

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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Nov.-Dec., 1986

1000 PAGES of STAMPS & COVERS at POLPEX 87

One thousand pages of stamps and covers will be shown at POLPEX 87, the annual stamp and coin show of the Polonus Philatelic Society to be held March 14-15 at the House of the White Eagle, 6845 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, IL, a suburb of Chicago. The exhibition will be set up in the new frames which were especially made for the recent AMERIPEX. Participating in the event will be the Polish American Numismatic Ass'n with coin and medal exhibits.

Thirty dealers with foreign, US, topicals, etc., will make up the bourse. A U.S. Post Office will operate on the premises with a special Polpex cancellation.

For the first time a Polpex will be held at the House of the White Eagle, with excellent facilities, and plenty of auto parking area. The place is well known for its Polish food of which Polpex visitors can partake at the traditional Polonus Beeba held Saturday, March 14th at 7:00 p.m. during which award presentations are made.

The theme of this year's Polpex is the 600th anniversary of the Coronation of King Wladyslaw Jagiello, a Lithuanian who married the

The 15 groszy value of the 1938 series commemorating the 20th anniversary of Poland's independence, shows King Wladyslaw Jagiello and Queen Jadwiga.



Polish Jadwiga. The two united nations later beat the Teutonic Knights at the Battle of Grunwald, one of the major battles of the world.

Besides a special Polpex cancellation, there will be two special cacheted covers, souvenir cards, souvenir sheets, and a program catalog. Chairman of the event is Walenty Poniecki, 6020 N. Mason St., Chicago, IL 60646.

The Polish American Numismatic Ass'n issued a commemorative medal showing Jagiello and Jadwiga. This medal will be given for those exhibits winning a gold award at POLPEX 87. Those wishing to exhibit may still do so. Entry applications are available from A. Walinski, 7353 W. Estes Ave., Chicago IL 60631. Deadline is March 1st.

First Anniversary of the "General Gouvernement" Issue - October 26, 1940

By ED SUPERSON

This is the first set of stamps with the "charity" surcharge; however, when questioned, no one knew, including the German postal clerks, what the surcharge was to be used for! A brief history of the Nazi "charity" is in order.

Acting on the suggestion of Heinrich Hoffman, Hitler's official photographer, who was taking portraits and photographs of Hitler, Hitler's deputy, Martin Bormann, decided to make money for Hitler. Bormann advised the Nazi postmaster general of the fact that since Hitler was depicted on Nazi issued postage stamps, he had the right to royalties deriving from each such stamp. This contrived plot brought Hitler billions of marks, and he was grateful to Bormann for such a scheme.

In addition, Hermann Göring suggested to Hitler that a "Cultural Fund" should be established in Hitler's name, whereupon the Nazi "cultural grandeur" should be idolized with reverence throughout Germany and the whole world (!). From then on, Hitler realized additional billions of marks from these "charities", including postage stamps with additional values added (semi-postal stamps). Hitler's "charity" funds were confiscated by the United States government and Allies from Swiss bank accounts after W.W. II.

These three stamps were designed, by O. Engelhardt-Kyffhäuser and were engraved by F. Lorber. They were printed in sheets of

50 stamps (5 horizontally x 10 vertically) by handpress from etched copper plates on salmon tinged carton paper with yellow gum. Design measures 31.5 x 24 mm, and perforation is 14¾ x 14½. Each stamp has the total value of 50 gr.

All three stamps depict "Volksdeutschen" who were Germans living in Poland before W.W. II as a minority. About 3% or 108,000 of the total population of Poland before W.W. II were Germans.

German Peasant Girl in Poland in the foreground, and a silhouette of a man and a horse plowing the soil in the background is the theme of this stamp. A swastika in a form of the sun is also in the background.



12 Gr. + 38 Gr. dark green
on pale green

German Peasant Woman in Poland with houses in the background. This is the first stamp of the "General Gouvernement" without the swastika.



24 Gr. + 26 Gr. carmine on buff

German Peasant Man in Poland. dressed in inclement weather garb with a horse driven wagon in the background is shown on this stamp. There is no swastika on this stamp.



30 Gr. + 20 Gr. dark violet on buff

In the upper margin of this sheet of 50 stamps are two Nazi eagle emblems; one is located over the first stamp, and the other is printed over the fifth stamp. Between both eagles inscription reads "General Gouvernement". In the right and left margins are printed cumulative values; in the lower margin under the 46th and 47th stamps is printed in Gothic letters "Entwurf: Otto Engelhardt-Kyffhäuser".

"WINTERHILFSWERK"

(Winter Relief Fund) ISSUE

December 1, 1940

The last value stamp of the "Volksdeutschen" previous issue was reprinted in different colors, values and additional sign reading "Winterhilfswerk" (Winter Relief Fund). Printed in the same design and format in 50 stamps to the sheet, on a medium weight, white unwatermarked paper with colorless gum. There is no swastika on these stamps. They are perforated 12¼ and in values of:

12 Gr. +
8 Gr. dark
green

24 Gr. +
16 Gr.
carmine



(Design by Otto Engelhardt-Kyffhäuser); under the 48th stamp a caption reads "Druck: Staatsdruckerei Wien X. 40" (Printed by the Government Printing Bureau — Vienna — October, 1940) and are control numbers of plates; and under the 49th and 50th stamps reads "Stich: Prof. Ferdinand Lorber" (Engraved by Prof. Ferdinand Lorber).

It is to be pointed out that although the total number of these stamps printed is unknown, they appear to be somewhat scarce. The price of this set of stamps on the philatelic market is somehow higher than the other average stamps of the "General Gouvernement."

These stamps were valid until July 31, 1941.



Attend POLPEX 87



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House of the White Eagle
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FORGERY OF A VERY COMMON POLISH STAMP

By STANLEY KRONENBERG

Forgers do not restrict their activities to rare and valuable stamps but fake to defraud collectors also some of the most common and inexpensive stamps. As an example a forgery of Poland (Scott No. B-6) is shown here together with an authentic stamp. The lettering of the forged overprint resembles the genuine but has numerous small voids and irregularities. Dimensions of this forged overprint agree reasonably well with the genuine overprint.

The forged overprint is on a genuine but wrong stamp which was issued in February, 1920 for the entire Poland, after the currency of the country was unified. It is printed in grayish green on a very thin paper and is perforated 10. This is an anachronism because the "First Polish Stamp Exhibition" which the overprint commemorates was held in May of 1919. Authentic overprints exist only on stamps issued January 27th, 1919 for the northern part of Poland. They are either imperforate or perforated 11½. Their paper is of medium thickness and is either smooth or ribbed. Their ink is bright green.

Members' Mart

Bound copy of the 1937 through August, 1939 issues of IKAROS, the Bialystok pre-war philatelic monthly, that contains a wealth of information on Polish philately. The volume is in Polish and contains major articles on the Polish Legion and the Pre-Stamp Postmarks of Poland. 472 pages. Will sell for \$50.00 plus postage.

Roger Szymanski
Box 1690 Milwaukee, WI 53201



GENUINE

FORGERY

NEW ISSUES

Albert Schweitzer 1875-1965

In August, 1986 the Polish Post issued a commemorative postage stamp, face value: 5 zł., presenting the portrait of Albert Schweitzer, the Nobel Prize Winner of 1952 (Peace Activity).

Albert Schweitzer — a thinker, philosopher, moralist, protestant theologian, missionary physician.

In 1913 in Lambarènè (Gaboon) he founded and ever since conducted a medical center. He was the creator of the humanistic ethics of "respect for life".

Face value: 5 zł.; Printing technique: combined, multicolor - steel engraving, rotogravure; Size: 25.5 x 31.25 mm; Sheets of 100 stamps; Postage stamp paper; 1 FDC; Author: Janusz Wysocki.

New Year

The Ministry of Communication issued a postage stamp, face value 25 zł., representing a symbolic multi-color drawing of the New Year's Star. Printing technique: multi-color rotogravure; Stamp size: 39.5 x 31.25 mm; in sheets of 50 stamps; Chalk overlay paper; 1 FDC; Design: Wojciech Freudenreich; Date of issue: Nov.-Dec., 1986.

Romanian Internment Camps, 1939-41



Figure 1. A cover from the Polish internment camp at Targoviste, mailed May 28, 1940, and identified as an internment camp item by the return address, "Lagerul din 22 Reg. Inf. Targoviste." The censor tape on the back of the cover was applied by the Wehrmacht in Vienna.

by Thomas J. Gobby

A book that could be called *Poland, Its People, and World War II* would be a big one. One of the many sections in that book would be "Internment Camps."

After the German and Soviet invasions of Poland on September 1, 1939, and September 17, 1939, respectively, tens of thousands of Poles, both civilian and military, fled their country. Many reached freedom, while many others were captured and held in internment camps or concentration camps. Such camps were located in Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden, Spain, Switzerland, Hungary, and Romania.

Articles on the Hungarian and Spanish internment camps for Poles have appeared in recent issues of *The American Philatelist*. This is the Romanian chapter of the internment camp section.

In mid-September 1939, President Ignacy Moscicki, Ministers Beck and Slawoj-Skladowski, and most of the Polish government had retreated to Kutu, a small Polish town on the Czeremosz River. Also in Kutu was Marshal Edward Rydz-Smigly, commander-in-chief of the Polish Army.

With the German Army advancing southeast and the Soviet Red Army mov-

ing south and southwest in a tightening vise movement, Moscicki and his government entourage crossed into Romania on the night of September 17, 1939. They were followed by Rydz-Smigly.

Behind Moscicki and Rydz-Smigly were droves of civilians and thousands of Polish soldiers. In crossing the bridge over the Czeremosz, Polish soldiers threw their rifles into the river rather than surrender them to the Romanians. Soon, thousands of Polish rifles formed a steel and wooden dam across the shallow river.

Elsewhere on the Polish-Romanian border were special Polish air force crews who were awaiting the arrival of British aircraft sent by sea to the Romanian port of Galatz. They, too, crossed into Romania, taking ninety-eight combat aircraft and crews to the Romanian air base at Cernauti. Another 150 Polish aircraft of various types (operational trainers and civil aircraft) were flown to other Romanian bases.

Most of the Poles who fled into Romania didn't stay there for long. With Romanian government help, about 14,000 Polish air force personnel (pilots, mechanics, technicians, and ground crew) were evacuated by the end of November 1939. Most went

to France, where new units were formed to fight the Germans.

In all, about 60,000 Poles, military and civilian, are estimated to have entered Romania. No published figures are known until October 4, 1939, when a Romanian government report cited a figure of 23,035 Polish military internees. An October 11, 1939, International Red Cross report estimated the number at approximately 24,000.

As already mentioned, Poles were "escaping" at this time — usually with Romanian assistance. In the case of military personnel, the population dwindled rapidly. Illustrating this fact are the official Romanian government censuses, which were conducted periodically (Table I).

Because of the precipitous attrition rate of Polish military internees, two camps housed them as of January 15, 1941: Targu-Jiu for enlisted men, and Calimanesti for officers. Table II lists the numbers of men there reported by the Romanian government census of January 15, 1941.

Based on the information given in Table III, some philatelic conclusions can be drawn regarding the availability of cards

and covers to be found in the philatelic market.

1. September 17, 1939, through December 31, 1939: Material is most plentiful.

2. January 1, 1940, through November 30, 1940: Material is less plentiful.

3. December 1, 1940, to February 12, 1941 (liquidation of camps): Material is definitely scarce.

However, these conclusions are only relative, as cards and covers from these camps are difficult to come by. Most correspondence was sent to families, relatives, and friends in Poland, and most of what survived the war is still there. Foreign mail, other than to Poland, was sent to a wide range of countries.

Before more specific philatelic matters are discussed, some words about Polish civilians: It is estimated that 40,000 of them entered Romania in September 1939. Like their military brothers, many of them simply passed through on the way to other places.

A Romanian government census of October 4, 1939, gives the figure of 26,512 as the number in the country. They, too,

Table I. Polish Military Internees by Rank

Date	Generals	Field grade officers	Officers	NCO's	Soldiers	Total
Oct. 4, 1939	25	711	3,062	1,357	17,880	23,035
Oct. 14, 1939	26 ^A	870 ^B	2,883	— ^C	17,707	21,486
June 7, 1940	18	252	1,270	615	4,940	7,095
July 8, 1940	18	236	963	591	4,737	6,545
Oct. 6, 1940	18	-	1,096	350	4,311	5,775
Nov. 20, 1940	18	-	1,075	328	2,715	4,136
Dec. 10, 1940	11	-	1,043	111	532	1,697
Jan. 15, 1941	10	-	1,023	106	526	1,665

A. Internment of General Rydz-Smigly after his separation from the Polish governmental party.

B. Includes stragglers who entered Romania after the first census.

C. For some reason, certain categories of internees were not reported in some censuses.

Table II. Polish Military Internees by Rank

Camp	Generals	Officers	NCO's	Soldiers	Total
Targu-Jiu	—	41	104	510	655
Calimanesti	10	982	2	16	1,010
	20	1,023	106	526	1,665

Rank	Annual
generals	9,000 lei
field grade officers	8,100 lei
officers	6,000 lei
NCO's	2,400 lei
soldiers	same rate as Romanian army schedule

Things Philatelic

According to Jan Danielski in his March 15, 1972, article in *Filatelista*, it was only after February 1940 that special cancellations, markings, and correspondence forms were used for internee mail. At that time, because of the large number of Poles who had escaped, the remaining military internees were concentrated in three camps: Targu-Jiu (mostly for enlisted men), and Calimanesti and Targoviste (both for officers) (Figure 5).

1. A circular stamp in violet ink (no dimensions given). Within the circle is the Romanian coat-of-arms with the wording, "Romania-Lagarul Targoviste Ofiteri" (translation: Romania-Officers Camp at Targoviste).

[illegible]

Figure 3. An original payment card issued to civilians by the Polish Central Committee for Aid to Refugees in Romania. Such cards were used to record financial aid to refugees administered by this organization for the Romanian government.

2. A stamp similar to that described above, but with the wording, "Romania-Lagarul Ofiteri Poloni Calimanesti" (translation: Romania-Polish Officers Camp at Calimanesti).

3. Like No. 1, but in green ink, and with the wording, "Romania-Lagar Ofiteri Poloni Calimanesti-Comandantul" (translation: Romania, Commandant of the Polish Officers Camp at Calimanesti).

Danielski further stated that postage forms were furnished to internees. These are found with the following markings:

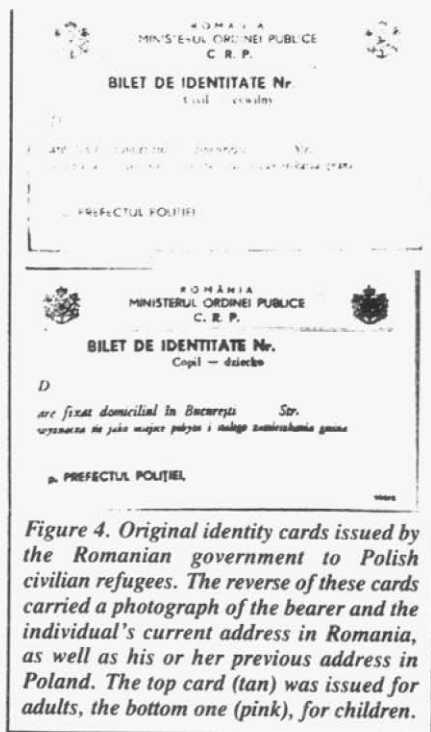


Figure 4. Original identity cards issued by the Romanian government to Polish civilian refugees. The reverse of these cards carried a photograph of the bearer and the individual's current address in Romania, as well as his or her previous address in Poland. The top card (tan) was issued for adults, the bottom one (pink), for children.

1. A rectangular box measuring 42 x 8 mm enclosing the word "Nefrancat" (postage free). Printed in red.
2. A two-line bilingual inscription, "Luptator Internat / Belligerant Interne" (interned belligerent). This measured 49.5 x 9.5 mm and was printed in red ink.
3. Censorship stamps that included the word "Cenzurat" (censored), the censor's number, and the location.

I have seen only one example of an internment camp mailing with the markings described above: a postcard mailed from Calimanesti on October 31, 1940, to Haifa, Palestine. This item was shown on Page 1 of *Romanian Philatelic Studies*, Volume 5, No. 3, 1981. It carried the circular seal of the Calimanesti camp, the boxed "Nefrancat," and the bilingual interned-belligerent marking, as well as two octagonal Palestinian censor stamps.

Last year I received a copy of a page from *Filatelia*, the Romanian-language publication of the Association of Philatelists of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The page was from Volume 18, No. 2, February 1969. This article, on Page 10, described a circular cancellation used at the Targu-Jiu camp.

It was a double-ring cancellation with dimensions of 29 mm (outer ring) and 19 mm (inner ring). Within the double ring was the following wording: "Lagarul Refugiatilor Poloni * TG. JIU*." The date in the illustration read "21 Mar 41-9," and horizontally bisected the area contained within the inner ring. Translation for the inner-ring wording is "Polish Refugees Camp *Tg.Jiu*."

The article contained information regarding the Poles and their internment, but the cancellation was merely described. No other information — i.e., date of authorization, introduction, use, and whether similar cancellations were authorized for use in other camps — was given about it.

From a postal history standpoint, other collectible items from this period would be mail sent into these camps, and mail of assistance organizations that worked with the internees and refugees.

Mail sent into the camps is a desirable item. When the internees left, or "escaped," they tended to travel light and not to carry anything that could identify their previous residence. Thus, they destroyed their mail.

Organizations that worked in Romania to assist the Poles were the Polish Red Cross, the Romanian Red Cross, and the "Polski Komitet Pomocy Dla Uchodzow w Rumunii." The latter was the Polish Committee for Aid to Polish Refugees in Romania, headquartered in Bucharest with offices at the larger camps. This group administered the payments from the Romanian government to the Poles (Figure 4).

With the exception of the items described by Danielski, mail from the camps is quite ordinary in appearance (Figure 6). The return address and date of cancellation are the main clues. The word Lagarul (camp), followed by a camp name such as Targoviste or Calimanesti, usually provides the confirmation (Figure 1).



Figure 5. A postcard from Calimanesti, a camp for Polish officers, to Warsaw, canceled November 21, 1940. On the face of the card, a photograph of the Calimanesti area shows the river and rail lines in detail; the message describes the location of the camp, relative to the photograph. This apparently interested German censors in Vienna: Their identity numbers are stamped in the lower-right quadrant of the card.

In the case of postcards, identification can be a bit more difficult, as the senders sometimes did not write a return address. The cancellation, and a knowledge of Polish to read the messages, will identify such pieces.

The Romanians apparently didn't think much of censorship, as Romanian censor markings are rarely found on these items. However, when such mail passed into the German mail system, ample evidence of censorship exists in the form of OKW tapes, seals, and stamps.¹ Most such German censorship was done at the office in Vienna, Austria.

Some final words: President Moscicki was interned at the royal castle in Bicz. His ministers and their families were interned at the hotel in Slanic. With Romanian government aid, Moscicki "escaped" and made his way to Switzerland, where he lived through the war. He died there in 1946.

Marshal Rydz-Smigly, whom the Poles regarded as having disgraced the uniform by fleeing the field of battle, was initially interned at Craiova, then at Dragoslavele-Rucar, and at Muscel, from which he escaped. He returned to Poland in an attempt to redeem himself, assuming a new identity and trying to work with the underground. He died of a heart attack in Warsaw in 1941.

And then there was Gen. Wladyslaw Sikorski. Out of favor with the government before September 1, 1939, he returned to a Polish military command, fought valiantly, and was interned in Romania. He escaped and went to France, where he formed a new Polish army and was appointed premier of the Polish government-in-exile.

As commander-in-chief of the Polish forces, he would ultimately have under his command land armies in Great Britain, Scotland, Canada, Iraq, Egypt, and Palestine. He also would negotiate the

release of tens of thousands of imprisoned Poles in the Soviet Union, but that's another story.

Sikorski was killed in a military plane crash at Gibraltar on July 4, 1943.

1. OKW = Oberkommando Wehrmacht = German Army High Command. The German military was assigned the task of civil mail censorship. Evidence of passage through this censorship system is found in the seals, tapes, stamps, etc. of OKW issue.

Acknowledgments

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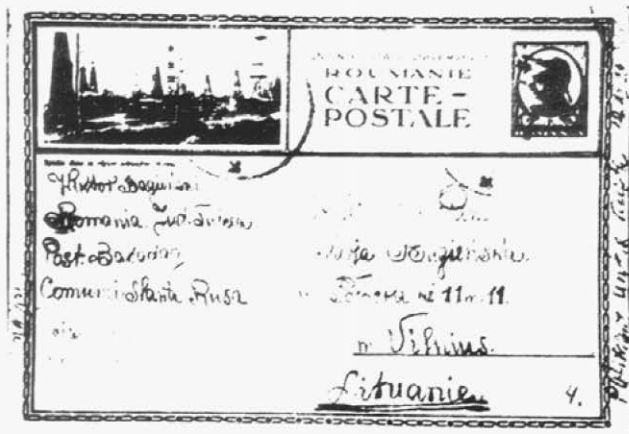


Figure 6. A card sent from Babadag on December 3, 1939, to Wilno, in the Soviet zone of occupation. It is quite ordinary material like this that awaits discovery by the sharp-eyed collector.

Reprinted from AMERICAN PHILATELIST

GEMS OF POLISH PHILATELY



The Russian stamps which were in use in Poland during 1858 and 1859 as well as the first Polish stamp which was used from January 1860 to April 1865 were not valid to prepay mail beyond the borders of Poland and Imperial Russia. Beginning in May 1865, the Imperial Russian stamps then in use in Poland were valid to prepay postage beyond the borders of the Kingdom of Poland.

The letter shown here is the earliest recorded stamped letter from Poland to the United States. The 70 kopeck rate is an exceedingly high rate for the period and is paid by a 30 kopeck of the 1858 issue and two 20 kopeck stamps of the 1865 issue. The letter was carried by Prussian and French railroads across Europe to the French port of Havre, and then by shipship to New York and overland to Philadelphia. The letter was sent from Warsaw on December 3 (26th New Calendar), 1866 and received at Philadelphia on January 27, 1867.



Polonus honors the Chicago Philatelic Society on its 100th Anniversary. Fred Szebel and James Mazepa present a special plaque to CPS president Felix Ganz.

POLAND'S NEW ISSUES

Defensive Warfare in 1939

In long years publication cycle of post stamps, which shows the Polish Army in defensive fights in 1939, the Polish Post Office issued a 10 zł. stamp with the portrait of Col. Stanislaw Maczek, the 10th Brigade Commander - in - Chief of motorized cavalry, as well as a symbolic fragment of the battle at Jordanow, where the Brigade took part. An envelope of FDC shows symbolically the route map of the 10th Brigade.

Nominal value: 10 zł.; Size: 51 x 31.25 mm.; Printing method: color rotogravure; Chalk overlay paper; One FDC envelope; circulation date: September, 1, 1986; Art design by A. Balcerzak.

■ ■ ■

Treasures of the Jasna Gora Monastery

The Paulinite Monastery on the Czestochowa Hill was founded on August 9, 1382. The history of the Monastery is closely connected to the history of the painting of the Holy Virgin of Czestochowa (the painting was reproduced on stamp in 1982, Catalog No. 2672). Throughout centuries, objects of religious cult and gifts offered by kings, magnates and pilgrims were gathered in the monastery. Thus, rich collections were built up which are now monuments of the Polish national culture and world culture.

5 zł.—Fragment of a painting entitled: "The Paulinite Church on Skalka in Cracow", Poland, about 1627, oil on canvas, Monastery Refectory.

5 zł.—"Jesse's Tree", Poland, 17 century, oil on wood, Monastery

corridor in front of Refectory.

20 zł.—Chalice, Poland, 18th century, silver, partly gilt, Treasury

40 zł.—Virgin Mary, fragment of a chasuble column with Annunciation, 15th century, colored laid embroidery, Treasury.

Illustrations for 2 FDC's present:

— The Jasna Gora Monastery, engraving, first half of the 17th century.

— The Jasna Gora Monastery, Lithograph by Ch. Lalaisse, 1st half of the 19th century.

Printing technique: multi color rotogravure; Size: 31.25 x 43 mm; In sheets of 50 stamps; Chalk overlay paper; 2 FDC's; Date of issue: September, 1986; Stamps and the FDC's design: Andrzej Heidrich; Color slides borrowed by courtesy of the Krajowa Agencja Wydawnicza (National Publishing Agency).

■ ■ ■

200th Anniversary of the Birth of Joachim Lelewel

On the 200th birth anniversary of Joachim Lelewel (1786-1861), the great Polish historian, numismatist and librarian, the Polish Post issued a special postage stamp, face value 10 zł., presenting a portrait of Joachim Lelewel and a facsimile of his signature. Joachim Lelewel was a professor of the Vilnius and the Warsaw Universities. He was an activist of the Patriotic Society and a member of the National Government 1830-1831. In exile, he was the President of the Polish National Committee; Founder of the Union of Polish Emigres. Author of the historiographic trend called the Lelewel School. Patron of Polish Historical Society, celebrating its 100

anniversary in 1986.

Face value: 10 zł. + 5 zł. for the National Committee for School Aid Fund. Printing technique: multi-color rotogravure; Size: 43 x 25.5 mm; Chalk overlay paper in sheets of 50 stamps; 1 FDC; Stamp, FDC and Dater design: Janusz Wysocki; Date of issue: November, 1986.

■ ■ ■

100th Anniversary of the Warsaw Cyclists Society 1886-1986.

Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Warsaw Cyclists' Society, the Ministry of Communication issued 6 postage stamps presenting the Society's first seat in Dynasy and the outstanding organizers and champions of the Polish Cycling during the partition of our country.

5 zł.—one of the Society's first tourist cycling trips to Bielany, accompanied by "guardians" in uniforms (1887).

5 zł.—Jan Stanisław Skrodzki (1867-1957), a leading competitor and tourist of the Warsaw Cyclists' Society. He broke the Society's tourist record by covering a distance of 10,866 versts (11,537 km.) during 1895.

10 zł.—Dynasy - seat of the Warsaw Cyclists' Society from 1892 till 1937, built at the expense of 65,000 roubles.

10 zł.—Mieczysław Barański - one of the 5 Barański brothers from Radom, starting in the colors of the Society. One of the first propagators of cycling, champion of the Kingdom of Poland in road cycling in 1896 and the winner of the Warsaw - Kielce - Warsaw Marathon.

30 zł.—Karolina Kociecka, born in 1875, a phenomenal woman cy-

clist. She participated in Road Cycling Championships for men in 1898, entered various track-races and road competitions for men in the Kingdom of Poland and in Western Europe, beating male competitors many times. She took part in several long cycling rallies, e.g. Petersburg - Riga - Warsaw (5227 versts) and Warsaw-Paris.

50 zł.—Henryk Weiss - one of the most outstanding track-racers of the Warsaw Cyclists' Society at the beginning of the 20th century. Five times the Dynasy Track-Race Champion 1904-08, Warsaw Cyclists' Society Champion of 1905, Warsaw Race Champion 1908. Enthusiastic motor cyclist and motorist. Was killed in a car accident in 1912.

Printing technique: multicolor offset; Stamps size: 42,96 x 25,5 mm. in sheets of 50 stamps; Chalk overlay paper; 3 FDC's; Date of issue: September, 1986; Author: Witold Surowiecki.

■ ■ ■

Polish Wooden Architecture

Every nation wants to preserve the objects of its material culture bearing witness to the nation's rich folk culture and tradition. Poland takes exceptional care of her monuments. The Ministry of Communication issued a series of 6 stamps presenting Polish wooden architecture preserved in regional ethnographical museums under the open sky. Individual stamps represent:

5 zł.—Windmill, 20th century, Zygmuntów

5 zł.—Church, 17th century (1667) - Baczal Dolny

10 zł.—Oravian Cottage, 19th cen. (1843) - Zubrzyca Górna

15 zł.—Kashubian Arcade Cottage

18th century - Wdzydze
25 zł.—Octagonal Barn, 19th century, Grzawa.
30 zł.—Water Mill, 19th century, Siolkowice Stare.

Printing technique: multicolor rotogravure; Stamp size: 43 x 31.25 mm.; Chalk overlay paper in sheets of 50 stamps; 6 FDC's illustrate wooden objects, tools, household equipment; Stamps, FDC's and dater design: Michal Piekarski; Date of issue: October, 1986.

Wawel Heads

Since 1984, the Ministry of Communications has published 6 current postage stamps in the series of "Wawel Heads" of Hall of Deputies at Wawel in Cracow (in repeatable outlay).

The next postage stamp of this series, which shows a man's head (of a value of 200 zł.) was issued in November, 1986.

Printing technique: steel rotogravure size of stamp: 21,5 x 25,5 mm Postage stamp paper; Number of stamps in sheet: 150 off; One FDC envelope; Designer: Jacek Konarzewski; Date of circulation: November, 1986.

—ARS Polona

POLPEX 87 cancellation with Polish Eagle of the Jagiellonian period.



In Memoriam

Polonus suffered a great loss with the passing of our former president and director, John Bartczak. He died on December 24th after a long bout with cancer. He was active as long as his health permitted, participating at the recent AMERIPEX.

When he first joined Polonus, he served as frame chairman at many Polpex shows. He hauled frames in trucks and set up exhibits. Being an electrical contractor, he saw to it that there was proper lighting.

His field of collecting was Postal History of Austrian Poland. His collection of Stampless Covers of Galicia brought him many silver & gold medals from national and international exhibitions. We'll miss him!

NUMBER ONE'S

The world's first adhesive postage stamp, the Penny Black, was issued May 6, 1840 in Great Britain. It was not until 1847 that the United States adopted adhesive stamps for mail. The first Polish stamp was issued in 1860, even tho Austrian and Prussian stamps were used on Polish territory as early as 1850 and Russian stamps in 1858.

POLONICA POSTAL CARDS

The Polish American Stamp Club issued a set of two souvenir postal cards to complement Milwaukee's 1986 POLISH FEST held at the Lakefront Summerfest grounds on August 28-31, 1986.

The Polish Fest cachet design shows 2 dancers in traditional Polish costumes. One card, the 14-cent U.S. Wisconsin Territory postal card, has the cachet printed in green. The other, the 14-cent U.S. Stamp Collecting postal card, has the cachet printed in blue.

The United States Postal Service operated a special postal station on Saturday and Sunday during the 4-day celebration at the Polish Fest showgrounds where a special pictorial postmark showing Polish dancers and the traditional Polish toast



"Na zdrowie" (To your health), was applied to all mail posted at the station.

Interested collectors may order the Polish Fest postal cards with the USPS postmark for \$1.00 for a set of two. Orders should be sent to Polish Fest Cards, Polish American Stamp Club, Box 1920, Milwaukee, Wisc. 53201. A stamped, self addressed envelope should be furnished for return of the cards.

The Polish American Stamp Club is an organization of 50 area stamp collectors and celebrated its tenth anniversary in 1986.

Plans continue for POLAPEX 87

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY A.P.S. Affiliate #119

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Annual Dues which include a subscription to the 'Bulletin' are \$12.50 (U.S. funds only) and should be sent to Fred Szedel, 9041 Emerson St., Des Plaines, IL 60016. Membership Dues are payable by December 31, for the next calendar year. New members will receive all the 'Bulletins' for the year in which they join. Changes of address, problems with receiving the Bulletin, contributions of articles for the Bulletin, or general matters pertaining to the Society, should be addressed to:

Polonus Philatelic Society
Box 1217, Oak Park, IL 60304

The Polonus Philatelic Society is a Not-for-Profit Organization incorporated in the State of Illinois (1939). The opinions expressed by authors of articles appearing therein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

the annual free stamp show of the club, to be held Sat. & Sun., April 25-26, 1987, in Milbourn - Walker Halls of MECCA (Milwaukee Exposition and Convention Center & Arena, in downtown Milwaukee. The theme of the show will be "Polish Polar Exploration".