



BELGIUM



**EXPRESS SERVICES ON POSTAL STATIONERY
“ WITH EXTRA’S ”**

1874 - 1998

Luc SELIS
VP Dutch Academy for Philately

Law of 8 April 1874, active from 1 May 1874 :

- Express within the city via telegraph offices.**
- National Express rate lowered to 25ct if paid with TG stamp**

Gradual introduction in main cities:

- Brussels 1 May 1874**
- Antwerp 25 February 1875**
- Ghent 10 March 1875**
- Liege 25 May 1875**
- 1 October 1885 : Brugge, Charleroi, Kortrijk, Leuven, Mons, Namur, Oostende, Doornik and Verviers**
- 1 December 1887 : the whole country**

1 May 1874 : The new Express Service



**The earliest known postcard sent per express
1 September 1874**



**Postcard with paid reply (via post office) 17 fevr 1876
30 ct Express fee**



Foreign destination 27 March 1877
Card 10ct, express rate 30ct
“*par Expres -Train 11 heures soir*”

Par Express
CARTE POSTALE



CE CÔTÉ EST RÉSERVÉ À L'ADRESSE. — ZIJDE VOOR HET ADRES VOORBEHOUDEN.

Monsieur Martiny avocat
120, rue de la loi
Bruxelles

Local Express, no date cancel (6 April 1880)



Reply card per Express 28 September 1880
Reply cards per express are RR

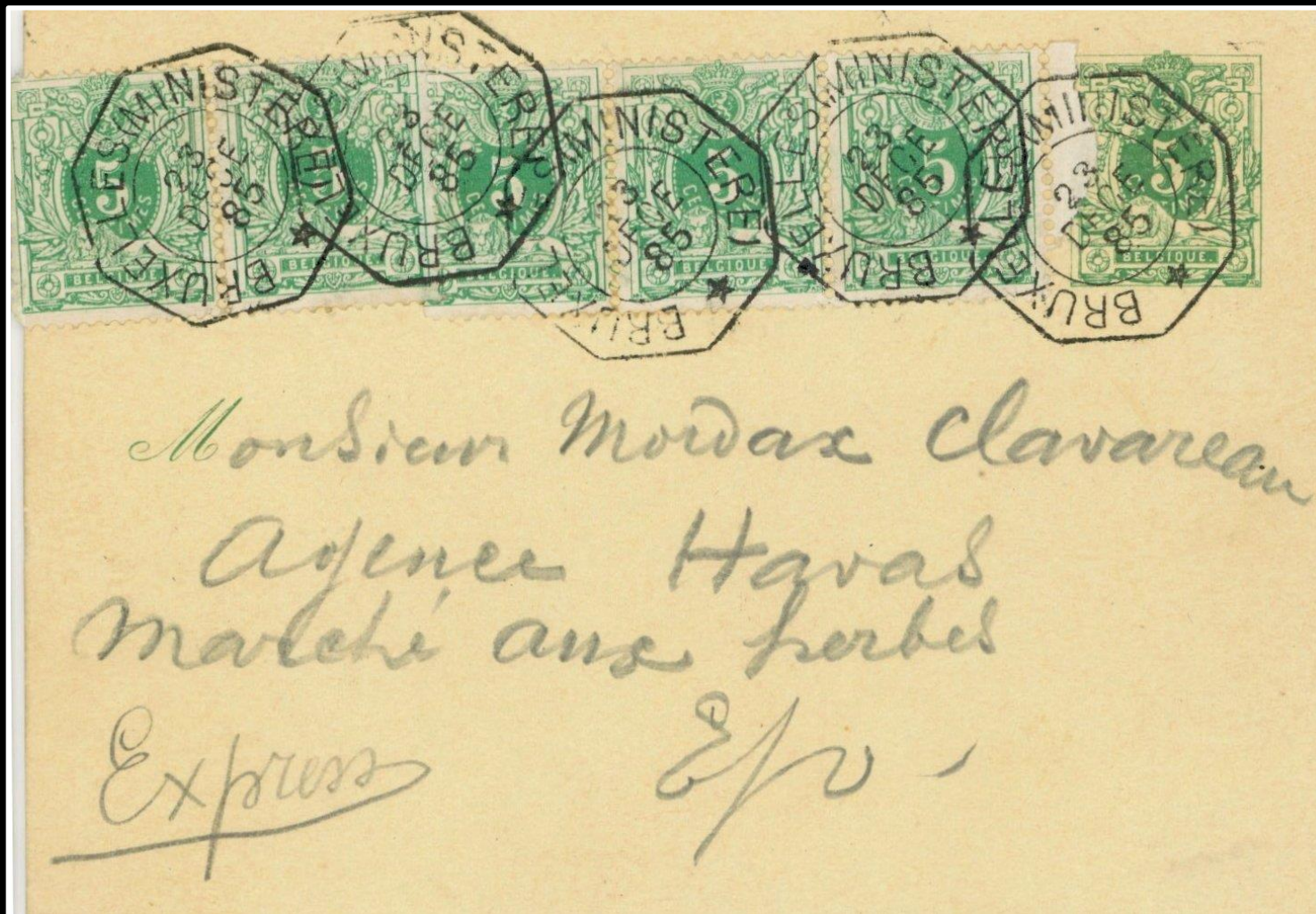


Nocturnal Express Service 11 August 1883

Delivered after midnight (12:20, see written notice)

Extra night duty (25ct) to be paid. Remains of purple duty notice.

Only two known



**Nice Multiple franking
23 December 1885**



Lettercard to foreign destination 28 December 1885
Incorrectly taxed and Express cancelled
Corrected after stamps found on the back



29 February 1888 (Leap Day !)

2 different types of telegraph cancel from same TG office.



Underpaid 2 August 1888

Lettercard 10ct + express 25ct = 35ct (10ct short)

Expres duty is paid, sent by express

Taxed 2 decesimes for unpaid letter



Letter in local service 12 August 1892
Express duty paid with telegraph stamps



Foreign destination 28 November 1892
Sent per train post office (the fastest route...)



Card rated as letter 23 December 1892
Door Key attached to card: 10ct + 25ct



Poperinghe -> Jumet 20 May 1894

**Via telegraafkantoor JUMET-BRULOTTE, 5 km van JUMET
Expresrecht 25ct + extra distance / paid at destination**



Nocturnal service (10PM) 11 January 1896
Card 5ct, Express duty 25ct, nocturnal service 25ct
Total 55ct.



Card 26 sept 1896

Card 5ct + Express duty 25ct

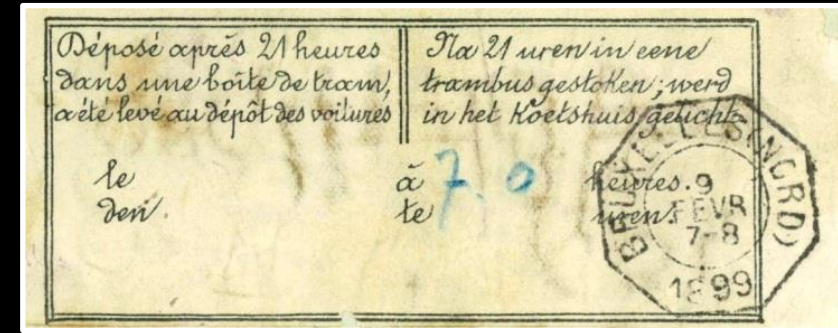
Additional distance (Ensival-Lambermont) +25ct (2-3 km)



Card with paid replay. 17 July 1897
Blankenberghe-Middelkerke-Ostende-Blankenberghe
EXPRES in both directions, returned 5 hours later
Very rare !



Letter from Verviers -> Heusy(Verviers) 28 April 1898
Letter 10ct, express duty 25ct + 25ct extra distance (2-3km)



Lettercard 9 February 1899
Posted in TRAM mailbox after hours, only found the
next morning. Very rare label, 2 known.



10 March 1899

Card rated as letter because oversized vignette
Letter 25ct, express duty 30ct = 55ct

Lettercard 13 April 1902.

**From Gand to Wenduine via
telegraph office of
Blankenberghe**

**Extremely rare 1Fr express duty
because destination had no
telegraph/express service**

Probably unique !





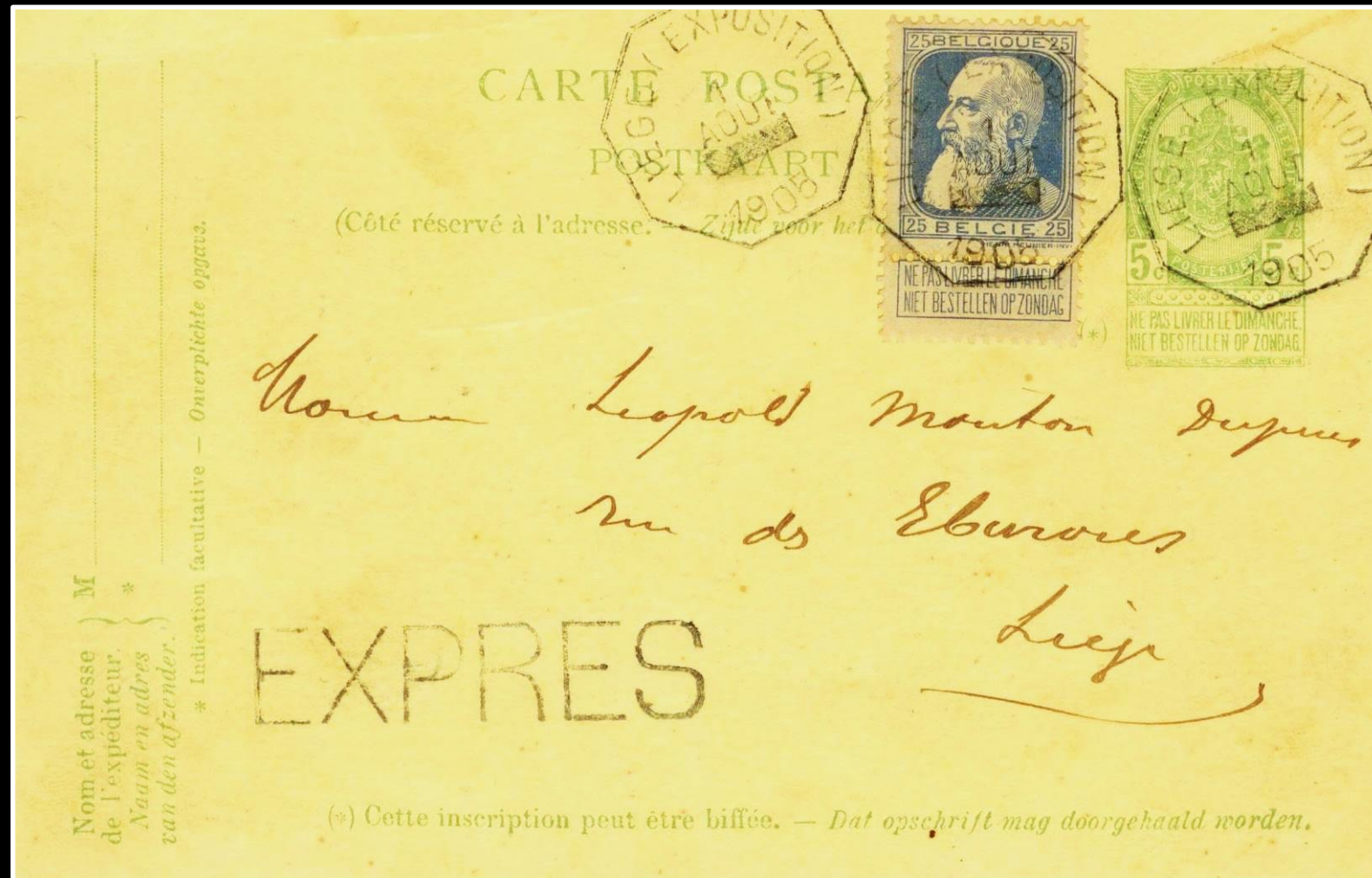
Postcard 22 December 1902
Sent per Express via Masses-Diarbois train station



**Two letters sent by express from same origin.
1903 via telegraph office; 1904 via railway post office**

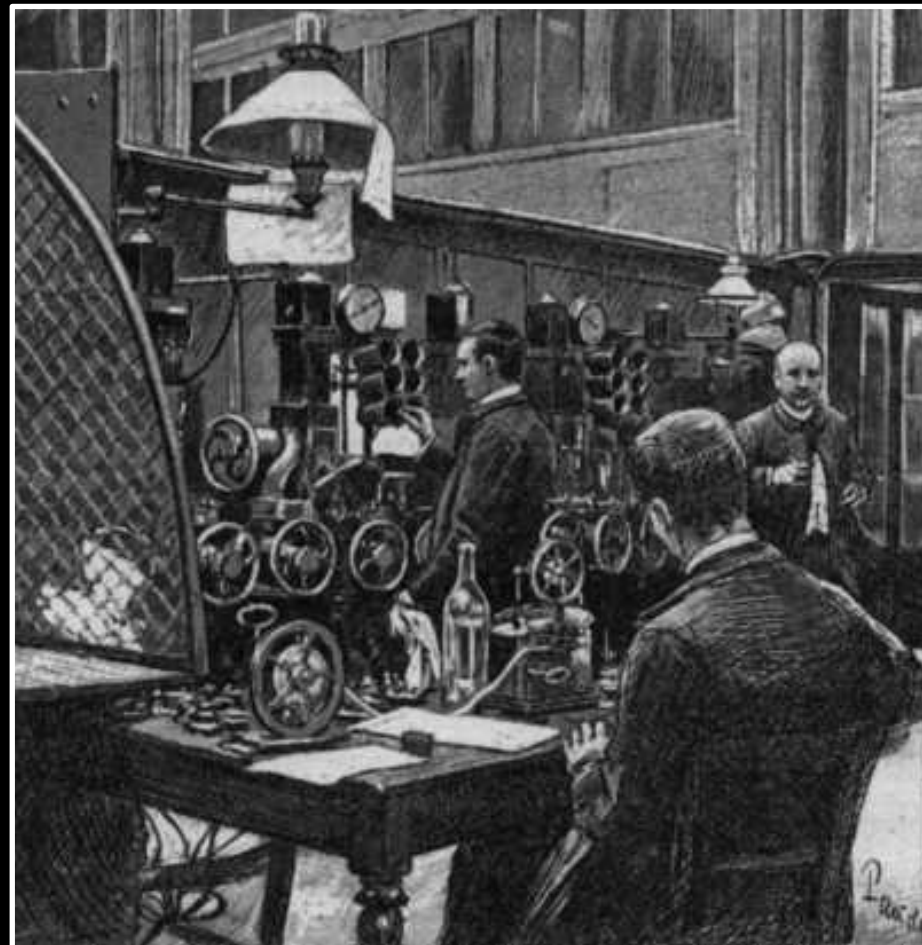


**Sent via railway station w/o post office.
Large PAR EXPRESS from parcel service**



From LIEGE (EXPOSITION) telegraph station 1905

Probably Unique



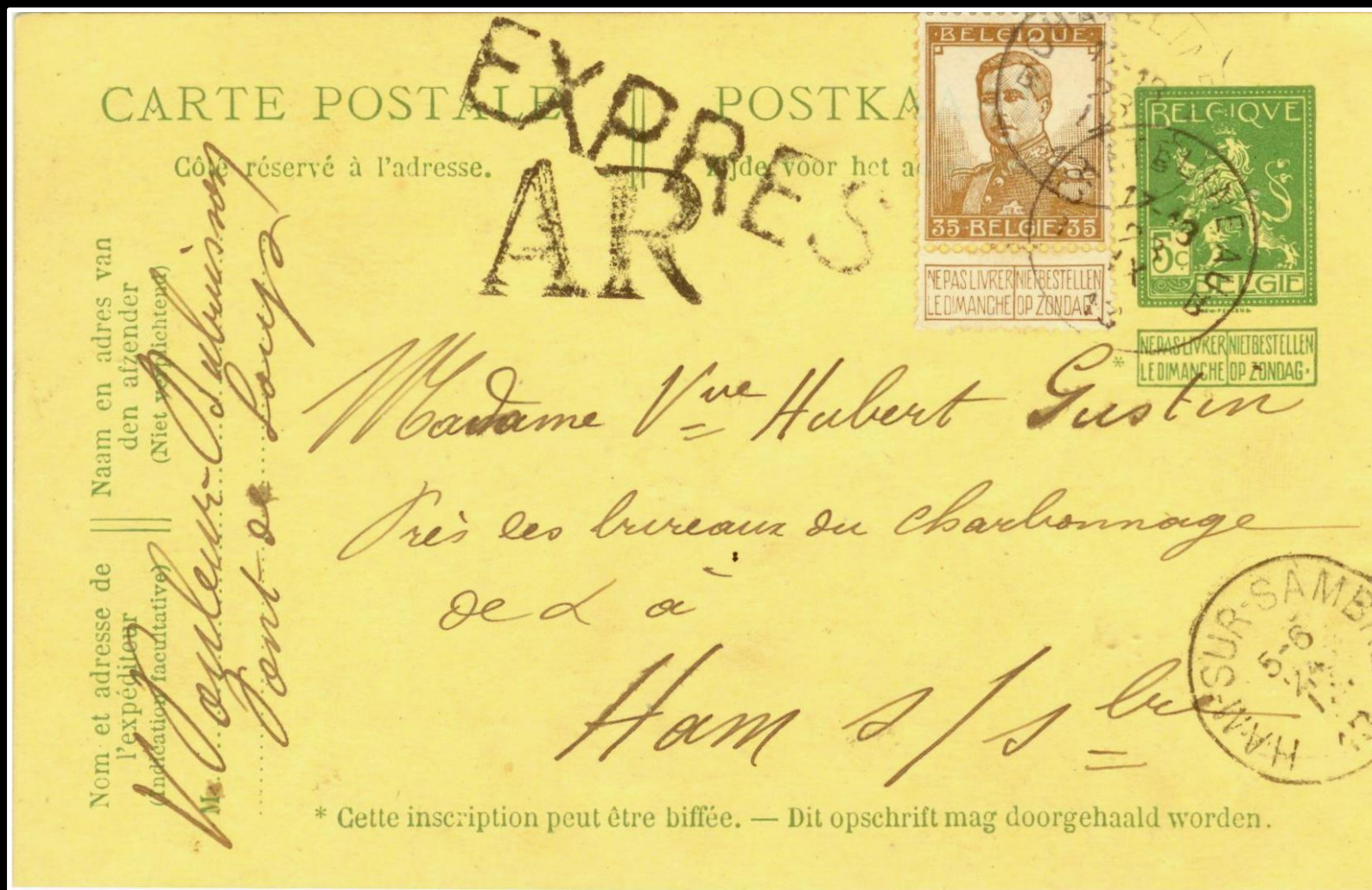
**Lettercard to Paris in 1905
 Via pneumatic tube mail station 98
 (Paris-Bourse)**



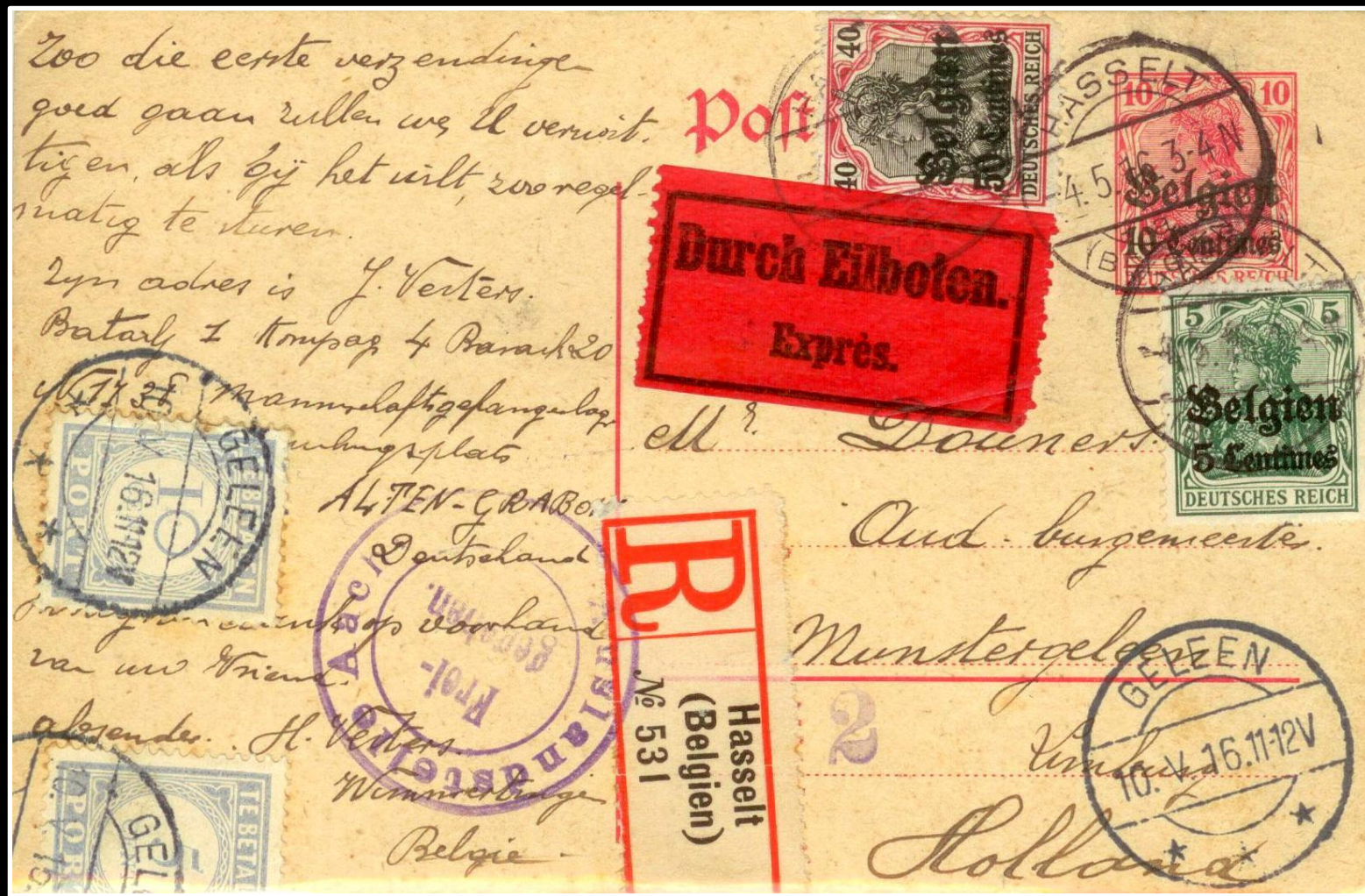
ALKEN (railway) to FELUY (ARQUENNES) (telegraph) 29 July 1907
 refranked 35ct (10+25), forwarded to OSTENDE (CENTRE) (telegraph).
 Not reclaimed, returned from OOSTENDE (KURSAAL) (post office) to FELUY
 All 3 possible Express services used.



Card first sent from Antwerp by ordinary mail to **Chausse de La Hulpe in Antwerp (!)**. Returned for non-existing address.
Re-franked and sent by Express few hours later to Boitsfort.



**Card sent by Express with Receipt Acknowledgement (AR)
23 September 1913. Card 5ct + express 25ct + Avis de Réception
10ct = 40ct
AR on Express is very rare in this period.**



Hasselt -> Munstergeleen(NL) per express 4 May 1916

Port 10ct, Express 30ct, Registration 25ct

Via Aachen to Geleen. Extra distance (<15 minutes walk) 15ct (NL)



Genck -> Brüssel 19 January 1916 via Hasselt
Card 8ct, express 25ct. Extra distance in Brussels +25ct (2-3km)
Rare German stamp EINZUZIEHEN (to receive) 25cts



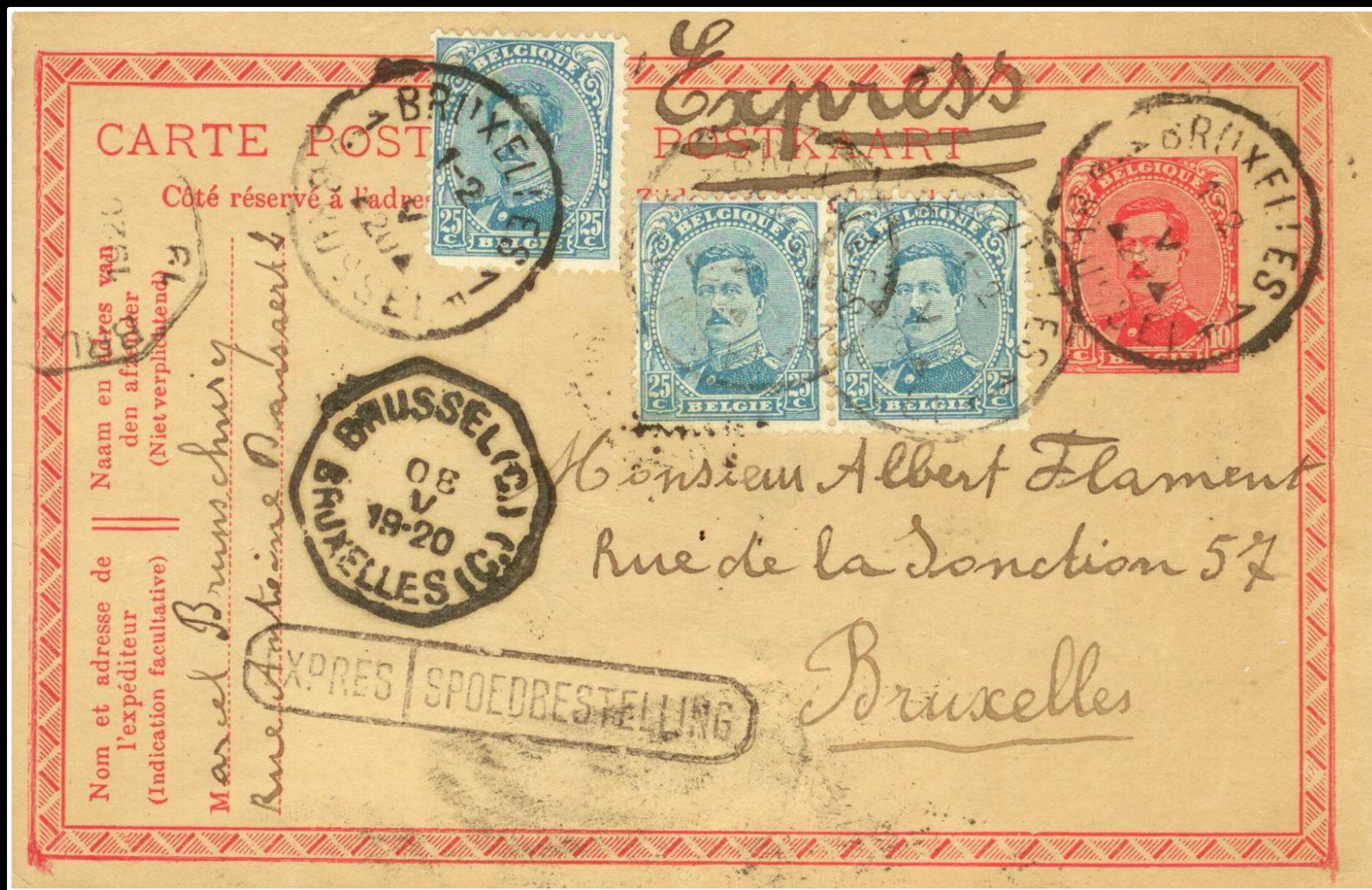
6 November 1919
'Fortune' railway date cancel on express card



Brussel -> Rouashorn(CH) 20 February 1920

Card 10ct, Express 30ct

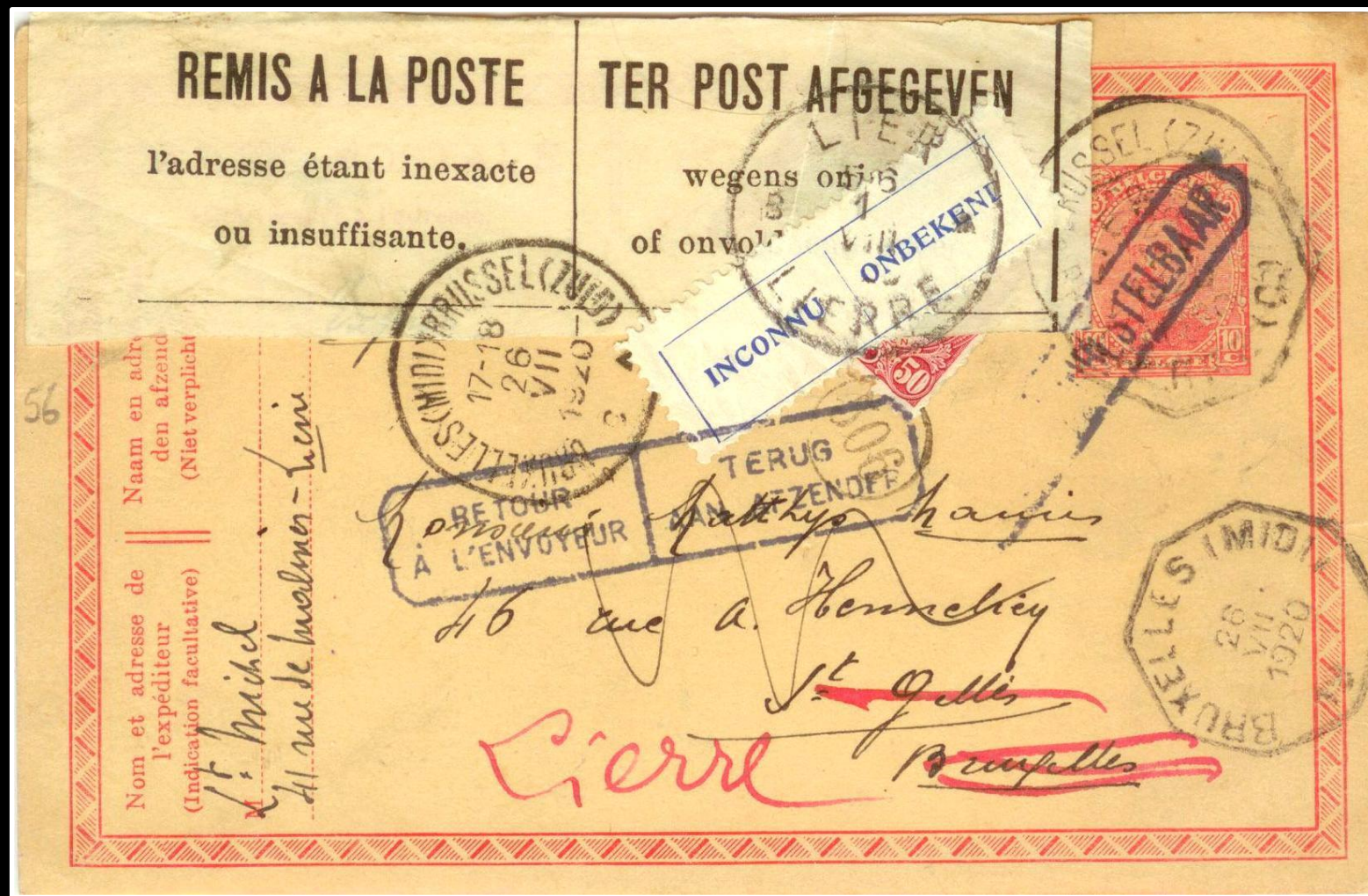
Rare period when foreign rate was lower then national rate !



Bruxelles -> Bruxelles 8 May 1920

Card 10ct, Express 50ct

Additional nocturnal duty 25ct (50% of the express duty)



Brussel -> St Gilles 26 July 1920
Non-deliverable – incorrect address.
Handed over to normal post office to find solution
(express mailman wasn't allowed to waste time)



Esneux -> Liege 28 August 1920
Lettercard 15ct, express 50ct
Forwarded to new address 'Par Poste'



Astenet -> Aachen 8.3.1921

Card 10ct, Express 1Fr

Earliest known express from Eupen & Malmedy



Antwerpen -> Pullay(FR) 18 March 1925
Card 45ct, Express 1Fr
Additonal French distance duty 3 (French) Fr



Kortrijk -> Biel (CH) 3 January 1930
Card 1Fr, express 3,50Fr, registration 1,75Fr = 6,25Fr
“TBC” postage stamps



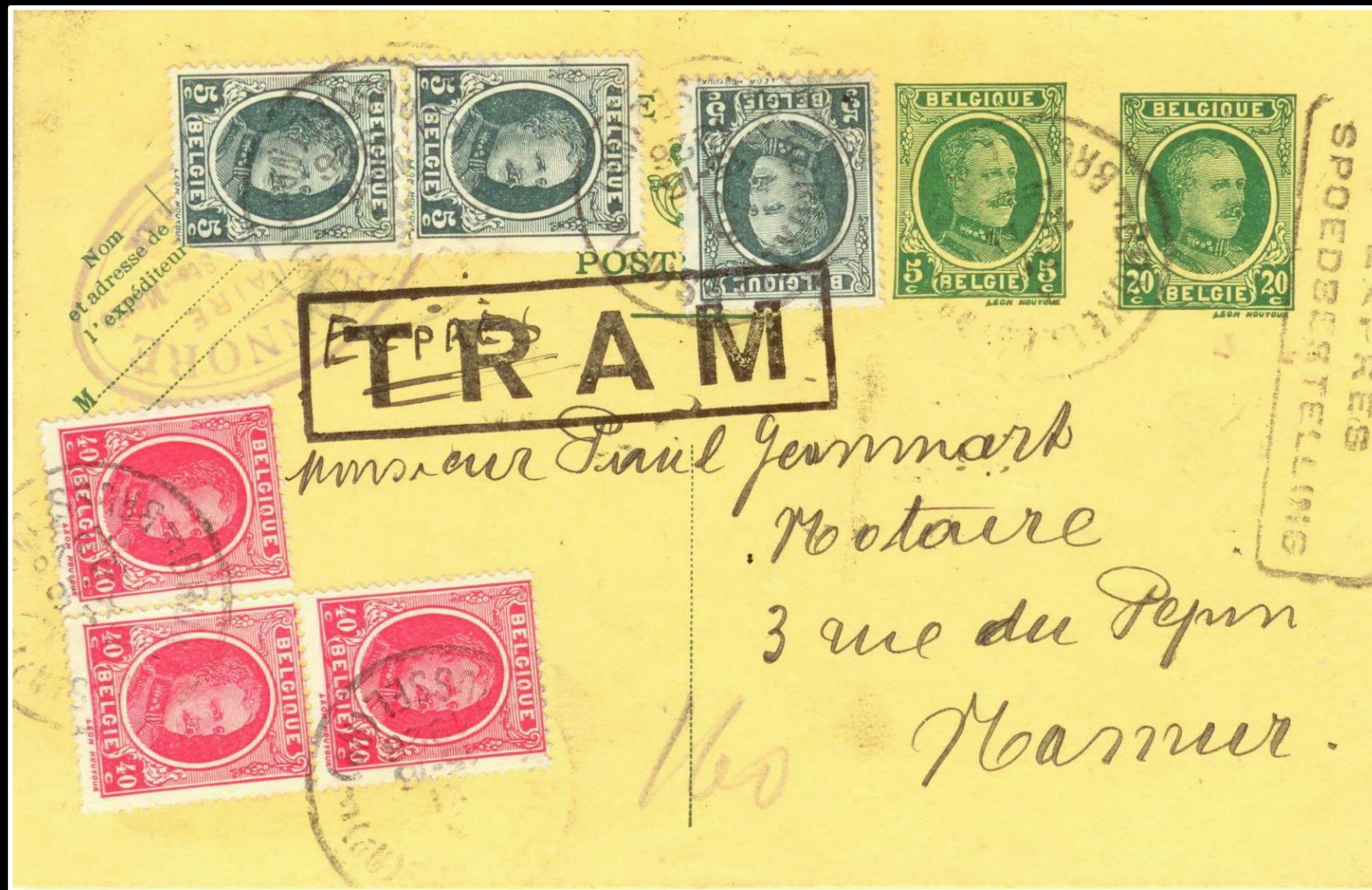
Brussel -> Londen 7 April 1936

Card 1Fr, express 3,50Fr, Airmail 0,50Fr = 5Fr

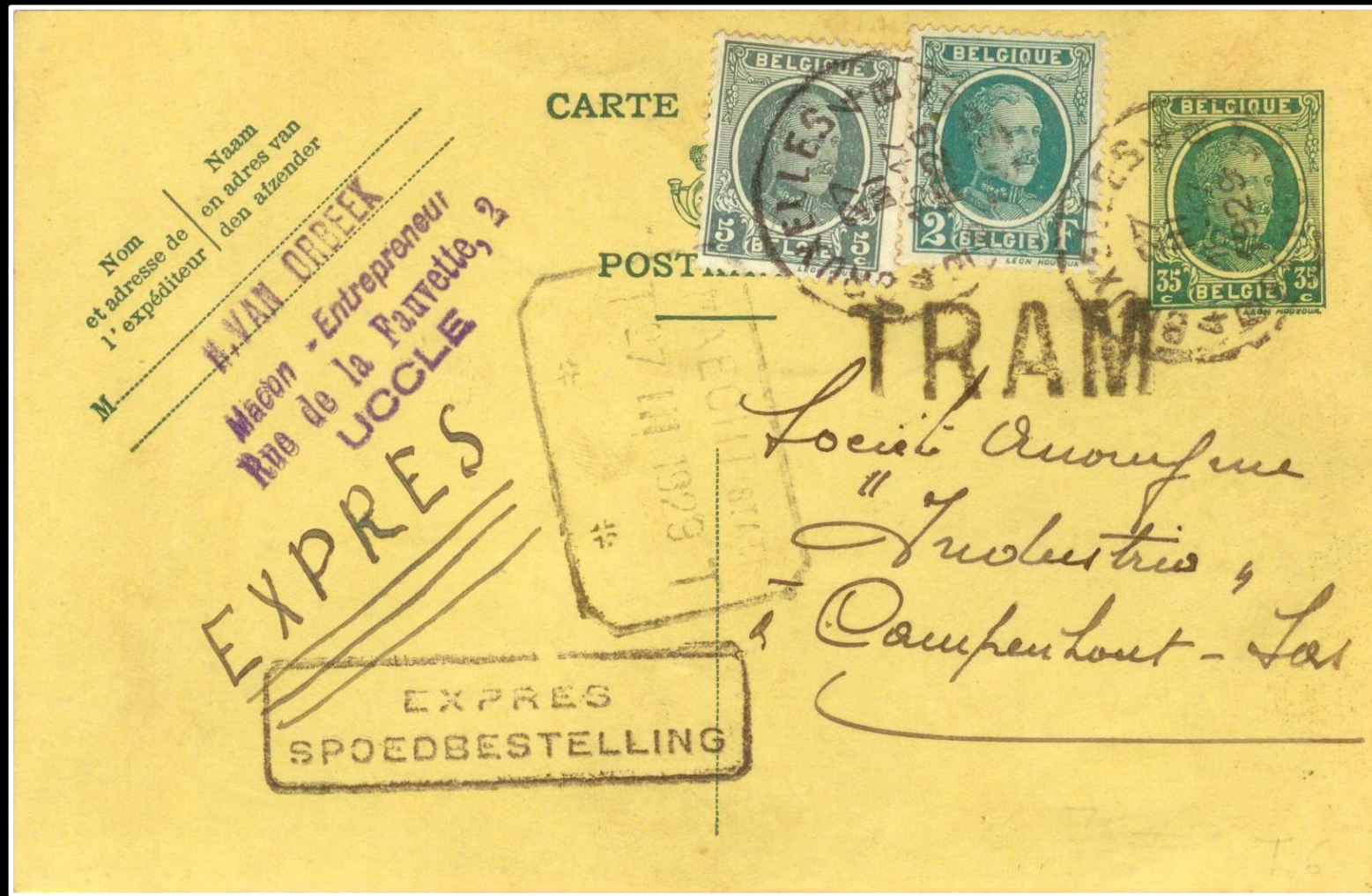
Express Fee Paid 6D



Dinant -> Bruxelles 15 February 1939
Card 40ct, express 1,75Fr
via NORD-BELGE railway station in Dinant



Brussel -> Namur 3 November 1926
Card 30ct, express 1Fr, TRAM 30ct
3rd DAY of the TRAM – express service



Bruxelles -> Campenhout-Sas 27 March 1929
Card 35ct, express 1,75Fr, TRAM 30ct
11 days before the end of the TRAM express service



Overysse -> Ixelles 19 August 1930
Card 35ct, express (special stamp) 1,75Fr, registration 1,50Fr =
3,60Fr. Express cancelled ("Absent")



Paid Reply card Liege -> Breda(NL) 30 April 1936
 Card 1Fr, express 3,50Fr, registration 1,75Fr
 + AR 1,75Fr = 8Fr
 Rare combination of 3 services



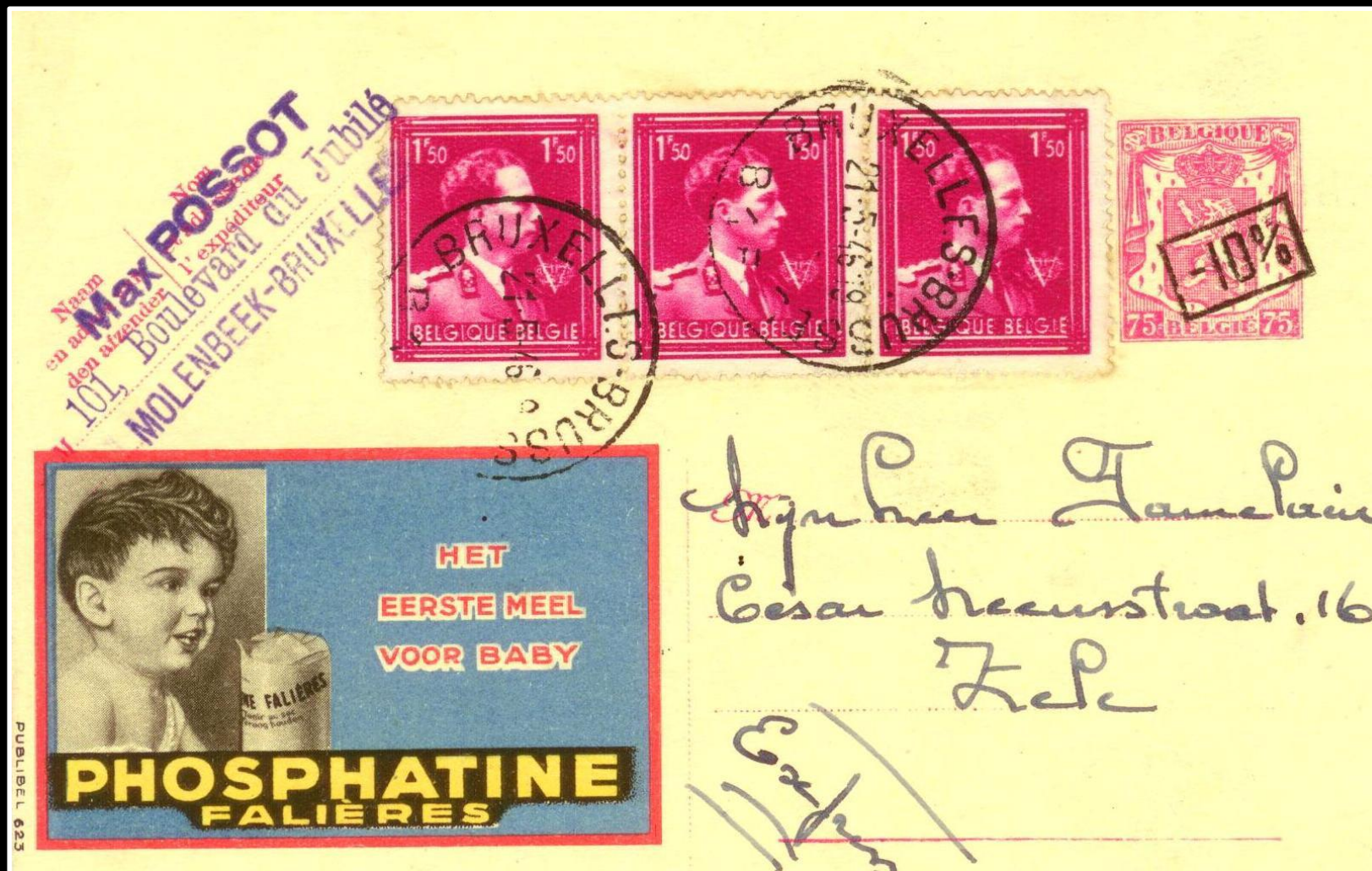
**WW II Enghien -> Silly 30 December 1940
'Fortune Telegraph date cancel'**



Westende -> Wien (DL) 23 December 1941

Card 1Fr, express 3,50Fr = 4,50Fr

Rare franking with “Winterhulp” postage stamp of 5+5Fr.



Bruxelles -> Zele 21 May 1946
Card 65ct, express 4,50Fr
Second Day of the -10% reduction



Uccle -> St Jean de Luz (FR) 7 June 1949
Card 2,50Fr, express 8Fr
Post-restante 10FFR (for 3 months)



Publibel card Bruxelles -> Dortmund 15.12.1950
Card 2,50Fr, Express 8Fr, Registration 4Fr = 14,50Fr



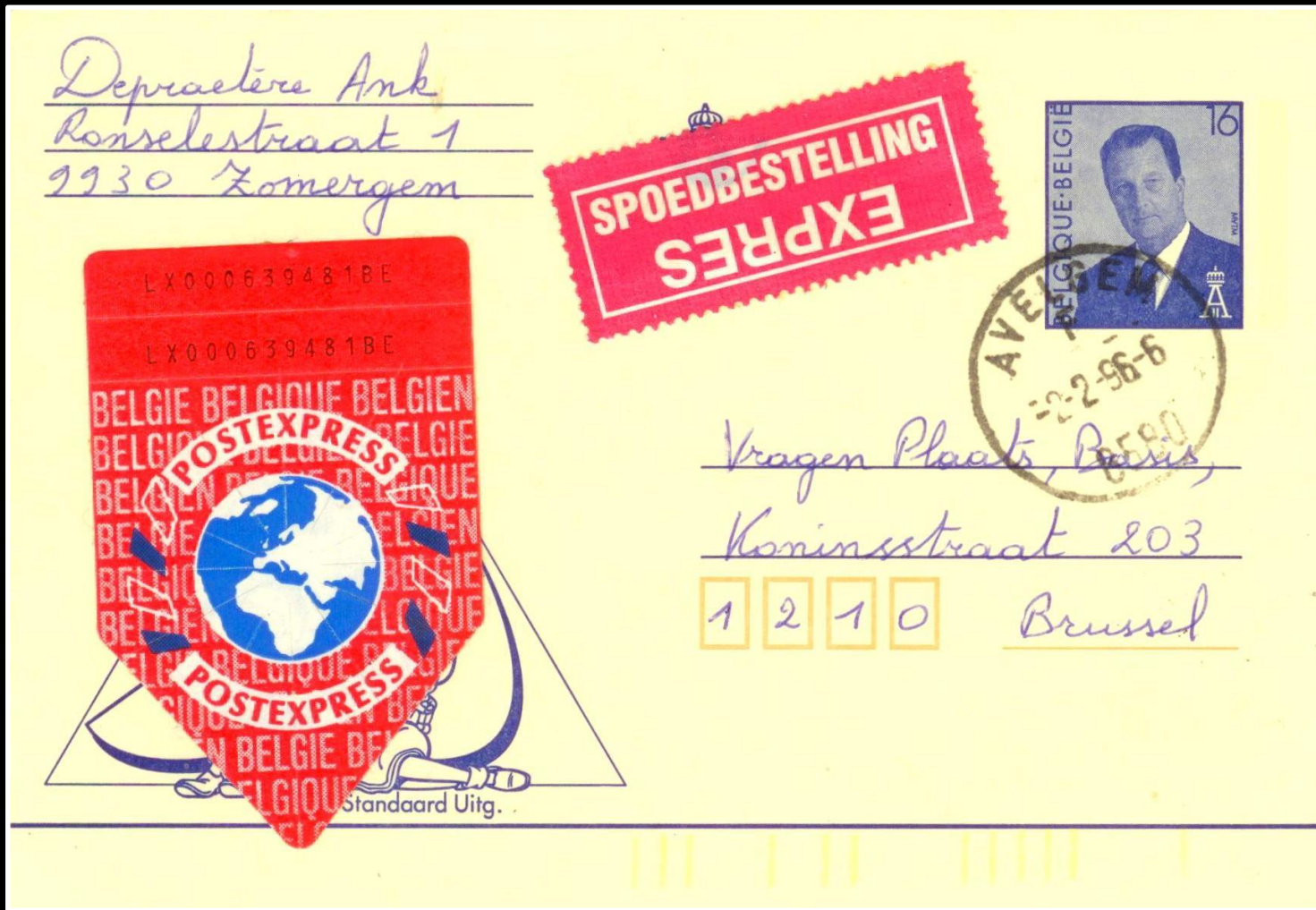
Aerogram per Express (!)
Bruxelles -> Buenos Aires 13.5.1958
Par Avion (aerogram) 6,50Fr + 8Fr Express



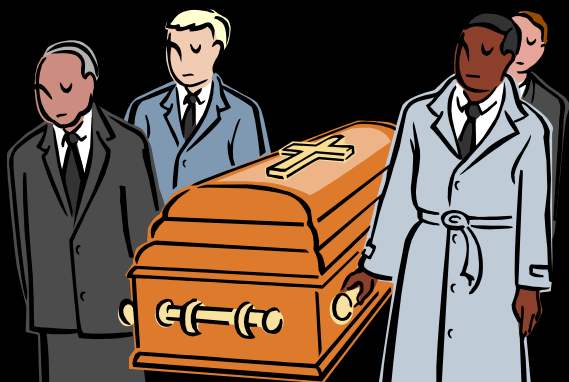
Publibel card Bruxelles -> Apeldoorn 6.11.1959
Preferential rate NL 2Fr, Express 8Fr = 8,50Fr
Rare use of the 8,50Fr postage stamp



Aerogram Bruxelles -> Roma(IT) 7.10.1960
Aerogram 6Fr + Express 8Fr
Poste restante paid locally (part of label)



Postcard Avelgem -> Brussel 2.2.1996
Port 180Fr (from 1.12.1994) with POSTEXPRESS label
Standard letter rate was included in the cost of the Express ticket



**SPOEDBESTELLING
EXPRES**



**18 June 2001 : End of the Express service
Outsourced to EMS, private global courier service.**



You've seen 20% of a “Large Gold**” Express Collection**

Thanks for you attention

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