

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets 2d & 4th Friday of each month at Polish Falcon Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Av.

Issue No. 91

December 1950

THE POST HORN AND POST SIGNALS

An Historical Sketch of Its Use and Origin in Poland

by Włodzimierz Polanski

(reprinted from STAMPS of 3/4/50)

(continued from previous issue)

Coat of dark green cloth with standing collar of black cloth and cape, round which are sewn two black edgings

Art. 86. Postillions who show fidelity, soberness, care for their horses, meticulousness for their uniform and harness gear, careful riding as well as proficiency on the Horn, and exemplary conduct in service will be rewarded after ten years of service,

A NOTE ON CHRISTMAS

In these trying times of shocking headlines we again approach this Holy season of Christmas. Our only hope for "Peace on earth, Good will to men" is for all of us to take on the spirit of unspoiled children and youthful innocence not only during the Christmas season but during every day throughout the year 1951.

As to Polonus, we look to a future of great progress in the coming year. We have the interests of our new and old members in our work, and these are willing to give us a hand whenever necessary. With this up and coming zeal of many of our new members it was much easier to conduct the business of the Society.

The officers, Publications Committee, and I, in this spirit of cooperation and goodfellowship, wish all a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Dr. S. F. Galaskiewicz
President

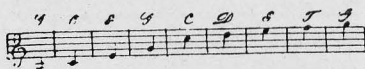
#75

3
W. H. 20

Posthorn 1

Obraz postelony w ogólnym

1. Trochę postelony w ogólnym, do ten
Dla jest ten go wstąpić, do pierwszego kraj
mał. (Tęż wstąpić) D. (Tęż wstąpić)
2. Trochę to wstąpić wstąpić wstąpić



Tęż tak wstąpić wstąpić, wstąpić wstąpić
Tęż tak wstąpić, wstąpić wstąpić, do pierwszego kraj
mał. (Tęż wstąpić) D. (Tęż wstąpić)
2. Trochę to wstąpić wstąpić wstąpić

Fig. 9—Part One, about the posthorn in general.

with gold braid sewn on the left arm of the short coat, and for each additional five years of service, one row of braid will be added; cost of this decoration to be paid from the fund of retired postillions.

Art. 89. To those postillions achieving perfection in sounding the Horn there will be given honorary Horns with cord and tassels intertwined with gold braid and a silver mouth piece . . .

3. Biegając na dwadzieścia stawać się powinnam aby był
 dołyty leżący, piersi wydobylał, do do głębi
 lub wyprostawać kark do tyłu, komarom jest potrze-
 bowa, a mieniący się dach liny spocznym nieznajoma
 się na głębiowanie piersi, przyciemniłam z o torn
 pamiętały aby upuścić do mieniących piersi-
 toż z piersi wydobylał leżący nadgryzania poturkowi-
 a komarom ułaskawiać nadzie, bez aby ulu-
 nęo ułaskawiać

Prodział II

Signały pocztowe



Fig. 10

N° 5 dla kłofki



Fig. 11

Prodział III

Ładnie harmonijne do przyciemnienia na-
 dnie lub trybów pocztowych



POLAND

The Postal Issues During and After the Great War

by the late COL. R. N. W. LARKING, C.B.E., F.R.P.S.L.

25 fen., sage-green. Portrait of Josef Pilsudski, born 1867. Commanded the Polish Legions (1914-16). Arrested by the Germans and imprisoned in Magdeburg, Jan. 1917. Released Nov. 1918, when he took over the command of all the Polish troops, and assumed supreme power as Chief of the Polish State. Appointed a Marshal of Poland, Feb. 1920. Revolted against the Government under President Wojciechowski, causing the latter to resign in May 1926. Elected President of the Polish Republic, 31st May, 1926, but refused the office.

50 fen., greenish blue. The Polish Eagle on rocky coast watching a ship in a storm struggling to reach safety.

1 mk., violet. A Gryphon with its fore paws on a Roman fasces.

There are many shades of each of the values. The 10, 50 fen. and 1 mk. stamps were designed by Edmund Bartłomiejczyk.

The 20 fen. was issued in two sizes. The first stamp measured 21x25 mm., the second 17x20 mm. The latter stamp was soon withdrawn as it was found to be too small for postal purposes. Unused remainders were disposed of to philatelists.

There are several plate and perforation varieties, of which the following are the most prominent:

10 fen. White stroke under "K" of "POLSKA," No. 40.

A white scratch over the "O" and through the "L" of "POLSKA," No. 68.

25 fen. Dot between "KA," No. 3.

Dot over "TA," No. 13.

Dot over "OL," No. 44.

"K" with long bottom serif, No. 91.

Dot over "T," No. 95.

Left top serif of "T" prolonged, No. 50.

50 fen. Small dot under "P" of "POLSKA," Nos. 1, 3, 5.

Dot in "C," and over bottom serif of "L," Nos. 31, 33, 35.

Dot in front of "P" of "POLSKA," Nos. 41, 43, 45.

Oblique stroke under "M" of "SEJM," Nos. 81, 83, 85, 89.

Dot in front of "J" of "SEJM," Nos. 82, 84, 88.

Double impression.

On very thin wove paper.

1 mk. Dot before first "MK," Nos. 11, 13, 15, 17, 19.

Dot between "SE" and over "JM" of "SEJM," No. 26.

Dot between "JM," Nos. 27, 30.

Dot over "OL," Nos. 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 70, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90.

Oblique stroke against top serif of "K" of "ROKV," No. 33.

Tail on right centre of the large figure "1," No. 45.

Dot over "J" of "SEJM," Nos. 52, 56, 58, 60.

Dot in white line over "K" of "ROKV," No. 60.

Dot on right centre of figure "1," Nos. 63, 67, 69.

Dot against left top serif of "V" of "ROKV," No. 76.

Large dot under "O" of "ROKV," No. 77.

Dot between "EJ" of "SEJM," No. 78.

Dot below "OC," Nos. 81, 83, 87, 89.

Dot in white line over "R" of "ROKV," Nos. 82, 86, 88.

Dot over "S" of "SEJM," No. 83.

Dot over slanting top serif of figure "1," No. 84.

Horizontal line against "K" of right "MK," No. 85.

Double perforations, horizontally.

Reprinted from GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY — Oct. 1929 to Aug. 1932
by POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY — Chicago, Ill. — U. S. A.

Post office obliterations are found on the above values in black, blue-black, greenish black, and violet.

V.

**Nad
Polskiem
Morzem**

**Puck
10. II. 1920.**

On the 10th of February, 1920, the Polish military authorities took possession of a strip of coastline on the Gulf of, and north of, Danzig. To commemorate the event the three values (10, 15, 25 pfg.) of German stamps, issued 1919-20 to commemorate the National Assembly at Weimar (S. G. 153-155), were overprinted in black type in five lines: "Nad (over) Polskiem (Polish) Morzem (Sea) Puck 10. II. 1920." The overprints were done in a private printing office at Torun at the request of the headquarter staff on the Pomeranian front, and a total of 800 stamps were thus overprinted.

These stamps were not sold to the public at any post office, but privately to individuals taking part officially in celebrating the acquisition of the coast. I have copies with the German postmark "PUTZIG 10.2.20 (WESTPR)" = "PUCK 10.2.20 (West Prussia)."

The overprint exists inverted.

VIII. 1920-21 TEMPORARY ISSUES



On January 15th, 1921, the 40 fen. violet of the first definitive issue appeared surcharged "3 Mk." with five thin continuous bars obliterating the original value. This issue was made with a view to economy. There had been little demand for a 40 fen. value after it was issued, and the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs had a very considerable stock on hand. Now owing to the depreciation of the currency this value was of no further use.

The surcharge is found in matt and glossy ink. In the first four rows of

each sheet the space between "3" and "Mk." measures $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm., in the last six rows it measures $2\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

The same shades, gum, and perforations are found as in the normal stamp. Stamps imperforate between and with double perforations probably exist, since these are found in the unsurcharged sheets.

The following surcharge varieties are known:

Inverted surcharge, in matt ink.

Double surcharge, in matt ink.

Double surcharge inverted, in matt ink.

Without surcharge, but with obliterating bars only. No. 20, in glossy ink.

Round instead of square stops after "Mk." Nos. 17, 24, 34, 38, 45, 59, 62, 71, 84, 91, 99, in matt and glossy ink.

Comma instead of stop after "Mk." No. 51, in matt ink only.

Left foot of "M" broken, No. 70, in matt ink only.

Vertical stroke of "k" broken, Nos. 82 and 86, in matt ink only.

"Mk." omitted, in matt ink.



30.

On March 1st, 1921, the 5, 6, 10, and 20 marks of the first definitive issue on laid paper, perforated 9, were converted into a Charity issue by a surcharge of 30 mks. and a red cross on each value. The surcharge is found in red on the 5 and 20 mks., and carmine on the 6 and 10 mks. It is, however, known in carmine on the 20 mks., but these were never issued for circulation, and were ordered to be destroyed; a few copies, however, leaked out into collectors' hands. There are no varieties.



The Polish Constitution, which was adopted on the 17th of March, 1921, dealt with (1) the organisation of the State, its authorities, and administrative and judicial institutions, and (2) the rights and obligations of citizens

Polonus Bulletin, Dec. 1950

towards the State and vice versa. To commemorate the occasion, a set of seven values was issued on the 2nd of May, 1921. The issue consists of various designs symbolic of peace, and each design bears the date 17th March, 1921. The 2 mk. green, 3 mk. blue, 4 mk. scarlet show a rising sun; the 6 mk. carmine, 10 mk. slate-green, two female figures representing agriculture—the Fountain of Life of the Polish Nation—also “3/V 1791” in the left upper corner of each stamp, this being the date of the formation of the first Polish Constitution, which it was now found impracticable to adopt owing to the modern conception of the constitutional organisation of the State. A female figure, also representing agriculture, is shown on the 25 mk. violet and 50 mk. myrtle-green on buff.

The stamps were printed on thin wove paper, and perforated both 11 and 11½. The gum used is extremely adhesive, and is affected by the slightest damp. Postal obliterations are found in black, violet, and carmine.

There is one error, a small quantity of the 4 mk. stamp being printed in the colour of the 6 mk. This error was never put into circulation, and only a few copies have found their way into collectors' hands.

The following varieties exist:

10 mks. Imperforate between vertically
25 mks. Imperforate between vertically

No stop after “1921,” No. 93, on all printings.

50 mks. Imperforate between vertically
No stop after “1921,” Nos. 43 and 93, on all printings.

No stop after “III,” on some printings.

No stop after “III” and “1921,” on some printings.

IX. PRIVATE AIR POST STAMPS

During the Poznan Fair at the end of May 1921 the “Aero-Targ” Company, with the concurrence of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs, organized a private air post between Poznan and Warsaw. To mark the occasion, the Company printed two large labels of 25 and 100 mks. value respectively. These labels had to be affixed to any mail for this special service before being handed in at the post offices in Warsaw or Poznan. Since they bore no franking power, current postage stamps according to the regulation tariff had to be affixed



as well. The used labels are best collected on the entire, which should bear also the official postage stamps.

The labels are oblong, and the designs, measuring 53¼x34¼ mm., represent, on the 25 mks., a symbolical figure with outstretched wings on a background showing the city of Poznan, and on the 100 mks. an aeroplane dropping letters over Poznan. The 25 mks. is printed in black and reddish brown, the 100 mks. in black and blue, and the inscription “AERO-TARG: POZNAN 1921” with the value in each corner appears at the bottom of the design.

Below the design, and usually separated from it by a line of perforation, appear the letters T.A.B.R.O.M.I.K., being an advertisement of a firm of brewers, TAdensz BROnislaw MIK-olajcak.

The labels were obliterated with a special postmark in black or red, depicting the arms of the cities of Poznan, or Warsaw, attached to the left side of which is a propeller and a wing with the date inside.

As the labels were roughly lithographed, many small defects in the lettering may be found. The labels were perforated 11½ all round, with an 11½ perforation separating the design from the advertisement below. Copies may be found entirely imper-

forate on the two vertical sides, or between design and advertisement.

X. 1920-23. THE DEFINITIVE ISSUE



At the end of 1920 and in January 1921 a new series of five values appeared, namely, 1 mk. carmine, 2 mks. green, 3 mks. blue, 4 mks. rose, and 5 mks. brown. They are all of the same type, showing the Polish Eagle in a baroque shield, "POCZTA" above and "POLSKA" below, and the value in the two upper corners. The initials of the artist, "ET" (Edward Trojanowski), are found on each side of the bottom scroll. The stamps were issued simultaneously on both vertically and horizontally laid paper, but I think a larger number are to be found on the former paper. There is a good range of shades in all the values, especially in the 1 mk. and 5 mks. The normal perforation of these stamps is 11½, clean-cut large and small holes and rough; but all the values, with the exception of the 3 mks., are found perforated 9 to 14½, simple and compound. A check-list giving perforation varieties will appear later on.

The following plate and other varieties are known:—

1 mk.

"KA" joined at foot, Nos. 65 and 100.
No top stroke to "K" of left "MK",
No. 68.

Squat "A" in "POLSKA," No. 92.

Stop after "O" of "POLSKA."

Broken top to "A" of "POLSKA."

"O" of "POLSKA" broken on the left.

Dot over "A" of "POLSKA."

Dot in lower curve of "S."

Dot above "OL."

Dot over "K."

Dot over "KA."

Dot under left "MK."

Oblique stroke after "S."

Imperforate between horizontally.

Imperforate side margin.

Double perforation horizontally, the one through the stamp gauging 10.

Double impression.

Worn plate.

2 mks.

Dot under "K" of right "MK."

Dot above "K" of right "MK."

Dot before the left "MK."

Curved top serif of "A" of "POLSKA."
"KA" joined at foot.

Imperforate side margin.

Double perforation horizontally.

Worn plate.

Offset.

3 mks.

(a) Short coloured strokes in the centre of the margin between Nos. 56/66, 69/79, 89/99.

(b) The same between Nos. 11/21, 12/22, 32/42, 52/62.

Dot below right "3," No. 33.

(a) and (b) are separate printings

Double perforation horizontally.

Worn plate.

Offset.

4 mks.

Left down stroke of "M" of left "MK" shortened or missing altogether.

No top serif to "A" of "POLSKA."

Imperforate bottom margin.

5 mks.

"KA" joined at foot, No. 100.

Offset.

The post office obliterations on the foregoing stamps are found in black, blue-black, violet, blue, carmine, and scarlet.



In April 1921 a new 10 mk. value was issued. It was adapted from one of the designs originally submitted to the German authorities in 1917 by M. Bronislaw Wisniewski. It is symbolic of peace, and was selected in order to mark the Peace Treaty with Soviet Russia, which was signed on March 18th, 1921. It depicts a man employed on agriculture and a rainbow—God's promise of peace—on the horizon. In the right lower corner of the stamp is the white eagle of Poland in a medallion. As regards the sword shown on the left of the stamp, every peasant in olden days carried a sword, which he stuck into the ground before he began his work, wearing it again when he went home.

(to be continued)

Polonus Bulletin, Dec. 1950

As shown by pertinent decrees published in "Circulars of the Postal Administration in the Polish Kingdom," 1858-1860 an official publication in the Polish language much attention was paid to the proper sounding of Postal signals on the Horn and occasionally there appear names of ambitious postilions, decorated for proficient signals on the Horn many awards, such as, braid stripes, spurs and cash awards, etc.

Describing the musical signals sounded on the Post Horn, it is necessary to mention that in the historical archives in the Museum of Posts and Telegraphs in Warsaw there are several documents dedicated to this matter.

1. The first shows a photograph lithographed of a notebook having the collection of notes used to give signals on the Post Horn and refers to the first half of the XIX Century. This notebook prior to the Great World War I was in the Warsaw Postal Archives and Circuit of the Post of the Kingdom of Poland where it was seen by the writer on the occasion of an historical study in connection with the birth and growth of the Post in Past Poland. After obtaining necessary permission this interesting historical notebook was photographed with the idea of adding it to a collection of various illustrations to beautify future historical works. This notebook unfortunately must have been destroyed during the war together with other documents since it has not turned up with other postal documents returned from Russia.

The above mentioned notebook was divided into three parts:

Part I. About the Post Horn in General.

This part deals with the tuning of the Post Horn to the tone of "D." It mentions 9 tones, which can be played on the Horn and a general outline gives rules for their use (Fig. 9).

Part II. Postal Signals, contained the notes used in sounding the tunes or signals see Figs. 10 and 11.

- No. 1 For Relay Riders
- No. 2 For Couriers
- No. 3 For Special Post
- No. 4 For Wagon Post
- No. 5 For Personal Couriers
- No. 6 For Mounted Post
- No. 7 Signal of Fear—Danger
- No. 8 Signal for number of horses needed

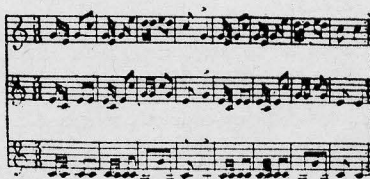
Polonus Bulletin, Dec. 1950

N° 4. *Gullopada*



Fig. 14

N° 5. *Hoxur*



*Początek po odgłosie jednej sztuki; powstanie
wyprawy trójki i wstąpi, klamrowe w niej alowce,
a to następny, spiesznie przegladu mniostek
do ust i wzniesie usze dach, dopóty, póki nie
ucyży*

Fig. 15

*ze słowa a trójki alowce, nie do ust, powstanie
nadyła trójki mniostkami budolowce, a zabrona
nie wyłowa*

Fig. 16

- No. 9 Signal for number of postal wagons needed
- No. 10 Stand, Halt
- No. 11 Walk
- No. 12 Trot

Part III. Harmonious Compositions for Two or Three Post Horns.

This last part contains two melodious compositions, the waltz, mazurka and gallop (Figs. 12-16).

2. The second document found in the Museum, an original, sent by the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs in 1924 shows a hand written notebook titled, "Lessons in Sounding the Horn for Kingdom-Prussian Postillions with addition of music in postal signals, examples to the text and various simple musical scores set for three tones." This notebook consists of the following divisions:

- I. About the use and purpose of the Post Horn.
 - II. About the Post Horn in general.
 - III. About the holding of the horn and blowing.
 - IV. About musical characters.
 - V. About tact.
 - VI. About the tones in detail.
 - VII. Correct approach for practical study.
 - VIII. About playing musical scores in several tones, as well as much general information.
3. In addition to this notebook there are enclosed loose musical scores containing the Prussian signals, titled, "Post-Horn Signals" (lithographed) and in handwritten notes (probably projects) similar signals with Polish text (a total of 7 signals). The documents mentioned under 2 and 3 refer most likely to the first half of the XIX Century.

At present the Post Horn, as an instrument has already played its tune and is one of the historical items, lending itself to museum collections, but as a symbol, as a traditional badge of the Post, it will probably remain in use for some time to come.

TOO MANY PRIZES — TOO FEW CONTESTANTS

This is the Membership Drive Contest dilemma our Contest Chairman Chester Mikucki has to contend with. To date B. Fialkowski leads the contest with two new members to his credit. All other contestants have one apiece.

Come on! Let's get started! Contest deadline is January 31, 1951.

Perhaps many members say WHY A MEMBERSHIP DRIVE CONTEST?

For some time now the Society has accepted the rising cost of the Bulletin printing but yet it did not raise the member's dues. In an effort to

●●●●● POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY ●●●●●

Barney Fialkowski, Secretary
2633 N. Emmett St.
Chicago 47, Ill.

Adam Kloskowski, Treasurer
2528 N. Drake Ave.
Chicago 47, Ill.

Publications Committee
Chester W. Makowski, Chmn.
2215 W. Cortez St.
Chicago 22, Ill.

Chester A. Schafer, Editor
2144 W. Potomac Ave.
Chicago 22, Ill.

Associate Editors this issue
Jack Domar
Lester Jankowski

keep the dues down at \$1.50 per year the contest idea was adopted to secure many more new members and thus absorb these rising printing costs.

APPLICATIONS PENDING

Walter J. Sass
1124 W. Chestnut St.
Chicago, Illinois

Alfred Szebel
1309 N. Oakley Blvd.
Chicago 22, Illinois

William Gorky
2739 N. Hampden Ct.
Chicago 14, Ill.

NEW ISSUES

by J. J. Domar

Most of you now know a change was made early in November in the basic monetary unit from Zloty to Groszy. It, therefore, is obvious that a complete new set of stamps must be issued.

To date I know of only one that has been issued. It is of 45 groszy value, printed in light rose. The design shows a dove in flight and was issued for the Second Peace Congress held in Warsaw in November.

To bridge the period until new values are available, a rubber stamp with the word "Groszy" either in gothic or script, and in various colors, (red, violet, black) is applied to stamps then currently in use. (The exchange was one for one).

I am now appealing to all members to give me a listing of all of the Provisionals in their possession as follows: Catalogue number, type of overprint (Gothic or Script) and color of overprint.

Polonus Bulletin, Dec. 1950