

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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CAPT. ORLINSKI HONORARY POLPEX CHAIRMAN

Captain Boleslaw Orlinski, the famous pilot of the Warsaw-Tokyo air flight in 1926, now living in retirement in Canada, will be Honorary Chairman of POLPEX 1971 to be held February 27 & 28 at St. James Auditorium in Chicago. Polpex 1971 will honor the 50th anniversary of Poland's first airmail stamps as one of its themes, and U. S. Space Achievements as the other theme.

In making the historical flight, Orlinski overcame untold handicaps and severe weather conditions especially over Siberia. The trip from Warsaw to Tokyo and back to Warsaw, covered approximately 14,000 miles and took 25 days, a fast pace at that time. He was popular in Japan because of stunts and low flying. One one occasion in Tokyo, while banking his plane, he broke off the end of his wing causing the plane to tilt noticeably. Orlinski simply smoothed out the broken section and cut off a part of the other wing to balance the plane and made the entire return trip with the shortened wing.

Poland's Air Defense League (Liga Obrony Powietrznej Panstwa) issued a stamp on the occasion of this flight of Orlinski from Paris to Warsaw to Tokyo. Letters destined for Tokyo were accepted at the Warszawa I post office and the Air Defense League. The normal tariff rate for foreign mail was charged along with this special 5 zloty L.O.P.P. stamp. (See



C. Schafer's article in Polonus Bulletin No. 34 of July-August, 1945.)

The various Polpex committees are now being organized and will be announced in our next Bulletin.

This year the exhibition will be open to all types of philatelic material with separate classes for airmails, space and other groups. The show is not limited to Poland material only, there will be a foreign class also.

Plan what you will show and prepare your exhibit now. Don't wait till the last minute.

— Alfred Szebel

WARSAW TO TOKYO — 1926

By Dr. Miet Kamieński

The International Flight, Warsaw-Tokyo, was originally scheduled to begin from Paris and go via Warsaw. The French Government supplied

the two-seater, open cockpit biplane. This was the same type aircraft they were selling to the Polish Air Force.

Lieutenant (later Captain) Boleslaw Orlinski started from Paris in May, 1926. However, his engine gave trouble due to water contamination in the fuel line and he had to make an emergency landing at Strassburg. He took off again next day, only to have the engine fail and he crashed in an open field near the city of Cheb, about 40 miles from Carlsbad in Czechoslovakia. The aircraft was wrecked and had to be shipped to Warsaw on a railway flat car.

The Warsaw-Tokyo leg of the journey finally got under way August 27, 1926. Captain Orlinski came to Canada in 1953 and lives in Toronto.

EXHIBITORS AT PHILYMPIA

From M. A. Bojanowicz of England we have been informed that the following Polish exhibitors received medals at Philymphia held September 18 to 26 at London.

M. A. Bojanowicz, R.D.P. — Class of Honor, Gold Medal.

P. Bol — as member of the Jury in the Court of Honor with his collection "Polish Folklore in Philately."

Dr. Jozef Kuderevicz — Large Silver Medal for Poland 1564-1864.

E. Tymkow of London — Bronze Medal for "600 Anniversary of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow" thematic exhibit.

Z. Wagrowski — Bronze Medal for Poland First Flights.

Mr. Capes of England — Silver Medal for Krakow and Warsaw 1915-1918.

A. Chalecki of Canada — Silver Medal for Specialized Lithuania.

Dr. L. Bieberstein of London — Large Silver Medal for Specialized Poland.

B. W. Tzeciecki of London — Silver Medal for Warsaw Locals

Mrs. Th. H. Poulie of Switzerland —

Vermeil Medal for Specialized Poland.

J. Burkoski of France — Silver Medal for thematic collection of Madame Curie.

A. Szebel — Silver Medal for U.S. Airmails

KOMENNSKY HONORED

The Illinois Chapter of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society and the First Czechoslovak Philatelic Club of America will jointly commemorate the 300th Anniversary of the death of Jan Amos Komensky, November 14-15, 1970. The great educational works of Komensky on which his principal claim to posthumous fame is founded were written during his first stay in Leszno, Poland, and later in Hungary where he wrote "Orbis Pictus" (The World in Pictures) known as the first picture book for children. This was a picture association type of study that is still used all over the world today by educators.

The two clubs will hold an exhibition on the above days combined with an interesting program to be held in the famed "LINCOLN CIRCLE" area of Berwyn, Illinois, at Lincoln Federal Savings in their "New Salem Meeting Room" and the Exhibition Rooms which are surrounded by what is probably the greatest collection of "Lincolniana" in the world.

NEW MEMBERS

Stanley J. Pisarczyk
72 Pleasant Ave.
Garfield, N.J.

Edward J. Bernat
451 W. First St.
Fulton, N.Y.

Joseph R. M. Uszkowski
334 East Ninth Street
New York, N.Y.

Mrs. Alicja Grzybowski
6102 Carvel Ave., A-3
Indianapolis, Ind. 46220

TODAY'S STAMP MARKET IN POLAND

BY THOMAS J. GOBBY

How is the stamp market in Poland? This was my question as I made my first trip to Poland this year (May-June). The following is my observation. Let the reader understand that I am American born, have more than a passing acquaintance with Poland, its people, its language, and its customs, and have attempted to present as objective a report as is possible. For convenience, my observations have been categorized into broad headings.

RUCH STORES:

As you well know, almost all in Poland today either belongs to or is controlled by the state. So it is with the merchants of stamps. In terms of volume and available Polish material you generally go to a Ruch store. Prices in these stores is determined by the current listing in the most recent Ruch catalog. At the official rate of exchange (23.96 Z.=1\$USA), there are no real bargains. For those of you who are aware, unofficial rates of exchange can put you into the field of opportunity. No further elaboration! The stock in a typical Ruch store, as is to be expected, is heavy in post World War Two material. It was my understanding that pre-1939 material has only recently been making its appearance in any numbers. Material cataloged as Scott nos. 1 to 340, B-1 to B-34, C-1 to C-22, J-1 to 102, and 1K1 to 2K19 is available, but if you want to purchase from a Ruch store, you should be prepared to extensively shop and travel.

Every Ruch store visited in Wroclaw, Krakow, Poznan, and Warsaw had copies of those most famous of Polish stamps, the "Krakow Overprints." Despite my rudimentary knowledge, and the assurances of the proprietors that all of their material was genuine and carried the guarantee and endorsement of the state, I

did not purchase a single copy. (A lost opportunity? — I would like to hear from the readership.)

Noticeably lacking in Ruch stores was that material that falls into the Limbo of Scott "unlisted." Rarely do you come across such material as city posts, locals, labels, fantasies, etc.

As stated earlier, there is an abundance of material from the mid-1950's to date. The condition is Very Fine to Superb in both mint and used. Cancelled specimens, however, tend to be CTO. As to covers, these too date from the mid 1950's, and tend to be official FDC's. Pre-1939 covers, first flights, first days, etc., are seldom seen in the Ruch stores.

Foreign material, i.e., non-Poland, is abundant, and as expected is predominantly the material of the Communist bloc of nations. Some especially beautiful issues of Red China and Cuba were noted. Surprisingly, a number of stores carried early USA material, i.e., pre-1930 and 19th century. By carefully shopping you can find some real bargains in early USA. There are good buys to be had in early Vatican (pre-1942), but it is not as abundant as the early USA.

PRIVATE STORES:

Yes, there are private stores! A concession to capitalism. In these stores you have a much better chance of finding the material which proves to be so elusive in the Ruch stores. A word to the wise, however, a private store does not appear to be governed by the same pricing policies as a Ruch store. It was noted that the price of material seemed to be predicated on the buyer's nationality. If you were American, British, Swedish, or German, the price escalated. It is somewhat akin to our country's medical profession which seems to determine its fee on the client's

ability to pay the price. If you are patient, and can haggle, you can be rewarded in shopping the private stores, scarce as they may be.

COLLECTORS:

As in our country, there are collectors, and their needs and interests are just as varied and similar. After many years of privation and tending to the immediate needs of food, clothing, and shelter, there is some surplus income which can now be used for building up and adding to collections. There are many clubs both private and state sponsored, and the number is growing. For those of you who have contacts with Polish collectors, it would be prudent to develop your friendship and relationship, as they have the ability and resources to track down the material in which you specialize.

In summary, if you have the opportunity to visit Poland, take in the philatelic markets and meet the collectors. As stated earlier, the official rate of exchange for USA dollars does not give you the opportunity to corner any real bargains. Trading, bartering, and exchange of dollars is entirely up to you. If you are a specialist in Postal History and forerunners as city and local post, your chances of obtaining this material are much better in the good old USA. If you do make any purchases, do check customs regulations, and you will avoid undue problems and possible loss of your material when leaving Poland. May my experience attest to this fact.

BULLETIN AD RATES

Rates for Non-Members

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Half Page	9.00
Quarter Page.....	5.00
One Inch	2.00

For Polonus Members Only

Full Page	\$12.00
Half Page	7.00
Quarter Page.....	4.00
One Inch	1.50

AMPOLPEX-9

The Polish Philatelic Society of Buffalo, N.Y. presents its 9th Annual Philatelic Exhibition "AMPOLPEX-9" on October 31st and November 1st, 1970 at Adam Mickiewicz Hall, 612 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, N.Y. The theme of the exhibition honors the Polish Forces in France. The exhibition is open to all collectors but is limited to Poland and Polonica material only. A bourse, public auction and U.S. Post Office will be on the premises. Special cacheted covers and souvenir sheets will be on sale during the exhibition. A banquet and awards presentation will take place Sunday, November 1st at 7:30 p.m. Chairman of the event is Polonus member Theo. Skotnicki.

APPLICANTS PENDING

Leonard Pawlowski, D.D.S.

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Glen Ellyn, Ill. 60137

Max Dziczkowski

212 E. Pearson Ave.

Anaheim, Calif. 92802

Msgr. Adam J. Szmydt

St. Mary's Church

St. Mary's, Neb. 68432

Myron Kuchmak

3288 Raymond Drive

Doraville, Ga. 30340

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11917 Lafayette Dr.

Wheaton, Md. 20902

THE FRAME SITUATION

The October 9th Meeting held at Jos. Janecka's shop in Riverside was a frame working party. Members attending finished the remaining frames. Several frames require new backs. Mr. Janecka will purchase the masonite and complete the job himself.

The society is deeply indebted to member Janecka for the guidance in repairing our frames, for the use of his premises and tools which saved us the expense of hundreds of dollars.

Why The U.S. Post Office Should Issue A Stamp Bearing The Likeness of Copernicus

Five Hundred years will have passed in 1973 since the birth of Nicholas Copernicus, one of the most prominent scholars, in the city of Torun, Poland, who achieved an epochal discovery in the way of space investigation. As it turns out, in the year 1973, the United States, reaching the highest level of scientific exploration in the field of outer space, will send a rocket to Mars, once again planting the U.S. flag on that planet.

Since the fate of the world may rest on those very results it is thus fitting to recall that it was not anyone else except Nicholas Copernicus who initially correctly traced the "First Road Map to the Outer Space," as Neil Armstrong so rightly recalled during one of his "Post Flight" historical speeches before the United States Congress in Washington, D.C.

Four hundred thirty years have passed since his death, yet in spite of this the greatest work of his life, his treatise, "On the Revolution of the Heavenly Bodies," became the foundation of future astronomical discoveries. The fact that the earth revolves around the sun became the basis of these deliberations and influenced human thought in time and created new scientific premises in various fields of knowledge regarding humanity and life. A fairly popular saying came into being about Copernicus — "He detained the sun and activated the earth, — Poland bequeathed him to humanity."

Copernicus officially published his treatise as he was lying on his death bed. He was fully aware that this heliocentric knowledge was prodigious for his time. His work became cursed and anathematized and astronomers who staunchly supported his theories gave up their lives in its defense.

They died for truth, that "after all the earth does revolve."

The United States is a country which prides itself on its traditions of the defense of human freedom and the protection of national independence. Famous are the beautiful series of American stamps on which appear faces of great people and great scholars. Among others have been issued stamps bearing the likeness of Casimir Pulaski, Thaddeus Kosciuszko and Albert Einstein.

The Polish-American Congress which incorporates nearly all the organizations of our ethnic group, wishes to call attention to the fact that issuance of a stamp bearing the likeness of Nicholas Copernicus during the 500 years' celebration would be fitting and well-advised. The commemoration of this great Polish scholar with a postage stamp almost on the eve of the journey of our astronauts to the planet Mars — will be a historical event, never to be forgotten, as likewise it would be one more testimony of genuine friendship which has existed, exists and will exist in the future in relation to the Polish nationality.

Philatelists from the entire world are waiting for the issuance of just such a stamp. They are waiting because they believe that during an epoch of rockets and spaceships, in an era of interplanetary space travel Americans cannot forget Nicholas Copernicus and his contributions to the knowledge of all mankind. They cannot forget that it was he who lay the foundations with his beginning investigations in space science.

We Americans of Polish descent believe that the stamp bearing the likeness of Nicholas Copernicus, the Father of Astronomy, a scholar of world renown — when released next

to Pulaski, Kosciuszko and Paderewski — will become for us a relic of eternal pride and remembrance.

The Polish-American Congress will endeavor to present fitting exemplary designs of this stamp by January 1, 1972. A special world art competition will be announced and the 25 best projects will be presented as possible choices to the Stamp Advisory Committee.

N.C. Zbyszewski, Chairman
Polish American Congress
Philatelic Committee

THE COPERNICUS STAMP AND POLONUS

The September 25th Polonus Meeting at the Bagatela Club Hall was well attended. Members came to see and hear Aloysius Mazewski, President of the Polish American Congress, and Dr. Edward C. Rozanski, President of the Illinois Division of the Polish American Congress, appealing for aid in their campaign to have a U.S. commemorative issued for Copernicus. As they found out, Polonus wants such

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a stamp and has already proceeded on its own. Our attorney, member Chester Makowski, has prepared a resolution which will be printed up by the society. This resolution will be distributed, signatures solicited and the signed resolutions then sent to proper government officials. The resolution will be presented at the next Polonus Meeting Friday, November 13th at St. James Clubroom. The meeting will get under way at 8 p.m.

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