Pf P-S 1127
 \$1*
 Koenigsbrueck Oct. 1, 1918 2, 5 Pf POW \$5 *
 Koenigssee/Bayern March 26, 1921 25 Pf P-S 574 Edelweiss
 \$.50*
 Koenigswinter/Rhein July 15, 1921 50, 75 (2) Pf L-697 \$1.50*
 Koesen, Bad June 1, 1921 10 (3), 50 (3) Pf Set K-580I;
 L-700II With printing firm \$3*
 Koestritz/Reuss jL Oct. 1, 1921 50 (3) Pf K-582b L-715b
 \$1.75*
 Kolberg/Pommern March 1, 1917 10, 50 Pf \$9*
 Kolberg/Pommern Nov. 12, 1918 5 Mark \$1.75*
 Kolberg/Ostsee Sept. 1, 1921 25 (2), 50 (2), 75 (2) Pf 1 Mark
 K-583 \$4*
 Kremp (Krempe) Schleswig-Holstein Dec. 1920 25, 50, 100 Pf
 K-587 \$2*
 Kreuzburg/Oberschlesien Jan. 18, 1921 25, 50 Pf K-588 L-722
 Plebiscite \$1.25*
 Kronach 1921 K-592; L-713 25 (3), 50 (3) Pf Schiestl \$3.50*
 Kummerfeld ND 25 (2), 50 (2), 75 (2) Pf K-594 L-728 set tells
 scam story Fritz Reuter quote \$10*
 Kunzendorf (Konczyce) March 1, 1922 50 Pf, 1, 2 Mark set
 L-729 Set \$2*
 Labes Oct. 1921 75 Pf, 1, 2 Mark L-734 \$1.75*
 Lage Feb. 1921 10, 25, 50 Pf K-602; L-736 \$1*
 Lahr/Breisgau Oct. 18, 1918 5 Mark K-279a \$2.25*
 Lahr/Breisgau Aug. 1, 1920 50 Pf P-S 1178K \$1*
 Landeck/Schlesien March 11, 1921 25, 50 Pf P-S 1181 \$3*
 Landkirchen/Fehmarn ND 1/2, K-603 L-740 \$.75*
 Landsberg/Lech July 1918 50 Pf K-1659a \$2
 Landsberg/Lech Jan. 1921 50 Pf \$1 K-604; L-729I \$1*
 Langelohe to Jan. 31, 1922 25, 50 (2) Pf \$3.75*
 Langeln to Dec. 31, 1921 25, 50 Pf Christmas theme \$2*
 Langenhorn 1921 50, 75 Pf 1 Mark K-610; L-735 \$2.75*
 Langensalza ND K-83 20 Pf POW \$1.50*
 Langensalza 1920 25, 50 Pf P-S 1194f L-748 Fire Equip. \$2*
 Langensalza to Sept. 1, 1921 25 (4), 50 (2) Pf L-749 \$3.25*
 Langquaid/Bayern Sept. 5, 1923 300,000 Mark K-2913d \$5
 Lassin-Zinnowitz ND 1 Pf Carl Ouden K-1677b \$1*
 Lauban/Schlesien Oct. 1920 10, 25 Pf K-1199 \$1.50*
 Lauchstedt 1919 10, 50 Pf P-S 1201 \$1*
 Lauchstedt 1921 25, 50 Pf L-752 \$1.25*
 Lauenburg/Pommern Nov. 15, 1918 5, 19 Mark K-286 \$3.50*
 Lauenburg/Elbe July 1, 1921 25, 50 Pf, 1 Mark K-616a; L-741
 II \$1.75*

Laufen/Oberbayern Oct 20, 1920 K-1684 \$2.25*
 Laufen-Tittmoning 1920 25, 50 Pf K-1686 \$2.50*
 Laupheim/Wuerttemberg July 51, 1919 50 Pf P-S 1207 \$2.25*
 Laurahuette/Oberschlesien May 3, 1921 1 Mark Plebiscite
 Bilingual K-618 L-755 \$2*
 Leck/Schleswig-Holstein ND 25, 50 Pf K-622 L-759 \$3*
 Leer/Ostfriesland Heimatschutz 1921 50 (2) Pf, 1 Mark
 (windmill) L-760 \$1.75*
 Leer/Ostfriesland Nov. 6, 1921 75 Pf K-623 L-761 \$4
 Lehrte Jan. 1, 1921 5, 10, 25, 50 Pf P-S 1222 \$4.50*
 Leipzig Aug. 27-Sept. 4, 1921 50 (4) Pf Notgeld show L-763
 \$6*
 Leipzig May 3, 1921 50 Pf L-766 Zoo \$1.50*
 Lemgo May 25, 1921 10 Pf K-768 \$.50*
 Lenzen/Elbe ND 50 (2), 75 (2) Pf L-771 \$2*
 Leobschuetz to Dec. 31, 1922 10 Pf L-772 \$.50*
 Lewin/Glatz July 31, 1920 50 Pf K-1733g \$1*
 Lichtenhorst ND 25 (3), 50 (2), 75 Pf, 1 Mark (2) L-776 Phony
 POW \$10
 Lichtenstein-Callnberg April 1, 1921 50 (5) Pf set L-777 \$3*
 Liebenstein, Bad ND 10, 50 Pf L-778 \$1*
 Liebenwerda Oct. 1, 1921 50 (6) Pf Set K-638 \$5*
 Liegnitz ND 50 Pf K-1252e \$1*
 Liegnitz Jan. 7, 1922 50 Pf Gaswerk K-1253c \$5
 Lilienthal/H Jan. 15, 1921 50 Pf L-780c \$1*
 Lindenberg/Allgaeu Aug. 1, 1917 10, 50 \$2*
 Lindenberg/Allgaeu May 1, 1918 25 Pf K-1266c \$1.50*
 Lingen ND 10 Pf; April 1, 1921 50 Pf L-781a \$1*
 Lingen Sept. 1, 1921 75 Pf 781b Musical score \$.75*
 Lingen Jan. 1, 1922 2 Mark 781c Musical score \$1.25*
 Linz/Rhine July 1, 1917 50 Pf K-1769 \$.75
 Linz/Rhine July 1, 1920 10, 25, 50 Pf L-782 \$2.50*
 Lippspringe, Bad May 28, 1921 25, 50, 75 Pf \$1.50*
 Lobeda 1921 10, 25, 50 (2) Pf L-786 \$2*

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Books

Muellers Grosses Deutsches Ortsbuch, 1988/89, lists 110,000
 towns in Bundesrepublik Deutschland, gives population,
 location, etc. \$96 (retail price in West Germany) Postpaid
Lindman, Kai Serienscheine 2nd edition \$42.50 postpaid
Slabaugh, Prisoner of War Monies and Medals \$3.50 postpaid
Emergency Coins of Germany, 200 pp Emergency Money Society,
 1970, \$7.50 postpaid
Schoenawa, Das Papiernotgeld von Ostpreussen Westpreussen
 Posen \$15.50 postpaid

*Uncirculated

K-Keller catalogs; L-Lindman catalog; P-S Pick-Siemsen
 THE FRAKTUR, P.O. Box 334, Iola, Wis. 54945

Classified Advertising

German metal Notgeld (Notmuenzen) bought and sold. Muni-
 cipal, private, POW, beer, transportation, naval, military,
 Consum Verein, gas and electricity tokens. Also interested
 in other continental European tokens. Buying and selling
 books on Notmuenzen and Notgeld also. Free list available.
 T.J. Orlik, Box 947, Lewiston, N.Y. 14092 USA.

Readers of THE FRAKTUR will find an interesting auction catalog available in June, as Bowers and Merena offer items from the Virgil Brand estate pertaining to World War I.

Included are decorations, Karl Goetz medals, military awards and metal notgeld, including the Nuernberg Strassenbahn (streetcar) set of 45 aluminum tokens, struck by the L. Christian Lauer firm of Nuernberg in 1921, each a 20-pfennig piece.

It was business as usual during the World War I years at the Jacques Schulman numismatic firm, Keizersgracht 448, in Amsterdam. Funneling through the firm were emergency coins and paper money, medals and decorations, duly cataloged.

In December 1914, catalog Nr. LX offered 1,382 coins and medals of the war countries, including some 1914 medals of Germany.

"La Guerre Europeenne" was the title of five separate catalogs issued by the Schulman firm during the war period. Nr. LXV was dated April 1916, 1,566 items.

Nr. LXVII was issued in January 1917, 1,408 items; Nr. LXXX, March 1918, 2,274 items; Nr. LXXIII, January 1919, 1,237 items; and Nr. LXXV, December 1919, 962 items.

Illustrations appeared throughout the catalogs, plus plates at the end of each catalog. In the catalogs are found long lists of German and French metal emergency issues; lists of emergency paper money of Belgium, Germany, France; military insignia; and in general, the numismatic history of the war.

Another interesting volume of the period is "Catalogue of Medals - Medalets and Plaques relative to the World War 1914-1919," from the collection of Maurice Frankenhuis, printed in Enschede, Holland. It lists 1,589 items.

We cite these books because it is apparent to the cataloger of the June auction that many of the items in the Brand sale were ordered from Schulman, the item still in the Schulman envelopes.

Pouncing on the lots will be not just numismatists but collectors of military history and memorabilia, prisoner of war specialists and medal collectors.

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Shortly after your February 1990 issue of THE FRAKTUR went to the printers, an Associated Press story appeared in newspapers about Jan. 17, telling of the visit for the first time in many years to West Germany by an East German family. They approached U.S. Army Captain James Allen in West Berlin and showed him a brass POW identification tag. It had been found in their barn after a fire a couple years ago.

Through the American Red Cross, Allen found a name to match the number. The name was Carroll Witten, and he was located in Louisville, Ky. Allen telephoned from Berlin.

"Were you a prisoner of war?"

"Yes."

"What was your serial number?"

"4854." Bingo, it was a match. And during home leave at Christmas, Captain Allen delivered the tag in person. According to the February POW account, the Moosburg prisoners of war spent the night in barns on Jan. 30, 1945, at Graustein.

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World paper money lists, at times including paper Notgeld, are offered by Len Harsel, P.O. Box 2301, Springfield, Va. 22152-0301.

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To facilitate usage between the Pick-Siemsen book and the two editions of the Kai Lindman book on Serienscheine, a six-page listing has been prepared, showing catalog numbers for the same item in each book. A labor of love, those requesting the list should send a long business envelope, self-addressed, with 45 cents in stamps to Charles Springman, P.O. Box 58, Springdale, Pa. 15144-0058. While asking no fee for this work, a bit of "Trinkgeld," a tip, would be appreciated.

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undated 50-Pfennig octagonal zinc tokens during the WWI period. However, we continued on to our destination, Hadersleben.

Consulting the map on my knees I saw in tiny letters, about halfway between Apenrade and Hadersleben (Haderslev), the word "Knivsberg." My fellow travelers didn't have much of a chance. I just had to see this somewhat obscure place, so famous for its swindle issue.

There is a 50-Pfennig note of Knivsberg, dated March 14, 1920, with serial number, signature and redemption text, though there is no community by this name. It is just a hill. And it was the hill which I wished to see.

we almost missed the small, wooden sign to the right of the highway, nailed to a tree. A narrow road led to a parking area. Then a footpath wound in spirals through thin underbrush to the top of the hill. It was barren and windy up there, but the view over the Danish countryside was singularly beautiful. The Knivsberg note shows a group of people with flags representative of Denmark, the United States, France and England, walking up to a tower-like structure.

It is the Bismarck monument, erected between 1898-1901. Now it is gone and just part of the base remains. Between the two wars the monument became a national shrine for the German minority living in Denmark. A hand-lettered sign informed us that by the end of World War II the irate Danes destroyed and leveled the monument, expressing their feelings toward a repressive German occupation.