

Three Covers from Warsaw, Poland

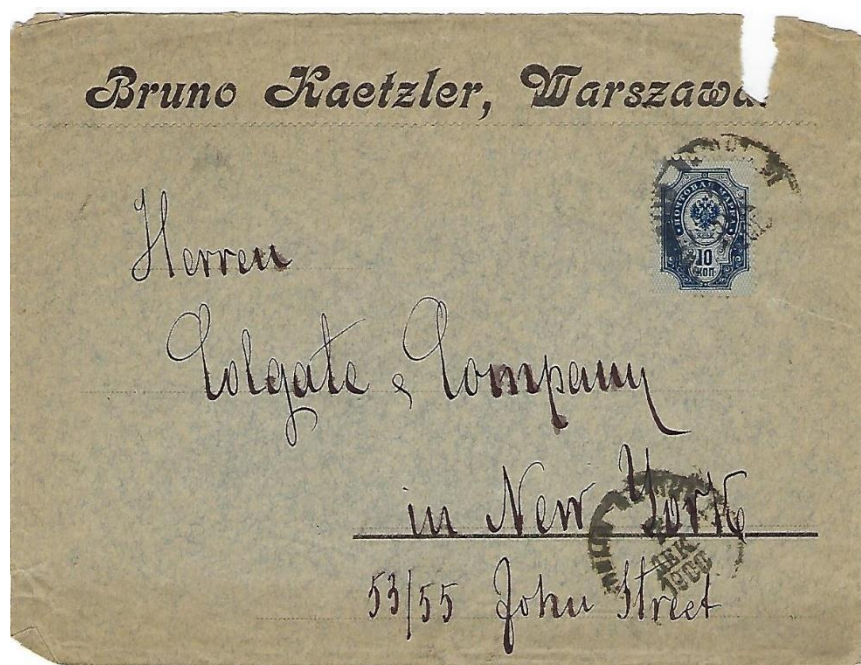
By Tom Reyman

During much of the 19th Century, the country of Poland did not exist since the traditional Polish area was part of Russia. After World War 1, Poland was reestablished as a country and Warsaw became its capital city. Here are three covers, franked in three different ways, that were sent from the city of Warsaw at three different time periods and under varying political situations.

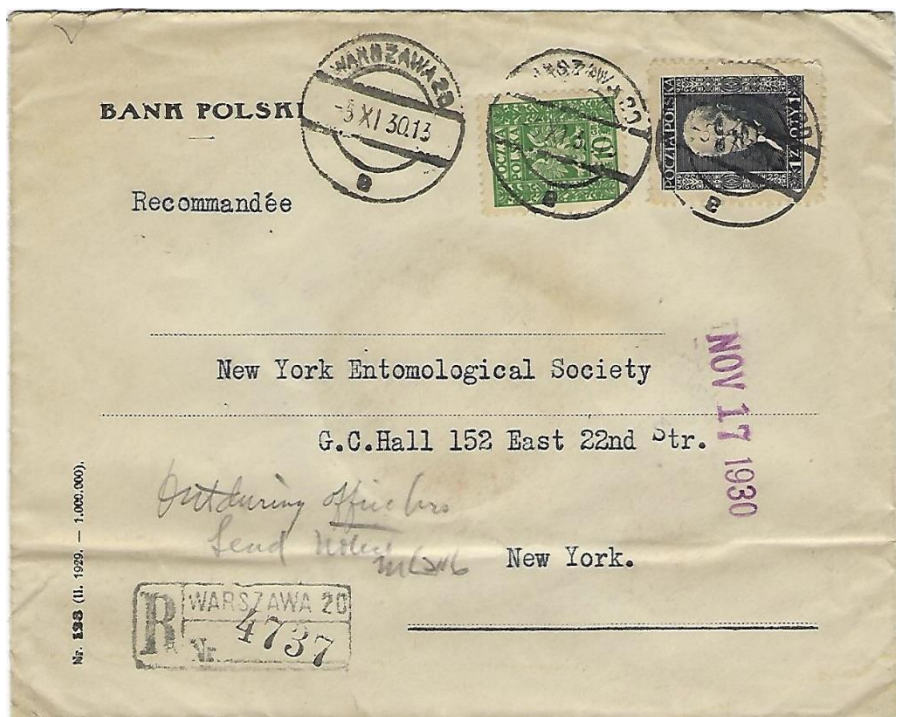


The stampless folded letter on blue paper with a red wax seal on the reverse – This appears to be a personal letter from Warsaw to Paris, written on December 25, 1864 (dated inside) and received at the post office on December 28. At that time, Warsaw was under Russian control. The red imprint shows that 12 Russian kopecks were paid to send the mail to Paris.

Warsaw to New York City in 1900 (Received in New York on December 30, 1900 – postmark on back) – Bruno Kaetzler was possibly a merchant in Warsaw sending a commercial letter to the Colgate company. Poland was still under Russian control and a Russian stamp was used for postage, a 10 kopecks stamp (#42).



Warsaw to New York City, registered cover, dated November 5, 1930 and received in New York on November 17, 1930. – The sender was someone in the Bank of Poland. When the mail arrived in New York, it apparently was not delivered on the first attempt. The pencil note says “Out during office hours. Send notice” and included the initials of the writer. The envelope is franked with Poland stamps #255 and 259 for a total of 1 Zloty and 10 Groszy postage.



Tom Reyman is a Nevada Stamp Study Society member whose collecting interests are U.S. FAM (Foreign Airmail) covers, general Air Mail covers, Canadian Semi-Official Air Mail stamps and covers, and Cape Breton (Nova Scotia) covers.