

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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

Issue 256

February, 1968

POLPEX 1968 Honors Poland's 50th Anniversary of the Restoration of Independence – 1918–1968

The greatest annual event of the Polonus Philatelic Society, POLPEX 1968, will be held on Saturday and Sunday, March 2nd and 3rd, at Radio Halls, 5356 W. Belmont Ave., corner of Long Ave. Hours of the exhibition will be: Saturday from 12 noon to 11 PM, Sunday from 12 noon to 6 PM. Dr. Leon P. Kozakiewicz is Honorary Chairman of the exhibition.

As the theme of this year's show is "Poland's 50th Anniversary of Independence 1918-1968", the exhibition will feature Poland's stamp issues of the World War I period.

Three-color souvenir sheets will be issued showing Poland's Scott #332 which pictures Marshal Joseph Pilsudski who led the Polish Legions in World War I and fought so gallantly against the Russians to regain freedom for Poland. The bar of music at the bottom of the sheet is from the "March of the First Brigade."

A pair of souvenir sheets with a descriptive folder are available at 50c per set, an opening day cacheted cover at 30c each and are available from J.P. Rux, 6136 W. Addison St., Chicago, Ill. 60634. They will be on sale during the show.

The traditional Beeba will be held Saturday night at 10 PM when members will partake of kielbasa, ponczki



and other Polish treats, after which the presentation of awards will take place. Tickets are priced at \$1.50 per person.

Chicagoland members are asked to come to Radio Halls on Friday night from 6:30 PM on to give a hand in putting on the exhibition. Bring along a screw driver, pliers and cloth to wipe glass with and join the Mounting Party.

POLPEX 1968 is an expensive venture. We need your help to put over

a successful exhibition. For the sum of \$1.00 your name will be printed in the program catalog.

With this issue of the "Bulletin" is enclosed a remittance envelope. Kindly fill it out, enclose your \$1.00 and mail it out immediately. In this manner you can help POLONUS.

CHRISTMAS BEEBA MEETING

On Friday, December 22nd, members and wives were invited to the Polonus Christmas Beeba Meeting which was held at Radio Halls, Belmont and Long Avenues. Members were asked to bring along their favorite philatelic award (trophy, medal or plaque) to show the other members and explain what they received it for and why it was their favorite.

John Bor brought his Europa trophy, John Gapinski his Experts Trophy, Alfred Szebel brought eight different medals from international shows; Zdzislaw Wagrowski his Polish Airmen's Association plaque; Myron Steczynski his Polish Millennium Stamp framed certificate, and Chester Schafer a Paderewski plaque. They made an interesting display and all listened attentively as each member told his story.

After the program the members enjoyed the beeba prepared by Roman Reinowski, Mrs. Stefan Kochanski and Chester Schafer. A collection was then made for Stamps for the Wounded and John Bor, the Regional Midwest Director, received numerous stamps and cash gifts.

Our thanks to Mr. Joseph Migala, proprietor of Radio Halls for the free use of his beautiful hall, to Mrs. Stefan Kochanski for her home made potato salad, to Mrs. Chester Schafer for her home-made cake, and to Dr. Leon P. Kozakiewicz for his \$10.00 cash donation.

PRAGA, 1968

From June 22nd to July 7th, 1968, Prague will be the scene of the International Postage Stamp Exhibition PRAGA 1968. This event will be held under the Patronage and Regulations of the FIP, and will also be the occasion for the 37th FIP Congress, for meetings of the various FIP Commissions, and for the 7th AIJP Congress. There will also be international symposia on youth, thematic and aerophilately and further specialized branches, as well as international gatherings, seminars, lectures and various other philatelic and social events.

All the Postal Administrations of the world will be invited to participate in the Official Class, and invitations to the Court of Honor and Class of Honor will be extended to internationally acknowledged collectors. All philatelists from anywhere will be welcome in the competition classes. The jury will be an international body made up of leading experts.

The exhibition space will house ten thousand frames, each for 16 pages. The organizers will thus be able to allot outstanding collections 30, in exceptional cases even 40 frames, allowing them to be displayed to full advantage.

The organizers take pleasure in inviting all the world's philatelists to the World Postage Stamp Exhibition PRAGA 1968, and to visit the beautiful city of Prague in the heart of Europe.

For more information write to the Secretary, PRAGA 1968 Stamp Exhibition, Na Příkopě 31, POB 1095, Prague 1, Czechoslovakia.

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POLAND-ODESSA

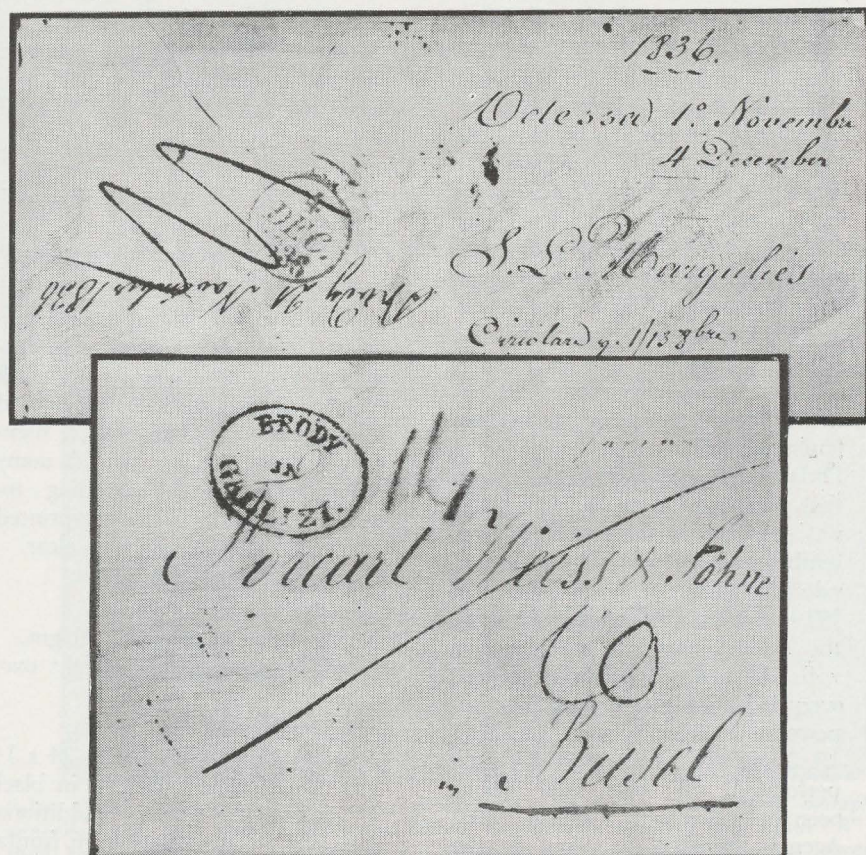
By JOZEF KUDEREWICZ, M.D.

Reprinted from the ROSSICA JOURNAL

It is a known fact that geographical positions of some historical and international events bring people, cities and countries together. Such situations and events are even more interesting when they are discovered and confirmed by evidence of philatelic material. An example of such a situation can be found in the relations of Poland and the city of Odessa. This philatelic relation can be divided into three periods — each precipitated by these significant historical events.

1. XIXth Century (pre-philatelic and philatelic eras) - Historically we found that Poland underwent partitions and that the Congress of Vienna, in 1815, confirmed this partition.

Geographically the Polish Western Territories were taken by Prussia, the Southern by Austria (Galicia), the Eastern, including Warsaw, by Russia, forming the so called Kingdom of Poland. In addition, the city of Krakow was formed into a



Stampless cover sent from Odessa on November 1, 1836 bearing transit red oval postmark of BRODY in Galicia on front of cover (bottom) and red double ring receiving December 4th postmark on back (top).

Free City — or the so called Republic of Krakow. It is a known fact that although the city of Odessa, being a large port on the Black Sea, preferred to send mail by land. Postal routes to Western Europe went through Polish territories, therefore such mail bears transit markings from Polish cities — some from Brzesc Litewski (Brest Litowski), border town of Polish Kingdom and Russia, some of them Brody, border town between Galicia and Russia. This situation existed not only during the prephilatelic era, but even later when postal routes were improved and when railroads were built and trains were used for postal purposes.

2. World War I — (Russian Revolution) - Historically, Poland became an independent country on the 11th of November, 1917. Russia, at that time, was in the throws of a Revolution. The city of Odessa was still free under army protection of General Denikin. For escapees and evacuees of Polish extraction from Communist territories, the Polish government, with permission of General Denikin, opened a Consulate in the city of Odessa in September, 1919.

Philatelically, although it is known that some mail from the Consulate was delivered in the month of September and October, but it is considered unofficial. In October, 1919, due to the increase in mail, the Polish Consulate was supplied with Polish Regular Stamps without overprint of values 5, 15 fenigs imperforated - 10, 15, and 25 halers - 10, 20, 25 and 50 fenigs and 1 mark perforated, all were used having been cancelled with a Polish Postal Agency cancellation. Then in the middle of November, 1919, the Polish Postal Agency was officially opened. This agency was under the

complete jurisdiction of the Consulate. Mail from Odessa was brought by the Diplomatic Couriers and delivered to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, then to the General Postal Service in Warsaw, who in turn delivered to the addressees. Stamps were overprinted by the Printing Establishment of FESENKO - NAWROCKI in Odessa. Overprint is in black - slightly glossy - ODESA. This overprint is in two forms - one 13 mm in length and 2¼ mm in height for fenigs value. The second form — 14¼ mm in length and 3 mm in height for marks value. Values and amounts of overprinted stamps:

- 10 fenigs - 598 including 50 stamps with red overprint and 3 with inverted overprint
- 20 fenigs - 601 including 5 inverted
- 25 fenigs - 213 including 5 inverted
- 50 fenigs - 612 including 50 with red overprint and 6 inverted
- 1 mark - 706 including 6 inverted
- 15 halers - 6 (?)

Stamps with red overprint and overprinted 15 halers values are considered as proofs. All stamps with inverted overprints are considered as speculative. The above mentioned figures were changed many times and opinion regarding inverted overprints and overprinted 15 halers values, is not yet clear.

Postal Rates were as follows:

- 25 fenigs - for postal card
- 50 fenigs - for letter up to 20 gm.
- 30 fenigs - for additional weight over 20 gm.
- 50 fenigs - for registry

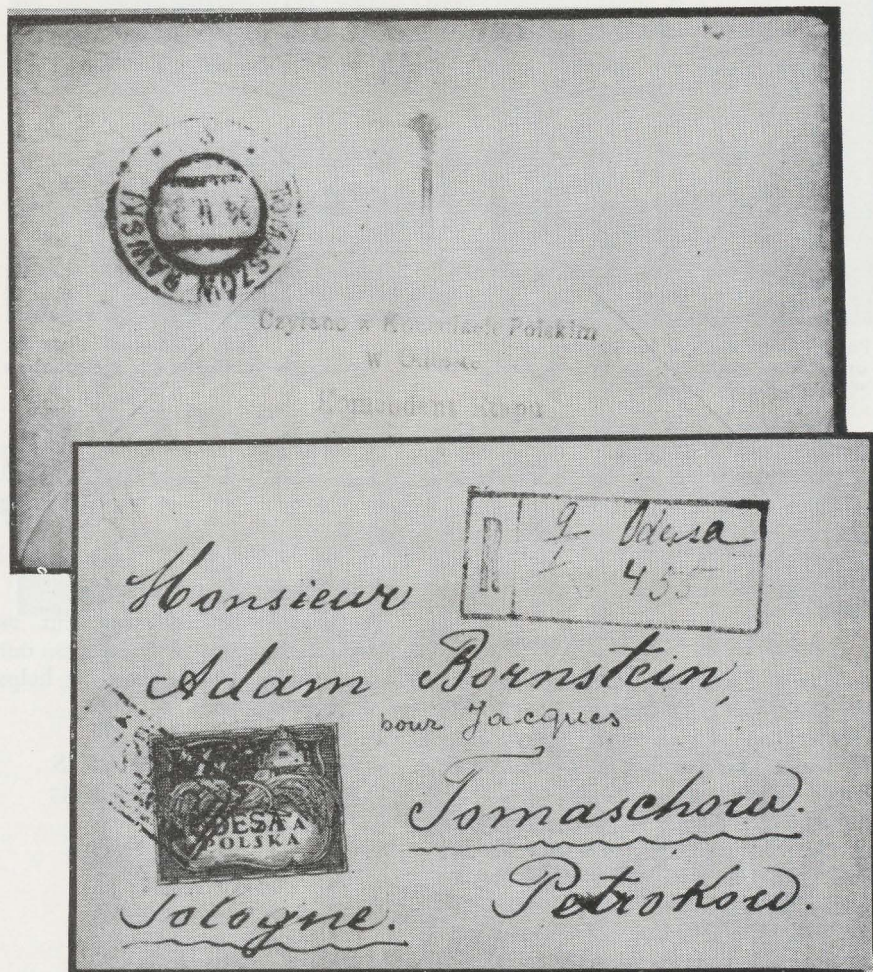
All mail was cancelled with 24 x 14 mm triple frame ODESA, in black or dark violet colors. Additional markings are Registration on frontal portion of cover and — Czytano w Konsulacie Polskim w Odessie - (Read in Polish Consulate in Odes-

sa), Komendant Etapu on the back of cover. On some of them there is the signature of the censor on the front cover. This Polish Postal Agency in Odessa was forced to close under the pressure of the Red Army on January 31, 1920.

During the two and a half months, the agency sent 599 registered letters and 135 pieces of regular mail.

3. World War II — Historically it is known that the second World War started with the invasion of Poland by the Nazi Third Reich on the 1st of September, 1939 from the west, then on the 17th of September, 1939, the Red Army entered Poland from the east.

Philatelically, all mail to foreign countries in the eastern part of Po-



Polish Postal Agency in Odessa cover overprinted with Odessa (mark value stamp) cancelled with dark violet triple frame Odessa. Registration marking with usual "R", then hand written date of January 9, "Odessa" and number on front of cover (bottom). Black round receiving cancellation Tomaszow Rawski then "Czytano w Konsulacie Polskim w Odessie" in two lines, "Komendant Etapu" in one line in a dark violet color (top).



Postal Card mailed in Maniewiczze on September 15th, 1939. Bi-lingual (Russian and Ukrainian), Odessa, November ?, 1939, then receiving Bucharest cancellation November 30, 1939.

land which was found at the post offices, was sent to the USSR, then later forwarded to the addressees. Some of this mail bears the cancellations of Odessa. If this mail was delivered by land or by sea, it is not known.

AT RECENT AUCTIONS

Myron Steczynski reports that at the Dec. 8, 1967 auction of H. R. Harner, an 1860 Poland No. 1, the 10 kopeck blue and rose, tied with a larger red Warsaw postmark to piece, brought \$1,000.00. On the same day another Poland No. 1 in a paler shade and with the circular town postmark CHMIELNIK on letter sold for \$825.00. Good stamps of Poland are in the money class and make desirable investments.

APPLICANT PENDING

Clémens J. Urbanski
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DUES FOR 1968 NOW DUE

The Treasurer asks that you kindly send in your \$2.50 promptly. Mail dues directly to him at the following address: Stanley Dobrzycki, 1935 N. Tripp Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60639, otherwise it delays the processing.

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NEW ISSUES

Reymont's 100th Anniversary

On December 12, 1967, the Polish Post issued a postage stamp of 60 gr face value to celebrate the 100th anniversary of both of the outstanding Polish novelist and short story writer Wladyslaw Stanislaw Reymont (1867-1925).



Before he began his literary work, Reymont had tried various professions and later his experiences of this period found reflection in his works. He was an author of many novels ("The His-trion", "The Ferments", "The Year 1794", "The Promised Land", "The Vampire"), short stories ("The Storm", "The Revolt", "Krosnowa and the World"), and reports.

The highest achievement of Reymont's creative activity is the epopee about the life of Polish countryside "The Peasants" for which he was awarded with the Nobel Prize at the end of his life, in 1924.

Offset printed on common paper in sheets of 30 stamps. at PWPW Warsaw. Designed by Ryszard Dudzicki. Quantity issued 4,500,000.

10th Annual Olympic Games

On January 10, 1968 eight stamps were issued on the occasion of the 10th Annual Winter Olympic Games in Grenoble. The stamps depict the following:

	Qty. Issued
40 gr.—ice hockey	6,000,000
60 gr.—downhill ski race	5,000,000
90 gr.—ski slalom	3,500,000

1.35 zl.—speed skating	2,800,000
1.55 zl.—ski race	3,000,000
2.00 zl.—sleighbing	3,000,000
7:00 zl.—biathlon	1,100,000
7.90 zl.—ski jump	1,100,000



Multicolor offset printed on chalky paper in sheets of 30 stamps at PWPW Warsaw. Designed by Fr. Wi-niarski.

Ossolineum Foundation 150th Anniversary

Issued December 12, 1967 on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of one of the most significant posts of Polish science and culture, the national foundation of the Ossolinski family. Founded by J. M. Ossolinski in 1817, as an educational foundation with the purpose of rendering access to a rich library collection and to subsidize scientific works.



The Foundation began its activity in 1827 in Lwow and continued to World War II. In 1946 the Founda-tion moved to Wroclaw, organizing campaigns to popularize the rich col-lection of history books, literature and Polish art books, priceless manu-scripts, periodicals and drawings. The Ossolinski Foundation also publishes humane studies.

The design shows a medal with the image of J. M. Ossolinski and a book

with the white and red flag. Offset printed on common paper in sheets of 20 by PWPW Warsaw in a 4,500,000 quantity. Designed by Ryszard Dudzicki.

"POLISH MILLENNIUM NITE" AT THE BAGATELA

The January 26th meeting of Polonus was held at the Bagatela Club, 1122 Milwaukee Ave. The proprietor, Mgr. Romuald Bilek, invited us to hold the society meeting in his upstairs hall and to view his enormous collection of U.S. Polish Millennium first day covers, display sheets, photos, documents, historical memorabilia, etc. — all bearing the U.S. stamp cancelled with the special first day cancellation at Washington, D.C. He also had a wonderful collection of Vatican City stamps, covers and other material. This collection numbered some 2000 different historical items, the largest such known collection. It was mounted on the walls and displayed on tables on two floors of the building.

After the business part of the meeting was over with, Mgr. Bilek was in-

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— Annual Dues are \$2.50 —

roduced to the members and gave a short talk on how he assembled this vast collection.

After his talk we were treated to an excellent buffet luncheon prepared especially for Polonus members on this occasion. Real Polish hospitality was extended by Mgr. Bilek and the members were very impressed. They will long remember this wonderful evening at the Bagatela.

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