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POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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The Krakow Issues

by J. Gapinski and F. E. Wolosewick

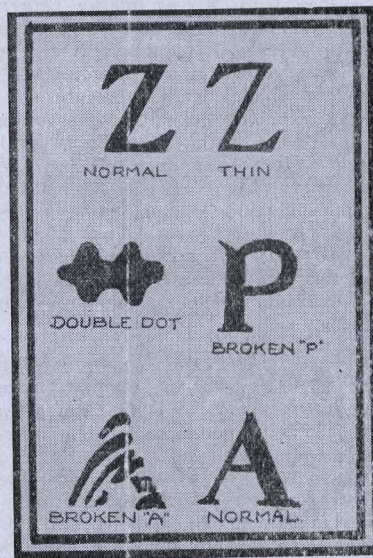
Another Article on Poland's Famous Nos. 41-60

TYPE I — Overprinted Stamps cont'd

The last article on Krakow Issues which appeared in the POLONUS BULLETIN, Issue #2, September 1942 was devoted exclusively to the discussion of the 3, 5, and 10 Heller stamps. In that article, the limited postal uses of these stamps were discussed and the circumstances under which genuine postally used copies may be found. That article discussed also in some detail, "Cancelled to order covers" which under no circumstances could perform legitimate postal service based on the established postal rates of that period.

The present article discusses the remainder of the stamps surcharged for the most part with Type I. However frequent reference is made to types of surcharges other than Type I, namely Types 2B, 2E, and the forged Type 7. The formations of the various types were discussed in an earlier article on these stamps (Iss. 2, 9/42). A brief review is also given in order to acquaint the readers with the basic type and an explanation of how the other types were developed from it.

The first type prepared for surcharging was called Type I. This type was so designed that it could overprint a complete sheet of 100 Austrian stamps of the 25 x 30 mm size. Other Austrian stamps such as postage dues and newspaper stamps, with



dimensions differing radically from the standard postage stamps necessitated an adjustment of the form of the overprint to fit these dimensions. Each adjustment of the form resulted in a new and a different set of controlling dimensions. These various changes resulting from the adjustment of the form, produced the following types: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D and 2E.

After the completion of the surcharging of all available Austrian stamps, the type form was discarded, but unfortunately never destroyed. Parts of this type form were used to surcharge additional copies without the knowledge and the consent of the postal authorities. Consequently the following forged types are recognized: Types 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. Each of these various types will be discussed in their proper place in future articles.

To continue the discussion of type I surcharges, the first stamp to be discussed will be the 6 Heller denomination. This stamp is surcharged in two type classifications, Type I, which is the basic type, and also type 2E.

The reasons for having two types and for printing a part of the 6 Heller stamps in Type I and the remainder at a later date in Type 2E have never been fully explained. Two theories are advanced but neither are substantiated by positive proof. One theory, in trying to explain this condition, assumes, that many of the local postoffices were tardy in the return of the unsurcharged stamps to the main postoffice in Krakow. Hence a good many of the above stamps were accumulated, and were therefore surcharged at a later date. The more credible theory is that in order to supply the immediate demands of the local postoffices with low valued stamps a portion of the 6 Heller denomination stamps on hand at the Main postoffice, were surcharged to fulfill these needs. And at a later date, the remainder were surcharged with type 2E.

FIGURE I

Exactly how many stamps were printed in Type I, and how many in Type 2E is impossible to determine at the present time. According to Professor Mikstein's observations the surcharged stamps were about equally divided between the two types. Our own studies and observations are in agreement with Professor Mikstein's conclusions.

The varieties in the 6 Heller denomination are found only in Type I. These varieties are the thin "Z" in the word "POCZTA," the broken "A" in the word "POLSKA," and the "DOUBLE DOT" variety in place of the rhombus on the 73rd stamp. These varieties are shown in Figure I. The exact number of stamps issued in

each type is not known. However, based on Professor Mikstein's observation, the quantities issued in each type are shown in Table I.

TABLE I

We have seen double and inverted surcharged stamps in this denomination, but when these surcharges were subjected to dimensional analysis, it was found that the surcharges were forged. Consequently, it is our opinion, there are no inverted or double surcharged varieties in the genuinely issued copies.

The 12 Heller denomination is known to exist only in Type I. During his early investigations, Professor Mikstein thought that this stamp was also printed in type 2B. Later observations did not substantiate his first assumptions because a considerable number of 12 Heller stamps were discovered which were printed with the forged type 7. Since the composition of the forged stamps is similar to the supposed type 2B, the obvious conclusion is that the 12 Heller stamp was printed with 2B. Actually however only Type I was used to surcharge this denomination.

The known varieties in the 12 Heller denomination are as follows: The Thin "Z" in the word "POCZTA," the "DOUBLE DOT" variety found on the 3rd stamp and the broken "A" in the word "POLSKA" on the 30th stamp. In Table I are shown the approximate number of varieties. These quantities are estimated, with the limits as indicated. All inverted, or double surcharged varieties of this value are forgeries, and were printed in Type 7.

The next value is the 15 Heller stamp. This was the first stamp printed, and was available for postal duty throughout the City of Krakow on the 11th of January 1919.

It will be recalled, that in our first article on the Krakow issues, that the date of the issuance of the edict, authorizing the overprinting of Austrian stamps was given as the 12th of January. In other words, these stamps were available for postal service, before the edict was made public. This should not appear strange or out of line with the then existing postal regulations. The above mentioned article also stated that the postal authorities, already in December 1918, were laying plans for just such conditions should they arise.

The 15 Heller stamp was printed

TABLE I

Scotts No.	Denomination and color	Total Issued	Type of Surcharge	No. of Thin "Z"	No. of Dbl. D ts	No. broken 'A's	See Notes
41	3H, Violet	2,350	I	240	3 24	24	
42	5H, Light Gr.	2,050	I	210	20-21	21	A
43	6H, Orange	28,800	I & 2E	1440	144	144	A
44	10H, Magenta	2,250	I	230	21-22	22	A
45	12H, Lgt. Blue	15,640	I	1564	156	156	A
56	15H, Dull Rd.	62,750	I	6275	627	Unknown	A
57	20H, Dk. Green	5,340	I	534	53	53	A
46	40H, Olive	22,390	I	2239	2.3	223	B
47	50H, Bl. Green	58,230	I	5823	582	Unknown	A
48	60H, Deep Blue	67,020	I	6700	670	Unknown	C
49	80H, Or. Brown	74,190	I	7419	742	742	C
50	90H, Red Violet	300	I	30	3	3	D
51	1Kr, Car. Yel.	49,360	I & 2B	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	A
J10	10 Kr. Ultram.	15	I	2	None	None	E
J12	50/42 H. Choc.	6,020	I	602	600	600	F

Note "A"—There are no genuine copies of inverted or double surcharges.

"B"—Two to four sheets were printed with inverted surcharge. One sheet is known to exist with double surcharge.

"C"—There are some sheets with inverted surcharge. There are no double surcharges.

"D"—There are no genuine copies of inverted or double surcharges. Those found are printed in forged type 5.

"E"—Two copies of thin "Z"s are known, and are found in the 4th and 5th positions.

"F"—There are no genuine copies of inverted surcharge. There are genuine copies of double surcharge.

only in Type I. The actual printing was divided into two lots. In the first printing, the broken "A" on the 30th stamp, and the damage to the letter "P" of "POCZTA," on the 73rd stamp containing the "double dot" instead of the rhombus, does not appear. Likewise considerable minor varieties, which developed in the course of later printings are not found.

After printing the first lot of the 15 Heller stamps, all of the 50, 60 and part of the 80 Heller denominations were then overprinted. Throughout this period approximately 160,000 stamps were overprinted, before the second lot of the 15 Heller was overprinted. Hence when printing of the second lot was undertaken, the characteristic broken "A" was already present on the 30th stamp, so was the damage to the letter "P" of the word "POLSKA" on the 73rd stamp.

Throughout the above discussion the writers have attempted to bring out certain essential facts in regard to the localization of damaged letters. Thus it is very probable that in the early printings, the damaged "A" does not appear on the 15, 50 and 60 Heller denominations. Such stamps pro-

vided they meet the requirements of the controlling dimensions and have the proper ink consistency, must be judged as genuine stamps.

The varieties in the 15 Heller denomination are as follows: The thin "Z" in the word "POCZTA," the broken "A" in the word "POLSKA" and the "DOUBLE DOT" instead of the rhombus. The probable distribution of the above varieties are shown in Table I.

There are no genuine inverted or double surcharges in this value. Those found are printed in forged Type 7.

There is one interesting forged variety in the 15 Heller denomination which indicates to what extent philatelic forgers will give vent to their imagination. Thus there are a number of copies in existence where a forged inverted surcharge was placed over a normal genuine impression. The forged impression was made in Type 7. Of course such a stamp must be classed as a forgery.

Why not become a life member? The cost is only \$25. Send to the Secretary.



The SEVERN MEMORIAL TROPHY won by the POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY for the best entry in the Chicago Intre-Club division at the recent Chicago Philatelic Society's Exhibit held at the Hotel La Salle, Nov. 2, 3, and 4th.

"BEEBA"

As custom had decreed, another "BEEBA," was held Friday evening, November 23rd and will be entered on the records of the Society. Ordinarily this event is held during National Philatelic Week, but even tho National Philatelic Week was not held this year the Society held its annual affair for our members and philatelic friends.

Each succeeding year gives to Polonus an opportunity to welcome more and more of its many friends to partake of Polish hospitality and this

year was no exception. Many new faces were seen as well as were those of veteran "BEEBA" attendants. Approximately 100 people were present. Representatives of nearly every Philatelic organization in Chicago were seen. To mention names would be like reading the Philatelic "Who's Who at Chicagoland, suffice it to say—we of Polonus were very happy they were present, and we sincerely hope they will continue to come to every Polonus affair in the future.

The one person missed most at this affair, was "Doc." Kozy, who was unavoidably detained at the hospital (those women). "Doc" has always seen to it that this party above all must be a success. In addition to "Doc" also missed were Dave Lidman, Tony Russo, Larry Edmunsen, Stanley Madro, Felix Walat, Chuck Wrobel and "Doc" Sluzinski.

A short meeting was held and then "On with the feast" which consisted as always of Polish sausage, smoked and fresh, herrings in rhine wine, various assortment of cheese and bread, pickles, picked mushrooms, coffee and cake.

As usual the success of this party must be attributed to Mrs. Ann Mikucki who was this year ably assisted by Mrs. A. Rybarski, John Bobo, Alex Constantino and various others from time to time. Our appreciation to all of the members for their gracious donations.

It is our hope that when the next "BEEBA" rolls around, all of our members who are now in Service will be home and Oh Boy! What a "BEEBA."

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Capt. S. S. Galiskiewicz, O-533237
259 Med. Det. 2nd General Dep't
A. P. O. 757, P. M. New York, N. Y.
Lt. Joseph V. Lupa, O-1946555
123 Port Co., A. P. O. 929,
c/o P. M., San Fran., Calif.
Lt. Julia C. Pach,
5102 So. Racine Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

REINSTATEMENT

Matthew J. Ossolinski

RESIGNED

Edward Stepnowski

POLPEX '46 — Feb. 9-10, 11 & 12.

NEW MEMBERS

- #259 John Wendt, 5535 Justine St.
Chicago, Ill. (Poland, U. S.,
Peru and Ireland)
- #260 Max Herdzik, 2013 Canif.,
Hamtramck, Mich.
(Poland & U. S. mint)
- #261 Peter Bielic, 94 Perry Street,
Lowell, Mass. (E.P.P. & U.S.)
- #262 Lt. Arthur Prawdzic-Lazarski,
128 East Trinity Rd.
Edinburgh 5, Scot.
(Miniature Sheets & Airmails)
- #263 Wladyslaw Smak, Chester, Eng.
R. A. F. Sealand
(E.P.P., Br. Col. and U. S.)
- #264 Henry Tyszka, 17801 Lumpkin
Detroit 12 Mich. (E.P.P. & U.S.)
- #265 Dr. Casimer L. Jakubowski,
1324 N. Ashland Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.
(E.P.P., U.S., France & Czecho.

HONORABLY DISCHARGED

FOR HONORABLE MILITARY SERVICE



Capt. Leonard S. Sluszinski
Edward Stepnowski
Charles Wrobel
Augustus Cihanowyz
Walter Lewinski
Chester Mikucki

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR POLPEX 1946

A COPY OF THE RULES AND
REGULATIONS OF POLPEX 1946
WAS MAILED ALONG WITH AN
ENTRY BLANK TO EACH MEM-
BER EARLIER THIS MONTH.

WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT ALL
OF OUR MEMBERS HAVE CARE-
FULLY READ THE INSTRUCTIONS
AND WILL IMMEDIATELY, IF
THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE
SO, RETURN THE ENTRY BLANK
PROPERLY FILLED OUT.

AS MOST OF YOU ARE AWARE,
PRINTERS ARE ASKING FOR
MORE TIME AND SINCE MOST OF
YOU KNOW NOW WHAT YOU ARE
PLANNING TO EXHIBIT—PLEASE
RETURN THE ENTRY AT ONCE—
AND THUS HELP THE COMMIT-

TEE AND BE KIND TO THE PRINT-
ER.

Did I say "MERRY CHRISTMAS?"



Our most heartfelt sympathy to
Chester Mikucki and his family upon
the notification of the death of his
brother, Walter F. Mikucki, PFC, US
MC.

Walter was stationed at Olongapo,
Philippines from July 1940 until May
1942, when he was taken prisoner on
Dataan from where he was taken to
Osaka, Japan, where he died of illness
at the prison camp, March 11, 1943.
The family was officially notified of
his death Oct. 13, 1945.

A CHRISTMAS GREETING

Truly the Christmas spirit should be
with us all to the utmost this Yule-
tide season. In a great many instanc-
es, Sons, Brothers and other relatives
who have been in our Armed Forces
will be home to cele-brate with us this
joyous birth of Christ and to make
this our happiest Christmas. So may
we, the Officers and the Editorial
Staff wish all of you a Very Merry
Christmas and a Very Happy New
Year.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLICATIONS COMM.

The next issue of the "BULLETIN"
will be edited by Chester Schafer who
was also appointed the Chairman of
the Publications Committee.

Because of the tremendous increase
of my work and the plain simple fact
that I need a rest, it had become nec-
essary for me to request leave as Ed-
itor. Reluctantly I do so. It has been
interesting work and many of you
had made the job easier by your help.

Whether you have liked the "BUL-
LETIN," we know not. We tried to
give you an interesting paper and we
believe we did, so thanks for every-
thing.

Jack Domar.

P. S. The new editor will also need
your support—do make a New Years
Resolution to help, not by word but
by deed.



NEW ISSUES

Three new stamps were reported to us by member Al. Kolaczewski as follows: The illustration on the first shows a militant "Mermaid of Warsaw." The value indicated in 20, but whether groszy or zloty is not known. It is printed in bright red, the size is 35mm x 23mm, and is perforated 10½. (Illus.)

The second a 5 zloty value, pictures a flag bearer and a wounded soldier. It bears the notation "Warszawa Wolna 17.1.1945." The color is deep red, the size, 32½mm x 24mm and is perf. 11. It was issued to commemorate the battle of Warsaw. (Illus.)

The third is a 1 zloty value and illustrates the "Krant on the Mottlau Canal" the oldest granary in the world. The top panel reads "Poczta Polska" and the bottom panel, 1 Zl. / Gdansk / 30-III-1945. The size is 34mm x 24 mm and is perf. 11½.

Apparently the stamps marked "Gdansk" can be used anywhere in Poland, as this copy was cancelled "Krakow 16.X.45-19." Another of this issue described by C. Pulaski below was cancelled at Lodz.

Another was submitted by Dr. S. M. Mioduzewski. It is purplish-brown, in the upper left part of the design is the value 40f, the upper right "LUB-EKA." Below this is a white sailing ship and below this a silhouette of the St. Marys Church in Krakow. In a ribbon design is the following: "Poczta Obozow Polskich w. Niemczech." Size, 36mm x 27mm and perf. 11. (Illus.)

Clem. Pulaski also reported in "STAMPS" of 11-10-45 the following:

An unchained eagle stretching its wings over a document marked "Manifest" on a 3 zl. rose stamp which

carries the inscription "1944—22.VII. 1945." A 5 zloty value illustrating a scene from the famous battle of Grunwald. It is gray-blue and inscribed on top "15 Lipca (July) 1410 / Grunwald / 15 Lipca 1945" and on the bottom "POLSKA."

"The liberation of Danzig is marked by an attractive blue stamp picturing a scene in that city (The Stock Exchange) and bearing the date "30-III-1945" and "Gdansk." The Polish form of the city's name.

In addition a series of four semi-postals had been announced. There will be four designs and the inscription will include: "Liga Morska" and the dates "10-11.20—10.11.45."

The Piast Eagle Again

"The liberation of 10 Polish cities is commemorated with a series of 10 dated overprints on the 25 groszy red piast eagle stamp which in each case is also surcharged 3 Zl. The overprints read: "Bydgorzcz 23.1.1945." "Czeszochowa 17.1.1945." "Gmiezno 22.1.1945." "Kalisz 24.1.1945." "Kielce 15.1.1945." "Krakow 19.1.1945." "Lodz 19.1945." "Radom 16.1.1945." "Warszawa 17.1.1945." "Zakopane 29.1.1945."

"The 25gr. piast eagle stamp, printed in red brown, has been surcharged "1.50 Zl." in dark brown.

NEW ISSUES

A large gray-black semi-postal of 1 plus 9z denomination pictures a battle scene with infantrymen in the foreground and planes and warship in the background. The inscription is "Westerplatte /1/IX.1939." According to R. H. Macy & Co., this stamp commemorates the outbreak of World War II and the Poles heroic stamp at Westerplatte by the heavy cruiser Schleswig-Holstein. The printing was 40,000.



A CIGARETTE CASE by Chester Schafer

This unusual cigarette case on which the design of the Polish Inflation stamp Scott No. 169A has been etched, was brought back as a souvenir from Guam Tech. Sgt. Francis Szafraniec, USMC, 2144 W. Potomac Ave., Chicago, removed it from the pocket of a dead Japanese Lt. Colonel, who apparently committed suicide with a hand grenade. The Marine Sgt. who is a stamp collector, recognized the Polish Eagle design immediately.

The kind of a cigarette case officers generally carried were usually elaborate and expensive. This particular one from all indications, was made in Poland and somehow got into the hands of the Japanese officer. Possibly he received it as a gift from some member of the Polish Legation in Tokyo, or he may have taken it from some Polish refugee who at the Nazi invasion of Poland escaped through Siberia, and again some Nazi official may have presented it to him after he took it from some Pole himself.

On the inside of the cigarette case is engraved the name and rank of the officer in Japanese characters. Several little snapshots were inside the case apparently of his family.

The case was not the only interesting item removed from the Japs body. The Marine Sgt. also removed a wallet which contained charts and maps of fortifications of Japanese defenses on the island of Guam. The submission of this material to the Regimental Commander afforded him a more complete and comprehensive estimate of the enemy situation and enabled his regiment to carry out its assigned

mission successfully and with the least cost of life.

POLPEX CATALOG

Each year, Polonus prepares a very finely printed catalogue. But in order to pay for it, Ads' are solicited (they need not be Philatelic Ads) any kind will be accepted.

The prices are \$10.00 for a full page, \$6.00 for a half page, \$3.50 for a quarter page and \$2.00 for a 1 inch ad. We also have a special page for Patrons at \$1.00 per name and another page where we list Good Fellows at 25 cents a name.

WE NEED THE HELP OF ALL MEMBERS—NOT JUST A FEW. THIS IS ONE WAY YOU CAN HELP. SECURE AN "AD", PATRONS OR GOODFELLOWS—ANYTHING. BUT PLEASE DO SOMETHING, NOT MUCH TIME LEFT....HURRY.... HURRY....HURRY.

Send your "Ads," Patrons or Good-fellows to A. S. Rybarski, 2212 N. Mobile Ave., Chicago, Ill.

THIS n' THAT

At the December 28th meeting of Polonus, Earl Wellman, Editor of the Jack Knight Air Log will be our guest speaker. His subject will be "Mail thru the Air."

A very fine evening is promised all who attend.

We have just been informed that Jack Rux has been laid up with Neuritis since Dec. 8th. We certainly hope that Jack will be up and around soon.

It's funny isn't it, if we don't slow down a bit and rest, something or

someone usually does it for us. Jack, it's a heck of a way to get a rest, but at least it is one way—

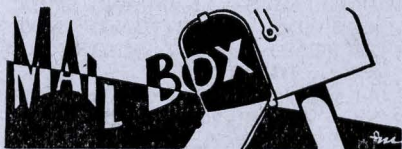
Our own Bureau of Investigation finally tracked down and located Nurse Lt. Julia C. Pach—who is now stationed here in Chicago at the Gardiner General Hospital. Off duty at 7:00 p.m.—Hmm—should give her enough time to get down to a meeting now and then. Don't you think?

(Note: The Stamps for the Wounded Committee at Gardiner, we are sure that Lt. Pach can be of service to you.)

It was swell seeing Chester Mikucki, at our meeting of Dec. 14th. He was discharged at 10:30 a.m. that morning and lost no time getting into civvies and down to a meeting. Now then, what has happened to Felix Watal, Doc. Sluszenski, Chuck Wrobel and Walter Lewinski?

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
for the
DOC. M. E. UZNANSKI TROPHY

Ray Bartz	2
Al. Kolaczewski	1
Doc. Kozakiewicz	1
Bert Powell	2
Roman Reinowski	1
Larry Zieler	1



Hello Jack:

Expect to be leaving for the States in a few weeks so don't send any more BULLETINS to my ship's address. You had better send applications to my home address also.

The typhoon we had out here was terrific. We put to sea to weather it out but it was still rough. The damage and loss of life was tremendous. The newspaper accounts at home look like the whole truth hadn't been told. There are plenty of ships beached or on reefs out here waiting to be repaired and floated.

So long for now.

A. J. Cihanowycz, RT2/C

Dear Jack:

Your letter rec'd last week and I was sure glad to hear from you. Expect to leave for Disposition Center around Dec. 20th and expect to be in the States late in January.

I have been invited to the Christmas Stamp Horsedeal to be held in Manila on Dec. 9th. I am going with a Filipino stamp dealer who is a very good friend of mine. This will probably be the last time I shall get to obtain some stamps cheap. This dealer has gotten me most of what I bought very cheap.

I wish all of the members of Polonus a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you for everything Jack, hope to be seeing you soon at a meeting.

Sgt. Stanley Kucharz, Philippines

Nov. 7, 1945—Saipan

Dear Jack:

Your letter of Sept. 11th, finally has caught up with me. Our mail is a mess since September. We have moved from Olongapo to Batangas to Manila then to Yokohama, back to Leyte and then back to Japan and now Saipan. We are headed for Guam where we will be screened. I have the points but Navy Red Tape????

I have picked up a few First Day Covers, funny! the Jap occupation covers are cheaper than the Victory Covers. The other two Polonus members must be in Manila. I had some liberty there. I may get off at Guam, then Pearl Harbor and Frisco and maybe home by Christmas. Anyhow I will be home for POLPEX 1946.

Send my regards to all of the Boys in Polonus.

C. J. Mikucki, EM 2/C

You will often get stamps which have been in several collections previously. If they are used stamps without gum, you can usually make them more acceptable for your own use, by bathtub treatment. Certainly no stamp is ever harmed by removal of fragments of two or three hinges. Often this washing will remove adherent surface dirt, too.

Have you considered becoming a LIFE MEMBER? You can, by mailing the sum of \$25.00 to the Secretary, Mrs. C. J. Mikucki, 1844 N. Winchester Ave., Chicago 22, Ill.