

BULLETIN OF THE **POLONUS** PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets Every Second and Fourth Friday of the Month at Falcons Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Issue No. 269

May 1969

"BUY PRE-WORLD WAR II ISSUES" – SAYS ROSS

John G. Ross, the newly appointed Stamp Editor of the "Chicago Tribune", was guest speaker at the Polonus program meeting of May 9th at the Bagatela Club Hall in Chicago.



In addition to his full time occupation, that of owning and operating "Chicago's friendly Stamp & Coin Store" at 12 W. Madison St., downtown Chicago, Mr. Ross has been editor of the "Stamp Market Tips" column appearing weekly in "Stamps" magazine for the past three years.

He spoke of his travels through foreign countries in search for stamps. Twenty years ago he would go to Germany and pick up Poland No. 1 for \$5.00 to \$7.00 . . . now he's lucky to find them priced from \$25.00 to \$30.00.

He visited London and said that this was the stamp market of the world. A stamp center, similar to our stamp bourse, is open to the public six days a week in a former movie house.

London has the largest auction houses and has some 2,000 people employed full time in some aspect of the stamp business. In spite of the

fact that it is the greatest stamp market, there was very little of Poland stamps to be found. This he attributed to the large Polish colony in London and Birmingham among whom are many avid collectors of Poland.

For the philatelist who collects Austria with Polish town cancellations, he suggests that you visit Vienna. You could spend days going through dealers' stock books and find beautiful old Austrian stamps with Polish cancellations.

Mr. Ross told us of his visits to Switzerland, France, Italy, Spain, Israel, Greece, Mexico, Venezuela and other places but that the only city one could find Polish collections for sale would be in Berlin.

He recommended that you build up your collection of Pre-World War II issues as these are getting harder and harder to find.

BOJANOWICZ NAMED TO SOFIA 1969 JURY

The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain nominated M. A. Bojanowicz, R.D.P. as the second British member of the Jury for SOFIA 1969.

APPLICANT PENDING

Mathew J. Plezia
1154 Smithfield Ave.
Lincoln, R.I. 02865

POLISH STAMP 'ORPHAN'

By JOYCE GLEDHILL

(Reprinted from "Gibbons-Whitman Stamp Monthly")

Nowadays the stamps of Poland are admired all over the world. One has only to recall the exquisite 1966 multicolored Flowers set; the 1967 Exotic Fishes; the 1965 Horse Drawn Carriages series, and the fabulous 1965 Prehistoric Animals, to visualize philatelic perfection at its most decorative.

But this wasn't always the case. In point of fact, Poland had to fight very hard for postage stamps! During the 19th century, Poland held the dubious distinction of being the only country who had issued only one adhesive stamp!

This item, similar to contemporary Russian stamps, is readily distinguished from them by bearing the Polish inscription underneath the shield which reads "Za Lot Kop 10." This means 10 kopecks per lot—a lot weight approximately equaling half an ounce.

At the time of the stamp's issue, namely 1860, Poland was under the heel of Russia. Soon afterward, in 1863, the Poles led a revolution—an unsuccessful one as it turned out—and more stringent measures were applied to keep the Polish in subjection.

By 1865 the privilege of issuing this lone national stamp was withdrawn, and for half a century afterward, only Russian stamps were used throughout the country.

At the turn of the century, an ironic philatelist could claim that he possessed a "complete" collection of Poland, by holding this 10-kopeck stamp in blue and red.

The single edition was neither rare nor expensive in those days, it could be purchased for 90¢ mint, or used at 60¢. In the early 1940s, \$8.40 unused, and \$5.40 used was a fair price to pay for the commoner shades. Now \$144.00 mint, and \$48.00 used in the catalog price (Stanley Gibbons) of some editions.



The rise in catalog value is due in a great measure to the popularity of the stamp for intensive specialism.

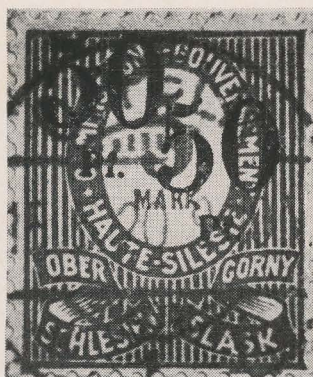
Many large collections have been formed by this one "loner," philatelists attempting to get it with the old numbered postmarks of over 300 different Polish towns. These "townmarks" start at No. 1, which is Warsaw, ranging to Skaryszew, number 345.

Fifty years after Russian suppression of the stamp, Germany inflicted her own philatelic merchandise during the Great War, and yet again during the Second World War.

The present-day stamps of Poland have come a long way from the "orphan edition" of 1860. To possess a complete collection of this country now, one has to keep very well ahead of the times, for new stamps are constantly appearing on the lists.

And yet the lone Polish stamp was the start of it all. Practically 60 years had to elapse before new Polish issues came filtering in.

And it was another 25 years until the standard of the stamps of Poland reached the high quality and favoritism they enjoy in philatelic circles today.



50 Pfg./5 Mk. Value
Double Overprint — Offset

- p. Triple overprint.
- v. 5 Pf. instead of 50 Pf.
- x. Overprint on margin or gutter.
- aa. Pair — one with overprint and one without.

Type f Combinations

As discussed under the heading on the 10 Pfg./20 Pfg. value, when the sheets were overprinted a second time, inverted in relation to the first overprint, two different overprint types occur on the same stamp. The following chart lists these combinations and the number of times they occur in each sheet of 50 Pfg/5 Mk. stamps.

Inverted Overprint on Normal Overprint			
Number Combination	Types	in Sheet Number	
f 1	I A on I A	4	
f 2	I A on IV A	3	
f 3	I A on V A	9	
f 4	I A on VII A	1	
f 5	I B on IV A	5	
f 6	I B on V A	2	
f 7	II A on IV A	18	
f 8	II B on IV A	7	
f 9	III A on III A	50	
f 10	IV A on I A	3	
f 11	IV A on I B	5	
f 12	IV A on II A	18	
f 13	IV A on II B	7	
f 14	IV A on VI A	3	
f 15	V A on I A	9	
f 16	V A on I' B	2	
f 17	IV A on IV A	3	
f 18	VII A on I A	1	
f 18	VII A on I A	1	

Note: The first type listed in the numeral overprint and the second is the inverted overprint.

Combination f 2 is identical to combination f 10 but inverted on the basic stamp. The same is true of f 3 and f 15, f 4 and f 18, f 5 and f 11, f 6 and f 16, f 7 and f 12, f 8 and f 13, f 14 and f 17.



Combinations and Gutter Pairs

As with the previous issue a number of combinations exist and are listed in the table on the following page:

Se-tenant and Gutter Combinations			
Combination Number	Types		Number in Sheet
H 1	I A +	I B	5
H 2	I B +	I A	4
H 3	I B +	VI A	3
H 4	II A +	II B	5
H 5	IV A +	V A	5
H 6	V A +	I A	4
H 7	VII A +	I A	1
V 1	I A +	VII A	1
V 2	I A +	VI A	1
V 3	I B +	I A	1
V 4	II A +	II B	1
V 5	V A +	I A	1
V 6	V A +	IV A	1
V 7	VII A +	I A	1
HT 1	III A + $\frac{1}{2}$ T +	II A	5
HT 2	I A + $\frac{1}{2}$ T +	IV A	2
HT 3	VI A + $\frac{1}{2}$ T +	IV A	3
HT 4	IV A + $\frac{1}{2}$ T +	III A	5
VT 1	I A +	T + III A	1
VT 2	I A +	T + IV A	3
VT 3	I B +	T + IV A	1
VT 4	II A +	T + IV A	2
VT 5	II A +	T + V A	1
VT 6	II B +	T + V A	2
VT 7	III A +	T + I A	3
VT 8	III A +	T + I B	2
VT 9	IV A +	T + III A	3
VT 10	V A +	T + III A	1
VT 11	VI A +	T + IV A	1
B 1	I A +	I B	2
	I A +	I B	
B 2	I A +	I A	1
	VII A +	I A	
B 3	I B +	I A	1
	I A +	I A	
B 4	I B +	I A	2
	I B +	I A	

B 5	I B + I A I B + VI A	1
B 6	I B + VI A I B + VI A	1
B 7	II A + II A II A + II B	1
B 8	II A + II B II A + II B	2
B 9	IV A + V A IV A + IV A	1
B 10	IV A + V A IV A + V A	2
B 11	V A + I A V A + I A	1
B 12	V A + V A V A + I A	1
B 13	VII A + I A I A + I A	1
X 1	III A + ½T + II A T + ½T + T I A + ½T + IV A	1
X 2	VI A + ½T + IV A T + ½T + T IV A + ½T + III A	1

(See 10 Pfg./20 Pfg. table for legend)

Bern Issue

The first printing of the 50 Pfg./5 Mk. overprints were printed on March 10, 11 and 12, 1920 and just appeared at the postal windows on March 13. The issue was printed in such an insufficient quantity that the entire supply was sold within the first few days, mostly to philatelists and members of the Inter-Allied Commission. Even the few specimens intended for the Universal Postal Union (U. P. U.) at Bern, Switzerland were sold in this manner. In order to comply with the international regulation of supplying the U.P.U. with copies of all stamps issued, a supplementary issue was printed on March 20, 1920 amounting to 600 specimen copies, all destined for Bern. This issue differs from

the first printing in that the type in the plates was completely re-set for these and the printing was dull. This makes it an actual second printing rather than just an official reprint of the first issue.

A number of additional sheets of this issue were officially printed in July 1920 and February 1921, but for purely speculative purposes.

Sheet Format

The plates had been dismantled between the two printings and little attention was given to the earlier format when they were reassembled. The layout is therefore quite different from the first printing and contains no type VI or VII stamps which were so characteristic of the previous sheets. The main difference, however, is the complete lack of sub-

III A	III A	III A	III A	III A		IV A	IV A	I A	I A	I A
III A	III A	III A	III A	III A		IV A	IV A	I A	I A	I A
III A	III A	III A	III A	III A		IV A	IV A	I A	I A	I A
III A	III A	III A	III A	III A		IV A	IV A	I A	I A	I A
III A	III A	III A	III A	III A		IV A	IV A	IV A	I A	I A
BLOCK A						BLOCK B				
IV A	IV A	IV A	IV A	IV A		III A	III A	III A	III A	III A
IV A	IV A	IV A	IV A	IV A		III A	III A	III A	III A	III A
IV A	IV A	IV A	IV A	IV A		III A	III A	III A	III A	III A
IV A	IV A	IV A	IV A	IV A		III A	III A	III A	III A	III A
IV A	IV A	IV A	IV A	IV A		III A	III A	III A	III A	III A
BLOCK C						BLOCK D				
I A	I A	I A	I A	I A		II A	II A	II A	II A	II A
I A	I A	I A	I A	I A		II A	II A	II A	II A	II A
I A	I A	I A	I A	V A		II A	II A	II A	II A	II A
I A	I A	I A	I A	V A		II A	II A	II A	II A	II A
I A	I A	I A	I A	V A		II A	II A	II A	II A	II A
BLOCK E						BLOCK F				

AT A RECENT AUCTION

In a recent auction conducted by Roger Koerber of Michigan, the following material was sold.

Germany: Scott #105-7, with black overprint "Nad Polskim Mózem Puck 10-11-1920", cancelled and on pieces. Supposedly 800 sets issued for officials celebrating Polish possession of a strip of Pomeranian coastline just north of Danzig.

Price realized: \$57.50.

Polish locals: Overprints on German stamps (Gen. Gouv. Warschau) and Austrian stamps. Brzeziny through Tarnow. Singles, sets, and on cover.

Prices realized: \$10.50 to \$40.00.

Ukraine: Scott #62-6 overprinted with Polish Eagle and gr. values in three different colors. See note in Scott's, under Ukraine, between #66 and 67. 15 vals. on pieces (cancelled)

Price realized: \$36.00.

Poland—Gen. Gov. (1940-45). Scott #NL1-4, on pieces with "Poststutzpunkt Przelawice etc" cancel.

Price realized: \$7.75.

—Thomas J. Gobby

NEW ISSUES

Democratic Party Ninth Congress

A 60 gr. commemorative was issued February 23, 1969 on the occasion of the Ninth Congress of the Democratic Party held in Warsaw Feb. 23-25. showing an emblem of an eagle with ornamentation.

Offset printed in grey and red on common paper in sheets of 30 stamps at PWPW in Warsaw. Designed by K. Rogaczewska. Quantity printed was 6,000,000 copies.

United Peasant Party Fifth Congress

A 60 gr. commemorative was issued on March 29, 1969 to commemorate the Fifth Congress of the United Peasant Party held in Warsaw March 29-30. It shows a symbolic design of the peasant movement.

Offset printed in green, yellow and red on common paper, in sheets of 20 stamps by the PWPW, Warsaw. Designed by K. Sliwka. Quantity issued: 6,000,000.

Post-Olympic Set

Eight multicolored stamps were issued on April 25, 1969 in conjunction with the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Polish Olympic Committee taking place April 30 and June 1 when the International Olympic Committee holds its sessions in Warsaw on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of its establishment.

10 gr.—Men's Sprint
20 gr.—Balancing Exercises
40 gr.—Weight Lifting (Jerk)
60 gr.—Women Javelin Throw
2.50+0.50 zl.—Women Discus Toss
3.40+1.00 zl.—Long Distance Run
4.00+1.50 zl.—Wrestling
7.00+2.00 zl.—Fencing

Offset printed on chalky paper in sheets of 30 stamps at PWPW Warsaw. Designed by J. Jaworowski. Quantities issued:

10 gr.—6,000,000; 20 gr.—6,000,000
40 gr.—5,500,000; 60 gr.—5,500,000
2.50+0.50 zl. — 3,500,000
3.40+1.00 zl. — 2,500,000

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JOSEX '69 WINNERS

Two Polonus members were given awards at the Johnstown, Pa. Stamp Club 23rd annual exhibition held in April. Zdzislaw T. Wagrowski received a first award for Poland Postal History and Ludwik Pieczara a 3rd award for his Poland's Millennium Issues.

CZECHOPEX 1969

The First Czechoslovak Philatelic Club of America hosted the Illinois Federation of Stamp Clubs at their annual exhibition in March at Cicero, Ill. Our Member, Joseph Janecka, was chairman of the event.

Again, two Polonus members received awards for their collections exhibited: Zdzislaw Wagrowski a first, and Ludwik Pieczara a second.

"DOJDZIEMY" HANDBOOKS

We received a limited amount of "DOJDZIEMY" handbooks by the late Dr. M. E. Uznanski. They are available at \$1.50 plus 12c postage from C. J. Mikucki, 4704 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge, Ill. 60656.

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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 \$2.50 —

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, May 30, 1969 —

Meeting at COMPEX 69, LaSalle Hotel, LaSalle and Madison Sts., at 8:00 p.m.

RESIGNATIONS

Fritz F. Billig

Rev. David Balla, O.P.

Thomas Mackowiak

A. M. Neu

Ed F. Szponder

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