

BULLETIN OF THE **POLONUS** PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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POLPEX 73 PATRONS

ROMAN J. BURKIEWICZ

THOMAS J. GOBBY

CHESTER W. MAKOWSKI

CHESTER A. SCHAFER

ALFRED SZEBEL

FRANK WOLOSEWICK

\$50.00 CONTRIBUTORS

Thus far, the above listed members have responded to the special appeal for \$50.00 contributions for POLPEX 73. Remember — that entire \$50.00 goes to meeting the costs of POLPEX — and this year we need every dollar. Also remember that none of the officers or members of POLONUS receives a cent in reimbursement for their time or effort. If you can't directly contribute your time or talent, the \$50.00 will substitute — and each \$50.00 contributor will receive a special Copernicus medallion which was exclusively commissioned and struck for this show — less than 200. Don't delay, your check today will help to allay some of our anxiety and ulcers.

Mail your contribution to:

Chester J. Mikucki
4704 N. Overhill Ave.
Norridge, Ill. 60656

POLPEX 73 PROMISES TO BE THE BEST YET!

As 1972 winds down, Chairman Szebel announces that POLPEX-1973 should prove to be the biggest and best show ever presented by the Polonus Philatelic Society. The LaSalle Hotel, site of the 1973 show, should be a scene of incredible activity as collectors, visitors, and lovers of Copernicus and Poland from around the U.S.A., Canada and Europe gather to view the numerous philatelic displays of specialized philatelic material and the special exhibit of the Polish American Numismatic Association.

Chairman Szebel states that his various committee members have been issuing very favorable reports in the past few weeks. Bourse Chairman Roman Reinowski states that the 40 dealer tables have been almost sold out, and that the dealers who will be in attendance should be able to satisfy 99 and 44/100 percent of the collectors' needs. There will be a tremendous selection of material available.

Chester Mikucki and J. P. Rux report that there has been an advance request for POLPEX material well in excess of that of shows in previous memory. A word to the wise — don't miss out on any of the material which Polonus will issue in conjunction with this show — cacheted covers, labels, seals, program catalog, souvenir sheets, etc. From all advance indications there is a very heavy demand and it is anticipated that some or all of this material will rapidly sell — and in some cases sell out!! Be prepared and be early.

Special awards to be presented at POLPEX continue to come in and in addition to the awards from the P.Z.F. in Poland, the special space awards from H. Sieger of Germany, and the special awards from Z. Mikulski in Switzerland, Chairman Szebel announces that there will be two specially donated awards. There will be an award from the Polish Philatelic Society of Australia and a special Gold Award from the Union of Polish Philatelists in Great Britain. The 1973 show will have some really good awards.

Entries Chairman Tom Gobby reports that preliminary entries have come in from across the U.S.A., Canada, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Germany, England, Australia, France, and tentative entries from Switzerland. The range of material is broad, and there is a heavy emphasis on specialized facets of Poland. This will truly be an international show featuring material from around the globe.

In addition to the U.S. Post Office, POLPEX will be honored to have the U.N. Postal administration at the show.

Mark and note your calendars — March 23 - 24 - 25, 1973! You don't want to miss this one. It'll be 500 years before it can be repeated.

NEW MEMBER

Milton M. Kohn
16404 S. Kenwood Ave.
South Holland Ill.

APPLICANT PENDING

W. H. Mawhorter
1724 Lansing St.
Aurora, Col.

POLISH PHILATELIC MARKET STRONG!!!

By T. J. GOBBY

It was Polonus' pleasure to have its member and noted dealer, Roman Burkiewicz, address the November 24, 1972 meeting.

Prefacing his dissertation with some general comments, Burkiewicz said that he found little of note in Polish material during a recent, extended trip through Europe. In Poland itself he found very little "good" material in the state run stores as most of their stocks are composed of recent issues. While the supply is short, the demand is there and growing for Polish material, especially pre-World War II.

Demand is not only strong in Europe (where the collector has more and more disposable income to apply to stamp purchases) but is just as strong, or stronger, in the U.S.A. Conditionitis is becoming an ever more critical factor in price determination. Mint NH, LH, OG, centering, etc. are all making their impact felt. Prices in general have exhibited an ever steady upward climb. Some of the price increases have been gradual, others somewhat spectacular. The many catalogues in use, especially Scott, only serve as guides to price. Burkiewicz pointed out that many items are now selling for 50% or more of Scott. In some cases, prices at full Scott are real bargains.

Burkiewicz then centered his comments on specific issues.

POLAND #1. The Price for a clean, used copy has tripled in the past 10 to 12 years. A VF copy (clean, all perfs, nice centering, no repairs, etc.) easily sells for \$50.00. A #1 on cover

with #1 cancel generally brings about \$125.00. Rarer cancels on cover can easily bring over \$200.00 apiece.

KRAKOW ISSUES (Scott 41-60, J1-12, P1-5). In Burkiewicz's opinion this issue has too much of an aura of mystery surrounding it. He feels that this is somewhat unfortunate, and that the average collector having a copy with a genuine type I overprint coupled with a little basic knowledge, should not have too much trouble in separating the "bad" from the "good". However, if there is any doubt, expert opinion should be sought. Good guarantees of authenticity are the signatures of Mikstein, Bloch, Koopman of Amsterdam, Sutcliffe of England, Gryzewski of Poland, Mikulski of Switzerland, J. J. Domar of Polonus, and Ryblewski of Poland. Mikstein's signature has been forged, but is easily detected when compared to the genuine. The marks of Filatella Krakow, Berest, and Muller should be viewed with caution and suspicion as the vast majority of stamps have proven to be forgeries. The Krakow issues have steadily increased in price over the years. Of these issues, Scott #55 is most elusive and eagerly sought by Polish Philatelists. Its low mintage makes it especially attractive, and in Burkiewicz's opinion is severely underpriced in Scott.

Another exceptionally good set is Scott #77-78. This set, like the Krakow issues, has been extensively forged (some especially skillful and dangerous forgeries continue to circulate in the market). The basic stamp (with-

out overprint) is relatively cheap, and the simplicity of the numeral overprint has made this set a most fertile field for forgers. Like the Krakow issues Burkiewicz urged the collector to be aware and be sure of authenticity before purchase. Used copies are available at about a ratio of 10 to 1. A VF, mint set currently brings about \$60.00. Covers with a set are available in the \$40.00 to \$50.00 range. (Writer's note: This issue holds a special interest for me and am aware of various aspects of its history. Forgeries are most plentiful. In fact, estimates of bogus copies are in the 10 to 1 to 20 to 1 area, i.e., 90 to 95% probability of forgery. This set had an exceptionally low printing of ca. 20,000 of each value and in my opinion, that less than 18,000 sets are in existence. I feel this set to be grossly underpriced in Scott, and hopefully this situation will be corrected in the not too distant future.)

SCOTT #208 and 222 are underpriced in mint condition in Scott.

THE 1923 COPERNICUS issue has increased in popularity and Burkiewicz feels that the collector would do well to pick up this issue in quantity or multiples. #192 (1000 m. indigo) in mint is the key value, and should be picked up whenever available as Burkiewicz feels that this item should be worth \$2.00 to \$3.00 in short order.

THE 1st SOUVENIR SHEET (Scott #251) continues to be a desirable item. Burkiewicz said that most available copies are in the U.S.A. European dealers are asking \$40.00 to \$50.00 a copy for this sheet. He also pointed out a forgery of this

sheet which found its way into the market (about 1000 copies) and which is sought by Polish specialists, and in many cases brings a higher price than the genuine issue.

THE 1925-1927 ISSUE (Scott #227-237) is becoming very scarce in mint condition, and the key values are 229, 234, and 237. At half catalog this set is a "buy". The redrawn issue (#238-41) is also becoming harder to obtain in mint condition.

THE 1932-3 ISSUE (Scott 268-274) in mint condition is becoming very elusive. #274 is the key value and hard to find in mint condition. Reasons for its scarcity are attributed to the facts that this value was the foreign rate for letters and many were postally used, and a large number were later surcharged.

SCOTT nos. 277, 278 and 279 continue to increase in price.

SCOTT 280-1, both mint, used and on cover, is a desirable set.

SCOTT #334 in blocks or multiple pieces is almost unknown and Burkiewicz, after 20 years of dealing in Polish material, finally encountered a cover with a block of 4 of this issue.

SEMI-POSTALS. B11-14 is very hard to find in used singles, on piece, or cover. B15-25 (Na Skarb) is a good set, and used copies are especially desirable and hard to find.

OCCUPATION ISSUES. Scott N30-55 continues to rise in price. Adding to this impetus is the fact that German area collectors are also picking up this is-

(Continued on page 305-9)

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

Here with the aid of a good gauge capable of measuring 1/10th of perf. I was able to distinguish 1/4 perf. But the introduction of 1/4 perf. will lead to 196 different perforation combinations (there is no perf. 13).

This would obviously mean carrying things too far. Besides I have found out on pairs and blocks that perforation varies as much as by $+\frac{1}{2}$ perf. on the longer side of the unit. The perforation gauges were not precise enough and distinction of less than $\frac{1}{2}$ perf. is of dubious value.

From my experience the following perforation combinations are common:

$13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{4}$; $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$; $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ and $11\frac{1}{2}$; perforation $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ being the most common.

It is possible to distinguish two $11\frac{1}{2}$ line perforating gauges: one producing clean sharp holes, the other one with blunt pins giving rough and often blind perforation.

Because of the worn-out perforation gauges, irregular, out of alignment stamps occur.

Correctly perforated stamps should measure 25 x 30 mm., but due to faulty work of the perforating machines smaller and larger stamps can be found. I have stamps measuring from 24 x 28 to 26 x 33 mm.

Real perforation imperfections are rare: I have only one stamp with a double perforation at the top (fig. 6).

h. Printing Proofs:

According to Polish sources a printing proof of a sheet of the Piłsudski stamp exists in bluish-slate color on white paper with a mesh of red crossed lines

Fig. 6



printed on the reverse side. It is imperforate and without gum. Other proofs are on regular paper but imperforate. My vertical pair (fig. 7) comes from such a printing proof.

Fig. 7



In my collection I have a mint Piłsudski stamp with a stroke in red ink. Mr. Bojanowicz explained to me that this might be the so called acceptance copy taken from the first printed sheet, cancelled by red-ink stroke and sent to the authorities for approval. It might be so but, obviously, it would be too easy to produce such an item from any mint stamp.

i. Issues 1 - 4 (Printers P.Z.G.):

One problem which I had to solve when studying the Piłsudski stamp was the actual date of issue. There is no official record of this date, Polish sources giving only the date when an order was sent to the printers. On May 3—13, 1928, a Stamp Exhibition was held in Warsaw.

For it a block bearing Piłsudski 50 groszy and Mościcki 1 złoty was prepared. It was sold solely at the Exhibition and only during its duration. According to Rachmanow Post Office Gazette from May 12, 1928, announced the issue of the new 50 gr. and 1 zł. stamps stating that they should not be sold to the public before the end of the sale of Exhibition blocks. This could have meant only May 14th, 1928, which was Monday.

In my collection I have a copy of the Piłsudski stamp with a clear Warsaw circular date-stamp from 12-5-1928. This indicates that the big Post Offices (at least some in Warsaw) received their supply of the new stamps on Saturday, May 12th. or even before that date, and that some of the postmasters started selling them right away. I regard this copy as the earliest date of use.

I have another proof that postmaster did not take the orders from their superiors too seriously: by a decree of November 17, 1937 the Piłsudski stamp was to lose its postal validity on Nov. 15, 1937. My copy cancelled January 21, 1938 — again in Warsaw — shows that even demonetised stamps were accepted by some postmasters.

To find out when the different issues went on sale I had to check stamps with clear date-stamps. This method never gives definitive results. So my "dates of issue" given for different issues have to be regarded as a first attempt and as preliminary ones.

Let us examine the four issues printed at the P.Z.G.:

1st Issue:

This issue consists of 5 mil-

lion stamps printed from one plate only. The color is *light blue-slate* and paper p only was used. All are of size A, and types I. and II. are equally represented. I have recorded 44 perforation combinations.

Single perforations are 11½, 12, 12½ and 13. Compound perforations are: 10 x 10½, 11½, 12, 12½; 10½ x 10, 11, 11½, 12; 11 x 11½, 12, 12½, 13½, 14; 11½ x 11, 12, 12½, 13, 13½, 14; 12 x 11½, 12½, 13½, 14; 12½ x 11½, 12, 13, 13½, 14; 13 x 12, 12½, 13½; 13½ x 10, 10½, 11, 11½, 12, 12½; 14 x 11½, 12, 12½.

The order for printing was sent out on Sept. 19, 1927; the earliest date of use is May 12, 1928. Stamps with dates from May to August, 1928, are scarce.

According to Polish sources this issue has no plate numbers at all but if there is any analogy with the 1 złoty stamp (see further on) then index numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 must exist under the 95th and 96th stamps.

2nd Issue:

This is the largest issue: five plates (I to V) printed 20 million stamps in *dark bluish-slate* color on papers q, r, s and t. The papers q and r are common, papers s and t are less frequent. All stamps are of size A, types I. and II. are present in equal quantities and I have found 47 perforation combinations.

Single perforations are: 10, 10½, 11½, 12, 12½ and 13. Compound perforations are: 10 x 10½, 11, 11½, 12; 10½ x 10, 11½, 12, 12½, 13½, 11 x 11½, 12; 11½ x 11, 12, 12½, 13, 13½, 14; 12 x 10, 11½, 12½, 13½, 14; 12½ x 11½, 12, 13, 13½, 14; 13 x 12, 12½, 13½, 14; 13½ x 10, 10½, 11½, 12, 12½, 14 x 10½, 11, 11½, 12, 12½.

In my collection I have two plate numbers (fig. 8). They



Fig. 8

show only parts of the indexes 1 and 2; the Roman numerals denoting the plates themselves were trimmed off as they were always smaller than the indexes. But the dark bluish-slate color indicates that the stamps belong to the 2nd issue. Some difficulties developed with plate I and soon it was replaced by a new plate — plate II. This explains why five plates were used for a printing of 20 million when four plates should have been enough.

The order for printing was sent out on April 26, 1928; my earliest copy is from August 3, 1928.

3rd Issue:

Ten million stamps were printed from two plates (VI and VII). The color is *dark-blue slate*, size A only, types I and II are equally represented. The perforation measures $11\frac{1}{2}$ only and two sorts of paper were used: q and r. It is a little difficult to separate the stamps of this issue from the others as sometimes they look similar as stamps from the 2nd issue. But the plates were very good ones and produced prints with the profile sharply outlined against a dark background.

The printing was ordered on October 8, 1928 and my earliest copy is dated January, 1929.

This is the second largest issue consisting of 15 million stamps printed from plates VIII, IX and X. The color is *greenish-slate*; the shades vary according to paper on which the stamp is printed but there is always a distinctive green (or blackish-green) tint in the slate color. Size A only; types I and II in equal ratio. Four papers were used: q, r, s and t; paper r being the most frequent. I have recorded 46 perforation combinations.

Single perforations are: 10, 11, $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12 and $12\frac{1}{2}$. Compound perforations are: 10 x 11, $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12; $10\frac{1}{2}$ x 11, $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12; $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12, $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14; $11\frac{1}{2}$ x 11, 12, $12\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14; 12 x 11, $11\frac{1}{2}$, $12\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14; $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14; 13 x $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12, $12\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14; $13\frac{1}{2}$ x 11, $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12, $12\frac{1}{2}$, 14; 14 x $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12, $12\frac{1}{2}$, 14.

The order to the printers was sent out on March 9, 1929 and my earliest copy is dated March 18, 1929.

j. Issues 5 - 9 (Printers P.W.P.W.):

At the end of 1929 the printing of the Pilsudski stamp was transferred from the P.Z.G. to the P.W.P.W. The plates were still produced by galvanoplasty but were allocated capital letters A to E of Roman numerals. With one exception the plate numbers are placed under the 91st stamp. A new characteristic is the absence of numerous perforation and paper varieties.

The new size B stamps appear in two issues and type II stamps become less frequent. One plate produced cca 10 million stamps.

As the P.W.P.W. plates were laid from block of 5 x 2 stereotypes the badly aligned stamps are scarcer. According to Polish

sources the overall size of a P.W.P.W. pane of 10 x 10 stamps is 3 mm. greater than the overall size of P.Z.G. panes. This would mean that the gap between the P.W.P.W. stamps is 0.3 mm. larger — ie. 5.3 mm. horizontally and 6.3 mm. vertically than those between P.Z.G. stamps which are 5 mm. and 6 mm. respectively. By measuring vertical block of eight (2 x 4) P.Z.G. stamps and twelve (3 x 4) P.W.P.W. stamps I have found out that this difference is 0.25 mm. only. But due to the badly alignment of single P.Z.G. stereos and blocks of ten (5 x 2) P.W.P.W. stereos this difference is not always the same on all stamps.

Following is the description of the separate issues:

5th Issue:

This issue is the largest printed at the P.W.P.W. From plates A and B twenty million stamps were produced. They were printed in a *dark bluish-slate* color which sometimes has a green shade. As all stamps are of size B only they can be easily separated from the rest. Both types I and II are equally represented. Plate number 2A is shown in Fig. 9. Two sorts of paper — q and r — were used.



Fig. 9

For some technical reason — perhaps due to the transfer of the printing from one printer to another, one was not yet com-

pleted — the stamps were still perforated at the P.Z.G. and I have recorded 42 perforation combinations.

Single perforations are: 10½, 11½, 12, 12½ and 13. Compound perforations are: 10 x 10½, 11½, 12, 12½; 10½ x 10, 11, 11½, 12, 12½; 11 x 11½, 12, 12½, 13; 11½ x 11, 12, 12½, 13; 12 x 10, 11½, 12½, 13; 12½ x 11½, 12, 13; 13 x 11½, 12, 12½; 13½ x 10, 10½, 11½, 12, 12½, 13; 14 x 10, 11½, 12, 12½.

The printing was ordered on October 23, 1929 and my earliest dated copy is from October 28, 1929.

6th Issue:

This is a little complicated issue. A new color was introduced: *greenish blue* which is distinct enough to make the separation easy. Plate C and a repaired P.Z.G. Plate I were used and together they produced 10,178,000 stamps. The size of the stamps went back to A, Type II only is to be found. The stamps are printed on paper q and all are perforated 11½. The full set of plate numbers C is shown on Fig. 10.

For a very small part of this issue (maybe 178,000 stamps only) a repaired P.Z.G. plate I was used. I have two plate numbers from this plate, namely D 2 and D 4 (fig. 11). The Arabic numeral three is deleted by an X and the D in D 2 is a clearly redrawn Roman number one. Oddly enough the plate number D 2 is placed under the 92nd stamp while the other retains the normal position under the 91st stamp. My theory is that plate I, the second manufactured at the P.Z.G., was damaged, salvaged at the P.W.P.W. (maybe only the righthand vertical pair of panes) and reused

(To be continued)

sue. Mint, NH sets command a premium. Complete sets on registered cover and appropriately backstamped also bring premium prices. Generally this set is selling close to or over current Scott catalog.

POST WAR ISSUES. Stamps issued in 1960 can be considered "good" as most complete set printings were in the 500,000 range. The silk souvenir sheet (Scott #830) should prove to be a good item as large quantities of this sheet and other recent issues were recently destroyed by Polish postal authorities.

Burkiewicz frequently stressed one point — buy the better material (the high priced spread) first, and as the collector's budget allows. The good material is scarce, has been good, is good, and will remain good property to own. Cheaper, common material will always be available, but not so with the scarcer items as demand continues to grow.

Today's trends are to mint, NH or LH, and an ever growing demand and market for covers. In fact, covers and postal history are a very hot area for not only Polish philately, but philately in general.

Keeping all of the above in mind, it will be most interesting to see what Scott has to say when it finally releases Volume III of the 1973 catalog. Perhaps we can follow up this article with one on the price levels for Poland in the 1973 Scott catalog. If you would like to see same, please drop a line to the Secretary and let him know your feelings.

**DID YOU OFFER TO HELP
AT POLPEX 73 ?**

POLISH MATERIAL AT SEPAD

At the Mid-October SEPAD show in Philadelphia there were several exhibits of Polish related material which brought awards to their owners.

Dr. Józef Kuderewicz, Polonus member and frequent POLPEX exhibitor, received a Gold Award and War Cover Club award of equal merit for his "Napoleon Bonaparte in Polish Philately, 1796-1815." Dr. Kuderewicz also received a Bronze award for his exhibit of "Nicholas Copernicus".

Arnold Shay, another exhibitor at POLPEX, won a Silver Award for his "Postal History, Auschwitz".

Karl Waek received a Bronze Award for his exhibit "Re-Birth of A Nation, Poland".

Our congratulations to these exhibitors. Our members should take a cue from these individuals and exhibit at as many shows as possible. What better way to put the stamps and philately of Poland into the limelight that they so rightly deserve.

—T. J. Gobby

UNITED NATIONS AT POLPEX

Miss Ettelson, Promotion Officer of UNPA, in her letter of November 13, 1972 confirmed that the United Nations Postal Administration will operate a U.N. philatelic counter at POLPEX 73. She also stated that they will provide exhibition panels, album pages, and literature on United Nations stamps.

This should prove to be especially good news to our members and those who will attend POLPEX 73. Best of all, you will be able to buy current issues of U.N. stamps at face value — and that's hard to beat!

PHILATELIC LITERATURE REVIEW

MAŁA ENCYKLOPEDIA FILATELISTYKI (*Little Encyclopedia of Philately*).

The Philatelic Bulletin of the Polish Philatelic Association — Warsaw Branch has begun the printing of *Małej Encyklopedii Filatelistyki*. The authors are Andrew Mysłicki and Maciej Perzyński. That part of the encyclopedia is included as an insert to the Bulletin. It is the first time this has been done in Poland and it is expected to be a compendium of philatelic knowledge.

The first sheet (spread) of the encyclopedia was inserted into No. 5/27 of the Bulletin for the months of Jan.-March 1972. On the 12 sides of a large format are the topics under "A" and "B". We have here names of different postal departments and their use of markings, especially provisional (with illustrations of the provisionals).

Then follows the history and date of organization of postal service and its stamps of different countries of the world. In detail is described the differences and descriptions of the cancellations applied to correspondence, various papers and the printing of stamps and other accessories used by the post.

* * *

BIULETYN FILATELISTYCZNY (*Philatelic Bulletin*) referred to above, contains some very interesting articles by various writers. Especially outstanding is an article by Prof. Anthony Laskiewicz, "Building a Collection of Stamps For Exhibiting." This famous philatelic expert describes how a display collection should look and be laid out. The professor's instructions would be

welcome by many of our collectors here in America.

* * *

POCZTOWO STEMPLE PROWIZORYCZNE 1945-1947 SZCZECIŃSKIE (*The Provisional Postal Markings of Szczecin 1945-1947*).

Marian Kościelniak of Wrocław in the bulletin *Wrocław Philatelic News* authored the article titled as above. It describes the postal provisional markings of the district of Szczecin during 1945-1947. Sixty-five markings are catalogued and illustrated in actual size. There is also an index of postal stations of 1945-1947. —H.

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POLAND PRICE LIST — 1973

Just arrived, a 1973 Poland specialized price list published by member Henry J. Bieniecki of Granite City, Ill. There are 16 pages of general mint, used, and first day cover prices, plus errors, proofs, imperfs, postal stationery, P.O.W., locals, Balloon post, rocket labels, and Judaica. (See back page ad in bulletin.)

COPERNICUS PORTFOLIO

The value and importance of the Copernicus Portfolio is inestimable as a visual record for future generations of the progress of our times. Descriptive illustrations recording important events of the past, present and knowledgeable predictions making up the Copernicus Portfolio will be released from time to time at irregular intervals, closing the era of 500 years on January 1, 1974.

Those interested in the items already available, or in submitting items for possible inclusion in the project, should contact member, Dr. W. Kolakowski Box B394, Great Neck, N.Y. 11022.

MEMBERS MART

WANTED: BEP Souvenir cards. Will buy or trade for specialized Poland Min. Sht., SS, FDC, Locals, revenues, etc. Make offer.

Joseph J. Skorko, Polonus 569
Box 229, R.D. #1

Blackwood, N.J. 08012

The Members Mart is for you, our member, in helping you find general and specialized material. Sorry! No dealers! Right reserved to edit any copy submitted. Mail copy to the Polonus Secretary.

IDENTITY OF AUSCHWITZ INMATE V 11237

Last year at POLPEX there was a specialized collection of Auschwitz camp mail. A note of congratulations was attached to that exhibit and only signed by the inmate's prison number. The exhibitor would like to know that inmate's identity and to thank him for his note of congratulations.

If inmate V 11237 or anyone knowing his identity would be kind enough to forward his name and address to the Polonus Secretary, it would be treated in the utmost confidence.

COPERNICUS EXHIBITS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Mrs. Margaret Morris of Glasgow, Scotland, who will exhibit a specialized Rocket Mail collection at POLPEX 73, informs us that she will be presenting several Copernicus exhibits in 1973.

Mrs. Morris has been approached by the Polish Consulate in Glasgow and the Antiquities Department of Glasgow University to put on Copernicus exhibitions during January and March, 1973. Mrs. Morris is also working on an Astronomical col-

lection for a big display to be given at the Leicester Philatelic Society in May, 1973, the Copernicus anniversary month.

Mrs. Morris expresses her regrets that she will be unable to exhibit any of her specialized Copernicus material at POLPEX 73 because of these prior commitments. Our loss is the United Kingdom's gain and we extend our best wishes to her for the best of successes.

CHICAGO TO RECEIVE COPERNICUS STATUE

Mitchell Kobelinski of the Polish American Congress states that negotiations were recently completed with the Polish government for the execution and delivery of an exact copy of the Thorwaldsen statue of Copernicus. This statue was erected by popular subscription and dedicated on May 11, 1830. It now stands before the Staszic Palace in Warsaw — having survived desecration by the Nazi horde in World War II.

Mr. Kobelinski stated that it is planned to erect the statue in front of Chicago's Adler Planetarium with dedication ceremonies in 1973.

Congratulations to Mr. Kobelinski for a most stellar effort.

HOW ABOUT YOU . . . WILL YOU ATTEND POLPEX 73?

After an absence of over ten years, Joseph Bieniecki of Granite City, Ill. will attend POLPEX 73 and have a bourse table. Joe is an early member of Polonus and his son Henry is carrying on as a stamp dealer in the footsteps of his dad.

* * *

LET'S GET TOGETHER FOR A SUCCESSFUL POLPEX 73!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, December 22, 1973 —

No meeting. Merry Christmas!

VISITING POLPEX 73??

If you plan to visit POLPEX, are from out of town, and don't have definite arrangements — Matuszczak Travel of Chicago is official coordinator for those interested in coming to Chicago for that weekend. For arrangements for hotels, tours, special tickets, etc., write or call:

Wanda Szebel

Bank-On-Travel, Inc.

1223 Oakton Street

Des Plaines, Ill. 60016

Phone: (312) 298-1757

HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP!

We still need help. POLPEX 1973 will not come about just through ambitious planning and wishful thinking. We need your help. Set up of exhibits on mounting night, take down of exhibits on the last day, personnel to man the sales table (only an hour or two), individuals to meet and greet visitors, etc., etc.

Drop a card or letter to either

Alfred Szebel

9041 Emerson Street

Des Plaines, Ill. 60016

or Thomas J. Gobby

5713 West Warwick

Chicago, Ill. 60634

Your help is definitely needed.

MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND POLPEX 73!

"1973"

POLAND PRICE LIST

All issues cross-referenced according to Scott, Minkus, and Ruch Catalogues. Price 24¢

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