
**ILLUSTRATED
POSTAGE STAMP
HISTORY
OF
WESTERN
UKRAINIAN
REPUBLIC
1918 - 1919**

JOHN BULAT



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by
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PREFACE

My last few years have been devoted to the study of the postage stamps of the Western Ukrainian National Republic, since we did not have their full description, nor a full history of the appearance of these stamps. There existed no comprehensive works about these stamps, with the exception of two works by such experts in Ukrainian philately as Dr. Ivan Cherniavsky [Czerniawskyj] for the Kolomyia [Kolomea, Kolomyja] issue stamps, and Josef Baumgarten for the Stanyslaviv [Stanislau, Stanisławów, Ivano-Frankivsk], postal direction issues.

There are still quite a few stamps of the Western Ukrainian Republic on the stamp market, but in their overwhelming majority they are counterfeits, so well made that it is not easy to differentiate between them and the genuine ones. It is precisely this problem that has prompted me to collect these stamps (the basic ones in complete sheets) in order to be able to study their authenticity with greater accuracy. On the basis of these sheets and the typical character of some of the overprints on them, I have managed to discover the determinant characteristics of the genuineness of these overprints. It has thus become possible to distinguish forged stamps from the genuine specimens, because these overprints differ from the genuine ones by their setting and mutual relationships in the positions of the characters and by the hues of the overprint colors. Such an analysis will help us to systematize all the postage stamps of the Western Ukrainian Republic and to enable the collectors to differentiate between the genuine stamps and the counterfeits.

Apart from the already mentioned Dr. Cherniavsky, among the best experts of the Western Ukrainian Republic stamps were Leo Stein, Karl Körner and Josef Baumgarten. Unfortunately, there have already appeared forged verifying experts' stamps (signature) of some of them. In the case of Baumgarten, his verifying stamp is not a fake one, but has probably found itself in the hands of a forger. We find his verifying expert stamp with the original signature, for instance on the forged Kolomyia stamps. There are also in existence forged verifying stamps of Körner and Leo Stein.

Signatures on the stamps of J.B., Richter, Hoss, Poburennny, *Ж* (this longhand symbol in the Ukrainian alphabet is a joining of the letters "П" and "с" to stand for the initials of Poburennny Stefan) and others are nothing but conscious abuse of these names by the forgers, and all these

stamps are fakes. In my opinion, for instance, Poburennny's signature is the work of a forger who knew that the name of Poburennny, a former important functionary of the "Ekonomat" of the Direction of the Post, was known and for that reason no one would question his signature. However, as I have managed to discover, the stamp with Poburennny's signature is found mainly on the forgeries and never on the genuine items.

There are also many stamps verified by pseudo-experts who had limited knowledge of these stamp issues, and who, as a result, not infrequently made mistakes in their expertise.

This is why the task of the present work is to supplement the various works of the experts so far published and to finally introduce the proper order into this matter, also presenting adequate documentation in the entire monograph with illustrations.

The object of my studies of the Western Ukrainian stamps was also to make analytical description of the issues of various postal cancellations. The importance of these cancellations is not only meaningful for the study of the official postal service but also for the history. They reflected the entire political and military situation in the Western Ukrainian Republic and the spirit of the times which made itself felt on the multifarious patterns of the postal cancellation stamps in particular localities or postal districts. Especially valuable are cancellation stamps with the main element of the Western Ukrainian State coat of arms — the Lion.

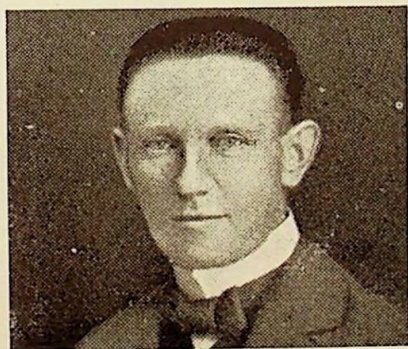
The conditions in which I happened to collect the material for this work were rather difficult. I did not have access to the appropriate museum material (which does not exist in the USA), nor to the participants in the State Post activities of that period because most of them are no longer living or live in Ukraine. They could not be replaced by informants who were only indirectly related to these matters or to the leading figures of those times. Nevertheless, this gap has been filled to a considerable extent by numerous articles published in the Ukrainian journal *Ukrains'kyi Filyatelyst*, which was published in Vienna in 1925-1939, and by published works of Dr. Cherniavsky and Baumgarten, and a few others whose names I mention at the end of this work when listing the literary sources used.

I feel it my pleasant duty to express my gratitude above all to Mr. W. L. Kirshak for fundamental editing of the Ukrainian text of this work, further, to Mr. W. B. Mykula for translating this work into English, to Mr. Julian G. Maksymczuk for information regarding Austro-Hungarian postal rates, to Mr. Leonid Pidstryhach for the preparation of the map, to Mr. P. Cholodny for designing the cover for this book, and to the photographer Mr. Sidney Louis Goldfarb for the precise technical execution of the illustrative material.

In addition, I wish to express my sincere thanks to those gentlemen who made available to me their valuable material about postage stamp issues of the Western Ukrainian Republic, and allowed me to photograph them, in particular to: Mr. Herbert J. Bloch, Mr. J. Busko, Mr. M. Chomiak, Mr. L. Czerny, Dr. M. A. Kamienski, Mr. R. P. Knighton, Mr. E. Kobylanski, Dr. E. Kotyk, Mr. G. Landre, Mr. Z. A. Mikulski, Dr. W. Pruc, Dr. R. Seichter, Mr. M. Switlyk, Mr. J. S. Terlecky.

Finally, I wish to remark that I would be very glad if, in the future, any expert in Ukrainian philately would supplement the material presented in this book even more extensively and with greater accuracy. This would present a broader, and perhaps a deeper picture of the field which I have described here relying on the material to which I have had access.

John Bulat



Aleksander Pisetsky
State Secretary of Post and Telegraph.

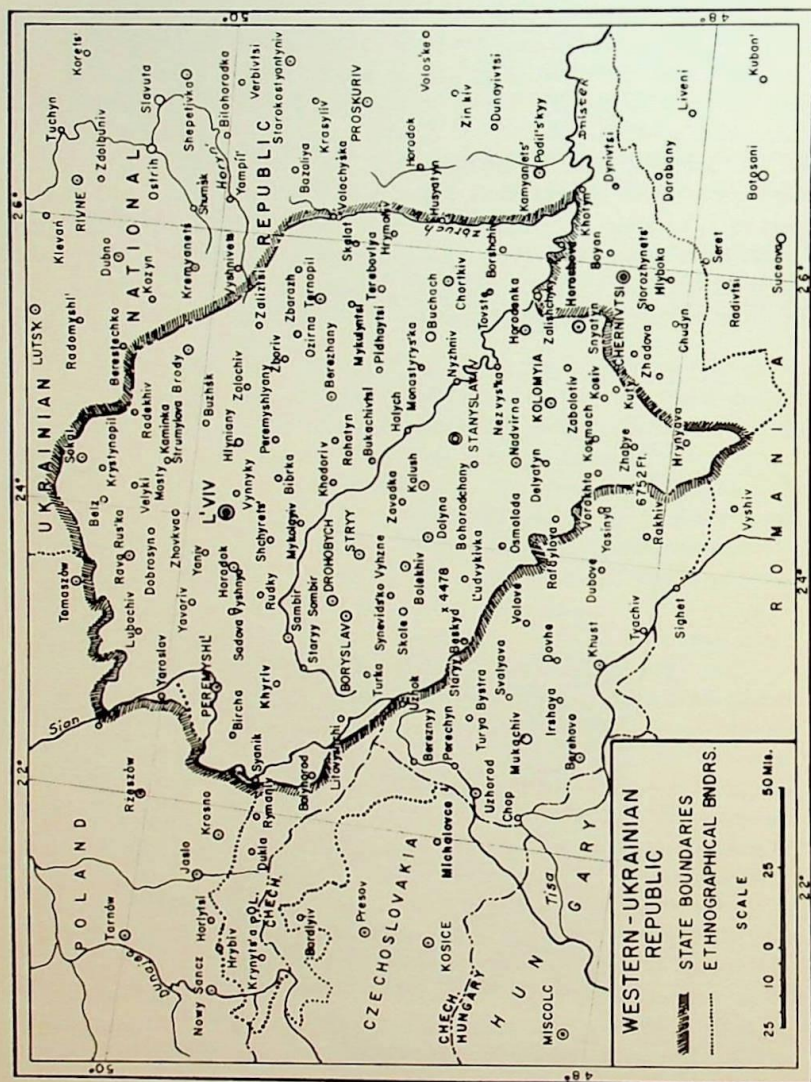


Figure 1. Map of the Western Ukrainian National Republic 1918-1919.

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1. THE LVIV ISSUE

On the eve of the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, on the night of November 1, 1918, at the instructions of the Ukrainian National Council, the Ukrainians carried out a successful coup d'état in Lviv [Lemberg, Lwów] and the entire East Galicia taking over all the important governmental and municipal institutions. The coup d'état was carried out in Lviv very quickly and efficiently in order to forestall an action by the Poles who, in accordance with their secret agreement with the Austrian government authorities, were to take over the state power from them on that very day. On November 9th the name of the new State was determined: the Western Ukrainian National Republic (Z.U.N.R.).

Immediately after the coup d'état there began full Ukrainization of government and administrative institutions, consequently also of post offices. The organization of postal services in the territory of Galicia during the regime of the newly established Western Ukrainian National Republic remained the same as it was under the Austrian rule. At first there existed an independent Ministry of the Post (termed Secretariat of the Post) which at the end of December of the same year, 1918, was changed to the Directorate of the Post and Telegraph. From that date on, it was to be under the supervision of the Ministry of Railroad, Post and Telegraph.

The Directorate of the Post had the right to decide all matters relating to postal services independently. It was obliged, however, to report about the more important decisions to the above-mentioned ministry under whose jurisdiction it now belonged. Only in very important cases of general state significance it had to have the approval of the Ministry. Originally, Aleksander Pisetsky [Piseckyj] became Minister of the Post, and in January 1919 this post was taken over by Ivan Myron, a railway engineer.

The post office in Valova Street began to work most efficiently of all the post offices in Lviv, most probably because the Ukrainization of this establishment required less expenditure of energy for this purpose, because — owing to a lucky coincidence — all postal workers there were Ukrainians. This was the first post office that opened in the city. At that time the functioning of the Lviv post extended throughout the territory of the city itself and to the east of it and south-east along the railroad Lviv—Pidhaytsi.

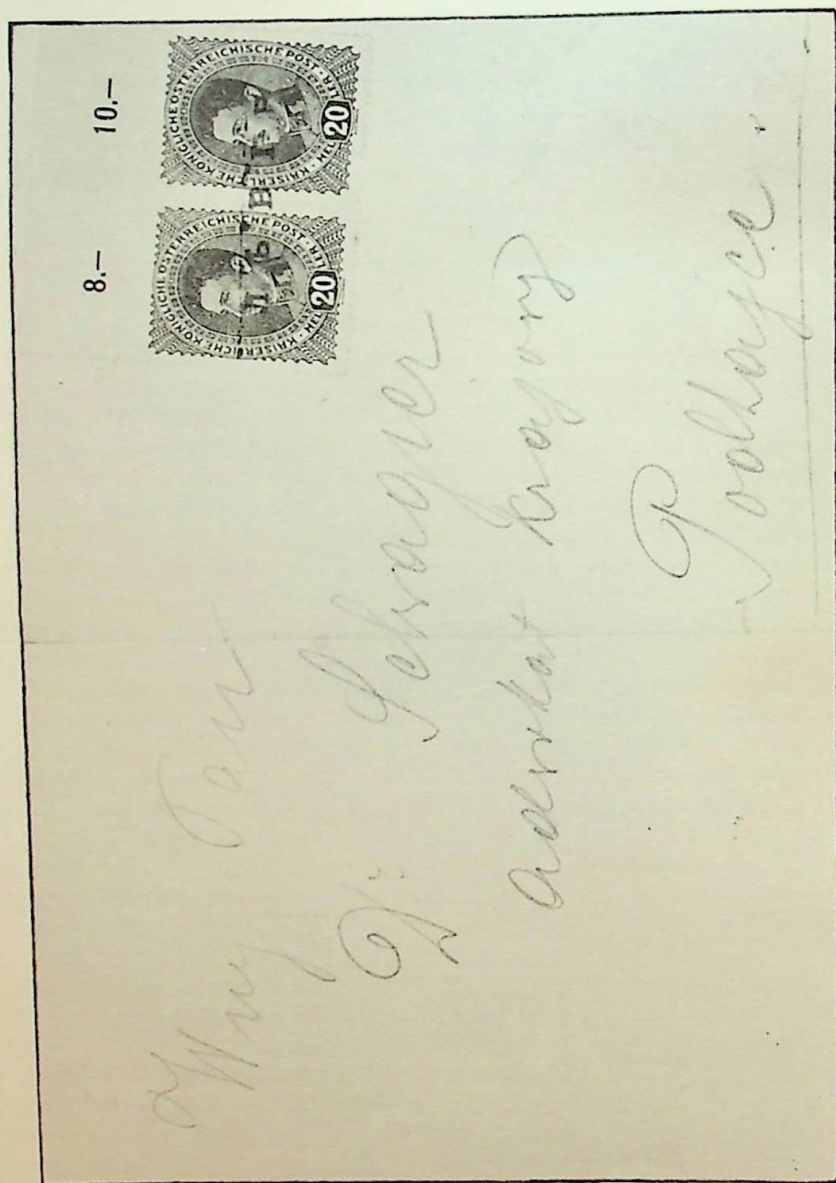


Figure 2. The oblong Lviv postmark on a used cover.

At first Austrian stamps were used in circulation. They used to be cancelled by an oblong rubber stamp without dateline and with an inscription in Ukrainian: Lviv (see Figure 2) using a violet ink. The size of the rubber stamp was 32.5 mm in length by 3 mm in height with 5 mm intervals between individual letters of the inscription. In Austrian times this post office utilized the cancellation LEMBERG 8 — LWÓW 8.

In order to secure a supply of Ukrainian postage stamps, it was decided, during the term of office of the Deputy State Secretary of the Post, Volodymyr Holovatsky [Holowackyj], (see Figure 3) to overprint Austrian postage stamps in an appropriate manner. With this purpose in view the Ministry ordered from the Appel firm in Lviv

a metallic cancellation stamp in the form of an octagon with a heraldic lion in the center, facing left. Around it there was the inscription: ЗАХІДНО УКР. НАРОДНА РЕПУБЛИКА (Western Ukrainian National Republic), (see Figure 4). The face value of the postage stamps remained as before. Four denominations of the 1916-18 issue with face values of 3, 5, 10 and 20 hellers (see Figure 5) were overprinted with this surcharge. This was executed in black ink. However, apart from these, there are known also



Figure 3. Volodymyr Holovatsky (1875-1963), Deputy State Secretary of the Western Ukrainian National Republic (Photo of 1954).



Figure 4. Set of postage stamps of the Lviv issue.

violet and violet-black overprints. There exist also red and green ones, but they were — beyond any doubt — proof prints. Inverted overprints in black ink are also known on all the four denominations. The number issued of all these postage stamps was as follows: 3 hellers — 2200 pcs., 5 hellers — 3400 pcs., 10 hellers — 6700 pcs. and 20 hellers — 8000 pcs. A small part



Figure 5. Enlarged Ukrainian overprint of the Lviv issue.

of the issue of the 20 heller value has also been overprinted on the same Austrian stamp, but of light-green color, from the 1917 issue. These stamps were handed over for postal circulation on November 20, 1918. However, due to heavy fighting between the newly established Ukrainian and Polish

Deutschen Katalog hineinkam, was war dieser Scherz im Vergleich zu den Scherzen des bayerischen Verkehrsministeriums?

Wie wird nun die Ministeriumsausgabe abgegeben werden? Am Schalter für geschnittene oder so mitten drunter die anderen Marken gemischt? Im letzteren Falle könnte Schüller mal wieder recht haben: „Was reißt das Volk, was wälzt sich dort die langen Gassen brauend fort?“, denn so würde der Sturm auf die Postämter losgehen. Und „Ohne Wahl verleiht die Gabe, ohne Billigkeit das Glück“, denn die einen haben „den erwischte“ und die anderen können denken „Das Lebens ungemischte Freude war keinem Irdischen zuteil“. „Kinder jammern“, weil sie keine kopfenden Aufdrucke erhalten. „Mütter“, wenn sie annehmen, sie würden gefälschte Ludwigsmarken erhalten. „Leute“, „brannt ist die Sütte“, der Vorrat ist „gegriffen“. Das Ministerium aber denkt „Seid umhungen, Millionen!“, denn der Geschäft war richtig. Ob Bayern, ob Bayern!

Ukrainische Post in Lemberg.

In Anlegenheit dieser Marken erhalten wir folgende Zuschrift:

An die geehrte Redaktion des Briefmarken-Universal-Anzeigers in Wien.

Ich bestätige hiermit, dass zur Zeit meiner Abwesenheit von Lemberg am 20. November 1918 mein damaliger Stellvertreter Herr Wladimir Glowacki den öfters geäußerten Wünschen nach Schaffung eigener ukrainischer Marken Rechnung tragend folgende reichliche Postwertzeichen zu 3, 5, 10 und 20 Heller um zirka 2000 Kronen Nominalwert mit einem eigens dazu angefertigten Handstempel (ein Kasten, in der Mitte ein Löwenbild und ringförmig die ukrainische Aufschrift „3AK. YKP. HAPOPIHA PEHY-EPHKA“) abstempeln und in Verkehr setzen liess.

In der Nacht vom 21. auf den 22. November 1918 haben die ukrainischen Behörden die Stadt Lemberg verlassen und von nun an waren während meiner Amtsdauer in der westukrainischen Republik wieder die österreichischen Briefmarken ohne jeden Aufdruck in Verwendung.

Wien, am 6. September 1919.

L. S. Aleksander Pisecky p. m. Staatssekretär.

Diesem Schreiben war folgende amtliche Bestätigung beigegeben:

Seitens der Gesandtschaft der Westukrainischen Volksrepublik wird bestätigt, dass im Monate November 1918 als Staatssekretär für Post- und Telegraphenangelegenheiten in Lemberg Herr Aleksander Pisecky fungierte.

Wien, am 6. September 1919.

L. S. Dr. Zaleskiy p. m. Legationsrat.

Jeder Sammler! Jeder Händler!

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Offiziell von der Post veranstalteter Flugversuch in Nancy am 22. und 23. Juli 1918 gegenwärtig durch die Verantwortlichen zu Ehren des Ministerpräsidenten Poincaré und des Kolonialministers Loubet unter Aufsicht des Unterstaatssekretärs für Post und Telegraphenwerk. Chateau:

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auf gelblicher Karte gebraucht: . . . Fr. 15.—

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Die Wehrmacht, welche Vögel, im Minimum zum Vorrat gegen kassierten Krieges- und Rückkehr markten der Kolonialmacht, wird letztere in Kasse nicht mehr abgeben können, weil sie aufgebraucht sind. Schon jetzt wurden einzelne Werte ersetzt durch Serien der Kriegswaffen-Marken und sonstige Neudaten von Frankreich und Belgien. Ich gebe Kriegsgeld der deutschen und österreichischen Kasse, und zwar Papier wie Münzen in Zahlung und bereite für eine Mark 0.90 Fr. für eine Krone 0.45 Fr.

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TH. LORENZ, PASSAU, BAD HALS.

Zur Frage der Katalogisierung der türkischen Kriegsganzsachen.

Von K., Wien.

Diese Frage hat in Gebirder Senfs illustriert Kriegsmarkenkatalog, Seite 45 und 46, eine Lösung gefunden, welcher ich nur zum Teile beizustimmen vermag.

Ganzsachen, welche in einem Katalog ordnungsmäßig aufgenommen worden sind, bleiben auch dann dieselben Ganzsachen, wenn sie außer Kurs kommen, denn das ist ja das Schickel jeder Ganzsache. Daran vermag auch nichts zu ändern, wenn die Ganzsachen nur durch einen entsprechenden Überdruck des Wertstempels besonders ungünstig gemacht wurden, wie die auf Seite 7 des Ganzsachenkatalogs Senf 144 erwähnten Briefmarken Argentinien, oder mit kursierenden Briefmarken überklebt postalisch weiterverwendet werden, wie die auf Seite 45 erwähnten Postkarten der Türkei. Es ist daher ganz richtig, dass beide Kategorien nicht neu katalogisiert wurden. Es hat vielmehr bei den von diesen Veränderungen betroffenen Ganzsachen ein Zeichen auf eine Anmerkung zu verweisen, in welcher die Veränderung beschrieben ist, damit sich der Sammler bei Vorkommen eines derartigen Stücks auskennt, wie dies in Ansehung der erwähnten Briefmarken, wenn auch unvollständig, tatsächlich geschehen ist. Formulare aber werden derartige Ganzsachen nicht, sie können dies aber wegen ihres eingedruckten Wertstempels nicht weissen, der selbst beim Aufkleben der Marke meist zur Hälfte sichtbar bleibt.

Es wäre daher der 2. Absatz der „Formular-Ganzsachen“ Seite XIII unumvermeidlich zu streichen, als in demselben der darin aufgestellte Grundsatz ohnehin durchbrochen wird.

Ist also der im Kriegsmarkenkatalog aufgestellte Grundsatz, dass die mit Marken überklebten Postkarten nicht zu katalogisieren sind, im allgemeinen richtig, so muss — die Richtigkeit der Angaben der „Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung“ 1915, Seite 349 und 353, vorausgesetzt — doch eine Ausnahme gelten: Es ist dies die daselbst beschriebene Postkarte 20 Paris karmin, welche nach diesen Meldungen nicht die Postkarte Nr. 15 Senf und früher überhaupt nicht in Kurs gewesen ist. Diese Ganzsache ist dadurch, dass sie mit Marken überklebt als Postkarte in postalischen Gebrauch kam, eine wirkliche Postkarte geworden und muss unumvermeidlich katalogisiert werden, als sich der Sammler das Vorkommen eines derartigen Stückes gar nicht erklären könnte, und dass dies möglich sei, dazu ist der Katalog da.

• • •

Ganz anders aber verhält es sich mit den auf Seite 46 des Kriegsmarkenkatalogs erwähnten Kartenbriefe der Türkei.

Das erste den Wertstempel tragende Blatt dieser Kartenbriefe ist trotz des Abmachens des zweiten Blattes, trotz der teilweise Überklebung des Wertstempels mit einer oder mehreren Marken und trotzdem manchmal auf der Rand ganz oder teilweise abgeschnitten wurde, noch immer die amtlich verbriefte, ursprüngliche Ganzsache verblieben, welche aber nunmehr einem anderen postalischen Zweck, nämlich als Postkarte, dient. Die Kartenbriefe aber werden besonders ver-

Figure 7. A page with official information, "The Ukrainian Post in Lviv", from the Vienna "Briefmarkenzeitung-Der Universal-Anzeiger" (the title part of the front-page of this journal and the English translation of the text — see Figure 8).

armies for possession of the city of Lviv, the post office did not have full possibility to carry out its normal activities of sending all the mail items. On the night of November 22, 1918, the Ukrainian military units left Lviv. Thus, the above-mentioned postage stamps were in postal circulation in Lviv only two days. Ukrainian postal workers were evacuated to the town of Khodoriv taking with them the entire reserve of postage stamps overprinted in Lviv, unsold and unused during those two days. Postage stamps with these surcharges used on letters and other mail items are found most often with postal datemarks after November 22, 1918, from the localities of Khodoriv, Stanyslaviv and Kolomyia (see Figure 6).

Erscheint am 1. und 15. jeden Monats

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15. jeden Monats.

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Voraussetzungen und Bedingungen:

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IX. Jahrgang.

Wien, am 15. November 1919.

№. 95.

Figure 8. The title part of the front-page of the “Briefmarkenzeitung-Der Universal-Anzeiger” with the English translation of the German text below. (See Figure 7.)

UKRAINIAN POST in LVIV

We have received the following letter concerning these postage stamps:

To the respected Editors of the

BRIEFMARKEN-UNIVERSAL-ANZEIGER
in Vienna.

I certify herewith that during my absence from Lviv on November 20, 1918 my deputy Mr. Wladimir Glowackyj [Volodymyr Holovatsky], taking into consideration the frequently expressed wish for the creation of our own Ukrainian postage stamps, ordered the overprinting of Austrian postage stamps bearing the values of 3, 5, 10 and 20 hellers to the total face value of about 2000 kronen with a hand stamp specially made for this purpose (a castle, the image of a lion in the middle and the Ukrainian inscription ЗАХ. УКР. НАРОДНА РЕПУБЛИКА) around it and put them into circulation.

On the night of November 22, 1918 the Ukrainian authorities left the city of Lviv and from then on during my tenure of office the Austrian postage stamps without any overprint were in use in the Western Ukrainian Republic.

Vienna, September 6, 1919.
(signed) Aleksander Piseckyj
State Secretary

The following certification was enclosed with this letter:

On behalf of the Legation of the Western Ukrainian National Republic it is certified that in the month of November 1918 Mr. Aleksander Pisetsky functioned as State Secretary for Post and Telegraph Affairs in Lviv.

Vienna, September 6, 1919.
Dr. Zalesczieckyi
Councillor of the Legation

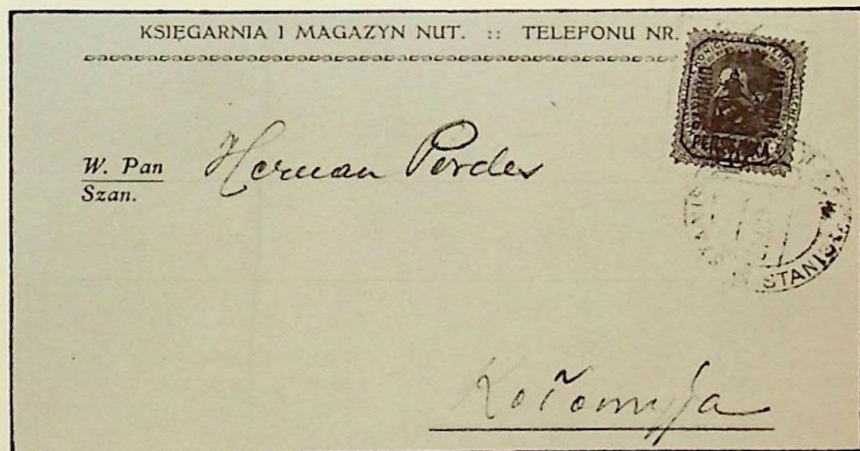


Figure 6. Commercial cover with a Lviv issue stamp postmarked at Stanyslaviv on 24. XII. 1918.

A brief history of the issue and the description of these postage stamps of the Lviv issue is given in the official statement (probably at the request of the philatelic newspaper interested in the history of this issue) by the then Minister of the Post of the Western Ukrainian National Republic, Aleksander Pisetsky. Published in the Vienna, *Briefmarkenzeitung-Der Universal-Anzeiger*, No. 95, dated November 15, 1919, was entitled "Ukrainische Post in Lemberg" (see Figures 7 and 8).

2. KOLOMYIA ISSUES

First Overprints

On November 1, 1918, the Ukrainians proclaimed national independence of East Galicia which till then had been a part of the Austro-Hungarian empire. That date marks the beginning of the existence of the Western Ukrainian National Republic (Z.U.N.R.) in that area. It existed as an independent State territory until its unification, by the act of January 22, 1919, with the central Ukrainian State entity, the Ukrainian National Republic, which proclaimed its independence from Russia exactly a year prior to the solemn Act of Union. Nevertheless, the Western Province of this all-Ukrainian Republic, the UNR, that is, its Western Ukrainian, Galician part had the right to use its own (Western Ukrainian) postage stamps. Organization of a centralized postal service of the UNR was not possible at that time owing to the state of war and a great shortage of stocks of postage stamps at the center and in individual postal districts. Up until then, the Western Ukrainian Republic made use of the Ukrainized Austrian stamps. The central Ukrainian Republic (the UNR) had Ukrainized the postage stamps of tsarist Russia which had been in circulation in its territory until then.

Almost simultaneously with the proclamation of independ-



Окружний командант коломийської округи сот. Теодор Примак і його ад'ютант Ів. Данищук

Figure 9. District commandant of the Kolomyia district, Captain Theodore Prymak (on the left) with his adjutant.

ence of Western Ukraine there began in fact a Polish-Ukrainian war for the possession of those territories. In the course of this war, the capital of the country, Lviv, was occupied by the Poles after three weeks of heavy fighting. The Government of the Western Ukrainian National Republic was evacuated on November 21, 1918 to Ternopil, a city situated farther to the East, and later, on January 2, 1919 to the city of Stanyslaviv. After the Polish seizure of Lviv, all Ukrainian local government offices temporarily lost contact with the central authorities, and power in the individual areas was taken over by the local district military commands. This provisional authority extended to all spheres of public life.

Military authority in the Pokutia region with its chief town of Kolomyia was exercised by the Kolomyia District Military Command. In the given war conditions, when fronts moved to and fro and central government establishments were being evacuated, the post office in Kolomyia, which at that time was headed by the postmaster Mykola Ivasiuk, very soon lost all the indispensable contact with the Post Office Direction in Lviv. The small reserve of postage stamps at the Kolomyia Post Office was slowly being exhausted. This forced the postmaster Ivasiuk to take action. He turned for advice to the well-known lawyer and stamp collector, Dr. Ivan Cherniavsky, who was then Chairman of the District Court in Kolomyia. Upon Dr. Cherniavsky's instructions, he sent a letter to the District Starosta (Commissioner) in Kolomyia requesting his permission to authorize him to make a Ukrainian overprint on the remainder of the Austrian stamp stock. The following is the literal text of this official letter:

"No. 342. To the Starosta in Kolomyia. I inform you that the supply of stamps in the post office here is becoming exhausted. There remain almost no stamps of some values, and there are left only those which are not used now. To avoid the lack of the most necessary stamps, which will be inevitable because of the interruption of communications with the post office administration in Lviv, I ask permission to overprint, or to change the values of the following stamps: 1) 3 sotyks to 5 sotyks, 2) 40 s. to 5 s., 3) 6 s. and 12 s. to 10 s., 4) 15 s. to newspaper 2 sotyks. I will add that newspaper stamps are definitely necessary, for there are now three newspapers in Kolomyia, and as a result of the lack of stamps these are being sent unstamped and this forces the subscribers to pay double the sum. Administration of Post and Telegraphs. Kolomyia, Dec. 3, 1918. Signed . . ."

The Kolomyia District starosta, Dr. Stryisky, however, did not consider himself competent at the time to deal with this matter and sent the postmaster Ivasiuk's letter to the local District Military Command. The Commandant of the District Military Command in Kolomyia, Capt. Teodor Prymak (see Figure 9), having received this letter, immediately called for

a conference on this subject to be held on December 5, 1918 at the headquarters of the District Command. The following took part in this conference: the District Commandant, Capt. Prymak, the postmaster Ivasiuk, and Dr. Cherniavsky. As a result of the conference, it was decided to overprint the entire stock of the Austrian postage stamps from the years 1916-17 bearing the face values of 3, 6 and 12 hellers and a part of the stock of 15 hellers. The overprints were to be given new face values of 5 and 10 sotyks. The 15-heller stamps were to be overprinted with the face value of 5 sotyks, and the Austrian 3, 6, and 12-heller denominations with the face value of 10 sotyks. Naturally, all the stamps were to be Ukrainized by an appropriate overprint in the upper part of the stamp (see Figure 10).



Figure 10. Overprint set of the Kolomyia stamps.

At the same time, to save the existing stock of stamps, the participants in the conference drew up the design of an additional stamp for registered mail and decided to utilize it for the printing of a postage stamp with face value of 30 sotyks.

A result of this conference was the appropriate instruction of the District Military Command in Kolomyia with the following literal text (see Figures 11, 12);

"The District Military Command in Kolomyia. No. 1456. To the Administration of the Postal and Telegraphic Service in Kolomyia. 1. To avoid the lack of stamps as a result of the interruption of communication with the Direction of the Post in Lviv, it is ordered to alter the former Austrian stamps which now have no use, to new values as follows: a) 3, 6 and 12 sotyks to 10 sotyks, b) 15 s. to 5 s.

The change will be made as follows: to make the overprint on top of the old stamps "Укр. Н. Р." (Ukr. N.R. — Ukrainian National Republic), and below, in a larger figure, the new value. There is to be an accurate count of the stamps with changed values. 2. New stamps are to be introduced for registered letters of 30 sotyks denomination — they are to be printed at once according to this model (see Figure 15).

Вігніс!

Окружна Військова Команда в Коломиї.
Ч.

до

Управі Уряду поштового і телеграфічного

в Ужгороді

Р. Колосинський

С. Г. О. С. Е. С. А.

1. Щоби заповнити бракові поштових марок
наслідком перерви комунікації з Дирекцією пошто-
вого у Львові приказуюсь дотеперішні австрійські
поштові марки які тепер не мають приміток
зміняти що до вартості як слідує:

а) 3 - 6 і 12 сотиків на 10 сотиків

б) - 15 сотиків на 5 сотиків.

2. Перішні на наступні в цей спосіб, що на до,
теперішних марках наліпять знітити над,
друки, на горі Укр. С. В. Т. / Українська Свободна
Республіка / на доміні діючого чинного нову
вартість.

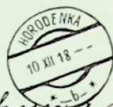
Зважте звести точний вказ марок
зі зніщеною вартістю.

в) 2. Зводять ся нові марки на листи пору-
хені / рикадановані / по 30 сот., які наліпять
Резпробалочно відтворювати після того відруха:

II. УКР. Н. Р.
4.
30 сотиків

При ч. виписуєш римо порученого листа.
лі марки виключені з загальної розпродажі, мар-
ки знімати ся при приймаючи порученик

Figure 11. The first page of the copy with the order of the District Military Command in Kolomyia.



листів за оплатою 30 сот. до наклеювання на листі безпосередньо дотичними поштовими дружк. ціонареш.

2. Дотеперішні оплати поштові від дня 10 грудня 1918 підносять ся як слідую:

а) за кожний примірник газети з 2 сот. на 5 сот.

б) налітністю від порученик листів з 25 с.

на 30 сот., що налітять в поштові уряди оголосити.

3. Її зараджене обв'язуєть у всіх поштових урядках тупиного військового округу а то заряджене під 1/ лише на случай драку марок в до. тичним поштовим уряді, зараджене під 2/ безумовно. Що до експлуатаційного виконання над, дружків під 1/ виконаних мають дотичні поштові уряди віднести ся до Управи уряду поштового в Коломиї, - який доставить також війни тими поштовим урядам марки під 2. З'являючі.

4. Про ціле се зарадження повідомить Управа пошт. Уряду в Коломиї всі поштові уряди тупиного військового округу. Коломиї, дня

5. грудня 1918. Тришак. и. п. Вр. стац. Командант укр. війск Л.І.

1) Іванові Л. поручення не можна
зробити в зв'язку з урядовими пош.
листами.
2) Іванові Л. налітність з'являю-
чому єх марки не можна і не од-
значити в зв'язку з тим, що єх
маки парасо вказують - єх єх
3) До листів урядових пош. з ме-
жам за звичайним надійшли
поручення



Ivanov

Figure 12. The second page of this document with the note by the Kolomyia postmaster, Ivasiuk.

The number of the registered letter is entered after Ч . . . These stamps are excluded from general sale and are to be used when accepting registered letters on the payment of 30 sotyks, and are to be affixed on the letter directly by the appropriate postal agent. 3. Starting from December 10, the existing postal rates are to be raised as follows: a) for each copy of a newspaper—from 2 sotyk to 5 sotyk; b) the charge for registered letters from 25 s. to 30 s.; this increase is to be announced at the post office. 4. These orders are valid for all post offices in this military district but the order under 1) only in case of a shortage of stamps in any particular post office: that under 2) unconditionally. For the actual execution of the overprints as enumerated under 1), the appropriate post office is to approach the post office administration in Kolomyia, which will furnish all post offices with the stamps indicated under 2 b. 5. The post office administration in Kolomyia will inform all post offices of this military district of these orders. Kolomyia, December 5, 1918. Prymak, Commander of the Ukrainians troops of the military district — seal of the Headquarters”.

- 1) Registration labels must not be used for official registered letters.*
- 2) The labels are to be considered as postage stamps and ordered as such at this office.*
- 3) The former [Austrian] labels are to be used for official registered letters.*

Ivasiuk

The administration of the Kolomyia Post Office sent the above instruction as obligatory to all the local post offices of its district.

The printing shop of Wilhelm Brauner in Kolomyia was chosen for the printing job. On December 7, 1918 essays of six stamps with the 10-sotyk overprint on the 15-heller Austrian denomination were printed. Proof copies were taken of stamps with the new face values of 5 and 10 sotyks in 25 positions of a stamp sheet for each face value in over a dozen copies. A vertical sheet (vertical strip) consisting of 5 stamps newly printed for registered mail had the face value of 30 sotyks. On the same day, the participants in the conference, — the commandant Capt. Prymak, the postmaster Ivasiuk, and Dr. Cherniavsky approved the essays of these stamps. However, all of these essays did not get into circulation since they were acquired by Dr. Cherniavsky for his collection in return for an appropriate donation to the Ukrainian Red Cross.

It became clear on the basis of my studies of the stamp materials, that after the approval of the proof copies of the 5 and 10-sotyk values (those samples are in my possession), they bore the stamp mark of Dr. Cherniavsky's legal office in Kolomyia on the reverse side (see Figures 13 and 14).

Immediately before the final printing, some changes took place in the already overprinted stamps for post office use with the face value of 5 sotyks. The proof copy of the 5-sotyk value had the overprint type closer together, narrower in width and shorter in height. This printing block was

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5 5 5 5 5

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5 5 5 5 5

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5 5 5 5 5

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5 5 5 5 5

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5 5 5 5 5

Figure 13. 5-sotyk printing block for the Kolomyia overprint.

corrected and it was now more widely spaced on the overprinted sheets. Thus the overprint is positioned approximately in the middle of each stamp. The width of the column of the five-stamp strip on the proof copy is 119.5 mm, while on the stamp sheets it is 121.5 mm. Two left-hand side

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

10 10 10 10 10

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

10 10 10 10 10

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

10 10 10 10 10

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

10 10 10 10 10

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

10 10 10 10 10

Figure 14. 10-sotyky printing block for the Kolomyia overprint.

vertical columns have been widened by 2 mm, namely the following positions of the stamps in the sheet: 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, 12, 16, 17, 21 and 22. Likewise, two horizontal rows have been widened by 1 mm, namely the positions 11-15 and 16-20. The overprinting of the 10-sotyik denomination remained unchanged, it is the same on the proof copy and on $\frac{1}{4}$ sheets of stamps; their sizes remained identical — the column of the five-stamp has the width of 121.5 mm.

On December 9, 1918 the postmaster Ivasiuk ordered from the same printing shop of Wilhelm Brauner (order No. 1718) the overprinting, or respectively the printing, of the following stamps: the printing of 5000 copies of the 30-sotyik registered stamps (see Figure 15), overprinting of 11,300 with 5/15, overprinting of 10,100 with 10/3, and overprinting of 452 stamps with the face value of 10/6, and overprinting of 404 stamps with 10/12. The next day i.e. on December 10, the printing shop carried out all these overprinting assignments and printing of the registered mail stamp. At the recommendation of the District Commandant Prymak, the supervision over the technical aspect of this printing job was exercised by Dr. Cherniavsky. He also saw to it that the printing was carried out under proper protection. At that time, access to the printing shop for outside persons was strictly forbidden. The postal agent, Eskreis, who had the assistance of military guards, very strictly observed this order. After the completion of the printing, the entire block was immediately scattered. The postmaster Ivasiuk, in the presence of Dr. Cherniavsky, took over the entire issue of these stamps for postal use, having checked it with extreme care.

On December 12, 1918, all the stamps were handed over for postal use, with the instruction forbidding speculative purchases of great quantities of these stamps.

New Registered Mail 50-Sotyik Stamps

By a decree dated December 19, 1918 (page 19 of the Collection of Laws and Decrees and Circulars made public by the State Secretariat of the Western Ukrainian National Republic), the Council of State Secretaries approved an increase in the registered letter mail rate from 30 to 50 sotyiks. This rise was to become effective from January 1, 1919.

However, the administration of the Kolomyia post office learned about this decree only on January 14, 1919; this shows to what extent communication facilities had been interrupted by the military actions. In order to carry out this decree, the administration of the Kolomyia post office again immediately ordered 5000 copies of registered mail stamps of the new, 50-sotyik denomination from Wilhelm Brauner's printing shop (order number

1796). After their supply was exhausted, the Kolomyia post office administration once again, on March 19, 1919 (order number 1926), ordered a further issue, this time the last one, of 5000 registered mail postage stamps of the same face value of 50 sotyks from the same printing shop. All orders for the 50-sotyk stamps were carried out in accordance with the same design that had been used for the printing of the 30-sotyk denominations (see Figures 15 and 16).

In view of the fact that the previous block of type set for the printing of the 30-sotyk denomination had been disassembled, long ago, immediately after the printing, it was necessary to make a new block. As a result, there occurred some insignificant changes in the new set, compared with the previous one. These changes in the new set for the 50-sotyk denomination were as follows: Position 1 — the right side of the rectangle of the stamp design was shifted towards the middle, the letter “Т” in the word “ѲОТ” is different. Position 2 — the letters “Н”, “Т” and the period (.) after “Т” are different. Position 3 — the letter “Т” and the periods (.) after “Т” and “Укр.” are different. Position 4 — the bottom part in its third line of the right-hand side angle is shifted downwards. Position 5 — the upper and lower right-hand side parts have been shifted downwards.

The registered mail stamps of both the 30 and 50-sotyk denominations were printed on a pink narrow strip (size: 170 x 51 mm) of cover paper in vertical strips, 5 stamps in each strip. The size of the printed space of the five-stamp strip is 159 x 26.5 mm, and individual stamps — 40 x 26.5 mm. One can notice various deviations from the basic pink color and various thicknesses of the paper in all these issues.

The Second Overprinting of the 5-Sotyk Stamps

On May 15, 1919, there appeared a representative (his name could not be ascertained), — a certain Mr. D., as mentioned by Dr. Ivan Cherniavsky in his book about the Ukrainian Kolomyia stamps*, from the Post Office Direction in Stanyslaviv and instructed the Kolomyia postmaster, Ivasiuk,

*According to the information which I received from the well-known philatelist, Mr. Julian G. Maksymczuk, only the senior post office commissar, Sofron Dobriansky, could have been this cryptonymic Mr. D.

Having had complete legal education and having occupied earlier the position of a high administrative official in Chernivtsi in Bukovina, he served at the time in one of the leading positions at the Post Office Direction of the Western Ukrainian Republic in Stanyslaviv and was able to issue instructions with respect to what stamp denominations were to be printed. He, among other things, drew up a plan for the organization of the field post of the Ukrainian Galician Army (U.H.A.).

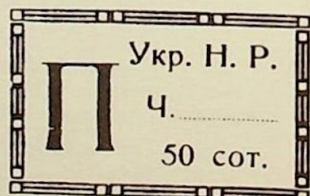
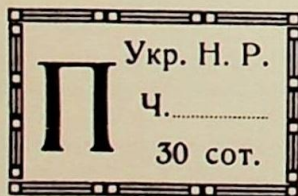
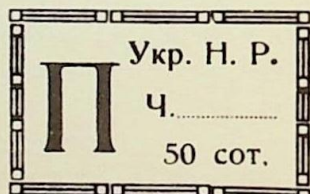
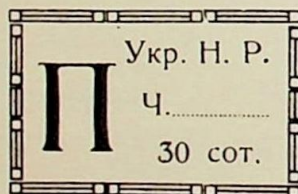
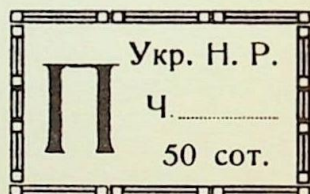
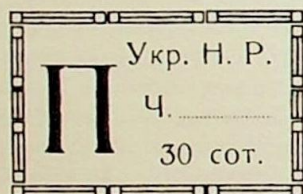
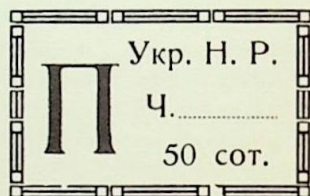
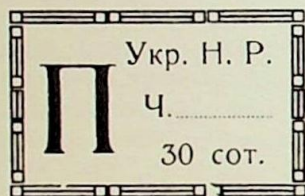
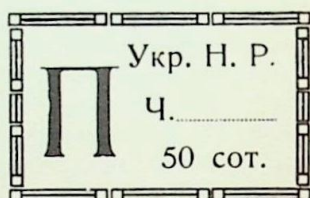
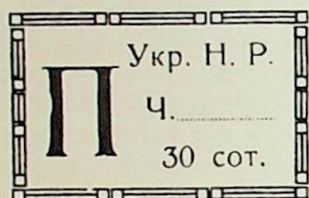


Figure 15. The vertical strip of two values of the registered Kolomyia stamps.



Figure 16. Covers with Kolomyia stamps.

to order an additional 500 pieces of 5-sotyk overprints on the Austrian stamps of 15-heller denomination — 5/15 — from the printing shop. These stamps were supposedly needed for some indefinite exchange purposes.

The above order was again carried out at Wilhelm Brauner's printing shop (order number 2033), but with a completely new set of type, because the old one had long ago been scattered. Naturally, the new set showed some minor changes.

The overprinted 500 pieces were immediately dispatched to Stanyslaviv for the disposal of the Post Office Direction. These postage stamps were never in postal circulation. Nor is it known what happened with them and whether the proposed exchange deals had been realized.

The Speculative Edition of the Kolomyia Stamps

In his book, *THE HISTORY OF THE KOLOMYIA POSTAGE STAMPS*, Dr. Ivan Cherniavsky, writes literally the following about these speculative overprints:

"On the other hand, Mr. Brauner told me as an authentic fact that during Rumanian occupation a Rumanian officer, accompanied by two soldiers, appeared in his shop. One of the soldiers remained on guard outside, and the other accompanied the officer inside. The officer brought a small number of Austrian stamps and ordered him to overprint them in the manner of the Kolomyia Ukrainian stamps.

Mr. Brauner, having no other alternative, ordered his staff to do it immediately. The type for the appropriate new block was set, and after the reprinting, the officer thanked him and explained that he needed these overprints for military purposes; for this reason he was not paying anything for the overprinting. He even promised Mr. Brauner to send him a present for this service — but was never seen there again.

*What stamps and how many were overprinted then, Mr. Brauner does not know, because owing to the circumstances in which this was taking place, he was not interested in it".**

However, analyzing Kolomyia overprints of the Ukrainian stamps and studying various investigations in this matter, I have so far not come across any traces of the above-mentioned speculative edition. With this purpose in view, I compared not only type-faces and the positioning of the types, but the overprint inks and the patterns and repetitions of printer's errors. On the other hand, I came across many, even well-executed forgeries, but with inks different from the original.

*Pages 15-16

Enlarged figures and description of positions in detail on the stamps
of Kolomyia 5 and 10-Sotyk overprints.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 1. The dot after "Н." is larger and shifted upwards.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 2. The top left corner of the letter "Р." is rounded.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 3. The dot after "Н." is oval and placed obliquely. The letter "У." from the proof sheet of the 5-sotyk denomination is broken. The broken letter "У." has been replaced with another "У." in the overprints of the 5-sotyk denomination.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 4. The dot after "Укр." is larger.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н Р.

5

10

Position 5. The dot after "Укр." is small, and after "Н." elongated in the 5-heller denomination. In the 10-heller denomination the dot after "Н." is in almost all cases missing.

Укр. Н. Р, Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 6. The dot after "Р." is of an oblique form, similar to a comma.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 7. The dot after "Укр." is larger and shifted upwards.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 8. The letter "к." in the word "Укр." is from another type set.

Укр Н. Р. Укр Н. Р.

5

10

Position 9. After "Укр." the dot is missing.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 10. The distance from the bottom of 5 or 10 to the top of "Н." is 22 mm.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 11. The left top part of the letter "У" is damaged and the letter "Р." broken.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 12. The letter "Р." is broken.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 13. The distance between 5 or 10 and "Н." is 13 mm.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 14. The letter "р." has a broken lower arm, and the dot after "Н." is small.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 15. The dot after "P." is large and shifted upwards. In the 10-heller value the figure "1." is damaged.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 16. The letter "H." is narrowed in its lower right part, the distance from the bottom of 5 or 10 to the top of the letter "H." is 22 mm.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 17. The dot after "Р." is larger, and the distance between 5 or 10 and "Н" is 19 mm.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 18. The letter "Н." is chipped in its left lower part.

Укр. Н Р. Укр. Н Р.

5

10

Position 19. The letter "У." is broken, there is no dot after "Н."

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 20. The dot after "Укр." is square.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 21. The figure "1." is different.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 22. The distance between 5 or 10 and "Н." is 13.5 mm.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 23. The letter "У" is different.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 24. The letter "У" is damaged, the letter "к" in its lower right part is shorter.

Укр. Н. Р. Укр. Н. Р.

5

10

Position 25. The letter "У" is smudged in the middle of the fork.

3. C.M.T. RUMANIAN OCCUPATION STAMPS

All Ukrainian stamps of the Kolomyia issue were in circulation until Saturday, May 24, 1919. On Monday, at about midday, Kolomyia and the entire Pokutia region was taken over by Rumanian military units. The entire private postal traffic was halted, and the post office functioned only for the occupational offices, such as the Rumanian *Ofic. Tel. Postal Militar Divizia VIII*. This lasted until June 12, 1919. On that day, a representative of the Rumanian authorities for post offices, Major Turbatu, arrived in Kolomyia and officially opened the postal traffic for private use. He left a small number of Rumanian postage stamps at the Kolomyia post office and departed for Chernivtsi.

After two days he came back again but this time he brought with him a full edition of former Austrian stamps overprinted with the letters *C.M.T.* (*Comandementul Militar Territorial*), meaning: Territorial Military Command.

In view of the fact that these stamps were issued not by the Ukrainian government, but by a foreign occupation power on the territory of a part of the Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic, and that they do not have any inscription or motif connecting them with Ukraine, we do not, in fact, count them among the Ukrainian postage stamps. For this reason, we do not discuss them in this work in any detail, nor do we give

any precise description of that issue. We mention them here for the sake of informing the reader of their existence on the basis of the work by Dr. Cherniavsky. He, among other things, personally took part in the conference and discussion with Major Turbatu concerning this occupation edition of postage stamps on the territory of Pokutia, occupied by Rumanians after the retreat of the Ukrainian army.

The Rumanian occupation lasted until August 20, 1919. On August 21, 1919 there began the evacuation of the Rumanian troops, and Kolo-myia and Pokutia were taken over by the Polish army.

4. STANYSLAVIV ISSUES

Postage rates of the Austro-Hungarian empire in its later days continued to be based on the old post office law (the so-called imperial patent) dated November 5, 1837. Postage rates from September 1, 1918 were as follows: domestic rate for letters up to 20 grams — 20 hellers, post cards — 10 hellers. International postage rates were 70 hellers for letters and 38 hellers for post cards. The registration fee for all domestic and international mail was 25 hellers. The express (Special delivery) surcharge was 60 hellers. Printed matter rates were 3 hellers, and 5 hellers for Express delivery [Eilige drucksache]. The newspaper delivery fee was 2 hellers for each copy. Air Mail rates were 1 krone per item for every 20 grams in addition to 1.50 kronen for each flight zone, for example: Vienna to Lviv cost 1.50, Lviv to Kiev another 1.50 and so on. The postal system of the Western Ukrainian National Republic continued to rely provisionally on the same laws and rates that were in force during the Austrian occupation.

In the initial period of the newly-established Western Ukrainian State, the Austrian postage stamps continued to circulate legally; there were also in use the Austrian bi-lingual (German and Polish) and tri-lingual (German, Polish and Ukrainian) post office stationery and forms. Post offices also used the Austrian bi-lingual, German and Polish, cancellation stamps. Later, the Austrian postage stamps were changed, they were overprinted with Ukrainian inscriptions. Likewise, at almost all the post offices the Austrian cancellation stamps were replaced with the unilingual Ukrainian ones. Replacement of the cancellation stamps was carried out mainly by post offices in the seat of a given district, at first completely on their own initiative.

The Ukrainization of postage stamps and cancellation stamps was carried out with great delay in the postal district of Stanyslaviv (presently Ivano-Frankivsk, district capital in the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Re-

public). This was true even though from January 2, 1919, Stanyslaviv was the seat of the State Secretariat of Roads, Post and Telegraph located at the building of the State Railroad Direction near the railroad station. The cause of this delay was the shortage of qualified postal personnel of Ukrainian nationality. The general situation demanded indispensable replacement of postal officials with Ukrainians, particularly in more responsible positions, but there were few trained and qualified Ukrainian postmen. Nonetheless, all the leading positions were staffed with Ukrainians. Thus, for instance, Ukrainians were appointed managers of the following post offices: in Kolomyia — Mykola Ivasiuk, in Stryi — Yaroslav Singalevych, in Drohobych — Ivan Kalynovych, in Stanyslaviv — Teodor Pishchak, in Chortkiv — Lev Khomitsky, in Brody — Lev Levytsky, in Buchach — Stanyslav Siyak, in Sambir — Yaroslav Khomitsky, in Kutu — Dmytro Kebih, in Horodenka — Fedir Shurta, etc.

A further reason for the delay was a shortage of technical means necessary for dealing with all kinds of administrative and purely technical matters. Apart from that, there was not enough time to carry out precisely all these changes. Thus the state of delay resulted in an acute shortage of the necessary postage stamps and various postal, telegraphic, and telephone printed forms. The acquisition of postage stamps and the necessary printed forms was entrusted to the government trade mission which was soon to depart to Prague and Vienna. One member of the mission was Aleksander Pisetsky, the recent State Secretary of Post and Telegraph. Thus, apart from establishing trade relations with the Czecho-Slovak and Austrian states, and apart from concluding railroad, post and telegraph and telephone agreements, the task of this mission was also the fulfillment of the government order for the printing of postage stamps and forms at the State Printing Office in Vienna. All the agreements envisaged with the two States were concluded by the mission, and the entrusted order for the printing of postage stamps and forms in Vienna was also carried out.

In connection with the departure of Aleksander Pisetsky with the trade mission, and the fact that the latter had to hand over the administration of postal matters to someone else, there arose the need to set up the Direction of Post and Telegraph within the framework of the Secretariat of Roads, Post and Telegraph, and was accomplished at the beginning of May. The first chief of the new Direction of Post and Telegraph became Stanyslav Siyak who until then had been manager of the post office at Buchach. He immediately managed to recruit for permanent work at the Direction several qualified post office workers, namely, heads of several post offices, Volodymyr Korchynsky, Petro Shatynsky, Osyp Yanovsky, and the senior post office controller, Yulian Smishko, who until recently had been employed by the

post office in Lviv (Lviv 2, at the railroad station). Almost immediately, however, Smishko was transferred, with his agreement, from the Direction of the Post to the Headquarters of the Ukrainian Galician Army at Khodoriv where he was appointed head of the main field post office.

At that time, the following were already working at the Direction of Post and Telegraph: Mykola Sekretar, as head of personnel (he worked there since January 14, 1919), Sofron Dobriansky — as post office commissar, Yulian Leontovych — formerly official of the Direction of the Post in Lviv, Atanasiy Mydlak, Stefan Poburennny, and S. Rudnycka. Thus, it was only in April that the staff of the Direction of the Post and Telegraph increased to 11 people and it was only then that complete reorganization of postal administration, including the creation of the new economic department, the so-called *Ekonomat*, began. Stefan Poburennny, who was once senior official at the Stanyslaviv 2 post office (Railroad Station), was appointed head of the *Ekonomat*. It is not known when he began working there, but Mykola Sekretar found him already there in January. In accordance with the official list of postal officials of the former Austro-Hungarian empire from 1913, Stefan Poburennny (he figures in the list as Pobuřenny, because he was probably of Czech origin), born at Svidava in Galicia, was holding the position of post office assistant at Berezhany.

The *Ekonomat*, whose chief Stefan Poburennny became, was located at the Stanyslaviv — 2 post office building at the railroad station. After the *Ekonomat* began to develop its planned work with regard to supplying and satisfying the needs of the post offices in the territory of the Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic, it seemed that the entire activity of the post office would develop and continue normally. However, the Ukrainian-Polish front began to shift to the disadvantage of the Ukrainians. The Ukrainian Galician Army, and consequently also the Western Ukrainian Government, began to lose increasingly more territory. Very soon the Direction of the Post in Stanyslaviv was forced to cease functioning, to abandon the city of Stanyslaviv and to leave its post office property, and together with the Government of the Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic and the Ukrainian Galician Army, depart to the East, beyond the river Zbruch (in the second half of July, 1919).

The existence of the Ukrainian Post on the territories of Western Ukraine was not long. It was long enough, however, for the postal values created and used by this postal service — postage stamps, letters sent by the post, postal money orders and other mail items (which unfortunately, only in a minute quantity still remain in the possession of private collectors of postage stamps and other collectors) to become real witnesses of the history and the liberation struggle, as well as of the (statehood) independence of this part of the Ukrainian territory.

The First Stanyslaviv Issue

On March 18, 1919 a set of 20 different Austrian postage stamps from



Figure 17. The overprint set of the first Stanyslaviv issue.

the 1916-18 period were overprinted in Stanyslaviv at the Weidenfeld Printing Shop. This overprinting was carried out with a four-line composition with the text **Пошта/Укр. Н. Реп.** (The Post of the Ukrainian National Republic), using Ukrainian denominations "**шарі**"* (shahy) or "**гривні**"* (hryvni) and printing two asterisks on both sides at the bottom (see Figures 17 and 20). These stamps were printed on torn-off quarter-sheets of 25 stamps each. On stamps bearing 3 and 5 shahiv values, however, we find joint printing of sheets consisting of 50 stamps, which seems to indicate that the printing form consisting of 25 stamps was first used to overprint one side of the sheet and then was transferred to another (the left or right) side of the untorn sheet, and thus there appeared joint printings of the positions 5-1, 10-6, 15-11, 20-16, and 25-21 (see Figure 18).

In the course of printing, some defective overprints occurred, e.g. overprints displaced to one side, double, inverted, partial, overprints on the reverse side, or with errors. The stamps with defective overprints, however, were not destroyed but were handed over for postal use. This happened, most likely, because of the general shortage of the Ukrainized postage stamps at that time, and in order to satisfy the urgent need for them in the entire country.

In those Ukrainized postage stamps with imperfect overprints we can find the following deviations: 3 shahy — the overprint shifted to the left, 12 shahy — overprint on the reverse side owing to a bent sheet, or on some



Figure 18. A part of the joint printing of 50 stamp sheet, starting from top to bottom: on the left — positions 15, 20 and 25, and on the right — positions 11, 16 and 21.

*According to Ukrainian grammar and today's orthography, these words are written as: 1 "shah" (шар), 2 "shahi", or sometimes "shahy" (шаги in Ukrainian, or as it was used at that time (1918-19), in the unofficially stabilized Ukrainian orthography — шарі). "Шарі" will be represented by "shahy" or "shahs".

The same also applies to the term "гривні". The singular term is "hryvnia" (or hryvna). Plural terms are "hryvni" or "hryvnias".

— double overprint; 20 shahy — partial overprint on the reverse side, printing without the word “шарів”, without the left asterisk, without the asterisks, and without the letter “p” in the word “Укр.”, and without the further “Н.Реп.”; 80 shahy — with inverted overprint; 10 hryvni —

Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *	шарів * *

Figure 19. Printing block with 25 positions (a full sheet) for the overprint values of the first Stanyslaviv issue.

double overprint, or, in the same denomination, in the 17th position we find an error: instead of the word "гривень", there is a misprint "гривнеъ". Apart from that, in some positions of the sheet we find damaged letters, different asterisks, uneven spacing (see Figure 19), and on the one-hryvnia stamp we can notice that the letter "я" in the word "гривня" is larger than the other letters on the overprinted stamps in the positions from the 14th to the 25th.

The number of these stamps issued (on the basis of the document of the Ekonomat of the Direction of the Post — see Figures 30, 31, and in accordance with the statement of Josef Baumgarten in his work on this subject) was as follows: 3 and 5 shahy — 1000 pcs., 6 shahy — 900 pcs., 10, 12, 15, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 80 shahy and 1 and 2 hryvni — 1000 pcs. each, 3 hryvnias of brownish carmine tint — 25 pcs., 3 hryvnias of pinkish carmine tint — 400 pcs., 3 hryvnias on the granite (barely noticeable silky fiber) paper — 575 pcs., 4 hryvnias of light tint — 750 pcs., 4 hryvnias of dark green tint — 180 pcs. and 10 hryvnias — 199 pcs.

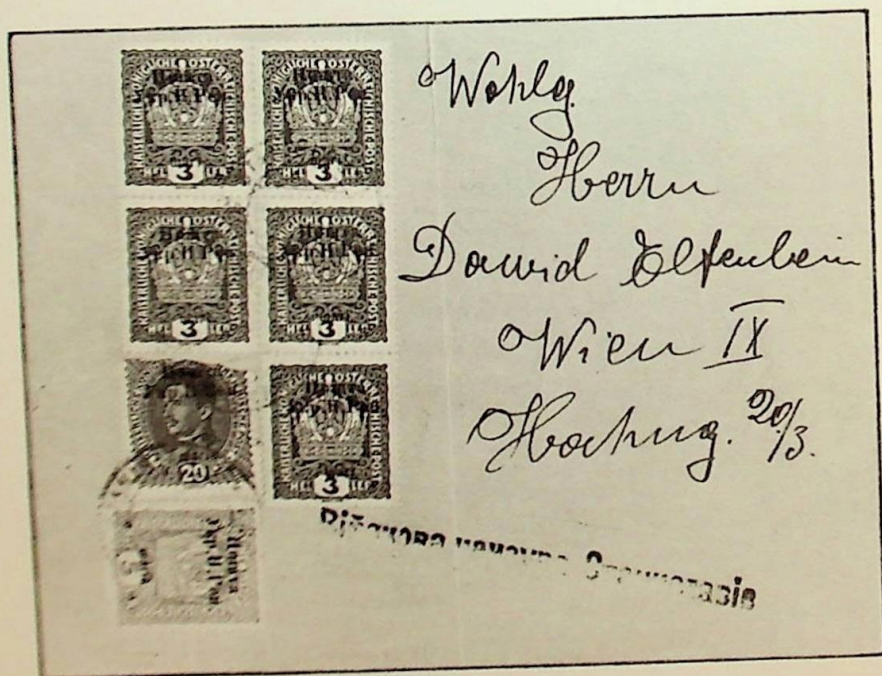


Figure 20. A Cover with stamps of the first Stanyslaviv issue.

Enlarged figures and description of position in detail on the stamps
of the first Stanyslaviv issue.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Position 1.

шагів
* *

Position 2.

шагів
* *

Position 1. The left arm of the letter "т." is thin.

Position 2. The dot after "Укр." is shifted downwards.

Пошта
Укр.Н Реп.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Position 3.

шагів
* *

Position 4.

шагів
* *

Position 3. The dot after "Н." is missing.

Position 4. The right side of the letter "Н." is damaged.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Position 5. **шагів** Position 6.
* * * * * *

Position 5. The upper part of the letter "ш." is damaged.
Position 6. Asterisks are more widely spaced.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Position 7. **шагів** Position 8.
* * * * * *

Position 7. *

Position 8. The letter "o." is slightly chipped off on the right-hand side.

*7 do not have any noticeable details.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Position 9.

шагів
* *

Position 10.

шагів
* *

Position 9. The upper left part of the capital letter "P." is damaged (rounded off).

Position 10. The letter "H." is damaged in its right-hand part, both asterisks belong to a different type set and are not uniformly oriented.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Position 11.

шагів
* *

Position 12.

шагів
* *

Position 11. The letter "H." is damaged in its lower left part.

Position 12. The letter "к." is damaged.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Position 13.

шагів
* *

Position 14.

шагів
* *

Position 13. The small letter "п." has a hole in its right-hand part.
Position 14. *

Пошта
Укр.Н Реп.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Реп.

Position 15.

шагів
* *

Position 16.

шагів
* *

Position 15. The capital letter "P." is holed.
Position 16. *

*14, 16 do not have any noticeable details.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Рен.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Рен.

Position 17.

* шагів *

Position 18.

* шагів *

Position 17. *

Position 18. The letter "У" is damaged in its upper left-hand part.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Рен.

Пошта
Укр.Н.Рен.

Position 19.

* шагів *

Position 20.

* шагів *

Position 19. Both asterisks are inclined to the right.

Position 20. The letter "У" is damaged, the asterisk on the left is perpendicular, the asterisk on the right—inclined to the right.

*17 do not have any noticeable details.

Пошта
Укр. Н. Рен.

Пошта
Укр. Н. Рен.

Position 21.

шагів
* *

Position 22.

шагів
* *

Position 21. The letter "ш." is slightly chipped off, the left asterisk is inclined to the right, the right one—perpendicular.

Position 22. The spacing between the letters "г." and "і." is greater, asterisks are different; the left one is inclined to the right, the right one is perpendicular.

Пошта
Укр. Н. Рен.

Пошта
Укр. Н. Рен.

Position 23.

шагів
* ❖

Position 24.

шагів
* *

Position 23. The letter "і." is damaged, asterisks are different.

Position 24. Asterisks are different, perpendicular.

Почта Укр.Н.Рен.

шарів



Position 25. The left asterisk inclined to the right, the right one is different.

The Second Stanyslaviv Issue

The most interesting and probably the most significant of all the overprintings of Austrian postage stamps was the second Stanyslaviv issue. It is interesting because it was executed, unlike the first Stanyslaviv edition, not on the 1916-18 Austrian stamps but on special Austrian stamps for Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1904 and on the Austro-Hungarian (military) field post stamps from 1917-18.

East Galicia (basically the territory of the Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic) was, as it is known, a battleground of World War I. Therefore, Austro-Hungarian field post stamps were not a particularly unusual phenomenon in this area. On the other hand, stamps of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the territory of Western Ukraine were something of a curiosity. It was by chance that these stamps came to be overprinted with a Ukrainian legend in the Western Ukrainian State. The story of this accident goes as follows: A military officer, a Ukrainian, returning home from the Serbian front, brought a large quantity of these postage stamps with him and handed them over to the Quartermaster General's Office of the Ukrainian Galician Army in Stanyslaviv. This office immediately informed the Direction of the Post in Stanyslaviv about it, and later handed over the entire stock to the Direction.

With a sufficient supply of postage stamps for Ukrainized overprinting at hand, four new different series of stamps were overprinted in Stanyslaviv on May 5, 1919 with a text similar to the one in the first issue.

The First Set

The first set comprises the postage-due stamps of Bosnia and Herzegovina from the year 1904, consisting of 12 denominations, overprinted with the following three-line legend: *Почта/Укр. Н. Реп./шарів* (Post/Ukrainian National Republic/shahs) (see Figures 21 and 22). The same printing block was used as in the first Stanyslaviv issue, but this time both asterisks had been eliminated from print. Further differences in this issue are the following: the letter "H" is missing in the fifth position, the letter "Y" is missing in the 21st position, and positions 20 and 23 have been interchanged. Half-sheets of 50 stamps each were used for printing, it seems, and these sheets were overprinted with a block having 25 positions, whereupon the sheet was turned over and its second half was again overprinted with the same 25-position block as inverted impression. After the printing, this "tête-bêche" of a sort was torn in half into two equal 25-stamp quarter-sheets. This was done, probably, in haste, to save time, because to shift the printer's block, it would have been necessary to set the printing press in a different way, which would have taken much more time than the inverting of the sheets. This supposition is confirmed by the existing inverted impres-



Figure 21. The first overprint set of the stamps of the second Stanyslaviv issue on Austrian postage due stamps for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

sions of almost all the denominations, with the exception of 5, 10 and 20 shahs, although, for instance, the well-known philatelist Anton Wohlfahrt asserts in one of his articles that there exist also inverted impressions of 5 and 10 shah stamps.

In addition to the above, this issue has also the following specific features: On 1-heller face value stamps there is the overprint "шара", on 2, 3, and 4-hellers — "шари", and on all the others (5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 15, 20, and 50 hellers) — "шарив". However, this printer's block was corrected during the initial printing, or somewhat later, and further overprints were made in this corrected version. At that time the following misprints were corrected: in position 5 the missing letter "H.", in position 17 — "Пер.", and in position 21st — the letter "Y" were added. This letter "Y" came from a different set of type faces, and instead of being rounded off at the bottom, it was furnished with a serif (Y). Overprints by this corrected block are found on 6 and 15-shah denominations, as well as on 1 and 4-



Figure 22. A cover with postage stamps of mixed second Stanyslaviv issue (the first and third overprint series).

shah stamps, but now already with the overprint “шарів” instead of “шара” or “шари”. The 6 shah denomination was, probably, overprinted only with this corrected block, because so far no stamps with the missing letters from the said positions 5, 17 and 21 have been found. Two complete bottom rows overprinted with this corrected block have blurred ink, and if one looks closer, one can notice that during the printing the paper was shifted slightly upwards, for the smudges give this impression (see Figure 27).

Double overprints in this issue are known on the 1, 4, 6 and 20-shah values, and treble ones — on 6 and 20-shah stamps. A dot displaced 3.5 mm upwards after “Пер.” is known on 4, 6, 7, 8 and 15-shah values. On some values misplaced overprints and overprints on the reverse side of the stamp are known, and on the 8-shah value even a vertical overprint occurs. Number issued: 1 shah — 2000 pcs., 3 shahs — 5000 pcs., 4 shahs — 443, 5 shahs — 50, 6 shahs — 112, 7 shahs — 2755, 8 shahs — 2175, 10 shahs — 310, 15 shahs — 74, 20 shahs — 25 (two thirds of which were destroyed) and 50 shahs — 215 pcs.

The Second Set

The second set of this issue was executed on three so-called *Kaiser-Karl-Fondsmarken* Austrian stamps from the year 1918 (see Figure 23). The same printing block was used for overprinting as on the postage-due stamps, but only its four upper rows, that is, only its part consisting of 20 stamps, were used. For this overprinting the half-sheet was also turned around for the second half of the job, therefore, we have inverted overprints of all three values. The letter “H.” is missing in position 5, while “Пер.” is missing in position 17. Double overprints occur in 10 and 20-shah values. Numbers issued: 10 shahs — 245, 20 shahs — 308 and 45 shahs — 401 pieces.



Figure 23. The second overprint set of the second Stanyslaviv issue.

The Third Set

The third set was issued on 1917-18 Austro-Hungarian field post stamps (see Figures 24 to 26). The old blocks with 25 overprint positions were



Figure 24. The third overprint set of the second Stanyslaviv issue.

used for this purpose as in the previous cases. The 50-stamps sheet (or rather half-sheet), too, has been turned around during overprinting, therefore, we have inverted overprints on these values. Likewise, the letter “Н.” is missing in position 5, “Реп.” is missing in position 17, and “У” in posi-

Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр. Реп.
гривні	гривні	гривні	гривні	гривні
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривні	гривні	гривні	гривні	гривні
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривні	гривні	гривні	гривні	гривні
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривні	гривні	гривні	гривні	гривні
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривні	гривні	гривні	гривні	гривні

Figure 25. Printing block with 25 positions (a full sheet) for the overprint “hryvni” of the second Stanyslaviv issue, third set. The same printing block was used for the “shahs” of this set.

tion 21. Position 21 from the preceding, first Stanyslaviv issue is found here in position 25. In all hryvnia values, with the exception of 10 hryvnias, we notice the damaged, underimpressed or overlaid with something, letter “У” in position one. In all hryvnia and in some shah values the letter “т” is different in the first position from other positions. On 1, 2, and 3-heller

Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр. Реп.
гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень

Figure 28. Printing block of the third set of the second Stanyslaviv issue with the use of the face value “hryven”.

values we find the overprint, "шарі", and on 5-20 heller values — "шарів", and on krone values — "гривні". However, on the 12, 20, 50 and 80-shahs values, in position 15, there is the overprint "шарі" instead of the correct "шарів". Double overprint occur on 3, 20 and 50-shah and 3 and 4-hryvnia values. Treble overprint occurs on the 4-hryvnia value, and overprint on 2 and 50-shah values are displaced upwards.

A corrected printing block has been additionally used for the 20, 50 and 80-shah values, in the same way as in the preceding series of postage-due stamps, viz.: the letter "H." has been inserted in position 5, "Pen." — in position 17, "Y" — in position 21. As in the postage-due stamp series, overprints in the two bottom rows (positions 16-20 and 21-25 have been blurred by this corrected printing block) (see Figure 27). Moreover, on the 2-krone value, on all the stamps of the half-sheet, we have the inscription "гривень" instead of "гривні" in both normal and inverted overprint



Figure 26. Cover with stamps of the third set of the second Stanyslaviv issue from a corrected printing block (the second issue of this set).

positions, but these stamps are few (see Figure 28). Numbers issued: 1 shah — 44 pieces, 2 shahs — 272, 3 shahs — 97, 5 shahs — 70, 6 shahs — 150, 10 shahs — 44, 12 shahs — 80, 15 shahs — 90, 20 shahs — 2441, 25 shahs — 23, 30 shahs — 35, 40 shahs — 46, 50 shahs — 4172, 60 shahs — 45, 80 shahs — 871, 90 shahs — 38, 2 hryvnias — 2500, 3 hryvnias — 1000, 4 hryvnias — 1000, and 10 hryvnias — 2 pieces.

The Fourth Set

The fourth set are overprints on remnants of various Austrian postage stamps: on 1917 postage-due stamps — 15 shahs on 36 hellers, and 50 shahs on 42 hellers; on 1916-18 so-called "Andreaskreuz" booklets of stamps and on the 1917-18 Austrian field post stamp for 50 shahs (see Figure 29). It is probable that these stamps were overprinted with the printing block of 20 positions only, because we do not find anywhere positions 21-25. In some cases it seems that even incomplete and torn-off smaller blocks of these Austrian stamp remnants were put on the press, placing them, moreover, in various arbitrary positions.

For this overprint set the old overprint block was altered. In order to cross out, or rather to obliterate, the Austrian inscription, "Porto", two thick lines were added in each position and the inscription "шарів" was divided into two parts — "ша" and "рів" on both sides of the face value of the stamp, because the Austrian 36 and 42-heller face values were overprinted with a large asterisk. In order to avoid this overprinted asterisk and to make the overprint "шарів" obvious, the need arose during the Ukrainization overprinting to divide this word as the new determinant of the face value.

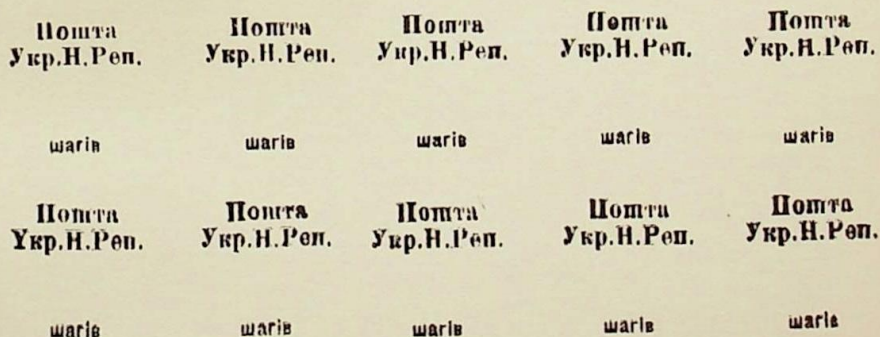


Figure 27. Two bottom rows (positions 16-25) of corrected printing block with blurred overprint.

The following variants of overprints are found in this series: one thick line, either the upper or the lower one, is missing in position 1, and in some positions both lines are missing fully or partly. Double overprint occurs on the 15/36 stamp. Inverted overprints occur on the 5, 10 and 15-shahs stamps with the portrait of the emperor Franz Joseph. Misplaced overprints occur: on 50-shah stamps — shifted to the left, on 10 and 50-shahs stamps — to the bottom, and on 6-shahs stamps — to the top. Number issued: 15/36 shahs — 195 pcs., and 50/42 shahs — 20 pcs. The number of all other values issued remains unknown. One of the outstanding philatelists and experts on Stanyslaviv issues of the Ukrainian stamps, Anton Wülfahrt, thinks that approximately 25 - 50 pieces of them might have been overprinted.



Figure 29. The fourth set of the second Stanyslaviv issue.

History of the *Ekonomat* Document under Stanyslaviv's Post Direction

Apart from the stamps themselves, one of the interesting and important documentary materials for ascertaining the types of overprinted stamps and the numbers issued in the first and the second Stanyslaviv issues, is the document of the *Ekonomat* of the Direction of the Post in Stanyslaviv, mentioned previously. The outstanding philatelist, Anton Wohlfahrt, gives the history of this document in his work entitled "Stanyslaviv Issues of the Western Ukrainian National Republic". Below we shall briefly summarize the story as told by the author.

Intending to leave for Austria, a young student named Eisenberg, a resident in Pidvolochyska in Galicia, sold a considerable part of his property for 1000 hryvnias, in order to get some money for the journey and for his stay in Austria. He was afraid, however, to take all this money with him on the trip, for it could have been confiscated by one or another party during the crossing of the frontiers. In order to safeguard this considerable sum of money, he came to the Stanyslaviv post office on March 26, 1919, in order to buy the overprinted Ukrainian postage stamps, and then to get them across to Austria and exchange them for the Austrian money. He succeeded in his enterprise. He obtained overprinted stamps that were then current at the post office counter and took them to Austria. Having arrived in Austria, he offered to sell them to various postage stamp dealers in Vienna. The well-known stamp expert and dealer, Karl Körner, took up this offer and bought the stamps. At that time he knew little about these overprinted stamps. He correctly surmised that the stamps offered to him could have appeared at that time only in Stanyslaviv, because by that time Lviv had already been occupied by the Poles. Glad at having purchased these stamps, Körner arranged to send the student back to Stanyslaviv with the instructions to buy more stamps and to try to obtain an official document from the post office listing all the types of the stamps overprinted by the Ukrainian post in Stanyslaviv and the numbers issued.

Eisenberg immediately left for Stanyslaviv where he arrived at the beginning of May. On May 4th he began to buy up stamps in accordance with Körner's instruction, and also managed to obtain an official document, desired by Körner, from the *Ekonomat* of the Direction of the Post in Stanyslaviv, dated May 7th, 1919 and personally signed by the Head of the *Ekonomat*, Stefan Poburenni (see Figures 30 and 31).

Folgende Marken sind im
Ekonomat Stanislau überdrückt
worden:

Wscholen:

1)

6h. 10h. 12h. 15h. 20h. 30h. 40h. 50h. 60h. 80h.

Sind bald anverkauft worden.

-2000 St.

-2000 St.

900 St.

1000 St.

1000 St.

1000 St.

1000 St.

1000 St.

1000 St.

1000 St.

1000 St.

2 Kr.

4 Kr.

-1000 St.

-1000 St.

-199 St.

-1000 St.

-900 St.

3)

-245 St.

-308 St.

-401 St.

-195 St.

-20 St.

Für die Echtheit des Überdrückes
und Richtigkeit des Quantum
garantiert

Stanislau am 7/1-1919.

Ekonomat
Postdirektor
Hr. Wrona.

Figure 30. The document of the "Ekonomat" of the Stanyslaviv Direction of the Post, page 1.































2.)					
Quantum	-2000 gr.	-4000 gr.	-5000 gr.	-443 gr.	-50 gr.
					
Quantum	-112 gr.	-2755 gr.	-2175 gr.	-310 gr.	-74 Stück
3.)					
Quantum	-215 Stück	-44 Stück	-272 gr.	-97 gr.	-70 gr.
					
Quantum	-150 gr.	-44 gr.	-80 gr.	-90 gr.	-241 gr.
					
Quantum	-23 Stück	-35 Stück	-46 Stück	472 Stück	45 Stück
					
877 Stück					
Quantum	-38 gr.	-2500 gr.	-10000 gr.	-10000 gr.	-2 Stück

Figure 31. The document of the "Ekonomat" of the Stanyslaviv Direction of the Post, page 2.

The Third Stanyslaviv Issue



Figure 32. The full set of the third Stanyslaviv issue.

For this issue, 18 Austrian postage stamps from the years 1916-18 were overprinted at the Austrian State Printing Office in Vienna. (See Figures 32 and 34). Overprinting of these stamps was ordered by the plenipotentiary representative of the Western Ukrainian Government, member of the trade mission, until then Secretary (Minister) of Posts, Aleksander Pisetsky. The stamps were overprinted in the following way: in the middle — the emblem

Direktion der
Deutschösterreichischen Staatsdruckerei

Wien, den 1. Juli 1919.

Zl. 3973/1919.

An
Herrn Franz S c h n e i d e r
in

W i e n .

Ueber das Schreiben vom 23. Juni 1919 beehrt sich die
Direktion der d.ö. Staatsdruckerei mitzuteilen, daß der Auf-
druck des ukrainischen Wappens auf österreichische Briefmarken
über Auftrag der ukrainischen Volksrepublik erfolgte und die
Auflage in ihrer Gänze von dem seitens der ukr. Regierung hiezu
delegierten Organe übernommen worden ist.

Im übrigen wäre sich diesbezüglich an die ukrainische
Gesandtschaft in Wien, VI., Windmühlgasse 15 zu wenden.

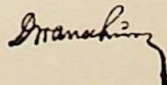


Figure 33. The letter of the State Printing Office in Vienna explaining the history of the order placed by the Ukrainian Government for the set of stamps of the third Stanyslaviv issue. (See next page for English translation).

*The Management
Of the German Austrian
State Printing Office
Zl. 3973/1919.*

Vienna, July 1, 1919.

*To
Mr. Franz Schneider
in*

V i e n n a .

With regard to the letter dated June 23, 1919, the Management of the German Austrian State Printing Office has the honor to inform you that the overprinting of Ukrainian emblems on the Austrian postage stamps took place at the order of the Ukrainian National Republic and the entire edition has been taken over by the organs delegated here by the Ukrainian Government.

With regard to other matters, you are advised to make enquiries with the Ukrainian Legation in Vienna, VI, Windmuhlgasse 15.

[Signature illegible]

of the United Ukraine — a Trident on a black background in the form of a shield, and in the four corners the initials: "З.У.Н.Р." (Z.U.N.R.), meaning: Western Ukrainian National Republic. The face values of the stamps were left unobliterated. The above-mentioned State name used on these stamps after the unification of the Western and the Greater (Central

and Eastern) Ukraine on January 22, 1919, was not correct by that time, but it is not known (and there exist no documents on this account) why it was used. Neither is it known why Ukrainian currency names —

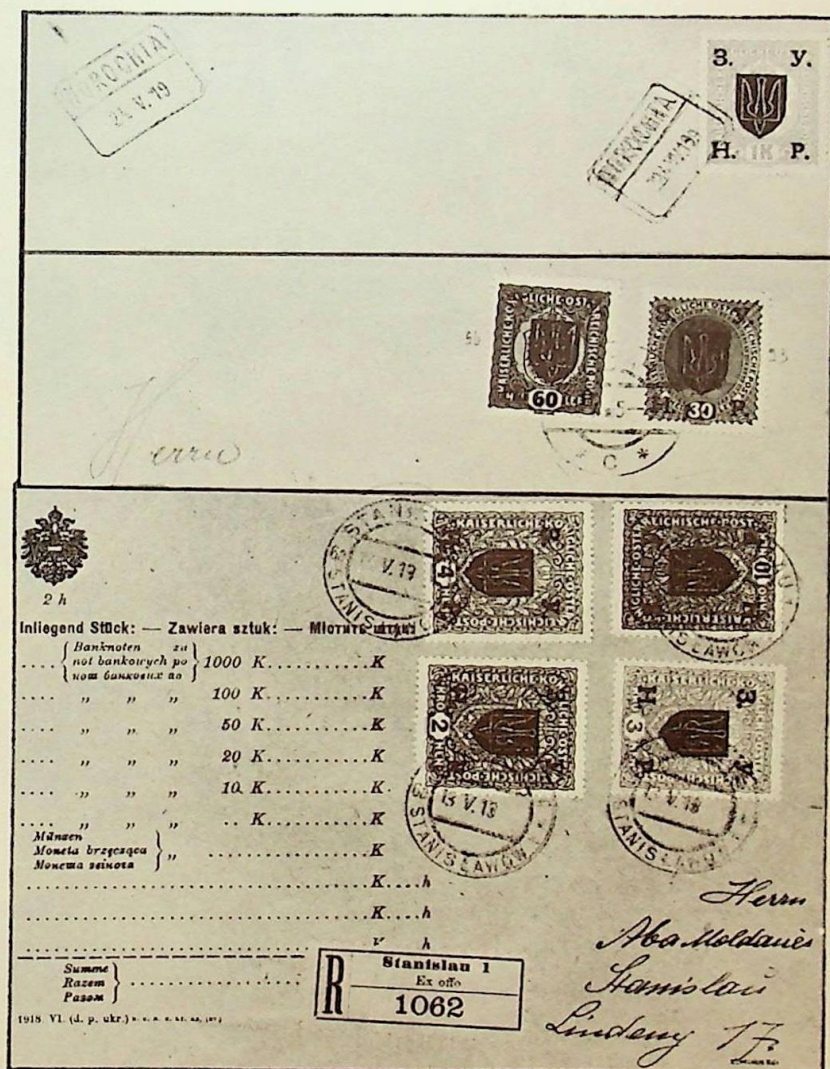


Figure 34. Covers with stamps of the third Stanyslaviv issue.

shahs and hryvnias — were not used. One can only surmise that the order was placed before the Act of the Union of January 22, 1919, and some unknown, uncoordinated action or chance occurrence caused by the state

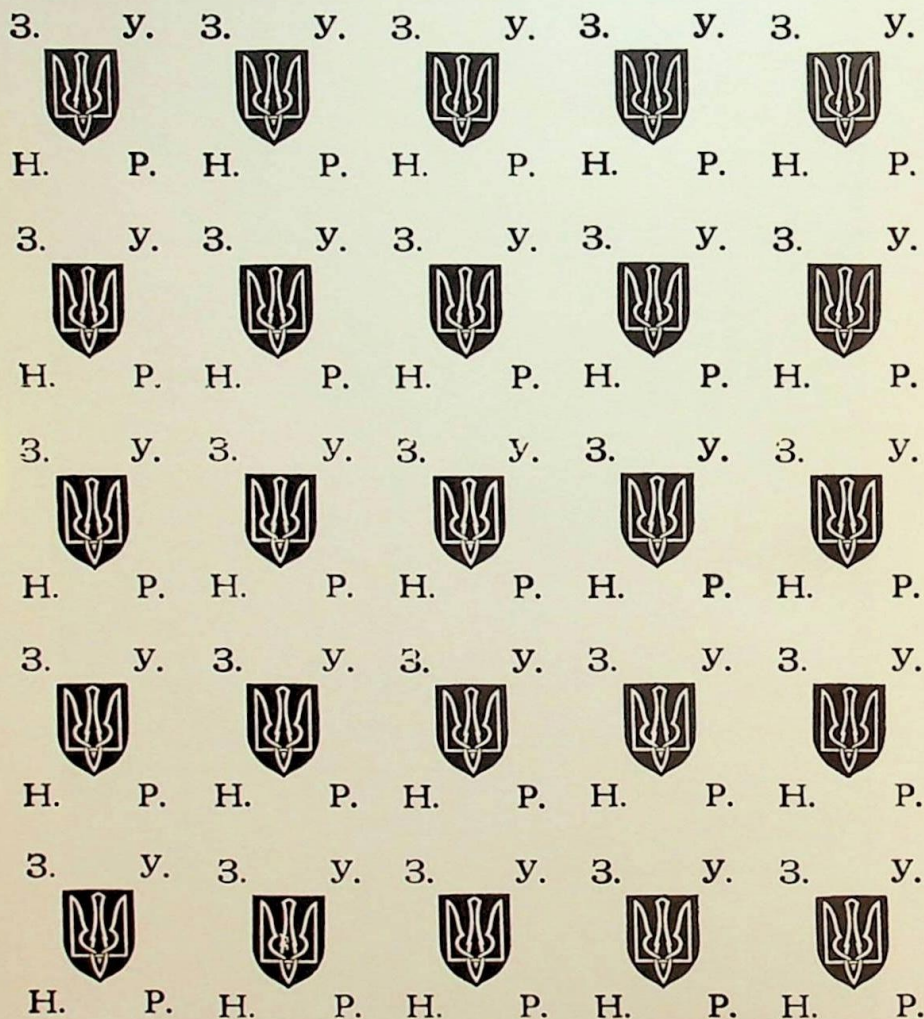


Figure 35. Printing block of the upper left quarter of the 100-stamp sheet of the third Stanyslaviv issue.

of war resulted in this unclarified misunderstanding regarding nomenclature.

These stamps were delivered to the Direction of the Post in Stanyslaviv which distributed them, as far as possible, to all the post offices of the Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic. They appeared in postal

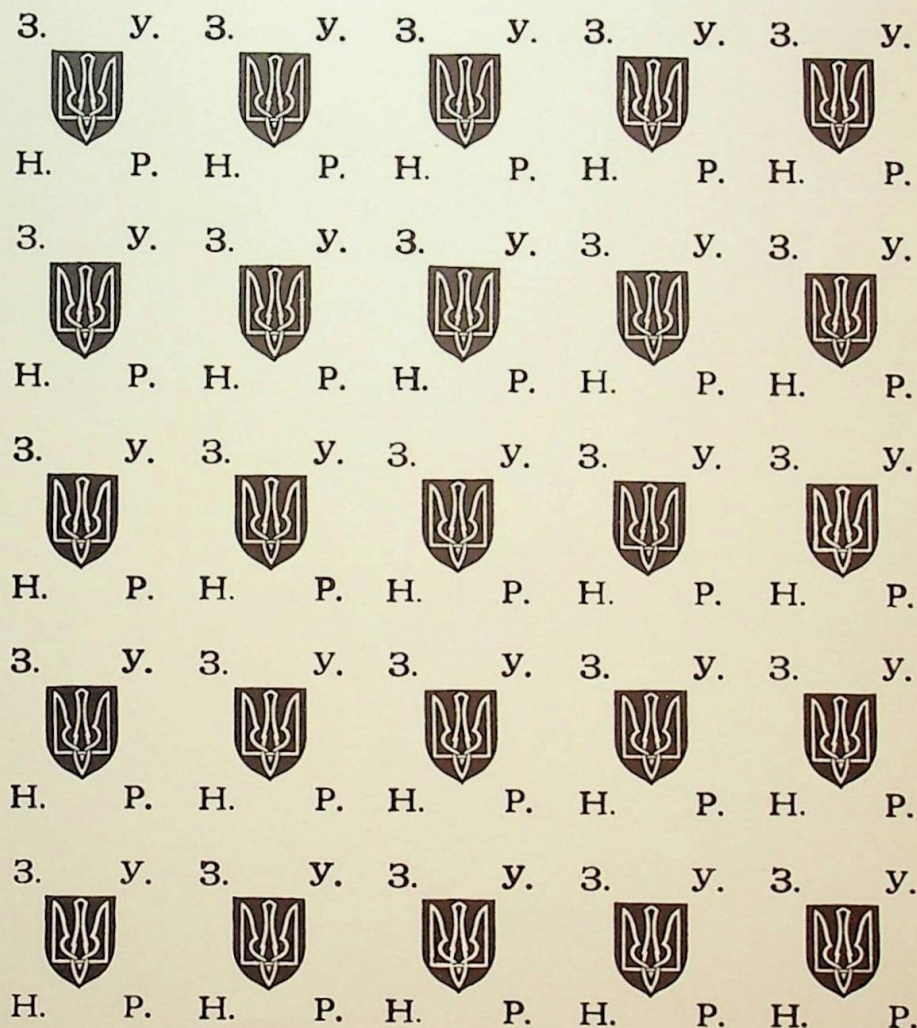


Figure 36. Printing block of the upper right quarter of the same issue as Figure 35.

circulation on May 8, 1919, with the exception of 12, 20 and 50-heller and 2, 3, 4 and 10-krone values which were delivered to the Direction of the Post five days later (see Figure 33).

The stamps of this set were printed in sheets and with a plate which



Figure 37. Printing block of the lower left quarter of the same issue.

had 100 positions (see Figures 35 to 38). Krone value stamps, except that for 1 krone, were printed mostly on granite paper, but 2 — 10-krone stamps printed on woven paper are also known. The number issued of this set is not known.

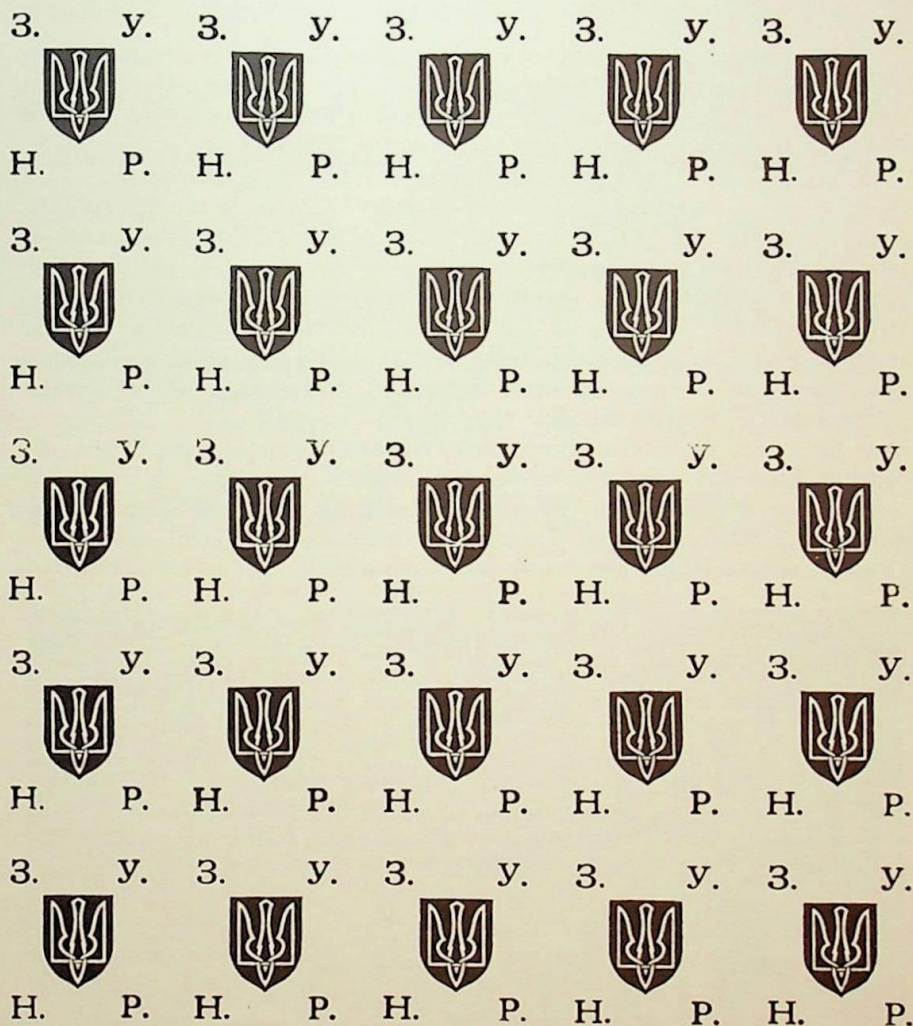


Figure 38. Printing block of the lower right quarter of the same issue.

The Fourth Stanyslaviv Issue

Between May 9th and 12th, two more series of stamps, the last ones, were overprinted in Stanyslaviv.

The First Set

The first set consisted of seven krone-value stamps of the Austrian field post from the years 1917-18 (see Figure 39). The previously used overprint block consisting of 25 positions was rearranged into a new one in which a five-line inscription was placed in each position. The text was as follows: In the first line — a thick line obliterating the field post inscription, in the second line — overprint of the word “Пошта” (Post), in the third — the overprint “Укр. Н. Реп.” (Ukrainian National Republic), in the fourth — on the left-hand and the right-hand side of the stamp — the new face value, in the fifth line — an asterisk on each side and between them the word “гривні” (hryvni) or “гривень” (hryven’), depending on the values. The 2, 3 and 4-krone value stamps were overprinted to “hryvni” and the 5 and 10-krone values to “hryven’”. The asterisks obliterated the Austrian face value inscription.

One can also notice some alterations in certain positions. Thus, the missing letter “Н.” has been added in position 5, the letters “У” are new in positions 6 and 11, “У” is missing in position 15, the missing “У” in position 21 has been added. Damaged or incorrect letters are found in the



Figure 39. The first set of the fourth Stanyslaviv issue.

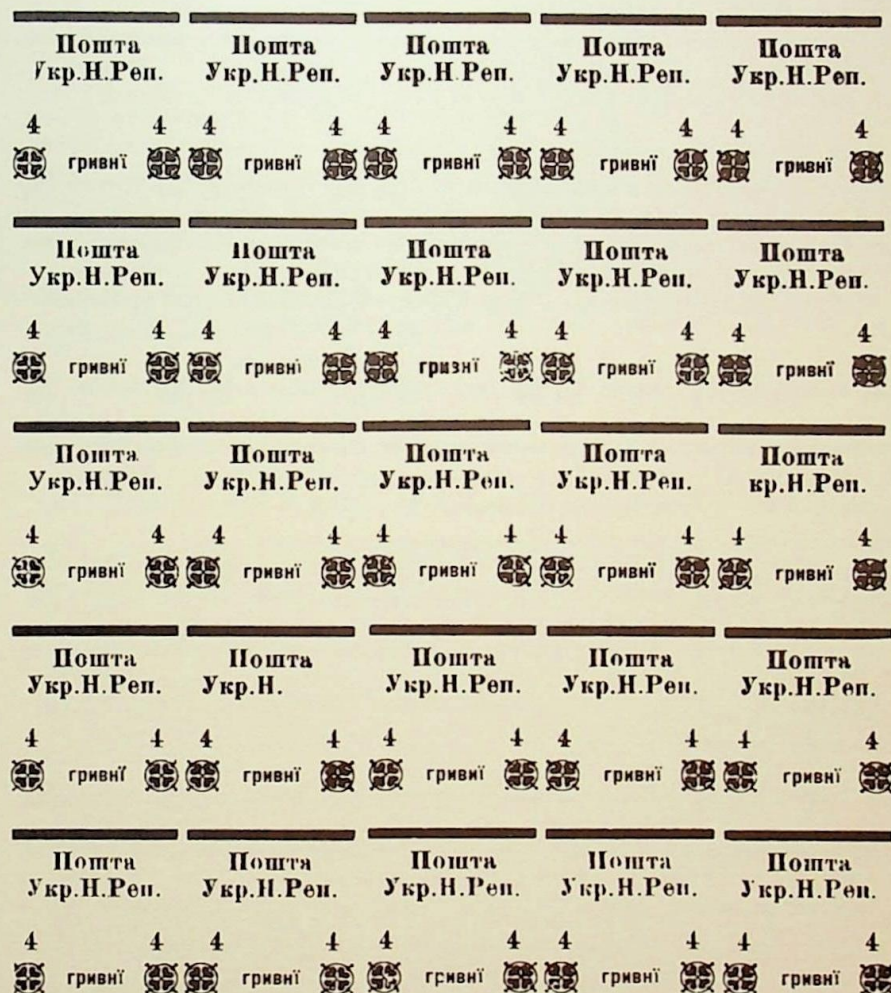


Figure 40. Printing block with 25 positions for the “hryvni” overprint values of the first set of the fourth Stanyslaviv issue.

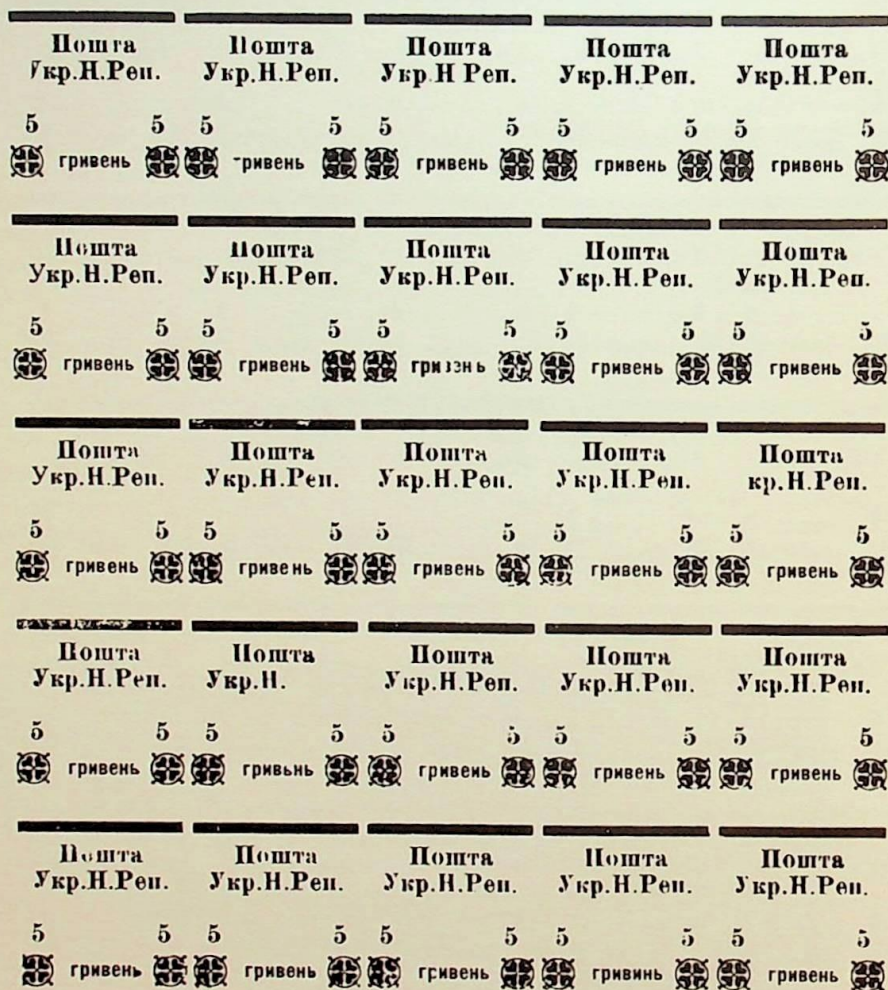


Figure 41. Printing block with 25 positions for the "hryven" overprint values of the first set of the fourth Stanyslaviv issue.

word "ґривні" in positions 8, 18 and 23, and in positions 8, 17, 18, 23 and 24 there are similar irregularities in the word "ґривень" (see Figures 40 and 41). Perforation 11 and 1/2, different from other stamps in this set, is also known on the 2-hryvnia value overprinted on the 2-krone stamp and on the 3-hryvnia value overprinted on the 3-krone stamp. There is a misprint on the 3-hryvnia value printed on the 3-krone stamp, in position 19. The face value 5, instead of 3, has been printed on the left-hand side, (see Figure 42).

Number printed: 2-hryvnia on 2-krone — 3500, 3-hryvnia on 2-krone — 3500, 3-hryvnia on 3-krone — 450, 4-hryvnia on 2-krone — 3500, 4-hryvnia on 4-krone — 60, 5-hryvnia on 2-krone — 3500, and 10-hryvnia on 50-heller — 2475 pieces.



Figure 42. The four-stamp block with a printing error.

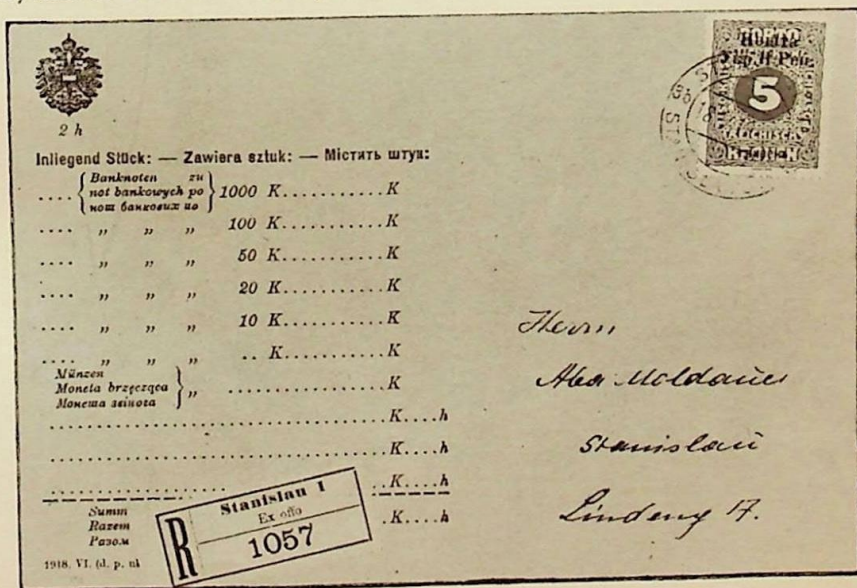


Figure 44. Cover with a stamp of the second set of the fourth Stanyslaviv issue.

The Second Set

The second set was overprinted on 1- and 5-krone Austrian postage-due stamps from 1916 (see Figures 43 and 44). The old printing block was used for this purpose but without the thick line on top, without the face value and the asterisks. A 20-position block was used after the removal of the bottom row. The Ukrainized 1-krone stamp has the overprint “ гривна ” (hryvna), and the 5-krone one — “ гривень ” (hryven’). In this issue, too,

Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень
Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.	Пошта Укр.Н.Реп.
гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень	гривень

Figure 45. Printing block with 20 positions of the second set of the fourth Stanyslaviv issue.

TRANSLATION FROM GERMAN:

Owing to the lack of Krone values, the available here 560 pcs. of 1 Kr. Porto and 60 pcs. of 5 Kr. Porto have been overprinted with the type shown on the side. This is herewith officially certified.

*Direction of the Posts and Telegraphs
of the Western Province
of the Ukrainian National Republic*

Stanyslaviv, May 10th, 1919.

TRANSLATION FROM UKRAINIAN:

Owing to the lack of postage stamps of recognized values, the 560 pcs. of 1 Kr. and 60 pcs. of 5 Kr. Porto have been overprinted with the type as shown on the reverse side.

*Stanyslaviv, May 10, 1919
[Signature] Sekretar*

[Round Seal]

*Direction of Posts and Telegraphs
of the Western Province
of the Ukrainian National Republic*

some positions have been arranged differently from the previous issue, namely: positions 5 and 20, as well as positions 10 and 15 have been respectively interchanged. (See Figure 45.)

We possess all this information thanks to a proof copy of these overprints taken, probably because of the shortage of paper, on a court-martial form. On the right-hand side of this proof copy there is a certification, in German and Ukrainian, by a high official of the Direction of the Post in Stanyslaviv, Mykola Sekretar, concerning the number of these stamps issued (1-hryvnia — 560 and 5-hryvnia — 70 pieces), and signed in Ukrainian by his own hand (see Figures 46 and 47).



Figure 43. The second set of the fourth Stanyslaviv issue.

5. THE FIRST AND THE SECOND VIENNA ISSUES

Two sets of stamps with the correct designation “Українська Народня Республіка З.О.” (The Ukrainian National Republic Western Province), and in the second set with the two latter words, fully spelled-out “Українська Народня Республіка — Західня Область”, had been printed at the Vienna State Printing Office. Face values on these stamps, however, were still printed in sotyks (hellers) and koronas (krone) denominations, although at the time they were ordered, that is, at the beginning of May 1919, there was formally no such currency, for the nomenclature for the currency in use was: *shah* and *hryvnia*, as well as *karbovanets*.

The First Two-Color Set

The first two-color printed set consisted of 5 values, namely, with the face values of 10, 20 and 50 sotyks and 1 and 10 koronas. These stamps were printed in 100-stamp sheets (see Figure 48). Coats of arms of the United Ukraine — the Trident, of Kiev — Archangel Michael with a sword and a shield, and of Lviv (and also of Galicia) — the Lion. The sotyky



Figure 48. The first set of the first Vienna issue.

stamps were imperforate, the korona stamps were perforated. Imperforate 1-korona value is also known. Stamps were printed on two kinds of paper as regards color — white and cream. Different shades of stamp colors, with design displaced in various directions and overprints on the reverse side of the stamps are also known.

The Second Set

The second set consisted of 12 values. These were 5, 6, 10, 12, 20, 25, 40, 50, and 90-sotyky and 1, 2, and 3-korona values. Stamps were printed in sheets of 100. The same coats of arms were used as in the first series, although with some variations in stylization, but now they were not printed together on one stamp, but each emblem was printed separately on four stamps of the set (see Figure 49).

Stamps of the two latter sets were never in circulation, because their printing was delayed. When they were finally ready for delivery, the Gov-



Figure 49. The second set of the second Vienna issue.

ernment of the Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic did not have its own territory, because by the end of July, 1919 the latter had already been occupied almost completely by the Polish army.

After the loss of its territory, the Government of the Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic went to Vienna where it continued functioning until March 14, 1923. i.e. The decision of the Council of Ambassadors, which, after the occupation of the entire Dnieper Ukraine by the Russian Communists (Bolsheviks), handed over the Galician territory of Western Ukraine to the Polish Republic. As a territory nationally different, it was to receive its national autonomy within the framework of the newly established Polish Republic. During the liquidation of the Western Ukrainian Government, the stock of the postage stamps of the Vienna issue, contained in 24 boxes, was liquidated, too. A part of it was sold as printer's waste, and the rest was destroyed in the presence of witnesses by a commission. Only an insignificant number from the first set and very little from the second have been retained.

All kinds of postal stationery, too, was printed at the same Vienna State Printing Office, and it was also destroyed during the liquidation. Only a very small part of this stationery sold as printer's waste remained, and an utterly insignificant number was left intact during the liquidation of the samples.

6. MORE ABOUT THE UKRAINIZATION OF POSTAGE STAMPS AND POSTMARKS

Of all the newly established States which began their existence on the territory of the former Austro-Hungarian empire, Western Ukraine found itself in the least enviable situation. It had not only to organize its postal and other offices and institutions, but above all to preserve its independent existence in a difficult struggle in a war of aggression waged by the newly organized Polish State against it.

For this reason, the postal services and all their needs and problems, in so far as they were not directly connected with military activities, had to await a more opportune time for their solution, and also for a complete consolidation of their activities. It is no wonder, therefore, that, absorbed as it was by military activities, the government of Western Ukraine in whose jurisdiction, in accordance with the laws issued in 1918, lay also the question of the approval of any changes of postage stamps, etc., did not consider this question in an appropriate manner. During the entire period of its existence, it left in circulation the former Austrian stamps, at first not even

Ukrainized with appropriate overprints. From a theoretical point of view, it was the duty of the government, immediately after the upheaval, and, moreover, after the unification of the Ukrainian lands by the Act of January 22, 1919, to eliminate the former Austrian stamps from circulation. It should also have abandoned the separateness of overprints and printings, and instead put into circulation in its territory the postage stamps of the Ukrainian National Republic as was done with the currency. Apart from other reasons, not a small role in this cultivation of particularism and regional individualities was played by mutual lack of understanding and not always sound—from the national point of view—mutual relations between the two governments. We shall not touch on this problem because it lies outside the theme of our work.

The fact that postal traffic since the day of the coup d'état on November 1, 1918, until the crossing of the river Zbruch by the Ukrainian Galician Army was extremely weak did not favor the solution of these problems. The army and state institutions corresponded without any postal charges, and trade circles, among which there were very few Ukrainians (the majority Jews and Poles) carried out their deals almost without the intermediation of the post. The civilian Ukrainian population corresponded very rarely during the war period, unless the need was very urgent. Considerable quantities of Austrian postage stamps were left at the post offices which contributed to the fact that the government of Western Ukraine did not feel compelled by the lack of stamps to make immediate efforts to issue its own Ukrainian postage stamps and forms.

The history of the postage stamps of Western Ukraine was shaped in a very peculiar manner by numerous factors, both conscious and haphazard. Some post offices, carried along by national elation evoked by the proclaimed independence, Ukrainized Austrian postage stamps with the emblem of Lviv and Galicia on their own initiative. Others, on the other hand, considered themselves part of the entire Ukraine (especially after the Act of the Union) and spontaneously placed the Trident, as the emblem of the United Ukraine, on the stamps of former Austria. Some post offices, without formal approval from the higher postal authorities, Ukrainized the stamps by overprinting them with various inscriptions, initials, designs, or variously stylized national emblems which, in their opinion, were appropriate. Again, other postal agents, particularly in small provincial post offices, lacking the necessary technical means, Ukrainized Austrian stamps with indelible pencil, drawing the initials "З.У.Н.Р." (Z.U.N.R.) or "У.Н.Р." (U.N.R.) on them.

Some post offices produced for their provisional use until a future unification, cancellation stamps of various forms — round, oval, oblong with one or two lines of text, and from various material — caoutchouc rubber, metal, or even wood. They were furnished with all kinds of inscriptions: “Уряд поштовий” (Post Office), “Уряд поштовий і телеграфічний” (Post and Telegraph Office), “Поштовий і телеграфічний уряд” (Post and Telegraph Office), “Український уряд поштовий” (Ukrainian Post Office), or simply “Поштовий уряд” (Post Office) (and the name of the place). These postmarks did not, as a rule, have datelines.

Nevertheless, we find postmarks similar in form and inscription in several localities, e.g. the postmarks of the following places: Yabluniv, Pechenizhyn and Hvozdetz. Sometimes we find various emblems in the middle of the postmarks: a trident, a lion with its head turned to the left, or to the right (incorrect). Apart from these Ukrainian postmarks, old Austrian cancellations were used in some post offices in their basic form. In some of them, the Polish inscription had been cut out, and only the German remained (Austrian postmarks had bi-lingual inscriptions: German and Polish). There were also regular postmarks of the Austrian pattern with exclusively Ukrainian inscription and a correct date-line, for instance in Zolochiv or Kolomyia. But Stanyslaviv or Stryi and some other post offices, for instance, did not change their former Austrian postmarks for a long time or even at all, obviously waiting for a uniform order of the Ukrainian postal authorities, or, finding themselves in different conditions, did not have the possibility to carry out all of the Ukrainization reforms in this field.

Such a lack of uniformity is fully justified, however, by the unbelievably difficult circumstances in which the newly established Western Ukrainian State came into being, transforming all spheres of public life, including also, postal legislation and the entire postal activity. Lack of normal communications, difficulties of coordination, shortage of trained people and the chaotic war conditions did not favor a complete and rational unification of the Ukrainization of the young Western Ukrainian Post.

Almost all the mail was inspected and censored by the local military commands which stamped the inspected mail with the censor's marks. These marks were various, too. We find many items of censored mail with the stamp mark, “Головний Цензурний Уряд при Д.С.В.С.” (Holovnyi Tsenzurnyi Uriad pry D.S.V.S.), i.e. the Main Censorship Office at the State Secretariat for Military Affairs.

For documentation purposes, the most important (as far as their contents are concerned) photographs of various mail items, with post-marks, and in addition, with various censorship marks, are included in this work.

Postal cancellations and censorship marks
of Western Ukrainian Republic

1. Post and Telegraph Office in Yabloniv
2. Ukrainian Post Office in Kuty
3. Cancellation Ustieriky
4. Post and Telegraph Office Hvozdet
5. Post Office in Maheriv
6. Post and Telegraph Office Yezupil
7. Post and Telegraph Office Yaseniv Horishnyi
8. Post Office Birky Velyki
9. Post Office Koniukhy
10. Post and Telegraph Office in Luka
11. Ukrainian Post Office in Chortkiv
12. Ukrainian Military Censor Ternopil
13. Ukrainian Station Command in Mykolaiv on Dniester
14. Censor Peremyshlany
15. Checked Dolyna
16. Checked Radekhiv
17. District Military Command in Zbarazh
18. Military Station Command Kalush
19. Checked Drohobych
20. Checked/unknown locality/
21. Censor Kuty
22. Checked/unknown locality/
23. Checked Probuzhna
24. Military Censor Zolochiv
25. Military Censor in Brody
26. Checked/unknown locality/
27. Censor Kolomyia
28. Ukrainian Military Censor Zolochiv
29. Post Office Chernelytsia
30. Cancellation Radekhiv
31. Military Command in Kuty
32. Censor Stryi
33. Main Censorship Office at the State Secretariat for Military Affairs
34. Cancellation Kaminka Strumilova



1



2



3



4



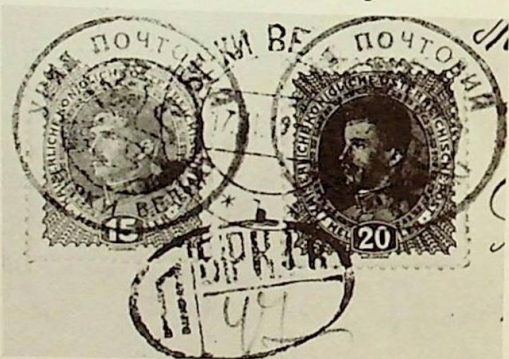
5



6



7



8



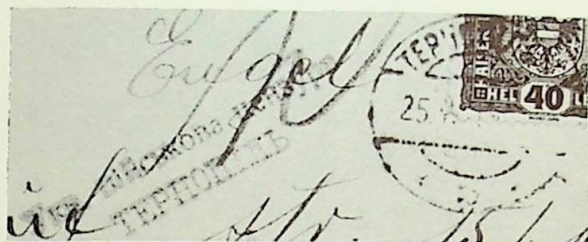
9



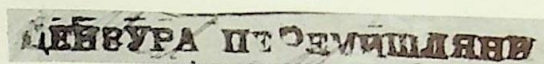
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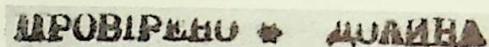
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12



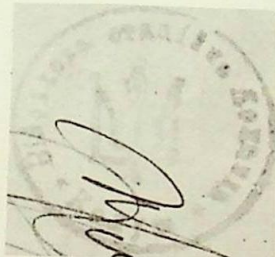
14



15



17



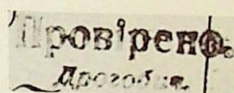
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13



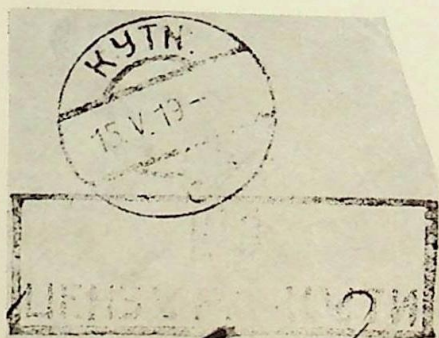
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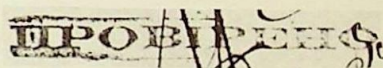
19



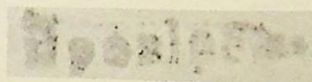
20



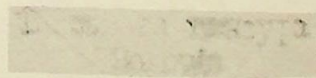
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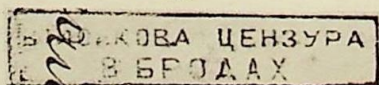
22



23



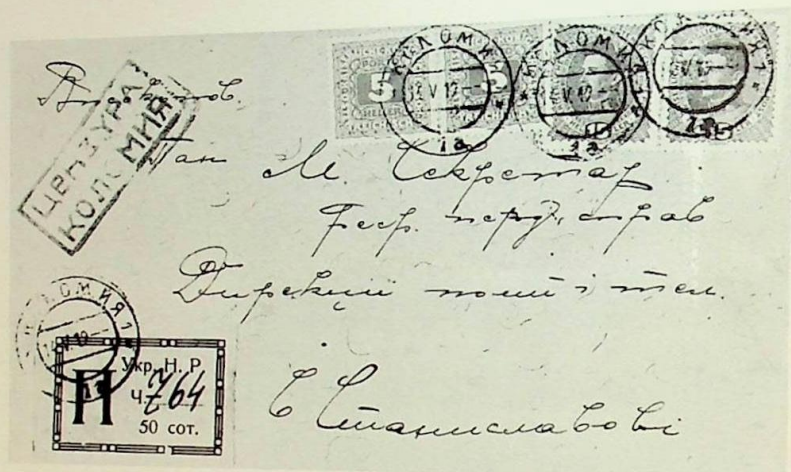
24



25



26



27



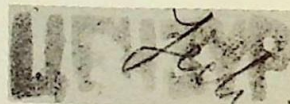
29



28

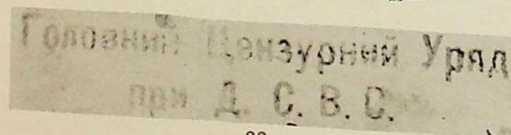


31



32

30



33



34

The history of the Field Post of the Ukrainian Galician Army (U.H.A.) and the history of the Air Mail, functioning at that time also on the territory of the Western Province of the Ukrainian National Republic, have not been included in this work in view of the fact that they can be subjects of special research.

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Corrections

Page	Line	Printed	Should read
11	17-18	Directorate	Direction (Department)
11	20	Directorate	Direction
11	26	railway	mechanical
26	12	11,300 with 5/15,	11,300 with 5/15 including 3 sheets (75 stamps) with inverted overprints,
27	33	legal	law
45	2	Roads	Railroads
45	34	Roads	Railroads
45	41	after "controller," insert:	Yuda Tseller and
58	7	after "position," insert:	the word "Pen." is missing in position 17,
60	2-4	The 6 shah denomination was, probably, overprinted only with this corrected block, because so far no stamps with the missing letters from the said positions 5, 17 and 21 have been found.	This sentence should be deleted.
60	14	after "2000 pcs.," insert:	2 shah — 4000 pcs.,
64	1	5 - 20	5 - 90
64	2	on the 12,	on the 6, 12,
81	10	3-krone	2-krone
85	32	70 pieces	60 pieces
88	6	i.e. The	i.e. until the