

BULLETIN OF THE POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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Edited by
Lester Jankowski
10 South LaSalle Street
Chicago 3, Illinois

THE TEN LIBERATED CITIES OF POLAND By C. J. Mikucki

One of the scarce and historical sets issued by Liberated Poland is the set issued for the ten cities liberated by the Poles and Russians. This article will bring out the different methods used in overprinting; also, the various information in regard to the stamps

The stamps used for the overprinting were Scott's Nos. 344 and 344a. These stamps were printed by the photogravure method. The size of stamp No. 344 is 33 x 22mm. Stamp No. 344a is 33½ x 22½ mm. Total amount of stamps printed, which includes Nos. 344 and 344a, is 33,720,000. Stamp No. 344a is from a new plate. This original issue has its share of minor errors. The main ones are: The 2 is damaged on stamp 50, 40, and 100. A period over the thin "Gr" is found on stamps 30, 40 and 100; also, a period over the "A" in "Poczta" is found on the stamps mentioned above.

The official day for issue was September 14, 1944, and the stamps were withdrawn January 1, 1945, due to increase in rates. All the stamps that were returned to the post office were used for overprinting with new values. A total of 1,000,000 stamps were used for the ten stamps forming the set Nos. 347 to 356, inclusive. Of stamp No. 344 there were 990,000 overprinting; of stamp No. 344a the quantity was 10,000.

The stamps were overprinted in the town of Rzeszow by the printing plant of J. A. Pelar and Ska. The over-

printing was done on a flat press. The ink was a blue color, and was produced by an Austrian firm. The type used for the names of the individual towns was Garamond Stone. The type Garmond Antique Augustea was used for the balance of surcharge. There is a variety of type due to shortage and to use of the German and French system of writing. The sheets consisted of 100 stamps, but due to a small press, the sheets were run through press twice, causing the errors to appear twice. The overprint consisted of three verses. The first verse contained a dash, value, and a dash; the second verse contained the name of the liberated City. The third line consisted of date of liberation.

The stamps were overprinted in the following order: Warszawa, Czeszochowa, Krakow, Lodz, Radom, Kielce, Gniezno, Bydgoszcz, Kalisz and Zakopane. The perforation on all stamps is 12¼.

The official first day for this set was February 12, 1945, and the stamps were withdrawn from sale May 31, 1945. Covers with these stamps are rare since they were in use only three months. Covers referred to are ones used during the time the stamps were in use.

Stamp No. 347, overprinted, Kielce, 15.1. 1945

Stamp No. 348, Radom, 16.1. 1945

Stamp No. 349, Warszawa, 17.1. 1945

Stamp No. 350, Czeszochowa, 17.1. 1945

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POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets every 2nd and 4th Friday
at

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THE TEN LIBERATED CITIES OF POLAND

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Stamp No. 351, Krakow, 19.1. 1945

Stamp No. 352, Lodz, 19.1. 1945

Stamp No. 353, Gniezno, 22.1. 1945

Stamp No. 354, Bydgoszcz, 23.1. 1945

Stamp No. 355, Kalisz, 24.1. 1945

Stamp No. 356, Zagopane, 29.1. 1945

Stamp No. 347

1. Inverted Overprint

2. Missing "i" in Kielce
Stamp 9 and 59

3. Inverted "e" in Kielce
Stamp 11 and 61

4. "i" instead of "l" in Kielce
Stamp 17 and 67

5. Damaged "K" in Kielce
Stamp 26 and 76

6. Blotted "e" looks like "8" or "o",
Stamp 20, 23, 25, 30, 44, 48; 50;
58, 73, 75, 94 and 100

7. Lowered "K" in Kielce
Stamp 41 and 91

8. Blotted "4" in 1945; Stamp 10 and
60

Stamp No. 348

1. Inverted Overprint

2. Dropped "m" in Radom
Stamp 22 and 72

3. Thin "o" in Radom

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THE TEN LIBERATED CITIES OF POLAND

(Continued from page 2)

- Stamp 50 and 100
- 4. Damaged "o" in Radom
Stamp 35 and 85
- 5. Damager "a" in Radom
Stamp 7, 19, 57 and 69
- 6. Blotted "R" in Radom
Stamp 33 and 83
- 7. Blotted "5" in 1945; Stamp 20 and 70

Stamp No. 349

- 1. Inverted Overprint
- 2. Printed on 344a
- 3. Damaged "a" in Warszawa; Stamp 29, 30, 36, 49, 79, 80, 86 and 99
- 4. Blotted "4" in 1945; Stamp 10 and 60
- 5. Period under 45; Stamp 49 and 99

Stamp No. 350

- 1. Double Print
- 2. Small "e" in Czestochowa
Stamp 33 and 83
- 3. Damaged "e" in Czestochowa
Stamp 16 and 66
- 4. Thin "o" in Czestochowa
Stamp 48 and 98
- 5. Thick "o" in Czestochowa
Stamp 49 and 99
- 6. Damaged "a" in Czestochowa
Stamp 14 and 64
- 7. "e" minus tail in Czestochowa
Stamp 7 and 57
- 8. Damaged "z" in Czestochowa
Stamp 8 and 58
- 9. Damaged "o" in Czestochowa
Stamp 3, 42, 53 and 92
- 10. "8" instead of "s" in Czestochowa
Stamp 47 and 97
- 11. Blotted "s" and "o" in Czestochowa
Stamp 26 and 76
- 12. Blotted "4" in 1945; Stamp 10 & 60
- 13. Blotted "5" in 1945; Stamp 20 & 70

Stamp No. 351

- 1. Inverted Overprint
- 2. Damaged "K" in Krakow
Stamp 5, 26, 55 and 76
- 3. Damaged "a" in Krakow
Stamp 7, 12, 20, 40, 57, 62, 70 & 90

Stamp No. 352

- 1. Lowered "z" in Lodz
Stamp 50 and 100
- 2. Damaged "L" in Lodz
Stamp 32 and 82
- 3. Thick "o" in Lodz; Stamp 50 & 100
- 4. Value on Bottom of Stamp
- 5. Blotted "5" in 1945; Stamp 17 & 67
- 6. Two types of "L" in Lodz

Stamp No. 353

- 1. Small "i" in Gniezno
Stamp 16 and 56
- 2. Blotted "n" in Gniezno

- Stamp 50 and 100
- 3. Damaged "G" in Gniezno
Stamp 21 and 71
- 4. Damaged "e" in Gniezno; Stamp 1, 7, 17, 18, 42, 50, 57, 67; 68 and 92
- 5. Vertical Pair one without surcharge

Stamp No. 354

- 1. Period over "z" in Bydgoszcz
Stamp 39 and 89
- 2. Thick "o" in Bydgoszcz
Stamp 6 and 56
- 3. Thick "B" in Bydgoszcz
Stamp 45 and 95
- 4. Damaged "B" in Bydgoszcz
Stamp 49 and 99
- 5. Blotted "s" in Bydgoszcz
Stamp 35 and 85
- 6. Thin "y" in Bydgoszcz; Stamp 2, 10, 12, 19, 52, 60, 62 and 69
- 7. Blotted "4" in 1945

Stamp No. 355

- 1. Inverted Overprint
- 2. Double Print
- 3. Value on the Bottom instead of Top
- 4. Stamp without value
- 5. Short "i" in Kalisz; Stamp 20 & 70
- 6. Blotted "a" in Kalisz; Stamp 3 & 53
- 7. Damaged "a" in Kalisz
Stamp 17 and 67
- 8. Damaged "l" in Kalisz
Stamp 22 and 72
- 9. Damaged "K" in Kalisz
Stamp 27 and 77
- 10. Damaged "s" in Kalisz
Stamp 7, 25, 57 and 75
- 11. Cracked "l" in 1945; Stamp 33 & 83
- 12. Blotted "4" in 1945
Stamp 10, 50, 60 and 100

Stamp No. 356

- 1. Double Overprint
- 2. Thick "o" in Zakopane
Stamp 6 and 56
- 3. Damaged "a" in Zakopane
Stamp 7 and 57
- 4. Blotted "e" in Zakopane
Stamp 8 and 58
- 5. Damaged "o" in Zakopane
Stamp 4, 10, 19, 31, 54, 60, 69; 81
- 6. Name of town on Top of Stamp
- 7. Value Missing
- 8. Value at Top and Bottom
- 9. Value at Bottom of Stamp
- 10. Damaged "l" in 1945
Stamp 33 and 83
- 11. Blotted "4" in 1945
Stamp 50 and 100

There are also vertical pairs with different towns on stamps.

Top Stamp has Kalisz Overprinted
Bottom Stamp has Zakopane Sur-

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NEW ISSUES

By JACK DOMAR

The Polish Cultural Issue—values of 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 15 and 20 Zloty are being issued both perforated and imperf. in different colors. The 1zl. blue, 2 zl. brown, have appeared in steel gray and orange.

Scotts No. 344 and 344a which is the red Piast Eagle 25 gr. stamp is to be surcharged 50 zl. The 50 gr. Dark Green, Grunwald stamp, Scotts No. 345 will be surcharged 40 zloty. Both are to be used as airmails.

It is reported that a new issue consisting of 5, 10, 15 and 20 zloty values is to appear during July. This issue

The 5 zl. red ovpt/6 zl. King Probus

The 5 zl. red ovpt/6 zl. King Prolus stamp has been overprinted in 2 shades, Red and Carmine.

On April 2nd a 5+5 zl. grey and red. Red Cross stamp was issued. It has been reported by Dziennik Taryk that 160,000 were issued.

J. Bienecki—C. Mikucki

We have received thru the courtesy of J. Bienecki and M. Rayall de Ragan a catalog of Prisoner of War Stamps, of Officers Camp No. VIIA at Murnaw, Bavaria.

It was prepared for philatelists who were prisoners. The editor was Major Tadeusza Chlebowski.

It is very neat, well illustrated and appears rather complete.

—J. J. D.

We received a very interesting letter from member, M. A. Rayall de Ragan regarding First Day Covers.

Because of the unreliability of information issued by the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs—and the fact that permission must be obtained to have cachet covers printed which usually takes a number of weeks, actual Cachet First Day Covers are very scarce. As an example we will tabulate the recent Polish Cultural Issue:

	Actual 1st Day	Advert. 1st Day	Amt. Issued
1 zl. Polish Painters (Blue)	P. 3/20 I. 3/25	3/1 3/1	P. 2,500,000 I. 1,500,000
2 zl. Brother Albert (Brown)	P. 3/25 I.	3/15 3/15	P. 3,500,000 I. 500,000
3 zl. Chopin (Green)	P. 4/1 I. 4/10	3/31 3/31	P. 2,500,000 I. 1,500,000
5 zl. Actors	P. 5/1 I. 5/25	4/30 4/30	P. 3,000,000 I. 1,000,000
6 zl. Writers	P. 5/1 I.	4/30 4/30	P. 3,000,000 I. 1,000,000
10 zl. Curie (Light Brown)	P. 4/1 I.	3/15 3/15	P. 500,000 I. 500,000
15 zl. Poets (Dk. Brown)	P. 5/1 I.	4/30 4/30	P. 2,500,000 I. 1,500,000
20 A. Mickiewicz (Black)	P. 5/10 I.	5/10 5/10	P. 1,500,000 I. 2,500,000

Mr. M. A. Rayall de Ragan's letter was much longer but was received just at Press time which did not per-

mit sufficient time to arrange for its publication. We will try to tell more in the next issue.

THE TEN LIBERATED CITIES OF POLAND

(Continued from page 3)
charge

Top Stamp has Czestochowa

Bottom Stamp Krakow

Top Stamp Krakow

Bottom Stamp has Lodz

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Thanks to the following for some information on the above stamps: **The Pioneer Philatelic Magazine**, edited by Dr. K. Lepszy, and **Katalog znaczkow Pocztowych Polskich**, edited by T. Gryzewski of Lodz.

"POSTAL ISSUES OF DEMOCRATIC POLAND"

Reviewed by Myron E. Steczynski

The stamps of Post-War Poland are fully described and illustrated in a 96-page handbook recently issued in Warsaw with Prof. Antoni Laszkiewicz as editor. The book is published in Polish by Centrala Filatelistyczna, Związek Zawodowy Pracowników Poczty i Telekomunikacji w Polsce, Ul. Nowogrodzka Nr. 48, m. 33, Warszawa, Poland.

Prof. Laszkiewicz will be remembered as the chief editor of "Polskie Znaki Pocztowe" published by Ikaros and embracing all Polish issues up to 1938. The publishers of the new book chose Prof. Laszkiewicz because of his past experience and expert knowledge, placing before him all available documents and data issued by official and philatelic sources. Prof. Stan Mikstein gave helpful data on the stamps printed in Krakow, Stan. Adamski was equally helpful on the Lublin emissions and Adolf Schopp contributed his observations as custodian of the Postal Museum. The handbook is also enriched by the suggestions of various dealers and collectors throughout the country.

This work supersedes and supplemented such recent publications as Bulletins of the Postal Ministry, Catalog of the 1944-46 Issues by the Krakow Philatelic Society, Pioneer Handbook by Stan Mikstein and Gryzewski's Catalog. It includes all post-war Polish issues up to the current famous Poles commemoratives and will be followed by future supplements. The price of the booklet is not given, but I understand that a dollar in U. S. commemoratives will send one on its way.

In the new handbook, Prof. Laszkiewicz embraces issues since the German invasion, but omits the General Government stamps which have been covered by Prof. Mikstein in the Pioneer Handbook. Most of the book is devoted to the issues from Sept. 7, 1944 (Scott's No. 341) of the present Democratic government, but the local issues, the underground, issues of the London government, Polish Army in Italy, prison camps, etc. are also covered. The book is an extremely valuable guide for orientation regarding the local and underground issues which are offered here and there at highly inflated prices. Prof. Laszkiewicz points out that while these issues may have a historic and patriotic appeal,

they can hardly be considered valuable in a true philatelic sense.

Together with a listing of all issues, the handbook gives the quantity issued and market prices of mint and used copies. It is revealed that commemorative issues are usually very limited. The book also gives the method of printing (recent issues are rotogravure) and lists miscellaneous varieties such as proofs, colors, papers, gums, perforations, number of stamps in sheet, marginal inscriptions, overprints, errors, type spacing, etc. The designer, printing establishment, interpretation and description of design, historical background, benefit or objective of semi-postal issues; commemorative, memorial or publicity aims, and similar notes of interest are included. Date of issue and references to official documents authorizing the emissions are listed. The day or days of actual printing are recorded. It is interesting to note, for example, that among the marginal inscriptions, NI WI means Numer I Walec I (Form I Cylinder I) and OK means Okolicznosciowy (Commemorative). Postal cards and commemorative cancellations are likewise described and illustrated.

Although the book is not large, it is very complete and authentic. Practically all questions coming to one's mind are fully covered and it is evident that the handling of facts is in capable hands. It is sincerely hoped that the supplements will be presented in the same approachable and factual manner.

NEW MEMBERS

Col. O. H. Schrader—No. 332

1229 W. Foster Ave.,

Chicago 40, Ill.

U. S., Poland, Greenland, Corea, Tibet, Nepal and U. S. Match and Medicine

Henry S. Barth—No. 333

2444 N. Mozart St.,

Chicago 47, Ill.

U. S.

Julius Rikk—No. 334

4621 Sheridan Rd.

Chicago 40, Ill.

Poland, Hungary and U. S. Flags on Foreign Stamps

TID-BITS FROM POLONUS

From latest reports from Poland there are many Stamp Exhibits to be held in the next few months. The First Exhibit will be held in Danzig in the month of August. This will be followed by an exhibit in Lodz. The Philatelic Society In Poznan promises to hold a large exhibit in 1948. This in occasion of the Society being in existence 15 years.

* * * *

One of the visitors at our June 13th meeting was W. Leja, who we haven't seen in a long time. He promised to attend regularly.

* * * *

The following are always welcome by the Committee for the Stamps for The Wounded. Stamps, Albums, Stock books, in fact anything Philatelic. Bring your gift to our meetings or mail them to J. Jaworski, 1282 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago 22, Ill.

* * * *

The speaker for July 11, 1947 meeting will be Ben Reeves who will talk on "Covers and Cover Collecting."

* * * *

Member A. Nowak Jr. of Bangor, Maine, gave a talk on the Stamps of Poland before the Penobscot Valley Stamp Collectors Club, in Bangor, Me.

* * * *

Col. O. H. Schrader, U. S. Army retired, too 1st place in Foreign Exhibits at Lafayette, Ind. with the showing of "Tibet". Also he took a cup for 2nd in show and a 1st for best in show by popular vote.

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In Memoriam

The Society wishes to extend to Bert and Lenor Powell our deepest sympathy upon the recent loss of Leonrs Father, Mr. Walter Davies who passed away June 23.

CIPEX NOTES

Polonus Activities in Connection with Big Show.

The Polonus Philatelic Society is always proud of the activities of its members in philatelic Circles of all kinds and happy to report such activities and add them to ever growing list of its members' accomplishments. The Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition held at the Grand Central Palace in New York from May 17th to 25th, 1947, was no different from any other stamp show in this respect.

The names of Polonus members grace every activating in connection with the Big Show, from the official list of Judges and Foreign representatives to participation as exhibitors. The following we hope is a complete list and chronicle of Polonus Members and their activities.

Vincent Domanski Jr., was a member of the International Jury. Derek Palmer was official Foreign Representative of Chile.

Stephen G. Rich was in complete charge of Mounting of Exhibits. Ben Reeves was inspector in charge of the mounting of the exhibits on the first floor.

The following members won awards as listed below:

Stephen G. Rich—2 second awards, 3 third awards and 3 fourth awards.

Dr. E. Lewandowski—second award.

Dr. M. E. Uznanski—third award.

Derek Palmer—third award

Lester Jankowski—third award.

Very few people know that a member of Polonus was the one who first suggested the design for the stamps issued to Commemorate the Centenary of Stamps. Yes, fellow members, it was none other than Ben Reeves, charter member of Polonus who in 1945 put forth the idea that the 5 and 10 cent 1847's be used, but in different colors from the original. This suggestion was later acted on by the Post Office Department and we all know what the result was.

Yes, it was Ben Reeves, and another accomplishment of Polonus members to be added to the evergrowing list.