

Latvia Mystery Stamp



This Latvian stamp was overprinted in 1919 for use in the area occupied by the West Russian Volunteer Army. This Army occupied a small part of Latvia from October to November of 1919. It was finally driven out of Latvia into Lithuania through efforts of the Latvian Army which had been provided support by Estonia, Lithuania and even naval gun support from a British Royal Navy destroyer. The overprint stamps were not issued.

Japan Mystery Stamp



The green 3 Sen stamp was not used for postage—it was a fiscal issue and used as a revenue stamp. There were two issues of this stamp—part of an imperforate set that was issued December 19, 1923 and part of a perforated set that was issued in 1924.

Comment on the Japan Like Mystery Stamp



What is referred to as a “stylized chrysanthemum” looks more like a symbol used on Chinese revenue stamps. The pictured stamp doesn’t appear in my catalog of Japanese revenue stamps.

Ukraine Mystery Stamp



The following two pages provide information about this stamp that I found on the internet at Stamp-Collecting-World. The set is referred to without much information being provided in the current Scott catalogs but is not pictured in full. The set was probably listed in old Scott catalogs because it does appear in my 1938 Scott International Junior Postage Stamp Album.



In August 1920, the Ukrainian National Republic decided to issue a new set of pictorial postage stamps, exemplifying the character of Ukraine and its people. These fourteen Ukraine stamps were designed by Mykola Ivasiuk (1865-1937), a prominent Ukrainian painter of the time. The stamps were printed by the Military Geographic

Institute in Vienna, and they were delivered to the Ukrainian government in late 1920. They are referred to by philatelists as the Vienna Issue.

Unfortunately, the collapse of the Ukrainian National Republic was imminent by the end of 1920, and these new stamps were NEVER ISSUED. These stamps, though they were never officially issued, are considered the most impressive Ukraine stamps ever created. As a result, they are still avidly sought-after by stamp collectors around the World. Mint sets can still be found online for under US \$10.00.

The fourteen un-issued pictorial Ukraine stamps shown above were produced in late 1920. They are lithographed and perforated 14.

The designs are as follows:

- 001 Hrv. - Trident symbol of the Ukrainian republic.
- 002 Hrv. - Allegorical figure of Ukraine, carrying a Ukrainian flag.
- 003 Hrv. - Ukrainian peasant cottage, with a garden.
- 005 Hrv. - Salt Trader, with a yoke of oxen.
- 010 Hrv. - Bohdan Khmelnytsky (1593-1657), a leader of the Zaporozhian Cossacks.
- 015 Hrv. - Ivan Mazepa (1639-1709), a leader of the Zaporozhian Cossacks.
- 020 Hrv. - Taras Shevchenko (1814-1861), a Ukrainian poet, writer, playwright, and artist. He was an outspoken critic of social and national oppression.

- 030 Hrv. - Pavlo Polubotok (1660-1724), a leader of the Zaporozhian Cossacks. Having been arrested by Tsar Peter I in 1723, he is shown in chains in the St. Petersburg fortress where he died.
- 040 Hrv. - Symon Petliura (1879-1926), the leader of the Ukrainian National Republic, at the time that these stamps were produced.
- 050 Hrv. - A Cossack playing a bandura, the Ukrainian national instrument.
- 060 Hrv. - Parliament Building in Kiev.
- 080 Hrv. - Zaporozhian Cossacks in a boat on the Black Sea.
- 100 Hrv. - Monument to (Saint) Vladimir the Great (Lived: 958-1015, Ruled: 980-1015) overlooking the Dnieper River in Kiev.
- 200 Hrv. - Rural scene with fields of grain and a windmill.

From Stamp-Collecting World:

https://www.stamp-collecting-world.com/ukrainestamps_1918p.html