

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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October, 1957

Stamps Used By Field Posts of 2nd Polish Corps

By V. HERMANOWSKI

After the complete evacuation of the Polish Army of the East — the latter 2nd Corps — in August, 1942 from the U.S.S.R. to Persia, the army then was under command of the British. After a few days of rest in Persia the whole Polish Army was transferred to Iraq, in the region of so-called PAIFORCE. Somewhat peculiar was the name, a thorn to foreign post offices and whose cryptonim was "Persian and Iraq Force" (P+A+I+FORCE). It is necessary to acquaint ourselves that this meant British Forces in Persia and Iraq. In this region were mostly the Indian divisions.

Immediately after the arrival to Iraq the Polish Army was re-organized to conform to the British system. Also, the Field Posts of the Polish Army were instituted in the various individual units.

Ordinary letters of soldiers to England and Colonies between units of the Polish Army were free of postage. Letters registered or air mail to other countries were franked by stamps. This was a two-way Tariff. Letters to England and to Colonies were franked only for registry or for transporting correspondence by air mail, to other countries the rate was somewhat higher because in addition to cost of registration or transportation by air-mail the normal rate of postage to a letter was added when going to other countries.

During the stay of the Polish Army in Iraq (PAIFORCE) Polish field posts used exclusively the stamps of India (Illustration 1) because the source of postage of India were adjoining and



Illustration 1 —
Stamp of India with
Polish 2nd Corps cancel
used in Iraq.

used by our field posts. An exception to this was mail to the U.S.S.R.; these letters had to be paid by stamps of Iraq.

At times there occurred a shortage of Indian stamps at field posts, so the stamps of Iraq (Illustration 2) were used. Covers with Iraq stamps are rarities.

Here I add, that the cancellations of field posts of the Polish army as well as the registry hand stamp on registered letters, were in Polish (Illustrations 1 & 2) while the censors notation and cancel was bilingual—Polish and English (Illustration 2).

In July, 1943 the whole 2nd Polish Corps was transferred from Iraq to Palestine and from here certain units went to Liban for mountain training. The address of correspondence again changes. The cryptonim PAIFORCE becomes MIDDLE EAST in abbreviation M.E. Here only British stamps were used. As before, the only exception are letters to the U.S.S.R. and these must have stamps of Palestine.

In mid 1943-1944, the Polish 2nd Corps is found in Egypt. Field posts of the corps still use British stamps. But like in Iraq and Palestine letters to the U.S.S.R. had to have Egyptian stamps.

In February, 1944 the Polish 2nd Corps landed in Italy and in stages



Illustration 2 — Rare cover with stamp of Iraq, sent from Polish Field Post in Iraq. In the upper left corner is the bilingual censorship cancel.

enters the battle line. The number of field posts increases and the cryptonim changes to C.M.F. (Central Mediterranean Forces). Here all mail needing to be paid for is franked by British stamps. An exception is the short time from March, 1945 to the Armistice (in Italy the capitulation of Germans occurred on May 2, 1945). In this period the Polish 2nd Corps is aside the 5th American Army in battles. Air mail letters for the Polish Corps to the U.S.A. are sent by the American field posts as being the closest. The stamps on such letters are British and American. The rate for letters out of the country and additional for registry had British stamps and for air mail transportation plus an American air mail 5 cent stamp. Also used in small numbers was the 5 cent overprinted American air mail envelope of 6 cents. Used covers are rare.

No other stamps to the time of the issue of stamps of the Polish Field Post of the 2nd Corps were ever used.

In addition, I wish to add that until February, 1945 Polish Military Censorship used a different type of cancel, the same form and text as the whole British Army in Italy (Illustration 3).

Headquarters of the 2nd Polish Corps on order No. 162 of December 30, 1945 ordered the issue of postage stamps for its own field post offices. The issue was composed of four values: 45 gr. Monte Cassino, 55 gr. Ancona, 1 zł. Bolonia and 2 zł. General Anders — and in addition, a souvenir sheet made up of the above four values. These stamps were released on January 1, 1946.



Illustration 3 — Polish Military Censorship cancel used until February, 1945.

The above Headquarters Order No. 162 orders: in Point 2 "Registered packages in internal circulation. The internal circulation is for postal shipments have cryptonims on territory of C.M.F. and M.E. or between these two territories." Point 2 "Payment for registration of packages will be in Polish stamps of 3 zł. value."

From these orders we deduct that the stamps were legal and accepted as pay for postage. I wish also to state that the 2nd Polish Corps did not have facilities of its own transportation of posts from C. M. F. (Italy) to M. E. (Egypt, Palestine) or return. This was handled by British Field Posts who did not question the Polish Field Post stamps of the 2nd Polish Corps.

In September, 1946 when the 2nd Corps was already in England and in Italy only small units of liquidation stayed behind, there suddenly appeared at stamp dealers a 2nd Corps stamp of 2 zł. with the overprint "POCZTA LOTNICZA/5 zł." This stamp was the product of private initiative, speculative and had no connection with the stamps of the 2nd Polish Corps. This "stamp" can also be found in dealers stocks cancelled as "Poczta Polowa II Korpusu." The manipulators of this fantasy of "stamp" and cancel were interested in their own earnings and gullible collectors which was in chaos after the war.

Editor's Note:

As to cancellations of the Polish 2nd Corps, refer to the article by the same author in the *Polonus Bulletin* Issue No. 49, December, 1946.

OUR REGRETS

The *Polonus Philatelic Society* sincerely regrets the controversy of opinion between Mr. V. Hermanowski and Mr. E. Nowak. The Society has appointed a committee to present to the members the opinion of what we feel are the foremost specialists on the subjects in discussion. This opinion will be published in a later *Bulletin*.

For the information of the members, Mr. Nowak's reply was shown to Mr. V. Hermanowski prior to printing and was published without his objection.

—J. J. D.

tentialities of one man, but after it is published in print, a very useful one. Alas! — death prevented him from complete realization of this great work. With the death of Bernard Mulewski Polish Philatelic literature have suffered an irretrievable loss.

LET HIM LIVE IN OUR MEMORY!

IN MEMORIAM MGR. BERNARD MULEWSKI by A. Śnieżko

Bernard Bulewski, College Professor and reknown Polish Philatelist and author of numerous expert articles, passed on quietly and unnoticed, on June 8, 1957 at Gniezno, Poland.

Born March 26, 1903 in Łasin, Pomorze, he studied at the Poznań University in the realm of French and German Philology and Mastering in Philosophy. He was an Educator, and from 1950 Assistant Inspector for the Dept. of Education in the city of Gniezno. He was also Founder and President of the P. Z. F. (Polish Philatelists Association) — Gniezno Local.

Stamp collecting preoccupied him in his school days. He collected Poland, France, silhouettes of famous personalities on stamps of the world and philatelic literature with the history of philately as a specialty. Besides this Prof. Mulewski was known as an ardent, tireless disseminator of philatelic knowledge among students; as an author of educational dissertations and editor of the youth section "Młody Filatelista" in "Filatelista Polski", Poznań. He worked hard on the manual "Zasady Filatelistyki" and with great devotion was preparing a major work "Silwetki polskie na znaczkach pocztowych" (biographical sketches) and had ready for printing "Historia filatelistyki" and "Z filatelią na wesoło." Minor articles in this field, scattered in Magazines and newspapers over a period of ten years (1947-1957) constitute the giant work of a collector and historian of philately. Recently, influenced by the French publication "Encyklopedie Philatelique Illustree" by Paul Rulle, he undertook with great enthusiasm the preparation, so badly needed by us, "Małej Encyklopedii Filatelistycznej", that would cover all aspects of our philately, namely: stamps, printing, color, emmission, biographies of Poles on stamps, biographies of designers, engravers, authors of publications, localities and sites featured on stamps, interpretation of inscriptions, exhibitions, etc. He has edited over 300 typed pages in alphabetical arrangement. Truly a giant work, nearly surpassing the po-

(Continued in left column)

TID BITS

Our west coast member Mathias Pristika won a trophy (1st prize) showing four frames of Zepp covers—first flights at the San Diego exhibit October 13. He writes that he would like to hear from Polonus members. His address is 3767 Hihgalnd Ave., San Diego 5, Calif.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Roman Burkiewicz announce the arrival of a daughter on October 19—7½ lbs. Cigars were had by all at the Oct. 25th meeting.

* * *

The Midway Stamp Club will hold an Auction Wednesday eve., Nov. 6, at 5718 Archer Ave., 8 p.m. All Polonus members invited. Over 100 lots to go on the block.

* * *

Leo Zeller was elected President of the Cleveland Stamp Club. At the Club's Oct. 22nd meeting Leo featured an outline of Polonus and he showed selections from his Poland collection. Feb. 15 and 16 are the dates of the annual exhibit and Hollenden hotel in Cleveland the place.

* * *

Polpex Chairman Frank Rizzo is planning to go all out for articles for this coming Polpex 1958. Polonus will supply many of the major philatelic publications with articles on Polish stamps to help publicize its show. Now is the time to select your topic and begin writing.

APPLICANTS PENDING

Mrs. Dorothy McLe
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Meriden, Conn.

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IN OUR MAIL BOX

(This letter is a continuation to the one in last month's Bulletin.)

"The other covers which Dr. Uznanski mentions from Iraq, Iran and India all show that the "Dojdzieny" was not used in lieu of local postage but on the contrary, local postage had to be paid in full and "Dojdzieny" added and which a tolerant postal employee in these countries probably treated as war time propaganda or charity labels.

This does not mean that we, who collect all phases of Polish Postal History, should refuse to handle such items, on the contrary let us have these provided we are clear on their status. But, whatever we do we should, in my opinion, avoid mixing politics with stamp collecting. This is sure to cause great harm to philately, will restrict our vision and cloud our judgement according to the prevailing political changes.

I am afraid that the historic interpretation of Dr. Uznanski does not help to arrive at a correct conclusion as to the status of "Dojdzieny" and from a philatelic point of view his article does not give any more information than the monograph prepared by Mr. Bojanowicz in 1952.

As much as we all admire the great courage displayed by the Polish people during the tragic years 1939-1945 we should not judge the validity of a stamp purely from sentimental or political expediency.

By all means let us have all the facts, but as long as Dr. Uznanski and Mr. Bojanowicz cannot produce more evidence I am of the opinion that "Dojdzieny" while a collectible historic item is not a stamp, but a patriotic war time label."

—I. Gust

Victoria, Australia

NEW MEMBERS

Janusz F. Kubicki
3201 W. Warren Blvd.
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Stanislaw T. repka
ul. Powsinska 97
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Notes From My Polish Scrap Book

By MARIAN CARNE ZINSMEISTER

Reprinted from WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP, Nos. 10 & 17, 1952

The following notes, taken from my Polish scrap book may be of help to collectors who are desirous of mounting their Polish stamps and may save such collectors the time it took me to gather together the information. It has been taken from various catalogues, Scott's 1952, Scott's Monthly Journal, Lipsia, Michel, all the philatelic magazines, Znaczki Catalogue, Filatelista, Gryzowskiego Catalogue, Polonus Bulletin, help from my many friends of the Polonus Philatelic Society and the many encyclopedias at the library.

I am told some of the Polish words cannot be translated into an exact English word, and we must use the literal translation in that connection.

No. 1—Type A-1

Issued—January 1, 1860.

Designer—Unknown.

Engraver—Henry Mayer of the Bank of Poland.

Purpose—Normal postage.

Picture & History—Coat of Arms,



Russian imperial crown at top, Russian double headed eagle on center medalion; announced for use from January 1, 1860, but actually not used until some time in March or April of 1860; to be used in the Kingdom of Poland and Russia; Czar Alexander I of Rus-

sia was then King of Poland. All Polish stamps were suppressed in April of 1865.

Notes—There is a well known forger, the top left "10" is larger than on the genuine; the serifs are not so pointed; many other differences.

No stamps of Poland, as a country, until 1918.

Issues of the Republic

Nos. 11-14—Type A2, A5

Designer—Prof. Edward Trojanowski of Warsaw.

Purpose—Normal postage.



Picture & History—(5) The statue of Sigismund III in Warsaw; born 1566, died 1632; was King of Poland from 1587 to 1632.

(10) The Coat of Arms of Warsaw, the nymph with sword and shield on an ornamental scroll, and date "1916."

(25) The White Eagle of Poland. The Polish Eagle, or white eagle, or piast eagle—symbolical of alertness and strength, will be found on many of the stamps and in the overprints used by this country. Legend tells us that a Polish Prince, named Lech, on the site where the city of Gniezno, Poland, was later established, found a nest of white eaglets against the red sky of the early morning sun. Hence, the combination of a white eagle and the red of the sunrise has been symbolical of Poland down through the ages. The very early eagle was rather chubby and shaggy, having a small tail,

and a crown of one form or another directly on its head or immediately over it, to denote the kingdom. Each dynasty—such as the Jagiellonian or even the individual kings, as Sigismund, desired to characterize their reigns with a typical eagle in keeping with the trend of the times, so the design of the eagle has been changed in details many times.

(50) The Equestrian statue of Jan Sobieski near the Palace in Warsaw; born 1624, died 1696; King of Poland from 1674 to 1696.

The set of stamps was prepared in 1916 at the establishment of M. Jan Cotty, for use by the Warsaw Citizens' Post, for delivery of their correspondence in Warsaw and suburbs; stamps were inscribed "Pocztą Miejską 1916" or Municipal Post 1916. They were forbidden to be used by the German Governor General, von Beseler. Later, in November, 1918, they were overprinted for general use, overprint reading "Pocztą Polską," or Polish Post, and the values were given in fenigi.

Note — There are many forgeries known on these overprints, made to defraud the revenue collector and not stamp collectors. There are many missing letters in the overprint. Printed in sheets of 54, 6x9.

After the Germans overran Russian Poland, during World War I, 1915-1918, they brought in German stamps overprinted "Russisch Polen," and later following the fall of Warsaw German stamps overprinted "Gen. Gouv. Warschau." When the Germans withdrew from Poland in 1918 the stocks of these overprinted stamps were used by the new Polish Government.

Nos. 15-26—Type German Stamps A16 and A22

Issued—(1st setting) Dec. 5, 1918.

(2nd setting) Jan. 15, 1919.

Designer—P. Waldruff.

Purpose—Normal postage.

Picture & History — "Germania" posed by Anna Fuhring of Berlin. German occupation stamps (originally overprinted "Gen.-Gouv. Warschau") now overprinted with four lines obliterating the original overprint, plus the words "Pocztą Polska;" 5 on 2½, 5 on 3 and 25 on 7½ were also given these new values by overprint. The stamps were all used in Northern Poland.

Notes—There are many known errors and many forgeries, all made to defraud the postal authorities; forgeries have larger faced type and appear much coarser than the genuine; the first printing has a space of 3¼ mm. between the middle two bars, while the second printing has a space of 4¼ mm. between the same two bars; the 3pf brown comes only in the second setting, while all others come from both; there are type varieties and misspelled words in the overprint.

Nos. 27-29—Type Austria A6, A7, A8

Issued—December 5, 1918.

Designer—Alfred Cossman.

Engraver—K. Schirnbock.

Purpose—Normal postage.



Picture & History—Remaining stocks of the Austrian Karl Fond or Karl Fund semi-postal stamps of 1918 picturing Charles I and Empress Zita, left in Poland when the Austrians moved out, were overprinted in black with the Polish Eagle and "Polska Pocztą" for use in Southern Poland, Lublin being the headquarters for the area known as Southern Poland. The monetary units in this district were known as Halerzy and Korona. The use of the eagle as the overprint made the stamps national in character.

Notes—There are inverted overprints, forgeries and counterfeits on the issue; the latter are easily recognized, the wings, head and claws of the eagle all differ from the originals; the "s" in Polska leans forward, while the "z" in Pocztą has a short top horizontal stroke and a long lower stroke; the top of the "a" is rounded.

Nos. 30-31—Type Austria M3

Issued—December 5, 1918.

Designer—W. Moser.

Engraver—F. Schirnbock.

Picture & History—Austrian KUK field-post stamps of 1917 overprinted



with the white eagle, new value and "Polska Poczta," and stars over the original value.

Notes—Known with stars missing, and with inverted overprint.

Nos. 32-40—Type Austria M-3

Issued—December 21, 1918.

Designer—W. Moser.

Engraver—F. Schirnbock.

Purpose—Normal postage.

Picture & History—Again the Austrian K U K field-post stamps of 1917 overprinted: "Polska Poczta" and the eagle, new values, and stars (32-37), bars (38), stars (39-40).

Notes—When it is remembered Poland had just lived through a long war, and was a new government trying to get started, it is not to be wondered at that many errors crept in on the overprinted stamps; the work was done under pressure, time was an element, and there was the necessity to prepare sufficient stamps to satisfy the newly created postal system. Considering all these factors we collectors should be happy to have one of each in our collections—no one could ever say they were prepared for collectors.

The Cracow Issues

Nos. 41-59 Type Austria A37, A39, A40, A42

Issued—January 10, 1919 to January 27, 1919.

Designer—R. Junk.



Picture & History—The Austrian Crown, the Austrian Coat of Arms, Emperor Carl I from the Austrian 1916

series, overprinted "Poczta (ornament) Polska." These were used in that section of Poland known as Galicia and Eastern Silesia, both of which were formerly a part of the Austrian Empire; they are known as the "Cracow issues" because remainders of Austrian stamps available only at the Cracow post office were called in and so overprinted. There are many known forgeries on this issue and even the specialists have difficulty in knowing which is genuine. The genuine stamps were issued in very limited quantities and all "Cracow Issues" should be viewed with suspicion.

No. 60—Type Austria A39

Issued—January 23, 1919.

Designer—R. Junk.

Picture & History—The Austrian Coat of Arms 1916 issue overprinted "Polska/Poczta" and "25." 100,000 were overprinted. Again watch for forgeries.



Nos. 61-71—Type A9

Issued—As released by the printer:

(15, 25) March 3, 1919; (17, 20, 50) March 5, 1919; (2, 5, 70) March 7, 1919; (3, 1k) March 10, 1919; (6) March 13, 1919.

Picture & History—As the supply of overprinted Austrian stamps in southern Poland was about exhausted on February 5, 1919, the Polska Komisja Likwidacyjna (Polish Liquidation Committee) was authorized to prepare and issue the P.K.L. issue (sometimes erroneously referred to as a commemorative issue of the First Polish Parliament).

A Polish Eagle on a shield, with "Poczta Polska" above and the value below, with ornaments at either side was used.

Notes—They were issued without gum, and many postally used copies show the color eaten away because the gum supplied by the post office department was of an inferior grade;

they were issued imperf but are found privately perforated, also sewing machine perforated, because certain large users of postage were permitted by authority of the Commission to so perforate their stamps. There were many forgeries of this set, minor defects in the lettering and designs show the differences, they are very crude by comparison with the originals.

In 1917, with a view to restoring a Polish Monarchy under a German Ruler—Germany requested the Chief of the Civil Administration in Warsaw to authorize the Society of Artists of Warsaw (Warszawskie Towarzystwo Artystyczne) to solicit designs for a series of stamps, one of the conditions being that each design should bear the inscription KRÓLESTWO POLSKIE (Kingdom of Poland). One hundred fifty designs were submitted by thirty-two artists and five of the thirteen chosen designs were later used for a new series of stamps.

Nos. 81-92—Type A10-A14

Nos. 93-108—Type A15-A19

Issued—81-92: Jan. 17, 1919 (Fenig-Marka, Northern Poland).

93-108: March, 1919 (Halerzy-Korona, Southern Poland).

Designer—(A10-A15) Edward Trojanowski; (other values) Edmund Bartłomiejczyk.

Purpose—Normal postage series.

Picture & History—(A10 and A15) Polish eagle on baroque shield; (A11 and A16) a Polish eagle in center flanked by two upright Roman fasces, symbolical of a United Poland; (A12 and A17) Starry heaven and the top of a granary in Kazimierz on the Vistula River near Cracow; wheat heads and a sickle form the top of a shield bearing the words "Pocztą Polska," all symbolic of agriculture; (A13 and A18) a farmer plowing the

fields with his team of oxen, with his sword stuck into the ground, symbolical of peace; (A14 and A19) a Polish Uhlán or cavalryman brandishing his sword, leading his men into a charge, while the war clouds disappear in the background before the rays of the sun.

Notes—Both sets were issued imperf and perf and because they used any perforating machines they could get hold of, the perfs are found 10, 11, 11½, 10x11½ and compound. The stamps were printed in sheets of 100, ten by ten, and there are many known paper varieties, color and shade varieties in these issues.

Nos. 133-139—Type A20, A26

Issued—June, 1919.

Designer—Edmund Bartłomiejczyk.

Purpose—Issued to commemorate the opening of the first National Assembly of Poland (called Sejm by the Poles).

Picture & History—(10) The Polish eagle; (15) Portrait of Ignace Jan Paderewski, and his name. Born 1869, died June 29, 1942, pianist, composer, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs January 16th to December 9, 1919; (20) Portrait of Adalbert (Wojciech) Trampeczynski and his name. Born 1860, speaker of the Polish Parliament 1919-1922, speaker of the Senate 1922-1927, Marshal of the First National Assembly; (25) Portrait of Gen. Josef Pilsudski, and his name. Born near Vilna in November 1867, became interested in the freedom of Poland, banned to Siberia, in 1892 he formed the Polish Socialist Party in 1896 again arrested, in 1900 arrested a third time, always active in his opposition to the Russian rule, jailed by the Germans, in 1914-1916 Commander of the Polish Legions, assumed supreme power as Chief of the Polish State in 1918, brought about the retirement of the then president, assumed dictatorial





powers and brought about a revision of the constitution, served as first Marshal of Poland, elected President of the Republic on May 31, 1926 but refused the office, after resigning as Premier retained his office as Minister of War, fought, labored and lived only for Poland, died May 12, 1935; (50) A Polish eagle on a rocky coast watching a ship in a storm trying to reach safety—allegorical of the Polish State in the stormy times following World War I.

(1) A griffin with its paws on the Roman fasces. Each stamp bears the words "Sejm 1919 Roku" some where in the design as well as "Poczta Polska"—translated means Polish Post—Diet 1919 year.

An election was held on January 26, 1919, and on February 10th the first National Assembly convened and approved the government of Paderewski naming Pilsudski the head of the State.

Notes—Although No. 139 was printed as a part of this set, it was thought the small size belittled the incumbent President of the Senate, and the same design was used in a larger size (No. 135) and thus sold as a part of the set. No. 139 was sold at the philatelic window at Warsaw after the issuance

and sale of the complete set, some time in December, 1919.

Due to the conditions existing after World War I the stamps may be found on wove or ribbed paper in innumerable shades, and some are known imperf., although they were never placed in circulation in that form.

Nos. 140-148—Type A11, A12, A13, A14
Nos. 149-152C—Type A10

Notes—Because higher values were required the same 1919-1920 designs were again used; they are now on thin paper. Type A10 has been redrawn to have the value read in marka. In March, 1921 the 20 marks gray-green was counterfeited to defraud the government at Tarnow; it is perf. 11 instead of 9 or 11½, and on plain paper, is 22¾ by 28 mm. instead of 22 mm. by 27½ mm.; the "0" of the 20 is narrow.

No. 153—Type A11

Issued—January 15, 1921.

Designer—Edmund Bartłomiejczyk.



Picture and History—Since there was now no use for the 40f value, the stock of 6,000,000 on hand was overprinted in the interest of economy—the overprint being five bars "3 M.K."

Notes—In the first four top rows the space between the "3" and "MK" is 3½ mm., and on the remainder of the sheet only 3 mm. There are double and inverted overprints; one stamp is known to have a comma after "MK"; two types of period are found after the "MK," a round period and a square period; numerous printing varieties, such as missing letters may be found in the overprinting.

Nos. 156-162—Type A28-A30

Issued—May 2, 1921.

Designer—Edmund Bartłomiejczyk.

Purpose—To commemorate the new constitution.

Picture and History—(2, 3, 4) An oval band bearing the word "Konstytucja" or constitution, at the top, shin-



ing sun and date "March 17, 1921" in center post horn holding together wheat heads at the lower third of the oval. Allegorical of the sun bringing peace to Poland's darkness and despair over political troubles.

(6, 10) Two allegorical figures of "Peace" and "Agriculture" walking hand in hand at peace with the world, and the dates "May 3, 1791" and "March 17, 1921." (May 3, 1791 being the date of the formation of the first Polish Constitution; March 17, 1921 the signing of the present Constitution.)

(25, 50) Peace seated behind an oval bearing the date "March 17, 1921" and the word "Konstytucja"; the cornucopias in the upper corners being significant of the abundance which is to follow in Poland.

Although the Constitution Assembly was convened on February 10, 1919, the constitution was not officially adopted until March 17, 1921.

Notes—There is one known error in the series—the 4m red was issued in carmine-rose.

Nos. 163-169B—Type A31

Issued—June, 1921 to April, 1923.

Designer—Edward Trojanowski.

Purpose—Normal postage, higher values were required because inflation had already started in Poland.

Picture—The large Polish Eagle.

Notes—There are many paper, perforation and plate varieties in this issue.

Nos. 154-155A—Type A27

Issued—April, 1921 to April, 1922.

Designer—Bronislaw Wisniewski.

Purpose—To commemorate the signing of the peace treaty with Russia.



Picture and History—A Polish peasant sowing a new crop, his sword of war buried point down in the plowed soil, and the rainbow—God's promise of peace—in the background. The Coat-of-Arms of Poland is at the lower right. Following World War I, and the creation of the new States of Poland, there was friction between the Poles and Soviet Russia, but through the intervention of the Allies the matter was straightened out and peace terms were reached at Riga on March 18, 1921, ratified by Poland on April 17, 1921.

Notes—Known on various kinds of paper, thin laid, medium smooth, thick porous wove, pelure; known in various perforations from 9 to 14½ and compound. Col. Larking writes there were six separate issues of this stamp, the difference being found in the rainbow.



Nos. 170-175, 176-190—Type A10, A11, A32

Issued—June 19, 1922 until May 1, 1923.

Designer—(A32) Edward Trojanowski.

Purpose—To commemorate the union of Upper Silesia with Poland.

Picture and History—The Fenigi values were types of the 1919 issue A10 and A11, new plates having been made for the 40 and 75 each now having only one "f" following the value.

The Marka values pictured a coal miner with pick on shoulder, factories with smoking chimneys in background, border of leaves, with two types of Coats-of-Arms at left and right.

Under the Treaty of Versailles, residents of the district of Upper Silesia were to decide by plebiscite (vote) whether they desired to become a part of Germany or Poland. Result, the industrial districts voted to go with Germany while the agricultural districts to Poland. Korfanty, a prominent citizen of Poland then took possession of southeastern Upper Silesia with an armed force. (Continued next month)

NEW ISSUES by J. J. Domar

The previously announced set of three stamps which were to be issued to commemorate the Congress of International Technical Committee Against Fire - Warsaw 1957 - was released on September 11, 1957. All of the same size 31.5 x 39.5 mm. Printed in bi-colors in rotogravure as follows:

40 gr. Fireman in rescue action — black on red.

60 gr. A child pleading for help on a fire background — dark-green and yellow.

2:50 zł. An ear of corn on a flame background—violet and red.

You will note they were printed in a larger size than originally reported.

On The Drawing Board

A 60 gr. value—honoring the 300th anniversary of John Amos Komensky's great work. "Opera Didactica Omnia" printed in Amsterdam. Czechoslovakia has already issued 3 stamps commemorating the same event.

The release of this stamp by the Polish Post is justified by the fact that the majority of his works were written in Poland in the city of Leszno where he was living in exile.

The portrait of J. A. Komensky is designed by S. Jasinski and printed by monochrome rotogravure in 25.5x31.25 mm.

The announced Airmail set has been postponed to November.

In September 30, a supplementary value to the Polish Medical Science series was released—a 1 zł. value bearing the portrait of W. Bieganski, M.D., 1857-1917. Printed in the same manner as the previous issues. Designed by J. Desselberger, in two colors grey-blue and orange; size 25.5x31.25 mm.

For the last quarter of the year there are more sets in preparation:

A single 60 gr. value for Stamp Day, October 9.

One or two commemorative values on the occasion of the first centenary of the birth of Jozef Korzeniowski-Conrad, the well known writer (Dec. 3, 1857).

Conrad's son lives in England and is taking an active part in preparing

an Exhibition which was to be held in Aug. and Sept. in the Slater Art Gallery, in Canterbury Royal Museum.

Released on Sept. 25 was a single value 60 gr. lilac, in rotogravure, size 25.5x31.25 mm., to commemorate the Fourth International Trade Union Congress, Leipzig, 1957.

Postal Stationery

On August 31 a new Airmail envelope was to be released bearing a 3.40 zł. stamp depicting the Cracow Old Marketplace. Designed by J. Miller, color: deep blue; quantity printed: 500,000.

In September two illustrated envelopes are to be released. On one will be depicted a dancing Cracow couple, on the other a fragment of a Lowicz wedding. Illustrations are polychrome offset printed, designed by K. Mann; the stamps designed by S. Jasinski, same manner of printing. The price of the envelope together with post-paper is 90 gr. Quantity of each envelope released is 100,000.

Postmarks

We should mention at this time, that the quality and originality of design of the recent Polish cancellations are exceptional. I'm certain anyone wishing to branch out to include Polish Postmarks will find them very interesting and certainly a very unique collection. Space does not permit description but maybe sometime in the future our Editor may illustrate a few . . .

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