

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets 2nd & 4th Friday of each month at Falcons Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Ave.

Issue 126

February 1955

POLPEX 1955

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 4, 5 and 6, 1955 are three big days at Polonus Philatelic Society, for on these days our 16th annual Exhibition and Bourse will be held at Falcons Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Ave., in Chicago.

Polpex Chairman Henry Barth has announced that five trophies and 15 medals will be awarded for outstanding exhibits. The Larking Trophy, donated by Myron Steczynski will be the Grand Award. The Polish Research Trophy and Best Poland Other Than Grand Award Trophy were donated by Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz. A Best Other Than Poland Trophy, compliments of our present officers will be given as well as a Novice Award Trophy donated by Jack Domar.

Chicagoland members are requested to come to Falcon's Hall Thursday evening from 6:30 o'clock on, to give a hand in putting up the exhibition. Please bring along a screw driver and pair of pliers.

Plans for the Beeba to be held Saturday night, are coming along nicely. Dr. Kozakiewicz has donated plenty of ham and Polish sausage. Help will be needed on Saturday night in the kitchen. Any members' wives or sweethearts who can lend a hand will be very welcome.

The theme of our Polpex Souvenir Sheet this year is the Madonna at the Holy Gate of Wilno. The Holy Gate chapel houses the miraculous portrait of the Madonna, and here thousands of pilgrims visit constantly. A Vatican City stamp is featured at the top of the souvenir sheet with a very old Polish hymn to the Blessed Virgin above it.

The seals are available at 25 cents per set from Adam Kloskowski, 2528 N. Drake Ave., Chicago 47, Ill., and will be on sale during the show.



NEW OFFICERS

At the February 11th meeting the following administration was sworn in by J. P. Rux who acted as installing officer:

Anthony Banasiak President; Zdzislaw Obara Vice-President; Joseph Banasiak Treasurer; Sigmund Bor Secretary; Mathias Pristika Librarian; and John Bobo, Chester Makowski, Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz as Directors.

CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS?

Members whose address has been changed, or whose address will change in the near future — please notify Chester Makowski of your correct mailing address. Write to him at 2215 W. Cortez St., Chicago 22, Ill.

RUSSIA NUMBER ONE

by V. RACHMANOV

The following is reprinted from THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, the publication of THE COLLECTORS CLUB, 22 East 35th Street, New York 16, N.Y., which publishes six times a year philatelic research articles from outstanding students. Membership in THE COLLECTORS CLUB is open to qualified philatelists all over the world.

(Continued from previous issue)

II. STRAIGHT LINE TOWN POSTMARKS WITH DATE INDICATION:

**ГРОДНО ОТПРАВ
25 IV 1858**

Fig. 11

**ЛИБАВА МОСКВА
15 ФЕВРАЛЯ 1858 1858 АВГУ 26**

Figs. 12 and 13

**ПУЧЕЖСКОЕ ТУ
МАР 3 1858**

Fig. 14

**RUIENPOST
APRIL '8**

Fig. 15

ARCHANGELSK	MITAVA
BERDYANSK	MOSKVA (Fig.13)
BIELGOROD	PERM
BOGORODISK	PUCHESH
DINABURG (red)	KOSTR. GUB.
GRODNO OTPRAV.	(Fig. 14)
(red) (fig. 11)	*RUIEN POST
HASENPOT	(Fig. 15)
KERCH JENIKOL	VYAZMA
KURSK	VYAZMA OTPR.
LIBAVA (Fig. 12)	ZHITOMIR
MARIUPOL	(greenish blue)

КА:ПОДО.

Fig. 16

III. FRAMED TOWN POSTMARKS WITHOUT DATE INDICATION:

СВЕНЦЬЯНЫ

Fig. 17

KA: PODO: (Kamieniec Podolsk)
(Fig. 16)
No. KREMNIETZ
PROSK (Proskurov)
PUCHESH
SWIENTZIANY (Fig. 17)
WINNITZA

IV. FRAMED TOWN POSTMARKS WITH DATE INDICATION:

ДРУЗГЕННИКИ

Fig. 18

**ОДЕССА
15 ИЮЛЯ 1858**

Fig. 19

**С.П.Бургъ
12 АВГ.1859**

Fig. 20

**ТАУРОГЕНЪ
11 АПРѢА 1858**

Fig. 21



Fig. 22



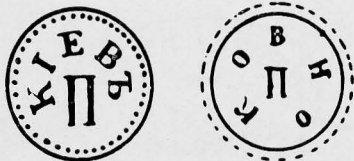
Fig. 23

BERDICHEV
BREST
BYELOSTOK
DRUSKENNIKI (red, date in manu-
script, violet) (Fig. 18)
GROBIN
KHARKOV
KOZLOV
NYEZHIN
ODESSA (Fig. 19)
POLTAVA
RYBINSK
S. P. BURG (St. Petersburg) (Fig. 20)
SMORGON
TAUROGEN (Fig. 21)
VILNO (Fig. 22)
VOLMAR OTPRAVLENO (Fig. 23)
ZHITOMIR

**V. SINGLE CIRCLE TOWN POST-
MARKS WITHOUT DATE INDICA-
TION:**



Figs. 24 and 24



Figs. 26 and 27



Fig. 28

DINABURG (red) (Fig. 24)
KIEV OTPRAV: (Fig. 25)
KIEV P. (Fig. 26)
KOVNO P. (Fig. 27)
P. S. RUTZAU (Fig. 28)
P. S. BEHGOF

**VI. SINGLE CIRCLE TOWN POST-
MARKS WITH DATE INDICA-
TION (frequently omitted or in
manuscript):**



Figs. 29 and 30

KOVNO
DINABURG (red)
PETROZAVODSK
Fig. 29)
RIGA (Fig. 30)

**VII. DOUBLE CIRCLE TOWN POST-
MARKS WITH DATE INDICA-
TION (frequently omitted or in
manuscript):**



Figs. 31 and 32



Figs. 33 and 34



Figs. 35 and 36



Fig. 37



Fig. 38

KAZAN (Fig. 32) V SARATOVIE
KIRSANOV (Fig. 32) POLUCHENKO
*KOKENHUSEN (Fig. 37)
(Fig. 33) SMOLENSK
OBOYAN (Fig. 34) *TAUROGGEN
PERNOV (Fig. 35) (Fig. 38)
SHADOVO TAMBOV
(Fig. 36) *WERRA

VIIa. SAME, BUT BILINGUAL:



Figs. 39 and 40

ARENSBURG-ARENSBURG (Fig. 39)
DERPT - DORPAT (Fig. 40)
GOLDINGEN - GOLDINGEN
PERNOV - PERNAU
VINDAVA - WINDAU

VIII. OVAL TOWN POSTMARKS WITHOUT DATE:



Fig. 41)

S. P. B. (St. Petersburg) (Fig. 41)

IX. OVAL TOWN POSTMARKS WITH DATE INDICATION (fre- quently omitted or in manuscript):



Fig. 42



Fig. 43



Fig. 44



Figs. 45 and 46



Figs. 47 and 48

- *POST LENZENDORF (Fig. 42)
- *POST SEGEWOLD
- RATNO: OTPRAY: (Fig. 6)
- OSTPRAVLENO SOKOLKA (Fig. 43)
- IZ TIFLISA OTPRAVLENO (Fig. 44)
- TULA (Fig. 45)
- TVER (Fig. 46)
- VALK LIF.
- VALK LIF. POLUCHENKO (Fig. 47)
- VENDEN
- OTPRAVLENO (Fig. 48)

X. DIAMOND-SHAPED TOWN POSTMARKS WITH DATE INDICATION:



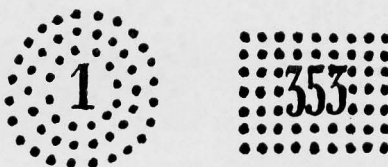
Fig. 49

- *ODESSA (Fig. 49)

XI. "PAID" POSTMARKS (mostly used at offices in Turkey):

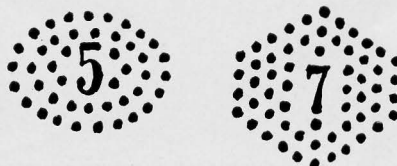
- *FRANCO (framed)
- *FRANCO (in oval, blue)
- *FRANCO (in italics, single circle, blue)
- *FRANCO PORTO (in fancy frame, blue)

In the period immediately following the publication of the decree of February 26, 1858 some post offices continued the practice of cancelling the stamps both with pen crosses and their postmarks. This transition period has therefore produced stamps which are cancelled twice.



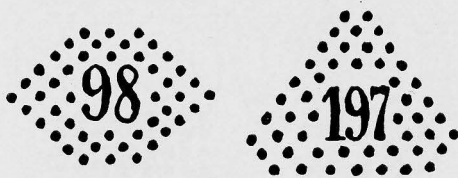
Figs. 50 and 51

3. Cancellation with Special Cancellers. The decree of February 26, 1858 also authorized the introduction of special cancellers at the two main post offices in St. Petersburg and Moscow. These cancellers were circular, consisting of dots with the numerals "1" and "2" respectively in the center (Fig. 50). By decree of May 31, 1858 special cancellers were introduced at 58 post offices in towns, which were the capitals of territories, called "Gouvernements". They were similar to those of St. Petersburg and Moscow except for the numerals "3" to "60" in the center. Those post offices in the towns which were the seats of the district governments also obtained special cancellers, rectangles of dots enclosing the numerals "1" to "612" (Fig. 51). The border post offices received as cancellers ovals of dots with the numbers "1" to "9" in the center (Fig. 52). The travelling



Figs. 52 and 53

post offices had cancellers of dots forming hexagons with flat sides, and the numbers "1" to "17" in the center (Fig. 53). By decree of August 17, 1858 two more types of dotted cancellers were introduced; hexagonal ones with pointed sides, numbered "1" to "103" for post offices in smaller towns and hamlets (Fig. 54), and triangular cancellers with oblique corners, numbered "1" to "1700" for the postal agencies, branch post offices and post offices at railroad stations, as well as on the mail boat lines to the Levant. (Fig. 55).



Figs. 54 and 55

These cancellers, especially the last type, were introduced gradually, the last ones coming as late as 1863, except the triangular ones which remained in

use until 1877. Generally only those numbers which were used at post offices, functioning before 1860 are found on Russia Number One. All numeral cancellations are usually black, but blue and occasionally red ones can be found.

Some business firms wanted to make sure that the stamps were not removed from their letters by dishonest employees or postal clerks resulting in letters going unfranked. They used to "attach" the stamps to the letters by tying them with their firm's handstamp. Therefore, we can find stamps which show such a handstamp in addition to the postmark, but in singular cases post offices considered a firm's handstamp sufficient and abstained from adding their canceller (Fig. 56).

Because the postal service in the Kingdom of Poland was administered in 1858 by the Russian Post Office Department, Russia Number One was introduced at the post offices in Poland, as in Russia, on January 1, 1858. First the stamps were cancelled, as in Russia, with pen crosses, later with pen markings and town postmarks, and fi-



Fig. 56 An example of a cover showing the stamp tied with a business firm's own handstamp.

nally with town postmarks only. On March 27, 1858 special cancellers were introduced at all post offices in Poland, consisting of four concentric circles with a numeral "1" to "269" in the



Fig. 57

center (Fig. 57). As probably not all of the post offices had obtained the numeral cancellers immediately, stamps cancelled with the town postmarks as late as April 1858 are frequently found. The postmarks were to a large extent from the pre-stamp period. Their inscriptions were all in latin letters with the town names in Polish. Only a few were bilingual, Russian-Polish; otherwise they were similar to the contemporary Russian postmarks. Black ink was used regularly but red cancellations can occasionally be found. We have found the following Polish posmarks on Russia Number One:

I. STRAIGHT LINE TOWN POSTMARKS WITHOUT DATE INDICATION:

BILGORAY

Fig. 58

BILGORAY (Fig. 58)
TARNOGRÓD (red)

Ib. SAME, BUT BILINGUAL:

**ШИДЛОВЕЦЪ
SZYDLÓWIEC**

Fig. 59

SHIDLOVETZ - SZYDLÓWIEC
(Fig. 59)
TERESPOL - TERESPOL

III. FRAMED TOWN POSTMARKS WITHOUT DATE INDICATION:

KRAŚNIK

Fig. 60

GONCZYCE KRAŚNIK (Fig. 60)

IIIa. SAME BUT BILINGUAL:



Fig. 61

JANOV - JANOW (black and red)
(Fig. 61)

VI. SINGLE CIRCLE TOWN POSTMARKS WITH DATE INDICATION (frequently omitted or in manuscript):



Figs. 62 and 63



Figs. 64 and 65



Figs. 66 and 67

BRZEŚĆ
GRANICA DR. ZEL. (Railroad Station)
(red)
ŁÓDŹ
ŁOMŹA
MARYAMPOL (red and black)
PŁOCK
PRADŁA (Fig. 62)
RADOMSK (red) (Fig. 63)
SKIERNIEWICE (Fig. 64)
TUREK (red) (Fig. 65)
WARSZAWA (red) (Fig. 66)
WARSHAWA (in cyrillic letters, red)
WŁODAWA (red)
ZALESIE (red) (Fig. 67)
ZAMOŚĆ
ZGIERZ (blue)

IX. OVAL TOWN POSTMARKS WITH DATE INDICATION:



Fig. 68

ŻÓŁKIEWKA (Fig. 68)

From about the middle of April, 1858 the first Russian stamps are found cancelled with the four-ring numeral cancellers, usually in black, but occasionally also in red, especially during the early months of their use.

Faked postmarks on Russia Number One usually served the purpose of transforming unpopular precancelled copies into those cancelled with a postmark, but some were also applied to untampered pen-cancelled copies. Such faked postmarks of Lublin and Warszawa are known, but others may also exist. Several faked postmarks have been offered recently at auctions.

NEW ISSUES

by J. J. Domar

As reported in the last issue, a set of 10 stamps was issued to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of a People's Poland. At that time only two were received, the 25 and 50 gr. Since then the other eight also were received.

The set was issued on Dec. 23, 1954 in the following values:

- 10 gr. Coal Mining, red & brown
- 20 gr. Country Defence, red & dark green
- 25 gr. Steel Working, light brown & black
- 40 gr. Workers' Holidays, yellow & brown
- 45 gr. House Building, violet & violet red
- 60 gr. Agriculture, green & brown
- 1.15 zł. Lublin Castle, green & gray
- 1.40 zł. Reading and Publications, orange & brown
- 1.55 zł. Shipping, blue & grey-blue
- 2.10 zł. Lenin, light blue & dark blue

They are perforated $11\frac{3}{4} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, on white unwatermarked paper, white gum—size 51×3.25 mm.

Printed by rotogravure & steel plate engraving.

On January 15th, 1955 a set of two stamps were issued to commemorate the

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Sigmund Bor, Secretary
5326 S. Laramie Ave.
Chicago 38, Ill.
Joseph A. Banasiak, Treas.
3016 W. 41st St.
Chicago 32, Ill.

Publications Committee

Zdzislaw Obara, Chairman
2028 W. McLean Ave.
Chicago 47, Ill.
Chester A. Schafer, Editor
4329 W. Walton St.
Chicago 51, Ill.

Associate Editors this issue

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Jack Domar

Polonus Philatelic Society is non-political. The views expressed by the authors of articles appearing herein do not necessarily express the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

10th Anniversary of the Liberation of Warsaw. The values are:

- 40 gr. brown red
- 60 gr. grey blue

Perf. $12\frac{3}{4} \times 12\frac{1}{4}$, white unwatermarked paper, size 31.25×25.5 mm. Rotogravured.

NEW MEMBERS

Robert J. Owen
1540 No. Leavitt St.
Chicago 22, Ill.
Billy Couch
43 Paris Hill Ave.
Brantford, Ontario, Canada

TID BITS

Congratulations to member Stefan Kochanski and his wife Ursula on their new born son Andreas Stefan born Feb. 21st.

Member Edward D. Wolski was chosen vice-president of the Philatelic Club of the Library of Congress, Washington D.C.

Polpex publicity director Jack Domar ask members to save any articles they might find on our Polpex in any publications and to send these clippings together with the name and address of the editors of the publications, to him at 3715 Clinton Ave., Berwyn, Ill. This will enable POLONUS to make up a mailing list of editors for publicity purposes.