

BULLETIN OF THE POLONIS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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Issue 212

June, 1963

THE LODZ STAMP AND ITS DESIGNER

By Arie Lindenbaum

Reprinted from THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST of November, 1962

Lodz (Litzmannstadt) Ghetto was one of the largest Jewish concentration places during Hitler's occupation of Poland.

In the course of a few years several hundred thousand Jews, who lived, worked and perished there, maintained a regular postal service as well as issued their own postage stamps. The designer of the stamp — 20 years ago — never dreamed that this stamp will find its way to Israel, and very few do know that this man — one of the few who survived — is presently domiciled in Israel.

This lucky man is the artist Pinchas Szaar (formerly Szwarc). At the end of 1940 he found himself inside the Lodz Ghetto which by the time the Russian German war started in 1941 was completely isolated from the rest of the world. The Germans decided to siphon out all monies out of the Ghetto in particular the German marks. In this way they could cut off the Jews from any outside commerce and ruin them. For that reason the Jews were forced to exchange their money for new paper cur-

rency valid only in the Ghetto and without any value anywhere else.

As it was known that Mr. Szwarc was a gifted graphic artist he was therefore instructed to design the new banknotes which were printed in the Ghetto. The moment the Jewish money was instituted inside the Ghetto all possibilities of using the German postage stamp inside the Ghetto had vanished. For that reason it was decided by the Eldest of the Jews, Chaim Rumkowski to issue special postage stamps for internal use.

Many Germans, believing that these stamps will have a great value in the future, bought up great quantities and even started speculating with them.

The task of engraving the stamps was entrusted to Mr. Pinchas Szwarc whose design won out in a contest. The stamps were issued in 3 denominations — 5, 10 and 20 groszy and in different colors. The printing was rather primitive and the cut had to be done by hand — owing to the lack of technical instruments — by Mr. Frida.





Artist Pinchas Szwarc

The stamp depicts the Eldest of the Jews Chaim Rumkowski, who to the very last moment had the mistaken notion that faithful service to the Germans may save the greater part of the Jewish Ghetto.

As it's known, Mr. Rumkowski organized in the Ghetto hundreds of work-rooms which produced for the Germans.

The stamps feature symbols of labor guilds which were practiced in the Ghetto, and were in circulation for a few months only. Through an exchange a collection of these stamps found their way into the hands of Prof. Roman Winiarski of Lodz who sent them along to the International Philatelic Exhibition held in Tel-Aviv.

Pinchas Szwarc managed to survive the Nazi Holocaust. After the liquidation of the Lodz Ghetto, he was taken to a concentration camp near Berlin from where he was liberated by the Russians.



In 1949 he went to Paris to continue his studies as a painter. He was successful at several art exhibitions where he was acclaimed as an original and gifted painter. Soon afterward the International Commission for Nazi victims commissioned Mr. Szwarc to design a stamp.

His first visit to Israel, in 1952 was for the purpose of organizing his own Art Exhibit. The beauty of the country enchanted him and he decided to settle in Israel permanently. He is presently living in Tel-Aviv.

Translated from the Polish by Leon Walters

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NEW POLISH STAMP CATALOG

by Thaddeus Gryzewski

The new edition of the Poland's "Ilustrowany Katalog Znaczków Polskich" for 1963 was published in the early part of June. This new edition was announced much earlier by the State Enterprises "Ruch" but for reasons beyond their control the printing could not be completed till now.

This new edition is very substantially enlarged and contains a whole series of new chapters.

The present 420 pages against the previous 280 speak for themselves.

Besides all the earlier chapters, supplemented with additional details (like: on FDC's — the total printings are given, etc.).

Chapter one in on pre-philately, with accurate listings of all XVIII century Polish postal cancellations, Militaria of the Duchy of Warsaw (Księstwa Warszawskiego), "Free City of Cracow" and abbreviated descriptions in the "Kingdom of Poland" (Królestwo Kongresowe). Orientation prices are given for cancellations and the more interesting ones are reproduced.

By Poland No. 1, for the first time is inserted a complete systematic index of all cancellations known to be used with the first Polish postage stamp. The more interesting ones, and the types are illustrated. The comprehensive presentation of this chapter will give all interested in this a quick orientation in what they have and what they are still missing in these cancellations. I might add here too, that published till now research material on this subject was rather chaotically presented. The new description is precise and clear. The chapter on postage stamps is brought up to December 31, 1962. A completely new arrangement of all types of the provisional overprints on the Postage Stamps from "Małopolska" provides for easy orientation and clarity on these issues. Under the "Locals" the Ghetto stamps are supplemented with the latest findings and the postal entries are brought up to date with all new issues and price changes. Added

to this chapter are the listings of Locals, Legion Corps, Central Lithuania, Occupations and Plebiscites. Listed are all Postal Remittance Forms and Telegraph Receipts.

An entirely new chapter is added under "VARIA" where all "First Flights, Special Events, Glider and Balloon Flights, Pidgeon and Rocket mail, Court Stamps for delivery, Second Corp, all stamps issued in German Camps, in Austria, Italy and various labels, vignettes issued by underground posts. Extensive coverage is given the stamps of the Officers Camp in Germany.

Finally, for the topical collector, — convenient arrangement by topic of the post war issues.

The catalog is edited with great care for accuracy, containing the results of exhaustive studies, which have yielded a great number of information, either missing or erroneous in "Polskie Znaczki Pocztowe".

To a great advantage of its users should be the orientation — pricing of all entires, labels, etc., which gives the collector a chance to judge for himself the actual market value of either stamps or entires. The catalog is issued in two editions: on better grade paper with hard cover and on ordinary paper with soft cover.

The total printing is 35,000.

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authorities in charge of printing the adhesives did not destroy the produced color trials and proofs, they sold them to philatelists and stamp dealing firms.

With the exception of three series of Central Lithuania stamp issues (Scott 23-28, 53-58 and J1-6) which were printed by the lithograph system, all emmissions were typographed.

Not listed by Scott catalogue and seldom written about is a stamp issue of the County of Warwizski. This adhesive has its place on the Central Lithuania stamp pages and is valued by collectors in Poland and Lithuania.

County of Warwizski is located in the belt between Central Lithuania and the Kowno ruled Republic of Lithuania — presently swallowed up by Communistic Russia.

When the decision of the League of Nations ceded Warwizski to the Republic, the population rose in armed protest and Poland's stamps of the Scott 164-165-166 series were machine overprinted for use by the armed partisans. The overprint proclaimed "Samorząd Warwizski" (Self Government Warwizski). The overprint was made in black ink.

Because of a short-lived use of the overprinted stamps, used locally, an unknown quantity of these stamps exist on covers and are cancelled—according to Poland's leading stamp experts—with a round hand die in violet ink and worded "Samorząd Warwizski, Armed Forces Command." The center of the die bears a skull between crossed bones.

NEW POLAND PRISONER OF WAR CATALOGS PUBLISHED IN 6 VOLS.

Through the initiative of "Polski Związek Filatelistów" of the Kraków Branch six impressive catalogs of Polish postage stamps of German Prison Camps during World War II were published. They are the work of Józef Machowski who was assisted by Jan Ryblewski who submitted for reproduction an almost complete collection of the prison camp stamps. Credit is due to Editor Leonidas Swiejkowski who for several years labored diligently to put this work out in print.

The six volumes cover the following:
Stamps of the German Prison Camps in General,
Issues of Camp IIC Woldenberg,
Issues of Camp IID Gross Born,
Issues of Camp IIE Neubrandenburg,
Issues of Camp VIIA Murnau,
Issues of Intercamp Post Lubeck.



An outstanding feature of the catalogs is the reproduction of all stamps issued in their original colors. This takes up 16 pages in the volumes.

A complete history of the camps and their stamps and the effect this had on the prisoners is covered.

Included with the six volumes is a price list with a catalog number listing in Polish, English and German.

This detailed and complete study of the P.O.W. stamps is published not only for the philatelist but also for those interested in the fate of Polish Prisoners in the German Camps during World War II.

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

POLONUS MEMBERS AMONG AWARD WINNERS

We received word that two members, Chester Makowski of Chicago and Dr. M. A. Rayal de Ragan of Kowary, Poland have been each awarded a silver medal for their exhibits at the International Exhibition "Melusina 1963" in Luxemburg.

Chester Makowski showed Pre-Philatelic Polish Letters, Militaria, Letters from Napoleon's Army in Poland, Number One, etc.

Dr. M. A. Rayal de Ragan exhibited a specialized collection of stamps and cancellations of the Grand Duchy of Baden from the 1817-1868 period.

S. Januszewski won a silver award for Warsaw Locals at "Polphilex 63" in Birmingham, England while Z. Wlodarski won a bronze medal for his study of Provisional Post Cards of 1918 at this same exhibition.

Congratulations!

POLONUS SOCIETY IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

The Polonus Philatelic Society is written about in the Congressional Record of May 8, 1963, Vol. 109, No. 68. Two paragraphs at the top of the third column on page A2897 read as follows:

POLPEX 1962 HONORS CIVIL WAR POLES

On March 9, 10, 11, the Polonus Philatelic Society honored the Polish heroes of the Civil War, by issuing a commemorative stamp honoring Gen. Krzyzanowski and his Polish Legion. The design was based on Walter Krawiec's earlier pen tribute. An 8-page leaflet, giving a short history of the Polish effort in the Civil War, came with the stamp issue. The 22nd annual exhibition of the Polonus Philatelic Society was held in the Polish Museum of America, where the Court of Honor featured relics taken out of General Krzyzanowski's grave some 25 years ago by Henry Archacki, American-Polish Civil War Centennial Committee chairman.

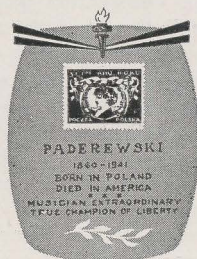
Polpex 1962 and its Civil War theme received a good deal of favorable publicity with the national Stamp Magazine of March 3, devoting almost 7 pages with 11 illustrations to the Civil War Poles and kindred subjects.

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NEW ISSUES

By J. J. Domar

This year's Protection of Nature series will be dedicated to "Reptiles and Amphibians under Protection."

A series of 12 stamps was to be released on June 10, 1963. Printed in multicolor, on chalky perforated paper. The size of each is to be 40.5 x 40.5 mm. The design is by Jerzy Desselberger in the following values and amounts:

- 30 gr. Lizard (*Lacerta agelis*)
 - 40 gr. Copperhead Snake (*Cornella austriaca*) non-venomous.
 - 50 gr. Marsh Tortoise (*Emys orbicularis*) only Mid-European tortoise and it is very rare.
 - 60 gr. Grass Snake (*Natrix natrix*) non-venomous
 - 90 gr. Blindworm (*Anguis fragilis*) footless variety of lizard. It looks like a snake.
 - 1.15 zł. Tree Toad (*Hyla arborea*)
 - 1.35 zł. Mountain Newt (*Triturus Alpestris*)
 - 1.50 zł. Crestated Newt (*Triturus cristatus*)
 - 1.55 zł. Green Toad (*Bufo viridis*)
 - 2.50 zł. Toad (*Bombina bombina*)
 - 3 zł. Salamander (*Salamandra salamandra*)
 - 3.40 zł. Natterjack (*Bufo calamita*)
- Quantities to be issued:
- 30 gr., 50 gr., 90 gr., — 5,000,000
 - 40 gr., 60 gr. — 6,000,000
 - 1.15 zł., 1.35 zł., 1.50 zł., 1.55 zł. — 4,000,000
 - 2.50 zł. — 3,000,000
 - 3 zł. — 2,500,000
 - 3.40 zł. — 750,000.

* * *

From the 15th to the 28th of July, 1963, the World Championships in Fencing will be held in Gdansk.

Sportmen from 32 countries and representing five continents will participate.

To commemorate this event, the Polish Post will issue six commemorative stamps bearing the following face values, 20, 40, 60 gr., and 1.15, 1.55 and 6.50 zloty.

The design of the 20 groszy stamp depicts an epee, a foil, and a light sword crossed on the background of a helmet with a visor and a crest. Yellow and Brown.

The 40 groszy depicts a light sword in fencing, on a background of mediaeval knights fighting with swords. Blue and white.

The 60 gr. represents a light sword flash attack; in the background a hand to hand fight of the 17th century dragons. Brown, light brown, and white.

The 1.15 zloty value shows a foil contest on a background to a similar contest from the second half of the 18th century. Green and white.

The 1.55 zloty value depicts an epee duel on the background of the Old City of Gdansk. Purple and white.

The 6.50 zloty stamp depicts the coat-of-arms of Gdansk and the inscription: "The XXVIIIth World Championships in Fencing, Gdansk, July 15th to 28th, 1963. Dark brown, green, white and light brown..

In addition to the above, a souvenir sheet 108 mm. x 92 mm. containing a block of four of one 40 gr. and 60 gr., and below the 1.15 zloty and the 1.55 zloty in the exact colors and size of the individual stamps.

On the top margin of the sheet will be the inscription: XXVIII World's Fencing Championships — each sheet will be serially numbered, the amount allotted for export will be 10,000 sheets only.

The amounts issued:

- 20 gr. - 3,000,000
- 40 gr. - 4,600,000
- 60 gr. - 4,000,000
- 1.15 zł. - 3,000,000
- 1.55 zł. - 2,000,000
- 6.50 zł. - 750,000

The designs are by Krystyna Tar-kowska and the First Day of release was to be June 29th, 1963.

* * *

The series of stamps devoted to the great men of Poland whose deeds and works during the past one thousand years, helped to strengthen the country and contributed to its culture and science will be concluded in 1963.

The final four stamps each of 60 gr. value will depict:

Ludwik Warynski (1856-1889) The founder of the organization "Proletariat in Warsaw, Red-Brown-Black and White.

Ludwik Krzywicki (1859-1941) a pro-

fessor of Warsaw University and Economic College in Warsaw, economist, ethnologist and anthropologist. Vi-Br., Black-White.

Maria Skłodowska-Curie (1867-1934) a great Polish scientist, a laureate of Nobel Prize, the discoverer of chemical elements: polonium and radium, the latter discovered with her husband. Blue, White and Black.

Karol Swierczewski (1897-1947) The Commander-in-Chief of the II Polish Army organized in the U.S.S.R. Green, Black and White.

First Day of issue to be July 20th, 1963.

2,000,000 of each stamp is to be issued, perf., on watermarked paper. Size 43 x 25.5 mm. The design is by Andrzej Heidrich.

— Ruch

IN MEMORIAM



With sorrowful regret we report the death of Alan Skotnicki, beloved son of member John Skotnicki. Alan passed on July 5th.

Another member, John Gapinski, suffered the loss of his beloved wife, Clementine, on July 9th.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to both these members and their families.

FINAL NOTICE OF UNPAID DUES

Final notices will be mailed to members whose 1963 dues are not paid. If you forgot to send in your dues, please mail them to the Treasurer immediately.

— P O L A N D —

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

— Annual Dues are \$2.50 —

JUNIORS MUST NOW PAY TO RECEIVE BULLETIN

In the past the Society mailed the Polonus Bulletin free of charge to its Junior Members who pay no dues. At the meeting of June 14th, the members decided to charge them the regular subscription rate of \$2.00 per year for 11 issues of the Bulletin.

Junior Members who would like to receive the Society publication, kindly send your subscription to Chester J. Mikucki, 4704 N. Overhill, Norridge 31, Illinois.

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