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POLISH NAVAL POSTAL SERVICES IN GREAT BRITAIN — 1939-45

By RON NEGUS

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Introduction

The stamps issued by the Polish Government in Exile in Great Britain during the last war have achieved catalogue status and have been widely described in the philatelic press. Very little has been written, however, about the postal service which was inaugurated at the same time to handle mail bearing these stamps.

The press release describing the first set of stamps to be issued on December 15th, 1941, tells us that: "A Polish postal service is to be put into operation on Polish sea-going vessels. Moreover, complying with the request of the Polish fighting forces in Great Britain and in agreement with the British postal authorities, it will be made possible on certain days for Polish Military Camps in the United Kingdom to avail themselves of the Polish postal service, i.e. to dispatch their correspondence via Polish ships."

The exiled Polish Government's records are hard to find, and this makes it difficult today to obtain accurate information on the mechanics of this service. However, over the past few months, with the help of a number of correspondents, I have assembled some kind of an account. I do not claim that the story as presented is without errors, but it is to the best of my belief a correct statement of fact. In publishing, my sole aim is to prompt other collectors to come forward with more

information so that a true record can be made for the use of future students of this interesting phase of our hobby.

The bibliography at the end of the article lists sources I have consulted, but as far as I know, no full account of these ship services appeared in print in English. Descriptions of the stamps have been written, but how they were used is still doubtful. I hope the following remarks will help to clarify the position.

The Postal Service

When Poland was occupied in 1939, a number of her ships were either at sea or escaped from Polish ports, and these eventually joined up with the Royal Navy and became part of the allied forces fighting the Germans. In accordance with international law, these ships were Polish territory, and the introduction of stamps for use on board them was a natural event. Covers from ships themselves are difficult to obtain for two reasons. Firstly, being engaged in fighting or convoy work, the personnel on board had little time to devote to letter writing, and in the majority of cases the people with whom they would normally correspond were in enemy hands. Secondly, these ships enjoyed the same privileges as the Royal Navy and were allowed to send letters free of charge. This mail was franked with the normal MARITIME MAIL strike, and is indistinguishable from any other ship post.

For these reasons, the bulk of the examples in circulation today came from the land-based Polish forces, who at that time were centered in Scotland. The procedure for handling this mail was rather unusual, and to obtain Polish stamps and cancellations on their correspondence they had to work as follows:

The letter was handed in unsealed to the postal clerk at the camp. He computed the amount of postage due and this was paid by the sender in cash. A rate of exchange was fixed at 24 złoty (2,400 groszy) to the £1 (i.e. 10 groszy equals 1d.) and postal rates were:

Letters: Up to 20 grammes— 55 groszy (5½d.)

Each additional 20 grm.—30 groszy (3d.)

Postcards: 30 groszy (3d.)

Registration fee: 45 groszy (4½).

Letters were only accepted for dispatch to addresses in the United Kingdom, allied and neutral countries. Extra stamps in excess of the actual postage could be added if required.

After receiving the money for the postage, the postal clerk annotated the cover with the amount paid and entered the item on his own list, which showed the name of the addressee and the stamps required. These covers are often found with manuscript markings, presumably to help the postal clerk handling the mail. Manuscript figures probably relate to the number of the item on the clerk's list, and sometimes the amount paid is found somewhere on the cover. I have also seen the letter "Z" written on covers and assume this to mean "Zwyeczajna" (equals "Ordinary" in Polish) to distinguish it from registered mail. The regulations also required that the sender's name and address be stated on the cover, although I have seen genuine examples where this has not been done.

The bags of mail were then sent from the camps to one of nine post offices, Blairgowrie, Broughty-Ferry, Coupar-Angus, Coupar, Dundee, Dunfermline, Forfar, Leven or Perth, from whence they were passed on to the Postal Department of the Polish Ge-



Fig. 1 Type M

neral Staff in London for franking and dispatch. Mail sent via any of these nine post offices was handled without extra payment, but if it was dispatched through any other post office, it had to be prepaid at the normal letter-rate with British stamps, and this explains why some covers have mixed franking.

The Official Cancellations

When the service was introduced in December 1941, each Polish vessel was issued with a date-stamp for cancelling the mail. These were made of metal, and took the form of a rectangle, size 50 x 29 mm. Within this outer frame are contained (see Fig. 2) the outline of a ship and the words AGENCJA POCZTOWA (Postal Agency) in two lines at the bottom right-hand corner. The date is enclosed in a framed box with rounded ends and placed centrally. After the date, is the number of the agency. The cancellers issued to warships bore the words POLSKA MARYNARKA WOJENNA (Polish Navy) in two lines immediately above the date-box, while those for use of merchant vessels had the inscription POLSKA MARYNARKA HANDLOWA (Polish Merchant Marine). The latter have the words AGENCJA POCZTOWA in one line and the agency number is also contained within the date-box (see Fig. 1, Type M). Both these types were in use until the discontinuation of the service in July, 1945.

As will be clear from the above, each postal agency number represented a different ship, and I am grateful to Mr. M. A. Bojanowicz, of Wembley, for permission to reprint a list of these numbers, which first appeared in his article (in Polish) in *Filatelista*, Edinburgh.

**POSTAL AGENCY NOS. IN USE ON
MERCHANT VESSELS (Type M)**

Name of Ship	Agency No.
M/S MORSKA WOLA	1
S/S LUBLIN	2
M/S BATORY	3
S/S KATOWICE	4
M/S SOBIESKI	5
S/S KRAKÓW	6
S/S LWÓW	7
S/S ZAGŁOBA	8
S/S KMICIC	9
S/S KORDECKI	10
M/S ROZEWIE	11
S/S TOBRUK	12
M/S STALOWA WOLA	13
S/S POZNAŃ	14
S/S LECHISTAN	16
S/S WILNO	17
S/S ŚLĄSK	18
S/S MODLIN	19
S/S WISŁA	20
S/S LEVANT	21
S/S BAŁTYK	22
S/S PUCK	24
S/S PADEREWSKI	25
S/S NARWIK	27
S/S KROMAN	33
S/S BIAŁYSTOK	35
S/S LECH	36
S/S HEL	39
S/S PUŁASKI	49
M/S BORYSŁAW	52
S/S KIELCE	72
S/S NAROCZ	77
S/S KOŚCIUSZKO	81

**POSTAL AGENCY NOS. IN USE ON
WARSHIPS (Types WO and WI)**

Name of Ship	Agency No.
O.R.P. PIORUN	1
O.R.P. DRAGON	3
O.R.P. CONRAD	4
O.R.P. KRAKOWIAK	7
O.R.P. BURZA	12
O.R.P. DZIK	14
O.R.P. GARLAND	17
O.R.P. ORKAN	20
O.R.P. BŁYSKAWICA	21
O.R.P. SOKÓŁ	25
O.R.P. WILK	27
O.R.P. ŚLĄZAK	33
O.R.P. KUJAWIAK	36

'O.R.P.' is an abbreviation for *Okręt Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej* and is equivalent to the British 'H.M.S.'



Fig. 2 Type W I

There is no explanation available why some of the numbers are missing, but the official source from which Mr. Bojanowicz obtained his information stated that the missing agency numbers were never in use.

In spite of this disclaimer, cancellations are known with numbers not included in the above list, but their origin is obscure. The most common is number "15", which appears quite frequently on covers with warship cancellations. I saw this number on some first day covers which had a pre-printed address to a well-known dealer. I inquired further, and was told that these covers had been prepared at the time with the printed address and sent, in considerable quantities, to the headquarters of the Polish Navy in London. They had been returned from there with the stamps affixed and cancelled with the number 15 postmark, which would suggest that this number was in fact the Naval H.Q. and not a sea-going vessel at all. This might also explain the appearance of other missing numbers as well, since these could be naval shore establishments in other parts of the country.

Another thing difficult to explain, in connection with this service, is the appearance in November, 1943 of a second type of cancellation for warships (see Fig. 3, Type WO). This was made



Fig. 3 Type W O

of rubber, and the design, while retaining the essential characteristics of the first type, was completely redrawn. As the first type was not withdrawn from use, it is hard to find any good reason why a second type was necessary. It cannot be that the first type was worn out, since the first ones were metal stamps while the later issue was made of rubber. The most obvious difference between the two types is that the number of the postal agency has been shifted outside the date-box, and for this reason I call the two types WI and WO, showing that they are both for W(arships) but the number is either I(nside) or O(ustide) the date-box. The other differences between them are:

Type WI	Type WO
Stern and funnels of ship as Fig. 2.	Stern and funnels of ship as Fig. 3.
Seven portholes in each row.	"Gunfire" in sky above bows — two puffs of smoke.
Lettering 3 mm. high.	Six portholes in each row on side of ship.
Sans-serif Roman figures.	Lettering 3.5 mm. high.
Cross-bars oblique pointing toward top right-hand corner of frame	Month in date-box given in serriffed Roman figures.
Both lines of equal length.	Cross-bars of aerial mast are parallel to top frame of rectangle.
	In two lines outside top clouds, bottom is shorter.

A final small discrepancy is over the color of the markings. The official source previously referred to states that all cancellations were in black, but I have seen examples of strikes in green. This is simply a case, I feel, of the postal clerk getting hold of the wrong rubber stamp pad and I think these wrong color examples are not of any particular merit.

Other Markings

In addition to the ship postmarks which appear on these covers, a number of other rubber stamp markings can be found. Very often Field Post Office markings of the Polish forces appear as back-stamps, and usually seem to be arrival marks, judging by the dates. I have seen a cover with a complete set of the first London issue on it cancelled only by the POCZTA POLOWA F.P.O. cancellation No. 111 without any ship marks at all, but I would not like to guarantee its authenticity.

More usual markings fall into two classes, Censor marks and Registration stamps. I have found examples of three different types of censor marking. The first type is a gummed label ref. P.C.90, which is used to re-seal the envelope after examination, and bears the words (in black) OPENED BY EXAMINER (Number)— each censor presumably having his own number. This type is not very common, probably because mail was handed in unsealed, as mentioned previously. The other types of censor markings are both rubber stamps. The first is an eight-sided shape containing a crown and the examiner's number, prefixed with the letter P. This is found in both red and purple, and the number P.94 seems to predominate, although I have seen P.161 also. The final type of censor mark is the Admiralty one, which can be found in red or blue and is completed by the examiner in manuscript with the date and his initials in the space provided.

Registration marks can be found quite easily, and I have discovered at least three distinct types were in use. They are usually impressed in blue, and I have seen covers where there has been no number added on the dotted line. All three types are of the same form, with a bold letter **R** followed by the words POLSKA MAR. WOJENNA / AGENCJA POCZTOWA in two lines, and then a space for the number of the letter or parcel.

I illustrate two of the types, and their differences can be easily described.

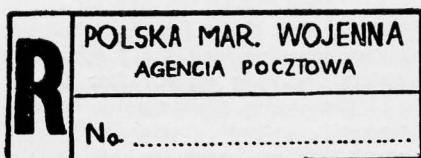


Fig. 4 Type 1

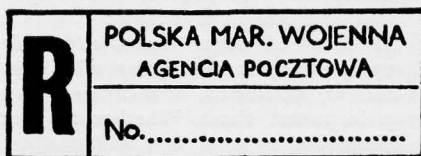


Fig. 5 Type 2

Type 1 (Fig. 4).—Size $55\frac{1}{2} \times 20$ mm. Box containing R measures 8 mm. across. J in WOJENNA is same height as other letters. AGENCIA is spelled with an I. Dotted rule after "No." contains 36 dots.

Type 2 (Fig. 5).—Size $55\frac{1}{2} \times 20$ mm. Box containing R measures 10 mm. across. J in WOJENNA protrudes below the bottom of the other letters. AGENCIA is spelled with an I. Dotted rule after "No." contains 30 dots.

Type 3 (not illustrated).—Size 57×20 mm. Box containing R measures 10 mm. across. J in WOJENNA is same height as other letters. AGENCJA is spelled with a J. Dotted rule after "No." contains 30 dots.

A Polish friend tells me that the spelling of the word for agency can have either an "I" or a "J", so it would appear that both versions are equally correct, but it indicates that the stamps were made at different times or by different firms. I have no definite information about the date on which these types were introduced, but have not seen any of the Type 1 marking used in conjunction with the first stamp issue, which may mean that this was a later production. I have found Types 2 and 3 on first day covers of the first issue.

The final types of markings which can be found on these covers are to my mind in the class of "incidental markings." In this group fall a host of rubber stamps usually giving details of the origin of the cover. Among these

can be found depot names, orderly room stamps, ship name stamps and the like. I would add here a word of warning to collectors about these types of cover, which I know are circulating and which are sometimes offered by dealers, mainly through lack of accurate knowledge, as scarce examples of the Polish Naval Post. In actual fact these covers have been made up (possibly to order) by over-zealous postal clerks with access to these rubber stamps and an eye to the future philatelic market. The foregoing notes should be sufficient to enable interested collectors to judge if the items they are buying are genuine postal items or not.

The use of the postal service.

Ever since I began my studies of these covers I have been trying to determine the exact days upon which the Polish land forces could use this service. All the reports simply say "on certain days" without giving any further detail.

It seems generally agreed that the intention was for the service to be available four times per year and in September 1941 an agreement was made between the G.O.P. and the Polish postal authorities. Under this agreement it was decided to make the service available on one day three weeks before Easter Sunday (Easter being observed as a festival in Poland to a far greater degree than it is in England), and also on April 10th, August 10th and December 10th. This meant the mail would be handled in time for the four major religious and national festivals in the Polish calendar, namely Easter, Polish National Day (May 3rd), the Feast of the Assumption (August 15th) and Christmas.

However, in practice it seems this arrangement was not carried out and the G.O.P. records show that these special mails were actually arranged on on the following dates:

December 15th, 1941
 March 16th, 1942
 July 2nd—6th, 1942
 October 9th—12th, 1942
 April 9th—12th, 1943
 August 3rd—7th, 1943

October 22nd—25th, 1943
 December 6th—9th, 1943
 March 24th—28th, 1944
 July 27th—31st, 1944
 December 1st—5th, 1944
 April 27th—May 1st, 1945

The postmark dates on the actual covers I have examined, often vary considerably from the above list and there are two possible explanations for this. Firstly, covers that originated at sea could, of course bear any date, and this factor tends to cloud the issue under discussion, as it is sometimes hard to decide into which class any particular cover falls. Secondly, the mail required censorship and this was done before franking. The method being for the mail to be held after it was censored until the Polish authorities decided to which ship it was to be dispatched. Consequently, although the letter may have left the camp on one of the days quoted above, the actual postmark could have been applied several days, or even weeks, later.

These brief notes will show that the position is still far from clear and I would be most interested to hear from any reader who is able to add any details to this section of the story.

As a sidelight on this topic it is interesting to note that in an appendix to his book, "Naval Mails," Mr. John Goldup records having received a letter from a Polish ship at the end of March 1944 bearing a ship cancellation which was still dated January 1st. This kind of thing shows the need for great care in making assertions from actual covers..

Conclusion

It seems clear from the material now available that this postal service was abused philatelically and it was possible to obtain covers franked in any desired manner. I have examples in my collection of these strikes applied to stamps on pieces of writing paper, and they can frequently be found on un-addressed envelopes. Even allowing for the disruption caused by war-time conditions, which could cause freak emissions, I would still advise caution in buying these items. Postal clerks seemed anxious to provide a complete

service for their friends who were stamp collectors and the possibility of covers becoming scarce after the war and thus being philatelically desirable property, almost certainly inspired many spurious issues.

The bulk of the covers now on the market are "cancelled to order" specimens and are of a similar nature to the host of other cancelled-to-order covers issued in connection with every festival, exhibition, convention and so on in recent times. Whether they are collectable, as such, is a matter of personal preference, but it is important, I feel, to realize their status so that the prices asked for such material can be judged in proper perspective. Only genuine covers which were posted on board Polish ships and received proper postal handling and franking can, in my opinion, justifiably command a high price, but these are not easy to obtain.

Finally, I would like to convey my deepest thanks to Mr. R. K. Wagner for his assistance in connection with this research. Also to friends in the Polish Philatelic Society, London, and numerous correspondents whom I trust will accept this grouped acknowledgment of their help and understand that space prevents me from mentioning each by name.

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Since the above article was written, I have been in correspondence with the leading Polish specialist in Australia, Mr. I. Gust, who has also made a study of the period under discussion and has an extensive collection of "London" material. Mr. Gust has kindly given me permission to quote some

of his observations:

"After carefully studying my material and reading all that was published on the subject, I came to the conclusion that the issue of stamps by the London Government was not instigated by any urgent need, but by political considerations. Your observations regarding the difficulties with the procedure of using these stamps at certain times of the year indicate that only enthusiasts—meaning philatelists—would go to all that trouble of obtaining such cancelled covers (addressed mainly to themselves or to their friends).

"My considered opinion is that the London period cannot be studied by its stamps alone but only in conjunction with its postal history. It seems clear that in many cases the stamps were used as little more than patriotic labels, and although beyond any shadow of doubt they were legal, in most instances their use was of a purely philatelic nature. The picture of that time is obscured by political considerations, which have nothing to do with philately, and only by patient study and by truthful accounts can we hope to understand the period."

I am in complete agreement with sentiments expressed by Mr. Gust, and I hope any of our readers who may have first-hand knowledge of how the Polish post was organized in Great Britain during the war years will come forward and submit a written account for the benefit of us all.

—Ron Negus

POLPEX COMMITTEE SELECTED

Polpex 1963 will be held on March 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1963. The place will be announced later, and the theme of the show will be commemorative of the 100th anniversary of the "Powstanie Styczniowe" and the "Battle of Gettysburg. The President announced that the following members will serve on the 1963 Polpex Committee:

Director and General

Chairman Josef J. Bendkowski
Sales Roman H. Strzelecki
Finance Lester Jankowski
Entries Josef J. Bendkowski
Arts Myron E. Steczynski
Bourse Roman Reinowski
Catalog-Patrons Stanley Kucharz
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Publicity Chester Schafer, Walter
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WHAT GOES ON AT POLONUS . . .

By Roman H. Strzelecki, Secretary

METTING OF AUGUST 24, 1962

The meeting was called to order right on time. Attendance was fairly good with 21 members and two visitors present. From the way it began, the meeting was expected to be good and long, but instead, it was short and sweet. It was probably one of the shortest ever held at Polonus. It all lasted only nine minutes, including the reading of the minutes by the Secretary, introducing the visitors and one, but only one philatelic announcement.

It was one of those days, where there was no business to discuss. This was so because all the business was hammered out at the last Board of Directors meeting, which lasted from 8 to 11:30 P.M.

An important philatelic announcement was read by the Secretary, that the C.P.S. will hold their Stamp Exhibit on Nov. 9 to 12, 1962, at Sherman Hotel. More details will be put in our Bulletin at a later date.

The President made an announcement that he received an invitation from the C.P.S. to be a guest speaker at their October 18th, 1962 meeting. He will deliver a lecture on the Newspaper Stamps of France. All Chicago members are invited by the C.P.S. to attend that meeting.

The meeting was adjourned without any protests as everyone was eager to look over the material displayed for our monthly auction. Some of the late Bert Powell's material was to be auctioned by our expert auctioneer Roman Reinowski. As the material was very good, there was stiff competition in the bidding.

MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1962

With 24 members and one visitor present, the meeting was called to order by the President at 8:30 p.m. sharp. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting as well as the minutes of the Board of Directors held on Sept. 12th. Because a quorum was not present, an official Board of Directors meeting could not be held. But as there were Polpex Committee members present, we

discussed several problems of the coming Polpex.

Getting back to the regular meeting, as there was little business to be discussed, the President brought up Polpex 1963. First of all he announced the Committee members and their respective tasks. We are certain that the Chairman, with a little help from the members will put on another outstanding Polpex.

The President appealed to all present to start digging into their stamp treasury and prepare their collections for the exhibit at the next Polpex.

At one of the previous Board of Directors meetings the 1963 theme was discussed, and later it was adopted at a regular meeting. At that time the most fitting theme was the 1863 January Insurrection in Poland and the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War. Both these events are of a historical nature and since their 100th anniversary is being commemorated, we adopted these. Recently however, the President received a number of arguments against the adopted theme, because of its similarity to the 1962 theme. Our Art Director Myron Steczynski suggested the honoring of Mikołaj Kopernik as the father of modern astronomy in connection with today's achievements in space. Naturally at a suggestion like this a discussion of pro and con is a "must" at our meeting. The discussion as to the nature of the theme could go on indefinitely, but here the President cut everybody short by pointing out that the theme was already accepted by the members and only a motion to reconsider the theme could open a legal way to further discussion. A motion was made immediately to that effect, but it was defeated and thus far the January Insurrection and the Battle of Gettysburg remain the Polpex theme.

One of our old and faithful friends, J. Elmer Zinnsmeister, Editor of the S.P.A. Journal, became ill and was admitted to a hospital. A get well card was mailed to him with best

wishes from the Society. Today we received a thank you note from Elmer, who is already at home recovering, and naturally feeling better.

The Secretary received a letter from Kahoy Barrio School in the Philippines with a request for some stamps of Poland for a school project designed to promote and to encourage the hobby of stamp collecting. Should any of you have some to spare, let's get them together, make a small package and mail some Poland stamps into that far corner of the World. All such material should be sent to the Secretary, who will report further developments in this column.

The meeting was officially adjourned at 9:35, but we proceeded with reading and discussing the Constitution and By-Laws. No final decisions will be made until all of the paragraphs are read and finally approved by a special meeting.

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Your editor came across an article "Official Stamps of the Polish War Office in France" by Captain A. Stocki, in a 1943 Bulletin of the Association of Polish Philatelists in Great Britain. As it was a colorful write-up, touching on an historical event in World War II, he thought it worthy of being reprinted in the "Polonus Bulletin" of July-August, 1962.

Lo and behold, it turns out that the stamps described in Stocki's article were "strictly private and speculative; issued without the need and knowledge of the Postal Authority; with all profit from the sale of these labels going into the pockets of their originator".

Such were the conclusions of Dr. A. Hartman, founder and for long duration, chairman of the Association of Polish Philatelists in Great Britain. Dr. Hartman was in France in 1939-40, was familiar with postal affairs, and sailed on the same ship as Lt. Stocki after the fall of France.

An article on this matter by Dr. Hartman, was published in "Filatelista Polski" and was later translated and printed in our "Polonus Bulletin", Issue No. 82, pages 2 and 3.

So you see—just because an article appears in print does not mean that its contents are entirely true. Your editor has learned this lesson and is passing it on to you.

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NEW ISSUES

By J. J. Domar

Planned for release during July was a set of 12 stamps, illustrating protected plants of Poland. They are designed by A. Balcerzak and printed in multi-colored rotogravure in sheets of 100 stamps.

They were to be printed in three stamps each in values of 60, 90 gr., 1.50 and 2.50 złoty.

The 60 groszy stamps are:

1. *Crocus scepusiensis* (Borb)

An early spring plant of the Tatras as well as of the Beskidy and Bochnia.

2. *Platanthera bifolia* (Rich.)

One of the scarce orchids of Polish flora. It generally grows on the forest verges and glades and is in bloom from May to August.

3. *Aconitum callibotryon* (Rehb.)

Grows on rocky heaps. It is poisonous and used in the manufacture of medicines.

The 90 groszy stamps are:

1. *Gentiana Clusii* (Perr. et. Song)

Blooms in spring and early summer, grows on the Tatras lime rocks. Its bitter roots are used for making medicine.

2. *Dictamnus albus* (L.)

A poisonous plant, very rare in Poland. It is to be found only in the Grabowiec forest near Busko and in Kulin near Wloclawek.

3. *Nymphaea alba* (L.)

A plant of lakes and ponds. It is very pretty and also used for making medicine.

The 1.50 złoty stamps are:

1. *Daphne mezereum* (L.)

A forest bush which blooms before getting leaves. Its fruit is very poisonous.

2. *Pulsatilla vulgaris* (Mill.)

An early spring plant, growing in the western part of Poland. Its beautiful flowers caused its devastation. It is now very rare.

3. *Anemone Silvestris* (L.)

An early spring plant growing on dry and sunny hillsides. Because of its beauty it too, is now very rare.

The 2.50 złoty stamps are:

1. *Trollius europaeus* (L.)

A plant growing on marshy ground and blooming late in spring.

2. *Galanthus nivalis* (L.)

A plant blooming early in spring. Because of its attractiveness in this season it is nearly roughly devastated.

3. *Adonis vernalis* (L.)

Blooming early in spring. It is a very precious medicine plant and nowadays is very rare.

The size of the stamps is 25x39.5 mm.

The number printed are:

60 groszy values — 2 million each

90 groszy values — 1.7 million each

1.50 zł. and two 2.50 zł. — 1.2 million each.

2.50 zł. (*Adonis vernalis*) — 800,000

On August 5, 1942, in the extermination camp of Treblinka, Janusz Korczak (Dr. Henryk Goldszmit) a great educator, protector and friend of children died at the hands of Hitler's executioners.

His entire life was devoted to the social affairs, protection and education of children. He left a profitable professional occupation as a physician and organized and managed the "Orphans House" where he was not only a physician, caretaker and friend of the children, but also taught the young people to prepare for the teaching profession.

Korczak wrote many books, both for children and adults; some of which are:

How to love a child

The Child's Right To Esteem

The Rules of Life

King Matthew I, (children's)

King Matthew On A Deserted Island

To commemorate the 20th Anniversary of his death, 6 stamps were to be issued, late August or early September.

They were designed by J. Srokowski, printed by multicolored offset on chalked paper in sheets of 15. Size 31.25 x 43 mm.

Stamp No. 1—40 gr., Sculpture of Korczak's head by K. Dunikowski

Stamp No. 2—60 gr. King Matthew arriving in the Capitol after a victorious war.

Stamp No. 3—90 gr., King Matthew offering his watch to the daughter of a Cannibal King.

Stamp No. 4—1 zł., King Matthew being led to a place of execution, exiled instead.

Stamp No. 5—2.50 zł., King Matthew grieving the death of his canary.

Stamp No. 6—5.60 zł., King Matthew after his return from exile, assumes power once more. He skates while resting after becoming tired with difficult state problems.

Number printed:

40 and 60 gr. stamps, 2 million each
90 gr. & 1 zł. stamps, 1.7 million each
2.50 złoty, 1 million
5.60 złoty, 600 thousand.

As announced in the July-August issue of the Bulletin, the series of 3 stamps to be issued for Poland's Northern Territories were released on July 21.

The vertical 60 gr. value, depicts the seal of Princess Elizabeth, daughter of King Casimir the Great, and wife of Prince Bogusław V. The seal bears an inscription "S. Elizabeth Dei Gratia Ducesse Stavorum et Cuss". It is an expression of political ties of Western Pomerania with Poland.

The horizontal 60 gr. value, shows a view of a Wood-Shavings Insulating plates factory at Szczecinek. It is the largest of its kind in Poland. It utilizes local raw materials for its production. The label bears the inscription: "Polish Northern Territories — Koszalin Land."

The vertical 1.55 zł. value shows the Seal of Gdańsk Castellan, Unisław — inscription: "S. Unisław Castellan Gdane." The Slavonic name confirms the character of Slavonic power held over the town up to 1308.

The horizontal 1.55 zł. stamp shows a portion of the largest Polish shipyard in Danzig. It builds tankers up to 40,000 VDW and a great number of other type boats. The labels are inscribed: "Polish Northern Territories — Gdansk Land."

The vertical 2.50 zł. shows one of the towers of the Frombork Cathedral, an outstanding masterpiece of Gothic Art.

The horizontal 2.50 zł. shows a chemical laboratory at the Agricultural College at Kostowo near Allenstein.

Each of the 2.50 zł. have a label inscribed "Polish Northern Territories — Olsztyn Land."

Amount issued 60 gr. 2 million; 1.55 zł. 1.5 million; 2.50 zł. 1 million. Printed at the State Printing Works of Securities, Warsaw. They were designed by Czesław Kaczmarczyk.

On August 15, a stamp was released to commemorate the F.I.P. Congress.

The design was adapted from a painting by Jacek Malczewski (1855-1929) — "The Poison Well."

To the side of the stamp is added a label with the inscription: "Philately brings together people of all Countries"

It is printed in sheets of 40 and a souvenir sheet of 4. On the upper margins of the sheets there are the inscriptions: "Day of the International Philatelic Federation — F.I.P. 1962"

The size of the stamps are 24 x 36 mm. Amount issued 1,760,000 stamps in sheets of 40 and 60,000 miniature sheets.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 28, 1962 Program Meeting

Something new! A round table discussion of Polish Airmails — Stamps — Flights — Forgeries — Myron E. Steczynski, Zdzisław Wagrowski, Walter Szymlek and Lester Jankowski, will show their airmail collections and discuss the manner in which such a collection can be built, how to mount it for your own pleasure and what to do to prepare the collection for exhibition.

This program will be of great interest. A Beeba will follow — you know what that means!

October 12, 1962 — Business Meeting

After the business of the Society is disposed of, another Member's Bourse! More and more members are finding it to their advantage to buy and sell at the Member's Bourse. Why don't you try it?

Another Bert Powell Auction is planned for this evening.

October 26, 1962 — Program Meeting

One of the groups at Polonus that's been active in studying a phase in Polish Philately is the one that undertook the Lublin Issue of 1918-19. At

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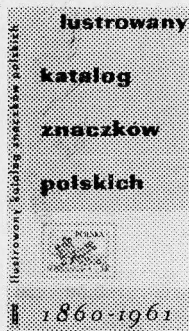
— Annual Dues are \$2.50 —

this meeting Chester Schafer will reveal some of this study group's findings in a talk on these stamps. The group has made new discoveries enabling the collector to be able to plate a full sheet of stamps of some of the overprint types. Chester will bring along his collection and show what progress he has made.

In addition, a Beeba is planned for this evening.

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