

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Issue No. 48

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Poland's Souvenir Sheets in Review



Type A-49, 1928

SHEET KNOWN AS: First Warsaw
PERF.: 12½

PAPER: Special white wove paper
furnished by the Austrian National
Bank Paper Inc., Vienna, Austria—
engraved, full gum.

FIRST DAY: May 3, 1928. Demonet-
ized August 1, 1928

NUMBER OF STAMPS ON SHEET: 2
PURPOSE: In conjunction with the
Warsaw Philatelic Exhibition, May
3-13, 1928

DESIGN TAKEN FROM: Portraits of
Marshal Josef Pilsudski and Presi-
dent Ignatz Moscicki.

ENGRAVED BY: Ferdinand Schirn-
bocks

DESIGNED BY: Prof. Z. Kaminski

PRINTED AT: Government Printing
Office

SHEET OR MARGIN INSCRIPTIONS
None. (tab between stamps reads)
"WARSZAWA/1928"

NUMBER ISSUED: 26,020, first print-
ing 20 000, second printing 6,020

CANCELLATIONS: Three circles; in
first circle "Wszechpolska Wystawa
Filatelistyczna" 1928 at bottom; sec-
ond circle—"Warszawa"; third circle,
horizontal lines broken by straight
line giving date "10 V 28 N" (date

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the smaller lot went on sale). There was also a special red cancellation for air mail flight.

NOTE: Each sheet sold with ticket of admission to the show. First printing: clean cut perforations and clear dark impression, second printing: perforations are rough and printing is somewhat lighter and smudgy.

NOTE: There is a known fake or counterfeit of this sheet issued in 1938. Color is black instead of black brown, stamps are larger, perforations are clear cut. It is a photochemical product and crude when compared with the engraved original

Type A-80a, 80b, 80c, 1937

SHEET KNOWN AS: King Carol's visit

PERF.: 1½ x 13

PAPER: Unwatermarked, engraved, full gum

FIRST DAY: September 1, 1937, last day of sale Sept. 30, 1937, demonetized January 31, 1938

NUMBER OF STAMPS ON SHEET: 4—three sheets

PURPOSE: To commemorate the visit of King Carol of Roumania to Poland June 26th to July 1st, 1937.

DESIGNER: (25g) S. Chrostowski

ENGRAVER: M. R. Polak

DESIGNER: (50g) Prof. Z. Kaminski

ENGRAVER: Ferdinand Schirnbocks

DESIGNER: (1z) Prof. Z. Kaminski

ENGRAVER: Ferdinand Schirnbocks

DESIGNS TAKEN FROM: Portrait of Marshal Smigly-Rydz, Marshal Pilsudski, and President I. Moscicki

PRINTED BY: PWPW (Polska Wytwornia Papierow Wartosciowych (translated Polish Printing Works of Valuable Papers))

SHEET OR MARGIN INSCRIPTIONS "26 VI, 1-VII 1937" arms of Poland and Roumania

NUMBER ISSUED: 105,500 sets

CANCELLATIONS: These sheets are found with a special Twenty-first International Anti-Alcoholic Congress cancellation held at Warsaw September 12-17, 1937. The cancellation consists of the inscription "XXI Miedzynarodowy Kongres Przeciw Alkoholowemu, 12-17, IX, 1937," and the regular "Warszawa 1" circular cancellation dated Sept. 12, 1937.

Type SP-3, 1938

SHEET KNOWN AS: Second Warsaw

PERF.: 12 and imperf.

PAPER: Unwatermarked, engraved, full gum

FIRST DAY: May 3, 1938. Demonetized February 28, 1939.

NUMBER OF STAMPS ON SHEET: 4, two sheets

PURPOSE: To commemorate the Warsaw Philatelic Exhibit., May 3 to 8, 1938. May 3rd is celebrated as a national holiday or "Constitution" day.

DESIGN TAKEN FROM: An 1800 stage coach and wayside Inn.

ENGRAVER: W. L. Vacek

DESIGNED BY: W. Voratynski

PRINTED AT: State Printing Office
SHEET OR MARGIN INSCRIPTIONS (Top) "Ogolnopolski/V Wystawa Filatelistyczna." (Bottom) "Warszawa" and year "1938."

NUMBER ISSUED: 100,000

CANCELLATIONS: Circular cancel, OGOLNOPOLSKA (top) (below) air plane followed by straight line with city "Warsaw" and date "3-5-1938" (Below) buildings, (bottom of circle) WYSTAWA FILATELISTYCZNA. Second cancel has no outline—OGOLNOPOLSKA at top, seal, post horn in center, and Wystawa Filatelistyczna at bottom.

NOTE: Sold in connection with admission to the Exhibition.

Type SP-4, 1938

SHEET KNOWN AS: Stratosphere

PERF.: 12½

PAPER: Fine wove, unwatermarked white paper, by photogravure, full gum

FIRST DAY: September 15, 1938. Demonetized February 28, 1939

NUMBER OF STAMPS ON SHEET: 1

PURPOSE: To commemorate and raise funds for the stratosphere flight.

DESIGN TAKEN FROM: A picture showing a balloon above snow capped mountains.

ENGRAVED BY: L. Sowinski

DESIGNED BY: W. L. Vacek

PRINTED AT: Polish Government Printing Office.

SHEET OR MARGIN INSCRIPTIONS (left) "First Polish Flight to the Stratosphere" (right) "Chocholowska Valley September 1938" (lower right corner) Price 2 Zloty

NUMBER ISSUED: 65,000

CANCELLATION: A special cancellation was applied at Zakopane. It consisted of an outline of the mountain peaks at Chocholowska Valley with the inscription "I Polski Lot Stratosferyczny, Zakopane, Dolina Chocholowski." To the right appeared the regular "Zakopane 1" circu-



lar cancellation dated September 21, 1938.

NOTE: Balloon never ascended; bag exploded on October 14, 1938, when it was being filled for the trip.

Type A-96, 1938

SHEET KNOWN AS: 20th anniversary

PERF.: 12½

PAPER: Hard wove, unwatermarked white paper, full gum, engraved

FIRST DAY: November 11, 1938. Went out of circulation with the outbreak of the war in September, 1939.

NUMBER OF STAMPS ON SHEET: 4

PURPOSE: To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Polish Republic, which began on November 11, 1918

DESIGNS TAKEN FROM: Portraits of Marshal Pilsudski, J. Narutowicz, President I. Moscicki, and Marshal Smigly-Rydz.

DESIGNED BY: W. Voratynski

ENGRAVERS: (Pilsudski) M. R. Polak; (Narutowicz) M. Dutczynski; (Moscicki) J. Piwczyk; (Smigly-Rydz) W. L. Vacek

PRINTED AT: Polish Government Printing Office, Warsaw.

SHEET OR MARGIN INSCRIPTIONS (top) "XX" over bundle of leaves "Rocznica/Odzyskania Niepodleglosci" (translated—20th Anniversary of

Regaining Independency" (bottom) "1918 11 XI 1938"

NUMBER ISSUED: 500,000 sheets

CANCELLATION: A special 20th anniversary cancellation was applied at the Warsaw Main postoffice. It consisted of a wreath around the large roman numerals 'XX' with the dates "1928-1938" at the bottom. To the right of this appeared the regular "Warszawa 1" circular cancellation dated November 11, 1938.

Type SP-6, 1939

SHEET KNOWN AS: 25th anniversary of the Legion

PERF.: 12½

PAPER: Unwatermarked, engraved, full gum

FIRST DAY: August 6, 1939. Went out of circulation with the outbreak of the war in September, 1939.

NUMBER OF STAMPS ON SHEET: 3

PURPOSE: To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the entrance of the Polish Legion into World War I

DESIGN TAKEN FROM: Picture of Legionnaires passing the statue of Marshal Pilsudski; lower left Marshal Pilsudski, lower right Marshal Smigly-Rydz.

ENGRAVER: (Legion) J. Piwczyk

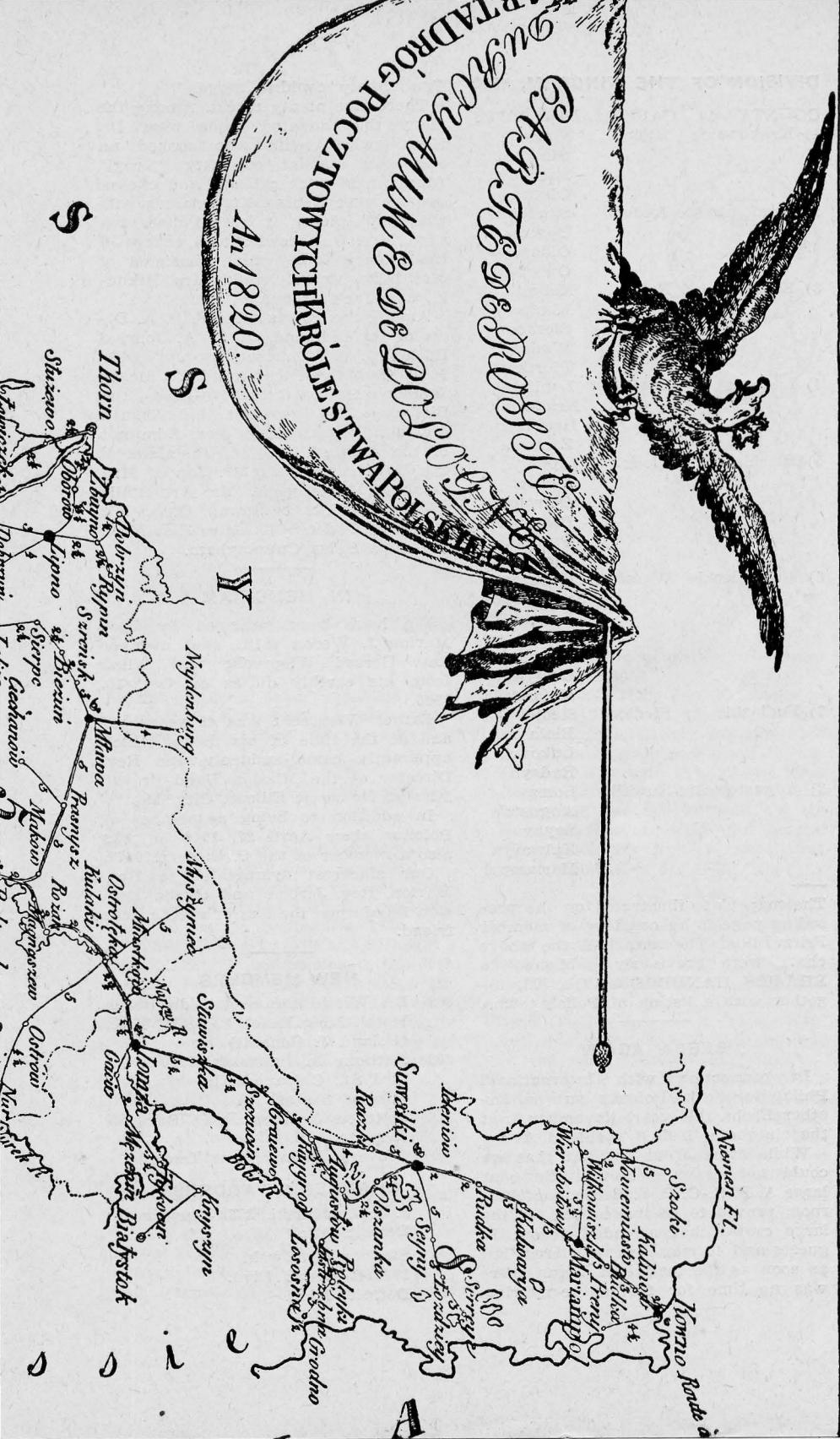
DESIGNER: W. Voratynski

(Cont. bottom second col., last page)



(Map courtesy Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz. Map plate courtesy Fritz Billig)

A Postal Route Map of the Polish Kingdom in 1820



DIVISION OF THE KINGDOM, 1820

COUNTY	CAPITAL	DISTRICTS
1) Krakowskie	Kielce	Kielce Stobnica Miechow Olkusz
2) Sandomirskie	Radom	Sandomir Opatow Oldom Opoczno
3) Kaliskie	Kalisz	Kalisz Konin Sieradz Wielun Piortkow
4) Lubelskie	Lublin	Lublin Krasnystaw Hrubieszow Zamosc
5) Plockie	Plock	Lipno Mlawa Ostroleka Prasnysz Pultusk Plock
6) Mazowieckie	Warszawa	Warszawa Stanislawow Rawa Sochaczew Leczyca Gostyn Kulawy
7) Podlaskie	Siedlec	Siedlec Biala Lukow Radzyn
8) Augustowskie	Suwalki	Lomza Augustow Seyny Kalwarya Mariampol

The map plate illustrated on the preceding page is by courtesy of member Fritz Billig. The map and the above chart were previously published in **BILLIG'S HANDBOOK VOL. VI**, together with a listing of Polish towns.

BEEBA AGAIN

In connection with International Philatelic Week, Polonus put on another Beeba this year, November 8, at the clubroom, 1062 N. Ashland Ave.

While some of us thought that we could not draw a crowd after our large A. P. S.-C. P. S. Beeba, the clubroom proved to be inadequate for the large crowd that attended. About 70 guests and 40 members registered, but as soon as the festivities began there was no time for further registering.

You simply couldn't move.

There was plenty to eat. Among the many that donated foods were Dr. Kozakiewicz's wife who cooked an enormous amount of tasty "pirogi" (dumplings) with cabbage and cheese, and member George Kunzmann's wife who made plenty of fresh Polish sausage. Mrs. Kolaczewski took charge of the kitchen force which consisted of Mrs. Katz, Mrs. Rybarski, Mrs. Mikucki, and Jack Domar.

Among the guests were S. P. A. Director Al Diamond, S. P. A. Journal Editor J. E. Zinsmeister and wife, Prec. Club Pres. J. Unseidig, Chicago Women's Stamp Club Vice-Pres. Miss Blodgett, The Roosevelt Gad Abouts, Mr. Van Reeth, Mr. & Mrs. Edmunds of the Austin Club, Mr. Gustafson of the Hawthorne Club, Mr. Zap of Milwaukee, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Art Stalla of South Chicago Stamp Club, Mr. Hayne of Ogden Hills, Miss Elsa Kock and Miss Helen Cunningham.

IN MEMORIAM

We have been informed by Rev. Marion J. Weron #188, that member Rev. Gerard Wieprecht was called from his earthly duties on Oct. 10, 1946.

Father Wieprecht was 41 years old and at the time of his death, which apparently came suddenly, the Rev. Director of the Mission Band at the Mission House at Ellicott City, Md.

In addition to being a member of Polonus since April 27, 1946 he was also a member of the S. P. A. #10677.

Our sincerest sympathies to Rev. Marion, Rev. Jerome and to the Mission Band upon the loss of such a dear friend.

NEW MEMBERS

- 308 Dr. Witold Langrod, Lido Beach Hotel, Long Beach L. I., N. Y. (Poland & General)
- 309 Anthony A. Banasiak, 2610 West 23rd St., Chicago 8, Ill. (United States)
- 310 Matthew J. Huss, P. O. Box 393, Evanston, Ill. (Covers, Poland New Issues)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

J. J. Poznanski, 3333 Farnsworth Detroit, Mich.

Stephen Ostrowski
1735 E. Grand Blvd.
Detroit, Mich.

A POLISH CURIOSITY

by Bert Powell



Polonus, now in its seventh year of existence, and in spite of war conditions, has earned an international reputation in its various endeavors of popularizing and expertizing the stamps of Poland. The learned studies on the much debated Krakow Issues by two of its members, for example, has not only exploded many myths on supposedly genuine copies of these stamps, but has also had the effect of stabilizing the market on these stamps considerably. Yes—members Wolosowick and Gapinski of Polonus have produced studies which could be very worthy candidates for the Crawford Medal and if such an award were made, it would be entirely justified in recognition of this excellent piece of research by these two members.

The reader should not, however, receive the impression that the Krakow issues are the only ones which merit the attention of the experts in this specialist society. On the contrary... there is many a label, let alone a stamp which is referred for attention. It is the purpose of this article to deal with such a label, just to give the reader a clear conception of the type of item that is sometimes referred to the society for study and attention.

The spurious stranger is illustrated above. It seems to have made its debut sometime in 1921. It is an attractive typographed label measuring 22x34 mms., is perforated 11½, and is printed on white wove unwatermarked paper of a good quality. The gum is clear, white and smooth. The label is quite attractively designed and its finished appearance together with the words "Polska Poczta" (Polish Postage) would almost immediately lead the unwary to believe that this label is an

official emission and not subject to question. The additional wording "Pro Juventute" and the indication of the extra charge would further indicate that this was a charity stamp of some type. Exactly contrary—is true! It is a bogus label of the rankest sort!

The issuance of this label is shrouded in complete mystery but reference is made to it in at least two standard catalogs. The great Polish handbook, *Ikaros* of which about a dozen and one-half copies exist in this country; scathingly refers to the mysterious stranger as a joke or fantasy. The 1936 edition of Gibbons, in more stayed language in the upper portion of the second column of page 878 condemns the item as a bogus production.

While these two unimpeachable sources clearly label the emission in unmistakable language as a fake issued; yet the story seems to be only half told. Some of the answers which we would like to know are:

1. What individual(s) issued these labels?
2. For what purpose? To defraud? As a joke? If the latter—why?
3. Were the perpetrators ever apprehended? Where, when and how?

Then too, there is always the theory, entirely unsupported but still in the realm of possibility, that these labels may have been issued as a sample of some sort. Since they seem to have appeared in 1921, it is known that during that period, Poland was not yet completely equipped with modern machinery for the production of postal paper. Is it not possible therefore, that in his anxiety to sell the Polish Government modern equipment, some enterprising manufacturer had these labels made as an example of what his product could do? Fanciful? Well yes—but remember the Poached Egg of a few years ago?

STAMPS FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

Harry Lindquist's *STAMPS* magazine is fifteen years old. The 15th anniversary number made its appearance in brand new dress...a red cover of a new and exceedingly colorful format. Polonus wishes all the best to Harry Lindquist and hopes that *STAMPS* will continue for many years to come. About Harry...it has been truly said; "If it's for the GOOD of Philately—Harry Lindquist is for it!"

As is natural, a good portion of the columns of the anniversary issue are

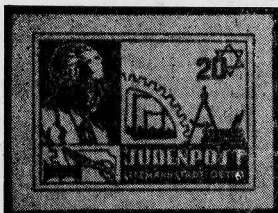
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given over to tributes to those organizations and persons which have made STAMPS so outstandingly successful during its existence. Our readers will be glad to know that Harry pays particular tribute to Polonus among the Specialist societies and also mentions the name of Bert Powell among the many writers who have published articles in the columns of STAMPS during the past 15 years.

The warm spirit of co-operation existing between STAMPS and Polonus was amply attested to, at our last Beeba when Harry was presented with the beautifully hand drawn and illuminated scroll given him on that occasion.

Bert Powell

LODZ (LITZMANNSTADT) GHETTO ISSUE



The design of the stamp shows symbols of industry, and the Star of David in the upper right corner. At the left is the likeness of the leader of the Ghetto—Rumkowski. (Cut courtesy STAMPS).

Complete data is lacking on this issue. According to STAMPS from information furnished by the F-L Stamp Co., this set was issued early in 1944 on order of the Nazis who are said to have required separate money and stamps for Jews to avoid contact with Aryan peoples.

Tadeusz Gryzewski's KATALOG ZNACZKOW POCZTOWYCH POLSKICH informs us that upon the organization of the Ghetto at Lodz, a postoffice was formed to handle mail within the Jewish quarter, and German stamps were then used. According to an unconfirmed report, these Judenpost stamps were to have been issued at the end of 1941. Again, according to another unconfirmed report, they were to be issued in 1944, with the consent of the German authorities. However, they never reached circulation as the Ghetto was suddenly disbanded.

The stamps are lithographed, ungummed, and perforated 11%.

5 pf. dark blue, on thin paper

a. dark blue, on thick gray paper

b. brown, on glossy photographic paper

c. light brown, on glossy photographic paper

HO! HUM!

by Clement A. Polaski

Had a most enjoyable visit with member Ray Bart. Unfortunately travel arrangements allowed for only very brief philatelic chatter. But there was sufficient time for a peek into Ray's stock books, which revealed a surprisingly large stock of "everything Polish" and an excellent accumulation of United States postal issues. Ray admits modestly that his dealer activities are steadily expanding and sales are increasing sharply. Ray is a jovial fellow with a pleasing personality.

Some of our compatriots from Poland have voiced disapproval of this column. May they be assured of our sympathetic understanding that too many years of subjugation and regimentation is the direct cause for their blurry views. Here in America, the grandest of the grand, we cherish the freedom of expression, whether it be oral or in print. HO! HUM!

POLPEX 1947 AUCTION

Material for POLPEX 1947 Auction is needed. Send stamps, covers to Auction Chairman C. J. Mikucki, 1844 N. Winchester Ave., Chicago 22, Ill. Maybe you can add something to it. Auction will be held February 15, 1947, at the POLPEX show, P. R. C. U. Museum, 984 Milwaukee Ave. A list of the auction lots will be published in the January issue of the BULLETIN.

ENGRAVER: (Pilsudski)

DESIGNER: Unknown

ENGRAVED: (S.-R.) M. R. Polak

DESIGNER: S. Chrostowski

PRINTED AT: P. W. P. W.

SHEET OR MARGIN INSCRIPTIONS

"XXV" / "Rocznica / Wymarszu Ku Wolnosci" (bottom) "1914 6. VIII 1939 / Nadplata 1 Zt. na Fon."

CANCELLATIONS: Special cancellations were applied at the Krakow 1 post office. A Polish eagle above a shield crossed with a sword and the inscription "1914-6, VIII-1939," at the left side "Polska Na Szlaku J. Pilsudskiego," and at the right side "Krakow 1, 6-VIII, 1939 r."

NOTE: Excess devoted to funds for national defense.