

BULLETIN OF THE
POLONUS
PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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\$50.00 CONTRIBUTORS

Thus far, sixteen members have responded to our appeal for \$50.00 contributions for POLPEX 73. This money will go towards the expenses of the POLPEX. If you can't directly contribute your time or efforts, the \$50.00 will do fine instead — and each \$50.00 contributor will receive the special Copernicus medallion which is being struck especially for this show. Mail your contribution to: Chester J. Mikucki, 4704 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge, Ill. 60656.

POLPEX OVERSUBSCRIBED!

Over three-hundred frames of material have been submitted in the preliminary entries received for POLPEX 73. This is the first time that a *Polonus* exhibition was over-subscribed. The Entries Chairman Thomas J. Gobby has mailed the final entry form to exhibitors notifying them how many frames they have been allotted as our show is limited to a 250 frame exhibition.

On March 23-25 *Polonus* will present POLPEX 73 at the La Salle Hotel in downtown Chicago as its contribution to the Copernicus 500th anniversary celebrations. The souvenir sheets, cachets, and special Polpex medalion will portray Copernicus. A special topical class of Copernicus exhibits will be in competition for the awards. A coin and medal exhibit, highlighting Copernicus, will be presented by the Polish American Numismatic Association at our show.

Special awards to be presented at POLPEX 73 have been coming in from different parts of the world. A beautiful crystal Copernicus trophy was sent us by the Polish Federation of Philatelists in Poland. Medals from the Polish philatelic societies in Great Britain and Australia have been received as well as space medals from H. Sieger of Germany have arrived.

POLPEX 1973 is no small undertaking. It has been launched with the most ambitious and optimistic hope. Never before has *Polonus* put together such a show of projected scope. Executive Chairman, Alfred Szebel is swamped with the final preparations to make POLPEX 73 a truly memorable and significant event.

The February 12th edition of *Linn's Stamp News* has been designated as a special *Polonus* issue. Special *Stamps* and *Western Stamp Collector* editions for *Polonus* will come later.

COPERNICANA

A slogan cancellation is being used by the Boston, Mass. post office No. 02109 from February 19th through August 19th. It reads: *Mikołaj Kopernik 500th Anniversary 1473-1973.*

* * *

A two-color reproduction of T. Pawlak's proposed design for a U.S. Copernicus stamp appeared in the October 22nd issue of the Polish periodical *Stolica* published in Warsaw.

* * *

A Copernicus meter slogan will be in use from February 19th at the Franciscan Center, Pulaski, Wis. 54162. Send self-addressed covers without stamps affixed plus 25¢ for each.

* * *

A special mail posting box will be provided at Sir Dallas Brooks Hall in East Melbourne, Australia from Feb. 17 thru 21 for the convenience of persons attending the 500th Anniversary celebrations marking the birth of Copernicus. All mail posted in the box will receive a special pictorial postmark. POLPHUL 73 sponsored by the Polish Philatelic Society of Australia, will be part of the celebrations.

Collectors may obtain impressions of the postmark on covers by forwarding 16c to: "Officer in Charge, Philatelic Mail Orders, Box 9000 G.P.O., Melbourne, Vic., 3001, Australia" to reach him by Feb. 21st.

On the next four pages we continue with another installment of V. Maxa's article on the Pisudski-Moscicki Issues.

trace the thieves. But the rogues probably learned about this secret move and did not sell at all.

In April, 1936, the postal authorities lost their patience, demonetised officially the Mościcki stamp having used it since November, 1934, as material for DOPLATA overprints (postage due).

Unfortunately no Polish collector ever tried to investigate this affair; it is probable that the postal or police documents dealing with it are lost but there may be still a few people living who could remember some details because of their official position at that time.

Now let us follow the same sequence as with the Piłsudski stamp.

a. Project, Engraving and Proofs:

The designer and engraver were the same and a proof on hand-made paper was produced for the three presentation albums. Proof prints from the master-die with the name of the author included were executed in green-black color on yellowish paper.

b. Printing Plates:

The same method was used for the manufacture of the plates as for the Piłsudski stamp. Badly aligned stamps do exist but they are less frequent due to the scarcity of 1 złoty pairs or larger units. In my collection I have five such items.

At the P.Z.G. five plates were produced:

1. indexes only: 1, 2, 3, 4
2. 1 I, 2 I, 3 I, 4 I
3. 1 II, 2 II, 3 II, 4 II
4. 1 III, 2 III, 3 III, 4 III
5. 1 IV, 2 IV, 3 IV, 4 IV

The plate with indexes only has the Arabic numerals 1 to 4

placed under the 95th and 96th stamp. The rest of the plate numbers is under the 91st stamp.

At the P.W.P.W. two more plates were made:

6. 1 A, 2 A, 3 A, 4 A
7. 1 B, 2 B, 3 B, 4 B

Plate A was used for 1 złoty Black and plate B for 1 złoty Blue (Mościcki 10th Anniversary Stamp).

Instead of crosses the Mościcki stamp has small black dots on the same places in the margins as the crosses on the Piłsudski stamp (fig. 15). These dots could also serve as further features for the separation of different panes and plates.



Fig. 15

c. Types:

Till now I was not able to discover any types of the Mościcki stamp.

d. Sizes:

The Mościcki stamp does not show variation in size as the Piłsudski stamp. Exact measurements, however, show that the basic size 20.0 x 25.0 mm. varies by + 0.10 mm. in height due to different condition during the drying process after the printing.

e. Printing Paper:

For the top value Polish authorities ordered in England a vertically laid chamois paper obviously for security reasons because the lines in the paper form sort of a watermark. The Polish sources relying on information given by Rachmanow

confused the whole problem of papers.

The Mościcki stamp was printed on two kinds of paper: v - 13 vertical lines per 2 cm. and w - 16 vertical lines per 2 cm. Rachmanow stated that paper v was supplied by W. Wingate from Jolenston (sic) and paper w by Messrs Jones from London. The total number of stamps printed on English paper amounts to 15 million. According to Polish sources paper v was used for the first and second issues (10 million) and paper w for the third one (5 million). If this is correct, stamps on paper v should have to be more numerous than those on paper w, the ratio being 2 : 1. Having accumulated nearly 1,500 Mościcki stamps for my studies I found out that just the opposite was true. It seemed also incomprehensible to me, that paper for a single stamp whose printing was completed in three years would be ordered from 2 different foreign firms.

From Mr. Rang of the Gibbons' Stamp Monthly, I have learned that there are no papermakers named W. Wingate, and that no town named Jolenston exists in Britain. Furthermore I was given the address of Messrs. Samuel Jones, prominent London paper manufacturer.

Mr. H. W. Milwood, the director of the firm, revealed to me the true state of affairs. Messrs. Wingate and Johnson is a company of carriers who pack and ship Messrs. Jones wares abroad. Thus Samuel Jones was the sole supplier of chamois laid paper for the Mościcki stamp. The firm's archives were destroyed during World War II, but one employee did remember

that in the late twenties the firm had an order for stamp paper from Poland. Mr. Milwood kindly informed me that nowadays the smallest amount of paper they deliver is 2,000 kg. Before the war, however, due to smaller output of the machines, this amount was 1,000 kg. For printing of 15 million Mościcki stamps on 55 g/m² paper, only about 600 kg. were necessary.

Thus the problem of the two suppliers was solved. My theory is that Messrs Jones received an order for 600 kg. vertically laid chamois paper only and that the spacing of the lines was not specified. The amount being so small, the firm probably took out from their stores two different kinds of chamois laid paper (with closer and wider spacing) and Messrs. Wingate and Johnson shipped it to Poland. The amount of paper v must have been less than 1/4th of the whole, as from 1,220 copies on vertically laid paper, 1,050 or 87% are on paper w and only 170 or 13% on paper v. The true ratio of paper v : w is about 1 : 9.

During the printing of the Mościcki stamp, a new Polish-made paper was introduced: horizontally laid paper z with 16 lines per 2 cm. It was fabricated at the Mokotów paper mill and has an off-white color sometimes with a rosy or even chamois tint.

The 1 złoty Blue was printed on a Polish-made good quality white paper.

f. COLOR

All the issues (with the exception of the 6th) were printed in black. This varies from grey-black to black, blue-black and brownish-black. Unfortunately,

it is not possible to allocate any of these shades to a particular issue. The grey-black and black stamps are most common, the other shades are less frequent.

Before deciding on the final color, trial prints were made from the master-stereo (without the artist's name) in light and deep violet, light and deep brown and deep carmine — all on small sheets (30 x 35 mm.) of white paper and imperforate. Another print in the original black color was made on a small sheet of chamois horizontally laid paper with 16 lines /2 cm. — obviously the English-

made paper turned round by 90° and also imperforate.

g. PERFORATION

The same line machines and gauges from 10 to 14 were used. The lower gauges — 10, 10½ and 11 — are scarce and perf. 10 is the rarest. In my collection I have only one stamp perforated 10½ x 10. The Polish sources claim that perf. 10 and 10½ were not used but this is obviously a mistake. I have found 37 perforation combinations from the 81 possible. They are shown in table III. The ¼ perf. also exist but is to be ignored for reasons already stated.

TABLE III
Mościcki Stamp — Perforation Combinations

	10	10½	11	11½	12	12½	13	13½	14
10									
10½	x								
11			x	x	x			x	
11½			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
12				x	x	x		x	x
12½				x	x	x	x	x	x
13			x	x	x	x	x		
13½			x	x	x	x			
14			x	x	x	x	x		

The stamps on paper v in my collection have following single line perforations: 11, 11½, 12, 12½ and 13. Compound perforations are: 11 x 13½; 11½ x 11, 12, 12½, 13½, 14; 12 x 11½, 13, 14; 12, 12, 13½, 14; 12 x 11½, 13½, 14; 12½ x 11½, 12, 13, 13½; 13 x 12; 13½ x 11½, 12, 12½; 14 x 12. 13 x 11½, 12, 12½; 14 x 12½. About 30% of all my Mościcki stamps printed on paper v have perforations 13½ x 12 and about 20% perforation 11½ x 13½. The rest — about 50% — is perforated in the other combinations. Altogether there are 23 perforation combinations.

The stamps on paper w have following single line perforation: 11½, 12, and 12½. Compound perforations are: 10½ x 10; 11 x 11½, 12, 13½; 11½ x 11, 12, 12, 11, 12, 13½; 11½ x 11, 12, 12½, 13, 13½; 12 x 11½, 12½, 13, 14; 13, 13; 12 x 11½, 12½, 13½, 14; 12½ x 11½, 12, 13½, 14; 13 x 11, 11½, 12, 12½; 13½ x 11, 11, 12, 12½; 14 x 11, 11½, 12, 12½, 13. About 25% of all my stamps on paper w have perforation 13½ x 12 and about 15% perforation 11½ x 13½. The rest — about 60% — shares the other perforations.

Altogether Mościcki stamps



Fig. 16

printed on paper w can be found with 33 different perforation varieties.

Clean and rough perforations $11\frac{1}{2}$ can be found and double perforations also exist. Of the last I have two items in my collection (fig. 16). A margin copy imperforated on right-hand side exists according to Polish sources.

h. Printing Proofs:

No proofs of whole sheets are reported. Imperforate stamps on paper w or z originate from sheets kept in the Postal Museum.

I have not seen any acceptance copies deleted by red ink. However, in my collection I have a stamp (without gum) crossed heavily with black ink (fig. 17).

Fig. 17



It might be some kind of acceptance copy or a stamp cancelled in such a way because of lack of proper date-stamp. Or it might simply be a bogus.

i. Issues 1 - 4 (Printers P.Z.G.):

Date of issue of the Mościcki stamp must be the same as of the Piłsudski stamp: May 15, 1928. The determination of various dates for 1 zloty stamp is difficult because the cancellation does not show well on the

black stamp. Stamps used from May to September, 1928, are hard to find.

1st Issue:

This issue consists of 5,060,000 stamps printed from one plate. I have seen a copy with index 2 under the 95th and 98th stamp; it certainly belonged to the 1st issue.

My earliest copy dates from June 17, 1928 and it is paper w. Several other copies from June to November, 1928, are also on paper w. As the printing of the 2nd issue was ordered on December 18, 1928, these stamps are obviously from the 1st issue. My earliest dated stamp on paper v is from December 11, 1928 and must therefore belong also to the first issue.

This fact further confirms my theory that papers v and w were mixed in the English delivery and were used regardless of issue, just as they came.

2nd Issue:

This printing was ordered on December 18, 1928 and the total number of stamps printed from two plates was about 5 million. As in the case of the Piłsudski stamp, plate I developed some trouble and had to be replaced by plate II. In my collection I have plate numbers I 2 and 4 I (fig. 18) showing the stamps overprinted on DOPLATA. Again there is some inconsequence in the plate numbers scheme: the second pane is marked I 2 al-

(To be continued)

1965 "7 CENTURIES OF WARSAW" ISSUE PERF. VARIETIES

By Dr. Stanley Kronenberg

In the catalogues *Scott*, *Michel* and *Ruch* the perforation of this issue is reported incorrectly. *Scott* approximates it most closely, *Ruch* changed its notation repeatedly since these stamps were issued and settled in its 1971 and 1972 editions on erroneous perforation data. By checking lots of stamps I arrived at the following table which hopefully should settle this matter.

Scott	Ruch	Value	Perforation				
			12½x12	12x12½	11½x11½	11½x11	11x11½
1334	1448	5 gr.		X			X
1335	1449	10 gr.		X			X
1336	1450	20 gr.	X			X	
1337	1451	40 gr.	X			X	
1338	1452	60 gr.	X			X	
1339	1453	1.50 zł.	X			X	
1340	1454	1.55 zł.				X	
1341	1455	2.50 zł.	X			X	
1342	1456	3.40 zł.			X		

I have not seen the 1.55 zł. perforated 12½x12 and therefore do not list it but such stamps probably do exist.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE REVIEW

POLISH CATALOG OF COMMEMORATIVE CANCELS 1968 - 1969 (*Katalog Polskich Stempli Okolicznościowych — 1968 - 1969*) by Andrzej Myślicki.

Commemorative cancels have become a part of philately and the interest in this branch of collecting is growing. As a result, the administration of the Polish Philatelic Federation in Warsaw has issued a catalog of commemorative cancels. Due to the vast amount of this material they have decided to issue the catalog every year beginning with 1968-1969. The next section to appear will be for 1970-1971, etc.

The section for 1968-1969 has just been published. In the preface the author describes and includes statistics which have appeared since 1919. Thus, between

1919 and 1939 there appeared a total of 862 commemorative cancels, or about 40 a year. During 1945 thru 1959 there appeared 1760 cancels, or about 120 each year; during 1960 thru 1969 around 4,500 of about 450 a year. Summing it up, from 1919 thru 1970 over 7000 cancels appeared.

Because of the enormity of this material the job of cataloging it is a diligent and detailed one in order to simplify it for the collector in the selection of topics.

This section also contains an alphabetical index of the various post offices of 1968-1969 where the cancels were issued and in use. An illustration accompanies each cancel. During 1968 - 1969 there appeared a total of 1639 cancels.
— H.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, February 9, 1973 —

Regular meeting at 6965 W. Belmont Ave. Entree at 7 p.m. for trading and dealing. Meeting starts at 8 p.m.

NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Tom H. Kilmer
484 Milan Ave.
Amherst, Ohio 55001

Zygmunt C. Jodziewicz
137 Franklin Blvd.
Somerset, N.J. 08873

Russel J. Wright, Jr.
11531 Hickory Cluster
Reston, Va. 22070



STANLEY A. SIKORSKI
Port Charlotte, Fla.

STAMP MARKET TIPS

By John G. Ross

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

When Hitler over ran Poland in 1939, he immediately ordered all Polish stamps withdrawn from the Post Office and issued his own current stamps of the Hindenburg type with a surcharge "General Government." Supplies of these stamps seemed to be lacking in 1940, thus all available Polish stamps were surcharged and sold at the post office again. A total of twenty-six provisionals were issued, Scott No. N30-N55. Some of the values were issued in small

"1973"

POLAND PRICE LIST

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

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quantities as there were no large stocks of the Polish stamps available. Especially the 50 groszy on 30 g, Scott No. N53 which is the key stamp to that set. This stamps was on sale only for just a short time at the main post office in Warsaw and nowhere else. I have tipped this set before and I hope you have taken my advice as since that time it has gone up in price. Dealers in Germany are paying as much as \$12.50 for that issue and their asking price is as much as \$20.00. This is quite a bit higher than this set can be had at your dealer over here, but eventually prices here are bound to go up just as high as they are in Germany and this set definitely is worth your while to pick up.

Reprinted from STAMPS.

POLPEX 73 LABELS AND CACHETED ENVELOPES

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