

BULLETIN OF THE POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets Every 2nd & 4th Fri. at Jan Beyzym Memorial House, 6965 Belmont, Chicago

Issue No. 306

Price 40c

December, 1972

SPRING AND POLPEX 73 ARE COMING!!!

With the days rapidly ticking away the combined effort known as POLPEX 73 continues with high intensity. Chairman Szebel reports that he literally

cially. Chairman Szebel will need you to man our sales table (only an hour or two of your time will greatly help), greet visitors, serve on the Hospitality Committee, mount and take down exhibits, etc. Let's hear from you.

The special commemorative medals and the specially designed Souvenir Sheet should prove to be very worthy items to add to anyone's collection. For those of you who will not be exhibiting, and thus not eligible for a medal, a cash contribution of \$50.00 or more to POLPEX 73 will make you the owner of one of these highly prized medals.

Entries Chairman Gobby reports that POLPEX 73 is oversubscribed and

that final screening and written confirmation will be completed in the next week or two. Gobby reports that there will be a wide variety of material, some of it seldom seen on public exhibition, and that this year's show should prove to be one of the best yet.



PHOTO OF CLAY MODEL OF SPECIAL
POLPEX COPERNICUS MEDALLION

is swamped with the final preparations and coordination, and again repeats the request for help from the Polonus membership. This is a most sincere request and if POLPEX 73 is to run the smooth course it so deserves, it is imperative that you, our member, contribute either your time and labor or finan-

Roman Reinowski, Bourse Chairman, reports that all tables have been sold, and just about every collector will be able to satisfy his philatelic needs. Couple the many dealers with the U.S. and U.N. Post Offices which will be at the show, and you have an almost unbeatable combination of satisfaction.

Mark the calendar and attend. You don't want to miss this one.

* * *

QUO VADIS?

Quo Vadis? Where do you go? Hopefully to POLPEX 73. But more hopefully to help at POLPEX 73. We don't want to beg, but please we do need **YOU!!** If you don't help it will mean the need to hire out, at union rates, certain people to do certain tasks which could easily be performed with the cooperation of our membership. The expenses for this show, first ever in a downtown location, are very high. We wish to keep these costs as low as possible, and to achieve same we need your help. Please consider it. Call me at 434-3322 during the day, or drop a postcard to my home: 5713 W. Warwick, Chicago, Ill. 60634.

—T. J. Gobby

MEMBERS MART

WANTED: Interested in W.W. II material. Concentration Camps, Ghettos, P.O.W., Polish Internees in Hungary, Romania and Switzerland.

Arnold L. Shay
205 Haverford Road
Wynnewood, Pa. 19096

WANTED: Maps and Books on Poland. Especially interested in era from 1910 to 1946. Do not send but write describing same.

Thomas J. Gobby
5713 W. Warwick
Chicago, Ill. 60634.

Z. MIKULSKI ADDED TO \$50.00 CONTRIBUTORS

Z. Mikulski, of Switzerland, and noted philatelic expert has contributed \$50.00 as a special sponsor of POLPEX 73. For those of you who wish to similarly contribute (and receive the special Copernicus medal) mail your contribution to:

Chester Mikucki
4704 No. Overhill
Norridge, Ill. 60656

* * *

VISITING POLPEX 73??

If you plan to visit POLPEX, are from out of town, and don't have definite arrangements — Matuszczak Travel of Chicago is official coordinator for those interested in coming to Chicago for that weekend. For arrangements for hotels, tours, special tickets, etc., write or call:

Wanda Szebel
Bank-On-Travel, Inc.
1223 Oakton Street
Des Plaines, Ill. 60016
Phone: (312) 298-1757

* * *

U.N. IMPRINT CACHET FOR POLPEX 73.

The U.N. Postal Administration has announced that it will furnish a special imprint cachet to honor POLPEX 73. This cachet, as the other mementoes of POLPEX 73, should prove to be a most desirable item and worthy of inclusion in any Polonica or Copernicus collection.

* * *

NEW MEMBERS

A. W. Bak
5275 Glenlock St.
Philadelphia, Pa.
Craig M. Marshall
8325 E. Camelback Rd.
Scottsdale, Ariz.
W. H. Mawhorter
1724 Lansing St.
Aurora, Col.



Fig. 10

for printing. A similar repair of a damaged P.Z.G. plate (incidentally, also plate I) occurred during the printing of the Mościcki stamp. However, it remains to explain why index 3 appears on two different panels of the same plate.

Stamps from plate C and D cannot be separated as the color is the same. The order for printing was sent out on March 4, 1931 and my earliest copy is dated July 3, 1931.

7th Issue:

From a single plate 10,275,000 stamps were printed in the same *greenish-blue* color which was used for the 6th issue. As my two plate numbers — D 2 and D 3 — show the stamps are size B which makes the separation easy (fig. 12). Both types I and II are present (type I being scarcer), all stamps are perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ and they are printed on paper q only.



Fig. 12

Rachmanow observed that the color of the stamps from the 6th and 7th issue is the same but he did not take notice that there is the difference in sizes.

The order to the printers was sent out on October 3, 1931 and my earliest dated copy is from November 5, 1931.

8th Issue:

From plate E (large) 9,000,000 stamps were printed in a *blue-green* color. A small part of this issue was printed in a nice emerald green shade and these stamps are scarce. In my collec-



Fig. 11

tion I have plate number E 2 (fig. 13). All stamps are size A again and type II only. They are perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ and only q paper was used.



Fig. 13

The order for printing was sent out sometimes in the first quarter of 1932 and my earliest dated copy is from June 11, 1932.

The date of the order for the printing is not known because Polish sources combine issues 7 and 8 into a single one — issue 7. As they do not distinguish stamps in sizes A and B they combine all the greenish-blue Piłsudski stamps in one issue, namely the 6th, and the blue-green stamps in the 7th. My splitting of the greenish-blue stamps into two separate issues is more logical.

9th Issue:

Four years later, during the first half of 1935, a new printing of the Piłsudski stamp was ordered. According to the items

in my collection the plate was marked E again, but this time the E was smaller. I possess plate numbers E 1, E 2 and E 3 (fig. 14). The color is a *dull-green*, all stamps are size A and both types I and II are equally represented. Paper u was used throughout.

According to Polish sources another plate — plate F — also existed, but I doubt it. From plate E (small) only 5,293,400 stamps were printed — that is about half of its capacity. Unless plate E (small) was damaged, there was no need to prepare a new plate — plate F. Maybe the copy which was the basis of the claim for plate F was in reality my plate number E (small) with the bottom bar of the E trimmed off; logically it was assumed that it must have been a F because plate E was already known. This is why I have put a question mark against plate F in my list of plates.

Another explanation is that plate F was prepared at the P.W.P.W. but because of the decision to introduce a new set of current stamps (with views of Polish towns) was never put into use.

Piłsudski stamps from the 9th issue exist with five line perforation combinations, namely 11, $11 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$, $11\frac{1}{2}$ and



Fig. 14

11½ x 12½, and one comb perforation measuring 12½ x 12½. This was the standard perforation gauge used on many Polish stamps issued after 1935. For unknown reasons this comb perforation is fully ignored by all Po-

lish catalogs and handbooks. My earliest date for this issue is April 12, 1935 and the last — as already stated — Jan. 21, 1938. Table II sums up all the information available on the Pilsudski 50 groszy stamp.

TABLE II
Pilsudski Stamp — Summary of Dates

ISSUE	PRINTER	TYPES	SIZE	PLATE NUMBERS	PAPERS	COLOR	PERF. VARIETIES	PRINTING ORDERED	EARLIEST DATE	QUANTITY '000s
1	PZG	I II	A	?	p	light blue-slate	10—14 (44)	8-19-27	5-12-28	5,000
2	PZG	I II	A	I, II, III, IV, V	q, r, s, t	dark bluish slate	10—14 (47)	4-26-28	8-3-28	20,000
3	PZG	I II	A	VI, VII	q, r,	dark blue-slate	11½	10-8-28	Jan. 29	10,000
4	PZG	I II	A	VIII, IX, X	q, r, s, t	greenish-slate	10—14 (46)	3-9-29	3-18-29	15,000
5	PWPW	I II	B	A, B	q, r	dark bluish slate	10—14 (42)	9-23-29	9-28-29	20,213
6	PWPW	II	A	C, D	q	greenish-blue	11½	3-4-31	7-3-31	10,176
7	PWPW	I II	B	D	q	greenish-blue	11½	10-5-31	11-5-31	10,275
8	PWPW	II	A	E large	q	blue-green	11½	Early 1932	6-11-32	9,000
9	PWPW	I II	A	E small F ?	u	dull green	11-12½ (6)	Early 1935	4-18-35	5,293

k. Printing Defects and Errors:

Despite the complicated manufacture of the plates by galvanoplasty and inexperience of the staff, it is surprising how few imperfect items escaped from the P.Z.G. Indeed, there must have been a strict control.

The imperforate stamps originate from the sheets kept at the Postal Museum and stolen during the German occupation. They are not known to have been postally used. Double perforations are very scarce.

On the backs of many stamps printed at the P.Z.G. vertical smudges forming a band about 5 mm. wide are quite common.

In my collection I have a stamp with a slight paper crease which, when straightened out, looks like a white $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. wide scratch across the lower part of the stamp.

Very thin lines, often curved, and running for 2 - 4 mm. in the white margins around the stamp are found. They are, in reality, prints from scratches made during the manufacture on certain places of some plates. Lack of sheet material does not permit their allocation to different panes and plates.

The Piłsudski stamp was never forged.

51. Postmarks and Perfins:

The normal Polish postmarks in late twenties and early thirties were back. However, I have found numerous Piłsudski stamps cancelled with brown, blue, magenta or violet date stamps.

Several private Polish firms protected their stamps by perforating them with their initials. Thus Piłsudski stamps from various issues exist with perfins. Till now seven perfins

were recorded by Mr. Sękowski, the leading Polish perfins specialist in Warsaw. Those marked "X" are included in my collection.

- | | |
|----------|---|
| HF | Henryka Franka Synowie, Coffee Substitute Manufacturers Skawina |
| HFS | ditto (holes 1.1 mm.) |
| x HFS | ditto (holes 0.7 mm.) |
| M | unknown firm from Poznań. |
| OL | unknown firm from Warsaw. |
| x P.B.K. | Powszechny Bank Kredytowy (Bank), Warsaw. |
| UBC/L | United Baltic Corp. Warsaw. |

Other perfins on the Piłsudski stamp may exist but they are still waiting to be discovered.

III. 1 ZŁOTY MOŚCICKI STAMP

Although printed in six issues and from seven plates only, the Mościcki stamp is even more interesting than its sister stamp.

It was much more short-lived: officially it lost validity on June 1, 1936 but in reality its sale was stopped around August 1, 1931. Colonel Larking wrote that the withdrawal from sale occurred during January, 1932, but I doubt it as I have found no Mościcki stamp dated after July 28, 1931.

The reason for this was a great stamp robbery in which several hundreds of mint 1 złoty stamps were stolen (I presume that it happened during July, 1931.) Hoping that the robbers will try to sell their booty, the postal authorities withdrew all Mościcki stamps from sale. They reasoned that if afterwards 1 złoty stamps appeared on the market, it would be easier to

(To be continued)

NEW ISSUES

25th Peace Issue

On May 2, 1972 a 60 gr. value was issued to commemorate the anniversary of the 25th Peace Race, the greatest amateur cycling event in the world. Rotogravure printed at PWPW Warsaw on chalky paper in sheets of 50. Total issued: 8,000,000. Designed by T. Michaluk.



Polish Soldier and Anti-Fascist Monument in Berlin

A 60 gr. stamp was issued on May 9, 1972 in connection with the unveiling of a monument in



Berlin erected to honor the Polish soldier and as a symbol of

Anti-Fascism. Designed by Polish and German artists: Zofia Wolska, Prof. Tadeusz Łodziana and Arnd Wittig. Steel engraving on common paper in sheets of 50 at PWPW Warsaw. Designed by S. Małecki. Total quantity issued: 6,000,000.

20th Olympic Games in Munich

A set of eight stamps and a souvenir sheet were issued May 20, 1972 to honor the 20th Olympic Games in Munich.

20 gr.—Races; 8,000,000 issued
30 gr.—Archery; 8,000,000 issued
40 gr.—Boxing; 8,000,000 issued
60 gr.—Fencing; 8,000,000 issued
2.50 zł.—Wrestling; 4,000,000 iss.
3.40 zł.—Weightlifting; 3,000,000
5.00 zł.—Cycling; 1,000,000 iss.
8.50 zł.—Shooting; 1,000,000 iss.
10+5 zł. sheet—Archery: 850,000

Rotogravure printed on chalky paper in sheets of 50 by PWPW Warsaw. Designed by W. Świeży.

Battle of Cedynia Millennium

On June 12, 1972 a 60 gr. value was issued to commemorate the millennium of the Battle of Cedynia in 972 when King Mieszko



conquered the German army defending Polish lands on the Odra River, as well as West Pomerania, Szczecin, Wolin and Kołobrzeg. The stamp shows a knight with shield showing a Piast eagle. Rotogravured on chalky paper in sheets of 50 by the PWPW Warsaw. Designed by Janusz Wysocki. Quantity issued: 6,000,000.

Zoo Animals

A set of 9 values were issued August 20, 1972 showing animals of Polish zoological gardens.

- 20 gr.—cheetah: 8,000,000 issued
- 40 gr.—giraffe: 8,000,000 issued
- 60 gr.—toucan: 8,000,000 issued
- 1.35 zł.—chimpanzee: 5,000,000
- 1.65 zł.—gibbon: 6,000,000 issued
- 3.40 zł.—crocodile: 3,000,000 iss.
- 4.00 zł.—kangaroo: 3,000,000 iss.
- 4.50 zł.—tiger: 900,000 issued
- 7.00 zł.—zebra: 900,000 issued

Offset printed on chalky paper

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— Annual Dues are \$4.00 —

"1973"

POLAND PRICE LIST

All issues cross-referenced according to Scott, Minkus, and Ruch Catalogues. Price 24¢

H. J. BIENIECKI

BOX 100, GRANITE CITY, ILL. 62040



in sheets of 20 by PWPW Warsaw. Designed by J. Grabiński.

POLPEX 73 LABELS AND CACHETED ENVELOPES

Souvenir POLPEX 73 Labels are available at 30¢ per sheet or 4 for \$1.00 postpaid. Colorful Cacheted envelopes with the Copernicus theme have also been printed, 3 different for 25¢. All proceeds for Polpex expenses. Write to C. Mikucki, 4704 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge, Ill. 60656.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, January 12, 1973 —

Program Meeting at 6965 W. Belmont Ave. Roman Burkiewicz will continue with another installment on "Trends In Polish Philately." On Nov. 24 he spoke on the pre-war issues. On Jan 12 he intends to cover the post-war issues and to note the '73 Scott's Catalog price changes.

Entree at 7 p.m. for dealing and trading. Meeting starts at 8 p.m. Coffee and pączki served.