

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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Poland's No. 1 Postage Stamp

Translated from *Przegląd Filatelistyczny* by Chester W. Makowski
(Reprinted from *Western Stamp Collector*)

January 1, 1950 marked the 90th anniversary of the appearance of the first Polish postage stamp. It was issued by authority of the Kingdom of Poland, created at the Congress of Vienna on the basis of an understanding with the three occupying powers, under the Treaty of May 3, 1815. In connection with this anniversary let us review the history of its inception, its meaning and bibliography.

The Kingdom of Poland, by reason of the Treaty and Constitution of May 3, 1815, which was approved by Tsar Alexander I, was the only national self independent item connected with Russia, with common foreign politics as well as union of personnel. The Russian Tsar was at the same time the King of Poland. On the other hand, authorities of the Polish Kingdom were separated from the Russian—the Assembly as representing the people, the national army and the militia. At the head of the administration of the country stood the Vice Regent with a deciding vote, the Administrative Board with an advisory voice, as well as the State Board consisting of five Commissioners with Ministers at the head.

The Constitution of the Kingdom of Poland was signed by Tsar Alexander I in Warsaw on Dec. 3, 1815, and proclaimed officially on Dec. 24, 1815.

Treaties Broken

Russia, however, did not keep these treaties and the limited rights and independence of the Polish Kingdom diminished constantly from 1825. Under the government of Count Paskiewicz

Erwinski, in the years from 1831 to 1856, the pressure was increased. Only after the death of Count Paskiewicz, when the Vice Regent was Prince Gorczakow, a relative of the Russian Chancellor, was the pressure somewhat lessened. One of these apparent results was the establishment of the Postal Administration of the Kingdom of Poland on September 1, 1858 under the direct authority of the Administrative Board and Vice Regent Gorczakow.

The Administration of the Polish Circuit of the Kingdom of Poland in its report No. 26,098 of December 6-18, 1858, turned to the Administrative Board regarding the issuance of stamped envelopes, and a postage stamp for the Municipal Post in Warsaw, in place of the then used Russian Municipal Post in Petrograd. After the approval of this report by the Administrative Board at a meeting on Dec. 9-21, 1858, No. 8,063 and approved by the Vice Regent Count Gorczakow, the first of such envelopes of Polish publication in values of 1½ and 3 kops. were issued for use on January 1, 1859. The postal cancellation, handstamped on these envelopes took in next to the inscription the Coat of Arms of the Kingdom of Poland, according to the design approved in 1842. The second issue of these envelopes of 1½ kops. had the handstamp copy of the Coat of Arms of Poland according to the design approved in 1858 (showing a two headed eagle of the Tsar with a shield on its breast, on which appeared a Polish White Eagle).

At the same time appeared a defin-

ite type of envelope as well as the first Polish postage stamp of 10 kop., which stamp and envelopes were exclusively obligatory in the field of Polish postal undertaking within the limits of the Kingdom of Poland and were circulated for use on January 1, 1860 as set forth in Circular No. 12 of 2/14 December 1859.

Envelopes Withdrawn

This circular also ruled the withdrawal from circulation and use of all envelopes with Russian handstamps as of March 20-April 1, 1860:

"This ruling withdrawing envelopes and stamps of Russia, within the limits of the Kingdom of Poland, is a very important step, witnessing not only the independence of the Kingdom of Poland but also the power of carrying out the ruling of its authority, directed against issues by the Central Occupying Powers.

Appropriate matrices for convex print, of the 10 kop. stamp as well as envelopes were made by Henry Majer, an engraver of the Bank of Poland in Warsaw, most likely according to the projected design known from the collection of A. Faberge, and coming from the archives at Petersburg. The original three matrices for printing of the 10 kop. stamp, one etched in steel and two in copper, coming from the casting of H. Majer, are known from the collection of Włodzimierz Polanski. These matrices, however show certain differences from the final production of the stamp.

The issuance of these stamps, as well as envelopes was ordered by the Bureau of Posts of the Polish Kingdom through the Government Commission of Income and Treasury in the "National Factory of Stamps" in Warsaw, where, according to the matrix, with some minor changes, two plates were made for the engraved (en relief) printing of stamps of the 10 kop. One of these plates served to imprint the under side and center oval with the Coat of Arms in rose (en relief) and the other to imprint the real drawing of the stamp with lettering and value in blue color.

Detail Lost

It is to be noted here, that because of the printing by flat bed press and instead of engraved printing of the Coat of Arms of the Kingdom of Poland on the stamp, the shading of the wings of the Russian eagle as well as

the Polish eagle was lost.

This stamp was printed in sheets of 100 stamps arranged in four blocks of 25 (5x5), separated by margins of 8-9 mm. vertically and margins of 2 mm. horizontally between the stamps.

The paper used to print this stamp is mainly white smooth, rarely thicker or slightly striped, sometimes with a yellow cast, probably from reaction of the glue used.

It was gummed by hand, smooth, cracked gum, with respect to wider or narrower lines vertically, resulting from the drawing of the brush.

The frame perforation is irregular 11½-12% giving various shapes to the corners of the stamp, made on a perforating machine constructed by a Warsaw technician. This machine was used during the entire life of the stamp. The final explanation of the construction of the perforating machine and confirmation of the frame perforation was made possible by analyzing the illustrated block of six of this stamp.

This stamp during its life from Dec. 20 to Jan. 1, 1860 had one issue of about 3,000,000 copies, taking in, however, many settings, printed with the same dies, showing varieties of both colors, the blue and the rose, and various gums. Also as viewed in the rays of the quartz lamp many shades of color can be detected on the various stamps, which shows that a series of printings were made.

Typical Change

A typical change in the stamp is shown in the two lines of the center oval with the eagle, printed on both of the colors, blue and rose. There could be about four such types to a sheet. Other so-called "errors" are only caused by the wearing of the plates in the course of over five years use.

These stamps, in spite of the number printed which is about 3,000,000 copies, are comparatively rare in single mint condition. Still rarer are pairs and strips in even a used condition, and the outstanding rarity is the mint block of six stamps, which takes the position Nos. 86, 87, 88, 96, 97 and 98 of the sheet, which together with a known pair Nos. 90 and 100 are the only known fragments of the sheet. There are about four copies of the stamp imperforated that are known.

Much research has not answered all
(continued on page 88-3)

POLAND

The Postal Issues During and After the Great War
by the late COL. R. N. W. LARKING, C.B.E., F.R.P.S.L.



The issued types

The 2½ mk./kr. shows a ploughman with his oxen, and in the foreground a naked sword stuck in the ground. This design may be interpreted in two ways, either as a symbol of peace, or that the country is ready to take up the sword again if it is provoked. The initials "E.B." are found together in the right lower corner of the design. The 5 mk./kr. shows a Polish Uhlman brandishing a sword, and the initials "E.B." in the right lower corner of the bottom label.

The stamps were printed in sheets of 100 stamps (10x10), and along the top margin of every sheet was printed the value of each vertical row, for checking purposes.

The paper on which these stamps were printed varies very considerably. The post office at Warsaw held no stock of paper when the stamps were

being prepared, so various factories in the country were called upon to furnish a supply of any paper they had in stock. The initial printings appeared on a thick hard and semi-transparent wove paper, and a small proportion on paper ribbed both horizontally and vertically. In some cases the "rib" is very faint, in others very pronounced, and usually the vertical rib is much scarcer than the horizontal. These papers vary in thickness, some low values being found on almost a thin paper. In February 1920 a very thin and almost transparent paper was brought into use for certain low values of both series, the higher values appearing on a much thinner paper than that used in the preceding issue. In April 1920 appeared a thick soft opaque paper, usually white, but sometimes found with a greyish tinge, and, on the 15

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fen. scarlet, with a bluish tinge. In May 1920 certain values were printed on vertically laid paper, and very shortly afterwards on horizontally laid paper. The printings were coarse and the colours not so bright as in the previous printings. Finally, in 1922, the 50 fen. was reprinted with the mark values of the Small Eagle type on thick spongy wove paper.

A number of shades are to be found of each value and in both series. I shall list these later on. The gum varies from white to pale brown, and in a few exceptional cases I have seen it a deep brown. It is very adhesive in the first printings, and in some instances these stamps require a long soaking in hot water to entirely remove it. In the later printings on the thick soft and laid papers it is of a poor quality, and the stamps can usually be peeled off the covers without soaking them in water.

Owing to the urgent requirements of the public for stamps and the limited facilities for perforating the sheets, the initial printings were put on sale, for the first two days, imperforate. On the third day of issue they appeared perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$, the normal perforation. This perforation may be found in three varieties:—

(a) A clean-cut large hole perforation, (b) a small hole, almost a pin-perforation, (c) a rough perforation, which, in some instances, showed no holes at all, but merely a rough jagged edge round the stamp. Probably three perforating machines were used, and indiscriminately, as all three varieties may be found compound one with another, either vertically or horizontally.

In order to cope with their requirements, the Polish authorities very early in 1920 bought up a number of old perforating machines from the Austrian Government. These old machines were of many different gauges, and evidently used haphazardly as a large assortment of perforations, both simple and compound, exist, especially on stamps of later issues. Some of these perforating machines were brought into use from January 1920, as certain values then in issue are found perforated 10 and 10 compound with $11\frac{1}{2}$. In May 1920 additional perforation machines were used, as the perforations 9, 11, $13\frac{1}{2}$, 14, $14\frac{1}{2}$ are met with on some values, notably the 50 fen. on horizontally laid paper. The last three perforations may be found

compound one with another or with $11\frac{1}{2}$. Several perforation errors exist, such as double perforations, blind perforations, imperforate on one or more sides. I have never come across any of the "halerzy" values perforated other than $11\frac{1}{2}$, but the "korony" values may be found with the perforation 10 and 10 compound with $11\frac{1}{2}$. An irregular perforation gauging from 5 to 7 is known on some low values. This was done privately with a sewing machine to facilitate the separating of the stamps from an imperforate sheet.

There are a few errors of colour, these must not be confused with the many coloured proofs which exist. Also double prints are known of several of the values. Many plate varieties are to be found on most of the values; some are constant in all printings, others in first printings only, as they were subsequently corrected on the plate. I shall give a list of all these errors and varieties later on.

I now come to the order in which these stamps were issued, and the dates. On January 27th, 1919, the twelve values, 3 fen. to 5 mk., for use in Northern Poland, were issued in imperforate sheets, on a thick to thinnish hard and semi-transparent wove paper, together with a small proportion of sheets on ribbed paper. There is one notable exception. I have never seen a copy of the 20 fen. imperforate on any paper but the ribbed, and I do not believe it exists on the thick wove. On January 29th the sheets were issued perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$, and here the 20 fen. appears on the thick wove for the first time. Later in the year two values were issued in different colours, the 15 fen. carmine appeared in scarlet and the 1 mk. violet in grey-lilac. The 1 mk. grey-lilac is found both imperforate and perforated, the former being scarce, especially postally used.

In March 1919 the twelve values, 3 hal. to 5 kr., for use in Southern Poland, were issued first in imperforate sheets, and subsequently in sheets perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$. The paper was the same as that used for the first Northern Poland issue, the halerzy values appearing on a thick to thinnish wove, and the korony values, on a thick wove. Early in 1920 some of the higher values were perforated with the old Austrian machines 10, $10 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, and $11\frac{1}{2} \times 10$ (see my check list at the end). All values are found on the ribbed pa-

per, but in smaller proportion to those on the thick wove. The 20 hal. imperforate, unlike the 20 fen. imperforate, is found on both papers. During a shortage at some post offices of a 10 hal. value the 20 hal. was bisected and used either with or without a hand-stamped surcharge "10 h". Bisected stamps without surcharge were used from the post office at Olkusz on the 16th March, 1919, and with a surcharge at Drohobycz on the 9th of January, 1920. The 50 hal. was also bisected and surcharged "25 h" at Swiatnikach Gornych in January 1920, but this variety is more or less of a speculative nature.

The total numbers of each value printed and issued, including all papers, perforations and shades, was as follows:—

3 halerze	10,640,500 stamps
5 halerzy	20,138,600 "
10 halerzy	15,060,300 "
15 halerzy	15,002,400 "
20 halerzy	15,068,500 "
25 halerzy	20,192,800 "
50 halerzy	9,934,700 "
1 koronie	3,308,100 "
1½ korony	2,416,400 "
2 korony	2,187,700 "
2½ korony	851,600 "
5 korony	1,378,000 "

In February 1920 the 5, 10, 15 (scarlet), 20, 25, and 50 fen., and the 25 and 50 hal., were issued on a very thin and almost transparent wove paper, perforated. The impressions were not nearly so clear, nor the colouring so bright as in the 1919 issue. At this time the marki and korony values appeared on a thin soft wove paper. From now onwards, no further printings were made of the halerzy and korony values, the fennigow and marki values being used for the whole of Poland.

In April 1920 new plates were brought into use for the 10, 15 (scarlet), 25, and 50 fen., to which was added a new value, the 40 fen. These stamps were printed on a thick soft opaque wove paper, and the sheets showed a vertical guide line, the same colour as the stamp, running down each side margin. The gum is pure white. Later the 15 (scarlet), 20, 25 fen. were issued on a thick greyish wove paper, and some copies of the 15 fen. may be found on paper with a distinct bluish tinge.

In May 1920 the 25, 50 fen., 1, 2, and 5 mk., together with new values of 3, 6, 10, and 20 mk., were issued on ver-

tically laid paper. Later, the 25 and 50 fen. appeared on horizontally laid paper. The laid paper varies very considerably in thickness, but it is usually very thin, and shows the laid lines quite plainly. On some copies, however, the laid lines are almost invisible and the stamp has the appearance of being on very thin wove. There is, however, no difficulty in distinguishing stamps on the laid paper as the impressions and shades are different from those on the thin wove. At one period a brown oily gum was used, rendering the laid lines quite invisible.

CHECK LIST OF SHADES

The first shade is the "standard" colour of the stamp; the principal shades of the standard colour, follow. Many between-shades may be found.

- 3 fen. Brown, pale brown, deep brown, grey-brown, bistre-brown.
- 5 fen. (on thick wove). Green, pale green, deep green, blue-green, grey-green.
(on thin wove). Dull green, grey-green, yellow-green, olive-green.
- 10 fen. (on thick wove). Purple, dull purple, brown-purple, plum, purple-brown.
(on thin wove). Chocolate, deep purple-brown, red-brown.
- 15 fen. (on thick wove), 1st shade. Carmine, rose-carmine, dull rose, lake.
2nd shade. Scarlet, rose-pink, rose-pink on bluish.
(on thin wove). Scarlet, rose-red, pink.
- 20 fen. (on thick and thin wove). Blue, pale blue, deep blue, dull blue, indigo.
- 25 fen. (on thick and thin wove). Olive, pale olive, deep olive, dull olive, greenish olive, greenish olive on grey, brown-olive, bronze-green.
(on laid paper). Dull olive, pale olive, deep olive.
- 40 fen. Bright violet, pale violet, deep violet.
- 50 fen. (on thick and thin wove). Green, deep green, blue-green, grey-green, green on grey.
(on laid paper). Dull green, blue-green, deep green.
- 1 mk. (on thick and thin wove), 1st shade. Violet, pale violet, bright violet, dull violet.
2nd shade. Grey-lilac, slate, bluish slate.
(on laid paper). Grey-black, slate-grey, black.

- 1½ mks. Green, yellow-green, deep green.
 2 mks. (on thick and thin wove). Brown, pale brown, deep brown, bistre-brown.
 (on laid paper). Brown, deep brown, black-brown.
 2½ mks. Red-brown, deep red-brown, orange-brown, chestnut.
 3 mks. Dull red-brown, dull brown.
 5 mks. (on thick and thin wove). Purple, dull purple, bright purple.
 (on laid paper). Brown-purple, deep brown-purple, plum.
 6 mks. Rose-carmine, rose, deep car-

- mine, rose-red.
 10 mks. Red, pale red, deep red, vermillion, deep vermillion.
 20 mks. Grey-green, deep grey-green, yellow-green, deep yellow-green.
 (The shades of the 20 mks. are easily distinguished if examined by artificial light.)
 3 hal. Red-brown, pale chestnut, deep chestnut, yellow-brown.
 5 hal. Emerald-green, deep emerald-green, bright green, blue-green.
 10 hal. Orange-brown, orange, yellow-orange.

(to be continued)

CHECK LIST OF PERFORATIONS

With the papers on which they are found

I have marked only those perforations which I have seen and possess. Those marked ? are said to exist. Others may turn up as time goes on.

See previous remarks on the varieties of the 11½ perforation.

Values issued for use in Northern Poland.		FENNIGOW.										MARKI.						
		3	5	10	15 (i)	15 (ii)	20	25	40	50		1 (i)	1 (ii)	1½	2	2½	5	
Thick wove paper (1919-1920).	Imperf.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Perf. 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 11	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 13½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 10 × 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 11½ × 10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Horizontally ribbed paper.	Imperf.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Perf. 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 10 × 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Imperf.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Perf. 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 10 × 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Thin wove paper (1920).	Perf. 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 10 × 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Vertically ribbed paper.	Imperf.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Perf. 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 10 × 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Thin wove paper (1920).	Perf. 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 10 × 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 11½ × 10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Vertically laid paper (1920).	Perf. 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
		" 9	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
" 10		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
" 11		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
" 10 × 11½		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
" 11½ × 10		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Horizontally laid paper (1920).		Perf. 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
		" 9	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	" 10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 13½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 10 × 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 11½ × 10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	" 13½ × 11½	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

NOTE: Two values had their colours changed in 1919. The 15 fen. appeared (i) in carmine, (ii) in scarlet, and the 1 mk. (i) in violet, (ii) in grey-lilac, changing to a grey and grey-black on the laid paper in 1920.

the puzzles pertaining to this stamp due to the inability of access to a full sheet or its reconstruction from blocks.

Bibliography

The first publication giving the history of this stamp was a series of articles written by Samuel Koprowski titled, "The Post and Postage Stamps in Poland" published in Cracow in "The Polish Philatelist" No. 2 of 1894 and Nos. 1 to 3 of 1895. Another publication is the anonymous pamphlet, "Polish Postage Stamps" with notes of the "Old Philatelist" published by Lesman in 1916 at Petrograd.

In 1922 the monograph of Włodzimierz Polanski appeared, titled, "Stamps and Postal Cancellations in Poland in the 18th and 19th Centuries" in Cracow and Geneva. About 65 copies were printed in Polish, about 130 in French and later, in 1935, about 300 copies in German with remarks and additions by W. Rachmanow which were published by "Die Postmarke."

Among other later European fundamental independent studies giving further new details it is necessary to mention:

St. Mikstein—"Block of 6—Polish or Russian Stamp of 1860."

St. Mikstein-M. Rychlik—"Applying Ultra Violet Rays for the Examination of Postage Stamps."

M. Jankowski—"Double color and changes of print on the first Polish postage stamp." (Ikaros 1935 No. 46/47).

W. Rachmanow—"A new addition to the history of the Polish stamp of 1860." (Ikaros 1938 No. 78/79).

T. Gryzewski—"New error on the stamp of Poland of 1860" (Filatelista Polski, Posen, 1948 No. 5/6).

Also the "Illustrated Philatelic Review" of 1925/26 published many articles of W. Polanski, recapitulating the results of his publication for a wider circulation, to reach those unable to acquire his original work because of the limited Polish publication.

As the first stamp issued by Polish Postal Authority of the Kingdom of Poland it is not only a priceless historical document in itself but also testifies to the vitality of the people and their stubborn fight with the conquerors, but also circulates among the large number of stamp collectors throughout the entire world, thus constantly reminding them of Poland—which at some periods of history is

stricken from the list of free nations of the world.

On this 90th anniversary of the issuance of the first Polish stamp of 1860 we hope to arouse the interest of stamp collectors of the world to remember this anniversary in Polish philately.

Editor's Note:

Additional data regarding information in this article will be found in "The Recent Polpex Articles" which appeared in the June BULLETIN on page 86-1.

NEW ISSUES

by Jack Domar



The 15 zl. brown of the International Action of Peace set. The other stamp in the set is a 10 zl. olive green of the same design.



The first of the Six Years Plan set to appear, a 15 zl. blue. It shows two construction workers.



The 50 zl. green of the new type President Bierut stamp omitting the three-line border. Issued so far were the 15, 20, 40 and 50 zl. values.

We have just received a 15 zl. black issued on the 25th anniversary of the martyrs who fought for a Socialist Poland. Pictured are three heads identified respectively as Hibner, Kniewski, and Rutkowski.

NEW MEMBERS

Richard S. Michonski #430
116 Miller Ave.
Buffalo 12, N. Y.
Michael M. Martin #431
118 W. 79th St.
New York 23, N. Y.
Joseph C. Zoransky #432
75 Church St.
Plymouth, Pa.

APPLICATIONS PENDING

J. Luczywek
15 Manstone Road
London N. W. 2, England

STAMPS FOR THE WOUNDED

"Thanks to the members of Polonus for their help in providing stamps for our hospitalized veterans. The lots which you turned over to me will do much to interest and occupy the time of these men who really need diversion.

"Thanks again for your cooperation."

"Sincerely,

W. V. Kenworthy, Reg. Com.
Stamps For the Wounded"

The above letter was received by Barney Fialkowski after he turned in an enormous box of Polish stamps donated by Joe Bieniecki, and a large bag of stamps by Henry Choynecki.

Let's keep up this good work. Please send your duplicates, old albums, literature, and supplies to Barney Fialkowski, 2633 N. Emmett St., Chicago 47, Ill.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE CONTEST

The contest is on as of Sept. 1st! More prizes are pouring in! A leather bound mint sheet file and a complete stock book were donated by Jack Rux; a vol. of Melville's Phantom Philately and a booklet—Philatelic Forgeries by Spying Eye were donated by Ben Reeves; two mint blocks of Scott #304 donated by Anthony Klocek; a mint block of the "Konapski" error and C11-

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Barney Fialkowski, Secretary
2633 N. Emmett St.
Chicago 47, Ill.
Adam Kloskowski, Treasurer
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Chicago 47, Ill.

Publications Committee

Chester W. Makowski, Chmn.
2215 W. Cortez St.
Chicago 22, Ill.
Chester A. Schafer, Editor
2144 W. Potomac Ave.
Chicago 22, Ill.

Associate Editors this issue

Jack Domar

C12 used were donated by John Skotnicki; a mint souvenir sheet #251 donated by Richard Estka; another mint souvenir sheet #251 donated by Roman Reinoski; and a mint set of Belgium #B17-24 donated by Sid Shayman.

Our first entry in the contest is Frank B. Jancowski who proposes for membership an Australian.

Let's go! Get your first member today! Application forms can be gotten from C. J. Mikucki, 1844 N. Winchester Ave., Chicago 22, Ill.

TID BITS

Best wishes to Polonus from "down under" were received in a letter from member E. F. Reys of Sydney, Australia. He expresses his good word regarding the Larking serial articles in that they have added valuable information to his Poland collection.

Dr. Boleslaw Babowicz of Erie, Pa., sent in a card from Rome. He is on a vacation tour of Italy, France, Spain and England.

Member Joseph A. Kloskowski from New Britain, Conn. popped into Chicago and visited with Polonus members Adam Kloskowski, Myron Steczynski, and Doc Kozy.

The 1951 Polpex Director was appointed by President Dr. Galaskiewicz. Adam Kloskowski was selected and he promptly began his big task. Any ideas for a theme on the 1951 Seal, or any suggestions regarding the classification of exhibits and exhibitors will be duly welcome. Write to Adam Kloskowski, 2528 N. Drake Ave., Chicago 47, Ill.