

Russian Perfins - Part 3, Notes and Tables

Peter Walker

In addition to postage due items, money would also have been received for such things as delivery and storage charges which may similarly have been accounted for, either on the postal item itself or in a book. In an article published by *Filateliya SSSR*, 1982, No.5, an abstract of which was reproduced in translation by the late Dr. Rutkowska in *BJRP* No.59, p 43, Mazur records details of a parcel card that was sent, along with the parcel, from Brussels to Moscow.

According to the abstract, the two Belgian adhesives on it were cancelled Brussels 15.1.1914. Apart from two transit cancellations, the card was also cancelled with a Moscow, 4th Ekspeditsiya, postmark dated 10.1.14 (Old Style) and two similar cancellations dated 25.2.14. The card also had an illegible round cancellation mark and a two-line rectangular cancellation reading «Сообщено за границу» Notice has been given [to the addressee] with the date and number of the notice. From this and other manuscript marks, it is clear that the addressee was notified 3 times about the arrival of the parcel in Moscow, but for some unknown reason the parcel was only handed over on 25.2.14, one and a half months later.

It appears that the cost of storage of the parcel was 1r 25k for which two Russian adhesives (25k and 1r Arms?) were added to the reverse side of the card. Both stamps were cancelled Moscow, 4th Ekspeditsiya, 25.2.14 and perforated with the 4th Ekspeditsiya perfin (Type P70) which also perforated [in reverse] the Belgian adhesives on the front of the card.

1. *Filateliya SSSR*, 1974, No. 4, pp. VI-VIII.
2. *Postage stamps of the former Russian Empire, RSFSR and USSR*, p. 35.
3. *Filateliya SSSR*, 1975, No. 4, p. 29.
4. *Filateliya SSSR*, 1974, No. 6, p. 43.
5. *Filateliya SSSR*, 1973, No. 5, pp. VII-VIII.
6. *Filateliya SSSR*, 1975, No. 12, pp. 25-27.
7. *Filateliya SSSR*, 1972, No. 9, pp. 38-39.
8. *Filateliya SSSR*, 1976, No. 5, p. 29.

The abstract finishes: "According to the rules, when a postal document was sent to the Palata of Control for checking the correctness of the charge, as a rule the second cancellation was put on by means of a perforation or a cut. Such perforations of Russian Post Offices can be found on other stamps of foreign countries."

It would appear that either during or shortly after the Revolutions of 1917 a lot of these stamps with perfins and postmarks of local offices, along with transfer forms and parcel card receipts with postmarks of other offices, were stolen from the Post Office archives and ended up on the free market where most were broken up and others cut off their documents before disappearing into the hands of collectors.

For me the most important question that still remains unanswered is - where are the official perfins of St.Petersburg/Petrograd and all the other major cities of Imperial Russia? Did they ever exist or have none survived? Maybe we shall never know.

The views expressed in this article are either my own or those of Boris Pritt and do not necessarily represent those of other collectors. I hope that it goes some way towards de-mystifying the form and use of Russian perfins and will spur others into carrying on where Boris, Maxa and Mazur left off.

RUSSIAN PERFINS

| TYPE ¹ | NO.OF STAMPS ² | A(RMS)/R(OMANOV) VALUES ³ | RECORDED USE ⁴ | MOSCOW POSTMARKS/ COMMENTS ⁵ |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|
| M.П./1 (O 1/P 1) | 13 | A:10,15,50k,5r R:25,70k,1,2,3,5r | 1913-14 1911-16 | 1d,zh,i 1 otdelenie* |
| M.П./2 (O 2/P 2) | 16 | A:15k R:15,20k,1,2,3,5r | 1910-16 | 2A,v 2GPTO V |
| M.П./3 (O 3/P 3) | 9 | A:15k,3r50k R:15k,1,3,5r | 1912-16 | 3a,v |
| M.П./4 (O 4/P 4) | 10 | A:7,15k,5r R:15,20k,2,5r | 1911-14 1911-15 | IVGO * IVGPO B |
| M.П./5 (O 5/P 5) | 16 | A:5,7,15,50k,1,7r R:15,25k,3,5r | 1911-16 | VGPTO B |
| M.П./6 (O 6/P 6) | 15 | A:1,3,10,15,20k R:7,15,70k,5r | 1913-16 1912-16 | 6a VIGPO a |
| M.П./7 (O 7/P 7) | 10 | A:5,15,25k R:7,15,25,50k | 1910-15 | - |
| M.П./8 (O 8/P 8) | 5 | A:10,25k,7r R:2,15k | 1911-15 | 8GP? |
| M.П./9 (O 9/P 9) 2types | 28 | A:7,15k,10r R:2,15,20,25,50k,1,2,3,5r | 1910-16 | 9GPTO A,B IXGPTO A |
| M.П./10 (O 10/P10) | 16 | A:10,15,25k R:4,7,25,70k,1,2,3,5r | 1910-16 | 10g 10GPTO G XGPTO ? |
| M.П./11 (O 11/P11) | 14 | A:3,10,15,25,50k R:25,50k,1,2,3r | 1911-16 | 11b |
| M.П./12 (O 12/P12) | 5 | A:7k R:15,25k,1r | 1915 1912-17 | - |
| M.П./13 (O 13/P13) | - | - | - 1912-16 | - |
| M.П./14 (O 14/P14) | 18 | A:15,25k,3r50k,5r R:7,15,50k,1,2,3r | 1910-16 | 14b,v |
| M.П./14 (O 14/P14) | 7 | A: R:10k,1,2,3,5r | 1913 1911-15 | 15v 15GPO B |
| M.П./14 (O 14/P14) | 1 | A:15k R: | ? 1916-17 | - |

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|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| M.П./15 (O 15/P15) | 22 | A:3,7,10,15,20,25k,10r R:15,25k,1,2,3,5r | 1913-16 | 17b XVIIIGPO * |
| M.П./16 (O 16/P16) | 12 | A:10k R:4k,1,3r | 1913-16 1912-16 | 18b 18GPO V XVIIIGPO B |
| M.П./17 (O 17/P17) | | | | |
| M.П./18 (O 18/P18) | | | | |
| M.П./19 (O 19/P19) | 13 | A:15k R:2,3,4,7,14,15,25k,1,2,3,5r | 1913-15 1912-16 | 19v,d,zh |
| M.П./20 (O 20/P20) | 13 | A:1,10,15,50k R:4,14k,1,2,3r | 1910-16 1910-17 | 20g |
| M.П./21 (O 21/P21) | 16 | A:15,25k,1r R:10,25,70k,1,2,3,5r | 1911-17 | 21v 21PTO B 21GPTO * |
| M.П./22 (O 22/P22) | 16 | A:3,10,15k,1,5,10r R:15,25k,1,2,3r | 1913-18 | 22e |
| M.П./23 (O 23/P23) | 5 | A: R:2,3k,2r | 1913-14 1911-14 | 23v 23PTO v XXIIIPTO ? XXIVPTO * |
| M.П./24 (O 24/P24) | - | - | 25- 27- 28- 31- | 1914 1914-17 1912-14 1916-17 |
| M.П./25 /32 (O 25/32 P25/32) | 8 18 | A:15,25k R:2,3r A:3,7,14,15,25k R:10,15,25k,1,2,3,5r | 1913-16 1913-17 | 33g,z 34a,b 34GPTO v |
| M.П./33 (O 33/P33) | 13 | A:15,25k,1r R:15,25k,1,2r | 1911-15 | 35b |
| M.П./34 (O 34/P34) 2 types | - | - | 36- 38- | 1913 1916 |

RUSSIAN PERFINS

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|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| M.П./35 (O 35/P35) | 13 (inc.3 on money transfer) | A:1,4,15,20k,3r50k R:15k,1,2,5r | 1913-16 | 40v,g |
| M.П./36 /39 (O 36/39 P36/39) | - | - | 42- 43- 44- 47- 52- | 1914 1912 ? 1912 1916 |
| M.П./40 (O 40/P40) | 1 | A:35k R: | ? | - |
| M.П./41 /52 (O 41/52 P41/52) | 11 16 | A:10,15,25k,7r R:2,3,15,25,70k,5r A:10,15,25k R:4,7,25,70k,1,2,3,5r | 1913-16 1913-15 1911-15 | 54GPO b 55G' 55GPO Z |
| M.П./53 (O 53/P53) | 13 (inc.strip of 3) | A:7,15k,3r50k R:2,4k,2,5r | 1910-15 | 56PO A,B |
| M.П./54 | | | | |
| M.П./57 (O 57/P57) | 1 | A:15k R: | 7. 4.16 | Modon, Lifl. |
| M.П./58 (O 58/P58) | - | - | - | - |
| M.П./59 (O 59/P59) | 9 | A:15k,1r R:25k,2,3r | 1913-15 1911-18 | 59PO v |
| M.П./60 (O 60/P60) | - | - | - | - |
| M.П./60 (O 60/P60) | 3 | A:1r R:2r | 1913-15 1913-16 | 61PO g |
| M.П./61 (O 61/P61) | 3 | A:10k R:15,25k | 1914-15 | - |
| M.П./61 (O 61/P61) | 4 | A: R:35k,1,2r | 1913-14 | 63PO v |
| M.П./62 (O 62/P62) | - | - | 65- | ? |

To be continued