

**BECK, Carl**  
***Victor Suppantschitsch †***  
**Der Briefmarkensammler, April 1919, Volume 3, Issue 4, p.144**

---

Translation produced by Brian J. Birch  
33 Boar's Head Avenue, Standish, Wigan, WN6 OBH, UK  
January 1999

---

**VICTOR SUPPANTSCHITSCH †**

A heavy blow, so heavy that only philately could bear it, has fallen on us and shaken us to our depths. Victor Suppantschitsch is no more! The noble, productive life of our valued friend, Senate President Victor Suppantschitsch came to an end on Sunday the 2nd of March this year. Only a few months had passed - 31st October 1918 - since we celebrated his 80th birthday. He was then still hale and hearty and was able without fatigue to answer the numerous letters and telegrams of good wishes showered on him by friends, colleagues, philatelists and admirers. And in all these answers he was the complete man we respected and loved. His strength declined rapidly after the days of this honourable and well-deserved triumph when he could look back on the long, respected and in the best biblical sense precious life. There is no room here even to hint at what Victor Suppantschitsch did for philately, especially German - Austrian philately. It must suffice to say that his loss will be irreparable, and that in him philatelists of Austria have lost their "Patriarch". Suppantschitsch was without any doubt the first person to put the importance of literature for philately into its correct light and to propagate and extend the knowledge of philatelic literature: he was really the world's leading authority in the field of the understanding of philatelic literature.

We, who have been connected with the dead man for a period of 20 years, know from our own experience the ardent intelligence and love he brought to philately. And for this reason we younger men loved and respected him like a father since he will always be the pattern of a truly learned man, devoting himself to things German - and dying in harness.

However I would like to say with the poet Claudius:

Peace enfold this headstone o'er God's holy peace,  
Alas you have laid a good man in the grave,  
And to me - he was much more.

Carl Beck, Berlin

**END**