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July-August, 1985

Chicagopex Hosts Polish Philately

CHICAGOPEX-85 one of the most prestigious of the 30 National Philatelic Exhibitions accredited by the American Philatelic Society, will honor "Polish Philately" at its annual exhibition on Nov. 9-11, at the Westin O'Hare Hotel, 6100 North River Road, near Chicago. This will be the first time a National Philatelic Exhibition has honored Polish Philately, and does so on the 125th anniversary of the first Polish stamp. The host society, the Chicago Philatelic Society, is one of the oldest active philatelic organizations in the United States, and will celebrate its ninety-ninth anniversary at the exhibition.

CHICAGOPEX has long had the tradition of attracting the finest philatelic exhibits and those attending the show will have the opportunity of viewing not only some of the finest Polish collections in the United States, but also other outstanding collections of the United States and worldwide. Of the 240 frames of stamps, almost 100 will be devoted to Polish exhibits for a total of about



CHICAGOPEX SPECIAL CANCEL

1600 pages! The broadest possible range of Polish material will be shown including postal history, traditional philately, air mail, and topical exhibits.

Several outstanding collections of pre-stamp postmarks of Poland will be shown which span the two hun-

dred years before the first Polish stamp. These collections will include letters from the pre-1795 Kingdom including letters from the Kings, and letters during the Napoleonic period and the "Grande Armee" in Poland. One of the finest collections ever formed of the first Polish stamp will be shown. This collection has never been on exhibit in the United States and so will be the first time Polish collectors in this country will have the opportunity to view it. Other outstanding exhibits will include those of the first issues of the Polish Republic, early air post of the Austrian army in Poland, military mail of the Polish Army, a highly specialized topical exhibit of Marshal Pilsudski, and many others.

The Polonus Philatelic Society will

meet on Saturday at 1:00 for a special meeting at the hotel. Dr. Conrad Straub of Minneapolis will give a special talk on the German censor marks used in Poland during World War I. Old members, new members, and guests are invited to attend. On Sunday at 1:00 p.m., Dr. James Mazepa will talk on the first Polish stamp and its history and use.

The Polonus Philatelic Society will have a special Society Table on the floor of the exhibition where members can meet and relax. Philatelic literature and souvenirs will be available. New members will be encouraged to join at this time, and those who do so will receive a two-volume catalog of Polish stamps and other philatelic souvenirs with the compliments of Joe and Hank Bieniecki, Polish stamp dealers from Granite City, Illinois, and old time Polonus members. Children will receive a packet of Polish stamps.

Five nationally accredited judges will award five levels of medals: Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze, and Bronze. Mr. Bernard Hennig of Chicago and an Honorary Member of the Polonus Philatelic Society will be the Chairman of the Jury, and Mr. Joseph Clary of San Francisco, a Polonus member will also serve on the Jury.

In addition to the Awards Banquet which will be held Saturday evening, there will be many other activities for those attending, including the unveiling of a stamp to be issued at AMERIPEX, the International Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Chicago in May, 1986, a Judges Seminar, and a Judges Critique, as well as over 50 stamp dealers from across the country and Canada. The United States Postal Service will operate an office at the exhibition and current

United States stamps will be on sale.

Special souvenir envelopes will be made for the exhibition and one will show the first Polish stamp in full color.

This will be a major Polish philatelic event of the year and the opportunity to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the first Polish stamp. Hotel information is available from the Chicago Philatelic Society, Box A-3953, Chicago, IL 60690. The Exhibition will open daily at 10:00 a.m. and close: Friday at 8:00 p.m., Saturday at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Further information, details, and the full schedule for the three days will be in the next issue of the Bulletin.

BATTLE OF VIENNA SLIDE PRESENTATION

The Polish American Numismatic Association invites you to a new and most interesting presentation on Jan Sobieski's Victory at Vienna. Polonus member, Dr. James Malejka of New York City will present a slide presentation on Thursday, October 17, 1985 at the Polish Museum of America, 984 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. Never shown paintings, sculpture, books, maps and armor will be revealed. The program will be held in the museum rotunda on the third floor and will begin at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS' MART

UPPER SILESIA, Scott 170-90. I am studying the cancellations on this issue, have recorded 19 in German and 63 in Polish. Please advise what you have:

Harold Slotka
1363 Brown Street, 3-C
Des Plaines, IL 60016

NEW ISSUES OF POLAND

Return of the Western and Northern Territories 40th Anniversary

MAY, 1985

To commemorate the Fortieth Anniversary of the Returning of the Western and Northern Territories to Poland, the Ministry of Communications issued a series of three postage stamps presenting a landmark with a Polish eagle and the text: "We have been, we are, we will be". Against the background of the map of Poland, the individual stamps show men who contributed to making Polish Western and Northern borders secure.

5 zł. value - a portrait of Bolesław Krzywousty (in XIIIth century the prince of Poland) with the inscription: "900th Anniversary of birth of Bolesław Krzywousty".

10 zł. value - a portrait of Władysław Gomułka (1905-82), leading workers' movement activist and the General Secretary of Polish Workers' Party, with the inscription: "The Minister of the Regained Territories 1945-1949".

20 zł. value - a portrait of Piotr Zaremba (born 1910); town planner and professor of the Engineering College of Wrocław and Szczecin, the first Mayor of Szczecin, with the inscription: "The President of Szczecin 1945-1950".

Values: 5 zł. - 8 mil.; 10 zł. - 8 mil.; 20 zł. - 6 million; Size: 40,5 x 40,5 mm.; Printing: offset; Design: Stefan Małeck; 1 FDC.

✻ ✻

Polish Navy 40th Anniversary

JUNE, 1985

To commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the origin of the Polish Navy, the Ministry of Communica-

tions issued an occasional stamp of 5 zł. value presenting Polish Navy Ship "Iskra", the school sailing-ship and the emblem of the Polish Navy.

Value: 5 zł.; Quantity: 6 million; Size: 31,25 x 39,5 mm.; Printing: gravure-steel etched; Design: Michał Piekarski; 1 FDC.

✻ ✻

Peasants' Movement Leaders

JUNE, 1985

Continuing the series started in 1984, the Ministry of Communications issued two postage stamps presenting portraits of the leaders of the peasants' movement.

10 zł. value - a portrait of Tomasz Nocznicki (1862-1944), publicist, founder of "Zaranie", in 1915 co-founder of the Polish Peasants' Party "Wyzwolenie" and from 1931 active members of the Peasants' Party.

20 zł. value - a portrait of Maciej Rataj (1884-1940), publicist & active party member of the Polish Peasants' Party "Wyzwolenie" and "Piast". In the period 1922-28, he was President of the Polish "Sejm." M. Rataj as a votary for the union of the peasants' movements was one of the initiators and co-founders of the Peasants' Party.

Value 10 zł. 8 million; 20 zł. 2 million; Size: 39,5 x 31,25 mm.; Printing: gravure-steel etched; Design: Jacek Konarzewski; 1 FDC.

✻ ✻

MEMBERS' MART

POLISH LABELS - Any kind, any period, will buy or trade.

Arno & Roslyn Winard

4308 Farmer Place

Fort Washington, MD 20744

NEW ISSUES

United Nations Organization 40th Anniversary

OCTOBER, 1985

On the 24th of October, 1985, forty years will pass since the United Nations Organization, with the Polish People's Republic as its charter member, came into being. Throughout this period of time Poland has been one of the most active countries belonging to this organization. The problems of peace, disarmament and common security have been the main trend of activities.

On this occasion, the Ministry of Communications will issue a postage stamp of a 27 zł. value, presenting the Polish flag against the background of the UNO flag and the symbolic flags of other member countries.

Value: 27 zł.; Quantity: 5 million;
Size: 40,5 x 27 mm.; Printing: offset;
Design: H. Chyliński; 1 FDC.

SLANIA U.S. STAMP SOUVENIR CARD

The Czeslaw Slania Study Group has issued a special first day of issue souvenir card for the 22 ¢ U.S. World War I Veteran commemorative stamp which was placed on 1st day sale at the Veterans of World War I annual Convention held in Milwaukee on Monday, Aug. 26th.

The vertical format card measures five by seven inches and is printed in brown and green on specially marbled card stock. The design features a World War I vintage machine gun and other military equipment in brown with the text in green, "Czeslaw Slania Study Group /Presents a New Stamp/Honoring Veterans of the/First World War/ Engraved by Czeslaw Slania/En-

graver to the/Royal Court of Sweden." A copy of the U.S. Commemorative is tied to the card with the Milwaukee First Day of Issue Postmark.

This World War I commemorative is the second U.S. stamp that Slania's been involved with, although he is responsible for over 500 postage stamps from Poland, Sweden, Denmark, Monaco, Ireland and other nations.

Interested collectors may order the card for \$1.25 each from the Slania Study Group, Post Office Box 1382, Milwaukee, WI 53201. The price of the card includes the mailing envelope and cardboard reinforcement to protect the card during mailing.

The study group is dedicated to researching the work of Slania.

NEW MAILING PROCESS FOR THE BULLETIN

Beginning with this issue, the Bulletin will be sent by Third Class mail. We will use the 12.5¢ Bulk Rate until we are approved for the 6¢ Not-For Profit rate. We realize that there may be some delays in receiving the Bulletin with this slower service, but believe the savings to the Society of a minimum of \$700. per year will offset this inconvenience. We will stamp on the reverse of the envelope the date sent, so members can know the travel time, and we would appreciate knowing the length of time it takes for you to get this issue. Please drop a card to the Society mail box (back page).

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

*Among our members there
and those — who blame
are those — who complain,
and those — who act.*

Censorship Markings: GEN.-GOUV. WARSCHAU 1915-1918, Part II

by Conrad P. Straub, Ph.D.

This second article identifies some of the miscellaneous censorship markings used during the period. Amongst the miscellaneous markings included are censorship markings applied at several prisoner-of-war camps.

Censorship Markings That Included the Name of the Censor

Four types have been seen thus far, as shown in Figure 1, and include script censorship marks as well as the rubber-stamped types with name of individual or administrative office.

Type 1. Script. These show the word "Geprüft" followed by the name and title of the individual censoring the material. Two types are shown in Figure 1: one from Wielun 26.2.16 to Berlin, and the second from Mława 11.6.18 to Warschau.

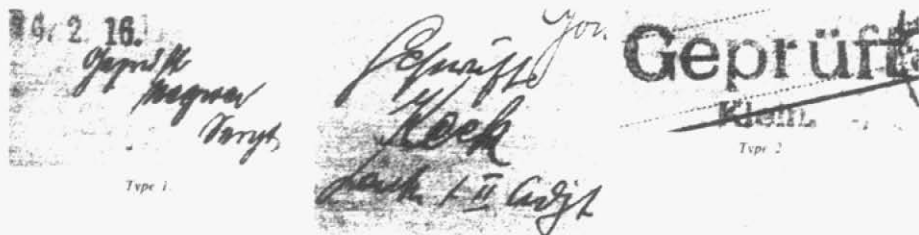
Type 2. Rubber stamp. "Geprüft/Klein," in Roman upper and lower case letters with serifs. "Geprüft" measures 31.7 by 6.4 mm, and "Klein," 11 by 2.9 mm. The package receipt to which the censorship mark was applied was issued at Łomża 24.12.17 and addressed to Warschau. Color: violet.

Type 3. Rubber stamp. "Amtlich geprüft." Gothic upper and lower case letters along with the name of the administrative office sending the letter. I have two copies: one measures 35.5 by 4.2 mm; the other, 42.8 by 4.9 mm. The first originated in Nowo Minsk 30.5.16, addressed to a prisoner-of-war at Torgau a.d. Elbe, and the other is on a cover originating in Pultusk 19.8.16 to Ciechanow. Color of both is purple.

Type 4. Rubber stamp. "Amtlich geprüft," along with the name of the administrative office. Roman upper and lower case letters without serifs. I have two copies: one measures 39.4 by 4 mm, originating in Grodzisk 20.12.17 and addressed to Warszawa, and the other measures 39.7 by 3 mm and originated in Nasielsk 7.8.16 to Pultusk. Colors: violet and purple.

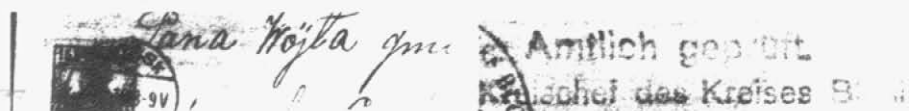
Censorship Markings on Prisoner-of-War or Work Camp Mail

Eight examples are shown in Figure 2.



Type 1

Type 2



Type 3

Type 4

These include three-line, boxed three-line, and circular types.

Type 1. Rubber stamp. Three lines: "Geprüft/Kriegsgefangenenlager Bautzen/Postverkehr Prüfungsstelle" with circled "8." Roman upper and lower case letters with serifs. First line measures 23.4 by 5.8 mm; second line, 52.5 by 2.7 mm; and third line, 47.5 by 2.7 mm. Origin: Sochaczew 1.5.17 addressed to Bautzen. Color: purple.

Type 2. Rubber stamp. Three lines: "Postprüfungsstelle der/Kdtr. des Gei. Lagers Arys./Geprüft Nr 17." Roman upper and lower case letters with serifs. First line measures 36.1 by 3.6 mm; second line, 46.5 by 3.6 mm; and third line, approximately 28 by 3.6 mm. Origin: Minsk Mazowiecki 31.10.17 addressed to Arys. Color: purple.

Type 2a. Rubber stamp. Three lines: "Postprüfungstelle der Kdtr./des Gei. Lagers Heilsberg/Geprüft Nr. 28." Type-

writer-type upper and lower case letters, upper two lines with serifs, Roman upper and lower case letters in the third line. First and second lines measure 47 by 4 mm; third line 38 by 3.7 mm. Origin: Konin 21.6.18 addressed to Dünaburg. Color: purple.

Type 3. Rubber stamp. Boxed, three lines: "Geprüft./Kommandantur/Wahn-Lager 34." Roman upper and lower case letters without serifs. Box with rounded corners measures 43.5 by 21 mm; first line, 24.1 by 5.3 mm; second line, 28.5 by 3 mm; and third line, 27 by 3 mm. Origin: Lomza 28.3.16 to Wahn. Color: red.

Type 4. Rubber stamp. Single line "P.24" inscribed in circle 25.2 mm in diameter. Roman upper case letter and numerals with serifs. "P.24" measures 20 by 8.8 mm. Origin: Ciechanow 2.5.16 addressed to Hameln. Color: purple.

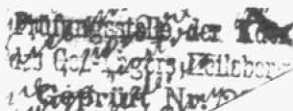
Type 5. Rubber stamp. "Postprüfstelle* Hameln*/P.60" inscribed in circle 17.4



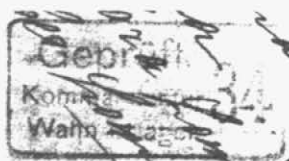
Type 1.



Type 2.



Type 2a.



Type 3.



Type 4.



Type 5.



Type 6.

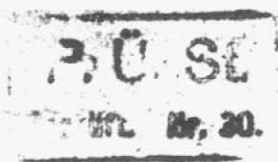


Type 7.

Figure 2. Censorship markings on prisoner-of-war and work camp mail.



Type 1.



Type 1a.



Type 2a.



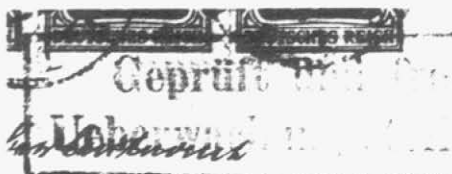
Type 2.



Type 2b.



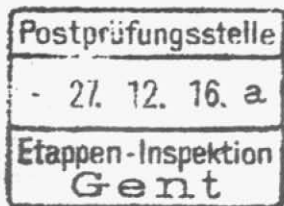
Type 2c.



Type 3.



Type 4.



Type 5.

Figure 3. Miscellaneous censorship markings.

mm in diameter. Roman upper and lower case letters without serifs. "P.60" measures 8.1 by 3.2 mm. I have three covers: Przasnysz 4.3.16 to Cellelager, Włocławek 29.3.17 to Scheun b/Celle, and Tluszcz 7.4.17 to Cellelager. Color: violet.

Type 6. Rubber stamp. "Geprüft*Cell-lager*/P 29" inscribed in double circle 15.7 and 10 mm in diameter. Roman upper and lower case letters with serifs. "P 29" measures 8.2 by 3.6 mm. Origin: Pabianice 21.4.17 to Cellelager. Color: red.

Type 7. Rubber stamp. "Postprüfungs-stelle*Langensalza*/29./Geprüft." inscribed in double circles 28 and 17.5 mm in diameter. Roman upper and lower case letters without serifs, "29" with serifs.

"29" measures 8.2 by 2.8 mm: "Geprüft." 12.3 by 4.4 mm. Origin: Lenczyca 22.2.17 to Langensalza. Color: violet.

Miscellaneous Censorship Markings

Several types of miscellaneous censorship markings are shown in Figure 3.

Type 1. Rubber stamp. Boxed, two lines, "P.Ü. St./Geprüft. Nr. 10." Roman upper and lower case letters with serifs. Box measures 35.2 by 19 mm; first line, 25.5 by 6 mm; second line, 29 by 3.2 mm. I have four copies: Warschau 19.4.18 to Berlin, Warschau 20.6.18 to Berlin, Warschau 21.6.18 to Berlin, and Warschau 5.7.18 to Przedborz. Colors: red and purple.

Type 1a. Rubber stamp. Boxed, two lines, "P.Ü. St./Geprüft. Nr. 30." Roman upper and lower case letters without serifs. Box measures 35.2 by 18.7 mm; first line, 26.1 by 5.7 mm; second line, 31 by 3.6 mm; I have two copies: Warschau 5.7.18 to Przedborz, and Warschau 15.7.18 to Przedborz. Color: purple.

Type 2. Rubber stamp. "Geprüft Postüberwachungsstelle." Roman upper and lower case letters with serifs, measures 54 by 3.4 mm. Origin: Warschau 30.7.17 to Wadzislaw. Color: violet.

Type 2a. Rubber stamp. "Geprüft Postüberwachungsstelle." Italic Roman upper and lower case letters with serifs, measures approximately 80 by 4.7 mm. I have two copies: both from Warschau 12.12.17 to Przedborz. Color: purple.

Type 2b. Rubber stamp. "GEPRÜFT POST ÜB. ST." Roman upper case letters without serifs, measures approximately 54 by 4 mm. Origin: Czenstochau 23.9.18 to Przedborz. Color: violet.

Type 2c. Rubber stamp. "Geprüft Post. Üb. Ste.?" Roman upper and lower case letters without serifs, measures approximately 56 by 4.5 mm. Origin: Zawiercie 30.8.18 to Lublin. Color: violet.

Type 3. Rubber stamp. Boxed, two lines, "Geprüft und frei/Ueberwachungsstell. . . ? . ." Roman upper and lower

case letters with serifs. Box measures 48-plus by 16 mm; first line, 39 by 4.2 mm, and second line, 46-plus by 4.2 mm. Origin: Warschau 9.4.18 to Hamburg. Color: black.

Type 4. Rubber stamp. "Geprüft und zubefördern/P.K./ *Strassburg (Els)*" inscribed within oval measuring 43.5 by 25 mm. Roman upper and lower case letters without serifs. "P.K." measures 16.8 by 7.2 mm. Origin: Warschau 24.3.18 to Strassburg. Color: purple.

Type 5. Rubber stamp. Boxed four lines, "Postprüfungsstelle/-27.12.16 a/Etappen-Inspektion/Gent." Roman upper and lower case letters and numerals in first three lines without serifs, fourth line with serifs. Box with rounded corners measures 34.5 by 24.7 mm; first line, 32 by 3 mm; second line, 29.5 by 3.5 mm; third line, 31.8 by 3 mm; and fourth line, 18.7 by 3.2 mm. Origin: Zawiercie 25.12.16 to Gent. Color: black.

Obviously, there are additional types of the censorship markings of this period. Any additional information would be appreciated, as I hope to eventually prepare a brochure showing the markings in use at that time. Members with additional information are again asked to communicate with me through *The American Philatelist*. All letters will be acknowledged.

KOZIKOWSKI HONORED

The Polish American Stamp Club has issued a special first day souvenir envelope to complement the 22 ¢ U.S. World War I Veterans commemorative stamp which was placed on first day sale at the Veterans of World War I annual convention in Milwaukee on Monday, August 26th.

The cachet is printed in red-brown and features the club emblem and Stanislaw Kozikowski, the hero of the U.S. Lost Battalion which had been cut off from the main U.S. forces in the Argonne (France) in October, 1918. Volunteer Kozikowski broke through the encircling Ger-

man forces to make contact with the main U.S. forces and bring relief to the isolated battalion.

Interested collectors may order the first day of issue cover for \$.75 each from Polish American Stamp Club, Post Office Box 1920, Milwaukee, WI 53201. A stamped, self-addressed envelope must be sent with orders for return of the covers. All checks should be made out to the "Polish American Stamp Club."

Each first day cover will contain an 8½ x 11 inch reproduction of a newspaper clipping relating the full story of Kozikowski and the Lost Battalion.

THE FIRST DEFINITIVE ISSUE

(MARKI - KORONY 1919-23)

By J. MACHOWSKI

The military resistance of the Central Powers crashed during the last few days of September, 1918. The hour of liberation from century-long occupation had arrived for the Polish nation.

The first to regain political independence, on October 28th, 1918, were the territories of Western Małopolska (Western Galicia in Austrian political jargon) and the Duchy of Cieszyn, whilst in the Eastern Małopolska, a fratricidal struggle blazed with the Ukrainians.

On November 5, 1918, the Austro-Hungarian troops left the previously occupied Lublin region and on November 11th, the Warsaw province got rid of the German occupying troops.

Wielkopolska (Poznań and Pomorze provinces formerly annexed by Germany) was liberated from the enemy on December 27th, 1918, after the outbreak of insurrection.

The situation which arose bore an enormous influence on the political and economical position of the reborn state and demanded quick and decisive steps to regularise all the problems concerning the country, among them being the normal postal communications.

As soon as the country, formerly under different regimes, became an administrative - postal unit (Ministry Order of Jan. 15-16th, 1919) the Ministry started immediate preparations for the issue of postage stamps.

In spite of considerable technical and material difficulties the problem was solved with noteworthy speed so that some values of the emission could appear on Jan. 27th, 1919.

As the country's reunited parts previously belonged to different monetary systems and monetary unification was not solved as yet, the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs had to take this into account and ordered:

- a. "postage stamps are to be issued in both currencies: marki and korony.
- b. mail should be prepaid in currency valid in the area of the accepting post office."

A further regulation stated that "pre-payment of mail with stamps other than those valid in the area of posting "is to be regarded as void."

Thus, due to the dual monetary system, which was to last for just over a year, we find in this issue stamps of similar designs but in two different currencies.



Three values of the set issued in fenigi and marki.

The official, detailed description of this issue appeared for the first time in the Ministry Order No. 16, of May 15, 1919, that is three and a half months after the stamps were put in circulation. It consisted of the following values:

3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50 f. (fenigi) and h. (halerzy);

1, 1.50, 2, 2.50, 5 m. (marki) and k. (korony).

The values of 3, 6, 10 and 20 m. appeared in circulation in April of 1920, without any introductory order. For the first time they were listed in the "Official Printings Summary for 1920."

The 40 f. value was introduced by Order No. 20, of June 25th, 1920, published on July 17th, 1920.

The issue was withdrawn from circulation as follows:

a. Order No. 1668 of May 13, 22, with validity from June 15, 22, published on May 27, 22 - values 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50 halerzy; 1, 1.50, 2, 2.50, 5 korony.

b. Order No. 2411 of June 13, 22, with validity from Aug. 15, 22, published on July 1, 22 - values 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 40 fenigi; 1, 1.50, 2, 2.50, 3, 5, 6, 10, 20 marki.

c. Order No. 221 of Jan. 17, 23, published Feb. 24, 23 - values: 50 fenigi.

All the values in both currencies, issued in 1919, were also valid for postage due purposes.

Some of the post offices in Małopolska used cancellers of various shapes and sizes to mark them as Postage Dues, the great majority, however, not using any special markings at all. When the proper Postage Due stamps appeared (September, 1919), the Ministry forbade

any further use of postage stamps (marked or unmarked) for this purpose.

By the Decree of the Sejm R.P., on February 1st, 1920, the currency in korony and halerzy was withdrawn from circulation and replaced by that in marki as the only legal currency in the whole country.

Accordingly, on February 15th, 1920, postage stamps in korony currency were also withdrawn from circulation - with a proviso that they were still valid in the Cieszyn Silesia, as at that time the political authority there was in the hands of the International Plebiscite Commission.

The currency in marki was introduced in the Cieszyn Silesia on May 1st, 1920, published June 4, 1920.

Unfortunately, there was insufficient stock of stamps at the time, and the State Printing Works could not cope with the exceptionally increased demand for stamps in marki currency after the withdrawal of halerzy-korony values. Very quickly, a shortage of stamps occurred in the country and this fact forced the Ministry to put the stored stocks of the korony currency back into use on the understanding that values in korony and halerzy were to be regarded as in fenigi and marki.

Realizing that the re-introduced stocks might still prove insufficient for the constantly increasing demand, the Ministry ordered a new printing of the korony values in the second half of 1920. This printing differs from the previous ones by more vivid colors, white highly glossy gum and also, partly, by a newly introduced line perforation, measuring 10.

Stamps of this currency, used after their re-introduction as fenigi and marki, can be recognized only by datestamps, from October, 1920

onwards.

Among the philatelic oddities of the period, one can cite perforated stamps, used bisected, e.g.:

1. DROHOBYCZ 1 - Jan. 9, 1920
20 h. vertically bisected with a violet rubber stamp "10 h."
2. ŚWIĄTNIKI GÓRNE - Jan., 1920
 - a. 10 h. diagonally bisected with a rubber stamp "5 h."
 - b. 20 h. diagonally bisected with a rubber stamp "10 h."
 - c. 50 h. diagonally bisected with a rubber stamp "25 h."

These bisects although sold by postal clerks of the post offices concerned and subsequently accepted on mail for dispatch are irregular in the light of postal regulations.

Designs and Proofs

The designs for this issue were adapted from proofs printed in Berlin in 1918 following a stamp essay competition held in Germany, 1917. The competition was to produce projects for stamps of the Polish Kingdom which Germany promised to restore after the war. All the admitted essays bearing the inscription: "Królestwo Polskie" were reproduced in the form of a booklet entitled: "Katalog Prac Konkursowych na Marki Pocztowe Królestwa Polskiego" and published by the "Warszawskie Towarzystwo Artystyczne" (Warsaw Art Society), in 1918. The reproductions were litho-printed either in green, blue or brown, i.e. one booklet contained designs in one color only, except a two-page inset containing thirteen chosen and awarded designs in color.

Cut out, sometimes seen in collections, they have, of course, the same philatelic value as any illustration cut out of a catalog.

Shortly afterwards the Imperial Printings Works, Berlin, printed all

the designs from engraved dies on India paper, the chosen thirteen in color, the remaining ones in black. Due to the collapse of Germany, the work never got beyond this stage.

Reproductions of these essays are also known in black, on thick, white chalky paper, printed by zincography. Black or colored, if pertaining to the prototypes of the accepted designs, they make interesting introductory material to this issue.

The authors of the chosen projects were Edward Trojanowski and Edmund Bartłomiejczyk and the designs are as they finally appeared, as stamps.

1. Design showing the Polish Eagle in crown, on a baroque shield and inscriptions "Poczta" at the top, "Polska" at the bottom. The value is placed on both sides of the shield just under the top inscription. The artist's initials "E.T." are seen over the "o" and "k" of "Polska". Size: 17 x 22.5 mm. Values: 3, 5, 10 and 15 f./h.

2. Design showing the Polish Eagle in crown, on a horizontally lined background, with a value tablet below and two-line inscription "Poczta Polska" at the top and flanked by two upright Roman fasces. Artist's initials "E.B." are seen in the extreme lower corners of the design. Size: 17 x 22 mm. Values: 20, 25, 50 f./h. and 40 f.

3. Design showing a starry sky, with value at left and the top of a granary at right, below a shield decorated with sheaves of corn and a sickle, inscribed "Poczta Polska" in two lines. The initials "E.B." are seen in the extreme lower corners of the design. Size: 28 x 22 mm. Values: 1, 1.50 and 2 mk./k.

(To be continued)

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GEMS OF POLISH PHILATELY



The town of Sosnowice issued on July 24, 1916, red triangular town mail delivery stamps. A single sheet of 6 x 7 stamps was left imperforate and ungummed to be stored in the township archives. In 1940 this sheet was appropriated by the German Occupational Authorities and cut up into single stamps. One does not know how many of these forty-two imperforate stamps survived World War II.

All these stamps can be accurately plated according to the fine details in their design. The imperforate stamp shown here is the position 11.

Fred Szebel Visits Dr. Kronenberg in New Jersey



Fred Szebel visited at Dr. Stanley Kronenberg's home in Skillman, NJ and viewed a volume of his extensive Poland collection.

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