

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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First Issue of the Reborn Poland



From official information released by the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs this information has been gathered:

First day of issue—September 12, 1944.

After the conquest of the German Army on the eastern front by the Red Army, and when the Red Army reached the Wisla and Wisloka rivers, there appeared in Lublin, the temporary seat of the government, the first issue of Polish postage stamps of three values, with the portraits of national heroes.

25 gr., red, Romuald Traugutt

50 gr., dark green, Thaddeus Kosciuszko

1 zl., dark blue, Henry Dabrowski

The designs measure 31 x 26 mm. Rectangular in shape, they are bordered with a line, and on a background of lines is placed the respective portrait of each hero. Above the portrait in the right hand corner, is

the value in gr. or zl. Under the rectangle is the inscription POCZTA POLSKA. Unwatermarked and ungummed.

The paper appears to be stained slightly by the colors of the respective stamps, but is originally white and spongy, of a .06-.07 mm. thickness. Sheets consisted of 30 stamps—5 stamps in six horizontal rows. Perforation is 11½, sometimes not entirely pressed out. The issue is known imperforate also.

Of the printing and total quantity, official information has not been secured. The sheets were flat plate printed, and most likely lithographed. Withdrawn from circulation February 13, 1945.

Although the stamps are crudely printed, they are highly valued by collectors. They are the first stamps proclaiming Poland's freedom after a five year torment of tyranny and imprisonment.

*Translated from PIONIER FILATELISTYCZNY, Vol. 1, No. 1, Prof. S.

*—Cuts courtesy STAMPS.

Mikstein's article, Krakow, by C. A. Schafer.

ROMUALD TRAUGUTT

Leader of the National Government in the January Insurrection (1826-64), formerly Russian Lieutenant Colonel. He commanded the party of 1863 in the Brest-Litewski Waywode from October 17, was Dictator of the Insurrection, organized the Centralized Bureau, reorganized the Insurrection Armies, and notwithstanding the tragic course of battle, persevered to the end. He was arrested by the Russians on October 12, 1864, and was hanged in Warsaw on August 5, 1865.

THADDEUS KOSCIUSZKO

Beloved national hero—soldier and statesman. He fought in the American War for independence in 1776 and distinguished himself in operations about New York and at Yorktown. He was Washington's adjutant, one of the most popular American officers, and held the rank of Brig. General. Under Prince Poniatowski he commanded a division in the battles of Zielence and Dubienka in 1792. In the Insurrection of 1794, he defeated the Russians at Racławice with a peasant army armed with scythes and pikes. This champion of liberty devoted his entire life to fighting for Polish independence and territorial integrity. His remains were carried to Krakow and buried in the cathedral; while the people, reviving an ancient custom, raised a huge mound to his memory near the city.

HENRY DABROWSKI

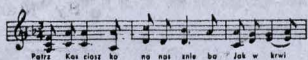
Served under Kosciuszko and distinguished himself in the defense of Warsaw, 1794. Summoned by Napoleon in 1806 to promote an uprising in Poland, he organized several divisions of Poles and distinguished himself at Danzig and Friedland. In 1812 he commanded a Polish division in the "Grande Armee." He was one of the generals entrusted by the Russian tsar with the reorganization of the Polish Army, and was named in 1815, general of cavalry and senator palatine of the new Kingdom of Poland.

NEW POLPEX SEAL

The souvenir sheet of Polpex 1946 is dedicated to the 200th anniversary of the birth of Thaddeus Kosciuszko, a Pole by birth, and an American by adoption.

The "Polonez Kosciuszko" is a fam-

POLONEZ KOSCIUSZKI



BORN FEB. 12, 1746
200TH ANNIVERSARY

"HIS DUST IN POLAND RESTS—
HIS URNED HEART A SHRINE!
POLAND! HE IS THY SON!
COLUMBIA! ALSO THINE!"

—WILLIAM PALMER

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY POLPEX, 1946

FEB. 9, 10, 11, 12

CHICAGO, ILL.

ous Polish song dedicated to his spirit. Translated literally, the words are:

"Look Kosciuszko from the heavens above,

How the blood of our enemies flows.'

The spirit of Kosciuszko is endowed in the spirit of all Poles who like their great compatriot, are ready to lay down their lives for the cause of Freedom.

The Kosciuszko stamp used on the sheet is one of a series of charity stamps portraying famous Poles, issued during World War I, before Poland's independence.

Statues of this famous Pole can be found throughout the United States and Poland, and his deeds of valour are known throughout the world. The poem by William Palmer, was dedicated to Kosciuszko in honor of his chivalrous deeds in the fight for American independence.

The price of the souvenir sheets, descriptive folder and an imperforate and perforated sheet is fifteen (15) cents a set, two for a quarter (25c) and ten cents for each additional set ordered. They may be obtained by writing to the Seal Director, Adam Kloskowski, 2528 North Drake Ave., Chicago 47, Illinois.

REINSTATED

Rev. Ignatius J. Bialdyga

Souvenir Sheets of Poland

By Marian Carne Zinsmeister



We are each of us following a pattern in our stamp collecting, whether we like to think so or not. Some want completeness, others a certain country or post marks, or postal stationery, or covers. And I, well I like to collect information. Sheets gave me a grand opening to hunt up all kinds of material—why they were issued, when, the purpose of their issuance, who is shown on them, and something about his life or deeds. I get a big kick out of digging around into old catalogues, magazines, scrap books, to run down a stamp or a sheet. You fellows that collect Poland are very fortunate, you have your Larking and your Ikaros to turn to, and then have all the information at your finger tips, but just try to find that same kind of information on other countries—it can't be done. Unless, of course, you dig it out item by item from the philatelic press.

And so my souvenir sheets gave me the opening I was looking for, they are as you may know, issued for specific purposes, they are show pieces, perhaps not a postage stamp in the common usage of that word, but they do form a part of most every collection, since most countries have issued one or more, and in order to have the country complete, one must have the sheets. This is true of your own Poland.

In Poland we find six sets of sheets beginning as early as 1928. I am going to tell you some statistics which

I have gathered together on these Polish sheets.

The first one was known as the Warsaw sheet (illustration 1) perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$, paper was a special white wove furnished by Austrian National Bank Paper Inc. of Vienna; sheet was engraved, with full gum; first day May 3, 1928, demonetized on August 1, 1928; two stamps were used, being portraits of Marshal Joseph Pilsudski and President Ignatz Moscicki. It was issued in conjunction with the Warsaw Philatelic Exhibition, held May 3 to 13, and one sheet was sold with each ticket of admission to the show. Engraved by Ferdinand Schirnbocks, designed by Prof. Z. Kaminski. Printed at the Government Printing office. No marginal inscriptions, but a tab between the stamps reads "Warsaw/1928" in two lines. There were 26,020 of the first printing, and 6,020 of the second printing. First printing has clean cut perforations and clear dark impression; second printing the perfs are rough and the printing is somewhat lighter and smudgy. The first printing was the regular one put out by the government, the second or smaller lot was printed at the philatelic exhibition and accounts for the poorer workmanship.

There is a known fake or counterfeit of this sheet issued in 1938. The color is black instead of black brown, the stamps are slightly larger, and the perforations are clear cut. This is a photochemical product and is crude

compared with the engraved original.

One of the special post marks, is three circles; inside the first three words—Greater Poland Philatelic Exhibit,—1928.—at top of second circle "Warsaw" three stars at bottom; horizontal lines broken by a straight line giving the date, "10 V 28 N" being the date the smaller lot went on sale. There was also a special red cancellation for air mail from the exhibit.

The next set is the King Carol Visit—perf $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13$; paper was unwatermarked, engraved, fully gummed, first day September 1, 1937, four stamps to a sheet, three different sheets in the set. They were issued to commemorate the visit of King Carol of Roumania to Poland Jun 26 to July 1, 1937; were prepared and issued long after his visit to Poland as a friendly gesture to the Roumanian government. The designs were taken from portraits of Marshal Smigly-Rydz, Marshal Pilsudski, and President Moscicki. The margin inscriptions read "26 VI, I VII 1937." The arms of Poland and Roumania complete the marginal notes. It is reported 105,500 sets were sold. I have been unable to learn the name of the designer or engraver.

The next set is the Second Warsaw Philatelic Exposition, perf 12 and imperf; paper was unwatermarked, engraved, fully gummed, first day May 3, 1938, four stamps, two sheets; the purpose was to commemorate the Warsaw Philatelic exposition May 3 to 8, 1938. May 3rd is celebrated as the national holiday or Constitution Day; the design used is a coach of 1800. Engraved by W. L. Vacek, designed by Voratinski, and printed at the State Printing Office. The inscription reads—All Polish (or National) Philatelic Exhibit, at the top, and Warsaw and 1938 at the bottom. There were 100,000 sold. The special cancellation reads: At the top—All Polish—air plane followed by straight line with city "Warsaw" and date "3-5-1938" beneath, and at the bottom of outer circle—Exhibit Philatelic. These sheets too were sold in connection with tickets of admission to the exhibit.

The Stratosphere sheet was next (illustration 2). Perf $12\frac{1}{2}$, on fine wove, unwatermarked paper, fully gummed, by photogravure process; first day September 7, 1935, one stamp to the sheet; issued to commemorate and to help raise funds for the flight to the stratosphere. The design shows a balloon above snow capped moun-



tains. It was engraved by L. Sowinski, and designed by Mr. Vacek, and printed at the Polish Government Printing Works. The sheet margin inscriptions read: "First Polish Flight to the Stratosphere" (in English and Polish) and "From the Chocholowska Valley." The price of 2 Zloty is shown in the lower right corner. 65,000 were issued. As you may remember, the balloon never ascended, the bag exploded on October 14, 1938, when it was being filled for the trip.

Later in 1938, came the 20th anniversary sheet (illustration 3). Perf $12\frac{1}{2}$, a hard wove unwatermarked white paper, fully gummed, engraved; first day November 11, 1938; four stamps to the sheet, to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Polish Republic, which began on November 11, 1918; the designs are portraits of Marshal Pilsudski, President J. Narutowicz, President Moscicki, and Marshal Smigly-Rydz. It was designed by Voratinski and printed at the Government Printing Office. The sheet margin inscriptions are: top—Roman twenty (XX) over a bundle of leaves—and "Anniversary of Regaining Independence" in Polish.

The last one, in 1939, is known as the 25th anniversary of the Legion. Perf $12\frac{1}{2}$ on paper unwatermarked,

ROCZNICA
ODZYSKANIA NIEPODLEGŁOŚCI



1918 II.XI-1938

engraved, fully gummed, first day August 6 1939, three stamps to the sheet; to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the entrance of the Polish Legion into World War I. The designs picture the Legionnaires passing before the statue of Marshal Pilsudski and Marshal Smigly-Rydz. It was designed by Voratinski, and engraved by M. R. Polak, printed at the Government printing office. The margin inscriptions read: "25th Anniversary of Freedom." "Excess 1 Zloty devoted to the funds for national defense." There was a special cancellation applied at the Cracow post office.

So much for statistics. There are miniature sheets too, issued by Poland, that is, sheets of from 1 to 25, but not issued for a particular or commemorative purpose, stamps from which were sold as singles over the counter. They do not really belong to a souvenir sheet collection any more than do sheetlets, such sheetlets being a stamp or number of stamps attached to a card and postmarked for a specific event. These miniature sheets and sheetlets I will leave to you real specialists to work out.

POLPEX 1946

Again the time has arrived for the

annual Polpex, but this time the show is to be held with the world at peace. Polpex 1946 will be especially welcome to the war weary veterans, who number quite a few among Polonus Society members. They missed our last few shows but the spectacular show scheduled this year will indeed compensate them for it.

Our three Co-chairmen—Al Rybariski, Al Kolaczewski, and J. A. Kupiec—have secured the Polish Roman Catholic Union Archives and Museum as the site for the exhibit to be held February 9, 10, 11, and 12. In the rich, historical splendor of these show rooms, the stamps of Polonus members will be prominently displayed in frames, wall cases, and beautiful glass-top tables. The dates have been selected so as to include February 12, the 200th anniversary of the birth of Thaddeus Kosciuszko, the beloved Polish national hero who played an important part in the American Revolutionary War of 1776. The co-chairmen have made arrangements to enable Chicago Polish school children to see the exhibition.

Dr. M. E. Uznanski, the Society's energetic president, assembled a splendid array of awards, enlivening the competition. The opening day will be Saturday, February 9, and the show

will continue to Tuesday evening. Saturday and Sunday, the exhibit may be viewed afternoon and evening; and Monday and Tuesday, from six to ten P.M. The Polish Archives and Museum is located at 984 Milwaukee avenue, corner Augusta boulevard, Chicago.

POLPEX AUCTION

DATE: February 10, 1946

PLACE: P.R.C.U. Museum & Archives
984 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago.

TIME: 4.00 P. M.

TERMS OF SALE

1. Terms of sale are STRICTLY CASH to the highest bidder. Lots will be cleared immediately after the sale.

2. Auction Manager reserves the right to reject bids or withdraw from sale any lot.

3. All stamps are sold as genuine unless otherwise noted, and all claims must be made within 10 days of receipt of lots.

4. All lots must be taken up immediately after sale in person, excepting mail bids, and in this case successful bidders will be notified of the amount secured for them and they must send remittance plus postage and registration fee immediately before lots are sent.

MAIL BIDDERS NOTE: Mail bids to Roman Wojcicki, 1810 W. 17th St., Chicago 8, Illinois. Please use LOT number and not catalog number when making up bid sheet.

Lots will be available for inspection at POLPEX Exhibition.

Scott's 1946 catalog numbers are used.

POLAND

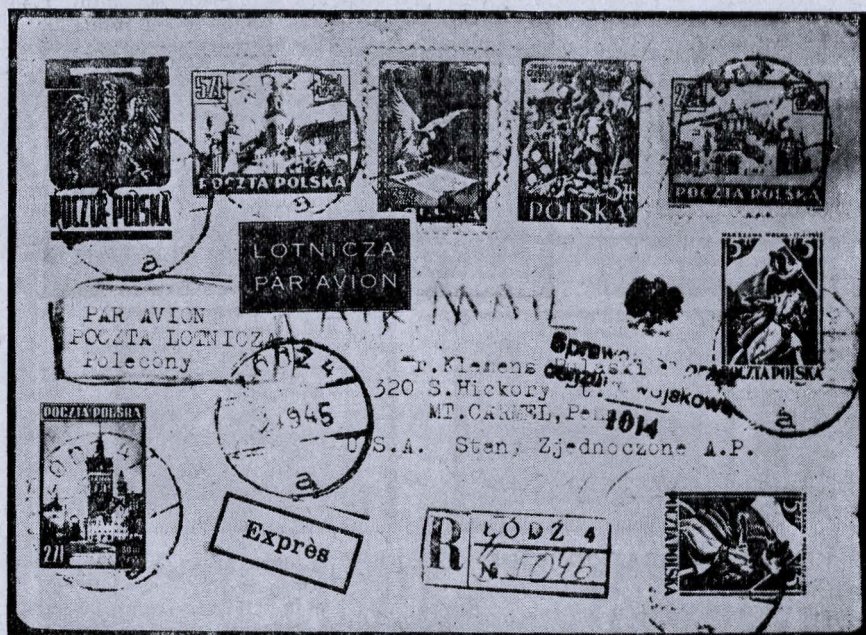
Lot No.	Cat. Value
1. #170-190 Mint except 180 used.	
Complete set	\$.94
2. 213 and 214 Mint	2.50
3. 257 and 261 One mint and one used of each	.65
4. 278 One mint and one used	2.50
5. 289 and 292 Mint block four	2.60
6. 294 and B32 Mint block four	1.00
7. 298 and 299 Mint block four	2.60
8. 300 and 301 Mint block four	3.00
9. 306 used	1.75
10. 312 and 313 mint	.75
11. 314-316 Souvenir sheets mint	3.50
12. 317, 318, and 319 mint	1.25
13. 319 Mint block of four	2.00

14. 335-338 Complete set mint	1.40
15. 335-338 Complete set mint blocks of four	5.60
16. 334 and 340 mint	.85
17. 340 mint block of four ..	2.10
18. General Gouvernement 2 and 4 zloty, 1943, mint	?
19. Same as lot 18	?
20. Gen. Gouv. 6 zloty, Panorama of Lwow, mint	?
21. Same as lot 20	?
22. Gen. Gouv. 10 zloty mint 1943 ?	
23. Same as lot 22	?
24. Gen. Gouv. Complete set of 18 values, Hitler portrait	?
25. NB8-41 Complete set mint	1.10
26. Gen. Gouv. Complete set of four mint, 600 anniv. of Lublin, 1942	?
27. Same as lot 26	?
28. Gen. Gouv. Complete set of Hitler Birthday 1943 mint ?	
29. Gen. Gouv. Complete set of 5 mint, Intellectuals, 1942 ..	?
30. Same as lot 29	?
31. Gen. Gouv. Complete set of 5 mint Polish cities, 1943..	?
32. Same as lot 31	?
33. Gen. Gouv. Complete set of 3, Hitler Birthday 1944, mint ?	
34. Same as lot 33	?
35. Gen. Gouv. Complete set of 5 Intellectuals 1944, mint ..	?
36. Same as lot 35	?
37. J40-J47, J48-J50, J51-J67 Three complete sets used ...	.73
38. IK33-IK36 Compl. set mint	1.40
39. 2K1-2K12 Complete set mint	3.00
40. 2K13-2K19 Compl. set mint	4.90
41. Marienwerder 1-7 on registered cover, cancellation Deutsch Eylau with backstamp of Kiel, Germany	?

OFFICERS FOR 1946

President	Dr. M. E. Uznanski
Vice-pres. ...	Dr. S. M. Mioduszewski
Secretary	Chester J. Mikucki
Treasurer	Jack P. Rux
Librarian & Historian	
.....	Roman Wojcicki
Directors	Myron Stenczynski
	Adam Kloskowski

We were glad to hear from the Rev. I. J. Bialdysa who just recovered from a serious illness. His donation of several Polish blocks for the Polpex Auction is certainly appreciated.



Cover showing new postage issues from Poland. Cover was loaned us by courtesy of Clement Pulaski.



The Society extends its most sincere sympathy to its past president Henry C. Choynecki, upon the loss of his brother John.

PAY YOUR DUES

The Treasurer suggests that—you will save yourself and him much time and trouble if you remit your 1946 dues immediately if not already paid. They are due effective February 1, 1946. Make your remittance payable to J. P. Rux, 6136 Addison Street, Chicago 34, Illinois.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Capt. Edw. H. Lewandowski,
LM-108-8520; 1613th SCU (ASF)
Camp Grant, Illinois.

NEW MEMBERS

- #266 Stanley Kolodziejczyk
1943 W. Division Street
Chicago 22, Illinois
(General Foreign and Poland)
- #267 Ebenezer A. Mizdrak
1213 N. Paulina Street
Chicago 22, Illinois
(Latin America and Airs)
- #268 V. L. Koran M. D.
972 Maccabees Bldg.
Detroit 2, Michigan
(Poland and Music, Medicine,
Religion)

HONORABLY DISCHARGED

FOR HONORABLE MILITARY SERVICE



A. Plonka
Ted Stasik
E. A. Mizdrak



KRAKOW LIBERATION ISSUE

In commemoration of the liberation of the city of Krakow from the hands of the Nazi invaders, the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs commissioned the Krakow District Directory of Posts and Telegraphs to issue a series of stamps. The designs of the stamps were to show monuments of Krakow. The Directory invited artists of this city to submit designs. Because of the short time allotted them, only three artists were able to submit their designs, and these were Prof. N. Chomicz—one design, and M. Watorski and J. Wilczyk—four designs each. On March 12, at the Directory of the Postal District a contest was held and the designs of Joseph Wilczyk were unanimously accepted.

The 50 gr. brown shows the huge monument of Prince Poniatowski with his statue at the top.

The 17 gr. dark blue, shows the eastern gate at the Wawel with a lifted grate which forms the background for the statue of Kosciuszko, with a castle at the left, and a faint outline of the mound (Kopiec) at the right.

The 27 gr. dark green, shows the Sukiennica from the direction of the street Brackiej.

The 37 gr. violet, shows the statue of Kopernik as seen from the eastern gate to the Jagiellon Library. A dark outline of the gate frames the statue which is up against a background of fine gothic porticos.

The 57 gr. dark green, with the view of the Wawel, is the same subject of design as the 15 gr. stamp of 1925, and the Gen. Gouv. 24 gr. of 1940.

On all these stamps appears the date January 1, 1945, the day of the city's liberation.

They were printed at the National Printery in Krakow, which has the best facilities for work of high quality. The printing was Heliogravure, from forms on copper cylinders. Proofs exist in various colors.

The 17 gr. stamp appeared for sale at the postoffice at Krakow March 29, 1945, and others followed shortly thereafter.

POLISH ARMY NEW ISSUE

Dr. M. E. Uznanski sent a clipping from a Polish Army newspaper *DZIENNIK ZOLNIERSKI*, regarding the proposed stamps issue of the Second Corps in Italy.

The proposed stamps will be issued by the Chief of the Fieldpost Service of the Second Corps, during 1946. The total income derived from their sale will be used for assistance to widows and orphans of deceased soldiers of the Second Corps.

A recent official Polish Army bulletin in the *DZIENNIK CHICAGOWSKI* announced the issue of four stamps on January 7, 1946, of the Second Corps.

It stated also that in February, a philatelic exhibition will be held at Cairo, Egypt, in which the Second Corps will exhibit Polish stamps.

*—Cuts courtesy STAMPS.