

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 260

June-July, 1968

1969 POLPEX PLANS ANNOUNCED

Because of the success of POLPEX 1968 at Radio Halls, this site was chosen for our stamp show in 1969. The dates are Saturday and Sunday, March 1st and 2nd. Walenty Poniecki was selected as Polpex Chairman. The exhibition will honor the 25th anniversary of the Battle of Monte Cassino.

Member are asked to prepare philatelic material of World War II for exhibition at POLPEX 1969.

STAMPS FOR THE WOUNDED

Our member, John Bor, who is the Midwest Regional Director for Stamps For The Wounded, submitted his 1967 report which showed that he distributed some 82,000 stamps to patients at Hines, Great Lakes and other Veterans Hospitals in the Midwest. John deserves a lot of credit for the work he does. He serves without pay. Words cannot praise him enough for his devotion to the cause.

Help John make disabled veterans happy by donating stamps, albums, catalogs, supplies or money to Stamps For The Wounded. Send donations to John Bor, 1810 N. Richmond St., Chicago, Ill. 60647.

APPLICANT PENDING

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Canada

POLONUS PARTICIPATES IN PRAGA 68

One of the most outstanding international philatelic exhibitions, PRAGA 68, took place June 22nd thru July 7th at Prague, Czechoslovakia. Polonus was officially represented by member Joseph Janecka and his wife Irma. They were wined and dined by the Chairman of PRAGA 68 and by the Secretary of the Czech Federation of Philatelists, and received the red carpet treatment at the exhibition.

Over 8,500 frames were displayed. Most of the better known European philatelists participated and showed powerful classical material. Poland exhibits were in abundance.

In spite of the tough competition, four Polonus members managed to get awards. Zdzislaw Wagrowski received a Silver-Bronze medal for Poland Postal History; Alfred Szebel received a Silver-Bronze medal for German Airmails; Dr. Rayal de Ragan received a Bronze Medal for his Upper Silesia; and Ludwik Pieczara received a diploma for his Project Telstar. Congratulations gentlemen!

APPLICANT PENDING

Earl P. Apfelbaum
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50th Anniversary of the Historical Series of 1938

By STANISLAW ZOLKIEWSKI, Warsaw, Poland



Fig. 1

One of the most beautiful Polish series of the twenty year period between World Wars I and II (1918-1938) was issued on November 11th, 1938, the so-called "historical series" (Fig. 1) consisting of 13 values ranging from 5 gr. to 3 zł., a miniature sheet (with block of four 25 gr. stamps), and post cards (Fig. 2) issued for postal



Fig. 2

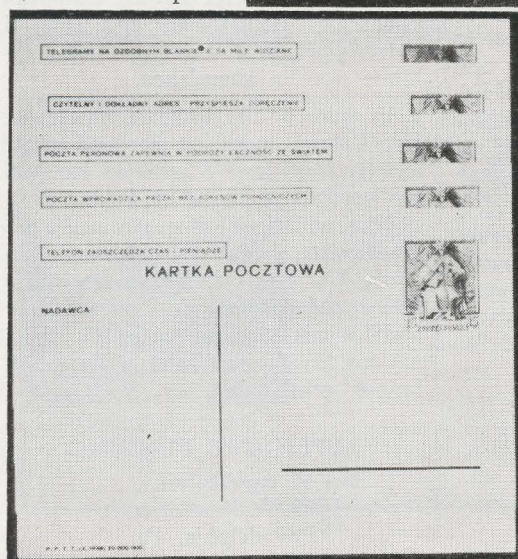
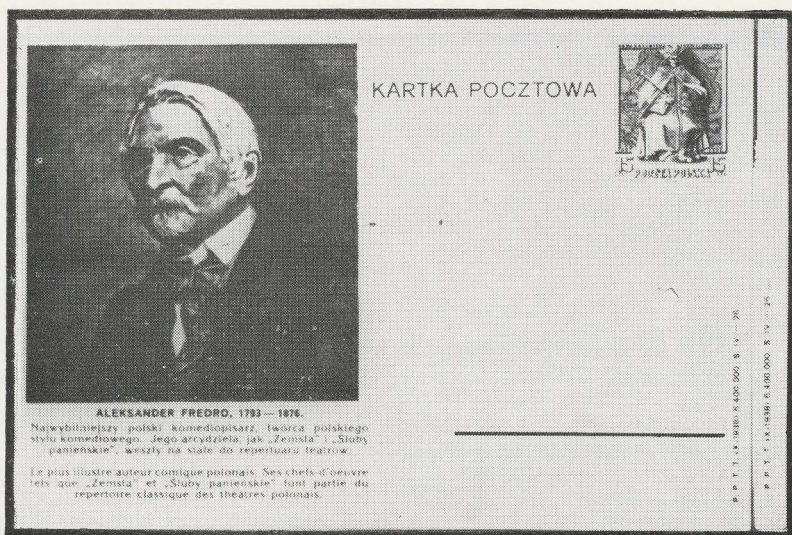


Fig. 3

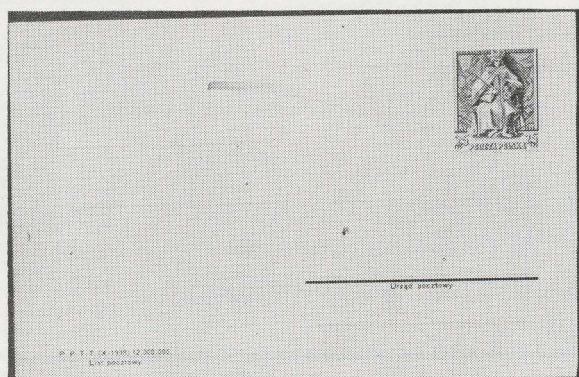
use in PORT GDANSK, domestic and international post cards (Figs. 3, 4 and 5), and a domestic postal envelope (Fig. 6).

All of these postal stamps were put into circulation by a single joint order of the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs on November 5, 1938 (Dz. Tariff No. 12, 1938, pos. 19), supplemented by an additional order of April 7, 1939 (Dz. Tariff No. 8, 1939) and constitute a uniform stamp series (Fig. 7).

The above mentioned series was issued in commemoration of the 20th Anniver-



sary of Regained Independence. Since its circulation was to commence on the 11th of November, 1938, the conditions of delivery qualified in the agreement between the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs and the government printing bureau (Polska Wytwórnia Papierów Wartościowych) in Warsaw, was complemented by an additional agreement on January 31st, 1939 concerning the delivery of post cards 15 + 15 gr. (Fig. 8), were for determining the circulation as seen in the table on page 260-5.



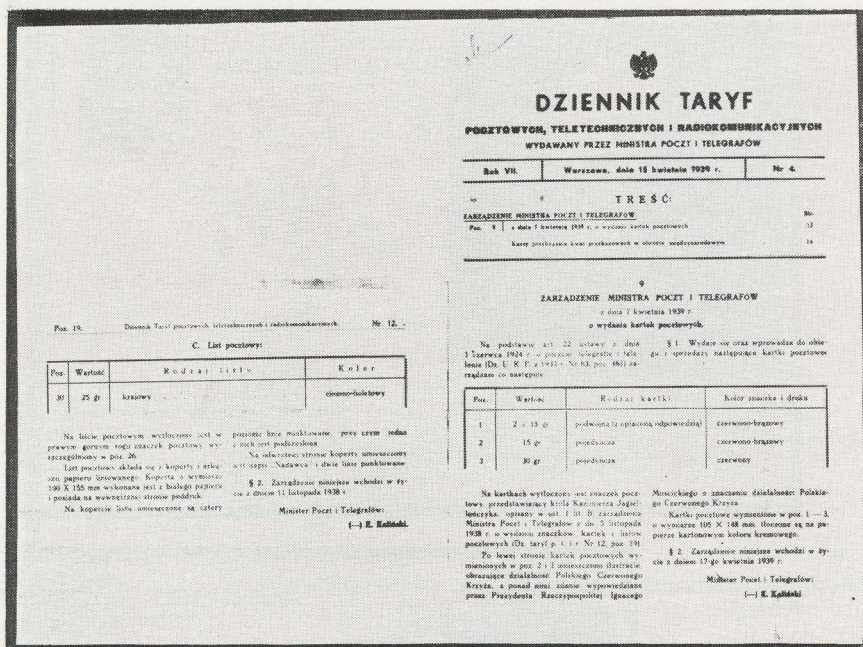


Fig. 7(a)

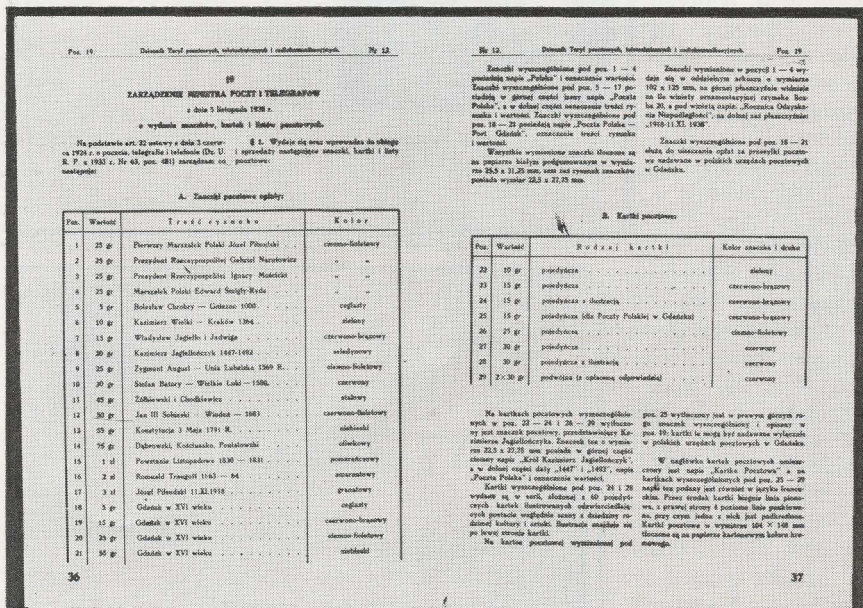


Fig. 7(b)

Fig. 8

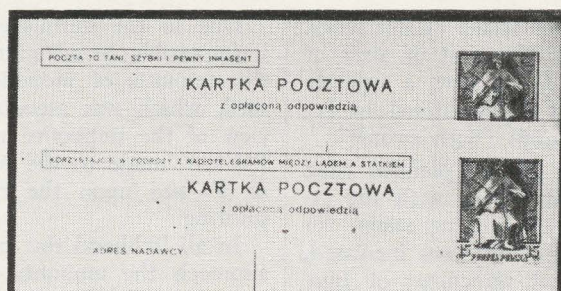


TABLE OF ISSUE AND DELIVERY

VALUE	Proposed Quantities of Stamps In Millions	Date Begun	— DELIVERY —	
			Estimated Stamps Issued up to Dec. 1, 1938 In Millions	Stamps Issued Monthly After Dec. 1, 1938 In Millions
5 gr.	90	Oct. 20, 1938	8.4	3 to 9
10 gr.	35	Oct. 26, 1938	4.2	3 to 5
15 gr.	60	Nov. 3, 1938	5.6	.6 to 7
20 gr.	7	Oct. 20, 1938	0.56	0.7 to 1
25 gr.	90	Nov. 2, 1938	8.4	8 to 9
30 gr.	8	Oct. 20, 1938	0.6	0.6 to 1
45 gr.	3	Nov. 7, 1938	0.28	0.3 to 0.4
50 gr.	5	Oct. 20, 1938	0.42	0.4 to 0.8
55 gr.	15	Oct. 26, 1938	1.4	1.5 to 2
75 gr.	1	Oct. 20, 1938	0.34	0.1 to 0.2
1 zł.	1	Oct. 24, 1938	0.2	0.15 to 0.2
2 zł.	0.5	Oct. 24, 1938	0.015	0.07 to 0.15
3 zł.	0.5	Oct. 24, 1938	0.15	0.07 to 0.15
Port Gdansk 5 gr.	0.5	Nov. 21, 1938	0.02	0.05 to 0.1
Port Gdansk 15 gr.	0.5	Nov. 21, 1938	0.02	0.05 to 0.1
Port Gdansk 25 gr.	1	Nov. 7, 1938	0.05	0.05 to 0.1
Port Gdansk 55 gr.	0.5	Nov. 28, 1938	0.01	0.05 to 0.1
Miniature Sheet	0.5	Nov. 7, 1938	0.14	0.1 to 0.12
Postal Letter	12	Nov. 10, 1938	0.14	0.3 to 1.3
Postcard 15 gr.	6.4	Nov. 10, 1938	0.4	0.55 to 1
Postcard 30 gr.	0.2	Dec. 12, 1938	—	0.1 to 0.2
Postcard 10 gr. dom.	3.	Nov. 10, 1938	0.3	0.3 to 0.5
Postcard 15 gr. dom.	0.02	Nov. 10, 1938	1.4	2 to 4.5
Postcard 30 gr. int.	0.5	Dec. 12, 1938	—	0.1 to 0.2
Postcard 30 + 30 gr.	0.1	Dec. 1, 1938	—	0.05 to 0.1
Postcard 25 gr. int.	0.3	Dec. 1, 1938	—	0.05 to 0.1
Postcard 15 gr. P.G.	0.1	Dec. 12, 1938	—	0.03 to 0.05
Postcard 15 + 15 gr.	2	Mar. 15, 1939	—	0.15 to 0.2

The fourteenth stamp of this series, the 15 gr. with the coat of arms of Andegawen, did not have a separate disposition and is considered to belong to the stamps "with swords".

The amount of the planned issue actually did not change with the exception of the circulating stamp for 50 gr., whose quantity was increased, by an additional agreement of June 20, 1939 to 12 million, requiring delivery by August 28, 1939, 650,000 to 1 million stamps monthly.

By virtue of the same agreement the rules of delivery of domestic post cards with the price of 15 gr. were to be changed starting July 17th, 1939 to 4-5 million a month.

The fact that a number of new, occasional issues were brought into circulation during the realization of the above-mentioned agreement caused a delay in the normal course of production, as is known from the correspondence between the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs and P.W.P.W. in Warsaw (for example: a letter of July 14th, marked AG4110, advising a temporary halt of production of the stamp of 25 gr. while the delivery of the stamps of 25 gr. "25th Anniversary of the Legions" lasted.). Because of this the printing of only two values was completed by the outbreak of war in September, 1939: the stamp of 3 zł. value on December 22, 1938 in the amount of 530,000 and the stamp of 2 zł. on January 2, 1939 in the amount of 540,000.

Due to the unfinished printing it is impossible to accurately determine the amounts of individual values issued, which was ascertained only in view of the respective reports of the PWPW made to the Ministry of P. & T. and upon the completion of printing.

In all likelihood the amounts issued approach the amounts commissioned to be printed but probably did not exceed 80% of the amount ordered since the production period was spread over six to nine months and, moreover, its regularity was interrupted by the previously mentioned occasional issues.

An especially interesting stamp in this series is the 15 gr. (Fig. 9), whose fate has been widely celebrated, even . . . in poetry. Since very rarely does a stamp ever enter the field of poetry we cite the following poem from the *Illustrated Philatelic News* "Illustrowane Wiadomosci Filat.") No. 90, March 1939, which in turn was reprinted from the *Poznan Courier*:

(The following is a literal translation.)

"The post office has issued
Very beautiful stamps
Of 15 gr.
On which Jagiello
Tramps on the Teutonic swords.
Although the painter displayed
A historical moderation,
These stamps at once
Acquired a bad reputation.
In view of this, changes
Have been quickly made.
Jagiello remained, but
Without swords.

In order not to
Irritate anyone,
New stamps of friendship
Have made their appearance
This friendship, however,
Does not delight us —
But what can you buy
For 15 gr."

—Grabiec



Fig. 9

This poem is significant in view of the fact that it was written just months before Hitler's attack on Poland.

These stamps have lost their circulating value because of the beginning of the war in 1939. Their circulating strength expired as the German invaders advanced on Poland (Fig. 10). It is worth noting that from localities situ-

ated in the area occupied by the Soviet Armies we find stamps of this historical series (Fig. 11) in letters and cards of a mixed Polish-Soviet franking and at first with Polish postmarks and later with Soviet postmarks from October, November and even December, 1939 (Fig. 12).

These are considered to be very interesting historical documents.



Fig. 10

The stamps of the historical series have been overprinted in the territory occupied by the German Reich and then used in a normal postal circulation (Figs. 13 and 14). Part of the post cards as appropriated for the needs of the occupying post office (Deutsche Post Osten), was provided with different overprints (Figs. 15 and 16).



Fig. 11

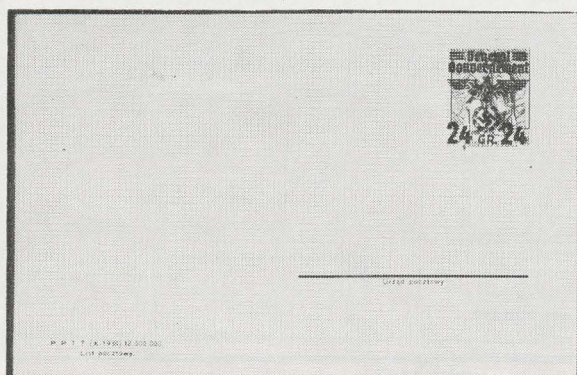
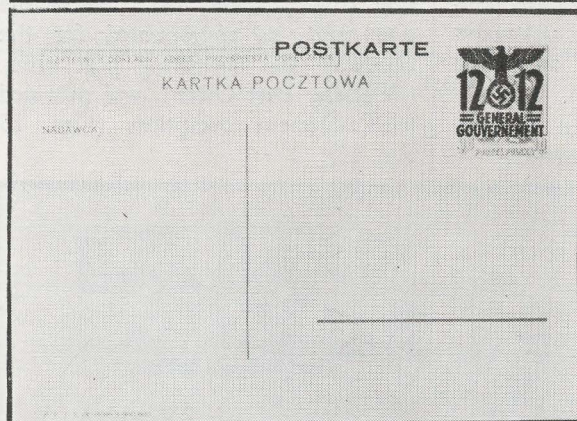
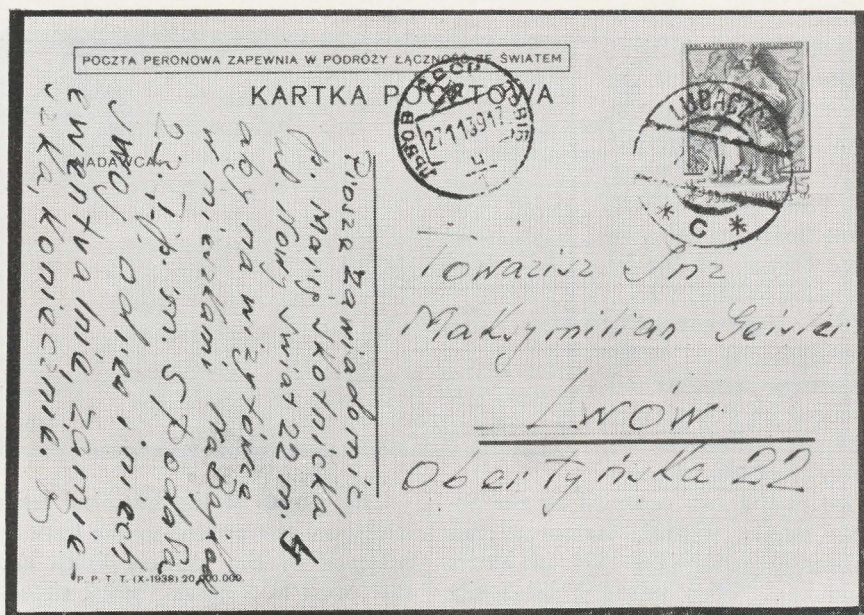


Fig. 12

During the Warsaw Uprising in August of 1944 the post cards of the historical series received a special overprint (Fig. 17).

The stamps of this series were also used with philatelic objectives when they received fanciful overprints in 1944, "Deutsche Hilfspost" (Figs. 18 and 19), and in 1945, "Oplacone Götowka" (Fig. 20).

Upon the removal of the German occupants from the Polish Territories, these post cards of the historical series, in absence of others, were also used in correspondence from battlefields to families (Fig. 21).

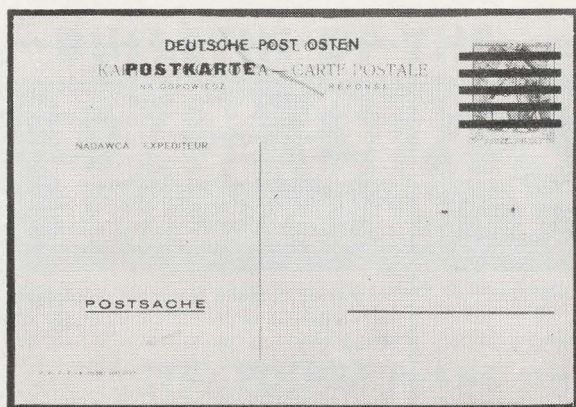


Fig. 15

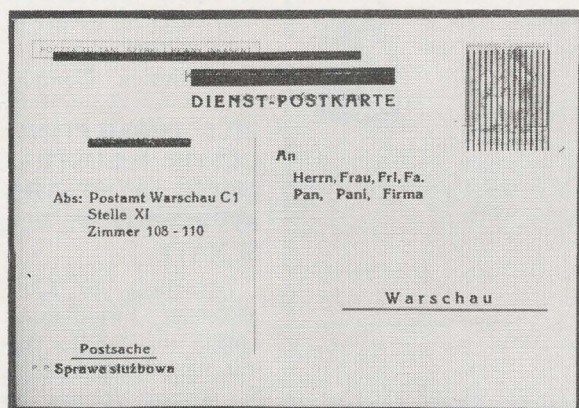


Fig. 16

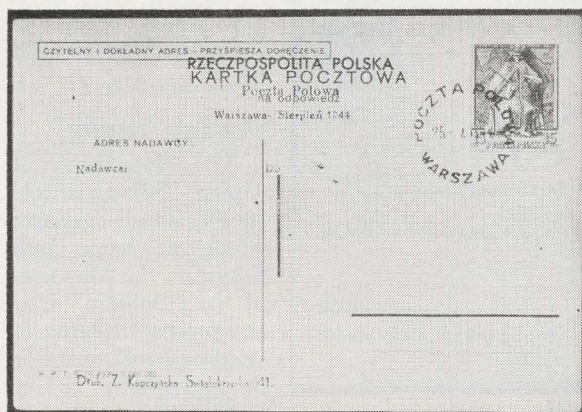


Fig. 17



Fig. 18



Fig. 20

Friday, September 13, 1968 —

Friday, September 27, 1968 —

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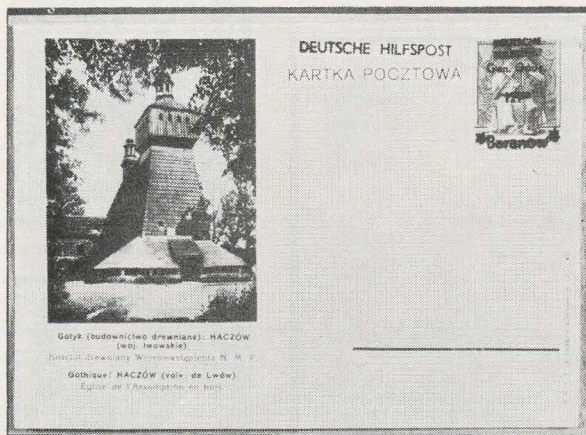


Fig. 19



Fig. 21

APPLCT. PENDING

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**BILL PERMITTING
COLOR ILLUSTRATIONS OF STAMPS
APPROVED BY U.S.
SENATE**

According to Congressman Thaddeus J. Dulski the bill to permit reproduction of U. S. postage stamps in color was passed by the Senate on June 12th, 1968, and was sent to the White House for President Johnson's signature.

PLEASE NOTE:

The "Handbook of Upper Silesia" article by Dr. Rayall de Ragan which we began publishing in the May issue of the "Bulletin" is in the process of being revised and will appear in its new form in our next edition.