



A Few Words About Errors of the Printing Form of Poland No. 1

by Henry Fenigstein

(Translated from Polish by Chester Makowski and Chester Schafer)

It is known that Poland No. 1 was printed from two dies, one in red color (eagle on oval shield with thin border around; background of small dots and lines), and the second in blue color (frame, lettering and drape with the crown around the shield with the eagle), with dies made by Henry Maier; an engraver of the National Bank at Warsaw. With these same dies there were printed about 3,000,000 stamps during the period from Jan. 1, 1860, to the Spring of 1865. It is not strange that on these stamps besides differences in paper, gum and color (because of the various manu-

facturers), we also find "errors" in the printing form, which are from the red die (see article "Variations in color and print of Poland No. 1" by Marian Jankowski, POLONUS BULLETIN No. 67, October 1948) and others from the blue die. It is the latter that I wish to discuss in detail due to the fact that in my collection I have an "error" which up to this time has not been written.

The first to write about errors in the blue die was W. Polanski in his well known work, "Timbres-Porte de Pologne aux XVIIIe et XIXe siecles," Geneva 1920, who mentions four such errors:

1. Damaged lower part of frame and missing base of letter T in the word LOT. (Ikaros "f," Gryzewski "h").
2. Left corner at bottom of frame broken, deforming partly the drawing of number "10" (Ikaros "g," Gryzewski "i").
3. White oval spot in the place of number "10" in the upper left corner; also, the left frame is broken in several places (Ikaros "h," Gryzewski "j").
4. Lack of part of left corner; also a slight break in number "10" in upper left corner (Ikaros "i," Gryzewski "k").

Several years later in 1935 in "Pol-skich Znaczkach Pocztowych" edited by A. Laszkiewicz we find listed two more errors:



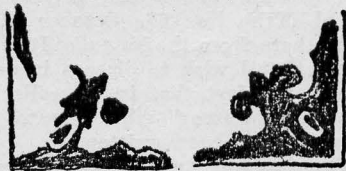
5. Deformed left side of frame of the stamp (Ikaros "k," Gryzewski "q").

6. Lack of left corner, partial deformation of the left frame, as well as a break in upper left portion (Ikaros "l," Gryzewski "m").

In 1948 T. Gryzewski in "Filatelista Polski" Poznan, Nos. 5/6, writes about the error uncovered by W. Rachmanow during World War II:

7. The blue border next to the red oval border around the eagle (Gryzewski "h") which was also later listed by E. Mueller in "Mercury Stamp Journal," (December 1948) refer to "Poland No. 1 Variety" (same article) POLONUS BULLETIN No. 70, January 1949.

In my collection there is a Poland No. 1 with the following error: Besides a missing number "1" and lower left portion of number "0," in the upper left corner a rounding of the frame for 5 mm. (instead of a straight angular corner).



A detailed analysis of these errors brings us to the conclusion that in as much as the error found by W. Rachmanow is a typical change resulting from the failure of the action of the acid in preparation of the die (I do not understand why there should be "about four to the sheet"), and the remaining errors are caused by use and deterioration of the dies from their five year use, it seems to point to the fact that some of the listed errors show progressive damage (from the time the deformity originated to the time of its greatest damage by use).

So if error No. 1 is distinctly different, the greater part of the remaining stamps show damage to the left side of frame only, of which some are damaged more or less in the lower left corner with a more or less damaged upper left corner. In view of these facts, the known errors are found on individual stamps and they

cannot be plated in the sheet, making it difficult to conduct a detailed study of these errors on the stamps, especially when a large quantity of this material is not available. I can then excellently contribute to the cataloging or listing of these errors by establishing my discovered errors which is just another variety resulting of the wear from use of the same die.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE CONTEST

This contest closes January 31st, 1951. The members that lead with two applicants apiece are Barney Fialkowski, Chester Mikucki, and Chester Schafer. You still have a chance to win some of the valuable prizes, which include a leather bound mint sheet file, stock books, mint sheet No. 251, Konapski block, etc.

APPLICATIONS PENDING

Jens Olesen
685 Wrightwood Ave.
Chicago, Ill.
Joseph Czarnik
Mansilla 324, Ituzaingo, G.C.O.
Buenos Aires, Argentina
John C. Kalisiak
6634 S. Karlov Ave.
Chicago, Ill.
Robert Renkosik
2438 W. Cortland St.
Chicago 47, Ill.

POLPEX 1951

Polpex Director Adam Kloskowski announces the following awards:

The Col. Larking Award, donated by Myron Steczynski, Grand Award, for entries of Poland or Associated countries. Gold Larking Medal to winner.

The Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz Research Award Trophy, for the best research or continuation of research on the stamps or postal history of Poland or associated countries. Gold Kozakiewicz medal to winner.

The Dr. S. F. Galaskiewicz Trophy for the winner of the Novice class.

The S. P. A. Research Award certificate which entitles winner to compete for the S. P. A. research trophy at the 1951 S. P. A. Convention.

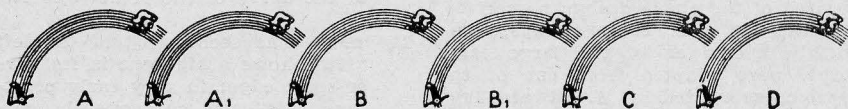
Certificates appropriately inscribed and indorsed will be given to all exhibitors.

Polonus Bulletin, January 1951

POLAND

The Postal Issues During and After the Great War

by the late COL. R. N. W. LARKING, C.B.E., F.R.P.S.I.



The six plate varieties of the 10 mk.

This stamp had six separate issues between April 1921 and April 1922, there being a marked difference in each issue. There are two dies, viz.: Die I, in which the stamp measures 28 mm. x 22 mm., and Die II, which measures 27½ mm. x 21½ mm. There are also six plate varieties, as follows:—

- A. The two top rays of the rainbow are cut well away from the face, and the second ray from the top is cut well away from the hilt of the sword.
- A1. As A, but all the rays touch the hilt of the sword.
- B. All rays touch the face and the hilt of the sword.
- B1. As B, but the second ray is cut away from the hilt of the sword, as in A.
- C. As A1, but the two lower rays are cut away from the hilt of the sword; also the top outer line of the hilt is broken short and joins up with the second ray from the bottom.
- D. As B1, also the top of the hilt is shaped like a fish-tail instead of being round.

Type A is the normal type; the other types are listed in their order of scarcity.

This first issue is Die I, and is printed on vertically laid paper. It is found in three standard shades of blue, namely, Prussian blue, slate-blue, and grey-blue. The normal perforation is 11½, clean-cut and rough. It is also found perforated 9, 11, and 11½x11.

Double perforations are known.

Only plate varieties A to B1 are found in this issue, C and D appear in addition on later issues.

Postal obliterations are found in black, violet, and blue.

In May 1921, a second issue was made of the 10 mks. stamp, also two new values appeared in the same design, namely 15 and 20 mks. The three values were printed on thin wove paper, varying very considerably in thickness, owing to its being supplied by several paper-mills. The 10 mks. is still Die I, and the 15 and 20 mks. are of similar dimensions (28x22 mm.)

Innumerable shades of blue exist of the 10 mks., the standard shades being grey-blue, deep blue, and indigo. The 15 mks. is found in various shades of brown, from rich chestnut-brown (scarce) to orange-brown. The 20 mks. is in dull to bright red.

The perforation varieties of the 10 and 15 mks. stamps are legion, from 9 to 14½, both simple and compound, a full check-list of these will be given later. The 20 mks. is only known perforated 9, 11, 11½ clean-cut, small and large holes, and rough, 11x11½ and 11½x11; but I have a copy perforated 11½ top, bottom, and left side, and 9 on the right side.

Plate varieties exist on the 10 mks. as on the vertically laid paper. Variety A1 is known on the 15 mks., otherwise the stamps are of Type A. The 20 mks. are all of Type B. All three values are found with double perforations and imperforate side margin.

Reprinted from GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY — Oct. 1929 to Aug. 1932
by POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY — Chicago, Ill. — U. S. A.

Imperforate copies exist, but these were never issued to the public.

Postal obliterations are known in violet and carmine, but black was the usual ink used.



In June 1921 three new values appeared of the above design, namely 25, 50, and 100 mks. These stamps, commonly known as of the large eagle type, were adapted from one of the designs submitted by M. Edward Trojanowski in 1917. It shows the Polish Eagle in an oval in the centre of the stamp, with scrolls on each side, "POCZTA POLSKA" along the top, and the value in each lower corner.

The 25 and 50 mks. were printed on a toned background which was larger than the design. The 100 mks. stamp was also made up by two printings. First, the frame, scrolls, "POCZTA POLSKA," and value, then the Polish Eagle on a solid coloured ground to fit the centre oval, and surrounded by a fine burelage in the same colour to fit the entire stamp.

The paper of all three values varies in thickness, as in the preceding issue, but it can be generally classified as thin wove. Some copies may be found on faint vertically ribbed paper.

The standard shades of the 25 mks. are violet on buff, violet on brown, and violet on yellow-buff; of the 50 mks., carmine on buff and carmine on greenish yellow. There are numerous intermediate shades. In the 100 mks., the frame, scrolls, etc., are in shades of brown, whilst the centre design and burelage are in shades of orange.

There are innumerable perforation varieties, which will be set out in the check-list later on.

The initial printings of the 25 mks. are noted for being particularly clean and distinct, the plate, however, soon got worn, which, in later printings, gives the stamp a blurred appearance, and some of the lettering, notably the "MK" in the lower corners, becomes almost invisible. There were two plates of the 100 mks. In the first plate the top margin of the sheet is blank. In the second plate the value of each row of stamps between vertical coloured lines is printed there. Without the top margin of the sheet it is practically

impossible to tell the two plates apart with any degree of accuracy. Stamps of the lighter shades of brown are Plate 1, while those in black-brown are Plate 2. The 50 mks. had this one printing and issue only.

The following plate varieties are to be found:—

25 mks.—Flaw in the scroll below tail of eagle, No. 92.

50 mks.—A break in the vertical stroke of the left "5" where it joins the curve, No. 2. A serif at the end of the curve of the right "5,55 No. 64.

100 mks.—The second "0" of the left "100" shows a big dent in its lower right edge: in very early printings only, and subsequently corrected.

Dot over "O" of "POLSKA," No. 32, in both plates.

Dot over "Z" of "POCZTA," No. 20, in Plate 2 only.

All three values are found with double perforations and imperforate side margins.

Postal obliterations are found in carmine, blue, blue-black, violet, and green, black being the normal colour.

Early in February 1922 an 8 mk. value was added to the set of the Small Eagle type of 1920. The stamp was issued on horizontally laid paper in grey-brown and olive-brown. There are several varieties of perforation (see check-list) and plate varieties as follows:—

"KA" of "POLSKA" joined at foot, Nos. 11, 71, and 91.

Defective letters in "POLSKA," especially the "A."

Small dot before "A" of "POCZTA."

Copies are known with imperforate lower margin. Postal obliterations are found in blue and carmine.

There are two dies of some of the values in the Small Eagle type, which may be distinguished as follows:—

Die I of the 1, 2, and 4 mks. shows a very short and stumpy serif on the top of the "A" of "POLSKA," in some cases it is hardly noticeable; also the bottom serif to the "M" of the left "MK" is undefined.

Die II shows a prominent top serif to the "A" and a well-defined bottom serif to the "M."

Die I of the 8 mks. shows the "KA" of "POLSKA" separated at the foot.

Die II shows these two letters joined together.

The shades of the Die 1 stamps differ materially from those of Die II.

All Small Eagle types on laid paper are Die I.

Only one die was used for printing the 5 mks. stamp.

The middle of February 1922 saw a third issue of the 10 mks., Die I, and a second issue of the 15 and 25 mks. These values can be easily distinguished from preceding issues as they are on thick smooth wove paper with a greyish blue tinge.

There are innumerable perforations (see check-list), and the same plate varieties as already listed.

In March 1922 a second issue was made of the 1, 2, 4, 5, and 8 mks. Small Eagle type, and a fourth issue of the 10 mks. Sower type.

All are on thin wove paper, but a small proportion of the 5 and 8 mks. was printed on pelure paper intended for rotary machine; this paper was gummed before printing.

The 1 and 2 mks. are Die II, the 4 mks. Die I and Die II, the 5 mks. Die I, the 8 mks. Die II, and those on pelure paper Die I.

The 10 mks. is Die II (27½x21½ mm.).

The standard shades are: 1 mk. bright red, 2 mks. yellow-green, 4 mks. rose, 5 mks. brown, lilac-brown (pelure), 8 mks. grey-brown, olive-brown (pelure), and 10 mks. indigo, turquoise and Prussian blue.

For perforation varieties, see check-list.

The following plate varieties are known:—

1 mk.—(a) No top serif to "A" of "POLSKA," No. 3.
"KA" of "POLSKA" joined at foot, No. 75.

(b) Top serif to "A" is curled instead of straight, No. 30. (a) and (b) are separate printings.

Imperforate top margin.

Double perforations.

2 mks.—Oblique stroke under "Z" of "POCZTA," No. 66.

4 mks.—"KA" joined at foot.
Short "M" in left "MK."
Bottom frame line broken, No. 34.
The above occur in Die I only.

5 mks.—Dot before "L" of "POLSKA," No. 29.

Broken "K" in left "MK," No. 85.
"KA" joined at foot, on the pelure paper only.

8 mks.—Curled top serif to "A" of "POLSKA," on pelure paper only.

10 mks.—Varieties A, A1, B, B1, and D.

Postal obliterations are found in violet, red, carmine, purple, and blue, black being the normal.

Most of the above are known punctured with a firm's initials.

In April 1922 the 50 fen., 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10 and 15 mks. were re-issued on thick spongy wove paper. The 1, 2, 8, and 10 mks. are Die II, the 4 mks. is Die I and II.

The same standard shades as in the preceding issue, except that the 10 mks. is in shades of turquoise-blue only.

For perforation varieties see check-list.

The following plate varieties are known:—

1 mk.—(a) No top serif to "A" of "POLSKA," No. 3.

Curled top serif to "A," Nos. 46 and 48.

Stroke between "K" and "A," No. 50.

"KA" joined at foot, No. 75.

(b) Curled top serif to "A" of "POLSKA," No. 30.

(a) and (b) are separate printings.

2 mks.—Dot after "A" of "POCZTA," No. 19. Oblique stroke under

"Z" of "POCZTA," No. 66.

Serifs of "L" and "S" of "POLSKA" almost join.

4 mks.—Die I, short "M" in left "MK." Die II, additional stroke to "K" of left "MK."

5 mks.—Dot before "L" of "POLSKA," No. 20.

Imperforate top margin.

8 mks.—Dot over "A" of "POLSKA." Dot before "A" of "POCZTA." "KA" separated at foot, Nos. 2, 4, 9, 27, and 47.

10 mks.—A, A1, B, B1, and D.

Postal obliterations in various colours as before.

Later, in April 1922, the 10 mks. was re-issued for the sixth and last time, together with a second issue of the 20 mks. The stamps were printed by rotary machine on pelure paper, which was gummed before printing.

The 10 mks. is Die I, and of a greenish blue shade. The stamps are printed closer together than those of the preceding issues, the vertical space between them being 1½ mm. instead of 3¼ mm., and the horizontal spacing being 3 mm. instead of 3¾ mm.

(to be continued)

[illegible]

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES IN POLAND LIQUIDATED

In the November 1950 issue of *FILATELISTA POLSKI*, Poznan, we note an ad which translated to English reads as follows:

NOTICE!

To Members of the Greater Poland Philatelic Society:

On November 4, 1950, our Society ceases to exist. Our executive body has called a liquidation meeting for that day. You are being sent an invitation to attend, and with this invitation is enclosed a Declaration for entry into the Polish Union of Philatelists. The executive body invites all to join this Polish Union of Philatelists. If you do not wish to join, return the enclosed Declaration not filled out.

Signed,

Executive Board

Greater Poland Philatelic Society
Poznan

Editor's Note:

Apparently all philatelic societies in Poland have been asked to liquidate, and to join the new Polish Union of Philatelists which will include all philatelists. Philatelic publications such as *FILATELISTA POLSKI* and *PRZEGLAD FILATELISTYCZNY* will no longer be printed. Instead a new publication will appear, with headquarters in Warsaw.

TID BITS

We're sorry that this column did not appear last month as some of these news items are quite old. We couldn't help it; the "Post Horn" article crowded us out.

Did you know that Bert Powell is the President of the Ogden Hill Stamp Society?

Stanley J. Falcon was recently elected Commander of his American Legion Post.

Our Secretary complains that many members have not notified him of their change of address. He keeps mailing the Bulletins to the old address and they keep coming back to him.

The November 24th meeting was a program nite. Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz talked on "Provisional Local Post Franking" during the time of the

"Russisch Polen" and "Gen-Gouv. Warschau" overprints under the German Occupation, 1915 to 1918. He illustrated his talk with many covers on this little known phase of Polish philately.

Our December 8th meeting was an Auction nite. Many lots were donated and the money derived from their sale went to bolster our diminishing treasury.

At the recent Jack Knight Airpex, Myron Steczynski received a Historical Award for his "Historical Flight Covers of Poland." He also won a Silver Medal at the C. P. S. Show with his "Polish Town Cancellations on Austria."

On December 22nd, a Christmas Party was held after the meeting. This turned out to be a real Beeba. The tables were loaded with ham, Polish sausage, clams, herring, Kapusta, green tomatoes, pickles, kidney bean salad, potato salads, etc. Entertainment was provided by a violinist Jerry Jakubko, young son of member Paul Jakubko, who played Christmas Carols. Money donations for this party were made by M. Steczynski, C. Makowski, B. Fialkowski, J. Skotnicki, A. Kloczek, N. N., J. Haska, B. Reeves, L. Jancowski, C. Schafer, J. Rux, F. Wolosewick, A. Banasiak, J. Bobo and Doctors Kozakiewicz, Uzanski, Mioduszewski and Galaskiewicz.

At the International Stamp Show at Madrid, Spain, member Ben Reeves won a bronze medal.

Received Xmas greetings from member Eugene Dreger from Boston and note by the postmark and return address that he is now in Uncle Sam's Navy.

NEW ISSUES

by Jack Domar

The "Dove of Peace" issued in addition to the 45 groszy value reported in the December issue was also issued in a blue 40 groszy value. (See illustration.)

The latest of the new issues to be received is, in my opinion, the most beautiful of all of the post war issues. The General Joseph Bem commemorative is rather large as the

illustration will indicate. It is engraved by M. R. Polak and B. Brandt from the design of E. Del. Horvath. The color is dark blue. First day of issue is not known at present. (See illustration.)

J. Bieniecki
R. Reinowski
F. Prebis

For purposes of record the first day of issue of the various values of the reengraved President Bierut stamps is as follows:

June 25th, 20 zloty—violet-grey, 40 zloty—sepia and 50 zloty—olive-green.

July 25th, 5 zloty—green and 25 zloty—brown.

Aug. 9th, 10 zloty—red, and 30 zloty—dark red.

The 15 zloty—blue must have been issued later as we have no record of an official first day of release. The only copies I have seen to date are those overprinted "Grozy."

For our students: The 15 zloty, black commemorative, reported in the November Bulletin No. 90, was issued to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the death of three members of the Polish Communist Party (KPP), Hibner, Kniewski and Rutkowski, who were executed by shooting in the Warsaw Citadel on August 25, 1925. It was rotogravured from a drawing by C. Kaczmarczyk. First day of issue August 18, 4 million printed.

Also for the purpose of record: There have been 4 values of the new design postage dues issued. The 10 zloty, issued 2/25; 50 zloty, issued 5/27; 15 zloty, issued 7/5; and the 25 zloty, issued 7/4/50.

Five new postal cards were being considered with President Bierut's

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Jack Domar
Chester Mikucki

likeness on the stamp. The method of reproduction had not been decided. There are to be five different slogans. The information is not too clear; that is, whether there is to be five cards, each with a different slogan for a total of 5 cards, or 5 cards, each with 5 different slogans for a total of 25. The total to be issued is 1,200,000 with each slogan.

—Przegląd Filatelistyczny

A WORD OF CAUTION:

It would be well for our members before purchasing any of the recent new issues bearing the rubber stamp overprints, that they make absolutely certain that the source of supply is without question. It is known that one of the rubber stamps which were used in Krakow to overprint these stamps is now enroute to a person in this country. If he obtains such a rubber stamp it is reasonable to assume that others can also, thereby making their own overprints. Use caution in buying these stamps. As for me, I collect them only on cover.

—J. D.

