

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 No. 177

January, 1960

NEWS OF POLPEX 1960

As you already know, our Exhibition will be held on March 4, 5 and 6, 1960 at the P.R.C.U. Museum. The fact that the Millennium of Poland occurs this year makes this Show yet more important.

I am happy to announce that work of all the different committees is in full swing and progressing rapidly. Enclosed with this issue of the Bulletin is a special letter informing each of you individually of the details of the Show. You can rest assured that all members of the Polpex Committee will do their utmost to make this 1960 Show the most outstanding and most memorable in Polonus history. The fact that it will take place at the P.R.C.U. Museum should be to the advantage of the attendance of our members, visitors and their friends.

ADS

We have mailed announcements of the Show to a large number of stamp dealers and others interested in advertising in the Polpex Program Book. Here we must ask you to secure as many advertisements as possible from your favorite dealers. You personally may put in an ad with your wants as a collector or advertising stamps for sale or trade.

PATRON LIST

We also have a special Patron List where your name will be listed in a special column in the program book as supporters of the Show. This will help us to cover some of the expenses connected with the Show.

1850 — 1960



CENTENNIAL
OF POLAND'S
FIRST
POSTAGE
STAMP



MARCH 4-5-6
P. R. C. U.
MUSEUM
984 Milwaukee
CHICAGO
U. S. A.

PROGRAM BOOK

As we do each year, a special souvenir book will be printed. Because of the significant year of 1960 we are planning to obtain a large number of ads as well as several interesting philatelic articles.

SEALS

Souvenir sheets of the exhibition will be issued and sold at 25c per set. Anyone desiring same please send 25c plus postage to Adam Kloskowski, 2528 N. Drake Ave., Chicago 47, Ill.

AWARDS

By limiting the amount of frames to six per exhibit, we are making room

for more exhibits. The classes are divided in such a manner that even an average exhibit will stand a good chance of winning an award.

INVITATIONS

Personal invitations will be sent to all societies and clubs in Chicagoland, inviting their members, friends and families to attend our Show.

We are making arrangements to hold our famous Beeba Party on Saturday, March 5th at 10 p.m., in the lower hall and cafeteria of the P.R.C.U. building. This year we will have more room and consequently we are inviting not only Chicagoland members but out of town members as well.

BOURSE

Customarily at the time of each Polpex we will have a specially prepared

Bourse with a number of dealers who already announced that they will have some very good eye-catching material on hand.

PUBLICITY

All possible arrangements are being made to obtain publicity nationally and locally. Local newspapers as well as national magazines will carry announcements and articles before and at the time of the Show.

ABOVE ALL, WE WANT TO MAKE THIS AN OUTSTANDING SHOW!!! WITH YOUR HELP THIS CAN BE DONE!!!

We are counting on your exhibit, your contribution as a Patron, and your advertisements.

Watch for this column next month!

—R. H. Strzelecki, Polpex Director



Dr. M. E. Uznanski surveying his world famous collection of Christmas Seals which were on display in a show window of the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry offices at Monroe and Dearborn sts. as part of the December campaign to raise funds to fight tuberculosis. The fund raising campaign is conducted each year by the Tuberculosis Institute of Chicago and Cook County. His collection, which contains every Seal of the U. S. from the first issue in 1907, has won first awards at international shows in Denmark, Norway and Spain.

POLISH POST WAR FIRST DAY COVERS

By Matthew A. Buba, Jr.

(Reprinted from WEEKLY PHILATELIC GOSSIP of Feb. 21, 1959 with their permission)

One collecting Polish first day covers will find himself in the midst of a new branch of Polish philately. The first post war cover with Scott's 490 to 495, Minkus 704-711, the regular issue showing President Bierut, was cancelled at Warsaw December 16, 1950. All covers since then have been cancelled first day at Warsaw. This is a young part of Polish philately, being only nine years old.

A most unique collection can take shape with time, patience, and a sum of money set aside for the first day covers. My collection is growing each month, and on a system which enables me to enjoy Polish philately, and the history of Poland.

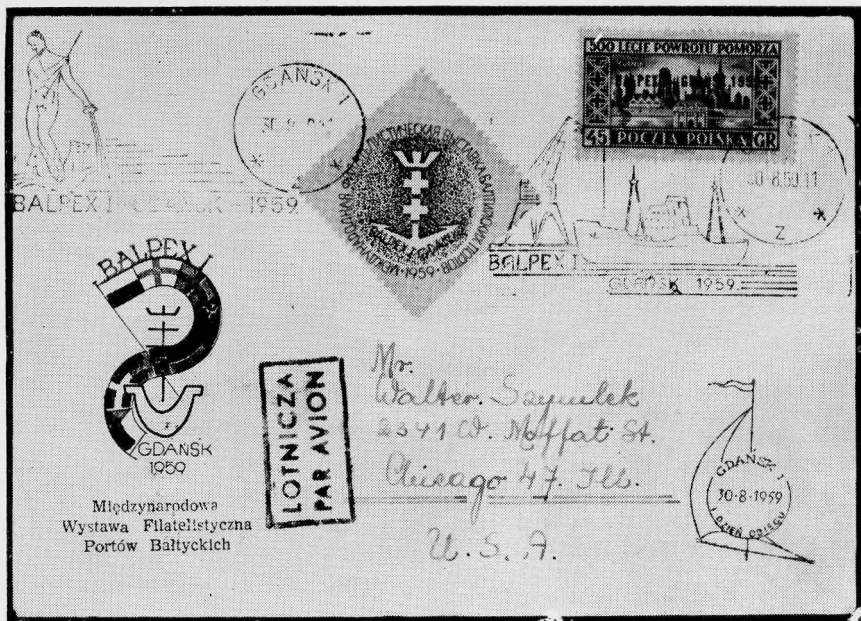
One aspect in collecting Polish first day covers is the artistic cancellations which are used on the covers. I have foreign and United States first day covers with their ordinary round cancellations, but have not seen a foreign or United States cover compare with the cancellations of Poland.

I have Scott's B102-3, Minkus 993-

994 souvenir sheets on a registered air mail first day cover. The cancellation is the Town Hall of Poznań where the Sixth Polish Philatelic Exhibition was held in 1955. This cancellation on the cover makes the first day cover more interesting to the collector and makes a wonderful showpiece at an exhibition.

Here are other examples of other artistic cancellations on Polish first day covers. Scott's 69518, Minkus 1003-6 on a first day cover with the cancellation being the Cultural Palace of Warsaw. Stalin had this building built in his honor, and it was to have a psychological effect on the Polish mind. Scott's 660-3 shows a fawn cancellation which was used on the perforate and imperforate issues of these Sport stamps. The Fish issue first day covers features a fish cancellation.

Such cancellations bring out the enjoyment found in philately. The new issues are getting more and more attractive. Each new cover added to my collection is not only building up an



Artistic cancellations on Balpex Commemorative First Day Cover enhance the cover considerably.

attractive collection but also an encyclopedia of Poland's cultural and historical development. One feels proud of his collection with such interesting cancellations to show his friends or when entering his covers in an exhibition.

I hope I have thrown some light on collecting Polish first day covers to you. It will be worth your time and effort to form an unique collection which will contain these pretty cancellations and covers.

"POLPHILEX 1960"

The Union of Polish Philatelists in Great Britain will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the First Polish Stamp by organizing a Philatelic Exhibition in the Historical Institute of Gen. Sikorski in London, 20, Princess Gate, S.W.7, April 8 to 12, 1960.

The Exhibition will comprise the interesting subjects of Polish Philately, from the first Polish stamp up to the second world war, as well as the prephilatelic period. It will consist of two sections: 1.) Up to the First World War; 2.) From regaining independence (including stamps issued on the Polish territory as well as issued abroad).

Prizes will be awarded in the form of medals for the most outstanding exhibits by the Jury.

Philatelists not belonging to the Union who wish to participate in the Exhibition, should send their applications before Jan. 31, 1960 to the Union of Polish Philatelists in G. Britain, 30, Greencroft Gardens, Flat J., London N.W.6. Early applications are desirable to enable the Exhibition Committee to prepare frames and issue the catalogue with the description of exhibits and names of the exhibitors.

Each exhibitor is allowed two frames, each frame being able to accomodate nine pages size 9" x 11". Further details and application forms are available in Chicago from R. H. Strzelecki, 1439 N. Bell Ave., Chicago 22, Ill. Tel. BRunswick 8-7876.

Special miniature sheets and envelopes will be prepared for the Exhibition and can be ordered from the Committee Treasurer, before the opening of the Show, or obtained during the time

of the Show.

The following Members of the Union are on the Committee of the Exhibition apart from representatives of the Historical Institute: Jan Z. E. Berek, Jan Luczywek, M. Kotkowski, Z. Wlodarski, Dr. T. T. Prorok, A. Czajkowski and K. Wojakowski.

NEW POLISH PHILATELIC AGENCY IN U.S.

Formation of a Polish Philatelic Agency for the sale of Polish new issues in the United States, Canada and Latin America, was announced by member W. Kolakowski, head of the new organization.

Polish stamps, because of their attractive designs, fine execution and topical interest, are of tremendous popularity with collectors everywhere. The Polish Government, after negotiations lasting several months, has arranged with Mr. Kolakowski to handle the sale of new issues on a face value basis to bona fide dealers. In this way, American dealers will eliminate the difficulties of correspondence in foreign languages, shipping delays and exchange problems.

Mr. Kolakowski is a member of the Collectors Club of New York, APS, SPA, American Stamp Dealers Assoc. besides being a member of Polonus. He has long been a student of Polish stamps. His many articles and a handbook on some of these are among the serious works in the field.

Dealers desiring to secure further information can address their queries to the Polish Philatelic Agency, P.O. Box 394, Great Neck, N.Y.

APPLICATION PENDING

Roman Winiarski
17 St. Hubert's Road
Carnegie, Melbourne
Victoria, Australia

BULLETIN ADS — PRICE LIST

For Polonus Members Only

Full Page —	\$12.00
Half Page —	7.00
Quarter Page —	4.00
One inch ad —	1.50

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The Polish Post During the Warsaw Uprising

By Thaddeus Gryzewski

AUTHOR'S PREFACE

The history of the Warsaw Uprising is not limited to the military activities, to the accounts of heroic battles of the poorly equipped soldiers of the Underground Army—the “flower of the Polish Nation”—and to the spontaneous and full battle of the whole of the population of the Capitol with the despised occupying enemy.

In publications describing the Uprising which appeared up to this time, the writers review and describe the political angle, the military angle, or rationalize the uprising citizens from an eye witness account.

None of the writers or historians touched on the subject of the activities of the many auxiliary cells organized by civilians who played an important role in the battles of the soldiers.

Many groups of skilled mechanics, professionals, engineers, doctors, journalists, etc., through their own initiative and efforts developed small factories producing arms and grenades, local electric plants, increased the number of medical centers, printed newspapers (several newspapers were operating and appeared daily), organized communications, worked out and activated a clever system of underground streets connecting the basements of their homes — streets on which you could walk as well as any regular busy city streets—and lastly, effecting a postal system which enabled the one-million people of Warsaw a means of contact with each other.

This clever means of postal communication which the city people were blessed with, was the result of the initiative of the Scouts. They were first to come up with the idea and to make it a reality. The called it operation “Szare Szeregi” (Grey Ranks), working commendably at this job up to

the moment of surrender. They earned the deep recognition of the inhabitants of the city.

This voluntary work of the “Szare Szeregi” in the postal service, working under constant fire and bombardment of the enemy, caused me to study this unusual postal service which you could never find the likes of in the history of any country.

Due to the lack of official records which were lost in the war, I had to rely on the statements of persons who actually participated in this action and on information which appeared in the newspapers and publications from the time of the Uprising, copies of which were made available to me by the Historical Bureau of the Ministry of National Defense.

In this article you may find omissions and incompleteness. The reader will have make allowances for this as I just began collecting material for this article but two years ago, and persons giving me information have since the Uprising, forgotten the many, many details.

I wish to make this opportunity to thank all those who helped me compile the material; to the Polonus Philatelic Society who showed such interest and agreed to publish this work. I wish that this account, being a small contribution to the history of the Uprising, would simultaneously become the symbol of everlasting monument in memory of the many un-named and unknown teen-aged Scouts—the bearers of good or tragic news among the broken families of war-torn Warsaw.

May this work become a monument of gratitude from the people of Warsaw.

— Thaddeus Gryzewski

A NOTE FROM THE TRANSLATOR

For a better understanding of this article several things and particularly the definition of some words used in the Polish text should be explained:

"A.K." are the letters for "Armia Krajowa" and was composed of men, women and children civilians, who by putting on the armband became soldiers. This also applies to "A. W." meaning "Armia Waleząca." This army was almost entirely equipped with arms, uniforms and helmets captured from the enemy as well as home made grenades, flame-throwers, and also consisted of arms and ammunition dropped from planes by parachute by the Allies.

The symbol of the Underground was an anchor with letter P at top, thus forming P W which in this case meant

"Polska Waleząca" (Fighting Poland).

The women members acted as nurses, stretcher bearers, cooks, "Łączniczki" and even battle soldiers.

The terms "Łączniczki" needs some explanation, they were couriers, keeping communication between various Barricades and Posts, some were young, others were old ladies, not necessarily Girl Scouts. They carried orders and reports. I read an expression which translated means, "Where the devil himself could not get through, one sends a "Łączniczka" to get the message through".

The Boy Scouts and young soldiers, in fact those who did not have any armament to fight with acted as Poster Propaganda distributors newsboys, ammunition carriers, fire wardens, and to lead various groups of A.K. from one place to another, via canals, sewer canals, connecting buildings where openings were made in the bombed walls.

The term 'barykady' means barricades set up at many intersections of streets to block the German troops and tanks with anti-tank devices.

Warsaw, like New York, had many sections, for example the Bronx, Queens, Manhattan and other boroughs. So too did Warsaw have sections known as "Śródmieście" or central part, which was divided in two: Śródmieście Południowe and Śródmieście Północne, Nowe Miasto, Stare Miasto (Starówka), Powiśle, Mokotów, Powązki, Żolibórz, and Czerniaków among the principal parts.

—C. Makowski



Boy Scouts pick up mail from mail box on the barricade at Świętokrzyskiej street.

(Photo: Tad. Bukowski)

A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE POLISH POST THE SCOUT POSTAL SERVICE

Hour "W" 17th, the code name for the opening of the uprising in Warsaw was a surprise for many residents of Warsaw, not taken into confidence as to what was to happen. At the time the first shots were heard—the larger part of the residents were away from their homes. Many old people, women and even children, found themselves on the street, often far from their homes, with an impossibility of reaching them. From the beginning of the Uprising, during the first days of warfare, parents did not know where their children were, and children did not know of the fate of their fathers and mothers. Telephone communication was not possible, as the larger part of the telephones were not in operation, because the Germans controlled the local telephone stations and had cut the service.

In this situation it was necessary to take some action to assure the million populace of the City, of a means of communications with and the finding of relatives. On the second day of the Uprising the idea of organizing a Postal System for the civilian people was born. The initiative was taken by the "Szare Szeregi" (Scouts), and the instigator was Scoutmaster Kazimierz Grenda, using the code name, during the Uprising of "Grania" or "Marek". On August 2nd Scoutmaster "Grania", together with a few colleagues, began to organize a postal communication for the civilian public, limiting himself for the time to a district known as "Śródmieście-Południe" (City Center-South). There were no immediate plans of organizing the postal facilities for the entire City. It was necessary to reach an understanding with the Main Scout Headquarters, as also with the District Command of the Home Army (Armia Krajowa). Both of these headquarters were located in the district known as "Śródmieście Północne" (City Center-North). The difficulty of communicating with these headquarters was that the two districts were separated by a wide street or boulevard named "Aleje Jerozolimskie" (Jerusalem avenue) the

length of which, at both ends was controlled by the Germans, making it impossible to cross from one side to the other.

On August 4th, in the evening hours, was it first possible for 2nd Lt. Scoutmaster Przemysław Górecki, who was also known under the code names of "Kuropatwa", "Wirski" or "Gozdol", to crawl from one side to the other of the Aleje Jerozolimskie, with a small amount of mail of Scout Troop "Zawiszków", and to reach Scout Headquarters, where he turned in the report of "Grania", in the matter of organizing a postal service for civilians. The idea was accepted.

The Scoutmaster from Main Scout Headquarters entrusted to his Assistant Scoutmaster, 2nd Lt. Górecki, the title of general postmaster, with orders for immediate organization. Taking as co-worker "Ewe" (Gena Jabrzemska), Górecki worked without delay over organizing a civilian postal service, having his quarters on No. 28 Świętokrzyskiej street, and quickly reaching an understanding with Military and Civilian Authorities, which sanctioned the idea, and without delay gave their consent.

The scheme of organization foresaw—as the principal service point—the Main Scout Post, also with Postal sub-stations, placed in certain sections of the City, answerable to the eventual Military Units of the district. Asst. Scout Master 2nd Lt. Górecki, though not a postal employee, without previous experience, worked out the necessary instructions for the Postal workers, and also the rules for the public using this Postal Service, without delay.

One of the most important problems was the question of censorship of correspondence. This matter demanded adequate, well planned and thought instructions and obtaining the getting of responsible personnel. All these matters were accomplished in lightening-like time by Lt. Górecki. The result of this work was the formation and organization on August 6th of four postal units or sub-stations, also the distribution of



Girl Scout sorting mail. Stamps are visible on some of the envelopes. Standing at the right is the postal manager Lt. Górecki ("Kuropatwa").

(Photo: Tad. Bukowski)

pick-up mail boxes on the Streets of the City.

In the publication "RZECZYPOSPOLITEJ" No. 19 of August 9th, there appears for the first time a notice of the Polish Telegraph Agency as follows: Through the initiative of the Scouts there is mobilized a postal service functioning for several days, which serves nearly all sections of the City. In each section there are several mail pick-up boxes with the Polish Eagle and the words "POLSKA POCZTA" "Polish Post". There are emptied at 9:00 and 16:00 hours (4 PM). Users of the Postal service should be acquainted with the following detailed rules: Write small and clearly, address must be written legibly, civilians must give their address and that of the addressee, Military persons need not give their address; letters of civilians in event of undelivery are returned, military are destroyed. Residents have the duty of locating mail boxes in each home, so that delivering Scouts may place the mail therein".

A few days later among the printed

Orders of the Warsaw Command of the AK, the following appeared:

"ORDER Nr. 14"

Pkt 10/VI

FIELD POST

On the 6th of this month through the initiative of the Scouts a Field Post was organized, to perform the duty of a Postal Service for correspondence between Soldiers of AK and the civilians. It is necessary, for those using this service to follow strict instructions, and above all Military secrecy must be kept. The Postal Service is under Military censorship. The entire message (correspondence) should not exceed 25 words. Placed in various points throughout the City there are placed Scout Mail Pick-up boxes (at this time there are 12) which are Field Post Boxes. Komendant Okręgu (—) Monter 11. VIII. 1955 year".

Similar announcements came from The Civilian Authorities. In the publication from the Regional Delegate of Warsaw Government South in No. 1 of August 20, 1944 we read, as follows:

(Continued next month)

WHAT GOES ON AT POLONUS . . .

By ROMAN H. STRZELECKI, Secretary

Meeting of January 8, 1960

The attendance of the meeting was terrific! The hall was overcrowded. The crowd gathered at 8:15 p.m. But not all were our members. The previously advertised film showing of a tour of Poland drew the crowd. A total of 100 visitors and members were present.

Shown was an 8 mm. color film made by Mr. Michael Przemyski who conducted a tour through Europe and Poland in 1959. The film began with the departure of the tour from Chicago, through such picturesque places as Venice, Rome, Paris, etc. A majestic showing of mementos and the colorful past history!

Poland looked beautiful. Especially did the films on the Tatry, Baltic Sea, Kraków and Warsaw impress the audience. Commentaries were supplied by Mr. Przemyski who also added a few humorous stories of his own.

Right after the film showing, only the Polonus members remained for the meeting that followed. As this was the first meeting of the year, the business at hand was to have nomination of officers for 1960.

As a number of members were interested in more details on visiting Poland, Mr. J. Widelec of the Baltic Travel Bureau who was present, got up and enlightened the members. A discussion and question-answer period prevailed. Mr. Widelec promised to answer all inquiries of all out-of-town members.

Then the business of the nomination. Following were named: R. H. Strzelecki, Bert Powell, Z. Wągrowski and W. Szymlek for President; W. Szymlek, Z. Wągrowski and R. Reinowski for Vice-President; St. Dobrzycki, St. Kochanski for Secretary; Ch. Mikucki and J. P. Rux for Treasurer; Messrs. Hermanowski, Skotnicki and Styczynski for Librarian and R. Reinowski and Roman Burkiewicz for Board of Directors. With these names recorded it was moved and seconded to close the nominations for voting on Jan. 22, 1960.

The next item was the Constitution. It is many years now since the Constitution was amended and as there are several adjustments to be made, the committee must get to work. Several copies of the existing Constitution were distributed to committee members.

VATICAN ISSUES

ST. CASIMIR STAMPS

Vatican City issued a set of two stamps honoring Prince Casimir, patron saint of Poland and Lithuania. First day of issue—Dec. 13, 1959.

The denominations of 50L. brown and 100L. green show a vignette of the saint at the right and a view of his chapel at Vilna at the left. Around the crowned portrait is the inscription "Patronus S. Casimirus — Primarius Lithuania" (Patronus Saint Casimir—First of Lithuanians).

At the top are the dates 1458 and 1958, which would indicate that the set is actually a year late. Printing is in panes of 40 subjects, on paper watermarked with Papal keys, perforated 14. The design is by V. K. Joynas; the engraving by Alceo Queti.

The Casimir set marks another stage in what is apparently a studied policy of emphasizing Catholicism in Communist lands. Previous issues of the past few years have called attention to the image "Mother of Poland" and to the Black Madonna of Vilna. The new pair honors the patron saint of Lithuania.

Casimir was born at Cracow, in Poland, during one of the shortlived periods when Poland and Lithuania were united under one crown. His birth date was October 3, 1568, and he was the son of the great Casimir IV, who briefly welded Poland, Lithuania and the lands of the Teutonic Knights into a single realm.

Casimir never ruled any land, although he aspired to the throne of Hungary and acted as his father's regent in Poland from 1481 to 1483. He is known for having introduced Christ-

(Continued on last page)

POLONUS' TOUR TO POLAND FOR "POLSKA 60"

On September 3rd, 1960 the International Exhibition at Warsaw will be open, and will last through October 11th. Many festivities in all major Cities of Poland will take place celebrating the "Millenium of the Polish State" (960-1960).

Polonus Philatelic Society as the strongest and largest Association of Polish Philatelists Abroad, takes this opportunity to invite all members and their families to visit Poland for this, once in a life time opportunity.

In order to get the most for our money we have worked out the best possible routes with tours and sight-seeing trips throughout western and northern Europe en-route to Warsaw and upon arrival to Poland. A 10 day tour of Poland with all major points of interest, to be visited.

Tour Departure From Chicago

On August 13, 1960 Via New York

Those living in the eastern part of the U.S. can join our Tour in New York. We have three different Itineraries for all interested considering the expenses and the time some of us may be limited by.

Special Tour To Poland Via London, Amsterdam, Copenhagen

4 Weeks — all inclusive \$980 from Chicago.

Aug. 13 — New York. — Leave by Trans World Airlines flight for the swift trans-Atlantic crossing to London.

Aug. 14 — London. — Arrive. You will be met at the airport and transferred by private de-luxe motor-coach to your hotel. Morning free at leisure. Afternoon — City sightseeing.

Aug. 15 — London — morning — city sightseeing. Afternoon at leisure.

Aug. 16 — London — morning — at leisure. Afternoon — excursion to Windsor and Hampton Court.

Aug. 17 — London — depart for Amsterdam. Transfer by motorcoach to your hotel. Evening free.

Aug. 18 — Amsterdam — morning and afternoon city sightseeing.

Aug. 19 — Amsterdam — depart for Copenhagen. Transfer by motorcoach to your hotel. Afternoon free.

Aug. 20 — Copenhagen — morning and afternoon — City sightseeing.

Aug. 21 — Copenhagen — morning at leisure. Afternoon — depart for Warsaw. Arrive Warsaw — transfer to your hotel.

Aug. 22, — Tour of Poland (10 days as per itinerary in this folder) begins and lasts till Aug. 31, 1960.

Sept. 1 — you may return to USA, or stay longer in Poland up to the visa expiration time.

2) Rome Extension

You may visit Vienna, Venice, Rome and Paris on your way back from Poland to the US for an additional \$240.00 with the following program:

Sept. 1—13 stay in the ORBIS hotel in Warsaw (during Philatelic Exhibition called POLSKA 60). Otherwise time free.

Sept. 13 — Warsaw — depart for Vienna. Transfer by motor-coach to your hotel. Afternoon free.

Sept. 14 — Vienna — morning and afternoon city sightseeing.

Sept. 15 — Vienna—depart for Venice. Transfer to your hotel by motor-coach gondola.

Sept. 16 — Venice — Forenoon sight-seeing by gondola. Afternoon sight-seeing on foot.

Sept. 17 — Venice — depart for Rome. Transfer to your hotel by motor-coach. Evening free.

Sept. 18 — Rome — Forenoon sight-seeing (City and Vatican). Afternoon free.

Sept. 19 — Rome — morning free. — Afternoon city sightseeing.

Sept. 20 — Rome — depart for Paris. Transfer to your hotel by motor-coach. Afternoon free.

Sept. 21 — Paris — morning sight-seeing by motor-coach. Afternoon free.

Sept. 22 — Paris — morning at leisure. Afternoon excursion to Versailles by motorcoach.

Sept. 23 — Paris — depart for New York.

Sept. 24 — Arrival New York (of by jet) — arrival Sept. 23 in the evening.

For those who cannot spend too much money and want to have more time in Poland instead, we offer this choice:

Round trip:

New York—Warsaw\$646.20
10 days Tour in Poland 129.80

Total only:\$776.00

If from Chicago, add: 76.00

Total will then be:\$852.00

You depart with us on August 13, 1960.

You land in Warsaw on August 14, 1960.

You will have free time to visit your relatives from Aug. 14 till Aug. 22, 1960 when you join us on the Tour, that will last up to and including Aug. 31, 1960.

You can then do whatever you wish and return to the USA any time (Your Polish Visa will be valid for 3 months).

All those interested in any of the above itineraries please contact at your earliest:

ROMAN J. BURKIEWICZ

2008 N. Western Ave.

Chicago 47, Ill.

Tel.: HUMBOLDT 6-4725

Detailed information on the desired Tour will be gladly given.

**THE PROPOSED KATOWICE
BALLOON FLIGHT OF 1959**

"Życie Warszawy" No. 256 of Oct. 25-26, 1959 carried an interesting account of events on the projected and widely publicized flight to the Balkans of the Free Balloon "Katowice". We reprint these accounts as related in "Życie Warszawy":

"Early in July, through some newspaper media and poster displays at post offices throughout the country the proposed flight of the balloon Katowice in the general direction of the Balkan Peninsula, was advertised. The balloon would carry mail. Postage for letters would be 3.40 zł. plus the special flight label of 10 zł. that was to be had at post offices.

"The flight was planned for mid-July. The flight labels were snatched up by philatelists who mailed their prepared letters for the flight to the Katowice post office for cancellation and posting aboard the starting balloon.

"The supposed amount of labels printed was 100,000 and the whole issue was sold out completely.

"Aeroclub Śląski was the originator of this stunt and it cashed in on the sale of 100,000 zł. of flight labels not counting the 34,000 zł. that went for postage at the post office.

"Up to this time the flight has not taken place.

"Supposedly for reasons, the balloon crew has accepted invitations to start the flight from Bucharest instead of from Katowice. Supposedly the crew bagged their balloon and mail, cancelled at Katowice, and with this they toured to Hungary. Here they discovered that their host forgot a small detail—the Hungarians had failed to secure flying permits from neighboring countries to fly over their territory.

"There was no alternative but to clear out with their burden and return to Poland.

"There still was some delusion that the flight may yet start from Poland, but the fall weather is not favorable for this type of undertaking.

"The mail entrusted to the Aeroclub surely is resting somewhere in a quite corner — but the Aeroclub does not want to remember the fact that it has fleeced the pockets of the naive philatelist to the tune of 134,000 zł.

"The issued labels for letters to be flown on the balloon in reality were pre-cancelled and in this condition are of no value to philatelists.

"Interventions and inquiries from local stamp clubs of the PZF (Polish Philatelic Federation) directed to the Aeroclub remain unanswered.

An to top this situation, the stunt was sponsored by the Ministry of Communication!"

— Walter Szymlek

**THE POLISH POST DURING THE
WARSAW UPRISING**

With this issue of the POLONUS BULLETIN, we begin an extensive work by Thaddeus Gryzewski "The Polish Post During the Warsaw Uprising." This is an elaborate write-up, will have many illustrations, and will run as an insert in our BULLETIN from month to month.

NEW ISSUES

By J. J. Domar

The two stamps we reported in issue No. 176 (Dec. 1959) that were issued to honor school children, were actually released to propagandize a project "1000 Schools for the Millenium of Poland." The first day of issue was Nov. 14th.

40 gr. grey—girl student doing her school work.

60 gr. blue, light-blue and red-black—three school children walking forward, in the background is a stylized school building.

Both stamps bear the legend "Tysiąc Szkół na Tysiąclecie" (1000 Schools for the Millenium). Size is 25.5 x 31.25 mm. 40 gr. designed by Wiktor Górka and the 60 gr. by Herbert Hilscher—plastic artists. Printed in rotogravure at the State Printing Office, Warsaw.

A set of six stamps that was to be issued honoring outstanding scientists

POLAND

Mushrooms on First Day Cover	\$.70
Famous Paintings First Day Cover	.40
Poland China First Day Cover	.20
Red Cross First Day Cover...	.20
400 Year Silk Sheet First Day Cover	2.50

M I N T

new issues always at lowest prices	
1956, 1957, 1958 bound Philatelist each	\$3.50
400 Year Anniversary book with proofs	5.00

Scott catalogs, albums, supplies, any brand.

VARIETIES

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of the world was officially released on Dec. 10, 1959. Size is 27 x 40.5 mm. Designed by Stanisław Czesław Chudzinski. Engraving of the 20 gr. by E. Tirdiszek; 40 gr. by E. Konecki; 60 gr. by J. Miller; 1.50 zł. by B. Brandt, 1.55 zł. by B. Kowalski; 2.50 zł. by S. Łukaszewski. Printed in steel plate engraving by the State Printing Office, Warsaw.

—ARS Polona

(Continued from page 9)

ianity into Lithuania.

Of devout nature, he indulged in long fasts and vigils which weakened his health and brought on a lung infection. Of this he died, on March 4, 1484, at Grodno, while still a young man. He was canonized in 1522 by Pope Adrian VI, and Clement VIII named March 4 as his feast day.

The chapel shown on the stamp was designed by a Dutchman, Peter Danckerts. It was begun in the 17th century by King Sigismund III and completed by Wladislaus IV. It contains among other things, an old painting, renovated in 1594, showing Casimir with a lily in his hands.

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