

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 251

June, 1967

POLONUS VISITS COMPEX

On Friday, May 26th Polonus held its meeting at the La Salle Hotel in downtown Chicago, at the Combined Exhibition of the Chicagoland Philatelic Clubs. The German Philatelic Society was very kind and let us assemble in their showroom. But since a larger crowd showed up than anticipated we had to seek another meeting place. Thanks to Dr. James J. Matejka, the Complex Chairman, we were able to meet in the Complex meeting room.

We were honored with the visits of Daniel Dohn of Missouri and Dr. M. A. Kamienski of Ontario, Canada.

All those that attended received a specially printed cacheted envelope inscribed "Polonus Visits Complex". Most members took these envelopes to the Complex postal station, bought the U.S. 5c Poland's Millennium commemorative, affixed it to the envelopes, and had them cancelled with the special Complex cancellation.

Some visitors to the Complex asked, "Where were the Polish exhibits," Actually, there was but one Polish exhibit, that of Alfred Szebel's which was in the German Philatelic Society's section. It may not be a bad idea for Polonus to take part in a future Complex and get the exposure to the throngs visiting this outstanding national exhibition.

DID YOU NEGLECT YOUR DUES?

The Bulletin you receive as a member costs Polonus more than the \$2.50 dues you pay annually. Don't risk missing a single issue by neglecting your dues' payment. Send in your \$2.50 now.

ATTEND OUR PICNIC AUGUST 6th

Polonus is reviving an old practice — that of holding a picnic in midsummer. As in the past, the picnic will be held at Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz's Acquilla Lodge in Powers Lake, Wisconsin. The date: Sunday, August 6th, 1967. The time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Pack a lunch and bring the whole family. There are plenty of outdoor stoves for cookouts. The sandy beach and clear water of Powers Lake are excellent for bathing. According to the Picnic Co-Chairmen, Roman H. Strzelecki and Alfred Szebel, there will be prizes, games and Free soda pop for the children.

Attention Chicagoland Members: If you have not as yet sent in your return postal card in regards to the Picnic, please do so immediately. Send it to Alfred Szebel, 9041 Emerson St., Des Plaines, Ill. 60016.

To get to Powers Lake, Wisconsin from Chicago: take US12 to Richmond, Ill. After passing Richmond, on the curve take Trunk "P" to Acquilla Lodge.

COLLECTING — A DISEASE?

In the March 1967 edition of National Geographic magazine Paul Mellon says: "Some commentators have characterized collecting as a disease — a kind of acute acquisitiveness. I disagree. To my mind, it is merely an adult extension of the pleasure felt by every child in searching out, enjoying, and conserving those objects that he considers odd, rare or beautiful."

Polish Space Stamp With Missing Color and Inscription

by William Ronson

Reprinted with permission from STAMPS Magazine

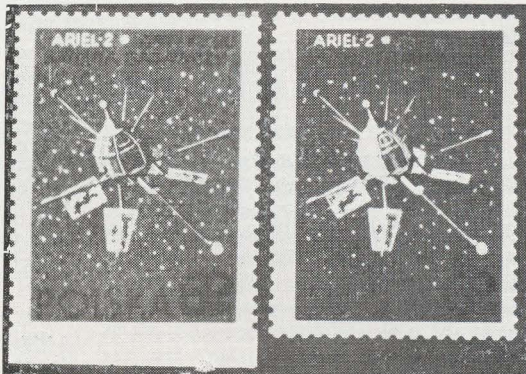
Coincidence and luck are two words that every collector in the hobby of philately hopes will some day bring him a prize item. I will admit that in my case it was mostly luck, but coincidence also entered the situation to make for an interesting story.

Having been quite occupied with the engraved space covers our firm produced for the manned Gemini flights in 1966, little time was left for such other chores as arranging newly acquired stocks of mint space stamps. So these were set aside in envelopes until such time as further sorting could be undertaken. Recently a lull in the U.S. manned space program permitted time to go over the space issues that had accumulated. One of the attractive space sets issued the latter part of 1966 was an eight-stamp Polish issue depicting in multicolors the U.S. Gemini spacecraft and space programs of six other nations. The set is listed as Scott No. 1466-73.

Due to the present schedule of space launchings in the U.S.A., my attention was drawn to one stamp in the set depicting a satellite launched recently from the Western Test Range in California. The satellite was the third of a series of British satellites known as UK-E; it was launched with a four-stage Scout Rocket built by LTV in Dallas, Texas. Reports stated that UK-E was launched on 5 May 1967 into the desired orbit and was functioning properly. The name of the satellite, following successful orbit, became Ariel III.

Ariel I had been orbited from Cape Canaveral on 26 April 1962, the same day that Ranger 4 impacted on the moon, while Ariel II had been successfully launched on 27 March 1964. Both Ariel I and II had been built by the

Westinghouse Corp., while Ariel III was built entirely in Britain by the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Fransborough. Management of the experiments aboard



At right, the stamp with color missing on satellite, and POLSKA omitted at bottom. At left, the normal stamp.

Ariel III is the responsibility of the United Kingdom Science Research Council.

Ariel III carries five experiments on Electron Density, Molecular Oxygen, Terrestrial Radar Noise, VFL Radiation Experiments and Galactic Noise. Similar experiments were aboard Ariel II, the satellite shown on the Poland 60 gr. stamp in the set. The normal colors of this denomination are gray, green, yellow, and black, with the gray and green colors being dominant.

It is entirely possible that a "second look" may never have been given this stamp had I not been ready to cachet covers for this Ariel III launch. Because of this I gave a very close look at the satellite to determine whether Ariel II and III were similar in structure. While examining the satellite on the stamp I suddenly noticed that on one single 60 gr. stamp the green color was missing on the satellite and the entire name POLSKA was omitted. No other copy of the stamp which I had showed these errors in this issue, although the set came out about five months before in December 1966.

I checked through my files regarding all information on the satellite, which I keep for reference purposes, as I am a writer in the space journalism field. In one file I noticed an envelope with an official form in it that had been untouched for several years, and which related to the British Ariel program. Then I suddenly recalled that I had been at Wallops Island, Virginia, on 27th March 1964 to witness the launching of Ariel II, the satellite shown on the stamp I had found with the error. The coincidence was astounding to me, as that was the only time in my life I had been at the launch site at Wallops Island.

This Polish set for space research was listed under New Issues in STAMPS on 17th December 1966, page 650. The 60 gr. stamp was listed as Ariel II, British Satellite, and the quantity printed of this value was given as six million. The stamp was printed in sheets of thirty stamps. The first day of issue was given as 20th December 1966.

I requested an authority on Polish stamps to examine the stamp and he has declared it to a genuine error, and furnished me with a certificate to this effect. I am now trying to locate another copy of this error, and would appreciate hearing from anyone who may have a copy like the one described. Please address: William Ronson, Orbit Covers, 132 Nassau St., New York, N.Y. 10038.

APPLICANTS PENDING

Marek J. Zawadzki
Skrytka Poczтова 203
Kielce, Poland

Zbigniew Mikulski
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Montreal, Canada

Jozef L. Brodowski
136 Guernsey St.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11222

IKAROS PUBLICATIONS

Several books published by the pre-war periodical IKAROS are still available. For information write (in Polish or English) to:

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ORBIT COVERS

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HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ — 1846 — 1916

By Dr. M. A. Rayall de Ragan, Poznań

English Translation By Dr. Eugene L. Słotkowski

In Polish cultural circles, 1966 has been designated as "The Year of Sienkiewicz" because of the 120th anniversary of his birth as well as the 50th anniversary of his death.

The celebration of Poland's Millennium as a nation overshadowed the anniversaries of Sienkiewicz. We wish to remind the world — somewhat belatedly of a great Pole, Henryk Sienkiewicz. Not only was Sienkiewicz one of the greatest writers of the 19th Century but also an outstanding patriot. At a time of the greatest persecution of the Polish people, he was able to awaken in them the will to fight and win and imbued faith in the immortality of the Polish people.

Through his active participation, open letters, public appearances, investigation of various affairs such as the persecution of Poles in Prussia, Sienkiewicz became the spiritual leader of the Polish people.

Henryk Sienkiewicz was born in Wola Okrejsie in Podlasie on the 5th of May, 1846, son of an impoverished land owner, Joseph Sienkiewicz and his wife, Stephanie Ciszewski. During the childhood spent on the farm he saw misery and suffering of people which found expression later in his novels: "Janko, the Musician," "For Bread," etc.

As a 12 year old boy he arrived in Warsaw for his studies. After completing his secondary education he begins in 1866 the study of medicine, changing in 1867 to the study of philology. He entered the University of Warsaw, (Scott's 815) and completes his studies in 1870.

In 1869 Sienkiewicz publishes his first extensive work in the columns of the "Weekly Review." It is a review of Rapacki's performance in the play "Our Dearest".

In 1869 he publishes a study of Szażynski and Maskowski in the "Weekly Illustrated". He continued writing reviews in the "Weekly Review" up to the year 1872. His first novel "For Nothing" is published in 1872 under the pseudonym of LITWOS. He displays

his talent of satire and caricature in numerous drawings as well as writings in "humorous materials". Under this pseudonym Sienkiewicz gained recognition as a reporter in the Polish Gazette. In 1873 he published his first novel "Old Servant" and Hania".

In 1876 a large group of friends bade farewell to Sienkiewicz at the Warsaw Railroad Station where he was leaving for America at the expense of the Polish Gazette. He remained in America for over a year, living for many months as a settler, hunter, and trapper. He attended the early triumphs of Helena Modrzejewska (Scott's 399, 408, 412a), being an admirer of her talent in Warsaw. He returned to his country after four years, having spent one year in the United States, one year in Paris, England and Italy. From this period we have his famous "American Portrait."

Work and travel occupied the whole life of the writer. Various stories or narratives are published: "Character Sketches" in 1877, "From a Poznań Teacher's Diary" in 1879 appearing in the uncensored Lwów Gazette under the title "From a Tutor's Diary," "John The Musician," "Tartar Captivity" in 1880, "For Bread," "Through The Steppes," "Orso," "Bartek The Victor" in 1882, his novel masterpiece "The Lighthouse Keeper" in 1883, and also in the same year "Jamiol" and "Sachem".

After his return from America, Sienkiewicz begins working in "Niwie", as well as "Słowie". where from 1882 he writes regularly in "Weekly Chronicle."

In May of 1883 Sienkiewicz begins publishing his great historical novel "With Fire and Sword". It was serialized in Warsaw and Cracow newspapers and immediately thereafter was published in book form. The book was received with great enthusiasm and is a tremendous success. The painter Kosak captures the memorable scene of Skrzetuski meeting Helen.

In the second part of his historical trilogy, "The Deluge" he describes the most tragic episode in Polish history, namely, the fight from all sides by the

Swedes, Muscovites, Ukrainians, Wolachians and others. Sienkiewicz wrote this novel in the year 1885-1886 when his wife was desperately ill with an incurable disease. The last portion of this great epic is finished by the author after his dearly beloved wife's death.

Two years later, Sienkiewicz completes the third portion of his trilogy "Pan Michael" (1887-1888). The trilogy constitutes his greatest literary triumph but, in spite of his advancing years, he is exposed to criticism. In 1889 he begins an analytical novel "Without Dogma" describing the decadence of his generation. The novel is finished in 1891.

Toward the end of 1890 Sienkiewicz leaves for Africa on a hunting expedition. The fruits of this trip "Letters from Africa" and twenty years later the novel for youngsters entitled "In the Desert and Wilderness" (1911).

After his return from Africa he journeys to his friend Brunon Abakanowicz in France. Here, in the home on Park St. Maur on the outskirts of Paris in the fall of 1894 Sienkiewicz completes his 16 month old work on his new novel dealing with the customs and tendencies or inclinations of the positivists "The Polaniec Family". He is exhausted from work and also from many unjust criticisms, especially the attacks of Brzezewski, so much that only the walks in the streets give him moments of relaxation.

Sienkiewicz spent the summer of 1895 with his children and his dog in Zakopane, while still writing for three papers in Warsaw, Cracow and Poznań. At the same time he is continuing his literary masterpiece, the historical novel of the early years of Christianity, "Quo Vadis" which he completes in the middle of 1896 in Nice.

The novel was well received by his readers and in the year 1905 the greatest recognition in literature in the world, that is, the Nobel Prize, was awarded to Sienkiewicz. The novel was translated into many languages. In 1913 the novel was made into a film by a French-Italian company. From this moment the popularity of the writer rose rapidly in international circles. From 1913 to 1916 many films were based on the themes of his novel.

In 1904 Sienkiewicz received the highest French decoration, The Legion of Honor. Such a decoration for a representative of a nation or people who had lost their independence but who nevertheless continue in their aspirations, meant a great deal for the Polish cause in world affairs. The works of Sienkiewicz were translated into many languages and met with tremendous success.

In the years 1897 to 1900 Sienkiewicz worked on his last major historical novel "Knights of the Cross" which appeared during the time of anti-Polish agitation in Prussia.

In the year 1900 there is a celebration in the entire nation commemorating the jubilee of Sienkiewicz. The author receives a gift from the entire nation in the form of a home, "Oblegerek," which today is museum devoted to the memory of this great writer. In the same year Sienkiewicz was given the highest award of the Jagiellon University and was decorated "Doctoris Causa Honoris" honoring him as a great writer and a great Pole. The following years are a period of further literary efforts. In 1907 he publishes a novel "On the Field of Glory", in 1910 "Wiry" and in 1911 publishes a novel based on his trip to Africa, "In the Desert and Jungle".

Henryk Sienkiewicz died on the 15th of November, 1916 in Vevey, Switzerland. At that time he was working on his last novel — never finished — which dealt with the first years of the rule of Napoleon at the time of the Italian campaign. The title of the novel was to be "Legions". Not until the year 1924 were the mortal remains of the great writer returned to his country and interred in Warsaw's St. John Cathedral.

In spite of his tremendous impact in literature as well as in view of his political deeds, Sienkiewicz is poorly represented in Polish philately.

The first stamp in the 15 grosze denomination was issued in multi-million amounts with several reissues, in 1928 (Scott's 257/1K23). The Next issue does not appear until the year 1952 (Scott's B88). A 60 grosze is



Scott's 257

(Continued on Page 251-8)

NEW ISSUES

Martyrology and Resistance

As a continuation of the cycle of stamp issues "Polish Monuments of Resistance and Martyrdom in 1939-1945" the Polish Post issued a set of three stamps on April 10, 1967 to commemorate the liberation from the Nazis of the Concentration Camps of Oświęcim-Brzezinka. All stamps are of the same value — 40 gr.

Two stamps depict the Monuments in Oświęcim and Oświęcim-Monowice; the third value shows the emblem "Warden of the National Memorials".

Recess steel engraved printed in sheets of 70 stamps each on common paper by PWPW, Warsaw. Designed by Krystyna Bogaczewska. Quantity printed: 5,000,000 of each.

6/12 Congress of Polish Trade Nations

On June 2, the Polish Post issued a 60 gr. stamp with tab on the occasion of the 6th Congress of Polish Trade Unions held at Warsaw. It is the 6th Congress since the war and the 12th one in the history of the Polish Trade Unions.

The stamp features an emblem of the Socialist Working Brigades on the back-



ground of symbolically pictured main lines of the Polish Trade Unions activity. Offset printed in sheets of 20 stamps with 20 tabs and 4 stamps with 4 tabs on chalky paper by the PWPW, Warsaw. Designed by A. Heidrich. Quantity printed: 4,500,000.

Olympic Appeal 1967

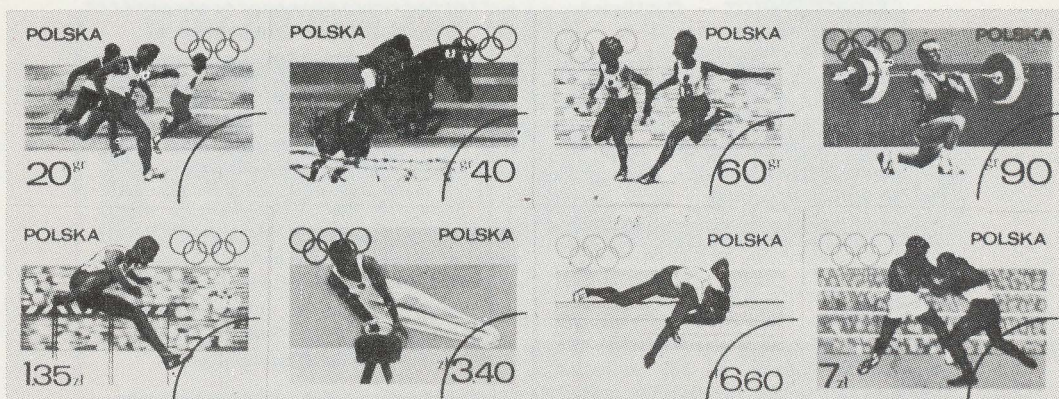
On May 24th, 1967 the Polish Post issued a Pre-Olympic sports set of 8 stamps and a souvenir sheet. Amnt. Issued

20 gr.—Men's 100 m. race...	5,000,000
40 gr.—Horse racing-jump...	5,000,000
60 gr.—Women's 4x100 m. relay	5,500,000
90 gr.—Weight lifting.....	3,200,000
1.35 zł.—Men's hurdles.....	4,700,000
3.40 zł.—Men's gymnastics...	3,300,000
6.60 zł.—Men's high jump...	2,000,000
7.00 zł.—Boxing	2,000,000
10.15 zł.—Souvenir sheet.....	900,000

The souvenir sheet shows J. Kusociński, Olympic winner of the 10,000 m. race in Los Angeles in 1932.

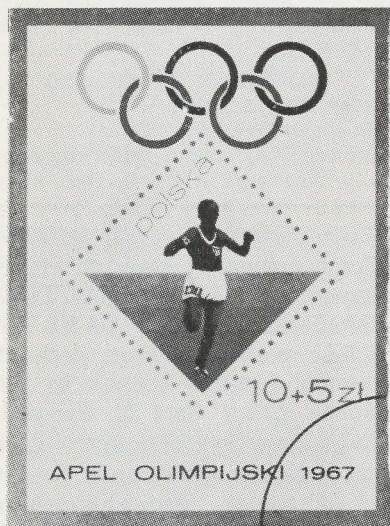


Cover, with special commemorative cancellation dated April 16, 1967 at Oświęcim Postoffice 1, commemorating the anniversary of the Liberation of concentration camp Oświęcim. The first three value are of the new Martyrology and Resistance issues released on April 10th and described above.



The stamps were printed in ornamented sheets of 8 stamps and 4 tabs. The tabs feature an emblem of the Polish Olympic Committee. Offset printed on chalky paper at PWPW Warsaw. Designed by Franciszek Winiarski.

Offset multicolor printed on common paper in sheets of 30 stamps by the PWPW Warsaw. Designed by Andrzej Heidrich. The stamps will have repeated multimillion printings.



Protected Plants

On June 14, 1967 the Polish Post issued a set of 6 stamps showing plants under protection which are also widely used in medical treatment:

- 40 gr.—Mountain tobacco
- 60 gr.—Common columbine
- 3.40 zł.—Gentian
- 4.50 zł.—Lycopod
- 5.00 zł.—Siberian iris
- 10.00 zł.—Rhododendron



BULLETIN AD RATES

At the June 9th meeting it was voted on and passed that advertising in the Bulletin be made available to non-members of Polonus.

Rates for Non-Members

- Full Page\$15.00
- Half Page 9.00
- Quarter Page .. 5.00
- One Inch Ad.. 1.50

For Polonus Members Only

- Full Page\$12.00
- Half Page 7.00
- Quarter Page .. 4.00
- One Inch Ad.. 1.50

SIENKIEWICZ — Continued

(Continued from Page 251-5)

issued in 1966 commemorating the 120th anniversary of Sienkiewicz's birth.

In December, 1965, the Swedish government issued a stamp with a portrait of Sienkiewicz on the 60th anniversary of the awarding of the Nobel Prize for literature (Scott's)

For some reason this important anniversary was not celebrated in Poland.

In 1928 two cards were issued with a stamp — Scott's 257 (Ruch Cp. 48, Cp. 49), and in the year 1931 a whole series of illustrated cards with a stamp Scott's 257 (Ruch Cp. 50) repeated in various issues. In the jubilee series issued in 1938 commemorating the 20th anniversary of Polish independence, a card No. 13 shows a portrait of Sienkiewicz (Ruch Cp. 86 and Cp. 87).

Some of these cards were reissued with a new demonination in the year 1944 (Ruch Cp. 89 and Cp. 90).

STECZYNSKI SPEAKS AT C.P.S.

Myron Steczynski will be the speaker at the Chicago Philatelic Society meeting, Sherman Hotel, Thursday evening, July 6, 1967. Steczynski will show U.S. stamps issued from 1931 to 1966 to honor Poland and will include a historical presentation, plate blocks, first day covers and other material.

RARE WILNIUS COVERS

German Occupation in Lithuania in 1941. Russian overprinted stamps "VILNIUS."

Michel Nos. 10-18 on registered cover\$160.00

Michel Nos. 10-17 on registered cover\$30.00

Michel Nos. 10-16 on registered cover\$20.00

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

— Annual Dues are \$2.50 —

AMPHILEX WINNERS

At the recent international AMPHILEX held at Amsterdam in May, two Polonus members received awards for their collections exhibited. Zdzislaw Wagrowski was given a silver medal for his Polish Airmails and Alfred Szebel a bronze medal for his Dornier DOX Flights.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, July 14, 1967

Business Meeting.

During July and August there will be no meetings on the fourth Fridays.

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