

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 No. 186

January, 1961

"POLSKA 60 IN MINIATURE" AND A SPECIAL PADEREWSKI EXHIBIT FEATURED AT POLPEX MARCH 3, 4, 5, 1961 AT THE POLISH MUSEUM

If you were unable to attend "Polska 60" at Warsaw last September, you still will be able to see many of the exhibits of this greatest Polish International Exhibition. Some twelve Polonus members who exhibited at "Polska 60" will show their exhibits at POLPEX 1961 to be held on March 3, 4, 5, 1961 at the Polish Museum of America, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave. in Chicago, Ill.

Polonus members from all corners of the globe were invited to exhibit their award winning collections at our annual POLPEX this year and you may expect to see displays of stamps belonging to members from Europe, Australia, South America as well as this continent.

Of great interest will be the National Grand Award and gold medal winning

PROGRAM MEETING FRI. JAN. 27

Dr. Leon P. Kozakiewicz has acquired some original artist sketches of designs for the Polish Second Corps stamp issues. The good Doctor has consented to bring these projects to the next program meeting on Friday, January 27th and show the members what goes on with a stamp design from the original ideas conceived to the finished product.

In addition, an Auction will be held. Parts of the late Bert Powell's stamp collection with many Polish lots, will be put on the auction block. Part of the proceeds will go to Polonus.

Chicagoland members who will attend are in for a rare treat!

exhibit of M. Bojanowicz of England. Part of this as well as that of a gold medal winning exhibit belonging to Isaac Gust of Australia will be shown.

Because Polonus is so elated over the Ignacy Jan Paderewski Champions of Liberty stamps issued last October, the Society decided to honor Paderewski on the POLPEX Souvenir Sheets and to have a Special Paderewski Stamp Exhibit. Many interesting and attractive philatelic items were secured during the Polonus visit to Washington, D. C. for the First Day Ceremonies last fall, and these together with other Poland Paderewski items will make up this special exhibit.

In addition, the Post Office Department will show its official "Birth of a Stamp" panels of the Paderewski Champions of Liberty stamps.

The greater part of the exhibition will be turned over to exhibits for competition. With this issue of the POLONUS BULLETIN we enclose an entry application. All members are invited to participate and urged to send in their entry application at their earliest convenience. Deadline for entries is Feb. 17, 1961.

Polpex Chairman Chester A. Schafer announces the following Polpex Committee: Sebastian Styczynski, Co-Chairman; Stanley Kucharz, Program; Lester Jankowski, Entries & Finance; Adam Kloskowski, Seals; Myron Steczynski & Charles Chuck, Arts; Roman Reinowski,

Bourse; Alvin C. Bialobrzeski, Frames; Chester Mikucki, Patrons; Roman Strzelecki, Publicity.

As admission to our POLPEX shows is free, income is derived only from the competitive exhibitors' fees, bourse table fees, advertisements in our Program book and the sale of seals.

Please support our POLPEX by taking an ad in the program book. Ads run \$18.00 for a full page; \$10.00 for a half page and \$6.00 for a quarter page. Send copy and remittance to Stanley Kucharz, Program Chairman, 4324 S. Spaulding Ave., Chicago 32, Ill.

Become a Patron of the Exhibition for \$1.00. Your name will appear on the Patron page. Send a dollar to Chester Mikucki, Patron Chairman, 1844 N. Winchester Ave., Chicago 22, Ill.

An attractive multicolored souvenir sheet featuring Paderewski as its theme is being prepared. A set of two with descriptive folder may be obtained for 25c plus postage from Adam Kloskowski, Seal Director, 2528 N. Drake Ave., Chicago 47, Ill.

IN THE PHILATELIC PRESS

The December issue of the "Coros Chronicle" a journal of the collectors of religion on stamps, carries an article on the Altar of St. Mary's, Cracow written by Ann Stumpfhaus. The recent Polish issues of the altar panels by Wit Stwosz are profusely illustrated.

COROS boasts over 1000 members and puts out an excellent publication. A sample copy may be obtained for 25c by writing the editor Waller A. Sager, 6232 Annan Way, Los Angeles, 42, Calif.

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ANOTHER "POLSKA 60" AWARD WINNER

In our listing of "Polska 60" Award Winners in the last two issues of the POLONUS BULLETIN we left out the name of our member Edward Nowak, Sr. Mr. Nowak received an honorary award consisting of a Polish crystal vase with plate attached from the "Tow. Łączność z Polonią Zagraniczną." This was given for his outstanding exhibit of stamps, the topical write-up of pages and for the many articles written by him in the American Philatelic Press.

APPLICATIONS PENDING

Edward W. Karpinski
2273 Theodore
Detroit 11, Mich.
Stefan Kowalczyk
3128 Theodore
Detroit 11, Mich.

P O L A N D

Poland No. 1 Used, Cancellation I\$8.50 to 14.50
251 Warsaw Phil. Souvenir Sheet Mint..... 8.50
B29ab. SS. Warsaw Philatelic Exhibition..... 2.30
314-16 SS. King Carol Visit 1.75
M22-48 Austrian Military Stamps Mint 6.50
M1-3 Jewish Ghetto Lodz 1944 Mint 12.00
Mi 515-17 Roosevelt Comm. mint 3.25
341-43 Polish Heroes Mint and Used 6.50
N100-102 General Gouvernement Imperf 5.00

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POLAND NO. 1 OBJECT OF WIDE RESEARCH

By Myron E. Steczynski

Editor's Note: On the hundredth anniversary of Poland's very first stamp, several informative articles appeared in *FILATELISTA* of Jan. 1, 1960 with Mr. Z. Mikulski, known as an expert, writer and Exhibition Director of POLSKA 60, and with Mr. T. Gryżewski, prominent expert, philatelist and dealer, referring to examples in Myron Steczynski's collection of Poland No. 1. The Editor of the *Polonus Bulletin* invited Myron to prepare an article on this stamp for Linn's Poland Issue of April 25, 1960 and is repeating the work here for *Polonus* readers.

This article in Linn's Weekly caught the attention of Mr. Gryżewski of Warsaw who used much of the material in the July 15th issue of *FILATELISTA*. Mr. Gryżewski praised the work of the *Polonus* Philatelic Society for featuring the No. 1 stamp in its *POLPEX 1960* and for making efforts toward a group study of this stamp. It will be recalled that this stamp was the subject of previous discussions by *Polonus* members V. Rachmanoff, Vincent Domański, Stephen Rich, Bert Powell, Jack Domar, Dr. Leon Kozakiewicz, Clem Pulaski, Joe Godlef, Walter Szymlek, and others.

On Sept. 9, 1960 during the International Philatelic Exhibition at the Palace of Culture in Warsaw, a symposium on Poland No. 1 was held in an impressive setting. Dr. J. Tislowitz

opened the distinguished gathering and called upon Mr. T. Gryżewski to conduct the deliberations and to introduce the speakers on the panel which included Myron Steczynski of Chicago, M. Bojanowicz of London, as well as Z. Mikulski, M. Perzyński, K. de Julien, A. Piwowarczyk and Prof. A. Łaszkiwicz of Poland.

Most of these speakers had comprehensive exhibits of Poland No. 1. with Mr. Bojanowicz winning the National Grand Award and gold medal for his meticulous and comprehensive presentation. Mr. Isaac Gust, commissioner for Australia and a gold medal winner as well as Mr. Derek Palmer, commissioner for Chile and a gold-plated medal winner also exhibited Poland No. 1 and participated in the symposium. These winners, together with Mr. Steczynski, member of the jury, are active *Polonus* members.

Several of the speakers were asked to form an active research and editorial committee with the stipulation that still another *Polonus* member and dean of Poland No. 1 specialists, Mr. Vladimir Rachmanoff of New York, be added to the membership. This committee will pool together all available material within Poland and abroad, so that the study will be based on the broadest possible examples.

Reprinted from Linn's Weekly Stamp News of April 25, 1960

It so happens that Poland, and the entire philatelic world for that matter, are about to celebrate the centennial of Poland's first postage stamp at the International Philatelic Exhibition "POLSKA 60" in Warsaw, September 3-11. The many aspects of this one stamp will be glorified in so many different ways that it is only fitting that some comment be made as to what the celebration is all about.

I should not be the one writing this article on Poland No. 1 because above all, I am not primarily absorbed with this very first Polish adhesive. Secondly, there are several specialists in the *Polonus* Philatelic Society who eat and sleep around the clock with Poland No. 1's.

They not only have noteworthy collections and even hoards of this stamp, but also appear to know by heart that numerical cancellation No. 24 is Wiłkowszki, No. 85 is Hrubieszów and No. 278 is Sosnowice. They know that "D.P." is the railroad station in Praga, a suburb of Warsaw with trains going into Russia, and that the target and bullseye cancellers were used on moving postal cars of railroads.

Due to the prime interest of No. 1 collectors in canceled copies and in covers bearing them, much excellent editorial material is available on the history and on the use of the very first—and for 58 years the one and only—stamp of Poland. Accordingly, this phase will be intentionally minimized here.

Anyone interested in this field and in the listing of numerical cancellations in the Kingdom of Poland is referred to the excellent 20-page booklet by V. Rachmanoff, which may be obtained from the Polonus Philatelic Society, 2528 N. Drake Ave., Chicago 47, Ill. at \$1.50 plus postage.

Instead of repeating many of the historic details, this article will deal primarily with the stamp itself which does not carry the name of the country it served. Historical data are introduced only to explain or to support findings which bear on its description.

About three million were printed over a period of about five years which began with the date of issue on January 1, 1860 and ended with the day of withdrawal on April 1, 1865. These dates ran concurrently with the Civil War in the United States.

When the design for this bicolored item was first prepared, it was the original intention to have the red underprint extend throughout and beyond the red oval.

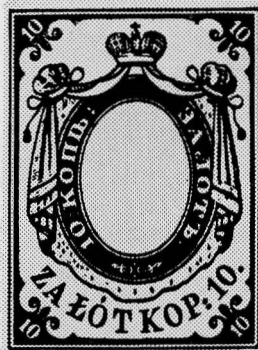
This underprint was later removed from the area of the draped cloak in the coat of arms, so that it extended only beyond the cloak as well as under the corner numerals. Its overall size is such that it extends into the white borderline formed just within the fine blue border.

This fact is stressed because in the actual printing, especially as the plates became worn, the delicate blue border line became bent, broken, pitted or otherwise deformed to create distinct earmarks for plate study.

At the same time the overlapping edge of the red underprint might have been flattened, so that the red dots at the edges were at times transformed into a continuous red line.

The original dies provided for a thin line around the center oval both in the red plate and in the blue plate. The blue oval was about 'half an eyelash' larger than the red oval, so that both practically coincided with perfect register, but magnified offcentering even with the slightest shift.

Hence this oval line was removed from nearly all blue plates, but was allowed to remain in some instances.



Blue plate showing the thin oval line on inside of letter band. This thin blue oval appears only on about one stamp in 25.

After examining many hundreds of these stamps, fellow member Vladimir Rachmanoff reports the frequency of occurrence is about 1 in 25, although some feel that this variety is scarcer.

Mr. Rachmanoff's ratio corresponds to about one blue oval in each of the four panes of a sheet of 100, inasmuch as the stamps were printed in panes of 25 (5x5) separated by a gutter 8 to 9 mm wide.

From the marginal selvage on a fine mint copy of this variety in the collection of M. A. Bojanowicz of London, England, this stamp is located in the lower left corner of the UPPER right pane (position 46 of the sheet), but this blue oval does not occur in the similar lower left corner in the LOWER right pane.

A block of six which includes the lower left corner in the collection of Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz of Chicago does not have the blue oval, indicating that each of the four panes was not similar in this respect.

This blue oval variety is not reported in any pairs or in other multiple pieces, so that the marginal stamp of Mr. Bojanowicz is the only clue we have to the plate position of this variety.

We do not know definitely whether this stamp actually occurred once in each pane of 25; whether it occurred in one of the four panes only; whether this variety was bunched together, or finally whether some sheets were made up of this variety exclusively.

It is the writer's opinion that this stamp occurred many times in some of the sheets because of the many entirely different characteristics that are found among the dozen or so copies examined.

The amazing sidelight about this blue oval variety is that it was not reported until a few generations after the stamp was issued.

One explanation is that it was withdrawn by a government antagonistic to things that were Polish and by one that deliberately tried to erase any story that might be Polish, especially after the insurrection of 1863 when the Poles made an unsuccessful attempt to regain their freedom.

The other explanation is that even before the stamps were demonetized on April 1, 1865 a protocol of October 13, 1864 reports that 393,450 mint stamps remained and it is taken for granted that these were destroyed. This perhaps explains why mint copies are comparatively scarce.

Although the stamp was printed and reprinted in many color varieties to run up a total of about 3,000,000 copies, and although there were many scholars and specialists of this stamp who covered its history and uses in minute detail, the blue oval variety laid undiscovered for 80 years. Then, due to World War II, it was not reported until 85 years after it was issued.

Getting back to the color varieties, these are basically pale blue and rose. Although the design is very similar to the early stamps of Russia, it has its distinct details of design which make it Polish. The wording within the oval is Russian—the wording in the bottom arc is Polish and means "For a 16t (half an ounce), 10 kopecks."

The Polish stamp must have had many printings because the colors vary all over the map, from the most anaemic tints to the clearest, attractive shades. The darker and more vivid colors command a premium.

The paper is plain white wove and varies somewhat in thickness. The gumming of the sheets was done by hand with a brush and often with very brown gum which either stained the paper, or ate into it to create an appearance of



Poland No. 1 Imperforate

vertically laid paper.

The stamps were perforated on an elementary machine which did not always provide even and regular spacings which normally gauge from $11\frac{1}{2}$ to $12\frac{3}{4}$. The writer's collection boasts a mint blue oval variety perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$ on three sides and 13 at the bottom. This appears to be a reperfected item.

A real gem in the writer's collection is an imperforate variety cancelled with the four-ring numeral 264 (Mława). Mr. Rachmanoff has two imperfs cancelled with the numeral 1 (Warsaw), one of these being on an exquisite cover. It might be noted here that the stamps were spaced so close together in the sheet that copies with perfs clearing the border are considered extra special.

The stamps are fairly well centered as far as register of the two colors is concerned because it is reported that they were printed on a special two-color press which was supposed to be really something at the time. This perhaps explains why inverts do not exist.

Some specimens show traces of the red ink on what is normally a blue element, while others show traces of blue ink on what is normally the red element, especially along the the outer edges of the stamp. This raises a question whether this special press did not have some of the Giori elements where the other ink roller could have touched an unintended plate.

Dr. Kozakiewicz has a mint block of six (positions 86, 87, 88, 96, 97, 98) with the most generous border selvage on two edges. He paid \$1,000 for this



Dr. Kozakiewicz's mint block of six

block at a Harmer auction in New York. I always tell him that he paid only \$500 for the stamps and the other \$500 was for the marginal selvage which unmistakably determines the position of the stamps in the sheet.

Mr. Bojanowicz of London has a couple of used horizontal strips of five, but these have no marginal paper by which the positions of the stamps could be identified. Mr. Rachmanoff has a block of four on cover cancelled with the round Warsaw numeral 1.

The plating of Poland No. 1 is only limping along. Although impressive compilations have been made of the various cancellations and of the many uses of Poland No. 1, very little has been done on a study of the plate varieties, many of which are enumerated below:

1—The blue oval is the one major plate variety—the one that remained unnoticed for 80-odd years. Then there are the usually listed "blue plate" varieties.

2—The broken bottom frame where the center of both border lines is gashed in two places and where the left gash extends through the "T" in "ŁOT".

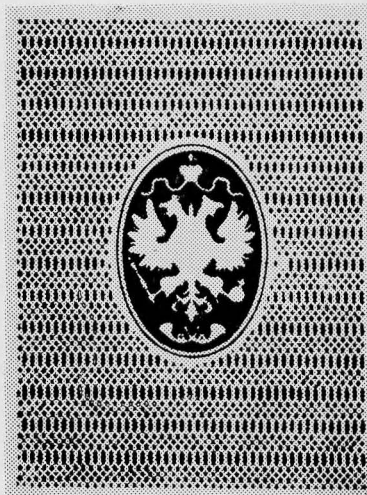
3—Mutilated left frame where the upper corner is rounded and the lower one fills half of the numeral "10".

4—The egg-shaped cavity at the upper left and the left frame broken and dented in about four places.

5—Both left corner "10's" butchered where the "1" of the upper "10" is blanked out and where the lower left corner resembles a lyre. Part of the left frame is worn away.

6—Practically the entire left frame and lower corner are worn away.

7—Practically all the left frame is



Red plate as originally prepared.

worn away, but the lower left corner is smashed in from the bottom to fill in part of the "10".

Thus far these errors have been reported and illustrated in many a handbook and in many an article, BUT all these authors were not very observant. Everyone of these illustrations is based on a drawing of the BLUE OVAL variety, on which the respective damages definitely do not occur. **They are found only on copies without the blue oval.**

The writer really believes that a detailed study of plate varieties of Poland No. 1 has not yet been made and that such a discourse on this subject is yet to be written.

One of the objects of this article, if the reader has read this far, is to stimulate interest in a specialized study of this stamp, especially in the mint copies. These are much easier to study as compared with the usually heavily cancelled used copies.

There are many printing flaws, especially with flooded plates, or dry plates, or with worn plates which do not produce constant varieties.

If the Russian inscription of white letters within the blue oval is flooded, the letters become filled and take on grotesque shapes. The same may be said of each of the "10's" in the four corners. If the Polish inscription of blue letters at the bottom are is lightly

(Continued on page 186-11)

The Polish Post During the Warsaw Uprising

By Thaddeus Gryzewski

(Continued from previous month)

POSTAGE STAMPS

The idea of issuing postage stamps for use by the Insurrection Post was contemplated by the Field Post of the Home Army together with the "Biuro Informacji Powstania" (BIP) at an early stage of the inaugurated postal service.

Because the normal preparation of postage stamps requires certain time, it was decided to execute some manual overprints on the stamps of the General Government. Two metal molds, exempld on the marking device type 8, only considerably differing in dimensions, were prepared.

One type of the overprint — 23¾ mm. in height and 22 mm. in length of the word "POCZTA POWSTAŃCZA"; the second type — 24 mm. in length and 22¼ mm. in height on the inscription. (See illustration A.) The first type



Illustration A

was assigned to the Field Post Office on ulica Szpitalna, the second to the Post Office Mokotów.

The Post Office on ul. Szpitalna made several trial printings on postage stamps, but since the result was not satisfactory and the process was consuming too much time the overprinting by this method was abandoned. In 1946 I had seen a postage stamp of General Government, unused, overprinted with Type I form but the value of this stamp escaped my memory. I have never seen any stamps of this type used on mail.

Postage stamps of Type II, used by

the Post Office Mokotów I have seen in the following values:

From the series "Deutsche Post Osten" 30 gr. — (Scott's N-23).

From the "Buildings" series: 6, 8, 10, 12, 20, 24, 30, 40, 48, 50, 60, and 80 groszy. (Scott's N 56 - 72).

From the "Hitler" series: 2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 20, 24, 30, 32, 40, 48, 50, 0, 80 groszy, 1.00, 1.20 and 1.60 zł. (N 76 - N 90), N 94 - N 96).

First Anniversary of Gen. Government: 12 + 38, 24 + 26, 30 + 20 gr. (NB 5-7).

Winter-Relief: 12 + 8, 24 + 16, 30 + 30, 50 + 50 groszy. (NB 8-11).

Birthday Issues: 30 gr. + 1.00 zł., 50 gr. + 1.00 zł., 1.20 zł. + 1.00 zł. (NB 12-14).

"Lublin" — 12 + 8, 24 + 6, 50 + 50 groszy, 1.00 zł. + 1.00 zł. (NB 15-18).

"Cultural" — 12 + 18, 24 + 26, 30 + 30, 50 + 50 groszy, 1.00 + 1.00 zł. (NB 19-23).

"Views" — 1943 issue: 2, 4, 6, 10 zł. (N 100 - N 103).

"Copernicus" — 1.00 zł. + 1.00 zł. (NB 27).

"Coat of Arms — 12 + 38, 24 + 76, 30 + 70 gr., 50 gr. + 1.00 zł., 1.00 zł. + 2.00 zł., (NB 28 - 32).

Birthday Issue of 1944 — 12 gr. + 1.00 zł., 24 gr. + 1.00 zł., 84 gr. + 1.00 zł. (NB-33-35).

"Cultural, II" — 12 + 18, 24 + 26, 30 + 30, 50 + 50 gr., 1.00 zł. + 1.00 zł. (NB 36 - 40).

"Official, II" — 8, 20, 24, 30, 40, 50 gr. (No. 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24).

"Official, III — 1.00 zł. (No. 36).

The stamps listed above I have seen cancelled only and a favor cancellation at that, with the dater of the "Home Army on Barricades" — (Armia Krajowa na Barykadach) dated August 22 and 23, and "Field Post" ("Poczta Polowa") dated 11. 9. 1944.

Besides I have seen original letters:

1. Letter with 24 gr. stamp (Scott's N-83) mailed from Mokotów on August 22, addressed to Halina Wroniecka, street address ulica Sienna 45. (Reproduction of this letter is in the Historical Museum of the Polish Army).

2. Fragment of a letter with the same postage stamp for 24 gr. cancelled with a date canceller on 22. 8. 44 and beside it the impression of marker "Sprawdzono".

3. A letter with two stamps of 24 gr. (Hitler) cancelled with a dater, a smudged date, corrected with pencil to 30. 8. 44., addressed to Z. Morawska on Emilia Plater Street.

All enumerated letters were cancelled with dater of the "Home Army on Barri-
cades" with the letter "m" in blue-black color, the same ink, as was used for the overprinting of postage stamps.

It should be underlined that the Post Office Mokotów had no postage stamps of the General Government at its disposal. The overprinting therefore on these stamps was executed on stamps furnished by the postal clients who either thus made a souvenir of the Insurrection for themselves, and those, who, when sending a letter, out of habit franked it with postage stamps of the General Government.

It is clearly evident from the above, that only individual single stamps of the specified denominations exist with the overprint.

The Post Office of the Home Army on Szpitalna decided to change from manual overprinting to a machine overprint.

The overprinting was assigned to the Army's Publishing Institute (Wojskowe Zakłady Wydawnicze). A lithograph form was made up, that consisted of six overprints in the shape of an eagle and two-versed inscription "Poczta Powstańcza, (W-wa Sierpień 1944" (see illustration B.)

Since no stock of the Occupation stamps was on hand, a number of varieties of the General Government stamps was collected from private persons, in full and part sheets. Since the printing form was set up for six over-



Illustration B

prints, the sheets were broken into blocks of sixes and these were overprinted at the printery on Marszałkowska and Koszykowa Streets on a transpressing lithograph press.

The overprint was made in black ink, semi-glossy.

Allegedly, an official protocol on the overprinting job was made, that stated what stamps and in what denomination and quantities in each denomination were overprinted.

The account I could establish is based on holdings in private collections; however, an approximate account of the number of stamps overprinted I received right after the Insurrection from Mr.



Illustration C

K. Joulien who had occasion to see the protocol and from memory recounted the details.

List of Stamps Overprinted

SERIES	Value	Scott's	Approx. Quantity
Buildings:	6 gr.	N-56	100
	8 gr.	N-57	100
	10 gr.	N-59	100
	20 gr.	N-62	100
	30 gr.	N-64	100
	30 gr.	N-65	100
	40 gr.	N-66	100
	48 gr.	N-67	100
	1.00 zł.	N-71	100
	1.00 zł.	N-72	100
	6 gr.	N-77	200
	8 gr.	N-77	100
	12 gr.	N-80	200
	16 gr.	N-81	100
	24 gr.	N-83	300
	30 gr.	N-84	100
	40 gr.	N-86	100
	50 gr.	N-88	100
	60 gr.	N-89	100
Kopernik:	1.00+1.00 zł.	NB-28	50
Cities:	12+18 gr.	NB-28	50
	24+76 gr.	NB-29	50
	30+70 gr.	NB-30	50
	50+1.00 zł.	NB-31	50
	1.00+2.00 zł.	NB-32	50
Culture II:	12+18 gr.	NB-36	50
	24+26 gr.	NB-37	50
	30+30 gr.	NB-38	50
	50+50 gr.	NB-39	50
	1.00+1.00 zł.	NB-40	50

The overprint, in color resembling the marker, used on correspondence, differs from the latter in size.

The dimensions of the overprint are: — height of the whole overprint 23½ mm., height of the eagle 11.75 mm.; length of the first word 21.25 mm.; of the second 21 mm. The distance between the eagle and the first inscription, between the first and the second inscription as well as the height of the letters is difficult to give, as almost every letter is irregular, each of different size.

As mentioned before, the form for the overprint was composed of six overprinting units; their arrangement, due to very meager material at our disposal, is hard to establish. Based on the examined material I have established

six types of overprints, that are distinguished by the following characteristic codes:

TYPE I. In the eagle's crown from the right is a gap; in "Poczta" the letter "T" horizontal bar is heavier in center and narrowing towards the ends; in "Powstańcza" — the second "A" at top-right is interrupted; in "N" the right base is split at bottom; in "sierpień" the second "E" top horizontal bar is shorter from the others. In the perforation at top are traces of a horizontal line.

TYPE II. The beak of the eagle is open at the right wing joint at the eagle's breast and shows four irregularly located dots; in "Poczta" the vertical line "P" is arched; in "Powstańcza" the letter "O" is at bottom-right fissured; right arm of "T" bends downward; in "W-wa" the right-outer bar of "W" is bent. Also in this type on some copies are found traces of the marking sign. (See illustration C.)

TYPE III. A gap in the feathering of the eagle's neck; right wing at top ends in a hook; crack from the right and left side in the crown; in "Poczta" the belly of "P" open at top; "O" interrupted at bottom-right; in "T" horizontal bar at right is slanted; in "Powstańcza" the comma over over "N" is thick, leaning to the left; the last "A" is curved inwards at bottom from the right side; "A" has a white stripe; in "Sierpień"



Illustration D

dash; in the second "E" the top bar is in triangle form; at bottom-right on some copies is visible the marking sign in the form of a vertical line. (See illustration D.)

TYPE IV. In the word "Powstańcza" the letter "O" at the bottom-right is interrupted; bottom horizontal bar in the letter "Z" is broken; upper part of the letter "A" shows a white speck; in "W-wa" the small "W" right — outside bar is bent. (See illustration E.)



Illustration E

TYPE V. In the word "Powstańcza" the second "A" at top from the right side has a break; in "W-wa" outside bar is bent; in "W-wa" the letter "A" at bottom-left has a tail. (See illustration F.)



Illustration F

TYPE VI. Beak of the eagle is open; in "Powstańcza" vertical bar of "P" is bent in its upper part; the crown of "A" leaning to right; in "Powstańcza" the letter "S" is cone-pointed at top. On some copies the marking sign is visible in the form of a small cross. (See illustration G.)

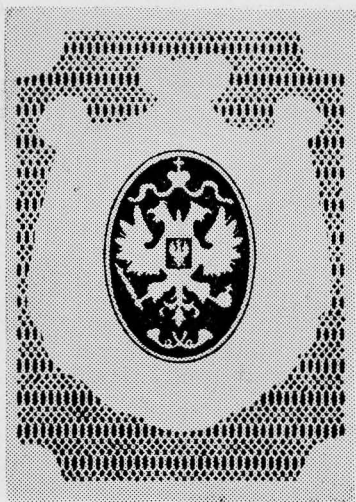


Illustration G

In the field of curiosities, known to me is a double overprint on the 24 gr. Hitler, type II stamp, uncanceled. (See illustration H.)



Illustration H
(Continued next month)



Red plate greatly modified but not used as such. All the stamps were printed with the white space around the center oval to clear the coat of arms. The corners were not cleared, so the red underprint extends under all four corner numerals, and also into the space between the double border line. The Polish shield on the eagle's breast was planned as an embossing but does not appear on the actual stamps.

The five stamp cuts in this article courtesy of LINN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS.

inked, the thin serifs and other lines actually disappear.

The interest should lie on permanent varieties only. Here are some further varieties discovered by the writer and reported for the first time. Varieties 8 and 9 have characteristics in **both the blue and the red plates**.

8—A distinct perfect blue dot right in the center of the Polish inscription between the words "ŁÓT" and "KOP". This is not a damaged plate variety, but a definite addition. On this stamp the thin red oval is dented at the right post horn below the eagle and a red verticle stroke appears beyond and to the left of the lower left corner.

9—The thin red oval is broken with the upper end pushed in to touch the solid red background at the right post horn below the eagle. The blue border line is broken at the top center and is

worn at each of the four corners.

Varieties 10 to 21 have their main characteristics in the **blue plate only**.

10—An added blue curved line running across the upper part of the stamp through the crown and branching off into two forked lines in the northeast corner, obliterating the numeral "10".

11—A small blue dot below the lower border and in line with the letter "Ó" of "ŁÓT".

12—A small blue dot between the two bottom border lines below the letter "Ó" of "ŁÓT".

13—A distinct gash at the inner border just to the left of the northeast "10".

14—Both upper frames broken just above the right half of crown.

15—Distinct protruding bulb on outer edge of blue oval band with Russian lettering in line with "P" of "KOP" in bottom lettering.

16—Both blue borders run together to eliminate white line at top and bottom of left border.

17—Upper left frame dented in at corner. Similar to egg-shape variety 4, but with full border at left.

18—Lower left corner gone to obliterate numeral 10.

19—Left border gone.

20—Upper left corner well rounded.

21—Inner blue frame broken in lower right corner.

Varieties 22 to 28 have their main characteristics in the **red plate only**:

22—The dots of the red underprint are squeezed to form a single, continuous line along the left margin.

23—Red dot within the blue band of Russian letters in the northwest position and an overflow of the solid red oval line at the southwest position to touch the thin red oval line.

24—A red dot in line with bottom border to the left of southwest corner.

25—A red dot in line with top border to the left of northwest corner.

26—Thin red oval dented at northwest in line with colon in blue band and red oval background squeezed in at northwest corner.

27—Red oval line broken to right of right posthorn below eagle.

28—The thin red oval dented in at due east location.

These are some of the findings in a study of the many differences that characterize Poland's No. 1 stamp. If any readers have copies with marginal sheet borders, multiple pieces, or copies with distinct flaws or with unusual breaks, they are asked to communicate with Myron E. Steczynski, 4154 N. Leclair Ave., Chicago 41, Ill.



Myron Steczynski at a reception at the hospitable "Polonia" Society at its headquarters on Bracka Street in Warsaw on Sunday, Sept. 11, 1960. Here Myron outlined the activities of the Polonus Society with members scattered throughout all corners of the globe. The general theme of the gathering showed that philately brings nations together. It was here that President Chromik of the Polish Philatelic Federation initiated the idea of a tremendous world-wide All-Polish Philatelic Exhibition in 1965 during the Millennium celebrations. The Chairman of "Polska 60" Leon Ter-Oganjan and Vice President Hugon Hanke of "Polonia" concurred in this endeavor.

Myron is shown with his honorary membership badges in the Polish Philatelic Alliance, Polonia Society, Bulgarian Philatelic and others.

(Photo by Gładysz, Warsaw)



Myron in shirt sleeves still arranging his No. 1 exhibits in the Court of Honor of "Polska 60" before opening day during a preview by the press. In the foreground is India's Commissioner Dhirubhai Mehta who later came to Chicago to Charles Hahn and the Chicago Philatelic Society show. The gray-haired gentleman is Australia's Commissioner Isaac Gust and the lady behind him is "Filatelista's" Editor Wiesława Kawecka. (Photo by Centralna Agencja Fotograficzna)

WHAT GOES ON AT POLONUS

Meeting of December 9, 1960

The meeting was called to order by the President at 8:45 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. There were 21 members and two visitors present.

The Polonus Literature Exhibit arrived from "Polska 60". It was held at the Chicago Customs Office for some time because of an improper address. This is the exhibit that was awarded a diploma equivalent to a silver medal award. The diploma was included in the exhibit package. Member Lester Jankowski made a motion that the diploma be reproduced in our Polonus Bulletin, and his motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Chester Mikucki presented five candidates for membership whose applications were approved and who were recommended to become members. They were—Sam Robins, Edward Gawencki, Joseph Bendkowski, Larry Kasmerski and Ted Podrazik. A motion was made, seconded and carried, accepting them as members.

John Skotnicki presented a resignation from the post as Frame and Easel Committee Chairman. John held this post for many years and did his job well. A motion and amendment were made to accept his resignation with a deep feeling of gratitude for his faithful service. The membership responded to this with a round of applause.

After the usual reports of the Publications Committee, Treasurer, etc., the many discussions and the reading of the correspondence, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Meeting of December 23, 1960

The meeting was called to order by Chester Mikucki in the absence of the President. Twelve members and four visitors were present. Minutes of the previous meeting as well as of the last Board of Directors meeting were read and approved.

Roman Reinowski spoke to the members of the immediate need of selecting a Polpex Director. After much discussion the post was entrusted to Chester Schafer. Stanley Kucharz then accepted the post of Program Chairman and other committee appointments were made.

A letter from the Polish Falcons was read in the matter of the Society buying five tickets from the Polish Falcons for their Christmas Party. This was proposed as a motion and accepted.

In view of the small attendance it was decided to postpone further business to the next meeting.

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NEW ISSUES

by J. J. Domar

A new set of three stamps commemorating the 300th Anniversary of the Polish Newspaper Press was issued January 3rd, 1961. The stamps are:

40 gr.—Front page of the first number of the newspaper "Merkuriusz" published on January 3, 1661.

60 gr.—Front page of the first number of the newspaper "Proletariat" published on September 15, 1883.

2.50 zł.—Front page of the first number of the newspaper "Rzeczpospolita" published on July 23, 1944.

Size of stamps — 31.25 x 39.5 mm. Printed in offset and relief typography. Designed by Czesław Kaczmarezyk and printed by the P. W. P. W. (State Printing Office) in Warsaw.

A new set of four stamps commemorating the First Winter Spartan Games of the Allied Socialist Forces is to be released on or about February 1st, 1961.

40 gr. — ice hockey

60 gr. — ski jumper

1.00 zł. — infantrymen on skis

1.50 zł. — slalom

Dimension: 31.25 x 39.5 mm.—printed in multicolored offset.

The stamps are designed by Janusz Grabiński, and will be printed by the P. W. P. W. (State Printing Office) in Warsaw.

STAMPS FOR THE WOUNDED

Barney Fialkowski, long regional director for Stamps For The Wounded in the Chicago area, resigned his position upon his moving to California for permanent residence there. Until a new director is appointed, donations to Stamps For The Wounded will be accepted by our Treasurer, J. P. Rux, 6136 W. Addison St., Chicago 34, Ill.

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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 —

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