

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 240

April 1966

ISSUE U.S. MILLENNIUM STAMP JULY 30

According to Philatelic Release No. 25 of the Information Service of the Post Office Department, released on April 10, 1966, Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien announced the issuance date of the Polish Millennium commemorative postage stamp to be July 30.

The stamp will be issued in Washington, D.C., and it will be a 5c denomination.



Mieszko and Dąbrowka are pictured on this design submitted to the Post Office Department. The artwork is by Sister Mary Geraldine of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph, Hamburg, N.Y.

O'Brien has invited the Very Rev. Norbert Zonca, O.F.M. Conv., pastor of Corpus Christi Church, and Chairman of Buffalo Millennium Stamp Issuance Committee, and Judge Thaddeus V. Adesko, a prominent community leader in Chicago, to serve as Executive Co-Chairman of the National Committee for the Millennium of Poland stamp.

Commenting on the First Day Issue ceremony, Mr. O'Brien said:

"I am very pleased that Fr. Zonca and Judge Adesko have already accepted my invitation and are making arrangements for the First Day of Is-

suance ceremony, a ceremony which will be appropriate to the significance of the Polish Millennium Observance. I am happy that Hon. Thomas E. Kluczynski, Judge of the Appellate Court of Cook County, has accepted the chairmanship of the Millennium Stamp Banquet Committee to be held here in Washington. I am looking forward to meeting many of my good American friends of Polish heritage on that occasion."



Three designs by Chicago artist Walter Gawron were presented to the Post Office Department by Myron Steczynski of the Polonus Stamp Committee. This design pictures Frederic Chopin the composer, Nicolaus Copernicus the astronomer, and M. Skłodowska-Curie the physicist.



Another design by Gawron depicting Dąbrowka and Mieszko.



This design by Walter Gawron shows Chopin, Copernicus and Adam Mickiewicz, the poet.

VATICAN CITY TO ISSUE MILLENNIUM STAMPS

Vatican City will issue a series of stamps commemorating the Millennium of Catholicism in Poland on May 3rd,

The series of six was designed by Polish miniaturist Casimira Dabrowska, who does most Vatican stamps.

Among the series will be stamps carrying the image of King Mieszko (962-992) and his queen, Dabrowka, daughter of the king of Bohemia; St. Adalbert, bishop of Prague, who evangelized Poland; St. Stanislaus, bishop of Cracow; the Servant of God, Queen Hedwig, who died in 1392; and the Madonna of Czestochowa.

The last of the series will depict Pope Paul VI with a group of Polish people in characteristic dress and will bear in Polish the prayer "Praise be to Jesus Christ forever and ever. Amen."

CARTOON BY W. KRAWIEC APPEARING IN "DZIENNIK CHICAGOSKI"

Reprinted with permission from the POLISH DAILY NEWS ("DZIENNIK CHICAGOSKI")



A U.S. POSTAL STATION AT POLPEX 1966

Spring is here, summer will quickly follow, and before you realize it, August 26th and our POLPEX will be here.

Did you prepare your exhibit? Do not wait till the last week! Let us know in advance what you plan to show.

The official entry application with the various categories and awards is now being prepared and will be available soon.

Polpex shows have always been outstanding stamp exhibitions. This year philatelists from all over the world are invited to exhibit. Non-members too are invited to show, providing their material pertains to Poland. Because of the Millennium theme of our Polpex we especially welcome exhibits of historical significance stressing history and the achievements of Poland. We would like to see new and interesting collections. Do not wait till the last minute—send your preliminary exhibit description to the Entry Chairman: Roman H. Strzelecki, 1439 N. Bell Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60622.

Joining us in honoring the Polish Millennium at our Polpex is the Polish-American Numismatic Association with an outstanding exhibit of Polish coins, religious and military medals and decorations. They will sponsor a special Polish Millennium medal.

Our endeavors for a United States stamp commemorating Poland's Millennium were realized and a 5 cent stamp will be issued on July 30th. At our Polpex we will have a Postal Station. They will be cancelling mail with a special cancellation provided by the Post Office Department.

As every year a special Polpex souvenir sheet and first day cover will be issued by Polonus. A Millennium program catalog will also be printed.

We are appealing for interesting articles for our program catalog, the Bulletin and the philatelic press. Send these on to the editor.

Let's all chip in to achieve our purpose—that of a successful Millennium of Poland POLPEX 1966!

—Alfred Szebel
Polpex Director

POLONUS' PARTICIPATION IN PAN-SLAVIC EXHIBITION

The Pan-Slavic Exhibition, held on April 2nd and 3rd by the First Czechoslovak Philatelic Club at the CSA Building, Cicero, Ill. was well represented with Polish exhibits. Polonus members Alfred Szebel, Zdzislaw Wagrowski, Josef Bendkowski and Chester Schafer had exhibits entered and three out of four walked off with awards. A gold medal was awarded to Alfred Szebel for his Polish Field-post Postal History of the 20th century; a silver medal went to Zdzislaw Wagrowski for his Nicolaus Copernicus Specialized; and a silver medal secured by Chester Schafer with his First Issue of Independent Poland Specialized. Josef Bendkowski showed selected pages of Bulgaria, Serbia, Russia and the Ukraine. The Grand Award went to Jan Mrnak of his Highly Specialized Czechoslovak Legion in Siberia and the Championship Award went to Joseph J. Janecka Jr. for his Man In Four Uniforms — World War I.

DR. H. MROCZYNSKI GUEST SPEAKER AT APRIL 22nd PROGRAM MEETING

Laos, its people, history and traditions was the topic of Doctor Henry Mroczynski of St. Charles, Ill. who lectured on Friday, April 22nd at the Polonus program meeting. Dr. Mroczynski showed part of his complete collection of color slides of the postage stamps of Laos.

In addition to being a Polonus member, the Doctor belongs to the SPA, Vatican Phil. Soc., ATA, IJPA and a few local societies. A collector for about 16 years, he served as past president of the Geneva Stamp Soc., is vice president of the Fox Valley Stamp Club and vice pres. of the Aurora Topical Society. He also finds time to moderate the Junior Club of Fox Valley in Aurora.

The meeting ended up with a beeba.

RESIGNATIONS

Rev. Arthur Lowry, B. G. Mendelson, Włodzimierz Szreders, P. W. Trubey.

CANCELLATIONS AND DATEMARKS OF THE FIELD POST OF THE POLISH FIRST CORPS

By TADEUSZ GRYZEWSKI

In spite of the fact that nearly 50 years have passed, we still do not know the complete history of the First Corps Field Post of Dowbór-Muśnicki. Likewise, the identity of datemark cancellations assigned to the various post offices draws a question mark.

Recently, I was able to get a series of documents which, specifically speaking, were the actual invoice account records of the field post offices of Bychowo, Żłobin and Rochaczew, which cleared up this mystery.

Before I inform the readers of the results of my findings, I would like to call your attention to the erroneous listing of these stamps in all catalogs, both domestic and foreign.

Our catalogs classify these stamps with those of the military posts, outside our borders, under the title "First Corps."

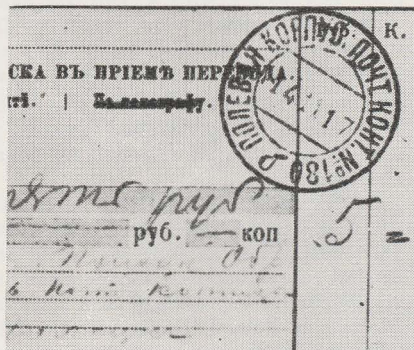
In my opinion, this listing is completely in error. The title of these issues should be "Polish Occupation of R.S.R.S.R.", the official name given as a result of the revolution and the alliance of the Soviets.

This was a typical occupation of Soviet territory to which the Corps command was assigned as noted by the inscription on their fiscal rubber stamp, "Administration for Territory Occupied by the Polish Corps."

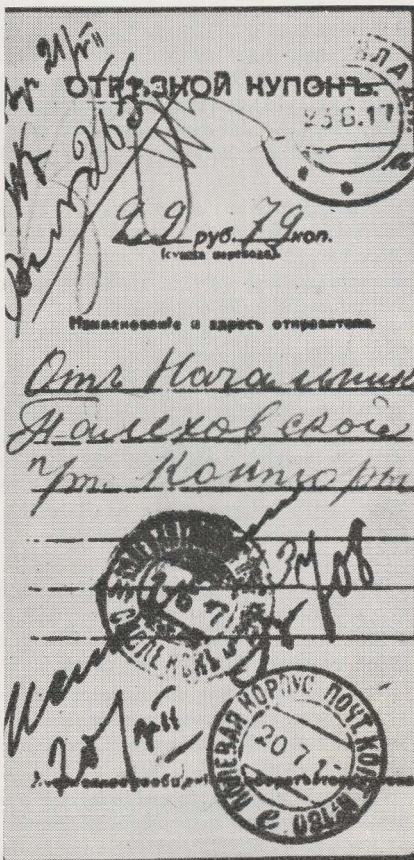
This finding is clearly evidenced by the provisional occupation and the lack of some mark or seal of the conquering Corps command on foreign soil.

After this minor historical digression, let's return to the original subject of this article.

At the time of the formation of the Corps in the basin area of Berezyny, from December 1 (14), 1917, the Russian Field Post number 180 was assigned with their encampment at the Bobrujsk fortress. This post office used datemarks inscribed in Russian, "Poliewaja Korpus Poczta. Kont. nr. 180" (Corps Field Post Office) with identifying letters "b" or "e". It is possible that date-



Russian datemark of the Corps Field Post Office No. 180 with identifying letter "b".



Russian datemark of the Corps Field Post Office No. 180 with identifying letter "e".

marks exist with other letters. The diameter of both known datemarks of 28 mm. — on the first measured 29.5, and on the second 29 mm.

After the liquidation of the Russian post, it was nationalized to a Polish post, establishing post offices in Mohylew, Bobrujsk fortress, Bychowo, Rochaczew and Żłobin as of April 1st. In the beginning it functioned strictly as a field post office. After April 11th it also serviced civilian mail of that area. As I mentioned before, what stumped us collectors was that we did not know to what post office the datemarks belonged.

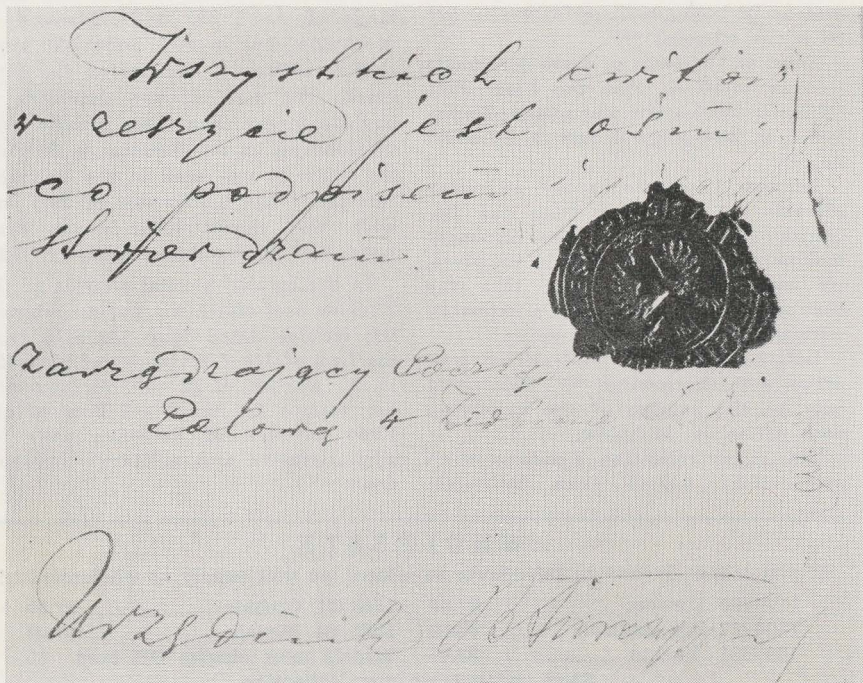
We know that they did not identify themselves and that they had the numerals 1, 2, 3 and 4 which must of stood for some assigned postoffice. The previously mentioned finding of the invoice account records unravels this problem.

The first series of invoice accounts are from the postmaster of Rochaczew which consisted of three invoices for various utilities of the post from May 8

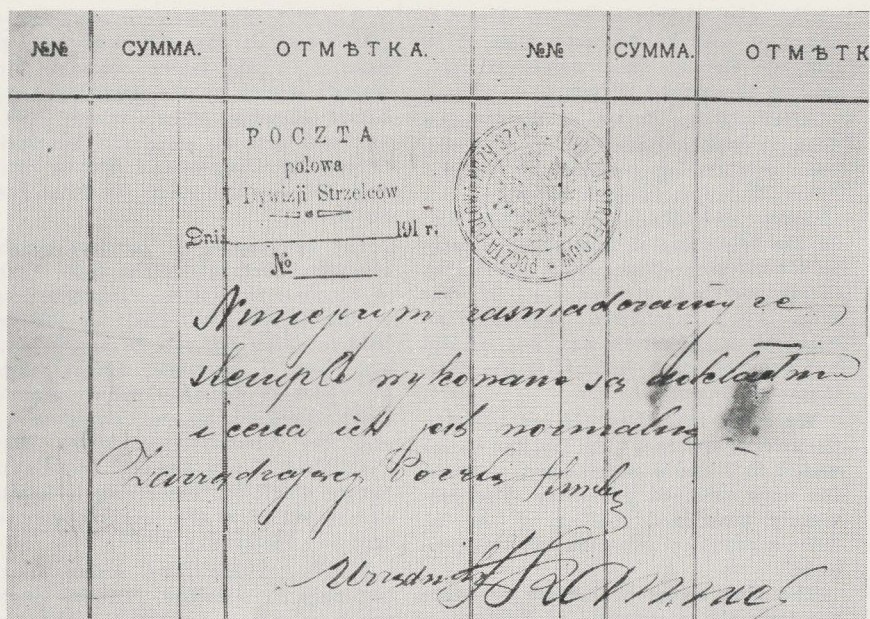
to 13, 1918. The invoices are laced together and on the end sheet bear the notation, "This tablet contains three sheets", signed by the postmaster (signature illegible). The strings have a wax seal with an eagle and inscription "Przesyłka Pieniężna I Poczty Polowej" (Money Orders of the First Field Post).

The next series of invoices consists of eight sheets under the title, "Table of vouchers for various chancery items of the Żłobin Field Post for the year 1918 totalling 103 rub. 80 kop." On the last sheet is inscribed, "Total amount of vouchers in this tablet numbers eight. Verified by my signature and seal, the Administrator of the Żłobin Field Post, Zenon Purant" (clerk's signature illegible). The string is knotted and sealed as in the previous case, except the numeral is "3".

Finally, in the third series, on the last page is inscribed, "In this packet are five sheets, numbered, laced together and sealed. Signed — St. Bychów, May 28. 1918" (signature of clerk il-



Last sheet of tablet of invoices and vouchers of Żłobin Field Post verifying the contents with wax seal and signatures of administrative officer and clerk.



Invoice for two rubber stamps of the Bychów Field Post of the First Division of Riflemen.

legible). On this document is a wax seal as in both previous instances, but with the numeral "4".

Thus, on the basis of these documents we can establish that the Field Post Office in Rochaczew was assigned number 1, in Żłobin no. 3, and in Bychowo no. 4.

Because I possess in my collection official letters mailed from the Bobrujsk fortress, where the datemark had no number but a star in its place, we must accept the fact that the post office in Bobrujsk used a datemark without an identifying number.

Left behind is the unidentified post office with the number "2". This could only be the number of the remaining post office in Mohylów.

Also in my collection, I possess original letters mailed from Bobrujsk,

franked and cancelled with the date-mark of April 21, 1918 addressed to Mochylów, but in the "Bobrujsk" type, that is without a numeral on the date-mark. The size of the datemark is slightly larger than those usually used in Bobrujsk as its diameter is 30 mm., but while it was used in the Bobrujsk fortress it had a diameter of 29.5 mm. with this characteristic — a short letter "P" in the abbreviation "KORP."

In the invoice account records of the Bychów post office we find an interesting invoice dated May 13, 1918 from the firm of Józef Piewznier of Mohylów in the amount of 22 rub. for two rubber stamps for the Field Post of the First Division of Riflemen used for administrative and military correspondence.

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A REVIEW —

LOCAL WARSAW CITY POST 1915-18 By Aleksander Sniezko

This 144 page paper bound book was published by the Library Commission of Educational Research of the Polish Philatelic Alliance (Polski Związek Filatelistów). It is richly illustrated with photographs, and reproductions of stamp issues, cancellations, rubber stamp markings, projects, charts, etc.

The book begins with the genesis of the Warsaw City Post and then describes its operation, mail carriers, cancellations and mail boxes. Then stamp issues of the Warsaw Citizens Committee are described as well as plate varieties, perforating and fakes. The proposed issue which was rejected by the German occupation authorities is also written up. Speculation on the city post issues is discussed over six pages.

The City Post was then taken over by the new city administration and functioned under a magistrate. Stamps were replaced by simple rubber stamp markings. These tariff stamp markings are listed, thoroughly described and their rates explained. The book then goes on to tell of the personnel, administrative force and the mail carriers, their salaries, and even the mail carriers strike of 1917 is covered.

The postal system was then taken over by the Ministry of the Interior and this period is covered by the next eight pages. The post office buildings are then described and photos of them shown over the next eleven pages. The last part of the book gives an accounting of the entire postal activity of the city post with figures of mail processed, quantities of stamps issued and cost of operation.

Five pages of bibliography attest that this is a comprehensive report of the Local City Post of Warsaw, 1915-1918.

The book is handled by Ruch agency.

* * *

K-LINE 1965 POLAND SUPPLEMENT

Supplement No. 10, consisting of 17 pages, covering all the new issues of 1965, was just published by K-Line Publishing, Inc., Berwyn, Ill. The Kowalka Poland album pages are 8¼ x 11, round cornered and fit the standard 3 ring binder. Each issue is described and also contains information

as to First Day of Issue, quantity printed and name of designer. (See advertisement on next page).

POLPHILEX 1966

POLPHILEX 66, the Millennium Exhibit of the Union of Polish Philatelists in Great Britain opens April 29th at Birmingham and lasts till May 1st. Another showing will take place in London May 21-24. As its theme the society selected a Thousand Years of Christianity in Poland. In conjunction with the exhibition the following items will be issued:

Birmingham Exhibition Apr. 29—May 1

Exhibition Catalog with articles by Dr. L. Koczy and Z. Włodarski at 35c.

Souvenir Sheet showing a stamp in blue of Dabrowka and Mieszko designed and steel die engraved by Czesław Śliwa priced at 35c.

Exhibition Folder with a vignette of the coat of arms of Gniezno printed in two colors. The folder will receive the special exhibition cancellation and has a space for the souvenir sheet on the inside and space for name and address and postage stamp on the outside. It can be sent thru the mail. Price for folder is 30c.

Cover with special cancellation, 20c.

London Exhibition May 21—24, 1966

Same catalog to be used, at 35c.

Souvenir sheet with stamp of Dabrowka and Mieszko in carmine instead of blue at 35c.

Exhibition Folder in three colors with special exhibition cancellation, at 30c.

Cover with special exhibition cancellation at 20c.

Orders for the above should be accompanied with money orders and sent to Mr. Z. Stefanski, 30, Greencroft Gardens, Flat J, London N.W. 6, England. Money orders should be payable to "Union of Polish Philatelists." To receive your order by registered mail add 35c. (Orders under \$15.00 are free from English tax.) Deadline May 20, 1966. After deadline date prices are higher.

APPLICANT PENDING

Max Sikora

4636 S. Troy St.

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IN OUR MAILBOX

Detroit, 28 Marca, 1966.

Szanowny Panie:

Załączam money order na \$10.00 za rok przeszły, 1965, jak również na rok 1966, oraz \$5.00 ofiaruję na Millennium,

Z poważaniem

Stefan Kowalczyk

* * *

Bell, Calif.. 3/19/66

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find my check for 1966 membership dues for Polonus. I sure wish I could be in Chicago when we have the Polpex. I have a fine collection of Polish material: stamps, coins and medals, but no way to exhibit. But I am going to try to do my bit here in California to acquaint people with the Polish Millennium of Christianity. I received my Polonus Buletin today with the decal sticker. I immediately placed it on my car.

There is going to be a convention of International Numismatics in June at L.A. and I am going to exhibit my Polish medals. The decal will fit in perfectly with the motif. So, if possible, please send me two or three more decals. If there is any charge, I will gladly pay it. Thank you.

Good Luck,

Henry E. Dowgiert

* * *

Philadelphia, 2/11/66

Mr. Jos. Z. Rycaj—

Just received Polonus Bulletin No. 238 reminding me that 1966 dues are in order, thus enclosing check for same.

Article on Poland No. 1 comments very interesting, however, back in 1941 — 25 years ago, Stephen G. Rich and myself did a very thorough article on Poland No. 1 which was published in the "Stamp Specialist" No. 5 Blue Book page 131 to and including 160.

I wish to state as member No. 68 of Polonus, I have been selected and accepted the honor of one of the 14 U.S.A. judges to judge the International Stamp Show SIPEX to be held at Washington, D.C. next May 1966. There were also 16 other judges from abroad appointed. Thought this might be interesting to make note of.

Yours very truly,

Vincent Domanski, Jr.

BOJANOWICZ HONORED

Mirosław A. Bojanowicz will sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists at the Brighton Congress to be held in Great Britain in June. The Roll recognizes the achievements of living philatelists.

Mr. Bojanowicz is well known for his outstanding collection of Poland No. 1. He exhibited in and attended our 1964 Polpex winning the grand award.

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NEW ISSUES FOSSIL ANIMALS

On March 5th the Polish Post issued a series of stamps showing the evolution of vertebrata.

The stamps depict interesting specimens of fauna from millions of years ago that are the ancestors of today's fishes, reptiles, birds and mammals.

Value	Specimen	Million years old
20 gr.	Dinichthys	380
30 gr.	Eusthenopteron	370
40 gr.	Ichthyostega	355
50 gr.	Mastodonsaurus	200
60 gr.	Cynognathus	220
2.50 zł.	Archaeopteryx	140
3.40 zł.	Brontotherium	30
6.50 zł.	Machairodus	110

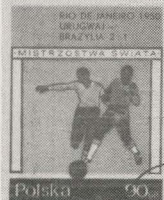
7.10 zł. Mammuthus 50,000 yrs. old

Of the above animals, the skeletons of mammoth and fragments of Dinichthys and Machairodus were excavated in Poland.

Designed by A. Heidrich. Polychrome offset printed at the PWPW in Warsaw, in sheets of 20 stamps each on chalky paper. Size of the 2.50 zł. 39.5 x 51 mm.; all others 51 x 39.5 mm.

Quantities Issued

20 gr.—8,000,000	2.50 zł.—2,500,000
30 gr.—6,000,000	3.40 zł.—2,500,000
40 gr.—6,500,000	6.50 zł.—1,400,000
50 gr.—4,500,000	7.10 zł.—1,400,000
60 gr.—2,500,000	



WORLD SOCCER GAMES

On the occasion of the 1966 World Soccer Championship Games to be held in London, the Polish Post will issue on May 6th a set of 8 stamps and a souvenir sheet representing the history of World Soccer Championship Games since 1930.

Each stamp represents a respective Championship Game and bears information of the location and the result of the final match.

- 20 gr.—Montevideo 1930, Uruguay vs. Argentina 4 : 2
- 40 gr.—Rome 1934, Italy vs. Czechoslovakia 2 : 1
- 60 gr.—Paris 1938, Italy vs. Hungary 4 : 2
- 90 gr.—Rio de Janeiro 1950, Uruguay vs. Brazil 2 : 1
- 1.50 zł.—Bern 1954, G.F.R. vs. Hungary 3 : 2
- 3.40 zł.—Stockholm 1958, Brazil vs. Sweden 5 : 2
- 6.50 zł.—Santiago 1962, Brazil vs. Czechoslovakia 3 : 1
- 7.10 zł.—London 1966 (elimination match Poland vs. Scotland, scored 2 : 1)

The souvenir sheet of 13.50 zł. plus plus 1.50 zł. value shows the Rimet Cup, the flags of 16 countries taking part in the final eliminations, and the inscription "World Soccer Championships, London 1966".

Designed by Jerzy Jaworski. Multicolored by Polychrome offset on a chalky paper in small sheets of 10 stamps each. Size of stamps: 39.5 x 31.25; souvenir sheet is 6 x 8 mm.

Amounts printed:

20 gr.—8,000,000	1.50 zł.—2,500,000
40 gr.—6,500,000	3.40 zł.—2,000,000
60 gr.—7,000,000	6.50 zł.—1,200,000
90 gr.—2,500,000	7.10 zł.—1,200,000
13.50 + 1.50 zł.—900,000	

Printed at PWPW, Warsaw.

STAMPS FOR THE WOUNDED

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POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

— Annual Dues are \$2.50 —

AT OUR MAY 13th MEETING

On Friday, May 13th, our regular business meeting will be held at Falcons Hall. The Pan-Slavic Exhibition Awards will be officially presented to Polonus members by Joseph Janecka, President of the First Czechoslovak Philatelic Club.

The official Polonus first day cachet covers for the U.S. Millennium stamp will be available at this meeting.

Coffee to be served after meeting.

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