

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets 2d & 4th Friday of each month at Polish Falcon Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Av.

Issue No. 84

April 1950

POLPEX 1950

by Larry C. Zieler, Polpex Director

Another POLPEX has come and gone with the advent of the 11th Annual Exhibit. As usual, the scope of the show was highlighted with outstanding exhibits of stamps from various members of the POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY, based on a theme commemorating the 90th Anniversary of the issuance of Poland's Stamp #1.

Some of the choicest "gems" from collections far and wide were displayed, and perhaps the greatest assembly of #1s for public view have been housed under one roof for the first time in philatelic history. It certainly was a very fine showing of multiples, singles, and covers, of the classic period in Poland postal history.

While predominately Poland, the exhibit also contained other material collected by members of Polonus Philatelic Society, ranging from U. S. A. to foreign, topical stamps, preancels and philo-meters, in the various phases, indicating varied collectors in a specialist society.

The awards were as follows:

GRAND AWARD—The Col. Larking Memorial trophy went to Stephen G. Rich for his splendid showing of #1s on cover, singles and multiples, types of cancellations and numerals, offering a fine study in same. The Larking Trophy donated by member Myron E. Steczynski for the outstanding exhibit of Poland stamps, and winner keeps in his possession for a year, when it is again offered for the next POLPEX. A three time winner obtains permanent possession of same.

DR. L. P. KOZAKIEWICZ RESEARCH AWARD—Trophy went to J. J. Domar of Berwyn, Ill., for his

splendid showing of a study in the SOWER TYPE stamps of Poland, illustrating plate types, varieties, etc. This trophy donated by Dr. Kozakiewicz is on a similar basis, a beautiful prize much desired by all, a picture of same appearing elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin.

BEST POLAND—award, other than Grand went to Vincent Domanski, Jr., of Philadelphia, Pa., for his showing of #1's, also covers showing routes from point of dispatch to destination.

BEST OTHER THAN POLAND—award went to Ben Reeves for his showing of French Postal *uses in carrying* newspaper stamps.

NOVICE TROPHY—awarded to Stanley Kucharz for the overprints of the ten liberated cities of Poland, a study in varieties.

1st Award—Gold Medal—Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz, proofs and essays of Poland on stamps from 1860-1949

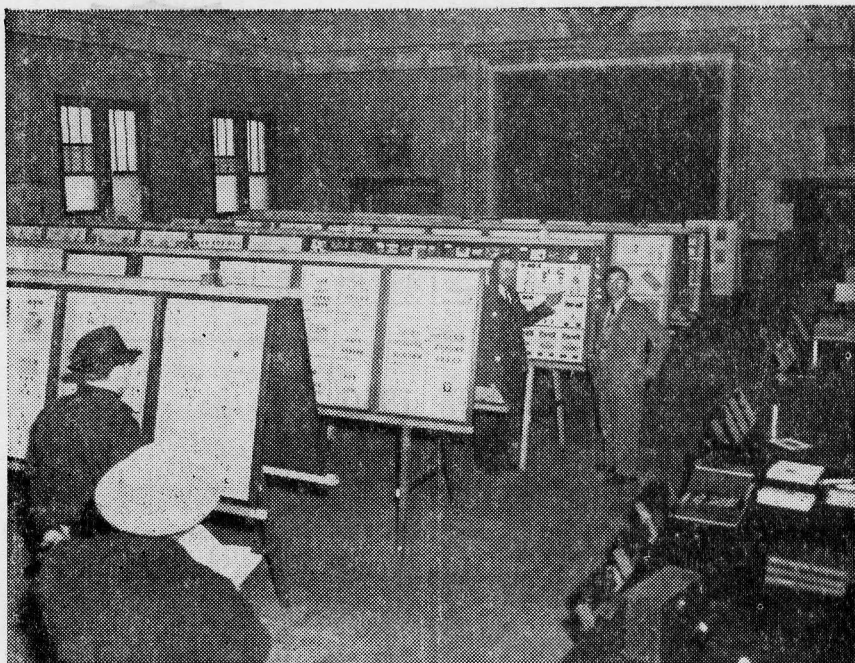
1st Award—Gold Medal — Myron E. Steczynski—selected pages of Poland.

1st Award—Gold Medal—Stephen G. Rich—Stamps of Natal.

2nd Award—Silver Medal to R. Estka, C. J. Mikucki and C. A. Pulaski.

3rd Award—Bronze Medal to L. Janowski and C. A. Schafer (2)

OTHER AWARDS: Honorable Mentions, J. Jaworski, S. F. Kunicki, Leo J. Topolinski S. P. A. Research Award: J. J. Domar, Historical Award (Central Federation of Stamp Clubs) to C. J. Mikucki, Chicago Philatelic Society Educational Awards to J. J. Domar and C. J. Mikucki. **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU BOYS!** It was indeed stiff competition.



A general view of the Exhibition at Falcons Hall before it was opened to the public.

On behalf of the Polonus Philatelic Society, the POLPEX COMMITTEE wishes to extend a word of thanks to all of these who had made the 11th Annual POLPEX such a success. Considering this success, there nevertheless was trouble due to the wealth of material displayed, and after locking horns for some time, our capable judges, Dr. H. C. Pollack and Messrs. J. P. Steindler and W. V. Kenworthy emerged with their decisions, after consulting outside reference material. I'm sure that all are in agreement with the wisdom of their findings. Nice going, boys!

Without ample publicity, attendance would be small, and this year as in the past, visitors flocked from near and far, with many an out of townner welcomed by the membership. Jack Rux, our amiable Public Relations man, with the help of Dr. S. Mioduszewski, Chester Makowski, Chester Schafer, and Bert Powell took over the country's philatelic journal coverage completely, and it's almost certain, no philatelic publication failed to mention our event. Yes Jack, you and the boys sure did one heck of a swell job.

Visitors to the show spent many an

hour at the bourse tables, lavishly represented by local and out of town dealers. Roman Reinowski did a marvelous job of laying out space to accommodate 14 dealers, and a word of thanks to you.

Another important feature of the POLPEX SHOWS success is the seals. This year, as in the past, Myron E. Steczynski handled the art end of this, designing the beautiful emission, being very attractive, and very much desired by seal collectors all over the country. It's no easy task, especially when time is limited with so busy a man, but you came through in time Myron, thanks again.

Most of you who have been in attendance at the show noticed that "new look" at the exhibit with the adoption of use of easels. Hours of preparation and construction were spent by our members Barney Fialkowski and Adam Kloskowski, who tried to salvage some old easels in our possession, and finally after days on the project came forth with the promised number. It was a job of gigantic proportion and back breaking labor, to say nothing of being messy, but to you boys of this project a special word of thanks, for

it is well deserving.

When the day of "setting up" had arrived, advance preparations were under way under the capable handling of John Wendt. His box of tools was on hand to put the frames and easels into position, carrying on by himself. Unexpectedly who should drop in by way of preparing his own exhibit but Richard Estka, who in a hurry to get away to meet a prospective buyer, pitched in so gallantly, spending the balance of the evening to help set up the show. The course of the evening saw many of the members, non-exhibitors including Bernard Sobczak, Chester Makowski, Roman Reinowski, Tony Kloczek, Tony Banasiak, as well as exhibitors, pitching in and lending a helping hand. There were others too, but too numerous to mention and long after everybody had left for some well deserved rest, Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz, John Wendt, and myself were still at it three in the morning, setting up the out of town exhibits. This "esprit de Corps" clearly shows what can be done when all get together to get something accomplished. Your co-operation is certainly appreciated boys.

Thanks to the Jack Knight Air Mail Society for the use of their frames.

Thanks to the many Patrons and Good Fellows for contributions to help defray the cost of the beautiful POLPEX Catalogue, as well as the many advertisers. Without your help in this matter the show could not be successful financially.

The splendid co-operation given to us by the Hollywood Press of which member Chester Schafer is co-owner, enabled us to secure our seals, catalogues, etc., in so beautiful settings.

There are many, many others who have contributed immensely both financially and materially towards the success of the show: Dr. M. E. Uznanski—a donation for trophies, Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz—an additional trophy besides the Research Trophy, Anthony Banasiak—handling of the opening day covers, the philatelic press—with donation of space for news of our show, and if mention is not made of the many people active in the POLPEX, please accept our sincere thanks for all of your efforts in our behalf.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Just a few words to see that the Polpex Director, Larry C. Zieler, is not overlooked. Like a hub which supports the other sections of the wheel,

so did Larry take the biggest load, and he held it well. During the few weeks preceding the show, he devoted himself like to a full time job. The largest portion of the credit due for the Successful Polpex is due him.

NOTICE:

APRIL 21st MEETING PROGRAM

The newly appointed program chairman, Anthony Banasiak, announces that at the April 21st meeting member Ben Reeves will give a talk on a subject of great interest to all stamp collectors. His talk will be illustrated with stamps and scientific instruments.

Ben Reeves has won many awards at various exhibits, written many articles on philately, and therefore is well qualified to give a lecture.

APPLICATIONS PENDING

Thomas Gordon Everett
1309 N. Pulaski Road
Chicago 51, Ill.

Joseph Lesniewski
10648 Ewing Ave.
Chicago 17, Ill.

Sigmund Bor
5326 So. Laramie
Chicago 38, Ill.

Loring W. Stannard
5 Wiley Street
Milford, Conn.

Joseph A. Jozefowski
147 Meserole Ave.
Brooklyn 22, N. Y.

Mathias Pristika
1637 N. Burling St.
Chicago 14, Ill.

Stanley P. Jorczyk
192 Railroad Ave.
Bridgeport 4, Conn.

Jerome Sidorowicz
371 Rodney St.
Brooklyn 11, N. Y.

Julius S. Gohnik, Jr.
3125 N. Ridgeway Ave.
Chicago 18, Ill.

NEW MEMBERS

Walter Godek
3901 W. Schubert Ave.
Chicago 47, Ill.

Thomas J. Zebrowski
81 Osgood St.
Gardner, Mass.

TID BITS

Our apologies to Dr. B. Babowicz of Erie, Pa., for not listing him as a Patron in the Polpex Catalogue.

A Check List of Literature on Poland No. 1

By Bert Powell

(continued from previous month)

2. Mikstein St. "Poland No. 1 of 1860 is a Polish Stamp." II KURIER FILAT. 1933 pages 46 and 47.

3. Mikstein St. "Forgeries of the First Polish Stamp of 1860." IKAROS 1935 pages 57-59.

4. Mikstein St. "Forgeries of the First Polish Postage Stamp." WIAD. FILAT. 1935 Nr. 45 pages 7-8.

5. Mikstein St. "The First Polish Postage Stamp" (75th Anniversary of the Postage Stamp 1860-1935) KURIER LITERACKO NAUKOWY addition to No. 7 Cracow 7-1-1935.

7. Polanski W. "History of Polish envelopes of 1860" (FILAT POLSKI 1919, pages 37-38, 1920 pages 2-4 and 20-21.

8. Polanski W. "Alphabetical listing of the the Polish Bureaus of Post of the Kingdom of Poland with special emphasis on number cancellations Polish-Russian of 1858-1866" FILAT. POLSKI 1921, pages 99-102 and 122-124.

9. Polanski W. "A few words about Polish Postage Stamps of 1860." II PRZEGLAD FILAT. 1925 No. 4.

10. Polanski W. "How the Post was transported in Olden Times." Torun 1925 published by H. Kaminski at page 116.

11. Rachmonaw W. "A few words on the 75th Anniversary of the Polish Postage stamp of 1860." II WIAD. FILAT. 1935 No. 41, pages 3-5.

12. Rachmanow W. "In the matter of the Polish Stamps of 1860." II WIAD. FILAT. Nr. 25.

13. Rembielinski St. "Unheard of Attitudes" (caused by Article of Salikier) II WIAD FILAT. No. 25.

14. Salikier S. "Is Poland Nr. 1 a Polish Stamp?" II KURIER FILAT., 1933, page 34.

15. Szczapow P. "About the Polish-Russian Stamp of 1860." SOWIECKI FILAT. 1928, No. 2, Page 17.

16. Vet Z. "Polish Postage Stamp 1858-1861." FILATELISTA 1910, No. 6.

The earliest piece of literature on Poland No. 1 in the English language of which this writer is aware, is the little book published by George Linn in 1910 in Columbus, Ohio. The work is titled as follows: "Poland—Historical and Philatelic" and the authors are George K. Smith Jr., Henry S. Adair

and George W. Linn. It was published by THE STAMP COLLECTOR of Columbus, Ohio and printed by W. M. Linn & Sons Co. It numbers about 30 pages, has 4 plates including a map and contains a wealth of information on Poland's first stamp and also the first franked envelopes.

1934.

"Poland and Its Postage Stamps" by Joseph S. Rich. Published at Verona, New Jersey. Written as a humorous item of no philatelic value but merely included for the record.

September 30th., 1939.

"Poland's First Stamp" by Stephen G. Rich. STAMPS Magazine.

December 1940.

As above but with the addition of a numerical list of Polish post offices together with their names. POLONUS MAGAZINE published by Henry J. Choynecki of Chicago.

November 1941.

"Counterfeits of Poland No. 1." Stephen G. Rich. POLONUS MAGAZINE published by Henry J. Choynecki of Chicago.

1941.

"Poland—The Period of Stamps to 1870." by Vincent Domanski Jr. and Stephen G. Rich. BLUE BOOK—THE STAMP SPECIALIST published by Harry J. Lindquist, New York.

1942.

BILLIG'S PHILATELIC HANDBOOK. Fritz Billig. Published by the Billings Stamp Company of Jamaica, New York. Contains approximately 2½ pages on Poland No. 1.

1947.

"Poland No. 1 Forgery," by Derek Palmer. POLONUS BULLETIN #54. Published by the Polonus Philatelic Society of Chicago.

October 1947.

"The 1913 Die Proof's of Poland No. 1," Stephen G. Rich. Reprinted from STAMPS Magazine in Polonus Bulletin #58—October 1947. Published by The Polonus Philatelic Society of Chicago.

October 1948.

"Variations in Color and Print of Poland No. 1." A study on the 75th Anniversary of the Stamp. By Marjan Jankowski. Translated into English by

(cont' on page 84-5)

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 principal issue was that emanating from Myslenice. Austrian stamps as for the "Cracow" issue, but not the 10 kr., were overprinted "Poczta Polska" in two lines and issued in December 1918. There are two settings, one with the overprint spaced $1\frac{3}{4}$ mm. and the other spaced 4 mm. (1.) Errors are to be found in the spelling of the word "Poczta," which is found spelt "Pozzta," "Poczla," and "Peoczta."

Austrian contemporary Journal, Express and Due stamps received the same overprint.

Another series for Myslenice, issued about the same time, consisted of eleven low values, one Journal and three Dues of current Austria, handstamped in black with a large Polish Eagle measuring 16 mm.x22 mm, (2.)

On December 16, 1918, Tarnow produced a series of seventeen values, two Journals and one Due of current Austria overprinted with a large Polish Eagle, somewhat similar in appearance to the second Myslenice issue, except that the feathers of the wings are well defined. (3.)

The overprint is found both in black and red, and copies are known with inverted overprint.

It is said that a certain high official in Tarnow approached the Postmaster of that town with the suggestion he should overprint all Austrian stamps left behind. This the Postmaster refused to do without permission from Headquarters. Whereupon the official bought up the remaining stock of Austrian stamps on his own and, with the help of the proprietor of the printing works in Tarnow, overprinted them privately. Owing to the mass of heterogeneous labels doing duty as postage stamps, and the uncertainty as

to what was or was not permissible, many of the Tarnow "Eagles" passed through the post.

Another series of provisionals from Tarnow was issued in 1919, shortly after the "Eagle" issue, and consisted of nineteen values, 3 h. to 10 kr. of the current Austrian stamps, together with the five Journal stamps and four Dues. These stamps were overprinted "Rzp. Polska" (4.) ("Rzeczpospolita Polska" = "Polish Republic") in one line diagonally across the stamp in black ink. They were issued without the sanction of the Authorities, though some are known to have passed through the post. The overprint is known inverted on all values, also in various other positions owing to faulty overprinting.

Other towns embarking on these provisionals, the principal being:

PRZEMYSL. With "POCZTA," then the Eagle on crown, and "POLSKA" below, handstamped in violet. (5.)

ROZWADOW. With "POCZTA POLSKA" in two lines, then an Eagle on crown, and both with and without "ROZWADOW" below, handstamped in violet.

SKALAT. Same type of overprint with "SKALAT" below, handstamped in black.

MIELEC. Issued four series of overprints: (a) "Poczta Polska" handstamped in black in two lines. (b) "POCZTA," two stars, "POLSKA," large lettering handstamped in black. (c) "Poczta Polska," handstamped in violet, in two lines. (d) Eagle and crown, handstamped in black.

In December 1918 a set of Austrian K. U. K. Feldpost stamps of 1917-18 (Karl and Zita) were overprinted "Polska Poczta Jedrzejow" and "Polska Poczta Olkusz" in three lines. These stamps were privately over-



Zwierzyniec

printed and postmarked and sold as souvenirs of the freedom of Poland from Austrian occupation. Many small varieties in the overprint are to be found. It is said that mint copies are unknown; so far I have never seen one.

Whether these provisionals were official or unofficial issues, the fact remains that many of them are extremely scarce and one rarely comes across them. As in the case of Northern Poland, the stock of enemy stamps left behind in the smaller towns in Southern Poland was extremely small and it is possible that only one or two copies of a certain stamp became a "provisional."

V. MUNICIPAL ISSUES

I will now go back and deal with the Local stamps.

The Local Postal Services of Poland were instituted and controlled by the Municipal Councils of the towns they served. Some issues, for which the sanction of the German Authorities could not be obtained, had to be abolished after being in circulation a few days only, and therefore postally used copies of these are very interesting and scarce. The necessity for these local services arose from the fact that, when Poland was overrun by enemy forces, the ordinary civil postal services practically ceased to exist, being replaced by Military Field Posts, which paid little attention to the requirements of the civil population, especially as regards local deliveries. The charge for the Local stamps enabled the Municipal Authorities to effect these services.

Warsaw

The first and most important of these issues was that for letters and printed matter within a radius of 30 miles of the City of Warsaw. The stamps were prepared and designed by

M. Edward Trojanowski of Warsaw, and reproduced by lithographic printing at the establishment of M. Jan Cotty of that city. There were two designs; the first a 5 grosze value, representing the City Arms of Warsaw; the second a 10 grosze value, showing the Polish Eagle. Both designs bore the date "1915," and the initials "K.O. M.W.," signifying "Komitet Obywatelski Miasta Warszawy" ("Municipal Council of Warsaw"). Local letters had first to pass through the German Military Post Office, and be franked with the official stamps overprinted "Rusisch Polen," and later "Gen. Gouv. Warschau," already referred to. The Local stamps were used in addition to denote a special charge for house to house delivery.

The tariff was fixed at 5 groszy for letters and printed matter up to 25 grammes in weight, and 10 groszy for those heavier. When it was found that the charges were insufficient to defray the cost of organisation, the Municipal Authorities wished to issue fresh values, but this was not sanctioned by the German Authorities. The 5 groszy value was therefore surcharged 6 groszy for letters up to 25 grammes, and the 10 groszy surcharged 2 groszy for newspapers.

The following are the various printings: On September 14th, 1915, the following stamps were printed from a small stone in sheets of 40 stamps each, and perforated 11½.

- 5 gr., grey-green on light buff.
- 5 gr., dark green on cream.
- 5 gr., grey-green on yellow-buff
- 5 gr., grey-green on greenish buff.
- 10 gr., black on light buff.
- 10 gr., black on cream.
- 10 gr., black on yellow-buff.

The printing is clear and well defined, and the ink is dull; 2000 copies of each value were printed. Only one sheet of each value exists imperforate, and these are without gum.

These stamps were not sold officially, but a small quantity got into the hands of the public before the Local or Municipal Post Offices were opened, and a few letters were afterwards franked with them.

The 5 gr. is also found in grey olive-green on bright yellow, and the 10 gr. in bronze on yellow. The frame lines of these stamps are thicker than, and not so clear as, those of the first printings. They were printed from the or-



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5

iginal stone during one of the later issues. They are to be found perforated and imperforate with gum, and are very scarce.

Several plate varieties are to be found on both values of this printing, and on the issues that follow; but since subsequent issues were done on larger stones which printed eight sheets at one time, some of the varieties enumerated below do not appear on this first printing.

The following are the most prominent varieties:—

On the 5 gr. value:

1. Without designer's initial "T" in lower right-hand corner of the background. This occurs on the first and second stamp on all sheets of every issue.
2. A coloured dot in "5" of "1915." No. 9 on some sheets of every issue.
3. A coloured dot above "5" of "1915." No. 9 on some sheets of every issue.
4. Damaged "i" in "1915." No. 11 on some sheets of every issue.
5. A coloured dot against the capital of the left pillar. No. 17 on all sheets of every issue.
6. Damaged "k" in top left corner, and a small coloured dot in the "z" of "Grosze." No. 18 on all sheets of every issue.
7. A coloured dot in upper part of the wing of the dragon. No. 20 on all sheets of every issue.
8. An oblique hooked line on the top of the left capital. No. 24 on all sheets of every issue.
9. A coloured dot under "5" of "1915." No. 27 on all sheets of every issue.

On the 10 gr. value:

1. The wavy border round the stamp is broken on the left side opposite the ribbon of the centre label. This occurs on the second stamp on one of the eight sheets in subsequent issues only.
2. Bottom line of left ribbon broken. No. 5 on all sheets of every issue.
3. The tip of the feather under the "w" of the centre label is unfinished. No. 19 on all sheets of every issue.
4. A coloured dot against the bottom line of the left ribbon, and the "M" of "K.O.M.W." is broken. No. 25 on all sheets of every issue.
5. A small coloured dot over the top line of the left ribbon. No. 28 on

all sheets of every issue.

6. The top line of the left ribbon is broken. No. 30 on all sheets of every issue.
7. The tip of the second lower feather of the Eagle's left wing is broken. No. 33 on all sheets of every issue.

There are two more varieties which I have not, so far, been able to place as I have not seen them on any sheet I possess:—

8. The top of the "O" in "K.O.M.W." is missing.
9. The frame line and wavy border on the left, opposite the Eagle's claw, is broken.

I have copies of these two varieties in different shades, but only in the next issue of the 10 'gr.

Trial printings of both values are found in all sorts of colours, imperforate without gum. These show the same plate varieties enumerated above.

The first issue to the public of these Locals was on September 20th, 1915, and consisted of a 5 gr. value similar in design to the first printing, but printed in blue-black on brown-buff and blue-black on greenish.

This issue, and all following issues, was printed from a large stone producing eight sheets of 40 stamps each, and amounted to 100,000 stamps. A very small quantity, however, remained without receiving the surcharge of the next two issues.

The first sheets of this issue had a sandy-brown background, the remainder have a greenish background. These stamps are found bisected and used as a 2 gr. value, pending the issue of this value. Some of them are found with a saw-like perforation done privately.

Three kinds of obliterating stamps were used by the Authorities:—

- (a) From September 20th to October 14th, 1915, a circular obliteration showing a Siren encircled by "K.O. m.W. POCZTA MIEJSKA."
- (b) From October 14th to November 9th, a large oval obliteration in which was inscribed "K.O.ST.M. WARSZAWY," the date, and "POCZTA MIEJSKA."
- (c) From November 9th a circular obliteration larger than (a) inscribed "K.O.m.st.W. POCZTA MIEJSKA" between two circles, with the date between parallel lines.

(to be continued)

Chester Makowski, Chairman Publication, Polonus Philatelic Society of Chicago and published by the Society with the permission of Mr. Victor Hermanowski in Polonus Bulletin #67 for October 1948. This is one of the articles previously mentioned in the first part of this compilation, which Polonus has reprinted as a service to collectors who are unable to read Polish. The Chairman of Publications hopes to translate and republish other articles on Poland No. 1 from time to time.

January 1949.

"Poland No. 1 Variety." Edwin Muller. Published in POLONUS BULLETIN #70 for Jan. 1949. Reprinted from MERCURY STAMP JOURNAL of December 1948.

There are probably other published articles or notes on the famous stamp and if any of our readers are able to add to the record, we shall indeed be grateful for their co-operation.

FROM OUR READERS:

The following letter was received concerning the article "A Few Words on the Stamps of the First Army Corps in France and England" by Dr. A. Hartman which was translated by Walter Szymlek in our February 1950 BULLETIN.

"Gentlemen,

I am a member of Polonus and it was with amazement that I read the slanderous article in Feb. issue of the Bulletin by Hartman, a Pole of rather doubtful standing.

It is suggested in this article, for the printing of which I must hold you entirely responsible, that I am none other than a Lt. Stocki. The entire article intended it would appear for internal Polish consumption, seems to be an attack upon this Lt. Stocki, and has nothing whatever to do with Philately as such. I am in no way concerned with a private vendetta against anybody, but this article which is rubbish from beginning to end mentions my name and my Polish war-issue handbook — of which you have sold many copies I believe.

First of all I most certainly am not Lt. Stocki, secondly the handbook called by me "Polish Post 7 Years War," was written entirely by myself, corrected entirely by myself, and I accept full responsibility for every word appearing therein. Information concerning the unusual issues made by Polish authorities during the war, and

about which hardly anything was then known, came to me from over two hundred sources. Every piece of information I obtained was checked as fully as possible. No information coming from any source was entered without some check from some other source, and I was and am satisfied that the handbook presents a reasonably accurate picture of the issues it is supposed to show. Concerning the "W. P" initialed stamps numbered F1 to F26 in the American and British editions of my handbook, naturally information reached me concerning the doubt as to their genuineness. I heard furthermore that a Lt. Stocki was being court-martialled on this point.

This was puzzling because I had two pieces of evidence that supported their genuineness, but I waited to hear the result of a strict impartial military court that was likely to err if at all on the side of the accuser rather than the accused. I heard that Lt. Stocki was found not-guilty, and this supreme confirmation seemed then (and now) to be reasonably good evidence of the issues genuineness.

Other people were interested in general war issues and The Philatelic Magazine on August 29th, 1941, published the official document dealing with this particular issue. The accumulated evidence satisfied me then, and unless I receive information from some authoritative source I must still consider them genuine, as genuine that is, as any other war issue by any country in enemy occupation.

I enclose photograph of that P. Mag. article. As to the "Labels" "stick-ons" and what have you—as I took every possible precaution to call these precisely what they were in my handbook, I am apparently not involved in Hartman's private war.

So much for that. I consider it extremely irresponsible of Polonus to publish a slander of the nature referred to. Polonus knew my handbook well, they knew of me, and I am a member of Polonus. I am well used from our own newspapers of reading the statements coming from this poor Soviet occupied Country, I always have much salt available for I know most of what is said must be taken with a grain of salt. I didn't expect myself to become involved, and certainly not through an American Ageancy. I should be glad therefore without

(cont. on page 84-8)

Modern Great Britain 'Used Abroad'

Polish Field Post Office Cancellations on Stamps of Great Britain are Interesting and Elusive

by J. H. Tierney

From Stamp Collecting, London (reprinted from Western Stamp Collector)

The Second World War has brought forth a variety of modern British stamps used abroad. The postal markings of British, Colonial and Allied Military Post Offices may be found on British stamps used beyond the shores of Great Britain.

The Polish Field Post cancellations which have been applied to British stamps are most interesting and rather elusive.

At different periods there were Polish Field Post Offices serving Polish forces of varying numbers in Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Middle East and Central Mediterranean.

A Polish unit known as the Carpathian Brigade fought with distinction in the first Libyan campaign, and participated in the defense of Tobruk.

Following the German attack upon Russia, and by the Polish-Soviet Agreement of July 30, 1941, Polish soldiers and civilians who had been taken prisoner during the Soviet invasion of Poland in September, 1939, and also those who had been subsequently deported to the Russian interior, were released by gradual stages from Russian P.O.W. and concentration camps and permitted to join units of a new Polish army that was being formed. The eventual result was the considerable augmentation of the Polish forces

in the Middle East and the formation of General Anders Second Polish Corps, which was incorporated in to the famous 8th Army.

Although the Polish troops were numerous the Field Post postmarks are far from plentiful.

The explanation may be that the proportion of correspondence addressed to British sources and likely to be preserved would be negligible. Moreover as Poland was under enemy occupation during the greater period of operation of the Field Post Offices, the vast bulk of mail would be between Poles who were frequently on the move and had little opportunity of carrying around bundles of correspondence.

Covers without are more numerous than those with stamps. It was only in the case of air and registered mails that postage stamps were necessary. British postage stamps were required from the various locations except Iran and Iraq from which countries the use of Indian stamps for Polish service mail was essential.

The Polish Field Post Office date stamps of varying sizes are of single and double circle types and are inscribed in Polish "Poczta Polowa" and "Główna Poczta Polowa" accompanied by the various numbers: the English equivalent is "Field Post Office" and "Base Field Post Office" respectively.

It would be rash to claim that the following list records all Polish Field Post Offices that operated at various periods in Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Middle East and Central Mediterranean, but it may be safe to assume that it is substantially complete:—

Single Circle Type

Poczta Polowa 102 Poczta Polowa 132
Poczta Polowa 130 Poczta Polowa 141
Poczta Polowa 131

Double Circle Type

Główna Poczta Polowa	Główna Poczta Polowa
101	104
Poczta Polowa 103	Poczta Polowa 106
Poczta Polowa 109	Poczta Polowa 123
Poczta Polowa 110	Poczta Polowa 124
Poczta Polowa 111	Poczta Polowa 125
Poczta Polowa 112	Poczta Polowa 126
Poczta Polowa 113	Poczta Polowa 127
Poczta Polowa 114	Poczta Polowa 128
Poczta Polowa 115	Poczta Polowa 129



Poczta Polowa 116 Poczta Polowa 133
 Poczta Polowa 117 Poczta Polowa 135
 Poczta Polowa 118 Poczta Polowa 136
 Poczta Polowa 119 Poczta Polowa 138
 Poczta Polowa 120 Poczta Polowa 139
 Poczta Polowa 121 Poczta Polowa 140
 Poczta Polowa 122 Poczta Polowa 143

The listing has been compiled from covers in the possession of the writer, and others that he has had the opportunity to record at different times. It would be greatly appreciated if any reader could add to the list.

Following publication of the preceding article in the London weekly, a British philatelist, J. Eysymontt, provided the following supplementary data which was published as a letter in a later issue. He wrote:

I have cross-checked Mr. Tierney's list with one published in 1947 in the *Wiadomosci Filatelistyczne* ("Philatelic News"), together with a detailed study on the postmarks in Polish.

The only F. P. O. numbers not mentioned by Mr. Tierney appear to be the following:—

Poczta Polowa 105 used in Middle East from March, 1946;

Poczta Polowa 111A used in Iraq from July, 1943;

Poczta Polowa 134 used in Italy from May, 1946;

Poczta Polowa 137 used in Italy from March, 1944.

All the above-mentioned postmarks are of the double circle type. By the way, there are three "sub-types" of the single circles and at least eight "sub-types" of the double circle.

When listing Poczta Polowa 117, Mr. Tierney probably thinks of the type of postmark where the number 117 is followed by two small crosses (arranged vertically), as used in 1944. The postmark Poczta Polowa 117 with no crosses after the number was used late in 1942 in Iraq and is extremely scarce.

Finally, to my knowledge, postmarks with numbers from 142 to 152 were prepared for use in 1946 but never used owing to the evacuation of Second Polish Corps from Italy to Great Britain. Some of them, and especially Nos. 147 and 148, were used for cancelling to order of various stamps, mostly those issued by Second Corps in Italy.

THE DR. LEON P. KOZAKIEWICZ RESEARCH AWARD

This trophy is to be awarded an-



nually for the best original research or the continuation of an existing research on the Stamps of Poland.

The stipulations are that it must be won three times before it can be kept permanently.

The reason which motivated Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz to offer this trophy was his desire to stimulate greater study of the Stamps of Poland which offer so much opportunity for a student of philately.

NEW ISSUES

by Jack Domar



(cut courtesy STAMPS)



The 15 zl. dark-lilac commemorating the Third National Congress of Postal Workers Trade Union (above), and the 500 zl. rose-carmine Airmail (below) discussed in last month's BULLETIN.

We have received an announcement from the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs—Poland that 250,000 copies of the 15 Zloty, Violet-Postal Workers Trade Union Stamps and 200,000 of the 500 Zloty Airmail stamps were issued. The first day of issue of the 500 Zloty stamp was February 6, the 15 Zloty stamp was previously reported as January 21, 1950.

Also issued was the 25 Zloty Postage Due—Scotts D12 perforated 11.

A second printing of the 5 zl. and 10 zl. stamps of the Congress of United Peasant Movement series was ordered. 5 million of the 5 zl., and 10 million of the 10 zl. were printed. Now another 15 million of the 15 zl. were ordered to be printed. The 35 zl. is left with one printing of 500,000.

There are now in preparation the "Rebuilding of Warsaw" series: "We begin the 6 years plan," which depict various spheres of socialist economy and industry. It will be a regular series.

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ies with a very large total printing.

P.S. How many of you have Scott's #J107 to J112 plus the 100 and 150 zloty Postage Dues in your collections?

Ministry of Posts & Telegraphs—
Poland
Przegląd Filatelistyczny

(cont. from page 84-5)

prejudice to my rights, if you would issue an apology in the next issue of the Bulletin. Whether or not Polish Stamp issues are genuine or not, valuable or worthless I neither am here concerned nor bothered about—but I do most strongly object to such utter tripe and balderdash, and particularly killing me off to create a Lt. Stocki as author of my handbook. Incidentally whilst Hartman was "chairman" of his so-called Association in Scotland, I wrote him asking for information concerning the WP and other Polish issues—I thought he might know something, however little. He knew nothing at all apparently, for he never answered any of my letters.

Yours faithfully,

(signed) H. M. Smith

"West Ridge"

Lower Wokingham Road
Crowthorne, Berks.,
England

We also received a letter from W. E. Harriman of Coulsdon Surrey, England, pertaining to this same matter.

We invite your views on this controversial matter.

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