

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets Every Second and Fourth Friday of the Month at Falcons Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Issue 236

November 1965

MILLENNIUM RESOLUTIONS IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE

H. J. RES. 775 — Hon. Henry Helstoski, M.C. (D), N.J.

H. J. RES. 787 — Hon. Edward J. Derwinski, M.C. (R), Ill.

Please write to **your** senators and representatives before Congress reconvenes in January to support these resolutions, sending copies of your letters to Myron E. Steczynski, Chairman Stamp Committee, 4154 N. Leclair Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60641.

Congressman Helstoski introduced the following joint (Senate and House) resolution and Congressman Derwinski introduced an identical joint resolution at the First Session of the 89th Congress, which resolutions were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary to authorize the President to issue a proclamation for the commemoration and observance of the millennium of the Polish nation in the calendar year 1966.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the President is hereby authorized and requested to issue a proclamation

1. Commemorating the occasion of the millennium of Poland as a Christian nation, which event will be celebrated by the people of Poland throughout the calendar year 1966, and

2. Calling upon the people of the United States to observe such millennium with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In keeping with the spirit of the above resolutions, Polonus is keying

its **Polpex 1966** to the millennium of Poland and is postponing this outstanding stamp exhibition from its usual place on the calendar at about March 1st to the end of August to coincide with the visit of His Eminence Cardinal Wyszyński of Poland to Chicago, where a huge and most impressive manifestation will take place in Soldier Field.

His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman of New York has been invited to show a portion of his world famous religion-on-stamps collection at **Polpex 1966** aiming to glorify Poland's role as a Christian nation throughout the centuries. His Eminence graciously assured Polonus that he will gladly exhibit a suitable part of his collection. **Polpex** souvenir sheets and covers bearing religious themes are in the Cardinal's collection. His Eminence is a member of the Polonus Committee to honor the millennium of Poland with a U.S. postage stamp in 1966 and we consider this a distinct honor and aid.

Polonus members are urged to plan their **Polpex 1966** exhibits at an early date, augmenting the stamps themselves with supporting illustrations and excerpts from the many richly-illustrated albums, calendars, post cards and other graphic media that are available.

Besides **Polpex 1966**, there are numerous other possibilities to show your millennium stamp exhibit in your local halls, in your community

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POLAND'S MILLENNIUM

Congressman Henry Helstoski of New Jersey made the following remarks which were documented in the Congressional Record of October 19, 1965. With these remarks he introduced a bill calling for appropriate ceremonies and another bill asking for a U.S. commemorative stamp in observance of Poland's millennium.

* * *

Seven years ago Americans of Polish ancestry solemnly commemorated the 350th anniversary of the arrival of the first Poles to the shores of America. They landed at Jamestown, Va., in September, 1608.



Drawn by V. Gierka

Landing of the Poles at Jamestown in 1608



1779
1931



1732
1932

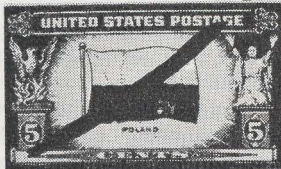


1783
1933



1787
1937

1939
1943



1860
1941

Poland at that time was one of the great powers of Europe and had been contributing to the growth and development of Western civilization and culture for over 600 years, and existed as a state for at least eight centuries.

We are now approaching Poland's millennium of Christianity.

The year 1966 will mark the 1,000th anniversary of the baptism of the Polish Nation. Through this act, Poland linked her destiny with that of the West and became an integral and creative force in its culture, keeping at the same time, watch on the eastern ramparts of Christendom.

One thousand yesteryears represent one-half of our Christian era, spanning the early Middle Ages through our times.

In human equation, the millennium represents 40 generations.

These generations of Poland have built one of the most powerful and enlightened states in Europe. They basked in the glories of victories, knew the rich rewards of spiritual progress, the joy of intellectual attainments, the sorrow of defeats, the depth of suffering, the sustaining power of heroism and of faith in the face of mortal dangers.

STAMPS OF UNITED STATES AND POLAND IN TRIBUTE TO EACH OTHER

In time of glory and in periods of adversity they learned how to put into practice the ideal of the brotherhood of man — "Za Waszą Wolność i Naszą" — For your freedom and ours.

This is our heritage.

Generally, only the highlights of Poland's history are known. Generally, we are aware only of the spectacular attainments and of the deep tragedies that were the lot of the land of our Polish ancestry.

This history is replete not only with military victories and political achievements attained in the formulation of the first Commonwealth of Nations in the European annals; this history does not end with the tragedy of partition and the transitory disintegration of the Republic, nor with the Soviet occupation.

To a sincere student, Poland's history discloses unexpected depths of political and sociological philosophy and surprising lights of genius that foretold the development of modern thought and concept.

Preparations have begun for a nationwide observance of the 1,000th anniversary of the baptism of Poland. The message the Americans of Polish descent will bring to their fellow Americans will be based upon the theory that they should know and evaluate Poland, her past and her potentialities for the future, based on exploring the little known, the generally appreciated aspects of her thousand-year-long history.

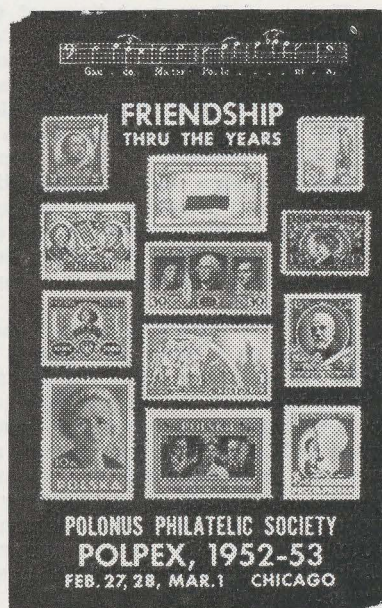
The Polish-American Jamestown observance called to the attention of Americans the contribution of the Poles in the founding and development of the United States.

The milliennial commemorations should bring to full light and recognition Poland's contribution to the Western World not alone as the sentinel upon the eastern ramparts of Western culture, but as a truly creative pioneering force in the development of Western thought — in poli-

tical philosophy, in precepts of social justice, in concepts of the brotherhood of man and in arts and sciences.

This in a proper perspective constitutes the purpose in organizing a nationwide observance of Poland's millennium. To bring this commemoration into focus of the widest range of our American citizens, I am introducing, this afternoon, House Joint Resolution 775 to authorize the President to issue a proclamation to commemorate this auspicious occasion and calling upon the people of the United States to observe this millennium with appropriate ceremonies and activities. **I am also introducing H.R. 11654, a bill to provide for the issuance of a special series of postage stamps in observance of this occasion.**

I certainly hope that these two proposals will receive favorable consideration of the committees to which they are assigned and that this honorable body will act upon them as early as possible after Congress reconvenes in January.



POLISH STAMP RESOLUTIONS IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE

S.2646 — Senator J. Caleb Boggs, (R) Del.

HR.11654 — Hon. Henry Helstoski, M.C. (D), N.J.

HR.11787 — Hon. Clement J. Zablocki, M.C. (D), Wis.

HR.11812 — Hon. Edward J. Derwinski, M.C. (R), Ill.

Please write to **your** senators and representatives before Congress reconvenes in January to support these resolutions, sending copies of your letters to Myron E. Steczynski, Chairman Stamp Committee, 4154 N. Leclair Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60641.

Senator Boggs introduced the following resolution in the Senate and Congressman Helstoski, Congressman Zablocki and Congressman Derwinski introduced identical but separate resolutions in the House of Representatives at the First Session of the 89th Congress, which resolutions were referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, to provide for the issuance of a special series of postage stamps in commemoration of the millennium of the Polish nation in the calendar year 1966.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the Postmaster General is authorized and directed to issue, during the calendar year 1966, a special series of postage stamps, of such appropriate design and denomination as he shall prescribe, in commemoration of the occasion in the calendar year 1966 of the millennium of the origin of Poland as a Christian nation.

These resolutions are extremely important as a basis for Polonus efforts for the issue of a U.S. postage stamp to honor Poland's millennium of Christianity. Polonus has many tried and influential friends who are working most fervently for the millennium stamp. It is encouraging to note the close bonds and unanimity of purpose that tie other groups with Polonus in furthering this postal issue.



Polonus selected its past president and renowned philatelist, Myron E. Steczynski as chairman of its millennium stamp committee. He was promptly and unanimously elected stamp chairman by Poland's Millennium of Christianity Chicagoland Observance Committee, embracing all the Polish Catholic parishes, schools, church societies, etc., with the Very Rev. Msgr. Alfred L. Abramowicz as Executive Chairman. This group gave a benefit millennium dinner where, believe it or not, over 7,700 persons paid \$25.00 per plate to attend.



Almost simultaneously, the All-Chicago Committee to Commemorate Poland's Millennium likewise elected Mr. Steczynski as its stamp chairman in order to help exert a unified and effective effort for the issuance of a suitable stamp. This second group embraces the Polish-American Congress with more groups and societies than we dare mention. The

Hon. Roman Pucinski, M.C. is chairman of this group and promises to give his all to have a millennium stamp. In this way Polonus is assured of the full and hearty support of every Polish group.

Mr. Steczynski expanded his all-embracing committee to include true and worthy representatives from coast to coast and reports that he is highly elated by the hearty responses from endless friends of the Polish people. Many promise to support us financially as well as in effort. Steczynski's committee is strengthened by the influential and all-embracing hierarchy, government officials, civic leaders, names in the philatelic world, etc., so that the composite appeal and presentation is truly representative and factual.

From every side come evidences of cordiality that such a stamp is sorely needed and that the proper motive will re-kindle in the hearts of the people of Poland their historic admiration and affection for America and for the principles and ideals for which it stands.

Besides having a suggested first day of issue during Cardinal Wyszynski's visit to Chicago on August 28th, it appears that in addition to this largest Polish city outside of Warsaw, other cities with large Polish

populations, many of which are included in the Cardinal's itinerary, should be granted official post office cachets during the days when the cardinal will be visiting there, identifying the occasion as the millennium of Christianity of the Polish People. We would then be sure that a record number of letters would be sent by our citizens to their friends and relatives in Poland to give concrete evidence that America is interested in the people in Poland and is saluting them officially.

President Johnson maintains that peace is the most crucial issue in the world today and the most crucial place for the resolution of that issue today is Warsaw. To substantiate his belief, the President dispatched no less an official than one of his postally inclined cabinet members to the post of ambassador in Warsaw.

America's millennium stamp would convey to American Polonia and to the people in Poland that there is a mutual understanding in the hearts of these millions. Poles and Americans have understood one another without difficulty whenever they spoke of man's yearning to be free. Poland always acted as America would act if there were an America in the centuries when Poland was a power.

ACCOLADE FOR THE MILLENNIUM STAMP

Sincere and hearty responses come from all sides on the proposal to honor Poland's Millennium of Christianity with a U.S. stamp in 1966. There was much indifference in the life of our Polonia to many a previous civic project. This time, however, our leaders and friends seem to be pushing each other aside to lend their shoulder to the realization of the project. Our hierarchy, our large fraternal organizations, our statesmen, our cultural leaders, our philatelic friends, and just plain friends have written words of assurance that they will support the idea with all their might.

And so

The Hon. Joseph Alecks, State Comptroller of Massachusetts, as-

ures us that Postmaster General O'Brien will take a friendly attitude to the needs and wishes of American Polonia.

Dr. Arthur (Tex) Coleman of Connecticut and Alliance College will come to Chicago if the first day of sale of the millennium stamp coincides with Cardinal Wyszynski's visit. He will work hard to make the trip.

The Most Rev. John Grochowski, Prime Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church will help us actively in every way he can.

Congressman Henry Helstoski of New Jersey is working with us very closely and is doing everything possible to have this project become a reality.

Harry Lindquist, publisher of STAMPS, assures us that when the time is ripe, he will give the millennium stamp full support.

The Hon. Thaddeus Machrowicz, former Congressman and now U.S. District Judge of Detroit is eager to work with us and will definitely use his influence to get approval for this commemorative stamp.

Professors Mizwa and Kusielewicz of The Kosciuszko Foundation were helpful in organizing our Committee and pledge their continued help.

President Henry J. Parcinski of Alliance College is enthusiastic and commends the issue of a millennium stamp to synchronize with the visit of His Eminence Cardinal Wyszynski.

Carl P. Rueth, publisher of Linn's Weekly Stamp News, writes:

"I am in favor of a commemorative of this nature being issued by the United States.

"While I have no Polish antecedents which would incline me to be prejudiced towards a stamp, I do have a recognition and an understanding of the accomplishments of the Polish people here in this country in making it the "best place in the world to live".

"Further, the Poles, sometimes with heroic dedication in the fighting against odds, have made Poland a bastion of Christianity and all it stands for.

"In any event, I am for such a stamp and will support efforts in its behalf."

The Hon. Joseph F. Sawicki, Cleveland judge, popular raconteur, numismatist par excellence, pledges the support of coin collectors, if necessary, to exert active efforts in behalf of the millennium stamp.

The Hon. Matt S. Szymczak, professor at Georgetown University, retired member of the Federal Reserve System, is eager for the millennium stamp to become a reality.

Wence Wagner, professor of international law at Indiana University, endorses the project wholeheartedly and will work for its fulfillment.

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— Annual Dues are \$2.50 —

The Most Rev. Aloysius J. Wycislo, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago and National Director of Cardinal Wyszynski's U.S. Tour, after reviewing our background and purpose, is happy to join us as a member of the stamp committee.

Congressman Clement Zablocki of Milwaukee, author of the bill in Congress to issue the millennium stamp will aid the project to the full capacity of his office.

Mr. Carl Ziemba of Washington and Detroit, pledges active participation in our activities.

The Very Rev. Norbert Zonca, Chairman of the Buffalo Diocesan Commemorative Stamp Committee and the **Hon. Thaddeus J. Dulski, M. C.** of Buffalo, both of whom have laid much groundwork and both of whom have been pushing the millennium stamp even before Polonus, certainly wish to present a united front in this matter.

(Continued from first page)

centers, in your parish churches, in your neighborhood schools, at local celebrations, etc., etc. The millennium committee of each city is interested in having an exhibition of Poland's millennium stamps to show its people and "to demonstrate Poland's importance as a Christian nation. Your Board of Education, your library, your art gallery are looking for just such exhibits to show to their pupils, students and adults who have never seen a Polish stamp.