

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Issue No. 59

November 1947

ZARKI MUNICIPAL ISSUES

Myron E. Steczynski



GENUINE

1. Distinct color.
2. Lines of illustration delicate and gradually shaded.
3. Highlight in circular window above door in lower left.
4. Top of tree gradually indistinct.
5. Clouds delicately shaded.
6. Contrast between front and side of main tower.
7. People in courtyard have light and dark clothes.
8. Smooth perforation, $11\frac{1}{2}$.
9. Bluish paper in ultra violet rays.

COUNTERFEIT

1. Color somewhat off from genuine.
2. Lines of illustration coarser, heavier and somewhat spotty.
3. Highlights directly at left.
4. Top of tree heavy and distinct.
5. Clouds severely shaded.
6. Less contrast between front and side.
7. Most people appear dark.
8. Smooth or rough perms, or imperf.
9. White paper in ultraviolet rays.

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MEMBERS MART

It has been the policy of the Society not to accept paid advertising in the Polonus Bulletin, but to help its members contact others through the medium of their own publication. we will begin a classified column in the December issue, where members can insert ads at two cents a word. These ads must be limited to philatelic subjects and may deal with the selling, buying, exchanging, announcing, etc. of philatelic material and information. Full payment for the ad (Commemorative stamps accepted) must accompany the request and should be directed to J. J. Domar, 3715 Clinton Ave., Berwyn, Ill. We hope that members will take full advantage of this privilege and that the results will prove beneficial.

ZARKI MUNICIPAL ISSUES

The town of Zarki, in the province Kielce on the railroad between Zawiercie and Czeszochowa issued large lithographed postage stamps of a single design showing the local church with the market place in the foreground. The white rectangle at the bottom is inscribed "Poczta miejska w Zarkach" (Municipal Post in Zarki and the value appears in both corners. The stamps were printed in sheets of 50; 10 wide by 5 high, with sheet margins from 10 to 15 mm wide. Guide marks appear at the sides of the middle row.

The important point of interest about these stamps is the large number of counterfeits which flood the American and European markets. Genuine copies have always been extremely scarce. The only dealer in Poland up to 1928 who had original copies was Ewald Eichenwald in Warsaw, but later (about 1936 they were available from the estate of Dr. Anthony Horak in Krakow. Stamps of Zarki appear in auction catalogs from time to time and are listed at prices for genuine copies. The rule "Let the buyer beware" should be uppermost regarding these issues.

Genuine and counterfeit copies are illustrated with points of interest to guide collectors. It should be noted that all the original stamps are perforated 11 1/2, so that all imperforate copies are consequently counterfeited. The perforated counterfeits can be detected by deviations in color, by inferior (crude) details of design, and in some cases by rough perforations. The key to genuineness is the highlight resembling a new moon on the left edge of the round window just above the doorway. In the originals, this half moon is toward the lower left; in the counterfeits it is directly to the left. The counterfeits are not as clearly etched as the originals. Under ultraviolet rays the paper of the originals is bluish, while the paper of the counterfeits is quite white.

Prof. Mikstein's detailed analysis of full sheets of these issues reveals two distinct types of each value, de-

ZARKI MUNICIPAL ISSUES

pending whether they come from the odd or even vertical columns in the sheet. These types are distinguished by the details of the numerals which may have certain flaws, or by the position of the shields in the third issue. The discussion of the distinguishing marks are beyond the scope of this article, but the reader is referred to Issue 66 - 70 of Ikaros Monthly (May-September 1937).

The stamps were issued to help defray the cost of delivery of mail, with

rates established in accordance with the following schedule for the various services:

RATES

Oct. 10 - 17, 1918

Within Zarki

Printed matter and postcards	3h.
Letters	5h.
Registered Ltrs. and Telegrams	12h.
In neighboring Towns	
Printed matter and Postcards	5h.
Regular and Registered mail and Telegrams.	12h.

RATES

Oct. 18 - 28, 1918

They were double the above listed rates.

AMOUNT ISSUED

Altogether, there were nine stamps issued in 3 sets of 3 stamps as follows:

FIRST ISSUE

Date Issued

October 10, 1918.

Amount Issued

5,000

Issued in denominations

3h. blue,
5h. red.
12h. olive,

SECOND ISSUE

Date issued

Oct. 18 to 28th, 1918

AMOUNT ISSUED

5,000

ISSUED IN DENOMINATIONS

6h. Red on 3h. Blue.
10h. Violet on 5h. Red.
24h. Red on 12h. Olive.

THIRD ISSUE

Date Issued

Oct. 24, 1918.

ZARKI MUNICIPAL ISSUES AMOUNT ISSUED

10,000

ISSUED IN DENOMINATIONS

6h. Violet.
10h. Green.
24h. Orange.

	10 halerzy 10
6 halerzy 6	24 halerzy 24

10,000 each of the first issue were printed, but 5,000 of each were later struck with a rectangular handstamp 18 ½mm x 8 ½mm with new value to double the original value of each stamp in agreement with increased rates as given in the table above. The surcharge applied once to each horizontal pair of stamps so that only half the impression appears on the edge of a single stamp. Through an error, some of these 3h. stamps were struck in red with the 10h. handstamp, and in an attempt to correct this error, the stamps were again struck in black with the 6h. handstamp, so that in this way a distinct variety was created.

The handbook Ikaros lists the double handstamped variety as having the 10h. struck in violet and the 6h in red, but this information is contrary to a copy in the Larking collection, guaranteed by Prof. Mikstein and by Dr. Alicja Horak, whose late father Dr. Anthony Horak, was the medical officer of the local command when the stamps were issued, and who had a substantial quantity of the stamps on hand for Prof. Miksteins examination.

Besides the above significant and rare error, other irregularities appear in the handstamped surcharges, such as interchange of colors, two halves of the surcharge on a single stamp, inverts, etc. These errors appear almost exclusively on actually used copies, indicating their unintentional character which was discovered later in contrast to errors appearing on mint copies which might have a more speculative character because of intentional variations.

The use of the overprinted stamps began on Oct. 18 and extended into the term of the third issue, which ran from Oct. 24 to 28, 1918.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

NEW ISSUES

Jack Domar

The 20 Zl. A. Mickiewicz stamp in a new color (violet) has finally been released both perforated and imperf. This completes the reissue of the Polish Culture set. We hope

Poland is planning to issue a set of stamps to commemorate the 1948 Olympics.

The recent "Workers set" is to appear in souvenir sheet.

Scotts' # 344 and 344A, 25gr. red Piast eagle stamp which has just recently been overprinted and surcharged for use as an airmail stamp, reported in the September 1947 issue of the BULLETIN, has appeared in another distinct shade variety. It is a coral red or a very light orange red. Although no official information is available it has been reported by a member residing in Poland that the Moscow printing, which is no. 344A was exhausted and additional stamps were printed in Warsaw so that they could be overprinted.

As mentioned in the October issue of the BULLETIN, the peculiar overprint and surcharge on the no. 344 continues to appear on Covers from this same Polish source and from no one else. This time an inverted overprint and surcharge (!) no less was received on cover. What puzzles me is that he did forward a very fine cover, normal overprint, with all three shades of Red. Why didn't he complete the set and include the questionable overprinted one?

AN APPEAL TO THE MEMBERS

At each Polpex it has been the custom to print (we think) a very fine Catalog of the show, a copy of which is mailed to each of our out of town members. It is assumed that local members will attend the Exhibit and obtain their copy there. This Catalog contains the Presidents message, a list of the exhibitors, Ads. a Patrons list and a Goodfellows list.

Why are we telling you this? We need your help! Why? Well the reason is simple. For the past three yrs, the exhibit was held at the P. R. C. U. Museum, with no rental or watch service expense to us. This year the Exhibit is to be held at the Polish Falcon Hall, rent must be paid and so does the watch service - Now this is where you come in. Go to your

local dealer and ask him for an "Ad" or to your butcher, baker and even the candle stick maker. The cost, \$10.00 for a full page, \$6.00 for a half page, \$3.50 for a quarter page and \$2.00 for an inch "Ad". I'm sure we each can get a couple if we honestly try.

Then there is the "Patrons" list, where for \$1.00 the patrons name is published in bold face type under the heading "Patrons of Polpex 1948" for 25 cents the name is printed under the heading "Goodfellows of Polpex 1948".

We know each of you can, if you want to, obtain a few of each. Won't you try? — Send in your "Ads" "Patrons" and "Goodfellows" with the remittances to Mr. Chester A. Schaefer, 2144 W. Potomac Avenue, Chicago 22, Ill. begin at once, we don't have much more time left.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The PULASKI PHILATELIC CLUB will hold its annual exhibition and bourse on February 21 - 22, 1948, at the Polish - American Veteran's Hall located at McDougall & Kirby Avenues, Detroit, Michigan. For bourse and information contact Mr. Walter Kolankowski, 6081 St. Aublin Avenue, Detroit 11, Michigan.

The North Shore Philatelic Society will hold its' 13th Annual "Norpex" exhibit and bourse on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1st, 1948 at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, 5349 N. Sheridan Rd. Chicago. Hours 1 to 10 P. M.

Those desiring to exhibit communicate with Mr. E. W. Heckenback, Exhibition Chairman, 7417 N. Clark St. Chicago, Ill. before January 20th.

The "Norpex" banquet will be held Jan. 31st, those interested contact, Mr. W. Schulze, 2736 W. Gunnison St. Chicago, Illinois.

POLISH BANK TO PAY 400 ZLOTYS FOR U. S. DOLLAR

The government has directed the National Bank of Poland to pay 400 zlotys to the United States dollar to stimulate the flow of currency for Polish citizens receiving money from the United States. This order went into effect on November 24, 1947 The bank has been paying the official rate of 100 zlotys to the dollar.

Polish Philatelic Literature

Printed in English

Bert Powell

This subject was first introduced in a general way, by this writer in Issue No. 49 of the Polonus Bulletin for December of 1946. In compliance with the authors statement made in that article, the first of the stories on this subject, was duly prepared for publication in these columns, quite some time ago. Unfortunately, and the resultant transfer of material from one office to another, it seems that the article in question inadvertently became lost.

For the first definite story in this series, the writer has chosen a compilation of various writings on Polish Philately, which have appeared in the S. P. A. Journal since 1940. The number of stories written and the amount of subjects covered, are the best possible proof of the increased interest in the stamps of Poland. Beyond any doubt, this is due in a very great measure to the formulation of the Polonus Philatelic Society and its aggressive campaigning in behalf of Polish Philately. There is more reading matter on Polish stamps contained in this compilation, than was ever before published in this country ever before.

As to the various suggestions which were extended in the original article, regarding the formulation of a committee to tabulate all known literature written in English on the Stamps of Poland; we have had no takers. Perhaps after the publishing of a few articles on this fascinating subject we may hear from some individual who is willing to undertake this important job for the benefit of the Polish collector of tomorrow.

The Editor of the S. P. A. Journal, Mr. Elmer Zinsmeister, informs the writer, that all copies of his publication which may contain Polish data, have been in the past, and will in the future, be sent to the P. R. C. U. Archives and Museum in Chicago for the record.

A CHECK LIST OF POLISH PHILATELIC ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN THE S. P. A. JOURNAL

Compiled by Bert Powell

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May 1940 Volume 2 no. 3
Collecting Stamps with the Editor
by Don Houseworth

A series of general remarks on the Polonus Philatelic Society of Chicago Illustrated with the stamps only of the souvenir sheet - Scotts no. 333.

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October 1940 Volume 3 no. 2
Polonus Philatelic Society Affiliates
with the S. P. A. by the editor ?

Historical because it is a milestone in Polish Philately in America.
Not illustrated

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March 1941 Volume 3 no. 7
The Polish Eagle —by Ray Bartz

A story about a beautiful picture made of Polish stamps by a Pulaski member.

Illustrated with a photograph of same on the front cover.

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June 1941 Volume 3 no. 10
Madame Curie - Personification of an Ideal — by L. V. Michel

A well written account of the Curie scientific achievements.

Illustrated with cuts of the Curie stamps of Monaco and Cuba.

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August 1941 Volume 3 no. 12.
The Counterfeit Detector Column
by A. C. Johnson

A short article dealing on Polands 1921 Semi-Postal issue Scotts B 11 B14. Not illustrated.

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October 1941 Volume 4 no. 2.
Moscicki and Copernicus
by the editor?.

A short story briefly outlining the scientific achievements of each man.
Not Illustrated.

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January 1942 Volume 4 no. 5
New Polish Stamps.....by the editor?

New Issue report to the editor Don Houseworth by W. Narajowski, Assistant Financial Advisor of the Polish Information Center, on 1st London Issue.

Illustrated with a plate showing six of the new stamps being reported.

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May 1942 Volume 4 no. 9.
Plebiscite Stamp Issues for Eastern Silesia by Vincent Domanski Jr.

One of the few reports ever published on these interesting issues. Illustrated with four cuts; one of author, one of the stamps and two cuts of the overprints involved on these issues.

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July 1943 Volume 5 no. 11.
The Red and White of Poland
by M. E. Steczynski

An explanation of the colors of the Polish National and Maritime flags. Illustrated with large photo of the design of the U. S. Polish flag stamp.

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January 1944 Volume 6 no.5.
(Numbered 8 in error)
Science in Stamps - 3 - Astronomy
by L. V. Michel

A short story dealing in part with the scientific achievements of Copernicus Not Illustrated.

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March 1944 Volume 6 no. 7.
The Encyclopedia for Collectors of Souvenir Sheets. by Marion Carne Zinsmeister.

A full technical and historical report covering the following Polish souvenir Sheets:

First Issue Scotts type A 49.
Illustrated with picture of sheet and commemorative cancel.

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May 1944 Volume 6 no. 9
The Encyclopedia for Collectors of Souvenir Sheets. by Marion Carne Zinsmeister.

A full technical and historical report covering the following Polish Souvenir Sheets:

King Carol's Visit....Scotts no.80A-B-C
No Illustrations.

Second Warsaw Philatelic.Scotts SP-3
No Illustrations.

Stratosphere Balloon Flight. Scotts SP-4. Illustrated with a cut of same.

June 1944 Volume 6 no. 10

The Encyclopedia con'td. by

Marion Carne Zinsmeister

20th Anniversary Scotts A 96.
Illustrated with cut of same.

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July 1944 Volume 6 no. 11

The Encyclopedia con'td.

by Marion Carne Zinsmeister

25th Anniversary of the Polish Legion
Scotts SP 6.....No illustration.

Science in Stamps-5-Chemistry Part 2
by L. V. Michel

A short story which a large part is devoted to Ignacy Moscicki's inventions. Not illustrated.

News Release from the Polish Telegraph Agency in New York.

Historical because of the announcement made concerning the Polish Monte Cassino stamps. A high light in Polish-American Philatelic reporting. . . . Not illustrated.

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Oct. 1945 Volume 8 # 2
by Bert Powell.

A Belated Christmas Greeting.

A romantic saga of a friendly greeting from across the sea. Sent by a Polish Air Force Officer, based in Scotland, to a member of Polonus.

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December 1945 Volume 8 S.c. #4.
National Philatelic Week 1935, Polish Poster Stamp. by Bert Powell.

A short story of this interesting poster stamp, reason for issuance etc. Illustrated with a cut of this stamp and also the Relief of Vienna stamp.

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January 1946 Volume 8 #5
A Polish Oddity. by Bert Powell.

A short story on an interesting offset variety on Scott's #148. Illustrated with a cut of this variety and one of a normal stamp.

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February 1946 Volume 8 #6.

Special Polpex Issue containing the following Polish philatelic articles.
Torun Philatelic Exhibition Issue
by the editor (?).

Illustrated with a cut of a stamp with commemorative cancellation.

That Polish Stamp Booklet.

by the editor (?).

Illustrated with photo's of all of the pages and covers.

Pomorze and Poznan Before 1918.

by Stephen G. Rich.

Illustrated with 3 reproductions of town marks of that period.

The Church at Czestochowa.

by Frank Jancowski.

Illustrated with a cut of Scott's Poland #308.

The Katowice Philatelic Exhibition Issue.—by Spying Eve.

Illustrated with a genuine and forged overprint.

Polands Gordon-Bennet.

by Spying Eye.

Illustrated with a cut of the genuine and forged overprint.

German's Lost Provinces Poster Stamp from info. furn. by Dr. L. Kozakiewicz. Illustrated with a picture of the Posen stamp of this series.

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March 1946 Volume 8 #7.

A Polish Curiosity. by Bert Powell.

A short story on an unrecognized bogus, Polish charity label.

Illustrated with a cut of same.

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August 1946. Volume 8 #12.

Polish Air Force Patriotic Stamps.

by Bert Powell.

A short story on this stamp with technical and historical data.

Illustrated with a plate showing the series of six stamps issued.

September 1946. Volume 9 #1.

Poland 1938-15 Groszy. From the 1941 Pulaski Philatelic Club Seal.

A short story of the history behind the design of this stamp.

Illustrated with a cut of the stamp in question.

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November 1946. Volume 9 #3.

Fiscal Warfare on the Philatelic Front Germany vs. Poland. by Bert Powell.

A short story of German forgeries of Polish stamps for propaganda purposes. Illustrated with 2 cuts of 2 of the stamps of this series.

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February 1947. Volume 9 #6.

An Interesting Polish Cover.

by Bert Powell.

A short story about a cover in the transition period.

Illustrated with a picture of the subject cover.

May 1947

Volume 9

#9.

Justice For Poland

by Bert Powell

A short story covering the reasons for issuance of this poster stamp.

Illustrated with a picture of the poster stamp.

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June 1947

Volume 9

10.

Warsaw Kiosk

by Bert Powell

A short story on the Warsaw "Kiosk" postmark.

Illustrated with 3 cuts showing the ordinary, railroad and Kiosk cancels.

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August 1947

Volume 10

#12

Curie Stamp Issues

by Bert Powell

A short story on the Curie stamp and fund label issues.

Illustrated with 3 cuts of the Curie stamps and 1 of the Curie fund label.

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October

Volume 10

2.

Poland, Scott's # 103, Half Moon Over Spire Variety. by Bert Powell

A short article explaining this variety and its position in the sheet.

Illustrated with a used corner pair showing the plate flaws.

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ZARKI! MUNICIPAL ISSUES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The stamps of the third issue differs from those of the first issue in the design surrounding the numerals. In the first issue the numerals are in ornamental circles - in the third issue the numerals are in rectangular shields.

The Zarki cancellation was 36 mm. in diameter with a Polish eagle in reverse color within a 22 mm. circle and the words ZARKI KROL POLSKIE in the band. The cancellation did not bear a date. Due to the extremely short time that these stamps were valid, cancelled copies are scarcer than mint copies.

Editors note:

If any of our members are still in doubt about the authenticity of their copies after reading the above, the author will gladly expertise such copies. It is assumed that a stamped addressed envelope will accompany any such requests.

TID BITS

Myron Steczynski bought the entire stock of Polish philatelic literature from Paul Bluss in New York. This lot included several copies of the Ikaros Handbook and Monthlies, early Polish lists and catalogs, clippings etc. This material should prove helpful as reference information for articles on the stamps of Poland.

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At the November 7th meeting of the Jack Knight Airmail Society held in Brookfield, Illinois. Bert Powell spoke to their Juniors on U. S. Air Mail Etiquettes and later in the evening, gave a talk to the senior group on Polish L. O. P. P. Labels.

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Congratulations to members, Matthew J. Huss and Dr. M. E. Uznanski winners in the Ravenswood Stamp Clubs' recent exhibit held Nov. 8-9 held in Chicago.

"Bud" Huss won the Grand Award with his Historical Covers and "Doc" Uznanski won a First with his collection of Christmas Seals.

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The officers and members of the POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY wish to congratulate the HAWTHORNE STAMP CLUB of the Western Electric Co. Chicago, upon its' 20th Anniversary which was observed, November 13, 1947.

At the November 5th meeting of the Austin Philatelic Club, member "Gus" Hrivnak, lectured on the stamps of Slovakia.

Polonus members, Col. O. H. Schrader, U. S. Army Retired, and Ben Reeves recently spoke before the members of the Ogden Hill Stamp Club, Col. Schrader's subject was: "Paper and it's Relation to Philately". Ben. Reeves presented an interesting talk, illustrated with pages from one of his numerous prize winning collections.

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Reports received from Poland say there is a possibility of a Philatelic Monthly being issued. It will be similar to the POLONUS BULLETIN and will contain all types of philatelic 59-8

articles about the Stamps of Poland and associated countries. It will also carry "Ads" of the different dealers in Poland. The first edition is to appear about January 1948.

The Wielko Polski Klub Filatelistyczny of Poznan, is sponsoring this magazine.

Any one wishing additional information, write to the Secretary of Polonus, C. J. Mikucki, 1844 N. Winchester Ave., Chicago 22, Ill.

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Members Edward Hopps and Bert Powell were elected president and secretary, respectively at a regional meeting of the U. S. XXth. Century Postal Cancellation Society held in conjunction with the Roosevelt Philatelic Society's exhibit recently.

The Chicago members of this national organization decided to form themselves into a local chapter and plan on holding meetings on a monthly basis and at local exhibits upon invitation or whenever possible.

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Bert Powell's story, "Fiscal Warfare on the Philatelic Front" recently published in the S.P.A. Journal was judged as one of the ten best which that magazine had published during the course of the year.

The prize consisted of a years paid up dues in that society.

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With this issue of the BULLETIN is enclosed an application blank for membership to the Polonus Philatelic Society. It is our opinion that you have a friend or an acquaintance that you would like to propose for membership but you do not have an application blank. Well here it is and more will be cheerfully forwarded to you if you say the word. Have it filled out at once and mail it to us. To succeed an organization must continually obtain new members. Won't you help?

Chairman of Publication