

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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

POLAND NO. 1 FORGERY

By DEREK PALMER



FORGERY

Two or three years ago I bought a forgery of Poland N°1 and as it is so well done, and might easily be mistaken for the legitimate stamp, that I am showing an enlarged photograph of the forgery and of a genuine stamp for purposes of comparison.

I have found the following differences between the forgery and legitimate stamp:—

Forgery

Top left 10 larger than others.
No colon, but a stroke which dents oval containing eagle.
Serifs not so pointed.



GENUINE

A blur instead of a cross.
The slanting slope is long.
Perforations clipped and obviously faked.

Genuine

Top left 10 same size as others.
Colon after Kopeck in oval, quite clear.
Serifs on letters forming word ZALOT are quite sharp.
Cross on crown quite distinct.
Slanting slope on "1" of 10 after KOP. at foot is short.
Normal perforation.

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets every 2nd and 4th Friday
at

Polish Falcon Hall
1062 N. Ashland Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

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2528 N. Drake Avenue
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Lester Jankowski

CIPEX 1947

We have just learned the shocking news that Myron Steczynski's outstanding collection of Krakows was mislaid on the way to New York and was not found until after the judging. Knowing the amount of time, effort and expense Myron went thru in getting this collection ready for this show we can appreciate his disappointment.

It was without question an outstanding exhibit and could not fail to win an award.

Our congratulations to both Lester Jankowski and Dr. M. E. Uznanski who both won Third awards. This is all the information we have on the show at present, more next month.

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The Treasurer reports that a number of our members have not sent in their dues for 1947. Since most of the monies received as dues is used to publish the BULLETIN any added expense to collect, such as individual letters to each of you is a waste of good money which can be used to better advantage for the Bulletin. Those of you who have not mailed in your dues, won't you kindly do so at once? By the way, why not send in \$3.00 for two years?

LOCAL STAMPS OF RUDNIK, ON THE SAN

By STANISLAW MIKSTEIN

On July 26th, 1944 the citizens of Rudnik saw the remnants of the German Army leaving their town.

The same day, the first U.S.S.R. patrol troops marched in. Instantly, regardless of the marching troops, a new life started to organize in the city and in consequence the need arose for mobilizing the Postal Service.

On July 30th, 1944, an Officer of the Peoples Army, Lt. Bielak ordered the Post Master to organize and mobilize the Post Office.

All the postal equipment had been taken by the Germans. In spite of this, the Post Master succeeded in organizing the Postal Service. First local only—than contact was made with the Post Office in Lezajsk and few days later in Nisk, from where the mail parcels were taken by an aeroplane to Krasnik, Lublin and Przeworsk.

The City Council also demanded that the postal service be resumed, and on August 11th, 1944 the County Prefect (starosta) in Nisk issued a decree to open the Post Offices.

In the first days after the reopening of the Post Office in Rudnik there was a shortage of postage stamps for franking and the need and demand made it necessary to overprint the remainder of the German stamps into polish.

In spite of all the scruples of the Post Master—the lack of contact with the higher authorities and the lack of other stamps—it was decided to overprint the Occupation Stamps.

The first overprinting was done with a rubber stamp, but by using a metallic stamp ink it was destroyed.

A metal stamp then was made and used for the final job of overprinting, on August 7th, 1944.

In the all, four stamps were used; therefore the overprints can be classified into four types. Type I.: Overprint in four verses POCZTA / POLSKA / W RUDNIKU / and a dash, invalidating the German print. Type II.: Four versed overprint POCZTA POLSKA / RUDNIK / N. SANEM / and a dash, invalidating the German print. Type III.: Four versed overprint with a metal stamp POCZTA POLSKA / arched, EAGLE engraved / RUDNIK / N. SANEM. Type IV.: For stamps of higher denominations, on top POLSKA with a metal stamp and under the



Type III

stamp view, with a little metal stamp RUDNIK N. SANEM and a dash invalidating the german print.

Black india ink was used for this overprinting. The overprinting was done on the following stamps:

1. 10 gr. structural	14 pcs.
2. 48 gr. structural	14 pcs.
3. 2 gr. with Hitler	164 pcs.
4. 6 gr. with Hitler	153 pcs.
5. 8 gr. with Hitler	759 pcs.
6. 10 gr. with Hitler	701 pcs.
7. 12 gr. with Hitler	1764 pcs.
8. 16 gr. with Hitler	46 pcs.
9. 20 gr. with Hitler	228 pcs.
10. 24 gr. with Hitler	3035 pcs.
11. 30 gr. with Hitler	313 pcs.
12. 32 gr. with Hitler	84 pcs.
13. 40 gr. with Hitler	535 pcs.
14. 40 gr. with Hitler	60 pcs.
15. 1.00 zl. with Hitler	818 pcs.
16. 1.20 zl. with Hitler	131 pcs.
17. 1.60 zl. with Hitler	78 pcs.
18. 2.00 zl. with Hitler I. Edit.	13 pcs.
19. 4.00 zl. with Hitler I. Edit.	13 pcs.
20. .50 zl. with Hitler heliogr.	725 pcs.
21. .60 zl. with Hitler heliogr.	1438 pcs.
22. .80 zl. with Hitler heliogr.	839 pcs.
23. 2.00 zl. with Hitler II Edit.	19 pcs.
24. 4.00 zl. with Hitler II. Edit.	11 pcs.
25. 10.00 zl. with Hitler II. Edit.	19 pcs.
26. 6.00 zl. Structural, Lwow	7 pcs.
27. Postal Cards	170 pcs.

Altogether 10,911 stamps of the Gen. Gvmnt. were overprinted. Apart from this, some OFFICIALS of the G. G. from the I. II. III. edition were overprinted. All together 23 pcs.

After the printing was completed, the stamps were destroyed.

The above stamps were withdrawn by the District Director of Posts and Tel. in Lublin on Sept. 26, 1944.

(Continued on Page 6)

Polish Field Post Offices

By CHARLES CWIAKALA

That article regarding the Polish Field post offices Nos. 130 and 141 which appeared on the first page of WSC on March 25, 1947 stating that they were closed in February of 1944, is erroneous.

All of the Polish Field post offices in the Middle East, and later on in the Mediterranean area beginning from the Nos. 101 up were functioning as long as the Polish Army was On Active Service, that is, until late 1946.

The Polish Field post offices added volumes of philately for the cover collectors due to the use of stamps of several countries including the U.S. stamps and postal stationery on which appear the cancelations in the Polish language.

What privilege the Polish Army had to use the stamps of several foreign countries which were all canceled and censored in the Polish language is not known yet. Anyway, we find covers franked with the stamps of India, Egypt, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, U. S., Great Britain, etc.

Except for the Great Britain stamps which were used by the Polish Army for the longest period, all others are rarities on covers due to a handful of such items which can be found in the U. S., Canada, Great Britain and probably in a few South American republics as that time when the Polish soldiers had a chance to use the U. S. stamps and postal stationery their country, Poland, was still occupied by the Nazis, and later on by the Red Army. Thus they were deprived of any contact with their families in Poland.

Regardless of the size of the Polish Army the volume of the mail was very small as the soldiers did not send many letters, many having no correspondents. A few, however, having relatives and friends in the U. S. or Canada, or in some South American Republic were corresponding with them from time to time, and these were the ones who brought to light the evidence of what kind of stamps the Polish Army used, and in what language the cancelations were applied to them.

Obtaining the covers, commonly expressed "canceled to order" through

the Polish Field post offices by the individuals for the philatelic purposes was absolutely out of order because the U. S. and British censorship did not let an inclosed cover in a letter go through and returned the letter with its contents to the sender unless an individual possessed a permit. Thus one self-addressed and stamped reply envelope could be enclosed, one at a time, and that reply envelope had to contain a message.

The writer of this article, doing War Relief work for the Polish Army, having no military connections of any nature, had obtained a General Permit (still has it as evidence) issued by the U. S. Censorship authorities and approved by the British, and had the opportunity to gather hundreds of unusual items which passed through the Polish Field post offices as registered air mail, regular air mail, free mail, etc., which are impossible to describe in one article.

All that can be told of the Polish Army and the Polish Field post offices is, whatever the Allied Forces used for correspondence, the Polish Armed Forces used the same, canceled in the Polish language. We see on the covers U. S. 6c air mail stamps, borderless 6c air mail envelopes, barber pole 6c air mail envelopes, revalued 2c envelopes for 6c air mail, and hundreds of other items including U. S. commemoratives, S.P.A. and Tipex sheets on the self-addressed reply envelopes sent as first class registered air mail with back stamping at Miami, Fla., New York, N. Y. and the last post offices of delivery. Other Polish Field Post rarities are the cacheted V-mails sent by the Polish soldiers which top them all. Many are hand-drawn V-mails sent through the Polish Field post offices, passed by the censors, and are real gems.

On January 1, 1946 the Polish Army, then stationed in Italy and still functioning in full capacity at all Polish Field post offices, issued its own stamps on which appear: 45gr. Monte Casino Ruins, 55 gr. Ancona, Z1, 1.00 Bologna and Z1, 2.00 Gen. Anders, Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Army.

The reason for picturing Monte Cas-
(Continued on Page 6)

Poland's Gordon-Bennett



By Spying Eye



FORGERY

A very clever and dangerous forged overprint was called to our attention on the Gordon-Bennett set of Poland commemorating the International Balloon Race in 1936. If you are in the know, it is simple to tell the good ones from the bad with this easy process; a vertical line drawn from the period after "30." downward across "1936." If this line will touch the left side of the number "9" of 1936, the overprint is genuine, but if it crosses the number "1" of 1936 it is a forged overprint.

There are other minor differences, and while it is possible that this forged overprint exists on mint stamps, all stamps seen by us were on cancelled copies which may make it difficult to use this system on the more heavily cancelled ones. We shall give you a few more pointers. The lettering on the genuine overprinted stamp is uniform but not so on the forgery. This best can be noted by comparing the overprints in the illustrations. Notice the letter "D" of "GORDON" and the letters "TT" of "BENNETT."



ORIGINAL

On the genuine overprint the middle horizontal stroke of the number "3" of "30." is blunt while the middle horizontal line of the number "3" of "1936" is pointed. On the forgery both, the 3 of "30." and the 3 of "1936" have a pointed middle horizontal line. The length of the first line of the genuine overprint is $27\frac{1}{4}$ mm. against the forgery, which is $27\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

While colors of inks are hard to describe, we will try to do this by comparison. The 30 G. stamp was printed in rose red and overprinted with the same shade of blue used in printing the 55 G. stamp. The 55 G. stamp was printed in blue and overprinted in the same shade of rose red that was used in printing the 30 G. stamp. The forged overprints, both the blue and the rose red are of a much deeper shade.

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In Memoriam

To Ray and Betty Bartz we extend our most heartfelt sympathy upon the loss of Betty's father, who recently passed away, after a long illness.

SPEAKER FOR FIRST MEETING IN JUNE

Mr. Anthony Russo of CPS, and Austin Philatelic Society and proprietor of Midwest Stamp Co. will talk to us on his various collections.

He will show his famous Black Jacks and will emphasize mounting and preparing for an exhibit.

POLISH FIELD POST OFFICES (Continued from Page 4)

sino, Ancona and Bologna on the Polish Army stamps was to commemorate the victory of the Polish Army over the Nazis, taking away from them those towns in battles which the Polish Army fought and won. These Polish Army stamps on the covers or in used condition, are outstanding rarities regardless of Scott's catalogue failure to list them. The Polish Army in Great Britain had the Field post offices beginning with No. 1 up. The Polish Navy and Merchant Marine used their own stamps, Scott's Nos. 3K1 to 3K20 and 3KB1.

Editor's Note: The above article appeared in the Western Stamp Collector of April 12, 1947, and we deem it of sufficient interest to reprint it in full.

THE POLISH FIELD POST STAMP **By PHILIP J. SEAVEY** **IN PHILATELY**

An interesting discovery of the past week is the Polish Field Post stamp (Zumstein No. V) on cover.

Used in the recent war by Polish soldiers, this red AK stamp was believed to have been destroyed by the Red Army when the Nazis finally were driven out of Poland—according to the Zumstein catalogue.

Story behind this discovery, according to Hans Fraenkel, the finder, is most enlightening. A Polish corporal, stationed near Czerniak, placed the stamp on a letter addressed direct to his commanding general. The corporal wanted information regarding one of his cousins who was suspected killed or missing during the "last ditch" fighting by the Germans in Poland during 1944. However, it is doubtful if the corporal ever secured said information, for this letter turned up on the Normandy beach near Cherbourg, France. An American soldier found the cover on the body of a dead Nazi officer who apparently had been transferred from the Eastern Front to help stem the Allied invasion. The stamp originally had been cancelled by the Poczta Polowa Warszawa (Warsaw Field Post). The cover also contained the military censor's stamp.

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ETTLINGEN



We illustrate above one of the stamps issued in Ettlingen, a displaced persons camp in Germany, through the courtesy of John Jaworski, Polonus member. In the set of stamps in Mr. Jaworski's possession there are the following stamps:

1. 12 fen. orange frame line and lettering, red shield and white eagle.
2. 25 fen. green frame line and lettering, red shield and white eagle.
3. 50 fen. purple frame line and lettering, red shield and white eagle.
4. 1 Mk. blue frame line and lettering, red shield and white eagle.

The frame line and lettering is processed engraved, the red shield and white eagle are embossed. According to the information at hand only 12000 were printed.

However, the catalog "Znaki Pocztove Polski Demokratycznej i Okresu Przejscowego" edited by Antoni Laskiewicz and printed in Warsaw in 1947, lists the above stamps as follows:

1. 12 fen. red and blue
2. 25 fen. red
3. 50 fen. red and green
4. 1 Mk. red and brown.

We have no other information about this issue and would welcome any information, in the possession of collectors of Poland.

LOCAL STAMPS ON THE RUDNIK (Continued from page 3)

Editor's Note: This article originally appeared in the Information Bulletin of the Polskie Towarzystwo Filatelistyczne in Krakow, dated December 1, 1946 and was translated by Walter Szymlek.

NEW ISSUES

By JACK DOMAR

At press time a cover was received showing the new 5, 6, and 15 zl. This cover was received too late for illustrations to be made, however, the following is a brief description.

The 5 zl. stamp is grey and dark grey, illustrating the three Polish actors Boguslawski, Madrzecjewska, and St. Jarasz. It is issued perf. and imperf. as are the other two.

The 6 zl. stamp is green and dark green. Illustrated on this are the Polish writers Zeromski, B. Prus, and Swietochowski.

The 15 zl. is a violet-grey in color with an inset of dark violet-grey. This stamp illustrates the Polish poets J. Slowacki, Wyspianski, and J. Kaspro-wicz.

This may interest you:

On the occasion of the 22nd anniversary of the SKI meeting the post office of Zakopane issued a limited

quantity of the Grunwald stamp, Scott No. 344, with five line overprint, and created a semi-postal by applying a new value— 5 plus 15 Zl.

It appears that the overprints were done in blocks of 4 and due to the primitive method of printing a few errors occurred. The stamps were rationed in other cities; in Warsaw, for instance, only one pair was sold to each purchaser.

Stamps.

A 5 plus 5 zloty stamp for the Polish Red Cross is to be issued May 15, in a limited edition of 110,000.

In July four stamps will be issued in honor of four basic occupations. They will represent the miner, worker, farmer, and fisherman. This series will be printed abroad for the Polish Ministry of Postal Services.

W. Dutkewicz

Stamps.

Change of Address

(Chester Kozuchowski)

C. Cozy No. 134

Grays Lake, Ill.

V. Czarnowski No. 281

Liniers 370,

Cordoba, Argentina

S/Sgt. L. C. Zieler 6827137,

632nd Air Material Sqdn.

371st Air Service Gp.

APO 742A New York, N. Y.

Dr. S. F. Galaskiewicz No. 163

3618 Luna St.

Chicago 41, Ill.

J. W. Novak No. 235

4302 S. Wentworth Ave.,

Chicago 9, Ill.

New Members

332 Col. O H. Schrader, 1229 W. Foster Ave., Chicago 40, Ill., U.S., Greenland, Coria, Tibet, Naples and Pol.

Application Pending

Henry S. Barth, 2444 N. Mozart, Chicago 47, Ill.

List Of Philatelic Societies In Poland

Slaskie Stowarzyszenie Filatelistow W
Katowicach

Leszek Zmidzinski

Ul. Swirki I Wigury 6/4

Katowice, Slask, Polska

Zwiazek Filatelistow w Toruniu

Marian Niklewski

Ul. Szczytna 1

Torun, Polska

Zachodni Pomorski Klub

Filatelistyczny

Adam Wasiseki

Ul. Wielkopolska 23 m3

Szczecinie Polska

Gdanskie Towarzystwo Filatelistow

Mrg. Stanislaw Olszewski

Wojewodztwo Gdansk, Polska

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TID-BITS FROM POLONUS

The talk given by Col. O. H. Schrader, retired from the U. S. Army, was welcomed by the membership with great enthusiasm. The membership learned its share about paper from the forest to the finished product. Many a member received quite a surprise in regard to the paper used in making his Album sheets. The subject of paper was discussed even after the meeting was over. Thank you Col. O. H. Schrader!

* * * * *

Congratulations to Father Jerome A. Holubowicz, O.F.M. Conv. upon the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the Holy Priesthood, which will be celebrated on June 1, 1947, at St. Hyacinth's Church, Auburn, New York, by a Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving.

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Congratulations to J. Wendt also for winning a second award for his splendid collection of U. S. at the OHPEX.

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One of the visitors at our May 9th meeting was member Roman Wojcicki, who has just returned from California. It was good seeing you, Roman!

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The staff of the St. Mary's of Nazareth Hospital honored with a banquet one of our members, Dr. M. E. Uznanski for his twenty-five years of service with the Hospital, at which he was presented with a Gold Key and a certificate of Merit. For the last fifteen years he has been in charge of obstetrics. Congratulations, Doc! Congratulations are in order also for his unanimous nomination for President of the North-west Branch of the Chicago Medical Society for the Year 1947.

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This is an appeal to membership in the Chicago-land area. How about attending the meetings? At each meeting we have some information on Stamps of Poland, plus a chance of seeing material coming in. The program chairman promises the membership that they will not be disappointed in attending the meetings!

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Do you want a copy of Ikaros? \$15.00 will get you an unbound copy. Write to W. Hermanowski, Amesbury Abbey, Wilfshire, England.

The latest reports from Poland indicate a Federation of Philatelic Societies is in the making. A meeting was called by the Polish Philatelic Society in Krakow where they have started the ball rolling. This meeting was held Feb. 27, 1947 at the Society Headquarters. Participating in the discussions were members of Philatelic Societies of Southern Poland. They have the problem of not having even one Philatelic Publication. All present agreed that it was one of the handicaps which has to be overcome. Since Poland has been liberated there was one publication but it had only two issues. Another problem that was discussed was the question of the new issues. The new organization went on record that certain Commemorative issues be issued in larger amounts in the future, this to prevent speculation and misunderstandings among the Philatelists in Poland. Also to allow more time for the stamps to be in circulation. Plus a improvement in the artistic designs of the individual Stamps.

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A new Polish stamp catalog has been received. It lists all the issues from Lublin issue of Sept. 7, 1944 to the issue of March 1, 1947, the Emil Zegadlowicz, 5+15 zl, dull green stamp. The catalog was edited by Antonio Laskiewicz, and published in Warsaw in 1947 by the Central Philatelic Alliance Post and Telegraph Employees. The catalog is entitled Znaki Pocztowe Polski Demokratycznej Okresu Przejscowego. More about this catalog later.

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Congratulations to Bert Powell for his winning of the First Award and the research award of the S.P.A. for his collection of Poland at the Ogden Hill stamp show.

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Thanks to the members who have brought material for the Stamps for the Wounded. More material is needed, so, if any member has any, bring it down to the meeting where it will be picked up by the Chairman, or it can be mailed to the Chairman, Mr. J. Jaworski, 1282 Milwaukee Ave.

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