

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets Every Second and Fourth Friday of the Month at Falcons Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Issue No. 181

June, 1960

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Washington 25, D. C.

INFORMATION SERVICE

STerling 3-3100 Ext. 500

Saturday, June 11, 1960

Release No. 177

Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield announced today that the "Champion of Liberty" 4c and 8c stamps honoring Ignace Jan Paderewski, world-famed Polish patriot, premier and pianist, will be placed on First day sale at Washington, D. C. on Saturday, October 8, 1960.

"Each year many American citizens of Polish ancestry gather in October to celebrate the great contributions made by the Revolutionary War hero, Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski, to the American cause of Independence," Mr. Summerfield said. "It seems most appropriate, therefore, to have the issuance of the Paderewski stamps coincide with these gatherings".

The Post Office Department will sponsor a Paderewski stamp ceremony in Washington, D. C. under the leadership of Mr. Summerfield on October 8, 1960, at 2:00 P.M. in the Inter-Departmental Auditorium.

Forty million of the 8c Paderewski stamps, for use in International surface mail, will be printed in three colors. One hundred and twenty million of the 4c Paderewski stamps, used for First-class letter mail, will be printed in one color. Design details and color specifications will be announced later.

Collectors desiring First day cancellations of the 4c and 8c Paderewski "Champion of Liberty" stamps may send a reasonable number of self-addressed envelopes enclosing remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed to the Postmaster, Washington 13, D. C. The outside envelope should be endorsed "First day covers Paderewski Stamps" and orders for uncanceled stamps should not be included with the request for First day covers.

WHAT GOES ON AT POLONUS . . .

By Roman H. Strzelecki

MEETINGS OF MAY 13 & 27, 1960

The meeting of May 13th was called to order at 8:30 p.m. sharp to comply with the motion made at a previous meeting to start meetings a little earlier. As the Secretary was absent, President R. H. Strzelecki appointed John Bor to act as Secretary for this meeting. There were 22 members and three visitors present.

Bert Powell gave a detailed report on publicity appearing in the philatelic press regarding the Polpex show and Polonus. Thanks to Bert we got much publicity after our show and we saw Polonus mentioned repeatedly in the philatelic press.

The Membership Committee proposed six new applicants for membership. An accumulated large amount of correspondence had to be read.

This year's President R. H. Strzelecki is enforcing a new policy by which a Board of Directors meeting is being held at least once a month. Most of the Society business is dealt with there and the recommendations of the Board are acted upon at the regular Society meeting.

Polonus received a request from the Compex Committee for a loan of our frames. The request was voted on and granted.

A letter from Ernest Kerr of New York, received by C. Makowski, informed us of the arrival of Mr. Fabian Bura in Chicago for the International Trade Fair in June. Mr. Bura is the General Secretary of the Polish Philatelists Federation in Warsaw. It was unanimously agreed to extend him an invitation to attend our meeting and beeba.

The President received a letter from member Mrs. K. Horowicz of England on the 1960 London Exhibition. She is a prominent figure among English philatelists and will act as Vice-Chairman of the Entertainment Committee for that show. Whoever goes to England for the July Exhibition — say "hello" to them from us.

The long awaited announcement of the issuance of a Champion of Liberty

Paderewski stamp was responsible for a joyous spirit among the members present. A considerable amount of time was spent discussing plans for this issue. It was decided that the Board of Directors and a specially appointed Committee meet, discuss and work out all activities connected with the Paderewski issue. Suggested were a trip to Washington for the First Day Ceremonies, a special First Day Cover, a maximum card, a commemorative folder, and a giant sized reproduction of the Paderewski stamp made of metal in relief. Any other such suggestions and ideas along these lines should be sent to the President R. H. Strzelecki, 1439 N. Bell Ave., Chicago 22, Ill.

On May 27th, the program meeting, we were entertained by good old Dr. M. E. Uznanski who gave an unusual talk on the first submarines and commercial submarine mail. His collection was most unusual, rare, and of great interest to all present. The material was most aesthetically presented. Included were a special group of photos, cards and illustrations. It was evident that the good Doctor spent much research on submarines and submarine mail. He showed original letters with markings and special cancellations, special permits issued by Germany for the carrying of mail and across the ocean to the United States. He even went into the early history of the submarine and told us of dates, places and people connected with the subject.

For this interesting talk we are very grateful and express our sincerest — "Thanks". Next we were treated to a beeba prepared for us by the Polish Scout Group No. 72 "Znicz" in appreciation to Polonus for the loan of our frames for their recent Scout Stamp Exhibit held at the P. R. C. U. Museum.

* * *

MEETINGS OF JUNE 8 and 24, 1960

The meeting began with the reading of the minutes of the last two meetings by the Secretary. He also read the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of June 8th. As usual there was much discussion but all recommenda-

tions of the Board were accepted by the members.

Among others, the Board recommended a Picnic for this year. The meeting enthusiastically accepted the idea but as there was no volunteer for the job of Picnic Chairman this honorable position is still open.

A lengthy discussion developed in connection with the recent Polish Philatelic Society Exhibition in London. The President emphasized that European countries abide by the rules of the Federation Internationale Philatelique but these rules do not necessarily govern U.S. national or local shows. The President appealed to all members who participated in any exhibitions to let the members know of any difficulties, special rulings and most certainly of all awards obtained. This information is of interest to our members. You out-of-towners, please drop us a postcard.

The forthcoming Polska 60 show was discussed. Up till now the following members announced their participation: M. Steczynski, Dr. M. E. Uznanski, J. J. Domar, C. Schafer, C. Makowski, C. Mikucki, S. Kucharz, Dr. Gajewski, J. Pirog, D. Palmer and I. Gust.

The second meeting, that of June 24th, was an unusual one. Polonus was host to two distinguished philatelists.

As mentioned in our May report, we were notified of the arrival in Chicago of Mr. Florian Bura. Mr. Bura was sent to Chicago for the International Trade Fair at Navy Pier in connection with the export of Polish Hams. His philatelic activities include those of being a former editor of "Filatelista" and General Secretary of the Polish Philatelic Federation (P.Z.F.). Some members invited Mr. Bura on June 19th to a dinner party at Lenard's Restaurant. Here in the background of a Polish atmosphere twenty of us gathered for a philatelic chat. With Lester Jankowski acting as the master of ceremonies the guest was welcomed and invited to talk about philately in Poland.

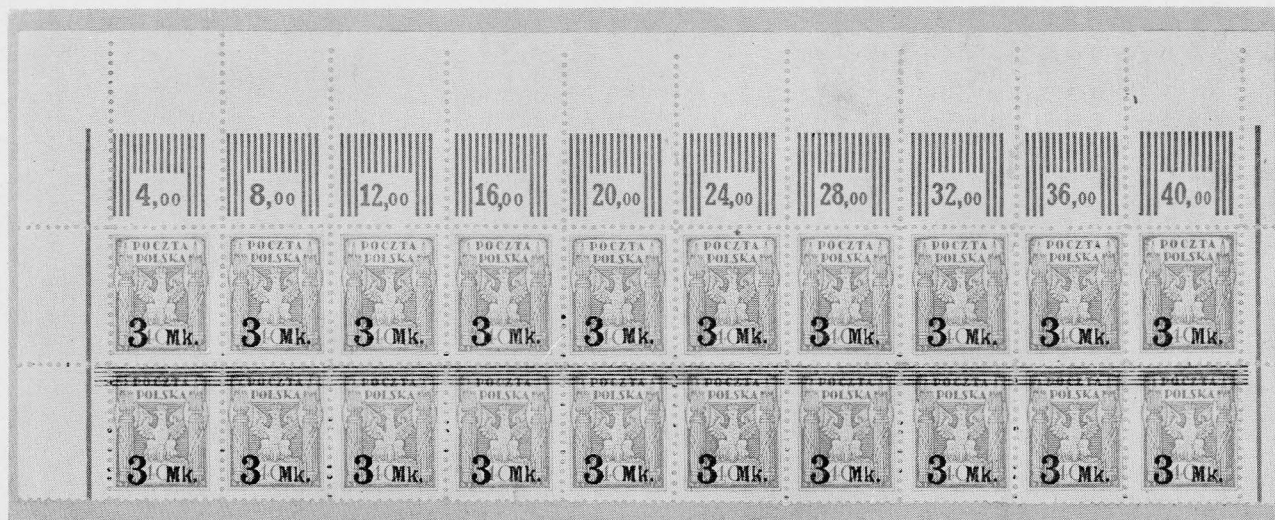
He spoke of the Polish Philatelic Federation, their difficulties and progress in presenting Polska 60, of the

quality of Polish New Issues, their forthcoming four volume publication—an encyclopedia on Polish stamps, and other philatelic subjects. In a toast to the guest of honor, the President extended greeting to philatelists in Poland, wishing them success in Polka 60 and concluded with the whole party singing "Sto Lat". An occasion as this, where a visiting philatelic personality visits us, is a rare one. The Chicago members were anxious to show Mr. Bura what we do as a philatelic group and invited him to the following meeting and beebea. Along with this, an invitation was extended to the Polish Consul, Mr. Zawadzki, who too happens to be a philatelist.

As the June 24th meeting was a program night, talks were scheduled. After the meeting was called to order and some pressing business attended to, further business was dismissed and the guests welcomed. Myron Steczynski was called on to give a talk and he spoke on "Polonus and Polska 60". Mr. Zawadzki was then called upon and he expressed his wish to be able to spend some time with us in the enjoyment of his hobby of philately. Mr. Bura then took over and gave us a better picture of Polska 60 and other celebrations taking place in Poland in observance of its Millenium.

After these most enlightening talks we proceeded with our beebea which featured Wisconsin dishes. Member Leo Topolinski visited us from Milwaukee and with him he brought some of their Wisconsin cheese, pickles and pumpernickel bread. Thanks Leo!

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of member Clement A. Pulaski of Mt. Carmel, Penna. Although he lived away from Chicago we considered him as an active member. For many years he wrote a "Ho Hum" column in our Bulletin and was well known for his writings on Polish Postal Stationery. Our profound sympathy is extended to his surviving family.



A rare if not a unique strip of ten stamps. Overprint variety, Poland Minkus No. 197, Scott's No. 153, with the new "3 Mk" value but without the bars, cancelling the original value "40 Fen." This was created on the first ten stamps in the sheet through a downward slip of the sheet during the process of overprinting. The downward slip is complete and the five cancelling bars appear at the TOP of the next row of stamps, with the new value "3 Mk." below. Ninety stamps in the sheet received this reversed overprint but only the top row of ten stamps in the sheet received the overprint with the bars missing completely.

—From Walter Szymlek's collection.

Reprinted from WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP of Feb. 21, 1959.

The Polish Post During the Warsaw Uprising

By Thaddeus Gryzewski

(Continued from previous month)

And here is the fourth, a postcard which had a notation for the attention of the Post:

* * *

“Dear Postal Service:

“Because this card contains greetings to my wife on our tenth anniversary of marriage, please try to deliver this card to Starówka and then forward on the occasion.

“A former group leader, holder of the silver Fleur-de-lis”

* * *

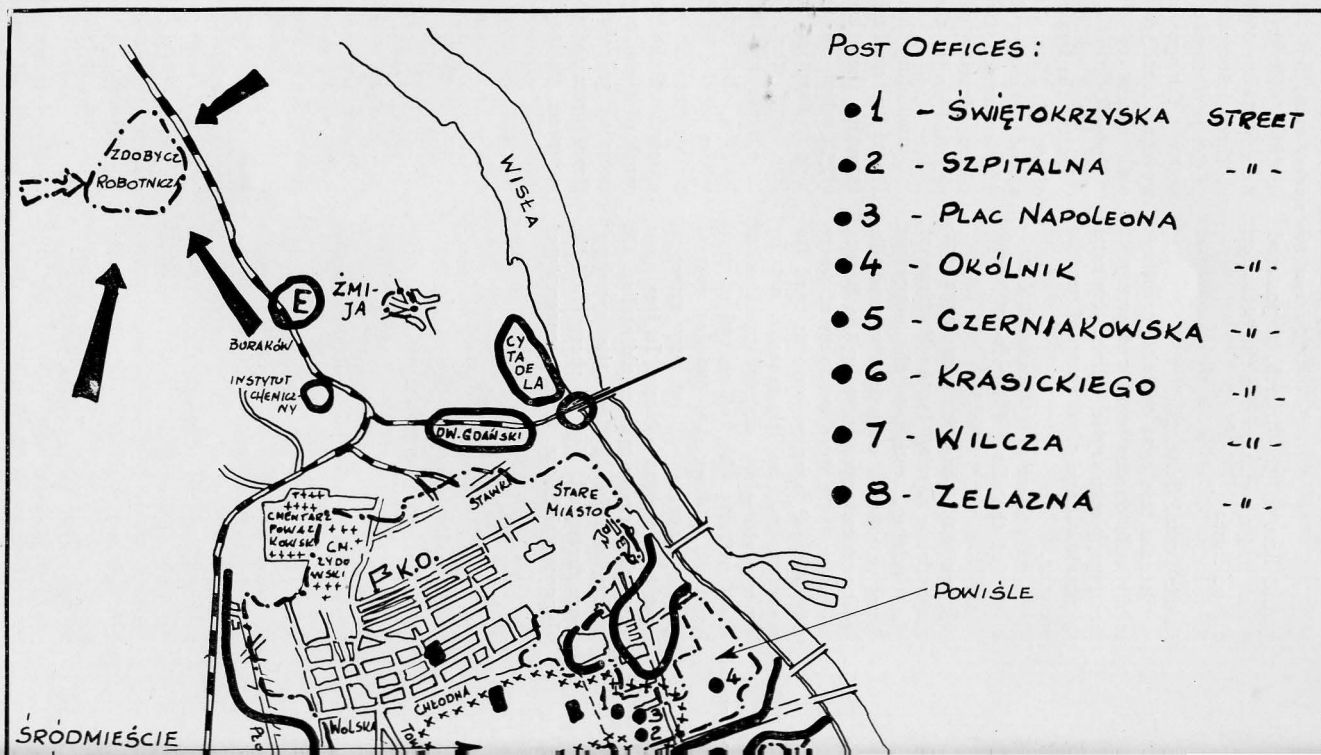
These excerpts from the large correspondence carried in the Sections of the Uprising, testify to the important function of the organization and delivery of correspondence by the Scouts. However, there were instances of where this blessed organization was used for monetary and selfish reasons, not by anyone else—but philatelists. One of Staff officers who had control of mail received, told me that one day several envelopes came without any message, sent to the same address. It was clear that the sender was a philatelist. On orders of this officer the envelopes were destroyed. Not all thought of the danger which the Scouts encountered

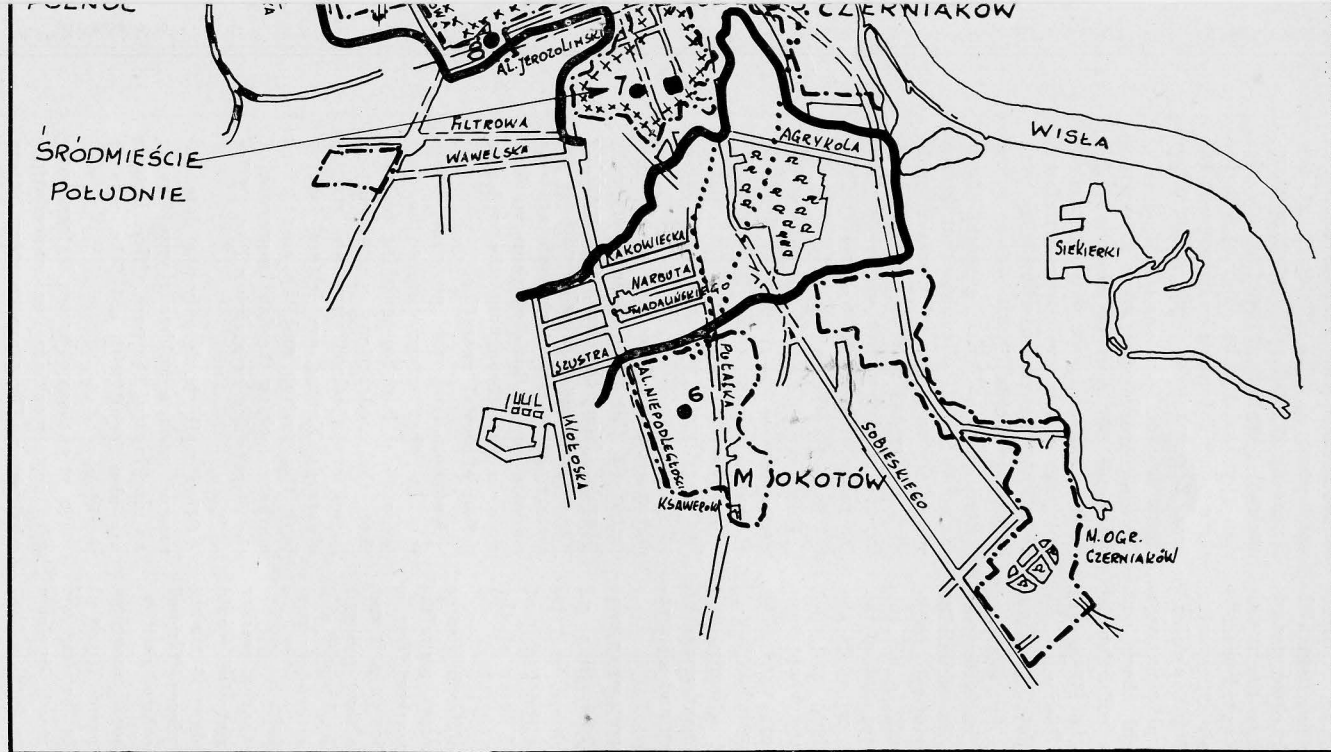
in their delivery of mail. And there were victims among them too. Several of these letter carriers lost their lives in the performance of their duty. Boys between the ages of 13 and 16, of which we can identify only a few under the code names of “Banan”, “Lew” and “Włodek”.

During the bombing of the Main Post-office at Plac Napoleon, besides the already mention Major “Embicz” and Szepiechowski, two female censors whose identity cannot be established, perished under the wreckage.

Concluding this history of the Scout Postal System I must call to the reader's attention that this was the only known organization in the world which was able to function under fire, in the front line, and when conditions permitted, to operate regularly. This was possible by the Girl and Boy Scouts alone, whose service in the Postal System can be written of in golden letters. The example of the voluntary and devoted work of these boys and girls reared in Scouting principles, and fulfilling the Scout promises they had made, should serve as an inspiration for all youth.

POSITIONS OCCUPIED BY THE POLISH UNDERGROUND ARMY "A.K." IN THE CITY OF WARSAW — AUGUST 4, 1944





GERMAN LINES

POST OFFICE

A.K. LINES

A.K. LINES ON OCT. 2, 1944
THE DAY OF SURRENDER

CANALS

POSTAL EMISSIONS

MARKERS

Philatelists who have thus far read the history of the Uprising which I tried to describe minutely, have found many loose facts related to the postal activities. The philatelist would probably rather that I began this article with detailed descriptions of all postal markers, postal cards and postage stamps, so that he could check and compare them with his collection to see what he has, what he lacks, and what he ought to look for.

Although myself a philatelist,—I am of a different opinion.

Had I not described the history of the Uprising in detail, the philatelist—not knowing the historical background—would lose himself in his collection. Without the presentation of the historical side, to many collectors the whole problem would be hazy, and some sceptics might say that the whole business of letters, markers and even postage stamps, is just so much humbug.

The documents cited already and those presented on the next pages of this article contradict any and all sceptical voices.

Now, ATTENTION PHILATELISTS!

I commence with the detailed description of postal markers, used by the Boy Scouts Post, by the Fieldpost of the Land Army and later of the General Army.

The first active post office in Center City South (Wileza Street) manufactured its first postal marker from a potato . . . (In the earlier days it was easier to obtain a potato than rubber.) The inscription "Harcerska Poczta" and a lily in the center was crudely penknifed on a bisected potato.

It is understandable that a marker made from such poor material would not last. After a few days it simply broke into pieces. Mail pieces stamped with this marker are considered rarities.

In the meantime other homegrown "engravers" prepared some postal markers. With a penknife they cut the proper inscriptions on wood, linoleum and similar material more durable than potato.

With conditions better organized, all cancellers answering modern techniques were procured. The Fieldpost of the Home Army had all postal markers made of metal, their wording and design approved by the chief of the Insurrection's Information Bureau—Thaddeus Zenczykowski (ps.: "Kowalik—Kania").

Some postal markers were reconstructed from old German cancellers. All work in the realm of postal cancellers and other official seals was carried out by a known engraver whose shop was located at Zgoda St.

From the evidence gathered from examined mail it is certain that it was mandatory to stamp all pieces of mail with the postal marker and date and for the receiving post office to mark the same with a receiving marker and the date of arrival.

If the suggested prepayment for postal services was received in the form of books or magazines, it was to be so indicated on the mail pieces with a marker "Opłata uiszczona" or "Zapłacono". As we know, in practice this prepayment was not rigorously collected (in this respect they were very liberal). None the less, the marking was applied automatically without ascertaining whether prepayment was made in goods. Some of these markers were in use throughout the whole period of postal operation.

Knowing from the preceding chapters in what circumstances the post operated, it is not astonishing to learn that the instructions pertaining to postal cancellations were not strictly observed. Known are letters lacking both the posting and the arriving markers; lacking the date impression of the dispatching or arriving Post Office or both.

Other mail shows only the date impressed with a rubber stamp, having no markings of the post office. Letters are also found with only the censor's marking.

We might come across letters without any markings or cancellations whatsoever. These are courtesy letters.

(Continued next month)

RARE POSTAL CARDS OF 1919

By MARIAN DUNSKI

In the 170th Issue of the "Polonus Bulletin" of May, 1959 Thaddeus Gryzewski in his article on postal cards of 1918/19 lists varieties with the overprint "Poczta Polska."

In No. 6 (105) issue of "Filatelista"—bi-monthly organ of the PZF—of March 15, 1960 Mr. T. Gryzewski published the same information for the collectors in Poland p.t. "Zapomniane znaczki polskie". Because of postal rate increases in the "Congress Poland" territory, postage stamps of 2½, 5 and 7½ pf were pasted on postal cards along with the imprinted value sign to bring the postal card up to the required postal rate. Later some of the postal cards were overprinted with the word "Pocztówka", and the value sign, plus the added postage stamps, with the words "Poczta Polska."

Similarly, on postal cards of Austria, in use in the "Little Poland" territory, Austrian postage stamps were being added and later the postal cards were overprinted in Kraków "Poczta Polska."

In my collection I have one card, or rather one half of a postal card with the overprint "Poczta Polska" with two additional postage stamps pasted on, of the Austrian "Special Handling" triangles (Scott's No. QE-1.) I received this interesting postal card from the late Eng. J. Krzyżanowski. The two pasted on postage stamps have partially covered the 10 hal. imprinted value sign. The overprint itself created the following unusual combinations: on one of the triangles we find the following: "Poc" from the word Poczta; the second syllable "zta" is on the 10 hal. imprinted stamp. The "P" of the word Polska is on the triangle stamp, while the "olska" is on the 10 hal. This card was addressed to Mr. Nathan Kohane, Rzeszów, Rynek. The message is written in Yiddish. Unfortunately, the postmark is not legible.

Two other postal cards, which I received from Mr. A. Winnicki, are with the overprint slanted upwards, from left to right. The overprint "Poc" is



on the postal card, the "zta" on the stamp; the "Po" in Polska is on the card, the "lska" on stamp. The comb-like arabesque is blotched. Postal card with pasted on 2, 3, 5, 6, and 10 hal. of P.K.L. stamps and cancelled "Kraków 1 — 26.III.19, where the 6 hal. partially covers the overprint, showing only "oczta Polska".

It is known, that during the overprinting of the postal cards some misuse of the overprint was made and some Austrian postage stamps were overprinted.

I have in my possession two Austrian "PORTO" stamps thus overprinted. These are from the 1917 issue with the likeness of Emp. Franz Joseph, the unissued values of the Austrian stamps later in Vienna overprinted in black "Porto" "10 * 10" on 24 h. blue (Scott's No. J 60) and the "20 * 20" on 54 h. orange (Scott's No. 62) with "Poczta Polska" overprint.

APPLICANTS PENDING

- Alvin C. Bialobrzewski
1519 W. Thomas St.
Chicago 22, Ill.
- Eugene J. Labecki
57 Chestnut St.
Holyoke, Mass.
- Charles Chuck
8607 S. Bennett Ave.
Chicago 17, Ill.
- Matthew J. Hrobak
650 Martin St.
Philadelphia 28, Pa.

POLSKA 60 — BIGGEST POLISH SHOW EVER

Over 1000 exhibits have been announced for the exhibition POLSKA 60, Septembr 3 to 11 at Warsaw. The requests of exhibitors to be allotted 7000 meters of exhibition frames could not unfortunately be completely granted. The management of the exhibition, to their regret, were obliged to reject 200 exhibits and allot smaller exhibition spaces for the accepted collections.

The most interesting exhibits will be displayed in the Court of Honor Class. They include: the collection of Queen of England, that of Sir John Wilson, Mr. Mirko Verner of Yugoslavia, the largest collection of Polish stamps belonging to member Myron Steczynski of Chicago, and fragments of collections kept in the Wrocław Museum.

Prime Minister Józef Cyrankiewicz is the honorary patron of the exhibition. Minister Z. Moskwa is President of the Honorary Committee. A Jury of 23 members will be appointed to judge the entries in the Competitive Class. Members of the Jury will represent the following countries: Poland—7 members, and one member from each of the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Israel, Sweden, Turkey, U.S.A. and Yugoslavia.

Work on the program of festivities

is progressing and will soon be completed. There will be meetings of exhibitors and visitors with Polish authorities, social meetings of exhibitors and visitors, excursions to Żelazowa Wola, Kraków, Zakopane and Gdańsk, finally a dinner party at which the classification of the exhibits will be announced and awards granted.

Five major awards are foreseen besides the gold, silver and bronze medals:

1. Grand Prix d'honneur — for best exhibit in the Honorary Class.
2. Grand Prix International—for the best exhibit of foreign stamps in the Competitive Class.
3. Grand Prix National—for the best exhibit of Polish stamps.
4. Special award—for the best exhibit of foreign stamps in the Competitive Class for a Polish exhibitor.
5. Special award for the best exhibit of Polish stamps for a Polish exhibition.

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INSTYTUT HISTORYCZNY
 IM. GEN. SIKORSKIEGO
 LONDYN, 8-12, IV. 1960

FIRST DAY
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W. Szymlek Esq.,
 2341, W. Moffat St.,
 Chicago 47, ILL.
 U.S.A.

"POLPHILEX 60"

Closely following our Polpex 1960, the Union of Polish Philatelists in Great Britain staged their Exhibition "Polphilex 60" April 8th to 12th.

Souvenirs of this exhibition are:

- 2 cacheted First Day Covers
- 1 souvenir sheet and 1 folder
- 1 Catalog — Program of 16 pages with attractive bi-colored cover

All listings and articles in the catalog are presented in Polish and English. The main theme of all these souvenirs is of course the 100th Anniversary of the First Polish Stamp. Fine articles on the subject by V. Rachmanoff, Jan E. Z. Berek and Zbigniew Włodarski are included in the catalog.

Three Polonus members responded to their repeated cordial invitations to participate in their first public display with Zdzisław Wągrowski taking the top honors of the trio with a silver medal. Congratulations to Zdzisław, for he showed his Polish Air Mails at two exhibits in two months coming out a winner each time! He put in a lot of 'labor of love' in this young collection and presented nothing but the best of material. His collection will command even greater attention in the future with newly acquired material added.

The Polphilex 60 Exhibition Commit-

tee did a good job of publicizing Polish philately. Congratulations!

— W. Szymlek

NEW MEMBERS

- William W. Jagielski
 318 Summit Ave., 18th Wd.
 Reading, Pa.
- Edmund Gendzielewski
 222 Lathrop Rd.
 Syracuse 4, N. Y.
- Patrick J. Lenard
 1504 N. First Ave.
 Wausau, Wis.
- Theodore H. Labus
 5022 East 68th St.
 Indianapolis, Ind.
- Jan R. Kowalski
 6130 Durocher Ave.
 Montreal 8, Quebec
 Canada
- Mrs. Jane Snyder
 9 Sutherland Drive
 Scotia 2, N.Y.

TID BIT

Congratulations to John Gruszka on his second prize award winning exhibit at the recent Oxford Philatelic Society Exhibition at Woodstock, Ontario, Canada. John, who is president of this society, showed a frame of "St. Lawrence Seaway".

NEW ISSUES

by J. J. Domar

On May 28, 1960, another unit of ten stamps depicting "Polish Folk Costumes" was issued. As before, a single stamp was issued for each male costume and a single stamp for each female costume for each district:

40 gr. Kraków
2.00 zł. Łowicz
3.10 zł. Kujawy
3.40 zł. Lubelski
6.50 zł. Lubuski

The stamps were printed in pairs—male and female costumes in one sheet, 56 stamps in a sheet. Bicolored printings in steelplate engraving and roto-gravure. Size 31.5 x 39.5 mm.

Designed by Czesław Kaczmarezyk.

These were also issued imperforate in limited quantities.

* * *

On June 15th a set of eight stamps were released commemorating the Olympic Games in Rome in 1960. Each value appears in a sheet of 60 stamps or fifteen complete segments of a set of four stamps. Each stamp depicts one fourth of the whole stadium oval. The design within the stamp showing the type of medal won, at what Olympics and for what sports. Four stamps together complete the oval. The two values of 60 gr. and 2.50 złoty were printed by the State Printery in Warsaw.

* * *

A new set is scheduled to appear on July 15th in commemoration of the 550th Anniversary of the Battle of Grunwald and Celebrating 1000 years of the Polish State. Three stamps will be printed in one color — steel plate engraved. Designed by Cz. Kaczmarezyk and printed at the State Printery in Warsaw.

— ARS Polona

BULLETIN ADS — PRICE LIST

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— Annual Dues are \$2.50 —

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