

BULLETIN OF THE POLONIS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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Issue No. 163

October 1958

The 400th Anniversary Issue of the Polish Post

By WALTER SZYMLEK

There is something new to report in connection with the 400th Anniversary Issue. The Post Office "Gdańsk 1" was authorized by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications also to use the First Day special cancellation on that day. This seems to be another step in the direction of decentralization and some autonomy for the Postal District Directorates.

Awakening from a prolonged trance, the District Directorate of Gdańsk jumped on the "Jubilee Celebrations" bandwagon and delighted local philatelists with the inauguration of a mobile "Post Office on Wheels." This Mobile Post Office covers the tri-city area of Gdynia-Sopot-Gdańsk and remained active throughout "Internatio-

nal Letter Writing Week" October 5 to 11, 1958.

Equipped with all the facilities and providing all the services of a regular post office, this Mobile Post Office services the tri-city area and applies the special "International Letter Writing Week" cancellation to all mail pieces posted there.

As shown on the illustrated First Day Cover, the complete set of five values was made available to the public on the first day of issue. In addition to the First Day Gdańsk 1 cancellation, this cover bears the "International Letter Writing Week" cancellation from the Mobile Post Office.

Also available were commemorative postal cards 60 gr. blue-green on white



showing an old postillion and a 60 gr. violet on white showing a jet rocket. Total printing 200,000 of each.

In addition, the Mobile Post Office offers for sale an attractive post card showing a silhouette of an ancient Postillion with a view of the Gdańsk skyline as a background. Designed by Roman Wyrobek, Gdańsk.

The Council of Ministers has authorized the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications to issue a "400th Anniversary Badge of Merits" to be awarded for outstanding services in the field of posts and communications.

NEW ISSUES

by J. J. Domar

On June 14, 1958 a set of two stamps commemorating the VII International Glider Competition, was released. Both stamps show a silhouette of a glider made from the inscription "Mistrzowa FAJ 1958." Values are 60 gr. blue grey and black and a 2.50 zł. grey and black. Offset printed, size 25.5 x 31.25 mm.

* * *

In commemoration of the Geophysical Year a set of two was released Sept. 30, 1958. The 60 gr. shows a polar bear in an iceberg. The 2.50 zł. shows an intercontinental rocket with Sputnik rounding the globe on the background. Color of the 60 gr. is grey and of the 2.50 zł. blue. Rotogravure: size 25.5 x 43 mm. Printed by P.W.P.W., Warsaw. (This issue illustrated below.)



A stamp honoring "Stamp Day 1958" was released Oct. 9, 1958. Its design is a letter (envelope), goose-feather pen and postmark "Warszawa 1, 9. X. 1958." An inscription "Stamp Day" runs along vertically and horizontally. This 60 gr. value is offset printed in black, red and green. The stamp design is by Sława Gospodarek and it is a product of P.W.P.W., Warsaw.

* * *

On the 15th Anniversary of the Polish Peoples' Army, a set of three was issued Oct. 10, 1958. The 40 gr. black, green and yellow shows the Partisans Cross inscribed "Za Polskę, Wolność i Lud" (For Poland, Freedom and the People) on a ribbon. The 60 gr. black, blue, yellow and brown shows the Virtuti Militari Cross on a ribbon. The 2.50 zł. black, yellow, green and red shows the Grunwald Cross on a ribbon. The artist was Chester Kaczmarezyk. Printing was by rotogravure at the P. W. P. W., Warsaw.

* * *

A miniature sheet, value 50 zł., imperf., commemorating 400 Years of the Polish Post Service, is to be issued on or about Nov. 10, 1958. The design will show a rushing stagecoach and four horse team, taken after a painting by A. Kędzierski: "Na kieleckim szlaku" (On the Kielce District Road). The upper part of the sheet has the inscription "400 Lat Poczty Polskiej, 1558-1958—Wydanie Jubileuszowe (400 Years of the Polish Post, 1558-1958—

Jubilee Issue. Henna Przezdziecka is responsible for the design and the ornamental frame is by Jerzy Miller. Size of the sheet is 3 x 7 cm.; size of the stamp is 47 x 27 mm.

The miniature sheet will be steel plate engraved on "Milańówek" silk, and will be the work of P. W. P. W. in Warsaw.

—ARS Polona

POLAND IN THE 1959 SCOTT'S CATALOG

By ROMAN J. BURKIEWICZ

For quite some time I was analyzing Scott's and other foreign catalogs to establish the true market values for stamps of Poland. This is my first opportunity to give my fellow members a brief resume of what is happening to the stamps they specialize in.

First of all I would like to state that there has been a growing demand for stamps of Poland ever since this country opened its "iron curtain" to tourists from the West. Improved designs and attractiveness of the issues also contributed to this demand.

Although the new 1959 edition of the Scott's catalog did not change very many prices on the post-war issues the market prices are steadily going up. I will write more about these issues in the next bulletin.

Right now let us start with No. 1. We read in the last Bulletin that it is jumping up pretty well in all foreign catalogs an additional \$10.00 on a mint copy and \$2.50 on a used copy. This brings the stamp to its highest value ever listed e.i. \$60.00 for a mint and \$22.50 for a used copy of the cheapest variety. The other two varieties went up respectively. The market value of this stamp now ranges from \$12.50 to \$17.50 for a very fine used copy. The mint copies are almost unobtainable, and when they do show up prices asked are well over 60% of cat. value. It is to be expected that with the approaching Centennial of this stamp all available copies will disappear from the market.

The 1918 Warsaw issue, Scott No. 11-14 is up to .90c per set both mint and used although the used stamps of this set are definitely scarcer than the mint ones. All varieties and inverts listed have gone up considerably and the net retail value is well over \$12.00 per set of inverts now.

I have also noticed that in the last few years the Occupation stamps of Gen. Gouv. Warsaw with overprint POCZTA POLSKA Scott's Nos. 15-26 have well advanced. The 3 pfg. brown of the II issue (No. 15) is now up to

\$2.00 and the surcharge 5 pfg./3 pfg. brown No. 17 up to .35c. Also No. 18—the 5 pfg. green has advanced to 12c. These are the three best stamps of the set and are expected to raise in value in time to come.

All varieties and errors of this issue are also getting scarce due to numerous specialized collections being built which more than absorb all the available material.

The First Lublin Issue better known as "Karfonds Issue" has unexpectedly advanced by 50% bringing each value to 75c cat. The Inverted overprints also were advanced by 50c on each value. The second Lublin issue stamps also went up by better than 25% except for the first value; the 3 hel. No. 30. It seems like Scott's overlooked that one for it is much scarcer than any of the other advanced stamps. The best stamp out of that set is No. 39, especially in mint condition, and many dealers would be willing to purchase this copy if any one had any duplicates of it. Another stamp out

POLAND

No. 754 Olympic 60gr. Imperf	\$7.50
C34a Warsaw Air sheet Imperf	5.00
Roosevelt Airmails San. 32/34	
mint	2.00
Roosevelt Airmail Souv. Sheet	
mint	3.50
General Government Hitler 15	
val. Imperf	15.00

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of this set worth mentioning is the No. 34—25 Heller on 40 olive, which is always on everyone's want list.

The Cracow Issue, Scotts No. 41-60 and J1-12 also P1-5, as in the previous years has a tremendous advancing tendency and no doubt is one of the best issues not only to specialize in but also invest in. For many years collectors were afraid of collecting this material due to numerous forgeries and due to the high prices. We are finding out now that it is not so hard to detect the forgeries and we have a number of Members in our Society who will check this material if they do not bear the proof signatures already. Besides there has been quite a lot written up in our Bulletins in the past years. Generally, anything that is marked: Mikstein, Bloch, Domar-Polonus, Larking, Teipale or Koopman, has been identified as genuine copies and can be acquired without reserve.

It would be hard to list all the catalog changes on these stamps but I will mention a few examples to give you an idea about the demand and scarcity of these stamps. Nos. 41, 42 and 44 advanced to \$22.50 from \$20.00. No. 50 the 90 hel. from \$100.00 to \$110.00 and No. 55 from \$200 to \$225. The largest "jump" took the 25 heller (percentage wise) e. i. from \$50.00 to \$70.00. As many specialists in this issue say, this value is much better than the 90 Heller and we will see this stamp even-out with the 90 Heller in a few years to come.

All the other values of this issue advanced too, some even considerably and no doubt will continue to go up as there just is not enough of them to go around to all the specialists.

I will continue with this column in the next Bulletin and issues to come, to give all our members and collectors of stamps of Poland an idea about the values and scarcity of Polish stamps, as well as advise what to acquire and how to go about it in order to save money and not to get "burnt" on material offered by various dealers. Any comments or additions to the above would be very much appreciated.

Kobyłka Album Pages

POLAND	Price	Post.
Part 1, 1918-1939.....scheduled for late '58, early '59		
Gen. Gouvernement (This section includes, Polish Offices Abroad, Gov. in Exile, and other minor Polish sections.)	\$3.85	35c
Part 2, 1944-1955.....	7.00	50c
Supplement No. 1, 1956.....	55	15c
Supplement No. 2, 1957..... (The above sections do not include air-mails!)	.80	15c
Air-Mails, complete to 1956.....	1.20	15c
Airs, Supplement No. 1, 1957.....	.40	15c
EASTERN SILESIA , complete..... (This section is designed to fit with collections of Czechoslovakia or Poland).	1.65	15c
CZECHOSLOVAKIA		
Part 1, 1918-1919.....	9.00	45c
Bohemia & Moravia, 1939-1945.....	3.50	25c
Slovakia, 1939-1945.....	3.25	25c
Part 2, 1945-1953.....	6.25	35c
Supplement No. 1, 1953-1954.....	1.20	25c
Supplement No. 2, 1954.....	.45	15c
Supplement No. 3, 1955.....	.85	15c
Supplement No. 4, 1956.....	.55	15c
Supplement No. 5, 1957.....	1.25	20c
CAMBODIA		
Part 1, through Feb. 1957.....	1.65	25c
Supplement No. 1, 1957.....	.50	15c
GHANA		
Part 1, 1957.....	.50	15c
LAOS		
Part 1, through Feb. 1957.....	1.35	25c
Supplement No. 1, 1957.....	.40	15c
TOGO (Rep.)		
Part 1, 1957.....	.60	15c
VIET-NAM		
Part 1, through Feb. 1957.....	1.25	25c
Supplement No. 1, 1957.....	.40	15c
INT. OLYMPICS GAMES		
Part 1, 1896—1952.....	3.00	35c
Supplement No. 1, 1956.....	2.25	30c
Suppl. No. 1A, '57—('56 Games)...	1.00	15c
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The 14th Definitive Issue —

"The Łódź issue" of Polish Peoples Republic—1945

By MARIAN DUŃSKI



The German occupation has ended and in resuming the postal services, the Polish postal authorities were printing large issues of postage stamps needed for payment of a very great amount of mail.

Since Łódź was not destroyed by the retreating enemy, it became the temporary Capitol of Poland, and here it was possible to start a mass production of postage stamps.

At first a 5 zł. value stamp was issued as a commemorative. The Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs published in "Dziennik Taryf" No. 2/1945 pos. 13, the concerning regulation by Min. Eng. T. Kapeliński:

"On March 9, 1945 will be issued and introduced for sale a new commemorative stamp of 5 zł. value, featuring an allegory of the liberation of Warszawa—a falling soldier, upheld by a woman, who simultaneously is raising the unfurled flag of Poland, the symbol of freedom. Above the design beams the inscription "Warszawa Wolna 17.1.1945." Below, on each side "5 zł.", "5 zł" and at the bottom: "Poczta Polska." **The color of the stamp is red.**

Next a 1 zł. value was authorized and issued. Dziennik Taryf Nr. 2, 1945, pos. 15, published the regulation by Min. of P. and T., Eng. T. Kapeliński:

"On March 15, 1945, will be issued and introduced for sale a postage stamp

of 1 zł. value, featuring a silhouette of Łódź. The City Hall is visible at the left and at the right is the Cathedral. Above the subject in each corner is placed the inscription: "1 zł." "1 zł.", below the subject—the inscription: "Łódź", and at the bottom, in bold type: "Poczta Polska." **The color of this stamp is blue.**

As last of this series is the 3 zł. value. Dziennik Taryf No. 2, 1945 pos. 17, gives the following regulation by Min. of P. and T. Eng. T. Kapeliński:

"On July 1, 1945, issued and introduced for sale will be the postage stamp of 3 zł. value. This stamp—on a white background and in lilac color—depicts the Monument of Thaddeus Kościuszko in Łódź. In the upper left corner is placed the value of the stamp "3 zł." Below the monument in small letters is the inscription: "Łódź pomnik T. Kościuszki." Underneath the inscription: "Poczta Polska."

The 3 zł. value postage stamp features the T. Kościuszko monument in Łódź, which was demolished by the Germans. The designer of this stamp was Dobrowald, and the 5 zł. value "Wyzwolenie Warszawy" was designed by Eng. I. Ogórkiewicz (who designed the Lublin issue of 1944). Due to difficulties in obtaining a uniform grade, the stamps were produced on three different kinds of paper:

1. Designated as "X"—paper white, thin, white gum.

2. Designated as "Y"—paper white, glossy, light yellow gum.

3. Designated as "Z"—paper thick, spongy, yellow gum.

Catalog data:

1945—March—July. Łódź issue. Various drawings. Lithography. Postal Graphic Works, Łódź. On paper: X, Y, Z. Perf.: lin. 9, 10 $\frac{1}{4}$, 11.

numbers are rarer either on perforated or imperforated of this stamp.

The 3 zł. has auditing nos. "standing up"; the 5 zł. in lying position. The bottom margin numbers present the added total value under each vertical row of stamps in the sheet. From left to right they read:

1 zł.: 10. 20. 30. 40. 50. 60. 70. 80. 90. 100.

3 zł.: 30. 60. 90. 120. 150. 180. 210.

	Total printing:	Paper X	Paper Y	Paper Z
1 zł. Blue	10,000,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ditto Imperf		No	No	Yes
3 zł. Lilac	5,000,000	No	No	Yes
Ditto, perf. 9		No	No	Yes
Ditto, Imperf.		No	No	Yes
5 zł. Red	500,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ditto, Imperf.		Yes	No	No

These stamps were produced by preparing original plates and then duplicating them. Known are for instance stamps of larger size: 22x33 mm. in violet, olive, and red colors; and also a block of 20 (5x4) of the 1 zł. blue. The color of the 1 zł. value varies from light-blue to violet-blue. Also known are stamps (especially of the 3 zł. value) with very clear transimpressions. The 1 zł. exists in 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ and 11 perforations. This stamp also exists partly imperforated from the left or the right side and in pairs imperforated vertically. Known are also copies with shifted perforation.

Cut in half, it was used in June 1945 for payment of telegram receipts for lack of 50 groszy stamps.

Of the 3 zł. there are known imperforate proofs in blue, violet, red, tomato-red, brown-red, glossy black and green. The 3 zł. comes in perforations 9 and 11.

Proofs of the 5 zł. exist in blue and olive. It also exists imperforate at the bottom.

One printing sheet contained four selling sheets of 100 stamps. The top margin of each 100 stamps sheet has the imprint:

"Pocztowe Zakłady Graficzne Łódź."

The 5 zł. has a recognizing characteristic above the 6th stamp. On the left margin are auditing numbers from 1 to 10 — mostly horizontally on the 1 zł. stamp. Vertically placed auditing

240. 270. 300.

5 zł.: 50. 100. 150. 200. 250. 300. 350. 400. 450. 500.

The Łódź issue was withdrawn from use by the Ministry of Communication by Postal Regulations, published in "Dziennik Taryf" — 1946 on the following dates:

1 zł. on 1. X. 1946—Reg. of 23. 8. 1946 Dz. T. 1946 pos. 38.

3 zł. on 1. X. 1946—Reg. of 23. 8. 1946 Dz. T. 1946 pos. 15.

5 zł. on 1. IV. 1946—Reg. of 6. 3. 1946 Dz. T. 1946 pos. 38.

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• NOTES FROM LONDON •

No. 7

September, 1958

We have begun our new season again and this year we are meeting in new surroundings at 14 Collingham Gardens, S. W. 5. Our new meeting place is in the headquarters of the Polish Air Force Association and is an ideal rendezvous for a philatelic meeting, the room being large and airy and very well lit.

It was good to see all old faces there again, after the summer break, and those of us who could be present were not disappointed. Mr. Z. T. Bokiewicz, our secretary, gave the display and called it "Selected Sheets for my Collection". He started off by passing around a few pages containing some of the rarer items from the middle period of Polish philately, which included the elusive postal booklets. As there were only two of these produced, and those in limited numbers, it is not very often that we have a chance of seeing copies. Another interesting item was a marginal block of four of the Sienkiewicz stamp (Scott 257) which was taken from a roll for use in automatic vending machines.

The display continued with a number of sheets showing the first postage dues of Poland, and Mr. Bokiewicz stressed that the study of these had been somewhat neglected, which was a pity because they were just as interesting as the more popular early definitive issues. He demonstrated this quite clearly on his pages by showing examples of the postal forgeries, perforations and papers, all of which exist in large numbers.

Following these, we saw complete collections of the Przedborz, Zarki and Sosnowiec locals. With regard to the latter — the only triangular issue from Poland — the secretary explained he was making a sideline collection of the postmarks, in an attempt to obtain a specimen dated on each of the fourteen days on which the stamp was on sale. He went on to say that although the stamps were withdrawn from sale on the 7th August, he had specimens

clearly postmarked on the 8th and 9th of August respectively. Coming nearer to present times, he then showed some pages of the Home Army ("A.K.") stamps, issued in Poland during the Warsaw Uprising, and included in this section some of the many forgeries which have been produced.

Still in the war time period, we next saw a very fine collection of the stamps issued by the Polish Army in Egypt. This began with photographs of the designs submitted for this issue in response to a competition organised by the Quartermaster in the area. After this came examples of the trial prints, which showed unadopted colours and papers and then examples of the actual stamps themselves. Finally a number of a pages were devoted to the miniature sheets of this issue, to round off the story. Much of the background detail was supplied by our members who had fought in that historic phase of the Second World War and this provided added interest to the stamps themselves.

It is difficult in the short space I have at my disposal to do justice to this very well balanced and interesting display and perhaps the best I can do is to say that it was thoroughly enjoyed by all those present. We hope, some day, Mr. Bokiewicz can be persuaded to show us some of the other parts of his large and comprehensive collection, because whatever he produces we may be certain it will include something to interest everyone.

— RON NEGUS

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TID BITS

Three Polonus members walked off with awards at the recent Chicago Philatelic Society Exhibit Oct. 10-12 at the Hamilton Hotel. Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz took a Gold Medal for his Pre-Philatelic Postal History of Poland dating back to the 18th Century. Dr. M. E. Uznanski was awarded a Silver Medal for his showing of Allenstein. Attorney Chester W. Makowski also received a Silver Medal for his highly specialized Polish Postal History of the 18th and 19th Century. Taking part in the show also were Sig Bor with Burma and Sidney Shaman with U. S. Synoptic Pre-cancels.

At every Polonus Meeting the 1959 Polpex is discussed and different ideas and new plans are constantly being made. Every member of Polonus will be called on to help in some way—and when you are asked—please, don't turn us down.

Member Al Mazewski is a candidate for Illinois State Senator, 29th District on the Republican ticket. We hope that our members in this district will remember him when they vote Nov. 4th.

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Roman Strzelecki, Secretary
1439 N. Bell Ave.
Chicago 22, Illinois
Adam Kloskowski, Treasurer
2528 N. Drake Ave.
Chicago 47, Illinois

Publications Committee
Chester A. Schafer, Editor
864 N. Ashland Ave.
Chicago 22, Illinois
Walter Szymlek
2341 W. Moffat St.
Chicago 47, Illinois

Associate Editors this Issue
Marian Duński, J. J. Domar and
Roman J. Burkiewicz

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