

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets Every Second and Fourth Friday of the Month at Falcons Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Issue 207

January, 1963

POLPEX SOUVENIR SHEET SHOWS DUAL THEME



Thanks to the efforts of the eminent Polish artist Wincenty Gawron, a most unusual souvenir sheet will be issued by the Polonus Philatelic Society for POLPEX 1963 on March 1, 2 and 3,

at the Polish Museum of America, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, Ill.

It effectively portrays the dual theme of this year's exhibition which com-

(Continued on next page)

BE A POLPEX PATRON

The Polonus Philatelic Society is a non-profit organization. Any moneys taken in for dues, advertisements in the **Bulletin** or Polpex Catalog, Polpex entrance fees, souvenir seal sales and Patron listings, are used to pay the Exhibition expenses, the printing costs of the **Bulletin**, hall rental, etc. Costs keep rising constantly and our Treasury needs bolstering.

Would you be a Patron of the Pol-

pex? For one dollar we will print your name in our colorful and impressive Polpex Catalog to be distributed to visitors at the Exhibition.

With this issue of the **Polonus Bulletin** we are enclosing a remittance envelope. Please print your name on the flap, enclose a dollar bill, seal it, affix a stamp and mail. In a small way you will be of great help to our Society.

And please—do so immediately!

207-1

memorates the 100th Anniversary of the Polish Insurrection of 1863 and the Battle of Gettysburg in the Civil War. It will be printed in three colors and a pair with descriptive folder may be obtained for 25c plus postage by writing to Roman H. Strzelecki, 1439 N. Bell Ave., Chicago 22, Ill.

In connection with the stamp exhibition, the Polish Museum will open its Civil War Room to the visitors. Here you can view historical war souvenirs, paintings, and mementos pertaining to Poles in the Civil War. In addition, they are preparing a display of material pertaining to the Polish Insurrection of 1863.

This year, invitations to attend our exhibition are being sent to the Chicago Polish Parochial Schools in an effort to stimulate interest in history and philately among the school children. Invitations are also being sent to subscribers of the Polish Museum, which number well over 3,000.

Mr. Mirosław Bojanowicz, an outstanding philatelist with a world-wide reputation, will exhibit a portion of his international award winning collection of Poland No. 1 and will also be present at POLPEX 1963.

Have you sent in your entry application? Don't miss out on the competition. You may just as well win any of the eight awards. Send in your entry application now! The deadline is February 5th.

If you have seen our program catalogue of last year, then you know what to expect this year. In addition to the catalogue of the exhibits and ads, there will be articles of philatelic and historical interest with many illustrations. Such a booklet is expensive to put out. You can help by placing an ad. A full page costs \$18.00; a half \$10.00 and a quarter \$6.00. Send your greetings to the members and visitors at Polpex by way of an ad. Advertise your wants. Send your copy and check to the program book chairman, Stanley Kucharz, 4324 S. Spaulding Ave., Chicago 32, Illinois.

In our bourse you will have a chance to look at stocks of dealers from Chi-

cagoland and from more distant places. In fact, Mr. Zbigniew Bokiewicz, of the Continental Stamp Supplies, Ltd., of London will have a table at our Polpex and will bring his wonderful stock of Poland material from which you can make your selections.

You out-of-towners, if you can, visit the show. You won't regret it. Don't miss the Beeba and food on Saturday night at 10 p.m. It's the highlight of our Polpex.

The various committee work is being co-ordinated by Polpex Chairman, Josef J. Bendkowski, 6223 S. Damen Ave., Chicago 36, Ill.

FROM THE PLEWACKI POST STAMP SOCIETY

For the seventh term, our member Dr. Matt A. Gajewski was elected to the office of President of the Plewacki Post Stamp Society, American Legion, Adam Plewacki Post 799 in Buffalo, N.Y. Dates for their Seventh Annual ALPEX will be April 5, 6, 7, 1963. Chairman of the exhibition is Robert Jernatowski. Their headquarters are at 385 Paderewski Drive, Buffalo 6, New York.

BOSTON POLISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

At their December 12th meeting at the Hotel Madison in Boston, the Polish Philatelic Society elected Louis Bakula, President; Stan Krauz, Vice-Pres.; Francis Budryk, Rec. Sec'y; Walter Niemyski, Fin. Sec'y.; Edw. Nowak Sr., Public Relations; Witold Jurgilewicz, Historian and Stan. Bykowski, Editor of the Bulletin.

May their term in office be fruitful to Polish Philately!

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13 Wiley Street
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WHAT GOES ON AT POLONUS . . .

By Roman H. Strzelecki

MEETING OF JANUARY 11, 1963

With the snow and cold wave that hit Chicago, attendance at our meeting was not up to par. A number of our members who live in the suburbs were late getting home from their daily occupations and consequently did not attend. So when the President called the meeting to order at the usual time there was but a small number present for this important meeting.

The meeting started with a short discussion of the Christmas Beeba which was held on December 28th. Judging from the remarks of those attending it was a huge success. Besides the food there were plenty of liquid refreshments. Several members brought bottles of what they called "Kropelki Św. Walentego" which were especially popular because of the cold weather and the prevailing holiday spirit. The President thanked the donors: Messers: Diachenko, Domanski, Reinowski, Bendkowski, Bogucki and Skotnicki. He also mentioned that a donation of 12 dollars was made from three members who preferred to stay anonymous.

Getting back to our regular business, the Membership Committee presented two new applicants who were admitted as members.

With POLPEX 1963 but a few weeks away, the discussion on many details of the show developed. The Chairman appealed to all present for exhibits. This year an invitation was extended to out-of-town members to show their collections.

Doc Kozy surprised us when he presented the artwork of the Polpex souvenir sheet design for the Society's approval. Usually at such an occasion, every other member becomes a qualified expert, a connoisseur of art and a lot of arguments are presented. But not this time! All present unanimously accepted the proposed design. Final details were left for a Committee of four to work out. You may be sure of one thing — we will have a fine souvenir sheet this year.

Because this is the end of our fiscal year the President appointed an Auditing Committee to check the financial records of the Society.

The balance of the meeting was devoted to the nomination of officers for the new year. Each year these nominating meetings are full of spark and color. Officers are selected to lead the Society and to try and maintain a better program than the year before. But this can only be achieved with full cooperation from the members. And each year we run into the same difficulty. The officers do not get this cooperation. In a Society like Polonus where we all have a common interest the work should go smoothly. But we are only human. As the old Polish proverb goes: "Jeszcze się ten nie urodził, co by wszystkim dogodził."

The following were nominated:

Lester Jankowski and Dr. M. E. Uznanski for President. Lester declined. Stefan Kochanski for Vice-President. Roman H. Strzelecki for Secretary. B. Rycaj for Treasurer. Roman Reinowski for Librarian. Chester Schafer and Josef Bendkowski for Directors.

I am sure that this slate of nominees if elected will do their best to satisfy the most of us. Let's hope so.

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Poland Honors Korczak, A Friend To Children

By W. Kolakowski

Reprinted from LINN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS



A new Polish issue, a set of six stamps honoring a beloved Polish teacher, Janusz Korczak, evokes in people the world over, feelings of reverence, respect and love for a man who literally gave his life to the compassionate love and care of children.

The depth of feeling aroused by this man's memory, seemed particularly poignant to the writer on a recent visit to Poland, because of the timing of the trip. Plans had been underway for several weeks, for a meeting in Warsaw with the officials in charge of the export of Polish stamps; a reservation had been made to fly to Copenhagen and thence to the Polish capital on October 24.

After President Kennedy's talk to the nation on the Cuban crisis on the evening of October 22, I decided to keep the appointment, in the faith that war would not come. From Copenhagen to Warsaw I was the only pas-

senger on the plane. I wondered what kind of reception would be accorded to me, an American citizen flying behind the Iron Curtain at such a moment in history.

To my surprise, I was greeted with the greatest warmth and enthusiasm. From the first customs official to the highest minister, all seemed to look at me as an expression of faith in the peaceful solution of the crisis. To see a flesh and blood American arriving in their country, appeared to bring a tremendous sense of relief to the Polish people, who know better than most of us what war means.

Word got around quickly, and hundreds of people walked past my hotel to look at me.

In this atmosphere of hope that a settlement would be reached and the tensions of recent years abated, I was told of the plans for the commemoration of the death in 1942 of Janusz

Koreczak. Janusz Koreczak is the pseudonym by which millions of Polish children and adults knew the beloved physician, teacher and author, Dr. Henryk Goldzmit.

He gave up his profitable medical career to organize and manage "The Orphan's House", where he was physician and friend to the children and also instituted a training program for young people preparing as tutors. His sympathetic understanding of children is shown in his works "How to Love a Child", "The Child's Right to Esteem", "The Rules of Life", and others.

Best beloved, and commemorated in the present issue of stamps, are his stories for children relating the adventure of "King Matthew I", a little king whose desire was "to change everything for the better", to make all the children of the world happy. One can believe that this was also the ideal of the good doctor.

When the children were taken by the Nazis from the Home to Treblinka for execution, he was offered the chance to go free. He chose to go with those to whom he had devoted his life, sharing with them his own faith and courage. He was executed on August 5, 1942.

Poland is honoring Janusz Koreczak in various ways, especially with programs in the schools. The present set of six stamps is part of the tribute. They depict the sculpture of Koreczak's head by Dunikowski and five scenes from the stories of King Matthew. They are printed in multicolor offset from designs by J. Srokowski, in sheets of 15.

In addition to the sculpture of Koreczak's head which is on the 40 gr., the 60 gr. shows the return of King Matthew after a victory. The third stamp 90 gr. shows the daughter of a cannibal king receiving the offer of a gift from the little king. After being condemned to death by cowards and traitors, Matthew is taken to the place of execution, as seen on the 1 zł. where his sentence was changed to exile on a desert island, at the last moment.

The fifth stamp of this set, 2.50 zł., represents Matthew's desolation after

losing his canary, his sole companion in exile, and in the last value, 5.60 zł., little Matthew is shown relaxing by skating, after returning from exile and exhausted by problems of state.

POLPHILEX 1963

The Union of Polish Philatelists in Great Britain are preparing for their annual exhibition PHOLPHILEX 1963 which this year will be held outside of London at a branch club in Birmingham. Polonus members are invited to exhibit and entry forms are available from Lester Jankowski, 10 S. LaSalle St., Chicago 3, Ill. Individual entries are limited to four frames, with nine pages per frame for each entry. The fee is \$1.50 per frame which includes insurance and return postage.

This year's theme is "The January Uprising in Polish Philately." Last year the theme was "Józef Piłsudski and His Era in Polish Philately." Officiating at the opening and closing ceremonies of the exhibition was the daughter of the late Marshall, Dr. Wanda Piłsudska.

The exhibition attracted collectors of Piłsudski material from outside Great Britain. Participating were our members Dr. M. E. Uznanski and Lester Jankowski.



In connection with the exhibition, a British cancellation was authorized and used at the London S.W. 7 Post Office during the show. Here is a unique Polonica item! According to Jan Berek of London, covers with the Piłsudski cachet and special cancellation are still available.

— W. Szymlek

Polish Field Post Service 1918-21*

By W. Kowarzyk

Reprinted from the "POLISH PHILATELIC REVIEW" — London

It can safely be said that postal authorities in reborn Poland started work by organizing Field Post Service.

As early as December 1918 we find in the Official Paper of the Min. of Posts a regulation, ordering the direction of all insufficiently addressed mail and with annotation "Eastern Galicia Army" only, to the Lwów 2 Post Office. This was in connection with the Polish-Ukrainian struggle.

On November 10th, 1918, J. Piłsudski returned from Magdeburg to Warsaw and was proclaimed the leader of the nation. Organizing the National Army, he managed in a short time to gather a considerable force. In Autumn 1919, Polish soldiers stood on rivers Dvina and Berezhina and to the East of River Goryn (Horyn) which demanded development of postal net-work on colossal scale almost from scratch.

Surprisingly in documents pertaining to the history of the Polish Army of that period, Postal Service is not mentioned at all. This probably was due to unstable character of communications, as neither military nor civilian postal installations existed at first, and the official mail was carried by special couriers.

Organization of Postal Service, which took place almost simultaneously with organization of the Polish Army, in November 1918, was modelled largely on First World War Services.

In the early days, however, it was mostly a matter of spontaneous efforts and so, due to the initiative of the Eastern Galicia Army C-in-C, the first Polish Field Post Office No. 1 (renamed later No. 12) was organized in Lwów, on December 20th, 1918. On January 26, 1919, Gen. Zieliński's Group was responsible for FPO No. 11 in Rawa Ruska.

Similarly, many units along the front tried to establish postal services on their own. Due to war destruction and

inactivity of many civilian post offices, the lack of postal arrangements was severely felt.

These sporadic efforts, however, were of no practical significance to the formations in the field.

In January 1919, the Field Post Service General Directorate, renamed later Field Post Service Central Directorate (FPSOD) was organized as a special department in the Min. of Posts, and at the same time in the "Army Daily Orders" (No. 12 ex 1919) an order appeared concerning Army Base Post Offices No. I, II and III, together with postal instructions.

On February 1, 1919, "Main Field Post Office — Warsaw" (Główna Poczta Polowa — Warszawa) came into being. This, the only F.P.O. with a name of locality in its title, became responsible for the handling of all official and private mail to and from military units and establishments in Warsaw and neighborhood. Moreover, it functioned also as a Sorting Postal Unit and Censorship Bureau for postal consignments from the whole country to all the Armies in the field and inter-Army.

Private mail was subject to censorship and for that reason was accepted in Polish only. Registered or "to be returned if undelivered" mail was not accepted.

Centralization of the whole postal traffic at MFPO-Warsaw, however, soon proved unmanageable, mostly due to difficulties in keeping a precise list of all the formations and institutions, particularly at the front. Following numerous complaints regarding considerable delays, losses, etc., the C-in-C. H.Q. transferred the sorting job from MFPO-Warsaw to the army Base Post Offices. This was at the end of July, 1919.

Not much official data is available on the organization and administration of the Postal Service of that period, and details given here are based on notes of Gen. J. Saliński, the then Chief of the Field Post Service Central Directorate.

* Fragments from work published in IL. KURIER FILAT., Kolomyja, 1937/38, pertaining to the 1918-21 period.

These, in regard to attachments or localities, refer usually to the early period.

Datestamps used are of various types, sizes and wording, obviously not supplied centrally.

Postal organization was in the hands of the Chief of the FPSCD, and he was responsible, under the aegis of the C.in-C., for the following:

- a) Army Base Post Offices (Frontowe Głównie Poczty Polowe),
- b) Sorting Postal Units (Sortownie Pocz Polowych),
- c) Base Post Offices (Głównie Urzędy Pocztove),
- d) Field Post Offices (Frontowe Poczty Polowe),
- e) Line of Communications Field Post Offices (Poczty Etapowe),

(Continued next month.)

PULASKI ATOMIC SUBMARINE

The Atomic Submarine of the Polaris type "USS 633 Casimir Pulaski" had its keel laying ceremony on January 12, 1963 at the Electric Boat Division of the General Dynamics Corp. Shipyards in Groton, Conn. Member Stefan Kochanski prepared some cacheted envelopes to commemorate the ceremony. Interested members can write to Stefan for more information. His address is 4030 N. Carroll Avenue, Chicago 24, Ill.

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CANADIAN POSTAGE STAMP TO HONOR GZOWSKI

A new postage stamp honoring one of Canada's most eminent citizens of Polish birth, Sir Casimir Stanislaus Gzowski, will go on sale at post offices throughout the country March 5th, 1963, it was announced in Ottawa by the Hon. Ellen L. Fairclough, Postmaster General.

Collectors desiring first day covers may send addressed envelopes to the Postmaster, Ottawa 2, Ont, to arrive not later than March 2. The remittance by money order or bank draft payable in Canadian funds to the receiver general of Canada, must be in the amount of the face value of stamps to be affixed plus 5 cents for each cover sent.

In announcing the new stamp, Mrs. Fairclough said the Gzowski issue was intended to honor not only Canadians of Polish extraction, but also those of many other races and origins who had contributed to the growth and development of the Canadian nation.

Sir Casimir Stanislaus Gzowski was born in Poland in 1813 and came to Canada as a young man. He was an intimate friend of many of the Fathers of Confederation. An engineer of great ability, he took part in the building of the Grand Trunk Railway. He also built the International Bridge across Niagara Falls and was first chairman of the Niagara Falls Park Commission. He was one of the early officers of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers (now the Engineering Institute of Canada) and was one of the founders and an early president of Wycliffe College. He served as a Senator on the board of the University of Toronto for approximately 20 years.

The stamp, which will mark the 150th anniversary of Sir Stanislaus' birth, will be of the five cent's denomination. A number of Canadian designers, including several artists of Polish descent, have expressed an interest in submitting designs for the stamp.

The Gzowski stamp will form a part of the Canada Post Office program of special issues for 1963.

— M. Steczynski

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 8, 1963 - Business Meeting

Induction of the Officers. This is always a colorful ceremony. Members' Bourse.

February 22, 1963:

Last Meeting before POLPEX 1963.

February 28, 1963:

At 7:00 P.M. we meet at the Polish Museum of America, 984 Milwaukee Ave., to set up POLPEX 1963.

March 1, 2, and 3, 1963:

POLPEX 1963! The outstanding Polish philatelic and cultural event of the year!

March 2, 1963 — POLPEX 1963:

Beeba — 10:00 P.M. at the Polish Museum of America.

March 8, 1963:

Special Program Meeting.

Mr. Mirosław Bojanowicz, our mem-

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