

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets Every Fourth Friday at Polish Veterans Home, 6005 W. Irving Pk., Chicago

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November-December, 1979

POLONUS BEGINS NEW DECADE WITH POLPEX 80

The year 1979 brought us great events. It was our society's fortieth anniversary and POLPEX 79 was a smashing success. This past summer the first Pope ever of Polish descent brought an emotional experience of a visit to his native Poland. This built up the spirit of the nation. October brought the Pope to U.S. shores for a historical visit.

Our next event, POLPEX 80, will honor His Holiness, John Paul II. Władysław Cardinal Rubin of the Vatican agreed to be Honorary Chairman of the Exhibition. In his letter of acceptance the Cardinal reminisced of his last visit to POLPEX 66 during our Poland's Millennium Exhibition and sent his blessing for a successful POLPEX 80.

POLPEX 80 will take place at the Polish Veterans Hall, 6005 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, IL, on March 29-30. There will be a special section for "Religion on Stamps" as well as for Poland and other exhibits. Due to the limitation of space, only 120 frames of material will be displayed and will be allotted on a first come, first served basis. If you want to exhibit, write without delay for your entry



Special POLPEX 80 cancellation designed by artist Leon Kawecki.

form to A. Rybarski, Box 82, River Grove, IL 60171.

During the last board of directors meeting the following Polpex appointments were formulated:

Polpex Chairman	W. Poniecki
Entries & Sales	A. Rybarski
Ads, Well Wishers	C. Schafer
Bourse, Finance	R. Strzelecki
Exhibition Set-up	S. Rusin,
	R. Odrowski
Arts, Awards	L. Kawecki,
	A. Szebel
Publicity	J. Mazepa,
	A. Szebel, C. Schafer

A 20 dealer bourse will be held on the premises with a large selection of philatelic material. A U.S. postal station will use a special Polpex cancellation. Polpex covers, souvenir sheets, a souvenir card with the Pope theme are in the making. The customary souvenir program catalog will be published. Prices

on ads will be: \$50.00 for a full page; \$30.00 for a half page; \$20.00 for a quarter page. Well Wishers are \$2.00, while Patrons at \$5.00 and up. Send copy and checks to Chester Schafer, 864 No. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60622.

The Polish American Numismatic Association will join Polonus in the exhibition and is planning a special exhibit of religious and papal medallions.

Our popular Beeba will take place Saturday evening, March 29, where one can have a great meal at a reasonable price. Also, a cash bar will be operating.

Your participation in POLPEX 80 is requested. On behalf of myself, the officers and board of directors, here's wishing you Season's Greetings and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year! See you at the Polpex!

—Alfred Szebel, President

POLONUS MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARDS

These Polonus members promoted Polish philately by exhibiting and have received these awards: Dr. Jozef Kuderewicz, a Vermeil Medal at PHIASERDICA 79, the International Show in Sophia, Bulgaria for the Seige of Przemyśl. Chris Kulpinski, was awarded a Vermeil at BALPEX 79 for his Postal History of the Polish Forces in the Middle East. The same exhibit brought him a Silver at SEPAD 79. Joe Clary a Gold medal, at the Chicago Philatelic Society Exhibition for Polish Postal History, and James Mazepa, a Gold medal and Crystal Vase for the Best Exhibit by a Chicago Exhibitor, also at the CPS Show, for Russian Administration of Poland.

DUES REMINDER

According to the Polonus By-laws, Article 5, Section 3:

Dues shall be payable in advance on or before the first day of January in each and every year, and if unpaid within three months, the member's name shall be stricken from the membership roll and all publications shall cease to be sent to such member.

We have not enforced this in the past but with the rising costs of postage and printing, we must do so now. The \$7.50 dues you now pay does not even cover the printing and postage. Polonus pays the difference.

Do not miss a single copy of the Bulletin! Mail in your \$7.50 dues for 1980 to the treasurer, Roman H. Strzelecki, 1620 No. Latrobe Ave., Chicago, IL 60639. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you want to receive a paid up membership card.

TRANSLATORS NEEDED

The Society needs members who are willing to translate articles from Polish to English for publication in the Bulletin. The secretary will assist in the final draft of the English, but we urgently need the services of our members in this regard if we are to improve the quality of the Bulletin as many have suggested. Kindly notify the secretary and he will contact you about our current needs.

TISLOWITZ ARTICLE CONCLUDED

In this issue appears the concluding part of the article "Second Provisional Issue (1919)" by J. Tislowitz. The article is reprinted from the "European Philatelic Library" Part 1 booklet published by J. Kwiatkowski & J. C. Crimlisk in Edinburgh, Scotland, 1959.

The overprinting was done by a private firm -Kopytkowski & Co., in Warsaw. There were two trial prints, both on the 2½ fen value. The first (fig.3) consisted of the figure "5", the words "Poczta Polska" and three horizontal bars obliterating the German wording.

The measurements were: a) between extreme bottom of figure "5" and first horizontal bar - 5½ mm; b) between "Poczta Polska" and first horizontal bar - 1½ mm; c) between first and second horizontal bar - 4 mm; d) between 2nd and 3rd bar - 2½ -3 mm.

The placing of figure 5 on individual stamps was identical with first definitive overprinting forme I A. A fairly large number of proofs still in existence points to there having been several sheets of them. This first forme (fig.3) was altered into a second trial forme (fig.4), which differed from the former by wider space between the words "Poczta Polska" and the first bar 2½ mm instead of former 1½ mm), and between 2nd and 3rd (3-3½ mm instead of former 3 mm).

It is probable that in this instance a number of sheets were overprinted experimentally as well. This second trial is identical with the final overprinting forme I A, except for the missing 4th bar. Once this was added, the printing forme was ready.

In both trials (first and second) there are errors on 2nd, 63rd stamps: "Pocsta" and "Polska" (inverted "l") as was the case in the definitive issue, first printing.

Mention should be made here of the so-called "trial prints" which were, for many years, considered genuine. They were to be found not only in ordinary collections, but also in the Postal Museum. Even prof. Mikstein, when preparing his monograph, considered them at first as genuine. Only when he managed to examine an entire sheet of these alleged trials did he come to the irrefutable conclusion that there was no question of their being genuine trial prints. They are overprints made from an altered version of forme I C, misused for speculative purposes after completion of the first printing. Forme I C was either wholly or partially altered by placing the words "Poczta Polska" at the foot of the stamps, creating alleged trials.

There were altogether two printings of this issue. For each of them a different forme was used. Thus the two forme varieties (I and II) correspond exactly with the printings. In both cases the overprint consisted of the words "Poczta Polska" and four horizontal bars obliterating the German inscriptions.

The colour of the overprint, which was done by letterpress is an even black, of regular consistency. The length of the words "Poczta" and "Polska" is 7 mm each, with a 1½ mm. space between them; the capitals are 3 mm high, small letters 2½ mm. Third and fourth bars are 16 mm long, ½ mm thick. On certain varieties of each forme there is the additional surcharge "5" or "25".



6a

6



7



7a

Occurance of breaks in first two bars of the Polish overprint

FORME I

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I 10s		191		I 12a	II 1P, 11k		II 11k		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
				I 2oc, 12a	II 1P, 11k	II 1P	II 5t		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			II 12a	I 3c, 12a	II 1P, 11k	II 1P	II 5t		
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
	II 11k			II 3c, 12a	I 1P, 11k		191		
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
II 11k					I 1P, 11k	II 4s	II 11k		
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
III 1P				II 3c, 12a	I 1P, 11k		II 7P		
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
			II 1P-o	I 3c, 12a	II 1P, 11k	II 6a-P	II 7P-o		II 8o
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
				II 3c, 12a	I 1P, 11k	II 8o			
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
				II c, 12a	I 1P, 11k		III 1P		
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
II 11k				I 3c, 12a	II 12a=	I 3c			II 3c

FORME II

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			II 6a	I 3c		II 11k	I 8o II 6a	I 3c	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
II 2o	II 11k	I 8o II 5t			I 1P, 12a	I 7P	II 5t-a		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		I 7P II 8o	I 2o II 6a	II 1P		I 8o+1	II 8o	II 3c	
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
			II 6a	II 1P	I 12a	I 8o		II 2oc	
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
I 10s	I 7P			II 3c, 12a	II 11k				II 1P
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
	II 11k	I 5t II 8o				II 11k	I 1P II 5t		
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
			II 6a	II 1P	I 1P	II 7P		I 6a	I 3c
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
		I 11k	I 5t II 8o	II 2o	I 12a			II 2o	
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
				II 12a	I 1P	I 4s	I 8o	I 2o	II 11k
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
				II 2oc, 12a	I 1P, 11k				

Serial Number	Colour	Printing (F-flatpl R-rotary)	Control number of:		Control no. of German ovpt. appears below stamp	Gloss of German overprint	Polish overprint: Forms (I or II) Forms variety (A-E) Error grouping (a-n)
			basic German stamp (on side margin)	German ovpt. GGW (on bottom marg.)			
3 f	olive brown	F	H. 2343, 18	H. 2886, 18	98	semi-gl.	II Ae
3 f	do.	F	H. 2343, 18	H. 3875, 18	99/100	matt	II Ae, II Ag?
5 f	green, metallic gl.	F	H. 2614, 15	2H. 3123, 15	92/93	glossy	II Ag
5 f	green, without "	R		H. 5443, 17	98	matt	I Bb, II Af, II Ag
5 f	do.	R		"	99/100	matt	I Bb, II Af, II Ag, II Cl
5 f	do.	R		H. 4415, 18	98/99	matt	I Bb, II Af, II Ag
5/2 1/2	grey	F	H. 2169, 16	H. 4314, 18	99/100	glossy	I Ab, II Bk, Trial I
5/2 1/2	do.	F	H. 2169, 16	H. 4489, 18	98/99	glossy	I Aa, I Ab, II Bk, Trial II
5/2 1/2	do.	F	H. 2169, 16	H. 5442, 17	98	matt	II Bk
5/3 f	yellow-brown	R		H. 3123, 15	93/94	high gl.	I Ab
5/3 f	olive brown	F	H. 2343, 18	H. 2886, 18	98	glossy	I Aa, I Ab, II Dm
5/3 f	do.	F	H. 2343, 18	H. 3695, 18	98/99	glossy	I Aa, I Ab, II A (?)
10 f	rose, metallic gl.	F	H. 2707, 15	2H. 3123, 15	98/99	glossy	II Cl
10 f	do.	F	H. 2707, 15	H. 3125, 15, 1	98/99	glossy	II Cl
10 f	red, no gloss	F	H. 2707, 17	H. 4310, 17	91/92	matt	II Af, II Ag
10 f	do.	F	H. 2707, 17	H. 4310, 17	93/94	matt	II Af
10 f	red, deep	F	H. 4396, 17	H. 5445, 17	98	velvet	I Bb, II Ad, II Af, II Ag,
10 f	do.	F	H. 4396, 17	H. 5445, 17	99/100	velvet	I Bb, II Ae, II Af, II Cl
15 f	violet	F	?	H. 4311, 17	91/92	glossy	I Bb
15 f	violet, deep	F	H. 3621, 17	H. 4822, 17	97/98	semi-gl.	II Ae
15 f	do.	F	H. 3621, 17	H. 4822, 17	99/100	semi-gl.	II Ae

15 f	black-violet	F	H.1798,18	H.2723,18	98/99	velvet	II AK, II Cl
15 f	do.	F	H.1798,18	H.3092,18	98/99	velvet	I Bb, II Ae, II Ah, II AK
20 f	ultramarine	R		H.3123,18	93/94	glossy	II A (9d)
20 f	prussian blue	F	H.3593,17	H.3930,17	93/94	glossy	I Bb
20 f	do.	R		H.4312,17	91/92	semi-gl.	II Ag
20 f	light blue	F	H.4513,17	H.4821,17	97/98	semi-gl.	I Bb, II Ag
20 f	do.	F	H.4513,17	H.4821,17	99/100	semi-gl.	II Af
20 f	violet blue	F	H.1807,18	H.3093,18	98	velvet	I Bb, II Ag, II Cl
25/7½	orange	F	H.3802,17	H.4544,17	97/98	semi-gl.	I Co
25/7½	do.	F	H.1799,18	H.2722,18	98	matt	I Co, II En
25/7½	do.	F	H.1799,18	H.3091,18	99/100	matt	I Cb, I Co, II En
25/7½	do.	R		H.5444,17	98	velvet	I Co
25/7½	do.	R		H.5444,17	99/100	velvet	I Cb, II En
30 f	orange, black (gl.)	R		H.3123,18	93/94	high gl.	I & II (forme variety & error grouping uncertain)
30 f	do. (no gloss)	R		H.1762,17	92/93	matt	II Ae, II Af, II Cl
30 f	do. do.	R.		H.1762,17,1	98	matt	I Bb, II Ae, II Af,
30 f	do. do.	R.		H.2293,17,1	98	matt	II Ag, II Cl
40 f	carmine, black	R		H.2444,17	99/100	glossy	I Bb, II Af, II Ag
40 f	do.	R		H.5364,18	99/100	glossy	II Af
40 f	do.	R		H.4414,18	98/99	glossy	I Bb, II Af, II Ag, II Cl
40 f	do.	R		H.3123,18	93/94	matt	I Bb, II Cl
60 f	dull mauve	R		H.1761,17,1	98	glossy	II Cl
60 f	pale mauve	F	H.4150,16	H.1761,17,1	98	matt	I Bb
60 f	do.	F	H.4150,16	H.2295,17,1	98	matt	I Bb
60 f	deep mauve	R		H.5903,17	98	velvet	I Bb, II Ak, II Cl
60 f	do.	R		H.5903,17	99/100	velvet	I Bb, II Ak, II Cl
60 f	do.	R		H.2724,18	98/99	velvet	I Bb, II Ak, II Cl

Differences between the two formes are recognisable even on single stamps:

	Forme I	Forme II
a. distance between "Poczta Polska" and first bar.....	2½-3 mm	2 - 2½ mm
b. distance between second and third bar.....	3½ mm, rarely up to 3¾ mm.	3½ mm in first row, 4 mm in rows 2 - 10.

There is also a difference in the arrangement of the 1st and 2nd bars in the two formes: they only seem to continue uninterruptedly through the horizontal rows of stamps. In actual fact they consist of small sections and the joints are of varying width. The placing of these interruptions differs in the two formes, but is identical within each, irrespective of other variations. They are more obvious when the overprint is misplaced up- or downwards, i.e. when the bars are not exactly across the words "Gen.Gouv.Warschau".

In normal overprints, correctly placed, the identification of interruptions is mostly impossible. In cases where they are even partially distinguishable they facilitate expertisation, particularly when a given stamp position in the sheet is known (i.e. errors in overprint). The table opposite gives a list of all interruptions for each of the two formes, as prepared by prof. Mikstein. Arabic figures in top left corner give position of stamp in sheet; Roman "I" or "II" at foot denotes first or second bar, followed by Arabic figures which identify the letter under which the interruption is placed (for example, "1P" = "P" in "Poczta"; 6a is "a" in "Poczta", etc.). At times the interruption is not exactly below the given letter, but slightly off to left or right; this is indicated in the table by an arrow.

We thus have a convincing proof of a common likeness of trial formes P.1. and P.2 and forme I with its varieties on one hand, and varieties of forme II on the other.

Within each of the two formes, the overprint consisted of the same unchanging composite parts. These were the words "Poczta Polska" and the four obliterating bars. This permanent, unchanging part was in some cases amended by an additional, independent surcharge of figures "5" or "25".

This additional part in formes I and II was added or removed, as required, depending on whether it was intended to change the face value or not. Thus we face the philatelically interesting and rare instance where the same printing forme, without undergoing any basic change and remaining the same forme does, in fact, change by addition or removal of figures "5" or "25".

When provisional issues are created by overprinting it is common enough to find that some face values remain the same, while others receive a surcharge; such was the case with the "Cracow" and "Lublin" overprints prepared during that period. There, however, a new printing forme was required for each new arrangement; in the case we are considering the arrangement remained the same within each forme, the surcharging figures being added or removed, we only have varieties of the same forme.

What is even more curious, this peculiar dance repeats itself several times in forme II. First, there is no surcharge, only the permanent part of the overprint. Then it is used in conjunction with the figure "5", which is removed for further quantities to be overprinted without any surcharge. Then "5" is added once more, before being replaced with "25" for a final surcharge. It is well to bear in mind that these changes have not taken place with any speculative end in sight, they were necessitated by the requirements of given face values at a given time, and varying supplies of stamps without the Polish overprint reaching the printers from offices in different parts of the country.

Technically these changes did not offer great difficulties: a piece of leading, equivalent to the depth of the figures, replaced them when no surcharging was required. Being lower than type, it did not print, yet permitted the correct distance between rows to be maintained.

As a result of these alterations in the make-up of each forme we can distinguish three variants of the overprint:

1. Consisting only of the basic part, i.e. words "Poczta Polska" and four horizontal bars. The face value remained unaltered.
2. In addition to the basic make-up (as in 1.) the overprint was amended by adding a surcharge consisting of 100 figures "5" altering the value of each stamp to 5 fen.
3. Similarly to 2. it consists of the basic part, with an additional surcharge, but of 100 surcharges "25", altering face value to 25 fen.

In other words, variants of the overprint are characterized by the differing appearance and can be distinguished visually without difficulty. The number of variants in this issue remains three, no matter how often they changed from one to another. Overprinting a stamp with another variant creates a new variety altering, as it does, one of the most important factors - the face value - therefore causing it to be listed as a separate stamp.

Altogether differing from the variants of overprint are varieties of the forme, although there is a certain relation and association between them.

Forme varieties mark the successive alterations of the variants. They register in chronological order the successive changes by addition or removal of figures "5" and "25". In order to see one variety of forme changed into the next it was sufficient to change the variant of overprint. The connection here is that every change of overprint variant creates unquestionably a new forme variety, and no new forme variety is possible without a change of the overprint variant. If, for instance, all three variants of the overprint were changed three times, we would have nine forme varieties, but there would still be only three overprint variants.

Forme I has three forme varieties: I A, I B, I C; forme II has five varieties - II A, II B, II C, II D, II E. The table hereunder illustrates the chronological sequence of forme varieties and overprint variants used:

	Forme I			Forme II				
Forme variety.....	A	B	C	A	B	C	D	E
Overprint variant.....	2	1	3	1	2	1	2	3

Order of overprinting with Forme I

- I First of all forme I was used to print a quantity of 2½ and 3 fen stamps with a surcharge "5" (overprint variant 2). It forms forme variety I A.
- I B. The figures "5" were removed to overprint the following denominations with overprint variant 1, not altering the face value: 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40 and 60 fen. Forme variety I B.
- I C. Figures "25" were added to surcharge stamps of the 7½ fen face value (overpt. variant 3), creating forme variety I C.

This completes the history of forme I of this issue. After the printings referred to above were completed, forme I C was misused for the preparation of a number of "varieties" as, for instance, 25 on 3 fen with inverted surcharge, etc. Afterwards the third and fourth horizontal bars were removed and the words "Poczta Polska" put in their place, making them cover "Deutsches Reich". In the course of further doctoring, figures "5", "10" and "15" were added to produce alleged trial prints. These were sent to the Chief Treasury of the Warsaw G.P.O., whence they found their way directly to the stamp trade (See also reference to above after description of trial prints on p.12).

Order of overprinting with Forme II

- II A. Stamp denominations of 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40 and 60 f were first overprinted with variant 1; this is forme variety II A.
- II B. After adding figure "5" a number of 2½ fen stamps were surcharged with this variant 2; forme variety II B.
- II C. Figures "5" were removed to facilitate overprinting of stamps at 5, 10, 15, 30, 40 and 60 fen without altering their face value (back to variant 1); forme variety II C.
- II D. Figure "5" was replaced to surcharge stamps at 3 fen., possibly also 2½ fen (overpt. variant 2); forme variety II D.
- II E. Lastly, figure "5" was replaced by "25" (overpt. variant 3) to surcharge stamps at 7½ fen; forme variety II E.

There is no doubt at all about the chronology of forme varieties I A, B, C, and II A, B, C; it is difficult to establish whether forme varieties II D and II E actually happened in the order given above. Because of the impossibility of examining a complete sheet of stamps surcharged with forme variety II D which would decide this problem, the question of correct placing of these two varieties remains unsolved.

On completion of printing with forme II, the II E variety was misused for fabricating alleged trials of 25 on 10 fen., and 25 on 15 fen (brown) also, with additional changes, a number of varieties including double and treble overprints.

EXPERTIZATION OF POLISH STAMPS

Polonus member Dr. Stanley Kronenberg has officially established himself in the expertizing business. Dr. Kronenberg has been the expertizer of Polish material for several national philatelic organizations and we are very pleased to see that he now is offering this service officially to all who have Polish material that requires an opinion. The Board of Directors acknowledges the expertise of Dr. Kronenberg and recommends him to the members of Polonus. His knowledge of Polish philately is proven in all areas and he has demonstrated this over and over again in the quality of his writings which have appeared not only in the Polonus Bulletin, but also several national philatelic publications. For a schedule of fees, which are very reasonable, he may be contacted at: Hollow Rd., Skillman, New Jersey 08558.

HERBERT BLOCH HONORED

Polonus member Herbert Bloch has been selected as the recipient of the first Scott Award for outstanding contributions to philately. The award was presented by Scott Publishing Co., which will contribute \$5,000 in Bloch's name to various philatelic projects, organizations, or societies selected by the recipient. In addition, Scott will underwrite another \$5,000 of organization expenses for the newly established American Philatelic Awards Council which is pledged to improve all philately. Mr. Bloch is best known to Polonus as an expert on the Kraków Issues.

P.P.C. PULASKI FOLDER

The Poland Philatelic Club of Milwaukee has issued a special 4-page commemorative philatelic folder to mark the 200th anniversary of Pulaski's death. The folder is printed in brown and metallic gold on light tan and was designed by artist Joseph Sulma of Kraków. Each folder contains a copy of the 10¢ Pulaski post card with the Oct. 11th Savannah first day cancellation along with three US postage stamps relating to Poland or Pulaski. Available at \$5.50 ea. postpaid from E. Maslon, 320 E. Montana, Milwaukee, WI 53207.

IN MEMORIAM

Polonus lost two friends . . .

Dr. James J. Matejka, one of the nation's most prominent philatelists, died Nov. 30th. The Co-Founder of COMPEX, the largest philatelic exhibition held annually in the Midwest, he had a soft spot for Polonus and constantly served as Judge at our exhibitions. He attended all of our society's major functions.

Stanley Hodziewicz, former head of the U.S. Post Office Philatelic Division, passed away Dec. 1st. He was helpful to Polonus when we visited Washington, D.C. for the first day sale and ceremonies of the Paderewski Champion of Liberty stamps. Polonus led the campaign and was instrumental in having these stamps issued.

Both will be sorely missed.

PLEWACKI POST SHOW

The Plewacki Post Stamp Society of Buffalo, NY, will hold its 24th annual stamp and coin exhibition March 28-29-30, 1980, and will honor the 100 years of the Buffalo Evening News.

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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The Polonus Philatelic Society is non-political. Views expressed by authors of articles appearing herein do not necessarily express the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

— Annual Dues are \$7.50 —

CHICAGOLAND XMAS PARTY

Last call for those wishing to attend our Christmas Party on Friday evening, December 28th, at our meeting place at the Veterans building. The cost will be \$7.50 per person and will include a buffet dinner and champagne. Reservations must be made immediately. Send check to: Roman H. Strzelecki, 1620 North Latrobe Ave., Chicago, IL 60639, Phone: 237-7366.

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