BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets Every 2nd & 4th Fri. at Jan Beyzym Memorial House, 6965 Belmont, Chicago

Issue No. 309 | Price 40c | March, 1973

OUR BIGGEST EVENT EVER - POLPEX 73!

Our biggest undertaking yet, POLPEX 73 is here at last! On March 23-25 *Polonus* will put on the greatest show in its history at the La Salle Hotel, La Salle and Madison streets, in Chicago, with 300 frames of material repesenting exhibitors residing in eight different countries, making this truly an international exhibition. Along with this, the Polish American Numismatic Association will display Polish coins and medallions.

The 500th anniversary of the birth of Copernicus is the theme of the show portrayed on the special souvenir sheet issued for the occasion. Designed by Chicago artist T. Pawlak, it is lithographed in two different bi-color combinations. A pair with descriptive folder, are available for 50¢ plus postage from J. P. Rux, 6133 Addison St., Chicago, Ill. 60634.

Three different cacheted covers, one for each day of the show, will receive a special Polpex cancellation and are available for $1.00 plus postage from Mr. Rux. In addition to the U.S., the U.N. will operate a postal station using another Polpex cancellation.

A 40 dealer bourse, representing dealers from Florida, New York and other parts of the U.S. will bring together the greatest selection of Poland and other material ever in Polpex history. A stamp auction with 1400 lots of material will be held.



Out-of-towners should especially make an effort to attend as the show's location at the La Salle Hotel makes it most convenient. Special rates for a single room are $20 per night and a twin de-luxe room at $26 per night. Reservations should be



POLPEX 73

COPERNICUS

1473-1973

SPECIAL POLPEX 73 CANCELLATION

made through Mrs. Wanda Szebel, Bank-On-Travel Inc., 1223 Oakton, Des Plaines, Ill. 60018, Phone (312) 298-1757.

On Sunday the Space Unit of the American Topical Association will hold a meeting at the show.

The official Polpex opening place Friday at noon with prominent persons participating.

The spotlight will be on Copernicus with a special class of space and Copernican exhibits both in philately and in numismatics. This Polpex is one you cannot afford to miss!

* * *

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, March 16, 1973 —

Special Warm-Up Meeting before the Polpex, to be held at 8 p.m. at 6965 Belmont Avenue. Last minute details to be ironed out.

Thursday, March 22, 1973 —

Putting up the show at La Salle Hotel Grand Ballroom, 19th floor, starting at 6:00 p.m. Bring along pliers, screw driver, window cleaner and cloths. Remember, this is the biggest show Polonus ever ran, we need all the help we can to set up the frames.

Friday, March 23, 1973 —

POLPEX 73 opens at 10 a.m. at La Salle Hotel. Official Opening Ceremony takes place at 12 noon. U.S. and U.N. Postal substations open. Stamp Auction at 7:00 p.m. in Lincoln and Douglas Rooms, 18th floor.

Saturday, March 24, 1973 —

U.S. and U.N. Postal sub stations open. Exhibit and bourse opens at 10:00 a.m. Second session of Auction at 4:00 p.m. Beeba-Banquet with cocktails at at 7:00 p.m. and buffet dinner at 8:00 p.m. Presentation of the awards following banquet.

Sunday, March 25, 1973 —

U.S. and U.N. Postal sub stations open. Exhibition and bourse opens at 10:00 a.m. Official closing at 6:00 p.m. Here again your help is needed to take down the exhibits and frames.

NEW MEMBERS

Richard C. Kaszycki
709 Sara Lane
Verona, Pa. 15147

Max W. Schmitz
1648 West Super Hwy.
Langhorne, Pa. 19047

Rev. Msgr. M. Fronczak
537 Grove St.
Irvington, N. J. 07111

William Takach
2311 Carpenter Ave.
Des Moines, Iowa 50311

On the next four pages we continue with another installment of V. Maxa's article on the Pilsudski-Mościcki Issues.

in the second part of the 3rd issue were practically sold-out before the overprinting started.

We are left, therefore, with the 4th issue only consisting of 4,913,000 stamps. True, the Mościcki stamp on paper z is scarcer than those on paper w (I have over 300 on paper z) and especially when mint. But we have to assume that several thousand sheets (maybe half a million stamps) were sold before the theft and the consequent withdrawal occured. I estimate that at least a hundred sheets (10,000 złoty worth) or even several hundred sheets must have been stolen for the authorities to undertake such drastic steps. Furthermore, from the 4th issue total we must subtract 108.600 Mościcki stamps used for the second (1936) Port Gdańsk overprint.

I have acquired all DOPŁATA plate numbers in my collection from a Czech philatelist, Dr. Ćepla who bought them in due time at the post-office in Cieszyn. This fact is important because it proves that these plate numbers came from the stock actually used by post-offices.

Table V. shows that 10 gr/1 zł. and 25 gr./1 zł. stamps were overprinted in two parts. For the 25 gr./1 zł. two different plates were laid permitting the separation of 1934 and 1936 issues.

The overprint was applied by typography from plates of 10 x 10 stamps. The color was *carmine-red* for the 10 gr./1 zł., *brown-red* for the 20 gr./1 zł. and *dark blue* for the 25 gr./1 zł. The two plates of the 25 gr. overprint can be distinguished by the shapes of the horizontal bar cancelling the original value. Plate 1 has the ends of that bar square (type I) while on plate 2 they are slightly rounded (type II) (fig. 22).

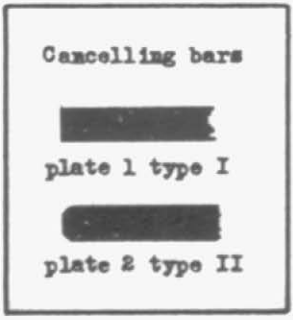


Fig. 22

a. Stamps on Papers v and w:

These items are very scarce and difficult to study owing to lack of material. Theoretically stamps from all issues and from all the subsequent plates can exist overprinted. I have no plate numbers of them in my collection (nor have seen any), only nine singles and two blocks of four.

The overprint 10 gr./1 zł. is the rarest because this value was commissioned in May, 1936, when three different overprints were already made and thus the reserve of Mościcki stamps on paper v and w must have been very small indeed.

Paper v:

I have a single copy of the overprint 25 gr./1 zł. perforated 11½ x 12, it is a right-hand top corner copy, mint. Other perforation varieties might exist but as stamps on paper v are elusive it is not very probable.

Paper w:

1. 10 gr./1 zł.: three single copies and one block of four are perforated 11½ x 13½. One used copy is postmarked Poznań 22. I. 37. the rest is mint.

2. 35 gr./1 zł.: five single copies and one block of four are perforated 11½ x 12½. 12½ x 13

and 13½ x 12. This comparatively great number of perforation combinations proves that the number of stamps printed on paper w was greater than of those on paper v. All overprints are, of course, type I.

b. Stamps on Paper z:

These oerpvrints are plentiful and all are, naturally, perforated 11½ only. Theoretically they can be found on the Mościcki stamp from plates III, IV, and A. In my collection I have DOPŁATA overprint plate numbers prom plates IV and A.

1. 10 gr./1 zł.: I have a block of four with plate number 3 A attached (fig 20). From what was said before I regard prints from plate A as scarce.

It is not possible to distinguish copies from the first and second issues of 10 gr./1 zł. overprint. Only used copies dated from May to the end of October, 1936, must positively come from the first issue; copies with later dates can belong to both issues.

2. 20 gr./1 zł.: my only plate number is a peculiar one: it belongs to plate I, pane 2 (fig. 18) but it is printed on horizontally laid paper z. As we know, all stamps from plate I were printed on English-made vertically laid paper, and therefore the appearance of a stamp from plate I on paper z needs some comment. There are two possible explanations:

I. The stamp was printed on English-made paper w but in such a manner that the paper or the plate were turned by 90° from the normal position.

II. Damaged plate I was repaired and used for the second time at the P.W.P.W. and the prints were made on the Polish-made paper z. Unfortunately it is not possible to make a safe distinction between papers w and z; the 16 lines per 2cm. look quite alike on both sorts of paper and the chamois toning varies to a considerable extent on both of them.

In any case the print from plate I on horizontally laid paper still puzzles me. In an exhibit of the Polish Post at the Praga 1962 Stamp Exhibition I saw a copy of the Mościcki stamp with plate number I, under the 91st stamp on vertically laid paper. It is not clear at what time this print was made: was it in 1828 when the 2nd issue was printed at the P.Z.G. or was it in 1931 when experiments were carried out at the P.W.P.W. with the further use of plates rejected at the P.Z.G.? And was this stamp also used without overprints or was it sold overprinted on DOPŁATA only? To answer these questions fully, will be very difficult, indeed.

3. 25 gr./1 zł.: in my collection I have two plate numbers from plate IV: 1 IV and 2 IV (fig. 23).



Fig. 23

The later copy has the IV trimmed-off but the position of the number 2 corresponds with plate number 2 IV without overprint (fig. 19). Both are of type I - square cut bar.

Further there is plate number 4 I (fig. 18); it must come from the damaged and repaired

plate I and all what was said above applies here as well.

I have no plate number with stamp bearing type II 25 gr./ 1 zł. overprint.

c. Color:

All the shades mentioned for non-overprinted stamps can be found on the overprints. The black and grey-back is common; the blue-black and brown-black are elusive. The color of the red overprints does not change; the first (1934) issue of 25 gr./1 zł. overprint (type I) is dark-blue, the second (1936) issue overprint (type II) is viotel - blue and shiny.

The tint of Polish-made paper z varies strongly from off-white via chamois and rose-yellow to yellow-brown.

d. Errors and Defects:

Several defects of the overprint are known. To some the correct position in the 10 x 10 pane is allocated, others are unidentified. Following defects are listed in the handbook "Polskie znaki pocztowe":

10 gr./1 zł.: "G" in GR missing;
"DO" in DOPŁATA missing;

20 gr./1 zł.: damaged "O" in DOPŁATA (stamps 7, 8, 9 and 10)

25 gr./1 zł.:

1st issue (type I): full-stop after "GR" missing (stamps 60 and 78);
word "DOPŁATA" missing;

2nd issue (type II): "R" in GR damaged (stamp 62);
"23" instead of 25 (stamp 69).

Besides these the Polish Handbook lists three defects on 25 gr./1 zł. without specifying the issue or the type of the overprint:

25 gr./1 zł.: damaged bar;
broken lower part of "Ł" in DOPŁATA;
"A" in DOPŁATA with solid top.

An inverted overprint of 10 gr./1 zł. is also noted.

No forgeries are known.

It can be summed-up that much more study — and first of all more plate numbers — are needed to find out in full the true story of DOPŁATA overprints.

V. WARSAW 1928 EXHIBITION SHEET

The Piłsudski and Mościcki stamps appeared for the first time on the Warsaw 1928 Exhibition Sheet, although its preparation started long after the work on the current 50 gr. and 1 zł. stamps had begun in 1927.

This souvenir sheet was printed by recess from plates bearing six of the sheets. In my collection I have four sheets and one single 50 gr. stamp from it; on all of them the Piłsudski stamp is of type I. Furthermore I have noticed that the relative position of both stamps and the inscription WARSZAWA 1928 is always the same. From this I concluded that a master-stereo of the block was prepared and from it six stereos were made by galvanoplasty and assembled into a printing plate (most probably two sheets across and three down).

The sheets were printed in a dark-brown color whose shade does not vary. The punched perforation measures 12½ and exists in two varieties.

The first one (fig. 24) gave unsatisfactory results: it was very crude, the pins were blunt and did not punch-iut the holes. So a new punch had been con-

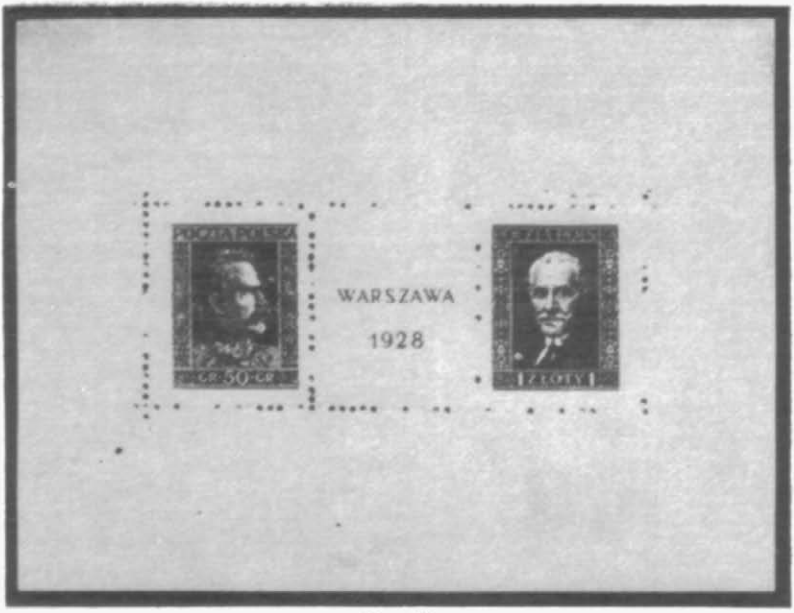


Fig. 24

structed and this gave clean perforations in straight lines. The number of sheets perforated by each punch is not known but I consider the uneven perforation as scarcer.

The paper used was of Austrian origin, identical with paper p.

Imperforate proofs exist in the original dark-brown and in lighter brown color.

The souvenir sheet was sold with a surcharge of 1,50 złoty, ie. for 3 zł. on presentation of the entrance ticket to the Exhibition. The sale went on from May 3rd to May 15th and the validity of the sheet for postal use ended on 1. 8. 1928.

Only 26,020 sheets were printed; from this amount 520 were sent to the members of the World Postal Union, 2,500 were kept in the Postal Museum and the rest — 23,000 blocks — was sold to the public.

This rather expensive sheet was not very popular. Many stamps were torn out and used on letters. Sometimes the sheet was trimmed-off (leaving a 1-2 cm. large white margin around the stamps and the center piece) so that the stamps could be stuck to a medium size envelope. Other copies I have seen were mutilated to a lesser extent: the paper was folded backward leaving still a narrow margin.

As Kazimierz Gryżewski wrote in Filatelista Nr. 8, Vol. XV, (1968) a Warsaw commercial firm bought through its philatelically-minded chief clerk a large number of the sheets. The stamps were torn out and sent to the firm's branch office with a direction that they must be used on the correspondence with the head-office. Naturally, all such postally used copies went to the chief clerk's hands.

(To be continued)

PUBLIC AUCTION

MARCH 23-24 1973 In Conjunction With POLPEX 73



at the Lincoln & Douglas Rooms of the LA SALLE HOTEL — 18th Floor

Over 1400 quality lots from various owners to be sold at our unreserved Auction No. 27. Included are:

POLAND: An extensively specialized collection including a **1794 Banknote, 1771 & 1831 Newspapers, #1 (24 lots including a Pair on CVR),** classical **Errors,** a large variety of **Proofs** and **Essays, Warsaw Uprising Scout Mail, 1960 Stamp Centenary Sheetlets,** strong showing of **Postal History, Polish Army in Russia, WWI-WWII Military Mail, Prisoner of War Mail, Polish Navy in Great Britain;** also includes an auxiliary collection of **three extremely scarce MEMEL covers;** plus many, many more!

UNITED STATES: 178 lots including the **1847's** off and on cover, strong showings of **other 19th Century issues,** the **5c Lincoln Imperf** and **2c Lincoln blue paper, Coils, Air Mails,** a sheet of the 80c **Hawaii,** strong selection of **Revenues** including **R79a, R135b, R385, R694; Freaks, Cut Squares** and many, many more!

BRITISH EMPIRE: 200 lots including **19-20th Century Great Britain, Antigua, Australia, British Caribbean Areas** with **Bahamas #17 unused very fine, Ceylon** Top value **KGV Specimens, Ghana, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Canada & Newfoundland, Malta #1. British Pacific, New Zealand** and many more!

GENERAL FOREIGN: Hundreds of lots including **Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Congo, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Ethiopia, Finland specialized, France, Greece, Italy, Japan with early issues unused, Liberia, Luxemburg, Mexico** (48 lots) **Russia with #1 unused and a used Pair, No. 2-7 used, Spain, Switzerland, Western Ukraine** Government in Exile, **U.P.U.'s, Malaria, Refugee Year** and many more!

GERMANY: Including **Legion Post** issues, **Bavaria, Brunswick #3 genuinely used,** and many, many more!

U.S. & WORLDWIDE POSTAL HISTORY: Includes the **1847's on CVR, Civil War** material, **German Army in Bulgaria, Germany & Colonies, Great Britain, Israel, Concentration Camp Mail, Japan, Mexico, South Russia, French Mandate Syria,** a **Latvia Stampless (1826), Austria** and many, many more!

AEROPHILATELIC POSTAL HISTORY: 125 lots including **U.S.** (with 8 lots of **Zeppelin Covers** with the **Zeppelin** issues), **Catapult Mails** (U.S., Austria, Germany, Netherlands), **Zeppelin Covers** (Brazil, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Paraguay, Russia, Romania), **Rocket Mail** (France, Germany), **Worldwide First Flights, Balloon Mail, Denmark 1919 Aarhus semi-official adhesive,** and many more!

Not on our mailing list? . . . Fully Illustrated Catalogue, 50¢ unused postage for First Class mailing.

Catalogues will be distributed, gratis, at the Auction Galleries and at our booth at Polpex 73.

1st Session 7 p.m. Friday, March 23 • 2nd Session 4 p.m. March 24

GREAT LAKES STAMP AUCTIONS

ROMAN J. BURKIEWICZ, PROP.

2883 Milwaukee Ave. • Chicago, Ill. 60618 • Tel. (312) 484-4725

Member: ASDA, APS, BCPSG, SPA, POLONUS

MEMBERS MART

EXCHANGE: Presidents (U.S.), cut and cvrs.; Chgo. Postal History, cuts & cvrs.; NATO on US stamps & cvrs.; US Marshall Plan cancellation cvrs. Can correspond in English or Polish.

F. BUBICZ, 4453 S. Sacramento Ave., Chicago, IIll. 60632.

NEW ISSUES

Kopernik's Life and Activity

40 gr—Kopernik portrait after print by J. Van Meurs in 1654. 8,000,000 issued.

60 gr—Kopernik etching from 16th century and coin of Zygmunt I period. 8,000,000 issued.

2.50 zł—portrait after print of J. Falck, 1645 and arms of the Prussian Kings. 3,000,000 issued.

3.40 zł—portrait of 1509 published by Kraków printing firm. 3,000,000 issued.

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIEY

Thomas J. Gobby, Secretary
5713 Warwick, Chicago, Ill. 60634

Al Rybarski, Treasurer
P. O. Box 82, River Grove, Ill. 60171

Chester A. Schafer, Editor
864 N. Ashland, Chicago, Ill. 60622

Lester Jankowski, Publications Chrm.
7303 Kildare, Lincolnwood, Ill. 60646

The Polonus Philatelic Society is non-political. Views expressed by authors of articles appearing herein do not necessarily express the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

— Annual Dues are $4.00 —

10+5 zł—conception of Ptolomeus and Kopernik system, 1660. 900,000 issued.

Issued Sept. 28, 1972. Offset, steel engraving and rotogravure printed on chalky paper by the PWPW Warsaw. Designed by W. Andrzejewski.

(Cut courtesy Linn's Stamp News)

