Welcome to part 4 of my research on Berlin based printers/publishers. Finally managed to get to Berlin for a couple of days. Despite the long time gone by, war damage, the erection of the wall and the re-construction and re-arrangements of some parts of the city and districts, it is still possible to find some traces of firms once big in ppc business. There is still plenty to discover and I hope to go there again a second time.

This time I start with Stern & Schiele once again. This otherwise little-known company has a really fascinating company history, but more

Berlin, Ritterstr, (seen from the Luisenbrücke). Difficult to find view of a street that housed many postcard printer/publisher firms. Monochrome collotype card (no. 299) published and printed by Knackstedt & Näther from Hamburg!! P/u May 1900.

* Printed in Berlin (4) *

important, a big producer of picture/subject postcards (also export) for quite some years.

Hermann Hadorff & Co. is also around, although I have not found much data on their company history. I think they were the Berlin printers for ANC, but have the final proof not yet in hands.

This research requires a terribly amount of time. Currently I avoid the big companies (NPG, Rotophot, A&M/Amag, E.A.S., Wolf Hagelberg etc), although readers continue to ask for information.

Hope you enjoy it! Comments and further information always welcome!

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4 Stern & Schiele

Access to the Berlin addressbooks as well as more S&S and D.&C. B. postcard finds have brought some new details on the company history to light. Although I have to admit that there are quite a number of unsolved matters.

This issue I show some samples of S&S / D&C subject cards. According reviews found it must be more than 1000 different designs.

The Stern & Schiele company history in chronological order:

In post-1920 published directories the year S&S was established is usually stated as 1902. This might be correct, but the first entry in the Berlin addressbooks is found in the 1903 edition.

1903 *Stern & Rothenberger,* Fine Art Printers, Schöneberg, Hauptstr. 7a 8 IV. Owners: Felix Stern and Christian Rothenberger (an illustrator/artist).

1904 Chr. Rothenberger had left the partnership. Waldemar Chr. Schiele became the new partner of Felix Stern. The company name read now *Stern & Schiele.*

1905 S&S (and D&C) moved their business to Schöneberg, Bahnstr. 22 IV.

1906 S&S moved again, to a location they had been before: Schöneberg, Hauptstr. 8.

1908 W. Schiele had left the company (to become partner/later owner of Högelein & Schwabe, collotype/litho printers)) and the new partner was Dr. phil Ludwig Lippmann.

1909 S&S left Schöneberg and moved to Berlin S 14, Dresdner Str. 43.

1911 Instead Fine Art Printers, S&S called themselves Collotype Printers now.

1915 S&S had now a company branch at Berlin SO 16, Neanderstr. 16.

1919 Dr. Lippmann had left the partnership and Felix Stern is now sole owner.

Klasse 28. Eingetragen für **Stern & Schiele,** Berlin, zufolge Anmeldung vom 20. Juni 1908 am 14. September 1908. Geschäftsbetrieb: Kunstverlag. Waren: Postkarten.

Little girl with flowers − SS B logo with no. 6028, which is either a card or series number. Not p/u. Think this is the "Ottotypie" process quality, red/brownish duotone collotype offered by "Dammeyer & Co." in an advert from 1905 (ill. see TPA #21, page 30)

Rural spring view − in wooden picture frame design. Colourful oval shaped (and embossed) illustration with golden-bronze background. Heavy glossy finish. SS B series 8507, for export. P/u Dec. 1911 in Germany. Printed almost entirely by chromolitho process!

1920 A new partner joined the firm: Erich Sandberg.

1921 Erich Sandberg was sole owner now; started to turn S&S into a group of firms.

1923 S&S was no longer a Collotype Printer but a "Graphische Kunstanstalt". This was a fine art printer with more than two printing processes for production and professional pre-press department then.

1928 The Neanderstr. branch was not listed anymore.

1932 Time of drastic changes, re-organisation and a new name: *Druck- u. Verlagsgesellschaft Stern & Schiele mbH,* Graph. Kunstanstalt, Berlin S 14, Dresdner Str. 43. The owner of the limited company was now Alex Oppel and managing director Arthur Bremer. Erich Sandberg was company secretary 'only'. He was however, owner of W. Neumann & Co., the collotype printers under the S&S roof.

1933 S&S, W. Neumann & Co., Fabian & Co. had moved to Berlin SO 16, Köpenicker Str. 113. There were a number of other firms of the graphic trade found in this complex.

1937 The company name underwent a minor correction: *Druck- u. Verlagsgesellschaft vormals (formerly) Stern & Schiele mbH.*

1942 Ownership and name of company had changed. This took probably place by mid 1941 already. *Druck- u. Verlagsgesellschaft Arthur Bremer.*

1943 Last Berlin addressbook published during WW2. Arthur Bremer was still listed with what had been left of former S&S business. No sign of life found in post-1946 years. Some other firms who suffered from war damage moved around. Much of the long Köpenicker Str. was destroyed/damaged.

Listed are the years only when changes took place/were published in the yearly address-books. There is surely a lot of interesting historical material still to discover (somewhere). The problem with S&S however is, that many cards printed by them (for customers worldwide!) do not show typical signs for easy identification. The logo(s) or name is not often found. Furthermore there is a possible link between S&S and the (ppc) printer Wilfried Deyhle, Berlin.

I show another subject card ("Bromolit", Dess. no. 119, p/u 1907) definitely printed by S&S but with a yet unidentified logo on. Most likely a customer of S&S, but who really knows....?

Dammeyer & Co.

Current research has led to following company history reconstruction:

1901 The business of an *Otto Dammeyer* was mentioned for the first time. He worked as a commission and export dealer for the deLuxe Paper trade. His address: Dresdner Str. 117, House II.

1903 Otto Dammeyer, his business was now described as 'Kunstanstalt', which at that time was a term that could mean almost everything. His speciality were picture postcards. The address read now: Dresdner Str. 14, House III.

1904 Another move to Berlin NO, Landsberger Allee 29. Sole owner: Otto Dammeyer.
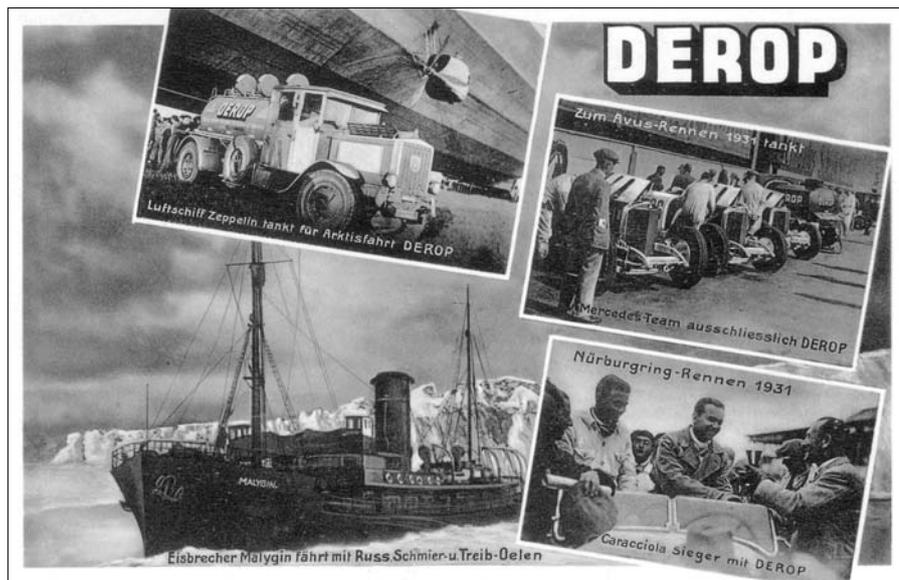
and Dammeyer & Co. was set up. 'Kunstanstalt' and artists' card publisher. Address <u>also</u> Landsberger Allee 29. Owner: Mrs. Marie Dammeyer.

1905 The O. Dammeyer business is not listed anymore. Otto lived in Schöneberg, Feurigstr. 54, 3rd floor and called himself a "company secretary". Dammeyer & Co. was found now in Schöneberg, Bahnstr. 22, 4th floor. Same address as S&S collotype printers. D. & Co. was operated by Waldemar Schiele & Felix Stern.

1906 S&S and D.&Co. had moved to Hauptstr. 8, also Schöneberg.

1908 Waldemar Schiele had left the partnership. Dr. phil. Ludwig Lippmann from Charlottenburg had become new partner of Felix Stern in both firms.

1910 Dammeyer & Co. is not mentioned as independent firm anymore.

DEROP products advertising card. Printed by Stern & Schiele, Berlin S 14, bromide photo imitation (b/w collotype with glossy finish). DEROP was the German distribution company for Russian oil products. The shown events of which two are dated are a great gift. *Ice breaker "Malygin" used DEROP fuels, airship "Zeppelin" on its way to the Arctic refuels DEROP, Avus car race Berlin 1931: the Mercedes team used DEROP solely and famous Nürburgring motor-racing 1931: The driver Caracciola wins with DEROP.*

D.&Co. B in circle logo, card from series 2887, not p/u. Strange 'matt' collotype look.