

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets 2nd & 4th Friday of each month at Falcons Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Ave.

Issue 128

April-May 1955

"NA SKARB" ISSUE - Scott No. B15-25

by V. RACHMANOV

With the introduction of the "złoty" in the monetary system of Poland in 1924, the government started a big campaign to strengthen the national treasury and gold reserves. The Post Office Department, wishing to take part in this campaign, decided to issue a special set of stamps with a suitable surtax for this purpose. On orders from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which controlled the Post Office Dept. at that time, on November 17, 1924, Disposition No. 3271/I (Dziennik Urzędowy Generalnej Dyrekcji Poczty i Telegrafów, 29/11/24, Nr. 45) there appeared a set of eleven stamps with a surtax of 50 groszy added on each value, and was put into circulation January 1, 1925. The designs were similar to those of the current stamps with the exception that they had the inscription "NA SKARB" and "GR. 50 GR." in outline type. The stamps were also a little smaller than the current issues.

Printed at the Government Graphic Works (Państwowych Zakładach Graficznych) on orders received May 12, 1925, a quantity of 100,000 sets were turned out on a rotary press, on paper previously gummed, of German origin. Zinc plates were used to print a sheet of 50. Perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$ on the same rotary press. Counting numerals were at the right side of the sheet of 50, and a saleable sheet consisted of two forms of 50 stamps.

The set consisted of the following:

- 1 gr plus 50 gr—light brown
- 2 gr plus 50 gr—brown
- 3 gr plus 50 gr—orange
- 5 gr plus 50 gr—olive green
- 10 gr plus 50 gr—blue green
- 15 gr plus 50 gr—vermillion



- 20 gr plus 50 gr—light blue
- 25 gr plus 50 gr—red brown
- 30 gr plus 50 gr—violet
- 40 gr plus 50 gr—dark blue
- 50 gr plus 50 gr—red lilac

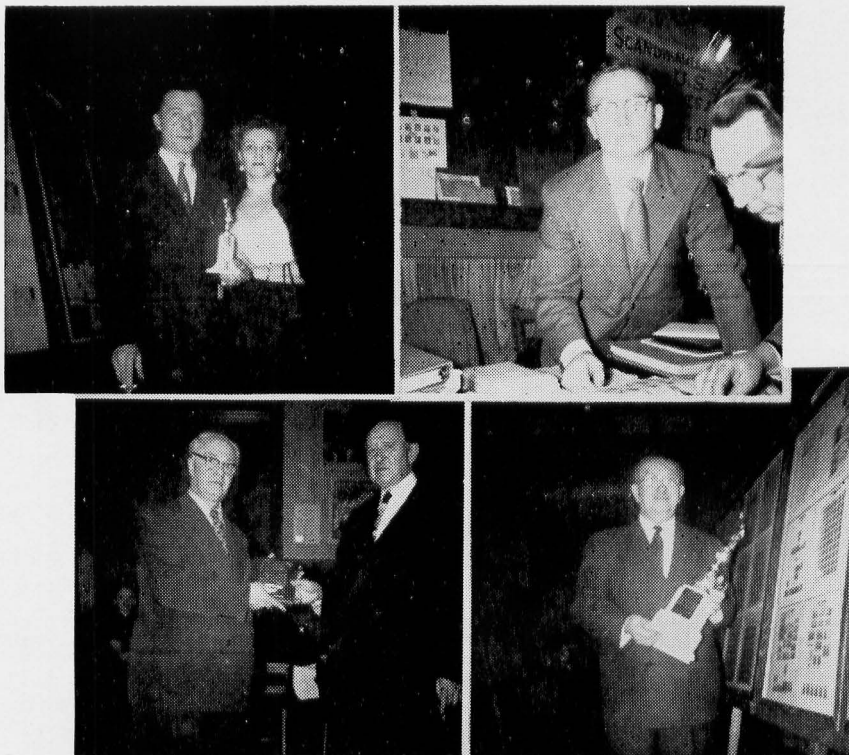
This issue was intended for the philatelist's pocketbook. Because of its high price, it did not sell successfully. The larger portion of the total issue remained unsold. At the beginning, the stamps were sold only in complete sets. Later the different post offices were permitted to sell 40% of their stock individually, and in March 1925 this was upped to 60%.

Due to the fact that yet in 1931 there still remained large unsold quantities, the Ministry of Posts ruled on November 30, 1931 that the stamps would be sold exclusively by first class post offices.

APPLICANTS PENDING

- Lt. Norbert J. Walczak
Add. Bldg. 451
Aberdeen Proving Grounds
Maryland
- Arthur Shields
1535 North Sierra Bonita
Hollywood 46, Illinois
- Stanley J. Blazewski
451 Franklin Street
Elizabeth, N. J.

GLIMPSES FROM POLPEX 1955



Top left: Mr. and Mrs. John Bobo hold their Best Other Than Poland Trophy which John won with his outstanding U.S. Revenues. Top right: Dealer Joseph Bieniecki of Granite City, Ill. is caught unexpectedly while making a sale to Charles Cwiakala. Bottom left: S.P.A. President Ben Reeves presents Dr. Leon P. Kozakiewicz with the S.P.A. Plaque awarded to Polonus for its efforts in getting new S.P.A. members. Bottom right: Myron Steczynski shows the Polish Research Trophy he received for his exhibit of Poland 3 mk. on 40 fen. Photos courtesy of Emil Mrugacz.

TID BITS

Roman Burkiewicz of Granite City, Ill. was a visitor at our April 22nd meeting. He intends to move to Chicago shortly and set up as a stamp dealer here.

Doc Kozy was guest speaker at the April 22nd Program Meeting and presented a historical sketch on the City of Danzig.

Matthias Pristika took over as our Central Federation Delegate.

Bernard Sobczak will commit matrimony on June 11th.

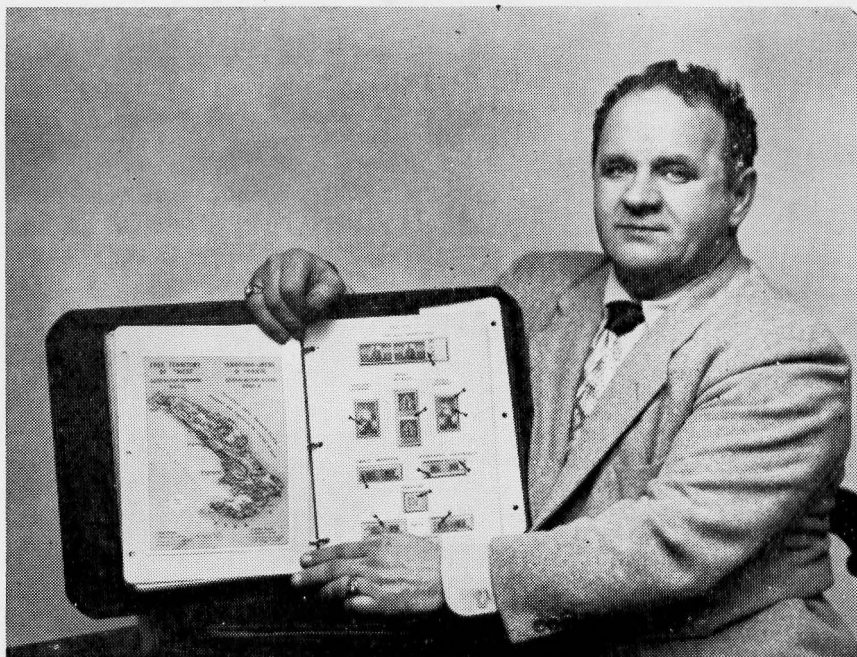
NEW MEMBER

M. M. Pawlak
2904 West 25th Place
Chicago 23, Ill.

UNUSUAL STAMPS FOR SALE

Polonus members especially those specializing in Poland, the Plebiscites and European Countries of the 1915-20 period, will be pleased to learn that our member Victor Bukinik and his business partner Bill Stewart, who jointly operate Start Stamps of Teaneck, N.J., have bought the estate of a former European industrialist and are offering these large holdings in their May Mail Sale. Because of the extensive specialization carried out by the original owner, Polonus members should be very interested in these unusual lots. Be sure to write promptly for catalog as offered in the announcement on another page of this issue.

Joseph M. Pirog — Chicopee, Mass. Philatelist "MY OWN STORY"



After collecting stamps of Poland, U.S. and Canada, I found that my collections were approaching a point where it was more and more difficult to add new items to them, so after seeing a set of the Risorgimento Issue of Italy overprinted AMG-FTT, decided to add this new Country of Trieste to my collection while it was still in its infancy. Little did I realize that when I started this collection that it would work itself into a small library of volumes. The original collection cost me \$60.00, and seeing as how this was such a small outlay compared to my other collections, I decided to buy blocks of four—so there went another \$240.00 into this new country.

Before long I found that major errors and varieties existed as usually happens with overprinted stamps, so I decided to go into these. Lo and behold the collection started to grow by leaps and bounds, and by this time I was approaching my third volume. Then came the urge to buy First Day Covers and Postal Stationery, and this added a few more volumes.

Along about this time my supplier showed me some "Saggio" Issues and upon corresponding with different dealers found that only a few could supply any of these. My supplier stated that there were only three sets in the country (U.S.), so I decided to get in on the ground floor seeing as how they were this scarce. The stamps are accompanied by documents from a few of the Italian experts stating that the stamps were genuine and this eased any doubt about the possibility of their being forged.

Over a period of the few years which has passed since Trieste came into existence, a few major errors continued to appear and I was fortunate in being able to get them when and if possible. Of these one really stands out in my collection as it has the distinction of being the only one known to exist. Naturally there was a full sheet originally but this was broken up and the item I have is what is referred to as the Inscription Block. The issue is the 60 Lire Armed Forces Issue of 1952 which has the over-



print AMG-FTT Inverted. So far only a very few of this Inverted overprint type of error has appeared, to date I have about six different issues of Trieste in this condition. One of the most unique items I have ever found recently came into my possession. It was a double paper variety of the Venetia Giulia Issue with the AMG-VG overprint. The stamp is from the top

row and has the lettering "CENT" on the tab attached to the upper part of the doubled paper. The collection also contains doubled overprints, displaced, partial overprints caused by paper folds, part imperfs, color varieties and double perforation varieties.

Right now my collection of Trieste is in its 10th volume and it won't be long before it passes into its 11th as some of the volumes are beginning to bulge due to additions.

I entered the Waterbury, Conn. exhibit and showed a few pages from my collection and managed to take home three ribbons which in itself made me feel very happy as I had never before won anything at any of the exhibits.

Now that Trieste has passed from Allied control back to the Italian Government's hands I am making sure that my collection is as complete as I can get it for I feel that it will be listed among the rarities of tomorrow.



Very few collectors of Poland can boast a page with these stamps in their album. Mr. Pirog has the Krakow Postage Dues complete — with the most expensive Poland stamp listed in Scott's, the 10 kronen. (All photos in this article by The Fonfara Studio, Chicopee, Mass.)

Mail Sale - About May 27, 1955

SPECIALIZED POLAND

Also Allenstein, Upper Silesia, Marienwerder
and Other European Countries
comprising the estate of a former
European industrialist

•

The Poland collection is particularly strong in
errors of Scott 15-26 singles and blocks

•

Other Poland oddities of the 1915-20 issues

•

Listed and unlisted errors on World War I Covers

•

Write today for free catalog

VICTOR BUKINIK
POLONUS, APS, SDA, BPA

BILL STEWART
Formerly of Irwin Heiman's, N. Y.

START STAMPS

535 Teaneck Road

Teaneck, N. J.



DEATH OF W. E. HARRYMAN

William E. Harryman, of Couldson, Surrey, England, died during February following a protracted illness.

Mr. Harryman was a great philatelist and an authority on the stamps of Austria of which, before the last war, he had a magnificent collection. He worked a good deal with Dr. Frank and was responsible for the English translation of his book on "The First Issue of Austria and Lombardy Venetia".

Having studied the stamps, he went on to study the pre-philatelic marks and the postal service in Lombardy and Venetia. He was a prominent member of the pre-war S.A.V.O. Club of Vienna, with Dr. Kleb, Kumpf-Mikuli, Rathje and Banci, becoming the authority in England on the pre-philatelic marks of the Republic of Venice.

Since the war he had also been interested in the stamps of Poland (he was President of the Polish P.S.) and also had collections of Montenegro and Bolivia. Each of these collections was a model of what a stamp collection should be as philatelic research.

With the passing of Will Harryman we have lost a great philatelist and postal historian.

—"Stamp Collecting",
Cecil G. Teall

NEW ISSUES

by J. J. Domar

The Polish Post has decided recently to select subjects for stamps from the nature of their land. We have learned

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Sigmund Bor, Secretary
5326 S. Laramie Ave.
Chicago 38, Ill.
Joseph A. Banasiak, Treas.
3016 W. 41st St.
Chicago 32, Ill.

Publications Committee

Zdzislaw Obara, Chairman
2028 W. McLean Ave.
Chicago 47, Ill.
Chester A. Schafer, Editor
4329 W. Walton St.
Chicago 51, Ill.

Associate Editors this issue

V. Rachmanov, Joseph M. Pirog,
J. Domar, Emil Mrugacz and Myron
Steczynski

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that the first set of five stamps will show popular varieties of edible mushrooms, up till now never shown on stamps. The second set of five will show butterflies.

The stamps were already available at the postal windows April 1st. Because of their attractive designs, the stamps were expected to be sold out the first day to philatelists.

Printed by multicolor offset. Size of mushroom stamps 25.5 x 31.25. Size of butterfly issue 51 x 31.25.

— G. W. Kukiz

A set of two stamps honoring the Fifth International Competition of Chopin's Music (second edition) held at Warsaw Feb. 22 till March 21, 1955 was issued. Values: 40 gr brown-red and 60 gr blue. Perforation 12½. Paper white unwatermarked. Gum: white. Process: steel plate engraving. Size: 25.5 x 31.25 mm.

