

1947

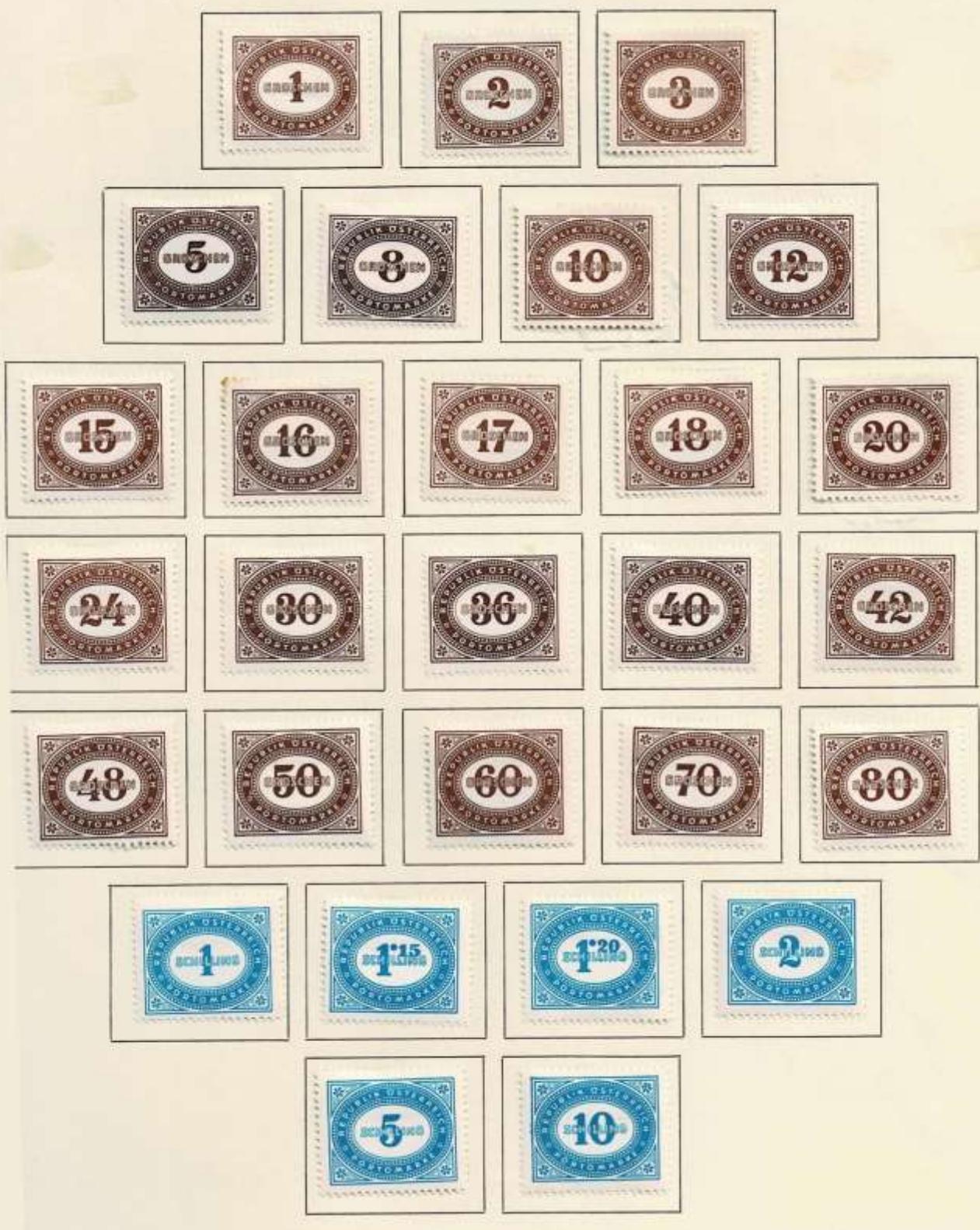
THE POSTAGE DUE STAMP ISSUE OF 14 AUGUST 1947.

Robert Brezina, who had already created the 1945 postage due stamps for the Russian zone of occupation, depended markedly for the design of the new series on the previous designs of the first Austrian postage due stamps of 1894-95. It was a simple numeral design in a rectangle; the corners of which are filled with small rosettes. There is a section of an oval with the inscription "Republik Österreich" inserted above and "Portomarke" below. The numeral of value is shown larger in the centre and across it is spread, partly in traced letters, the description of the value, filled in as "Groschen" or "Schilling", placed on a white background. The stamps were produced in typography on "white postage stamp paper" and have a comb perforation 14. The size of the stamp, including the perforated margin, is 27.25 x 23 mm; the size of the design being 23.5 x 19 mm. The State Printing Works in Vienna even took over the dark brown colour of the 1894-95 postage due stamps for the groschen values; only the schilling values were printed in light blue. All the values were printed in counter sheets of 100 pieces so that the sheet margins display "margin bars", i.e. fully coloured stripes 4.5mm wide. These are known with all the values.

The 1947 postage due stamps appeared on two different dates; on 14.8.47 were issued the 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 24, 30, 36, 40, 42, 48, 60 and 70 groschen values and 1, 2, 5 and 10 schilling values. On 25.9.47 followed the 1, 20, 50 and 80 gr values and 1.15 and 1.20 schilling ones. Both days of issue, however, occurred before the currency reform which first took place on 1.12.48. An auxiliary issue was not necessary with the postage due stamp series, similar to the Landscape series in changed colours, because the stamps were used exclusively by the post offices and thus could be revalued. With both issues, the Austrian State Printing Works made use of the production of an 80gsm paper without watermark that, despite its official description, "white letter paper", was still strongly streaked grey and yellow. The suppliers then strove to give a better appearance to the paper by the addition of "whitening" so that the later impressions occur on white paper.

According to official information, "glue" was used for the gum by which one understands animal glue and dextrine. Since the series of 28 stamps was valid for a relatively short time (their replacement by the 3rd Postage Due Series took place on 17.11.1949), it is of interest to study the numbers issued for a correct evaluation of the individual values. Where the production stretched over many impressions there are small differences in shade to distinguish this, yet colour deviations or distinguishable types worthy of the catalogue are not establishable.

On the basis of data from the General Postal Directorate in Vienna the survey presented below can be collated. The strikingly high numbers issued of the 20g and 40g values have their explanation in the tariff established at that time. The postal storage tariff was 20g whilst the advice tariff for the collection of packets was 40g.



Face values and quantities:

Value	Delivered by the State Printing Works	Number of Impressions	Number of Sheets
	From - To		
1gr	5. 9.1947-27.10.1947	2	30,700
2gr	4. 7.1947-2. 7.1948	3	32,400
3gr	9. 7.1947-10.11.1947	3	18,500
5gr	4. 7.1947-1. 7.1948	3	50,300
8gr	4. 7.1947 - 10.11.1947	2	13,300
10gr	4.7.1947-2.9.1949	7	88,500
12gr	30. 7.1947-10.11.1947	2	13,100
15gr	28. 7.1947-2. 9.1949	4	31,600
16gr	9. 7.1947-10.11.1947	2	13,200
17gr	14. 7.1947-6. 3.1948	2	13,300
18gr	14. 7.1947-6. 3.1948	2	13,700
20gr	6.9.1947 -2.9.1949	7	138,800
24gr	30. 7.1947-6. 3.1948	2	13,200
30gr	14. 7.1947-18. 7.1947	1	7,500
36gr	25. 7.1947-31. 7.1947	1	7,500
40gr	25. 7.1947-2. 9.1949	7	120,600
42gr	14. 7.1947-18. 7.1947	1	7,600
48gr	9. 7.1947 - 10.11.1947	2	13,100
50gr	6.9.1947-1. 7.1948	3	39,400
60gr	9. 7.1947-10.11.1947	2	13,500
70gr	23. 7.1947-1. 4.1949	3	31,500
80gr	6. 9.1947-31. 3.1948	2	20,900
1.00S	18. 7.1947 - 10. 6.1948	5	59,600
1.15S	3. 9.1947-1. 4.1949	4	50,100
1.20S	3.9.1947-10.6.1948	2	21,600
2.00S	18.7.1947-11.6.1948	3	22,600
5.00S	18.7.1948-10.6.1948	3	21,900
10.00S	21.7.1947-9.6.1948	3	22,400