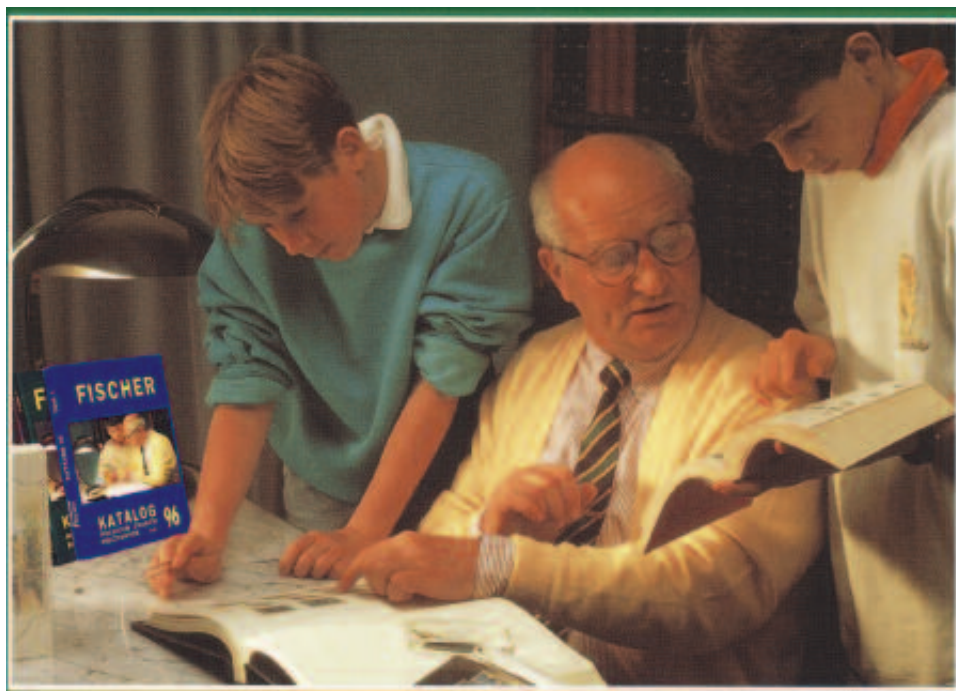




BULLETIN OF THE POLONUS

POLISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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The Polonus Society is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c) (3) organization incorporated in 1939 in the state of Illinois. The Society is organized exclusively for educational purposes with the objective of promoting Polish philately through the dissemination of information in the English language. The opinions expressed by the authors of articles appearing in the *Polonus Bulletin* do not necessarily reflect the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

Membership: Members participate in all the services and activities offered by the Society, including complete access to the Society website (www.polonus.org) and the option of receiving a quarterly bulletin in print or electronically. The two membership categories are: **Regular and Junior**. Annual dues for Regular Members **opting to receive** Printed Bulletin (via mail) are: **North America - \$30 / Outside N.A. - \$40; Electronic Bulletin (via website) North America - \$25 / Outside N.A. - \$25**. Annual dues for **Junior Members** (under age 16 and electronic bulletin only) are: **\$10**. Annual dues are payable in US funds no later than the end of March of each calendar year. Dues for new members are prorated for the time of the year application is submitted: for period **Jan- Mar 100%** of annual dues; **Apr-Jun 75%**; **Jul-Sep 50%**; **Oct-Dec 125%** (to cover full payment for following year).

Dues and Changes of Address to be sent to: Polonus Polish Philatelic Society, PO Box 60438, Rossford OH 43460

Articles for publication to be sent to: Editor

Membership queries to be sent to: Membership Chairman

General Society matters and complaints to be sent to: President

Message from the President



by Bob Ogrodnik

Our objective was to have the current issue available for the opening of the WSS – NY2016 on 28 May, hence you are receiving this Bulletin earlier than normal. Our goal is to have a supply available to help us recruit new members. Results will be reported in the next issue, together with the highlights of our annual meetings.

We have received a listing of exhibits in the WSS – NY2016 and there are 13 entries with Polish material, 11 philatelic consisting of 36 frames and two in the philatelic literature category. Official rules for this exhibition are subject to international standards under the patronage of the FIP (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie). Having an exhibit accepted to compete at this level is the pinnacle of an exhibitor's experience.

Dr. Jerzy Kupiec-Węgliński and Jacek Kosmala have been selected by your voting to be authors of the 2015 "Best Article" competition. Read more about this in the Society News section of this issue. This was our first attempt at this competition, sponsored by the American Philatelic Society's "Articles of Distinction" program and we plan to continue this as an annual event. I must admit that I was not pleased by the response from our membership with the rather dismal voting. Hopefully, we will see a much improved response in the 2016 "Best Article" competition.

This is the time of the year when we recognize members who have generously contributed in the past year towards the financial success of the society. Listed in this issue are the 2015 Donors broken down by Patrons (\$100 or more); Benefactors (\$50-99); and Sponsors (\$49 or less). It is important to note that income from dues alone does not cover the expenses of the society. Therefore, contributions become a large factor in helping to keep a reasonably low dues structure. I am pleased to report that this past year's income from contributions included matching gifts from employers who encourage employee giving to qualifying non-profit, tax-exempt, 501 (c)(3) organizations. This is a great way to increase your contribution and I encourage you to take advantage of such programs, if available. On behalf of the entire Polonus membership, thank you "Polonus Donors" for your generous support of the society.

In addition to several interesting articles, this issue has a couple ads from Poland Specialist dealers, an exclusive member program for the 2016 Fischer TOM II catalogue, a new offering at the Polonus Store and several New Issues.

The Kupiec-Kosmala team continue with their series of articles, "Annals of Polish Aerophilately," by introducing *Part 10: LOT Polish Airlines: Joint Flights with Foreign Carriers (1929-1939)*. This was a rather novel approach to improving the delivery service of mail at the time and resulting collaborations generated some very interesting covers and cancellations.

Provisional issues have been known to be a source of many "philatelic gems." Dr. Mazepa's article on a *Quadrant of the Second Lublin Provisional Issue 1918-1919* is a good example of the use of stamps during transitional times.

Jan Niebrzydowski's article, *Santa Rosa Settlement for Polish Orphans in Mexico (1943-1947)*, is another example of how postal history provides the untold stories of children separated and displaced during and following WWII.

The article *Illustrating and Documenting the Early and Later Usages of the "Port Gdańsk" Overprinted Stamps* by Dr. Sandler is an excellent example of persistent research enabling the discovery of the truth in "Port Gdańsk" overprinted stamp usage. It's as interesting a story of pursuit for the relevant data as to the conclusions themselves.

Activities of the *American Joint Distribution Committee* by Raimundas Lapas is a fascinating story of an organization dedicated to helping Jews in distress all over the world. Through postal history, this story gives an accounting of the JDC's activities during the WWI era.

My closing thoughts shift to the WSS-NY2016 and my wish to personally meet every member who attends any day of the eight-day show duration. Be sure to stop by the Society Table, better yet, plan to attend the Annual Membership Meeting and the "dutch treat" dinner for some enjoyable networking. If you are not attending the show, you will hear about it in the next issue

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Literature Review *Fischer 2016 Volume II*

By Hank Bieniecki

After six years, Fischer has again published a new edition of its full color and comprehensively illustrated Volume II (**Vol II**), which catalogs the eclectic scope of Poland's incredibly diverse philatelic history. A majority of the material listed in its 500+ pages is not listed in either Scott or Michel. Vol II is the definitive reference resource for all serious collectors of Poland. Advanced collectors require it to determine what they already have in their areas of interest and what elusive items they still need to acquire. All other collectors need this catalog to open their world to the incredibly broad spectrum of Polish philately.

In addition to listing and illustrating each stamp emission, cover and postal stationery issue, Vol II provides detailed data (highlighted in yellow) following each listing which lists all known varieties, errors and proofs with pricing. Having access to this data provides the collector with the ability to identify rare/scarce items which the average dealer may have in their stock and priced as ordinary issues.

The substantial increase in prices for many items listed in Vol II provides collectors with another reason to own Vol II. Prices for issues such as Zaolzie, Odessa, Puck and other rarities have doubled. Prices for MNH sets of many issues such as Port Gdańsk have increased materially. How many dealers at stamp shows will be aware of these increases in valuation?

While I have only had Vol II for a short time it is obvious that many items have been listed and priced for the first time. A comprehensive section has been added for **Local Groszy Overprints** on different issues with values provided for MNH, used and examples on cover. Prices on covers are surprisingly high. A full listing of **Local Postage Dues** (Porto Overprints on regular issues of Poland) has been added. Pricing has been provided for unused (where known) used and on cover.

Prices on cover for many of these Local Postage Dues are substantial.

Continued on Page 9

Activities of the American Joint Distribution Committee

by Raimundas Marius Lapas

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee is the largest nonpolitical organization dedicated to helping Jews in distress all over the world. Generally known as the JDC or "Joint" and headquartered in New York, the organization was originally called the Joint Distribution Committee of (the American) Funds for Jewish War Sufferers. It was founded on November 27, 1914, with the aim of centralizing allocations of aid to Jews adversely affected by World War I.

The JDC's resources came from funds collected by the American Jewish Relief Committee (organized on October 25, 1914, and headed by wealthy Reform Jews of German origin, including Louis Marshall, Jacob H. Schiff and Felix M. Warburg) and the Central Committee for the Relief of Jews Suffering through the War (organized on October 4, 1914, by Orthodox Jews of East European origin and chaired by Leon Kamaiky). Warburg became the JDC's first chairman. In August 1915 the socialist People's Relief Committee, chaired by Meyer London, joined the effort.

Eastern Europe was and has remained one of the JDC's main areas of activity. At first, the JDC simply transferred funds to local Jewish relief organizations such as the Jewish Committee for the Relief of War Victims (EKOPO) in Russia and *Das Jüdisches Hilfskomite für Polen und Litauen* in Germany. By the end of 1917, the JDC had transferred \$2,532,000 to Russia, \$3,000,000 to German-occupied Poland and Lithuania, \$1,532,300 to Galicia and \$76,000 to Romania.

The Joint began its work in Warszawa in 1919 as part of the American Relief Administration (ARA) then working independently. Boris D. Bogen organized and headed the JDC Overseas Unit in Warsaw, which was staffed by dozens of American experts. They organized urgently



Figure 1
American Joint Distribution Committee pre-printed corner card forwarded and posted in Warszawa 20.XII.21 and sent to Paris. (Alfred Kugel collection)

needed sanitary and medical aid, as well as child care. The JDC's appropriations for the relief of Polish Jewry in 1920 alone totaled almost \$5 million.

On July 5, 1920, during the Polish-Soviet war, JDC emissaries, Israel Friedlaender and Bernard Cantor, were killed by the Red Army in the town of Yarmolintsy (Podolia, Ukraine) while traveling from Kamenets – Podolski to Lwów. After July 1921, the JDC ceased giving general relief and reorganized its work on the principle of functionality. Its aim became stimulating Jewish economic reconstruction and strengthening local community institutions so these groups could take the care of the weak.

Refugees and emigrants

Military operations during World War I forced hundreds of thousands of East European Jews from their homes. Some were expelled eastward from the war front by the



Figure 1a

Reverse of Figure 1 has three uncancelled Central Lithuanian 10 mark commemoratives. This cover was resent to 11, rue des Croix – Chemins in Mortagne (Orne).

Russian Army in 1914–1915. After the war, many returned from Soviet Russia to Poland and the Baltic States. Others tried to emigrate to the United States and Western Europe. Those hoping to reach the United States were helped by the JDC's Refugee Department, which provided food, shelter, clothing and medicine, assistance in establishing contact with relatives in America and help in completing exit documents. The JDC also helped refugees returning from Russia find work, acquire trade skills and obtain affordable loans, whether for opening businesses or for repairing or building homes.

By April 1923, the organization had helped 300,000 refugees and returnees: 185,000 in Poland and 75,000 in Lithuania. The organization also supported 7,000 Jewish students from Poland, Romania, and Hungary who were studying in Czechoslovakia, as admission of Jews into their home countries' universities was restricted.

Medicine and Sanitation

Faced with the catastrophic health and sanitary conditions in Poland, the JDC began rendering emergency medical aid. Starting in 1921, its medical department developed systematic means of fighting typhus and ringworm; vacci-

nated 30,000 children; disinfected thousands of homes; renovated hundreds of bathhouses and medical institutions; and provided equipment and medicines to hospitals and outpatient clinics.

In 1923, a school for nurses was founded in Warszawa with JDC support. The Society for Safeguarding the Health of the Jewish Population (*Towarzystwo Ochrony Zdrowia Ludności Żydowskiej; TOZ*), formed in 1921, received financial support from the JDC and gradually built an effective system of health services for the Jewish population. By 1939, TOZ was responsible for more than 400 medical and sanitary facilities in 50 Polish cities and towns.

Child Care

In 1922, some 40,000 orphans were registered in Poland and another 14,000 lived in Romania, Lithuania, Latvia, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. The JDC Child Care Department

placed orphans in shelters and with families; hundreds of children were placed with foster families in the United States. In 1926, more than 120 children's shelters in Europe were subsidized by the JDC with thousands of orphans learning trades. In 1923, the Organization for Child and Orphan Care (*Centrala Opieki nad Sierotami; CENTOS*) was founded in Poland. The JDC gradually turned the care of orphans in that country over to the latter agency.

Reconstruction

When mass immigration to America proved to be unrealistic, the JDC concentrated its efforts on the economic rebuilding of East European Jewry. The JDC Reconstruction Department in Europe, founded in 1921, was headed by Aleksandr Landesko. The reconstruction program, jointly carried out with the ICA (*or JCA; Jewish Colonization Association*) and ORT in Bessarabia, Lithuania, Poland and Russia, included renovating homes, developing loan funds, distributing equipment for craft production, providing professional and technical training and promoting Jewish engagement in agriculture. Some 8,000 homes were renovated or built in 400 communities. By May 1924, the department had allocated more than \$2 million for funding loans

in Europe: at least a quarter of the credits were sent to Poland.

In Lithuania, the Jewish National Council used assets received from the JDC to establish a People's Loan Bank, which became very popular among the Jewish population. In May 1924, the JDC and ICA organized the American Joint Reconstruction Fund, to which the JDC contributed \$3 million and the ICA \$2 million. The fund supported loans, production cooperatives and artisans. By 1931, in Poland alone, approximately 1 million people had used the loan funds.

Correspondence

A pair of letters written on American Joint Distribution Committee District of Wilno stationary shed a dramatic light of a war stricken city in Poland. The spelling and grammar have not been corrected. The first, written by Mayer Raskin to the Joint Distribution Committee in Warszawa, is dated December 11 (1920):

Arrived in Wilno Wednesday morning after a very strenuous trip lasting almost 40 hours. Please inform future representatives leaving Warsaw for Wilno that when making this trip they should take along enough food to last 2 days, dress as if they were going to the North Pole and be prepared to be as patient as an Injun chief.



Figure 2
Bristol Hotel

Immediately put up at the Bristol Hotel where I still find myself and where temporarily my office is located. It seems that the population has been awaiting my arrival for from the time of my arrival until the present moment I am kept terribly busy getting acquainted. In this letter I will devote some time to give you a general picture of Wilno as it strikes me today and will take up specific problems in separate letters by subject.

Comparing conditions as they were pictured by Dorfman things are much more settled and quiet even at the present time about 9 or 10 o'clock finds the city pretty thoroughly asleep. When the present occupants first entered Wilno there were a few excesses that took place but now they seem to have the situation more or less under control. I have spent quite a bit of time just walking around visiting stores talking to people and find that there is practically nothing worth while left in town. The stores are almost totally empty, the cost of living is daily soaring. In general I should state that the cost of living is about equal to Warsaw though some

articles like sugar is way above normal selling at 250 marks per pound. The population is pretty well cowed and the greatest strain that they are compelled to bear is the feeling of uncertainty that they must put up with.

The political setting here from what I can learn is almost incomprehensible to the most learned observers. Technically the plebiscite is scheduled for January 9th but most persons here do not believe that it will ever come off at all. The government here does not seem to know exactly how it stands so you can readily imagine that no definite rules and regulations exist expecting the general tendency to treat people more or less decently pending an adjustment of the entire affair. There are no foreign missions of any sort with the exception of some French observer and Capt. Sweet of the American Military Attache who intends to leave with the first train out. What leaves me practically the only foreigner here. The moral effect of my presence need not be emphasized to you and in general I feel that the leaders and population appreciate my coming.

As a whole I have wasted no time since arriving here and have managed to consult most of the leaders, besides taking in some institutions visiting Chanuca parties at institutions and in general becoming pretty well acquainted. I have quite distinctly informed our friends as to my program assuring them that I do not intend to take over any of their work, that I do not intend to confine myself in any way to local work than I could hope to but that I came here with the hope that every faction will extend to me the utmost cooperation in putting over an improvement in our remittance work, the establishment of personal service and location work, intensification of child care, medical and statistical work. I do personally think that if I were to be successful in carrying out this program I will be kept busy and put over a piece of worth while work. I feel sure that were I for a moment deviate from this program and attempt to interfere in local activities I will become lost and in the end accomplish nothing. My salvation seems to me to stay clear of any faction and at the same time be friendly to every one of them gradually undermining the inefficiency and reaction which in a large sense dominates each and every group here. I must say though that as a whole they manage to put up a very fine piece of work and that so far the contrast with the methods pursued here against those in Congress Poland impressed me.

As a whole I must assure you that I am actually in love with Wilno and its people. I have already forgotten that I ever lived in such a place as Warsaw. My office hours are from 9:00 AM to about 11:00 PM after which I retire.

The program of the JDC included assistance to schools and other cultural activities, although there was some opposition to this aspect of relief because of conflicting views. Funds were often utilized for cultural activities based on political ideology at the expense of actual relief. In her article "Disunity in the Distribution of American Jewish Overseas Relief 1919-1939" published in *The American Jewish Historical Quarterly* Vol. 58, No. 4 (June, 1969), pp. 484-506, Zosa Szajkowski quotes Raskin's letter dated December



Figure 3
American Joint Distribution Committee refugee department pre-printed corner card forwarded and posted in Warszawa 27.I..22 franked with two Polish definitives (third stamp removed).

to I. M. Kowalsky dated December 21, 1920: "Until such time as I feel myself a master of the situation I will strictly keep away from this whirlpool for one misstep in this direction would create a terrible scandal." No doubt this Brit, who later became a naturalized U.S. citizen, knew quite a bit about dissention amongst various fractions in the rather small city of Wilno.

Where people know things and do things

The second letter, dated February 25, 1921, was written by Zolly A. Bonoff to one Dr. Plotz. Bonoff writes:

Arrived in Vilna on the evening of February 16, thought it advisable to wait a few days in order to get my bearings and familiarize myself with the general conditions, political military and social. On the 8th of October, Wilna and its provinces passed into the hands of the Poles. The Lithuanians being forced to evacuate after a two months occupation. At this time the whole situation was rather strained and unsettled. With the entrance of Polish troops conditions became worse. The whole industrial and social structure was greatly undermined. For two months existence of the Jew was precarious, many were killed and shops looted, and homes destroyed. As recent as 6 weeks ago it made it dangerous for Jews to be on the streets after night fall. At present though the

hostility has greatly subsided, late hours mean manace and danger so that 10 or 11 o'clock most of the front doors are barricaded and hardly anybody is seen on the streets unless when in large groups. Especially so in the Jewish section. Daspite of these discouraging conditions, throughout this trying period the Jewish organs of social activities did not cease to function.

I have yet to see such arduous dedication of lives and service to the cause of Jewish life. For seven years juggled about successively by seven different contending armies, brow-beaten terrorised and assaulted this personal of doctors and lawman, man and woman forged ahead safeguarding the integrity of their institutions. Ant mere silently yet steadily enlarging its scope. One is overwhelmed with the immensity and profound activities. They make something out of nothing.

I did not wish to burden you about things with which you are undoubtly familiar. But all these things stand out very sharply and impressed themselves upon my mind so that I could not help saying something about it. I shall not take up your time with descriptions of conditions of poverty etc., to me it is a novelty to you its an old story.

The last few days I devoted to the various institutions. Again I feel their greatness, their radical cohesion, moral integrity, patience and ingenuity which in crystalization we have a splen-

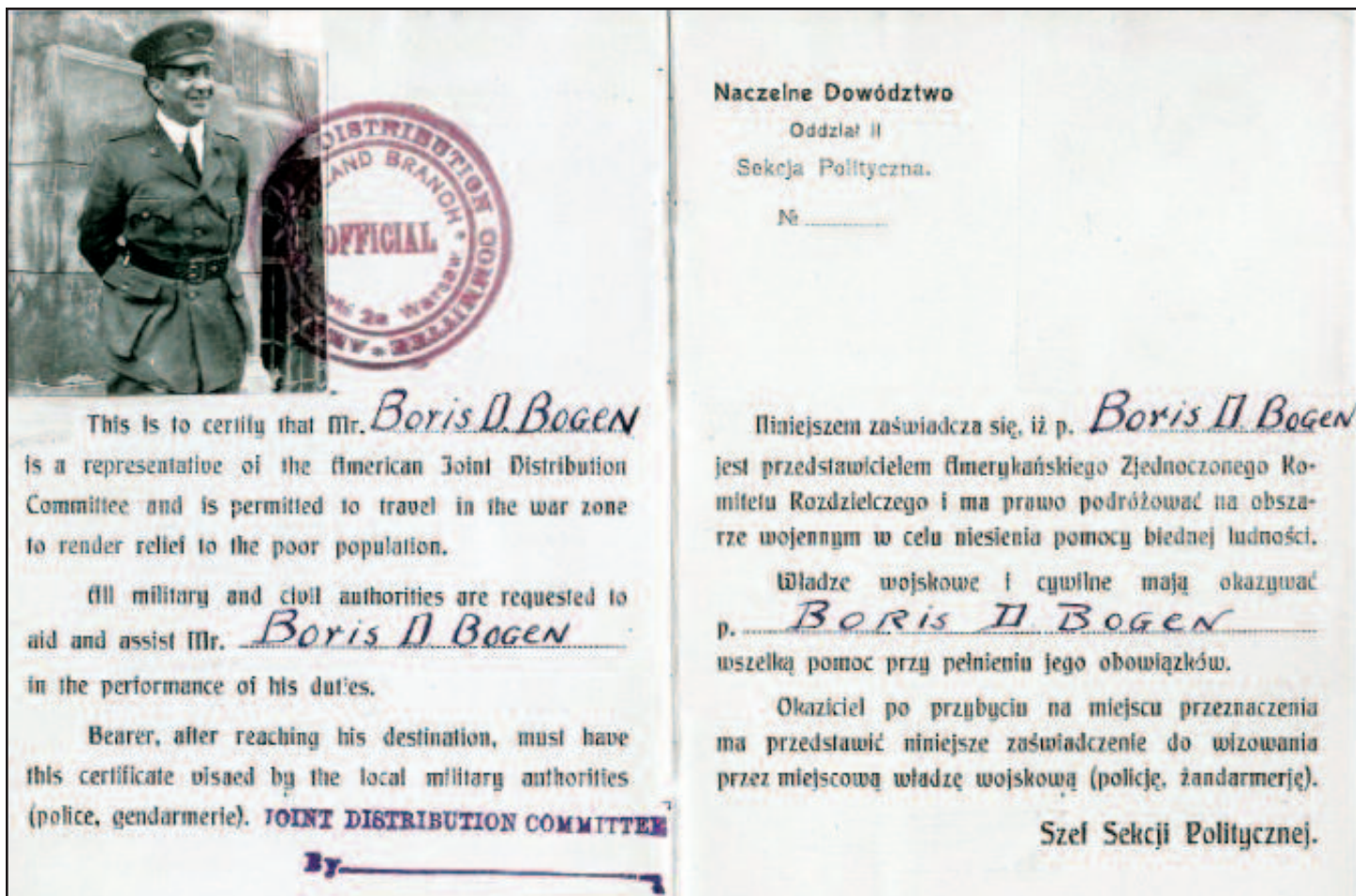


Figure 4

Boris D. Bogen's travel permit issued by the American Joint Distribution Committee in Warszawa, 1920 (?)

did organization and institutions where they are solving all their social problems and best of all unselfish unrenumerative service. Most of the work if not all is done by the Kehilla "OZE" and EKOPO, it is thru these channels that I may hope to accomplish the work which I have set out to do. Those at the head of the various institutions now know that I shall concentrate on child - welfare and baths. They are ready to assist in whatever I may suggest, in addition to developing the work which they have already begun.

I wish to set you at ease and that is that very little may be expected from the people. Nevertheless I am planning a propaganda for raising money, a tentative plan which I submitted to the various executive heads and who approved. So uncertain are the military and political conditions here and so insecure that the people are afraid to have it know that they can give. Public announcement of moneys received from certain individuals would direct the attention of the authorities and thereby become the target of bribery extortion and what not: private solicitation also meets with blankness, as one is afraid of his neighbor he would prefer to have it known that he did not give rather than he gave. So tense is their feeling and fear. The old class of wealthy Jews have been ruined, and new rich are not accustomed to give in addition to that the class conscience and feeling of obligations to their fellow Jews had been inspired by the liberal contributions from America to these poor Jews, so that the raising of a substantial sum for our

purpose is a difficult proposition, however I feel certain that the impetus that the workers will receive from our work will carry them along and they will thereafter continue.

Literature Review —

Continued from Page 4

Those ordering *Fischer 2016 Vol II* will receive a comprehensive index in English to all sections of the catalog that can be affixed on the inside of the cover

I would like to extend our thanks to Dr. Jerzy Walocha, a member of Polonus, who gathered all the data contained in Vol II from a plethora of top-level philatelists in Poland and provided it to Fischer for publication.

Invite a friend

to enjoy the fellowship and exchange of information about your hobby.

Give a gift membership to The Polonus Society.

See Page 2 for membership information.

Development of Airmail Services in Poland

Part 10: LOT Polish Airlines: Joint Flights with Foreign Carriers (1929 - 1939)

by Dr. Jerzy W. Kupiec-Węgliński and Jacek Kosmala

As soon as LOT Airlines started operations in January 1929, the Polish Ministry of Post and Telegraphs initiated cooperation with foreign counterparts to foster the fastest ways for postal service throughout Europe and beyond. On April 13, 1929, a directive was issued regulating weekly transport of Polish mail from France to Morocco, Senegal, Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina.

Mail collected every Thursday night at the Warszawa-Okęcie airport (Warszawa 19 P.O.) was flown to Paris for a Sunday Air France flight to northwestern Africa, continuing to South America. The service soon extended from Buenos Aires to Asunción, Paraguay (July 7, 1929) and to Santiago, Chile (August 11, 1929). As of August 1, 1929, mail could be expedited from Poland via Paris to Algeria and Tunisia. On October 4, 1929, a directive by the Polish Ministry of Post and Telegraphs allowed mail to be sent by air to Peru, as the extension of Warszawa – Paris – Toulouse – Buenos Aires – Valparaise (Chile) route. Here, we focus on aviation ventures that were recognized by the Polish postal administration, linked the country with faraway places and

were instrumental in the development of Polish aerophilately on a global scale.

North and Central America

Airmail to the American Continent in 1930s

Although airmail services in 1920s and 1930s were becoming increasingly important in Europe as well as in the United States, the North Atlantic Ocean remained a major barrier for early aircraft to cross safely. The first Polish dispatch by air to America took place, most likely, on July 21, 1921 (see Bulletin 552; Figure 5). Flown by C.F.R.N.A. (*Compagnie Franco-Roumaine de Navigation Aérienne*) from Warszawa to Paris to be carried onward by a fast ship from one of the French transatlantic ports, it arrived in New York July 29, 1921. The combined mode of mail transportation took approximately 10 days in each direction.

The Polish Ministry of Post and Telegraphs directive of May 6, 1930 (Nr. 3210/VI) announced the acceptance of airmail to the United States of America, Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Panama and Peru, effective May 17, 1930. Mail ad-

addressed to U.S. destinations was carried in special pouches marked "United States Air Mail;" all other mail was collected in pouches marked: "New York Foreign Air Mail, Mixed." Mail was carried from Warszawa to Paris (via Prague, Nuremberg and Strasbourg) by C.I.D.N.A. (*Compagnie Internationale de Navigation Aérienne*) for which the company collected 162 Polish zł for each 100 grams of processed mail. From Paris, it was transported by surface to Le Havre, Dieppe or Cherbourg. After North Atlantic passage by ship, mail was flown from New York by American carriers to final destinations.

On May 29, 1930, a bilin-

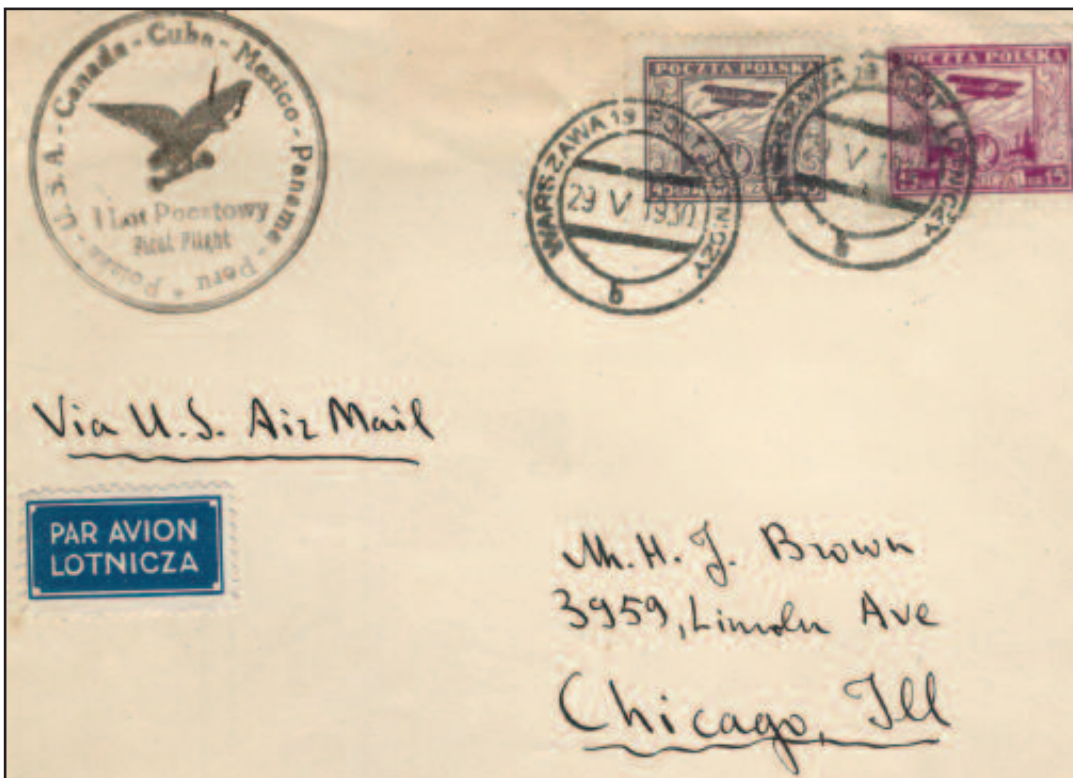


Figure 1

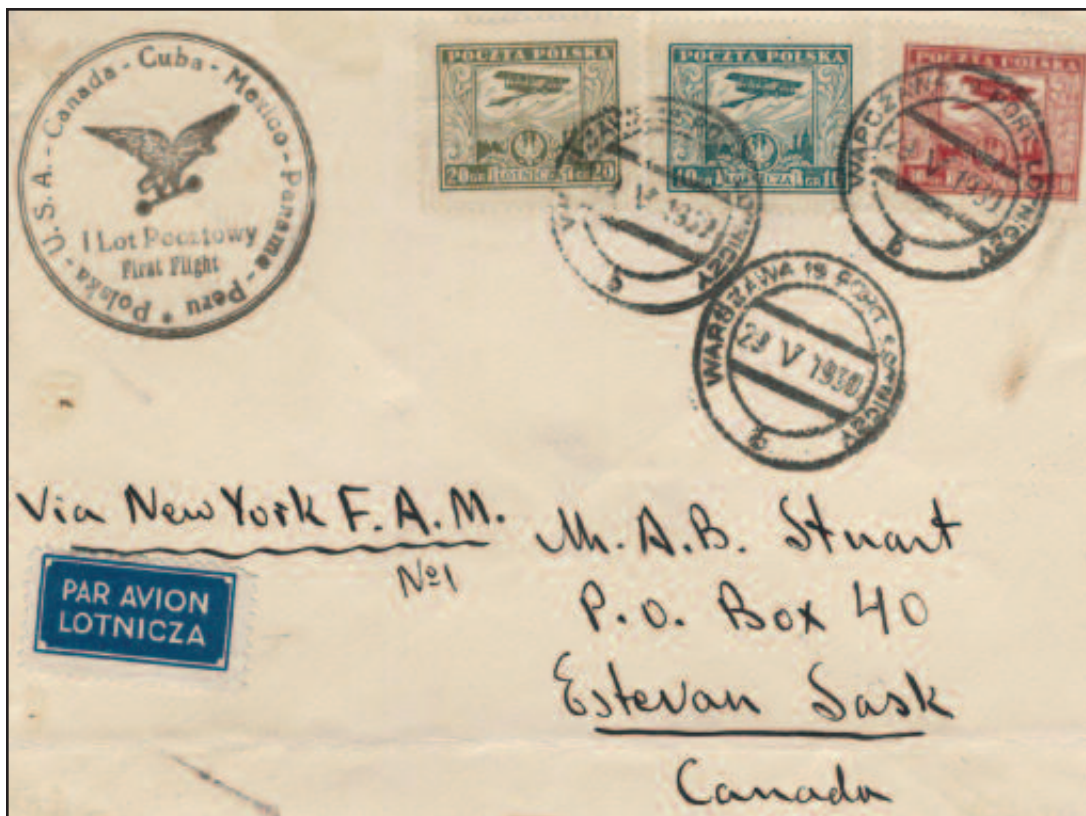


Figure 2

gual circular commemorative cachet in black, denoting the first postal flight to the American continent, was applied to a limited number of items addressed to Chicago and Peoria, Illinois (53), Estevan, Saskatchewan, Canada (27), Mexico City, Mexico (12), Havana, Cuba (28), David, Panama (7) and Mollendo, Peru (7). All except the U.S.-flown items are rare; the existence of those addressed to Havana has never been confirmed.

We are illustrating five outstanding dispatches to recorded destinations from the inaugural postal flight to the American continent in May 1930. **Figure 1** is one of 53 U.S.-bound covers (addressed to Chicago). Mailed at Warszawa (May 29), it shows the required "Via U.S. Air Mail" directional penned marking. After crossing the North Atlantic by ship, the cover was postmarked in New York with an oval registry date stamp for June 9, 1930. It was then flown from New York

(Newark) to Chicago by National Air Transport (NAT) over CAM 17, a New York-to-Chicago route. No receiving endorsements were applied in Chicago or Peoria on Warszawa dispatches of May 29, 1930.

Figure 2 is one of 27 covers consigned for air service to Estevan, Saskatchewan, Canada. Postmarked at Warszawa, it bears directional marking "Via New York FAM. No. 1." After crossing the Atlantic on a steamer bound for New York (June 9), this item was flown by the Western Canadian service, a subsidiary of Canadian Colonial Airways, via Foreign Air Mail (FAM) Route 1 (Montreal to Winnipeg) and then by surface to Estevan (June 14, 1930 arrival).

The transit time from New York to Estevan, Canada was 5 days.

Of note, New York-to-Saskatchewan via Montreal



Figure 3



Figure 4

was a quite contrived and inefficient route. The direct route would have been first by CAM-17 from New York to Chicago (National Air Transport), then by CAM-9 from Chicago to Minneapolis and finally by rail to Winnipeg. However, as "No. 1" was part of the clearly typed directional endorsement, it means both the sender (Tadeusz Gryzewski, an early Warszawa-based aerophilatelist and dealer) and the addressee (A. B. Stuart, a Canadian aerophilatelist) preferred this piece to take the indirect FAM-1 route through Montreal.

One of 12 dispatches from Warszawa on May 29, 1930, addressed to Mexico City and endorsed "Via New York / Foreign Air Mail," is shown in **Figure 3**. After arrival in New York by sea (June 9), it was flown via CAM Route 17, continuing CAM Route 3 from Chicago to Dallas with interim stops in Moline, Illinois, Saint Joseph and Kansas City, Missouri, Wichita, Kansas, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Fort Worth, Texas.

After arrival in Dallas, the cover flew American Airways Company (later American Airlines), to Brownsville, Texas. The final leg from Brownsville to Mexico City (FAM Route 8), was made by Pan American Airways (PAA). On March 9, 1929, *Compania Mexicana de Aviacion* (CMA), the Mexican subsidiary of PAA, inaugurated airmail service from Mexico City via Tampico to Brownsville, utilizing a Ford-trimotor 5-AT-B-12 aircraft, named *Mexico*. In May 1930, CMA provided daily service from Brownsville (09:05

departure) via Tampico to Mexico City (12:34 arrival). The back side of the cover shows arrival cancellation (SERVICIO AEREO / MEXICO, D.F. / 12.JUN.30. 14-15"). Transit time from New York was three days, conclusive proof it was properly flown beyond New York in accordance with the sender's wishes.

Figure 4 is one of seven covers dispatched May 29, 1930, from Warszawa to David, Panama. After arrival in New York by sea (June 9), it was carried by Pitcairn Aviation, a Philadelphia-based airline. Pitcairn Aviation carried overnight airmail between New York (Newark airport) and Atlanta (CAM-19) and from Atlanta via St.

Petersburg to Miami (CAM-25). In Miami, the cover was transferred to Pan American Airways which operated FAM-5 to Cristobal in the Canal Zone (via Havana, Cuba; Cozumel, Mexico; Belize, British Honduras; Tela and San Lorenzo, Honduras; Managua, Nicaragua; Puntarenas and San Jose, Costa Rica; David and Ciudad, Panama).

Instead of being off-loaded in David, this cover traveled by FAM-5 all the way to Panama City (June 18 transit postmark) from where it was offloaded and carried back to David by surface mail, a distance of some 205 miles (June 23 arrival). The routing instruction conforms to the 1930 directive, with required directional notation "Foreign Airmail via New York." This registered item (R-733) was sent "poste restante," arriving back to the sender in Warszawa almost five months later (November 10, 1930).

Figure 5 illustrates both sides of one of seven registered items (R-736) consigned for air service from Poland to Mollendo, Peru, with required routing instruction "Foreign Air Mail via New York." Postmarked at Warszawa (May 29) and flown to Paris, it was then transported to New York by sea (June 9 arrival). In New York, the postcard was transferred to Eastern Air Transport (EAT), a composite of assorted air travel corporations, including Florida Airways and Pitcairn Aviation. On May 1, 1928, Pitcairn Aviation won the U.S. Post Office Department contract to carry the overnight airmail from New York to Atlanta on CAM Route



Figure 5

19. CAM-19 continued from Atlanta via St. Petersburg to Miami, a distance of 77 miles, over CAM Route 25.

In 1930, both CAM-19 and CAM-25 routes from New York to Miami were serviced daily by Eastern Air Transport (later Eastern Air Lines). After offloading in Miami, the postcard was placed on Pan American Airways flight, which operated FAM Route 5 via Cuba, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama to Cristobal in the Canal Zone (see above). The final leg of the journey was made with Pan American-Grace Airways (PANAGRA), which flew from Cristobal down the west coast of South America to Mollendo, Peru. The card was arrival postmarked in Mollendo, Peru, on June 30, 1930; transit time of 21 days from New York or 30 days from Warszawa. Sent "poste-restante"

and unclaimed, this philatelic item was sent back to the sender.

It must have been quite a journey considering the array of transit cancellations on the way back to Poland from Atlanta and New York (both of August 8) as well as Plymouth, UK (August 31). Somehow, miraculously, this well-traveled item arrived in Warszawa, evidenced by the September 20, 1930, receiving cancellation. A lapsed time of 83 days from Peru to Poland means that in addition to air carriage (FAM-9, FAM-5, CAM-25 and CAM-19), this piece traveled mostly by sea.

The dispatches of May 29, 1930, incurred printed matter rate charges of 10 gr (per 50-gram) for the Warszawa- Paris leg of air service. Air surcharges for onward air transmission from New York to American continent destinations were (per 10 gram; effective May 17, 1930 through August 1, 1932): 50 gr (U.S. and Canada); 1.50 zł (Mexico); 2.10 zł (Panama); and 3.65 zł (Peru). Thus, total franking for Figure 1-5 items (printed matter) was: 60 gr (Chicago/Peoria, Estevan); 1.60 zł (Mexico City); 2.80 zł (David; includes 60 gr registration); and 4.35 zł (Mollendo; includes 60 gr registration). The letter (per 10 gram) and postcard rate charges were: New York City – 1x normal postage; U.S., Canada and Cuba – 3x normal postage;

Mexico – 1.70 zł; Panama – 2.30 zł; Peru – 1.95 zł.

Figure 6 is a registered letter dispatched on May 14, 1932, from Warszawa to Springfield, Massachusetts. It was flown by C.I.D.N.A. to Paris and then transported by sea to New York where it was transit postmarked on May 25. This item was then carried by CAM Route 1 from Newark airport to Boston, with an interim stop in Hartford, Connecticut. CAM-1 was awarded to Colonial Air Transport (CAT), with the first flight held on July 26, 1926. On April 15, 1929, the company began passenger service between New York and Boston. In 1930, CAT was acquired by the Aviation Corporation (AVCO) to become American Airlines.

In 1932, there were two daily flights from Newark to Boston, a distance of 220 miles. The final portion of the jour-



Figure 6

ney from Boston to Springfield (about 90 miles) was by surface mail (May 25, 1932 arrival markings), capping an 11-day journey from Warszawa. This item incurred charges at 0.60 zł per 20-gram foreign letter rate; 0.60 zł registration; and 1.80 zł air fee for onward air transmission from New York (three times regular rate of 0.60 zł; effective May 17, 1930–August 1, 1932).

Figure 7 shows both sides of an unusual non-philatelic Polish dispatch to St. Michael, Alaska. This registered cover, dated October 1, 1934, in Poznań, was carried by

LOT/DLH (Flight #13) to Berlin (Warszawa – Poznań – Berlin service operated daily since May 1, 1934), then to New York by ship (transit postmarked October 12). As the sender was calling for airmail from New York, this cover most likely traveled to Seattle, Washington, by one of the following routes: (1) New York (Newark) to Oakland, California (United Airlines - Air Mail Route 1) and then Oakland to Seattle (United Airlines - Air Mail Route 11); or (2) New York to Los Angeles (Trans-World Airlines - Air Mail Route 2) and then Los Angeles to Seattle (United Airlines - Air Mail Route

11). A lapsed time of 11 days between Seattle (October 14) and Nome, Alaska (October 25) means this piece traveled by rail. The November 6, 1934, backstamp confirms it arrived in St. Michael, Alaska, the requested destination indicated in the address.

Transit time from Poland to Alaska was 37 days, with two parts by air (Poznań – Berlin and Newark – Seattle). A pink German label on the reverse was applied at the Poznań 3 P.O. The 1.80 zł postage for 6½ grams conforms with the postal rate that went into effect October 1, 1934, the very day this item was posted: 0.55 zł letter rate (per 20 grams), 0.45 zł registration and 0.80 zł air surcharge (0.40 zł per 5 grams).

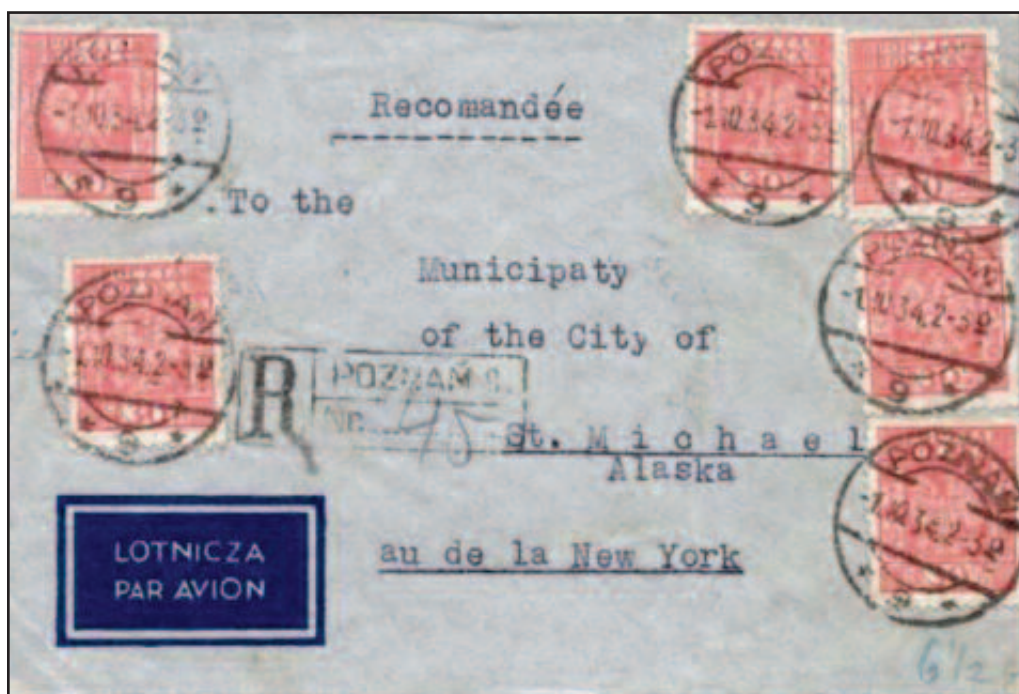


Figure 7, front



Figure 7, reverse

Acknowledgements

The authors thank Zygmunt Kopel (London, UK) for sharing philatelic items (Figures 3-5) from his collection.

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Illustrating and Documenting the Early and Later Usages of the ‘Port Gdańsk’ Overprinted Stamps

by Dr. Stanley R. Sandler

This article is a follow-up to my paper that appeared in the December 2015 **Bulletin** (#551), “Port Gdańsk Overprinted Polish Stamps: Allowed Usage for Mail from Poland Proper to Foreign Countries.” [1] The covers shown in that article contained mixed franking with Polish stamps and those overprinted with the wording “Port Gdańsk” sent from cities in Poland proper that were postmarked in 1937 (sent to the USA) and one in 1938 (sent to Czechoslovakia).

To further clarify the usages of stamps overprinted “Port Gdańsk,” I enlisted the help of Hank Bieniecki [2] and his colleague, Polish philatelic expert, Dr. Jerzy Walocha. [3] Dr. Walocha provided a summary of the Polish postal serv-



Figure 1: - EXAMPLE OF NORMAL USAGE: Registered cover with eight different “Port Gdańsk” overprints, (Scott #’s 1K1, 1K2, 1K3 and 1K20) on front and (Scott #’s 1K15, 1K16, 1K17 and 1K22) on reverse. Canceled “POLSKA URZĄD POCZTA TEL GDAŃSK 1.” Sent from Main Post Office in Gdańsk to Białka Tertrzańska Poland. Backstamped “BIALKA 13 VIII 1930

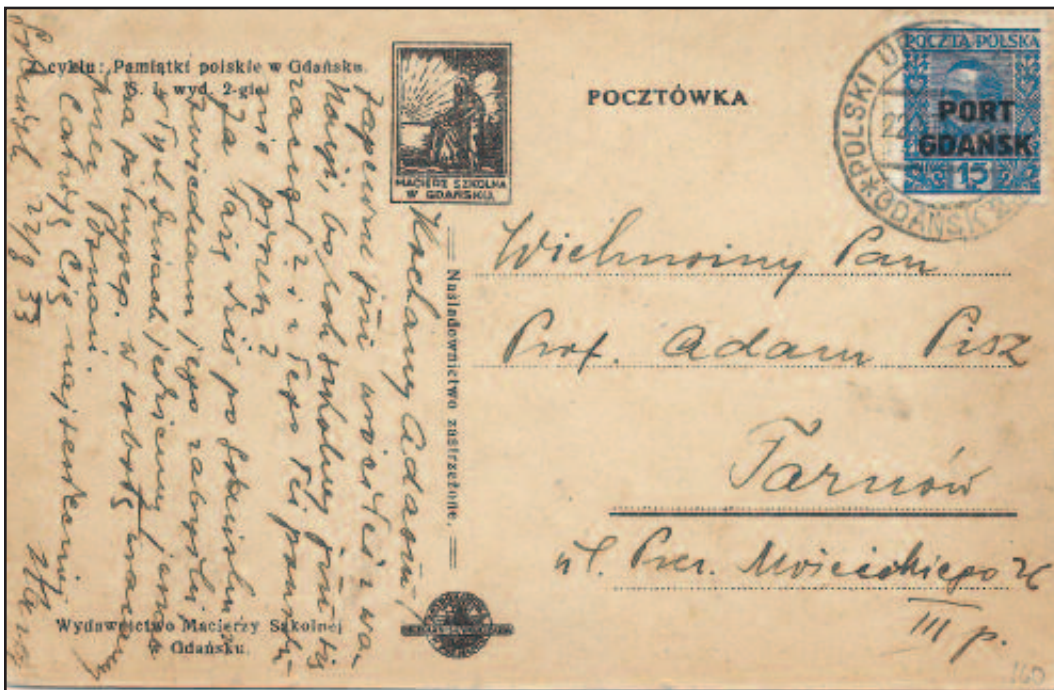


Figure 2 - EXAMPLE OF LATER NORMAL USAGE: Picture postcard sent from Gdańsk to Tarnow Poland. Single franking of “Port Gdańsk” overprint (Scott #1 K23) dated July 22, 1933. .

ices established in Gdańsk and the currently accepted usage of Port Gdańsk stamp issues in Gdańsk and subsequently within Poland.

The Polish administration of Gdańsk had an agreement with “Free City of Danzig,” under the Treaty of Versailles, to establish its own post offices. The first Polish Post Office in Gdańsk, opened in 1920, was the Harbor Post Office. It was responsible for the dispatch of mailbags from Poland to overseas destinations (Port Gdańsk overprinted stamps were not used on this mail) and for receipt of mail bags from overseas countries to Poland. This post office was not open to the public.



Figure 3 - EXAMPLE OF LATE INTERNATIONAL USAGE FROM POLAND TO GERMANY:
Cover posted in Grudziadz, Poland to Itzehoe, Germany with mixed franking including two “Port Gdańsk” overprints (Scott #’s 1K17 on front and 1K20 on reverse) dated 13 X 1935

The second Polish Gdańsk Post Office, the Railway Station Post Office that opened on April 14, 1923, was also not open to the public. It was responsible for mail received from Poland for further transport to the Harbor Post Office or the Main Polish Post office. Mail from the Harbor Post Office and the Port Gdańsk Main Post Office was sent to Poland via the Railway Station Post Office.

The Port Gdańsk Main Post Office was open to the public. It processed all mail that was delivered there or that was deposited in one of the 10 Polish letter boxes in Danzig City Center. This facility was also responsible for the (distribution) of mail arriving from Poland with “Gdańsk” specifically designated in the address. Mail addressed to “Danzig” was handled by Free City of Danzig post offices which were operated by the German postal administration [5].

Officially, the Port Gdańsk Main Post Office (also known as the Polish Postal & Telegraph Office) was opened January 5, 1925, at Hevelius Square in Gdańsk. [4] It handled mail between (to and from) Poland and Gdańsk. It did not handle any local or foreign mail within Free City of Danzig.

Mail that did not include Gdańsk in the address which was sent to the Main Post Office was returned immediately to the sender. Some exceptions may have occurred

during processing of the mail.

Before 1933 the use of “Port Gdańsk” overprinted stamps were not officially sanctioned for franking material posted internally within Poland or to international destinations. All mail posted at the Port Gdańsk Main Post Office in Gdańsk was franked with Polish stamps overprinted “Port Gdańsk.” After 1933, Polish Stamps overprinted “Port Gdańsk” were apparently valid for postage both internally in Poland and for use on international mail [1].

Some of this information is also described in earlier literature to Polish post offices and the

use of the Port Gdańsk overprinted stamps in Gdańsk. [5-7]

No formal agreements existed between the Polish Post and German postal authorities. [8] According to the international agreements, the Polish Post in Danzig could only process mail between Poland and Danzig .

These “Postal Regulations” are also described in literature references as “Postal Orders” for Polish mail in Gdańsk. [6-7] Most appeared in the Official Journal of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraph (Dziennik Urzędowy Ministerstwa Poczty i Telegrafów) [7-8]. New issues of PG stamps are also described in the Dziennik Urzędowy. Their usage was described as being for mail from Gdańsk to Poland [8]. In a 2015 publication by Hans Vogels [6], it was reported that on January 5, 1925, when the Polish Gdańsk Main Post Office opened, that 11 “Port Gdańsk” overprinted stamps were issued for mail from Gdańsk to Poland. The Polish Post & Telegraph Ministry had no information pertaining to directives on this subject. The Polish *Katalog Pionier of 1944* [9] notes that PG issues starting with #26 were “tolerated” for use in Poland proper.

Vogels [6,7, 10] and Kalinowska [8] reported that after 1932 the Port Gdańsk stamps that were not in circulation in Danzig were sold to philatelists at the Philatelic Sec-

tion, of Warszawa #1. These stamps included (Scott #'s 1K1-1K27 (Michel #1-28). If this data is accurate, it is interesting to note that to date no covers originating in Poland to either internal or international destinations, franked with "Port Gdańsk" overprinted stamps have been documented.

From 1937 forward, starting with the Port Gdańsk overprinted pictorial issues (Scott# 1K28-32; Michel# 29-33), Port Gdańsk stamps were designated as valid for use as postage throughout Poland, by the Polish Postal authorities.



Figure 4 - EXAMPLE OF VERY LATE INTERNATIONAL USAGE FROM POLAND TO LITHUANIA: Registered express cover from Krakow, Poland to Wilno (Vilnius), Lithuania. Bearing, mixed franking including a complete set of the last issue of "Port Gdansk" (Scott# 1K33-1K36, no overprint) posted on 18 IX 38, and backstamped 19 XI 1938.

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Acknowledgements

The assistance of the following people is acknowledged with thanks:

Hank Bieniecki of Bieniecki Int'l Inc.; Dr. Jerzy Walocha for multiple areas of Polish philately including "Port Gdańsk" overprinted stamps and all related philatelic materials; Bob Ogrodnik, President, Polonus Philatelic Society; Alicja Pucek, Gdańsk; Dr. Jerzy Kupiec-Weglinski; Roman Sobus; Hans Vogels and Scott Tiffney, American Philatelic Research Library (APRL).

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Gems of Polish Philately

Quadraset of the Second Lublin Provisional Issue 1918-1919

by Dr. James Mazepa, RDP

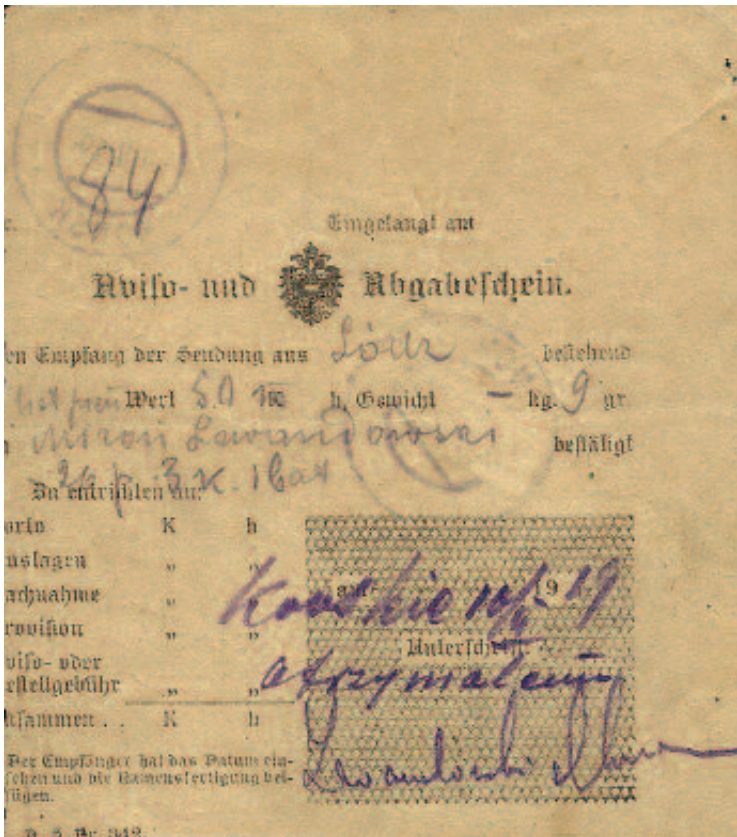
Provisional stamps are stamps that are temporary issues before official government stamps are issued. The provisional issues of the newly formed Polish Republic in 1918-1919 provide us with many gems of Polish philately.

any existing rate and some rates had no corresponding stamps.

To make up particular rates, some post offices bisected either the overprinted provisional issue or leftover Austrian stamps. A slight over or under the exact amount was accepted as the correct amount due to the shortage of stamps of the correct value. These bisected stamps are scarce and difficult to find, especially on commercial letters. I wrote about bisects of this issue in the December 2014 Bulletin.

However, the real gems are the quadrasects of the Second Lublin Provisional issue. All known quadrasects come from the city of Konsk and are found on parcel receipts. Only four or five have been recorded.

Shown here is notice from the Konsk Post Office of the arrival of a parcel from Łódź on February 8, 1919. When the recipient retrieved the parcel on February 10, he was charged a 10 haller fee. This was paid by a quadraset of the 45/80 haller provisional stamp. The slight difference created by the quadraset was overlooked by the postal official because of the lack of 10 haller stamps at the post office.



In the Lublin Postal Administration of the former Austrian Galicia, two issues of Austrian Field Post stamps were provisionally overprinted into Polish stamps. The first set of three stamps was issued on December 5, 1918, and a second set on December 19, 1918, and continuing with various values until January 8, 1919. Because of the chaotic conditions, the overprinting was done on whatever stamps could be found. Many of the values did not correspond to

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Exiled Polish Children in World War II - Part 5

Santa Rosa Settlement for Polish Orphans in Mexico (1943-1947)

by Jan Niebrzydowski



Figure 1

One of the problems created by the changing fortunes of World War II was what to do with the thousands of Polish children and orphans deported by the Soviets and subsequently evacuated to Persia together with the army of General Władysław Anders.

A number of safe countries agreed to take them in, Mexico among them. In December 1942 an agreement was signed between the Mexican government and General Władysław Sikorski, Commander-in-Chief and Prime Minister of the exiled Polish government. The U.S. government was instrumental in facilitating this agreement. It opened up credit lines and covered transportation and maintenance costs, etc. Polish social organizations in the U.S., such as the Council of Poles and the Polish Women's Union, made a big contribution to this cause.

The following year, 1,432 people (women, children and their guardians) sailed from Karachi, India across the Pacific Ocean to Mexico in two contingents: one in May and the other in November 1943. They were settled in Santa Rosa, near the town of Leon. There was a church, schools and a range of social and cultural activities, including libraries, theatre and scouting. The Polish embassy ran radio broadcasts in the Polish language.

On July 12, 1945, after the Yalta agreements that left

Poland under Soviet domination, the Mexican government withdrew its recognition of the exiled Polish government in London and recognized the new communist government in Poland. The Communists demanded the closure of the Santa Rosa settlement and repatriation of all its residents to Poland. The Polish government in exile, responsible for the orphans in Mexico, did all it could to find an alternative solution for the residents, most of whom had no desire to live under communist rule.

The Polish-American Congress, under its chairman Karol Rozmarek, lobbied successfully for permission to resettle most of the residents of Santa Rosa in the USA. A small number settled in Canada or Great Britain and only 45 ultimately returned to Communist Poland. A few dozen orphans whose parents had been murdered or died in Soviet Russia were accommodated in a care home founded especially for them at Tlalpan (a borough in Mexico City) at the initiative and personal expense of a group of Mexican citizens. Thanks to this initiative these orphaned children were able to complete their education and gain Mexican citizenship.

Letters sent from Santa Rosa settlement were paid at the standard Mexican rate. Two of the most interesting letters from Santa Rosa and Tlalpan were featured in the June

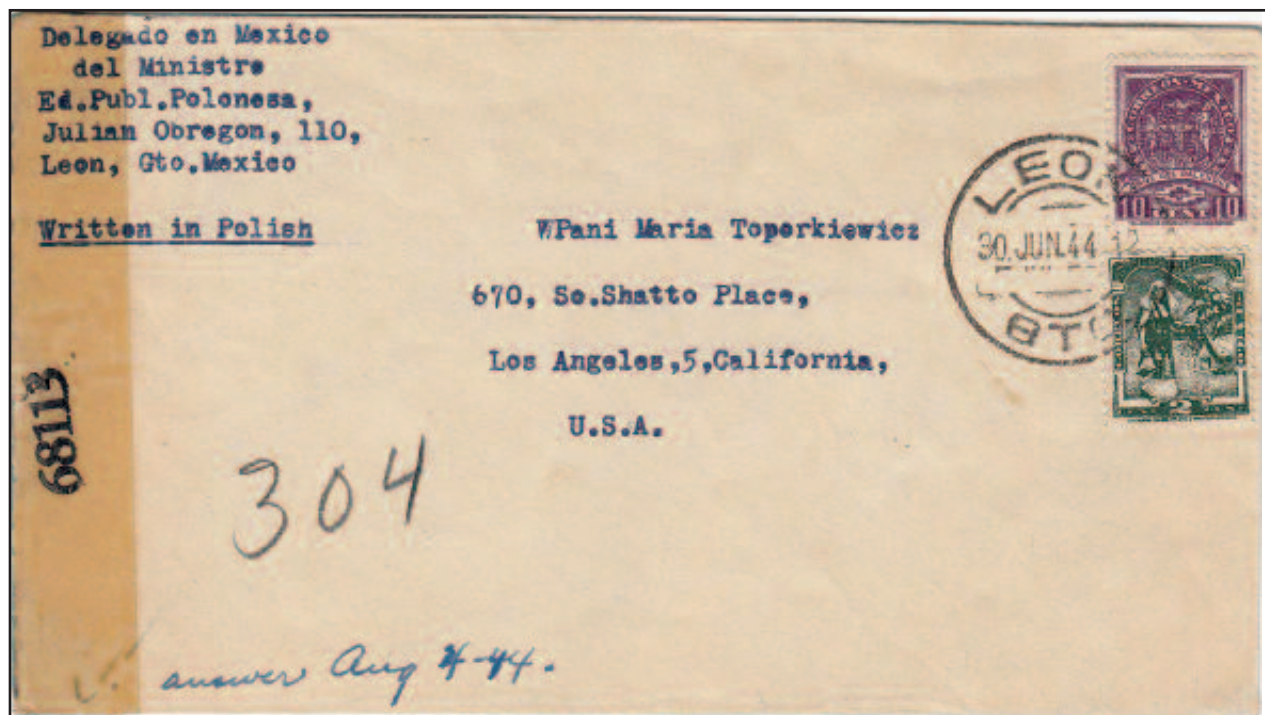


Figure 2



Figure 3

2014 issue of the Polonus Bulletin (#555). Three additional letters are featured.

Figure 1 is an airmail letter in a special issue envelope sent from the Polish legation to New York City on November 4, 1942, prior to the visit of General Sikorski in Mexico (special issue envelope).

Figure 2 is a censored letter from Santa Rosa posted at the Leon post office on June 30, 1944, to Los Angeles. It bears U.S. censorship label nr. 68113.

Figure 3 is an airmail letter addressed to Santa Rosa

sent from General Anders' 2nd Polish Army Corps in Italy via Polish Field Post Office nr. 128 dated November 1945.

What's the most interesting item
in your collection?
Write about it in the
Polonus Bulletin!



Polonus Society News



Winners of 'Best Article' Competition – 2015

by Bob Ogrodnik

Congratulations to the team of Dr. Jerzy W. Kupiec-Węgliński and Jacek Kosmala who authored the winning "Best Article" for 2015, *Development of Airmail Services in Poland – Part 8: LOT Polish Airlines Domestic and International Routes (1929-1939)*. Ballots submitted through the end of March were used to determine the winner.

Awards will be presented to the winners at the Annual Membership Meeting in New York (at WSS-NY2016) and a copy of their winning article will be submitted to the American Philatelic Society, Articles of Distinction Archives.

The authors received recognition in the past for their excellence in research and superb writing of articles. Dr. Kupiec-Węgliński was the recipient of the prestigious Barbara Mueller Award for the best article for the year 2012 in the *American Philatelist* (see Bulletin #551, page 10). The collaboration of Kupiec-Węgliński and Kosmala resulted in the Walter R. McCoy Award for the best article in both the 2011 and 2012 *Congress Books* (see Bulletin #549, page 6).

Congratulations again to Jerzy and Jacek for their outstanding work in promoting Polish philately to the larger philatelic community and for sharing this work with Polonus members via the **Polonus Bulletin**.

Szebel Donates 'Polish Legions' Collection

Life member Alfred Szebel donated his award-winning exhibit and collection of the "Polish Legions" to the Piłsudski Institute of America in Brooklyn, New York. Included with this collection are 142 pages of philatelic material devoted to the Polish Legions; 43 pages of a Józef Piłsudski collection; and 1,000 related covers and postcards. The Piłsudski Institute plans to make presentations of this collection and to write articles for the Polish-American newspapers.

If you are attending World Stamp Show – NY2016, consider visiting the Piłsudski Institute of America, 138 Greenpoint Avenue in Brooklyn. More information is available on their website: www.pilsudski.org.

News of this donation appeared in the February 25-March 2, 2016 issue of *Nowy Dziennik*, a Polish language newspaper in New York.

Polonus Welcomes New Members

Congratulations to the newest members of our society. Please welcome them warmly if you see them.

- 1815 **Stan Horzempa**, 1 Glen Avenue, Wolcott, CT 06716
1816 **Robert Banas**, 26 Broad Street, East Hampton, MA 01027
1817 **Ernest Ochociński**, ul. Madalinskiego 23-5, Warsaw, Poland
1818 **Leszek Ośródka**, ul. Pszczelna 54L, Łódź, 91-511 Poland
1819 **Jeffrey Travers**, 905 Harlem Road, Buffalo, NY 14224
1820 **John Barefoot**, 121 East Parade, York YO31 7YD, England
1821 **Casey Palowitch**, 629 Old Lancaster Road, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Preview WSS – NY2016

by Bob Ogrodnik

The time has come to enjoy the "once every 10 years" philatelic extravaganza. By the time this issue reaches you and you read this article, you will either be at the show enjoying it in real-time or you will be thinking about an experience that you missed. So, whether a real or virtual visit, here is what you can expect at the show:

1. All attendees must register for the show on line (www.ny2016.org).
2. Entry will be at the main doors of the Javits Center, West 35th Street on 11th Avenue.
3. Opening ceremony, open to the public, takes place Saturday, May 28, at 9:15 a.m., with doors to the show open at 10:30 am.
4. Normal show hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (May 29 - June 3) and the show closes on Saturday, June 4 at 3 p.m.
5. The Polonus Society Table is at **Booth #1478**. Be sure to stop and pick up your "Welcome Packet" (for those of you who let me know you plan to visit).
6. Check to see if you are on the "volunteer list" and receive your instructions, as well as time schedule.
7. Two presentations are planned for the subject, *"Introduction to Collecting Poland"* in **Room 1E06**: one on May 29 from 1 to 2 p.m. and the other on June 3 from 1 to 2 p.m.

8. On June 3 beginning at 10 a.m. in **Room 1E09**, we are holding our 14th Annual Membership Meeting. The meeting consists of reports by the officers and committee heads. Come prepared to engage with your comments, questions and recommendations.

9. The Welcome Packet, as well as the show program, identify the exhibitors at the show. You will find 13 entries of Polish material, of which six are entries by Polonus members and two are entries in the "Literature" division. The 11 entries of philatelic material represents 36 frames.

10. The Polonus Store is open at the Society Table for the entire show. We have complete sets of Polonus Bulletins for sale at a special show price, a good time to purchase and save on costly shipping fees.

11. A "dutch-treat" dinner is scheduled for Friday, 3 June 3 at 7 p.m. The restaurant will be determined based on members interested in attending this event. Check your welcome packets for more information.

12. It appears that Poczta Polska will not be participating at this show. The show website, www.ny2016.org, has a list of participating postal administrations, as well as philatelic societies and dealers. Poland is not included on the list of postal administrations at this time.

The next Bulletin (September 2016) will cover the results of the show, including our meetings, exhibits and society activities. In the interim, I look forward to meeting you at this show and enjoying our time in the "Big Apple."

Obituary

Thaddeus M. Bojanowski (1936-2016)

Collector of note, navy veteran, advocate of space exploration and philatelic historian, Thaddeus "Ted" Bojanowski died April 6, 2016. His legacy is extensive and difficult to condense into this short notice. If the writer was forced to pick one word, it would be "generous."

Ted was born in Philadelphia, where he graduated from Roman Catholic High School in 1953. After several teen jobs that included a stint sorting mail for the U.S.P.S., he volunteered for service with the U. S. Navy. Trained for destroyer duty, he served on several ships in the Pacific and also as liaison with his counterparts in the Republic of China's (Taiwan) Navy. The latter connected him to the Second Taiwan Crisis (1958-1959) and for this he was awarded the Honor Medal for the 823 Bombardment plus the U.S. – R.O.C. Mutual Defense Badge. A Good Conduct Medal from the U.S. Navy capped his military career.

Next Ted joined GE, serving on the U.S.A.S. American Mariner, an Army research vessel. He participated in Operation Dominic, a 1962 nuclear weapons test centered around Johnston Island. Ted connected to the advancement

of missile technology due to this experience and a lifelong passion that extended to his philatelic pursuits.

His next career move took him into the world of space exploration and a long relationship with NASA that included involvement with the Apollo XI mission. When not furthering rocket engines, Ted found time to earn an MBA from Florida Atlantic University, and develop fluency in Brazilian Portuguese. He also was a contributor to Wikipedia, focused on genealogy, plus history of philately articles.

Ted connected with stamps from his teens. He built several large collections ranging from Empire of Brazil, where his language skills often produced nice dividends, to space flight covers and Poland. The latter was his passion and focused on 1860-1952. This was a highly specialized effort, one that involved a great deal of detective work. Ted liked to tell how he searched the globe, buying in auctions as far away as Singapore, to reunite a collection of letters from a Polish P.O.W. to his fiancé.

A most excellent gentleman, whose last weeks were spent organizing his space collection and re-reading *Ogniem i mieczem* ("With Fire and Sword"), Ted Bojanowski was a good friend. I miss him.

John P. Dunn

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Polonus Bulletin Procedures and Deadlines

Deadline

Deadline for the receipt of articles, letters, advertising and news is the first of the second month of the quarter. For example, we need everything for the June issue by May 1, everything for the September issue by August 1, everything for the December issue by November 1 and everything for the March issue by February 1.

The preferred method of receiving copy is via an email attachment. Please send as an MS Word document. We also welcome compact disks (CDs). Hard copy is acceptable but it must be rekeyed so we prefer electronic transmission.

All submissions are subject to editing for length, clarity and content. Every effort will be made to retain the facts without changing the meaning or thrust of the article.

Illustrations

The most effective way to transmit illustrations is electronically. They should be TIF or JPEG, scanned at no less than 150 dpi and attached to an email. They can also be sent on CD. We can also retrieve copy and illustrations from electronic storage if provided with the correct routing.

DO NOT put the illustrations into a Word document before attaching to an email. Word has preset parameters that allows me to copy the image and place it in Photoshop but doesn't allow me to manipulate the image for color, clarity, sharpness or contrast. It's our goal to produce the best illustrations possible and this cannot be done using Word.

Questions can be directed to Polonus President Robert Ogrodnik by emailing robert.ogrodnik@sbcglobal.net.

Your attention to and compliance with these procedures and deadline assures the best quality we can achieve. Thank you for your support of, and contributions to, the *Polonus Bulletin*.

New Issues

Quotations (*Cytaty*)

These stamps, each denominated 2.35 zł, are intended to portray scenes from the stories of two famous Polish writers. One of the stamps portrays hounds in the forest, an allusion to the work titled *Ashes* (*Popioły*) written by Stefan Żeromski in 1902-1903. Żeromski, often called the conscience of Polish literature, was born in 1864 near Kielce and died in 1925 in Warsaw. Some of his novels have been made into films by Walerian Borowczyk. Żeromski was honored on Polish stamps in 1947 and 1964.



The other stamp portrays a woman about to be confronted by a crocodile, an allusion to the comedic play *The Revenge* (*Zemsta*) written in 1883 by dramatist Aleksander Fredro. Born in 1793 near Jarosław, Fredro wrote during the period of Polish Romanticism and encountered harsh criticism by his contemporaries for his light-hearted humor and immorality. He died in Lwów in 1876. *The Revenge* (*Zemsta*) was adapted for the screen by Andrzej Wajda in 2002. Fredro was honored on a Polish stamp in 1978.



Date of Issue	September 23, 2015
Sheet Format	2 different stamps each in a pane of 6
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Jacek Konarzewski
Size: stamp	51 x 39.5 mm

100 Years of Town Post in Warsaw

This 2.35-zł stamp, dark brown in color, shows an historic photo of postal workers processing mail in Warsaw. From September 1915 until November 1916, a local post office operated at 7 Mazowiecki Street under the auspices of Germany, which had taken Warsaw from the Russians in August 1915. A Polish initiative to establish a local post office came from the Citizens Committee of the capital Warsaw (*Komitet Obywatelski miasta stołecznego Warszawy*, abbreviated *K. O. m. st. W.*) The German postal authorities allowed the Warsaw's



Citizens Committee to establish a post office in Warsaw for delivery of regular mail that arrived from outside the city's boundaries. Beginning in October 1915 the German authorities allowed them to also deliver internal mail within the city.

Initially, letters sent within Warsaw first had to be sent to a German post office with German occupation stamps and then transferred to Warsaw's post office for internal delivery with local stamps added. Two stamps (5 & 10 gr) were produced, and overprinted several times for this short-lived service. On November 16, 1918, an independent national Polish Post Office (*Poczta Polska*) was established.

Date of Issue	September 23, 2015
Sheet Format	Single in pane of 12
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Maciej Jędrzyk
Size: stamp	43 x 31.25 mm

Fryderyc Chopin

XVII International Pianist Competition

This 1.75-zł stamp portrays four caricatures of pianists inside a black circular emblem in the center, with light olive and pink background colors. The XVII International Chopin Competition was held in Warsaw on April 13-24, 2015, (preliminary round) and October 1-23, 2015 (main competition and concerts).

South Korean Seong-Jin Cho won by playing the *Piano Concerto in E minor, Opus 11* in the final; his prize was 30,000 Euros. He also won the prize for best polonaise, playing the *Polonaise in A flat major, Opus 53*. Charles Richard-Hamelin of Canada came in second and Kate Liu of the USA placed third.

This famous event was initiated in 1927 and has been held every five years since 1955. It is now one of the four largest piano competitions in the world and the oldest one among them. It is devoted to a single composer, Chopin, whose works include 57 mazurkas, seven polonaises, four scherzos, three sonata, and two piano concertos.



Date of Issue	October 23, 2015
Sheet Format	Single in pane of 9
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Maciej Jędrzyk
Size: stamp	39.5 x 31.25 mm

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50th Anniversary of Letter of Reconciliation of the Polish Bishops to the German Bishops

This 1.75-zł stamp depicts a young plant growing in cross-section, with leaves, stem and root shown; conceivably symbolic of the initiative for harmonious relations among Christians in Poland and Germany that was promulgated by Poland's Roman Catholic bishops in a letter in 1965.



The Pastoral Letter of the Polish Bishops to their German Brothers (Polish: *Oreǳcie biskupów polskich do ich niemieckich braci w Chrystusowym urzędzie pasterskim*; German: *Hirtenbrief der polnischen Bischöfe an ihre deutschen Amtsbrüder*) was a pastoral letter sent in 1965 by Poland's Roman Catholic bishops to their German counterparts. It was foremost an invitation to the millennial celebration of Poland's Christianization in 966. The bishops asked for cooperation among both Catholics and Protestants. They extended their forgiveness and asked for forgiveness for the crimes of World War II. This was one of the first attempts at reconciliation after the tragedies of the war, in which Germany invaded Poland; both countries lost millions of people while millions more, both Poles and Germans, had to flee their homes or were forcibly resettled. Pope Pius XII had nominated German bishops over Polish dioceses, which was seen as the Holy See's recognition of the German conquest, and generated popular feeling against the Vatican.

Another aspect of the letter/invitation was an attempt of the Catholic bishops to gain distance from the Communists who were ruling Poland. Among prominent sponsors of this letter/invitation was Krakow's Archbishop Karol Wojtyła who later became Pope John Paul II. The letter/invitation drew a very strong adverse reaction and retribution from the Communist authorities of the People's Republic of Poland under Władysław Gomułka.

Date of Issue	October 23, 2015
Sheet Format	Single in sheet of 50
Printing Method	Photogravure
Designer	Maciej Jędrysik
Size: stamp	43 x 31.25 mm (stamps only)

Polish Birds

These four 2.35-zł stamps with tabs, another in a series on Polish birds (*Polskie Ptaki*), portray a few of the owls indigenous to Poland. A total of 11 different owl species have been recorded in Poland.

Owls are birds of the order Strigiformes, which includes about 200 total species in the world, mostly solitary and nocturnal birds of prey. They are divided into two fam-



ilies: the true owls or typical owls, Strigidae; and the barn-owls, Tytonidae. The stamps show the owl faces up close, while the associated tabs show the birds perched and in flight.

Date of Issue	October 23, 2015
Sheet Format	Pane of 4 different stamps with tabs
Printing Method	Offset, Dry Pressing
Designer	Marzanna Dąbrowska
Size: stamp	43 x 31.25 mm (stamps only)



People in Cinema and Theater

These stamps honor three famous actors in Polish cinema and theater (*Ludzie Kina i Teatru*).

The 1.75 zł stamp recognizes Jerzy Pichelski (1903-63), noted actor in Polish film and theater. He was born in Saratov, Russia, and died in Warsaw, Indiana (USA).

The 2.55 zł stamp depicts Hanka (Hanna) Bielicka

(1915-2006), the diminutive Polish singer and actress, born Anna Weronika Bielicka in Konovka (near Poltova), then part of the Russian Empire and now in the Ukraine. She worked in both film and television and died in Warsaw.

The 4.20 zł stamp honors Aleksander Zelwerowicz (1877-1955), Polish film and stage actor, director, theater president and teacher, who was born in Lublin and died in Warsaw. For his work, he received the Order of Polonia Restituta and the honor of inclusion in the Polish Righteous Among Nations. A state theater academy is named after him, now located in Warsaw and previously in Łódź from Boże.

Date of Issue	October 30, 2015
Sheet Format	3 stamps each in a pane of 12 and a SS of all 3
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Marzanna Dąbrowska

Christmas

The 2015 Christmas issue consists of three stamps, denominated 1.75, 2.35 and 5.20 zł: the first portrays Mary and Joseph at the birth of Jesus (*Boże Narodzenie*); the second portrays Mary being visited by the angel Gabriel, announcing that she would conceive and become the mother of Jesus, the Son of God (the Annunciation or *Zwiasto Wanie*); and the



third portrays the three kings (*Trzech Króli*) bringing gifts to the baby Jesus.

Date of Issue	November 16, 2015
Sheet Format	3 stamps each in sheet of 100
Printing Method	Photogravure
Designer	Maciej Jędrzyk



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Welcome

to the Polonus Store

(We're Always Open for Business)

The Polonus Store is open and we still have an inventory of souvenir items from CHICAGOPEX 2014 which have been offered in past issues. As we prepare for sales at the WORLD STAMP SHOW in NY, we found new and interesting items we are offering in this issue. If you do not find the item you may be searching for, let us know as we have a wide variety of POLPEX souvenir sheets, covers, show cards, et.al.

Item 1 – POLPEX 81 Show Card (Mint) \$4.00

In commemoration of the 25th anniversary since the 1981 POLPEX exhibition in Chicago at which Polonus honored Poland's medalists, a special show card (shown on right) was offered. Supply of these show cards is limited /

Item 2 – POLPEX 81 Show Card (Canceled) \$5.00

Same as above but with a valid US stamp and special show cancel. A sample of a canceled show card is shown on right. Supply is very limited

Item 3 – POLPEX 81 Show Cover..... \$1.50

Attractive cachet with a theme of "Sport in Philately" and franked with 18 cents for first class postage and canceled with special POLPEX 81 STATION postmark dated either March 28 or 29, 1981. (shown on right)

Set of four (4) different stamps on Show Covers\$5.00

Item 4 – Rocket Mail 1979 Souvenir Sheet.....\$3.00

In commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of Polonus, a special souvenir sheet was issued commemorating the rocket mail event in the Mojave Desert. (shown on right)

Item 5 – Rocket Mail Cover (flown by RRS).....\$10.00

Newly discovered cache of covers postmarked "MOJAVE, CA Mar 3, 1979" with handstamp "FLOWN BY RRS". (Reaction Research Society) Covers have a cachet with the image of Świętowit, the four-faced Slavic God of war, fertility and harvest. (shown on right)

Item 6 – *The Occupation of Russia by the Polish 1 Corps* \$10.00

This is the first POLONUS HANDBOOK, authorized by Tadeusz Gryżewski and James Mazepa in 1977. There are less than 10 copies left in stock.

Item 7 - Poland No. 1 by V. Rachmanoff..... \$5.00

As presented in *The Collectors Club Philatelist* of New York in September 1955. Limited supply remaining at this reduced price.

Prices for the items listed above **do not** include shipping and handling costs. Send your request to purchase items to: **Bob Ogrodnik, P.O. Box 240428, Ballwin, MO 63024-0428** or email to robert.ogrodnik@sbcglobal.net. In return you will receive a confirmation of availability of the items and the correct amount for S/H to be added to the price of the items.

Payments are to be made to: Polonus Polish Philatelic Society via personal check or via PayPal (info@polonus.org) If paying by check, include payment with order, mailed to the above address.

