

## BULLETIN OF THE

# POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Issue No. 7

February 1943

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10 S. LaSalle St., Chicago.

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4154 N. Leclair Ave., Chicago.

### Polonus' Souvenir Sheets in Review

By Lester Jankowski

Four years ago the Polonus Philatelic Society held its first stamp exhibition and called it POLPEX. All of us looked forward to this show with mixed feelings. Poland was at war! Our contacts with our correspondents both private and official were, either broken or at the best, most unsatisfactory. We were searching for some means to express our deep concern over Poland's fate, in addition to bringing home the beauties and pleasures we derived from collecting the stamps of Poland. We decided to issue a souvenir sheet to commemorate our show, and we also decided that this sheet must be something more than just a souvenir of POLPEX 1940!

So, the first of a series was born. Each year thereafter, to commemorate each succeeding POLPEX, a souvenir sheet was issued. Increasing in interest and popularity each year, these sheets develop a theme of symbolic portrayal of the deep rooted characteristics of the Pole. They, also, effectively emphasize that one of the objects of the Society, namely "to promote an understanding of Polish Culture, Literature and History through Philatelic means" are not idle words.

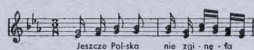
The first souvenir sheet, issued in January 1940, portrays a winged Polish Hussar, seated on his galloping charger, carrying his lance. This Polish soldier is famous in history for his exploits and at one time under King Jan Sobieski, at Vienna in 1683, terrorized the Turks. The extraordin-



ary simplicity of the design, the conspicuous "Polish" red color, the symbolism of the Pole, rushing to do battle and die if need be, was most timely and opportune, for Poland was at War, fighting for her very existence. Strangely enough, this is the only souvenir sheet in which a stamp was not incorporated.

The souvenir sheet issued to commemorate POLPEX 1941, has a most interesting story back of it. Poland was at war at the time of POLPEX 1940, and in January of that year, while things looked darkest, the untiring efforts of Ignace Jan Paderewski in stricken Poland's behalf, was an indestructable ray of hope for the future. John Parrish, famous cartoonist of the Chicago Tribune, used this motif as the subject of one of his

cartoons, and curiously enough, on the opening day of POLPEX 1940, the cartoon appeared on the front page of all editions of that newspaper,



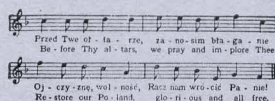
POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
POLPEX, 1941  
MARCH 6, 7, 8 CHICAGO, ILL.

It depicts Poland's famous composer, pianist and indefatigable champion, instructing a waif in the playing of the Polish National Anthem. Jeszcze Polska Nie Zginela, ("Poland Is Not Yet Lost"). To this cartoon was added Scott's No. 134, several bars of music and words from that national anthem, and a facsimile of Pederewski's autograph, all so arranged and artistically combined to render it a magnificent philatelic souvenir, as well as another symbolic documentation of the undying spirit of the Poles of the world over.

The coincidence of the appearance of the cartoon in the Chicago Tribune on the opening day of Polonus' first stamp exhibit, POLPEX 1940, and its inspirational use to commemorate the second exhibit, POLPEX 1941, is worth repeating and emphasizing.

As symbolic as was the 1941 souvenir sheet of the undying spirit of Poland, so too, is the underlying motif of the POLPEX 1942 sheet of the everlasting spiritual zeal of Poland in its most trying hours. There is something poignant in its appeal—an old couple humbly beseeching Divine Assistance for the restoration of Poland, amid the ruins of bombed church. In the background, destruction wrought by the enemy, symbolizes the grievous plight of Poland. In the foreground, to the right, a Crucifix! Add to this, Scott's No. 232, the Wawel Cathedral in Krakow, words and music from

"Boze cos Polska," famous as the prayer song of Poles from the fateful days of 1812, and you have truly a splendid presentation of the spiritual



POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
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motivation, which keeps alive the perpetual and eternal hope of a nation whose destiny it is to be free.

Continuing this general theme, the POLPEX 1943 souvenir sheet symbolizes the heroism, courage and loyalty of these people. It portrays a young trumpeter, under oath to remain faithful to his trust, remaining sta-



POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
POLPEX, 1943  
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tioned at his post on one of the towers of St. Mary's Church in Krakow, trumpeting the Heynal, a call to arms for his fellow men, until a Tartar's arrow, piercing his heart ends abruptly. A reproduction of the center panel of St. Mary's Church, Scott's No. 277, combined with the notes of the Heynal (there are no words) conspire to maintain the brilliant pace set by the Society to produce more than just souvenir sheets to commemorate stamp exhibits.

We hope this general theme will be continued for we feel by and through these souvenir sheets we can help "promote an understanding of Polish Culture, Literature and History."

## Meet the New Officers

We should like to have you meet your new officers and directors. On January 22, 1943, Polonus held its annual election and the result was most interesting. Three members who held office the year before, still hold office, but two of them are in different positions. Four members grace the Board of Directors for the first time! This infusion of new blood augurs well for the future—for it is realized that 1943 will be a trying and difficult year.

The new officers and directors not only have the tremendous problem of maintaining the activities of the Society, despite all of the uncertainties that lie ahead, but also have the added burden of planning and preparing an appropriate celebration to commemorate our fifth anniversary in 1944. How well his will be done, the future will tell, but how well the membership has chosen, can best be determined by having you meet the new officers and directors. Let us see. Who are the new officers and directors?

### PRESIDENT

Myron E. Steczynski, 4154 N. Le Claire Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

A charter member of the Society, specializing in the Stamps of Poland. A collector since 1909, his profound knowledge of stamps led to his appointment as Chairman of the Experts Committee. As a result of his efforts, this committee, succeeded in effectuating many much needed changes in Scott's Catalog. He was Historian and Librarian of the Society for two years, member of the Board of

Directors for one year, Exhibition Director of POLPEX 1942, and last year was Vice-president, Chairman of the Membership Committee and Editor of the BULLETIN.

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Ben Reeves, 4429 N. Keystone Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

A true collector, who collects for the love of collecting. He has been a member of the Society since the second meeting, and is, of course, a charter member. He has been collecting since 'memory of man runneth not to the contrary' and as Exhibition Director of POLPEX 1941, he demonstrated his organizing ability, his deep and fundamental knowledge of stamps and his wide and varied experience as an exhibitor. He is a prominent speaker on all matters philatelic and much in demand. Ben's collecting activities cover a wide range.

### SECRETARY

J. J. Domar, 3715 Clinton Ave., Berwyn, Illinois.

Jack was president last year and was relieved of the duties of that office at his own request so that he might devote his time and energy to the important office of secretary. He has been a collector since 1916 and has exhibited the Stamps of Poland since 1932 with much success. He is a charter member of the Society. He was Auction Manager, Vice-president, Chairman of the Membership Committee, and Co-chairman of POLPEX 1940. He is the "Natzek" of philatelic entertainment fame.

### TREASURER

J. P. Rux, 6136 W. Addison Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Let us repeat what we said about him a year ago. "The most widely elected treasurer in philatelic circles in Chicago and began his collecting in 1929 and so began a career of holding the cash and accounting for it. He is a member of many local clubs and is or has been treasurer of all of them, and collects 25 countries. This is his first office in Polonus and we look forward to a demonstration of that Rux' efficiency which has made him so much in demand."

### HISTORIAN AND LIBRARIAN

Adam Kleskowski, 2708 N. Harding Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

As Director of Junior Activities, since the founding of Polonus, Adam

has shown exceptional ability for patient and constructive effort. A collector for many long years his interest in stamps has never lessened. His goal—to create a sufficient interest among the Junior members to keep a constant flow of members to the Society upon reaching their maturity. At present, in addition to his duties as Director of Junior Activities, he is exhibition Director of POLPEX 1943.

#### DIRECTOR

Leonard S. Sobanski, 12152 S. Wallace Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

Student, poet, artist and collector. These words best characterize him. A charter member of the Society, he has been a staunch and loyal member. He drew the original sketch for the 1942 POLPEX souvenir sheet. His art work won him a prize for the 1942 CHIPEX design. His poems have been printed in philatelic magazines. He specializes in the Stamps of Poland and collects all items pertaining to Ignace Jan Paderewski.

#### DIRECTOR

Casimir Wojcicki, 1810 W. 17th St., Chicago, Illinois.

Quiet, modest and unassuming, sometimes to a fault, he has steadfastly held to the purpose for which the Society was organized. He is a charter member, specializing in Central Lithuania and Poland. He should be a steady influence.

There they are, members of the Society, your officers and directors. They will guide the destinies of Polonus in the coming year. We are certain they will maintain the splendid record of accomplishment of our Society. They will need your assistance to do this. They merit your wholehearted cooperation.

## Polpex 1943

Exhibition Director, Adam Kloskowski, reports that advance inquiries from Associate Members indicate a greater participation by our out of town members in POLPEX 1943 than ever before. Remember our goal—"Every Associate Member exhibits in POLPEX 1943." Perhaps this year the goal will be reached. Only by a concerted action can this be accomplished. Last day to enter is February 26, 1943. Send your Entry NOW!

POLPEX 1943 will be held at the Polish Falcon Hall, 1062 North Ash-

land Ave., Chicago, Illinois, on March 12, 13, and 14. The exhibition hall will be open as follows: Friday, March 12, from 6:00 P. M. to 10:00 P. M.; Saturday, March 13, from 1:00 P. M. to 10:00 P. M.; and Sunday, March 14, from 1:00 P. M. to 9:00 P. M.

Three, and possibly four, Poland No. 1, exhibits have been promised. Wow! Imagine, Poland No. 1, in competition or even not for competition, repeated three or four times! The greatest display of this interesting item in Polish philately in the world.

Polish rarities and oddities galore are promised. Specialized collections and general collections will vie for first honors. The Exhibition Director promises the most thrilling show.

But wait a minute, do not let the above deter you from exhibiting. Especially if you are modest, or have never won a first award. The "Hot-shots" are in a class by themselves. Either Class AA or Class A. If you have never won a first award enter in Class B. You do not have to compete against first award winners. Here are the classes again:

#### Class

##### AA. Non-competitive

- A. Limited exhibitors who have won a first award on any subject in any show in which they have participated.
- B. Limited to those who have not won a first award in any show.
- C. Junior Division.

## STAMPS MAGAZINE

Put this down as a "must" on your list, if you are not a subscriber to STAMPS. Order your copy of the March 13, 1943 issue now! The Publications Committee has been talking about the special Polish issue of STAMPS for quite some time and now is in a position to make a definite announcement.

Col. R. N. W. Larking and John Adamson, head the list of illustrious writers, with an article entitled "The Municipal Issues of Przedsborz," to be followed by articles by Vincent Domanski, Jr., Stephen Rich, Clement A. Pulaski, J. J. Domar, John Gapinski and Frank Wolosewick, Bert Powell, and Myron E. Steczynski. What do they write about? You order your copy of the March 13, 1942 issue of STAMPS and find out. We don't know what articles Harry Lindquist will publish.

We know there are too many for one issue of STAMPS.

The Publications Committee could not decide on what articles to hold back. We are weak—sissies—we will let Harry Lindquist decide. Whatever will be his choice, we know it will be a good one, for all the articles are so good, there is no choosing between them.

So, do not forget, order your copy of the March 13, 1943, issue of STAMPS, now.

### POLONUS JUNIORS

Under the continued able leadership of Adam Kloskowski, our Junior collectors are making some real progress. At the present moment they are busy preparing for POLPEX 1943, planning to make a better showing as a group than they did a year before. The competition among the Junior collectors for exhibition honors is probably keener than among regular collectors. But most important of all to announce is that our Juniors have stolen a march on the Society. They have already prepared and announced their program for the year! It is a splendid program and might attract some of the members. Here it is:

March 17, 1943—Report of POLPEX 1943, Junior Class.

April 21, 1943—J. J. Domar, Stamps of Poland.

May 19, 1943—General Issues of Poland.

June 16, 1943—National Assembly Issue Constitutional Commemoratives.

July 21, 1943—Open meeting.

Aug. 18, 1943—Open meeting.

Sept. 15, 1943—Lester Jankowski, Pilsudski, The Stamp Highlights of a Hero.

Oct. 20, 1943—Myron E. Steczynski, "I collect stamps because."

Nov. 17, 1943—Historical Issues of Poland, 1925-27.

Dec. 10, 1943—Christmas Party.

### POLPEX 1943 SOUVENIR SHEETS

This year's souvenir sheet is a fitting follow-up of the POLPEX sheets which have been so popular in the past. They are printed in brown and green, come perforated and imperforated, and include a descriptive folder which explains in a most captivating manner various elements of the design, such as The Trumpeter of Kra-

kow, the Heynal, St. Mary's Church, The Wit Stwosz Alter and the Polish Stamp. The two souvenir sheets in folder may be ordered by mail at 10 cents plus postage from Chester Mikucki, 1844 N. Winchester Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

### This 'n' That

Bob Domar, son of our past president and present secretary, Jack Domar, has donned the Navy Blue and is now in training at Great Lakes, Illinois.

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Our genial and friendly member, Julia C. Pach, is a 2nd Lt. in the U. S. Army Nurses Corps. Good luck and Keep 'em Healthy.

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### Polpex Auction

Auction Manager, Roman Reinowski, calls attention to all members to send in their bids for the Polonus Auction to be held in conjunction with POLPEX 1943, on March 13. Lots were listed in the January issue of the BULLETIN. Mail bids will be received until March 8, 1943. Roman also calls attention to all who plan to be present in person at the auction that it will start promptly at 8.30 P. M. and will be held at our club rooms in conjunction with our exhibit, the Polish Falcon Hall, 1062 North Ashland Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

Mail bids should be addressed to Roman Reinowski, 1939 S. Highland Ave., Berwyn, Illinois.

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MAIL YOUR ENTRY FOR POLPEX 1943 NOW.

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### Dues

Dues for 1943 are now payable. Members admitted before August 1, 1942—\$1.50.

Members admitted after August 1, 1942 and prior to January 31, 1943—\$1.00.

Please mail your checks to the treasurer, J. P. Rux, 6136 West Addison Street, Chicago, Illinois.

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Myron E. Steczynski, Chester Mikucki, Jack Domar, Steve Rich and Ben Reeves, exhibited at the North Shore Philatelic Society stamp show.

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### Polonus Album of Members

The society is preparing an Album

of Members. Jack Domar, secretary, requests all members to send him a snapshot of themselves. This album will be a perpetual record of our members and should do much to create more good fellowship among us. This album will be the property of the Society. Jack says, "that if the members respond promptly, he will have a 'members gallery' ready for POLPEX 1943." Send your snapshots to Jack Domar, 3715 Clinton Avenue, Berwyn, Illinois.

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This is the last call for members to mail questionnaire card to the Publications Committee. If you do not send it in, we can not print the correct information as to your addresses and collecting activities.

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#### Exhibition Program

Members are again reminded that the Society is selling "Ads" for the program for POLPEX 1943. Full page, \$9.00; one-half page, \$5.00; one-fourth page, \$3.50; one-eighth page, \$2.00; one inch, \$1.50. Patrons of the Exhibit, \$1.00; Good Fellows 25 cents. What can you do to help? Send your AD or PATRON or GOODFELLOW fee to Jack Domar, 3715 Clinton Ave., Berwyn, Illinois.

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Stanley S. Madro, one of our very fine members from New York, is now serving with the Pacific Fleet of the U. S. Navy.

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MAIL YOUR ENTRY FOR POLPEX 1943 NOW.

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Anyone desiring to write to those of our members serving in the Armed Forces of the United States overseas can secure the last known address by writing to the Publications Committee.

#### MEET THE NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Walter B. Polaczyk  
Plover, Wisconsin.

John S. Dziok  
712 S. Pacific St.  
Stamford, Conn.

Joseph C. Strand  
4343A S. Compton Ave.  
St. Louis, Mo.

Felix J. Polek  
219 Sixth Street  
Braddock, Pa.

Prvt. Felix A. Walat  
10th General Hospital  
U. S. Army—Barracks E3260  
Camp Carson, Colorado.

Rev. Ignatius J. Bialdyga  
145 Benkard Ave.  
Newburgh, New York.

#### REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE

##### Receipts

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Dues .....                   | \$147.50 |
| Ribbons .....                | .30      |
| Frame rental .....           | 16.00    |
| Frame pledge .....           | 17.00    |
| Cover and stamp sale .....   | 11.10    |
| POLPEX 1942 .....            | 77.24    |
| Frame fund .....             | 4.28     |
| Stamp sales and Auction .... | 43.07    |
| Subscriptions .....          | 2.75     |
| Club party .....             | 2.86     |

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Total .....               | \$322.10 |
| Balance, last audit ..... | 67.41    |

Total receipts ..... \$389.51

##### Disbursements

|                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Publicity .....                    | \$ 5.75 |
| Advertising .....                  | 20.75   |
| Postage .....                      | 39.38   |
| Charter fee .....                  | 1.00    |
| Subscription .....                 | .80     |
| Polonus BULLETIN .....             | 90.10   |
| Frame pledge .....                 | 3.00    |
| Frames .....                       | 33.25   |
| Exhibit expense .....              | 2.50    |
| Membership cancellation ....       | 1.50    |
| Parties .....                      | 28.48   |
| POLPEX 1943 Auction (advance 7.00) |         |
| Polonus Magazine .....             | 21.40   |
| Hall rental .....                  | 30.85   |
| Dues .....                         | 4.00    |

Total Disbursements . \$289.77

##### Recapitulation

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Total Receipts .....      | \$389.51 |
| Total Disbursements ..... | 289.77   |

Cash on hand ..... \$ 99.74

Dated, January 24, 1943.

(Signed) Chester Mikucki,  
Chairman Auditing Committee

*Help Win the War*  
BUY MORE BONDS