

BULLETIN of the

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets every 4th Friday at Polish American Congress, 5844 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago

Issue No. 431

PRICE: \$2.00

November, 1988

POLONUS & P.A.N.A. CONVENTIONS AT POLPEX



The Polish American Numismatic Association marks its 25th anniversary this month. The official celebration will take place February 10th, 11th and 12th, 1989. P.A.N.A., together with POLONUS, will combine their celebrations at POLPEX 89 at the House of the White Eagle. Both organizations are planning a convention of their members from the United States and Canada at this event.

Polonus has been promoting Polish Philately since 1939. At this, their 50th Anniversary exhibition, Polonus members are undertaking to show the full scope of Polish material.

Being the oldest Polish philatelic organization, our achievements have been recognized all over the world. In June, 1989, the Polish Philatelic Federation is planning a POLONICA 89 Exhibition in Krakow to honor our Golden Jubilee. Before this takes place, the Federation President, H. Bialek and Commissioner R. Szymanski, will bring several interesting collections to our Polpex along with the best wishes of their over 300,000 members.



From England a group of at least three members and friends will attend, bringing with them some excellent collections for the exhibit. Members of the Polish Philatelic Society of Australia are preparing exhibits also. This international participation will assure a diversity of Polish philatelic material.

Entry forms are being prepared by Art Walinski and will be mailed out shortly to invited exhibitors all over the world.

For the convenience of our members and friends who will attend our reunion and celebration, information on accommodations is printed separately in this Bulletin.

Lectures and slide presentations will be given by Doctors Kronenberg, Straub and Kamienski on different subjects of Polish philately.

P.A.N.A. will also have a talk and slide program. A bus tour for out of towners is planned to the Polish Museum, the Polish monuments on the lake front, and Sears Tower, the world's tallest building, combined with a lunch. Acting as tour guide will be Louis Koncza, Chief Engineer of the City of Chicago.

There will be a United Nations postal station as well as a U.S. post office with a large selection of postage stamps and special postmarks for the 50th anniversary of Polonus and the 25th anniversary of P.A.N.A.

The largest exhibit ever of Polish coins, medals and military decorations will be shown by the numismatic group.

Special medals, minted by Medallic Arts of Danbury, Conn. will be mounted on gilded walnut stands and awarded to exhibitors and Polpex patrons who contribute \$100.00 or more to support our ambitious undertaking. This will be a most memorable souvenir of our Golden Jubilee.

Remember, only united will we achieve our goals. We must be reminded that our cultural legacy calls out now for joint efforts. Come and meet with old and new friends at POLPEX 89! Help us to achieve our common objective!

—Fred Szebel, Executive Chairman

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The list of financial sponsors of our Golden Jubilee is growing, but we need much more to cover part of the expenses of POLPEX 89. Be generous and help the Society. Please send donations of \$100.00 or more to: POLONUS-POLPEX 89, c/o Fred Szebel, 1615 East Central Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005.

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DO YOUR PART IN PROMOTING POLISH PHILATELY!

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EVERY MEMBER BRING A MEMBER TO THE NEXT MEETING!!

THE KRAKOW ISSUE

UPDATED ANALYSIS OF MAKEUP AND REVISIONS OF TYPOGRAPHIC OVERPRINT FORMS

By BOHDAN SUBOCZ and ANDRZEJ LUTZE-BIRK

Translated by STANLEY K. KING

Studies of the typographic Krakow overprints* conducted by us in recent years have been expounded fully in a specialized monograph; its typescript is generally accessible at the library of the Warsaw Circle of the Polish Union of Philatelists.

Our entire monograph comprises about 120 pages of typescript, some 130 tables, drawings and diagrams. Taking into consideration its size and understandable difficulties of publishing it even in an abbreviated version,** we are making public these basis theses of the work:

In our monograph we examine in detail the following problems:

- Methods of analyzing the makeup of typographic overprint forms that were assembled with half-line printing slugs.
- Methods of verifying mutual correlation of measurements of overprint word positions, their lengths and the distances between them on the half-line slugs.
- An analysis of the makeup of typographic forms I, IIA, IIB, IIC, IID, IIE, as well as the types that served to produce fake overprints, Va, Vb, VA, VB, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X (according to S. Mikstein's nomenclature) and of the form designated 1F (by L. Schmutz).
- Implications for experts stemming from these analyses of the forms' makeup.



*) Polish provisional overprints in 1919, Scott Nos. 41-51, 56-59, J1-J7, J10 black overprint, J11, J12, P1-P5.

**) The printing backlog in Poland is severe. For example, the Lodz Circle's research bulletin (*Historyczno-Badawczy Biuletyn Filatelistyczny*) for the first quarter of 1977 appeared in June, more than a year late—Ed.

1. In typographic overprints produced by printing forms assembled with half-line slugs, like the Krakow overprints, position of the words, their length and the distance between them are connected according to simple linear equations worked out by us. These equations permit checking accuracy of our measurements, and in the event that the forms were assembled with half-lines with well known parameters, which we have indicated, they also permit verification of data in the literature for sheets of stamps overprinted by those forms. It is possible to correct aberrant data, even to predict approximate data for placement of words in as yet undetermined overprint positions, for example in forms Va and Vb.

Our methods of study, which can be adapted universally for analysis of all multiline typographic overprints issued by any nation, have been described in a separate monograph. (8*)

2. As believed hitherto, Form I was assembled with half-line printing slugs — two varieties for the words "POCZTA" and two for the words "POLSKA" — and separate pieces of type of a rhombus, except for overprint position 73. This form was remarkably well tightened and there are no great variations in the position parameters of the words and rhombuses. This makes for effective use of the tables worked up by J. Ryblewski. (1). One quarter of the form was assembled with half-lines M1 and N1 and the remainder with M2 and N2. Dimensions of these half-lines are given in Table 1.

3. Form IIA also was assembled with five-word half-line slugs of the same variety as in Form I in top rows 1 and 2 and part of row 3. For the remaining rows new half-line slugs were cast, M3 and N3 (according to Mikstein's nomenclature). (2,3) Parameters for the half-line varieties M3 and N3 that filled out the remainder of Form IIA are given in Table 1. Form IIA most certainly was locked up poorly, or it had to be retightened, because data reported by various writers, including our own, show significant divergence as to word positions, as well as the rhombuses in particular. Expertizing of overprints from this form must be based somewhat less on dictates of tables of dimensions and to a greater measure upon agreement of overprint characteristics of the stamp in question with a reference copy.

4. Length of the words "POCZTA" is $14 + 0.05$ mm. and of "POLSKA" $14 + 0.05$ mm. These are median values for the overprints of all the forms. Differences in moisture content of the overprinted sheets of stamps meant that for each sheet these medians are somewhat different, so that deviations from the values given above are significant ($+ 0.10$ mm.). Distances between words in half-lines of the same variety are different from the values given by Mikstein; these dimensions are given in Table 1.

5. Forms IIB, all variants of IIC and IID and Form IIE were not assembled, in our opinion, from unitary five-word half-line slugs but in-

**) Superscript numbers denote bibliographic references at end of the article.

TABLE 1

Words	Symbols	Authors	Distances Among Words in Cols. (in mm.)			
			1-2 (6,7)	2,3 (7,8)	3,4 (8,9)	4,5 (9,10)
POCZTA	M1	S/L-B	10.65 ±0.05	11.65 - - 11.70	11.60	11.55 - - 11.60
		M	10½	11½	11½	11½
	M2	S/L-B	11.50 ±0.05	11.50 ±0.05	11.50 ±0.05	11.30
		M	11¼	11¼	11¼	11¼
	M3	S/L-B	12.45 - - 12.50	10.95 - - 11.00	11.05 ±0.05	11.05 ±0.05
		M	12¼	10 3/4	10 3/4	10 3/4
	N1	S/L-B	11.10	10.75 ±0.05	11.10	10.90 - - 10.95
		M	10 3/4	10½	11	10 3/4
POLSKA	N2	S/L-B	10.95 - - 11.00	10.95 ±0.05	10.90 - - 10.95	11.05 ±0.05
		M	10 3/4	10 3/4	10 3/4	10 3/4
	N3	S/L-B	11.95 ±0.05	10.50 ±0.05	10.70 ±0.05	10.60 - - 10.75
		M	11 3/4	10½	10½	10½

Characteristics on half-line slugs used in the makeup of Forms I and II, comparing measurements of Subocz and Lutze-Birk with Mikstein's.

cluded smaller printing elements, perhaps even individual slugs with just the word "POCZTA" or "POLSKA". These forms often were reassembled corrected and poorly tightened and show signs of much shifting of printing elements (especially IIC), which resulted in wide disparities in overprint parameters. Even more than in the case of Form IIA, in expertizing stamps overprinted by these forms wide tolerances in dimensions must be accepted and the emphasis must be on agreement of overprint characteristics in the stamp under study and a reference copy.

Strictly speaking, it could be possible to differentiate as many variants of a particular form as there were sheets of stamps overprinted by it. The expert must pay considerably greater attention to reference overprints than believed hitherto. In order to increase the fund of knowledge about possible parameters of word and rhombus positions and distances among the overprints we have undertaken with the collaboration of Ryblewski examination of all accessible sheets from the forms listed above; we expect

to publish the results of our newest studies before long. On the other hand, dimensional data for study of variants of the forms should not come from reconstructed sheets or separate stamps. Introduction of such mean data makes no sense, because they are values that in general can never appear in reality, especially together, because they are parameters for a fictitious sheet.

6. Prevalence of single slugs with the words "POCZTA" and "POLSKA" in Forms IIB, IIC, IID and IIE creates (theoretically) the possibility that some printing elements could have been changed, for which repeating faults were not observed during the entire sequence of Forms IIA—IIE. A tally of such constant faults, for example, is contained in Ryblewski's monograph. (1) The same caution applies to words containing imperfections that occurred during casting or stemmed from improper alignment of linotype matrices ("raised A", etc.). Ascertainment that printing elements could have been interchanged obviously does not constitute proof or even a suggestion that any were changed. That question is a subject of our continuing studies.

7. Significance of dimensional data in probing the authenticity of stamps and in designating their position in a sheet is less than believed hitherto, except for Form I. Of deciding significance, on the other hand, is the appearance of faults in an overprint on the stamps in question that are identical with those on a reference sheet. Previous catalogs of faults, prepared by Mikstein (2,3) and Ryblewski (4), cover barely two-thirds of the positions in a sheet, and only one or two characteristic faults are indicated for each overprint. We are preparing an updated catalog of faults for each printing form separately. For Forms I, IIA and IIC the catalogs are completed and can be published; we have found on the average four to six faults for each overprint. The catalogs for Forms IIB, IID and IIE will be completed before long.

8. Similarly, the "raised A" and "raised L" in the word "POLSKA" have great significance. We have prepared charts of these features' positions in sheets for Forms I and II and have pointed out their connection with makeup of the printing forms. Appearance of impressions of casting spurs following the letters S and T from designated half-lines M and N also can be utilized in positioning a stamp in the sheet.

9. The very complicated expertizing of the Krakow overprints, based on tables of measurements and charts of characteristic overprint features' positions in sheet layouts as well as on the exhaustive newly prepared catalogs of faults, can be significantly facilitated if we take advantage of current computer technology. We have prepared a computer program for study of the typographic Krakow overprints that makes it possible to eliminate 99 percent of the counterfeits without resort to scarce sheets of genuine stamps. The program is endowed with a copious data base drawn from our newest studies. Elimination of counterfeits takes place automat-

ically, and so does determining a stamp's position in a sheet. Fault details are displayed on the TV monitor thanks to computer graphics. (8)

10. Forms Va and Vb, partly reconstructed by Mikulski, (4) were assembled with material from the lower half of Form I with no changes except for replacing the double dot with a rhombus in position 73. The reconstruction was not done exactly in all respects so that it is not possible to use the tables prepared by Mikulski (4) and included in PZP. (5) Employing mathematical methods developed by us, we have corrected some of the data on the position of overprint words. Also we have assigned probable numerical values defining the approximate positions of words on stamps that remain as yet unknown. We have indicated mistakes in reconstructing the form, which indicate that data are lacking in a portion of the half-lines of both forms.

Forms VA and VB were assembled from the same material as the lower half of Form I and Forms Va and Vb. These show a different arrangement of the half-lines, in agreement with published descriptions. (2, 4,5). After examining sheets of stamps, we have developed precise dimensions for Form VA overprints. We did a mathematical analysis of data about positions of overprint words in Form VB and we have corrected some data.

We shall present in a separate publication an analysis of the makeup of type V forms and new tables of dimensions for these forms.

11. The forms employed to produce fake overprints, designated VI, VII, IX and X by Mikstein, probably fit into the 100-stamp Form 1F, according to Schmutz's concept. Description of the forms' overprint parameters and analysis of the distances between the words as given by Mikstein, (2) as well as analysis of tabular data by M. Perzynski and Mikulski, (7) lead to the conclusion that Form 1F in its first state also could have been assembled with 5-word half-line slugs (at least in its upper right portion) and underwent revisions only later, so that into its assembly entered smaller elements, at least in part. The old dimensional data, however, could be inaccurate. Examination of a sheet overprinted by Form VII (lower half of Form 1F) as well as mathematical analysis of available dimensional data indicate that the Schmutz concept (6) of how Form 1F was assembled also is not correct, at least as regards the later states of the form. Form 1F comprised more smaller elements than indicated by Schmutz. This applies equally to the overprints in positions 98, 99 and 100 that in view of the inseparability of the printing elements, were supposed to have been changed together.

Form VIII, which served to overprint Austrian special handling stamps (that do not enter into the array of "Krakow overprints") does not fit into the presently assumed layout of Form 1F (despite similarity of printing elements). That will be the subject of a separate publication upon completion of our studies.

To the extent possible we shall publish data gathered by us for particular form types. Some problems demand more extensive inquiry, especially type IIC, IID and 1F forms.

We appeal to all experts, students and collectors of the "Krakow issue" to kindly make available to us material for examination, especially sheets and larger fragments. At the same time we urge that unpublished dimensional data be published. In many instances, incompatibility of these data with generally known and accepted parameters could have constrained authors from publishing. We believe we have managed to illuminate the reasons for the incompatibilities, as briefly explained above.

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(An earlier version of the foregoing article appeared in Filatelista, Feb. 16-29, 1988, pp. 80-81; it has been revised by the authors to reflect results of their most recent studies. — SKK)

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In Memoriam

WALLY PAWLOWSKI
Laguna Hills, Calif.

Warsaw Post and Palaeography

By RYSZARD Z. PODDUBIUK

The precise moment of the introduction of an autonomous municipal government in Warsaw is uncertain, however, the beginnings of it had to be before 1376, since a document issued by the Duke of Masovia in that year, refers clearly to the City Councillors (*consulibus*).

The Municipal Council consisted of six Councillors and a Mayor, all members of the City's patriciate. Following the 1525 disorders, the Council was enlarged, first to twelve and then to twenty Councillors. The enlarged, New Council continued to administer the City and try breaches of municipal ordinances. The Old Council (of six), which to a degree retained a separate identity, acted now as an appellate court to the New Council's decisions. Other offenses committed within the City's jurisdiction were tried by the Bench, presided over by the Sheriff.

In 1526, after the death of the last Duke of Masovia, Janusz III, the Duchy of Masovia was incorporated into the Kingdom of Poland. Warsaw, already one of the principal Masovian cities, entered a period of rapid growth, both in an economic and a political sense and by 1611 replaced Cracow as the capital of the Kingdom.

* * *

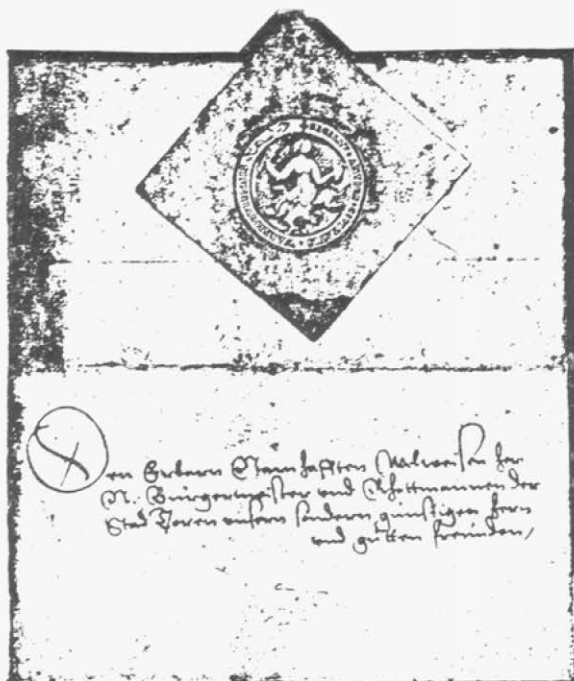
In a fabulous, early Polish postal history collection of Mr. Lech Po-pielewski of Torun, Poland, there are two Warsaw letters dating back to the period of the City's transition from a provincial center to that of a Royal Capital.

The first, a letter sent by the City Council in 1565, bears the Old Warsaw seal, which was in use for two hundred years, between 1450 and 1650. It shows a half-woman, half-dragon, holding a raised sword and shield. Around the perimeter of the seal, there is a Latin inscription: SIGILLV * ANTIQVE * CIVITATIS * WARSHOVIENSIS — The Seal of the Old City of Warsaw.

The second is a letter sent by the Old City Bench to the City of Torun in 1594. In the center of the seal, affixed to the letter, there is a representation of a cap worn by the Bench members during the Bench sessions and six small crosses. The perimeter inscription reads: SIGILLVM * SCABINORVM * CIVITATIS * ANTIQVAS * WARSSOV — The Seal of the Bench of the Old City of Warsaw. It should be noted that this particular seal is most probably the best preserved seal of this type in existence.

* * *

Little is known about municipal messenger services in Warsaw. In fact, there appears to be a great paucity of research and hence published information on the subject of postal history in Medieval, Renaissance or Reformation Poland.



Letter mailed from Warsaw in 1565



Letter mailed from Warsaw to Torun in 1594

Polonus Philatelic Society made its reputation through its members' original research into the varied aspects of Polish philately. The results of this research were published in the Bulletin and many other philatelic publications throughout the world.

It seems that the Society is going, at the moment, through a kind of a crisis. Responding to the President's appeal, I would like to present my fellow members with a challenge. I have already started compiling all existing information related to the early postal history of Poland. I would like you to join me in this task. Let us compare, exchange and publish information we have and let us search for the information which is missing.

Let us be truly daring and let us dream of publishing jointly and under the Polonus auspices the first definitive work on this subject, tentatively entitled "The Polish Posts 966-1696", on or before the Polonus 60th anniversary.

Focus on Forgeries

Poland Coat of Arms Issue of 1924



Forgery Scott 214

Genuine Scott 214

A crude yet deceptive forgery of this high value of the 1924 Polish Arms issue apparently was made to defraud collectors. Since the stamp is much less valuable in unused condition, the forgery is often carefully canceled with a clear strike of a Poznan canceler, as seen in the example depicted. It is not known if the other denominations of the 10-value set have also been imitated.

Forgeries: The tongue of the eagle is short, and is not attached to the head. A round solid dot of color surmounts the crown. The upright of the "P" of "POLSKA" in the top right corner touches the ornamental circular frame below it. There are many other prominent differences in the design, which is crude overall.

Genuine: The tongue of the eagle is long and clearly extends from a detailed, open mouth. The top of the eagle's crown takes the form of a well-defined cross. The bottom of the "P" in "POLSKA" does not touch the ornamental frame.

Reprinted from LINN'S STAMP NEWS

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Text by Varro E. Tyler

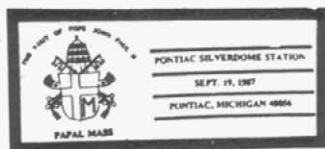
NEW ISSUES

Stalowa Wola Ironworks

On the 70th Anniversary of the Restoration of Polish Independence, a series of commemoratives was issued on September 5th, 1988 showing the most important economic events of the Second Republic. A 20 zł. value appeared commemorating one of the most remarkable investment projects inside the Central Industrial Zone, the Stalowa Wola Ironworks, showing a panorama and ironworks emblem.

Multicolor rotogravure printed in sheets of 50. Designed by Andrzej Szczepaniak.

—"ARS POLONA"



Little known postmarks from the last visit of Pope John Paul III at Hamtramck and Pontiac, Michigan.

Polpex Accomodations

Visitors to POLPEX 89 from out-of-town can stay at these motels which are located in the area of the House of the White Eagle, 6839 No. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, a suburb of Chicago:

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We suggest that visitors stay at the Royal 6 Motel which is 4 blocks from the Polpex. This will simplify

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the transportation problem. A 24-hour restaurant is located next to the motel. The coordination of motel reservations thru Matco Travel will also help us know who is going to attend the Polpex.

—Fred Szebel, Exec. Chairman