

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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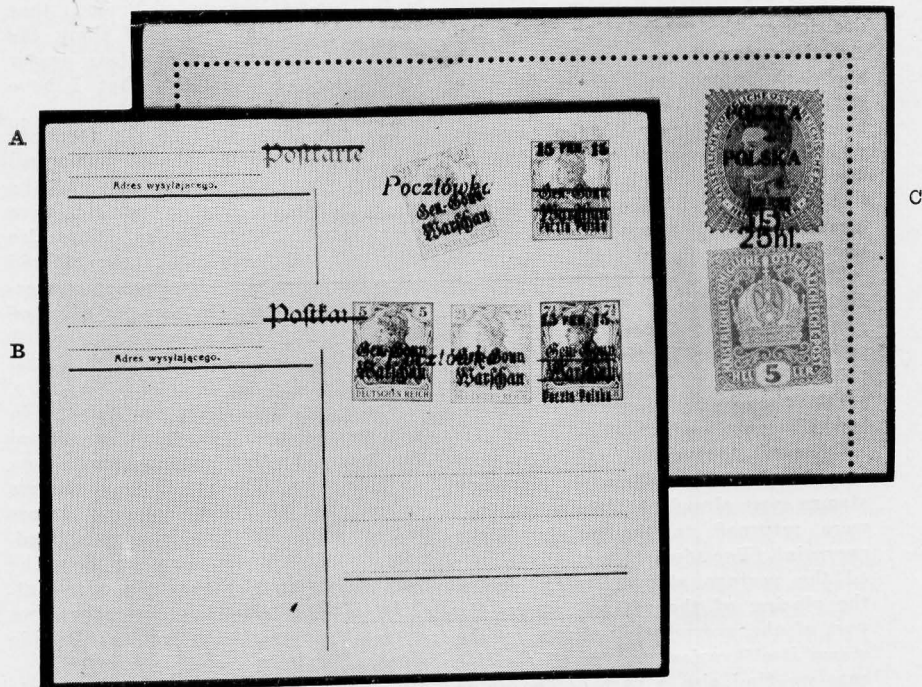
THE FORGOTTEN STAMPS OF POLAND

By THADDEUS GRYZEWSKI

In examining the German stamps with the overprint "Gen. Gouv. Warschau" (See Scott's Poland Occupation stamps, 1916—1918) of the 2½, 5, or 7½ pf. value, we are occasionally confronted with a mysterious typographed overprint in black color: "wka", "ocz-tów" and a similar combination of characters.

None of the general catalogs gives us reason for their existence and it is difficult even in Poland to find specialized catalogs with an explanation of their origin, until we turn to the section of the entires (Stationery).

We find the solution to this mystery on Illustration A:



Their origin we will explain in the following article.

During the last months of the German Occupation of Poland in 1918 the postal rates were raised where the postage for postal cards was changed from 7½ pf. to 10 pf. For reasons of economy, before the new cards were issued with the 10 pf. value, the Supply Depot was advised to add the 2½ pf. to the earlier cards on hand and sell them in this form to the public.

After the Germans were disarmed on November 11, 1918 and the Polish Postal Service became active November 17 of that year, with continual insufficient quantities of overprinted Polish stamps, it was permissible to use the Occupation stamps for franking of mail. The Polish Postal Authorities changed the rates of postal cards to 15 fen., thus necessitating the addition of a 5 pf. postage stamp to cards which had added the 2½ pf. stamp and the 7½ pf. postage stamp to these without the additional 2½ pf. postage stamp. (Illustration B).

After the Polish Ministry of Posts' decision on the overprinting of the Occupation stamps and stationery with a Polish inscription, all cards were withdrawn accordingly and shipped to the printery. Along with the cards to which no stamps were as yet added, a small number of cards found its way to the printery with the postage stamps already affixed. Consequently, these were also overprinted.

The Occupation sign was nationalized with the inscription "Poczta Polska" and the value "15 fen. 15". The German inscription "Postkarte" was overprinted with horizontal line and underneath the Polish inscription "Pocztówka" was placed.

On cards to which (as I have mentioned above), additional postage stamps were already affixed when they were returned to the printery, the overprint "Pocztówka" partially covered the postage stamp. Depending on the placing of the affixed stamp the part of the overprinting shown on the stamp itself varies, as: "wka" (in this case we find also a part of the value "1" on the stamp) "ówka", "cztówka", and on the 5 pf. value—"Poczt".

Stamps of the 2½ pf. value exist with inverted overprint. This happened when the stamp was affixed upside down.

Stamps with the above described overprints are found in single copies used and unused, (in the latter case obviously always without gum) and on postal card entires of course. I may add, that these type of cards cancelled are extremely rare. All these varieties are rarities, especially the 5 pf. The 7½ pf. value I never confronted personally. I am giving its description on the basis of information printed in "Nowy Filatelista" No. 3, 1923.

All the varieties of overprints on stamps in conjunction with postal cards, discussed in this article, closely resemble the postal cards overprinted in 1921 for the "Free City of Gdańsk", which are catalogued in all German stamp catalogs.

It is the fault of the authors of the Polish specialized catalogs that these stamps were not yet properly honored. As the author of all catalogs (taking in the pre-war stamps of Poland) that were published after 1944, I admit the oversight on my part in their proper cataloging, an oversight, that I hope to correct in the near future.

We are confronted in the territory of Małopolska with almost analogical history where the postal cards and the secret cards of Austrian origin were overprinted "Poczta Polska". Here also we find entires to which are affixed additional postage adhesives in connection with a tariff change, effected under the Austrian Administration and eventually raised by the Polish Postal Administration to 15 halerzy.

The overprints "Poczta Polska" in various set-ups on Austrian Postal Stationery (entires) were executed on a foot press. The print shop workers doing the job, when coming across entires with additional stamps affixed, considered it their duty to give the postage stamp also an extra overprint.

In Polish philatelic literature we find a note to that effect in "Polskie Znaki Pocztove" (1935, page 343).

On The Secret Cards And Postal Cards Returned For Overprinting

These cards sometimes bear Austrian

stamps during the Occupation already affixed, due to rise in postal rates... (For instance: The 2 hal. express stamp on the 8 hal. postal card, which brings it up to 10 hal., or the 5 hal. postage stamp completing the 15 hal. postage on the secret card to 20 hal. Some of these entires happen to be overprinted twice: once on the postage stamp and the second time on the imprinted payment sign. On the entires with additional stamps affixed, the overprint oftentimes hit the stamp partially or completely. (Illustration C.)

Despite extensive studies one conducted on the Krakow overprints, the stamps of these entires never were completely inventoried. Too bad, since it is so much harder to study this matter now for lack of material.

Though I earnestly searched for it, I was unable to find in the whole of Poland a single copy of these cards with affixed and overprinted stamps. What I found was only the notation inserted in Nos. 6—7 of "Nowy Filatelista" of 1923.

In this notation Mr. W. Bernstein describes the Austrian card of 10 h. carmine featuring the Crown, to which was affixed a 5 hal. postage stamp (Scott's 146). On both, the imprinted and the affixed stamps were the following overprint: "Poczta (rombus) Polska" double arabesque with points down and beneath the value "15 hal." finished with a square instead of period. The height of the numeral "1" was 3.4 mm. and the spacing between "Poczta" and "Polska" 3.5 mm.

The second card described there is the 8 hal. green card with the portrait of King Carol, on which the postage stamp of 5 hal. green (Scott's 146) was affixed. The stamp and the card bear overprint "Poczta (rombus) Polska", double arabesques which points down and the value 15 hal., finished with a square instead of period. In this overprint the space between "Poczta" and "Polska" is 6 mm. in length of value and letters 8.5 mm. Height of the numeral "1" is 4 mm.

With such meager information at our disposal it is difficult to make an accurate and complete cataloging of these stamps.

HAVE YOU WRITTEN TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL ABOUT THE PADEREWSKI STAMP YET?

If not — do it now! Ask your Club, Legion Post, Fraternal Group, or other organization to send a letter to Washington requesting that a Paderewski Stamp be issued as a Champion of Liberty issue in 1960 on the 100th anniversary of his birth November 6th, 1960. Address the letters to Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield, Post Office Department, Washington 25, D.C.

STECZYNSKI TO REPRESENT POLONUS AT WARSAW IN 1960

Polonus received an invitation from the Polish Philatelists Federation to select a delegate from its ranks to represent the Society on the judging committee for the 1960 International Exhibition at Warsaw, Poland. President Roman Burkiewicz appointed Myron Steczynski for the post and the membership unanimously approved. The Society has also decided to send an exhibit of Seals, Bulletins and other philatelic literature.

Several members have decided to exhibit and others are planning to attend. If at all possible, a tour should be planned and Roman Burkiewicz has undertaken to answer all inquiries regarding the tour, exhibits, etc. If any members plan on exhibiting or going, please notify Roman at 2008 N. Western Ave., Chicago 47, Ill.

TID BITS

The Program Committee has been on the job this year and provided us with interesting programs every month so far. Chairman John Bor announces that on June 27th we will again have a guest speaker.

Member Frank Jusack is back at our meetings after a two-year hitch with Uncle Sam in the armed forces. Welcome back!

APPLICANT PENDING

Alexander Juskowicz
2147 W. Evergreen Ave.
Chicago 22, Illinois

The Meaning of Discarded Postal Files in the Appraisal of Local Issues of 1918-1922

DR. JOSEPH TISLOWITZ

In accordance with postal regulations every document pertaining to the interior postal accounting as well as documentary proof of certain services performed, such as cash payments on money orders, auxiliary addresses for parcels, registered mail receipts undelivered letter, etc., must be kept on file for a certain period of time for the purpose of investigation of complaints, for checking on claims or conducting controls.

This archival material, after the expiration of a required retaining period, was released as scrap for milling and was called "skart", and it is known by this word in Polish philatelic language today. (Editor's note: "Skart" here means postal file records, that have become obsolete. For the sake of clarity, and since the word has no equivalent in the English language, we shall use it throughout the article.) The matter of skart storage, period or required retainment and the disposal of postage stamps on it was regulated in various ways in different countries and at different times.

In our case the present term for retainment depends on the material involved, in most cases two years time is required, and the place of retainment is the Post Office. Earlier, particularly in the years 1919-1920, the period was much longer (from five to ten years) by which, at the end of the claim period, it was stored at the district directoriats or in special warehouses. Now as before, after the allotted retaining time elapses, it is sold as scrap for milling.

The collector's interest centers on the fate of the stamps contained on skarts. Some Postal Administrations would order the stamps to be cut out from the skart and later sell them in packages. By us at present, in the majority of cases, payments are made in cash. If any stamps are on the skart, according to regulations, after the required lapse of time, they should be cut out and delivered to the State Philatelic Enterprises. However, in the "between the wars" period this was not done to the stamps and the skarts as a whole were auctioned for milling. But once in a

while, dealers engaged in bulk sale of used postage stamps for philatelic purposes, succeeded in purchasing some parts of the skart and from these findings they prepared packets. In some instances these dealers would pay attention to the stamps of greater value and would sell them separately. It should be emphasized that only a minute fraction of philatelic material contained in the skart was salvaged in such manner. In this way the stamps and philatelic material on the skart got into hands of collectors and stamp analysts rather by accident and in small fragments. Therefore, from the fact that certain issues never got into their hands one cannot



Reverse side of a money order mailed from Baranów to Tarnobrzeg. Stamps are 5 h. and 90 h. with an overprint "Poczta Polska" cancelled at Baranów on 16. XII. 1918. In Tarnobrzeg two stamps were added to pay delivery, postage dues 5 h. and 15/36h. and cancelled at Tarnobrzeg 18. XII. 1918.

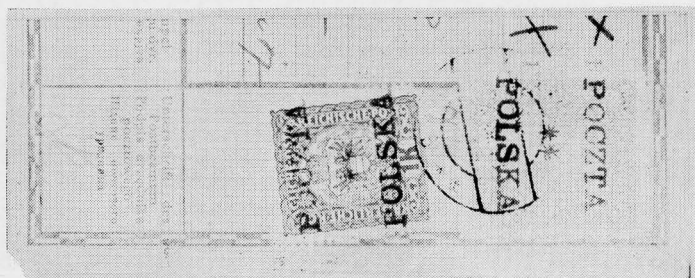


CZERMIN

conclude that such material never existed on skart. The fact should also be taken into consideration that a large proportion of skarts came from the Austrian Partition of Poland ("Małopolska") and very little from the German Partition and German and Austrian Occupation. And entirely unknown from skarts are stamps of local issues from the German and Austrian Occupation.

One must also remember the specific conditions that prevailed in the first months of regained Independence in 1918. The Central Government was yet in its organizing stage and each section of the country had different regulations and the post offices were not given any directives. Only on the basis of evidence from transient mail did the postmasters learn and verify that in many localities postage stamps were overprinted with the words "Pocztą Polska". Since they were not supplied with these stamps and in order to express their patriotic feeling and to, manifest on their stamps the regained Independence, they did on their own, nationalize the stamps with an overprint left by the Occupant. For this reason one has to use a different yardstick for this period than one would use in normal times. The first gauge on such yardstick would be to make certain that the nationalized stamps were in normal postal usage and the object of speculation was not the motive for their issuance. In this respect the postal skart, if saved, has tremendous value. It is ideal positive documentary proof that the stamp in question was really in normal postage circulation. Truly, this fact could be also evidenced by correspondence from that period, but envelopes and cards

on which such stamps are used do not possess a corresponding power of proof, because of some skillful professional fabrication it is often difficult to establish definitely that the particular entire in question actually comes from normal postal usage without the aid of a philatelic factor. Sometimes only an accidental familiarity with local conditions affirms the assertion to the contrary. As an example I would only name here the case of the Court Summons, sent to the parties and witnesses by the County Court in Kraków-Podgórz via the Post Office Kraków XIV to the Post Office in Świątniki. These are official Court envelopes with the seal of the Court, unfranked by the Court in accordance with existing regulations and they are handstamped with a directive to collect the postage due from the addressee. In Świątniki a postal clerk—philatelist delivered the Summons and collected the postage dues from the recipients, but whenever possible he retained the covers and later affixed to them provisional postage dues with all kinds of overprints of his own production. He then cancelled these with the appropriate date with the date canceller of Świątniki. The letters now had every appearance of normal postal usage, and only our being familiar with the local conditions and circumstances helped to establish a speculative character. On the other hand, there is no doubt as to the normal usage as confirmed on the skart. Because the stamps used on skarts (postal affidavits; money orders, auxiliary addresses for parcels, etc.) did not get into the hands of the addressee nor were they returned to the P.O. of their origin, but remained for years in postal archives, therefore it would be aimless



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for the manufacturers of the speculative issues to use their product on such affidavits. Such material would be of course irretrievably lost to them. That affirmation therefore, that certain stamps of some local issues were used on skarts is convincing proof of their usage in normal postal circulation, which in turn in the philatelic appraisal of their value has its decided meaning. The local issues, to be found on skarts could be divided into three groups.

I. Issues known and recognized before their discovery on skarts, for example:

the Kraków, Lublin and P.K.L. Issues, for which the skart constituted only confirmation of their normal postal circulation. It has to be stated however, that not all values from these issues were evidenced on skarts but at the same time, underlined, that philatelically, the most valuable denominations existed on skarts.

II. Issues known before their discovery on skarts, but there were either:

a) certain doubts whether they were in normal postal usage (as the Skałat issue) which doubts

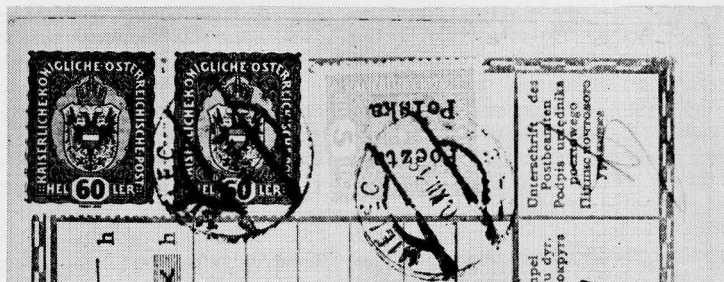
were removed after their findings on skarts.

b) either were considered as purely speculative and only skarts proved that it was not so, and they were in normal postal circulation—as an example: Mielec II. and Mielec III., which in the “Polskie Znaki Poczto-we” still were incorrectly described as purely speculative. (See article of the writer published before the war in “Ikaros” No. 62, “In Defense of the Locals of Mielec II and III.”)

In cases “a” and “b” the discovery of stamps on skarts caused rehabilitation of these issues.

Also in this group, not every value was found on skarts, and it must be stated that often stamps of these issues were later exploited by speculative elements.

III. Issues revealed only through skart, that is, due to skarts their existence was discovered. It proves they originated without aid of a “philatelic factor” and were not noticed by philatelists and exploited by speculators. To this group the philatelically most



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valuable issues of Baranów and Czermin belong. An important part skart played was the catalog in "Polskie Znaki Pocztowe" postage dues for Małopolska. The majority of these issues, often in complete sets on the philatelic market are completely unknown on skarts, (for example: Balice, Myslenice, Skrzeczów etc. and of others only a few of certain values are known (example: Cisna II, Kraków 1, 10, 14; Rzeszów 1, etc.)

In counterpart, a good many local dues are known only from skarts, which in these instances because void of speculative characteristics, revealed the most valuable local issues of dues.

It is evident from the above that skarts have played an important part in the classification and evaluation of philatelic values of the Local Issues of Postage Stamps and Postage Dues from the Territory of Małopolska in the 1918-1920 period.

BEN REEVES VICTIM IN \$75,000 BURGLARY

Burglars with keen eyes for things of collector interest made a rich haul the night of April 28 when they broke into the Ben Reeves Stamp Co. offices, 4359 Elston, Chicago, Ill. Mr. Reeves who resides at 4429 Keystone, Chicago, reported that the raiders first entered an adjoining store which has a common basement with his quarters, then sawed a hole through his floor.

Two safes were broken open, and all but the choicest material was discarded. Taken were rare stamps including complete collections, valuable coins, and a \$1500 collection of playing cards dating back to the Civil War. Biggest loss was a personal collection of Heligoland, one of the most nearly complete in the world.

Mr. Reeves is a past president of the Society of Philatelic Americans and a former very active Polonus member, officer, serving on many committees. Polonus members and dealers are urged to note and report any suspicious offerings, especially in the Heligoland category.

PICNIC SET FOR AUG. 2nd

Polonus will act as host to the Central Federation of Stamp Clubs this year at the Annual Picnic Sunday, August 2nd at Doc Kozy's Aquilla Resort in Powers Lake, Wisconsin. In addition to the regular program of games, races, prizes, wienie roast, etc., there will be music and dancing. A live orchestra is scheduled to play. Rain or shine, the picnic goes on as there is a huge pavillion on the grounds.

Dinners will be served indoors and run \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children. These must be reserved in advance.

It was decided that, because the Central Federation is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year, Polonus would open its doors and share its Annual Picnic with the other Chicagoland Stamp Clubs.

—R. Reinowski, Picnic Chrm.

BILLIG RELEASES NEW HANDBOOK NO. 27

The long established line of handbooks published by Fritz Billig of Jamaica, N. Y. has been continued by the release of No. 27 in the usual style and format. This volume is bound in gray cloth with gold imprint, in 6 x 9 size. Its 208 pages are well printed on glossy paper, with a number of illustrations.

Of interest to a Poland collector is the listing of the stamps of the German Occupation during World War I, for the area of General Government Warsaw during 1915-17. This is followed by Local Issues of Sosnowiec, Warsaw and Zawiercie. Then they cover the "Postgebiet Ob. Ost" issue of the Eastern Front, followed by the Grodno Issue of 1919.

Of particular note is that the material contained in this 27th offering is well cross indexed both as regards this one volume and past numbers. The price is \$6 from Fritz Billig, 168-39 Highland Ave., Jamaica 32, N. Y.

APPLICANT PENDING

Stanley Karkowski
2427 S. Springfield Ave.
Chicago 23, Ill.

WHAT GOES ON AT POLONUS . . .

By ROMAN STRZELECKI, Secretary

MEETING OF APRIL 24, 1959

The second meeting of the month is usually combined with a program. Only important matters are discussed at a short meeting and then the rest of the evening is devoted to the guest speaker. There were 23 members and three visitors present.

The President made an announcement about Poland's 1960 International Exhibition at Warsaw. The year 1960 happens to be the 1000th anniversary of Poland's existence and the 100th anniversary of Poland's first postage stamp. A lengthy discussion developed and many questions were asked as to the standpoint of Polonus as one of the largest Polish stamp societies. Should Polonus be represented as group? Will many of our members be willing to exhibit? Should Polonus organize a special tour to Poland at that time? What are the terms and how can we be sure of the security of our exhibits? All these and many more questions could not be answered and there were only a few facts available. A motion was made to appoint a committee to obtain all the necessary information and make it known to the members.

I know that this report will make many of our members think. Maybe you will ask yourself "Why not exhibit." Let them in Poland see what we have! I don't want to ask you directly to exhibit at this time as a lot of details are unknown at this time but should you like to exhibit if is possible, won't you drop me a postal card and let me know?

Personally I think, and you will agree with me, that Polonus should be represented at the 1960 International Show at Warsaw.

The program tonight was something different. In order to create more interest and encourage more discussion, Roman Burkiewicz gave a talk on the Scott Catalog unlisted Bureau of International Education stamps and souvenir sheet. Then all members present participated in the discussion (including the quiet ones). Much information was

made available to all present, and a wealth of knowledge was obtained. You Chicagoland members who weren't present missed something!

MEETING OF MAY 8, 1959

The meeting was opened by the President with a rather small attendance present, 14 members and three visitors. John Bor, the Central Federation Delegate, reported some action of the other clubs on the Resolution for the U. S. Paderewski stamp. It looks like we still need more support and signatures.

The matter of the Polonus Picnic was discussed. The date was set—Sunday, August 2nd, 1959. As we will be the hosts for the Central Federation clubs, John Bor and Roman Reinowski estimated that about 250 to 300 guests in addition to our own crowd of 100 will attend. A program is being planned by Roman who is well experienced in these matters.

The Membership Committee reported two new members (and we always welcome more). Walter Szymlek reported very intensive activity with a well known philatelist in Poland who prepared a complete catalog with a history of the stamps of the Warsaw Uprising and the A.K. issues. Polonus intends to publish the catalog in the English language. Watch for further announcements.

Six new frames were added to our present lot, and this now is the total amount needed for next year's Polpex.

A letter from the Union of Polish Philatelists Association in London was received with a request for receiving our Bulletin. A motion was made and passed to mail them our Bulletin from 1959 on, on an exchange basis. A letter was received from Mrs. Kay Horowicz of England with thanks for the Gold Medal she received for her 1959 Polpex exhibit.

The New Issue Committee reported that pockets will jingle in May. A set of Mushroom Stamps (about 12 zł. nominal value) was issued today. Some Poland's Paintings and Air Mail Semi-

postal are to come out soon. One of our dealers reported many price increases for Poland stamps in Scott's supplement.

Doc Kozy made a short report on the progress for the Paderewski stamp. Many prominent political and philatelic figures are on our side as well some noted clergy. We still need more signatures. The Committee appeals to everyone to sign the Resolution and to send them directly to the Postmaster General. Personal letters will help also. It is important that Washington receives mail not only from Chicago but from all over the U.S. So fellows, get busy and start writing. I hope and I'm sure that you do, that one day when the stamp is issued I will be able to say 'I did my part!'

MEETING OF MAY 22, 1959

This meeting turned out to be a business meeting. There were 27 members and three visitors present. A short review was given by the President on Polonus Nite at the Chicago Philatelic Society the night before. He said that Polonus had 22 members in attendance to the C.P.S. 20 members. Their President Mr. Love greeted us warmly and after going over their regular business proceeded with Polonus Nite. Their member Elmer Stuart made a motion that C.P.S. make up a letter to the Postmaster General stating that the C.P.S. is in favor of a Ignacy Jan Paderewski stamp in the Champion of Liberty series for 1960. The motion was voted on and accepted unanimously. This gesture was wholeheartedly appreciated by Polonus and so stated by Roman Burkiewicz on the floor. Roman proceeded to introduce our speakers. Myron Steczynski was called on first and spoke very eloquently and authoritatively on the Kraków Issues. He was followed by Jack Domar who supplemented this with methods of expertizing these issues. Chester Schafer then spoke shortly on his grand award winning P.K.L. issues followed by Chester Mikuleti who talked on Polish Revenues.

Coming back to our own meeting of May 22nd, it turned out to be a long one filled with hot discussions. First

of all a letter was read from the Polish Philatelic Federation in Warsaw, with an invitation to participate in the 1960 International Exhibition and to delegate a member from Polonus as a judge for the same show. A full discussion followed on the contents of this letter and, First, the meeting body appointed Myron Steczynski to act as Polonus' representative and the judge for the exhibition. He would travel to and return at his own expense. Second, Polonus would participate as a Society and would exhibit its Seals, Bulletins and philatelic literature. Messrs. Schafer, Szymlek, Kloskowski and Dr. Uzanski were appointed to prepare the material. Third, Polonus members are invited to exhibit individually (details will be available later). Fourth, The possibility of arranging a tour to Poland at the time of the exhibition. In order to co-ordinate the work and keep our members informed, all information will be published in our Bulletin as soon as it is received. In the meantime, we invite our out-of-town members to submit their views on this matter. All member who are thinking of exhibiting or joining the tour are asked to drop us a line. This will help us to organize a strong and efficient representation for Polonus at this big International Exhibit. You will agree that this is our opportunity to show international philatelic circles that Polonus is not only just a stamp club but THE Stamp Club in America. Let's join together and prepare something big. Should you be interested in any of the above mentioned projects, do not hesitate to write to me. I will be glad to give you all details as they are made available.

NEW MEMBERS

Marian Haydzicki
Skrytka Poczтовая 60
Tarnów 1, Poland
Daniel Dohm, Jr.
7358 Milan
University City 14, Mo.
Dr. Roberto Levi-Castillo
P. O. Box 3606
Guayaquil, Ecuador

MEET MR. THADDEUS GRYZEWSKI

By WALTER SZYMLEK

Since 1930 he has continually operated his own philatelic firm; only one out of two such private firms in Poland existing today.

Aside from his professional occupation, he continually devotes his time and talents to the development and promulgation of Polish philately throughout the world.

In the "Between the Wars" period he specialized in Aerophilately, which resulted in several articles about Polish aerogrammes in "The Air Mail Collector", Kansas.

After the war, as early as 1945, he was first to publish, his own edition of the brochure catalog — "Katalog Znaczków Pocztowych Polskich wydanych w latach wielkiej wojny 1941—1945"; and a supplement to this catalog in the following year.

In 1948,—also of his own edition—appeared: "Gryzewskiego Katalog Polskich Znaczków Pocztowych" which a year later, with many compliments, was pintoed in its Second Edition, and which to date stands as the best compilation of its kind. External circumstances would not allow the continuation of his publications.

In 1956 he was approached by the State Philatelic Enterprise "Państwowe Przedsiębiorstwo Filatelistyczne" to prepare the text for a catalog on stamps of Poland which they intended to publish. This work he completed. However, on its outer form and certain details he had no direct influence, and this substantially lowered its value. On the Philatelic Review publication "Przegląd Filatelistyczny", Łódź, he was co-editor and closest co-worker from the outset of its existence. The present publication "Filatelista" in its initial stage was organized by him without anyone's assistance.

In addition to his literary work, he is constantly engaged in a whole



line of activities in the philatelic field. As early as 1946 the Ministry of Commerce requested him to organize the philatelic export service. For various reasons the project was later abandoned. In 1954 the Minister of Posts employed him as an expert appraiser in the evaluating of several larger collections.

He is a permanent "Expert for the Courts" on philatelic matters. With the many years of special-

izing in Polish stamps, he is one of very few in Poland who can expertize any stamp of Poland.

In the Organizing Committee for the coming "International Philatelic Exhibition" "Warszawa 1960" he is chairman of the Foreign section.

Going back to the analyzing and publicity—it has to be added that he has completed the work on "The history, postal activities, stamps entire and cancellations of the Warsaw Uprising" "Powstanie Warszawskie 1945". This latest work is now ready for publication and will be published by the Polonus Philatelic Society.

NEW PHILATELIC LITERATURE

You specialists of Germania stamps with "Gen. Gouv. Warschau" overprinted "Poczta Polska" stamps (Scotts 15-26) will be interested in knowing of the publication of the booklet **Second Polish Provisional Issue, 1918**. It contains 16 pages and is another in the European Philatelic Library series published by J. Kwiatkowski and J. C. Crimlisk. The author, Dr. Joseph Tislowitz brings the study of this issue up to date with many useful charts and illustrations. This booklet is Part I only, and available at 50 cents per copy. Part II is not ready as yet but it will be available in the near future. All orders and remittances should be sent to Mr. J. C. Crimlisk, 9 Victoria Ave., Fife, Yorkshire, England.

THE EXHIBITION by Roman Strzelecki

THIRD INSTALLMENT

Exh. No. 11 — Kay Horowicz, England — From the entry in the program most of the Postal History enthusiasts expected to find material not in their own collections, and the regular collector anticipated something unusual. The exhibit showed excellent Postal History material of the Red Polish Date Stamp of Warsaw. Original covers dating as far back as 1815 with the red hand-struck double line and circular date stamp. The pages nicely described and clearly illustrated the types and dimensions of the date stamping as well as details of dates and places in transit with a full accounting.

I observed a number of old timers studying the individual covers and they littered up the floor with cigarette butts after many unfinished discussions.

This very valuable and interesting Postal History earned a Gold Medal for this overseas Polonus member.

Exh. No. 12—Walter Szymlek—The short, one line description did not describe the exhibit fully. But after seeing the material even some dealers said "Ah, ah!" The First Surcharge on the Regular Issue it was, and the Typographic Overprint of the 3 mk. it was too, but one unique item was outstanding: a strip of 20 stamps with ten across and two deep with the "3 mk" overprinted on the top ten but the cross bars intended for obliterating the original value of the stamp of 20 fen. being shifted, missing the top row but appearing in the second row. This was possible only by slipping of the full sheet during the process of overprinting. Original study and research of the 3 mk stamp was shown with plate varieties like the overprint partly missing, overprint offset on back, etc., plus perforation varieties. The exhibit well earned the Kozakiewicz Research Award.

I wonder if some of our members can talk Walter Szymlek into breaking up his strip into blocks of four?

Exh. No. 13 — Zdzisław Wągrowski —The 400th Anniversary of the Polish Postal Services illustrated in this exhibit

proved to be of great interest to many visitors. The material was very recent and had an aesthetic arrangement of stamps and souvenir sheets together with Postal Cards in mint condition as well as used. Many items showed large and fancy slogan cancellations specially designed by Polish Postal authorities to commemorate this occasion by quite a number of post offices throughout Poland. Practically all the envelopes were nicely catcheted and together with the stamps and cancellations made a colorful display. The exhibit is a good example of modern Postal History and some day will attain much philatelic value.

Exh. No. 14 — Leo J. Topolinski — This exhibit showed a complete section of a highly specialized collection of Prisoner Of War material, the Oflag II-C Camp in Woldenburg. To specialize in this type of material is not easy. Stamps, postcards and souvenir sheets were shown in both mint condition and used with Prison Post Office cancellation. Also included were copies of protocol including the names of officials authorizing the issuance of these stamps. The many types of cancellations were shown. Of special interest was the item called the "Unfinished Madonna" — with a little sentiment, art and history attached to it. Here's the story: One of the prisoners in the camp produced two sets of the Madonna stamps issued in the camp (one set on thin paper and the other on heavier, both printed from wood cuts) and glued them in a manila folder (about 8 x 12 inches in size) and had the stamps cancelled in the Prison Post Office with two different cancellations. The prisoner, who happened to be an artist decided to reproduce one of the Madonna stamps on the outside of the folder. After completing about three-quarters of the picture of this Madonna, he was killed. Thus did this piece get the title "The Unfinished Madonna." Unusual material and well worthy of the Best P.O.W. Award.

(Continued next month)

NEW ISSUES by J. J. Domar

The New Issues program contemplated for 1959 seems quite formidable. Some issues originally planned for 1958 were rescheduled for 1959 production — Famous Polish Paintings (5 stamps), Polish Fungi (8 stamps), Polish National Costumes (first part 5 stamps of an issue of 10).

New topics for 1959 are as follows:

1. Third Congress of Polish Workers Party (3 stamps) issued.
2. Tenth Anniversary of the World Movement For Peace (3 stamps).
3. Fortieth Anniversary of the Polish Red Cross (3 stamps are to be dedicated to Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign).
4. Fifteenth Anniversary of the Polish Peoples Republic (3 stamps).
5. Twenty-Fourth Conference of Inter-Parliamentary Union (2-3 stamps).
6. Poland's Millenium (10 stamps).
7. Polish Machine Industry (2 or 5 stamps).
10. Forty-Fourth World Esperanto

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— Annual Dues are \$2.50 —

Congress in Warsaw (2 stamps).

11. Sixty-fifth Anniversary of Polish Philately.

The series to depict Polish medicinal plants has been postponed indefinitely.

Poland's Millenium will be commemorated by several stamp issues in 1959-1965. Among the topics are forseen: Wit Stwoszcz's altar in Cracow, Coat of Arms of Historical Cities, History of the Polish Army, Great Poles, etc. All these issues will bear some device or emblem in common as well as the time watermark.

— Filatelista

MIDWAY OPEN HOUSE

Chicagoland members are invited to attend the 100th meeting of the Midway Stamp Club on Wednesday, June 17th at 5718 Archer Avenue. Guest speaker for the evening is Frank Kovarik; topic — "Posta Czechoslovakia, 1919."

Many Polonus members are in the ranks of the Midway Stamp Club. An Open House will be held with everyone invited. The meeting will be held in an air conditioned hall. Refreshments will be served.