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POLAND'S WHITE EAGLE



Royal Seal
King Przemysław II
1295-1296
of the Piast Dynasty
with crowned eagle
on shield

POLISH NATIONAL EMBLEM **HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF THE WHITE EAGLE EMBLEM**

1. Eagle on the first Polish coin minted in about year 996.
2. Eagle on the coin by the King Kazimierz Sprawiedliwy - XII century.
3. Eagle on the shield of the Prince Kazimierz of Opole, 1222.
4. Eagle of the Prince Henryk V of Legnica, 1289.
5. Eagle of the Price Przemysław II, 1295.
6. Eagle from the tomb of Henryk IV Probus, early XVI century.
7. Eagle from the coronation sword of the Polish Kings, 1320.
8. Eagle of the King Kazimierz Wielki, 133-1370
9. Eagle of the King Władysław Jagiello, 1386-1434
10. Eagle of the King Kazimierz Jagiellończyk, 1447-1492
11. Eagle of the King Zygmunt I, 1506-1548
12. Eagle of the King Zygmunt August, 1548-1572
13. Royal Seal of the Jagiello Dynasty
14. Eagle of the King Stefan Batory, 1576-1585
15. Royal Seal during the reign of the King Stefan Batory



16. Eagle during the reign of the Vasa Dynasty
17. Royal Seal of the King Zygmunt III, 1587-1632
18. Eagle of the King Jan III Sobieski
19. Royal Seal during the reign of August II and August II, 1697-1733
20. Royal Seal of the last Polish King Stanisław Poniatowski, 1764-1795
21. State emblem during the reign of the King Stanisław Poniatowski
22. Eagle of the Polish Army Banner, 1807.
23. Emblem of the Duchy of Warsaw, 1807-1815.
24. Emblem of the November Uprising, 1831.
25. Emblem during the Polish Kingdom, 1848.
26. Eagle from the banner of the Polish Legions in Hungary, 1848.
27. Emblem during the January Uprising, 1863.
28. Emblem of the Republic of Poland, 1919-1927.
29. Polish Peoples Republic, communist regime, 1945-1989
30. Emblem of the Republic of Poland 1927-1945 and 1989 to present.





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ORIGIN AND EVOLUTION OF POLAND'S NATIONAL EMBLEM, THE WHITE EAGLE

By: STANISLAW GARCZYNSKI

(Reprinted with permission from the PANA Newsletter)

From time immemorial, people have used specific animal symbols to designate their national and sovereign identity. For the Polish nation, the eagle has been its symbol.

The first white eagle symbol used by Poland was selected by the early Polish tribes who settled wide wooded plains between the Wisła and Odra rivers. A legend has conveyed a story how the first Polish Prince, Lech of the Piast dynasty, established his first settlement in Gniezno (from *gniazdo* - a nest) after seeing brave eagles nesting on nearby trees. The oldest possible images of the eagle can be found on the Polish coins of the first crowned Polish King, Bolesław Chrobry and of the King Władysław II Wygnaniec.

Beginning with the late XIIth and early XIIIth century, the first heraldic representation of the eagle was included on numerous seals, affixed on official documents and coins, show the first heraldic image of an eagle. The earliest surviving impressions of the seals with an eagle belong to numerous Silesian Princes: Leszek Biały, Henryk Pobożny, Kazimierz and Władysław Odonicz.

In 1295, the prince of Greater Poland, Przemysł II, was crowned to the Polish throne in order to unite dispersed principalities into one Polish nation. On his royal seal, he placed a crowned eagle for the first time. Later, the unification continued under the crowned eagle by King Władysław Łokietek and Kazimierz Wielki. From this time on, a white eagle on a red field with a golden crown and golden beak and claws, remained the symbol of the Royal Polish Crown and its authority. The silver (white) and red colors represented the highest medieval moral values: **white** - all goodness, light, cleanliness and nobility; **red** - courage, bravery, majesty, long life and life-sustaining fire.

Fourteenth century coins and seals show an eagle with a slender silhouette, wide outspread wings and raised beak. This Gothic convention found its best example in the majestic seal of Kazimierz Wielki (1333-1370) and in principle remained unchanged until the end of the fifteenth century.

The primary, crude shape of the Gothic eagle, very strongly stylized, changed its shape and appearance with the passage of time. During the Renaissance, when the most ideal geometrical figure, the eagle adopted a shape that could be placed in a circle. During the Baroque period, when the circle was replaced by an oval form, there was the spindle-shaped eagle. Rococo and Neo-Classicism exerted a further, not very advantageous influence on the silhouette of the Polish eagle. In its Neo-Classical form, from the period of Stanisław August Poniatowski, the last Polish king, the eagle remained unchanged to the 1920's.

The state emblem consisting of several elements appeared for the first time during the rule of Władysław Jagiełło; on the shield were the Eagle together with Pogoń (Blason) - symbol of Lithuania, which at that

(Continued on page 472-11)

POSTAL HISTORY OF KRAKÓW 1846-1918

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS ISSUE)

In the case of the years 1900-1918 the data is fragmentary and based on postmarks of mobile post offices which served on lines to and from Kraków.

In addition to the mobile post offices, there existed also the institution: "Postconducteur im Zuge", in literal translation: Postal conductor on the train." Its function was accepting from passengers during their travel, letters and forwarding them at railroad stations in places where the train stopped (if they were addressed to these places) or forwarding them to movable post offices at junctions for further expedition to another direction. The postal conductor was a railroad employee who checked the tickets and his postal activities were an added function (and were probably paid for separately by the postal service). The mail accepted from passengers had to have stamps affixed which were postmarked by the conductor with a special postmark which indicated the tract and the numbers of the trains with which the train had connections on its run.

Postal conductors served on the following tracts from and to Kraków before 1900:

Kraków-Lwów
(2 postmarks known)
Kraków-Podgórze-Bonarka
Kraków-Podwłoczyska
Kraków-Rzeszów
Kraków-Tarnów
Kraków-Wieliczka
Kraków-Sucha-Stróża-Tarnów

Lundenburg-Kraków
Oderberg-Kraków
Oświęcim-Kraków
Oświęcim-Podgórze
Prerau-Kraków
Trzebinia-Kraków
Vienna-Kraków
(2 postmarks known)
Zagórz-Podgórze

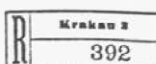
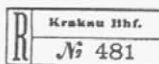
In 1896, the post offices in Kraków were numbered. The post and telegraph office Kraków-Railroad Station; the second after the main post office received the number 2. Reproductions given here represent all known postal markings from the post and telegraph office Kraków, Railroad Station.

The postmarks and date cancellations of moving post offices, which connected Kraków with other towns are shown separately. Their reproductions were copied from postmarks and date cancellations found on authentic pieces of mail or were made on the basis of the work by W. Klein, "Die postalischen Abstempelungen und andere Entwertzeichen-Ausgaben 1867, 1883 und 1890" and have only a generally illustrative character.

REGISTERED MAIL MARKINGS RECOM

RECOM
N^o R^{Nr}

REGISTERED MAIL LABELS



Label with "No." removed,
the numerals are
on the right side.

Label with "No." removed,
the numerals are
in the center.

MOVING RAILROAD POST OFFICES WHICH CONNECTED KRAKOW WITH OTHER TOWNS
KRAKOW-VIENNA/VIENNA-KRAKOW

K-K FAHRENDES
POSTAMT № 1



K-K FAHRENDES
POSTAMT № 2



FAHRENDES POSTAMT
KRAKAU-WIEN № 3

FAHRENDES POSTAMT
WIEN-KRAKAU № 3



K.K. FAHRENDES
POSTAMT № 6



KRAKOW-LWOW/LWOW-KRAKOW

KRAKAU-LEMBERG № 23

LEMBERG-KRAKAU № 23

KRAKAU-LEMBERG № 24

LEMBERG KRAKAU № 24



FAHRENDES POSTAMT
LEMBERG-KRAKAU № 52
FAHRENDES POSTAMT
KRAKAU-LEMBERG № 52



KRAKOW-PODMOLOCZYSKA / PODMOLOCZYSKA-KRAKOW
KRAKOW-PODMOLOCZYSKA № 24
PODMOLOCZYSKA - KRAKOW № 24

FAHRENDES POSTAMT
PODMOLOCZYSKA-KRAKAU № 53
FAHRENDES POSTAMT
KRAKAU-PODMOLOCZYSKA № 53





KRAKÓW - LUNDENBURG
LUNDENBURG - KRAKÓW



KRAKÓW - OSWIECIM
OSWIECIM - KRAKÓW



KRAKÓW - ZAGÓRZ / ZAGÓRZ - KRAKÓW



KRAKÓW - TARNOPOL
TARNOPOL - KRAKÓW



KRAKÓW - RZESZÓW
RZESZÓW - KRAKÓW



KRAKÓW - ITZKANY / ITZKANY - KRAKÓW



KRAKÓW - NOWY SĄCZ / NOWY SĄCZ - KRAKÓW



ZAKOPANE - KRAKÓW

POSTMARKS OF POSTAL RAILROAD CONDUCTORS

POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE
KRAKÓW-SUCHA-STRÓŻE-TARNÓW
1633/1012/1112/12111615

POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE
ZAGÓRZ PODGÓRZE N° 12 257

LOCAL RAILROADS

Kocmyrzów Krakau
Zug 6216 26/1.00

(TO BE CONTINUED)

time was in personal union with Poland. During the last of the Jagiellons the eagle was often decorated with the royal initials. During the period of elected Kings, the principle of a five field emblem was adopted. The Eagle and the Pogoń alternately and the king's coat of arms in the center of the shield. During the rule of the Vasa Dynasty, the Swedish emblem was added to that of Poland.

In the nineteenth century, when the partitioning powers abolished autonomous Polish institutions, the tradition of using that symbol in daily life became widespread. It was placed on various medallions postage stamps, pendants and brooches. Thus, during the partitions the eagle stood for everything that was Polish and for patriotism. During the Napoleonic period of the Duchy of Warsaw (1807-1815) the two-field emblem appeared in which the eagle occupied the left side of the shield together with the coat-of-arms of the Saxon Duke Frederick and, in the time of the Polish Kingdom (1815-1830), the Polish Eagle holding the scepter and orb in its claws, appeared on the chest of the long-haired, two-headed Russian imperial black eagle. For a short time in 1831, the November, 1830 insurrection restored the two-field emblem with the Eagle and Pogoń and the insurrection government in 1863 used a three-field seal with the eagle, Pogoń and the Archangel, the symbol of the Ruthanian land.

When Poland regained its independence, after the end of World War I, the eagle returned as a national emblem. The new shape of the eagle, designed by professor of the Warsaw University, Zygmunt Kamiński, was officially approved on July 28, 1927.

During the World War II occupation, the Polish Eagle was used by the resistance Home Army on various uniforms and underground press. Polish Government-in-exile in France, and later in London, used the same pre-war 1927 eagle with the addition of a cross on the top of its crown.

The end of World War II brought the Moscow controlled communist regime in Poland and with it a change in the historical emblem. The eagle retained its pre-war shape but without its historical crown.

The collapse of world communism, initiated by the Polish Independent Solidarity Union, brought back free democratic government and the return of the 1927 official pre-war eagle with the crown.

St. Gabriel Club Exhibition and Congress in Toruń, Poland

By ARKADIUSZ WALINSKI

On September 23, 1995, I attended the opening of the National Stamp Exhibition "MICHAEL'S '95" organized by the Polish St. Gabriel Club and on October 4, 1995, the VII Congress of the Polish St. Gabriel Club. Both events took place in the historic city of Toruń, the birthplace of astronomer Nicholas Copernicus.

The opening ceremony was attended by members of the Toruń St. Gabriel Club and their guests. The ribbon cutting was performed by His Excellency Andrzej W. Suski, Bishop of Toruń; Bogdan Michalak, chairman of the Polish St. Gabriel Club, and a representative of the Polish Post Office. The guests were welcomed by Wojciech Lewandowski, the



Organizing Committee Chairman. In his speech, Bishop Suski referred to the religious values of stamp collecting. The Exhibition consisted of 39 exhibits with religious themes, such as Life of Jesus Christ, Christmas, Madonna, St. Gabriel and St. Anne; several exhibits were on Pope John Paul II. The Exhibition took place in the parish hall of St. Michael Archangel Church, where pastor, Father Czesław Kustra is an active member of the St. Gabriel Club.

On Sunday, September 29, 1995, the VII Congress of the Polish St. Gabriel Club took place in the chapel of the St. Michael Archangel Church. The Congress was opened with a Mass celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop of Toruń, His Excellency Jan Chrapek. Among guests attending the Congress were Mr. Farbotko, vice president of the Polish Philatelic Federation, representatives of the City of Toruń and of the Polish Post Office. Also, there was a representative from the Austrian St. Gabriel Guild and myself, representing COROS from the United States. Several papers were presented, among them the "Religious Philately and the New Evangelization" by the Rev. Waldemar Chrostowski, SJ; "Polish Churches on Stamps of Bordering States" by Mr. Władysław Alexiewicz; and "History of the Movement Uniting Religion on Stamps Collectors" by Mr. Bogdan Michalak.

Two postal postmarks were used — one on September 29, 1995, for the Stamp Exhibition (commemorating the 25th anniversary of the St. Michael Archangel Parish in Toruń), and one on September 30, '95, for the VII Congress of the Polish St. Gabriel Club.

POLAND OF LATE

Geography

Poland's surface area of 312,677 square kilometers (120.70 sq. miles) makes it one of the largest countries in Central Europe.

Three-fourths of Poland's area is less than 200 meters (650 feet) above sea level. Approximately one-fourth of the country is forested. The hills and mountains cover only about 3% of the total surface, with the highest mountain peak, Rysy extending 2.5 kilometers (1.6 miles) above sea level. The land is fertile, transgressed by slow flowing rivers and dotted with many lakes. The major rivers are the Vistula, Orawa and Bug.

Population

Poland has a population of more than 38 million. The rate of growth
(Continued on page 472-16)

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1910-1995



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Official Markings on Stampless Covers

By CONRAD P. STRAUB, Ph.D.

(Continued from April-May issue of the Polonus Bulletin)

The purpose in preparing this article is to encourage others to identify similar covers providing complete information as to origin, destination, to whom addressed, and the text of the official wording. This information can be sent to me through or directly to the Bulletin for possible publication.

Nr 48 *Do* *Interesa Rzeczypospolitej*
Prześwietnego Konsystorza ZGIERZ
Generalnego Warszawskiego *1/2*
Dziekana Głównego
Dekanatu Stry-
kowskiego *w Warszawie*

FIGURE 4: Cover from ZGIERZ to WARSZAWA addressed to "Prześwietnego Konsystorza Generalnego Warszawskiego." Marking black two-line, italic script. Listed as No. 6 in Table I.

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Table II. Manuscript "Interes Rządowy" Covers

No.	City	Date	To	Addressed to	Marking	Ref.
1	SŁUZEWO c.III	21/5	WŁOCŁAWEK	Wielmożnego Naczelnika Powiatu Włocławskiego	Manuscript: I.R.	5-17
2	RADOMSK	15/2	PIOTRKÓW	Wielmożnego Naczelnika <u>Ptu</u> Piotrowskiego	Manuscript: I.R.	5-17
3	BRZESZ h.IIIA	31/12	WŁOCŁAWEK	Wielmożnego Naczelnika Powiatu Włocławskiego	Manuscript: I.R.	5-17
4	LUBIEŃ e.IIA		WŁOCŁAWEK	Własnych Rąk Wielmożnego Na- czelnika Ptu. Włocławskiego	Manuscript: Int. Rząd., Int. b. pilny	5-11
5	RUDA GUSOWSKA a.IIIF	29/9	MIENI	Rady Opiekunczej Zakładów Dobroczyńnych Powiatu Stan- isławskiego	Manuscript: Interes Szpitala w Mieni	
6	SIERADZ d.IIIC		ŁECZYCA		Manuscript: Int. Rząd. (?)	5-11
7	TUSZYN a.IIA	22/1	ŁÓDŹ	Sza. Magistratu Miasta Łodzi	Manuscript: I.R.	5-17
8	WIELUN b.IIIC	6/3	WARSZAWA	Rady Głównej Instytutów Dobroczyńnych w Warszawie	Manuscript: Interes Szpitala	
9	BELHATOW a.IIA	22/2	TUSZYN	<u>Wg</u> Burmistrza w Tuszynie	Manuscript: I. Rz., b. pilno	5-15
10	MNIOW a.VIIIB	14/7	LUBLIN	Magistratu Miast Gubernial- nego Lublina	Manuscript: I.R.	5-17
11	NIESZAWA b.IIB	3/6	WŁOCŁAWEK	Wielmożnego Naczelnika Po- wiatu Włocławskiego	Manuscript: I.R.	5-17
12	CZELADZ IIA	(1830)	OLKUSZ	Wielmożnego Komissarza Woje- wodzkiego delegowanego do Obwodu Olkuskiego	Manuscript: I.R.	5-17
13	WARSZAWA g.IIIC	3/10	TUSZYN via PIOTRKÓW	Magistratu Miasta Tuszyna	Manuscript: Int. Rząd.	5-11
14	WARSZAWA i.IIIC	20/5	WŁOCŁAWEK	Naczelnika Powiatu w Włoc- ławku	Manuscript: Interes Rządowy	5-8

is approximately one million every three years. Most of the cities are small or medium-size; they contain approximately 60% of the population. About 40 cities have populations in excess of 100,000. Warsaw, the capital and largest city has about 1.8 million inhabitants. The next four largest cities are Łódź, Kraków, Wrocław and Poznań. Gdańsk/Gdynia and Katowice also have sizeable populations. More than 98% of the population is ethnically Polish. The overwhelming majority is Roman Catholic.

Government and Political System

In 1989, Poland's political system underwent a fundamental change. From February to early April of that year, discussions covering all aspects of life in Poland were conducted between the authorities and opposition. These became known as the "Round Table" discussions and constituted the prelude to the development of a new system based on a parliamentary democracy. The government, headed by the Prime Minister, is the executive organ of the state. It is responsible and accounts for its action to the Sejm. The President of the Polish Republic is elected for a six year term. Lech Wałęsa is the second President since World War II and the first elected democratically.

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