

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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

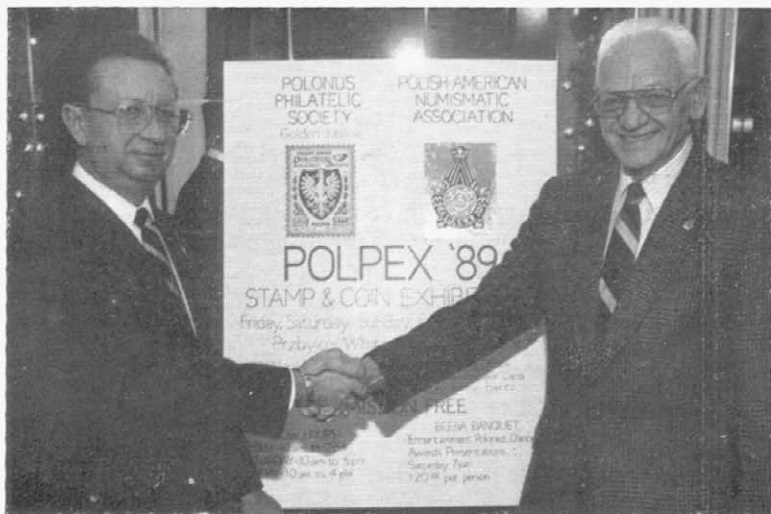
Issue No. 433

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Jan.-Feb., 1989

STAMP AND COIN SHOW SPECTACULAR

In just a few weeks many Polonus members and friends from around the world will join us in our Golden Jubilee celebration at POLPEX 89, February 10-11-12, at the House of the White Eagle in Niles, Illinois. This is the first philatelic and numismatic show of its kind. Two hundred frames of the most interesting collections from around the world will be displayed in the Victoria Ballroom. We have been swamped with entries of excellent Polish material of pre-philatelic, military, airmail, locals, pre-war, post-war, postal history, and topical nature.



Fred Szebel, Polpex Chairman, and Arthur Marquart, President of the Polish American Numismatic Association, pledge their mutual cooperation for the Golden Anniversary of Polonus and the Silver Anniversary of PANA at POLPEX 89.

(Photo: Mark Dobrzycki)

The Polish American Numismatic Association will exhibit rarely seen Polish medals, coins, and military decorations, and will hold a convention of its members from all over the country.

Hours of the exhibition are: Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. The official opening ceremony will take place on Friday at 11 a.m. with the participation of important guest personalities.

The traditional Beeba Banquet will be held after closing of the exhibition on Saturday with a social hour at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. A sumptuous dinner will be provided by Przybylo's House of the White Eagle with guest speakers, Edward J. Moskal, President of the Polish American Congress and Polish National Alliance, and Professor W. Wagner of Detroit University. Dr. M. Kamienski will make the special award presentation. There will be dinner music and entertainment provided by Chicago's foremost folk dance group, the Polonez Dancers. Tickets are \$20.00 and available from committee members or by writing to Polonus, Box 82, River Grove, IL 60171. Tickets will be held at the Polonus Table where all Polpex visitors should register for I.D. badges.

A special memorable souvenir of this event is the Polonus medal mounted on a walnut gold stamped stand. It will be awarded to all exhibitors and patrons who donate \$100.00 or more to the support of this Polpex. It is not too late to do your share. Make check payable to Polonus-Polpex and send it to Fred Szebel, Chairman, 1615 East Central Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, or to the Treasurer. A \$10.00 or more donation will entitle you to be a Well Wisher with your name appearing in the souvenir program catalog. Place an ad in the catalog and be listed with your greetings to the Society!

As with every Polpex, colorful mementos will be available at the show and by mail.

Two souvenir sheets with folder	\$1.50
One souvenir card - mint	1.50
Used - with show cancel	2.00
Three different Covers with special cancels	3.00
Special 50th Anniversary souvenir program catalog	2.00
(Add \$1.00 for postage and handling).	
Order from Polonus, Box 82, River Grove, Illinois 60171.	

On Saturday and Sunday, various lectures, meetings, and an excursion are planned. Details will be posted in the exhibition hall and listed in the souvenir program catalog.

The Czeslaw Slania essays for our Golden Jubilee encountered some printing problems but hopefully they will be resolved by the artist in time for our celebration.

Due to the change of management at Royal Six Motel, we have to move our guests to the Travelodge which is much closer to the Polpex. Details are listed separately in our Bulletin. Make your reservations without delay.

*Two post offices will operate on the premises: the U.S. and United Nations, with stamps and special cancels for Polonus and PANA. Forty

stamp and coin dealers will have tables at the bourse with a diversified selection of Polish and worldwide material. Your support of the dealers and post offices are urgently requested to assure the success of our biggest event ever.

We appeal to Chicagoland members to help set-up the exhibition on Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. The show will be taken down on Sunday after 4:00 p.m. For information, contact Entries Chairman, Art Walinski, 312 763-3597.

Support the Polpex! Let's get together and have the fun of a lifetime
See you at our Golden Jubilee celebration . . . POLPEX 89!

Fred Szebel, Executive Chairman and Committee



POLONUS
50
ANNIVERSARY
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Special Polpex postmark to be used during the three days, Febr. 10, 11 & 12th.

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EUGENE WOLOSIEWICZ

new year greetings



Polonus officers at Christmas Party. Left to right: Fred Szebel, Director; Ted Kwiecinski, Secretary; Al Rybarski, Director; Roman Strzelecki, President; Ex-officio Walenty Poniecki, Treasurer; Romuald Odrowski, Director; Art Walinski, Director and Chester Schafer, Bulletin Editor.

Polpex Accomodations

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

- ★ **TRAVELODGE** - 50 rooms
7247 N. Waukegan Rd., Niles, IL 60648, Ph.: 1-800/255-3050
Single Queen size bed (1 or 2 persons) \$40.00 plus tax.
Double bed (1 to 4 persons) \$44.00 plus tax.

Rates subject to change by motels. Reservations may be made direct or preferably through Matco Travel, c/o Wanda Szebel, 1615 E. Central Rd., Arlington Heights, IL 60005. Ph.: (312) 763-4406 - 9 am to 6 pm or (312) 437-1601 - after 6 pm.

If you need any travel arrangements, contact Wanda at the listed phones.

We suggest that visitors stay at the **TRAVELODGE**

which is 2 blocks from the Polpex. This will simplify the transportation problem.

The coordination of motel reservations thru Matco Travel will also help us know who is going to attend the Polpex.

POLPEX PUBLICITY LABELS

The publicity labels which you received with your Polonus Bulletin are available for \$1.00 or six for \$5.00. Use them frequently on your mail. Order from:

Walenty Poniecki
6020 N. Mason Street
Chicago, IL 60646



Polonus hosted the Polish American Numismatic Association at its Annual "OPLATEK" on December 30th at the Polish American Congress Hall in Chicago. This was the first of the celebrations of Polonus' Fiftieth Anniversary and PANA's Twenty-fifth Anniversary. The evening consisted of the breaking of the wafer, extending best wishes and

good cheer to each other, the partaking of a delicious meal, and the singing of carols. Co-chairpersons Mr. and Mrs. Romuald Odrowski are credited with presenting a most successful and enjoyable event.

Photographer Mark Dobrzycki made the group pose for this photo while they were singing carols

A Short Guide to Books About Polish Philately

by Winston Gruszczyk

Since I wrote my first article on Polish philately for *The American Philatelist* some ten years ago, I have received many kind letters. And I have been surprised to find that APS members from Japan to Western Europe are interested in Polish philately. Japanese interest was evidenced by the well-illustrated, 108-page catalogue of the POLSKA 80 exhibition in Tokyo prepared by Hitoshi Shinawaga that was sent to me.

Many letter-writers have asked me for advice on specialized catalogues or handbooks, which prompted me to offer this short guide to the philatelic literature of Poland and related areas. I have been fortunate to accumulate an extensive library of works in English, German, and Polish related to Polish philately. However, many of these books are difficult to locate, and language may be a barrier for some — but not for all! The president of the Toronto Polish Philatelic Club doesn't speak Polish, but his Polish handbooks are full of penciled notations. That's proof to me

that we philatelists can overcome language barriers with our keen desire to learn more about our stamps and covers.

There is a sizable literature of Polish philately. This article is not intended to be a comprehensive bibliography of books concerning Poland, but rather a guide for collectors who want to dig deeper into their specialty.

The Polonus Philatelic Society of Chicago is a leading organization devoted to the study of Polish philately, and its book, the *Index of the Bulletin of the Polonus Philatelic Society*, compiled by Marian Dudek (Chicago, 1984), is important to collectors seeking information on the multitude of articles printed in that English-language journal between 1940 and 1984. The *Bulletin*, published every other month, always has original articles, reprints, or translations of value to collectors of Poland.

In 1795, Poland was divided among Austria, Prussia, and Russia. The Kingdom of Poland, within the limited

First Issue of POLONUS

A Monthly Magazine
Devoted to the

Stamps of Poland



PROSPECTUS

VOLUME 1 OCTOBER, 1940 NUMBER 1
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

TO ALL POLONUS MEMBERS

It is difficult to write a message to Polonus members, to read after an event of war made by the post president. But the problems are still here, and some more. I must believe that you know that the response from one of your members was rather disappointing.

In the past few years the Society became rather slow, depending from facts with members, closed down on most activities. Yet we must be in contact and we must share with each other.

In the 1960's I served as President. Later as Secretary and Director. We had a lot of old timers, experienced in philately, who were always willing to share their experience and knowledge with a lot of the new comers to the Society. Over the years the Society was strong, dynamic and very active.

In this high spirit of cooperation with the Council and I, in my opinion, I was elected President of the Society. For the first time I have changed — we all became a bit older, a lot of our members left our ranks. But we got a lot of new members who should get into the membership of the Society. And with all of these are the new old timers, would like to share our experience. You might ask, how?

It is through the Bulletin.

Exchange ideas in all our activities.

Handbooks on study groups.

Have suggestions and ideas.

Exchange of your thoughts.

Involve in our activities.

Helping and in getting along in the Polish Show.

And all of this means SHARE with all other members.

Some years ago I wrote a little piece by one of our members, and he is part of it. I am not sure you can't share.

I wish all the best to you.

Keep Polonus, it is worth

In the end of the year.

Polonus Bulletin, July-August, 1988

1/88



50 ANNIVERSARY

autonomy granted it by Russia, issued its first and only postage stamp in 1860 (Scott No. 1). That limited autonomy was revoked in 1863 after an uprising against Russia. The stamp was withdrawn and replaced by Russian stamps.

The early postal history of Poland, the pre-stamp period, and the first-stamp era are covered in a book by W. von Polanski and W. Rachmanow that exists in three editions, each in a different language. The first was published in French in 1920 (135 copies printed), the second in Polish in 1922 (sixty-five copies), and the third in German in 1935 (*Die Postwertzeichen und Poststempel von Polen im 18 und 19 Jahrhundert*, Vienna, 300 copies). This book is a collector's item, seldom offered.

Another detailed study of this period is more recent: *The Kingdom of Poland — Poland No. 1 and Associated Postal History*, by M.A. Bojanowicz (London, 1979). This is indeed an impressive work, updating the Polanski book and adding new philatelic knowledge. This book, of which 500 copies were printed, is still available.

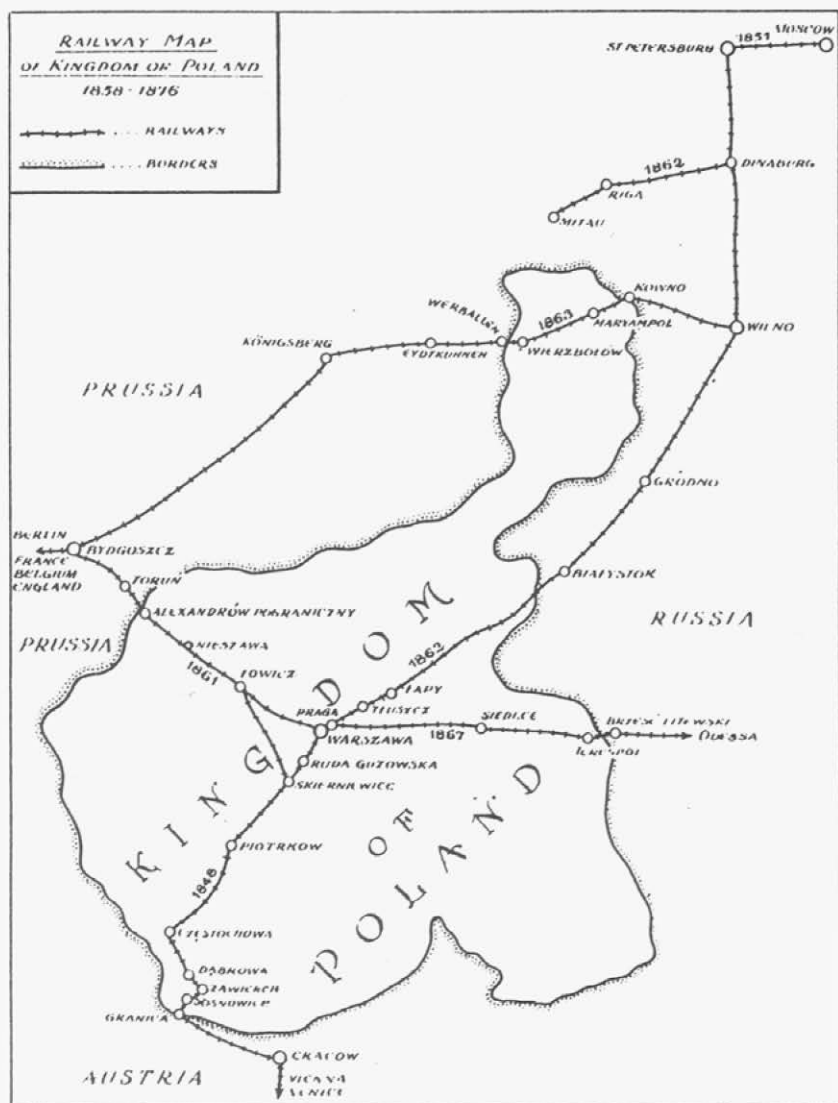
Pieczęcie pocztowe na ziemiach polskich w 18 wieku, by Professor Stanisław Mikstejn (Białystok, Poland, 1936), deals with Polish markings of the period 1762–1800. This is another hard-to-find book, but a 1987 reprint done by the Polish Philatelic Society in Warsaw is readily available. The brief history of the Duchy of Warsaw, 1809 to 1815, is well-covered in Henryk Chmielewski's *Poczta Księstwa Warszawskiego, Komunikat Filatelistyczny* (Bydgoszcz, Poland, 1970). A large postal route map in color is included in this work.

Very important to collectors of the pre-stamp period is *The Post of the Polish Kingdom, 1815-1851*. Published by the Postal Museum of Wrocław in 1987 but issued only this year, this 720-page volume includes maps by M. Czernik. In Polish.

A number of collectors are interested in the cancellations used by Prussia and Austria in their occupation zones up to the time Poland regained its independence in 1918. Edwin Muller covers Austrian cancels in his *Postmarks of Austria* (1954). An illustrated work on *Polish Town Cancels on Austria* was prepared by M. Tenczar in 1968.

Until recently, I had difficulty finding any information on cancellations used in the Prussian area. I searched for many years in Poland and Germany for handbooks on the subject. There is said to be a 1927 book in German by Kurt Marbach, long out of reach.

A 1925 German work, *Zusammenstellung der Preussischen Poststempel*, by F. Thalman (Leipzig, 1925) recently was reprinted by the Prussian Circle of the German Philatelic Society in West Germany. And I recently acquired a four-volume specialized catalogue of Poland, *Katalog specjalizowany znaków pocztowych ziem polskich* (Warsaw, 1985), that describes and prices Prussian and Austrian Poland, including Prussian numeral cancels used in Poland. The Prussian "horseshoe" cancels are the subject of a book in German, *Die deutschen Hufeisen Stempel* (Braunschweig, Germany, 1973).



From *The Kingdom of Poland — Poland No. 1 and Associated Postal History*, by M.A. Bojanowicz, RDP. The Royal Philatelic Society London: London, 1979.

The outbreak of World War I marked the beginning of an exceptionally interesting period in Polish postal history. The Polish Legion under Commander Josef Pilsudski crossed the border into Russian-occupied Poland on August 6, 1914. The stamps of the Polish Legion (unlisted in Scott), as well as a variety of postal stationery items and cancellations,

are listed and illustrated in Jan Berek's *Poczta Polowa Legionow / Fieldpost of the Polish Legion* (London, 1968), in English and Polish.

In 1918, Polish forces operating in Russian areas under General Dowbor Musnicki overprinted Polish eagles on Russian stamps. Their postal history is the subject of *The Occupation of Russia by the*

'We philatelists can overcome language barriers with our keen desire to learn more about our stamps and covers.'



Polish I Corps (Chicago, 1977), a book written by James Mazepa and sponsored by the Polonus Philatelic Society. The Polish Legion, Austrian post offices in Poland, and the siege of Przemyśl are included in the handbook *Austro-Hungarian A.P.O. 1914-1918* by Keith Tranmer (Essex, England, 1973).

The Russian part of Poland that was occupied by Germany during the war is the subject of a book, *Organizacja Poczty Okupacyjnych na ziemiach polskich 1914-1918*, by J. Dudzinski and S. Zolkiewski (Warsaw, 1972). The short stay of the Russian army in Lwow and Eastern Galicia is described by the Rev. L. Tann in his book, *The Arms Issues of 1902-20* (Canadian Society of Russian Philately: Toronto, 1980).

Although the German and Austrian military government in Russian-occupied Poland reintroduced postal service, it did not accept responsibility for delivery of the mail, thus creating opportunities for local delivery service and for the creation of various local stamps and cancellations. In 1980, the Polish Section of the German Philatelic Society sponsored a book on the city post of Warsaw (*Stadtpost der Hauptstadt Warschau 1915-1918*, by S. Petriuk). There is also a handbook in Polish, *Poczta miejska Miasta Warszawy* (Warsaw, 1965), by A. Snieszko that is well-illustrated and useful.

Collectors interested in the Polish Levant issues may find some information in another book by the same author, *Poczta Polska w Stambule* (Wrocław, Poland, 1960), printed under the sponsorship of the Polish postal museum.

Independent Poland, reborn in November 1918, had a multitude of problems affecting unification of the postal systems of former occupation zones and plebiscite ter-

ritories. The variety of currencies in the country required stamps to be printed in marka and krona values.

The most famous issues of this period are the "Poczta Polska" overprints on former Austrian stamps, a very difficult field because of the countless forgeries. Volume I of the five-volume *Polskie Znaki Pocztowe* (Warsaw, 1960), known also as the "Blue Book," is a good guide, with more information than the outdated *Ikaros Handbook* (*Polskie Znaki Pocztowe*, by A. Laszkiewicz, Białystok, Poland, 1935). Also valuable reading on the same subject is an article in Polish by Professor Mikstein of Cracov, Poland, printed in 1974, after his death, in Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the *Postal History Bulletin* published in Lodz, Poland.

One more source of information on Austrian overprints is the study by Jan Ryblewski on philately in Cracov, *Krakowski Ruch Filatelistyczny* (Cracov, 1968). Helpful booklets on Polish overprints on the Germania stamps were reprinted in English — *Second Polish Provisional Issue — 1918* by J. Tislovitz, and *Polish Definitive Issues 1920-1925*, by Ron Negus (Yorkshire, England, 1959).

During the period of peace between World War I and World War II, several philatelic magazines appeared in Poland, along with the important *Ikaros Handbook* by Laszkiewicz mentioned above. This publication was the "bible" of Polish philately until 1960, when the new, five-volume monograph *Polskie Znaki Pocztowe* (Warsaw, 1960 to 1973) superseded it.

The conclusion of a German-Soviet alliance in 1939 soon was followed by

Hitler's invasion of Poland, on September 1, 1939. Poland was divided between Germany and Russia, and the German-occupied central part of the country is of special interest to philatelists. Known as the General Government, this area had its own stamp issues.

Within the German Philatelic Society in West Germany, a special study group for the General Government (Arbeitsgemeinschaft Generalgouvernement, Hannover, West Germany) has its own German-language publications, including catalogues, listings of all post offices and cancellations of the GG, and maps. Collectors interested in an English-language book may find some good information in *German Occupied Poland* by A. Harper (Darlington, England, 1972). A more recent and well-prepared postal history by Edward T. Superson, *Occupied Poland in World War II and the Holocaust* (Panama City, Florida: 1987), offers a wealth of information.

Polish armed forces were part of the Allied forces during World War II, with their own fieldposts in England, the Near East, Africa, and Italy. The postal history of the Polish fieldpost is the subject of an interesting book, *The Postal History of the Polish Field Post Offices in the Holy Land 1940-1947*, by J. Kucharski (New York, 1981), sponsored by the Society of Israel Philatelists Educational Fund. Another book in English attempts to cover the entire period of the war. It is *Polish Post Seven Years War*, by H.M. Smith

The tragic Warsaw Uprising of 1944 and the story of mail service by scouts under enemy fire is the subject of a book sponsored by the Polonus Philatelic Society, *The Scout Field Post in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944*, by Thaddeus Gryzewski (Chicago, 1961). The Union of Polish Philatelists in Great Britain printed a booklet on forgeries of the Polish fieldpost stamp issued in 1941 in Russia, *Forgery of the Stamp Dojdzieny*, by J. Berek (London, 1980). This stamp, unlisted in the Scott catalogue, is included in all European catalogues, including Gibbons and Michel.

The postal history of the POW camps in Germany is the subject of a two-volume catalogue by G. Matiello and W. Vogt, published in 1987, in German. This work lists all POW camps in Germany and the occupied territories, the periods of operation of each camp, censor marks used, and point valuations. It is an excellent catalogue, and is still available in Germany.

The darkest part of the postal history of World War II is the Nazi concentration camps. There are plenty of articles and booklets covering single camps, and new information always is coming to light.

The Handbook of the Mail in the Concentration Camps 1933-1945 by Sam Simon (USA, 1973) tries to cover the entire postal history of the Nazi camps. For students interested specifically in concentration camps located within present-day Poland, I suggest the encyclopedic 700-page book in Polish, *Obozy*



hitlerowskie na ziemiach polskich 1939-1945 (Nazi Camps in Poland 1939-1945) (Warsaw, 1979). This is not a philatelic manual, but it is useful for its descriptions of all the camps, and it has a separate map appendix.

The history of ghetto mail is included in a Polish work that covers the entire postal history of the Lodz region, *Filatelistyka w Lodzkiem*, by R. Rosin (Lodz, Poland, 1976). The local post of Polish prisoners of war in Germany is the subject of a six-volume study in Polish, *Katalog Poczty Obozowych*, by J. Machowski (Cracov, 1961).

The first stamps issued by Poland after the German retreat, the War Heroes set (Scott Nos. 341-43), and the postal history of that part of Poland liberated in 1944 by the Russians are the subjects of an excellent Polish monograph, *Poczta Polska w 1944 Roku*, by A. Myslicki (Warsaw, 1981). Original purchasers of this book received an additional benefit — a set of three full-sheet reprints in color from the original plates, as well as a black reprint from the original essay.

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The rarest stamp of post-war Poland, Scott No. 346a, is the subject of an interesting book, *Czerwony Blednodruk znaczka 1,50zł/25gr (Red Error of 1,50 Zloty Overprint)*, by M. Perzynski (Lodz, Poland, 1975). *Polskie Znaki Pocztove*, the five-volume set of handbooks printed between 1960 and 1973 and mentioned above, is an excellent guide to specialized information on all stamps and postal stationery.

The information presented in these handbooks now is supplemented by a specialized catalogue of Poland, *Katalog Specjalizowany Znakow Pocztywch Ziem Polskich 1985* (Warsaw, Poland), with new editions promised every five years.

The 1985 edition is divided into four parts and includes listings for Danzig and nineteenth-century German local posts that operated within the territory of present-day Poland, including postal stationery. Polish postal stationery has been the subject of a three-volume bilingual (English-Polish and German-Polish) study, *Calostki polskie*, by S. Zolkiewski (Warsaw, 1961).

A number of useful books are available for collectors of topicals, cancellations, meters, and other areas of interest.

Polskie Frankatury Mechaniczne / Meter Postage in Poland, by T. Hampel (Warsaw, 1959), is in Polish and English. It covers the entire field for meter specialists. The centennial of Poland's first stamp was celebrated in 1960 with a great variety of anniversary cancellations. These are the subject of two books in Polish, L. Steinbach's *Pamiatki filatelistyczne z obchodow stulecia* (Warsaw, 1962) and H. Brancewicz' and J. Wieczorek's *Stulecie polskiego znaczka pocztowego* (Bytom, 1963). The latter illustrates most of the anniversary cachets.

Collectors interested in special cancellations are lucky to have a twelve-volume monograph covering the entire field from 1919 to the present, *Katalog Polskich Stempli Okolicznosciowych* (Warsaw, 1975 and later years).

Stamps, postal stationery, and cancellations commemorating Marshall J. Pilsudski, leader of Independent Poland after November 1918, are compiled in a booklet by J. Berek published by Britain's Polish Philatelic Society, *J. Pilsudski w filatelistyce polskiej 1867-1967* (London, 1967).

Topical collectors interested in sports on stamps may enjoy the listing of stamps and cancellations in *Sport-Znaki Poczty Polskiej (Sport on Polish Stamps)* by A. Haraburda (Warsaw, 1982). Another book in Polish, *Polska Kronika Olimpijska w Filatelistyce* by F. Bura (Warsaw, 1976), deals with Olympic issues only.

For collectors of regional philately, cancels of Wilno, or the Vilnius region, I recommend *Post Office Cancels in Lithuania* by V. Fugalevicius (New York, 1984).

The study of forgeries is always fascinating. A work that provides basic informa-

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Tom Wójew. Kaliskiego

Municipal Government



Rural Council

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From *The Kingdom of Poland — Poland No. 1 and Associated Postal History*, by M.A. Bojanowicz, RDP. The Royal Philatelic Society London: London, 1979.

tion about Polish forgeries is *Badanie znaków pocztowych* (Team Work: Warsaw). Another, which deals with post-war Poland, is *Falszerstwa Znaków pocztowych PRL* by M. Perzynski and J. Kapkowski (Warsaw, 1975).

The Polish Philatelic Society, with the cooperation of the Museum of Posts in Wrocław, Poland, recently published a number of excellent reprints of older books, among them a 1903 work by Dr.

P. Dabkowski on *Postal Facilities in Old Poland*. Also reprinted and released as bound volumes were entire years runs for 1894, 1895, and 1896 of the Polish philatelic periodical, *Filatelista*.

I hope this summary of philatelic literature about Poland and related areas will be helpful to many collectors. At the least, it will let them know that some of these hard-to-find works do exist.

The American Philatelist

Polpex 89 Honorary Committee

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DR. WANDA PIŁSUDSKA, Daughter of Founder and First Marshal
of Poland, Józef Piłsudski

Holocaust Museum Appeals for Artifacts and Documents

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum is seeking Holocaust-related documents and materials concerning the Nazi persecution of Polish citizens. Construction of this major national Museum is now under way on federal land adjacent to the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

The Museum is also seeking information and materials about resistance and rescue to help the Museum exhibitions tell the story of those who risked their lives in the struggle against the Nazi occupiers of Poland.

To accomplish the task of relating this story authentically, accurately and powerfully, the Museum must be made aware of the original artifacts, documents, letters, diaries, works of art, photographs, etc., created in camps, and ghettos or in hiding.

To assist in this national effort and to carry out other professional Museum tasks, Jacek Nowakowski, former curator of the Polish Museum of America in Chicago, has joined the staff of the Holocaust Museum as

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM (Continued)
associate curator.

Individuals & organizations with original Holocaust related material are urged to send a full description of the material to: Curator, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 717, Washington, D.C. 20036.

BOOK REVIEW

E. D. Wolski

"Polish POWs in Nazi Captivity" (Jęńcy Polscy w Hitlerowskiej niewoli) by Juliusz Pollack, 2nd ed., Warsaw, 1986.

The book presents one of the best accounts of life in Stalags and Oflag where the Nazi forces kept Polish POWs. The focus is on Oflag II-B and II-D because that is where the author spent time in captivity.

After reading this 237 page book it becomes evident why an internal postal service became necessary in larger camps.

"The Camp Posts" are described in a separate chapter, pp. 181-186. Samples of internal & external mail are well illustrated.

The text includes a rich bibliography and a list of all camps where Polish POWs were kept (pp. 218 to 222).

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