

Holy Land Postal History

V
89-90

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE SOCIETY OF THE
POSTAL HISTORY OF ERETZ-ISRAEL



המעטפה היחידה הרשומה הידועה עד עתה מבית הדואר הטורקי ב"Zamarin (Caifa)" (המושבה זכרון יעקב), נשלחה לפולין ב־ 1918 והוחזרה לשולח, כי הנמען לא נמצא.

The only registered cover recorded from the Turkish post office of "Zamarin (Caifa)" (the colony Zichron Ya'acov); mailed to Poland in 1918, but returned to sender as the addressee was not found (See article on p. 318).

HOLY LAND POSTAL HISTORY

Official Bulletin of the Society of the Postal History of Eretz-Israel

Affiliated to the Israel Philatelic Federation

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Society annual membership fee: \$18 (includes Bulletin by surface mail;

If Bulletin requested by air mail, additional annual fee:

Europe - \$4.-, U.S.A. - \$6.- (subject to postal rates' changes)

Life Membership: \$250; addition for airmail delivery: \$50 (Europe), \$100 (USA, Canada, RSA), \$125 (South America & Australia). Payable in 2 yearly instalments.

Publications: Holy Land Postal History bulletin back issues available:

2-80 at \$5.50 each (regular issues),

\$7.- each (double issues & #32), Index for Vol I - Vol. IV - \$3 each.

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Error Correction

In the article "The Post Offices of Ottoman Jerusalem", published in the previous Bulletin, it was erroneously written that the German Post Office in Jerusalem opened on May 1st, 1900; it should obviously be corrected to March 1st, 1900.

The Postal Services of the Jewish Colonies During the Ottoman Period

Edited by *E. Leibin*

An exhibition of the mail of the Jewish Colonies was held at the Philatelic and Postal Museum in Tel Aviv in August 2001. This important chapter of Holy Land philately was illustrated by courtesy of the three prominent collectors of the Ottoman period - Z. Alexander, Y. Hackmey and I. Karpovsky. For the benefit of our readers who did not visit this exhibition, its exhibits are reproduced here (in black-and-white; sorry for this!).

The first Jewish agricultural colonies were established in the 1880's. Petach-Tikva (1878) was followed by Rishon-Le-Zion, Rosh-Pina and Zichron-Ya'acov (1882), Gedera (1884) and Hadera (1890). With the growing Zionist immigration more colonies were settled.

The settlers in the colonies had a vital need for efficient and reliable postal connections with the Diaspora. This was needed for both personal and commercial motives. At that time, postal services were almost non-existent in rural Palestine. The Turkish Post had offices in a number of towns, whilst the foreign Posts had offices only in the three major cities. As mail was not collected or delivered in the colonies by the post office, other arrangements had to be made. Mail had to be forwarded to the nearest town in order to be sent, and incoming mail had to be collected there. This task was carried at first by settlers who happened to pass in the town. Later some local committees assumed this responsibility, whilst in other colonies local officials were appointed.

The Post Offices did not turn a blind eye for long to this good prospect of income. In 1903 the Austrian post - considered to be the most efficient and reliable - reached an agreement with the settlers. According to this agreement the settlers enjoyed the privilege of free mail within each postal district (Jerusalem, Jaffa & Haifa). In return for this concession the settlers took upon themselves to send all mail through the Austrian Post only. Austrian Postal Agencies were established in two of the largest colonies - Rishon-Le-Zion and Petach-Tikva. In some of the colonies charges were collected for the forwarding service. Local stamps were issued for this purpose in Pitach-Tikva, Rishon-Le-Zion and Hadera. The Austrian Post Office in Jaffa - the postal district with the greatest number of colonies and settlers - became a clearing house for the postage-free inter-colony mail. Such mail was brought in by the representative of one colony, handstamped and taken by the representative of the other colony. Mail to other districts and to foreign countries had to be franked and sent in the usual manner. In some of the Colonies both local and Austrian stamps had to be used.

The German post office followed the Austrian's and opened an agency in Rishon-Le-Zion. The Turkish post did not remain idle and established Post Offices in five colonies: Rishon-Le-Zion (Aioun-Cara), Petach-Tikva, Rehovot, Zichron-Ya'acov and Rosh-Pina.

With the outbreak of WWI the foreign Post Offices were closed. The settlers had to use the services of the Turkish post, either in one of the above colonies, or in one of the towns.

This topic attracted much philatelic attention. The cachet of the colonies, the local stamps and combination covers as well as the postmarks are eagerly looked for by collectors.

The exhibition portrayed this fascinating subject to the general public and to philatelists. Included were not only the colonies that had special cachets and markings, but also some of the smaller colonies identified only by the address. In some instances similar items were illustrated in order to show a pattern of postal service although this meant repetition to some extent.

No better source can be found to illustrate this article with the general view of the Jewish settlements in the early 20th century than Leo Kann's photographs. In 1912 Leo Kann was a young medicine student sent by the "Yudische Zeitung" of Vienna to photograph and report on the renewal of Jewish life in Eretz Israel. He toured the country for several months and took about 400 photographs. Upon his return 180 photographs were published in 3 volumes in high quality photogravure, a publication which earned Kann very high acclaim. The present article is interlaced by photographs of that series, selected from the collection of Y. Rimón.

Rishon Le-Zion



VERLAG „JÜDISCHE ZEITUNG“, WIEN.

KUNSTANSTALT MAX JAFFÉ, WIEN.

Fig. 1: Rishon Le-Zion - The main street.

The Austrian Postal Agency

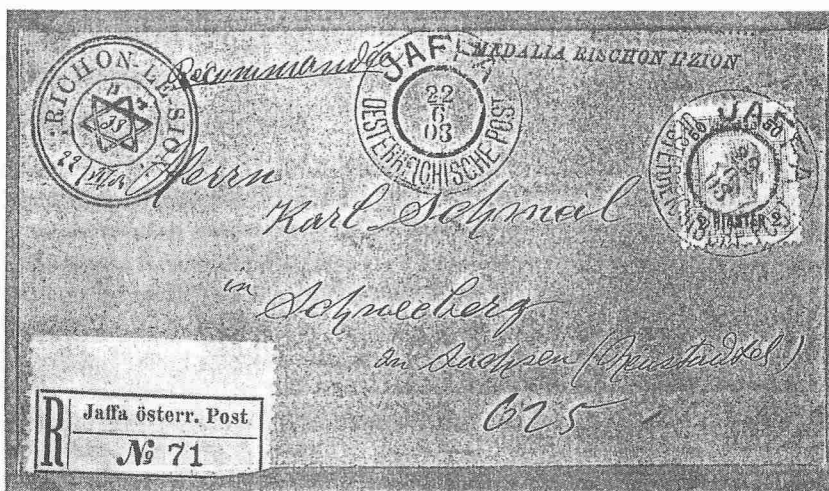


Fig. 2: 1903 Registered cover to Germany, bearing circular "Richon-Le-Sion" (St. 709)1 and straight line "Medalia Rischon L'Zion" handstamps. Medalia was the manager of the Austrian Postal Agency in the colony. The figures "38" and the date (22/VI/03) added into the circular cachet by m/s. The Austrian stamp was cancelled in Jaffa where the R-label was affixed.



Fig. 3: 1903, Returned registered letter to Singapore showing "Rischon-L'Zion" circular cachet (St. 708) with the number 30 in its center. The Austrian stamps were cancelled in Jaffa.

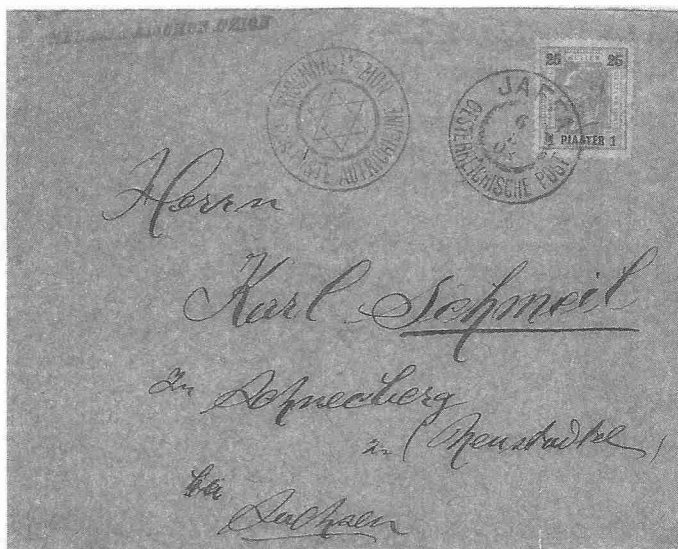


Fig. 4: 1903, Combination of local handstamps: Straight line "Medalia Rischon - L'Zion" and double circle "Rischon - L'Zion Par Poste Autrichienne" (St. 708) on cover to Saxony.



Fig. 5: 1904, Patriotic usage of the "Zion" JNF label on concessional free mail to Jaffa. The cover has both Hebrew (St. 712, applied on the stamp) and French (St. 708) local handstamps.

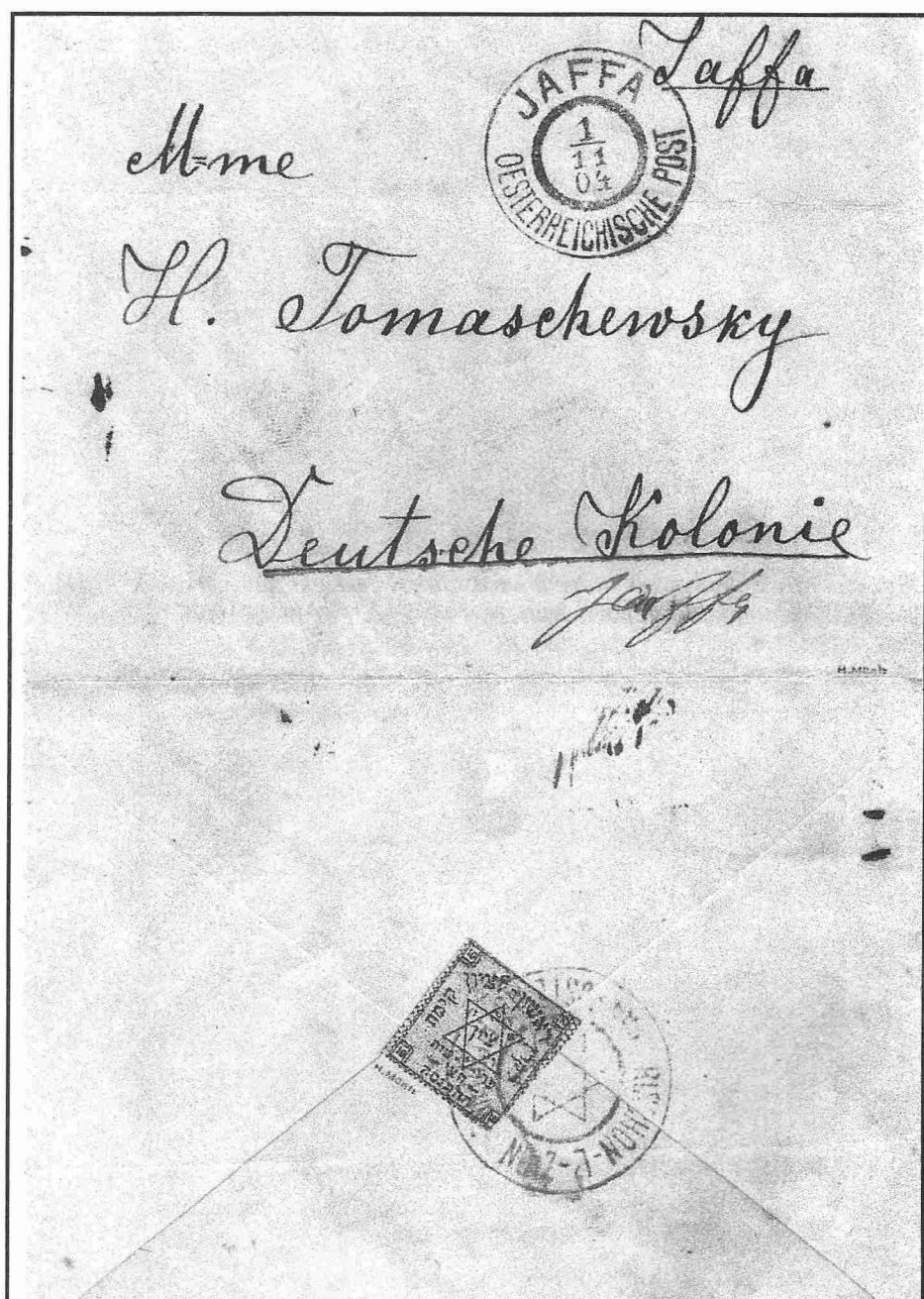


Fig. 6: 1904, postage free cover from Rishon Le-Zion to Jaffa. Local fee and JNF contribution paid by the 10 para local stamp cancelled by the agency's handstamp (St. 708).



Fig. 7: 1905, Faint Hebrew double circle cachet (St. 712) struck on arrival of incoming postcard from Jerusalem. (As the Hebrew postmark opposite the arrow is so faint that it is unseen in the photograph, it is reproduced in the small frame underneath).



Fig. 8: 1905, underfranked cover which had been dropped in a mail box in Jerusalem, addressed to Rishon Le-Zion, bearing rectangular "Aus Jerusalem | Oester. Post" cachet. Taxed in Jaffa 1 piaster + 20 paras by Austrian Levant Postage Due stamps (= 30 Centimes, double the deficiency).

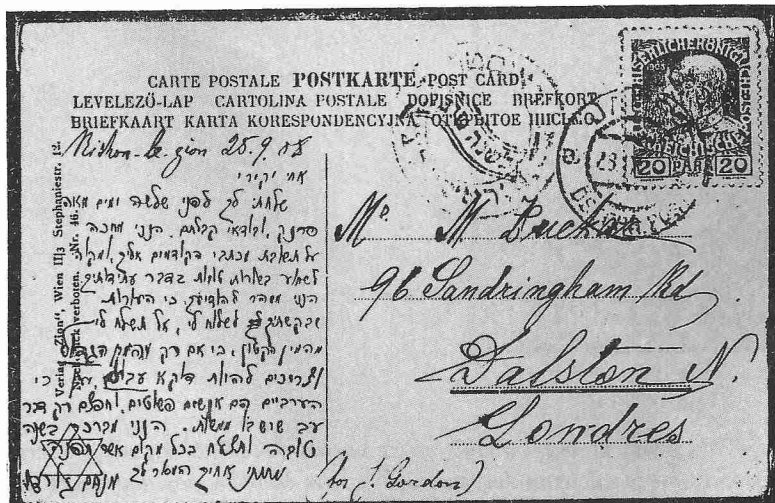


Fig. 9: 1908, Postcard to London bearing Hebrew double circle cachet "פוסטה האוסטרית ראשון לציון" (Austrian Post Rishon Le-Zion), with a banner reading "LeShana Tova" (Happy New Year). This cachet was used for a few days only.

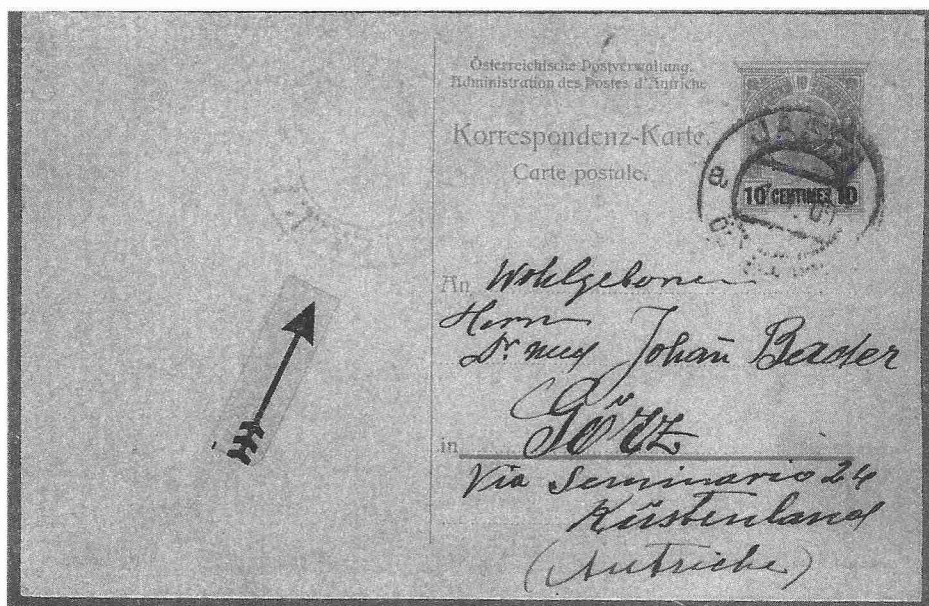


Fig. 10: 1909, The Rishon Le-Zion Hebrew circular cachet (St. 711) on a postcard to Austria.



Fig. 11: 1910, 5c. printed matter rate cover mailed from Rishon Le-Zion to Vienna. JNF labels cancelled by the large bilingual cachet (St. 714).



Fig. 12: 1910, Austria lettercard from Rishon Le-Zion to Beyrouth bearing the small bilingual local cachet (St. 713).



Fig. 13: 1910, Stampless postcard mailed free from Rishon Le-Zion to Jaffa, showing the small bilingual local cachet (St. 713) and Jaffa Austrian postmark. Petach-Tikva red local handstamp (St. 706) applied for unknown reason.

The German Postal Agency

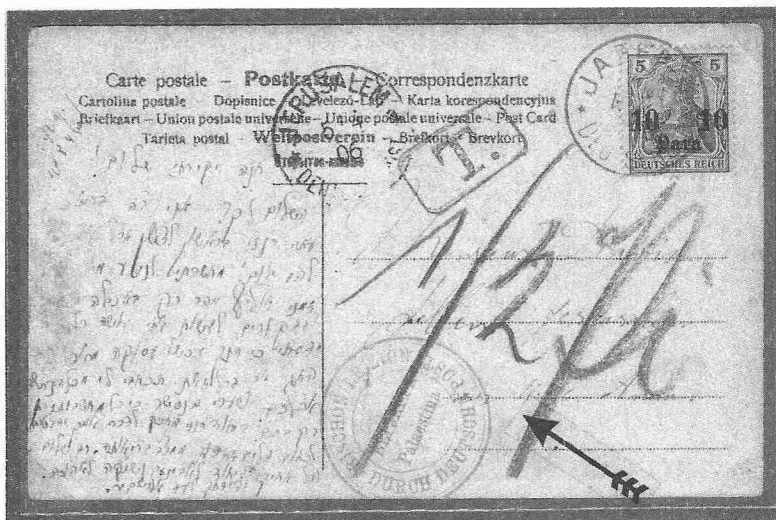


Fig. 14: 1906, Underpaid postcard mailed from Rishon Le-Zion to Jerusalem, bearing the local circular German handstamp (St. 247). The stamp was cancelled in Jaffa where the "T" mark was applied. The tax of 1/2 piaster was collected upon delivery.



Fig. 15: 1905, German stationery postcard to Germany mailed via the German postal agency in the colony and showing cachet St. 247.



Fig. 16: 1907, German stationery postcard bearing the local cachet (St. 247), mailed to Alexandria.

The Turkish Post Office

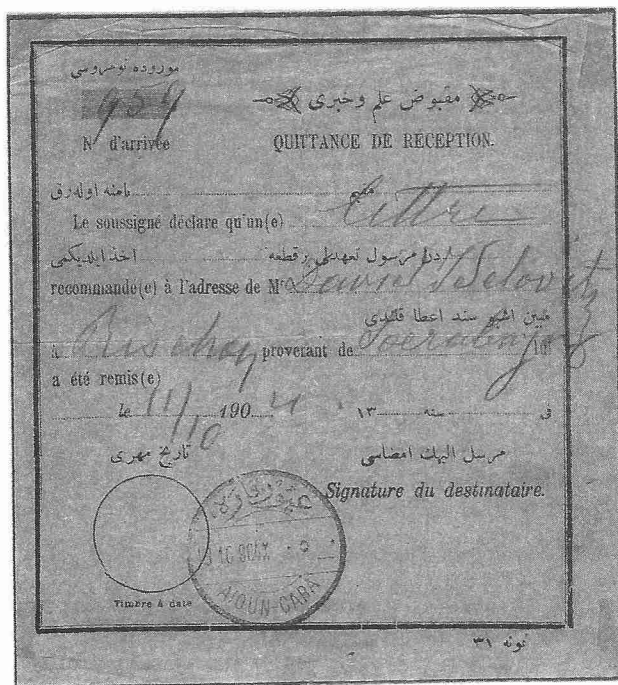


Fig. 17: 1904, Registered letter receipt showing clear strike of the Turkish postmark "Aioun - Cara" (Arab name of the place).



Fig. 18: 1908, Postcard mailed from the Turkish post office in the colony to New-York.



Fig. 19: 1916, Wartime registered cover forwarded to Jaffa and mailed there; "2326" registration No. by hand. Rate: 40 para letter rate + 40 para Registration fee + 20 para War Orphan Tax = 100 para = 5 x 20 para (= 2 1/2 piasters).

Petach - Tikva



PETACH TIKWAH: HAUPTSTRASSE.

Fig. 20: "Petach Tikwah"- The main street.

The Austrian Postal Agency



Fig. 21: 1908, Inland postcard to Jerusalem, Austrian Levant 28 para stamp tied by violet bilingual "Petah Tikwah | Per Oester Post" with large David Star (St. 705) and cancelled in Jaffa.



Fig. 22: 1908, Postcard to Berlin mailed in the colony, cancelled with the local cachet (St. 705) and Jaffa postmark.



Fig. 23: 1909, Hotel "Jarkon" stationery envelope mailed to Jaffa franked only by the Petach-Tikva Local stamp cancelled by the local bilingual cachet with small David Star (St. 706). Handled by the Austrian Post free of charge.

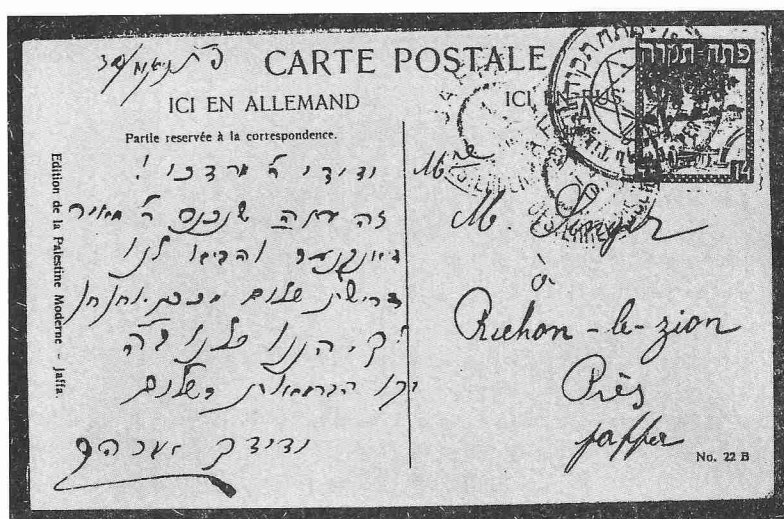


Fig. 24: 1909, Intercolony mail. Petach-Tikva local stamp and handstamp (St. 705) on postcard to Rishon Le-Zion.

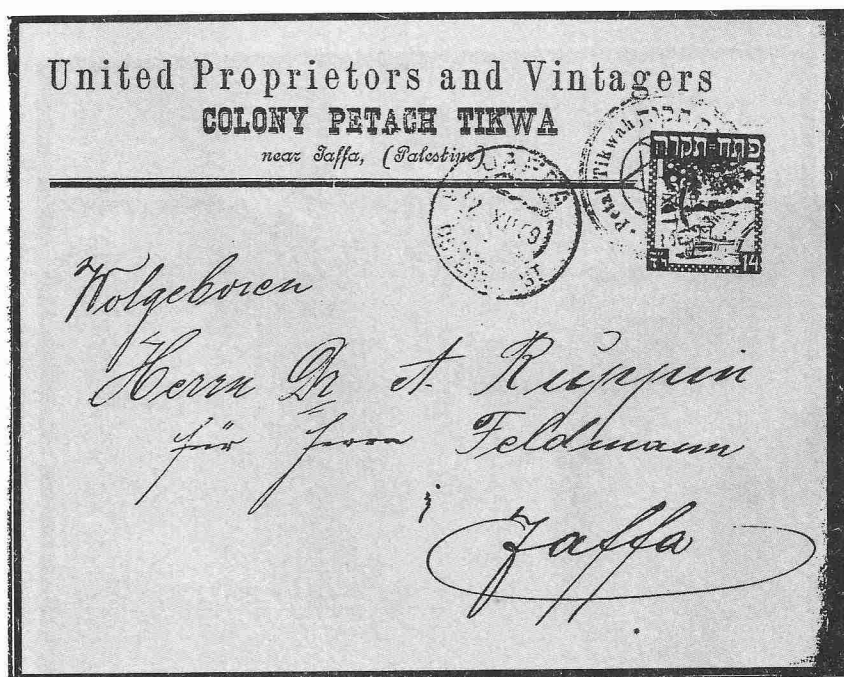


Fig. 25: 1909, Commercial envelope from Petach Tikva to Jaffa. The Petach Tikva stamp is cancelled by the local handstamp (St. 705).



Fig. 26: 1909, local cachet with small David Star (St. 706) tying local Petach Tikva stamp on cover to Jaffa.



Fig. 27: 1910, Printed matter to Vienna franked 5c, mailed at the local agency. The local stamp and JNF labels are cancelled by the local handstamp, the Austrian stamp by the Austrian postmark of Jaffa.

Deutsche Consulate zu 70

Österreichische Postverwaltung. RÜCKSCHEIN	Administration des Postes d'Autriche. AVIS DE RÉCEPTION
a) <input type="checkbox"/> einem Brief zu einer Schachtel mit Wertangabe von lettre avec valeur déclarée de d'une boîte b) <input type="checkbox"/> einen reCOMMANDIRten Gegenstand d'un objet reCOMMANDÉ Postpaket Postfachstück c) <input type="checkbox"/> einem postal d'un colis de messagerie	1) <input type="checkbox"/> eingetragen 2) <input type="checkbox"/> enregistré 3) <input type="checkbox"/>
beim Postamt in } am <u>20/10/11</u> unter Nr. <u>3</u> au bureau de } le adressirt an } <u>Herr Nomi Salamon</u> et adressé à M. } <u>Petach Tikva</u> in } à }	
Der Unterfertigte bestätigt, dass die vorbezeichnete Sendung aus Le soussigné déclare que l'objet sus-désigné provenant de richtig bestellt worden ist, am <u>Nomi Salamon</u> a été dûment livré le	
Unterschrift — Signature des Adressaten oder des Vorstandes des Abgabe-Postamtes: du destinataire ou du chef du bureau distributeur:	
Siehe die Weisungen auf der Rückseite. Voir les observations sur la verso.	

D. S. Nr. 22 (Ausg. 1899.)

Fig. 28: 1911, AR form of a registered letter mailed from Jaffa to Petach Tikva. The local agency's handstamp (St. 705) applied at office of delivery.

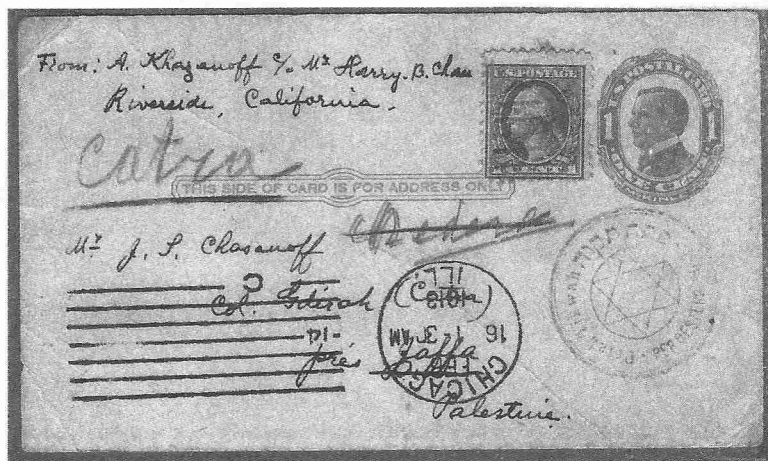


Fig. 29: 1913, Incoming postcard from the USA, addressed to Gedera (Catra). It was misdirected to Hedera, then to the correct address, Gedera. It appears it had arrived by error to Petach Tikva, where the local handstamp was applied.

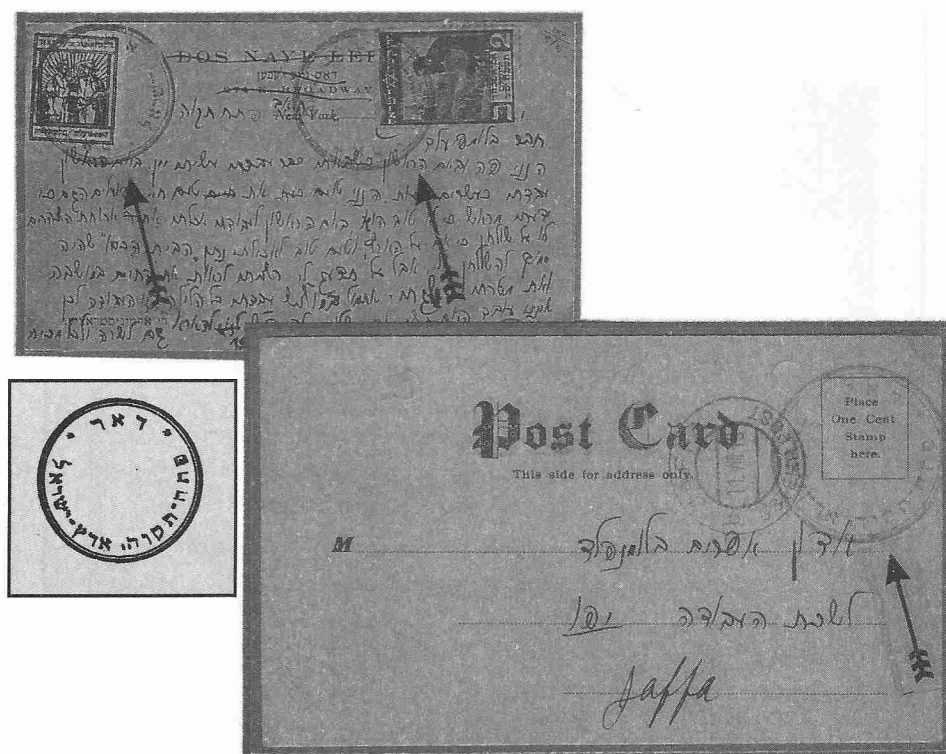


Fig. 30: 1913, Large Hebrew local cachet "Post / Petach Tikva, Eretz Israel" (St. 707) on postage free postcard to Jaffa.

The Turkish Post Office

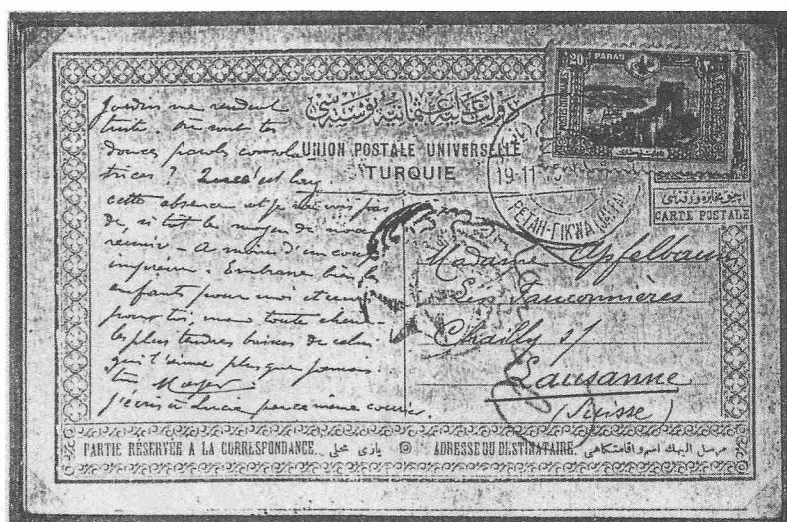


Fig. 32: 1915, Obsolete Turkish stationery postcard franked by 20 para stamp, addressed to Switzerland, cancelled with the "Petah-Tikwa (Jaffa)" Turkish postmark



Fig. 33: 1917, Postcard to a military address in Istanbul, mailed from the Turkish post in the colony.

Artouf (Hartuv)

Hartuv, a very small Colony on the Railway line between Jaffa and Jerusalem was established in 1895. It was destroyed in the Arab Riots of 1929, rebuilt and then destroyed again in the War of 1948. The new immigrant town of Beit Shemesh was built on its land. Hartuv never had a Post Office.

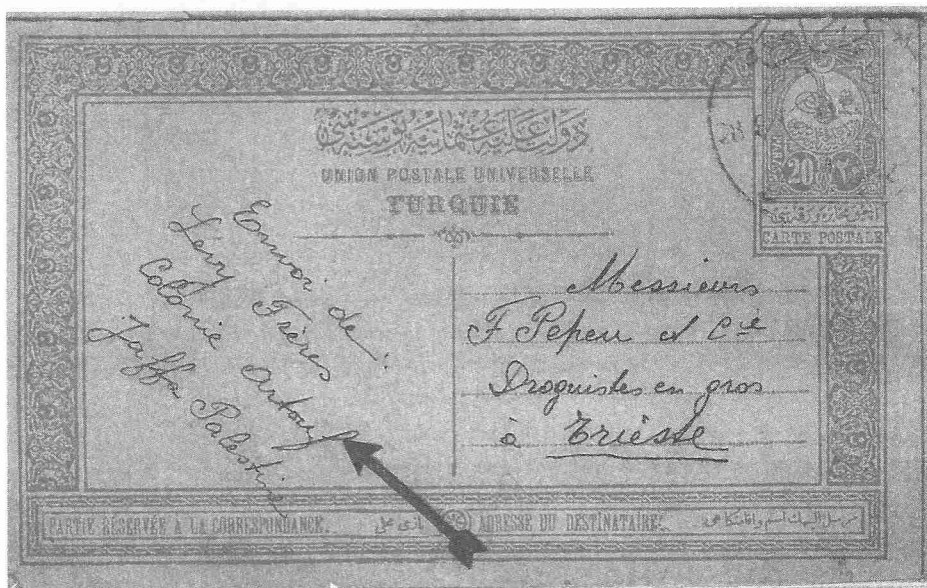


Fig. 34: 1908, Turkish stationery postcard from Hartuv forwarded to Jaffa and mailed at the Turkish post office to Trieste.

Ber Jakob (Beer-Ya'acov)

Beer Ya'acov, a small Colony west of Ramleh, was established in 1907. A Postal Agency was first opened there in 1922, by the British Mandate Authorities.

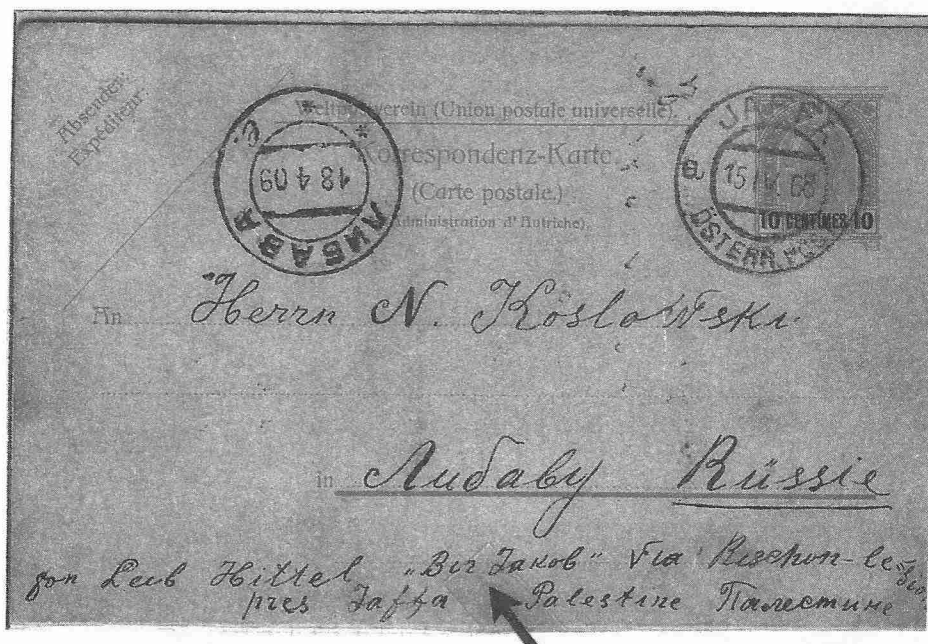


Fig. 35: 1908, Austrian stationery postcard from Beer - Ya'acov mailed through the Austrian Post in Jaffa to Russia.

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Rehovot



Fig. 36: Rehovot - view of the Colony



Fig. 37: 1904, postcard from Switzerland addressed to Rehovot, bearing Jaffa (Austrian Post) arrival and Rishon Le-Zion local cachet (St. 708). Apparently the postcard was directed to Rishon Le-Zion either by mistake or with the purpose of being collected there.

Rècépissé du destinataire.		
Роспись адресата.		
Le soussigné déclare avoir reçu Нижесподписавшийся заимствует	le colis désigné посылку, обозначенную	au recto du présent на данной стороне
bulletin о получении настоящего доку- мента	les colis désignés посылки, обозначенных	
A le 19..... В (число, месяц и год).		
Signature Подпись		

Fig. 38: 1910, Bilingual handstamp "Beit Vaad Moshav Rehovot | Comité de la Colonie Réhoboth" acknowledging receipt of parcel on parcel card from Russia.



Fig. 41: 1915, Postcard franked 20para single + two copies of the 5 para overprinted issue sent from Rehovot to the USA.

Gedera (Catra)



VERLAG „JÜDISCHE ZEITUNG“, WIEN.

KUNSTANSTALT MAX JAFFE, WIEN.

DIE STUDENTENKOLONIE KATRA.

Fig. 42: The Students' Colony Katra

RUSSIAN POST - JAFFA
COMITE CATRA

24 juil 1911
COUPON.
КУПОН.

Numéros d'enregistrement
Номера по международной регистрации

Payé d'argent
Оплачено деньгами

Bulletin d'expédition.
Справочный лист.

Ci-joint
При семъ

Nombre de déclarations en douane
числа таможенных деклараций

Objet de la déclaration
Предмет декларации

Montant du
Сумма таможенного

reimbursement
возмещения

Nom et adresse du destinataire
(Наименование получателя)

Colonic Catra près Jaffa
Татарин

Lieu de destination
(Место назначения)
Tunisie (Tunis et Sfax)

Poids
Весъ

3 кг

Mode de
Тариф

Adressément
Путь

Colonic Catra près Jaffa
Татарин

Stampes: MOSKOW, JAFFA, COMITE CATRA

Récépissé du destinataire.
Росписка адресата.

Le soussigné déclare avoir reçu
Нижеподписавшийся заявляет о

le présent bulletin d'expédition.
получении настоящего документа.

du colis désigné
маловойской посылки, обозначенной

des colis désignés
маловойской посылкой, обозначенных

au recto
на лицевой

du présent
стороне.

A. 23 le 19 1911
Въ VII (число, месяц и годъ).

(Signature)
Подпись.

Col. Catra
Sal. Henderichin

Stampes: COMITE CATRA, JAFFA

Fig. 43: 1911, Bilingual handstamp of the "Comité Catra" as arrival or confirmation of receipt on parcel card from Moscow arriving via the Russian Post in Jaffa.



Fig. 44: 1913, Postcard bearing the oval "Post catra" (St. 701) bilingual cachet, forwarded to Jaffa and mailed via the Austrian Post to the USA.



Fig. 45: 1914, Similar postcard to Figure 44 of the same correspondence.



Fig. 46: 1914, Incoming letter from Budapest to Hadera, misdirected to Gadera. The local cachet (St. 701) was applied upon redirection of the cover to Hadera.



Fig. 47: 1914, Austrian postcard mailed from Gadera to Haifa, showing the "Doar Gadera - Poste Catra" (St. 701) local handstamp.

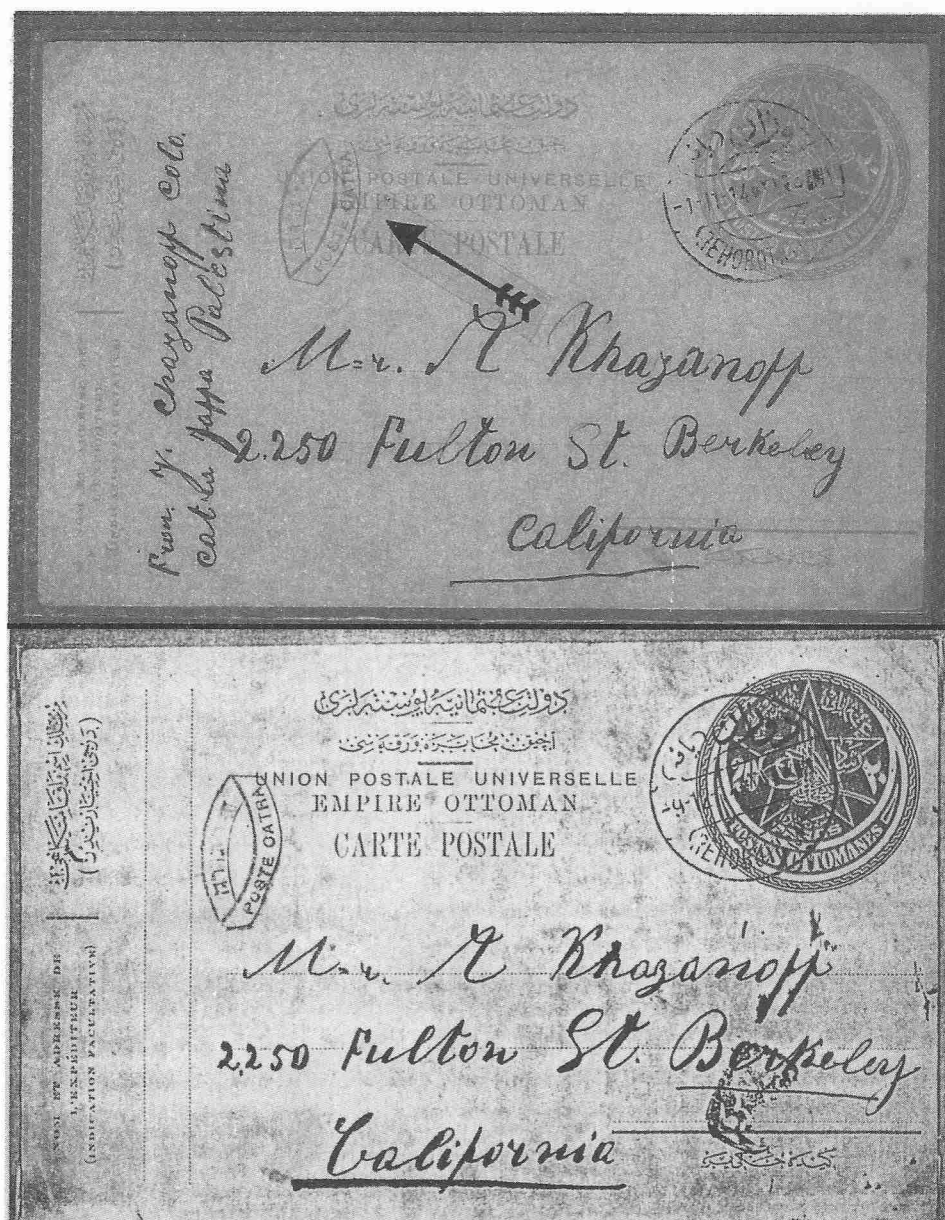
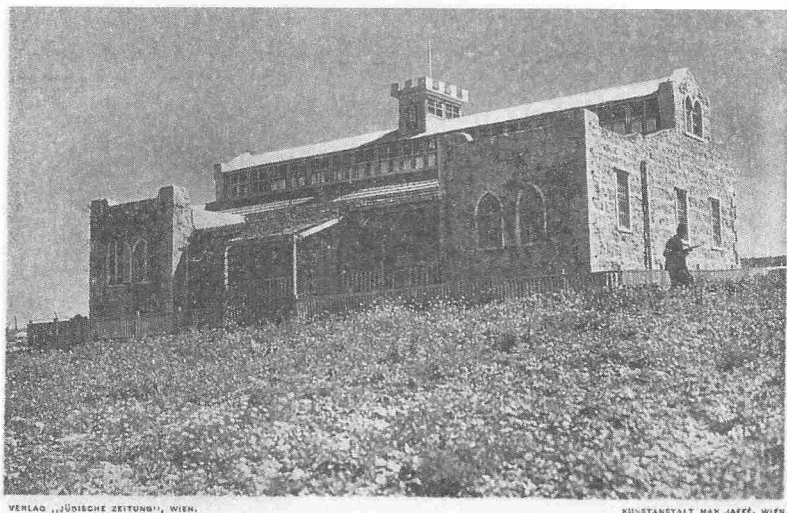


Fig. 48: 1914, (Nov., Dec.), Two Turkish stationery postcards bearing Geder postal cachet (St. 701), mailed via the Turkish post in Rehovot to the USA.

With the closure of the foreign post offices following the outbreak of WWI, the mail from Geder was usually forwarded and mailed at the Turkish post in Rehovot.

Ben-Shemen - Bezalel Colony

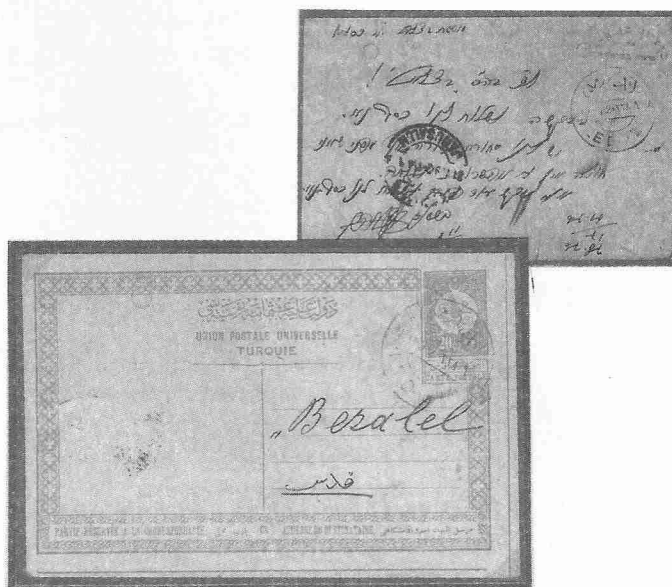


VERLAG „JÜDISCHE ZEITUNG“, WIEN.

KUNSTANSTALT MAX JAFFÉ, WIEN.

BEN SCHEMEN: BEZALEL WERKSTÄTTE.

Fig. 49: Ben-Schemen - The Bezalel workshop.



*Fig. 50: 1911, Stationery postcard written by the manager of the colony to Bezalel art school in Jerusalem. Mailed at the Turkish Post in Lydda.
The postmark reads "LED (RAMLE)".*

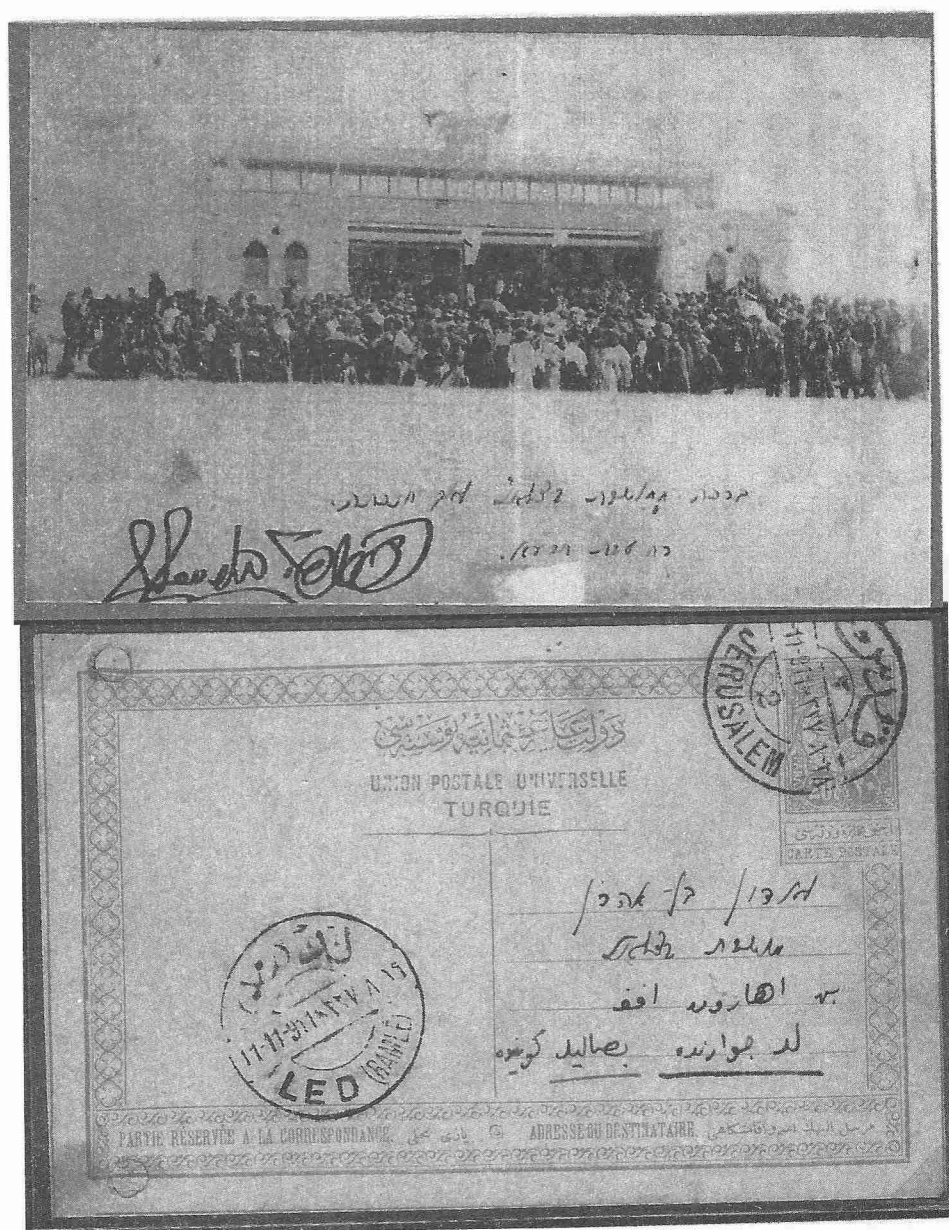


Fig. 51: 1911, Turkish postcard from the Bezalel art school to the manager of the colony, mailed in Jerusalem and bearing Lydda's "LED (RAMLE)" arrival.

Hadera

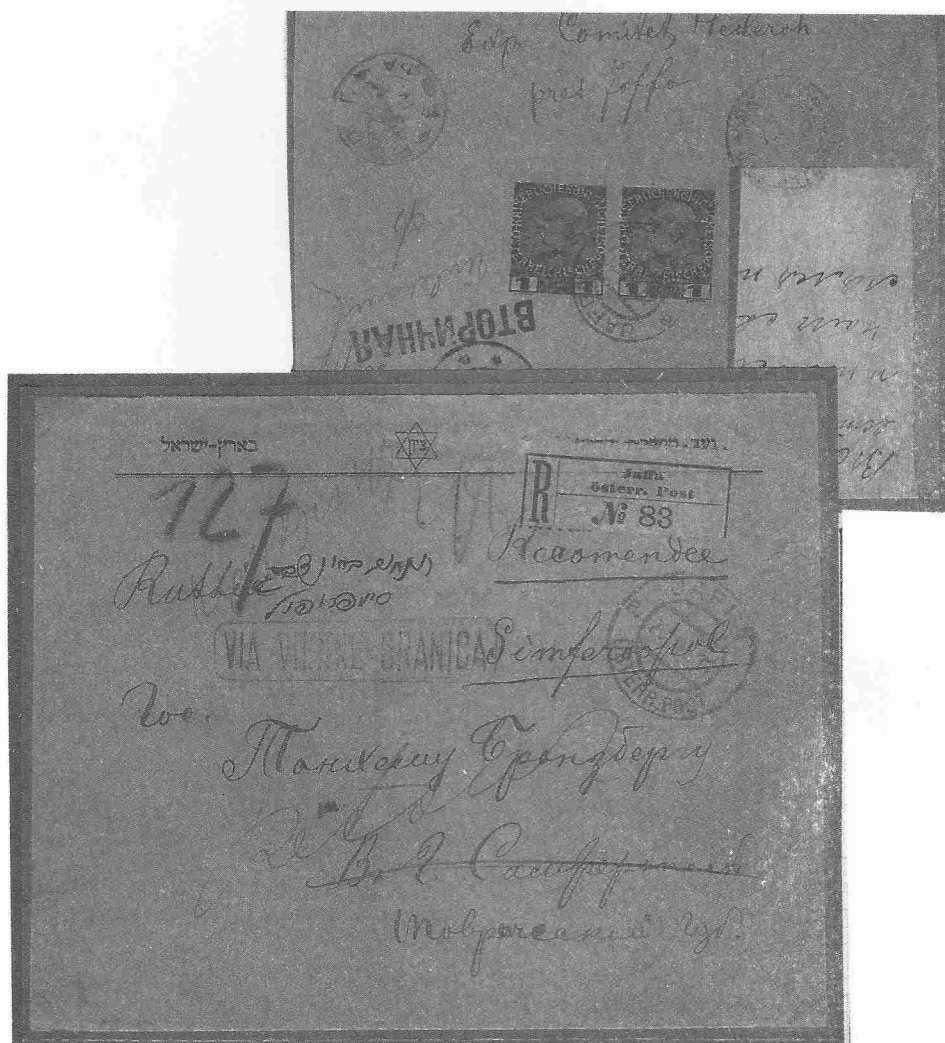


Fig. 52: 1911, Registered cover showing the logo of the Hadera colony's council forwarded to Jaffa and mailed at the Austrian Post. The addressee was not found and the cover was returned via the Russian Post.

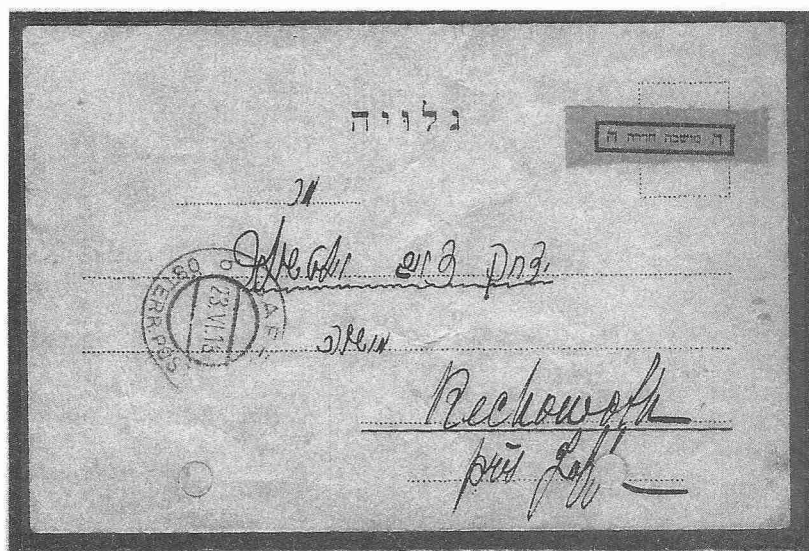


Fig. 53: 1913, local 5 para label showing rectangular solid frame inscribed in Hebrew "He Hadera Colony He" (ה מושבה חדרה ה) on postage free cover to Rehovot. Hadera was part of Jaffa district: therefore it was handled free of charge by the Austrian Post in Jaffa.

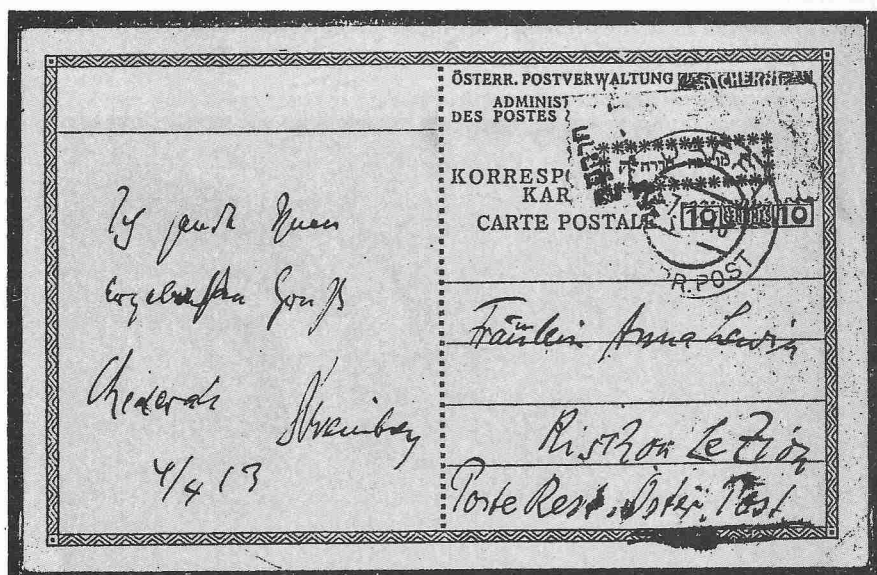


Fig. 54: 1913, local 5 para label similar to the previous one (Fig. 53; but frame composed of asterisks) tied by Hebrew violet dated "Hadera" handstamp to Austrian postcard, addressed to Rishon Le-Zion. The label is also tied by the Austrian Postmark of Jaffa.

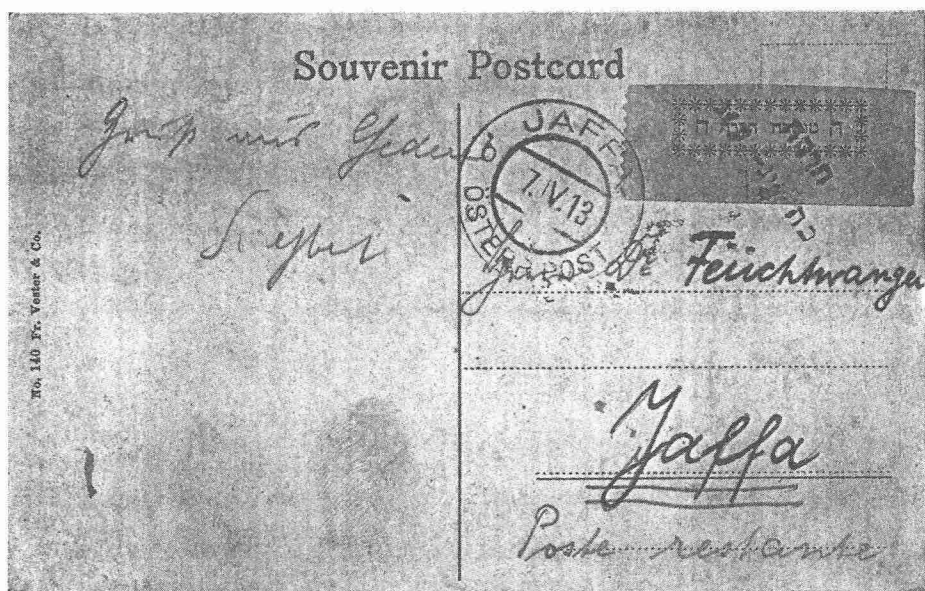


Fig. 55: 1913, 5 para gray-green (asterisks frame) label on postage free postcard to Jaffa. The label is cancelled by the violet Hebrew "Hadera 25.13.73". 73 stands for the Jewish year 5673 (1913), 13 stands for the month "Adar B" which is the 13th month in a Jewish leap year and 25 stands for the day. The label is also tied by the Austrian postmark of Jaffa.



Fig. 56: 1914, pink 10 para label with solid frame, bisected to be used as 5 paras on postcard to Jaffa.

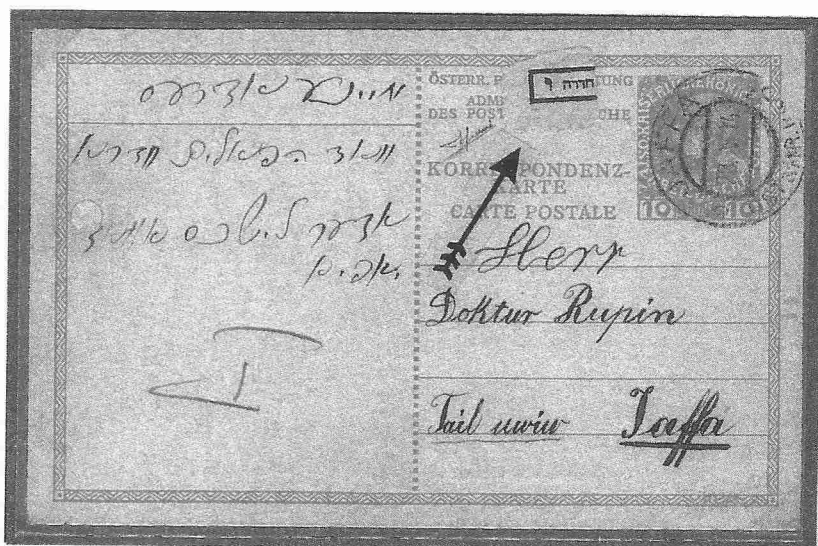
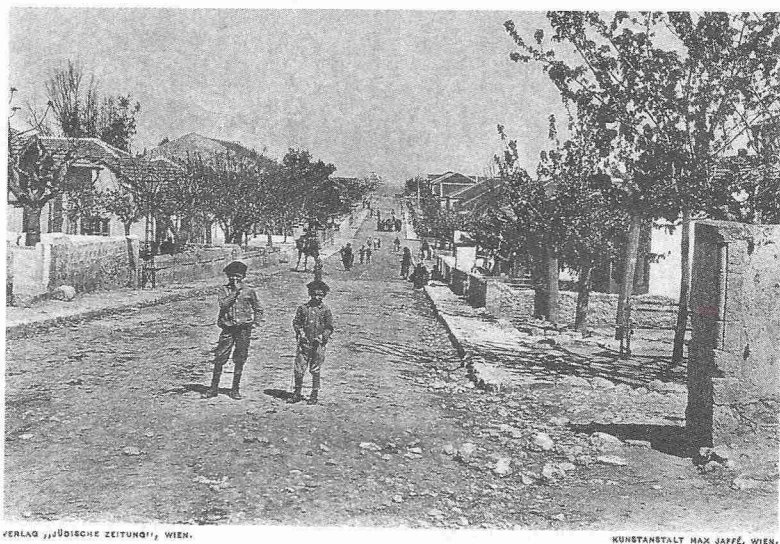


Fig. 57: 1914, Left part of bisected 10 para label (solid frame) on stationery Austrian postcard addressed to Tail Uwiw (sic) (Tel Aviv).

Zichron Ya'acov



VERLAG „JÜDISCHE ZEITUNG“, WIEN.

KUNSTANSTALT MAX JAFFE, WIEN.

SICHRON JAKOB: DIE HAUPTSTRASSE.

Fig. 58: Zichron Jakob - The main street.



Fig. 60: 1897, Turkish postcard to Paris originating in the colony, mailed in Haifa, cancelled by Haifa negative seal ("Haifa Posta Shubesi").

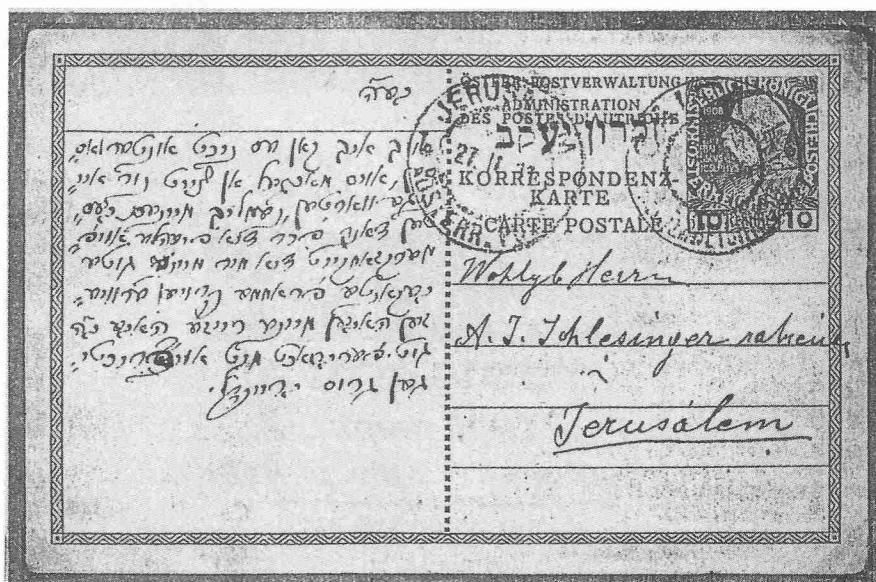


Fig. 61: 1911, Austrian postcard showing Hebrew "Zichron-Ya'acov" straight line violet cachet (St. 716) forwarded to Haifa and mailed by the Austrian Post to Jerusalem.

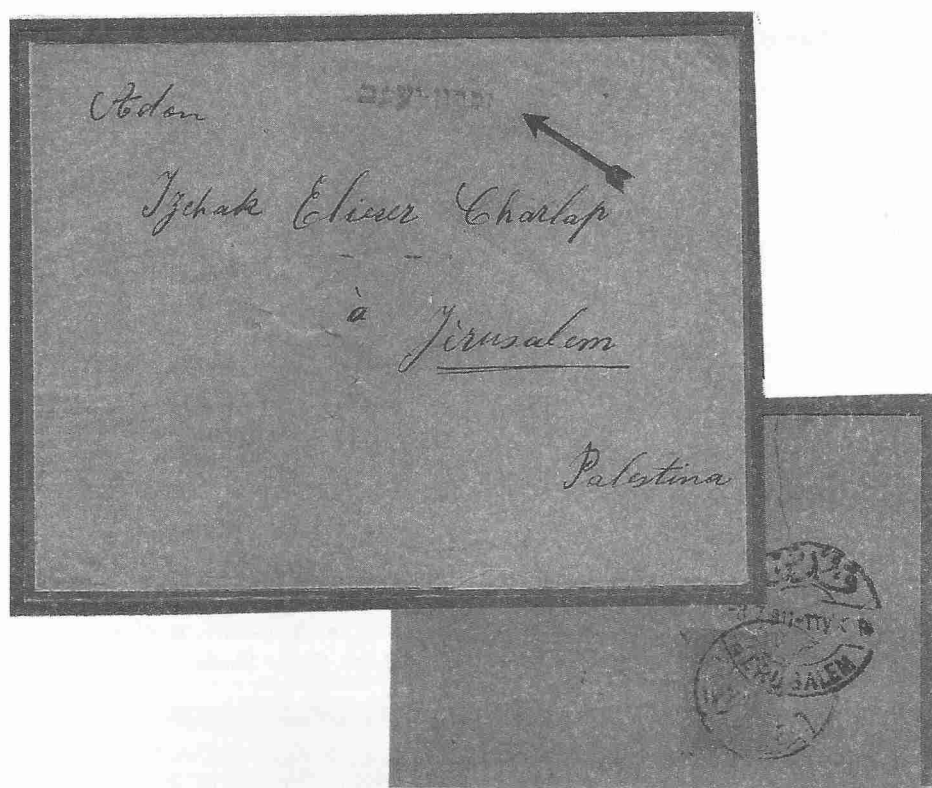


Fig. 62: 1911, The local cachet (St. 716) on the front of a cover mailed at the Turkish Post in Haifa to Jerusalem.

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 כל הנושאים

האגדה הוותיקה בישראל
מקום מיוחד

ברחוב הס 11, תל-אביב
 ת.ד. 4895
 טל' 03-5284931, פקס 03-6291395



Fig. 63: 1912, Austrian postcard addressed to Jerusalem showing the local handstamp (St. 716). Mailed via the Austrian post in Haifa.



Fig. 64: 1912, Austrian Levant postcard bearing the local cachet (St. 716) and the Austrian postmark of Haifa, mailed to Germany.

The Turkish Post



Fig. 65: 1913, Postcard of the Turkish Post handstamped with the Hebrew cachet (St. 716), mailed at the Turkish Post Office of the colony to Tiberias. Cancelled by "Zamarin (Caiffa)" Turkish hexagonal of the colony.

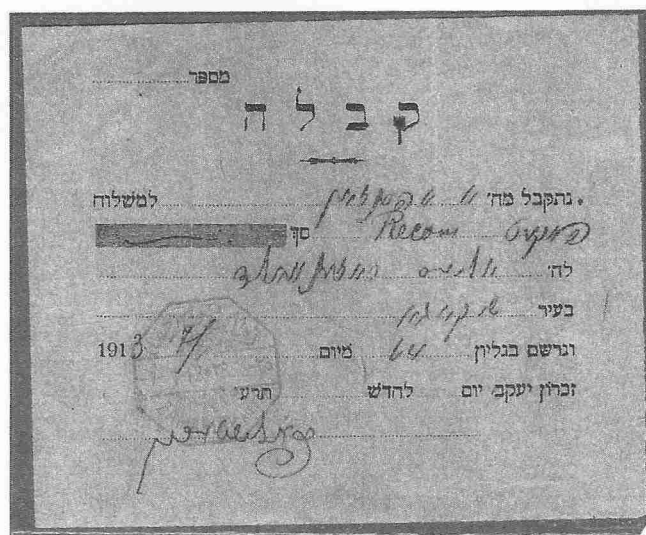


Fig. 66: 1913, Hebrew receipt for a registered item mailed to the USA by A. Aaronson (later the head of NILI) issued by the Turkish post office. The Turkish hexagonal postmark is in blue.

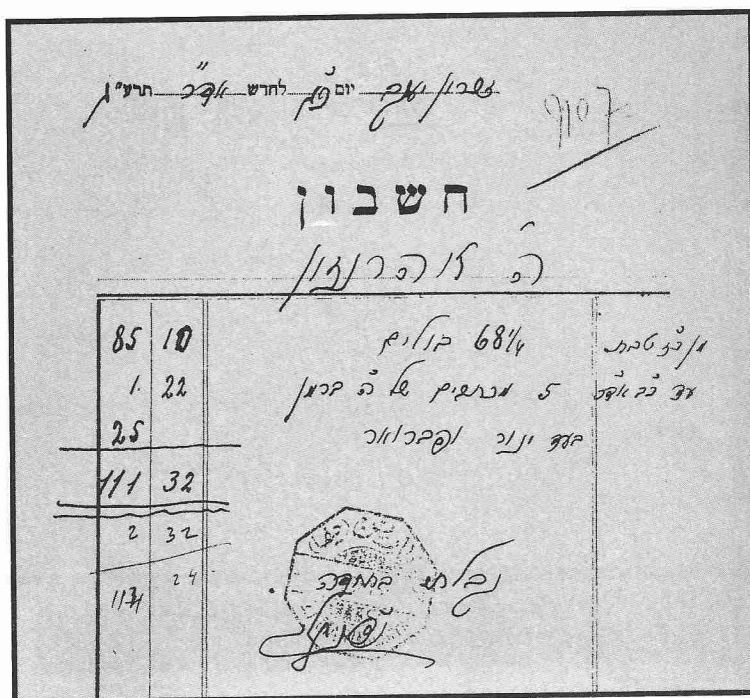


Fig. 67: 1913, Hebrew invoice / receipt for payment made by A. Aaronson, issued by the office of the Turkish post.

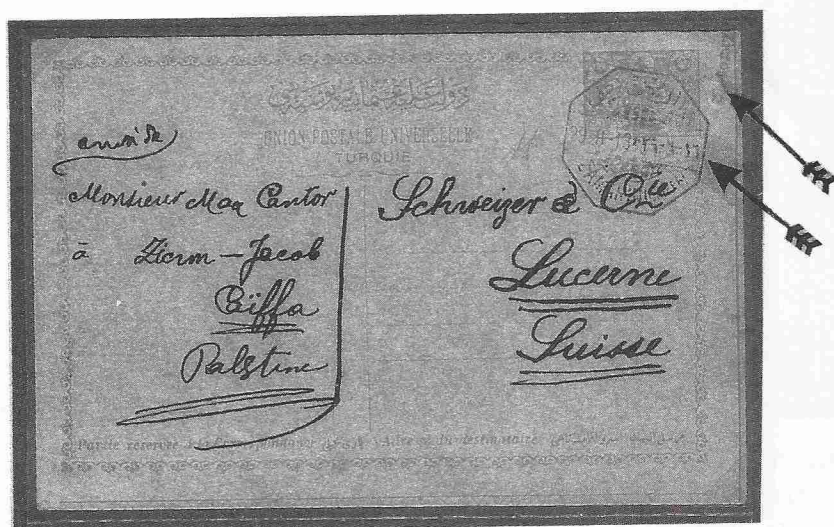


Fig. 68: 1913, Ottoman stationery postcard mailed to Switzerland, handstamped with the small "Zicron" cachet (St. 718; upper right corner) and cancelled with the Turkish postmark.

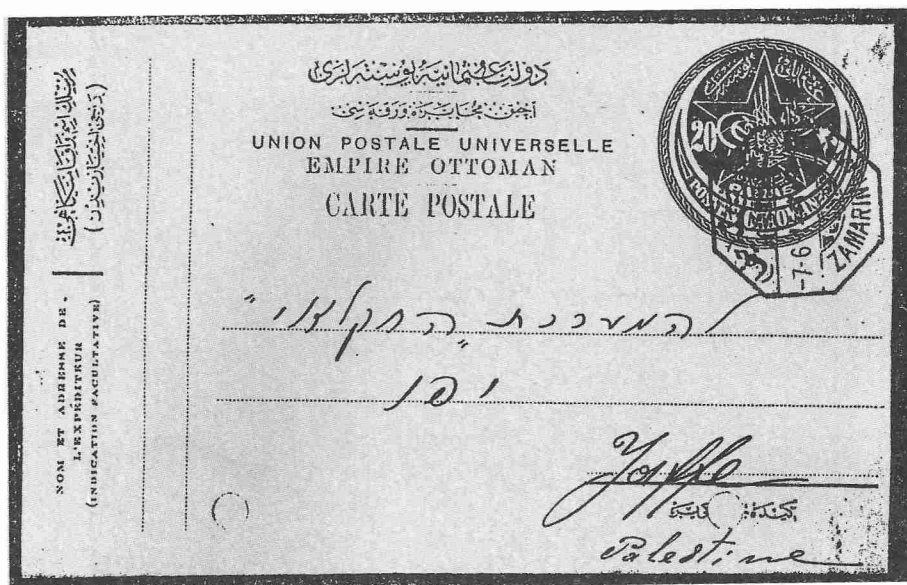


Fig. 69: 1914, Inland Turkish postcard to Jaffa, mailed at the Post Office of the colony.

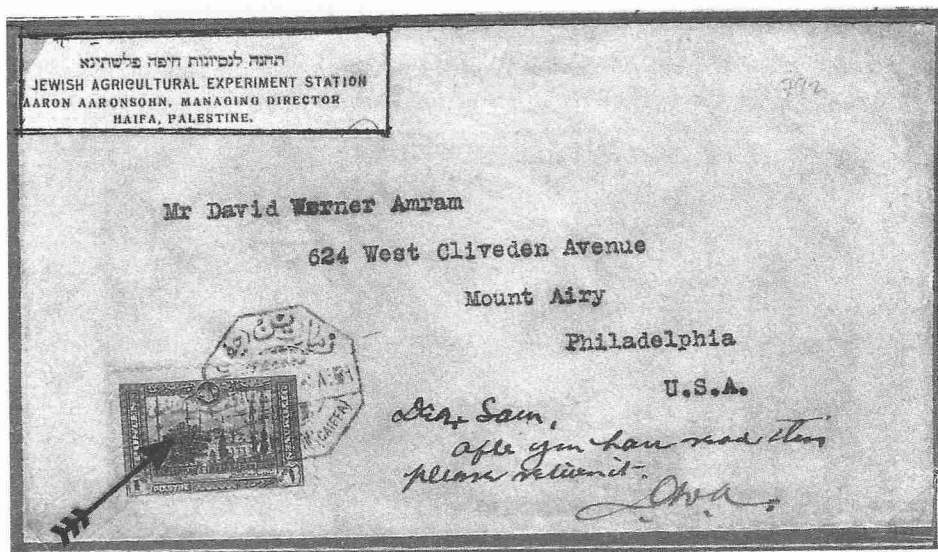
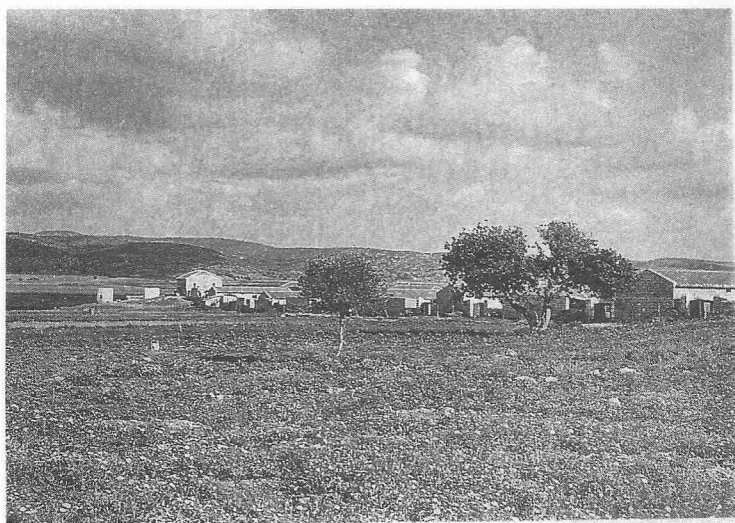


Fig. 70: Cover of Aaronson's Jewish agricultural experiment station addressed to Philadelphia. The Turkish 1 piaster stamp shows the "Abrogation of Capitulation Treaty" overprint in red and is cancelled by the "Zamarin" hexagonal postmark.

See the cover illustrated on the front of the Bulletin for the only **registered** letter recorded so far from the "Zamarin" office.

Atlit



VERLAG „JÜDISCHE ZEITUNG“, WIEN.

KUNSTANSTALT MAX JAFFÉ, WIEN.

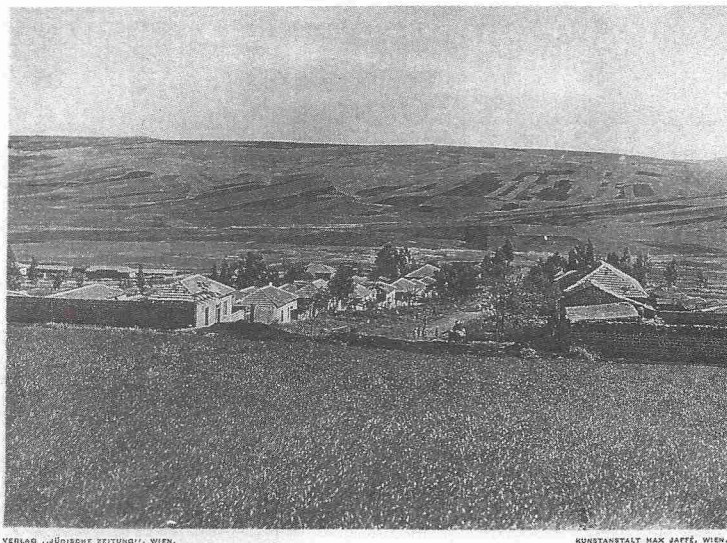
DIE KOLONIE ATLIT.

Fig. 71: The colony Atlit



Fig. 72: 1912, "Atlit près Zichron Jacob" return address on Austrian postcard handed over in Zichron-Ya'acov, where the local cachet (St. 716) was applied. Carried to Haifa and mailed at the Austrian Post.

Yavneel (Colony Jemma)



VERLAG „JÜDISCHE ZEITUNG“, WIEN.

KUNSTSTALT MAX JAFFE, WIEN.

KOLONIE JEMMA.

Fig. 73: Colony Jemma (Yavneel)

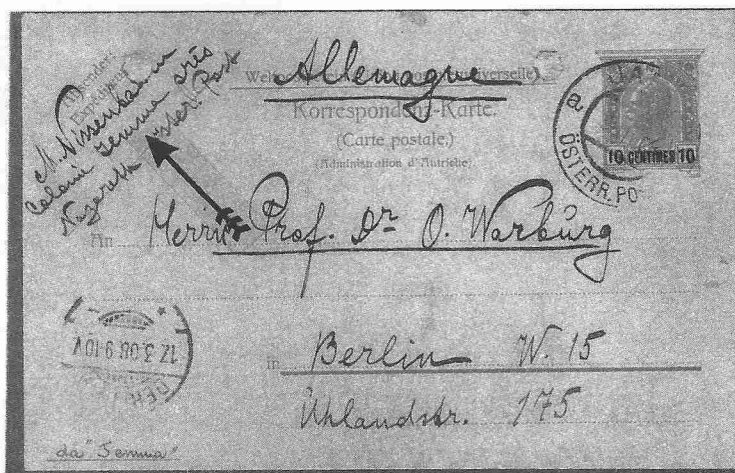


Fig. 74: 1908, Return address "Colonie Jemma pres Nazareth Oestr. Post" on Austrian postcard forwarded and cancelled at Jaffa.

Jemma was the Arab name of Yavne'el. It seems that part of the early mail of the colony went via the agent of the Austrian Post in Nazareth.

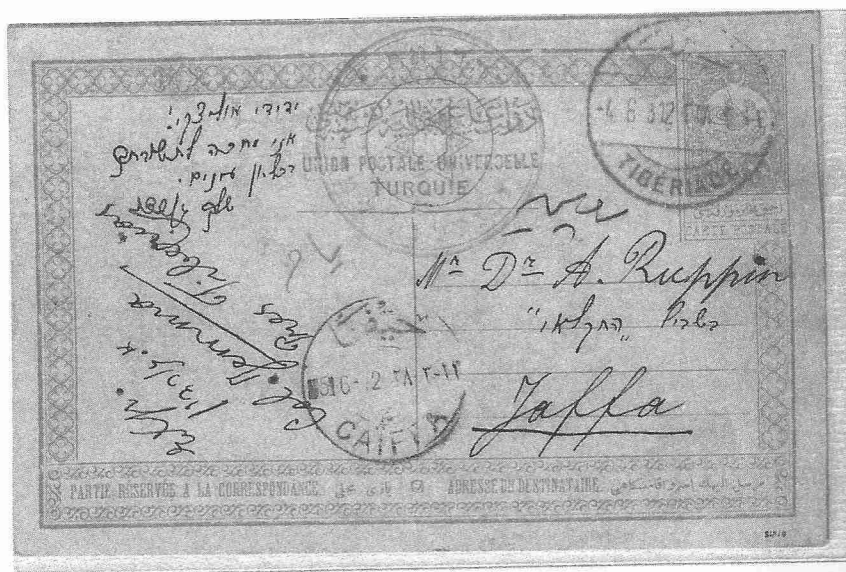


Fig. 75: 1912, Hebrew circular cachet "Post Office Yavneel, Tiberias district" (St. 703) on postcard to Jaffa forwarded and mailed in Tiberias.



Fig. 76: 1914, Postcard written in Yavneel and forwarded to Tiberias, mailed at the Turkish post to Russia.

Melahamiya (Menahamiya)



VERLAG „JÜDISCHE ZEITUNG“, WIEN.

KUNSTANSTALT HAN JAFFÉ, WIEN.

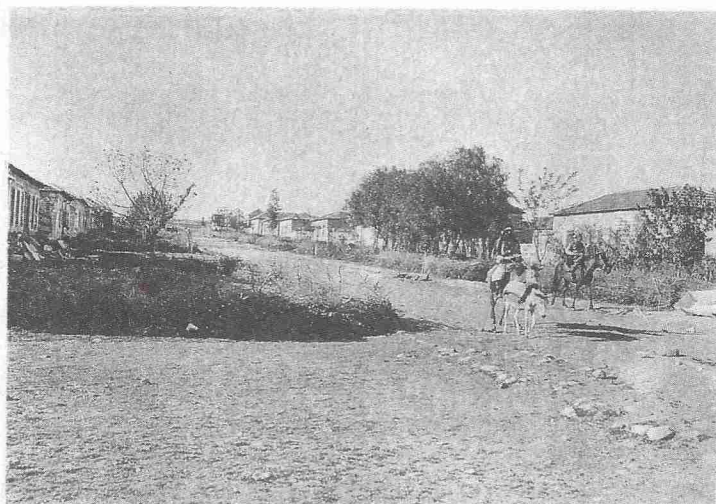
KOLONIE MELHAMIE.

Fig. 78: Colony Melhamie



Fig. 79: 1907, Postcard written in Melahamie (later renamed Menahamiya), forwarded to Haifa and mailed at the Turkish Post to Jaffa.

Sedjera (Ilaniya)



VERLAG „JÜDISCHE ZEITUNG“, WIEN.

KUNSTANSTALT MAX JAFFÉ, WIEN.

KOLONIE SEDSCHERA.

Fig. 80: Colony Sedschera (Sedjera).

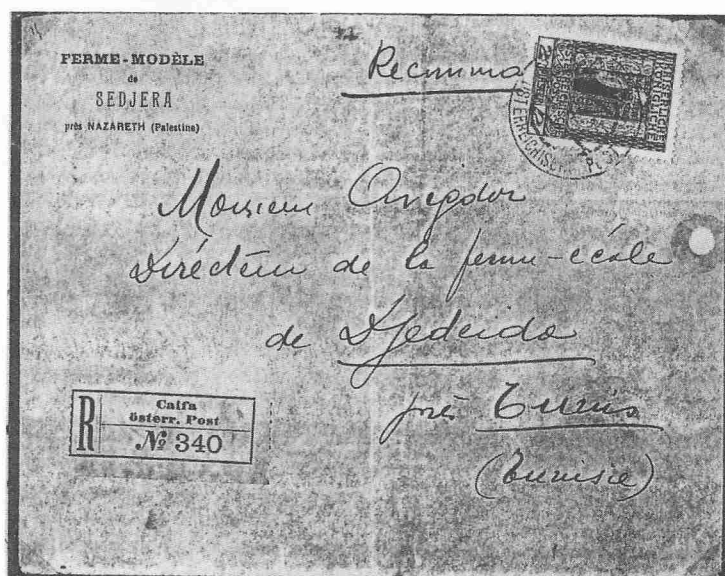
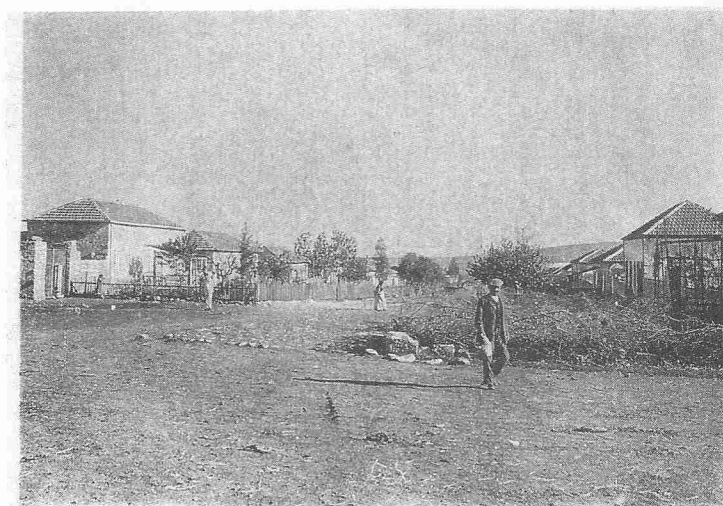


Fig. 81: 1911, Registered cover from Sedjera, mailed at the Austrian post in Haifa.



Fig. 82: 1912, Postcard with return address in Sedjera, mailed from the Turkish post in Nazareth to Jaffa.

Mesha (Kefar Tavor)



VERLAG „JÜDISCHE ZEITUNG“, WIEN.

KUNSTANSTALT NAK JAFFE, WIEN.

KOLONIE MESCHA.

Fig. 83: Colony Mescha.



Fig. 84: 1906: Incoming postcard mailed at Jaffa via the Austrian post, bearing Jaffa and Caiffa postmarks. It appears that settlers in the colony used the services of the agent of the Austrian post in Nazareth.



Fig. 85: 1908, Postcard addressed to Mesha, mailed at the Austrian Post in Haifa.

Merhavva

Merhavva, founded in 1911 as Agricultural Cooperative, was dissolved in 1918. Reestablished as a Kibbutz in 1929.



Fig. 86: 1913, Austrian postcard from Merhavva, forwarded to Haifa and mailed to Jaffa via the Austrian Post.



Fig. 87: 1913, Postcard written in Merhavva, mailed at the Austrian Post in Haifa.

Rosh - Pina



VERLAG „JÜDISCHE ZEITUNG“, WIEN.

KUNSTANSTALT PAX JAFFÉ, WIEN.

KOLONIE ROSCH PINAH.

Fig. 88: Colony Rosch Pinah.



Fig. 89: 1887, Turkish stationery postcard from Colony Rosh-Pina mailed to Romania at the Turkish post in Safed. The postcard was written by Moshe David Schub, the founder of the colony, to the head of the Committee for Palestine in Moinesti Romania from where the settlers came.

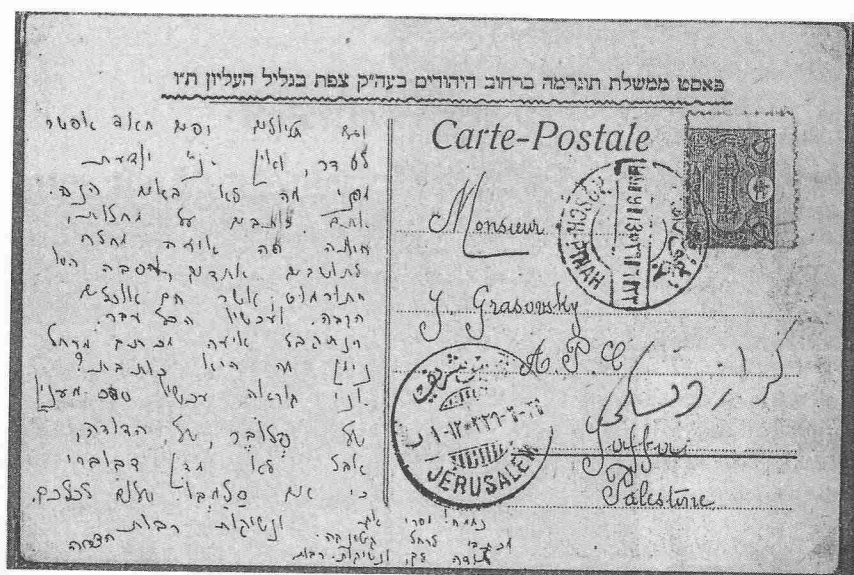


Fig. 90: 1913, Postcard to Jerusalem mailed at the Turkish Post Office which was opened in Rosh-Pina. The card itself was printed by the agent of the Turkish Post in the Jewish Quarter of Safed.



Fig. 91: 1918, Censored military letter from the 1st Veterinary Hospital in Jaune (Rosh-Pina) mailed at the Rosh-Pina Turkish Post Office to Istanbul.

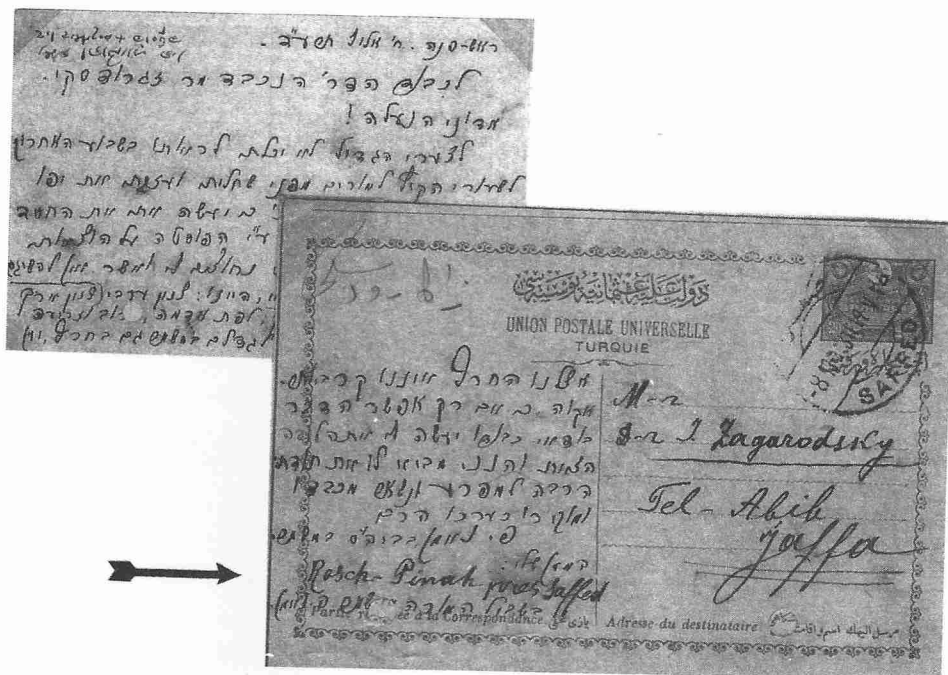


Fig. 92: 1914, Postcard written in Rosh-Pina, forwarded to Safed and mailed there to Tel Aviv.

The editors wish to express their gratitude to Z. Alexander, J. Hackmey, I. Karpovsky and Y. Rimón for their courtesy.

References:

- (1) "St. n" refers to number n in Steichele's list of postmarks in the book "The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine 1840 - 1918", Vol II by A. Steichele (English Revised Edition by N.J. Collins & L. Dickstein).

Palestine Airmails - 8

Rates for Pan American's North Atlantic Routes June, 1939 to June, 1940

Leslie A. Bard

This article is the 8th in a series of articles on Palestine Air Mails. Previous articles have been or will be published in the Philatelist and/or The Airport Journal. My article on the late posting fees in Palestine is being published in 2 parts in the Airpost Journal, and I extensively revised and enlarged it for publication in the Israel Philatelist. One section included a discussion of some of the rates in the present article, but only as an aside, and the more complete paper is published herewith.

☆ ☆

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In a recent article, I questioned the existence of any reported covers unequivocally showing the imposition of a 20 mil late fee for registered covers. In so doing, I discussed a registered cover with 140 mils paid for air carriage to the U.S.A. via Pan American's North Atlantic service 1939 to 1940. Previously that rate was considered sequentially interposed between a 100-mil rate that preceded it and a 120-mil rate that followed it. However, I showed that the last two of these rates from Palestine to the U.S.A. actually coexisted from January to June 1940 (Fig. 93b). Furthermore, by comparing the cities of address, it was evident that the existence of two different routes accounted for the 20-mil difference in their rates. One route was air to New York for 120 mils per 10 gr, the other was air to the rest of the U.S.A. and Canada for 140 mils per 10 gr.

While reviewing covers for that study (examples in Figs. 94 to 103) I was struck with how few I had recorded. For seven or eight years I have searched the philatelic literature, including auction and mail sale catalogs, and accumulated a large research collection of Palestine airmail covers. I also solicited copies of airmail covers from supportive collectors and exhibitors and repeatedly searched the stocks of many very - cooperative and tolerant dealers. I will admit that this search was by no means complete, but it did cover all of the more likely sources in each category.

Figs. 93a and 93b list all covers I recorded from Palestine to the U.S.A. via the North Atlantic from June, 1939 to June, 1940. This was organized according to information given in several Post Office Department Notices published in the Palestine Gazette, an official weekly publication of the Palestine Government (Refs. 3,6,7,9,11 & 12). Contemporary information from E.B. Proud's book on British airmails is intertwined with these references in chronological order (Refs. 2,4,5,8,10, & 13).

The most striking finding is the rarity of covers showing the 85 mils/10 gr. rate. I knew that I had recorded many covers at that rate; so I revisited my collection and

75/70 mils per 10gr., 70 mils per Card To U.S.A., Canada & Newfoundland 28 June 39 to 2 Sep 39	85/80 mils per 10gr. 80 per Card To U.S.A., Canada & Newfoundland 3 Sep 39 to 28 Sep 39
28 Jun 39, Public Notice start of service	3 Sep 39, probable first day of rate
6 Jul 39, earliest recorded date of rate	22 Sep 39, Public Notice-rate chart
25 Jul 39, endorsed via "TRANSATLANT."	27 Sep 39, route endorsed, no censor
16 Aug 39, from Henriette Szold	29 Sep 39, transatlantic mail cancelled
23 Aug 39, reg. x2 to Canada	30 Oct 39, route endorsed London 2-bar jusqu'a
2 Sep 39, "via North Atlantic Air Service" latest recorded date of rate	2 Nov 39, day before start 100 mil rate

Fig. 93a: Air Mail Letter & Post Card Rates from Palestine to USA & Canada via BOAC/ALA to Lisbon, PAA to New York: 28 June 39 to 9 June 40

research notes, the applicable philatelic literature, and 3 exhibits of Palestine postal rates and/or air routes, including my own. Except for the two covers listed in Fig. 93 and illustrated in Figs. 96 and 97, all the others were from the period January to May 1947 when other carriers were available and the circumstances were radically different.

The relative scarcity of these covers is explained by the very short time period that this rate was available. The date of change from 75/70 to 85/80, indicated as September 3, is reasonably inferred from the date of the latest recorded date of a cover franked with the 75/70 rate (Fig. 95) as September 2. This is supported by the general increase in air rates from Palestine to Europe and to the UK that accrued on September 3. However, this date is not confirmed by any available official document. The last date of the 85/80 rate, September 28, is inferred from the Notice that air service via North Atlantic was cancelled on September 29. This suggests that the 85/80 rate may have been in effect for only 26 days.

It should be noted that Arthur Groten, the authority in this field, did not even list the 85/80 rate in his early publications. Later including it, he changed the effective dates in a subsequent article based on the same logic that I use in my research. This is not a criticism; it is an observation about the methodology used in our rate studies in the absence of official documents. With few covers recorded, I believe it is important to make these educated estimates of what was happening to provide a context for future research. This article is certainly not the last word on this subject.

100 mils per 10 gr. and per Post Card North Atlantic Air Service to New York 3 Nov 39 to Jan 40	120 mils per 10 gr., 60 mils per Post Card To U.S.A., New York City Only 12 Jan 40 to 9 Jun 40
3 Nov 39, Public Notice start of service	12 Jan 40, Public Notice start of service
17 Nov 39, Reg.X2, P.C. 23, route endorsed	29 Jan 40, no jusqu'a, city addressed?
7 Dec 39, endorsed via "Atlantic Clipper"	6 Feb 40, 60 mils, postal card, to New York City, route endorsed
7 Dec 39, reg.X2, transit 10 days. by "Klipper Air Mail"	13 Feb 40, express, city addressed?
7 Dec 39, ALA to Canal Zone	7 Mar 40, to New York City, no Jusqu'a
8 Dec 39, ALA to Argentina	27 Mar 40, to New York City, no jusqu'a, route endorsed
17 Dec 39, reg. X2	16 Apr 40, to New York City, route endorsed
23 Dec 39, ALA to USA	5 May 40, reg., to New York City, with m/s "jusqu'a NY"
1 Jan 40, ALA to USA, route endorsed	26 May 40, city addressed?
4 Jan 40, reg.	1 Jun 40, X5, to New York City, no jusqu'a
10 Jan 40, reg., "via ALA and America Clipper" to USA	7 Jun 40, to New York City, route endorsed
11 Jan 40, day before rate change	20 Jun 40, to New York City, route endorsed

**Fig. 93b: Air Mail Letter & Post Card Rates from Palestine to USA & Canada
Via BOAC/ALA to Lisbon, PAA to New York
3 Nov 39 to June 40**

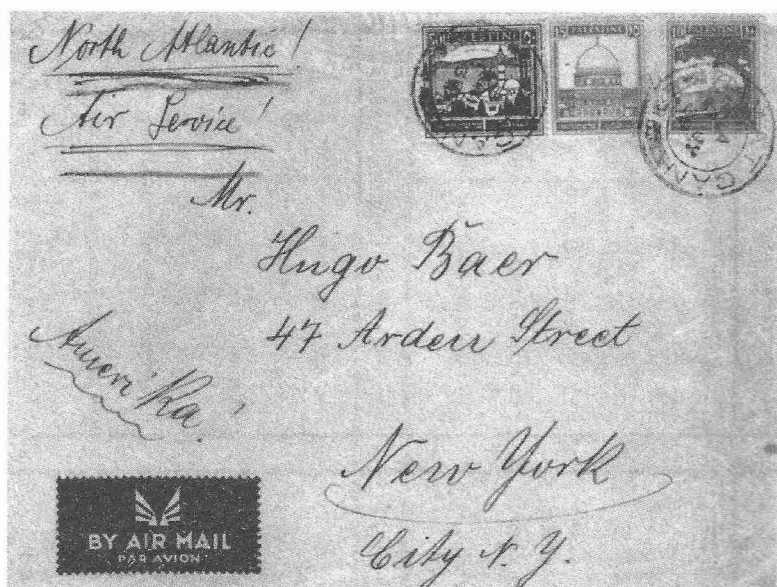


Fig. 94: 6 Jul 39, 75 mils, earliest recorded cover that traveled Pan Am's North Atlantic route.



Fig. 95: 2 Sep 39, 75 mils, latest recorded cover at the 75/70-mil rate.

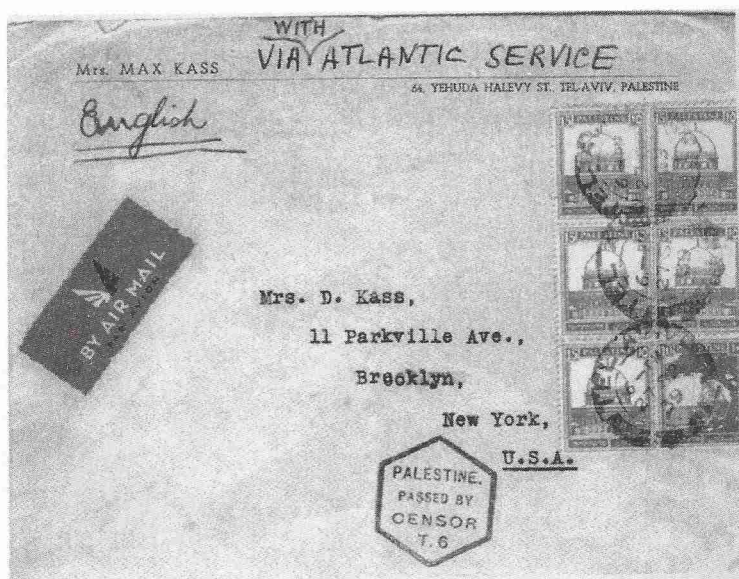


Fig. 96: 27 Sep 39, 85 mls, rate available only 3 sep to 28 Sep = 26 days;
only two covers recorded at this rate.

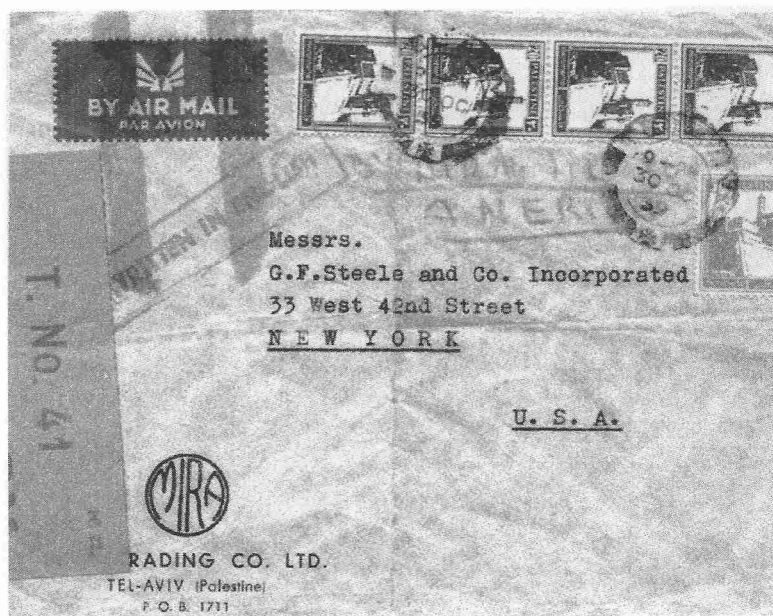


Fig. 97: 30 Oct 39, 85 mls, North Atlantic Route closed 29 Sep 39, sent by air to
London, 2-bar jusqu'a confirms surface from there.

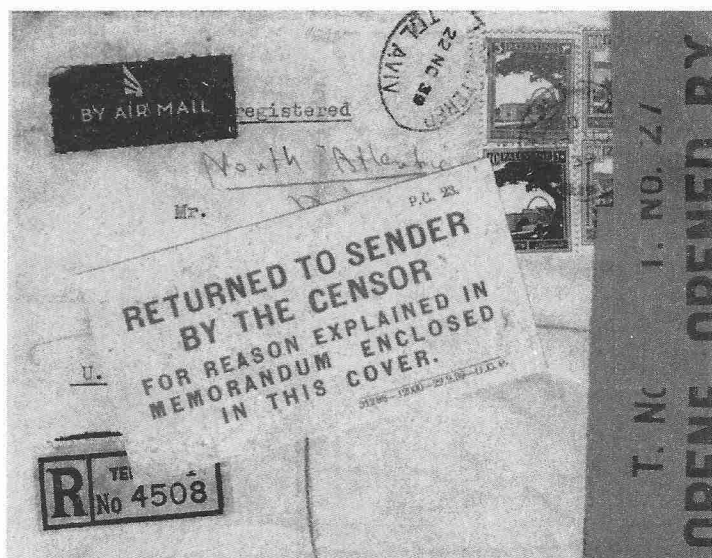


Fig. 98: 17 Nov 39, 2 x 100 + registration 13 = 213 mils. Contents did not conform to censorship laws; P.C. 23 censorship label placed over address and cover returned to sender with explanatory enclosure.

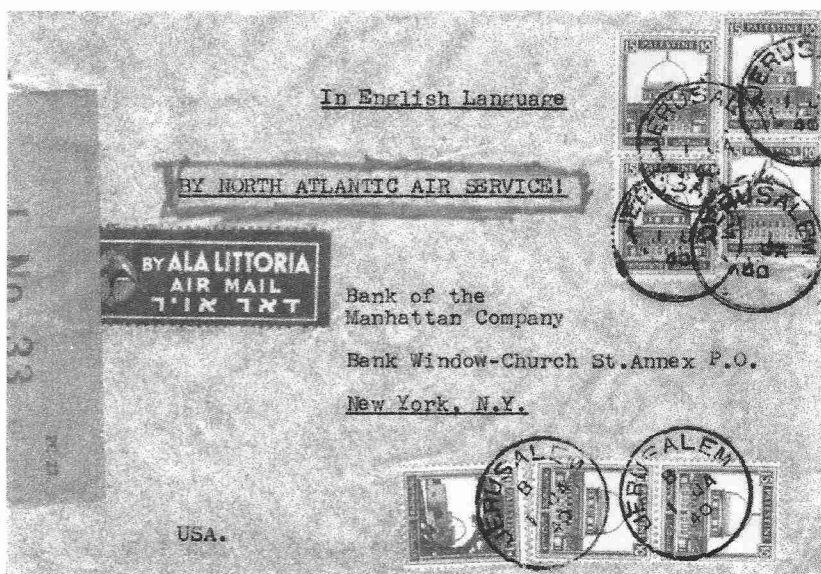


Fig. 99: 1 Jan 40, 100 mils; ALA was the primary carrier to Europe for the North Atlantic service.

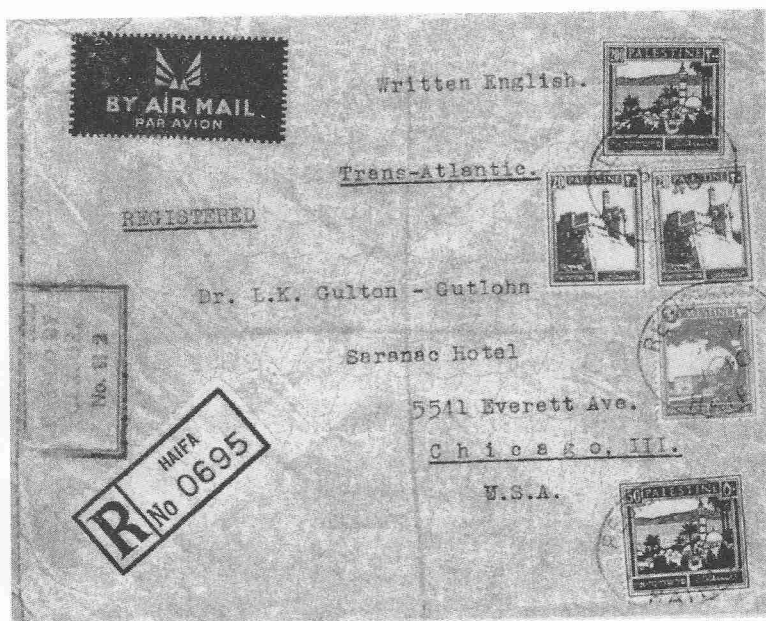


Fig. 100: 15 Jan 40, $2 \times 140 + \text{registration } 13 = 293 \text{ mils}$, transit = 23 days.

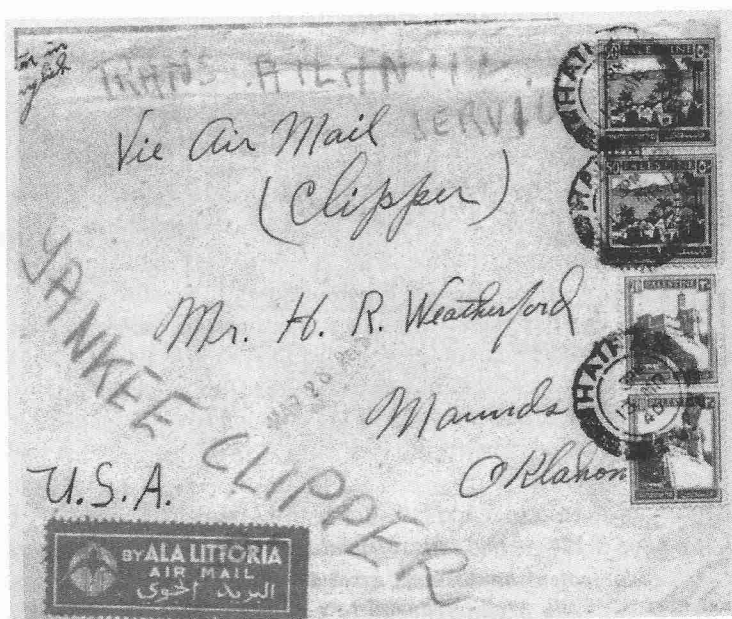


Fig. 101: 13 Mar 40, 140 mils, transit + 15 days, "TRANS ATLANTIC SERVICE", the only cover recorded at this rate.



Fig. 102: 6 Feb 40, PC(8) + 52 = 60 mils, incomplete address, unclaimed, returned 27 Mar 40. This is the only post card recorded from this North Atlantic service.

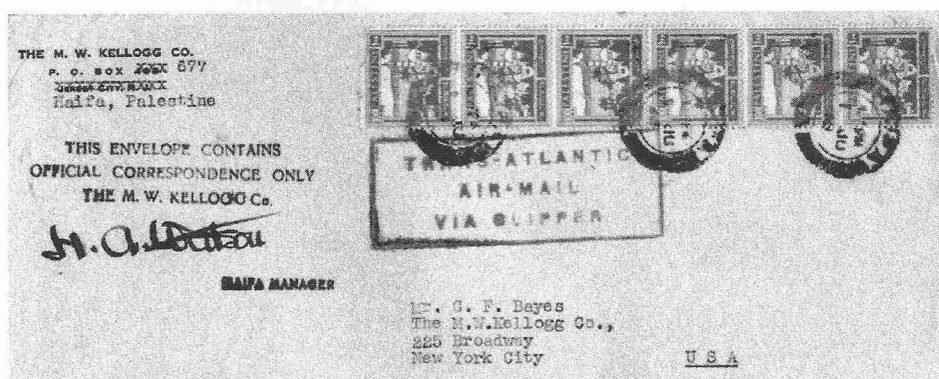


Fig. 103: 1 Jun 40, 5 x 120 = 600 mils, official correspondence, self censored, private endorsement handstamp, mailed shortly before route via Mediterranean to Lisbon closed.

I picked June 9, 1940 as the last date of mailing that mail might go via the North Atlantic route to the U.S.A. and Canada. The last mailing for air service to Europe via KLM was May 5, via ALA it was June 2, and for Imperial Air it was June 9. The route was closed on June 10 when Italy entered the war. Even if ALA carried most of that mail before, it was possible for the Palestine Post Office to reroute mail postmarked June 5 to June 9 via Imperial Air to London, then by shuttle to Lisbon. Alternatively, covers that missed the last ALA flight from Palestine could have been held until June 19 when the Horseshoe air route via Durban and sea via London was opened. The earliest posting of a letter via the Trans-Pacific route was July 3; the official opening was July 4. I have seen no covers proving or disproving any of these alternatives for handling airmail originally intended for the North Atlantic route.

Happy Hunting!

References

Notes: Quotations show the original spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and use of Italics.

The notation "... " is used to indicate the omission of unnecessary or redundant connecting words or phrases. Arabic numbering of paragraphs began with the first paragraph.

1. Palestine Airmail - 5, Late Posting Fees on Palestine Covers, Leslie A. Bard, M.D., submitted to the Israel Philatelist and the Airport Journal.
2. Postal History of British Airmails, E.B. Proud, Proud-Bailey Co. Ltd., 1991, p.161, "Notice published **31 My 1939**: Airmail correspondence for the united States of America and countries beyond, Canada, Newfoundland and the Azores now accepted for transmission from Marseilles by the United States Transatlantic air service... blue airmail label should be affixed... also be superscribed 'North Atlantic air service'. Time of transmission will be about three days (from the UK)".
3. The Palestine Gazette, July 6, 1939, Department of posts and Telegraphs (D.P.T.) Notice No. 57, dated **June 28th, 1939**: "...a twice weekly airmail service for the countries shown below by air throughout is now available from Palestine...United States of America, Canada, New Foundland. Rates of postage in Mils; First 10 grs. = 75, each additional 10 grs. and Post Cards = 70., blue airmail label must be affixed... should also be superscribed 'North Atlantic Air Service'." The service was twice weekly and was "due to reach New York" in 3 to 5 days.
4. Postal History of British Airmails, E.B. Proud, p. 161: "**30 June, 1939** - First direct transatlantic airmail by Pan American Airways; Southampton - Shanon (Foynes) - Botwood - Shediac - New York."
5. Postal History of British Airmails, E.B. Proud, p. 162: "**5 August, 1939** - The North Atlantic airmail service was extended. An experimental British service started on the route Southampton-Botwood-Montreal-New York leaving... Saturday reaching...New York on Sunday...now two direct Transatlantic air

- services each week, the existing United States services...and the British service..." (from the UK).
6. The Palestine Gazette, August 17, 1939, D.P.T. Notice No. 70, dated **August 7th, 1939**: "...with the inception of an experimental service by Imperial Airways Ltd., the surcharged airmails to the United States...and the countries shown in the Public Notice No. 57 of the 28th June, 1939, will now be dispatched from Palestine three times a week... Aircraft due to reach New York in 3 to 5 days."
 7. The Palestine Gazette, 28th September, 1939, "Notice (dated **22nd September, 1939**), D.P.T., Rates of Postage (in Mils) for Airmail Correspondence (Chart): America (Via New York): United States of America, Canada, New Foundland (via) Other Operating Companies: First 10 grs. = 85, Each Additional 10 grs. and Post Cards = 80."
 8. Postal History of British Airmails, E.B. Proud, p. 163: "**23 September, 1939** - The British experimental north Atlantic service ceased."
 9. The Palestine Gazette, 5th October, 1939, "Notice (dated **29th September, 1939**) D.P.T... the Trans-Atlantic airmail service has been cancelled."
 10. Postal History of British Airmails, E.B. Proud, p. 163: "**11 October, 1939** - Transatlantic air services from the UK to Canada and U.S.A. operated twice weekly from Lisbon to New York via the Azores" (via Pan American).
 11. The Palestine Gazette, 9th November, 1939, Notice (dated **3rd November, 1939**). D.P.T...airmail correspondence for America may now be dispatched to New York via Rome, Lisbon and by the North Atlantic Air Service. 2. The rate of postage is 100 mils per 10 grs. or for a post card." (As was typical of D.P.T. Notices published in the Palestine Gazette, this did not unequivocally established the earliest date that airmail was accepted at this rate for this route.)
 12. The Palestine Gazette, 18th January, 1940, "Notice (dated 12th January, 1940), D.P.T... the following airmails are at present being dispatched from Palestine...V. Other Services (By air conveyance throughout). Country... U.S.A. (New York only): Once weekly...120 mils Per 10 grammes Post Cards 60 mils... U.S.A. (other than N.Y.) and Canada: Once weekly...140 mils Per 10 grammes, Post Cards 70 mils."
 13. Postal History of British Airmails, E.B. Proud, p. 165: "**10 June, 1940** - The Empire airmail services were suspended...due to Italy's entry into the war which severed the Mediterranean link" (from UK to Palestine).

"Schnorrer Briewe"

M. Kallman, U.S.A.

E. Glassman's article ("The Post Offices of Turkish Jerusalem") in Summer/Autumn Issue # 87/88 was an enjoyable read. His use of city maps to illustrate the text brought back memories of my days as a city planner in New York City and Baltimore when neighborhood maps were a requirement of my profession.

I do however want to comment on one aspect of the article that may require clarification and amplification. In the discussion of the Austrian Post Office, Glassman refers to the largest volume of mail sent through the mail as "*schnorrer briewe*," or beggar letters. Leo Rosten¹ variously defines the "*schnorrer*" as a panhandler, a moocher, a cheapskate, and a chiseler. Rosten then writes:

"Many 'schnorrers' considered they had a license from the Lord, and were doing His bidding: after all, they were helping Jews discharge solemn obligations to help the poor and unfortunate, through which noble acts a good Jew could actually accumulate mitzvas! Any man who served as agent for the acquisition of mitzvas was part of God's marvelous scheme for improving the human race".

This definition of the "*schnorrer*" is comically cynical and sardonic; in my experience, this description of the "*schnorrer*" is also widely accepted among those who are antagonistic to Orthodox culture and traditions. However, the application of "*schnorrer briewe*", in the context of Jewish charity appeals from *Eretz Yisrael* requires a reappraisal because it obscures the historical importance of those fund raising activities (see Fig. 33 in the article).

Although the mid-19th century Jewish population of Jerusalem was skewed toward the elderly, many among the Yishuv were small-scale tradesmen and craftsmen. Not all who came to *Eretz Yisrael* were motivated solely by a desire to die in the land. Unfortunately, two widely quoted cotemporary accounts of the community, written by Netter² and Montague³, paint an unflattering picture of that community as people who abjure working with their hands and who, having once received funds from the Diaspora, develop an addiction to idleness. The problem with these descriptions is that they are written from the perspective of those with barely hidden agendas. It is true that some portion of the community were "*schnorrers*" in the sense of Rosten's definition. However, two points must be kept in mind: First, the funds from overseas were never adequate enough to permit the recipients to live a life of security and leisure. Second, as Glassman points out, after the Ottoman takeover of Palestine, the land languished in terms of economic growth and development. Even if one were young and energetic, successful economic pursuits would still be problematic. According to Segev⁴, it was only after the onset of the British Mandate that economic and living conditions began to improve as a result of British investment in infrastructure. I cannot think of many reasons why rational people would opt to move to an undeveloped, inhospitable land to be supported by inadequate funds.

One of those reasons was religious belief. The religious community, or the Old Yishuv, came to Eretz Yisrael out of conviction; in doing so, they came as proto-Zionists. For generations going back to the destruction of the Second Temple, Jerusalem and *Eretz Yisrael* were the focal points of dreams and aspirations of a defeated and dispersed people; among these people, Jerusalem and *Eretz Yisrael* were central to their religious, spiritual, and national identity and were bound up in their liturgy. The ideal of Jerusalem sustained the Jewish people and nourished a belief that one day Jews would return and reclaim their land. And, come they did, despite the hardship. By the mid-19th century, Jews comprised the largest faith community in Jerusalem. What is equally important was the response of those who remained in the Diaspora (rightly not covered by Glassman). This response whether under the traditional Chalukka system or the *Kolel* arrangements was, for the most part, voluntary and willingly entered into. The response of the Diaspora was also based on the fervent hope that the land would be reclaimed and that some day, in a distantly perceived future, all Jews who so desired would be in-gathered. Moreover, those who immigrated to *Eretz Yisrael* were viewed as guardians of the future; Diaspora Jews considered the support of those who emigrated an act of identification.

What can we say is the historical significance of the fund raising appeals sent from Eretz Yisrael to the Diaspora? First, the money from these fund raising efforts was decisive in facilitating settlement in Jerusalem; Jews were able to lay claim to the land and, in turn, supported the legitimacy of the Jewish people to live there. Second, as economic conditions improved, money from these appeals permitted the Jewish community to expand beyond the old city walls, further solidifying Jewish claims. A secondary consequence of this expansion was the improvement of living and health conditions of the community. The historical significance of fund raising should lead to a reconsideration of fund raising mail, one that avoids labeling this mail as "schnorrer briewe".

References:

- (1) Leo Rosten, **The Joys of Yiddish**.
- (2) Charles Netter, "Report upon the moral and material condition of the Israelites in Palestine presented to the Alliance Israelite Universelle, Paris, January 1869."
- (3) Samuel Montague, "To the Committee of the Sir Moses Montefiore Testimonial Fund." Citations (2) and (3) can be found in Jacob Kellner, **For Zion's Sake**.
- (4) Tom Segev, **One Palestine Complete**.

Ed. Note: In passing we would like to note that "Schnorrer Briewe" have been a treasure trove for Holy Land postal history findings as the appealing institute generally kept the donation letters (and covers) in their archives for many years. For example, illustrated on this bulletin's backcover is a self addressed reply cover of one such fund (though from a much later period) called "United Charity Institutions of Jerusalem" returned from the U.S.A. in Sept, 1939 containing a contribution of \$1 (sic!), according to the pencil manuscript on the left of the cover. An arrival machine cancel with the slogan "Passed by

Censor / Jerusalem" was struck on the back of the cover. This cancel had been considered as "very rare (one example known)" (see Glassman & Sacher, 1982, p. 130) until a few years ago, when several such were found in the institution's archive.

"Schnorrer Briewe" - a reply

E. Glassman, Jerusalem

I have read with great interest the remarks made by Michael Kaltman regarding my article on the Post Offices of Turkish Jerusalem. I do, however, think that he has gone a little overboard.

"Schnorrer" is defined by the Oxford English Dictionary - an independent source without any biases - as a beggar. To be brutally frank, that is exactly what these letters did. Schnorrer Briewe are long known as such in philatelic circles. They were an important part of the Postal History of the Holy Land. If anything they contributed greatly to the expansion of the postal services, particularly in Jerusalem, due to the ever increasing number sent out - and received. In a limited number of cases they have been the only examples of postmarks known.

Every village with a Jewish population had Talmudic scholars who studied at the expense of the community. It was considered an honor to do so. Thus when these scholars left and emigrated to Palestine this tradition continued. Talmudic scholars who lived in Palestine came there to study the Bible, bring up a family and to die and be buried there. Relatively few worked as artisans and hence the need for assistance was great. Most wrote letters asking for support from their home communities. The developing postal services, not only of the Turkish authorities, made this easier to do. As a consequence the number of letters increased.

To call these immigrants, most of whom came from Sephardic communities in and about the Mediterranean area initially, "proto-Zionists" is sheer nonsense. The immigrants from Russia and Poland, who fled to Palestine because of the many pogroms taking place there, brought their dream of building up the country by manual labor - these were the Zionists. In most cases they were not even religious.

The contribution of the religious section of the community was two-fold: as mentioned above it drove the progress of the postal service, and secondly it created a class of money changers who later became the first bankers (those who did not go bankrupt in the process). These latter used their growing wealth to buy land, build new suburbs, small factories, hotels and the ancillary services required by them.

The economic development in Palestine was engineered by the middle class immigrants of all beliefs, who brought their capital and talents when they arrived. It is they who set up the first factories, who pushed the authorities to maintain and clean the streets and to provide an adequate supply of water, electricity and develop a sewage system. This started not after the First World War but in the nineteenth century.

The new suburbs absorbed the excess of population living in the Old City, but

did not relieve it since so many chose to stay in the crowded and unhealthy area there. They only left it after the Jordanian conquest in 1948.

During this entire period Schnorrer Briewe continued to be sent, from the simple earliest ones to the computer generated and colourful ones sent today. But the effect was the same.

Whose Address is it Anyway?

D. Weiss, Ra'anana

I read the article "Whose Address is it Anyway" by Y. Rimon (HLPH 87-88). I have too a few covers I would like to share with the readers and here are two of them, fitting such a heading.

A letter from New York to Tel Aviv (Figure 104)

It was cancelled for the first time on October 3, 1978 with a New York machine. The next day (October 4) it was cancelled again, but, I guess the postal clerk misplaced Israel with Iran (it was the first days of Humaini), and returned the letter to the sender with a cachet: **Embargo / return to sender**. The sender then mailed the letter back again and, finally, on October 19 it was cancelled again and was sent to Israel.

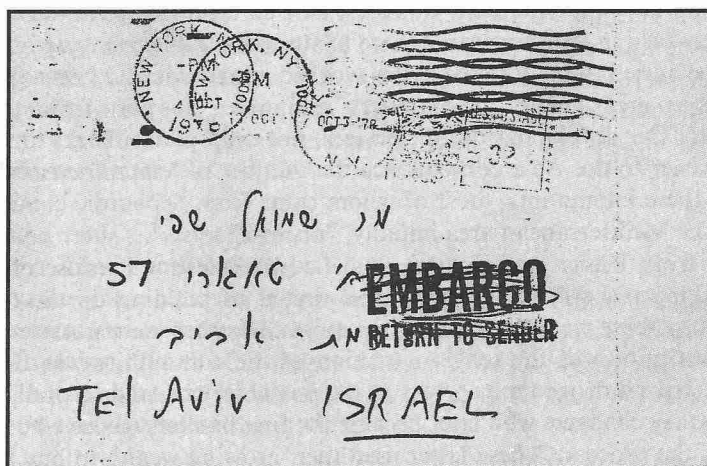


Figure 104

A Registered Airmail Letter from Kaminits-Podolsk (in the Soviet Union) to Israel (Figure 105)

This letter was sent to Israel on August 14, 1963 without a name of the destination town or village; just the name of the addressee and (?) סוויטון (Swetton) in Hebrew.

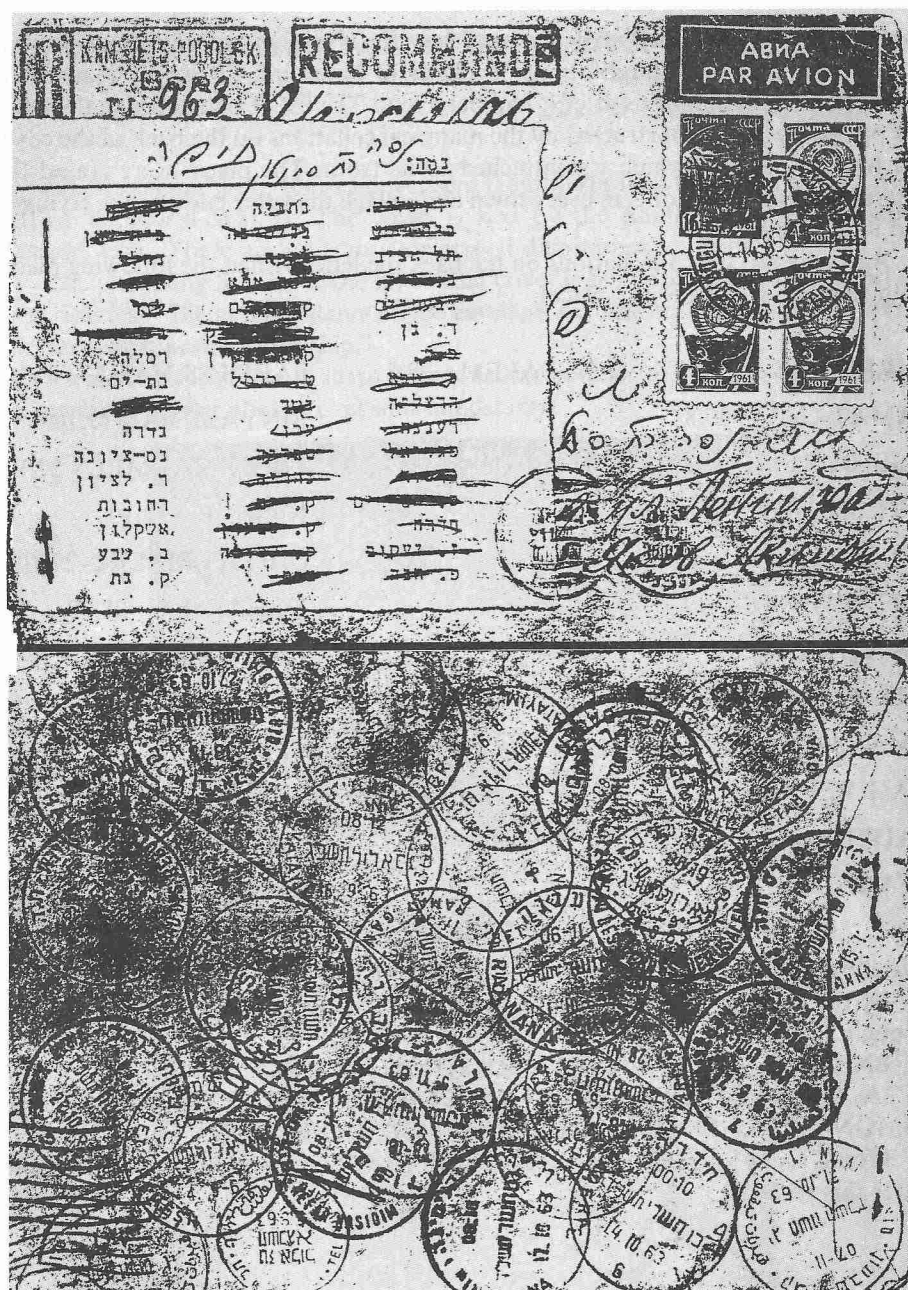


Figure 105

The Israeli post office has made tremendous efforts to find the addressee, so, this letter has wandered through about 35 places in Israel until it finally reached its destination about 3 months after it had been sent! The list of places which the letter had passed, can be reconstructed by the many cancellations on the back of the cover and by a printed list which was attached to its front. The places were erased (by different pens), one by one, in every town and village the letter had passed, trying to find its addressee.

According to the cancellations on the back the letter visited the following places (with the date following the place):

BUREU DES REBUTS - JERUSALEM - 28.8	PARDESS HANA - 15.10
RAMAT GAN - 30.8	BINYAMINA - 17.10
(again) BUREU DES REBUTS - JERUSALEM - 3.9	TIRAT KARMEL - 22.10
BEIT SHEMESH - 4.9	NESHER - 22.10
TEL AVIV - 5.9	QIRYAT BIALIK - 27.10
TEL AVIV 5 - 6.9	NAHARIYA - 28.10
GIVATAIM - 8.9	HAIFA - 28.10
HERTSLIYA - 17.9	QIRYAT TIV'ON - 31.10
RA'ANANA - 1.10	AFFULA - 5.11
MAGDIEL - 2.10	BET SHEAN - 8.11
HADERA - 14.10	KARKUR - 13.11
KFAR HASSIDIM - 14.10	BEIT DAGAN - 14.11

Two more cancellations are impossible to decipher.

By the list that was attached to the front of the cover, the letter passed also through:

BNEY BERAK, KFAR SAVA, ZICHRON YA'ACOV, NETANYA, KFAR ATTA, QIRYAT HAYIM, QIRYAT MOTSKIN, AKKO, TVERYA, QIRYAT SHMONA, TSFAT, NAHALAL, AZOR, LOD, and HOLON.

Would today's Israeli post make such efforts to find an addressee? Can anyone better this record?!

An Intriguing Handstamp on a Cover from Jerusalem

Les M. Glassman, Jerusalem

Illustrated in Figure 106 is a cover sent from Jerusalem to Johannesburg, South Africa ca. World War II. The cover is tied by the South African "Opened by Censor" tape. There are no transit or arrival datestamps applied.

The intriguing feature of the illustrated cover is the unframed violet handstamp which states: "The postage stamp on the envelope was missing when the letter reached the Jerusalem postal censorship."

I would be interested to learn if anyone has another example or can shed more information on the above cover and handstamp.

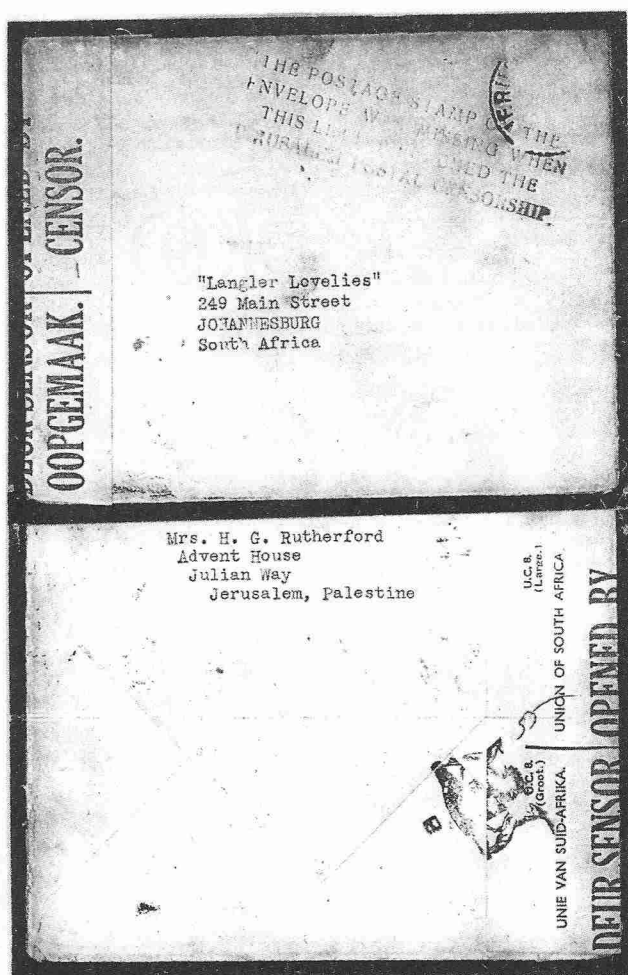


Figure 106

GENERAL NEWS

New Special Cancellations

This section is reprinted here courtesy of "Shovel", Israel Philatelic Federation Magazine.



● 11.12.01 – 100 שנה לביטחון חסידים
חינוך עיוורים (יום הופעה, ירושלים)



● 16.9.01 – חנוכה סוף
הדואר בשכונת גילה בירושלים (ירושלים)



● 21.8.01 – בר מצווה
למושת ידות אדם צבא – חלב (ירושלים)



● 11.12.01 – איכות הסביבה
(יום הופעה, אשקלון)



● 12.10.01 – 20 שנה לברקן
(אפרים)



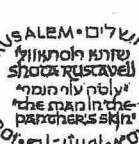
● 3.9.01 – 100 שנה לקק"ל
(יום הופעה, ירושלים)



● 11.12.01 – 50 שנות פעילות אק"ם (יום הופעה, ת"א-יפו)



● 16.10.01 – ברכות בולאי
ישראל לתערוכת הפניה (ת"א-יפו)



● 3.9.01 – שותא חסנאולי
(יום הופעה, ירושלים)

● 20.7.01 – גביע דיוויס
ישראל – דרום אפריקה
ISRAEL - SOUTH AFRICA



● 20.7.01 – גביע דיוויס
2001 ישראל – דרום אפריקה
(רמת השרון)



● 11.12.01 – האסטרונואוט
הישראלי הראשון (יום הופעה, ת"א-יפו)



● 17.10.01 – 40 שנה
ל"צוות" (ת"א-יפו)



● 3.9.01 – יהודה עמיחי (יום הופעה, ירושלים)



● 1.8.01 – ברכות בולאי
ישראל פילאניפון 01 (תל-אביב)



● 11.12.01 – היינריך היינה
(יום הופעה, ירושלים)



● 24.10.01 – עשור למכון
הישראלי למוקדסיה (ירושלים)



● 3.9.01 – מועדים תשס"ב
(יום הופעה, באר שבע)



● 15.8.01 – קלנסווה, ממוז
צה לעיר (קלנסווה)

New Special Cancellations (Continued)



BENE BERAQ-24.2.2002
• 24.02.2002 – יידיש (יום)
הופעה, בני ברק)



JERUSALEM-24.2.2002
• 24.02.2002 – לאדינו (יום)
הופעה, ירושלים)



MISHROOM-24.2.2002
• 24.02.2002 – פטירות (יום)
הופעה, מגדל העמק)



TEL AVIV-YAFO-24/01/2002
• 24/01/2002 – עשור לכי
נון היחסים הדיפלומטיים עם
סין (תל-אביב-יפו)



TEL AVIV-YAFO-24.02.2002
• 24.02.2002 – חודש הש
נה (יום הופעה, תל-אביב-יפו)



MODIN-24.02.2002
• 24.02.2002 – פרחים –
ששון (יום הופעה, מודיעין)



Christmas-24.12.2001
• 24.12.2001 – חג המולד
(נצרת).



Christmas-24.12.2001
• 24.12.2001 – חג המולד
(ירושלים).



Masarah-24.12.2001
• 24.12.2001 – ברכות מא
רץ הקודש (חותמת פרסומת,
נצרת)



(בסגוריים מקור ההחתמה)



Masarah-11.12.2001
• 11.12.2001 – הכנס ה-15
של בולאי ישראל (תל-אביב
יפו).

New Stamps

The following new stamps were issued in the last period.

- 11.12.01: Environment Coastal Conservation (Definitive series, IS 10. -); Heinrich Heine (IS 4.40); Institute for the Blind, Jerusalem 1902 - 2002 (IS 5.60); Philately Day - the first Israeli astronaut (IS 1.20); 50 years of AKIM, Association for the Rehabilitation of the Mentally Handicapped (IS 2.20).
15.1.02: A new definitive CPL (Computerized Postage Label = "Masad") replacing the previous labels at the P.O. counters (Fig. 107).

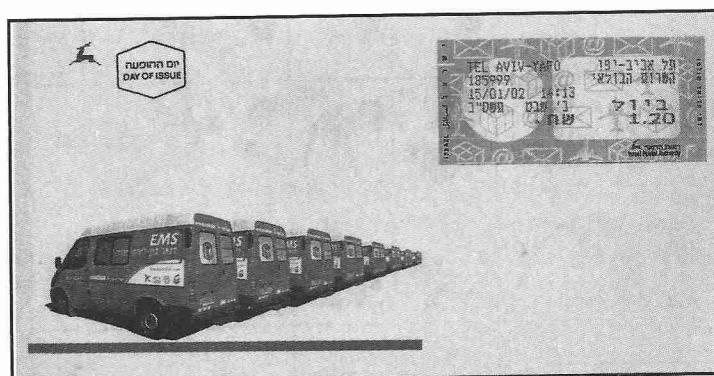


Fig. 107: A First Day Cover of the new CPL ("Masad") introduced on 15.1.2002.

- 24.2.02: Flowers - Lily (IS 1.20); The months of the year (12 x IS 1.20) as an irregular sheet of 12 se-tenant stamps arranged tete-beche (Fig. 108), issued also as a booklet of one pane of the same 12 stamps (Fig. 109)*; Ladino (Judeo-Spanish) (IS 2.10); Yiddish (IS 2.10); Mushrooms (IS 1.90, 2.20, 2.80).
- 10.4.02: Historians - H. Graetz (IS 2.50), S. Dubnow (2.50), B. Dinur (2.50), Y. Baer (2.50); 50 years to ILAN (Israel Foundation for Handicapped Children; IS 5.90); Memorial Day 2002 (IS 1.20); Hakhel Leyisrael (IS 4.70).

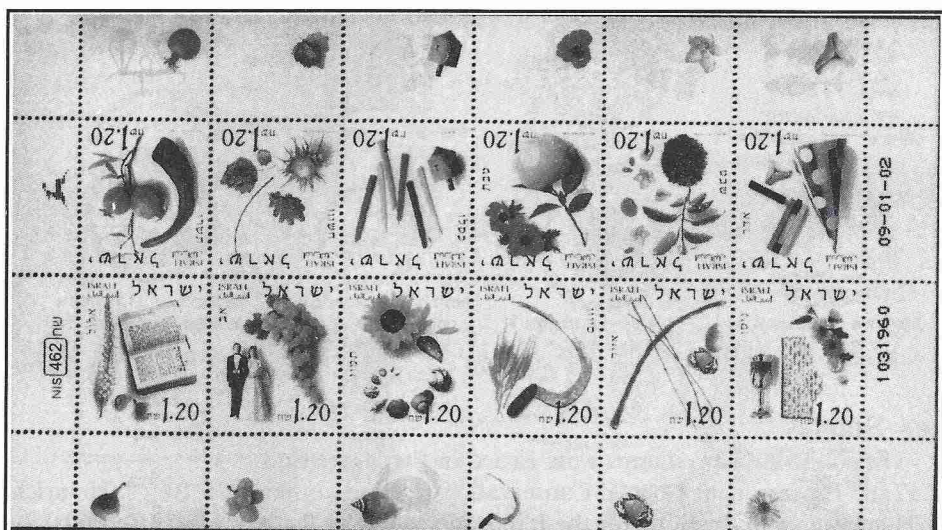


Fig. 108: A sheet of the "12 months" stamps issued on 24 February, 2002

* For the specialist they are not "the same" as the sheet stamps are ordinary perforated gummed stamps (all with tabs) whereas the booklet ones are arc - rouletted selfadhesive stamps without any tabs.



Fig. 109: The "12 months" booklet, (a) opened cover and (b) single pane of the twelve stamps (actually being part of the cover).

Obituary

Hans George Muentz (June 1918 - 18 May 2002)

In the name of the Israel Philatelic Federation and in my own name we send condolences to the Muentz family upon the passing of Hans George Muentz, z.l.

I knew Mr. Hans Muentz for many years beginning with the friendship of my late father, Oswald Weber, z.l., who knew Muentz from the early fifties. We always received good philatelic advice from him and recommendations to always purchase stamps in top condition and not in poorer condition, even at a much lower price. He had a saying, "The price we forget, but the quality remains".

In 1967, when I started to collect classic stamps, especially old Germany and Bavaria, Muentz was my teacher and guide and even bestowed upon me gifts of catalogues and books about the philately of classic German States. He was the only dealer who was really knowledgeable in classic material and he guided me in the direction of studying and researching philately.

In 1970 I traveled to the great expert, Mr. Franz Feninger, in Munich, and showed him some of my Bavarian stamps. He was impressed and asked why I came all the way to him - I could have gone to Mr. Muentz who would have given me excellent answers. He told me of his friendship with Muentz and that he advised Muentz - that was during the years after World War II - to remain in Munich and live there as a dealer and expert in philately. Muentz turned down the recommendation and immigrated to Israel to live here for more than 50 years.

In Israel he guided a whole generation of philatelists, especially in the area of Holy Land philately. In 1975, after the death of Mr. Waerner Hoexter, z.l., who had been recognized as the world's leading expert, Mr. Muentz became the expert dealer of Holy Land philately and his certificate of expertise was definitive. Within this framework he became a member of the A.I.E.P. from 1978 to 2000 and also a member of the B.P.P. in Germany. Besides his work as an expert in certifying stamps and entires he also guided many Holy Land Philatelists and was involved in the Holy Land Postal History Society of which he was Vice Chairman for many years. He often spoke at philatelic forums and was a juror in all philatelic exhibitions in Israel from 1960 to 1988.

Because of his modesty he was not known among the jurors of F.I.P.. I saw in two instances the surprise of the world experts at his ability; first in the Israphil exhibition in 1985 when he was the chairman of the Jury, and then in 1998 when he was a member of the Expertizing Committee of the exhibition.

Besides his modesty and knowledge Muentz always tried to encourage beginners and young collectors; Many collectors of Holy Land today are his students. Until his last day he gave advice to the greatest collectors of Holy Land in Israel and throughout the world. Muentz as a hobbyist collected the stamps of Mexico, always differentiating between "work"- which was, first, managing and preparing public auctions and later issuing expert certificates to collectors - and personal interest - therefore far off Mexico.

Ironically, when entering the hospital shortly before his death, he told Mr. Gil'ady that Mr. Irwin Caro, his partner and friend of many years, had died. It is impossible to mourn for Muentz without mentioning Caro due to the many years they were together as partners. In their office at 76 Allenby they often hosted a "philatelic committee", including Pinchas Philip Kanner, z.l. They were happy to entertain young philatelists with less experience. There were many conversations involving philately, and philatelists were always able to go to "the group" at 76 Allenby to receive answers to all philatelic questions.

The death of Hans Muentz is especially a great loss to collectors of Holy Land and his absence will be greatly felt. May his memory be blessed.

Eli Weber

(President, Israel Philatelic Federation)

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- * *Big local smile*

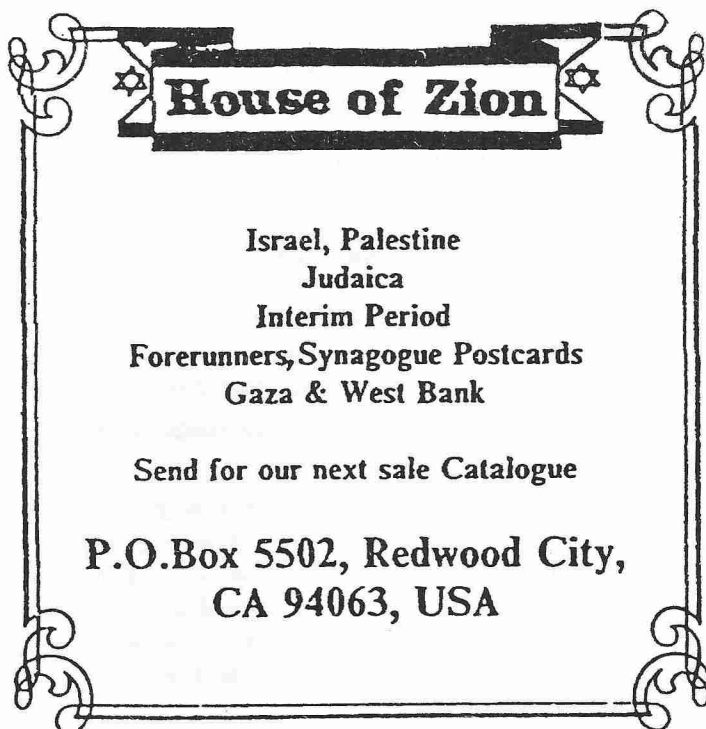
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עמותה מסונפת להתאחדות כולאי ישראל



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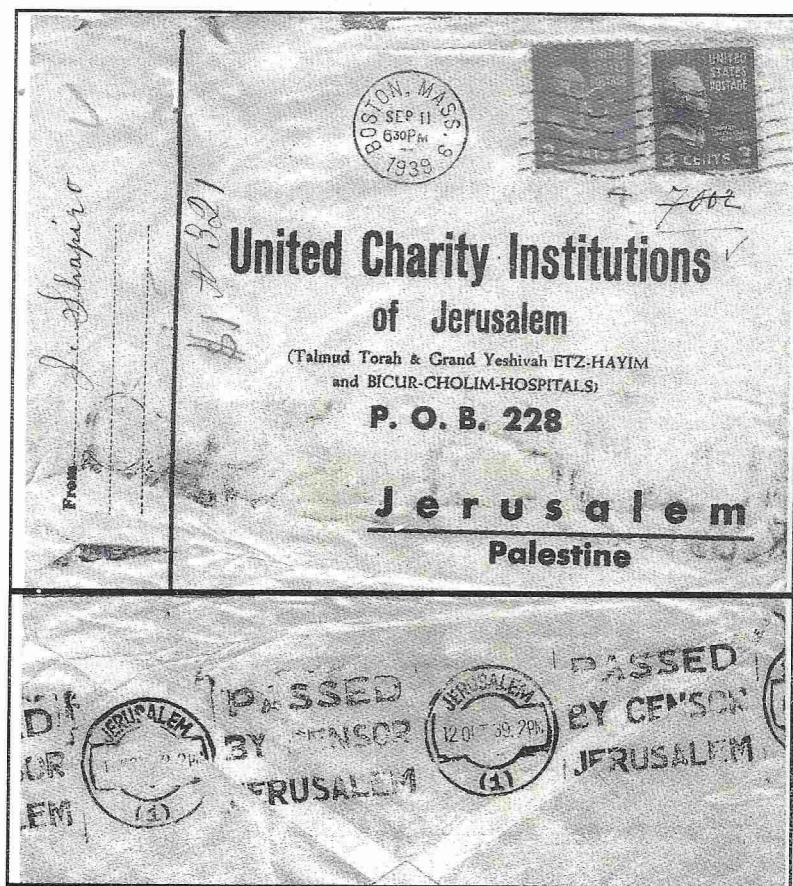
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הדואר של ארץ-ישראל



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מאחור חותמת מכונה נדירה עם הטקסט באנגלית "עבר צנזורה / ירושלים".

A reply envelope of a "Schnorrer Briewe" from Jerusalem from the beginning of WWII.
Backstamped on arrival by the rare machine cancellation with the slogan,
"Passed by Censor / Jerusalem"
(See article, p. 383).

חורף / אביב תשס"ב