

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Issue No. 51

February 1947

Edited by

Associate Editors

Lester Jankowski

Clement A. Pulaski

Chester A. Schafer

2144 W. Potomac Ave.

Chicago 22, Illinois

Associate Editors

Chester Mikucki

Bert Powell

Dr. S. M. Mioduszewski, Chairman Membership Committee

1176 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago 22, Ill.

Polish Settlement Post in Italy

In 1945 large numbers of Polish Refugees streamed into Italy following their liberation from Nazi concentration camps and compulsory labor battalions. With the cooperation of Major General Wladyslaw Anders, Commander in Chief of the Polish 2nd Corps in Italy and the assistance of the soldiers under his command, two self-governing centers were established for these refugees near the Adriatic coast settlements of Barletta and Trani.

From their inception a prominent role in organizing and supporting was played by War Relief Services—N. C. W. C., a special agency established by the American Hierarchy to assist the people of all war-torn countries. Thru the initiative and zeal of the Most Reverend Joseph Gawlina, Military Ordinary of the Polish Armed Forces, who, in a visit to the United States in 1943, personally brought to the attention of the American Bishops the peculiar and heart-rending circumstances of his stricken people, a special branch of War Relief Services was or-

—This article is taken from an official folder printed in Polish, English, French, and Italian by the War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference describing the Barletta-Trani Issues. The Chairman of the N. C. W. C. is His Eminence Cardinal Stritch of Chicago.

The folder and photostatic copies of official letters was loaned to Polonus by the Penny Black Stamp Co.



The design represents the Cross-Virtuti Militari—Poland's highest military decoration. Under the Cross are musical notes and a strophe of the Polish National Anthem: "Poland is not lost whilst still we live." (Cut courtesy PHILATELY)

ganized to assist the Poles during and after the war.

Under the guidance of Reverend Father Aloysius Wycislo, Field Director of War Relief Services—Polish Section, centers have been established in Egypt, Palestine, Syria, England, Africa, India, Iran, and Mexico.

In December 1945, the Polish Sec-

tion of War Relief Services in Italy, underwrote the issuance of the new series of stamps contained in this booklet. Their purpose is to commemorate the organization of a large Polish colony in Italy.

Any funds derived from the sale of these stamps was to be used to assist Polish Refugees.

The first stamp of the series, a 1 lire light blue, represents the Cross-Virtui Militari-Poland's Highest military decoration. Under the Cross are musical notes and a strophe of the Polish National Anthem: "Poland is not lost whilst still we live."

The second stamp, a 3 lire red, depicts a gunner of Gen. Dabrowski's Legion of 1797 and a Polish soldier of World War II. In the background is a map of Poland with the inscription: "From the land of Italy to Poland."

The third stamp, a 5 lire violet, portrays a Polish soldier of the 2nd Corps in Italy protecting refugees of his homeland. In the upper right hand corner may be found the symbol of War Relief Services—national Catholic Welfare Conference.

The fourth stamp, a 10 lire green, outlines a map of Italy. Poland's emblem, the White Eagle, indicates the location of the Polish settlements of Barletta and Trani. In the left hand corner may be seen the emblem of the 2nd Polish Corps and a shield with a cross, the emblem of the English 8th Army.

This series was designed by Margit Kozielkiewicz.

To date the Barletta-Trani issues have acquired an airmail value, three souvenir sheets, a new series augmented with five "centow" denominations including two bi-colors of a new design: 15 cents olive brown in the music and medal design; 30 cents green and brown and 60 cents red brown and olive green in the new design of a bejewelled Madonna between kneeling angels; 50 cents gray black in the design showing an old grenadier and a modern soldier against a map of Poland; and 80 cents dull violet in the map of Italy and coat of arms designs.

Now this same set appears overprinted in red in honor of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Four Freedoms. The words "Honor the Four Freedoms" appear in English or French or Polish on the various values. All carry the name in script, "Franklin D. Roosevelt."



This design depicts a gunner of Gen. Dabrowski's Legion of 1797 and a Polish soldier of World War II. In the background is a map of Poland with the inscription: "From the land of Italy to Poland." (Cut courtesy PHILATELY)

SOME NEW INFORMATION ON F. P. CANCELS OF POLISH 2nd CORPS

From Mr. John Jaworski we learn that a Fieldpost Office #138 existed; in V. Hermanowski's article in the December BULLETIN, the 138 cancellation is said to have never been used.

From Dr. L. Kozakiewicz we learn that the Fieldpost Office #136 also existed, with the above mentioned article claiming that it did not. Both members possess these cancellations in their collections.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Andrzej Jezierski
ul. Lowicka 40.M.5.
Warszawa, Poland

Sgt. Larry C. Zieler
808th Air Engineering Sqdn.
Tempelhof Air Base
A. P. O. 742-A
c/o Postmaster New York, N. Y.

POLPEX 1947

Polpex 1947 is past history now. The show drew a larger crowd this year than it had in previous years, despite the fact that it had fewer exhibits. Each exhibit was distinctive and covered some phase in philately thoroughly.

The wealth of the rich philatelic material which Poland offers was illustrated by Mr. J. Jaworski's Field-post Cancellations of the Polish 2nd Corps, and Navy Cancellations; by Mr. A. Rybarski's Warsaw exhibit; by Mr. L. Jankowski's Pilsudski exhibit; by Mr. S. Rich's Stampless Covers and Poland No. 1; by Mr. C. Mikucki's War Covers; by Mr. F. Wolosewick's Krakow issues; by Mr. Bert Powell's Specialized Postage Dues; by Mr. M. Steczynski's Proofs, Trials, Essays, and Designs; and by Mr. F. Koprowski's Underground issues.

Each exhibit had its own outstanding feature: Mr. Jaworski's stamps and covers mounted on aged parchment paper in eye-catching color schemes; Mr. Steczynski's proofs and essays from the President Roosevelt and Col. Larking collections; Mr. Rybarski's silk screened lettering and drawings; Dr. Uznanski's colorful Vatican City; Mr. Powell's hand lettered pages which he did under a magnifying glass; Mr. Schafer's specially printed album pages; and many, many others.

The Grand Award which consisted of the Col. Larking Trophy donated by M. E. Steczynski, was given to F. Wolosewick or his Krakow issues. M. Steczynski received the Polonus Memorial Trophy for his Proofs, Trials, Designs, and Essays. The Jaworski Trophy was awarded to L. Jankowski, and the V. Domanski Trophy to B. Powell.

Second awards were given to S. Rich, F. Koprowski, and C. Schafer. Third awards were received by C. Mikucki, J. Jaworski, and Dr. Uznanski.

Honorable mention was made of B. Reeves, K. Wulff, A. Kloskowski, C. Dabrowski, W. Bobotek, and J. Kuniej.

A NEW POLISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Polish Philatelic Society, an international organization, with H. M. Smith, 2 Oakley Rd., Camberley, Sur-

rey, England, as secretary, is announced by Frank B. Jancowski, 3588 Frederick St., Detroit, secretary of the Pulaski Philatelic Club, Detroit. The new society plans to publish handbooks, catalogues and literature dealing with Polish philately, including a journal, The White Eagle. Membership is \$2.50 a year, and applications may be had from Mr. Jancowski.



IN APPRECIATION

I wish to take this opportunity to express my deep and sincere appreciation to the society membership and particularly to my fellow officers and committee members for the splendid cooperation given me during my term as President of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

During these two years, the record of accomplishments could not have been achieved without their untiring efforts, their expert assistance and willing acceptance of responsibility. For this I am most grateful.

The credit for whatever success may be attributed to me during my service as President should rightly go to my fellow officers, members of committees, and the membership itself which at all times was co-operative, enthusiastic, and ready to support every worth while undertaking which our society embarked upon.

I am confident my successor and all the other officers will enjoy the same hearty cooperation you have given me.

Finally I want to wish the new officers the best of luck and success.

Dr. M. E. Uznanski

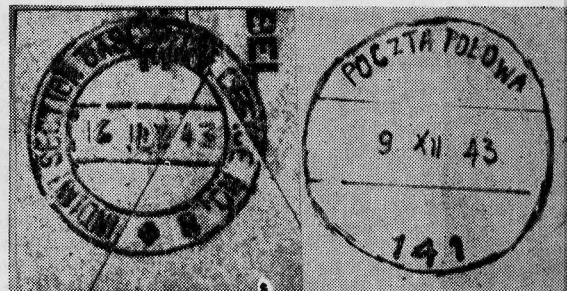


Handwritten text on the back of the postcard, including "Blok III" and "Artykuł 100" (Article 100).

PRISONER OF WAR POST

Shown are portions of front and back of cards printed by Polish Prisoners of War at Oflag IV-C, Mauthausen, Germany, for Christmas Eve 1943/44, by courtesy of S. J.

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ALLIED ARMY CANCELS IN IRAN by E. Jagger

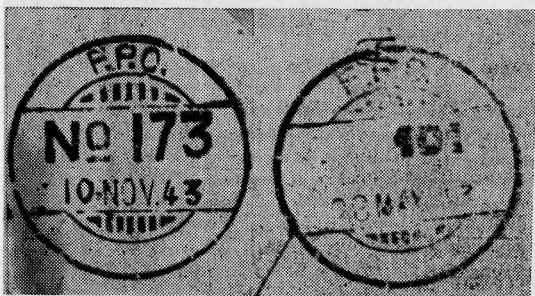
Possibly few people have ever heard of the Polish Field Post Offices which operated in Iran. I am only aware of

two of them, which operated at Teheran and Ahwaz. They used were Indian stamps, inscribed "INDIA", and they had their date across the top, date across the top, number at the foot. I was at Ahwaz until the



ag 111, Crosshorn,
stmas and New
These are shown
Bayer of Penny

Black Stamp Company, who states
"They seem to be official mail, allow-
ed by the German authorities. (Cut
courtesy STAMPS).



were functioning
vaz. The stamps
postage stamps,
own special date-
poczta Polowa" at
center, and the
o. 141 was in use
office closed down

during February, 1944. No. 130 was at
Teheran, which would, no doubt, have
ceased to operate about the same time
when these offices went to function in
the Middle East and Italy, where the
bulk of the Polish forces were.

Reprinted from STAMPS.

TID-BITS FROM POLONUS

Well, here we go again! The first hurdle is passed! The new officers of Polonus were elected and so now a new era is started! The officers are all veterans in the service for Polonus. They are A. Kloskowski, pres.; Bert Powell, vice-pres.; Chester Mikucki, sec.; Lester Jankowski, treas.; Chester Schafer, libr. and hist; Dr. M. Uznanski and Jack Domar, Directors. The best of wishes to the new elected officers! (But let's all pitch in and help the officers to do the work for the Society, after all, if we were to be one of the officers, we would want others to give a hand also. And by helping we are not only doing it for the Society but also for ourselves, because the society was organized for collectors, and are WE not collectors? So, how about cooperation from all members, those that did work other years for Polonus, for you have the experience, and those that did not do any work, and now is your chance to start. Don't be afraid, **YOU DO NOT NEED EXPERIENCE!** If you want some idea, hint or help just ask one of the old-timers of that kind of work and they will be glad to give help. Right, old-timers?)

* * *

And as for the out-going officers, a very hearty thank-you! The work of each one of you was greatly appreciated by us all, for we know all you did for the Society and for us collectors. The thank-you is from the bottom of our hearts!

* * *

A small auction was held after the meeting and was accepted with enthusiasm. From time to time there will be auctions, after the meetings. If you attend the meetings regularly you will not miss out on the bargains of the auctions.

* * *

A thank-you to the C. P. S. News on their editorial in the January issue.

* * *

The secretary has received some information from the Polish Phil. Soc. in Poland and if any of the members wants it, should write to him.

As far as the writer of this column knows, at the present time there is no philatelic magazine published in Poland. Only two issues appeared of the Pionier and due to conditions beyond their control the next issue did not appear. As you probably heard the catalogue was printed during the war. There are about ten philatelic societies in Poland, but as far as we know just two of them issue bulletins. The Krakow Phil. Soc. and the Poznan Phil. Soc. The society in Poznan also has a circuit that is sent to its members.

* * *

By the Way, Polonus Philatelic Society has been received very favorably in most Philatelic Circles in Poland.

* * *

A new Polish catalogue will be issued by the Polish Philatelic Society in England. For more information write to the secretary.

* * *

A catalogue is in the making which will contain all information on stamps issued by the Polish Underground during 1940 to 1944.

* * *

An Idea for the Future! Maybe Polonus could have constitution and by-laws of the Society printed in book form and give them to all members, so that everyone will know the object and the aims of the society and also all the duties of members. Think it over, and bring it up at the meeting.

* * *

Let's not forget the Stamps for the Wounded! Hand the philatelic items at the meeting or send them thru mail to the secretary and he will turn over the items to the committee headquarters.

* * *

If you just glanced at this whole article, you better go over the first half, at least, and meditate on the subject awhile, and see what you can do about it!

* * *

DOSC NA DZIS! meaning "Enough for today."

TID-A-BIT-ER

A Sketch of Poland's Greatest Musical Genius

by Ted Gasior

Frederic Chopin was born in 1810 in the small village of Zelazowawola near Warsaw, Poland. Despite the fact that his family was very poor, his parents struggled desperately to give him a good musical education, so that he may develop his outstanding talents. After completing his basic instructions of the piano, he was forced to leave his native country because of his active participation in Polish Revolutionary Movements which was discovered by the Russian authorities. He fled to Paris in 1831, and as he was virtually unknown he was forced to teach to support himself and consequently had very little time to compose. Eventually with the aid of Mme. George Sand, a well-known French writer, he began to rise to fame and appeared in many concerts. It was in this period of his life that most of his greatest works were written and it was also the period in which Poland was being subjected to tremendous Russian persecution. Since the Polish Revolutionists were in great need of financial aid, he devoted the latter years of his short life to the cause by giving many concerts throughout Europe, and since he was in very poor health he died within a very short time. He died in Paris in 1849 without ever seeing his beloved homeland and family again.

Chopin is certainly Poland's most celebrated musician and composer and he is credited with paving the way for the introduction of all modern piano music. This great master was a true genius because of the fact that he was able to compose music when he was only a small child. Although he lacked a Conservatory education, we was able to play the piano so remarkably well that he gave many concerts when he was in his teens, including a very noteworthy one in 1824 in Vienna when he was 19, and at which time he played many of his own compositions.

Chopin's fame rests chiefly on his compositions for the piano, for he had a perfect appreciation of every effect which that instrument can produce. His compositions are numerous and varied and were inspired by his love of Mme. Sand and of Poland. These two types of inspiration were greatly reflected by his own personal life. His "Preludes" was written when he was



vacationing on the island of Majorca with Mme. Sand, and since they are joyful compositions it shows that at that period of his life he was very happy. But on the other hand, Chopin composed his famous Funeral March and his 15 polonaises when he was living a life of extreme sadness caused by the suffering of his native country. The music has an undercurrent of melancholy that suggests the very unhappy lot of his beloved compatriots who were fighting so desperately for Poland's freedom. His mazurkas, waltzes, etudes and nocturns, which number over 100, are a complete revelation of his dreamy romantic nature and of his love for new and exquisite harmonies. Many of these compositions were also inspired by his love of Poland, but because they were not of a somber mood they were products of dreams which involved a recollection of his happy childhood days when he lived with his family in Poland. His tremendous longing to return once more to Poland and to see his family and friends is greatly evidenced in all his compositions.

Chopin revolutionized the art of writing pianoforte pieces, but more important he began the development of Polish music. His national dances became the foundation for future compositions and were used extensively in opera, symphony and concertos by succeeding Polish composers. Today, Chopin's music is very highly regarded, and to prove this fact all one has to do is to attend a concert, a piano recital or even turn on the radio, and without a doubt, one of his beautiful pieces will be heard. Even his own age recognized his greatness, when Mendelssohn, born the same year as Chopin, said, "It is so perfectly beautiful that I could go on forever playing it."

Poland honored her great musical

son by issuing a commemorative postage stamp in 1927 bearing a portrait of his likeness. The stamp which is listed as No. 243 is typographed, is perforated 12½, 11½ and is of a deep ultramarine color. The denomination is 40 Gr.

NEW ISSUES

An imperforate pair of a new stamp

honoring Zamek Lanckoronski is pictured in the New Issues column. The stamp is a 10 zloty blue, and shows what appears to be a fortress in the center, with the Polish eagle at left and the posthorn at right.

The 5 zloty, 15 zl., and 25 zl., Scott's C13, C15, and C17, have been discovered imperforate.

Reprinted from STAMPS.



A first day cover of the Peasant Movement Commemoratives described in last month's BULLETIN is shown. (Cut courtesy PHILATELY).