

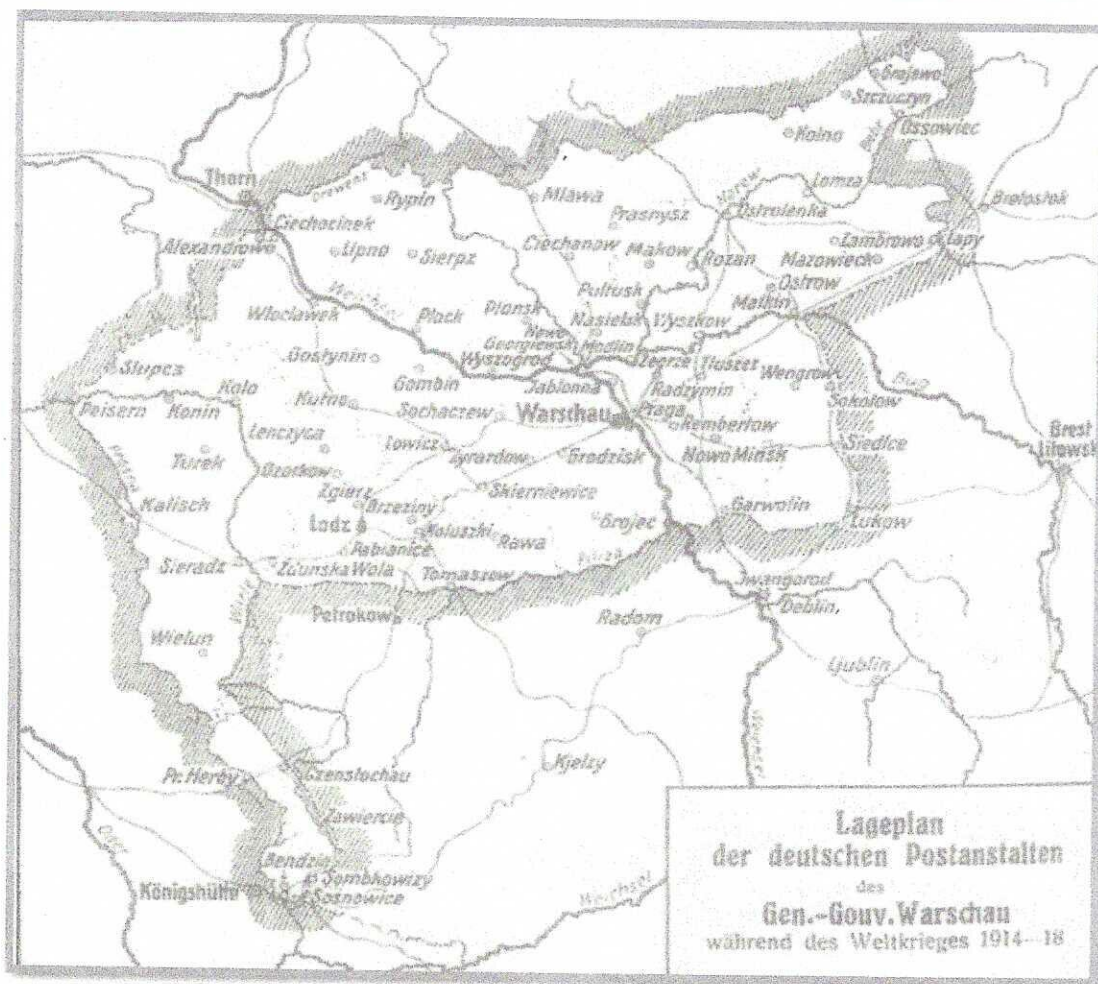
**POLAND: WARSAW POSTAL ADMINISTRATION
FIRST AND SECOND PROVISIONAL ISSUES
NOVEMBER 11, 1918, TO JUNE 1919**

Purpose and Scope: In November 1918 the Polish Central Post Office in the Warsaw Administration provisionally overprinted two former German occupation issues into Polish stamps. The purpose of this exhibit is to illustrate the beginnings of the postal system in the newly formed Republic of Poland by and examination of these provisional stamps in the short seven months of their use.

Background: Poland regained independence on November 11, 1918, after 125 years of occupation by Germany, Austria, and Russia. A first task of the new Republic was to establish postal departments in the major postal administrations of which Warsaw was the largest and the first to issue provisional stamps.

Importance and Rarity: The exhibit will show every major variety of the stamps. Extremely difficult provisional postmarks are shown as well as all postal classes including wrappers, parcel and money order receipts. This exhibit represents one of the most important collections of these issues. All archival material is shown.

All significant items have been expertized. Items of special note are in red box or italic.



Warsaw Postal Administration November 11, 1918

EXHIBIT PLAN

A. Transition from the German Post to the Polish Post

In this short introduction German Occupation stamps were used provisionally until December 15, 1918. German postal cancellations and rates were replaced by Polish provisional cancellations and rates.

B. Warsaw First Provisional Issue - November 17, 1918

Four values were overprinted on an old stock of Warsaw City Post stamps. This section is arranged by value, printing varieties and uses.

C. Warsaw Second Provisional Issue - December 16, 1918, to January 1919

Eleven values were overprinted on the former German occupation stamps. They are arranged by value, printing varieties and uses.



Posted on the Last Day of
German Occupation
November 10, 1918

Ossowiec to Fastow, Ukraine
Returned (Blue ZWORT)

First Day of the New Republic
November 11, 1918

Written on Independence
Day, dispatch delayed due to
conflict on the southern front

Będzin to Weidenau in Silesia

