

POLAND

May 1921 – May 1924

The Exhibit is a chronological study of the seven stamp issues for the whole of Poland in the 3-year period May 1921- May 1924. The issues are New Constitution; Peace Treaty with Russia; Large Eagle Definitives [25 Mk-2000 Mk]; Copernicus Anniversary; Konarski Anniversary; various Provisional Surcharges; Large Eagle Definitives [10,000 Mk-2,000,000 Mk]. It features the perforation and paper variations, the important marginal markings, the surcharged stamps and a wide variety of uses of the various issues.

The Exhibit starts with the New Constitution issue for political unification and ends with inflation controlled and before the new currency issues. During the time span of this Exhibit the basic cost of sending a letter increased by a factor of 100,000 with 22 different postal rate periods. The postage stamps reflect this inflationary disruption with many perforation and papers being used in their production. Provisional Surcharges are also a feature. The denomination of the postage stamps rises from 2 Mk to 2,000,000 Mk.

Important items – Proofs, Varieties or Exceptional Usages etc. – throughout the Exhibit, are highlighted by use of a deep red backing.

Poland was established November 1918 in the intersection of 4 monetary areas (Russia, Germany, Austria & Hungary) each of which was to undergo currency hyperinflation. Inflationary pressures were the result of War debt, the cost of Plebiscites, destruction of industry and agriculture, a defective taxation system and a lack of Government control of prices and wages. The serious hyperinflation period was from January 1923 until January 1924 when monetary stabilization was achieved and a 'tariff' period of exchange was instituted with a new currency being introduced from May 1, 1925.

References:

Poland, The Provisionals of 1923-4, The Philatelic Magazine, March 1924, A N Burgess.

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Polskie Znaki Pocztowe Vol I, 1960; Vol III, 1962.

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Terminating Hyperinflation in the Dismembered Habsburg Monarchy, Vol 76. American Economic Review, E Wicker.

Zeszyty Szkoleniowe PSF, Nr 10; Nr 11, Warsaw 1988.

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The 1 million and 2 Million Large Eagles Usage, Krzysztof Skwara, [personal communication 2003].

New Constitution Issues

The Polish Constitution, which was adopted on the 17th March 1921, dealt with [1] the organization of the State and its authorities, administrative and judicial institutions and [2] the rights and obligations of citizens towards the State and vice versa. To commemorate the occasion, a set of seven values was issued on 2nd May 1921.

The issue consists of various designs symbolic of peace, and each design bears the date 17th March 1921. The 2mk green, 3mk blue, 4mk scarlet show a rising sun; the 6mk carmine, 10mk slate-green have two figures representing agriculture – the Fountain of Life of the Polish nation – also “3/V 1791” in the left upper corner, this being the date of the first Polish Constitution. A female figure, also representing agriculture is shown on the 25mk violet and 50mk myrtle-green on buff.

Designer 2-10mk Prof E Bartłomiejczyk; 25-50mk W Huzarski

Printed by typography on two papers – thin wove or medium rough. Perforations 11 or 11.5.

Wove - P 11



Thick - P11



Thick - P11.5



Wove - P 11



Wove - P 11



Wove - P 11



Thick - P11



Wove - P 11



Wove - P 11



Wove - P 11.5



Error of Colour
CARMINE [c]

Wove - P 11



Thick - P11



Wove - P 11



Thick - P11



Wove - P 11



Thick - P11



Parcel card 5.2 Kg Grodno to Belgium with 74 x 50Mk + 25Mk



Position 27



No dot after III and
No dot after 1921

Position 43



No dot after 1921
Found on all printings

Position 81



No dot after 1921
On some printings

Position 93



No dot after 1921
On all printings

Position 97



No dot after III and
No dot after 1921

2 x 2Mk - Wove paper Perforation 11



12.8.21 Warsaw to Finland
Foreign Printed Matter Rate 4Mk 15 July - 29 December 1921

6Mk Wove P 11



Torun 20 III 21
3 days after issue

50Mk Wove Paper Perforation 11



2.V.22 Wilno [Central Lithuania] to Holyoake USA
Foreign Letter Rate 50Mk 1 May - 15 September 1922

Peace Treaty with Russia – The “Sower” Issues

This design was adapted from one submitted to the German authorities in 1917 by M. Bronislaw Wisniewski. It is symbolic of peace and was selected in order to mark the Peace Treaty with Soviet Russia, which was signed on March 18th 1921. It depicts a man employed in agriculture and a rainbow – regarded in Poland as God’s promise of peace – on the horizon. The White Eagle of Poland is in the lower right corner. As regards the sword on the left, every peasant in olden days carried a sword, which he stuck in the ground before he began his work, wearing it again when he went home.

10 Mark

This stamp had **6 issues** between April 1921 and April 1922. Issued in sheets of 10 x 10 stamps.

There are **2 dies**:
 Die I with stamps 28mm x 22mm [issues 1-3 & 6]
 Die II with stamps 27.25 x 21.5mm [issues 4 & 5]

There are **3 Plates**:
 There are 2 flat plates for issues 1-3;
 Plate I has a marginal line; Plate II has no marginal line.
 Rotary plate with stamps much closer together was used for issue 6

Plate Varieties: There are two normal plate varieties A [98%] and A1 [2%] with variety B rarely found in issue 6.

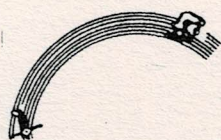


Plate Variety A

2 top rays are cut away from the face. 2nd ray from top cut away from hilt of sword

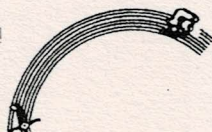


Plate Variety A1

As A but all the rays touch the hilt of the sword

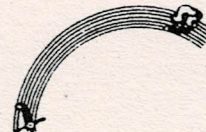


Plate Variety B

All rays touch both the face and the hilt of the sword

Plate variety A



Black Proof on Card signed L SCHMUTZ

1st ISSUE

April 1921. Die I. Vertically laid paper. Normal Perforation 11.5 but P.11 also found. Shades of Blue

Perf 11.5 - A



Perf 11.5 - A



Perf 11 - A



2nd ISSUE

May 1921.. Die I. On wove paper of varying thickness. Shades of Blue. Perforations 9-14.5.

Perf 9 - A



Perf 11.25 - A1



Perf 11.5 - A



Perf 13 x 11.5 - A



Perf 13 x 11.5 - A



Perf 13.5 x 13 - A



Perf 13.5 x 13 - A



Perf 14 - A



Perf 14.5 x 14



3rd ISSUE

Mid-February 1922. Die I on thickish smooth wove paper often with greyish-blue tinge. Shades of Blue. Peforations 9 - 14.5.

Perf 13 - A1



Plate I - marginal line

Perf 9 - A



Perf 13.5 x 13 - A1



Plate II - no marginal line

Perf 9 - A



Perf 9 - A



Perf 11.5 - A1



Perf 11.5 - A



Perf 11.5 - A



The Gibbons' Stamp Monthly of August 1930 records that: "imperforate copies exist but these were never issued to the public." Examples are recorded of genuine usage.



IMPERFORATE - A1

10 Mk IMPERF - A. Used Chelmnny 13.3.22 to Warsaw. Inland letter rate

10Mk Perf 11.5 - A - Nieswiez 4 III 22. Inland postcard rate Sept 1 1921 - July 1 1922



3 x 10Mk Perf 13 - A - Warsaw 18 IX 22. Inland postcard rate Sept 1 - Dec 15 1922

4th ISSUE

March 1922. Die II. 27.25mm x 21.5mm. Thin wove paper. Shades of greenish-blue. Perforations 11-14.

Perf 11.5 - A



Perf 12.5 x 11.5 - A



Perf 12.5 x 13 - A



Perf 13 x 11.5 - A



Perf 13 x 11.5 - A1



Perf 13.5 x 12.5 - A



Perf 13.5 x 13 - A1



Perf 13.5 x 13 - A1



Perf 14 x 13.5 - A



10Mk Perf 13.5 x 12.5 - A1. Lvov 30.XII.22 correct inland printed matter rate



10Mk Perf 12.5 - A1. Warsaw-Berlin, 50Mk R-Letter correct 29 DE 21 - 1 MY 22

5th ISSUE

April 1922. Die II. 27.25mm x 21.5mm. Thick spongy paper. Turquoise blue shades. Perforations 11-13.5



PROOF in Issued Colour

Perf 11.5 - A



Perf 13.5 - A1



10Mk bisected on commercial cover Perf 12.5 with Die II 20Mk perf 12.5
Registered Krakow 20 IV 22. Correct rate local letter 10Mk + Registration 15Mk.



10Mk Perf 12.5 x 10.5 - A. Zakopane 13 IX 22 to Krakow
 Correct inland postcard rate [30Mk] 1 September - 15 December 1922

6th ISSUE

Late April 1922. Die I. Pre-gummed pelure paper, perforated 12.5. Greenish-blue shades. The stamps are printed closer together than those of the preceding issues, the vertical space between them being 1.5mm instead of 3.25mm and the horizontal spacing being 3mm instead of 3.75mm.

Left side sheet Marginal Value Markings. Plate Variety A1. Perf 12.5



Plate Variety B



15 Mark

There were three issues of 15Mk in various shades of brown between April 1921 and April 1922. Two flat plates were used; Plate I has a marginal line while Plate II has no line. Plate variety A only.

1st ISSUE

April 1921 on thin wove paper of variable thickness. Chestnut to orange-brown. Perforations 9 - 14.5

Perf 9



Plate I [marginal line] and Marginal Value markings on top selvage

Perf 9



Plate II - no Marginal line



Perf 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 13



Perf 12.5 x 13



Perf 12.5 x 13



Perf 13.5 x 11



Perf 13.5 x 11.5



2nd ISSUE

Mid-February on thick smooth paper with bluish-grey tinge. Brown shades. Perforations 9 - 14.5

Perf 9



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 14.5 x 11



Perf 14.5 x 13



3rd ISSUE

April 1922 on thick spongy paper with a yellowish tinge. Shades of brown. Perforations 11-14.5

Perf 13 x 11.5



Perf 11.5



Perf 12 x 11.5



Plate I - Marginal Line

Perf 12



Perf 12.5



Perf 13 x 11.5



Perf 13 x 12



Perf 14.5



20 Mark

There were three issues of the 20 Mark between April 1921 and September 1922. The second two issues were in a smaller format 25.5mm x 21mm. All in shades of red. Plate variety B only.

1st ISSUE

May 1921, larger format on thin wove paper of variable thickness in shades dull to bright red. Perforations 9-11.5. Two flat plates - Plate I with marginal line and Plate II without

Perf 11.5



Top Marginal value markings right side of sheet with marginal line - Plate I

Perf 9



Perf 11



Perf 11.5



Perf 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11



Perf 11 x 10.5



Perf 11



Partial Imperforate

3rd ISSUE

September 1922. Small format in shades of red. Thick wove paper. Perf 11 - 14.5

Perf 11



Perf 12



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 13 x 11.5



Perf 13 x 12.5



30 [1 front 29 obverse] x 20Mk perf 14 x 13.



10 11 23 Jaslo Registered Letter 40-60gm to Czechoslovakia - 600Mk

450th Birth Anniversary of Astronomer Copernicus

1000Mk

Issued July 7, 1923
 Withdrawn April 30, 1924
 Rotary Plate on pelure paper P 12.5
 Marginal Markings Lines 4-18-4
 26mm x 8mm
 Shade: Slate



Marginal Lines. Positions 1 & 2



Marginal Line
 Position 4



5000Mk

Issued December 3, 1923. Carmine. Withdrawn April 30, 1924.
 Flat Plate, medium white wove. Line Perf 10.5; Comb 11.75
 Rotary Plate, pelure paper. Perf 12.5. Marginal markings

Line Perf 10.5

Line Perf 10.5



Line Perf 10.5



Flat Plate - no marginal markings
 Positions 1 & 2; 11 & 12

Comb Perf 11.75



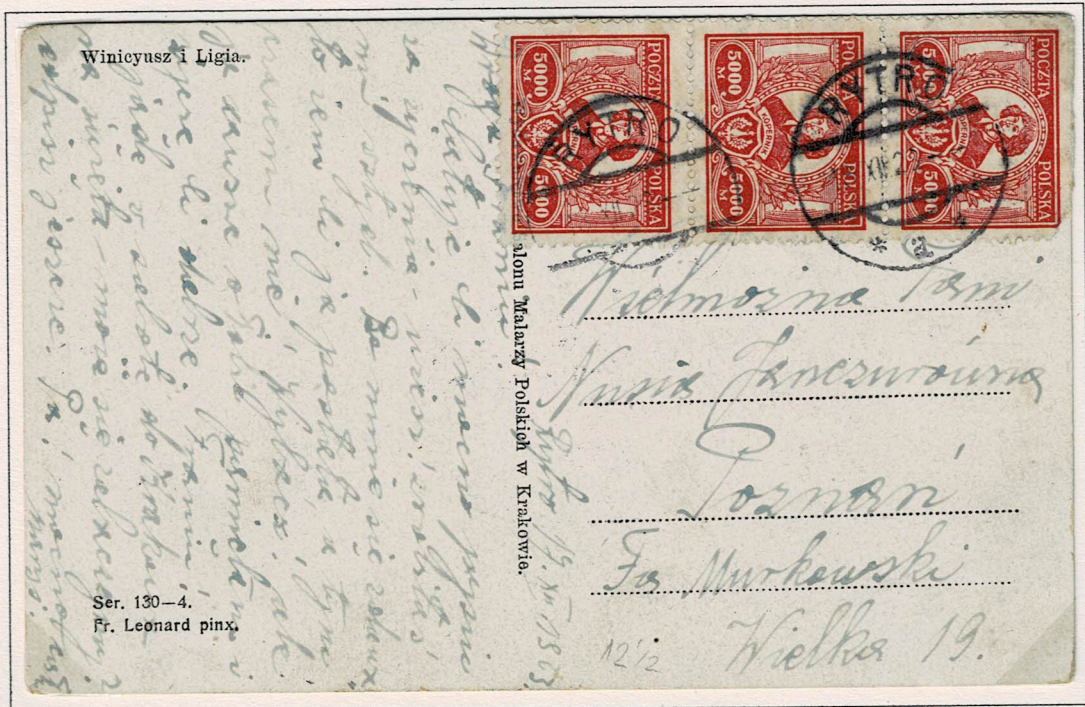
Rotary Plate Marginal
 Markings Pos. 5

Rotary Plate perforation 12.5



4 x 1000Mk [+10000Mk/25] on inland postcard 24 XII 23 = 14,000Mk
Incorrect inland postcard rate [15,000Mk] 1-29 December 1923

Rotary Plate perforation 12.5



3 x 5000M = 15000Mk Rytro to Poznan 23 XII 23
Correct inland postcard rate 1-29 December 1923

150th Death Anniversary Konarski [Educationalist] 3000Mk

Issued October 12, 1923, withdrawn April 30, 1924. Red-brown. Pelure paper. Three Plates:

Rotary Plate: Marginal Lines Perforation 12.5

Flat Plate I: Panes of 20 separated by gutters of 28.5mm. Line Perforation 10.5; Comb 11.75

Flat Plate II: Panes of 50 separated by gutters of 30.5mm. Line Perforation 10.5; Comb 11.75



PROOF as issued
Signed L Schmutz



PROOF as issued
Signed L Schmutz

Rotary Plate

Rotary Plate



Rotary Plate



Rotary Plate



Marginal Lines
Position 4

4 x 3000MK - Rotary Plate Perf 12.5 FIRST WEEK of USE



Correct rate 12000Mk for domestic acknowledgement of money receipt for October 15-31st October 1923. Cancelled 19 X 23 Sokolow

Comb Perf 11.75



Comb Perf 11.75



PLATE I - 28.5mm Gutter

Line Perf 10.5



PLATE I - 28.5mm Gutter

Comb Perf 11.75



PLATE II - 30.5mm Gutters

Line Perf 10.5



DOUBLE PRINT

Line Perf 10.5



Line Perf 10.5



Line Perf 10.5



Comb Perf 11.75





KONAPSKI variety

3000Mk value - PLATE II, Position 15 in each Pame of 20 stamps. The name is mis-spelled KONAPSKI instead of KONARSKI

Perf 10.5 - "m"



Perf 10.5 - "m"



Perf 10.5 - "m"



Large Eagle Design

The large Eagle Design was adapted from one of the designs submitted by 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. A series of values from 25Mk to 2,000,000Mk were issued between 1921 and 1924.

25 Mark

There are three issues of the 25Mk large Eagle. Each involved a two-stage process onto a toned background. First the frame, scrolls and lettering then the Polish Eagle in a solid coloured background to fit the centre. Withdrawn from sale October 12, 1923 and their use was banned from January 15, 1924.

1st ISSUE

June 1921: Background larger than the design. Paper white medium-thin wove. Shades; violet on buff; violet on brown and violet on yellow-buff. Perforations are 9 to 14.5 in combination.



Perf 12.5



Perf 13 x 11.5



Perf 13.5 x 11



Perf 13.5 x 11.5



2nd ISSUE

February 1922. Background larger than design. Paper medium-thick smooth wove with bluish-grey tinge. Violet on shades of buff. Perforations 9 to 14.5 in combination. Numbers printed 48,500,000

Perforation 14 x 11.5



Marginal Strip Positions 6-10

Perf 11 x 14



Perf 9



Perf 13.5 x 11



Perf 14 x 11



Perf 14 x 11



Lines 28mm x 12.5mm
gap 8mm x 13mm

3rd ISSUE

December 1922. A new plate with the background exactly fitting the design without marginal lines. Shades of purple on buff printed on thick wove paper. Perforations 9 – 14 in combination.



Position 2. Lines
26mm x 13mm

25Mk - 1st Issue on white wove paper - 5 x perforation 12.5 + 6 x perforation 13.5



Express Registered Letter Grudziadz 8.12.22 to Lvov. with 25Mk x 11 + 10Mk + 15Mk = 300Mk
Inland rates: Letter 50mk + Registration 50Mk + Express Delivery 200Mk for 1/9-15/12/22

50 Mark

Issued August 30, 1921, withdrawn from sale January 15, 1924

Printed on a toned background, which was larger than the design. Paper medium white wove. Perforations 11-14.5 in combination. Three Plates distinguishable only by the Marginal markings:

Plate I	Marginal line present;	Lines 28mm x 12.5mm
Plate II	Marginal line present,	Lines 28mm x 16.5mm
Plate III	Marginal line absent,	Lines 28mm x 16.5mm



Proof - Design
Signed L Schmutz



Proof in Issued Colours
on card

Perforations 11.5 x 11.5



Plate I. Positions 6-10.

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Plate I - position 7 & 8

Perf 13.5 x 13



Plate I - position 9 & 10
DOUBLE PERF 13.5

Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Plate 2 or 3
Position 8

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Plate 3
No Marginal Line

Perf 12 x 13



Plate 2 or 3
Position 4

Perf 12.5 x 13



Plate 1 or 2 - Marginal Line

Perf 13 x 11.5



Plate 3 - [no marginal Line]

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 12.5 x 12.5



Perf 13 x 11.5



Perf 13 x 12.5



Perf 13 x 13



Perf 13.5 x 11.5



Perf 13.5 x 13.5



Perf 14 x 11



Perf 14 x 11



Perf 14 x 11.5



Perf 14 x 11.5



Perf 14 x 13



Perf 11.5 x 12.5



Perf 11.5 x 12



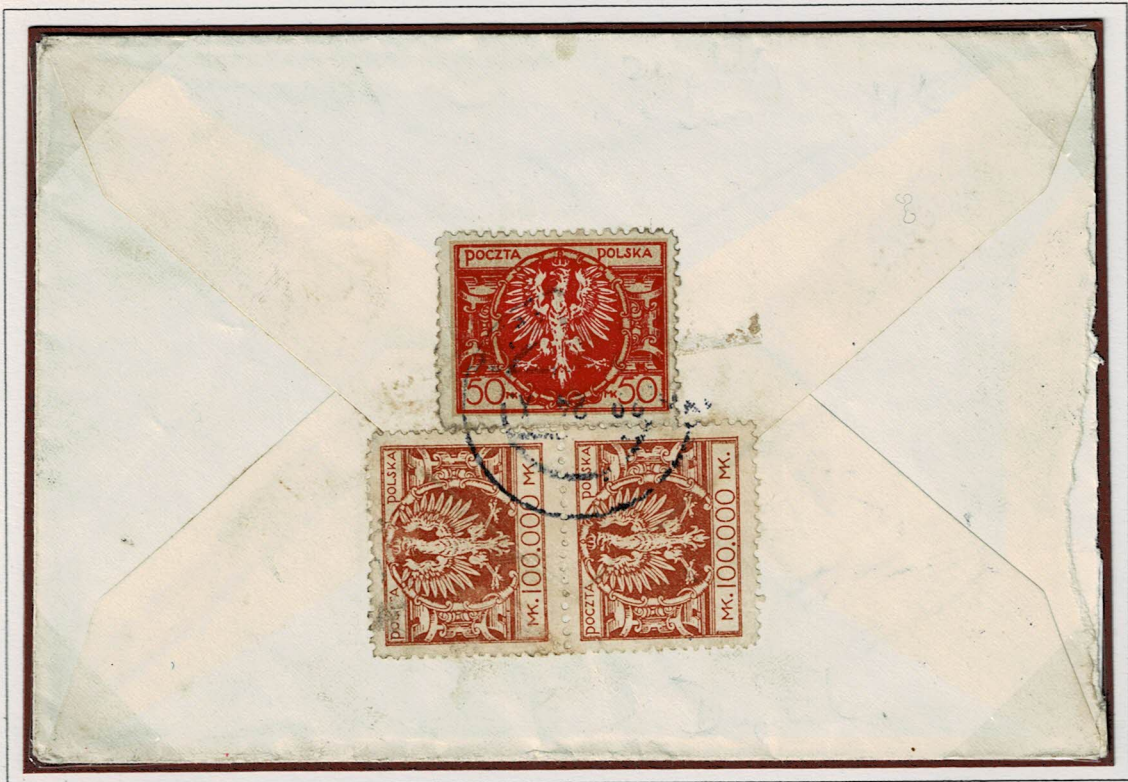
Perf 13 x 13



Plate I - position 4

Plate I or II

Perf 11.5.



28.2.24 - Used after 50Mł banned from usage [January 15, 1924]
5th Tariff Period Internal Letter rate 200,000Mł

100 Mark

Two Issues: June 1921 and January 1923.

1st Issue:

Issued June 1921. Paper medium white wove. Perforations 10.5 to 14.5 in combination

Shades: Brown – light to dark; Orange – pale to deep. Two Plates – distinguishable by marginal markings only.

Plate I. Top margin is blank, no marginal lines

Plate II. Has values printed between row of vertical lines at top margin. No marginal lines.

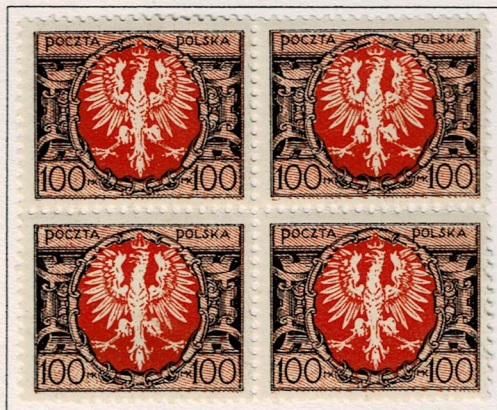


PROOF



Positions 96 - 100 Perf 11.5 x 11.5

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11



Perf 11 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



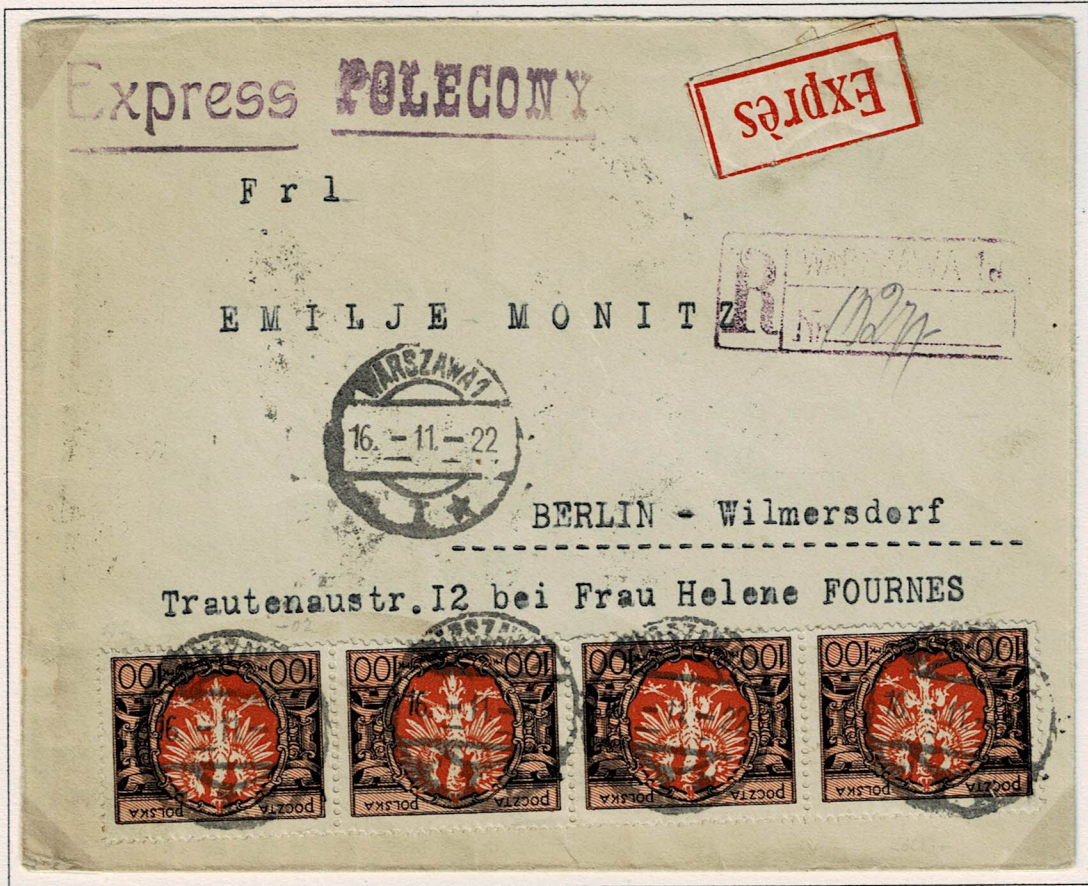
Perf 12.5 x 14



Perf 13.5 x 13



First Issue: Perforation 13.5 x 13.5



4 x 100 Mk = 400Mk: Registered Express Warsaw to Berlin 16 11 22
Rate period Sept 1 - Dec 15 1922, Letter 100Mk; Registration 100Mk: Express 200Mk

First issue: Perforation 13.5 x 12.5



100Mk Czarna to USA.
Correct Foreign Letter Rate Sept 1 - Dec 15 1922

2nd Issue:

Issued January 1923. Printed on thick yellowish rough paper

Brown and Orange [lighter than first issue]. Perforations 11 to 14 in combination.

Plate II only used – values in top margin between vertical lines.

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 12 x 12



Perf 12.5 x 13



Plate II Position 1

Perf 11.5 x 11



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 12



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 12 x 12



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 13 x 11



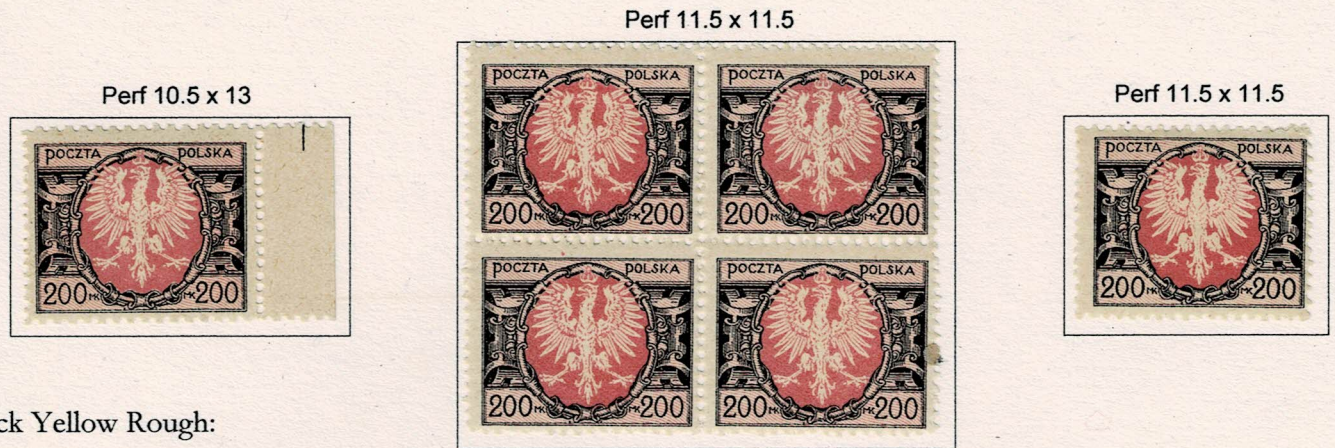
Perf 13 x 13.5



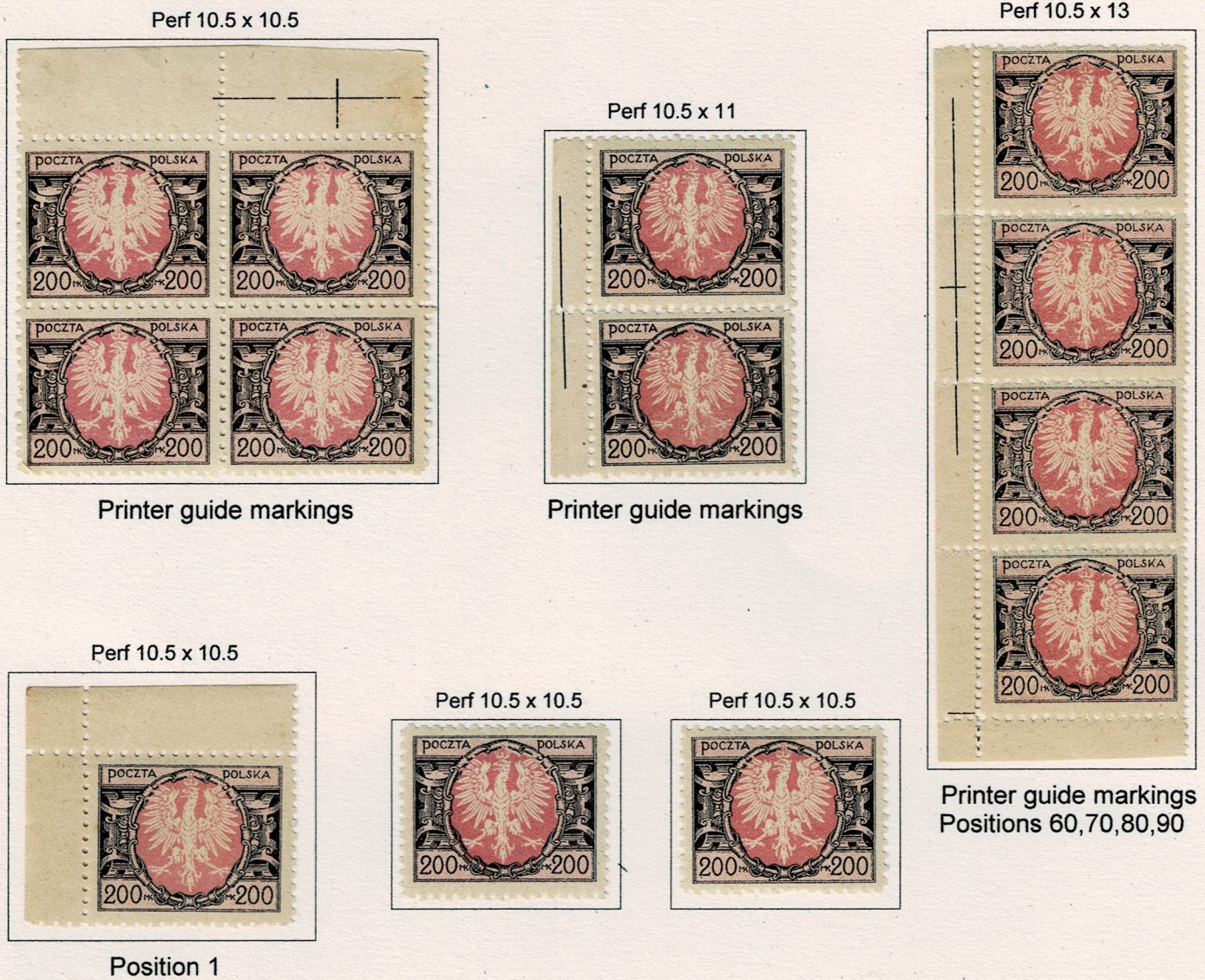
200 Mark

Issued January 1923. Black and shades of pink. Perforations 10.5 to 13.5 in combination. One plate without marginal markings. Issued simultaneously on thick yellowish rough paper and a smaller quantity of thin wove paper.

Thin Wove:



Thick Yellow Rough:



Perf 11 x 11.5



Perf 11 x 12



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 12 x 10.5



Perf 12 x 11



Perf 12 x 13



3 x 200Mk P11.5 used as POSTAGE DUE with "T" [Internal postcard rate 1/4-1/9/23 300Mk]



Przezany 18 VI 23, assessed Postage Due '600' cancelled Przezany 19 VI 23 - redirected back and 3 x 200Mk Dues applied cancelled 22 VI 23



Large Eagle Design – Second Series

Owing to the further depreciation of the Mark, stamps of higher denomination had to be prepared and issued in quick succession. Between February and April 1923 there were five Large Eagle design issued: 300Mk, 400Mk, 500Mk, 1000Mk and 200Mk.

300Mk

Issued February 20, 1923.

1st Issue: Majority on thin wove paper of varying thickness with perforations 10 to 14 in combination.

2nd Issue: Small proportion by rotary machine on pelure paper, perforation 12.5.

Shades of yellowish-green to green.

1st Issue:



PROOF in Issued
Colour



Imperforate Left margin



Marginal marking
Position 9



Perforation 10.5 x 11



300Mk Inland postcard rate April 1 - September 1, 1923.
20.V.23 Rawicz-Poznan Post Wagon No.210 to Krakow

2nd Issue:

Perf 12.5



Marginal markings 26mm x 11mm
Positions 1, 2 & 11, 12

Perf 12.5



Marginal Marking
Position 10

Perf 12.5



400Mk

Issued February 20, 1923. Printed by rotary machine on pelure paper, perforation 12.5. Shades of lilac-brown.

Missing pin & 'blind' perforations



3 'blind' Perforations



Marginal Marking
Position 4



Marginal Marking
Position 5

Marginal Markings 26mm x 11mm
Positions 4 & 5; 14 & 15

Missing pin & 'Blind' perforations



Lower Marginal Block

Pale Lilac-Brown



Lilac-Brown



Deep Lilac-Brown



Position 5

500Mk

Issued February 20, 1923.

1st Issue: Majority on thin wove paper of varying thickness with perforations 10.5 to 14 in combination.

2nd Issue: Small proportion by rotary machine on pelure paper, perforation 12.5.

Shades of lilac-purple

1st Issue:



PROOF
In Issued Colour



PROOF
In Issued Colour

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Marginal Marking
Position 3

Perf 11.5 x 12



Marginal Marking
Position 3

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Marginal Marking
Position 4

Perf 12 x 12



Marginal Marking
Position 7

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 12 x 12



Perf 12 x 12.5



Perf 12 x 12.5



Perf 12 x 13



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 10.5



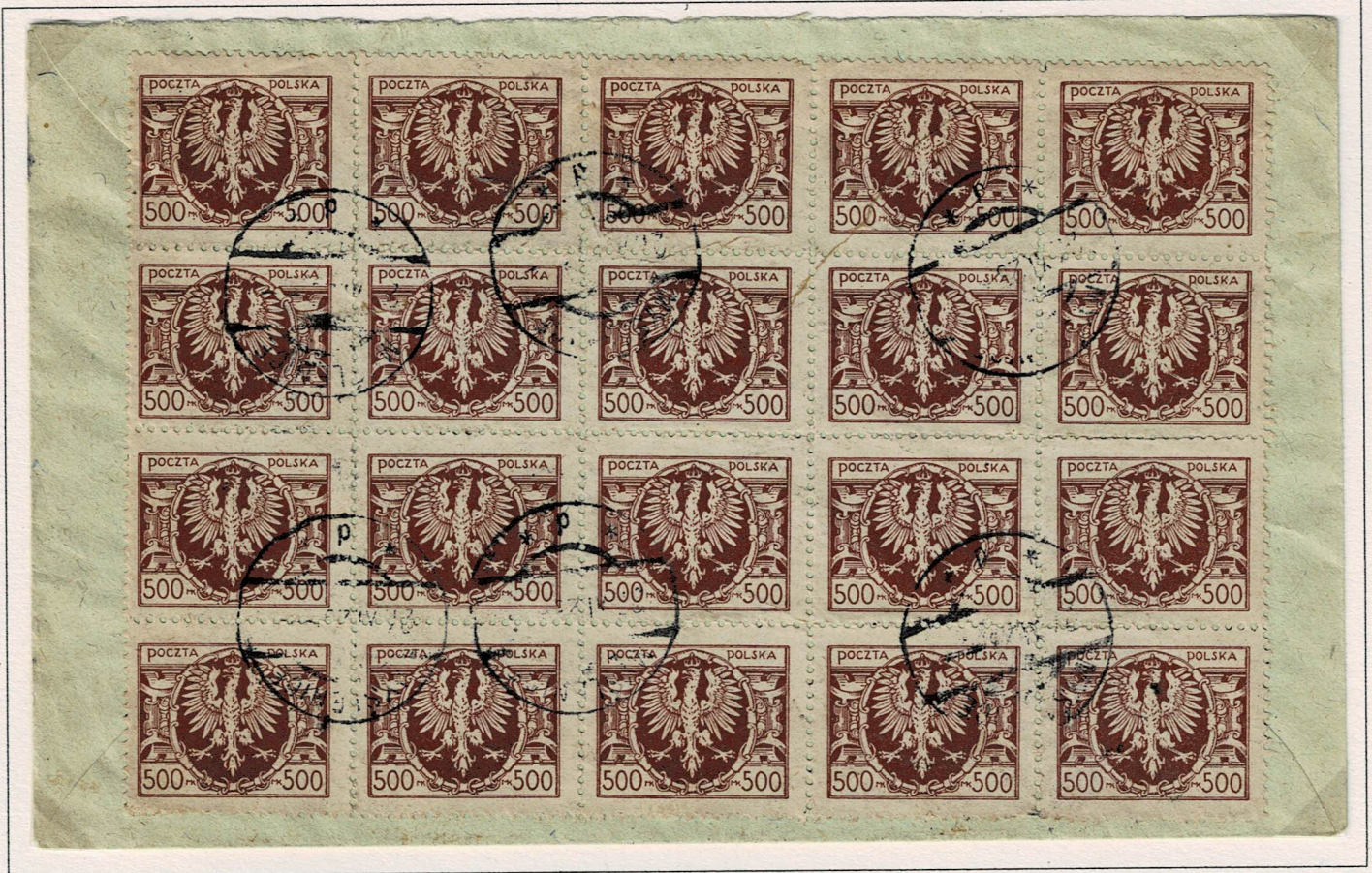
Perf 11.5 x 12



Perf 12.5



20 x 500Mk - Perforation 11.5 x 12



Inland Letter cancelled 27 XI 23

Correct 10,000Mk postage for period November 1, 1923 to December 1, 1923

2nd Issue

A peculiarity of the Rotary Plate was that the vertical spacing down the centre of the sheet is usually 1mm narrower than the vertical spacing on the remainder of the sheet with the Post Office Control marking numbers on the top margins beginning and ending on each half sheet



Positions 5 & 6 with narrow vertical margins and 25000 and 5000



1000Mk

Issued April 7, 1923.

Printed on wove paper of varying thickness.

Perforations 10.5 to 13 in combination. Shades of orange-yellow.

Perf 12.5 x 13



Perf 10.5 x 13



PROOF
In Issued Colour

Marginal Markings 26mm x 15mm
Positions 5 & 6

Marginal Markings
Positions 6 & 7; 16 & 17

Perf 11.5 x 11



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



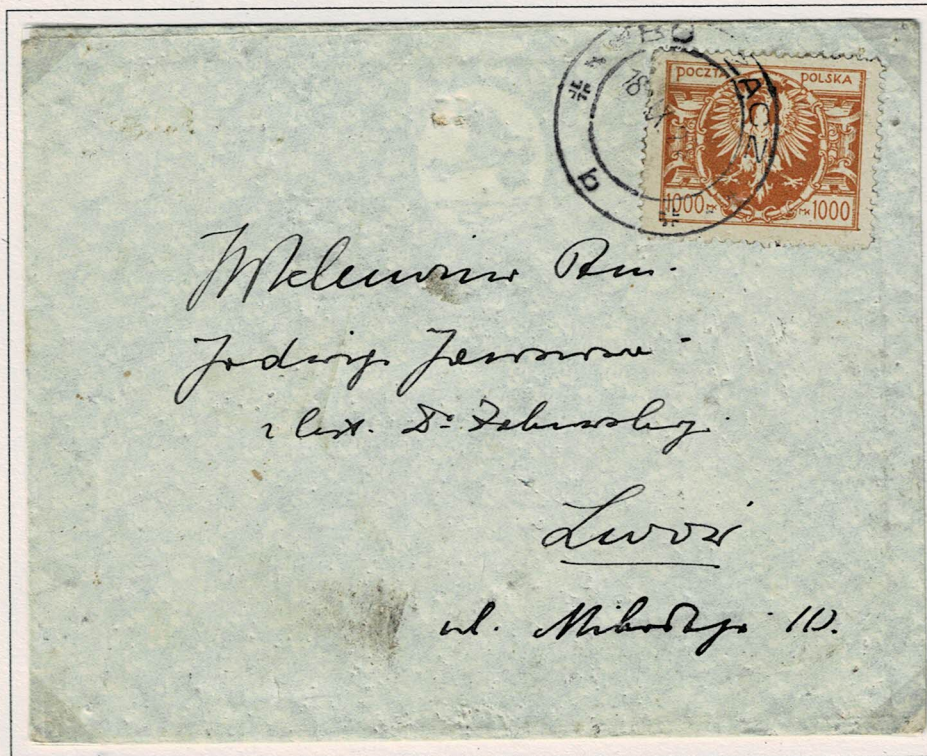
Perf 11.5 x 12



Perf 12 x 12



Perf 10.5 x 12.5



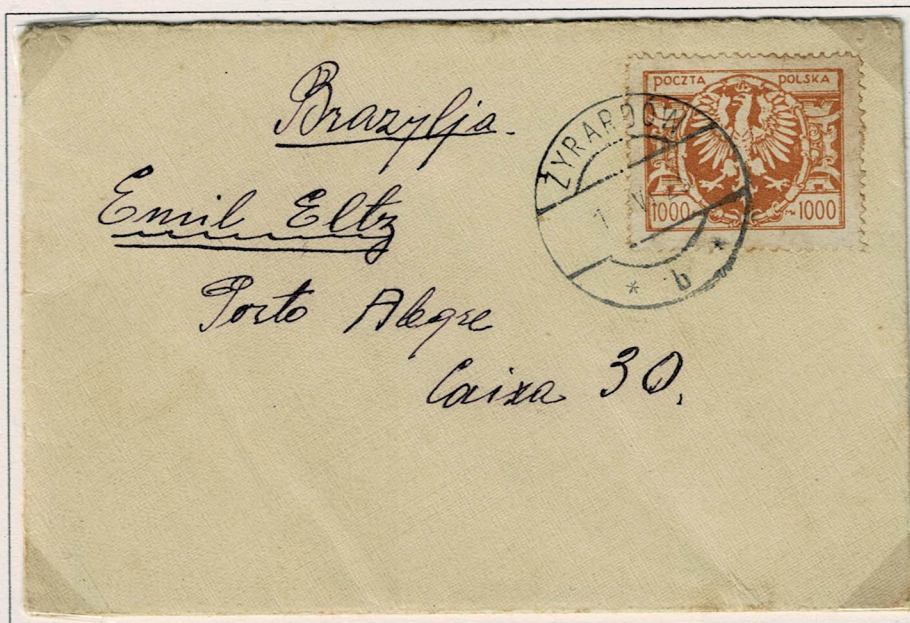
1000Mk Correct Inland Letter September 1, 1923 - October 1, 1923

Marginal Markings: Position 3 & 13 Perforation 10.5 x 12.5



2 x 1000Mk Registered Letter Tomaszow Rawski to Germany 21.8.23
Correct Registered letter [1000 + 1000Mk] April 1 - September 1, 1923

Perforationb 12.5 x 13



1000Mk Zyrardow to Brasil
Correct 1000 Mk rate April 1 - September 1, 1923

2000Mk

Issued April 20, 1923.

1st Issue: Majority on thin wove paper of varying thickness Perforations 10.5 to 13.5. Blue

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Positions 81 & 82; 91 & 92

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Marginal Markings
Position 2

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Marginal Markings
Position 3 & 13

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Perf 12.5 x 10.5



Perf 12.5 x 12



Perf 13.5 x 13



2nd Issue: Small proportion by rotary machine on pelure paper. Perforation 12.5. Ultramarine



Marginal Markings
Position 2



Marginal Markings Position 3 & 4
26mm x 11mm



Marginal Markings
Position 3



1923 Surcharges

In response to the increasing inflation and associated rising postal charges, the postal administration overprinted existing stocks of previous issues to meet the demand. 10,000 Mark on 25 Mk large eagle design; 25,000 Mark on 20 Mk [both sizes] Peace Treaty with Russia; 50,000 mark on 10 Mk [both sizes] Peace Treaty with Russia. Issued between October and November 1923.

10 Thousand on 25 Mk Large Eagle

Issued October 12, 1923, withdrawn April 30, 1924. Each of the three issues was overprinted; over 95% being of the issue of December 1922 with overprinted issue of February 1922 being the least common.

1st Issue – June 1921 on medium white wove paper

2nd Issue – February 1922 on thick smooth wove paper with bluish-gray tinge

3rd Issue – December 1922 on thick wove paper – Background same size as design.

1st Issue:

Perf 13.5 x 13.5



Perf 13 x 12.5



Perf 11.5 x 12.5



Perf 13.5 x 13.5



Surcharge displaced to right

Perf 12 x 12



Perf 12.5 x 11



Perf 12.5 x 12



Perf 13.5 x 11.5



Perf 14 x 11



2nd Issue:

Perf 12 x 12.5



Perf 12.5 x 13



Perf 13 x 13



Perf 13.5 x 11.5



Offset

3rd Issue:

Perf 12.5 x 13.5



Marginal Line

Perf 12.25 x 11.5



Marginal Line

Perf 13.5 x 11.5



Light Printing "10"

Perf 12 x 13



Marginal Line

Perf 12.5 x 11.5 - "m"



Printing without Marginal Line

Perf 10 x 11.5 - "m"



Perf 13 x 12.25 - "m"



Perf 10.5 x 13 - "m"



Perf 12.5 x 12.5 - "m"



Perf 13 x 13 - "m"



Perf 12 x 12 - "m"



Perf 12 x 13 - "m"



Perf 12.5 x 12 - "m"



Perf 12.5 x 12.25 - "m"



Perf 10.5 x 12.5



Surcharge Varieties

Perf 11.5 x 12.5 - "m"



Extra Printed Line

Perf 13 x 11.5 - "m"



Var. Broken "E"

Perf 11.5 x 11 - "m"



Var. Split "0"

Perf 12 x 11.5 - "m"



Var. Dot below "Y"



Left: Double Perforation Vertically 12.5:

Right P 13.5 x 12.5 with Horizontal Double Perf 12.5



Registered Letter Dziedzice to Mines Company in Libiaz. 25.1.24
2nd tariff period 16.1.24 to 1.2.24 R-letter 400,000Mk - 10000Mk revalued x 10

25,000 Mk on 20 Mk Peace Treaty Issue

Surcharge issued November 9, 1923 on each issue of the 20Mk. Withdrawn 30 April 1924

1st Issue – May 1921. Large format, thin wove paper. Perforations 9 or 11.5

2nd Issue – April 1922. Small format on pelure paper perforation 12.5

3rd Issue – September 1922. Small format on thick wove paper

1st Issue: Perforation 9.



Block from lower part of sheet showing some printing debris



Clean Perfs

Rough Perfs

Var. Double
Overprint

Var. Double
Overprint

Var Broken 'O'



Block -very rough perfs, printing debris



Surcharge Inverted



Rough Perfs



Rough Perfs

Clean Perforations



Clean Perforations



Clean - Print Debris



Rough Perfs



Rough Perfs



Very Rough Perfs



Very Rough Perfs



Very Rough Perfs



34 x 25000Mk Rough Perfs Cancelled 1 XII 1924



Demonstrates 4 degree Surcharge Angulation

2nd Issue:

on bright red



on carmine red



on dull red



thick "MK"



displaced right



3rd Issue:

Perf 14 x 11.5



Inverted Surcharge

Perf 13.5 x 11.5



Dot instead of Comma

Perf 12 x 10.5



Perf 12.5 x 11



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Blurred Surcharge

Perf 12.5 x 12.5



Perf 12.5 x 13.5



Perf 13 x 11.5



Perf 13 x 13



Perf 13.5 x 13



Perf 14 x 11



Perf 14 x 13



Perf 14 x 13.5



Perf 14.5 x 11



Perf 14.5 x 13.5



Perf 14.5 x 13.5



Blurred Surcharge

6 x 25,000 on 20Mk - Perforation 13 x 13



Registered Express 17.XII.23 Warsaw to Sieradz - correct rate 150,000Mk
[Letter 25,000Mk; Registration 25,000Mk; Express Delivery 100,000Mk]

50,000 Mk on 10 Mk Peace Treaty Issue

The 50,000 Mark surcharge on the 10 Mk value of the Peace Treaty with Russia issue was released November 9, 1923. Of the 6 issues of the 10Mk, only 4 received the surcharge:

- A. 2nd Issue – May 1921 – Die I [28mm x 22mm] on wove paper
- B. 6th Issue – April 1922 – Die I rotary plate on pelure paper Perf 12.5 Very few sheets used
- C. 4th Issue – March 1922 – Die II [27.25mm x 21.5mm] on thin wove paper
- D. 5th Issue – April 1922 – Die II on thick wove paper.

A: Die I

Perf 12 x 13.5



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 13.5 x 13



Perf 13.5 x 13.5



Perf 14 x 11



Perf 14 x 11



Perf 14 x 11.5



Perf 14 x 13.5



Perf 14.5 x 12



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 14.5 x 12.5



Perf 13.5 x 11



Perf 12.5



Var. Broken "O"

Surcharged
Misplaced

Surcharged
Misplaced

B: Die I

C: Die II

Perf 12 x 12.5



Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 12.5 x 12.5



Perf 12.5 x 13



Perf 12.5 x 13



Perf 13.5 x 11



Perf 14 x 12



D: Die II

Perf 12.5 x 11



Weak "MK" variety

Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Positions 99 & 100

Perf 12.5 x 11.5



Perf 12.5 x 13



Perf 13 x 11



Perf 13 x 11



Perf 14 x 13.5



Surcharge Varieties

Perf 14 x 13.5 - "s"



Short "K"

Perf 14.5 x 13.5 - "m"



Weak "MK"

Perf 12 x 12.5 - "m"



Broken "O"

Perf 14 x 12 - "m"



Broken "M"

Perf 11.5 - "m"



Displaced left

Perf 13.5 x 13 - "s"



Displaced right

Perf 14 x 11.5 - "s"



Displaced right

Perf 12.5 - "m"



Displaced right

50,000/10Mk perf 12.5 + 2 x 50000/10Mk perf 11 x 11.5



Internal Postcard with 150,000Mk - cancelled 22 IV 24
9th Tariff period 16th-30th April 1924

1924 Surcharges

Two values from the small eagle issue of 1920-1921 were surcharged in 1924 to meet rising postal charges: 20,000 Mk on 2 Mk green on March 18, 1924 and 100,000 Mk on 5Mk brown-purple issued in January 1924. Both withdrawn 30 April 1924.

20,000 Mk on 2 Mk Small Eagle Issue

There are three issues of the 2Mk that received the surcharge:

- A Plate I – on horizontally laid paper – very few sheets surcharged
- B Plate II – on thin white wove paper – very few sheets surcharged
- C Plate II – on thickish yellow wove paper – vast majority of issue.

A: Plate I

This has an indistinct serif on the "A" of POLSKA

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11 x 11



Perf 12.75 x 12.75



B: Plate II

Var. Dot instead of Comma

Var. Deformed "2"

Perf 13 x 13

Perf 12.5 x 12.5



Perf 13 x 11.5



Perf 14 x 13.5



Marginal Marking Position 2

C: Plate II

Perf 13.5 x 13.5



Marginal Markings Positions 1-3

Perf 12.75 x 12.75



DOUBLE Surcharge

Perf 13.5 x 13.5



Perf 11 x 11



Perf 12.75 x 12.75



Marginal Markings
Positions 7-10 & 17 - 20

Perf 11 x 11



Perf 11 x 11



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 12 x 12.5



Perf 12.5 x 12.5



Perf 12.75 x 12.75



Perf 12.75 x 12.75



Perf 12.75 x 12.75



Perf 13.5 x 11.5



Perf 13.5 x 13.5



Perf 14.5 x 13.5



Perf 12.5 x 13.5



Offset

Perf 12.75 x 12.75



Var heavy "2"

Perf 14.5 x 13.5



Var. Broken "M"

Perf 14.5 x 13.5



DOUBLE
surcharge

Perf 13.5 x 11.5



Dry Ink

Perf 12.75 x 12.75



Dry Ink

Perf 12.75 x 12.75



Var. weak "MK"

Perf 12.75 x 12.75



Heavy Print

Perf 12.75 x 12.75



Heavy Print
& Misplaced

Perf 12.5 x 12.5



Heavy Print

Perf 13.5 x 11.5



Heavy Print

Block of 25 stamps - Plate II - Perforation 12 x 12.5



14.IV 24 [last week of use] Czestochowa to Warsaw.
Correct Inland Letter rate [20-250gm] 28 tariff units = 500,000Mk

100,000 Mk on 5 Mk Small Eagle Issue

There were two flat plates used to print the 5 Mk small eagle stamp distinguishable only by the marginal markings:

- Plate I – Marginal markings 17.5mm x 12mm with Marginal Line
- Plate II – Marginal markings 17.5mm x 16mm with no Marginal Line

There were three distinctive printings of the stamp with many perforation varieties.

- A On white thin wove paper
- B Yellowish thick rough paper
- C Very tin white wove paper

A: Thin white wove paper:



Plate I
Marginal Line

Var. Thick "1"

Var. Weak right "MK"

B: Yellowish



Plate II Marginal Marking 17.5 x 16
Positions 9,10,19, 20

Plate II
Position 7

Perf 12.5 x 13.5



Misplaced Surcharge

Perf 13.5 x 11



Var. Abnormal Comma

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Blurred "MK"

Perf 11.5 x 12.5



Var. Distorted second "0"

Perf 12 x 13.5



Overinked

Perf 12.5 x 12.5



Plate Debris Position 40

Perf 12 x 12



Misplaced Surcharge

Perf 12.5 x 14



Misplaced Surcharge

Perf 13 x 13



Misplaced Surcharge

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Misplaced Surcharge

C: Pelure

Perf 12.5 x 12.5



Plate I - Marginal markings + Marginal Line - Positions 9 & 10

Perf 11 x 11



Partial Double

Perf 12 x 12.5



Blurred "MK"

Perf 12.5 x 12.5



Weak "MK"

Perf 13.5 x 11



Misplaced Surcharge

Perf 11.5



Var. Short "M"

Perf 12.5 x 13



Partial Double

Perf 12 x 12.5



Blurred "MK"

Perf 12.5 x 12.5



Weak "MK"

Perf 13 x 13



Misplaced Surcharge

Perf 14 x 14.5



Misplaced Surcharge

Surcharge Combination



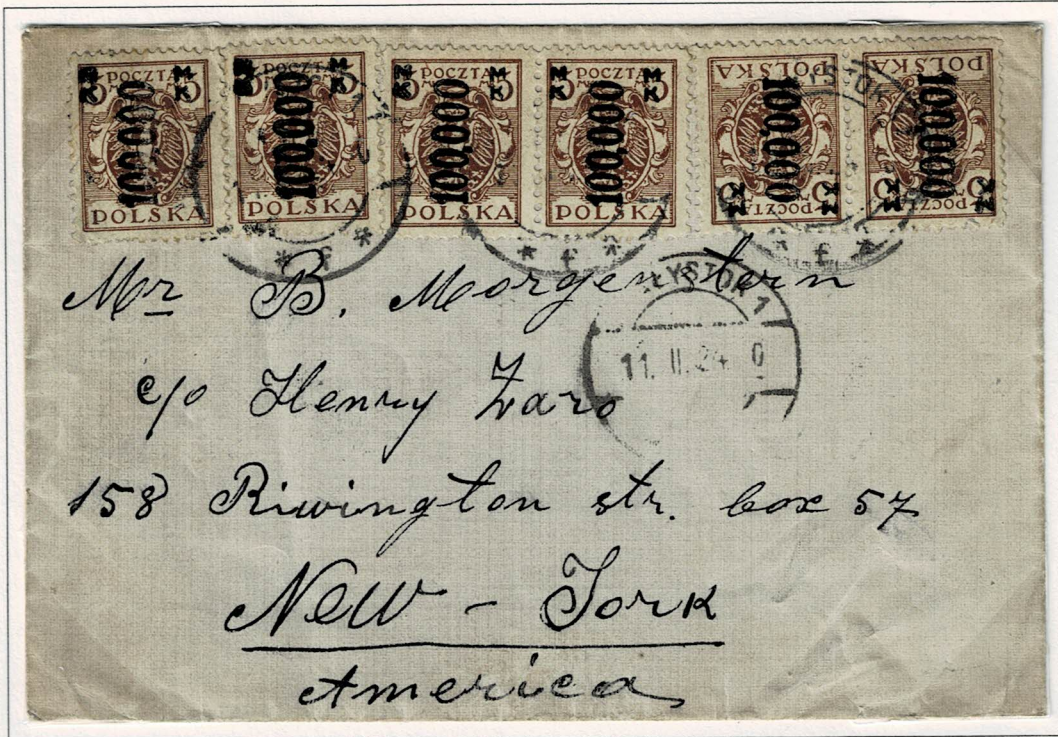
Postcard to Vienna cancelled 17 I 24 - 2nd Tariff period (January 16-31, 1924)
 Total Postage = 275,000Mk
 2 x 100,000Mk - perf 11.5 x 12.5 - left stamp Var. 'Dot below 2nd 0' - position 2
 50,000Mk (Plate II) - perf 13 x 11.5; 25,000Mk (Plate II) - perf 13.5 x 11.5

Combination Letter



Inland Letter posted 30 IV 24 - LAST DAY of Inflation period
 50,000Mk (Plate II); 25,000Mk (Plate II); 5,000Mk Copernicus - all Perf 12.5
 Total Postage = 80,000Mk

6 x 100,000Mk surcharge, perf 11.5



Letter to New York, USA cancelled 11 II 24 - 3rd Tariff Period (February 1-15, 1924)
Total postgae = 600,000Mk

2 x 100,000Mk on 5Mk - perf 12.5 + 3 x 50,000Mk on 10Mk + 10,000Mk on 25Mk



Postcard to Berlin cancelled 26 I 24 - 2nd tariff Period (January 16 - 31, 1924)
Total postgae = 360,000Mk

Large Eagle Designs – 1924

Continuing inflation and increasing postal charges necessitated new values in the Large Eagle series to supplement the surcharged stamps. There were 9 new issues of face value between 10,000 and 2,000,000 Marks. These were issued in four lots: All denominations were withdrawn from use April 30, 1924.

10,000; 20,000; 30,000; 50,000 Mk in mid-January 1924 simultaneously on thin or medium white wove paper.

100,000; 200,000; 300,000 Mk in February 1924 on medium white wove and very thin papers

500,000 Mk in February 1924 on thin and medium white wove and very thin papers

1,000,000; 2,000,000 Mk issued March 1924 on medium white wove paper only.

10,000 Mk

White Wove Paper – perforations 10.5 x 10.5 or 11.5 x 11.5.

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Marginal Marking
Position 1

Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Marginal Position 6
LAST DAY 30 IV 24

Thin White paper - Comb Perforation 11.5 x 11.75



Position 91

20,000 Mk

Medium white wove paper.
Perforations 10.5 to 12.5 in combination

Perf 12 x 12



PROOF in Issued
Colour



Marginal marking
Position 4

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Very Thin Paper Comb 11.5 x 11.75

Perf 11.5 x 111.5



Perf 11.5 x 12



Comb 11.5 x 11.75



Comb 11.5 x 11.75



10,000 Mk medium white wove paper Perf 11.5 x 12.



Postcard 28 IV 24 [3 days before validity ended]
Inland postcard rate last Tariff Period 16-30 April 1924 - 150,000Mk

30,000 Mk

Perf 10.5 x 10.5

Medium white wove paper.
Perforations 10.5 to 12.5 in combination



PROOF
in Issued Colour



Marginal marking
Position 1

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



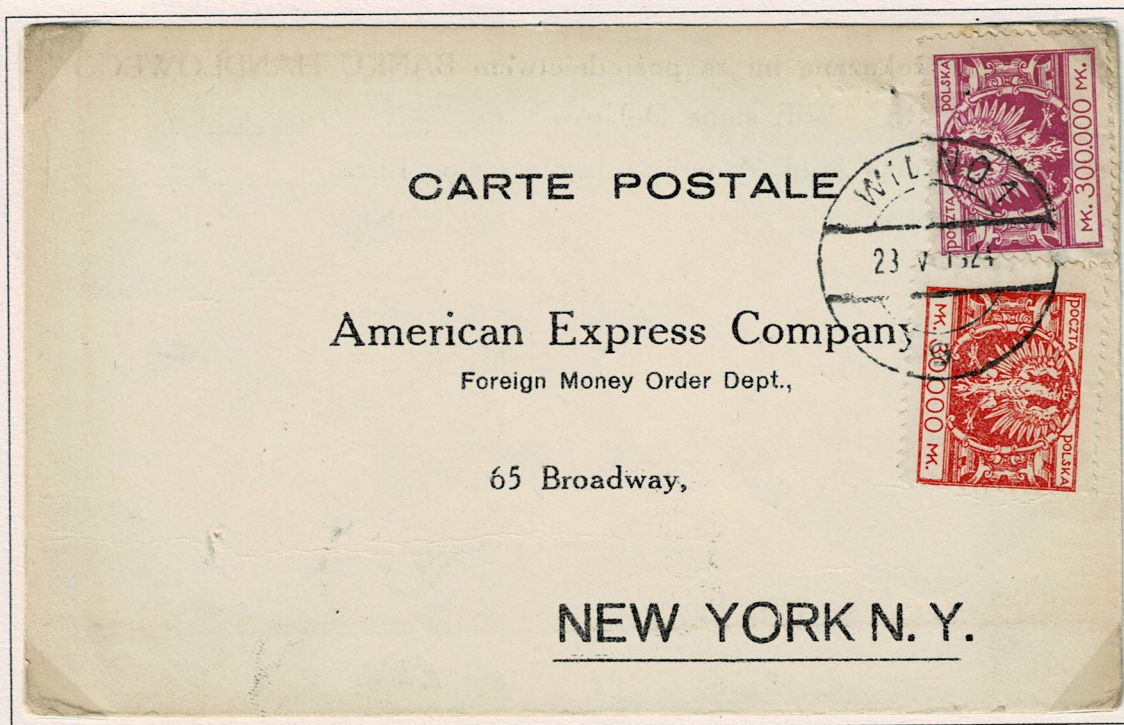
Perf 12 x 12



Perf 12 x 12.5



Very thin paper
Comb 11.5 x 11.75



30,000Mk [perf 11.5] + 300,000Mk = 330,000Mk. Wilno 23 IV 1924
Foreign Postcard rate 16-30 April 1924. Receipt for 1 million Marks

50,000 Mk

Perf 10.5 x 10.5

Medium white wove paper.

Perforations 10.5 to 12.5 in combination



PROOF in Issued Colour



Marginal Marking
Position 9

Perf 10.5 x 10.5

Perf 11.5 x 11.5

Perf 12 x 12

Very Thin paper

Comb Perf 11.5 x 11.75



50,000Mk Perf 11.5 x 11.5 - lower marginal copy IMPERFORATE LOWER MARGIN



20 3 24 Poznan to Krakow with 200,00Mk + 2 x 5000Mk + 50,000Mk = 260,000Mk
Inland letter rate 16-31 March 1924 250,000Mk

100,000 Mk

Perf 10.5 x 10.5

Medium white wove paper.
Perforations 10 to 13 in combination

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Perf 11 x 10.5



Perf 11 x 11



Marginal marking
Position 2

Perf 11.5 x 13



Perf 11.5 x 12.5



Perf 12 x 12



Very Thin Paper



Comb 11.5 x 11.75



Medium White Wove paper Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Marginal Marking Position 10.

200,000 Mk

Medium white wove paper.
Perforations 10.5 to 12.5 in combination

Perf 12.5 x 12.5

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Perf 10.5 x 11



Marginal Marking
Position 9

Perf 11 x 11



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Misplaced Perforations

Very Thin Paper Comb Perf 11.75 x 11.5



Medium Wove Paper Perf 11.5 x 11.5



4 III 24 Warsaw Local Letter - 5th Tariff Period
Correct Single Franking 200,000Mk

300000 Mk



Registered parcel 1500gm Krakow to USA [part wrapper]

Franking 3,850,000Mk

12 x 300000Mk + 2 x 100000/5Mk + 5 x 10000/25Mk

300000 Mk



Registered Letter Cieszyn 6.III.24

3 x 300000Mk + 3 x 25000Mk = 975000Mk

300,000 Mk

Medium white wove paper.
Perforations 10.5 to 12.5 in combination

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



Perf 11 x 11



Perf 11 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 11.5



Perf 11.5 x 12



Perf 11.5 x 12



Very Thin Paper - Comb Perf 11.75 x 11.5



500,000 Mk

3 Papers: Medium White Wove; Thin Wove; Very Thin Paper - all perforation 11.5 x 11.75

Medium Wove



Medium Wove



Thin Wove



Thin Wove



Thin Wove



Very Thin Paper



Medium Wove



1,000,000 Mk

Medium White Wove Paper – Perforations 11.5 x 11.75. Stocks removed to Germany and exist Perforated 10.5 x 10.5



PROOF in Issued Colour

Marginal marking



Position 8
Broken "0" variety

Perforation 11.5



FORGERY Position 1
[No marginal markings]



Forged Warsaw
Postmark 2 X 2_

Expert L Schmutz



Genuine Use
WARSAW 10 IV 24



Genuine Use
WARSAW 9 III 1924

Perf 10.5



Perf 10.5



Perf 10.5



Perf 10.5



1,000,000 Mk Genuine Usage

All genuine usages of the 1,000,000 Mk Large Eagle recorded are perforated 11.75 x 11.5.

Genuine Used Recorded Numbers¹ – Covers 24; Stamps 57.



Registered Wresnia 19.4.24 to Braunsberg, received 21.4.24.
Correct Foreign Registered Letter [15-30 April 1924] 1,000,000 + 100,000 Mk

¹ Personal communication K. Skwara

2,000,000 Mk

Medium White Wove Paper – Perforations 11.5 x 11.75. Stocks removed to Germany and exist Perforated 10.5 x 10.5

Expertised L. Schmutz



PROOF in Issued Colour



Marginal Marking Position 6



Perf 10.5 x 10.5

Perf 10.5 x 10.5



"Line through left MK" variety



"Break left leg of left M" variety



"PQCZTA" variety

1000000

2000000

3000000

4000000

5000000

6000000

7000000

8000000

9000000

10000000



20,000,000

40,000,000

60,000,000

80,000,000

100,000,000

180,000,000

200,000,000

